

Tuning of superconductivity and magnetic order of heavy fermion CePt₃Si by substitution and pressure

E. Bauer, R. Lackner,

Institute of Solid State Physics, Vienna University of Technology,

A-1040 Wien, Austria; e-mail: bauer@ifp.tuwien.ac.at

M. Nicklas, G. Sparn

Max Planck Institute for Chemical Physics of Solids,

Nöthnitzer Str. 40, 01187 Dresden, German

CePt₃Si is a novel unconventional superconductor (SC) which undergoes a transition into an antiferromagnetic ground state at $T_N \sim 2.2$ K and exhibits superconductivity below 0.75 K. CePt₃Si crystallizes in the tetragonal structure P4mm which lacks a center of inversion. Large values of $H_{c2}' \sim -8.5$ T/K and $H_{c2}(0) \sim 5$ T were derived, referring to Cooper pairs formed out of heavy quasi-particles. The mass enhancement originates from Kondo interactions with a characteristic temperature $T_K \sim 8$ K. CePt₃Si follows the general features of correlated electron systems and can be arranged within the Kadowaki-Woods plot next to the unconventional SC UPt₃. NMR and μ SR results show that both magnetic order and SC coexist on a microscopic scale without having spatial segregation of both phenomena. The absence of an inversion symmetry gives rise to a lifting of the degeneracy of electronic bands by spin-orbit coupling. As a consequence, the SC order parameter may have uncommon features as indicated from a very unique NMR relaxation rate $1/T_1$ and a linear temperature dependence of the penetration depth λ .

The aim of the present work is to trace the evolution of superconductivity and magnetic order upon the application of hydrostatic pressure; changes originated by hydrostatic pressure will be compared with results of measurements performed on substituted samples, where the exchange of elements, such as Si/Ge causes chemical pressure effects.

Work supported by the Austrian FWF, P16370.