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Effect of non-magnetic rare earth substitution for A site on mixed anion APX superconductors

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Non-magnetic rare earth atom substitution effect for A site in APX-based Zr(P, S)₂ system, Hf(P, Se)₂ and Hf(P, S)₂ superconductors (see Fig. (a)) for improvement of superconducting transition temperature (T_c) have been examined.

In Zr(P, Se)₂[1], the T_c improvement with partial substitution of a non-magnetic rare earth Lu atom for Zr site and the doping behavior by partial substitution were discussed [2, 3]. By partially substituting a non-magnetic rare earth Lu atom for Zr site in ZrPS, the lattice constants a and c decrease monotonically with increasing nominal substitution y in contrast to the case of non-magnetic rare earth substitution of Zr sites in Zr(P, Se)₂[1]. It is shown that the maximum T_c for ZrPS was increased from 3.70 K [1] to 6.36 K (see Fig. (b)). In HfP_{1.55}Se_{0.45}, lattice constants a decrease and c increase monotonically with increasing nominal substitution y when Lu atoms are partially substituted for Hf atoms. T_c was also increased from 4.88 K [1] to 5.89 K. In HfP_{1.45}S_{0.55}, lattice constants a decrease slightly and c increase monotonically with increasing nominal substitution y when Lu atoms are partially substituted for Hf atoms. T_c was also increased from 3.16 K [1] to 5.86 K. In this presentation, the doping behavior by partial substitution and the increase of T_c is discussed.

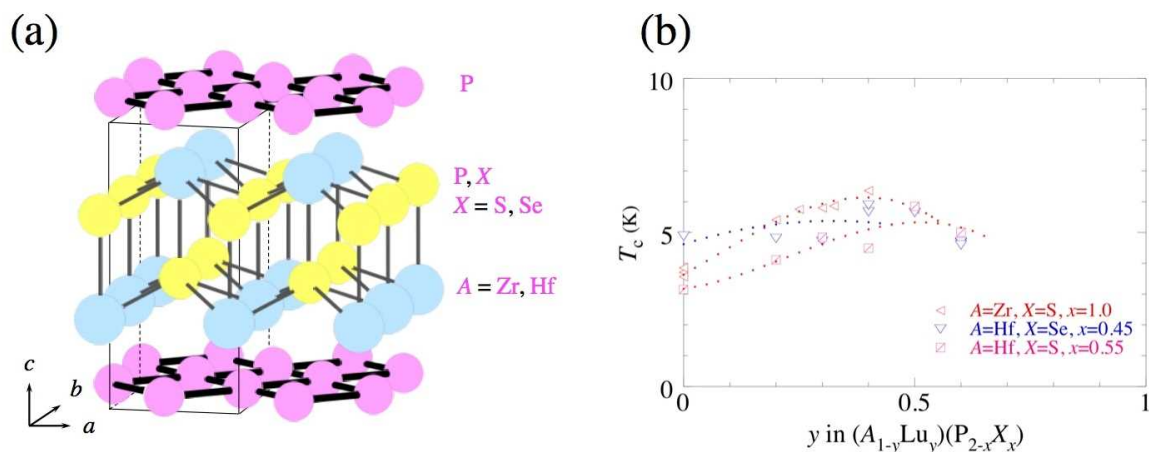


Fig. (a) The crystal structure for PbFCl-type AP_{2-x}X_x (A=Zr, Hf; X=S, Se), (b) T_c dependence on substitution nominal amount y for (A_{1-y}Lu_y)(P_{2-x}X_x) (A=Zr, Hf; X=S, Se).

[1] H. Kitô *et al.* J. Phys. Soc. Jpn. 83 (2014) 074713.

[2] H. Kitô *et al.* J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 1054 (2018) 012003.

[3] K. Iwakiri *et al.*, J. Phys. Conf. Ser. 1054 (2018) 012002.

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