



Modern Methods in Heterogeneous Catalysis Research



# Vibrational spectroscopy in catalysis

## Basic principles

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# Vibrational spectroscopy in catalysis

Most widely applied technique in catalysis

Accessible information

- phase composition
- surface functional groups
- adsorption sites
- surface deposits
- intermediates

# Outline

1. Basic principles
2. Sample geometry – techniques in FTIR
3. Applications
  - I. Lattice vibrations and surface functional groups
  - II. Adsorption sites – adsorption of probe molecules
  - III. In-situ spectroscopy – gas phase/liquid phase

# Outline

## 1. Basic principles

2. Sample geometry – techniques in FTIR

3. Applications

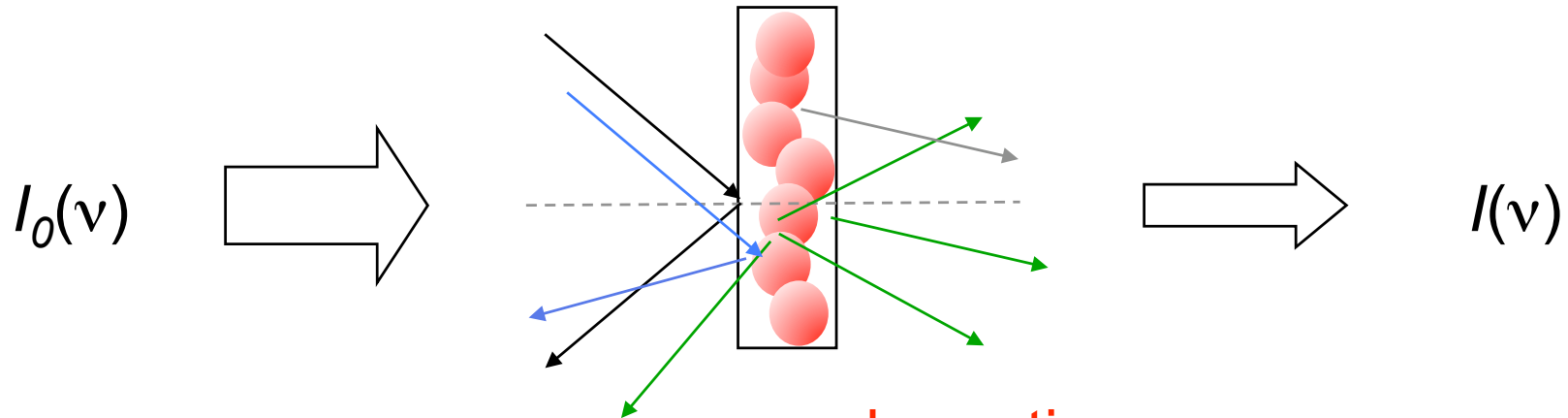
I. Lattice vibrations and surface functional groups

II. Adsorption sites – adsorption of probe molecules

III. In-situ spectroscopy – gas phase/liquid phase

# Interaction of light with solid matter

light source                      powdered sample                      detector



specular reflection  
multiple reflection/  
refraction at the  
particles of the solid

absorption

scattering

- elastic (Rayleigh, Mie)  $\nu$
  - inelastic (Raman)  $\nu \pm \nu_i$
- emission  $\nu_e$

$$I_0 = I_r + I_s + I_a + I$$

## Excitation of vibrations

Absorption of photons	Scattering		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrared spectroscopy</li> <li>Photoacoustic spectroscopy</li> <li>Sum Frequency Generation</li> </ul>	<i>photons</i>	<i>electrons</i>	<i>neutrons</i>
	Raman	Electron energy loss spectroscopy	Inelastic neutron scattering

Infrared spectroscopy	
<b>Transmission</b>	
Emission	T=473K, <i>in-situ</i> at high temperatures, measurements in regions of support absorption
Reflection	Mirror reflection
	Reflection-Absorption (RAIRS)
	<b>Attenuated total reflection (ATR)</b>
	<b>Diffuse reflection (DRIFTS)</b>

# Origin of molecular spectra

Total energy of a molecule or ion

$$E_{\text{total}} = E_{\text{el}} + E_{\text{vib}} + E_{\text{rot}} (+ E_{\text{trans}} \text{ thermodynamics, kinetic theory of gases})$$

**Discrete changes in state:** Bohr's frequency condition for transfer of energy from an electromagnetic field to a molecule must be satisfied

$$\Delta E = h\nu, \nu = \frac{c}{\lambda}$$

$$h = 6.62606896(33) \cdot 10^{-34} \text{ Js} = 4.13566733(10) \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ eVs}$$

$$c = 29\,979\,245\,800 \text{ cm} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$$

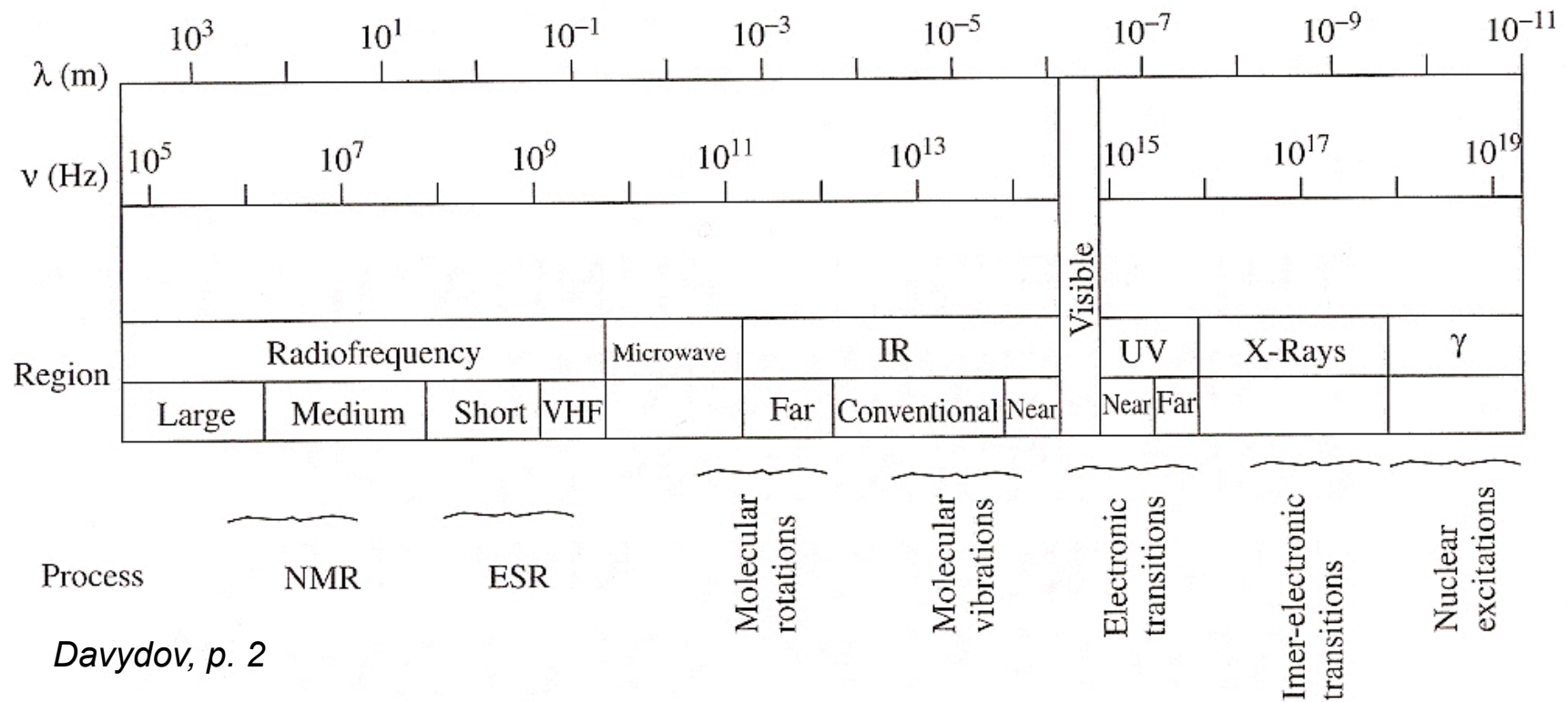
Wavenumber (number of waves per cm ~ frequency shift)

$$\tilde{\nu} = \frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{\nu}{c} \quad \Delta E = hc\tilde{\nu} \quad 1 \text{ cm}^{-1} = 1.24 \times 10^{-4} \text{ eV}$$

Absorption of energy

$$\Delta E = E_2 - E_1 \quad \tilde{\nu} = \frac{\Delta E}{hc}$$

# Electromagnetic spectrum

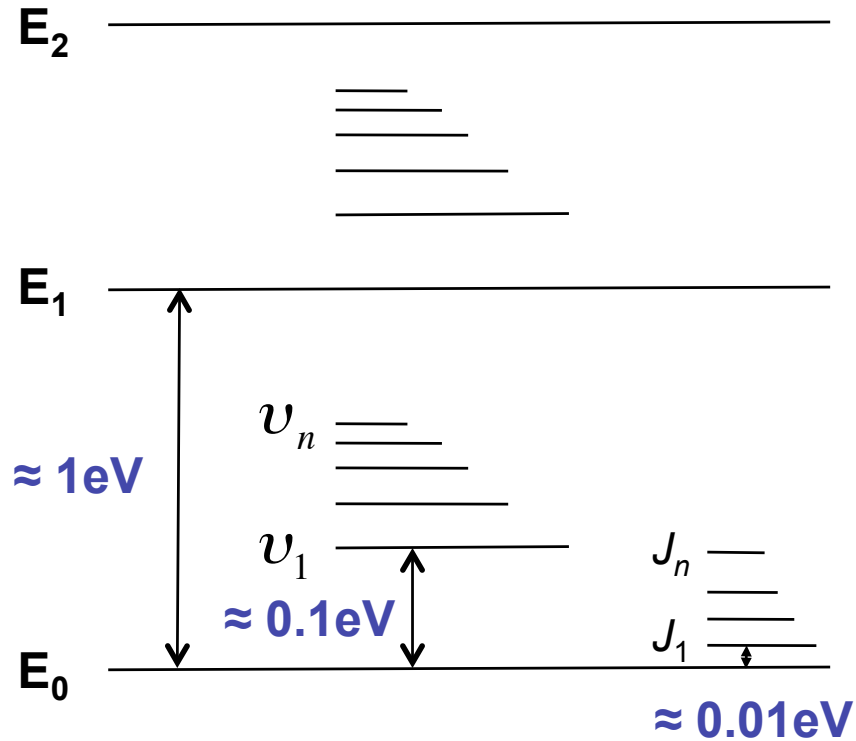


*Davydov, p. 2*

Infrared region	Wavelength (nm)	Wavenumber ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	Energy (meV)	Vibrations
far	$1 \times 10^6 - 5 \times 10^4$	10-200	1.2-25	lattice
mid	$5 \times 10^4 - 2500$	200-4000	25-496	molecular
near	2500 - 1000	4000-10000	496-1240	overtones



# Energy levels of a diatomic molecule



Energy level diagram

Maxwell-Boltzmann distribution

$$R = \frac{P(\nu = 1)}{P(\nu = 0)} = e^{-\Delta E_\nu / kT}$$

$$\Delta E \geq kT$$

$$k = 1,3806504(24) \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K}$$

$$= 8,617343(15) \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ eV/K}$$

$$kT = 208 \text{ cm}^{-1} \text{ at } 293 \text{ K}$$

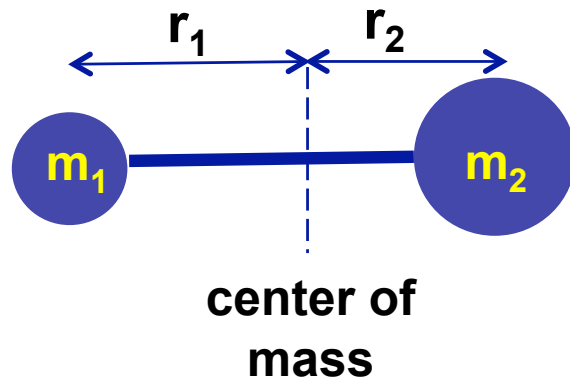
Normally, only the transitions from  $\nu = 0$  to  $\nu = 1$  are observed

$$\text{H}_2(4160 \text{ cm}^{-1}): R = 2.16 \cdot 10^{-9}$$

If  $\Delta E_\nu$  becomes small, the population at  $\nu = 1$  increases:

$$\text{J}_2(213 \text{ cm}^{-1}): R = 0.27$$

# Vibration of a diatomic molecule – harmonic oscillator



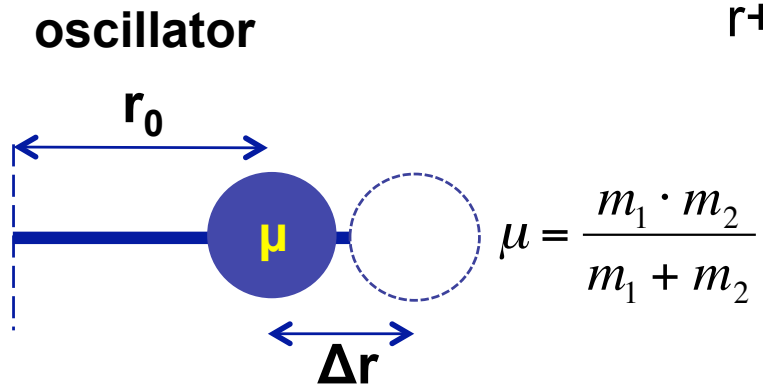
Classical mechanics

$$F = -K\Delta r = \mu a = \mu \frac{d^2 r}{dt^2}$$

Solution of differential equation:

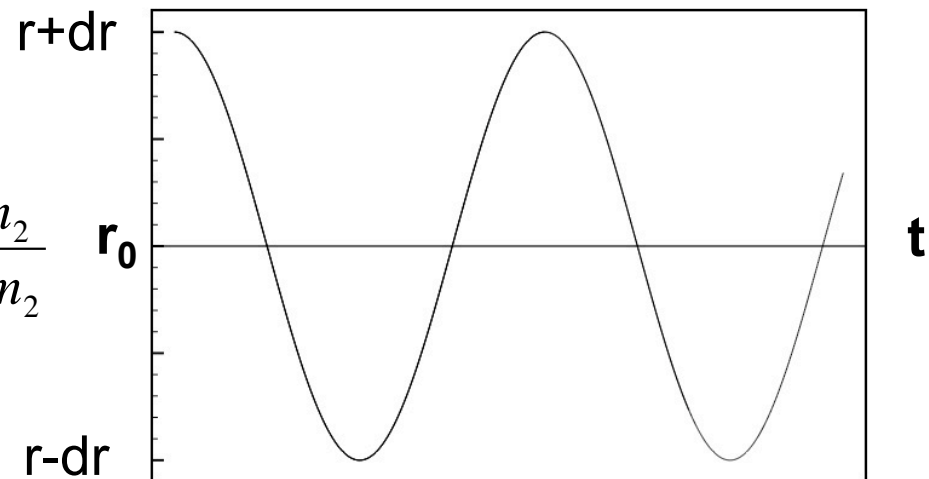
$$r(t) = r_0 \cos(2\pi\nu t)$$

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2} \pi \sqrt{\frac{K}{\mu}}$$

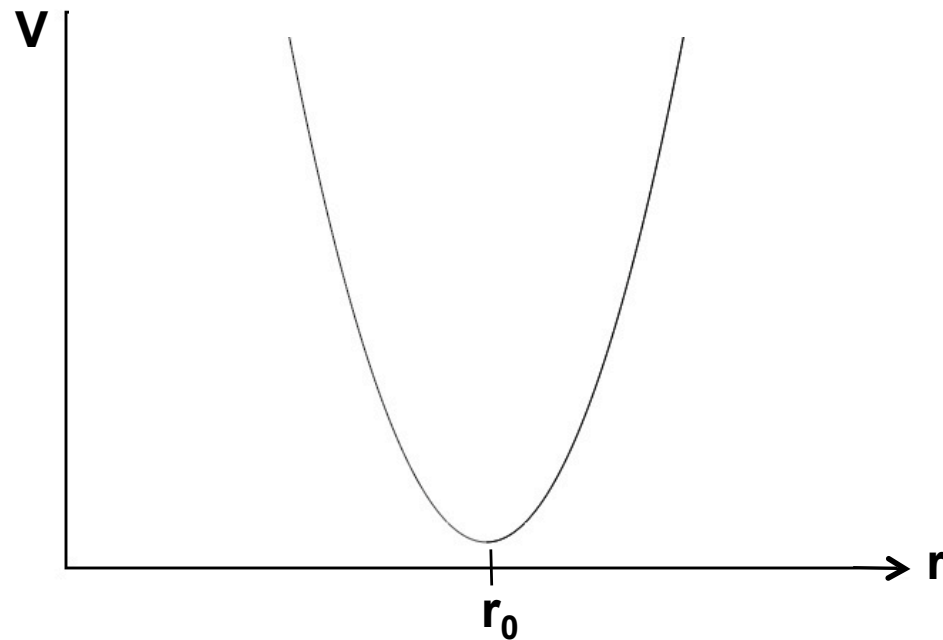


$\mu$  ... reduced mass

$K$  ... Force constant for the vibration



# Vibration of a diatomic molecule – harmonic oscillator

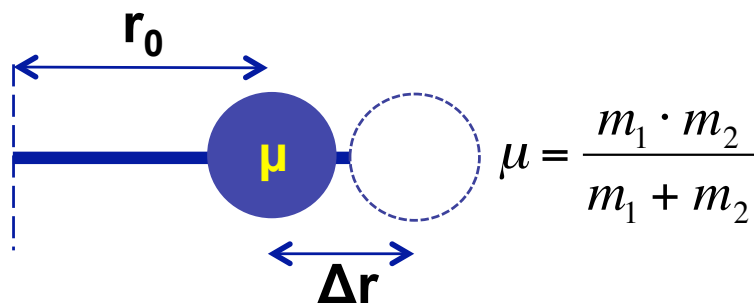


Classical mechanics

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{\frac{K}{\mu}}$$

$$V(r) = \int_0^x F(r) dr = \frac{1}{2} Kr^2$$

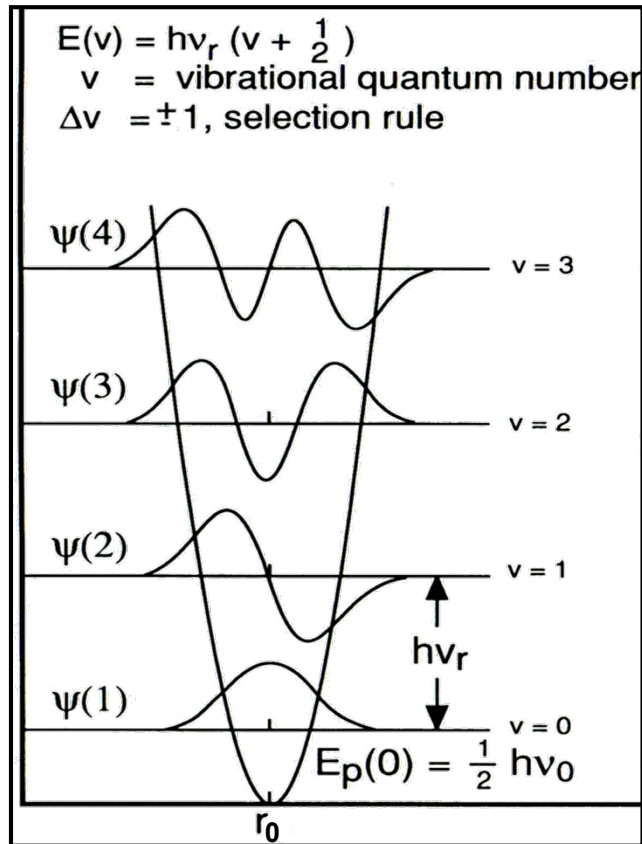
$$V = 2\pi^2 \mu \nu^2 r^2$$



$\mu$  ... reduced mass

$K$  ... Force constant for the vibration

# Vibration of a diatomic molecule – harmonic oscillator



Potential energy curve of a harmonic oscillator

Selection rule:  $\Delta v \pm 1$

Quantum mechanics

$$H\Psi = E\Psi$$

$$H = T + V$$

$$V(r) = \int_0^x F(r)dr = \frac{1}{2}Kr^2$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 = \frac{1}{2\mu}p^2$$

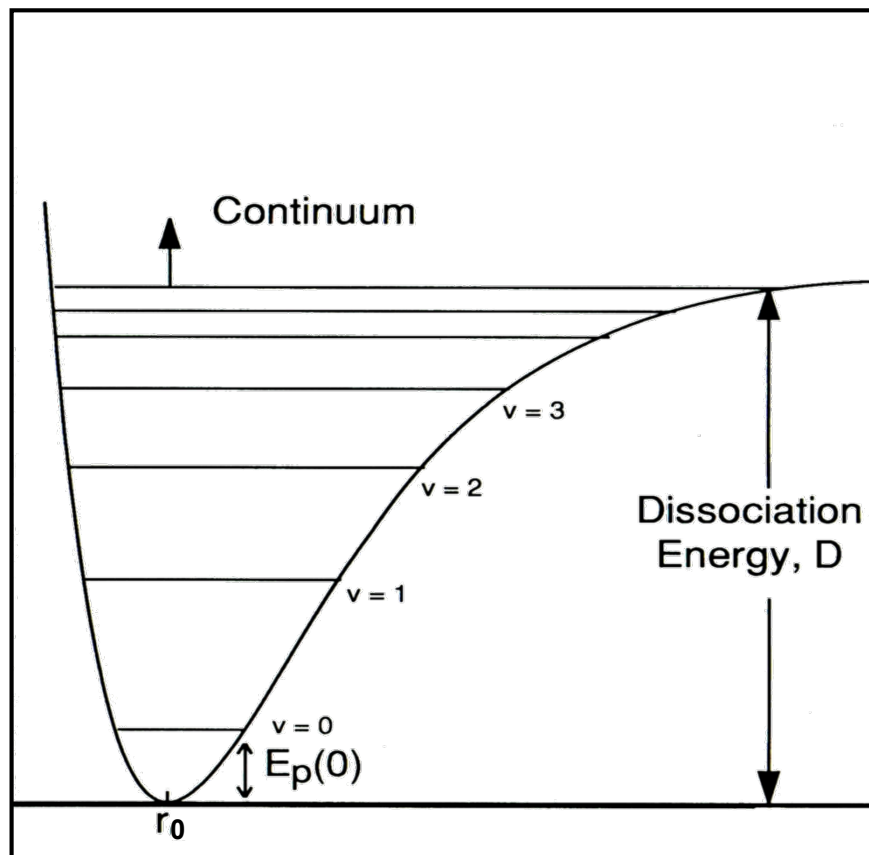
$$\frac{d^2\Psi}{dq^2} + \frac{8\pi^2\mu}{h^2} \left( E - \frac{1}{2}Kq^2 \right) \Psi = 0$$

$$E_v = h\nu \left( v + \frac{1}{2} \right) = hc\tilde{\nu} \left( v + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$v = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$v = \frac{1}{2} \pi \sqrt{\frac{K}{\mu}}$$

## Vibration of a diatomic molecule



Actual potential of a diatomic molecule

Selection rule:  $\Delta v \pm 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Overtone: multiples of the fundamental

Combination band: sum or difference of two or more fundamentals

### Anharmonicity

$$E_v = h\omega_e \left( v + \frac{1}{2} \right) - hc x_e \omega_e \left( v + \frac{1}{2} \right)^2 + \dots$$

$\omega_e \dots$  wavenumber corrected for anharmonicity

$x_e \dots$  magnitude of anharmonicity

$$E_v - E_0 = h\nu = hc\tilde{\nu}$$

$$\tilde{\nu} = \frac{E_v - E_0}{hc} = v\omega_e - x_e\omega_e(v^2 + v) + \dots$$

Fundamental:  $\tilde{\nu}_1 = \omega_e - 2x_e\omega_e$

First overtone:  $\tilde{\nu}_2 = 2\omega_e - 6x_e\omega_e$

Second overtone:  $\tilde{\nu}_3 = 3\omega_e - 12x_e\omega_e$

## Vibration of a diatomic molecule

Relationships between vibrational frequency, reduced mass, and force constant

		Observed stretching frequency and overtones of CO
Fundamental:	$\tilde{\nu}_1 = \omega_e - 2x_e\omega_e$	2143.31 $\text{cm}^{-1}$
First overtone:	$\tilde{\nu}_2 = 2\omega_e - 6x_e\omega_e$	4259.70 $\text{cm}^{-1}$
Second overtone:	$\tilde{\nu}_3 = 3\omega_e - 12x_e\omega_e$	6349.17 $\text{cm}^{-1}$

$$\omega_e = 2170.23 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad x_e\omega_e = 13.46 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

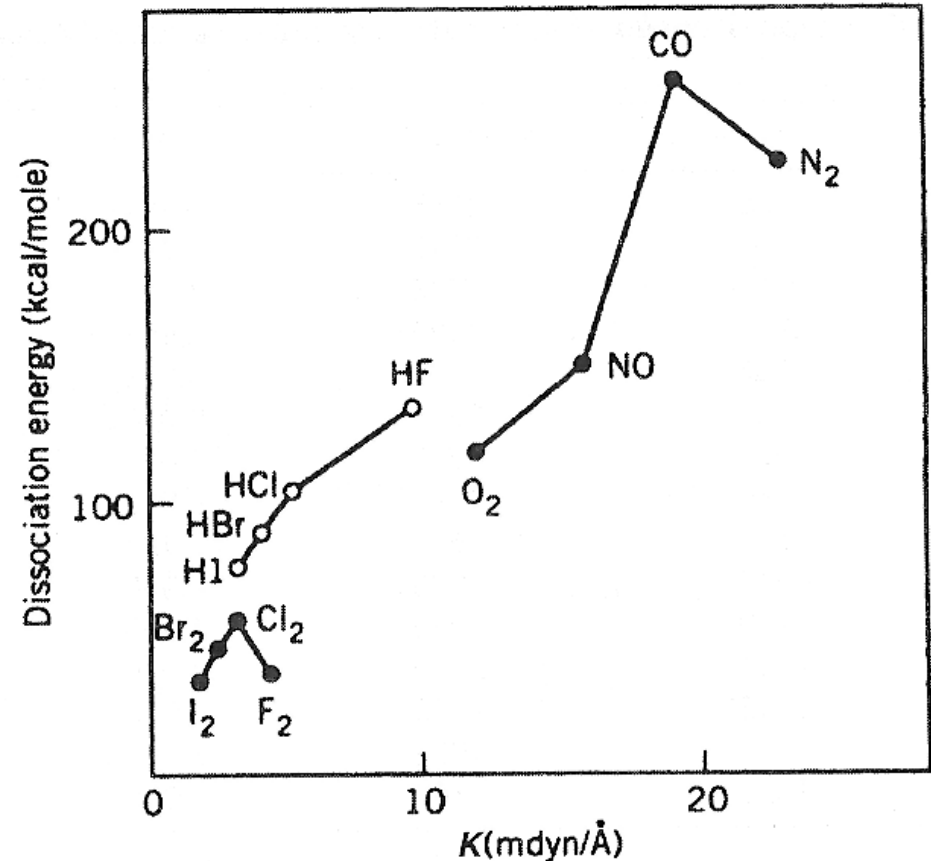
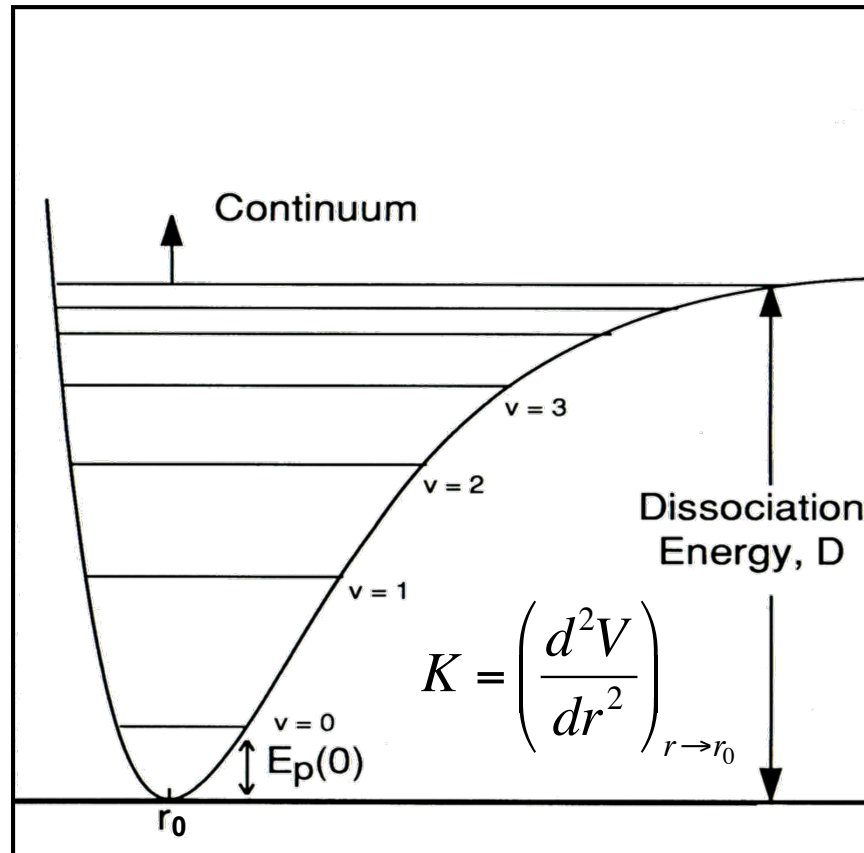
$$\omega_e = \frac{1}{2\pi c} \sqrt{\frac{K}{\mu}} \quad K = 4\pi^2 c^2 \omega_e^2 \mu$$

$$K = \frac{4 \cdot (3.14)^2 (3 \cdot 10^{10})^2}{6.025 \cdot 10^{23}} \omega_e^2 \mu = (5.8883 \cdot 10^{-2}) \omega_e^2 \frac{12 \cdot 16}{12 + 16} = (5.8883 \cdot 10^{-2}) (2170)^2 6.8584$$

$$K = 1900 \text{ N/m}$$

# Vibration of a diatomic molecule

Relationships between vibrational frequency, reduced mass, and force constant



Theoretical calculation of force constants:

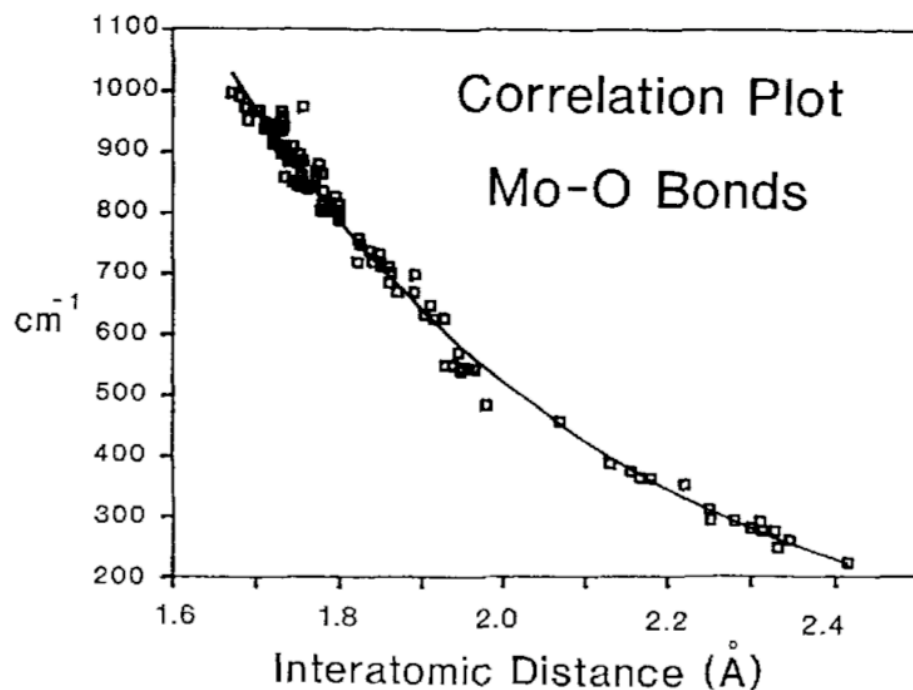
*Nakamoto, p. 14*

Calculation of the total electronic energy of a molecule as a function of the displacement near the equilibrium position and calculation of its second derivative

Difficult to derive a general theoretical relationship between  $K$  and  $D$

## Empirical relationships

Relationships between vibrational frequency, Mo-O bond distance and order



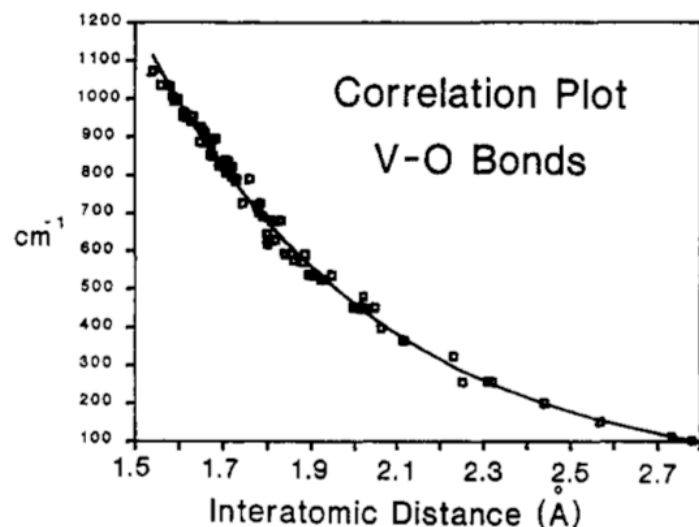
**Figure 1.** Mo-O correlation plot relating bond distance (Å) to stretching frequency (cm<sup>-1</sup>). The 108 data points are fit to the exponential function  $\nu$  (cm<sup>-1</sup>) = 32 895 exp (-2.073  $R$ ), where  $R$  is the bond distance in ångströms.

*F.D. Hardcastle, I.E. Wachs, J. Raman Spectrosc. 21 (1990) 683.*

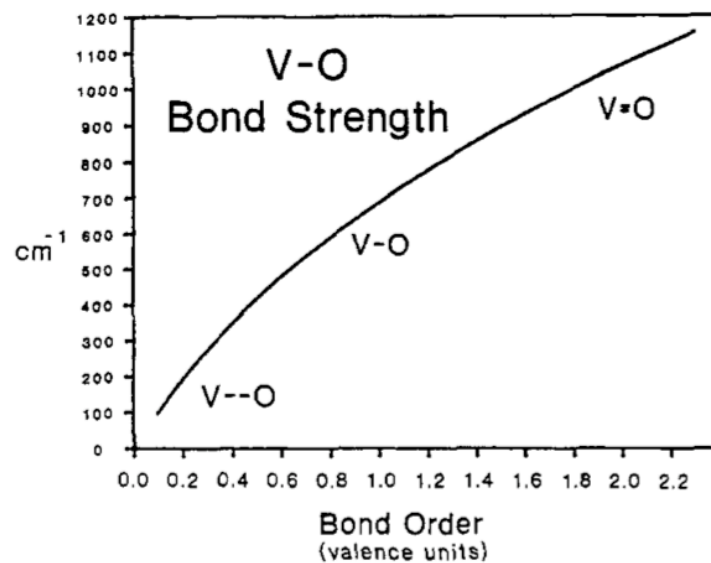


# Empirical relationships

Relationships between vibrational frequency, V-O bond distance and order



**Figure 1.** Correlation plot relating V–O bond lengths (Å) to V–O stretching frequencies. The data points are fit to the exponential function  $\nu = 21349 \exp(-1.9176R)$ , where  $R$  is the V–O bond length in angstroms;  $\nu$  is in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**Figure 2.** Correlation plot relating vanadium–oxygen bond strength (in valence units) to vanadium–oxygen stretching frequencies, according to eq 4.

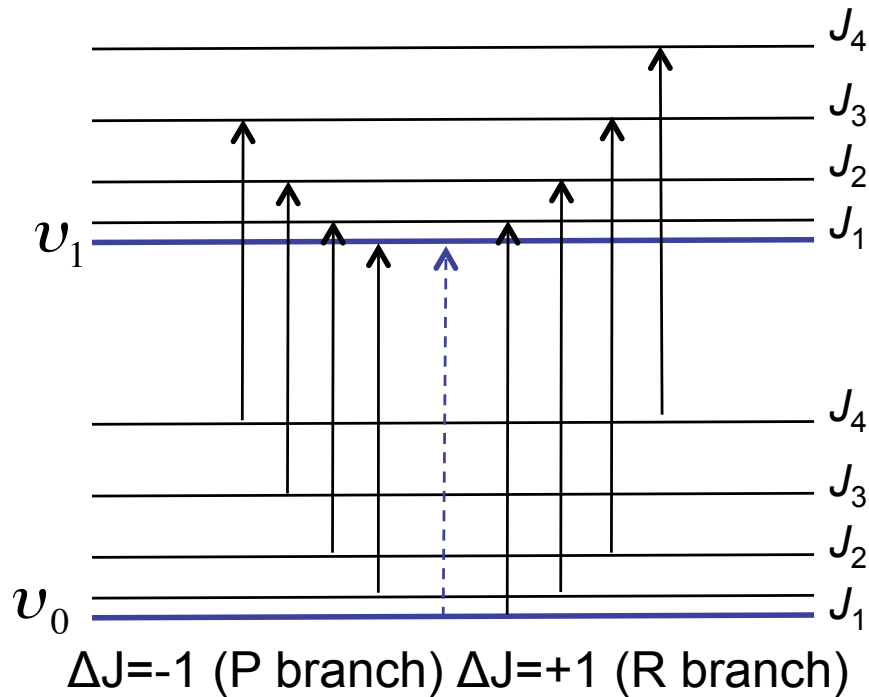
$$s(\text{V-O}) = [0.2912 \ln (21349/\nu)]^{-5.1}$$

*F.D. Hardcastle, I.E. Wachs, J. Phys. Chem. 95 (1990) 5031.*

# Rotational fine structure of diatomic molecules

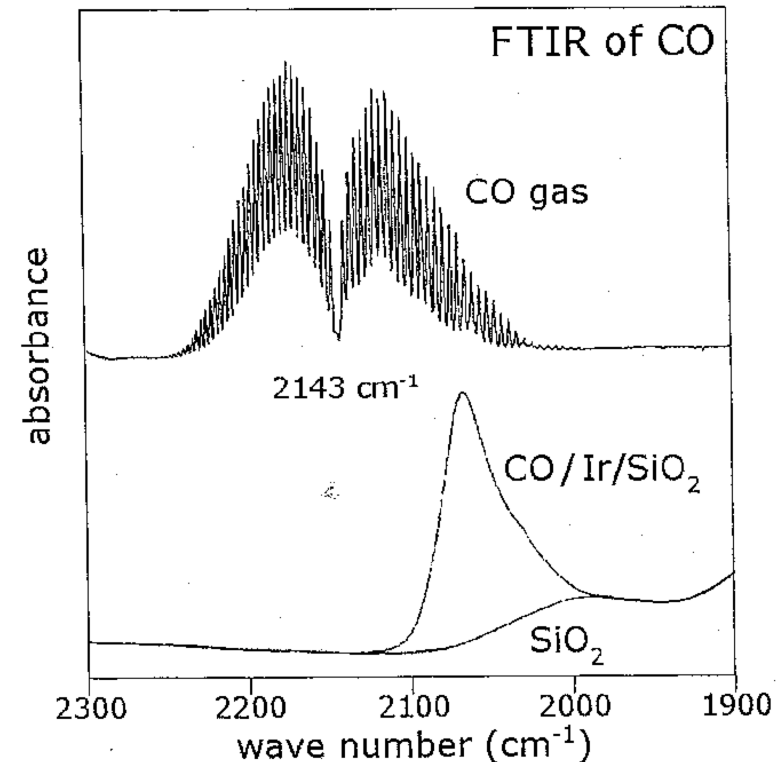
Vibrational transitions are accompanied by rotational transitions

Rotational fine structure is not observed in solid or liquid phase or in solutions due to molecular interactions



Selection rules:  $\Delta J = \pm 1$

$\Delta \nu = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$



*Niemantsverdriet, p. 207*

# Normal vibrations of polyatomic molecules

In polyatomic molecules, all nuclei perform their own anharmonic oscillations

$N$  number of atoms in a molecule

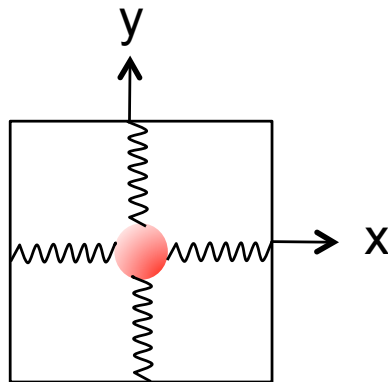
$3N$  number of coordinates to describe the molecule  
= degrees of freedom of movement of the molecule

3 degrees of freedom for translation in  $x, y, z$

$3N-3$  degrees of freedom for rotation and vibration

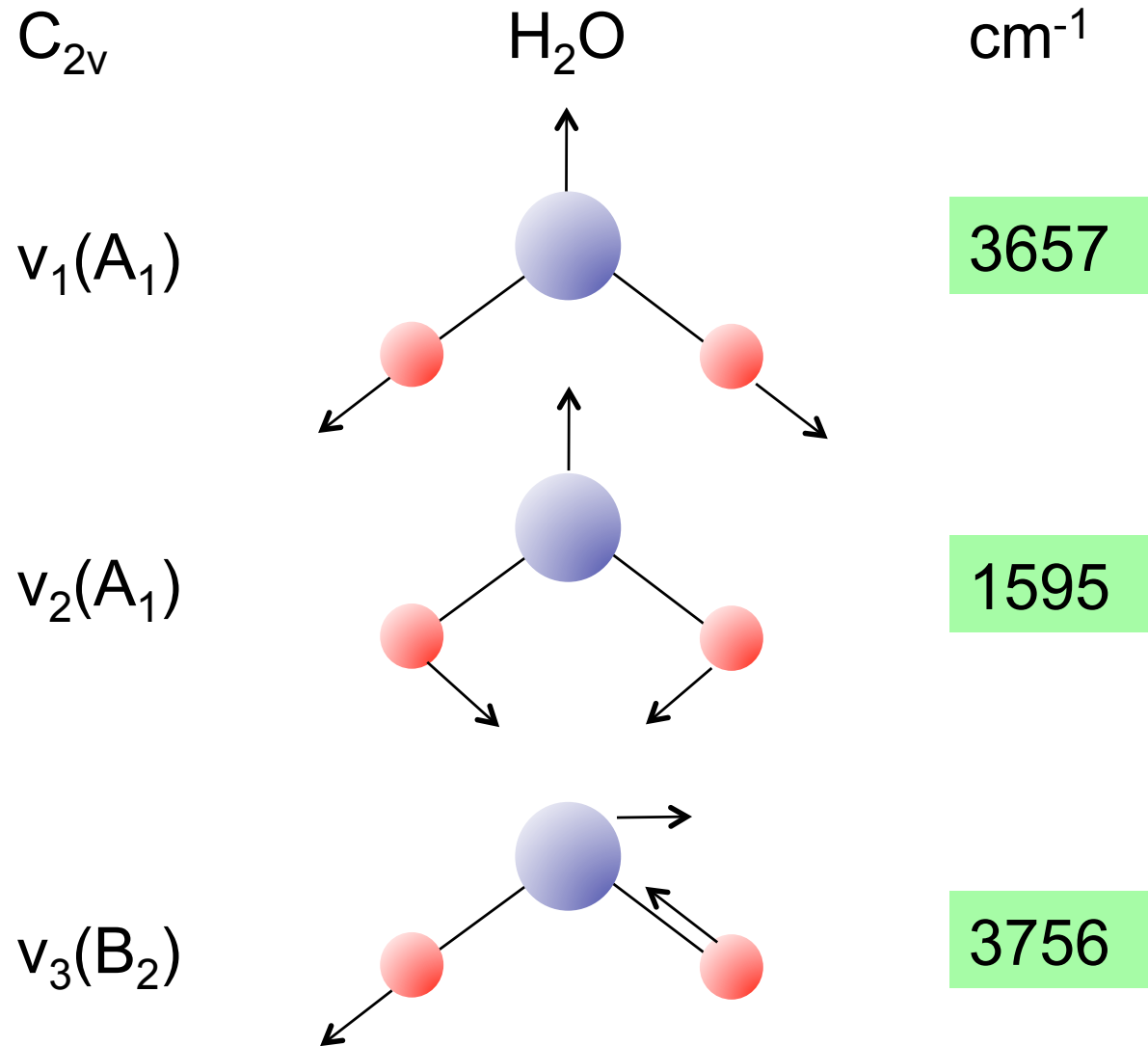
**$3N-5$  degrees of freedom for vibration of a linear molecule**

**$3N-6$  degrees of freedom for vibration of a nonlinear molecule**

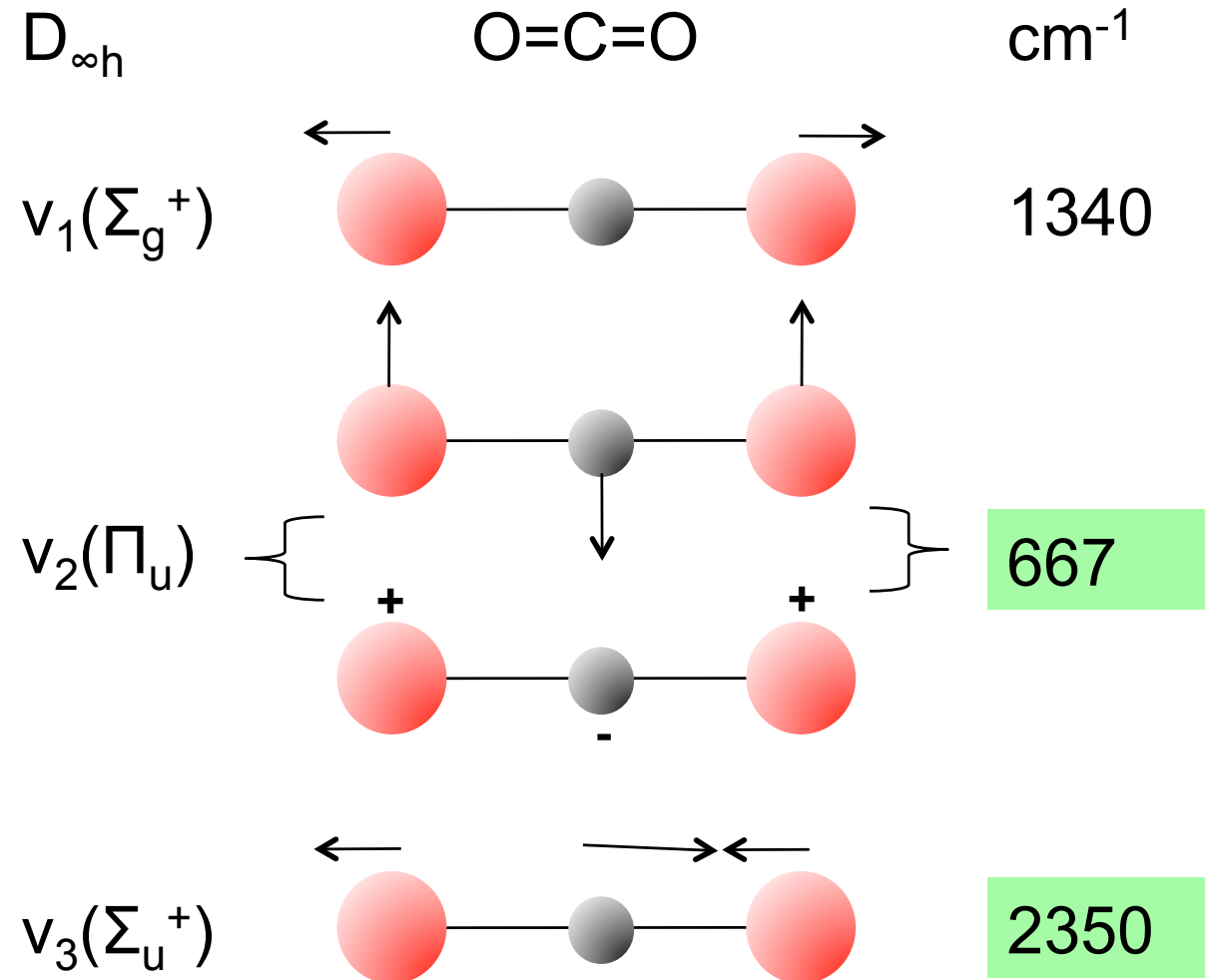


Any of the complicated vibrations of a molecule may be represented by a superposition of  $3N-5$  (linear molecules) or  $3N-6$  (nonlinear molecules) ***normal vibrations***

# Normal vibrations of polyatomic molecules



# Normal vibrations of polyatomic molecules



## Symmetry and selection rules

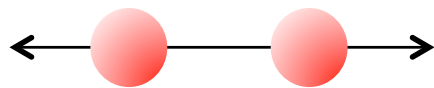
The vibration is IR active if the dipole moment is changed during the vibration

$$[\mu]_{v'v''} = \int \Psi_{v'}^*(Q_a) \mu \Psi_{v''}(Q_a) dQ_a \neq 0$$

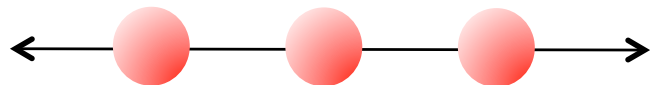
The selection rule is determined by the symmetry of the molecule

The intensity of the infrared band is proportional to the change in the dipole moment

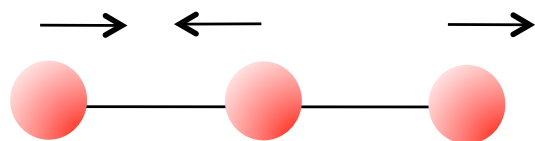
# Fundamental modes of vibration – linear molecules



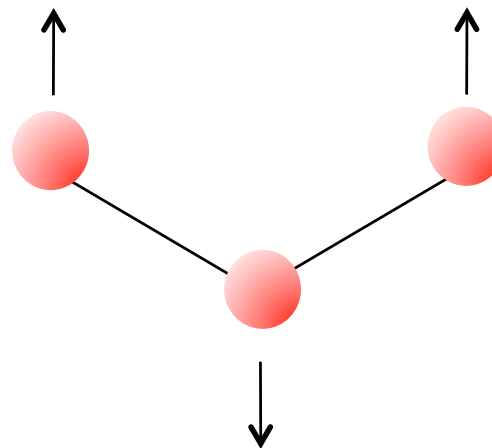
stretching



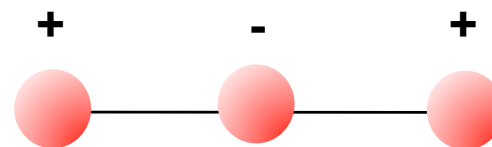
symmetric stretching



asymmetric stretching

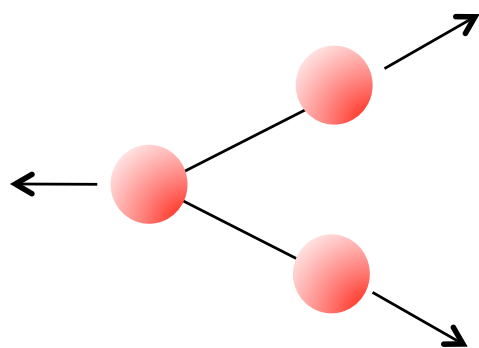


bending

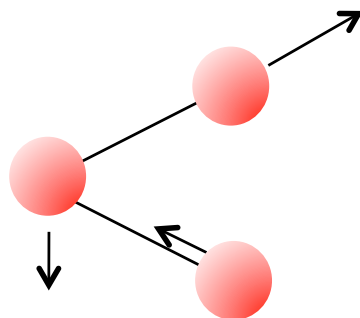


bending

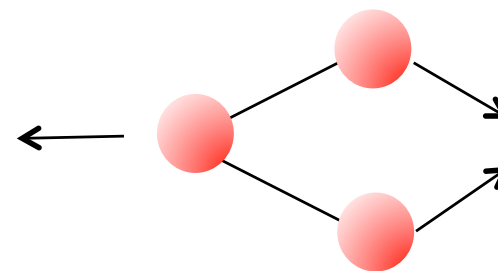
# Fundamental modes of vibration - nonlinear molecules



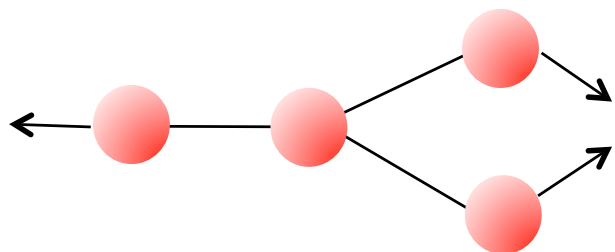
symmetric stretching ( $\nu_s$ )



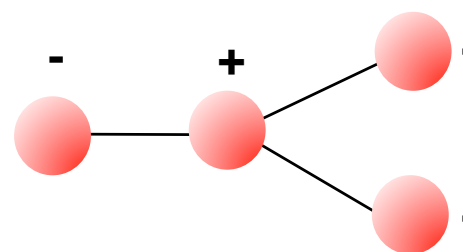
asymmetric stretching ( $\nu_{as}$ )



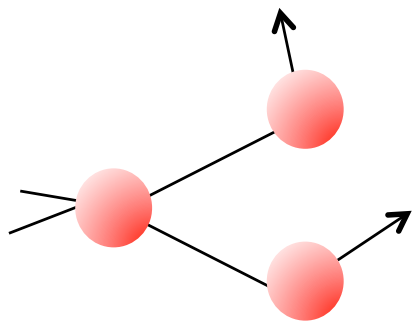
bending ( $\delta$ )



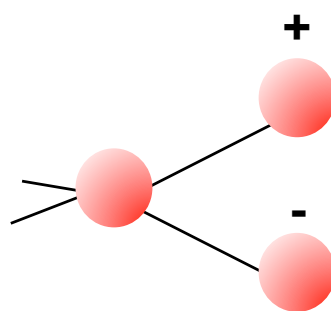
bending in plane ( $\alpha, \beta$ )



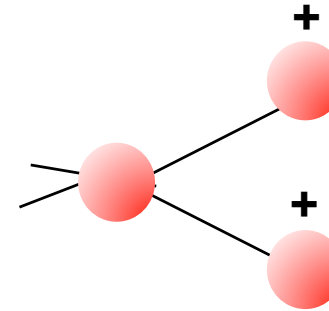
bending out of plane ( $\gamma$ )



rocking ( $r$ )



twisting ( $\tau$ )



wagging ( $\omega$ )



## Assignment of vibrations

Group frequency concepts state:

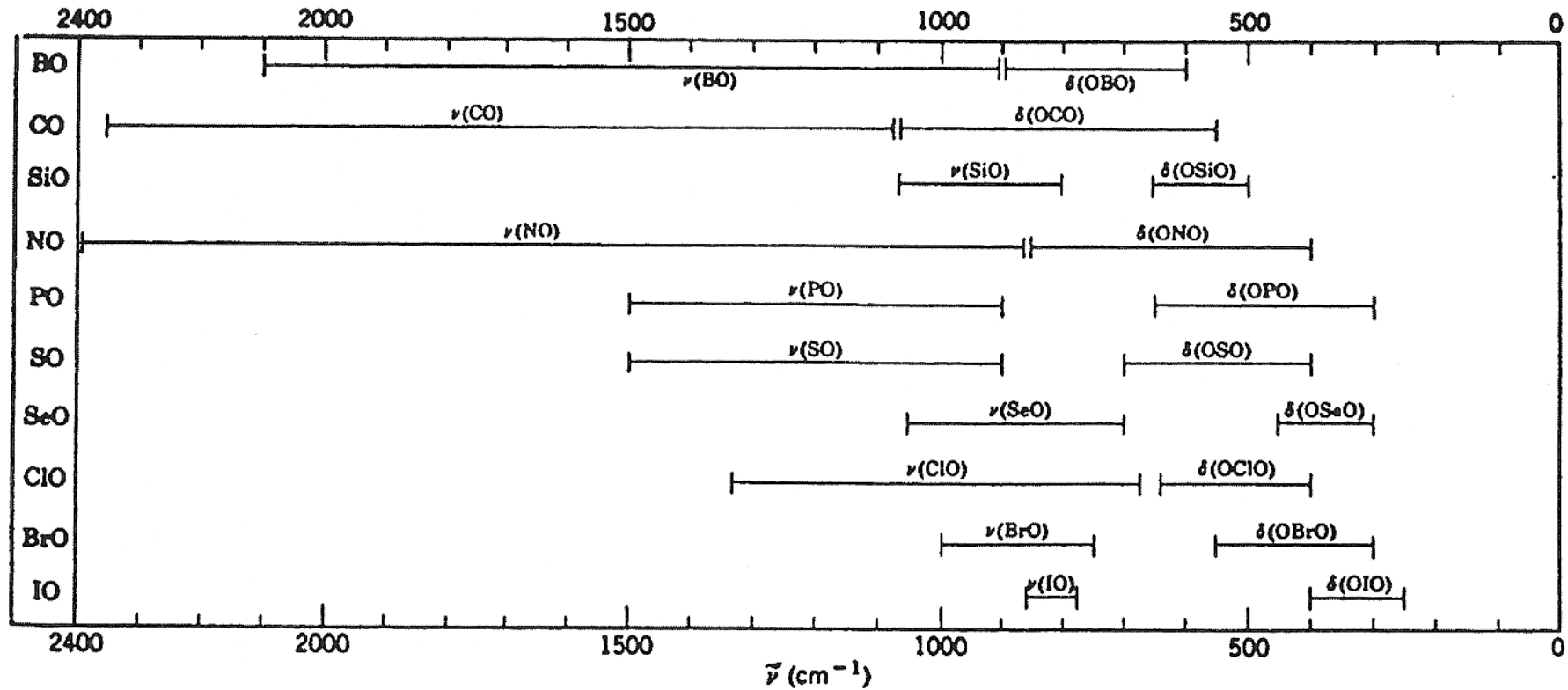
Groups of atoms (including heavy atoms or multiple bonds) absorb over a narrow range of frequencies regardless of the rest of the molecule

Functional groups in molecules may be treated as independent oscillators

4000 – 2500 cm <sup>-1</sup>	H-X (X = O, N, C, S)
2500 – 2000 cm <sup>-1</sup>	triple bond region (e.g. CO)
2000 – 1500 cm <sup>-1</sup>	double bond region (e.g. carbonyl)
1500 – 500 cm <sup>-1</sup>	fingerprint region C-X (X = N, O, S, halides)
200 – 450 cm <sup>-1</sup>	M-X (X = C, O, N, S)

# Assignment of vibrations

Group frequency charts:



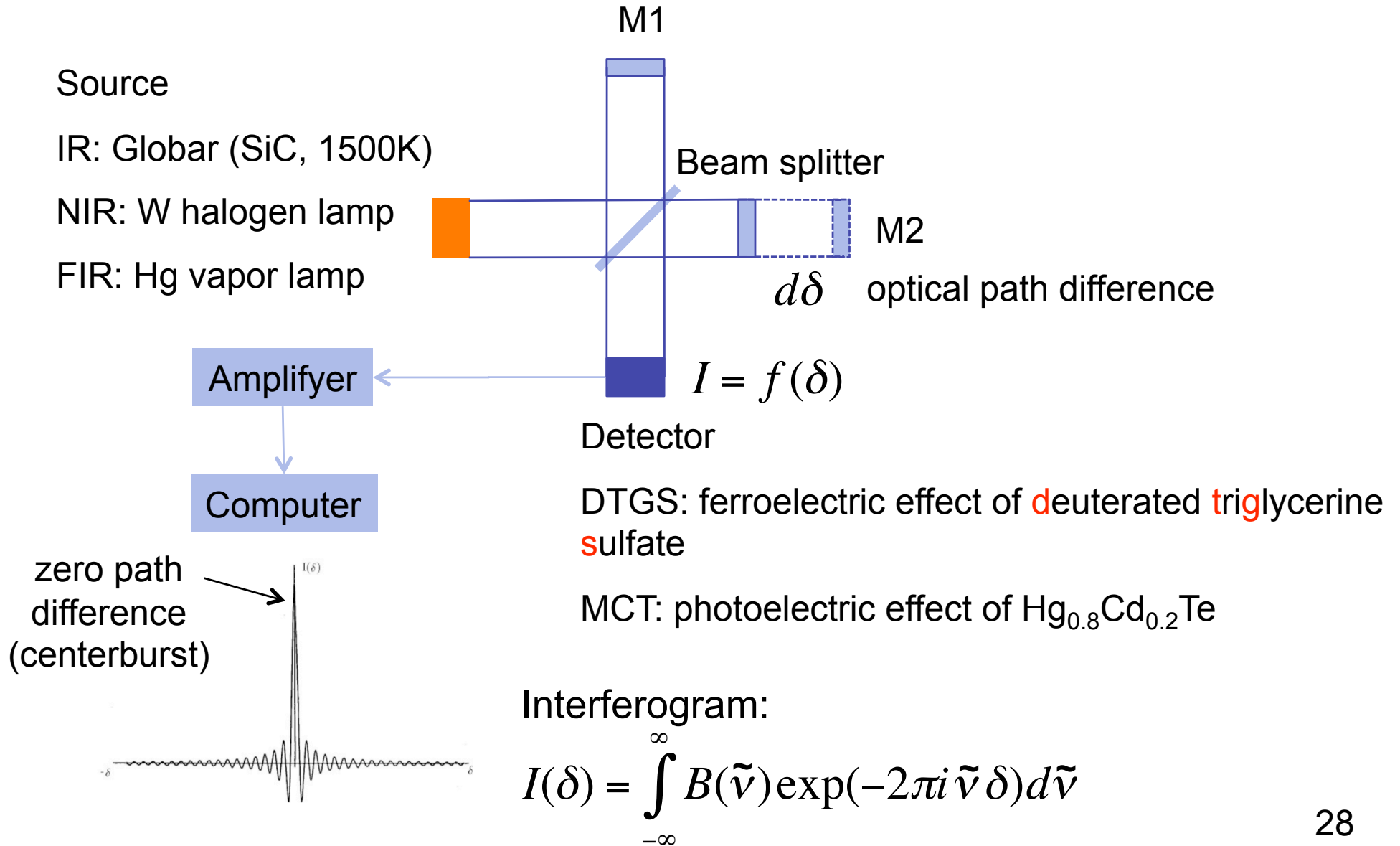
(b) Oxygen stretching and bending frequencies

# Outline

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  - I. Lattice vibrations and surface functional groups
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  - III. In-situ spectroscopy – gas phase/liquid phase

# FTIR spectrometer

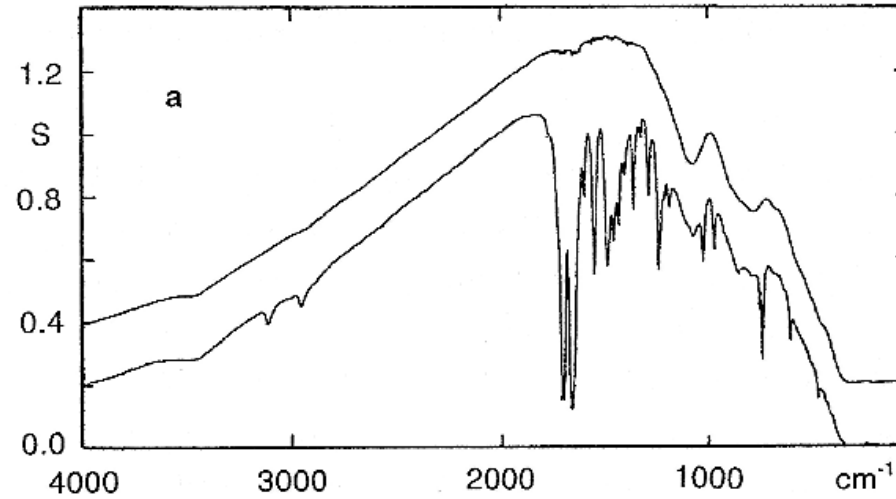
## Michelson Interferometer



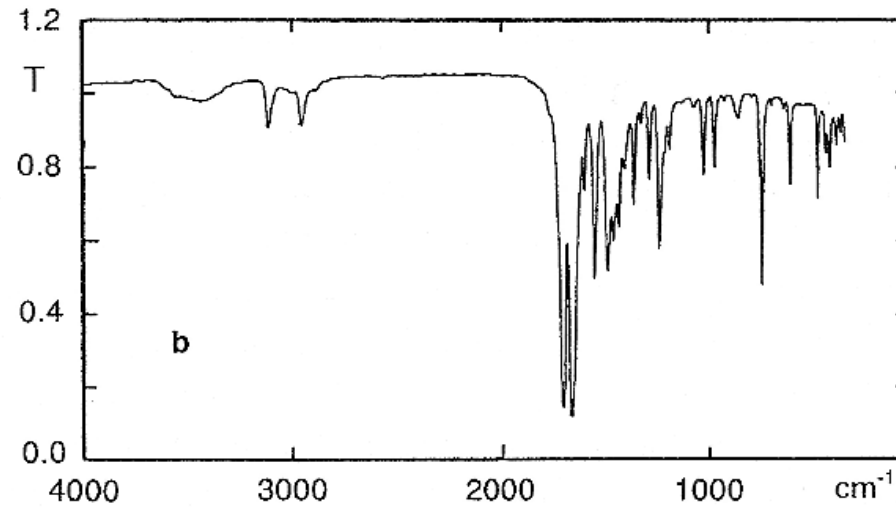
# FTIR spectrometer

$B(\tilde{\nu})$

single channel spectra



ratio



Günzler, p. 65

# FTIR spectrometer

**Tabelle 3-2.** Nutzbare Spektralbereiche verschiedener Strahlteiler (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ).

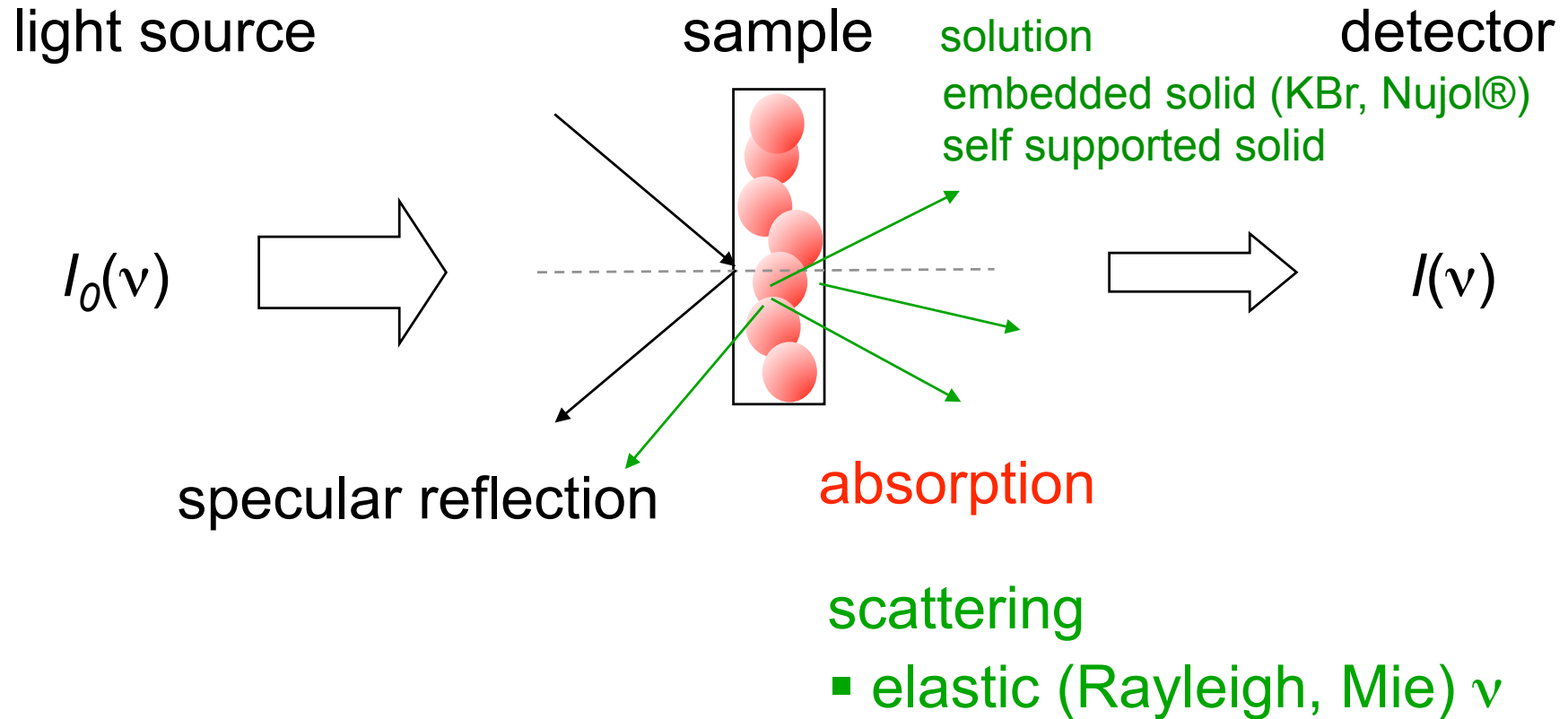
Strahlteiler	$\tilde{\nu}_{\text{max}}$	$\tilde{\nu}_{\text{min}}$
Quarz	15 600	2700
$\text{CaF}_2/\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	12 000	1200
KBr/Ge	6 500	450
CsI/Ge	7 000	220
Mylar (6 $\mu\text{m}$ )	500	50
Mylar (12 $\mu\text{m}$ )	250	25
Mylar (25 $\mu\text{m}$ )	120	20
Mylar (50 $\mu\text{m}$ )	55	15

Mylar ... Polyethylentherephthalat

## How to measure FTIR spectra of solid catalysts?

Sample preparation	geometry	remarks
KBr technique	transmission	Quantitative measurements difficult Chemical interaction with KBr may happen Differences in refractive index Particle size effect of embedded material, differences in refractive index (Christiansen effect) No pretreatment, no adsorption
Suspension in paraffin oil (Nujol®)	transmission	
Self supported wafer	transmission	Pretreatment and adsorption possible
powder	DR	Used in <i>in-situ</i> FTIR spectroscopy
Powder or suspension	ATR	Used to study solid-liquid interface

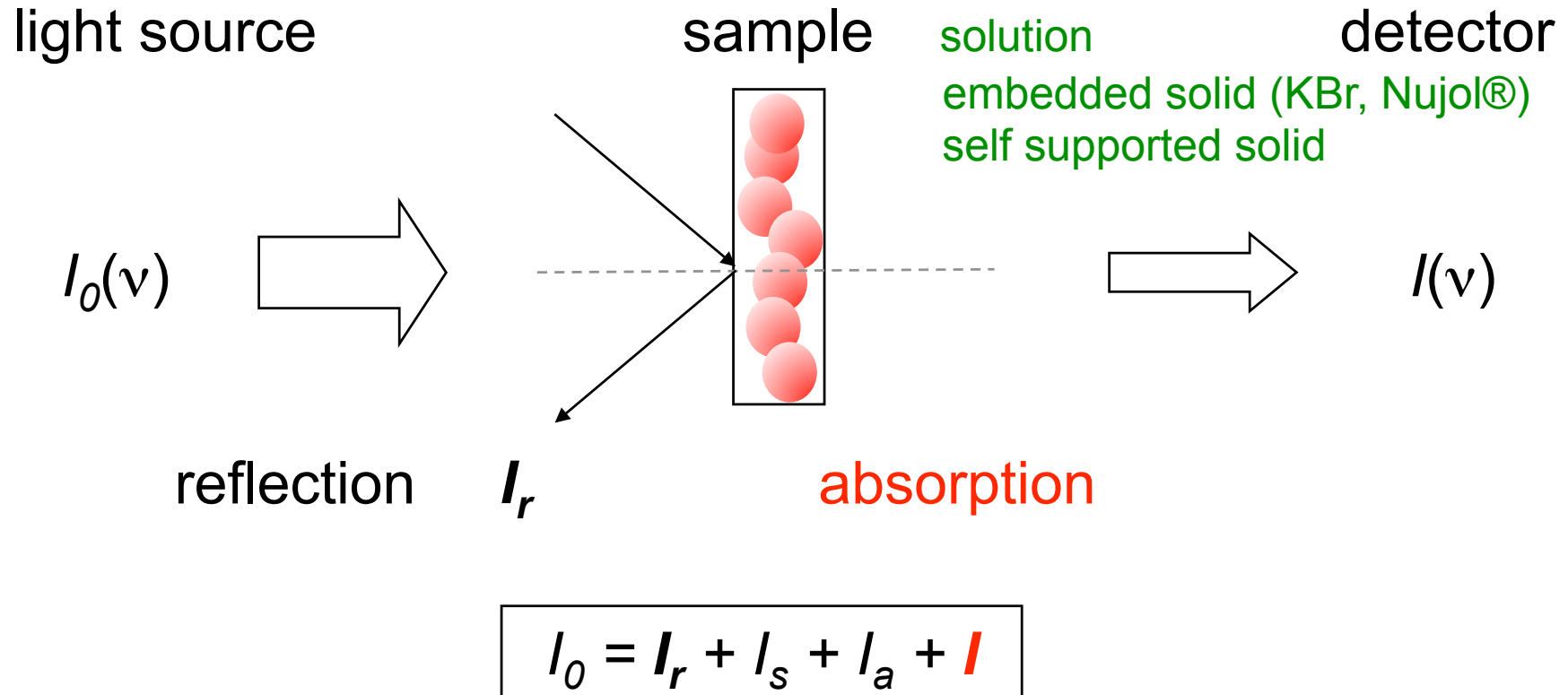
# Transmission spectra



$$I_0 = I_r + I_s + I_a + I$$

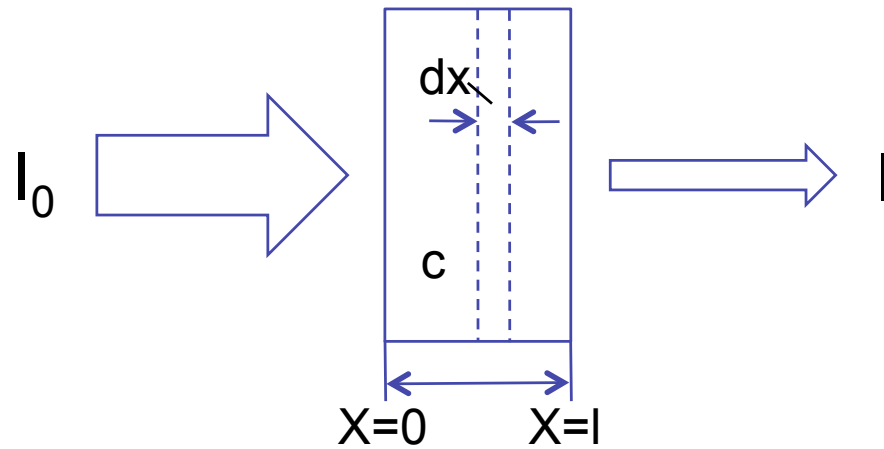


## How to deal with phase boundary reflection?



- fraction of reflected light  $I_r$  can be eliminated through reference measurement with same materials (cuvette + (solvent))

# Transmitted light and absorption properties



$\tau$ : transmittance

$\alpha$ : absorptance

$$\tau_\lambda = \frac{I}{I_0} \quad \alpha_\lambda = \frac{I_0 - I}{I_0} \quad \tau_\lambda = 1 - \alpha_\lambda$$

$$dI = -I k dx = -I \kappa c dx$$

decrease of  $I$  in an infinitesimally thin layer

$c$ : molar concentration of absorbing species [ $\text{mol}/\text{m}^3$ ]

$\kappa$ : the molar napierian extinction coefficient [ $\text{m}^2/\text{mol}$ ]

$$\int_{I_0}^I \frac{dI}{I} = - \int_{x=0}^{x=l} \kappa c dx$$

separation of variables and  
integration over sample thickness  $l$

$$\ln \frac{I}{I_0} = - \kappa c l$$

## Transmitted light and absorption properties

$$\tau = \frac{I}{I_0} = e^{-\kappa c l} = 1 - \alpha$$

Lambert-Beer Law

$$A_e = B = \kappa c l = -\ln(\tau)$$

napierian absorbance  
*Napier-Absorbanz*

$$\log e = 0.434$$

$$A_{10} = \varepsilon c l = -\log(\tau)$$

(decadic) absorbance  
*dekadische Absorbanz*

$$\varepsilon = 0.434\kappa$$

standard spectroscopy software uses  $A_{10}$ !

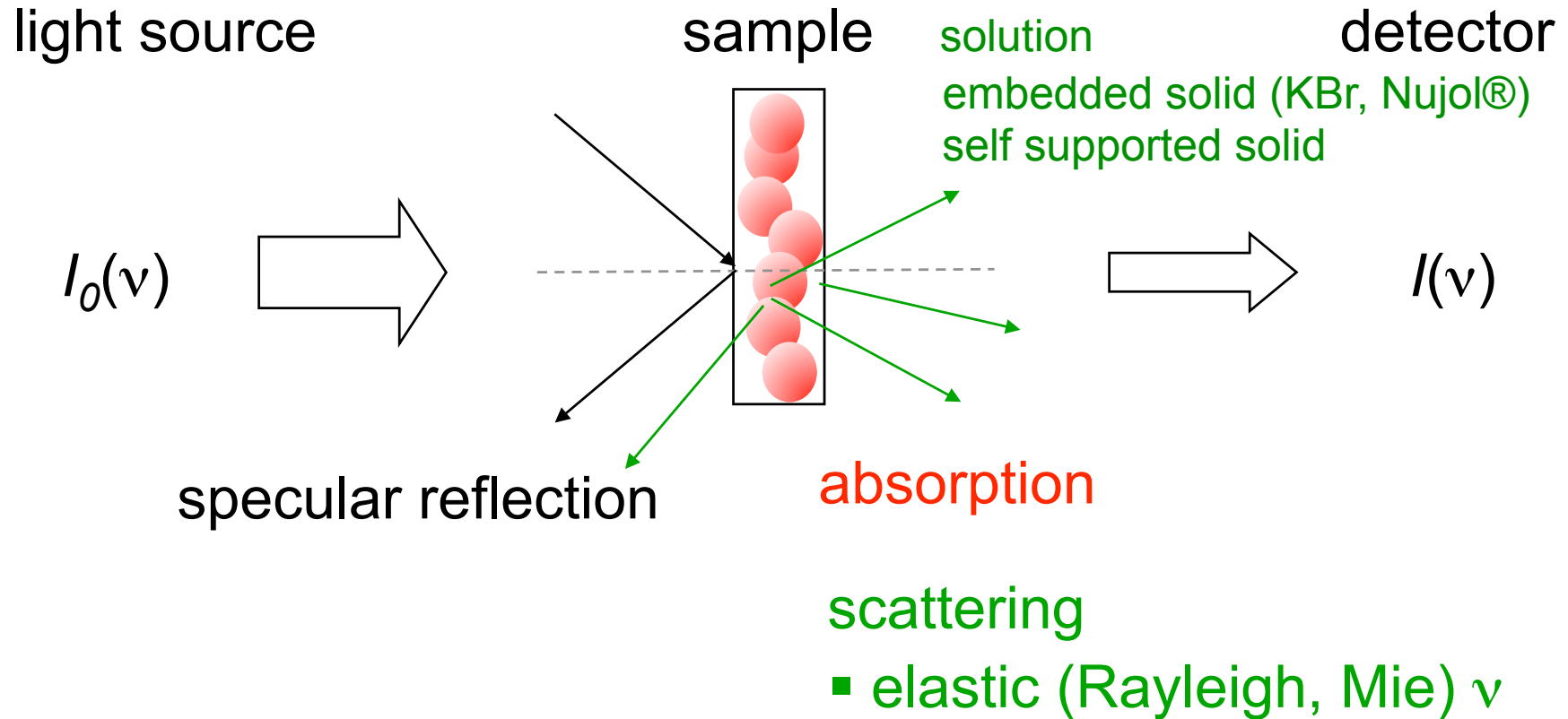
extinction            E (means absorbed + scattered light)

absorbance            A ( $A_{10}$  or  $A_e$ )

optical density        O.D.

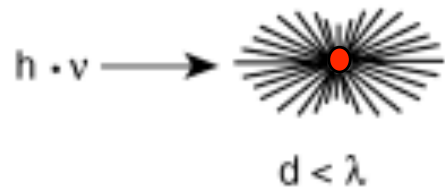
all these quantities are DIMENSIONLESS !!!!

# Transmission spectra- loss due to scattering

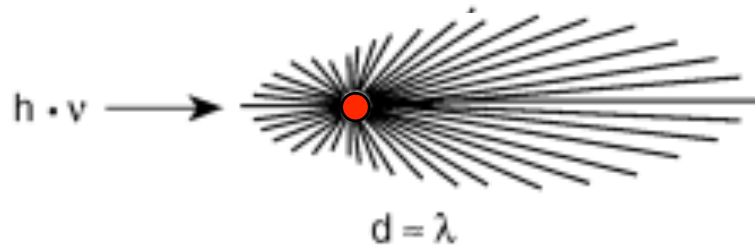


$$I_0 = I_r + I_s + I_a + I$$

# Rayleigh and Mie scattering



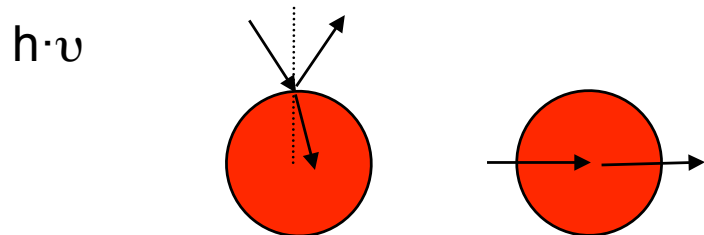
$d < \lambda$ : Rayleigh-Scattering  
isotropic distribution



$d = \lambda$ : Mie-Scattering  
in forward and backward directions



$d > \lambda$ : Mie-Scattering  
predominantly in forward direction

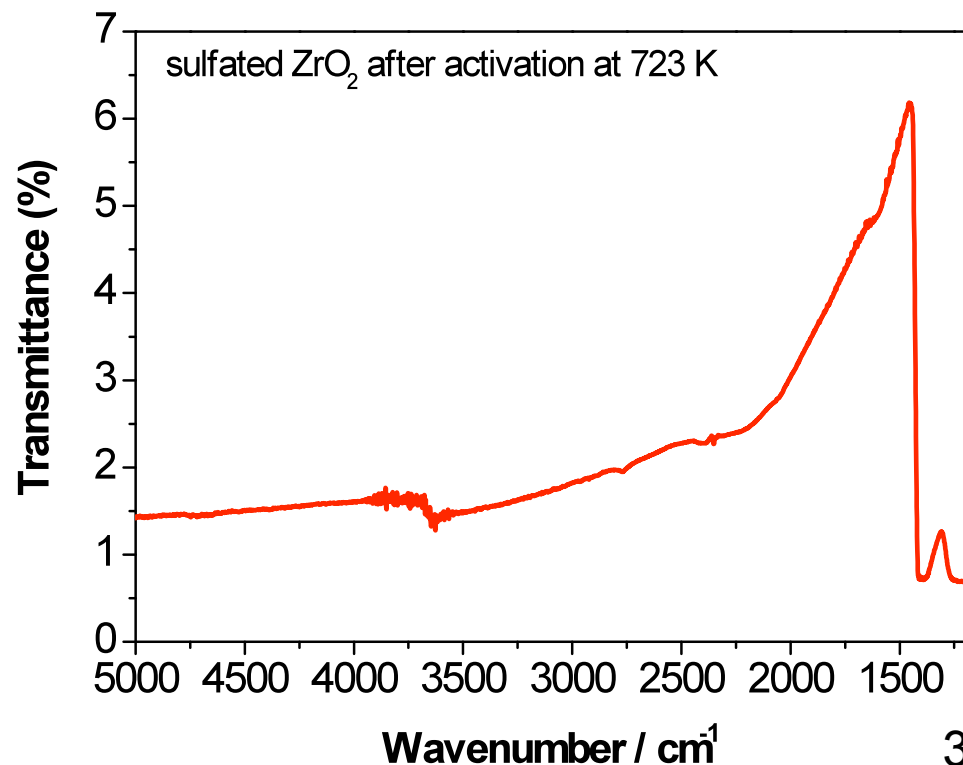


$d \gg \lambda$ : Mie-Theory approaches laws of  
geometric optics

## Loss due to scattering

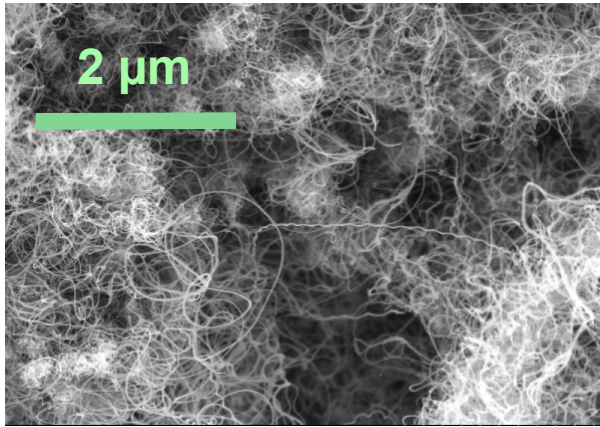
Infrared region	Wavelength (nm)	Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Energy (meV)	Vibrations
far	1x10 <sup>6</sup> - 5x10 <sup>4</sup>	10-200	1.2-25	lattice
mid	5x10 <sup>4</sup> - 2500	200-4000	25-496	molecular
near	2500 - 1000	4000-10000	496-1240	overtones

- Scattering is negligible in molecular disperse media (solutions)
- Scattering is considerable for colloids and solids when the wavelength is in the order of magnitude of the particle size

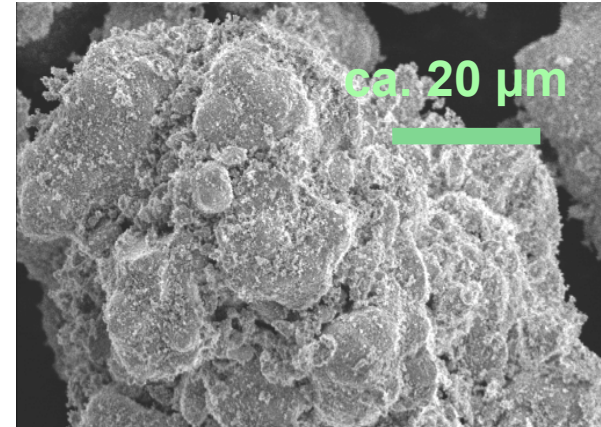


# Typical catalyst particles

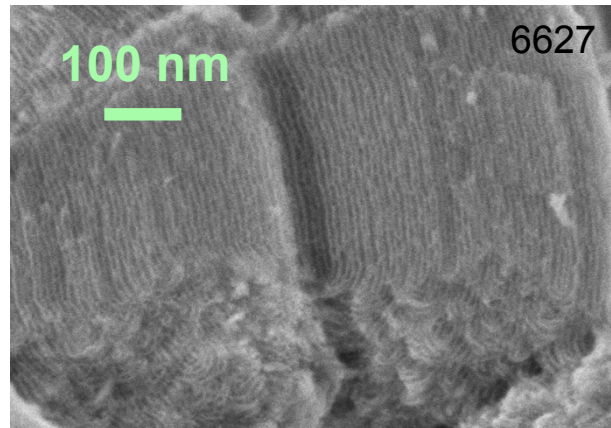
MWCNT



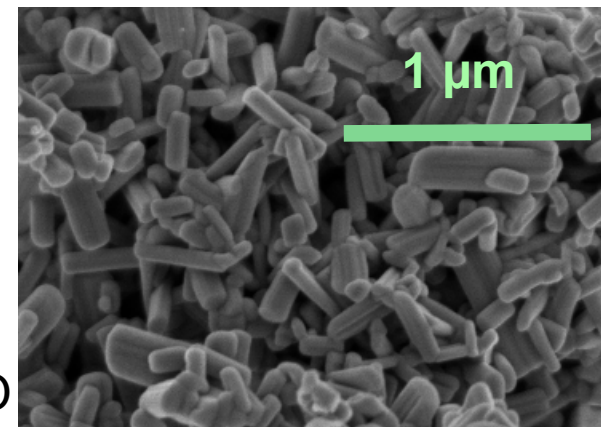
ZrO<sub>2</sub>



SiO<sub>2</sub>

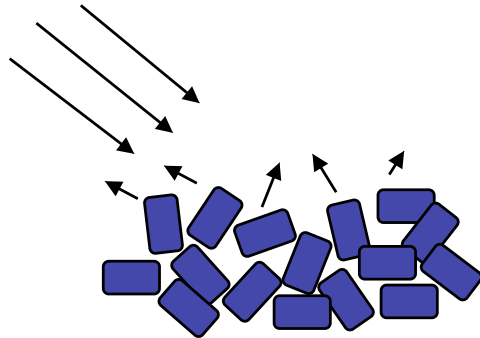


MoVTeNbO



- Need theory that treats light transfer in an absorbing and scattering medium
- Want to extract absorption properties!

## Diffuse reflection (DR)



Intensity of diffusely reflected light independent of angle of incidence

Result of multiple reflection, refraction, and diffraction (scattering) inside the sample

Randomly oriented crystals in a powder:  
light diffusely reflected

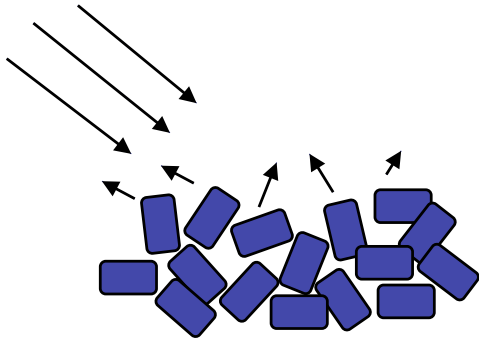


## Diffuse reflection (DR)

Intensity of diffusely reflected light independent of angle of incidence

Result of multiple reflection, refraction, and diffraction (scattering) inside the sample

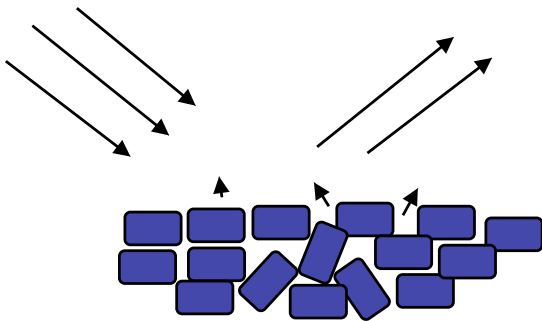
Randomly oriented crystals in a powder:  
light diffusely reflected



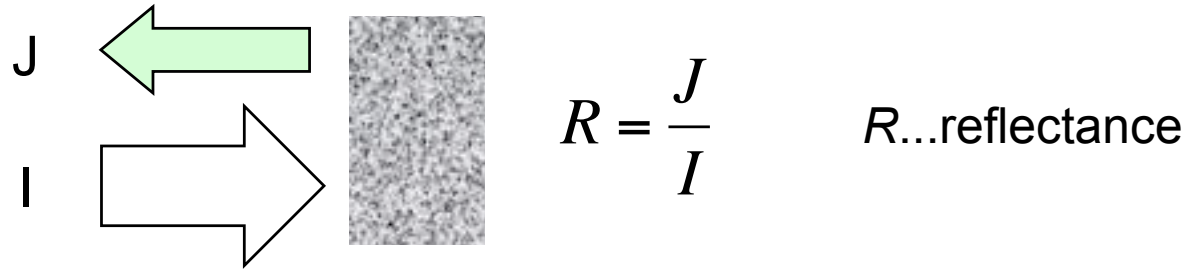
Flattening of the surface or pressing of a pellet can cause orientation of the crystals, which are “elementary mirrors”

Causes “glossy peaks” if angle of observation corresponds to angle of incidence

Solution: roughen surface with (sand)paper or press between rough paper, or use different observation angle!



# Quantification of DRIFT spectra: Kubelka-Munk function



2 constants are needed to describe the reflectance:  
absorption coefficient  $K$ , function of the frequency  
scattering coefficient  $S$

for  $K \rightarrow 0$  (no absorption)  $R_\infty \rightarrow 1$ , i.e. all light reflected

for  $S \rightarrow 0$  (no scattering)  $R_\infty \rightarrow 0$ , i.e. all light transmitted or absorbed

The Kubelka-Munk function transforms the measured spectrum  $R(\nu)$  into the absorption spectrum  $K(\nu)$

$$F(R_\infty) = \frac{(1 - R_\infty)^2}{2R_\infty} = \frac{K}{S}$$

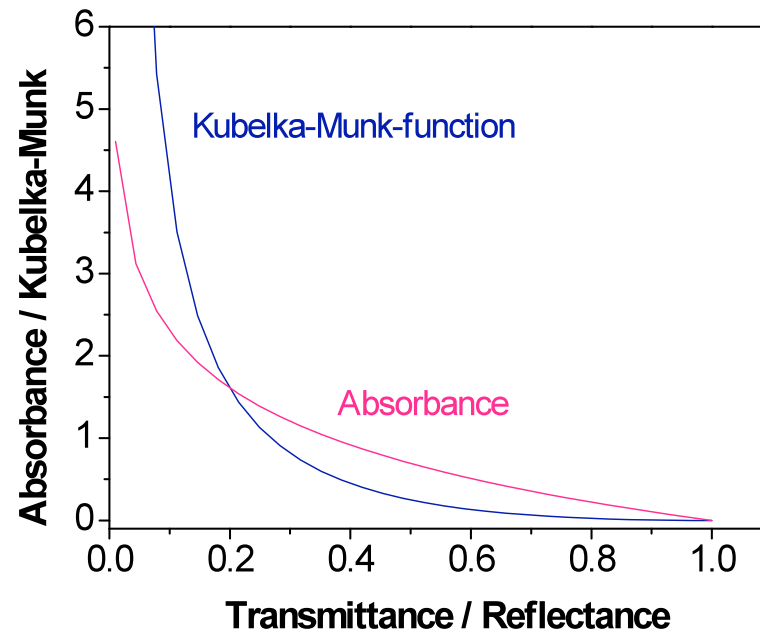
**Kubelka-Munk function  
remission function**

## Transmission vs. reflection spectroscopy

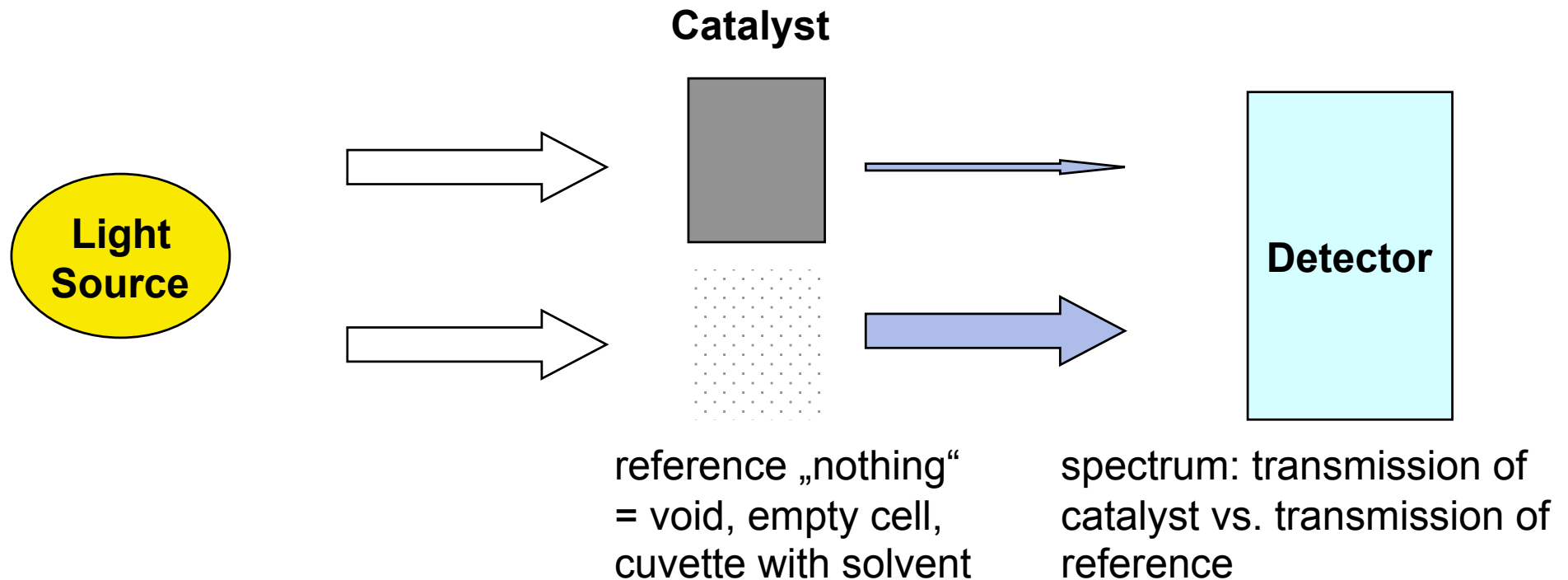
- For quantification and to be able to calculate difference spectra: calculate absorbance / Kubelka-Munk function

$$A = -\ln T$$

$$F(R) = \frac{(1 - R)^2}{2R}$$



# Spectroscopy in transmission

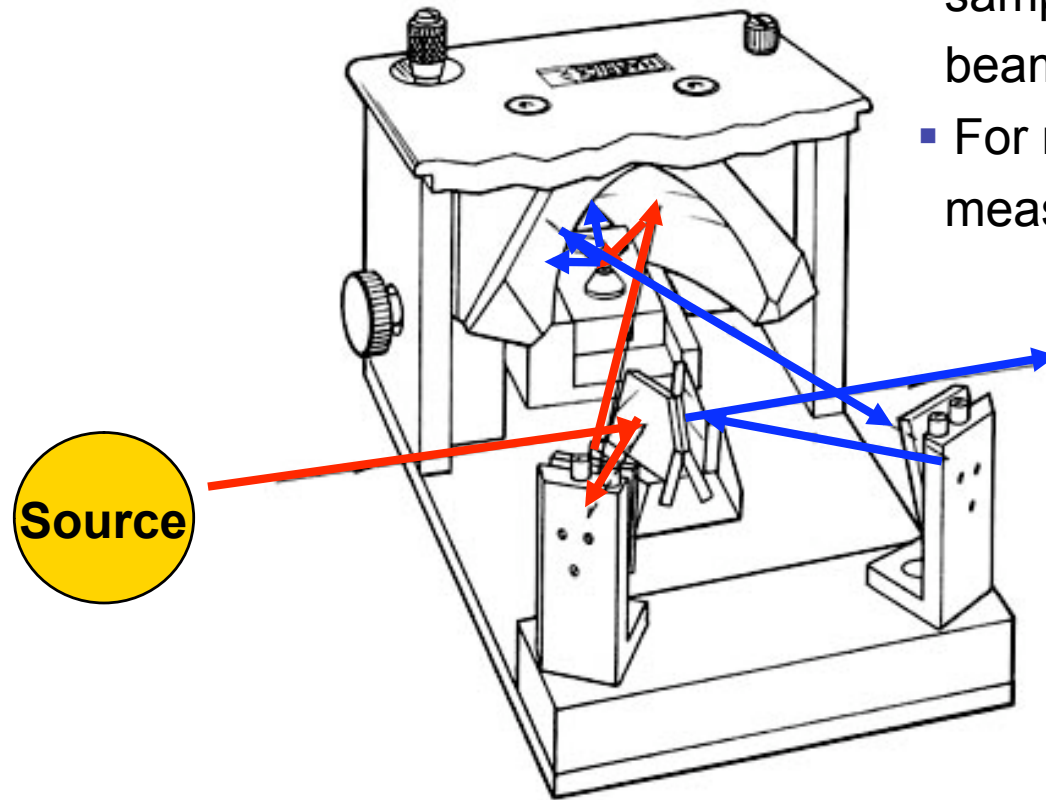


Double beam spectrometer: direct comparison sample - reference

Single beam spectrometer: consecutive measurement

# Mirror optical accessory for reflection spectroscopy

- can be placed into the normal sample chamber (in line with beam), no rearrangement necessary
- For reference, consecutive measurement of white standard



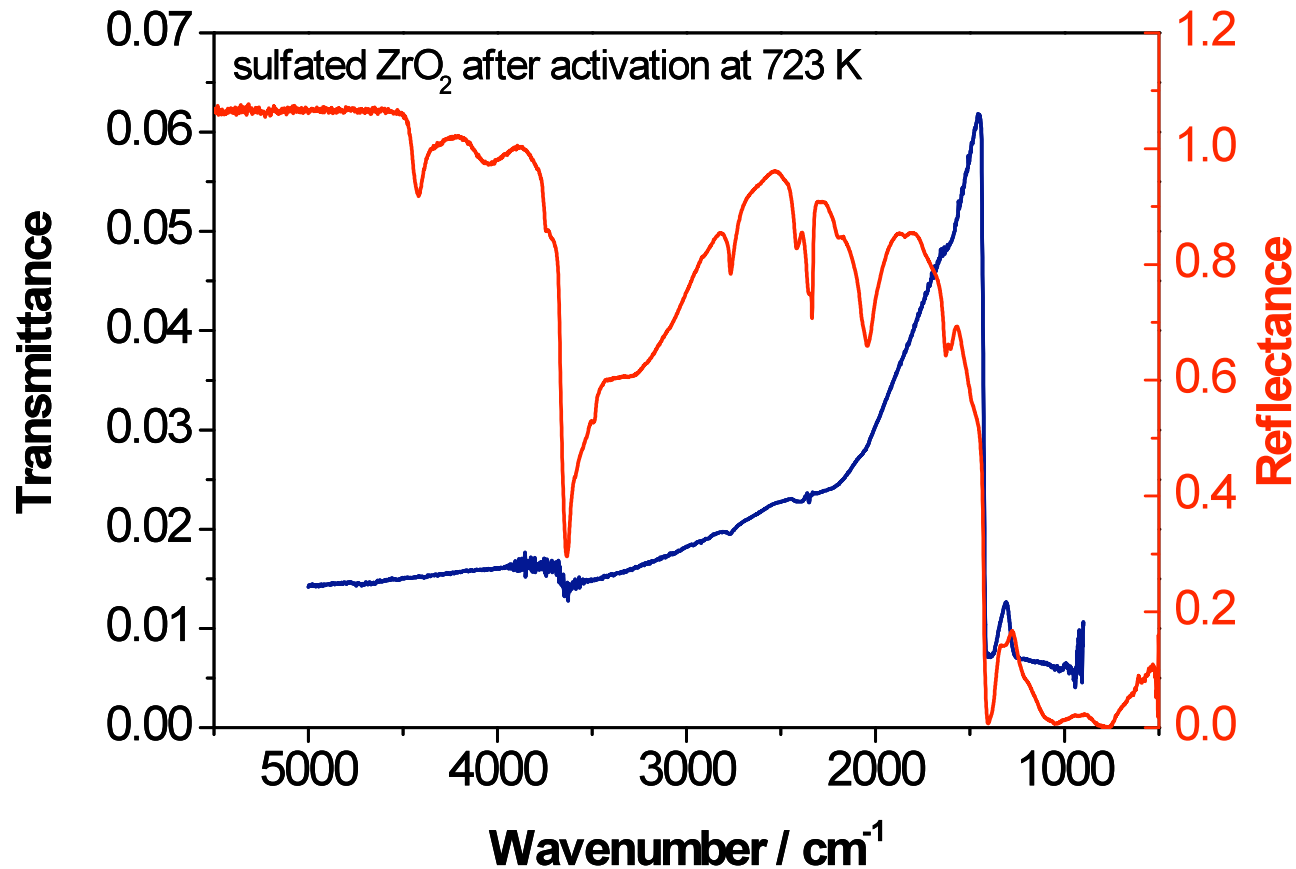
Specular reflection is strongest in forward direction  
Collect light in off-axis configuration

- First ellipsoidal mirror focuses beam on sample
- Second ellipsoidal mirror collects reflected light
- 20% of the diffusely reflected light is collected

# Transmission vs. reflection spectroscopy

Transmission: self-supporting wafer

Reflectance: powder bed



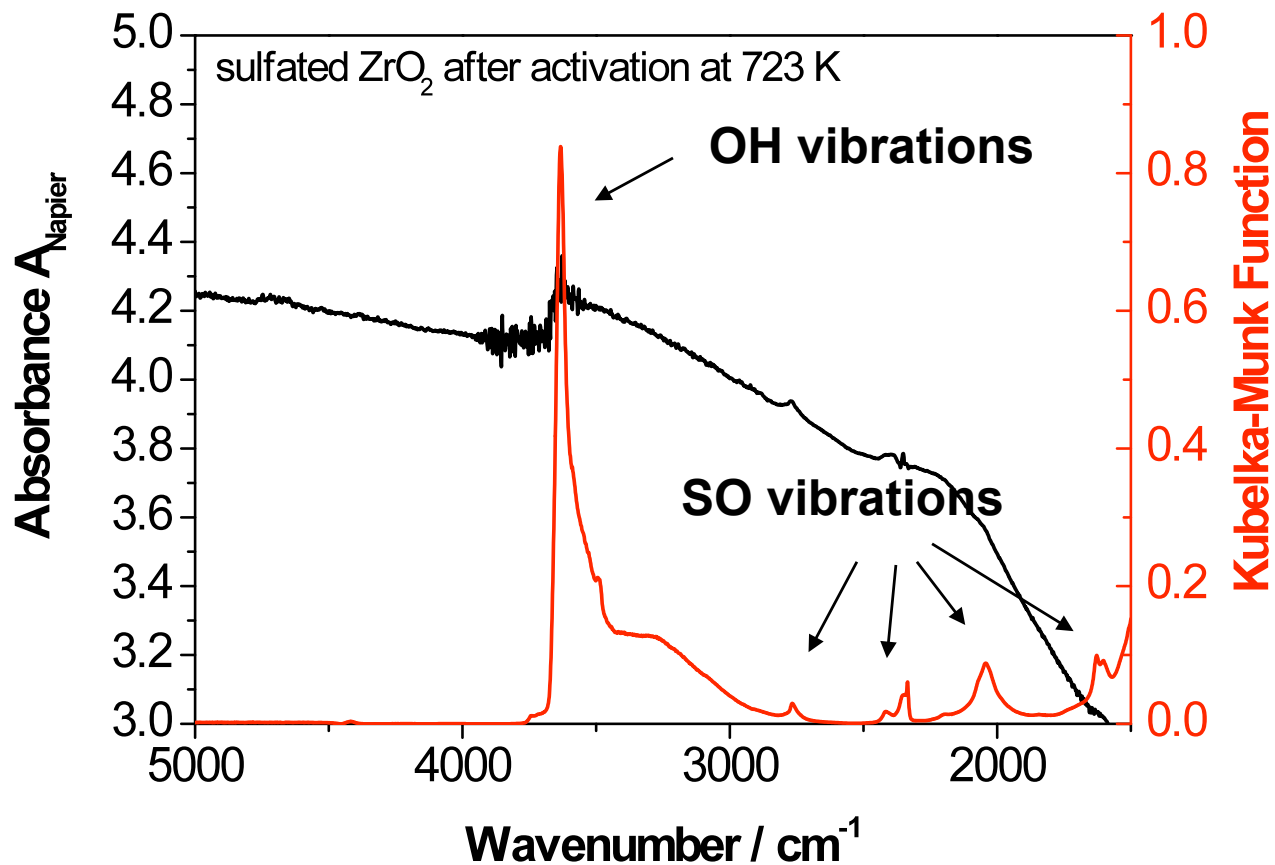
Spectra can have very different appearance

Transmittance decreases, reflectance increases with increasing wavenumber

# Transmission vs. reflection spectroscopy

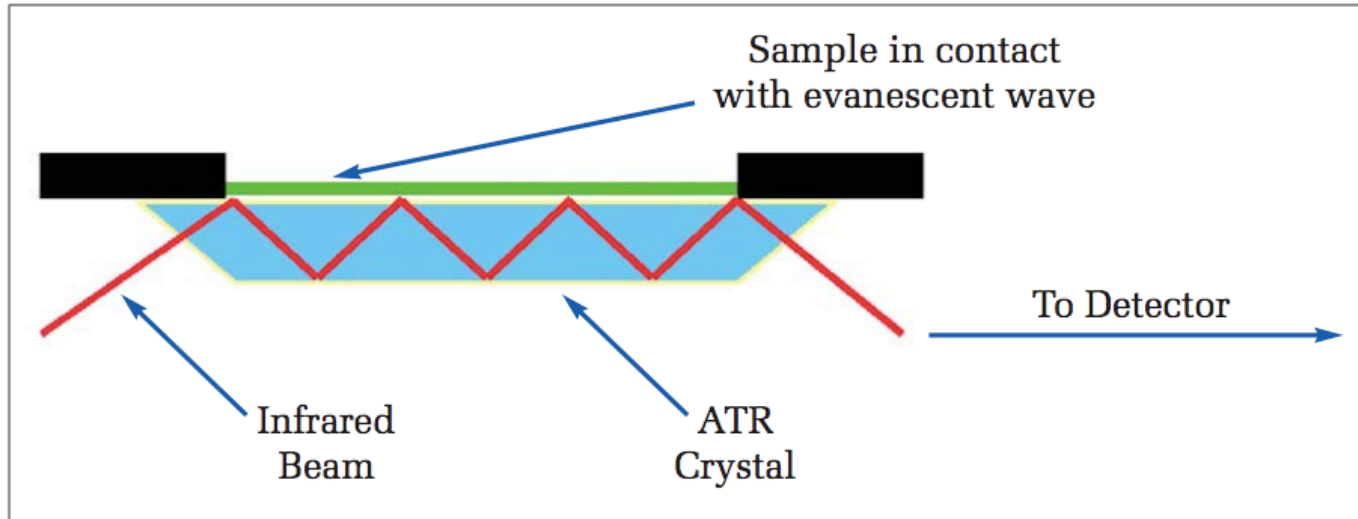
Transmission: self-supporting wafer

Reflectance: powder bed



Vibrations of surface species may be more evident in DR spectra

# Attenuated Total Reflection (ATR)



[www.perkinelmer.de](http://www.perkinelmer.de)

$$\theta_c = \sin^{-1} \frac{n_2}{n_1}$$

The refractive index of the crystal  $n_1$  must be significantly greater than that of the sample  $n_2$

Crystal materials: ZnSe, Si, Ge, C (diamond)



# Attenuated Total Reflection (ATR)

Depth of penetration ( $l=1/e$ )

$$d_p = \frac{\lambda_1}{2\pi(\sin^2 \theta - n_{21}^2)^{1/2}}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda/n_1$$

$$n_{21} = n_2/n_1$$

Germanium has by far the highest refractive index of all the ATR materials available which means that the effective depth of penetration is approximately 1 micron

This is an advantage when analyzing highly absorbing materials (carbon)



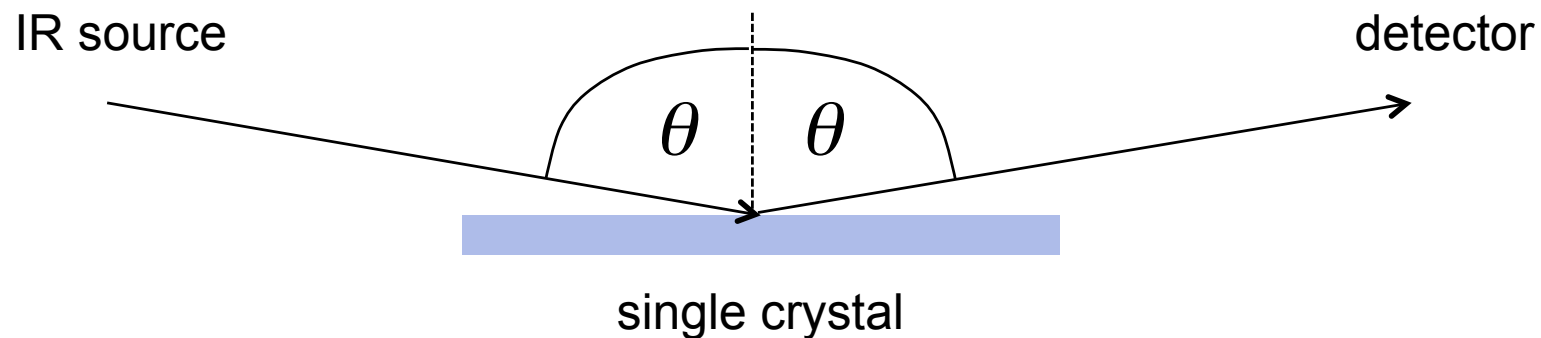
Figure 7. Applying pressure to a solid sample on the Universal diamond ATR top-plate.

[www.perkinelmer.de](http://www.perkinelmer.de)

# Reflection Absorption Infrared Spectroscopy (RAIRS, IRAS)

- grazing-incidence reflection of the IR light
- studies of single crystals in presence of gas phase
- low sensitivity owing to the small number of adsorbing molecules
- selection rule: vibrational modes which give rise to an oscillating dipole perpendicular (normal) to the surface are IR active

*Review: Sheppard & Erkelens, Appl. Spec. 38 (1984) 471.*

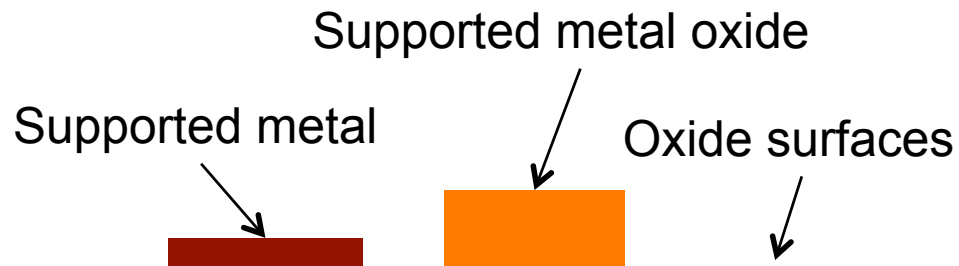


# Outline

1. Basic principles
2. Sample geometry – techniques in FTIR
3. Applications
  - I. Lattice vibrations and surface functional groups
  - II. Adsorption sites – adsorption of probe molecules
  - III. In-situ spectroscopy – gas phase/liquid phase

# FTIRS: Study of bulk structure and surface sites

## ***Analysis of surface sites***



Fundamental vibrations:

$$\tilde{\nu} < 1200 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

***Analysis of amorphous and microcrystalline solids***

## ***Surface center (active site):***

Microscopic group of atoms, which determines the specific chemical activity of the surface

- surface sites of supported metal particles
- electron donating oxygen atoms
- coordinatively unsaturated metal cations
- hydroxyl-hydrate cover

# Vibration of metal-oxygen bonds on oxide surfaces

Davydov, p. 32

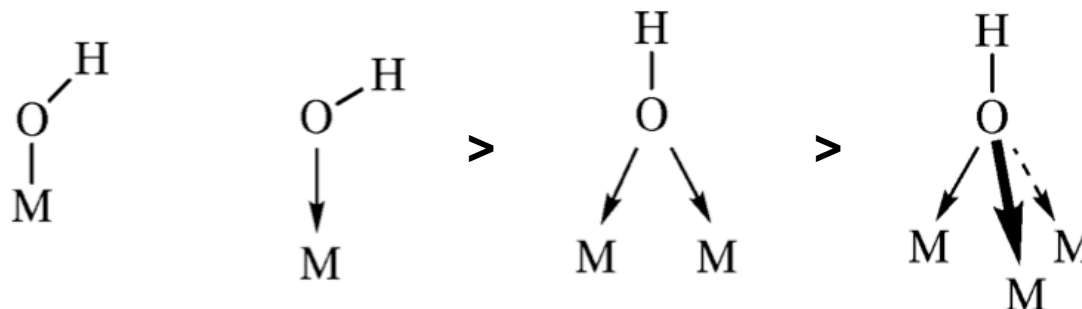
**Table 2.1.** Absorption bands in the IR spectra of relevant oxide systems after high-temperature oxidation treatment.

Oxide	Fundamental frequency region (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	Region above the fundamental frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	625, 550, 435, 407	1015, 995, 980, 890, 820
MnO <sub>2</sub>	615, 400	1170, 1140, 1120, 1065, 1040, 980
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	560, 470	960, 925
NiO	650, 465	1050, 1140
CuO	610, 500, 410	1050, 830, 790
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	1015, 860, 600	1035
Cu/Cr/O	620, 520	1010, 950, 900
Fe/Cr/O	560, 470	1005, 930
SnO <sub>2</sub>	670, 610, 312	1060, 970
ZnCr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	670, 560	870, 980, 1010
ZnO·ZnCr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	670, 560	960, 1015
ZnCr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> ·K	670, 560	970
TiO <sub>2</sub> (anatase)	700–525, 347	950, 870, 770, 730
Co <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	665, 560	800–1200
Mo/Sn/O	990, 660	1005–1010
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> /Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1015, 890, 600	1020–1035
SiO <sub>2</sub>	1100, 775	908, 888
γ-Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	800, 620	1050
ZnO	450	800–1200
Sn/V/O	670, 610	980, 1035
Sb <sub>6</sub> O <sub>13</sub>	740, 400	800–1200

- surface M-O bonds of greater strength
- combination vibrations of fundamental absorption frequencies in this region!

## Surface hydroxyl groups

$$\tilde{\nu}_{\text{O-H}} = 3800\text{-}3000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

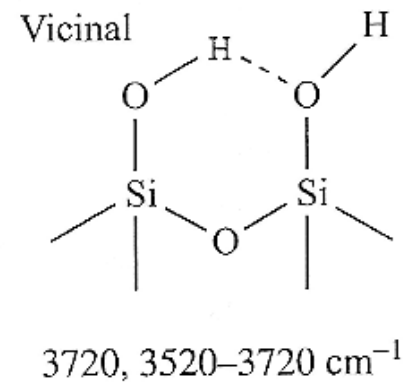
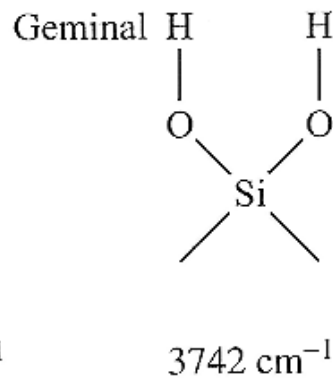
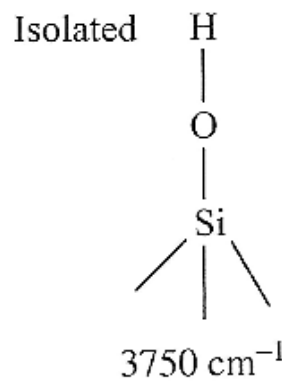


The position and shape of the OH bands of surface hydroxyl groups is informative of their coordination

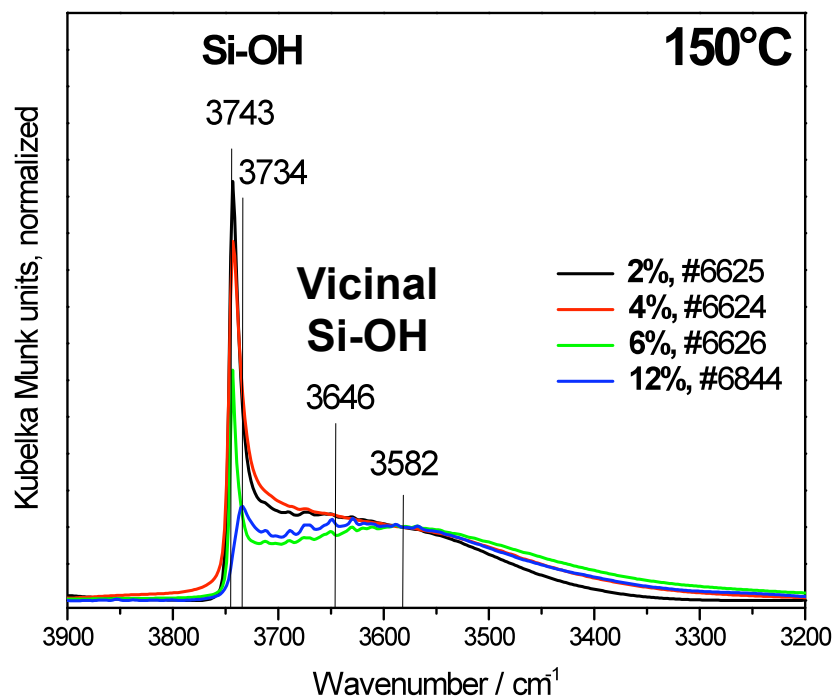
- Covalent oxide components usually give rise to very typical strong sharp peaks; in covalent oxide coordination of oxygen is mostly two and this also occurs at the surface where the OHs are, consequently, terminal
- On ionic oxides the coordination of oxygen is higher than two, so that bridging and triply bridging hydroxy groups are formed at the surface
- Relation between OH stretching frequency and structure and acidity is not straightforward:

OH band of MgO, amorphous silica and silica-alumina at  $3745 \pm 3 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

# Silanol groups on amorphous silica (SBA-15)

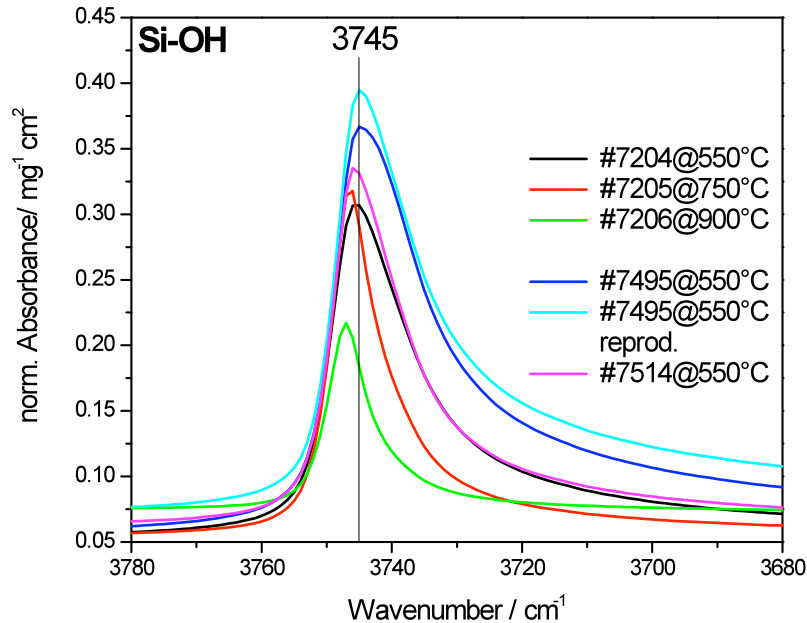


*Davydov S. 60*



x%V/SBA-15

# Quantification of silanol groups in SBA-15



$$A_{10} = \epsilon c l = \epsilon c \frac{m}{A}$$

$$\epsilon = 1.91 \pm 0.17 \cdot 10^5 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ mol}^{-1}$$

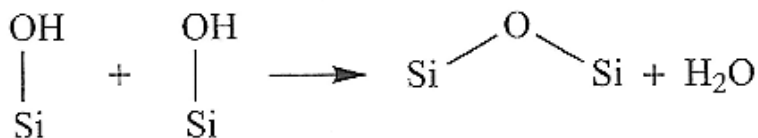
K. Heger, G. Marx, Mikrochim. Acta 133, (2000) 187.

A... area of the wafer

m...mass of wafer

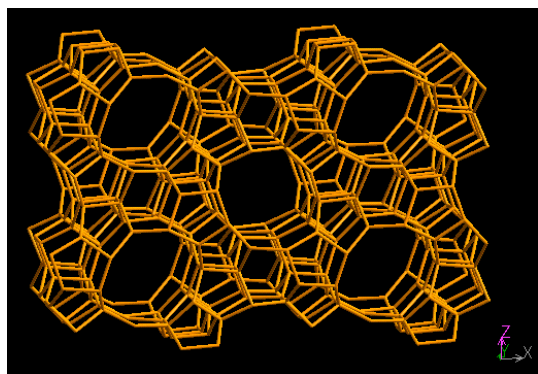
Spectra normalized by the area weight of the wafer

SN	area weight mg cm <sup>-2</sup>	area of Si-OH A. cm <sup>-1</sup>	OH conc. mol kg <sup>-1</sup> [mmol g <sup>-1</sup> ]	BET m <sup>2</sup> g <sup>-1</sup>	OH density μmol m <sup>-2</sup>
<b>7204@550°C</b>	6.57	31.7397	<b>25.29</b>	712	<b>35.5</b>
<b>7206@900°C</b>	9.52	15.1948	<b>8.36</b>	317	<b>26.4</b>

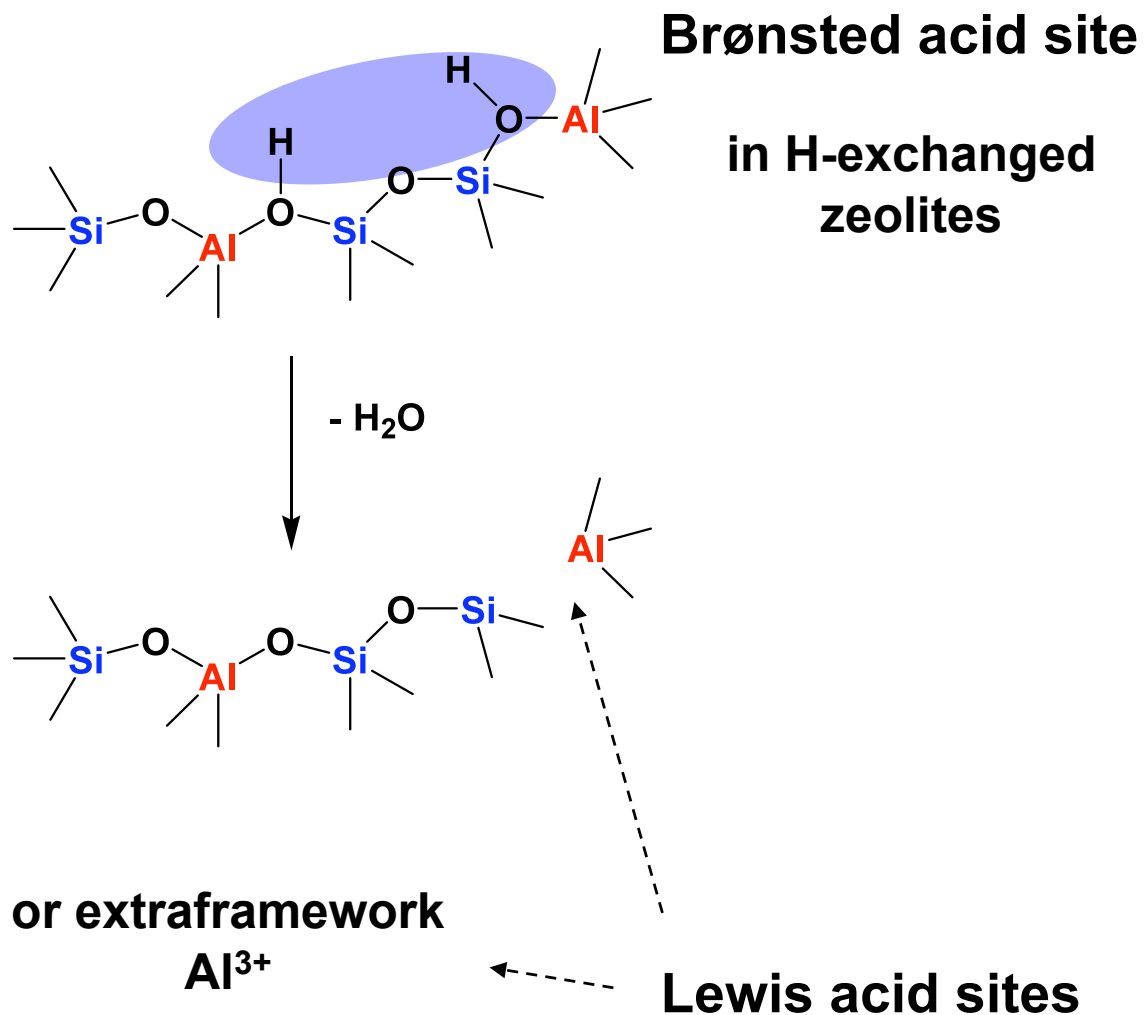




# Brønsted acid sites in crystalline aluminosilicates

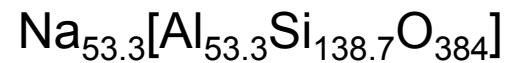
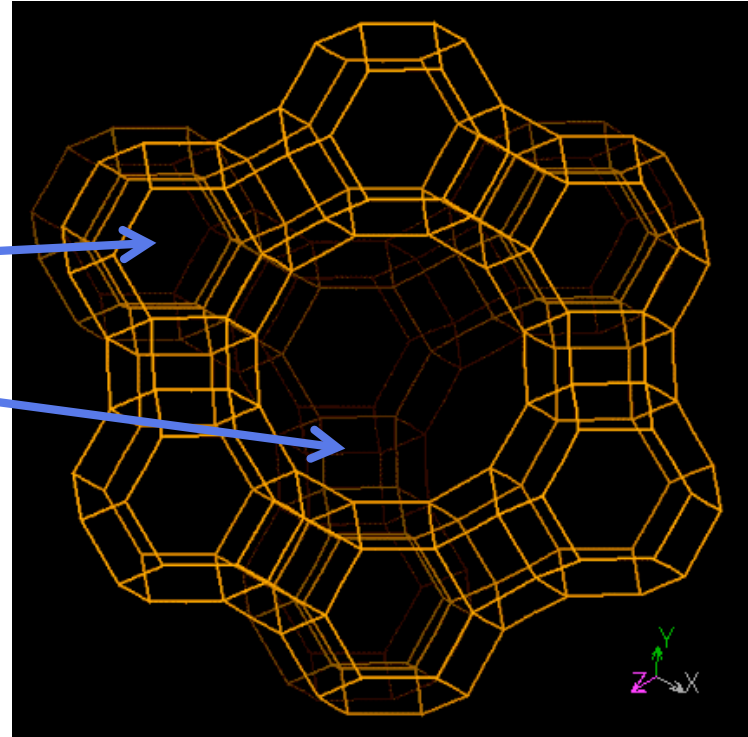
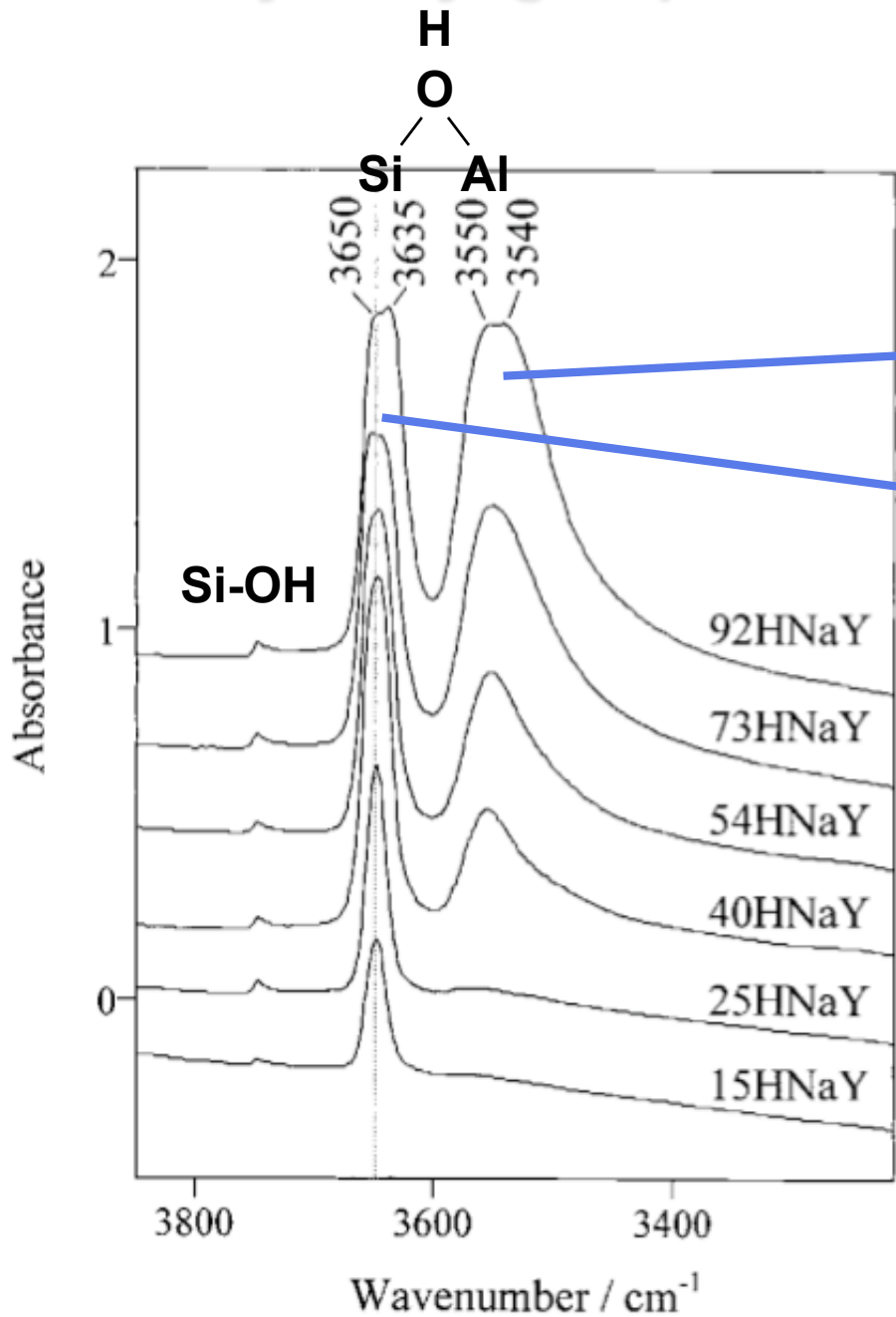


MFI viewed  
along [010]  
 $d = 5.3 \times 5.6 \text{ \AA}$



[www.iza-structure.org/databases/](http://www.iza-structure.org/databases/)

# Hydroxyl groups in Y-type zeolites (FAU)

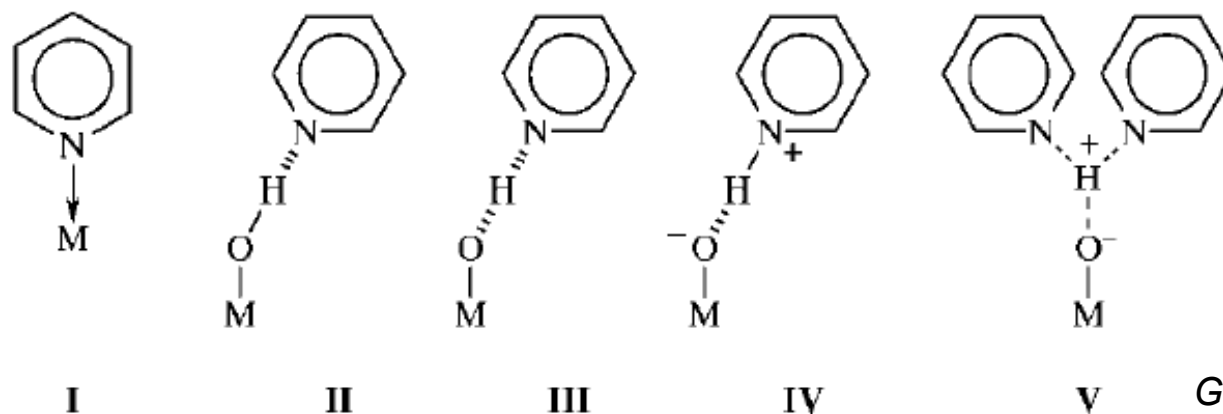


A. Trunschke, B. Hunger, *Topics in Catalysis* 19 (2002) 215.

# FTIRS of adsorbed bases

Base	Conjugated acid	Basic strength		Sensitive bands (base) Lewis acidity		Diagnostic band (acid) Brønsted acidity		
		$pK_a$	PA <sup>a</sup>	Mode	Position <sup>b</sup>	Mode	Position <sup>b</sup>	
Piperidine	$C_5H_{10}NH$	$C_5H_{10}NH_2^+$	11.1	933			$\delta NH_2^+$	~ 1650
<i>n</i> -Butylamine	$n-C_4H_9-NH_2$	$n-C_4H_9-NH_3^+$	10.0				$\delta_{sym} NH_3^+$	~ 1540
Ammonia	$NH_3$	$NH_4^+$	9.2	846	$\delta_{sym} NH_3$	1300–1000	$\delta_{as} NH_4^+$	~ 1440
Pyridine	$C_5H_5N$	$C_5H_5NH^+$	5.2	912	$\nu_{8a}$	1632–1580	$\nu_{8a}$	~ 1640
					$\nu_{19b}$	1455–1438	$\nu_{19b}$	~ 1540
					$\nu_I$ (ring)	1020–990		
Acetone	$(CH_3)_2C=O$	$(CH_3)_2C=OH^+$	-7.2	816	$\nu C=O$	1730–1650		
Pyvalonitrile	$t-C_4H_9-C\equiv N$	$t-C_4H_9C\equiv NH^+$	~ -10		$\nu C\equiv N$	2310–2235		
Acetonitrile	$CH_3-C\equiv N$	$CH_3-C\equiv NH^+$	-10.4	783	$\nu C\equiv N$	{2340–2290		
					F.R. <sup>c</sup>	{2315–2250		
Nitric oxide	NO	$[HNO]^+$			$\nu N\equiv O$	2100–1875		
Carbon monoxide	CO	$[HCO]^+$		598	$\nu C\equiv O$	2240–2150		

<sup>a</sup> PA = proton affinity (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>b</sup> Range (cm<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>c</sup> Fermi resonance doublet.



G. Busca, PCCP 1 (1999) 723.

# TPD of ammonia on Y-type zeolites (FAU)

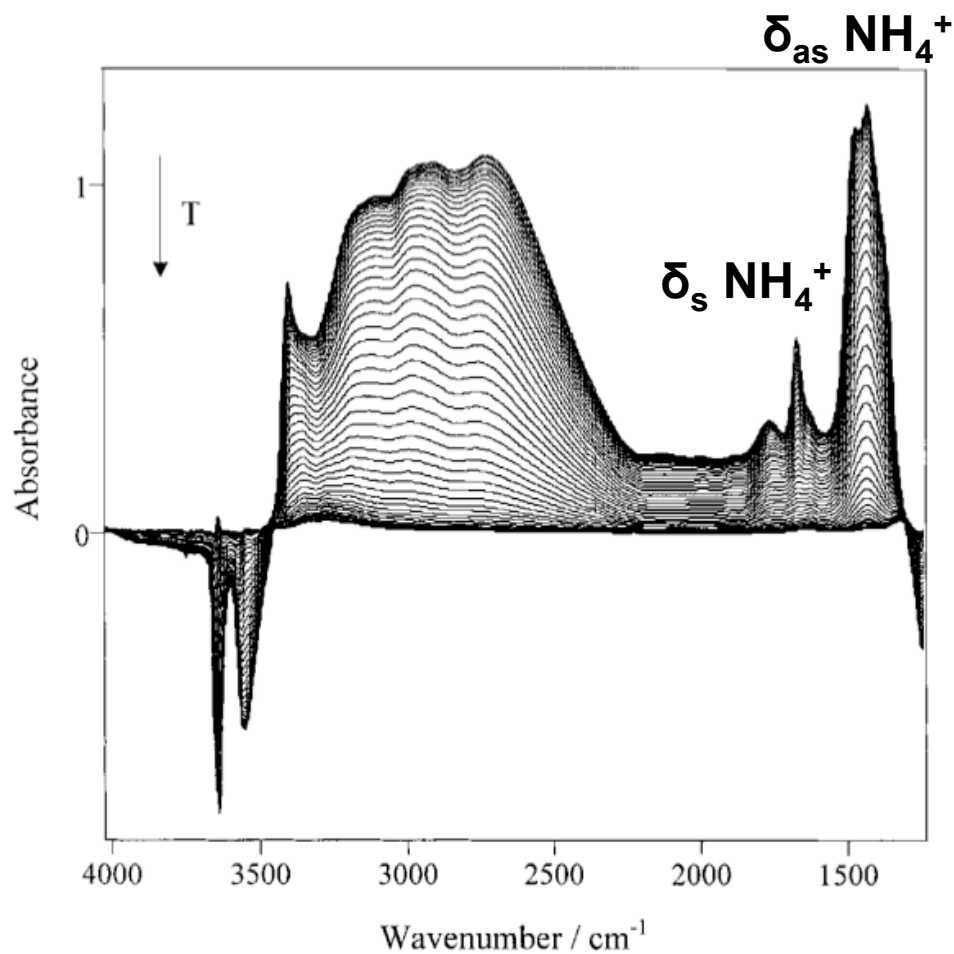


Figure 10. Spectra of 73HNaY during TPD of ammonia ( $\Delta T = 5$  K).

A. Trunschke, B. Hunger, *Topics in Catalysis* 19 (2002) 215.

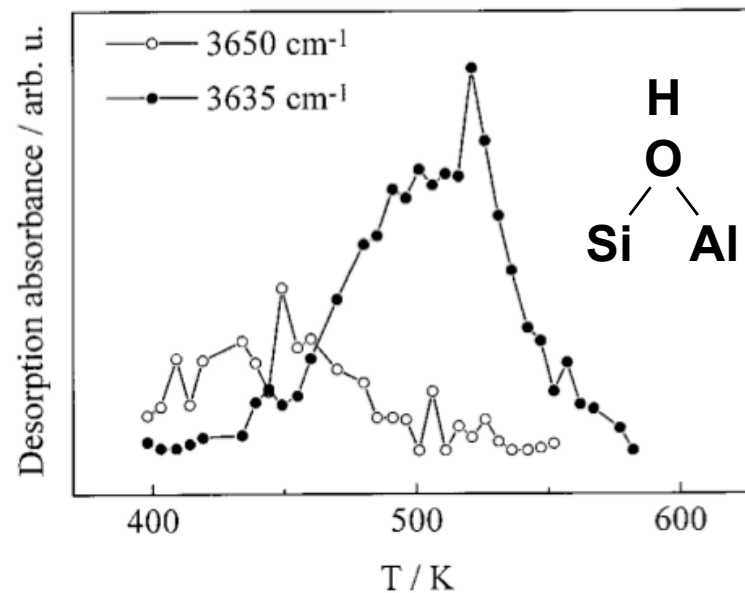
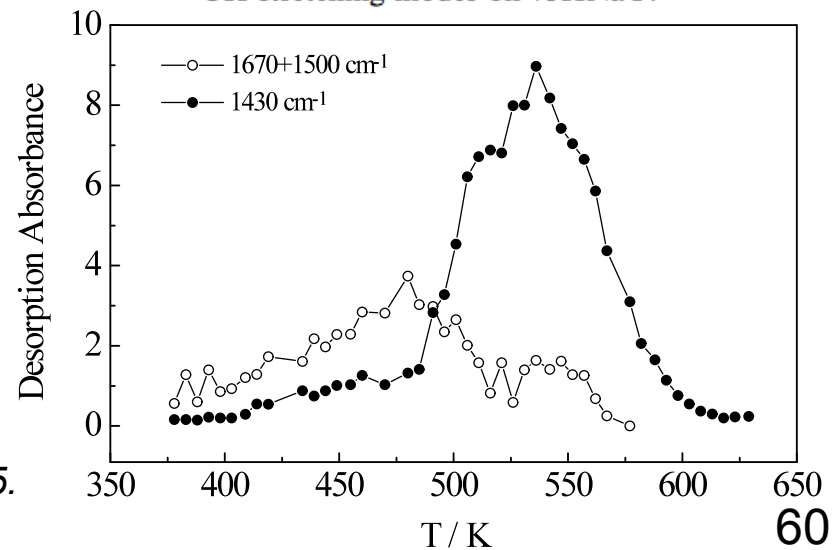
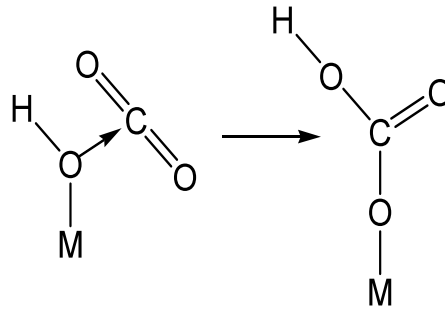


Figure 14. Desorption absorbances of the sub-bands in the region of OH stretching modes on 73HNaY.

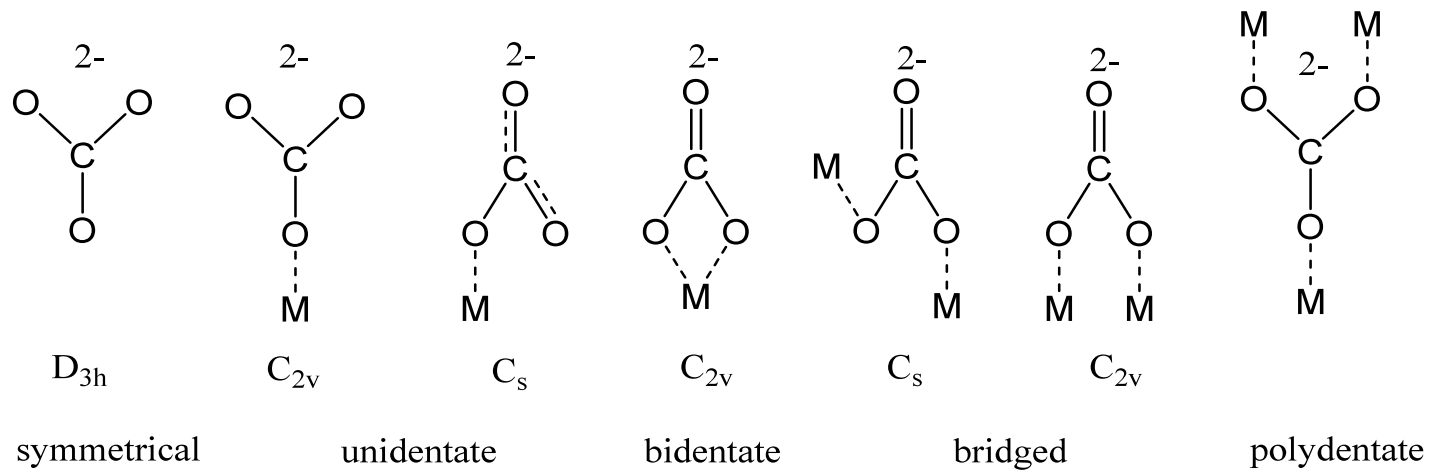


## CO<sub>2</sub> as probe for basic sites

Formation of bicarbonates by reaction of CO<sub>2</sub> with basic OH groups



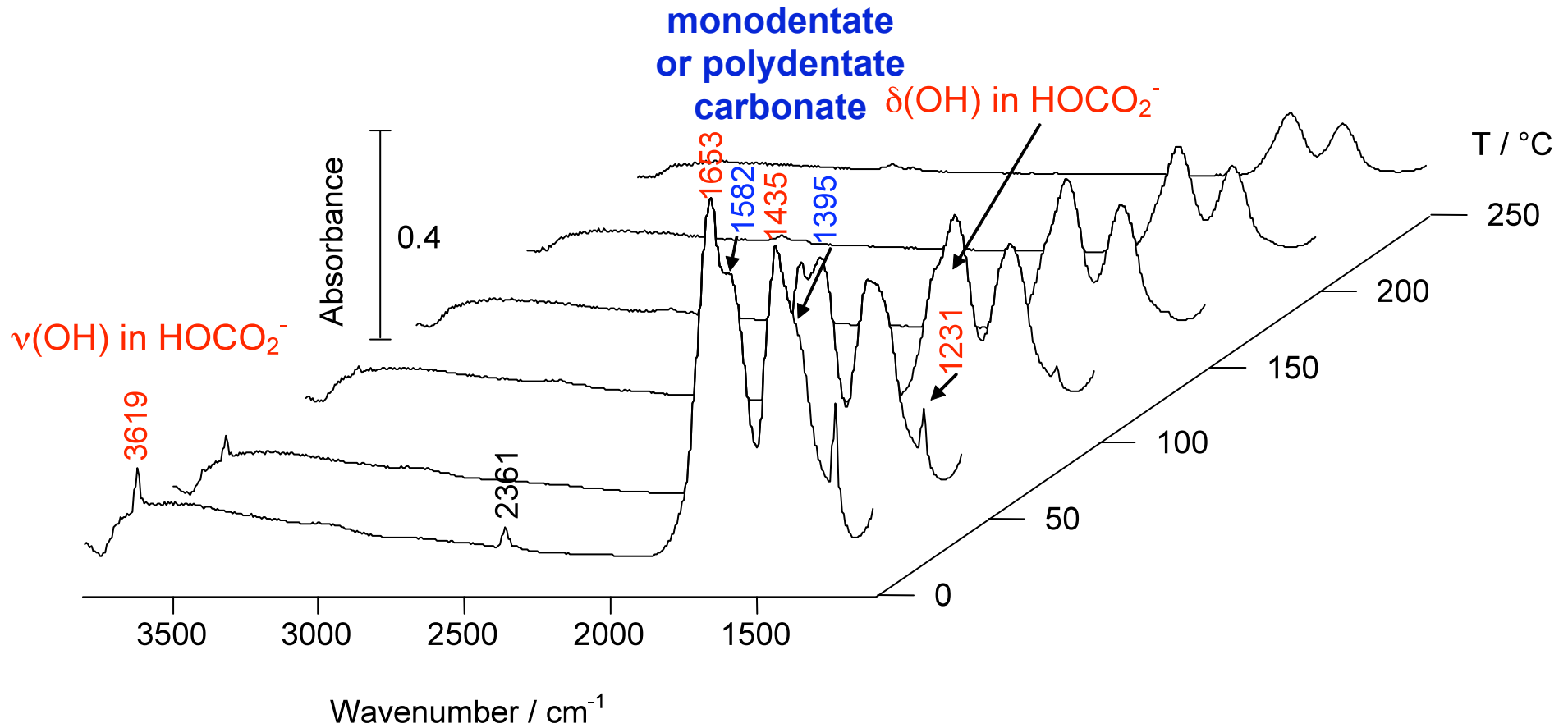
Free carbonate and surface carbonates formed by CO<sub>2</sub> adsorption



Other probes: e.g., SO<sub>2</sub>, pyrrole, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, B(OCH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>

*J.C. Lavalley, Catal. Today 27 (1996) 377.*

# CO<sub>2</sub> TPD



Adsorption and temperature-programmed desorption of CO<sub>2</sub> on MgO-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (Mg/Al=0.6)

# CO as probe molecule

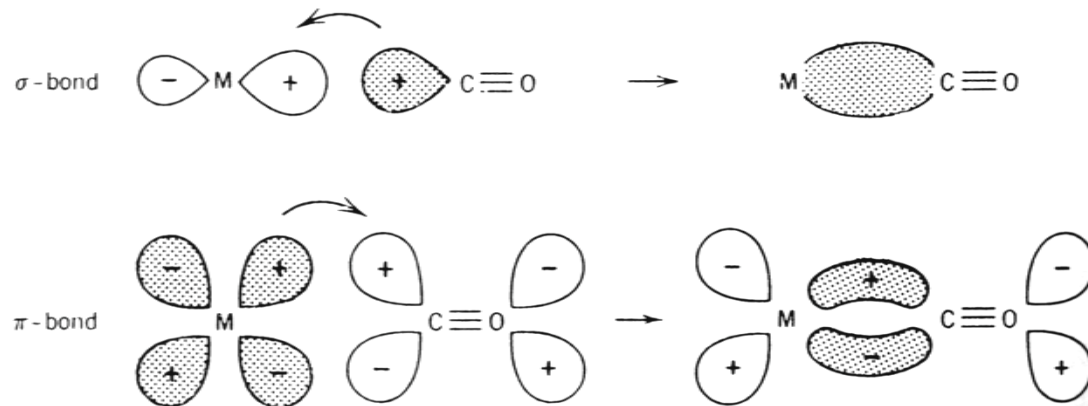
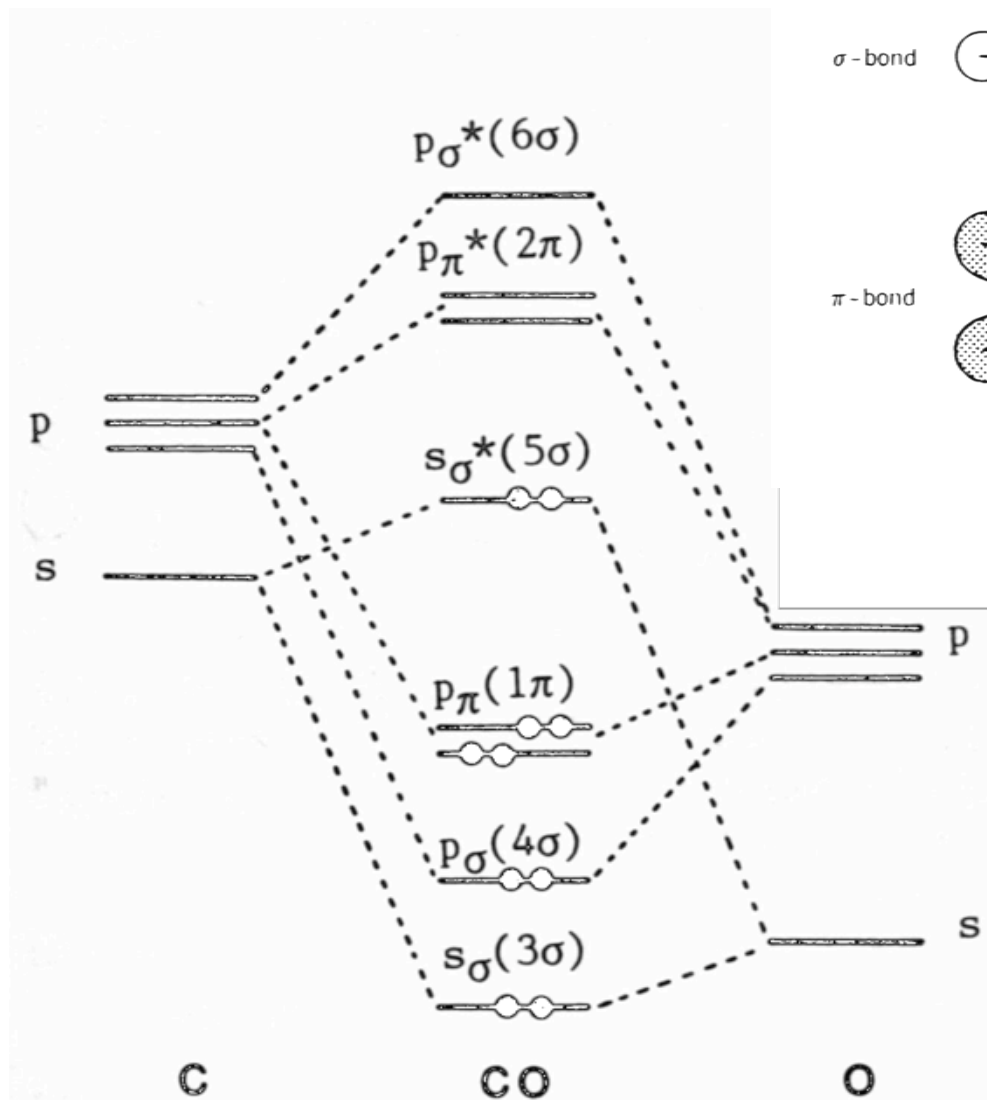


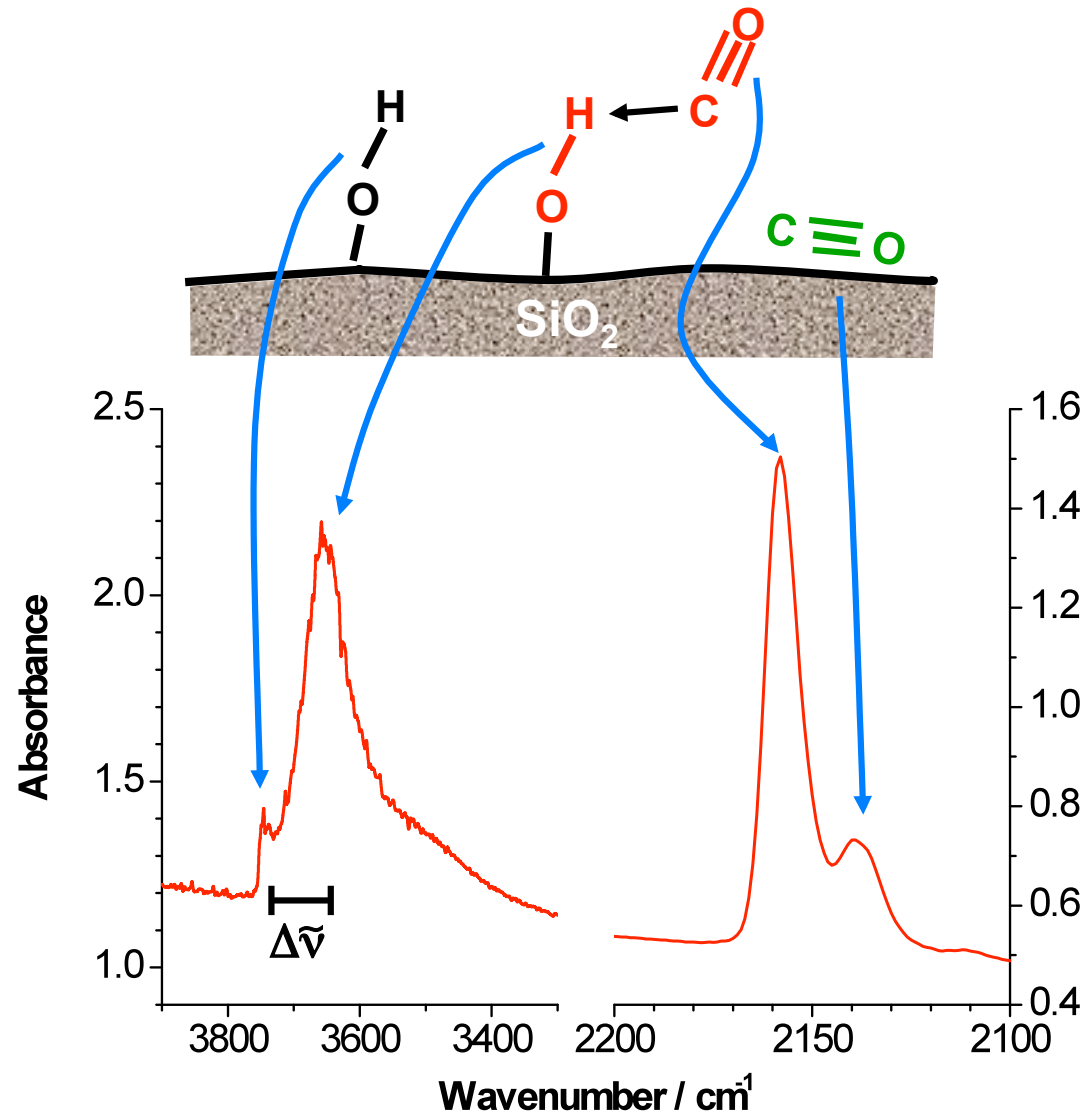
Fig. III-51. The  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -bonding in metal carbonyls.

CO gas phase frequency  $2143 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$\sigma$ -donor bond:  $\nu \uparrow$

$\pi$ -backbonding:  $\nu \downarrow$

# CO adsorption on silica



Classical approach: consider positions (shifts) of vibrational bands

Small effect: frequency shifts  $\approx 10\%$



# CO adsorption on Lewis acid sites

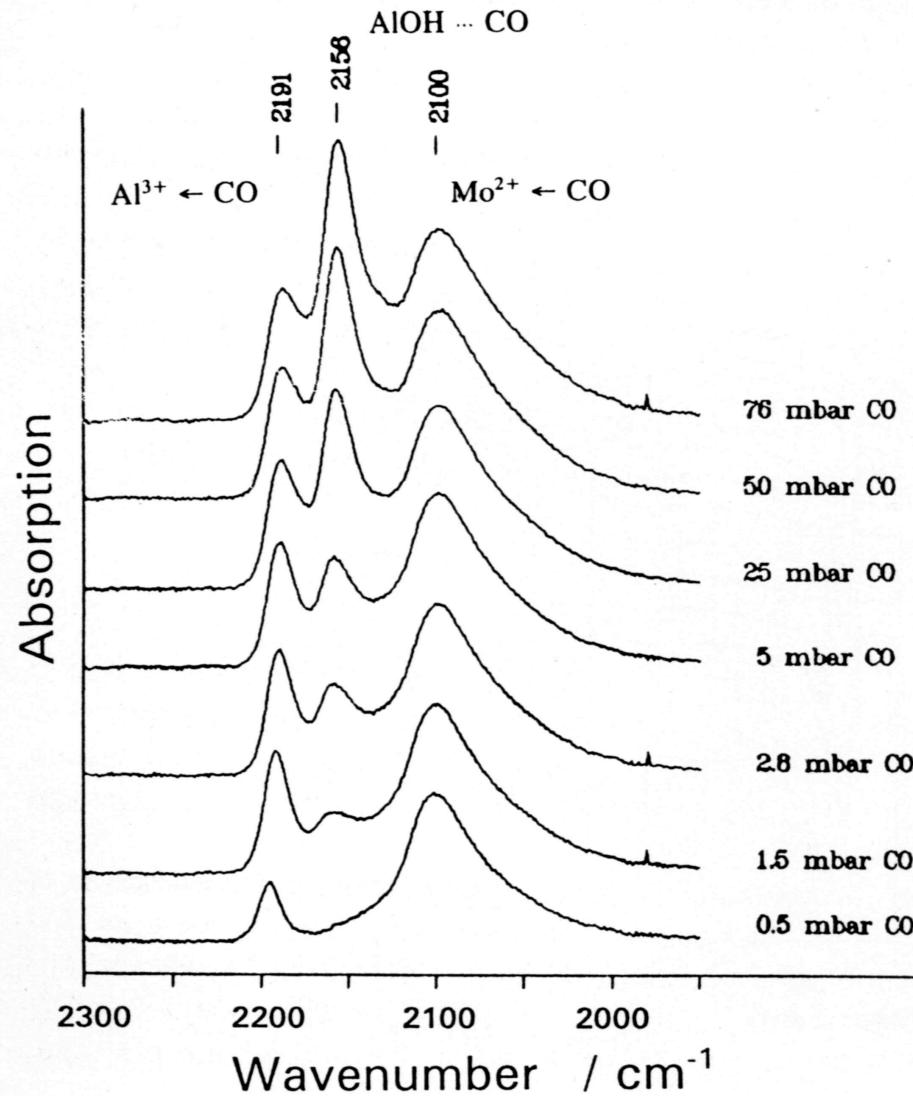
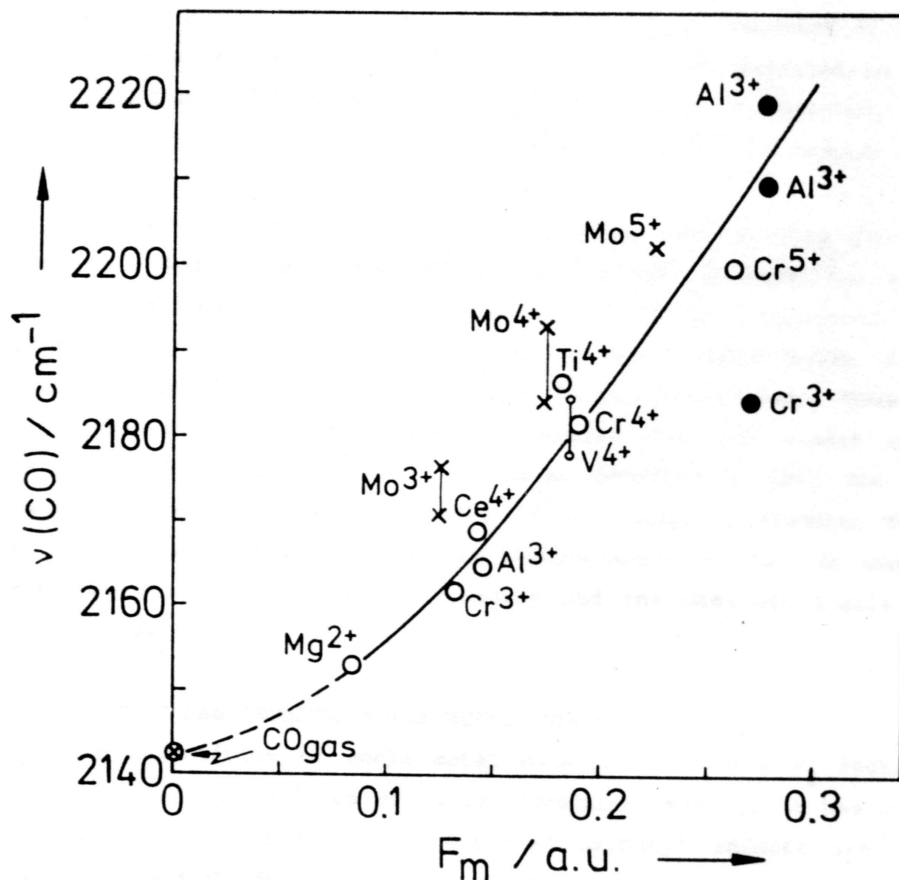


Fig. 3: Pressure dependence of carbonyl infrared spectra of CO adsorbed at 80 K on MoS<sub>2</sub>/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

H. Knözinger, Springer Series in Surface Sciences Vol. 33, Eds. E. Umbach, H.-J. Freund, Adsorption on Ordered Surface of Ionic Solids and Thin Films, Springer, Berlin, 1993, p. 257-267.

# Correlation between frequency of adsorbed CO and coordination and charge of the metal cation site



“Modified electric field strength”

$$F_m = Z/N * R_m^{-2}$$

Z: cation charge

N: coordination number in cus state

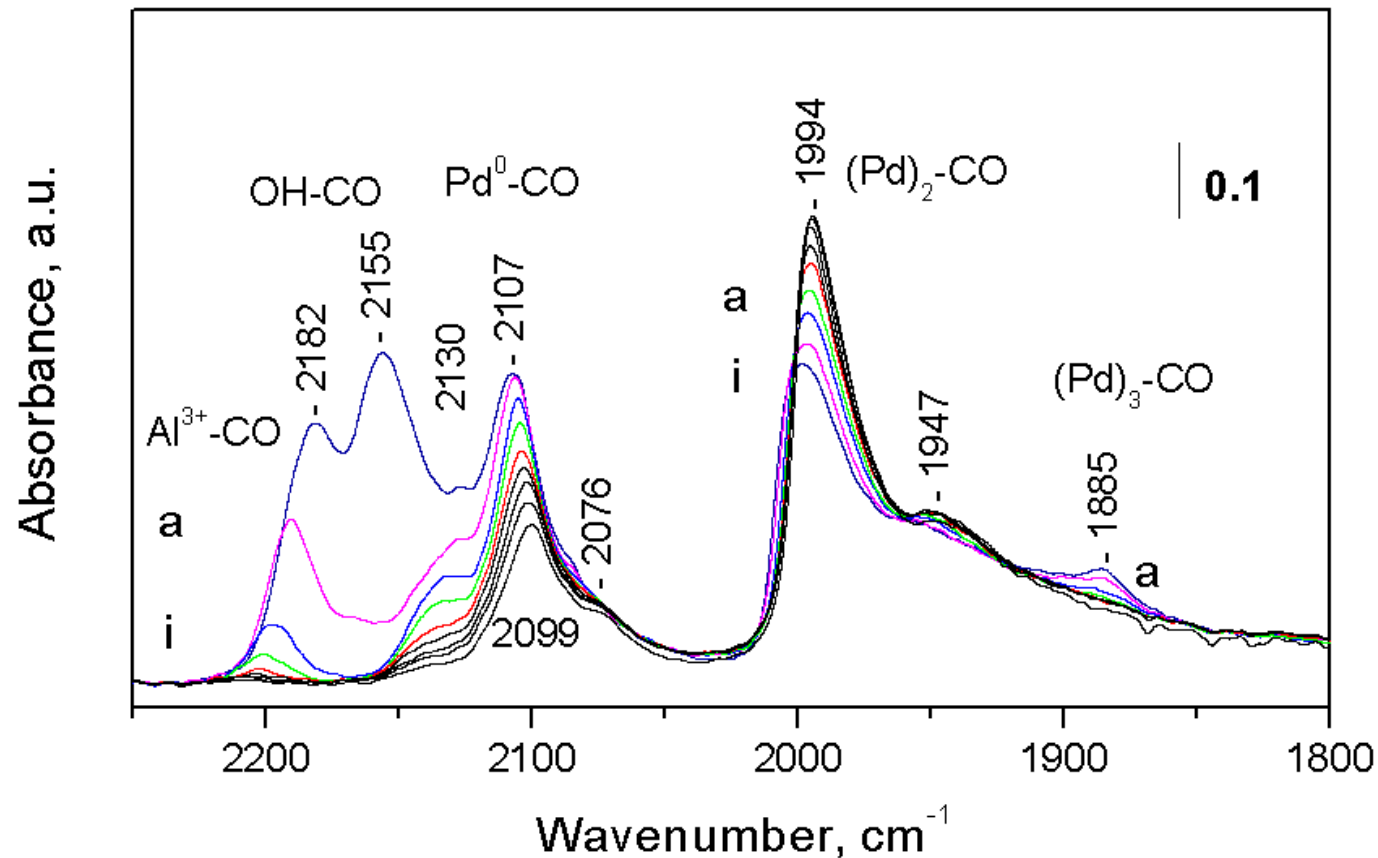
$R_m$ : sum of effective ionic radius and van der Waals radius

Fig. 5. Correlation of carbonyl stretching frequency of adsorbed CO with modified electric field strength  $F_m$  (equ. (v)). ○: 5-coordinate ions; ●: 3-coordinate ions; x: 5-coordinate  $Mo^{x+}$ , supported; o: 5-coordinate V, supported.

H. Knözinger, *Proc. Int. Symp. Acid-Base Catalysis Sapporo 1988*  
Eds. K. Tanabe, H. Hattori, T. Yamaguchi, T. Tanaka

# CO adsorption sites on metal particles

Activation - evacuation at 400 deg for 1h



Adsorption of CO on  $\text{Pd}/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  at 77 K: adsorption of 1 mbar CO at 77 K (a), evacuation at LT (b-f), evac. at 106 K (g), 110 K (h), 124 K (i)

## Further reading

1. K. Nakamoto, Infrared and Raman Spectra of Inorganic and Coordination Compounds, Sixth Edition, Part A, John Wiley & Sons, Hoboken, New Jersey, 2009.
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