

A new setup to investigate temperature dependence on VUV-photoabsorption cross sections of vibrationally-excited molecules

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We have developed a new setup to measure temperature dependence on vacuum ultraviolet absolute photoabsorption cross sections for vibrationally-excited triatomic molecules. The setup consists of a stainless steel absorption-cell wrapped by sheath wires of 1.2φ in diameter and 2 m length. For the first set of measurement on CO₂ in photon energy range of 10.6 – 11.8 eV, we found that the cross sections at room temperature are in very good agreement with previous measurements.

1 Introduction

The vibrational wave function of the vibrationally-excited molecule has a larger spatial extent than that of the vibrational-ground state. Thus, spectroscopic studies of vibrationally-excited molecules can also probe different regions of potential energy surfaces of electronically excited states. Molecules in which non-totally symmetric vibrations are excited may exhibit new properties due to symmetry breaking. Indeed the dramatically enhanced vibronic-coupling effects were clearly observed in electron impact excitation [1] reported recently as well as our x-ray absorption spectra of the vibrational excited CO₂ molecules [2]. In this work, in order to investigate the temperature effect of valence-electron excitations we have developed a setup to measure the VUV-photoabsorption cross sections of vibrationally-excited molecules.

2 Experiment

Measurements were performed on the 3-m normal incidence vacuum monochromator of the BL-20A beam line at the Photon Factory synchrotron facility. A 1200 lines/mm grating was used to achieve a resolution of 2 meV (FWHM) with entrance and exit slit widths of 50 μm. The newly developed setup consists of a stainless steel absorption-cell with an effective length of 220-mm wrapped by sheath wires of 1.2φ in diameter and 2 m length, a LiF window, and a photomultiplier tube with a CsI-coated photocathode assembled after the exit slit of the absorption-cell. The cell which has been newly built at Sophia University is heated from room temperature (~300 K) up to 600 K by resistive heating. Figure 1 shows the schematic diagram of such setup.

The pressure of the target molecule in the absorption-cell is monitored with a capacitance manometer (Baratron

626A, MKS Co. Ltd) kept at room temperature. The target pressure was corrected by the thermal transpiration effect with the empirical expression developed by Takaishi and Sensui [3] for each set of temperature measurements.

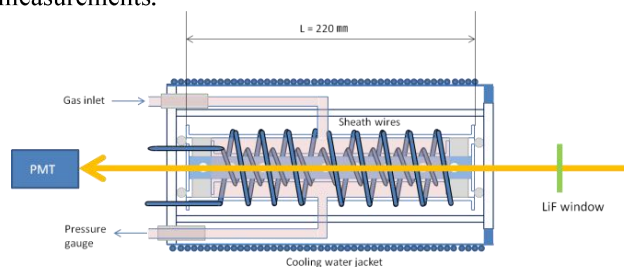


Fig. 1: A schematic diagram of the apparatus.

3 Results and Discussion

The measured absorption spectra of the target gases were converted to absolute photoabsorption cross sections by applying the Lambert-Beer law. From the first set of measurements in photon energy range of 10.6 – 11.8 eV, we found very good agreement between our cross sections at room temperature (310 K) and previous data by Stark et al. [4] at 295 K.

References

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