method to obtain accurate lattice parameters. The Meisnner effect was also measured to determine the $T_c$. The change in the lattice parameter of Ba$_{0.6}$K$_{0.4}$BiO$_3$ could be detected at $T_c$, which can be attributed to the spontaneous strain in the superconducting phase. We can conclude that this phenomenon is common to all superconductors.


Keywords: spontaneous strain, superconductors, phenomenological theory

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Neutron diffraction study of quantum effects on structural phase transition in quartz

Makoto Hayashi¹, Fujishita Hideshi¹, Kanai Takashi¹, Yahada Takahiro¹, Igawa Naoki², Kihara Kuniaki³

¹Kanazawa University, kakuma-machi, Kanazawa, Ishikawa, 920-1192, Japan, ²Japan Atomic Energy Agency, 3-Kyukai, Tokai-mura, Naka-gun, Ibaraki 319-1195, Japan, E-mail: phy.rm@stn.kanazawa-u.ac.jp

A phenomenological theory describes the temperature dependences of the order parameter $Q$, which is atomic shifts in displacive structural phase transition, and of strain $\epsilon$, which is coupled to $Q$, near a phase transition. We can describe their temperature dependences at low temperature if we use the quantum expansion of a potential [1]. We carried out the X-ray structure analysis of quartz, which shows a structural phase transition at approximately 850K, at various temperatures between 298 and 1126K using a single crystal [2]. The atomic shift of Si and the change in the strain were showed to obey the classical phenomenological theory. Recently, Romero and Salje have carried out a precise X-ray lattice parameter measurement of quartz in the temperature range of 30-300K [3]. They showed that the strain obeys the quantum phenomenological theory with a characteristic temperature of 187K. Direct evaluation of the quantum phenomenological theory by measuring the order parameter in the entire temperature range is required to verify the effectiveness of the theory. We carried out the structure analysis of quartz by powder neutron diffraction at several temperatures in the temperature range of 10-250K. Powder neutron diffraction patterns were obtained using a high-resolution powder diffractometer with 64 detectors. The diffraction patterns were analyzed by the Rietveld method. Squares of the shift of the Si atom along the a-direction and the strain were shown to obey the Rietveld method. Direct evaluation of the quantum phenomenological theory by measuring the order parameter in the entire temperature range is required to verify the effectiveness of the theory. We carried out the structure analysis of quartz by powder neutron diffraction at several temperatures in the temperature range of 10-250K. Powder neutron diffraction patterns were obtained using a high-resolution powder diffractometer with 64 detectors. The diffraction patterns were analyzed by the Rietveld method. Squares of the shift of the Si atom along the a-direction and the strain were shown to obey the Rietveld method.

Keywords: quartz, structure analysis, quantum expansion of Landau potential

**P08.06.41**


Effect of temperature and pressure on the crystal structure of NaV$_2$O$_5$

Karen Friese¹, Yasushi Kanke², Wolfgang Morgenroth¹, Andy N Fitch³, Andrzej Grzechnik³

¹University of the Basque Country, Department of Condensed Matter Physics, Faculty of Science and Technology, Apdo.644, Bilbao, Vizcaya, 48080, Spain, ²Advanced Nano Materials Laboratory, National Institute for Materials Science, 1-1 Namiki, Tsukuba, Ibaraki 305-0044, Japan, ³Department of Chemistry, Aarhus University, Denmark, ⁴Materials Science Group, European Synchrotron Radiation Facility, BP 220, F-38043 Grenoble Cedex, France, E-mail: karen.friese@ehu.es

Since the discovery of its anomalus resistivity and ferrimagnetism, NaV$_2$O$_5$ received wide interest. Its structure (P6$_3$/mmc, Z = 2) consists of hcp layers of O and Na atoms. V(1)O$_6$ octahedra form a Kagome; lattice, while V(2)O$_6$ octahedra form a face-sharing dimer. V(3) cations are five-fold coordinated to oxygen. The compound shows two structural phase transitions at 243K (P6$_3$/mmc ---

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P060mc) and 80K (P63mc --- Cmc21). In the P60mc phase, the V(1) O₆ octahedra form trimers with a regular triangular shape, below 80K they distort into isosceles triangles [1]. Below 64.2K, NaV₆O₁₄ exhibits a uniaxial magnetic anisotropy [2]. We performed low-temperature (down to 8 K at 10³ GPa) and high-pressure (up to 8.06 GPa at 298 K) powder and single-crystal x-ray diffraction in the home laboratory and at different synchrotron sources and could confirm the stability of the Cmc21 phase from 80 to 8 K. The high pressure data show that the hexagonal lattice is stable at least to 8.06 GPa at T = 298 K. The refinement of the single-crystal data based on symmetry mode analysis indicates the P60mc --- P63mc phase transition below 1 GPa. The volume of the V(1)O₆ octahedron is almost independent of the pressure. The V(2)O₆ octahedron expands, while the V(3)O₆ polyhedron shrinks on compression. In addition, the V(2)-V(2) distance shrinks. These observations indicate possible pressure-induced electron transfer from the V(3) to the V(2) cations. Symmetry mode analysis may serve as an aid for the restricted refinement of diffraction data with a small reflection-to-parameter ratio. As high-pressure data generally suffer from this problem, the potential of this method will be explored.


Keywords: phase transitions, mixed-valence transition-metal compounds, high-pressure crystallography

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A study of the octahedral tilting / cooperative Jahn-Teller transition in (Sr₀.₈Ce₀.₂)MnO₃

Christopher J. Howard¹, Zhaoming Zhang², Brendan J. Kennedy³, Motohide Matsuda⁴, Michihiro Miyake⁵

¹University of Newcastle, School of Engineering, University Drive, Callaghan, NSW, 2308, Australia, ²Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation, Private Mail Bag 1, Menai, NSW, 2234, Australia, ³School of Chemistry, The University of Sydney, NSW, 2006, Australia, ⁴Graduate School of Environmental Science, Okayama University, 3-1-1 Tsushima-Naka, Okayama 700-8530, Japan, E-mail: chrishoward@newcastle.edu.au

Previous room temperature measurements on the system (Sr₁₋ₓCeₓ)MnO₃ (Mn⁺⁺⁺₀.₈Mn⁺⁺₀.₂)O₃ have shown a Jahn-Teller distortion of the MnO₆ octahedron that is significant at x=0.1 (10% of the active Mn⁺⁺⁺ ion) but diminishes, somewhat unexpectedly, as the concentration of Mn⁺⁺⁺ is increased [1]. We have explored the effect further through comparative variable temperature diffraction studies on (Sr₁₋ₓCeₓ)MnO₃ (Mn⁺⁺⁺₀.₈Mn⁺⁺₀.₂)O₃ and (Sr₁₋ₓCeₓ)MnO₃(Sr⁺⁺⁺₀.₁Co⁺⁺⁺₀.₉)O₃ - the former contains a JT active ion (Mn⁺⁺⁺) whereas the latter does not. Both compounds show a transition from a cubic structure in Pm-3m (no tilting) to a tetragonal structure in I4/mcm (with tilting) at about 400 °C - this transition appears to be of tricritical form. The tilt angle and its temperature dependence are the same in each case. There is no evidence for a separate cooperative JT transition in the title compound - the effect of the JT is simply to lead to elongation of the MnO₆ octahedra below the transition observed. The reason that the JT distortion remains dimmished with increasing (Mn⁺⁺⁺) concentration is not yet understood.


Keywords: perovskite, phase transition, Jahn-Teller

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Direct atomic scale observation of photoinduced isomerization of realgar to pararealgar

Petre Makreski1, Pance Naumov1,2, Gligor Jovanovski1,3

1SS Cyril and Methodius University, Faculty of Science, Institute of Chemistry, P.O. Box 162, Arhimedova 5, MK-1001, Skopje, Macedonia, 2Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University, 2-1 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka 565-0871, Osaka, Japan, 3Macedonian Academy of Sciences and Arts, P.O. Box 428, MK-1001 Skopje, Macedonia, E-mail: petremak@inorna.pmf.ukim.edu.mk

The reaction mechanism underlying the photoinduced linkage isomerization of discrete arsenic-sulfur clusters in the realgar form of tetraarsenic tetrasulfide (alpha-As₄S₄) to its pararealgar form was studied on a natural specimen of the mineral with in situ single-crystal X-ray diffractometry [1]. The technique provided direct atomic-resolution evidence of formation of intermediate As₂S₃ phase in which half of the realgar molecule is retained in its envelope-type conformation, while the other half is transformed by effective switching of positions of one sulfur and one arsenic atom. The initiation and propagation stages of the process are studied under light and dark conditions, during and after photoexcitation with polychromatic visible light. In the light reaction stage, the interatomic and cell parameters averaged over the crystal volume and photoexcitation time remain almost unchanged. The residual electron density features are indicative for formation of a small amount of As₂S₃ clusters, which at this stage do not affect the overall crystalline order. In the dark reaction stage, a set of self-sustainable autocatalytic reactions results in strongly and nearly isotropic expansion of the unit cell. The structure in the dark stage represents direct evidence of formation of pararealgar which was obtained in yield of about 5% in the single-crystal realgar spectra. The cell expansion is due to increased mole ratio of clusters of pararealgar relative to realgar and to increased intercluster separation. Due to lattice incompatibility, a higher content of the product results in progressive decrease of crystal quality.


Keywords: X-ray diffraction, realgar and pararealgar, photochemistry

**P08.06.44**


Characterization of large nano-polycrystalline diamond synthesized by direct conversion of graphite

Hitoshi Sumiya¹, Katsuco Harano¹, Sato Takeshi², Tetsuo Irifune²

¹Sumitomo Electric Industries, Electronics Materials R&D Laboratories, 1-1-1, Koya- kita, Itami, Hyogo, 664-0016, Japan, ² Ehime University, Matsuyama, Ehime, 790-8577, Japan, E-mail: sumiya@sei.co.jp

High-purity nano-polycrystalline diamond (NPD) up to 5 mm in diameter and 8 mm in thickness with no cracks or contaminations has been successfully synthesized through direct conversion from graphite under a pressure of 15 GPa and a temperature of 2300 °C. A high-purity isotropic graphite rod was used as the starting material. The HPHT condition was generated with a large-sized Kawai-type graphite anvil apparatus. The NPD obtained by this method was found to have a light brownish color and are highly transparent. The brownish color is ascribed to a continuous absorption similar to that of natural brown diamond crystal. TEM observations and XRD analyses revealed that the NPD consists of nano-diamond particles (<100 nm)