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7Li quadrupole-perturbed NMR observation of biased Li-ion ordering in the paraelectric phase of weakly substitutionally disordered $K_{1-x}Li_xTaO_3$

Substitution of K ions with Li ions in the $KTaO_3$ lattice is a textbook example of how to induce structural disorder, leading to a glass-like behavior [1]. Li impurities act like randomly interacting electric dipoles, with six discrete instantaneous orientations pointing along the cubic axes. For low Li concentrations x , dipolar glass state is established at low temperatures. At high temperatures, no behavior reminiscent of Li-Li pair interplay has been observed, apart from a two-timescale Li dynamics [2,3]. The absence of satellite transition features in the quadrupole-perturbed 7Li ($I = 3/2$) NMR spectra [2, 3] is somewhat surprising, since the statistical probability of Li-Li pairs is far from being negligible for Li-concentrations at which dipolar state is formed at low temperatures ($x \leq 0.04$).

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Invited

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