Investigación

The pseudopotential method and the Z_1 band in KCl:KBr mixed crystals

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ABSTRACT. By taking into account that experimentally the X-ray spectrum of mixed crystals gives a lattice constant a_M which is different from the lattice constant of the two crystals which form the mixed crystal, the optical absorption of the Z_1 -center was calculated in KCl:KBr mixed crystals with Ca⁺⁺ impurities. The pseudopotential method was used. Good agreement with the experimental results is found for pure KCl and KBr.

RESUMEN. Usando el hecho experimental según el cual el espectro de rayos X de cristales mixtos da una constante de la red a_M , la cual es diferente de las dos constantes de la red de los cristales que constituyen el cristal mixto, se calculó la absorción óptica del centro Z_1 en cristales de KCl:KBr con impurezas de Ca⁺⁺. El método usado fue el de corrección de tamaño. Se encontró buen acuerdo con los resultados experimentales para KCl y KBr puros.

PACS: 61.70.-r; 71.55.-l; 78.50.-w

1. INTRODUCTION

Recently we have studied the behavior of the F an F_A optical absorption in mixed crystals [1-4]. Rodríguez and Ruiz-Mejía [1] conducted a theoretical study of the shift with concentration variation on the optical-absorption F band in KCl:RbCl and KCl:KBr mixed crystals using an F-center semicontinuum model [1]. Logatorov *et al.* [5,6] performed a theoretical calculation employing the ion-point model for a mixed crystal $K_{0.5}$ Cl:Na_{0.5}Cl; they consider a statistical distribution of different types of positive ions around the Fcenter, and assume that the substitution of ions at a lattice place has a perturbative effect on the F-center electron and also produce F_A , F_B and F_C centers, with increased mixed concentration in the colored crystals. The calculations can be done in a systematic way when the concentration of components are the same, such as those by Logatorov *et al.* [6], but for unbalanced concentrations the calculations are more difficult. We have proposed a new point of view [2-4] in order to calculate the optical absorption in mixed crystals. By taking into account that experimentally the X-ray spectrum of mixed crystals [7] gives a lattice constant a_M which is different from the lattice constant of the two crystals

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which form the mixed crystal. We have performed calculations for the mixed crystals considering [2-4] that these crystals have an specific physical properties and intrinsic constants, derived from Vegard's rule [8]. For the F and F_A-band in mixed crystals there are good agreement with the Asami and Ishiguro [9] experimental values. The interest in mixed crystals is due [9] to the possibility of using them in IR (infrared regions) laser operation. Also the Z_1 -center can be used in laser operation [10], that is why our interest in the study of Z_1 -band in mixed crystals. The Z_1 center consists of an F center with a [001] cation vacancy and a [111] divalent ion near to it [10]. The calculations for the optical absorption of the Z_1 center were made for mixed KCI:KBr mixed crystals with divalent impurities of Ca⁺⁺.

2. Theory

The variational method to obtain the energy levels of the F-center in the point-ion approximation [11] consist of the minimization of the energy functional E_{lm} . That is

$$E_{lm} = \int \psi^* \left[-\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + V_{\rm PI}(r) \right] \psi \, d\tau, \tag{1}$$

where $V_{\rm PI}(r)$ is the point-ion potential and ψ is the trial wave function. For the ground state Gaussian wave function we have

$$\psi_{g}(r,\lambda_{g}) = \left[\frac{2\lambda_{g}^{2}}{\pi}\right]^{3/4} \exp(-\lambda_{g}^{2}r^{2}), \qquad (2)$$

$$\psi_{\rm e}(r,\theta\lambda_{\rm e}) = \left[\frac{2^7\lambda_{\rm e}^{10}}{\pi^3}\right]^{1/4} r\cos\theta\exp(-\lambda_{\rm e}^2r^2),\tag{3}$$

for the excited state. The λ_g and λ_e are the corresponding variational parameters. For the F-center the point-ion functional energies are given by

$$E_{1s}^{\rm F} = \frac{3}{2}\lambda_{\rm g}^2 + \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{3/2} \left[\frac{2}{\pi}\lambda_{\rm g}^2\right]^{3/2} \sum_i \frac{q_i n_i}{r_i \lambda_{\rm g}^2} \operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{\rm g} r_i) \tag{4}$$

for the ground state, where n_i is the number of ions with charge q_i .

For the excited state

$$E_{2p}^{\rm F} = \sum_{i} \frac{\left[2^7 \lambda^{10} / \pi^3\right]^{1/2} q_i n_i}{(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{\rm e})^2} \exp(-2\lambda_{\rm e}^2 r_i^2) + \frac{5}{32} \sqrt{2} \frac{\pi^{3/2}}{\lambda_{\rm e}^3} \left[\frac{2^7 \lambda_{\rm e}^{10}}{\pi^3}\right]^{1/2}.$$
 (5)

The energy functional E_{IS}^Z of the Z₁-center corresponding to the ground state is

$$E_{1S}^{Z} = E_{1S}^{F} + Y_{1S}(\sqrt{3}a) - Y_{1S}(a),$$
(6)

where a is the interatomic distance and

$$Y_{1S}(r) = -A_{g}^{2} \frac{(\pi/2)^{3/2}}{r\lambda_{g}^{3}} \operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{g}r);$$
(7)

 $A_{\rm g}$ is the wave function normalization constant.

The energy functional E_{2p}^{Z} corresponding to the excited state is

$$E_{2p}^{Z} = E_{2p}^{F} + Y_{2p}(\sqrt{3}a) - Y_{2p}(a), \qquad (8)$$

where

$$Y_{2p}(\hat{r}) = \frac{\pi A_{e}^{2} Q}{3(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e})^{4}} \exp(-2\lambda_{e}^{2}r^{2}) - \frac{\pi A_{e}^{2} Q}{r(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e})^{5}} \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e}r)$$

$$+ \frac{8\pi Q P_{2}(\cos\theta) A_{e}^{2}}{15r^{2}(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e})^{7}} \left[\frac{(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e}r)^{5}}{2} + \frac{5}{4}(2\lambda_{e}r)^{3} + \frac{15}{8}(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e}r) \exp(-2\lambda_{e}^{2}r^{2}) + \frac{15}{8}\frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \operatorname{erf}(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e}r) \right]$$

$$+ \frac{8\pi}{15} A_{e}^{2} \frac{P_{2}(\cos\theta)}{(\sqrt{2}\lambda_{e})^{2}} r^{2} \frac{1}{2} \exp(-2\lambda_{e}^{2}r^{2}); \qquad (9)$$

 A_e is the excited wave function normalization constant, Q is the charge distribution at a point r. $P_2(\cos\theta)$ is the Legendre polynomial of order two, where θ is the angle between the vector at the point r and the axis of the *p*-function.

For the ground state of the Z_1 -center we can choose the wave function for the Fcenter $\psi_{\mathbf{g}}(r, \lambda_{\mathbf{g}})$. In the case of the excited state is necessary to choose the direction for the *p*-function axes according to the symmetry of the impurity and the vacancy which together with the F-center form the Z_1 -center. A suitable choice of the three mutually perpendicular axis will be the three principal axes of the field gradient tensor set up by the Z_1 -center. Dick [12] calculated the directions of those axes. The direction cosines of the principal axes are approximately (0, 0, 1), $\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0\right)$ and $\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0\right)$. That is

$$\psi_{\mathbf{e}xy} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\psi_{\mathbf{e}x} + \psi_{\mathbf{e}y}) \tag{10}$$

and

$$\psi_{\mathbf{e}x\bar{y}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\psi_{\mathbf{e}x} + \psi_{\mathbf{e}y}),\tag{11}$$

where ψ_{ex} and ψ_{ey} are the wave functions for the F-center. Equation (3) gives the ψ_{ez} for the F-center.

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Then for the Z_1 -center we have three wave functions: ψ_{exy} , $\psi_{ex\bar{y}}$ and ψ_{ez} .

The point-ion interaction potential is given by

$$\left\langle \psi_{\rm e} \left| \frac{Q}{\left| \hat{r} - \hat{r}_i \right|} \right| \psi_a \right\rangle = A^2 \int \left(\frac{4}{3} \delta_0 + \frac{8}{15} \delta_2 P_2(\cos \theta) \right) \pi f(r) r^2 \, dr,\tag{12}$$

where f(r) is the part of the wave function ψ_a which depends only on r, and δ_0 and δ_2 are given by

$$\delta_0 = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{r_i}, & r < r_i \\ \\ \frac{1}{r}, & r > r_i \end{cases}$$
(13)

and

$$\delta_2 = \begin{cases} \frac{r^2}{r_i^3}, & r < r\\ \frac{r_i^2}{r^3}, & r > r_i. \end{cases}$$
(14)

In order to obtain Eq. (12) we have used the result given by Coulson [12]:

$$I = \sum_{n,k} \int P_n(\cos\theta_a) P_k(\cos\theta_b) \, dw = \sum_k \frac{2\pi}{2k+1} P_k(\cos\gamma),\tag{15}$$

where $\theta_a = \gamma - \theta_b$.

The ground-state energy for the Z_1 -center is obtained minimizing an energy functional of the form

$$E_{g}^{z} = E_{g}^{F} + \sum_{s} \langle \psi_{g}(\hat{r}_{s}) | V_{p}^{z} | \psi_{g}(\hat{r}_{s}) \rangle.$$
(16)

For the first-excited-state the energy is obtained minimizing the energy functional

$$E_{\rm C}^{z} = E_{\rm C}^{\rm F} + \sum_{s} \langle \psi_{\rm e}(\hat{r}_{s}) | V_{\rm p}^{Z} | \psi_{\rm e}(\hat{r}_{s}) \rangle, \qquad (17)$$

where

$$V_{\rm p}^{Z} = V_{\rm p}^{\rm F} - V_{\rm pI} \Big[A_{\rm C} + (\bar{V}_{\rm p}^{\rm F} - U_{1}) B_{\rm C} \Big] \delta(\hat{r} - \hat{r}_{\rm c}) \\ + \Big[A_{\rm d} - A_{\rm c} + (\bar{V}_{\rm p} - U_{3}) (B_{\rm d} - B_{\rm c}) \Big] \delta(\hat{r} - \hat{r}_{\rm d})$$
(18)

and

$$V_{\rm p}^{\rm F} = V_{\rm pI} + \sum_{s} \left[A_s + (\bar{V}_{\rm p} - U_s) B_s \right] \delta(\hat{r} - \hat{r}_s);$$
(19)

TABLE I. Energy values in atomic units for the ground (E_g) and the excited (E_e) states of the Z, center in KCl:Br:Ca⁺ for several concentrations c_r .

KCl:BrCa ⁺⁺	λ_{g}	$-V_{g}$	$-E_{g}$	$\lambda_{ m e}$	$-V_{e}$	$-E_{e}$
$c_x = 0$	1.18	0.096	0.1081	0.95	0.130	0.0272
$c_{x} = .25$	1.17	0.095	0.1088	0.94	0.132	0.0330
$c_{x} = .50$	1.15	0.094	0.1095	0.93	0.135	0.0390
$c_{x} = .75$	1.13	0.092	0.1100	0.92	0.136	0.0442
$c_{x} = 1.00$	1.12	0.092	0.1108	0.92	0.141	0.0505

the U_s is the potential of the 5th ion due to all the all the other ions and A_s and B_s are the characteristic parameters of the ions alone, $V_{\rm PI}$ is the point-ion potential and $V_{\rm P}^{\rm F}$ the pseudopotential corresponding to the F-center. The indices D and C mean divalent impurity and cation respectively.

 $E_{\rm g}^z$ (or $E_{\rm e}^z$) is minimized with respect to $\lambda_{\rm g}$ (or $\lambda_{\rm e}$) for a fixed value of $\bar{V}_{\rm P}$, then $\langle \psi | V_{\rm P}^Z | \psi \rangle$ is recomputed from Eq. (18) and the procedure is continued to self-consistency [13].

In order to solve the problem for mixed crystals [2] we take A_{γ} and B_{γ} as

$$A_{\gamma} = A_{\gamma}^{1}(1-x) + A_{\gamma}^{2}x$$

and

$$B_{\gamma} = B_{\gamma}^1 (1-x) + B_{\gamma}^2 x,$$

where A_{γ}^1 and A_{γ}^2 correspond to one type of crystal and A_{γ}^2 and B_{γ}^2 to the other type (which are the components of the mixed crystal), and

$$a_{\rm M} = a_1(1-x) + a_2 x,$$

where $a_{\rm M}$ is the lattice constant of the mixed crystal; a_1 and a_2 are the lattice constant of the pure crystal, and x the concentration.

3. Results and conclusions

Recently we have found good agreement between theoretical and experimental results for the F [2] and the F_A [3,4] band in mixed crystals. The same idea is used in the study of the Z_1 -band in mixed crystals of KCl:KBr with Ca⁺⁺ impurities. The results are given in Table I and the behavior of the optical absorption of Z_1 -band in Fig. 1. There is not experimental results for these mixed crystals, but the behavior of the Z_1 -band as function of the concentration is similar to that of the F-band.

The calculations were carried on using Gaussian wave functions for the semiempirical parameter $\alpha = 1$. There are other methods in order to calculate the optical absorption of the F-band [14-24] but the Bartram *et al.* method [13] have been [25-30] applied to wide variety of color centers with good results.



FIGURE 1. Dashed line joints the theoretical values of the absorption energy vs. concentration for Z_1 center. Then for energy the following Vegard law type is possible: $\Delta E = \Delta E_1(1-x) + \Delta E_2 X$, and where ΔE is the absorption energy of the mixed crystal; ΔE_1 and ΔE_2 are the absorption energies of the pure crystals, and x the concentration.

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