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- Purpose of sample testing
- Background
- QPR (quadrupole resonator)
- other RF techniques & measurement examples
- DC techniques & measurement examples

Why sample characterisation?

Manufacturing perspective

Motivation

- investigate alternative SRF materials
- optimize film-fabrication procedure
- avoid making full cavity with novel material/technique
- → start with flat, small surface apply lessons learned to cavity

Scientific perspective

• explore parameter space not accessible to cavity

(i.e. temperature, frequency, B-field)

• measure physical properties of new materials

(critical fields, penetration depth, coherence length, etc.)



Name	Symbol	Definition
critical temperature	T _c	temperature below which a superconductor exhibits superconductivity at zero magnetic field strength and zero electrical current
critical (magnetic) field strength	H _c	magnetic field strength corresponding to the superconducting condensation energy at zero magnetic field strength (is a function of temperature, calculated from thermodynamics)
lower critical (magnetic) field strength	H _{c1}	magnetic field strength at which a fluxon firstly penetrates a bulk type II superconductor deviating from the perfect diamagnetism when demagnetization factor is zero
upper critical (magnetic) field strength	<i>H</i> _{c2}	magnetic flux density that completely suppresses superconductivity in a type II superconductor
superheating (magnetic) field strength	H _{sh}	magnetic field up to which perfect diamagnetism persists metastably







$$G(x) = \phi_0 \left[H_0 e^{-x/\lambda} - \frac{\phi_0}{4\pi\lambda^2} K_0 \left(\frac{2x}{\lambda}\right) + H_{c1} - H_0 \right]$$

Gibbs free energy of single fluxoid as function of fluxoid position

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BCS surface resistance

$$R_s \sim \sqrt{\rho_n} \exp(-\Delta/k_b T)$$

need low nc resistivity and large energy gap

Material	T _c (K)	ρ _n (μΩcm)	H _c (0) [T]	H _{c1} (0) [T]	H _{c2} (0) [T]	λ(0) [nm]
Nb	9.2	2	0.2	0.17	0.4	40
NbN	16.2	70	0.23	0.02	15	200
NbTiN	17.5	35		0.03		151
Nb ₃ Sn	18	20	0.54	0.05	30	85
V ₃ Si	17					
Mo ₃ Re	15		0.43	0.03	3.5	140
MgB ₂	40		0.43	0.03	3.5	140

 $\Delta \sim T_c$; $\rho_n \sim \sqrt{\lambda(0)/T_c}$; $H_{sh}(0) \sim (0.745...12)^*H_c(0)$

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What does this mean for cavity operation?





Modify the RF penetration behavior (+ new material)

[A. Gurevich, APL 88, 012511, 2006]





RF TECHNIQUES

Testing RF properties of sc samples follows two aims:

- test specific material for suitability for use in SRF cavity
- systematic testing of RF losses and other sc properties

How does an ideal experiment look like?

- Small and flat samples, easy to change
- Measure surface resistance in wide parameter space
 - wide temperature range, high RF field
 - multiple frequencies (~0.5 .. 2 GHz)
 - control of cooling conditions (magnetic flux studies)
- Penetration depth, critical field, transition temperature, RRR, thermal conductivity

DC resistance measurement

 $R = \frac{U}{I}$

Problems:

- resolution ~100 $\mu\Omega$, need n Ω
- need values at ~GHz frequency



AC measurement



Problem: How to get current into sample?





adjust wire length, use resonances $\lambda = \frac{c}{f} = n \times L$ supply by power coupling





detach loop from sample make use of image current

attachment of wires obsolete!





Calorimetric measurement



measure ΔT caused by RF compare with ΔT caused by heater







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Manufacturing of the HZB QPR



Fabricated from RRR 300 Niobium at Niowave Inc.

Buffered chemical polishing (BCP) at Jefferson Laboratory

High temperature bake (600°C)

High pressure rinse with ultra-pure water

Low temperature bake at 120°C for 48 hours





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Accelerating cavity





Focusing of E on axis, H on walls

Focusing of H on sample

Frequency of drive system must be within bandwidth (20 Hz) around resonance frequency of cavity

 Pressure fluctuations in the helium and vibrational sources cause resonance frequency to shift (~400 Hz).

Quadrupole Resonator very susceptible due to rod geometry.

• Feedback system necessary \rightarrow phased-locked loop



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Surface resistance

- $R_{\rm S}(\omega, B_{\rm RF}, T)$
- $R_{BCS} \leftrightarrow R_{res}$
- High resolution $R_{\rm S} \approx 1 \, {\rm n}\Omega \leftrightarrow Q_0 > 10^{11}$
- Cooling conditions
- Trapped flux

Penetration depth

- Penetration depth $\lambda(T)$
- Critical temperature T_c

RF quench field

- $B_{\rm vp, RF}(T, \omega)$
- T_c



- SC parameters: Energy gap Δ , Ginzburg-Landau parameter κ
- SC critical fields: H_{c1} , H_{sh}
- Electron mean free path ℓ , residual resistivity ratio (RRR)
- NC conductivity σ , skin depth δ

Nb samples

 $\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Characterization of two} \\ \mbox{niobium samples at $416\,\rm MHz$} \\ \mbox{with different treatment} \\ \mbox{treatment history:} \end{array}$

	Sample A	Sample B
Structure	Large grain	Polycrystalline
Chemistry	$150\mu\mathrm{m}$ BCP	150 $\mu\mathrm{m}$ BCP
HT bake	600 °	600 °
LT bake	120° , 48 hours	-







Sample B

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- Measurement at low RF field (20 mT)
- Arrhenius equation provide good fit to data for $T < T_C/2$

$$R_{S}(T) = A \cdot \frac{\omega^{2}}{T} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta}{k_{B}T}\right) + R_{res}$$

- Reduced mean free path observed for Sample A as expected
- Unexpected large energy gap for Sample A (model-independent)





	Fit	Δ/k_BT_C	$R_{Res} [n\Omega]$	/ [nm]	$A [k\Omega \cdot Ks^2]$
Sample A	Arrhen.	$2.25^{+.069}_{022}$	$7.94\substack{+0.62\\-0.81}$		$15.4^{+8.61}_{-5.44}$
$120^\circ\mathrm{C}$ bake	BCS	$2.18\substack{+.013 \\009}$	$8.98\substack{+0.65 \\ -0.52}$	$14.5\substack{+3.10 \\ -2.57}$	
Sample B	Arrhen.	$1.95\substack{+.082\\016}$	$3.456^{+1.24}_{-1.49}$		$23.4^{+5.24}_{-5.87}$
	BCS	$1.778^{+.039}_{034}$	$4.53^{+1.31}_{-1.51}$	$24.33^{+14.82}_{-6.41}$	

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Critical field measurement

- Heat sample to temperature of interest
- Apply RF pulses of increasing amplitude until field break-down occurs
- Critical field follows T² dependency
- Measured field > literature value we actually measure superheating field H_{sh}



	Sample A	Sample B
$B_{C,RF}$	$(231\pm2.4)\mathrm{mT}$	$(221 \pm 3.7)\mathrm{mT}$
T_C	$\left(9.23\pm0.04 ight)\mathrm{K}$	$\left(9.39\pm0.07\right)\mathrm{K}$



$$\lambda(T) = \frac{\lambda_0}{\sqrt{1 - (T/T_c)^4}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta f}{f} = \frac{\Delta U}{U} = \frac{\int_{\delta V} (\epsilon_0 E^2 - \mu_0 H^2) dV}{\int_V (\epsilon_0 E^2 + \mu_0 H^2) dV}$$

$$G_{sample}(f) = \frac{2\pi f \mu_0 \int_V |H|^2 dV}{\int_S |H|^2 dS}$$

$$\Delta f = \frac{-\pi\mu_0 f^2}{G_{sample}(f)} \,\Delta\lambda$$

$$\Delta \lambda = \lambda(T) - \lambda_0$$

$$\lambda(T) = \lambda_0 - \frac{G_{sample}(f)}{\pi\mu_0 f^2} \Delta f$$

temperature dependence of London penetration depth (Gorter-Casimir expression)

Slater's theorem: frequency shift of resonant mode under small volume variation δV

define sample geometry factor

apply to small volume between rods and sample, neglect E-fields, $\Delta V = \Delta \lambda \times S$ (*S* is sample area) Δf easy to measure in SRF cavities (due to their small bandwidth)

measure (temperature dependence of) London depth with QPR Example penetration depth measurement

courtesy Sebastian Keckert

S-I-S' multilayer sample

$$\Delta f = -\frac{\pi\mu_0 f^2}{G_{\text{Sample}}(f)} \Delta \lambda_{\text{eff}} \qquad \lambda_{\text{eff}}(T) = \frac{1}{B_0} \int_0^\infty B(x, T) \, \mathrm{d}x$$

(B(x,T) from multilayer theory)



Trapped flux measurements

courtesy Raphael Kleindienst



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OTHER RF TESTING DEVICES

Parallel Plate Resonator

- Moderate sensitivity
- High frequency
- Very convenient



Taber RSI 1990

f (GHz)	A_{Sample}	A_{rf}	$R_{\rm sens}(\Omega)$	$B_{\max(mT)}$
10	1 cm^2	1 cm ²	1e-5	?

FIG. 1. Expanded view of the measurement configuration. The material under test is clamped within the test chamber by two dielectric posts that are spring loaded by components (not shown) exterior to the test chamber.



TE₀₁₁ cavity with flat samples

- Large sample plate
- 100 sensitive thermometers



Figure 4. Cross-section of ${\rm TE}_{\mbox{Oll}}$ cavity (dimensions in inches).

Kneisel et al. ASC 1986 (MAG-23 1987)

f (GHz)	A_{Sample}	$A_{\rm rf}$	$R_{\rm sens}(\Omega)$	$B_{\rm max}$
3.5	127 cm ²	127 cm ²	1 e-9	2 mT



Figure 8c. "Residual Resistance" Contour map - logarithmic scale.

"Mushroom" cavity



Choked cavity (Daresbury)



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Intermodulation distortion



SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 17, NO. 2, **JUNE 2007**

superconducting properties

Microwave microscopy – Near field microscope



Microwave microscopy on superconductors

- 1) Examine coupons with intense, localized B_{RF} in the superconducting state
- 2) Measure locally-produced harmonic generation from defects
- 3) Scan the probe and image the response

T. Tai, *et al.* IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond. <u>21</u>, 2615 (2011); <u>23</u>, 7100104 (2013)



Objective: Identify microscopic defects that cause breakdown of SRF cavities

Why harmonics?

IMD spectra exhibit features hidden to Rs measurements Each defect type will have different nonlinear signature Superconductor is the main source of Nonlinearity



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J. Halbritter, " On the Oxidation and on the Superconductivity of Niobium," J. Appl. Phys. A <u>43</u>, 1 (1987).



L. M. Xie, J. Wosik, and J. C. Wolfe, "Nonlinear microwave absorption in weak-link Josephson junctions," Phys. Rev. B <u>54</u>, 15494 (1996).

J. McDonald and John R. Clem, " Microwave response and surface impedance of weak links," Phys. Rev. B <u>56</u>, 14723 (1997).

Courtesy Steven Anlage

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Solution to the RCSJ Model

$$\frac{\Phi_0 C \partial^2 \delta}{\partial t^2} + I_c sin\delta + \frac{\Phi_0}{2\pi R_n} \frac{\partial \delta}{\partial t} = I_\omega sin(\omega t)$$

Short Junction Approximation All Dimensions Perpendicular to the field << λ_J

$$(I_C R_n) sin\delta + \frac{\Phi_0}{2\pi} \frac{\partial \delta}{\partial t} = (I_\omega R_n) sin(\omega t)$$

 $I_C R_n$ - Fitting Parameter $I_\omega R_n$ - ScalingFactor * Input RF Field Amplitude (a.u.)



Courtesy Steven Anlage



DC TECHNIQUES

(also low frequency techniques)

You learn a lot from these techniques, **BUT:** for SRF applications you need to measure at or near your operating frequency

consider these methods an intermediate step

AC susceptometer



D. Gokhfeld, Journal of Siberian Federal University. Mathematics & Physics 2018, 11(2), 219–22



courtesy Claassen, Lamura, Antoine

Method to measure onset of flux penetration at H_{c1}





measure third harmonic, V3>0 signifies nonlinear response to excitation



- large sample ensures operation in Bean limit
- use that V3~H* in the Bean limit
- V3 is zero in the Meissner regime and above the irrevsibility line in the flux flow regime





- An overview of a selection of characterisation methods was given
- Focus on quadrupole resonator and measurements
- Introduction to microwave spectroscopy/microscopy
- DC magnetization measurements