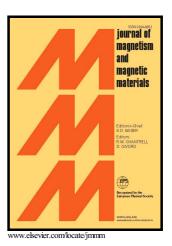
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### Synthesis, thermal and magnetic properties of RE-diborides

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#### **Abstract**

Techniques of synthesis of RE diborides (RB<sub>2</sub>) are developed (R=Tb, Dy, Ho, Er, Lu). Temperature dependence of magnetization, a heat capacity, a lattice parameters of diborides in the range of 2-300K are measured. According to joint calorimetric and X-ray research the analysis of a phonon component of a heat capacity and thermal expansion of RE-diborides is carried out by Debye-Einstein's models, the parameters of the model are determined.

The change of magnetization of the ferromagnetic RB<sub>2</sub> compounds with growth of temperature caused by violation of ordering in the system of the atomic magnetic moments is compared with the change of entropy of a magnetic subsystem calculated from calorimetric data. Analytical expansion for calculation of a magnetic component of a heat capacity by RB<sub>2</sub> magnetization data at the temperatures of 2-300K is obtained.

**Keywords:** borides, heat capacity, magnetic phase transition, ferromagnets, magnetization.

#### Introduction

Rare-earth diborides (RB<sub>2</sub>, where R stands for the rare-earth ion) are an under-investigated family of isostructural compounds with some specific magnetic

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