

Phonon-assisted electron hopping conduction in the uranium doped one-dimensional antiferromagnet Ca_2CuO_3

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Abstract: The authors studied the conduction mechanism in an uranium doped low dimensional magnetic system Ca_2CuO_3 . This system exhibits the $S=1/2$ quasi 1D antiferromagnetic chains of $-\text{Cu}-\text{O}-$ with strong magnetic coupling, and demonstrates continuous semiconductor-like behavior with constant covalent insulator character. This paper identifies the conduction is due to thermally activated phonon-assisted electron hopping between dopant uranium sites. The parameter τ , the characteristic for hopping probability, was determined to be 0.18 ps^{-1} . This value manifests a relatively stronger hopping probability for Ca_2CuO_3 as compared with other uranium doped ceramics. © 2008 Journal of Magnetism.

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