

Advanced radiation and remote sensing

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Exercise No. 1 – Calculation of Absorption Coefficients

1. Calculate the absorption cross sections in the microwave spectral range for the following molecules:

- HCl
- ClO
- CO
- N₂O
- O₃

Unless otherwise specified use the parameter setting as given in the example file `absorption.py`.

Questions and tasks:

- (a) Estimate the rotational constant B (in GHz) for HCl and for CO.
 - (b) Why is B larger for HCl than for CO?
 - (c) Do you have any idea why N₂O behaves like a diatomic molecule – and O₃ not?
 - (d) Calculate the reduced mass (in atomic mass units u) of the different molecules from the masses of the individual atoms. (For the diatomic molecules this is trivial. For N₂O, I think the appropriate mass can be found by careful thinking. Ignore O₃.)
 - (e) Calculate the bond length (in pm) of the various molecules (except O₃) from the reduced mass and the rotational constant. Verify your result with Google. Again N₂O needs some extra thinking.
 - (f) Play with different temperatures. How does the rotational spectrum change? Can you explain the changes?
2. Investigate some other molecules!
 3. Show for a diatomic molecule that the moment of inertia is given by

$$I = \mu r_0^2 \tag{1}$$

where μ is the reduced mass, defined as

$$\mu = \frac{m_1 m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \tag{2}$$