

## SNAPS & HUBS

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The theory of spectroscopic networks<sup>1</sup> offers a powerful instrument for the intelligent design and validation of precision-spectroscopy experiments, as well as the subsequent derivation of accurate rovibrational energies,<sup>2,3,4,5</sup> in particular those associated with hubs (high-degree nodes) of the network. Through a joint experimental and theoretical approach, absolute energies have been determined for a large number of hubs in the experimental spectroscopic networks of H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O, with an accuracy of a few times 10<sup>-7</sup> cm<sup>-1</sup>. The Lamb-dip measurements utilized two noise-immune cavity-enhanced optical heterodyne molecular spectroscopy (NICE-OHMS) apparatus<sup>6,7</sup> and three probe lasers covering different wavenumber ranges. The observed lines, whose lower states belong to the vibrational ground state and the bending fundamental, were selected *via* the spectroscopic-network-assisted precision spectroscopy (SNAPS) approach.<sup>2</sup> The accurately known energy levels are involved in thousands of unique transitions already measured, though at much lower accuracy, for H<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup>O and H<sub>2</sub><sup>18</sup>O. From the ultraprecise absolute energies a large number of benchmark-quality predicted transitions has been deduced, which could be employed as frequency standards in high-resolution Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy.

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<sup>1</sup>A. G. Császár and T. Furtenbacher. *J. Mol. Spectrosc.*, **266**, 99–103, (2011), [DOI](#).

<sup>2</sup>R. Tóbiás, T. Furtenbacher, I. Simkó, A. G. Császár, M. L. Diouf, F. M. J. Cozijn, J. M. A. Staa, E. J. Salumbides, and W. Ubachs, *Nat. Commun.*, **11**, 1708 (2020), [DOI](#).

<sup>3</sup>M. L. Diouf, R. Tóbiás, I. Simkó, F. M. J. Cozijn, E. J. Salumbides, W. Ubachs, and A. G. Császár. *J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data*, **50**, 023106 (2021) [DOI](#).

<sup>4</sup>M. L. Diouf, R. Tóbiás, T. S. van der Schaaf, F. M. J. Cozijn, E. J. Salumbides, A. G. Császár, and W. Ubachs. *Mol. Phys.*, **120**, e2050430 (2022) [DOI](#).

<sup>5</sup>R. Tóbiás, M. L. Diouf, P. Bloem, F. M. J. Cozijn, W. Ubachs, and A. G. Császár, *Nat. Chem. to be submitted* (2023).

<sup>6</sup>F. M. J. Cozijn, P. Dupré, E. J. Salumbides, K. S. E. Eikema, and W. Ubachs, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, **120**, 153002 (2018) [DOI](#).

<sup>7</sup>F. Cozijn, M. Diouf, and W. Ubachs. arXiv preprint, arXiv:2303.17818 (2023), [Link](#).