

Phase Equilibrium in the System Ln–M–O

III. Ln=Gd at 1100°C

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Received November 16, 2001; in revised form March 4, 2002; accepted March 15, 2002

Phase equilibrium in the system Gd–Mn–O has been established at 1100°C while varying the partial pressure of oxygen between 0 and 13.00 in $-\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$, and a phase diagram at 1100°C is presented as a Gd₂O₃–MnO–MnO₂ system. Under the experimental conditions, Gd₂O₃, MnO, Mn₃O₄, GdMnO₃, and GdMn₂O₅ phases are present at 1100°C, but Gd₂MnO₄, Mn₂O₃, and MnO₂ are not stable in the system. The substantial difference from the previously studied La–Mn–O and Nd–Mn–O systems lies in the fact that the LnMn₂O₅-type phase is stable under the present experimental conditions. A wide range of nonstoichiometry has been found in the GdMnO₃ phase coexisting with Gd₂O₃. X in GdMnO_{3+x} ranges from -0.03 at $\log P_{O_2} = -9.47$ to 0.05 at $\log P_{O_2} = 0$. Nonstoichiometry is represented by an equation, $N_{O}/N_{\text{GdMnO}_3} = 3.00 \times 10^{-4}(\log P_{O_2})^3 + 5.80 \times 10^{-3}(\log P_{O_2})^2 + 3.52 \times 10^{-2}(\log P_{O_2}) + 0.0464$, and the activities of components in solid solution are calculated from the equation. Similar to the case of LaMnO₃, GdMnO₃ seems to vary in composition between the Gd₂O₃-rich and Gd₂O₃-poor sides. Lattice constants of GdMnO₃ produced under different oxygen partial pressures and those of GdMn₂O₅ prepared in air were determined, along with spacings and relative intensities of GdMn₂O₅. Standard Gibbs energies of reactions shown in the system were calculated and compared with previously reported values. © 2002 Elsevier Science (USA)

Key Words: phase equilibrium; thermogravimetry; gadolinium-manganese oxide; standard Gibbs energy change of reaction.

INTRODUCTION

Recently, phase equilibrium has been established in the Ln–Mn–O ($Ln = \text{La}(1)$ and $\text{Nd}(2)$) systems at 1100°C. Only the LnMnO₃ type has been found stable under the experimental conditions as a ternary compound. An LnMn₂O₅ phase has not been found, although this phase is stable in the Ln–Mn–O system (3–7).

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As has been well known, four stable oxide phases exist in the Mn–O system: MnO, Mn₃O₄, Mn₂O₃, and MnO₂. However, only two oxide phases, MnO and Mn₃O₄, are stable under the experimental conditions (1, 2). The oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium with MnO and Mn₃O₄ has been found to be -5.40 in $\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$.

Many reports have been published on LaMnO₃ from the view point of magnetic, electronic, and crystallographic properties (8–18). In contrast, not many reports have been published on other lanthanoid–manganese perovskites, although the same physical and chemical properties would be expected.

In a Gd–Mn–O system, GdMnO₃ and GdMn₂O₅ are stable ternary phases. Pyroelectric current measurement of a GdMn₂O₅ single crystal was performed between 4.2 and 273 K, and these results indicate the existence of spontaneous polarization at low temperature (19). Thermodynamic properties of GdMn₂O₅ was derived from measurements of enthalpy and heat capacity (6). GdMn₂O₅ was prepared by a wet method in which metallic Mn and Gd₂O₃ was dissolved into HNO₃, in view of the difficulty in inducing the usual solid reaction of manganese oxide and gadolinium oxide.

Phase equilibrium in the Gd–Mn–O system, which well represents the stability relations among the phases, has not been established even at high temperatures.

In consideration of the above circumstances, the objectives of the present study are (1) to establish a detailed phase diagram of the Gd–Mn–O system at 1100°C as a function of oxygen partial pressure and to ascertain the nonstoichiometric range of GdMnO₃ and GdMn₂O₅, (2) to determine the thermochemical properties from the established phase diagram, and (3) to determine the crystallographic properties of GdMn₂O₅ if it would be stable.

EXPERIMENTAL

Analytical grade Gd₂O₃ (99.9%) and MnO (99.9%) were used as starting materials. MnO was dried by heating at 110°C in air, and Gd₂O₃ was also dried at 1100°C.



Mixtures having desired ratios of $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MnO}$ were prepared by solid-state reaction through mixing in an agate mortar and then carrying out calcination repeatedly

during the intermediate mixing. Subsequent steps were followed by the same procedures as described previously (20).

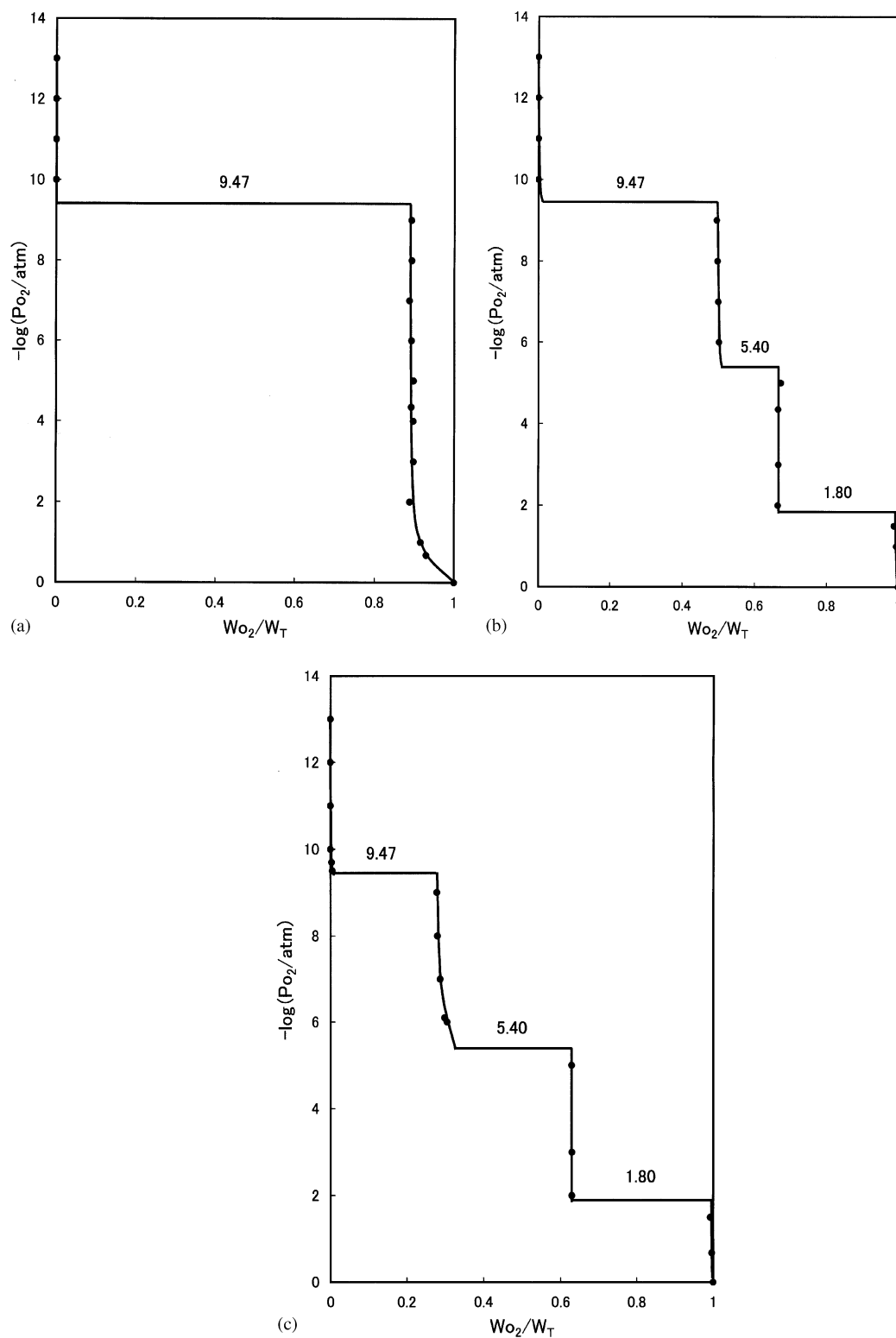


FIG. 1. Relationships between oxygen partial pressure, $\log(P_{\text{O}_2}/\text{atm})$, and weight change of the samples, $W_{\text{O}_2}/W_{\text{T}}$: (a) $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MnO} = 0.40/0.60$; (b) $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MnO} = 0.25/0.75$; and (c) $\text{Gd}_2\text{O}_3/\text{MnO} = 0.15/0.85$.

TABLE 1
Identification of Phase

Sample	$-\log P_{O_2}$ (atm)	Time (h)	Phase
0.6/0.4	13	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	10	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	9	17	Gd ₂ O ₃ + GdMnO ₃
	0.68	20	Gd ₂ O ₃ + GdMnO ₃
0.4/0.6	13	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	10	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	9	17	Gd ₂ O ₃ + GdMnO ₃
	0.68	20	Gd ₂ O ₃ + GdMnO ₃
0.25/0.75	13	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	10	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	9	17	GdMnO ₃ + MnO
	6.5	21.5	GdMnO ₃ + MnO
	5	24.5	GdMnO ₃ + Mn ₃ O ₄
	0.68	96	GdMnO ₃ + GdMn ₂ O ₅
0.15/0.85	13	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	10	8	Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO
	9	17	GdMnO ₃ + MnO
	6.5	21.5	GdMnO ₃ + MnO
	5	24.5	GdMnO ₃ + Mn ₃ O ₄
	0.68	96	GdMn ₂ O ₅ + Mn ₃ O ₄

The apparatus and procedures for controlling oxygen partial pressure and maintaining constant temperature, the method of thermogravimetry, and the criterion for the establishment of equilibrium were the same as those described in our previous paper (20). The method of establishing equilibrium can be briefly described as follows. To ensure equilibrium, the equilibrated point of each sample at a given oxygen partial pressure was determined from both sides of the reaction, that is, from low oxygen partial pressure to high oxygen partial pressure and vice versa. The balance, furnace, and gas mixer are schematically shown in (21). The furnace is installed vertically and employs as its heating element a mullite tube wound with Pt 60%–Rh 40% alloy wire. Mixed gases, which ensure the desired oxygen partial pressures are passed from the bottom of the furnace to the top.

Identification of phases and determination of lattice constants were performed with a Rigaku X-ray diffractometer, model Rint 2500, employing Ni-filtered CuK α radiation. A specimen of silicon was used to calibrate 2 θ as an external standard.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Gd₂O₃–MnO–MnO₂ System

The Mn–O system at 1100°C related to the present phase diagram has been described in previous studies (1, 2). Here, the results are briefly described as follows: the MnO and Mn₃O₄ phases are stable, and MnO is nonstoichiometric,

In the present experiment, oxygen partial pressure was obtained by use of a mixed gas of CO₂ and H₂ and 1 atm of O₂, and a mixed gas of CO₂ and O₂, and 1 atm of CO₂.

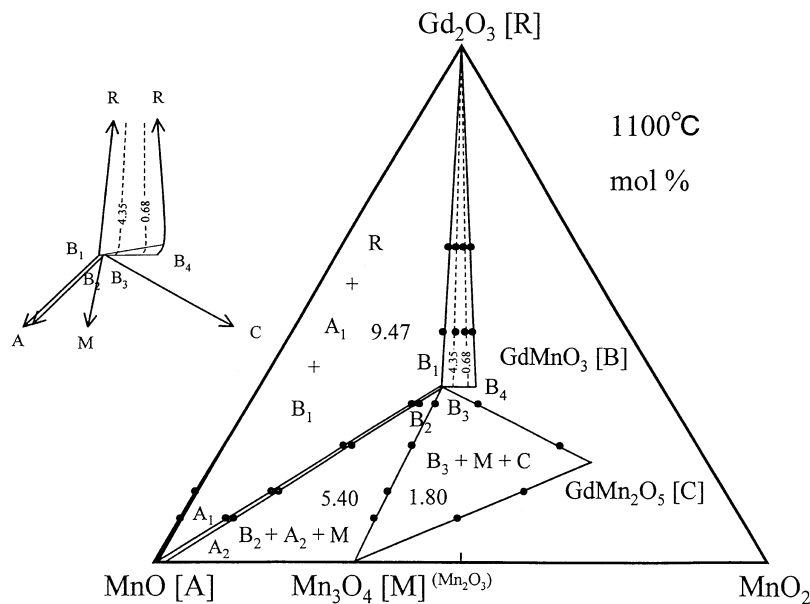


FIG. 2. Phase equilibrium in the Gd₂O₃–MnO–MnO₂ system at 1100°C. Numerical values in the three-phase regions represent oxygen partial pressures in $-\log(P_{O_2}(\text{atm}))$ in equilibrium with three solid phases, which are shown in the regions. Dotted lines in the two-phase regions also represent oxygen partial pressures indicated on the lines. Abbreviations are the same as those used in Table 2.

TABLE 2
Compositions, Symbols, Oxygen Partial Pressures in
Equilibrium, and Activities of Components in Solid Solutions

Component	Compositions	Symbols	$-\log P_{O_2}$ (atm)	$\log a_i$
MnO	MnO _{1.00}	A	13.00–10.00	0
	MnO _{1.00}	A ₁	9.47	5.62×10^{-4}
	MnO _{1.03}	A ₂	5.40	-9.6×10^{-3}
GdMnO ₃	GdMnO _{2.97}	B ₁	9.47	0
	GdMnO _{2.98}	B ₂	5.40	0.0391
	GdMnO _{2.99}	B ₃	1.80	0.0686
	GdMnO _{3.05}	B ₄	0	0.0501

whereas Mn₃O₄ is stoichiometric. The oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium with MnO and Mn₃O₄ is -5.40 in $\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$.

Six samples, having Gd₂O₈/MnO mole ratios of 0.6/0.4, 0.4/0.6, 0.3/0.7, 0.25/0.75, 0.15/0.85, and 0.1/0.9, were prepared for thermogravimetry. Figure 1 shows for three representative samples: 0.4/0.6 (Fig. 1a), 0.25/0.75 (Fig. 1b), and 0.15/0.85 (Fig. 1c), the oxygen partial pressure, $-\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$, versus weight change, W_{O_2}/W_T . Here, W_{O_2} is the weight increase of a sample from the reference weight at $\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm}) = -13.00$, at which Gd₂O₃ and MnO are stable, and W_T is the total weight gain from the reference state to the state at 1 atm O₂, at which Gd₂O₃ and GdMnO₃, GdMnO₃ and GdMn₂O₅, or GdMn₂O₅ and Mn₃O₄ are stable, depending on the overall composition of the sample. As is evident from Fig. 1, weight breaks are found at 9.47, 5.40, and 1.80 in $-\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$. These values correspond to the oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium with three solid phases, Gd₂O₃ + GdMnO₃ + MnO, GdMnO₃ + MnO + Mn₃O₄, or GdMnO₃ + Mn₃O₄ + GdMn₂O₅, respectively.

Table 1 shows the results of identifying phases in the Gd–Mn–O system, together with the experimental conditions. Samples of about 500 mg were produced for the identification of phases, by means of the quenching method. Five phases, Gd₂O₃, MnO, Mn₃O₄, GdMnO₃, and GdMn₂O₅, were found to be stable under the experimental conditions.

From the above results of thermogravimetry and the phase identification, a phase diagram was drawn. The phase diagram is shown in Fig. 2 as a Gd₂O₃–MnO–MnO₂ system, although MnO₂ is not stable under the experimental conditions. The numerical values in the three solid fields in Fig. 2 are values in $-\log P_{O_2}$ in equilibrium with the three solid phases described above, and those found in the two-phase regions are also oxygen partial pressures in $\log P_{O_2}$, which are shown by dotted lines. Table 2 lists the compositions, symbols, stability ranges in the oxygen partial pressures of compound, and activities of components in the solid solutions. Nonstoichiometry of MnO is ascertained by the results of thermogravimetry of the other two samples, shown in Figs. 1b and 1c. That is, nonstoichiometry is represented by slight changes in composition within the oxygen partial pressure range of 9.47–5.40 in $-\log P_{O_2}$.

GdMnO₃ has a large nonstoichiometric composition region with in the range of -9.47 – 0 in $\log P_{O_2}$. Figure 3 shows the relationship between oxygen partial pressure and composition of the GdMnO₃ solid solution, which coexisted with Gd₂O₃. This curve is represented by an equation: $N_{O}/N_{GdMnO_3} = 3.00 \times 10^{-4}(\log P_{O_2})^3 + 5.80 \times 10^{-3}(\log P_{O_2})^2 + 3.52 \times 10^{-2}(\log P_{O_2}) + 0.0464$. Here, N_{O} and N_{GdMnO_3} represent the mole fraction of oxygen and GdMnO₃ in the solid solution. This equation can be solved to show that gadolinium–manganese perovskite would be stoichiometric at -1.79 in $\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$. As shown in

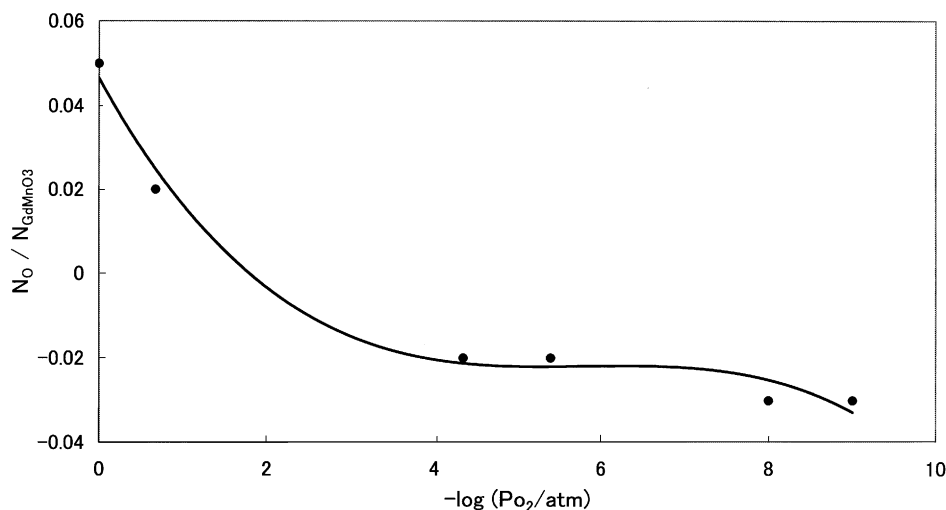


FIG. 3. Oxygen partial pressure, $-\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$ versus the composition of GdMnO₃ solid solution. N_{O}/N_{GdMnO_3} .

TABLE 3
Lattice Contents of Quenched GdMnO₃

Sample	Phases coexisted	$-\log P_{O_2}$ (atm)	a (Å)	b (Å)	c (Å)	V (Å ³)
0.6/0.4	Gd ₂ O ₃	9.00	5.315(2)	5.862(4)	7.426(2)	231.3(2)
	Gd ₂ O ₃	0.68	5.311(6)	5.842(10)	7.425(5)	230.4(5)
0.4/0.6	Gd ₂ O ₃	9.00	5.316(3)	5.840(5)	7.433(4)	230.8(3)
	Gd ₂ O ₃	0.68	5.322(8)	5.807(9)	7.433(8)	229.7(5)
0.25/0.75	MnO	9.00	5.313(2)	5.847(3)	7.431(2)	230.9(1)
	MnO	6.50	5.313(2)	5.837(3)	7.425(2)	230.3(1)
	Mn ₃ O ₄	5.00	5.308(4)	5.825(5)	7.425(4)	229.6(3)
	GdMn ₂ O ₅	0.68	5.316(8)	5.847(5)	7.433(7)	231.0(5)
0.15/0.85	MnO	9.00	5.314(2)	5.843(3)	7.428(3)	230.7(2)
	MnO	6.50	5.312(2)	5.841(4)	7.425(2)	230.3(2)
	Mn ₃ O ₄	5.00	5.308(6)	5.853(9)	7.425(7)	230.7(5)
JCPDS Card No. 25–337 Ref. (27)			5.310	5.840	7.430	
Ref. (28)			5.338	5.879	7.450	
Ref. (29)			5.316	5.856	7.434	

Fig. 2, the composition of the GdMnO₃ solid solutions on the Gd₂O₃-rich side and that on Gd₂O₃-poor side are not the same. This suggests that the region exhibits some width with respect to the direction between the Gd₂O₃ side and the Mn₃O₄ side. Van Roosmalen *et al.* (18) reported that a perovskite-type LaMnO_{3+δ} solid solution can be formed with excess La as well as with excess Mn. The same phenomenon was also found in relation to the La–Mn–O (6) and Nd–Mn–O (7) systems. A tentative detailed, enlarged inset of the GdMnO₃ region is drawn in the upper left-hand side of Fig. 2 in an exaggerated manner. However, its width has not been detected by the present experimental techniques. The curved lines of $\log P_{O_2}$ are drawn from the Gibbs phase rule, that is, one-phase region of three-component system has two degrees of freedom.

TABLE 4
Standard Gibbs Energy Changes of Reaction at 1100°C

Reaction	$-\log P_{O_2}$ (atm)	$-\Delta G^0$ (kJ/mol)
(1) 3MnO + 1/2O ₂ → Mn ₃ O ₄	5.40	72.1
	5.62	73.9 ^a
		60.4 ^b
		50.9 ^c
(2) 1/2Gd ₂ O ₃ + MnO + 1/4O ₂ → GdMnO ₃	9.47	62.2
	9.36	61.5 ^d
(3) GdMnO ₃ + 1/3Mn ₃ O ₄ + 1/3O ₂ → GdMn ₂ O ₅	1.80	14.0
	1.95	15.3 ^e

^a Ref. (23).

^b Ref. (24).

^c Ref. (25).

^d Ref. (26).

^e Ref. (27).

Consequently, the oxygen partial pressure lines in the one-phase area, the GdMnO₃ phase, could be curved.

Lattice constants of GdMnO₃ perovskite were determined as orthorhombic at 9.00, 6.50, 5.00, and 0.68 in $-\log P_{O_2}$ from samples of Gd₂O₃/MnO at mole ratios of 0.6/0.4, 0.4/0.6, 0.25/0.75, and 0.15/0.85. These samples were selected from their ability to coexist with Gd₂O₃, MnO, Mn₃O₄, and GdMn₂O₅, respectively. The results are tabulated in Table 3, together with the previously reported values. Significant differences were found in the lattice constants and the volumes of these samples, depending on the oxygen partial pressure in the case of coexistence with Gd₂O₃. The samples prepared in 0.68 in $-\log P_{O_2}$ are of smaller volume than those prepared at 9.00 in $-\log P_{O_2}$. This could stem from the difference in the ionic radii, that is, Mn³⁺ has an ionic radius of 0.72 Å and Mn⁴⁺ an ionic radius of 0.68 Å, with each having a coordination number of 6 (22). Meanwhile, the differences in lattice constants and volume between samples of 0.25/0.75 and 0.15/0.85 were within experimental errors. This is reasonable from Fig. 2, in which compositions of GdMnO₃ fall within small ranges.

Standard Gibbs Energy Change of Reaction

On the basis of the established phase diagram, the standard Gibbs energy changes of reactions in Table 4 were determined by the equation, $\Delta G^0 = -RT \ln K$. Here, R is the gas constant, T the absolute temperature, and K the equilibrium constant of the reaction. The standard state of activities of components in the solid solutions can be

TABLE 5
Lattice Constant of Quenched GdMn₂O₅

Sample	$-\log P_{O_2}$ (atm)	a (Å)	b (Å)	c (Å)	V (Å ³)
Gd ₂ O ₃ /MnO					
0.2/0.8	0.68	7.293(5)	8.542(6)	5.687(3)	354.3(4)
Ref. (4)		7.36	8.52	5.69	356.8
Ref. (6)		7.337	8.536	5.683	357

arbitrarily chosen for each solid solution, and in Table 2 the standard state is indicated as $\log a_i = 0$.

The previously reported values of ΔG° and the oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium with MnO and Mn₃O₄ are quoted from Refs. (23–25). The standard Gibbs energy change for reaction (1) is -72.1 ± 0.4 kJ/mol. Taking the activity of MnO of the composition (A_2) as unity, this value is -75.0 ± 0.3 kJ/mol. This difference is larger than an experimental error. It shows that the calculation of activity in solid solution is necessary. Calculating from the previous data of (23–25) yields -73.9 , -60.4 , and -50.9 kJ/mol, respectively.

The ΔG° value for reaction (2) is -62.2 kJ/mol, and this value shows fairly close agreement with -61.5 kJ/mol (26). The present value is larger than those of -85.3 for LaMnO₃, and -71.3 for NdMnO₃, as would be expected from the higher oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium.

The oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium and ΔG° value for reaction (3) are -1.80 ± 0.05 in $\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$ and -14.0 kJ/mol. These values show close agreement with the previously reported values, -1.95 and -15.3 (4), respectively.

Compound, GdMn₂O₅

Unlike the La and Nd systems, in the Gd–Mn–O system GdMn₂O₅ is stable as a ternary compound. Preparing the compound by solid reaction of a mixture of gadolinium and manganese oxide is time consuming even at 1100°C, on account of the slow reaction rate. Producing GdMn₂O₅ in air takes more than 2 days.

The compound might be stoichiometric. Lattice constants and spacings were determined from the data of DyMn₂O₅ (27). Determined lattice constants are shown in Table 5 together with previously reported values. The spacings and relative intensities are shown in Table 6. The density of GdMn₂O₅ produced in air was determined to be 6.49 g/cm³, by the usual pycnometric method. This value shows close agreement with 6.46 g/cm³ reported by Bertaut *et al.* (4). From the obtained volume of a unit cell, Z is calculated as 3.99. Z must be an integer, and would be 4. This number corresponds to that of DyMn₂O₅(5).

CONCLUSIONS

(1) Phase equilibrium in the system Gd–Mn–O at 1100°C was established under an oxygen partial pressure ranging from 0 to -13.00 in $\log(P_{O_2}/\text{atm})$.

(2) Under the present experimental conditions, the Gd₂O₃, MnO, Mn₃O₄, GdMnO₃, and GdMn₂O₅ phases are stable.

(3) MnO and GdMnO₃ have nonstoichiometric compositions. However, Mn₃O₄, and GdMn₂O₅ are stoichiometric.

TABLE 6
Spacing and Relative Intensities of GdMn₂O₅

h	k	l	$d(\text{obs.})$	$d(\text{cal.})$	$I/I_0 \times 100$
1	2	0	3.690	3.686	15
0	2	1	3.416	3.415	10
1	2	1	3.099	3.093	66
2	1	1	2.906	2.889	100
0	0	2	2.843	2.844	13
2	2	0	2.788	2.773	6
1	3	0	2.657	2.650	38
1	1	2	2.533	2.530	27
1	3	1	2.407	2.404	6
0	2	2	2.366	2.367	19
1	2	2	2.250	2.251	12
2	1	2	2.176	2.169	33
1	4	0	2.051	2.049	13
2	2	2	1.991	1.985	26
1	4	1	1.930	1.928	21
0	0	3	1.895	1.896	4
3	3	0	1.859	1.849	5
2	4	0	1.840	1.843	6
1	1	3	1.799	1.794	6
3	3	1	1.766	1.758	15
0	4	2	1.707	1.708	17
1	2	3	1.687	1.686	18
1	5	0	1.664	1.663	6
2	1	3	1.653	1.650	21
1	5	1	1.596	1.597	2
3	3	2	1.555	1.550	23
4	0	2	1.545	1.535	18
4	1	2	1.520	1.511	3
2	5	1	1.495	1.493	13
3	1	3	1.477	1.473	1
2	3	3	1.451	1.448	2
5	1	0	1.436	1.438	7
0	0	4	1.422	1.422	15
3	5	0	1.402	1.398	4
1	4	3	1.392	1.392	12
5	2	0	1.381	1.380	2
1	6	1	1.361	1.357	4
4	3	2	1.352	1.351	4
1	2	4	1.327	1.326	8
2	1	4	1.310	1.309	2
0	6	2	1.272	1.273	2
1	3	4	1.253	1.253	10
3	4	3	1.227	1.225	3
6	0	0	1.212	1.215	3

(4) Standard Gibbs energies of reactions found in the diagram were calculated from the oxygen partial pressure in equilibrium with three solid phases.

(5) Lattice constants of GdMnO_3 and GdMn_2O_5 , and the spacing, relative intensity, and density of GdMn_2O_5 were determined.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors express their sincere gratitude to The Uchida Energy Science Promotion Foundation for lending financial support.

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