

suggested by Leask et al.⁶ might account for several of the anomalously large crystal-field parameters in CMN obtained from analysis of susceptibility data. Other effects, such as the possible admixture of $5d$ states into the ground state by large crystal fields,¹⁵ could also influence the g factor and the saturation moment. They could also affect α , and if such an effect were field dependent, could influence our calculation of $M'(H, T)$. A theory which proposes to account for the observed discrepancy must explain why M' , although perturbed from a Brillouin-function dependence, apparently remains a function of H/T .

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ELECTRIC DIPOLE TRANSITION FROM THE $2f_{7/2}$ ISOBARIC ANALOG RESONANCE TO THE $2d_{5/2}$ GROUND STATE IN ^{141}Pr †

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Electric dipole γ rays from the $2f_{7/2}$ isobaric analog state $(2T_0)^{-1/2}T_-|i\rangle$ to the $2d_{5/2}$ ground state $|f\rangle$ in ^{141}Pr were measured with a Ge(Li) crystal. The matrix element of the $E1$ γ transition, $|\langle f|m_\gamma T_-(2T_0)^{-1/2}|i\rangle|$, and that of the analogous first forbidden β transition, $|\langle f|m_\beta|i\rangle|$, were obtained.

A measurement of electric dipole γ rays from isobaric analog states (IAS) in heavy nuclei is interesting since it provides information on the IAS and the low-lying states¹⁻⁴ as well as the matrix element $\langle \tilde{F} \rangle$ for the $E1$ γ decay $\langle m_\gamma \rangle$, and for the analogous first forbidden β decay¹⁻³ $\langle m_\beta \rangle$ (Fig. 1).

These matrix elements are related by

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f|m_\beta|i\rangle &= \langle f|[m_\gamma, T_-]|i\rangle \\ &\approx (2T_0)^{1/2} \langle f|m_\gamma|\text{IAS}\rangle, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

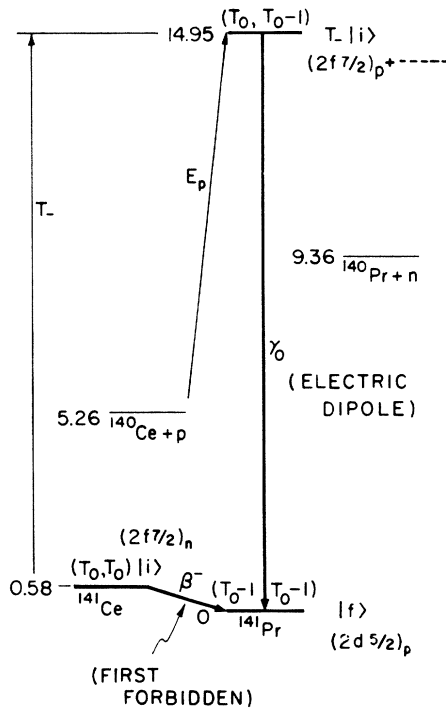


FIG. 1. Schematic diagram of isobaric analog states, and the electric dipole γ and the analogous first forbidden β^- transitions. The initial state $|i\rangle$, the analog state $T_-|i\rangle$, and the final state $|f\rangle$ have configurations $(2f_{7/2}^-)_n|0\rangle$, $(2f_{7/2}^-)_p|0\rangle + (2f_{7/2}^-)_n \sum_{\delta} (a_{\delta}^{\dagger} b_{\delta})|0\rangle$, and $(2d_{5/2}^+)_{p}|0\rangle$, where $|0\rangle$ is the ^{140}Ce core.

where $|IAS\rangle = (2T_0)^{-1/2} T_-|i\rangle$ and where $\langle f|T_-m_{\gamma} \times |i\rangle \approx 0$.¹ Since the IAS in heavy nuclei are located in the high excitation-energy region, they decay mainly by particle emission, so that the electromagnetic radiation branches are very small. $E1 \gamma$ transitions from IAS in medium nuclei with $N=50$ have been measured with a large NaI crystal.⁵ However, for heavy nuclei with closely spaced low-lying levels, well-isolated high-energy γ rays from the IAS to such low-lying states may be observed by use of good resolution Ge(Li) crystals despite an extremely small detection efficiency.

We measured the $E1 \gamma$ rays from the $2f_{7/2}^-$ IAS to the $2d_{5/2}^+$ ground state in ^{141}Pr ($N=82$). This γ transition corresponds to the first forbidden β^- decay $^{141}\text{Ce} \rightarrow ^{141}\text{Pr}$ (see Fig. 1). The $2f_{7/2}^-$ resonance analog to the ground state of ^{141}Ce was excited by the proton-capture reaction on ^{140}Ce at $E_p = 9.75$ MeV.⁶ Proton beams of 0.6-1.0 μA were provided by the University of Washington High Voltage Engineering Corporation Model FN tandem accelerator. The target used was self-supporting natural Ce (88.48% of ^{140}Ce) with a

thickness of 0.91 mg/cm^2 . This thickness was obtained from the Rutherford scattering yield of 5-MeV protons at 35° . The γ -ray detector was a 20.7- cm^3 Ge(Li) crystal with energy resolution ≈ 30 keV for 15-MeV γ rays. In order to attenuate low-energy γ rays and neutrons, an absorber of 103-mm-thick paraffin containing 15% Li_2CO_3 followed by a 9.6-mm-thick PbSn alloy was inserted between the target and the detector. An absolute detector efficiency was obtained by observing the 15.106-MeV γ rays from the reaction $^{12}\text{C}(p, p'\gamma)$,⁷ which is very close to the γ -ray energy of present interest.

The $2f_{7/2}^-$ isobaric analog resonance was measured in an excitation function of the reaction $^{140}\text{Ce}(p, p')^{140}\text{Ce}^*(4 \text{ MeV})$ by observing the inelastic-scattering protons with a Si detector. γ -ray spectra were subsequently observed at several proton energies on and off resonance at 90° and 125° to the beam. Apart from γ rays due to $(p, p'\gamma)$ reactions on oxygen contaminants, we found clearly a single isolated resonant line of 14.95 ± 0.05 MeV at $E_p = 9.768$ MeV (Fig. 2). This line is identified as the $E1 \gamma$ -ray transition from the proton capture state $(2f_{7/2}^- \text{ IAS})$ to the ground state $(2d_{5/2}^+)$ in ^{141}Pr . The anisotropy of this line, after subtraction of the off-resonance contributions, was found to be $Y(90^\circ)/Y(125^\circ) = 1.29 \pm 20\%$. This value also supports the assignment of the γ rays to the transition $f_{7/2}^- d_{5/2}^+$ in view of the calculated anisotropies $Y(90^\circ)/Y(125^\circ) = 1.18$ and 0.763 for transitions from IAS $\frac{7}{2}^- (2f_{7/2}^-)$ to the ground $\frac{5}{2}^+ (2d_{5/2}^+)$ state and to the 145-keV first excited $\frac{7}{2}^+ (1g_{7/2}^-)^{-1} (2d_{5/2}^+)^2$ state, respectively.

The γ transition width Γ_{γ} was obtained from the on-resonance γ -ray yield corrected for the off-resonance contribution. Assuming little effects of interference with nonresonant contributions to the IAS resonance cross section,⁸ we used the single-resonance formula for calculating the preliminary value Γ_{γ_0} :

$$\frac{d\sigma(p, \gamma_0)}{d\Omega} = \frac{\lambda^2}{4} \frac{2J+1}{(2s+1)(2I+1)} \times \frac{\Gamma_p \Gamma_{\gamma_0} [1 + A_2 P_2(\cos\theta)]}{(E_p - E_0)^2 + (\Gamma/2)^2}, \quad (2)$$

where the resonance parameters are $\Gamma_p = 12$ keV, $\Gamma = 61$ keV,⁶ $J = \frac{7}{2}$, $s = \frac{1}{2}$, and $I = 0$. The transition probability obtained is

$$\Gamma_{\gamma_0} (\text{exptl}) = 24 \pm 10 \text{ eV} \quad [\tau_m = (2.7 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-17} \text{ sec}]. \quad (3)$$

$= |M|_{sp}$ and $|m_\beta| \approx (2T_0)^{1/2} |m_\gamma|_{\text{exptl}}$ for the IAS. Furthermore, the first-forbidden-transition operator for the transition $^{141}\text{Ce} \rightarrow ^{141}\text{Pr}$ can be expressed on the basis of the ξ approximation¹² ($\xi = 12.5 > W_0 = 2.1$) as

$$-C_v i \xi M_\beta = -C_v i \xi m_\beta (\Lambda - 1.2\Lambda_1 - 1), \quad (6)$$

where $m_\beta = \langle \vec{r} \rangle$, $\Lambda = -i \langle \alpha \rangle / \xi \langle \vec{r} \rangle$, $\Lambda_1 = i \langle \vec{\sigma} \times \vec{r} \rangle / \langle \vec{r} \rangle$, and $\xi = \alpha Z / 2R$. By using $(2T_0)^{1/2} |\langle f | m_\gamma | \text{IAS} \rangle|_{\text{exptl}}$ for the $|m_\beta|$ matrix element and the experimental $|M_\beta|$ obtained from the β -decay probability,¹³ we get from Eq. (6)

$$(\Lambda - 1.2\Lambda_1 - 1)^2 = 0.13 \pm 0.05. \quad (7)$$

The experimental β -decay probability $|\langle f | M_\beta | i \rangle|^2$ is hindered with respect to the single-particle estimate $|m_\beta|_{sp}^2 = |M|_{sp}^2$ by a factor of 100, which we see is due to the hindrance factors 13 for $|m_\beta|^2 = |\langle \vec{r} \rangle|^2$ (the same as for the $E1 \gamma$ transition) and 8 due to cancellation as given in Eq. (7).

Furthermore, if we can use Fujita's value $\Lambda = 2.4$ obtained on the basis of the theory of conservation of vector currents (CVC)¹⁴ and Ahrens-Feenberg approximation,^{1,15} we get from Eq. (7),¹⁶ $\Lambda_1 = i \langle \vec{\sigma} \times \vec{r} \rangle / \langle \vec{r} \rangle = 0.9 \pm 0.2$, in accord with the value $\Lambda_1 = 1$ estimated by using a j - j coupling shell-model relation $i \langle \vec{\sigma} \times \vec{r} \rangle / \langle \vec{r} \rangle = \langle \vec{r}, (\vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{L}) \rangle / \langle \vec{r} \rangle = j_i(j_i + 1) - l_i(l_i + 1) - j_f(j_f + 1) + l_f(l_f + 1)$. This indicates nearly the same hindrance factor³ for both of the $\langle \vec{r} \rangle$ and the $\langle \vec{\sigma} \times \vec{r} \rangle$. In other words, the CVC and Ahrens-Feenberg theories¹ are consistent with the present experiment as long as we use the shell-model value for Λ_1 ,^{13,16} although some arguments on the utility of the CVC theory have been made.^{1,17,18}

The present work gives a relation between γ and β transitions in heavy nuclei and an experimental method of obtaining the matrix elements m_β of first forbidden β decay from the corresponding $E1 \gamma$ matrix element.

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