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Nuclear magnetic resonance of ¹³³Cs in a CsMnCl₃ single crystal

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Abstract. The nuclear magnetic resonance of ¹³³Cs in a CsMnCl₃ single crystal grown by the Czochralski method has been investigated by employing a Bruker FT NMR spectrometer. The ¹³³Cs resonances of two different groups were recorded, that is the spectra of two groups with different intensity ratios associated with two physically inequivalent positions of caesium atoms in the unit cell. Various transitions belonging to two caesium spectra of different intensity ratios are analysed. The quadrupole coupling constant of Cs(I), giving weaker signals than the other, is 0.153 \pm 0.014 MHz, and that of Cs(II) is 0.212 \pm 0.014 MHz. The asymmetry parameter is zero for both. The principal axes of the EFG tensors for these two sites are found to be the same. The Z axis, conventionally the largest component of the EFG tensor, is parallel to the crystallographic c axis.

1. Introduction

The CsMnCl₃ single crystal was reported to form a perovskite of space group $R\bar{3}m$ (a related crystal which belongs to the trigonal space group D_{3d}^5) at room temperature [1], and it was reported to be an antiferromagnetic phase transition with a weak ferromagnetic moment at $T_N = 67$ K [2]. Experimental investigations such as x-ray diffraction [3, 4], antiferromagnetic resonance [5], nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) of ³⁵Cl [6] and optical properties [7] have been made for the CsMnCl₃ single crystal grown by the Bridgman method [8]. This crystal has excellent optical quality and has found increasing application in recent years as electro-optic modulators, acousto-optic deflectors and other devices for controlling laser beams [9].

Our present work reports the ¹³³Cs NMR in a CsMnCl₃ single crystal grown by the Czochralski method. The quadrupole coupling constant, the asymmetry parameter and the directions of the principal axes of the electric field gradient (EFG) tensor of ¹³³Cs $(I = \frac{7}{2})$ are determined at room temperature. This study appears to be the first ¹³³Cs NMR experiment on a CsMnCl₃ single crystal.

2. Crystal structure

The crystal structure of CsMnCl₃ is trigonal with the lattice parameters a = 7.291 Å and c = 27.440 Å (space group, $R\bar{3}m$) at room temperature [10]. This structure is essentially a hexagonal close-packed arrangement of caesium and chlorine ions. Since each Cs atom must be in contact with 12 Cl atoms, there are three possible positions of a layer in relation





to the framework of the unit cell; these correspond to types A, B and C. The structure of CsMnCl₃ is formed by a nine-layer stacking sequence ABABCBCAC... with a CsCl₃ composition. Mn cations fill the Cl₆ octahedra between the layers, yielding an arrangement closely related to the perovskite type. There are two kinds of site for the caesium ions (Cs^+) which occupy two physically inequivalent positions [4]. At room temperature, Cs(I) and Cs(II) in CsMnCl₃ have three and six atoms, respectively, per unit cell. The structure of CsMnCl₃ is shown in figure 1. The structure of CsMnCl₃ projected on the (100) plane is shown in figure 2. Figure 3 shows a perspective view of a [Mn₃Cl₁₂] trimer unit in CsMnCl₃. The MnCl₃ trimer has three Cl atoms at the top and three Cl atoms at the bottom. The distances from the caesium and chlorine atoms to manganese atoms are given in table 1.

Table 1	. The	bond	lengths	of	CsMnCl ₃	at	300	К.
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Bond type	Bond length (Å)		
Cs(1)-Mn(2)	4,428		
Cs(2)-Mn(2)	4,563		
Cs(2)-Mn(1)	4.441		
Cl(2)-Mn(1)	2.545		
Cl(2)-Mn(2)	2.558		
CI(1)-Mn(2)	2.514		

3. Experimental procedure

The CsMnCl₃ single crystals were grown by melting a mixture of CsCl and MnCl₂ powder





Figure 2. The structure of CsMnCl₃ projected on the (100) plane.

Figure 3. A perspective view of a [Mn₃Cl₁₂] trimer unit in CsMnCl₃.

by the Czochralski method [10]. This was slightly hygroscopic and pale magenta in colour. The orientation of the specimen was determined by the x-ray Laue method. The angular dependence of the NMR spectra was measured on the crystallographic a-c plane because the resonance spectra were angle independent in the hexagonal plane (a-a plane).

NMR signals of ¹³³Cs in the CsMnCl₃ single crystal, of size approximately $3 \times 3 \times 3$ mm, were measured using a Bruker MSL 200 FT NMR spectrometer at KBSC. The static magnetic field strength was 4.7 T and the central RF frequency was set at $\omega_0/2\pi = 26.2479$ MHz. The free induction decay of ¹³³Cs NMR was obtained with one pulse sequence, 512 scans and a repetition time of 1 s. A pulse length of 6 μ s corresponding to a 90° pulse and a ring-down delay time of 10 μ s were applied in order to remove the after-pulse effect and to adjust the phase of the signals.

4. Experimental results and analysis

The Hamiltonian for the NMR to analyse the experimental results is the usual

$$H = H_{\rm Z} + H_{\rm Q} \tag{1}$$

where H_Z is the Zeeman term and H_Q describes the nuclear electric quadrupole interaction of the ¹³³Cs nucleus, which has a nuclear spin $I = \frac{7}{2}$ with 100% natural abundance. The Hamiltonian in the principal axes system of the EFG tensor is given by [11]

$$H = -\gamma \hbar B_0 \cdot (1+\alpha) \cdot I + \frac{e^2 q Q}{4I(2I-1)} [3I_Z^2 - I(I+1) + \frac{1}{2}\eta (I_+^2 + I_-^2)]$$
(2)

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where $e^2 q Q/h$ and η are the quadrupole coupling constant and the asymmetry parameter, respectively. α is the paramagnetic shift tensor. Conventionally, the X, Y and Z axes are such that $|V_{XX}| \leq |V_{YY}| \leq |V_{ZZ}| = eq$; then $0 \leq \eta \leq 1$. The matrix form of the spin Hamiltonian of equation (1) is employed to calculate the resonance points with the magnetic field applied along a general direction. All resonance spectra and the parameters are calculated by numerically diagonalizing the 8×8 matrix using a computer program to analyse the experimental data [12].



Figure 4. 133 Cs NMR spectra at two different Cs sites in the CsMnCl₃ structure. The zero point corresponds to the resonance frequency of 26.3479 MHz of the 133 Cs nucleus.

The seven-line structure is a result of the quadrupole interaction of the 133 Cs $(I = \frac{7}{2})$ nucleus. However, two different groups of Cs resonances were recorded as shown in figure 4. The zero point in figure 4 corresponds to the resonance frequency 26.2479 MHz of the 133 Cs nucleus. They consist of two groups displaced to the higher-frequency side (paramagnetic shift) relative to the reference signal, obtained with the 133 Cs line in an aqueous solution of CsCI. The signals of these two groups, one weaker and the other stronger, represent the transition of 133 Cs NMR lines due to Cs(I) and Cs(II), respectively. The spectra showing an approximate intensity ratio of 1 to 2 are associated with two physically inequivalent positions of caesium atoms in the unit cell.

The rotation pattern of Cs(I), measured in the crystallographic a-c plane at room temperature, is shown in figure 5 by converting the resonance frequency into the resonance magnetic field. The maximum separation resulting from the quadrupole interaction was observed when the magnetic field was applied along the *c* axis of the crystal. The separations between adjacent lines are almost equal along this axis. The rotation pattern of Cs(II) was similar to that of Cs(I), as shown in figure 6 in the a-c plane. There was no angular dependence of Cs(II) in the a-a plane, similar to Cs(I). For both the Cs(I) and the Cs(II) groups, the satellite resonance lines show the angular dependence $3 \cos^2 \theta - 1$, where the polar angle θ is the direction of the magnetic field with respect to the *c* axis, whereas the central lines are angle independent. Therefore, the EFG tensors of Cs(I) and Cs(II) are both axially symmetric ($\eta = 0$) and the principal Z axis is parallel to the crystallographic *c* axis. The orientations of the principal axes of the EFG tensors coincide for the Cs(I) and Cs(II) sites.

Two different Cs resonance groups recorded with different magnitudes of the quadrupole splitting and paramagnetic shifts were analysed. Accordingly, the quadrupole parameters were determined by the least-squares fit using the experimental data in figure 5 for Cs(I), and corresponding data for Cs(II), respectively. The quadrupole coupling constants obtained for Cs(I) and Cs(II) are 0.153 ± 0.014 MHz and 0.212 ± 0.014 MHz, respectively. The experimental uncertainty of ± 0.014 MHz was caused mainly by reading the resonance position from the NMR spectra. The parameters analysed are summarized in table 2 together with the previously reported ³⁵Cl NMR.



Figure 5. Rotation pattern of Cs(I) NMR measured in the a-c plane at room temperature.



Figure 6. Rotation pattern of Cs(II) NMR measured in the a-c plane at room temperature.

We suggest that the central positions of the resonance points of the Cs(I) and Cs(II) nuclei may be different owing to different contributions of Mn^{2+} ions on the nuclei. The shift of lines from the ¹³³Cs signal obtained with the reference solution is related to the paramagnetic shift due to the Mn^{2+} ions in the CsMnCl₃ crystals.

Nucleus	e ² qQ/h (MHz)	η	Principal axes	Reference
Cs(I) Cs(II)	$\begin{array}{c} 0.153 \pm 0.014 \\ 0.212 \pm 0.014 \end{array}$	0 0	Z = c $Z = c$	Present work
Cl(I) Cl(II)	5.2645 ± 0.0015 9.1835 ± 0.0015	0.2683 ± 0.0004 0.0234 ± 0.0004		[6]

Table 2. Quadrupole parameters of the NMR for CsMnCl₃ single crystals at room temperature.

5. Discussion and conclusions

The c axis of the CsMnCl₃ crystal has a three-fold symmetry. Therefore, the asymmetry parameter of the Cs nucleus, $\eta = 0$, is consistent with the crystal structure. The maximum separation of the resonance line due to the quadrupole interaction was observed when the magnetic field was applied along the c axis of the crystal. This direction is determined to be the Z axis of the EFG tensor. Cs(I) and Cs(II) in the unit cell have three and six atoms, respectively. The Cs NMR intensity ratio of approximately 1 to 2 enabled us to designate Cs(I) and Cs(II) in the unit cell. From the NMR results, Cs(I) and Cs(II) sites are clearly distinguished. While the quadrupole coupling constants of Cs(I) and Cs(II) are 0.153 MHz and 0.212 MHz, respectively, those of Cl(I) and Cl(II) are 5.26 MHz and 9.18 MHz, respectively. Thus, the quadrupole coupling constant of ¹³³Cs nucleus is smaller than that of the ³⁵Cl nucleus in the CsMnCl₃ crystal. This is qualitatively consistent with the longer bond length of Cs-Mn (4.563 Å) than of the shorter Cl-Mn (2.557 Å) bond, even if one considers the difference between the quadrupole moments of ¹³³Cs and ³⁵Cl. Further studies on the temperature dependence near T_C and T_N are currently being conducted using the Cs NMR and Mn EPR technique.

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