

ylide 4 is trapped by the addition of a large excess of CH₃I to the solution to give the monoalkylated product 8a, mp 151-152 °C.9 A mixture of 8a and 8b¹⁰ was observed by NMR when a slight excess of CH₃I was added under similar conditions. These findings clearly indicate 4 to be an intermediate in these methylation reactions.

Further work on the structure of 4 and its reactions with other electrophiles is underway in our laboratory.

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References and Notes

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- Anal. (C17H26O3S) C, H, S. ¹H NMR (CDCl3-pyridine-d5): δ 7.36 (s, 2, ArH), 3.68 (s, 3, SCH₃), 1.58 (s, 6, OCCH₃), 1.54 (s, 6, OCCH₃), 1.42 (s, 9, *t*-C₄H₉). IR (CHCl₃): 1182 cm⁻¹ (s, S≕O stretch).
- Diol 5 was prepared from the corresponding diacid by successive treatment (4) with thionyl chloride, ethanol and pyridine, and methylmagnesium bromide in ether. The diacid was synthesized from 2,6-dimethyl-4-tert-butylbromobenzene as follows: Dimethylbromobenzene was oxidized to the dicarboxylic acid with KMnO4, which in turn was treated with sodium hydrosulfide to convert the bromo substituent to thiol. The diacld thiophenol was methylated at sulfur with dimethyl sulfate in aqueous NaOH.
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- (7) All exchange experiments observed by NMR were followed by observing the disappearance of the S-methyl proton peak. No other changes in the spectra were noted
- spectra were noted.
 (8) Anal. (C₁₇H₂₆O₃S) C, H, S. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): ô 7.30 and 7.04 (AB pattern, 2, J_{AB} = 1.7 Hz, ArH), 5.37 (br s, 1, OH), 5.04 (br m, 1, olefinic CH), 4.65 (br m, 1, olefinic CH), 3.41 (s, 3, SO₂CH₃), 2.23 (br s, 3, CH₃ at olefinic carbon), 1.71 (s, 6, OCCH₃), 1.30 (s, 9, *t*-C₄H₉).
 (9) Anal. (C₁₈H₂₈O₃S) C, H, S. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃-pyridine-d₅, 220 MHz): ô 7.35 (s, 2, ArH), 3.89 (q, 2, J = 7 Hz, SCH₂CH₃), 1.57 (s, 12, OCCH₃), 1.41 (s, 9, *t*-C₄H₉), 1.31 (t, 3, J = 7 Hz, SCH₂CH₃). IR (CHCl₃): 1176 cm⁻¹ (s, S=0
- (10) Compound 8b was observed by ¹H NMR but not isolated

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Frequency Dependence of Laser-Initiated Reaction Rates of CF₂ClCF₂Cl

Sir:

In an earlier communication,¹ we reported on a large difference in the reaction rates of CF2ClCF2Cl induced by continuous (CW) laser radiation for two frequencies (921 and 1051 cm⁻¹) corresponding to the centers of different absorption bands of the compound. Since the two absorption peaks have nearly the same strength, with the slightly stronger 1051-cm⁻¹ band actually giving the smaller reaction rate, the implication drawn was that significant compartmentalization of energy in vibrational modes was taking place, despite V-V transfer.

We wish to correct this interpretation as a result of further studies of the compound. In the earlier work, the optical absorptions used for band comparison were obtained with a standard spectrophotometer, where the incident intensity is low and the sample is at room temperature. Under laser radiation, the conditions are quite different, and band profiles are strongly altered. We have now measured reaction rates and optical absorptions under the same conditions as rate measurements for a series of frequencies covering the 921- and 1051-cm⁻¹ bands of CF₂ClCF₂Cl.

The results show that the basis of comparison used in our earlier work is not the proper one. Reaction rates maximize at frequencies considerably below the absorption peaks of 921 and 1051 cm⁻¹, an effect termed "red shift". If we compare maximal rates for the two bands, they differ by only a factor of three, indicating little, if any, mode energy compartmentalization. Moreover, the 1051-cm⁻¹ band is now the one with the higher maximal rate.

However, there is strong evidence that the reaction is vibrationally enhanced, i.e., nonthermal. This comes from a comparison of reaction rate and laser-induced optical absorption as a function of frequency, with corroborating evidence from experiments using a "temperature probe" gas.

All measurements were made on 200 Torr of CF₂ClCF₂Cl in a glass cell with KCl windows. The cell is 9.6 cm between windows along the laser path and has an inner diameter of 2.2 cm. There is also a cross arm 4.9 cm long for infrared diagnostics during laser irradiation. The laser beam for all measurements had a diameter of 0.1 cm, which was essentially constant over cell path, and an incident power of 4 W that was virtually all absorbed within the cell. Optical absorptions were measured in a shorter cell over a 1.3-cm path, providing $\sim 30\%$ transmission. In the latter case, a comparison of the diameters of incident and transmitted beams showed little evidence of self-focussing effects.² Reaction rates of CF₂ClCF₂Cl were measured by monitoring the growth of absorption of the 1331-cm⁻¹ band of the product C_2F_4 , which appears to be a primary product in all our experiments to date. Maximum rates did not exceed $\sim 10^{-1}$ Torr/s (measured over cell volume). Only initial rates are reported, corresponding to small percentage product concentrations.

As shown by the curves R in Figure 1, the reaction rate of CF_2ClCF_2Cl maximizes at frequencies ~30 cm⁻¹ below ground-state absorption peaks. This "red shift" effect has been observed³ in the laser-driven reaction of BCl_3 with $B(CH_3)_3$, where a shift of 15 cm^{-1} was noted, and has been ascribed to vibrational anharmonicity, with laser excitation taking place between states that are considerably above ground vibrational state. The maximum rate associated with the 1051-cm⁻¹ band is approximately three times as large as that of the 921-cm⁻¹ band. This factor is quite different from that obtained by comparing rates at the band-center frequencies, as done in our earlier report.4

The standard absorption band profiles are shown by the dashed curves α_0 in Figure 1. Laser-induced absorption is indicated by the curves α , measured for the same conditions as reaction rates, namely, a 4-W beam incident on 200 Torr of CF₂ClCF₂Cl. Both α and α_0 are given in the same normalized units (cm⁻¹ Torr⁻¹) for comparison, but the laser-induced α is actually an average over the path length, since it is intensity dependent and, to a lesser degree, pressure dependent. Our



Figure 1. Data for various frequencies through two bands of CF₂ClCF₂Cl. Curves α_0 are the "ground-state" optical absorption coefficients (in units of cm⁻¹ Torr⁻¹). Curves α are absorption coefficients (cm⁻¹ Torr⁻¹) induced by a 4-W, 1-mm-diameter laser beam in 200 Torr of CF₂ClCF₂Cl. Curves R are the reaction rates (arbitrary units) of 200 Torr of CF₂ClCF₂Cl for a 4-W, 1-mm-diameter laser beam. Curves R' are the reaction rates (arbitrary units) of the "temperature probe" gas PFB.

measurements show that α varies only weakly with intensity for incident powers exceeding 1 W, so that Beer's law is approximately satisfied over the path length.

Figure 1 shows that α is essentially *independent* of laser frequency in both bands. Similar results are obtained for pressures at least as low as 20 Torr. According to standard equations for steady-state heat flow, temperatures in the beam region are determined (all other factors equal) by the power absorbed per unit volume, which is proportional to αI , where I is the intensity. Since α does not change with frequency, neither should the temperature.

Reaction rates, on the other hand, increase sharply with decreasing frequency. We consider the contrast of rate with absorption as strong evidence for a nonthermal, vibrationally enhanced reaction route. The results are consistent with the above-mentioned interpretation of the red shift, where frequencies below band centers are favored for excitation to higher vibrational states.

Very little of the absorbed power is drained by the reaction, since the rates are sufficiently low for 4-W radiation. Nearly all absorbed power is carried to the cell walls. Accordingly, the frequency behavior of α is essentially unaffected by that of the reaction rate.

Since the magnitude of α is nearly the same for both bands while the maximal rates differ by a factor of three, a *small* difference in mode energy content may be indicated.

To corroborate the results, we introduced a small amount (2.44%) of a "temperature probe" gas,⁵ perfluorobutadiene (PFB), which converts thermally to perfluorocyclobutene (PFCB) according to known kinetics.^{6,7} The PFB does not absorb at the frequencies used here⁸ and alone reacts negligibly under radiation at these frequencies. Therefore, PFB should

serve as a temperature probe in the mixture, since most but not all of the input energy is expected to lie in modes of CF_2ClCF_2Cl that are already equilibrated at the translational temperature.

Curves R' in Figure 1 show the rates of cyclization of PFB, obtained by monitoring absorption at the 1416-cm⁻¹ band of PFCB. These rates are nearly independent of frequency. If indeed the probe is measuring mainly translational temperature, then the results are entirely consistent with those for absorption α of CF₂ClCF₂Cl, namely, constant translational temperature over the frequency ranges.

It should be noted that for frequencies in the range 1024-1036 cm⁻¹, the high intensity absorption α exceeds the low intensity absorption α_0 . This induced absorption can be ascribed to anharmonicity and the onset of excited-state transitions, in concurrence with the explanation of the red shift of reaction rates. Induced absorption has been observed in SF₆ and other compounds.⁹ The lack of a corresponding effect for the 921-cm⁻¹ band may be due to the onset of absorption by another band at 883 cm⁻¹.

More extensive data and the results of continued studies of this compound will appear later.

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Multiple Frequency (Field) Carbon-13 Spin-Lattice Relaxation Studies. Probe to Cooperativity of Complex Molecular Motions

Sir:

Variable frequency (and hence, variable field) ¹H spinlattice relaxation time (T_1) measurements contain dynamics information that is not available from single frequency T_1 experiments.¹ ¹H T_1 data obtained at only one spectrometer frequency may only give information about one or more individual correlation times, τ s, which are assumed to follow from a simple description of exponential decay of the autocorrelation function,² $G(\tau)$. By contrast, ¹H T_1 data obtained at more than