GREEN BANDS OF CuBr

T. HIRAO and P. F. BERNATH, Centre of Molecular Beam and Laser Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G1, Canada.

For a long time it was believed that the lowest lying excited state of the copper monohalides (CuX, X= F, Cl, Br, I) was $^2\Pi$. However, recent spectroscopic and theoretical investigations of the electronic transitions of CuH and CuF suggest that the lowest excited state is $^4\Sigma^+$ and the $^1\Pi$ is the $\Omega = 1$ component of this $^4\Sigma^+$ state. Because the other copper halides such as CuCl and CuBr are calculated to be similar, we have measured the green bands of CuCl* and CuBr with a Fourier transform spectrometer. The emission spectrum of CuBr was generated in flowing Ar gas (2.5 Torr) over a mixture of cuprous bromide (CuBr) and copper powder in a copper hollow cathode (100 mA). The molecular constants and the electronic structure of CuBr are revised.

*The result of CuCl will be presented separately in this conference by T. Parekunnel.