

<b>Zeitschrift:</b>	Archives des sciences [1948-1980]
<b>Herausgeber:</b>	Société de Physique et d'Histoire Naturelle de Genève
<b>Band:</b>	13 (1960)
<b>Heft:</b>	9: Colloque Ampère
<b>Artikel:</b>	A microwave spectograph with backward-wave oscillators as radiation sources : microwave spectrum, structure and hindered internal rotation of dimethyl sulfide
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<b>DOI:</b>	<a href="https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-738560">https://doi.org/10.5169/seals-738560</a>

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# **A Microwave Spectrograph with Backward-Wave Oscillators as Radiation Sources.**

## **Microwave Spectrum, Structure and hindered internal Rotation of Dimethyl Sulfide**

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We have successfully operated a 30 kc-square-wave Stark-modulation microwave spectrograph employing backward-wave oscillators (« carcinotrons », CSF, Paris) as radiation sources and completely covering the frequency range from 8 to 37,5 kmc/s with 4 such tubes. The b.w.o.'s are IF-stabilized against the harmonics of a quartz-controlled yet continuously variable frequency standard (600-1000 mc/s), resulting in a source noise as low as with the best klystron sources. Tuning is effected by variation of the standard frequency. We believe that its wide-range single-control tuning makes the b.w.o. an ideal microwave source for spectroscopical work.

With this spectrograph we have studied the spectrum of  $(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{S}$ , an asymmetric rotor with two groups showing hindered internal rotation. Of the many spectral lines observed 29 could be assigned to their transitions. The structural analysis was based on the low-J transitions up to  $J = 2$ , all of which were found. Thus centrifugal distortion could be neglected. With the rigid rotor approximation and assuming  $C_3$ -symmetry of the methyl groups and the tetrahedron angle for  $\text{H} \diagup \text{C} \diagdown \text{H}$ , we determined the C—S and C—H bond lengths and the  $\text{C} \diagup \text{S} \diagdown \text{C}$  angle. From the internal rotation splitting of certain low-J transitions we found the  $V_3$ -potential of the rotation hindrance to be 2090 cal/mole, following a theory developed by Swalen and Costain.

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