

Properties of Materials: Physical Property Measurement System (PPMS)

Institute for Research in Materials (IRM)
Dalhousie University

Mary Anne White – (902) 494-3894
mary.anne.white@dal.ca

Mike Johnson – (902) 494-6538
michel.johnson@dal.ca

Physical Property Measurement System (PPMS)

- Fully-automated variable temperature and magnetic field system with multiple measurement applications:
 - Thermal transport and heat capacity
 - DC magnetometry and AC susceptibility
 - Electro-transport
- Multi-function probe with integrated sample platforms (“pucks”) using plug-in technology
 - Temperature control from 0.4 K - 400 K
 - Temperature range varies for each option
 - 9 Tesla longitudinal magnet
 - $< 10^{-4}$ Torr high vacuum available



Research Associate Mike Johnson prepares for a routine performance test on the PPMS.

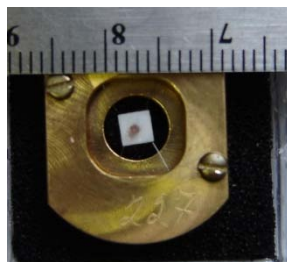
Sample Puck Examples



^3He probe platform

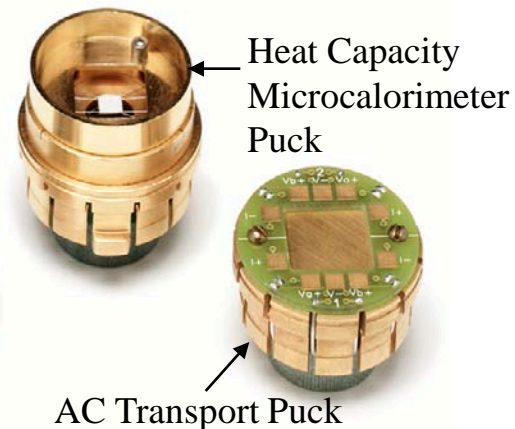
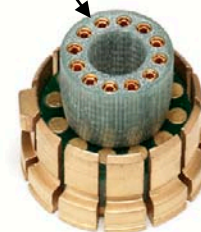


^3He electro-transport puck



^3He C_p puck with 3 mg sample used for measurements

12-pin connection



Heat Capacity Microcalorimeter Puck

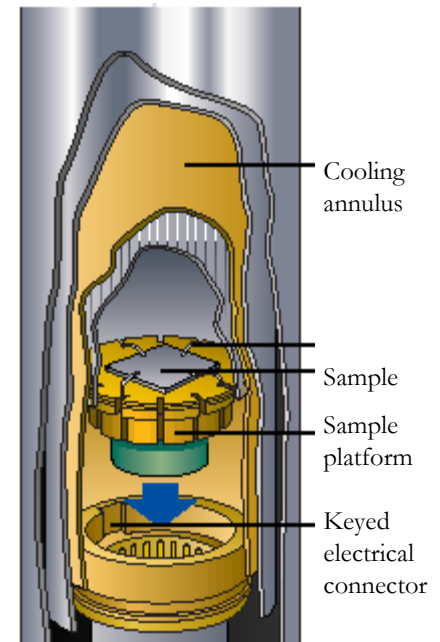
AC Transport Puck



Multiple sample platforms (pucks) available and easily installed into the chamber for experimentation.

Advantages of our PPMS

- Very low minimum temperature (350 mK) with the Helium-3 option
- Fast measurement times: up to 12 K/min slew rates
- Custom designed experiments
- Measure several physical properties at once, e.g.:
 - Electrical conductivity, thermal conductivity
 - Magnetic susceptibility, magnetization
 - Magnetic dependence of heat capacity
- Small sample sizes (typically 5 to 100 mg)
- EverCool Dewar with very low He loss
- 30 kbar pressure cell for electro-transport



PPMS Sample Chamber.

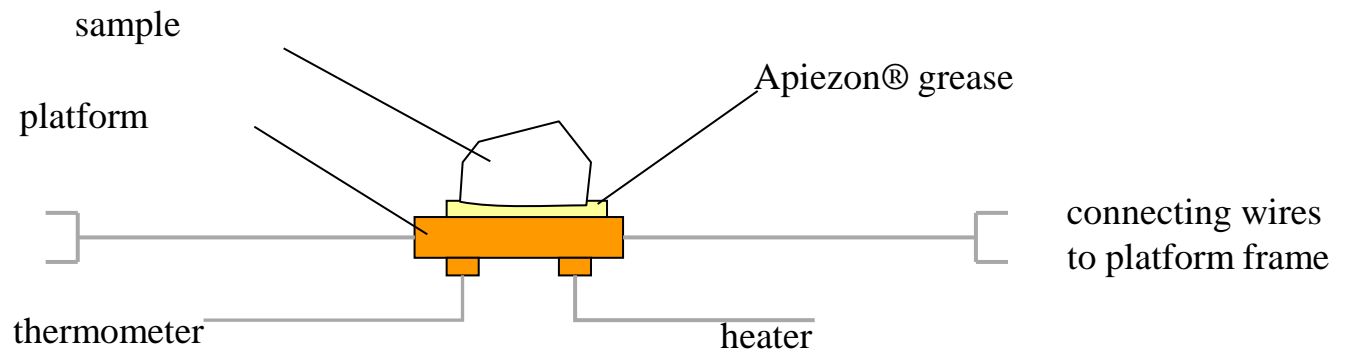
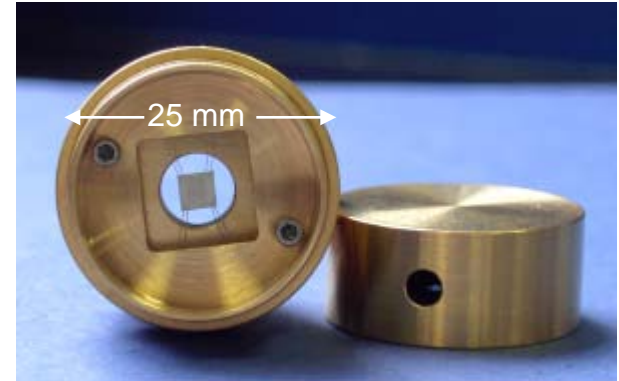
• **Only PPMS in Canada with all of these features!**

PPMS Applications

- Heat Capacity
 - Microcalorimeter
 - Relaxation technique
 - ± 9 Tesla field
- Thermal Transport
 - Thermal conductivity
 - Seebeck coefficient
 - Thermoelectric figure of merit
 - ± 9 Tesla field
- Magnetometry
 - DC magnetometry
 - AC susceptibility
- Helium-3 System
 - Absolute temperature of 350 mK
 - Heat capacity and electro-transport options only
 - ± 9 Tesla field
- Electro-Transport
 - AC & DC resistivity
 - Magneto-resistance ± 9 Tesla
 - Hall effect
 - Critical current (to 2A)
 - I-V curves

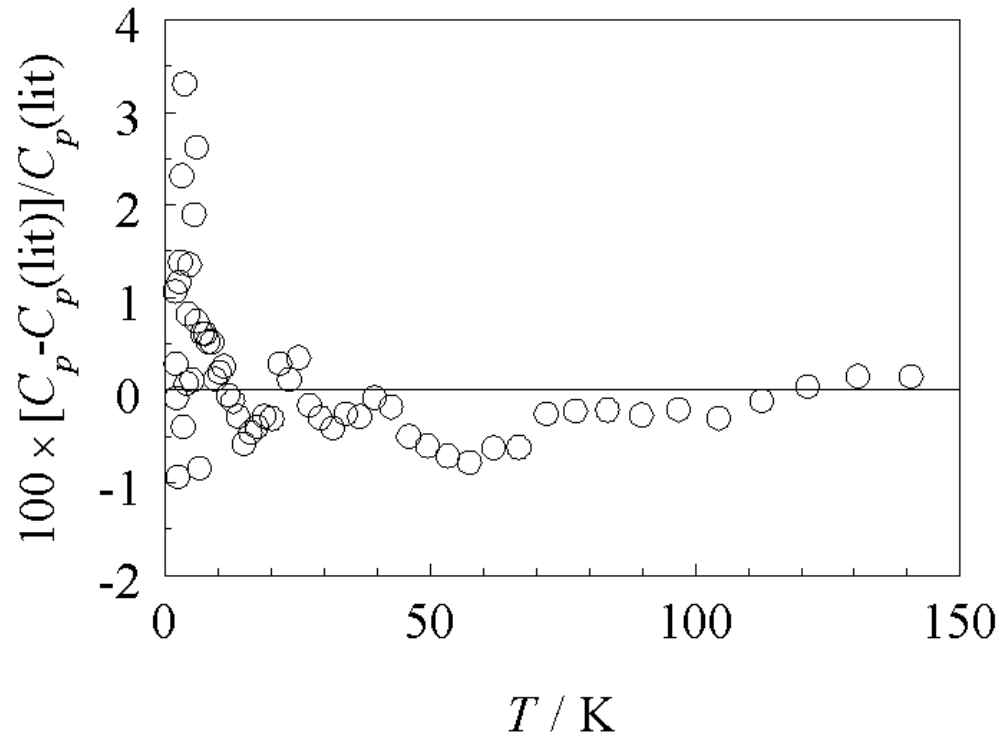
Heat Capacity

- Automated relaxation micro-calorimetry: $C_p = (dQ/dT)_p$
- High vacuum: $P < 10^{-4}$ Torr
- Sample masses ranging from 1-200 mg
- Temperature range: 0.4 K - 400 K (^3He option)
- Magnetic field range: ± 9 Tesla
- Measurement range: $1\ \mu\text{J}/\text{K}$ to $100\ \text{mJ}/\text{K}$
- Resolution: $10\ \text{nJ}/\text{K}$ at 2 K
- 5% @ 2-300 K; 2% typical



Accuracy of PPMS

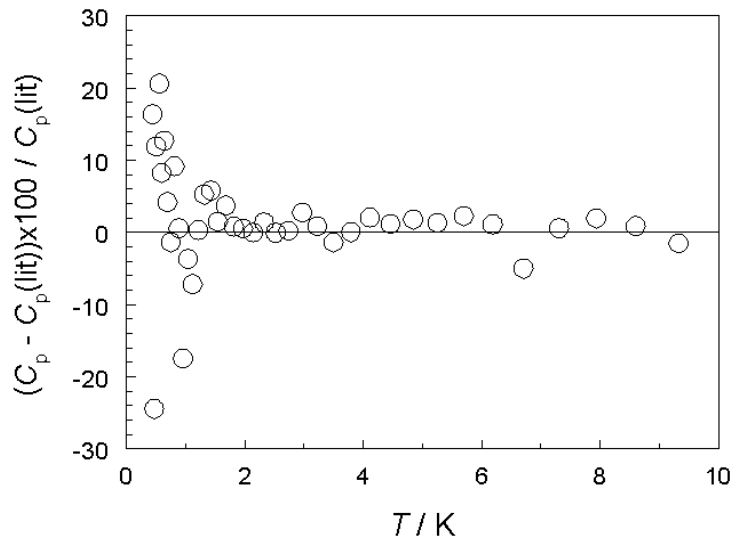
High-purity Cu (NIST RM5) with ^4He system:



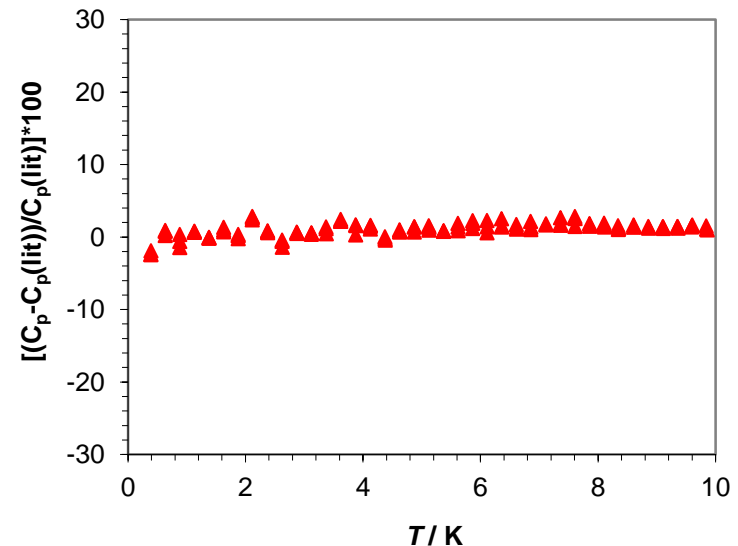
C. A. Kennedy, M. Stancescu, R. A. Marriott, M. A. White, *Cryogenics* 47, 107 (2007).

Accuracy of PPMS

High-purity Cu (NIST RM5) at low T
(^3He system):*



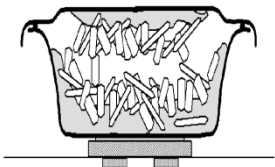
High-purity Cu (NIST RM5) at low T
with improved baseline platform (^3He
system, unpublished):



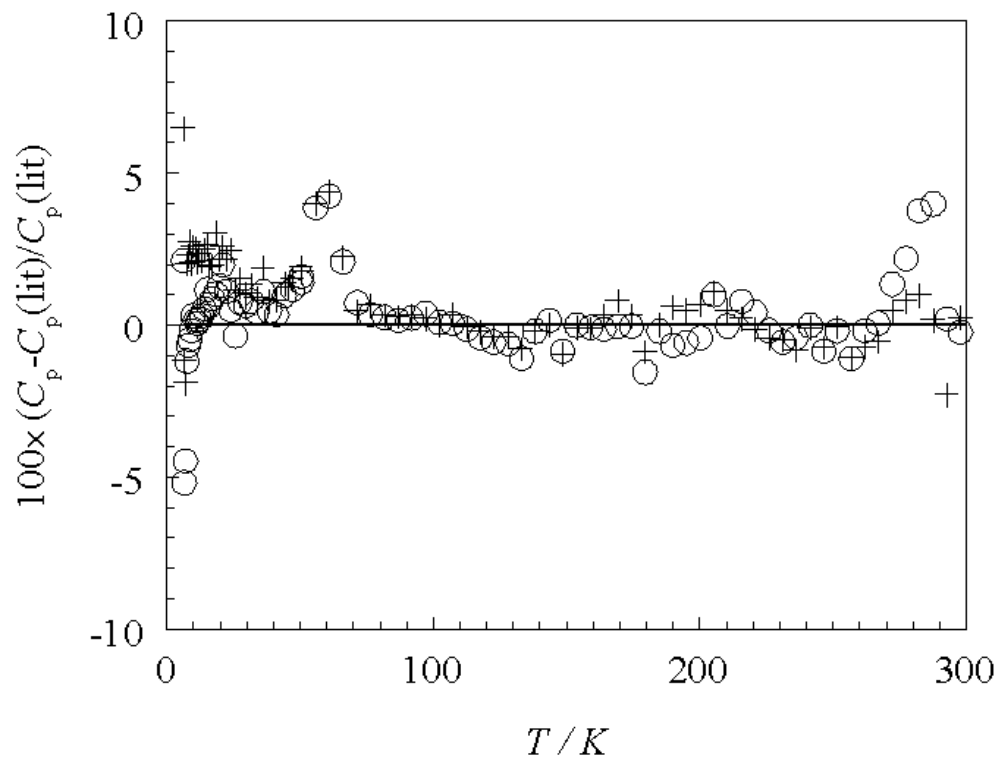
*C. A. Kennedy, M. Stancescu, R. A. Marriott, M. A. White, *Cryogenics* 47, 107 (2007).

Accuracy of PPMS

Standard benzoic acid (Calorimetry Conference) sealed in DSC pan:



- Powdered or air sensitive samples
 - Use Apiezon® grease to assist in thermal relaxation



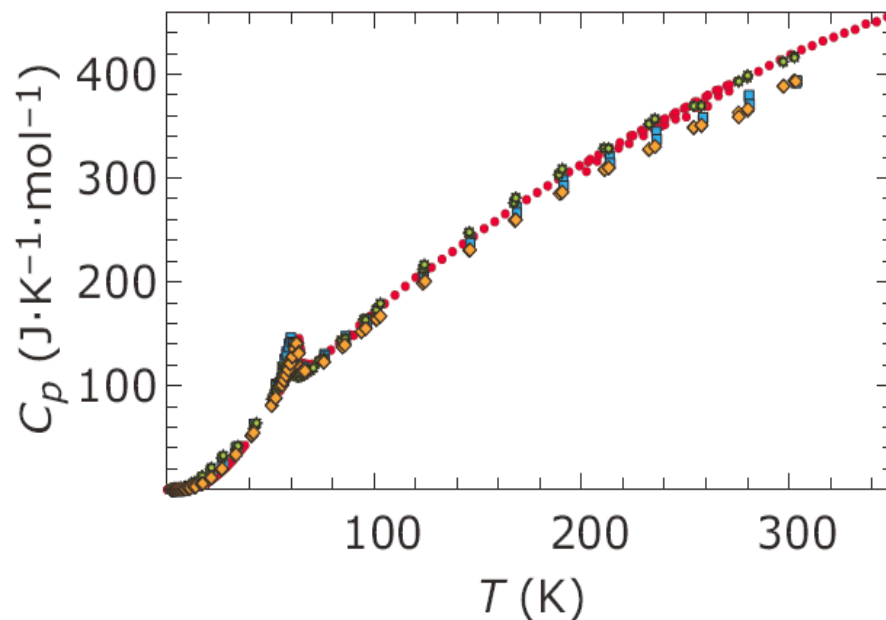
R. A. Marriott, M. Stancescu, C. A. Kennedy, M. A. White, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **77**, 096108 (2006)

Heat Capacity: Practical Matters

- Single crystal: need flat face
- Powders: need to be able to consolidate into a pellet (best option) or place in an aluminum container (if not reactive with Apiezon[®] grease)
- Sample size considerations, $C_{\text{sample}}/C_{\text{addenda}} > 0.5$; measure more than one sample mass
- Need to calibrate puck and Apiezon[®] grease
- Sample must tolerate high vacuum (or else seal in DSC pan with grease)

Heat Capacity Example

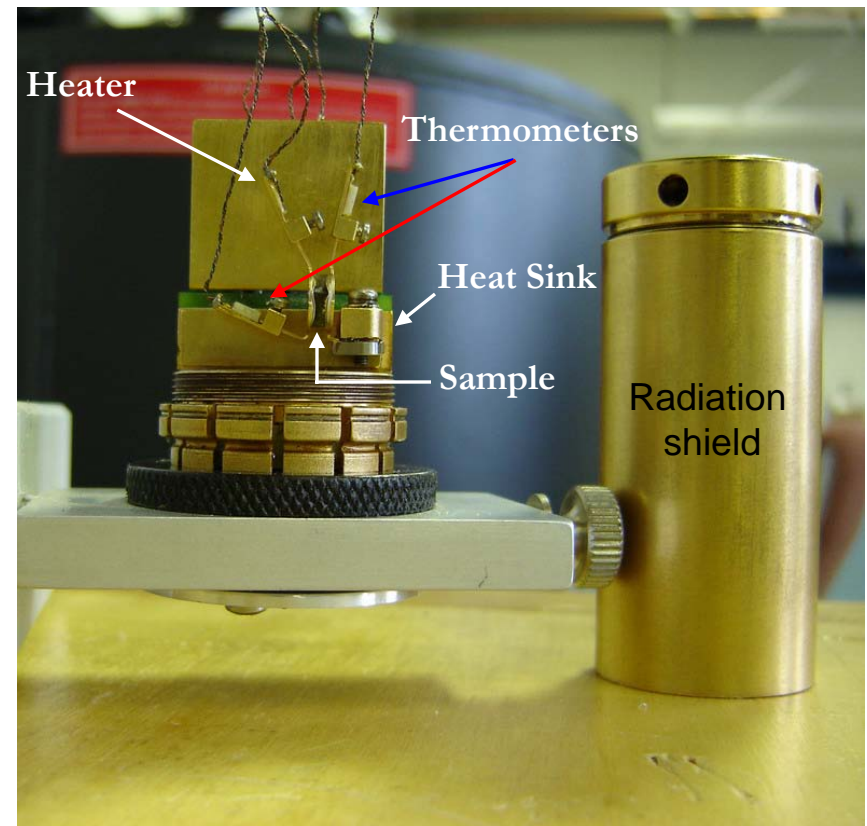
Experimental heat capacities of synthesized K-, Na-, Rb-, and NH₄- jarosite showing a phase transition near 50 kelvin. These λ -shaped anomalies are from the iron transitioning from antiferromagnetic to paramagnetic state (on heating).



J. Majzlan, P. Glasnak, B. Fisher, M.A White, M.B. Johnson, B. Woodfield, J. Boerio-Goates. *Phys. Chem. Miner.* **37**, 635 (2010).

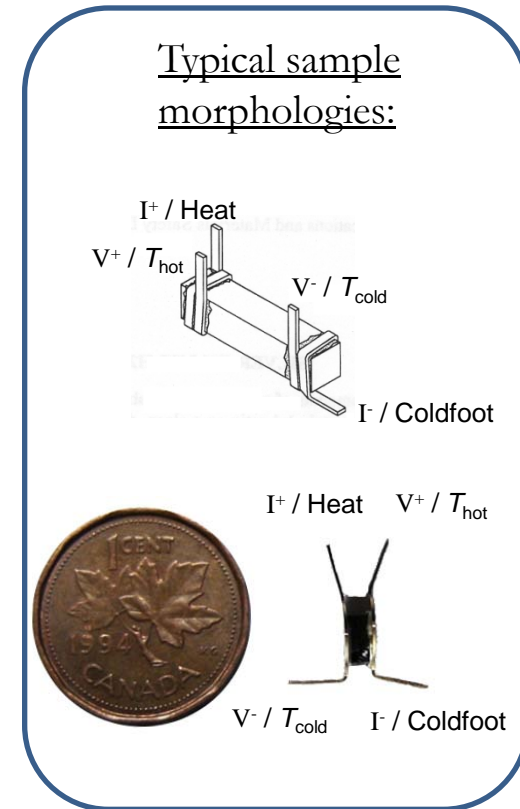
Thermal Transport (TT)

- Thermal transport option can measure simultaneously:
 - Thermal conductivity: $k = K(L/A)$
 - Resistivity: $\rho = R(A/L)$
 - Seebeck coefficient: $S = DV/DT$
 - Thermoelectric figure of merit:
 $ZT = S^2T/(rk)$
- High vacuum: $<10^{-4}$ Torr
- Temperature range: 1.8 – 400 K
- Magnetic fields of ± 9 T (> 20 K)

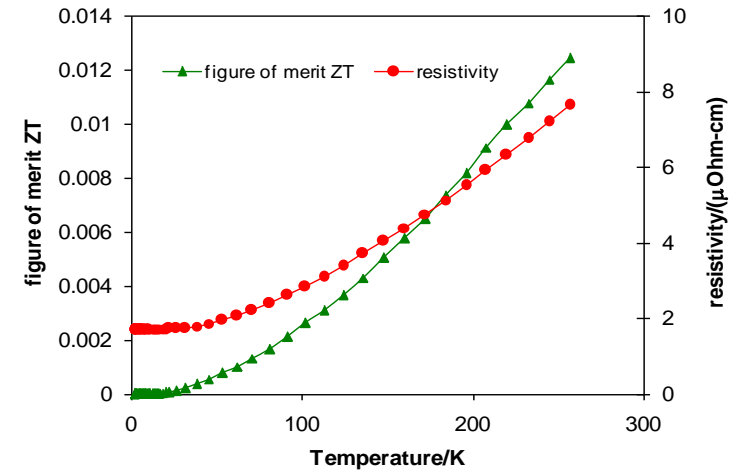
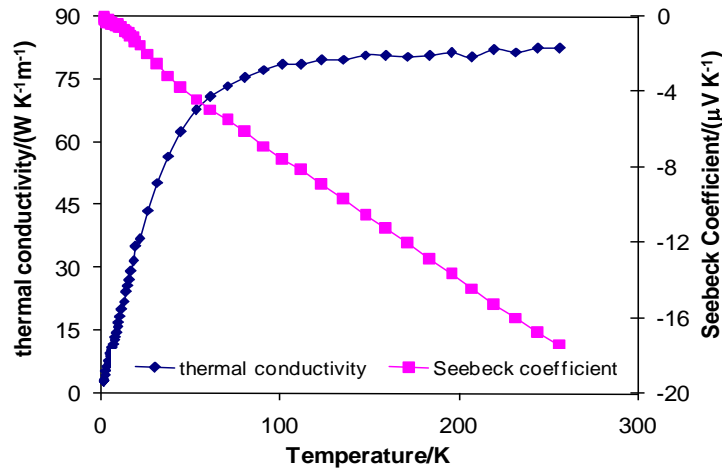


Thermal Transport Specifications

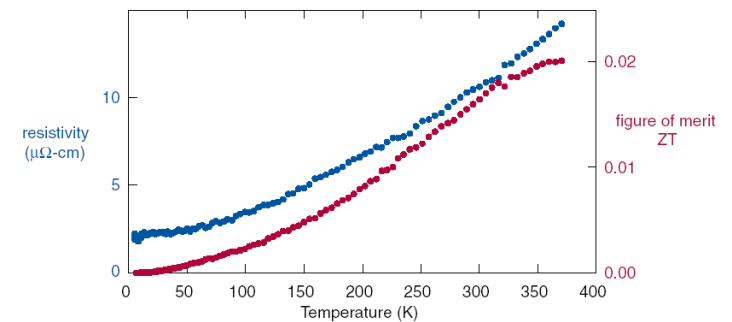
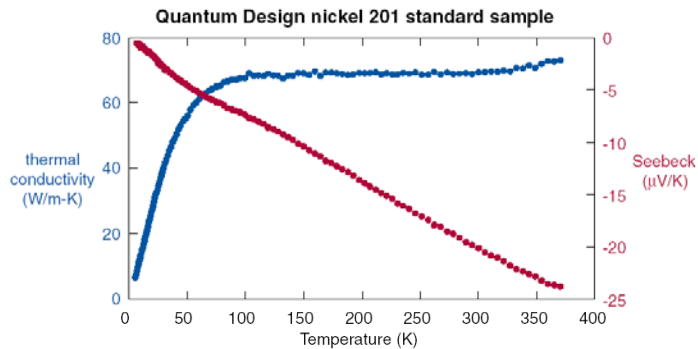
- Thermal Conductivity: $\kappa = K(L/A)$
 - Estimated dynamic range, for given sample geometry:
 - Sample: 3 x (4 x 4) mm³: for κ : 0.1 - 2.5 W*m⁻¹*K⁻¹
 - Sample: 8 x (2 x 2) mm³: for κ : 2 - 50 W*m⁻¹*K⁻¹
 - Sample: 10 x (1 x 1) mm³: for κ : 10 - 250 W*m⁻¹*K⁻¹
- Thermal conductance error:
 - $\pm 5\%$ at $T < 200$ K
 - $\pm 5\%$ or ± 0.5 mW*K⁻¹, whichever is greater, for $200 < T < 300$ K
 - $\pm 5\%$ or ± 1 mW*K⁻¹, whichever is greater, for $T > 300$ K
- Estimated dynamic range:
 - 1 - 25 mW*K⁻¹ high for $T > 200$ K
 - μ W/K – 100 mW*K⁻¹ for low $T < 50$ K
- Seebeck coefficient: $S = \Delta V / \Delta T$
 - Range: μ V*K⁻¹ – V*K⁻¹
 - Error: $\pm 5\%$ or ± 2 mV, whichever is greater
- Thermoelectric figure of merit: $ZT = S^2T / (\rho\kappa)$
 - Errors compounded: $\pm 15\%$ -- determined largely by errors in S



Thermal Transport of Nickel

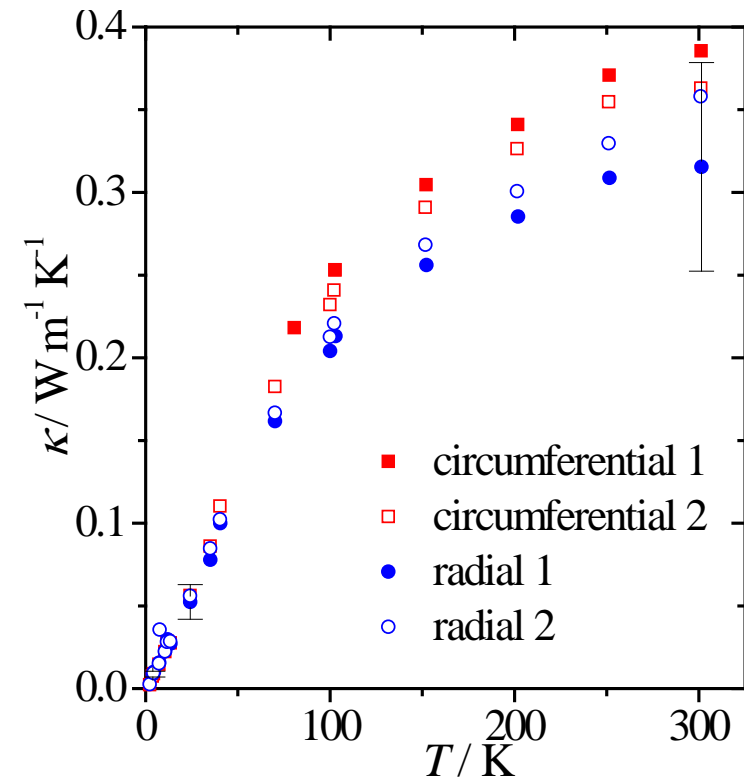
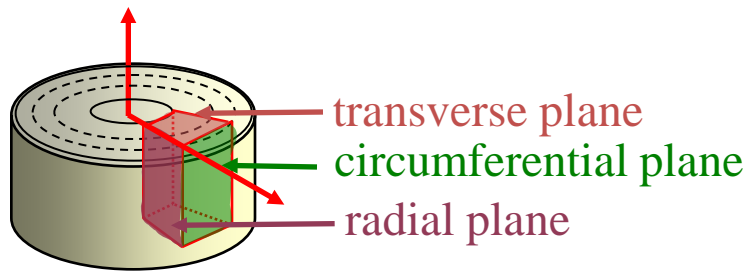


Thermal conductivity, resistivity, Seebeck coefficient and figure of merit measured and calculated with the IRM's PPMS for Nickel. Similar to that acquired by Quantum Design



Thermal Conductivity Example

Temperature dependence of thermal conductivity of elephant ivory as measured in the IRM's PPMS.



Elephant Ivory: a Low Thermal Conductivity, High Strength Nanocomposite. M.B. Jakubinek, C. Samarasekera and M.A. White, *J. Mat. Res.* **21**, 287 (2006).

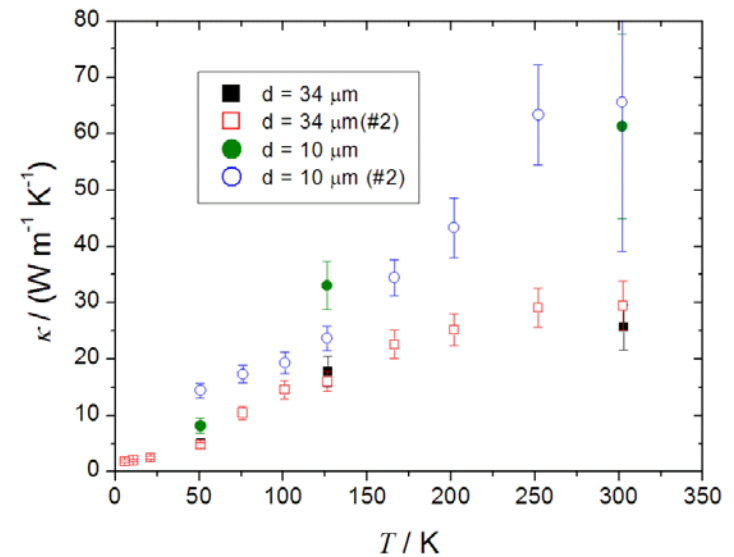
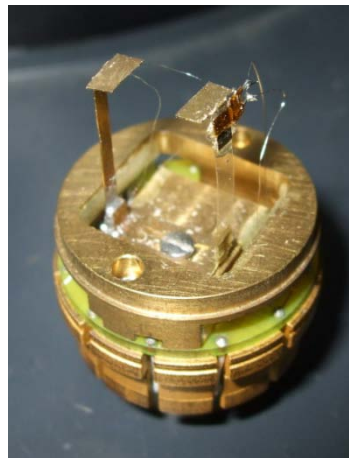
Thermal Conductivity Example

- Thermal conductivity of non-rigid samples can be measured in our lab with a lab-built Parallel Thermal Conductance stage (details in ‡).
- Investigated κ of 10 and 34 μm CNT yarns as a function of temperature

$$\varnothing = 34 \mu\text{m}: \kappa = \sim 25 \pm 5 \text{ W m}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$$

$$\varnothing = 10 \mu\text{m} : \kappa = \sim 62 \pm 20 \text{ W m}^{-1}\text{K}^{-1}$$

- Among the highest measured κ of bulk, pure CNT structure

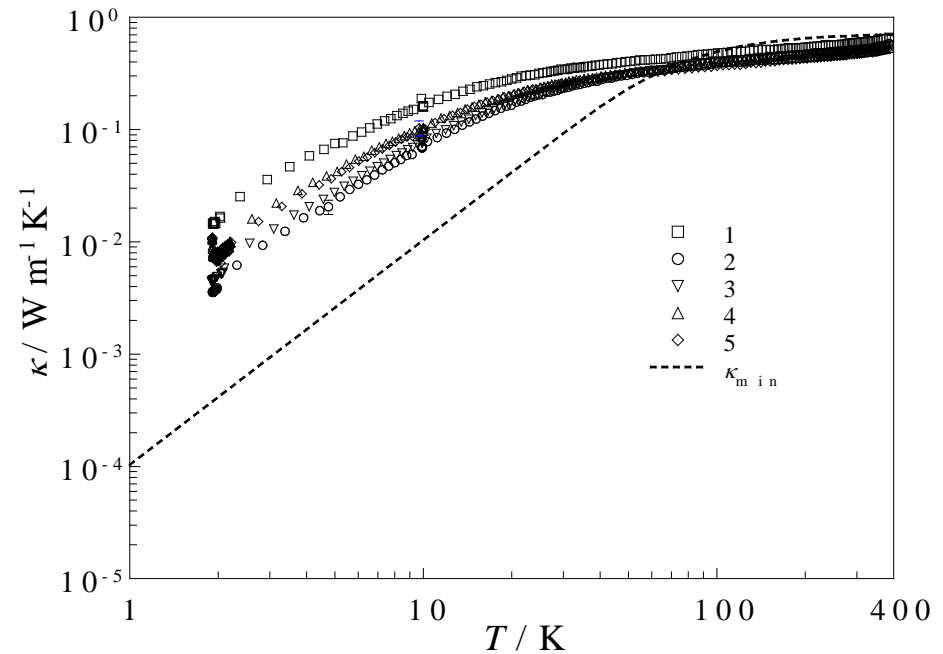


‡M.B. Jakubinek, M.B. Johnson, M.A. White, C. Jayasinghe, G. Li, W. Cho, M.J. Schulz, and V. Shanov. *Carbon*. **50**, 244 (2012)

Success Stories

- Thermal Conductivity of ZrW_2O_8 is glass-like
 - Due to very efficient low frequency modes
 - Leads to short phonon mean free paths due to high phonon coupling

• **New mechanism to reduce thermal conductivity in materials**

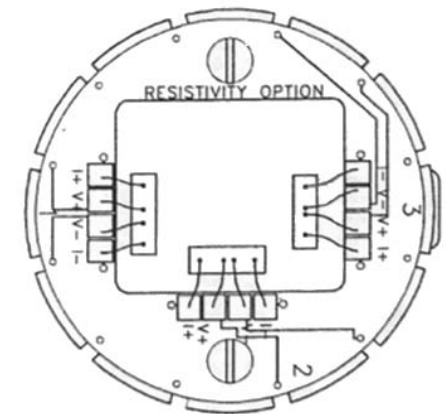


C.A. Kennedy and M.A. White, *Solid State Commun.* 134, 271-276 (2005).

Electro-Transport

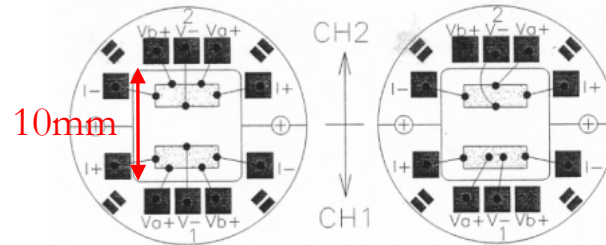
- Measure AC and DC resistivity, four and five-wire Hall effect, I - V curve and critical current
 - Temperature range: 0.4 K-400 K (^3He option)
 - Magnetic field range: ± 9 Tesla
- DC Resistivity: $\rho = R(A/L)$; use the 4-corner van der Pauw method for square samples
 - Current range: 5 nA – 5 mA
 - Sensitivity: 20 nV to 95 mV
 - Detection precision: 0.01% (typ.)
 - Up to 3 simultaneous measurements: automatic control
 - DC resistivity option eliminates the thermal electric effect by continuously flipping the polarity (~ 8 Hz)

Designated DC-resistivity puck with three samples for concurrent measurements



Electro-Transport

Dedicated AC
transport pucks



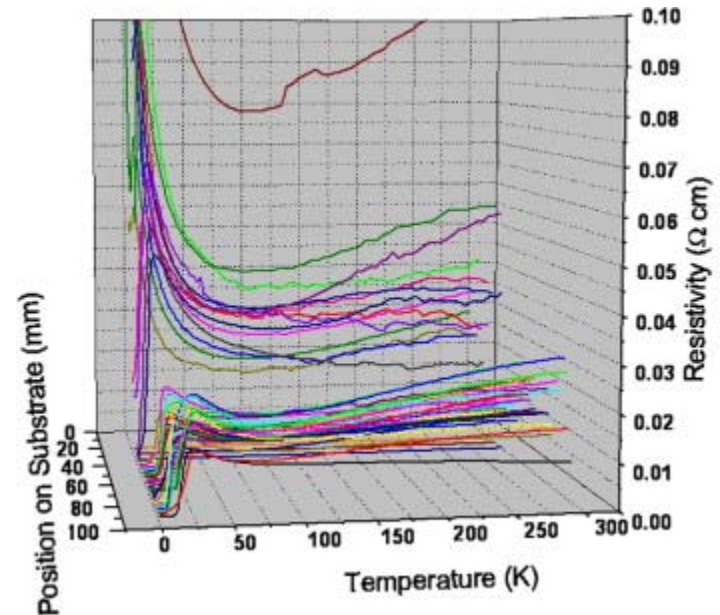
Left: 5-wire Hall coefficient.

Right: 4-wire Hall coefficient (top).
Resistivity, I - V trace, and critical current
(bottom).

- Up to 2 simultaneous AC measurements possible for AC resistivity, Hall effect, I - V curve and critical current
 - Current Range: $10 \mu\text{A}$ – 2 A (500 mA continuous)
 - Sensitivity: $1 \text{ nV @ } 1 \text{ kHz}$
 - Frequency Range: 1 Hz – 1 kHz
 - Absolute Accuracy: 0.03% (typ), 1 Hz to 1 kHz
 - Relative Accuracy: $\pm 5 \text{ nW}$ (typ) @ $I = 1 \text{ A}$
- Leads are attached to the sample with solder or silver epoxy paste cured at $\sim 120 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ for ~ 30 minutes
- Thin films can be measured if isolated by a non-conducting substrate.

Electro-Transport Example

- 4-wire resistivity measurements on a series of $\text{La}_{2-x}\text{Sr}_x\text{CuO}_4$ thin film samples[†] were collected as a function of temperature (samples prepared by combinatorial sputtering available through IRM).
- *ca.* 90 samples required DC measurement
 - Since puck can accommodate 3 samples, experimental time was cut to $1/3$, greatly expediting measurements.
- Resulting data mapped the chemical composition where the thin film underwent superconducting transition at low- T

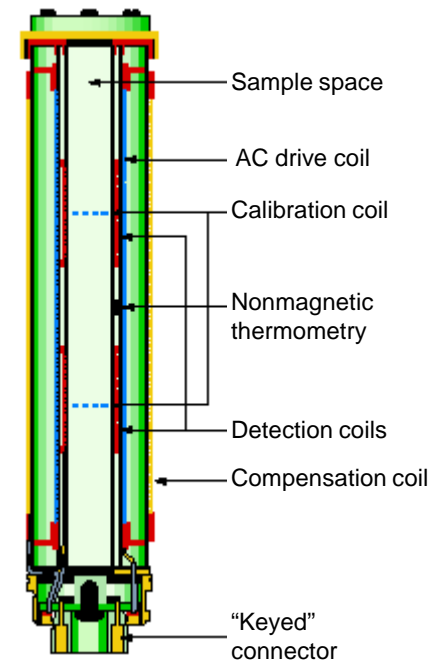


[†]M. Saadat, A.E. George, and K.C. Hewitt. *Physica C*. **470**, S59 (2010)

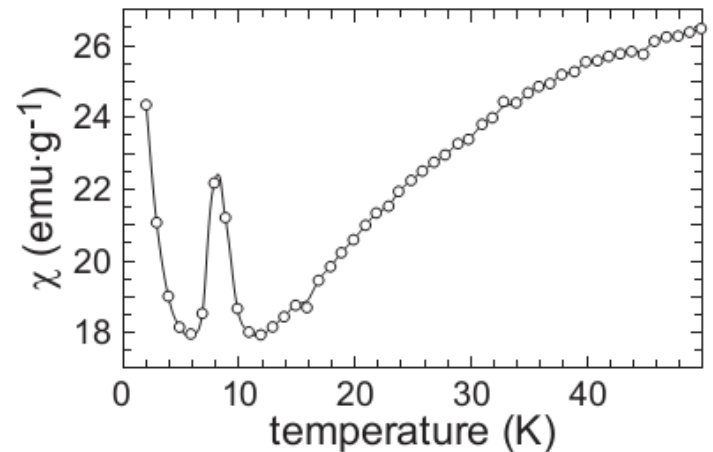
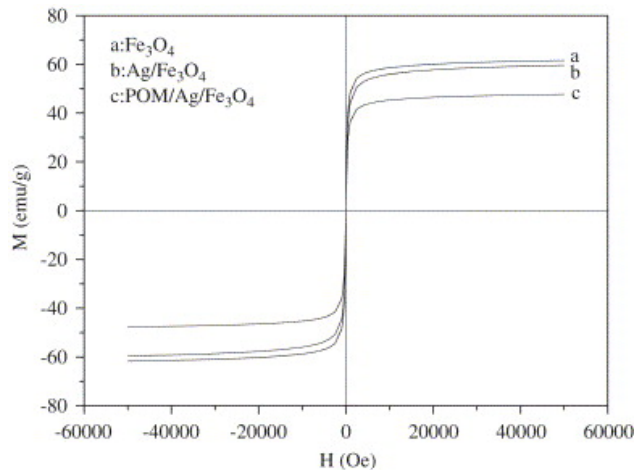
Magnetometry

- Measures AC susceptibility: $\chi = dM/dH$, and DC magnetization: $M = M(H, T)$
- AC susceptibility sensitivity: 5×10^{-8} emu @ 10 kHz
- DC magnetization measured with the extraction method: extraction speed: 100 cm/s; sensitivity of 2×10^{-5} emu
- 1 -10 f harmonics calculated (software selectable)
 - AC Frequency Range: 10 Hz to 10 kHz
 - AC Field Amplitude Range: 2 mOe to 15 Oe
 - At low temperatures the range depends on the frequency and duration of the measurement
 - Temperature Range: 1.9 K - 350 K
 - Magnetic field range: ± 9 Tesla

Schematic of PPMS magnetometry coil set



Magnetometry Examples



- Magnetization curve of pristine and coated Fe₃O₄ nanoparticles*
 - Magnetization saturation of the nanoparticles decreases as particles have more layers added to Fe₃O₄ core
- Magnetic susceptibility the mineral Bukovskýite** as a function of temperature
 - A weak magnetic transition is observed at $T = 8$ K, attributed to long-range Fe³⁺ ordering

* Y. Shi, W. Qiu, and Y. Zheng. *J. Phys. Chem. Solids*. **67** (11), 2409 (2006)

** J. Majzlan, B. Lazic, T. Armbruster, M.B. Johnson, M.A. White, R.A. Fisher, J. Plášil, J. Loun, R. Škoda, M. Novák. *J. Miner. Petrol. Sci.* **107**, 133 (2012)

Helium-3 System

- Continuously circulating ^3He refrigerator extends the PPMS lowest temperature to $\sim 0.35\text{ K}$
- Compatible only with Heat Capacity and Electro-Transport options
- Temperature range: $\sim 0.35\text{ K}$ to 350 K with high-vacuum
- Cool-down time: 300 K to 0.5 K in under 3 hours
- ± 9 Tesla magnetic field
- Cooling power: $6\ \mu\text{W}$ @ 0.5 K ; $100\ \mu\text{W}$ @ 1 K ; 1.5 mW @ 3 K



Selected Publications

M.B. Jakubinek, M.B. Johnson, M.A. White, C. Jayasinghe, G. Li, W. Cho, M.J. Schulz, and V. Shanov. Thermal and Electrical Conductivity of Array-spun Multi-walled Carbon Nanotube Yarns. *Carbon*. 50, 244 (2012).

J. Majzlan, B. Lazic, T. Armbruster, M.B. Johnson, M.A. White, R.A. Fisher, J. Plášil, J. Loun, R. Škoda, M. Novák. Crystal structure, thermodynamic properties, and paragenesis of bukovskýite, $\text{Fe}_2(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})\cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$. *J. Miner. Petrol. Sci.* 107, 133 (2012).

N.D. Harper, K.D. Nizio, A.D. Hendsbee, J.D. Masuda, K.N. Robertson, L.J. Murphy, M.B. Johnson, C.C. Pye, and J.A.C. Clyburne. A Survey of Carbon Dioxide Capture in Phosphonium-based Ionic Liquids and End-capped Polyethylene Glycol Using DETA (DETA = diethylenetriamine) as a Model Absorbent. *Ind. Eng. Chem. Res.* 50(5), 2822 (2011).

M. Saadat, A.E. George, and K.C. Hewitt. Densely Mapping the Phase Diagram of Cuprate Superconductors Using a Spatial Composition Spread Approach. *Physica C*, 470, S59 (2010).