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Thermodynamic Properties of (Pr,Gd)OsGa4 Intermetallic Compounds

Polycrystalline samples of PrOsGa4 and GdOsGa4 were prepared by arc-melting technique using high-purity elemental constituent elements. They were melted on a water-cooled copper plate under ultra-high pure argon atmosphere. The Rietveld crystal structure refinement of powder X-ray diffraction patterns with a full-profile refinement confirms that both samples crystallize in the hexagonal CeOsGa4-structure type with space group Pmma (number 51). The structure exhibits two types of two dimensionally alternating layers that are slightly puckered, having OsGa3 layer sandwiched between Pr(Gd)Ga layers. Here, we present the physical properties of these compounds through temperature (T) dependent magnetic susceptibility χ (T) and magnetization M(B), heat capacity Cp(T), and electrical resistivity (ρ (T)). They consistently reveal that the compounds undergo an antiferromagnetic type ordering below 16 K. The $\mathbb{X}(T)$ data obey the Curie-Weiss law above 50 K. The study may contribute towards a better understanding of the physics of this class of materials.

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