

# **IR-Spectroscopy: Functional Group Identification**

# HOW TO APPROACH FOR THE ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

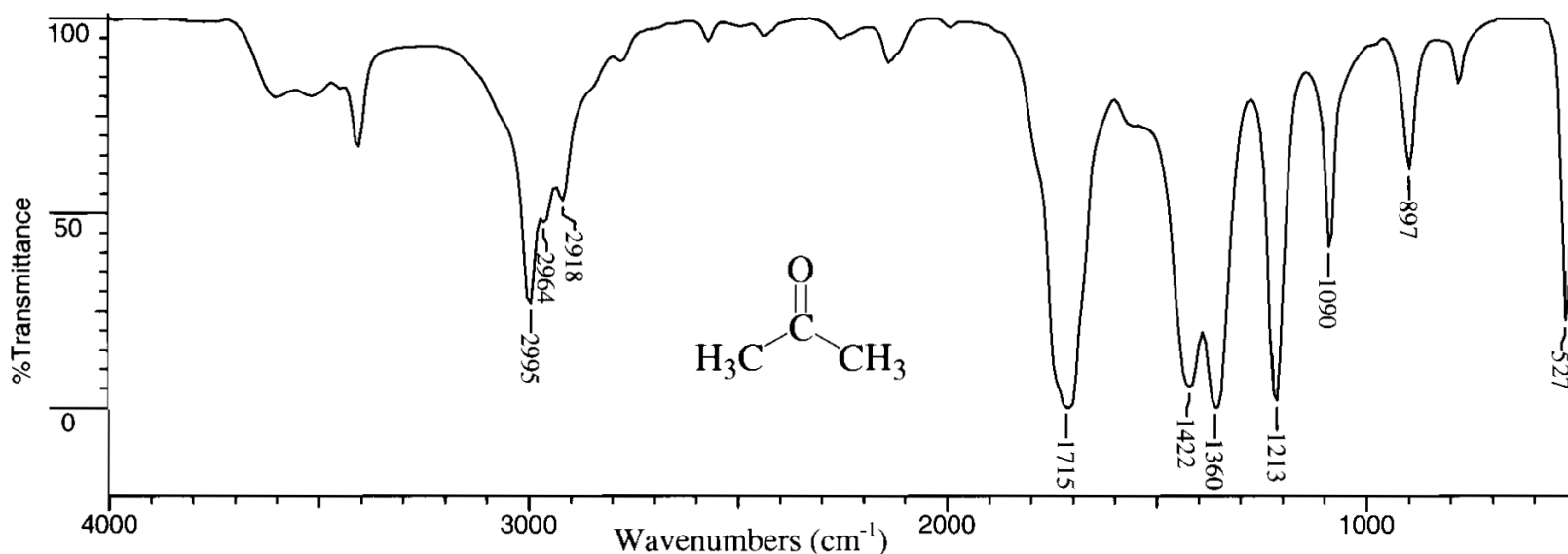
Look for the presence (or absence) of a few major functional groups:

C = O, O - H, N - H, C - O, C = C, C  $\equiv$  C and C  $\equiv$  N

Do not try to make a detailed analysis of the C - H absorptions near 3000 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
almost all organic compounds have these absorptions

1. Is a carbonyl group present?

The C = O group gives rise to a strong absorption in the region 1820 – 1660 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
The peak is often the strongest in the spectrum . One can't miss it.



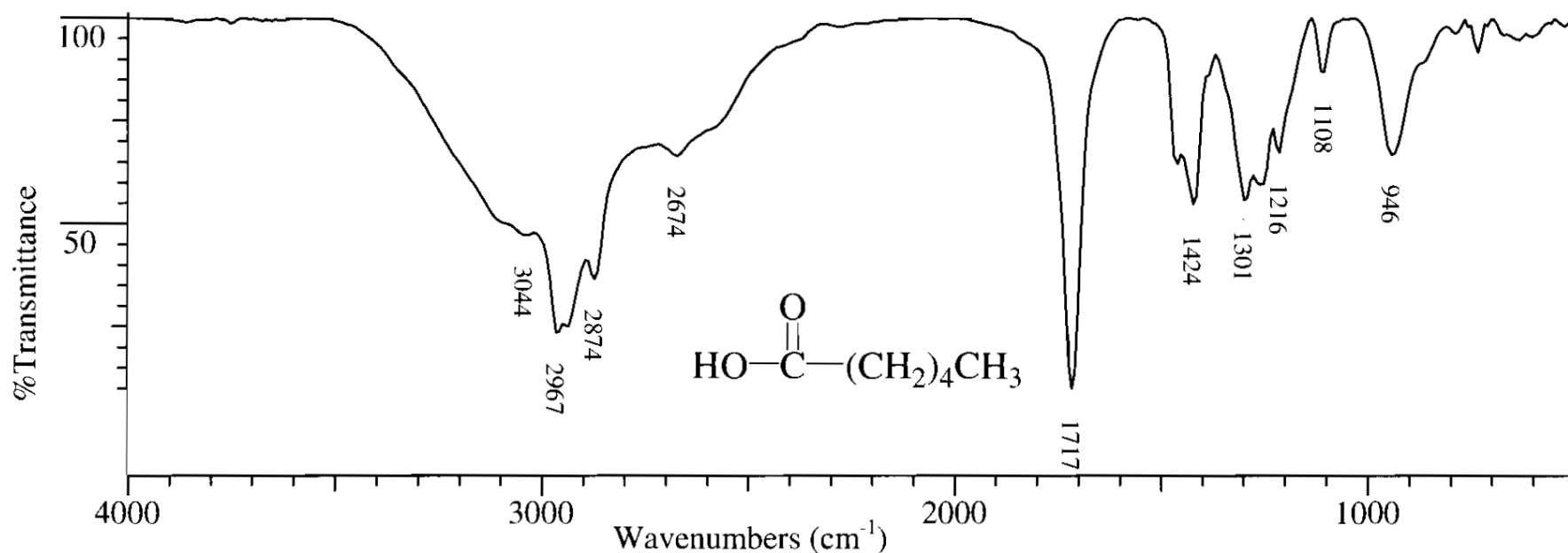
## ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

2. If C=O is present, check the following types (if it is absent, go to step 3):

ACIDS

Is O—H also present?

- *Broad* absorption near  $3400\text{--}2400\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (usually overlaps C—H).

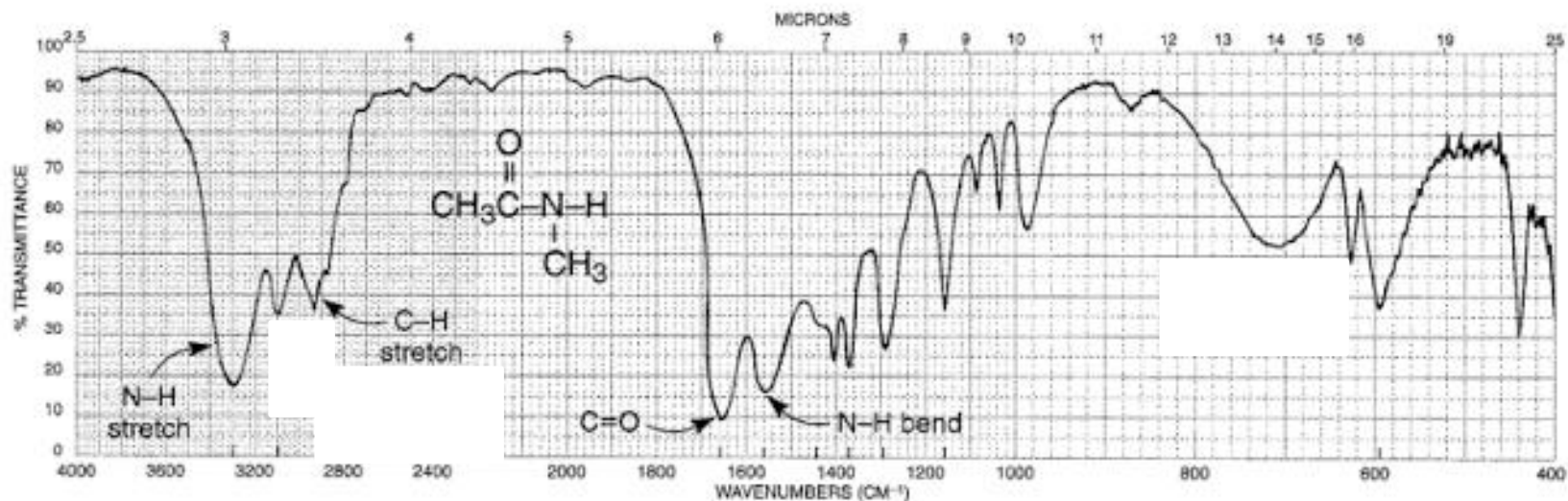
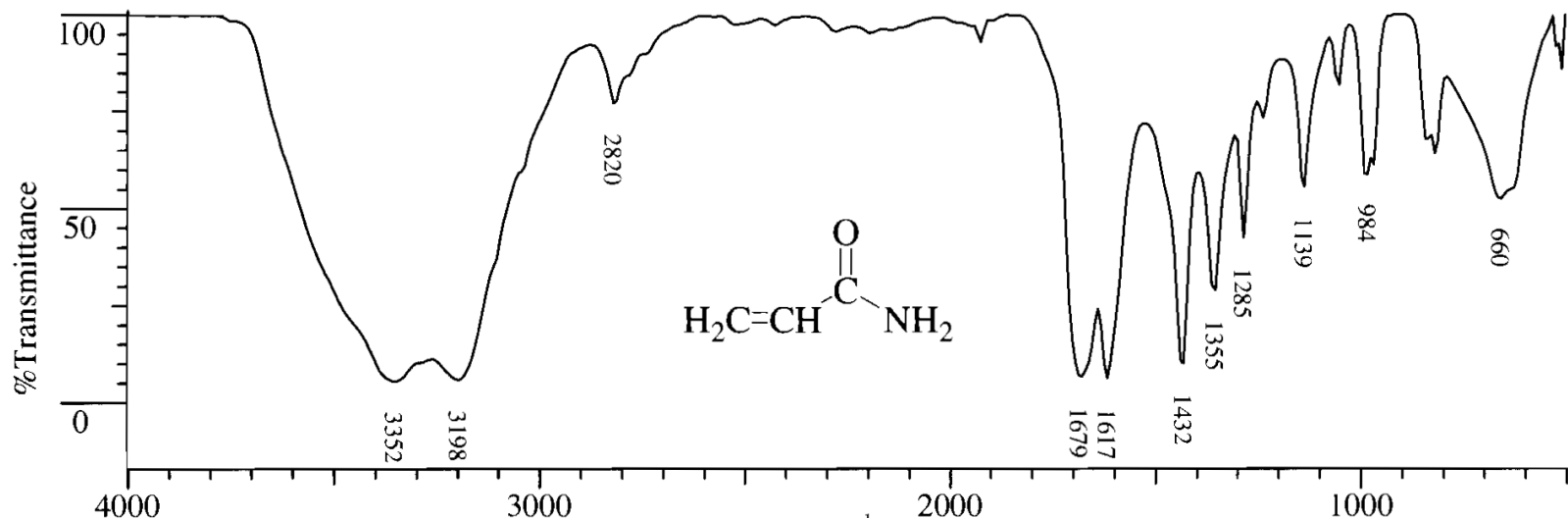


# ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

## AMIDES

Is N—H also present?

- Medium absorption near  $3400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; sometimes a double peak with equivalent halves.

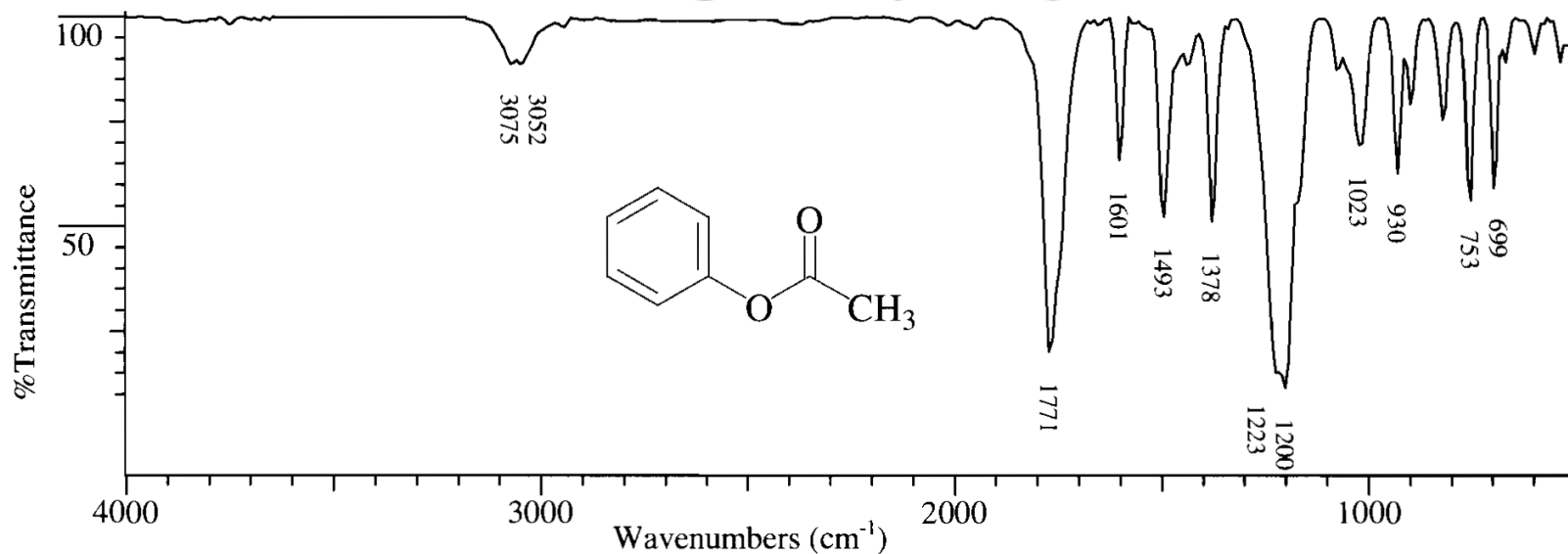


# ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

## ESTERS

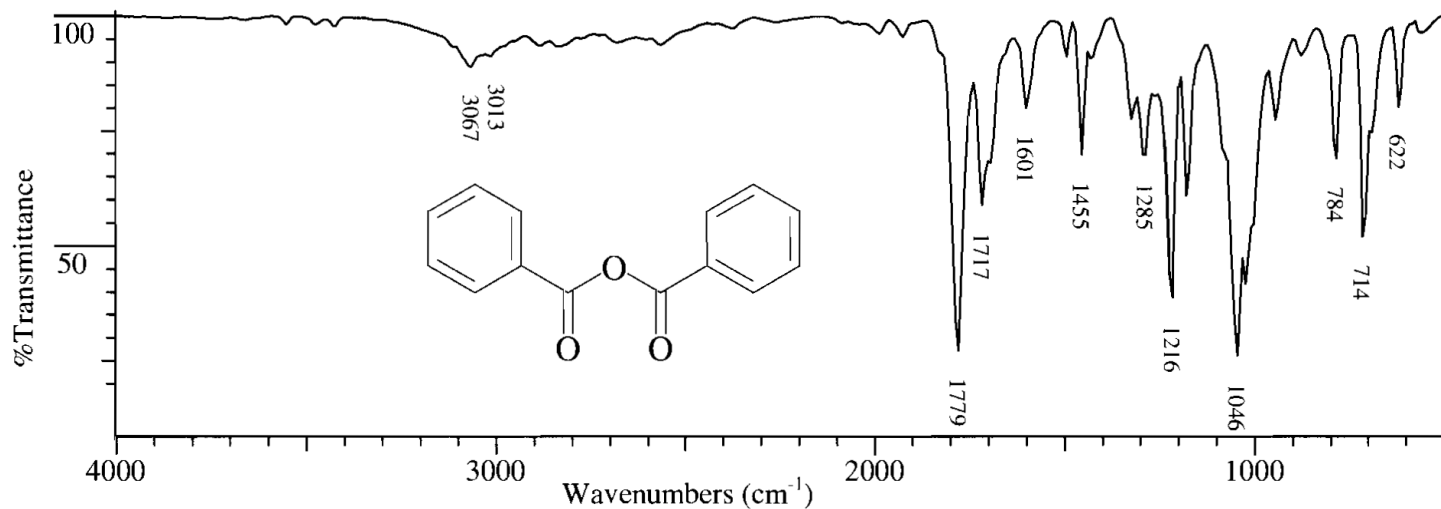
Is C—O also present?

- Strong-intensity absorptions near  $1300\text{--}1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .



## ANHYDRIDES

Two C=O absorptions near  $1810$  and  $1760\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

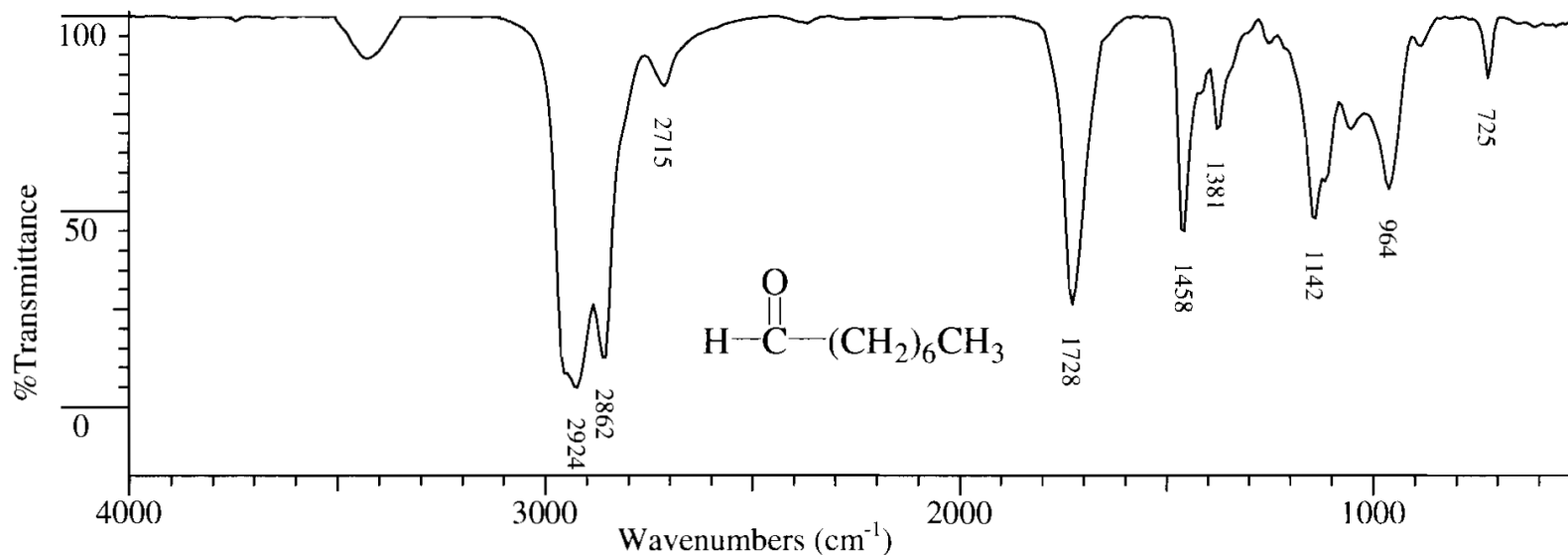


## ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

### ALDEHYDES

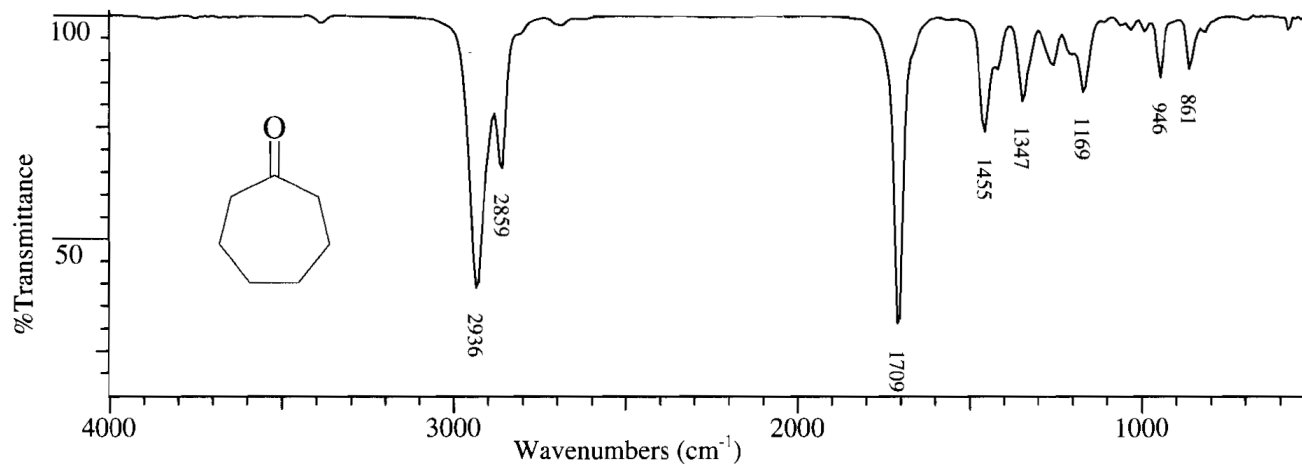
Is aldehyde C—H present?

- Two weak absorptions near  $2850$  and  $2750\text{ cm}^{-1}$  on right side of the aliphatic C—H absorptions.



### KETONES

The preceding five choices have been eliminated.



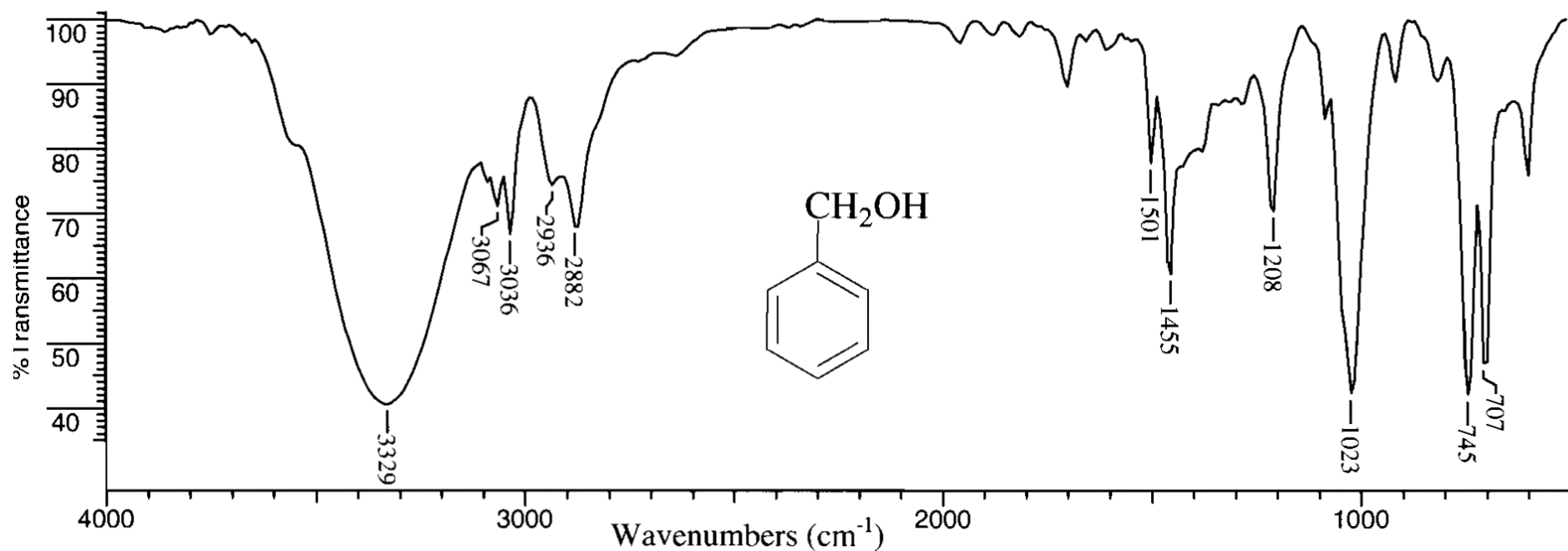
## ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

3. If C=O is absent:

ALCOHOLS, PHENOLS

Check for O—H.

- *Broad* absorption near  $3400\text{--}3300\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .
- Confirm this by finding C—O near  $1300\text{--}1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

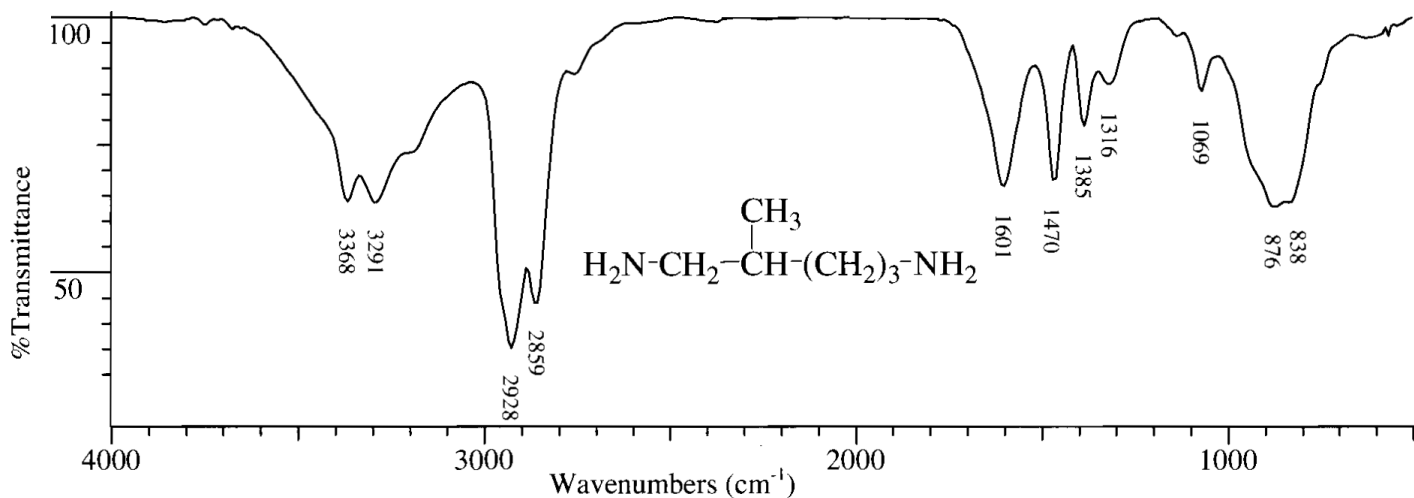


## AMINES

### ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

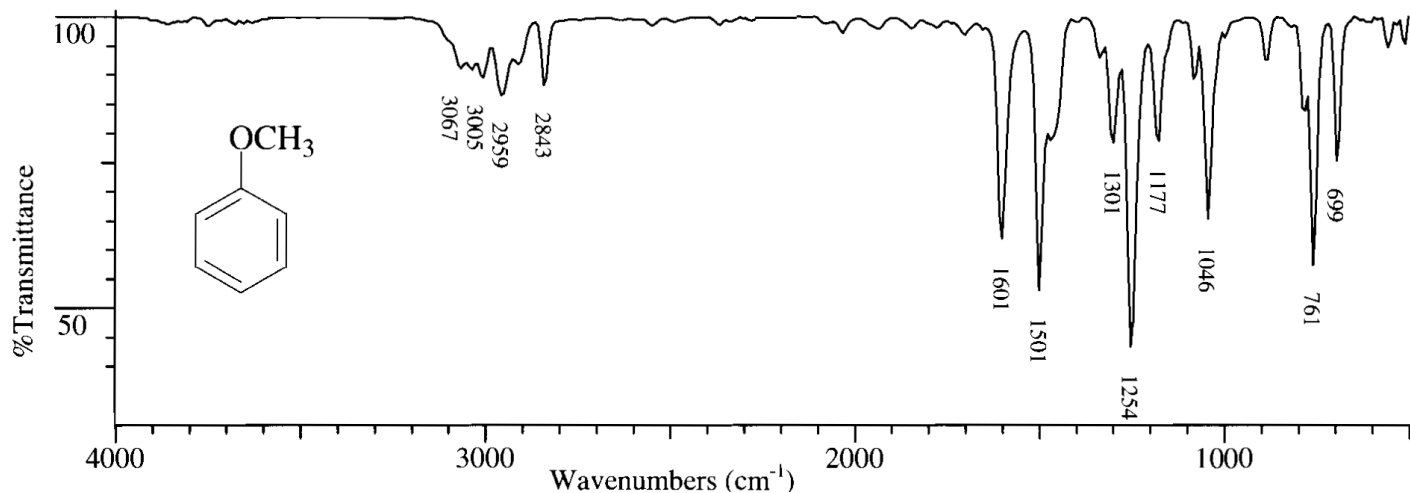
Check for N—H.

- Medium absorption(s) near  $3400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .



## ETHERS

Check for C—O near  $1300\text{--}1000\text{ cm}^{-1}$  (and absence of O—H near  $3400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

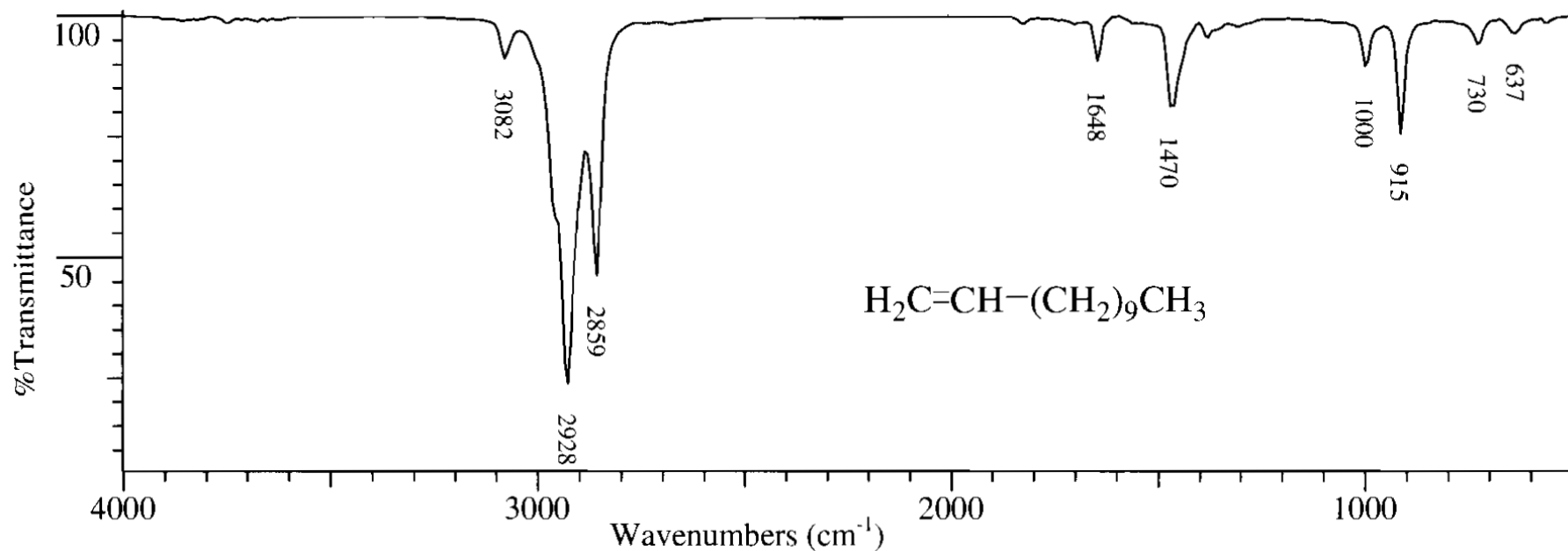




# ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

## 4. Double bonds and/or aromatic rings

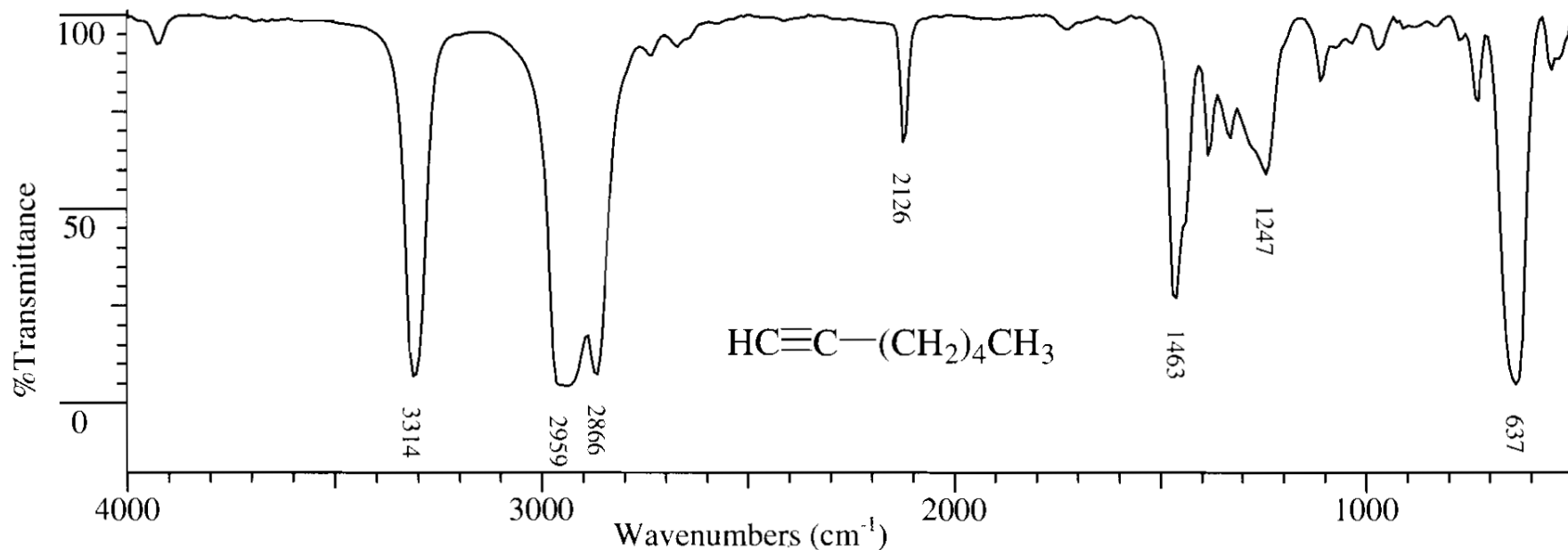
- C=C is a weak absorption near 1650 cm.



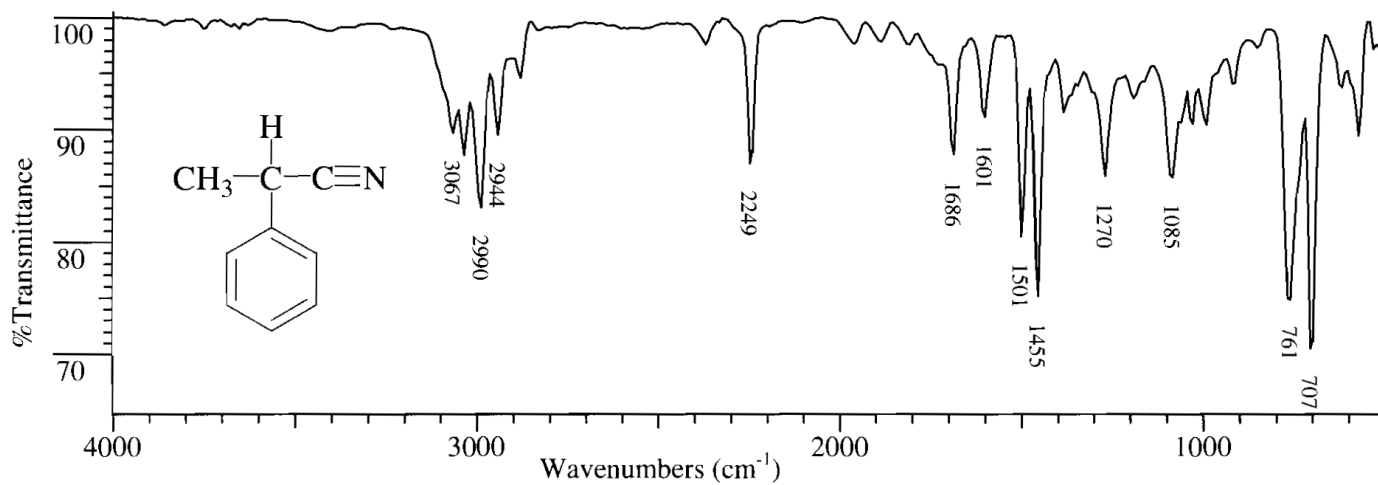
## ANALYSIS OF AN IR SPECTRUM

### 5. Triple bonds

- $\text{C}\equiv\text{C}$  is a weak, sharp absorption near  $2150\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .
- Check also for acetylenic  $\text{C}-\text{H}$  near  $3300\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

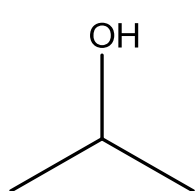
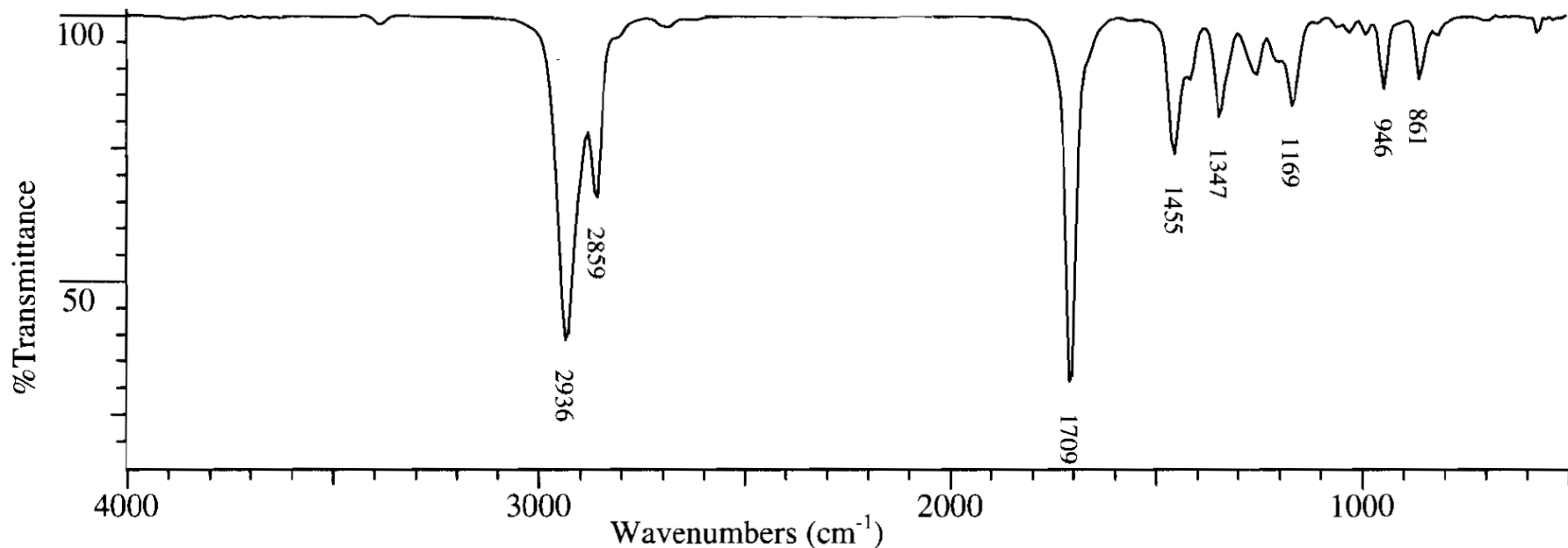


- $\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  is a medium, sharp absorption near  $2250\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

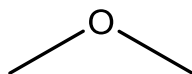


# Infrared Spectroscopy: Problem

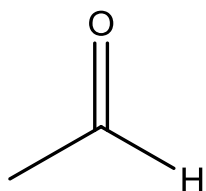
IR of an oxygen-containing compound is given below. What class of compound is it?



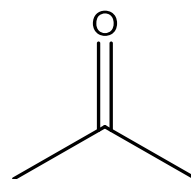
Alcohol



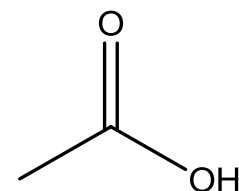
ether



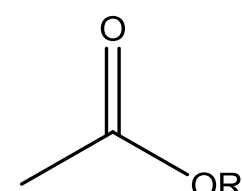
Aldehyde



Ketone



Acid



Ester

**Peaks**

**Absent: ~3400 cm<sup>-1</sup>**

**~1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>**

**~2720 cm<sup>-1</sup>**

**~1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>**

**~1250 &  
~1050 cm<sup>-1</sup>**

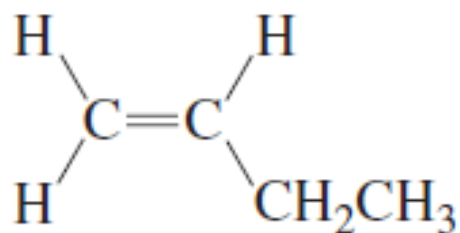
**The class of the compound is ketone**

# Infrared Spectroscopy: Infrared Inactive Vibrations

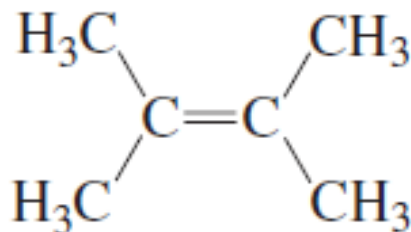
Not all vibrations give rise to absorption bands

In order for a vibration to absorb IR radiation, the dipole moment of the molecule must change when the vibration occurs

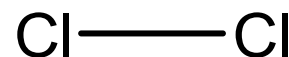
Other IR-inactive molecules are



1-butene



2,3-dimethyl-2-butene



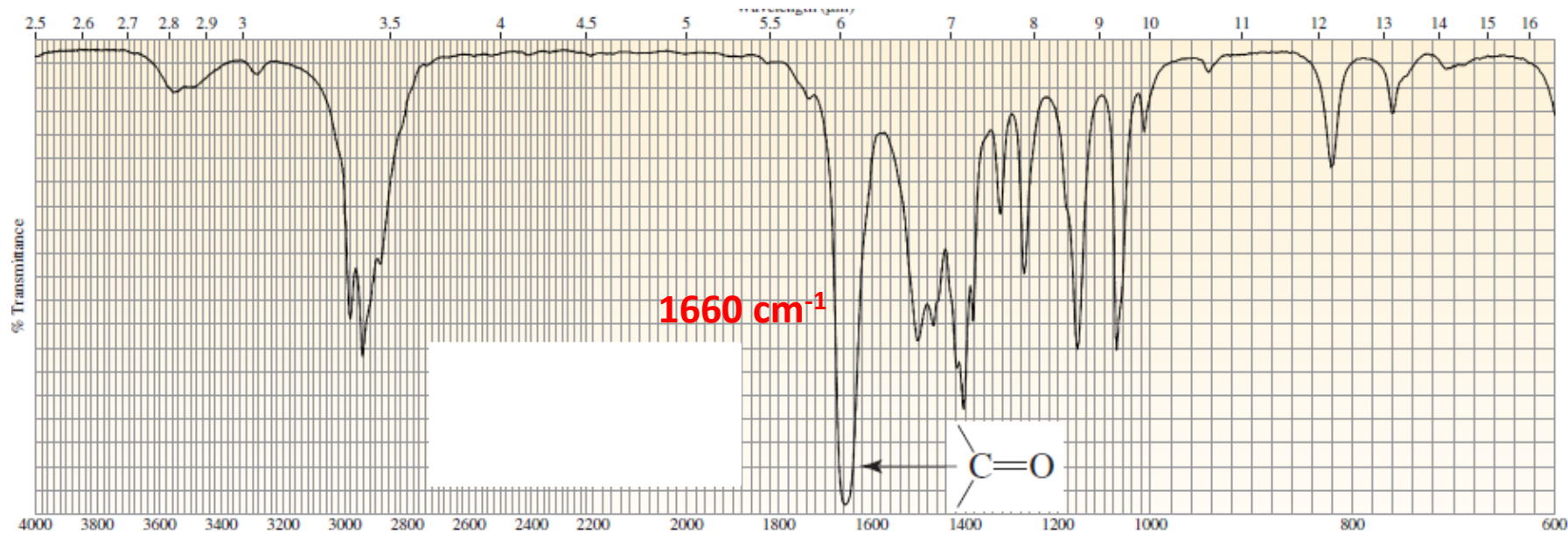
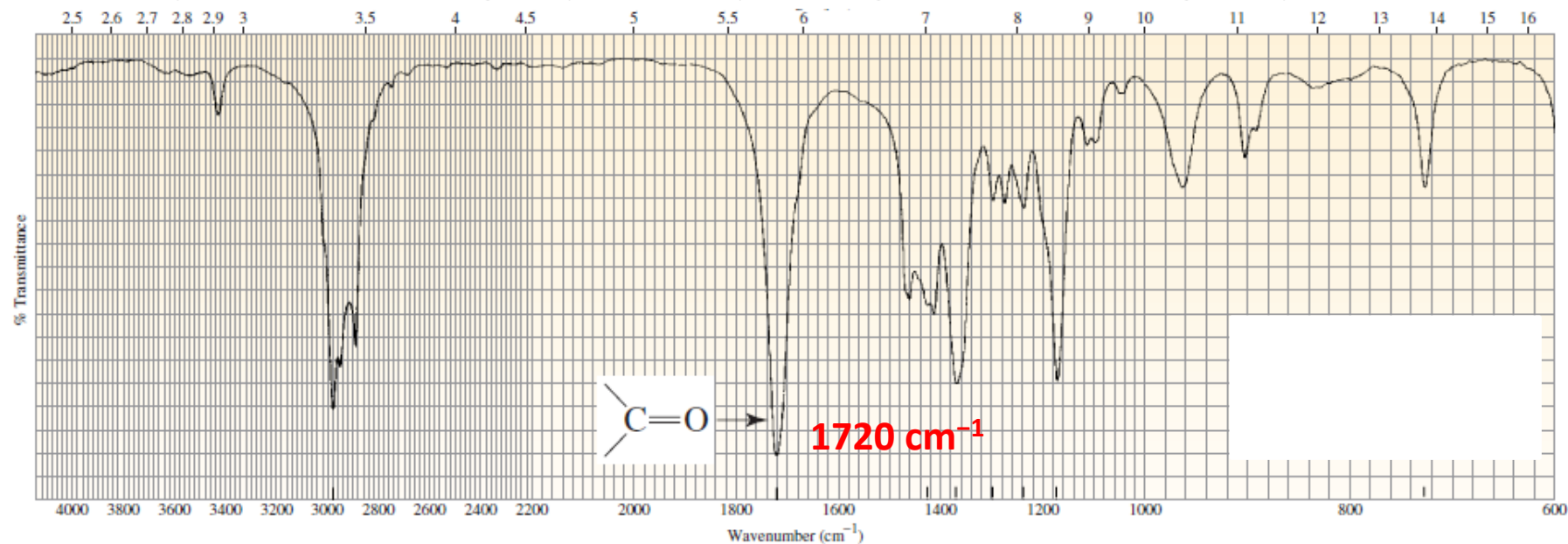
For example, the C = C bond in 1-butene has a dipole moment because the molecule is not symmetrical about this bond.

2,3-Dimethyl-2-butene, in contrast, is a symmetrical molecule, so its bond has no dipole moment

When the C = C bond stretches, it still has no dipole moment. Since stretching is not accompanied by a change in dipole moment, no absorption band is observed. The vibration is *infrared inactive*

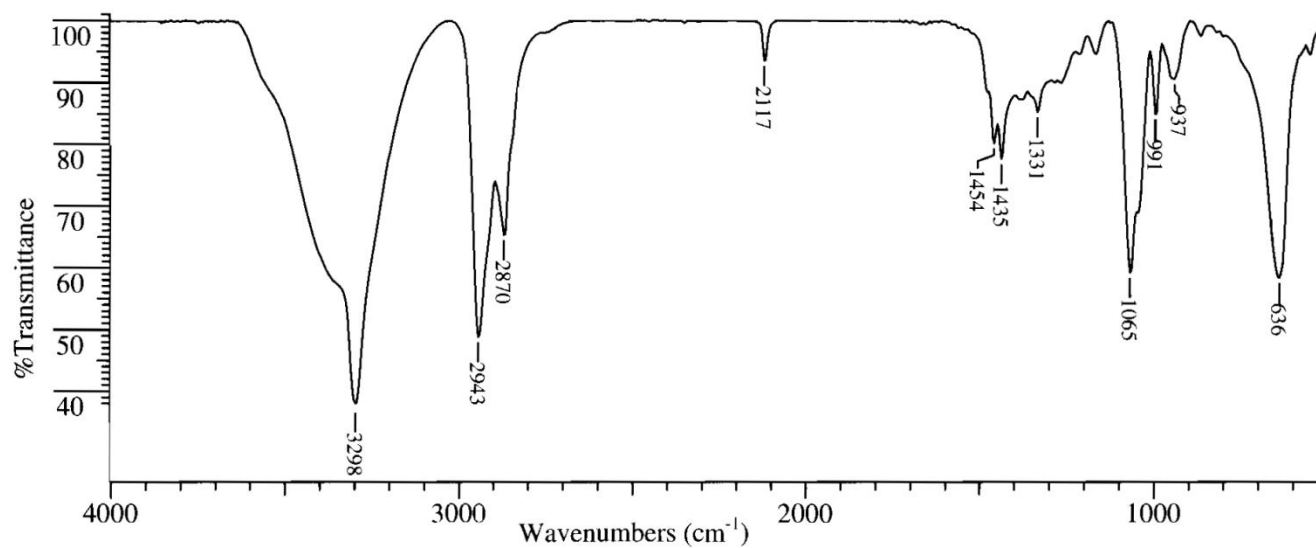
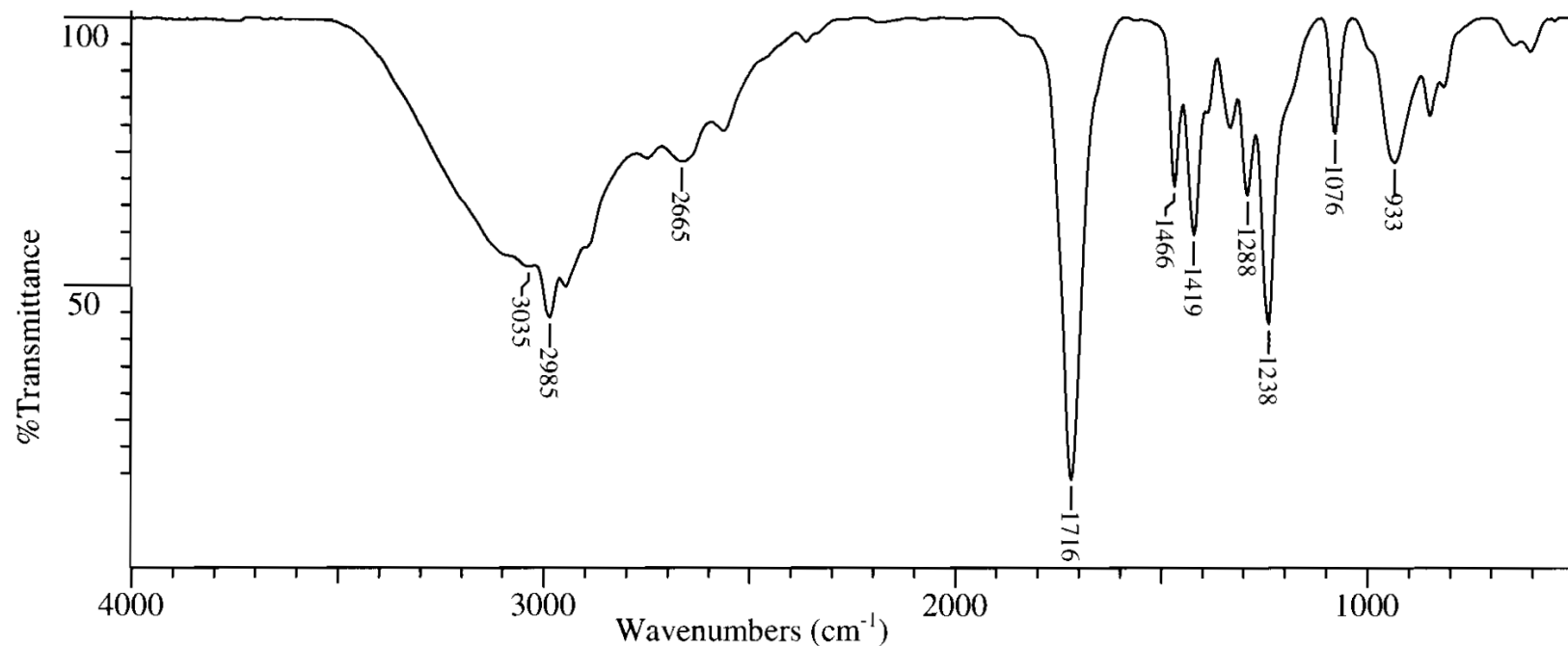
# Infrared Spectroscopy: Problem

Identify the functional groups corresponding to the following IR-spectra



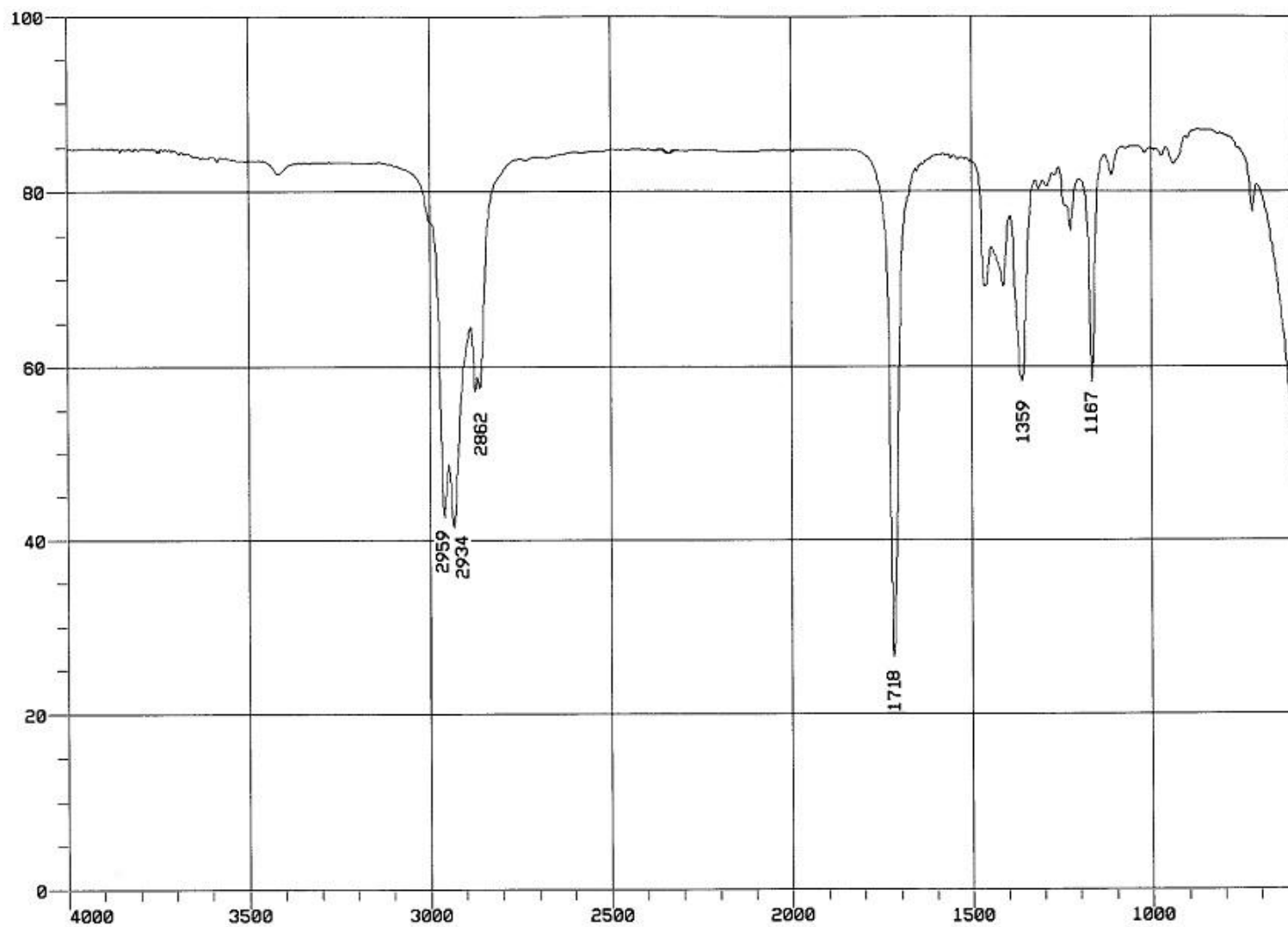
# Infrared Spectroscopy: Problem

Identify the functional groups corresponding to the following IR-spectra



# Infrared Spectroscopy: Problem

Molecular formula:  $\text{C}_7\text{H}_{14}\text{O}$



**Looking forward**

**NMR -spectroscopy**