

Integrated Brightness Temperature for MOLPOP-CEP
Moshe, June 6, 2014

For uniform conditions, the line brightness temperature at frequency shift $x = v/\Delta v$ from line center, where Δv is the thermal linewidth, is

$$T_{\text{br}}(x) = T_{\text{ex}} (1 - e^{-\tau(x)}) \quad (1)$$

where T_{ex} is the line excitation temperature. The optical depth $\tau(x)$ is

$$\tau(x) = \frac{\tau_0}{\mu} e^{-x^2} \quad (2)$$

where τ_0 is the optical depth at line center and μ the viewing angle from the slab normal. Therefore, the line-integrated brightness in K km s^{-1} is

$$T_{\text{B}} \equiv \int T_{\text{br}} dv = T_{\text{ex}} \Delta v \int (1 - e^{-\tau(x)}) dx \quad (3)$$

Since MOLPOP produces the linewidth Δv in the quantity \mathbf{vt} (it is internally converted to cm s^{-1} and must be divided by 10^5) and all internal optical depths are at line-center, implementing this expression is straightforward. In CEP runs, the integration is performed zone by zone, then added up.