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Title: Investigation Of Magnetic Ground State of Cu 2 IrO 3

Authors: Sakrikar, Piyush

Keywords: Magnetic

Cu 2 IrO 3 sostructural Kitaev's QSL.

Issue

May-2020

Date:

Publisher: IISERM

Abstract:

There are conflicting reports in the literature regarding the magnetic ground state of the frustrated Kitaev material Cu 2 IrO 3 . While one group reported spinglass (SG) features in susceptibility measurements [ 1 ] , another group showed an absence of SG and only spin liquid behavior [ 2 ] . In this thesis we aim to understand the in- fluence of synthesis conditions on the magnetic ground state of Cu 2 IrO 3 with the eventual aim to be able to establish a recipe for synthesizing Cu 2 IrO 3 hosting the quantum spin liquid state. Towards this goal, we have synthesized polycrystalline samples of Cu 2 IrO 3 with different synthesis conditions and studied their structural and magnetic properties. We also synthesized the non-magnetic isostructural material Cu[Li 1/3 Sn 1/3 ]O 2 with an aim to extract the magnetic contribution to the heat capacity of Cu 2 IrO 3 and to check for it's proximity to Kitaev's QSL.

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