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Title:Terahertz detector with transmission-line type superconducting tunnel junctions

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Abstract:We demonstrate a new type of terahertz detector with superconducting tunnel junctions. The detector has two long junctions integrated on both wings of a log-periodic antenna. In this type of detector, the long junction is a lossy transmission line working based on the Cooper-pair breaking, as well as a standing-wave resonance line working based on the photon-assisted tunneling. A prototype detector using Nb/Al/AIO_x/Al/Nb junctions was fabricated, and the principle of the detector was verified. The prototype shows a gradual increase in sensitivity starting from 0.35 THz. We have also identified a resonance signal at 0.25 THz below the effective gap frequency.

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