Structure resolution of the new Ca2MnO3X (X = CI, Br) oxyhalides

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Abstract

Mixed anion oxyhalides with the general formula Ca_2MnO_3X (X=CI, Br) were synthesized using solid-state reaction methods. These two materials crystallize in a novel structure type due to the small ionic radius of Ca^{2+} and the strong Jahn?Teller effect of Mn^{3+} . The structure model was obtained using combination of 3D Electron Diffraction and STEM HAADF imaging, and refined against X-ray powder diffraction data. The resulting structure (space group Cmcm) consists on one-dimensional chains of MnO4 square planes, with an angle of ?120° between neighboring planes. At low temperatures, the two materials adopt magnetic arrangements, with ferromagnetic chains coupled antiferromagnetically.