Magnetic and Electric Properties of magnetic semiconductor Cu0.1Fe0.9Cr2S4

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Sample of Cu0.1Fe0.9Cr2S4 has been studied with Mössbauer spectroscopy, x-ray, SQUID magnetometer and magnetoresistance (MR). The crystal structure was determined to be cubic spinel with its lattice constant a0=9.975 Å. The Mössbauer spectra were recorded from 12 K to room temperature. The asymmetric line broadening is observed and considered to be dynamic Jahn-Teller distortion. The unusual reduction of magnetic hyperfine field below 100 K may be explained in terms of cancellation effect between the mutually opposite orbital current field (HL) and Fermi contact field (HC). Isomer shift value of the sample at room temperature was 0.54 mm/s, which means that charge state of Fe ions was ferrous in character. The MR peak was observed at 218 K about 10 % at an applied field 16 kOe. The activation energy above the Néel temperature was calculated to be 55 meV. The conduction mechanism near Tc is dominated by delocalization effect from magnetic polaron.