INFRARED STUDIES OF ALKALI HALIDE - HCN COMPLEXES IN HELIUM DROPLETS

WILLIAM K. LEWIS, and ROGER E. MILLER, *Department of Chemistry, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599*.

The alkali halides are characterized by strongly ionic bonding and a tendency to form cubic clusters. Helium droplets provide an ultracold environment for the assembly and investigation of small clusters of such molecules, and subsequent attachment of a chromophore allows high resolution IR study of the resulting complex. Infrared spectra of HCN-NaCl and HCN-LiF complexes are presented along with complimentary ab initio calculations.