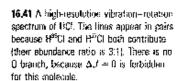
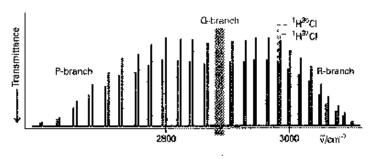


16.26 The rotational energy levels of a linear rotor, the transitions allowed by the selection rule $\Delta J = \pm 1$, and a typical pure notational absorption spectrum. The intensities reflect the populations of the initial level in each case and the strengths of the transition dipole moments

For a typical molecule (for example, OCS, with B=0.2 temperature, $kT \approx 1000 heB$, so $J_{\rm max} \approx 20$.





from: *Physical Chemistry*, 5th Ed., by Peter Atkins, W.H. Freeman, N.Y., pp. 564 and 574

