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OBSERVATION AND ANALYSIS OF ION-PAIR TRANSITIONS OF I₂ COOLED IN A SUPERSONIC FREE-JET EXPANSION

J. TELLINGHUISEN, Department of Chemistry, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN 37235; X. ZHENG, S. FEI, AND M.C. HEAVEN Department of Chemistry, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322.

The A' state of I₂ was observed for the first time in a free-jet expansion, where it was prepared by ArF laser excitation of I₂/Ar mixtures close to the nozzle^a. 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⁻¹) for the A' and D' states:

$$B_0'' = 0.028054, B_e'' = 0.020526, \alpha_e'' = 5.3 \times 10^{-5}, \\ \omega_c'' = 103.953, \omega_{cx}'' = 0.2097, \omega_{cy}'' = 2.687 \times 10^{-4}.$$

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

^aJ. Tellinghuisen, S. Fei, X. Zheng, and M.C. Heaven, Chem. Phys. Lett. **176**, 373 (1991).

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