Collapse-Like Decrease of RKKY Interaction and Kondo Effect in Heavy Fermion Compounds $(Ce_{1-x}Gd_x)Ni \ (0.03 \le x \le 0.20)$

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CeNi is one of the most famous heavy fermion compounds and magnetically is inactive where both Ce and Ni are non-magnetic. On the other hand, the GdNi, which has the same structue as that of CeNi, is a ferri-magnet and not only Gd but also Ni are magnetic. That is, the Ni is non-magnetic in CeNi and magnetic in GdNi. It follows that in (Ce-Gd)Ni systems, Ni and even Ce are expected to change the electronic states according to the content of Gd. In this study, we analyze thoroughly the temperature dependence of magnetization M(T) at low content of Gd (x=0.03-0.20) in (Ce_{1-x}Gd_x)Ni.

The magnetization behaviors in low contents of Gd are characterized as both the sensitivity to applied magnetic field (x=0.03-0.20) and the linear relationship of the M(T) (x=0.10-0.20). By employing the molecular field analysis of two-sublattice model, we have revealed that the exchange interactions between Gd and Gd, $J_{\text{Gd}-\text{Gd}}$, that is RKKY interaction, are extremly suppressed. This collapse-like decrease of RKKY interaction is the unique solution for reproducing the linear decrease of M(T) and the sensitivity to applied magnetic field. The details are to be discussed.