

High-Temperature Ferrimagnetic Half Metallicity with Wide Spin-up Energy Gap in  $\text{NaCu}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{Os}_2\text{O}_{12}$ 

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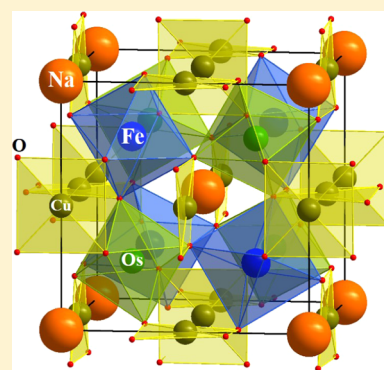
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**ABSTRACT:** A new oxide  $\text{NaCu}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{Os}_2\text{O}_{12}$  is synthesized using high pressure and temperature conditions. The Rietveld structural analysis shows that the compound possesses both A- and B-site ordered quadruple perovskite structure in  $Pn\bar{3}$  symmetry. The valence states of transition metals are confirmed to be  $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Os}^{5.5+}$ . The three transition metals all take part in magnetic interactions and generate strong  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  ferrimagnetic superexchange interactions with a high Curie temperature about 380 K. Electrical transport measurements suggest its half-metallic properties. The first-principles theoretical calculations demonstrate that the compound has a spin-down conducting band and a spin-up insulating band with a wide energy gap.



## 1. INTRODUCTION

Ferromagnetic (FM) or ferrimagnetic (FiM) half metals are a class of very interesting spintronic materials due to their peculiar electronic structure, where only one spin direction is conducting, whereas the other is semiconducting or insulating. As a consequence, the charge carriers near the Fermi level are theoretically 100% spin polarized, giving rise to lots of intriguing magneto-optical and spin-electronic properties.<sup>1–4</sup> In practical applications of half metals, highly spin-polarized conductivity usually occurs at temperatures considerably less than the Curie temperature  $T_C$ . Meanwhile, a wider half-metallic energy gap is also desirable to effectively suppress the carriers' spin-flip transition caused by thermal excitation and thereby maintain their half-metallic properties in the working temperature window. It is therefore a pressing requirement in pursuit of magnetic half metals with the  $T_C$  being above room temperature and the energy gap being wide enough (e.g., >1.0 eV). In 1983, de Groot et al. reported the first half metal.<sup>5</sup> Since then, a wide variety of half-metallic magnets with different crystal structures were proposed in both experiment and theory.<sup>6–14</sup> However, it is still a big challenge to search for high-performance half metals with potential application near room temperature.

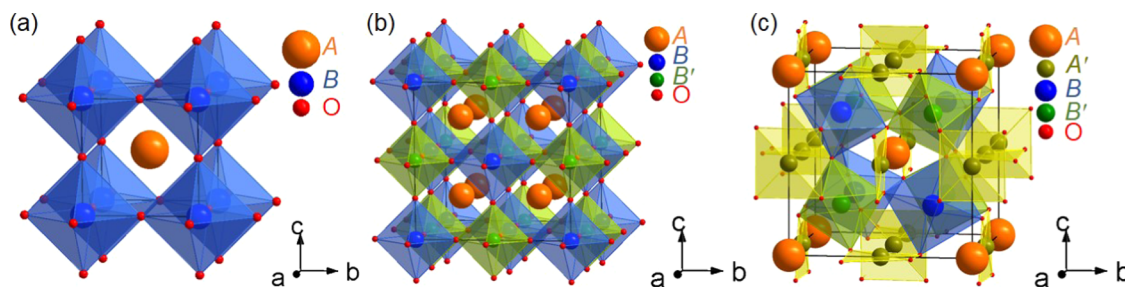
$\text{ABO}_3$  perovskite (Figure 1a) is one of the most widely studied half metals on account of the variable structural derivations and flexible A–B charge combinations. For example, the A-site doped manganese perovskite  $\text{La}_{0.7}\text{Sr}_{0.3}\text{MnO}_3$  shows promising half-metallic behavior with Curie temperature as high as 350 K.<sup>15–17</sup> In a perovskite structure, when hybridized 3d–4d or 3d–5d transition metals are introduced into the B sites to form an  $\text{A}_2\text{BB}'\text{O}_6$ -type ordered double perovskite in a rocksalt-type manner (Figure 1b), a higher magnetic ordering temperature is possibly obtained.  $\text{Sr}_2\text{FeMoO}_6$  provides a typical example, in which a higher FiM  $T_C$  of about 420 K is achieved, and the half-metallic behavior is further revealed by electrical transport measurements and first-principles calculations.<sup>6,18,19</sup> This pioneering work has already stimulated many other studies on B-site ordered perovskite half metals with a higher  $T_C$ .<sup>20–24</sup> However, the half-metallic gaps found in these compounds are usually less than 1.0 eV.

As is well known, in  $\text{ABO}_3$  or  $\text{A}_2\text{BB}'\text{O}_6$  perovskite, the A site often accommodates nonmagnetic alkali, alkali earth, and rare earth ions. Since the ordered B-site substitution of magnetic

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**Figure 1.** Schematic crystal structures for (a)  $ABO_3$  perovskite, (b) B-site rocksalt-type ordered double perovskite  $A_2BB'O_6$ , and (c) both A- and B-site ordered quadruple perovskite  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$ .

ions can significantly increase the spin ordering temperature, is it possible to further enhance the  $T_C$  by orderly substituting the initially nonmagnetic A-site cation using a magnetic transition metal ion? The quadruple perovskite  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$  with the orderly distributed A- and B-site provides a unique opportunity for this study. This kind of multiply ordered perovskite crystallizes to the  $Pn\bar{3}$  space group (Figure 1c), with cation positions at 2a (0.25, 0.25, 0.25) for the A-site, 6d (0.25, 0.75, 0.75) for the A'-site, 4b (0, 0, 0) for the B-site, and 4c (0.5, 0.5, 0.5) for the B'-site. Since transition metals are present in three different sites (A', B, and B') in  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$ , besides the conventional interactions between the B-site, new magnetic and electrical interactions such as A'–A' and A'–B/B' can occur, too. The cooperating results of these strong interactions possibly increase the  $T_C$  further. As shown in Figure 1c, the crystal structure of  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$  is composed of  $A'O_4$  square planes and  $B/B'O_6$  octahedra. Since the  $A'O_4$  units are isolated from each other, the corner-sharing  $B/B'O_6$  octahedra will dominate the electrical transport properties. Consequently, the magnetism and electrical transport properties of  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$  can be well tuned by appropriate combinations of transition metals at A', B-, and B'-sites, opening up a new avenue to design novel half-metallic magnets with enhanced  $T_C$  and considerable half-metallic gap.

Although many  $ABO_3$  and  $A_2BB'O_6$  perovskites have already been reported,<sup>25–33</sup> only a few of  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$  quadruple perovskites with three ordered magnetic ions are discovered,<sup>34–40</sup> because high pressure is often necessary to synthesize these  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$ -type perovskites. Interestingly, Chen et al. reported that the  $AA'_3B_2B'_2O_{12}$ -type perovskite  $CaCu_3Fe_2Re_2O_{12}$  is a half metal with a high Curie temperature up to 560 K.<sup>37</sup> Most recently, another A- and B-site ordered perovskite  $CaCu_3Fe_2Os_2O_{12}$  (CCFOO) was discovered.<sup>40</sup> Compared with the double perovskite  $Ca_2FeOsO_6$  with a  $T_C \sim 320$  K, the  $T_C$  of CCFOO sharply increases to 580 K on account of the introduction of  $Cu^{2+}$  ions at the A'-site, which leads to strong  $Cu^{2+}$ – $Fe^{3+}$  and  $Cu^{2+}$ – $Os^{5+}$  spin interactions. Moreover, at the Fermi surface, the electronic density of states of CCFOO is governed by  $Os^{5+}$ , whereas  $Cu^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  are far away from the Fermi surface. This indicates that electrical transport can be readily tuned by changing the electric charge of the  $Os^{5+}$ -site alone, while high-temperature ferrimagnetism may still be preserved. In this paper, we find that applying hole substitution at the nonmagnetic A-site of CCFOO can significantly change the electronic states of the B'-site Os ions, and therefore, FiM half-metallicity with a  $T_C$  above room temperature is found to occur in  $NaCu_3Fe_2Os_2O_{12}$  (NCFOO).

## 2. EXPERIMENTAL AND CALCULATION DETAILS

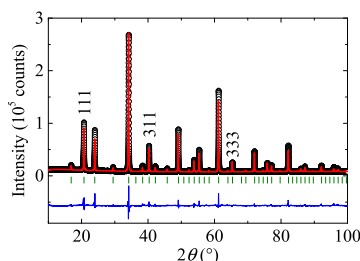
Polycrystalline  $NaCu_3Fe_2Os_2O_{12}$  was synthesized on a cubic-anvil-type high-pressure apparatus at 8–10 GPa and 1573 K for 30 min. High purity (>99.9%) NaOH, CuO,  $Fe_2O_3$ , and Os were used as raw materials, and 20 wt %  $KClO_4$  was added as the oxygen source. These reactants were finely mixed and ground in a glovebox filled with Ar gas, and then the mixed powders were sealed in a platinum capsule with 3.0 mm diameter and 4.0 mm length for high-pressure treatment. The residual KCl in the product was washed out by deionized water.

Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) was measured on a G670 imaging plate guinier camera from Huber diffraktionstechnik GmbH & Co. KG. Cu  $K\alpha_1$  radiation was used. The scanning range of  $2\theta$  is from 10 to  $100^\circ$ , with  $0.005^\circ$  per step. The GSAS program<sup>41</sup> was used to refine the crystallographic parameters. The X-ray absorption spectroscopies (XAS) of Cu- $L_{2,3}$  and Fe- $L_{2,3}$  were adopted at beamline BL08B of the National Synchrotron Radiation Research Center (NSRRC) in Taiwan, using a total electron yield (TEY) mode. The XAS of Os- $L_3$  was measured at beamline BL07A of NSRRC, using the TEY mode. The X-ray magnetic circular dichroism (XMCD) spectra of Cu- $L_{2,3}$  and Fe- $L_{2,3}$  were recorded at beamline DEIMOS of synchrotron SOLEIL in Paris, with a temperature of 20 K and a magnetic field of 6 T. The XMCD of Os- $L_{2,3}$  was measured at beamline ODE of SOLEIL, with a temperature of 20 K and a magnetic field of 1.2 T. The magnetic properties of NCFOO were measured on a magnetic property measurement system (MPMS3, Quantum Design). Both zero-field-cooling (ZFC) and field-cooling (FC) magnetic susceptibility data were collected under a 0.1 T magnetic field. The resistivity and magnetoresistivity were measured on a physical property measurement system (PPMS7, Quantum Design), using a standard four-probe method. The size of the sample is about  $2 \times 1 \times 1$  mm<sup>3</sup> for electrical measurements.

First-principles calculations were carried out. The full-potential linearized augmented plane-wave method was adopted using the WIEN2K package.<sup>42</sup> The crystallographic parameters obtained from the XRD refinement were chosen as the starting parameters. The muffin-tin radii  $R_{MT}$  were set as 2.50, 1.90, and 1.60 au for Na, transition metals (Cu, Fe, and Os), and O, respectively. The maximum modulus for the reciprocal vectors  $K_{max}$  was chosen following the equation,  $R_{MT}K_{max} = 8.0$ . The generalized-gradient approximation with generalized gradient approximation–Perdew–Burke–Ernzerhof (GGA-PBE)<sup>43</sup> exchange–correlation energy was used. For the Brillouin zone, 1000  $k$ -point meshes were taken. For the GGA +  $U$  calculations, the effective Coulomb interactions  $U_{eff}$  were chosen to be 5, 4, and 2 eV for Cu, Fe, and Os, respectively.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The XRD pattern of NCFOO measured at room temperature and the related structural refinement results are shown in Figure 2. Based on the Rietveld analysis, the as-made NCFOO is found to crystallize into both A- and B-site ordered quadruple perovskite with space group  $Pn\bar{3}$  (Figure 1c). In this symmetry, Na and Cu occupy the A and A' sites with a ratio of 1:3, and Fe and Os orderly occupy the B and B' sites in a rocksalt-type fashion, respectively. The presence of diffraction



**Figure 2.** XRD pattern and structural refinement results obtained at room temperature for NCFOO. The observed (black circles), calculated (red line), and difference (bottom line) are shown. The ticks indicate the allowed Bragg reflections with space group  $Pn\bar{3}$ .

peaks with  $h + k + l = \text{odd}$  such as (111), (311), and (333) is in good agreement with the rocksalt order of the B/B'-site. The refined results are listed in Table 1. According to the

**Table 1. Refined Structural Parameters and Bond-Valence Sum (BVS) Calculations of NCFOO at Room Temperature<sup>a</sup>**

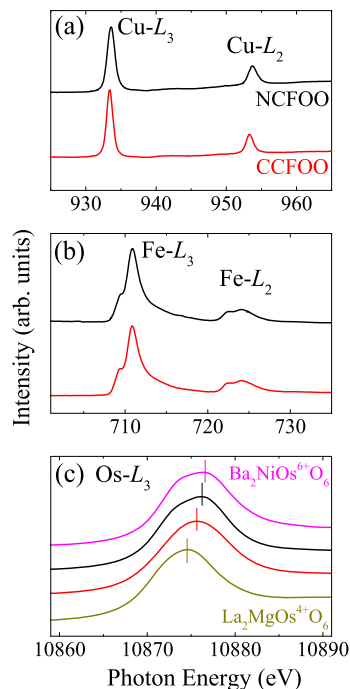
parameter	NCFOO
$a$ (Å)	7.410(13)
$O_x$	0.5679(5)
$O_y$	0.7608(4)
$O_z$	0.0596(5)
$G$ (4b for Fe)	0.983(1)
$G$ (4b for Os)	0.017(1)
$G$ (4c for Os)	0.983(1)
$G$ (4c for Fe)	0.017(1)
$U_{\text{iso}}$ for Na ( $100 \times \text{\AA}^2$ )	0.037(5)
$U_{\text{iso}}$ for Cu ( $100 \times \text{\AA}^2$ )	0.012(1)
$U_{\text{iso}}$ for Fe ( $100 \times \text{\AA}^2$ )	0.016(1)
$U_{\text{iso}}$ for Os ( $100 \times \text{\AA}^2$ )	0.023(1)
$U_{\text{iso}}$ for O ( $100 \times \text{\AA}^2$ )	0.025(2)
$d_{\text{Cu-O}}$ ( $\times 4$ ) (Å)	1.954(4)
$d_{\text{Fe-O}}$ ( $\times 6$ ) (Å)	2.045(4)
$d_{\text{Os-O}}$ ( $\times 6$ ) (Å)	1.895(4)
$\angle \text{Fe-O-Os}$ (deg)	140.2(2)
$\angle \text{Cu-O-Fe}$ (deg)	106.7(1)
$\angle \text{Cu-O-Os}$ (deg)	113.0(2)
BVS (Cu)	1.90
BVS (Fe)	2.82
$R_{\text{wp}}$ (%)	6.64
$R_p$ (%)	4.21

<sup>a</sup>Space group:  $Pn\bar{3}$ ; atomic sites: Na 2a (0.25, 0.25, 0.25); Cu 6d (0.25, 0.75, 0.75); Fe 4b (0, 0, 0); Os 4c (0.5, 0.5, 0.5); O 24h ( $x, y, z$ ). The BVS values ( $V_i$ ) were calculated using the formula  $V_i = \sum_j S_{ij}$ , and  $S_{ij} = \exp[(r_0 - r_{ij})/0.37]$ . The value of  $r_0 = 1.679$  for Cu and 1.765 for Fe. For B-site Fe, six coordinated oxygen atoms were used. For A'-site Cu, 4 coordinated oxygen atoms were used.  $G$ : site occupancy factor.

distances of Cu–O and Fe–O bonds, the bond valence sum (BVS) calculations unveil the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  states, indicating the combination of the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Os}^{5.5+}$  charge state in NCFOO, as shown later by XAS measurements. The order degrees of A- and B-site cations are analyzed on the basis of the refined occupancy factors. Na and Cu are assumed to ideally occupy the A-site and the A'-site, respectively, due to the large difference in ionic size as well as the strong Jahn–Teller effect of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ , which is required to form the square-planar

coordinated  $\text{A}'\text{O}_4$  units. Therefore, we fix the occupancy factors of Na and Cu to be unity to study the B/B'-site order degree. The refinement shows that there is a small amount of Fe–Os anti-site occupancy by about 1.7%.

The valence states of transition metals can be determined by XAS measurement.<sup>44–46</sup> Figure 3a,b shows the Cu- and Fe- $L_{2,3}$

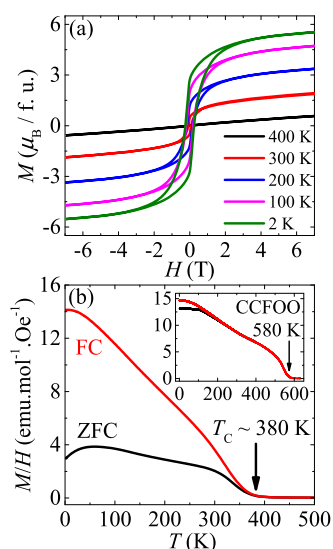


**Figure 3.** XAS of (a) Cu- $L_{2,3}$  edges, (b) Fe- $L_{2,3}$  edges, and (c) Os- $L_3$  edges. The XAS of some related references are also shown for comparison. The vertical lines in (c) from bottom to top show the gradual variation of the valence state from  $\text{Os}^{4+}$  to  $\text{Os}^{6+}$ .

XAS spectra of NCFOO. For comparison, the isostructural CCFOO with determined  $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Os}^{5+}$  charge combination is used as a standard reference. Obviously, both the Cu- and Fe- $L_{2,3}$  edges of NCFOO exhibit very similar spectral features such as similar peak energy position and spectral shape with those of CCFOO, revealing the formation of  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in NCFOO. To identify the valence state of Os, the B-site ordered double perovskites  $\text{La}_2\text{MgOsO}_6$  and  $\text{Ba}_2\text{NiOsO}_6$  are also adopted as  $\text{Os}^{4+}$  and  $\text{Os}^{6+}$  references, respectively,<sup>47</sup> in addition to the  $\text{Os}^{5+}$  reference of CCFOO. As shown in Figure 3c, upon increasing the valence state from  $\text{Os}^{4+}$  to  $\text{Os}^{6+}$ , the energy position of the Os- $L_3$  edge systematically shifts toward higher energies. Specifically, the energy position of NCFOO is located at the intermediate between the  $\text{Os}^{5+}$  CCFOO and  $\text{Os}^{6+}$   $\text{Ba}_2\text{NiOsO}_6$  references. Therefore, an average  $\text{Os}^{5.5+}$  valence state is assigned for NCFOO, as required by charge conservation. This fractional charge state means that the Os-site should be mixed by disordered  $\text{Os}^{5+}$  and  $\text{Os}^{6+}$  ions with a 1:1 ratio, as required by the  $Pn\bar{3}$  space group.

The magnetism of NCFOO was studied by magnetization and magnetic susceptibility measurements. Figure 4a presents the field-dependent magnetization of NCFOO at different temperatures. Obviously, these compounds display canonical magnetic hysteresis loops at 300 K, suggesting the strong FM or FiM spin interactions as well as the resulting high  $T_C$  in NCFOO. A saturated moment of  $5.5 \mu_B/\text{fu}$  is observed at 2 K and 7 T. Furthermore, Figure 4b displays the ZFC and FC



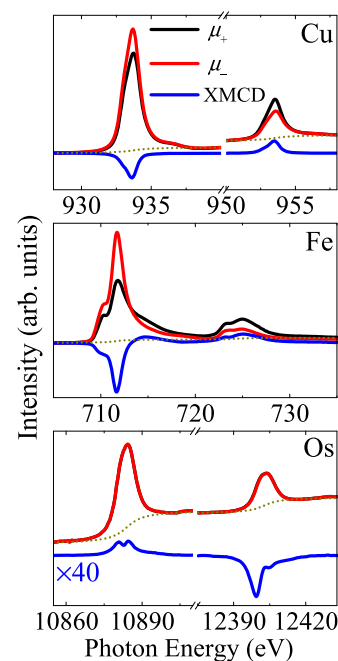


**Figure 4.** (a) Field-dependent magnetization measured at different temperatures for NCFOO. (b) Temperature-dependent magnetic susceptibility measured at 0.1 T with ZFC and FC modes for NCFOO. The inset shows the magnetic susceptibility of CCFOO for comparison.

magnetic susceptibility curves. As the temperature decreases, the susceptibility experiences an apparent increase at  $T_C \sim 380$  K. The current NCFOO thus possesses a high  $T_C$  well above room temperature. Compared with the isostructural compound CCFOO (inset of Figure 4b), the  $T_C$  of NCFOO is reduced clearly. This can be mainly attributed to the decrease of the d-electron amount in an average  $\text{Os}^{5.5+}$  ion with regard to an  $\text{Os}^{5+}$  ion, which will weaken the superexchange spin interactions of  $\text{Cu}-\text{O}-\text{Os}$  and  $\text{Fe}-\text{O}-\text{Os}$ .

Since there are three magnetic ions ( $\text{Cu}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , and  $\text{Os}^{5.5+}$ ) in NCFOO, all of them possibly involved in the spin interactions. When we consider the spin-only contribution in the assumption of a localized electronic model with  $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Os}^{5.5+}$  charge combination, in theory, the saturated spin moment generated by the collinear  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\uparrow)$  FM alignment ( $18 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ ) and the FiM  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\downarrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  ( $12 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ ) and  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\downarrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\uparrow)$  ( $2 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ ) couplings are all far away from the measurement data mentioned above at 2 K. In comparison, only the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  FiM configuration ( $8 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ ) results in comparable spin moment with experiment ( $5.5 \mu_B/\text{f.u.}$ ). The difference comes from the strong p–d hybridization effect between oxygen and Os as well as the spin-orbital coupling (SOC) of the 5d  $\text{Os}^{5.5+}$  electrons (shown later). In addition, the Fe–Os anti-site occupancy ( $\sim 1.7\%$ ) can also reduce the saturated moment.

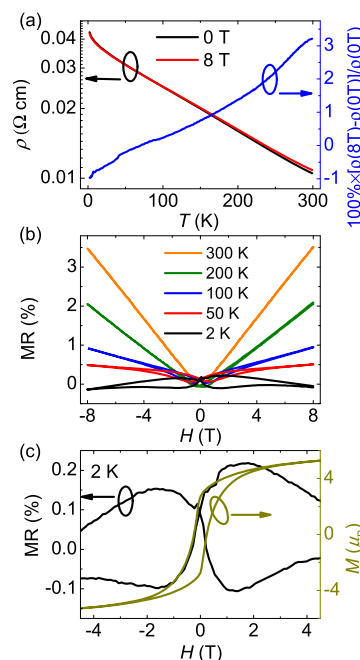
To further confirm the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  FiM coupling, we performed XMCD measurements on NCFOO. This element-selective method can provide information of magnetic coupling between any two elements in a compound, even the sample is not fully magnetically saturated.<sup>48,49</sup> Figure 5 shows the related results. Obviously, the XMCD spectra of NCFOO display the same negative (positive) sign at the  $L_3$  ( $L_2$ ) edges for Cu and Fe, whereas the inverse signs are observed for Os, providing convincing evidence for the proposed  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  FiM coupling. Using the sum rules,<sup>50–53</sup> we estimated the total magnetic moment of 6.8



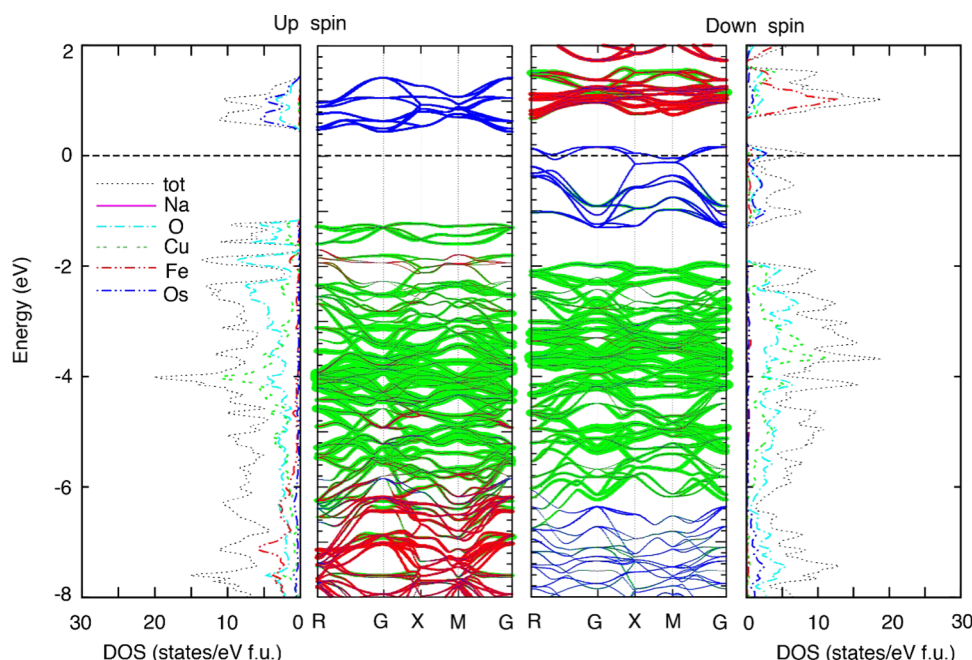
**Figure 5.** XMCD of Fe- $L_{2,3}$ , Cu- $L_{2,3}$ , and Os- $L_{2,3}$  edges for NCFOO. The photon spin is aligned parallel ( $\mu^+$  black line) and antiparallel ( $\mu^-$  red line) to the applied magnetic field, respectively. The difference spectra are shown in blue.

$\pm 0.3 \mu_B$  for per NCFOO, which is similar to the saturated magnetic moment observed at 2 K.

The electrical transport properties of NCFOO are characterized by electrical resistivity ( $\rho$ ) and magnetoresistance [ $\text{MR} = 100\% \times (\rho(H) - \rho(0))/\rho(0)$ ]. Figure 6a displays the temperature-dependent resistivity measured at 0 and 8 T as well as the MR between them. One finds that the



**Figure 6.** (a) Temperature dependence of the resistivity and magnetoresistance of NCFOO. (b) Magnetic-field dependence of magnetoresistance at selected temperatures. (c) Field dependence of magnetoresistance and magnetization measured at 2 K.



**Figure 7.** First-principles numerical results for the band structures and partial densities of states of NCFOO within GGA +  $U$ .

resistivity of NCFOO is at the level of  $10^{-2} \Omega \text{ cm}$  at room temperature, and slightly increases upon cooling to about  $0.04 \Omega \text{ cm}$  at 2 K. Considering the polycrystalline nature of CCFOO, where grain boundary scattering effects play some roles in resistance, this slightly temperature-raised resistivity behavior may imply half-metallic conductivity as observed in other polycrystalline half metals.<sup>6,54</sup> In addition, the MR changes the sign from positive to negative around 50 K (Figure 6a,b). When we plot the MR and MH curves measured at 2 K (Figure 6c), the butterfly-shaped MR curve is found to occur. Moreover, the hysteresis field presented in MR is much larger than that in MH, probably suggesting the spin-valve-type MR behavior of NCFOO arising from the intergrain tunneling of spin-polarized conduction carriers as reported in the well-studied half metal of  $\text{Sr}_2\text{FeMoO}_6$  ceramic<sup>6,55</sup> and the quadruple perovskite  $\text{CaCu}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{Re}_2\text{O}_{12}$ .<sup>37</sup> However, in comparison, the MR value of NCFOO is considerably reduced probably due to the strong magnetic frustration as mentioned in ref 40 as well as the small amount of Fe–Os disorder effects.

To further unveil the possible half-metallic properties for NCFOO, we carried out first-principles theoretical calculations. To confirm the magnetic ground state, GGA, GGA +  $U$ , and GGA +  $U$  + SOC spin-polarized calculations were performed for all of the four possible magnetic configurations, i.e.,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\downarrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\downarrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\uparrow)$ , and  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\uparrow)$ . The GGA calculations always converge to the FiM  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  ground state. The GGA +  $U$  calculations also give the same results, in coherence with the experiment. However, only the first two configurations remain stable and converge to themselves, whereas the latter two become unstable during the self-consistent iterations and always converge to the FiM  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  state. For simplicity, we only present the results using  $U_{\text{eff}} = 5, 4$ , and 2 eV for Cu, Fe, and Os, respectively, according to the literature.<sup>40</sup> We also tried many other choices of  $U_{\text{eff}}$  around the above values, and the conclusion is qualitatively unchanged. Compared to the FiM  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\downarrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$

spin configuration, the energy of the  $\text{Cu}^{2+}(\uparrow)\text{Fe}^{3+}(\uparrow)\text{Os}^{5.5+}(\downarrow)$  state is lower to about 623.22 meV/fu, indicating that the latter is a very stable magnetic ground state, agreeing well with the XMCD measurement.

The spin and valence states of Os can also be obtained from the calculations. The calculated moments using GGA +  $U$  are  $0.593 \mu_{\text{B}}/\text{Cu}$ ,  $4.097 \mu_{\text{B}}/\text{Fe}$ ,  $-1.143 \mu_{\text{B}}/\text{Os}$ , and  $0.064 \mu_{\text{B}}/\text{O}$  inside the muffin-tin spheres, generating a total magnetic moment of  $8.0 \mu_{\text{B}}/\text{fu}$  including the interstitial contributions. Since the typical moments are  $1.0 \mu_{\text{B}}$  for  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  and  $5.0 \mu_{\text{B}}$  for  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , one immediately obtains the moment of Os to be  $2.5 \mu_{\text{B}}$ , and the average valence state has to be  $\text{Os}^{5.5+}$ . This leads to the rational conclusion that  $\text{Os}^{5.5+}$  is in a fully polarized spin state. The GGA +  $U$  + SOC calculations are also performed. The results are essentially similar to those of GGA +  $U$  calculations, except that the B'-site Os shows a considerable orbital moment. The calculated Os spin (orbit) moments are  $-1.082$  ( $0.137$ )  $\mu_{\text{B}}$  inside the muffin-tin spheres. The orbital moment is about 13% of the spin moment, suggesting a stronger SOC effect in NCFOO.

Figure 7 shows the band structures as well as the density of states near the Fermi level calculated with the  $U_{\text{eff}}$  values mentioned above. The half-metallic feature of NCFOO is clearly seen from the band structures, where only the Os bands cross the Fermi energy. Specifically, the minority (spin-down) channel is conducting, whereas the majority (spin-up) channel has a rather wide energy gap of about 1.6 eV. The above conclusions are qualitatively unchanged with varying  $U_{\text{eff}}$  values, and a half-metal is obtained even in GGA calculations at  $U_{\text{eff}} = 0$ , except that the band gap in majority spin is reduced than that in GGA +  $U$ . In GGA +  $U$ , the Coulomb interaction is treated in a mean-field manner. As expected, it decreases the energy of the occupied bands and increases the energy of the unoccupied bands. Thus, the empty and fully occupied Fe and Cu bands are pushed away, so that the partially filled Os bands become dominant around the Fermi energy. As a consequence, the energy gap in the majority spin channel is enlarged in GGA +  $U$ , and the metallic behavior of the minority spin channel

becomes solely associated with the Os bands. The electronic correlations in NCFOO thus play the role of protecting the half-metallic state by increasing the band gap in the majority spin channel.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

In summary, we succeeded in preparing a new oxide  $\text{NaCu}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{Os}_2\text{O}_{12}$  at 8–10 GPa and 1573 K. This compound is determined to be both A- and B-site ordered quadruple perovskite with a space group of  $Pn\bar{3}$ . Rietveld refinement indicates that Na at the A-site and Cu at the A'-site are almost ideally 1:3 ordered, and slight ( $\sim 1.7\%$ ) anti-site occupancies are found between the Fe at the B-site and Os at the B'-site. According to the BVS calculations and XAS results, the charge states are determined to be  $\text{Cu}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Os}^{5.5+}$ . A high  $T_C$  of about 380 K is observed because of the strong FiM coupling between the transition metal cations, as revealed by XMCD measurements and first-principles calculations. Different from the semiconducting parent compound CCFOO, the hole-substituted NCFOO exhibits half-metallic properties possessing a high  $T_C$  and a wide energy gap. The present work provides an interesting example of how to design promising half metals in  $\text{AA}'_3\text{B}_2\text{B}'_2\text{O}_{12}$ -type ordered quadruple perovskite oxides.

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##### Notes

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