GAS PHASE ELECTRONIC PHOTODISSOCIATION SPECTRA OF COPPER NITRATE CLUSTER IONS

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We report UV photodissociation action spectra of copper nitrate cluster anions $Cu(NO_3)_3^-$. The parent ion decays upon electronic excitation by loss of neutral NO_3 fragment. THe gas phase spectrum is similar to but slightly more structured than UV absorption spectra of solutions of the parent salt $Cu(NO_3)_2$. We discuss our experimental results in the framework of quantum chemical calculations.