

15th International Conference on Muon Spin Rotation, Relaxation and Resonance



Contribution ID: 229 Contribution code: P-THU-13

Type: Poster

Magnetic nature of wolframite MnReO_4

Thursday, 1 September 2022 18:40 (20 minutes)

Rhenium oxide compounds of the type AReO_4 where A is a first-row transition metal cation, exhibit interesting electronic properties. Among this family of compounds, MnReO_4 was the first of this kind, synthesized with a high-pressure technique at 25 kbar in 1970 [1]. It has a wolframite structure where both cations have partially filled d shells, and an anisotropic electrical resistivity that makes it suitable for potential applications in the development of electrical devices [2]. Although this material was already known for several years, the magnetic properties of MnReO_4 have never been studied in detail. In this work we present the very first investigation of the magnetic nature of the wolframite insulator MnReO_4 carried out by muon spin rotation. The aim of the experiment was to clarify the occurrence a static antiferromagnetic order, and the possibility for the formation of magnetic multipole order at low temperatures, which is expected due to the lack of an inversion symmetry at the Re^{6+} site and a strong spin-orbital coupling of its 5d1 electron. The occurrence of the static antiferromagnetic ordering was clearly observed in MnReO_4 and the order parameter of the transition was determined.

[1] A. W. Sleight, Inorg. Chem. 14, 597 (1975).

[2] A. W. Sleight, United States Patent, 4027004 (1977).

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Session Classification: Posters

Track Classification: Strongly correlated electron systems