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Regular Articles

Microwave-assisted reconstruction of Ni,Al hydrotalcite-like compounds

P. Benito, I. Guinea, F.M. Labajos and V. Rives *page 987*



The microwave-assisted reconstruction of Ni,Al HTlcs with Ni/Al molar ratios 2/1 and 3/1 has been studied. Full recovering of the original layered structure is achieved in short periods of time for the 2/1 in the Na₂CO₃ solution, but more drastic conditions are necessary for the 3/1 samples and the reconstruction seems not to be completed. Only a partial reconstruction is observed in distilled water or NH₃ aqueous solution.

Electron microscopic studies of the antiferroelectric phase in $Sr_{0.60}Ca_{0.40}TiO_3$ ceramic

Shahid Anwar and N.P. Lalla *page 997*



Selected area diffraction (SAD) and convergent beam electron diffraction (CBED) patterns taken along the (a,b) [001] and (c,d) [110] zones of the *Pbcm* phase from different domains. The occurrence of the FOLZ ring corresponding to 15.5Å and the superlattice spots as indicated by black arrows confirming the existence of the cell-doubled antiferroelectric phase. Coexistence of the *Pbnm* and *Pbcm* phases across the transition, i.e. at room temperature, has been observed and attributed to the strain/disorder-induced broadening of the first-order antiferroelectric phase transition.

Regular Articles—Continued

Structure, microstructure, and size dependent catalytic properties of nanostructured ruthenium dioxide Pawel Nowakowski, Jean-Pierre Dallas, Sylvie Villain, Agnieszka Kopia and Jean-Raymond Gavarri page 1005



Nanosized crystals of RuO₂ prepared by sol gel route, at pH=0.4 and 1.5. Mean size values $\langle D \rangle$, respectively, 10 and 8 nm.

Synthesis, crystal structure and properties of two 1D nanochain coordination polymers constructed by lanthanide with pyridine-3,4-dicarboxylic acid and 1,10-phenanthroline Hui-Hua Song, Ya-Juan Li, You Song, Zhan-Gang Han and Fang Yang page 1017



Two novel lanthanide coordination polymers $[M_2(\text{pydc})_3(\text{phen})$ (H₂O) · H₂O]_n (M = Eu(1) and Tb(2), pydc = pyridine-3,4-dicarboxylate, phen = 1,10-phenthroline) have been synthesized and characterized. Both compounds reveal a one-dimensional nano-chain, which is further assembled into a three-dimensional supramolecular network via π - π stacking interactions and hydrogen bonds. Their luminescent and magnetic properties have been investigated. The excited state dynamics of KLa(MoO₄)₂:Pr³⁺: From a case study to the determination of the energy levels of rare earth impurities relative to the bandgap in oxidising host lattices Enrico Cavalli, Philippe Boutinaud, Marco Bettinelli and Pieter Dorenbos

page 1025



The study of the excited state dynamics of $KLa(MoO_4)_2$ single crystals doped with Pr^{3+} allows to determine the energies of the levels of the active ion relative to the valence and conduction bands of the host. This model has then been extended to the other rare earth ions on the basis of the systematic nature of the lanthanide energy levels properties.

Hybrid materials of MCM-41 functionalized by lanthanide (Tb^{3+}, Eu^{3+}) complexes of modified *meta*-methylbenzoic acid: Covalently bonded assembly and photoluminescence Ying Li and Bing Yan

page 1032



Novel organic–inorganic mesoporous luminescent materials were synthesized by linking lanthanide (Tb^{3+}, Eu^{3+}) complexes to covalently bond the functionalized ordered mesoporous MCM-41 with modified *meta*-methylbenzoic acid (MMBA)-Si by co-condensation of tetraethoxysilane (TEOS) in the presence of the cetyltrimethylammonium bromide (CTAB) surfactant as template.

Correlation between structural features and vis–NIR spectra of α -Fe₂O₃ hematite and AFe₂O₄ spinel oxides (A = Mg, Zn) N. Pailhé, A. Wattiaux, M. Gaudon and A. Demourgues *page 1040*



UV-visible–NIR reflectance of iron red pigments: $MgFe_2O_4$, $ZnFe_2O_4$ spinels and Fe_2O_3 hematite, were analyzed in regard of their structural features: cationic distribution, geometry of the Fe^{3+} sites, iono-covalence of the bonds.

Cooperative self-construction and enhanced optical absorption of nanoplates-assembled hierarchical Bi_2WO_6 flowers

Shengwei Liu and Jiaguo Yu page 1048



 Bi_2WO_6 hierarchical multilayered flower-like assemblies are fabricated on a large scale by a simple hydrothermal method in the presence of polymeric poly(sodium 4-styrenesulfonate).

Synthesis, structure and electric studies for $La_{0.7}A_{0.3}Mn_{0.96}(In_xAl_{(1-x)})_{0.04}O_3$; A = Ca and Sr perovskites

M.F. Mostafa, S.S. Ata-Allah and H.S. Refai page 1056



The reduced resistivity $[R(T)/R(T_{\rho})]$ vs. the reduced temperature $[T/T_{\rho}]$ of (Al and In) doped La_{0.7}Ca_{0.3}MnO₃-manganites. The variation of the amplitude of the giant resistive peak $\Delta R(T)/R = [R(T_{\rho}) - R(T_{288}K)]/R(T_{288}K)$ with In content *x* (inset).

The phase diagram GdF₃-LuF₃ I.M. Ranieri, S.L. Baldochi and D. Klimm *page 1070*



The phase diagram GdF₃-LuF₃, α , β mean high-*T* phase or low-*T* phase, respectively.

Oxygen partial pressure dependence of electrical conductivity in γ' -Bi₂MoO₆

C.M.C. Vera and R. Aragón page 1075



Temporal dependence of electrical conductivity at 500 $^\circ C$ for $\gamma'\text{-}Bi_2MoO_6$ at controlled partial pressures of oxygen.

Gd₅Ni_{0.96}Sb_{2.04} and Gd₅Ni_{0.71}Bi_{2.29}: Crystal structure, magnetic properties and magnetocaloric effect. Structural transformation and magnetic properties of hexagonal Gd₅Bi₃ Volodymyr Svitlyk, Fan Fei and Yurij Mozharivskyj *page 1080*



Ni substitution of Sb in Gd₅Sb₃ and Gd₅Bi₃ leads to the formation of the orthorhombic Yb₅Sb₃-type structure for Gd₅Ni_{0.96}Sb_{2.04} and stabilizes the orthorhombic bismuthide Gd₅Ni_{0.71}Bi_{2.29} to lower temperatures. Magnetic behavior and magnetocaloric effect was studied for hexagonal Mn₅Si₃-type Gd₅Bi₃, and orthorhombic Gd₅Ni_{0.96}Sb_{2.04} and Gd₅Ni_{0.71}Bi_{2.29}.

Local structure and disorder in crystalline Pb₉Al₈O₂₁ Alex C. Hannon, Emma R. Barney, Diane Holland and Kevin S. Knight *page 1087*



Combined neutron powder diffraction and total scattering, and ^{27}Al NMR on crystalline $Pb_9Al_8O_{21}$ shows it to be a nonstoichiometric compound with vacancies due to PbO volatilisation. A detailed consideration of the thermal and static disorder is given, showing that glass and crystal phases have very similar disorder at short range.

Supramolecular open-framework based on 1-D iron phosphate-diphosphate chains assembled through hydrogen bonding

Miguel A. Salvadó, Pilar Pertierra, Camino Trobajo and José R. García

page 1103



The low temperature hydrothermal synthesis offers many possibilities in the preparation of new materials with mixed octahedral–tetrahedral open-frameworks. Fe(H₂PO₄)(H₂P₂O₇). C₅H₅N is constituted by linear chains of FeO₆ octahedra joined through of both dihydrogenphosphate and dihydrogendiphosphate bridges, interconnected by hydrogen bonds, originating channels where the pyridine molecules are located.

Chirality and ferromagnetism in $NiBPO_4(OH)_2$ containing helix edge-sharing NiO_6 chains

Tao Yang, Jing Ju, Fuhui Liao, Juns Sasaki, Naoki Toyota and Jianhua Lin

page 1110



Two isotypic borophosphates $MBPO_4(OH)_2$ (M=Mg, Ni) have been hydrothermally synthesized and structurally characterized by powder X-ray diffraction in the space group $P3_121$. Nickel (or magnesium) atoms are octahedrally coordinated, which further share edges forming NiO₆ chains around the three-fold screw-axis. Magnetic investigation of NiBPO₄(OH)₂ shows that it is a quasi-one-dimensional magnet, where the intra- and inter-chain interactions are proved to be both ferromagnetic, and a long-range ordering is established below 2.2 K. Reinvestigation of hybrid organic-inorganic materials based on molybdate and piperazininum cations: Influence of the synthesis conditions on the chemical composition and characterizations of the photochromic properties Violaine Coué, Rémi Dessapt, Martine Bujoli-Doeuff, Michel Evain and Stéphane Jobic page 1116



Three organic–inorganic hybrid materials have been prepared from the investigations of the $[Mo_7O_{24}]^{6-}$ /piperazine system in hydrothermal conditions. The role of the pH on the stabilization of the different polyoxomolybdate blocks in the materials i.e. $\frac{1}{\infty}[Mo_3O_{10}]^{2-}$ and $\frac{1}{\infty}[Mo_8O_{27}]^{6-}$ chains and $\frac{2}{\infty}[Mo_5O_{16}]^{2-}$ layer has been investigated.

Direct syntheses of $La_{n+1}Ni_nO_{3n+1}$ phases $(n=1, 2, 3 \text{ and } \infty)$ from nanosized co-crystallites

Xiaole Weng, Paul Boldrin, Isaac Abrahams, Stephen J. Skinner, Suela Kellici and Jawwad A. Darr *page 1123*



Scanning electron micrograph of $La_4Ni_3O_{10}$ (bar = 1 µm) made by a single heat treatment at 1075 °C in air for 12 h of a 4:3 La:Ni ratio co-crystallite mixture of the metal hydroxides.

Hydrothermal synthesis and characteristics of 3-D hydrated bismuth oxalate coordination polymers with open-channel structure

Xinxiang Chen, Yanning Cao, Hanhui Zhang, Yiping Chen, Xuehuan Chen and Xiaochuan Chai *page 1133*



Two novel 3-D extended porous coordination polymers have been synthesized by hydrothermal method. Both compounds are 3-D open-framework structures with a 6^6 uniform net, which consist of honeycomb-like layers connected to each other by oxalate units. While different guest molecules fill in their cavities of honeycomb-like layers. Study of ultrasonic treatment on **2** indicates the replacement of NH_4^+ by K^+ on potassium ion exchange.

In situ neutron diffraction study on Pd-doped $Mg_{0.65}Sc_{0.35}$ electrode material

W.P. Kalisvaart, M. Latroche, F. Cuevas and P.H.L. Notten *page 1141*



2D projection of the neutron diffraction pattern intensities as function of time during electrochemical charge of Pd-doped $Mg_{0.65}Sc_{0.35}$ active material showing the progressive transformation from bcc to fcc.

Syntheses, crystal structure and properties of two novel coordination polymers with the flexible tetrazole-1-acetic acid (Htza)

Wen-Wen Dong, Jun Zhao and Li Xu page 1149



Two novel coordination polymers, $[Ag(tza)]_{\infty}$ (1) and $[Cu(tza)_{2} \infty$ (2) have been prepared and characterized. Compound 1 features extended double-stranded helical chains. Compound 2 features undulated layered structure with hourglass-shaped $[Cu_4(tza)_4]$ as subunits with the weak ferromagnetic interactions between Cu(II) ions.

Structural characterization and ferroelectric ordering in $(C_3N_2H_5)_5Sb_2Br_{11}$

A. Piecha, A. Pietraszko, G. Bator and R. Jakubas *page 1155*



Crystal packing down the *a*-axis in $(C_3N_2H_5)_5Sb_2Br_{11}$ in plane II at 155 K.

IrSr₂TbCu₂O₈, a high-pressure metamagnetic cuprate: Structure, microstructure and properties

A.J. Dos santos-García, J. van Duijn, R. Saéz-Puche, G. Heymann, H. Huppertz and M.Á. Alario-Franco *page 1167*



Reconstructed image from the SAED of the long *c* tetragonal axis $(3a_p)$ of a IrSr₂TbCu₂O₈ crystal. A unit cell picture is included for comparison.

Spatially selected synthesis of LaF_3 and Er^{3+} -doped CaF_2 crystals in oxyfluoride glasses by laser-induced crystallization

M. Kusatsugu, M. Kanno, T. Honma and T. Komatsu page 1176



This figure shows the polarization optical and confocal scanning laser micrographs for lines obtained by laser irradiations with a laser power of P = 1.7 W and a scanning speed of $S = 2 \,\mu$ m/s in an oxyfluoride glass. It is proposed that the line consists of the composite of CaF₂ nanocrystals and oxide glassy phase. This is the first demonstration on the patterning of fluoride crystals in glass by laser irradiations.

Hybrid structures formed by homo- and heteroleptic aliphatic dicarboxylates of lead with 2-D inorganic connectivity A. Thirumurugan and C.N.R. Rao *page 1184*



Three homoleptic and two heteroleptic three-dimensional lead aliphatic dicarboxylates along with a novel two-dimensional lead nitrate-oxalate with hybrid structures involving Pb–O–Pb linkages have been synthesized and charecterized. In all these dicarboxylates, there is two-dimensional inorganic connectivity. The lead (II) cation has hemi- or holo-directed coordination geometry.

Multivariate data analysis approach to understand magnetic properties of perovskite manganese oxides

N. Imamura, T. Mizoguchi, H. Yamauchi and M. Karppinen

page 1195



Statistical multivariate data analysis techniques are applied to detect structure-property relations in antiferromagnetic (AFM) and ferromagnetic (FM) manganese perovskites. For AFM compounds, *partial least squares projections to latent structures* analysis predict the magnitude of the Néel temperature on the bases of structural parameters only. Moreover, AFM and FM compounds are well separated by means of so-called *partial least squares discriminant analysis* method.

Powder preparation and UV absorption properties of selected compositions in the $CeO_2-Y_2O_3$ system

Franck Tessier, François Cheviré, Francisco Muñoz, Odile Merdrignac-Conanec, Roger Marchand, Michel Bouchard and Christophe Colbeau-Justin





Comparison between diffuse reflectance spectra of ceria (x=0) and yttrium modified ceria (x=0.3).

Synthesis and characterization of a new layered organic–inorganic hybrid nickel(II) 1,4:5,8-naphthalenediimide *bis*-phosphonate, exhibiting canted antiferromagnetism, with $T_c \sim 21$ K

Elvira M. Bauer, Carlo Bellitto, Carlos J. Gómez García and Guido Righini

page 1213



A new layered hybrid organic–inorganic Ni(II) N,N'-bis(2-phosphonoethyl)-naphthalene 1,4:5,8 tetracarboxydiimide complex has been synthesized and characterized. Magnetic measurements as a function of temperature and at different fields show that the compound is magnetically ordered below $T_c\sim$ 21 K.

Impact of metal substitutions for cobalt in YBaCo₄O₇ A. Maignan, V. Caignaert, V. Pralong, D. Pelloquin and S. Hébert *page 1220*



The temperature characteristic of the structural transition in YBaCo₄O₇, indicated by an abrupt jump of the Seebeck coefficient, decreases as Zn^{2+} is substituted for cobalt. In contrast, Al^{3+} or Ga^{3+} substitutions suppress this structural transition.

Effect of heat treatment on pore structure in nano-crystalline NiO: A small angle neutron scattering study

J. Bahadur, D. Sen, S. Mazumder and S. Ramanathan *page 1227*



SEM micrograph shows the microstructure of the nano-crystalline NiO. An average agglomerate size of $\sim 1 \,\mu m$ is evident from SEM and LS.SANS profiles for the samples heat treated at 300, 600 and 900 °C, respectively, are shown. A significant variation in the profile shape due to the modification in the intra-agglomerate pore structure under heat treatment is visible.

Chiolite-like Ca₅Te₃O₁₄: An X-ray and neutron diffraction study

W.T. Fu and D.J.W. IJdo *page 1236*



The structure of $Ca_5Te_3O_{14}$ around z=0(a) and 0.25(b), respectively. The dimension of the unit cell is drawn in full line and that of the sub-cell in dashed line. In (b) the relatively too long Ca2–O1 and Ca3–O1 bond distances are also shown in dashed line.

Pressure induced phase transformation in $U_2O(PO_4)_2$

A.K. Mishra, Chitra Murli, A. Singhal and Surinder M. Sharma page 1240



The high pressure behavior of $U_2O(PO_4)_2$ has been investigated with the help of Raman scattering and X-ray diffraction measurements up to ~14 and 6.5 GPa, respectively. The observed changes in the Raman spectra as well as the X-ray diffraction patterns suggest that $U_2O(PO_4)_2$ undergoes a phase transition at ~6 GPa to a mixture of a disordered ambient pressure phase and a new high pressure phase. The new phase resembles the triclinic mixedvalence phase of uranium orthophosphate (U(UO₂)(PO₄)₂). On release of pressure the initial phase is not retrieved.

Shape controlled synthesis of CaMoO₄ thin films and their photoluminescence property

Ana Paula de Azevedo Marques, Valeria M. Longo, Dulce M.A. de Melo, Paulo S. Pizani, Edson R. Leite, José Arana Varela and Elson Longo *page 1249*



CaMoO₄ thin films were prepared by the complex polymerization method (CPM). The films were annealed at different temperatures and time in a conventional resistive furnace and in a microwave oven. A strong photoluminescence emission was observed in the disordered thin films and was attributed to complex cluster vacancies. The experimental results were confirmed by high level first principle calculations.

Crystal chemistry of the divalent cation in alluaudite-type phosphates: A structural and infrared spectral study of the Na_{1.5}(Mn_{1-x} M_x^{2+})_{1.5}Fe_{1.5}(PO₄)₃ solid solutions (x = 0 to 1, $M^{2+} = Cd^{2+}$, Zn²⁺) Frédéric Hatert page 1258



The crystal structure of $Na_{1.5}Zn_{1.5}Fe_{1.5}^{3+}(PO_4)_3$.

Continued

Rapid Communications

High pressure synthesis and structure of a new magnetoplumbite-type cobalt oxide SrCo₁₂O₁₉ Shintaro Ishiwata, Ichiro Terasaki, Masaki Azuma and Mikio Takano page 1273



A new magnetoplumbite-type hexagonal cobalt oxide, $SrCo_{12}O_{19}$, has been synthesized by a high-pressure technique. Bond-valence calculations based on a single crystal X-ray structure refinement show a rather wide charge distribution for Co sites from +2.15 (Co(4)) to +3.50 (Co(1)).

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