

Franck-Condon factor

We can use a $T = 0$ K approximation to calculate the Franck-Condon factor. In this approximation the molecules are in their electronic and vibrational ground state. Therefore, the FC transitions are from $0 \rightarrow 0'$, $0 \rightarrow 1'$, $0 \rightarrow 2'$, etc. The formula for this approximation is given by:

$$FC = \sum_{n=0'}^{\infty} \frac{S^n e^{-S}}{n!} \delta(\omega - \omega_{0-0'} - n\omega_{vib})$$

Calculate the “stick spectrum” by making a table showing the relative magnitude of the first 10 vibrational lines above $0-0'$. You are given the following information.

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_{0-0'} &= 17,000 \text{ cm}^{-1} \\ \omega_{vib} &= 300 \text{ cm}^{-1} \\ S &= 3.2\end{aligned}$$

Franck-Condon factor

Method: All of the FC terms are multiplied by e^{-S} . Calculate that value, which is also the 0-0' FC factor and then multiply by $S^n/n!$. The corresponding transition energies shown in the table are given by

$$\omega = \omega_{0-0'} + n\omega_{vib}$$

| N -> n' | FC | ω |
|---------|--------|----------|
| 0 -> 0' | 0.0407 | 17000 |
| 0 -> 1' | 0.1304 | 17300 |
| 0 -> 2' | 0.2080 | 17600 |
| 0 -> 3' | 0.2260 | 17900 |
| 0 -> 4' | 0.1781 | 18200 |
| 0 -> 5' | 0.1130 | 18500 |
| 0 -> 6' | 0.0607 | 18800 |
| 0 -> 7' | 0.0277 | 19100 |

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Next we can draw a “stick spectrum” based on the calculation in the table.

