

The Effect of Manganese Substituted *M*-type Hexagonal Ba-ferrite

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The Mn-substituted *M*-type Ba-ferrite ($\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$; $x = 0, 2, 4, 6$) powders were prepared by the HTTD (High Temperature Thermal Decomposition) method. The effect of Mn^{3+} Jahn-Teller ions on the magnetic properties has been studied by x-ray diffraction, vibrating sample magnetometry, and Mössbauer spectroscopy. With increasing Mn substitution, the lattice parameter a_0 increases while c_0 decreases. The magnetocrystalline anisotropy constants (K_1) were determined as 2.9, 2.2, 1.8, and, 1.3×10^6 erg/cm³ for $x = 0, 2, 4,$ and $6,$ respectively, by the LAS method. We have studied the change of cation distribution by Mössbauer spectroscopy which is closely related to K_1 .

Keywords : Ba-ferrite, Mössbauer spectra, magnetocrystalline anisotropy, cation distribution

1. Introduction

M-type hexaferrite $M\text{Fe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$ ($M = \text{Ba}, \text{Sr}, \text{Pb}, \text{La}$) has been intensively investigated for use as a high density perpendicular magnetic recording media, as a permanent magnet, and as a microwave absorption device [1, 2] because of its suitable coercivity, high magnetocrystalline anisotropy, and high chemical stability. Cation such as Al^{3+} , Cr^{3+} , Co^{2+} - Ti^{4+} , Co^{2+} - Sn^{4+} , and Zn^{2+} - Zr^{4+} were substituted for Fe^{3+} to control its coercivity and magnetic properties [3-7]. The structure of the barium ferrite is symbolically described as RSR^*S^* , where R is a three-layer block (two O_4 containing one BaO_3) with the composition $\text{Ba}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_6\text{O}^{2-}_{11}$, and S is a two O^{2-}_4 -layer block with the composition $\text{Fe}^{3+}_6\text{O}^{2-}_8$, where the asterisk means that the corresponding block has been turned 180° around the hexagonal c axis. The Fe^{3+} ions are arranged in five different kinds of interstitial sites, of which three are octahedral sites ($12k$, $4f_2$, and $2a$), one is a tetrahedral site ($4f_1$), and one is a site in which the ferric ion is surrounded by five oxygen atoms forming a trigonal bipyramid ($2b$).

In this paper, we report on the site occupation, as determined by Mössbauer spectroscopy, and the magnetocrystalline anisotropy of a Mn^{3+} Jahn-Teller ion substitut-

ed $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ ($0.0 \leq x \leq 6.0$).

2. Experiments

Manganese substituted Ba-ferrite polycrystalline powders were prepared by the HTTD (High Temperature Thermal Decomposition) method [8]. $\text{Ba}(\text{acac})_2$ [$(\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}_2)_2\text{Ba} \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$], $\text{Fe}(\text{acac})_3$ [$(\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}_2)_3\text{Fe}$], and $\text{Mn}(\text{acac})_3$ [$(\text{C}_5\text{H}_8\text{O}_2)_3\text{Mn}$] were used as starting materials. These were dissolved in oleylamine, with the stoichiometric ratio of $\text{Ba}/(\text{Fe}, \text{Mn}) = 1/12$. The solution was refluxed at 330°C for 1 h under Ar, and was subsequently dried at 60°C . Finally, the precursor powders were sintered at $950,$ and 1050°C for 6 h in air.

The crystal structure of the samples was examined by x-ray diffraction with $\text{Cu } K\alpha$ radiation ($\lambda = 1.5406 \text{ \AA}$). The temperature dependence of magnetization was measured by VSM with a maximum field of up to 10 kOe in a 50-780 K temperature range and the hysteresis loops under 15 kOe were also measured. In order to observe the magnetic hyperfine interactions of iron ions in five sublattices of Ba-ferrite, Mössbauer spectra were recorded with a 40 mCi ^{57}Co source in an Rh matrix.

3. Results and Discussion

Fig. 1 shows the x-ray diffraction patterns of the Mn-substituted $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ ($0.0 \leq x \leq 6.0$) at room temper-

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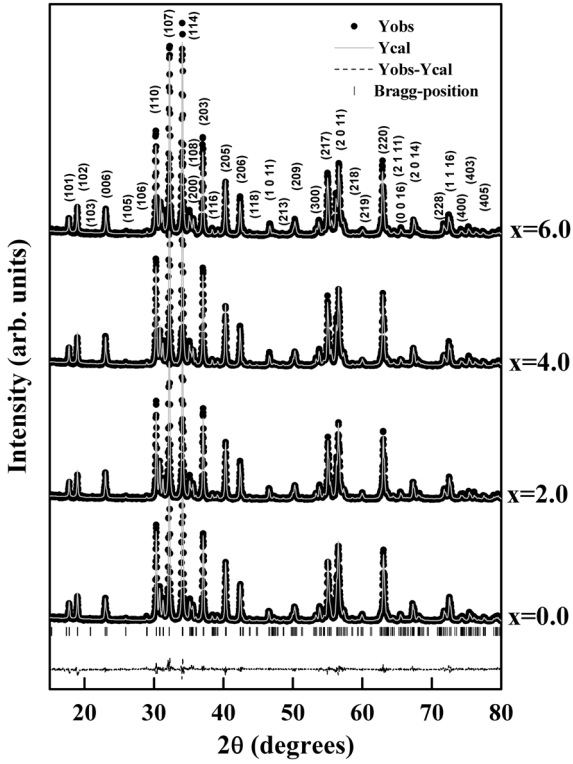


Fig. 1. Refined x-ray diffraction data of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ at room temperature. The solid circles, continuous lines, and the dotted line represent the observed, the calculated, and the difference (obs-cal) profiles, respectively. Tick marks represent the Bragg position of the reflections.

ature. An analysis of x-ray diffraction patterns by the Rietveld refinement method using the FULLPROF program showed that all samples of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ had a magnetoplumbite hexagonal structure with the space group $P6_3/mmc$ as shown in Fig. 1. The refined x-ray diffraction parameters, lattice constant, volume of unit cell (V), and x-ray density (ρ_x) at room temperature for $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ are presented in Table 1. As the Mn substitution increases, the lattice constant a_o and V increases, while c_o and the x-ray density ρ_x decreases. This can be expected when considering that the ionic radius of 0.66 \AA for the Mn^{3+} ions is larger than that of the 0.64 \AA for Fe^{3+} ions. Also, the hexagonal crystal structure is distorted, as though it were expanded along the a -axis by the effect of Mn^{3+} ions distribution.

With an increasing x , the saturation magnetization, M_s , is obviously decreased with 47.4, 30.4, and 15.0 emu/g for $x=2.0$, 4.0, and 6.0. However, the coercivity, H_c is slightly decreased at $x=2.0$, and then greatly increased over $x=2.0$ as shown in Table 2. The $\text{BaFe}_6\text{Mn}_6\text{O}_{19}$ shows a very high H_c of 8,207 Oe. Fig. 2 shows the temperature dependence of the zero field cooled (ZFC)

Table 1. Refined x-ray diffraction parameters of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$. Here, a_o and c_o are lattice parameters, V is the volume of the unit cell, and ρ_x is the x-ray density

x	a_o (Å)	c_o (Å)	c_o/a_o	V (Å ³)	ρ_x (g/cm ³)
0.0	5.894	23.214	3.949	698.378	5.285
2.0	5.896	23.191	3.934	698.116	5.278
4.0	5.9	23.169	3.927	698.502	5.267
6.0	5.905	23.137	3.918	698.736	5.257

Table 2. The saturation magnetization M_s , H_c is the coercivities, K_1 is the magnetocrystalline anisotropy constants, and H_A is the anisotropy field of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$

x	M_s (emu/g)	H_c (Oe)	K_1 ($\times 10^6 \text{ erg/cm}^3$)	H_A (kOe)
0.0	61.7	5,944	2.9	16.2
2.0	47.4	5,758	2.2	16.3
4.0	30.4	6,277	1.8	19.0
6.0	15.0	8,207	1.3	27.2

magnetization curves with a 10 kOe applied field in the temperature range of 50-780 K. In the ZFC curve, the magnetization decreases steadily with an increase in temperature up to the Curie temperature. The Curie temperature is obtained by the dM/dT curves of the ZFC. As the Mn^{3+} substitution increased, the Curie temperature decreased. The decrease of the Curie temperature means that the $\text{Mn}^{3+}-\text{O}^{2-}-\text{Fe}^{3+}$ super-exchange interaction is weaker than the $\text{Fe}^{3+}-\text{O}^{2-}-\text{Fe}^{3+}$ super-exchange interaction.

The magnetocrystalline anisotropy constant K_1 and anisotropy field H_a of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ were determined by the law of approach to saturations (LAS) method. The LAS method can be described as [9].

$$M = M_s \left(1 - \frac{A}{H} - \frac{B}{H^2} - \frac{C}{H^3} - \dots \right) + \chi_p H \quad (1)$$

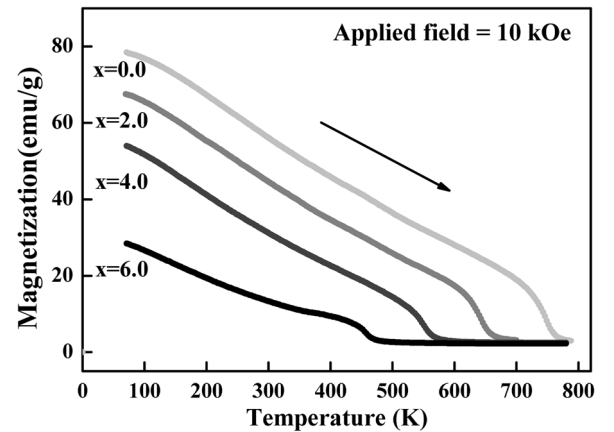


Fig. 2. Temperature dependence of zero field cooled magnetization curves of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$.

Here, A is the inhomogeneity parameter, B is the anisotropy parameter, and χ_p is the paramagnetic susceptibility at high fields, where the saturation magnetization M_s and B is the magnetization dependent process parameter such as

$$B = \frac{H_A^2}{15} = \frac{4K_1^2}{15M_s^2} \quad (2)$$

The anisotropy constant K_1 and the anisotropy field H_a can be obtained by fitting the magnetization curve using Eqs. (1) and (2). Table 2 shows the magnetocrystalline anisotropy constants (K_1) and the anisotropy field (H_a) of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ with various Mn concentrations. With an increase of the Mn concentration x , K_1 is linearly reduced, and H_a is simultaneously increased. In Ba-ferrite, the $12k$ and $2b$ sublattices Fe^{3+} ions could contribute to the overall uniaxial anisotropy [4]. Therefore, a reduced occupancy of spin-up ($12k$) and spin-down ($4f_2$) sites could explain the relative reduction of magnetocrystalline anisotropy. This is due to the decrease of the number of $N_{\text{Fe}}(i)$ in the $12k$ site with an increase of x .

Fig. 3 shows the Mössbauer spectra of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ ($0.0 \leq x \leq 6.0$) at 200 K. All spectra were fitted with five six-line sub patterns corresponding to the $4f_2$, $2a$, $4f_1$, $12k$, and $2b$ sites of the M -type hexagonal structure for the site occupancy and hyperfine interaction of Fe ions. From the relative areas, $S(i)$ $i = 1-5$, the site occupation numbers of Fe^{3+} ($N_{\text{Fe}}(i)$) and Mn ions ($N_{\text{Mn}}(i)$) on the i th site can be determined based on Eqs. (3) and (4) [7].

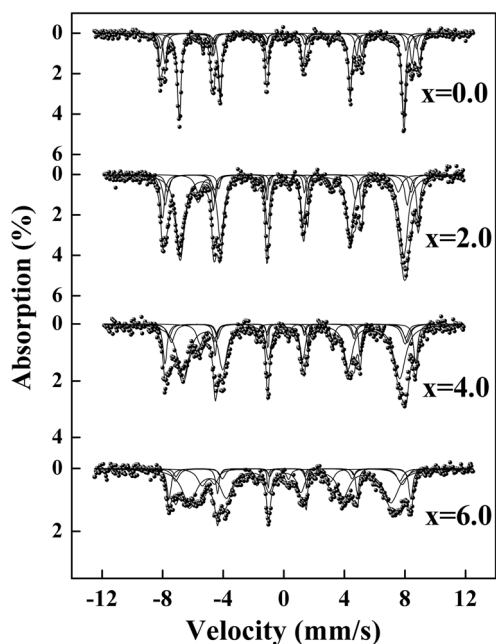


Fig. 3. Mössbauer spectra of $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ ($0.0 \leq x \leq 6.0$) at 200 K.

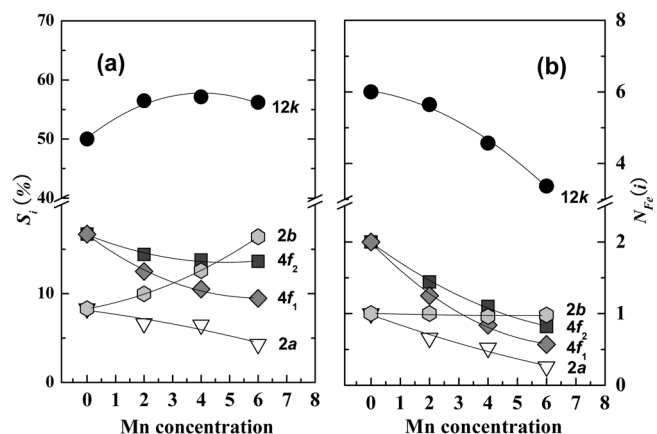


Fig. 4. (a) The relative areas S_i in each site by Mössbauer spectra and (b) the occupation number of Fe ions in the five sublattices for $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ ($0.0 \leq x \leq 6.0$).

$$N_{\text{Fe}}(i) = C_{\text{Fe}} \frac{S(i)}{\sum_{i=1}^5 S(i)}, \quad (3)$$

Here, C_{Fe} is the composition of the Fe ions in a chemical formula and $N(i)$ is the occupation number of the atom in each site.

$$N_{\text{Mn}}(i) = N(i) - N_{\text{Fe}}(i), \quad (4)$$

The occupation fraction of Mn ions, $N_{\text{Mn}}(i)$, in the sublattices can be described as

$$F_{\text{Mn}}(i) = \frac{N_{\text{Mn}}(i)}{N(i)} \times 100\%. \quad (5)$$

The results are shown in Fig. 5. The number of Fe ions does not change for the $2b$ site, but decreases for the $4f_1$, $2a$, and, $4f_2$, sites with an increasing x . This indicates that Mn^{3+} ions preferentially occupy the $4f_1$, $2a$, and $4f_2$ sites.

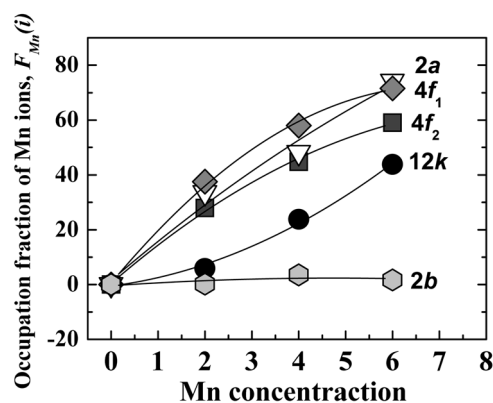


Fig. 5. The occupation fraction of Mn ions in the five sublattices for $\text{BaFe}_{12-x}\text{Mn}_x\text{O}_{19}$ ($0.0 \leq x \leq 6.0$) by the relative area of subspectra.

The relative areas of $\text{BaFe}_8\text{Mn}_4\text{O}_{19}$ at various temperatures were 13.8%, 6.48%, 10.5%, 57.15%, and 12.06% for $4f_2$, $2a$, $4f_1$, $12k$, and $2b$ subspectra, respectively. The isomer shifts, δ_i indicated that the valence state of all Fe ions were ferric (Fe^{3+}).

In summary, Mn-substituted Ba-ferrite powders have been synthesized by the HTTD method. The site occupancies [10], as determined with the Mössbauer spectra, show that the Mn^{3+} ions preferentially occupy the $4f_1$, $2a$, and $4f_2$ sites. The results show that the coercivity, magnetization and magnetocrystalline anisotropies are closely related to the distributions of Mn^{3+} on the five sublattices. This result demonstrates that the substitution of Mn ion on barium hexaferrite can be controlled for the magnetic properties induction of coercivities and the decrease of magnetization.

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