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Effect of Sr doping on structural and magnetic behavior of

 $SmBa_{1-x}Sr_xCo_2O_{5+\delta}$ (x = 0 and 1)

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Abstract: Layered double perovskite, $SmBa_{1-x}Sr_xCo_2O_{5+\delta}$ (x=0, δ =0.5 and x=1, δ =1) samples were prepared by solid state reaction method. X-ray diffraction studies show that the SmBaCo₂O_{5.5} sample crystallizes in the orthorhombic crystal structure with *Pmmm* space group, whereas SmSrCo₂O₆ sample crystallizes in the orthorhombic crystal structure with *Pmma* space group. The temperature dependent magnetization of the SmBaCo₂O_{5.5} sample shows a paramagnetic (PM)–ferromagnetic (FM) and a FM-antiferromagnetic (AFM) transitions at $T_C = 267$ K and $T_N = 221$ K, respectively. In contrast, the SmSrCo₂O₆ sample shows a PM-FM transition at $T_C = 175$ K. According to Goodenough-Kanamori-Anderson rules, the ferromagnetic behavior in SmSrCo₂O₆ can be understood from the super exchange interaction between the intermediate spin Co³⁺ and low spin Co⁴⁺ via O²⁻ (IS Co³⁺ -O²⁻ - LS Co⁴⁺). The change in magnetic entropy (ΔS_M^{max}) is found to be maximum for the SmSrCo₂O₆ sample.

Keywords: Layered perovskite, Mixed valence, Cobalt oxide, Crystal Structure, spin state transition, magnetocaloric effect.

1. Introduction

Layered cobalt oxides have been studied extensively due to their interesting structural, magnetic and electronic properties [1-3]. Compared to other layered cobaltites, oxygen

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