

Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids Microstructured Quantum Matter

FIB patterning of single-crystalline Quantum Materials Toni Helm

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Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids



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- Solid State Chemistry, Claudia Felser
- Physics of Correlated Matter, Liu Hao Tjeng
- Physics of Quantum Materials, Andrew Mackenzie
- Physics of unconventional metals and superconductors, Elena Hassinger
- Physics of Microstructured Quantum Matter (MQM), Philip J. W. Moll









Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids











Collaborations





Outline

- Introduction to FIB patterning of Quantum Materials
- Focused Ion Beam (FIB) Dual beam system
- Microscale experiments
- Example of current research in heavy Fermion superconductors





What are Quantum Materials?

 states of matter [quantum many-body systems] with emergent macroscopic properties that are intrinsically quantum mechanical.

e.g. Superconductivity: macroscopic quantum mechanical wave function

concepts of topological order

e.g. fractional quantum Hall effect and topological insulators, Dirac- and Weyl-Semimetals.

- bad metals, "quantum critical metals", and the "strange metal" in the Cuprates
- New states of Matter, such as Nematicity or Supersolids
- Quantum magnetism, frustrated systems, Spin liquids, metamagnetism

"The notion of **quantum matter** is useful as a **unifying concept** for describing many of the common themes of interest in two culturally distinct research communities: those studying ultracold atomic gases and correlated electron materials." [Prof. Ross L. Mckenzie]





What are Quantum Materials?

Unconventional Metals and Superconductors



Main research philosophy of our group:

"Explore novel electronic materials on the microscale"



Start from bulk material or powder / polycrystals



··· and turn it into a microstructured devices







Main research philosophy of our group:

"Explore novel electronic materials on the microscale"

- Discover new physics of quantum matter *"function follows form"*
- Mesoscale effects / finite size



 Prototype devices of quantum matter electronics ··· and turn it into a microstructure

Why single crystals? \rightarrow Quality/Purity





Why microstructures? – quantum effects at small scales

Qualitative change in quantum behavior when system size crosses relevant length scale L

- L: Correlation length
- Magnetic
- Structural (CDW in high T_c)

Decreasing sample size / cutting smaller structures



Macroscopic (>L)

- Averaged resistivity
- resistivity isotropic

Mesoscopic (~L)

- Domain boundary scattering
- Domain dynamics

Microscopic (<L)

- Intrinsic scattering
- resistivity anisotropy





Why microstructures? – quantum effects at small scales

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Mesoscopic (~L)

 \rightarrow No rigid definition:

→ range between a few nanometers and a few micrometers





Focused Ion Beam (FIB) Microfabrication

Domain motion in thin film spintronic nanostructures



[Urbanek M. et al., Nanotechnology 21, 145304 (2010)]

Hydrodynamic electron flow in the Delafossite PdCoO₂



 $\rho_0\approx 10 \ n\Omega cm$

 \rightarrow 1/2 x ρ (Cu)

[Moll, P.J.W. et al. Science 351, 1061-1064 (2016)]



~10 µm thin platelets

[Moll P.J.W. et al. Nat. Mat. 12, 134-138 (2013)]

Vortex physics in

Topological surface states in the Dirac semimetal Cd₃As₄





[Moll, P.J.W. et al. Nature 535, 266-270 (2016)]





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Focused Ion Beam (FIB) Microfabrication

Focused Ion Beam etching (FIB)

> Industrial application:

investigation of defects in computer chips and materials

> Material science:

Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) Lamella preparation

Biology:

Slicing organic specimens like cells and tissue















Difference of FIB to SEM:

- Removes/Adds Material
- Secondary Ion imaging shows material contrast
- Channeling contrast
- In-situ sample preparation
- Combines high magnification imaging and sample modification
- Ion beam has smaller interaction volume at the target comparing with E-beam (~5-40nm for energies in the 30 keV range)

- As-grown crystallites
- Feature size down to ~100nm
- 3D Structuring





most commonly used ion: Gallium

- longest liquid range of any metal (from 29.8°C to 2175°C)
- providing room temperature operation
- long lifetime source
- Spot size reaches below $\emptyset \approx 10 \text{ nm}$
- highly vacuum compatible
- large ions for physical sputtering
- Below the melting point Ga is a soft, silver white metal, stable in both air and water.

Liquid Metal Ion Source (LMIS)







The tungsten is wetted with gallium which is held in the spiral by surface tension. The vapour pressure is about 10⁻⁷ mbar.

Frozen-in -shape LMIS showing 49° half angle. The field emission area is a 2-5nm across giving current densities >10⁸ Acm⁻².









Fabrication process steps

Lamella mining Lamella separation

Lamella fixation

40 pm

Contacting

Microstructuring

1 mm

Lamella transfer







Focused Ion Beam (FIB) Microfabrication







Alternative Ion Source





Liquid Metal Ion Source (Gallium) Point source (50nm diameter) Low angular intensity (15uA/sr) Plasma Ion Source Broad Area Source (10-100um diameter) High Angular Intensity (5-10mA/sr)





Volume milling time vs. ion milling current



Milling time as a function of the FIB current on a Si sample with a volume of

 $100 \times 100 \times 100 \ \mu m^3$





Focused Ion Beam (FIB) – Sputtering Rate



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Focused Ion Beam (FIB) – Sputter Yield

P. Sigmund, Phys. Rev. 184, 383 (1969)

CPfS



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Focused Ion Beam (FIB) – Sputter Yield

Different materials have different sputter yields



Focused Ion Beam (FIB) – Ion Implantation

Real space atom imaging of Ga-FIB cut (30 keV) SmFeAs(O,F)





- Ga concentration decreases from 2% at the surface to 0% within 25nm (yellow)
- Crystal planes & lattice visible below 16 nm

No evidence of material damage below 30 nm





Focused Ion Beam (FIB) – Advantages / Disadvantages

- Ga²⁺ Ion implentation
- Variance in the local angle of incidence effects

impact of Ions

- Channeling (poly-crystals, impurities, defects)
- Ion-induced grain growth (recrystallization)
- Redeposition
- Local heating effects





FIB-assisted deposition











FIB-assisted deposition

- delicate balance between decomposing the adsorbed gas and sputtering.
- Pt, W, C or insulators

Example Platinum: C₉H₁₆Pt, trimethyl(methylcyclopentadienyl)platinum

- Solid at room temperature (Operating Temperature 38-42 °C)
- Very hard, and therefore stable against thermal cycling
- Chemically resistant
- For metal deposition, the effect of Ga⁺ implantation is not so critical: deposited Pt consists of ~46% Pt, ~24% C, ~28% Ga, ~2% O
 [J. Vac. Sci. Technol. B 19, 6 (2001)]





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Microscale Experiments



- Thermoelectrical transport
 - Free standing structures





Microscale experiments

Thermodynamic properties from crystalline micromechanical oscillators



Elastic modulus measurement

Measure mechanical resonances





Microscale experiments – Transport anisotropy



H. C. Montgomery (1971), J. Appl. Phys. **42,** 2971











[R. Fermin, "Transportanisotropy of SmFeAsO" Master thesis 2018]





Microscale experiments

Electrical transport under extreme conditions:

at **high pressure**

 $p \leq 100$ kbar

Under water: ears 4m 0.03 bar submarine 600m 5 bar ocean floor 3600m 30 bar



MPI

CPfS

Diamond Anvil Pressure Cells



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News in heavy Fermion Matter FIB microstructure

Electronic in-plane symmetry breaking at field-tuned quantum criticality in CeRhIn₅ F. Ronning, T. Helm, K. R. Shirer, M. D. Bachmann, L. Balicas, M. Chan, B. J. Ramshaw, R. McDonald, F. Balakirev, E. Bauer, and P. J. W. Moll *Nature* **315**, 214-7 (2017)

[F. Ronning Nature **315**, 214-7 (2017)]





News in heavy Fermion Matter

Heavy electrons



[P. Coleman, Book "Many-Body Physics: From Kondo to Hubbard" (2015)]





115 Superconductors



$CeRhIn_5$



CeRhIn₅ is an anti-ferromagnet (AFM)

- Local moments on the Ce sites (4f¹ configuration)
- f-electrons not completely localized
 γ ~ 70 mJ mol⁻¹K⁻²
- Anti-ferromagnetic ordering at *T_N* = 3.85K
- In-plane spins anti-parallel, incommensurate spin-spiral along *c* direction *q* = (1/2,1/2,0.297)





Quantum critical superconductivity under pressure



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MPI

CPfS



News in heavy Fermion Matter

Microstructured CeRhIn₅

FIB microstructure



Fabricate crystal microstructures for high field measurements of resistivity along arbitrary crystal directions

[F. Ronning Nature **315**, 214-7 (2017)]





FIB microstructuring : Evidence for high sample quality



- Quantitative agreement with bulk crystal resistivity measurements
- Large RRR (>100)

MPI

CPfS

Large quantum oscillations in resistivity (SdH)





High-field Magnetortransport anisotropy of CeRhIn₅

CeRhIn₅: A new high-field state









High-field Magnetortransport anisotropy of CeRhIn₅







High-field Magnetortransport anisotropy of CeRhIn₅





Electronic nematic

Tetragonal crystal P4/mmm

 $RMIn_5$



Fermi surface C2 symmetric



[F. Ronning Nature 315, 214-7 (2017)]







Electronic nematics



Kivelson et al., Nature 393, 550 (1998)





Electronic nematics

Nematic orders: direction but no orientation



Electronic system breaks C4 rotational symmetry <u>but persives</u> translational symmetry. (q = 0 order)





A new high-field state in CeRhIn₅



A new high-field state in CeRhIn₅







CeRhIn₅ : A new high-field state

Strong anisotropy feature in the inplane transport above H* ~ 30 T

No anomaly in c-direction Resistivity

No evidence for metamagnetism from Magnetization and Torque

Very weak lattice response in Magnetostriction

Electronic Nematic high-field phase

> Breaks rotational symmetry but sustains translational symmetry









Toni Helm FIB patterning of single-crystal Quantum Materials



(*p*,*B*) phase diagram of CeRhIn₅

Experimental challenges:

• High conductivity $ho_0pprox 0.5\,\mu\Omega cm$

→ Low signal/noise ratio

- Fast changing field $\frac{dB}{dt} \approx 10000 \text{ T/sec}$ $\rightarrow \text{ Eddy current heating}$
- limited space
 - \rightarrow VTI space ~ 8 mm
 - \rightarrow pressure cell sample space Ø \sim 100 μm
- Strong friction forces
 - \rightarrow Low success rate for multiterminal devices







Joint experiment

MPI CPFS, Dresden



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Moll et al., Ann. Rev. Cond. Mat. Phys. 9, 147-162 (2018)

NHMFL Tallahassee



A. Grockowiak S. Tozer

~100 kbar

Hydrostatic pressure

NHMFL Los Alamos



F. Balakirev J. B. Betts

High magnetic fields



[Coniglio et al., High Pressure Research **33**, 425 (2013)]





The world's highest magnetic fields





MPI



(*p*,*B*) Phase diagram of CeRhIn₅

Experimental challenges:

• High conductivity $ho_0pprox 0.5\mu\Omega cm$

→ Low signal/noise ratio

- Fast changing field $\frac{dB}{dt} \approx 10000$ T/sec \rightarrow Strong eddy current heating
- limited space for cryostat + pressure cell
 - \rightarrow VTI sample space \sim 8 mm
 - \rightarrow pressure cell sample space Ø \sim 100 μm
- Strong friction forces
 - \rightarrow Low success rate for multiterminal devices

Solutions:

• Focused Ion beam (FIB) microstructuring

 \rightarrow small cross sections ~ 1 μm^2

- \rightarrow Optimized current paths
- Plastic ³He cryostats
- Minaturized Plastic Diamond-anvil pressure cells
- Extremely robust FIB-Platinum leads





Summary

500 um

New possibilities for studying <u>quantum materials</u>,

such as unconventional superconductors

□ <u>Nematic high-field state</u> in CeRhIn₅

Basics of FIB microfabrication

Thank you for your attention



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