Part II--Rare Earth Metals and Alloys

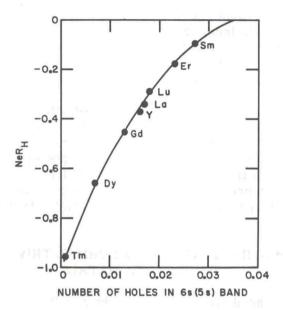


Fig. 3. The atomic Hall coefficient per unit volume, NeR_{h} , vs the number of holes in the s band for a mobility ratio of 0. 1.

and sign, could be accounted for by small changes in the number of holes in the s band for lanthanum, cerium, praseodymium, neodymium, gadolinium, dysprosium, erbium and yttrium. In all cases the 6s (5s for yttrium) band was nearly full and the 5d (4d for yttrium) band contained slightly more than one electron. Gschneidner and Smoluchowski [3] reexamined the Hall coefficient data for cerium using the same model and concluded that the number of holes in the 6s band and electrons in the 5d band is insensitive to the choice of valence between 3 and 4 for either γ or α -Ce. If the data of Anderson, *et al.* [26] for samarium, thulium, ytterbium and lutetium are analyzed in terms of the Sondheimer [27] model (noting that ytterbium has only 2 valence electrons) a conclusion similar to the drawn by Kevane *et al.* is made for

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samarium, thulium and lutetium (Fig. 2). For ytterbium the Hall coefficient indicates 0.56 holes in the 6s band and this number of electrons in the 5d band, assuming the ratio of the mobilites to be 0.1.

The relationship between the Hall coefficient (or more precisely the atomic Hall coefficient per unit volume, NeR_H) and the number of holes in the 6s (5s for yttrium) band for a mobility ratio of 0.1 is shown in Fig. 3 for those rare earth metals which have negative Hall coefficients. This behavior is not at all unreasonable, in view of the positions of the almost straight lines shown in the bottom of Fig. 2. That is, the larger (more negative) the Hall coefficient the smaller the number of positive carriers (holes) in the 6s (or 5s) band.

6. BAND* STRUCTURE OF THE NORMAL TRIVALENT RARE EARTH METALS

From the above data it should be possible to construct a simple band structure for the rare earth metals. The Hall coefficient data suggest that the 6s band has approximately 0.01 hole, and the electronic specific heat constant data suggest a density of states of about 2.0 states/eV/atom at the Fermi surface. A closer examination of these data (Fig. 4) show that the density of states increases as the number of holes in the 6s band (and as the number of electrons in the 5d band) increase. This is what one might expect, but the agreement shown in Fig. 4 is much better than one could possibly hope for, considering the assumptions made in determining the density of states values especially for magnetic rare earth metals and in applying Sondheimer two band model to obtain the number of holes in the s band. It is also interesting to note that there is no regular or systematic variation of the density of states or the number of holes in the s band for these metals, as is observed for most of the physical

^{*} When we talk about a particular type band, such as the 6s, we really mean a band which has s-like character.