

dence in K_f and K_{app}^* values probably reflects the excitation conditions employed rather than the establishment of excited-state equilibrium.

Electronic spectra of adducts of $(Me_5C_5)_2Yb$ have been examined in toluene solution. The solid has been isolated as a mono-THF adduct (P. L. Watson, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Comm.*, 652 (1980)) and as a mono- Et_2O adduct (R. A. Anderson, *et al.*, *Inorg. Chem.*, 19, 2999 (1980)), orange and yellow-green compounds, respectively. Toluene solutions retain these colors. The THF adduct exhibits bands at 445, 505, and 790 nm in toluene with absorptivities of ~ 410 , 320, and $190 M^{-1} cm^{-1}$, respectively; corresponding values for the Et_2O adduct are 460 and 690 nm with absorptivities of ~ 410 and $180 M^{-1} cm^{-1}$, respectively. Both species are reluctant to add a second equivalent of base to their coordination sphere; a K_f value of $\sim 10 M^{-1}$ for formation of the bis-THF adduct was measured from spectral changes accompanying titration of the mono-THF adduct with THF. For adducts of $(Me_5C_5)_2Yb$ involving one equivalent of base, the lowest-energy absorption band appears particularly sensitive to the identity of the base, red-shifting as the base is changed from Et_2O to THF to pyridine ($\lambda_{max} \sim 800$ nm). The direction of the shift is consistent with an assignment for the band of $Yb \rightarrow \pi^*(Me_5C_5)$, *i.e.*, metal-to-ligand charge transfer (MLCT). Supporting this assignment are photolysis experiments in which irradiation of the THF adduct in toluene, either alone with UV excitation or in a C_6H_5Cl /toluene mixture with visible and near-IR excitation, leads to Yb(III) products with quantum efficiencies of $\sim 10^{-1}$.

The mono-THF adduct emits at 295 K in toluene solution when excited with visible light; the emission band is broad (~ 90 nm fwhm) with a maximum at 935 nm. Additionally, the adduct exhibits a novel chemiluminescent reaction indicative of the strong reducing power of these Yb(II) species: upon addition of O_2 -saturated toluene to a toluene solution of the adduct, a sharp emission band is observed at ~ 985 nm. This band is also observed in photoluminescence of the product solution and is characteristic of an Yb(III) species. The species and mechanism responsible for the chemiluminescence will be discussed.

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Physico-chemical Studies of Uranyl Fluoride Complexes

NGUYEN QUY DAO

Laboratoire de Chimie et Physico-Chimie Minérales, ERA 928, Ecole Centrale des Arts et Manufactures, 92290 Chateaufort-Malabry, France

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Mössbauer Spectroscopy and X-Ray Diffraction Studies of Neptunium Intermetallics under High Pressure[†]

W. POTZEL*, J. MOSER, M. WUNSCH, J. ZÄNKERT, TH. OBENHUBER, L. ASCH and G. M. KALVIUS

Physik-Department E15, Technische Universität München, D-8046 Garching, F.R.G.

J. C. SPIRLET

European Institute for Transuranium Elements, Karlsruhe, F.R.G.

J. GAL

Nuclear Research Center-Negev, Beer-Sheva, Israel

and M. BOGÉ

DRF-LIH, CEN-Grenoble, France

The magnetic properties of intermetallic compounds of the light actinides vary from primary local moment behaviour through itinerant electron magnetism to non-magnetic behaviour. A dominant parameter determining the magnetic character is the interatomic separation of the actinide ions which experimentally can be varied by the application of high pressure. To study the microscopic magnetic behaviour we performed Mössbauer experiments on $NpAl_2$, $NpOs_2$, $NpCo_2Si_2$, and $NpAs$ using the 60 keV transition in ^{237}Np . The magnetic hyperfine field B_{hf} and the isomer shift S , which are a measure of the ordered magnetic moment and the s-electron density at the nucleus, respectively, as well as the magnetic ordering temperatures have been determined at various pressures up to 70 kbar and in the temperature range from 1.6 K to 77 K. In addition, the lattice parameter variation of $NpAl_2$ was measured up to 100 kbar at room temperature by X-ray diffraction.

We obtained the following results:

(i) In the cubic Laves phase compounds $NpAl_2$ and $NpOs_2$ with a Np–Np distance at ambient pressure of 3.371 Å and 3.258 Å, respectively, we observed a strong decrease of B_{hf} and Curie temperature with pressure indicating a progressive delocalization of the 5f electrons. This is markedly confirmed by the isomer shift. In addition, line broadenings are observed which point towards fluctuation phenomena and show that the delocalization process is of a dynamical nature [1–3].

(ii) The X-ray measurements demonstrate an increase of the compressibility of $NpAl_2$ by a factor of 5 when a pressure of 80 kbar is applied. This behaviour further supports the picture of 5f delocalization with reduced atomic volume. A collapse of volume on account of 5f delocalization

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