Temperature-dependent Structural and Magnetic Properties of Diamagnetic HgI$_2$

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We examined the temperature-dependent structural and magnetic properties of HgI$_2$ in the temperature range of 300$\sim$400 K. HgI$_2$ is a diamagnetic material and can be used for X-ray or $\gamma$-ray detectors. DC-magnetization measurements on HgI$_2$ showed that there is a small but distinguishable change in its diamagnetic properties near 375 K. The magnetic property change is not expected because Hg and I are known as nonmagnetic elements. X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements revealed a structural transition in the temperature of 350$\sim$400 K. Temperature-dependent x-ray absorption fine structure (XAFS) demonstrated that the chemical valence states of both Hg and I did not change in the temperature range of 300$\sim$400 K. However, XAFS revealed that the bond-length disorder was slightly increased in the temperature range, particularly, near Hg atoms. The structural changes of HgI$_2$ are likely related to its diamagnetic property change. We will discuss the relation between the diamagnetic properties and local structural properties of HgI$_2$ in detail.

Keywords: HgI$_2$ Structural Magnetic Properties

Self-catalytic Growth of $\beta$–Ga2O3 Nanowires Deposited by Radio-Frequency Magnetron Sputtering

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Growth behavior of $\beta$-Ga2O$_3$ nanowires (NWs) on sapphire(0001) substrates during radio-frequency magnetron sputtering is reported. Upon fabrication, flat thin films grew initially, subsequent to which, NW bundles were formed on the surface of thin film with increasing film thickness. This transition of the growth mode occurred only at temperatures greater than $\sim$450$^\circ$C. The $\beta$-Ga2O$_3$ NWs were grown through the self-catalytic vapor-liquid-solid mechanism with self-assembled Ga seeds. Secondary growth of NWs, which occurred from the sides of primary NWs resulting in branched NW structures, was also observed. Finally, the room temperature photoluminescence properties of as-grown and annealed $\beta$-Ga2O$_3$ NW samples were investigated.

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Keywords: Ga2O3, Nanowire, Self-catalytic VLS