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Structural and Magnetic Characteristics of Bismuth Substituted Holmium Iron Garnet

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Bismuth-substituted heavy rare-earth iron garnet materials have attracted much attention in optical communication industries due to their small temperature coefficient of Faraday rotation, low optical absorption, and a low magnetic field for saturation [1]. Especially, $(\text{TbBi})_3\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$, and $(\text{HoBi})_3\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ have received much attention for the communication systems devices in the wavelength range of 1.3~1.6 μm [2]. Here, we present the results of XRD, vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM), and the Mössbauer experiments on the bismuth substituted holmium iron garnet. The $\text{Ho}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ powders were prepared by sol-gel method. The crystal structures were found to be a cubic structure with space group $Ia\bar{3}d$. The determined lattice constant of sample is 12.462 Å. Fig. 1 shows the Temperature dependence of field cooled magnetization of $\text{Tb}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ and $\text{Ho}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$. $\text{Ho}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ exhibited lower compensation temperature than $\text{Tb}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$. From the analysis of VSM hysteresis loop at room temperature, the saturation magnetization and coercivity of the sample are 15.545 emu/g and 33.33 Oe, respectively. The Néel temperature (T_N) was determined to be 650 K by Mössbauer spectroscopy. Compare with our past results of $\text{Tb}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ [3], $\text{Ho}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ has larger saturation magnetization, higher T_N , and lower coercivity than $\text{Tb}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$. These phenomena can be explained by influence of the Bi ions on the super-exchange interaction between a-d sublattices[4].

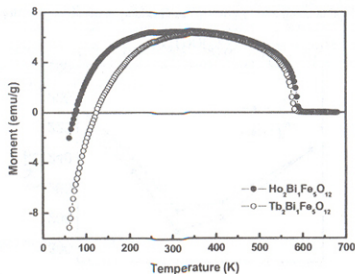


Fig. 1. Temperature dependence of field cooled magnetization of $\text{Tb}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$ and $\text{Ho}_2\text{Bi}_1\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{12}$.

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