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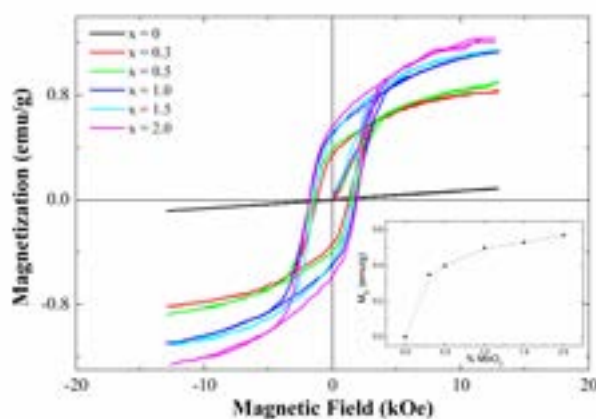
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Multiferroic properties and structural characterizations in Mn and Cr doped 0.9BiFeO₃-0.1BaTiO₃ compositions

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Bismuth ferrite (BiFeO₃; BFO) is one of the most studied multiferroic materials, mainly due to its reported magnetoelectric properties at room temperature, potential use in nonvolatile memory applications and developments in the fundamentals of solid state physics. BFO ferroelectric and antiferromagnetic phase transitions are found significantly above room temperature, i.e., it is a ferroelectric material below T_c~1100 K and an anti-ferromagnetic one below T_N~650 K. The drawbacks of BFO for bulk practical applications are the low resistivity and the difficult to synthesize single-phased polycrystalline materials. To overcome the low DC electrical resistivity, one solution is doping these materials with multiple valence ions like Mn. Also, Cr ions can be used to improve polarization. Therefore, in this work, we describe the structural; dielectric, magnetic and Mossbauer spectroscopy studies in 0.9BiFeO₃ - 0.1BaTiO₃ solid solutions doped with Mn and Cr processed by high-energy ball milling. Especially for the Mn doped samples a structurally correlated magnetization enhancement is reported. X-ray diffraction and Rietveld refinement studies revealed a distorted perovskite structure with the coexistence of rhombohedral and monoclinic symmetries. Mössbauer spectroscopy results showed a magnetic spectral signature of ordered Fe³⁺ ions for the rhombohedral phase of the undoped sample and for both rhombohedral and monoclinic phases of the Mn doped samples. A significant magnetization increase (reaching 0.50 emu/g), associated to the magnetic ordering of the Cm phase and to the retention of the Mn³⁺ valence state was observed for Mn doped samples.



Magnetic hysteresis loops for 0.9BiFeO₃ - 0.1BaTiO₃ - x wt.% MnO₂ solid solutions, at room temperature.
Inset: remnant magnetization as a function of the MnO₂ content

Biography

Ricardo A M Gotardo has studied Physics and has pursued his PhD in Condensed Matter Physics at the State University of Maringá. He is a Professor at the Technological Federal University of Paraná in Cornélio Procopio since 2013. His research focuses on multiferroic materials, relating materials structure with the magnetic and electronic properties.

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