

SQUID-NMR studies of ^3He Films on Graphite in the Microkelvin Temperature Range

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We report preliminary measurements of the spin-dynamics of ^3He films adsorbed on graphite at temperatures in the range $200\ \mu\text{K}$ to $300\ \text{mK}$. These films provide a model system for the study of both strongly correlated two-dimensional Fermi-systems and the frustrated magnetism of a two-dimensional $S = 1/2$ solid on a triangular lattice. Pulsed SQUID-NMR techniques have been used to investigate the nuclear spin susceptibility, frequency shift and spin-spin relaxation time.

A two layer ^3He film consisting of a paramagnetic first layer and strongly correlated Fermi fluid second layer, is observed to exhibit two component free induction decays. Analysis in terms of a model for coupled spin-relaxation provides evidence for slow interchange between the two subsystems. On increasing the coverage the second layer is believed to form a $4/7$ or $7/12$ triangular superlattice, with a gapless quantum spin-liquid state. Our experiment allows the study of the spin dynamics of this $S = 1/2$ quantum spin-liquid on a triangular lattice, and by finely tuning the helium-3 coverage, the influence of hole-doping.

Section: LD - Low dimensional and confined systems

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