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Microwave and magnetotransport properties of RuSr$_2$RCu$_2$O$_8$ \( (R=\text{Eu}, \text{Gd}) \) doped with Sn

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Ru$_{1-x}$Sn$_x$Sr$_2$EuCu$_2$O$_8$ and Ru$_{1-x}$Sn$_x$Sr$_2$GdCu$_2$O$_8$ have been comprehensively studied by microwave and dc resistivity and magnetoresistivity and by the Hall measurements. The ruthenium magnetic ordering temperature \( T_m \) is considerably reduced with increasing Sn content. However, doping with Sn leads to only slight reduction of the superconducting critical temperature \( T_c \), accompanied with the increase in the upper critical field \( B_{c2} \), indicating an increased disorder in the system and a reduced scattering length of the conducting holes in CuO$_2$ layers. In spite of the increased scattering rate, the normal state resistivity and the Hall resistivity are reduced with respect to the pure compound, due to the increased number of itinerant holes in CuO$_2$ layers, which represent the main conductivity channel. Most of the electrons in RuO$_2$ layers are presumably localized, but the observed negative magnetoresistivity and the extraordinary Hall effect lead to the conclusion that there exists a small number of itinerant electrons in RuO$_2$ layers that exhibit colossal magnetoresistance.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Despite the intensive investigation of ruthenate-cuprates in the last ten years, a lot of questions about the nature of magnetic order and superconductivity, in particular their coexistence, are still unanswered.\(^1\) It is well established that in Ru$_{1212}$RCu$_2$O$_8$ (Ru$_{1212}$R=Eu, Gd, Y) compounds the magnetic ordering of ruthenium sublattice occurs at about 130 K. The ordering is predominantly antiferromagnetic (AFM) with an easy axis perpendicular to the layers and with a weak ferromagnetic (FM) component parallel to the layers.

While both RuO$_2$ and CuO$_2$ layers may participate in the normal-state conductivity, the superconducting (SC) properties of Ru$_{1212}$R compounds are associated only with the charge carriers in the CuO$_2$ planes, and are, thus, strongly dependent on the concentration of these carriers. The related superconducting critical temperature \( T_c \) ranges between 15 K and 50 K, depending on the sample composition and/or sample preparation conditions. According to the thermopower and Hall coefficient measurements, pure Ru$_{1212}$R samples are expected to be intrinsically underdoped, with the effective hole concentration in the CuO$_2$ planes nearly equal to \( p \approx 0.07 \).\(^2\)

In high-\( T_c \) superconductors, SC properties are strongly dependent on the effective hole concentration \( p \) in the CuO$_2$ planes. In the optimally doped systems, the effective hole concentration is estimated to be \( p \approx 0.16 \) holes/Cu. In this respect, in recent years there has been a lot of experimental effort to adjust the number of charge carriers in the CuO$_2$ planes in Ru$_{1212}$R samples using different substitutional impurities. The largest changes in \( T_c \) are found when Ru is partially replaced by Cu (\( T_c \approx 75 \) K for 40\% of Ru replaced by Cu).\(^3\) In several studies ruthenium was replaced by Nb$^{5+}$, V$^{4+}$, Sn$^{4+}$, Ti$^{4+}$, and Rh$^{3+}$ (Ref. 2 and Refs. 4–11). Substitutions have also been made for other ions. For example, trivalent gadolinium was replaced by Ca$^{2+}$ and Ce$^{4+}$ (Ref. 12) or by isovalent Y and Dy.\(^2\) Finally, divalent strontium was replaced by La$^{3+}$ and Na$^{+}$.\(^5,6\) If the substitutional impurity lowers the total number of holes (La$^{3+}$ for Sn$^{4+}$, Ce$^{4+}$ for Gd$^{3+}$, and Nb$^{5+}$ for Ru$^{4+}$), \( T_c \) is strongly depressed, indicating that \( p \) is reduced well below 0.07. However, in the cases when valence counting of impurities would suggest a strong increase in \( p \) (Na$^{+}$ for Sn$^{4+}$ and Sn$^{4+}$ for Ru$^{4+}$), no substantial increase in \( T_c \) was experimentally observed, contrary to the observation in common high-\( T_c \) systems with substitutional impurities. This is rather similar to the observation in the underdoped YBa$_2$Cu$_{3-x}$ compounds where \( T_c \approx 60 \) K is nearly constant in a wide range of \( x \). The increase in \( T_c \) was only observed in Ca$^{2+}$ substitution for Gd$^{3+}$,\(^12\) but it can be attributed to the formation of Ru$_{1212}$Sn$_x$GdCu$_{2-x}$O$_8$ phase. The magnetic ordering is, however, strongly influenced by the substitutions in all of the mentioned doping studies.

There is still an open debate whether RuO$_2$ layers are conducting or not. The magnetization\(^13\) and nuclear quadrupole resonance (NQR) (Refs. 14 and 15) results suggest that most of the electrons are localized resulting in Ru$^{4+}$ ions while magnetoresistivity and Hall measurements\(^2,16\) suggest the existence of conductivity in magnetically ordered RuO$_2$ layers. We shall deal with this question in our doping study, where the number of charge carriers is modified by the replacement of Ru ions with Sn. In this paper a comprehensive microwave study on several Ru$_{1212}$Eu and Ru$_{1212}$Gd samples doped with Sn is reported. One of the samples (Ru$_{0.8}$Sn$_{0.2}$Sr$_2$GdCu$_2$O$_8$) is also characterized by transport, magnetoresistance and Hall measurements, and the results are compared with our previous measurements.\(^16,17\)

In this context, it is important to point out the controversy related to the role of the Sn substitution on Ru sites in Ru$_{1212}$Gd samples. McLaughlin \textit{et al.}\(^4,7\) and Hassen and Mandal\(^8\) reported, respectively, the increase and decrease in \( T_c \) with doping. It is possible that this controversy reflects different ways to experimentally determine \( T_c \), or might be related to different methods of sample preparation. Moreover, we shall revise the observation in the Hall study (Fig. 2 in Ref. 2) in which the increase in the Hall coefficient with increased Sn content was reported.
II. EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS

Ru$_{1-x}$Sn$_x$Sr$_2$R$_2$Cu$_2$O$_8$ (R=Eu or Gd) polycrystalline samples were prepared by solid state synthesis, as described elsewhere.$^5$ An elliptical TE$_{111}$ copper cavity operating at 9.3 GHz was used for the microwave measurements. The sample was placed in the center of the cavity on a sapphire holder. At this position the microwave electric field has its maximum. External dc magnetic field perpendicular to the microwave electric field was varied from zero up to 8 T. The temperature of the sample could be varied from liquid helium to room temperature. The measured quantity was $1/2Q$, the total losses of the cavity loaded by the sample. It is simply related to the surface resistance of the material $R_s$ which comprises both nonresonant resistance and resonant spin contributions. The details of the detection scheme are given elsewhere.$^{18}$

Resistivity, magnetoresistance, and Hall effect measurements were carried out in the standard six-contact configuration using the rotational sample holder and the conventional ac technique (22 Hz, 1 mA), in magnetic fields up to 8 T. Temperature sweeps for the resistivity measurements were performed with carbon-glass and platinum thermometers, while magnetic field dependent sweeps were done at constant temperatures which were controlled with a capacitance thermometer.

III. RESULTS AND ANALYSES

A. Microwave properties

The temperature dependence of the microwave surface resistance of various Ru$_{1212}$Eu (Sn doping $x=0$, 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, and 0.4) and Ru$_{1212}$Gd (R=Gd) compounds is shown in Figs. 1(a) and 1(b), respectively. The data are normalized at $T=200$ K, for comparison. We found that, for the samples of similar geometry, the absolute level of the normal-state absorption in the Eu-based samples was systematically higher than the absorption in the Gd-based samples. Moreover, the surface resistance of the Eu-based samples shows more pronounced rise as the temperature decreases toward the SC ordering temperature $T_c$ than it is the case in Gd-based samples. The related crossover to the SC state occurs at lower temperatures. The SC crossover temperature region is rather broad in these data, resulting in a rather uncertain estimation of $T_c$. This problem can be easily solved by plotting the difference between the microwave absorption in zero field and in $B=8$ T (Fig. 2). Both the magnetic and SC transitions can be detected here with a much better accuracy than in Fig. 1.

The magnetic ordering temperature $T_m$ of the Ru lattice corresponds with small peaks clearly seen in Fig. 2. The dependence of $T_m$ on the Sn content $x$ is shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b). $T_m$ is strongly suppressed with increasing $x$ in both the Gd- and Eu-based samples (the magnetic critical temperature $T_m$ is reduced nearly by a factor of 2 for $\Delta x=0.2$).
A 3D network of intergranular Josephson junctions is established when the whole sample becomes superconducting, and this occurs at much lower temperatures where the upper critical fields can be simply determined in the complete temperature region of Figs. 4a and 4b. In the Eu-based samples, the depinning frequency is lower than the driving microwave frequency, so that the estimation of upper critical fields is not possible in this regime. At higher fields, all the Josephson junctions are driven to the normal state, and the microwave absorption grows slowly in this field range as the number of vortices increases, and it is expected to reach the normal-state absorption at the upper critical field $B_{c2}$. The microwave magnetoresistance is therefore a useful tool for the estimation of upper critical fields. If one assumes that the depinning frequency is lower than the driving microwave frequency, it suffices to extrapolate the microwave absorption curves to the normal-state values and determine $B_{c2}$. However, this simple determination of $B_{c2}$ is not possible in cases where the depinning frequency is comparable to the driving frequency. Then, one has to take into account also the frequency shift. The details of the complete procedure are explained in Ref. 19. The shape of the low-temperature microwave magnetoresistance curves of the Gd-based samples [$T=5$ K curves in Figs. 4(c) and 4(d)] at points in the regime where the two frequencies are comparable to each other. At higher temperatures, on the other hand, the driving microwave frequency seems to be larger than the depinning frequency allowing the direct estimation of the upper critical fields. In the Eu-based samples, the depinning frequency seems to be low enough even at low temperatures, so that the upper critical fields can be simply determined in the complete temperature region of Figs. 4(a) and 4(b).

The upper critical fields $B_{c2}$ estimated from the curves in Fig. 4 (and similar curves for other samples not shown here) are plotted in Fig. 5. The comparison of $B_{c2}$ estimated in two Eu-based samples, $x=0$ and 0.3, is shown in Fig. 5(a). The analogous comparison of $B_{c2}$ in the Gd-based samples with...
$x=0$ and $0.2$ is given in Fig. 5(b). From these figures one can see that the upper critical fields in the Gd-based samples are lower than in the Eu-based samples, and, in both cases, the upper critical fields are higher in the doped samples than in the undoped samples. Bearing in mind that higher $B_{c2}$ means lower Ginzburg–Landau coherence length, which, in turn, depends on the electron mean free path, one concludes that the disorder in the undoped Eu-based samples is higher than in the undoped Gd-based samples, and that the Sn doping introduces an additional disorder in both systems. The low-temperature ($T=5$ K and 10 K) dependence of the upper critical field on the Sn concentration $x$ in the Eu-based samples is also shown [Fig. 5(c)]. From Fig. 5(c), we can see that the upper critical field increases with $x$ for low to moderate concentrations, while for the highest concentration ($x=0.4$) $B_{c2}$ is suppressed. The drop of $B_{c2}$ in the $x=0.4$ sample is related to the drop of $T_c$ in Fig. 3(a).

### B. Magnetotransport properties

In order to clarify the role of the disorder introduced by Sn doping, we extend the experimental study and analysis to transport coefficients. We have chosen the doped sample Ru$_{0.8}$Sn$_{0.2}$Sr$_2$GdCu$_2$O$_8$ which exhibits a sharp SC onset in Fig. 2(b), and measured its resistivity, magnetoresistivity, and Hall resistivity.

Figure 6(a) shows the resistivity measured in zero magnetic field and in $\mu_0H=8$ T. In both cases, the resistivity at 200 K is 9.5 m$\Omega$ cm, which is much lower than 15.5 m$\Omega$ cm of the undoped sample. In zero field, one observes a relatively broad SC transition characterized by the change in the magnitude from 90% to 10% within the temperature interval $\Delta T=8$ K. Such temperature dependence of the resistivity in the vicinity of $T_c$ is usually attributed to the spontaneous vortex phase. The temperature interval characterizing the SC transition in the 8 T resistivity data is much broader than that of the zero-field data, and the zero resistance occurs only at 10 K, indicating that the pinning above 10 K is not strong enough to suppress the vortex motion, even for dc driving currents. The absence of strong pinning forces above 10 K justifies the estimation of $B_{c2}$ from the magnetic-field dependence of the microwave absorption given above [Fig. 4(d)].

The onset of superconductivity in the grains is better seen if the resistivity in 8 T is subtracted from the zero-field resistivity, as shown in Fig. 6(b). The subtraction also reveals the existence of a broad maximum at the magnetic ordering temperature $T_m=75$ K. This peak can be further analyzed using magnetic field dependent resistivity measurements. The relative transversal magnetoresistivity $[\rho(H,T)-\rho(0,T)]/\rho(0,T)$ is shown in Fig. 7 in a large temperature range from 140 K down to the superconducting transition. The curves are grouped in five subsets according to temperature intervals in Fig. 6(b) labeled by (a), (b), (c), (d), and (e), exhibiting several qualitatively different physical situations.

At temperatures well above $T_m$ [Fig. 7(a)], the magnetoresistivity is characterized by the negative quadratic-in-field behavior similar to the magnetic-field dependence observed in dilute alloys containing uncorrelated magnetic impurities. With decreasing temperature the correlations between magnetic Ru ions start to play an important role and the quadratic-in-field magnetoresistivity transforms into the linear-in-field behavior. The same trend can also be seen for temperatures below $T_m$ [Fig. 7(b)], but not too close to $T_c$. Not surprisingly, the same linear-in-field behavior was already observed in undoped and in La-doped samples in the vicinity of $T_m$. Just below $T_m$, superposed to the negative linear magnetoresistivity, a small positive component develops at low fields, which is related to the AFM ordering of the Ru lattice. The same positive contribution is also observed in the longitudinal configuration (i.e., $H||\hat{l}$). Finally, it should be noticed that the negative magnetoresistivity of Figs. 7(a) and 7(b) does not show any sign of saturation up to $\mu_0H=8$ T.

Figures 7(c) and 7(d) reveal a relatively complicated behavior of the magnetoresistivity at temperatures between 57 and 47 K. The positive AFM contribution decreases rapidly and vanishes below 53 K. Below 49 K one observes positive contribution, presumably related to the SC fluctuations. The resulting magnetoresistivity, which is the sum of the positive SC and negative FM contribution, yields a local minimum. Finally, below $T=47$ K, the positive contribution to the magnetoresistivity related to the SC ordering of the conducting layers starts to dominate. The sharp increase in the magnitude of the relative magnetoresistivity in this temperature range is related to a broad maximum at the magnetic ordering temperature $T_m=5 K$ and 10 K, indicating that the pinning above 10 K is not strong enough to suppress the vortex motion, and the zero resistance occurs only at 10 K, which is much lower than 15.5 m$\Omega$ cm of the undoped sample. In zero field, one observes a relatively broad SC transition characterized by the change in the magnitude from 90% to 10% within the temperature interval $\Delta T=8$ K. Such temperature dependence of the resistivity in the vicinity of $T_c$ is usually attributed to the spontaneous vortex phase. The temperature interval characterizing the SC transition in the 8 T resistivity data is much broader than that of the zero-field data, and the zero resistance occurs only at 10 K, indicating that the pinning above 10 K is not strong enough to suppress the vortex motion, even for dc driving currents. The absence of strong pinning forces above 10 K justifies the estimation of $B_{c2}$ from the magnetic-field dependence of the microwave absorption given above [Fig. 4(d)].

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region, shown in Fig. 7(e), reflects the sharp decrease in ρ(0, T) in Fig. 6(a).

C. Hall resistance

So far we have established two seemingly opposed observations: the resistivity of the Sn-doped sample is lowered with respect to the pure compound, while the electron relaxation rates (proportional to the resistivity) increase with the Sn concentration x (as estimated from the x dependence of Bc2). This controversy could have been trivially explained if the intergranular conductivity in the pure sample was much lower than in the Sn-doped sample. However, this explanation is not very likely for three reasons: (i) The samples were prepared under the same conditions. (ii) From the microwave measurements in Fig. 4, one can see that in both samples one third of the absorption occurs between grains, indicating that the intergranular structure in both samples is similar. (iii) If there were differences in the intergranular composition of the two samples, one would expect a larger amount of spurious phases in the Sn-doped sample than in the pure one.21 In order to resolve the above controversy, we have measured the Hall resistance in which the relaxation rates cancel out in the first approximation, allowing in this way the estimation of the x dependence of the effective number of charge carriers.

The Hall resistivity of Ru0.8Sn0.2Sr2GdCu2O8 as a function of magnetic field is shown in Fig. 8(a), for two temperatures below Tm, and compared to the results of the undoped sample.16 A nonlinear increase in the Hall resistivity, which is the combination of the ordinary and extraordinary Hall contributions, and is a characteristic of magnetic metals, is observed at low fields. At high applied fields, a linear increase dominates, representing the ordinary Hall contribution only. The magnitude of the extraordinary contribution is smaller than that in the undoped sample [dotted line in Fig. 8(a)]. The average values of the Hall coefficient RH = dρxy/d(μ0H) are further plotted in Fig. 8(b) for low and high fields. Both, the low- and high-field slopes are smaller than for the pure compound. In particular, the absolute value of the ordinary RH is roughly 30% smaller than in the pure compound, indicating a substantial increase in the effective number of charge carriers.

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cell volume of Ru1212Gd, the result is $R_H = 1.065 \cdot 10^{-9} / (2p) \text{ m}^3 / \text{C}$. The measured high-field Hall coefficients indicated in Fig. 8(b) lead to $p = 0.05, 0.07$ and 0.03 for the pure, Sn-doped and La-doped samples, respectively.

**IV. DISCUSSION OF TRANSPORT COEFFICIENTS**

In the following, we shall first show that the main changes in the present zero-field resistivity data, and in the (high-field) ordinary Hall coefficient data with Sn doping (which amounts to several tens of percent according to the inset of Fig. 6(a) and Fig. 8), can be explained by using a single-component model for the conductivity tensor (Sec. IV A), at variance with the experimental results reported in Ref. 2 which have been found to require the two-component model, with the charge carriers in the RuO$_2$ layers almost completely delocalized (notice in this respect a quite large ratio $\sigma_{Ru}/\sigma_{Cu} = 0.5$ in Fig. 1 of Ref. 2, estimated from the thermopower data at $T < 100$ K).

Within the present single-component model, only CuO$_2$ layers contribute to the observed conductivity, while the contributions of the RuO$_2$ layers to the total conductivity are small for the external magnetic fields absent and can be safely neglected in the first step.

Then, we shall argue, in subsection IV B, that this single-component model fails to account for the observed contribution to the magnetoresistivity (changes of the order of a few percent in Fig. 6), and the (low-field) Hall coefficient. Consequently, in order to successfully explain all our experimental observations, we have to go beyond the single-component model and take into account a presumably small number of itinerant electrons in the RuO$_2$ layers with a presumably strong coupling to the magnetic moments of the Ru ions.

When comparing two two-band models (the present one and that of Ref. 2), one is left to answer two questions which are fundamental to the quantitative understanding of the physics of the ruthenate-cuprates: first, to which extent the charge carriers in the RuO$_2$ layers are delocalized, and, second, the relative magnitude of the interactions between the Ru magnetic subsystem and the itinerant charge carriers in the CuO$_2$ layers and in the RuO$_2$ layers. In this context, the motivation for the two-step analysis of our data comes from the results of the zero-field NMR (NQR) experiments in the pure Ru1212Gd (Refs. 14 and 15) and the related band structure calculations.

The number of electrons in RuO$_2$ layers is equal to the number of holes doped into the CuO$_2$ plane. Naively, Ru$^{5+}$ ion can be visualized as a composition of Ru$^{5+}$ ion and one extra electron. In this picture, the basic question is as to except this extra electron is localized to the parent Ru$^{5+}$ ion. In Ru-NQR experiments, two well-distinguished signals are found, corresponding to Ru$^{5+}$ with the spin state $S=3/2$ and Ru$^{4+}$ with the spin state $S=1$. These results suggest that most of the electrons are localized (leading to Ru$^{5+}$ with the spin state $S=1$), which means that the number of itinerant (delocalized) electrons in the RuO$_2$ layers is small. In NQR, it is also found that the magnetic order in the RuO$_2$ layers coexists with the SC order in the CuO$_2$ planes down to $T = 1.4$ K. Finally, the NQR frequency $\nu_{Cu}$ measured in the underdoped YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_{6+x}$ compounds, puts Ru1212R systems into the high-$T_c$ superconductors with an intermediate copper-oxygen hybridization and, consequently, an intermediate value of $T_c$. Particularly important is the observation that two CuO$_2$ bands are not influenced significantly by the magnetism of the RuO$_2$ layers. Namely, the Cu $d_{x^2-y^2}$ states and the Ru $d_{xy}$ states, which participate in three conduction bands, hybridize, respectively, with the $p_x$ and $p_z$ apex oxygen states, which are mutually orthogonal. The direct magnetic coupling (via apex oxygens only) between the charge carriers in these two subsystems thus vanishes for symmetry reasons.

In the present analysis, we neglect the presumably small coupling of the charge carriers (holes) in the CuO$_2$ layers to the Ru magnetic subsystem, and take that the effective concentration of these holes $n_{Cu}$ is proportional to $p (n_{Cu} \approx 2p/V_0)$, rather than $1+p$. The latter proportionality is a consequence of the pseudogap formation due to the AFM fluctuation in the CuO$_2$ planes (see for example Ref. 27). Thus, $n_{Cu}$ nearly measures the hole concentration in the CuO$_2$ bands with respect to the half-filling. The effective concentration of itinerant electrons in the RuO$_2$ layers $n_{Ru}$ is assumed to be small in comparison to the value $2p/V_0$ characterizing the completely delocalized case, but, importantly, they are strongly coupled to the magnetic subsystem.

**A. Resistivity and ordinary Hall coefficient**

In the presence of the magnetic background of Ru$^{5+}$/Ru$^{4+}$ ions and external magnetic fields, the conductivity tensor in question is given by

$$\sigma_{xx} = \frac{e^2}{m} (\tau_{Cu} \sigma_{Cu} + \tau_{Ru} \sigma_{Ru}),$$

$$\sigma_{yx} = -\frac{e^2}{m} \frac{\rho_{Cu}}{\rho_{Ru}} (\sigma_{Cu}^{2}-\sigma_{Ru}^{2}) + \sigma_{xy}^{ex},$$

The first term in the off-diagonal component $\sigma_{yx}$ comes from the Lorentz force and is proportional to $H$ (oh is the cyclotron frequency). The second term, $\sigma_{yx}^{ex}$, includes all extraordinary contributions and is proportional to the magnetization of the Ru lattice, which means that the dependence on $H$ is given in terms of the Brillouin function $B_{3} (g \mu_B H)$. According to Ref. 23, the contributions of two bands in Eq. (1) can be regarded as decoupled (i.e., the hybridization between the CuO$_2$ and RuO$_2$ bands is negligible). The structure of the effective numbers $\tilde{n}_{Cu}^{ex}$, $\tilde{n}_{Ru}^{ex}$, $\tilde{n}_{Cu}$, and $\tilde{n}_{Ru}$ is given in the Appendix. For weak magnetic fields, for example, we obtain $\tilde{n}_{Cu}^{ex} = \tilde{n}_{Ru}^{ex} = \tilde{n}_{Cu}$ and $\tilde{n}_{Ru}^{ex} = \tilde{n}_{Ru}$, with
$n_{Cu}$ and $n_{Ru}$ defined above, $\tau_{Cu}$ and $\tau_{Ru}$ are, respectively, the relaxation times of holes and electrons averaged over two spin projections. For weak magnetic fields, it is reasonable to assume that not only $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru}$ is small, when compared to $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Cu}$ but also the relaxation rate in the RuO$_2$ layers 1/ $\tau_{Ru}$ is much larger than 1/ $\tau_{Cu}$ due to the presence of magnetic ions and the substitutional impurities in the RuO$_2$ layers. Thus, $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Cu} \gg \delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru}$ for $H=0$. But, as mentioned above, the main effects in the magnetoresistivity are expected to come from the field dependence of $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru}$ [labeled hereafter by $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru} = (e^2/m) \delta\tau_{Ru}(H)$].

For weak magnetic fields, the general expressions for the Hall resistivity and magnetoresistivity

$$\rho_{xy} = \frac{\sigma_{xy}}{\sigma_{xx} \sigma_{xy} + \sigma_{yx}^2},$$

$$\rho_{xx} = \frac{\sigma_{xx}}{\sigma_{xx} \sigma_{yx} + \sigma_{yy}^2},$$

lead to

$$\rho_{xy} \approx \frac{\sigma_{Cu} \rho_{xy}^{Ru}}{(\sigma_{xx} \rho_{xy}^{Ru} + \rho_{xy}^{Ru})^2},$$

$$\rho_{xx} \approx \frac{1}{\sigma_{xx} \rho_{xx}^{Ru} + \rho_{xx}^{Ru}},$$

i.e.,

$$\rho_{xy} \approx \frac{m e^2 \sigma_{Cu} (\tau_{Cu} \rho_{xy}^{Cu} - \tau_{Ru} \rho_{xy}^{Ru}) + (m^2 e^2) \sigma_{xy}^{ex, Ru}}{\tau_{Cu} \rho_{xy}^{Cu} + \tau_{Ru} \rho_{xy}^{Ru}},$$

$$\rho_{xx} \approx \frac{m}{e^2 \tau_{Cu} \rho_{xx}^{Cu} + \tau_{Ru} \rho_{xx}^{Ru}}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (4)

The Hall coefficient is given by $R_H = d\rho_{xy} / d(\mu_e H)$. The anomalous contributions (the negative magnetoresistivity and the extraordinary Hall coefficient) are hidden here in $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru}$ and $\delta\rho_{xy}^{Ru}$, and we put $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Cu} = \delta\rho_{xy}^{Cu} = 0$ in the rest of this subsection.

In the Sn-doped samples, the replacement of any Ru atom by Sn introduces one extra hole in the system, which is redistributed between RuO$_2$ and CuO$_2$ layers. The part of the extra charge which remains in the RuO$_2$ layers decreases the effective number of itinerant electrons $n_{Ru}$ ($\Delta n_{Ru} < 0$), thus increasing both the resistivity and Hall resistivity. One may say that it gives rise to the conversion of Ru$^{4+}$ into Ru$^{3+}$. The part of the extra charge transferred into the CuO$_2$ layers increases the effective number $n_{Cu}$ ($\Delta n_{Cu} > 0$). The experimentally determined decrease in the normal-state resistivity and the (high-field) Hall coefficient with the Sn doping (Figs. 6 and 8) shows that a substantial portion of the doped holes are indeed transferred to the CuO$_2$ layers and that the small changes in already small $n_{Ru}$ can be neglected. This scenario is expected to hold for not too large number of Sn impurities ($x \leq 0.3$). Our results should be contrasted to the Sn doping study of McCrone et al. (Fig. 2 in Ref. 2), where the increase in resistivity and the Hall coefficient was observed for $x = 0.2$.

As mentioned above, the correlation between $n_{Cu}$ and the superconducting critical temperature $T_c$ is expected to be similar to the correlations found in the isostructural YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_{7-x}$ compounds. The main difference is that a very complicated role of the CuO chains in supporting superconductivity in the CuO$_2$ layers is played here by the magnetically ordered RuO$_2$ layers. Indeed, the dependence of $T_c$ on the Sn doping $x$ (shown in Fig. 3) is similar to the observation in the underdoped YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_{7-x}$ compounds ($T_c$ is nearly constant in a wide range of $x$, $T_c \approx 60$ K in YBa$_2$Cu$_3$O$_{7-x}$).

A similar scenario also holds for other Ru1212R systems. For example, the replacement of Sr$^{2+}$ by La$^{3+}$ increases the total number of conduction electrons in the system. A substantial part of the doped electrons is transferred to the CuO$_2$ layers, reducing the effective number $n_{Cu}$ below the critical value required for superconductivity, in agreement with experiments. In RuSr$_1$La$_{0.1}$GdCu$_2$O$_8$, the high-temperature resistivity and the high-field Hall resistivity are found to be increased by roughly 60%–70% with respect to the pure compound, and the superconductivity is completely suppressed.\(^17\) The same effect of reducing the effective number $n_{Cu}$ is obtained by the partial replacement of Ru ions by Nb,\(^2,4\)

### B. Magnetoresistivity

The magnetoresistivity data of Fig. 7 give us the indirect way to study the magnetic properties of the Ru lattice. In the model described above, we can write

$$\frac{\Delta \rho_{xx}}{\rho_{xx}(0)} = \frac{\rho_{xx}(H) - \rho_{xx}(0)}{\rho_{xx}(0)} = \frac{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)}{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)} \frac{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(H)}{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)} - \frac{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)}{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)} \frac{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(H)}{\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)},$$

\hspace{1cm} (5)

with $\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(0)$ and $\sigma_{xx}^{Ru}(H)$ being, respectively, the zero-field total conductivity and the zero-field conductivity of the RuO$_2$ subsystem. The first factor is nearly proportional to $n_{Ru} = (n_{Cu} + n_{Ru})$ and represents an enhancement factor dependent on Sn doping. It grows with decreasing $n_{Cu}$ as can be easily seen from our data taken in three compounds: Ru$_{0.8}$Sr$_{0.2}$GdCu$_2$O$_8$, Ru$_{0.8}$Sr$_{0.2}$GdCu$_2$O$_8$, and Ru$_{0.8}$Sr$_{0.2}$GdCu$_2$O$_8$. The second factor in Eq. (5), $\delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru} / \rho_{xx}(0) \approx -\delta\rho_{xx}^{Ru} / \rho_{xx}(0)$, is the magnetoresistivity of the isolated RuO$_2$ subsystem, and it is expected to be similar to that of magnetic metals.\(^30,29,30\) Precisely, the negative quadratic-in-field magnetoresistivity observed at temperatures well above $T_m$ has to be contrasted to the magnetoresistivity of common high-$T_c$ superconductors which is very small and positive.\(^31\) This high-temperature behavior can be understood as a clear evidence of the exchange interaction between itinerant electrons in the RuO$_2$ layers and the localized Ru spins.\(^20\) The AFM interactions between localized spins become important at low enough temperatures leading to the linear-in-field behavior with maximal slope at $T = 2T_m$ [Figs. 7(a)–7(c)]. We recall that exactly the same temperature dependence of the magnetoresistivity was found in Ref. 30 for small concentration of conduction electrons and low stability of the FM state of the localized spins. Hence, we believe that expression (5) includes all relevant processes in the magne-
The magnetic-field dependence of the microwave absorption 

\[ \frac{\delta \rho_{\text{Cu}}}{\rho_{\text{Cu}}(0)} \approx \tau_{\text{Cu}} \frac{\Delta \rho_{\text{Cu}}}{\tau_{\text{Cu}}(0)} \approx \frac{V_0}{\tau_{\text{Cu}}} \frac{\Delta \rho_{\text{Cu}}}{V_{\text{Cu}}(H)}(0), \]  

where \( \Delta \rho_{\text{Cu}} = \rho_{\text{Cu}}(H) - \rho_{\text{Cu}}(0) \). Figure 9 shows the field dependence of the quantity \( V_0/(R_{\text{Cu}}) \Delta \rho_{\text{Cu}}(0) \) for the three aforementioned samples at their respective magnetic ordering temperatures. If one assumes, based on the previous subsection, that \( V_{\text{Cu}}(H) < 0.01 \) and \( \tau_{\text{Cu}} < \tau_{\text{Cu}} \), the magnetoconductivity of ruthenium layers is estimated to be several tens of percent at \( \mu_0 H = 8 \) T. The magnitude of this effect is comparable to the colossal magnetoresistance of the manganate perovskites.\(^{32}\)

V. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, a microwave study of Sn doping in Ru1212 samples has shown that magnetic ordering is strongly influenced by introduction of tin into RuO2 layers, while the superconducting critical temperature remains practically unchanged. The magnetic-field dependence of the microwave absorption has shown that the upper critical field in doped samples is increased, probably due to the increased disorder. However, in spite of increased disorder, the dc resistivity measurement in Ru0.8Sn0.2Sr2GdCu2O8 is lower than in the respective pure compound. We conclude that it is due to the increased number of holes in the CuO2 layers. This conclusion is also confirmed by Hall resistivity measurements presented in this paper.

In Ru0.8Sn0.2Sr2GdCu2O8 magnetoresistance develops from quadratic-in-field behavior (characteristic of uncorrelated magnetic impurities) at high temperatures to linear-in-field behavior close to \( T_m = 76 \) K, indicating significant correlations between magnetic Ru ions. Below \( T_m \), a small positive component of magnetoresistance, related to the AFM ordering of the RuO2 lattice, is superimposed to the negative linear magnetoresistance. As the temperature is lowered below 53 K, the field-induced ferromagnetic order seems to prevail. At the onset of superconductivity (\( \approx 48 \) K) both positive superconducting and negative ferromagnetic contributions to the same magnetoresistance curve occur.

We have shown that the single-component model for the conductivity tensor suffices to explain the variation of the normal-state resistivity and the high-field Hall coefficient with doping. The main conductivity channel is through CuO2 layers and the various dopings simply change the number of conducting holes in these layers. However, the low-field Hall resistivity and the magnetoresistance provide evidence that there is a small conduction in magnetically ordered RuO2 layers. Quantitative analysis of the observed negative magnetoresistance leads to a quite remarkable conclusion that a small number of delocalized electrons displays a colossal magnetoresistance.

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APPENDIX: CONDUCTIVITY TENSOR

In the multiband models with the interband hybridization negligible (Ru1212R systems are the example), the elements of the conductivity tensor are given by the sum of the intra-band terms \( \sigma_{\alpha\beta} = \Sigma_{i} \sigma_{i\alpha\beta} \) \((i = \text{Cu}, \text{Ru in the present case})\). The presence of magnetic background and external magnetic fields makes, in the first place, the relaxation rates of conduction electrons \( \Gamma_{i\alpha\beta}(k) = 1/\tau_{i\alpha\beta}(k) \) depend on spin, and also introduces the extraordinary contributions to the off-diagonal elements of the conductivity tensor \( \sigma_{i\alpha\beta} \), as discussed in the main text. In the first approximation (the case of noninteracting magnetic impurities\(^{20}\)) we can write \( \Gamma_{i\alpha\beta}(k) = \Gamma_{\alpha\beta} \propto M_z \), where \( \alpha \) is a constant and \( M_z \) is the total magnetization of the RuO2 layer. Thus, in the Ru1212R systems, at temperatures well above \( T_m \) we have \( \sigma_{i\alpha\beta} = \sigma_{i\alpha\beta} = (e^2/m) \tau_{i\alpha\beta} \delta_{i\alpha\beta} \) and

\[
\begin{align*}
\tau_{i\alpha\beta} &\approx \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k} \frac{m |u_{i\alpha}^2(k)|^2 \tau_{i\alpha\beta}(k)}{1 + \tau_{i\alpha\beta}(k) |\omega_{0\alpha}(k)|^2} \frac{\partial \tilde{f}_{i\alpha\beta}(k)}{\partial \epsilon_{i\alpha\beta}(k)}, \\
\tau_{i\alpha\beta}^2 &\approx \frac{1}{V} \sum_{k} \frac{m u_{i\alpha}^2(k) |v_{i\alpha}^2(k) - v_{i\alpha}^2(k) y_{i\alpha}(k)|}{1 + \tau_{i\alpha\beta}(k) |\omega_{0\alpha}(k)|^2} \times \tau_{i\alpha\beta}^2 \frac{\partial \tilde{f}_{i\alpha\beta}(k)}{\partial \epsilon_{i\alpha\beta}(k)}.
\end{align*}
\]  

(1)

\( u_{i\alpha}(k) \) is the electron group velocity, \( \omega_{0\alpha}(k) = |\gamma_{i\alpha}(k)|^2 \omega_{0\alpha}(k) \), and \( \gamma_{i\alpha}(k) = (m/\hbar^2)^2 \hat{r}_{i\alpha}(k)/\partial \hat{q}_{i\alpha} \partial \hat{k}_{\beta} \) are the elements of the inverse effective-mass tensor.
For weak magnetic fields, the relaxation times independent of $k$, and $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}(k) \propto \delta_{\alpha\beta}$, we obtain the textbook expressions

$$n_{\alpha}^i = \frac{1}{V_k \sigma} \sum_{\alpha} m[v_i^\alpha(k)]^2 \left( - \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}(k)}{\partial E_{\alpha}(k)} \right),$$

$$n_{\alpha\beta}^i = \frac{1}{V_k \sigma} \sum_{\alpha\beta} m[v_i^\alpha(k)]^2 \gamma_{\alpha\beta}(k) \left( \frac{\partial f_{\alpha\beta}(k)}{\partial E_{\alpha\beta}(k)} \right),$$

(A2)

which we use in the discussion in the main text. The effects of the AFM correlations on the effective numbers $n_{\alpha\beta}^{Cu}$ are included here through the dependence of $E_{\alpha}(k)$, $v_i^\alpha(k)$, and $\gamma_{\alpha\beta}(k)$ on the AFM (pseudo)gap scale, as explained in detail in Sec. VIA and Fig. 12 of Ref. 27. The main result of this analysis is that the effective numbers $n_{\alpha\beta}^{Cu}$ are proportional to the number of holes $p$ measured with respect to the half-filled Cu band, rather than to the total number of holes in the Cu band $1+p$.

If magnetic fields are weak and the exchange interaction between the conduction holes and localized Ru spins is negligible, the field dependence in the denominators in Eq. (A1) can again be neglected, and the sum over spin projections gives for the averaged relaxation times of itinerant electrons the expression $\sum_{\alpha} \gamma_{\alpha\beta}(k) \approx 2\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{Cu}/(\Gamma_{\alpha\beta}^{0}(\Delta_{0})^2 - \alpha_{\alpha\beta}(M)^2)$, resulting in $\delta \sigma_{xx} \propto H^2$. According to Eq. (5), this also leads to the total magnetoresistivity which is negative and quadratic-in-field. The effects of interactions between localized spins on the conductivity tensor at different temperatures are expected to be similar to that found in Ref. 30.