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Magnetic and thermodynamic properties of Ce₂₃Ru₇Mg₄ compound

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Abstract content (Max 300 words) **Formatting & Special chars**

Complex metal alloys have been shown to offer new possibilities in developing high efficiency thermoelectric material [1]. Among the correlated electron class of magnetic systems, the enhanced thermoelectric power characteristic of Kondo metals offers a distinct advantage in gaining thermoelectric efficiency. Here we present exploratory results of a study on the novel compound Ce₂₃Ru₇Mg₄ which has 68 atoms per unit cell and therefore qualifies as a complex metal alloy.

The magnetic susceptibility and heat capacity for Ce₂₃Ru₇Mg₄ compound have been studied above room temperature to low temperature range and in the applied magnetic field up to 7 T. This compound crystallizes with the hexagonal non-centrosymmetric Pr₂₃Ir₇Mg₄-type structure, with space group P6₃mc [2]. The structure is built up from complex three dimensional networks of edge and corner-sharing RE₆Ru trigonal prisms. The magnetic susceptibility and specific heat both exhibit a distinct anomaly at ~2 K which most probably suggests a paramagnetic to antiferromagnetic phase transition. The magnetic susceptibility revealed a magnetic moment $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 2.235 \mu\text{B}/\text{Ce}$ which is close to the value for cerium in pure Ce metal ($\mu_{\text{eff}} = 2.54 \mu\text{B}$), indicating a presence of well localized magnetic moments carried by the stable Ce³⁺ ions. The magnitude of the electronic specific heat coefficient $\gamma = 127 \text{ mJ}/\text{Ce-mol K}^2$ suggests correlated electron behavior in this compound.

[1] S. Paschen, C. Godart and Y. Grin in Complex metallic alloys: fundamentals and applications, Jean-Marie Dubois; Esther Belin-Ferré (eds.), Weinheim: Wiley-VCH Verlag, 2011.

[2] S. Linsinger, M. Eul, W. Hermes, R-D. Hoffmann and R. Pöttgen, Z. Naturforsch 64b (2009) 1345.

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No

Level for award (Hons, MSc, PhD)?

N/A

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Yes

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