

Dynamic nuclear polarization in samarium-doped lanthanum magnesium nitrate*

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We report theoretical and experimental investigations of the dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP) and nuclear spin-lattice relaxation of protons in single crystals of lanthanum magnesium nitrate (LMN) weakly doped (≈ 0.1 – 1.1 -mole %) with samarium ions (LMN:Sm) at 9.1 GHz and liquid-helium temperatures. Theoretical expressions for DNP and nuclear relaxation are given for a homogeneously broadened ESR line in the high-temperature limit. DNP effects due to the electron dipole-dipole reservoir (EDDR) are predicted for the case of well-resolved satellites. Our DNP experiments on LMN:Sm are in general agreement with the conventional theory, but no evidence for direct EDDR effects on DNP with well-resolved satellites is seen, despite suggestive nuclear-relaxation data. Various explanations for this disagreement are proposed. We suggest that these EDDR effects may be seen in crystals of ≈ 3 – 5 -mole % LMN:Sm or in equivalent systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

We report theoretical and experimental investigations of the dynamic nuclear polarization (DNP)^{1–11} and nuclear spin-lattice relaxation^{1–4, 7, 9, 11–16} of protons in single crystals of samarium-doped lanthanum magnesium nitrate (LMN:Sm) at 9.1 GHz and liquid-helium temperatures. This material is of interest because the satellite electron spin resonance (ESR) transitions are well resolved from the main ESR line at X-band microwave frequencies. The limit of well-resolved satellites often occurs in other materials at higher frequencies ≈ 50 – 70 GHz, where the ESR microwave techniques are more difficult.^{1, 10} Larson and Jeffries¹⁷ have studied the electron spin-lattice relaxation of Sm in LMN. They found no evidence of a phonon bottleneck, which is a complicating factor in the analysis of DNP experiments.^{2, 3, 5, 6} Thus LMN:Sm appears useful for experimental tests of DNP theories in the limit of well-resolved satellites. One possible disadvantage is the high rejection ratio of the Sm ions in aqueous growing solutions of LMN:Sm, which may limit the maximum attainable Sm doping percent, and could indicate nonrandom Sm spatial distributions in the LMN host lattice. We are particularly interested in the possibility of observing DNP effects due to the electron dipole-dipole reservoir (EDDR).^{3, 4, 11, 18, 19}

In Sec. II we give theoretical expressions for DNP and nuclear relaxation for a homogeneously broadened ESR line in the high-temperature limit and in the absence of a phonon bottleneck, incorporating rapid nuclear spin diffusion. These results, more complete than many previous versions, allow us to predict a new DNP effect for the case of well-resolved satellites. Our experimental

work in 0.1–1.1-mole % LMN:Sm, presented and discussed in Secs. III–VI, shows no evidence for direct EDDR DNP effects. We propose reasons for this, and suggest that they may be seen in ≈ 3 – 5 -mole % LMN:Sm crystals, or in equivalent systems.

II. THEORY

A. Spin-temperature theory

We consider a system of N_n spin- $\frac{1}{2}$ nuclei per cm^3 in an insulating, diamagnetic solid which is weakly doped with N_e paramagnetic impurities (electrons, hereafter) per cm^3 with effective spin $\frac{1}{2}$. For example, in our experiments the host matrix LMN ($\text{La}_2\text{Mg}_3(\text{NO}_3)_{12} \cdot 24 \text{H}_2\text{O}$) has 48 hydrogen nuclei (protons, hereafter) per molecule, and the electrons are the Sm impurity ions. We assume that all nuclei other than the protons have zero spin or negligible effect (except as noted). It is well known that saturation of the main and satellite ESR transitions polarizes the nuclei.^{1–11} A correct treatment of magnetic resonance saturation in solids^{11, 18, 19} requires the use of the rotating reference frame and the magnetic dipole-dipole reservoir of the spins. These ideas have been extended to DNP.^{3, 4, 8, 11, 20} We summarize the results here, as the discussion of assumptions and tedious calculations have been given elsewhere.^{4, 11, 20}

Let the electron (nuclear) spins, each of gyromagnetic ratio γ_e (γ_n), be subject to a uniform and constant magnetic field \vec{H}_0 in the z direction, and to a small ESR rf field of amplitude $2H_1$ oscillating in the x direction at angular frequency $\omega \approx \omega_e$, where ω_e ($= -\gamma_e H_0$) is the electron Larmor frequency. We assume γ_e to be isotropic. The effect of a nonsaturating NMR rf field near the nuclear Larmor frequency ω_n ($= -\gamma_n H_0$), used to measure the

DNP, may be neglected here.²¹ Usually one finds $\omega_e \approx (10^2 - 10^3)\omega_n \gg \omega_n$. If $S_z (= \sum_{i=1}^{N_e} S_z^i)$ and $I_z (= \sum_{j=1}^{N_n} I_z^j)$ are the z components of the total electron and nuclear-spin operators, then the Hamiltonian \mathcal{H} for this system may be written^{4, 11, 20}

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H} = & \hbar\omega_e S_z + \hbar\omega_n I_z + \mathcal{H}_{SS} + \mathcal{H}_{SI} + \mathcal{H}_{II} \\ & + 2\hbar\omega_1 S_x \cos\omega t + \mathcal{H}_{SL} . \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

The first two terms in Eq. (1) are the electron and nuclear Zeeman energies; \mathcal{H}_{SS} , \mathcal{H}_{SI} , and \mathcal{H}_{II} are the magnetic dipole-dipole interactions^{11, 20, 22} between the electrons, between the electrons and nuclei, and between the nuclei, respectively; the sixth term is the electronic interaction with the ESR rf field, where $\omega_1 = -\gamma_e H_1$; and \mathcal{H}_{SL} is the interaction of the spins with the lattice phonons. It is assumed that the homogeneous broadening of the ESR line completely dominates the inhomogeneous broadening.²³

We transform to the rotating frame with the unitary operator $R(t) = e^{i\omega S_z t}$, where t is time. The basic assumption^{11, 19, 20} of the spin-temperature

theory is that the system may be described by a quasicanonical, time-dependent density matrix $\rho^R(t)$ in the rotating frame:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^R(t) \propto \exp[-\alpha(t)\hbar\Delta S_z - \beta(t)\hbar\omega_n I_z \\ - \gamma(t)\mathcal{H}_{SS}^0] , \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $\alpha(t)$, $\beta(t)$, and $\gamma(t)$ are time-dependent, inverse spin temperatures of the electron Zeeman reservoir (EZR), nuclear Zeeman reservoir (NZR), and electron dipole-dipole reservoir (EDDR). We use the frequency difference $\Delta = \omega_e - \omega$, and note that \mathcal{H}_{SS}^0 is that part of \mathcal{H}_{SS} which commutes with S_z . The terms in the transformed Hamiltonian $R(t)\mathcal{H}R(t)^{-1}$ not used in Eq. (2) are small perturbations which cause transitions between the three main reservoirs and with the lattice; the \mathcal{H}_{II} term is responsible for spin diffusion (see below). The transition rates have been calculated in the high-temperature limit, in which Eq. (2) is expanded to lowest order. This approximation makes the calculation tractable, and corresponds to the experimental conditions encountered in this work. The results are²⁰

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\alpha(t)}{dt} = & -W^0(\Delta)(\alpha - \gamma) + \frac{N_n}{N_e} \frac{1}{\Delta} W^-(\omega_n - \Delta)[\omega_n\beta - \Delta\alpha - (\omega_n - \Delta)\gamma] - \frac{N_n}{N_e} \frac{1}{\Delta} W^+(\omega_n + \Delta)[\omega_n\beta + \Delta\alpha - (\omega_n + \Delta)\gamma] \\ & - \frac{1}{T_e} \left(\alpha - \frac{\omega_e}{\Delta} \beta_L \right) , \end{aligned} \quad (3a)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\beta(t)}{dt} = & -W^d(\beta - \gamma) - \frac{1}{\omega_n} W^-(\omega_n - \Delta)[\omega_n\beta - \Delta\alpha - (\omega_n - \Delta)\gamma] - \frac{1}{\omega_n} W^+(\omega_n + \Delta)[\omega_n\beta + \Delta\alpha - (\omega_n + \Delta)\gamma] \\ & - \frac{1}{T_n} (\beta - \beta_L) , \end{aligned} \quad (3b)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\gamma(t)}{dt} = & \frac{\Delta^2}{\omega_L^2} W^0(\Delta)(\alpha - \gamma) + \frac{N_n}{N_e} \frac{\omega_n^2}{\omega_L^2} W^d(\beta - \gamma) + \frac{N_n}{N_e} \frac{(\omega_n - \Delta)}{\omega_L^2} W^-(\omega_n - \Delta)[\omega_n\beta - \Delta\alpha - (\omega_n - \Delta)\gamma] \\ & + \frac{N_n}{N_e} \frac{(\omega_n + \Delta)}{\omega_L^2} W^+(\omega_n + \Delta)[\omega_n\beta + \Delta\alpha - (\omega_n + \Delta)\gamma] - \frac{1}{T_d} (\gamma - \beta_L) , \end{aligned} \quad (3c)$$

where β_L is the inverse temperature of the lattice (assumed equal to that of the bath), and $\omega_L^2 = [\text{Tr}(\mathcal{H}_{SS}^0)^2 / \hbar^2 \text{Tr}(S_z^2)]$ is $\frac{1}{3}$ of the second moment of the ESR line.^{4, 11} T_e , T_n , and T_d are the spin-lattice relaxation times of EZR, NZR, and EDDR, respectively. Abragam and Borghini⁴ take $(T_e/T_d) \approx 2-3$, which we assume henceforth (except as noted). It is assumed that there is no phonon bottleneck between EZR or EDDR and the bath. The transition rate $W^0(\Delta)$ of the main ESR line is

$$W^0(\Delta) = \pi\omega_1^2 g(\Delta) , \quad (4)$$

where the line-shape function $g(\Delta)$,^{11, 20, 22} normal-

ized to unity, peaks at $\Delta = 0$. The two weaker satellite transition rates

$$W^*(\omega_n \pm \Delta) = \pi(\epsilon^2/\omega_n^2)\omega_L^2 g(\omega_n \pm \Delta) \quad (5)$$

peak at $\omega_n \pm \Delta = 0$, and correspond to simultaneous electron and nuclear transitions. The rf independent term²⁴

$$W^d = \pi\epsilon^2 g(\omega_n) \quad (6)$$

gives the rate of energy exchange between NZR and EDDR.^{7, 8, 13-15}

We assume that the random distribution of electrons in the host lattice may be approximated by a

uniform electron distribution. Thus we may divide the sample into average shells-of-influence of outer radius $R = (3/4\pi N_e)^{1/3}$. The inner radius is the diffusion barrier radius d . For small electron-impurity concentrations, a given electron affects directly only the nuclei within its own shell. Since we are treating the electron system as homogeneous, each electron may be described by the two temperatures $\alpha(t)$ and $\gamma(t)$ which characterize the electronic system as a whole. We then calculate the sample average for $\beta(t)$ in Eqs. (3)–(6) by averaging over one shell-of-influence.²⁰ The factor ϵ^2 , which is the shell-of-influence angular and radial average value of the relevant perturbation term from \mathcal{H}_{SI} , is found to be²⁰

$$\epsilon^2 = \frac{3(\gamma_n \gamma_e \hbar)^2}{10d^3 R^3}. \quad (7)$$

This calculation, which ignores the crystal structure, is valid in the rapid diffusion limit of spin diffusion which is applicable to the conditions of our experiments, and has been justified elsewhere.^{1-4, 9, 11-16} The diffusion barrier radius d in Eq. (7) has been estimated by Blumberg¹² and Khutsishvili⁹ to be $d \approx (\gamma_e/\gamma_n)^{1/3} a \approx 10 \text{ \AA}$, where a is the average internuclear distance. Jeffries *et al.*¹⁻³ take d as the distance from the electron to nearest proton (4.36 \AA in LMN). Recent theoretical²⁵ and experimental²⁶ work supports the latter choice, which we make henceforth.

B. Nuclear spin-lattice relaxation

The nuclei relax to the lattice directly by the $(T_n)^{-1}$ term in Eq. (3b), and indirectly through EDDR by terms involving W^d . The term $(T_n)^{-1}$ can be written

$$\frac{1}{T_n} = \frac{1}{T_n^Z} + \frac{1}{T_n^L}, \quad (8)$$

where $(T_n^Z)^{-1}$ is relaxation through EZR by the desired impurity (e.g., Sm in our case). The nuclear leakage relaxation rate $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ is caused by undesired paramagnetic impurities and other modes of NZR relaxation. In the rapid-diffusion limit, one finds^{1-4, 9, 11-16}

$$\frac{1}{T_n^Z} = \frac{\epsilon^2 T_e}{1 + (\omega_n T_e)^2} \quad (9)$$

and a similar expression for W^d with the electron spin-spin relaxation time²² T_{2e} replacing T_e , if one assumes a Lorentzian $g(\omega_n)$ in Eq. (6).²⁴ When $(\omega_n T_e)^2, (\omega_n T_{2e})^2 \gg 1$, these become²⁷

$$\frac{1}{T_n^Z} = \frac{3}{10} \left(\frac{g_e \mu_B}{H_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{d^3 R^3} \frac{1}{T_e}, \quad (10)$$

$$W^d = \frac{3}{10} \left(\frac{g_e \mu_B}{H_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{d^3 R^3} \frac{1}{T_{2e}}, \quad (11)$$

where g_e is the electron g factor, μ_B is the Bohr

magneton, and we use $g_e \mu_B = |\gamma_e| \hbar$. We define $S^d \equiv W^d T_n$. If $(T_n^Z/T_n^L) \ll 1$, then Eqs. (10) and (11) lead to

$$S^d = W^d T_n = (T_e/T_{2e}). \quad (12)$$

During a nuclear-relaxation experiment, the time evolution of the NZR temperature $\beta(t)$ is described by Eqs. (3b) and (3c) with W^0, W^* all zero. The solutions to these equations contain two time constants. In the limit $T_n \gg T_d$, $(N_n \omega_n^2/N_e \omega_L^2) \gg 1$, the *measured* nuclear spin-lattice relaxation time T_n^m will always be the longer of the two time constants, given by

$$\frac{1}{T_n^m} = \frac{1}{T_n} + \frac{W^d}{1 + (N_n \omega_n^2/N_e \omega_L^2) W^d T_d}. \quad (13)$$

This result is easily obtained, since EDDR comes to quasiequilibrium $[(d\gamma/dt) \approx 0]$ in a time $t \ll T_n^m$. We can solve Eq. (3c) for $\gamma(t)$ and substitute into Eq. (3b) to deduce

$$\frac{d\beta(t)}{dt} = -\frac{1}{T_n^m} [\beta(t) - \beta_L], \quad (14)$$

with T_n^m given by Eq. (13). These results agree with Khutsishvili¹⁴ and Van den Heuvel *et al.*¹⁵ in the appropriate limit. If the W^d terms predominate, so that $T_n^m \ll T_n$, one cannot measure T_n in a nuclear-relaxation experiment.

C. Dynamic nuclear polarization at the satellite peaks

We now consider the limit of well-resolved satellites when $W^* \neq 0$, $W^0 = 0 = W^\mp$, and calculate the DNP enhancement $E \equiv (\beta/\beta_L)$ at the satellite peaks $(\omega_n \pm \Delta = 0)$, where Eqs. (3a)–(3c) are considerably simplified. For the limit $T_n \gg T_e \approx T_d$, $(N_n \omega_n^2/N_e \omega_L^2) \gg 1$, EZR and EDDR come to quasiequilibrium $[(d\alpha/dt) \approx 0 \approx (d\gamma/dt)]$ in a time $t \ll T_n^m$, so we may solve Eqs. (3a) and (3c) for $\alpha(t)$ and $\gamma(t)$, and substitute into Eq. (3b) to get

$$\frac{dE(t)}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\tau_{\text{DNP}}} [E(t) - E_{\text{ss}}], \quad (15)$$

where the sample average, steady-state enhancement E_{ss} is

$$E_{\text{ss}} = \frac{1 + S_m^+ [\mp (\omega_e/\omega_n) + f_e^m]}{1 + S_m^+ (1 + f_e^m)}, \quad (16)$$

and the DNP pump time τ_{DNP} is given by

$$\frac{1}{\tau_{\text{DNP}}} = \frac{1}{T_n^m} \left(\frac{1 + S_m^+ (1 + f_e^m)}{1 + S_m^+ f_e^m} \right). \quad (17)$$

We use the DNP leakage factor $f_e^m \equiv (N_n T_e/N_e T_n^m)$ and the satellite saturation parameter $S_m^+ \equiv W^* T_n^m$. At the satellite peaks E_{ss} approaches $(\mp \omega_e/\omega_n)/(1 + f_e^m)$ at strong saturation ($S_m^+ \gg 1$), attaining the ideal enhancement²⁸ $E_i = (\mp \omega_e/\omega_n)$ if there is negligible DNP leakage ($f_e^m \ll 1$). Our results are simi-

lar to those of Jeffries *et al.*¹⁻³ and Borghini,⁵ but include the important W^d contributions to T_n^m which they did not consider. However, their results are not restricted to the high-temperature limit, and include the effect of a phonon bottleneck. Our calculation can be extended to include the latter, but calculation of EDDR properties at very low temperatures is an unsolved problem. Neither is relevant for our experiments.

Several relations involving the DNP leakage factors are now deduced. We define $f_e \equiv (N_n T_e / N_e T_n)$, $f_d \equiv (T_d / T_e) f_e$, $f_e^m \equiv (T_n / T_n^m) f_e$, $C_n \equiv \omega_n^2 / \omega_L^2$, and recall $S^d \equiv W^d T_n$. Equation (13) can then be rewritten as

$$T_n^m = T_n \frac{1 + S^d f_d C_n}{1 + S^d (1 + f_d C_n)}. \quad (18)$$

If $S^d \lesssim 1$, or if $f_d C_n \gg 1$, one gets $T_n^m \approx T_n$, and $f_e^m \approx f_e$, so that EDDR does not significantly affect the nuclear relaxation or the DNP leakage factors. We now consider the two possibilities for the case of well-resolved satellites ($C_n \gg 1$) when $S^d \gg 1$, $f_d C_n \lesssim 1$. First, if $S^d f_d C_n \gg 1$, one finds $(T_n^m / T_n) \approx (f_d C_n)$ and $f_e^m \approx (T_e / T_d C_n) \ll 1$. Second, if $S^d f_d C_n \lesssim 1$, we get $(T_n^m / T_n) \approx (S^d)^{-1}$ and $f_e^m \approx f_e S^d \ll 1$. Hence, for well-resolved satellites, *either* $f_e^m \approx f_e$ (if $S^d \lesssim 1$) *or* $f_e^m \ll 1$ (if $S^d \gg 1$).

We can use Eqs. (8) and (10) to show

$$f_e = \frac{2}{5} \pi \frac{N_n}{d^3} \left(\frac{g_e \mu_B}{H_0} \right)^2 \left(1 + \frac{T_n^Z}{T_n^L} \right). \quad (19a)$$

$$A = 1 + S^d (1 + f_d C_n) + S^0 (1 + C_\Delta R) + S^+ [- (\omega_e / \omega_n) + (\omega_n + \Delta) / \omega_n + f_e + f_d C_n] + S^- [+ (\omega_e / \omega_n) + (\omega_n - \Delta) / \omega_n + f_e + f_d C_n] + [S^0 (S^d + S^+ + S^-) + f_e (S^+ + S^-) S^d] [(\omega_e / \omega_n) (\omega_n \Delta / \omega_L^2) R + 1 + f_d C_n], \quad (21b)$$

and

$$B = 1 + S^d (1 + f_d C_n) + S^0 (1 + C_\Delta R) + S^+ (1 + f_e + f_d C_n) + S^- (1 + f_e + f_d C_n) + [S^0 (S^d + S^+ + S^-) + f_e (S^+ + S^-) S^d] [C_\Delta R + 1 + f_d C_n]; \quad (21c)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{\tau_{\text{DNP}}} = \frac{1}{T_n} \frac{B}{C}, \quad (22a)$$

where

$$C = 1 + S^d (f_d C_n) + S^0 (1 + C_\Delta R) + S^+ (f_e + f_d C_n) + S^- (f_e + f_d C_n) + [S^0 (S^d + S^+ + S^-) + f_e (S^+ + S^-) S^d] (f_d C_n). \quad (22b)$$

We use the saturation parameters $S^d \equiv W^d T_n$, $S^0 \equiv W^0 T_e$, $S^\pm \equiv W^\pm T_n$, the relative heat capacity ratios $C_n \equiv \omega_n^2 / \omega_L^2$, $C_\Delta \equiv \Delta^2 / \omega_L^2$, $C_\pm \equiv (\omega_n \pm \Delta)^2 / \omega_L^2$, and the electron relaxation ratio $R \equiv T_d / T_e$. Negligible $S^+ S^-$ terms are omitted in Eqs. (21b), (21c), and (22b).

We now specialize Eqs. (21a)–(21c) to the case of well-resolved satellites, where no more than

If $(T_n^Z / T_n^L) \ll 1$, this can be written

$$f_e = \frac{K}{d^3} \left(\frac{g_e}{H_0} \right)^2, \quad (19b)$$

where $K = 8.56 \times 10^{-18}$ (cgs units) for LMN. Thus f_e is independent of N_e when nuclear leakage relaxation is negligible. For the conditions of our experiments in LMN:Sm ($g_e = 0.73$, $H_0 = 8900$ Oe, $d = 4.36$ Å), we get $f_e \approx 0.007 \ll 1$. In view of the last paragraph, this means that we should observe $f_e^m \ll 1$ in LMN:Sm, assuming $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ to be negligible. Using the same approximations and $(T_e / T_d) \approx 2$, we find for LMN:Sm that

$$f_d C_n \approx 0.5 / H_L^2, \quad (20)$$

where $H_L^2 = \omega_L^2 / \gamma_e^2$. In our experiments we have $H_L^2 \approx 1$ (Oe)², so that $f_d C_n \approx 0.5$.

D. EDDR effects on dynamic nuclear polarization

At the satellite peaks, EDDR affects the DNP indirectly through T_n^m and the leakage factor f_e^m . However, away from the peaks ($\omega_n \pm \Delta \neq 0$), EDDR may contribute explicitly to the DNP. As in Sec. II C, we assume that EZR and EDDR come to quasiequilibrium in a time $t \ll T_n^m$, so we may solve Eqs. (3a) and (3c) for $\alpha(t)$ and $\gamma(t)$, and substitute into Eq. (3b), retaining all terms. After a tedious calculation, we get Eq. (15) with the E_{ss} and τ_{DNP} expressions

$$E_{ss} = A/B, \quad (21a)$$

where

one of the three parameters S^0 , S^\pm may be non-zero for a given value of Δ . In this case Eqs. (21a)–(21c) reduce to Eq. (16) if one is at the satellite peaks ($\omega_n \pm \Delta = 0$), or if $S^d \ll 1$.

Let us now consider possible direct EDDR effects on DNP away from the satellite peaks in the limit $S^d \gg 1$. First, we examine the case of strong saturation of the main ESR line ($S^0 \gg 1$), assuming

TABLE I. Summary of experimental and theoretical parameters. The crystal designation is listed first: item 1 is the temperature; item 2 is the ESR spectrometer microwave frequency; item 3 is the angle between the applied magnetic field \vec{H}_0 and the crystal symmetry axis; item 4 is the measured proton spin-lattice relaxation time (except as noted); item 5 is the ESR derivative peak-to-peak linewidth; items 6 and 7 are the measured (by DNP) and calculated magnetic field separations of the two satellite transitions; items 8 and 9 are the peak positive and negative enhancements measured at the two satellite peaks with maximum microwave power; items 10 and 11 are the mole %-Sm dilutions in the solution as measured by volume ratios (item 10), and in the crystal as measured by x-ray fluorescence (item 11); item 12 is the DNP leakage factor ($N_n T_e / N_e T_n^m$); item 13 is the extrapolated, infinite-power enhancement; item 14 is the DNP half-power parameter; and item (15) is the extrapolated, infinite-power enhancement corrected for DNP leakage (see text). The ideal enhancement E_i is 240 in these experiments.

Crystal	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	7
1. T (K)	1.81	4.22	1.87	3.1	4.22	3.0	4.24	3.49
2. ν_e (GHz)	9.130	9.155	9.121	9.128	9.120	9.089	9.147	9.127
3. θ (deg)	7	7	7	6	7	7	7	7
4. T_n^m (sec)	225 ^a	15	200	100 ^b	15 ^b	108 ^b	15	57
5. ΔH_{pp} (Oe)	...	5	5	5	5	5	6	6
6. Measured ($H_+ - H_-$)(Oe)	...	74	74	74	74	75	74	74
7. Calculated ($H_+ - H_-$)(Oe)	...	74.6	74.2	74	74	74	74.3	74.3
8. E_{max}^+	22	36	38	50	56	147	30	64
9. E_{max}^-	...	-40	-35	-50	-56	-181	-32	-79
10. mole % Sm(Sol.)	15	20	20	25	25	25	20	20
11. mole % Sm(Xtal.)	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.3
12. f_e^m	13.4	0.02	5.6	0.06	0.005	0.06	0.01	0.03
13. E_∞	24.7	199	...	81.6	189	205	105	121
14. $P_{1/2}$	0.095	4.46	...	0.60	2.52	0.44	2.76	0.91
15. $E_\infty(1 + f_e^m)$	355	203	$\geq 250^c$	86.5	190	217	106	125

^aEstimated from Fig. 1 and from T_n^m of crystal 4 at $T = 1.87$ K.

^bEstimated from Fig. 1.

^c $E_{max}^+(1 + f_e^m) = 250$; no E_{ss} vs P data taken.

$f_d C_n \lesssim 1$. Then Eqs. (21a)–(21c) become

$$E_{ss} = \left(\frac{\omega_d}{\omega_n} \right) \frac{\omega_n \Delta}{\Delta^2 + (T_e/T_d)\omega_L^2 + f_e \omega_n^2}, \quad (23)$$

which has peak values E_{ss}^{peak} of

$$E_{ss}^{peak} = \left(\pm \frac{\omega_d}{\omega_n} \right) \frac{\omega_n}{2[(T_e/T_d)\omega_L^2 + f_e \omega_n^2]^{1/2}} \quad (24)$$

at $\Delta = \pm [(T_e/T_d)\omega_L^2 + f_e \omega_n^2]^{1/2}$. Abragam and Borghini,^{4,7,8} Goldman,¹¹ and Swanenburg *et al.*²⁹ have discussed this effect for the case of unresolved and partially resolved⁸ satellites, but it appears to be relevant for well-resolved satellites if $S^d \gg 1$. The dominating terms are those involving ($S^0 S^d$) in Eqs. (21b) and (21c): Saturation of S^0 cools EDDR, and NZR is then cooled by the S^d interaction connecting these two reservoirs.³⁰ If $(T_e/T_d)\omega_L^2 \gg f_e \omega_n^2$, which may not be easy to satisfy if $\omega_n \gg \omega_L$, then the peak enhancement values become⁴ $E_{ss}^{peak} \approx \pm E_i(\omega_n/2\sqrt{2}\omega_L) \gg E_i$ at $\Delta = \pm \sqrt{2}\omega_L$, where we take $(T_e/T_d) = 2$. The key assumption is that the ESR line shape be Lorentzian or Lorentzian-like, so that $S^d \gg 1$ holds even when $\omega_n \gg \omega_L$.

Kittel and Abrahams³¹ have shown that the ESR line shape for dilute paramagnetic systems is approximately Lorentzian for concentrations $< 1\%$, and Gaussian for concentrations $> 10\%$. This suggests that significant homogeneous line broadening with Lorentzian-like wings should occur in the range of (3–5)% dopings.

The DNP leakage factor f_e^m can be calculated from measurements of (N_n/N_e) , T_e , and T_n^m . If $S^d \gg 1$, we found³² $T_n^m \ll T_n$, in which case T_n and $f_e = (N_n T_e / N_e T_n)$ are not directly measurable. It is f_e ($\ll f_e^m$) which controls the DNP leakage in Eqs. (23) and (24), as the EDDR contributions to nuclear relaxation do not affect the DNP leakage in that case, contrary to Swanenburg *et al.*²⁹ The physical reason is that the EDDR temperature $\gamma(t)$ is driven far away from β_L by the ESR microwave photons in DNP, and thus EDDR is not available for regular nuclear relaxation, which is measured under conditions of no ESR, i. e., $S^0 = 0 = S^+ = S^-$.

The second possibility for explicit EDDR DNP effects is near, but not at, the satellite peaks with $S^d \gg 1$, $f_d C_n \lesssim 1$, $S^+ \neq 0$, $S^0 = 0 = S^-$. Equations (21a)–(21c) then become

$$E_{ss} = \frac{S^d(1 + f_d C_n) + S^+ [\mp (\omega_d/\omega_n)] [1 \mp f_e S^d (\omega_n \Delta / \omega_L^2) R]}{S^d(1 + f_d C_n) + S^+ [1 + f_e + f_d C_n + f_e S^d (C_\Delta R + 1 + f_d C_n)]}. \quad (25)$$

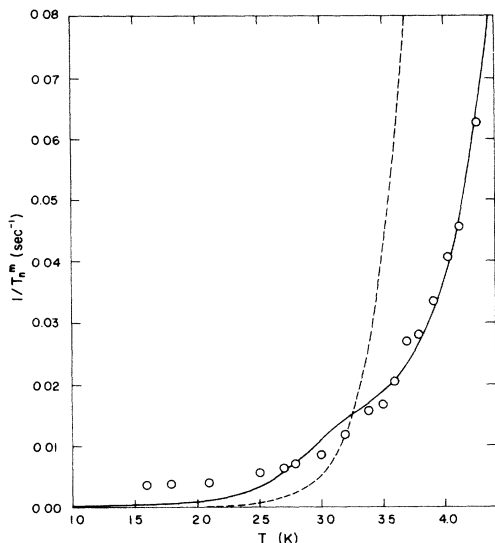


FIG. 1. Measured proton spin-lattice relaxation rate vs temperature for crystal 7 at $H_0 = 8970$ Oe. Circles are data points. Solid line is Eq. (13) in the text using parameters determined by a least-squares fit to the data and tabulated in Table II. Broken line is $(1/T_1^m) \propto (1/T_e)$, as discussed in the text. T_e values were taken from Ref. 17.

If $f_e S^d \ll 1$, there are negligible EDDR DNP effects, as Eq. (25) reduces to Eq. (16) for all Δ values near the satellite peaks. However, if $f_e S^d \gtrsim 1$, Eq. (25) predicts asymmetries in E_{ss} as a function of Δ , as well as higher E_{ss} values than those in Eq. (16). In this case EDDR is cooled by the satellite transitions, and this is conveyed to NZR by the W^d transitions. This proposed new DNP effect, which involves the term $(f_e S^d) S^d$, is a higher-order analog of the Abragam and Borghini ($S^0 S^d$) mechanism³⁰ for the main ESR line discussed above. Significant cooling of EDDR by the S^+ transitions requires that f_e be large enough so that $f_e S^d \gtrsim 1$, which may be hard to meet in practical experiments. For unresolved satellites the Abragam and Borghini mechanism will predominate, but the two effects are separable for well-resolved satellites.

Finally, we note that the "cross-effect" DNP mechanism of Hwang and Hill,^{8, 33, 34} does not apply to well-resolved satellites.

III. EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

Single crystals of LMN:Sm were grown from mixed, saturated water solutions of SmMN and LMN at 0°C. As seen in Table I, the Sm dilution (mole %) measured by x-ray fluorescence is lower by a factor ≈ 50 than that of the growing solutions, similar to previous results.^{17, 35} In the preparation²⁰ we used Sm_2O_3 and La_2O_3 with 99.99% rare-

earth purity; the samarium had the natural isotopic composition. Typical samples weighed 200 mg.

We used conventional nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR), ESR, and cryogenic techniques.^{1, 3, 4, 20} An X band, crystal video, reflection spectrometer was used to measure ESR spectra at low microwave powers, and to excite the DNP with variable power up to a maximum ≈ 0.5 W. The proton DNP, excited at fixed microwave frequency ν_e and variable H_0 , was measured from the ratio of the proton NMR signal peak-to-peak height when polarized to that at thermal equilibrium. Q meter and lock-in detection were used. Because of the poor thermal-equilibrium proton NMR signal, our DNP measurements have an absolute accuracy of $\pm 20\%$. The relative accuracy of the DNP for $E_{ss} > 10$ is $\pm 5\%$. Proton spin-lattice relaxation times were measured from the observed NMR decays to thermal equilibrium after the DNP microwaves were turned off. Few measurements of the DNP pump time τ_{DNP} were attempted.

IV. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

Single crystals of LMN:Sm have axial symmetry and principal g values³⁵ $g_{\parallel} = 0.736 \pm 0.005$ and $g_{\perp} = 0.363 \pm 0.10$. Scott *et al.*³⁶ have measured the ESR derivative peak-to-peak linewidth ΔH_{pp} of a single crystal of 0.05-mole % LMN:Sm at 1.9 K and 9.25 GHz as a function of the angle θ between the magnetic field \vec{H}_0 and the crystal symmetry axis. They found a monotonic increase of the line-

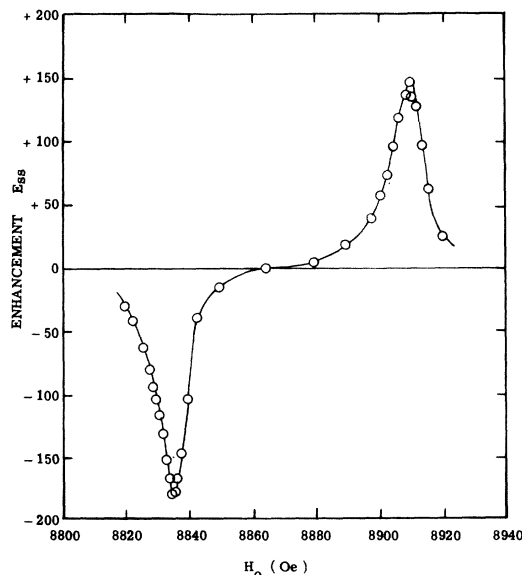


FIG. 2. Enhancement E_{ss} vs magnetic field for crystal 6 at 3.0 K with maximum microwave power. The solid line is a smooth curve through the data points.

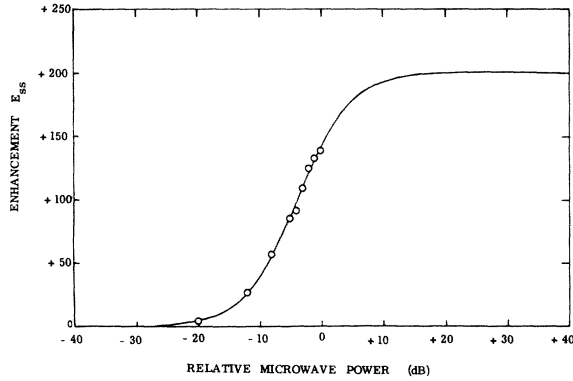


FIG. 3. Enhancement E_{ss} vs relative microwave power for crystal 6 at $H_0 \approx 8910$ Oe and $T = 3.0$ K. Circles are data points, and the solid line is Eq. (26) in the text with the values $E_\infty = 205$ and $P_{1/2} = 0.44$, determined by a least-squares fit to the data.

width from $\Delta H_{pp} \approx 4$ Oe at $\theta = 0^\circ$ to $\Delta H_{pp} \approx 60$ Oe at $\theta = 90^\circ$. Thus LMN:Sm has well-resolved satellites near the parallel orientation at X band, since the spacing between the W^0 peak and the W^\pm peaks is ≈ 37 Oe at $\theta = 0^\circ$ (due to the low Sm g value). For experimental convenience we operated at $\theta \approx 7^\circ$; the measured values of ΔH_{pp} for our crystals are given in Table I. The electron spin-lattice relaxation time T_e of LMN:Sm has been measured by Larson and Jeffries,¹⁷ who found no evidence for a phonon bottleneck in the parallel orientation.

The main ESR line in LMN:Sm is due to the 71.2% abundant even-even Sm nuclei. The ions with 14.97% abundant ^{147}Sm and 13.83% abundant ^{149}Sm nuclei contribute 16 hyperfine lines which are separated from the main ESR line by hundreds of oersteds. These latter Sm ions do not contribute to the DNP, but are a source of nuclear leakage relaxation, as discussed in Sec. V.

No systematic study of the proton spin-lattice relaxation was attempted. Measurements of T_n^m are given in Table I. In crystal 7 we measured T_n^m as a function of T at $H_0 = 8970$ Oe (Fig. 1). These data will be discussed in Sec. V.

We show the magnetic field dependence of E_{ss} at maximum microwave power in crystal 6 at 3.0 K in Fig. 2, and the enhancement versus microwave power at the positive enhancement peak ($H_0 \approx 8910$ Oe) in Fig. 3. In no case did we have sufficient microwave power to completely saturate the satellite transitions. Therefore our data have been fitted by the least-squares method to

$$E_{ss} = \frac{P_{1/2} + PE_\infty}{P_{1/2} + P}, \quad (26)$$

where P is the variable microwave power in arbitrary

units ($P=1$ at maximum microwave power ≈ 0.5 W), and E_∞ and $P_{1/2}$ are constants determined in the fit and tabulated in Table I. The infinite power enhancement is E_∞ , and $P_{1/2}$ is the half-power parameter. We have transformed Eq. (16) into Eq. (26) because the absolute magnitude of S_m^\pm is not known.

We summarize our data for five crystals in Table I. Other incomplete data for crystals 1, 2, 5, and 7 are given in Ref. 20. The measured maximum enhancements for $P=1$ near the positive and negative enhancement peaks {at $H_\pm \equiv (h\nu_e/g_e\mu_B) \times [1 \pm |\omega_n/\omega_e|]$ } are labeled E_{max}^\pm . The measured enhancements E_{max}^+ are extrapolated to infinite microwave power with Eq. (26). We then multiply by $(1 + f_e^m)$, where we have measured³⁷ (N_n/N_e) and T_n^m , and T_e is taken from Ref. 17. If theory and experiment are to agree, $[E_\infty(1 + f_e^m)]$ must equal the ideal enhancement (ω_e/ω_n) which is 240 in our experiments.

The magnetic field dependence of E_{ss} near the positive enhancement peak in crystal 4 is shown in Fig. 4. The solid line is the function

$$E_{ss} = \frac{P_{1/2} + PE_\infty f(\Delta H)}{P_{1/2} + Pf(\Delta H)}, \quad (27)$$

taken from Eqs. (16) and (26), where $f(\Delta H) = \exp[-2(\Delta H)^2/(\Delta H_{pp})^2]$, ΔH is the variable magnetic field referred to the satellite peak, and E_∞ and $P_{1/2}$ are taken from the crystal 4 data at

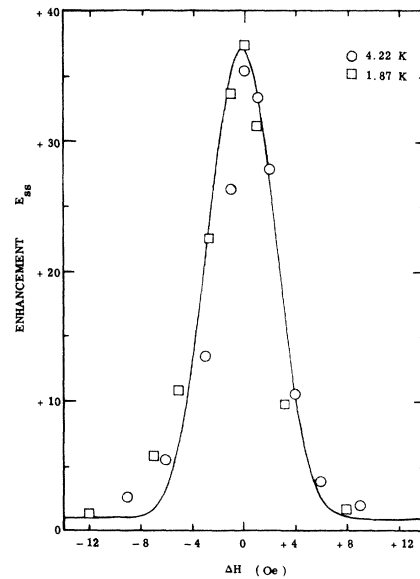


FIG. 4. Enhancement E_{ss} vs magnetic field near the positive enhancement peak of crystal 4 with maximum microwave power ($P=1$) at two temperatures. The solid line is Eq. (27) in the text using the values of ΔH_{pp} , E_∞ , and $P_{1/2}$ for crystal 4 at $T = 4.22$ K in Table I.

TABLE II. Experimental and theoretical nuclear spin-lattice relaxation parameters for crystal 7.

	Experiment ^a	Theory ^b
$\frac{3}{10} \left(\frac{g_e \mu_B}{H_0} \right)^2 \frac{1}{d^3 R^3}$	1.1×10^{-6}	3.1×10^{-8}
T_{2e} (sec)	6.5×10^{-5}	1.2×10^{-6}
W^d (sec ⁻¹)	0.016	0.025
$\frac{N_n \omega_n^2}{N_e \omega_L^2}$	1.5×10^4	4.7×10^7

^aEstimated from a least-squares fit of the T_n^m data in Fig. 1 to Eqs. (8), (10), (11), and (13) in the text, assuming $(1/T_n^L)^{-1} = 0$ and using T_e values from Ref. 17.

^bDiscussed in the text.

4.22 K in Table I. We did not integrate our ESR derivative signal data to obtain an ESR line-shape function, but used a Gaussian instead.

V. DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The nuclear-relaxation data for crystal 7 shown in Fig. 1 were fitted by the least-squares method to Eqs. (8), (10), (11), and (13), assuming³⁸ $T_e = T_d$ and $(T_n^L)^{-1} = 0$, and using T_e values from Ref. 17. The best fit, shown as the solid line in Fig. 1, generated the experimental parameters given in Table II. The fit was very sensitive to the starting values of the parameters, and does not follow the data points in all respects. We also show a curve proportional to $(T_e)^{-1}$ (broken line in Fig. 1). The values of this curve vary by a factor $\approx 10^4$ in the temperature range 1.6–4.2 K, whereas the T_n^m data points vary by a factor ≈ 16 . This evidently rules out the possibility that the nuclear relaxation is due only to the $(T_n)^{-1}$ term in Eq. (13), i. e., $W^d = 0$ over the entire temperature range, unless $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ effects are not negligible. It also rules out the limit $W^d T_n \gg (N_n \omega_n^2 / N_e \omega_L^2) W^d T_d \gg 1$. Unsuccessful attempts were made to fit the data with Eq. (13) for the cases (i) $(T_n)^{-1} = 0$, and (ii) $(N_n \omega_n^2 / N_e \omega_L^2) W^d T_d \ll 1$.

To compare these results with theory, we estimate the theoretical parameters in Table II from our experimental data for³⁹ g_e , H_0 , ω_n , N_n , and N_e , taking $d = 4.36$ Å. The method of Kittel and Abrahams³¹ was used to calculate T_{2e} and ω_L^2 from our measured value of N_e . We do not get better than an order-of-magnitude agreement between theory and experiment. The values of $(N_n \omega_n^2 / N_e \omega_L^2)$, in particular, disagree significantly. We have assumed that the ¹⁴⁷Sm and ¹⁴⁹Sm ions do not contribute to the terms containing W^d , but do contribute to T_n^Z in the same way as the other Sm ions. Thus the nuclear leakage relaxation $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ due to the ¹⁴⁷Sm and ¹⁴⁹Sm ions is implicitly built into

T_n^Z in this case. In Sec. IIC we showed theoretically that the DNP leakage factor f_e^m for LMN:Sm should satisfy the condition $f_e^m \ll 1$ if $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ is negligible. However, our experiments indicate $f_e^m > 1$ in crystals 3 and 4 at $T < 2$ K (Table I). This suggests that unknown impurity $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ relaxation is important below $T = 2$ K, although unusual $(T_n^L)^{-1}$ effects of the ¹⁴⁷Sm and ¹⁴⁹Sm ions, or the influence of the inhomogeneous broadening contributions (see below) to the LMN:Sm ESR line, may be involved, too. On the other hand, if one views the fit of our T_n^m data to Eq. (13) in Fig. 1 as being reasonably good, and thus overlooks the discrepancies in Table II, this suggests that EDDR W^d processes may have had some influence on the nuclear-relaxation rate $(1/T_n^m)$ below $T = 3$ K, in which case $S^d \gg 1$ at $T < 2$ K. However, no definite conclusion can be reached on the basis of our experiments.

We summarize the results given in Table I by noting that the peak enhancements of crystals 3, 4, and 6 are in general agreement with Eqs. (16) and (26), and that those of crystals 5 and 7 are not. This is most easily seen by comparing $[E_\infty(1 + f_e^m)]$, item 15 in Table I, with the ideal enhancement $E_i = 240$ for these experiments. Agreement is within the $\pm 20\%$ absolute accuracy for three of the crystals.⁴⁰ It is significant that a given crystal either agrees or disagrees at all temperatures measured. Items 12 and 14 in Table I demonstrate the principal difficulties in interpreting our experiments. At higher temperatures ($T \approx 4.2$ K) where $f_e^m \ll 1$, we had insufficient microwave power ($P_{1/2} > 2.5$) to obtain $E_{\max}^* \approx E_\infty \approx E_i$, while at lower temperatures ($T \approx 1.8$ K) where the maximum power was adequate ($P_{1/2} \ll 1$), the large DNP leakage factor f_e^m ($\approx 5 - 13$) greatly reduced E_∞ . T_n^m was not measured in crystals 3, 5, and 6, which is a source of concern in the f_e^m estimation. The T_e values used in calculating f_e^m in all cases were taken from Ref. 17, and were not measured for our crystals, which introduces errors that are difficult to estimate, especially in the $T \approx 1.8$ K data.

We have no conclusive explanation for the discrepancy between E_i and $E_\infty(1 + f_e^m)$ in crystals 5 and 7. Since $f_e^m \leq 0.06$ in all our data for $T > 3$ K, errors in estimating f_e^m seem an unlikely explanation. If the Sm ions formed clusters in the LMN host lattice instead of occupying sites at random, then one might expect anomalous DNP results. However, we have no measurements showing the existence or nonexistence of Sm clusters. The absence of a phonon bottleneck in the work of Larson and Jeffries¹⁷ on LMN:Sm suggests that this is not an explanation for reduced DNP enhancements.^{2,3,5,6} The possibility that inhomogeneous broadening of the ESR line reduces the DNP is discussed below.

The measured values of E_{\max}^+ and E_{\max}^- were the same within experimental error for each crystal at each temperature reported here except for crystal 6 at $T=3.0$ K and crystal 7 at $T=3.49$ K. Inequality of the two peaks has been observed before and was attributed to drifts in the instrumentation.¹ We assume that to be the case here. The calculated and measured separations of the satellite peaks (items 6 and 7 in Table I) are in good agreement.

Both the 4.22 K and 1.87 K enhancement data of crystal 4 fitted Eq. (27) with a Gaussian function using the measured ΔH_{pp} , as seen in Fig. 4. The solid line drawn for the $T=4.22$ -K values of E_{∞} and $P_{1/2}$ is very sensitive to the value of ΔH_{pp} , and the agreement with the E_{ss} data disappears if ΔH_{pp} is given a small variation ≈ 1 Oe.

There is no evidence in Figs. 2 and 4 for the EDDR DNP effects predicted in Eqs. (23)–(25). The enhancement is unity near the main ESR transition W^0 , and there are no asymmetries in the DNP near H_{\pm} , even at $T < 2$ K, where S^d may be $\gg 1$. This was true for all our crystals at 9.1 GHz, and in addition is consistent with 70 GHz, well-resolved satellite DNP results of Schmugge and Jeffries¹ in LMN:Nd and of Wollan and Stapleton¹⁰ in YES:Nd (neodymium-doped yttrium ethyl sulphate). There are several possible reasons to explain this. First, the appropriate limits ($S^d \gg 1$, $f_e S^d \gg 1$) for the two cases may not have been obtained even at $T \approx 1-2$ K, e.g., if the ESR line shape was not sufficiently Lorentzian-like in the wings, or if $(T_e/T_{2e}) \ll 1$ [using Eq. (12)]. Second, if the ESR lines are not completely homogeneously broadened, the assumptions of single-spin temperatures $\alpha(t)$ and $\gamma(t)$ for the entire electron system and of a single EDDR with a large heat capacity, are not valid. It is thus necessary to estimate either experimentally or theoretically the homogeneous and inhomogeneous broadening²³ contributions to the ESR line shape. In crystal 4, our DNP data are fitted well by a Gaussian with $\Delta H_{pp} = 5$ Oe (Fig. 4). We have used the Kittel and Abrahams³¹ method to estimate theoretically that the homogeneous broadening due to the Sm ions in a 0.3-mole % LMN:Sm crystal corresponds to a cut-off Lorentzian line shape with a full width at half-maximum ≈ 0.35 Oe. This suggests that the ESR line shape was largely inhomogeneously broadened, in which case the EDDR aspects of the theory in Sec. II would not apply. Wollan and Poulton⁴¹ have shown that the effective leakage factor is greater than f_e^m for DNP with an inhomogeneously

broadened ESR line. This might explain the discrepancy between the DNP data and Eqs. (16) and (26) for crystals 5 and 7. Because of the high rejection ratio of the Sm ions in LMN:Sm aqueous solutions, efforts to grow crystals $\approx 3-5$ -mole % LMN:Sm have so far been unsuccessful. We believe that the EDDR DNP effects should be observable in such crystals at $T < 2$ K.

VI. SUMMARY

We have derived theoretical expressions for the dynamic nuclear polarization and nuclear spin-lattice relaxation for ionic crystals weakly doped with paramagnetic impurities assuming (i) a completely homogeneously broadened ESR line, (ii) an isotropic electron g factor, (iii) rapid nuclear spin diffusion, (iv) the high-temperature limit, and (v) no phonon bottleneck. In the limit of well-resolved satellites, the conventional results for DNP at the satellite peaks are obtained, but with EDDR effects on the nuclear relaxation rate and DNP leakage factor included. We suggest that direct EDDR contributions to DNP excited by saturation of the main ESR line⁴ may be extended to crystals with well-resolved satellites in some cases. We propose a new DNP effect: Saturation of the satellite transitions may cool EDDR in favorable cases, and lead to asymmetries in the shape of the DNP curve as well as slightly higher polarizations than those at the satellite peaks.

Our experimental DNP results for three 0.1–1.1-mole % LMN:Sm crystals agree with the conventional theory at the satellite peaks. Data for two other crystals disagree with theory; some reasons are proposed, none conclusive. No experimental evidence for direct EDDR effects on the DNP either near the main ESR line or near the satellites was found, despite nuclear relaxation data suggesting that the conditions may have been favorable at $T < 2$ K. Possible explanations are proposed. We suggest that these EDDR effects may be seen in crystals of $\approx 3-5$ -mole % LMN:Sm, which we have so far been unable to grow, or in equivalent systems. In our experiments EDDR may have had some influence on the nuclear spin-lattice relaxation, but had no direct effect on the dynamic nuclear polarization.

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