



The cavity-enhanced absorption spectrum of methyl cyanide in the near-infrared

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Methyl cyanide or acetonitrile, CH_3CN , is an important trace species in atmospheric pollution (it is produced in biomass burning and other combustion processes) and astrochemistry (e.g. in the atmosphere of Titan). In order to explore the potential of CH_3CN detection using absorption spectroscopy in the near infrared, we have measured its spectrum in the $6800\text{-}7000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ region by cw off-axis cavity-enhanced absorption spectroscopy using an external-cavity diode laser. First line assignments will be discussed.