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# A study of the absorption spectra of some neodymium compounds

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**A STUDY OF THE ABSORPTION SPECTRA OF SOME NEODYMIUM COMPOUNDS**

by

**John F. Palmer, Jr.**

**A Thesis Submitted to the Graduate Faculty  
for the Degree of**

**DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY**

**Major Subject Physical Chemistry**

**Approved:**

Signature was redacted for privacy.

**In Charge of Major Work**     |

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**Iowa State College**

**1941**

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Nearly all of the physical and chemical properties of an atom except those properties depending upon mass are determined by the energy states of the outermost or valence electrons and how they behave in various fields. For example, isotopes differ from one another only in mass, having identical other properties since their electron shells are exactly alike. On the other hand isobars, although their internal structures and masses are identical, differ radically due to different valency shells.

If for the atoms of a substance all the energy states were known and their various behaviours to electric and magnetic fields, caused by the approach of neighboring atoms, were understood, it would be possible to predict the chemical and physical properties of the substance. This state of affairs is far from being attained as yet but much progress has been made in that direction. In the case of gases good correlations have been made between the spectra and properties such as: specific heat, magnetic susceptibility, dielectric constant, electrical conductivity, refractive index, optical activity, heats of formation, entropy, free energy, fugacity, etc.

In the case of solids, liquids, and solutions unfortunately, the absorption spectra at room temperature consist of very broad diffuse bands. However, if sufficiently low temperatures are obtained some of these bands become sharp and resemble the gas type spectra while others are not appreciably changed. Happily, theory definitely predicts which bands will show a temperature sharpening and which will not.

It is rather unfortunate that all liquids and solutions become solid at the temperature at which most lines are resolved. At higher temperatures changes in the positions of the neighboring atoms due to temperature motion cause the electric and magnetic fields on the central atom to vary. This gives rise to a crystalline "Stark" or "Zeeman" splitting of the energy levels of that atom. The spacing and position of the absorption lines arising from these levels will vary with the momentary fields. The absorption spectrum observed on a photographic plate is the integrated absorption caused by millions of atoms and if the temperature motion is large the absorption lines will be blurred into broad bands. In the rare earths these temperature effects are minimized by the shielding effect of the outer complete electron shells in the rare earth ion and this results in the absorption lines still remaining sharp at liquid air temperatures. The rare earths are typical trivalent ions. Therefore, a study of their energy states as determined from spectra would furnish ideal data upon which to test theories.

The absorption spectra of solids are much more complex than those of gases. This is because the atoms are subjected to fields of much lower electric and magnetic symmetry. In gases the fields are spherically symmetrical since they arise entirely from the atom concerned and this gives rise to considerable degeneracy of the levels. The lower symmetry of the fields of the solids partially removes this degeneracy and causes the gas levels to separate into several components. As a result more components appear in the spectra. On the other hand this greater complication permits more correlations due to the greater number of variables. At



present the experimental data on the spectra of gases are very extensive, while those on solids are extremely meager. Accordingly good data are urgently needed for the correlation of chemical and physical properties in the case of solids and solutions.

This research was undertaken in order to make available a greater amount of good experimental data to check future theoretical work. Some examples of present theory will be checked herein to show how the data can be used.

It is also hoped that results of this sort will furnish experimental values from which forces acting within a solid and their variance from point to point can be calculated.

## II. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

### A. Spectroscopic

Spectroscopic investigations of the rare earths date from Bunsen's work (1) on the absorption spectra of solutions and crystals of salts of "didymium", a mixture of neodymium and praseodymium. About forty years later, Jean Becquerel and co-workers at Leiden undertook the study of the absorption spectra of certain minerals which contained mixtures of rare earth salts. In the course of their investigations they found that by lowering the temperature of the sample the absorption lines became sharper (2). Temperatures as low as that of solid hydrogen ( $12^{\circ}$  K.) were used. These investigators also studied the effect of a strong magnetic field on the absorption bands of "didymium", etc. These workers did not confine themselves to any one specific ion and their measurements were limited on the short wave length side by the glass vessels which surrounded their samples.

Freed and Spedding, in a communication (3) to Nature of April 6, 1929, announced the beginning of a systematic investigation of the absorption spectra of solids which has been continued up to the present time by these and other workers. For the initial investigations the gadolinium ion was chosen since its spectra would presumably be the simplest because its basic electronic level  $^8S_{7/2}$  is single. The spectrum, which lay almost entirely in the ultraviolet region except for a few faint diffuse lines in the visible,

consisted of extremely sharp lines (4) even at room temperature. As the temperature was lowered the lines sharpened slightly and a slight shift toward longer wave lengths together with a greater separation between lines composing each group was noted. These effects they attributed to the thermal contraction of the crystal lattice which consequently intensifies the electrostatic fields surrounding the cation.

About this time, the theoretical physicist, Bethe (5), using the methods of wave mechanics and group theory, investigated the influence of a crystal field of various symmetry on an atom. He concluded that the energy level splitting is determined by the symmetry of the field and the total angular momentum of the atom. In general, s-terms do not split, and p-terms do not split in a cubic field. Bethe calculated the eigen function for each term in a crystal to a zero order approximation. For each term the characteristic grouping of electron density about the axes of symmetry of a crystal was determined. The magnitude of the term-splitting is of the order of a few hundred inverse centimeters. He also found that with a crystal with tetragonal symmetry there is obtained a quantitative measure of the departure from cubic symmetry which determines uniquely the most stable electron arrangement in the crystal. Quantum mechanics is in qualitative agreement with the experiments of Becquerel (6).

Working with the reflection spectra of  $\text{SnCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , Spedding and Bear (7) observed, as had others previously, that the use of a conglomerate of small crystals in place of a large single crystal resulted in the appearance of new absorption lines and the strengthening of others. This they explained as being caused by the increased length of path travelled by the

light which is partially absorbed rather than an effect due to surface atoms as previously considered. The increased path results from the high refractive index for the light of wave length of the absorption lines, thus making it difficult for such a ray, once it has entered a small crystal fragment, to leave.

Spedding and Bear next published a series of papers (8) on the absorption of the  $\text{Sm}^{+++}$  ion in solids. Using large single crystals, the spectra of  $\text{SmCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were photographed at seven temperatures between 15 and  $298^\circ\text{K}$ . They were measured at four of the temperatures. All phenomena observed were explained on the basis of three direct effects of temperature change on the crystal lattice:

- (a) lattice contraction and expansion,
  - (b) temperature vibration of the lattice with consequent fluctuations in the crystal fields,
  - (c) Boltzmann distribution of the ions between excited lower levels about 160, 210 and  $300 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  above the basic level.
- Work on the conglomerate yielded additional lines and established the existence of excited lower levels situated at 145, 160, 204, 217 and  $300 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  above the basic level. Two components of the 300 level are thought to be present, and there are indications that the other levels, especially the basic one, may be complex.

Selection rules were indicated for  $\text{Sm}(\text{BrO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  which show two apparently independent sets of levels:

- (a) 0, 37, 82 and one group of high levels,
- (b) 0, 45, 67 and another group of high levels

This low-temperature splitting was attributed to either actual removal of degeneracy or to development of two types of  $\text{Sm}^{+++}$  ion, caused by a crystalline modification and differing in crystal environments. In contrast to the less symmetrical (monoclinic) chloride, the hexagonal bromate showed less extension and complexity of upper multiplets and had the excited lower levels closer to the basic level.

Continuing this work, the same authors found the following levels for other salts of samarium:

- (a) ethyl sulfate: 0, 55 and 65  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$
- (b) iodide: 0, 90 and 107  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$
- (c) perchlorate: 0, 104 and 160  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$
- (d) sulfate: 0, 160, 188 and 225  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$

It was suggested that crystal splitting of the basic  ${}^6\text{H}_{5/2}$  level could not account for all the levels, since only three new levels ( $J + 1/2$ ) can be expected when electric perturbations remove the degeneracy of such a state.

Spedding and Nutting, extending the work on salts of gadolinium (9), made measurements on the spectra of the bromate, ethyl sulfate, nitrate and sulfate. In these spectra a very marked change was noticed in going from the monoclinic symmetry of the chloride, bromide and sulfate to the hexagonal symmetry of the bromate and ethyl sulfate. The higher the degree of symmetry, the smaller the separation of levels. The absorption spectra of the gadolinium ion consists of lines which arise from electronic transitions from a single basic level ( $4f^7, {}^8\text{S}_{7/2}$ ) to excited levels which are less-degenerate through the influence of the electric fields of neighboring atoms.

The neodymium ion has likewise been worked on. Ephraim and Key measured the reflection spectra of neodymium oxide (10) and reported thirty-five band peaks in the visible. The absorption spectra of hydrated neodymium sulfate at 20, 78, 169 and 298°K., and of hydrated neodymium chloride at 78, 169 and 200°K. were examined by Spedding, Hamlin and Nutting (11). For the sulfate, the levels 0, 77 and 260  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  were found. These values are not in quantitative agreement with the theoretical conclusions of Penney and Schlapp (12), which were based on the experimental work of Gorter and de Haas (13) and require levels at 0, 243 and 874  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ . If the work of Gorter and de Haas is in error as regards absolute values, the positions found by Spedding and co-workers are in excellent agreement with the theories of Van Vleck (14) and of Penney and Schlapp. In addition they agree with the experiments of Meyer (15) and of Zernicke and James (16), which also disagree with the absolute values of Gorter and de Haas. In the case of the chloride, the levels were 0, 62 and 250  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ , which presumably arise from the splitting of the  ${}^4J_{9/2}$  basic state of neodymium ion in a predominantly cubic field.

Ewald (17) examined the sharp absorption lines of the following salts of neodymium: zinc-neodymium double nitrate, magnesium-neodymium double nitrate and the nitrate, sulfate, chloride and bromate. From his rather meager data he concluded that the following levels were present:

- (a) zinc-neodymium nitrate: 0, 36.6  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$
- (b) magnesium-neodymium nitrate: 0, 33.6  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$
- (c) neodymium nitrate: 0, 30.2  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$
- (d) neodymium sulfate: 0, 77  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$

(e) neodymium chloride: 0, 61.5  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$

(f) neodymium bromate: 0,  $\sim$  115  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$

Also for each salt he states that there is a third level between 200 and 300  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ .

The splitting of the basic state of hydrated erbium sulfate due to the presence of the crystalline fields was now calculated by Spedding (18) according to the methods of VanVleck and Penney and Schlapp (loc. cit.). Assuming a cubic field, the basic state should split into five levels having the relative separations 0, 19, 39, 85 and 89  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ . Experimentally Meehan and Nutting have found 0, 19, 41 and 85  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  (19). The agreement with magnetic susceptibility data was also very good.

In the case of the praseodymium ion, Spedding, Howe and Keller obtained the absorption spectra of hydrated praseodymium sulfate at 20, 76, 105, 169, 200 and 300° K. Low lying excited levels were found at 0, 110, 235 and 500  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  in fair agreement with the calculations of Penney and Schlapp (loc. cit.). A very strong coupling of vibrational states with the highly excited energy states seems to occur as the absorption bands consist of hundreds of closely spaced fainter lines. Two methods were used for identifying the levels:

(a) The intensity of absorption is proportional to the number of atoms in the lowest state, which is in turn proportional to the temperature according to the Boltzmann relationship. As the temperature is lowered, a critical point is reached where the lines from the lowest state fade out.

(b) Since lines originating from lower states terminate in common

upper states, the interval of the lower states will be repeated throughout the spectra.

Gebrecht studied the visible and infra-red absorption spectra (21) of the octahydrated sulfates of many of the rare earths at the temperature of liquid air. In the case of the four fluorescent elements Sm, Eu, Tb and Dy, the emission spectra in borax beads were also examined. These emissions were attributed to transitions from a higher state to the complete multiplet of the ground state as given by the Hund rules (22).

A study of the crystal fields of the europium ion, making use of both absorption and emission spectra has been made by Lange (23). The europium ion is especially suited for this work since the upper state, from which the emission starts, is either an S-state or has an inner quantum number  $J = 0$  and is therefore not split. The acetate, nitrate, sulfate, oxalate, phosphate, double magnesium nitrate and bromate were used. The spectra were displaced about  $10 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  to the red at  $-180^\circ \text{C}$ .

Continuing the work on europium Spedding, Moss and Waller (24) measured the absorption spectra of crystalline, hydrate europium chloride, bromide and sulfate at various temperatures. The salts were found to have low-lying excited levels at about 300, 390, 938, 970 and, perhaps,  $430 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  which arose from excited electronic, crystal and vibrational frequencies. Good agreement was also found with magnetic susceptibility data.

### B. Magnetic

The German theoretical physicist Hund, in 1925, published a paper (22) in which he calculated values for the magnetic susceptibilities of



all the rare earth ions from a few simple postulates on the quantum numbers of the basic electronic orbits. Experimentally determined values of Cabrera (26) and St. Meyer (15) were in agreement with his work. The facts are probably best presented by the following table taken from Hund's paper:

Table I. Comparison of theoretical and experimental magnetic data

Element	: No. of	: Ground	: Calcu. no.:	: Experimental no. of	
	4f			: of Weiss :	Weiss magnetons
	: electrons	: state	: magnetons:	Cabrera	: St. Meyer
La <sup>+++</sup>	0	1s <sub>0</sub>	0	---	diamagnetic
Ce <sup>+++</sup>	1	2F <sub>5/2</sub>	12.5	11.4	13.8
Pr <sup>+++</sup>	2	3H <sub>4</sub>	17.8	17.8	17.3
Nd <sup>+++</sup>	3	4I <sub>9/2</sub>	17.8	18.0	17.5
Il <sup>+++</sup>	4	5I <sub>4</sub>	13.4	---	---
Sm <sup>+++</sup>	5	6H <sub>5/2</sub>	4.2	8.0	7.0
Eu <sup>+++</sup>	6	7F <sub>0</sub>	0	17.9	18.0
Gd <sup>+++</sup>	7	8S <sub>7/2</sub>	39.4	40.0	40.2
Tb <sup>+++</sup>	8	7F <sub>6</sub>	48.3	47.1	44.8
Dy <sup>+++</sup>	9	6H <sub>15/2</sub>	52.8	52.2	53.0
Ho <sup>+++</sup>	10	5I <sub>8</sub>	52.8	52.0	51.9
Er <sup>+++</sup>	11	4I <sub>15/2</sub>	47.7	47.0	46.7
Tm <sup>+++</sup>	12	3H <sub>6</sub>	37.6	35.6	37.5
Yb <sup>+++</sup>	13	2F <sub>7/2</sub>	22.5	21.9	22.5
Lu <sup>+++</sup>	14	1s <sub>0</sub>	0	diamagnetic	diamagnetic

In general the agreement is good, and only in the case of Sm<sup>+++</sup> and Eu<sup>+++</sup> are there any serious disagreements.

Following the method of Laporte (27), Van Vleck and Frank (28) took the value of  $\frac{3}{4}$  for the screening constant of europium and by including the second-order Zeeman terms obtained a value for the apparent Bohr magneton number (at room temperature) of about 3.5. This is equivalent to about 17.5 Weiss magnetons and agrees well with the experimental values of Cabrera and St. Meyer (loc. cit.).

Freed, in 1930, measured the susceptibility of  $\text{Sm}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from  $74^\circ$  to  $291^\circ$  K. (29), and has shown that the samarium ion both in solids and in solutions consists of a mixture of electronic isomers, which appear to be in thermal equilibrium. The variation of the magnetic susceptibility suggests that the stable isomer at the lowest temperature has the configuration:

$\text{Sm}^{+++}$  shell: 1 s (2s to 4d) 4f 5s 5 p  
No. of electrons: 2 (full) 5 (full)

The configuration predicted by Hund ( $4f^5, {}^6\text{H}_{5/2}$ ) holds for low temperatures. At higher temperatures, however, due to the Boltzmann distribution factor, many of the atoms are in excited states whose energy values are but slightly greater than that of the  ${}^6\text{H}_{5/2}$  term. A further prediction of Freed was that the relative intensities of the lines would vary with temperature, and such a variation was actually found in the case of  $\text{SmCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (30).

Amelia Frank, in extending the work of Van Vleck, made some interesting calculations on temperature dependence of the susceptibilities (31). If, for some salts, Curie's law does not hold, the Curie constant is not independent of temperature. Therefore previous work was in reality a comparison of susceptibilities at a given temperature. Deviations from Curie's law

for neodymium in the straight line portion of the curve are expressed by the following relation:

$$\chi_m = \frac{C}{T + \Delta}$$

where the significance of  $\Delta$  is as shown in Figure 1:

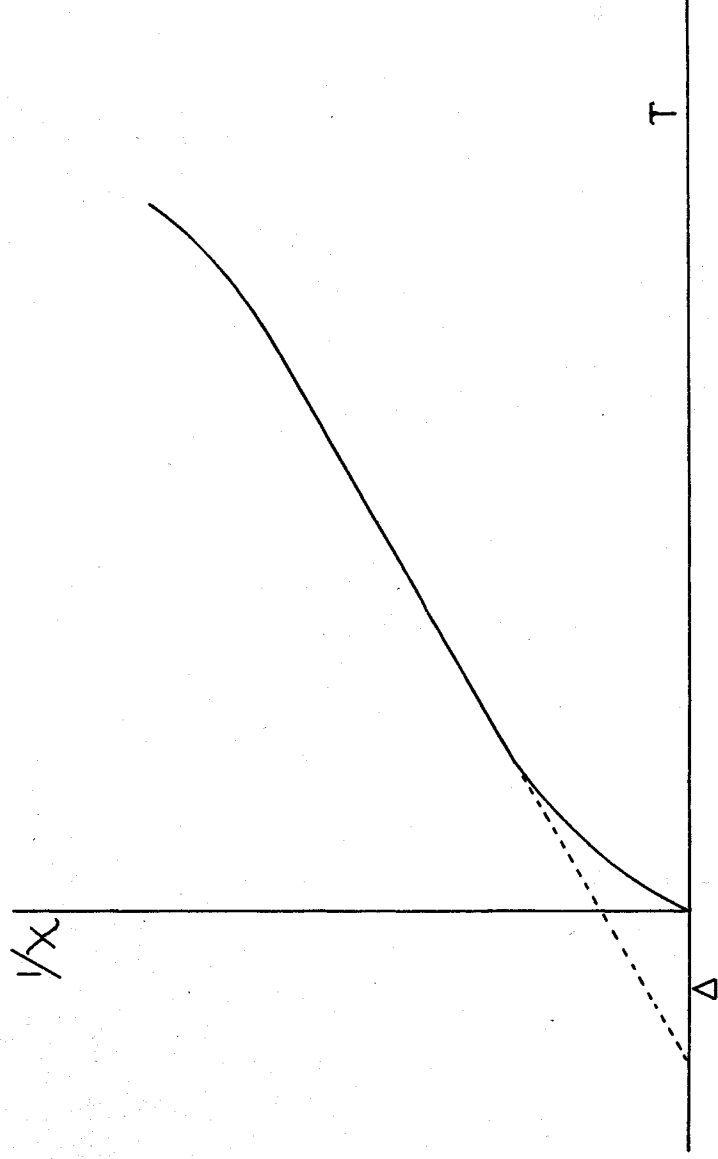


Fig. 1. Variation of magnetic susceptibility with temperature.

Penney and Schlapp, working on the influence of crystalline fields on the susceptibilities of salts of paramagnetic ions, have developed formulas for the calculation of susceptibilities directly from multiplet intervals (12). Excellent agreement is obtained with the experimental results of Gorter and de Haas for the variation of susceptibility with temperature if the assumption is made that the crystal field has cubic symmetry and can be represented by a potential  $D(x^4 + y^4 + z^4)$ . For the case of neodymium the following equation was developed:

$$\chi = (2g^2\beta^2N/A) \left[ (0.1483e^{19.59\mu} + 0.2396e^{-9.11\mu} - 0.3879e^{-20.95\mu}) \right. \\ \left. + \mu (6.065e^{19.59\mu} + 4.031e^{-9.11\mu} + 1.680e^{-20.95\mu}) \right] \\ \div [2e^{19.59\mu} + 2e^{-9.11\mu} + e^{-20.95\mu}]$$

where  $g = 3/11$  for Nd,  $\mu = A/kT$ ,  $\beta$  is the Bohr magneton and  $N$  is Avogadro's number.  $A$  is found by solving the energy level equations. This equation is very sensitive to the shape of the susceptibility curve versus temperature but is not sensitive to the absolute value of the susceptibility since the arbitrary parameter  $A$  in the equation is determined from the absolute value. If, on the other hand, the absolute values of Selwood (19), Zernicke and James (16) and Cabrera (26) are used a different value of  $A$  is obtained which is in agreement with  $A$  obtained from spectra.

Recent work of Cabrera (32) has shown that the discrepancies between the magnetic constants derived from the wave-theory of magnetism and those obtained by experiment are largely due to the presence of foreign materials, primarily water, in the substances used for the experimental work. The relevant facts may be concisely presented by the curves shown in Figure 2:

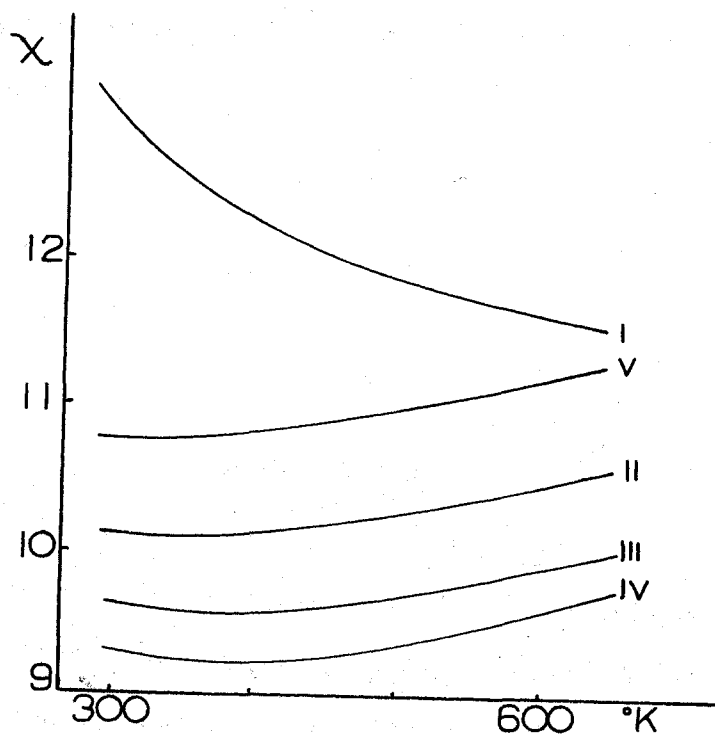


Fig. 2. Effect of water-occlusion on the variation of susceptibility with temperature.

- Curve I = sample of  $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$  from Rolla
- Curve II = sample of  $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$  from Prandtl (A)
- Curve III = sample of  $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$  from Prandtl (B)
- Curve IV = sample of  $\text{Sm}_2\text{O}_3$  from Urbain

Curve I was found to be due to the presence of about 1% of gadolinium. When a correction was applied for this impurity, the curve coincided with III. Further, when curves II, III and IV were corrected for the water content of the sample concerned, they all took up the position shown by the curve V.

Therefore it can be easily seen that it is very important that pure materials be used, that analysis be made and reported and that methods of preparation of sample be accurately reported.

### C. Specific Heat

Some very interesting work on the relationships of specific heat to electronic activation in rare earth crystals has been done, during the last few years by Ahlberg and co-workers at Berkeley and Johns Hopkins.

In a letter to the editor of Physical Review, Ahlberg and Freed (33) discussed the magnetic (34) and optical (35) behavior of the samarium ion in crystals. These properties show clearly that  $\text{Sm}^{++}$  possesses an electronic level little removed in energy from its basic level and that a considerable change in the relative populations of the two states is occurring near the temperature of liquid nitrogen. The determination of the specific heat of  $\text{Sm}^{++}$  as a function of temperature would then yield a check on the electronic transitions in a crystal as ascertained from the spectra.

An expression relating change in specific heat at constant volume with transitions between quantum states has been given by Schottky (36):

$$\Delta C_v = \frac{mR(h\nu/KT)^2 e^{\frac{h\nu}{KT}}}{(e^{\frac{h\nu}{KT}} - m)^2}$$

where  $m$  is the ratio of the statistical weights in the activated and in the basic state and  $\nu$  is value of the energy difference between the basic and activated state.

The contribution to the specific heat due to translational, vibrational and crystal frequencies should be the same for samarium sulfate and gadolinium sulfate, since they have exactly the same crystal structure and the masses of the atoms can be taken as the same with very small error. Spectra (37) and magnetic susceptibility (38) data have established the fact that all the

gadolinium ions occupy the basic electronic state  $^8S_{7/2}$  from room temperature to the temperature of liquid hydrogen. Therefore measurements on the octahydrated gadolinium sulfate (39) could be used to give the specific heat of octahydrated samarium sulfate in the basic state. The net electronic specific heat of  $\text{Sm}^{3+}$  within small limits of error thus equals the difference between the heats for samarium sulfate and gadolinium sulfate.

Later work on the same salts by Ahlberg and associates over the temperature range  $16^\circ$  to  $300^\circ$  K. (40) made the statistical weights of all three excited levels as found spectroscopically by Spedding and Bear (41) the same, and equal to that of the basic state. The levels were 0, 160, 188 and  $225 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

Giaque in his paper on spectroscopic calculations (42) gives the following theoretical equation, a more complete form of the Schottky equation, for the calculation of the heat capacity due to the degrees of freedom considered:

$$C_v(\text{electronic}) = \frac{N}{KT^2} \left[ \frac{\sum \epsilon^2 p e^{-\epsilon/KT}}{\sum p e^{-\epsilon/KT}} - \left( \frac{\sum \epsilon p e^{-\epsilon/KT}}{\sum p e^{-\epsilon/KT}} \right)^2 \right]$$

where  $N$  is Avogadro's number,  $\epsilon$  equals  $h\nu$  in which  $\nu$  is the energy difference between states in reciprocal centimeters and  $p$  is the 'a priori' probability.

Using the data of Spedding and Bear (loc. cit.) and the theoretical equation for the electronic heat capacity, Amelia Frank (43) calculated the heat capacity of samarium at various temperatures and plotted the theoretical curves (Fig. 3). The lack of good agreement with the absolute values of Ahlberg and Freed (44) was not considered surprising. The experimental values were obtained by the above mentioned method and represent the differences

between the heat capacities of  $1/2 [Sm_2(SO_4)_3 \cdot 8H_2O]$  and  $1/2 [Gd_2(SO_4)_3 \cdot 8H_2O]$ . Since these are large quantities relative to their difference, the possible error in the difference may be considerable. However, Miss Frank has used only three of Spedding's levels in her calculations since simple theory only permits this number. The other levels she attributes to crystal vibrations. Ahlberg using all of the levels as reported by Spedding, and assigning to each a statistical weight of two, calculated a curve which fitted the experimental very closely. In using this method of calculation it must be borne in mind that the position of the peak of the curve gives a check of the levels, while the statistical weight determines the height.

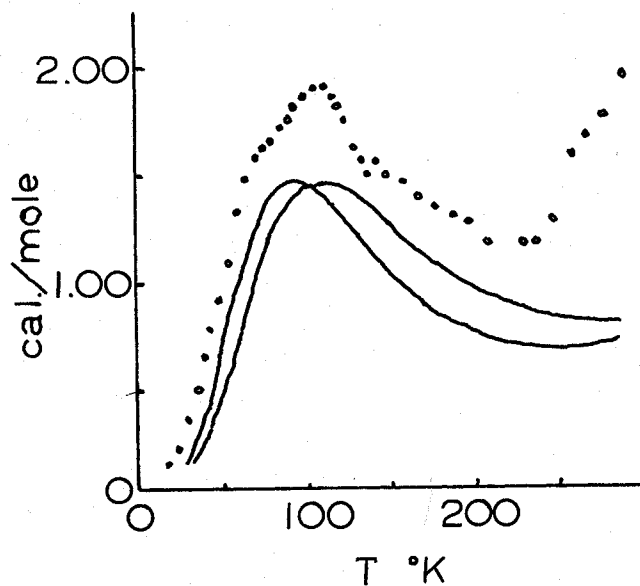


Fig. 3. Variation of electronic heat capacity of  $Sm^{+++}$  with temperature. Solid lines show theoretical values of Frank using levels at (a) 187 and 225  $cm^{-1}$ , (b) 160 and 187  $cm^{-1}$ . Circles designate experimental values of Ahlberg and Freed.



When it became possible to extend the measurements to cover the range  $3^{\circ}$  to  $40^{\circ}$  K. (45), the neodymium sulfate octahydrate was included and gave an interesting check with spectroscopic data. The absorption spectra of the sulfate of neodymium were measured by Spedding, Hamlin and Nutting (46) and two excited levels were found at  $77 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  and  $260 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  from the basic state. The  $260 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  level does not enter the question because its population is negligible at temperatures below  $40 \text{ K.}$ , but the heat capacity calculated from the  $77 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  level, using statistical weight for the level twice that of the basic level as predicted by theory, agrees closely with that found by direct experiment.

### III. EXPERIMENTAL

#### A. Materials

The neodymium used in this research was a sample of hydrated neodymium magnesium double nitrate,  $\text{Nd}_2\text{Mg}_3(\text{NO}_3)_{12} \cdot 24 \text{H}_2\text{O}$ , from the private laboratory of H. N. McCoy in Los Angeles, California.

In the present instance the neodymium was obtained as one of the by-products of the isolation of thorium oxide from monazite. The praseodymium and neodymium were separated by means of repeated fractional crystallizations of the magnesium double nitrates. In spite of the fact that extreme care was exercised and a large number of recrystallizations were performed in the preparation of this sample of neodymium, it still contained a small amount of praseodymium. This was evidenced by the definite appearance of the very strong absorption band of praseodymium in the 5900 Å region of the spectra.

#### Preparations

##### (1) Neodymium bromate, $\text{Nd}(\text{BrO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

The neodymium magnesium nitrate was dissolved in cold conductivity water and the neodymium was then precipitated as the oxalate by adding a slight excess of a saturated solution of oxalic acid, according to the equation:



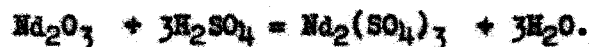
At this point it might be mentioned that conductivity water was used throughout this investigation since the distilled water in the chemical

laboratories was found to contain appreciable amounts of iron and dissolved carbon dioxide.

After digesting for a short time, on a hot plate at low heat, the precipitate was allowed to settle for an hour and then was recovered on "ashless" filter paper, dried, and ignited to constant weight in a large platinum dish.



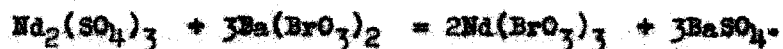
The resulting neodymium oxide was a light blue powder. This was added to a large volume of cold water containing a slight excess of sulfuric acid required for the following reaction:



From the resulting clear solution the neodymium was again precipitated as the oxalate, filtered, dried and ignited to the oxide in order to obtain a very pure material to be used as the source of neodymium for subsequent preparations.

A weighed portion of the purified oxide was added to a large volume of water containing the theoretical amount of sulfuric acid for neutralization. Upon standing overnight a clear solution resulted.

To this solution of neodymium sulfate a solution of barium bromate was added which contained a slight excess of the barium salt as required by the equation:



The resulting solution after digestion overnight at a temperature slightly below 100° C. was filtered to remove the precipitated barium sulfate.

The solution of neodymium bromate thus obtained was concentrated to the saturation point on a steam-bath. The first crystals to come out of

solution were filtered out and discarded in order to remove any of the less soluble barium bromate which might have remained in solution.

A second batch of crystals was obtained by slow concentration of the mother liquor at room temperature by means of a vacuum desiccator containing fine mesh anhydrous calcium chloride. A moderate vacuum was maintained in the desiccator by means of a water aspirator.

The crystals obtained from the vacuum evaporation were filtered out of the mother liquor into a sintered glass filtering crucible, washed and redissolved in cold water. This resulting solution was vacuum evaporated to obtain crystals of a high degree of purity.

This method gave large quantities of small well-formed crystals in a period of several days. However, to obtain large clear crystals suitable for single crystal measurements it was necessary to resort to a slightly different procedure. To a solution of the bromate which had started to crystallize a few drops of water were added and the resulting solution rapidly filtered, by means of vacuum, through a sintered glass crucible of medium porosity. A single well-formed crystal of the bromate was carefully placed in the filtrate and the resulting solution contained in a small beaker was set in a desiccator containing anhydrous calcium chloride. The desiccator was kept in the spectrograph room where the temperature remained practically constant in order to insure symmetrical growth of the crystal. By this procedure single crystals having the dimensions 15 mm. by 10 mm. by 4 mm. were obtained.

Since there was always the possibility that the salt obtained was not, as assumed, the nonhydrate, or even the trivalent bromate, an analysis

of the salt was made to establish the exact nature of the compound used for the investigation.

(2) Quantitative analysis of the bromate.

(a) Determination of Nd. The method was to precipitate as oxalate, ignite to the oxide, and weigh.

Found: 20.840% ; 20.890%

Average - 20.865%

Theoretical: 20.904%

(b) Determination of BrO<sub>3</sub>. The method used here was the microchemical determination in which potassium iodide and glacial acetic acid were added to a solution of the salt. The iodine liberated by the bromate ion was titrated with standard sodium thiosulfate.

Found: 55.575% ; 55.534%

Average - 55.560%

Theoretical: 55.585%

Since the theoretical percentages referred to were calculated from the formula  $Nd(BrO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$ , it follows that the material was, actually, the nonhydrated tribromate, and also was in a very good state of purity.

(3) Neodymium oxide, Nd<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

This salt was prepared from neodymium nitrate which in turn was prepared from the purified oxide in very much the same manner as the sulfate. The solution of neodymium nitrate was concentrated and crystallized using a procedure identical to that for obtaining small crystals of the bromate. Small recrystallized crystals of the nitrate were dehydrated at a very low

heat in a platinum crucible followed by prolonged heating to a cherry-red heat at which time the nitrate decomposed to the oxide (25):



The oxide obtained in this manner was very light blue in color and retained its color following cooling.

Samples of the oxide prepared from the ignition of the oxalate were also used in the investigation as a check against the general procedure using the nitrates.

Neodymium oxide has been found to exist in two different crystalline modifications. These two types are prepared by ignition at different temperatures. Both types were prepared and their spectra photographed. The low temperature oxide's spectra contains more lines but since it is actually a mixture of types A and C instead of entirely type A, as is the high temperature oxide, its spectra is not of as much theoretical importance.

#### (4) Quantitative analysis of the oxide

The oxide was analyzed for its neodymium content by dissolving in dilute hydrochloric acid followed by precipitation as the oxalate as described in the case of the bromate.

Found: 85.568%; 85.933%

Average: - 85.755%

Theoretical: 85.738%

## B. Apparatus

### (1) Source of light

A 500 watt tungsten filament projection lamp housed in a metal box having a large condensing lens in one end was found satisfactory for all the ranges covered.

### (2) Absorption cells

These varied with the type of sample in use, and also with the temperature range in which one wished to operate. Two primary types of samples were employed:

(a) Single crystals (1-6 mm. thick).

(b) Conglomerates (0.1-5 mm. thick).

In case (a), the crystal chosen was simply attached to a piece of cardboard with a suitable hole cut through which the light could be passed. This type of sample could be used at room temperature and at the temperature of liquid nitrogen.<sup>1</sup> In making room temperature exposures it was necessary to pass the light from the lamp house first through a large beaker full of water, in order to absorb the great heat carried by the rays.

In case (b), two methods were employed: (1) Salts obtained in moderate sized crystals were placed in small glass flasks having plane parallel sides. These flasks were made by blowing out tubing of suitable

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1. Liquid nitrogen was used in preference to liquid air since the oxygen in the latter gives wide absorption bands.

diameter into carbon moulding blocks. (2) In the case of the oxide it was impossible to make glass cells with parallel sides thin enough. Therefore, a thin layer of the material was placed between two pieces of glass which were held together by adhesive tape. The whole affair was then fastened to a piece of cardboard in much the same manner as a single crystal would be mounted.

### (3) Cooling jackets

Liquid nitrogen, boiling at  $-195.8^{\circ}$  C., and liquid ethylene, boiling at  $-103.9^{\circ}$  C., were used for the production of low temperatures. The liquids were contained in a large Dewar flask, in which the samples were supported by long wooden dowel sticks. The Dewar was similar to those described by Spedding and Bear (48), the light passing through the flask by means of two triangular windows left in the silvering of the sides.

This Dewar flask had an internal diameter of 4.5 inches and a depth of about 2.5 feet. By having such a large jacket, it was possible to make a long exposure, or several shorter ones, without the necessity of refilling with liquid nitrogen.

For the carbon dioxide in acetone temperatures ( $-78.5^{\circ}$  C.) an un-silvered Dewar flask of one liter capacity was used.

### (4) Cooling mediums

The solid carbon dioxide was the ordinary commercial grade.

The liquid nitrogen was obtained from the Air Reduction Sales Company and was of a purity greater than 95 percent.



Liquid ethylene was prepared as needed by allowing ethylene, in the gas form, to flow into a brass pipe which was surrounded by liquid nitrogen, the condensed gas flowed through the pipe into the large Dewar flask previously described. As the ethylene vaporized it was recondensed and returned to the bottom of the flask.

(5) Reference spectrum

This was obtained, superimposed upon the absorption spectrum, by replacing the cell containing the sample with an iron arc using a direct current of from 3 to 5 amperes across a gap of 5 to 7 mm.

(6) Recording instruments

In this investigation three different instruments were used:

(a) A Hilger El Littrow type quartz spectrograph, giving a dispersion of 36A. per mm. in the 6300 A. region, and 7 A. per mm. in the 3500 A. region.

(b) A three meter grating spectrograph using a grating ruled by Wood having 14,448 lines per inch and mounted in a modified Wadsworth mounting which gave a linear dispersion of about 11 A. per mm.

(c) A 21 foot grating spectrograph using a grating also having 14,448 lines per inch but in this instance utilizing the Paschen mounting which gave a linear dispersion of about 2.5 A. per mm. in the first order.

(7) Photographic plates

All plates used were manufactured by Eastman Kodak and were of the following types:

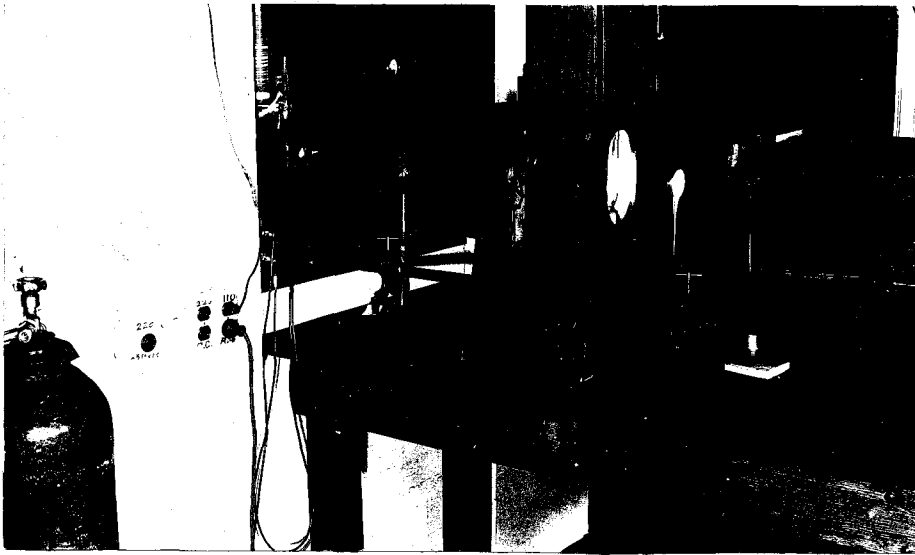


Fig. 4. Optical line-up for the twenty-one foot grating spectrograph.

- (a) From 8500 A. to 7500 A., 144-R.
- (b) From 8000 A. to 6500 A., 1-N.
- (c) From 7000 A. to 5000 A., I-S, 103-F.
- (d) From 6500 A. to 4000 A., Super Panchro Press., 103-B.
- (e) From 5000 A. to 3800 A., I-O, 103-O, Ia-O.

(8) Measuring engine

This was a comparator manufactured by the Societe Genevoise of Geneva, Switzerland. It had a 2 mm. pitch screw and gave readings to 0.001 mm.

C. Method of Procedure

(1) Exposures

For each salt, plates were taken with conglomerates and single crystals, except in the case of the oxide where only thin conglomerates were used. In order to obtain the best exposure for every absorption line observed, the same region had to be photographed a number of times, since an exposure giving good results in one range would either over-expose the lines in the next range or fail to record them, owing to the variation of the intensity of the source and the sensitivity and type of the plates in the different regions of the spectrum.

In the visible, exposure times varied from five minutes to forty-eight hours, while in the near infra-red exposures of two to forty-eight hours were made. Exposure times also varied inversely as the dispersion

of the instrument.

The final result was a set of plates which included at least two independent recordings of every neodymium line observed at both room temperature and liquid nitrogen temperature for each of the types of sample employable for the salt under consideration. For intermediate temperatures one complete set of conglomerate plates only was obtained. In the case of the polarized spectra, one complete set of plates for each of two different thin crystals and one set for a thick crystal were made.

The polarized spectra were obtained by placing a Wollaston prism in front of spectrograph slit. It was possible to so line up the prism that the parallel and perpendicular spectra fell one above the other on the slit and were thus recorded side by side for easy comparison (Fig. 5). The absolute intensity between the two spectra can not be relied on, since their intensity depends on the line-up of the prism and polarizability of the instrument.

## (2) Examination of plates

Before attempting to measure the exact position of any of the absorption lines, the plates were placed in turn on a ground-glass viewing box and carefully examined with a low-power jeweler's lens.

At this stage the degree of sharpness or diffuseness of the lines, and also the relative intensities could be noted. Also at this point certain very faint lines which, though clearly visible on the viewing box or with the jeweler's lens, were completely invisible through the high-power microscope of the comparator, could be marked by making a faint dot in the

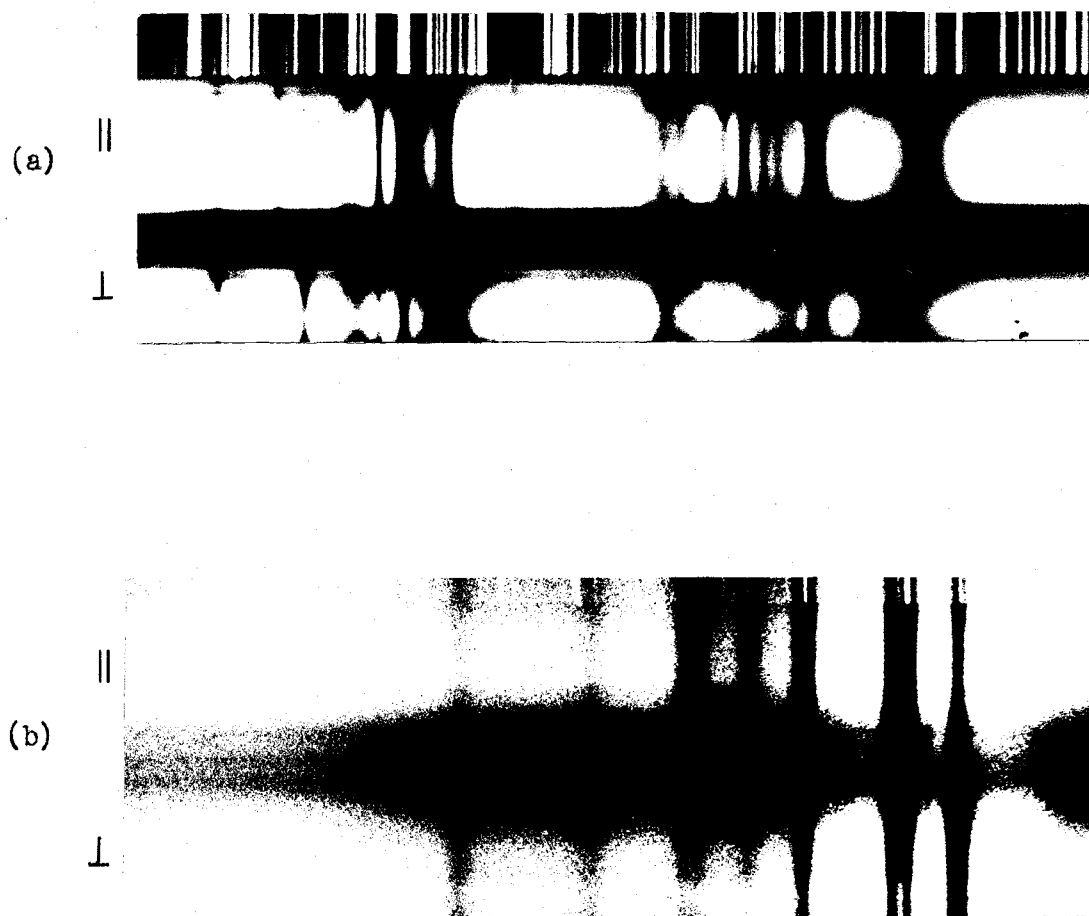


Fig. 5. Polarization spectra of a single crystal of neodymium bromate at liquid nitrogen temperature. (a) 5200A multiplet. (b) 6300 A multiplet.

gelatine with a sharp needle-like instrument. Such a mark as this could be readily observed and its position accurately measured.

### (3) Measurements

It was found advantageous to measure only one multiplet of neodymium lines at a time. A plate having been clamped on the stage of the comparator in such a manner that no "hypotenuse effect" was observed in traversing from one end to the other, measurement was started with a characteristic and readily identified iron line and continued through the multiplet to end with another good iron line. Where possible, an iron line was measured in the immediate vicinity of every neodymium line. The measurement of each line was repeated several times and the mean recorded. In addition, the neodymium lines were measured on each side. Every line observed was measured on at least two different plates.

### (4) Calculations

The manner in which the final wave numbers were obtained from the comparator readings may be best explained by taking a typical multiplet as an example:

$\text{Nd}(\text{BrO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , Grating plate #107, 6300-6200 Å. In order to prevent corrections from becoming large, a separate extrapolation was made for every two hundred to three hundred Angstroms measured on the plate.

First, the initial and final iron lines were identified on the standard wave length chart put out by Hilger of London. These two wave lengths were recorded in the third column of Table II. Assuming a linear

relation between wave lengths and millimeters, the figures in the fourth column were obtained on a ten bank electric calculator.

From the extrapolated wave length, each iron line could be identified either on the Hilger charts or in Kayser and Konen: "Handbuch der Spectroscopie", and the correct wave length read off and recorded in column three.

By subtracting the extrapolated wave lengths of the iron lines from the accurate values in the third column, the corrections in column five were obtained.

The next step was to graph the millimeters of the iron lines against the corrections in wave length units. This should give a smooth curve with its peak at the mid-point of the extrapolation. If such was not the case, one of the "anchor" lines was probably wrongly identified, and the extrapolation had to be repeated using another iron line.

Next, the corrections which applied to the extrapolated wave lengths of the neodymium lines were read off from the curve and added to the values in column four to give the values in column six.

Finally, the wave number values recorded in column seven were obtained by the use of Kayser's conversion tables applied to the values in column six which also corrected to represent measurements in a vacuum.

#### (5) Enlargements and prints

Contact prints were made from the grating plates. In doing this, it was found that in some cases only a portion of a plate could be properly printed with a given exposure time. Complete spectrograms covering the range from 8500 A. to 3800 A. were made by cutting various exposures from

Table II. Specimen calculation for one multiplet

Line	mm.	$\lambda_{Fe}$	$\lambda_{Ex}$	Diff.	$\lambda_{Corr.}$	$Cm.^{-1}$
Fe	151.078	6301.52				
Fe	152.640	6297.803	6297.79	+0.01		
Nd	159.744		6280.82		6280.9	15916.9
	160.890		6278.08		6278.1	15924.0
Nd	161.496		6276.63		6276.7	15927.5
	162.796		6273.52		6273.6	15935.4
Nd	165.796		6266.36		6266.4	15953.7
	166.676		6264.25		6264.3	15959.1
Fe	166.311	6265.145	6265.11	+0.04		
Fe	169.995	6256.371	6256.32	+0.05		
Fe	170.866	6254.266	6254.22	+0.05		
Nd	170.560		6254.97		6255.0	15982.8
	171.030		6253.85		6253.9	15985.6
Nd	171.420		6252.92		6253.0	15987.9
	171.770		6252.08		6252.1	15990.2
Fe	171.585	6252.567	6252.52	+0.05		
Fe	174.185	6246.344	6246.31	+0.03		
Nd	179.120		6234.52		6234.5	16035.4
	179.630		6233.30		6233.3	16038.4
Fe	179.900	6232.667	6232.65	+0.02		
Nd	180.620		6230.93		6231.0	16044.4
	181.000		6230.03		6230.1	16046.7
Fe	180.719	6230.734	6230.71	+0.02		
Nd	185.000		6220.47		6220.5	16071.4
	185.410		6219.49		6219.5	16074.0
Fe	185.493	6219.290				



different plates at suitable points and joining together in the correct position. This was done for the various temperatures and the complete spectrograms were mounted side by side.

These prints gave a ready means of examining the various spectra in their entirety and of comparing the one with the other.

In the case of the plates from the prism instrument enlarged prints were made to facilitate examination of the spectra.

#### (6) Chart of lines

To simplify the interpretation of the results and the search for recurring frequency intervals, a plot was made of the positions of all the absorption lines as measured in wave number units. This was done on a sheet of graph paper measuring 1 1/2 by 8 feet. The sheet was divided into ten major strips lengthwise, and each 5 cm. in depth. These strips were graduated consecutively allowing a 300  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  overlap on a scale of one wave number unit per mm., giving a range from 11,000  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  to 30,000  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ . The absorption lines were represented by a horizontal line whose length corresponded to the width of the absorbed line. The various temperature measurements were distinguished from one another by the use of different colored lines.

In the first plot, all measurements made were put down, and from these the weighted-mean values given in the following tables were taken.

Finally, a second plot was made giving only the mean values for the various temperatures. On this chart the values for the several salts were recorded so the effect of a change of a negative group could also be

studied.

This final chart was used to make deductions from the results which will be discussed later.

#### IV. RESULTS

In the tables of results now presented primed lines in the single crystal, nitrogen temperature column of the bromate were obtained from polarized plates, while all lines reported for the oxide were obtained from thin layers of the powdered oxide. The letter "H" denotes a line which is markedly intensified at high temperatures and may not be picked up at all at low temperatures. Likewise, "L" denotes a line for which we have good evidence that it originates from the lowest or basic state and is electronic in origin. These letters are given in a separate column headed "P". The columns headed "I" give the intensities of the lines as estimated visually with respect to other neighboring lines on a scale from 0 to 10. A line marked 0 was so faint it was barely visible on the plate to the naked eye, while a line marked 1 was barely discernible under a low power eye-piece. These lines were measured by scratching the gelatine of the plate as previously described. A line marked 5 appeared completely absorbed in the conglomerate but not in the single crystal, while 10 denotes a line completely absorbed in both. These intensities are only relative to each other in the same spectral region and can not be compared with lines in different regions or in other spectra. The letter "g" signifies that the edges of the line or band were clear and sharp; "d" that the edges were not clearly defined; "vd" lines regardless of intensity had to be scratched in order to locate the edges due to gradual fading or extreme diffuseness; and "!" that the line was only observed on one plate.

In the columns marked "p" of the bromate are given the descriptive intensities of the single crystal lines as they appear in polarized spectra. The first of the two values is for perpendicular polarization, the second for parallel.

Table III. Absorption lines of  $Nd(BrO_3)_3 \cdot 9H_2O$

		Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.			Room temp.		
A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	conglomerate			conglomerate		
		I	T	P	I	T	I
		single crystal			crystal		
		cm. <sup>-1</sup>			cm. <sup>-1</sup>		
					11634		
8591.8	11636						
8588.7	11640	10s			11643	5d	
8549.9	11693				11692		
8546.1	11698	10d	10s 7s				
8525.6	11726				11702	10d	
8514.5	11741	4d			11727		
8507.8	11751				11741	2vd	
8497.1	11765	4d			11750	2vd	
					11765		
					11781		
8479.5	11790						
8471.8	11801	1vd			11794	1vd	
8466.9	11807				11803		
8458.4	11819	1vd					
8447.1	11835				11820	2vd	
8444.3	11839	3d					
8441.0	11844				11841		
8438.1	11848	3d					
8436.9	11849						
8432.4	11856	7d					
8427.5	11863				11854	4vd	
8422.6	11870	2vd					

Table III. (Continued.)

		Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
		conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal	
A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	I	P	A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
8417.7	11876					8418.9	11875		
8413.1	11863	2vd							
8404.9	11895					8408.4	11890	5vd	
8398.9	11903	7d				8403.5	11897		
8392.7	11912					8394.3	11910	5vd	
8388.7	11918	4d							
8380.2	11930					8381.8	11927		
8375.0	11937	5d							
8361.3	11957								
8357.6	11962	8d				8373.9	11939	3vd	
8351.3	11971					8362.5	11955		
8347.5	11976	8d							
8339.3	11988					8351.1	11971	8d	
8335.7	11993	5d							
8188.9	12208					8192.7	12203		
8151.0	12265	2vd							
8146.2	12272					8151.6	12264	2vd	
8143.2	12277	4e							

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.				
	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal		
	cm.-1	τ	cm.-1	P	cm.-1	τ	cm.-1	τ	
8071.9	12385								
8067.6	12392	7d							
8055.5	12410								
8051.1	12417	8d	5d Od				12418		
8047.6	12423								
8044.4	12428	8d	8d 1d				12431	8d	
8039.3	12435						12436		
8034.7	12443	10d					12447	8d	
8027.4	12454								
8023.4	12460	9d							
8012.5	12477						12477		
8010.5					12480'				
8006.8					12486'	8d 10d			
7999.0					12498'				
7994.2					12506'	10d 10d			
7990.9					12511'				
7986.1					12518'	10d 7d			
7979.6	12528	7vd					12528	3vd	
7952.6	12571								
7950.4	12575	7s					12577		
7946.9	12580								
7940.7					12590'				
7924.0					12616'	10d 10d			
7908.0	12642	7vd					12630	8vd	





Table III. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.							Room temp.					
A	conglomerate			single crystal			A	conglomerate			crystal	
	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	P		cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
7695.9	12990											
7688.2	13003	2vd										
7674.5	13027											
7658.8	13052	1vd										
7644.7	13077											
7634.3	13095	2vd										
							7630.3	13102				
7628.5	13105											
7623.8	13113	6d										
							7619.1	13121	5a			
							7609.8	13137				
7608.8	13139											
7606.4	13143	8e										
							7604.6	13146	9s			
7593.9	13165						7593.8	13165				
7591.6	13169	6s										
							7587.7	13176	5a			
7585.7	13179											
							7585.0	13180				
7582.2	13185	4vd										
							7578.8	13191	2vd			
							7557.9	13228				
7547.8	13245											
7542.9	13254	1vd										
							7539.9	13259	5vd			
7526.7	13282											
							7523.6	13288				
7520.7	13293	5vd										
							7517.0	13300	8vd			

Table III. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.						Room temp.				
conglomerate			single crystal			conglomerate			crystal	
A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I P		A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
						7514.1	13305			
7513.3	13306									
7512.7					13307'					
7508.3					13315'	6d 2 d				
7506.8	13318	9d								
						7500.8	13328	8vd H		
7473.3	13377				13377'					
7470.0					13383'	6d 2a				
7468.7	13385	8a								
						7466.2	13390			
7451.6	13416									
7449.5					13420'					
7439.8					13438'	1d 10d				
7438.4	13440	9vd HL								
7420.8	13472									
7416.5					13480'					
7411.2					13489'	10d 1d				
7406.2					13498'					
7403.4	13504	10vd H			13505'	10d 10s	7402.9	13505	10vd H	
7402.8							7390.1	13528		
7386.8	13534									
7384.8					13538'					
7378.7					13549'	10d 10s				
7373.4	13560	10vd L								
						7372.2	13561	10vd		

Table III. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.		Room temp.	
A	gcm.-1	I	P
glomerate		single crystal	
A	gcm.-1	I	P
7354.6	13593	13593	
7340.5	13619	13619	3d 10d
7315.1	13666	13669	
7313.6		13671	10d 10d
7312.6		13673	10d 10d
7310.4		13675	10d 10d
7308.4	13679		
7283.1	13727		
7277.0	13738		
7272.5	13747		
7265.6	13760		
7262.3	13766		
7254.5	13781		
7247.8	13794		
7240.0	13808		
7231.7	13824		
7228.4	13831		
7226.8	13834		
7219.4	13848		
7356.2	13590	7356.2	A
7335.7	13628	7335.7	A
7317.3	13662	7317.3	A
7304.1	13687	7304.1	A
7280.3	13732	7280.3	A
7264.9	13761	7264.9	A
7255.3	13779	7255.3	A
7239.2	13810	7239.2	A



Table III. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.							Room temp.					
A	conglomerate			single crystal			A	conglomerate			crystal	
	cm.-1	I	T	cm.-1	I	P		cm.-1	I	T	cm.-1	I
6823.1	14652						6822.7	14653				
6822.2				14654								
6818.0	14663	5d		14665	5d	3d 1d						
6817.1							6814.7	14670	6vd	H		
6798.5	14705			14705			6797.6	14707				
6794.8	14713	10d		14713	9d	3s 8s						
6790.7	14722			14722								
6787.0	14730	10d		14730	10d	10d 5d	6785.6	14733	10vd	H		
6782.8	14739			14739								
6781.0	14743	9d		14743	8d	2d 4d						
6766.8	14774			14774			6769.5	14768				
6763.1	14782	7d	L	14782	7d	8d 2d	6762.7	14783	4vd	H		
6745.3	14821			14821								
6742.6	14827	6s	L	14827	6s	1d 2d						
6738.0	14837			14837								
6736.7	14840	6d	L	14840	6d							
6735.3	14843			14843			6734.0	14846				
6733.5	14847	6d	L	14847	6d							
6731.7	14851			14851								
6728.1	14859	10d	L	14859	10d	10s 10s	6729.4	14856	6d	L		
6714.5	14889			14889			6714.5	14889				
6710.9	14897	10d	L	14897	10d	5s 10s	6709.1	14901	6d	L		

Table III. (Continued)

		Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.				
		conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal		
A	cm.-l	I	F	cm.-l	I	P	A	cm.-l	I	T
6328.2	15798		H	15798			6408.1	15601		
6326.2	15803	6d	H	15803	4d		6397.0	15628	1vd	H
							6386.8	15653		
							6367.8	15700	4vd	H
6299.9	15869		H	15869			6325.0	15806		
6297.9	15874	4d	H	15874	3d		6317.4	15825	3vd	H
6280.5	15918		H	15918			6298.7	15872		
6278.1	15924	7d	H	15924	5d	4d 7d	6292.3	15888	2vd	H
6276.5	15928		H	15928			6283.2	15911		
6274.5	15933	7d	H	15933	5d	4d 7d		15933	3vd	H
								15947		
6266.7	15953		H	15953			6274.5	15963		
6263.9	15960	7d	H	15960	4d	4d 7d	6269.0	15979	2vd	H
6254.5	15984		L	15984						
6253.7	15986	8s	L	15986	8s	3s 10s				
6253.0	15988		L	15988						
6251.8	15991	10s	L	15991	10s	5s 10s				
6234.6	16035		L	16035			6248.7	15999	6d	L
6233.1	16039	10s	L	16039	10s	10s 10d	6234.6	16035		
6231.1	16044		L	16044						
6230.0	16047	10s	L	16047	10s	10s 10d		16047	8d	L



Table III. (Continued)

		Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A	5268.6 5266.1 5258.4 5255.3 5250.4 5246.2 5238.3 5235.8 5234.2 5232.8 5231.1 5230.6 5229.8 5225.7 5224.3 5223.3 5220.2 5218.3 5215.6 5213.2 5210.7	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal	
		cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
		18975	1vd	18975	1vd				
		18984	H	18984	1vd				
		19012		19012					
		19023	10d	19023	8d	0	3d	5256.7	19018
		19041		19041				5255.6	19022
		19056	10vd	19056	8vd	9d	1d	5252.6	19033
		19085		19085				5250.9	19039
		19111	10vd	19111	10vd	L		5246.8	19054
		19116		19116				5246.2	19093
		19140	10vd	19140	10vd	L		5239.1	19116
		19151		19151				5236.2	19157
		19158		19158					
		19168	L	19168	10d	10s	10d	5229.8	
		19177		19177					
		19186		19186		0	7d		



Table III. (Continued)

		Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.								
A	cm.-1	I	T	cm.-1	I	F	A	cm.-1	I	T	cm.	I		
		conglomerate				single crystal				conglomerate				crystal
5210.1				19188										
5200.7				19223	10vd	10d	10s					19227	10vd	
5192.6	19253	10vd					5199.6	19229	10vd					
5183.1	19288						5199.0							
5182.6				19290										
5181.3				19295	7d	0	2d							
5179.1	19303	7vd												
5141.0	19446			19446										
5139.2				19453	6d	0	4s	5140.2				19449		
5137.1				19461				5139.7	19451			19459	1vd	
5133.4								5137.6				19469		
5129.9				19475	9d	8d	6s	5134.9						
5128.4				19488										
5127.6	19497	10vd		19494	7d	3d	5d							
5118.9								5126.3						
5116.8	19530							5126.0				19502	8vd	
5115.5				19538				5117.3	19503	10vd	H	19536		
5115.0	19545	10d		19543	8d	1d	7d							
5111.3								5112.9						
5110.8	19559													
5109.2				19561	9d	3d	10s							
5107.7	19573	10d		19567								19553	0d	

Table III. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.							Room temp.					
conglomerate			single crystal				conglomerate			crystal		
A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	P	A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
5104.8	19584			19584								
5103.0				19591	8d	2d 7s						
5101.7	19596	10a										
5099.8	19603			19603								
5098.5				19608	8d	3d 7s						
5090.0				19641			5089.5	19643			19643	
5083.2				19667	10vd	8d 10d	5083.5	19666	8d		19666	5d
5072.2				19710								
5067.8				19727	8vd	8d 4d						
5062.9				19746'								
5060.4				19756'		9d 3d	5058.6				19763	
							5057.3	19768				
5057.2				19768'			5049.1				19800	1vd
5048.3				19803'	10vd	7d 9d	5046.8	19809	3vd			
5041.2	19831	10vd										
							5038.7	19841	3vd			
5011.4	19949											
5001.9				19987								
4998.1	20002	5vd		20002	1vd							
4987.6	20044											
4971.0	20111	1vd										
4873.8	20512											
4867.9	20537	1vd										
4858.9	20575											
4852.8	20601	1vd										
4848.8	20618											
4838.2	20663	1vd										
4832.1				20689								
4830.3				20697	?							

Table III. (Continued)

		Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A		conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal	
cm.-l	I	T	cm.-l	I	P	cm.-l	I	T	cm.-l
4829.8			20699						
4829.6			20700						
4827.5			20709	2vd					
4827.0	3d								
4827.2			20724			4825.4			20718
4824.0			20726	10s	10s				
4823.5									
4823.0	10s					4818.9			20746
4819.6			20743			4810.3			20783
4805.9	1vd		20802			4805.0			20806
						4803.4			20813
						4779.5			20917
4769.0			20963						
4768.5									
4766.3			20975	6d	3d	4766.0			20976
4765.8									
4765.1	8d		20980						
4764.7									
4762.8			20990	6d	3d				
4762.6									
4760.3	8d					4760.8			20999
4759.9			21003						
4758.5			21009	4d	2d	4758.8			21008
4758.3	7d								

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.							
	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal					
	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	P	A	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
4753.3	21033			21032			4753.1	21034			21033	
4753.1							4752.9					
4751.3	21044	10d		21041	8d	5d	3d					
4750.6	21050											
4749.3												
4749.0	21060	10d		21051	8d	2d	5d				21053	4vd
4747.0	21070			21060								
4744.8	21080	9d		21070	7d	0	3d				21070	8vd
4742.5	21149			21080								
4727.0												
4726.8												
4725.9	21155	10s		21150							21153	
4725.7	21157			21154	9s	0	4s					
4725.3												
4725.0												
4724.4	21163	10s		21158	9s	0	6s					
4723.9				21161								
4723.2	21167			21166							21169	5d
4723.0												
4722.3	21174	10d	L	21170	10s	5s	8s					
4721.5												
4718.6	21187			21187							21184	
4717.7	21191	10s	L									
4717.2				21193	9s	1s	6s					

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.				
	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	single crystal	A	conglomerate	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	crystal
4715.9	21199					4714.8		21204	5d
4713.9	21208	2vd							
4702.4	21260								
4699.3	21274	2vd							
4686.5	21332								
4683.2	21347	4vd							
4681.2	21356								
4679.7	21363	?							
4674.7	21386								
4671.8	21399	?							
4660.1	21453				21465	0d			
4657.4	21468	1vd							
4656.8									
4652.9	21486				21486				
4650.7	21496	1vd							
4648.8					21505	1vd			
4646.8	21514								
4643.8	21528	1vd							
4641.2	21540								
4640.8									
4639.5	21542							21542	
4638.9	21548	10d					4640.8		
4634.8									
4633.9	21574	10d							
4633.1	21578								
4632.2	21582	10d					4632.2	21582	3vd

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.							
	conglomerate cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	single crystal cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	P	A	conglomerate cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	crystal cm. <sup>-1</sup>
4623.8	21621											
4623.6	21643	5vd		21622								
4619.1					21647	2vd	2d	o				
4618.3												
4616.2	21657			21662								
4615.1				21677		7vd						
4611.9												
4611.3	21680	7vd					8d	5d	4610.0			21686
4607.0	21700											
4606.6												
4601.9				21702								
4598.7				21724		8vd	10d	5d				
4595.1				21739								
4594.9	21757	10vd		21756		8vd	8d	5d				
4588.0	21790								4593.9			
4680.2	21827	1vd							4593.2	21762	6vd	21765
4535.9												
4534.9	22045	0vd		22040					4537.0	22035		
4526.9									4534.7	22046		
									4532.4	22057		
									4527.5	22081	1vd	
					22084	1vd						



Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal	
	cn. -1	T	cn. -1	P	cn. -1	T	cn. -1	T
4275.2	23385		23384		4274.9	23386	23387	
4275.0					4274.7			
4274.5	23389	10s	23388	10s 10d 10s				
4274.3								
4273.9	23392		23391					
4273.8								
4273.0	23397	10s	23396	10s 10d 10s				
4272.9								
4264.3	23444		23446		4272.3	23402	23400	10s
4263.9					4271.9			
4258.8	23477	1vd	23474	1vd		23455	23475	1vd
4258.3						23497		
4253.9	23502		23501		4262.3			
4253.8					4258.7			
4248.5	23532	1vd	23531	1vd				
4248.3					4254.7			
4244.7	23552		23552	1vd				
4242.6								
4241.7	23569	1vd	23564	1vd	4248.2	23533		1vd
4239.5	23581							
4236.1	23600	1vd						
4233.6	23614							
4232.2			23614					
4231.6	23625		23622	1d				
4229.8	23635	1d	23635	1d				

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Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal	
	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
4229.1			23639					
4228.0	23645	1vd	23649	1d				
4227.3			23669					
4223.8	23669				4223.0	23673		
4222.3	23677	4d	23677	4d				
4220.9			23685					
4220.7	23686		23692	4d				
4219.6	23694	4d						
4219.3			23702					
4217.9	23703		23710	6d				
4217.7								
4216.4	23711	6d			4216.3	23711	1vd	
4216.3					4211.1	23740		
4208.8	23753							
4208.5			23755					
4206.7	23765	4vd						
4206.3			23767	3vd				
4201.9	23792							
4199.4	23806	5vd			4205.4	23772	1vd	
4199.3			23792		4201.7	23793		
4196.1	23825		23807	4vd				
4195.6			23828					
4194.3			23835	3vd				
4194.2	23836	4vd			4196.3	23824	2vd	

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal	
	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	T	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I P	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I
4189.8								
4189.6	23862		23861		4190.3	23858		
4187.8	23872	6a	23872	5vd	4185.6	23885	1vd	
4180.5			23914		4180.1	23916		
4180.3	23915	10a						
4178.9	23923		23924	10a 10s 10d	4177.2	23933	6a	
4178.7					4175.6	23942		
4175.6	23942		23942					
4174.2	23950	9a	23950	9a 8s 10d	4172.6	23959	4vd	
4169.5	23977							
4169.1			23979					
4168.3			23984	4d				
4168.1	23985	5a						
4162.5	24017		24017					
4161.0			24026	1vd				
4160.8	24027	1vd						
4157.7	24045		24045					
4155.6			24045	1vd				
4155.1	24060	2vd						
4151.1	24083							
4150.8			24085					
4148.2	24100	2vd						
4147.5			24104	1vd				
4079.3	24507							
4075.7	24529	2vd						

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.				
	conglomerate		single crystal		conglomerate		crystal		
	cm.-1	T	cm.-1	P	cm.-1	T	cm.-1	T	
4072.8	24546								
4072.7	24547								
4071.5	24554	3d	3d						
4027.1	24825								
4026.7	24827								
4025.1	24837	3vd	2vd			4025.0		24838	
4023.8	24845								
4023.5	24847								
4022.5	24853	3vd	2vd					24860	2vd
4019.8	24870					4021.4			
4018.0	24881	7d	6d			4019.0		24875	
4013.2	24911								
4013.0	24912								
4011.4	24922	4vd							
4011.2	24923	4vd	4vd			4016.9		24894	2vd
3823.9	26144								
3822.3	26155	1				4010.7		24926	0vd
3814.1	26213					3823.2		26149	
3813.8	26219	6d	5d	1d		3820.4		26168	1vd
3812.9	26220	6d				3814.4		26209	
3812.8	26220	6d				3810.3		26237	3vd

Table III. (Continued)

A	Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.			Room temp.		
	conglomerate cm.-1	I T	single crystal cm.-1	conglomerate cm.-1	I F	crystal cm.-1
3804.4	26278		26278	26280		26280
3803.8			26282			
3803.7	26283	10s	10s 7s 10s	26292	8s	26294
3796.9	26330	8s		26331		
3796.2	26335		8s 0 5s	26344	2d	
3756.4	26614					
3754.7	26626	1vd				
3752.5	26641					
3751.0	26652	2vd				

Table IV. Absorption lines of  $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$

Liquid $\text{N}_2$ temp.				Room temp.			
$\text{A}^\circ$	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	$\text{A}^\circ$	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
				8503.9	11756		
				8484.8	11783	5vd	H
				8436.8	11850		
				8424.1	11867	5d	H
				8407.1	11891		
				8395.0	11909	4d	H
				8350.7	11972		
				8326.0	12007	5vd	H
8323.2	12011						
8314.0	12025	1vd	L	8287.8	12063		
8279.0	12075						
8270.7	12088	9vd	L				
8267.1	12093						
8259.3	12104	9vd		8260.4	12103	10vd	HL
8235.8	12139			8236.1	12138		
8228.8	12149	10d					
8225.5	12154						
8216.9	12167	10d		8213.0	12172	10vd	HL
8212.1	12174						
8205.6	12183	10d					
8192.5	12203						
8188.5	12209	9s		8179.8	12222		
8178.8	12223						
8163.7	12246	10vd	L				
8155.4	12258						
8141.8	12279	10vd		8139.2	12283	10vd	
8130.2	12296						
8121.7	12309	6vd					
8112.3	12324						
8107.4	12331	10s	L				
8098.8	12344						
8092.1	12354	10d		8090.8	12356		
8085.6	12364						
8074.2	12382	10d					
8065.5	12395			8059.7	12404	10vd	
8059.1	12405	9d	L				

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A °	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A °	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
8045.0	12427						
8042.0	12431	2d					
8036.2	12440						
8030.7	12449	5s					
8020.1	12465						
8014.4	12474	5s					
8006.9	12486						
8003.3	12491	2d					
				7994.4	12505		
7993.2	12507						
7989.2	12513	10s					
7981.2	12526						
7970.0	12544	9d					
7959.5	12560						
				7950.0	12575	10vd	
7949.0	12578	9d					
7935.7	12598						
7928.2	12610	3vd					
7920.0	12623			7920.3	12622		
7907.7	12642	3vd					
				7905.8	12645	6d	
7864.8	12711						
7861.8	12716	8s					
7836.4	12757						
				7827.5	12772		
7822.7	12780	1vd					
				7812.4	12797	6d	
7786.1	12840						
				7785.1	12842		
7783.2	12845	2s					
				7775.7	12857	8d	H
				7766.2	12873		
				7750.9	12898	8d	H
7741.0	12915						
7731.5	12931	2vd					
				7690.2	13000		
7671.3	13032						
				7661.2	13049	9vd	HL
7660.6	13050	8d					
				7637.7	13089		
7635.1	13094						
7628.0	13106	9d	L				
7622.4	13116						
7608.5	13140	10d	L	7608.9	13139	10vd	

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
7590.3	13171						
7582.5	13185	8a		7563.4	13218		
7560.9	13222						
7547.2	13246	10a					
7541.0	13257						
7530.5	13276	10a	L	7529.8	13277	10vd	HL
7519.3	13297						
7511.8	13309	10s					
7507.2	13317						
7504.1	13322	10s					
7501.8	13326			7500.0	13330		
7498.8	13332	10s					
7496.1	13337						
7489.6	13348	10a					
7481.4	13363						
7475.7	13373	8a					
7474.1	13376			7465.7	13391	10vd	HL
7465.0	13392	8a					
7442.2	13433						
7438.4	13440	9s					
7431.8	13452						
7427.3	13460	2vd					
7413.4	13485						
7406.7	13498	0	L				
7388.5	13531						
7379.8	13547	5vd					
7352.4	13597			7358.0	13587		
7350.3	13601	10vs	L	7350.8	13600	2vd	
7348.3	13605						
7346.1	13609	5s	L				
				7342.0	13617		
7339.3	13621						
7333.4	13632	1vd					
				7327.3	13644	1vd	
				7313.4	13670		
7309.0	13678						
7301.4	13692	1vd		7301.0	13693	1vd	
7296.5	13701						
7287.0	13719	1vd					

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A °	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
7264.3	13762						
7261.5	13767	1vd					
				7166.5	13950		
				7153.3	13976	1vd	H
				7085.2	14110		
				7068.1	14144	3vd	H
				7042.7	14195		
7040.4	14200						
7034.2	14212	0	L				
				7026.3	14228	5vd	H
				6997.2	14287		
6995.7	14291						
6989.4	14303	4d					
				6985.0	14312	3vd	
				6969.8	14344		
6964.1	14355						
6960.3	14363	9s	L				
				6961.4	14361	5d	
6952.5	14379						
6947.5	14390	10d	L				
				6945.6	14394	10d	
6929.4	14427						
6925.7	14435	2d					
				6922.6	14442		
6918.2	14451						
6914.0	14459	10d	L				
6911.0	14466						
6907.0	14474	4d	L				
6894.1	14501			6907.5	14473	9d	
6889.9	14510	2vd					
				6882.3	14526		
6880.7	14529						
6875.7	14540	4vd					
6868.2	14556						
				6867.3	14558	4vd	
6863.2	14566	8s					
6853.1	14588						
				6850.7	14593		
6849.0	14597	3d					
6841.4	14613						
				6839.2	14618	1vd	
6836.7	14623	5d					



Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
6826.8	14644			6825.6	14647		
6822.5	14653	1vd					
6818.2	14663						
6812.7	14674	1vd					
6807.9	14685			6807.2	14686	1vd	
6804.5	14692	1vd		6500.6	15379		
				6489.0	15406	1vd	H
				6483.2	15420		
				6472.9	15445	1vd	H
				6469.7	15452		
				6460.3	15475	1vd	H
				6438.7	15527		
				6428.1	15552	3vd	H
6414.7	15585						
6409.3	15598	1vd					
6403.3	15613			6403.2	15613		
6400.0	15621	3d		6399.8	15621	3d	
				6394.4	15634		
6393.0	15638						
6390.6	15644	9s	L	6390.0	15645	9d	L
				6387.1	15652		
6386.4	15654						
6383.5	15661	2d		6383.9	15660	5vd	
				6376.0	15679		
6374.7	15683						
6371.5	15691	9s	L	6371.8	15690	7s	L
				6367.0	15702		
6365.5	15705						
				6364.0	15709	2vd	L
6362.5	15713	4d	L				
				6343.9	15759		
6341.9	15764						
				6340.3	15768	5s	
6339.1	15771	7d					
				6333.3	15785		
6332.7	15787						
6329.6	15794	10s	L	6327.8	15799	10d	L

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
6323.9	15809			6324.1	15808		
6319.1	15821	4vd		6318.3	15823	10d	
				6305.8	15854		
6303.2	15861			6300.5	15867	8d	
6299.5	15870	8d		6293.3	15886		
6294.4	15883			6287.8	15899	10d	
6291.4	15890	1d					
6290.0	15894						
6286.9	15902	10d		5536.7	18056		
6276.7	15928	0		5531.4	18074	5d	H
6273.8	15935			5521.7	18105		
6269.4	15946	1vd		5516.6	18122	5d	H
				5496.0	18190		
				5489.2	18213	5d	H
				5463.8	18297		
5462.2	18303			5457.5	18318	8d	L
5458.0	18317	5d	L	5449.2	18346		
5446.0	18357			5442.6	18368	8d	L
5442.5	18369	5d	L	5424.4	18430		
5420.7	18443			5416.9	18456	8d	L
5416.2	18458	3d	L	5413.4	18468		
5414.1	18465			5408.4	18485	8d	
5409.6	18481	10d		5401.7	18508		
5400.5	18512						
5396.9	18524	10d					
5394.6	18532						
5391.6	18542	10d		5392.1	18541	10d	
5387.9	18555						
5385.6	18563	10s					

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
5381.4	18577			5383.7	18569		
5377.0	18593	10d		5378.6	18587	8d	
5373.2	18606			5376.2	18595		
5367.9	18624	10d		5368.1	18623	10d	
5356.5	18664			5364.6	18636		
5352.4	18678	10d		5354.2	18672	8d	
				5351.3	18682		
				5343.7	18708	10d	
5348.5	18692						
5337.7	18729	10d		5331.0	18753		
5325.7	18772			5321.6	18786	4vd	
5317.1	18802	3vd		5306.9	18838		
5305.2	18844			5297.1	18873	5vd	
5297.2	18873	4vd					
5291.6	18893			5282.9	18924		
5289.2	18901	1d					
5282.6	18925			5268.9	18974	6vd	
5277.8	18942	7d					
5275.6	18950			5262.7	18996		
5271.4	18965	7d		5256.1	19020	6vd	
5268.0	18977						
5264.2	18991	6s		5242.0	19071		
5261.7	19000			5236.5	19091	8d	
5258.3	19013	6s					
5249.4	19045						
5245.4	19059	6d					
5241.6	19073						
5236.3	19092	10s					
5232.6	19106						
5230.0	19115	2d					
5224.0	19137						
5213.1	19177	10vd					

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
Å <sup>0</sup>	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	Å <sup>0</sup>	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
				5219.4	19154		
				5210.4	19187	9a	
5206.2	19203			5202.7	19215		
5202.6	19216	9vd		5197.8	19234	7a	
5199.5	19227	10vd		5191.2	19258		
5194.8	19245			5186.2	19277	7a	
5190.4	19261						
5185.3	19280	10a					
5150.4	19411	0		5123.4	19513		
5120.3	19525						
5113.8	19550	5vd		5113.1	19552	1vd	
5075.4	19697						
5068.5	19724	3vd		4985.5	20053		
				4980.0	20075	4a	
4968.4	20122			4967.4	20126		
4965.7	20133	4s		4963.3	20142	4a	
4938.3	20244			4937.7	20247		
4935.9	20254	5s		4930.7	20275	1vd	H
				4927.0	20291		
				4921.5	20313	1va	
				4910.0	20361		
				4899.0	20407	1vd	H
				4887.2	20456		
4885.7	20462			4881.6	20479	7a	
4882.3	20476	5d		4874.0	20511		
4876.3	20502			4867.7	20538	9a	
4873.1	20515	4a	L				
4870.0	20528						
4867.4	20539	10s					
4864.4	20552						
4862.2	20561	3s					
4860.6	20568						
4858.6	20576	4s					

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
4855.4	20590			4857.7	20580		
4851.7	20606	10a		4853.8	20597	10a	
4894.0	20617			4851.3	20607		
4845.7	20631	8a	L	4847.6	20623	3a	
4835.9	20673			4836.6	20670		
4831.7	20691	6a		4830.8	20695	8a	
4820.8	20738			4818.4	20748		
4818.6	20747	3s		4813.4	20770	8a	
4814.7	20764			4809.0	20789		
4812.7	20773	10s		4802.7	20816	6a	
4809.3	20787			4792.7	20859		
4802.9	20815	5a		4784.3	20896	9a	
4794.2	20853						
4782.9	20902	10vd		4774.3	20940		
4775.3	20935			4768.3	20966	2a	
4766.1	20976	8vd					
4728.4	21143			4719.1	21185		
4725.2	21157	2a		4709.6	21227	6vd	
4715.9	21199			4704.4	21251		
4709.9	21226	8vd		4692.4	21305	6vd	
4705.4	21246			4686.2	21333		
4699.3	21274	8vd		4682.1	21352	8s	
4685.9	21335			4680.0	21362		
4682.7	21349	4s		4676.6	21377	8s	
4680.0	21362						
4677.4	21373	10s					
4673.8	21390						
4671.1	21402	3s					

Table IV. (Continued)

Liquid N <sub>2</sub> temp.				Room temp.			
A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T	A°	cm. <sup>-1</sup>	I	T
4668.1	21416			4668.9	21412		
4665.9	21426	4s		4662.9	21440	2vd	
4660.7	21450	0					
4521.6	22110						
4501.4	22209	1vd					
4477.0	22330			4472.1	22355		
				4468.8	22371	8s	H
4464.3	22394	1vd		4424.7	22594		
4422.4	22606			4419.6	22620	10d	L
4419.1	22623	5d	L	4390.7	22769		
4390.9	22768			4387.4	22786	7s	
4388.0	22783	7s		4381.1	22819		
4379.5	22827			4378.2	22834	10s	
4376.3	22844	10s		4375.1	22850		
4374.1	22855			4371.8	22867	10s	
4370.7	22873	10s					
4366.7	22894						
4364.6	22905	3s		4361.5	22921		
4362.1	22918						
4359.5	22932	3s		4354.9	22956	2vd	
4357.0	22945			4335.2	23061		
4354.2	22960	3s		4328.0	23099	0	
4334.8	23063						
4326.1	23109	1vd		4310.3	23194		
4311.9	23185						
4308.7	23202	3s		4303.6	23230	1vd	
4306.0	23217						
4303.1	23233	3s					
4300.3	23248			4246.8	23541		
4298.1	23260	5s		4238.3	23588	1vd	
4244.7	23552						
4238.8	23585	2d					

The thicker the sample used, whether conglomerate or single crystal, the greater the number of lines observed due to the increased length of path which the light must travel. Also, at the temperature of liquid nitrogen the lines were much sharper and better resolved. At this temperature the lines of both salts underwent a slight shift, which in the case of the bromate was on the order of  $10 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  to the red, while in the oxide a slight shift to the violet was noted.

Making use of the chart described on page 35 above, it was found that certain wave number intervals, showing the temperature dependence as described in section IIIA above, occurred a number of times indicating the existence of energy levels at these intervals above the basic state.

In certain cases the long wave length lines banded together and were not resolved at room temperatures. Where these lines were used in selecting intervals the high frequency line is primed indicating that it falls inside a band envelope. Owing to thermal broadening and variation in selection rules, some of the lines may be "washed out" at high temperatures. Several of the reasons for thermal broadening are: (a) as the temperature increases the atoms begin to oscillate, causing the atoms to be subjected to various fields and therefore shifting the positions of the lines, and since on a photographic plate an integrated effect of a large number of transitions is observed the result is a broadened line; (b) the effective width of the basic state increases due to the vibrational and oscillational levels of the basic state coming into importance as the temperature is increased; (c) the upper states of many absorption lines may lie above broad "metallic" type states. At low temperatures there will be very little

resonance between these states so that the upper states will have a long life-time and have a very sharp energy breadth. As oscillation of the atoms takes place with increasing temperature the wave functions of these states will scramble due to the perturbations. The life-time of the states will accordingly become much shorter and their energy less well defined. Transitions terminating in these levels will accordingly appear broad. In some cases it was necessary to measure from the high temperature position of the line to the low temperature position of the other line. These cases are marked with an asterisk (\*). Several of the  $380 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  levels had to be measured from low temperature position to low temperature because of the above effect and in these instances the lines are marked with a double asterisk (\*\*).

A cross check on the value of an interval may be found by observing the temperature at which a line appears and then calculating the interval by means of the Boltzmann relation.

All intervals chosen were well within the estimated experimental error for the region in which they were located.

The estimated accuracy for the various lines are as follows: "s" lines  $1 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ ; "d" lines  $2 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ ; "vd" lines 5 to  $10 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ ; lines of intensity 7 to  $10, 1 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ ; intensities of 3 to 6, 3 to  $5 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ ; intensities of 0 to 2, 5 to  $10 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ .



Table V. Evidence for  $116 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  interval of  
neodymium bromate

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12388 - 12274 = 114	16073 - 15956 = 117
12502 - 12388 = 114	18898 - 18780 = 118
12573 - 12457 = 116	18948 - 18829 = 119
12971 - 12856 = 115	19017 - 18998 = 119
12996 - 12883 = 113	19097 - 18979 = 116
13086 - 12971 = 115	19132 - 19017 = 115
13109 - 12996 = 113	19163 - 19047 = 116
13428 - 13312 = 116	19564 - 19449 = 115
13547 - 13428 = 119	19587 - 19468 = 119
13606 - 13488 = 118	19605 - 19491 = 114
13871 - 13753 = 118	19654 - 19540 = 114
13894 - 13773 = 121	19718 - 19605 = 113
13960 - 13841 = 119	20705 - 20588 = 117
14778 - 14658 = 120	21152 - 21038 = 114
14824 - 14709 = 115	21170 - 21055 = 115
14837 - 14722 = 115	21190 - 21075 = 115
14845 - 14730 = 115	21576 - 21460 = 116
14855 - 14741 = 114	23673 - 23559 = 114
14893 - 14778 = 115	23707 - 23590 = 117
15921 - 15800 = 121	23760 - 23644 = 116
15985 - 15870 = 115	23919 - 23799 = 120
15989 - 15874 = 115	23946 - 23831 = 115
16037 - 15921 = 116	23981 - 23867 = 114
16045 - 15930 = 115	26332 - 26216 = 116

Mean Interval : 116

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Table VI. Evidence for a  $380 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  interval in neodymium bromate

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14851	-	14473	=	378
14895	-	14515	=	380
15989	-	15614	=	375
16037	-	15657'	=	380*
16045	-	15665'	=	380*
16056	-	15676'	=	380*
16074	-	15694'	=	380*
19134	-	18753	=	381**
19163	-	18780	=	383**
21170	-	20790'	=	380*
21189	-	20809'	=	380*

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Mean Interval: 380

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Table VII. Evidence for a  $245 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  level in neodymium oxide

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12018	-	11770	=	248*
12099	-	11858	=	241*
12144	-	11900	=	244*
12234	-	11989	=	245*
12327	-	12083	=	244*
12400	-	12155	=	245*
13100	-	12850	=	250
13128	-	12885	=	243
13267	-	13024	=	243
13492	-	13248	=	244
13599	-	13354	=	245*
13607	-	13362	=	245*
14206	-	13963	=	243
14359	-	14114	=	245
14384	-	14139	=	245
14455	-	14211	=	244
15639	-	15393	=	246
15684	-	15433	=	251
15709	-	15464	=	245
15790	-	15540	=	250
15898	-	15656	=	242
18308	-	18065	=	243
18357	-	18113	=	244
18443	-	18201	=	242*
20508	-	20261	=	247
20624	-	20384	=	240*

---

Mean Interval : 245

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The praseodymium present in the sample of neodymium used had its advantages and disadvantages. This sample of salt was used rather than obtaining a pure sample of neodymium because it allowed us to study the effect on the praseodymium ion of the neodymium bromate and oxide fields and also rendered a check as to whether a level was electronic or vibrational in character, since a vibrational level should occur for both ions.

In the following paragraphs a description of the spectra is given by multiplets.

#### Near infra-red multiplets

The spectra of both salts seems to be superimposed on a continuous background of absorption. The lines in nearly all cases are extremely fuzzy along the edges. Only in the case of the polarized spectra of the bromate were any real sharp lines observed, and even there many of the lines were broad and diffuse. For these reasons few constant intervals can be definitely assigned in these ranges.

Quantum theory predicts that if the electronic states have certain properties they should strongly couple with the vibrational and oscillational energies of the neighboring atoms and lattice frequencies. This will give rise to an overlapping of the electronic multiplets with a weak molecular type spectra which at higher temperatures and under low resolving power will tend to give an envelope of absorption underlying the electronic multiplet. The relative intensity of these "associated" lines or continuum appears to be at a maximum in these multiplets and at a minimum in the 6800A and 6400A multiplets.

#### 6800 A. and 6400 A. multiplets

These multiplets are the cleanest out of the entire spectra, the lines for the most part are well defined. Constant intervals are easily obtained from these regions. Also the polarization spectra in these regions are very clear cut. These two multiplets were the most fruitful of the entire spectra. (See Figs. 6 and 7).

#### 5300 A. multiplets

Due to the intense absorption of the salts in this region it was necessary to use very thin samples in order to obtain the structure of the multiplets. The polarization spectra were of great help in establishing the structure of the bands in this region in the case of the bromate.

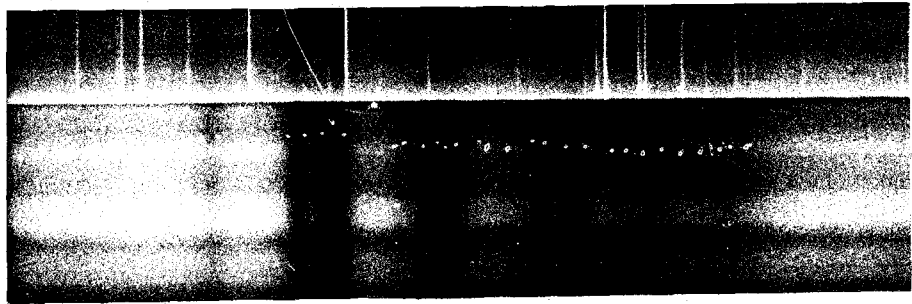
#### 4900 A. and 4300 A. multiplets

As a result of the presence of praseodymium in the sample the lines in these regions can not be too definitely assigned to neodymium. All lines found in these regions are reported unless they have been definitely assigned to praseodymium. These were not necessary for the thesis but might be useful sometime and are therefore given.

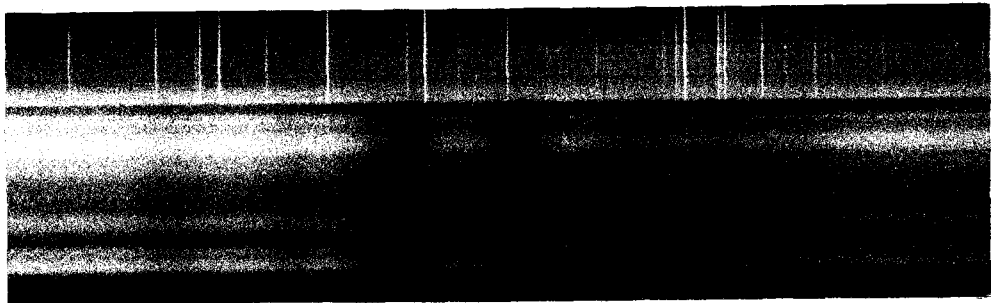
It was noted that the intensities of the bands varied greatly from multiplet to multiplet. This was to be expected. All the sharp lines are forbidden in the gas spectra unless extremely thick layers are used. It must be borne in mind that there are as many absorbers of light in a millimeter of a solid as there are in several meters of a gas. Therefore

these so called forbidden lines, having low probability of transition, show up in the solids. Some of these multiplets are much more "highly" forbidden than others and as a result much thicker layers are required to bring them out.

80° K



200° K



300° K

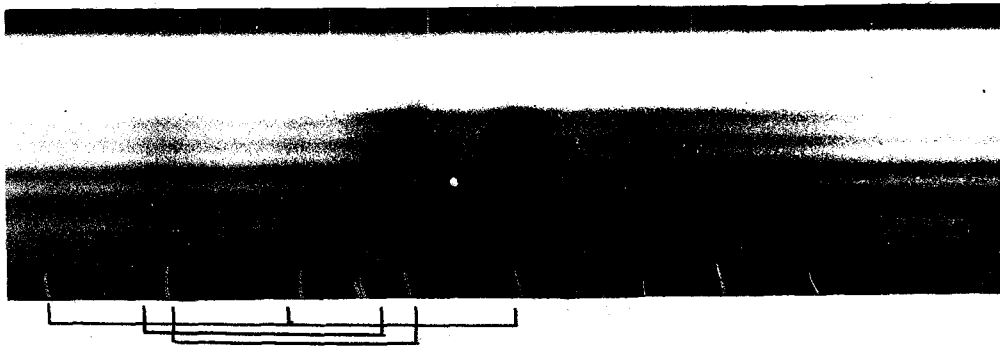


Fig. 6. Temperature effect in the 6800 A multiplet of neodymium oxide. Enlargements from three meter grating plates. Lines fade out as the population of upper states decreases with lowered temperatures.



Fig. 7. Temperature effect in the 6300 Å multiplet of neodymium bromate. Contact prints from twenty-one foot grating plates. Lines fade out as the population of upper states decreases with lowered temperatures.



## V. DISCUSSION

The recurring frequency intervals recorded in Tables V to VII were obtained by use of the two methods outlined in Section IIIA. Therefore, only such intervals were considered valid as showed marked intensification of the low frequency line at the higher temperature. In the case of the 245  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  and 380  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  levels (see Figs. 6 and 7) the Boltzmann distribution nearly precludes the occurrence of the low frequency line at the temperature of liquid nitrogen. All intervals chosen as evidence for these levels either showed no low temperature line at the low frequency end or showed a very weak line. Lines chosen as evidence for the 115  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  level showed the temperature dependence.

In addition to these fairly large and clearly defined intervals, some evidence was found for smaller intervals of about 20  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ , 30  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$ , 40  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  and other such values recurring frequently throughout the spectra. It seems highly probable that these small constant frequency differences arise from vibrational frequencies superimposed on the electronic states. Vibrational frequencies should be a function of the mass of the atoms (a constant) and the force constants between them. Due to the fact that the  $4f$  electrons are somewhat shielded from the influence of neighboring groups by the completed  $5s$  and  $5p$  shells, the force constants should not be affected much by the electronic states and therefore should not differ much from state to state, so that to a first approximation the superimposed vibrational frequencies would be the same for each electronic level.

However, these frequencies should suffer slight modification in so far as the various energy states influence the force constants. Therefore these intervals should not be exactly constant but should fluctuate around certain values.

The number of lines in a multiplet, in general, seems to depend on the thickness of the absorbing layer; the thicker the sample the more lines are observed. This agrees with the conception that many of the lines are due to vibrational and crystal frequencies and not to crystal splitting alone.

In Figure 8, a tentative energy diagram is drawn up for the 16,000  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  multiplet of the bromate incorporating the results obtained. From the temperature dependence of the lines concerned throughout the various spectra, the levels at 0, 116 and 380  $\text{cm.}^{-1}$  are attributed to electronic transitions.

In general, lines which are attributed to transitions between electronic states are much more intense than vibrational lines. Vibrational levels show some correlation from salt to salt if the anions in the salts are the same. Electronic transitions in their fine structure differ markedly from salt to salt since these levels depend to a great extent on the fields present in the crystal. In spite of these general rules great care must be exercised in attributing a line to a pure electronic transition. Occasionally a vibrational line will appear as strong as an electronic line but this may be ascribed to some peculiar circumstance or resonance. From theory the symmetry of the neighboring ions about a given ion can be determined from the number of lines and their relative

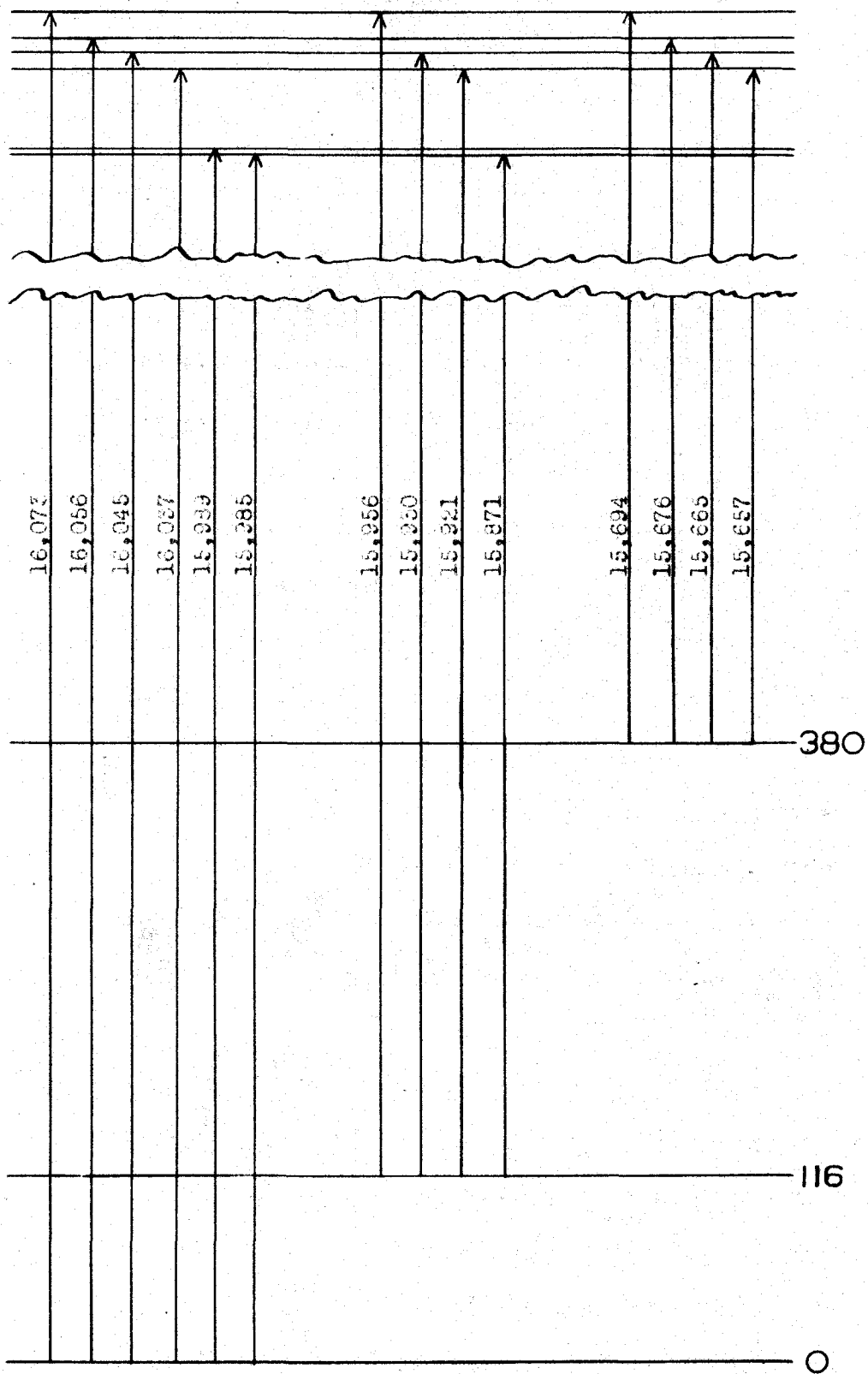


Fig. 8. Partial energy level diagram for the trivalent Nd ion. in neodymium bromate nonahydrate.

spacings into which a given term is split. It is dangerous to draw any conclusions about the fields surrounding an ion from the number of lines without making a thorough investigation of the spectra, since the extra lines from intensified vibration may give erroneous ideas.

Following the method of Penney and Schlapp, as outlined in Section IIB above, the theoretical curve for the variation of magnetic susceptibility of neodymium oxide with temperature was calculated. Figure 9 shows this curve as compared with the experimental points of other workers (49,50,51,52,53). The agreement between the experimental points and the calculated curve is very satisfactory up to fairly high temperatures where the higher levels start to come into the calculations. Also Miss Frank (31) has shown that at room temperatures it is necessary to add about three percent to the susceptibility to correct for the  $J = 11/2$  multiplet.

The specific heats due to electronic vibration were calculated using the equation as developed by Glaque (42) and described in Section IIC. Since only the lower electronic level for neodymium oxide was found experimentally from the spectra it was necessary to calculate the higher level by means of the energy level equations of Penney and Schlapp (12). This level was calculated to occur at  $839 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$ . The calculated curves for the electronic specific heats versus temperature are given in Figures 10 and 11. These curves agree well in shape and height of maximum with those calculated by Miss Frank for samarium (43). It would be nice to compare these values with experimental results but as yet these salts have not been reported.

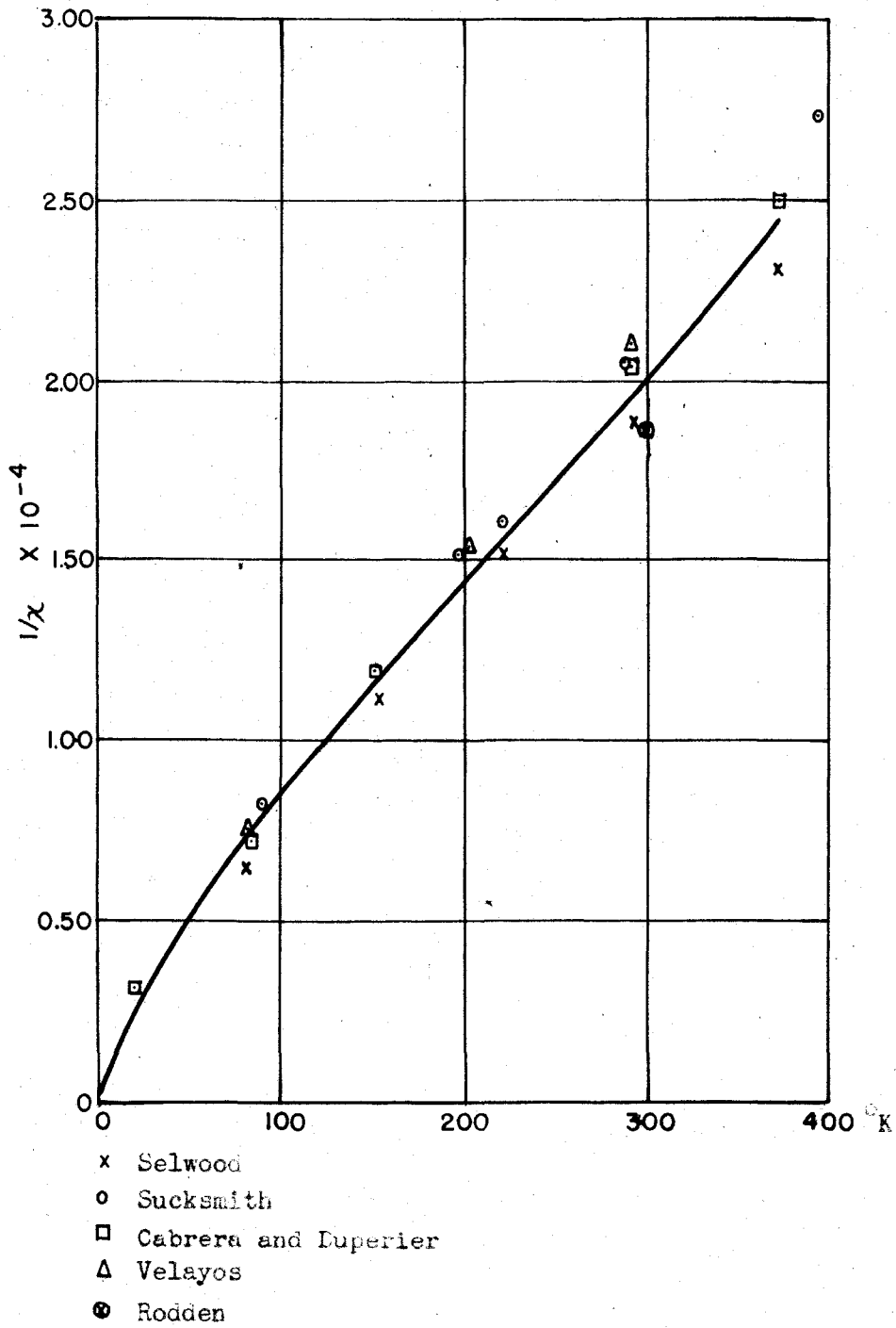


Fig. 9. Calculated magnetic susceptibility of neodymium oxide compared with experimental values.

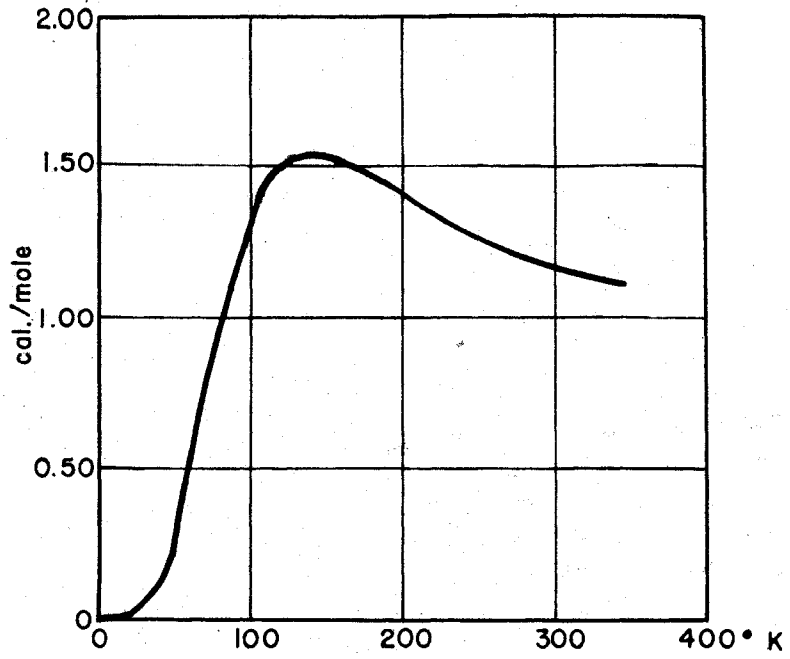


Fig. 10. Electronic specific heat of neodymium oxide.

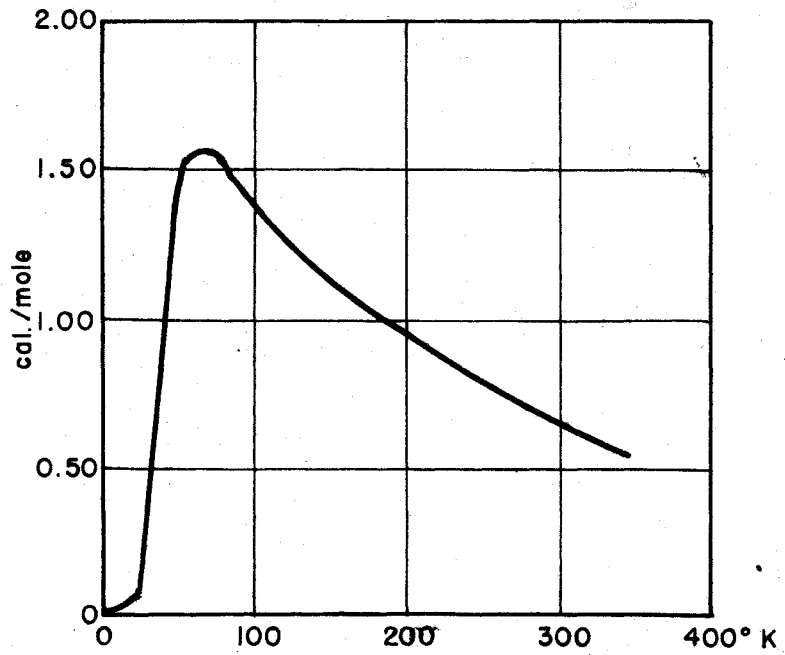


Fig. 11. Electronic specific heat of neodymium bromate.

## VI. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

Pure samples of  $\text{Nd}(\text{BrO}_3)_3 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$  were prepared and their absorption spectra examined at various temperatures.

It was found that the absorption lines became sharper and more finely resolved as the temperature was lowered. The bromate suffered a shift of the order of  $10 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  to the red at nitrogen temperatures.

Electronic levels were found at 0, 116 and  $380 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  for the bromate and 0 and  $245 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  for the oxide. Evidence for vibrational levels located at about 20, 30 and  $40 \text{ cm.}^{-1}$  intervals was noticed.

Calculation of the magnetic susceptibility from the levels obtained yielded good agreement with experimental data.

Theoretical predictions on electronic specific heat have been made and can be checked when experimental results are available.

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