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**Electron Paramagnetic Resonance Study of Amorphous  $V_2O_5$**

D.B. BAKER, K. HARTMAN, K.C. MAYNES, P.H. BUNTON, William Jewell College, S. FELLER, Coe College — Vitreous  $V_2O_5$  is generally non-stoichiometric when cooled from above the melt, leading to the formation of paramagnetic  $V^{4+}$  ions. At low temperature ( $\sim 120$  K), previous workers have observed well-resolved EPR spectra associated with these centers. By contrast, recent results from our laboratory show EPR spectra that remain broad ( $\sim 20$  mT, peak-to-peak) from ambient down to 120 K, with no apparent hyperfine interactions. EPR spin counting analyses also indicate high concentrations ( $\sim 10^{20}$  spins/cm<sup>3</sup>) of paramagnetic centers, suggesting that linewidths are limited by spin-spin relaxation of the electron spin system. In addition, current results reveal that EPR signal intensities increase more rapidly than (Temperature)<sup>-1</sup>, as indicated by monitoring signal intensities over the temperature range from 120-300 K. In particular, when temperature is decreased by a factor of two (from 240 to 120 K), signal intensity increases by a factor of approximately 10. Such observations indicate the possibility of superparamagnetic or spin glass behavior within the amorphous  $V_2O_5$  system. In order to further investigate the magnetic behavior of amorphous  $V_2O_5$ , several experimental EPR parameters are evaluated over the temperature range from 120-370 K.

D.B. Baker  
William Jewell College

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