# Local order of deuterium in metal deuterides

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### **Complex transition metal hydrides**

















#### **Interstitial hydrides**





Fig. 5. The structural arrangement of the deuterium atom sites around the Zr atoms. The V atoms have been omitted for clarity. The sites which are connected by lines are about 1.3 Å apart. The distance between nearest sites 2/2A or nearest sites 2/2B is about 2.1 Å. In the disordered high temperature phase the deuterium atoms are distributed over all sites, whereas in the fully ordered low temperature phase they occupy only sites 2/2A. The tetragonal axes  $a_1 = a_2$  and c vary with temperature as shown in Fig. 3.

#### Hydrides of Laves phases: YFe<sub>2</sub>D<sub>x</sub>, YMn<sub>2</sub>D<sub>x</sub>

Long range order (XRD + Magn.)



#### Long range order survives locally ?

J. Alloys and Compounds in press



Fig. 5. Deuterium configuration around zirconium and chromium sites in monoclinic  $ZrCr_2D_{3.8}$  at 1.6 K.

Fig. 6. Connectivity of chromium by deuterium in monoclinic  $ZrCr_2D_{3.8}$  at 1.6 K as viewed along b (zirconium atoms omitted for clarity).

# **YFe**<sub>2</sub>**D**<sub>4.2</sub>



Intensity (arb. units)





YFe<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4.2</sub> LT-structure along [3 0 76] direction.



 $YFe_2$  structure along *b*-axis.





YFe<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4,2</sub> LT-structure: Chain of subgroups for transformation from *Fd-3m* to *Pc* with index [96]

YFe<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4.2</sub> - ordered

33169.gr:G



# YFe<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4.2</sub> - disordered

33170.gr:G



# $YFe_2D_{4.2}$ – locally ordered, D-D > 2.1 Å





## YMn<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4</sub>



Intensity (arb. units)

### YMn<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4</sub>



Intensity

# $YMn_2D_4$

#### 290 K

**R3***m*, 4 metal and 3 deuterium atoms, D1 and D2 fully occupied, D3 half occupied a=5.8508, c=14.0491 Å



YMn<sub>2</sub>D<sub>4</sub>



r [A]

 $ZrV_2D_4$ 



Intensity (arb. units)

# $ZrV_2D_4$



 $ZrV_2D_4$ 



### **Observations:**

- PDFs of disordered and ordered structures look similarly up to alloy lattice parameter (~ 8Å), and then they start to differ
- PDF of disordered state cannot be well explained on short distances (transition metal deuterium) by random occupation of available sites by deuterium, even not if deuterium atoms are kept 2.1 Å apart

Can be PDF of disordered state explained by the local existence of the same transition metal – deuterium complexes like in ordered state?



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