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Signatures of phonon splitting in the infrared spectra of a quantum magnet $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$ S.V. DORDEVIC, The University of Akron, C.C. HOMES, Brookhaven National Lab, T. RÕÕM, D. HÜVONEN, U. NAGEL, National Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics, Estonia, A. GOZAR, G. BLUM-BERG, Bell Laboratories, A. LAFORGE, D.N. BASOV, Unviersity of California, San Diego, N. DRICHKO, M. DRESSEL, Universität Stuttgart, H. KAGEYAMA, Kyoto University — Infrared spectroscopy studies of $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$ have been performed along both the in-plane and c-axis crystallographic directions. The reflectance will be reported over a broad range of frequencies (from about 30 cm⁻¹ to 20,000 cm⁻¹) and temperatures (from 4.2 K to 300 K). In the in-plane spectra we observe a new feature developing at 443 cm⁻¹ (55 meV) below about 20 K. Detail temperature, magnetic field and polarization dependence of this feature will be reported. All the results point toward close relation of 443 cm⁻¹ mode with the development of singlet ground state in $SrCu_2(BO_3)_2$.

> S.V. Dordevic The University of Akron

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