PHOTOLUMINESCENCE AND STRUCTURE OF C_{60} INTERCALATED WITH HELIUM

MIKHAIL A. STRZHEMECHNY, IRINA V. LEGCHENKOVA, ANATOLI I. PROKHVATILOV, YURI E. STETSENKO, KONSTANTIN A. YAGOTINTSEV, ANATOLI A. AVDEENKO, VICTOR V. ERE-MENKO, PYOTR V. ZINOVIEV, VICTOR N. ZORYANSKI, NATALIA B. SILAEVA, Verkin Institute for Low Temperature Physics and Engineering, 47 Lenin Ave., Kharkov 61103, Ukraine; and ROD-NEY S. RUOFF, Northwestern University, Department of Mechanical Engineering, 2145 Sheridan Road, Evanston, Illinois 60208, USA.

Powder x-ray diffractometry was employed to study infusion of He into C_{60} fullerite. It has been shown that the intercalation at a pressure of 1 Bar is a two-stage process, the first stage being the saturation of the octahedral voids, virtually complete after 55 hr. Photoluminescence spectra were taken at 5 K from C_{60} with completely saturated octahedral voids. Helium in the lattice voids is shown to reduce that part of the luminescent emission which is due to 0-0 transitions around 1.69 eV from the so-called deep traps, or according to existing notions, the covalently bound pairs of C_{60} molecules. The effect of He intercalation on polymeric dimer formation is ascribed to the changes in the pentagon to hexagon configuration ratio caused by the intercalation-related increase of the lattice parameter and the formation of bound states of He atoms in the C_{60} lattice voids.