

Fig.1. Coordinates polyhedra around Fe atoms: a) tetrahedron, b) trigonal bipyramid

The Rietveld analysis gives us information about changes of average structures (cubic \leftrightarrow monoclinic) but Pair distribution Function (PDF) methods let us describe the local configuration of deuterium atoms which stays almost the same in order and disordered phases (fig.2). Neutron Time-of-Flight (ToF) data were collected at IPNS, Argonne, and Lujan Center, Los Alamos on series of samples with different deuterium content. Each sample was measured below and above the temperature of deuterium ordering. The local deuterium configuration in disordered phase have been modeled by DISCUS using Revers Monte Carlo technique [3].

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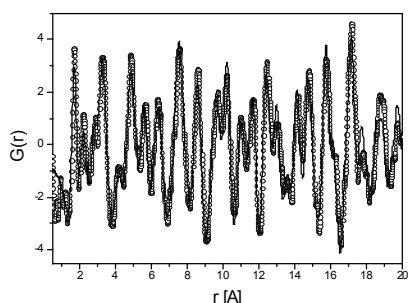


Figure 2. Observed PDF (points) of $\text{YFe}_2\text{D}_{4.2}$ in disordered state and modeled (solid line) by same local order of deuterium atoms around iron as in the ordered phase.

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Structural Investigations of LnBO_3 (Ln= Y, La, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Dy, Ho, Er, Yb, Lu) by Rietveld Method. Semih Seyyidoglu^a, Katrin Hoffmann^b, Barbara Albert^b, Aysen Yilmaz^a. ^aDepartment of Chemistry, Middle East Technical University, 06531, Ankara, Turkey. ^bEduard-Zintl-Institut für Anorganische und Physikalische Chemie, Petersenstr. 18, 64287, Darmstadt, Germany.

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Numerous efforts have been devoted to the structure determination of these compounds in literature. While LaBO_3 and NdBO_3 exhibit the aragonite type (orthorhombic Pnma) structures [1-2], the structure vaterite type rare earth borates (Y, Gd-Yb) are still under investigation since the structure of these compounds are directly related with their synthesis method. The structure of GdBO_3 were defined in rhombohedral space group R32 by Lin and coworkers [3]. While in Sheptyakov's work[4], Eu doped yttrium orthoborate structure is monoclinic space group C2/c, Chadeyron produced YBO_3 single crystals with P63/m space group [5]. Since there is no systematic structural analysis work of whole rare earth borate series, in this work we synthesized and solved their structure by using Rietveld Method [6] with GSAS program[7]. We prepared LnBO_3 (Ln=Y, La, Nd, Sm, Eu, Gd, Dy, Ho, Er, Tm, Yb, Lu) powder samples by using Ln_2O_3 and H_3BO_3 (ratio=1:2) heated at 900 °C for 10 hour and 1000 °C for 5. Then, their XRD patterns were collected on a PANalytical X'PERT PRO diffractometer equipped with PIXCEL detector. Among these rare earths, LaBO_3 and NdBO_3 were solved based on Pnma orthorhombic structure. The crystal structure of YBO_3 , DyBO_3 and HoBO_3 were C2/c monoclinic and SmBO_3 showed P-1 triclinic structure. The structure of TbBO_3 , TmBO_3 and YbBO_3 were solved based on P21/m.

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The methods of structural characterization of metal and chemical hydrides are reviewed (see also [1]). It is shown that powder diffraction is essential component of hydrides research where the structural characterization is currently undertaken by X-ray and neutron diffraction. In the case of chemical hydrides like borohydrides of light alkaline metals/earths X-ray diffraction alone can provide the structural parameters with sufficient accuracy. A crystallographer analyzing hydrides has to face numerous crystallographic challenges which include complex structures, superstructures, pseudo-symmetries, twinning,