Spectrum and energy levels of the xenonlike ion Ce V

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The spectrum of four-times ionized cerium Ce v has been observed with a sliding-spark discharge and a 10.7-m normal-incidence vacuum spectrograph. A total of 107 lines have been classified as transitions between 51 energy levels. All levels of the $5p^6$, $5p^54f$, $5p^55d$, $5p^56p$, $5p^56p$, and $5p^56d$ configurations have been determined. Because of collapse of the 4f shell, the $5p⁵⁴f$ configuration is situated well below $5p^{5}5d$. Ab initio calculations and least-squares fits of the energy parameters to the experimental energy levels are reported. The ionization energy is revised to 527 100 \pm 2000 cm⁻¹ $(65.35 \pm 0.25 \text{ eV}).$

INTRODUCTION

The four-times ionized cerium atom Ce V is a member of the xenon isoelectronic sequence. The spectra of the first four ions of this sequence have been analyzed extensively.¹⁻⁴ However, in the case of Ce v, only the five resonance lines $5p^6 \cdot 5p^5(5d+6s)$ J = 1 have been reported.⁵ In the present work, we observed the spectrum of Ce v with a sliding-spark discharge and determined the complete level structures of the $5p^6$, $5p^54f$, 5d, 6s, 6p, and 6d configurations.

In neutral xenon and the first few members of the Xe isoelectronic sequence the ground state is $5p^{6}{}^{1}S_{0}$. Excited configurations are of the type $5p⁵nl$. Among these, the $5p⁵4f$ configuration has a nearly hydrogenic character and lies relatively high in the level system. However, because of the well-known collapse of the 4f shell in this region of the Periodic Table,^{6} the binding energy of the $5p⁵4f$ configuration increases dramatically with increasing atomic number Z. The $5p^54f$ configuration plunges downward through the level system and in La Iv overlaps $5p⁵5d$, formerly lowest of the excited configurations. This is illustrated in Fig. 1, where the relative energies of the low $5p⁵nl$ configurations of the first five Xe-like ions are plotted. As can be seen, the $5p^54f$ configuration drops rapidly in the level system after Cs II. Because of the proximity of the $5p^54f$ and $5p^55d$ configurations in La IV, many of the $4f$ -5d transitions lie in the infrared. This prevented Epstein and Reader⁴ from establishing more than six of the twelve levels of $5p^5nf$ in this ion. Our present work extends the knowledge of the $4f$ contraction by means of a comprehensive analysis of the Ce v term system in which all levels of $5p^{5}4f$ have been established.

EXPERIMENT

The spectra were photographed with the 10.7-m normal-incidence vacuum spectrograph at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The grating was ruled with 1200 lines/mm. The plate factor was 0.78 A/mm. The region of observation was 800—3200 A. The light source was a low-voltage sliding spark between metallic cerium electrodes, operated as described by Reader, Epstein, and Ekberg.⁷ Ionization stages of the lines were determined by comparing their intensities at various peak currents in the spark. The spectrum of Ce v was optically excited at a peak current of about 600 A. Lines of CeIII with wavelengths given by $Sugar^8$ were used as reference spectra.

FIG. 1. Isoelectronic survey of the five observed excited configurations of Ce v. ζ is the net charge of the atomic core. The points plotted correspond to the level of highest J value in each configuration. Values are from Refs. ¹—4 and the present work. The point for $5p^54f$ of La IV is a value predicted from the known levels of the configuration.

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 a Symbols: p , perturbed; b , blended.

Wavelength and intensity from Reader and Ekberg, Ref. 5.

 $\rm^c Wavelengths$ from measurements in third and fourth orders of present observations; intensity from Reader and Ekberg, Ref. 5.

The wavelengths, intensities, and wave numbers of the classified lines of Cev are given in Table I. All wavelengths are in vacuum. The estimated uncertainty of the wavelengths is ± 0.005 Å. The intensities are visual estimates of plate blackening.

SPECTRUM ANALYSIS AND ENERGY LEVELS

The analysis of the spectrum was based almost entirely on the use of recurring wave-number intervals to establish the levels. Because of the rapidly changing structure of xenonlike ions and the fact that not all $5p^54f$ levels are known in LaIv, only limited use could be made of isoelectronic graphs displaying the difference between observed and calculated wave numbers. Possible perturbation of the $5p⁵nl$ configurations by the doubly excited configuration $5p^44f^2$ and by core-excited configuration of the type $5s5p⁶nl$ added to the difficulty of using isoelectronic comparisons. Although transitions from the core-excited configurations $5s5p^{6}4f$ and $5s5p^{6}5d$ to $5s²5p⁵4f$ and $5s²5p⁵5d$ are expected to be strong, they lie outside our present region of observation.

0 Except for the line at 365.661 A, the resonance transitions given by Reader and Ekberg⁵ were all present in higher orders in our spectrograms. They could thus be measured to improved accuracy and used as a firm basis for extending the analysis. We first undertook analysis of the $5p⁵6s-6p$ transition array, which was expected to consist of a number of strong lines with predictable wavelengths. However, when this did not yield positive results the array was extended to include $5p^55d-6p$ transitions. With this extended array, all levels of the $5p^55d$, 6s, and 6p configurations could be established. The $5p^55d$ levels were later confirmed by transitions to $5p^54f$, all of whose levels could also be established. The levels of $5p^56d$ were determined through transitions to $5p^56p$. Efforts to locate levels of $5p^37s$ by means of transitions to $5p^36p$ were unsuccessful. Apparently, $5p^36p-7s$ transitions are not present in our spectra.

The experimental energy levels for Cev are given in Table II. The level values were determined by the computer code $ELCALC$, which uses an iterative procedure to minimize the differences between observed and calculated wave numbers. The uncertainties are those determined by the code. The levels are designated in pair-coupling notation. The eigenvector compositions resulting from least-squares fits described below are also given in the table.

A few levels are determined by only one or two transitions. These levels are well supported by the calculations and the isoelectronic trends. There is little doubt as to their reality. Transitions involving levels based on the upper parent state $5p^{52}P_{1/2}$ were generally much weaker than those involving levels based on $5p^{52}P_{3/2}$. Evidently levels based on $5p^{52}P_{1/2}$ are relatively underpopulated in the spark.

FIG. 2. The schematic diagram of predicted configurations of Ce v. Configurations between which transitions have been identified are joined by lines. Configurations noted as nl^* are of the type 5s5p⁶nl. The configuration noted as $4f^2$ represents $5p^44f^2$.

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THEORETICAL INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION

Figure 2 shows the predicted positions of the primary configurations of Ce v. The predictions were made with the relativistic Hartree-Fock (HF) code of Cowan.¹⁰ The level structures of the experimentally observed configurations are shown in Fig. 3. The levels are designated in pair coupling, with the K value noted for each pair. As can be seen, the coupling deviates significantly from pure pair coupling for the observed configurations.

The levels were interpreted by first making an *ab initio* calculation of the energy parameters for all configurations in Fig. 2 with the Cowan code.¹⁰ The code was run in the Hartree-Fock relativistic (HFR) mode with no scaling of the parameters. In this mode the relativistic mass correction and the Darwin term are included in the self-consistent-field calculation of the radial part of the wave function. This results in a relativistic contraction of the electron orbitals, which must be present in the calculation in order to obtain realistic values of the

energy parameters. The radial part of the wave function was optimized individually for each configuration without keeping the core frozen.

After the energy levels were established, the energy parameters were fit to the levels by the least-squares fitting routine of the Cowan code. Only experimentally observed configurations were included in the least-squares calculations. The fitted values of the parameters are compared with the HF values in Table III. The leading eigenvector percentages for each level are given in Table II.

The deviations from pure pair coupling seen in Fig. 3 and the low pair-coupling percentages in Table II are the result of large electrostatic exchange interactions between the $5p⁵$ core electrons and the valence electron. For a configuration such as $5p^{5}4f$ these interactions are usually small and the coupling nearly pure pair coupling. However, collapse of the 4f orbital causes increased electrostatic interaction between the $5p$ and $4f$ electrons, with the consequent deviation from pure pair coupling for the

FIG. 3. Level structures of the observed configurations of Ce v. Levels belonging to $5p⁵$ are shown as dashed lines. Levels are designated in pair coupling with the K value indicated for each pair. The J value of the core is not shown.

Configuration

 $5p^54f$

 $5p^6$

 $5p\,{}^56p$

 $5p\,{}^6\text{-}5p\,{}^5\text{4}f$ $5p\,{}^6\text{-}5p\,{}^5\text{6}p$

 $5p\,{}^56p\,{}^-5p\,{}^54f$

Mean error $5p^55d$

 $5p^56s$

 $5p^56d$

 $5p\,{}^55d - 5p\,{}^56s$

 $5p\,{}^55d - 5p\,{}^56d$

Mean error

9 178 ¹ 217

435

9 178' ¹ 217'

TABLE III. Energy parameters in cm^{-1} and mean errors Δ of least-squares fits for Ce v.

'Fixed at HF value.

 $5p^56d - 5p^56s$ $R^2(5p6d, 5p6s)$

 Δ

 $R^1(5p6d, 6s5p)$

Ratio of fitted value $5p⁵4f$ configuration.

As seen in Fig. 3 the $5p^5$ 6s $3/2$ $[3/2]_1$ and $5p^{5}$ 5d 1/2 [3/2], levels have nearly the same energies. In principal these levels should interact strongly because each has significant ${}^{1}P$ character. According to the eigenvectors calculated with the fitted parameter values the $5p^5$ 6s level has 63% ¹P character and the $5p^5$ 5d level 91% ¹P character. However, as seen in Table II there is almost no admixture of configurations for these levels. The complete eigenvectors indicate an admixture of only about 0.4%. This low level of mixing is confirmed by the absence of $5p^5$ 6s $3/2$ $[3/2]_1$ – $5p^5$ 4 f transitions in the observed spectrum. This is also suggested by the isoelect-
ronic curves of Reader and Epstein,¹¹ which show these ronic curves of Reader and Epstein,¹¹ which show these two levels to cross in Ce v with no apparent perturbation. This unusual absence of perturbation is attributable to the fact that the coefficients of $R^2(5p5d, 5p6s)$ and $R^{1}(5p5d, 6s5p)$ in the matrix element for the ¹P-¹P interaction have opposite signs, producing an almost complete cancellation of the interaction for the present values of the parameters. (The ${}^{1}P-{}^{1}P$ matrix element is given by $2^{1/2}$ [R^2 (5pd, 5p6s)/5-2 R^1 (5p5d, 6s5p)/3].)

Some of the ratios of the fitted to HF values in Table III differ significantly from unity, most notably $F^2(5p6p)$, $G^2(5p6p)$, $G^1(5p6s)$, and $G^1(5p6d)$. This is probably due to perturbations by core-excited configurations. configurations.

In Fig. 4 we plot the radial wave functions calculated with the Cowan code for the 4f electron of the $5p^34f$ configuration in the first five ions of the xenon isoelectronic sequence. As described by Goeppert Mayer,⁶ the collapse of the $4f$ shell is caused by a deepening of an inner well in the effective potential for f electrons to the point that a bound state can exist in the inner region. The wave function for Xe, shown in Fig. 4, is practically hydrogenic. The wave function for Cs II is nearly hydrogenic, but has some increased amplitude in the inner region, even though the inner well is not deep enough to support a bound state. In Ba III the $4f$ wave function is almost fully collapsed. In La_{IV} and Cev the $4f$ wave functions are fully collapsed. The appearance of these wave functions closely resembles those calculated by Lucatorto et al.¹² and Cheng and Froese Fischer¹³ for the $4f$ electron in the $4d^{9}4f5s^{2}5p^{6}$ configurations of Xe-like ions.

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FIG. 4. Configuration-average radial wave functions for the $4f$ electron of the $5p^{5}4f$ configuration in xenonlike ions from Xe I to Ce v.

IONIZATION ENERGY

In Ref. 11 an ionization energy for Ce v of 528700 ± 2000 cm⁻¹ was derived by using extrapolated values for the $J=1$ levels of $5p^57s$ and an assumed value is 1.050 ± 0.005 for the change in quantum defect between the $5p^5$ 6s and $5p^5$ 7s configurations, $\Delta n*(7s-6s)$. With our present data for the $5p^55d$ and $5p^56d$ configurations we are able to obtain a second value for this ionization energy. Considering only the $J=4$ levels of these two configurations we find $\Delta n^*(6d - 5d) = 1.15475(3)$ for Cs II (Ref. 2), $1.1884(6)$ for Ba III (Ref. 3), and $1.164(9)$ for La IV (Ref. 4). Assuming $\Delta n^* = 1.17(2)$ for Ce V, we obtain a limit of 525 100 \pm 2600 cm⁻¹. For the ionization energy we adopt a weighted average of the two vlaues, $527\,100\pm2000\,$ cm⁻¹ (65.35 \pm 0.25 eV).

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