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Regular Articles

Rapid crystallization and morphological adjustment of zeolite ZSM-5 in nonionic emulsions Ying Zhang and Chao Jin *page 1*



The nonionic emulsion synthesis allows rapid crystallization and morphological adjustment of zeolite ZSM-5 compared with the conventional hydrothermal synthesis.

Silver delafossite nitride, AgTaN₂?

Akira Miura, Michael Lowe, Brian M. Leonard, Chinmayee V. Subban, Yuji Masubuchi, Shinichi Kikkawa, Richard Dronskowski, Richard G. Hennig, Héctor D. Abruña and Francis J. DiSalvo *page 7*



A delafossite silver nitride, $AgTaN_2$, was synthesized from $NaTaN_2$ by a cation-exchange reaction using a $AgNO_3$ - NH_4NO_3 flux. It contains N-Ag-N linear bonding.

Regular Articles—Continued

Tuning the aspect ratio of hydrothermally grown ZnO by choice of precursor

N. Rajeswari Yogamalar and Arumugam Chandra Bose page 12



The study investigates the effect of Zn^{2+} ions derived from various zinc sources (Zn · Ac₂, Zn · Cl₂ and Zn · (NO₃)₂) on the formation of one dimensional ZnO nanostructures with tunable aspect ratio.

Ternary rare-earth bismuthides RE_5SiBi_2 and RE_5GeBi_2 (RE = La-Nd, Gd-Er): Stabilization of the β -Yb₅Sb₃-type structure through tetrel substitution

Stephen D. Barry, Andriy V. Tkachuk, Haiying Bie, Peter E.R. Blanchard and Arthur Mar *page 21*



Tetrel (Si or Ge) and Bi atoms are arranged in an ordered manner in the β -Yb₅Sb₃-type structure adopted by RE_5TtBi_2 .

Anomalous magnetic behavior in the transition metal ions doped Cu₂O flower-like nanostructures

Asar Ahmed and Namdeo S. Gajbhiye *page 30*



Room temperature ferromagnetic behavior was observed in the Cu_2O nanoflowers doped with Fe, Co, Ni and Mn ions. Cation deficiencies formed due to dopant ions were possibly responsible for ferromagnetism.

Vacancy ordering and oxygen dynamics in oxide ion conducting $La_{1-x}Sr_xGa_{1-x}Mg_xO_{3-x}$ ceramics: ⁷¹Ga, ²⁵Mg and ¹⁷O NMR

- A. Buzlukov, A. Trokiner, V. Kozhevnikov,
- S. Verkhovskii, A. Yakubovsky, I. Leonidov,
- A. Gerashenko, A. Stepanov, I. Baklanova and
- A. Tankeyev

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Up to 700 K the vacant oxygen sites are near Ga but not near Mg.

Na₂₇Ru₁₄O₄₈: A new mixed-valence sodium ruthenate with magnetic heptameric plaquettes

J.M. Allred, L.M. Wang, P. Khalifah and R.J. Cava page 44



The basic building block in $Na_{27}Ru_{14}O_{48}$ is a heptameric plaquette. Magnetic susceptibility data indicate the presence of antiferromagnetic correlations.

Synthesis and spectral characteristics of Sr₂Y₈(SiO₄)₆O₂: Eu polycrystals

M.G. Zuev, A.M. Karpov and A.S. Shkvarin page 52



The scheme of nonradiative transfer over of energy of excitation from oxygen vacancies to ions Eu^{2+} and Eu^{3+} in $Sr_2Y_8(SiO_4)_6O_2{:}$ Eu phosphors.

Tunable photoluminescence of NaYF₄:Eu nanocrystals by Sr^{2+} codoping

Guofeng Wang and Qing Peng page 59



(a) TEM and (b) HRTEM images of NaYF₄:Sr(30%)/Eu(10%) nanocrystals. (c) TEM image of NaYF₄:Sr(70%)/Eu(10%) nanocrystals. (d) EDXA pattern of NaYF₄:Sr(30%)/Eu(10%) nanocrystals.

Ca-for-Sr substitution in the thermoelectric [(Sr,Ca)₂(O,OH)₂]_{*q*}[CoO₂] misfit-layered cobalt-oxide system Hisao Yamauchi, Lassi Karvonen, Takayuki Egashira, Yoshiaki Tanaka and Maarit Karppinen *page 64*



In the misfit-layered $[(Sr_{1-x}Ca_x)_2(O,OH)_2]_q[CoO_2]$ ($0.0 \le x \le 0.2$) system the x=0 phase has a commensurate match between the two layer blocks (i.e. q=0.5), while isovalent Ca-for-Sr substitution induces lattice misfit (i.e. q>0.5). At the same time Seebeck coefficient gets increased. Simultaneous increase in resistivity however outweighs this benefit, and accordingly the thermoelectric power factor is decreased.

Crystal-chemistry of mullite-type aluminoborates $Al_{18}B_4O_{33}$ and Al_5BO_9 : A stoichiometry puzzle

Martin Fisch, Thomas Armbruster, Daniel Rentsch, Eugen Libowitzky and Thomas Pettke

page 70



A chemical composition of $Al_{18}B_4O_{33} = Al_{4.91}B_{1.09}O_9 = 9Al_2O_3$: 2B₂O₃ has been assumed for mullite-type aluminoborate with Al_3BO_9 structure. However, samples prepared by different routes showed compositions close to $5Al_2O_3$:B₂O₃.

Synthesis, structures and photocatalytic activities of microcrystalline $ABi_2Nb_2O_9$ (A = Sr, Ba) powders Weiming Wu, Shijing Liang, Xiaowei Wang, Jinhong Bi, Ping Liu and Ling Wu page 81



Aurivillius-type $ABi_2Nb_2O_9$ (A = Sr, Ba) photocatalysts were successfully synthesized by a citrate complex method. SrBi_2Nb_2O_9 and BaBi_2Nb_2O_9 showed different photocatalytic performances in the redox reaction of methyl orange (MO) under UV-light ($\lambda = 254$ nm), due to the different crystal structures of $ABi_2Nb_2O_9$ (A = Sr, Ba).

Cation distribution and particle size effect on Raman spectrum of CoFe_2O_4

P. Chandramohan, M.P. Srinivasan, S. Velmurugan and S.V. Narasimhan

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Variation of Raman shift difference ($\Delta \omega$) with size.

Crystal and electronic structures of CaAl₂Si₂-type rare-earth copper zinc phosphides $RECuZnP_2$ (RE = Pr, Nd, Gd–Tm, Lu)

Peter E.R. Blanchard, Stanislav S. Stoyko, Ronald G. Cavell and Arthur Mar *page 97*



The absence of a band gap in the semimetallic quaternary rareearth phosphides $RECuZnP_2$ permits the formation of a solid solution such as $GdCu_xZn_{2-x}P_2$ through hole-doping of the valence band.

Fully reversible hydrogen absorption and desorption reactions with $Sc(Al_{1-x}Mg_x)$, x = 0.0, 0.15, 0.20 Martin Sahlberg, Claudia Zlotea, Michel Latroche and Yvonne Andersson

page 104



XRD pattern of $Sc(Al_{1-x}Mg_x)$. From the top: x=0, 0.15, 0.20. The hydrogen absorption properties were studied by thermal desorption spectroscopy, pressure-composition-isotherms and scanning electron microscopy techniques.

Enhanced thermoelectric performance and novel nanopores in AgSbTe₂ prepared by melt spinning

Baoli Du, Han Li, Jingjing Xu, Xinfeng Tang and Ctirad Uher *page 109*



Representative nanostructure of $AgSbTe_2$ sample (a) ribbons obtained after melt spinning (b) bulk $AgSbTe_2$ material obtained after spark plasma sintering.

Structure, thermal stability and properties of Li₃Sc(BO₃)₂ G.M. Cai, X.M. Tao, L.M. Su, F. Zheng, D.Q. Yi, X.L. Chen and Z.P. Jin *page 115*



The metal–orthoborate framework of an $Li_3Sc(BO_3)_2$ is build up from ScO_6 octahedra connected to each other by sharing common edges, corners and faces of BO₃ units and LiO₄ groups. Large band gap of about 4.4 eV made Tb³⁺-doped Li₃Sc(BO₃)₂ exhibits excellent photoluminescence property, given potential applications in phosphor-converted white light-emitting diodes.

Investigation of modification of hydrogenation and structural properties of LaNi₅ intermetallic compound induced by substitution of Ni by Pd

J. Prigent, J.-M. Joubert and M. Gupta page 123



Phase diagram of the system $LaNi_{5-x}Pd_x$ -D₂ (absorption) at 25 °C and 25 bar.

Effect of nitrogen-doping temperature on the structure and photocatalytic activity of the B,N-doped TiO₂

Xiaosong Zhou, Feng Peng, Hongjuan Wang, Hao Yu and Jian Yang

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The changes of photocatalytic activity of $B,N-TiO_2$ with variable nitrogen doping temperatures are attributed to the transformation of surface structure and oxygen vacancies, and the Ti–O–B–N structure plays a vital role in photocatalytic activity under visible light irradiation.

One-dimensional GdVO₄: Ln^{3+} (Ln = Eu, Dy, Sm) nanofibers: Electrospinning preparation and luminescence properties

Xue Li, Min Yu, Zhiyao Hou, Guogang Li, Ping'an Ma, Wenxin Wang, Ziyong Cheng and Jun Lin *page 141*



The crystal structure of π -ErBO₃: New single-crystal data for an old problem

Almut Pitscheider, Reinhard Kaindl, Oliver Oeckler and Hubert Huppertz

page 149



The first satisfying single-crystal structure determination of π -ErBO₃ sheds light on the extensively discussed structure of π -orthoborates. The application of light pressure during the solid state synthesis yielded in high-quality crystals, due to pressure-induced crystallization.

Bismuth titanate pyrochlore microspheres: Directed synthesis and their visible light photocatalytic activity Jungang Hou, Shuqiang Jiao, Hongmin Zhu and R.V. Kumar

page 154



Bismuth titanate pyrochlore microspheres were synthesized by a facile hydrothermal process without the use of any surfactant or template, and the effects of concentration of OH^- on the diameter of microspheres, growth mechanism and photocatalytic properties were investigated.

Syntheses, structures, thermal stabilities and luminescence of two new 3D zinc phosphonates

Ruibiao Fu, Shengmin Hu and Xintao Wu page 159



Two new zinc phosphonates with 3D open-framework consisting of 1D channels and blue or purple emission behave thermally stable up to 300 and 350 $^{\circ}$ C under air atmosphere, respectively.

Crystal structures and luminescent properties of lanthanide nitrate coordination polymers with structurally related amide type bridging podands

Qing Wang, Xuhuan Yan, Hongrui Zhang, Weisheng Liu, Yu Tang and Minyu Tan *page 164*



Two one-dimensional lanthanide coordination polymers were assembled by two structurally related bridging podands, and the effects of the structures on luminescent properties of the solid Tb(III) nitrate complexes were investigated.

Phosphate-intercalated Ca–Fe-layered double hydroxides: Crystal structure, bonding character, and release kinetics of phosphate

Myong A. Woo, Tae Woo Kim, Mi-Jeong Paek, Hyung-Wook Ha, Jin-Ho Choy and Seong-Ju Hwang *page 171*



We synthesized phosphate-intercalated Ca–Fe-LDH materials that can act as bifunctional inorganic vectors for the slow release of phosphate fertilizer and also the neutralization of acid soil. Fitting analysis based on kinetic models indicated a heterogeneous diffusion process of phosphates and a distinct dependence of release rate on the charge of phosphates.

Phase formation, crystal structures and magnetic properties of perovskite-type phases in the system

 $La_2Co_{1+z}(Mg_xTi_{1-x})_{1-z}O_6$

S. Shafeie, J. Grins, S.Ya. Istomin, L. Karvonen, S.A. Chen, T.H. Chen, J.M. Chen, A. Weidenkaff, M. Karppinen, T. Sirtl and G. Svensson *page 177*



XRPD patterns for perovskite compounds along the lines $La_2Co(Mg_xTi_{1-x})O_6$ and $La_2Co_{1+z}(Mg_{0.5}Ti_{0.5})_{1-z}O_6$.

$Cu_{22}Bi_{12}S_{21}Cl_{16} \mbox{---} A \mbox{ mixed conductor with fast one-dimensional copper(I) ion transport}$

Andreas Heerwig, Rotraut Merkle, Joachim Maier and Michael Ruck

page 191



Copper cations easily move through the rigid tubular crystal structure of $Cu_{22}Bi_{12}S_{21}Cl_{16}.$

Intrinsic magnetism in Fe doped SnO₂ nanoparticles S. Sambasivam, Byung Chun Choi and J.G. Lin *page 199*



The ESR spectra reveal that the nature of Fe in $Sn_{1-x}Fe_xO_2$ samples is isolated rhombic Fe^{3+} -ion in rutile phase and the Fe content (x=0.01 and 0.03), an extra spin-pumping is observed below 250 K.

Effects of calcination on microscopic and mesoscopic structures in Ca- and Sr-doped nano-crystalline lanthanum chromites

Himal Bhatt, J. Bahadur, M.N. Deo, S. Ramanathan, K.K. Pandey, D. Sen, S. Mazumder and Surinder M. Sharma





Dopant chromates evolve as intermediate phases during calcination of Ca- and Sr-doped nano-crystalline lanthanum chromites at intermediate temperatures, around 900 °C, evident from infrared spectroscopy. Such an event results in a modification of the microscopic and mesoscopic structures.

A new series of lanthanoid containing Keggin-type germanotungstates with acetate chelators: $[{Ln(CH_3COO)GeW_{11}O_{39}(H_2O)}_2]^{12-} {Ln = Eu^{III}, Gd^{III}, Tb^{III}, Dy^{III}, Ho^{III}, Er^{III}, Tm^{III}, and Yb^{III}}$ Firasat Hussain, Stefan Sandriesser, Manfred Speldrich and Greta R. Patzke page 214



A new series of acetate-chelated lanthanoid containing germanotungstates [$\{Ln(CH_3COO)GeW_{11}O_{39}(H_2O)\}_2$]¹²⁻ (Ln = Eu to Yb) is available from a convenient one-pot reaction. The influence of the lanthanide contraction on the structural properties is discussed and the magnetic properties of the Gd-representative are investigated in detail.

Author inquiries

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Stabilization of Th³⁺ ions into mixed-valence thorium fluoride

Marc Dubois, Belto Dieudonné, Adel Mesbah, Pierre Bonnet, Malika El-Ghozzi, Guillaume Renaudin and Daniel Avignant

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Electrochemical insertion of ${\rm Li}^+$ ions into mixed-valence III/IV thorium fluoride and EPR spectra for the raw and inserted compounds.