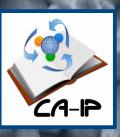
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Effect of Deuteration on Orientational Ordering and Ferroelastic Phase Transitions in Dioxotetrafluorovanadate (NH₄)₃VO₂F₄

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The crystals of vanadium oxyfluorides (VOF) can form various distorted VOFoctahedra due to the ability of vanadium to adopt different valence. VOF-elements can be used to create crystalline structures with interesting physical properties for designing functional elements in electronics and microelectronics, and can also be considered as materials for creating solid-state cooling devices. Despite the variety of vanadium oxyfluorides, the VOF anion is disordered. In particular, the structure $(NH_4)_3VO_2F_4$ contains two independent OF-anions one of which is orientationally disordered and other is completely ordered [1]. The crystal $(NH_4)_3VO_2F_4$ undergoes four successive phase transitions with with the following symmetry change: $Fm3m \leftrightarrow Immm \leftrightarrow$ rhombic $\leftrightarrow P112/m \leftrightarrow P1$ at T_1 =448K, T_2 =244K, T_3 =210K and T_4 =205K respectively.

In the present work, the studies of disordering/ordering processes using deuteration of the ammonium group [2] and complex thermophysical and dielectric studies of crystals $(NH_4)_3VO_2F_4$ have been performed. It was found that deuteration has practically no effect on the temperature of the phase transitions T_1 =437K, T_3 =212K and T_4 =208K but led to the disappearance of the transformation Immm \leftrightarrow *rhombic* at T_2 (Fig. 1*a*). As a result of $D \rightarrow H$ substitution, the total entropy change $(\Delta S_{\Sigma}=12.3 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K} \rightarrow 17.0 \text{ J/mol}\cdot\text{K})$ but the contribution from low-temperature transformations has changed insignificantly (Fig. 1b). The substitution $D \rightarrow H$ led to large change in the susceptibility to external hydrostatic pres-

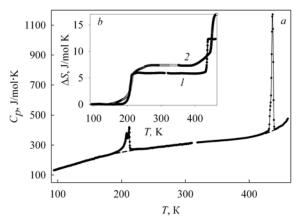


Fig 1. Temperature dependence of the molar heat capacity in a wide temperature range (*a*). Temperature dependence of the total excess entropy change $(ND_4)_3VO_2F_4$ (*1*) and $(NH_4)_3VO_2F_4$ (*2*) (*b*).

sure the of low-temperature transformations $(dT_3/dp=-43 \text{ K/GPa} \rightarrow -27 \text{ K/GPa} \text{ and } dT_4/dp=-79 \text{ K/GPa} \rightarrow -25 \text{ K/GPa})$. The phase P112/m becomes more stable under pressure in spite of the fact that in $(\text{NH}_4)_3\text{VO}_2\text{F}_4$ it was wedged out at low pressure $(p_{trp}\approx 0.3 \text{ GPa})$. The nature of the phase transitions remains ferroelastic. Significant changes in the thermal expansion are observed at the high-temperature transformation at T_1 ($\delta\beta_1=0.6\%$), that shows the first order of phase transition is preserved.

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