

MICROWAVE STUDIES OF COMPLEXES OF METHANOL WITH CARBON DIOXIDE AND FORMALDEHYDE

F. J. LOVAS, *Optical Technology Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8441*; V. V. ILYUSHIN, *Institute of Radio Astronomy of NASU, Chervonopraporna 4, 61002 Kharkov, Ukraine*; and D. F. PLUSQUELLIC, *Optical Technology Division, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-8441*.

The dimeric complexes, $\text{CH}_3\text{OH-CO}_2$ and $\text{CH}_3\text{OH-H}_2\text{CO}$, were observed with pulsed-beam Fourier transform spectrometers at NIST. For the formaldehyde complex a heated reservoir nozzle was employed and pressurized with a gas sample of 1% methanol in either Ne or Ar carrier and the nozzle heated to about 75°C . For the CO_2 complex, a cylinder containing 1% methanol and 1% CO_2 in Ar was used with a room temperature nozzle. Measurements were carried out from 8 GHz to 23 GHz. Both complexes exhibited internal rotation splitting due to internal rotation of the methyl group, and the formaldehyde complex showed an additional splitting on b-type transitions which is interpreted as a C_2 tunneling motion of the H_2CO monomer. Several isotopically substituted forms have also been studied for improved structure determination. The CO_2 complex is van der Waals bonded (C of carbon dioxide to O of the methanol), while the formaldehyde complex is hydrogen bonded (H of the hydroxyl group to O of formaldehyde). Discussion of the rotational, Stark, internal rotation, and structure analyses will be presented. These results will be compared to ab initio calculations, as well.