HYDROGEN BONDING EFFECTS ON THE INFRARED INTENSITIES OF HALIDE-WATER COMPLEXES

SAMANTHA HORVATH and ANNE B. McCOY, Department of Chemistry, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210; JOSEPH R. ROSCIOLI and MARK A. JOHNSON, Sterling Chemistry Laboratories, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520.

The implications of H-bonding in halide-water complexes and its effects on infrared spectra have been of long standing interest, with studies focusing mainly on the OH stretching region. Until recently only the low-energy portion of the X^- (H₂O) spectra had been probed experimentally (X = F, Cl, Br).^{*a,b*} An interesting feature in this low-energy region, especially noticeable in the Cl⁻ (H₂O) spectrum,^{*b*} is the large intensity of the overtone for the out-of-plane bending mode. The potential and dipole moment surfaces along this internal coordinate are calculated at the MP2 level of theory (aug-cc-pVTZ basis), and the X⁻ vibrational wave functions and energies are the result of one-dimensional variational calculations.^{*c*} Our results reproduce the experimental findings very well, and we determine that the overtone intensities reflect the large shifts in charge distribution along the heavy-atom axis when the hydrogen moves out of the plane. This method, although only one-dimensional, shows excellent agreement with experiment and accurately explains the essential physics that give rise to these spectral features.

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