Elastic anomalies around MI transition of SmRu₄P₁₂

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We have measured the elastic constants by means of ultrasonic measurement in polycrystalline and single crystalline $\operatorname{SmRu_4P_{12}}$, respectively. Both $(C_{11} - C_{12})/2$ and C_{44} elastic constants show a large anomaly below the metal-insulator transition $T_{\rm MI} = 16~{\rm K}$ [1]. Figure 1 shows the temperature dependence of elastic constants $(C_{11} - C_{12})/2$ of single crystalline $\operatorname{SmRu_4P_{12}}$ in the magnetic fileds. The elastic constants $(C_{11} - C_{12})/2$ has a minimum around 10K. The shape of this minimum becames sharper with increasing the magnetic field. Furthermore, a hump appears at the onset of metal-insulator transition. We will discuss the ground state of the crystalline electric field multiplet of Sm ion, and relation between metal-insulator transition and quadrupole ordering.

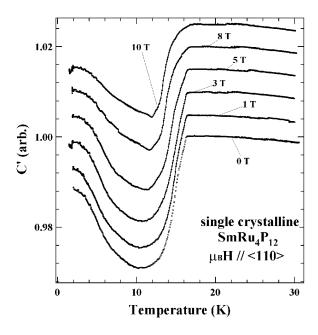


Figure 1: Temperature dependence of elastic constants $(C_{11} - C_{12})/2$ of single crystalline $SmRu_4P_{12}$ in the magnetic fileds.

[1] C. Sekine, T. Uchiyama, I. Shirotani and T. Yagi: Science and Technology of High Pressure, ed. M. H. Manghnani, W. J. Nellis and M. F. Nicol, Universities Press, Hyderabad, India(2000)826.