

$5f^N-5f^{N-1}6d^1$  transitions of  $U^{3+}$  and  $U^{4+}$  ions in high-symmetry sites.

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## Streszczenie

$5f^N \rightarrow 5f^{N-1}6d^1$  absorption spectra of  $U^{4+}$ - and  $U^{3+}$ -doped  $Cs_2NaYCl_6$ ,  $Cs_2LiYCl_6$ ,  $Cs_2NaYBr_6$ ,  $CsCdBr_3$ , and  $Cs_3Lu_2Cl_9$  single crystals were recorded at 4.2 K in the 14 000–50 000  $cm^{-1}$  spectral range. The  $5f^2 \rightarrow 5f^16d^1$  absorption bands of  $U^{4+}$  ions were observed in the 30 000–37 000  $cm^{-1}$  energy range, and have been assigned as transitions from the  $^3H_4$  ground multiplet of the  $5f^2$  configuration to crystal-field levels of the  $5f^16d(t_{2g})^1$  manifold. The energies of the lowest levels of the  $5f^16d(t_{2g})^1$  configuration have been for the first time determined for  $U^{4+}$  ions doped in a chloride or bromide host crystal. They are equal to 26 360 and 28 590  $cm^{-1}$  for  $U^{4+}:CsCdBr_3$  and  $U^{4+}:Cs_2NaYBr_6$  respectively and range from 30 360 to 31 010  $cm^{-1}$  for  $U^{4+}$  doped in the chloride hosts. Highly structured vibronic bands of  $5f^3 \rightarrow 5f^26d(t_{2g})^1$  absorption transitions of the  $U^{3+}$  ions appeared at an energy as low as 14 158  $cm^{-1}$ , and have been assigned to transitions from the  $^4I_{9/2}$  ground multiplet of the  $5f^3$  configuration to crystal-field levels arising from the configurations  $5f^2(^3H_4)6d(t_{2g})^1(\Gamma_{8g})$  (barycenter at  $\sim 16$  000  $cm^{-1}$ ) and  $5f^2(^3H_4)6d(t_{2g})^1(\Gamma_{7g})$  (barycenter at  $\sim 19$  000  $cm^{-1}$ ). Besides, some low intensity bands observed at  $\sim 18$  600 and above 21 000  $cm^{-1}$  have been assigned as transitions to the  $5f^2(^3F_2)6d(t_{2g})^1(\Gamma_{8g})$  and  $5f^2(^3F_2)6d(t_{2g})^1(\Gamma_{7g})$  levels, respectively. Transitions to the  $5f^26d(e_g)^1$  levels of  $U^{3+}$  ions have been observed as broad and unstructured bands at wavenumbers higher than 38 000  $cm^{-1}$ . The crystal field splitting ( $10Dq$ ) of the  $5f^26d^1$  configuration for  $U^{3+}$  doped in  $Cs_2NaYCl_6$  single crystals amounts to  $\sim 23$  000  $cm^{-1}$ , and the separation between  $\Gamma_{8g}$  and  $\Gamma_{7g}$  components of the  $t_{2g}$  state, resulting from spin-orbit interaction for the 6d electron, can be evaluated as 3350  $cm^{-1}$ . The splitting of the  $5f^2(^2S+1L_J)6d(\gamma)^1(\Gamma_{ig})$  ( $\gamma = t_{2g}$  or  $e_g$ ;  $i = 7$  or  $8$ ) configurations, resulting from the coupling of the  $5f^2$  core electrons with the 6d electron is somewhat smaller and amounts to  $\sim 3000$   $cm^{-1}$ . The main feature of the crystal level structure observed in the  $5f^3$ – $5f^26d^1$  absorption spectra of  $U^{3+}$  ions reflects the dominating influence of the crystal field splitting and spin-orbit coupling of the 6d electron.

Słowa kluczowe

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Absorption spectroscopy, Crystal structure, Crystals, Energy, Ions

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