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Title:	Possible multigap type-I superconductivity in the layered boride RuB ₂
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Keywords:	Layered boride RuB ₂ Superconductivity Type-I
Issue Date:	2018
Publisher:	American Physical Society
Citation:	Physical Review B, 97(5).
Abstract:	The structure of the layered transition-metal borides AB ₂ (A=Os,Ru) is built up by alternating T and B layers with the B layers forming a puckered honeycomb. Here we report superconducting properties of RuB ₂ with a T _c ≈1.5 K using measurements of the magnetic susceptibility versus temperature T, magnetization M versus magnetic field H, resistivity versus T, and heat capacity versus T at various H. We observe a reduced heat capacity anomaly at T _c given by $\Delta C/\gamma T_c \approx 1.1$ suggesting multigap superconductivity. Strong support for this is obtained by the successful fitting of the electronic specific heat data to a two-gap model with gap values $\Delta_1/kBT_c \approx 1.88$ and $\Delta_2/kBT_c \approx 1.13$. Additionally, M versus H measurements reveal a behavior consistent with type-I superconductivity. This is confirmed by comparing the experimental critical field ≈122 Oe obtained from extrapolation to T=0 of the H-T phase diagram, with an estimate of the T=0 thermodynamic critical field ≈114 Oe. Additionally, the Ginzburg-Landau parameter was estimated to be $\kappa \approx 0.1-0.66$. These results strongly suggest multigap type-I superconductivity in RuB ₂ . We also calculate the band structure and obtain the Fermi surface for RuB ₂ . The Fermi surface consists of one quasi-two-dimensional sheet and two concentric ellipsoidal sheets very similar to OsB ₂ . An additional small fourth sheet is also found for RuB ₂ . RuB ₂ could thus be an example of a multigap type-I superconductor.
Description:	Only IISERM authors are available in the record.
URI:	https://journals.aps.org/prb/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevB.97.054506 (https://journals.aps.org/prb/abstract/10.1103/PhysRevB.97.054506) http://hdl.handle.net/123456789/2140 (http://hdl.handle.net/123456789/2140)
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