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Magnetic Phase Diagram of Cr_{100-x}Os_x alloys

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Abstract content (Max 300 words)

The magnetic phase diagram of Cr_{100-x}Os_x exhibits a triple point at $T_L = 315$ K and $x_L = 0.14$, where the incommensurate (I) spin-density-wave (SDW), commensurate (C) SDW and paramagnetic (P) phases coexist. Previous studies [1,2] focused on measurements around the triple point and concentrations up to $x = 2$. However, the magnetic phase diagrams [1] of other Cr alloys with group-8 diluents, such as those of Cr-Re and Cr-Ru, show interesting features for $x \gg x_L$. This is indicative of the possible merits of an investigation into the magnetic phase diagram of Cr-Os, specifically at high diluent concentrations. For this purpose, a polycrystalline Cr_{100-x}Os_x alloy series with $2 < x < 22$ was prepared. Sample buttons were arc-melted from high quality starting materials and characterized using scanning electron microscopy, electron microprobe analysis and X-ray diffraction. Analyses show that the alloys are homogenous in composition and single-phase for Os diluent concentration up to $x = 22$. Electrical resistivity (ρ) measurements as function of temperature (T), in the temperature range of 2 K $< T < 1100$ K, was used to obtain the magnetic transition temperatures of the various alloys. The onset of antiferromagnetism causes large anomalies in the ρ versus T curves, associated with the Néel transition temperatures (T_N) [1]. These results were used to determine the magnetic phase diagram of the Cr_{100-x}Os_x alloy system for $x > 2$. Present results show that T_N increases up to 575 K at $x = 4$, and then decreases for $x > 4$. This behaviour is similar to that observed for other Cr alloys with group-8 impurities [1]. Interestingly, results reveal that the antiferromagnetism in the Cr_{100-x}Os_x alloy system is fully suppressed at $x = 13$. The present results are interpreted and explained in terms of the theory of Fedders and Martin [3].

[1] Fawcett E, Alberts HL, Galkin VY, Noakes DR and Yakhmi JV 1994 Rev. Mod. Phys. 66 25.

[2] Butylenko AK and Nevadcha VV 1982 Sov. Phys. Tech. Phys. 27(1) 102.

[3] Fedders PA and Martin PC 1966 Phys. Rev. 143 245.

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yes

Level for award (Hons, MSc, PhD)?

PhD

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