Phase Transformations in Cerium

$$\frac{\Delta V}{V_{\rm e}} = 40.97 \cdot 10^{-7} \, p + 94,00 \cdot 10^{-12} \, p^2 + 4,53 \cdot 10^{-15} \, p^3. \tag{1}$$

According to our experimental results the analogous relation for the γ -phase of cerium may, up to $p = 10,000 \text{ kg/cm}^2$, be given in the form

 $-\frac{\Delta V}{V_0} = 36 \cdot 10^{-7} \, \rho. \tag{2}$

Equations (1) and (2) and the experimental data are shown graphically in Fig. 4.

2. Lines of the high-pressure phase of cerium (*a*-phase) were found on the pattern taken at p = 1100 kg/cm² (the photographs were started at this pressure); the lattice parameter of *a*-Ce was determined as $a_0 = 4.879 \pm 0.005$ Å, and taken as the start. The volume change of the γ -*a* transition was 15%.

The following reflections of *a*-phase planes were observed on the high-pressure diffraction patterns of cerium: (111), (200), (220), (311), (222), (400), (420), (422), (333) and (511), and of these the (420), (422), (333) and (511) lines were well resolved doublets on most of the patterns.

From the X-ray diffraction results we can give the $\Delta V/V_0 = f(p)$ relation for α -Ce as follows:

$$-\frac{\Delta V}{V_0} = 88 \cdot 10^{-7} \, (p - p_0), \tag{3}$$

where $p_0 = 1100 \text{ kg/cm}^2$; p is a series of pressures from 1100 to 10,000 kg/cm². This relation is shown graphically for *a*-Ce with the experimental points, in Fig. 4. The coefficients in equations (2) and (3) were determined by the least-squares method. The results obtained from the diffraction patterns and the corresponding calculations for the γ - and *a*-phases are shown in the Table.

3. In all the experiments in the pressure range 1-4000 kg/cm² a spontaneous increase in pressure was observed in the apparatus, and when diffraction patterns taken at 1100 kg/cm² and a series of pressures ranging up to 10,000 kg/cm² were analyzed, diffraction lines belonging to the hexagonal phase of cerium (β -Ce) were established. These lines have the following indices: (100), (101), (004), (102), (103), (104), (110), (114), (107), (008), (203) and (204). Both the experimental and calculated relative intensities of the reflections are qualitatively the same.

The *a* and *c* lattice constants determined from (104) and (111) lines of diffraction patterns taken at $p = 6000 \text{ kg/cm}^2$ proved to be $a = 3.671 \pm 0.004 \text{ Å}$, $c = 11.700 \pm 0.006 \text{ Å}$. This pair of lines, which can be used to determine the lattice parameters, is the best for the hexagonal phase of all the diffraction patterns taken.

Some diffraction lines of α - and β -Ce consist of short separated streak reflections. This probably means that the phase transformation of γ - to α - and β -Ce begins in the larger grains.

Between 6300 and 7000 kg/cm² there was a big reduction in the amount of hexagonal phase and increase in the amount of α , but the hexagonal phase still coexists with y- and α -phases at 10,000 kg/cm².

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