

# Molecular Structure and Vibrational Spectra of Iodotrimethylgermane (GeIme<sub>3</sub>) by Theory and Experiment

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The geometry of iodotrimethylgermane has been determined by experimental and computational methods. Fourier transform infrared spectra have been recorded over a range of temperatures along with the Raman spectrum to obtain comprehensive vibrational data for the fundamental modes. The stretching, rocking, and deformation bands of the methyl groups have been resolved into their components with the aid of low-temperature infrared spectroscopy using Fourier self-deconvolution and curve-fitting methods. The optimized geometries and vibrational harmonic frequencies were calculated by density functional theory methods employing Pople-type basis sets, as well as those with descriptions for an effective core potential describing both germanium and iodine atoms. A scaled quantum mechanical analysis was carried out to yield the best set of harmonic force constants and obtain a transferable set of scale factors that can be applied to the (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-GeX (X = H, Cl, Br, I) series.

## Introduction

The first preparation of iodotrimethylgermane (ITMG) was reported in 1954,<sup>1</sup> with a report of direct synthesis in 1964.<sup>2</sup> Since then, very little work has been performed with ITMG, and no structural work in the form of gas-phase or solid-phase diffraction or rotational spectroscopy has ever been reported. ITMG has uses as a germanium promoter in the preparation of propylene glycol monoalkyl ethers and alkoxyacetones.<sup>3</sup>

In this paper, we report the molecular structure of ITMG and an improved vibrational assignment. By combining gas-phase electron diffraction and ab initio methods, we have been able to obtain a reliable structure, especially for parameters relating to iodine, which are notoriously difficult to calculate precisely.

The only previous work related to the study of the vibrational spectra of ITMG was performed by Anderson et al.<sup>4</sup> as part of the vibrational analyses of halogenated derivatives of (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub>GeI<sub>4-n</sub> (*n* = 1, 2, 3). IR spectra were recorded in the gas and liquid phases, while Raman spectra were obtained in the liquid phase. Most of the expected vibrational modes were assigned for the molecule. However, they observed broad bands for the CH<sub>3</sub> stretching, the CH<sub>3</sub> rocking, and the CH<sub>3</sub> deformation normal modes in the vibrational spectra, and these modes could not be assigned individually.

The main aim of the work reported in this paper is to complete the assignments of these fundamental modes by using quantum mechanical calculations, data provided from low-temperature IR spectroscopy, and the techniques of Fourier self-deconvolution and curve-fitting. In addition, a natural bond orbital analysis of the molecular wave function  $\psi$  was performed. In

order to find useful extensions of bonding concepts of Lewis structure in this type of compound, the analysis was applied to both (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI and (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiI compounds.

## Experimental Section

**Raman and Infrared Spectroscopy.** Iodotrimethylgermane was obtained from ABCR (98% purity) and used without any further purification, avoiding light exposure and atmospheric humidity. The Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra of the sample were recorded at room and low temperatures in the range 4000–400 cm<sup>-1</sup> on a Perkin-Elmer Model GX FTIR spectrophotometer, with a resolution of 2 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 64 scans. The room-temperature infrared (RTIR) spectrum was recorded as a film between KBr windows. Low-temperature infrared (LTIR) spectra of the liquid were measured at different temperatures, using liquid nitrogen to cool the samples. These spectra were run in a variable-temperature RIIC (VLT-2) cell equipped with AgCl windows. The Raman spectrum of the liquid was recorded with a FT-Raman Bruker RFS 100 spectrophotometer, equipped with a Nd:YAG laser (excitation line 1064 nm) and a liquid N<sub>2</sub> cooled Ge detector. The spectrum of the sample was recorded with a resolution of 1 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 200 scans. The measurement of the parallel and perpendicular polarized Raman spectra determined the depolarization ratios, which describe the symmetry properties of normal vibrations.

The RTIR spectrum is shown in Figure 1 and the overlaid parallel and perpendicular Raman spectra are shown in Figure 2. The observed vibrational frequencies in the infrared and Raman spectra and the assignments of the vibrational normal modes of the molecule are shown in Table 1. All the remaining observed bands that are not assigned to fundamental modes in the infrared and Raman spectra have been assigned to combination bands and overtones. Only one combination is suggested for each band, although several possibilities arise for some of

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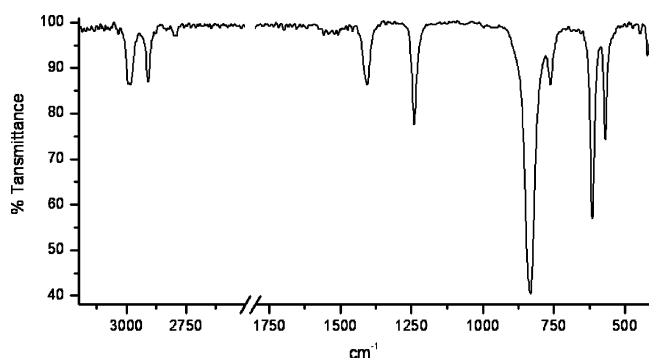
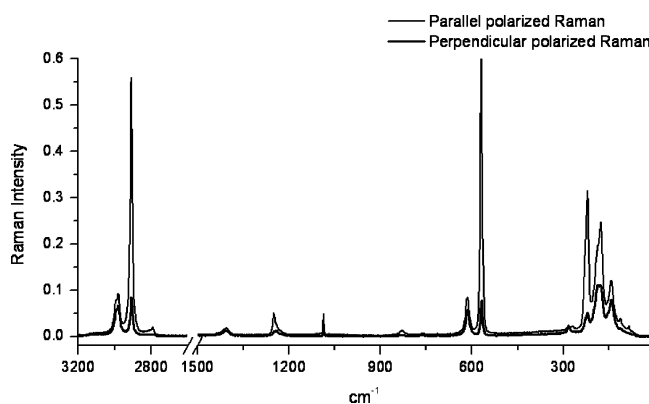
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**TABLE 1: Observed Bands in the Infrared and Raman Spectra of ITMG**

| infrared <sup>a</sup> |                          | Raman                 |                                   |                         |                         |                |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| room temp             | low temp <sup>b</sup>    | observed <sup>c</sup> | depolarization ratio <sup>d</sup> | assignment <sup>e</sup> |                         |                |
| 2992 m                | 2992 w                   | 2991 sh               |                                   | $\nu_{13}$              | $\nu_a \text{CH}_3$     | E              |
| 2981                  | 2981                     | 2979 (14)             | 0.72 dp                           | $\nu_1$                 | $\nu_a \text{CH}_3$     | A <sub>1</sub> |
| 2975                  | 2975                     |                       |                                   | $\nu_{14}$              | $\nu_a \text{CH}_3$     | E              |
| 2910 sh               | 2910 w                   | 2908 (80)             | 0.15 p                            | $\nu_2$                 | $\nu_s \text{CH}_3$     | A <sub>1</sub> |
| 2906 m                | 2905                     |                       |                                   | $\nu_{15}$              | $\nu_s \text{CH}_3$     | E              |
| 1405 m                | { 1418<br>1407 m<br>1399 | 1414 <sup>f</sup> sh  |                                   | $\nu_3$                 | $\delta_a \text{CH}_3$  | A <sub>1</sub> |
|                       |                          | 1405 <sup>f</sup> (2) | 0.75 dp                           | $\nu_{16}$              | $\delta_a \text{CH}_3$  | E              |
|                       |                          | 1397 <sup>f</sup> sh  |                                   | $\nu_{17}$              | $\delta_a \text{CH}_3$  | E              |
| 1240 s                | { 1244 s<br>1232         | 1249 <sup>f</sup> (7) | 0.23 p                            | $\nu_4$                 | $\delta_s \text{CH}_3$  | A <sub>1</sub> |
|                       |                          | 1235 <sup>f</sup> sh  |                                   | $\nu_{18}$              | $\delta_s \text{CH}_3$  | E              |
| 829 s                 | { 845 vs<br>826          | 843 <sup>f</sup> sh   |                                   | $\nu_{19}$              | $\rho \text{CH}_3$      | E              |
|                       |                          | 833 <sup>f</sup> (1)  | 0.17 p                            | $\nu_5$                 | $\rho \text{CH}_3$      | A <sub>1</sub> |
| 763 m                 | 763 m                    | 760 (0.6)             | 0.66 dp                           | $\nu_{20}$              | $\rho \text{CH}_3$      | E              |
| 614 s                 | 617 vs                   | 614 (12)              | 0.65 dp                           | $\nu_{21}$              | $\nu_a \text{GeC}_3$    | E              |
| 568 s                 | 568 s                    | 569 (100)             | 0.11 p                            | $\nu_6$                 | $\nu_s \text{GeC}_3$    | A <sub>1</sub> |
|                       |                          | 220 (46)              | 0.16 p                            | $\nu_7$                 | $\nu \text{GeI}$        | A <sub>1</sub> |
|                       |                          | 189 <sup>f</sup> sh   | 0.75 <sup>g</sup> dp              | $\nu_{22}$              | $\delta_a \text{GeC}_3$ | E              |
|                       |                          | 176 <sup>f</sup> (35) | 0.47 p                            | $\nu_8$                 | $\delta_s \text{GeC}_3$ | A <sub>1</sub> |
|                       |                          | 142 (17)              | 0.66 dp                           | $\nu_{23}$              | $\rho \text{GeC}_3$     | E              |
|                       |                          | 112 (4)               | 0.44 dp                           | $\nu_{24}$              | $\tau \text{CH}_3$      | E              |

<sup>a</sup> w, weak; m, medium; s, strong; vs, very strong; sh, shoulder. <sup>b</sup> From the infrared spectrum of a sample cooled in liquid nitrogen. <sup>c</sup> Relative intensity in parentheses. <sup>d</sup> p, polarized; dp, depolarized. <sup>e</sup>  $\nu$ , stretching;  $\delta$ , angular deformation;  $\rho$ , rocking;  $\tau$ , torsion; s, symmetric; a, antisymmetric. <sup>f</sup> From Fourier self-deconvolution. <sup>g</sup> From curve-fitting.

**Figure 1.** FTIR spectrum of ITMG at room temperature.**Figure 2.** Parallel and perpendicular polarized Raman spectra of ITMG.

them. The frequencies of these bands and their assignments are shown in Table 2.

**Spectral Analysis.** Curve-fitting and Fourier self-deconvolution were performed using the standard software of the infrared spectrophotometer.<sup>5</sup> Fourier self-deconvolution (FSD) and curve-fitting are two of the many numerical methods for the analysis of infrared and Raman spectra that provide reduction of spectral bandwidth and resolution enhancement. FSD estimates the number and position of the band components, while curve-fitting provides information about intensities. The FSD technique is

**TABLE 2: Assignment of Combination Bands and Overtones Observed in the Vibrational Spectra of ITMG**

| IR   | Raman | assignment                              |         |
|------|-------|---|---------|
| 3825 |       | $\nu_1 + \nu_{19}$                      | (=3821) |
| 3744 |       | $\nu_1 + \nu_{20}$                      | (=3740) |
| 3662 |       | $\nu_{15} + \nu_{20}$                   | (=3669) |
| 3177 |       | $\nu_{13} + \nu_{22}$                   | (=3179) |
| 3112 | 3109  | $2\nu_4 + \nu_{21}$                     | (=3112) |
| 2805 | 2804  | $\nu_1 - \nu_8$                         | (=2803) |
| 2792 | 2791  | $\nu_1 - \nu_{22}$                      | (=2790) |
| 2461 | 2463  | $2\nu_{21} + \nu_{18}$                  | (=2463) |
| 2082 | 1929  | $\nu_4 + \nu_{19}$                      | (=2082) |
|      |       | $2\nu_4 - \nu_6$                        | (=1929) |
| 1855 |       | $\nu_4 + \nu_{21}$                      | (=1854) |
| 1805 |       | $\nu_4 + \nu_6$                         | (=1808) |
| 1520 |       | $2\nu_{20}$                             | (=1520) |
|      | 1086  | $2\nu_{21} - \nu_{23}$                  | (=1086) |
|      | 713   | $\nu_6 + \nu_{23}$                      | (=711)  |
|      | 702   | $\nu_{19} - \nu_{23}$                   | (=701)  |
| 680  |       | $\nu_6 + \nu_{24}$                      | (=680)  |
| 670  |       | $\nu_4 - \nu_6$                         | (=672)  |
| 657  |       | $\nu_5 - \nu_8$                         | (=654)  |
| 452  |       | $\nu_6 - \nu_{24}$                      | (=456)  |
|      | 282   | $2\nu_{23}$                             | (=284)  |
|      | 268   | $2\nu_{22} - \nu_{24}$                  | (=266)  |
|      | 84    | $\nu_{13} - \nu_2; \nu_{19} - \nu_{20}$ | (=83)   |

based on the method described by Kauppinen et al.<sup>6–8</sup> The selected region of the spectrum is inverse Fourier transformed to yield an interferogram. The interferogram is then treated with a Bessel apodization function and two enhancement factors  $W$  and  $K$  to produce narrower band shapes.  $W$  is defined as the bandwidth at half-height, and  $K$  is the enhancement parameter defined as the ratio of bandwidths of the original and enhanced bands. After this procedure the resulting interferogram is transformed back to the frequency domain. The curve-fitting method was originally established by Griffiths et al.<sup>9</sup> and is based on the least-squares optimization of all the band parameters, namely intensity, frequency, half-bandwidth, and band shape.

The analysis of the Raman spectra involves the combination of two methods in a three-step approach previously employed

by other authors.<sup>10,11</sup> First, the bands of the experimental Raman spectrum were deconvoluted after baseline correction, to increase the resolution of the bands and to provide their estimated positions. Following FSD, the spectrum was curve-fitted to obtain the accurate number and positions of its components. The baseline-corrected experimental spectrum was then also fitted using the frequency positions and band shape determined in the previous step. The intensity and bandwidth parameters were optimized during the calculations. Consistency between the deconvoluted fitted spectrum and deconvoluted experimental spectrum can then be used as an essential criterion for accepting the curve-fitting parameters and verifying the existence of the bands.

Gaussian peak shapes were used in the curve-fitting routine. The output of the calculations provides a value for the standard deviation, which is the sum of the squares of the residuals between the data and the best-fit curve. The deviations on the measured spectra for the calculations were below  $0.1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

**Computational Methods.** The structure of the molecule was investigated using  $C_{3v}$  symmetry. An experimental gas-phase investigation of the related iodotrimethylsilane revealed that allowing the structure the freedom to deviate from  $C_{3v}$  to  $C_3$  symmetry caused no change to the structure.<sup>12</sup> Therefore, the related iodotrimethylgermane was modeled with  $C_{3v}$  symmetry only. Calculations were performed using the Gaussian 03 program.<sup>13</sup>

A series of calculations combining the hybrid functional B3LYP or MP2 methods with the 6-311G, 6-311G\*, 6-311G\*\*, LanL2DZ effective core potential (ECP), or LanL2DZdp basis sets were used to calculate the vibrational frequencies and infrared intensities. These calculations determined the best theoretical approximation to predict the vibrational frequencies, and parameters obtained with them are given in Table S1 (Supporting Information).

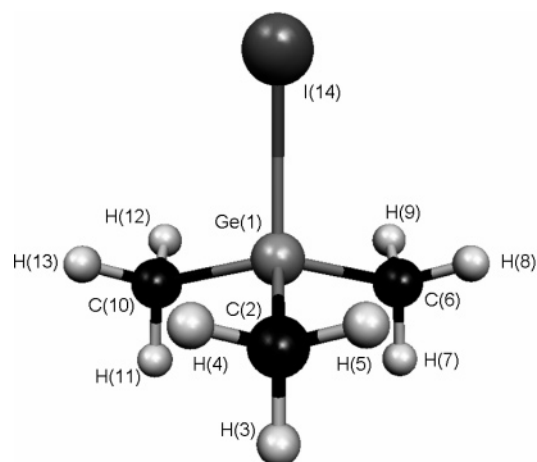
The method and the basis set that gave the best fit to the observed experimental frequencies were used to calculate the harmonic force field. This force field was transformed from Cartesian coordinates to symmetry coordinates and then scaled according to Pulay's scheme.<sup>14–16</sup> This methodology involves multiplying the main force constants by the scale factor  $f_i$  and the corresponding interaction constants by  $(f_i, f_j)^{1/2}$ , adjusting them to reproduce the experimental frequencies as accurately as possible.

Estimates of the amplitudes of vibration ( $u$ ) for use in the gas electron diffraction (GED) refinement were also required. The analytic second derivatives of the energy with respect to the nuclear coordinates calculated at the MP2 level with the LanL2DZ basis set gave force fields, which were used to provide these estimates.

The potential-energy distribution (PED) was calculated with the resulting scaled quantum mechanical force field (SQMFF), in which the relative contribution of each symmetry coordinate to the normal modes of vibration is represented. The SQM force field was also used to calculate the force constants, expressed as simple valence internal coordinates.

The conversion of the force constants, fitting of the scale factors, and potential-energy distribution calculation were performed using the program FCARTP.<sup>17</sup> The natural bond orbital calculation was performed using the NBO 3.0 program,<sup>18</sup> as implemented in the Gaussian 03 package with the 6-311G\*\* and LanL2DZdp basis sets, on the previously fully optimized molecular geometry.

After the GED investigation was complete, a discrepancy between the experimental [254.4(1) pm] and theoretical (260.2



**Figure 3.** Molecular geometry of ITMG showing atom labeling.

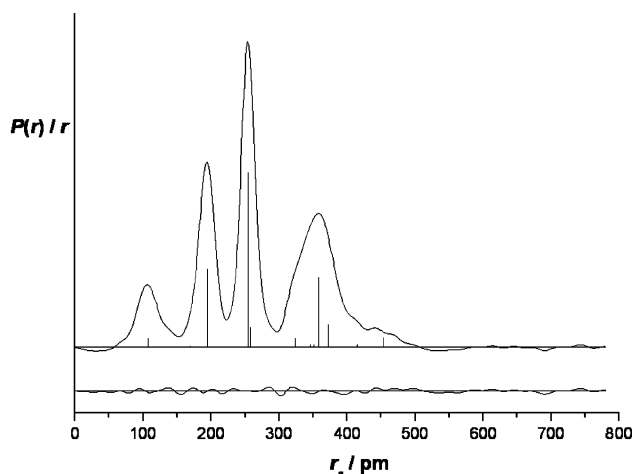
pm; B3LYP/6-311G\*\*) Ge–I bond lengths was observed. An MP2 calculation with the correlation consistent basis set aug-cc-pVTZ was performed, with the SDB-aug-cc-pVTZ variant (with an ECP) used for Ge and I.

**Gas Electron Diffraction.** Data were collected for ITMG using the Edinburgh gas-phase electron diffraction apparatus.<sup>19</sup> An accelerating voltage of around 40 kV was used, representing an electron wavelength of approximately 6.0 pm. Scattering intensities were recorded on Kodak Electron Image films at nozzle-to-film distances of 285.68 and 128.16 mm, with sample and nozzle temperatures held at 293 K. The weighting points for the off-diagonal weight matrices, correlation parameters, and scale factors for both camera distances for GeIMe<sub>3</sub> are given in Table S2. Also included are the electron wavelengths, as determined from the scattering patterns for benzene, which were recorded immediately after the patterns for the sample compounds. The scattering intensities were measured using an Epson Expression 1680 Pro flatbed scanner and converted to mean optical densities as a function of the scattering variable,  $s$ , using an established program.<sup>20</sup> The data reduction and the least-squares refinement processes were carried out using the ed@ed program<sup>21</sup> employing the scattering factors of Ross et al.<sup>22</sup>

## Results and Discussion

**Theoretical Calculations.** The molecular structure of ITMG was investigated with a wide range of ab initio and density functional theory (DFT) methods and an assortment of basis sets. All calculations agreed that the molecule possesses  $C_{3v}$  symmetry, with most bond lengths and angles not varying by much. However, the Ge–I distance varied from 260.6 pm (B3LYP/6-311G\*\*) to 263.3 pm (MP2/LanL2DZ), indicating that this parameter may not be well-defined by computational methods. Therefore, comparison with experimental results is needed, as this parameter should be distinct in the radial-distribution curve obtained from the gas electron diffraction experiment.

**Gas Electron Diffraction.** On the basis of the ab initio calculations described above, electron diffraction refinements were carried out using a model with overall  $C_{3v}$  symmetry to describe the gaseous structure, shown in Figure 3 with the atom numbering. The structure was defined in terms of six independent parameters, comprising three bond lengths, two bond angles, and a tilt of the methyl groups. The bond lengths were  $r(\text{C–H})$  ( $p_1$ ),  $r(\text{Ge–C})$  ( $p_2$ ), and  $r(\text{Ge–I})$  ( $p_3$ ). A single C–H bond length was used because the individual ab initio values differed by no more than 0.2 pm. The model also required two



**Figure 4.** Experimental and difference (experimental – theoretical) radial-distribution curves,  $P(r)/r$ , for ITMG. Before Fourier inversion the data were multiplied by  $s \cdot \exp(-0.00002s^2)/(Z_{\text{Ge}} - f_{\text{Ge}})(Z_{\text{I}} - f_{\text{I}})$ .

angle parameters,  $\angle(\text{Ge}-\text{C}-\text{H})$  ( $p_4$ ) and  $\angle(\text{I}-\text{Ge}-\text{C})$  ( $p_5$ ), providing local  $C_{3v}$  symmetry for the methyl groups. The methyl tilt parameter was also included, and a positive tilt indicated a decrease of the unique  $\angle(\text{Ge}-\text{C}-\text{H})$  and an increase of the pair of symmetry-related  $\angle(\text{Ge}-\text{C}-\text{H})$ , i.e., away from the Ge–I bond. The starting parameters for the  $r_{\text{h1}}$  refinement<sup>23</sup> were taken from the theoretical geometry optimized at the MP2/LanL2DZ level. A theoretical (MP2/LanL2DZ) Cartesian force field was obtained and converted into a force field described by a set of symmetry coordinates using the program SHRINK.<sup>23</sup> From this, the root-mean-square (rms) amplitudes of vibration ( $u_{\text{h1}}$ ) and the perpendicular distance corrections ( $k_{\text{h1}}$ ) were generated at the harmonic first-order curvilinear motion approximation. All geometric parameters and six groups of amplitudes of vibration were then refined using the SARACEN method,<sup>24</sup> with flexible restraints employed for three amplitudes of vibration.

The final refinement for ITMG provided a satisfactory fit to the data, with  $R_{\text{G}} = 0.079$  ( $R_{\text{D}} = 0.047$ ), and can be assessed on the basis of the radial-distribution curve (Figure 4) and the molecular scattering intensity curves (Figure S1). Final refined parameters are listed in Table 3. The interatomic distances and corresponding rms amplitudes of vibration are given in Table S3. The least-squares correlation matrix is given in Table S4, and the coordinates of the final refined structure from the GED investigation are given in Table S5.

One issue highlighted by the earlier *ab initio* investigation was the very different values returned for the Ge–I bond length by the various high-level calculations. The MP2 calculation with the LanL2DZ basis set on all atoms returned a value of 263.3

pm, while the B3LYP DFT method with the 6-311G\*\* basis set reduced this length to 260.6 pm. The value for this distance is well-defined in the radial-distribution curve, with the large peak observed at  $\sim 255$  pm in Figure 4, confirming that the internuclear distance between the two atoms giving rise to that peak should be well determined. From Table 3, it can be seen that the experimental ( $r_{\text{h1}}$ ) Ge–I distance was 254.4(1) pm. The anharmonic correction to the experimental value was 0.7 pm, giving an  $r_{\text{e}}$  value of 253.7 pm for the Ge–I distance. The anharmonic correction ( $r_{\text{h1}}$  to  $r_{\text{e}}$ ) was calculated from  $3au^2/2$  (where  $a$  is taken to be 1.4 from the SHRINK evaluation<sup>23</sup> and  $u$  is the rms amplitude of vibration). This equilibrium distance can then be directly compared with the calculated values. An MP2 calculation with the aug-cc-PVTZ basis set on C and H, and the SDB-aug-cc-PVTZ pseudopotential basis set on Ge and I was performed.<sup>25</sup> This returned a Ge–I distance of 255.8 pm, still over 1 pm too long, but much closer than other calculations that had been performed.

The molecular structure of  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Ge}-\text{I}$  can be compared to those determined by GED for  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{Ge}-\text{X}$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$  or  $\text{Br}$ ).<sup>26</sup> In these cases,  $C_{3v}$  symmetry was returned for both molecules, and *ab initio* calculations agreed that this high level of symmetry was a minimum on the potential energy surface. Ge–C bond lengths ( $r_{\text{e}}$ ) of 195.0(4) pm ( $\text{X} = \text{Cl}$ ) and 195.2(7) pm ( $\text{X} = \text{Br}$ ) were observed experimentally, while a Ge–C bond length ( $r_{\text{e}}$ ) of 194.3(1) pm [ $r_{\text{h1}} = 194.2(1)$  pm] was observed in this work. Therefore, a slight shortening of the Ge–C bond is observed but no real trend can be established.

There is no crystal structure of ITMG to compare the gaseous structure to, but the solid-state structure of  $\text{MeGeI}_3$  is known.<sup>27</sup> In this case the average Ge–I bond length was determined to be 250.0(2) pm, significantly shorter than the gaseous Ge–I bond length of 254.4(1) pm for  $\text{Me}_3\text{GeI}$ . The Ge–C bond length is also shorter at 192.0(20) pm compared to 194.2(1) pm in the gaseous structure with three methyl groups. Parameters from gaseous and solid-state structures are not yet directly comparable due to differences in the techniques used to obtain structural parameters. X-ray diffraction measures regions of electron density, while gas electron diffraction measures the internuclear distances. Therefore, a degree of shortening would be expected in the solid-state structure, although this will be very small for the Ge–I bond. The solid-state structure was determined at 290(2) K, a temperature similar to that in the experimental study of  $\text{Me}_3\text{GeI}$ ; therefore, vibrational effects are unlikely to account for the differences. Probably the best explanation is that the three iodine atoms with increased electronegativity shorten all the bonds in  $\text{MeGeI}_3$ , compared to  $\text{Me}_3\text{GeI}$  with just one iodine atom and three less electronegative carbon atoms.

**TABLE 3: Refined and Calculated Geometric Parameters for ITMG (Distances in pm, Angles in deg) from the SARACEN GED Study<sup>a,b</sup>**

| parameter   |  | MP2/LanL2DZ ( $r_{\text{e}}$ ) | MP2/GEN <sup>c</sup> | GED ( $r_{\text{h1}}$ ) | restraint |
|-------------|--|--------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| Independent |  |                                |                      |                         |           |
| $p_1$       | $r(\text{C}-\text{H})$                           | 110.6                          | 108.9                | 107.5(5)                | –         |
| $p_2$       | $r(\text{Ge}-\text{C})$                          | 197.7                          | 195.5                | 194.2(1)                | –         |
| $p_3$       | $r(\text{Ge}-\text{I})$                          | 263.3                          | 255.8                | 254.4(1)                | –         |
| $p_4$       | $\angle[\text{Ge}-\text{C}-\text{H}(\text{av})]$ | 110.5                          | 109.8                | 113.7(7)                | –         |
| $p_5$       | $\angle(\text{I}-\text{Ge}-\text{C})$            | 107.1                          | 106.3                | 105.5(2)                | –         |
| $p_6$       | Me tilt  |                                |                      | 1.3(25)                 | –         |
| Dependent   |  |                                |                      |                         |           |
| $dp_1$      | $\angle[\text{Ge}(1)-\text{C}(2)-\text{H}(3)]$   | 109.8                          | 109.7                | 112.4(27)               | –         |
| $dp_2$      | $\angle[\text{Ge}(1)-\text{C}(2)-\text{H}(4)]$   | 110.9                          | 109.9                | 114.4(13)               | –         |

<sup>a</sup> Figures in parentheses are the estimated standard deviations of the last digits. <sup>b</sup> See Supporting Information for parameter definitions. <sup>c</sup> aug-cc-PVTZ on C and H, SDB-aug-cc-PVTZ on Ge and I.

**TABLE 4: Comparison of the Calculated Frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) at B3LYP with 6-311G\*\* and LanL2DZdp Basis Sets with the Fundamentals for ITMG**

| mode                     |                             |            | B3LYP    |                     |           |                     | exptl |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|----------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|
|                          |                             |            | 6-311G*  |                     | LanL2DZdp |                     |       |
|                          |                             |            | unscaled | scaled <sup>a</sup> | unscaled  | scaled <sup>b</sup> |       |
| E                        | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_{13}$ | 3135     | 2994                | 3131      | 2992                | 2992  |
| A <sub>2</sub>           | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_9$    | 3134     | 2992                | 3130      | 2991                |       |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_1$    | 3116     | 2976                | 3112      | 2974                | 2981  |
| E                        | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_{14}$ | 3114     | 2973                | 3111      | 2973                | 2975  |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\nu_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_2$    | 3037     | 2907                | 3034      | 2907                | 2910  |
| E                        | $\nu_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_{15}$ | 3035     | 2905                | 3032      | 2905                | 2905  |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | $\nu_3$    | 1476     | 1417                | 1469      | 1419                | 1418  |
| E                        | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | $\nu_{16}$ | 1464     | 1406                | 1457      | 1408                | 1407  |
| E                        | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | $\nu_{17}$ | 1460     | 1403                | 1455      | 1405                | 1399  |
| A <sub>2</sub>           | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | $\nu_{10}$ | 1451     | 1393                | 1446      | 1397                |       |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\delta_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | $\nu_4$    | 1288     | 1243                | 1280      | 1241                | 1244  |
| E                        | $\delta_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | $\nu_{18}$ | 1276     | 1233                | 1267      | 1232                | 1232  |
| E                        | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>      | $\nu_{19}$ | 863      | 847                 | 845       | 846                 | 845   |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>      | $\nu_5$    | 855      | 838                 | 838       | 839                 | 826   |
| E                        | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>      | $\nu_{20}$ | 772      | 754                 | 752       | 752                 | 763   |
| A <sub>2</sub>           | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>      | $\nu_{11}$ | 736      | 716                 | 713       | 710                 |       |
| E                        | $\nu_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub>    | $\nu_{21}$ | 595      | 616                 | 597       | 617                 | 617   |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\nu_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub>    | $\nu_6$    | 549      | 569                 | 554       | 572                 | 568   |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\nu$ GeI                   | $\nu_7$    | 225      | 222                 | 224       | 221                 | 220   |
| E                        | $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub> | $\nu_{22}$ | 171      | 183                 | 175       | 187                 | 189   |
| A <sub>1</sub>           | $\delta_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub> | $\nu_8$    | 162      | 167                 | 163       | 168                 | 176   |
| E                        | $\rho$ GeC <sub>3</sub>     | $\nu_{23}$ | 126      | 138                 | 125       | 137                 | 142   |
| E                        | $\tau$ CH <sub>3</sub>      | $\nu_{24}$ | 114      | 112                 | 114       | 112                 | 112   |
| A <sub>2</sub>           | $\tau$ CH <sub>3</sub>      | $\nu_{12}$ | 102      | 102                 | 103       | 102                 |       |
| rmsd (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |                             |            | 73.6     | 4.0                 | 70.4      | 4.4                 |       |

<sup>a</sup> With the scale factors included in Table 6. <sup>b</sup> With the scale factors included in Table S9.

**Spectroscopic Analysis.** The 36 vibrational normal modes of ITMG with C<sub>3v</sub> symmetry (Figure 3) are classified in three symmetry species: 8A<sub>1</sub> (IR, Ra) + 4A<sub>2</sub> + 12E (IR, Ra). The A<sub>2</sub> modes are not observed in IR and Raman spectra due to symmetry selection rules. The harmonic frequencies resulting from exploratory calculations are shown in Table S6.

The density functional methods explored all systematically overestimate the higher vibrational frequencies. The inverse situation can be observed for the lower frequencies. These effects are essentially due to the neglect of the anharmonicity of the vibrations in the calculations, especially for CH modes, and the basis set deficiencies, even taking into account the electronic correlation corrections. The hybrid B3LYP method gives somewhat better results than the B3PW91 method.

It is evident from Table S6 that the 6-311G\*\* and LanL2DZdp basis sets present the smallest deviations from the experimental values. The addition of polarized functions clearly improves the quality of the calculated frequencies. Through supplementary functions each valence orbital of the molecule can be represented by a higher number of basis functions, resulting in molecular orbitals that better describe the molecular geometry. The B3LYP/6-311G\*\* combination reproduces the observed frequencies with a root-mean-square deviation (rmsd) of 73.6 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and the B3LYP/LanL2DZdp gives an rmsd of 70.4 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The improved performance of the ECP basis sets has already been observed by Jonas et al. when calculating the structure and some properties, such as reaction energies of isodesmic reactions, of the series (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>n</sub>MCl<sub>4-n</sub> (M = C, Si, Ge, Sn, and Pb; n = 1, 2, 3).<sup>28</sup> It was also observed by Montejo et al. when calculating the harmonic frequencies and the SQM force field of (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-SiI.<sup>12</sup>

The frequencies calculated with these methods for (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>-GeI and the descriptions of their vibrational modes are presented in Table 4 along with the experimental values.

**Band Assignment.** The observed experimental frequencies agree well with those reported previously.<sup>4</sup> Assignment of the experimental bands to the normal modes of vibration of the molecule was based on the existing vibrational analysis,<sup>4</sup> the results obtained from the theoretical calculations, and the potential-energy distribution (PED). In the following discussion results obtained using the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* method will be referred to. All the observed bands in the vibrational spectra are shown in Table 1 along with their relative intensities, polarization ratios, and the proposed assignments.

**Methyl Group Modes. Stretching Modes.** Only two bands in the CH<sub>3</sub> stretching region, located at 2995 and 2913 cm<sup>-1</sup>, were previously observed.<sup>4</sup> They were assigned to the antisymmetric and symmetric modes, respectively. However, as a result of the current vibrational analysis, the presence of five bands is expected from the motion of the CH bonds of the three methyl groups present in the molecule. Three belong to the antisymmetric stretches ( $\nu_1$ ,  $\nu_{13}$ ,  $\nu_{14}$ ), and two belong to the symmetric ones ( $\nu_2$ ,  $\nu_{15}$ ).

RTIR spectra (Figure 1) show two groups of bands with several shoulders in this region. The first one is divided into three bands at 2992 cm<sup>-1</sup>, at 2981 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and a less intense one at 2975 cm<sup>-1</sup>. These are attributed to the  $\nu_{13}$ ,  $\nu_1$ , and  $\nu_{14}$  antisymmetric stretching modes, respectively. The feature at 2975 cm<sup>-1</sup> became more intense and better defined when the temperature was decreased and LTIR spectra were recorded (Figure 5). In the Raman spectrum, a depolarized band (2979 cm<sup>-1</sup>), assigned to the  $\nu_1$  mode, appears with a shoulder at 2991 cm<sup>-1</sup> (Figure 2), which was assigned to the  $\nu_{13}$  stretching mode. The second group of bands was assigned to the symmetric stretching modes and included a shoulder at 2910 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a band at 2906 cm<sup>-1</sup>, attributed to the  $\nu_2$  and  $\nu_{15}$  modes. This shoulder appears well-defined in the LTIR spectra. Only one



**Figure 5.** FTIR spectra of the region containing the CH<sub>3</sub> stretching modes at (a) room temperature, (b) -30 °C, and (c) -100 °C.

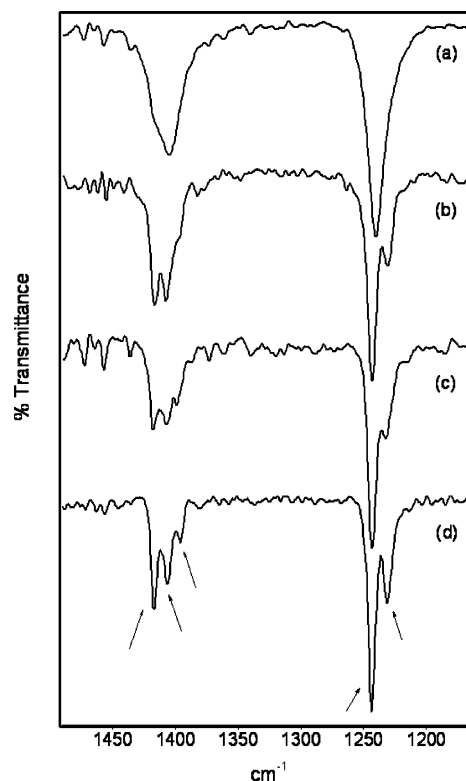
totally polarized and very intense band was observed in the Raman spectrum, at 2908 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

The theoretical calculations show important deviations from the experimental frequencies in this region and predict only a very small splitting between the CH<sub>3</sub> stretches. However, the scaled frequencies agree very well with the experimental ones and were useful to estimate the inactive  $\nu_9$  (A<sub>2</sub>) mode, which lies 2 cm<sup>-1</sup> below  $\nu_{13}$ .

Although all bands corresponding to the CH<sub>3</sub> stretching modes could be observed in the RTIR spectrum, the LT spectra improve the resolution of the shoulders, allowing their exact positions to be determined, confirming their assignments to fundamental modes.

**Deformation Modes.** The three antisymmetric ( $\nu_3$ ,  $\nu_{16}$ , and  $\nu_{17}$ ) and two symmetric ( $\nu_4$  and  $\nu_{18}$ ) CH<sub>3</sub> deformation modes appear in the 1500–1200 cm<sup>-1</sup> region as described previously.<sup>4</sup> We observed a broad band at 1405 cm<sup>-1</sup>, assigned to the  $\nu_{16}$  deformation mode, and a narrow, strong band at 1240 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which belongs to the  $\nu_4$  mode in the RTIR spectrum. In the Raman spectrum the former band appears as a weak absorption at the same frequency while the latter is more intense and appears at 1249 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Both bands are accompanied by several shoulders. Fourier self-deconvolution (FSD) was applied to this region to determine the remaining bands. The result was the appearance of two bands at 1414 and 1397 cm<sup>-1</sup> that might correspond to the other two antisymmetric modes ( $\nu_3$  and  $\nu_{17}$ ) and one band at 1232 cm<sup>-1</sup> corresponding to the symmetric vibration  $\nu_{18}$ . These frequency values are in good accord with the scaled frequencies obtained from the SQM force field.

To confirm this assignment, the RTIR and LTIR spectra were compared. Several shoulders present in the RTIR spectrum were resolved in the LT spectra. As can be seen from Figure 6, the broad band at 1405 cm<sup>-1</sup> resolves into three bands at 1418,



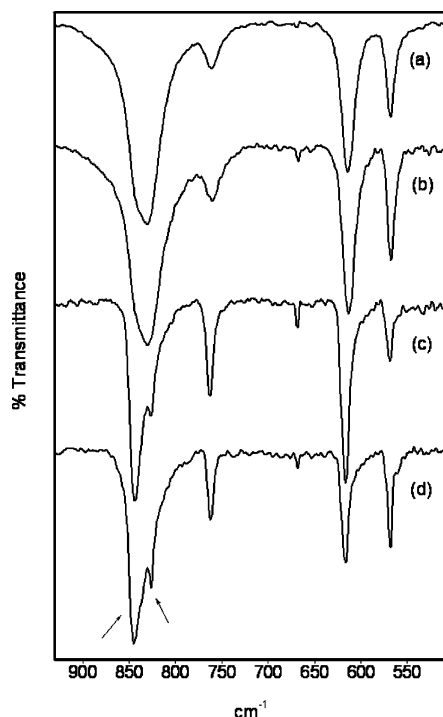
**Figure 6.** FTIR spectra of the region containing the CH<sub>3</sub> deformation modes at (a) room temperature, (b) -70 °C, (c) -100 °C, and (d) -170 °C.

1407, and 1399 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which are assigned to the  $\nu_3$ ,  $\nu_{16}$ , and  $\nu_{17}$  CH<sub>3</sub> antisymmetric deformation modes, respectively. The other band at 1240 cm<sup>-1</sup> appears as two bands at 1244 and 1232 cm<sup>-1</sup>, attributed to the corresponding  $\nu_4$  and  $\nu_{18}$  symmetric deformation modes. Theoretical calculations predict the  $\nu_{10}$  antisymmetric mode (A<sub>2</sub>) to be at 1393 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**Rocking Modes.** A single very strong band at 829 cm<sup>-1</sup> with shoulders on the high-frequency side was observed in the RTIR spectrum. Its counterpart in the Raman spectrum (833 cm<sup>-1</sup>) was polarized, confirming its assignment to the totally symmetric  $\nu_5$  mode. In the LTIR spectra the  $\nu_5$  mode shifts to 826 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a new band appears at 845 cm<sup>-1</sup>; this was assigned to the  $\nu_{19}$  rocking vibration. This band appears by FSD at 843 cm<sup>-1</sup>, in agreement with the observation from the LT spectra (Figure 7). Previously, only one band was observed in this region, at 840 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the infrared spectrum of the liquid, which was also assigned to the  $\nu_{19}$  rocking mode.<sup>4</sup> The feature at 763 cm<sup>-1</sup> in both the RTIR and LTIR spectra is due to the  $\nu_{20}$  rocking mode, which appears in the Raman spectrum (760 cm<sup>-1</sup>) as a very weak depolarized band. This band was observed previously at 765 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the infrared spectrum of the liquid<sup>4</sup> but, unlike in this work, was not observed in the Raman spectrum. The values of the theoretical frequencies after scaling were used as a guide for the assignment of these bands. Furthermore, the  $\nu_{11}$  inactive mode was predicted to be at 716 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

**Torsional Modes.** A weak depolarized band was found at 112 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the Raman spectrum, and was assigned to one of the torsional modes of the methyl groups, more specifically to the  $\nu_{24}$  mode belonging to E symmetry. [The other torsional mode (A<sub>2</sub> symmetry) is inactive in the infrared and Raman spectra.] This band was not observed in earlier work,<sup>4</sup> and the assignment is based on the relative position of the band predicted by the calculations, which should be confirmed by further studies.

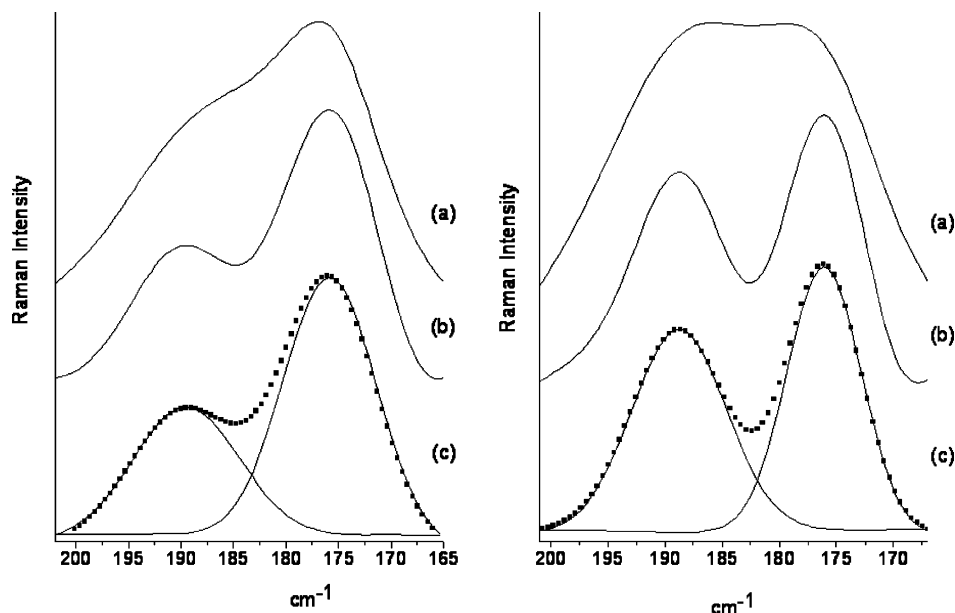
**GeC<sub>3</sub> Modes and Gel stretching Mode.** This group of bands has already been observed previously.<sup>4</sup> The frequency values



**Figure 7.** FTIR spectra of the region containing the CH<sub>3</sub> rocking modes at (a) room temperature, (b)  $-70$  °C, (c)  $-100$  °C, and (d)  $-170$  °C.

obtained in this work are in excellent agreement with those previously reported. The measured range is  $4000\text{--}400$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; therefore, only two of the GeC<sub>3</sub> modes could be observed in the infrared spectra. The profile of these bands remained unchanged when the sample was cooled in liquid nitrogen, as shown in the LTIR spectrum of Figure 7.

The antisymmetric GeC<sub>3</sub> stretching mode ( $\nu_{21}$ ), observed at  $614$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , is also observed in the Raman spectrum as a depolarized band with the same frequency. At low temperature it is shifted to  $617$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The corresponding symmetric mode ( $\nu_6$ ), which produces the most intense band, is observed in the Raman spectrum at  $569$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . In the RTIR spectra it also appears as a strong band at  $568$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .



**Figure 8.** Results of the FSD and curve-fitting for parallel (right) and perpendicular (left) Raman spectra. (a) Original spectrum, (b) Fourier self-deconvolution of the original spectrum ( $K = 2$ ,  $W = 20$ ;  $K = 2$ ,  $W = 10$ , respectively) with Gaussians, (c) results of curve-fitting the deconvoluted spectrum with Gaussians ( $R^2 = 0.9951$ ,  $\chi^2 = 12.60$ ;  $R^2 = 0.9699$ ,  $\chi^2 = 5.30$ ), respectively.

The GeI stretching mode ( $\nu_7$ ) was observed as a polarized strong band at  $220$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The band at  $176$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  was assigned to the symmetric GeC<sub>3</sub>  $\nu_8$  deformation mode. The  $\nu_{22}$  antisymmetric deformation mode for GeC<sub>3</sub> had not been observed before. The theoretical calculations predict differences of between  $16$  and  $19$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the vibrational modes  $\nu_8$  and  $\nu_{22}$  (B3LYP/6-311G\*\*,  $\nu_8 = 183$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $\nu_{22} = 167$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; B3LYP/LanL2DZ,  $\nu_8 = 187$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and  $\nu_{22} = 168$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ). Careful inspection reveals a shoulder around  $190$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in both the parallel and perpendicular Raman spectra. In order to establish the position and relative intensity of the band, the FSD technique, followed by curve-fitting, was used. The approximate frequency value from the FSD was used to calculate the relative intensity of the band by curve-fitting. The resulting frequency value was  $189$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , and the relative intensities of the band in the two spectra were used to calculate the polarization ratio, which was  $0.65$  (Figure 8). This value confirms the assignment of this band to the GeC<sub>3</sub> antisymmetric deformation mode. The GeC<sub>3</sub> ( $\nu_{23}$ ) rocking mode emerges as a medium intensity band at  $142$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

**Calculation of Force Constants.** The scaling procedure was performed following the method described in the Computational Methods section. The definition of the symmetry coordinates used in the calculation is given in Table S7. The scaled (SQM) force field (Table S8) was also used to calculate the internal force constants which are listed in Table 5.

The harmonic force constants were calculated at the B3LYP level of theory with both the 6-311G\*\* and LanL2DZdp basis sets. The agreement between the calculated and observed vibrational frequencies after scaling the force field was better with the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* method. The force constants presented in the text are therefore those calculated at this level. The resulting rmsd values for the two methods and the scaled frequencies are shown in Table 4. The scale factors, force constants, and PED, which came from the B3LYP/LanL2DZdp calculation, are in Tables S9–S11.

The initial scale factors were taken as unity and were then refined by least-squares fitting to experimental vibrational frequencies. The corresponding calculated frequencies were used for the inactive A<sub>2</sub> modes. The number of scale factors was

**TABLE 5: Internal Force Constants for ITMG Calculated at the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* Level**

| coordinate           | force constant         |                       |
|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
|                      | this work <sup>a</sup> | Anderson <sup>b</sup> |
| <i>f</i> (CH)        | 4.82                   | 4.81                  |
| <i>f</i> (GeI)       | 1.31                   | 1.13                  |
| <i>f</i> (GeC)       | 2.71                   | 2.87                  |
| <i>f</i> (CGeC)      | 0.50                   | 0.42                  |
| <i>f</i> (CGeI)      | 0.54                   | 0.48                  |
| <i>f</i> (HCH)       | 0.41                   | 0.50                  |
| <i>f</i> (HGeC)      | 0.34                   | 0.36; 0.50            |
| <i>f</i> (HCGeI)     | 0.02                   |                       |
| <i>f</i> (CGeC/CGeC) | -0.06                  |                       |
| <i>f</i> (CGeI/CGeI) | -0.08                  |                       |
| <i>f</i> (HCH/HCH)   | -0.10                  | -0.0059               |
| <i>f</i> (HCGe/HCGe) | -0.06                  | -0.0061; -0.0336      |

<sup>a</sup> Units are mdyne Å<sup>-1</sup> for stretching and stretching/stretching interactions and mdyne Å rad<sup>-2</sup> for deformations and deformation/deformation interactions. <sup>b</sup> Calculated with the SVFF method, taken from ref 4.

**TABLE 6: Refined Scale Factors for the Force Field of IMTG Calculated at the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* Level**

| vibrational mode <sup>a</sup>  | scale factor |
|--|--------------|
| $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | 0.912        |
| $\nu_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>  | 0.917        |
| $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>   | 0.921        |
| $\delta_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>   | 0.932        |
| $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>   | 0.949        |
| $\nu_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub> , $\nu_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub>  | 1.076        |
| $\nu$ GeI  | 0.905        |
| $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub> , $\delta_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub> , $\rho$ GeC <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup> | 1.150        |
| $\tau$ CH <sub>3</sub>   | 0.961        |

<sup>a</sup>  $\nu$ , stretching;  $\delta$ , angular deformation;  $\rho$ , rocking;  $\tau$ , torsion;  $s$ , symmetric;  $a$ , antisymmetric. <sup>b</sup> These modes were not grouped together despite having the same value to be consistent with studies on the related (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeX (X = H, Cl, and Br).

reduced from 24 to 11 by grouping. The rmsd decreased from an initial value of 73.6 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 4.0 cm<sup>-1</sup>, indicating that the scaled frequencies are in excellent agreement with the experimental ones. The scale factors corresponding to each internal force constant for the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* combination are shown in Table 6. The scale factors can be divided into two groups: those where values are <1 as a result of overestimation of the vibrational frequencies and those where values are >1 as a consequence of underestimation of the frequencies.

The SQM force field obtained by this method was employed to calculate the potential-energy distribution (PED), which represents the relative contributions of all the symmetry coordinates to the normal modes of vibration. The PED is given in Table 7 and shows that most of the normal modes are described by more than one symmetry coordinate and, consequently, strong mixing occurs between them. The small number of pure modes involve the motion of the GeC<sub>3</sub> moiety, except for the symmetric deformation ( $\nu_8$ ), which is mixed with the GeI stretching mode ( $\nu_7$ ).

**Comparison between GeIme<sub>3</sub> and SiIme<sub>3</sub>.** In order to compare the valence force constants obtained for ITMG with the corresponding force constants for iodotrimethylsilane, calculations were performed at the same level for both compounds (B3LYP/6-311G\*\*). The experimental frequencies employed for the scaling method and the starting scale factors for the Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> group were obtained from the literature.<sup>12,29</sup> Scale factors, force constants, and the PED that result from the calculations are given in Tables S12–S14.

Important data are summarized in Table 8, comparing the M–I and M–C (M = Ge, Si) stretching frequencies and the

corresponding force constants and bond distances for both compounds. The correlation of vibrational frequencies to the bond strengths and the molecular structure, established by Badger,<sup>30</sup> is of particular interest. From Table 8 it can be seen that the SiI bond is stronger than the GeI bond, as evidenced by the greater stretching frequency and force constant. The SiI and GeI bond distances are in accordance with the vibrational data. A smaller bond distance corresponds to a higher stretching frequency, in good agreement with Badger's rules. The same behavior is shown by the Ge–C and Si–C bonds, and it is in accord with the observed decrease of the dissociation energies of M–C and M–I bonds measured for MX<sub>4</sub> type compounds, when going from the Si to Pb in the periodic table.<sup>31</sup>

To gain insight into the chemical properties of the M–I and M–C bonds, a natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis was performed for both molecules. This analysis is based on a method for optimally transforming a given *N*-electron wave function  $\psi = (1, 2, \dots, N)$  into wave functions localized in one center and two centers, representing the “lone pair” and the “bond” elements of the Lewis structure picture, respectively. Thus, electron density is constrained to doubly occupied “localized bonding” units. The effect of delocalization appears as weak departures from the idealized localized picture. Hence, the transformation of DFT wave functions to the NBO form is convenient for chemical purposes because the standard valence concepts can be applied to the molecule.

The NBO approach provides the most accurate “natural Lewis structure” picture for describing the electron density  $\rho(r)$  of  $\psi$ . A simple bond orbital picture is represented by a bonding NBO  $\sigma_{AB}$  which can be written in terms of two natural hybrid orbitals (NHOs),  $h_A$  and  $h_B$ , on atoms A and B, with corresponding polarization coefficients  $c_A$  and  $c_B$ ,  $\sigma_{AB} = c_A h_A + c_B h_B$ , termed a Lewis (L) orbital. Each valence bonding NBO is paired with a corresponding valence antibonding NBO ( $\sigma_{AB}^*$ ),  $\sigma_{AB}^* = c_A h_A - c_B h_B$ , termed a non-Lewis (NL) orbital.<sup>32,33</sup> The antibonding orbitals play an important role in departures from the idealized Lewis structure mainly due to their involvement in the delocalization of the electron density. The weakly occupied Rydberg orbitals complete the span of the valence space, but they normally have only a small contribution to the molecular properties. The electronic delocalizations within the L and NL orbitals may be interpreted as charge transfer (CT) between filled (donor) and unfilled (acceptor) orbitals. All of the possible donor–acceptor interactions can be determined from the analysis of the off-diagonal elements in the Fock matrix, calculated by second-order perturbation theory.

In Table 9 the calculated natural hybrids  $h_A$  are summarized. These consist of the NBOs along with the polarization coefficient ( $c_A$ ), the hybrid composition, and the percentages of *s*, *p*, and *d* character of each  $h_A$  for each compound. Examination of the results reveals that the *p* character of the natural orbitals involved in the  $\sigma_{GeC}$  and  $\sigma_{GeI}$  NBOs is higher than the *p* character for the  $\sigma_{SiC}$  and  $\sigma_{SiI}$ . This is in accord with the lengthening of the GeC and GeI bond distances. Furthermore, a slight mixture of *d* character occurs in the M–C and M–I bond hybrids, with more mixing in the silicon compound. Also, the iodine atom uses a slightly higher *d* character in bonding to silicon than to germanium. On the other hand, the carbon NHO of the  $\sigma_{CH}$  bond orbital shows a smaller *p* character for the germanium than for the silicon compound, evidenced by the shorter CH bond length in (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI than in (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiI.

The lengthening of the bond distances is also related to the occupancies of the bonding and antibonding orbitals. Table 10 shows the occupancies of all the natural bond orbitals and the



**TABLE 7: Experimental and Calculated Wavenumbers and Assignment of ITMG Calculated at the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* Level**

| mode                     | exptl <sup>a</sup> | calcd <sup>a</sup> | SQM <sup>b</sup> | IR intensities <sup>c</sup> | Raman activity <sup>d</sup> | PED <sup>e</sup> ( $\geq 10\%$ )  | assignment <sup>f</sup>                               |
|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
| A <sub>1</sub>           |                    |                    |                  |                             |                             |   |   |
| 1                        | 2981               | 3116               | 2976             | 17.0                        | 225.5                       | 32% S <sub>1</sub> + 16% S <sub>15</sub> + 47% S <sub>16</sub>                        | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 2                        | 2910               | 3037               | 2908             | 12.2                        | 467.9                       | 32% S <sub>2</sub> + 16% S <sub>17</sub> + 46% S <sub>18</sub>                        | $\nu_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 3                        | 1418               | 1476               | 1418             | 4.8                         | 1.0                         | 31% S <sub>3</sub> + 10% S <sub>19</sub> + 27% S <sub>20</sub> + 20% S <sub>21</sub>  | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 4                        | 1244               | 1288               | 1243             | <0.1                        | 8.9                         | 34% S <sub>4</sub> + 20% S <sub>23</sub> + 50% S <sub>24</sub>                        | $\delta_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 5                        | 826                | 855                | 838              | 143.5                       | 0.8                         | 26% S <sub>5</sub> + 16% S <sub>27</sub> + 44% S <sub>28</sub>                        | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>                                |
| 6                        | 568                | 549                | 569              | 15.6                        | 36.3                        | 100% S <sub>6</sub>   | $\nu_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub>                              |
| 7                        | 220                | 225                | 222              | 31.4                        | 4.4                         | 77% S <sub>7</sub> + 29% S <sub>8</sub>   | $\nu$ GeI + $\delta_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub>               |
| 8                        | 176                | 162                | 167              | 0.4                         | 6.4                         | 63% S <sub>7</sub> + 58% S <sub>8</sub>   | $\nu$ GeI + $\delta_s$ GeC <sub>3</sub>               |
| A <sub>2</sub>           |                    |                    |                  |                             |                             |   |   |
| 9                        |                    | 3134               | 2992             | 0.0                         | 0.0                         | 34% S <sub>9</sub> + 17% S <sub>13</sub> + 50% S <sub>14</sub>                        | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 10                       |                    | 1452               | 1393             | 0.0                         | 0.0                         | 33% S <sub>10</sub> + 20% S <sub>19</sub> + 29% S <sub>22</sub>                       | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 11                       |                    | 736                | 716              | 0.0                         | 0.0                         | 37% S <sub>11</sub> + 37% S <sub>25</sub> + 12% S <sub>26</sub> + 15% S <sub>32</sub> | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub> + $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub>  |
| 12                       |                    | 102                | 102              | 0.0                         | 0.0                         | 39% S <sub>12</sub> + 16% S <sub>35</sub> + 48% S <sub>36</sub>                       | $\tau$ CH <sub>3</sub>                                |
| E                        |                    |                    |                  |                             |                             |   |   |
| 13                       | 2992               | 3135               | 2994             | 7.3                         | 103.0                       | 34% S <sub>9</sub> + 67% S <sub>13</sub>  | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 14                       | 2992               | 3135               | 2994             | 7.3                         | 103.0                       | 34% S <sub>9</sub> + 17% S <sub>13</sub> + 50% S <sub>14</sub>                        | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 15                       | 2974               | 3115               | 2973             | 1.3                         | 39.9                        | 32% S <sub>1</sub> + 63% S <sub>15</sub>  | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 16                       | 2974               | 3115               | 2973             | 1.3                         | 39.9                        | 32% S <sub>1</sub> + 16% S <sub>15</sub> + 47% S <sub>16</sub>                        | $\nu_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 17                       | 2905               | 3035               | 2905             | 6.1                         | 12.5                        | 32% S <sub>2</sub> + 63% S <sub>17</sub>  | $\nu_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 18                       | 2905               | 3035               | 2905             | 6.1                         | 12.5                        | 32% S <sub>2</sub> + 16% S <sub>17</sub> + 47% S <sub>18</sub>                        | $\nu_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 19                       | 1407               | 1464               | 1406             | 5.9                         | 0.1                         | 31% S <sub>3</sub> + 37% S <sub>19</sub> + 26% S <sub>22</sub>                        | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 20                       | 1407               | 1464               | 1406             | 5.9                         | 0.1                         | 31% S <sub>3</sub> + 29% S <sub>20</sub> + 20% S <sub>21</sub>                        | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 21                       | 1399               | 1460               | 1403             | 1.1                         | 17.6                        | 33% S <sub>10</sub> + 26% S <sub>20</sub> + 38% S <sub>21</sub>                       | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 22                       | 1399               | 1460               | 1403             | 1.1                         | 17.6                        | 33% S <sub>10</sub> + 20% S <sub>19</sub> + 29% S <sub>22</sub>                       | $\delta_a$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 23                       | 1232               | 1276               | 1233             | 9.6                         | 1.0                         | 34% S <sub>4</sub> + 70% S <sub>23</sub>  | $\delta_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 24                       | 1232               | 1276               | 1233             | 9.6                         | 1.0                         | 34% S <sub>4</sub> + 15% S <sub>23</sub> + 55% S <sub>24</sub>                        | $\delta_s$ CH <sub>3</sub>                            |
| 25                       | 845                | 863                | 847              | 36.5                        | 1.1                         | 37% S <sub>11</sub> + 37% S <sub>25</sub> + 12% S <sub>26</sub> + 15% S <sub>32</sub> | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub> + $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub>  |
| 26                       | 845                | 863                | 847              | 36.5                        | 1.1                         | 37% S <sub>11</sub> + 49% S <sub>26</sub> + 20% S <sub>31</sub>                       | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub> + $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub>  |
| 27                       | 763                | 772                | 754              | 6.5                         | 0.4                         | 26% S <sub>5</sub> + 60% S <sub>27</sub>  | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>                                |
| 28                       | 763                | 772                | 754              | 6.5                         | 0.4                         | 26% S <sub>5</sub> + 14% S <sub>27</sub> + 46% S <sub>28</sub>                        | $\rho$ CH <sub>3</sub>                                |
| 29                       | 617                | 595                | 617              | 20.9                        | 10.8                        | 97% S <sub>29</sub>   | $\nu_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub>                              |
| 30                       | 617                | 595                | 617              | 20.9                        | 10.8                        | 97% S <sub>30</sub>   | $\nu_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub>                              |
| 31                       | 189                | 171                | 183              | 2.0                         | 2.9                         | 112% S <sub>31</sub> + 12% S <sub>33</sub>  | $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub> + $\rho$ GeC <sub>3</sub> |
| 32                       | 189                | 171                | 183              | 2.0                         | 2.9                         | 112% S <sub>32</sub> + 12% S <sub>34</sub>  | $\delta_a$ GeC <sub>3</sub> + $\rho$ GeC <sub>3</sub> |
| 33                       | 142                | 126                | 138              | 0.4                         | 3.1                         | 106% S <sub>33</sub>  | $\rho$ GeC <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 34                       | 142                | 126                | 138              | 0.4                         | 3.1                         | 106% S <sub>34</sub>  | $\rho$ GeC <sub>3</sub>                               |
| 35                       | 112                | 114                | 112              | <0.1                        | <0.1                        | 39% S <sub>12</sub> + 64% S <sub>35</sub>   | $\tau$ CH <sub>3</sub>                                |
| 36                       | 112                | 114                | 112              | <0.1                        | <0.1                        | 39% S <sub>12</sub> + 16% S <sub>35</sub> + 48% S <sub>36</sub>                       | $\tau$ CH <sub>3</sub>                                |
| rmsd (cm <sup>-1</sup> ) |                    | 73.6               | 4.0              |                             |                             |   |   |

<sup>a</sup> Observed and calculated values in cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>b</sup> From scaled quantum mechanics force field (see text). <sup>c</sup> Units: km mol<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>d</sup> Units: Å<sup>4</sup> (amu)<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>e</sup> See Table S7 for definitions of the symmetry coordinates. <sup>f</sup>  $\nu$ , stretching;  $\delta$ , angular deformation;  $\rho$ , rocking;  $\tau$ , torsion; s, symmetric; a, antisymmetric.

**TABLE 8: Comparison of (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI and (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiI**

|            | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> GeI |                    | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> SiI |                    |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
|            | exptl <sup>a</sup>                  | calcd <sup>b</sup> | exptl <sup>c</sup>                  | calcd <sup>b</sup> |
| $\nu$ (MI) | 220                                 | 225                | 326                                 | 320                |
| $f$ (MI)   |                                     | 1.31               |                                     | 1.64               |
| $r$ (MI)   | 2.540                               | 2.606              | 2.485                               | 2.530              |
| $\nu$ (MC) | 614; 569                            | 595; 549           | 627                                 | 669; 615           |
| $f$ (MC)   |                                     | 2.71               |                                     | 3.00               |
| $r$ (MC)   | 1.954                               | 1.966              | 1.870                               | 1.878              |

<sup>a</sup> Experimental frequencies and bond distances from this work. <sup>b</sup> Theoretical frequencies, force constants, and bond distances calculated using the SQM force field of B3LYP/6-311G\*\*. <sup>c</sup> Experimental frequencies and bond distances from ref 12.

corresponding energies for the germanium and silicon compounds. The increase in  $\sigma^*$  occupancy results in a lengthening of the bond distances. For instance, the  $\sigma^*_{\text{GeI}}$  and  $\sigma^*_{\text{SiI}}$  occupancies were found to be 0.060 91 and 0.058 51, respectively, with GeI and SiI bond distances of 2.540 and 2.485 Å. The increase in  $\sigma^*$  orbital occupancy results in a weakening of the bond, shown also by the decrease of the vibration frequency (Table 8).

To investigate the nature and magnitude of the intramolecular interactions of Ge and Si compounds, the electron distribution has been analyzed. Table 11 shows the principal delocalizations

for the Si and Ge compounds and their associated stabilization energies. For both compounds, the largest contributions to delocalization of the electronic density come from the electron density in the lone pair of the iodine atom [LP(I)] and the  $\sigma_{\text{MC}}$  orbital.

From Table 11, the LP(I)  $\rightarrow$   $\sigma^*_{\text{MC}}$  negative hyperconjugation interaction is higher for the silicon compound due to a higher polarization of the acceptor orbital toward the silicon atom, improving its ability as an acceptor. The  $\sigma^*_{\text{SiC}}$  polarization toward silicon atom makes a more effective orbital overlap possible as polarization increases the relative strength of interaction. The slight changes in the polarization coefficients of the NHOs are associated with the atomic electronegativity differences (see Table 9). For (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI, the  $\sigma_{\text{GeC}} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{\text{GeC}}$  and  $\sigma_{\text{GeC}} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{\text{GeI}}$  interactions are also important. Despite the lower polarization of the bonding orbitals toward Ge atom, the low-energy gap between the donor–acceptor orbitals results in a higher value of  $\sigma_{\text{GeC}} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{\text{GeC}}$  and  $\sigma_{\text{GeC}} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{\text{GeI}}$  interactions.

## Conclusions

A complete investigation of the molecular structure of ITMG has been carried out in the gas phase by gas electron diffraction complemented by theoretical methods. Both methods agree that GeIme<sub>3</sub> has C<sub>3v</sub> symmetry, and as for SiIme<sub>3</sub>, a pseudopotential

**TABLE 9: Calculated Natural Hybrid Orbitals (NHOs) and the Polarization Coefficients ( $c_A$ 's) of Each Hybrid in the Corresponding NBO for (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI and (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiI**

| type                | atom | hybrid composition                   | % s   | % p   | % d  | $c_A$  | atom | hybrid composition                   | % s   | % p   | % d  | $c_A$  |
|---------------------|------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|--------|------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|------|--------|
| $\sigma_{MC}$       | Ge   | sp <sup>2.53</sup> d <sup>0.01</sup> | 28.24 | 71.53 | 0.23 | 0.5706 | Si   | sp <sup>2.55</sup> d <sup>0.03</sup> | 27.94 | 71.26 | 0.79 | 0.5435 |
|                     | C    | sp <sup>2.86</sup>                   | 25.93 | 74.03 |      | 0.8212 | C    | sp <sup>2.34</sup>                   | 29.90 | 70.04 |      | 0.8394 |
| $\sigma_{MI}$       | Ge   | sp <sup>5.42</sup> d <sup>0.05</sup> | 15.46 | 83.80 | 0.75 | 0.5673 | Si   | sp <sup>4.97</sup> d <sup>0.07</sup> | 16.56 | 82.35 | 1.09 | 0.5642 |
|                     | I    | sp <sup>7.23</sup> d <sup>0.03</sup> | 12.10 | 87.51 | 0.40 | 0.8235 | I    | sp <sup>5.72</sup> d <sup>0.03</sup> | 14.81 | 84.68 | 0.51 | 0.8257 |
| $\sigma_{CH\alpha}$ | C    | sp <sup>3.09</sup>                   | 24.44 | 75.49 |      | 0.7801 | C    | sp <sup>3.32</sup>                   | 23.13 | 76.81 |      | 0.7824 |
|                     | H    | S                                    | 99.95 |       |      | 0.6256 | H    | s                                    | 99.96 |       |      | 0.6228 |
| $\sigma_{CH\beta}$  | C    | sp <sup>3.03</sup>                   | 24.77 | 75.17 |      | 0.7830 | C    | sp <sup>3.26</sup>                   | 23.46 | 76.48 |      | 0.7851 |
|                     | H    | s                                    | 99.96 |       |      | 0.6220 | H    | s                                    | 99.96 |       |      | 0.6193 |

**TABLE 10: Calculated  $\sigma$  and  $\sigma^*$  Occupancies with Their Respective Energies for (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI and (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiI**

| orbital type          | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> GeI |             | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> SiI |             |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
|                       | occupancy                           | energy (au) | occupancy                           | energy (au) |
| $\sigma_{MC}$         | 1.970 97                            | -0.522 81   | 1.979 65                            | -0.530 25   |
| $\sigma^*_{MC}$       | 0.054 72                            | 0.171 33    | 0.051 16                            | 0.226 71    |
| $\sigma_{MI}$         | 1.966 40                            | -0.469 25   | 1.967 82                            | -0.498 01   |
| $\sigma^*_{MI}$       | 0.060 91                            | 0.027 76    | 0.058 51                            | 0.055 26    |
| $\sigma_{CH\alpha}$   | 1.985 54                            | -0.520 68   | 1.982 52                            | -0.513 67   |
| $\sigma^*_{CH\alpha}$ | 0.004 63                            | 0.400 20    | 0.005 89                            | 0.394 55    |
| $\sigma_{CH\beta}$    | 1.990 73                            | -0.518 83   | 1.988 27                            | -0.512 30   |
| $\sigma^*_{CH\beta}$  | 0.003 13                            | 0.410 62    | 0.003 72                            | 0.405 90    |

**TABLE 11: Principal Delocalizations for (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>GeI and (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>SiI with Their Associated Stabilization Energies<sup>a</sup>**

| donor-acceptor                                       | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> GeI |  | (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> SiI                  |      |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|--|------|
|  | $\Delta E(\sigma\sigma^*)^b$        |  | $\Delta E(\sigma\sigma^*)$                           |      |
| $\sigma_{Ge_1C_2} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_6}$    | 13.2                                |  | $\sigma_{Si_1C_2} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_6}$    | 6.7  |
| $\sigma_{Ge_1C_2} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_{10}}$ | 13.2                                |  | $\sigma_{Si_1C_2} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_{10}}$ | 6.7  |
| $\sigma_{Ge_1C_2} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{GeI}$        | 15.1                                |  | $\sigma_{Si_1C_2} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{SiI}$        | 9.6  |
| $\sigma_{Ge_1C_6} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{GeI}$        | 15.1                                |  | $\sigma_{Si_1C_6} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{SiI}$        | 9.6  |
| $\sigma_{Ge_1C_{10}} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{GeI}$     | 15.1                                |  | $\sigma_{Si_1C_{10}} \rightarrow \sigma^*_{SiI}$     | 9.6  |
| LP(2)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_6}$              | 12.6                                |  | LP(2)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_6}$              | 13.4 |
| LP(2)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_{10}}$           | 12.6                                |  | LP(2)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_{10}}$           | 13.4 |
| LP(3)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_2}$              | 16.8                                |  | LP(3)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_2}$              | 19.0 |
| LP(3)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_6}$              | 4.2                                 |  | LP(3)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_6}$              | 4.7  |
| LP(3)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Ge_1C_{10}}$           | 4.2                                 |  | LP(3)I $\rightarrow \sigma^*_{Si_1C_{10}}$           | 4.7  |

<sup>a</sup> Calculated at the B3LYP/6-311G\*\* level. <sup>b</sup> Stabilization energies in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>.

was required. The SDB-aug-cc-pVTZ basis set and ECP was found to provide the best results when applied to both germanium and iodine atoms. The reinvestigation of both infrared and Raman spectra at low temperature confirmed the previous assignments of the observed bands.<sup>4</sup> Assignments have also been made for bands that could not be observed previously, such as the  $\nu_{14}$  and  $\nu_2$  CH<sub>3</sub> stretching, the  $\nu_3$ ,  $\nu_{17}$ , and  $\nu_{18}$  CH<sub>3</sub> deformation, and the  $\nu_5$  CH<sub>3</sub> rocking modes. The  $\nu_{24}$  CH<sub>3</sub> torsional mode was observed in the Raman spectrum. Thus more complete vibrational data are now available for this compound. The application of Fourier self-deconvolution in combination with curve-fitting to the analysis of the Raman spectrum resulted in the identification of a band belonging to the  $\nu_{22}$  GeC<sub>3</sub> antisymmetric deformation mode. The B3LYP method with basis sets supplemented by polarization and/or diffuse functions (e.g., 6-311G\*\* or LanL2DZdp) produced better results in the prediction of the frequencies of vibrational modes. The scaled quantum mechanical method was applied to the B3LYP force field with the 6-311G\*\* split valence basis set, successfully reproducing the vibrational spectra with a set of 11 scale factors and a deviation of 4 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

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**Supporting Information Available:** Amplitudes of vibration; correlation matrix and coordinates from the GED experiment; experimental and calculated (B3LYP and B3PW91) vibrational frequencies with different basis sets; definition of symmetry coordinates; SQM matrix of symmetry force constants; refined scale factors for force field (B3LYP/LanL2DZdp); internal force constants (B3LYP/LanL2DZdp); experimental and calculated wavenumbers and assignment of ITMG (B3LYP/LanL2DZdp); refined scale factors for force field of iodotrimethylsilane (ITMS) (B3LYP/6-311G\*\*); internal force constants for ITMS (B3LYP/6-311G\*\*); experimental and calculated wavenumbers and assignment of ITMS (B3LYP/6-311G\*\*), low-level ab initio calculations; weighting points for off-diagonal weight matrices, correlation parameters, scale factors for both camera distances for GED. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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