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Hyperfine local probe study of alkaline-earth manganites BaMnO₃ and SrMnO₃

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Summary

We report perturbed angular correlations (PAC) and first-principles calculations with ¹¹¹mCd/¹¹¹Cd and ¹¹¹In/¹¹¹mCd probes, implanted at the ISOLDE-CERN laboratory, in the compounds/polymorphs BaMnO₃-6H and BaMnO₃-15R and SrMnO₃-4H. Magnetic and structural studies were also performed. The experiments are complemented with calculations of the electric field gradient (EFG), with density functional theory, by the LAPW method (Wien2k code [1]). Calculations consider different magnetic states, and for the case of BaMnO₃ the results from different polymorphs are analyzed. Comparison with the experimental results requires considering supercells with diluted Cd impurities, to account for the presence of the radioactive probe in the host material (ppm). The results of the calculations are checked for convergence with increasing dilution of Cd probes, corresponding to increasing size of the supercell. Based on the calculations, the assignment of the sites for the ¹¹¹mCd and ¹¹¹In probes at the Ba (for BaMnO₃-6H) and Sr (SrMnO₃-4H) sites gives good agreement for most cases. The EFG shows no visible changes with temperature in BaMnO₃-6H and SrMnO₃-4H, in the range 20-700 C, as shown in the figure). The PAC spectra of BaMnO₃ in the two polymorphs reveal different frequencies. The results on BaMnO₃ using ¹¹¹In/¹¹¹mCd, show an additional interaction frequency in comparison with Cd.

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