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The game of x^*

Composition, along with pressure and temperature, are key variables in the study of the properties of crystalline solids, and in the development of functionality:

Examples:

- La_{2-x}Sr_xCuO₄: Superconductivity
- La_{1-x}Ca_xMnO₃: Colossal magnetoresistance, charge-ordering
- $PbZr_{1-x}Ti_{x}O_{3}$: Piezoelectric tuning
- $Ba_{1-x}Sr_{x}TiO_{3}$: Capacitors
- $V_{2-x}Cr_{x}O_{3}$: Insulator-metal transitions

*Referred to, on occasion, as subscript chemistry.



Examples: Tuning magnetic coupling in insulating spinels

The magnetic spinels, $Zn_{1-x}Co_xCr_2O_4$: One end-member is frustrated and the other is a spiral magnet.



Melot, Drewes, Seshadri, Ramirez, cond-mat, 2008.



Examples: Tuning luminescence in a Ce³⁺ phosphor



Solid solutions between two end-members with distinct crystal structures.



Im, Fellows, DenBaars, Seshadri, J. Mater. Chem. (2009)



- Cation substituted zinc oxides: Isovalent substitution of divalent ions for Zn²⁺ influences magnetism, static polarization, and the band gap [*Phys Rev B.* 68 (2003) 205202; 71 (2005) 045201; 76 (2004) 115204; 78 (2008) 195205]
- 2. The perovskites SrTiO₃ and BaTiO₃: Aliovalent substitution of Nb⁵⁺ for Ti⁴⁺ results in a delocalized metallic ground state in the case of SrTiO₃ but not in the case of BaTiO₃ [*Phys. Rev. Lett.* **101** (2008) 205502]
- Perovskite oxides where aliovalent substitution of divalent Pd²⁺ for quadrivalent Ce⁴⁺ results in unusually active catalyst materials [*Chem. Mater.* 19 (2007) 1418; 20 (2008) 6567.]



Cation substituted zinc oxides



The suggestion: Hole doped wide band gap semiconductors can be rendered ferromagnetic through suitable cation substitution. [Dietl, Ohno, Matsukura, Cibért, Ferrand, *Science* **287** (2000) 1019]



Computed values of the Curie temperature $T_{\rm C}$ for various p-type semiconductors containing 5% of Mn and 3.5 \times 10²⁰ holes per cm³.





Bulk Co and Mnsubstituted ZnO made using a precursor route. Clean phases $Zn_{1-x}tM_xO$ till x = 0.15 typically

Prepared from oxalates: $(Zn, tM)C_2O_4 \cdot 2H_2O$ by rapidly heating to 800°c





Cell parameters follow the Végard law till the substitution limit is reached.

Co²⁺ is slightly smaller than Zn²⁺.





Number of unpaired electrons obtained from the high-*T* Curie-Weiss slope (between 300 K and 350 K) correspond precisely to expectation for tetrahedral Co²⁺ [note g = 1.54 for Co²⁺]





No evidence of collective magnetism.

Instead, $\chi = C_1/T + C_2/(T-\Theta)$ describes the magnetic susceptibility between 20 K and 400 K.

 ⊕ is large and negative implying that near-neighbor interactions are antiferromagnetic.

Risbud, Spaldin, Chen, Stemmer, Seshadri, *Phys. Rev. B.* 68 (2003) 205202; Lawes, Risbud, Ramirez, Seshadri, *Phys. Rev. B* 71 (2005) 045201.



Motivation: What happens to ZnO upon Mg-substitution?



(ZnMg)O on SCAM, Laser ablation

Ohtomo, Kawasaki, Koida, Masubuchi, Koinuma, Sakurai, Yoshida, Yasuda, Segawa, *Appl. Phys. Lett.* **72** (1998) 2466.



Motivation: What happens to ZnO upon Mg-substitution?



Quantum Hall Effect observed at the 2DEG formed at the interface of unstrained (ZnMg)O and ZnO due to the polarization gradient.



Tsukazaki, Ohtomo, Kita, Ohno, Ohno, Kawasaki, *Science* **315** (2007) 1388.



Cation-substituted ZnO: $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xO$

Motivation: What happens to ZnO upon Mg-substitution?

Polarization, Piezoelectric Constants, and Elastic Constants of ZnO, MgO, and CdO

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We report first-principles density functional calculations of the polarizations, piezoelectric stress constants, and elastic constants for the II-VI oxides MgO, ZnO, and CdO in the wurtzite structure. Using our pseudopotential self-interaction corrected implementation of density functional theory, we obtain polarization values of -0.060, -0.022, and -0.10 C/m², and piezoelectric constants, e_{33} (e_{31}) of 1.64 (-0.58), 1.34 (-0.57), and 1.67 (-0.48) C/m² for structurally relaxed MgO (with its in-plane lattice parameter fixed to that calculated for ZnO), ZnO, and CdO, respectively. The large polarization gradients between the end-point compounds in the MgO-ZnO-CdO system augur well for the production of large internal fields in ZnO-based polarization field effect transistors.

Gopal, Spaldin, J. Electronic Mater. 35 (2006) 538.



- Our work: Polycrystalline Zn_{1-x}Mg_xO powders from oxalate precursors
- Large [multi-gram] quantities for numerous studies: Optical, X-ray, IR, NMR, Raman, Neutrons, ...
- Possibility of detailed structural studies
- Successful in understanding diluted magnetic oxide semiconductors [*Phys. Rev. B* 71 (2005) 045201(1-5); *Phys. Rev. B* 68 (2003) 205202(1-7).]

 $Zn_{1-x}Mg_{x}C_{2}O_{4} \cdot 2H_{2}O$, heating in air at 550°C for 22 h \Rightarrow $Zn_{1-x}Mg_{x}O$

Clean samples till x = 0.15, rock-salt MgO beyond.



Cation-substituted ZnO: $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xO$



APS, 11-ID-B



structural parameters

Rietveld fits, including refinements of Zn:Mg ratios.





Cell and internal parameters to high precision.







Dipole along the c direction:

$$\mu(\operatorname{Zn}-\operatorname{Oaxial}) = \frac{1}{4} \times (-2) \times u \times c$$
$$\mu(\operatorname{Zn}-\operatorname{Obasal}) = 3 \times \frac{1}{4} \times (-2) \times \left(u - \frac{1}{2} \times c\right)$$
$$P_s = \frac{\sum \mu}{V} = \frac{-2 \times \left(u - \frac{3}{8}\right) \times c}{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{4}a^2 \times c}$$



Static polarization P_s based on simple ionic charge model; shared reference state where all ZnO_4 tetrahedra have zero dipoles: ZnO: -5.6 μ C/cm² and $Zn_{0.85}Mg_{0.15}O$: -4.8 μ C/cm² [decreases, *Cf.* Tsukazaki, DFT.]



Experiments versus DFT



DFT: Malashevich, Vanderbilt, *Phys. Rev. B* **75** (2007) 045106; unpublished results.



The pair distribution function (PDF) Data acquired at lower resolution but to higher Q: Bragg + diffuse PDF Fourier-transform and scale log intensity (arb. units) 12 3 r 8 G(r) (Å⁻²) 0 Rietveld 2.0 1.9 2.1 0 20 5 10 15 25 30 5 10 15 20 $Q(Å^{-1})$ r (Å)



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PDFs modeled using both average (crystallographic) and supercell descriptions.

Explicit Zn and Mg atoms in latter.



- Zn (simple cell)
- Mg (simple cell)
- Zn (supercell)
- + Zn/Mg (Rietveld)
- Mg (supercell)



PDF analysis allows the positions Zn and Mg to be separately monitored.

Large error bars on distances associated with Mg from X-ray PDFs







Enter neutrons:

Zn and $Zn_{0.875}Mg_{0.125}O$, the latter, specially formulated for ease of modeling: $Zn_{7/8}Mg_{1/8}O$.

Rietveld analysis of TOF neutrons shown.





Why neutrons ?

- Even scattering from all atoms
- Absence of form-factor fall-off.





Data can be modeled with an explicit 2x2x1 supercell for $Zn_{7/8}Mg_{1/8}O$





Local MgO₄ coordination obtained from PDF closely matches DFT results on wurtzite structure MgO.



Williamson-Hall analysis of lab X-ray diffraction data [The computer program BREADTH]





Cation-substituted ZnO: $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xO$

Williamson-Hall analysis of lab X-ray diffraction data.

X	D _v	D _a	ε (%)
	(nm)	(nm)	
Ο	96(3)	69(3)	< 0.001
0.05	76(3)	57(3)	0.020(6)
0.10	70(2)	51(3)	0.028(5)
0.15	62(2)	47(2)	0.041(4)
0.20	33(1)	27(1)	0.099(7)

Some microstrain in Mg-substituted samples.

D_v: volume-weighted crystallite size
D_a: surface area-weighted
crystallite size
ε: strain



Band gap increase with x smaller than reported by Kawasaki et al.





Following Pankove [Phys. Rev. 140 (1965) A2059]:

 E_{o} : width of the tails of states in band gap



$$A \propto \exp \frac{h v}{E_0}$$

X	E _o (meV)	
Ο	24.7	
0.05	29.2	
0.10	31.9	
0.15	39.7	



Cation-substituted ZnO: $Zn_{1-x}Mg_xO$





Nb-substituted perovskites SrTiO₃ and BaTiO₃





SrTiO₃ and BaTiO₃ are band insulators.

Nb⁴⁺-substitution (even small amounts) make SrTiO₃ metallic and even superconducting.

Not so BaTiO₃

Other differences as well, ferroelectricity *etc.*

Samples from T. Kolodiazhnyi, NIMS, Tsukuba



What does structure tell us? Compare $SrTi_{0.875}Nb_{0.125}O_3$ and $BaTi_{0.875}Nb_{0.125}O_3$: 1/8th substitution to aid modeling





Pair distribution functions fit the average structure out to rather long vectors, very well !





What about the very short range ? $BaTi_{0.875}Nb_{0.125}O_3$ displays distortions in the first (Ti/Nb)-O neighbor:





Findings:

 ${\rm SrTi}_{{\rm 0.875}}{\rm Nb}_{{\rm 0.125}}{\rm O}_{\rm 3}$:

Nb-substitution (on the perovskite *B* site) does not frustrate tilting. The ground state is tetragonal.

Tilting distortions do not result in an insulating ground state (*Cf.* SrRuO₃, LaNiO₃...)

BaTi_{0.875}Nb_{0.125}O₃:

Nb-substitution (on the perovskite *B* site) frustrates long-range ordering of dipoles; additionally helped by dipole-dipole screening. Average structure is cubic.

Dipoles exist locally however. Incoherent off-centering might aid the insulating ground state.



BaTi_{0.875}**Nb**_{0.125}**O**₃: Densities of state for the cubic and rhombohedral structures (ordered Ti/Nb).



Narrowing of states but no gap. Incoherent offcentering required ?

(T. Saha-Dasgupta)

Perovskite oxides with divalent Pd²⁺

Motivation: Reducing PGM use in catalysts

Earth's Natural Wealth: An Audit, New Scientist, 23 May 2007.

Nishihata, Mizuki, Akao, Tanaka, Uenishi, Kimura, Okamoto, Hamada, Self-regeneration of a Pd-perovskite catalyst for automotive emissions control, *Nature* **418** (2002) 164.

Questions:

- Does Pd really go into the host as ions and come out as Pd°?
- Are there other (perhaps better) hosts ?

Perovskite BaCeO₃ as a host:

Ba²⁺ creates an oxide lattice that is highly oxidizing

Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ are large and somewhat forgiving in terms of coordination.

BaCe_{1-x}Pd_xO_{3- δ} with x = 0, 0.05, and 0.10

Samples prepared by solid state routes in O_2 .

Neutron refinements [NPDF, Los Alamos] $\Rightarrow \delta \sim x$ so Pd in lattice is Pd²⁺

DFT optimized structure of 2x2x2 perovskite cell with one Pd²⁺ substituting Ce⁴⁺ and one oxygen vacancy: x = 12.5 [Bennett and Rappe, Penn]

The oxygen vacancy prefers to be proximal to Pd²⁺ and leaves it nearly square planar.

The neutron pair distribution function (PDF) for the x = 0.10 sample is well-modeled by the DFT structure, but not by the average structure.

Magnetic measurements suggest a diamagnetic system.

Pd core levels of the oxidized and reduced samples.

YFeO₃ exists as a stable perovskite or a metastable (sol-gel prep.) hexagonal compound with the YAlO₃ structure. 5-coordinate Fe³⁺ in the hexagonal structure.

Even small Pd substitution strongly stabilizes the hexagonal compound, in keeping with the nature of *d*⁸ Pd²⁺.

Neutron diffraction [NIST, BT-1] confirms the substitution.

Fe core levels unchanged with oxidation/reduction.

Pd core levels suggest ingress and egress under redox. Not all Pd²⁺ reduced.

Pd nanoparticles seen after reduction in backscattering SEM and in TEM

YFeO₃ [10%Pd] asprepared

after 1st reduction [also (c) and (d)]

Oxidized compound, and even better catalyst

Low light-off temperature. Effective catalyst despite low surface areas.

Li, Singh, Schladt, Stalick, Scott, Seshadri, *Chem. Mater.* **20** (2008) 6567–6576.

Questions ?

