

Exchange Interaction in iron containing garnet

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1. Introduction

Rare earth iron garnet and in particular the yttrium iron garnet (YIG) have been extensively studied [1] due to their interesting magnetic properties. In YIG ($Y_3Fe_5O_{12}$), both octahedral and tetrahedral sites are occupied by Fe^{3+} ions. The strongest magnetic interaction are the interlattice exchange interactions between the Fe^{3+} ions in the a and d sublattices [2], although the intrasublattice exchange interaction (a-a and d-d) can also be important. Superexchange interaction in Mössbauer spectroscopy is a powerful method by which iron-containing garnets can be studied. The chromium in compounds of the $Y_3Fe_{5-x}Cr_xO_{12}$ ($x=0.0, 0.25, 0.5$, and 1.0) distributed at octahedral site. The Mössbauer spectra can be analysed 3 or 4 sets of six Lorentzians with increasing an amount of Cr^{3+} compounds in this system. It results from the distribution ($4C_n$) of Fe^{3+} and Cr^{3+} at octahedral site.

2. Experimental

Compounds of composition $Y_3Fe_{5-x}Cr_xO_{12}$ ($x = 0.0, 0.25, 0.5$ and 1.0) were prepared by a sol-gel method. Weighed amounts of $Y(NO_3)_3 \cdot 5H_2O$, $Cr(NO_3)_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ and $Fe(NO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$ were first dissolved in ethylene glycol. The solution was refluxed at $80^\circ C$ for 12 h to allow gel formation and then dried at $250^\circ C$ for 24h. The dried powder was ground and annealed at temperature $900^\circ C$ for 6h in air. These compositions of samples fired were identified from an X-ray diffractometer with CuK radiation. Mössbauer spectra were recorded at temperatures ranging from 14 K to room temperature using a helium closed-cycle cryogenerator and a constant acceleration Mössbauer spectrometer with a ^{57}Co in Rh matrix.

3. Results and discussion

It is shown that the grown powders have only a single phase of the garnet structure regardless of the amount of Cr substitution according to the X-ray diffraction patterns. All peaks of XRD patterns can be attributed to cubic structure. The Néel temperature for $Y_3Fe_{4.5}Cr_{0.5}Fe_5O_{12}$ is lower than those observed $Y_3Fe_5O_{12}$. Figure 1 displays the random distribution fitting for Mössbauer spectra measured at 293 K for $Y_3Fe_{5-x}Cr_xFe_5O_{12}$ ($x= 0.0, 0.25, 0.5$, and 1.0) We have fitted the spectra to a model based on a random distribution of Fe or Cr ions. The Cr ion prefers to occupy in octahedral (a-site). Each octahedral Fe^{3+} is linked through oxygen to six tetrahedral coordinated Fe^{3+} such that all the octahedral sites have identical environments. The Mössbauer spectra can be analysed 3 sets or 4 sets of six Lorentzians with increasing an amount of Cr^{3+} . It results from the distribution ($4C_n$) of Fe^{3+} and Cr^{3+} at octahedral site. The ratios of areas, a, d1, d2, d3, in $Y_3Fe_{4.5}Cr_{0.5}O_{12}$ are 0.33, 0.22, 0.28, 0.14, respectively. The exchange parameters for

$Y_3Fe_{4.5}Cr_{0.5}O_{12}$ were $J_{ad} = -52.22 k_B$, $J_{aa} = -27.85 k_B$ and $J_{dd} = -39.16 k_B$, and its value of parameters become larger, as an amounts of Cr decreases in garnet. Figure 2 display Reduced magnetic hyperfine fields $H_a(T) / H_a(0)$ for 16(a) and $H_d(T) / H_d(0)$ for 24(d) in $Y_3Fe_{4.5}Cr_{0.5}O_{12}$ as a function of temperature T/T_N .

Reference

- [1] C. S. Kim, Y. R. Uhm, S. B. Kim and J. G. Lee, *J. Magn. Magn. Mater.*, **215–216**,551(2000).
 [2] Y. R. Uhm, C. S. Kim, J. G. Lee and K. H. Jeong (to be published)

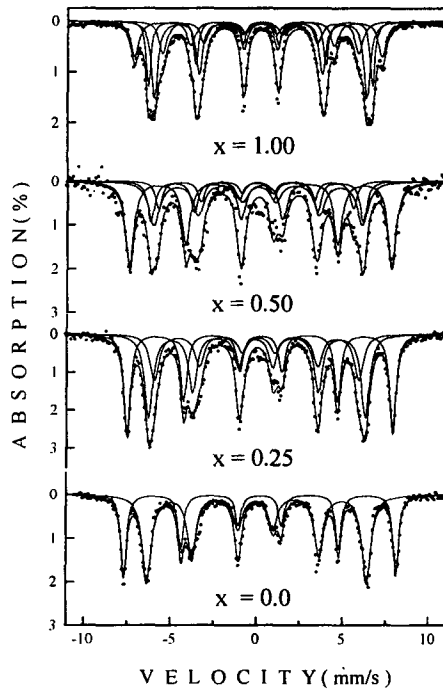


Fig. 1. Temperature dependence of Mössbauer spectra for $Y_3Fe_{5-x}Cr_xO_{12}$ ($x = 0.0, 0.25, 0.5,$ and 1.0).

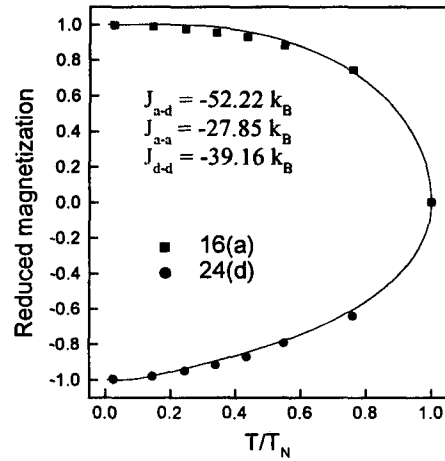


Fig. 2. Reduced magnetic hyperfine fields for 16(a) and 24(d) in $Y_3Fe_{4.5}Cr_{0.5}O_{12}$ as a function of temperature T/T_N . The solid lines represents the σ_a and σ_d .