

Phase Relationships in the Sm–Ba–Cu–O System at ~950°C

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A systematic X-ray powder diffraction study of the Sm_2O_3 – BaCO_3 – CuO system over the temperature range ~920–980°C is presented as a function of cationic molar ratios. In the pseudobinary regions the phases BaSm_2O_4 , Sm_2CuO_4 , and BaCuO_2 were observed; in the pseudoternary region $\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5$, $\text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_7$, $\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_2\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_y$, and $\text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$ were identified. A solid solution region was found in the vicinity of $\text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$. Lattice parameters are presented for each compound detected. A pseudoternary phase diagram is presented: subsolidus relationships are indicated. This system is compared with related lanthanoid–barium–copper oxide systems; only the europium system exhibits comparable phases. © 1991 Academic Press, Inc.

Introduction

Discovery of high temperature superconductivity in the pseudoternary region of first the Y–Ba–Cu–O system and then Ln –Ba–Cu–O ($Ln = \text{La}$ – Lu , except Ce, Pr, and Tb) systems (1) caused them to become important as well as interesting areas for study. Numerous experiments have demonstrated that the characteristics of the Ln –Ba–Cu–O superconducting phases depend greatly upon the preparatory procedure (2). Knowledge of phase relationships helps both to improve the properties of these materials and to achieve specimen reproducibility. A number of Ln –Ba–Cu–O systems have been examined over the *entire composition range* at temperatures of

900–1000°C in air: $Ln = \text{Y}$ (3–7), La (8–10), Pr and Nd (11), Eu (12), Gd (13, 14), Er (15), and Tm (16). These studies have demonstrated that as the lanthanoid ion is changed the phase relationships vary considerably even at the same temperature. Lanthanoid ion size and basicity appear to be important factors in determining phase stability. From an examination of the phase relationships among the Ln –Ba–Cu–O systems it appeared that only the adjacent smaller-lanthanoid Er and Tm systems are identical and that the larger, more basic, lanthanoids exhibit significant differences in their behavior. Understanding these differences requires detailed phase investigations.

The Eu–Ba–Cu–O system (12) appeared transitory between the larger and smaller lanthanoid systems since in addition to the compounds characteristic of the larger lanthanoids it exhibited the ($Ln : \text{Ba} : \text{Cu}$) ‘211’ phase common to the smaller lanthanoids.

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TABLE I
PHASES OBSERVED IN THE Sm_2O_3 - BaCO_3 - CuO SYSTEM UNDER VARIOUS PREPARATORY CONDITIONS

Sample no.	Mixed composition ^a	Preparatory conditions			Phases observed	Color
		Time	Atmosphere	Temperature (°C)		
2	8:1:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$	Green
3	3:1:0			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$	Lt grey
4	7:2:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$	Green
5	7:1:2			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$	Dk green
6	2:1:0			900	Sm_2BaO_4	Lt grey
6	2:1:0			955	Sm_2BaO_4	Lt grey
6	2:1:0			1030	Sm_2BaO_4	Lt grey
6	2:1:0			1130	Sm_2BaO_4	Lt grey
7	2:0:1			1030	Sm_2CuO_4	Black
8	6:3:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4$	Green
9	3:1:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$	Green
10	6:1:3			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4$	Blk-grn
11	4:3:0			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
12	4:2:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4$	Lt green
13	1:1:0			900	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO} + \text{Ba(OH)}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}^c$	White
13	1:1:0			955	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
13	1:1:0			1030	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
13	1:1:0			1130	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
14	2:1:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5$	Green
15	5:3:2			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Green
16	1:0:1			1025	$\text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{CuO}$	Brown
17	3:2:2			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$	Grey-grn
18	2:2:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$	Dk green
19	2:1:2			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Black
20	4:1:5			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{CuO} + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Grey
21	1:2:0			900	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO} + \text{BaCO}_3^c$	White
21	1:2:0			955	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
21	1:2:0			1030	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
21	1:2:0			1130	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{BaO}$	White
22	1:1:1			950	$\text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z + \text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5 + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Grn-blk
23	1:0:2			955	$\text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{CuO}$	Black
24	3:1:6			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{CuO}_4 + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v + \text{CuO}$	Black
25	1:1:2		O_2	975	$\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Black
25	1:1:2	48 hr	O_2	975	$\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Black
25	1:1:2			950	$\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Black
26	1:8:1			950	$\text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4 + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z + \text{BaO}$	Grey
28	1:3:2			950	$\text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$	Black
29	1:2:3			950	$\text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$	Black
30	3:5:12			950	$\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v + \text{CuO} + \text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_z^d$	Black
31	1:1:5			950	$\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v + \text{CuO}$	Black
32	1:8:1			950	$\text{BaO} + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z + \text{Sm}_2\text{BaO}_4$	Grey
33	1:6:3			950	$\text{BaCuO}_2 + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z + \text{BaO}$	Black
34	2:9:9			950	$\text{BaCuO}_2 + \text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_v + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$	Black
35	1:3:6			950	$\text{BaCuO}_2 + \text{CuO} + \text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_v^d$	Black
37	0:3:1			950	$\text{BaCuO}_2 + \text{BaO} + \text{BaCO}_3^c$	Grey
42	4:7:9			950	$\text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_v^d + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z + \text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_v$	Black
43	3:8:9			950	$\text{BaCuO}_2 + \text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_v^d + \text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$	Black

^a Sm:Ba:Cu molar ratio.

^b Heated in air 24 hr unless O_2 indicated; °C.

^c Trace of substance detected.

^d Solid solution apparent.

In the $\text{Ln} = \text{Nd}$ system the '211' compound was not observed, but a '311' compound related structurally to the lanthanum '422' phase was reported (11, 17). This study was undertaken to determine if the Sm-Ba-Cu-O system would be similar to

either the Eu or Nd system, or exhibit yet different phases. The Sm-Ba-Cu-O compounds and their phase relationships in air at $\sim 950^\circ\text{C}$ are presented herein. The $\sim 950^\circ\text{C}$ temperature was chosen since at lower temperatures it is difficult to attain equilibrium.

TABLE II
PHASES OBSERVED IN THE BaCO₃–CuO PSEUDOBINARY REGION UNDER VARIOUS SINTERING CONDITIONS

Sample no.	Initial composition ^a	Preparatory conditions			Phases observed	Color
		Time (hr)	Atmosphere	Temperature (°C)		
38	0:2:1	150		600	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Lt grey
38	0:2:1	250		700	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Grey
38	0:2:1	72	O ₂	700	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Grey
38	0:2:1	160		800	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Grey
38	0:2:1	150	O ₂	800	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Grey
38	0:2:1	150		975	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Black
39	0:1:1	150		600	BaCO ₃ + CuO + BaCuO ₂	Lt grey
39	0:1:1	72	O ₂	700	BaCuO ₂	Grey
39	0:1:1	250		700	BaCuO ₂	Dk grey
39	0:1:1	150	O ₂	800	BaCuO ₂	Dk grey
39	0:1:1	160		800	BaCuO ₂	Dk grey
39	0:1:1	150		975	BaCuO ₂	Black
40	0:1:2	150		600	CuO + BaCO ₃ + BaCuO ₂	Grey
40	0:1:2	250		700	CuO + BaCO ₃ + BaCuO ₂	Grey
40	0:1:2	72	O ₂	700	CuO + BaCO ₃ + BaCuO ₂	Black
40	0:1:2	150	O ₂	800	CuO + BaCO ₃ + BaCuO ₂	Black
40	0:1:2	160		800	CuO + BaCO ₃ + BaCuO ₂	Black
40	0:1:2	150		975	CuO + BaCO ₃ + BaCuO ₂	Black
41	0:1:3			950	BaCuO ₂ + CuO	Black

^a Sm : Ba : Cu molar ratio.

^b Heated in air unless O₂ indicated; °C.

Experimental

Reactants were: Sm₂O₃ (99.9%, Research Chemicals, Phoenix, AZ), BaCO₃ (reagent grade, J. T. Baker Co., Phillipsburg, NJ), and CuO (reagent grade, Mallinckrodt, St. Louis, MO). The BaCO₃ and CuO were monophasic by X-ray powder diffraction; the Sm₂O₃ diffraction pattern indicated the presence of known polymorphic modifications with the monoclinic form predominant. Reactants were weighed to an accuracy of ±0.1 mg, hand-mixed under acetone with an agate mortar and pestle, dried, and then ground again. The specimens were placed in platinum or alumina crucibles and heated in a tube furnace either in air or under a dynamic 1-bar oxygen atmosphere at 600–1130°C for 24 hr, then in most cases cooled to

room temperature at a rate of ~150°C hr⁻¹. Some products were reground and heated again under either air or O₂ for 24 to 120 hr, then cooled slowly to room temperature.

Phase analysis and characterization were effected by the Guinier X-ray powder diffraction technique with monochromatized CuKα₁ radiation (λ_{α₁} = 1.54050 Å) in a 114.6-mm diameter camera evacuated to ~0.1 Torr during exposure. NBS-certified Si [*a* = 5.43082(3) Å] served as internal standard. Reflection positions were determined with a Supper film reader; intensities were estimated visually. Lattice parameters calculated by a locally written least-squares routine were refined with the program APPLEMAN (18). Theoretical X-ray powder diffraction intensities were calculated with the program POWD12 (19); unless indicated otherwise the following iso-

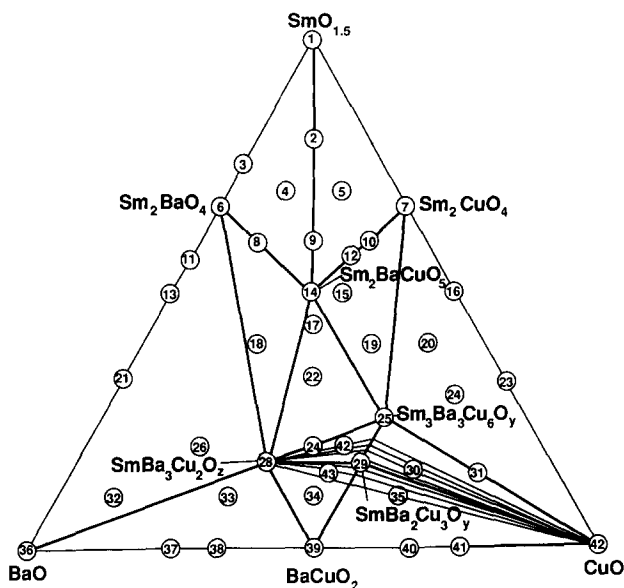


FIG. 1. Subsolidus phase relationships at $\sim 950^\circ\text{C}$ in the Sm-Ba-Cu-O system. The numbers correspond to those listed in Tables I and II. The lined area represents a solid solution region.

tropic thermal parameters were used: Sm, 0.9; Ba and Cu, 1.0; and O, 1.5 \AA^2 . All calculations were effected on a VAX 11/750 computer.

Magnetic susceptibilities of two '123' specimens were determined with a Quantum Design SQUID magnetometer over the temperature range 5–100 K in a 500-G magnetic field.

Results and Discussion

Initial Sm : Ba : Cu molar compositions, sample numbers, heating conditions, phases observed, and specimen colors are tabulated in Table I; comparable data on numerous Ba-Cu mixtures are presented in Table II. Phase relationships are presented in Fig. 1. The numbers in the figure are keyed to the sample numbers listed in Tables I and II. Lattice parameters and structure types for all seven phases observed, together with selected literature data, are presented in Table III.

The Pseudobinary Regions

The BaCO₃-CuO region. Only the well-characterized cubic $Im\bar{3}m$ BaCuO₂ (20, 21) was observed.

The Sm₂O₃-BaCO₃ region. Only white orthorhombic BaSm₂O₄ was found. Its observed lattice parameters agree well with previously reported values (22). In Table IV interplanar *d*-spacings, observed intensities, and values calculated with the atomic positional parameters of CaSc₂O₄ (23) are presented. Attempts to prepare compounds with the Sm : Ba ratios 1 : 1, 4 : 3, and 1 : 2, which have been observed in related systems (16, 24), yielded mixtures of Sm₂O₃ and BaSm₂O₄ or BaO and BaSm₂O₄. Weak X-ray reflections assignable to Ba(OH)₂ · H₂O in a few diffractograms are presumed the result of specimen reaction with atmospheric moisture during transfer to the Guinier camera.

The Sm₂O₃-CuO region. Only Sm₂CuO₄ was observed. The X-ray data were indexed

TABLE III
LATTICE PARAMETER AND SYMMETRY DATA ON COMPOUNDS OBSERVED
IN THE Sm₂O₃–BaCO₃–CuO SYSTEM

Compound	Symmetry ^a	Lattice parameters			Ref. ^b	Notes
		a(Å)	b(Å)	c(Å)		
BaCuO ₂	C	18.2848(6)			(21)	
		18.2772(2)				
Sm ₂ CuO ₄	T	5.5379(2)		11.977(1)	(25)	$a\sqrt{2}$
		5.522		11.938		
Sm ₂ BaO ₄	O	10.520(2)	12.344(1)	3.5616(6)	(22)	
		10.548	12.332	3.554		
SmBa ₂ Cu ₃ O _y	O	3.8818(3)	3.896(1)	11.8015(8)	(1)	950°/air
		3.855(2)	3.899(2)	11.721(4)		
		3.884(2)		11.822(8)		
Sm ₃ Ba ₃ Cu ₆ O _y	T	5.4754(7)		11.613(3)	(1)	vacuum heat 975°/air/24 hr 950°/O ₂ /48 hr
		5.4717(2)		11.594(1)		
Sm ₂ BaCuO ₅	O	12.398(1)	7.272(1)	5.755(1)	(30)	
		12.398(3)	7.271(2)	5.759(1)		
		12.405(3)	7.283(7)	5.74(1)		
SmBa ₃ Cu ₂ O _z	T	5.8270(3)		8.0461(7)	(31)	
		5.8312(7)		8.048(1)		

^a C, cubic; T, tetragonal; O, orthorhombic.

^b This work, except as noted.

with tetragonal lattice parameters slightly larger than previously reported values (25). X-ray powder diffraction intensities calculated with the atomic parameters reported for K₂NiF₄-type La₂CuO₄ (26) agreed well with observed values. Attempts to prepare Ln₂Cu₂O₅- and LnCuO₃-type compounds (27, 28) met with failure.

The Pseudoternary Region

Four compounds were obtained: SmBa₂Cu₃O_y, '123'; Sm₂BaCuO₅, '211'; Sm₃Ba₃Cu₆O_y, '336'; and SmBa₃Cu₂O_z, '132'.

The '123' phase when prepared in air at 950°C yielded a well-defined monophasic X-ray powder diffraction pattern indexable on orthorhombic symmetry. These parameters lie between literature values (1) for vacuum- and O₂-annealed preparations. Several '123' specimens were annealed under different conditions—various heating times, temperatures, and air or O₂ atmospheres; the pre-

paratory conditions, lattice parameters, and unit cell volumes of selected preparations are compiled in Table V. Only a rapidly quenched, oxygen-annealed specimen evidenced tetragonal symmetry. Consistent with previous reports none of the samples annealed in air and quenched showed the Meissner effect at liquid nitrogen temperatures, but the high-*T*_c version could be produced by cooling O₂-annealed specimens slowly. A plot of χ vs *T* for two slowly cooled specimens, one heated initially 24 hr at 975°C and then 20 hr at 700°C and the other heated initially 48 hr at 975°C and then 120 hr at 700°C, are presented in Fig. 2. The transition to diamagnetism occurs between 45 and 50 K for the sample heated 20 hr in O₂ and between 85 and 90 K for the specimen heated 120 h. The latter value agrees favorably with the reported midpoint value of 93 K (1). In like fashion, the small positive magnetic moment observed at higher tem-

TABLE IV

MILLER INDICES AND OBSERVED AND CALCULATED INTERPLANAR d -SPACINGS AND INTENSITIES FOR BaSm_2O_4

hkl	d_o (Å)	d_c (Å)	I_o^a	I_c^b
2 0 0		5.264		4
2 2 0	3.999	4.003	w	8
0 1 1	3.418	3.422	w	10
1 1 1	3.253	3.254	w	10
0 4 0	3.086	3.086	s	44
3 2 0	3.049	3.049	s	100
1 4 0	2.957	2.961	s	7
1 2 1		2.960		70
2 0 1		2.950		33
2 1 1	2.868	2.868	w	5
1 3 1	2.609	2.609	s	22 ^c
3 1 1	2.449	2.449	m	8
4 2 0	2.418	2.420	vw	4
2 3 1	2.397	2.397	vw	1
1 4 1	2.276	2.277	w	8 ^c
3 3 1	2.131	2.135	m	10
2 4 1		2.132		31
4 0 1	2.115	2.116	m	22
4 1 1	2.085	2.085	vw	11
0 5 1	2.023	2.029	vw	6
2 6 0	1.893	1.916	vw	11
2 5 1		1.893		4
0 0 2	1.7814	1.7808	m	19
3 6 0	1.7743	1.7745	m	15
1 6 1	1.7558	1.7565	m	17
6 0 0		1.7534		12
4 4 1	1.7451	1.7450	m	21
5 4 0	1.7394	1.7392	w ^c	4
5 2 1		1.7382		15
2 6 1	1.6875	1.6874	vw	6
5 3 1	1.6585	1.6580	vw	2
4 5 1	1.6099	1.6065	vw	3
1 7 1	1.5627	1.5628	vw	3
0 4 2	1.5428	1.5424	w	14
3 2 2	1.5382	1.5377	w	32
6 4 0	1.5248	1.5245	w	12

^a Estimated from Guinier film.

^b Intensities calculated with CaSc_2O_4 atomic parameters (23) and the isotropic thermal parameters: Sm, 0.9; Ba, 1.0; O, 1.5 Å².

^c Superposition with BaCO_3 reflection.

peratures is consistent with the moment of 0.8 B.M. expected for Sm^{3+} (1).

The data presented in Table V show the influence of temperature, O_2 atmosphere, and heating time on the '123' lattice param-

eters. Specimens heated at 950°C in both air and O_2 yielded identical lattice parameters. Only extended heat treatments in O_2 at lower temperatures led to smaller lattice parameters and presumably concomitant copper(II) oxidation. Refined lattice parameters of the superconducting phase are only slightly smaller than those of the nonsuperconducting analogue (see Table V); the unit cell volume decreases from 178.480(3) Å³ for specimens annealed in air and cooled slowly to 177.469(4) Å³ for the specimen annealed 120 hr in oxygen and quenched by removal from the hot furnace. This 1.01 Å³ volume change compares with 1.43 Å³ for the Nd (11), 1.33 Å³ for the Eu (12), and 1.24 Å³ for the Tm (16) '123' compound. The unit cell volume decrease observed for $\text{YBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_{7-\delta}$ (29) upon reheating in a dynamic oxygen atmosphere was attributed principally to oxidation of the copper ion. The small volume decrease in the samarium '123' compound upon annealing in oxygen is difficult to understand, but may reflect a lower degree of copper oxidation.

The "green" '211' compound exhibits orthorhombic symmetry; its lattice parameters (see Table III) agree well with literature values (30, 31) and observed intensities agree well with those calculated using the positional parameters in (30).

Reactants in the molar ratio Sm : Ba : Cu = 1 : 1 : 2 produced a black compound isostructural with $\text{La}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_{14.1}$ (8). This phase was indexed on tetragonal lattice parameters (see Table III) by comparing its powder X-ray diffraction pattern with those of other '336' phases. As expected, lattice parameters of this '336' specimen are slightly smaller than those of the praseodymium and neodymium analogues (11). Calculated and observed interplanar d -spacings and intensities are presented in Table VI. The model $\text{La}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_{14.1}$ structure was determined from X-ray powder diffraction data and agreement between calculated and observed intensities was marginal. Calculated

TABLE V
LATTICE PARAMETERS AND UNIT CELL VOLUMES OF $\text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_y$ COMPOUNDS
PREPARED UNDER VARIOUS CONDITIONS

Preparatory conditions			Lattice parameters				Volume (\AA^3)	Notes ^b
Time (hr)	Atmosphere	Temperature ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) ^a	Symmetry	a (\AA)	b (\AA)	c (\AA)		
24	air	1025	O	3.872(1)	3.9037(7)	11.805(2)	178.434(4)	
24	air	950	O	3.8818(3)	3.896(1)	11.8015(8)	178.480(3)	
24	O ₂	950	O	3.880(4)	3.8972(3)	11.797(1)	178.38(1)	
72	O ₂	950	O	3.889(5)	3.900(1)	11.755(7)	178.29(3)	
24	O ₂	975 +	} O	3.8588(8)	3.9161(3)	11.752(2)	177.590(4)	
20	O ₂	700 ^c						
48	O ₂	975 +	} O	3.8575(5)	3.9171(8)	11.745(1)	177.469(4)	
120	O ₂	700 ^c						
140	O ₂	975 ^d	T	3.877(8)		11.770(1)	176.92(2)	
				3.884(2)		11.822(8)	178.34(3)	(I) ^e

^a Sample cooled in furnace unless indicated otherwise; the + indicates successive heating conditions.

^b This work, except as noted.

^c Removed from hot furnace and cooled in laboratory atmosphere.

^d Rapid quench.

^e Vacuum annealed.

lated and observed intensity agreement for this Sm compound is also marginal and suggests positional parameter inaccuracies. The unit cell volume decreased 1.14 \AA^3 after the specimen was heated 48 hr in an O₂ atmosphere, suggestive of copper ion oxidation. In contrast to the behavior observed in the Eu-Ba-Cu-O system (12) where an orthorhombic '336' modification was formed upon annealing in O₂, only the tetragonal form was identified in specimens heated in both air and O₂ and then quenched.

The black '132' $\text{SmBa}_3\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_z$ phase observed in the $\text{BaCO}_3(\text{BaO})$ -rich ternary region was indexed on tetragonal lattice parameters (see Table III) close to those reported previously for this and other smaller lanthanoids (32). This phase could not be prepared pure; traces of BaCuO_2 and $\text{Sm}_2\text{BaCuO}_5$ were always present. The observed X-ray powder diffraction intensities are in good agreement with those reported (32) for the gadolinium analog. This phase was not identified in the initial study of the

Eu-Ba-Cu-O system (12); its presence was probably masked by BaCuO_2 . A recent report suggests that in the Y system '132' is actually a mixture of '152' and '253' phases (4).

Attempts to prepare phases that other lanthanoid systems suggest might be present, e.g., $\text{Sm}_2\text{Cu}_2\text{O}_4$, $\text{Sm}_3\text{BaCuO}_5$, and $\text{Sm}_2\text{Ba}_4\text{O}_7$ (24, 16), the latter of which is actually a carbonate (7), met with failure. Although the Sm and Nd systems might be expected to be similar, the '311' phase found with Nd (11), a phase which appears identical to lanthanum '422' (33), is not present in this system and the '211' phase observed herein was absent in the Nd system.

The Sm-Ba-Cu-O phase diagram is identical to that of Eu (12, 32) and similar subsolidus compatibilities are expected. Reported compatibility differences probably stem from different preparatory conditions. The Sm system evidences solid solution in the vicinity of the '011'-'123'-'336' tie line as do its larger congeners. Two specimens of

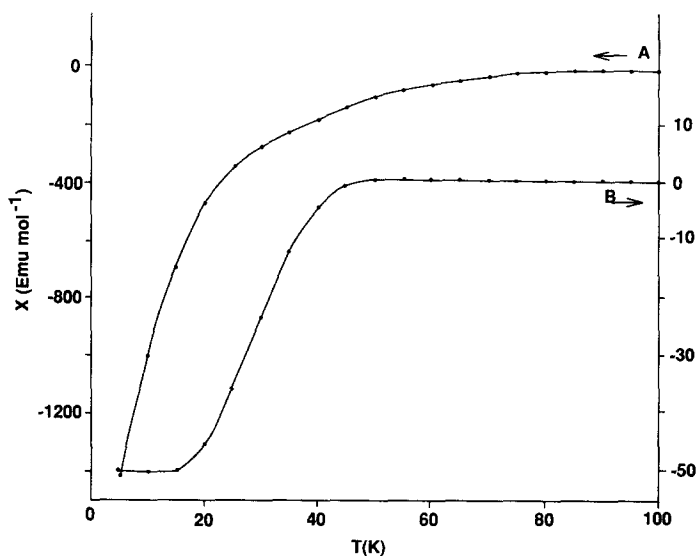


FIG. 2. The temperature dependence of the magnetization at 500 G for orthorhombic $\text{SmBa}_2\text{Cu}_3\text{O}_x$ (A, left scale) heated initially 48 hr at 975°C and then 120 hr at 700°C and (B, right scale) heated initially 24 hr at 975°C and then 20 hr at 700°C .

mixed composition '479' and '389' both evidenced this solubility. The solid solution region is lined in Fig. 1.

This system apparently constitutes the upper limit of lanthanoid-containing barium-copper '211' compounds. This phase has been observed in every Ln -Ba-Cu-O system studied to date with Ln radius smaller than that of Nd.

The experimental results permit construction of the phase diagram projection on the Gibbs triangle of composition as shown in Fig. 1. The phase subsolidus compatibilities in air near the investigation temperature of 950°C as determined by the seven phases described previously divide the diagram into 12 ternary regions. The samarium system, like that of europium, is transitory between those of the larger and the smaller lanthanoids.

A summary of the phases reported over the temperature region 900 – 1000°C in Ln -Ba-Cu-O systems (where $Ln = \text{La}, \text{Pr}, \text{Nd}, \text{Sm}, \text{Eu}, \text{Gd}, \text{Y}, \text{Er}, \text{Tm}$) is presented in Table VII. These data demonstrate the

diversity of the phase relationships in these systems. This diversity probably results from changes in the lanthanoid (III) electronic structure and ionic radii,

TABLE VI

MILLER INDICES AND OBSERVED AND CALCULATED INTERPLANAR d -SPACINGS AND INTENSITIES FOR $\text{Sm}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_z$

hkl	d_o (Å)	d_c (Å)	I_o^a	I_c^b	hkl	d_o (Å)	d_c (Å)	I_o^a	I_c^b
0 0 1	11.587	11.594	w	1	3 1 0	1.730			3
0 0 2	5.796	5.797	vw	0	2 2 3	{ 1.730 }	1.730	vw	2
1 1 0	{ 3.871 }	3.869	m	13	1 1 4		1.729		3
0 0 3		3.864		2	0 0 7	1.656	1.656	vw	1
1 1 1	3.669	3.670	vw	0	3 1 3	{1.579 }	1.579	s	43
1 1 2	3.219	3.218	vw	1	2 0 6		1.578		7
2 0 0	{ 2.735 }	2.736	vs	40	1 1 7	1.523	1.523	vw	1
1 1 3		2.734		100	3 1 4	{1.4858 }	1.4857	vw	2
2 0 2	2.475	2.474	vw	0	2 2 5		1.4855		2
1 1 4	2.319	2.320	vw	3	2 0 7	1.4167	1.4169	vw	1
2 0 3	2.233	2.233	w	16	4 0 0	{1.3677 }	1.3678	m	9
2 0 4	1.990	1.990	vw	1	2 2 6		1.3672		15
2 2 0	{ 1.933 }	1.934	w	29	3 3 0		1.2897		1
0 0 6		1.932		12	4 0 3	{1.2896 }	1.2896	vw	1
2 0 5	1.769	1.769	vw	1	3 1 6		1.2890		3
					2 2 7	1.2577	1.2582	vw	1

^a Estimated from Guinier film.

^b Intensities calculated with $\text{La}_3\text{Ba}_3\text{Cu}_6\text{O}_{14.1}$ atomic parameters (8) and the isotropic thermal parameters: Sm, 0.9; Ba, 1.0; Cu, 1.0; O, 1.5 Å².

TABLE VII

COMPARISON OF PHASES OBSERVED *IN AIR* AT ~950°C in the Ln–Ba–Cu–O (Ln = LANTHANOID) SYSTEMS

Ln	Phases present														
	011	240 ^a	220 ^a	430	210	201	202	123	132	211	212	336	'422'	415	XP
La	+				+	+		+			+	+	+	+	+ ^b
Pr	+				+ ^c	+		+				+			+ ^d
Nd	+				+	+		+				+	+ ^c		
Sm	+				+	+		+	+	+		+			
Eu	+				+	+		+	+	+		+			
Y	+	+	+		+ ^f		+	+	+ ^g	+					
Gd ^h	+	+			+	+		+	+						
Er	+	+ ⁱ	+	+			+	+	+ ⁱ	+					
Tm	+	+	+	+			+	+	+	+					

Note. The digits represent the Ln : Ba : Cu ratio. A '+' indicates the phase has been reported.

^a 240 is actually Ln₂Ba₄O₇ · CO₂ (7, 14); 220 is probably Ln₂Ba₂O₅ · CO₂ (7).

^b XP = La_{2-x}Ba_xCuO_{4-(x/2)+δ}, according to (10).

^c BaPr₂O₄ preparable only in reducing atmosphere.

^d XP = BaPrO₃.

^e Designated '311' in (11); '422'-like structure (33).

^f According to (24) and (34) this phase exists above 1000°C.

^g According to (4) '132' is absent; '253' and '152' are present instead.

^h From (14).

ⁱ Our unpublished data.

and the concomitant basicity variation that follows from these. On the basis of the occurrence of compounds found in these Ln₂O₃–BaCO₃–CuO systems, they must be divided into three subgroups: the first characteristic of La, Pr, and Nd, the second specific for Sm and Eu, and the third common to the smaller lanthanoids, the Y-type elements, with some variation within the groups. Because of its ability to exhibit multiple valency, the praseodymium system remains unique.

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