研究論文

鉄系超伝導体 LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x中の磁気モーメント消失に関する計算化学的検証

金安航大*,日比野拓*,的場正憲*, [†]神原陽一*

Computational Chemical Analysis on Quenching of Spin Polarization in an Iron-Based superconductor, LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x

by

Kodai KANEYASU*, Taku HIBINO*, Masanori MATOBA* and [†]Yoichi KAMIHARA* (Received Jun. 9, 2017; Accepted Jul. 13, 2017)

Abstract

Layered mixed-anion compounds with ZrCuSiAs-type structure exhibit various electronic functional properties such as p-type semi-conducting properties, high thermoelectric performance, and high superconducting transition temperature (T_c) superconductivity. After the discovery of an iron-based superconductor, LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x with T_c at 26 K, the mixed anion compounds have been expected as mother compounds for novel superconducting materials. In LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x, the appearance of superconducting phases is simultaneously occurred with quenching of spin polarization in Fe ions. In this study, density functional theory (DFT) calculation of LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x (x = 0.000-0.125) was performed by using Vienna Ab-initio Simulation Package (VASP) code. Our calculation roughly reproduces Ishibashi's report, which demonstrates the most stable antiferromagnetic phase with stripe magnetic ordering in orthorhombic LaFeAsO, and experimental magnetic phase in LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x. Theoretical spin polarization of Fe almost disappears at x \ge 0.042 in LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x. These results are consistent with electronic magnetic phase diagrams for LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_x.

Keywords: Iron-Based superconductor, Density functional theory, Antiferromagnetic ordering, Magnetic moment, spin polarization, LaFeAsO, LaFeAsO_{1-x} F_x

1. 緒言

2008年に、層状混合アニオン化合物 LaFeAsO の酸素サイトへFを部分置換した LaFeAsO_{1-x}F_xが超伝導転移温度(T_c) = 26Kの高温超伝導体であると報告された¹⁾. 鉄(Fe)の単体は常圧下で強磁性相を示す. そのため Fe は超伝導と相性が悪いと信じられていた. そのような迷信を破ったことから、この報告は注目を集め、その後多くの鉄系超伝導体と呼ばれる新材料が報告された.一連の鉄系高温超伝導体の T_c は、常圧下のバルク材料としては、SmFeAsO_{1-x}F_xにおいて銅酸

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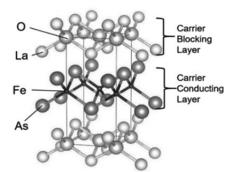


Fig. 1 Crystallographic structure of LaFeAsO¹⁾.

化物系に次ぐ 58.1 K の比較的高温まで上昇している²⁾.

LaFeAsOの結晶構造を Fig.1 に示す. LaFeAsO は、電気 伝導を担う FeAs 層とキャリア供給層である LaO 層が互い に積層した構造をとっており、結晶系は c 軸に長い正方晶

 ^{*} 慶應義塾大学理工学部物理情報工学科:神奈川県横浜市港 北区日吉 3-14-1 TEL 045-566-1611 FAX 045-566-1587 Department of Applied Physics and Physico-Informatics Faculty of Science and Technology, Keio University. Yokohama, Kanagawa 223-8522, Japan

^{†:}連絡先/Corresponding author kamihara_yoichi@keio.jp