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Spectroscopic and Bulk Susceptibility Evidence for Independent Antiferromagnetic Ordering Transitions in the Rock Salt Like Structured Hetero- Bimetallic Complexes $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ and $[\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6][(\text{FeCl}_6)]$: Consequences of Highly Different Magnetic Symmetries

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SPECTROSCOPIC AND BULK SUSCEPTIBILITY EVIDENCE FOR
INDEPENDENT ANTIFERROMAGNETIC ORDERING TRANSITIONS
IN THE ROCK SALT LIKE STRUCTURED HETERO-BIMETALLIC
COMPLEXES $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ AND $[\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$:
CONSEQUENCES OF HIGHLY DIFFERENT MAGNETIC
SYMMETRIES.

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Abstract Entirely separate 3D-A.F. magnetic
ordering processes are observed for the ionic
components of the rock salt like materials
 $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ and $[\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ through high
resolution a.c. susceptibility and Mossbauer
spectroscopy measurements.

INTRODUCTION

Previous detailed cooperative magnetic properties
studies of FeCl_6^{3-} anions have focused on compounds
containing diamagnetic cations such as $[\text{Co}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$ (1)
or $[\text{Co}(1,3\text{-propane-diamine})_3]^{3+}$ (2) where the $S=5/2$
hexachloro- ferrate anions of these systems exhibit 3D-
A.F. ground states, $T_N \sim 0.9\text{K}$ and 9K respectively and
the cations are of course "magnetically silent" owing
to their diamagnetism. More recently, we have reported
the single crystal x-ray structure and high field
Mossbauer spectra of $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ (3) where the
latter clearly suggest an A.F. to spin-flop phase
transition for the FeCl_6^{3-} anion lattice between 1 and
2T and a very high field induced spin-flop to
paramagnetic phase transition ($>4\text{T}$).

That is, the FeCl_6^{3-} sublattice of $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ is clearly antiferromagnetically ordered and apparently independent of the paramagnetic $S=3/2$ $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6]^{3+}$ cation sublattice with which it is nevertheless structurally intimately associated.

Results

Herein, this unexpected result is further confirmed for $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ and the related $S=1/2$ $\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$ analogue where high resolution ($\Delta T=0.02\text{K}$ to $\Delta T=0.05\text{K}$) a.c. susceptibility data ($H_0=1\text{ Oe}$, $\nu=125\text{Hz}$) (A) exhibit no imaginary component (χ''_m) and (B) do exhibit separate transitions in χ'_m vs T . These are resolved for the cations at 2.1K and 4.6K and anions at 2.4K and 5.2K of (Cr) and (Ru) analogues respectively. Zero field Iron-57 Mossbauer spectra show that the $S=5/2$ anion lattice orders at the higher temperature in each case, an observation fully consistent with molecular field theory, i.e., $T_c \propto S(S+1)$ (4). In addition, ruthenium-99 Mossbauer spectra also indicate long range order for the $\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$ sublattice while d.c. χ_m vs T (vibrating sample magnetometry data at 0.015 and 1T likewise exhibits separate, distinct transitions for the cation and anion of $[\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ in agreement with the a.c. results. The overall behavior and particularly the monotonic decrease of μ and $\chi_m''=0$ indicate that the present complexes can not be simple collinear two sublattice ferrimagnets. The apparent non-interaction of the interpenetrating component sublattices of these systems is likely (at least for the Ru complex) the result of highly different magnetic sublattice symmetries, i.e., Ising (low-spin Ru^{3+}) vs Heisenberg (high-spin Fe^{3+}).

Results

A.C. susceptibility data for the chrome complex compound (0.05K resolution) are given in Figure 1 where separate transitions for the anion and cation lattices at ~ 2.4 K and 2.1K are evident. The magnetic moment variation (per mole) corresponding to Figure 1 is seen in Figure 2.

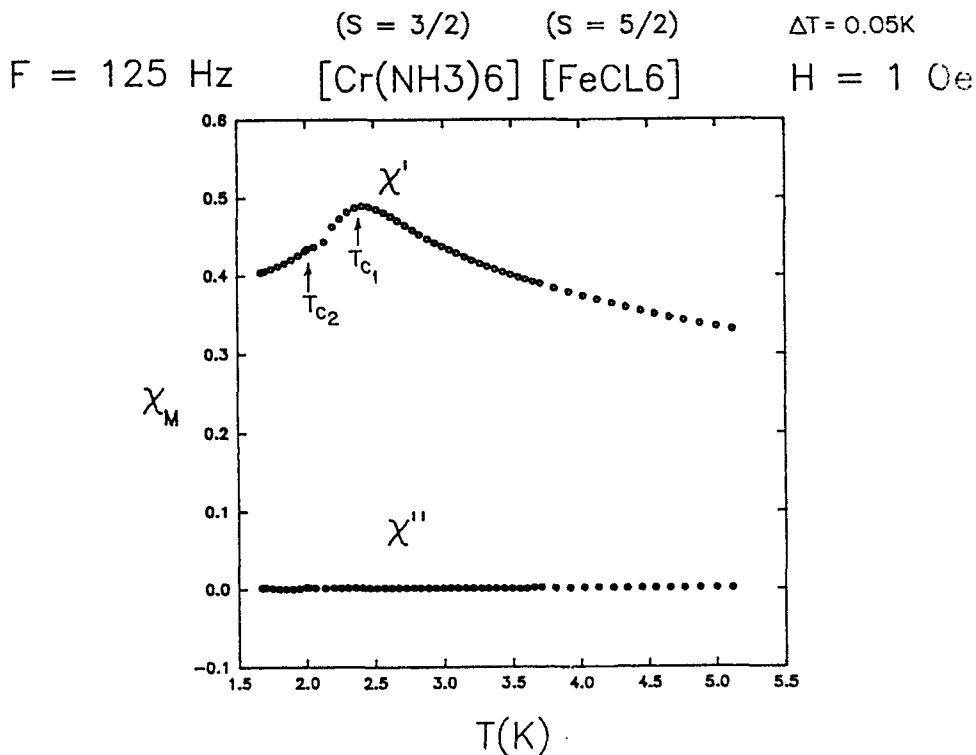


FIGURE 1 Real (χ'_M) and imaginary (χ''_M) components of the a.c. susceptibility of $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$.

In view of the single ion ground states involved (4A_g -cation and 6A_g -anion), it is reasonable to assume spin-only magnetic behavior for the components of the

chrome complex . The moment per mole of complex for non-interacting $S=3/2$ and $S=5/2$ units is $\sqrt{50}$ or 7.07 Bohr magnetons while the spin-only moments of the cation and anion are 3.87 B.M. and 5.92 B.M. respectively. Thus, the limiting value of ~ 2.3 B.M./mole at 1.6K in Figure 2 is fully consistent with the postulated (independent) antiferromagnetism of the cation and anion lattices.

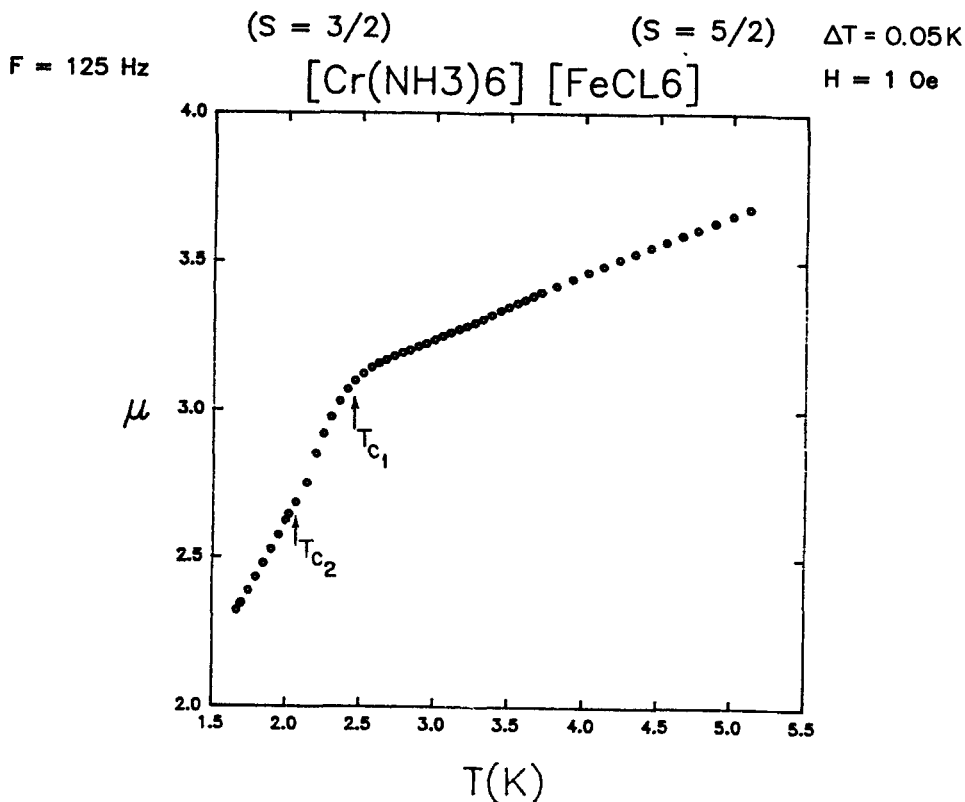


FIGURE 2 Magnetic moment (μ) versus temperature for $[Cr(NH_3)_6][FeCl_6]$

Although considerably lower temperature resolution data Figure 3, vibrating sample magnetometry at 1 Tesla,

separate A.F. transitions are evident in the temperature dependence of the reciprocal susceptibility of the ruthenium compound.

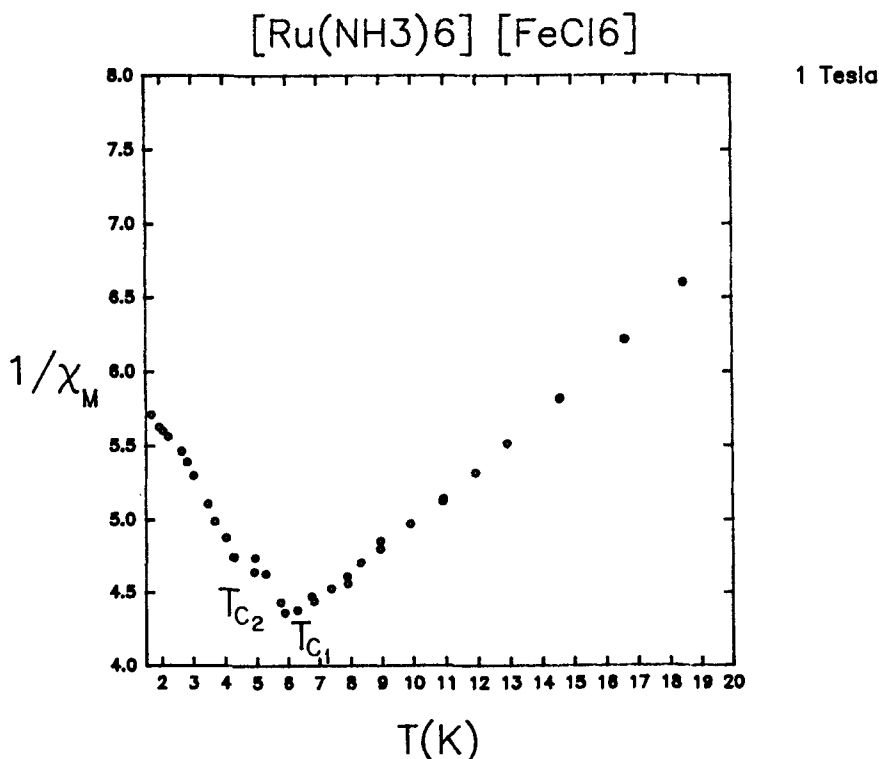


FIGURE 3 χ_M^{-1} versus T for $[\text{Ru}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ (d.c. field vibrating sample magnetometry data).

Its moment variation and limiting value of 1.5 B.M./mole (1.10 B.M./metal) again suggests independent A.F. behavior as the spin only value for non-interacting $S=1/2$ and $S=5/2$ units is 6.16 B.M. while the respective spin-only values are now 1.73 B.M. (cation) and 5.92 (anion). Small orbital contributions for low-spin Ru^{3+} (nominal $^2T_{2g}$ ground state) leading to cation moment values ranging from 2.0 to 2.3 B.M. do

not change the conclusions. Previously published (5) zero field iron-57 Mossbauer spectra exhibit the onset of magnetic hyperfine splitting at $\sim 2.8\text{K}$ suggesting a T_N of this value for the iron containing anion lattice of $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ in agreement with a.c. and d.c. χ_m vs T results. Mossbauer spectroscopy data for $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ have also been collected both in longitudinal (H_0 parallel to E_γ at $T \sim 1.9\text{K}$) and transverse (H_0 perpendicular to E_γ at $T \sim 0.5\text{K}$) applied magnetic fields. The intensities of the $\Delta M_i = 0$ transitions initially begin to increase relative to the $\Delta M_i = \pm 1$ transitions in the presence of the longitudinally applied magnetic field (spectra not shown). This indicates (6) the occurrence of an antiferromagnetic to spin flop first order phase transition within and antiferromagnetically coupled $[\text{FeCl}_6]^{3-}$ anion lattice. However, at higher fields (10 Tesla), the intensities of these transitions are seen to have decreased. The overall field dependence behavior is incontrovertibly characteristic of an antiferromagnetic to spin-flop followed by a spin-flop to paramagnetic phase transition typical of a uniaxial, antiferromagnetically coupled two sublattice system. *In this case the two sublattice system is composed of up and down spin lattices of FeCl_6^{3-} units independent of the $\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6^{3+}$ cation lattice.* The transverse field Helium-3 range spectra shown in Figure 4 also suggest (6) spin-flop behavior ($H_{sf} \sim 1.0\text{ T}$) since the intensity of the $\Delta M_i = 0$ transitions (see arrows in the figure) have clearly decreased relative to the $\Delta M_i = \pm 1$ transitions on reaching 12.4 kOe at 0.52K.

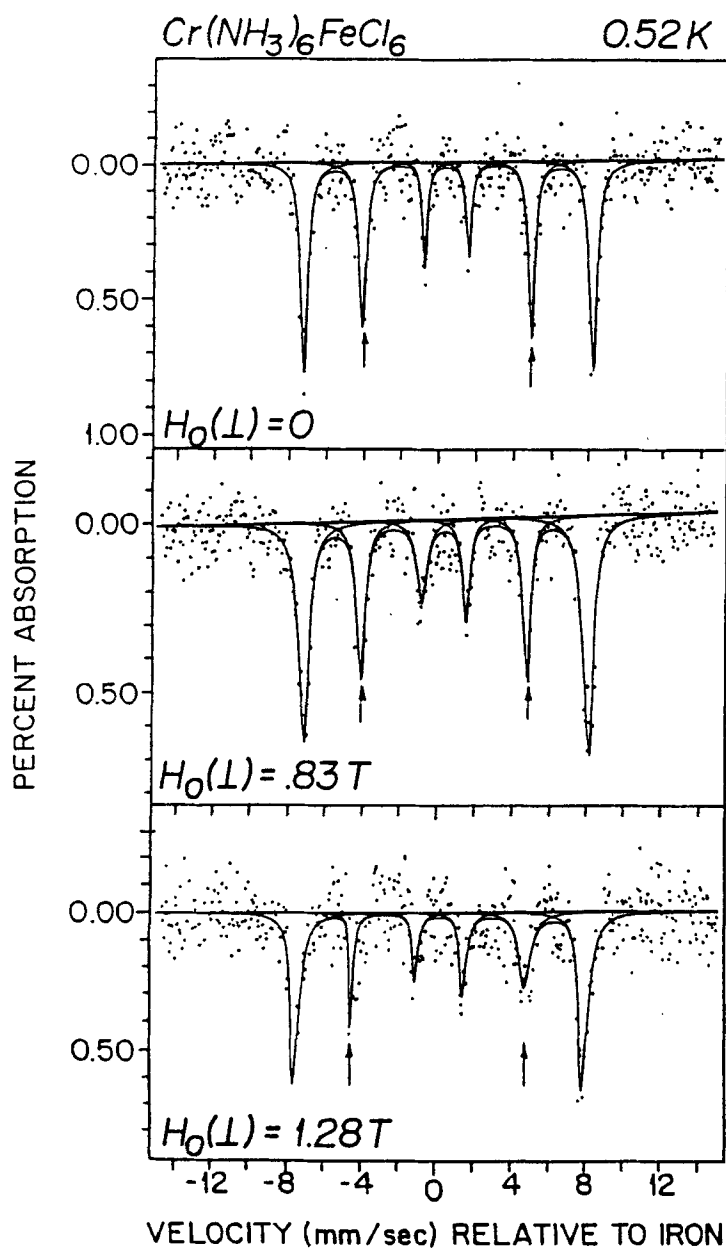


FIGURE 4 Some transverse applied field Mossbauer spectra for $[\text{Cr}(\text{NH}_3)_6][\text{FeCl}_6]$ at 0.52 K.

Summary

The behavior reported herein for "rock salt like" structured complexes (7) and likewise exhibited by certain layered ferricenium tetra-halo-ferrates (8) is probably also operative for other chrome III complexes, particularly $[\text{Cr}(\text{en})_3][\text{FeCl}_6]$, which has recently been reported (9) to order "as a compensated ferrimagnet" at $T_N=2.26\text{K}$ with $\chi_m''=0$! The meaning of the latter terminology is not clear to the present investigators. In any event, higher temperature resolution susceptibility data for this system would be valuable and will likely resolve separate cation and anion ordering transitions. More details for the present systems including the Ru-99 Mossbauer spectroscopy results will be reported subsequently elsewhere (10). Research supported by the NSF Division of Materials Research (W.M.R.) and NSF Chem Grant #9111408 (W.E.H.).

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