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# High-resolution terahertz and infrared spectroscopy of hybrid perovskite $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$



NATIONAL RESEARCH  
UNIVERSITY



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# Introduction

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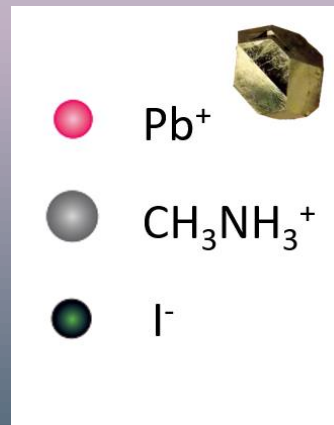
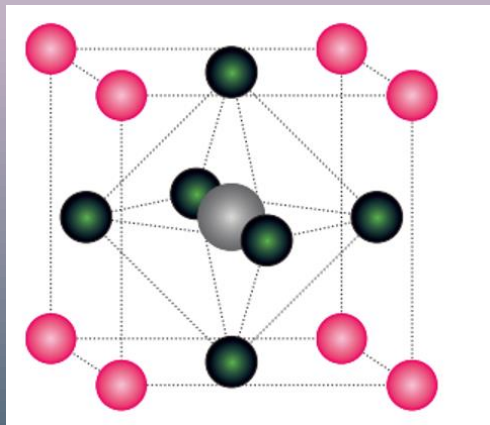
Setup

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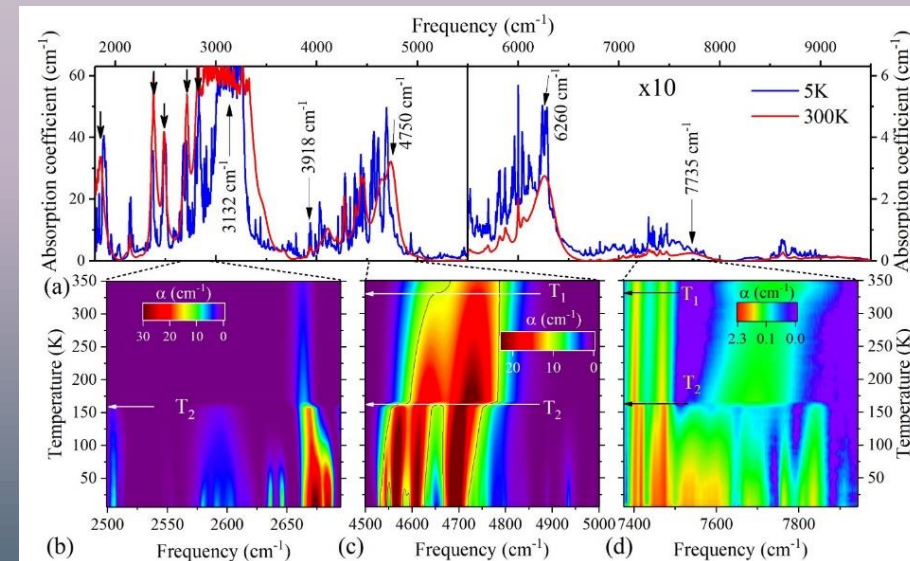
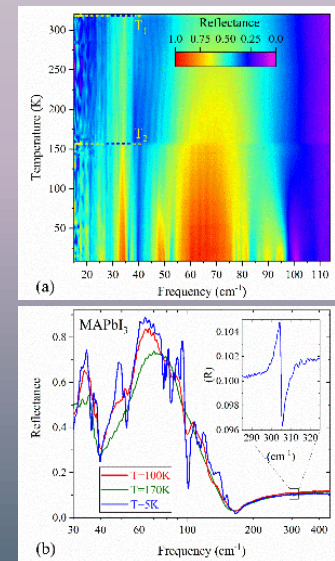
The growing interest in the study of hybrid metal halide perovskites  $\text{MAPbX}_3$  ( $\text{MA} = \text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ ,  $\text{X} = \text{I}, \text{Br}, \text{Cl}$ ) as new materials for use in solar cells and photovoltaic devices is due to such excellent optoelectronic properties [1] as:

- extremely high luminescence efficiency;
- optimal band gap:  $1.55 \text{ eV}$ ;
- high value of the diffusion length of charge carriers:  $175 \mu\text{m}$ ;
- absorption coefficient:  $10^5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;



Structure of organometallic perovskite  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ .

Many of these functional properties are closely related to the features of the phonon spectrum and the electron-phonon interaction. Notwithstanding a large number of studies of optical properties of hybrid perovskites, most of them were carried out on thin films. In this work, high quality large single crystals of methyl ammonia lead iodide ( $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ ) were investigated by high-resolution (up to  $0.2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) spectroscopy in the wide spectral ( $15 - 650 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1750 - 12000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and temperature ( $5 - 330 \text{ K}$ ) ranges.



# Motivation

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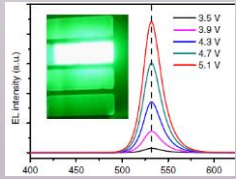
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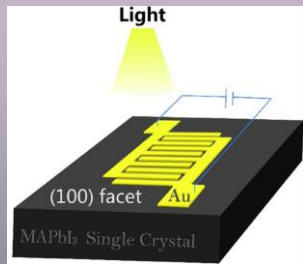
Conclusion

## Hybrid organometallic perovskites applications

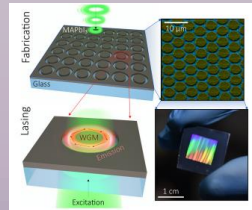
### Devices based on perovskite [2]



### LEDs [3]



### Lasers [6]



### Photodetectors [7]

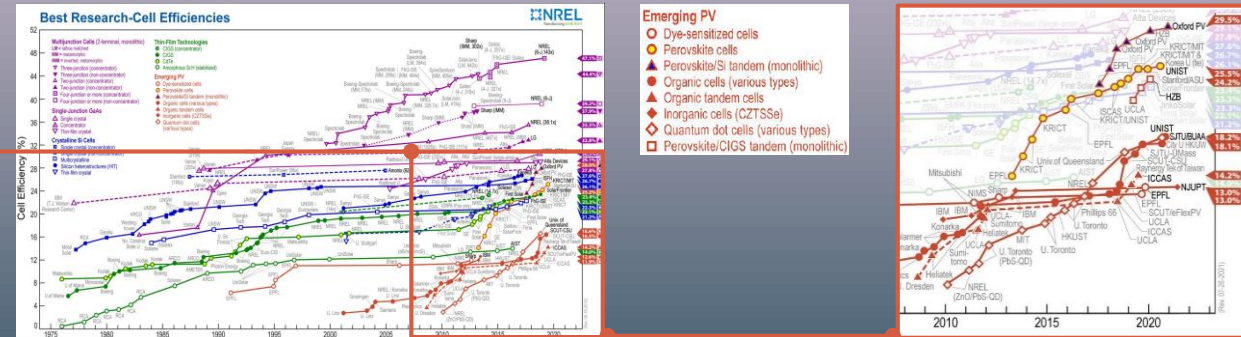
### Solar cells [4]



## Importance of researching a single crystal form

Currently, perovskite thin films are being intensively studied, and most of the claimed applications are focused specifically on polycrystalline thin films. Accordingly, many recent reviews regarding progress in perovskites focus on their form of polycrystalline film. However, the study of the fundamental properties of organometallic perovskites should be carried out precisely on single crystals because of their low density of traps and the absence of grain boundaries. In addition, recent studies have shown that perovskite single crystals have much better optoelectronic properties than their polycrystalline film analogues [8].

## Best research-cell efficiencies [5]



[5] NREL <https://www.nrel.gov/pv/cell-efficiency.html>.

[8] J. Ding, Q. Yan, *Sci. China Mater.* **60**, 1063–1078 (2017).

[2] F. Brivio, J. M. Frost, J. M. Skelton, et al., *Phys. Rev. B: Condens. Matter Mater. Phys.*, **92**, 144308, (2015).

[3] Z.-K. Tan, R. S. Moghaddam, M. L. Lai, et al., *Nature Nanotech* **9**, 687–692 (2014).

[4] T. Brenner, D. Egger, L. Kronik, G. Hodes, D. Cahen, *Nat. Rev. Mater.* **1**, 15007 (2016).

[6] A. Zhzhchenko, S. Syubaev, A. Berestennikov, et al., *ACS Nano* **13**, 4, 4140, (2019).

[7] Z. Lian, Q. Yan, Q. Lv, et al., *Scientific Reports*, **5**, 16563 (2015).

# $CH_3NH_3PbI_3$ structural phase transitions

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Synthesis

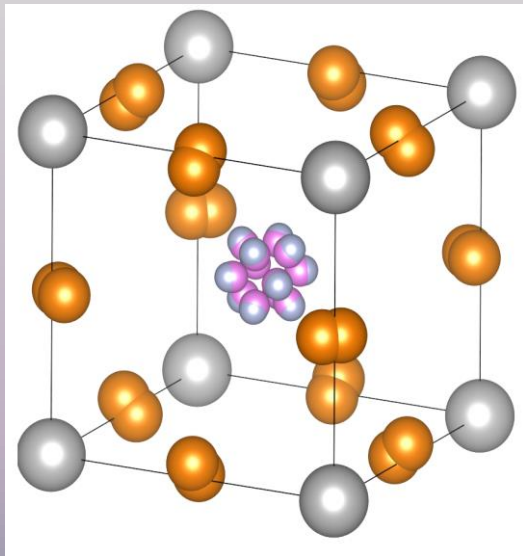
Setup

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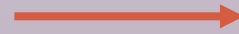
[1]

Cubic

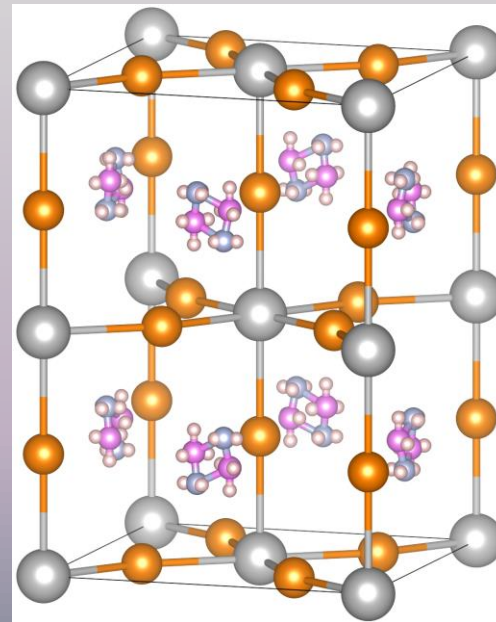


> 327 K

$T_1 = 327$  K

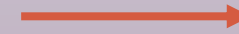


Tetragonal

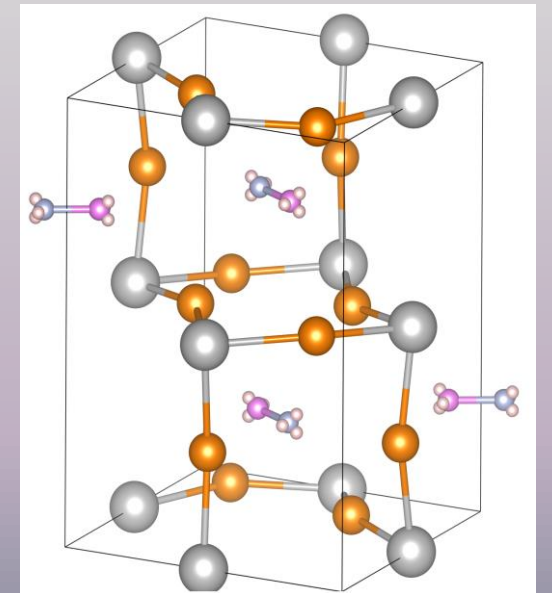


$327$  K < T <  $161$  K

$T_2 = 160$  K



Orthorhombic



< 160 K



# Three well-separated frequency regions of vibrations

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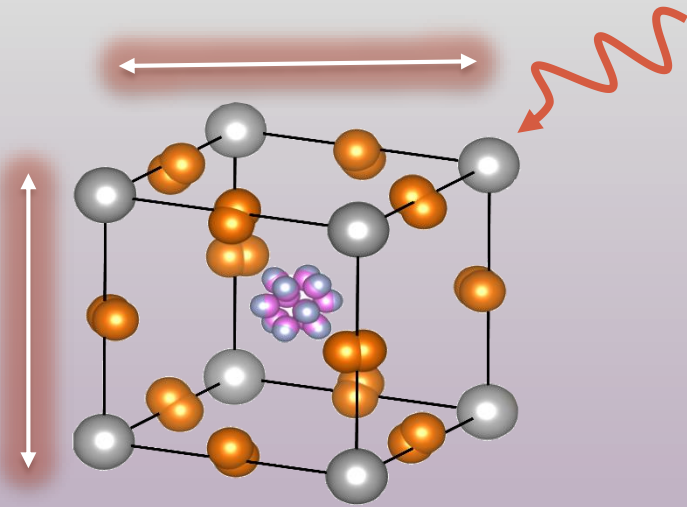
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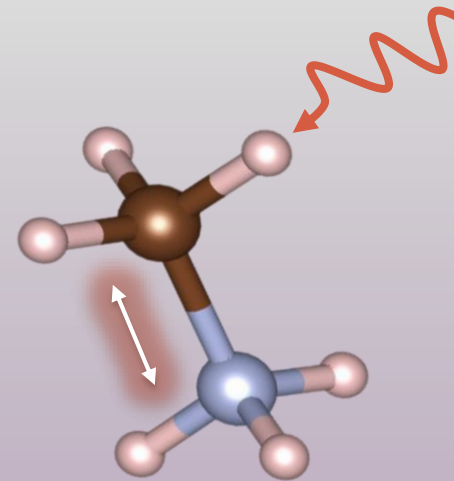
Conclusion

[2]



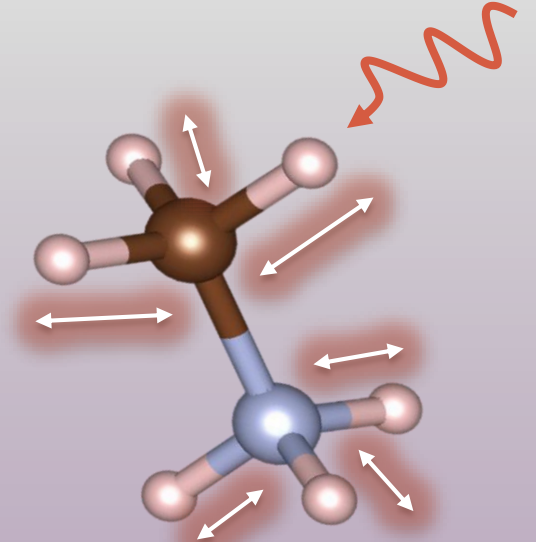
$15 - 100 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

vibrations of the  $\text{PbI}_3$  network consisting of heavy atoms and translational /librational modes of the MA cation



$900 - 1600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3$  rocking modes, C-N stretching, and  $\text{CH}_3$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  bending vibrations



$3000 \text{ and } 3200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

C-H and N-H stretching mode

In this work the reflection spectra in terahertz region and transmission spectra in the mid- and near-infrared (IR) regions of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  are studied for the first time for single crystals with the aim of obtaining information about low-frequency phonons and multiphonon lattice excitations that was not obtained by previously used experimental techniques or/and samples.

# Synthesis

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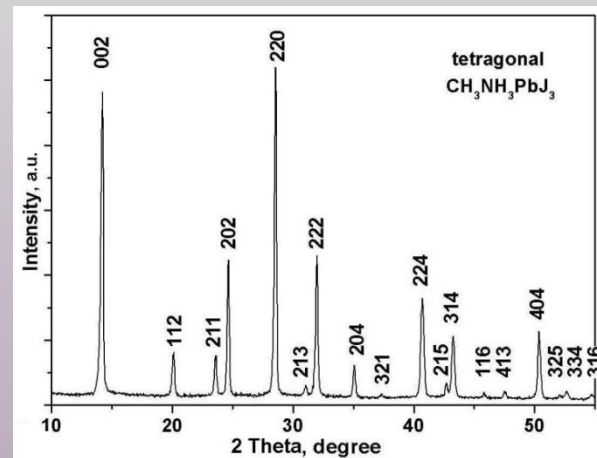
Conclusion

## Sample preparation

- 1)  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{I}$  synthesis
  - 2)  $\text{PbI}_2$  synthesis
- } Two precursors
- 3)  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{I} + \text{PbI}_2 \longrightarrow \text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$



Synthesized single crystals.



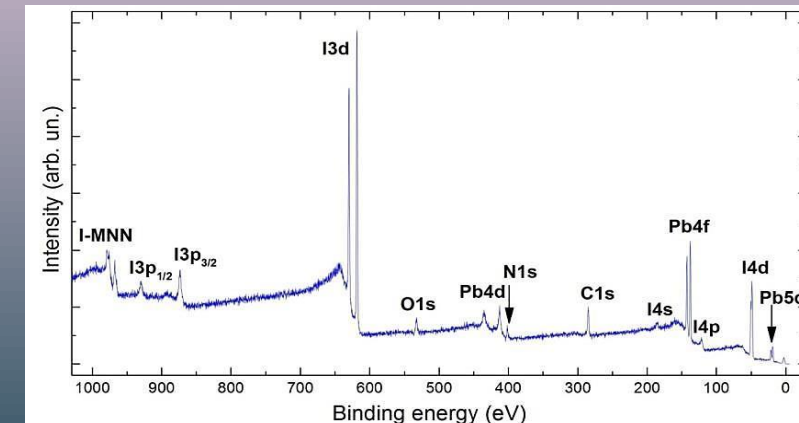
XRD pattern of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  crystals.

Space group:

$I4/mcm$

Lattice constant:

$a = 8.8743 \text{ \AA}, c = 12.6708 \text{ \AA}$



XPS spectrum of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  single crystal surface.

[9] V. E. Anikeeva, O. I. Semenova, O. E. Tereshchenko, J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 1124, 041008 (2018).

[10] O. I. Semenova, E. S. Yudanova, N. A. Yeryukov, et. al. Journal of Crystal Growth. 462, 45, (2017).

[11] E. S. Yudanova, T. A. Duda, O. E. Tereshchenko, O. I. Semenova, Journal of Structural Chemistry. 58, 8, 1567, (2017).

# Experimental setup

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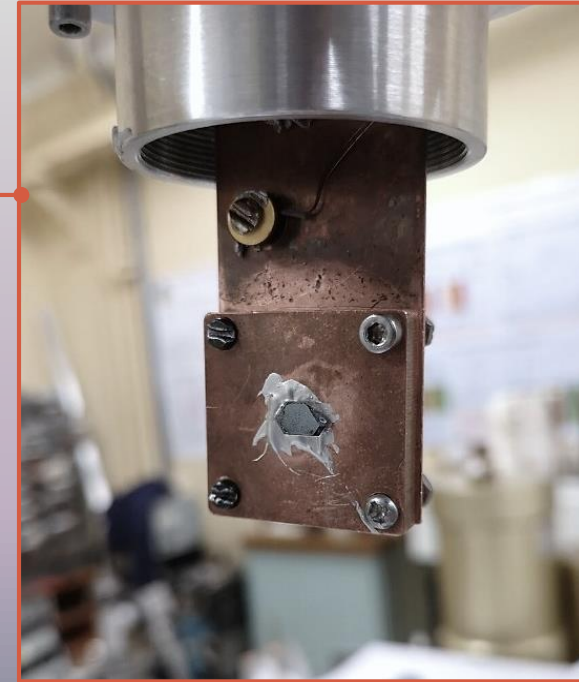
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Bruker IFS 125HR Fourier Spectrometer

Registration of reflection and absorption spectra: Bruker IFS 125HR Fourier Spectrometer

Range: 10 - 30000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

Resolution: up to 0.2  $\text{cm}^{-1}$

Sample cooling: CryoMech ST403 closed loop cryostat (Temperature range: 3.5-300 K)

The sample on a cryostat copper finger

# Results

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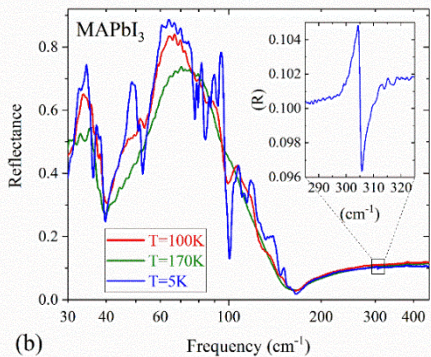
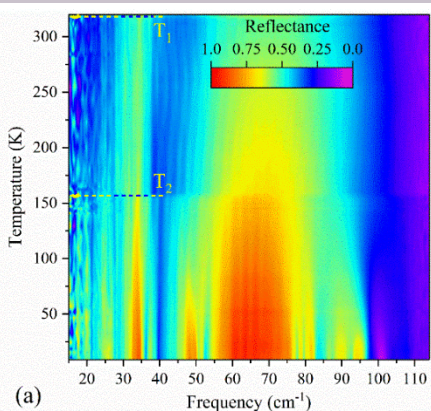
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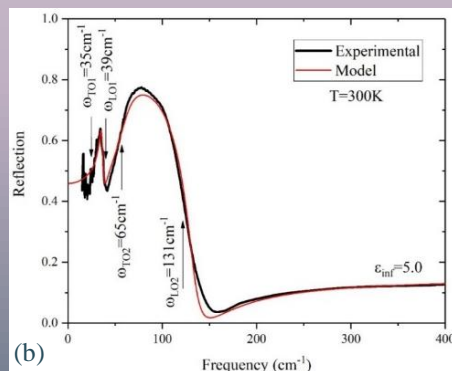
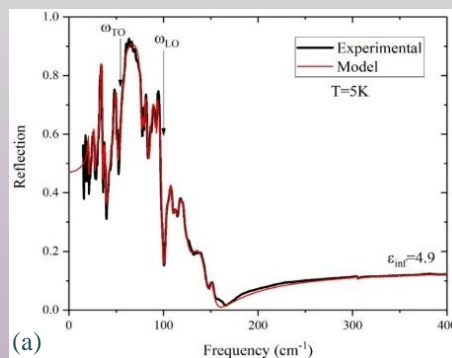
## Reflection spectra

$$\epsilon(\omega) = \epsilon_\infty + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\omega_{0i}^2 f_i}{\omega_{0i}^2 - \omega^2 + i\omega\gamma_i} \quad R(\omega) = \left| \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon(\omega)} - 1}{\sqrt{\epsilon(\omega)} + 1} \right|^2$$



Reflection spectra of a  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  single crystal (a) presented as the intensity map in the wave number – temperature axes and (b) at several selected temperatures. Horizontal arrows in (a) indicate structural phase transitions.

Horizontal arrows in (a) indicate structural phase transitions.



The reflection spectrum (black line) at 5 K (a) and 300 K (b) and the result of fitting by Eqs. (red dashed line).

Table 1. The frequencies  $\omega_{\text{TO}}$  and  $\omega_{\text{LO}}$  of the optical modes, observed in the far-IR spectra of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  at 5 K.  $\epsilon_\infty = 4.9$ ,  $\epsilon_0 = 27.5$

No	Ref. (12), 10K $\omega_{\text{TO}}$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	This work, 5 K		Tentative assignment
		$\omega_{\text{TO}}$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\omega_{\text{LO}}$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	
1	17	20.5	20.7	$\text{PbI}_6$ octahedra twist
2	22	26.6	27.3	$\text{PbI}_6$ octahedra twist
3	30	33.5	35.9	Pb–I–Pb rock
4	35	37.5	38.8	Pb–I–Pb rock
5	47	48.6	51.2	Pb–I–Pb bend
6	59	57.5	99.2	Pb–I–Pb stretch
7		78.0*	77.3	Pb–I–Pb bend
8		80.0*	79.6	Pb–I–Pb bend, $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr
9		85.9*	83.9	Pb–I–Pb bend, $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr
10		91.5*	91.3	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ translation
11		92.8*	92.5	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ translation
12		103.0	105.2	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/transl
13		106.3	110.0	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/transl
14		111.2	113.9	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ rotation along C–N
15		116.0	126.1	
16		133.2	144.3	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/transl
17		150.1	152.6	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/transl
18		305.06	305.12	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ torsion

(12) J. Phys. Chem. C 2015, 119, 25703



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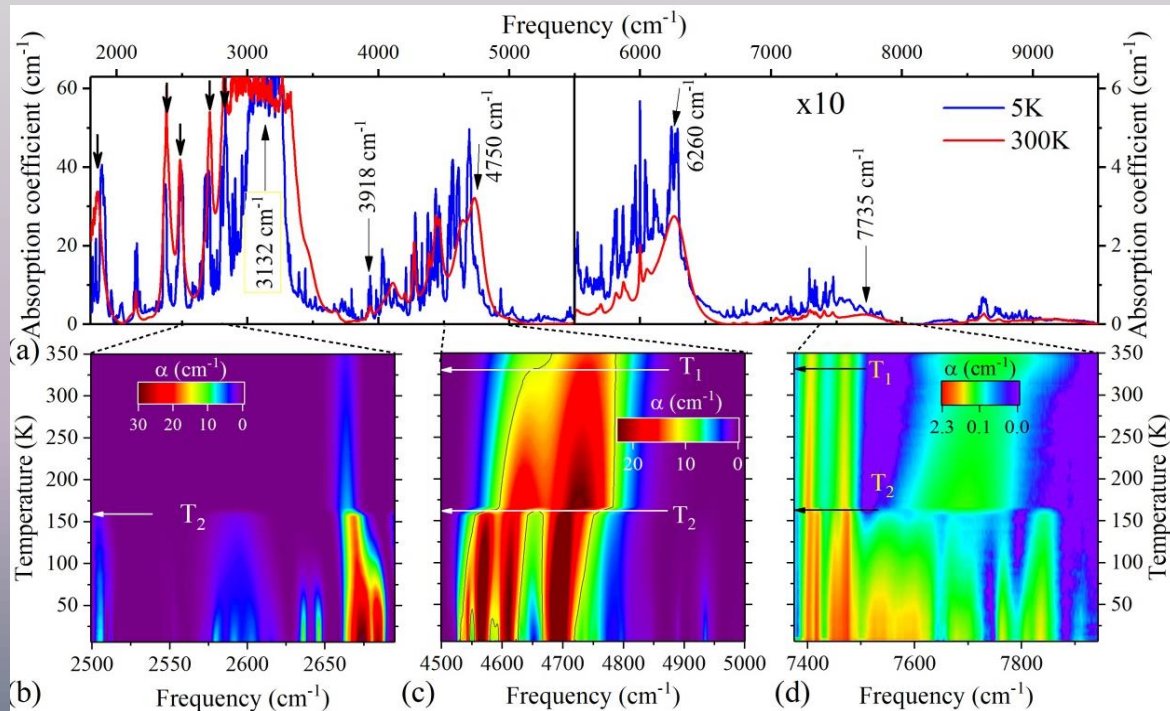
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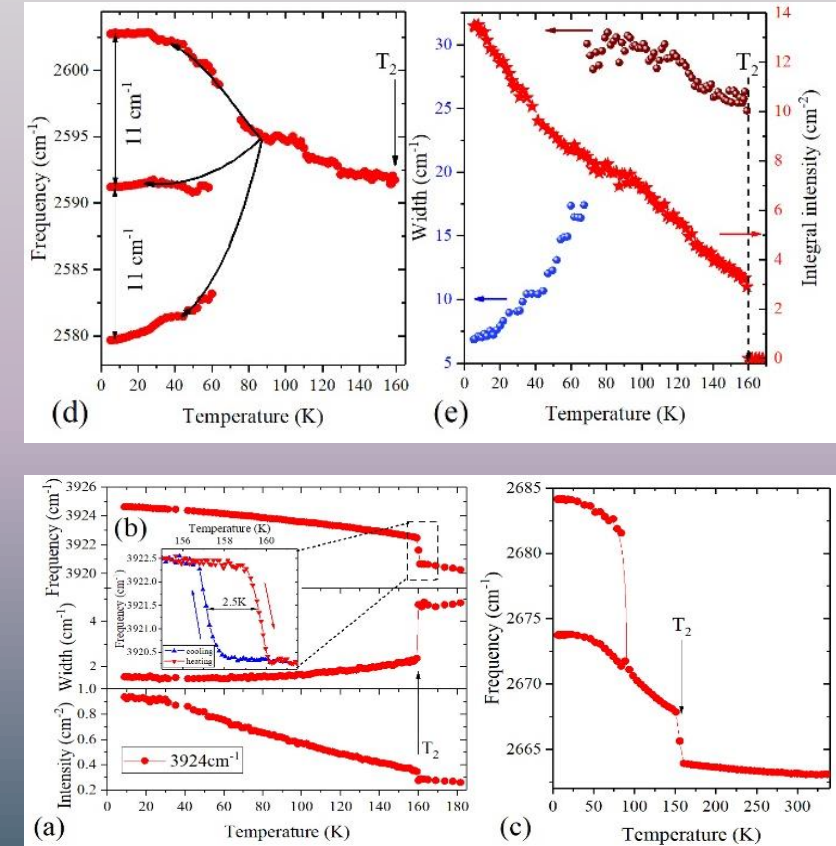
Absorption spectra of a  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  single crystal



Absorption spectra (a) at the temperatures of 300 and 5 K; (b,c,d) presented as color intensity maps in the frequency – temperature axes for selected frequency regions. In (b), the contribution from the strong band at about 3000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  is subtracted. Temperatures  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  of the structural phase transitions are marked by horizontal arrows.

Different features in parameters of optical modes

Temperature dependences of the (a,e) integral intensity, (b,c,d) position, and (b,e) FWHM for (a,b) a singlet 3918  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; (c) a doublet near 2680  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; (d,e) a triplet near 2600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Below 70 K, the width of the central component of the triplet is presented. Inset of Fig. 3b shows a hysteresis for the line position at cooling and heating.



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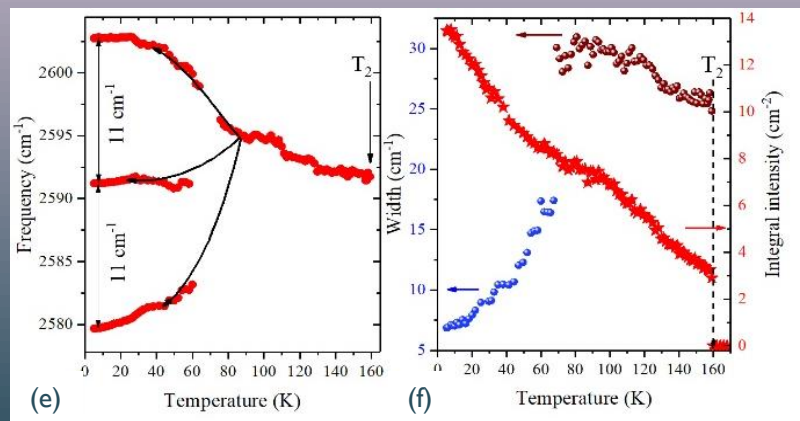
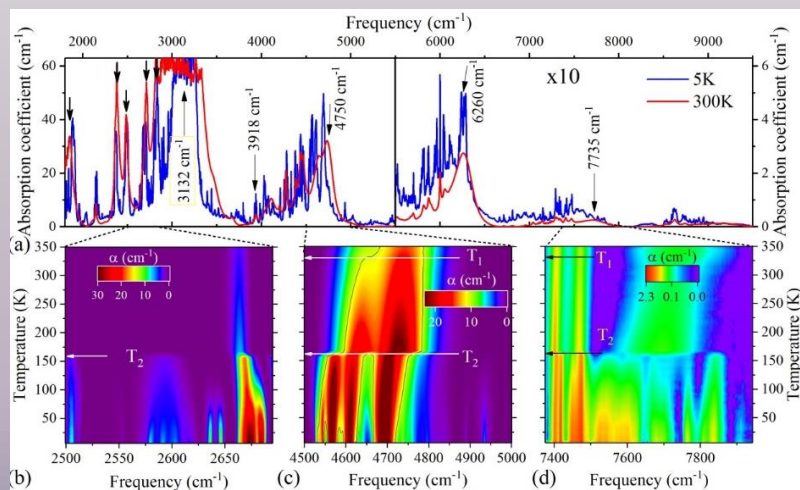
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Absorption spectra of a  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  single crystal

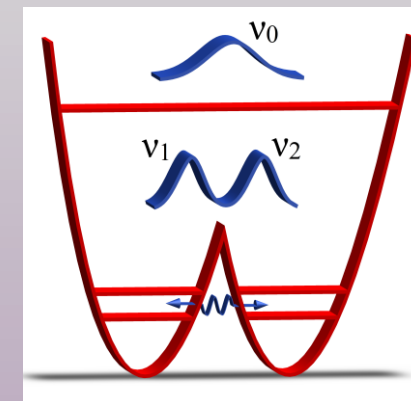
Multiphonon Spectra of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ : Signatures of the Tunneling Dynamics of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$  Cation



The line with the frequency 2592 cm<sup>-1</sup> appears only below the temperature of the tetragonal to orthorhombic phase transition at  $T = 160$  K (b). At about 70 K, this broad line splits into three equidistant (11 cm<sup>-1</sup>) lines (e), which strongly narrow with further cooling (f).

The line can be tentatively assigned to a combination of the  $\text{CH}_3$  symmetric bending vibration (1386 cm<sup>-1</sup>),  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$  rocking (906 cm<sup>-1</sup>), and torsional (305 cm<sup>-1</sup>) motions, but the observed splitting  $\Delta\nu = 11$  cm<sup>-1</sup> could be the tunneling splitting due to rotational tunneling between three equivalent minima around the three equilibrium positions  $0, \pm 2\pi/3$  for the torsional vibration of the molecular cation.

The corresponding correlation time would be  $\tau_{||} = 1/c\Delta\nu = 3$  ps.



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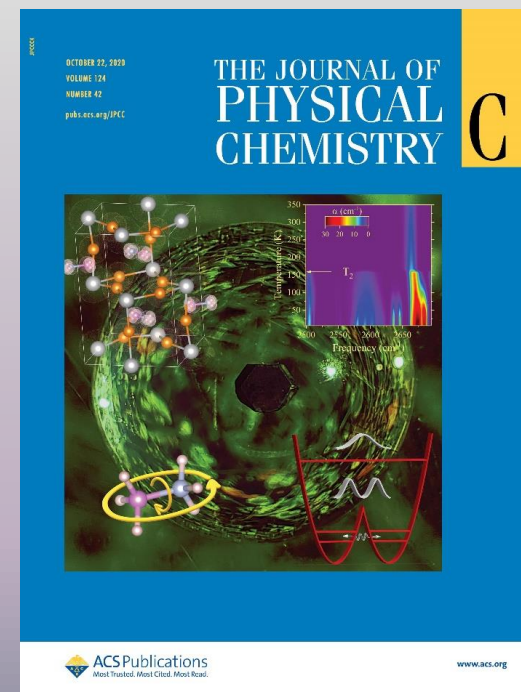
Synthesis

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- The high-resolution terahertz (far-IR) reflection and mid- and near-infrared transmission studies of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  hybrid perovskite single crystals were performed in a broad range of temperatures (5–350 K).
- We observed 13 new low-frequency modes not reported previously and investigated the multiphonon spectra for the first time.
- There are only two modes of the inorganic cage (with frequencies of about 30 and 60  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) that survive in all structural phases of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ . Their frequencies do not change at the phase transition from the cubic to tetragonal phase (320 K) but experience an abrupt shift at the tetragonal to orthorhombic transition (160 K).
- A high sensitivity to the structural phase transitions and to changes in the rotational dynamics of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$  molecular cation is demonstrated also by the multiphonon spectra.
- Splitting of selected multiphonon lines observed below the temperature of  $\sim 70$  K (identified earlier with a transition to the tunneling dynamics) is tentatively assigned to the tunneling splitting.
- A complete melting of the orientational order above the temperature of the orthorhombic to tetragonal phase transition leads to a noticeable broadening of vibrational lines.

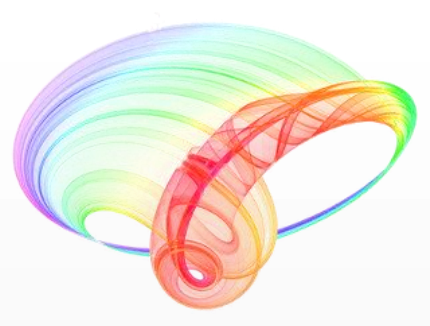


Infrared Spectra of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  Hybrid Perovskite: Signatures of Phase Transitions and of Organic Cation Dynamics Kirill N. Boldyrev, Vasilisa E. Anikeeva, Olga I. Semenova, Marina N. Popova *J. Phys. Chem. C* 2020, 124, 42, 23307–23316

***Thank you for attention!***

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HIGH-RESOLUTION TERAHERTZ AND INFRARED  
SPECTROSCOPY OF HYBRID PEROVSKITE  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ V. Anikeeva<sup>1,2</sup>, K. Boldyrev<sup>1</sup>, O. Semenova<sup>3</sup>, and M. Popova<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup>Institute of Spectroscopy of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Troitsk, Moscow, Russia<sup>2</sup>National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia<sup>3</sup>Rzhanov Institute of Semiconductor Physics of the Siberian Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Novosibirsk, Russia

e-mail: vanikeeva@hse.ru

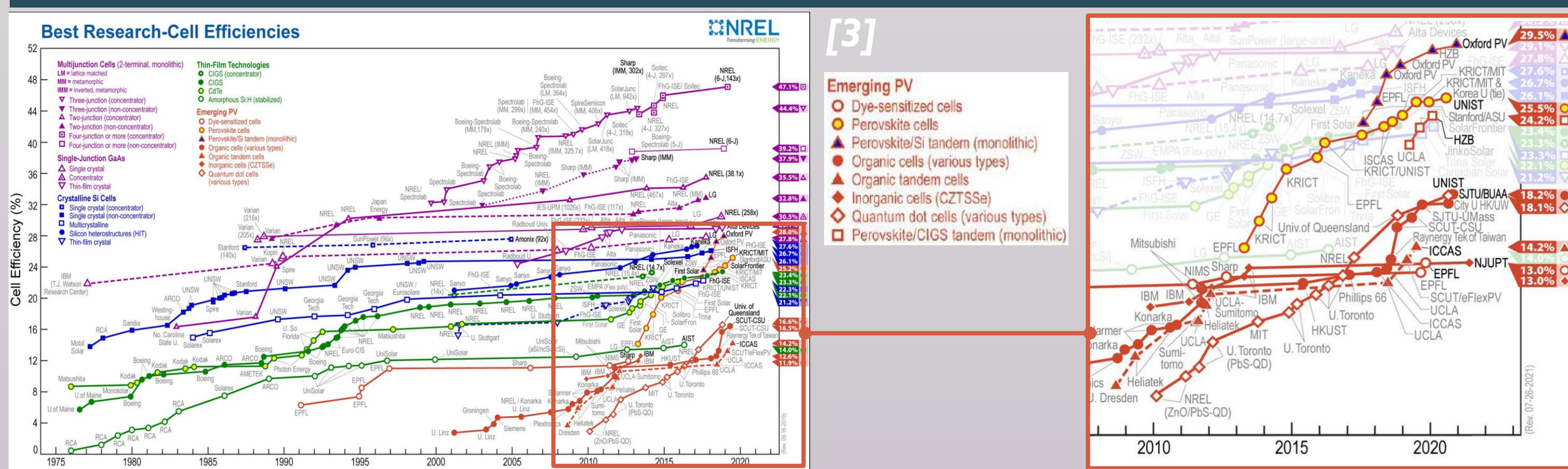


## Introduction

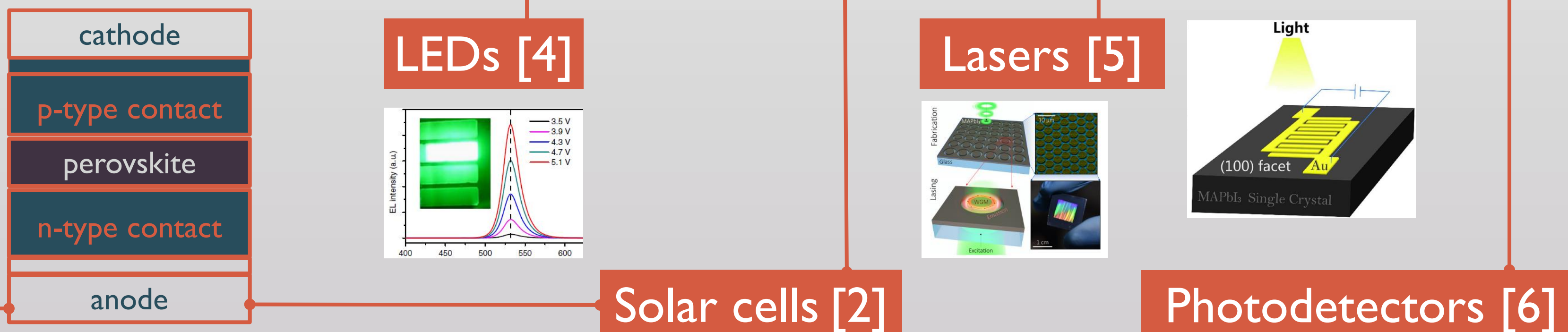
The growing interest in the study of hybrid metal halide perovskites  $\text{MAPbX}_3$  ( $\text{MA} = \text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ ,  $\text{X} = \text{I}, \text{Br}, \text{Cl}$ ) as new materials for use in solar cells and photovoltaic devices is due to such excellent optoelectronic properties [1] as:

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- absorption coefficient:  $10^5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;

## Best research-cell efficiencies

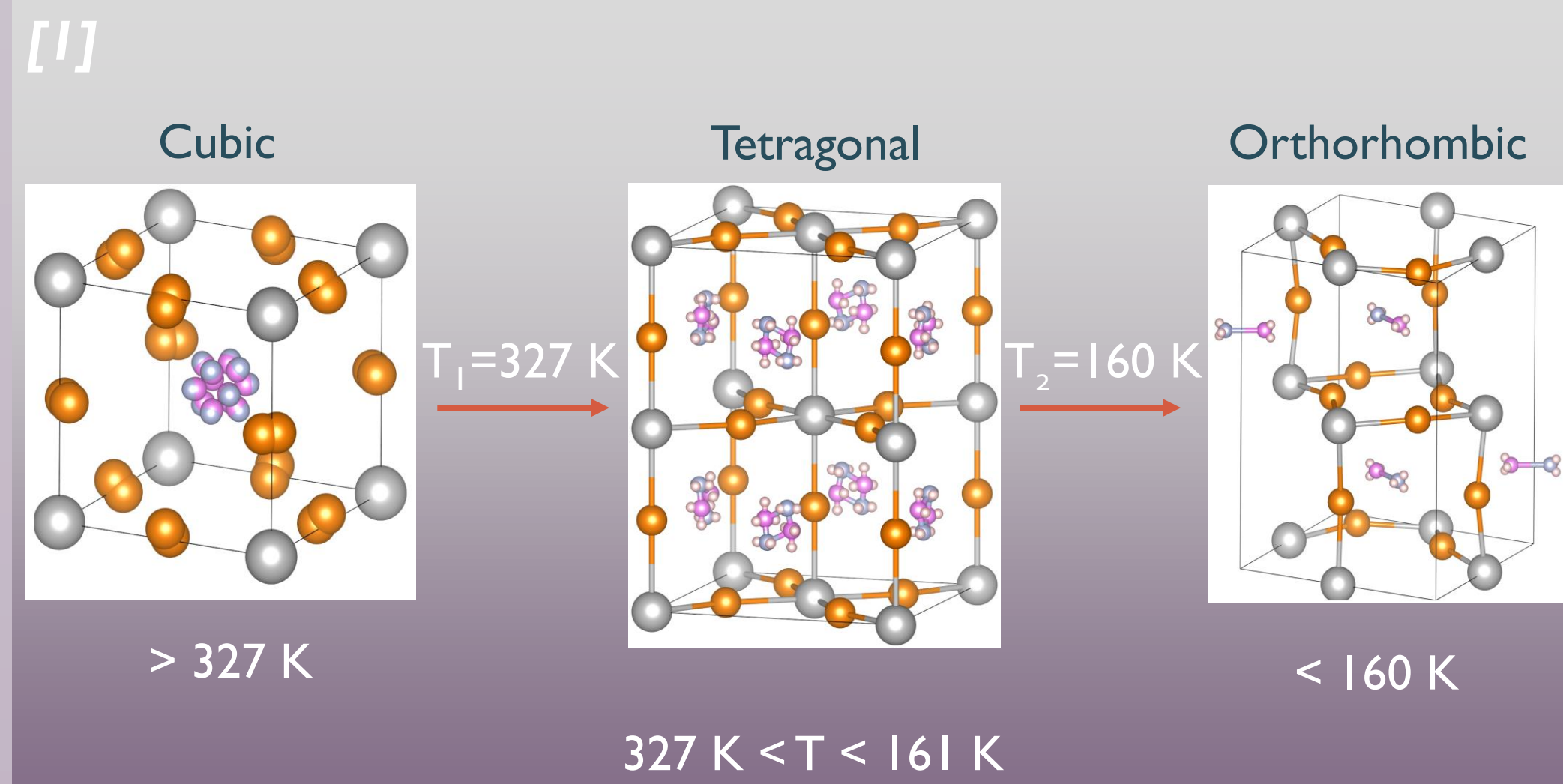


## Devices based on perovskite [7]

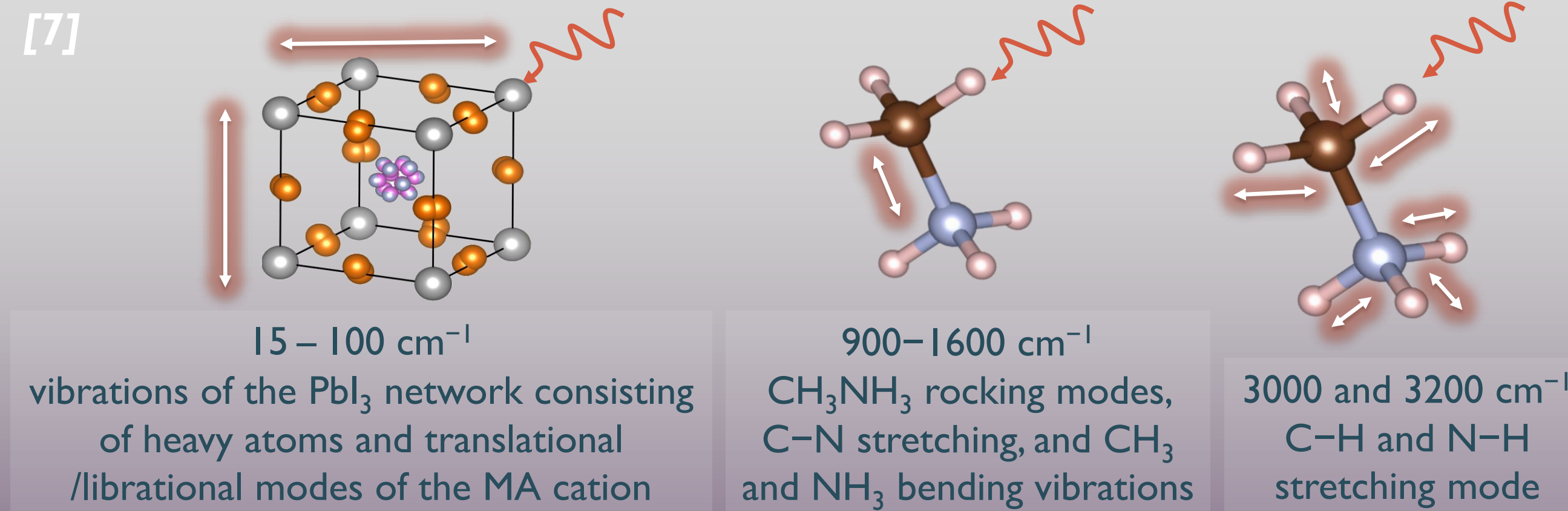


Many of these functional properties are closely related to the features of the phonon spectrum and the electron-phonon interaction.

Notwithstanding a large number of studies of optical properties of hybrid perovskites, most of them were carried out on thin films. In this work, high quality large single crystals of methyl ammonia lead iodide ( $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ ) were investigated by high-resolution (up to  $0.2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) spectroscopy in the wide spectral ( $15 - 650 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1750 - 12000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and temperature ( $5 - 330 \text{ K}$ ) ranges.

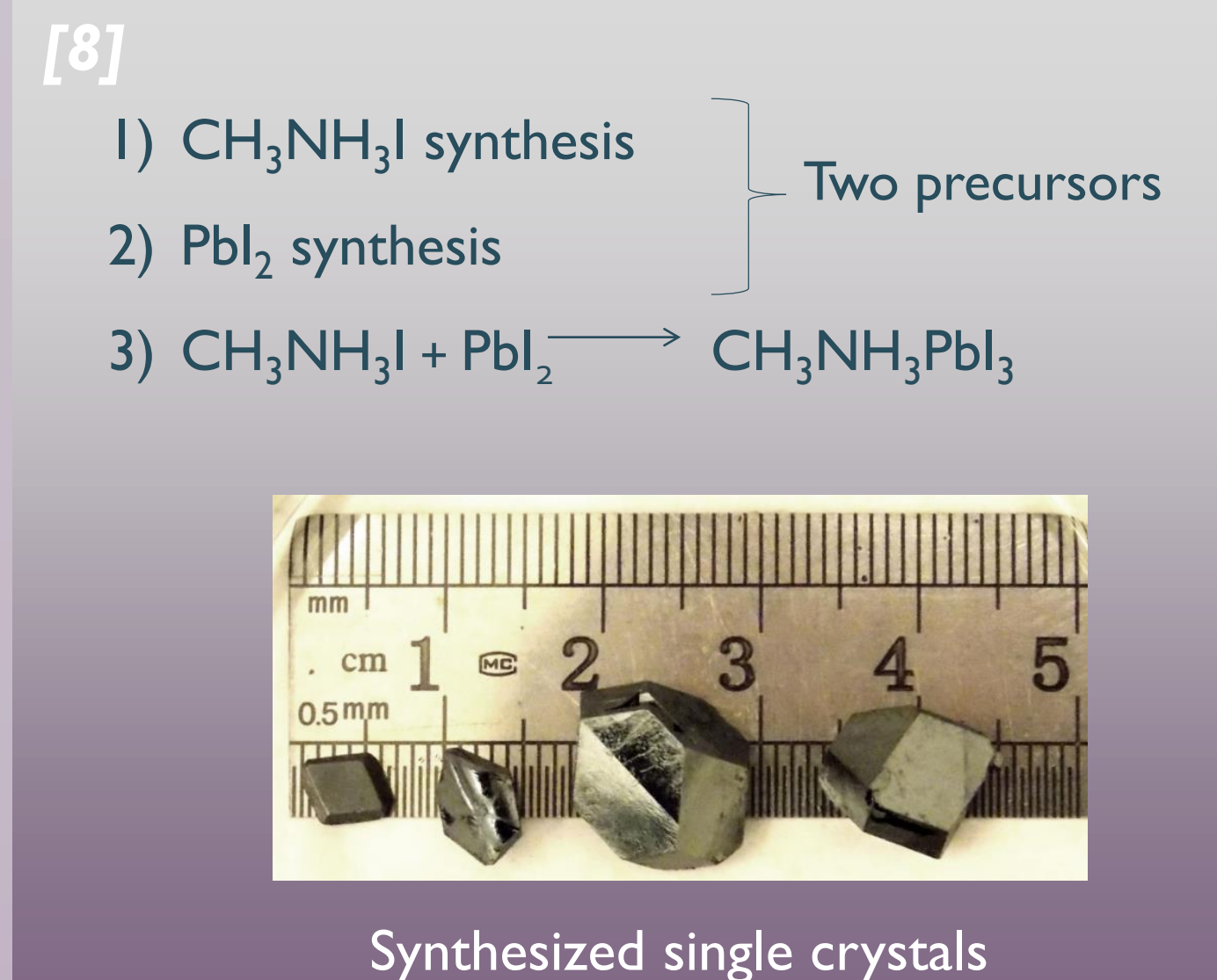
 $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  structural phase transitions

## Three well-separated frequency regions of vibrations

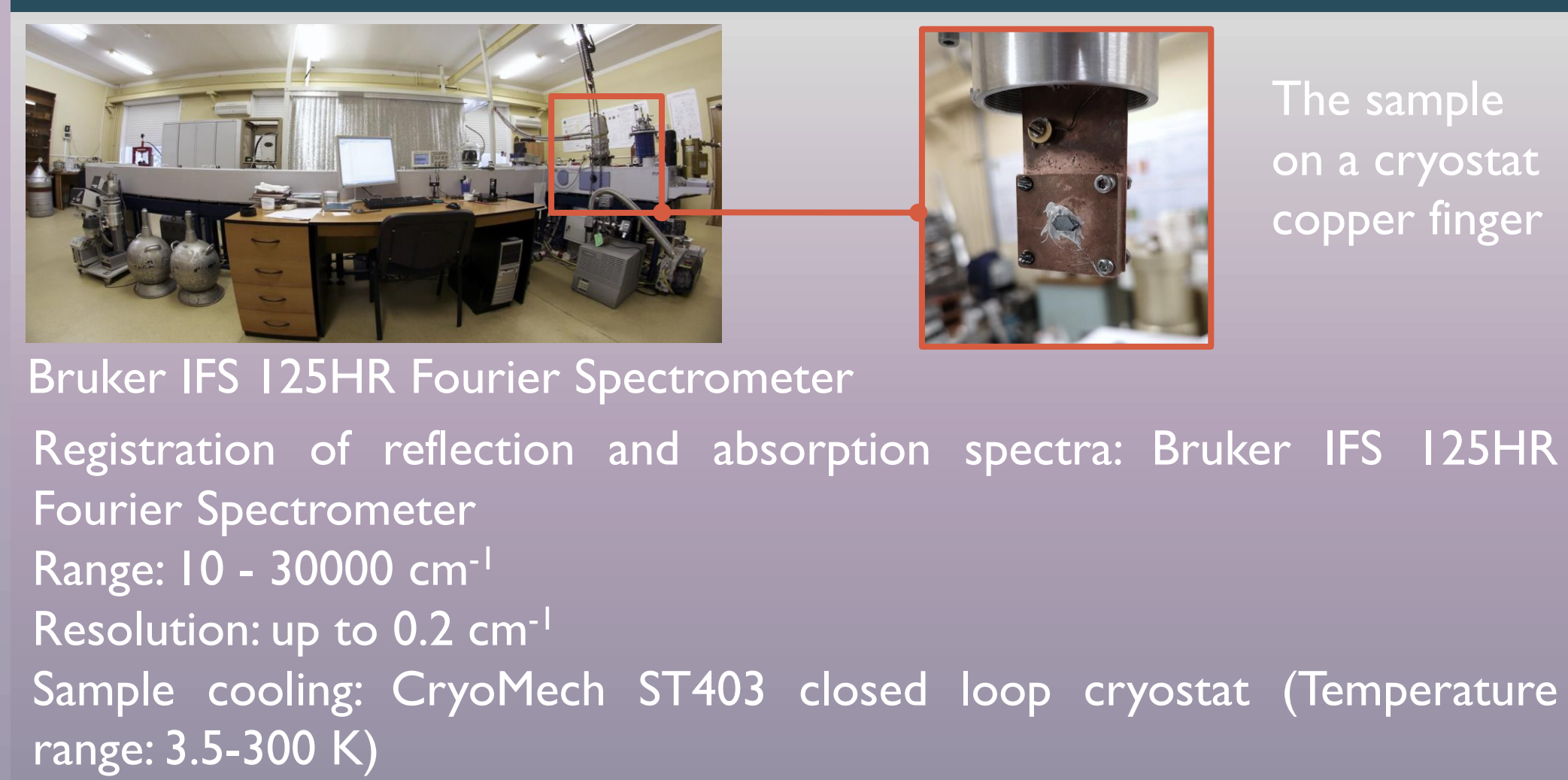


In this work the reflection spectra in terahertz region and transmission spectra in the mid- and near-infrared (IR) regions of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  are studied for the first time for single crystals with the aim of obtaining information about low-frequency phonons and multiphonon lattice excitations that was not obtained by previously used experimental techniques or/and samples.

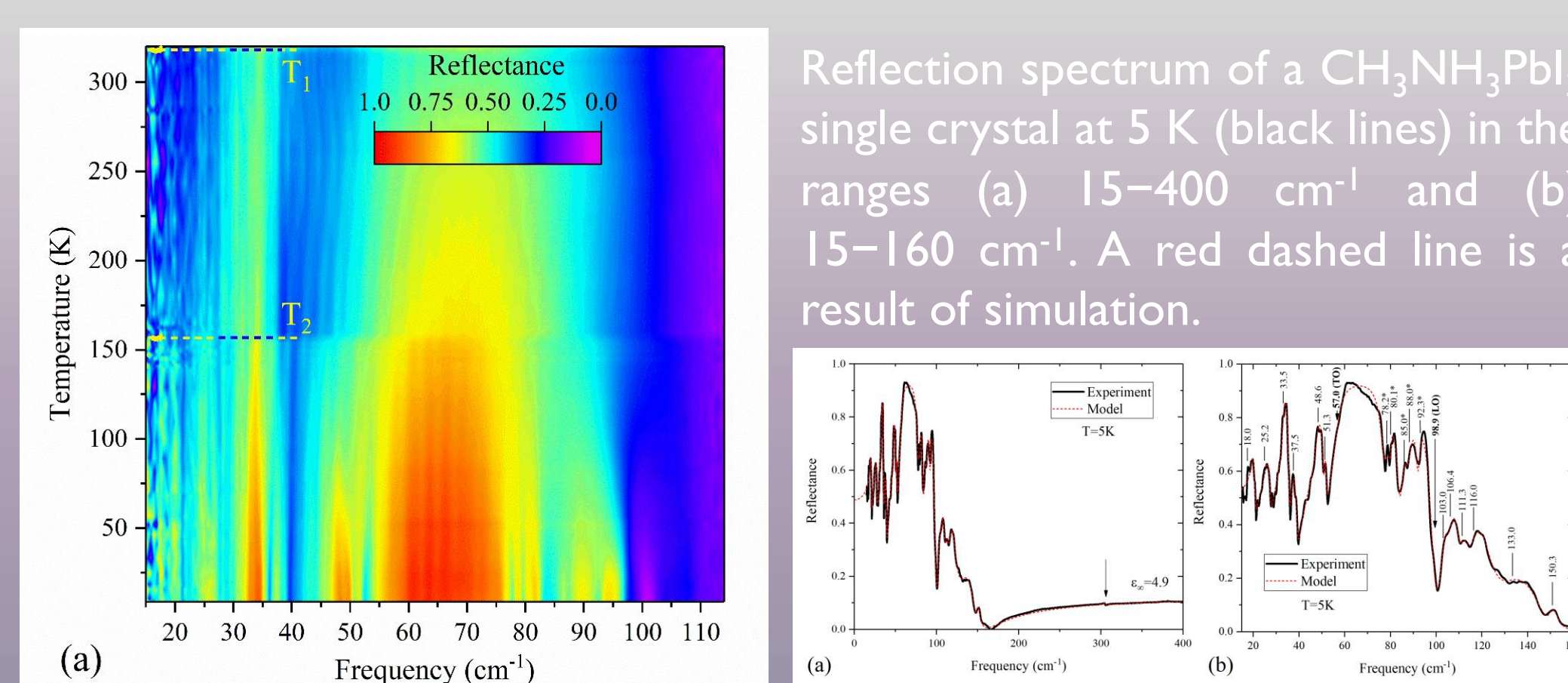
## Sample preparation



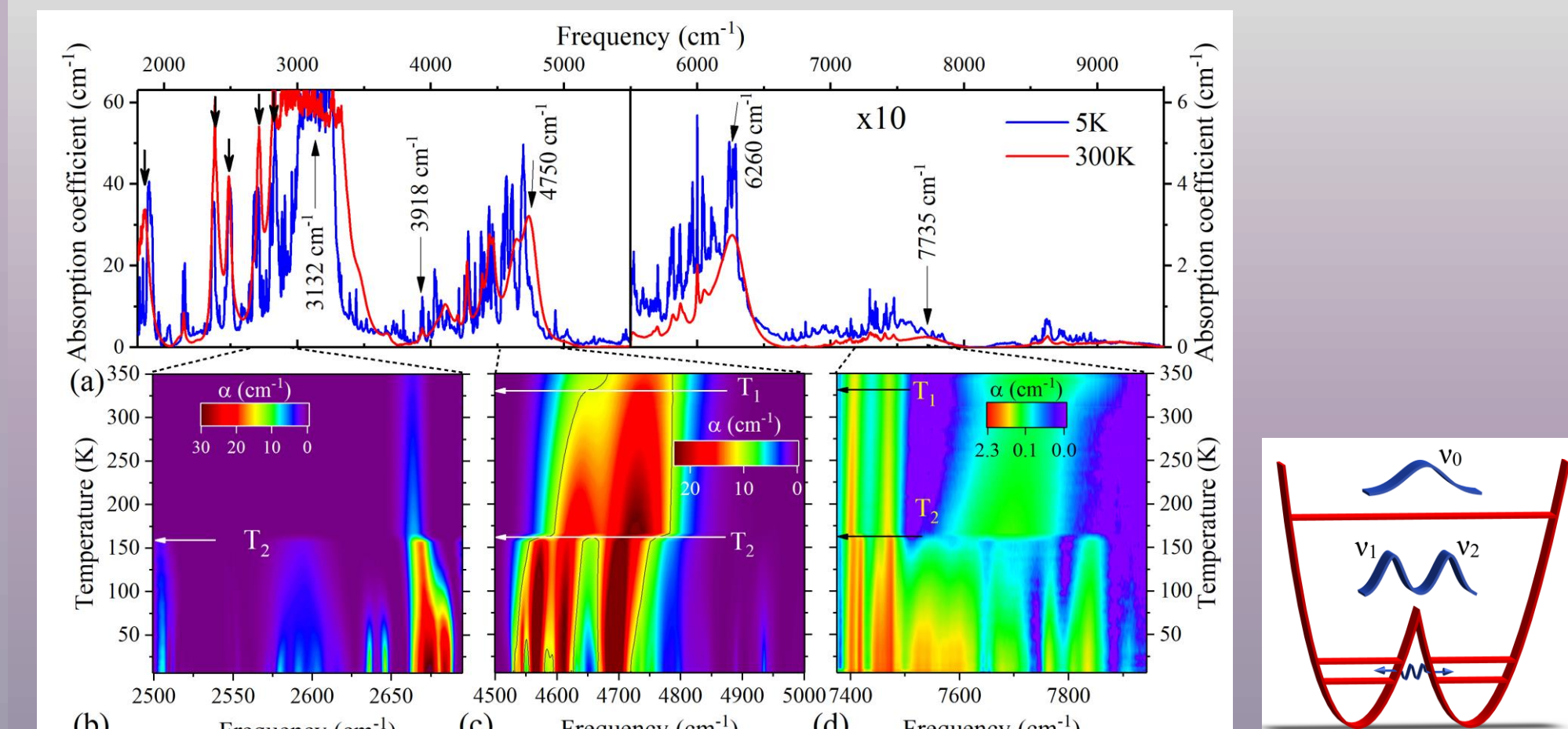
## Experimental setup



## Reflection spectra



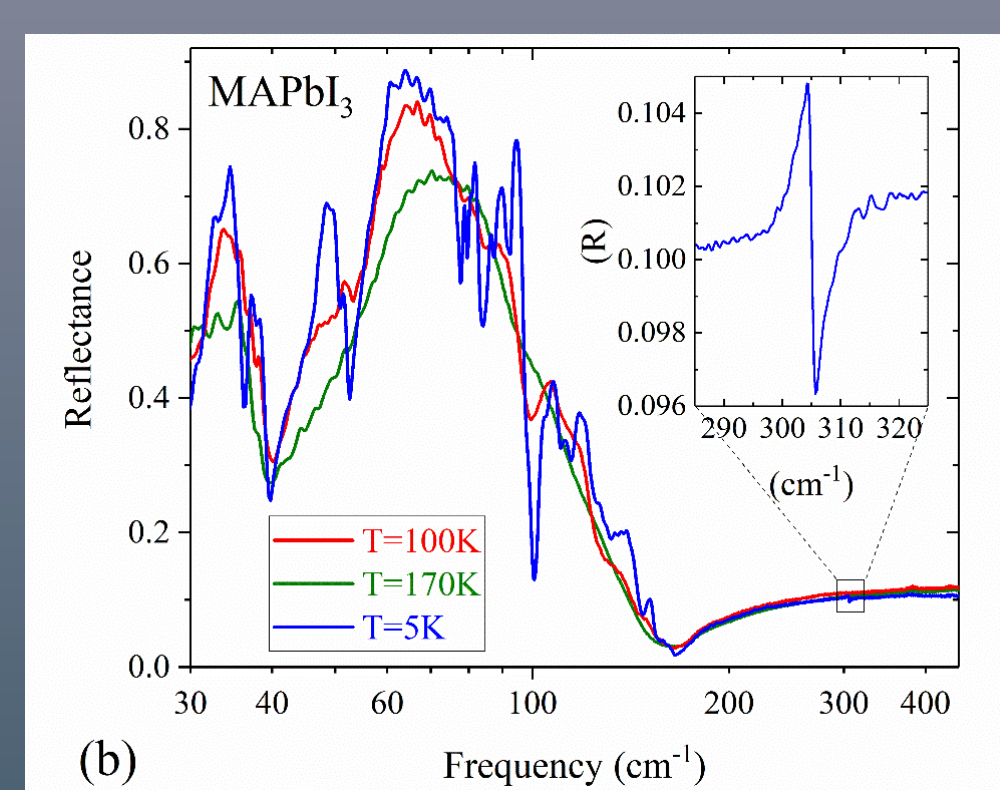
## Multiphonon absorption spectra



## Conclusions

- The high-resolution terahertz (far-IR) reflection and mid- and near-infrared transmission studies of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$  hybrid perovskite single crystals were performed in a broad range of temperatures ( $5 - 350 \text{ K}$ ).
- We observed 13 new low-frequency modes not reported previously and investigated the multiphonon spectra for the first time.
- There are only two modes of the inorganic cage (with frequencies of about  $30$  and  $60 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) that survive in all structural phases of  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3\text{PbI}_3$ . Their frequencies do not change at the phase transition from the cubic to tetragonal phase ( $320 \text{ K}$ ) but experience an abrupt shift at the tetragonal to orthorhombic transition ( $160 \text{ K}$ ).
- A high sensitivity to the structural phase transitions and to changes in the rotational dynamics of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$  molecular cation is demonstrated also by the multiphonon spectra.
- Splitting of selected multiphonon lines observed below the temperature of  $\sim 70 \text{ K}$  (identified earlier with a transition to the tunneling dynamics) is tentatively assigned to the tunneling splitting.
- A complete melting of the orientational order above the temperature of the orthorhombic to tetragonal phase transition leads to a noticeable broadening of vibrational lines.

$$\epsilon(\omega) = \epsilon_\infty + \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\omega_i^2 f_i}{\omega_i^2 - \omega^2 + i\omega\gamma_i} \quad R(\omega) = \frac{|\sqrt{\epsilon(\omega)} - 1|}{|\sqrt{\epsilon(\omega)} + 1|}$$



Reflection spectra of a  $\text{MAPbI}_3$  single crystal (a) presented as the intensity map in the wave number - temperature axes and (b) at several selected temperatures.

The frequencies  $\omega_{\text{TO}}$  and  $\omega_{\text{LO}}$  of the optical modes, observed in the far-IR spectra of  $\text{MAPbI}_3$  at  $5 \text{ K}$ .  $\epsilon_\infty = 4.9$ ,  $\epsilon_0 = 27.5$ .

No	Ref. [10]	This work, 5 K	Tentative assignment
	$\omega_{\text{TO}}$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	$\omega_{\text{LO}}$ ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	
1	17	20.5	$\text{PbI}_6$ octahedra twist
2	22	26.6	$\text{PbI}_6$ octahedra twist
3	30	32.5	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ rock
4	35	37.5	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ rock
5	47	48.6	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ bend
6	59	57.5	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ stretch
7		78.0*	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ bend
8		80.0*	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ bend, $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr
9		85.9*	$\text{Pb-I-Pb}$ bend, $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr
10		91.5*	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ translation
11		92.8*	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ translation
12		103.0	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/translation
13		106.3	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/translation
14		111.2	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ rotation along C-N
15		116.0	126.1
16		133.2	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/translation
17		150.1	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ libr/translation
18		305.06	$\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_3^+$ torsion

\* Inverted phonons

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