

Intermetallic compounds containing f-elements: synthesis of some of the compounds from the system R_2TGe_6 (R=Dy, Er; T=Ni, Cu, Pd)

Cinthia Antunes Corrêa^{1,2}, Markéta Jarošová¹, António Pereira Gonçalves³, Margarida Sousa Henriques¹

¹Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, Prague, Czech Republic;

²Faculty of Mathematics and Physics, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic;

³Instituto Superior Técnico, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal;

correa@fzu.cz

Low-dimensional magnetic crystals display highly anisotropic interactions between the magnetic moments, yielding interesting magnetic [1], electronic [2], and optical properties [3]. The ground and excited states of low-dimensional magnetic systems attract interest with increasing spin dimension and/or decreasing spin values [4]. Materials containing isolated chains might work as models for (1D) $S=1/2$ Heisenberg systems and Ising spin chains. These models can be used for shedding light on the understanding of magnetic exchange interaction in highly correlated systems. When a geometrical distribution of the magnetic moments is such that it constrains the exchange interactions, the interaction energy is difficult to be minimized, causing the appearance of a complex electronic structure. This often leads to magnetic frustrations. Magnetic frustrations have an impact beyond magnetism, such as multiferroic and high-temperature conductivity behaviors [5,6]. Intermetallic systems are prone to have magnetic frustration, having a high potential for finding new electronic phenomena [7]. The system R_2TGe_6 often displays complex modulated magnetic structures, which can be elucidated by neutron scattering, while the nuclear structure is solved by X-rays or electron diffraction. The accurate structure elucidation of complex magnetic structures is crucial for understanding these structures. Currently, the sole program that handles complex magnetic structures and can combine X-ray, electron, and neutron diffraction is Jana2006 [8]. New features for the analysis of complex magnetic structures are being developed and require neutron diffraction data of such structures. We synthesized some of the compounds from the R_2TGe_6 system, aiming at acquiring neutron diffraction data for testing and further developing the new tools for magnetic structures in Jana2006.

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Keywords: intermetallic compounds, f-elements, system R_2TGe_6 , synthesis

This work was financially supported by the project Mobility MSM100102001 of the Czech Academy of Sciences and by the Project 19-07931Y of the Czech Science Foundation.