

Nuclear Science and Engineering

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# Key insights from experiments on the beam on suppression of $\rm I_{\rm c}$ during ion-irradiation.

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### Active ion-irradiation suppressed the critical current of REBCO coated conductors













### The critical current measured during irradiation is lower than immediately after



### Outline

- MIT's cryogenic ion-irradiation facility
- $\bullet$  Key insights from  $I_{\rm c}$  measurements during irradiation
  - Turning up the heat (*theam current at fixed energy*)
  - Increasing displacements/watt († beam energy at fixed power)
- Sensitivity analysis with finite-element modeling

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### MIT cryogenic target performs transport measurements during ion-irradiation





#### Uniform beam profiles maximize reproducibility



### Linear accelerator knobs



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#### Increase the beam current

- Increases the beam power
- Increases damage-rate

#### Increase the beam energy

- Increases beam power
- Lowers damage-rate
- Increases implantation depth

#### Increase ion species Z

 Increases nuclear stopping power, compared to electronic stopping

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## The ion-beam can **suppress** I<sub>c</sub> **without causing permanent damage**



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## Beam heating is a plausible explanation for the beam-on suppression of $\rm I_{\rm c}$



### A very low energy beam can heat the sample without damaging the REBCO layer





- **No damage:** 150 keV protons stop in the silver layer
- **High damage rate:** 800 keV protons stop just outside the REBCO layer



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#### We can produce **more displacements/watt in YBCO** by varying the beam energy













## Using ${\rm I}_{\rm c}$ as a thermometer to measure the true irradiation temperature



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### Finite-element model setup



### Heat source for different beam energies



**3-mmm FWHM Beam heating profile from SRIM (**IONIZ.TXT + PHONONS.TXT**)** 

### The absolute temperature rise is sensitive to thermal coupling and the position of the temperature sensor



### We get reasonable between model and experiments when

- The sensor is close enough to the irradiated area to detect a temperature rise.
- We determine coupling of sensor to targetholder (here it's a *free-parameter*).
- Modeling the bridge is not necessary (2D vs 3D).
- Thermal coupling of tape (N-Apiezon grease) to target-holder is key to reproduce temperatures.

### Key findings concerning the beam-on effect

- I<sub>c</sub> is suppressed during irradiation but there is no permanent damage
- lons do not need to interact directly with the REBCO layer to suppress  $\rm I_{\rm c}$
- The beam-on effect is accompanied by a temperature rise
- $I_c \mbox{ vs T} \mbox{ and } I_c \mbox{ vs I}_{Beam}$  have the same functional dependence
- Thermal coupling strongly influences the absolute temperature rise

Extraordinary claims require extraordinary evidence.

– Carl Sagan

### Backup slides

### ...in fact, any claim should be supported by good statistics



Can temperature alone explain the suppression of  $I_c$  during irradiation?

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### FE 800 and 2400 keV





## At fixed energy, the temperature rise is proportional to beam current



### Beam current is 200 nA?



Temperature (K)

## Temperature stability during Ic measurements with a 1200 keV beam



## Temperature stability during Ic measurements with a 300 keV beam





The bridged-tape is mounted directly on copper with a thin layer of cryogenic grease (N-Apiezon).

Temperature sensor T3 is pressed down against the surface of the tape, in the irradiated area.



Copper tape

Spring-loaded clamp

Temperature sensor

For this test, the sensor was occluded from the beam by copper tape. The tape touches the samples holder, but it doesn't contact the sensor directly<sub>50</sub>



#### Can we separate beam-heating from atomicdisplacements?





1200 keV protons heat and damage the REBCO

300 keV protons **only heat** the REBCO layer

#### **Case 1:** 1200 keV protons **heat** and **damage** the REBCO Curve A is the reference before irradiation



**Case 1:** 1200 keV protons **heat** and **damage** the REBCO Curve B is measured during irradiation (stable temperature)



### **Case 1:** 1200 keV protons **heat** and **damage** the REBCO Curve C is measured after irradiation



#### Case 1: 1200 keV protons heat and damage the REBCO Curve D is measured at the matching temperature



#### **Case 3:** 300 keV protons **only heat** the REBCO Curve A is the reference before irradiation



#### **Case 2:** 300 keV protons **only heat** the REBCO Curve B is measured during irradiation (stable temperature)



#### **Case 2:** 300 keV protons **only heat** the REBCO Curve C is measured after irradiation



#### Case 2: 300 keV protons only heat the REBCO Curve D is measured at the matching temperature (35 K!)





