

**WG13**

Large Amplitude Bending Motion:  
Computational Molecular Spectroscopy and Experiments  
of Transition-Metal Containing Isocyanide and Cyanides.

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The effects of **large amplitude bending motion** gave rise to a **longstanding** debate:

**CsOH**: D.M. Lide, R.L. Kuczkowski, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 46, 4768 (1967).

D.M. Lide, C. Matsumura, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 50, 3080 (1969)

**RbOH**: C. Matsumura, D.R. Lide, *J. Chem. Phys.*, 50, 71 (1969)

$r_c$ : M. Nakata, K. Kuchitsu, *et al.*, *J. Mol. Spec.*, **83**,118 (1980) **OCCl<sub>2</sub>**

*J. Mol. Spec.*, **86**,241 (1981) **OCCl<sub>2</sub>**

*J. Mol. Struc.*, **320** ,179 (1994) **OCS, etc.**

$r_m^{(2)}$ : J.K.G. Watson, *et al.*, *J. Mol. Spec.*, **196**,102 (1999)

K.A. Walker, *et al.*, *J. Mol. Spec.*, **209**, 178 (2001)

**Theory**

**AINC/AICN, GaNC/GaCN,**

**InNC/InCN**

However, mostly forgotten in recent experimental studies.

## FeNC

Exp. (LIF) Lie & Dagdian (2001)

$$B_0 = 0.1452(2) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$B_0(^6\Delta_{9/2}) = 0.14447(13) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

$$2.01(5) \text{ \AA} \quad \underline{1.03(8) \text{ \AA}}$$



Calc. 1.935 \AA    1.182 \AA  $r_e$

$$B_e = 0.14251 \text{ cm}^{-1}, B_0 = 0.14341 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

## CoCN

Exp. (MW) Sheridan and Ziurys (2004)

$$B_0(^3\Phi_4) = 4208.827(23) \text{ MHz}$$

$$1.88270 \text{ \AA} \quad \underline{1.13133 \text{ \AA}}$$



Calc. 1.854 \AA    1.168 \AA  $r_e$

$$B_e = 4209.9 \text{ MHz}, B_0(^3\Phi_4) = 4229.1 \text{ MHz}$$

## NiCN

Exp. (LIF) Kingston, Merer, Varberg (2002)

$$B_0(^2\Delta_{5/2}) = 0.1444334(30) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

(MW) Sheridan, Ziurys (2003)

$$B_0(^2\Delta_{5/2}) = 0.14443515(5) \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

LIF 1.8292(28) \AA    1.1591(29) \AA  $r_0(^2\Delta_{5/2})$

MW 1.8293(1) \AA    1.1590(1) \AA  $r_0(^2\Delta_{5/2})$



Calc. 1.8141 \AA    1.1665 \AA  $r_e$

$$B_e = 0.14552 \text{ cm}^{-1}, B_0(^2\Delta_{5/2}) = 0.14559 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

However, **Difference in  $B_0$  is small:**

$$\text{FeNC}_{\text{calc}} \quad -1.2 \%$$

$$\text{CoCN}_{\text{calc}} \quad 0.5 \%$$

$$\text{NiCN}_{\text{calc}} \quad 0.8 \%$$

C-N Bond length / Å

	FeNC	CoCN	NiCN
Obs. ( $r_0$ )	1.03(8)	1.131	1.159
Calc. ( $r_e$ )	1.182	1.168	1.167
Difference/Å	-0.15 (13%)	-0.037	-0.008

Our Calc. level:

FeNC, CoCN, and NiCN

MR-SDCI+Q +  $E_{rel}$

cf. Exp.

$r_0$ (NC): MgNC 1.169 Å

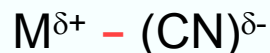
AiNC 1.171 Å

CN 1.172 Å

cf. Calc. (Hirano, *et al.* JMS, 2002)

$r_e$ (NC) MgNC 1.1814 Å

- **Ionicity** (Metal-Ligand) can be estimated from the C-N bond length:



The transferred electron goes into  $\sigma^*(CN)$  orbital  $\rightarrow$  weakens the CN bond.  
( *i.e.* lengthens this bond).

Hence, the **ionicity** of the Metal-Ligand bond should be in this order,

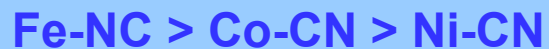


- **And, hence, floppiness in bending motion should be**

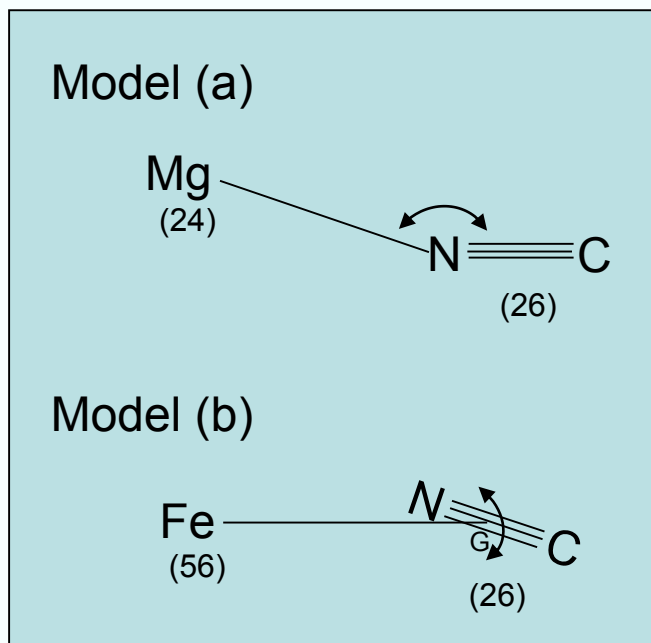


since the more ionic, the more floppy.

Now, we know **ionicity** and, hence, **floppiness**:



$r_0(\text{Obs.}):$  (1.03) (1.131) (1.159)



The more floppy, the shorter the CN bond length projected to the molecular axis becomes.

To go further, we **need** the knowledge of the **Three-dimensional Potential Energy Surfaces.**

# Our Strategy in Computational Molecular Spectroscopy

- 1) Three-dimensional potential energy surface  
by the *ab initio* MO method:

$$\text{MR-SDCI} + \text{Q} + E_{\text{rel}}$$

- 2) Fit the potential to an analytical potential function
- 3) The 2nd-order perturbation treatment
- 4) Variational calculations with MORBID or RENNER

FeNC  ${}^6\Delta_j$ MR-SDCI+Q+ $E_{\text{rel}}$ /[Roos ANO(Fe), aug-cc-pVQZ(C,N)]

## Perturbational Method

	Calc.	Exp. ${}^6\Delta_j$ <sup>a)</sup>	Calc.	Exp. ${}^6\Delta_j$ <sup>a)</sup>
$r_e(\text{Fe-N}) / \text{\AA}$	1.9354	2.01(5) ( $r_0$ )	$\omega_e x_e(11) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-11.8
$r_e(\text{N-C}) / \text{\AA}$	<b>1.1823</b>	<b>1.03(8)</b> ( $r_0$ )	$\omega_e x_e(22) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-4.0
$a_e(\text{Fe-N-C}) / \text{deg}$	180.0	180.0	$\omega_e x_e(33) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-3.7
$B_e / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.1425		$\omega_e x_e(12) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-4.9
$B_{0,\Omega=9/2} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>0.14278</b> <sup>b</sup>	<b>0.14447(13)</b>	$\omega_e x_e(13) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-3.7
$D_J^* 10^8 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	4.83		$\omega_e x_e(23) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	8.6
$E_e / \text{Eh}$	-1364.1941735		$g_{22} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2.66
$\alpha_1 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00055		$\nu_1(\text{N-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2060
$\alpha_2 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.00147		$\nu_2(\text{Fe-N-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>102</b>
$\alpha_3 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00061		$\nu_3(\text{Fe-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>475</b> <b>464.1(42)</b>
$\omega_1(\text{N-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2090		Zero-Point $E. / \text{cm}^{-1}$	1385
$\omega_2(\text{Fe-N-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	109		$\zeta_{12} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.97
$\omega_3(\text{Fe-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	476		$\zeta_{23} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.24
$A_{\text{so}} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>-83</b>		$\Lambda$ -doubling/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00038
[cf. FeF ( ${}^6\Delta_j$ ) -78.15] <sup>c</sup>				
$\mu_e / \text{D}$	-4.59			
	(Expec. Value -4.74)			

<sup>a</sup> (LiF) Lie, *et al.* (2001).<sup>b</sup> Difference **1.2 %**<sup>c</sup> Allen and Ziurys (1997)

# Expectation values from MORBID analysis: FeNC

$(v_1, v_2^{I2}, v_3)$	$\langle r(\text{Fe-N}) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle r(\text{N-C}) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle r(\text{Fe-N}) \cos(\eta) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle r(\text{N-C}) \cos(\tau) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle \bar{\rho} \rangle / \text{degree}$
(0,0 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.967	1.187	1.964	1.164	13(7)
(0,1 <sup>1e,f</sup> ,0)	1.971	1.187	1.965	1.141	20(7)
(0,2 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.970	1.188	1.960	1.113	25(12)
(1,0 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.969	1.195	1.965	1.169	13(7)
(0,0 <sup>0</sup> ,1)	1.976	1.187	1.972	1.159	13(7)

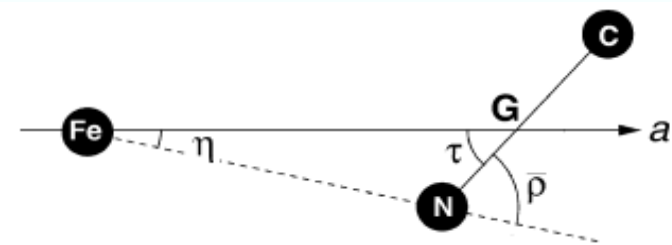
cf.

Equil. Struct.	1.935	1.182			0.0
Exp. $r_0$ (Lie <i>et al.</i> , 2001)	2.01(5)	1.03(8)			0.0

- The  $\langle r(\text{N-C}) \rangle$ ,  $\sim 1.187 \text{ \AA}$ , a little longer than  $r_e(\text{N-C})$ , does not change unless the C-N bond is excited.  $\rightarrow$  Physically meaningful, proper quantity.
- Exp.  $r_0$  is **not** the averaged projection onto  $a$ -axis.  $\rightarrow$  No physical meaning !

**Exp. model is inadequate !!**

*Explicit treatment of large amplitude bending motion is necessary.*





# CoCN $X^3\Phi$ MR-SDCI+Q+ $E_{rel}$ , Perturbation method

	Calc.	Exp. $^3\Phi_4^a$		Calc.	Exp. $^3\Phi_4^a$
$r_e(\text{Co-C}) / \text{\AA}$	1.8541	1.8827(7) ( $r_0$ )	$\omega_e x_e(11) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-10.9	
$r_e(\text{C-N}) / \text{\AA}$	<b>1.1677</b>	<b>1.1313(10)</b> ( $r_0$ )	$\omega_e x_e(22) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-7.7	
$a_e(\text{Co-C-N}) / \text{deg}$	180.0	180.0	$\omega_e x_e(33) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-2.2	
$B_e / \text{MHz}$	4209.9		$\omega_e x_e(12) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-3.4	
$B_0 / \text{MHz}$	<b>4234.8<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>4208.827(23)</b>	$\omega_e x_e(13) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-4.4	
$D_J / \text{MHz}$	0.00108	0.001451(10)	$\omega_e x_e(23) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	35.6	
$E_e / \text{Eh}$	-1484.7591917		$g_{22} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	8.0	
$\alpha_1 / \text{MHz}$	10.5		$\nu_1(\text{C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2163	
$\alpha_2 / \text{MHz}$	-24.7		$\nu_2(\text{Co-C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>239</b>	
$\alpha_3 / \text{MHz}$	-12.1		$\nu_3(\text{Co-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>571</b>	<b>~478 (?)</b>
$\omega_1(\text{C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2191		Zero-Point $E. / \text{cm}^{-1}$	1608	
$\omega_2(\text{Co-C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>238</b>		$\zeta_{12} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.98	
$\omega_3(\text{Co-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	542		$\zeta_{23} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.22	
$A_{so} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>-242</b>	<b>-133.3 (assumed)</b>	$\Lambda$ -doubling/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00018	
	[cf. CoH ( $^3\Phi$ ) <b>-242.7</b> ] <sup>c</sup>				
$\mu_e / \text{D}$	-6.993				
	(Expec. Value -7.464)				

<sup>a</sup> (MW) Sheridan, *et al.* (2004).

<sup>b</sup> Difference **0.6 %**

<sup>c</sup> Varberg, *et al.* (1989)

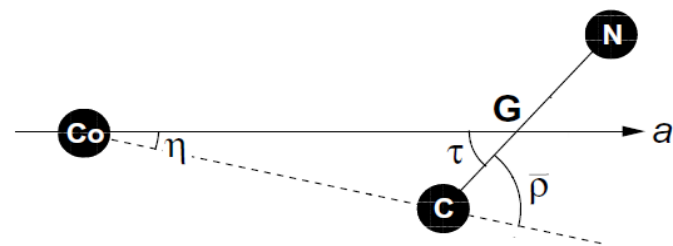
# Expectation values from MORBID analysis: CoCN

$(v_1, v_2^{I2}, v_3)$	$\langle r(\text{Co-C}) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle r(\text{C-N}) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle r(\text{C-N}) \cos(\tau) \rangle / \text{\AA}$	$\langle \bar{\rho} \rangle / \text{deg.}$
(0,0 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.873	1.172	1.161	8(5)
(0,1 <sup>1e,f</sup> ,0)	1.877	1.173	1.152	13(5)
(0,2 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.873	1.173	1.141	15(8)
(1,0 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.874	1.180	1.164	8(5)
(0,0 <sup>0</sup> ,1)	1.882	1.172	1.161	8(5)
<i>cf.</i>				
Equil. Struct.	1.854	1.168		0.0
Exp. $R_{0,\Omega=4}$ (Sheridan, et al., 2004)	1.8827(7)	1.1313(10)		0.0

- The  $\langle r(\text{C-N}) \rangle$ ,  $\sim 1.172 \text{ \AA}$ , a little longer than  $r_e(\text{C-N})$ , does not change unless the C-N bond is excited. → Physically meaningful, proper quantity.
- Exp.  $r_0$  is **not** the averaged projection onto  $a$ -axis. → No physical meaning!

**Exp. model is inadequate !!**

*Explicit treatment of large amplitude bending motion is necessary.*



**$^{58}\text{NiCN } X^2\Delta_j$  MR-SDCI+Q+ $E_{\text{rel}}$ , Perturbation method**

	Calc.	Exp.		Calc.	Exp.
$r_e(\text{Ni-C}) / \text{\AA}$	1.8141	1.8292(28) ( $r_0$ ) <sup>a)</sup>	$\omega_e x_e(11) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-17.8	
		1.8293(1) ( $r_0$ ) <sup>b)</sup>	$\omega_e x_e(22) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-96.3	
$r_e(\text{C-N}) / \text{\AA}$	<b>1.1665</b>	<b>1.1591(29)</b> ( $r_0$ ) <sup>a)</sup>	$\omega_e x_e(33) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.1	
		<b>1.1590(2)</b> ( $r_0$ ) <sup>b)</sup>	$\omega_e x_e(12) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-4.2	
$a_e(\text{Co-C-N})/\text{deg}$	180.0	180.0	$\omega_e x_e(13) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	3.6	
$B_e / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.14552	0.143681446(40) <sup>b)</sup>	$\omega_e x_e(23) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	383.7	
$B_0 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.14567	0.144638234(56) <sup>b)</sup>	$g_{22} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	96.4	
$B_{0,\Omega=5/2} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>0.14559</b> <sup>c)</sup>	<b>0.144443511(53)</b> <sup>b)</sup>	$\nu_1(\text{C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2161	F.C. inactive <sup>a)</sup>
$D_J / \text{cm}^{-1}$	4.49 x10 <sup>-8</sup>	4.99 x10 <sup>-8</sup> <sup>a)</sup>	$\nu_2(\text{Ni-C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	251	246.1(16) <sup>a)</sup>
$E_e / \text{Eh}$	-1612.0269135		$\nu_3(\text{Ni-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	897	501.8(29) <sup>a)</sup>
$\alpha_1 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00052		Zero-Point $E. / \text{cm}^{-1}$	1699	
$\alpha_2 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.00072	-0.000712 <sup>a)</sup>	$\zeta_{12} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.97	
		-0.00074636(4) <sup>b)</sup>	$\zeta_{23} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	-0.23	
$\alpha_3 / \text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00060		$\Lambda$ -doubling/ $\text{cm}^{-1}$	0.00018	
$\omega_1(\text{C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	2199		$A_{\text{so}} / \text{cm}^{-1}$	<b>-613</b>	<b>-415.0(ass.)<sup>b)</sup></b>
$\omega_2(\text{Ni-C-N}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	254		$\mu_e / \text{D}$	-7.23	
$\omega_3(\text{Ni-C}) / \text{cm}^{-1}$	511		(Expect. value: -7.56)		
			$\varepsilon$ (Renner const.)	<b>0.050</b>	

<sup>a)</sup> (LIF) Kingston, et al. (2002). <sup>b)</sup> (MW) Sheridan, et al. (2003). <sup>c)</sup> **Difference 0.8 %**

# Expectation values from MORBID analysis: $^{58}\text{NiCN}$

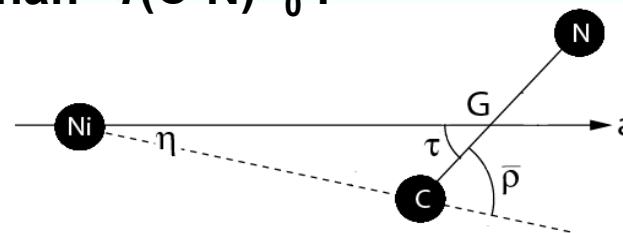
$(\nu_1, \nu_2^{1/2}, \nu_3)$	$\langle r(\text{Ni-C}) \rangle$ / Å	$\langle r(\text{C-N}) \rangle$ / Å	$\langle r(\text{Ni-C}) \cos(\eta) \rangle$ / Å	$\langle r(\text{C-N}) \cos(\tau) \rangle$ / Å	$\langle \bar{\rho} \rangle$ / degrees
(0,0 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.842	1.171	1.839	1.160	9(5)
(0,1 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.849	1.171	1.845	1.153	13(5)
(0,2 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.846	1.171	1.841	1.145	15(8)
(0,0 <sup>0</sup> ,1)	1.849	1.171	1.846	1.158	
(1,0 <sup>0</sup> ,0)	1.844	1.178	1.841	1.168	
<i>cf.</i>					
Equil. Struct.	1.814	1.167			0.0
Exp. $r_{0,\Omega=5/2}$	1.8293(1)	1.1590(2)			0.0
(Sheridan, et al., 2003)					

- The  $\langle r(\text{C-N}) \rangle$ ,  $\sim 1.171$  Å, a little longer than  $r_e(\text{C-N})$ , does not change unless the C-N bond is excited. → Physically meaningful, proper quantity.

Again, experimental  $r_0(\text{C-N})$  is much smaller than  $\langle r(\text{C-N}) \rangle_0$  !

**Exp. model is inadequate !!**

*Explicit treatment of large amplitude bending motion is necessary.*



Now we can make quantitative arguments....

## i) Floppiness in bending motion

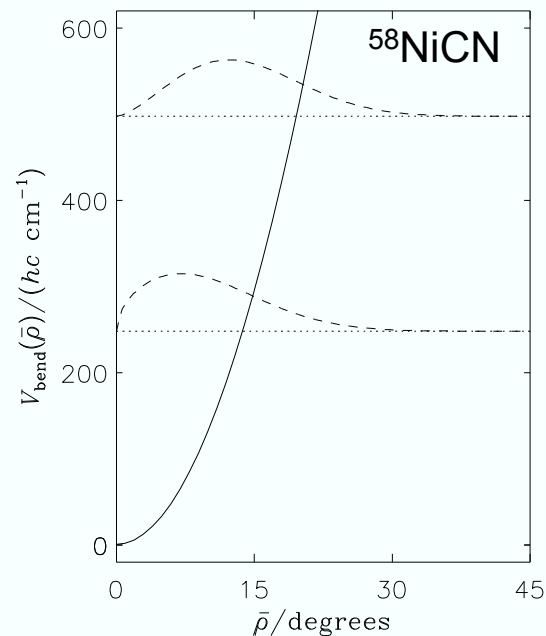
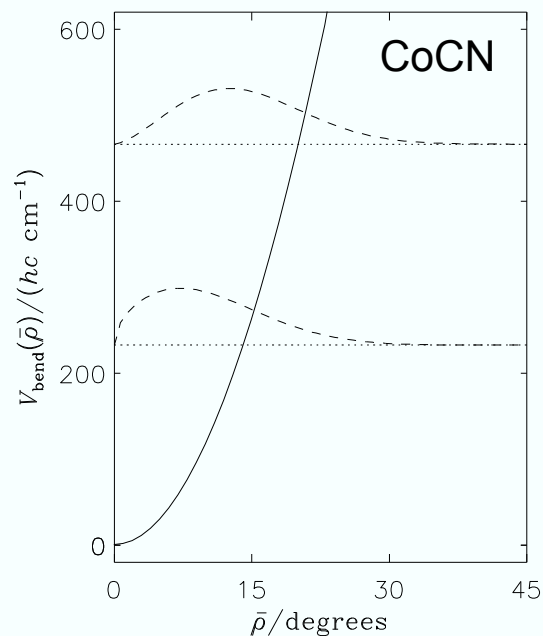
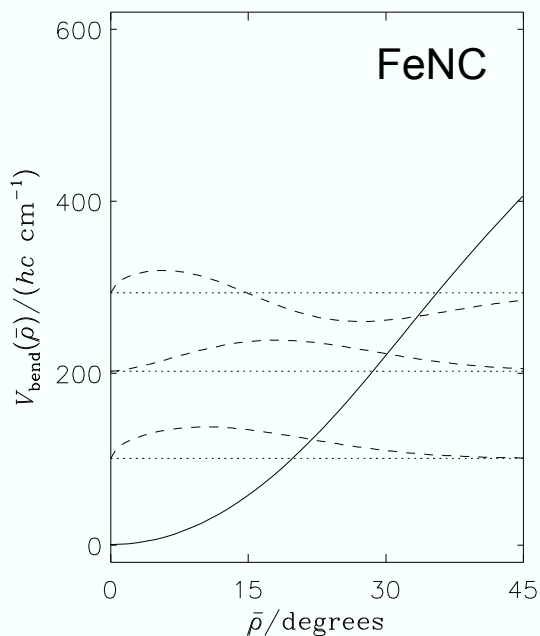
- Qualitatively from the C-N bond length:

**FeNC >> CoCN ≈ NiCN**  
( $r_e / \text{\AA}$ ) 1.182 1.168 1.167

- Bending force constant ( $\text{aJ}^{-1}$ ) from the 3-D PES

**FeNC >> CoCN > NiCN** cf. FeCO  
0.036 0.151 0.180 0.364

- Bending potential: **FeNC >> CoCN > NiCN**

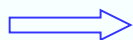


## ii) CN bond lengths: MORBID Expectation value

### Ro-vibrationally averaged MORBID structure

	FeNC	CoCN	NiCN
$r_e(\text{C-N}) / \text{\AA}$	1.182	1.168	1.166
$r_0(\text{C-N}) / \text{\AA}$	1.187	1.172	1.171
$\langle \bar{\rho} \rangle / \text{deg.}$	13(7)	8(5)	9(5)

- Both  $r_e(\text{C-N})$  and  $r_0(\text{C-N})$  fall inside of the normal C-N bond length 1.16-1.19 Å.
- MORBID expectation value of the bond length  $r_0$ :
  - a little longer than the equilibrium bond length  $r_e$ .
  - keeps almost constant unless the associated bond is vibrationally excited.
  - physically sound bond length to characterize a chemical bond even for molecules showing large amplitude bending motion.
- Although the equilibrium structure is linear, the ro-vibrationally averaged structure is bent.



This is our answer to the longstanding debate :  
How to treat a large amplitude bending motion.

## Summary: Too-short CN bond lengths

C-N Bond length / Å			
	FeNC	CoCN	NiCN
Obs. ( $r_0$ )	<b>1.03(8)</b>	<b>1.131</b>	<b>1.159</b>
Calc. ( $r_e$ )	1.182	1.168	1.166
	<b>1.187</b>	<b>1.172</b>	<b>1.171</b>
Difference	-0.157	-0.041	-0.012
in $r_0$ (%)	<b>-13.2</b>	<b>-3.5</b>	<b>-1.0</b>

Then, **WHAT** does the experimentally derived  $r_0$  values mean ?

**No physical meaning !!!**

- The difference between experimental and predicted values indicates the **existence of large-amplitude bending motion**.
- Conventional method to derive  $r_0$  value is **inadequate** for these molecules showing large-amplitude bending motion,

## Why the Conventional method to derive $r_0$ value is inadequate ?

Observe  $B_0$ 's for isotopologues.

- derive  $r_0$ 's, assuming linear structure in the moment of inertia calcs.
- **interpret** the thus derived  $r_0$ 's as the projection average onto the  $a$ -axis in the bending motion, because  $B_0$ 's are employed.



However, **NO average over bending motion** is taken into account in this procedure !

Now, the turn is in the experimental side.

*Explicit treatment of large amplitude bending motion is necessary.*



## Acknowledgment:

We thank **Dr. Yoshio Tanaka** for providing us their **CPU resources at Grid Research Center, AIST**, Japan.

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## References;

- FeNC:** T. Hirano, R. Okuda, U. Nagashima, V. Špirko, P. Jensen, *J. Mol. Spectrosc.*, **236** (2006) 234-247
- CoCN:** T. Hirano, R. Okuda, U. Nagashima, P. Jensen, *Mol. Phys.* **105** (2007) 599-611.
- NiCN:** T. Hirano, R. Okuda, U. Nagashima, P. Jensen, *Chem. Phys.*, **346** (2008) 13-12.

Every linear poly-atomic (more than diatomic) molecule is *bent*, even when the equilibrium structure is *linear*.

Suppose the rovibronic wavefunction be described by a **two-dimensional harmonic-oscillator** in bending and rotational normal coordinates,  $q_a$  and  $q_b$ .

When decoupled from rotation about the molecular axis, the averaged angle for bending motion becomes as

$$\langle \bar{\rho} \rangle \approx \langle \sqrt{q_a^2 + q_b^2} \rangle > 0, \quad \langle \bar{\rho} \rangle \text{ is the bond angle supplement.}$$