## OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS OF ION-PAIR TRANSITIONS OF $\mathrm{I}_2$ COOLED IN A SUPERSONIC FREE-JET EXPANSION

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The A' state of I<sub>2</sub> was observed for the first time in a free-jet expansion, where it was prepared by ArF laser excitation of I<sub>2</sub>/Ar mixtures close to the nozzle <sup>*a*</sup>. Twenty-seven bands in the v'' = 0 progression of the D' - A' transition were studied by laser excitation spectroscopy, leading to the following improved constants (cm<sup>-1</sup>) for the A' and D' states:

 $\begin{array}{ll} B_0^{\prime\prime}=0.028054, \quad B_e^\prime=0.020526, \quad \alpha_e^\prime=5.3\times 10^{-5}, \\ \omega_e^\prime=103.953, \quad \omega_e x_e^\prime=0.2097, \quad \omega_e y_e^\prime=2.687\times 10^{-4}. \end{array}$ 

Many bands of the  $\beta$ -A transition have also been observed. These originate from A, v'' = 0, and terminate on levels with  $25 \le v' \le 68$  of the  $\beta$  state. Full analyses of both band systems will be presented.

**Time required:** 15 min Session in which paper is recomended for presentation: 8

**Comment:** Please schedule this paper immediately after the one by the same authors entitled "Bromine and Iodine Spectra ...

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup>J. Tellinghuisen, S. Fei, X. Zheng, and M. C. Heaven, Chem. Phys. Lett. 176, 373 (1991).