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Mechanical Behavior, Electronic and Phonon Properties of ZrB₁₂ under

Pressure

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Abstract: The mechanical, phonon and electronic properties of ZrB₁₂ under pressure are investigated by

first-principles calculations. The research shows that ZrB₁₂ is mechanically and dynamically stable up to

100 GPa. The elastic constants, bulk modulus B, shear modulus G, hardness H_{ν} , B/G ratio, Debye

temperature under different pressures are systematically investigated. The calculation of electronic

properties shows that ZrB₁₂ has metallic character. The Zr-d states dominate the DOS at the Fermi level,

and the total DOS and PDOS change slightly with the increasing pressure. DOS (E_f) first decreases, then

increases with the increasing pressure. At 50 GPa, ZrB₁₂ has less electron carriers. The analysis of electron

localization function shows that the strong B-B and Zr-B covalent bonds may be responsible for the high

hardness and stability.

Keywords: first-principles calculation; mechanical properties, electronic properties; phonon dispersion

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