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Discovery and Characterization of Single Crystalline R_5 Co₂Ge₃ (R =Ce-Nd, Sm)¹ S. M. SAUNDERS^{A,B}, Q. LIN^A, T. KONG^{A,B}, G. J. MILLER^{A,C}, S. L. BUD'KO^{A,B}, P. C. CANFIELD^{A,B}, ^AAmes Laboratory US DOE, ^BDepartment of Physics and Astronomy, ^CDepartment of Chemistry, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50011, USA. — Single crystalline R_5 Co₂Ge₃ (R = Ce-Nd, Sm) were synthesized through flux-based crystal growth methods. In this work we analyze powder x-ray diffraction, electrical resistivity, magnetization, and specific heat of various members of the R_5 Co₂Ge₃ family. We observe characteristic Lanthanide contraction as we increase 4f electron concentration. Magnetization measurements show an increase of transition temperature from $T_c=6$ K for Ce₅Co₂Ge₃ to $T_N=220$ K for Sm₅Co₂Ge₃, as well as other magnetic transitions upon change in temperature for various members of the family. The inferred effective moment is larger than expected from pure 4f electron contribution, suggesting contribution to the magnetization from Co in the system. Specific heat and electrical resistivity confirm the transition temperatures of the R_5 Co₂Ge₃ series.

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> Scott Saunders Iowa State Univ

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