Theory of Hyperfine Structure*

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Considering the classical electric and magnetic interactions between atomic electrons and the nucleus, we arrive at a representation of the hyperfine structure in terms of a multipole expansion of the field potentials. Treating these noncentral interactions in first order perturbation theory we can give the form of the general interval structure and analyze for the multipole interaction constants using Racah coefficients. Pertinent matrix elements for a single valence electron are calculated relativistically. Some second order terms of the dipole and quadrupole interactions are calculated as they affect the interpretation of the first order octupole interaction. In this work we also take into account quantitatively the effect of some electronic configuration interaction. Finally the values of nuclear magnetic octupole moments expected according to different models are calculated and compared with the experimental data thus far collected. Generally the measured octupole moments are in as good agreement with the values predicted by the single-particle shell model as are the corresponding dipole moments.

INTRODUCTION

The recent very accurate measurements by Jaccarino et al.,† on the hyperfine structure of the ground state of I$^{127}$ showed that the theory of dipole and quadrupole interactions as previously developed was insufficient to describe the level structure to this new high precision. In order to learn how finer details of the level structure could be interpreted in terms of higher nuclear moments, it was decided to review the entire theory of hyperfine structure.

First, treating the nucleus as a stationary non-relativistic quantum mechanical system, we derive a multipole expansion for the electric and magnetic fields produced by the nuclear charge and current distributions. In this development the electromagnetic potentials are expressed in terms of scalar and vector spherical harmonics. When these potentials are put into the Dirac Hamiltonian for the electrons, the terms of different orders of symmetry can be identified as tensor operators, so that one can write down the form of the generalized "interval rule" in terms of Racah coefficients. This analysis proves to have not only formal, but also practical computational advantages over the formulations given in the prior literature.

The interaction constant $A_k$ for each multipole order $k$ is the product of the nuclear moment of that order and an electronic matrix element. The general electronic matrix elements are evaluated for the case of a single valence electron using the techniques of Racah & for the spin-angular integrals, and following the method of Casimir, Racah, and Breit for the radial integrals.

The magnitude of the hyperfine interaction energies decreases rapidly with order: the magnetic octupole interaction is weaker than the magnetic dipole by about $10^{-5}$. Thus in the perturbation theory second order terms (mixing in excited electron states) in the dipole and quadrupole interactions give contributions which may appear as first order magnetic octupole (and electric 2$^+$-pole) interactions. This effect is calculated using so far only the perturbation of the nearby doublet level. In this work the dipole contribution of s-electrons in mixed configurations is allowed for by quantitative analysis depending on the measured dipole interaction constants in both states of the doublet.

After all the electronic contributions have been extracted from the observed octupole interaction constant the value of the nuclear magnetic octupole moment is finally revealed. We have calculated the values of these moments to be expected according to the individual-particle shell model for the nucleus. The results, for various single-particle orbits, are represented on a diagram similar to the Schmidt plot for dipole moments; and the octupole moments of the few nuclei already investigated take approximately the same positions on this new diagram as they do on the Schmidt plot.

The measurement of higher nuclear moments may also prove to be a valuable test of the Bohr-Mottelson collective nuclear model. In their "strong-coupling" scheme the observable magnitude of an octupole moment is decreased from the single-particle value of the simpler theory by a factor as small as 1/35.

THE HYPERFINE STRUCTURE

In the absence of external fields an atom may be described very accurately in terms of a compact charged nucleus and an electron system arranged in the central coulomb field produced by the nucleus. If, however, the electrons have some resultant angular momentum $J>0$ and the nucleus also has a spin $I>0$, there will be further interactions between the two
systems, described as magnetic dipole, electric quadrupole, etc. We then denote by hyperfine structure (hfs) the different energy eigenvalues associated with the various total angular momentum states of the combined systems characterized by the quantum number $F$:

$$|I - J| \leq F \leq I + J.$$  

The major part of the electron-nuclear (noncentral) interaction is the magnetic dipole term which is characteristically of the order of magnitude

$$\mu B_N \langle 1/r^3 \rangle \sim \frac{eh}{2mc} \left( \frac{1}{r_s^2} \right),$$

where $m$ is the electron mass, $M$ the proton mass, and $r_s$ the radial coordinate of the electron from the nucleus. This may be compared with the fine-structure (fs) spacing of the electronic energy levels, which is of the order

$$(\hbar/2mc)^2 Z^2 \langle 1/r^2 \rangle,$$

where $Z$ is the atomic number. The ratio of these two

$$\text{hfs/fs} \sim m/MZ \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-5},$$

is then a measure of the approximation to which we may use the various orders of perturbation theory to calculate the hfs levels. We shall start by considering the hfs interactions in first order and later turn our attention to the effect of second order terms on the higher moments.

First, the noncentral interactions between electrons and the nuclear particles, whatever these interactions may be, will be expanded in a series of tensor operators. The perturbation Hamiltonian $H_1$ is written

$$H_1 = \sum_k T^{(k)} \cdot T_n^{(k)}.$$  

(1)

$T^{(k)}$ is a tensor operator of rank $k$ which operates in the space of the electronic coordinates only; its rank is defined by the fact that it commutes with the total angular momentum operator of the same space, $\mathbf{J}$, just as do the spherical harmonics of order $k$. $T_n^{(k)}$ operates on the coordinates of the nucleons in the same manner;

and the terms in the series (1) are the scalar products of these two tensors, thus are invariants in the combined space. We now wish to calculate the first order energy expectation values of $H_1$ in states described as having $J$ of the electron and $I$ of the nucleus coupled to the resultant $F$.

$$W_F = \langle IJJF|H_1|IJF\rangle = \sum_n \langle IJJF|T_n^{(k)} \cdot T_n^{(k)}|IJF\rangle.$$  

(2)

These matrix elements are independent of the magnetic quantum number $M_F$, so it will be ignored. According to a well-known theorem of Racah, the dependence on $F$ of each of the matrix elements in (2) can be separated out as follows:

$$\langle IJJF|T_n^{(k)} \cdot T_n^{(k)}|IJF\rangle = (-1)^{I'+J'-F} W(IJJF; F') \times \langle J||T_n^{(k)}||J\rangle,$$

where $W$, the Racah coefficient, is a known algebraic function of its six arguments; and the double-barred matrix elements, called the reduced matrix elements, are independent of any magnetic quantum numbers which may be assigned to the states indicated.

We shall write the hfs term energy as

$$W_F = \sum_k A_k M(IJJF; F_k),$$  

(3a)

with the normalization

$$M(IJJF; I + J; k) = 1,$$  

(3b)

which gives directly

$$A_k = \langle T_n^{(k)} \rangle_J \langle T_n^{(k)} \rangle_{II},$$  

(4a)

with the relation

$$\langle T^{(k)} \rangle_J = \frac{(2J)!}{[(2J-k)! (2J+k+1)!]} \langle J||T^{(k)}||J\rangle.$$  

(4b)

Our $A_k$'s are related to the usual hfs interaction constants as follows:

$$A_1 = IJ a, \quad A_2 = 1/(4b), \quad A_3 = c.$$  

(4c)

The coefficient $M$ is given by the formula:

$$M(IJJF; F_k) = \frac{(2I-k)! (2J-k)! (I+J-F)! (J-I+F)! (I-J+F)!}{(2I)! (2J)! (I+J+F+1)!} K,$$

$$\times \sum_{s} \delta^{1+I+J-F, z} \frac{(2I+2J+1-z)!}{z (2I-k-z) (2J-k-z) [(I+J-F-z)! (k+F-I-J+z)!]^3},$$  

(5)

where the sum extends over all integral values of $z$ for which no factorial has a negative argument.

It has been customary to express $M$ in terms of the cosine factor,

$$K = F(F+1) - I(I+1) - J(J+1).$$

The heavy dot \( \cdot \) will be used to denote the scalar product of two tensor operators,

$$T^{(k)} \cdot U^{(k)} = \sum_n T_n^{(k)} U_n^{(k)} (-1)^{n},$$

while the light dot \( \cdot \) will denote the scalar product of two cartesian vectors,

$$V \cdot W = V_x W_x + V_y W_y + V_z W_z.$$
The formulas for the first four orders of $M$ in terms of $K$ are the following:

\[ M(IJ;F;1) = \frac{1}{2IJ} - K, \]  

\[ M(IJ;F;2) = \frac{6}{(2I)(2I-1)(2J)(2J-1)} [K(K+1)-(4/3)I(I+1)J(J+1)], \]  

\[ M(IJ;F;3) = \frac{20}{(2I)(2I-1)(2I-2)(2J)(2J-1)(2J-2)} [K^4+4K^2 \]

\[ + \frac{(4/5)K}{K^3} [3I(I+1)J(J+1)+I(I+1)+J(J+1)+3]-4I(I+1)J(J+1)], \]  

\[ M(IJ;F;4) = \frac{70}{(2I)(2I-1)(2I-2)(2I-3)(2J)(2J-1)(2J-2)(2J-3)} [K^4+10K^3 \]

\[ + \frac{(4/7)K^2}{K^5} [36I(I+1)J(J+1)+5I(I+1)+5J(J+1)+39]-4I(I+1)J(J+1) \]

\[ - \frac{24/35}{I(I+1)} J(J+1) \{ -2I(I+1)J(J+1)+4I(I+1)+4J(J+1)+27 \}. \]

It should be pointed out that formulas (6c, d) are quite unwieldy for numerical evaluation and it is frequently easier to work directly from (5). For example, if $2J=k$ we have

\[ M(IJ;F;2) = (-1)^{I+J-F} \]

\[ \frac{(2J)!}{(2I)!} \frac{(2I+1)!}{(I+J+F+1)!} (I-J+F)! \]

\[ \times \frac{(2I)!}{(2I)!} \frac{(2I+1)!}{(I+J-F)!} (I-J+F)! \]

\[ \times 2[J(F+1)-I(I+1)+J^2]. \]

The following sum rule is also of help in checking numerical work

\[ \sum_p (2F+1) M(IJ;F;k) = 0 \quad (k>0). \]

Aside from the physical content of the operators (1), this analysis gives us the selection rule that the series (3a) terminates at the term $k=2J$ or $2I$, whichever is smaller. One then has $2J$ (or $2I$) interaction constants $A_k$ to be solved for from the $2J$ (or $2I$) measured energy intervals. Because of an orthogonality sum of the Racah coefficients one can solve (3a) analytically for the $A_k$.

\[ A_k = (2k+1) \frac{(2I)!}{(2I+k+1)!} \frac{(2J)!}{(2J-k)!} \frac{I^2}{(2J+k+1)!} \]

\[ \times \sum_p (2F+1) M(IJ;F;k) W_p. \]

ELECTROMAGNETIC POTENTIALS

We shall now describe the electric and magnetic static interactions between the nuclear and electronic systems in a multipole expansion.

The electrostatic potential set up in space by a distribution of charges in the nucleus is

\[ V(r) = \int \frac{\rho(r')}{|r-r'|} dr', \]

where $\rho = e \sum_i \delta(x_i)$ is the density of electric charge of all the nucleons; $g_i = +1$ for protons and zero for neutrons. Now, expanding the Green's function in terms of spherical harmonics,

\[ \sum_k = \sum_k \frac{1}{r-r'} Y_{k\mu}(\theta, \phi) \]

we have the desired multipole operators of the electric interaction. The functions $C^{(k)}$ are tensor operators of rank $k$ with parity $(-1)^k$.

The vector potential for the magnetic field set up by the nuclear currents and spins is not quite so simple; it will be expressed in terms of vector spherical harmonics. We choose the form

\[ A = \sum_{k=0} \sum_{\mu} L \frac{C^{(k)}(\theta, \phi)}{k} \Lambda_{k\mu}(r), \]

\[ \frac{1}{r} \sum_k \frac{1}{|r-r'|} Y_{k\mu}(\theta, \phi) \]

Formulas (6c) have been derived previously by Kramers [Proc. Roy. Acad. Amsterdam 34, 965 (1931)] and Nierenberg [Phys. Rev. 87, 225 (1952)]. See also Biedenharn, Blatt, and Rose [Rev. Modern Phys. 24, 249 (1952)] for a general recursion formula for these coefficients.

where \( L = -i \mathbf{r} \times \text{grad} \) which assures the gauge \( \text{div} \mathbf{A} = 0 \). The operator \( L \) commutes with any function of \( r \) and also with the Laplacian so that the equation \( \nabla \mathbf{A} = -(4\pi/e) \mathbf{j} \) becomes

\[
\sum_{k \mu} L \psi_{\mu}(\theta, \phi) \left[ \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} - \frac{k(k+1)}{r^2} \right] h_{k \mu}(r) = -\frac{4\pi}{c} \mathbf{j}.
\]

(12)

Now using the orthogonality of the vector spherical harmonics over the unit sphere,

\[
\int [L \phi_{\mu}^{(k)}] [L \phi_{\nu}^{(k)}] \, d\Omega = \delta_{k \mu} \delta_{\mu \nu} \frac{4\pi}{k(k+1)},
\]

(13)

we get

\[
\left[ \frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} - \frac{k(k+1)}{r^2} \right] h_{k \mu}(r) = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{2k+1}{k(k+1)} \int [L \phi_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi)]^* \cdot \mathbf{j} \, d\Omega.
\]

The Green's function for the left-hand side is

\[
\frac{1}{2k+1} \mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}^{-k-1},
\]

so finally we have the solution

\[
h_{k \mu}(r) = \frac{1}{c} \frac{2k+1}{k(k+1)} \int [L \phi_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi)]^* \cdot \mathbf{j} \, d\Omega.
\]

(14)

The nuclear currents \( \mathbf{j} \) consist of two parts: the convection current

\[
\mathbf{j}_c = e \phi^* \sum_i g_i \nabla \Psi_i,
\]

and the spin current

\[
\mathbf{j}_s = \text{curl} \Psi^* \sum_i g_i \frac{e \hbar}{2m_c} \mathbf{S} \Psi_i.
\]

The convection current should be a symmetrized combination but it is easily shown that the two terms give just the same contributions under the integral (14).

For the convection current term in (14) we can write

\[
\left[ L \left( \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{L} \end{array} \right) \right] \cdot \mathbf{j}_c = i \mathbf{r} \times \nabla \mathbf{j}_c = -i \nabla \mathbf{j}_c \cdot \left( \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{j}_c \right),
\]

and get its contribution to (14) in the convenient form

\[
-i \frac{1}{k(k+1)} \int [\nabla \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}^{-k-1} \mathbf{C}_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi)]^* \cdot \Psi^* 2g_{i \mu N} \mathbf{L} \Psi_i \, d\Omega,
\]

(15)

with the shorthand notation:

\[
2g_{i \mu N} \mathbf{L} = \sum_i g_i \frac{2e \hbar}{m_c} \mathbf{L}_i.
\]

For the spin current term we use the identity

\[
\mathbf{r} \times \text{curl} \mathbf{r} = \text{grad} \mathbf{r} - (\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r} / r^2 + 1)
\]

and by partial integrations we have the spin contribution to (14),

\[
-i \frac{k(k+1)}{k(k+1)} \int \left[ \nabla \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + 1 \right) \mathbf{r} \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi) \right] \cdot \Psi^* g_{i \mu N} \mathbf{S} \Psi_i \, d\Omega,
\]

(16)

where again

\[
g_{i \mu N} \mathbf{S} = \sum_i g_i \frac{e \hbar}{2m_c} \mathbf{S}_i.
\]

Finally we can write the solution for the vector potential

\[
\mathbf{A} = \sum_k \frac{-i \mu N}{k(k+1)} \left[ L \phi_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi) \right]
\]

\[
\times \left\{ \left[ \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}^{-k-1} \mathbf{C}_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi) \right] \cdot \Psi^* (2g_i \mathbf{L} + (k+1)g_i \mathbf{S}) \Psi_i \mathbf{S} \right\}
\]

\[
+ r^k \int \Psi^* \left[ \nabla \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{r}^{-k-1} \mathbf{C}_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi) \right] \Psi \mathbf{S} \Psi \, d\Omega.
\]

(17)

In what follows we shall consider the nucleus as a point source and use only that part of the potentials corresponding to an observation point outside the nuclear matter. The error made this way affects only the magnitude of interaction observed, not its multipolarity. This error, involved in the hfs anomaly, is appreciable only for 2\( \mu \)-pole magnetic interaction with an electron in a state \( j = k/2 \), and then for various orders the effect varies as 1/(k+1); for the dipole \( (k=1) \) this effect is only a few percent in the heaviest atoms.

We can now define the integrals occurring in (9) and (17) as the general nuclear electric and magnetic multipole moments:

\[
Q_{\mu} = e \int \Psi^* g_{i \mu N} \mathbf{C}_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi) \Psi_i \, d\Omega,
\]

(18a)

\[
M_{\mu} = \mu_N \int \Psi^* \left[ \nabla \mathbf{r} \cdot \mathbf{C}_{\mu}^{(k)}(\theta, \phi) \right] \Psi \Psi_i \mathbf{S} \Psi \, d\Omega,
\]

(18b)

\[\text{There are surface terms left over from these partial integrations but they exactly cancel each other.}\]

\[A. \text{ Bohr and V. F. Weisskopf, Phys. Rev. 77, 94 (1950).}\]
and write
\[ V = \sum_k r^{-k} C^{(k)}(\theta, \varphi) \cdot Q_k, \]
\[ \Lambda = \sum_k r^{-k} (L^C)^{(k)}(\theta, \varphi) \cdot M_k. \]

We also note that the operator \( Q_k \) has parity \((-1)^k\) while \( M_k \) has parity \((-1)^{k+1}\) so that the only static electric moments are of even order and the only static magnetic moments are of odd order if we assume that the nuclear wave function has a well-defined parity.

**ELECTRONIC MATRIX ELEMENTS**

We now investigate the interaction of a single electron (charge \(-e\)) with the nuclear fields just described. The electron wave function \( \Psi \) obeys the Dirac equation,
\[ [\alpha \cdot (p + eA) + \beta m c^2 - eV] \Psi = \mathcal{E} \Psi, \]
and for the zero order solutions in only the central part of the electrostatic potential, \( V_0 \), we put \( \Psi = (\psi, \phi) \),

where \( \psi \) is the large component and \( \phi \) the small component of the four-spinor \( \Psi \). Now, introducing quantum numbers, we have the separations
\[ \psi_{ijm} = f(r)/r^{l+\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \phi_{ijm} = g(r)/ir^{j+\frac{1}{2}}, \]

and \( \chi \) is a two-component spinor.

The interaction Hamiltonian is
\[ H_1 = -e(V-V_0) + e\alpha \cdot A, \]
and we will need the general matrix elements
\[ \int \Psi^* H_1 \Psi' \, dv. \]

For the electric 2\( l \)-pole matrix element \((k > 0)\), these are
\[ -e(Q_k) \int_0^\infty r^{-k+1} dr f' f'' (\frac{1}{2} l j m | C^{(k)} | \frac{1}{2} l' j' m') \]
\[ + gg' (\frac{1}{2} l j m | C^{(k)} | \frac{1}{2} l' j' m'), \]

Now the matrix elements of \( C^{(k)} \) in the \( \frac{1}{2} l j m \) scheme are independent of the quantum numbers \( l \) except for the parity selection \((l+l'+k) \) even. Hence for the reduced matrix elements of electric multipoles we have
\[ -e(Q_k) \int_0^\infty r^{-k+1} (f' f'' + gg') \, dv (\frac{1}{2} l j m | C^{(k)} | \frac{1}{2} l' j' m'). \]
\[ \text{For the magnetic multipole we have the general matrix elements} \]
\[ \frac{1}{i\hbar} - e \langle M_k \rangle \int \Psi_{ijm}^* \sigma \cdot (L r^{-k-1} C^{(k)}) \phi' f' m' \, dv \]
\[ + \int \Psi_{ijm}^* \sigma \cdot (L r^{-k-1} C^{(k)}) \phi' f'' m'' \, dv. \]

But we can write
\[ \sigma \cdot (L r^{-k-1} C^{(k)}) \phi = \sigma \cdot L (r^{-k-1} C^{(k)}) \phi - r^{-k-1} C^{(k)} (\sigma \cdot L \phi); \]

and also, by the Hermiticity of \( \sigma \cdot L \),
\[ \int \Psi^* \sigma \cdot L (r^{-k-1} C^{(k)}) \phi \, dv = \int (\sigma \cdot L \phi)^* r^{-k-1} C^{(k)} \phi \, dv. \]

Now the functions \( \psi, \phi \) are eigenfunctions of the operator \( \sigma \cdot L \) belonging to the eigenvalues \((-1, -1)\) respectively; where \( \kappa \) is the Dirac quantum number
\[ \kappa = \{ \begin{array}{c} j + \frac{1}{2} \quad j = l + \frac{1}{2} \\
-j - \frac{1}{2} \quad j = l - \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \]

referred to the large component and \( \kappa = -\kappa \). We thus get, for the reduced matrix elements of the magnetic multipoles,
\[ -e(Q_k) \langle M_k \rangle (\kappa + \kappa') \]
\[ \times \int_0^\infty r^{-k-1} (f' f'' + gg') \, dv (\frac{1}{2} l j m | C^{(k)} | \frac{1}{2} l' j' m'), \]

which have the parity selection \((l+l'+k) \) odd. The general reduced matrix elements of the \( C^{(k)} \) can be calculated best with the techniques of Racah.\(^2\) The result is (using a formula of Schwinger\(^8\))
\[ (\frac{1}{2} l j m | C^{(k)} | \frac{1}{2} l' j' m') \]
\[ = \frac{1}{2} [1 + (-1)^{(l+l'+k)}] \Delta (j j' k) (1^{j-j'+1} 1^s) \]
\[ \times \frac{(j+j'+s)!}{(j-j'+s-1)!!(j'-j-s-1)!!}, \]

where
\[ s = \begin{cases} k & j + j' + k \text{ even} \\
k+1 & j + j' + k \text{ odd} \end{cases} \]

and

\[ \Delta (abc) = \left[ \frac{(a+b-c)(b+c-a)(c+a-b)!}{(a+b+c+1)!} \right]^1. \]

For the first order hyperfine interactions only the diagonal matrix elements are needed and we get for
the interaction constants:

\[
A_k = -Q_k e \int_0^\infty r^{k-1}(r^2 + g^2)dr((-1)^{k/2}(k-1)!! \over k!!) \times \frac{(2j)!}{(2j+k)!!(2j-k-1)!!}, \quad \text{even, } k > 0; \quad (26a)
\]

\[
A_k = -M_k e \int_0^\infty r^{k-1}fdr((-1)^{(k-1)/2}(k-1)!! \over (k-1)!!) \times \frac{(2j)!}{(2j+k+1)!!(2j-k)!!}, \quad \text{odd, } k > 0; \quad (26b)
\]

in terms of the specific nuclear moments

\[
Q_k = \langle Q_k \rangle_{II} \quad M_k = \langle M_k \rangle_{II}. \quad (27)
\]

The preceding analysis was for a single electron bound to the nucleus. It is also correct to describe the interaction of a single valence electron outside closed sub-shells of other electrons.\(^{11}\) For configurations such as \(p^6, d^9\) in L–S coupling, or \((3/2)^4, (5/2)^2\) in \(j–f\) coupling, where there is just one electron less than the number needed to fill a shell, only very slight modifications are needed to correct the matrix elements: the even (electric multipole) interactions are just \((-1)\) times the values for a single electron while the odd (magnetic multipole) ones are the same.

In the case of more complex electron configurations one must know the coupling scheme of the various angular momenta involved; then the techniques of Racah\(^{2}\) show how to calculate the appropriate “projection” factors.

**RADIAL INTEGRALS**

With the separation of variables (21) the Dirac equation (20) for the radial functions \(f\) and \(g\) reads

\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{d}{dr} \frac{\kappa}{r} f &= \frac{1}{\hbar c} (mc^2 + E + eV_r) g, \\
\frac{d}{dr} \frac{\kappa}{r} g &= -\frac{1}{\hbar c} (mc^2 - E - eV_r) f.
\end{align*}
\]

(28)

For a many-electron atom the best solution consistent with the assumption of the preceding footnote is obtained from a Hartree-Fock treatment. However, to obtain simple analytical results we make the assumption, following Casimir,\(^8\) that the important contribution to the integrals (26) comes from the region of small values of \(r\). This should be an excellent approximation for the cases \(j = l+{1\over 2}, j = l-{1\over 2}\) (magnetic dipole in \(s_l\) state, magnetic octupole in \(p_l\) state, etc.) where the non-relativistic treatment gives the interaction as due entirely to the electron density at the nucleus \((r = 0)\). For orbits of larger \(l\), however, the wave function is concentrated farther out and is more slowly rising near the origin so this approximation worsens. At small value of \(r\) the major contribution to the potential is from the nucleus. Setting \(V_r = Ze/r\) and with the approximation of zero binding energy \(|mc^2 - E| \ll V_r\), we get from (28) the solutions in terms of Bessel functions:

\[
\begin{align*}
f &= C' \left\{ \frac{1}{r} J_{\frac{1}{2}x} (r - \rho) \right\} J_{\frac{1}{2}x} (\rho), \\
g &= CnZ J_{\frac{1}{2}x} (\rho),
\end{align*}
\]

(29)

where \(x = (8Zr/a_0)^{1/2}, \rho = (k^2 - c^2 Z^2)^{1/2}, a_0 = \hbar^2/mc^2 = e^2/\epsilon_c\). With these functions the radial integrals (26) can be evaluated\(^{13}\) to give the following results:

\[
\begin{align*}
\int_0^\infty r^{k-1}(r^2 + g^2)dr &= C^k \left\{ \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right\} k!(2k-2)! \times \frac{1}{k!(k-1)!} (2k + 1) \cdots (2p + k) \cdots (2p - k), \\
\int_0^\infty r^{k-1}fdr &= C^k \left\{ \frac{2Z}{2mc/a_0} \right\} k! \times \frac{1}{k!(k-1)!} (2k + 1) \cdots (2p + k) \cdots (2p - k).
\end{align*}
\]

(30)

(31)

The normalization constant \(C^k\), which gives the density at the nucleus of the wave function of the outer valence electron, is best evaluated in terms of the fine-structure separation (for non-s electrons) between the states \(j = l+{1\over 2}, j = l-{1\over 2}\), which have almost identical wave functions for larger values of \(r\). Here and subsequently we shall use the notation of a single \((\prime)\) to identify a quantity as relating to the state \(j = l+{1\over 2}\), and a double \((\prime\prime)\) for the state \(j = l-{1\over 2}\). The resulting identification is\(^{\text{lo}}\)

\[
C' \equiv C', \quad C^2 = \frac{\delta}{2.911} \frac{l(l+1)}{2HZ^2/a_0}, \quad (32)
\]

where \(\delta\) is the doublet splitting in cm\(^{-1}\), and \(H\) is a relativistic correction factor. More accurate approximations for the ratio \(|C''/C'|\) will be termed normalization corrections and will be of concern in the following section. Casimir\(^8\) gives the estimate

\[
\left| \frac{C''}{C'} \right|^2 = 1 + \frac{3a^2Z^2}{2l(l+1)n^*}, \quad (33)
\]

involving the "effective quantum number" \( n^* \). However, an explicit calculation by Breit for the case of thallium \( (Z=81) \) gives a value \( |C''/C'|^2 = 1.65 \) compared to the 1.18 of (33). We shall use Casimir's formula (33) for lighter nuclei \((Z \leq 50)\) for which these corrections are not very large anyway. For the integrals of greatest interest we shall write the results in the following forms.

**Magnetic dipole:**

\[
\int_0^\infty r^{-2} f g dr = C^2 \frac{h}{2mc} \left( \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right)^2 \frac{F}{[2l+1][2l+1-1]} \]

\( \mp \text{ as } j = l \pm \frac{1}{2}. \) (34a)

**Electric quadrupole:**

\[
\int_0^\infty r^{-3} (f^2 + g^2) dr = C^2 \frac{h}{2mc} \left( \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right)^2 \frac{R}{l(2l+1)(2l+2)} \]

\( \mp \text{ as } j = l \pm \frac{1}{2}. \) (34b)

**Magnetic octupole:**

\[
\int_0^\infty r^{-4} f g dr = C^2 \frac{h}{2mc} \left( \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right)^4 \times \frac{10T}{(2l+3)(2l+2)(2l+1)(2l-1)[2l+3]} \]

\( \mp \text{ as } j = l \pm \frac{1}{2}. \) (34c)

\( F \) and \( R \) are the same relativistic correction factors given by Casimir\(^3\); \( T \) is the corresponding correction factor for the octupole integral and is given by

\[
T = \frac{(2j+4)!(2p-4)!}{(2j-3)!(2p+3)!}. \]

All these factors, along with \( H \), are plotted as functions of \( Z \) in Fig. 1 for the case \( l = 1 \).

**SECOND-ORDER EFFECTS**

So long as we consider only first order effects of the hfs interactions, the multipole can be separated from one another unambiguously by the orthogonality of the "interval rules" for different orders (8). However in second order we get the energy given by the square of a \( m \)-matrix element. Thus if, in second order, we consider the matrix element from the state \( IJF \) to the (different) state \( I'J'F \) of the hfs interactions of various orders, we get a dependence on \( F \) which goes as the Racah coefficient,

\[
(-1)^F W (I'J'IIJ;Fk). \]

In the square of the matrix element there will be such products as

\[
W (I'J'IIJ;Fk) W (I'J'IIJ;Fk), \]

and if we want to know what part of this looks like the first order term of an interaction of rank \( k \), we multiply by

\[
(-1)^F W (I'J'IIJ;Fk) (2F+1), \]

and sum over \( F \). This sum is well known in the theory of Racah coefficients and gives a result proportional to

\[
W (Ik_1Ik_2Jk) W (JkIk_2J'k), \]

which is nonzero only if

\[
|k_1 - k_2| \leq k \leq k_1 + k_2. \]

Thus in second order the square of the dipole term can influence at most the quadrupole; the cross dipole-quadrupole term can affect up to the octupole; and the square of the quadrupole term can reach to the \( 2^4 \)-pole.

We shall now calculate the off-diagonal matrix elements for the dipole and quadrupole operators from the state in which the measurement is being made (assumed to be \( j = l \pm \frac{1}{2} \)) to the near-by doublet level of the electron \( (j = l \mp \frac{1}{2}) \).

For the dipole term the matrix element (always diagonal in \( F \)) is, from (24),

\[
W (I'J'IJ;F1) (-1)^{I+J+I'-F-I}(M \left| J \right| F)(-\epsilon)(k' + \kappa''), \]

\[
\times \int_0^\infty r^{-2}(f'g'' + g'f'') dr \left( \frac{4}{3} \right) I \left| J \right| \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) I - 1, \]

and from (25),

\[
\left( \frac{4}{3} \right) I \left| J \right| \left( \frac{2}{3} \right) I - 1 = \left( \frac{2J+1}{2J-1} \right); \]

also \( k' + \kappa'' = 1 \). The form of the Racah coefficient is

\[
W (I'J'IJ;F1) (-1)^{I+J+I'-F-1}, \]

\[
= \left( \frac{(I+J-F)(J-I+F)(J-I+F+1)(I+J+F+1)}{(I+1)(2I+1)2I(2J+1)2J(2J-1)} \right) \]

and the nuclear term is

\[
\left( M \left| J \right| F \right) = \left( I+1 \right)(2I+1)/I M_s, \]

so that the entire matrix element is

\[
-\frac{eM_s}{4IJ} \int_0^\infty r^{-2}(f'g'' + g'f'') dr \left[ (I+J-F)(J-I+F) \right. \]

\[
\times \left. (I+J+F-1)(I+J+F+1) \right]. \]

The radial integral yields

\[
\int_0^\infty r^{-2}(f'g'' + g'f'') dr \]

\[
= C' C'' \frac{h}{2mc} \left( \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right)^2 \]

\[
\times \frac{-4\Gamma(\rho' + \rho'') - 1}{\Gamma(\rho' - \rho' + 2)\Gamma(\rho' - \rho'' + 2)\Gamma(\rho' + \rho'' + 2)} \]

\[
= -C' C'' \left( \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right)^2 \frac{G}{l(2l+1)(2l+2)}. \]

(37)
The ratio of this to the diagonal term in the state \( j = l + \frac{1}{2} \) is
\[
\int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} (f'g'' + g'f'') dr / \int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} f'g' dr = \frac{C''}{C'} \left( \frac{G}{l''} \right) \left( \frac{1}{l''} \right) = \frac{1}{l''} \frac{G}{C'} \text{ (38)}
\]
The off-diagonal quadrupole matrix element is, from (23),
\[
W(IJI-1; F2)(-1)^{l''-l'-1} = [F(F+1) - I(I+1) - J^2 + 1] \left( \frac{3(I+J-F)(I+J+F)(I-J+F+1)I+J+F+1}{4J(J+1)(2I+1)(2J+1)(2I+2)(2J+2)(2I+1)I+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},
\]
and the nuclear term is
\[
\langle I||Q_s||I \rangle = \frac{(2I+3)(2I+1)(I+1)}{I(2I-1)} Q_n,
\]
so the entire matrix element is
\[
-\epsilon Q_s \int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} (f'f'' + g'g'') dr [ (I+J-F)(J-I+F) \times (I-J+F+1)(I+J+F+1)] \times [F(F+1) - I(I+1) - J^2 + 1] \times \frac{3}{8J(J+1)(J-1)I(2I-1)}. \text{ (39)}
\]
The radial integral gives
\[
\int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} (f'f'' + g'g'') dr = C' C'' \left( \frac{2Z}{a_0} \right)^3 \frac{2I(p'+p'' - 2)}{\Gamma(p'+p''+3) \Gamma(p''-p'-3)} \times \left( \frac{12[a^2Z^2 + (p'+p''(p''+\kappa')) - (p'+p'')] - (p'+p'' - 1)}{(p'+p'' - 2)(p'-p'' + 2)(p'' - p'+2)} \right) \times \frac{3}{I(2I+1)(2I+2)}. \text{ (40)}
\]
The ratio of this to the diagonal integral in the \( j = l + \frac{1}{2} \) state is
\[
\int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} (f'f'' + g'g'') dr / \int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} (f'g' + g'f') dr = \frac{C''}{C'} \frac{S}{R'} = \eta. \text{ (41)}
\]

\[
W(IJI-1; F2)(-1)^{l''-l'-1} \langle I||Q_s||I \rangle (1-e) \times \int_{0}^{\infty} r^{-3} (f'f'' + g'g'') dr \left( \frac{3}{4J(J+1)(2I+1)(2J+1)(2I+2)(2J+2)(2I+1)I+1} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}},
\]

Collecting all the terms, we can now write the second order energy as follows:
\[
W_{\text{p}} = \frac{1}{\Delta E} \left[ (I-J+F+1)(I+J+F+1)(I+J-F+1)(I-J+F+1) \times \left( \frac{3(F+1)(I+1) - J^2 + 1}{2J(J+1)(2I+1)(2J+1)} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \right]. \text{ (42)}
\]
in terms of the first-order interaction constants in the state \( j=l+\frac{1}{2} \) (we might also have referred to the state \( j=l-\frac{1}{2} \)). \( \Delta E \) is \( -\delta \) (the fine-structure splitting) if the \( j=l+\frac{1}{2} \) state is the lower state (in energy), or \( +\delta \) if \( j=l-\frac{1}{2} \) is lower.

**EFFECTS OF CONFIGURATION INTERACTION**

We now go on to consider the effect of some configuration interaction of the sort discussed by Fermi and Segre\(^{13}\) and calculated in a particular case by Koster.\(^{14}\) For configurations \( s^l j \) (or \( s^{l-1} j^\prime \)) we include the possibility of one of the \( s \) electrons being raised to a higher \( s \)-state \( j' \). The wave function in \( L-S \) coupling will be written—for both \( j=l+\frac{1}{2} \) and \( j=l-\frac{1}{2} \) levels

\[
\Psi_j = \alpha_z (s^2 (S=0)^2 L_z) + \alpha_z (s'^1 (S=1)^2 L_z)
\]

with normalization \( \alpha_z + \alpha_z^2 + \alpha_z^3 = 1 \), where \( S \) is the resultant angular momentum of the two \( s \) electrons' spins which then couples to the spin of the \( l \) electron to give the doublet. In what follows we shall approximate only that \( \alpha_z^3 \ll 1 \) (Koster finds \( \alpha_z^3 = 0.001 \) for gallium, \( Z = 31 \)).

For the wave function (43) the octupole and quadrupole matrix elements, as well as the fine-structure-are essentially the same (to order \( \alpha_z^2 \)) as those one would get from considering only the valence \( l \) electron alone. We are interested in the effect of the \( s \)-electrons in the first and second order dipole interactions as these influence the interpretation of the purely octupole interaction from the hfs data. We shall find an explicit evaluation for a correction factor which should be multiplied into \( A_i' \) in formula (42) just to take account of the dipole interaction of these \( s \) electrons.

First, with the total dipole operator written as a sum of an operator \( T_i' \) (of rank 1) acting on the valence \( l \) electron and another \( T_j' \) acting on the \( s \) electrons, the general reduced matrix element becomes (to order \( \alpha_z^2 \ll 1 \))

\[
(J||T_i'||+T_j'||J') = (J||T_i'||||J'') + \Delta_{JJ'},
\]

where \( \Delta_{JJ'} \) is a sum of matrix elements between various terms of (43), all of the form

\[
\Delta_{JJ'} = \langle S_j^l \frac{1}{2} J_j||T_i'||||S_j' \frac{1}{2} J_j'\rangle
\]

\[
= W (\frac{1}{2} J_j' J_j' J_j J_j') J J_j' J_j + (2 J_j' + 1)(2 J_j + 1) (-1)^{J_j+J_j'} \times \langle S_j^l \frac{1}{2} J_j||T_i'||||S_j' \frac{1}{2} J_j' \rangle.
\]

That is, without actually calculating \( \Delta_{JJ'} \) we have gotten its dependence on \( J \) and \( J' \). Now, putting

\[
J=l+\frac{1}{2}, \text{ we get the ratios}
\]

\[
\Delta_{JJ'=1} = \frac{(2 J-1)}{J+1}, \quad (45a)
\]

\[
\Delta_{JJ'=-1} = -\frac{(J-1)(2 J-1)}{(J+1)(2 J+1)}, \quad (45b)
\]

Also the ratio of the off-diagonal to diagonal \((J=l+\frac{1}{2}\) state) reduced dipole matrix elements of the \( l \) electron is

\[
-\frac{[(J+1)(2 J-1)]}{(2 J-1)(2 J+1)}. \quad (46)
\]

The desired correction factor \( \xi \) is given by

\[
\xi = (\frac{(J+1)[(J+1)(2 J-1)]}{(2 J-1)(2 J+1)}, \quad (47)
\]

and from now on we will understand \( J=l+\frac{1}{2}, J'=l-\frac{1}{2} = J-1 \).

One must calculate \( \Delta_{JJ'} \) by taking the discrepancy between the observed interaction constant \( A_i' \) and that amount calculated for the valence \( l \) electron alone. If the hfs is measured in the \( J'=l-\frac{1}{2} \) state as well, one can get a better check on \( \Delta \) by solving the two simultaneous equations of the form (44) with the measured interaction constants \( A_i' \) and \( A_i'' \). Using (43b) and the relation

\[
(J\text{-}1)||T_i'||||J-1) \quad (48)
\]

\[
= \left[ \frac{(J+1)(2 J-1)}{J} \right] \theta(J||T_i'||||J) \quad (49a)
\]

\[
\theta = \frac{E''}{E'}, \quad (C')^2
\]

we get

\[
M_1 \Delta_{JJ'} = \theta A_i' - \frac{1}{[J/(J+1)]} A_i'' \quad (49b)
\]

\[
\times \left( \frac{(J+1)(2 J+1)}{J} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (49c)
\]

\[
M_1(J||T_i'||||J) = \frac{[J/(J+1)] A_i' + A_i''}{\theta + [J/(J+1)]} \quad (49b)
\]

\[
\times \left( \frac{(J+1)(2 J+1)}{J} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (49c)
\]

and, finally,

\[
\xi = 1 + \frac{1}{[J/(J+1)]} A_i' - \theta A_i' (2 J+1)(2 J-1) \quad (49c)
\]

\[
\times \frac{[J/(J+1)] A_i'' + [J/(J+1)] A_i'}{J}. \quad (49c)
\]

The calculations carried out here also find application in the study of the Zeeman effect in hfs as used to

\(^{13}\) E. Fermi and E. Segre, Z. Physik 82, 729 (1933).

measure directly the nuclear \( g \) factor. When an atom of spin \( J = \frac{1}{2} \) (for \( I > \frac{1}{2} \)) is placed in a uniform magnetic field \( H \), there are according to the Breit-Rabi formula pairs of lines arising from the hfs, the difference of whose frequencies gives directly the quantity \( 2g_{\text{hf}}H \).

Foley\textsuperscript{18} has shown that for a \( p_1 \) electron state second-order contributions involving the doublet \( p_1 \) level can change the apparent value of \( g_I \) as compared with the value measured directly by nuclear resonance methods. His formula is

\[
R^{-1} = \frac{g_I \text{(atomic beam=hfs)}}{g_I \text{(nuclear resonance)}} = 1 - \frac{1837 \Delta \nu}{6(2I+1) g_I \delta}, \tag{50}
\]

where \( \Delta \nu \) is the hfs interval in the \( p_1 \) state at zero field and \( \delta \) is the fine-structure separation. Clendenin\textsuperscript{14} has done the calculation relativistically and he gets formula (50) with the factor \( G/F' \) included in the second term.

What enters in (50) is just the off-diagonal matrix element of the hfs interactions between the \( p_1 \) and \( p_1 \) states times the matrix element of the electron's magnetic moment operator between the same two states. There are three effects not considered by these other authors which we can now include: the normalization correction factor; the off-diagonal quadrupole term; the effect of configuration interaction on the off-diagonal dipole term. Using (42) we get the result

\[
R^{-1} = 1 - \frac{1837}{g_I \delta} \left[ \frac{\Delta \nu}{6(2I+1) \theta} \frac{b}{I(I-1) \eta} \right]. \tag{51}
\]

The quantity \( b \) is the usual quadrupole interaction constant (\( b = 4.4 \)) measured in the \( p_1 \) state and all other factors in (51) are as earlier defined. The sign of the correction term above is correct only when the \( p_1 \) state is lower in energy than the \( p_1 \) state.

We shall compare the calculated and measured values of this discrepancy for the ground states of gallium and indium.

\textbf{Gallium}\textsuperscript{17}:

\[
Z = 31, \quad \delta = 24.8 \times 10^6 \text{Mc/sec}, \quad n_e = 1.51,
\]

\[
|C''/C'|^2 = 1.02, \quad \xi = 1.02, \quad \eta = 1.04, \quad \theta = 1.10, \quad \xi = 1.58, \quad A_{2''}/A_{1'} = 2.34.
\]

\[
\Delta \nu = 3402 \text{ Mc/sec}, \quad b = 39.4 \text{ Mc/sec}, \quad g_I = 1.70,
\]

\[
R^{-1} = 1 - 0.0084,
\]

with the experimental value

\[
1 - 0.0077 \pm 0.0017.
\]

\textbf{Indium}\textsuperscript{18}:

\[
Z = 49, \quad \delta = 66.5 \times 10^6 \text{ Mc/sec}, \quad n_e = 1.53,
\]

\[
|C''/C'|^2 = 1.06, \quad \xi = 1.04, \quad \eta = 1.11, \quad \theta = 1.30, \quad \xi = 1.84, \quad A_{2''}/A_{1'} = 3.12.
\]

\[
\Delta \nu = 11330 \text{ Mc/sec}, \quad b = 450 \text{ Mc/sec}, \quad g_I = 1.22,
\]

\[
R^{-1} = 1 - 0.0060,
\]

and the experimental value is

\[
1 - 0.0062 \pm 0.0005.
\]

\section*{Nuclear Moments}

The nuclear moments are defined as the following expectation values (evaluated in the state \( m_I = I \)).

\[
Q_k = \left( \langle \vec{g}_\nu \sigma C^{(k)}(\theta, \varphi) \rangle \right)_{II} \tag{52a}
\]

for electric moments \((k\) even);

\[
M_k = \left( \mu_N \langle \nabla \times C^{(k)}(\theta, \varphi) \rangle \cdot \left( \frac{2}{k+1} \mathbf{L} + \sigma_3 \mathbf{S} \right) \right)_{II} \tag{52b}
\]

for magnetic moments \((k\) odd).

The magnetic multipole moments (52b) can also be written in the form

\[
M_k = -\int r^k C^{(k)}(\theta, \varphi) \text{ div} \mathbf{M} d\nu,
\]

where \( \mathbf{M} \) is the magnetization density (in the state \( m_I = I \)) defined as in Blatt and Weisskopf,\textsuperscript{7} Chap. I. These are related to the usually defined moments as follows:

\[
\mu = M_1, \quad \text{magnetic dipole moment};
\]

\[
Q = 2Q_2, \quad \text{electric quadrupole moment};
\]

and we shall define the magnetic octupole moment \( \Omega \) as

\[
\Omega = -M_3.
\]

It can be seen from the phase factors in Eqs. (26a, b) that the moments of a given type, electric or magnetic, have a natural oscillation in sign as one proceeds to higher orders. The minus sign is introduced in the definition of \( \Omega \) so that a nucleus with a positive dipole moment is most likely to have a positive octupole moment as well.

\textsuperscript{16} H. M. Foley, Phys. Rev. 80, 288 (1950).

\textsuperscript{17} W. W. Clendenin, Phys. Rev. 94, 1590 (1954).

\textsuperscript{18} Data from G. E. Becker and P. Kusch, Phys. Rev. 73, 584 (1948), and reference 15.

\textsuperscript{15} Data from sources quoted in reference 15 and others given by P. Kusch in private communication.
It is of interest to calculate the moments expected of a single odd nucleon in an orbit of spin \( I \). From (25) and (4b), we get directly the electric moments

\[
Q_1 = \frac{1}{\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle} \left[ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{I(I+1)}{2} \right], \quad \text{and} \quad Q_2 = \frac{3}{8} \frac{(2I-1)(2I-3)}{(2I+4)(2I+2)} \frac{1}{\langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle},
\]

(53a, 53b)

For a nuclear configuration of \( n \) (odd) equivalent nucleons in the expected ground state, we have the relation

\[
Q_b(j^*I = j) = \frac{2j+1-2n}{2j-1} Q_b(j),
\]

(53c)

giving the moment of the several particles in terms of the value for a single particle.

The calculation of the magnetic multipole expectation values (52b) is slightly more involved. With extensive use of the Racah techniques we have derived the following general formula for matrix elements of this type in single-particle orbits; \( g \) is any function of \( r \).

\[
(l \frac{1}{2} j)^{\dagger} \left[ (\nabla g^* C^{(k)}) \cdot (g_r L + g_S) \right] (l \frac{1}{2} j')
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \left[ (1 - (-1)^{l+j'})(g_j g_{-j'} + (-1)^{l+j'}g_{-j} g_{j}) \right]
\]

\[
\left[ ((j+\frac{1}{2}) - (j-\frac{1}{2}) + (-1)^{l+j'} (j'+\frac{1}{2}) - (j'-\frac{1}{2}) \right]
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{2} \left[ (1 - (-1)^{l+j'})(g_j g_{-j'} + (-1)^{l+j'}g_{-j} g_{j}) \right]
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{2} \left[ (1 - (-1)^{l+j'})(g_j g_{-j'} + (-1)^{l+j'}g_{-j} g_{j}) \right]
\]

\[
\Delta(j \frac{1}{2} j) ((j+\frac{1}{2})(j-\frac{1}{2}) - (j'+\frac{1}{2})(j'-\frac{1}{2}) - (j+\frac{1}{2})(j-\frac{1}{2}) + (j'+\frac{1}{2})(j'-\frac{1}{2}) - (j+\frac{1}{2})(j-\frac{1}{2}) + (j'+\frac{1}{2})(j'-\frac{1}{2})]
\]

\[
\times (j+j'-s)!!(j-\frac{1}{2}+s-\frac{1}{2})!!(j+\frac{1}{2}-s-\frac{1}{2})!!
\]

(54)

with \( s \) and \( \Delta(j \mathbf{)} \) defined as in (25).

For the diagonal matrix elements in the state \( M_I = I \), using (4b) and (54) we get

\[
\mu = M_I = \mu N \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\frac{g_j + (g_j - g_{-j})}{2I}, & I = I + \frac{1}{2}; \\
\frac{g_j - (g_j - g_{-j})}{2I + 2}, & I = I - \frac{1}{2};
\end{array} \right.
\]

(55)

the usual Schmidt values; and for the octupole

\[
\Omega = -M_B = \frac{3}{2} \frac{(2I-1)}{(2I+4)(2I+2)} \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle.
\]

(56)

One can make a plot of these values of the single-particle octupole moments very much like the Schmidt plot for dipoles. In Fig. 2 are the lines for \( I = I + \frac{1}{2} \) and \( I = I - \frac{1}{2} \) of the quantity

\[
\frac{\Omega}{\mu N \langle \mathbf{r}^2 \rangle}
\]

as a function of \( I (\geq \frac{3}{2}) \)

for an odd proton \( (g_j = +1, g_{-j} = 5.58) \); a similar plot can be drawn for an odd neutron \( (g_j = 0, g_{-j} = -3.83) \).

For nuclear configurations of several equivalent particles in the ground state \( I = j \) we get for the magnetic multipole moments

\[
M_s(j^*I = j) = M_s(j).
\]

(57)

If (as in an odd-odd nucleus for example) we have a configuration of two particles (or two separate groups of particles) with separate spins \( j_1 \) and \( j_2 \) coupled to a resultant \( I \), any multipole moment of the total system is made up of the moments of the two particles as follows:

\[
(\frac{1}{2} j_1 j_2 I m_I = I \mid T_i^{(b)} + T_5^{(b)} \mid j_1 j_2 I m_I = I)
\]

\[
= \frac{(2I+1)!}{(2I-k)!} \left[ (2j_1 - k)(2j_1 + k + 1)! \right] \left[ (2I-k)! + (2I+k+1)! \right]
\]

\[
\times \left[ (j_1 m_1 = j_1 \mid T_i^{(b)} \mid j_1 m_1 = j_1) \right]
\]

\[
\times W(j_1 j_2 I j_1 j_2 k)(-1)^{i-n-i'k}
\]

\[
\times \left[ (2j_2 - k)! (2j_2 + k + 1)! \right] \left[ (2j_2)! + (2j_2+1)! \right]
\]

(58)

We can make one interesting and simple remark concerning the interpretation of nuclear moments in A. Bohr's asymmetric core model. In the strong-coupling situation where the valence nucleons are aligned with respect to a permanently distorted nuclear core we must reduce all the moments by a projection factor \( P_k \) which allows for the transformation of the necessary
operators into the body frame of the core. This projection factor, in the nuclear ground state where the valence nucleon is aligned with the core axis, is given by

\[ P_{k} = \frac{(2I+1)^{\text{f}}}{(2I-k)(2I+k+1)!}. \]  (59)

It is interesting that the higher \( P_{k} \)'s can be quite small numbers if \( I \) is small (\( I \approx k/2 \)). For the octupole, for example,

\[ P_{1} = 1/35, \quad I = 3/2, \]

\[ P_{4} = 1/5, \quad I = 5/2, \]

while the smallest \( P_{1} \) is \( 1/2 \) (for \( I = 1/2 \)) and the smallest \( P_{4} \) is \( 1/5 \) (for \( I = 3/2 \)).

The contrast between the asymmetric core effects in quadrupole and octupole moments is further intensified by the fact that while it is the large numerical charge of the core which, in spite of the projection factor, creates a large quadrupole moment, the total magnetization of the core is only of the order of that produced by a single particle. The conclusion is that if the strong-coupling situation exists for nuclei with small spins (3/2, 5/2) the octupole moment should be much smaller than the expected single particle value.

**EXAMPLES:** \( p_{1s} \) ELECTRON

For an electron state with a single valence electron in a \( p_{1} \) orbit, there will be (for \( I \geq \frac{3}{2} \)) four hfs levels with the \( M(IJ;Fk) \) coefficients (6), (7) given in Table I.

If we let \( x, y, z \) be the measured intervals between the \( F = I + \frac{1}{2} \), \( F = I - \frac{1}{2} \), \( F = I + \frac{1}{2} \), \( F = I - \frac{1}{2} \), \( F = I \) levels respectively, then we get, for the interaction constants (8), \( W_{x} = 0; W_{y} = z; W_{z} = x + y + z \)

\[ A_{1} = \frac{9}{20} \left( \frac{I}{I+1} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \frac{(2I-1)(2I+3)}{(I+1)(I+2)} \]

\[ + \frac{9}{20} \left( \frac{I}{I+2} \right)^{\frac{5}{2}} \frac{(2I+1)(2I+4)}{(I+1)} \]  (60a)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>( k )</th>
<th>( h = 1 )</th>
<th>( h = 2 )</th>
<th>( h = 3 )</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>( F = I + \frac{1}{2} )</td>
<td>( \frac{I-3}{3I} )</td>
<td>( \frac{2I}{I}(I-1) )</td>
<td>( \frac{I}{I+1} )</td>
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<td>( F = I + \frac{1}{2} )</td>
<td>( \frac{I-4}{3I} )</td>
<td>( \frac{I}{I+1} )</td>
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<tr>
<td>( F = I + \frac{1}{2} )</td>
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<td>( \frac{I}{I+1} )</td>
<td>( \frac{I}{I+1} )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \begin{align*}
A_{3} &= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(2I+1)(I+1)(2I+3)}{(2I+1)(I+1)(2I+3)}
\end{align*} 

\[ \begin{align*}
A_{4} &= 1 \frac{1}{10} \frac{(2I+1)(I+1)(2I+3)}{(2I+1)(I+1)(2I+3)}
\end{align*} 

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\end{align*} 

We should subtract from the above formula for \( A_{4} \) the amount due to the second order corrections (42); this comes to [using (8) to find the octupole-like part]:

\[ 1 \frac{1}{3} \frac{I-I}{I} \eta A_{3} \left[ \frac{8}{21-1} \eta A_{3}^{2} \right. \right.

\[ \left. - \frac{5}{6} \xi A_{1} \right], \]

with

\[ \xi = 1 \frac{1}{10} \frac{16 \xi A_{1}^{2}}{3A_{1}^{2}+A_{1}^{2}}, \]

\[ \xi = 1 \frac{1}{10} \frac{3A_{1}^{2}+A_{1}^{2}}{A_{1}^{2}}. \]

The formula for \( A_{3} \) in terms of the octupole moment is

\[ A_{3} = \frac{16}{5} \frac{T \cdot Z}{\delta Z}, \]

\[ \Omega = \frac{1}{5} \frac{3.30 \times 10^{-17}}{T \cdot \delta Z}, \]

in units of \( \Omega \)—nuclear magneton cm\(^{2} \), \( A_{3} \)—Mc/sec, and \( \delta \)—cm\(^{-1} \).

For the ground state of iodine\(^{1} \): \( n* = 1.14 \)

\[ Z = 53, \quad \delta = 7600 \text{ cm}^{-1}; \quad A_{3} = 3100 \text{ Mc/sec}, \]

\[ A_{4} = 286.6 \text{ Mc/sec}, \quad |C'/C'|^{2} = 1.10, \quad \xi = 1.05, \quad \eta = 1.13. \]

No measurements have been made on the \( p_{1} \) state but it is expected that there will be considerably less configuration interaction in the halogens than in the corresponding Group III elements due to the tighter binding of the \( s \)-electrons. We will thus assume \( \xi = 1 \).

The formula for \( A_{3} \) with corrections is

\[ A_{3} = \frac{1}{5} \frac{(5x-16y+14z)}{0.00053 \text{ Mc/sec}} \]

\[ = 0.00287 \pm 0.00037 \pm 0.00053 \text{ Mc/sec}, \]

where we have taken the square root of the sum of the squares of the experimental errors in \( x, y, z \) (weighted as above) as the total error. Using (63) with \( H = 1.07, \)

\[ T = 1.22, \quad \text{we get} \quad \Omega_{127} = (0.17 \pm 0.03) \times 10^{-24} \text{ nuclear magneton cm}^{2}. \]

With the value for the radial integral taken roughly as

\[ \langle r^{2} \rangle = \frac{8}{3} R_{h}^{2} = \frac{8}{3} (0.135 A_{1}^{2})^{2} \times 10^{-24} \text{ cm}^{2}, \]
we get the value $(0.62\pm0.10)$ on the octupole diagram $(\sim\frac{1}{2}$ the expected single-particle value).

For the metastable $p_f$ state of indium 115, Kusch\textsuperscript{19} has remeasured the intervals with extreme accuracy. Using the correction factors already worked out, we get for $A_4$:

$$A_4 = \frac{7}{2200} \left[ 6x - 16y + 11z \right] + 0.000109 \text{Mc/sec}$$

$$= (0.000011 \pm 0.000032 + 0.000109) \text{Mc/sec.}$$

With $H = 1.065$ and $T = 1.19$, the octupole moment is

$$\Omega_{1h} = (0.31\pm0.01) \times 10^{-24} \text{nuclear magneton cm}^2.$$

Approximating as above for $(\mu^2)$, we get the value $(2.1\pm0.1)$ on the octupole plot $(\sim\frac{1}{2}$ the single-particle value).

Daly\textsuperscript{20} has remeasured the hfs of the $p_f$ state for the two stable isotopes of gallium. The several correction factors have already been quoted; we have:

Ga$^{69}$: $A_4 = \frac{1}{400} \left[ -x - 4y + 5z \right] + 0.0000336 \text{Mc/sec}$

$$= (50.2 \pm 3.3 + 33.6) \times 10^{-4} \text{Mc/sec,}$$

Ga$^{71}$: $A_4 = \frac{1}{400} \left[ -x - 4y + 5z \right] + 0.0000285$

$$= (85.8 \pm 3.2 + 28.5) \times 10^{-4} \text{Mc/sec;}$$

with $H = 1.028$, $T = 1.068$ we get the octupole moments

$$\Omega_{2p} = (0.107 \pm 0.004) \times 10^{-24} \text{nuclear magneton cm}^2.$$

$$\Omega_{1s} = (0.146 \pm 0.004) \times 10^{-24} \text{nuclear magneton cm}^2.$$

Estimating $(\mu^2)$ as before, we get the values $(0.58)$ for Ga$^{69}$ and $(0.77)$ for Ga$^{71}$ on the octupole plot.

The values of the quantity $\Omega/\mu^2$ for these four nuclides are displayed in Fig. 2, and it is striking to see the similarity between the distribution of points on this diagram and that on the Schmidt plot for dipole moments. Any strong conclusions about the quantitative aspects of this comparison may as yet be unjustified, since the rough estimate

$$\langle \mu^2 \rangle = \frac{3}{2} R \bar{\rho}^2, \quad R_0 = 1.35 A^{1/3} \times 10^{-13} \text{cm}$$

should be replaced by the analytical evaluations of some reasonable shell model. However, it is interesting to compare the sizes of the octupole moments for the isotopic pair Ga$^{69}$, 71. The heavier nucleus has larger dipole and octupole moments and smaller quadrupole moment, thus is consistently closer to the pure single-particle picture.

The author would like to thank Professor P. Kusch, Doctors V. Jaccarino, J. G. King and R. T. Daly for making their experimental data known to him before publication. It is also with pleasure that the advice and encouragement received by him from Professors V. F. Weisskopf and S. D. Drell are acknowledged. Much of the author's familiarity with the problems and techniques of the study of hyperfine structure has come from numerous discussions with Doctor Vincent Jaccarino and other members of Professor Zacharias' Atomic Beam Laboratory.

APPENDIX I. DISCUSSION OF APPROXIMATIONS

In this section we shall discuss several approximations made in the theoretical analysis of this paper in order to arrive at an estimate of the accuracy of the terms calculated.

A: The assumption that a many-electron atom can be described as a core of closed shells plus a few valence electrons is the essential starting point for any study of atomic multiplet structure, fine structure and hyperfine structure. The corrections to this model, termed configuration interaction, include the admixture of excited states for the core electrons, brought about through the electrostatic interactions among all the electrons. The calculations of Sternheimer\textsuperscript{21} have attempted to account for these effects in the dipole and quadrupole hyperfine interactions, the magnitude of his correction factors being of the order of 10 percent. Notwithstanding the difficulties of the labor involved, a calculation, similar to Sternheimer's, for the octupole interaction would be valuable.

B: In the evaluation of the radial integrals the use of unshielded coulomb wave functions is an excellent approximation for the octupole integral in a $p_f$ state; but for the dipole and quadrupole integrals of $(r^3)$ there may be a sizeable error, especially in the lighter elements. As an example, integrating $(r^3)$ with a Hartree wave function\textsuperscript{22} for gallium from $r = 0$ to $r = 0.05 a_0$, one has only 50 percent of the entire $(r^3)$ integral while the strength of the central potential is already shielded by 20 percent. In calculating the second-order corrections to the hyperfine structure, only ratios of these $(r^3)$ integrals are needed, so the major part of this error is eliminated. For the best evaluation of these terms one might take values for $\xi$ and $\eta$ somewhere between unity and the values given in the text.

The uncertainty in the value of the normalization constant $C^2$ is not easy to evaluate. It would be interesting to check formulas (32) by carrying out the numerical solution of the Dirac radial equations with some reasonable approximation for the complex central field in several atoms.

The discussions A and B relate to the problem of getting the nuclear octupole moment from the corrected interaction constant, and as a figure of merit for the results used in the preceding section we suggest a value of about 15 percent.

\textsuperscript{19} P. Kusch, Phys. Rev. 94, 1799 (1954).

\textsuperscript{20} R. T. Daly, Jr., and J. H. Holloway, Phys. Rev. 96, 539 (1954).

\textsuperscript{21} R. Sternheimer, Phys. Rev. 84, 244 (1951).

\textsuperscript{22} Hartree, Hartree, and Manning, Phys. Rev. 59, 299 (1941).
C: The accuracy of the second order calculation involving the doublet state should be very good. The error is probably no more than a couple of percent for the terms relating to the valence l-electron (see B above) and very likely no more for the s-electron correction factor, all these quantities being derived from other experimental numbers with only slight theoretical correction. The only check on these several terms is in the explanation of the g-f discrepancy in a p3 state, where at present the large experimental uncertainties prevent a closer verification.

D: The biggest question in evaluating the second order corrections is about the contributions of other electronic levels besides the doublet state. One would like to rely on the larger energy denominators, \( \Delta E_n \), associated with all other terms of the perturbation sum to keep their contributions smaller by a factor \( \delta / \Delta E_n \) than the contribution of the doublet level alone, but the total effect of the infinity of terms is not easily seen.

First, one can simplify the problem just a little with the following results. One can show in general that the octupole-like part of the (quadrupole)3 term from a general 2P3 state (in \( L-S \) coupling) to any other perturbing 2L3 state is zero if one adds the contributions of both doublet states \( J = L + \frac{3}{2} \) and \( J = L - \frac{3}{2} \). The only residual contribution of such terms would be due to the slightly different energy denominators of the two doublet states, thus an order of magnitude smaller than any straightforward estimate.

The (quadrupole)3 term is anyway smaller than the cross dipole-quadrupole term and it is the latter one that we must worry about now. One might think that a useful estimate of this problem could be gotten from a closure approximation. That is, one tries to represent the second order sum as follows:

\[
\sum_n \left| \langle i | H_{1i} | n \rangle \right|^2 \Delta E_n = \frac{1}{\Delta E_m} \sum_n \left| \langle i | H_{1i} | n \rangle \right|^2, \tag{A1}
\]

where \( i \) refers to the initial state, \( n \) the intermediate states being summed over, and \( \Delta E_m \) is an average excitation energy for the particular problem.

For our problem, letting \( D \) and \( Q \) stand for the dipole and quadrupole operators, the second factor on the right-hand side of (A1) becomes the matrix element \( \langle i | DQ | i \rangle \). The form of this operator is very much like the form of the octupole operator except that the product \( DQ \) has an extra factor \( \epsilon^2/r \), which after taking the expectation value becomes a factor \( Z \epsilon^2/\alpha_0 \). An upper limit for the evaluation of (A1) is gotten by setting \( \Delta E_n = \Delta E_{min} \sim \epsilon^2/\alpha_0 \), which gives a result larger by a factor \( Z \) than the first order octupole matrix element.

It must be pointed out that equating \( \Delta E_n \) to \( \Delta E_{min} \) is an extremely bad approximation for our problem. The reason for this is that our operators are very strongly varying functions \( (r^2) \) so that the correct average excitation energy \( \Delta E_m \) is some very high energy. By way of justifying this last statement we cite the example of a delta-function perturbation which requires an infinite value of \( \Delta E_m \) to make (A1) meaningful. We thus believe that the closure approximation is useless in our problem.

We will now try to carry out part of the second order sum in an approximate manner. First, the matrix element from a p-state to an f-state are exceedingly small compared with the p-p matrix elements. The octupole part of the dipole-quadrupole matrix product from a p3 state to a p3 state is, from (61),

\[
\frac{1}{4} \int \frac{1}{I} A_2 A_1, \tag{A2}
\]

and the corresponding contribution from the p3-p3 matrix elements turns out to be

\[
\frac{1}{5} \int \frac{1}{I} A_2 A_1, \tag{A2}
\]

where all the finer correction factors have been ignored. If we consider the two doublet levels of any perturbing 3P state to have the same energy denominators, these two terms cancel strongly, leaving only \( \frac{1}{3} \) of the original p3-p3 term.

We must also take into account the poorer overlap of the radial wave-functions as we proceed to higher perturbing levels. For bound states of a single valence electron Casimir gives the normalization constant \( C^2 \) for any level as proportional to \( n^{n^*} \), where \( n^* \) is the effective quantum number for that level. Comparing the sum over all p-doubles up to zero energy with the value found in the ground state doublet alone, we have to evaluate

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{n^*} \left( \frac{n^*}{n^*+i} \right)^3,
\]

where \( n^* \) here refers to the ground state. This number is about 0.4 for \( n^* = 1.5 \) and 0.2 for \( n^* = 1 \). Combining these several factors we may estimate the value of the apparent octupole interaction due to all levels for the single electron up to \( E = 0 \) as

\[
\frac{1}{3} (0.4) \epsilon / \Delta E_{min}
\]
times the correction obtained from the ground state doublet alone. Values of \( \Delta E_{min} \) for several atoms are 1/300 for Al, 1/95 for Cl, 1/40 for Ga, 1/20 for Br, 1/13 for In, 1/9 for I, which result in corrections of less than one percent for all these atoms.

In summary, the discussions C and D relating to the accuracy of the second order corrections to the octupole interactions are still quite crude and incomplete. However in view of the optimistic results which these discussions do suggest, we will guess an accuracy of
about 5 percent for the corrections as calculated in the preceding section.

**APPENDIX II: SKETCH OF THE NONRELATIVISTIC THEORY**

For a nonrelativistic study, the hyperfine interactions may be conveniently described directly in terms of the two charge-current densities, without using the intermediary fields. Thus for the electric interaction we write the energy (to first order):

\[ W_{e} = \frac{1}{c^2} \int \int \frac{\rho \rho^2}{r_{12}} \, dv_1 \, dv_2, \]

and with the assumption that system 1 is outside system 2 we get the multipole expansion

\[ W_{e} = \sum_{k} \int \rho \sigma r^{-k+1}C^{(k)} d\sigma_1 \int \rho \sigma r^{k}C^{(k)} d\sigma_2. \]  
(A3)

Then identifying \( \rho \) as \( \epsilon \) times the wave function product \( \psi^* \psi \) (A3) can be read as the product of two matrix elements.

For the magnetic interaction between two current systems, the interaction is

\[ W_{m} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \int \int \frac{j_1 \cdot j_2}{r_{12}} \, dv_1 \, dv_2. \]  
(A4)

However, because of the vector nature of the currents \( j \) we cannot immediately make a multipole expansion of this expression, (A4). We first express each current density \( j \) in terms of a magnetization density \( M \):

\[ j = \epsilon \text{curl} M. \]

Then a series of partial integrations reduces (A4) to

\[ W_{m} = \int \int \frac{\text{div} M_1 \, \text{div} M_2}{r_{12}} \, dv_1 \, dv_2. \]  
(A5)

provided the two systems 1 and 2 do not overlap anywhere. Now we can make the usual expansion to get

\[ W_{m} = \sum_{k} \int \text{div} M_1 \sigma r^{-k+1}C^{(k)} d\sigma_1 \int \text{div} M_2 \sigma r^{k}C^{(k)} d\sigma_2. \]  
(A6)

The analysis of the angular dependence of the hfs interactions is just as before and we get for the interaction constants

\[ A_k = \epsilon^2 (r^{-k+1}C^{(k)} \sigma) J_J (r^kC^{(k)} \sigma)_{II}, \]

for electric multipole, \( k \) even;

\[ A_k = (r^{-k+1}C^{(k)} \text{div} M_1) J_J (r^kC^{(k)} \text{div} M_2)_{II}, \]

for magnetic multipole, \( k \) odd.

The magnetic terms are not yet in the desired form, \( \psi^* \) operator \( \psi \). Using vector identities and carrying out some partial integrations (see reference 6), one can re-express the magnetization in terms of convection and spin currents through the operators \( L \) and \( S \). The final result for the magnetic multipoles is

\[ A_k = \mu_0 \alpha (r^{-k+1}C^{(k)}) \left( \frac{-2}{k} g_L + g_S \right) \]  
\[ \times \left( \frac{2}{k+1} g_L + g_S \right) \]  
(A8)

For single electron states \( \frac{1}{2} J \), the matrix elements occurring in (A7) and (A8) can be evaluated by using formulas (25) and (54) respectively. For the first four orders the results are \( (g_L = -1, g_S = -2 \) for electron): 

\[ A_1 = J J_a = \frac{2J(J+1)}{J+1} \]

\[ A_2 = 1/4b = \frac{(2J-1)}{2(2J+2)} \]

\[ A_3 = c = -\mu_0 \frac{8J(J-1)(J+1)(J+2)}{(2J+2)(2J+3)(2J+4)} \]

\[ A_4 = d = -\epsilon^2 \]

where we have used the nuclear moments as defined in (18).

These formulas are invalid for the special case of magnetic \( 2^p \) pole interaction in an electron state \( J = l + \frac{1}{2} = k/2 \)—dipole in \( S_1 \) state, octupole in \( p_1 \) state. For these cases an alternative analysis is carried out as follows. The vector potential,

\[ A(2) = \frac{1}{c} \int \frac{j(1)}{r_{12}} \, dv_1, \]

is easily evaluated for the electron in the state \( M_J = J \) considering the spin and convection current contributions to \( j \) in the usual way. Taking just the \( k(=2l+1) \)-pole term we find that the magnetic field which it represents can easily be written as the gradient of a scalar. That is

\[ \mathbf{H} = \text{curl} \mathbf{A} = \text{grad} \varphi, \]

\[ \varphi = -\mu_0 g(0) \frac{22(l)(2l+1)(2l+2)(2l+3)}{I^2(4l+3)!} r^k C^{(k)}, \]  
(A13)

where, if \( f(r) \) is the normalized radial wave function,
shape of collision-broadened spectral lines

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Van Vleck and Weisskopf and Fröhlich have derived a microwave line shape by studying the interruption by collisions of the motion of a classical oscillator. They assume that after the instantaneous impact the oscillator variables are distributed according to a Boltzmann distribution appropriate to the value of the applied field at collision. In contrast to the earlier theory of Lorentz, they obtain the correct static polarization. The procedure involves an assumption of very large velocity during collision. This is criticized on the grounds that the duration of collision is short compared to the resonant period and energy exchanges are of the order of \( kT \). We have derived a line-shape formula assuming that the positions are unchanged after impact. Two extreme models are studied. In one, the oscillators have a Maxwellian distribution of velocities after impact; the second is a Brownian motion treatment. The resulting line shape in both cases is that of a friction-damped oscillator. For collision frequency much less than the resonant frequency, the polarization postulated by the above authors is reached as a result of kinematic motion between collisions, and the line shapes agree. However, to obtain equal line widths and peak absorptions, the collision frequency is twice as large for the present theory. For collision frequency comparable to resonant frequency a less distorted line shape results. For testing the theories, experiments on foreign-gas broadening in the microwave region at pressures of the order of an atmosphere are required. Differences between the theories are small for conditions accessible experimentally at present.

1. INTRODUCTION

The theoretical determination of the shape of a spectral line, broadened by interactions between the radiating molecule and other systems, is an exceedingly complicated problem. The general case involves a study of the types of interaction possible, treatment of the exchange of energy between internal degrees of freedom and translational motions, questions of coherence, of radiation, etc. In addition, for broad lines one may encounter the characteristic complexities of many-body problems. A clear understanding of the physical processes involved has been gained only in certain limiting cases. There, the consideration of simple models has been useful in calling attention to the ingredients which must enter into more general treatments. The present paper deals with some models which shed light on the processes responsible for the shapes of the spectral lines in gases (chiefly rotational), in the microwave region.

For microwave wavelengths, the energy \( h\omega_0 \), corresponding to a spectral line of angular frequency \( \omega_0 \), is usually small compared to the thermal energy \( kT \). This implies that collision-induced transitions between states are important. Indeed, saturation measurements indicate that most collisions involve energy exchanges between the rotational and translational degrees of freedom. If consideration is restricted to foreign-gas broadening (thus excluding the long-range resonance forces), the duration of collision is short compared to the resonant period of the line. It is then useful to introduce for each line a quantity \( \tau \), which measures the time between those collisions involving exchanges of energy between translational motions and the relevant internal states. In treatments less schematic than the ones with which we deal, \( \tau \) is computed in terms of the intermolecular forces. This question is not discussed here; the present work deals with the analysis of some kinetic-statistical aspects of the line-broadening problem. It is of course somewhat arbitrary to split up the problem in...