Ismailia, Ismailia, 1234, Egypt, ²Al-Azhar University, Faculty of Sciences (Girls Branch), Physics Department, Cairo, Egypt., E-mail: vmabbas@hotmail.com

Nickel ferrite is an important high frequency magnetic material due to its ultrahigh resistivity. Nanocrystals of NiFe₂O₄ ferrite have been synthesized by the chemical co-precipitation of the amorphous metal hydroxides (under controlled pH values) . The prepared powders have been sintered at 800 C. Room temperature X-ray measurements of the prepared samples of NiFe₂O₄ reveal the production of single cubic phase with average crystallites size of about 30 nm, Results confirmed by transmission electron microscope (TEM) investigations. The lattice parameters, the oxygen position and the cation distribution have been determined by using Rietveld analysis. The study shows clearly surprising departure of the cation distribution from the known inverse distribution and reduce concentration of iron ions on tetrahedral sites, the degree of inversion is determined. The results of Mossbauer Effect spectroscopy (ME) and the Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (VSM) indicate the correlation between the magnetic properties and the nanocrystallinity of the investigated nickel ferrite.

Keywords: nanomagnetics, ferrites, magnetic - strucure properties

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Synthesis and intense blue luminescence of sodium yittrium fluoride microcrystals

Guangshe Li

Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter/Chinese Academy of Sciences, Nanomaterials research center, Yanggiao West Road 155, Fuzhou, Fujian, 350002, China, E-mail:guangshe@hotmail.com

NaYF₄:Eu²⁺ microcrystals with an intense blue luminescence were fabricated. Oleic acid and cetyltrimethylammonuim bromide were used as the surfactants to tune the morphology, while citric acid was taken as a ligand to stabilize the beta phase NaYF₄ and to reduce Eu³⁺ to Eu²⁺ for activation of blue luminescence. All as-prepared samples were found to crystallize in hexagonal rods or tubes. Both rods and tubes were capped with surfactants which enabled their stable dispersion in glycol to form transparent solutions. This observation seems to be the first example of the successful preparation of stable dispersion of micron luminescence solids. These transparent

solutions showed an intense blue luminescent emission of $\mathrm{Eu}^{\scriptscriptstyle 2+}$ with a quantum yield of about 14 percent. Finally, the mechanism for the fabrication of the rods and tubes as well as the reduction of Eu³⁺ ions was discussed



Keywords: hydrothermal synthesis, inorganic luminescence, surfactants

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Solid-state optical properties of CT complexes with ammonium anthracene-2,6-disulfonate and TCNB

Hiromi Nakajima, Norimitsu Tohnai, Ichiro Hisaki, Mikiji Miyata

Graduate School of Engineering, Osaka University, Department of Material and Life Science, GSE Common. East. 11 floor 2-1 Yamadaoka, Suita, Osaka, 5650816, Japan, E-mail : nakajima@molrec.mls.eng. osaka-u.ac.jp

The tuning of electronic properties by controlling the molecular arrangements in organic solid is an effective approach for both fundamental and practical research of the organic material. We have proposed that tunable solid-state optical properties of organic salts of anthracenedisulfonic(ADS) acid with aliphatic amines ascribed to arrangements of anthracene moieties. Recently we applied the tuning method to charge transfer (CT) complexes and founded that ammonium anthracene-2,6-disulfonate included 1,2,4,5-tetracyanobenzene(TCNB) to form CT complexes. Here we report several crystal structures and solid-state optical properties of the CT complexes composed of diisopropylamine, anthracene-2,6-disulfonate and TCNB. From crystallization under different conditions, we obtained three CT complex crystals, 1-3. X-ray structure analysis revealed that complex 2 and 3 have alternating stacks of 2,6ADS and TCNB molecules in which ratio are 1:1 and 1:2, respectively. On the other hand, Complex 1 has 1:1 segregated stacks. They showed very different solid-state optical properties depending on their different manners of molecular packing.



Keywords: charge-transfer complexes, solid-state spectroscopy, single-crystal X-ray analysis

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Crystal and magnetic structure of quantum spin-trimer compounds Ca₃Cu₃-xNix(PO₄)₄

Vladimir Yu. Pomjakushin¹, Albert Furrer¹, Ekaterina V. Pomjakushina^{1,2}, Denis V. Sheptyakov¹, Kazimierz Conder²

¹Lab for Neutron Scattering, ETH Zurich and PSI, PSI, Villigen, Villigen, Argau, CH-5232, Switzerland, ²Laboratory for Developments and Methods, PSI, 5232 Villigen, Switzerland, E-mail : vladimir. pomjakushin@psi.ch

 $Ca_3Cu_3(PO_4)_4$ is a novel quantum spin trimer system in which the three Cu^{2+} (S=1/2) spins are antiferromagnetically coupled giving rise to a doublet ground state (TN<1 K). By substituting a Cu^{2+} spin in the trimer by Ni²⁺ (S=1) a singlet ground state can eventually be realized offering for the first time the observation of the Bose-Einstein condensation (BEC) in a quantum spin trimer system. Neutron diffraction experiments with the powder samples of Ca₃Cu_{3-x}Ni_x(PO₄)₄ (x=1,2) have been carried out on HRPT and DMC instruments at SINQ to determine the arrangement of the Cu and Ni atoms in the trimers and to study possible magnetic ordering. The composition with one Ni per trimer (x=1) crystallizes in a monoclinic structure (sp. gr. P21/a, N14) with the cell parameters *a*=17.714 A, *b*=4.885 A, *c*=8.846 A and =123.845 at T=290K. Each trimer is formed by two crystallographic positions (2a) in the middle and (4e) at the ends of the timer. We found that the middle position is occupied by the Cu²⁺, whereas the end positions are statistically equally populated with the Cu2+ and Ni2+. Thus, the three different types of trimers are present: Cu-Cu-Cu, Ni-Cu-Ni and Ni-Cu-Cu. The x=2 composition crystallizes in the C2/c space group (N15) with the doubled unit cell along c-axis. The trimers were found to be of only one type Ni-Cu-Ni. Below TN=20 K a magnetic ordering with the propagation vector k=[1/2,1/2,0] has been found. The magnetic diffraction patterns are well described by the antiferromagnetic structure given by the irreducible representation 2 for both Ni (8f) and Cu (4b) sites. The exchange interactions within the trimers are dominated by Heisenberg-type nearest-neighbor interactions JCu-Cu=-4.92(6) meV, JCu-Ni=-0.85(10) meV and D Ni=-0.7(1) for x=2.

Keywords: magnetic structure, symmetry analysis, quantum system

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Temperature-dependent disordered structure of (BEDT-TTF)₃Cl₂.5H₂O

<u>Satoshi Nishikawa</u>¹, Shigefumi Yamamura¹, Yoko Sugawara¹, Michio M Matsushita², Tadashi Sugawara²

¹Kitasato University, School of Science, 1-15-1 Kitasato, Sagamihara, Kanagawa, 228-8555, Japan, ²Graduate School of Art and Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Komaba, Meguro, Tokyo 153-8902, Japan, E-mail : ms07819a@st.kitasato-u.ac.jp

Chlorine complexes of BEDT-TTF (bis(ethylenedithio) tetrathiafluvalene) crystallize as hydrates. Among them, (BEDT-TTF)₃Cl₂.5H₂O was obtained by electro-crystallization in the presence of a small amount of water. It showed a rectifying effect of resistivity. Temperature dependence of the resistivity showed hysteresis around 250K. The dynamic behaviour of chlorine ions and water molecules would correlate with the physical property. X-ray diffractions indicated significant disorder. The averaged structure had space group C2/c with four BEDT-TTF molecules per asymmetric unit. Organic layers of BEDT-TTF and inorganic layers of hydrated chlorine ions exist alternatively along the *c* axis. The observed characteristics of the X-ray diffractions were: For even values of *h* and *k*, the diffractions of $h\pm k=8n$ were strong c^* . For odd values of *h* and *k*, the diffractions of $h\pm k=8n$ were strong and *b* road on pd

and broadened along c^* at both 300K and 100K. The characteristics are explained by the stacking fault. The model of the disordered structure and its temperature dependence will be discussed.



Fig.1 Precession images of observed intensities at 100 K

Keywords: chlorine complex of BEDT-TTF, hydrate, disordered structure

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Observation of micrometric correlations in sliding incommensurate charge density waves

<u>Sylvain Ravy</u>¹, David Le Bolloc'h², Vincent Jacques^{1,2}, Natasha Kirova², Jean Dumas³, Jacques Marcus³, Frederic Livet⁴ ¹Synchrotron Soleil, L'Orme des merisiers, Saint Aubin, Gif-sur-Yvette, 91192, France, ²Laboratoire de physique des solides, CNRS-UMR8502, Universite Paris-sud, 91405 Orsay, France, ³Institut Neel, CNRS, 38402 Grenoble, France, ⁴Sciences et ingenierie des procedes, INP Grenoble, CNRS, 38402 St Martin d'Heres, France, E-mail : ravy@synchrotronsoleil.fr

We present a high resolution coherent diffraction experiment performed on the charge density wave (CDW) compound $K_{0.3}MoO_3$. The incommensurate satellite reflections associated with the CDW have been measured as a function of external direct currents. When the current exceeds a threshold value Is, the CDW slides as a whole. In this sliding regime, the very high resolution allows one to evidence secondary satellite reflections flanking the CDW reflections. The relative position of the secondary satellite is found to depend on the non-ohmic current, and corresponds to a long range order extending up to micrometers. We discuss the origin of this novel type of incommensurate structure.

D. Le Bolloc'h et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 100, 096403 (2008).



Keywords: incommensurate structures, charge density waves, high-resolution X-ray diffraction

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Pair distribution function analysis of nanosized materials

Michela Brunelli

ESRF, BP 220, Grenoble, France, 38043, France, E-mail:brunelli@esrf.fr

The pair distribution function analysis method is a powerful tool for the study of glasses, liquids and amorphous materials, as well as crystalline or partly crystalline materials. Recently, this method has found many applications in the study of local structure in crystalline materials, yielding crucial information about atomic-scale structures of nanosized materials. As traditional crystallography breaks down on the nanoscale, we need tools such as PDF to elucidate the structures of nanostructured materials.

Keywords: pdf analysis, nanomaterials, powder x-ray diffraction