## NEW BANDS OF NICKEL FLUORIDE IN THE NEAR INFRARED BY INTRACAVITY LASER ABSORPTION SPECTROSCOPY

<u>LEAH C. O'BRIEN</u>, KIMBERLY HANDLER, Department of Chemistry, Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville, IL 62026-1652; JAMES J. O'BRIEN, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Missouri, St Louis, MO 63121-4499.

Several new electronic transitions of NiF with red-degraded bandheads near 12896 and 13497 cm<sup>-1</sup> were recorded and analyzed. All bands have a common lower level: namely, v=0 of the A  ${}^{2}\Delta_{5/2}$  state. The observed  ${}^{58}$ NiF and  ${}^{60}$ NiF isotopologue splitting in each band suggests tentative assignments as the (3,0) and (2,0) vibrational bands of the [12.6] $\Omega$ =5/2 - A  ${}^{2}\Delta_{5/2}$  transition and the (2,0) band of a new [13.1] $\Omega$ =5/2 - A  ${}^{2}\Delta_{5/2}$  transition of NiF. Results of the analysis will be presented. The gas phase NiF molecules were produced using a nickel-lined hollow cathode in an argon-based electric discharge with a small amount of SF<sub>6</sub>.