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Electronic and Magnetic Properties of Ba, Ni and BaNiO₃: A First-Principles Study RUPESH GHIMIRE, GoldenGate International College, NARAYAN ADHIKARI, GOPI KAPHLE, Tribhuvan University, RAMESH MANI, Georgia State University — The electronic and magnetic Properties of Ba, Ni and hexagonal crystal structure BaNiO₃ have been studied under TB-LMTO ASA method. The space group of compound is P6₃/mmc and lattice parameters are a=b=5.62 Å and c=4.81 Å. From our calculation, the minimized lattice parameters of Ba, Ni and BaNiO₃ were found to be 5.280 Å, 3.488 Å and 6.08 Å which are at most 1% deviation from the experimental values. Band Structures were determined using the minimized structures which showed the metallic nature of elements Ba and Ni. However, the compound BaNiO₃ possessed a band gap of 0.95 eV under LDA calculation. Further, U correction was implemented to account for the orbital dependent potential arising largely from the strong correlation of d and f electrons, and the band gap increased to 1.59 eV which is close to the theoretically expected gap (1.612 eV). Density of states showed the ferromagnetic nature of the element nickel with a magnetic moment of 0.59μ_B close to that of experimental 0.60μ_B, whereas the compound BaNiO₃ itself was non-magnetic. Finally, a brief study of the charge properties showed the presence of ionic and covalent bonds between the atoms.

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