

# Complexes of Hydroxyl and Hydroperoxyl Radical with Formaldehyde, Acetaldehyde, and Acetone

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We have calculated structures and energetics of complexes of  $\text{HO}_x$  (OH and  $\text{HO}_2$ ) with formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and acetone. These open shell systems form more strongly bound complexes than their counterpart closed shell water complexes. Binding energies ( $D_0$ ) for these complexes were as high as  $8.9 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$  ( $\text{HO}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{COCH}_3$ ). The hydroperoxyl radical forms more strongly bound complexes than the hydroxyl radical. Likewise, for the organic molecules studied, the strength of binding energies is consistently acetone > acetaldehyde > formaldehyde. Vibrational frequencies are also calculated and some relationships between these and binding energies and geometries are discussed. These data may be useful when laboratory data is present for these complexes. Equilibrium constants for the formation of these complexes are also calculated. As a result of this, it is predicted that the strongest of these complexes, the hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex, will exist in the atmosphere under certain conditions.

## I. Introduction

Much research has been done examining hydrogen bonding by studying weakly bound complexes. Hydrogen bonding is a critical factor in determining the physical properties of many solvated molecules, most notably in aqueous systems.<sup>1</sup> Many of the studies examine complexes formed exclusively made up of closed shell molecules, such as studies of the water dimer.<sup>2</sup> Recent calculations<sup>3–11</sup> of the water dimer estimate its binding energy ( $D_0$ ) to be between 4.5 and 5.0  $\text{kcal mol}^{-1}$ . Because of its importance in many chemical and most biological processes, water complexes with other molecules have also been studied.

There has been some work<sup>12–25</sup> studying the hydrogen bonding between water and carbonyl-containing molecules. Carbonyl-containing compounds are interesting from the perspective that they are commonly found in many chemical systems, and they form hydrogen bonds of comparable strength to that of the water dimer. In a recent work<sup>26</sup> from this laboratory, we have examined the properties of water complexes with formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and acetone. In that work, we calculate binding energies ( $D_0$ ) of 4.5, 5.4, and 5.8  $\text{kcal mol}^{-1}$ , respectively, for those complexes. In the case of water–formaldehyde<sup>27,28</sup> and water–acetone,<sup>20</sup> these complexes have also been experimentally observed using matrix isolation infrared spectroscopy techniques.

Hydroxyl (OH) and hydroperoxyl ( $\text{HO}_2$ ) radical are important molecules involved in atmospheric, combustion, and biological processes. These are open shell molecules that have both been found to form complexes with water that have larger binding energies than the water dimer.<sup>29,30</sup> It is known that the OH radical reacts with formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and acetone.<sup>31</sup> In the case of acetaldehyde, there is evidence that this reaction proceeds via a complex.<sup>43</sup> The hydroperoxyl radical reaction with formaldehyde is also thought to involve a complex.<sup>46–49</sup> To the best of our knowledge, calculations on the structure of these complexes have not been performed.

The scope of this work is to examine the structure and energetics of the complexes formed between the  $\text{HO}_x$  radicals

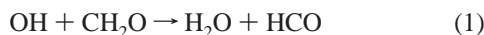
(OH and  $\text{HO}_2$ ) and formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and acetone. One question that we ask is, are these radical–molecule complexes bound more strongly than their corresponding water complexes? We also present the vibrational frequencies of the complexes, and their shifts from the modes present in their parent monomers. These data may assist in the detection of these complexes using infrared spectroscopy.

## II. Computational Methods

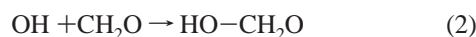
All calculations were performed using the GAUSSIAN 94<sup>32</sup> suite of programs. Geometries were optimized using the Becke three-parameter hybrid functional combined with Lee, Yang, and Parr correlation [B3LYP]<sup>33</sup> density functional theory method. This method has been shown to be effective at accurately predicting structure and energetics when larger basis sets are used.<sup>34–36</sup> Furthermore, in our previous study<sup>26</sup> involving complexes of these organic molecules and water, frequency shifts calculated compared favorably to experimental data.<sup>20,27,28</sup> Basis sets employed are the 6-31G(d), 6-311++G(d,p), 6-311++G(2d,2p), and 6-311++G(3df,3pd). Frequency calculations were also performed at this level of theory for most of the complexes. For the acetone complexes, the frequency calculations were performed up to the B3LYP/6-311++G(2d,-2p) level of theory. The zero-point energy calculated from frequencies estimated at this level of theory was used to calculate the  $D_0$  at the higher level of theory. Otherwise, zero-point energies were taken from the same level of theory for this calculation. Zero-point energies taken from these frequency calculations can be assumed to be an upper limit due to the anharmonic nature of the potential energy surface.<sup>37</sup>

## III. Results and Discussion

**A. The Hydroxyl Radical–Formaldehyde Complex.** Formaldehyde is an important molecule involved in both atmospheric and combustion chemistry. Its reaction with hydroxyl radical,

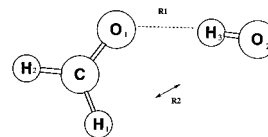


is an important step in the oxidation of formaldehyde in the atmosphere and has been widely studied.<sup>38–40</sup> Here, we investigate the possibility of the formation of an adduct complex between OH and CH<sub>2</sub>O, via the following reaction.



Cheung and Li<sup>41</sup> calculate the structure of such a complex at the MP2/6-31G(d) level of theory, and the energetics of the complex using the G2 theoretical procedure. We compare our results to the ones obtained in that study.

The HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex is shown in Figure 1. The molecule is calculated to be planar at all levels of theory. The hydrogen atom of hydroxyl radical (H<sub>3</sub>) and the oxygen atom of formaldehyde (O<sub>1</sub>) bind the OH and CH<sub>2</sub>O. There is a five membered ringlike structure formed between these molecules involving the H<sub>1</sub>–C–O<sub>1</sub> of formaldehyde and the hydroxyl radical. The coordinates for the optimized structure at all levels of theory used in this study are given in Table 1. The intermolecular bond distance R1 for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O is 1.965 Å at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory. Cheung and Li's structure,<sup>41</sup> which has the same connectivity and orientation as the one we calculate, calculate this distance to be 1.977 Å. We can compare this to the intermolecular bond distance that we have calculated for the complex between water and formaldehyde,<sup>26</sup> which is 1.976 Å at the same level of theory. The shorter bond distance in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O indicates a slightly stronger bond. The C–O<sub>1</sub> bond distance in formaldehyde is calculated to be 1.202 Å at the highest level of theory. This is 0.3% longer than that in isolated CH<sub>2</sub>O. This elongation is similar to the same elongation seen in the H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex, which is 0.5%. The O<sub>2</sub>–H<sub>3</sub> bond distance in the hydroxyl radical is 0.982 Å. This is 0.8% longer than that in isolated OH radical. This is identical to elongation of the analogous O–H bond in the H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex. The H<sub>1</sub>–C–O<sub>1</sub> bond angle, which makes part of the ring in the complex, is calculated to be 122.0°. This is similar, but not identical to the H<sub>2</sub>–C–O<sub>1</sub> bond angle, which is 121.4°. The differing value of the in-ring angle indicates a perturbation caused by the hydroxyl radical, which makes part of the ring in the HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex. Cheung and Li,<sup>41</sup> who calculate 121.6° and 121.3° for the in-ring and out-of-ring H–C–O bond angles respectively, observe the same phenomenon. This is also seen in the complex between water and formaldehyde, which have in and out-of ring H–C–O bond angles of 121.3° and 121.7°. The intermolecular O<sub>1</sub>–H<sub>3</sub>–O<sub>2</sub> bond angle in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O is calculated to be 172.7° at the highest level of theory. Cheung and Li<sup>41</sup> calculate a much smaller O–H–O angle of 152.1°. Using the same basis set as those authors, we also calculated a smaller bond angle, 166.2°. We feel that the 6-31G(d) basis probably overestimates the interaction between the hydrogen atom on formaldehyde, H<sub>1</sub>, and the oxygen atom on the hydroxyl radical, O<sub>2</sub>, which causes the calculated O–H–O bond angle to be smaller than it actually is. For H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O, this basis set effect is also seen, with the O–H–O bond angle being calculated to be 147.4° using the 6-31G(d) basis set and 154.6° using the 6-311++G(3df,3pd) basis set. R2 is the distance between the oxygen atom in OH, O<sub>3</sub>, and the nearest hydrogen atom in CH<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>1</sub>. At the highest level of theory, this distance is 3.721 Å. The smaller O–H–O bond angle in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O results in a shorter R2, 2.909 Å at the same level of theory. The shorter distance in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O implies a possibly stronger interaction in that coordinate than for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O.



**Figure 1.** The hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde complex.

**TABLE 1: Geometry of the Hydroxyl Radical–Formaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>**

coordinate	B3LYP			
	6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
R1	1.950	1.956	1.951	1.965
R2	3.341	3.869	3.712	3.721
H <sub>1</sub> C	1.107	1.106	1.103	1.103
H <sub>2</sub> C	1.106	1.105	1.102	1.103
CO <sub>1</sub>	1.211	1.205	1.204	1.202
O <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	0.989	0.982	0.982	0.982
H <sub>1</sub> CO <sub>1</sub>	122.3	122.0	121.9	122.0
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>1</sub>	121.5	121.4	121.3	121.4
CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	144.8	131.3	125.8	126.3
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	166.3	172.4	172.3	172.7
H <sub>1</sub> CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	180.0	180	180.0	180.0
CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<sup>a</sup> Bond distances are given in Ångstroms, bond angles in degrees.

**TABLE 2: Rotational Constants for the Complexes<sup>a</sup>**

molecule	constant	B3LYP			
		6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
HO–CH <sub>2</sub> O	A	50391	74394	65586	66792
	B	4920	4010	4150	4163
	C	4148	3805	3903	3919
HO–CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	A	35558	49803	45656	46224
	B	2344	2161	2216	2221
	C	2229	2098	2141	2147
HO–CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>	A	9209	8978	9067	9085
	B	2322	2117	2163	2170
	C	1898	1750	1785	1790
HO <sub>2</sub> –CH <sub>2</sub> O	A	18592	19250	19194	19356
	B	3644	3488	3497	3496
	C	3047	2953	2958	2961
HO <sub>2</sub> –CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	A	14108	15222	14998	15151
	B	1877	1792	1805	1802
	C	1673	1619	1627	1627
HO <sub>2</sub> –CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>	A	7303	7297	7337	7363
	B	1495	1482	1489	1493
	C	1260	1251	1257	1260

<sup>a</sup> All rotational constants are reported in MHz.

The rotational constants for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O are listed in Table 2. They are calculated to be 66792, 4163, and 3919 MHz at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory. The molecule is an asymmetric rotor. This can be seen in the structure shown in Figure 1. However,  $A > B \approx C$ , indicating that the molecule is a near-oblate top. This is similar to H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O, which has rotational constants of 42115, 4727, and 4251 MHz at the same level of theory.

The hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde complex has 12 fundamental modes. Six of these modes are similar to the parent monomer formaldehyde, and one is similar to the hydroxyl radical vibrational mode. The remaining five modes are intermolecular and unique to the complex. The shifts in the modes in common with the parent monomer modes indicate how much the two monomers affect each other in complex form. More strongly bound complexes will have modes that are shifted by a larger amount than more weakly bound complexes. The vibrational modes for the HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex, including the

**TABLE 3: Vibrational Frequencies of the Hydroxyl Radical–Formaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>**

mode number	mode description	B3LYP/6-311++ G(3df,3pd)		
		frequency	intensity	shift
1	hydroxyl O–H stretch	3571	344.7	–141
2	CH <sub>2</sub> O C–H <sub>2</sub> asymmetric stretch	2991	74.4	+47
3	CH <sub>2</sub> O C–H <sub>2</sub> symmetric stretch	2918	66.6	+32
4	CH <sub>2</sub> O C–O stretch	1810	136.7	–11
5	CH <sub>2</sub> O H–C–H bend	1533	16.9	+2
6	CH <sub>2</sub> O H–C–O bend	1270	10.4	+5
7	CH <sub>2</sub> O torsion	1208	5.8	+8
8	H <sub>3</sub> –O <sub>1</sub> stretch	561	96.0	
9	O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>3</sub> –O <sub>2</sub> bend	439	125.1	
10	intermolecular torsion	176	14.6	
11	intermolecular torsion	139	0.8	
12	C–O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>3</sub> bend	55	8.9	

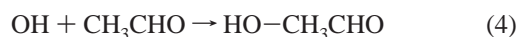
<sup>a</sup> Frequencies and shifts are given in cm<sup>–1</sup>; intensities are given in km mol<sup>–1</sup>.

shifts relative to the similar modes of the parent monomers, the intensities of these bands, and the description of the modes; are listed in Table 3. The most shifted mode is the O–H stretch in the hydroxyl radical (mode number 1), which is red shifted by 141 cm<sup>–1</sup>. This is consistent with the elongation of the O–H bond length when complexed with formaldehyde. Likewise, the C–O stretch of formaldehyde (mode number 4) is red-shifted by 11 cm<sup>–1</sup> with respect to isolated CH<sub>2</sub>O. In the water–formaldehyde complex,<sup>26</sup> this mode is red-shifted by 16 cm<sup>–1</sup>, indicating a stronger intermolecular bond in the case of H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O. The C–H<sub>2</sub> asymmetric and symmetric stretch modes (modes 2 and 3) are both blue-shifted 47 and 32 cm<sup>–1</sup>, respectively, in the hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde complex. The corresponding shifts in the water–formaldehyde complex are 51 and 32 cm<sup>–1</sup>. The most intense bands in the complex are the hydroxyl radical O–H stretch (mode 1) at 3571 cm<sup>–1</sup>, the CH<sub>2</sub>O C–O stretch (mode 4) at 1810 cm<sup>–1</sup>, the intermolecular O–H stretch (mode 8) at 561 cm<sup>–1</sup>, and the intermolecular O–H–O bend (mode 9) at 439 cm<sup>–1</sup>. Of these, the two intramolecular bands are significantly shifted, while the two intermolecular bands are in the mid-IR. Because of this, these bands should be the most likely to be observed in experiments. The analogous intermolecular O–H stretch frequency of H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>2</sub>O is calculated to be 531 cm<sup>–1</sup>.

**B. Hydroxyl Radical–Acetaldehyde Complex.** The reaction of hydroxyl radical with acetaldehyde:

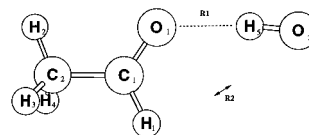


is another important reaction involved in the oxidation of hydrocarbons in both combustion and atmospheric chemistry. It is thought to be the major sink for acetaldehyde in the atmosphere. Furthermore, this reaction has been found to exhibit a negative temperature dependence.<sup>42–44</sup> Michael et al.<sup>43</sup> attribute this negative temperature dependence to the formation of an adduct being formed. The adduct formed, the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex, is formed by the following reaction.



The HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO complex is the focus of this section of our study.

The structure of the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex is shown in Figure 2. As is the case for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O, the intermolecular bond is between the hydrogen atom on the OH,

**Figure 2.** The hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex.**TABLE 4: Geometry of the Hydroxyl Radical–Acetaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>**

coordinate	B3LYP			
	6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
R1	1.918	1.925	1.910	1.899
R2	3.305	3.769	3.598	3.628
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	1.216	1.205	1.210	1.208
C <sub>1</sub> H <sub>1</sub>	1.110	1.109	1.068	1.107
C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	1.502	1.498	1.496	1.495
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	1.092	1.089	1.087	1.087
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	1.098	1.096	1.093	1.093
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	1.098	1.096	1.093	1.093
O <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0.990	0.984	0.989	0.983
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	120.2	120.4	118.8	120.0
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	124.1	123.9	124.2	124.4
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.7	111.1	111.1	111.2
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.6	109.3	109.3	109.2
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.6	109.3	109.3	109.2
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	115.0	129.2	124.5	124.9
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	167.9	173.5	173.3	173.9
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	121.7	121.9	121.9	122.0
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	–121.7	–121.9	–121.9	–122.0
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<sup>a</sup> Bond distances are given in Ångstroms, bond angles in degrees.

H<sub>5</sub>, and the oxygen atom of acetaldehyde, O<sub>1</sub>. The hydroxyl radical and the H<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>, and O<sub>1</sub> atoms of acetaldehyde form a five-membered structure, similar to the one formed by the hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde complex. In a previous work, we have also calculated the structure of the water–acetaldehyde complex.<sup>26</sup> It is interesting to note that in the H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO complex, the lowest energy structure is that in which the oxygen on the water molecule oriented so that it is closer to the methyl group in acetaldehyde. However, for the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex, this was not found to be the case. The coordinates for the geometry of the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex are listed in Table 4. The hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex has an intermolecular bond distance, R1, of 1.899 Å at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory. This is 0.066 Å shorter than the intermolecular bond distance in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O, indicating a stronger bond. This is also shorter than the intermolecular bond distance in the water–acetaldehyde complex, which is calculated to be 1.942 Å at the same level of theory. The carbon–oxygen bond in acetaldehyde, C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub> is elongated by 0.4% in the complex with respect to isolated acetaldehyde, with a calculated value of 1.208 Å. This is similar in magnitude to the elongation of the C–O bond in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O, and identical to the calculated C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub> bond distance in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. The oxygen–hydrogen bond distance of the hydroxyl radical, O<sub>2</sub>–H<sub>5</sub>, is 0.983 Å. This is 0.9% longer than in isolated OH, only slightly more elongated than in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O. This is the same magnitude of elongation as seen in the analogous oxygen–hydrogen bond in the water of H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. The H<sub>1</sub>–C<sub>1</sub> bond distance in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO is 1.107 Å, which is 0.3% shorter than in isolated acetaldehyde. The H<sub>1</sub>–C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub> bond angle in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO is 120.0°, only 0.2% less than in isolated CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. Interestingly, the C<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub> bond angle is 0.3% less

**TABLE 5: Vibrational Frequencies of the Hydroxyl Radical–Acetaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>**

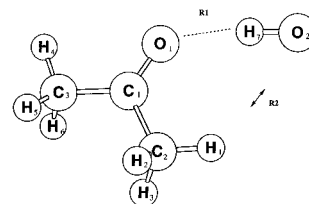
mode number	mode description	B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd)		
		frequency	intensity	shift
1	hydroxyl O–H stretch	3532	476.7	–180
2	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> C–H stretch	3144	5.9	+56
3	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> C–H stretch	3077	3.1	+2
4	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> C–H stretch	3025	1.3	+2
5	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>2</sup> C–H stretch	2914	75.3	+41
6	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO C–O stretch	1797	254.7	–16
7	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> torsion	1467	10.9	–2
8	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–H bend	1459	27.0	–2
9	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–O bend	1429	8.8	+7
10	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO C–C stretch	1384	28.6	+3
11	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–C bend	1141	0.3	+5
12	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–C bend	1139	25.0	+9
13	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO torsion	897	6.8	+11
14	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO torsion	786	0.3	+7
15	H <sub>5</sub> –O <sub>1</sub> stretch	595	93.0	–2
16	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO torsion	528	27.2	+17
17	O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>5</sub> –O <sub>2</sub> bend	467	119.4	–2
18	intermolecular torsion	165	7.5	–2
19	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO CH <sub>3</sub> twist	161	0.4	+2
20	intermolecular torsion	54	0.6	–2
21	C <sub>1</sub> –O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>5</sub> bend	41	2.9	–2

<sup>a</sup> Frequencies and shifts are given in cm<sup>–1</sup>; intensities are given in km mol<sup>–1</sup>.

in the complex than in isolated acetaldehyde. This effect is probably due to the difference in the C–O bond distances between the complex and the isolated monomer. The intermolecular O<sub>1</sub>–H<sub>5</sub>–O<sub>2</sub> bond angle is 173.9°. This is 1.2° more than in the hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde complex. However, the distance between the oxygen atom of the hydroxyl radical, O<sub>2</sub>, and the in-ring hydrogen of the acetaldehyde, H<sub>1</sub> (R2) is calculated to be 3.628 Å. This is 0.093 Å shorter than R2 for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O. This is due to the decreased intermolecular bond distance R1 in the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex. The interaction between the two atoms in the R2 coordinate is similar for both HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O and HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO.

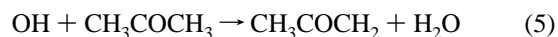
The rotational constants for HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO at the B3LYP6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory are 46224, 2221, and 2147 MHz. The rotational constants at all the levels of theory employed in this study are listed in Table 2. The hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex is an asymmetric rotor. This can be seen in the structure shown in Figure 2. However,  $A > B \approx C$ , indicating that the molecule is a near-oblate top. This is not the case for H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, which is clearly an asymmetric rotor.

The vibrational frequencies for the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex are given in Table 5. There are 21 fundamental vibrational frequencies; 15 from acetaldehyde, one from the hydroxyl radical, and five intermolecular modes. The hydroxyl radical O–H stretch mode (mode 1) is the most shifted from the same mode in isolated OH. It has a calculated frequency of 3532 cm<sup>–1</sup>, 180 cm<sup>–1</sup> lower in energy than the O–H stretch in isolated hydroxyl radical. This is 39 cm<sup>–1</sup> more than in the HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex, reflecting a stronger interaction between OH and CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. This is also the strongest absorbing band, with a calculated intensity of 476.7 km mol<sup>–1</sup>. The C–O stretch (mode 6) in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO is red-shifted by 16 cm<sup>–1</sup>. This is a larger shift than in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O (11 cm<sup>–1</sup>), but not H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO<sup>26</sup> (18 cm<sup>–1</sup>). The altered geometry of the acetaldehyde in CH<sub>3</sub>CHO causes mode numbers 2 (primarily the H<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>2</sub> stretch) and 5 to be blue shifted by 56 and 41 cm<sup>–1</sup>, respectively. An interaction along the R2 coordinate is not the likely source of these shifts due to the large distance between the oxygen atom of OH and the hydrogen atoms that are primarily involved in

**Figure 3.** The hydroxyl radical–acetone complex.

these vibrational motions. Similar shifts can be seen in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, with magnitudes of 58 and 32 cm<sup>–1</sup>, respectively. The intermolecular O–H stretching mode (mode 15) is located at 595 cm<sup>–1</sup>. This is 34 cm<sup>–1</sup> higher in energy than the analogous mode in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O and 21 cm<sup>–1</sup> higher in energy than the analogous mode in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. On the basis of shifts from parent monomers and intensities, the most likely modes to be observed in experiments are modes 1, 5, 6, 15, and 16.

**C. Hydroxyl Radical–Acetone Complex.** Acetone is another atmospherically important molecule that is oxidized by hydroxyl radical. It is curious that the reaction



shows a positive temperature dependence,<sup>45</sup> while reaction 3 shows a negative temperature dependence and reaction 1 shows no temperature dependence at all. This means that if the acetone–hydroxyl radical reaction does have an adduct forming channel, this channel is either negligible or a hindrance to the formation of the products for reaction 5. The reaction forming the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex is given below.



The structure of the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex is given in Figure 3. Like the HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O and HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO complexes discussed earlier, HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> has a ringlike structure. For the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex, this is a six-membered ring formed by the hydroxyl radical and H<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>, and O<sub>1</sub> of the acetone molecule. The fully optimized geometry of HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> at all levels of theory used in this study is shown in Table 6. The intermolecular bond formed between the hydrogen atom of the hydroxyl radical and the oxygen atom of acetone R1 has a length of 1.869 Å at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory. This is 0.030 Å shorter than in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO and 0.096 Å shorter than in HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O, indicating that it is the strongest bond in this series of complexes. This is also true of the complex between water and acetone,<sup>26</sup> which has an intermolecular bond distance of 1.911 Å at the same level of theory. From this, we can conclude that the intermolecular bond in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> is stronger than that in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. The carbon–oxygen bond distance acetone, C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub>, is 1.214 Å. This bond distance is elongated by 0.4% relative to isolated CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>, consistent with what we have calculated in the other complexes mentioned thus far. This elongation is identical to what is calculated for the water–acetone complex. The oxygen–hydrogen bond distance of the hydroxyl radical is 0.985 Å, which is 1.1% longer than that in isolated OH. This is consistent with the stronger intermolecular bond we have seen for this complex relative to the others in this study. It seems that, as the intermolecular bond becomes stronger for each of these complexes, it is the oxygen–hydrogen bond of OH that becomes weaker to a greater extent than the carbon–oxygen bond of the organic molecule. The carbon–carbon–oxygen bond angles in isolated acetone are identical

**TABLE 6: Geometry of the Hydroxyl Radical–Acetone Complex<sup>a</sup>**

coordinate	B3LYP			
	6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
R1	1.881	1.884	1.879	1.869
R2	2.467	3.118	2.958	2.972
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	1.224	1.217	1.216	1.214
C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	1.515	1.513	1.510	1.509
C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>3</sub>	1.515	1.511	1.490	1.509
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>1</sub>	1.092	1.089	1.086	1.087
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	1.098	1.095	1.092	1.093
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	1.097	1.093	1.092	1.091
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	1.092	1.089	1.093	1.086
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	1.097	1.094	1.099	1.091
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	1.097	1.095	1.099	1.092
O <sub>2</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	0.993	0.986	0.985	0.985
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	122.1	121.9	121.9	121.9
C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	120.6	121.0	120.9	121.1
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.3	110.7	110.8	110.9
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.8	109.0	109.7	109.2
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.4	110.9	110.2	110.7
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.1	110.3	111.2	110.4
H <sub>5</sub> C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.5	110.8	111.4	110.5
H <sub>6</sub> C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.0	109.3	110.7	109.5
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	116.7	130.7	127.0	127.2
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	165.3	170.5	171.0	171.2
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-3.3	-11.2	-2.4	-8.6
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	117.6	108.7	118.6	111.7
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-125.1	-133.8	-124.1	-131.0
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-3.3	-8.3	-3.8	-5.7
H <sub>5</sub> C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	117.5	130.6	125.5	127.8
H <sub>6</sub> C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-124.9	-111.9	-117.0	-114.9
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	1.7	0.6	-0.3	0.8
C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	181.7	180.4	179.8	180.6
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2.0	0.1	8.3	-2.2

<sup>a</sup> Bond distances are given in Ångstroms, bond angles in degrees.

to each other. In the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex, however, C<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub>, which is in the proximity of the hydroxyl radical, is 0.2% less; and C<sub>3</sub>–C<sub>1</sub>–O<sub>1</sub>, which is one the other side of the hydroxyl radical, is 0.5% more than that in an isolated acetone molecule. This is similar to what is observed for H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>, in which these angles are 0.3% less and 0.5% more than isolated acetone, respectively. The intermolecular O<sub>1</sub>–H<sub>7</sub>–O<sub>2</sub> bond angle is 171.2° in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. This is slightly shorter than the analogous angle in either HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O or HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. Again, this is a larger angle than that seen in the complex of water and acetone, which has an corresponding value of 165.9° at the same level of theory. The intermolecular distance between O<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>1</sub>, R2, is 2.972 Å. This is shorter than that for either the hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde or the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complexes. This is 0.374 Å shorter than the analogous distance in the water–acetone complex. This is consistent with what is seen in the other hydroxyl radical complexes studied in this work and their corresponding molecules involving water.

The rotational constants for the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex are listed in Table 2. At the highest level of theory, B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd), the rotational constants are 9085, 2170, and 1790 MHz. These constants are consistent with the structure shown in Figure 3. HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> is not a near-oblate top like the other hydroxyl radical complexes in this study. It has rotational constants similar to those for H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>, which are 9172, 2162 and 1788 MHz at the same level of theory.

The hydroxyl radical–acetone complex has 30 fundamental vibrational frequencies. Of these, 24 are modes present in isolated acetone, one is present in the hydroxyl radical, and five

**TABLE 7: Vibrational Frequencies of the Hydroxyl Radical–Acetone Complex<sup>a</sup>**

mode number	mode description	B3LYP/6-311++G(2d,2p)		
		frequency	intensity	shift
1	hydroxyl O–H stretch	3509	485.1	-203
2	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–H stretch	3151	5.9	+5
3	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–H stretch	3146	7.1	+1
4	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–H stretch	3095	6.2	+5
5	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–H stretch	3087	6.2	+5
6	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–H stretch	3043	5.7	+3
7	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–H stretch	3036	0.1	+4
8	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–O stretch	1760	249.1	-19
9	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–H bend	1493	18.8	0
10	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–H bend	1477	34.8	+1
11	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–H bend	1470	3.9	0
12	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–H bend	1466	1.4	0
13	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–H bend	1400	46.8	+7
14	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–H bend	1397	30.0	+5
15	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–C asymmetric stretch	1251	65.0	+15
16	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	1125	3.4	+3
17	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–C symmetric stretch	1092	0.3	+2
18	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–O bend	899	7.3	+9
19	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> C–C–O bend	894	0.4	+6
20	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	792	0.9	+10
21	H <sub>7</sub> –O <sub>1</sub> stretch	618	83.6	
22	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	552	25.4	+16
23	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	493	0.8	+2
24	O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>7</sub> –O <sub>2</sub> bend	465	141.0	
25	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	388	3.3	+8
26	intermolecular torsion	169	7.5	
27	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	129	0.2	-1
28	intermolecular torsion	40	0.2	
29	C–O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>7</sub> bend	34	3.3	
30	CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub> torsion	32	0.2	+16

<sup>a</sup> Frequencies and shifts are given in cm<sup>-1</sup>; intensities are given in km mol<sup>-1</sup>.

are unique intermolecular modes. These vibrational frequencies, along with their intensities and shifts relative to the parent monomers, are listed in Table 7. Just as was the case for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O and HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, the hydroxyl radical O–H stretch (mode number 1) is the most shifted mode. In the case of HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>, this shift is 203 cm<sup>-1</sup> to the red of isolated OH. This is larger than either of the other two hydroxyl radical complexes studied in this work, supporting the evidence that this is the most strongly bound complex of those three complexes. The C–O stretch (mode 8) of the acetone molecule is also red-shifted by 19 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This is consistent with the elongation along this coordinate calculated in the structure of HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. This shift is larger than the analogous red-shift in this mode for HO–CH<sub>2</sub>O by 8 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO by 3 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This is 1 cm<sup>-1</sup> less than the red shift calculated<sup>26</sup> for H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>, however. The intermolecular O–H stretch frequency (mode 21) for the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex is calculated to be 618 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This is higher in energy than the similar intermolecular frequencies for the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex (561 cm<sup>-1</sup>), and the water–acetone complex (593 cm<sup>-1</sup>). Along with the three previously mentioned modes, the intermolecular O<sub>1</sub>–H<sub>7</sub>–O<sub>2</sub> bend is also an intense band for HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. It has a calculated intensity of 141.0 km mol<sup>-1</sup>. The four fundamental bands of the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex discussed above are the most likely to be observed using infrared spectroscopy.

**D. The Hydroperoxyl Radical–Formaldehyde Complex.** Formaldehyde reacts with the hydroperoxyl radical much more slowly than it reacts with the hydroxyl radical.<sup>31</sup> There is sufficient evidence from experiments<sup>46–49</sup> which show that this reaction goes through an adduct HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex, which

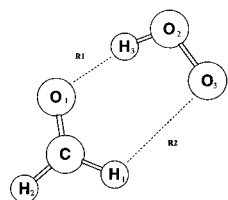


Figure 4. The hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex.

TABLE 8: Geometry of the Hydroperoxyl Radical-Formaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>

coordinate	B3LYP			
	6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
R1	1.801	1.798	1.785	1.777
R2	2.513	2.725	2.702	2.719
H <sub>1</sub> C	1.102	1.102	1.099	1.100
H <sub>2</sub> C	1.106	1.104	1.101	1.102
CO <sub>1</sub>	1.216	1.210	1.209	1.206
H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.996	0.991	0.990	0.990
O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.333	1.329	1.330	1.325
H <sub>1</sub> CO <sub>1</sub>	121.6	121.4	121.4	121.5
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>1</sub>	120.7	120.8	120.6	120.8
H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	103.6	104.3	104.0	104.1
CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	113.2	119.1	116.8	117.3
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	161.8	161.9	164.5	164.7
H <sub>1</sub> CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
H <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	180.0	180.0	180.0	180.0
CO <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<sup>a</sup> Bond distances are given in Ångstroms, bond angles in degrees.

rapidly rearranges to form a organic peroxy radical as shown in the reaction below.



In this section, we investigate the properties of the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex.

The structure of the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex is shown in Figure 4. The molecule is planer, with the intermolecular bond R1 between the oxygen atom of formaldehyde and the hydrogen atom of the hydroperoxyl radical. The HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O complex has a six-membered ring like structure, with the HO<sub>2</sub> radical forming part of the ring, and all the atoms of formaldehyde except one of the hydrogens forming the rest of the ring. The fully optimized coordinates are given in Table 8 for all the levels of theory used in this study. At the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory, the highest used in this study, the intermolecular bond distance R1 is calculated to be 1.777 Å. This is 0.188 Å shorter than the intermolecular bond distance for the hydroxyl radical-formaldehyde complex, and 0.199 Å shorter than the water-formaldehyde complex.<sup>26</sup> This represents a 10.6% decrease in R1 compared to HO-CH<sub>2</sub>O and an 11.2% decrease in R1 compared to H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O, indicating a significantly stronger bond in HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O than these two complexes. As a result of this, the hydrogen-oxygen bond distance in the hydroperoxyl radical is elongated by 1.5% to 0.990 Å in the complex with respect to isolated HO<sub>2</sub>. This is larger than the elongation of the analogous hydrogen-oxygen bonds in either HO-CH<sub>2</sub>O (0.8%) or H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O (0.8%). The elongation of the carbon-oxygen bond in formaldehyde is also larger, 0.7% compared to 0.3% for HO-CH<sub>2</sub>O and 0.5% for H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O. As was the case for both the hydroxyl radical-formaldehyde complex and the water formaldehyde complex, the H-C-O angles on the formaldehyde are not equal in the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex. In this case, the

TABLE 9: Vibrational Frequencies of the Hydroperoxyl Radical-Formaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>

mode number	mode description	B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd)		
		frequency	intensity	shift
1	hydroperoxyl H-O stretch	3343	682.5	-259
2	CH <sub>2</sub> O C-H <sub>2</sub> asymmetric stretch	3031	33.3	+87
3	CH <sub>2</sub> O C-H <sub>2</sub> symmetric stretch	2937	76.5	+51
4	CH <sub>2</sub> O C-O stretch	1790	106.4	-31
5	hydroperoxyl H-O-O bend	1555	58.4	+119
6	CH <sub>2</sub> O H-C-H bend	1524	31.9	+7
7	CH <sub>2</sub> O H-C-O bend	1274	7.9	+9
8	CH <sub>2</sub> O torsion	1220	5.9	+20
9	hydroperoxyl O-O stretch	1197	18.6	+28
10	H <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> stretch	658	109.9	
11	O <sub>1</sub> -H <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> bend	244	46.8	
12	intermolecular torsion	190	7.1	
13	intermolecular torsion	169	0.5	
14	C-O <sub>1</sub> -H <sub>3</sub> bend	103	14.8	
15	intermolecular torsion	67	10.5	

<sup>a</sup> Frequencies and shifts are given in cm<sup>-1</sup>; intensities are given in km mol<sup>-1</sup>.

H<sub>1</sub>-C-O<sub>1</sub> angle is 121.5°, while the H<sub>2</sub>-C-O<sub>1</sub> complex is 120.8°. These are less than the H-C-O angle in isolated formaldehyde by 0.4% and 1.1% respectively. The elongation of the carbon-oxygen bond can explain the shortening of the bond angle. The fact that the angles are not equal to each other is evidence that there is an interaction between the HO<sub>2</sub> terminal oxygen and H<sub>1</sub> from formaldehyde. This interaction causes the in-ring formaldehyde H-C-O bond angle to be 0.7° larger than the out-of-ring H-C-O bond angle. The hydroperoxyl bond angle is 1.2% shorter in the HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O complex than in isolated HO<sub>2</sub>. This is also evidence for a second interaction between the two monomers when complexed. The distance between the terminal oxygen in HO<sub>2</sub> and the in-ring hydrogen of formaldehyde in HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O is calculated to be 2.719 Å at the highest level of theory. This is 37% less than the comparable difference in HO-CH<sub>2</sub>O and 7% less than in H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O. One would expect this to translate to a much stronger interaction between these two atoms in the case of HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O, which appears to be the case.

The rotational constants for the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex are calculated to be 19356, 3496, and 2961 MHz at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory. HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O is an asymmetric rotor since  $A \neq B \neq C$ . This is consistent with the structure of the molecule shown in Figure 4.

There are 15 fundamental normal modes for the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex. These vibrational frequencies are listed in Table 9. Of these modes, six are similar to modes in isolated formaldehyde, three are similar to modes in the hydroperoxyl radical, and the remaining six modes are unique to the complex. As in the complexes involving the hydroxyl radical in this study, and the complexes involving water in our previous study,<sup>26</sup> the hydrogen atom-oxygen atom stretch of the electron acceptor is the most shifted mode from the parent monomer frequency. In the case of HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O, the O-H stretch of the hydroperoxyl radical (mode number 1) is calculated to have a vibrational frequency 259 cm<sup>-1</sup> lower in

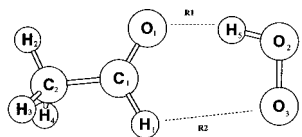
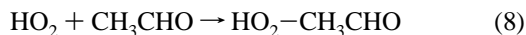


Figure 5. The hydroperoxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex.

energy than that of the isolated parent  $\text{HO}_2$ . This is somewhat analogous to the O-H stretch of the hydroxyl radical in  $\text{HO}-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , which is red-shifted  $141\text{ cm}^{-1}$  with respect to its parent monomer OH. The H-O-O bend of the hydroperoxyl radical (mode 5) is the next most shifted mode in  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , with a calculated blue shift of  $119\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . This is consistent with the structural change in the H-O-O angle, which is 1.2% less in the complex than that in isolated  $\text{HO}_2$ . The hydroperoxyl O-O stretch (mode 9) is shifted by  $29\text{ cm}^{-1}$  to the blue of that mode in isolated  $\text{HO}_2$ . The C-O stretch of formaldehyde (mode 4) is red-shifted by  $31\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . This same red shift is seen in  $\text{HO}-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ . In those molecules, the magnitude of the shift is smaller, 11 and  $16\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The larger shift in  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  is reflective of the stronger bond formed between the hydroperoxyl radical and formaldehyde than in the case of the other two complexes. As was the case for the two other complexes, the H-C-H asymmetric (mode 2) and symmetric (mode 3) are blue shifted with respect to those of isolated formaldehyde. For  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , these shifts are 87 and  $51\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. These shifts are 40 and  $19\text{ cm}^{-1}$  larger than those seen in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , further showing the strength of the interaction between  $\text{HO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ . The intermolecular  $\text{O}_1-\text{H}_3$  stretching frequency for the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex (mode 10) is calculated to be  $658\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The corresponding frequencies for  $\text{HO}-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  are 561 and  $531\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. The higher energy vibration of the  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  complex is reflective of the shorter intermolecular bond distance of that molecule, and hence of the more strongly bound complex. The most intense bands of the  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  complex are the hydroperoxyl radical O-H stretch (mode 1), the intermolecular  $\text{O}_1-\text{H}_3$  stretch (mode 10), and the C-O stretch of formaldehyde (mode 4), which have calculated band strengths of 682.5, 109.9 and  $106.4\text{ km mol}^{-1}$  respectively.

**E. Hydroperoxyl Radical-Acetaldehyde Complex.** Reaction of acetaldehyde and other higher aldehydes with the hydroperoxyl radical are known to be relatively slow at room temperature.<sup>50</sup> However, it is still possible for  $\text{HO}_2$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{-CHO}$  to form an adduct complex similar to the one that  $\text{HO}_2$  forms with  $\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ .



Whether this complex reacts further to form products is beyond the scope of this work; however, valuable information about the complex can be extracted which would be useful in making this type of prediction from the data that follows.

The hydroperoxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex is shown in Figure 5. Like the  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  complex, the molecule forms a six-membered ring, with the primary intermolecular interaction occurring between the hydrogen of the  $\text{HO}_2$  and the oxygen of the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ . Like the hydroxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex, the ring is formed opposite the methyl group of acetaldehyde. The optimized geometries for the hydroperoxyl-acetaldehyde complex at all levels of theory used are listed in Table 10. The intermolecular bond distance R1 for the hydroperoxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex is  $1.734\text{ \AA}$  at the highest level of theory used, B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd). This is shorter than the

TABLE 10: Geometry of the Hydroperoxyl Radical-Acetaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>

coordinate	B3LYP			
	6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
R1	1.765	1.751	1.741	1.734
R2	2.529	2.740	2.719	2.736
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	1.222	1.216	1.215	1.213
C <sub>1</sub> H <sub>1</sub>	1.105	1.105	1.102	1.103
C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	1.499	1.495	1.493	1.492
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	1.092	1.089	1.087	1.087
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	1.098	1.096	1.093	1.093
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	1.098	1.096	1.093	1.093
H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.999	0.994	0.993	0.993
O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.333	1.329	1.330	1.325
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	119.6	119.4	119.4	119.5
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	123.4	123.8	123.7	123.8
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.9	111.3	111.3	111.4
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.5	109.2	109.2	109.1
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.5	109.2	109.2	109.1
H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	103.5	104.3	104.0	104.2
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	113.6	118.9	116.8	117.2
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	164.2	165.2	167.5	167.7
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-121.8	-122.0	-122.0	-122.1
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	121.8	122.0	122.0	122.1
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	180.0	180.0	180.0	180.0
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

<sup>a</sup> Bond distances are given in Ångstroms, bond angles in degrees.

$\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$  complex by  $0.043\text{ \AA}$ , indicating a stronger bond. It is also shorter than the comparable bonds for both the hydroxyl radical-acetaldehyde by  $0.165\text{ \AA}$  and water-acetaldehyde by  $0.208\text{ \AA}$ . The hydrogen-oxygen bond of the hydroperoxyl radical,  $\text{H}_5-\text{O}_2$ , is elongated by 1.8% to  $0.993\text{ \AA}$ . The carbon-oxygen bond distance is elongated by 0.8%. These are both manifestations of the stronger intermolecular bond of  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  than either  $\text{HO}-\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  or  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ . The  $\text{H}_1-\text{C}_1-\text{O}_1$  bond angle is decreased by 0.6% relative to isolated acetaldehyde, while the  $\text{C}_2-\text{C}_1-\text{O}_1$  bond angle is decreased by 0.8%. This is the same effect that is seen in the hydroxyl-radical acetaldehyde complex and is probably due to the elongation of the  $\text{C}_1-\text{O}_1$  bond. The  $\text{H}_5-\text{O}_2-\text{O}_3$  bond angle is decreased by 1.1% relative to isolated  $\text{HO}_2$ . As was the case for the hydroperoxyl radical-formaldehyde complex, this is evidence for a second intermolecular interaction between the terminal oxygen of  $\text{HO}_2$  and the in-ring hydrogen of  $\text{CH}_3\text{-CHO}$ . The distance between these atoms R2 is  $2.736\text{ \AA}$ . This is longer than for  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_2\text{O}$ , indicating that, if a interaction exists, it is a weaker one. The fact that the  $\text{H}_5-\text{O}_2-\text{O}_3$  bond angle is slightly less decreased than in the hydroperoxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex, 1.1% versus 1.2%, indicates that this effect is due to an interaction along R2 and not the elongation of the  $\text{H}_5-\text{O}_2$  coordinate. R2 for the  $\text{HO}_2-\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  is shorter than the analogous R2 for  $\text{HO}-\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  ( $3.628\text{ \AA}$ ). There is no analogous R2 for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$  since water forms a ring with the methyl portion of the acetaldehyde molecule.

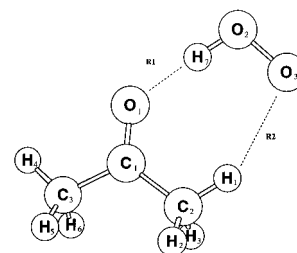
Table 2 lists the rotational constants for the hydroperoxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex at all the levels of theory used in this study. At the highest level of theory, B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd), these constants are 15151, 1802, and  $1627\text{ MHz}$ . The molecule is an asymmetric rotor, which is consistent with its structure shown in Figure 5. However, the molecule is also a near-oblate top, as was the hydroxyl radical-acetaldehyde complex. The water-acetaldehyde complex was not a near-oblate top however.

**TABLE 11: Vibrational Frequencies of the Hydroperoxyl Radical–Acetaldehyde Complex<sup>a</sup>**

mode number	mode description	B3LYP/6-311++ G(3df,3pd)		
		frequency	intensity	shift
1	hydroperoxyl H–O stretch	3274	963.6	–328
2	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> C–H stretch	3144	5.1	+56
3	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> C–H stretch	3076	2.3	+1
4	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> C–H stretch	3026	0.9	+3
5	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>2</sup> C–H stretch	2968	23.7	–5
6	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO C–O stretch	1775	227.0	–38
7	hydroperoxyl H–O–O bend	1573	66.4	+137
8	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO sp <sup>3</sup> torsion	1466	10.8	–3
9	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–H bend	1458	28.8	–3
10	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–O bend	1428	6.6	+6
11	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO C–C stretch	1384	33.3	+3
12	hydroperoxyl O–O stretch	1199	17.0	+30
13	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–C bend	1149	0.3	+13
14	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO H–C–C bend	1141	30.2	+9
15	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO torsion	900	8.4	+14
16	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO torsion	794	0.2	+15
17	O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>5</sub> stretch	691	106.8	
18	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO torsion	532	36.1	+21
19	O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>5</sub> –O <sub>2</sub> bend	240	37.8	
20	intermolecular tortorsion	165	2.2	
21	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO CH <sub>3</sub> twist	164	0.7	+5
22	C <sub>1</sub> –O <sub>1</sub> –H <sub>5</sub> bend	73	8.5	
23	intermolecular torsion	66	0.6	
24	intermolecular torsion	49	6.5	

<sup>a</sup> Frequencies and shifts are given in cm<sup>–1</sup>; intensities are given in km mol<sup>–1</sup>.

The hydroperoxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex has 24 normal vibrational modes. Acetaldehyde has 15 vibrational modes and the hydroperoxyl radical has three vibrational modes and the remaining six vibrational modes are intermolecular modes. These modes, their intensities, and shifts from the parent monomers are listed in Table 11. The most intense and most shifted mode is the O–H stretch of the hydroperoxyl radical (mode number 1). This mode has a calculated red shift of 328 cm<sup>–1</sup> from isolated CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. This is larger than a similar shift seen in the HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO complex by 148 cm<sup>–1</sup>. This is also larger than the similar shift in the HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O complex by 69 cm<sup>–1</sup>. The increased shift in this mode is evidence of a stronger interaction between HO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>CHO than either HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO or HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O. Just as in those complexes, the C–O stretch of HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO (mode 6) is red-shifted relative to that of the isolated organic molecule. The C–O stretch is red-shifted 38 cm<sup>–1</sup> in the hydroperoxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex, compared to 16 cm<sup>–1</sup> in the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex and 30 cm<sup>–1</sup> in the hydroperoxyl radical–formaldehyde complex. This is further evidence for a stronger interaction in HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO than in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO or HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O. The shift in this particular mode is also larger in the hydroperoxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex than in the water–acetaldehyde complex (18 cm<sup>–1</sup>), indicating that the hydrogen bond is stronger in HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO than in H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO as well. The remaining vibrational modes of the hydroperoxyl radical, the H–O–O bend (mode 7) and the O–O stretch (mode 12) are both blue-shifted by 137 and 30 cm<sup>–1</sup>, respectively, to isolated HO<sub>2</sub>. These are both larger than those in HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O, where the shifts in these respective modes are 119 and 28 cm<sup>–1</sup>. Interestingly, the CH<sub>3</sub>CHO sp<sup>2</sup> C–H stretch (mode 5) is red-shifted by 5 cm<sup>–1</sup>. This can be compared to the analogous mode in the HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, which is blue shifted by 41 cm<sup>–1</sup>. The blue shift in the latter molecule is due to the change in geometry in the acetaldehyde when complexed. However, because of the proximity of the sp<sup>2</sup> hydrogen of acetaldehyde to the terminal oxygen of the hydroperoxyl radical (R2 = 2.736 Å). This is

**Figure 6.** The hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex.

evidence for a second interaction along the R2 coordinate. Contrary to this, mode 2 (primarily the H<sub>2</sub>–C<sub>2</sub> stretch) is shifted by 56 cm<sup>–1</sup> to the blue in both HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO and HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. The intermolecular H<sub>5</sub>–O<sub>1</sub> stretch (mode 17) is calculated to have a vibrational frequency of 691 cm<sup>–1</sup>. This is higher in energy than the analogous mode in HO–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO (595 cm<sup>–1</sup>), H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO (574 cm<sup>–1</sup>), and HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O (658 cm<sup>–1</sup>), reflecting the shorter intermolecular bond distance of HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. The most intense bands of the hydroperoxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex are modes 1 (963.6 km mol<sup>–1</sup>), 6 (227.0 km mol<sup>–1</sup>) and 17 (106.8 km mol<sup>–1</sup>). Modes 1 and 6 are also more likely to be detected because of the large shifts in these modes relative to isolated acetaldehyde.

**F. Hydroperoxyl Radical–Acetone Complex.** Like acetaldehyde, acetone is not known to react rapidly with the hydroperoxyl radical. However, the possibility of the formation of an adduct via the reaction below has not been adequately addressed.



In the case of the hydroxyl radical complexes mentioned, as well as the water complexes previously studied,<sup>26</sup> the complexes with acetone were stronger than those with either acetaldehyde or formaldehyde. In this section, we will discuss the properties of HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>.

The structure of the hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex is shown in Figure 6. It has a seven-membered structure formed by the HO<sub>2</sub> molecule and the O<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>1</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>, and H<sub>1</sub> atoms of acetone. The fully optimized geometry for HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> at all levels of theory used in this study is shown in Table 12. Like the other complexes studied in this work, the primary intermolecular bond (R1) is between the hydrogen of the HO<sub>2</sub> and the oxygen of CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. This bond distance for R1 is 1.709 Å at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory. This is the shortest intermolecular bond distance of this study, hence the strongest intermolecular bond. It is 1.5% shorter than R1 for HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO and 4.0% shorter than R1 for HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O. It is also 9.4% shorter than R1 for the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex, and 11.8% shorter than R1 for the water–acetone complex. The hydrogen–oxygen bond of the HO<sub>2</sub> is elongated to 0.996 Å, an increase of 2.2% to isolated HO<sub>2</sub>. This can be compared to 1.8% for HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO and 1.5% for HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>2</sub>O; as well as 1.1% for HO–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> and 1.2% for H<sub>2</sub>O–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. The carbon–oxygen bond of acetone is elongated by 0.8% to 1.219 Å, which is as large an increase in this coordinate as we have seen thus far. These data all indicate that the hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex has the strongest intermolecular bond of the molecules in this study. The intermolecular bond distance between the terminal oxygen of HO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>1</sub> of acetone R2 is 2.449 Å. While this is shorter than any of the other R2 distances we examine in this study, we cannot say that this is a stronger interaction because the hydrogen involved is a methyl hydrogen, while in the aldehydes, the R2 involved a different type of



**TABLE 12: Geometry of the Hydroperoxyl Radical–Acetone Complex<sup>a</sup>**

coordinate	B3LYP			
	6-31G(d)	6-311++ G(d,p)	6-311++ G(2d,2p)	6-311++ G(3df,3pd)
R1	1.746	1.720	1.715	1.709
R2	2.348	2.476	2.450	2.449
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	1.226	1.222	1.221	1.219
C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub>	1.511	1.508	1.505	1.504
C <sub>1</sub> C <sub>3</sub>	1.513	1.509	1.507	1.506
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>1</sub>	1.093	1.090	1.087	1.087
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	1.098	1.095	1.092	1.092
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	1.098	1.095	1.092	1.092
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	1.091	1.089	1.086	1.086
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	1.097	1.095	1.092	1.092
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	1.097	1.094	1.092	1.092
H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1.001	0.997	0.996	0.996
O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.331	1.327	1.328	1.323
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	122.3	122.1	122.1	122.1
C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	120.1	120.3	120.3	120.4
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.7	110.9	110.9	110.8
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.9	109.6	109.7	109.7
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	109.8	110.9	109.6	109.6
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.2	110.4	110.4	110.5
H <sub>5</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.1	109.9	109.9	109.9
H <sub>6</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	110.3	110.1	110.1	110.0
H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	104.8	105.3	105.0	105.2
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	125.1	130.0	127.9	128.0
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	179.0	176.8	179.3	179.3
H <sub>1</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-0.6	-0.7	-0.8	-0.8
H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-122.3	-122.4	-122.6	-122.7
H <sub>3</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	120.8	120.9	120.7	120.7
H <sub>4</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-0.8	-0.9	-0.9	-0.9
H <sub>5</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	120.3	120.3	120.4	120.4
H <sub>6</sub> C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	-122.2	-122.4	-122.4	-122.4
C <sub>2</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	-0.3	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1
C <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	179.7	179.8	179.8	179.9
C <sub>1</sub> O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	-19.9	-18.5	-19.1	-18.6
O <sub>1</sub> H <sub>7</sub> O <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	20.7	19.4	19.9	19.4

<sup>a</sup> Bond distances are given in Ångstroms, bond angles in degrees.

hydrogen atom. It can be seen, however, that  $C_2-C_1-O_1 \neq C_3-C_1-O_1$  and  $H_1-C_2-C_1 \neq H_4-C_3-C_1$ . This leads us to believe that some type of interaction exists. Furthermore, the  $H_7-O_2-O_3$  bond angle on the hydroperoxyl radical is  $105.2^\circ$  slightly shorter than that in isolated  $HO_2$ . This is only a small fraction of a change compared to the same change in  $HO_2-CH_3CHO$  (1.1%) and  $HO_2-CH_2O$  (1.2%), which leads us to believe that the interaction along R2 is weakest in  $HO_2-CH_3COCH_3$ .

The rotational constants for the hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex are given in Table 2. At the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) level of theory, these values are 7363, 1493, and 1260 MHz. This is consistent with the structure of  $HO_2-CH_3COCH_3$ , which is shown in Figure 6.  $HO_2-CH_3COCH_3$  is an asymmetric rotor, as are  $HO-CH_3COCH_3$  and  $H_2O-CH_3COCH_3$ .

The hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex has 33 fundamental modes. Of these, 24 are similar to modes in isolated acetone, three are similar to modes in isolated  $HO_2$ , and six are intermolecular modes unique to the complex. These modes are listed in Table 13. As is the case for all the complexes in this study, the most shifted mode is the O–H stretch of the  $HO_x$  ( $HO_2$  in this case). That mode (mode number 1) has a calculated red shift of  $358\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the largest of any of the complexes studied in this work. This is evidence that  $HO_2-CH_3COCH_3$  is the strongest bound complex studied here. The C–O stretch of acetone (mode 8) is also red-shifted by  $36\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which is also larger than the analogous shifts in the C–O stretching mode of the other complexes, supporting this. This mode has a calculated

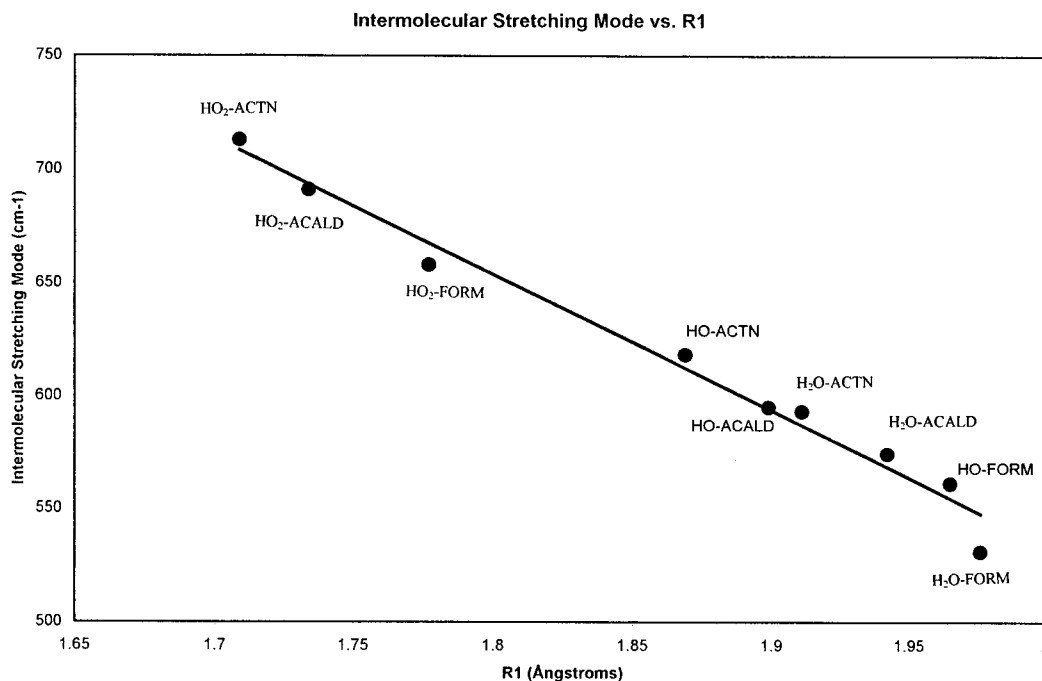
**TABLE 13: Vibrational Frequencies of the Hydroperoxyl Radical–Acetone Complex<sup>a</sup>**

mode number	mode description	B3LYP/6-311++G(2d,2p)		
		frequency	intensity	shift
1	hydroperoxyl H–O stretch	3244	1180.6	-358
2	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–H stretch	3151	5.7	+5
3	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–H stretch	3138	1.9	-7
4	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–H stretch	3094	6.2	+4
5	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–H stretch	3084	6.2	+2
6	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–H stretch	3042	5.4	+2
7	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–H stretch	3032	3.9	0
8	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–O stretch	1743	271.4	-36
9	hydroperoxyl H–O–O bend	1586	44.4	+150
10	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–H bend	1497	19.1	+4
11	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–H bend	1477	31.0	+1
12	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–H bend	1472	0.9	+2
13	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–H bend	1466	5.4	0
14	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–H bend	1407	43.1	+14
15	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–H bend	1400	38.8	+8
16	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–C asymmetric stretch	1262	61.3	+26
17	hydroperoxyl O–O stretch	1201	15.0	+32
18	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	1130	3.8	+8
19	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–C symmetric stretch	1101	0.4	+11
20	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–O bend	910	5.5	+20
21	$CH_3COCH_3$ C–C–O bend	898	0.3	+10
22	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	800	0.5	-8
23	$H_7-O_1$ stretch	713	108.9	
24	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	560	20.7	+24
25	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	498	0.0	+5
26	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	398	9.1	+18
27	$O_1-H_7-O_2$ bend	230	35.1	
28	intermolecular torsion	155	1.8	
29	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	142	0.0	+12
30	$C_1-O_1-H_7$ bend	97	4.0	
31	intermolecular torsion	65	0.2	
32	intermolecular torsion	55	1.5	
33	$CH_3COCH_3$ torsion	13	0.5	-3

<sup>a</sup> Frequencies and shifts are given in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; intensities are given in  $\text{km mol}^{-1}$ .

shift that is  $16\text{ cm}^{-1}$  larger than the corresponding shift in the water–acetone complex. This is evidence that  $HO_2-CH_3COCH_3$  is more strongly bound than  $H_2O-CH_3COCH_3$ . The H–O–O bend of the hydroperoxyl radical (mode 9) and the O–O stretch of that molecule (mode 17) are shifted to the blue by 150 and  $32\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. These are larger in magnitude than those of either  $HO_2-CH_2O$  or  $HO_2-CH_3CHO$ , reflecting the stronger effect of acetone complexation on these two modes. Similar to the latter of those two complexes,  $HO_2-CH_3COCH_3$  has a carbon–hydrogen stretching mode that is red-shifted (by  $7\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), unlike its hydroxyl radical complex counterpart. Not surprisingly, this vibrational mode (mode 3) involves mostly motion by the  $H_1$  atom, which seems to be affected by the terminal oxygen of the hydroperoxyl radical. For the hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex, the most intense, and presumably most easily detectable bands, are modes 1, 8, and 17. These have calculated band intensities of 1180.6, 271.4, and  $108.9\text{ km mol}^{-1}$  respectively.

**G. Vibrational Frequencies and Intermolecular Bond Distances.** Some comparisons can be made involving the complexes in this study, as well as our previous study of the complexes of these organic molecules with water. The first is between the intermolecular O–H stretching frequency and the intermolecular bond distance along this coordinate (R1). This comparison is made in Figure 7. As one would expect, the intermolecular stretching frequency increases as the intermolecular bond distance decreases. In looking at the complexes in this study and our previous work,<sup>26</sup> examining  $H_2O$  complexes with these organic molecules some general statements can be



**Figure 7.** Intermolecular stretching frequency (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) plotted versus the Intermolecular Bond Distance ( $R1$ , in Ångstroms) along the intermolecular bond. Best-fit-line through all the data is included. FORM = formaldehyde, ACALD = acetaldehyde, ACTN = acetone.

made. The data suggest that the identity of the electron acceptor molecule is the most important factor in what the intermolecular bond distance and the intermolecular stretching frequency are. It is clear that complexes involving the hydroperoxyl radical have shorter intermolecular bond distances and larger intermolecular stretching frequencies than those of complexes involving either the hydroxyl radical or water. The acetone and acetaldehyde complexes with the hydroxyl radical have shorter intermolecular bond distances (and larger intermolecular stretching frequencies) than those of any of the water complexes in this study. However, the hydroxyl radical–formaldehyde complex has a longer  $R1$  lower intermolecular stretching frequency than the water–acetone complex or the water–acetaldehyde complex. Within each group of complexes, the general pattern that  $R1_{\text{acetone}} < R1_{\text{acetaldehyde}} < R1_{\text{formaldehyde}}$  is seen. Hence, within the hydroperoxyl radical complexes,  $\text{HO}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{COCH}_3$  has a shorter  $R1$  than that of  $\text{HO}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{CHO}$ , which has a shorter  $R1$  than that of  $\text{HO}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{O}$ , and so on. The best-fit-line is given, and has the following equation.

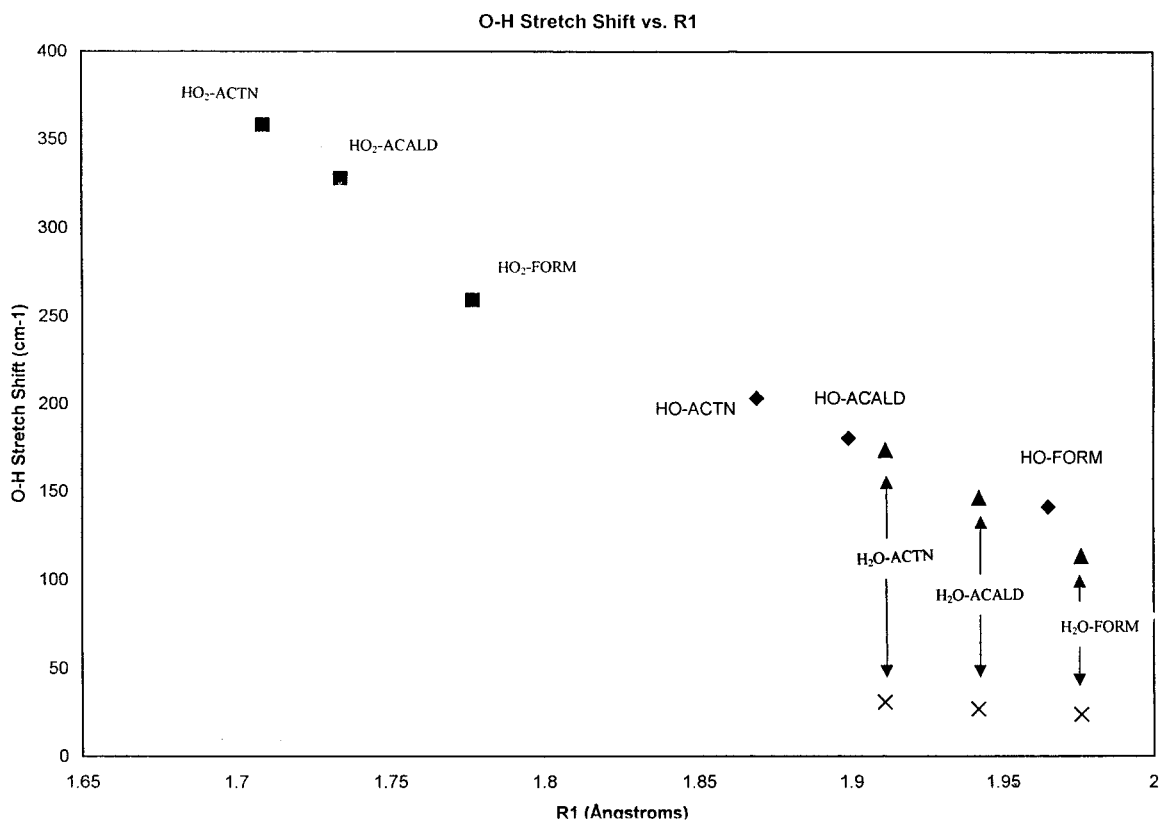
$$\nu_{\text{1st}} = -602 (R1) + 1736 \quad (10)$$

In this equation,  $\nu_{\text{1st}}$  is the intermolecular stretching frequency in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and  $R1$  is the intermolecular bond distance in Ångstroms. The relationship is fairly linear, with an  $R^2$  value of 0.982. While this equation may be useful when dealing with calculated harmonic frequencies, it may need to be adjusted for predicting intermolecular bond distances due to the anharmonicity of the true potential energy surface.

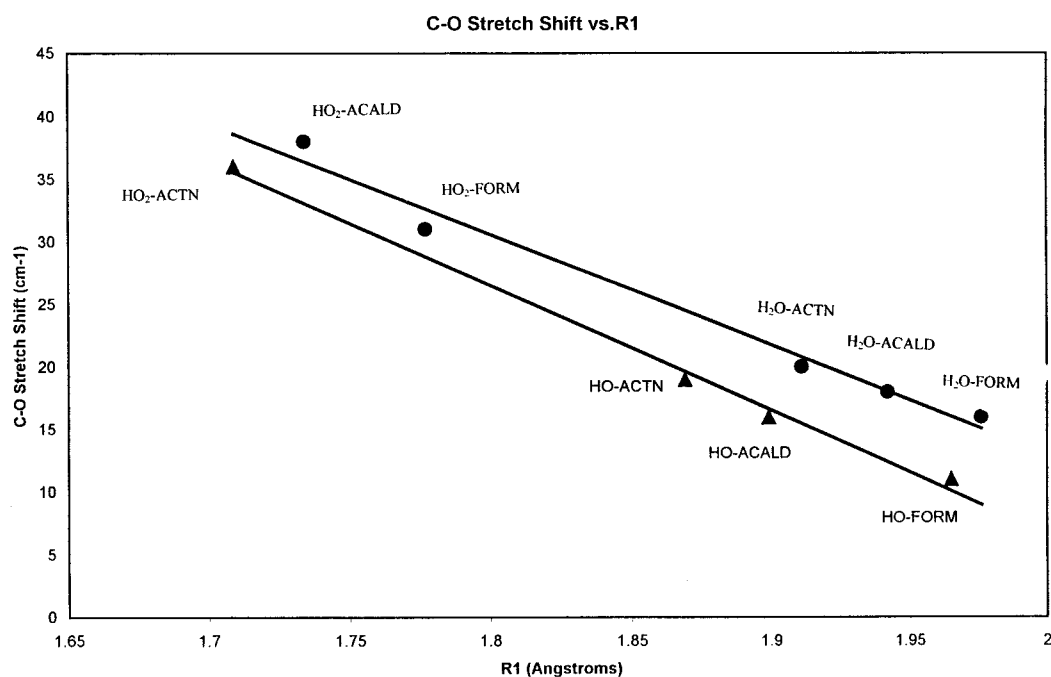
These types of calculations more accurately predict relative shifts in modes that are similar to isolated monomer modes. We plot the red shift in the O–H stretching frequency of OH,  $\text{HO}_2$ , and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  versus the intermolecular bond distance in Figure 8. Note that water has an asymmetric stretch and a symmetric stretch, of which the former is less affected by complexation than the latter. As one might expect, the shorter the intermolecular bond distance, the more shifted the O–H stretch is in the electron acceptor molecule. As a result of this, the most shifted hydrogen bond frequency involve the complexes of the

hydroperoxyl radical. However, this dependence is not clearly linear. It does seem to be linear within each subgroup of complexes involving the same electron acceptor molecule. The shift in the hydroperoxyl O–H stretching mode seems to be more sensitive to changes in the intermolecular bond distance, which is due to different carbonyl-containing molecules as a complexing partner, than any of the shifts of the other O–H stretching modes. The least affected mode is the H–O–H asymmetric stretch of the water complexes.

It would seem that a common vibrational mode to all of the complexes in this study is the carbonyl group C–O stretch. In each of these complexes, this mode is shifted to the red of the similar mode in the isolated parent monomer. This coordinate is of particular importance to the ultraviolet absorption of carbonyl containing molecules because the electrons which are excited in  $n \rightarrow \pi^*$  and  $\pi \rightarrow \pi^*$  transitions are localized around these atoms. A plot of the shift in the C–O stretch of the carbonyl containing molecule versus the intermolecular bond distance is given in Figure 9. Again, it seems that the identity of the electron acceptor is the most important factor in determining the magnitude of this shift. An interesting observation upon examination of these data is the larger effect on this mode when water is the electron acceptor than the hydroxyl radical. Although the intermolecular bond distance is shorter in the case of the hydroxyl radical–organic species when compared to the corresponding water–organic molecule, the C–O stretch is more affected in each case by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  than by OH. This can be somewhat explained when examining the intermolecular C–O–H bond angles for these molecules. The water complexes have smaller C–O–H angles than those of the hydroxyl radical complexes. This sharper angle between the C–O and the intermolecular bond  $R1$  allows the C–O stretch to be less coupled to the  $R1$  coordinate, resulting in a larger red shift in this coordinate. The water complexes, the  $\text{HO}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{O}$  complex, and the  $\text{HO}_2\text{-CH}_3\text{CHO}$  complex all have similar C–O–H bond angles, and this is reflected in the linearity of their red shifts with respect to intermolecular bond distance. An interesting anomaly is that, in the hydroperoxyl radical–



**Figure 8.** Red shift (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the O–H stretching mode of OH (◆), HO<sub>2</sub> (■), and H<sub>2</sub>O (asymmetric shift, ×; asymmetric shift, ▲) versus the intermolecular bond distance (R1, in Å). FORM = formaldehyde, ACALD = acetaldehyde, ACTN = acetone.



**Figure 9.** Red shift (in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the C–O stretching mode of the organic molecule versus intermolecular bond distances (R1, in Å). Regression lines included for two data sets based on differing intermolecular C–O–H angles. FORM = formaldehyde, ACALD = acetaldehyde, ACTN = acetone.

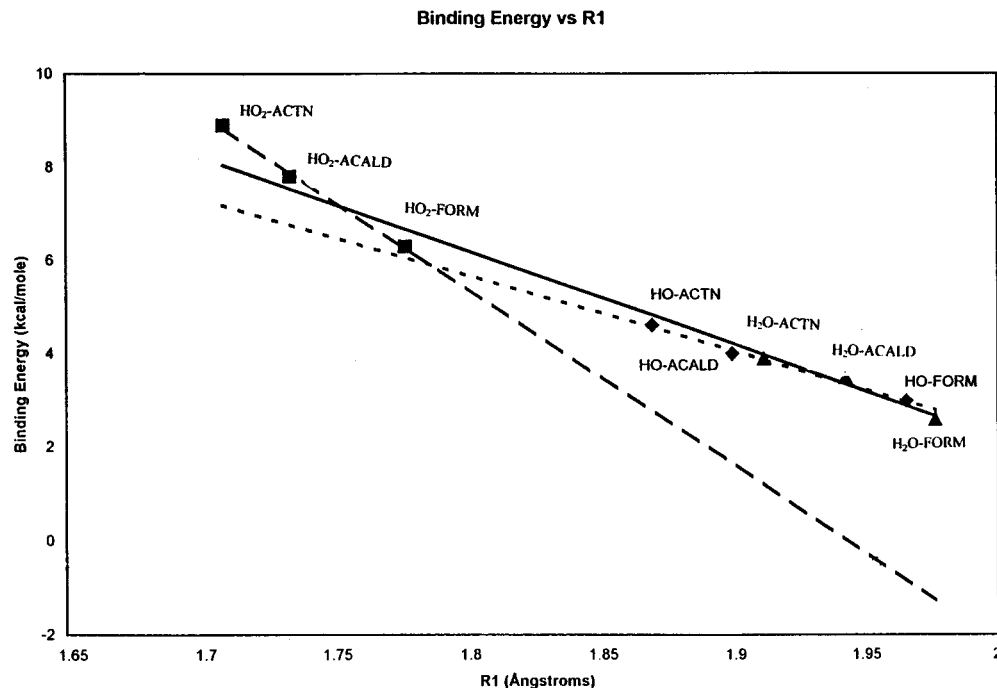
carbonyl compound series, the shift in HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> is slightly smaller than in HO<sub>2</sub>–CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, despite the shorter intermolecular bond distance in the former complex. This is reflected in the C–O–H bond angle, for which the hydroperoxyl radical–acetone complex is closer to the hydroxyl radical complexes, whereas the other two hydroperoxyl radical complexes are more similar to the water complexes.

**H. The Energetics of the Complexes.** The binding energies for the complexes examined in this study are listed in Table 14. The calculated binding energies are listed for all the levels of theory that were used in this work. For each complex, a binding energy is reported with  $D_0$  and without the zero-point energy correction  $D_e$ . For all the complexes, the 6-31G(d) basis set overestimates the binding energy when compared to

**TABLE 14: Binding Energies of the Complexes<sup>a</sup>**

B3LYP basis set	HO-CH <sub>2</sub> O		HO-CH <sub>3</sub> CHO		HO-CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>		HO <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> O		HO <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub> CHO		HO <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>	
	<i>D<sub>e</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>0</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>e</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>0</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>e</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>0</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>e</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>0</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>e</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>0</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>e</sub></i>	<i>D<sub>0</sub></i>
6-31G(d)	6.2	4.2	7.1	5.3	9.7	7.5	10.8	8.5	12.0	10.0	13.4	11.4
6-311++G(d,p)	5.0	3.3	6.0	4.3	6.6	4.9	8.5	6.5	9.8	8.1	11.0	9.2
6-311++G(2d,2p)	4.8	3.0	5.7	4.0	6.4	4.6	8.3	6.3	9.6	7.8	10.6	8.8
6-311++G(3df,3pd)	4.9	3.0	5.8	4.0	6.4	4.6	8.4	6.3	9.6	7.8	10.7	8.9

<sup>a</sup> All binding energies are reported in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure 10.** Binding energy of the complex (in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>) versus the intermolecular bond distance (*R*<sub>1</sub>, in Ångstroms). Best-fit-line included for complexes involving H<sub>2</sub>O (solid), OH (dotted), and HO<sub>2</sub> (dashed). FORM = formaldehyde, ACALD = acetaldehyde, ACTN = acetone.

the larger basis sets. This error ranges from 22% in the case of the *D<sub>e</sub>* for the hydroxyl radical–acetaldehyde complex, to 63% in the case of the *D<sub>0</sub>* for the hydroxyl radical–acetone complex. It is clear that larger basis sets need to be used in order to predict binding energies of complexes more accurately.

The identity of the organic hydrogen acceptor molecule has an effect on the binding energy that shows a clear pattern. From the data, it can be seen that acetone forms the most strongly bound complexes and formaldehyde makes the weakest bound ones. This is the same trend that is seen in the analogous water complexes.<sup>26</sup> For the hydroxyl radical complexes, the binding energies *D<sub>0</sub>* are 3.0, 4.0, and 4.6 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> at the B3LYP/6-311++G(3df,3pd) for formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and acetone, respectively. This amounts to an increase in the binding energy of 29% from HO-CH<sub>2</sub>O to HO-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO and 14% from HO-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO to HO-CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. The binding energies *D<sub>0</sub>* for the hydroperoxyl radical complexes at the same level of theory are 6.3, 7.8 and 8.9 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> for formaldehyde, acetaldehyde, and acetone, respectively. This is a 22% increase from HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O to HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, and a 13% increase from HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO to HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>. At the same level of theory, water–formaldehyde has a binding energy *D<sub>0</sub>* of 2.6 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>, water–acetaldehyde has a binding energy of 3.5 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>, and water–acetone has a binding energy of 3.9 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. This follows a similar pattern, with increases in binding energy of 30% and 11% for each of the complexes.

The identity of the hydrogen donor molecule also follows a pattern in terms of the binding energy of the complexes. The hydroperoxyl radical forms complexes that are more strongly

bound than either the complexes formed by the hydroxyl radical or the complexes formed by water. The HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>O complex has a binding energy that is 3.3 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> larger than that of HO-CH<sub>2</sub>O and 3.7 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> larger than that of H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O. The same general trend in increased binding energy can be seen in the other carbonyl complexes. In each case, complexes with HO<sub>2</sub> as the hydrogen donor have binding energies that are around double that of ones with HO or H<sub>2</sub>O.

One of the things that these much stronger binding energies can be attributed to, is a stronger hydrogen bond along the *R*<sub>1</sub> coordinate. Figure 10 shows the relationship between binding energy and intermolecular bond distance along this coordinate. Included are best-fit-lines for each subset of hydrogen donor molecule. It is clear that in every case, as one would expect, the shorter the bond distance, the more strongly bound the complex. This effect is stronger with the more strongly bound complexes of HO<sub>2</sub>, as the slope of the line indicates. A second reason as to why HO<sub>2</sub> forms more strongly bound complexes is the interaction between the terminal oxygen in the hydroperoxyl radical, and one of the hydrogen atoms of the carbonyl containing molecule. The evidence from the data above involving differences in structure and vibrational frequencies in the coordinates nearest to this terminal oxygen supports that such an interaction exists and contributes to the binding energy. As can be seen in the geometry tables, the *R*<sub>2</sub> coordinate is much shorter for the HO<sub>2</sub> complexes than for the OH complexes. For the carbonyls we studied, this difference was as small as 0.523 Å in the acetone complexes, and as large as 1.002 Å in the formaldehyde complexes.

TABLE 15: Thermodynamic Properties of the Complexes<sup>a</sup>

species	$\Delta H_f^0$	$\Delta H_f^{200}$	$\Delta H_f^{300}$	$\Delta S^{200}$	$\Delta S^{300}$	$K_f^{200}$	$K_f^{300}$
OH	9.3	9.3	9.3	41.9	43.9		
HO <sub>2</sub>	3.5	3.0	2.8	51.9	54.4		
CH <sub>2</sub> O	-23.9	-24.6	-26.0	49.7	52.3		
CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	-35.5	-36.9	-39.7	58.7	63.2		
CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>	-45.8	-47.8	-51.9	63.7	70.5		
HO-CH <sub>2</sub> O	-17.6	-19.5	-20.4	67.4	73.3	$4.2 \times 10^{-21}$	$2.0 \times 10^{-22}$
HO-CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	-30.2	-33.5	-35.1	73.9	81.7	$1.1 \times 10^{-19}$	$3.0 \times 10^{-22}$
HO-CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>	-41.1	-45.7	-47.9	82.8	92.9	$1.7 \times 10^{-17}$	$6.3 \times 10^{-21}$
HO <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> O	-26.7	-28.1	-28.8	72.3	79.2	$1.4 \times 10^{-19}$	$4.8 \times 10^{-22}$
HO <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub> CHO	-39.8	-42.6	-44.0	79.3	88.2	$1.5 \times 10^{-17}$	$2.3 \times 10^{-21}$
HO <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>3</sub> COCH <sub>3</sub>	-51.3	-55.3	-57.4	87.8	98.8	$7.0 \times 10^{-15}$	$8.5 \times 10^{-20}$

<sup>a</sup> Enthalpies are reported in kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>, entropies in cal mol<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>, and equilibrium constants in cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup>.

Hydroxyl radical forms stronger complexes with carbonyl groups than water. The OH complexes with CH<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>3</sub>CHO, and CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> are 0.4, 0.5, and 0.7 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> stronger than their corresponding H<sub>2</sub>O complexes. In a previous study of the H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O complex, Ramelot et al.<sup>22</sup> report that there is no interaction between the oxygen atom of the water and the nearest hydrogen atom of the formaldehyde. However, when we notice that while the H-C bond distances remain equal in the water-formaldehyde complex, the H-C-O angles are slightly different, indicating that an small interaction may exist. The calculated R2 value for H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>2</sub>O is 2.909 Å. For H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO and H<sub>2</sub>O-CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub>, R2 is 2.588 and 2.598 Å, respectively. In the former case, this is a shorter distance than that for HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>CHO. It would seem that an interaction would exist along this coordinate which would increase the binding energy of the water complex with respect to that of the hydroxyl radical complexes, for which this interaction would be much weaker. However, the strength of the hydroxyl radical complexes' bond along the R1 coordinate is stronger than the corresponding bonds along the same coordinate in the water complexes by at least the difference in their binding energies, and perhaps more. This difference reflects the greater stabilization of the open shell system by complexation, when compared to the closed shell system.

Using the data from our calculations, it is possible to calculate relevant thermodynamic properties of the formation of these complexes. These data, along with the values used for the parent monomers, is listed in Table 15. Room-temperature data for the monomers was taken from NASA's JPL Publication 97-4.<sup>31</sup> These data were extrapolated to other temperatures using Kirchhoff's Law:

$$\Delta H(T_2) - \Delta H(T_1) = \Delta C_p \Delta T \quad (11)$$

where  $T$  is the temperature and  $\Delta C_p$  is the difference in heat capacity at constant pressure of the substances whose enthalpy is being calculated to those of the elements in their natural state. Differences in heat capacities were assumed to be independent of temperature. Entropies were extrapolated to different temperatures using the following equation:

$$S(T_2) - S(T_1) = C_v \ln(T_2/T_1) \quad (12)$$

where  $C_v$  is the heat capacity at constant volume. The enthalpies of formation  $\Delta H_f$  and entropies  $S$  have been calculated for the complexes at 200 and at 300 K.

We can use these data to calculate the equilibrium constant for the formation of each complex from its parent monomers. These data are also listed in Table 15. While these equilibrium constants are quite low at room temperature, at lower temperatures some of them are predicted to rise dramatically. The equilibrium constant for the hydroperoxyl radical-acetone complex rises nearly 5 orders of magnitude when calculated from 300 to 200 K. At 200 K, the equilibrium constant is  $7.0 \times 10^{-15}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup>, while at 300 K this value is  $8.5 \times 10^{-20}$ . To put this into perspective, the equilibrium constant for the formation of the N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> dimer from NO<sub>2</sub> is  $2.5 \times 10^{-19}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> at 298 K and  $1.4 \times 10^{-14}$  at 200 K.<sup>31</sup> This means the formation of HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> may be possible under some atmospheric conditions. Recent measurements in the upper troposphere of acetone estimate a number density of  $2 \times 10^{10}$  molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>. If the temperature is 200 K and the HO<sub>2</sub> number density is  $5 \times 10^8$  molecules cm<sup>-3</sup>, then the equilibrium concentration of HO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>COCH<sub>3</sub> would be  $7 \times 10^5$  molecules cm<sup>-3</sup>. This is a small percentage of the concentration of the parent monomers whose effect on the chemistry of the atmosphere is not clear.

#### IV. Conclusions

In this work, we have calculated the structure and energetics of complexes involving the hydroxyl and hydroperoxyl radical and the carbonyl containing molecules formaldehyde, acetaldehyde and acetone. These open shell complexes are more strongly bound than are their corresponding closed shell water counterparts. The hydroperoxyl radical complexes have significantly larger binding energies than either the hydroxyl radical complexes or the water complexes. Within each subgroup of hydrogen donor complex, acetone forms the strongest complexes and formaldehyde forms the weakest. Furthermore, acetone and acetaldehyde are not known to react quickly with the hydroperoxyl radical. For this reason, it is most likely that these complexes may be detectable.

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