Chapter 32 Problem 55 [†]

Given

$$\begin{split} B &= 15~T\\ N &= 5000~turns\\ l &= 75~cm = 0.75~m \end{split}$$

Solution

Find the current in the solenoid needed to reach the critical field of the superconductor.

From Ampere's law the magnetic field in a solenoid is

$$B = \frac{\mu_0 NI}{l}$$

Solving for the current gives

$$I = \frac{lB}{\mu_0 N}$$

Substitute in the appropriate values gives

$$I = \frac{(0.75 \ m)(15 \ T)}{(4\pi \times 10^{-7} \ N/A^2)(5000)} = 1790 \ A$$

$$I = 1.8 \ kA$$

[†]Problem from Essential University Physics, Wolfson