

Measurements of K- shell X-ray production cross-sections and fluorescence yield for 31Ga element

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Abstract: K shell X- ray production cross-sections ($\sigma_{K\alpha}$ and $\sigma_{K\beta}$) were measured for 31Ga element. Measurements were carried out at 11.372 keV using secondary excitation method. The results obtained for K X- ray production cross-sections were compared the theoretically calculated. In addition, measurement of K X- ray fluorescence yield for 31Ga at the same excitation energy were carried out, and compared with semiempirical fits values.

Keywords: X-ray, cross- sections, fluorescence yields.

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I. Introduction

Atomic parametres such as cross-section , subshell X-ray production yields (ω_K) form a data base that is important in many applications. Some of these areas are atomic physics, molecular physics, X-ray fluorescence analysis, medical research and environmental protection. Also, these measurements provide an indirect check on theoretical physical parameters , such as K X-ray fluorescence yields, cross-sections.

K X-ray production cross-sections and fluorescence yields for different elements have been investigated for many years. [1-5]. Bambynek et al. [6] in review article have fitted their collection of selected most reliable experimental values in the $13 \leq Z \leq 92$ range. Krause [7] present a table of ω_K adopted values for elements $5 \leq Z \leq 110$ by using all theoretical and experimental data on the parameter contributing to the K-shell fluorescence yields. Hubbel et al. [8] have compiled more next experimental values.

In the present study, the K X- production cross-sections for 31Ga element have measured at 11.372 keV . K shell is excited by the K X-rays of the secondary source excited by 59.5 keV photons emitted by the primary source. K - shell fluorescence yield was deduced from the measured cross-sections by using the theoretical photoionization cross-sections and fractional X-ray emission rates.

II. Experimental

The experimental arrangement used in the present study has been shown in Fig.1. The sample was excited by the K X-ray of secondary source excited at 59.5 keV γ - rays from a 241Am point source. Fluorescent X-rays spectra were recorded by a calibrated Si(Li) X-ray spectrometer (FWHM =160 eV at 5.96 keV, active area = 12.5 mm², sensitivity depth = 3.5 cm, Be window thickness = 12.5 μ m) coupled to a Nuclear Data MCA system (ND66B) consisting of a 4096- channel analyzer and spectroscopy amplifier. The secondary excitation source was pure ³⁴Se (99.99%). The excitation energy was taken as average of K_α and K_β X-ray energies. For ³⁴Se, weighted averages of $K_\alpha, K_\beta, K_{\alpha\beta}$ energies are 11.210, 12.503 and 11.372 keV, respectively [12].

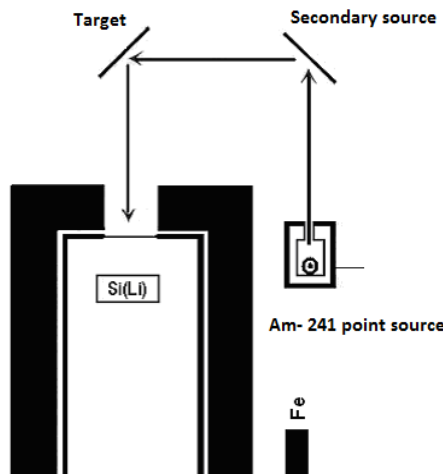


Figure 1. Experimental set-up.

2.1.Data analysis

The experimental K X-ray production cross-sections have been measured using the relation[3].

$$\sigma_{Ki} = \frac{N_{Ki}}{I_0 G \varepsilon_{Ki} \beta t} \tag{1}$$

where N_{Ki} ($i = \alpha, \beta$) is the number of counts per unit time under the corresponding photopeak. A typical K X-ray spectrum for Ga is shown in Fig.2. K_α and K_β X-rays emitting energies of 31Ga are 9.243, 10.263 keV, respectively. I_0 is the intensity of exciting radiation, G is the geometrical factor, ε_{Ki} is the detector efficiency for the K_i X-rays, t is the mass of the sample in g/cm² and β is the self-absorption correction factor for the incident photons and emitted K X-ray photons. β is calculated by using the relation [3].

$$\beta = \frac{1 - \exp(-(\mu_1 / \cos \theta + \mu_2 / \cos \theta)t)}{(\mu_1 / \cos \theta + \mu_2 / \cos \theta)t} \tag{2}$$

where μ_1 and μ_2 are the absorption coefficients (cm²/g) of incident photons and emitted characteristic X-Rays, respectively [9]. The angle of incident photons and emitted X-rays, with respect to the normal at the surface of the sample, θ was equal to 45° in the present set-up in the present study. As shown in Fig. 3, the values of the factors $I_0 \varepsilon G$, which contain terms related to the incident photon flux, geometrical factor and the efficiency of the X-ray detector, were determined by collecting the K X-ray spectra of samples of 22Ti, 25Mn, 29Cu, 32Ge and 35Br in the same geometry in which the K X-ray fluorescence cross-sections were measured and using the equation,

$$I_0 G \varepsilon_{Ki} = \frac{N_{Ki}}{\sigma_{Ki} \beta t} \tag{3}$$

where N_{Ki} , β and t are as in Eq.(1). $I_0 G \varepsilon_{Ki}$ value for the target element (31Ga) is obtained from the graph in Fig.3.

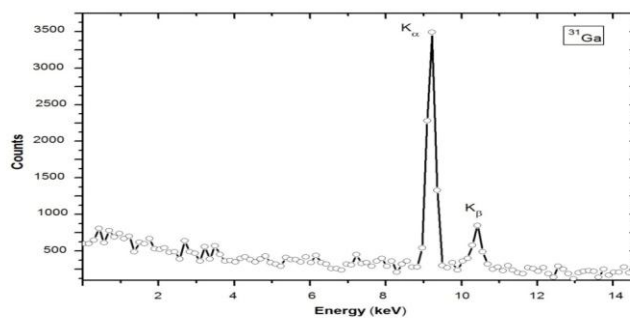


Figure 2. K X-ray spectrum of Ga .

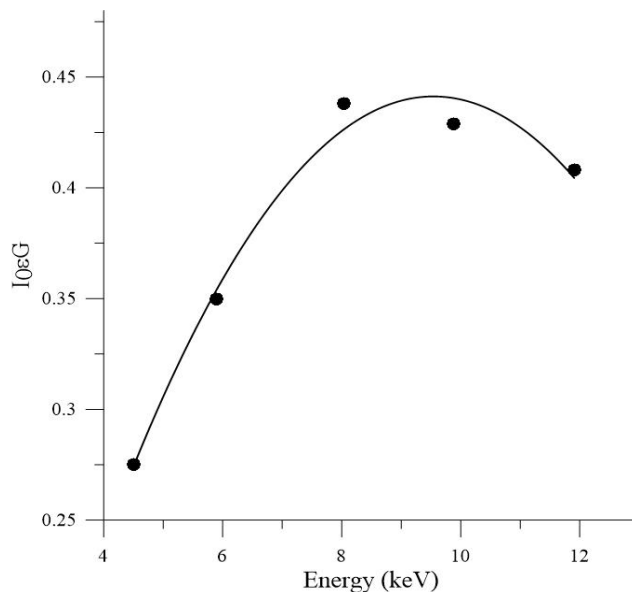


Figure 3. Plot of the factor I0εG vs. K X-ray energy.

III. Theoretical method

The theoretical values of K X-ray production cross-sections have been calculated using the following equations,[4].

$$\sigma_{K\alpha} = \sigma_K^p(E)\omega_K f_{K\alpha} \tag{4}$$

$$\sigma_{K\beta} = \sigma_K^p(E)\omega_K f_{K\beta} \tag{5}$$

Where $\sigma_K^p(E)$ is the K-shell photoionization cross-section for the given element at excitation energy E, ω_K is the K-shell fluorescence yield and $f_{K\alpha}$ and $f_{K\beta}$ are fractional X-ray emission rates for K α and K β ;

$$f_{K\alpha} = (1 + I_{K\beta} / I_{K\alpha})^{-1} \tag{6}$$

$$f_{K\beta} = (1 + I_{K\alpha} / I_{K\beta})^{-1} , \tag{7}$$

where $I_{K\beta} / I_{K\alpha}$ is the K β to K α X-ray intensity ratio. $I_{K\beta} / I_{K\alpha}$ values based on relativistic Hartree-Slater potential theory were used for the evaluation of theoretical K X-ray cross-sections [11]. In this calculations, the values of $\sigma_K^p(E)$ were taken from Scofield [10] based on Hartree-Slater potential theory, and the values of ω_K were taken from the tables of Krause[7].

IV. Conclusion

The experimental values of K shell X-ray production cross-sections for 31Ga element at 11.372 keV are listed in Table 1. together with the theoretical values obtained using Eq.(4 and 5). The overall error in the present measurements is estimated to be <7%. This error is the quadrature sum of the uncertainties in the different parameters(evaluation of photopeak area, the uncertainty of absorption coefficient, geometric effect, detector efficiency etc.). In order to reduce the statistical error, experimental conditions and geometry were maintained during the experimental process. The agreement between the presently measured K shell X-ray production cross-sections and theoretical predictions agree to 2.4%, 2%, respectively, Table 1.

Table 1. Experimental and theoretical K-shell X-ray cross-sections (barns/atom) for 31Ga.

Element	Excitation energy (keV)	Present Work		Theoretical	
		σ_α	σ_β	σ_α	σ_β
31Ga	11.372	7687±542	979±64	7874.763	998.875

Table 2. Present Experimental result and semiempirical fits values of (ω_K) for 31Ga.

Element	Present Work	Krause[7]	Bambynek[6]	Hubbel[8]
31Ga	0.498±0.032	0.507	0.516	0.517

K-shell fluoresans yield for 31Ga is compared with the semiempirical fits, in Tables 2, [7,6,8]. In this study, the present measurement is in good agreement with the semiempirical fit value deduced by Krause[7]. This agreement is within <1.8% for 31Ga. The experimental results agree to 3.6%, 3.8% with the K-shell fluorescence yields obtained using a semiempirical fits by Bamnynek[6] and Hubbel[8], respectively.

Finally, the comparison between the experimental results and the theoretical values leads to the conclusion that both the experimental and the calculated cross-sections can be used with confidence for analytical purpose and satisfactory for many other applications employing the fundamental parameter approach.

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