### Neutron signal features of Nb-based kinetic inductance detector with <sup>10</sup>B convertor

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Our kinetic inductance neutron detector is made of a 40-nm-thick Nb meanderline and a 10B conversion layer with the effective area of 15×15 mm<sup>2</sup> on a single Si chip (22 x 22 mm<sup>2</sup>), and is biased by a small DC current  $I_0$  at a temperature below  $T_c$ . A meanderline of the kinetic inductance detector exhibits a transient change occurs in the kinetic inductance  $\Delta L_{\rm K} = m_{\rm s} \Delta l/n_{\rm s} q 2S$ of a mesoscopic portion (possible hot spot), where  $m_s$  is the effective mass of a Cooper pair,  $q_s$  is the effective electric charge,  $n_s$  is the Cooper pair density,  $\Delta l$  is the length of the hot spot, and S is the cross-sectional area of the Nb wire. We expect that the voltage V is proportional to a product of the bias current  $I_b$  and a time derivative of the kinetic inductance  $d\Delta L_K/dt$ , and a pair of signals propagate along the Nb stripline as an electromagnetic wave at a certain fraction of the light velocity c toward electrodes. We conducted the neutron irradiation experiment at J-PARC. The nuclear reaction <sup>10</sup>B(n, <sup>4</sup>He)<sup>7</sup>Li releases a <sup>4</sup>He particle of 1.47 MeV and a <sup>7</sup>Li particle of 0.88 MeV, and the energy of each projectile is used to create a hot spot on the Nb nanowire of the detector. It remains to be answered why the signal voltage shows such a continuum in the histogram of the signal height even if the incident energy of the light ion is apparently monochromatic. We also investigated the distribution of the width of the signal pulse. The height and width of the signal has a clear correlation, which might be is the key of understanding the operating principle of our detector. We consider that the origin of the signal distribution is due to the positional dependence of the light ion bombardment with respect to the meandering Nb nanowire.

This work is supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (S) No. 23226019, Grant-in-Aid (A) No.16H02450 from JSPS. The devices were fabricated in the clean room for analog-digital superconductivity (CRAVITY). This work is partially benefitted by the use of (VDEC, the University of Tokyo with the collaboration with Cadence Corporation. This work is supported of MLD program (Proposal No. 2015A0129, No. 2015P0301).

Keywords: Kinetic inductance detector, Operation principle, Neutron, Signal profile

## Electrodynamic Theory for the Operation Principle of Superconducting Delay-line Kinetic Inductance Detector

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Generation and propagation of voltage signals in a superconducting delay-line inductance detector, which has been developed for a high-performance radiation detector, is theoretically investigated in terms of superconducting electrodynamics. The detector consists of a meandering superconducting nanowire deposited on a substrate composed of a stack of insulating and superconducting layers. It is shown that this system can be regarded as a superconducting waveguide. We derive a dynamical equation for the superconducting phase difference between the superconducting nanowire and the substrate superconducting layer. This equation predicts the generation of a pair of voltage pulses with opposite polarities when a transient hot spot appears inside the current-biased nanowire. The pair of voltage pulses splits into two single pulses propagating in the opposite directions to each other. The velocity of the voltage pulses along the delay-line is well fitted by our theory.

Keywords: kinetic inductance detector, supercondcuting nanowire, supercondcuting theory

### Signal propagation in delay-line kinetic inductance detector under DC bias current

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We developed a high resolution imaging system by using a current biased kinetic inductance detector (CB-KID) operating in a delay-line mode. It consists of stacking layers of a superconducting Nb ground plane, SiO<sub>2</sub> insulator, and a two set of superconducting Nb meanderlines. When some amount of energy is deposited to the superconducting wire of the meanderline, it produces a hot spot in a tiny segment of the wire, where Cooper pairs are suppressed locally, and induces a temporal change of the kinetic inductance there. If a DC-bias current flows along the meanderline, the transient change in the kinetic inductance excites voltage pulses, which propagate toward both ends of the Nb stripline with opposite polarities. We observe the arrival signals by a digital oscilloscope to store the wave forms. We use the arrival timestamps to identify the hot-spot position of the wire by knowing a time difference in arrival timestamps and the propagation velocity. This is the method how we image the distribution of mesoscopic excitations in both X and Y detectors by irradiation of pulsed neutrons. Therefore, it is important to investigate the propagation velocity before conducting imaging experiments. We applied a test pulse from one end of meander, and the transmitted signal was measured at another end to know the velocity. The basic equation for signal propagation has been derived by Koyama et al. by using the Maxwell-London theory on a superconducting waveguide of nanowire SiO<sub>2</sub> – ground plane (S-I-S) structure. In the theory, the electromagnetic wave is treated as a

Swihart pulse. As shown in Fig. 1, we successfully fit the propagation velocity as a function of temperature by using the equation shown in the figure. Since the superfluid density decreases as the temperature increases, the velocity comes from a change in the kinetic inductance. We plan to investigate the velocity as a function of DC bias current, too. The systematic comparison between theory and experiment would be interesting.

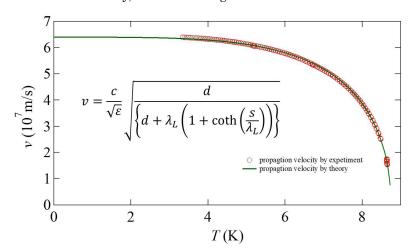


Fig. 1. The propagation velocity in the CB-KID as a function of temperature. Solid line is a fit by the Maxwell-London theory.

Keywords: Kinetic inductance detector, Propagation velocity, Maxwell-London theory

### 1 dimensional X-ray imager utilizing a superconducting strip line with a delay line structure

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Now days, Resonant Inelastic soft X-ray Scattering (RIXS) technique have been eagerly developed to study the electrical state of transition metal oxide which shows interesting character such as high- $T_c$  superconductivity and giant magneto resistive effect. In addition, since RIXS utilizes resonant excitation of electrons, it is expected to analysis electrical state with higher resolution because of the larger signal amplitude.

Generally, the luminescence X-ray spectra are detected by the combination of a grating and an image detector such as a CCD camera in order to measure them with higher energy resolution than by ordinal wavelength dispersion type X-ray spectrometers based on semiconductors. However, sufficient spatial resolution (<1 mm), for analysis of such as high- $T_c$  superconductors, can not be obtained by X-ray CCD detectors based on semiconductors. On the other hand, sub mm spatial resolution of 1D-photon imaging was obtained by the combination of the superconducting strip photon detector (SSPD) and the delay line structure [1].

Therefore, we tried to develop 1D-delay line photo imager utilizing SSPD which has  $0.5~\mathrm{mm}$  spatial resolution and large active area (>  $5~\mathrm{x}~10~\mathrm{mm}^2$ ). In order to validate if such a structure can work, we calculated the distributed circuit consisting of  $10,000~\mathrm{segments}$  of LC which explain a superconducting strip line (width:  $400~\mathrm{nm}$ , length:  $1~\mathrm{m}$ ). As a result, since we obtained the sharp signal rise time which is less than  $1~\mathrm{nsec}$ , we found that it is expected to get sufficient spatial resolution for RIXS.

Reference [1] Qing-Yuan Zhao et al., Nat. Photon. 27, 247 (2017).

Keywords: Superconducting Strip Photon Detector, X-ray detector, RIXS

### Study for the Operating Principle of Superconducting Strip Photon Detectors (SSPDs)

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Superconducting strip photon detectors (SSPDs) are promising single photon detectors for realizing practical quantum cryptography; their high quantum efficiencies, low timing jitters, and low dark count rates overcome those of avalanche photo diodes or other single photon detectors. Recently, some research groups have established testbeds for quantum cryptography and succeeded in field tests of quantum key distribution at a speed of sub Mbps using practical optical fibers in the length of tens of km.

However, the detecting mechanism of the SSPD is still under investigation. The most probable hypothesis is the followings: (1) an incident photon fluctuates the order parameter of a superconducting strip resulting in the nucleation of vortex-antivortex pairs; (2) vortex pairs are unbound and forced out of the strip in the perpendicular direction of bias current; (3) kinetics of vortices forms a normal band across the strip and a current pulse flows out of the strip. Conventional SSPDs utilize the current pulse as a photon detection signal and its response characteristics such as a response time of several ns regulate the quantum communication speed of sub Mbps as mentioned above.

On the other hand, the numerical simulations have shown that the time scale of kinetics of vortices is in the range of ps. Therefore, by detecting the extruded vortices instead of current pulse, we could expect the communication speed faster than several orders of magnitude of that realized by conventional SSPDs. In this study, we have directly connected a superconducting strip with single flux quantum (SFQ) circuits to capture the extruded vortices out of the strip. Since the information carriers of SFQ circuits are also vortices, not only capturing the vortices but also counting the number of the vortices or other logical operations are possible.

Keywords: SSPD, SFQ

## HTS Filter with Dielectric Rods For Tuning the Center Frequency and Trimming the Passband Characteristics

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Tunable filters are one of the most essential microwave components for multiband communication systems due to their attractive features. In this study, we developed hightemperature superconducting (HTS) tunable microstrip line filter with dielectric rods for tuning the center frequency and trimming the passband characteristics simultaneously. Several dielectric rods are placed above the HTS filter, and the center frequency and passband characteristics are controlled by changing the distance between the dielectric rods and resonators. Two dielectric rods are used for a resonator; one is located on the center of the resonator to tune the center frequency and trim the passband characteristics, and the other is located on the open end of the resonator to tune the center frequency. The filter was designed to have a center frequency of 1.4 GHz and a bandwidth of 28 MHz by using an electromagnetic simulator based on the moment method. The HTS filter was fabricated using double-sided YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7</sub> thin film on a 30×40×0.5 mm Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> substrate. The dielectric rods with a dielectric constant of 40 were used. Figure 1 shows frequency responses of the tunable filter as a function of distance between the resonator and dielectric rods. The tuning range of the filter was about 140 MHz while keeping the all most the same insertion loss with trimming. The measurement data after trimming and tuning have a good agreement with the design specifications.

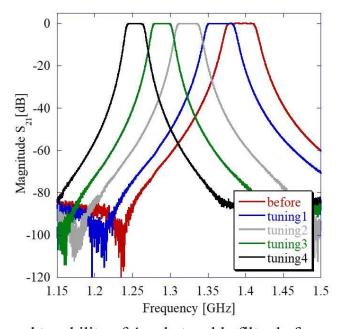


Figure 1 Measured tunability of 4-pole tunable filter before and after tuning.

Keywords: High-temperature superconducting (HTS), tunable bandpass filter,, dielectric rods, microstrip filter

## Design of wireless power transfer system from HTS spiral coil to copper spiral coil

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We have designed a wireless power transfer (WPT) system with high temperature superconducting (HTS) transmit coil and copper receiving coil. The WPT system was designed with bandpass filter theory. The WPT system is consisted of HTS spiral coil, copper spiral coil and two input and output loop coils. The HTS spiral coil was used a double-side HTS tape wire which we proposed before [1]. The center frequency of the WPT system is about 10 MHz. Vector network analyzer was used to measure the frequency response of the WPT system. To design the WPT system, we measured coupling coefficient between spiral coils and external coupling between spiral coil and loop coil. The measured quality factor of the HTS and copper coils are 3200 and 980, respectively. Figure 1(a) and (b) show the measured frequency responses of the WPT system with HTS transmit coil and copper coil and with two copper coils in 50-cm distance between two coils. Good frequency responses were obtained. The transfer efficiency of the WPT systems calculated from Fig. 1(a) and (b) is 73.6 and 61.5 %, respectively.

[1] N. Sekiya, Y. Monjugawa, "A novel REBCO wire structure that improves coil quality factor in MHz range and its effect on wireless power transfer systems," IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond. vol. 27, 6602005, 2017-6.

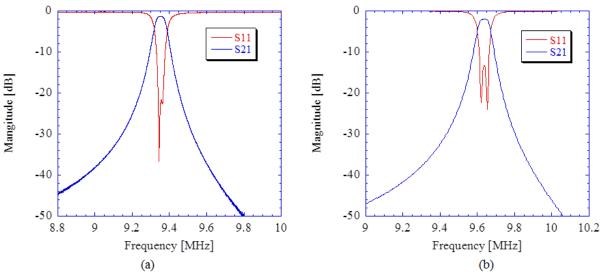


Fig. 1. Measured results of frequency responses in 50-cm distance. (a) HTS transmit coil and copper receiving coil. (b) Two copper coils.

Keywords: wireless power transfer, high temperature superconducting, spiral coil

### Pico Pulse Response Analysis of High-Tc Josephson Weak-Link using Time Dependent Ginzburg-Landau Model

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In this paper, we report on the pico pulse response analysis of high Tc superconducting Josephson weak-link in the terahertz region. We assumed Bi<sub>2</sub>Sr<sub>2</sub>Ca<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub> as high Tc superconducting material. Tc and coherence length of Bi<sub>2</sub>Sr<sub>2</sub>Ca<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>10</sub> are 110[K] and 1[nm], respectively. Terahertz wave is the electro-magnetic wave whose frequency is ranging from 0.1 to 10 THz and is going to be useful for high speed and high capacity telecommunicating, imaging, biological and chemical analyzing.

Since the photon energy of terahertz radiation is greater than the energy gap of high Tc superconductor, we used the one dimensional time-dependent Ginzburg–Landau (TDGL) equation. For example, pico pulse signal of 0.5[ps] wide consists of harmonic component greater than 10[THz]

We derived the TDGL model as the equivalent circuit of Josephson weak-link by use of the TDGL equation, instead of the RSJ model [1]. In our analysis, Rn, normal resistance of the Josephson weak-link at T>Tc is assumed to be  $1[\Omega]$  and pulse response is normalized by the IcRn product where Ic is the critical current of the Josephson weak-link. Following results were found.

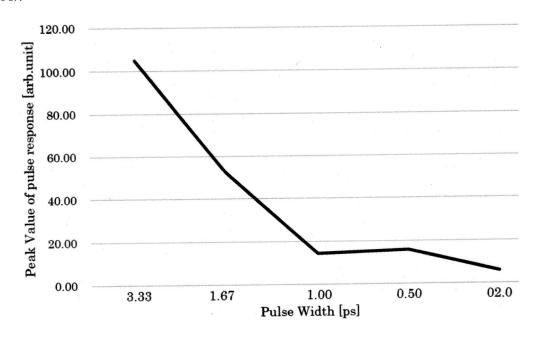
The normal resistance of the Josephson weak-link at T<Tc is not constant but dependent on the applied

voltage.

The cosine φ term with negative sign appears in the TDGL model.

We analyzed pico pulse response at 50[K] and found that peak of pulse response decreased when the pulse width became short as shown in Fig.1.

[1] S. Yoshimori, T. Terashima and M. Kawamura, Infrared Physics & Technology, Vol.39, pp.41-45(1998).



Keywords: THz region, High-Tc Josephson weak-link, TDGL model, pico pulse response

#### Microfabrication of MgB<sub>2</sub> by a conventional lift-off process

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MgB<sub>2</sub> is a superconductor with a remarkably high superconducting transition temperature  $T_c$ = 39 K [1] and an extremely short electron-phonon scattering time  $\tau_{e-ph} \simeq 3ps$  [2]. These characteristic features have impacts on not only basic research but also applied physics. However, a convenient microfabrication method applicable to MgB<sub>2</sub> has not been established yet because of the lack of a thin film growth process without heating up. Recently, we have succeeded in epitaxial growth of MgB<sub>2</sub> thin film with Mg buffer layer under a significantly low substrate temperature of 110 °C by using a molecular beam epitaxy (MBE) method [3]. The MgB<sub>2</sub> thin films thus obtained exhibits superconductivity with  $T_c$  = 27 K in spite of such low growing temperature. We demonstrate a microfabrication by a conventional lift-off process using an organic photoresist (Clariant AZ 5214 E) for MgB<sub>2</sub> thin films growen at low temperatures.

The Mg buffer layer of 24-nm thick was deposited with the deposition rate of  $1.3 \times 10^{-2}$  nm/min on a photoresist-patterned sapphire substrate by using the MBE method. After the Mg buffer layer deposition, the 96-nm thick MgB<sub>2</sub> layer was deposited under ultra-high vacuum of  $3.3 \times 10^{-7}$  Pa with the deposition rate of  $3.8 \times 10^{-2}$  nm/min by the co-evaporation of Mg and B, which were deposited by the Knudsen cells. The deposition rate ratio between Mg and B was the same as the exact stoichiometric ratio of Mg:B = 1:2. A 53-nm thick Bi layer was deposited on top of the MgB<sub>2</sub> film as a passivation layer. We successfully fabricated a 100-m stripline of MgB<sub>2</sub> by a conventional lift-off process and confirmed the superconductivity below 20 K.

- [1] J. Nagamatsu *et al.*, Nature **410**, 63 (2001).
- [2] B. B. Jin et al., Supercond. Sci. Technol. 18, L1 (2005).
- [3] H. Shishido *et al.*, App. Phys. Express **8**, 113101 (2015), H. Shishido *et al.*, J. Phys.: Conf. Series **871**, 012036 (2017).

### Replacement of NbN by YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-8</sub> in Superconducting Thin Film Coil in a Spiral Trench on a Si-Wafer for Compact SMESs

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We have been developing superconducting thin film coils in a spiral trench on a Si wafers for compact SMESs as shown in Fig.(a). A proof of concept has been performed using NbN thin films showing energy storage of 0.01 mJ [1]. Increasing NbN thickness by mitigating film stress, the stored energy increased up to 0.1 mJ [2]. For further improvement, we moved on to replacement of NbN by YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-6</sub>. Firstly, sputter- deposition of yttria stabilized zirconia succeeded by CeO<sub>2</sub> has been performed to form buffer layers to grow c-axis oriented YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-6</sub>. By tuning the deposition conditions, (100) preferred orientations were attained in both layers. Deposition of YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-6</sub> was performed by metal organic deposition (MOD) using a commercially available raw material for MOD: KOJUNDO CHEMICAL LAB, YBC-05(1/2/3). The post deposition annealing (PDA) for 90 min in 1000 ppm O<sub>2</sub>/N<sub>2</sub> was followed by annealing at 500 °C for 100 min in pure O<sub>2</sub>. PDA at 830 °C resulted in formation of BaCeO<sub>3</sub> as shown in Fig.(b). By decreasing PDA temperature, c-axis oriented YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-8</sub> emerged while BaCeO<sub>3</sub> faded out. To enhance the c-axis orientation of the MOD film, sputter-deposition of YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-6</sub> prior to MOD was also examined. More detailed findings and points obtained for the replacement of NbN by YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-8</sub> are to be analysed.

This work is partly supported by NEDO (16101979-0)[1] N.Sugimoto et al.SUST**30** (2017) 015014. [2] Y.Suzuki et al. Proc.ISS2016, JPCS**871**(2017) 012071.

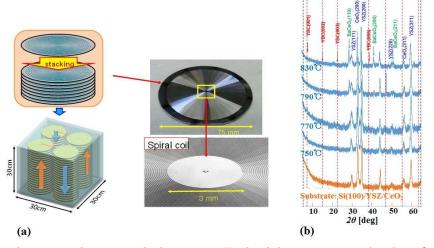


Fig.(a) Superconducting coil composed of 4 units. Each of the units is made of stacked Si wafers engraved with a superconducting thin film coil in a spiral trench formed with MEMS technology. (b) X-ray diffraction patterns of YBa<sub>2</sub>Cu<sub>3</sub>O<sub>7-6</sub> films on sputter-deposited CeO<sub>2</sub>/YSZ thin film buffersa t different post-deposition annealing temperatures

Keywords: SMES, Si wafer, NbN, YBa2Cu3O7-8

# Numerical Analysis of Rapid Single-Flux-Quantum Circuits Composed of 0- and $\pi$ -Shifted Josephson Junctions

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We report numerical analysis of rapid single-flux-quantum (RSFQ) circuits using combination of 0- and  $\pi$ -shifted Josephson junctions. The  $\pi$ -shift in phase difference is observed in several types of Josephson junctions, for example, a sandwich structure of superconductor electrodes and a ferromagnetic thin layer. We use a dc-SQUID including 0- and  $\pi$ -shifted Josephson junctions as a basic element, where bistability is obtained by the persistent current in either the counterclockwise or clockwise direction. This can lead to the following features: (1) reduction in power consumption with less bias points, (2) efficient circuit designs with a fewer number of junctions, and (3) smaller circuit areas because of eliminating large-inductance superconductor loops to store magnetic flux quanta, which are required in conventional RSFQ circuits to represent binary information.

We obtained successful operation of a toggle flip-flop (TFF) that was composed of two Josephson junctions ( $J_0$ ,  $P_1$ ) as shown in Fig. (a). The  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are  $\pi$ -shifted junctions, while  $J_0$  and  $J_3$  are normal (0-shifted) junctions. The input signals provided from a dc-SQUID ( $P_2$ ,  $J_3$ ) were divided to the two outputs as shown in Fig. (b). Our numerical simulation showed that the efficient TFF could be constructed with half the number of junctions with no bias current ports, and the bias currents to  $P_2$  and  $J_3$  could be reduced to approximately 2/3, compared with the conventional RSFQ TFF and Josephson transmission line.

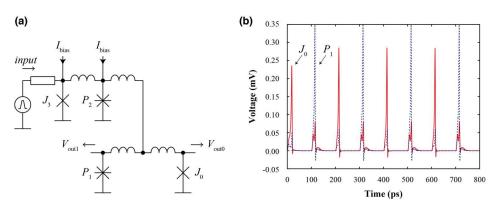


Fig. (a) equivalent circuit of a toggle flip-flop, (b) output signals. The inductance L, Josephson critical currents  $I_c$ , and bias currents  $I_{bias}$  are 2 pH, 200  $\mu$ A, and 90  $\mu$ A, respectively.

Acknowledgment: This work was supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research A (16H02340). The authors would like to thank Yuki Yamanashi for help in the numerical simulating.

Keywords:  $\pi$  Josephson junctions, rapid single-flux-quantum, low-power consumption, efficient circuit design

#### High Impedance Josephson Junction Arrays for Voltage Standard Circuits.

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For voltage standard circuits, tens of thousands Josephson junctions connected in series consist of a co-planar waveguide, and microwaves or pulse codes are applied to them to generate the Shapiro step [1-2]. Both the larger output voltage (the number of junctions N) and the larger operating margin (the step height) are required. However, the large number of the junction N decreases the operating margin due to dissipation for applied microwaves in the junction, because microwave power P at N-th junction is given by  $P = P_0 \exp(-N R_N/Z)$ , where  $R_N$  is the junction resistance.

We designed the characteristic impedance of the array Z to be 100 W, while that for the conventional one was 50 W as shown in Fig.(a), because the high impedance array might contribute to increase the operating margin due to the smaller electric loss across the array. As shown in Fig.(b), the array including 19,199 Josephson junctions generated the flat voltage step at about 0.4 V, that suggested the array was working properly.

- [1] S.P.Benz et al., IEEE Trans. on Appl. Supercond., Vol.25, p. 1300108 (2015).
- [2] M.Maruyama et al., J. of Phys. Conf. Series, Vol.234, p.042020 (2010).

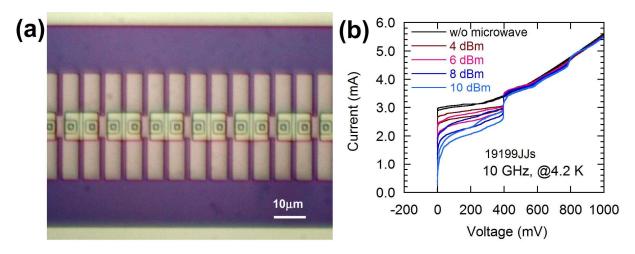


Fig. (a) Fabricated Josephson junction array, the junction size is 3 mm, (b) measured *I-V* characteristics for 19,199 NbN/TiN/NbN Josephson junctions with different microwave powers of 10 GHz at 4.2K.

The devices were fabricated in the clean room for analog-digital superconductivity (CRAVITY) in National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST). This work was partially supported by JSPS KAKENHI Grant No. 17K06481.

Keywords: Voltage Standard, NbN, CPW, Shapiro Step

# Negative resistance in niobium titanium nitride nanowires for flux-based superconducting devices

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Superconducting devices on nanowire have attracted much attention owing to easy fabrication. Because the nanowires do not use an insulating tunnel barrier, such as Josephson junction and their critical current is tuned by the wire diameter. We present temperature dependence of resistance and current-voltage characteristics of niobium titanium nitride (NbTiN) nanowire with different width and length. Firstly, superconducting NbTiN films were firstly prepared by deposition at ambient temperatures on (100) MgO substrates. The NbTiN nanowires were fabricated from 2D films with thickness d = 5 nm by a conventional e-beam lithography method and a reactive ion etching method with CF4 plasma. As a result, we observed negative currentvoltage characteristics (n-IVC) as a function of magnetic field due to field induced superconductivity. One of reasons for n-IVC is based on the suppression of the non-equilibrium charge imbalance process at normal and superconducting boundaries, namely, at the boundaries between phase-slipped and superconducting regions in SNWs. Although the exact mechanism is unsolved, it is reasonable to consider that the one of the reason for n-IVC concerns with the existence of phase slip centers originating the behaviors of Thermal activation phase slip (TAPS) and/or quantum phase slip (QPS). In addition, we will argue observed the n-IVC is caused by entry of vortices in the nanowire. We also propose a concept of flux-based superconducting devices without using the nanowires.

Keywords: nanowire, phase slip