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MAGNETIC PROPERTIES OF BASIC COPPER(II) FORMATES

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Abstract $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ exhibits a strong ferromagnetic interaction ($\theta = +43\text{K}$). The susceptibility shows a sharp maximum at $T_m = 21\text{K}$ and a plateau below 12K . This magnetic behavior is characteristic of antiferromagnetic materials. The spin-flop behavior is observed below T_m . To examine the spin-flop behavior of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$, magnetic phase diagram was drawn up. Magnetic phase diagram of $\text{Cu}(\text{DCCO})(\text{OD})$ was also constructed to examine whether magnetic interaction between layers is due to hydrogen bond or not. Between them there is little difference in the phase diagram, but there is a remarkable difference in the hysteresis curves at 2K . Besides, temperature dependence of susceptibility and hysteresis curve at 1.8K of $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$ was measured. In consequence it was found that this material also showed spin-flop behavior.

INTRODUCTION

There are far more types of copper(II) formates than of other copper(II) carbonates and they have various structures. For example, three isomers can be found for anhydrous copper(II) formates. Numerous ways of bridges between Cu(II) ions in these compounds can be seen, producing various types of magnetic interactions. Therefore copper(II) formates are suitable for examining the relation between the molecular structure and the magnetic behavior, and new types of copper(II) formates, if they can be prepared, are expected to show unique magnetic properties.

From this point of view, magnetic properties of basic copper(II) formates has been studied in detail [1,2]. It has been found so far that $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ exhibited characteristic behaviors of spin-flop phenomenon [1], but more detailed examination is strongly needed. In this study the spin-flop behavior of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ was clarified by performing various magnetic measurements and constructing magnetic phase diagram of this material.

The magnetic properties of the other basic copper(II) formate, $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$, were also investigated.

EXPERIMENTAL

Crystals of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ and $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$ were prepared by previously reported procedures [1]. All magnetic measurements were performed by using a SQUID magnetometer (quantum design MPMS-5S). The following values were used: Cu^{2+} (-11), OH^- (-12), and HCOO^- (-20) for diamagnetic corrections ($10^{-6} \text{ emu mol}^{-1}$) [3] and $60 \times 10^{-6} \text{ emu mol}^{-1}$ for temperature independent paramagnetism.

Crystal structure of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ is illustrated in Fig. 1 [2]. The HCOO and OH group bridge the neighboring copper ions and infinite zigzag chains are formed along b axis. The chains are connected together by the bonds between copper

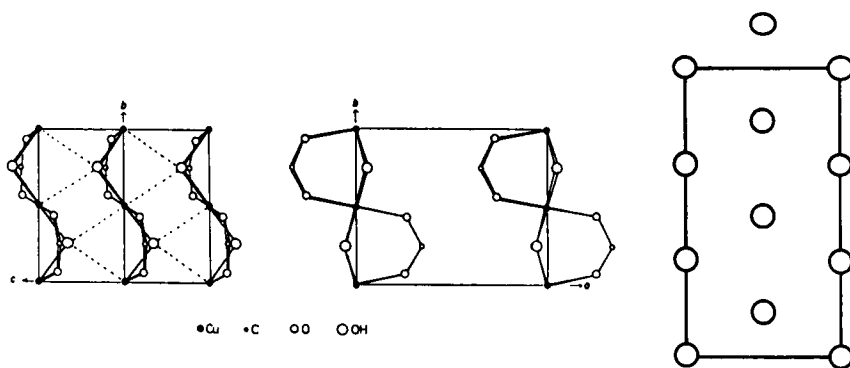


FIGURE 1 Crystal structure of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$. FIGURE 2 Positions of $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$ ions in $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$.

ions and hydroxy groups, and the layers are formed so that the spins interact ferromagnetically. There are no shorter contacts than 4.3 \AA between the layers except for hydrogen bond. The magnetic transition may take place by the antiferromagnetic interaction between the layers.

As for $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$, the cell constants and positions of copper ions (Fig. 2) were defined by Weissenberg photographs.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

$\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$

Hysteresis and magnetization curves at various temperatures of this compound are shown in Fig. 3. In the magnetic field region lower than 1T, irregularity indicating spin-flop phenomenon is observed in the magnetization curves at 2-20K, but it was

not observed at 25K. And peculiar hysteresis is observed in the field range of $\pm 2\text{T} \pm 3\text{T}$ in the hysteresis curve at 2K.

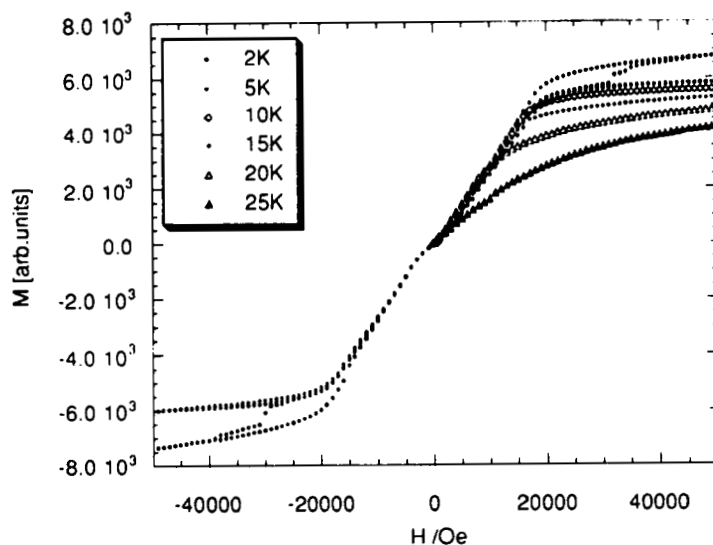


FIGURE 3 Hysteresis curves of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$.

The χ_a -T curves of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ in various fields, which are shown in Fig. 4, indicate the field dependence. As the magnetic field increases, the peak at T_m becomes more dull and is shifted to lower temperature, vanishing finally at 1.4T.

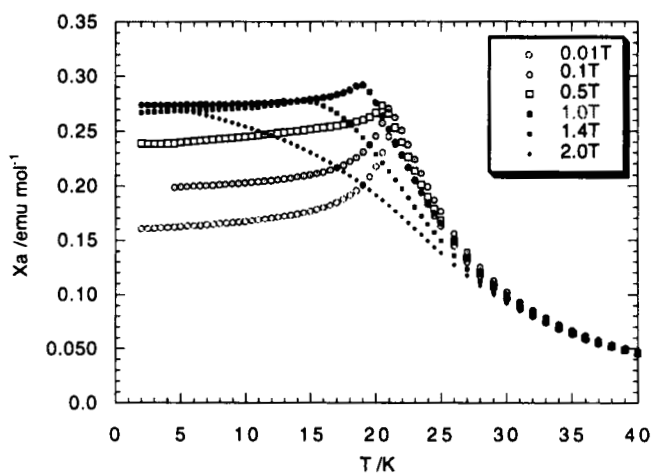


FIGURE 4 Temperature dependence of susceptibilities of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ in various fields.

Magnetic phase diagram (Fig. 5) of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$, constructed from these measurements consists of antiferromagnetic phase (AF), spin-flop phase (SF) and paramagnetic phase (P), where H_{sf} and H_{c} denote spin-flop field and critical field, respectively. There is a triple point at field 0.3T and temperature 21K. The magnetic phase diagram of $\text{Cu}(\text{DCOO})(\text{OD})$ is shown in Fig. 6.

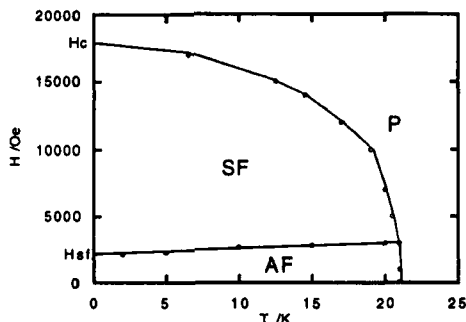


FIGURE 5 Magnetic phase diagram of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$.

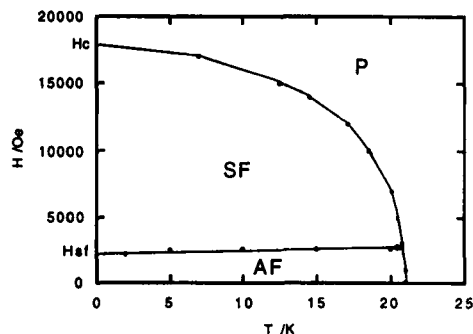


FIGURE 6 Magnetic phase diagram of $\text{Cu}(\text{DCOO})(\text{OD})$.

There is little difference between diagrams of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ and of $\text{Cu}(\text{DCOO})(\text{OD})$, and a triple point of the latter also exists at the same point as $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$. However, a remarkable difference is observed in hysteresis curve at 2K (Fig. 7). As values of spin-flop field and critical field are almost the same for two complexes, the differences between them may be summarized in the next two points. First, peculiar hysteresis exists in the curve of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$. Second, the saturation is not complete at 5T.

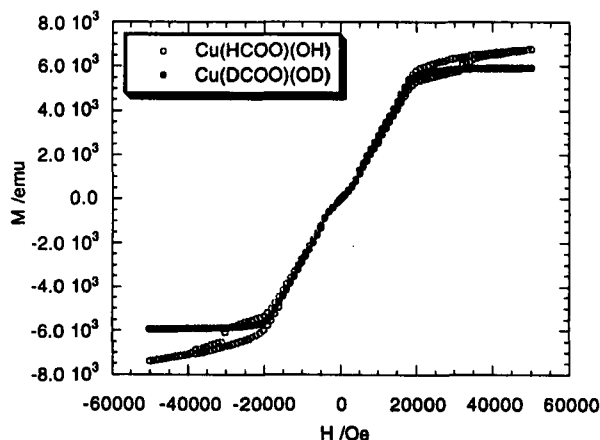


FIGURE 7 Hysteresis curves at 2K of $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ and $\text{Cu}(\text{DCOO})(\text{OD})$.

The following ideas may be proposed for this phenomena. At about 1.8T, spins in $\text{Cu}(\text{HCOO})(\text{OH})$ align themselves in almost the same direction, although the alignment is still incomplete. Since increasing field strength further more complete spin alignment, hysteresis observed from this point. That is to say, the saturation occurs through two steps.



The temperature dependence of magnetic susceptibilities of $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$ is illustrated in Fig. 8. The χ_a -T curve shows almost the same behavior as our previous results [1]. Measurements were carried out down to 2K, which was lower than in our previous measurements [1], and the maximum was observed at 2.5K with transition to antiferromagnetic phase. In the curve (Fig. 9), there is little hysteresis. The curve shows irregularity of magnetization, which is characteristic of spin-flop phenomenon; spin-flop field, H_{sf} , is 1T.

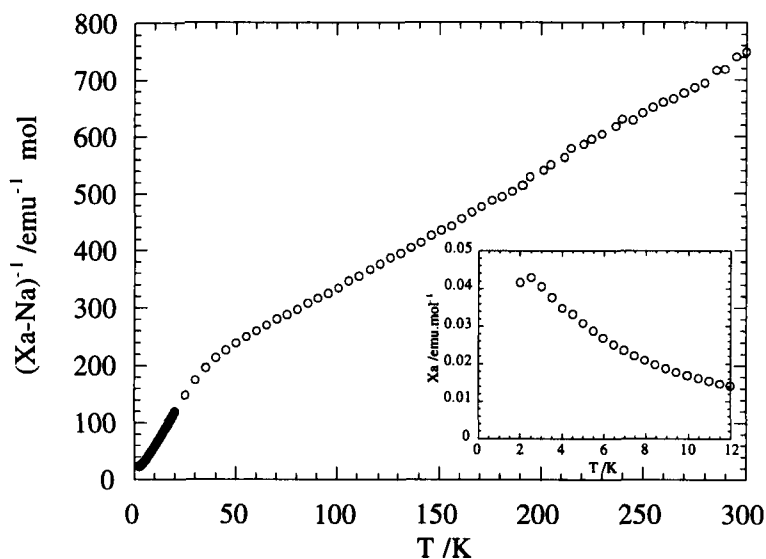


FIGURE 8 Reciprocal magnetic susceptibility of $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$. The insert is temperature dependence of susceptibility (2-12K)

Since trinuclear clusters may function as magnetic units, as reported previously[1], the presence of the maximum at 2.5K in the susceptibility curve(Fig. 8) seems to indicate that intertrimer interaction is antiferromagnetic.

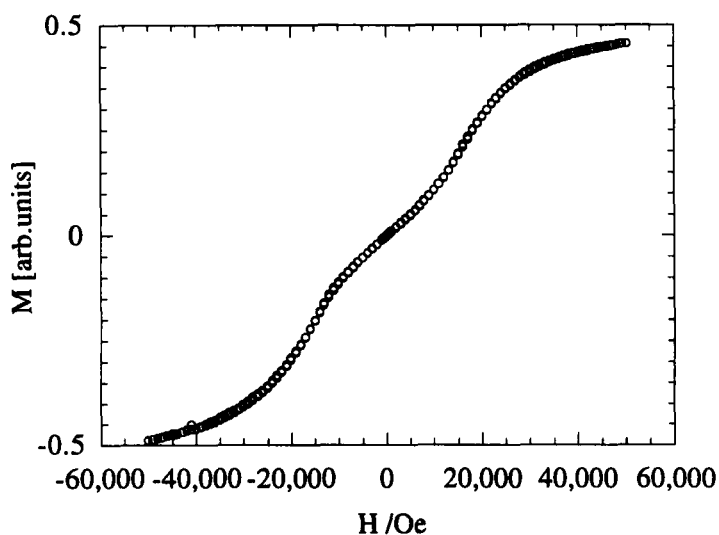


FIGURE 9 Hysteresis curve at 1.8K of $\text{Cu}_3(\text{HCOO})_2(\text{OH})_4$.

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