Superconductivity in the Nb₅Si₂B compound

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We present the superconducting properties of the Nb₅Si₂B compound based on magnetization, electrical resistivity, specific heat and thermopower data. The superconductivity in Nb₅Si₂B is of the second type with superconducting transition temperature $T_c = 8.5$ K. The upper critical field ($\mu_0 H_{c2}$) exhibits linear dependence on temperature and reaches a value of 2.4 T in zero temperature. The zero-temperature value of the lower critical field ($\mu_0 H_{c1}$) is equal to 55.6 Oe. From the values of the critical fields other basic parameters of this superconductor were estimated: the coherence length $\xi = 115$ Å, the penetration depth $\lambda = 3066$ Å and the Ginzburg-Landau coefficient $\kappa = 26.6$. The thermoelectric power S(T) shows a linear temperature dependence in the 36-300 K range, with the negative value of S(T) indicating electrons as the charge carriers in this temperature range. In temperatures 2-8 K thermoelectric power exhibits a positive value with $S_{max} = 0.73 \mu V/K$ in T = 2 K.