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OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF SODIUM IN THE VACUUM ULTRAVIOLET

A THESIS

Presented to
The Faculty of the Graduate Division

by

John Clark Sutherland

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Doctor of Philosophy
in the School of Physics

Georgia Institute of Technology

May, 1967
OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF SODIUM IN THE VACUUM ULTRAVIOLET

Approved:

Chairman

Date approved by Chairman: May 3, 1967
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am indebted to the entire Radiation Physics Section of the Health Physics Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory. In particular, I thank: E. T. Arakawa for directing my dissertation research, R. N. Hamm for writing the computer programs which I required, H. C. Schweinler and R. H. Ritchie for discussions of the theoretical aspects of my work and R. D. Birkhoff for his interest, encouragement, and enthusiasm. I also thank J. A. Harter and A. G. Kenerly for assistance in maintaining the electrical equipment used in the experiment. A special debt of gratitude is owed to Beverly Varnadore for her patient typing of the various drafts of this thesis and other papers and abstracts.

I thank J. R. Stevenson, Vernon Crawford and A. L. Stanford of the School of Physics, Georgia Institute of Technology, for the interest they showed in my work and the several trips they made to Oak Ridge. In addition, I am indebted to J. R. Stevenson for suggesting this research problem and to H. Gersch and J. W. Hooper for reading this thesis. I also thank Oak Ridge Associated Universities whose financial support made possible my work in Oak Ridge and in particular Louis Rayburn who made possible my attendance at several scientific meetings.

Special permission was received from the Graduate Division of the Georgia Institute of Technology to center page numbers in order to satisfy
the requirements for the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

This research was sponsored by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission under contract with Union Carbide Corporation.
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SUMMARY

Sodium is an excellent example of a free-electron metal. A striking feature of the optical properties of a metal of this type is its critical (or plasma) wavelength, $\lambda_p$. A free electron metal reflects almost all incident radiation of wavelength greater than $\lambda_p$, but is transparent to radiation of wavelength less than $\lambda_p$. Wood measured the reflectance of sodium in the ultraviolet and vacuum-ultraviolet regions of the spectrum and from these measurements estimated the plasma wavelength of sodium to be 2100 Å. Wood also showed that the transparent region extended to at least 500 Å. Skinner, using soft x-ray emission techniques, found the threshold for the excitation of core electrons at 405 Å. Thus the transparent region of sodium spans the vacuum-ultraviolet.

The real and imaginary parts of the complex index of refraction of sodium, $n^* = n + ik$, have previously been measured for photon wavelengths from 2537 Å to 25,000 Å (photon energies from 4.9 to 5 eV). The real and imaginary parts of the dielectric constant, $\epsilon^* = (n^*)^2$, agree with the quantum-mechanical theory of the optical constants of a nearly free-electron metal in this region except for the anomalous peak in the imaginary part of the complex dielectric constant, reported recently by Hodgson and also Mayer and co-workers for photon energies from 1.2 to 2.2 eV. This as yet
unexplained peak has caused considerable interest in the optical properties of sodium.

The determination of the complex index of refraction of sodium in its transparent region was undertaken so that the validity of the current theory could be tested in this region. Also, the plasma wavelength, found from the values of the real part of the complex dielectric constant, $\epsilon_1$, in the transparent region could be compared with the results of electron-energy-loss experiments.

Radiation produced by a low pressure capillary-discharge tube was dispersed by a Seya-Namioka type vacuum monochromator and reflected from a sodium film. The films were formed by thermal evaporation of sodium, whose purity exceeded 99.5%, from an electrically-heated tantalum boat onto the flat surface of a quartz hemi-cylinder. The hemi-cylinder was mounted on a rotatable sample holder inside an evacuated reflectance chamber attached to the monochromator. Pressure in the reflectance chamber during evaporation rose from $3 \times 10^{-7}$ Torr to between $5 \times 10^{-6}$ and $2 \times 10^{-5}$ Torr. Radiation reflected from the sodium film was detected by a photomultiplier tube coated with sodium salicylate. The sample holder and phototube were coupled together so that the reflectance of the film was measured as a function of angle of incidence.

Two methods were used to measure the real part of the complex index of refraction, $n$. The critical angle method was used to determine $n$
in the wavelength region from 950 Å to 2000 Å. This method makes use of the fact that the index of refraction of sodium is less than 1.0 for photon wavelengths less than λ. Hunter has shown that for sufficiently small values of the imaginary part of the index of refraction, the critical angle may be replaced by θ_m, the angle at which the rate of change of reflectance with respect to the angle of incidence is a maximum, and thus

\[ n = \sin \frac{\theta_m}{m} \]

Oxide which forms on the surface of the film which is exposed to vacuum reduces the reflectance of this surface. However, both Hunter's calculations and the reflectance of the unoxidized quartz-sodium interface, measured for wavelengths from 2000 Å to the absorption edge of the quartz at 1700 Å, show that the angle of maximum slope is not seriously affected by the oxide.

Interference patterns observed for angles of incidence less than θ_m were used to determine the index of refraction for photon wavelengths from 420 Å to 1850 Å. The locations of interference maxima and minima are given by

\[ N\lambda = P\lambda + 2T (n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)^{1/2} \]

where λ is the wavelength of the incident radiation, N is the order of interference, P is the net phase shift caused by reflections and transmissions at the surfaces of the films, T is the thickness of the film and θ
is angle of incidence of the interference maximum or minimum of order N.

A systematic method was developed to determine the proper order of interference of each maximum and minimum. The value of P was computed for each angle 0 from the measured optical constants of the substrate and the approximate optical constants of the sodium film. The value of n was found by rewriting the interference equation in the form

$$\sin^2 \theta = n^2 - \left(\frac{\lambda}{2T}\right)^2 (N - P)^2$$

A straight line was fitted to the experimental values of $\sin^2 \theta$ and the corresponding values of $(N - P)^2$ by the method of least squares. The value of $\sin^2 \theta$ for $(N - P) = 0$ gave n. This value of n was used to recalculate P and the process iterated. The values of n calculated in this way converged rapidly.

Observations as a function of time of the interference pattern at a given wavelength showed that while growth of the oxide layer on the vacuum-sodium interface reduced reflectance, the locations of interference maxima and minima were unchanged. Also, interference patterns for radiation incident on the film through the quartz hemi-cylinder gave values of n identical to those obtained when radiation was incident from the vacuum side of the film. In addition there was good agreement between values of n obtained by the critical-angle and interference methods.

The value of k was determined between 1746 Å and 2000 Å by comparing the measured reflectances of the unoxidized quartz-sodium
interface as a function of incident angle with theoretical reflectances calculated from Fresnel's equations. Since \( k \) was found to be less than .04 in the region of interest it was possible to approximate \( \epsilon_1 = n^2 - k^2 \) by \( n^2 \) for all wavelengths less than 2000 Å, while \( \epsilon_2 = 2nk \) could be computed only for the wavelengths at which \( k \) had been measured.

The theoretical expression for \( \epsilon_1 \), derived from a model in which the electrons of the metal are described by Bloch wave functions, is related to the wavelength of the probing radiation, \( \lambda \), by the equation

\[
\epsilon_1 = 1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda_a^2} + \delta \epsilon(\lambda)
\]

where \( \delta \epsilon(\lambda) \) is the contribution of interband transitions and \( \lambda_a \) is related to \( m_a \), the average effective mass of a conduction band electron, and to \( \kappa_c \), the number of conduction electrons per unit volume, by

\[
\lambda_a^2 = \frac{(\pi e^2 / \kappa_c)}{m_a}.
\]

Cohen has shown that when the range of wavelengths which can excite electrons in the conduction band to higher bands is sufficiently broad, \( \delta \epsilon(\lambda) \) can be broken up into a constant term, and a term which goes as \( \lambda^2 \). Thus

\[
\epsilon_1 = 1 + 4\pi \kappa_1 \alpha_1 - \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda_b^2}.
\]

where \( \kappa \) is the number of atoms per unit volume, \( \alpha_1 \) is intermediate between the total polarizability of an atom in the crystal, \( \alpha_T \), and the
polarizability of an ion core, \( \alpha_0 \), and \( \lambda_b \) is related to the optical effective mass of the conduction electrons, \( m_{\text{opt}} \), by

\[
\lambda_b^2 = \left( \frac{\pi c^2}{\kappa e^2} \right) m_{\text{opt}}^{\text{opt}}
\]

According to the calculated band structure of sodium, this equation should be valid for radiation of wavelengths between the threshold for the direct excitation of electrons in the conduction band at about 5600 Å (\( \hbar \omega = 2.2 \text{ eV} \)) and the threshold for the excitation of core electrons at 405 Å (\( \hbar \omega = 30.8 \text{ eV} \)). The values of \( \varepsilon_1 \) determined in the present experiment were found to be a linear function of \( \lambda^2 \) for wavelengths between 500 Å and 2000 Å in agreement with theory. For \( \lambda \) less than 500 Å, the experimental values of \( \varepsilon_1 \) were larger than the values predicted by Cohen's approximation. This increase was attributed to the approach of the threshold for the excitation of core electrons. The values of \( 1 + 4\pi \kappa \alpha_1 \) and \( m_{\text{opt}}/m \) determined from the experimental data for wavelengths from 500 Å to 2000 Å were \( 1.03 \pm 0.02 \) and \( 1.06 \pm 0.05 \), respectively, where \( m \) is the mass of a free electron.

Mayer and Hietel found \( 1 + 4\pi \kappa \alpha_1 \) and \( m_{\text{opt}}/m \) to be \( 1.15 \pm 0.1 \) and \( 1.17 \pm 0.03 \), respectively. The larger values found by Mayer and Hietel from measurements made in the visible and near-ultraviolet wavelength regions are in qualitative agreement with the nature of the approximations made in Cohen's expression for \( \varepsilon_1 \). However, the value of \( 4\pi \kappa \alpha_1 \) determined in the present work disagrees with the value of \( 0.13 \) found for \( 4\pi \kappa \alpha_0 \) by Tessman et al.
since according to theory $\alpha_0 < \alpha_1$. The present result is in somewhat better agreement with the values of 0.07, 0.06, and 0.06 found for $4m\omega_0$ by Born and Heisenberg, Fajans and Joos, and Pauling, respectively.

The plasma energy of sodium, $\hbar\omega_p$, found from the wavelength at which $c_1$ is equal to zero is 5.68 eV \pm 0.06 eV. This value agrees well with the values of 5.69 eV \pm 0.08 eV, 5.67 eV \pm 0.05 eV, 5.71 eV \pm 0.1 eV, and 5.60 eV \pm 0.05 eV determined in electron-energy-loss experiments by Robins and Best, Swan, Kunz, and Sueoka, respectively.
CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

The first measurement of the optical constants of sodium was made by P. Drude (1) in 1898. Using 5893 Å radiation, he found the index of refraction of a molten sodium sample to be 0.0045. After allowing for several possible errors, the index of refraction was found to be less than 0.054 at this wavelength. Even this larger value was quite small compared with the indices of refraction of other metals.

In 1913 Duncan and Duncan (2) measured the optical constants of two sodium samples at five wavelengths in the visible portion of the spectrum. They solved the problem of obtaining an unoxidized sodium surface by filling an evacuated glass cell with molten sodium, permitting the sodium to solidify, and measuring the reflectance of polarized light from the glass-sodium interface. Duncan and Duncan confirmed that the index of refraction of metallic sodium was of the order of 0.05 throughout the visible portion of the spectrum. This meant that sodium possessed one of the highest known reflectances. In 1919 Wood (3) reported that the reflectivity of sodium decreased rapidly in the ultraviolet region and also that sodium was transparent in this region. Later (4,5) he estimated the onset of transparency at 2100 Å, measured the reflectance of sodium in its transparent region at
1860 Å and 1940 Å, and suggested that the index of refraction of sodium could be determined from both its Brewster's angle and its critical angle in this wavelength region. Wood also observed interference between components of the incident radiation reflected from the front and rear surfaces of a potassium film as a function of radiation wavelength and film thickness. In 1938 (6) Wood and Lukens found that sodium and other alkali metals were transparent to radiation of wavelength as short as 500 Å.

Zener (7) explained the transparency of the alkali metals in the ultraviolet and their high reflectance in the visible portions of the spectrum as a consequence of the Drude-Lorentz-Kronig (8) free-electron model of metallic structure. He showed that transparency started at the wavelength for which the dielectric constant of the metal was zero. The value of this critical wavelength calculated from the free-electron theory was 2100 Å, in agreement with the value estimated by Wood. Kronig (9) extended Zener's treatment of the problem to include damping of the conduction electrons. He thus showed that reflectance of slightly less than 100 per cent was expected for wavelengths greater than the critical wavelength.

Shortly after Kronig's theory was presented, Ives and Briggs (10) measured the optical constants of sodium, potassium, rubidium, and cesium at eight wavelengths from the ultraviolet (2537 Å) into the visible region of the spectrum (5780 Å). Their measurements on sodium (all made on one evaporated film) were in reasonable agreement with the previous work of
Duncan and Duncan in the visible region. Also, the optical constants of sodium were in much better agreement with Kronig's theory than were the optical constants of the other alkali metals.

In 1940 Skinner, using soft x-ray emission techniques, found the threshold for the excitation of core (Ljjj) electrons of sodium to be 30.8 eV or 405 Å. This threshold established the short-wavelength limit of the transparent region.

In 1958 Cohen analyzed Ives and Briggs' data in terms of a quantum mechanical theory of the optical properties of a metal. This theory took into account the periodic structure of the metallic crystal and the ion-core electrons, in addition to the free or conduction-band electrons. Agreement was found between theory and experiment for all four metals. From the experimental data, Cohen deduced values for the ion-core polarization, critical (or plasma) wavelength, and optical-effective mass of the conduction electrons of each metal. The agreement between the measured optical constants of sodium and Kronig's older theory was shown to result from the fact that in sodium the polarizability of the ion core is quite small and the optical-effective mass of a conduction band electron is only slightly larger than the rest mass of an electron. Cohen also called for measurement of the optical constants of the alkali metals in the infrared region of the spectrum since in this region the effects of interband transitions are independent of wavelength and can be combined with the
ion-core polarizability to give the total atomic polarizability of an atom in the metal.

The first measurements of the optical constants of sodium in the infrared (6,500 Å to 25,000 Å) were made by Hodgson (13). The experimental error in his work was too great to permit determination of the atomic polarizability, but he did find that the average effective mass of a conduction electron was 1.08 times the mass of a free electron. Hodgson also reported absorption for photon energies near 1.2 eV. This absorption could not be explained by direct interband transitions since the threshold for the optical excitation of conduction-band electrons had been determined from band structure calculations (14, 15, 16) to be about 2.2 eV. Hodgson suggested that the anomalous absorption might be due to phonon-aided optical excitation of the conduction electrons.

Mayer and his co-workers (17, 18, 19, 20, 21) have measured the optical properties of sodium, potassium, rubidium, and cesium from the ultraviolet to the infrared (2968 Å to 25,000Å) under ultrahigh-vacuum conditions. They confirmed the anomalous absorption in sodium and reported similar phenomena in the other metals. In addition, they showed that the anomalous absorptions are temperature dependent, giving added weight to Hodgson’s suggestion that a phonon-aided process is involved. Mayer and Hietel (17, 20) also reported that the ratio of the effective mass of the conduction electrons of sodium to the mass of a free electron was 1.27 (compared to
Hodgson's value of 1.08) and the corresponding ratio for the optical effective mass was 1.17 (compared to Cohen's (12) value of 1.01). Several attempts have been made to explain the anomalous absorptions of the alkali metals theoretically (22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28). It has been pointed out (22) that Hodgson's explanation based on phonon-aided indirect transitions is invalid because of momentum space considerations. Nettel (28) has suggested a more complicated theory based on phonon-aided absorption which reproduces some of the features of the Mayer's experimental results for sodium. However, the infrared optical properties of sodium remain an unsolved problem.

The purpose of this research was to extend the measurements of the optical constants of sodium into the vacuum-ultraviolet region of the spectrum (i.e., the region in which sodium is transparent), and to compare the optical constants measured in this region with the optical constants measured in the near-ultraviolet, visible, and infrared regions, with the results of electron-energy-loss experiments, and with current theories of the optical properties of metals. Since present techniques of vacuum-ultraviolet spectroscopy preclude the use of ultrahigh vacuum and transmission optics, it was necessary to find methods suitable for the determination of the optical constants in this region.
CHAPTER II

THEORY

Optical Constants

The effect of an isotropic or cubic solid on electromagnetic radiation of energy $\hbar \omega$ passing through it is specified by two parameters: the index of refraction, $n$, and the extinction coefficient, $k$. The index of refraction is defined as the ratio of the velocity of the radiation in vacuum to its phase velocity in the solid. The extinction coefficient is defined such that the amplitude of the radiation is reduced by a factor of $\exp(-2\pi k)$ when it traverses a distance of one vacuum wavelength in the material. Thus the equation of the $y$ components of the electric intensity of radiation of energy $\hbar \omega$ moving in the positive $x$ direction through a material of index of refraction $n$ and extinction coefficient $k$ is

$$E_y(x, t) = E^0_y \exp \left\{ i \left( \frac{2\pi nx}{\lambda} - \omega t \right) \right\} \exp \left\{ -\frac{2\pi kx}{\lambda} \right\}$$

or

$$E_y(x, t) = E^0_y \exp \left\{ i \left( \frac{2\pi nx^*}{\lambda} - \omega t \right) \right\}$$

where

$$n^* = n + i k$$

is the complex index of refraction. Equation (2) is formally the same as the equation for radiation passing through a transparent material.
The interaction between a solid and electromagnetic radiation may also be described by the dielectric constant and conductivity of the solid. In an isotropic or cubic solid the current density, \( J \), and electric polarization intensity, \( P \), are given by

\[
J = \sigma E
\]  \hspace{1cm} (4)

and

\[
P = \kappa \alpha E
\]  \hspace{1cm} (5)

where \( \sigma \) is the conductivity, \( \alpha \) is the polarizability of a single atom, and \( \kappa \) is the number of atoms per unit volume. If the solid is uncharged and magnetic effects can be ignored, Maxwell's equations for the solid are

\[
\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0
\]

\[
\nabla \cdot \mathbf{H} = 0
\]

\[
\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}}{\partial t}
\]

\[
\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{(1 + 4\pi \kappa \alpha)}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} + \frac{4\pi \kappa}{c} \mathbf{E}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (9)

From equation (1)

\[
\frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} = -i\omega \mathbf{E}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (10)

so equation (9) can be written

\[
\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = (1 + 4\pi \kappa \alpha + i \frac{4\pi \sigma}{\omega}) \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (11)

or

\[
\nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \epsilon^* \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}
\]  \hspace{1cm} (12)

where \( \epsilon^* = \epsilon_1 + i\epsilon_2 \) is the complex dielectric constant. The real part of the complex dielectric constant, \( \epsilon_1 = 1 + 4\pi \kappa \alpha \), gives the polarizability of the
material, while the imaginary part, $\varepsilon_2 = \frac{4\pi\sigma}{\omega}$, is related to the rate of absorption of energy by the material since the mean power absorbed per unit volume is $\bar{J} \cdot \mathbf{E}$ or $\bar{\sigma} \mathbf{E}^2$. Substitution of expressions of the form of equation (2) for $\mathbf{E}$ and $\mathbf{H}$ in equations (8) and (11) shows that

$$\varepsilon^* = (n^*)^2$$

(13)

or

$$\varepsilon_1 = n^2 - k^2$$

(14)

and

$$\varepsilon_2 = 2nk$$

(15)

**Optical Properties of Metals**

The parameter $\varepsilon^*$ describes the macroscopic interaction of a solid and electromagnetic radiation. Expressions for $\varepsilon^*$ in terms of microscopic parameters can be derived from models of the structure of the solid. The first theory of the optical properties of metals was based on Drude's (29) free-electron model of metallic structure and used classical mechanics. The next theory was based on an independent-particle quantum-mechanical model using Bloch wave functions (12, 30, 31). The most recent theory is that of Bohm and Pines (32, 33) which includes electron-electron interactions.

In Drude's free-electron model (29, 30) the only forces acting on the valence electrons of a metal are due to impressed electric fields and viscous damping. Thus the differential equation of motion for the $y$ coordinate of an electron is
where $e$ and $m$ are respectively the charge and mass of the electron, $2\pi m \gamma$ is the damping constant and $E_y$ is the time varying electric intensity given by equation (2). The steady state solution to equation (16) is

$$y(x, t) = \frac{e/m}{\omega^2 + i 2\pi \gamma \omega} .$$

The complex polarization, $P_y(x, t)$ and the electric intensity, $E_y(x, t)$, are related by

$$\epsilon_y(x, t) = \frac{(\epsilon^* - 1)}{4\pi} E_y(x, t) .$$

However

$$P_y(x, t) = -k_x \epsilon_y(x, t)$$

where $k_x$ is the number of conduction electrons per unit volume. Substituting equation (17) for $y(x, t)$ and separating real and imaginary parts gives

$$\epsilon_1 = 1 - \frac{(4\pi k_x e^2/m)}{\omega^2 + 2\pi \gamma^2} \omega^2$$

and

$$\epsilon_2 = (4\pi k_x e^2/m) \frac{2\pi \gamma}{\omega(\omega^2 + 2\pi \gamma^2)} .$$

The quantity $4\pi k_x e^2/m$ is abbreviated $\omega_0^2$. The value of $2\pi \gamma \hbar$, estimated from the static conductivity of sodium (34), is .02 eV. So, for photon energies much greater than .02 eV, equations (20) and (21) become

$$\epsilon_1 = 1 - \frac{\omega_0^2}{\omega^2}$$

and

$$\epsilon_2 = \frac{2\pi \gamma \omega_0^3}{\omega^3} .$$
The quantum mechanical theory of the optical properties of metals based on an independent-particle model has been reviewed by Seitz (30), Fröhlich (31), and Cohen (12). According to this model

\[
\epsilon_1 = 1 - \frac{4\pi e^2}{m\omega^2} \sum_s \left( \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 \mathbf{K} \frac{f_{s_s, s_s' K}}{s_s, s_s' K} \right)
\]

\[
+ \frac{4\pi e^2}{m} \sum_s \sum_r \left( \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \frac{f_{r r, s_s K}}{\omega^2} \right)
\]

and

\[
\epsilon_2 = \frac{2\pi e^2}{m\omega} \sum_s \sum_r \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 \mathbf{r} \frac{f_{r r, s_s K}}{s_s, s_s' K} | \delta(\omega - \omega_{r r, s_s K}) |
\]

where \( \mathbf{K} \) is the wave vector of an electron and \( f_{a K_1, b K_2} \) is the oscillator-strength density for a transition from state \( K_2 \) in band \( b \) to state \( K_1 \) in band \( a \). If the wavelength of an incident photon is large compared to the dimensions of a unit cell, the momentum of the photon is much less than the momentum of an electron in the crystal. Thus, for optically induced interband transitions in which phonons are not involved, \( \mathbf{K}_1 \) is equal to \( \mathbf{K}_2 \). Direct interband transitions are illustrated by Figure 1 which shows the calculated values of the energy of the electronic states of metallic sodium (14, 15, 16) as a function of \( \mathbf{K} \) for values of \( \mathbf{K} \) lying along a \( \Sigma \)-axis between the origin \( \Gamma \) and the Brillouin zone boundary \( N \). The bands shown in the figure are, from bottom to top, the \( L_3 \) band which is part of the ion-core of metallic
sodium, the conduction band which is filled only to the Fermi energy, $E_F$, the first unoccupied band, three higher unoccupied bands, and a portion of a fourth unoccupied band. Interband transitions are shown in Fig. 1 as arrows from a state described by a wave-vector $\vec{k}$ and a band index to another state described by the same value of $\vec{k}$ and a different band index. The first state must lie below $E_F$, while the second state must lie above $E_F$.

The oscillator-strength density for an interband transition is a function of the momentum-matrix elements connecting the initial and final states, and of their energy difference, i.e.

$$f_{r^K, s^K} = \frac{2}{3m} \frac{(r^K | p^{op} | s^K) \cdot (s^K | p^{op} | r^K)}{E_{r^K} - E_{s^K}}.$$

The term $\omega_{r^K, s^K}$ in equations (24) and (25) is defined by

$$\hbar \omega_{r^K, s^K} = E_{r^K} - E_{s^K}.$$

The term $f_{s^K, s^K}$ in equation (24) is the oscillator-strength density connecting a state in a filled band with itself and is given by

$$f_{s^K, s^K} = \frac{m}{2 \hbar} \frac{2}{\nabla_{s^K} E_{s^K}}.$$

In general $f_{s^K, s^K}$ must be summed over all occupied states. However, in sodium the highest core level ($L_3$ in Fig. 1) lies 28 eV below the bottom of the conduction band and is independent of $\vec{k}$ as are the other core bands.
Figure 1. Energy Versus Wave Vector for Sodium along a (1, 1, 0) Axis
which lie still further below the conduction band. Thus for sodium the second
term in equation (24) reduces to

\[
\frac{4\pi e^2}{m\omega^2} \left( \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \right) \int d^3k \, f_{c\kappa} f_{c\kappa^*}
\]

(29)

where the index c denotes the conduction band. In general, however, the
summation over filled bands in the second term in equation (24) must include
all bands whose energy is dependent on \( \kappa \). Thus, for example, in the case of
gold the conduction band and the d bands would be included since the latter
lie just below the Fermi energy and are dependent on \( \kappa \).

The conduction band contains both filled and empty states and thus
the band index c appears in both \( \Sigma \) and \( \Sigma^* \) in the third term of equation (24).
When c appears as the index of a filled band the integral over reciprocal space
is restricted to \( \kappa \) inside the Fermi surface, while if c appears as the index
of an empty band the integral is over the volume of reciprocal space between
the Fermi surface and the zone boundary. When neither the initial nor the
final state is in the conduction band, the integration is over the entire
Brillouin zone. The second term of equation (24) is affected only by the
filled states of the conduction band so the integration over reciprocal space
is restricted to \( \kappa \) inside the Fermi surface. The factor of 2 which appears
before each integral in equations (24) and (25) represents the result of
summation over spin states since the oscillator strengths are independent of
spin.
The first two terms in equation (24) give the contribution of the conduction band or "free" electrons to $\epsilon_1$. These terms may be put in a form similar to the classical expression for $\epsilon_1$, equation (22), by defining an effective mass of the conduction electrons, $m_a$, such that $m/m_a$ is the average value of the conduction band oscillator strength, $f_{cK_cK}$, i.e.

$$\frac{m}{m_a} = \frac{2}{\kappa_c(2\pi)^3} \int d^3k \frac{f_{cK_cK}}{f_{cK_cK}}.$$  \hfill (30)

Then if

$$\omega_a^2 = \frac{4\pi\kappa_c}{m_a}$$  \hfill (31)

equation (24) becomes

$$\epsilon_1 = 1 - \frac{a}{\omega} + \delta\epsilon_1(\omega)$$  \hfill (32)

where $\delta\epsilon_1(\omega)$ is the contribution of interband transitions. Cohen (12) has pointed out that there are two cases for which simple approximations can be made for $\delta\epsilon_1(\omega)$. First, for photon energies less than the minimum energy required for interband transitions, i.e., $\hbar\omega$ less than the smallest value of $\hbar\omega_{xK_sK'}$, $\delta\epsilon(\omega)$ is very nearly constant and equation (32) can be written

$$\epsilon_1 \approx 1 + 4\pi\alpha_T - \frac{a}{\omega}$$  \hfill (33)

where $\kappa$ is the number of atoms per unit volume and $\alpha_T$, the total polarizability of an atom in the crystal lattice, is given by
The lowest energy interband transition in sodium is labeled "A" in Figure 1. This is a transition from states just below the Fermi energy in the conduction band with wave vectors along a Σ-axis to states with the same wave vectors in the first unoccupied band. According to the band calculations, the energy of this transition is 2.2 eV. Thus according to the independent-particle model equation (33) should be valid for photon energies less than 2.2 eV but greater than .02 eV (cf. equations (20) and (22)). However, Mayer and Hietel (17, 20) and Hodgson (13) have reported anomalous absorption for energies between 1.2 and 2.2 eV. Thus equation (33) is valid only for photon energies between .02 eV and 1.2 eV.

If conduction band transitions are spread over a broad range of energy and if the corresponding oscillator strengths are not strongly energy dependent, another simple approximation can be made for $\delta \varepsilon(\omega)$. In this approximation $\delta \varepsilon(\omega)$ is divided into three terms: a sum over transitions from the core bands to unfilled bands, a sum over transitions from the conduction band to unfilled bands for which $\omega_{rK, cK} > \omega$; and a sum over conduction band transitions for which $\omega_{rK, cK} < \omega$. In the first two terms $\omega$ is equated to zero while in the third term $\omega_{rK, cK}$ is equated to zero. Thus equation (32) becomes

$$
\alpha_T = \frac{e^2}{\nu} \frac{2}{m} \frac{\sum \sum}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 \frac{\omega_{rK, cK}^2}{\omega_{rK, cK}} \delta \varepsilon(\omega_{rK, cK}).
$$

(34)
\[ \epsilon_1 = 1 + 4\pi \alpha_o + \frac{4\pi e^2}{m} \sum_{\omega_{rK,cK} > \omega} \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 k \frac{f_{rK,cK}}{\omega_{rK,cK}} \]  

(35)

\[ -\omega^2 \frac{a}{2} - \frac{4\pi e^2}{m\omega^2} \sum_{\omega_{rK,cK} < \omega} \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 k \frac{f_{rK,cK}}{\omega_{rK,cK}^2} \]

where the polarizability of the core electrons, \( \alpha_o \), is given by

\[ \alpha_o = \frac{e^2}{\nu} m \sum_{s \neq c} \sum_{r} \frac{2}{(2\pi)^3} \int d^3 k \frac{f_{rK,cK}}{\omega_{rK,sK}} . \]  

(36)

The third term in (35) is nearly constant and may be combined with the second term while the fifth term goes nearly as \( \omega^{-2} \) and can thus be combined with the fourth term to give

\[ \epsilon_1 = 1 + 4\pi \alpha_1 - \omega_b \frac{2}{\omega} \]  

(37)

An effective-optical-electron mass, \( m_{\text{opt}} \), defined in analogy with equation (31) is given by

\[ \omega_b^2 = \frac{4\pi e^2}{c^2 m_{\text{opt}}} . \]  

(38)

Comparison of equations (33), (35), and (37) shows that

\[ m_a \geq m_{\text{opt}} \]  

(39)
and also
\[ \alpha_T \geq \alpha_1 \geq \alpha_0. \quad \text{(40)} \]

Equation (37) is valid if the range of energies for transitions from filled states in the conduction band to empty states in higher bands is large. The threshold for these transitions is 2.2 eV corresponding to transition "A" in Figure 1. The highest energy transition between the conduction band and the first unoccupied band occurs at \( T \) and has an energy of 14.1 eV. This transition is labeled "B" in Figure 1. However, transitions from the conduction band to other unoccupied bands start for photon energies of 5.3 eV and continue without interruption to energies greater than the threshold for the excitation of core electrons which is 30.8 eV. Since the oscillator strengths connecting the conduction band electrons with higher states are spread over at least 28 eV, equation (37) should be applicable for photon energies between 2.2 and 30.8 eV.

As noted above, the threshold for the excitation of core electrons is 30.8 eV. The threshold transition is from filled states in the \( L_3 \) band whose wave vector lies just outside the Fermi surface to empty states in the conduction band. The Fermi surface of sodium is very nearly spherical so the states contributing to the threshold transition do not have to lie on a symmetry axis.

The expressions for \( c_1 \) and \( c_2 \) deduced from the Bohm and Pines model (32, 33) which includes electron correlation effects have the same form.
as the expressions deduced from the one-electron model.

Wood (4) observed that sodium films reflected radiation of wavelengths greater than approximately 2100 Å but transmitted shorter wavelength radiation. Zener (7) showed that this observation could be explained by the classical theory if the conduction electrons were assumed to be undamped, i.e., \( \gamma = 0 \). Under this assumption equations (22) and (23) become

\[
\frac{n^2 - k^2}{\frac{1}{\omega^2}} = 1 - \frac{\omega^2}{\omega^2} \tag{41}
\]

and

\[
nk = 0 . \tag{42}\]

Equation (42) requires that either \( n \) or \( k \) is zero. However \( n \) and \( k \) are both real numbers. Therefore, equation (41) requires that \( k = 0 \) for \( \omega > \omega_0 \) while \( n = 0 \) for \( \omega < \omega_0 \). For \( k = 0 \) equation (1) becomes the equation of an undamped wave moving through a medium of index of refraction \( n \). The normal incidence reflectance, \( R \), of radiation incident on a material from vacuum is (29)

\[
R = \frac{(n - 1)^2 + k^2}{(n + 1)^2 + k^2} , \tag{43}
\]

so when \( n = 0 \), \( R = 1 \). That is, all incident radiation is reflected.

Similar conclusions can be reached for both the classical and quantum theories if instead of assuming no damping, it is assumed that the damping, and thus \( \epsilon_2 \), is small. Equations (14) and (15) can be solved for \( n \) and \( k \) in terms of \( \epsilon_1 \) and \( \epsilon_2 \) giving
\[ 2n^2 = \epsilon_1 + (\epsilon_2^2 + \epsilon_1^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \] \hspace{1cm} (44)

and

\[ 2k^2 = -\epsilon_1 + (\epsilon_2^2 + \epsilon_1^2)^{\frac{1}{2}} \] \hspace{1cm} (45)

The positive sign must be chosen for the second terms in equations (44) and (45) to insure that \(n^2\) and \(k^2\) be positive since \(n\) and \(k\) are real numbers.

Since \(\epsilon_2^2\) is small, the second terms in equations (44) and (45) can be expanded by the binomial theorem to give

\[ 2n^2 \approx \epsilon_1 \pm (\epsilon_2^2/2\epsilon_1) \] \hspace{1cm} (46)

and

\[ 2k^2 \approx -\epsilon_1 \pm (\epsilon_2^2/2\epsilon_1) \] \hspace{1cm} (47)

where higher order terms have been dropped. The plus and minus signs in equations (46) and (47) arise from the square root of \(\epsilon_1^2\). Since \(n\) and \(k\) are real numbers, \(n^2\) and \(k^2\) are positive. Thus when \(\epsilon_1 > 0\), the plus sign must be chosen in both equation (46) and (47), while if \(\epsilon_1 < 0\), the minus sign applies.

That is, when \(\epsilon_1 > 0\),

\[ n^2 = \epsilon_1 + \frac{\epsilon_2^2}{4\epsilon_1} \] \hspace{1cm} (48)

and

\[ k^2 = -\epsilon_1 + \frac{\epsilon_2^2}{4\epsilon_1} \] \hspace{1cm} (49)

while when \(\epsilon_1 < 0\)

\[ n^2 = -\frac{\epsilon_2^2}{4\epsilon_1} \] \hspace{1cm} (50)
and

\[ k^2 = \varepsilon_1 - \frac{\varepsilon_2^2}{4\varepsilon_1} \]  \hspace{1cm} (51) 

Thus for \( \varepsilon_1 > 0 \) the wave is slightly damped while for \( \varepsilon_1 < 0 \) reflectance is slightly less than 100\%. However, the basic features of Zener's theory are unchanged. In the classical theory \( \varepsilon_1 \) is given by equation (22) and the transition from transparency to high reflectivity occurs for \( \omega = \omega_0 \). In the more general theory \( \varepsilon_1 \) is given by equation (37) and the transition from transparency to high reflectivity occurs for

\[ \omega^2 = \frac{\omega_b^2}{1 + 4\pi n^2 \alpha_1} \]  \hspace{1cm} (52) 

Energetic electrons passing through a solid can excite collective oscillations of the electrons of the solid if for some frequency, \( \omega_p \), \( \varepsilon^*(\omega_p) = 0 \) (35). The collective oscillations are called volume plasmons and their energy is equal to \( \hbar \omega_p \) in cubic solids where the transverse and longitudinal dielectric constants are equal. The exciting electron will lose energy equal to \( \hbar \omega_p \) times the number of volume plasmons it creates.

If \( \varepsilon_2 \) is non-zero, but small, plasmons will still be formed and will eventually decay giving their energy to either phonons, photons, or electrons. If the damping term, \( \varepsilon_2 \), is small the plasma frequency, \( \omega_p \), is to a good approximation the frequency at which \( \varepsilon_1 = 0 \). Thus from equation (37)

\[ \omega_p^2 = \frac{\omega_b^2}{1 + 4\pi n^2 \alpha_1} \]  \hspace{1cm} (53)
Comparison of equations (52) and (53) shows that $\omega_p$ is the frequency separating the high frequency spectral region in which the material is transparent from the low frequency region in which it reflects almost all incident radiation.

**Reflectance and Transmittance at Non-Normal Incidence**

The electric intensities of radiation reflected from and transmitted across the interference between two media are related to the electric intensity of the incident radiation by Fresnel coefficients $r_p$, $r_s$, $t_p$, $t_s$. If $E^r$ is the electric intensity of the parallel-polarized component of the reflected radiation and $E^o$ is the electric intensity of the parallel-polarized component of the incident radiation, then

$$r_p = \frac{E^r}{E^o}.$$

(54)

Similar equations define the reflection coefficient for perpendicularly polarized radiation, $r_s$, and the transmission coefficients $t_p$ and $t_s$. The Fresnel coefficients expressed in terms of the angle of incidence, $\theta_1$, the angle of refraction, $\theta_2$, and the complex indices of refraction of the incident and refracting media, $n_1^*$ and $n_2^*$, respectively, are (36):

$$r_p = \frac{n_1^* \cos \theta_2 - n_2^* \cos \theta_1}{n_1^* \cos \theta_2 + n_2^* \cos \theta_1}.$$

(55)
\[
\begin{align*}
\frac{r}{s} &= \frac{n_1^* \cos \theta_1 - n_2^* \cos \theta_2}{n_1^* \cos \theta_1 + n_2^* \cos \theta_2}, \quad (56) \\
t &= \frac{2 n_1^* \cos \theta_1}{n_1^* \cos \theta_2 + n_2^* \cos \theta_1}, \quad (57) \\
t &= \frac{2 n_1^* \cos \theta_1}{n_1^* \cos \theta_2 + n_2^* \cos \theta_1}. \quad (58)
\end{align*}
\]

The parameters \( n_1^*, n_2^*, \theta_1, \) and \( \theta_2 \) are related by Snell's law,

\[
n_1^* \sin \theta_1 = n_2^* \sin \theta_2. \quad (59)
\]

Both \( \theta_1 \) and \( \theta_2 \) may be complex.

Since \( n_1^*, \theta_1, n_2^*, \) and \( \theta_2 \) can be complex numbers, the Fresnel coefficients are complex numbers and, as such, can be written

\[
x_p = |x_p| e^{i \phi_p}, \quad (60)
\]

\[
x_s = |x_s| e^{i \phi_s}, \quad (61)
\]

\[
t_p = |t_p| e^{i \phi_p}, \quad (62)
\]

and

\[
t_s = |t_s| e^{i \phi_s}. \quad (63)
\]

The advantage of expressing the Fresnel coefficients in this form is shown by
substituting $r_p$ given by (60) into equation (54) giving

$$E_r^p = |r_p| e^{i \phi_p} E_p^o.$$  \hfill (64)

Equation (64) shows that the amplitude of the reflected radiation is $|r_p|$ times the amplitude of the incident radiation and the phase of the reflected radiation is increased by $\phi_p^r$ relative to the phase of the incident radiation.
CHAPTER III

APPARATUS

General Description

The apparatus, shown schematically in Fig. 2, consisted of a source of vacuum-ultraviolet radiation, a monochromator to isolate a single wavelength, and a chamber in which sodium films were formed by thermal evaporation and their reflectance measured as a function of angle of incidence. The apparatus had to be evacuated for operation in the vacuum-ultraviolet and could not contain windows since no window material is available for radiation of wavelength less than 1050 Å. Vacuum-ultraviolet radiation was produced by a high voltage gas discharge. Since the radiation source had to be maintained at a pressure greater than .1 Torr, a differential pumping assembly between the source and the monochromator, and pumping systems attached to both the monochromator and the reflectance chamber were required to maintain proper pressure.

Radiation Source

The source of ultraviolet radiation was a McPherson model 630 capillary discharge tube. The capillary was filled with nitrogen, hydrogen, air, or other gas, at a pressure between .1 and 1 Torr.
Figure 2. Schematic Diagram of Apparatus
Both circulating water and a fan cooled the glass discharge tube. Two modes of operation were used to produce vacuum-ultraviolet radiation.

For wavelengths greater than 1000 Å, the discharge tube was connected directly to a Consolidated Vacuum Corporation, (C.V.C.), model LC031 direct current power supply. In this direct current (dc) mode of operation the discharge current was about 350 milliamperes.

For wavelengths less than 1000 Å the tube was operated as a condensed discharge by connecting the apparatus shown schematically in Fig. 3 between the dc power supply and the discharge tube. The 2 μfd capacitor and 8 KΩ resistor reduced the peak current demand on the high impedance power supply during the charging and discharging of the .4 μfd capacitor to the discharge tube. For most of the duty cycle the gap was open and the dc power supply charged the capacitor. When the tungsten rod in the spark-gap rotor was aligned with the two tungsten poles, sparks jumped both gaps and the capacitor discharged through the discharge tube. The discharge, with a peak current of several thousand amperes and a duration of a few microseconds, caused multiple ionization of the gas atoms in the discharge tube. The dc power supply operated at about 5000 volts and 150 milliamperes; a repetition rate of 50 discharges per second insured complete charging of the .4 μfd capacitor. The spark gaps could be adjusted to compensate for wear by moving the poles.

The intensity of individual spectral lines, measured by the phototube
Figure 3. Schematic Diagram of Condensed Discharge Circuit
in the reflectance chamber, was stable within a few percent during the time required for a reflectance measurement. The noise observed in these lines was comparable to the noise observed with the dc mode of operation.

A mercury discharge bulb which produced lines as short as 1849 Å could be installed in place of the discharge tube.

**Monochromator**

Radiation passed from the discharge tube into a McPherson model 235 vacuum-ultraviolet monochromator of the Seya-Namioka type. Inside the monochromator, the radiation was dispersed by a Bausch and Lomb platinum-coated replica diffraction grating. The grating had a radius of curvature of .5 meters, was ruled with 1200 lines per millimeter, and was blazed for 700 Å.

The exit arm of the monochromator contained a slit whose width was adjustable from 10 to 2000 microns. For normal operation the exit slit was opened to 300 microns. Since the dispersion of the grating was about 13 Å/mm, the resolution of the system was 4 Å.

The exit arm of the monochromator also contained filters of glass, quartz, and lithium fluoride which could be inserted into the path of radiation leaving the monochromator. The filters were used to distinguish between first and second order reflections and also to help determine the intensity of background radiation.
Reflectance Chamber

The reflectance chamber, a stainless steel cube 10 inches on a side, was connected directly to the exit arm of the monochromator. A sodium film was formed on a quartz substrate inside the chamber by high-current thermal evaporation from a tantalum boat. The substrate was mounted on a sample holder which could be rotated to vary the angle at which radiation was incident on the film as shown in Fig. 4. The holder could also be raised to permit measurement of the intensity of the incident radiation. The intensities of the incident and reflected beams were measured with an RCA 1P21 photomultiplier coated with sodium salicylate. The photomultiplier was operated at 600 volts from an Atomic Instrument Co. model 312 high voltage power supply. The photocurrent was measured by a Keithley model 409 picoammeter and recorded on a Brown chart recorder. Photocurrents ranged from $10^{-7}$ to $10^{-10}$ amperes. A cold finger in the chamber was filled with liquid nitrogen to provide cryogenic pumping during evaporation. The evaporation equipment, sample holder, photomultiplier, and cold finger were mounted on stainless-steel flanges which were sealed to this chamber by Viton O-rings.

Angle Doubler

The photomultiplier and sample holder were connected by an angle-doubling mechanism so that the phototube was rotated through twice the angle of the sample and remained in the reflected beam. The angle-doubling
Figure 4. Schematic Diagram of Reflectance Chamber and Angle Doubler
mechanism is shown schematically in Fig. 4. The shafts which support the photomultiplier and sample holder are connected to an external shaft by toothed nylon belts and associated toothed pullies supplied by Precision Instruments Corporation. The shaft of the sample holder was connected to its pulley by a split type clutch hub to facilitate withdrawal of the sample from the beam. The external shaft was driven by a five-speed synchronous motor. The angle, $\theta$, at which radiation was incident on the sample was read within $\pm 0.25^\circ$ from a vernier scale mounted on the exterior shaft. The speeds of the synchronous motor were chosen so that the divisions on the chart paper represented convenient multiples of degrees.

The design of the angle doubler had two important advantages. First, there was no appreciable backlash in the assembly. Second, all of the components of the angle doubler were outside the vacuum system so adjustments could be made without breaking the vacuum.

Hemi-Cylinder

Sodium is extremely reactive and thus the surface of a freshly-formed film was covered with a thin layer of oxide within a few seconds after evaporation even though the pressure in the reflectance chamber was less than $10^{-6}$ Torr. While the reflectance of the oxidized vacuum-sodium surface can be used to determine the index of refraction, it is desirable to be able to measure the reflectance of unoxidized sodium surfaces for two reasons. First, measurements made on "clean" surfaces verify that the
values of the index of refraction determined from the reflectance of oxidized surfaces are not influenced by the presence of the oxide. Second, the extinction coefficient, $k$, of sodium can be determined from the reflectance of an unoxidized surface.

The film surface adjacent to the substrate is protected from oxidation by the substrate and thus, when viewed through the substrate, is an uncontaminated sodium surface. If the film had been deposited on a parallel-sided substrate, reflection and refraction effects and absorption of radiation by the substrate would have complicated the determination of the reflectance of the sodium surface. However, these difficulties were overcome by evaporating the sodium onto a quartz hemi-cylinder as shown in Fig. 5. Radiation entered and left the hemi-cylinder normal to its curved surface so that the angle of incidence at the quartz-vacuum surface was not affected. Further, the intensity lost by reflection when the radiation entered and left the hemi-cylinder, and by absorption during its passage through the hemi-cylinder was independent of the angle of incidence. One of the hemi-cylinders used in this work was made of suprasil grade quartz* and was transparent to radiation of wavelength greater than 1700 Å.

Typical reflectance measurements made through the hemi-cylinder are shown in Fig. 6. The lower portion of the figure shows the recorder tracing of the reflectance of 1849 Å radiation from a sodium film. The film

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Figure 5. Diagram of Hemi-Cylinder
Figure 6. Reflectance of 1849 Å Radiation from a Quartz-Vacuum and a Quartz-Sodium Interface Measured as a Function of Angle of Incidence
was made very thick (about 20,000 Å) so that interference fringes were not observed. The recorder tracing shown in the upper portion of Fig. 6 was made by raising the hemi-cylinder one-half inch so that the incident radiation was reflected from the quartz-vacuum interface. The hemi-cylinder was raised by inserting a spacer in the split clutch hub. The reflectance of the quartz-vacuum interface is used to determine the index of refraction of the hemi-cylinder and to determine the intensity of the incident radiation, \( I_o \).

Vacuum System

The apparatus was evacuated by pumps connected to the reflectance chamber, the monochromator, and a differential-pumping assembly located between the capillary-discharge tube and the monochromator. A National Research Corporation six-inch oil diffusion pump backed by a Welch 1397 rotary forepump was connected to the reflectance chamber via a water-cooled baffle and a gate valve. The monochromator was evacuated by a C.V.C. four-inch oil-diffusion pump backed by an Edwards Speedivac 250 rotary forepump and separated from the monochromator by a water-cooled chevron-baffle and a gate valve. The high pressure side of the McPherson differential pumping assembly was connected directly to a Cenco Hyvac 45 rotary forepump, while the low pressure side was connected to a pumping system identical to the one attached to the monochromator.
Pressure in the system was monitored by a C.V.C. ionization gauge connected to the reflectance chamber. Pumping for twelve hours reduced the pressure in the reflectance chamber to about $1 \times 10^{-6}$ Torr. Addition of liquid nitrogen to the cold finger reduced the pressure in the chamber to less than $3 \times 10^{-7}$ Torr. Evaporation caused a pressure surge to between $5 \times 10^{-6}$ and $1 \times 10^{-5}$ Torr.
CHAPTER IV

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURE

Alignment of the Optical System

The wavelength selected by the monochromator was read from a digital scale. For the grating used in this work two scale divisions were equal to one Angstrom. The scale reading corresponding to a wavelength of zero Angstroms was determined by observing the location on the scale of the maximum intensity of radiation reflected speculally from the grating (i.e., the central image). The calibration of the monochromator scale was checked for linearity by comparing the scale readings of prominent spectral lines (e.g., the Lyman α line in the hydrogen dc spectrum) with the accepted values of their wavelengths (37, 38).

The alignment of the sample holder and vernier scale required the replacement of the capillary discharge tube by a tungsten light bulb. The grating of the monochromator was then set to the central image (λ = 0) so that a collimated beam of white light passed through the exit slit of the monochromator and into the reflectance chamber. A ground glass plate replaced the hemi-cylinder in the sample holder so that the beam of light from the monochromator produced an easily-visible rectangular illuminated area. The illuminated area was approximately 3 millimeters high and 2
millimeters wide for normal incidence. The same area was covered by ultra-violet radiation since the exit slit of the monochromator was opened to 300 microns for both reflectance measurements and alignment. The flange which held the sample holder was adjusted until the axis of the sample holder intersected the axis of the beam emerging from the monochromator. The alignment was considered satisfactory when the illuminated area increased in width symmetrically as the sample holder was rotated clockwise or counterclockwise from normal incidence. When satisfactory alignment had been obtained, the flange on which the sample holder was mounted was bolted securely in place. The alignment of the sample holder was then rechecked.

The angle at which radiation was incident on the sample was read from a circular scale calibrated in degrees and mounted on the external shaft of the angle doubler as shown in Fig. 4. A plate on which an index and a vernier scale were marked was bolted to the frame of the angle doubler next to the edge of the circular scale. The scale was calibrated by placing an aluminum mirror in the sample holder and adjusting the sample holder to near normal incidence. The circular scale was adjusted until the zero mark was opposite the index mark on the plate. The set screw was then tightened. Fine adjustment was accomplished by turning the sample holder until the beam reflected from the mirror passed back through the exit slit of the monochromator. The light which passed back into the monochromator was observed by removing the plate which covered the top of
the monochromator and placing a glass slide in the beam leaving the grating at an angle of 45° with respect to the beam. The monochromator side of the exit slit was viewed as a reflected image. When the plane of the sample holder was perpendicular to the incident beam the exit slit was filled with light which had passed through the slide and through the exit slit and had then been reflected by the mirror back through the exit slit. If the zero mark on the circular scale was no longer opposite the index mark, the bolts which held the index plate were loosened and the position of the plate adjusted. The calibration of the circular scale was checked again after the mirror had been replaced by the hemi-cylinder. The angle of incidence read from the circular scale was accurate within ± 1/4 degree.

Preparation of Sodium Films

Sodium films were prepared in the evacuated reflectance chamber by thermal evaporation from a tantalum boat. The boat, a cylinder with closed ends and a hole in one side, was heated by passing a current through it. Vaporized sodium atoms escaped through the hole and were condensed on the flat surface of the quartz hemi-cylinder which was described in Chapter III. Prior to being mounted in the sample holder, the hemi-cylinder was cleaned with detergent, lens paper, and a chromic acid bath.

Before evaporation, the sodium was degassed by gently warming the boat. While the degassing was in progress a shutter protected the substrate. The shutter was mounted on a shaft which passed through an O-ring seal in
the side of the reflectance chamber. Thus the shutter could be rotated from outside the chamber. After the sodium had been degassed for 10 to 20 minutes, the current through the boat was increased to melt the sodium and start evaporation. When rapid evaporation had begun, the shutter, which protected the substrate was opened for a few seconds. Films between 4000 Å and 5000 Å thick, the range of thicknesses which gave the best interference patterns, were formed by exposing the substrate for from two to five seconds. Twenty second exposures yielded films in excess of 20,000 Å thick film. The vacuum side of the thick films was rougher than the vacuum side of films 4000 to 5000 Å thick. However, the reflectance measured from the quartz side of the thick films was not complicated by interference effects.

Pressure in the reflectance chamber was strongly influenced by the temperature of the tantalum boat. When the cold finger was filled with liquid nitrogen and the capillary discharge tube was in operation but the boat was not being heated, the pressure in the reflectance chamber was approximately $3 \times 10^{-7}$ Torr. Heating the boat to degas the sodium caused an increase in pressure. After the initial surge, the pressure stabilized at 1 or $2 \times 10^{-6}$ Torr. When the current through the boat was raised to evaporate the sodium, pressure in the chamber increased to between $5 \times 10^{-6}$ and $2 \times 10^{-5}$ Torr. The pressure returned to $10^{-6}$ Torr in a few seconds after evaporation ceased, and to the mid $10^{-7}$ range within 5 to 10 minutes.
During the evaporation, the photomultiplier and the curved portion of the hemi-cylinder were protected by teflon tape or aluminum foil masks to prevent them from being coated with sodium. The covers were removed after evaporation was complete.

The purity of the sodium exceeded 99.5%. Spectro-chemical analysis* of a bulk sodium sample revealed: .34% potassium, .001% calcium, .005% lithium, less than .0001% rubidium, and less than .0002% cesium. When the boat was being placed in the reflectance chamber prior to an evaporation, the sodium was exposed to air for about a minute and became covered with a layer of oxide. However, the oxide was much less volatile than metallic sodium and remained in the boat when the evaporation was performed.

Reflectance Measurements

The procedures followed before and after evaporation were designed to minimize the interval between formation of the film and the first reflectance measurement. To insure stable operation of the capillary discharge, the pressure in the discharge tube had to be carefully adjusted and the tube given an opportunity to warm up. Therefore, the discharge was turned on and adjusted before the evaporation. Also, the wavelength scale of the monochromator was set to an intense line before the evaporation. After the evaporation was complete, the shutter which protected the

*Analysis performed by the Analytical Chemistry Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory.
substrate was moved to the side of the reflectance chamber, the covers were removed from the phototube and the curved portion of the hemicylinder, light-tight covers were placed over the observation ports in the evaporation flange, the photomultiplier was energized, and the chamber was checked for light leaks by turning off the lights in the room, while monitoring the photomultiplier output current. The minimum time between evaporation and the start of the reflectance measurements was five minutes.

All reflectance measurements were made for one wavelength at a time rather than by scanning over the spectrum. The maximum intensity of each line was obtained by manually adjusting the wavelength scale of the monochromator while observing the output of the photomultiplier. The motor-driven angle doubler was used to measure reflectance as a function of angle of incidence. Figures 7 and 8 show the reflectance of 1580 Å and 836 Å radiation, respectively, from a sodium film exactly as it was recorded on chart paper. The speed of the angle doubler was such that the smallest division on the chart paper represents an angle of 2° in Fig. 7 and 1° in Fig. 8. Other speeds were also used. For measurements made from the vacuum side of the sodium, the reflectance scale was calibrated by withdrawing the sample and measuring the intensity of the incident radiation with the phototube. The calibration of the circular scale was not affected when the sample holder was raised since the sample-holder shaft was connected to the angle-doubler pulley by a split clutch hub. The photo-
Figure 7. Chart Recorder Plot of Reflectance of 1580 Å Radiation from a Sodium Film as a Function of Angle of Incidence
Figure 8. Chart Recorder Plot of Reflectance of 836 Å Radiation from a Sodium Film as a Function of Angle of Incidence
multiplier blocked the incident radiation for angles of incidence less than about 13°, while for angles greater than 78°, the sample holder obstructed the beam. The significance of the structure in the reflected radiation for angles between 13° and 78° will be discussed in Chapter V.

For measurements made from the quartz side of the sodium film (i.e., through the hemi-cylinder) the reflectance scale was calibrated by comparing the reflectance of the quartz-vacuum interface with the reflectance of the quartz-sodium interface. The reflectance of 1746 Å radiation from these two interfaces is shown in Fig. 6. For angles of incidence greater than the critical angle of the quartz-vacuum interface (40° in Fig. 6), total reflection occurs. Thus the reflectance measured in this region determines the intensity of the incident radiation I₀. This intensity is used to calculate the reflectance R(θ) of the quartz-sodium surface from the equation

\[ R = \frac{I(\theta)}{I_0} \tag{65} \]

where I(θ) is the intensity of the radiation reflected from the quartz-sodium interface. Equation (65) gives R since the fraction of the radiation lost by reflection when the radiation entered and left the hemi-cylinder and by absorption while passing through the hemi-cylinder (about 20% for 1849 Å) was the same in the two cases.
Determination of Background

Before reflectance could be determined for a given wavelength it was necessary to know what portion of the photomultiplier's output was due to radiation of the desired wavelength and what portion was due to scattered radiation of other wavelengths and to the dark current of the photomultiplier. The combined contributions of the latter two effects are called the background of the system. For the diffraction grating used in this work the background was independent of the wavelength setting of the monochromator for wavelengths greater than 500 Å. For wavelengths less than 500 Å the background increased as the central image was approached. Thus when operating the capillary tube in the dc mode, the background was determined by observing the response of the photomultiplier when the wavelength scale of the monochromator was set to 800 Å, since a dc discharge in hydrogen or nitrogen produces no radiation of wavelength less than 900 Å. The condensed-discharge mode of operation of the capillary tube was characterized by well-separated spectral lines and the background was determined by selection of a wavelength setting between two lines which gave a minimum response of the photomultiplier. The background was measured separately for the incident radiation, $I_o$, and for each $I(\theta)$ of interest. Then the background reading was subtracted from the direct reading to determine the portion of the measured intensity which was not caused by the background.

The background correction introduced negligible uncertainty in
reflectances measured for strong spectral lines. However, errors as large as 2 or 3% could be expected in reflectances measured with very weak lines.

An alternate method was used to locate the background for measurements made on quartz-sodium surfaces. This method depended on the fact that when $k$ is small, reflectances for angles less than the critical angle depend to a good approximation only on the index of refraction of the reflecting surface and the polarization of the incident radiation. The index of refraction was known from the location of the critical angle. The reflectance for an angle of incidence of $14^\circ$, calculated from the index of refraction and the previously determined polarization of the incident radiation (45), was compared with the reflectance measured at this angle to obtain the background.
CHAPTER V

DETERMINATION OF OPTICAL CONSTANTS

Introduction

The methods commonly used for the determination of the optical constants of materials in the vacuum ultraviolet region require either measurement of the reflectance at two angles of incidence for each photon energy or measurement of reflectance at normal incidence for all photon energies. In the first method, which is usually described as the "two angle method", the optical constants $n$ and $k$ (or $\epsilon_1$ and $\epsilon_2$) are found for each wavelength from the two reflectances measured at that wavelength (39, 40). In the second method, a Kramers-Kronig analysis (41) is performed, and the optical constants for one photon energy are determined by the reflectances measured for all photon energies. However, the two-angle and Kramers-Kronig methods are difficult to use on sodium. Because it is highly reactive, the surface of a sodium film exposed to a vacuum of 10^{-6} Torr is covered with oxide* in a few seconds after it is formed and the oxide, which absorbs strongly in the vacuum-ultraviolet wavelength region, changes

*The surface layer is referred to as "oxide" for convenience. The chemical composition of the layer was not investigated.
the reflectance of the surface. This difficulty was overcome by both the critical-angle method and interference methods, both of which gave values of the index of refraction.

In addition, use of the quartz hemi-cylinder described in chapter III made possible the measurement of the reflectance of uncontaminated sodium surfaces in part of the spectral region of interest. These measurements served as a check on the values of $n$ given by the critical angle and interference measurements made on the exposed surface of the sodium and also made possible the determination of the extinction coefficient, $k$.

**Critical-Angle Method**

The critical-angle method can be used to determine the index of refraction, $n$, of a material if $n$ is less than 1.0 and the extinction coefficient, $k$, of the material is small. For transparent materials ($k = 0$) the critical angle, $\theta_c$, marks the start of total reflectance; the slope of reflectance versus angle of incidence is discontinuous at $\theta_c$. If $k$ is greater than zero, the discontinuity in the reflectance curve disappears, but if $k$ is small, there is a rapid increase in reflectance near $\theta_c$. Hunter (42) has calculated the reflectance, $R$, as a function of angle of incidence, $\theta$, for values of $n$ from .1 to .9 and values of $k$ from .001 to .2. The calculations, which required evaluation of the Fresnel reflection coefficients (equations 55, 56) were made for parallel and perpendicular polarized incident radiation and also unpolarized incident radiation. Hunter's calculations show that the angle
at which the slope of the reflectance curve is a maximum, $\theta_m$, can be used as an approximate value of the $\theta_c$. When $k$ is greater than about .05, correction factors must be applied to $\theta_m$. However, measurements made with the quartz hemi-cylinder show that for 2000 Å wavelength radiation (the longest wavelength for which values of $n$ were determined) the extinction coefficient of sodium is $0.036 \pm 0.003$. Also, according to equations (22), (23), and (49), $k$ decreases as $\lambda$ decreases. Thus for $\lambda \leq 2000$ Å, the correction factors are not necessary, and the index of refraction is given by

$$n = \sin \theta_m.$$  \hspace{1cm} (66)

Figure 9 shows the reflectance, $R$, of 1580 Å radiation from a sodium film deposited on a quartz substrate as a function of $\theta$. The angle of maximum slope, $\theta_m$, is $44^\circ \pm 0.5^\circ$. Thus, at this wavelength the critical angle gives $n = 0.695 \pm 0.013$. Values of the index of refraction of sodium determined by the critical angle method for three sodium films are given in Table 1. All measurements on film A were made from the vacuum side of the film since this film was deposited on a hemi-cylinder which did not transmit well below 2000 Å. All measurements on film B were made from the quartz side of the film since the thickness of this film exceeded 20,000 Å and, as a result, the vacuum surface was extremely rough. Measurements were made on both sides of film C.

Oxide which forms on the surface of the sodium which is exposed to vacuum reduces the reflectance for angles of incidence greater than the
Figure 9. Tracing of Reflectance of 1580 Å Radiation Reflected from a Sodium Film as a Function of Angle of Incidence
Table 1

Index of Refraction of Sodium as a Function of Wavelength

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</table>
critical angle as can be seen by comparison of the reflectance of sodium shown in Figure 6, with that shown in Figure 9. Similar reductions in reflectance of aluminum films have been observed experimentally by Madden, Canfield and Hass (43). These authors calculated the reflectance of an aluminum surface covered with a uniform layer of aluminum oxide 10 to 30 Å thick using the experimentally-determined values of n and k of both aluminum and aluminum oxide. The reflectance calculated for an oxidized surface was less than the reflectance calculated for an unoxidized surface in agreement with the experimental measurements. However, Hunter (42) found that the angle of maximum slope was not seriously affected by surface oxide.

Hunter's calculations could not be repeated for a sodium surface covered with a layer of oxide because the optical constants of the oxide were not known. However, the critical angles obtained from the reflectance measurements made through the hemi-cylinder on the unoxidized quartz-sodium interface gave values of n in good agreement with the values obtained from the vacuum-sodium interface shown in Table 1. Note that when measurements are made through the hemi-cylinder, equation (66) must be changed to

\[ n = \frac{n_{\text{qz}}}{m} \sin \theta_{\text{qz}} \]

where \( \theta_{\text{qz}} \) is the angle of maximum slope of R vs. \( \theta \) measured through the hemi-cylinder and \( n_{\text{qz}} \) is the index of refraction of the quartz. The values of
n used in equation (67) were obtained from the critical angle of the quartz-vacuum interface shown in the upper portion of Fig. 6. Table 2 gives values of n for λ from 1700 Å to 2000 Å.

**Interference Method**

Interference fringes which appear in Figs. 9 and 10 at angles of incidence less than the critical angle can also be used to determine the index of refraction of the sodium film. Interference is caused by the difference in phase of components of the incident radiation reflected from the front and rear surfaces of the film. These components are labeled I and II in Fig. 11. The optical paths traveled by components I and II differ by $2T(n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)^{\frac{1}{2}}$, where $T$ is the thickness of the film. In addition, changes in the phase of the components reflected from or transmitted through a surface of the film cause an additional optical path difference of $P\lambda$ where $\lambda$ is the wavelength of the radiation. Thus the positions of maxima and minima in the interference pattern are given by

$$N\lambda = P\lambda + 2T(n^2 - \sin^2 \theta)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (68)$$

where $N$, the order of interference, is an integer for interference maxima and a half-integer for interference minima. A systematic method of finding the value of $N$ of each interference fringe is to rearrange equation (68) so that it is in the form of an equation of a straight line in the variables $\sin^2 \theta$ and $(N - P)^2$, i.e.
Table 2. Index of Refraction of a Suprasil-Quartz Hemi-Cylinder As a Function of Wavelength

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\lambda$ (Å)</th>
<th>$n$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1700</td>
<td>1.565</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1750</td>
<td>1.555</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1800</td>
<td>1.545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1850</td>
<td>1.537</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>1.530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>1.523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>1.515</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 10. Tracing of Reflectance of 836 Å Radiation Reflected from a Sodium Film as a Function of Angle of Incidence
Figure 11. Cross Section of a Sodium Film on a Quartz Substrate
\[ \sin^2 \theta = n^2 - \left(\frac{\lambda}{2T}\right)^2 (N - P)^2. \] 

(69)

The parameter \( P \) represents a correction which is equated to zero until the proper values of \( N \) have been found.

Different values of \( N \) are assigned to the observed maxima and minima with the restriction that the orders of an adjacent maximum and minimum differ by \( \frac{1}{2} \). Then a straight line is fit by the method of least squares to the values of \( \sin^2 \theta \) and \( N^2 \) where \( \theta \) is the observed angle of incidence of an interference maximum or minimum, and \( N \) is the order of interference which has been assigned to that maximum or minimum. Three such lines are shown in Fig. 12. The values of \( \sin^2 \theta \) used in this figure are those of the interference pattern of 836 Å radiation shown in Fig. 10. The interference maximum located at 65° in Fig. 10 was assigned an order of 2 in line I of Fig. 12, an order of 3 in line II, and an order of 4 in line III. A function \( E \), equal to the sum of the squares of the differences between the experimental values of \( \sin^2 \theta \) and the values of \( \sin^2 \theta \) given by the least-square line, was computed for each line. The correct orders of interference are those which give the smallest value of \( E \). In Fig. 12, line II has the smallest values of \( E \). Thus the order of the maximum observed for \( \theta \) of 65° is 3, the order of the minimum at about 63° is 3.5, and so on.

The quantity \( P \) is equal to \( \frac{1}{2\pi} \) times the net phase difference due to reflections and transmissions of components I and II of Fig. 11 in radians.
Figure 12. $\sin^2 \theta$ Versus $N^2$ for three sets of order numbers
That is,

\[ 2\pi P_i = \left[ \phi_i^R(vac, Na) - \left( \phi_i^+ (vac, Na) + \phi_i^R(Na, qz) + \phi_i^+(Na, vac) \right) \right] \quad (70) \]

where \( \phi_i^R(vac, Na) \) is the argument of the complex Fresnel reflection coefficient of a vacuum-sodium interface, \( \phi_i^+ (vac, Na) \) is the argument of the transmission coefficient for that interface, and so on. The subscript \( i \) stands for the polarization of the radiation. If both of the media forming an interface are transparent, \( \phi_i^R \) will be either 0 or \( \pi \) radians, while \( \phi_i^+ \) is always 0. However, if the extinction coefficient of one or both of the media forming an interface is nonzero, the phase changes caused by reflection and transmission will depend on the angle of incidence, the optical constants (\( n \) and \( k \)) of both media, and the state of polarization of the incident radiation.

The expressions for \( \phi_i^R, \phi_i^+, \phi_i^R, \) and \( \phi_i^+ \) for any interface can be determined in a straightforward manner from equations (55) through (58). However, the algebra involved is cumbersome and it was more informative to investigate the behavior of these functions for typical values of the optical constants of an absorbing layer on an absorbing substrate. The calculation of these functions was relatively straightforward since a computer which could perform algebraic operations with complex numbers was available.*

*The calculations were performed on the Control Data Corporation 1604-A digital computer at ORNL.
In all the calculations the medium from which the radiation was incident was vacuum. The index of refraction and extinction coefficient of the layer were designated $n_1$ and $k_1$, respectively, while the region behind the layer was characterized by $n_2$ and $k_2$.

The first case considered is a self-supporting layer (i.e., $n_2 = 1.0$, $k_2 = 0$) with $n_1 = 1.5$ and $k_1 = 0, .1, .5,$ and $1.0$. The phase shift of component $I$, reflected from the front surface of the layer, is shown as a function of $\theta$ in Fig. 13. The phase jump is expressed in degrees instead of radians and the subscripts "s" and "p" have been replaced by appropriate symbols. For a transparent layer ($k_1 = 0$) and radiation polarized with its electric vector in a plane perpendicular to the plane of incidence, $\phi$ is -180° for all angles of incidence, while for radiation polarized with its electric vector parallel to the plane of incidence, it is -180° below Brewster's angle and 0° above Brewster's angle. For absorbing films ($k_1 > 0$) $\phi$ takes on values between 0° and -180°, and is a function of $k_1$ and $\theta$ as well as the polarization. The phase shifts on reflection from the rear surface of the layer expressed as a function of the exterior angle of incidence $\theta$ (not the interior angle, $\theta'$) is shown in Fig. 14. The shape of this set of curves is exactly the same as those shown in Fig. 13, but all values are displaced by 180°. Note that Brewster's angle on the rear surface occurs at the same angle as Brewster's angle on the front surface when $\theta$ (rather than $\theta'$) is used in both cases. This is an elementary consequence of Snell's law.
Figure 13. Phase Shifts on Reflection from the Front Surface of a Layer as a Function of Angle-of-Incidence, Extinction Coefficient, and Polarization of the Incident Radiation.
Figure 14. Phase Shifts on Reflection from the Rear Surface of a Self-Supporting Layer as a Function of Angle-of-Incidence, Extinction Coefficient, and Polarization of the Incident Radiation
Figure 15 shows the net phase shift for reflection from a free-standing layer. As mentioned earlier, the difference in phase between I and II due to reflection at the front and rear of the layer, respectively, is exactly 180°. The difference between 180° and the values shown in Fig. 15 is due to phase shifts on transmission (i.e., when II enters and leaves the layer). The important observation to be made about Fig. 15 is that for \( k_1 < 0.1 \), the net phase change is very near 180° regardless of the angle of incidence or the polarization. However, if interference patterns are to be observed, the layer must be on the order of a wavelength thick, and thus, if there is to be sufficient intensity to produce interference, \( k \) must be less than 0.1.

Thus for a self-supporting layer and the range of \( k \) for which interference is possible, \( P \) is very nearly equal to -0.5, its value for a transparent material. This observation, while useful for materials like aluminum which can be made into free-standing films, is not applicable to sodium, since sodium films must be supported on substrates.

The next case to be considered is an absorbing film \((n_1 = 1.5, k_1 = 0, 0.05, 0.1)\) on a transparent substrate \((n_2 = 2.0, k_2 = 0)\). The extinction coefficient of the layer has been restricted to values small enough to permit interference. The net phase shifts for this system are shown in Fig. 16. The significant feature of this figure is the difference in the phase shift for parallel and perpendicularly polarized radiation for angles greater than Brewster's angle on the front surface. For the optical constants used to
Figure 15. Net Phase Shift on Reflection from a Self-Supporting Layer as a Function of Angle-of-Incidence, Extinction Coefficient, and Polarization of the Incident Radiation

\( n_1 = 1.5 \)
\( k_1 = 0, .1, .5, 1.0 \)
\( n_2 = 1.0 \)
\( k_2 = 0 \)
Figure 16. Net Phase Shifts on Reflection from a Layer Supported on a Transparent Substrate as a Function of Angle-of-Incidence, Extinction Coefficient of the Layer, and Polarization of the Incident Radiation
generate Fig. 16, there is no exterior angle $\theta$ which causes component II to be reflected from the rear surface at the Brewster's angle of that surface. For other sets of optical constants there could be Brewster's angles at both surfaces in which case there would be changes of approximately $180^\circ$ in the net phase shift of parallel polarized radiation for both of these angles. Thus the use of parallel polarized radiation causes considerable complication in the interpretation of interference patterns. However, if the incident radiation is unpolarized or if the perpendicular component is more intense than the parallel component, the interference pattern may be analyzed by assuming that the radiation is polarized perpendicular to the plane of incidence. This assumption is based on the fact that the reflectance of parallel polarized radiation from a surface is much less than the reflectance of perpendicularly polarized radiation for angles of incidence near the Brewster's angle of the surface. Thus for the system shown in Fig. 16 little parallel-polarized radiation would be reflected from the front surface for $\theta$ near $56^\circ$, the Brewster's angle of that surface, while as $\theta$ approaches $90^\circ$, $\theta'$ will move nearer the Brewster's angle of the rear surface, and reflectance of parallel-polarized radiation from that surface would decrease. Near normal incidence, the reflectance of parallel-polarized radiation is nearly as great as the reflectance of perpendicularly-polarized radiation. However, the net phase change is nearly the same for both components in this region.
Figures 17 and 18 show the net phase change vs $\theta$ for 584 Å and 736 Å radiation reflected from a sodium film deposited on a glass substrate. The optical constants of aluminum and glass used in the calculation were determined by Madden et al. (43) by the two-angle method. The reflectance of unoxidized aluminum was found by measuring reflectance as a function of time after evaporation and extrapolating to zero time. Interference patterns similar to the ones shown in Figs. 9 and 10 have been observed for aluminum films at 584 Å and 736 Å. The index of refraction of aluminum which was determined from these patterns by assuming that the net phase shift was zero was .72 at 584 Å at .47 and 736 Å (42,44). However, Figs. 17 and 18 show that the net phase change is about $-150^\circ$ for 736 Å and between $-120^\circ$ and $-140^\circ$ for 584 Å. When the values of the phase shifts shown in Figs. 17 and 18 are used with the same interference data the index of refraction is found to be .708 at 584 Å and .454 at 736 Å in good agreement with the values of .71 and .455 determined by Madden et al. (43) at these wavelengths.

It was pointed out above that if the radiation incident on a film is unpolarized or predominantly perpendicularly polarized, only the perpendicularly polarized component need be considered in analyzing interference patterns. In the work on aluminum (43,44) the incident radiation was assumed unpolarized since normal incidence monochromators were used. However, in the present work the incident radiation is polarized since a Seya-Namioka
Figure 17. Net Phase Shift of 584 Å Radiation Reflected from an Aluminum Film Deposited on a Glass Substrate as a Function of Angle of Incidence

\[ n_{A_1} = 0.71 \]
\[ k_{A_1} = 0.018 \]
\[ n_s = 0.83 \]
\[ k_s = 0.45 \]
Figure 18. Net Phase Shift of 736 Å Radiation Reflected from an Aluminum Film Deposited on a Glass Substrate as a Function of Angle of Incidence.

\[ \phi \]

\[ \Theta \]

- \[ n_{Al} = .455 \]
- \[ k_{Al} = .043 \]
- \[ n_s = 1.12 \]
- \[ k_s = .7 \]
monochromator was used. Figure 19 shows the ratio of the intensity of parallel-polarized radiation to perpendicularly-polarized radiation as a function of wavelength reported by Hamm et al. (45) for the monochromator and grating used in this work. For all wavelengths less than 2000 Å, the ratio is less than 1. Thus, in this work both the monochromator and the sodium film acted as filters which discriminated in favor of perpendicularly-polarized radiation.

The value of $P$ for each order of interference was computed from measured values of the optical constants of quartz and approximate values of the optical constants of sodium. The optical constants of the quartz substrate were determined by the two-angle method. An approximate value of the index of refraction of sodium was obtained from the intersection of the ordinate with the line which determined the orders of interference (e.g., Line II of Fig. 12). The method of least squares was used to fit a straight line of the form of equation (69) to the points whose ordinates are $\sin^2 \theta$ and whose abscissas are the corresponding values of $(N - P)^2$. The intersection of this line with the ordinate gave a new value of the index of refraction of sodium. This value of $n$ was used to calculate $P$, and the process was repeated until the value of $n$ used to compute $P$ agreed with the value of $n$ computed from these $P$'s. The iteration converged rapidly. The calculations were performed on the Oak Ridge CDC 1604-A digital computer.

The final value of $n$ was insensitive to the value of $k$ of sodium and
Figure 19. Polarization of Grating Versus Wavelength
the values of n and k of quartz used in the calculation of P. Figure 20 shows 
P(θ) for 836 Å. The calculations were made for n(Na) = .935, n(qz) = 1.24, 
k(qz) = .68 and two values of k(Na), .005 and .01. Figure 20 shows that 
there is very little difference in the value of P calculated for the two values 
of k(Na). Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 show the effect on the calculated value of 
the index of refraction of sodium at 836 Å caused by varying one of the four 
parameters, n(Na), k(Na), n(qz), and k(qz), used in the calculation of P. 
However, as noted above, in determining n(Na) an iteration was performed 
until the two values of n(Na) agree. The values of the indices of refraction 
of two sodium films obtained by the interference method are shown in Table 
1. The values of n(Na) for the two films agree with each other and with the 
values obtained by the critical-angle method. The appendix contains a 
representative sample of the reflectance measurements on which the 
results given in Table 1 are based.

The formulation of oxide on the surface of the sodium does not 
appear to affect the value of the index of refraction determined by the 
interference method. Figure 21 shows the reflectance of 1216 Å radiation 
from a sodium film 20 minutes, 3 hours, and 24 hours after the film was 
formed. The formation of oxide on the vacuum-sodium interface reduced 
the reflectance of the film between the 20 minute and 3 hour measurements. 
However, little change in reflectance is observed between the 3 hour and 
24 hour measurements. This indicates that the oxide layer reached a terminal
Figure 20. Phase Shifts of 836 Å Radiation Reflected from a Sodium Film Deposited on a Quartz Substrate as a Function of Angle of Incidence
Table 3
Sensitivity of the Calculated Value of the Index of Refraction of Sodium to Variations in the Value of the Index of Refraction of Sodium Used in the Computation of the Phase Shifts ($\lambda = 836 \, \text{Å}$)

$k(\text{Na}) = 0.005$, $n(\text{Qz}) = 1.24$, $k(\text{Qz}) = 0.68$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$n(\text{Na})$ (Input)</th>
<th>$n(\text{Na})$ (Output)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.87</td>
<td>0.9586</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>0.9449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.935</td>
<td>0.9345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.97</td>
<td>0.9358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>0.9408</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4
Sensitivity of the Calculated Value of the Index of Refraction of Sodium to Variations in the Value of the Extinction Coefficient of Sodium Used in the Computation of Phase Shifts ($\lambda = 836 \, \text{Å}$)

$n(\text{Na}) = 0.935$, $n(\text{Qz}) = 1.24$, $k(\text{Qz}) = 0.68$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$k(\text{Na})$</th>
<th>$n(\text{Na})$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.001</td>
<td>0.9341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.9345</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.9350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.015</td>
<td>0.9354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.9358</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5. Sensitivity of the Calculated Value of the Index of Refraction of Sodium to Variations in the Value of the Index of Refraction of the Substrate Used in the Computation of Phase Shifts ($\lambda = 836$ Å)

\[
n(\text{Na}) = 0.935, \quad k(\text{Na}) = 0.01, \quad k(Qz) = 0.68
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$n(Qz)$</th>
<th>$n(\text{Na})$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.9350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.24</td>
<td>0.9350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.9349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6. Sensitivity of the Calculated Value of the Index of Refraction of Sodium to Variations in the Value of the Extinction Coefficient of the Substrate Used in the Computation of Phase Shifts ($\lambda = 836$ Å)

\[
n(\text{Na}) = 0.935, \quad k(\text{Na}) = 0.01, \quad n(Qz) = 1.24
\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$k(Qz)$</th>
<th>$n(\text{Na})$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.9350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.9350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>0.9349</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Figure 21. Reflectance of a Sodium Film Versus Angle-of-Incidence for 1216 Å Radiation 20 minutes, 3 hours, and 24 hours after Evaporation
thickness. Figure 21 also shows that the positions of the interference fringes are not affected by the growth of the oxide layer. Thus the terminal thickness of the oxide must be small in comparison with the thickness of the sodium film, which exceeded 4000 Å. That is, the oxide layer does not seriously affect the term in equation (68) which depends on \( T \), the thickness of the film. The effect of the oxide layer on the phase changes for reflections from or transmission through the vacuum-sodium interface cannot be computed since the optical constants of the oxide are not known. However, a sodium film deposited on a quartz hemi-cylinder produced interference patterns when radiation of wavelength greater than 1700 Å was incident on the film from the quartz side as well as from the vacuum side. If the oxide on the vacuum-sodium surface affected the calculated values of \( n \), a different value of \( n \) would be expected from the interference pattern of radiation incident from the quartz side of the film since the effect of the oxide would be different for this case. However, the index of refraction determined from radiation incident from the quartz side of the film agreed within experimental accuracy with the value determined from measurements made when the radiation was incident from the vacuum side of the film. Thus the values of the index of refraction given by the interference method appear to be unaffected by the oxide layer.

**The Extinction Coefficient**

The extinction coefficient of sodium was found by comparing the
reflectance of unoxidized sodium surfaces with theoretical reflectances computed for different values of \( n \) and \( k \). The reflectance of 1849 Å radiation from a sodium film deposited on the quartz hemi-cylinder was shown in Fig. 6. The measured reflectance was normalized by comparison with the reflectance of the quartz-vacuum interface and background corrections were made as described in chapter IV. The normalized reflectances determined from Fig. 6 for 10 values of \( \theta \) are shown as points in Fig. 22. The diamond shown in Fig. 22 is the reflectance which was used to determine the background. The lines shown in Fig. 22 are the reflectances for polarized radiation (see Fig. 19) reflected from a surface with a relative index of refraction of .35 and relative extinction coefficients of 0, .01, .02, and .03. The experimental values of reflectance are compared with reflectances computed for \( n \) equal to .35 since the critical angle at this wavelength is 20.5°. The figure shows that the experimental points come close to fitting the theoretical curve for which \( k = .02 \).

The extinction coefficient of sodium is found by multiplying the relative value obtained from measurements made on the quartz-sodium interface by the index of refraction of quartz (10). The uncertainty in the relative value is taken to be ± .003, because of the uncertainty in the measured reflectances indicated by the error bars in Fig. 22. Thus for 1849 Å radiation, the extinction coefficient of sodium is .031 ± .005. Values of \( k \) for 1849 Å and other wavelengths and the corresponding values of \( \epsilon \) are given in Table 7.
Figure 22. Theoretical Reflectance from a Semi-Infinite Layer of Index-of-Refraction .35 and Experimentally Determined Reflectance of 1849 Å Radiation from a Quartz-Sodium Interface. The reflectance used to calculate background is indicated as a diamond.
Table 7. Extinction Coefficient, k, and Imaginary Part of the Dielectric Constant, $\epsilon_2$, of Sodium

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$\lambda$ (Å)</th>
<th>k</th>
<th>$\epsilon_2$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0.036 ± 0.003</td>
<td>0.029 ± 0.003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>0.034 ± 0.005</td>
<td>0.031 ± 0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1849</td>
<td>0.031 ± 0.005</td>
<td>0.033 ± 0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1743</td>
<td>0.023 ± 0.008</td>
<td>0.028 ± 0.01</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER VI

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

According to equation (44) \[ \epsilon_1 = n^2 - k^2. \] However, Table 7 shows that \( k \) is less than .04 at 2000 Å and according to equations (22, 23, and 49), \( k \) decreases at shorter wavelengths. Table 1 shows that \( n \) is .404 at 2000 Å and increases at shorter wavelengths. Thus the value of \( k^2 \) is never greater than 1% of the value of \( n^2 \) for \( \lambda \) less than 2000 Å. Thus it is a good approximation to take \( \epsilon_1 \) equal to \( n^2 \) in this wavelength region. The last column in Table 1 gives the value of \( \epsilon_1 \) obtained by squaring the value of \( n \) given in the adjacent column.

The values of \( \epsilon_1 \) obtained in the present work may be conveniently compared with theory and with the near-ultraviolet, visible, and infrared data of Ives and Briggs (10) and Mayer and Hietel (17, 20) by plotting

\[ \ln(1 + 4\pi \alpha_1 - \epsilon_1) \text{ and } \ln(1 + 4\pi \alpha_1 - \epsilon_1) \text{ versus } \ln h \omega, \]

as shown in Fig. 23. The triangles in Fig. 23 were obtained from Mayer and Hietel's values for \( \epsilon_1 \), the crosses from Ives and Briggs' values, and the circles from Table 1. The datum for 420 Å cannot be plotted in Fig. 23 since \( \epsilon_1 \) is greater than \( 1 + 4\pi \alpha_1 \) at this wavelength. All of the points except the three circles near 30 eV lie close to a straight line of slope -2 in agreement with Eqs. (33) and (37) which can be rewritten as
Figure 23. Logarithm of $1 + 4\pi \alpha - \epsilon_i$ Versus Logarithm of Photon Energy. Mayer and Hietel, ▲; Ives and Briggs, X; present work, ●.
\[ \ln(1 + 4\pi \alpha_T - \epsilon_1) = 2 \ln(\hbar \omega_a) - 2 \ln(\hbar \omega) \] 
(71)

and

\[ \ln(1 + 4\pi \alpha - \epsilon_1) = 2 \ln(\hbar \omega_b) - 2 \ln(\hbar \omega) . \] 
(72)

As mentioned in Chapter II, equation (71) is applicable from 0.02 eV to 1.2 eV and equation (72) is applicable from 2.2 eV to just below 30 eV. In the anomalous region from 1.2 to 2.2 eV, there is a slight break in the line.

A similar comparison of the experimental values of \( \epsilon_2 \) can be made by plotting \( \ln \epsilon_2 \) versus \( \ln \hbar \omega \) as shown in Fig. 24. Again, triangles represent the data of Mayer and Hietel, crosses show the values determined by Ives and Briggs, and circles are the values given in Table 7. Mayer and Hietel's values of \( \epsilon_2 \) for \( \hbar \omega < 1.2 \) eV fit a straight line with a slope of minus three. This is just the behavior predicted by equation (23) if \( \gamma \) (and thus the relaxation time, \( \tau = 1/2\pi \gamma \)) is independent of photon energy. The value of \( \tau \) determined from the data of Mayer and Hietel is \( 5.0 \times 10^{-14} \) sec., in reasonable agreement with the value of \( 3.3 \times 10^{-14} \) sec. estimated from the static conductivity of sodium (34).

Between 1.2 eV and 2.2 eV there is a peak in \( \epsilon_2 \) which cannot be explained by the one-electron theory since the threshold for direct interband transitions is 2.2 eV.

Several workers (22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28) have suggested possible causes for this anomalous peak, but at the present time the question is unresolved.
Figure 24. Logarithm of $\epsilon_2$ Versus Logarithm of Photon Energy. Mayer and Hietel, $\Delta$; Ives and Briggs, $X$; present work, $\bullet$. 
For photon energies greater than the threshold for direct-interband transitions at 2.2 eV there is a second peak in $\epsilon_2$. This peak is present in the data of both Mayer and Hietel and Ives and Briggs. After the initial rise associated with the direct interband transitions, $\epsilon_2$ decreases again with a slope of approximately minus three.

There appears to be a third peak in $\epsilon_2$ between 6 eV and 7 eV. This peak may be due to transitions from the conduction band to the second unoccupied band. Band calculations (14, 16) indicate that the threshold transitions are from states on a $\Lambda$ symmetry axis. The threshold energy is about 5.3 eV.

The values of $\omega$, $\omega_b$, and $\omega_p$ may be found from Fig. 23, but better accuracy is obtained by a somewhat different procedure. Equations (33) and (37) can be expressed in terms of $\lambda$ instead of $\omega$, giving

$$\epsilon_1 = 1 + 4\pi m_\alpha a T - \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda_a^2},$$

where

$$\lambda_a^2 = \frac{\pi c^2}{\kappa e^2} m_a,$$  (74)

and

$$\epsilon_1 = 1 + 4\pi m_\alpha a - \frac{\lambda^2}{\lambda_b^2},$$

where

$$\lambda_b^2 = \frac{\pi c^2}{\kappa e^2} m_{\text{opt}}.$$  (76)

Since sodium is mono-valent, $\kappa$ is equal to $\kappa_0$. 
The values of $\varepsilon_1$ determined in the present experiment and the two values determined by Wood (5) are plotted versus $\lambda^2$ in Fig. 25. All of the points determined in the present work lie close to a straight line except for the four points which are near the threshold for the excitation of core electrons. This threshold is indicated by an arrow in Fig. 25. The solid line shown in the figure was fitted to the experimental points by the method of least squares. The four points near the excitation threshold were not used in the determination of this line.

The parameters of equation (75) can be determined from the line in Fig. 25. The value of $1 + 4\pi \alpha_1$ is given by the extrapolation of the line through the experimental points to $\lambda = 0$. This extrapolation gives $1.03 \pm 0.02$ for $1 + 4\pi \alpha_1$ or $0.03 \pm 0.02$ for $4\pi \alpha_1$. The value of $\lambda_b$ is given by the slope of the line through the data points, and $m_{\text{opt}}$ is computed from equation (76). The result, expressed as the ratio of $m_{\text{opt}}$ to $m$, the rest mass of a free electron, is $1.06 \pm 0.05$. The plasma wavelength, $\lambda_p$, is determined by the extrapolation of the line through the data points to $\varepsilon_1 = 0$. The extrapolation shown in Fig. 25 gives $\lambda_1 = 2185 \pm 25 \, \text{Å}$.

Table 8 summarizes the dielectric parameters of sodium obtained in this and other experiments. The quantities $\lambda_a$, $\lambda_b$, and $\lambda_p$ have been converted to equivalent photon energies. The optical measurements of Hodgson (13), Mayer and Hietel (17, 20), and Ives and Briggs (10) were made for photon energies less than the plasma energy, $\hbar \omega_p$. The values they
Figure 25. Real Part of the Dielectric Constant of Sodium Versus $\lambda^2$ for Wavelengths Between 420 and 2000 Å. Wood, X; present work, •.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$4\pi\alpha_1$</th>
<th>$4\pi\alpha_o$</th>
<th>$m_a/m$</th>
<th>$\hbar\omega$ (eV)</th>
<th>$m_{opt}/m$</th>
<th>$\hbar\omega$ (eV)</th>
<th>$\hbar\omega$ (eV)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Cohen's Analysis of</td>
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<td>1.01 ± .02</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.08 ± .01</td>
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<td>5.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mayer and Hietel (17, 20)</td>
<td>.15 ± .1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1.27 ± .02</td>
<td>5.27</td>
<td>1.17 ± .03</td>
<td>5.49</td>
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<tr>
<td>Present Work</td>
<td>.03 ± .02</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.06 ± .05</td>
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<td>5.77</td>
<td>5.68 ± .06</td>
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<td>Tessmann (51)</td>
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<td>.13</td>
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<td>Swan (47)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sueoka (49)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5.60 ± .05</td>
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Mayer and Hietel determined $\hbar \omega_p$ from the peak of the energy loss function, $(2nk)/(n^2 + k^2)^2$. They determined $n$ and $k$ in the region near $\hbar \omega_p$ by extrapolations using their data, 2 points determined by Ives and Briggs (10), and two points determined from the reflectance measurements of Wood (5). The plasma energy may be computed directly from the data of Mayer and Hietel by requiring $\epsilon_1(\hbar \omega) = 0$. Then $(\hbar \omega_p)^2 = (\hbar \omega_b)^2/(1 + 4\pi \kappa \alpha_1)$. Substituting the values of $\hbar \omega_b$ and $4\pi \kappa \alpha_1$ given above gives $\hbar \omega_p = 5.1 \pm .3$ eV. 

The values of $\hbar \omega_p$ reported by Robins and Best, and Swan have been reduced 3 per cent to account for dispersion effects. This correction has been discussed by Powell (50).
obtained from $\epsilon_1(\lambda)$ by analyses similar to the one described above are given in Table 8. The data of Mayer and Hietel include photon energies both less than and greater than the threshold for interband transitions. Thus their results give values of the parameters of both equations (73) and (75). Mayer and Hietel found $\hbar \omega_p$ from the peak of the energy loss function, $(2nk)/(n^2+k^2)^2$. The values of $n$ and $k$ used to calculate the energy loss function near the plasma wavelength were obtained by extrapolations fitted to their data, two points determined by Ives and Briggs, and two points determined from the reflectance measurements made by Wood.

The values of $\alpha_1$ and $m_\text{opt}$ reported by Mayer and Hietel are significantly larger than the values found in the present experiment. Mayer and Hietel found $\alpha_1$ equal to $0.15 \pm 0.1$ and $m_\text{opt}/m$ equal to $1.17 \pm 0.03$, while we found $0.03 \pm 0.02$ and $1.06 \pm 0.05$, respectively. However, these differences may be due to the approximation used to derive equation (37). As $\omega$ increases, the summation in the third term of equation (35) includes fewer states so the contribution of this term decreases. However, the summation in the fifth term of equation (35) includes more states and thus the contribution of this term increases in magnitude. Thus, as $\omega$ increases, $\alpha_1$ decreases and $\omega_p$ increases, causing $m_\text{opt}$ to decrease in qualitative agreement with the experimental results.

Confusion exists in the comparison of the plasma energy obtained from electron-energy-loss experiments with the plasma energies obtained
from optical data. The difficulty is that $\hbar \omega_a$, $\hbar \omega_b$, and $\hbar \omega_p$ are all often referred to as the plasma energy. However, $\hbar \omega_a$ and $\hbar \omega_b$ cannot be compared with the electron-energy-loss results since they do not include the effect of core and valence-electron polarizability. The polarizabilities increase $\epsilon_1$ and thus decrease the plasma energy in a real metal. The plasma energy is determined by the condition $\epsilon^*(\omega) = 0$ (33). If damping effects are small, the condition for a plasma oscillation becomes $\epsilon_1 = 0$ (33). Thus, $\hbar \omega_p$ is the energy to be compared with the electron-energy-loss data. The values of $\hbar \omega_p$ obtained in the present work agree with the electron-energy-loss experiments of Robins and Best (46), Swan (47), Kurtz (48), and Sueoka (49) within the limits of experimental accuracy. The values of $\hbar \omega_p$ given by Robins and Best and Swan have been decreased 3 per cent to allow for dispersion of the energy loss with scattering angle. This correction has been discussed by Powell (50).

The most serious disagreement found in Table 8 is in the value of the polarizability of the ion core. According to Cohen (12), $\alpha_1$ should be greater than $\alpha_o$. However, the value of $\alpha_1$ obtained in the present work is significantly less than the value of $\alpha_o$ given by Tessman et al. (51, 12) who measured the polarizability of sodium ions in sodium halide crystals. Our results are in somewhat better agreement with the earlier work of Born and Heisenberg (52), Fajans and Joos (53), and Pauling (54) who found $4\pi \alpha_o$ to be 0.07, 0.06, and 0.06, respectively.
CHAPTER VII

CONCLUSIONS

Accurate values of the index of refraction of a metal for photon energies greater than the metal's plasma-energy can be obtained by both the interference and the critical-angle methods even if the surface of the metal is covered by a thin layer of oxide. Proper analysis of interference data must take into account phase shifts on reflection from or transmission through the surfaces of the metal film. Calculations show that for a self-supporting film with extinction coefficient less than 0.01, the phase shifts are, to a good approximation, the same as the phase shifts for a dielectric layer. However, for supported films, polarization effects and the index of refraction and extinction coefficient of the substrate must be considered.

The reflectance of unoxidized metallic surfaces can be measured by use of a hemi-cylinder in the wavelength region in which the hemi-cylinder is transparent. The extinction coefficient of the metal can be determined from the reflectance measurements made on the unoxidized surface.

The measured values of the index of refraction and extinction coefficient can be used to compute the real and imaginary parts of the dielectric constant. The real part of the dielectric constant of sodium agrees with the expressions derived by Cohen (12) from the independent-
particle quantum-mechanical model of metallic structure. From the values
of $\epsilon_1$ measured for photon energies greater than the plasma energy of sodium,
the optical-effective mass was found to be $1.06 \pm 0.05$ times the rest mass
of a free electron and $4\pi\alpha_1$ was found to be $0.03 \pm 0.02$. The larger values of
$m_{\text{opt}}$ and $4\pi\alpha_1$ reported by Mayer and Hietel (17, 20) for photon energies
less than the plasma energy were shown qualitatively to be a consequence of
the approximations used by Cohen (12). The value of $4\pi\alpha_1$ found in the present
work showed that the value of $0.13$ which had been reported for $4\pi\alpha_0$ by
Tessman (51) was too large. Better agreement was noted between the present
results and the values of $0.07$, $0.06$, and $0.06$ reported by Born and Heisenberg
(52), Fajans and Joos (53), and Pauling (54), respectively.

The wavelength at which $\epsilon_1 = 0$, found by extrapolation of the values
of $\epsilon_1$ measured in the present work, is $2185 \pm 25$ Å. Thus, the plasma
energy of sodium is $5.68 \pm 0.06$ eV. This value of the plasma energy agrees
within the limits of experimental accuracy with the values of $5.69$ eV $\pm$
$0.08$ eV, $5.67$ eV $\pm 0.05$ eV, $5.71$ eV $\pm 0.1$ eV and $5.60$ eV $\pm 0.05$ eV reported by
Robins and Best (46), Swan (47), Kunz (48) and Sueoka (49) respectively.
CHAPTER VIII

RECOMMENDATIONS

The optical constants of potassium, rubidium, and cesium have been measured by Ives and Briggs (10) and Mayer and his co-workers (17, 18, 19, 21) in a portion of the region below their plasma wavelengths (which are approximately 3000 Å, 4000 Å, and 4300 Å, respectively). These measurements indicate that the critical angle method can be used to determine the index of refraction of potassium, rubidium and cesium in this wavelength region even though the effects of interband transitions are more pronounced in these metals than in sodium. Interference measurements may also be possible particularly in the case of potassium since Wood (4) has observed interference in the reflectance from potassium films as a function of wavelength and film thickness. It should also be possible to determine the extinction coefficients of K, Rb, and Cs between 1700 Å and the plasma wavelength of each metal from reflectance measurements made with a quartz hemi-cylinder. Determination of the optical constants of K, Rb, and Cs in the wavelength region from 2537 Å (Ives and Briggs (10) shortest wavelength) to the plasma wavelength of each metal would permit comparison of the method used in the present work with the polarimetric methods used by Mayer and Ives and Briggs. In addition, measurement of the optical constants of potassium,
rubidium and cesium for wavelengths less than 2537 Å would provide a further test of Cohen's theory (12) for these metals.

Less is known about the optical properties of lithium than of the other alkali metals. The plasma wavelength of lithium has been reported to be 2050 Å (4) and also 1550 Å (5). Infrared data (55) indicate stronger interband effects in lithium than in the other alkali metals so the critical-angle method may not be applicable for Li.

The extinction coefficients of sodium, potassium, rubidium, and cesium may be measured for wavelengths less than 1700 Å by using hemicylinders made of materials which transmit further into the vacuum-ultraviolet.
APPENDIX

Tracings of reflectance, $R$, as a function of angle-of-incidence, $\theta$, for a representative selection of wavelengths are shown below. The reflectance scale is calibrated in arbitrary units.
\[ \lambda = 836 \ \text{\AA} \]

\[ \lambda = 685 \ \text{\AA} \]

\[ \lambda = 924 \ \text{\AA} \]

\[ \lambda = 765 \ \text{\AA} \]
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Amsterdam, 1966).


VITA

John Clark Sutherland was born in New York City. He received his elementary education in the public schools of New York City, Knoxville, Tennessee, and El Paso, Texas. He graduated from Stuyvesant High School in New York City in 1958. In 1962 he was awarded by the Georgia Institute of Technology the degree of Bachelor of Science in Physics (with highest honors). He received the Master of Science in Physics in 1964 also from the Georgia Institute of Technology.