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V. A. Sapozhnikov^a; N. K. Chameeva^a; V. Ya. Mitrofanov^a; A. E. Nikiforov^a; A. N. Men^a

^a Institute of Metallurgy, Academy of Sciences, Sverdlovsk, USSR

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CALCULATION OF ABSORPTION INTENSITIES OF Cr^{3+} ION PAIR LINES IN RUBY

KEY WORDS: exchange-coupled pair, optical absorption intensities

V. A. Sapozhnikov, N. K. Chameeva, V. Ya. Mitrofanov, A. E. Nikiforov, A. N. Men

Institute of Metallurgy, Academy of Sciences, Sverdlovsk, USSR

The calculation of relative intensities of the optical absorption lines of the fourth order pair of Cr^{3+} ions in ruby has been performed assuming the electro-dipole character of the transitions.

In paper [1] the semiempirical method of the effective Hamiltonian (EH) has been applied to interpret the energy spectrum of the lowest excited states of 4th order pair of Cr^{3+} ions in ruby. The purpose of the present article is to calculate the absorption intensities of zero-phonon pair lines using the results of [1].

EH constructed of spin $Q^{(K)}$ and orbital $\chi^{(r)}$ irreducible tensorial operators has the following form [1]

$$H_{\text{eff}}(A_2^2E) = K_1 + K_2 \chi_{\mu}^{(E)}(2) + [\gamma_1 + \gamma_2 \chi_{\mu}^{(E)}(2)] (Q_1^{(4)} Q_2^{(4)}) + \\ + \lambda \chi_{(2)}^{(A_2)} Q_0^{(4)}(2) + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} D Q_0^{(4)}(4) + \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} \gamma_{22} [Q_1^{(4)} Q_2^{(4)}]_0^2 + A [Q_1^{(4)} Q_2^{(4)}]_0^4 \quad (1)$$

The parameters of EH (1) were varied to obtain the best agreement with experimentally found scheme of levels [2].

The eigenfunctions of EH (1) $|^4A_2^2E, K, \bar{S}, |M_{\bar{S}}| \rangle$ (where $K=\pm 1$ is an orbital index, \bar{S} is the total spin of the pair) may be used for calculation of the optical absorption intensities. The operator of the electro-dipole transition may be written in the framework of EH scheme as

$$W = \sum_{\alpha, \nu, q} E_{\alpha} \left[\gamma_{\nu q}^{\alpha} X_{\nu}^{(E)}(2) Q_q^{(1)}(2) + \pi_{\nu}^{\alpha} X_{\nu}^{(E)}(2) (Q_1^{(1)} Q_2^{(1)}) \right] \quad (2)$$

where the first term in brackets describes the electric dipole perturbed by both the odd parity field and the spin-orbit interaction, the second term denotes the exchange induced electric dipole. The selection rules for the transition due to the first operator in (2) are $\Delta \bar{S} = 0, \pm 1; \Delta M = \pm 1$ where ΔM is the change of the quasi-momentum projection [3] and those due to the second term in (2) are $\Delta \bar{S} = 0; \Delta M = \pm 1$

The intensity of the electro-dipole transition between the multiplets ($^4A_2^4A_2SM_S$) of the ground pair states and the excited levels ($^4A_2^2E, K, \bar{S}, |M_{\bar{S}}|$) has been calculated by the formula

$$I(S \rightarrow \bar{S}, |M_{\bar{S}}|, K) \sim e^{-E_S/KT} \sum_{M_S, M_{\bar{S}}} K S, M_S |W| \bar{S}, |M_{\bar{S}}|, K|^2 \quad (3)$$

The parameters in (2) were varied to obtain the best agreement with the experiment [4]. The comparison with the experiment has been done in two cases (Table 1).

1. π -polarised transitions. At this polarization the single ion mechanism of transition is non effective what is confirmed by the polarizational dependence of R-lines of dilute ruby and also by the weakness of the pair lines

Table I. Absorption intensities at 77°K (4th nn.).

The experimental data are borrowed from Kisliuk et. al. [4]

	π		σ	
	Exp.	Theor.	Exp.	Theor.
4A2	0	0.1	1d	0.6
4B2	0	0.2	1d	0.6
4A1				
4B1	5	3.6	4	2.5
4A0	0	0	0	0
4B0	0	0	0	0
4C3	0	0	2d	2.2
4D3	0	0	2d	2.0
4E3	0	0	2d	1.1
4C2	4	4	2	2.5
4D2	3	3	2	2.1
4E2	3	1	2	0.8
4C1	0	0	0	0.5
4D1	0d	0	1d	0.5
4E1	0	0	0	0.2
4F2	2d	2	4	3.5
4F1	2	1.5	4d	2.4
4F0	0	0	0	0
4G3	1d	0	2	2.2
4H3	0	0	0	2.0
4I3	0	0	0	1.1
4G2	4	4	3	3.5
4H2	4	4	2	2.1
4I2	2	2	2	0.8
4G1	0	0	0	0.5
4H1	0	0	0	0.5
4I1	0	0	obs.	0.2

which are exclusively depended on this mechanism [4] .

2. σ -polarized transitions. In this case the both mechanisms of transition are effective. Obtained relations for the

parameters explain well enough the relative intensities of R-lines in dilute ruby. A good agreement of experimental and theoretical values of the absorption intensities confirms the correctness of interpretation of the energy level scheme in papers [1,2] .

Naito [5] proposed a new interpretation of the energy level scheme of 4th order pair of Cr³⁺ ions in ruby. The author used groundless assumption about invariability of one electron exchange parameters λ_{ij} in the ground and excited states of the pair and completely ignored the charge-dipole interaction in the excited state of the pair. In our opinion these two assumptions make Naito's interpretation rather questionable.

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