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Magnetic phase separation in electron-doped Bi_{1-x}Ca_xMnO₃ systems YUHAI QIN, TREVOR TYSON, New Jersey Institute of Technology — The manganite system Bi_{1-x}Ca_xMnO₃ possesses intriguing properties in the low bismuth doping region. In this electron doped region ($0.6 < x < 1$), a large ferromagnetic (FM) moment of ~ 1.2 Bohr magnetons per Mn site is found for $x \sim 0.875$. The magnetic moment per Mn site maintains a value $\sim 1/3$ the theoretical limit even in fields as high as 60 T. The physical origin of this high moment region is not well understood. Various models including canted ferromagnetism and ferromagnetic clusters hosted by an antiferromagnetic background have been proposed. In our previous work, we have conducted small-angle neutron scattering (SANS) on Bi_{0.125}Ca_{0.875}MnO₃ polycrystalline samples which revealed the existence of FM clusters embedded in an AFM background. ⁵⁵Mn NMR results give more evidence supporting of this heterogeneous phase model: resonance signals from both AFM and FM phases were identified. More recent progress from multiple-temperature Bi-L3 edge XAFS and TEM/EDS Bi distribution measurements will be presented as well. This work is supported by NSF DMR-0512196.

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