

# Magnetic behavior near the boundary of 4*f* delocalization in ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> observed by Ce *M*<sub>4,5</sub> XAS and XMCD

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X-ray absorption (XAS) and its magnetic circular dichroism (XMCD) were measured at the Ce *M*<sub>4,5</sub> absorption edges of ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>: both compounds are considered to be located near the boundary of delocalization of Ce 4*f* electrons. While the XAS line shape varies clearly reflecting the variation in the 4*f* delocalization, the line-shape variation in XMCD is hardly discernible under various conditions of temperature and magnetic field. The XAS line-shape variation can be explained as effects of the variations in the 4*f* occupation number and in the ratio of  $J = 7/2$  states in the ground states, both of which are closely related to the 4*f* delocalization. The 4*f* delocalization also causes a decrease in the ratio of the orbital magnetic moment to the spin magnetic moment. The magnetic-field dependence of XAS suggests that the Ce 4*f* electrons retain a delocalized character across the metamagnetic transition in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

The physical properties of cerium compounds are widely variable by controlling temperature, external field, pressure, stoichiometry, and so on, and they are summarized as the Doniach phase diagram,<sup>1,2</sup> as shown in Fig. 1. The Doniach phase diagram assumes that the competing relation between the Ruderman-Kittel-Kasuya-Yosida (RKKY) interaction and the Kondo effect is described as a function of  $J_{cf}D(\epsilon_F)$ , where  $J_{cf}$  denotes the magnitude of magnetic exchange interaction and  $D(\epsilon_F)$  is the electronic density of states at the Fermi level  $\epsilon_F$ . In the small  $J_{cf}D(\epsilon_F)$  region, the Ce 4*f* electrons have a localized nature and magnetic order is realized below the magnetic transition temperature ( $T_{mag}$  in Fig. 1). As  $J_{cf}D(\epsilon_F)$  increases, the Kondo effect is overcoming the RKKY interaction, thus suppressing the magnetic order, and the Ce 4*f* electrons form an itinerant heavy fermion state. The disappearance of magnetic order defines a quantum critical point (QCP) with a possible delocalization of Ce 4*f* electrons and an unconventional superconductivity is often found in the vicinity of QCP.<sup>3</sup>

The CeRu<sub>2</sub>(Ge<sub>1-x</sub>Si<sub>x</sub>)<sub>2</sub> system, where the Si atoms are substituted for the Ge atoms of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> with the tetragonal ThCr<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> structure, is a good example of the system describable within the Doniach phase diagram. CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> shows a ferromagnetic order below the Curie temperature  $T_C \approx 7.5$  K.<sup>4,5</sup> The Ce 4*f* electrons of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> are considered to be localized, because the Fermi surfaces obtained from the de Haas-van Alphen (dHvA) and angle-resolved photoelectron spectroscopy (ARPES) experiments<sup>6-8</sup> are consistent with the theoretically obtained Fermi surfaces including no 4*f* electrons.<sup>9</sup> The magnetic order turns from ferromagnetic to antiferromagnetic with the substitution of the Si atoms for the Ge atoms, i.e., increase of  $x$  in CeRu<sub>2</sub>(Ge<sub>1-x</sub>Si<sub>x</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, and it vanishes above the critical composition  $x_c \approx 0.93$ .<sup>10-12</sup> The substitution is interpreted as a chemical pressure. In CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, the Ce 4*f* electrons are considered to form a

heavy fermion state below the Kondo temperature  $T_K$  of 20–25 K with a large value of specific heat coefficient  $\gamma \approx 350$  mJ/(mol K<sup>2</sup>).<sup>13-15</sup> The itinerant nature of the Ce 4*f* electrons below  $T_K$  is suggested from a comparison of the Fermi surfaces between the experimental (dHvA and ARPES) and the theoretical results.<sup>16-24</sup> On the other hand, CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> shows a metamagnetic transition above the critical field  $H_M \approx 7.7$  T along the [001] direction,<sup>25,26</sup> indicating that CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> is located near the boundary of an emergence of magnetic order or the boundary of 4*f* localization.

In comparison between CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, it is an important issue to clarify what kind of differences in the Ce 4*f* electronic states bring about the emergence or the absence of magnetic order in the ground state. X-ray magnetic circular dichroism (XMCD) reveals the magnetic polarization effect on a certain electron orbital of a specific element in a compound as a variation in the line shape of x-ray-absorption (XAS) spectra measured at the selected absorption edges, and hence is a useful experimental technique to investigate the relationship between magnetism and electronic states. The information about the magnetism of Ce 4*f* electrons is obtained from the XMCD spectra measured at the Ce *M*<sub>4,5</sub> ( $3d \rightarrow 4f$ ) absorption edges. Authors of the previous experimental works of Ce *M*<sub>4,5</sub> XMCD reported that a difference in the line shape of the XMCD spectra was observed on several Ce compounds.<sup>27,28</sup> In these works, the difference in the XMCD line shape was attributed to the different strength of hybridization between Ce 4*f* and conduction electrons (*c-f* hybridization). Since the increase of the *c-f* hybridization should enhance the delocalization of Ce 4*f* electrons, the line shape of Ce *M*<sub>4,5</sub> XMCD may be different between CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>.

In this work, we have measured the Ce *M*<sub>4,5</sub> XMCD of ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> below  $T_C$  and paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> below  $T_K$  in order to clarify the difference of the XAS and the XMCD spectra between the 4*f*-localized and the 4*f*-delocalized states. Another important issue for CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> is whether the Ce 4*f* electrons are localized or not at the

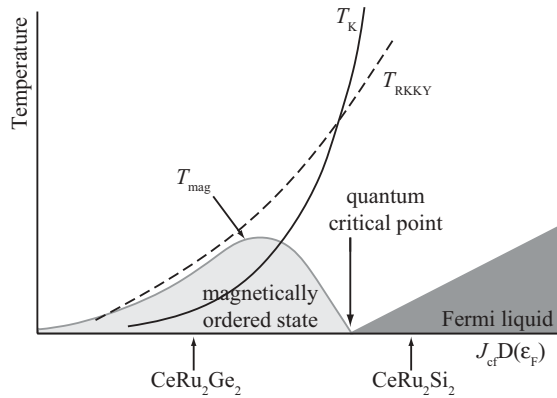


FIG. 1. Typical Doniach phase diagram.  $T_{\text{RKKY}}$  and  $T_{\text{K}}$  denote characteristic temperatures of RKKY interaction and Kondo effect, respectively.  $T_{\text{mag}}$  indicates a magnetic ordering temperature.

high-field state above the critical field  $H_{\text{M}} \approx 7.7$  T of the metamagnetic transition.<sup>11,12,16–18</sup> Therefore we carried out a comparison of the XAS and the XMCD spectra below and above  $H_{\text{M}}$ . Also we investigated the temperature dependence of the line shape of the XAS and the XMCD spectra, since it is also a general issue whether the itinerant Ce  $4f$  electrons in the heavy fermion state become localized at high temperatures above the Kondo temperature  $T_{\text{K}}$ .<sup>1</sup> The application of the sum rule<sup>29,30</sup> to the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD, which was once doubted on the validity of the spin sum rule by the previous Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD experiments,<sup>27</sup> is carefully examined for the data of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>.

## II. EXPERIMENT

The samples of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> were single crystals grown by the Czochralski pulling method in a tetra-arc furnace under high-purity argon gas atmosphere. They were annealed for a week at 900 °C under vacuum. Details of the sample preparation are described in Ref. 12.

The XMCD measurements at the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  edges were performed at the beamline BL23SU of SPring-8.<sup>31,32</sup> In the XMCD measurements, a magnetic field up to 10 T, produced by a superconducting magnet, was applied to the sample along the [001] direction, which is an easy axis of magnetization, while circularly polarized x rays irradiated the sample along the same direction. A combination of the operations of both the monochromator and the twin helical undulator brings about a helicity switching of circular polarization by 1 Hz at each energy.<sup>33</sup> XAS spectra were obtained by the total electron yield method. XMCD signals were obtained by reversing the helicity of x rays under the fixed direction of the magnetic field, or by reversing the direction of the magnetic field under the fixed x-ray helicity. The samples were cooled by a liquid-helium cryostat and the temperature was controlled in the range between 4.6 and 250 K.

## III. RESULTS

### A. XMCD and magnetic field dependence

Figure 2 presents the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> in the ferromagnetic state and of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> in

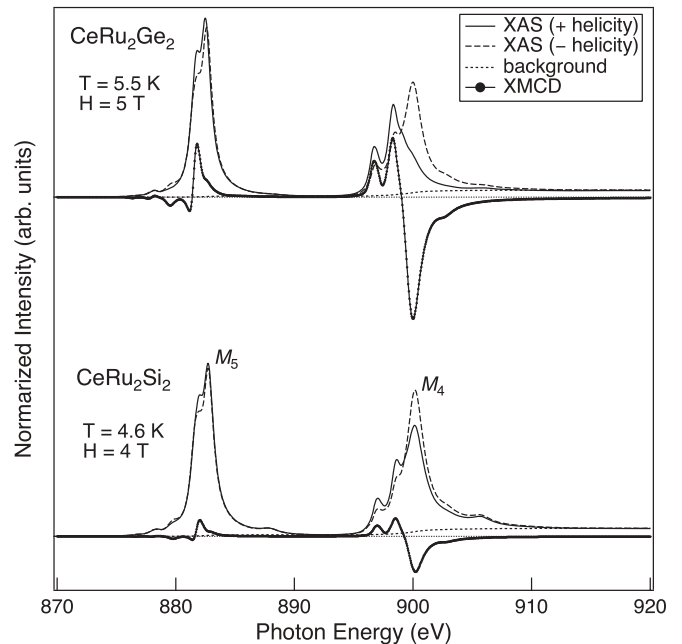


FIG. 2. XAS and XMCD spectra at the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  edges of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>. The spectra of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> were measured at the sample temperature of 5.5 K under the magnetic field of 5 T in the ferromagnetic state, and the spectra of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> were measured at 4.6 K under 4 T in the paramagnetic state. Each of the spectra has been normalized to the unity at the  $M_5$  peak of the XAS spectrum. Backgrounds of the XAS spectra were assumed to be an integral type as indicated in the figure.

the paramagnetic state. The XAS spectra measured with the helicity of circularly polarized x rays parallel and antiparallel to the direction of the magnetization are denoted by “+ helicity” and “– helicity,” respectively. The XMCD spectra were obtained as a difference of the XAS spectra measured with + and – helicities. The magnitude of the XMCD signal is larger in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> than in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, reflecting the magnitude of the magnetic moment of the Ce  $4f$  electrons. As seen in Fig. 2, the line shapes of the XAS and the XMCD spectra are almost identical to the results in the previous works.<sup>19,27,28,34</sup>

Figure 3 demonstrates the magnetic field dependencies of the intensity of the dominant XMCD peak at the  $M_4$  edge of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>. The data of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> at 5.5 K indicates a clear ferromagnetic transition, while a paramagnetic linear dependence is observed at 20 K. A metamagnetic transition at  $H_{\text{M}} \approx 7.7$  T is unclear in the data of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> at 4.6 K, since clear transition would be observed at the temperature below 2 K.<sup>25</sup> However, the difference between 4.6 and 10 K demonstrates that a trace of the metamagnetic transition appears as a slight hump at around 7.7 T, and thus the metamagnetic transition can be tracked even at the temperature of 4.6 K. The upturn of the difference in the range 0–4 T is understood as a temperature dependence of Brillouin function.

### B. Comparison of line shape

Fine structures in the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS spectra are understood as multiplet structures of the final states of the absorption process from the  $4f^1$  and  $4f^0$  configurations in the initial

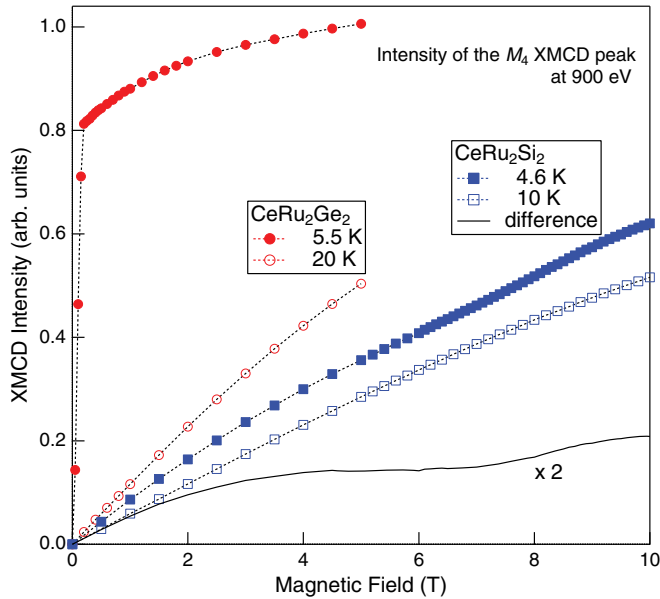


FIG. 3. (Color online) Magnetic field dependencies of the intensity of the dominant  $M_4$  XMCD peak at 900 eV. Red closed and open circles with dotted lines denote the data of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  measured below  $T_C$  (5.5 K) and above  $T_C$  (20 K). Blue closed and open squares with dotted lines denote the data of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  measured at 4.6 and at 10 K, respectively. Solid curve indicates the difference between 4.6 and 10 K.

state, while the contribution of the  $4f^2$  initial configuration is negligibly small.<sup>35–37</sup> Both in the  $M_5$  and the  $M_4$  XAS spectra, satellite structures originated from the  $4f^0$  configuration in the ground state, which will be referred to as “ $f^0$  satellite” hereafter, appear at the higher energy side of the leading XAS peak.<sup>35</sup> It is generally considered that, as the  $f^0$  satellite becomes stronger, the number of Ce  $4f$  electrons decreases from 1.0, indicating that the Ce  $4f$  electrons becomes more delocalized due to an increase of the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization.

On the other hand, the line shape of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD spectra is understood as multiplet structures arising almost only from the  $4f^1$  configuration in the ground state, since the  $4f^0$  configuration does not contribute to the magnetism. From the atomic multiplet calculation,<sup>36</sup> a variation of the XMCD line shape appears as the mixing ratio between the  $J = 5/2$  and  $J = 7/2$  states of the  $4f^1$  configuration, depending on the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength.<sup>28,37</sup> Since different degrees of  $4f$  delocalization due to the different strengths of the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization are possibly realized in the states between (1) ferromagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and paramagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , (2) below and above the critical field  $H_M$  of the metamagnetic transition of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , and (3) below and above the Kondo temperature  $T_K$  of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , we have examined differences of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD line shapes for the above-mentioned three comparisons.

### 1. Ferromagnetic $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ and paramagnetic $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$

Figure 4 demonstrates a comparison of line shapes of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra between ferromagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and paramagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ . The XAS spectra were obtained as a half of the sum of the XAS spectra measured

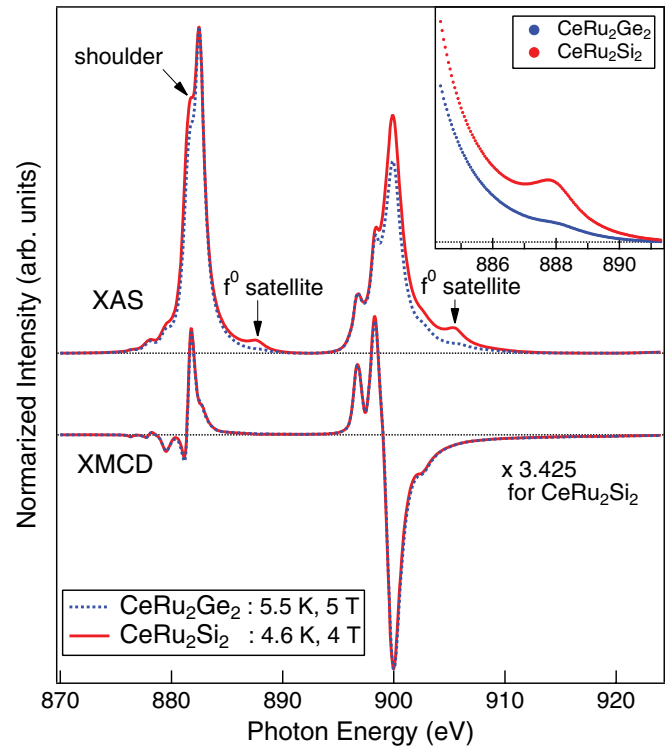


FIG. 4. (Color online) Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of ferromagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  (blue broken line) and paramagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  (red solid line). Conditions on temperature and magnetic field are the same as in Fig. 2. Integral-type backgrounds in Fig. 2 have been subtracted for the XAS spectra in Figs. 4–6. The intensities of the XAS and the XMCD spectra have been normalized to the intensity of the dominant XAS peak at the  $M_5$  edge, while the intensity of the XMCD spectrum of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  has been multiplied by 3.425. The inset presents a magnified view of the  $f^0$  satellite at the  $M_5$  edge.

with + and – helicities. The intensities have been adjusted so that the dominant  $M_5$  peak coincides in the XAS spectra and the dominant negative  $M_4$  peak coincides in the XMCD spectra between  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  for the sake of the comparison of the line shapes.

Comparing the XAS line shapes, the  $f^0$  satellite structures are clearly observed both at the  $M_5$  and the  $M_4$  edges of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , while the  $f^0$  satellite is negligibly small in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  even in the magnified view of the  $f^0$  satellite region shown in the inset of Fig. 4. The results indicate that the occupation number of the Ce  $4f$  electrons slightly decreases from 1.0 in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , while the  $4f$  occupation number nearly equals 1.0 in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ . The results are consistent with the previously suggested picture that the Ce  $4f$  electrons form an itinerant heavy fermion state in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , while the Ce  $4f$  electrons of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  are almost localized.

Another noticeable difference in the XAS line shape between  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  is that the branching ratio  $B_R = I(M_5)/[I(M_5) + I(M_4)]$ , where  $I(M_5)$  and  $I(M_4)$  denote the integrated XAS intensities at the  $M_5$  and the  $M_4$  absorption edges, respectively, decreases from  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  to  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ . The estimated  $B_R$  values are 0.518 and 0.489 for  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , respectively. It is noteworthy that these estimated  $B_R$  values are substantially larger than the theoretically obtained maximum  $B_R$  value of 0.46 for the  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$

ion obtained by the atomic calculation.<sup>35</sup> The other difference in the XAS line shape is that the shoulder structure, which is located at the lower energy side of the leading  $M_5$  XAS peak, is stronger in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  than in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ .

In contrast, the XMCD line shapes of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  are almost identical and overlap with each other, contrary to our expectation. An important point here is that the intensity ratio between the  $M_4$  and the  $M_5$  components of the XMCD spectra is almost the same between  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ , even though the  $M_4:M_5$  intensity ratio is remarkably different in the XAS spectra. In addition, the difference in the intensity of the shoulder structure of the  $M_5$  XAS spectra does not bring about a difference in the XMCD line shape. On the other hand, it is reasonable that the difference of the strength of the  $f^0$  satellite produces no effect in the XMCD spectra, because the  $f^0$  configuration in the initial states should not contribute to the magnetism.

## 2. $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ below and above $H_M$

If the Ce  $4f$  electrons of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  above  $H_M$  of the metamagnetic transition were localized as in ferromagnetic  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ , the line shapes of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra would be changed. However, the  $4f$  electron nature is considered to be continuous around the metamagnetic transition, and is rapidly smeared out with a slight increase of temperature even below 4 K.<sup>10,38,39</sup> Therefore our measurement temperature of 4.6 K is insufficient to observe a clear change of the  $4f$  electron nature around the metamagnetic transition. Nevertheless, the metamagnetic transition at  $H_M \approx$

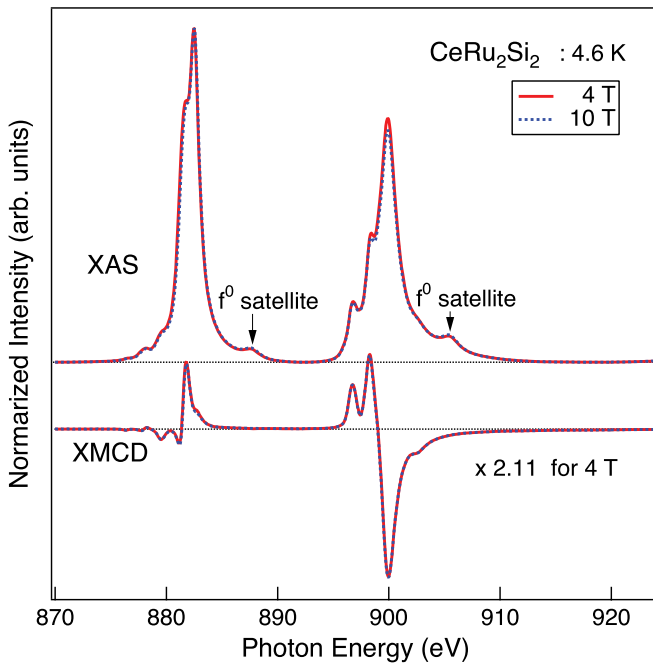


FIG. 5. (Color online) Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  measured at 4.6 K under the magnetic field of 4 T (red solid line) and 10 T (blue broken line). The intensities of XAS and the XMCD spectra have been normalized to the intensity of dominant XAS peak at the  $M_5$  edge, while the intensity of the XMCD spectrum at 4 T has been multiplied by 2.11.

7.7 T was traced in the magnetic field dependence of the XMCD intensity, as shown in Fig. 3.

Figure 5 presents a comparison of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  measured under the magnetic field below  $H_M$  (4 T) and above  $H_M$  (10 T). The intensities of the spectra presented here are adjusted in the same way as used in Fig. 4. Invariance of the  $f^0$  satellite indicates that the  $4f$  occupation number is unchanged along the metamagnetic transition and remains to be deviated from unity even above  $H_M$ . On the other hand, one can see that the peak top at the  $M_4$  edge is slightly lower at 10 T than at 4 T. This brings about a slight increase of  $B_R$  from 0.489 at 4 T to 0.493 at 10 T. The XMCD line shape shows no noticeable changes along the metamagnetic transition.

## 3. Temperature dependence

In heavy fermion Ce compounds, it is often suggested that Ce  $4f$  electrons, which are itinerant below  $T_K$ , are possibly localized at temperatures above  $T_K$ , since the high-temperature behavior of the magnetic susceptibility is explained by the Curie-Weiss-type behavior of the  $\text{Ce}^{3+}$  ion. Figure 6 shows a comparison of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  and measured at the temperature of 4.6 K, which is below  $T_K \approx 20$  K, and at 150 and 250 K far above  $T_K$ . The Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  at 5.5 K, which is below  $T_C$ , and 250 K are also shown in the figure. All the spectra here were measured under magnetic fields that are sufficient to establish the magnetic orders at low temperatures. The intensities of the spectra have been adjusted in the same way as used in Fig. 4.

Interestingly, while the XAS line shapes of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  measured at 4.6 and 150 K almost coincide with each other, the intensity of the  $f^0$  satellite structure clearly decreases at 250 K. For the XAS spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ , the peak top at the  $M_4$  edge is higher in 250 K than in 5.5 K, indicating a slight decrease of  $B_R$  from 0.518 at 5.5 K to 0.509 at 250 K. These variations in the XAS line shape shall be discussed in Sec. IV B.

In the comparison of the XMCD spectra, a clear temperature variation in the line shape has not been observed in both  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ , taking into account the poorer S/N ratio of the XMCD signals measured at 250 K. Combined with the results in Secs. III B1 and III B2, it is concluded that the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD line shape is less sensitive to the small variation in electronic structures than the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS line shape.

## IV. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

### A. Sum-rule analysis

One can quantitatively estimate the values of the orbital magnetic moment  $\mu_L$  and the spin magnetic moment  $\mu_S$  of Ce  $4f$  electrons by applying the orbital and spin sum rules,<sup>29,30</sup>

$$\frac{\langle L_z \rangle}{3n_h} = \frac{\int_{M_4+M_5} \Delta\gamma(E) dE}{\frac{3}{2} \int_{M_4+M_5} \gamma(E) dE}, \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{2 \langle S_z \rangle + 3 \langle T_z \rangle}{3} = \frac{\int_{M_5} \Delta\gamma(E) dE - \frac{3}{2} \int_{M_4} \Delta\gamma(E) dE}{\frac{3}{2} \int_{M_4+M_5} \gamma(E) dE}, \quad (2)$$



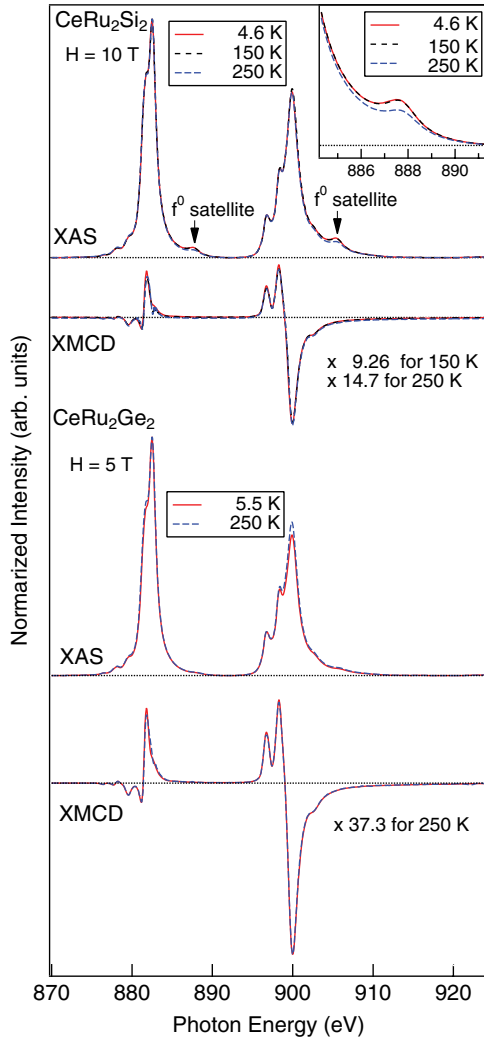


FIG. 6. (Color online) Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  measured at 4.6 K (red solid line), 150 K (dotted line), and 250 K (blue broken line) under the magnetic field of 10 T, and of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  measured at 5.5 K (red solid line) and 250 K (blue broken line) under 5 T. The intensities of XAS and the XMCD spectra have been normalized to the intensity of the dominant XAS peak at the  $M_5$  edge, while the intensities have been multiplied by 9.26 and 14.7 for the XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  at 150 and 250 K, respectively, and by 37.3 for the XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  at 250 K. The inset shows a magnified view of the  $f^0$  satellite at the  $M_5$  edge.

to the integrated intensities of Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra. Here,  $\langle L_z \rangle$ ,  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , and  $\langle T_z \rangle$  are the expectation values with respect to the  $z$  component of the orbital angular momentum, the spin angular momentum, and the magnetic dipole operator of the 4f shell, respectively.  $\gamma(E)$  represents the energy dependence of XAS spectrum, which is equal to  $[\gamma_+(E) + \gamma_-(E)]/2$ , where  $\gamma_+(E)$  and  $\gamma_-(E)$  denote XAS spectra measured with a circular polarization of + and - helicities, respectively. Then,  $\Delta\gamma(E)$ , which is equal to  $\gamma_+(E) - \gamma_-(E)$ , describes the energy dependence of XMCD spectrum.  $n_h$  is the number of holes in the 4f shell, and will be assumed to be 13.0 in the calculation hereafter, since the 4f occupation number is close to 1.0 both in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ . Then, one can estimate the orbital and spin

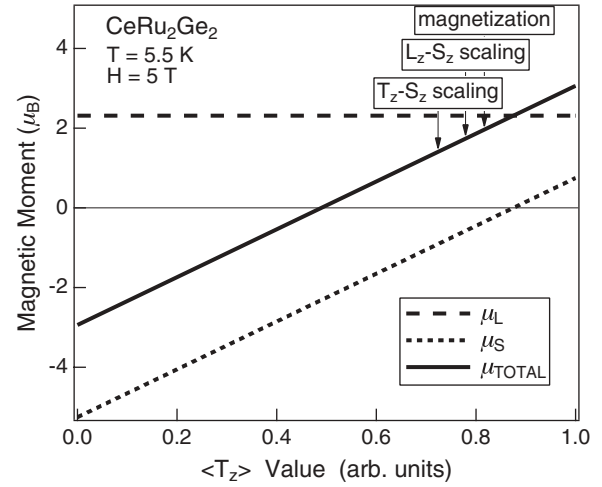


FIG. 7.  $\langle T_z \rangle$  dependencies of the orbital magnetic moment  $\mu_L$  (broken line), the spin magnetic moment  $\mu_S$  (dotted line), and the total magnetic moment  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$  (solid line) of Ce 4f electrons estimated from the application of the sum rule to the integrated intensity of the XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  measured at 5.5 K under the magnetic field of 5 T.

magnetic moments of Ce 4f electrons as  $\mu_L = -\langle L_z \rangle \mu_B$ ,  $\mu_S = -2\langle S_z \rangle \mu_B$ , and the total magnetic moment as  $\mu_{\text{TOT}} = \mu_L + \mu_S$ .

In the previous Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD work,<sup>27</sup> it was suggested that the spin sum rule of Eq. (2) is invalid for Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD and cannot be used to deduce the spin contribution to the 4f moment, while the orbital sum rule of Eq. (1) is applicable still. The reason for the disability of the spin sum rule would be imposed from the fact that Coulomb interaction mixes spin-orbit-split states for the case of Ce  $M_{4,5}$  absorption edges, since the energy separation between the  $M_5$  and the  $M_4$  edges induced from the spin-orbit parameter is not sufficiently large compared to the Slater integrals.<sup>35–37</sup> On the other hand, in the case of the magnetism of electrons which possess more or less a localized nature, the magnitude of  $\langle T_z \rangle$ , which cannot be experimentally determined, is expected to be comparable to that of  $\langle S_z \rangle$ . Therefore different ways of estimation of  $\langle T_z \rangle$  result in a wide variation in the estimated value of  $\mu_S$ .

Figure 7 demonstrates the  $\langle T_z \rangle$  dependencies of the values of  $\mu_L$ ,  $\mu_S$ , and  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$  evaluated from the application of Eqs. (1) and (2) to the integrated intensities of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  in the ferromagnetic states (5.5 K, 5 T). The magnetization value<sup>5</sup> of  $\approx 1.96\mu_B$  at 4.2 K under 5 T is indicated by an arrow inscribed as “magnetization” in Fig. 7 for comparison. One can notice from the  $\langle T_z \rangle$  dependencies of the estimated magnetic moments that the assumption of  $\langle T_z \rangle = 0$  brings about a serious overestimation of  $\mu_S$ , resulting in the wrong sign of  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$ . Therefore the assumption of negligible  $\langle T_z \rangle$ , which is frequently used in the case of  $L_{2,3}$  XMCD for 3d transition-metal compounds, is inappropriate in the case of Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD.

Another way to evaluate  $\mu_L$ ,  $\mu_S$ , and  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$  from the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra without the spin sum rule is as follows. Assuming that  $\langle S_z \rangle$  is scaled with  $\langle L_z \rangle$  and the ratio  $\langle L_z \rangle / \langle S_z \rangle$  in the Hund’s rule states is applicable,  $\mu_S$  is evaluated from the  $\mu_L$  value estimated from the orbital sum

rule of Eq. (1) and the ratio  $\langle L_z \rangle / \langle S_z \rangle$ . The assumption is not going too far, since the magnetic behavior of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> are described by the Hund's rule  $4f^{12}F_{5/2}$  states as discussed in Sec. IV B. The ratio  $\langle L_z \rangle / \langle S_z \rangle$  in the  $4f^{12}F_{5/2}$  states is equal to  $-8$ , resulting in  $\mu_L / \mu_S = -4$ . Thus the spin component is obtained as  $\mu_S = -\mu_L / 4$ . The value of  $\mu_{\text{TOT}} = \mu_L + \mu_S$  evaluated in this method is indicated by an arrow inscribed as “ $\langle L_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling” in Fig. 7. Although the sum rule analysis in the  $\langle L_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling provides the  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$  value close to the magnetization value, the assumption of the fixed ratio of  $\mu_L / \mu_S$  seems to be unreasonable for the case when the degree of  $4f$  delocalization is different. To put it in the other way, we cannot discuss the degree of  $4f$  delocalization from the analysis of the XMCD spectra using the  $\langle L_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling.

Therefore we adopt the third way to evaluate the magnetic moments, which uses the spin sum rule as follows. By assuming that  $\langle T_z \rangle$  is scaled with  $\langle S_z \rangle$ , we can eliminate the  $\langle T_z \rangle$  term from Eq. (2). The ratio  $\langle T_z \rangle / \langle S_z \rangle$  is calculated using the theoretical expectation values of  $\langle T_z \rangle$  and  $\langle S_z \rangle$  for the Hund's rule states.<sup>40</sup> Using Eq. (17) and the values of Table VI in Ref. 40, the expectation values of  $\langle T_z \rangle$  and  $\langle S_z \rangle$  are calculated as  $\langle T_z \rangle = -\langle w^{211} \rangle / 3 = 4/7$  and  $\langle S_z \rangle = -\langle w^{011} \rangle / 2 = 5/14$ , resulting in  $\langle T_z \rangle / \langle S_z \rangle = 8/5$ . Using the value of  $\langle T_z \rangle / \langle S_z \rangle$ , the  $\langle T_z \rangle$  term in Eq. (2) is eliminated and thus  $\mu_S$  will be evaluated using Eq. (2). The value of  $\mu_{\text{TOT}}$  evaluated in this method is indicated by an arrow inscribed as “ $\langle T_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling” in Fig. 7. The  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$  values estimated from the sum rule analysis in the  $\langle T_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling are close to the magnetization value, although somewhat underestimated. The discrepancy with the magnetization value may arise from the underestimation of  $\mu_L$  in the sum-rule analysis, or the contribution from the magnetic polarization of conduction electrons, which may be included in the magnetization data. The comparatively good  $\mu_{\text{TOTAL}}$  value obtained in the  $\langle T_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling implies that an appropriate scaling of the  $\langle T_z \rangle$  enables us to estimate  $\mu_S$  from the application of the spin sum rule to Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD.

Table I summarizes the values of  $\mu_L$ ,  $\mu_S$ ,  $\mu_{\text{TOT}}$ , and the ratio  $\mu_L / \mu_S$  of Ce  $4f$  electrons of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> under several conditions of temperature and magnetic field, estimated from the sum-rule analysis. From the estimated values in the  $\langle T_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$  scaling, one can investigate the tendency of the variation in the  $|\mu_L / \mu_S|$  value, which might be closely related to the variation in the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength. Table I indicates that the  $|\mu_L / \mu_S|$  value decreases when the system is changed from ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) to paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T), from the above- $H_M$  state (4.6 K, 10 T) to the below- $H_M$  state (4.6 K, 4 T) in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, from the high-temperature state

above  $T_K$  (250 K, 10 T) to the low-temperature state below  $T_K$  (4.6 K, 10 T) in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> above  $H_M$ . Since the Ce  $4f$  electrons are expected to become more delocalized in the above three cases, the decrease of  $|\mu_L / \mu_S|$  can be considered as an index of the  $4f$  delocalization.

## B. Discussion

As mentioned in Sec. III B1, the primary characteristics in the line-shape variation of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS spectra from ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) to paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T) are (1) the decrease of the branching ratio  $B_R$ , (2) the enhancement of the  $f^0$  satellite structure, and (3) the enhancement of the  $M_5$  shoulder structure. In order to evaluate the variation in the line shapes of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra between ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) and paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T) quantitatively, we have performed a line-shape analysis demonstrated in Fig. 8 as an example for CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>. Details of the analysis is described in the Appendix. It shows that the decrease of  $B_R$  is mainly caused by the marked increase in the intensity of the  $M_4$  leading peak [component r in Fig. 8(c)], while the intensities of the other components [components p and q in Fig. 8(c)] in the triple structures are almost unchanged. The intensity ratio of the  $f^0$  satellite structure increases from  $\sim 2\%$  of the total  $M_{4,5}$  XAS intensity in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) to  $\sim 6\%$  in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T), and the intensity of the  $M_5$  shoulder structure of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> increases as  $\sim 118\%$  of that of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>. In the comparison of the XMCD line shapes under the fixed  $M_4$  XMCD intensity, the noticeable variation is observed only in the sum of the leading negative and positive components [components E and F in Fig. 8(b)] at the  $M_5$  edge, resulting in a variation in the intensity ratio  $M_5 / M_4$  from  $-0.23$  of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> to  $-0.26$  of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>. From the equations of the sum rules, one can see that a variation in the intensity ratio of the orbital to the spin magnetic moments  $\mu_L / \mu_S$  is roughly connected with the ratio  $M_5 / M_4$  of the XMCD spectra. Thus the slight increase of the leading  $M_5$  XMCD components produces a considerable decrease in the ratio  $|\mu_L / \mu_S|$  estimated from the sum-rule analysis of the XMCD spectra in Sec. IV A in spite of the almost unchanged XMCD line shape.

The line shapes of the XAS and XMCD spectra at the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  edges are expected to be different depending on the degree of  $4f$  delocalization. Besides the  $f^0$  satellite structure in the XAS spectra, one possible idea to explain the line-shape variation in the XAS and XMCD spectra is that a variation in the mixing ratio of  $J = 5/2$  states to  $J = 7/2$  states of the  $4f^1$  configuration in the ground states might bring about different

TABLE I. Values of the orbital magnetic moment  $\mu_L$ , the spin magnetic moment  $\mu_S$ , the total magnetic moment  $\mu_{\text{TOT}}$ , and the ratio  $\mu_L / \mu_S$  of Ce  $4f$  electrons of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> in units of  $\mu_B$ , estimated from the sum-rule analysis of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD data.

|                                   |             | $\langle L_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$ scaling |         |                    |                 | $\langle T_z \rangle$ - $\langle S_z \rangle$ scaling |         |                    |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|---|---------|--------------------|-----------------|---|---------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                                   |             | $\mu_L$   | $\mu_S$ | $\mu_{\text{TOT}}$ | $\mu_L / \mu_S$ | $\mu_L$   | $\mu_S$ | $\mu_{\text{TOT}}$ | $\mu_L / \mu_S$ |
| CeRu <sub>2</sub> Ge <sub>2</sub> | 5.5 K, 5 T  | 2.312   | -0.578  | 1.734              | -4.0            | 2.312   | -0.905  | 1.407              | -2.55           |
|                                   | 250 K, 5 T  | 0.057   | -0.014  | 0.043              | -4.0            | 0.057   | -0.023  | 0.034              | -2.50           |
| CeRu <sub>2</sub> Si <sub>2</sub> | 4.6 K, 4 T  | 0.511   | -0.128  | 0.383              | -4.0            | 0.511   | -0.215  | 0.296              | -2.38           |
|                                   | 4.6 K, 10 T | 1.200   | -0.300  | 1.000              | -4.0            | 1.200   | -0.470  | 0.730              | -2.55           |
|                                   | 250 K, 10 T | 0.089   | -0.022  | 0.067              | -4.0            | 0.089   | -0.032  | 0.057              | -2.77           |

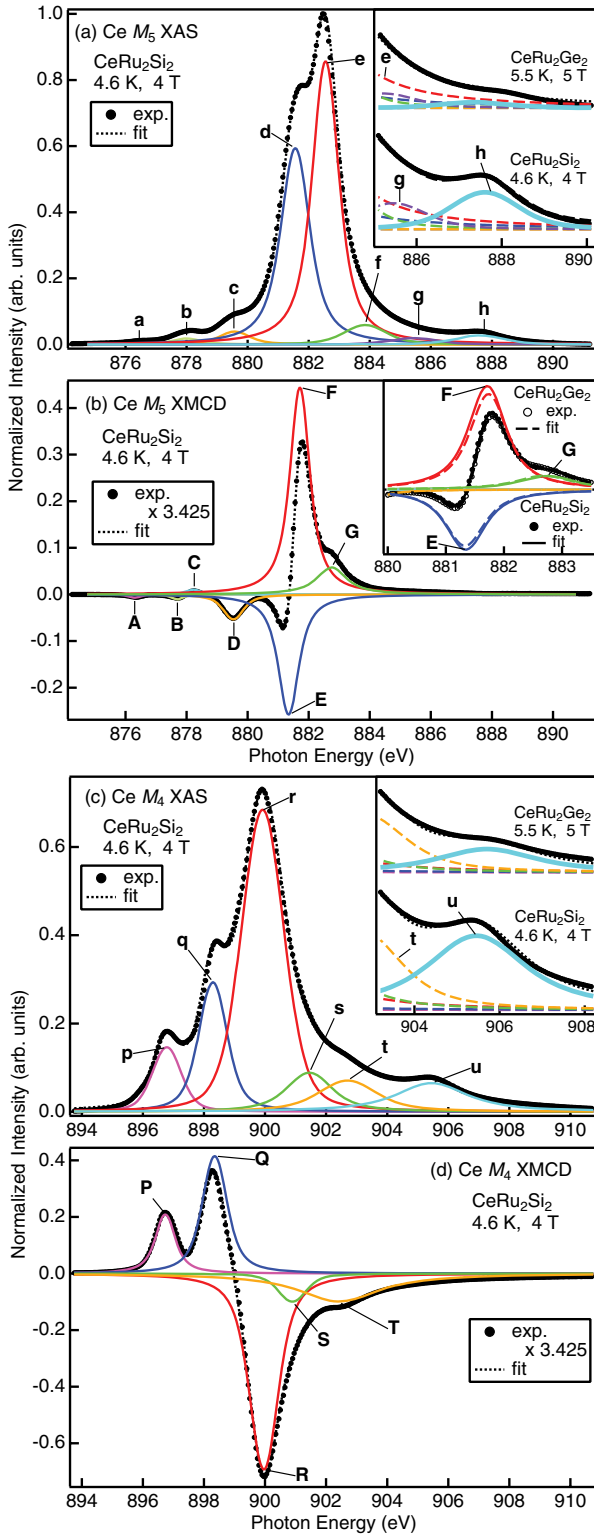


FIG. 8. (Color online) Line-shape analysis of the Ce  $M_5$  XAS (a), the Ce  $M_5$  XMCD (b), the Ce  $M_4$  XAS (c), and the Ce  $M_4$  XMCD (d) spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  at 4.6 K under 4 T. The intensity of the XMCD spectrum has been multiplied by 3.425. The insets in (a) and (c) illustrate a comparison of the  $f^0$  satellite structures between  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  (4.6 K, 4 T) and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  (5.5 K, 5 T) in a magnified view. The inset in (b) illustrates a comparison of the  $M_5$  XMCD line shape between  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  (4.6 K, 4 T) and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  (5.5 K, 5 T) in a magnified view.

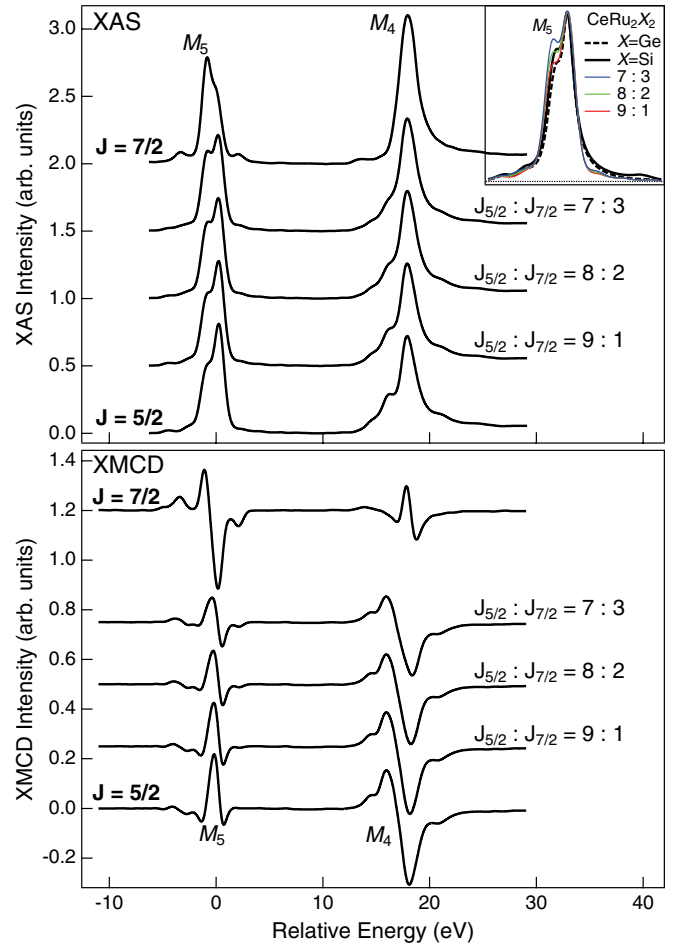


FIG. 9. (Color online) XAS and XMCD spectra at the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  edges calculated for  $J = 5/2$  and  $J = 7/2$  states of Ce  $4f^1$  configuration, referred from Fig. 2 of Ref. 28. In addition, the weighted sums of the  $J = 5/2$  and  $J = 7/2$  components in the ratio  $J_{5/2}:J_{7/2}$  of 7:3, 8:2, and 9:1 are illustrated. The inset illustrates a comparison of the  $M_5$  XAS spectra between the calculation and the experimental data of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  (5.5 K, 5 T) and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  (4.6 K, 4 T).

line shapes. It was theoretically predicted that the weight of  $J = 7/2$  states relative to  $J = 5/2$  states increases with the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength, and the amount of the  $J = 7/2$  character in the ground states becomes considerable when the hybridization strength  $\Delta$  is of the order of the energy necessary to excite an electron from  $J = 5/2$  states to above the Fermi level ( $N^{1/2}\Delta \geq \varepsilon_f$ , where  $\varepsilon_f$  is the energy of the  $f_{5/2}^1$  level with the degeneracy  $N$ ).<sup>37,41</sup> The atomic multiplet calculation of the  $3d^{10}4f^1|JM\rangle \rightarrow 3d^94f^2|J'M'\rangle$  transition<sup>36</sup> predicted that the theoretical line shapes of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra are significantly different between  $J = 5/2$  and  $J = 7/2$  states,<sup>28</sup> as shown in Fig. 9. Using these calculated line shapes, we demonstrate a line-shape variation of the  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra as a weighted sum of the line shapes for  $J = 5/2$  and  $J = 7/2$  states, also shown in Fig. 9.

One can see from Fig. 9 that, as the weight of  $J = 7/2$  in the ground state increases, the  $M_4$  XAS peak becomes stronger relative to the  $M_5$  peak, resulting in the decrease of  $B_R$ , and the shoulder structure in the  $M_5$  XAS spectra is more enhanced. In

the free-atom case, the branching ratio has a maximum for the Hund's-rule ground state of  $J = 5/2$  and its value gradually decreases with  $J$ .<sup>42–44</sup> The  $B_R$  variation originated from the  $J = 7/2$  mixing ratio is consistent with the line-shape analysis that only the leading peak [component *r* in Fig. 8(c)] among the triple peak structures in the  $M_4$  XAS spectra contributes to the variation in  $B_R$ . Therefore the variations from ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) to paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T) can be interpreted as an increase of the  $J = 7/2$  weight in the ground states caused by the increase in the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength. The tendency is consistent with the variation of the  $f^0$  intensity. The inset to Fig. 9 shows that the variation from ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> roughly corresponds to 10% increase of  $J = 7/2$  states.

The experimentally obtained Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD spectra is basically explained by the calculated line shape for the  $J = 5/2$  state. The line-shape variation in Fig. 9 demonstrates that the relative intensity of the  $M_5$  signal slightly decreases as the  $J = 7/2$  weight increases, while the overall line shape of the  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD spectra is similar within the small ratio of  $J = 7/2$  states less than 30%. It is indicated from the line-shape analysis that the intensity ratio  $|M_5/M_4|$  in the XMCD spectra slightly increases from ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) to paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T). The observed  $|M_5/M_4|$  tendency is contradictory to an increase of the  $J = 7/2$  weight, which is expected from the  $M_{4,5}$  XAS line shape. Therefore the variation observed in the XMCD spectra cannot be explained by the scenario of the increase in the  $J = 7/2$  weight. The inconsistency might be related to the discrepancy in the  $M_5$  XMCD line shape between experiment and calculation: while the calculation indicates the existence of the negative peak at the higher energy side of the dominant positive peak, the experiment shows a positive shoulder structure [component *G* in Fig. 8(b)] at that part. Therefore we need an improved theoretical treatment of the line-shape variation of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD spectra, while a more pronounced variation in the XMCD line shape should be examined in future XMCD experiments for Ce compounds with high  $T_K$ .

dHvA experiments revealed that the Fermi surfaces of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> above the critical field  $H_M$  of the metamagnetic transition resemble the Fermi surfaces of LaRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, while the experimental Fermi surfaces below  $H_M$  are explained by the calculated Fermi surfaces of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>.<sup>16–18,23,24</sup> Since Ce compounds with localized  $4f$  electrons are expected to have Fermi surfaces of La compounds, there is a possibility that the  $4f$  electrons of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> turns from delocalized one to localized one at  $H_M$ . This is contrary to the observation that the  $f^0$  intensity in the XAS spectra of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> is unchanged across the metamagnetic transition. However, the metamagnetic transition in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> is a crossover type, where the localization of the  $4f$  electrons may proceed gradually and continuously across the transition.<sup>11,12,39</sup> There, the  $4f$  electron states, which are located at the Fermi level  $E_F$  in the paramagnetic states, may become separated from  $E_F$ , downward for the up-spin band and upward for the down-spin band, in the ferromagnetic states above  $H_M$  due to the Zeeman shift.<sup>45,46</sup> In this situation, Fermi surfaces become similar to those of LaRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> because the  $4f$  electron states are located at the positions away from  $E_F$  and less hybridized with conduction bands.<sup>47,48</sup> However, the  $4f$  electrons should still

possess a considerable amount of itinerant character because the  $c$ - $f$  hybridized bands are preserved in the states above  $H_M$ . As a result, the  $4f$  occupation number may not be significantly changed across the metamagnetic transition as observed in our XAS data. Although our result suggests that the  $4f$  electrons of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> are still delocalized above  $H_M$  of the metamagnetic transition, it is an interesting subject in the future how the  $f^0$  satellite intensity will change in the measurement below 2 K, where the metamagnetic transition becomes sharper.

The temperature-dependent decrease in the  $f^0$  satellite intensity in the XAS spectra of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, which is directly related to the decrease in the  $4f$  occupation number, was observed surprisingly not across  $T_K$  but in the temperature region ten times larger than  $T_K$ , i.e., between 150 and 250 K. Therefore the temperature-dependent decrease in the  $4f$  occupation number cannot be simply explained by the localization of the Ce  $4f$  electrons. Another possible explanation is crystal-field effect, since the crystal-field splitting of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> between the ground-state doublet and the next doublet was estimated to be 220 K from the specific-heat measurement.<sup>15</sup> Since crystal-field splitting in Kondo systems arises from an anisotropy in the mixing interaction,<sup>49</sup> the crystal-field excited state would have a different  $4f$  occupation number due to different  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength.

The branching ratio  $B_R$  of the XAS spectra tends to decrease from the ferromagnetic state to the paramagnetic state, as shown in the following cases: from ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> to paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, from the above- $H_M$  state to the below- $H_M$  state in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>, and from the below- $T_C$  state to the above- $T_C$  state in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>. Since  $B_R$  is considered to be an index of  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength, the result suggests that magnetic ordering might be related to the variation in the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization.

## V. CONCLUSIONS

We have measured XAS and XMCD spectra at the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  edges of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> under several conditions of temperature and magnetic field, in order to clarify the difference of the magnetic properties of the Ce  $4f$  electrons near the boundary of  $4f$  delocalization. Comparing paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> with ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>, delocalization of the Ce  $4f$  electrons was verified in the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS spectra as a growth of the  $f^0$  satellite structures from  $\sim 2\%$  to  $\sim 6\%$  of the total  $M_{4,5}$  XAS intensity, a decrease in the branching ratio  $B_R = I(M_5)/[I(M_5) + I(M_4)]$  from 0.52 to 0.49, and an enhancement of the  $M_5$  XMCD shoulder structure to become  $\sim 118\%$  of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>. Those variations in the XAS line shape can be explained by the idea of the increase in the  $c$ - $f$  hybridization strength, resulting in the decrease of the  $4f$  occupation number and the increase of the ratio of  $J = 7/2$  states relative to  $J = 5/2$  states in the ground state. Although the overall line shape of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XMCD spectra is scarcely changed, a slight increase in the intensity ratio  $|M_5/M_4|$  of the XMCD spectra results in the decrease of the ratio of the orbital to the spin magnetic moments  $|\mu_L/\mu_S|$ , which corresponds to the  $4f$  delocalization. It is suggested from the invariance of the  $f^0$  satellite intensity in the XAS spectra that the Ce  $4f$  electrons of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> in the state just above the critical field of the metamagnetic transition retain an itinerant character. The



temperature-dependent decrease of the  $4f$  occupation number in  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  is attributed to crystal-field effect. Future XMCD study for the Ce compounds with high  $T_K$  would reveal more clearly the hybridization-dependent variation in the XMCD line shape.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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#### APPENDIX: LINE-SHAPE ANALYSIS

The line-shape analysis demonstrated in Fig. 8 was performed under the following ideas. Fixed values of Lorentzian and Gaussian broadenings for each component were used in common, and energy positions of each component are slightly adjusted. Only the relative intensities of each component were markedly changed between  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ . Here, the intensities of the experimentally obtained XAS and XMCD spectra to be fitted were normalized in the same way as in Fig. 4 in order to estimate the line-shape variation as a relative ratio among each component. The fitting parameters deduced from the analysis are summarized in Table II.

TABLE II. Values of fitted parameters, i.e., Lorentzian half width at half maximum (HWHM), and Gaussian HWHM, energy position, and intensity, used in the line-shape analysis of the Ce  $M_{4,5}$  XAS and XMCD spectra of  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$  at 5.5 K under 5 T and  $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$  at 4.6 K under 4 T, demonstrated in Figs. 8(a)–8(d).

| $M_5$ XAS  | a      | b       | c      | d      | e      | f      | g      | h      |
|--|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Lorentzian HWHM (eV)                                   | 0.30   | 0.38    | 0.38   | 0.40   | 0.38   | 0.38   | 0.38   | 0.38   |
| Gaussian HWHM (eV)                                     | 0.01   | 0.30    | 0.35   | 0.30   | 0.27   | 0.38   | 0.70   | 0.72   |
| Energy position (eV)                                   |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 876.40 | 877.95  | 879.55 | 881.57 | 882.56 | 883.70 | 885.20 | 887.35 |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T)                | 876.45 | 878.00  | 879.57 | 881.56 | 882.55 | 883.85 | 885.45 | 887.60 |
| Intensity (arb. units)                                 |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 0.003  | 0.024   | 0.050  | 0.805  | 1.310  | 0.100  | 0.025  | 0.010  |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T)                | 0.003  | 0.028   | 0.064  | 0.950  | 1.280  | 0.125  | 0.045  | 0.065  |
| $M_5$ XMCD   | A      | B       | C      | D      | E      | F      | G      |        |
| Lorentzian HWHM (eV)                                   | 0.20   | 0.20    | 0.20   | 0.30   | 0.35   | 0.33   | 0.55   |        |
| Gaussian HWHM (eV)                                     | 0.10   | 0.10    | 0.15   | 0.20   | 0.15   | 0.15   | 0.15   |        |
| Energy position (eV)                                   |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 876.33 | 877.73  | 878.23 | 879.54 | 881.33 | 881.74 | 882.69 |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T)                | 876.30 | 877.70  | 878.23 | 879.53 | 881.34 | 881.71 | 882.75 |        |
| Intensity (arb. units)                                 |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | −0.005 | −0.0075 | 0.0083 | −0.062 | −0.295 | 0.477  | 0.108  |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T) $\times$ 3.425 | −0.005 | −0.0075 | 0.0083 | −0.062 | −0.315 | 0.517  | 0.105  |        |
| $M_4$ XAS  | p      | q       | r      | s      | t      | u      |        |        |
| Lorentzian HWHM (eV)                                   | 0.19   | 0.26    | 0.23   | 0.60   | 0.70   | 1.20   |        |        |
| Gaussian HWHM (eV)                                     | 0.45   | 0.40    | 0.69   | 0.50   | 0.70   | 0.50   |        |        |
| Energy position (eV)                                   |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 896.77 | 898.30  | 899.92 | 901.50 | 902.80 | 905.70 |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T)                | 896.78 | 898.29  | 899.92 | 901.45 | 902.70 | 905.45 |        |        |
| Intensity (arb. units)                                 |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 0.213  | 0.410   | 1.085  | 0.160  | 0.160  | 0.085  |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T)                | 0.200  | 0.420   | 1.340  | 0.220  | 0.220  | 0.270  |        |        |
| $M_4$ XMCD   | P      | Q       | R      | S      | T      |        |        |        |
| Lorentzian HWHM (eV)                                   | 0.30   | 0.30    | 0.35   | 0.25   | 1.60   |        |        |        |
| Gaussian HWHM (eV)                                     | 0.18   | 0.30    | 0.35   | 0.40   | 0.10   |        |        |        |
| Energy position (eV)                                   |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 896.74 | 898.36  | 900.00 | 900.95 | 902.44 |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T)                | 896.73 | 898.35  | 899.96 | 900.89 | 902.42 |        |        |        |
| Intensity (arb. units)                                 |        |         |        |        |        |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Ge}_2$ (5.5 K, 5 T)                | 0.235  | 0.535   | −1.080 | −0.150 | −0.515 |        |        |        |
| $\text{CeRu}_2\text{Si}_2$ (4.6 K, 4 T) $\times$ 3.425 | 0.235  | 0.555   | −1.080 | −0.140 | −0.500 |        |        |        |

At the Ce  $M_5$  edge, components for the shoulder structure, the leading peak, and the  $f^0$  satellite structure in the XAS spectra are d, e, and h, respectively. A major contribution in the  $M_5$  XMCD spectra is produced from the counterbalance between the negative component E and the positive component F. The energy positions of both E and F in the  $M_5$  XMCD spectra are close to the positions of the shoulder structure d rather than the leading peak e in the  $M_5$  XAS spectra. Therefore the major contribution in the  $M_5$  XMCD is attributed to the shoulder structure in the  $M_5$  XAS spectra, while the leading peak in the  $M_5$  XAS spectra seems to be responsible for the component G in the  $M_5$  XMCD spectra. The energy positions of A, B, and D in the  $M_5$  XMCD spectra correspond to the positions of a, b, and c in the  $M_5$  XAS spectra, respectively. There is no XMCD structure at the energy position corresponding to f, g, and h in the  $M_5$  XAS spectra.

At the Ce  $M_4$  edge, the triple peak structures in the XAS spectra are attributed to the components p, q, and r. The fitting component for the  $f^0$  satellite is u. The small hump in between the leading XAS peak and the  $f^0$  satellite can be realized by introducing additional components s and t. The energy positions of two positive peaks, P and Q, and one negative dominant peak, R, in the  $M_4$  XMCD spectra agree well with the positions of p, q, and r in the  $M_4$  XAS spectra. The energy position of the component T in the  $M_5$  XMCD spectra corresponds to the positions of s and t in the  $M_4$  XAS spectra.

The increase in the intensity of the component r, where the value for CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T) is  $\sim 123.5\%$  of the value for CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T), is responsible for the decrease of  $B_R$  from CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> to CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>. In CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T), the intensity ratio of the  $f^0$  satellite structure h at the  $M_5$  edge is  $\sim 2.5\%$  of the entire  $M_5$  XAS intensity, while the intensity

ratio of the  $f^0$  satellite structure u at the  $M_4$  edge is  $\sim 10\%$  of the entire  $M_4$  XAS intensity. The intensity ratio of h + u is  $\sim 6\%$  of the total  $M_{4,5}$  XAS intensity. In CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T), the intensity ratio of h is  $\sim 0.4\%$  of the  $M_5$  XAS intensity, while that of u is  $\sim 4\%$  of the  $M_4$  XAS intensity. The intensity ratio of h + u is  $\sim 2\%$  of the  $M_{4,5}$  XAS intensity. The intensity ratio of the  $f^0$  satellite structure is clearly larger in the  $M_4$  edge than in the  $M_5$  edge, although that might be influenced by the broadening widths used in the fitting. The intensity of the  $M_5$  shoulder structure d is clearly stronger in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T) than in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T): the value of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> is  $\sim 118\%$  of that of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub>.

The comparison of the XMCD line shapes shows that the intensities of the components A, B, C, and D at the  $M_5$  edge and the components P, Q, R, S, and T at the  $M_4$  edge are almost the same between ferromagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (5.5 K, 5 T) and paramagnetic CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 4 T). Only the components E and F, which produce the dominant  $M_5$  XMCD structure as a mixture of negative and positive contributions, show notable increases in the magnitudes from CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> to CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>. Although this variation in the relatively small signal of the  $M_5$  spectra is hardly discernible and therefore the overall XMCD line shape seems almost unchanged in appearance, it brings about a significant variation as a ratio  $M_5/M_4$ .

The variations depending on magnetic field in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (Sec. III B2) and temperature in CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Ge<sub>2</sub> (Sec. III B3) can be explained in the same line. In the comparison between CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 10 T) and CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (250 K, 10 T) as a temperature dependence, the intensities of the  $f^0$  satellite structures h and u at the  $M_5$  and the  $M_4$  edges of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (250 K, 10 T) decrease as  $\sim 69\%$  and  $\sim 80\%$  of those of CeRu<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub> (4.6 K, 10 T), respectively.

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