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Multiband superconductivity

and penetration depth in $PrOs_4Sb_{12}^{-1}$ D.E. MACLAUGHLIN, LEI SHU, U. Calif., Riverside, R.H. HEFFNER, JAEA, Tokai, Japan, J.E. SONIER, Simon Fraser U., Vancouver, Canada, F.D. CALLAGHAN, Simon Fraser U., Vancouver, Canada, G.D. MORRIS, TRIUMF, Vancouver, O.O. BERNAL, Calif. State U., Los Angeles, W.M. YUHASZ, N.A. FREDERICK, M.B. MAPLE, U. Calif., San Diego — The penetration depth lambda in the filled-skutterudite heavy-fermion superconductor $PrOs_4Sb_{12}$ has been measured using transverse-field muon spin rotation. It is found to be temperature-independent at low temperatures, consistent with a nonzero gap for quasiparticle excitations. In contrast, zero-field radiofrequency inductive measurements yield a stronger temperature dependence of lambda, indicative of point nodes in the gap. A $\sim 10\%$ discrepancy is found at intermediate temperatures. This seems likely to be due to multiband superconductivity in this compound, recently found from thermal conductivity measurements. A sufficiently large difference between gaps would render the field distribution in the vortex controlled exclusively by the larger gap band, whereas all bands would participate in zero field.

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