

Abstract Submitted  
for the MAR08 Meeting of  
The American Physical Society

**Evidence for High  $T_c$  Superconducting Transitions in Isolated  $\text{Al}_{45}^-$  and  $\text{Al}_{47}^-$  Nanoclusters** MARTIN JARROLD, BAOPENG CAO, COLLEEN NEAL, ANNE STARACE, Indiana University, YURII OVCHINNIKOV, Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics, VLADIMIR KRESIN, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory — Heat capacities measured for  $\text{Al}_{45}^-$  and  $\text{Al}_{47}^-$  nanoclusters have reproducible peaks at  $\sim 200$  K. The data were obtained using a multi-collision dissociation method [1] allowing us to perform measurements for isolated nanoclusters. The peaks are observed for selected Al clusters only. These peaks are consistent with theoretical predictions that some clusters with highly degenerate electronic states near the Fermi level will undergo a transition into a high  $T_c$  superconducting state [2]. An analysis based on a theoretical treatment of pairing in  $\text{Al}_{45}^-$  and  $\text{Al}_{47}^-$  agrees well with the experimental data in both the value of the critical temperature and in the size and width of the peaks in the heat capacity. The observed value of  $T_c$  exceeds those found in bulk systems. [1] G.Breaux, C.Neal, B.Cao, M.Jarrold, Phys. Rev. Lett. **94**, 173401 (2005) [2] V.Z.Kresin, Yu.Ovchinnikov, Phys. Rev. B **74**, 024514 (2006)

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Date submitted: 16 Nov 2007

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