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Onsager phase factor of quantum oscillations in the organic metal $\theta$-(BEDT-TTF)$_4$CoBr$_4$(C$_6$H$_4$Cl$_2$)

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Abstract

De Haas-van Alphen oscillations are studied for Fermi surfaces illustrating the Pippard’s model, commonly observed in multiband organic metals. Field- and temperature-dependent amplitude of the various Fourier components, linked to frequency combinations arising from magnetic breakdown between different bands, are considered. Emphasis is put on the Onsager phase factor of these components. It is demonstrated that, in addition to the usual Maslov index, field-dependent phase factors must be considered to precisely account for the data at high magnetic field. We present compelling evidence of the existence of such contributions for the organic metal $\theta$-(BEDT-TTF)$_4$CoBr$_4$(C$_6$H$_4$Cl$_2$).

Keywords:
organic metals, de Haas-van Alphen oscillations, magnetic breakdown

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1. Introduction

Fermi surface (FS) of numerous organic metals is an illustration of the textbook model proposed by Pippard more than fifty years ago to compute Landau band structure induced by magnetic breakdown (MB) in multiband metals [1]. This is the case of the FS of the strongly two-dimensional charge transfer salt \( \theta-(\text{BEDT-TTF})_4\text{CoBr}_4(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2) \) (where BEDT-TTF stands for the bis-ethylenedithio-tetrathiafulvalene molecule), which is reported in Fig. 1 [2]. Organic metals with such a FS are known to give rise to magnetic oscillations spectra involving linear combinations of the frequencies linked to the basic orbit \( \alpha \) and the MB orbit \( \beta \). These frequencies correspond not only to MB orbits such as \( \beta + \alpha \) or harmonics but also to 'forbidden frequencies' such as \( \beta - \alpha \) that are not predicted by the semiclassical model of Falicov-Stachowiak [3, 4].

Only recently, analytic tools have been provided to account for the field and temperature dependence of the Fourier amplitude relevant to the various frequencies observed [2]. Besides, to our knowledge, little attention has been paid to the Onsager phase factor, yet. Though, according to Slutskin and Kadigrobov [5] and Kochkin [6], a field-dependent Onsager phase should be observed for the considered FS, provided the magnetic field is large enough compared to the MB field. Almost ten years later, the same result was independently derived [8] in order to account for the discrepancy between calculations, which are valid for the low field range, and the experimental data for the lens orbit of Cd [7] which share similarities with the \( \alpha \) orbit of Fig. 1. However, still to our knowledge, no further study in this field has been reported up to now. In order to address this question, this paper is focused on the Onsager phase factor of the various Fourier components observed in the de Haas-van Alphen (dHvA) spectrum of the organic metal \( \theta-(\text{BEDT-TTF})_4\text{CoBr}_4(\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2) \) in fields of up to 55 T.

2. Model

In this section, we first present the model accounting for the field and temperature dependence of the amplitude of the various Fourier components entering the oscillation spectra [2]. In the second step, the field-dependent Onsager phase is considered.
Figure 1: (Color online) Fermi surface of $\theta$-(BEDT-TTF)$_4$CoBr$_4$(C$_6$H$_4$Cl$_2$) [2] in the extended zone scheme. Blue solid lines depict the first Brillouin zone. Pink lines display the classical orbits considered for the data analysis, and arrows indicate the quasi-particles path on the principal orbits $\alpha$ and $\beta$. Blue circles and diamonds indicate the turning points in the direction parallel to the chains and the Bragg reflection points, respectively.
2.1. Fourier amplitude

As displayed in Fig. 1, the FS is composed of the $\alpha$ quasi-two-dimensional closed tube and a pair of quasi-one-dimensional sheets separated from the $\alpha$ orbit by a gap liable to be overcome by MB. Numerous classical MB orbits can be defined ($\eta = \alpha, \beta, \alpha + \beta, 2\beta - \alpha, 2\beta$, etc.), the area of which are linear combinations of those relevant to the $\alpha$ and $\beta$ orbits. The area of the latter is equal to that of the first Brillouin zone (FBZ). It can be remarked that $2\beta$ corresponds to both the classical orbit displayed in Fig. 1 and to the 2nd harmonic of $\beta$.

To account for this FS, a two-band system with band extrema $\Delta_{0(1)}$ and effective masses $m_{0(1)}$ (in units of the electron mass $m_e$) is considered [2]. The band 0 gives rise to the quasi-one-dimensional part of the FS of Fig. 1 whereas the $\alpha$ orbit is built on the band 1. Assuming parabolic dispersion, the relevant frequency is $F_\alpha = m_1(\mu - \Delta_1)$. The $\beta$ orbit, generated by four tunnelings at the junction points, is built on both bands 0 and 1 and, still for a parabolic band, has a frequency corresponding to the first Brillouin zone area, $F_\beta = m_\alpha(\mu - \Delta_\alpha) + m_0(\mu - \Delta_0) = m_\beta(\mu - \Delta_\beta)$. In this case we identify the mass $m_0 + m_\alpha$ with the mass $m_\beta$ of the orbit $\beta$.

To compute the oscillating part of the magnetization at fixed number $N$ of quasi-particles, we need to consider the oscillatory part of the free energy, defined by

$$F(T, N, B) = \Omega(T, \mu, B) + N\mu \tag{1}$$

For a constant $N$, the oscillatory part of the grand potential $\Omega$ for a sample slab with area $A$ can be written

$$\frac{\phi_0}{k_B} \frac{\Omega(T, \mu, B)}{A} = -\frac{m_0}{2}(\mu - \Delta_0)^2 - \frac{m_1}{2}(\mu - \Delta_1)^2$$

$$+ \frac{B^2}{2} \sum_{p \geq 1} \sum_{\eta} \frac{C_{\eta} R_{\eta,p}(T) \cos(2\pi p F_{\eta}/B + \varphi_{\eta})}{\pi^2 p^2 m_{\eta}} \tag{2}$$

Damping factors can be expressed as $R_{\eta,p}(B, T) = R_{\eta,p}^T(B, T) R_{\eta,p}^D(B) R_{\eta,p}^{MB}(B) R_{\eta,p}^s$ where:

$$R_{\eta,p}^T = pX_\eta \sinh^{-1}(pX_\eta), \tag{3}$$
\[ R_{\eta,p}^D = \exp(-pu_0 m_\eta T_D B^{-1}), \quad (4) \]
\[ R_{\eta,p}^{MB} = (ip_0)^{n^t_\eta} (q_0)^{n^r_\eta}, \quad (5) \]
\[ R_{\eta,p}^s = \cos(\pi g_\eta m_\eta/2). \quad (6) \]

The field-and temperature-dependent variable \((X_\eta)\) and the constant \((u_0)\) are expressed as \(X_\eta = u_0 m_\eta T/B\) and \(u_0 = 2\pi^2 k_B m_e (e\hbar) = 14.694\) T/K. The tunneling \((p_0)\) and reflection \((q_0)\) probabilities are given by \(p_0 = e^{-B_0/2B}\) and \(p_0^2 + q_0^2 = 1\) [4]. \(\phi_0 = h/e\) is the magnetic flux quantum, \(T_D\) is the Dingle temperature defined by \(T_D = \hbar (2\pi k_B \tau)^{-1}\), where \(\tau\) is the scattering rate, \(B_0\) is the MB field, \(m_\eta\) and \(g_\eta\) are the effective masses and effective Landé factor, respectively. In the case where the magnetic field direction is not parallel to the normal to the conducting plane (angle \(\theta\)), \(B\) is changed to \(B \cos \theta\) and the spin damping factor is written \(R_{\eta,p}^s = \cos(\pi g_\eta m_\eta/2 \cos \theta)\).

For convenience, energies \((E)\) such as \(\mu, \Delta_0, \Delta_1\) are expressed in units of Tesla, using the conversion \((u_0/k_B)[T/J] \times E[J] = E[T]\). \(B\) and \(T\) are the magnetic field [T] and temperature [K], respectively. Effective masses are expressed in units of the electron mass \(m_e\), and magnetization in Tesla units. The advantage of taking this convention is that field, frequencies and temperature are not expressed in reduced units.

Frequencies \(F_\eta[T]\) can be written as \(F_\eta = m_\eta (\mu - \Delta_\eta)\) and are dependent on the chemical potential \(\mu\) since they are proportional to the area enclosed by the orbits. Coefficients \(C_\eta\) are the symmetry factors of orbits \(\eta\). Namely, \(C_\alpha = C_\beta = C_{2\beta-a} = 1\) and \(C_{\alpha+\beta} = C_{2\beta} = 2\). Integers \(n^t_\eta\) and \(n^r_\eta\) are the number of MB-induced tunnelings and reflections, respectively. \(\phi_\eta\) is the Onsager phase factor of the orbit \(\eta\), defined by the number of turning points, i.e. \(\pi/2\) times the number of extrema of the orbit along one direction (see Fig. 1). \(N\) is given by \(d\Omega/d\mu = -N\), and the chemical potential satisfies the following implicit equation:

\[ \mu = \mu_0 - \frac{B}{m_\beta} \sum_{p \geq 1} \sum_\eta \frac{1}{\pi p} C_\eta R_{\eta,p}(T) \sin(2\pi p F_\eta \frac{B}{B} + p \phi_\eta), \]

which can be rewritten as

\[ \mu = \mu_0 - \frac{B}{m_\beta} \sum_\eta M_\eta(B). \quad (7) \]
where \( \mu_0 \) is the zero-field Fermi energy. For a compensated system, in which case \( N = 0 \), it is equal to \( \mu_0 = (m_0 \Delta_0 + m_\alpha \Delta_\alpha)/(m_0 + m_\alpha) \). The oscillatory part of the magnetization is defined as

\[
m_{osc}(T) = -\frac{\phi_0 u_0}{Ak_B} \frac{\partial F(T, N, B)}{\partial B}.
\]  \( (8) \)

In this expression, the free energy, after factorization and simplification, is given by

\[
\phi_0 u_0 \left( \sum_\eta M_\eta(B) \right)^2 - \frac{B^2}{2m_\beta} \left( \sum_\eta M_\eta(B) \right)^2 + \frac{B^2}{2} \sum_\eta \sum_{p \geq 1} \frac{C_\eta R_{\eta p}(B)}{\pi^2 p^2 m_\eta} \cos \left( 2\pi p \frac{F_\eta}{B} - 2\pi p \frac{m_\eta}{m_\beta} \sum_{\eta'} M_{\eta'}(B) + p\varphi_\eta \right) + \text{cst}
\]  \( (9) \)

Since oscillating factors \( M_\eta \) entering Eq. 7 are at first order in damping factors \( R_{\eta p}(B, T) \) and small compared to \( \mu_0 \), Eq. 8 is solved at second order in \( R_{\eta p}(B, T) \) (the first order part corresponding to the Lifshitz-Kosevich (LK) semi-classical result). This leads, after some algebra, to an expansion in power terms of the amplitudes

\[
m_{osc} = -\sum_\eta \sum_{p \geq 1} \frac{F_\eta C_\eta R_{\eta p}(B, T)}{\pi p m_\eta} \sin \left( 2\pi p \frac{F_\eta}{B} + p\varphi_\eta \right) + \sum_\eta \sum_{p, p' \geq 1} \frac{F_\eta C_\eta C_{\eta'}}{\pi p' m_\beta} R_{\eta p}(B, T) R_{\eta' p'}(B, T) \left[ \sin \left( 2\pi p F_\eta + p' F_{\eta'} \right) + p\varphi_\eta + p'\varphi_{\eta'} \right]
\]  \( (10) \)

where the next terms are third order. From this step onwards, frequencies \( F_\eta \) are evaluated at \( \mu = \mu_0 \): \( F_\eta = m_\eta(\mu_0 - \Delta_\eta) \). According to the above expression, magnetization spectrum can now be expressed in terms of both classical and non-classical frequencies, still noted as \( F_\eta \) in the following, and can be expanded as:
\[ m_{\text{osc}} = \sum_{\eta, p \geq 1} A_{p\eta} \sin \left( 2\pi p \frac{F_\eta}{B} + p\phi_\eta \right). \quad (11) \]

It is important to stress that the amplitude \( A_{p\eta} \) involves not only the contribution of the \( p^\text{th} \) harmonics of the \( \eta \) classical orbit, given by the LK formalism \( (A_{p\eta} \propto R_{\eta,p}) \) but also higher order corrections, calculated here at the second order in damping factors. The expressions of the dominant Fourier components, considered for the data analysis, are given below:\(^2\)

\[
A_a = -\frac{F_\alpha}{\pi m_\alpha} R_{\alpha,1} - \frac{F_\alpha}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ \frac{1}{2} R_{\alpha,1} R_{\alpha,2} + \frac{1}{6} R_{\alpha,2} R_{\alpha,3} + 2 R_{\beta,1} R_{\alpha+\beta,1} + \frac{1}{2} R_{\beta,2} R_{2\beta-2} \right] \tag{12}
\]

\[
A_{2\alpha} = -\frac{F_\beta}{2\pi m_\alpha} R_{\alpha,2} + \frac{F_\alpha}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ R_{\alpha,1}^2 - \frac{2}{3} R_{\alpha,1} R_{\alpha,3} - R_{\alpha,2} R_{\alpha+\beta,2} \right] \tag{13}
\]

\[
A_\beta = -\frac{F_\beta}{\pi m_\beta} R_{\beta,1} - \frac{F_\beta}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ \frac{1}{2} R_{\beta,1} R_{\beta,2} + \frac{1}{6} R_{\beta,2} R_{\beta,3} + 2 R_{\alpha,1} R_{\alpha+\beta,1} + 2 R_{\beta,1} R_{2\beta,1} \right] \tag{14}
\]

\[
A_{2\beta} = -\frac{F_\beta}{2\pi m_\beta} [R_{\beta,2} + 2 R_{2\beta,1}] + \frac{F_\beta}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ R_{\beta,1}^2 - \frac{2}{3} R_{\beta,1} R_{\beta,3} - \frac{1}{4} R_{\beta,2} R_{\beta,4} - R_{\alpha,2} R_{\alpha+\beta,2} + 2 R_{\alpha,1} R_{2\beta-\alpha,1} - R_{\beta,2} R_{2\beta,2} - R_{\beta,4} R_{2\beta,1} \right] \tag{15}
\]

\[
A_{\beta-\alpha} = -\frac{F_{\beta-\alpha}}{\pi m_\beta} [R_{\alpha,1} R_{\beta,1} + R_{\alpha,2} R_{\alpha+\beta,1} + R_{\beta,2} R_{\alpha+\beta,1} + R_{\beta,1} R_{2\beta-\alpha,1}] \tag{16}
\]

\[
A_{\beta+\alpha} = -\frac{2 F_{\beta+\alpha}}{\pi m_\beta} R_{\beta+\alpha,1} + \frac{F_{\beta+\alpha}}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ R_{\alpha,1} R_{\beta,1} - 2 R_{\alpha+\beta,2} R_{\alpha+\beta,1} - \frac{1}{3} R_{\beta,3} R_{2\beta-\alpha,1} \right] \tag{17}
\]

\[
A_{2\beta-\alpha} = -\frac{F_{2\beta-\alpha}}{\pi m_\beta} R_{2\beta-\alpha,1} - \frac{F_{2\beta-\alpha}}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ \frac{1}{2} R_{\alpha,1} R_{\beta,2} + \frac{1}{3} R_{\alpha,3} R_{\alpha+\beta,2} \right] \tag{18}
\]

\[
A_{2\beta-2\alpha} = -\frac{F_{2\beta-2\alpha}}{\pi m_\beta} \left[ 2 R_{\alpha,2} R_{2\beta,1} + 2 R_{\beta-\alpha,2} R_{2\beta,1} + 2 R_{\alpha,1} R_{2\beta-\alpha,1} + \frac{1}{2} R_{\alpha,4} R_{\alpha+\beta,2} + \frac{1}{2} R_{\alpha,2} R_{\beta,2} + \frac{1}{2} R_{\beta,2} R_{2\beta-\alpha,2} \right]. \quad (19)
\]

As discussed in Ref. [2], the leading term of Eqs. 12, 14 and 18, relevant to the classical orbits, \( \alpha, \beta \) and \( 2\beta - \alpha \), respectively, corresponds to the LK

\(^2\)In Ref. [2], all the Onsager phases are arbitrarily set as 0. For this reason, amplitudes in Eqs. 12, 14 and 18 have an opposite sign compared to the data in Ref. [2], accounting for the \( \pi \) dephasing reported in Table 1.
formalism. This statement also holds for $\beta + \alpha$, $2\alpha$ and $2\beta$ even though the second order terms may have magnitude close to the first order term, being able to yield non-monotonous field and temperature dependence. In the specific case of Eq. 15, the leading term involves the contributions of both the classical orbit $2\beta$ displayed in Fig. 1 and the second harmonics of $\beta$ which are accounted for by the damping factors $R_{2\beta,1}$ and $R_{\beta,2}$, respectively. In contrast, there is no first order term entering Eqs. 16 and 19 relevant to $\beta - \alpha$ and its second harmonics, respectively, since these Fourier components correspond to 'forbidden frequencies'.

2.2. Onsager phase factor

Turn on now to the determination of the Onsager phase factors $\phi_\eta$ entering Eq. 11. Besides a phase factor $\varphi_\eta$, deduced from the classical orbits’ phases appearing in Eq. 2, an additional phase factor $\omega$ is added to $\varphi_\eta$ each time a quasiparticle is reflected at a MB junction. Indeed, according to Refs.
[5, 6, 8], the matrix for the incoming and outgoing wave-function amplitudes at each junction point is given by

\[ M = \begin{pmatrix} q_0e^{-i\omega} & ip_0 \\ ip_0 & q_0e^{i\omega} \end{pmatrix} \] (20)

with

\[ \omega(B) = -\frac{\pi}{4} + x \log(x) - x - \arg \Gamma(ix), \quad x = \frac{B_0}{2\pi B}. \] (21)

After a reflection, the quasi-particle amplitude takes a factor \( q_0 \exp(-i\omega) \) and \( q_0 \exp(i\omega) \) for quasi-particle path orientation clockwise and counterclockwise, respectively. As displayed in Fig. 2, \( \omega \) goes to zero at low field. In contrast, it takes noticeable values as the field is larger than \( B_0 \), going to \( \pi/4 \) at large field. For example, for \( B_0 = 35 \) T, and \( B = 55 \) T, that are relevant values for the compound studied in this paper, we obtain \( \omega = 0.16\pi \), which is not negligible, especially if the number of reflections events \( n_\eta^r \) is large. According to Eq. 20, the Onsager phase factor is given by

\[ \phi_\eta = \varphi_\eta - n_\eta^r \omega(B) \] (22)

The \( \varphi_\eta \) and \( n_\eta^r \) values relevant to the Fourier components appearing in Eqs. 12 to 19 are given in Table 1. We notice in particular that the index \( n_\eta^r \) can be negative, due to algebraic combinations of the individual phases present in the sine function of Eq. 10. It can also be remarked that the Fourier component with frequency \( F_2\beta \) arises from the second harmonics of \( \beta \) and the \( 2\beta \) orbit displayed in Fig. 1. Nevertheless, these two contributions have the same Onsager phase. Besides, for a given \( \eta \) Fourier component, all the involved second order terms (see Eqs. 12 to 19) can be viewed as arising from algebraic combinations of classical orbits yielding the same Onsager phase.

3. Experimental

Field- and temperature-dependent magnetic torque of the considered crystal was studied in Ref. [2]. It was synthesized by electrocrystallization technique as reported in Ref. [9]. Its size is approximately \( 0.12 \times 0.1 \times 0.04 \text{ mm}^3 \). Recall that magnetic torque was measured with a commercial piezoresistive microcantilever, in pulsed magnetic fields of up to 55 T with a pulse decay
Table 1: Onsager phase factors predicted by Eq. 22 for the various Fourier components considered for the data analysis and $\varphi_\eta/\pi$ values accounting for the best fits of Eqs. 12 to 19 to the oscillatory torque data in the temperature range 1.4 - 4.2 K (see Fig. 3 for the data at 1.4 K), assuming either constant (assumption (i): $n^r_\eta = 0$ in Eq. 22) or field-dependent Onsager phase factor (assumption (ii)).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fourier component</th>
<th>Predicted (Eq. 22) fittings $\varphi_\eta = \varphi_\eta$</th>
<th>$n^r_\eta$</th>
<th>$\varphi_\eta/\pi$</th>
<th>F (T)</th>
<th>$\varphi_\eta/\pi$</th>
<th>$\varphi_\eta = \varphi_\eta - n^r_\eta\omega$</th>
<th>F (T)</th>
<th>$\varphi_\eta/\pi$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\alpha$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>949.7 ± 1.2</td>
<td>0.75 ± 0.04</td>
<td>947.3 ± 1.4</td>
<td>1.16 ± 0.05</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2\alpha$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>-0.52 ± 0.21</td>
<td>-0.06 ± 0.21</td>
<td>0.30 ± 0.13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\beta - \alpha$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>0.35 ± 0.21</td>
<td></td>
<td>4631 ± 6</td>
<td>1.08 ± 0.19</td>
<td>4631 ± 6</td>
<td>1.08 ± 0.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\beta$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4631 ± 6</td>
<td>1.08 ± 0.19</td>
<td>1.08 ± 0.19</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\beta + \alpha$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-0.7 ± 0.8</td>
<td>-0.3 ± 0.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2\beta - 2\alpha$</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-4</td>
<td>0.5 ± 0.7</td>
<td>-0.3 ± 0.7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2\beta - \alpha$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>-0.54 ± 0.34</td>
<td>1.05 ± 0.34</td>
<td>1.1 ± 0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$2\beta$</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.1 ± 0.5</td>
<td>1.1 ± 0.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

duration of 0.32 s. Variations of the cantilever piezoresistance were measured in the temperature range from 1.4 K to 4.2 K with an ac excitation at a frequency of 63 kHz. The angle between the normal to the conducting plane and the magnetic field direction was $\theta = 7^\circ$.

4. Results and discussion

The field-dependent amplitudes $A_\eta$ of the various Fourier components entering the spectra can be analyzed on the basis of Eqs. 12 to 19, keeping in mind that they are related to torque oscillations amplitudes $A_\tau^\eta$ as $A_\eta = \tau_0 A_\tau^\eta/(B\tan\theta)$ where $\tau_0$ is a prefactor depending of the cantilever stiffness, crystal mass, etc.. Onsager phase factors are considered within the assumptions of (i) constant ($n^r_\eta = 0$, i.e. $\phi_\eta = \varphi_\eta$ in Eq. 22) and (ii) field-dependent $\phi_\eta$.

The field range above 20 T, in which dHvA oscillations are observed is considered for the data analysis. As discussed above, numerous physical parameters enter the oscillatory spectra. In order to reduce the number of free parameters for the fittings, effective masses ($m_\alpha = 1.81$, $m_\beta = 3.52$), MB field ($B_0 = 35$ T) and Dingle temperature ($T_D = 0.79$ K for all the classical orbits) are taken from Ref. [2] and kept fixed. Besides, the effective Landé factor is assumed to be the same for all the orbits ($g_\eta = g^*$). As a result, besides prefactors $\tau_0$ and the Landé factor $g^*$, only the two frequencies $F_\alpha$
Figure 3: (Color online) Oscillatory torque data at 1.4 K (solid circles) and best fit of Eqs. 12 to 19 (green solid line). The residuals (open squares) and the various Fourier components entering the fittings (solid lines) are shifted down from each other.
and $F_\beta$ and the various field-independent parts of the Onsager phase factors $\varphi_\eta$ are free parameters.

As an example, the high field range of the data measured at 1.4 K are reported in Fig. 3. Best fits obtained within either assumptions (i) or (ii) are indiscernible to the naked eye in the field range considered for the data analysis, even though, strictly speaking, oscillations are no more periodic in $1/B$ within Eq. 22. Actually, it can be checked that, due to the limited field range in which oscillations are observed, Fourier transforms of the best fits obtained within either the assumption of (i) constant or (ii) field-dependent Onsager phase, are indiscernible, as well. The deduced effective Landé factor is $g^* = 1.9 \pm 0.2$, in agreement with the reported value of Ref. [2]. Deduced values of $\varphi_\eta$, $F_\alpha$ and $F_\beta$ are given in Table 1.

As expected, $F_\beta$, $\varphi_\beta$ and $\varphi_{2\beta}$ are insensitive to the considered assumption (i) or (ii) since only tunnelings enter $\beta$ and $2\beta$ orbits ($n_\beta = 0$ and $n_{2\beta} = 0$ in Eq. 22). In addition, $\varphi_\beta$ is in agreement with the predicted value within the error bars. This is also the case of $\varphi_{2\beta}$ although a large uncertainty is obtained due to the small amplitude of this Fourier component (see Fig. 3).

In contrast, the value of both the frequency $F_\alpha$ and Onsager phases of the Fourier components involving $\alpha$ depend on the considered assumption (i) or (ii). Crudely speaking, the $F_\alpha$ value deduced from fittings within assumption (ii) accommodates to compensate the field-dependent phase. However, the observed change is small and remains within the uncertainty. Not any of these Onsager phase values, deduced within assumption (i), are in agreement with the predictions (see Table 1). In other words, field-independent Onsager phases given by $\pi/2$ times the number of orbit extrema in $k$-space cannot account for the data. Assuming a field-dependent phase factor, $\varphi_\alpha$ and $\varphi_{2\alpha}$ come much closer to the predictions of the model, even though the discrepancy with the predicted values are still slightly off the error bars. Besides, $\varphi_{\beta-\alpha}$ and $\varphi_{2\beta-2\alpha}$ are in very good agreement with the predictions. This statement also stands for $\varphi_{\beta+\alpha}$ and $\varphi_{2\beta-2\alpha}$ albeit the error bars are very large due to the small amplitude of these Fourier components.

5. Conclusion

Many years ago, theoretical calculations predicted that Onsager phase factor of quantum oscillations includes a field-dependent part in the case of a magnetic breakdown orbit with reflections [5, 6, 8]. To our best knowl-
edge, this feature was only considered in the case of Cd [7] which is a three-dimensional elemental metal.

It is demonstrated that field-dependent phase is necessary to account for the oscillatory spectrum of the two-dimensional organic metal $\theta$-(BEDT-TTF)$_4$CoBr$_4$($C_6H_4Cl_2$). The Fermi surface of this compound achieves the network of coupled orbits model proposed by Pippard more than fifty years ago[1] which is relevant for many organic compounds. In agreement with the above mentioned theoretical predictions, magnetic breakdown orbits involving reflections, namely all the orbits including the $\alpha$ component for the considered Fermi surface topology, are accounted for by field-dependent Onsager phase factors. This result confirms that field-dependent phase factor is a general feature of magnetic breakdown orbits.

As a result, the value of $F_\alpha$ deduced within Eq. 22 is slightly reduced compared to the value derived assuming constant Onsager phases (i.e. through either direct fitting assuming $\phi_\eta = \varphi_\eta$ or Fourier analysis of the data), even though the observed discrepancy stays within the error bars. Despite field-dependent phase factors, the magnetic oscillations periodicity in $1/B$ is preserved, within the experimental uncertainty. This behaviour is likely due to the relatively small field range considered (20 T to 55 T). Obviously, keeping in mind that the magnetic breakdown field of the studied compound is rather large ($B_0 = 35$ T), larger effects are expected for compounds with smaller magnetic breakdown field.

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References


