

# Determination of tetragonal crystalline electric field parameters for Yb<sup>3+</sup> and Ce<sup>3+</sup> ions from experimental *g*-factors values and energy levels of Kramers doublets

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The tetragonal crystalline electric field parameters for Yb<sup>3+</sup> and Ce<sup>3+</sup> ions are expressed via ground multiplet excited doublets energies and parameters defining doublets’ wave functions. The crystalline electric field parameters for Yb<sup>3+</sup> ion in YbRh<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, YbIr<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> and KMgF<sub>3</sub> crystals extracted from excited state doublets energies and *g*-factors of ground state doublet are compared with parameters determined in other works. {No more than 200 words. Use the MRSej style of paragraph named “\_MRSej\_Abstract” 10 pt Times New Roman }

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## 1. Introduction {Use the MRSej style of paragraph named “\_MRSej\_Section” 12 pt Times New Roman Bold }

Our work was initially stimulated by investigation of heavy-fermion Kondo lattice compounds. Very peculiar magnetic, thermal and transport properties of 4*f*-electron based heavy-fermion systems are determined by the interplay of the strong repulsion of 4*f*-electrons on the rare-earth ion sites, their hybridization with wide-band conduction electrons and an influence of the crystalline electric field. {For first paragraph use the MRSej style of paragraph named “\_MRSej\_TextNonIndent” 11 pt Times New Roman }

In this paper we present the detailed calculation of CEF parameters from energies of ground multiplet excited Kramers doublets and *g*-factors of ground state Kramers doublet. {Use the basic MRSej style of paragraph named “\_MRSe\_Text\_Main” 11 pt Times New Roman with factor 1.1 determining the line spacing }

## 2. Diagram of Yb<sup>3+</sup> *g*-factors

A free Yb<sup>3+</sup> ion has a 4*f*<sup>13</sup> configuration with one term <sup>2</sup>*F*. The spin-orbit interaction splits the <sup>2</sup>*F* term into two multiplets: <sup>2</sup>*F*<sub>7/2</sub> with *J* = 7/2 and <sup>2</sup>*F*<sub>5/2</sub> with *J* = 5/2, where *J* is value of the total momentum **J** = (*J*<sub>x</sub>, *J*<sub>y</sub>, *J*<sub>z</sub>). Multiplets are separated by about 1 eV [4]. The Hamiltonian of the Yb<sup>3+</sup> ion interaction with the tetragonal CEF could be written via equivalent operators *O*<sub>*k*</sub><sup>*q*</sup>(**J**) [4]: {Below we use the MRSej style of paragraph named “\_MRSej\_Eq” }

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$$H = \alpha B_2^0 O_2^0 + \beta (B_4^0 O_4^0 + B_4^4 O_4^4) + \gamma (B_6^0 O_6^0 + B_6^4 O_6^4),$$
 {One tab after} (1)

where *B*<sub>*k*</sub><sup>*q*</sup> are the CEF parameters,  $\alpha = 2/63$ ,  $\beta = -2/1155$ ,  $\gamma = 4/27027$  [4]. {After equations we use “\_MRSej\_TextNonIndent” or “\_MRSe\_Text\_Main” }

As follows from the group theory, the two-valued irreducible representation *D*<sup>7/2</sup> of rotation group contains two two-dimensional irreducible representations of the double tetragonal group [4].

**Table 1.** Energies, wave functions and g-factors of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ion in tetragonal crystalline electric field. {"\_MRSej\_table\_caption" 11 pt Times New Roman}

$E_{1,2} = -D \pm C / \cos \varphi_7$	$E_{3,4} = D \pm A / \cos \varphi_6$ {"_MRSej_tableIn"}
$ ^1\Gamma'_7 \uparrow, \downarrow\rangle = \pm c_1  \pm 5/2\rangle \pm c_2  \mp 3/2\rangle$	$ ^3\Gamma'_6 \uparrow, \downarrow\rangle = \pm a_1  \mp 7/2\rangle \pm a_2  \pm 1/2\rangle$
$ ^2\Gamma'_7 \uparrow, \downarrow\rangle = \mp c_2  \pm 5/2\rangle \pm c_1  \mp 3/2\rangle$	$ ^4\Gamma'_6 \uparrow, \downarrow\rangle = \mp a_2  \mp 7/2\rangle \pm a_1  \pm 1/2\rangle$
.....	.....
.....	.....

The former results correspond to bases  $|5/2\rangle, |-3/2\rangle$  and  $|-5/2\rangle, |3/2\rangle$ , the latter corresponding to bases  $|7/2\rangle, |-1/2\rangle$  and  $|-7/2\rangle, |1/2\rangle$ . It is convenient to introduce parameters  $C, A$  and  $D$ :

$$C = 4B_2^0/21 + 40B_4^0/77 - 560B_6^0/429, \quad A = 4B_2^0/7 + 8B_4^0/77 + 80B_6^0/143. \quad (2)$$

Since matrices (2) are diagonal in the bases of their eigenvectors we can find the relations between our angular parameters and CEF parameters:  $\tan \varphi_7 = C_3/C$ ,  $\tan \varphi_6 = A_3/A$ , it is enough to take  $-\pi/2 \leq \varphi_7, \varphi_6 \leq \pi/2$ .

EPR spectra of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ions {"\_MRSej\_SubSection" 12 pt Times New Roman Italic Underline}

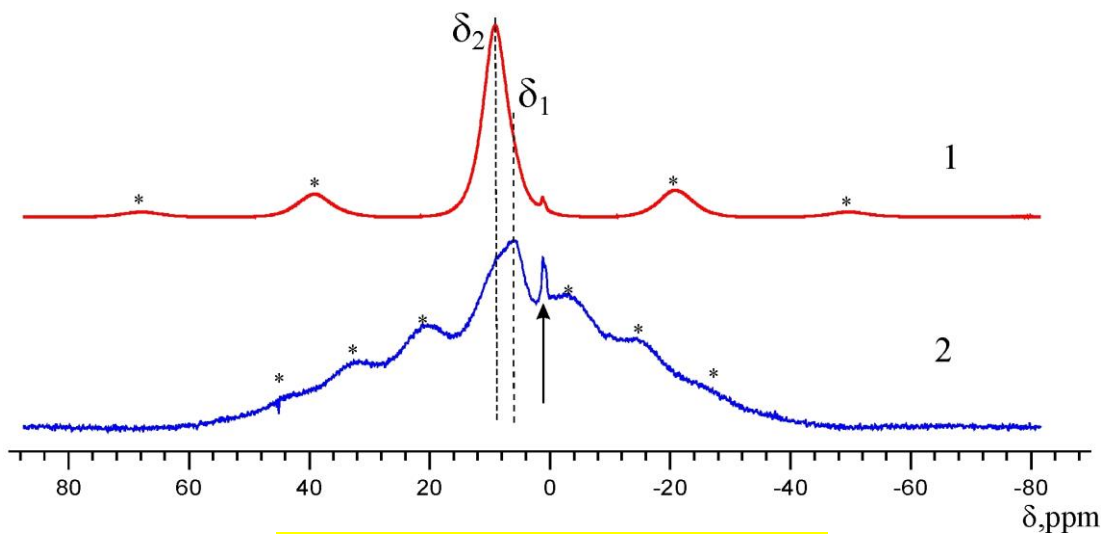
The Zeeman energy  $g_J \mu_B \mathbf{H} \mathbf{J}$  in the basis  $|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle$  of each doublet could be represented by matrix

$$H_{Zeeman} = g_{\parallel} \mu_B H_z S_z + g_{\perp} \mu_B (H_x S_x + H_y S_y), \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathbf{H}$  is the magnetic field,  $\mathbf{S}$  is the effective spin operator with  $S = 1/2$ ,  $\mu_B$  is the Bohr magneton,  $g_{\parallel}$  and  $g_{\perp}$  are g-factors when the field is applied parallel and perpendicular to the tetragonal z-axis, respectively (tab. 1) The field is applied parallel and perpendicular to the tetragonal z-axis, respectively.

EPR spectra in cubic symmetry case

In the case of cubic symmetry  $\tan \varphi_7 = -\sqrt{3}$ ,  $\tan \varphi_6 = -\sqrt{35}$ ,  $c_1 = \sqrt{3}/2$ ,  $c_2 = -1/2$ ,  $a_1 = \sqrt{7/12}$ ,  $a_2 = -\sqrt{5/12}$ . In accordance with expansion  $\Gamma_8 = \Gamma'_7 + \Gamma'_6$  [4] the doublets  $^2\Gamma'_7$  and  $^3\Gamma'_6$



{Figures and tables are inserted into tables}

**Figure 1.** The diagram of g-factors of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ion in tetragonal crystalline electric field and experimental g-points taken from literature (tab. 2). {"\_MRSej\_figure\_caption" 10 pt Times New Roman}

Using the least squares method the experimental values of  $g$ -factors (tab. 2) and experimental energy of whole  ${}^2F$  term levels have been taken into account. Obtained CEF parameters satisfy the experimental energy scheme of  ${}^2F$  term very well, but are reproduced by our expressions (9) only approximately (tab. 5).

**Table 2.** Experimental  $g$ -factors of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ion in tetragonal crystalline electric field given in figure 1.

	YbRh <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub> [1]	YbIr <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub> [2]
$ g_{\parallel} $	0.17(7)	0.85(1)
$ g_{\perp} $	3.561(6)	3.357(5)

#### 4. Calculation of CEF parameters for $\text{Yb}^{3+}$ ion. Comparison with another papers

Let us calculate the CEF parameters for the given excited state doublets energies  $\Delta_1 < \Delta_2 < \Delta_3$ . It follows from (3) that we find:

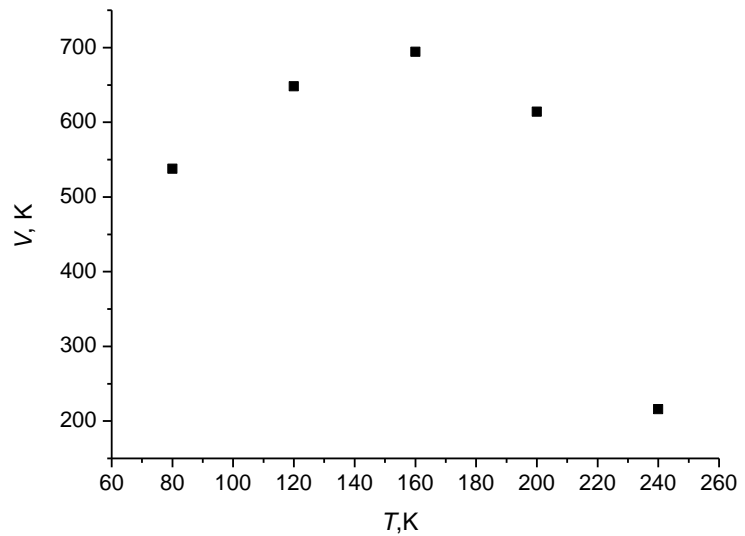
$$B_2^0 = \frac{1}{8}b + \frac{3}{4}b_6 \cos \varphi_6 + \frac{1}{4}b_7 \cos \varphi_7,$$

$$B_4^0 = -\frac{1}{4}b + \frac{1}{32}b_6 \cos \varphi_6 + \frac{5}{32}b_7 \cos \varphi_7, \quad B_4^4 = -\frac{7\sqrt{35}}{32}b_6 \sin \varphi_6 - \frac{35\sqrt{3}}{32}b_7 \sin \varphi_7, \quad (9)$$

$$B_6^0 = -\frac{13}{160}b + \frac{39}{320}b_6 \cos \varphi_6 - \frac{91}{320}b_7 \cos \varphi_7, \quad B_6^4 = \frac{117\sqrt{35}}{320}b_6 \sin \varphi_6 - \frac{273\sqrt{3}}{320}b_7 \sin \varphi_7,$$

In paper [7] CEF parameters of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ion in  $\text{KMgF}_3$  crystal have been found (tab. 5). Using the least squares method the experimental values of  $g$ -factors (tab. 2) and experimental energy of whole  ${}^2F$  term levels have been taken into account. Obtained CEF parameters satisfy the experimental energy scheme of  ${}^2F$  term very well, but are reproduced by our expressions (9) only approximately (tab. 5).

In this case  $g_{\parallel}$  and  $g_{\perp}$  are related by the equation  $g_{\parallel} + 2g_{\perp} + 8 = 14p_3^2$ , but as the admixture of excited  ${}^2F_{5/2}$  multiplet is small ( $p_3 = 0.00551$  [7]) we obtain previous relation  $g_{\parallel} + 2g_{\perp} + 8 = 0$ . On the diagram (fig. 1) we marked experimental values of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$   $g$ -factors in several crystals (see also tab. 2). This allows us to estimate the signs of  $g$ -factors and to make assumptions about the ground state Kramers doublet on the basis of measured absolute values of  $g$ -factors. For example, it is evident that the ground state doublet of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ion in  $\text{HfSiO}_4$  is  ${}^3\Gamma_6'$  and both parallel and perpendicular  $g$ -factors have a negative sign. The ground state doublet of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  ion in  $\text{KMgF}_3$  is  ${}^4\Gamma_6'$ , the sign of  $g_{\parallel}$  is positive, the sign of  $g_{\perp}$  is negative. In  $\text{CaF}_2$  crystal the tetragonal center of  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  is in state  ${}^1\Gamma_7'$  and the sign of  $g_{\parallel}$  is positive but the sign of  $g_{\perp}$  can be both positive and negative.



**Figure 2.** Temperature dependence of the strength of the potential  $V$  (see (6)), obtained from the simulation of  $C_{60}$  EPR spectra.

#### 4. Summary

For  $\text{Yb}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  ions all possible

sets of tetragonal crystalline electric field parameters that satisfy the given experimental energy scheme of ground multiplet are defined.

The earlier published CEF parameters for Yb<sup>3+</sup> ion in YbRh<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> and YbIr<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> crystals calculated with the use of least squares method could be obtained from our formulas (see tab. 5).

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