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六方晶 DyMnO3相における雰囲気酸素分圧とトレランス 因子(TF)の関係

Relationship between ambient oxygen partial pressure and tolerance factor (*TF*) in hexagonal DyMnO₃ phase

下村健太1, 栗林一彦2, 小澤俊平1,

Kenta SHIMOMURA¹, Kazuhiko KURIBAYASHI², Shumpei OZAWA¹

1 千葉工業大学, Department of Advanced Materials Science and Engineering, Chiba Institute of Technology

1. Introduction

Hexagonal DyMnO₃ phase (*h*-DyMnO₃, space group: $P6_3cm$) is known as a functional material because of the presence of ferroelectricity and (anti) ferromagnetism in one phase. The structural stability of *h*-DyMnO₃ can be evaluated by the following tolerance factor (*TF*) (1) using ionic radius of composed element, *r*_i.

$$TF = \frac{r_{\rm Dy} + r_{\rm O}}{\sqrt{2}(r_{\rm Mn} + r_{\rm O})} \tag{1}$$

It has been reported that the reduction in valence from Mn³⁺ to Mn²⁺ results in oxygen deficiency followed by a formation of *h*-DyMnO₃ when ambient oxygen partial pressure (*P*o₂) is low¹⁻², though stable phase of DyMnO₃ is orthorhombic DyMnO₃ (*o*-DyMnO₃, space group: *Pbnm*) ³.

In this study, we aimed to clarify the relationship between the *TF* and the reason why *h*-DyMnO₃ tends to be formed when the oxygen partial pressure is decreased.

2. Experimental procedure

Powders of Dy₂O₃ and Mn₂O₃ mixed in an agate mortar were melted on a copper hearth by using a semiconductor laser to form a spherical DyMnO₃ sample with a diameter of 2 mm. The spherical sample was melted and then solidified from the undercooled melt at levitation state by an aerodynamic levitation furnace using argon and O₂ gases. The temperature and solidification process of the sample was recorded by a monochromatic pyrometer and a high-speed video camera (HSV), respectively. The solidified samples were analyzed by powder X-ray diffractometer (XRD), scanning electron microscope (SEM) and thermogravimetric differential scanning calorimeter (TG-DTA).

3. Results

Figure 1 shows a typical example of the results of TG-DTA operated under high purity oxygen gas at $Po_2 = 10^5$ Pa an as-solidified DyMnO₃ sample. The weight of the sample increases from at about 500 K and saturates at about 1200 K. The weight increment during heating is regarded as an increase in oxygen due to oxidation of Mn²⁺ to Mn³⁺, corresponding to the amount of the oxygen deficiency. Assuming that the ratio of the radius between the oxygen vacancy and the oxygen ion as 0.6, the effective oxygen ionic radius was calculated. Table 1 shows oxygen deficiency, effective ionic radii of Mn and oxygen, and calculated *TF* of DyMnO₃.

Figure 2 shows the relationship between *P*o₂ and *TF* in DyMnO₃. *TF* changes in proportion to *P*o₂. **Figure 3** shows the XRD profiles of DyMnO₃ samples solidified at various *P*o₂. Both *h*-DyMnO₃ (\Box) and *o*-DyMnO₃ (\triangle) phases are identified in the sample solidified at *P*o₂ = 10⁵ Pa. However, the diffraction peaks for the *o*-DyMnO₃ (\triangle) phase disappears when the *P*o₂ is lower than 3.2 × 10³ Pa. Further decrease in *P*o₂ induces the formation of cubic MnO (*c*-MnO, space group: Fm3-m) (\bigcirc),

² 千葉工業大学附属研究, Research Liaison Centre, Chiba institute of Technology



Fig. 1. TGA curve of the DyMnO₃ sample solidified at Po₂ of 10 Pa, carried out under high purity oxygen atmosphere

Table. 1. Oxygen deficiencies, average ionic radius, and TF of the as-solidified DyMnO3 samples solidified under various Po2

<i>P</i> 02 (Pa)		1.0×10 ⁵	3.2×10 ³	1.0×10 ³	10
O2 deficiency (%)		0.2765	3.2020	4.5901	8.7931
Average ionic radius (nm)	Mn	0.0648	0.0681	0.0696	0.0743
	O ₂	0.1372	0.1355	0.1344	0.1311
Tolerance Factor		0.7992	0.7875	0.7820	0.7654





Fig. 2. TF of the as-solidified DyMnO3 as a function of Po2

Fig. 3. XRD profiles of the as-solidified DyMnO3

which would be attributed by the reduction in valence from Mn^{3+} to Mn^{2+} . When the Po_2 is decreased to 10^1 Pa, cubic Dy₂O₃ (*c*-Dy₂O₃, space group: la-3) (\diamondsuit) is formed together with the *h*-DyMnO₃ and *c*-MnO.

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