Abstract Submitted for the MAR12 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Raman study of the Verwey transition in Magnetite at highpressure and low-temperature; effect of Al doping¹ LEV GASPAROV, Z. SHIRSHIKOVA, T.M. PEKAREK, J. BLACKBURN, Department of Physics, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, V. STRUZHKIN, A. GAVRILIUK², Geophysical Laboratory, Carnegie Institution of Washington, Washington D.C., R. RUECKAMP, University of Cologne, Institute of Physics 2, Cologne, Germany, H. BERGER, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland — We report high-pressure low-temperature Raman measurements of the Verwey transition in pure and Al –doped magnetite (Fe₃O₄) Al-doped magnetite Fe_{2.8}Al_{0.2}O₄ $(T_V=116.5K)$ displays a nearly linear decrease of the transition temperature with an increase of pressure yielding $dP/dT_V = -0.096 \pm 0.013$ GPa/K. In contrast pure magnetite displays a significantly steeper slope of the PT equilibrium line with dP/dT_V $= -0.18 \pm 0.013$ GPa/K. Contrary to earlier high pressure resistivity reports we do not observe quantum critical point behavior at 8 GPa in the pure magnetite. Our data indicates that Al doping leads to a smaller entropy change and larger volume expansion at the transition. The trends displayed by the data are consistent with the mean field model of the transition that assumes charge ordering in magnetite.

¹Supported by NSF DMR0805073, DMR0958349, DMR0706593, ONR 000140610133, MaNEP of the Swiss NSF, Russian Fnd. for Basic Res. and Min. of Sc 090201527a, 110200291a, 11000636a, 16.518.11.7021 ²Russian Academy of Sciences Institute for High Pressure Physics, Troitsk, and Institute of Crystallography, Moscow.

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Date submitted: 09 Nov 2011

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