

Quasi-One-Dimensional Ferromagnet CuAs_2O_4

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Many Cu^{2+} ($S=1/2$) linear-spin-chains systems exhibit interesting low-dimensional magnetism. Most often, these spin-chains support FM nearest-neighbor (NN) and AFM next-nearest-neighbor (NNN) interactions. Systems of this type are known to develop AFM incommensurate spin-spiral structures and sometimes multiferroic behavior. There exists a magnetic phase diagram which can predict the intra-chain behaviour of spin-chain compounds using the ratio of the NN over the NNN spin exchange constants, $\alpha=\text{Jnn}/\text{Jnnn}$, with a quantum critical point exists on the boundary at $\alpha=-4$. We report on CuAs_2O_4 , mineral name Trippkeite, featuring CuO_2 ribbon chains. Trippkeite is an unusual spin-chain system because it shows long-range FM ordering and has an α ratio close to -4.