Elastic and inelastic scattering in SrTiO$_3$–δ

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— Scattering among electrons generates a distinct contribution to electrical resistivity that follows a quadratic temperature dependence. We show that the prefactor of this $T^2$ resistivity can be tuned by four orders of magnitude in metallic SrTiO$_3$ by tuning the concentration of the carriers and consequently, the Fermi energy. The $T^2$ behavior persists in the single-band dilute limit despite the absence of two known mechanisms for $T^2$ behavior, distinct electron reservoirs and Umklapp processes. The ultimate origin of the small residual resistivity is the long Bohr radius, which, in a shallow Fermi sea caused by a random distribution of dopants, sets the zero-temperature mobility.

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Date submitted: 05 Nov 2015

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