

Lattice effects on the charge-spin ordering in layered cobaltates R_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄

K. Horigane, H. Haruhiro*, K. Yamada* and J. Akimitsu

Department of Physics and Mathematics, Aoyama-Gakuin University, Sagamihara 229-8558;

*Institute for Materials Research, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577

Layered transition metal oxides have been much attention due to their wide variety of magnetic, electrical and structural properties. In some of the doped transition metal compounds, there is a real space ordering due to the charge carriers in a certain carrier concentration, resulting in an orbital ordering (OO) and sometimes a charge ordering (CO). In a recent neutron scattering study, Zaliznyak et al. investigated a short ranged checkerboard charge order of Co²⁺/Co³⁺ ($\rho_{\text{Co}}=23\%$) and magnetic order at L=odd in the half-doped cobaltate La_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄ (LSCO: $r_A=1.19$) [1]. More recently, we performed neutron scattering experiments on La_{1.5}Ca_{0.5}CoO₄ (LCCO: $r_A=1.15$) [2]. Comparing the results between LSCO and LCCO systems, we found that long-ranged checkerboard charge order ($\rho_{\text{Co}}=115\%$) and new type of magnetic reflections at L=half-integer were observed in LCCO system. Our purpose of this study is to clarify the relationship between A site radius, r_A , and charge-spin ordering. Thus, we studied about charge and magnetic orderings in Nd_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄ (NSCO: $r_A=1.16$) system.

Single crystal of Nd_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄ was grown by the TSFZ method, of which volume was about 1.0 cc. It was mounted in a refrigerator with the b-axis vertical, allowing to observe the (h,0,L) reciprocal lattice plane. To index the superlattice peaks, we use a unit cell with dimensions $2a \times 2a \times c$. The neutron scattering experiments were carried out on the 3-axis spectrometer AKANE(T1-2).

Figure 1-(a) shows structural scatterings due to checkerboard charge ordering of R_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄ (R=La, Nd) in (1, 0, L). We observed the scatterings with L=integer in Nd system, while those of intensity in La

system was very small. This result indicates that A site radius, which corresponds to bandwidth, is coupled with the charge order in layered cobaltates.

Magnetic scatterings at $q=(0.5, 0, L)$ in Nd_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄ is shown in Fig.1-(b). We observed scatterings with L=odd, and this result is same as that of LSCO system. Contrary to the case of charge ordering, magnetic ordering is hardly coupled with A site radius.

Reference

- [1] I. A. Zaliznyak et al.: PRL 85 (2000) 4353.
 [2] K. Horigane et al.: JPSJ 76 (2007) 114715.

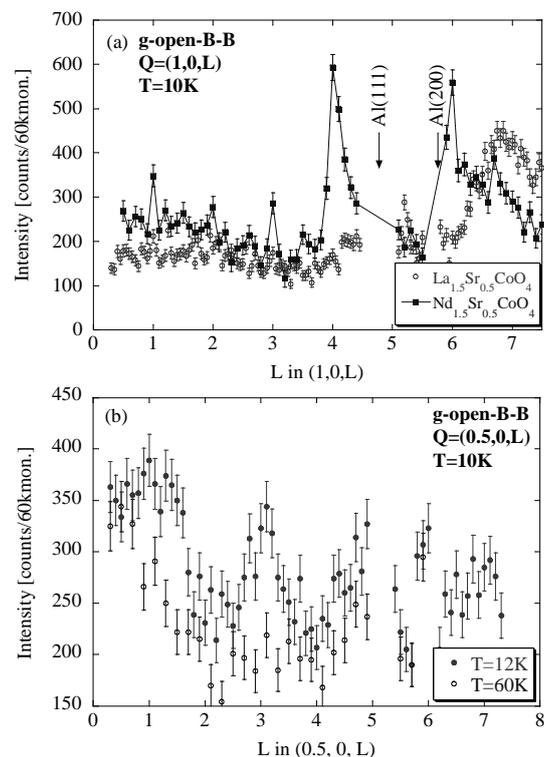


Fig. 1. (a) Structural scattering due to checkerboard charge order at (1, 0, L) in R_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄. The arrows indicate aluminum scattering. (b) Magnetic peaks at (0.5, 0, L) in Nd_{1.5}Sr_{0.5}CoO₄.