

Fundamentals of Spectroscopy
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Lecture-15
Rotational Spectroscopy: Isotope Effect

Hello everyone, today we will start by solving a problem where we will look into a real rotational spectrum of carbon monoxide and estimate the bond length of carbon monoxide.

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This is a part of the spectrum of CO showing transitions with $J''=3$ to 9. The difference between the left most line and right most line is 23.148 cm^{-1} . Find B. What is the internuclear distance between C and O?

$12B = 23.148 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $B = \frac{23.148}{12} = 1.929 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $I = \frac{h}{8\pi^2 Bc}$
 $R = \sqrt{\frac{I}{\mu}}$
 $\mu = \frac{m_C m_O}{m_C + m_O} = \frac{12 \times 16}{12 + 16} \times 10^{-3} \text{ kg/mol} = 2.8 \text{ kg}$
 $\mu = \frac{2.8 \times 10^{-3}}{2.8 \times 6.022 \times 10^{23}} \text{ kg} = 1.39 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 $R = \sqrt{\frac{14.5 \times 10^{-47}}{1.39 \times 10^{-27}}} = 1.128 \times 10^{-10} \text{ m} = 1.13 \text{ \AA} \text{ or } 113 \text{ pm}$

So, let us look into the problem here is a real rotational spectrum of carbon monoxide. On the x axis, we are plotting wave number or centimeter inverse. On the y axis, we are plotting percentage transmission. So, at whichever wave number there is some absorption of light the percentage transmission is not 100 or in other words, in these wave numbers, the percentage transmission are less or much less than 100.

So all these different lines that we get are the wave numbers where light has been absorbed. So this is the rotational spectrum. Now, this is just a part of the spectrum of carbon monoxide, showing transitions with $J''=3$ to $J''=9$. So, we have talked about in the last lecture, that for any transition, the transition happens from J'' to J' . So,

the peaks that we see here are the lines that we see here. The first line is from for the transition from $J = 3$ to 4.

The second line is from 4 to 5 the third line is from 5 to 6, then 6 to 7, 7 to 8, 8 to 9. And the rightmost line is for the transition for $J = 9$ to $J = 10$, so the difference between the left most line and the right most line is 23.148 wave numbers. So let us try to see a rotational spectrum. The first line, which is 0 to 1 line comes out $2B$ then we have 1 to 2 transition at $4B$ 2 to 3 transition at $6B$ and 3 to 4 transition $8B$ so the left most line In this spectrum.

Which is a part of the spectrum is actually the fourth line in the rotational spectrum. So then we have lines 4 to 5, at $10B$ 5 to 6, 6 to 7, 7 to 8, 8 to 9, and 9 to 10. So, these lines come at $12B$ $14B$ $16B$ $18B$ and $20B$ in other words, the separation in wave numbers between the left most line in the real spectrum that is being shown and the rightmost line is $20B - 12B$ or $8B$ that is $12B$. Now according to the problem.

The difference between the left most line and the rightmost line is 23.148 centimeter inverse does we can write $12B = 23.148$ centimeter inverse or $B = 23.148$ divided by 12 that is 1.929 centimeter inverse. So, we have found the fast part of the problem, we needed to find B , B is 1.929 centimeter inverse. The next question is what is the inter nuclear distance between C and O. So, we have to find R .

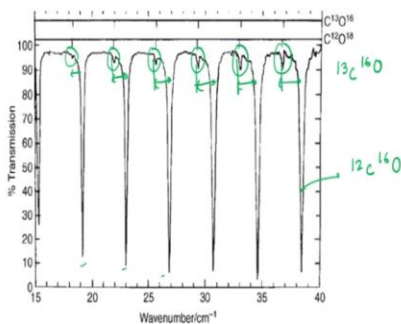
So we know that I , there is a moment of inertia is given by μR^2 or R is given by root over R / μ again we know $B = h / 8 \pi^2 I$ see from here we can write $I = h / 8 \pi^2 B C$. So, we have to find I , we have to find μ , then we can find the inter nuclear distance between C and O. So let us try to find μ first. So, μ is given by $m_{\text{carbon}} \times m_{\text{oxygen}} / (m_{\text{carbon}} + m_{\text{oxygen}})$. So that is $12 \times 16 / 28 = 16$ grams per mole.

So that is $12 \times 16 \times 10^{-3} / 28$ kilograms per mole that is $12 \times 16 \times 10^{-3} / 28$ times the Avogadro number that is 6.022×10^{23} kilogram and this is 11.39×10^{-27} kilogram. So, that is the value of μ so now, let us try to find the value of I so $I = h / 8 \pi^2 B C$. So that is 6.626×10

to the power - 34 divided by 8 times 3.14 squared times B, that is 1.929 times 3 times 10 to the power 10.

So if you solve this, the value of I that we get is 14.5 times 10 to the power - 47 kilogram meter squared. So we have to find the value of R, $R = \sqrt{I / \mu}$ that is root over 14.5 times 10 to the power - 47 divided by 11.39 times 10 to the power - 27 and if we do this what we get is 1.128 times 10 to the power - 10 meter. So, we can write this as approximately 1.13 times 10 to the power - 10 meter or in other words 1.13 angstroms or 113 that is 113 Pico meters.

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So now, let us look into the rotational spectrum of carbon monoxide again a part from this distinct peaks, there are a few small peaks though these small peaks we can identify in the spectrum so these small peaks shown in the spectrum are due to the natural abundance of the 13 C isotope that is it is from 13 C 16 O the larger peaks are coming from 12 C 16 O. So, if we closely look, we see that the isotopic peak moves away from this main peak as the value of J increases. So, now we will look into the effect of isotope substitution on a rotational spectrum.

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Rotational Spectroscopy – Isotope Effect

$\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2}$ $\mu' = \frac{m_1' m_2}{m_1' + m_2}$ $2B' < 2B$

$\frac{m_1'}{m_1} > 1$ $\frac{1}{m_1'} < \frac{1}{m_1}$ $\frac{m_2}{m_1'} < \frac{m_2}{m_1}$

$\frac{\mu}{\mu'} = \frac{B'}{B} < 1$ $B' < B$

$\tilde{\nu}_J = B J(J+1)$

smaller number
larger number



So, when a particular atom in a molecule is replaced by isotope, the molecule will be chemically identical with the original one and the nature of the chemical bond will remain unchanged. In other words, there is no appreciable change in the inter nuclear distance on isotropic substitution. However, since the reduced masses are different, there is a change in the moment of inertia, because the moment of inertia is directly proportional to the reduced mass and hence, there is a change in the B value of the molecule. So, let us say we have a dynamic molecule.

So, the masses are represented by m_1 and m_2 and the reduced mass is μ let us say we make an isotopic substitution of m_1 . So, we have a new dynamic molecule that is m_1' m_2 . And let us say for this case, the reduce mass is μ' . So, the mass of the other atom as we see is m_2 . And let us assume that m_1' is the heavier isotope and m_1 is the lighter isotope. In other words, m_1' is greater than m_1 .

So, because we are representing the reduced masses by μ and μ' , we can write $\mu = m_1 m_2$ divided by $m_1 + m_2$. Similarly, we can write $\mu' = m_1' m_2$ divided by $m_1' + m_2$. So, if we take the ratio that is μ / μ' , but we get this is $m_1 m_2 / m_1 + m_2$ divided by $m_1' m_2$ divided by $m_1' + m_2$. So, we can write this, we can cancel out into, we can write this as m_1 times $m_1' + m_2$.

In the numerator and m_1 prime times $m_1 + m_2$ in the denominator. So now we can take m_1 prime common in the numerator we can write m_1 prime, $1 + m_2 / m_1$ prime in the numerator and in the denominator we can take m_1 common so we can write m_1 prime m_1 . Then in the bracket we have $1 + m_2$ divided by m_1 . So if we cancel out m_1 prime m_1 from the numerator and the denominator.

We can write this as $1 + m_2 / m_1$ prime divided by $1 + m_2 / m_1$ so as you m_1 prime is greater than m_1 , we can write that $1 / m_1$ prime is less than $1 / m_1$ now if we multiply m_2 both on the left hand side and the right hand side, what we get is m_2 / m_1 prime is less than m_2 / m_1 . So what we see in the numerator, we have m_2 / m_1 prime, which is less than what we have $1 + m_2 / m_1$ in the denominator.

So we can say, the numerator we have a smaller number. And in the denominator, we have a larger number. In other words, this we can write this μ / μ prime is less than 1 and as B is inversely proportional to μ , we can write that μ / μ prime = B prime / B . So, as the LHS are the left hand side is less than 1, the right hand side RHS is also less than 1 thus B prime is less than B .

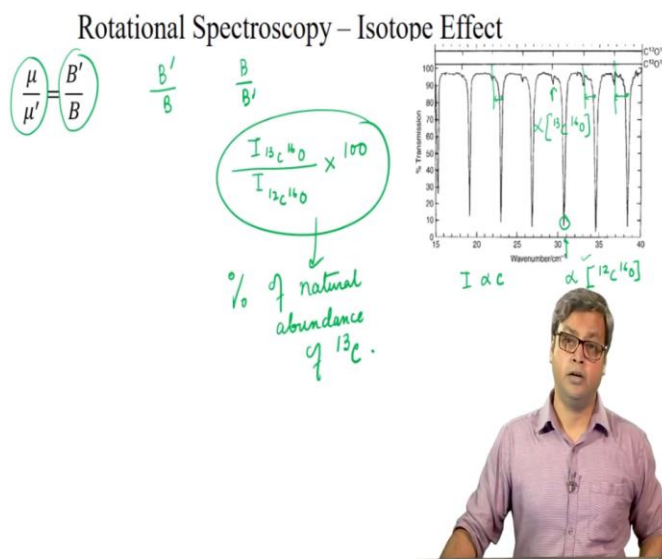
So now the question is, how will this be reflected in the rotational spectrum so first of all, we know the energy level that is $\nu_{\text{par } J}$ is given by B times J times $J + 1$. So when we have the heavier isotope, or in other words, we have B prime, which is less than B . So let us try to draw the energy levels. Let us say $J = 0, 1, 2, 3$. So this is for m_1, m_2 . Now, if you try to draw it for the isotopically substituted molecule.

m_1 prime m_2 then $J = 0$ remains the same, but the B factor kicks in from $J = 1$. So we have $J = 1$ level for this isotopically substituted molecule with a heavier isotope is slightly less compared to m_1, m_2 is again, less for $J = 2$ and even this for $J = 3$. In other words, this effect is more pronounced as the value of J increase so we also know that $2B$ is the spacing between any 2 consecutive line of the rotational spectrum.

The spectrum of the heavier isotope will show a smaller separation between the lines. In other words, for the heavier isotope, the separation is $2B'$. So this $2B'$ will be less than the molecule which has the lighter isotope or where the separation is $2B$. In other words, if I want to draw the spectrum, let us say I draw m_1 m_2 with a solid line. So I have these transitions rotational lines.

Now, if I have m_1 prime m_2 which I am trying, let us say with the dashed line. So, this dashed lines will be somewhat come earlier compared to the solid lines and the gap between the solid line and the corresponding dashed line will increase as the value of J increases.

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So, now, let us look again at the experimental spectrum, we see as the value of J increases the gap between the isotopically substituted line and the other line that is between ^{13}C and ^{12}C increases from what we had at lower J values. So, we can now explain the isotope effect from the experimental spectrum of carbon monoxide. So, we can find that B and B' from the experimental spectrum. So, which will also provide us with this ratio B'/B or we can also find B/B' .

In other words, because $B'/B = \mu/\mu'$, we can get or we can obtain the atomic mass of the isotope directly from the rotational spectrum. We will have a better idea when we see a problem related to this. Moreover we can also find the natural abundance of a certain isotope

by comparing the intensities of the peaks at a particular J level, because we know that intensity is proportional to concentration.

So let us consider it one of these peaks let us we consider this B. So, the intensity of this peak is proportional to the concentration of the $^{12}\text{C } ^{16}\text{O}$. On the other hand, the intensity of this peak that is proportional to the concentration of $^{13}\text{C } ^{16}\text{O}$, because both the peaks are proportional to the respective concentrations, if we take the intensity coming from the ^{12}C peak and the ratio of this intensity of coming from the ^{13}C peak to the ^{12}C peak and multiply it with 100 what we get we get is the percentage of natural abundance of ^{13}C so, let us now look into a few problems related to isotopic effect.

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Q. The spacing between the rotational lines of HF is 40 cm^{-1} . What is the approximate spacing between the rotational lines of DF in cm^{-1} ?

(a) 10 (b) 20 (c) 30 (d) 40

$$\frac{B}{B'} = \frac{\mu}{\mu'}$$

$$\mu_{\text{HF}} = \frac{1 \times 19}{20} \times 10^{-30} \text{ kg}$$

$$\mu_{\text{DF}} = \frac{2 \times 19}{41} \times 10^{-30} \text{ kg}$$

$$\frac{\mu}{\mu'} = \frac{19}{20} \times \frac{21}{38} = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\frac{\mu}{\mu'} = \frac{B'}{B}$$

$$B'_{\text{DF}} = \frac{1}{2} B = \frac{1}{2} \times 40 = 20 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$^1\text{H } ^{19}\text{F}$
 $^2\text{H } ^{19}\text{F}$

$2B_{\text{HF}} = 40 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $B_{\text{HF}} = \frac{40}{2} = 20 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
 $2B' = ? \rightarrow 2 \times 10 \text{ cm}^{-1} \Rightarrow 20 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

So the first question we have is the spacing between the rotational lines of HF is 40 wave numbers and the question is what is the approximate spacing between the rotational lines of DF in centimeter inverse. So, HF we can write H that atomic weight 1 fluorine atomic weight 19 and DF. So, D is an isotope of H, because I can write DF as H with atomic weight to 19 F. So, the question is for HF, I have a rotational spectrum and the spacing between the lines that is $2B$ for HF = 40 wave numbers.

So, B for HF is $40 / 2$, that is 20 wave numbers. So, what we need to find? We need to find the $2B'$ because the auditorium is the heavier isotope. We are defining B prime for the auditorium and we have to find the approximate spacing between the lines. So, we have to find

that $2B$ prime. So we have to find this one. Let us see how we can do this. So we know that B prime by $B = \mu / \mu$ prime.

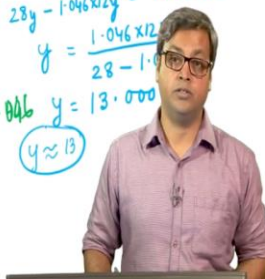
So we can write μ . That is for HF that is 1 times 19 divided by 20. And we can write 10 to the power - 3 divided by Avogadro number that is in kg. So μ for DF is 2 times 19 divided by 21. That is 2 + 19 times 10 to the power - 3 divided by Avogadro number in kg. So we can write that μ / μ prime = 19 divided by 20 times 21 / 38. So approximately if we cancel out 20 and 21 what we get is μ / μ prime = 1 / 2.

In other words, μ / μ prime = B prime / B or B prime = 1 / 2 times B . So we found out $B = 20$ wave numbers. So, that is half times 20. That is 10 wave numbers. So B prime which is DF is 10 wave numbers in other words $2B$ prime is 2 times 10 wave numbers that is 20 wave numbers. So, our answer in this multiple choice question is B or the approximate spacing between the rotational lines of DF in centimeter inverse is 20.

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From the spectrum of CO, the first rotational absorption of $^{12}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}$ was found to be at 3.84235 cm^{-1} , while that for another isotope of carbon $^{13}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}$ was at 3.67337 cm^{-1} . What is the atomic mass of the carbon isotope? $y > 12$ $y = ?$

$$\begin{aligned}
 2B &= 3.84235 \text{ cm}^{-1} & 2B' &= 3.67337 \text{ cm}^{-1} \\
 B &= 1.92118 \text{ cm}^{-1} & B' &= 1.83669 \text{ cm}^{-1} \\
 \frac{B}{B'} &= \frac{1.92118}{1.83669} = 1.046 & \frac{28y}{12(16+y)} &= 1.046 \\
 \frac{B}{B'} = \frac{\mu'}{\mu} = 1.046 & \mu' = \frac{y \times 16}{y+16} \times \frac{10^{-3}}{\text{N}_{\text{Av}}} \text{ kg} & 28y &= 1.046 \times 12 \times 16 + 1.046 \times 12y \\
 \mu &= \frac{12 \times 16}{12+16} \times \frac{10^{-3}}{\text{N}_{\text{Av}}} \text{ kg} & y &= \frac{1.046 \times 12 \times 16}{28 - 1.046 \times 12} \\
 \frac{\mu'}{\mu} = \frac{18y}{16+y} \times \frac{28}{12 \times 18} &= \frac{28y}{12(16+y)} = 1.046 & y &= 13.000 \\
 & & & y \approx 13
 \end{aligned}$$



So, now, let us look into the next problem. So, from the spectrum of carbon monoxide, the first rotational absorption of $^{12}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}$ was found at 3.84235 wave numbers. So, the first rotational absorption comes at $2B$ so we can write $2B = 3.84235$ wave numbers. In other words, what we can write is that $B = 1.92118$ wave numbers. The next part of the question is while that for another isotope of carbon, the isotope atomic weight is not given. So, this is why so, why $^{13}\text{C}^{16}\text{O}$ was at 3.67337 wave numbers.

So, first of all we should remember we are talking about 2 isotopes of carbon and because the value of B for ^{12}C is greater, obviously, from our understanding now, we know that why should be greater than 12 that means. We can say that why is a heavier isotope compared to 12? So let us write that as B prime. So we can write that $2B \text{ prime} = 3.67337$ wave numbers, in the world is $B \text{ prime} = 1.83669$ wave numbers.

So in the question, we have to find the atomic mass of the carbon isotope, or we have to find what is the value of y. So we can immediately write $B / B \text{ prime} = 1.92118$ divided by 1.83669 . That is 1.046. So we know that $B / B \text{ prime} = \mu \text{ prime} / \mu$. So $\mu \text{ prime} / \mu = 1.046$. So we can write $\mu \text{ prime}$ equals. So this is the ^{13}C . So $y \text{ times } 16 / y + 16 \text{ times } 10 \text{ to the power } - 3$ divided by Avogadro number kilogram.

We can rate $\mu = 12 \text{ times } 16$ divided by $12 + 16 \text{ times } 10 \text{ to the power } - 3$ divided by Avogadro numbers. Kilogram in other words, $\mu \text{ prime} / \mu = 16y$ divided by $16 + y \text{ times } 28$ divided by $12 \text{ times } 16$. We can cancel out 16. We can write this equals $28y$ divided by $12 \text{ times } 16 + y$. So this expression equals 1.046. So we can write $28y / 12 \text{ times } 16 + y = 1.046$. So if you simplify that will write $20y = 1.046 \text{ times } 12 \text{ times } 16 + 1.046 \text{ times } 12y$.

So we can write $28y - 1.046 \text{ times } 12y = 1.046 \text{ times } 12 \text{ times } 16$. In other words, we have to find y. So $y = 1.046 \text{ times } 12 \text{ times } 16$ divided by $28 - 1.046 \text{ times } 12$. So if you do this calculation, you will find $y = 13.0005$. So we can read approximately y is 13 so we are talking about the ^{13}C isotope. So, from this we can find that the atomic weight of ^{13}C is 13.0005 from an experimental data. So this is within 0.02% of the best value obtained in other ways. In other words, the decrease separation observed for isotopes allows us to evaluate precisely the atomic weights of the isotopes.