

## Quenching of Excited Zinc( $^3P_J$ ) and Zinc( $^1P_1$ ) Atoms by Several Gases

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(Received July 23, 1979)

The intensities of the 307.6 nm and 213.9 nm resonance lines of zinc were measured at different pressures of several gases, and the quenching rate constants were determined on the basis of the Stern-Volmer plots. The quenching cross-sections obtained here were compared with those for mercury and cadmium. The simple charge-transfer curve-crossing theory proposed by Breckenridge and Renlund for the quenching of excited cadmium and mercury atoms by  $N_2$ , CO,  $CO_2$ , and so on was found to be useful for the quenching of excited zinc atoms, as well. Isotope effects on the quenching of  $Zn(^3P_J)$  and  $Zn(^1P_1)$  by  $H_2$  and  $D_2$  were also discussed.

Recently, Breckenridge *et al.* have measured the quenching cross-sections of excited cadmium ( $^3P_J$ ) and cadmium ( $^1P_1$ ) atoms by several gases.<sup>1)</sup> They have compared their values with those for the quenching of mercury ( $^3P_1$  and  $^3P_0$ ) atoms and other excited atoms, and have discussed several possible exit channels for the quenching of excited metal atoms.

In spite of several comprehensive studies of the quenching and chemical reactivity of excited mercury<sup>2–4)</sup> and cadmium<sup>5)</sup> atoms, there have been almost no studies of the excited states of zinc (valence isoelectronic atom with cadmium and mercury). Since the excitation energy of  $Zn(^3P_1)$  lies between those of  $Cd(^3P_1)$  and  $Hg(^3P_1)$ , we expected that a comparison of the reactions photosensitized by these three atoms would give further information about the detailed mechanism of the reactions.

In a previous short communication,<sup>6)</sup> we reported the quenching cross sections of  $Zn(^3P_J)$  by  $H_2$ ,  $D_2$ , and  $CH_4$ . The present paper will report the details of the quenching of  $Zn(^3P_J)$  and  $Zn(^1P_1)$ .

### Experimental

The apparatus was the same as that previously described.<sup>6)</sup> The reaction cell and the zinc lamp made of quartz were kept in a furnace at  $305 \pm 2$  °C. Two resonance lines (213.9 and 307.6 nm) are emitted from the lamp. These lines give rise to  $Zn(^1P_1)$  and  $Zn(^3P_1)$  atoms respectively. In the measurement of the quenching rate of the  $Zn(^3P_J)$  atoms, the 213.9 nm resonance line was filtered out by inserting a Pyrex plate between the cell and the lamp. The light intensities from the cell were measured by means of a Hitachi spectrophotometer, Model 139. The pressure of the gases was measured by means of a W & T model 62-075 pressure gauge (Nagano Keiki Co). The low pressures of the quenching gases were measured using calibrated expansion volumes.

The zinc metal used was high-purity zinc (99.9999%) manufactured by the Osaka Asahi Metal Co. Research-grade  $H_2$  (99.999%),  $D_2$  (99.5%),  $CH_4$  (99.95%),  $N_2$  (99.999%), CO (99.8%), and  $CO_2$  (99.99%) purchased from the Takachiho Shoji Co., were used without further purification. Pure-grade  $NH_3$  (Takachiho Shoji Co. 99.5%) was freeze-pumped several times. Pure-grade Ar (Daido Sanso Co. 99.999%) was used without further purification.

### Results

**Pressure Dependence of the Emission Intensities at 213.9 and 307.6 nm.** When a cell containing zinc vapor was illuminated by means of the exciting lamp, two

resonance lines were observed, at 213.9 and 307.6 nm. The 213.9 nm resonance line disappeared when a Pyrex plate was inserted between the cell and the lamp. Upon the addition of argon, the intensities of the lines increased with the increase of the pressure, as is shown in Fig. 1.

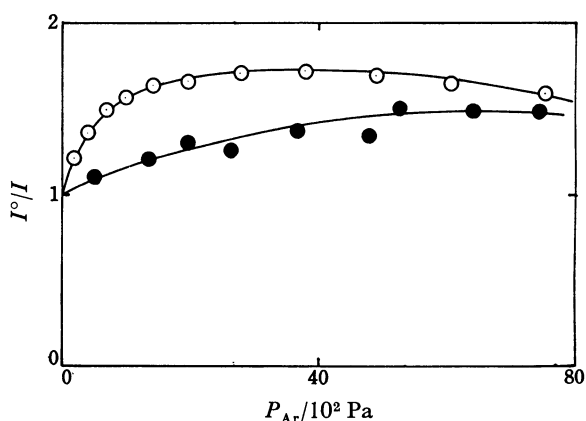


Fig. 1. Intensities of resonance lines at 213.9 (○) and 307.6 nm (●) as functions of argon pressures.

A similar increase of the intensity of the 326.1 nm resonance line of cadmium was previously observed; it was attributed to the increase in the light intensity absorbed by cadmium atoms because of the pressure broadening of the absorption line.<sup>7)</sup> In order to minimize the pressure dependence of the absorption of the resonance line, quenchers were diluted with a large

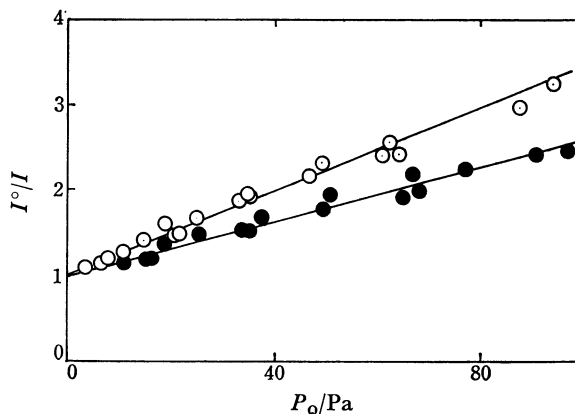


Fig. 2. Stern-Volmer plots for quenching of resonance line at 213.9 nm by  $H_2$  (●) and  $D_2$  (○). The total pressure is 4000 Pa.

amount of argon and the total pressure in the reaction cell was kept constant (4000 and 1300 Pa in the cases of the measurements at 213.9 and 307.6 nm respectively).

When quencher-argon mixtures were added, the intensities of the resonance lines decreased with the increase in the partial pressure of the quenchers. Representative Stern-Volmer plots for the quenching of the 213.9 and 307.6 nm resonance lines by several quenchers are shown in Figs. 2 and 3, where  $I^0$  and  $I$

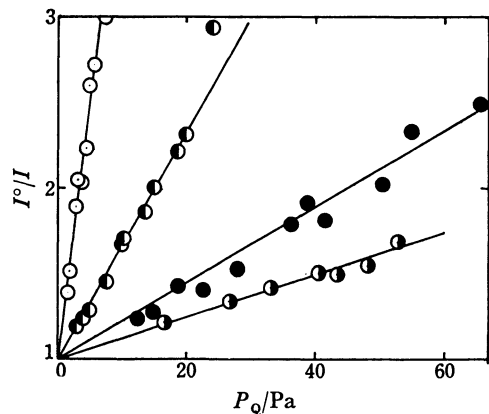
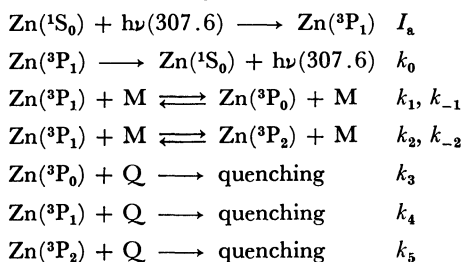


Fig. 3. Stern-Volmer plots for quenching of resonance line at 307.6 nm by  $\text{CO}_2$  (○),  $\text{CO}$  (●),  $\text{N}_2$  (●), and  $\text{CH}_4$  (●). The total pressure is 1300 Pa.

are the intensities of the resonance lines in the absence and in the presence of quenchers respectively. All of the plots form straight lines, the intercepts of which are unity. Similar plots were obtained for other quenchers.

**Quenching of the 307.6 nm Resonance Line.** By analogy with the mechanism presented for the quenching of  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$ ,<sup>1a)</sup> the quenching of  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$  can be discussed in terms of the following reactions:



Here, M denotes Ar and/or quenchers. As the energy differences between  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_0)$  and  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$ , and between  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$  and  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_2)$  are very small (2.30 and 4.73 kJ/mol), equilibria must be attained fairly rapidly among these three states. By assuming the steady-state for  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_0)$ ,  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$ , and  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_2)$ , the following equation can be derived:

$$\frac{[\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)]_{\text{Q=0}}}{[\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)]} = 1 + \frac{1}{k_0} \left( \frac{k_1}{k_{-1}} k_3 + k_4 + \frac{k_2}{k_{-2}} k_5 \right) [\text{Q}] \quad (1)$$

As  $I_{307.6}^0 = k_0[\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)]_{\text{Q=0}}$  and  $I_{307.6} = k_0[\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)]$ , the above equation becomes:

$$\frac{I_{307.6}^0}{I_{307.6}} = 1 + \frac{1}{k_0} \left( \frac{k_1}{k_{-1}} k_3 + k_4 + \frac{k_2}{k_{-2}} k_5 \right) [\text{Q}] \quad (2)$$

The linear Stern-Volmer plots in Fig. 3 are accounted

for by Eq. 2. As the  $f$ -value of the zinc 307.6 nm line is about one-tenth of that of the cadmium 326.1 nm line,<sup>8)</sup> the absorption of the 307.6 nm line by the zinc vapor at 0.36 Pa (305 °C) seems to be too small to cause any significant radiation trapping. If the lengthening of the effective radiation lifetime of  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$  caused by radiation imprisonment is not negligible for the vapor pressure of zinc at 305 °C, the effective lifetime must be dependent on the total pressure. In Fig. 4, the values of  $I_{307.6}^0/I_{307.6}$  obtained for  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2$

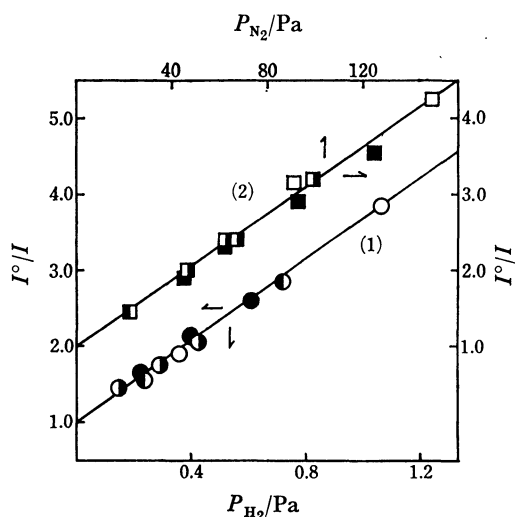


Fig. 4. Stern-Volmer plots for quenching of resonance line at 307.6 nm by  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{N}_2$ . 1)  $\text{H}_2$ ; total pressure are 7200 (○), 4900 (●), 1300 (●), and 1000 (●) in Pa. 2)  $\text{N}_2$ ; 7200 (□), 4900 (□), 1300 (□), and 1000 (□).

at various pressures are plotted as functions of the partial pressures of the quenchers. The points for each quencher lie on a straight line, and no dependence on the total pressure can be seen. This strongly suggests that the radiative lifetime of the  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$  atoms in this system is independent of the pressure of the foreign gas. Therefore,  $k_0$  can be taken as the reciprocal of the natural lifetime of  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$  ( $\tau = 2.0 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^9$ ).

From the slopes of the straight lines in Fig. 3, the composite rate constants of the quenching,  $(k_1/k_{-1})k_3 + k_4 + (k_2/k_{-2})k_5$ , are estimated. Since the three triplet states are in equilibrium,  $k_1/k_{-1} = (1/3)\exp(2300/RT)$  and  $k_2/k_{-2} = (5/3)\exp(-4730/RT)$ , and at 305 °C  $k_1/k_{-1}$  and  $k_2/k_{-2}$  are 0.54 and 0.62 respectively. The quenching rate constants,  $k_q (= 0.54k_3 + k_4 + 0.62k_5)$ , are listed in Table 1. The corresponding quenching cross-sections

TABLE 1. QUENCHING OF  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$  BY VARIOUS GASES

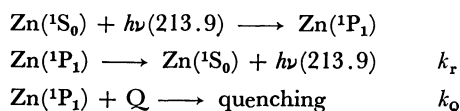
Gas	$10^{11}k_q$ $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$	$10^{16}\sigma_q^2$ $\text{cm}^2$
$\text{H}_2$	$106.6 \pm 7.2$	$13.6 \pm 0.9$
$\text{D}_2$	$64.1 \pm 4.5$	$11.3 \pm 0.8$
$\text{N}_2$	$0.92 \pm 0.01$	$0.37 \pm 0.01$
$\text{CO}$	$2.58 \pm 0.18$	$1.04 \pm 0.07$
$\text{CO}_2$	$9.44 \pm 0.75$	$4.41 \pm 0.35$
$\text{NH}_3$	$9.54 \pm 0.93$	$3.20 \pm 0.31$
$\text{CH}_4$	$0.50 \pm 0.01$	$0.16 \pm 0.01$

for equilibrated  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_{0,1,2})$  are calculated using the simple collision theory expression:

$$\sigma_q^2 = k_q \left[ 8\pi RT \frac{M_{\text{Zn}} + M_q}{M_{\text{Zn}} M_q} \right]^{-1/2} \quad (3)$$

where  $M_{\text{Zn}}$  and  $M_q$  are the atomic and molecular weights of zinc and the quenchers respectively. The cross-sections are also listed in Table 1.

*Quenching of the 213.9 nm Resonance Line.* The quenching of  $\text{Zn}(^1\text{P}_1)$  can be discussed in terms of the following reactions:



The steady-state treatment gives the following relation:

$$\frac{I_{213.9}^0}{I_{213.9}} = 1 + \frac{k_q}{k_r} [\text{Q}] \quad (4)$$

Here,  $I_{213.9}^0$  and  $I_{213.9}$  are the emission intensities at 213.9 nm in the absence and in the presence of quenchers respectively. From the slopes of the straight lines in Fig. 2, the values of  $k_q/k_r$  can be obtained; they are listed in Table 2.  $k_r$  is the effective rate constant for the escape of 213.9 nm fluorescent photons from the reaction vessel. Contrary to the case of the 307.6 nm resonance line,  $k_r$  must be significantly different from the limiting rate of natural radiative decay at a very low vapor concentration, because radiation imprisonment can not be neglected because of the large absorption coefficient. Therefore, it is difficult to estimate the absolute  $k_q$  values. Since the quenchers are diluted with a large amount of argon, it can be assumed that  $k_r$  is independent of the pressures of the quenchers and

of the kind of quencher. The relative values of  $k_q$  and relative quenching cross-sections are listed in Table 2.

## Discussion

Breckenridge *et al.* discussed several factors which govern the quenching efficiencies of  $\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1)$  and  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$  by several gases.<sup>1)</sup> They found that there is a correlation of the cross-sections for the quenching of excited metal atoms with a parameter,  $\Delta$ , the energy difference between  $\text{Me}^* + \text{Q}$  and  $\text{Me}^+ + \text{Q}^-$  at an infinite  $\text{Me}-\text{Q}$  distance, which is itself given by:

$$\Delta = I_p(\text{Me}^*) - E_A(\text{Q})$$

They described<sup>1b)</sup> that, in general, the cross-section increases with a decrease in  $\Delta$  for the quenching of  $\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1)$ ,  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$ ,  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_0)$ , and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$  by  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ , and so on, and that the charge-transfer curve-crossing theory is useful in explaining the magnitudes of the quenching cross-sections.

In Table 3, a comparison of the quenching cross-sections of  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$ ,  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$ ,  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_0)$ , and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$  is shown. In this table, the values of  $\Delta$  are also included. For mercury, the cross-section for the quenching processes,  $^3\text{P}_1 \rightarrow ^1\text{S}_0$  and  $^3\text{P}_0 \rightarrow ^1\text{S}_0$ , have been determined separately.<sup>4)</sup> However, for cadmium and zinc, only the composite cross-sections for the quenching of the  $^3\text{P}_j$  states can be determined, for the equilibration reactions among these states are very rapid.

The quenching cross-sections of  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$  by  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ ,  $\text{CO}$ , and  $\text{CO}_2$  increase in this order. This order is almost the same as those for  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$  and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$ ; it is also consistent with the order of the decrease in  $\Delta$ . In the cases of  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$  and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$ , these orders have been successfully explained in terms of the charge-transfer curve-crossing mechanism.<sup>1b)</sup> Therefore, it is reasonable to consider that the same mechanism may be valid for  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$ .

For a single quencher, the correlation between the cross-sections and  $\Delta$  is not simple. For  $\text{CO}_2$ , the cross-sections increase with a decrease in  $\Delta$ , but for the other quenchers they do not do so. Since the difference in  $\Delta$  between the quenchers is comparatively large, the order of the quenching cross-sections for an excited atoms must be determined by only the magnitudes of  $\Delta$ . However, since the difference in  $\Delta$  between the metal

TABLE 2. QUENCHING OF  $\text{Zn}(^1\text{P}_1)$  BY VARIOUS GASES

Gas	$\frac{10^3 k_q/k_r}{\text{Pa}^{-1}}$	$k_q(\text{rel})$	$\sigma_q^2(\text{rel})$
$\text{H}_2$	$2.42 \pm 0.02$	1.00	1.00
$\text{D}_2$	$1.56 \pm 0.01$	0.64	0.90
$\text{N}_2$	$0.83 \pm 0.01$	0.34	1.08
$\text{CO}$	$1.04 \pm 0.02$	0.40	1.28
$\text{CO}_2$	$1.10 \pm 0.01$	0.46	1.70
$\text{NH}_3$	$1.88 \pm 0.02$	0.78	2.06
$\text{CH}_4$	$1.37 \pm 0.01$	0.56	1.44

TABLE 3. COMPARISON OF QUENCHING CROSS-SECTIONS OF VARIOUS EXCITED METAL ATOMS

Gas	$\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)^{\text{a)}}$		$\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)^{\text{a,b)}}$		$\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_0)^{\text{c)}}$		$\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)^{\text{c)}}$	
	$\frac{10^{16} \sigma_q^2}{\text{cm}^2}$	$\Delta$ kJ	$\frac{10^{16} \sigma_q^2}{\text{cm}^2}$	$\Delta$ kJ	$\frac{10^{16} \sigma_q^2}{\text{cm}^2}$	$\Delta$ kJ	$\frac{10^{16} \sigma_q^2}{\text{cm}^2}$	$\Delta$ kJ
$\text{H}_2$	13.6	519	3.9		2.1		7.8	
$\text{D}_2$	11.3		2.0		2.9		7.2	
$\text{N}_2$	0.37	703	0.0076	686	$2 \times 10^{-4}$	741	0.03	720
$\text{CO}$	1.04	644	1.7	628	0.69	682	3.0	661
$\text{CO}_2$	4.41	577	12.0	561	0.032	615	3.2	594
$\text{NH}_3$	3.20		0.044		0.016		2.75	
$\text{CH}_4$	0.16	812	0.0012	795	$1.4 \times 10^{-4}$	849	0.07	828

a) The cross-sections are actually sums of population weighted cross-sections for equilibrated  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_{0,1,2})$  and  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_{0,1})$ :  $\sigma_q^2(\text{Zn}) = 0.54\sigma_0^2 + \sigma_1^2 + 0.62\sigma_2^2$ ;  $\sigma_q^2(\text{Cd}) = 1.37\sigma_0^2 + \sigma_1^2$ . b) Ref. 1. c) Ref. 4.

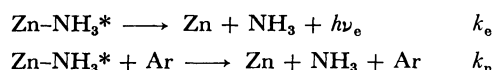
atoms is small, the order can not be determined by only the magnitudes of  $\Delta$ ; such other factors as the polarizability of the  $\text{Me}^+ - \text{Q}^-$  complex must also be taken into account, as has been mentioned by Breckenridge and Renlund.<sup>1b)</sup>

One major channel in the quenching of Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>) and Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>0,1</sub>) by NH<sub>3</sub> has been shown to involve the formation of Cd-NH<sub>3</sub>\* and Hg-NH<sub>3</sub>\* exciplexes, and the emission from these exciplexes has been observed.<sup>10,11)</sup> In the Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>)-NH<sub>3</sub> system, however, the exciplex emission could not be observed. One of the following reasons may be responsible for this; (a) the exciplex does not form; or (b) even if the exciplex forms, it is completely quenched before emission, or (c) the exciplex emission is too weak to be observed by our detector. By analogy with the Cd-NH<sub>3</sub> and Hg-NH<sub>3</sub> systems, it does not seem reasonable to consider reason (a) and/or (b) to be responsible for the lack of luminescence in the Zn-NH<sub>3</sub> system.

If the quenching of Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>) by ammonia occurs exclusively through the formation of the exciplex in a manner similar to that of Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>), the emission intensity from the exciplex can be expressed as follows;

$$I_0 = I^\circ [k_e / (k_e + k_n[\text{Ar}])] \quad (5)$$

where  $I^\circ$  is the intensity of the resonance line and where  $k_e$  and  $k_n$  are the rate constants for the following reactions:



In order to consider the emission intensity of the Zn-NH<sub>3</sub>\* exciplex by comparing the intensity with that for the Cd-NH<sub>3</sub>\* exciplex, we measured the cadmium-photosensitized luminescence of ammonia using our apparatus; we could thus observe an emission band consistent with that shown in the literature.<sup>10)</sup> It was proved that, by our apparatus, we can not observe an emission whose intensity is smaller by a factor of 500 than that from the Cd-NH<sub>3</sub>\* exciplex. (The light intensity which can be detected by our spectrophotometer with the maximum sensitivity was estimated by means of potassium ferrioxalate actinometry to be about  $5 \times 10^{-14}$  Einsteins s<sup>-1</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> at 400 nm at the incidence slit.) The intensity ratio of the resonance line of zinc to that of cadmium, corrected for the sensitivity of the spectrophotometer at 307.6 and 326.1 nm, was about 1/100 (the intensity of the zinc lamp was about 1/3 of that of the cadmium lamp; the other factor must be based on the difference in the absorption coefficients). Therefore, if the value of  $k_e / (k_e + k_n[\text{Ar}])$  in the Zn-NH<sub>3</sub> system is smaller by a factor of 5 than that for the Cd-NH<sub>3</sub> system (0.67 for an argon pressure of 13300 Pa<sup>10)</sup>, the emission from the Zn-NH<sub>3</sub>\* exciplex can not be detected by our apparatus. This seems the most reasonable explanation for our failure to observe the exciplex emission in the zinc-photosensitized reaction of ammonia.

In Table 4, the relative quenching cross-sections of Zn(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) and the values of  $\Delta$  are shown. For comparison, these values for Cd(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) are also included. The quenching cross-sections of Zn(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) and Cd(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) by N<sub>2</sub>, CO, and CO<sub>2</sub> again increase with a decrease in  $\Delta$ . Thus,

TABLE 4. COMPARISON OF RELATIVE QUENCHING CROSS-SECTIONS OF Zn(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) AND Cd(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>)

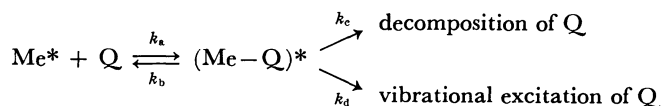
Gas	Zn( <sup>1</sup> P <sub>1</sub> )		Cd( <sup>1</sup> P <sub>1</sub> ) <sup>a)</sup>	
	$\sigma_q^2$ (rel)	$\Delta$ kJ	$\sigma_q^2$ (rel)	$\Delta$ kJ
H <sub>2</sub>	1.00		1.00	
D <sub>2</sub>	0.90		1.25	
N <sub>2</sub>	1.08	531	2.17	527
CO	1.28	473	2.33	469
CO <sub>2</sub>	1.70	406	3.58	402
NH <sub>3</sub>	2.06		2.00	
CH <sub>4</sub>	1.44	640		

a) Ref. 1.

by analogy with the case of Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>), it is reasonable to consider that the charge-transfer mechanism may be valid for Zn(<sup>1</sup>P<sub>1</sub>).

As is shown in Table 3, Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>) is quenched efficiently by the isotopic hydrogens. The difference between the quenching cross-sections of Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>0</sub>) and Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) by hydrogen has been explained simply by the difference in the energy content.<sup>4)</sup> If the cross-sections are of a comparable magnitude for the quenching of the <sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub> states of zinc and for those of cadmium by hydrogen, the cross-sections for Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) should be compared with half those for Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>) and Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>J</sub>).<sup>6)</sup> It can be said that the cross-sections of Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>), Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>), and Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) increase in this order; this order is consistent with the order of the excitation energy of metal atoms.

In a previous letter,<sup>6)</sup> we discussed the isotope effects on the quenching of Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>), Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>), and Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) by hydrogen in terms of the following processes:



Here, (Me-Q)\* denotes a short-lived intermediate. The quenching rate constant,  $k$ , becomes:

$$k = k_a \frac{k_c + k_d}{k_b + k_c + k_d} \quad (6)$$

For the quenching of Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) by H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub>, it was pointed out that  $k$  is nearly equal to  $k_a$ , since  $k_c \gg k_b$  and  $k_c \gg k_d$ , for the energy content of the complex is large enough to decompose H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub>; therefore, it does not show a large isotope effect.<sup>4,12)</sup> On the other hand, in the cases of Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) and Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) the excitation energies are smaller than the bond energies of H-H and D-D, and perhaps  $k_c$  is not large enough for us to neglect  $k_b$  and  $k_d$ ; therefore, the overall quenching-rate constants probably depend on the values of  $k_c + k_d$ . (1) If  $k_c \gg k_d$ , the quenching rate depends on the rates of the decomposition of H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub>, and the isotope effect based on the difference in the zero-point energies of H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> should be observed. (2) If  $k_c \approx k_d$  or  $k_c < k_d$ , no conclusive explanation for the isotope effects can be deduced, since we have no information about the isotope effects on  $k_d$ . In this case, the observed isotope effects might indicate that  $k_d(\text{D}_2) \approx k_d(\text{H}_2)$  or  $k_d(\text{D}_2) < k_d(\text{H}_2)$ . Actually, the quenching cross-sections of Cd(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>), Zn(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>), and Hg(<sup>3</sup>P<sub>1</sub>) increase in this order,

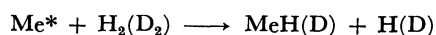
while the isotope effects decrease in this order.

Recently, Breckenridge and Renlund measured the quenching cross-sections of  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$  and  $\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1)$  by means of isotopic hydrogens and compared these cross-sections with those of other excited metal atoms.<sup>10)</sup> They pointed out that the adiabatic pathways from  $\text{Me}^* + \text{H}_2$  to  $\text{MeH} + \text{H}$  provide a reasonable explanation of the quenching of excited zinc, cadmium, and mercury atoms by hydrogen. In Table 5 the ratios of the quenching cross-sections of  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{D}_2$  for  $\text{Zn}(^1\text{P}_1)$ ,  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$ ,  $\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1)$ ,  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$ , and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$  are shown.

TABLE 5. ISOTOPE EFFECT ON QUENCHING CROSS-SECTIONS

Reaction	$\frac{\Delta H}{\text{kJ mol}^{-1}}$	$\sigma_q^2[\text{H}_2]/\sigma_q^2[\text{D}_2]$
$\text{Zn}(^1\text{P}_1) + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{ZnH} + \text{H}$	-209	1.11
$+ \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{ZnD} + \text{D}$	-204	
$\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j) + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{ZnH} + \text{H}$	-39	1.20
$+ \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{ZnD} + \text{D}$	-33	
$\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1) + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CdH} + \text{H}$	-158	0.80
$+ \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{CdD} + \text{D}$	-151	
$\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j) + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CdH} + \text{H}$	0	1.95
$+ \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{CdD} + \text{D}$	5	
$\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_0) + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{HgH} + \text{H}$	-53	0.72
$+ \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{HgD} + \text{D}$	-47	
$\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1) + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{HgH} + \text{H}$	-74	1.08
$+ \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{HgD} + \text{D}$	-68	

In Table 5 are also shown the  $\Delta H$  values for the processes:



where  $\text{Me}^*$  is the  $^1\text{P}_1$  state for  $\text{Zn}(^1\text{P}_1)$  and  $\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1)$  and is the  $^3\text{P}_1$  state for  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_j)$ ,  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_j)$ , and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$ . For  $\text{Cd}(^1\text{P}_1)$ ,  $\text{Zn}(^3\text{P}_1)$ , and  $\text{Hg}(^3\text{P}_1)$ , the  $\text{Me}^* + \text{H}_2(\text{D}_2) \rightarrow \text{MeH}(\text{D}) + \text{H}(\text{D})$  processes are both exothermic; therefore, the quenching cross-sections show very little isotope effect. However, in the case of  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_1)$ , the  $\text{Cd}^* + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CdH} + \text{H}$  reaction is thermoneutral, while

the  $\text{Cd}^* + \text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{CdD} + \text{D}$  reaction is slightly endothermic. Therefore, for  $\text{Cd}(^3\text{P}_1)$  a little larger isotope effect is observed. This explanation corresponds to the more detailed one for Case (2) of our explanation.

As is shown in Table 5, for  $\text{Zn}(^1\text{P}_1)$  the reactions are largely exothermic and the isotope effect is very little. These findings are consistent with the above explanation of Breckenridge.

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