

ON THE NATURE OF GYROTROPY
IN PARATELLURITE

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S u m m a r y

An excitonic band (*A*-band), which is responsible for the dispersion of optical rotatory power in the transparent region and in the region of absorption edge ($h\nu < E_g$), has been revealed in the fundamental spectrum of paratellurite. The parameters of an optically active oscillator – the dissociation energy $G_{\text{ex}} = 115$ meV and the exciton radius $r_{\text{ex}} = 8.0$ Å – have been determined. The proximity of r_{ex} to the lattice parameter c of the TeO₂ chain structure indicates that excitons of intermediate radius can be actual in paratellurite.