

Radiation Resistant HTS Quadrupoles for RIA

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Extremely high radiation, levels with accumulated doses comparable to those in nuclear reactors than in accelerators, and very high heat loads (~15 kW) make the quadrupole magnets in the fragment separator one of the most challenging elements of the proposed Rare Isotope Accelerator (RIA). Removing large heat loads, protecting the superconducting coils against quenching, the long term survivability of magnet components, and in particular, insulation that can retain its functionality in such a harsh environment, are the major challenges associated with such magnets. A magnet design based on commercially available high temperature superconductor (HTS) and stainless steel tape insulation has been developed. HTS will efficiently remove these large heat loads and stainless steel can tolerate these large radiation doses. Construction of a model magnet has been started with several coils already built and tested. This paper presents the basic magnet design, results of the coil tests, the status and the future plans. In addition, preliminary results of radiation calculations are also presented.

What is RIA?

A schematic of the RIA facility is shown in Figure 1. The key to the scientific productivity of the facility is its ability to provide the highest intensity beams of stable heavy ions for the production of rare isotopes. The concept based on development in superconducting technology in the 1970s. The design for the past few decades has been based on the use of a proton beam capable of providing beams from 100 MeV to 1 GeV. The RIA will use a heavy ion beam with a maximum energy in excess of 100 MeV. With this flexibility, the production reaction can be chosen to optimize the yield of a desired isotope. In comparison to the low energy RIA, the RIA has several advantages. First, it is capable of producing isotopes that are not produced by the low energy RIA. Second, the acceleration scheme of RIA allows the measurement of nuclear reactions at astrophysical energies and the search for new heavy elements with long lifetimes. Second, the acceleration scheme of RIA allows the production of a wide range of isotopes. Third, the RIA has higher primary beam power and a more flexible combination of ion sources, which will provide higher intensities and a wider variety of ion combinations.

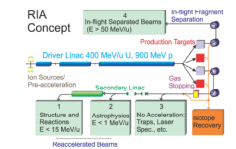
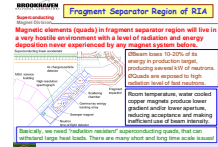


Figure 1

The schematic of the facility consists of three main sections: (1) Driver Linear, (2) Accelerator, and (3) Fragment Separator. The Driver Linear is a 400 MeV/u, 800 MeV/u linear accelerator. The Accelerator is a 400 MeV/u, 800 MeV/u linear accelerator. The Fragment Separator is a 400 MeV/u, 800 MeV/u linear accelerator. The production targets are located at the end of the fragment separator.



The Rare Isotope Accelerator is a proposed major facility in United States for research in Nuclear Science. It will produce copious amounts of rare isotopes when a high-energy heavy ion beam hits the target. The Fragment Separator will then select a particular isotope and transport it to an experimental area. For optimal capture efficiency, superconducting magnets are required in at least the first focusing quadrupole triplet of the separator. These magnets are one of the most challenging elements in the RIA proposal, as they are exposed to several orders of magnitude more radiation and energy deposition than typical beam line and accelerator magnets receive during their entire lifetime. The first quadrupole itself is subjected to ~15 kW of energy deposition.

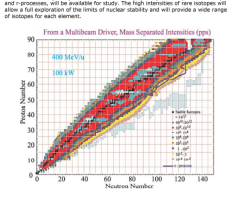
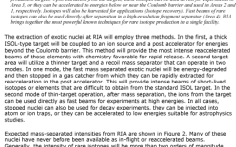


Figure 2. Estimated loads on RIA in one year. The dashed line shows the 1:1 relationship.

Advantages of using HTS in Magnets for Fragment Separator

- HTS magnets can operate at higher temperatures (20-40 K) instead of conventional (4.2 K) liquid helium.
- HTS magnets benefit significantly from the possibility of magnets operating at elevated temperatures (20-40 K) instead of conventional (4.2 K) liquid helium.
- HTS magnets can be cooled by a simple cryogenic system, reducing the complexity and cost of the cryogenic system.
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Insulation in HTS Coils Built at BNL

HTS coils are insulated with a combination of stainless steel and HTS tape. The stainless steel provides structural support and protection against radiation damage. The HTS tape provides electrical insulation and cooling.

Influence of Radiation Damage on HTS

Radiation damage can affect the performance of HTS magnets. The damage is caused by the production of defects in the HTS material, which can lead to a decrease in the critical current density. The damage is more significant at higher radiation doses and higher temperatures.

An Earlier Design (5 cm good field radius)

HTS QUAD for RIA Fragment Separator. Requirements: 1) Field, operating at 20K. 2) Can be achieved with the conventional HTS. 3) HTS coils can operate at higher temperatures (20-40 K) instead of conventional (4.2 K) liquid helium. 4) HTS magnets, the cost of operating superconducting magnets is significantly reduced. 5) HTS magnets, the cost of operating superconducting magnets is significantly reduced. 6) HTS magnets, the cost of operating superconducting magnets is significantly reduced.

Current Design (14 cm good field radius)

An OPERA3d model of the 280 mm aperture super-feric quadrupole design for RIA with field lines and field intensity in coil and iron regions.

An OPERA3d model of the 280 mm aperture super-feric quadrupole design for RIA. Color indicates the field intensity on the surface of coil and iron regions. The above model shows only one symmetric half of the complete magnet.

Magnet Construction

A coil is being made by co-winding HTS tape (on right) and stainless steel insulating tape (left).

A racetrack HTS coil co-wound with stainless steel insulating tape.

RIA HTS coil test assembly and test set-up. The coils were tested in liquid nitrogen (simple test set-up for 77 K test) and in liquid helium (4.2 K).

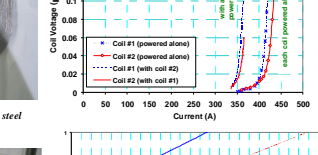
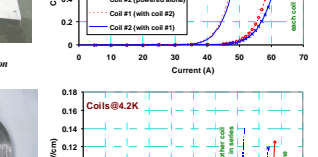
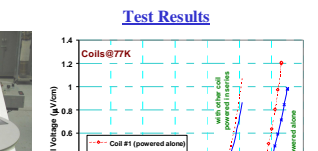


Table 1. MEASURED CRITICAL CURRENTS (A) IN THE SELF-FIELD OF THE COILS

Coil	Coil 1	Coil 2
1.0 (1.1 μV/cm, 77K)	53	41.2
1.1 (1.1 μV/cm, 77K)	62	50.5
1.2 (1.1 μV/cm, 4.2K)	419	364
1.1 (1.1 μV/cm, 4.2K)	443	384

Radiation Calculations

The first quadrupole magnet in the RIA Fragment Separator (FS) is subject to considerable radiation from the production target. The beam will lose 20-50% of 400 kW (maximum beam power) in the production target located directly in front of the first quadrupole, resulting in copious amounts of penetrating radiation directed at this magnet. There is a tungsten shield between the target and the coils. The model calculations show that the tungsten shield is subjected to a heat load of 28 mW/cm² (total load 3.3 kW), iron 25.3 mW/cm² (total load 9 kW), and HTS coils 5.1 mW/cm² (total load 135 W). This clearly shows the benefits of a warm iron design. One major concern is the neutron flux. More data is needed to determine the acceptable dose of high-energy neutrons on HTS coils.

Conclusions

HTS magnets with stainless steel tape insulation offer an efficient solution to the challenges posed by the extremely large radiation and heat loads in RIA. However, this technology has never been used in particle accelerators and hence needs to be demonstrated with a few years of significant R&D effort. If successful, it offers a unique technology for radiation resistant superconducting magnets that can tolerate high heat loads.

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