

The Millimeter-Wave Spectrum of CF₂Cl₂

Difluorodichloromethane (CF₂Cl₂, Freon-12) is a widely used industrial and commercial chemical. It is commonly used as a refrigerant and as a propellant. Photolysis of this molecule in the upper atmosphere produces Cl ions, which reduce the ozone content of the upper atmosphere (1).

Studies of the microwave spectrum have been done previously (2-4). Recently Davis *et al.* (5) made extensive measurements in the microwave region between 8 and 80 GHz. This large data base allowed them to determine rotational and centrifugal distortion constants, to derive a harmonic force field, and to evaluate ground state structures. In the present work we have extended these measurements into the region between 100 and 300 GHz for the isotopic species CF₂³⁵Cl₂ and CF₂³⁵Cl³⁷Cl. The data have been fit to Watson Hamiltonians (6) to predict with microwave accuracy the ~10,000 transitions below *J* = 60 in this spectral region.

Details of the millimeter spectrometer that was used in this study have been given previously (7). The absorption cell was made of a glass tube 3.65 m long and 10 cm in diameter. Although the millimeter spectrum is dominated by *P*-branch transitions that are doubly degenerate, the observed transitions are weaker than many observed in this region because of the large rotational partition function, the mixture of isotopic species, and the relatively small, 0.51 D (8), dipole moment of the molecule.

TABLE I
Observed Transitions

CF ₂ ³⁵ Cl ₂						CF ₂ ³⁵ Cl ³⁷ Cl					
TRANSITION			FREQUENCY	O-C	TRANSITION			FREQUENCY	O-C		
J'	K' _a	K' _c	(MHz)	(MHz)	J''	K'' _a	K'' _c	(MHz)	(MHz)		
22(21 1)-21(20 2)	176	161.980	-0.016	29(28 1)-28(27 2)	232	112.195	-0.021				
22(22 0)-21(21 1)	179	496.009	-0.014	29(29 0)-28(28 1)	235	492.921	-0.056				
23(20 3)-22(19 4)	177	720.902	-0.013	30(28 2)-29(27 3)	236	900.175	0.040				
23(21 2)-22(20 3)	181	056.686	-0.043	30(29 1)-29(28 2)	240	281.195	0.038				
23(22 1)-22(21 2)	184	391.123	-0.023	30(30 0)-29(29 1)	243	661.097	0.100				
24(19 5)-23(18 6)	179	274.632	-0.013	31(30 1)-30(29 2)	248	448.999	-0.011				
24(20 4)-23(19 5)	182	613.926	0.029	31(31 0)-30(30 1)	251	827.898	0.000				
25(17 8)-24(16 9)	177	466.701	0.124	32(31 1)-31(30 2)	256	615.706	-0.031				
25(18 7)-24(17 8)	180	818.559	-0.014	54(0 54)-53(1 53)	236	755.534	0.020				
25(19 6)-24(18 7)	184	164.218	-0.013	54(1 53)-53(2 52)	238	489.339	0.040				
31(30 1)-30(29 2)	250	191.251	0.004	54(2 52)-53(3 51)	240	224.163	-0.014				
31(31 0)-30(30 1)	253	517.816	-0.024	54(3 51)-53(4 50)	241	961.202	-0.085				
32(29 3)-31(28 4)	251	756.495	-0.015	55(0 55)-54(1 54)	241	118.398	-0.007				
32(30 2)-31(29 3)	255	084.707	0.005	55(1 54)-54(2 53)	242	851.886	-0.053				
32(31 1)-31(30 2)	258	411.564	0.011	55(2 53)-54(3 52)	244	586.573	0.062				
32(32 0)-31(31 1)	261	737.195	0.033	55(3 52)-54(4 51)	246	323.280	0.073				
56(0 56)-55(1 55)	250	882.634	-0.014	56(0 56)-55(1 55)	245	481.027	0.025				
56(1 55)-55(2 54)	252	623.702	0.024	56(1 55)-55(2 54)	247	214.241	-0.041				
56(2 54)-55(3 53)	254	365.663	0.017	56(2 54)-55(3 53)	248	948.534	-0.014				
56(3 53)-55(4 52)	256	109.513	-0.025	56(3 53)-55(4 52)	250	684.816	-0.022				
56(4 52)-55(5 51)	257	856.599	-0.022	56(4 52)-55(5 51)	252	424.515	0.028				
56(5 51)-55(6 50)	259	608.570	0.039	56(6 50)-55(7 49)	255	921.320	-0.022				
57(0 57)-56(1 56)	255	341.116	0.000								
57(1 56)-56(2 55)	257	081.865	-0.018								
57(2 55)-56(3 54)	258	823.532	-0.006								

TABLE II
Rotational Constants

Constant	$\text{CF}_2^{35}\text{Cl}_2$		$\text{CF}_2^{35}\text{Cl}^{37}\text{Cl}$	
	Value (MHz)	σ (MHz)	Value (MHz)	σ (MHz)
A	4118.8732	0.00026	4092.0165	0.00086
B	2638.6734	0.00024	2582.2236	0.00067
C	2233.6910	0.00025	2185.4446	0.00061
$\Delta_J \times 10^3$	0.448247	0.000046	0.432155	0.000125
$\Delta_{JK} \times 10^3$	-0.443022	0.000227	-0.437129	0.000399
$\Delta_K \times 10^2$	0.158413	0.000025	0.158322	0.000053
$\delta_J \times 10^3$	0.109411	0.000018	0.105510	0.000044
$\delta_K \times 10^3$	0.133745	0.000277	0.143587	0.000571
RMS Deviation (MHz)		0.029	0.043	
Number of independent data points		208	109	

The initial predictions for this work were made from an analysis of the data set of Davis *et al.* (5). The lines to be measured were selected on the basis of their calculated uncertainties to produce a good analysis and a good set of predictions. The observed frequencies are shown in Table I. Uncertainties in the frequencies measured in this work have been estimated to be ± 50 kHz. We have combined our measurements with those of Davis *et al.* (5) to produce a new analysis of $\text{CF}_2^{35}\text{Cl}_2$ and $\text{CF}_2^{35}\text{Cl}^{37}\text{Cl}$. The techniques used to analyze the data have been discussed in a series of papers on HDS (9), HDO (10), and D_2S (11). Table II shows the results of the new analysis for each isotope. The root-mean-square deviation of the fit for $\text{CF}_2^{35}\text{Cl}_2$ is 29 kHz, while that for the fit to the $\text{CF}_2^{35}\text{Cl}^{37}\text{Cl}$ data is 43 kHz. A direct comparison of these constants with those of Davis *et al.* is not possible because of small differences in the terms retained in the Hamiltonians. However, in general the higher frequency transitions reduce the calculated uncertainties by about a factor of 5. The results of these analyses enable us to accurately predict all thermally populated millimeter transitions.

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