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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES DEPT O--ETC F/G 7/4
VIBRATIONAL ENERGY TRANSFER BETWEEN HF AND HCN MOLECULES: EXPER--ETC(U)
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APPENDIX: TRANSITION MOMENTS

Although the relation between the integrated absorption intensity and the transition rate is known for a long time, it has produced confusion among the workers in this laboratory. The relationship is derived below in a simple way and used to calculate the radiative lifetimes and the transition moments of HF and HCN.

Consider a train of light beam with spectral intensity I_ν and spatial width $\Delta\ell$. When it propagates a distance δx through an absorbing medium, the intensity is attenuated by δI_ν according to Beer's law

$$-\delta I_\nu = N\alpha_\nu I_\nu \delta x, \quad (A1)$$

where N and α_ν are the density and the absorption coefficient of the medium at frequency ν . The energy absorbed by the medium is determined by the overall transition coefficient of an absorption band. When the absorption band has a narrow spectral width, one has

$$(h\nu) (B\rho_\nu) (\Delta\ell/c) (N\delta x) = -\int \delta\rho_\nu \Delta\ell d\nu \quad (A2)$$

where

$$\rho_{\nu} = I_{\nu}/c.$$

By combining (A1) and (A2) one gets

$$B = \frac{c}{h\nu} \frac{1}{N} \int \alpha_{\nu} d\nu.$$

The spontaneous emission rate A can be obtained using the Einstein relation

$$A = \frac{8\pi h\nu^3}{c} B.$$

Finally one has

$$A = \frac{8\pi\nu^2}{c^2} \frac{1}{N} \int \alpha_{\nu} d\nu. \quad (\text{A3})$$

The transition rates due to the dipole and the quadrupole moments can be obtained from Blatt and Weisskopf [99]. For the dipole transition

$$A = \frac{64\pi^4\nu^3}{3hc^3} |\vec{\mu}|^2. \quad (\text{A4})$$

For the quadrupole transition

$$A = \frac{32\pi^6\nu^5}{45hc^5} \text{Tr}(Q^* \cdot Q), \quad (\text{A5})$$

where

$$Q_{ij} = \int (3x_i x_j - r^2 \delta_{ij}) \rho(r) d^3x.$$

The quadrupole moment Q_2 defined by (5.2.2) for an axially symmetric charge distribution is related to Q_{ij} by

$$Q_2^2 = \frac{1}{6} \text{Tr}(Q^* \cdot Q).$$

The radiative lifetimes and the dipole transition moments of HF and HCN are calculated using the integrated absorption-intensity measurements [68,69,96]. The 2-fold degeneracy of the bending mode of HCN is taken into account. The dipole transition moments are listed in Table 3.

The radiative lifetimes are

HF ($\nu=1$) 5.3 msec,

HCN ($00^0 1$) 13.4 msec.

If the $(\nu_2 + \nu_3)$ transition of HCN is caused by the quadrupole moment, then one gets

$$Q_2^2 = 1.07 \times 10^{-48}$$

which is obviously too big compared to the one obtained from the V-V rate, 1.61×10^{-53} .