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3rd International Conference and Exhibition on Materials Science & Engineering

October 06-08, 2014 San Antonio, USA

Application of a Difference Electron Nanoscope (DEN) -

correlation between 3D magnetical structures of synthetic fayalite with synchrotron and neutron diffraction and Mössbauer spectroscopy

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Scheme



The electric field gradient (EFG)

■EFG = ∇E = $-\nabla \nabla V$ = $\begin{pmatrix} V_{xx} & V_{xy} & V_{xz} \\ V_{yx} & V_{yy} & V_{yz} \\ V_{zx} & V_{zy} & V_{zz} \end{pmatrix}$...with $V_{ij} = \partial^2 V / \partial i \partial j$ (i,j = x,y,z) ■Choice of the main axes components: $|V_{zz}| \ge |V_{yy}| \ge |V_{xx}|$ ■Geometrically: EFG = tensor ellipsoid Asymmetry parameter:

 $\eta = (V_{xx} - V_{yy}) / V_{zz}$

2 main contrib. to the EFG at the nucleus:

1. the own e-shell (electronic contrib.)

2. the ligands (lattice contrib.)



Experimental determination of the EFG

Mößbauer spectroscopy

Quantity to be measured:

Quadrupole splitting QS = 1/2 e Q V_{zz} $\sqrt{1 + \eta^2/3}$ I=1/2

• Asymmetry parameter $\eta = (V_{xx} - V_{yy})/V_{zz}$

With SCMBS additionally: •Angle β betw. **k**-vector of the inc. γ -rays (=crystal axis) and V_{zz} •Angle α betw. proj. of **k** to the (V_{xx}, ,V_{yy})-plane and V_{xx}





Semi-quantitative method/Nanoscope

 $\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = \Sigma \Sigma \Sigma A_{hkl} e^{-2\pi i (h^* \mathbf{x}/a + k^* \mathbf{y}/b + l^* \mathbf{z}/c)}$

h k l

A = Structure amplitude
|A_{hkl}| = 1/V₇ * |F_{hkl}|

• $\rho(F_{obs}) - \rho(F_{cal,spherical}) =$

- $\Delta \rho_{aspherical} (Difference fourier)$
- Idea: Aspherical densities-->EFG calc
- Special software (Comp. tomography, DEDLOT under IDL[®]):
- EFG as wire frame graphics, calculated from difference electron densities (DEDs) on a Mac G5[®]



Example : synth. fayalite Fe₂SiO₄



Synth. fayalite α -Fe₂SiO₄, orthorhombic, SG Pnma, Z=4 a = 1.0459(3), b = 0.6074(1), c = 0.4815(1) nm Fe²⁺-cations: M1(4a, PS -1) M2 (4c,PS m) -->amazing structural u. magn. properties

Stereogram EFG + H(0)



Lottermoser W, Forcher K, Amthauer G, Treutmann W, Hosoya S: Phys Chem Miner 23 No. 7, 432 - 438 (1996)

DEN-Image



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [001] DEDs + EFG | Oct.



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [100] DEDs + EFG | Oct.



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [010] DEDs + EFG | Oct.



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [001] DEDs + H(0), T = 50K



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [001] DEDs + H(0), T = 10K



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [100] DEDs + H(0), T = 50K



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [100] DEDs + H(0), T = 10K



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [010] DEDs + H(0), T = 50K



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [010] DEDs + H(0), T = 10K



DEN images: M1 at 1/2 1/2 1/2: [001] DEDs + MO



Conclusions

- By application of the difference electron nanoscope (DEN) the electric field gradient (EFG) can be determined with high accuracy
- The EFG constitutes the link between (synchrotron-) diffractometry and spectroscopy (SCMBS or NQR/NMR)
- Essential for success is a multitude of exquisite structure factors preferably stemming from synchrotron diffraction measurements
- The difference electron densities (DEDs) within the unit cell may be viewed 3D with a wire frame model of the EFG

Conclusions

- It is possible to see amazing details like DED maxima around certain oxygens reponsible for superexchange coupling
- It should be possible to establish the DEN-method (semiquant.) as another procedure to derive an EFG and direction of magnetic moments besides Mössbauer /NQR (exp.), neutron diffraction and DFT (full-quant.)

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