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Nuclear electric quadrupole interactions of 111Cd in the heavy-fermion compound CeCoIn5

The nuclear electric quadrupole interaction of the probe nucleus 111Cd on In sites of the heavy-fermion compound CeCo(In1-xSnx)5; x = 0.01 has been investigated in the temperature range $15 \le T \le 290$ K by perturbed angular correlation spectroscopy. Single crystals of CeCo(In1-xSnx)5 grown from an In flux by combining stoichiometric amounts of Ce and Co with excess In [1] were doped with the PAC probes 111Cd by diffusion at 700 K of radioactive 111In from a carrier-free solution of 111InCl3 into the host lattice. Apart from a sizeable fraction of non-reacted In metal, the PAC spectra contain contributions of two In-sites related to the CeCoIn5 structure, an axially symmetric and an asymmetric site. The 111Cd electric field gradient (EFG) of these sites differs substantially from the two EFG values determined by NQR measurements for the probe 115In on sites 1c and 4i of CeCoIn5, both with respect to symmetry and strength ratio. For insight into the mechanism leading to these differences, an ab initio study of the structural and electronic properties of 111Cd on In sites of CeCoIn5 is under way.

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Primary author: Prof. FORKER, Manfred (Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil)

Co-authors: Prof. BAGGIO-SAITOVITCH, Elisa (Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil); Prof. SAITOVITCH, Henrique (Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil); Dr ERRICO, Leonardo A. (Instituto de Fisica, UNLP, La Plata, Argentina); Dr TAYLOR, Marcela A. (Instituto de Fisica, UNLP, La Plata, Argentina); Dr SILVA, Paulo R. J. (Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil); Prof. ALONSO, Roberto E. (Instituto de Fisica, UNLP, La Plata, Argentina); Dr RAMOS, Sheilla M. (Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil)

Presenter: Prof. BAGGIO-SAITOVITCH, Elisa (Centro Brasileiro de Pesquisas Fisicas, Rio de Janeiro, Brasil)

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