

DUAL WAVELENGTH CAVITY RINGDOWN SPECTROSCOPY FOR HIGH PRECISION METHANE ISOTOPE RATIO MEASUREMENTS

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We demonstrate a frequency stabilized cavity ringdown spectrometer capable of measuring simultaneous isotopes of methane ($^{12}\text{CH}_4$, $^{13}\text{CH}_4$, $^{12}\text{CH}_3\text{D}$) of enriched samples to high precision ($\delta\text{D}<0.03\%$ and $\delta^{13}\text{C}<0.01\%$). The spectrometer employs coupling of two orthogonally polarized CW lasers into a ringdown cavity for simultaneous spectral measurements over the full wavelength range of 1.45-1.65 μm . In addition, we discuss the necessity of modeling methane lineshapes with the Galatry profile to achieve the highest precision.