The structural analysis of the complex $Nd(pyO)_8$ -(ClO₄)₃ showed that the coordination polyhedron closely approximates to the square-antiprism (D_{4d}) while the complex La(pyO)₈(ClO₄)₃ has a geometry intermediate between a cube and a square-antiprism (D₄) [1]. The emission spectrum of the complex XIII agrees with that geometry found for the lanthanum complex; it closely approximates to the cube [2].

 $BipyO_2$, $biquO_2$ and PA are chelating ligands which may give rise to octacoordinated species. The polyhedron the coordination of complex $La(bipyO_2)_4(ClO_4)_3$ has been found to be a cube [3]. The emission spectrum of the complex XIV well agrees with D_4 site symmetry [4]. Dodecahedron (D_{2d}) for complex IV and bicapped trigonal prism (C_{2v}) for complex VI, bicapped dodecahedron having D₂ symmetry for complex XV and C_{2v} symmetry for complex IX have been suggested by proper emission spectrum. In complex VIII the coordination polyhedron is made up of three oxygen and six nitrogen atoms. The emission spectrum suggests monocapped square-antiprismatic geometry and C4v site symmetry for the europium(III) ion. On the basis of IR and conductivity data one must attribute twelvecoordination to europium(III) ion in complex VII. However, the emission spectrum agrees with bicapped dodecahedron and D_2 site symmetry. One nitrate group is thus ionic or two are monodentate.

Depending on the number of coordinated water molecules, the C.N. of europium in complexes X, XI, XII may be nine or greater. Monocapped squareantiprism (C_{4v}) and tricapped trigonal prism (D_{3h}) for nine-coordination and bicapped square-antiprism (D_{4d}) and bicapped dodecahedron $(D_2 \text{ or } C_{2v})$ for ten-coordination are polyhedra encountered for lanthanide(III) complexes. The emission spectra of these complexes exclude C_{4v} , C_{2v} , D_{4d} symmetries. Tricapped trigonal prism and bicapped dodecahedron can be proposed as the polyhedra of these three complexes. This requires only one or no molecule of coordinated water. Square-antiprismatic geometry but lower than D4d symmetries have been assigned on the basis of the emission spectra to the complexes I, II and III. X-ray study of the complex Yb(HB- Pz_3)₃ showed that the coordination polyhedron is a bicapped trigonal prism [5]. This requires that two molecules of ligand are tridentate whilst the third one is bidentate. The emission spectrum of the complex V is consistent with square-antiprismatic geometry having nearly perfect D_{4d} symmetry.

In general, no correlation exists between low symmetry and high intensity of the hypersensitive transitions or high symmetry and low intensity. This increases in the order: HBPz < 2-HAN < DMU < DEU < EU < PU < pyO < PA < biquO₂ < bipyO₂. In the same order increases the intensity ratio ${}^{5}D_{0} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{2}/{}^{5}D_{0} \rightarrow {}^{7}F_{1}$ in europium(III) complexes.

Abbreviations: PU = perhydropyrimidin-2-one; EU = imidazolin-2-one; DMU = N,N'-dimethylurea; DEU = N,N'-diethylurea; PA = picolinamide; pyO = pyridine-N-oxide; bipyO₂ = 2,2'-bipyridyl-N,N'-dioxide; biquO₂ = 2,2'-biquinolyl-N,N'-dioxide; 2-HAN = 2quinolinecarboxylic acid; HBPz = hydrotrispyrazolylborate ion.

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Crystal Structures and Mössbauer Studies of NpO₂⁺ Complexes with Polycarboxylic Acids

A. COUSSON, S. DABOS, H. ABAZLI, F. NECTOUX, J. JOVÉ, M. GASPERIN and M. PAGÈS

Institut Curie, Section de Physique et Chimie, Equipe Physicochimie des Transuraniens, ERA CNRS 1006, 11 rue P. et M. Curie, 75231 Paris Cédex 05, France and Laboratoire de Minéralogie Cristallographie, associé au CNRS, Université Pierre et Marie Curie, 4, Place Jussieu, 75230 Paris Cédex 05, France

Complexes of neptunyl $({}^{237}NpO_2^{+})$ with pyromellitic (benzene tetracarboxylic) and mellitic (benzene hexacarboxylic acids were prepared; their formula is: $(Na_3NpO_2C_{10}O_8H_2)_2 \cdot 11H_2O$ and Na_4 - $(NpO_2)_2C_{12}O_{12} \cdot 8H_2O$ respectively. These solids were studied by X-ray diffraction, Mössbauer spectroscopy $({}^{237}Np)$ and magnetic susceptibility measurements.



Fig. 1. Projection of the pyromellitate along the caxis.



Fig. 2. Mössbauer spectrum (²³⁷Np) of the mellitate.



Fig. 3. Cation-cation complex of NhO_2^+ .

The crystal structure of the Na₃NpO₂ pyromellitate was refined to R = 0,027 and R_w = 0.040 for 6793 independent reflexions. Crystal data are: $P\overline{1}$, a = 14.46(1) Å, b = 9.404(8) Å, c = 6.768(4) Å, $\alpha = 95.08^{\circ}$, $\beta = 103.23^{\circ}$, $\gamma = 87.47^{\circ}$, Z = 1. In this structure (Fig. 1), the NpO₂⁺ ions are bonded to four pyromellitate anions whose carboxyl oxygens form the base of a pentagonal bipyramid surrounding the Np atom.

The Mössbauer spectrum recorded at 4.2 K and shown in Fig. 2, exhibited a magnetic hyperfine splitting attributed to paramagnetic relaxation phenomena [1, 2].

The crystal structure of the Na₄(NpO₂)₂ mellitate was solved by classical methods. R = 0.044 and R_w = 0.056 for 2372 independent reflexions. a =12.53(1) Å, b = 11.58(2) Å, c = 17.81(2) Å, $\beta =$ 105.79°, Z = 4, space group C_{2/c}. Two NpO₂⁺ ions are connected to each other and coordinated to four mellitate anions. Figure 3 shows the 'cationcation' complex of NpO₂⁺. The χ curve for this complex follows the Curie-Weiss law. A magnetic transition occurs at about 10 K. The Mössbauer spectrum (^{237}Np) recorded at 4.2 K and then fitted [3] leads to the following hyperfine parameters: $H_{eff} =$ 5490(10) k0e, $e^2qQ = 97(2)$ mm s⁻¹. The isomer shift ($\delta = -19.2(5)$ mm s⁻¹ ref. NpAl₂ [4]) corresponds to that of Np(V). Two Np atoms are at a distance shorter than 3.5 Å in this complex and this could explain the magnetic transition observed.

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Raman Spectroscopy of Neptunyl and Plutonyl in Aqueous Solutions: Hydrolysis of Np(VI) and Pu(VI) and Disproportionation of $Pu(V)^+$

C. MADIC*⁺, G. M. BEGUN, D. E. HOBART⁺⁺ and R. L. HAHN

The Transuranium Research Laboratory, Chemistry Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tenn. 37830, U.S.A.

While the infrared and Raman spectra of the uranyl ion and its complexes have been the subject of considerable attention, there have been very few publications concerning the vibrational spectra of the plutonyl and neptunyl ions. For example Basile *et al.* [1, 2] have published values of the symmetrical stretching vibration, v_1 , of the PuO₂²⁺ and NpO₂²⁺ ions and of their carbonato complexes in 0.1 *M* Na₂CO₃ solutions. Madic *et al.* [3] published recently

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[†]Guest Scientist on assignment from Centre d'Etudes Nucléaires, Département de Génie Radioactif, Service d'Etude de Procédés, B.P. No. 6, 92260 Fontenay-aux-Roses, France.

^{††}Department of Chemistry, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996-1600, U.S.A.