

## Poster Presentation

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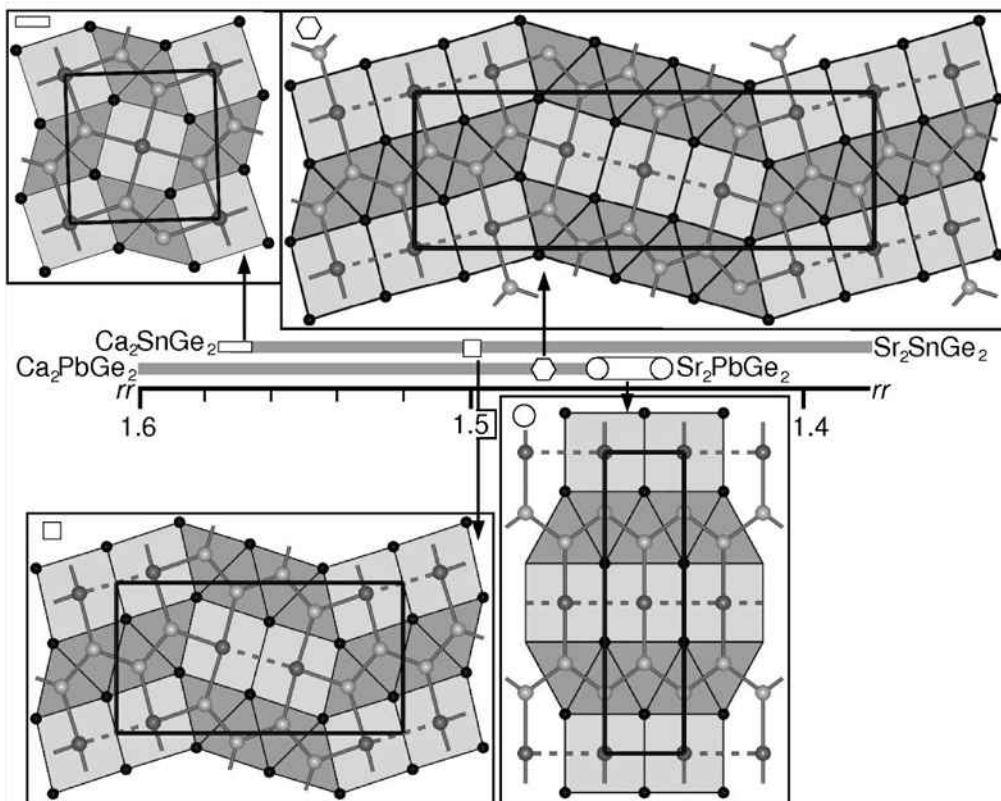
### Mixed Alkaline Earth Germanides $A_2MGe_2$ ( $A = Ca/Sr$ ; $M = Sn, Pb$ )

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The crystal structures of the mixed alkaline earth tetrelides with the composition  $(Ca_xSr_{1-x})_2MGe_2$  ( $M = Sn, Pb$ ) exhibit identically stacked planes consisting of square planar coordinated M atoms (light gray) and  $[Ge]_m$  zigzag chain pieces of varying lengths  $m$ . Each Ge atom is thereby coordinated by A atoms forming trigonal prisms (dark gray). The chain length  $m$  depends on the radius ratio  $r_{M^{4-}}/r_{A^{2+}}$  ( $rr$ ), whereat the  $M^{4-}$  radius was estimated from the average Ca-M distances in the structures of  $Ca_2M$ , which exhibit isolated tetrel anions. Depending on this radius ratio the structures of the title compounds feature  $[Ge]_m$  chains of lengths  $m$  of 2, 4, 6 and infinite. Starting with Ge-Ge dumbbells in  $Ca_2SnGe_2$  ( $rr = 1.57$ , space group  $P4/mbm$ ,  $a = 748.58(13)$ ,  $c = 445.59(8)$  pm,  $R_1 = 0.060$ ,  $Mo_2FeB_2$  type; cf. also  $Yb_2SnGe_2$  [1], fig. top left),  $(Ca_{0.58}Sr_{0.42})_2SnGe_2$  shows  $Ge_4$  zigzag chain pieces ( $rr = 1.50$ ,  $Pb_{am}$ ,  $a = 781.01(2)$ ,  $b = 1477.95(3)$ ,  $c = 457.00(1)$  pm,  $R_1 = 0.018$ ,  $La_2NiIn_2$  type; cf. also  $(Ca_{0.34}Eu_{0.66})_2PbGe_2$  [2], fig. bottom left).  $Ge_6$  pieces are present in  $(Ca_{0.23}Sr_{0.77})_2PbGe_2$  ( $rr = 1.48$ ,  $Pb_{am}$ ,  $a = 2311.20(15)$ ,  $b = 791.64(5)$ ,  $c = 458.53(3)$  pm,  $R_1 = 0.073$ , new type, fig. top right) and infinite Ge chains in  $(Ca_xSr_{1-x})_2PbGe_2$  ( $rr = 1.44-1.46$ ,  $x = 0$  to  $0.22$ ,  $Cmmm$ ; for  $x = 0$ :  $a = 402.36(11)$ ,  $b = 1542.29(42)$ ,  $c = 463.27(10)$  pm,  $R_1 = 0.064$ ,  $Mn_2AlB_2$  type; cf. also  $(Sr_{0.21}Eu_{0.79})_2PbGe_2$  [2], fig. bottom right). In this series, i.e. with increasing  $m$ , the connectivity of M changes from a square planar coordination by four Ge in  $Ca_2SnGe_2$  ( $[MGe_4]$ ) via  $[MGe_3M]$  in  $(Ca_{0.58}Sr_{0.42})_2SnGe_2$  and  $[MGe_3M]_2[MGe_2M_2]$  in  $(Ca_{0.23}Sr_{0.77})_2PbGe_2$  up to  $[MGe_2M_2]$  in  $Sr_2PbGe_2$ , finally. The details of chemical bonding are discussed on the basis of band structure calculations.

[1] M. Jehle, I. Dürr, S. Fink, B. Lang, C. Röhr, *Acta Crystallogr.*, 2012, A68, 192., [2] N.-T. Suen, J. Hooper, E. Zurek, S. Bobev, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2012, 134, 12708-12716.



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