Abstract Submitted for the MAR13 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Thermometry and power sensing with SNS proximity structures RUSSELL LAKE, JOONAS GOVENIUS, VILLE PIETILA, KUAN YEN TAN, MIKKO MÖTTÖNEN, COMP Centre of Excellence, Department of Applied Physics, Aalto University, Finland — We present our experimental progress on thermometry employing the superconductor proximity effect in a normal-metal (N) mesoscopic wire between two superconducting (S) electrodes. We have fabricated Al/Au/Al SNS structures with junction lengths in the diffusive transport regime and performed electrical measurements between 300 K and 8 mK. Temperature dependence of the differential resistance shows sensitivity at the millikelvin level at a bath temperature of 8 mK. Specifically, the shape of the proximity effect induced dip in the differential resistance at zero current-bias serves as a direct probe of the N wire temperature. We show that the energy scale of proximity superconductivity in the N wire can be controlled by changing the wire length or by applying a perpendicular magnetic field to tune the temperature detection range. Results are discussed in terms of the temperature and resolving power noise for a thermometer and a power meter, respectively.

> Russell Lake COMP Centre of Excellence, Department of Applied Physics, Aalto University, Finland

Date submitted: 27 Nov 2012

Electronic form version 1.4