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- 24. We recorded dissociation constants using two main methods: by titration of HA against yeast surface-displayed designs and by fitting both kinetic and equilibrium measurements using surface plasmon resonance. As there is a discrepancy in determining K_d values between the methods, measurements derived from yeast surface-display titrations are listed as apparent K_d and should be viewed qualitatively (14).
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- Itable 34 and SOM text).
 HB36.3 was not able to block the pH-induced conformational changes in the H1 and H5 HAs under identical assay conditions, even though HB36.3 and HB80.3 have very similar dissociation constants and kinetic off-rates at pH 7.5 (fig. S12 and SOM text).
- Single-letter abbreviations for the amino acid residues are as follows: A, Ala; C, Cys; D, Asp; E, Glu; F, Phe; G, Gly; H, His; I, Ile; K, Lys; L, Leu; M, Met; N, Asn; P, Pro;
- Q, Gln; R, Arg; S, Ser; T, Thr; V, Val; W, Trp; and Y, Tyr. Acknowledgments. Computational designs were generated
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SOM Text Figs. S1 to S12 Tables S1 to S7 References

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REPORTS

Interplay of Rotational, Relaxational, and Shear Dynamics in Solid ⁴He

E. J. Pratt, ^{1,2}* B. Hunt, ^{1,3}* V. Gadagkar, ¹ M. Yamashita, ⁴ M. J. Graf, ⁵ A. V. Balatsky, ⁵ J. C. Davis^{1,6,7}†

Using a high-sensitivity torsional oscillator (TO) technique, we mapped the rotational and relaxational dynamics of solid helium-4 (⁴He) throughout the parameter range of the proposed supersolidity. We found evidence that the same microscopic excitations controlling the torsional oscillator motions are generated independently by thermal and mechanical stimulation. Moreover, a measure for the relaxation times of these excitations diverges smoothly without any indication for a critical temperature or critical velocity of a supersolid transition. Finally, we demonstrated that the combined temperature-velocity dependence of the TO response is indistinguishable from the combined temperature-strain dependence of the solid's shear modulus. This implies that the rotational responses of solid ⁴He attributed to supersolidity are associated with generation of the same microscopic excitations as those produced by direct shear strain.

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Signatures in the heat capacity ascribed to supersolidity also occur in this same temperature range (12). However, direct mass-flow studies detect maximum currents that are far smaller than those implied by the TO experiments (13–15). Moreover, the temperature dependence of the resonance frequency $f(T) = \omega(T)/2\pi$ of TOs containing solid ⁴He (3–11) resembles closely that of its shear modulus $\mu(T)$ (16). Coincident with the maximum rates of increase of f(T) and $\mu(T)$ are maxima in TO dissipation (4–6, 8, 9) and

shear dissipation (16, 17), respectively. Such effects should not exist during a bulk Bose-Einstein condensation transition, although they do occur in the Berezinskii-Kosterlitz-Thouless (BKT) transition of a superfluid film (18) [see Supporting Online Material (SOM) section I (19)]. Finally, the increases in both f and μ are quickly extinguished by increasing TO maximum rim velocity V (3–8, 10) or shear strain ε (16, 20), respectively.

Several theoretical models have been proposed to explain the unexpectedly complex rotational dynamics of solid ⁴He. The first is a simple supersolid (*1*) in which Bose-Einstein condensation of vacancies produces an inter-

†To whom correspondence should be addressed. E-mail: jcdavis@ccmr.cornell.edu

¹Laboratory for Atomic and Solid State Physics, Department of Physics, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, USA. ²Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93016, USA. ³Department of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. ⁴Department of Physics, Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8502, Japan. ⁵Theoretical Division and Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies, Los Alamos National Laboratory, Los Alamos, NM 87545, USA. ⁶Condensed Matter Physics and Materials Science Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory, Upton, NY 11973, USA. ⁷School of Physics and Astronomy, University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9SS, UK.

^{*}These authors contributed equally to this work.

Fig. 1. TO resonant frequency shift f(T) (**A**) and dissipation data (**B**) mapped throughout the *V*-*T* plane. Ninety-eight free inertial decay curves (each at a different temperature) were smoothly interpolated into the two color-coded surfaces displayed here on identical log-log axes. The low-velocity maximum frequency shift (~30 mHz) would correspond to a superfluid fraction of 5.6%.

Fig. 2. (A) TO resonant frequency shift f(T)measured at lowest rim velocity. T* is defined as the temperature at which 50% of the frequency change has occurred (Fig. 1). (B) TO resonant frequency shift $f(\sqrt{V})$ measured at lowest temperature. V* is defined as the rim velocity at which 50% of the frequency change has occurred (Fig. 1). (C) TO dissipation D(T) measured at lowest rim velocity. (**D**) TO dissipation $D(\sqrt{V})$ measured at lowest temperature. (E) The empirical measure of microscopic relaxation times $\omega_0 \tau_F(T)|_{V \to 0}$ from data in Fig. 2, A and C. The inset shows the equivalent analysis using Eq. 3 for the BKT transition of a superfluid ⁴He film (see SOM section I). (F) The empirical measure of microscopic relaxation times $\omega_0 \tau_E(V)|_{T \to 0}$ from data in Fig. 2, B and D. It diverges smoothly as V^{λ} with $\lambda = -1.17 \pm 0.05$.



 $f - f(\infty)$ (mHz)

10

5

A

1000

D (x10⁻⁶)

В

1000

penetrating superfluid with well-defined T_c and V_c . The second is an incipient supersolid lacking long-range phase coherence (21, 22). A third class of model posits disorder-induced superfluidity (9, 23–29). The final proposal is that solid ⁴He contains a population of inertially active crystal excitations (30–35), whose relaxation time τ lengthens smoothly with falling T and V.

These excitations are variously proposed to be a dynamical network of pinned dislocations (17, 30, 35), atomic-scale tunneling two-level systems (34), or the glassy response of defects distributed throughout the solid (31–33). All models positing inertially active crystal excitations have the property that, as $\tau(T)$ passes through the condition $\omega \tau = 1$, a strong maximum in |df/dT|



Fig. 3. (**A**) All of the TO dynamical responses throughout the *V*-*T* plane [f(T,V) from Fig. 1A and D(T,V) from Fig. 1B] are collapsed onto just two curves (very similar in structure to the $\operatorname{Re}(\chi^{-1})$ and $\operatorname{Im}(\chi^{-1})$ components of the Debye susceptibility) by plotting $f[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$ and $D[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$ (SOM section IV). Here, we find that $\operatorname{Re}(\chi^{-1}) \simeq f[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$ is always too large, in comparison with $\operatorname{Im}(\chi^{-1}) \simeq D[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$, to be explained quantitatively by a Debye susceptibility model; this point has been used to motivate a "superglass" hypothesis (9). (**B**) A comprehensive map of empirical relaxation times $\omega_0 \tau_E(T,V)$ deduced using Eq. 3 represented as a surface in the $\log T$ - $\log V$ plane. The equally spaced contour lines in $\log \omega_0 t_E(T,V)$ reveal the underlying divergence of $\omega_0 \tau_E(T,V)$ as combined power laws $[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$.



Fig. 4. (**A**) Plots of our simultaneously measured $f(T)|_{V \to 0}$ (open circles) and $f(V^{\gamma})|_{T \to 0}$ (filled squares) from Figs. 1 and 2. (**B**) Simultaneous plots of measured $\mu(T)|_{\epsilon \to 0}$ (open circles) and $\mu(\epsilon^{\gamma})|_{T \to 0}$ (filled squares) from (20) acquired at 2000 Hz.

and TO dissipation *D* should occur (9, 31–35), even though there is no supersolid T_c and V_c . By contrast, a bulk superfluid phase transition should exhibit clear signatures of both T_c and V_c (2). One way to distinguish between such models is to determine the evolution of microscopic relaxational time constants τ , in search of either the smoothly diverging τ of a system governed by $\omega \tau = 1$ phenomenology or the sudden changes expected in τ at a thermodynamic T_c and/or V_c .

An unbiased approach to TO studies of solid ⁴He can be achieved by using the TO rotational susceptibility $\chi(\omega,T) = \theta(\omega,T)/\Gamma(\omega)$ (9). Here, $\theta(\omega,T)$ represents the amplitude of angular displacement as a function of ω and *T* in response to a harmonic torque $\Gamma(\omega)$ of constant magnitude. Then (*31–33*)

$$\chi^{-1}(\omega,T) = K - I\omega^2 - i\gamma\omega - \chi^{-1}_{4He}(\omega,T) \quad (1)$$

represents the properties of the bare TO plus the "back action" of the solid ⁴He upon it through the solid's rotational susceptibility $\chi_{Affe}^{-1}(\omega, T)$. Here, *I* is the combined moment of inertia of the TO plus ⁴He at zero temperature, *K* is the torsional spring constant, and γ is the TO damping constant. To clarify these concepts, we consider a Debye rotational susceptibility $\chi_{Affe}^{-1}(T) = g/[1 - i\omega_0 \tau(T)]$ (9, 31–33) with relaxational time constants $\tau(T)$ increasing with decreasing *T*. For this susceptibility

$$\frac{\operatorname{Im}(\chi_{4He}^{-1})}{\operatorname{Re}(\chi_{4He}^{-1})} = \frac{D(T)f(0)}{2[f(0) - f(T)]} = \omega_0 \tau(T) \quad (2)$$

where $\operatorname{Re}(\chi_{4He}^{-1})$ and $\operatorname{Im}(\chi_{4He}^{-1})$ are its real and imaginary parts, respectively (32), and $D(T) = Q^{-1}(T) - Q^{-1}(T \rightarrow \infty)$ is the inverse contribution to the TO quality factor Q from the solid ⁴He. Access to $\tau(T)$ for the microscopic excitations is therefore possible in principle from measurements of $\operatorname{Re}(\chi_{4He}^{-1})$ and $\operatorname{Im}(\chi_{4He}^{-1})$.

Following this approach, we mapped the rotational susceptibility of a TO containing solid ⁴He throughout the *V*-*T* plane (SOM section II). The results in Fig. 1, A and B, reveal immediately that the frequency increase and dissipation peak are bounded by closely corresponding V-T contours. Thus, the same unexplained dissipation seen with falling temperature near the proposed supersolid T_c is found also with diminishing V in the range of the proposed (3, 4) supersolid V_{c} . The highly similar contours of both f(T, V) and D(T,V) also reveal that the maxima in |df/dT| and D are always linked, as if controlled by some combined function of T and V. Similar results were observed in all three distinct solid ⁴He samples studied.

Next, we compared the solid ⁴He rotational dynamics versus T as $V \rightarrow 0$ to those versus $V^{0.5}$ as $T \rightarrow 0$ (the rationale for $V^{0.5}$ will become clear below). Figure 2, A and C, shows $f(T)|_{V \rightarrow 0}$ and $D(T)|_{V \rightarrow 0}$, whereas Fig. 2, B and D, shows $f(V)|_{T \rightarrow 0}$ and $D(V)|_{T \rightarrow 0}$ (Fig. 1 data used are identified in fig. S5). Figure 2 reveals a striking and unexpected similarity between the results of what, for a simple superfluid, would be two com-

pletely different experiments (one stimulating the sample thermally and the other mechanically). To examine this, we define an empirical measure τ_E of relaxation times for any combination of *T* and *V*.

$$\tau_E(T,V) = \frac{D(T,V) f(0)}{2\omega_0[f(0) - f(T,V)]}$$
(3)

In Fig. 2E, we show $\log \tau_E(T)$ plotted versus $\log(T/T^*)$ for the lowest rim velocity data (Fig. 2, A and C). In Fig. 2F, $\log \tau_E(V)$ is likewise plotted versus $\log(V/V^*)$ for the lowest temperature data (Figs. 2, B and D). Here, we define T^* and V^* as the temperature and rim velocity, respectively, at which half the total frequency shift has occurred (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2, A and B). This analysis reveals that the τ_E diverges smoothly as T^{ζ} with $\zeta = -2.75 \pm 0.1$ when $V \rightarrow 0$ and as V^{λ} with $\lambda = -1.17 \pm 0.05$ when $T \rightarrow 0$. Thus, the effects of temperature on $f(T)|_{V\to 0}$ and $D(T)|_{V\to 0}$ appear identical to those of rim velocity on $f(V^{\gamma})|_{T\to 0}$ and $D(V^{\gamma})|_{T\to 0}$, respectively, where $\gamma = \lambda/\zeta = 0.43$ is the ratio of power-law exponents. Figure 2, E and F, also shows that no matter how complex the actual rotational dynamics (Fig. 2, A to D), the peak in D is always canceled by the peak in |df/dT| to produce smoothly diverging functions $\tau_E(T)|_{V\to 0}$ and $\tau_E(V)|_{T\to 0}$ (fig. S7). Microscopic relaxational processes represented by τ_E should change dramatically at a superfluid phase transition; an excellent example of this is seen in $\tau_F(T)$ at the BKT superfluid phase transition of liquid ⁴He, shown in the inset to Fig. 2E (fig. S1). However, no indications of the sudden change that would signify the supersolid $T_{\rm c}$ or $V_{\rm c}$ exist in Fig. 2, E and F. Instead, τ_E exhibits everywhere the smooth divergence expected in $\omega \tau = 1$ models.

Figures 1 and 2 provide direct empirical evidence that the effects of *T* and *V* on the TO are intimately related to each other. One may therefore ask whether a single Debye-like rotational susceptibility could describe the whole *V*-*T* plane dynamics in Fig. 1 when the effects of *V* on the relaxation time τ are correctly incorporated. Hypothesizing a total relaxation rate $1/\tau(T, V)$ due to a combination of two effects

$$\frac{1}{\tau(T,V)} = \frac{1}{\tau(T)} + \frac{1}{\tau(V)}$$
(4)

along with the knowledge that the overall phenomenology appears identical as a function of $T^{\zeta}|_{V \to 0}$ and $V^{\lambda}|_{T \to 0}$ (Fig. 2) and interpolates smoothly between these limits (Fig. 1), yields an ansatz.

$$\frac{1}{\tau(T,V)} = \frac{\Sigma}{T^{\zeta}} + \frac{\Lambda}{V^{\lambda}}$$
(5)

Here, Σ and Λ quantify the relative contributions to the relaxation rate from thermally and mechanically stimulated excitations (SOM section IV). Figure 3A shows that by using this ansatz, virtually all the complex solid ⁴He rotational dynamics in *f*(*T*,*V*) and *D*(*T*,*V*) of Fig. 1 can be collapsed onto just two functions, Re(χ^{-1}) and Im(χ^{-1}), merely by plotting $f[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$ and $D[(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}]$. Moreover, this apparent unification of rotational dynamics implies that Eq. 3 could yield a comprehensive image of $\tau_E(T,V)$ throughout the *V*-*T* plane by dividing all the data in Fig. 1B by that in Fig. 1A, as shown in Fig. 3B. Although the proposed *V*-*T* ranges for a supersolid phase transition (3, 4, 12) are at or below the dashed T^* - V^* contour, the τ_E surface exhibits everywhere the smoothly diverging relaxation processes expected in $\omega \tau = 1$ models. We emphasize here that all the above results (Figs. 1 to 3) are independent of any choice of $\chi_{4He}^{-1}(T,V)$ and therefore strongly constrain eventual microscopic models for the dynamics of solid ⁴He.

Figures 1 and 2 provide evidence that the identical microscopic excitations are being generated by thermal and mechanical stimulation and that the overall rotational dynamics in f(V,T) and D(V,T) are consistent with a single $\omega \tau = 1$ mechanism that is controlled by a relaxation rate $(T^*/T)^{\zeta} + (V^*/V)^{\lambda}$ due to the combined influences from these two sources (Fig. 3). Because these unified dynamics also appear inconsistent with expectations for $T_{\rm c}$ or $V_{\rm c}$ of a superfluid transition (2), one must ask which model could account for them. Because the solid ⁴He shear modulus $\mu(T)$ exhibits a very similar temperature dependence to f(T) (16), and because this shear stiffening effect is extinguished by a characteristic strain as opposed to a critical velocity (20), a key question has been whether excitations generated by direct shearing are the same as those controlling the TO dynamics.

Our approach provides an opportunity to address this issue. If crystal excitations induced by inertial strain ε in the TO (where $\varepsilon \propto V$) are the cause of the anomalous rotational dynamics, then the indistinguishable structure of $f(T)|_{V\to 0}$ and $f(V^{\gamma})|_{T\to 0}$ (Fig. 4A) should be mirrored by an equivalently indistinguishable relationship in shear modulus between $\mu(T)|_{\epsilon \to 0}$ and $\mu(\epsilon^{\gamma})|_{T \to 0}$. When the measured μ from (20) is plotted simultaneously versus T and ε^{γ} in Fig. 4B (using the power-law ratio y derived from our TO studies), this is precisely what we find. That the combined temperature-velocity dependence of the TO response mirrors quantitatively the combined temperature-strain dependence of the shear modulus, along with the original observation that $\mu(T)$ tracks f(T) (16), implies that the rotational dynamics of solid ⁴He are associated with the generation (presumably by inertial shearing) of the same type of microscopic excitations that are generated by direct shear strain ε . These conclusions appear to be in good accord with the observed smoothly diverging microscopic relaxation times as expected of $\omega \tau = 1$ models (Fig. 3) and with the absence of a signature in $\tau_E(T,V)$ for the $T_{\rm c}$ or $V_{\rm c}$ of a supersolid phase transition (Figs. 2 and 3). These results will motivate efforts to (i) identify directly whether the microscopic excitations are crystal dislocations as implied and (ii) determine whether they admit any associated zero-frequency contribution to the rotational susceptibility that would represent a superfluid component (9).

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Figs. S1 to S7

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