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Evidence of Phase Transitions in MoO₂ single crystals¹ MARIO DA LUZ, Universidade Federal do Triângulo Mineiro, LEANDRO ALVES, FELIPE OLIVEIRA, BRUNO LIMA, CARLOS DOS SANTOS, Universidade de So Paulo, A. REBELLO, SUELI MASUNAGA, JOHN NEUMEIER, Montana State University, JUSCELINO LEO, Center for Neutron Research, NIST, CARLOS GILES, Instituto de Física Gleb Wataghin, UNICAMP — In this work, physical and structural properties are revisited in the MoO₂ compound. MoO₂ single crystals were grown by chemical vapor transport. Heat capacity and electrical resistance as a function of temperature were performed using a 9 T cryo-free Physical Properties Measurement System (PPMS). Thermal expansion (TE) was measured using a high-resolution capacitive dilatometer cell constructed from fused quartz. High-resolution Synchrotron x-ray powder diffraction was measured using a Shimadzu diffractometer (XRD 6000) at several temperatures in the Brazilian Synchrotron Light Laboratory. Furthermore, Neutron powder diffraction data were collected using the BT-132 detector neutron powder diffractometer at the NIST. Electrical resistivity, heat capacity, and TE measurements show two clear features near 220 K and 267 K suggesting two phase transitions in MoO₂ compound. The transition at ~267 K has been related to a structural phase transition by high resolution synchrotron x-ray diffractometry measurements. Low temperature neutron diffraction measurements suggest that the phase transition near 220 K is electronic or magnetic in nature.

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