MS26-P02 | Chemical bonding and structural complexity in known intermetallic compounds 0-AL $_{13}$ CO $_4$ and AL $_{2.75}$ IR $_2$

grin, Yuri (Max-Planck-Institut für Chemische Physik fester Stoffe, Dresden, GER)

Investigations on binary compounds of transition metals with aluminum have a long-time history. The crystal structure of o- $Al_{13}Co_4$ was reinvestigated 35 years after the first report about the phase [1,2]. The recent crystal structure redetermination reveals a strong disorder in parts of the unit cell. High-resolution diffraction and TEM experiments show a very complex atomic arrangement obviously deviating from the translational symmetry [3]. The similar situation is found also for the phase $Al_{2.75}$ Ir first discovered [4] and much later structurally described [5]. Crystal structure reinvestigation revealed an extremely complex crystallographic picture of two modifications with the LT phase being orthorhombic with doubling of the previous cubic unit cell [6]. The reasons for such complexity may be found in the chemical bonding within the crystal structures characterized by an interplay of the strongly polar and non-polar, two-center and multi-center interactions.

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