

Problem set 3
(Vibrational Spectroscopy)

1. Calculate the first three vibrational energy levels for $^1\text{H}_2$ given that $\omega_e = 4401.2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, assuming the oscillator to be simple harmonic. Now assume that the oscillator behaves anharmonically, with an anharmonicity constant, $\omega_e x_e = 121.5$. Plot the energy level diagram again for the first three vibrational energy levels. Discuss the difference in the two examples. What is the zero-point energy in the two cases?
2. A molecule has a vibration with a frequency of 600 cm^{-1} . You are using a spectrometer that can detect a system only if it has a population of more than 10% (relative to the population in the $v=0$ level). Predict if the hot band for this vibration can be detected by your spectrometer, at room temperature.
3. The fundamental and the overtone transition in $^{14}\text{N}^{16}\text{O}$ occur at 1876.1 and 3724.2 cm^{-1} . Calculate ω_e and $\omega_e x_e$. Calculate the zero point energy. Assuming a Morse potential is adequate, calculate \mathcal{D}_e and \mathcal{D}_0 .