

# Harmonic oscillator transition dipole

Calculate the transition dipole moment for a transition from  $v = 0$  to  $v = 1$  for a harmonic oscillator with a dipole derivative of  $9.5 \text{ Debye/\AA}$ . Assume that the reduced mass is  $0.95 \text{ amu}$  and the wave number is  $3900 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

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Solution: First, we obtain an analytical expression for the transition dipole moment based on the harmonic oscillator model.

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{\partial \mu_0}{\partial Q}\right) \langle \chi_0 | Q | \chi_1 \rangle &= \left(\frac{\alpha}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\partial \mu_0}{\partial Q}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha Q^2/2} Q \sqrt{2\alpha} Q e^{-\frac{\alpha Q^2}{2}} dQ \\ &= \left(\frac{2}{\pi}\right)^{1/2} \alpha \left(\frac{\partial \mu_0}{\partial Q}\right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\alpha Q^2} Q^2 dQ = \left(\frac{\partial \mu_0}{\partial Q}\right) \left(\frac{1}{2\alpha}\right)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

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Next we calculate  $\alpha$ .

$$\alpha = \frac{\mu\omega}{\hbar} = \frac{4\pi^2\mu c\tilde{\nu}_0}{h}$$

$$\alpha = \frac{4\pi^2(0.95)(1.66 \times 10^{-27})(2.99 \times 10^{10})(3900)}{6.626 \times 10^{-34}}$$

$$\alpha = 1.153 \times 10^{22} \text{ m}^{-2}$$

$$\alpha = 115.3 \text{ \AA}^{-2}$$

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Combining these results we find that the transition dipole moment is:

$$M_{01} = \left( \frac{\partial \mu_0}{\partial Q} \right) \left( \frac{1}{2\alpha} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$M_{01} = \left( 9.5 \frac{D}{\text{\AA}} \right) \left( \frac{1}{2(115.3 \text{\AA}^{-2})} \right)^{1/2}$$

$$M_{01} = 0.625 D$$