Anisotropy of magnetic and transport properties of $UAuSb_2$ single crystals

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The uranium-transition metal diantimonides UTSb₂ (T = transition metal) belong to a numerous family of ternary compounds crystallizing in a tetragonal structure of the HfCuSi₂-type (space group P4/nmm). In the framework of our systematic investigation of this group of ternaries we have recently extended our interest to UAuSb₂. Some preliminary magnetic study of this compound have shown two magnetic transitions, a ferromagnetic one at $T_{\rm C} = 31$ K and probably an antiferromagnetic one at 43 K. Previously the electronic band structure calculations and photoemission examinations of single crystalline samples UAuSb₂ have been reported [1]. In this paper the results of magnetic susceptibility, magnetization, electrical resistivity and thermopower measured along the main crystallographic directions are reported. The sponntaneous magnetization at 1.9 K amounts about 0.8 $\mu_{\rm B}$ for $B \parallel c$ -axis. Electrical resistivity for $J \perp c$ -axis exhibits aT^2 law at low temperatures and a Kondo effect at higher temperatures. The thermopower S for both main crystallographic directions show a maximum at $T_{\rm C}$ and the lack of any anomaly at $T_{\rm N}$.

[1] J. A. Morkowski, A. Szajek, E. Talik, and R. Troć, J. Alloys Compd. 443 (2007) 20

–13.4 cm –

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 $9.7~\mathrm{cm}$