

## Vibrational spectroscopic study of 3-hydroxyacetophenone

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### Abstract

The FT-IR and FT-Raman spectra of 3-hydroxyacetophenone were recorded and analyzed. The vibrational wavenumbers were calculated using HF and DFT methods. The predicted infrared intensities and Raman activities are reported. The calculated first hyperpolarizability of the title compound is high and the title compound is an attractive object for future studies of non linear optical properties. The calculated HOMO and LUMO energies are -8.868 and -5.469 eV.

*Key words:* acetophenone, IR, Raman, DFT

### Introduction

Carbonyl compounds make a large contribution to the production of free radicals and photooxidants in the atmosphere. Hydroxyacetone and glycolaldehyde have both biogenic and biomass burning sources. Hydroxyacetone and glycolaldehyde are also emitted during biomass burning. Hydroxyacetone and glycolaldehyde are precursors of other atmospherically relevant species<sup>1</sup>. Hydroxyacetone, is an interesting molecule from an astrophysical perspective. This compound exhibits the next level of molecular complexity in species that have carbon backbones with adjacent oxygen atoms, namely, glycolaldehyde<sup>2,3</sup>, and ethyleneglycol<sup>4</sup>. In the laboratory, hydroxyacetone is an important starting material in the organic synthesis of

gem-diols, acetals, and ketals<sup>5</sup>. If such molecules are synthesized in the interstellar medium, they could lead to the production of complex prebiotic species. In the present study the FT-IR, FT-Raman and theoretical calculations of the wavenumbers of the title compound are reported.

### Experimental

The FT-IR spectrum (Figure 1) was recorded using a DR/Jasco FT-IR 6300 spectrometer. The spectral resolution was 2 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The FT-Raman spectrum (Figure 2) was obtained on a Bruker RFS 100/s, Germany. For excitation of the spectrum the emission of Nd:YAG laser was used, excitation wavelength 1064 nm, maximal power 150 mW.

### *Computational details :*

Calculations of the title compound were carried out with Gaussian09 software program<sup>6</sup> using the HF/6-31G\* and B3LYP/6-31G\* basis sets to predict the molecular structure and vibrational wavenumbers. The DFT hybrid B3LYP functional method tends to overestimate the fundamental modes; therefore scaling factors have to be used for obtaining a considerably better agreement with experimental data<sup>7</sup>. The wavenumber values computed contain known systematic errors and we therefore, have used the scaling factor values of 0.8929 and 0.9613 for HF and DFT basis sets<sup>7</sup>. The assignment of the calculated wavenumbers is aided by the animation option of Gausview program, which gives a visual presentation of the vibrational modes<sup>8</sup>.

### **Results and Discussion**

#### *IR and Raman spectra :*

The observed IR, Raman and calculated (scaled) wavenumbers and assignments are given in Table 1. The carbonyl group is contained in a large number of different classes of compounds, for which a strong absorption band due to the C=O stretching vibration is observed in the region<sup>9</sup> 1750–1550  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . If a carbonyl group is part of a conjugated system, then the wavenumber of the carbonyl stretching vibration decreases, the reason being that the double-bond character of the C=O group is less due to the  $\pi$ -electron conjugation being localized. For the title compound, the  $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$  mode is seen as a strong band at 1622  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the IR and at 1644  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum and 1629  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  theoretically (DFT). But the

electron-releasing effect in the C=O double bond causes a polarizability change during vibration, making the Raman band intensity comparable to that of the IR band. Also, here the intermolecular charge transfer takes place via a conjugated phenyl ring path which makes the phenyl ring stretching mode at 1605 (IR), 1603 (Raman)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  simultaneously active in the IR and Raman spectra<sup>10</sup>. The deformation bands of the C=O group are also identified (Table 1).

The asymmetric and symmetric vibrations of the methyl group in acetates are expected in the regions<sup>11</sup> 2940–3040 and 2910–2930  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Aromatic acetyl substituents absorb in a narrow range 3000–3020  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  absorption sometimes coincides with the CH stretching mode of the ring<sup>11</sup>. For the title compound methyl stretching vibrations are observed at 3043, 2988  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum, 3047, 2927  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum and at 3052, 2993, 2931  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  theoretically. The methyl asymmetric and symmetric deformations are expected in the regions<sup>11</sup> 1390–1480 and 1340–1390  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The B3LYP calculations give 1467, 1453 and 1338  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  as asymmetric and symmetric deformation bands. According to Colthup<sup>12</sup> in acetates the methyl next to the C=O absorbs near 1374  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to symmetric deformation; the asymmetric methyl deformation absorbs weakly near 1430  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The methyl rocking generally appears in the regions 1050  $\pm$  30 and 975  $\pm$  45  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , as a weak, moderate or sometimes strong band, the wave number of which is coupled to the CC stretching vibrations<sup>11</sup>, which occurs in the neighborhood of 900  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The bands at 1088, 1027  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in IR and 1026

$\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum and at 1081, 1037  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (DFT) are assigned as rocking modes of the methyl group. In O-bonded C(=O)Me group, the C-O stretching vibration exhibits<sup>11</sup> a strong band at  $1750 \pm 20 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Esters and lactones have two characteristically strong absorption bands arising from C-O and C=O stretching. The intense C-O stretching vibration occurs at higher wave numbers than that of normal lactones. The force constant of carbonyl band is increased by the electron attracting nature of the adjacent oxygen atom due to inductive effect<sup>13</sup>.

The OH group provides three normal vibrations  $\nu\text{OH}$ ,  $\delta\text{OH}$  and  $\gamma\text{OH}$ . The DFT calculations give the  $\nu\text{OH}$  band at  $3528 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The in-plane OH deformation<sup>11</sup> is expected in the region  $1400 \pm 40 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and the band at  $1374 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (IR) and  $1379 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (DFT) are assigned as this mode. The stretching of the hydroxyl group with respect to the phenyl moiety  $\nu(\text{C}-\text{O})$  appears at  $1222 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum,  $1223 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in Raman spectrum and the calculated value is  $1216 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . This band is expected<sup>12, 14</sup> in the region  $1220 \pm 40 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The out-of-plane OH deformation is observed at  $800 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum and at  $805 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , theoretically, which is as expected<sup>11</sup>. For paracetamol,  $\nu(\text{C}-\text{O})$  is reported<sup>15</sup> at  $1240 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

The  $\nu\text{C}-\text{H}$  vibrations of the phenyl ring are expected in the region  $3000\text{--}3110 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The vibrations assigned to aromatic C-H stretch in the range<sup>11</sup>  $3077\text{--}3121 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  are in agreement with the experimental results,  $3145$ ,  $3098$ ,  $3067$  (IR) and  $3072$  (Raman)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The

benzene ring possesses six ring stretching vibrations, of which the four with the highest wavenumbers (occurring near  $1600$ ,  $1580$ ,  $1490$  and  $1440 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) are good group vibrations. With heavy substituents, the bands tend to shift to somewhat lower wavenumbers. In the absence of ring conjugation, the band at  $1580 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is usually weaker than that at  $1600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . In the case of C=O substitution, the band near  $1490 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  can be very weak. The fifth ring stretching vibration is active near  $1315 \pm 65 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , a region that overlaps strongly with that of the CH in-plane deformation. The sixth ring stretching vibration, or the ring breathing mode, appears as a weak band near  $1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , in mono-, 1,3-di- and 1,3,5-trisubstituted benzenes. In the otherwise substituted benzenes, however, this vibration is substituent sensitive and difficult to distinguish from the ring in-plane deformation<sup>11, 14</sup>. The band at  $1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum and the one at  $992 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (B3LYP) are assigned as the ring breathing mode of the phenyl ring PhI. For the di-substituted benzene  $\nu\text{Ph}$  modes are seen in the range<sup>11</sup>  $1615\text{--}1270 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . For the title compound, the bands observed at  $1605$ ,  $1578$ ,  $1499$ ,  $1433 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum and at  $1603$ ,  $1579 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum are assigned as the phenyl ring stretching modes. The DFT calculations give these modes at  $1593$ ,  $1587$ ,  $1494$ ,  $1433$  and  $1323 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The in-plane bending  $\delta\text{CH}$  and the out-of-plane bending  $\gamma\text{CH}$  of the phenyl ring are expected above  $1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and below  $1000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively<sup>11</sup>. The in-plane CH deformation bands are assigned at  $1290$ ,  $1169 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum,  $1277$ ,  $1175 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum and at  $1286$ ,  $1171$ ,  $1143$ ,  $1073 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  theoretically (DFT). The out-of-plane CH

deformation modes are observed at 979, 707  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the IR spectrum and at 955  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in the Raman spectrum. The corresponding theoretically calculated values are 988, 951, 849 and 702  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The phenyl ring substituent sensitive modes and other modes are also identified and assigned (table 1).

#### *First hyperpolarizability :*

Non-linear optics deals with the interaction of applied electromagnetic fields in various materials to generate new electromagnetic fields, altered in wavenumber, phase or other physical properties<sup>16</sup>. Many organic molecules, containing conjugated  $\pi$ -electrons and characterized by large values of molecular first hyperpolarizabilities, were analyzed by means of vibrational spectroscopy<sup>17, 18</sup>. Analysis of organic molecules having conjugated  $\pi$ -electron systems and large hyperpolarizability using infrared and Raman spectroscopies has evolved as a subject of research<sup>19</sup>. Organic molecules able to manipulate photonic signals efficiently are of importance in technologies such as optical communication, optical computing and dynamic image processing<sup>17, 18</sup>. The first hyperpolarizability ( $\beta_0$ ) of this novel molecular system is calculated using B3LYP/6-31G\* method, based on the finite field approach. In the presence of an applied electric field, the energy of a system is a function of the electric field. First hyperpolarizability is a third rank tensor that can be described by a  $3 \times 3 \times 3$  matrix. The 27 components of the 3D matrix can be reduced to 10 components due to the Kleinman symmetry<sup>20</sup>. The calculated first hyperpolarizability of the title compound is  $3.87 \cdot 10^{-30}$  esu. We conclude that the title compound is an

attractive object for future studies of non linear optical properties.

In order to investigate the performance of vibrational wavenumbers of the title compound, the root mean square (RMS) value between the calculated and observed wavenumbers were calculated. The RMS values of wavenumbers were calculated using the following expression<sup>21</sup>.

$$RMS = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-1} \sum_i^n (v_i^{calc} - v_i^{exp})^2}$$

The RMS

error of the observed IR and Raman bands are found to 43.02, 35.42 for HF and 8.62, 6.65 for DFT methods, respectively. The small differences between experimental and calculated vibrational modes are observed. This is due to the fact that experimental results belong to solid phase and theoretical calculations belong to gaseous phase.

#### *Frontier molecular orbitals :*

The analysis of the wavefunction indicates that the electron absorption corresponds to a transition from the ground to the first excited state and is mainly described by one electron excitation from the HOMO to LUMO. Both the HOMO and the LUMO are the main orbital taking part in chemical reaction. The HOMO energy characterizes the capability of electron giving; LUMO characterizes the capability of electron accepting<sup>22</sup>. The frontier orbital gap helps to characterize the chemical reactivity, optical polarizability and chemical hardness-softness of a molecule<sup>23</sup>. Surfaces for the frontier orbitals were drawn to understand the bonding scheme of the title compound. The

Table 1. Calculated wavenumbers (scaled), observed IR and Raman bands and assignments

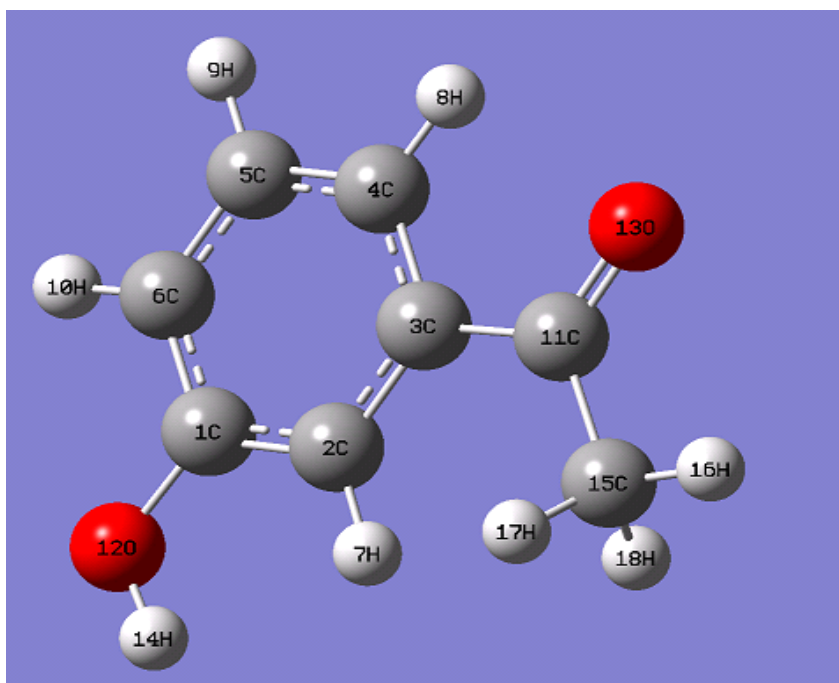
HF/6-31G*			B3LYP/6-31G*			IR $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$	Raman $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$	Assign- ments
$\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$	IR <sub>I</sub>	R <sub>A</sub>	$\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$	IR <sub>I</sub>	R <sub>A</sub>			
3614	69.37	97.06	3528	28.13	124.67			$\nu\text{OH}$
3051	4.17	107.56	3121	6.85	135.30	3145		$\nu\text{CH}$
3042	3.27	100.53	3114	2.43	90.70			$\nu\text{CH}$
3015	7.83	93.53	3087	10.06	90.20	3098		$\nu\text{CH}$
3011	14.08	37.12	3077	12.90	45.03	3067	3072	$\nu\text{CH}$
2966	10.94	94.51	3052	10.96	93.24	3043	3047	$\nu_{\text{as}}\text{CH}_3$
2917	13.25	49.95	2993	11.40	47.96	2988		$\nu_{\text{as}}\text{CH}_3$
2859	4.07	106.65	2931	3.46	111.52		2927	$\nu_{\text{s}}\text{CH}_3$
1683	175.54	36.72	1629	84.04	23.60	1622	1644	$\nu\text{C=O}$
1616	36.70	58.82	1593	43.24	46.23	1605	1603	$\nu\text{Ph}$
1608	72.93	34.33	1587	75.31	83.72	1578	1579	$\nu\text{Ph}$
1503	6.17	1.02	1494	3.93	4.59	1499		$\nu\text{Ph}$
1464	15.42	24.39	1467	13.72	25.51			$\delta_{\text{as}}\text{CH}_3$
1455	18.92	13.54	1453	21.66	11.46			$\delta_{\text{as}}\text{CH}_3$
1437	49.37	1.00	1433	49.69	1.53	1433		$\nu\text{Ph}$
1400	33.30	3.66	1379	32.35	5.96	1374		$\delta\text{OH}$
1330	8.86	0.06	1338	17.72	2.76	1344	1344	$\delta_{\text{s}}\text{CH}_3$
1290	169.93	41.68	1323	3.33	0.12			$\nu\text{Ph}$
1251	25.02	2.49	1286	173.40	47.32	1290	1277	$\delta\text{CH}$
1204	127.97	0.87	1216	93.93	1.37	1222	1223	$\nu\text{CO}$
1166	39.00	7.73	1171	6.39	5.24	1169	1175	$\delta\text{CH}$
1127	136.59	0.86	1143	211.32	5.24			$\delta\text{CH}$
1087	26.34	2.33	1081	25.08	0.77	1088		$\rho\text{CH}_3$
1071	23.86	3.36	1073	9.62	8.82			$\delta\text{CH}$
1059	0.07	5.03	1037	1.61	2.49	1027	1026	$\rho\text{CH}_3$
1047	3.33	0.29	992	3.78	29.54	1000		$\nu\text{Ph}$
993	4.85	30.46	988	1.24	0.43	979		$\gamma\text{CH}$
973	0.01	0.59	951	23.18	8.26		955	$\gamma\text{CH}$

961	17.12	2.79	921	0.26	1.51	915	918	vCC
913	36.63	0.91	887	24.19	2.10	876	878	vCC
882	26.98	2.55	849	23.88	1.21			$\gamma$ CH
838	58.01	1.36	805	37.41	2.92	800		$\gamma$ OH
703	33.81	0.54	702	5.84	14.25	707		$\gamma$ CH
703	5.09	15.22	689	19.40	0.20	689	689	$\delta$ Ph(X)
641	3.33	1.102	628	0.26	0.44	622		$\delta$ C=O
591	37.04	1.88	590	24.16	1.77		589	$\delta$ Ph(X)
524	2.12	5.10	523	1.68	4.77	522		$\gamma$ Ph(X)
504	5.30	0.52	495	4.10	0.61		495	$\gamma$ C=O
474	6.18	1.23	472	5.66	1.35			$\delta$ Ph(X)
436	0.60	0.75	426	0.47	0.49			$\gamma$ Ph(X)
365	19.69	3.29	367	15.94	3.91			$\delta$ CC
354	2.04	4.37	356	1.80	4.99		355	$\delta$ Ph(X)
270	200.68	4.04	348	168.58	4.02			$\gamma$ Ph(X)
239	13.22	1.33	235	0.78	1.68		228	$\delta$ Ph(X)
185	4.99	0.02	184	3.75	0.07			tPh
169	0.01	0.09	157	0.10	0.04		155	tPh
150	2.75	4.08	147	1.60	3.86			tCH <sub>3</sub>
48	5.74	0.80	59	3.93	0.74			tCH <sub>3</sub>

v-stretching;  $\delta$ -in-plane deformation;  $\gamma$ -out-of-plane deformation;  $\rho$ -rocking; t-torsion; Ph-phenyl ring; as-asymmetric; s-symmetric; X-substituent sensitive.

calculated HOMO and LUMO energies are -8.868 and -5.469 eV. The chemical hardness and softness of a molecule is a good indication of the chemical stability of the molecule. From the HOMO-LUMO energy gap, one can find whether the molecule is hard or soft. The molecules having large energy gap are known as hard and molecules having a small energy

gap are known as soft molecules. The soft molecules are more polarizable than the hard ones because they need small energy to excitation. The hardness value<sup>22</sup> of a molecule can be determined as  $\eta = (-\text{HOMO} + \text{LUMO}) / 2$ . The value of  $\eta$  of the title molecule is 1.7 eV. Hence we conclude that the title compound belongs to hard material.



## Conclusion

The infrared and Raman spectra of the title compound have been recorded and analysed. Geometry and harmonic vibrational wavenumbers were calculated theoretically using Gaussian09 set of quantum chemistry codes. Calculations were performed at the Hartree-Fock and DFT (B3LYP) levels of theory using the standard 6-31G\* basis. The calculated wavenumbers (DFT) agree well with the observed wavenumbers. Calculated infrared intensities, Raman activities and first hyperpolarizability are reported.

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