

PREFACE

In 1992, at the end of my first long term stay at the Institute of Atomic and Molecular Sciences of Academic Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, Prof. Cheuk-Yiu-Ng from the Department of Chemistry of Iowa State University invited me to edit a volume of Advanced Series in Physical Chemistry, reviewing new experimental and theoretical developments in vibration-rotational spectroscopy of molecules. Shortly after I left Taiwan for more than one year to continue our research in the Laboratoire de Spectroscopie Hertziennne at the University of Science and Technology in Lille, France. In Lille, I was too preoccupied by my research that I was able to start the editorial work only in a very modest way. The situation improved in 1994, when I returned to Taipei for another year and finished there most of the research which we contributed to this volume. In 1995, I returned to Prague, where I started to run my private scientific consulting office and using the Internet services, I completed most of the final editorial work on the present volume.

I am personally grateful to each of the authors who contributed to this volume for the considerable time and effort they put into the preparation of the different chapters. I am also grateful to the National Research Council of the Republic of China and the Region Nord Pas de Calais in France for appointments as visiting research professor during 1990–1995.

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Dusan Papousek