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Structures and properties of Ni^{1+/2+} nickelates with infinite NiO₂ layers KONSTANTIN LOKSHIN, TAKESHI EGAMI, University of Tennessee, VIKTOR POLTAVETS, MARTHA GREENBLATT, Rutgers University — Layered mixed valence Ni^{1+/2+} nickelates possess similar crystal and electronic structures to $Cu^{2+/3+}$ high temperature superconducting cuprates. Only a few Ni^{1+/2+} nickelates have been identified and they properties have not been reported so far. We present a first systematic study of $Ln_{n+1}Ni_nO_{2n+2}$, Ln = La or Nd, which structures could be described as an intergrowth of $\{LnO_2\}$ fluorite and infinite layer $\{LaNiO_2\}_n$ blocks. The crystal structures of the new $Ln_3Ni_2O_6$, $Ln_4Ni_3O_8$, $Ln_5Ni_4O_{10}$ phases have been confirmed by X-ray and neutron powder diffraction. X-ray absorption spectroscopy data proves the 1+/2+ oxidation state and planar coordination of Ni atoms. Magnetic susceptibility data of $Ln_{n+1}Ni_nO_{2n+2}$ will be discussed.

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