Dip-effect in conductivity Q1D electrons over superfluid helium

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Introduction.

The particular effects has a place in quantum/size systems over superfluid helium which is good expressed at low T[1]. The quasi-one-dimensional surface electrons (Q1D-SEs) conductivity over helium in grooves between rows dielectric threads is investigated.

Setup and results.



The measurements performed at low frequency by a technique using capacitive coupling of two electrodes with electron subsystem (sketch of cell).

1 - measurement electrodes; 2 - screening stripe; 3 helium film; 4 - 1D system of surface electrons: 5 substrate (row of light guides); 6 - upper pressing electrode; 7 - guard ring; 8 - electron source (glow tungsten thread); 9 – insulating plate.

Experiments was carried out with use nylon threads 100 µm in diameter at temperatures 0.5-1.5 K by scanning of electric field, E in the range 1.1 - 1.6kV/cm. The dip-effect maximum taked a place at E=1.3 kV/cm (graphs below).



Potential hole and energy levels





Section of substrate

Analyze.

Difference of levels between substrate and helium, h set the curvature radius of liquid in grooves $R = \sigma / (\rho \cdot g \cdot h)$ (here σ and ρ are surface tension and density of superfluid helium; g is gravity constant) which typically was $35 \,\mu m$.

The harmonic spectrum a 1D system in parabolic potential well $e \cdot E \cdot \delta$ (here δ is the helium surface deflection in groove) is $\omega^2 = eE/(mR)$.

The qualitatively explanation can be next. The conducting stripe at not smooth substrate at relative large E is divided on segments and in this moment takes a place electron percolation through quantum size distance (accompanied by noise in experiment).

Conclusion

In conclusion must be signed the dip-effect not depend from temperature or parameters the measurement signal and disappear at both the large radius, R and very smooth and very rough the substrate surface.

The conductivity dip-effects have been observed in 2D SE on a helium film with a weakly rough substrate [2].

Reference

1. Ginzburg Vl.L., Monarkha Yu.P. Surface electrons in helium over macroscopic structures // Fiz. Nizk. Temp. – 1978. – 4. - P. 1236-1239. Leiderer P., Nazin S., and Shikin V. Dip-effect in the conductivity of 2D electrons on a helium film with a rough substrate// Fiz. Nizk. Temp. -2008, - **34**, - P.489–495