

Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ の特異な磁気状態

Novel magnetic states of Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉

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(概要)

We study on a 6H hexagonal ruthenates Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉ and related compounds, where Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉ is a candidate quantum spin liquid (QSL) system. Recently, we have found tiny magnetic Bragg intensity of Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉ at 10_K, indicating that the novel ground state has magnetic long-range ordered component with tiny-ordered moment. On the other hand, Ba₃CaRu₂O₉ has non-magnetic ground state, where paired spins in the Ru₂O₉ dimer form a spin singlet state with a spin gap (SG). By Ca-doping of Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉, we can control the magnetic ground state from novel QSL state to SG one. In order to clarify the Ca-doping effect to magnetic state, we carried out neutron powder diffraction of two samples Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ ($x = 0.25$ and 0.50) using HRPD at JRR-3. For $x=0.25$, the three magnetic Bragg peaks with tiny diffraction intensity, which is less than that of $x=0$. Moreover, no magnetic Bragg peak was observed for $x=0.50$. In order to clarify the x -dependence of magnetic Bragg peak and magnetic long-range ordering, we have carried out neutron powder diffraction of two samples Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ ($x = 0.15$ and 0.35) using HRPD at JRR-3. From the results, we found that the magnetic Bragg peaks vanish at $x_c \sim 0.35$.

キーワード : スピン液体、Ru ダイマー、特異な磁気状態、長距離磁気秩序

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1. 目的

We have investigated a novel type of quantum spin liquid in Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉, which has a hexagonal lattice of Ru⁵⁺ dimers. In the temperature (T) dependence of the magnetic susceptibility (χ) of Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉, no trace of the Curie tail or glassy behavior has been detected down to 50 mK.^{1,2)} Recently, we have found tiny magnetic Bragg intensity of Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉ at 10_K, indicating that the novel ground state has magnetic long-range ordered component with tiny-ordered moment. In contrast, for Ba₃CaRu₂O₉, paired spins in the Ru₂O₉ dimer form a spin singlet, resulting in the non-magnetic ground state with a spin gap (SG).^{3,4)} It is interesting in the magnetic behavior for mixing compounds Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉. We carried out the neutron powder diffraction of two samples Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ ($x = 0.25$ and 0.50). In order to study the magnetic ground states of the Ru⁵⁺-spin ($S=3/2$) of the Ca-doping systems Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉, we planned to additional neutron powder diffraction experiments using HRPD of two samples Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ ($x = 0.15$ and 0.35).

2. 方法

We measured the powder neutron diffraction profiles of two samples Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ ($x = 0.15$, and 0.35) using HRPD in JRR-3. Measurement temperatures are at lowest temperature (< 10 K) and 130K.

3. 結果及び考察

Figure 1 shows neutron diffraction profiles of Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ with $x = 0.15$ taken at 10 K and 130K. Brown line of Fig. 1 indicates the intensity difference between the data at $T = 10$ K and at 130K. From the previous experiments, we observed three magnetic Bragg reflections 113, 202, and 204 for the non-doped sample Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ with $x = 0$. For $x = 0.15$, these magnetic Bragg intensities become less than that of $x = 0$. Figure 2 shows neutron diffraction profiles of Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ with $x=0.35$ taken at 10 K and 130K. We have observed no magnetic Bragg peak for $x = 0.35$. Figure 3 shows the Ca concentration x -dependence of the magnetic Bragg intensities for Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉, indicating the intensities monotonically decrease with increasing x . Ca substitution for Zn does not change the fundamental magnetic structure, it just reduces the ordered moment of the

Ru⁵⁺-spins. From fitting, the phase boundary of long-range ordered state is evaluated at $x_c = 0.35$. In the near phase boundary at $x_c = 0.35$, spin system is considered to be quantum spin liquid state.

In this time, we can see the tiny intensities of the magnetic reflections 113, 202, and 204. Since there are only three peaks, it is not possible to determine the magnetic structure without making any assumptions. Then, by referring to the magnetic structures of similar materials Ba₃MRu₂O₉ (M=Co, Ni, Cu, *etc.*), magnetic structure of Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉ has been found to have similar periodicity to that of Ba₃NiRu₂O₉⁵⁾. The detailed magnetic structure of Ba₃ZnRu₂O₉ is currently under analysis.

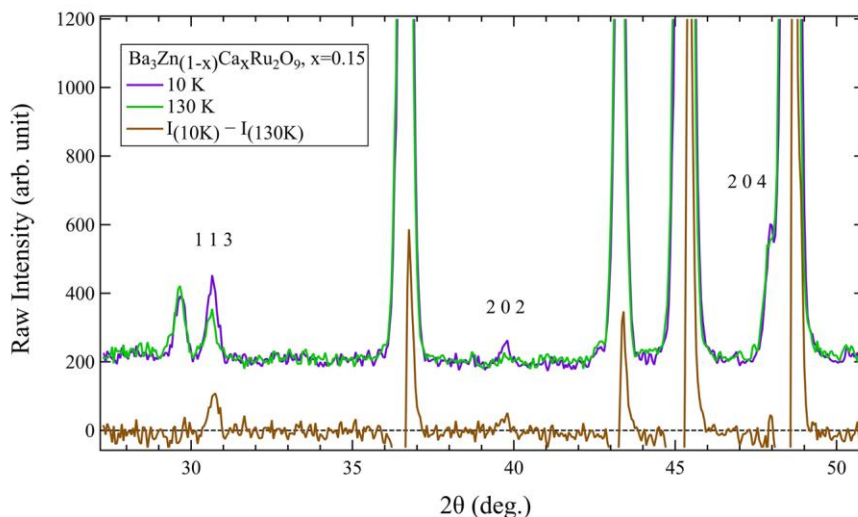


Fig. 1: Profiles of the neutron diffraction of Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ with $x = 0.15$ taken at $T = 10$ K and 130K. Brown line indicates the intensity difference between the data at 10K and at 130K.

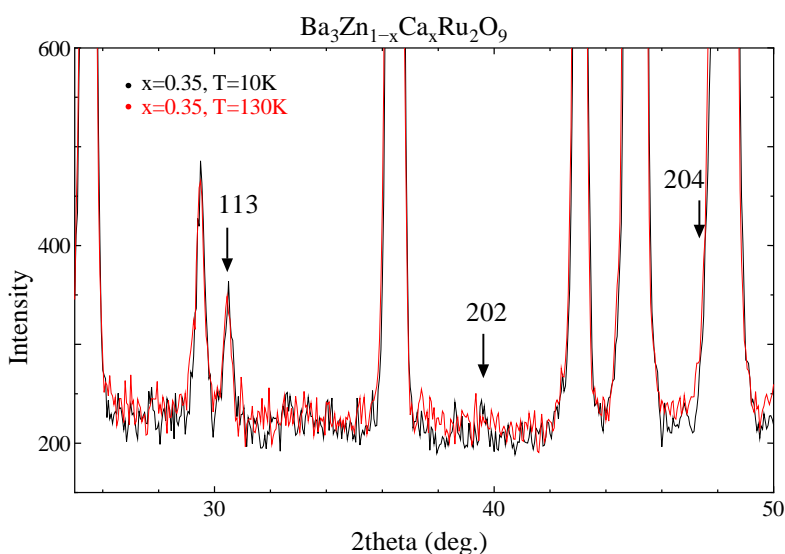


Fig. 2: Profiles of the neutron diffraction of Ba₃Zn_{1-x}Ca_xRu₂O₉ with $x = 0.35$ taken at 10 K and 130K.

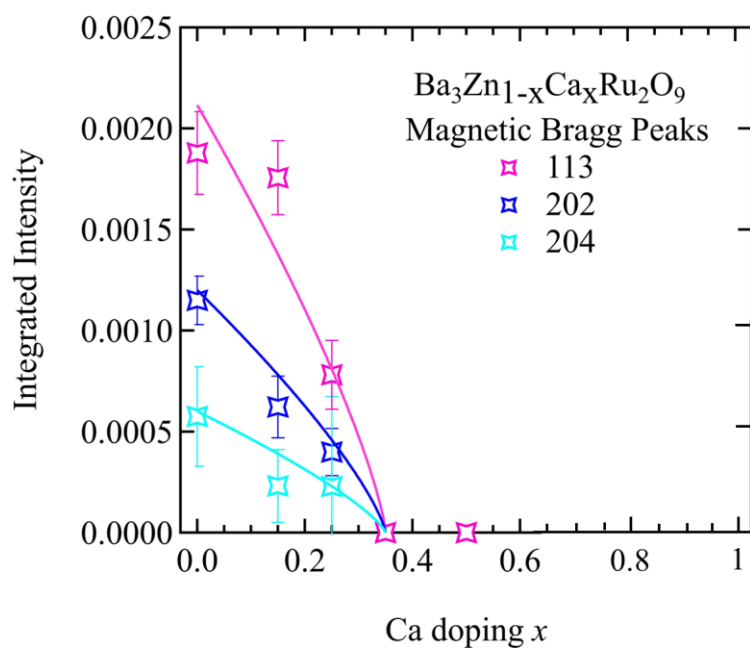


Fig. 3: The Ca concentration x - dependence of the magnetic Bragg intensities for $\text{Ba}_3\text{Zn}_{1-x}\text{Ca}_x\text{Ru}_2\text{O}_9$.

4. 引用(参照)文献等

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