INVESTIGATIONS OF MAGNETIC EFFECTS SUPPORTING THE SEPARATION OF HELIUM ISOTOPES

Research group: Department of Low temperature, Division of Physics of Dielectrics and Molecular

Spectroscopy

Principal Investigator: dr hab. Wojciech Kempiński prof. IMP PAS

Contact: wojciech.kempinski@ifmpan.poznan.pl

Project description:

The world market is experiencing severe shortages in the supply of helium isotope - ³He. In the future, this isotope can play an important role in solving the energy problems of our planet - its use in the phenomenon of nuclear fusion gives the greatest energy gain in the area of clean energy. The search for this rare isotope on Earth has already begun on the Moon. Also planets of our system, which do not have a shielding magnetic field, are taken into account. ³He in the USA, as well as in Europe is treated as a strategic material.

The ³He isotope deficiency may be remedied by an attempt to separate ³He from liquid helium using the quantum filtration effect. The effects of this filtration can be magnified by using the magnetic properties of ³He. Planned tasks will be focused on the study of the possibility of using modern magnetic and superconducting nano-materials in order to obtain high ³He concentration in ⁴He.

Aim of the project:

This project aims to clarify whether magnetic effects studied in modern magnetic and superconducting nano-materials can play a significant role in obtaining high concentrations of the ³He isotope in the ⁴He/³He mixture.