MILLIMETER-WAVE SPECTROSCOPY OF TRANSIENT SPECIES IN SUPERSONIC JET

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Submillimeter-wave absorption spectroscopy has been applied to observe transient species produced in the supersonic jet expansion with the UV laser photolysis, such as vinyl ^{*a*}, FeCO ^{*b*}, CoCO, CoNO, and FeNO.

For vinyl, the proton tunneling-rotation transitions, as well as the pure rotational transitions, have been observed for the H₂CCH, H₂CCD and D₂CCD isotopic species to determine tunneling splitting ΔE_0 and the potential barrier height *h* for the proton (H/D) tunneling motion. Although these isotopic species have very different values for the tunneling splitting ΔE_0 (16.185, 1.187 and 0.770 GHz), they have almost the same barrier heights *h* of 1580, 1520, and 1549 cm⁻¹. As for the HDCCH species, the pure rotational transitions (both *a*- and *b*-types) of only one isomer (*cis*-HDCCH:D *cis* to the unpaired electron) were observed in the jet cooled condition, but no lines for the *trans*-form nor *cis*-*trans* tunneling transitions were detected suggesting HDCCH has *cis*- and *trans*-isomers. The difference in zero point energy between the *cis*- and *trans*-HDCCH isomers is calculated to be 32 cm⁻¹ with the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ level *ab initio* calculation to support the present result. We also observed the large off-diagonal ($\Delta I = \pm 1$) hyperfine interaction constants for H₂CCD which causes the nuclear spin conversion between the ortho (I_{β} =1) and para (I_{β} =0) H₂CCD.

The jet cooled FeCO, CoCO, FeNO, CoNO, and Co(CO)(NO) radicals were produced in a supersonic jet expansion by excimer laser photolysis of Fe(CO)₅, Co(CO)₃NO and Fe(CO)₂(NO)₂ to observe the rotational lines. The molecular structures of FeCO, CoCO, CoNO and FeNO, for example, were confirmed to be linear with their electronic ground states of ${}^{3}\Sigma^{-}$, ${}^{2}\Delta_{i}$, ${}^{1}\Sigma^{+}$, and ${}^{2}\Delta_{i}$ as suggested by high level *ab initio* calculations.

The setup was also used to observe the internal rotation transitions of the He-HCN c , H₂-HCN, Ne-HCN, Ar-HCN, and H₂-H₂O complexes in the SMMW range between 60 and 360 GHz. The potential energy surfaces calculated by CCSD(T) *ab initio* calculation were improved to explain the experimental results to the microwave accuracy.

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