RAP-RD

Acoustic Detection of Particles at the DAFNE Beam Test Facility (BTF)





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Goal of the experiment :

To measure the amplitude X of the first longitudinal mode of vibration of a suspended bar, when it is excited by the interaction with a beam of electrons .

Motivation:

The rate of high energy cosmic rays detected by the NAUTILUS g.w. antenna, when operating in superconducting regime (T=0.14K), turned out to be larger than the rate detected in the normal conducting regime.

Cryostat

Suspension

Bar

The test masses for RAP can be operated both above and below the transition temperature T_c , in order to verify whether the amplitude of oscillation depends on the conduction state of the material.



Highlights of previous activity

* Thermoelastic models (Grassi Strini et al., Liu and BarishAllega, Cabibbo; De Rujula, Laudrup et al.) for excitation of vibrations is well validated above T_c



Activity since last meeting (Nov 2006- Jul 2007)

Published the data collected with a Nb bar in both normal and SC state (Europhys. Lett., 76 (6), pp. 987-993 (dec 2006))

- The amplitude of oscillation (X) of the bar depends on its conduction state: amplitude in N state > amplitude in SC state
- Fair agreement with models that predict local transitions (SC-N) around the particles trajectory. In these models the max amplitude X normalized to the total energy W lost in the bar by the beam is given by:

$$\frac{X}{W} = \left[\left(\frac{X}{W} \right)_{trans} \right] + \left[\left(\frac{X}{W} \right)_{norm} \right] =$$
$$= \left[F \left(H_c, \frac{\partial H_c}{\partial T}, \frac{\partial H_c}{\partial P} \right) \right] + \left[B \left(\frac{\alpha}{c_V} \right)_{norm} \right]$$



Niobium



Between dotted lines : Expected values for the transition term Dots and error bars : Observed values Temperature interval : $0.5 < T/T_c < 0.8 (Tc~9 K)$

Measurements on Aluminium 5056

Preparing for a BTF run with an Al 5056 bar in the normal and SC state $(T_c \sim 1K)$

 Assembly of the Dilution Refrigerator and ancillary control systems completed. controllo.

 During a commissioning test we found operating problems, localized to a heat exchanger between the Still and the Mixing Chamber.

•Temporary fix of this problem by operating the DL in a 3He evaporation mode. In this way we were then able to run a measurement (May 25th to Jun 6th) on the Al5056 bar down to T_{min} ~0.5 K < Tc with interesting results.

Characterization of the material in both N e SC regimes: measurement of $C_v^{N,SC}$

• with the help of INFN Firenze.



Results for the Al5056 bar

 $T \gtrsim 0.9~\text{K}$ - The amplitude X takes values consistent with the expected ones for the Normal state.

 $T\!\lesssim\!\!0.9~K$ - Effects due to the SC state arise

For T $\lesssim 0.7$ K we observed larger amplitudes than in the normal state.

Models predict, for pure AL in the SC state, larger X than in the N state.

It is yet to be understood the attenuation of the response X in the temperature range 0.6-0.9 K as well as its dependence on the elctron beam intensity.



Max amplitude of oscillation, normalized to the energy deposited by the e⁻ beam, vs Temperature for 4 different ranges of beam current.



Same as previous, but with data grouped in 50 mK Temperature bins The red data point is induced from observation on the Nautilus gw antenna

Characterization of the material (Fi)

- Measurements on C_V is underway
- \cdot T_c measured via a mutual inductance bridge in a carefully shielded environment.



 $T_c(50\%)=0.84$ K, $T_c(100\%)=0.73$ K Compare with Tc (pure AI) = 1.14 K

The transition is intrinsically wide (~100 mK) The alloy is characterized by ~ 5% Mg and 0.1% Mn (magnetic effects)

Summary (so far) for Al5056

- 1) The amplitude of vibration generated by the energy release by a beam of particles depends on the conduction state of the bar.
- 2) Well below the transition temperature this amplitude is larger than in the N state (unlike Niobium)
- → This finding is a qualitative support to explain the observed effects due to cosmic rays on Nautilus when this was operating in the SC state (T 0.14 K)
- → Quantitative conclusions can be derived after exploring the effect at temperatures below 0.5 K.
- → Moving farther away from T_c, as well as a better knowledge of the material characteristics at those temperatures would allow a more accurate comparison with the model predictions.

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Spare slides (just in case)



Thermo-acoustic Model (Grassi Strini, Strini, Tagliaferri; 1979)





Relates the energy lost by the particle to the energy installed in the various normal modes of vibration of the cylindric bar:

$$E_n \propto \left(\frac{\alpha}{C_V}\right)^2 \cdot \left(\frac{dE}{dx}\right)^2 \cdot F_n^2(L,R)$$
$$\implies B_0^{therm} = \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{\alpha WL}{C_V M}$$

The quantity α/C_v (proportional to the Grüneisen parameter γ) is practically constant between 10-300 K;

What happens in the superconducting state?