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Quantum Effects and Phase Transitions in the High Field Magnetoresistance of the Organic Compound (Tmt5f)₂ClO₄

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QUANTUM EFFECTS AND PHASE TRANSITIONS IN THE HIGH FIELD MAGNETORESISTANCE OF THE ORGANIC COMPOUND $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{ClO}_4$

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Abstract : The transverse magnetoresistance of $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{ClO}_4$ has been investigated in magnetic fields up to 32 T and temperatures down to 4.2 K, for two cooling rates and different angles between B and the crystalline axis. We observe effects due to the anion ordering and to the metal-spin density wave transition. High field Shubnikov-de-Haas oscillations appear too, giving a fundamental field of 259 ± 10 T around c^* axis.

INTRODUCTION

The organic metal $(\text{TMTSF})_2\text{ClO}_4$, superconductor at very low temperature [1], presents a series of phase transitions such as the anion ordering (dependent on the cooling rate) [2] and the metal to spin density wave transition which is temperature and field dependent [3]. Modifications of the electronic states induced by these transitions are exhibited through transverse magnetoresistance measurements ($J \parallel a$) carried out from a slowly decreasing pulsed magnetic field of 32 T. The observation of Shubnikov-de-Haas oscillations at high field is related to closed orbits on the Fermi surface.

ANION ORDERING

The sharp increasing of $\Delta \rho / \rho_0$ around 22 K is related to the disorder-order transition of the ClO_4 anions, which leads to a new

lattice periodicity equal to (a, 2b, c). For $B//c^*$ we observe a law of the form $\Delta \varphi/\varphi_0 \sim B^\alpha$:

- above the transition, the same low magnetoresistance both in Q and R states with $\alpha \simeq 2$;
- below the transition, a sharply increasing magnetoresistance in R-state with $\alpha \simeq 1$; and a weaker increasing magnetoresistance in Q-state with $\alpha \simeq 1.5$.

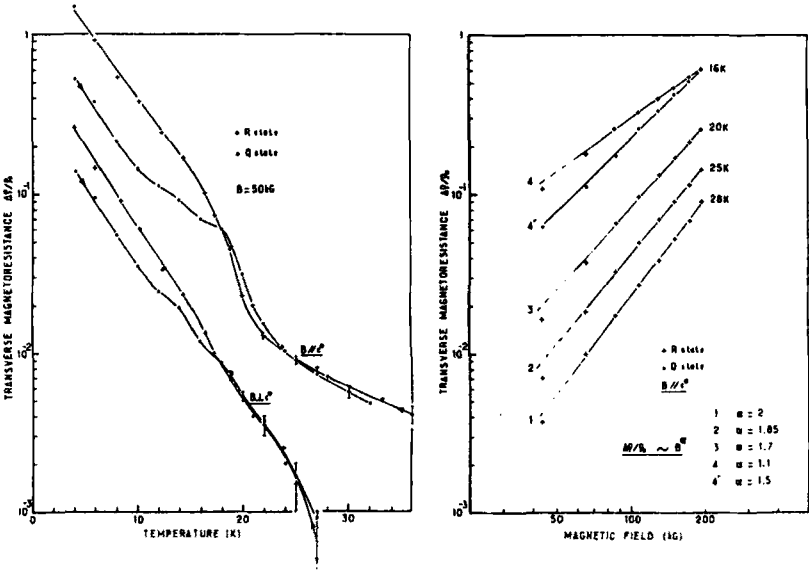


FIGURE 1 Transverse magnetoresistance versus temperature for $B//c^*$ and $B \perp c^*$ and two cooling rates R-state (0.5 K/mn) and Q-state (25 K/mn).

FIGURE 2 Transverse magnetoresistance versus magnetic field for $B//c^*$ and $T = 28, 25, 20, 16$ K.

METAL TO S.D.W. TRANSITION

The Q-state is metallic down to 3.5 K independently of B. The R-state presents a field induced and temperature-dependent transition towards an insulating state, indicated by a change in the slope

of $\Delta\rho/\rho_0$. Above 6 K., the transition is not well defined and quantum oscillations of the magnetoresistance appear below the corresponding field i.e. in the metallic state contrary to what is generally admitted [4].

SHUBNIKOV-DE-HAAS OSCILLATIONS

Oscillations are directly visible on the magnetoresistance for $B > 12$ T and temperature up to 10 K. The fundamental field B_F seems to be temperature-independent and its variation versus θ at $T = 8$ K leads to a cosine type law :

$$1/B_F \simeq .00388 \cos (\theta - 90)^\circ$$

For $\theta = 0^\circ$, $B_F \simeq 259 \pm 10$ T in good agreement with other results under different conditions [5, 6]. Oscillations progressively decrease in amplitude when B moves away from c^* direction and disappear completely around b' direction where open orbits are expected.

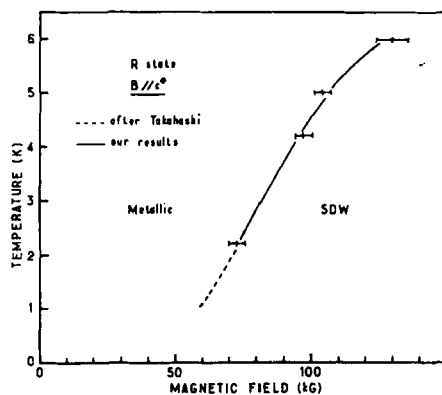
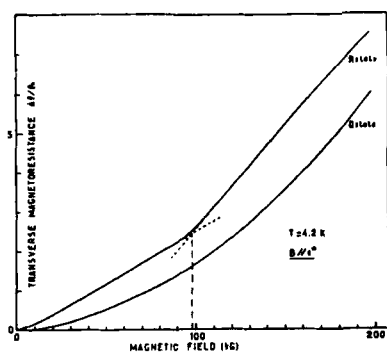


FIGURE 3 Transverse magnetoresistance versus magnetic field ($B//c^*$) in the two states R and Q at $T = 4.2$ K.

FIGURE 4 Phase diagram at low temperature.

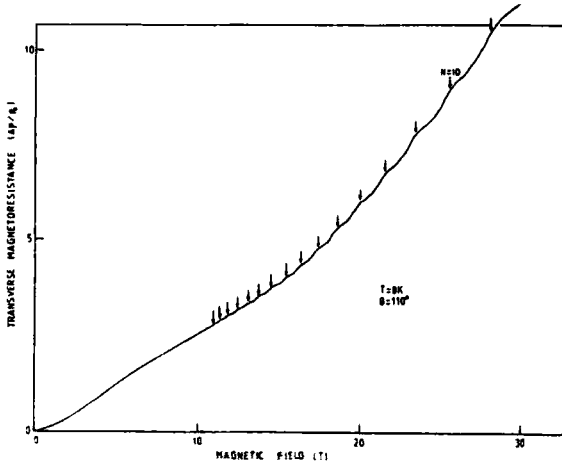
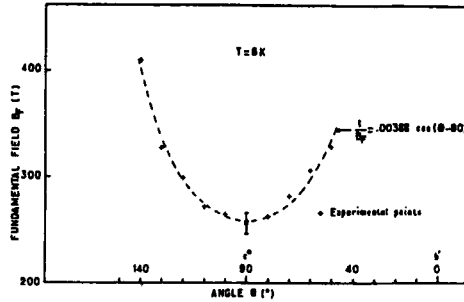


FIGURE 5 Transverse magnetoresistance exhibiting S.d.H. oscillations for $T = 8$ K and $\theta = 110^\circ$.

FIGURE 6 Angular dependence of the fundamental field B_F for $T=8$ K, $\theta = (B, b^*)$.



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