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Yu. Venevtsev, V. Lyubimov, V. Ivanova, G. Zhdanov. PEROVSKITE TYPE SEIGNETTOMAGNETS. Journal de Physique Colloques, 1972, 33 (C2), pp.C2-255-C2-256. 10.1051/jphyscol:1972288 . jpa-00215024

HAL Id: jpa-00215024

<https://hal.science/jpa-00215024>

Submitted on 4 Feb 2008

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PEROVSKITE TYPE SEIGNETTOMAGNETS

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Résumé. — Nous avons donné une rapide revue des recherches expérimentales et théoriques de l'institut Karpov pour la synthèse et l'étude des ferromagnétiques de type perovskites.

Abstract. — A short review of experimental and theoretical investigations of Karpov Institute in the synthesis and study of perovskite type seignettomagnets has been given.

In 1916-1917 S. A. Boguslavskii admitted the existence of substances with molecules possessing simultaneously electric and magnetic dipoles [1]. It is known also that in 1958 G. A. Smolenskii and coworkers synthesized Fe-containing seignettoelectrics and supposed that these substances are at the same time antiferromagnets [2]-[4]. However the experimental evidences of the existence of seignettomagnets (ferroelectric with a magnetic ordering) were obtained only in late 1961 and early 1962 independently in the Institute of semiconductors (under the Academy Sciences, U. S. S. R.) [5], [6] and in our Institute [7], [8]. The discovery of the first seignettomagnets stimulated further investigations of similar substances. The main results of Karpov Institute in a study of seignettomagnets are as follows :

I. It is known that one of the first seignettomagnets is bismuth ferrite (BiFeO_3). This seignettomagnet has been discovered [7], [8] and studied in detail [9]-[11] in Karpov Institute. In accordance our later data BiFeO_3 is a seignettoelectric-compensated antiferromagnetic with Curie temperature and Neel point 850 and 375 °C respectively [11].

It is necessary to note for an justice that for a definite time Smolenskii school refused the existence of the spontaneously-polarized state at BiFeO_3 [12]. Now a discussion is transferred in another plane. This school became to keep to an opinion, that BiFeO_3 is similar on a character of its dielectric properties to a known antiseignettoelectric PbZrO_3 [13].

At the same time a recent data of american investigators [14], [15] confirmed the seignettoelectric character of dielectric properties of BiFeO_3 .

II. Electric and magnetic properties of a seignettoelectric-ferromagnetic have been investigated on the base of the Landau thermodynamic theory of the second-order phase transitions [16]. In this theory a connection between electric and magnetic characteristics is realized through a linear magnetoelectric (M. E.) effect. The last causes an « weak » electric polarization (« weak » ferromagnetism) when an initial ferromagnetic (seignettoelectric) ordering occurs only.

This phenomenon has been described also on a base of the effective field theory [16].

III. Crystals, admitting, M. E.-effect (including of seignettomagnets) display some particularities when electromagnetic waves and for example a light propagate in their [17]-[19]. It has been shown theoretically that velocity of « forward » propagation differs from that of « backward » propagation. Such phenomenon takes place in 47 classes of a symmetry from 68 crystallographic and the limited groups of a magnetic symmetry, admitting M. E.-effect. The last influences not only on refractive indices (velocities of the propagation) this effect influences also on a polarization of waves. For example, in a case of a perpendicular falling of a light on a face of the cubic crystal a polarization plane of a reflective light is turned on an angle proportional to M. E.-effect [18]. When the light passes through a plate of a crystal Cr_2O_3 , possessing M. E.-effect, arises a characteristic ellipsoidal polarization of the light [19].

IV. A magnetic symmetry of possible seignettoelectric-ferromagnetic phases for perovskite-type crystals with different mutual orientations of a spontaneous electrical polarization and spontaneous magnetization has been studied [20].

Moreover, all positions in unit cells (of 230 space groups) in which can be placed electric and magnetic dipoles have been found [21]. Symmetry conditions of an existence and an coexistence of seignetto-, anti-seignetto-electric and ferro-, antiferromagnetic dipole arrangements have been analysed [22].

We have studied also symmetry restrictions on different effects of an interrelation of electric, magnetic and mechanical properties of crystals [23].

V. Table I contains a number of seignettomagnetic perovskite-type compounds, which have been synthesized and investigated ($N = 5 \div 8$) or only investigated ($N = 1 \div 4, 9$) by us [7], [8], [24]-[29].

VI. One of the first experimental evidences of the existence of an interrelation between electric and magnetic properties of seignettomagnets appeared gamma-resonance data on BiFeO_3 [30].

TABLE I
Perovskite-type seignettomagnets
(of Karpov Institute)

N	Compounds	Properties (*)	T_{KE} °C	T_{KM} °C
1	BiFeO ₃	se-afm	850	375
2	BiMnO ₃	ase-fm	500	—170
3	Pb(Fe _{1/2} Ta _{1/2})O ₃	se-fim	—40	—140
4	Pb(Mn _{1/2} Nb _{1/2})O ₃	ase-afm	20	—262
5	PbMn _{2/3} W _{1/3} O ₃ (*)	ase-afm	200	—180
6	PbFe ³⁺ _{1/2} Mn ⁴⁺ _{1/4} W ⁶⁺ _{1/4} O ₃	se-fim	—10	—130
7a	Pb ₂ Mn ²⁺ Re ⁶⁺ O ₆	ase-fm	95	—150
7b	Pb ₂ Mn ³⁺ Re ⁵⁺ O ₆	ase-fm	120	—170
8	Cd(Fe _{1/2} Nb _{1/2})O ₃	ase-afm	450	—225
9	Sr ₂ CuWO ₆	se-afm	920	—230

(*) Compositions are given without a count of possible superstructure.

(**) se, ase, fm, fim, afm — seignetto, antiseignettoelectric, ferro-, ferri- and antiferromagnetic respectively.

In accordance to [30], [31] in the crystals BiFeO₃ magnetic moments are perpendicular to a vector of the spontaneous polarization P_s . It allows to conclude that a reorientation of P_s (for example, with an electric field) on an other threefold axis of a similar crystals must cause a change of the directions of the magnetic momentums and consequently a change of magnetic properties of crystals in the whole.

In this connection our data [32]–[34] are interesting also.

VII. Seignettomagnetic solid solutions with different combinations of dielectric and magnetic properties (seignettoelectric-ferrimagnetic [32]; [35], antiseignettoelectric-ferromagnetic [25] and others) have been obtained and studied.

Scientific and practical interests demand of a continuation of the investigation of seignettomagnets and the creation of seignettomagnetic materials.

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