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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

### Isothermal section at 600 °C of the Yb–Pd–Sn system (Pd $\leq$ 75 at%)

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Phase equilibria in the Yb–Pd–Sn ternary system at 600 °C were established in the Pd ≤ 75 at.% concentration range employing X-ray diffraction (XRD), scanning electron microscopy (SEM) and electron probe micro-analysis (EPMA). Besides the known intermetallic compounds, three new ternary intermetallics were revealed in the system, together with homogeneity ranges into the ternary field for some binary phases. Magnetic properties for the new compounds were investigated revealing stable Yb states  $Yb^{3+}$  for  $Yb_3Pd_4Sn_{13}$  and  $Yb^{2+}$  for  $Yb_5Pd_{39}Sn_{56}$ , whereas for  $Yb_{13}Pd_{40}Sn_{31}$ an unstable valency of Yb is suggested.

#### 1. Introduction

The ternary intermetallics  $R_x T_y X_z$  (R = Ce and Yb, T = transition metals and X = p-block elements) are potentially good candidates to exhibit or combine unusual electronic and magnetic effects, such as superconductivity, intermediate valence, heavy fermion (HF) behavior, Kondo interactions and quantum phase transitions. These interesting phenomena can be found especially in Yb- and Ce-based intermetallics due to hybridization of f-electrons and conduction electrons [1-3]. Furthermore, the systematic search for new Yb-compounds is motivated from the fact that, in

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