

Absorption Spectroscopy

Mike Reppert

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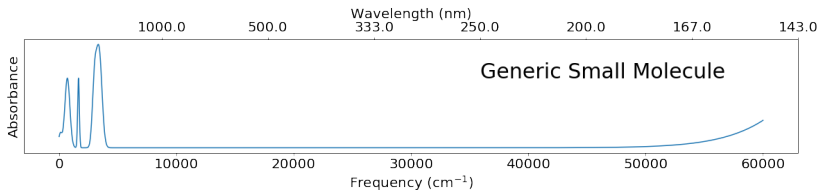
Last Time on CHM676...

| Spectroscopic technique | Energy range of absorbed radiation (in wave numbers, cm^{-1}) ^a | Type of excitation produced by absorbed radiation | Information obtained |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Ion cyclotron resonance | 10^{-6} to 10^{-5} | Excitation of ions moving in circular orbits in a magnetic field | Rates and equilibria for reactions of ions with neutral molecules in the gas phase (Section 27-8) |
| Nuclear magnetic resonance (nmr) | 10^{-4} to 10^{-2} | Changes in nuclear spin orientations in a magnetic field | Chemical shifts and coupling constants; rapid reaction rates (Sections 9-10, 27-1, and 27-2) |
| Electron spin resonance (esr) | 10^{-2} to 1 | Excitation of unpaired electron-spin orientations in a magnetic field | Electron distribution in radicals, electron-transfer reactions (Section 27-9) |
| Microwave | 1 to 100 | Rotational excitation | Spacings of rotational energy levels; bond distances and bond angles (Section 9-6) |
| Infrared (ir) | 100 to 10,000 | Rotational-vibrational excitation | Rotational and vibrational energy levels of molecules (Section 9-7) |
| Raman | 100 to 4,000 | Rotational-vibrational excitation | Rotational and vibrational energy levels of molecules (Section 9-8) |
| Visible | 5,000 to 25,000 | Electronic excitation accompanied by vibration-rotation changes | Electronic energy levels of molecules (Section 9-9) |
| Ultraviolet | 25,000 to 50,000 | Electronic excitation accompanied by vibration-rotation changes | Electronic energy levels of molecules (Sections 9-9 and 28-1) |
| Photoelectron | 10^5 to 10^6 | Ejection of an electron from the valence or inner shell | Ionization energies of valence or inner-shell electrons of molecules (Section 27-5) |
| Mossbauer | 10^7 to 10^9 | Excitation of atomic nuclei | Electric-field gradients at the nucleus produced by differences in bond types (Section 27-6) |
| Mass spectrometry | Excitation produced by electrons with energies of about 10^5 cm^{-1} | Molecular ionization and fragmentation | Molecular weights; modes of fragmentation (Sections 9-11 and 27-7) |

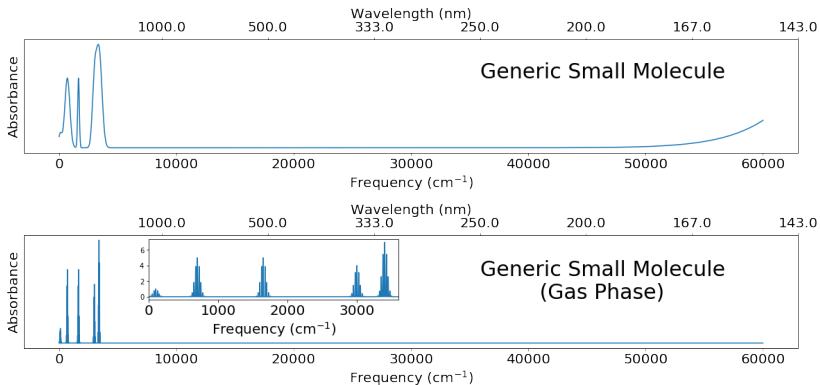
^aThese ranges are not meant to be precise, but to give you a general idea of the energy changes involved. One wave number (cm^{-1}) is equivalent to $2.86 \text{ cal mole}^{-1}$. Also see Figure 9-7 for comparison with other commonly used units of energy and wavelength.

[https://chem.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Organic_Chemistry/Book%3A_Basic_Principles_of_Organic_Chemistry_\(Roberts_and_Caserio\)/09%3A_Separation%2C_Purification%2C_and_Identification_of_Organic_Compounds/9.03%3A_Why_Cannot_We_See_Molecules%3F](https://chem.libretexts.org/Bookshelves/Organic_Chemistry/Book%3A_Basic_Principles_of_Organic_Chemistry_(Roberts_and_Caserio)/09%3A_Separation%2C_Purification%2C_and_Identification_of_Organic_Compounds/9.03%3A_Why_Cannot_We_See_Molecules%3F)

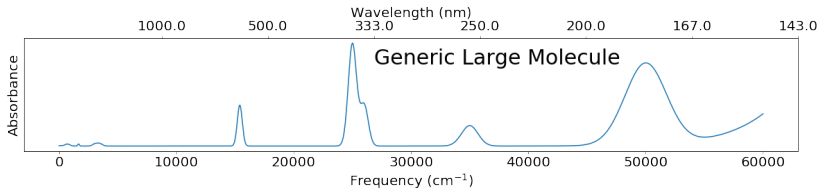
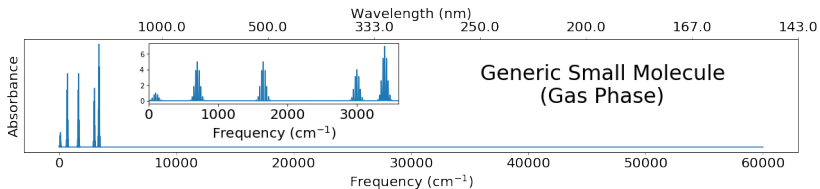
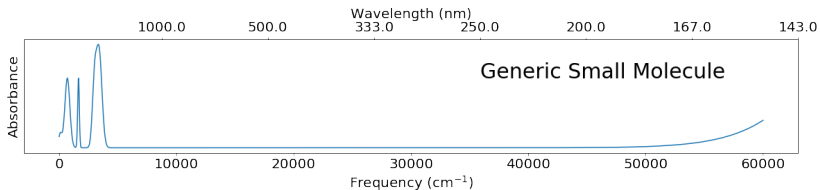
Molecular Absorption Basics



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IR Spectroscopy

Frequency Range: $10 - 12,500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

Molecular motion involved:

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Examples: <https://webbook.nist.gov/chemistry/>

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Applications:

- Analytical chemistry: identification (chemical fingerprints)
- Chemical structure determination (functional groups)
- Protein structure determination (Amide I)

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Molecular Motion involved: Electronic transitions

Applications:

- Physical Chem: Electronic structure (energy levels)
- Analytical Chem: concentration
- Biochem: biomolecular assays

Frequency vs. Angular Frequency:

Frequency/Wavelength Conversion:

Frequency vs. Energy:

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$$\omega = 2\pi\nu$$

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Frequency vs. Energy:

$$E = \hbar\omega = h\nu$$