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Magnetic properties of graphite nanostructures in carbon microspheres¹ EDUARD SHAROYAN, ARAM MANUKYAN, ARMEN MIRZA-KHANYAN, Institute for Physical Research, Ashtarak, Armenia, CARLOS SANCHEZ, ARMEN KOCHARIAN, OSCAR BERNAL, California State University, Los Angeles — Carbon microspheres with interesting magnetic properties are prepared by solid-phase pyrolysis using as a precursor the metal-free phthalocyanine $H_2(C_{32}N_8H_{16})$. By changing conditions of pyrolysis an average diameter $d=2-3.8\mu m$ carbon microspheres, consisting of graphitized nanocrystallites with a thickness of 5-15 graphene layers of 5-20nm width with sufficiently narrow size distribution are formed. In particular, at $T_{pyr}=700^{\circ}$ C and $t_{pyr}=60$ min carbon microspheres have average $d=3.4\pm0.15\mu$ m. Magnetic characteristics of samples are investigated by vibrational magnetometer in temperature range $T=5-300\mu$ m and magnetic fields up to H=80kOe, as well as with the ESR method. Analysis of magnetization M vs H and T show presence of paramagnetic centers with concentration $n=3\times10^{19}$ spin/g and temperature-independent diamagnetism with susceptibility, $\kappa_{dia} = 1.5 \times 10^{-6}$ emu/g Oe. Parameters of ESR spectrum are: g-factor 2.0031, intensity $\sim 5 \times 10^{19}$ spin/g and narrow linewidth of 0.8Oe due to strong exchange. Paramagnetism in carbon microspheres is apparently driven by edge uncompensated spins of nanographitic crystallites and impurity nitrogen atoms.

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