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Discovery research in quantum materials



Summary

Strongly correlated systems:

Charge and spin order, electronic structure determination, unconventional superconductivity (Cu- or Fe-based, heavy fermion, layered materials),

ferroelectrics and multiferroics, topological states of matter

Quantum functional materials:

New superconductors, refrigerants (magnetic, electric, Peltier), battery technology

Instrumentation and techniques:

Materials synthesis and crystal growth

High pressure measurements into the mega-bar regime

Low temperature, high magnetic field; quantum oscillations



Projects Grosche group

1. Unconventional superconductivity in transition metal compounds

Many materials, notably cuprates, iron pnictides and Ce- and U-based heavy fermion compounds: \rightarrow superconductivity cannot be explained by conventional phonon-mediated pairing. Investigate the nature and origin of unconventional superconductivity, e.g. in the newly discovered superconductors YFe₂Ge₂, LuFe₂Ge₂, CeSb₂ and in related materials.

Solve jigsaw of data and theoretical models to guide the search for new and potentially useful superconductors.





2. Electronic and lattice excitations in aperiodic crystals

Quasiperiodic high pressure structures in elements: two sublattices with incommensurate lattice constants.

No discrete translational symmetry, no unit cell, and no Brillouin zones. What are vibrational and electronic excitations?

Examine the consequences for superconductivity and investigate their electronic structure.



3. Fermi-surface instabilities near pressure-induced quantum phase transitions

Use high pressure quantum oscillation measurements to track the electronic structure in regions of the phase

diagram of interest, e.g. in metallised Mott insulators.

