

is known, the total energy due to the internal forces can be computed. The experimental data from electronic absorption spectra are compared with those estimated on the bases of theoretical estimations.

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## MAGNETIC AND ELECTRICAL PROPERTIES OF $\text{Ca}_2\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{Ni}_x\text{MoO}_6$ DOUBLE PEROVSKITES

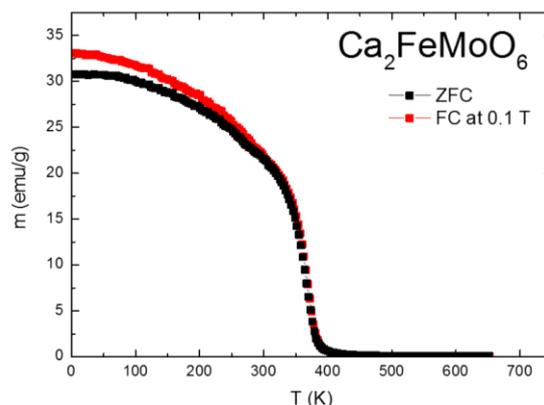
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The  $\text{Ca}_2\text{FeMoO}_6$  double perovskite is ferrimagnetically ordered, the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Mo}^{5+}$  magnetic moments being antiparallely oriented. No presence of  $\text{Ca}_2\text{NiMoO}_6$  compound has been reported. The above double perovskite was shown only in the strontium based system.

The  $\text{Ca}_2\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{Ni}_x\text{MoO}_6$  double perovskites have been prepared by solid state reaction. Solid solutions were obtained up to  $x = 0.2$ . Somewhat higher cobalt content ( $x = 0.5$ ) can be substituted in  $\text{Ca}_2\text{FeMoO}_6$ . The  $\text{Ca}_2\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{Ni}_x\text{MoO}_6$  ( $x \leq 0.2$ ) compounds crystallize in a monoclinic-type lattice, having  $P2_1/n$  space group. The lattice parameters increase as the nickel content is higher. From the composition dependence of the lattice parameters, a  $\text{Ni}^{2+}$  valence state is suggested. Thus, the nickel substitution leads to the formation of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}\text{-Mo}^{6+}$  pairs that replaced the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}\text{-Mo}^{5+}$  ones.

The saturation magnetizations, at 4 K, decrease from  $3.48 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$  ( $x = 0$ ), with a rate of  $0.6 \mu_B$  per substituted Ni atom. The presence of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}\text{-Mo}^{6+}$  pairs involves a decrease of magnetization with a rate of  $1 \mu_B$  per substituted Ni atom. The antisite effects as well as the cluster glass behaviour – Fig.1 – can explain the smaller rate for decreasing magnetization, as experimentally observed.



The  $\text{Ca}_2\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{Ni}_x\text{MoO}_6$  compounds show a metallic behaviour. The resistivities increase as the nickel content is higher. The above dependence can be correlated with the evolution of the number of  $\text{Ni}^{2+}\text{-Mo}^{6+}$  pairs. The magnetoresistivities were analysed considering both the intergrain tunneling contributions as well as the intragrain ones.

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