# **BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS**

# Synthesis and Magnetic Property of NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub>

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Received June 17, 1991

A new phase, NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub>, was found. It crystallizes hexagonal with  $a = 5.8400 \pm 0.0001$  and  $c = 22.8058 \pm 0.0005$  Å. Its possible space groups are  $P6_3/mmc$ , P62c, or  $P6_3mc$ . The composition and the crystal data indicate that NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> is isostructural with magnetoplumbite-type compounds. NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> shows a uniaxial magnetism with the easy axis of magnetization parallel to [001] below the transition temperature, around 240 K. © 1991 Academic Press, Inc.

## Introduction

Both  $BaFe_{12}O_{19}$  and  $LaFe_{12}O_{19}$  take magnetoplumbite-type crystal structures (hexagonal,  $P6_3/mmc$ ) (1) and show uniaxial ferrimagnetisms (2–7) with the easy axes of magnetization parallel to [001], below the Néel temperatures of 723 K (8) and 695 K (9), respectively. Their resistivity at room temperature is  $10^8 \Omega$  cm for  $BaFe_{12}O_{19}$  and  $10^1 \Omega$  cm for  $LaFe_{12}O_{19}$  (10). Their magnetic structures have been described based on the localized *d*-electron models (2–7), though  $LaFe_{12}O_{19}$  has rather low resistivity and contains mixed-valent iron ions.

 $NaV_6O_{11}$  was first synthesized by de Roy et al. (11) and revealed to be structurally related to magnetoplumbite (12).  $NaV_6O_{11}$ crystallizes in  $P6_3/mmc$  (12), shows a magnetic phase transition at 64.2 K (13, 14), and exhibits uniaxial magnetic anisotropy with the easy axis of magnetization parallel to

Copyright © 1991 by Academic Press, Inc. All rights of reproduction in any form reserved. [001] below the transition temperature (14). The spontaneous magnetization of NaV<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> at 5 K is 1.7  $\mu_B$  per formula unit (14). The resistivity of NaV<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> perpendicular to [001] shows an anomaly at the transition temperature (13, 14) as in the case with the resistivity of ferromagnetic metals, while that parallel to [001] does not show such an anomaly (14). We indicated that itinerant *d*-electrons play some important roles in magnetism of NaV<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> (14), in contrast to BaFe<sub>12</sub>O<sub>19</sub> and LaFe<sub>12</sub>O<sub>19</sub> (2–7).

 $SrV_6O_{11}$  and  $SrT_xV_{6-x}O_{11}$  (T = Ti, Cr, and Fe) were found and confirmed to be isostructural with NaV<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> (12, 15). The T ions do not localize at a particular site in  $SrT_xV_{6-x}O_{11}$  phases (15).

In the present study, a new magnetoplumbite-type phase, NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub>, was found. Its magnetic property and electrical resistivity were studied using sintered samples. Though a number of magnetoplumbitetype phases ( $AB_{12}O_{19}$ ) have so far been investigated, the formal charge of A ion has

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| $\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$   | $I/I_0$ |
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| $ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  |         |
| $\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$  | <1      |
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| 1       0       3       4.207       4.211       20       3       0       6       1.5412       1.5411       2       2       2       14       1.0872       1.0872         0       0       6       3.797       3.801       15       2       0       12       1.5192       1.5193       11       4       1       4       1.0836       1.0835         1       0       5       3.385       3.387       14       2       2       0       1.4599       1.4600       19       4       0       11       1.0795       1.0795         1       0       6       3.0373       3.0385       11       2       0       13       1.4415       1.4414       7       3       2       8       1.0746       1.0747         1       0       2.9192       2.9200       20       0       16       1.4253       1.4254       2       1       1       20       1.0621       1.0622         0       0       8       2.8495       2.8507       43       2       1       11       1.4056       1.4054       1       4       1       6       1.0598       1.0599       1.0561       1.0599 <td>2</td> | 2       |
| 0       0       6       3.797       3.801       15       2       0       12       1.5192       1.5193       11       4       1       4       1.0836       1.0835         1       0       5       3.385       3.387       14       2       2       0       1.4599       1.4600       19       4       0       11       1.0795       1.0795         1       0       6       3.0373       3.0385       11       2       0       13       1.4415       1.4414       7       3       2       8       1.0746       1.0747         1       0       2.9192       2.9200       20       0       0       16       1.4253       1.4254       2       1       1       20       1.0621       1.0622         0       0       8       2.8495       2.8507       43       2       1       11       1.4056       1.4054       1       4       1       6       1.0598       1.0599         1       0       7       2.7380       2.7389       100       3       1       3       1.3795       1.3794       1       2       1       18       1.0562       1.0526                           | 3       |
| 1       0       5       3.385       3.387       14       2       2       0       1.4599       1.4600       19       4       0       11       1.0795       1.0795         1       0       6       3.0373       3.0385       11       2       0       13       1.4415       1.4414       7       3       2       8       1.0746       1.0747         1       1       0       2.9192       2.9200       20       0       16       1.4253       1.4254       2       1       1       20       1.0621       1.0622         0       0       8       2.8495       2.8507       43       2       1       11       1.4056       1.4054       1       4       1       6       1.0598       1.0599         1       0       7       2.7380       2.7389       100       3       1       3       1.3795       1.3794       1       2       1       18       1.0562       1.0561         1       1       4       2.5980       2.5990       67       1       0       16       1.3722       1.3719       4       4       0       12       1.0526       1.0527                         | 3       |
| 1       0       6       3.0373       3.0385       11       2       0       13       1.4415       1.4414       7       3       2       8       1.0746       1.0747         1       1       0       2.9192       2.9200       20       0       0       16       1.4253       1.4254       2       1       1       20       1.0621       1.0622         0       0       8       2.8495       2.8507       43       2       1       11       1.4056       1.4054       1       4       1       6       1.0598       1.0599       1       0       7       2.7380       2.7389       100       3       1       3       1.3795       1.3794       1       2       1       18       1.0562       1.0561         1       1       4       2.5980       2.5990       67       1       0       16       1.3722       1.3719       4       4       0       12       1.0526       1.0527         2       0       0       2.5293       2.5288       4       2       0       14       1.3693       1.3694       10       0       0       22       1.0367       1.0366 <td>4</td>      | 4       |
| 1       1       0       2.9192       2.9200       20       0       16       1.4253       1.4254       2       1       1       20       1.0621       1.0622         0       0       8       2.8495       2.8507       43       2       1       11       1.4056       1.4054       1       4       1       6       1.0598       1.0599         1       0       7       2.7380       2.7389       100       3       1       3       1.3795       1.3794       1       2       1       18       1.0562       1.0561         1       1       4       2.5980       2.5990       67       1       0       16       1.3722       1.3719       4       4       0       12       1.0526       1.0527         2       0       0       2.5293       2.5288       4       2       0       14       1.3693       1.3694       10       0       0       22       1.0367       1.0366   | 1       |
| 0       0       8       2.8495       2.8507       43       2       1       11       1.4056       1.4054       1       4       1       6       1.0598       1.0599         1       0       7       2.7380       2.7389       100       3       1       3       1.3795       1.3794       1       2       1       18       1.0562       1.0561         1       1       4       2.5980       2.5990       67       1       0       16       1.3722       1.3719       4       4       0       12       1.0526       1.0527         2       0       0       2.5293       2.5288       4       2       0       14       1.3693       1.3694       10       0       0       22       1.0367       1.0366  | 1       |
| 1       0       7       2.7380       2.7389       100       3       1       3       1.3795       1.3794       1       2       1       18       1.0562       1.0561         1       1       4       2.5980       2.5990       67       1       0       16       1.3722       1.3719       4       4       0       12       1.0526       1.0527         2       0       0       2.5293       2.5288       4       2       0       14       1.3693       1.3694       10       0       0       22       1.0367       1.0366  | 1       |
| 1       1       4       2.5980       2.5990       67       1       0       16       1.3722       1.3719       4       4       0       12       1.0526       1.0527         2       0       0       2.5293       2.5288       4       2       0       14       1.3693       1.3694       10       0       0       22       1.0367       1.0366   | 2       |
| 2 0 0 2.5293 2.5288 4 2 0 14 1.3693 1.3694 10 0 0 22 1.0367 1.0366  | 1       |
|   | 4       |
| 2 0 1 2.5127 2.5134 14 3 1 4 1.3622 1.3621 1 4 0 13 1.0258 1.0257   | 1       |
| 1 0 8 2.4832 2.4834 30 2 1 12 1.3479 1.3478 3 2 1 19 1.0167 1.0165  | 1       |
| 2 0 2 2.4671 2.4688 5 3 1 5 1.3403 1.3407 <1 3 0 18 1.0129 1.0128   | 3       |
| 2 J 3 2.3992 2.3995 17 2 0 15 1.3030 1.3030 1 5 0 1 1.0106 1.0105   | <1      |
| 1 1 6 2.3153 2.3156 13 2 2 8 1.2996 1.2995 3 5 0 2 1.0077 1.0076  | <1      |
| 0 0 10 2.2812 2.2806 1 1 0 17 1.2964 1.2967 5 4 0 14 0.9986 0.9988  | 1       |
| 2 0 5 2.2110 2.2116 17 2 1 13 1.2926 1.2925 1 3 2 12 0.9904 0.9903  | <1      |
| 2 0 6 2.1049 2.1054 16 3 1 7 1.2883 1.2884 4 2 1 20 0.9794 0.9793   | 1       |
| 1 1 8 2.0399 2.0398 1 1 1 1 16 1.2811 1.2809 1 1 0 23 0.9729 0.9730   | <1      |
| 2 0 7 1.9980 1.9976 4 0 0 18 1.2672 1.2670 1 3 1 17 0.9695 0.9695   | 1       |
| 1 0 11 1.9184 1.9183 2 3 1 8 1.2589 1.2586 2 5 0 7 0.9659 0.9660  | 1       |
| 0 0 12 1.9006 1.9005 1 2 0 16 1.2414 1.2417 1 4 2 1 0.9549 0.9550   | 1       |
| 2 0 8 1.8917 1.8917 2 1 0 18 1.2292 1.2290 6 5 0 8 0.9532 0.9533  | 1       |
| 2 1 3 1.8531 1.8539 1 4 0 5 1.2185 1.2184 <1 0 0 24 0.9502 0.9502   | 1       |
| 2 0 9 1.7897 1.7900 2 4 0 6 1.1998 1.2000 1 4 2 3 0.9483 0.9483   | 1       |
| 1 0 12 1.7785 1.7790 11 2 0 17 1.1852 1.1851 1 3 3 6 0.9428 0.9429  | <1      |
| 2 1 5 1.7629 1.7630 2 4 0 7 1.1790 1.1787 <1 3 1 18 0.9403 0.9402   | 1       |
| 2 1 6 1.7079 1.7078 2 1 0 19 1.1677 1.1679 3 1 0 24 0.9338 0.9339   | 1       |
| 2 0 10 1.6935 1.6936 8 1 1 18 1.1623 1.1623 7 4 2 6 0.9269 0.9269   | <1      |
| 3 0 0 1.6853 1.6859 3 3 2 3 1.1471 1.1470 <1 2 0 23 0.9231 0.9231   | 1       |
| 1 0 13 1.6568 1.6574 1 0 0 20 1.1403 1.1403 5 3 1 19 0.9120 0.9120  | 1       |
| 2 1 7 1.6487 1.6487 18 3 1 12 1.1285 1.1286 1 1 1 24 0.9036 0.9036  | <1      |
| 2 2 20 0.8987 0.8987  | 2       |

TABLE I

been restricted to between +2 and +3. To the best of our knowledge, the main cation for *B* has been restricted to  $Al^{3+}$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$ , and  $Ga^{3+}$ .

## Experimental

 $V_2O_4$  was prepared by heating an equimolar mixture of  $V_2O_5$  (99.9%) and  $V_2O_3$  in a sealed silica tube at 1273 K for 3 days. The  $V_2O_3$  had been obtained by reducing the  $V_2O_5$  in hydrogen at 1073 K.  $\beta$ -NaFeO<sub>2</sub> was prepared by heating an equimolar mixture of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (99.9%) and Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (99.9%) at 1073 K for 1 day with an intermediate grinding.

 $\beta$ -NaFeO<sub>2</sub>, Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, and V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> were mixed in a 1 : 1 : 0.5 : 4 molar ratio. About 3.0 g of the mixture were placed in a platinum capsule, sealed in an evacuated silica tube,

TABLE II LATTICE PARAMETERS OF NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> and Related Compounds

| Compound   | $a/{ m \AA}$ | c/Å        |
|--|--------------|------------|
| NaFe <sub>3</sub> V <sub>9</sub> O <sub>19</sub> | 5.8400(1)    | 22.8058(5) |
| SrFe <sub>12</sub> O <sub>19</sub> <sup>a</sup>  | 5.8868(5)    | 23.037(2)  |
| BaFe <sub>12</sub> O <sub>19</sub> <sup>b</sup>  | 5.893        | 23.194     |
| LaFe <sub>12</sub> O <sub>10</sub> <sup>c</sup>  | 5.879        | 22.8807    |
| $CaAl_{12}O_{19}^d$                              | 5,5579(6)    | 21.905(20) |
| SrAl <sub>12</sub> O <sub>19</sub> e             | 5.585        | 22.07      |
| SrGa <sub>12</sub> O <sub>19</sub> <sup>f</sup>  | 5.796        | 22.84      |

<sup>a</sup> From Ref. (16).

<sup>b</sup> From Ref. (1).

<sup>c</sup> From Ref. (10).

<sup>d</sup> From Ref. (17).

<sup>e</sup> From Ref. (18).

<sup>f</sup> From Ref. (19).

and then heated at 993 K for 1 day. After it was cooled to room temperature, the product was ground and identified by X-ray powder diffraction with  $CuK\alpha$  radiation. This procedure was repeated until its X-ray powder pattern changed no longer. Three heating runs (1 + 3 + 3 days) were required to obtain pure NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub>. The formation of the phase became sluggish at 973 K and it required two weeks of heating period to obtain a pure sample. The phase decomposed above 1073 K. To prepare the specimens for the magnetization and resistivity measurements, powdered NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> was pressed into a pellet and heated at 993 K in the same way as mentioned above. EPMA measurement was carried out using  $NaV_6O_{11}$  and YFeO<sub>3</sub> as standard materials.

The magnetization of  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$  was measured by a SQUID magnetometer using 6.84 mg of the above-mentioned sintered sample. The resistivity of  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$  was measured by the standard four-probe method.

## **Results and Discussion**

The X-ray powder diffraction pattern of  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$  is shown in Table I. All of the

reflections can be indexed applying a hexagonal crystal system and space group  $P6_3mc$ , P62c, or  $P6_3/mmc$ . EPMA measurement showed its composition to be Na: Fe: V =1:2.8(2):9.0(4), which confirms that the phase belongs to the magnetoplumbite. A detailed Rietveld analysis of the neutron powder diffraction data is now in progress. Preliminary refinement also supported the magnetoplumbite-type structure for Na  $Fe_3V_9O_{19}$ . The compositional range of x for  $NaFe_xV_{12-x}O_{19}$  was examined by the X-ray powder diffraction of the samples with x =2.8, 3.0, and 3.2. The sample with x = 2.8was single-phased, however, there were no detectable shifts between the diffraction data of "NaFe<sub>2.8</sub>V<sub>9.2</sub>O<sub>19</sub>" and those of Na  $Fe_3V_9O_{19}$ . The sample with x = 3.2 contained a corundum-type phase, however, there were slight but obvious shifts between the diffraction data of  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$  and those of "NaFe<sub>3.2</sub>V<sub>8.8</sub>O<sub>19</sub>." At the present stage, we can not conclude whether or not there is a homogeneity range of x for  $NaFe_x$  $V_{12-x}O_{19}$ . The lattice parameters of Na  $Fe_3V_9O_{19}$  are listed in Table II, together with those of known magnetoplumbite-type phases.

Typical grains of NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> as obtained



FIG. 1. Magnetization vs. external magnetic field of a sintered  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$  sample at 5 K.



FIG. 2. Magnetization vs. temperature of a sintered  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$  sample at 4 T.

were thin hexagonal plates of ca. 10  $\mu$ m in diameter. A microscopic observation at low temperatures showed that the grains were attracted by a magnet and their [001] directions were oriented parallel to the lines of magnetic force. Figure 1 shows the magnetization of a sintered NaFe<sub>3</sub> $V_9O_{19}$  sample vs. external magnetic field at 5 K. The data resulted in a hysteresis loop and the coercive force was ca. 14 kOe. Figure 2 shows the temperature dependence of the magnetization in an external magnetic field of 4 T. The above results show that  $NaFe_3V_9O_{19}$ exhibits a uniaxial magnetism with the easy axis of magnetization parallel to [001] below the transition temperature, around 240 K. The saturated magnetization for the sintered NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> is 3.9  $\mu_{\rm B}$  per formula unit. The transition temperature is an intermediate between those of  $NaV_6O_{11}$  (13, 14) and the magnetoplumbite ferrites (9) described above. Figure 3 shows the logarithmic resistivity of a sintered NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> sample as a function of temperature. The sintered sample showed semiconductor-like behavior and no anomaly was observed around the transition temperature. The resistivity at 299 K, 4.7  $\Omega$  cm, is close to that of La  $Fe_{12}O_{19}$  at room temperature, 10  $\Omega$  cm (10).



FIG. 3. Logarithmic resistivity vs. temperature of a sintered NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> sample.

The resistivity data suggest that the magnetism of NaFe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> can be described based on the localized *d*-electron model as in the case with the magnetoplumbite ferrites (2-7), but in contrast to NaV<sub>6</sub>O<sub>11</sub> (14). Further studies on a single crystal of Na Fe<sub>3</sub>V<sub>9</sub>O<sub>19</sub> are required to discuss the magnetism of this phase in detail and to answer the question of whether or not itinerant electrons play some roles in its magnetism.

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