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In-plane anisotropy of magnetoresistivity of tri-layered ruthenate  $Sr_4Ru_3O_{10}$  Z.Q. MAO, M. ZHOU, D. FOBES, Tulane University, H.Q. YUAN, M. SALAMON, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign — The tri-layered ruthenate  $Sr_4Ru_3O_{10}$  exhibits intriguing magnetic properties; its ferromagnetic transition at  $T_c \approx 105$  K is followed by an additional magnetic phase transition at  $T^* \approx 50$  K [1,2]. Below  $T^*$ , a first order metamagnetic transition is induced by a magnetic field applied in the plane. We have recently measured the in-plane angular dependence of magnetoresistivity of this material at various magnetic fields and temperatures. Our data reveal that the in-plane anisotropy of magnetoresistivity undergoes a transition from two-fold to four-fold symmetry across the metamagnetic transition of  $Sr_4Ru_3O_{10}$ . Such a transition can be well interpreted in terms of a multiple-band effect which involves the coexistence of ferromagnetic and metamagnetic bands. [1] G. Cao *et al.*, Phys. Rev. B **68**, 174409 (2003).

[2] Z.Q. Mao et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 96, 077205 (2006).

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