

Contents

1	Introduction	1
	References	4
2	Background Physics	7
2.1	Itinerant Electron Systems	7
2.1.1	Non-interacting Electron Theory	8
2.1.2	Magnetic Field Effects	12
2.1.3	Electric Transport	17
2.1.4	The Fermi Liquid	18
2.1.5	Beyond the Fermi Liquid	20
2.2	The Physics of the Ruthenate Family	24
2.2.1	Crystal Structure and Synthesis	24
2.2.2	Thermodynamic Properties and Magnetic Phase Diagram	25
2.2.3	Electronic Structure Properties	34
2.3	Summary	41
	References	42
3	Thermodynamic Measurements of Entropy	45
3.1	General Considerations on Thermodynamics in Magnetic Fields	46
3.1.1	The Laws of Thermodynamics for Magnetic Systems ...	46
3.1.2	Phase Transitions	49
3.2	Experimental Consequences	50
3.2.1	Principle of Specific Heat Measurements	51
3.2.2	Magnetocaloric Measurements	56
	References	63
4	Design and Characterisation of Novel Experimental Setup	65
4.1	Measurement Environment and Sample Holder	65

4.2	Design of Experimental Setup	67
4.2.1	Design Goals and Experimental Realisation	67
4.2.2	Sample Platform and Thermal Bath.	68
4.2.3	Thermometer	70
4.2.4	Heater	71
4.2.5	Estimates of Thermal Performance	72
4.3	Thermometry	75
4.3.1	Physical Properties of Thermometers.	75
4.3.2	Thermometer Calibration	78
4.4	Characterisation Run With Sr_2RuO_4	82
4.4.1	Sample	83
4.4.2	Specific Heat in Field	83
4.4.3	Specific Heat at Zero Field	86
4.4.4	Magnetocaloric Oscillations	86
4.5	Characteristics and Details of Measurements on $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_7$	88
4.5.1	Sample Selection	88
4.5.2	Thermal Link	89
4.5.3	Specific Heat	90
	References	91
5	Experimental Results and Discussion	93
5.1	Caloric Studies of Magnetic Phase Transitions in $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_7$	94
5.1.1	Evolution of Entropy across Phase Transitions as a Function of Field	94
5.1.2	Specific Heat Signature of Phase Transitions	101
5.1.3	Discussion	104
5.2	The Low and High Field States of $\text{Sr}_3\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_7$	112
5.2.1	The Low Field Fermi Liquid State	112
5.2.2	The High Field Fermi Liquid State	117
5.2.3	Discussion	119
	References	129
6	Conclusions and Future Work	133
	References	137
7	Appendices	139
7.1	Appendix A: Material Properties	139
7.2	Appendix B: Angular Dependence of the Magnetocaloric Signal.	139
7.2.1	Study at 19°	141
7.2.2	Study in the <i>ab</i> -Plane	142
	References	144