

Rotation-Vibration Interaction in the Microwave Spectrum of Fulminic Acid, HCNO*

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Rotational transitions in the microwave spectrum (20–46 GHz) of HCNO have been measured and assigned to seven excited vibrational states. The direct *l*-type doubling transitions of the *II*-component of the vibrational levels $v_5=3$ have been measured and analyzed, yielding the following values:

$$q_{3 \times 5}^{(0)} = 27.0920 \pm 1.8 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ MHz}$$

$$E_{II} - E_{\phi} = \Delta \cong 65 \text{ cm}^{-1}.$$

In a previous communication we reported the microwave spectrum of the linear molecule HCNO, its structure and *l*-type doubling for the $v_4=1$ and $v_5=1$ *II*-states¹. This paper is concerned with the assignment and the theoretical analysis of the observed transitions of HCNO molecules in additional excited vibrational states. The transitions measured are $J=0 \rightarrow 1$ and $J=1 \rightarrow 2$ rotational transitions in the 20 to 46 GHz region, so that the vibrational satellites observed arise either from Σ -states with $l=0$, or *II*-states with $l=1$. In addition, the direct *l*-type doubling series for the *II*-state ($l=1$) of the 3 ν_5 -vibrational levels has been measured and analysed.

The spectrometer and related experimental aspects of the measurements are described in Ref. ¹. The yield from the preparation described there has been considerably increased, so that visible crystals of pure HCNO can be obtained.

The high resolution infrared measurements of WINNEWISSER and WINNEWISSER² on the ν_1 -band have shown conclusively that this substance, whose microwave spectrum is reported here and in Ref. ¹, is identical with the compound prepared by BECK and FELDL³ for low resolution infrared scans.

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¹ M. WINNEWISSER and H. K. BODENSEH, Z. Naturforsch. **22 a**, 1724 [1967].

I. Rotation-Vibration Interaction in a Linear Molecule

a) Rotational Constant B_v

The rotational constant of a linear molecule in a given vibrational state may be expanded in the form

$$B_v = B_e - \sum_i \alpha_i (v_i + d_i/2) + \sum_{i,j} \gamma_{ij} (v_i + d_i/2) (v_j + d_j/2) + \sum_{i,j} \gamma_{l_i l_j} l_i l_j. \quad (1)$$

The factors γ_{ij} and $\gamma_{l_i l_j}$ are in general small quantities for which there are few known examples. MAKI and BLAINE⁴ report various γ_{ij} for HCN and the relatively large value of $\gamma_{ll} \equiv \gamma_{l_2 l_2} = -6.3$ MHz which is reduced to -2.7 MHz already for DCN⁵. In the case of OCS the value -0.059 MHz was determined for γ_{22} ⁶. For small values of v_i , that is 0, 1 or 2, and the corresponding values of l_i (only $l=0$ and 1 are possible in the rotational transitions $J=0 \rightarrow 1$ and $J=1 \rightarrow 2$), the contributions of the terms involving γ should be less than 10 MHz. Thus deviations from the simplified relation

$$B_v = B_e - \sum_i \alpha_i (v_i + d_i/2) \quad (2)$$

² B. P. WINNEWISSER and M. WINNEWISSER, J. Mol. Spectry. **29**, 505 [1969].

³ W. BECK and K. FELDL, Angew. Chem. **78**, 746 [1966].

⁴ A. G. MAKI, JR., and L. R. BLAINE, J. Mol. Spectry. **12**, 45 [1964].

⁵ A. G. MAKI, JR., and D. R. LIDE, JR., J. Chem. Phys. **47**, 3206 [1967].

⁶ Y. MORINO and C. MATSUMARA, Bull. Chem. Soc. Japan **40**, 1095 [1967].



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larger than 10 MHz can be attributed to anharmonic resonance interactions involving the given vibrational state v . The multiplicity of low-lying vibrational levels in HCNO makes resonances likely, but a full interpretation will be dependent on the determination of the γ 's from data obtained from molecules in higher excited vibrational states.

b) *l*-Type Phenomena

As a linear four-atomic molecule, fulminic acid, HCNO, may be expected to exhibit both

- 1) vibrational *l*-type doubling and *l*-type resonance, and
- 2) rotational *l*-type doubling and *l*-type resonance, as defined by AMAT and NIELSEN⁷. These phenomena can be accounted for by matrix elements of the transformed second order Hamiltonian, $H^{(2)'}_l$, which are off diagonal in *l*.

The effects known as "vibrational" *l*-type doubling and resonance can be calculated from matrix elements of the form

$$(v_t, l_t; v_t', l_t'; \dots | H^{(2)'}_l | v_t, l_t \pm 2; v_t', l_t' \mp 2; \dots) \quad (3)$$

which introduce contributions to the vibrational energy which are independent of the rotational quantum number *J*. Such effects are to be observed in states involving the excitation of two bending modes, such as $\nu_4 + \nu_5$, where the Σ -state, $000(11)^0$, is split into two components Σ^+ and Σ^- separated by the vibrational constant r_{45} defined in Ref. ⁷.

Interactions known as "rotational" *l*-type doubling and resonance are due to matrix elements of the form

$$(v_t, l_t; \dots | H^{(2)'}_l | v_t, l_t \pm 2; \dots) \quad (4)$$

and introduce a $J(J+1)$ dependent splitting of otherwise degenerate levels (*l*-type doubling) or a higher order shifting or a splitting of interacting levels which may or may not be otherwise degenerate (*l*-type resonance). These effects must be considered for states such as ν_5 , $2\nu_5$ and $3\nu_5$.

c) *l*-Type Doubling for the Case $v_t = 3$

The third excited state of the twofold degenerate mode ν_5 is composed of a Π - and a Φ -level, with the quantum-number *l* assuming the values 1 and 3, respectively. The rotational levels of the Π -state exhibit *l*-type doubling, thus giving rise to doublet transitions in the microwave region analogous to the transitions measured for the $\nu_5 = 1$ state¹.

However, an analysis of the observational data cannot be carried out by simply using the well-known relation derived for the $v_t = 1$ *l*-type doubling of Π -states

$$f = qJ(J+1), \quad (5)$$

because the 0000^03^1 and 0000^03^3 states are connected by the same matrix elements given above [Eq. (4)], which also link the levels 3^{+1} and 3^{-1} following the AMAT-NIELSEN notation⁷.

The matrix elements connecting the degenerate levels 3^{+1} and 3^{-1} cause a splitting of the rotational energy levels, while the matrix elements linking the $3^{\pm 3}$ and $3^{\pm 1}$ states result in

- 1) a shifting of the vibration-rotational levels,
- 2) an alteration of the Π -state *l*-type splitting, and
- 3) a splitting of the Φ -state rotational levels.

This interaction of the four states is a case of *l*-type resonance.

The secular determinant for the interaction between Π and Φ levels for $\nu_5 = 3$ is given by:

	$l = +3$	$l = +1$	$l = -1$	$l = -3$	
$l = +3$	$E_3^0 - \lambda$	H_{31}	0	0	= 0.
$l = +1$	H_{31}	$E_1^0 - \lambda$	H_{11}	0	
$l = -1$	0	H_{11}	$E_1^0 - \lambda$	H_{31}	
$l = -3$	0	0	H_{31}	$E_3^0 - \lambda$	

By forming the linear combinations of the initial wave functions

$$\psi_3^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi_{+3} + \psi_{-3}); \quad \psi_3^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi_{+3} - \psi_{-3}); \quad \psi_1^+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi_{+1} + \psi_{-1}); \quad \psi_1^- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (\psi_{+1} - \psi_{-1}); \quad (7)$$

⁷ G. AMAT and H. H. NIELSEN, J. Mol. Spectry. **2**, 152 [1958].

the determinant may be written in the following form:

	ψ_3^+	ψ_1^+	ψ_1^-	ψ_3^-	
ψ_3^+	$E_3^0 - \lambda$	H_{31}	0	0	= 0
ψ_1^+	H_{31}	$E_1^0 + H_{11} - \lambda$	0	0	
ψ_1^-	0	0	$E_1^0 - H_{11} - \lambda$	H_{31}	
ψ_3^-	0	0	H_{31}	$E_3^0 - \lambda$	

(8)

yielding as solutions the perturbed energies for the Π - and Φ -states:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_3^+ &= E_3^0 - \frac{1}{2} \Delta + \frac{1}{2} H_{11} + \frac{1}{2} [(\Delta - H_{11})^2 + 4 H_{31}^2]^{1/2}, \\
 E_1^+ &= E_1^0 + \frac{1}{2} \Delta + \frac{1}{2} H_{11} - \frac{1}{2} [(\Delta - H_{11})^2 + 4 H_{31}^2]^{1/2}, \\
 E_1^- &= E_1^0 + \frac{1}{2} \Delta - \frac{1}{2} H_{11} - \frac{1}{2} [(\Delta + H_{11})^2 + 4 H_{31}^2]^{1/2}, \\
 E_3^- &= E_3^0 - \frac{1}{2} \Delta - \frac{1}{2} H_{11} + \frac{1}{2} [(\Delta + H_{11})^2 + 4 H_{31}^2]^{1/2}
 \end{aligned}
 \quad (9)$$

where Δ is defined as the energy difference between the unperturbed Φ - and Π -states:

$$\Delta = E_\Phi^0 - E_\Pi^0 = E_3^0 - E_1^0. \quad (10)$$

From the general form of the matrix elements as given by NIELSEN and SHAFFER⁸

$$\begin{aligned}
 f &= q \cdot J(J+1) - \frac{1}{2} \{ [\Delta + q J(J+1)]^2 + 3 q^2 [J^2(J+1)^2 - 8 J(J+1) + 12] \}^{1/2} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \{ [\Delta - q J(J+1)]^2 + 3 q^2 [J^2(J+1)^2 - 8 J(J+1) + 12] \}^{1/2}.
 \end{aligned}
 \quad (14)$$

d) Anharmonic Force Constants

The terms in the second order transformed Hamiltonian $H^{(2)'}$ which determine the vibrational l -type interaction as well as those leading to anharmonic resonance interactions are expressed in terms of the harmonic frequencies and the cubic and quartic force constants⁹.

In general there are as many cubic coefficients as there are possible combinations of any three normal coordinates, but the requirement that the potential function be symmetric with respect to all symmetry operations requires that any coefficient of an odd product of normal coordinates which are not totally symmetric be zero. For a linear molecule with two bending normal coordinates, Q_4 and Q_5 , and symmetry C_∞ this means that the only nonzero

$$\begin{aligned}
 (v_t, l_t | H^{(2)'} | v_t, l_t \pm 2) &= \frac{1}{2} q [(v_t \mp l_t) (v_t \pm l_t + 2)]^{1/2} \\
 &\quad \cdot [J(J+1) - l_t(l_t \pm 1)]^{1/2} \\
 &\quad \cdot [J(J+1) - (l_t \pm 1)(l_t \pm 2)]^{1/2}
 \end{aligned}
 \quad (11)$$

the matrix elements for this case may be evaluated:

$$H_{11} = q J(J+1), \quad (12)$$

$$H_{31} = q(\sqrt{3}/2) [J^2(J+1)^2 - 8 J(J+1) + 12]^{1/2}$$

with

$$q = q^{(0)} - q^{(1)} J(J+1) + q^{(2)} [J(J+1)]^2 \dots \quad (13)$$

as defined in Ref. ¹.

Taking l -type resonance into account will therefore yield as doublet separation of the Π -levels the following frequency expression:

cubic force constants involving Q_4 and (or) Q_5 are k_{n45} , k_{n44} , and k_{n55} , where $n=1, 2$ or 3 .

These force constants are parameters describing possible first-order Fermi interactions involving the bending modes.

Second order anharmonic resonance such as the Darling-Dennison type interaction discussed below involve quartic as well as cubic terms. The quartic force constants are subject to the same considerations of the symmetry of the potential function as was the case for the cubic force constants. The only quartic constant linking the two bending modes directly is the term k_{4455} . Since the other nonzero quartic force constants are not necessary for the anharmonic resonance interactions discussed below in the second order approximation they are omitted here.

⁸ H. H. NIELSEN and W. H. SHAFFER, J. Chem. Phys. **11**, 140 [1943]. Erratum: Phys. Rev. **75**, 1961 [1949].

⁹ H. H. NIELSEN, Handbuch der Physik, Band XXXVII/1, Atome III-Moleküle I, Springer-Verlag, Berlin 1959.

Measurements taken at various temperatures indicated that the two weaker lines form a doublet, whose relative intensity stayed the same over the temperature range $+30^{\circ}\text{C}$ to -70°C within the accuracy of the intensity measurement, whereas the intensity of the third line relative to the doublet is strongly dependent on the temperature. Thus the doublet must be assigned to two levels which lie very close to one another, and the third line to a level which lies $200 \pm 10\text{ cm}^{-1}$ lower than the doublet levels, according to the intensity measurements.

Identification of the levels observed can best be carried out with the help of the energy level diagram shown in Fig. 3. This diagram shows all vi-

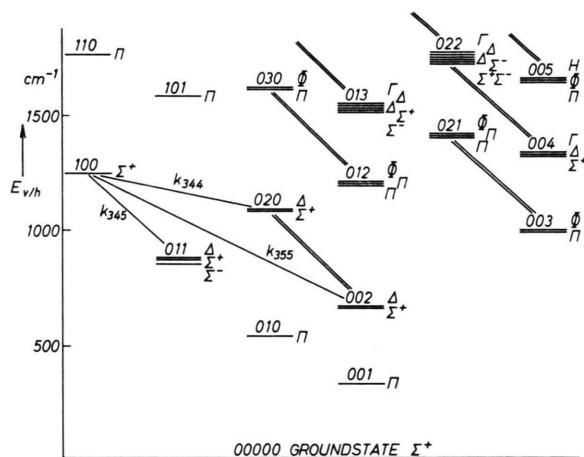


Fig. 3. Lower region of the vibrational energy level diagram of the linear molecule HCNO. v_1 , v_2 and all I 's have been omitted in labelling the levels. The level $v_5=1$ has been estimated from microwave data.

brational levels of HCNO lying below 1800 cm^{-1} , based on the presently available but still rather limited infrared data^{2,3}. Single lines connect states of the same symmetry species between which Fermi resonance is possible, with the relevant cubic force constants indicated. Thus it can be seen that the first excited states of ν_4 and ν_5 can interact neither with each other nor with any other nearby level, since there is no force constant connecting them. The first level with which a resonance is possible is nearly 1600 cm^{-1} away, so that it can be neglected. Since these Π -levels are unperturbed, the α values from these levels may be used to calculate the expected α values for combination states and higher excited states of ν_4 and ν_5 . The α values calculated in this way for the $2\nu_4$, $2\nu_5$ and $(\nu_4 + \nu_5)$ -states are given in Table 2. The calculated α for the $(\nu_4 + \nu_5)$ -state

Vibrational state $v_1v_2v_3v_4v_5$	$\alpha_v(\text{meas.})$ (MHz)	$\alpha_v(\text{calc.})$ (MHz)	$\alpha_v(\text{meas.})$ $-\alpha_v(\text{calc.})$ (MHz)	Deviation %
0 0 0 2 ⁰ 0 ⁰	-29.24	-28.84	-0.4	-1.4
0 0 0 0 ⁰ 2 ⁰	-46.69	-60.34	+13.65	+22.6
0 0 0 (1 1) ⁰	-44.98 ^a	-44.59 ^a	-0.39	-0.9

^a Average values of the two components of the (Σ^-, Σ^+) doublet.

Table 2. Calculated and measured values of the vibration-rotation-interaction constant α_v for the ν_4 and ν_5 vibrational satellites of $\text{H}^{12}\text{C}^{14}\text{N}^{16}\text{O}$.

leads to a rotational constant which agrees very well with the average value of the two components of the doublet mentioned above.

The $(\nu_4 + \nu_5)$ combination state consists of the Δ -state $000(11)^2$, which will only appear in the $J=2 \rightarrow 3$ or higher transition, and which is degenerate in the harmonic approximation, and the state $000(11)^0$ which has a Σ^+ and a Σ^- component. These two components are split by vibrational l -type doubling as described above. The derivation of the doubling term does not necessarily lead to an observable difference in the rotational constants. However, a shift of the Σ^+ level could arise through a Fermi resonance interaction with the level 0010^00^0 . The very small value of the difference of the rotational constants is evidence that such a resonance interaction, if present, must be weak.

The third member of this group of lines, since it comes from a vibrational level lying 200 cm^{-1} lower, must be assigned to the Σ^- -component of the $2\nu_5$ level, 0000^02^0 .

A comparison with the calculated value of the rotational constant for this level shows that the observed value deviates by 13 MHz, or 23% from the α value for $2\nu_5$. This difference indicates a contribution of the term $\gamma_{55}(v_5 + 1)^2$, but the large magnitude suggests that contributions due to resonance interactions are involved. However, the nearest energy level with which Fermi resonance is possible, ν_3 , is 600 cm^{-1} away, so that a strong interaction is not likely. In addition, the cubic force constant connecting these two levels would be k_{355} ; if k_{344} is of a similar magnitude, the corresponding resonance of ν_3 with $2\nu_4$ should be even larger, since the latter lies much closer to ν_3 . The fact that the $2\nu_4$ rotational constant is unshifted is therefore further reason to eliminate Fermi resonance with ν_3 as the principle source of a shift in the B value of $2\nu_5$.

Since no other first order resonance perturbations are possible, it is necessary to seek an explanation of this shift in a perturbation of higher order. The most likely second order perturbation is one of the type first interpreted by DARLING and DENNISON¹⁰. This type of interaction occurs due to off-diagonal matrix elements of the second order vibrational Hamiltonian of the form

$$(v_t, v_t', v_t'', \dots | H^{(2)'} | v_t \pm 2, v_t' \mp 2, v_t'', \dots) \quad (15)$$

when the two levels involved have nearly the same energy. In the case of HCNO, in which both of the vibrational modes involved are degenerate, the matrix elements have the form¹¹

$$(v_4, l_4; v_5, l_5; v_n, \dots | H^{(2)'} | v_4 \pm 2, l_4; v_5 \mp 2, l_5; v_n, \dots) \\ = \frac{1}{4} \gamma [(v_4 + l_4 + 1 \pm 1)(v_4 - l_4 + 1 \pm 1) \\ (v_5 + l_5 + 1 \mp 1)(v_5 - l_5 + 1 \mp 1)]^{1/2}$$

where γ is a function of the quartic force constant k_{4455} and some of the cubic force constant products $(k_{n45})^2$ and $(k_{n44})(k_{n55})$ with $n = 1, 2, 3$ ⁹. Levels in Fig. 3 which could exhibit this type of resonance are connected by double lines.

As can be seen from Fig. 3, there are, in all, five vibrational levels interacting through the constants k_{344} , k_{355} , r_{45} , and γ . If the rotational energy is also considered, the resulting l -type doubling raises the number of levels and thus the order of the problem to 11. A numerical calculation of the perturbed and unperturbed energy levels is thus not possible with the limited amount of data presently available. Analogous data has been obtained for the deuterofulminic acid, DCNO¹².

b) Analysis of the Observed l-Type Doubling Transitions for the 0000⁰3¹ Vibrational State of H¹²C¹⁴N¹⁶O

Thirteen transitions of this type have been observed in the frequency range 10 to 35 GHz with $J = 13$ to $J = 25$, and are listed in Table 3.

In the least squares analysis used in fitting the data, the residual equations were derived from Eq. (14) and the constants $q^{(0)}$, $q^{(1)}$ and Δ were determined independently. An attempt to evaluate $q_5^{(2)}$ failed because of the small magnitude of the constant $q^{(2)}$ (for $v_5 = 1$, $q_5^{(2)} = 1 \cdot 10^{-9}$ MHz) and the

J	Observed frequencies (MHz)	Calculated frequencies (MHz)	obs.-calc. (MHz)
13	9855.25	9855.30	-0.05
14	11370.44	11370.41	+0.03
15	12993.43	12993.41	+0.02
16	14724.27	14724.23	+0.04
17	16562.80	16562.83	-0.03
18	18509.00	18509.05	-0.05
19	20562.96	20562.90	+0.06
20	22724.31	22724.23	+0.08
21	24992.97	24992.97	0.00
22	27368.98	27369.02	-0.04
23	29852.22	29852.25	-0.03
24	32442.59	32442.60	-0.01
25	35139.95	35139.93	+0.02

Table 3. Direct l -type doublet transitions measured for the 0000⁰3¹ state of H¹²C¹⁴N¹⁶O. The calculated frequencies were obtained by using the constants given in Table 4, Method II.

existing correlations between $q_5^{(2)}$ and Δ which would lead to a system of normal equations ill-conditioned in these parameters. Therefore the analysis was carried out both

1) with $q_5^{(2)} = 0$, and

2) with the assumption that

$$q_{3 \times 5}^{(2)} = q_{1 \times 5}^{(2)} = 1 \cdot 10^{-9} \text{ MHz.}$$

The results of both procedures are presented in Table 4. The numerical values of $q^{(0)}$ and $q^{(1)}$ agree for both methods within the calculated error limits. The standard deviation of the observed lines is within the estimated experimental error of ± 0.05 MHz in both cases. However, the second method is considered more reliable since the value of Δ is 30% more accurate and because the assumption $q_{3 \times 5}^{(2)} = q_{1 \times 5}^{(2)}$ is physically more meaningful than the assumption $q_{3 \times 5}^{(2)} = 0$. The calculated line frequencies in Table 3 were obtained using the constants of method 2. For a more detailed description of the error definitions see Ref. 1.

Our measurements suggest neither any J -dependence of the constant Δ nor the need of including matrix elements of the type

$$(v_t, l_t | H^{(2)'} | v_t, l_t \pm 4) \quad (17)$$

in the derivation of the frequency expression.

The magnitude of $q_{3 \times 5}^{(0)}$ and Δ suggest that measurements of the splitting of the Φ levels will be difficult to obtain, since the direct doublet transitions

¹⁰ B. T. DARLING and D. M. DENNISON, Phys. Rev. **57**, 128 [1940].

¹¹ W. H. SHAFFER, Rev. Mod. Phys. **16**, 245 [1944].

¹² H. K. BODENSEH and M. WINNEWISSER, Z. Naturforsch. **24 a**, 1973 [1969].

	$q_{3 \times 5}^{(0)}$ (MHz)	$q_{3 \times 5}^{(1)}$ (MHz)	Δ (MHz)	Standard deviation of fit.
<i>Method I</i> $q_{3 \times 5}^{(2)} = 0$	$27.09201 \pm 1.6 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$(9.255 \pm 0.073) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$(2.30 \pm 0.33) \cdot 10^6$	0.041
<i>Method II</i> $q_{3 \times 5}^{(2)} = q_{1 \times 5}^{(2)} = 1 \cdot 10^{-9}$	$27.09196 \pm 1.8 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$(9.238 \pm 0.082) \cdot 10^{-5}$	$(1.95 \pm 0.22) \cdot 10^6$	0.046

Table 4. *l*-type doubling constants calculated for the 0000⁰3¹ vibrational state of H¹²C¹⁴N¹⁶O.

for $J=100$ fall in the 5 GHz region. The difference of the splitting for two adjacent J -values (l -type doubling of normal R-branch rotational transitions) is only 0.05 MHz for the $J=16 \rightarrow 17$ transition at 400 GHz.

Considering the results of the foregoing analysis in comparison with analogous results for $v_5=1$ (Ref. ¹) we find that the doubling constant $q_5^{(0)}$ changes from 34.64 MHz for $v_5=1$ to 27.09 MHz for $v_5=3$, whereas it is expected to be a constant valid for both states. In addition, the constant Δ representing the energy difference between the Π and Φ levels in the $v_5=3$ state has the rather large value of $1.95 \cdot 10^6$ MHz = 65.0 cm⁻¹, a factor of 2 larger than the corresponding value for HCN⁵.

Both effects are somewhat surprising. The change in q from $v_5=1$ to $v_5=3$ can be attributed to a vibrational dependence similar to that of the rotational constant as given in Eq. (2). However, the change in q is too large for such an explanation to be fully satisfactory. Again it is necessary to fall back on the possibility of resonance interactions to account for the value of $q_{(3 \times 5)}^{(0)}$. As can be seen from Fig. 3 an interaction of the Darling-Dennison type may connect the vibrational state 0000⁰3^{3,1} with the state 000(21)^{3,1}, and such an interaction would certainly perturb the constant q .

Since the matrix elements for the Darling-Dennison type second order perturbation depend on l [see Eq. (16)] the perturbation will not affect the Π and Φ levels of the 0000⁰3^{3,1} state equally. The

"unperturbed" energy levels E_3^0 and E_1^0 used in the secular equation to derive the l -type doubling frequencies are therefore actually already perturbed by a second order interaction of this type. The large $\Delta = E_3^0 - E_1^0$ found may most probably be accounted for in this way. In addition contributions from second order anharmonic resonance interactions having matrix elements of the type

$$(v_t, v_t', v_t'' | H^{(2)'} | v_t \pm 1, v_t' \mp 1, v_t'') \text{ etc.} \quad (18)$$

and having force constants of the type k_{nn45} cannot be completely ruled out.

A quantitative calculation of the magnitude of the resonance interactions among the observed levels requires the diagonalization of the energy matrix for an entire polyad, that is, the entire group of levels connected by first or second order interactions, including l -type phenomena. This will not be possible until sufficient infrared and millimeter wave data become available.

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