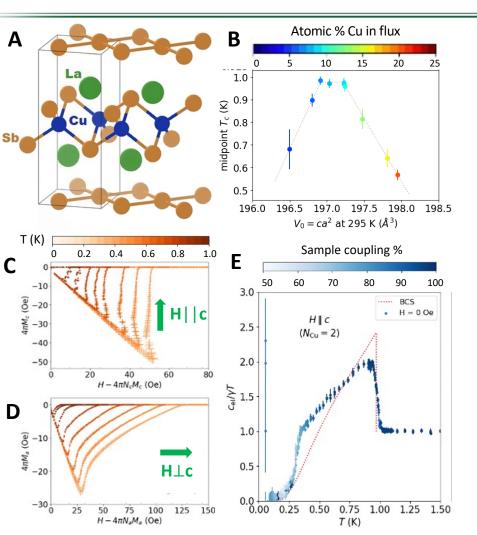
Bulk superconductivity in the Dirac semi-metal LaCuSb₂



C. J. Lygouras, J. Chamorro, T. Berry, T. J. Halloran, J. Zhang, K. Mikuri, J. Gouchi, Y. Uwatoko, S. Nakatsuji, K. Livi, M. Siegler, Yi Li, C. L. Broholm, T. M. McQueen, unpublished (2022).

Scientific Achievement

Following IQM evidence that LaCuSb₂ is a Dirac semi-metal, bulk superconductivity is documented and characterized in a single crystal of this material.

Significance and Impact

A qualitatively new quantum state of matter: the monopole superconductor has been proposed for magnetic Weyl semi-metals with inversion symmetry. Here we report an important step towards its possible materialization in the detailed characterization of superconductivity in a Dirac semi-metal that can accommodate magnetism.

Research Details

- Superconductivity in LaCuSb₂ is highly anisotropic: A type I response is found for fields along c and a type II response for fields perpendicular to c.
- A superconducting dome with T_{C,max} = 1.0 K is documented versus composition and pressure.
- Specific heat data shows this is multiband superconductivity with two distinct gaps

