L20a Analysis of the Observed OH Prompt Emission Lines of (1,0) Vibration-Rotation Band in Comet Lee

K.S.KRISHNA SWAMY、J. WATANABE (国立天文台)

The photodissociation of H_2O in the comae of comets leads to a small fraction of OH molecules in the highly excited rotational states of $A^2\Sigma^+$ which quickly trickle down to v"=0,1 of the ground electronic $X^2\Pi$ state. Further cascading from v"=1 to v"=0 gives rise to prompt emission lines of (1,0) vibration-rotation transitions. These lines have been detected in Comet Lee by Mumma et al.(ApJ 546, 1183, 2001) in the spectral region between 2.9 to 3.8 μm . We have made a spectral synthesis of these observations. The deduced outflow velocity to fit the observations comes out to be in the range of 0.53 to 0.63km/sec.