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Accession number:20114114413519

Title:Submillimeter spectrum of methyl bromide (CH₃Br)

Authors:Ramos, Marlon (1); Drouin, Brian J. (1)

Author affiliation:(1) Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91109-8099, United States

Corresponding author:Drouin, B.J.(brian.j.drouin@jpl.nasa.gov)

Source title:Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy

Abbreviated source title:J Mol Spectrosc

Volume:269

Issue:2

Issue date:October 2011

Publication year:2011

Pages:187-192

Language:English

ISSN:00222852

E-ISSN:1096083X

CODEN:JMOSA3

Document type:Journal article (JA)

Publisher:Academic Press Inc., 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, FL 32887-4900, United States

Abstract:Methyl bromide is a ubiquitous component of the atmosphere, but has yet to be remotely detected in the upper atmosphere. Due to the strong ozone depletion capability of the activated bromine species, the total atmospheric bromine load needs to be carefully monitored. Combined analysis of precise measurements and cataloging of the rotational spectrum of methyl bromide may enable its concentration to be monitored with future remote sensing instrumentation. In an effort to extend and improve previous work for this molecule, the spectrum of CH₃Br has been measured at JPL. Using an isotopically enriched ¹³CH₃Br (90%) sample, spectra have been recorded from 750 to 1200 GHz. Quantum number assignments cover the CH₃⁷⁹Br, CH₃⁸¹Br, ¹³CH₃⁷⁹Br and ¹³CH₃⁸¹Br isotopologues with $J < 66$ and $K < 17$ for the ground and ν_3 vibrational states. The dataset for the ¹²C isotopologues is more precise than previous THz measurements resulting in reductions of rotational and distortion parameter uncertainties by factors of 2-15. Parameters of the ν_3 state of the ¹²C isotopologues are improved by 2-105. The spectra of the ¹³C isotopologues are the first reported beyond $J = 2$.

Number of references:35