Abstract Submitted for the MAR11 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Tribological Characterization of Nanoclustered Lead Films KEE-

LEY M. STEVENS, JACQUELINE KRIM, North Carolina State University — For thin films of Pb on Ti, a system which does not wet, it is known that when studying coverages below the percolation transition measurement of surface friction via a sliding gas monolayer is an effective probe of electronic structure for the isolated lead nanoclusters.¹ This technique is capable of studying superconductors as they pass through the transition temperature. Motivated by on-going reports of quantum size effects in thin lead films grown on Si(111)² and Cu(001),³ we examine the issue of nitrogen adsorption⁴ onto such nanostructured films. Funding provided by NSF DMR.

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Date submitted: 27 Dec 2010 Electronic form version 1.4

¹Highland, M. et al. in preparation.

²Ozer, M. et al. J. Low Temp Phys. **2009**, 157: 221-251.

³Li, W. et al. *Phys.Rev.B* **1993**, 48, 11: 8336-8344.

⁴Krim, J.and Widom, A. Phys. Rev. B **1988**, 38: 12184-12189.