

Variationally Computed IR Line List for the Methyl Radical CH_3

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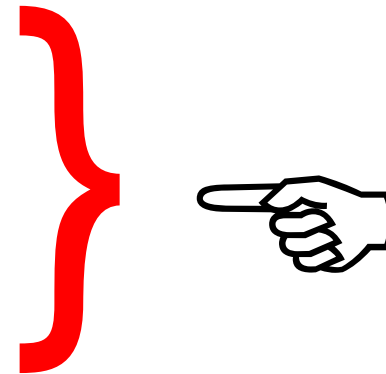
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CH₃ radical:

- Hydrocarbon combustion processes
- Atmospheric chemistry
- Chemistry of semiconductor production
- Chemical vapor deposition of diamond
- Intermediary in many chemical processes of current industrial and environmental interest
- Exoplanetary atmospheres
- Atmospheres of Saturn and Neptune
- Interstellar medium



Line list for CH₃:

- *Goal: Catalogue of predicted transitions (wavenumbers & intensities)*
- RCCSD(T)-F12b /cc-pVQZ-F12 *ab initio* calculation; MOLPRO
- Equilibrium geometry planar; empirical adjustment of equilibrium C-H bond length
- Simulation of rotation-vibration spectrum with the program TROVE; line list expected to be accurate to $T = 1500$ K.

Potential energy expansion:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(\xi_1, \xi_2, \xi_3, \xi_{4a}, \xi_{4b}; \sin \bar{\rho}) &= V_e + V_0(\sin \bar{\rho}) + \sum_j F_j(\sin \bar{\rho}) \xi_j \\
 &+ \sum_{j \leq k} F_{jk}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \xi_j \xi_k + \sum_{j \leq k \leq l} F_{jkl}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \xi_j \xi_k \xi_l \\
 &+ \sum_{j \leq k \leq l \leq m} F_{jklm}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \xi_j \xi_k \xi_l \xi_m + \dots;
 \end{aligned}$$

in

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_k &= 1 - \exp[-a(r_k - r_e)], \quad k = 1, 2, 3, \\
 (\xi_{4a}, \xi_{4b}) &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}[2\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \alpha_3], \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}[\alpha_2 - \alpha_3] \right) \\
 \sin \bar{\rho} &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} \sin[(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)/6]
 \end{aligned}$$

Dipole moment expansion:

(Symmetrized Molecular Bond (SMB) expansion)

Dipole moment expanded in terms of unit vectors $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3, \mathbf{e}_N$

$$\mathbf{e}_k = \frac{\mathbf{r}_k - \mathbf{r}_4}{|\mathbf{r}_k - \mathbf{r}_4|} \quad \mathbf{e}_N = \mathbf{q}_N / |\mathbf{q}_N|$$

$$\mathbf{q}_N = (\mathbf{e}_1 \times \mathbf{e}_2) + (\mathbf{e}_2 \times \mathbf{e}_3) + (\mathbf{e}_3 \times \mathbf{e}_1).$$

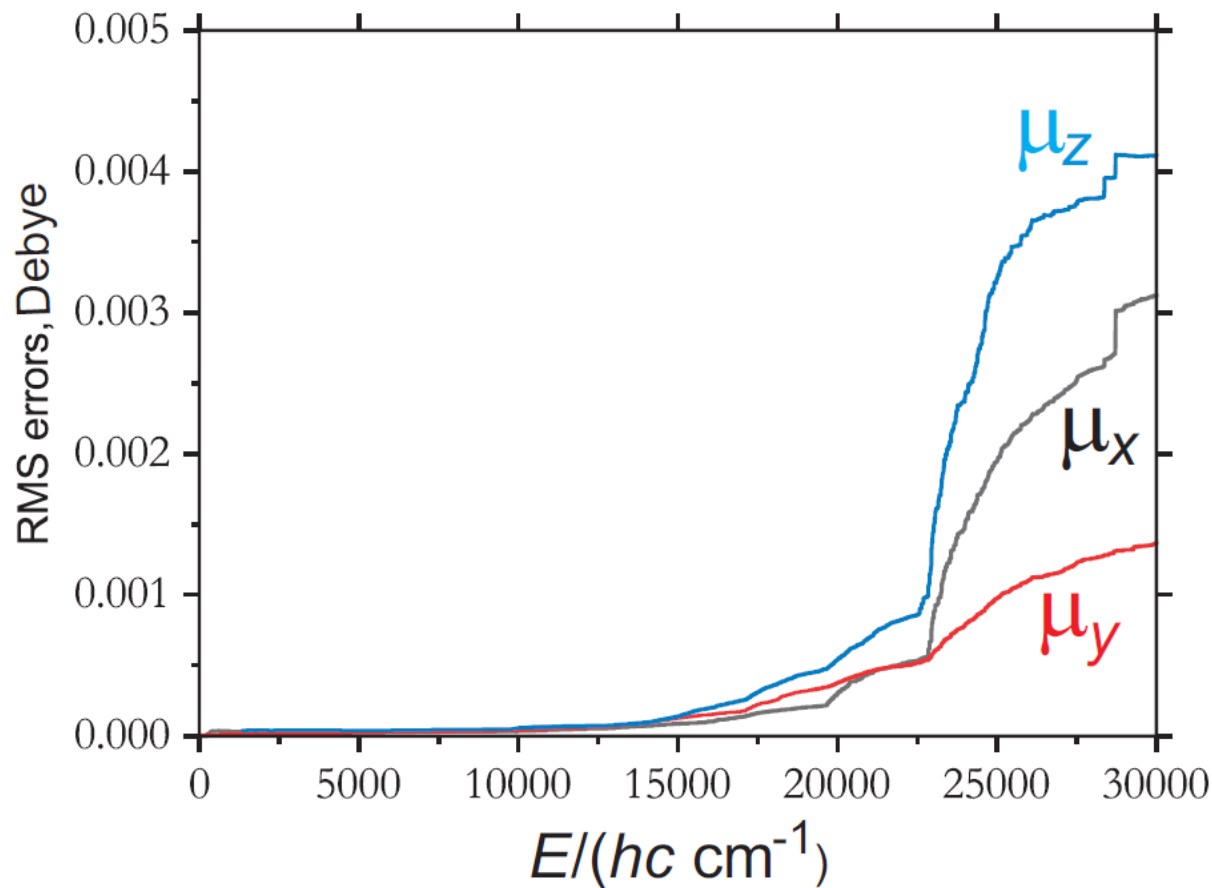
$$\bar{\mu}_{A'_2}^{\text{SMB}} = (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{e}_N)$$

$$\bar{\mu}_{E'_a}^{\text{SMB}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} [2(\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{e}_1) - (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{e}_2) - (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{e}_3)]$$

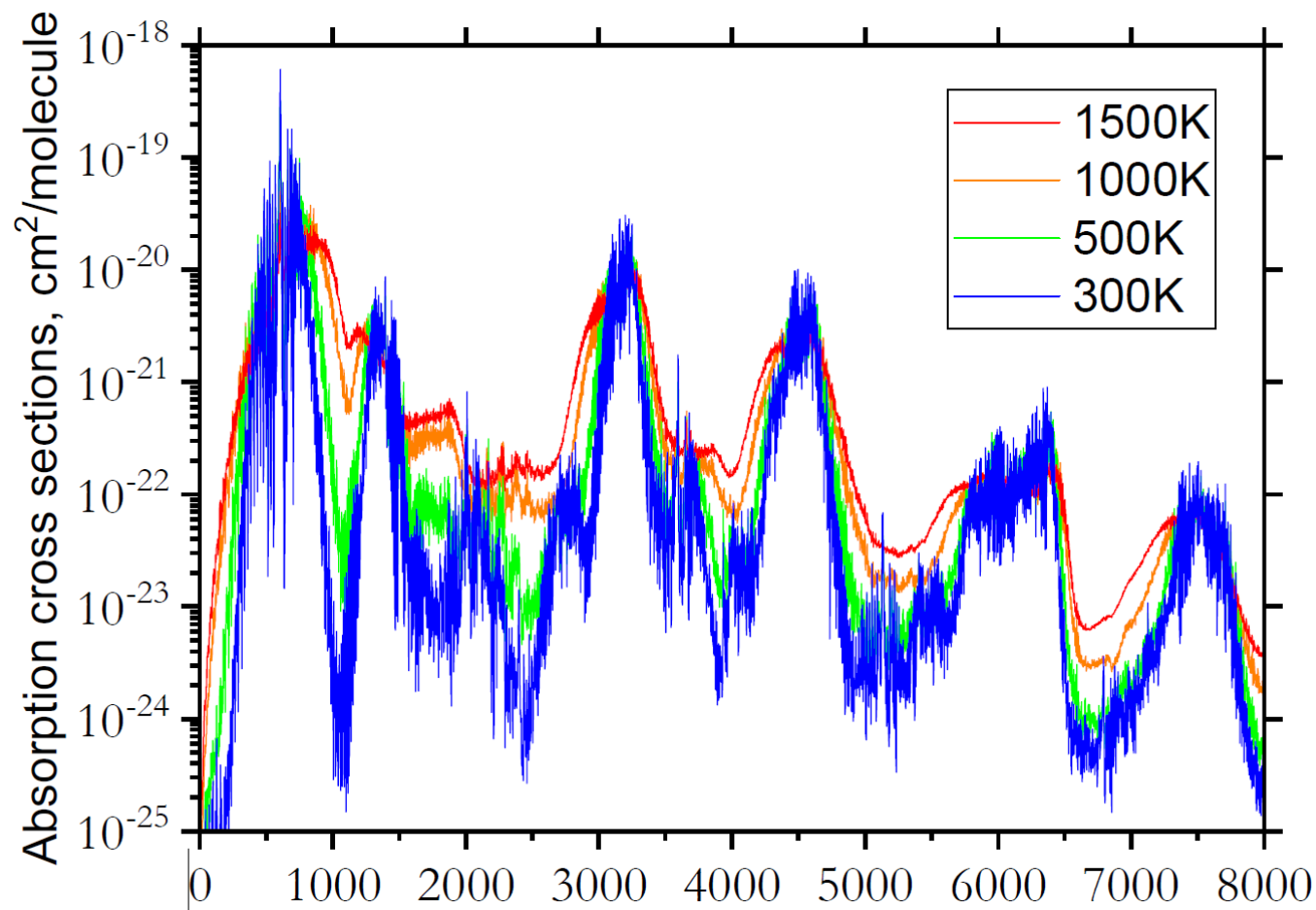
$$\bar{\mu}_{E'_b}^{\text{SMB}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [(\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{e}_2) - (\bar{\boldsymbol{\mu}} \cdot \mathbf{e}_3)],$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\mu}_{\Gamma}^{\text{SMB}}(\chi_1, \chi_2, \chi_3, \chi_{4a}, \chi_{4b}; \rho) = & \mu_0^{\Gamma}(\sin \bar{\rho}) + \sum_i \mu_i^{\Gamma}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \chi_i + \sum_{i \leq j} \mu_{ij}^{\Gamma}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \chi_i \chi_j \\ & + \sum_{i \leq j \leq k} \mu_{ijk}^{\Gamma}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \chi_i \chi_j \chi_k + \sum_{i \leq j \leq k \leq l} \mu_{ijkl}^{\Gamma}(\sin \bar{\rho}) \chi_i \chi_j \chi_k \chi_l, \end{aligned}$$

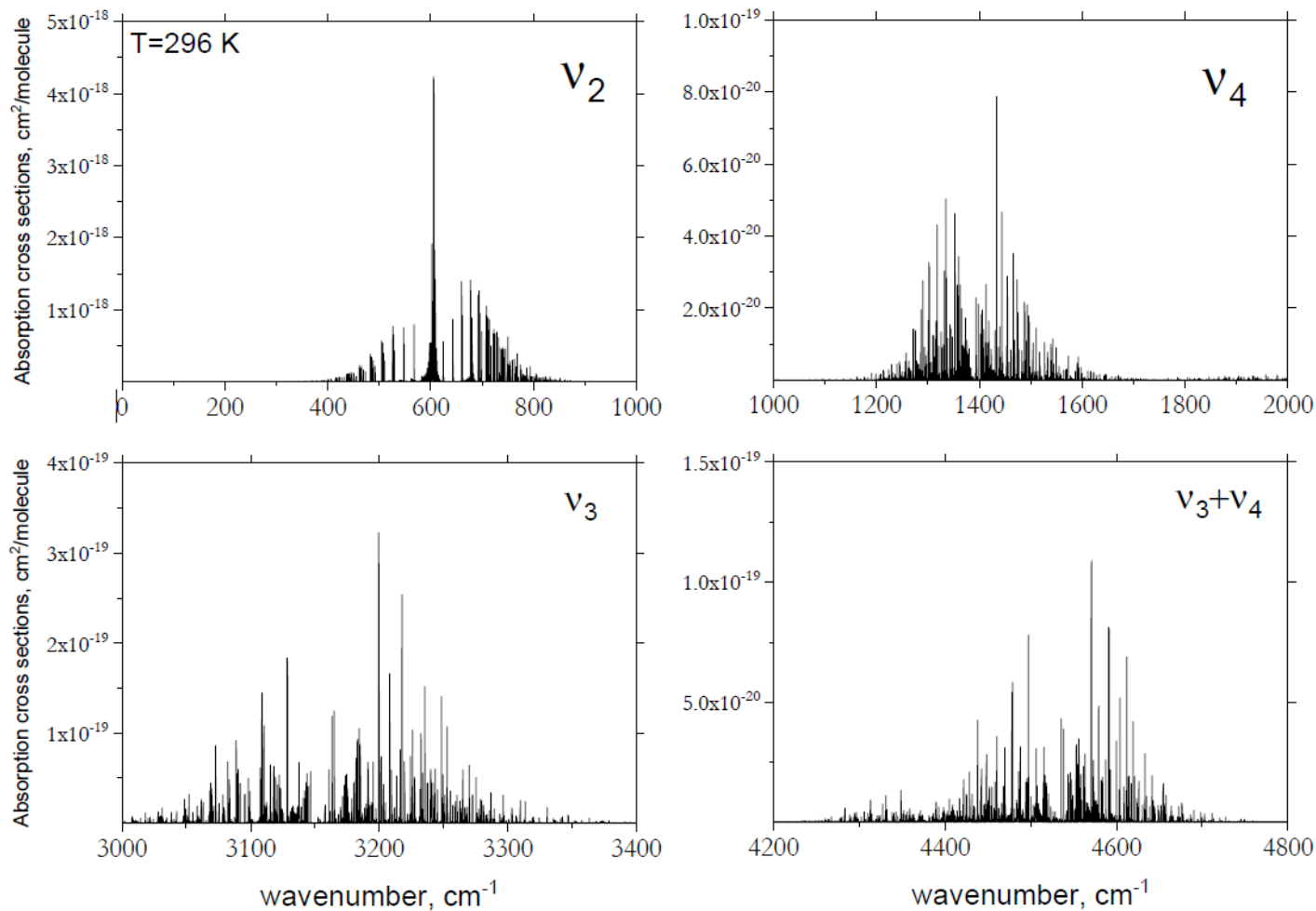
Dipole moment fitting:



Simulated spectra for CH₃:



Simulated spectra for CH₃:



Vibrational term values for CH₃:

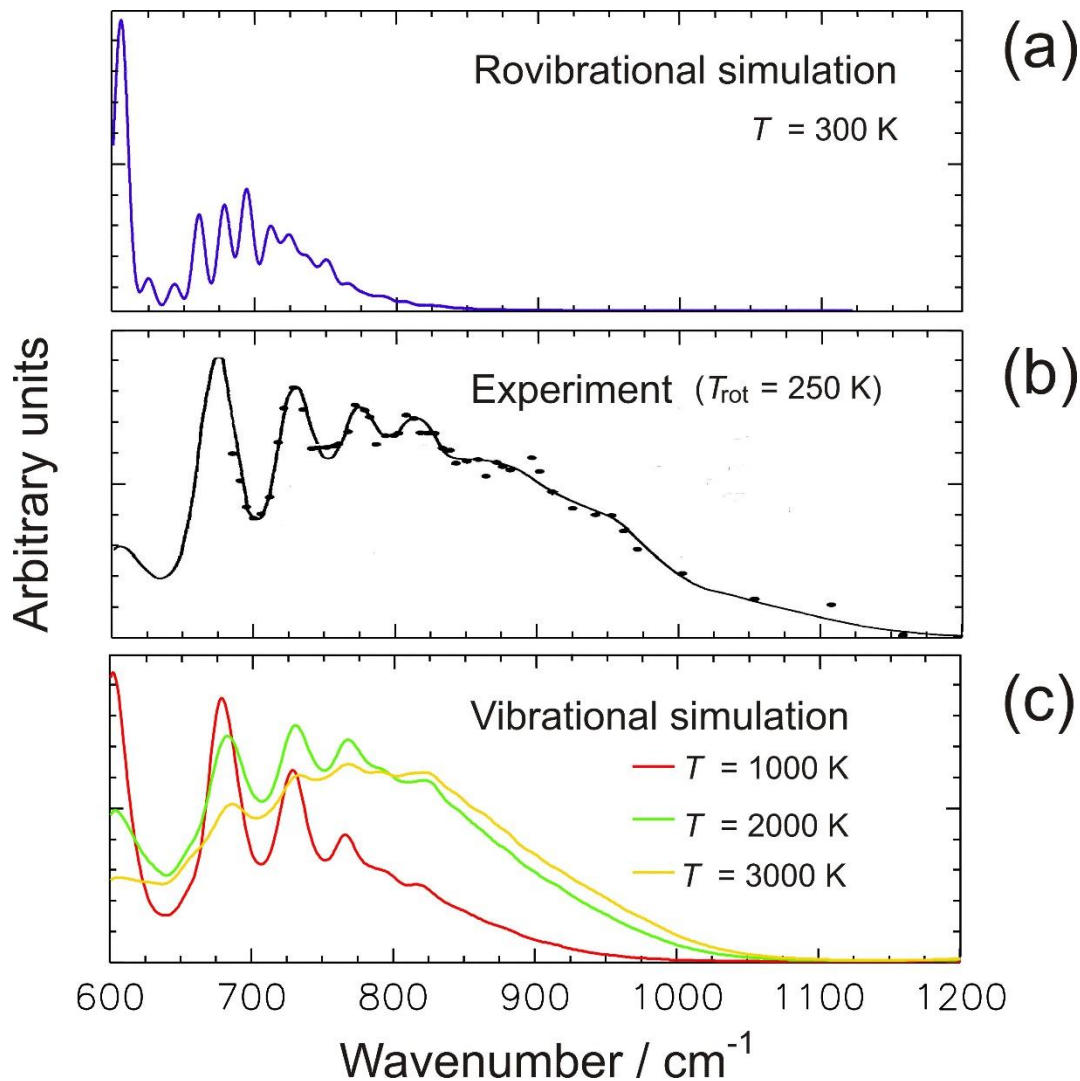
Γ	State	Ref.	Obs. ^a	$P_{\max} = 24^b$	$P_{\max} = 32^c$	Γ	State	Ref.	Obs. ^a	$P_{\max} = 24^b$	$P_{\max} = 32^c$	
A'_1	$2\nu_2$	61	1288.1	1279.77	1281.24	A''_2	ν_2	13	606.453	602.43	602.43	
	$2\nu_4$			2737.63	2739.64		$3\nu_2$			2010.09	2010.09	
	$4\nu_2$			2773.65	2776.86		$\nu_2 + 2\nu_4^0$			3372.27	3371.59	
	ν_1	13	3004.42	3002.71	3002.76		$5\nu_2$			3569.96	3569.95	
	$3\nu_4^3$			4118.59	4120.58		$\nu_1 + \nu_2$			3596.35	3596.30	
	$\nu_1 + 2\nu_2$			4258.97	4260.53		$3\nu_4^3$			4768.70	4767.06	
	$6\nu_2$			4391.99	4397.00		$\nu_2 + 2\nu_4^0$			4823.32	4822.79	
	$\nu_3^1 + \nu_4^1$			4537.94	4538.93		$\nu_1 + 3\nu_2$			4981.58	4981.52	
	$4\nu_4$			5371.39	5364.56		E''	$\nu_2 + \nu_4^1$			2000.24	2002.22
	$2\nu_2 + 3\nu_4^3$			5475.84	5480.07			$\nu_2 + 2\nu_4^2$			3388.24	3391.11
	$4\nu_2 + 2\nu_4$			5601.91	5607.20			$3\nu_2 + \nu_4^1$			3426.45	3430.06
E'	ν_4^1	62	1397.0	1385.99	1387.26	$\nu_2 + \nu_3^1$				3736.40	3736.97	
	$2\nu_2 + \nu_4^1$			2688.80	2691.61	$\nu_2 + 3\nu_4^1$				4726.62	4728.62	
	$2\nu_4^2$			2759.77	2762.05	$3\nu_2 + 2\nu_4^2$				4835.22	4839.85	
	ν_3^1	58	3160.8	3158.88	3158.83	$\nu_1 + \nu_2 + \nu_4^1$				4980.92	4983.16	
	$3\nu_4^1$			4074.69	4075.46							
$2\nu_2 + 2\nu_4^2$			4087.92	4091.72								

Comparison between
experimental emission
spectrum and
simulations for CH_3 .

CH_3 radicals produced
by dissociation of CH_3I

Contributions from ν_2
and hot bands only in
vibrational simulations

Experimental spectrum
reproduced from Hermann,
H. W.; Leone, S. R. The
Journal of Chemical
Physics 1982, 76, 4759-
4765, with the permission of
AIP Publishing.



Thank you for your attention!

A. Y. Adam, A. Yachmenev, S. N. Yurchenko, and Per Jensen: A variationally computed IR line list for the methyl radical CH₃, *J. Phys. Chem. A* **123**, 4755-4763 (2019). DOI: [10.1021/acs.jpca.9b02919](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jpca.9b02919)