

ELECTRONIC AUTODETACHMENT SPECTROSCOPY AND IMAGING OF THE ALUMINUM MONOXIDE ANION,  $\text{AlO}^-$

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The  $^1\Sigma^+ \leftarrow ^1\Sigma^+$  ground state to dipole bound state electronic transition of  $\text{AlO}^-$  has been studied with both rotationally resolved autodetachment spectroscopy and high resolution velocity map imaging photoelectron spectroscopy in a newly constructed apparatus. Vibrational and rotational molecular constants have been determined for both the ground state ( $\nu'' = 0,1$ ) and excited dipole bound state ( $\nu' = 0,1$ ) of the aluminum monoxide anion. The spectra yield the electron binding energy of the dipole bound state, and a more accurate electron affinity for  $\text{AlO}$ . The photoelectron anisotropies of several transitions were measured. Experimental findings are compared to high level *ab initio* calculations. Additionally, high resolution photodetachment imaging of  $\text{AlO}^- \ ^1\Sigma^+$  within energy ranges well above the detachment threshold were measured and compared to previous, low resolution photodetachment results.