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## Anharmonic Force Constants of Polyatomic Molecules. Test of the Procedure for Deducing a Force Field from the Vibration–Rotation Spectrum

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**Abstract:** The vibrational Hamiltonian of linear HCN, DCN, and TCN is solved by the finite-difference boundary value method and the eigenenergies and expectation values of the reciprocal of the moment of inertia are calculated for the seven lowest energy states. These values provide information equivalent to an observed vibration–rotation spectrum for each isotopic molecule but for a known potential energy surface. The “inversion” procedure by which a general quartic force field is obtained from experimental data is applied to this set of data. The anharmonic force constants thus obtained have errors in the cubic force constants less than 10% of the largest cubic force constant and errors in the quartic force constants less than 13% of the largest quartic force constant.

The least-squares determination of harmonic and anharmonic force constants of polyatomic molecules using spectroscopic data is usually accomplished using the general second-order perturbation theory formulas due to Nielson and others,<sup>2,3</sup> or when Fermi–Dennison resonance is important, by second-order perturbation theory and direct solution of the secular equation corresponding to a submatrix of the Hamiltonian. In such an approximate procedure there is always some question of the accuracy of the results obtained. To test this one requires a more accurate treatment for comparison. For diatomic molecules the vibrational eigenvalue problem is easily solved by many methods<sup>4,5</sup> and the exact solutions have been compared to perturbation theory results. The comparison shows that the perturbation theory approach is inaccurate unless the anharmonicity is very small.<sup>6</sup> However, the results of such comparisons cannot be used quantitatively for polyatomic molecules and it is the goal of this paper to provide a test of the perturbation theory treatments which is more directly applicable to the practical problems occurring in polyatomic molecules. In this article we test the usual perturbation theory treatment by solving for the exact vibrational wave functions and energies of a nonbending linear triatomic molecule for several assumed potential energy surfaces and comparing the results to the second-order perturbation theory treatment. In addition we calculate the rotational constants using these essentially exact vibrational wave functions for the linear model and we compare them to their perturbation theory values.

A technique for determining anharmonic force fields using the second-order perturbation theory treatment of

spectroscopic data has been given by Pariseau et al.<sup>7–9</sup> and it is applied to some of the accurately calculated results in this article. Since the calculated results, unlike experimental data, correspond to a known potential energy surface, this provides a check on the accuracy of anharmonic force constants determined using second-order perturbation theory.

The example chosen for the test case is HCN and its isotopic analogues DCN and TCN. These molecules are particularly suitable for study because the isotope effect is rather large and the Fermi–Dennison resonance is weak.<sup>10,11</sup>

### Finite-Difference Solution of the Vibrational Eigenvalue Problem and Numerical Calculation of the Rotational Constants

**Method.** Previously the multidimensional Schroedinger eigenvalue problem has been solved using an expansion in basis functions.<sup>12</sup> This method can involve difficult calculations, e.g., one attempt to use this method failed because the eigenvalues had not converged even for 128 basis functions<sup>13</sup> (note, however, that more than 128 basis functions were used successfully in some other cases and the basis function method may often be a convenient and useful method for solving this problem).

In this article we use the finite-difference boundary value method to solve the two-dimensional vibrational eigenvalue problem. This method has been applied previously to one-dimensional vibrational eigenvalue problems<sup>5</sup> and multidimensional eigenvalue problems occurring in the theory of electronic structure.<sup>14</sup>

We used the coordinates  $X$ , the H-C bond length, and  $Y$ , the distance from the center of mass of HC to N. The Schrodinger equation for the vibrational eigenfunction  $\psi_v$  for nonrotating, nonbending HCN in this coordinate system is

$$\left[ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \left( \frac{1}{\mu_X} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} + \frac{1}{\mu_Y} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial Y^2} \right) + V(X, Y) - E_v \right] \psi_v(X, Y) = 0 \quad (1)$$

where  $E_v$  is the vibrational eigenvalue,  $V(X, Y)$  is the potential energy function, and

$$\mu_X = M_H M_C / (M_H + M_C) \quad (2a)$$

$$\mu_Y = (M_H + M_C) M_N / M \quad (2b)$$

$$M = M_H + M_C + M_N \quad (3)$$

We set up a grid of points with coordinates

$$X_i = X_0 + ig \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, I + 1 \quad (4)$$

and

$$Y_j = Y_0 + jfg \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, J + 1 \quad (5)$$

$X_0$ ,  $Y_0$ ,  $f$ , and  $g$  are grid parameters to be chosen such that

$$\psi(X_0, Y) \approx 0 \quad (6a)$$

$$\psi(X_{I+1}, Y) \approx 0 \quad (6b)$$

$$\psi(X, Y_0) \approx 0 \quad (6c)$$

and

$$\psi(X, Y_{J+1}) \approx 0 \quad (6d)$$

for all eigenfunctions of interest. Then the finite-difference approximation to (1) is

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\mu_X g} (\psi_{i-1,j,v} - 2\psi_{i,j,v} + \psi_{i+1,j,v}) + \frac{1}{\mu_Y fg} (\psi_{i,j-1,v} - 2\psi_{i,j,v} + \psi_{i,j+1,v}) \right] + V_{ij} \psi_{i,j,v} = E_v \psi_{i,j,v} \quad (7)$$

where

$$\psi_{i,j,v} = \psi_v(X_i, Y_j) \quad (8)$$

and

$$V_{ij} = V(X_i, Y_j) \quad (9)$$

With the boundary conditions (6), eq 7 becomes a set of  $N$  homogenous linear equations in the  $N$  unknowns  $\{\psi_{i,j,v}\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, I$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, J$  where  $N = IJ$ , and with the definition

$$\alpha = (j - 1)I + i \quad (10)$$

this set of equations may be written in matrix form as

$$\mathbf{H}\psi_v = E\psi_v \quad (11)$$

where  $\psi_v$  is a vector of length  $N$  whose  $\alpha$ th element  $\psi_{\alpha,v}$  is  $\psi_{i,j,v}$ . Thus the problem is reduced, for a given  $f$  and  $g$ , to finding the several lowest energy eigenvalues of the matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  and their associated eigenvectors. With  $X_0$ ,  $Y_0$ ,  $X_{I+1}$ ,  $Y_{J+1}$ , and  $f$  fixed, calculations were performed for several values of  $g$  and the results extrapolated (as discussed below) to  $g = 0$  to obtain solutions to eq 1.

The matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  is real and symmetric with a bandwidth of  $(2I + 1)$  but it has only three to five nonzero elements in a given row. The eigenvalues and eigenvectors are found by the method of optimal relaxations as described by Shavitt et al.,<sup>15</sup> using their root-shifting method for determination of

higher eigenvalues. This method involves the minimization of the Rayleigh quotient  $\phi^T \mathbf{H} \phi / (\phi^T \phi)$ , where superscript T denotes a transpose, as follows. (i) An initial estimate of the  $k$ th eigenvector was orthogonalized, for  $k > 1$ , to the  $(k - 1)$  lower eigenvectors by Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization. From the resulting column vector  $\phi$  (or the initial estimate for  $k = 1$ ), the quantities  $p = \phi^T \mathbf{H} \phi$ ,  $q = \phi^T \phi$ , and  $\rho = p/q$  were calculated. Then  $\rho$  is the initial eigenvalue estimate. Next, for  $k > 1$ , eq 44 and 45 of ref 15 were used to calculate shift parameters to shift the previous  $(k - 1)$  eigenvalues to higher energy than the  $k$ th eigenvalue and  $\mathbf{H}$  was modified so the  $k$ th eigenvalue became the lowest energy eigenvalue. (ii) Then, on an element-by-element basis, the approximate  $k$ th eigenvector was adjusted to satisfy more closely the eigenvalue equation. This was accomplished using (20), [(19), (39), (40)], [(22), (25)-(27)], [(21), (23)], (30), and (42) of ref 15, in order of the bracketed groups, to each element of the approximate eigenvector. This procedure also yields an improved estimate of the eigenvalue. Step (ii) was repeated until the eigenvector converged. Convergence was considered to have been attained when the maximum change in any eigenvector element for a given repetition of step (ii) was less than  $10^{-6}$  times the norm of the eigenvector. Tests showed that the eigenvalue usually converged in about 10 iterations and the eigenvector converged in about 30-50 iterations.

To ensure orthogonality of the  $k$ th eigenvector to previous ones and to minimize round-off error in accumulated changes to  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $\rho$ , and the shift factors, the approximate eigenvector was reorthogonalized to the previous  $k - 1$  eigenvectors and the quantities  $p$ ,  $q$ ,  $\rho$ , and the shift factors were recalculated about every 20 iterations. The extrapolation procedure of ref 15 was also applied every 20 iterations but it did not appear to speed convergence. Some special procedures are required<sup>15</sup> when some of the variables are essentially zero and these were applied when the variables were less than  $10^{-12}$ .

Except as noted above, all constants in the program were the same as in ref 15 [ $s$  in their eq 45 was 1.3 and  $h$  in eq 62 was 20.0].

Initial guesses for the eigenvectors were obtained as follows. Grids were always run in order of increasing point density (decreasing  $g$ ). For the least dense grid initial guesses were obtained using the procedure recommended in ref 15. Although this provides a very poor estimate of the eigenvector for the present problem, the number of iterations required for convergence using this procedure was not significantly larger than the number required using more accurate initial eigenvector estimates obtained by interpolation. For the more dense grids, the initial eigenvector estimate for each eigenvalue was obtained by two-dimensional four-point interpolation using the previous grid.

Converged eigenvectors were normalized such that

$$\sum_{\alpha=1}^N |\psi_{\alpha,v}|^2 = 1 \quad (12)$$

From the converged eigenvectors we wished to calculate the rotational constants defined by

$$B_v = \frac{\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \int dX \int dY \frac{1}{I(X, Y)} |\psi_v(X, Y)|^2}{\int dX \int dY |\psi_v(X, Y)|^2} \quad (13)$$

where  $I$  is the moment of inertia. Using the usual definition and letting HCN be located on the  $z$  axis,

$$I = \sum_{i=1}^3 M_i (z_i')^2 \quad (14)$$

where the  $M_i$  are atomic masses, and

$$z_i'^0 = z_i - z_{\text{com}} \quad (15a)$$

$$z_{\text{com}} = M^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^3 M_i z_i \quad (15b)$$

where  $z_i$  are atomic coordinates. This may be rewritten as<sup>16</sup>

$$I = M_{\text{H}}X^2 + M_{\text{N}}W^2 - M^{-1}(M_{\text{H}}^2X^2 + M_{\text{N}}^2W^2 - 2M_{\text{H}}M_{\text{N}}XW) \quad (16)$$

where  $W$  is the C-N distance equal to

$$W = Y - M_{\text{H}}X/(M_{\text{H}} + M_{\text{C}}) \quad (17)$$

Using eq 16 and 17 and the normalization of eq 12,  $B_v$  may be calculated for a given grid as

$$B_v = \frac{1}{2}\hbar^2 \sum_{\alpha=1}^N I_{\alpha}^{-1} |\psi_{\alpha,v}|^2 \quad (18)$$

where  $I_{\alpha}$  is  $I(X_i, Y_j)$  [see eq 10].

The above procedures lead to  $E_v$  and  $B_v$  values corresponding to given values of  $X_0$ ,  $Y_0$ ,  $X_{J+1}$ ,  $Y_{J+1}$ ,  $f$ , and  $g$ . The first two of these parameters were chosen small enough and the next two large enough to ensure that along the edges of the grid the values of the eigenvectors of interest were always less than  $10^{-12}$  times the maximum value of the eigenvector. Also additional runs with fixed  $f$  and  $g$  but smaller  $X_0$  and  $Y_0$  and larger  $X_{J+1}$  and  $Y_{J+1}$  showed that  $E_v$  values of interest were invariant with respect to such changes to ten significant figures and the  $B_v$  values of interest were unchanged to at least four significant figures and more often to six significant figures. Typical values used for the final calculations presented here were:  $X_0 \approx 0.5a_0$  (HCN),  $0.7a_0$  (DCN),  $0.8a_0$  (TCN);  $X_{J+1} \approx 4.4a_0$  (HCN),  $3.9a_0$  (DCN),  $3.8a_0$  (TCN);  $Y_0 \approx 1.5a_0$  (HCN),  $1.6a_0$  (DCN),  $1.8a_0$  (TCN);  $Y_{J+1} \approx 3.4a_0$  (HCN),  $3.5a_0$  (DCN), and  $3.6a_0$  (TCN).

Finally the  $E_v$  and  $B_v$  values for given values of  $X_0$ ,  $Y_0$ ,  $X_{J+1}$ ,  $Y_{J+1}$ , and  $f$  and a sequence of values of  $g$  were extrapolated to  $g = 0$  using the Richardson extrapolation method.<sup>5,14,18</sup> The extrapolation calculations were arranged in the form of a Neville table as described elsewhere.<sup>5,14,19</sup> In all cases we used  $I = J$ . For the results presented, we used five or six grid sizes with  $30 \leq I \leq 70$  or  $40 \leq I \leq 60$  although in some test cases we used  $I$  as large as 79. Then

$$g = (X_{I+1} - X_0)/(I + 1) \quad (19)$$

and since  $I = J$

$$f = (Y_{J+1} - Y_0)/(X_{J+1} - X_0) \quad (20)$$

The Neville tables used in the extrapolation were also used to estimate the uncertainties in the extrapolated  $E_v$  and  $B_v$  values as discussed elsewhere.<sup>5</sup>

All the finite-difference calculations were performed in hartree atomic units and all conversion factors were computed from a recent NBS tabulation of physical constants.<sup>20,21</sup>

**Results.** We examined three isotopes<sup>22</sup> and four potential energy surfaces. All four potential energy surfaces have the form

$$V(R_1, R_2) = \sum_{i \leq j} K_{ij} R_i R_j + \sum_{i \leq j \leq k} K_{ijk} R_i R_j R_k + \sum_{i \leq j \leq k \leq l} K_{ijkl} R_i R_j R_k R_l \quad (21)$$

where

$$R_1 = X - X_e \quad (22)$$

$$R_2 = W - W_e \quad (23)$$

Table I. Parameters of the Potential Energy Surfaces Used for HCN, DCN, and TCN

	(i) <sup>a</sup>	(ii) <sup>b</sup>	(iii)	(iv)	
$K_{111}^c$	mdyn/Å	3.108	3.121	3.108	4.5
$K_{122}^c$	mdyn/Å	-0.242	-0.094	-0.242	-0.242
$K_{222}^c$	mdyn/Å	9.322	9.253	9.322	9.322
$K_{111}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>2</sup>	-5.39	-5.48	-5.39	-5.39
$K_{112}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>2</sup>	-0.13	-0.43	-0.13	-0.13
$K_{122}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>2</sup>	0.09	0.17	0.09	0.09
$K_{222}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>2</sup>	-20.98	-20.83	-20.98	-20.98
$K_{1111}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>3</sup>	5.57	4.48	5.57	5.57
$K_{1112}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>3</sup>	0	-10.2	0	0
$K_{1122}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>3</sup>	0	12.9	0	0
$K_{1222}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>3</sup>	0	-10	0	0
$K_{2222}^c$	mdyn/Å <sup>3</sup>	40	41	30	40
$X_{\text{e}}$	Å	1.0659	1.0659	1.0659	1.0659
$W_{\text{e}}$	Å	1.1531	1.1531	1.1531	1.1531

<sup>a</sup>Force constants taken from ref. 11, p 72, column (iv). <sup>b</sup>Force constants taken from ref 11, p 72, column (iii). <sup>c</sup>The subscript (1) refers to internal coordinate  $R_1$ , which is associated with the H-C stretch, while the subscript 2 refers to internal coordinate  $R_2$ , the C-N stretch

The constants appearing in these equations are given in Table I. The force constants in column (i) are those judged by Wang<sup>11</sup> to be the most accurate estimate of the general quartic force field based on an analysis of spectroscopic data. For our purposes they merely provide a realistic force field for our tests of second-order perturbation theory. The force constants in column (ii) are taken from the same study but include quartic stretch-stretch interaction force constants which were judged<sup>11</sup> to have unreasonably large dispersions. For our purposes they provide another test case so we can determine whether our conclusions using the force constants in column (i) are sensitive to the omission of quartic stretch-stretch force constants in that set. In column (iii) we arbitrarily decreased the largest quartic force constant to check whether this appreciably improved the perturbation theory treatment. In column (iv) we arbitrarily raised one of the quadratic force constants to simulate a Fermi-Dennison resonance-like situation in which<sup>23</sup>  $\nu_1 \approx 2\nu_2$ . In this last case the convergence of the iterative calculations of the eigenvectors and eigenvalues was considerably slower than in the other cases and hence the calculation was considerably more expensive.

The results of the calculations are given in Table II (the numbers in parentheses below some of these results will be explained in the next section).

### Tests of Perturbation Theory

**Calculation of the Vibrational Energies and Rotational Constants.** The perturbation-theory solution of the vibration-rotation Hamiltonian is well established. In the polyatomic case with no degenerate vibrations we may write the vibrational energies as an expansion in vibrational quantum numbers<sup>25</sup>

$$(E_v/hc) = E_0 + \sum_s \omega_s(v_s + \frac{1}{2}) + \sum_{s \geq s'} X_{ss'}(v_s + \frac{1}{2})(v_{s'} + \frac{1}{2}) + \dots \quad (24)$$

and the effective rotational constant,  $B_v$ , for a linear molecule as

$$B_v = B_e - \sum_s \alpha_s^{\text{xx}}(v_s + \frac{1}{2}) + \dots \quad (25)$$

where  $\alpha_s^{\text{xx}}$  is the rotation-vibration interaction constant which is often denoted  $\alpha_s$  or  $\alpha_v$ . The harmonic frequencies,  $\omega_s$ , are obtained by exact solution of the harmonic oscillator part of the Hamiltonian and the equilibrium rotational con-

Table II. Exact Values for the Zero-Point Energy and Exact and Approximate Values of Vibrational Excitation Energies and Rotational Constants<sup>a</sup>

Force field <sup>b</sup> isotope	(i) HCN	(i) DCN	(i) TCN	(ii) HCN	(iii) HCN	(iv) HCN
Zero-point energy	2767.1129 (1) <sup>c</sup>	2316.3698 (2)	2121.0391 (2)	2764.8444 (1)	2764.9354 (1)	3119.3471 (2)
$\nu_1$	3345.188 (3)	2655.977 (6)	2483.283 (4)	3335.449 (4)	3344.246 (3)	4070.36 (3)
	(3330.47) <sup>d</sup>	(2650.30)	(2479.61)	(3330.77)	(3329.78)	(4064.59)
$2\nu_1$	6629.81 (2)	5285.42 (2)	4950.84 (2)	6601.45 (3)	6627.69 (2)	8125.4 (2)
	(6562.36)	(5263.03)	(4937.38)	(6566.61)	(6560.94)	(8100.55)
$\nu_1 + \nu_2$	5442.52 (1)	4561.49 (2)	4182.83 (2)	5407.93 (1)	5430.94 (1)	6190 (2)
	(5421.34)	(4545.10)	(4169.73)	(5422.86)	(5411.71)	(6176.36)
$\nu_2$	2106.954 (2)	1924.482 (3)	1716.924 (2)	2102.611 (3)	2098.302 (2)	2127.930 (2)
	(2104.39)	(1921.87)	(1714.73)	(2103.86)	(2096.70)	(2125.69)
$2\nu_2$	4206.76 (2)	3841.54 (3)	3424.16 (1)	4196.18 (2)	4180.25 (2)	4252.18 (7)
	(4196.49)	(3833.46)	(3417.57)	(4194.44)	(4174.04)	(4242.79)
$3\nu_2$	6302.5 (1)	5752.3 (2)	5122.59 (7)	6283.3 (1)	6247.9 (1)	6373 (2)
$B_{00}^e$	1.472451 (5)	1.20151 (1)	1.02659 (2)	1.47203 (3)	1.47209 (4)	1.47462 (13)
$(B_{00} - B_{10}) \times 10^3$	13.9 (2)	13.8 (0)	11.2 (1)	16.9 (0)	14.6 (1)	7.8 (1)
	(15.0)	(14.6)	(12.3)	(15.0)	(15.0)	(9.0)
$(B_{00} - B_{20}) \times 10^3$	27.8 (1)	27.2 (0)	22.6 (0)	35.8 (0)	27.8 (0)	26.3 (58)
	(30.0)	(29.2)	(24.6)	(30.0)	(30.0)	(18.1)
$(B_{00} - B_{11}) \times 10^3$	23.3 (0)	19.1 (0)	15.9 (0)	26.3 (0)	23.3 (1)	14.6 (15)
	(25.4)	(21.0)	(17.6)	(25.4)	(25.4)	(19.8)
$(B_{00} - B_{01}) \times 10^3$	9.6 (1)	5.7 (0)	4.9 (1)	9.9 (0)	8.6 (2)	6.3 (7)
	(10.4)	(6.4)	(5.3)	(10.4)	(10.4)	(10.8)
$(B_{00} - B_{02}) \times 10^3$	17.8 (1)	11.2 (0)	9.5 (1)	17.4 (3)	19.5 (1)	19.2 (3)
	(20.8)	(12.8)	(10.5)	(20.9)	(20.8)	(21.6)

<sup>a</sup> All values are in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>b</sup> Force fields are labeled as in Table I. <sup>c</sup> Estimated uncertainties in the last digits quoted are given in parentheses following the exact results. These estimates are based entirely on the Neville tables used for extrapolation to zero-step size. Other possible sources of error, e.g., those due to boundary placement, are not included (see text). <sup>d</sup> Perturbation-theory results are given in parentheses below the exact results. <sup>e</sup> The rotational constants  $B_{\nu_1\nu_2}$  are written with the subscript  $\nu_1\nu_2$  to designate the state.

stants,  $B_e$ , by solution of the rigid-rotor part; all higher terms in the Hamiltonian, including the anharmonic potential-energy terms and the rotation-vibration interaction terms, are treated by second-order perturbation theory to give the coefficients  $X_{ss'}$  and  $\alpha_s$ . Note that the order parameter is defined such that cubic force constants are in the first-order perturbation and quartic force constants are in the second-order perturbation.

It is convenient to use the formalism developed by Nielsen<sup>2</sup> and to express the coefficients  $X_{ss'}$  and  $\alpha_s$  in terms of the normal-coordinate force constants,  $k_{ss's''}$  and  $k_{ss's''s''}$ . (Note that in the normal-coordinate space of Nielsen all force constants have units of inverse length.) In the case of a linear molecule with no degenerate vibrations these coefficients are given by<sup>24</sup>

$$X_{ss} = \frac{3}{2} k_{ssss} - \frac{15}{4} \frac{k_{sss}^2}{\omega_s} - \sum_{s' \neq s} \frac{k_{sss'}^2}{4\omega_{s'}} \left( \frac{8\omega_s^2 - 3\omega_{s'}^2}{4\omega_s^2 - \omega_{s'}^2} \right) \quad (26)$$

$$X_{ss'} = k_{ss's's'} - 2k_{ss's's'}^2 \left( \frac{\omega_s}{4\omega_s^2 - \omega_{s'}^2} \right) - 2k_{ss's's'}^2 \left( \frac{\omega_{s'}}{4\omega_{s'}^2 - \omega_s^2} \right) - 3 \frac{k_{sss}k_{ss's'}}{\omega_s} - 3 \frac{k_{sss'}k_{s's's'}}{\omega_{s'}} - \sum_{s'' \neq s, s'} \frac{k_{sss''}k_{s's's''}}{\omega_{s''}} - \sum_{s'' \neq s, s'} k_{ss's''s''} \omega_{s''} (\omega_{s''}^2 - \omega_s^2 - \omega_{s'}^2) D_{ss's''} \quad s \neq s' \quad (27)$$

where

$$D_{ss's''}^{-1} = 2(\omega_s + \omega_{s'} + \omega_{s''})(\omega_s - \omega_{s'} - \omega_{s''}) \times (\omega_{s'} - \omega_s - \omega_{s''})(\omega_{s''} - \omega_s - \omega_{s'}) \quad (28)$$

and

$$\alpha_s^{xx} = (B_e^2/2\omega_s)[A_{ss}^{xx} - (a_s^{xx})^2/I_e] - 2\pi c[3k_{sss}a_s^{xx}I_e^{-1/2}\lambda_s^{-1/4} + \sum_{s' \neq s} k_{sss'}(a_s^{xx})^2\lambda_s^{1/2}\lambda_{s'}^{-3/4}I_e^{-1/2}] \quad (29)$$

where

$$\lambda_s = (2\pi c\omega_s)^2 \quad (30)$$

$$A_{ss}^{xx} = \sum_i (l_{is}^z)^2 \quad (31)$$

$$a_s^{xx} = 2 \sum_i M_i^{1/2} z_i'^0 l_{is}^z \quad (32)$$

$M_i$  is still the mass of the  $i$ th atom,  $z_i'^0$  is the center-of-mass Cartesian coordinate for the  $i$ th nucleus as defined in eq 15, the  $l_{is}^z$  are the coefficients of the matrix which transforms mass-weighted Cartesian coordinates to normal coordinates [see eq 23 of Pariseau et al.<sup>7</sup>],  $I_e$  is the equilibrium moment of inertia, and  $B_e$  is the equilibrium rotational constant given by

$$B_e = h/(4\pi cI_e) \quad (33)$$

The normal-coordinate force constants are obtained by transformation of the potential energy, expressed in internal coordinates, according to the algorithm given by Pariseau, Suzuki, and Overend.<sup>7</sup> The collinear problem was solved by eliminating all possible dependence of the stretching normal coordinate force constants on the bending internal coordinate force constant. This was effected by setting to zero the second and higher derivatives of the bending coordinate  $R_3$  with respect to the Cartesian displacement coordinates (cf. ref 7). In the present problem it is found that the numerical values of the internal-coordinate force constants given in Table I yield the normal-coordinate force constants given in Table III. Note that all the coefficients of this transformation are known exactly and that, since the transformation is exact through the quartic terms, the normal-coordinate force constants are exactly equivalent to the internal-coordinate force constants.

The numerical results of Table III are then substituted into eq 26–29 to give the values of  $X_{ss'}$  and  $\alpha_s$  corresponding to a second-order perturbation treatment and these are then used with eq 24 and 25 to obtain the perturbation-theory estimates of the vibrational energies and the effective rotational constants. Table II shows the results of the second-

Table III. Normal-Coordinate Force Constants for HCN, DCN, and TCN (cm<sup>-1</sup>)

Isotope	Internal-coordinate force constants <sup>a</sup>					
	(i)	(i)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
	H	D	T	H	H	H
$k_{11}$ <sup>b</sup>	3435.80	2701.40	2513.77	3431.57	3435.80	4100.16
$k_{12}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$k_{22}$	2123.43	1945.68	1738.94	2123.04	2123.43	2124.03
$k_{111}$	-279.5	-87.3	-12.57	-285.0	-279.5	-221.0
$k_{112}$	-205.6	322.8	289.43	-197.9	-205.6	-106.8
$k_{122}$	58.66	5.22	55.0	59.4	58.66	63.09
$k_{222}$	-107.3	82.8	75.4	-107.8	-107.3	-111.3
$k_{1111}$	29.79	10.87	7.71	32.8	29.77	21.59
$k_{1112}$	23.30	-13.9	-1.37	-13.4	23.50	10.8
$k_{1122}$	12.47	35.8	32.9	12.28	11.22	5.19
$k_{1222}$	-10.12	4.8	5.0	-12.3	-7.33	-8.7
$k_{2222}$	9.32	5.29	4.31	9.12	7.00	9.98

<sup>a</sup> See Table I. <sup>b</sup> Note that the value of each of these force constants is independent of the order in which the subscripts are written.

order perturbation treatment compared with those of the more exact calculation described in the previous section.

It is immediately clear that there are significant deficiencies in the perturbation-theory estimates of the vibrational energies. E.g., for HCN with potential surface (i), the exact value of the CH stretching fundamental,  $\nu_1$ , is 3345.19 cm<sup>-1</sup> which differs by about 15 cm<sup>-1</sup> from the perturbation-theory estimate. The formal reason for such a difference resides in the complete neglect of higher terms in the expansions given in eq 24 and 25. In fact the coefficients  $X_{ss'}$  and  $\alpha_s$  calculated from the set of force constants by eq 26, 27, and 29 are given exactly by second-order perturbation theory; they may be approximated by fitting the exact vibrational energies and rotational constants to eq 24 and 25. In Table IV we compare the exact and approximate values of  $X_{ss'}$  and  $\alpha_s$  for potential surface (i). They differ significantly and this implies again that the higher terms in the  $(v + \frac{1}{2})$  expansions of eq 24 and 25 are not negligible. One must be concerned whether the perturbation theory is breaking down because of resonance effects. If any of the normal-coordinate force constants is pathologically large with respect to the energy separation of the harmonic oscillator states it couples one must use degenerate perturbation theory. But Tables II and III show no resonance corrections should be required in the present case except possibly for potential surface (iv). We conclude that the failure of eq 24 and 25 to converge is an inherent problem in the perturbation theory approach to vibrational dynamics. As mentioned above, the discrepancies appear to be worse in the CH vibrational modes and could be a result of the relatively high amplitude of this vibration. It is interesting that Mills, using the experimental vibrational excitation energies, also found that the expansion in eq 24 was more slowly convergent for the HC normal mode in HCN than for the CN normal mode.<sup>9</sup> The perturbation theory calculation with no explicit correcting for Fermi-Dennison resonance works about as well for the transition frequencies on surface (iv) as for the transition frequencies on the other surfaces but it fails to adequately reproduce the somewhat anomalous rotational constants.

Since Table II shows that the accuracy (or lack of it) of perturbation theory is roughly comparable for potential surfaces (i), (ii), and (iii), we conclude that there is nothing too special about potential surface (i) and we examine the inversion problem only for this surface.

**Recovery of the Force Constants from the Rotational-Vibrational Spectrum.** Since we have available the exact vibrational energies and rotational constants calculated from a known set of anharmonic force constants we may usefully examine the problem of recovering the force constants from

Table IV. Anharmonic Constants Calculated from (a) the "Observed" Data (Numerical Solution of Schroedinger Equation) of Table II and (b) Predicted from the Perturbation Treatment

	HCN		DCN		TCN	
	a	b	a	b	a	b
$X_{11}$	-30.28 <sup>a</sup>	-49.29	-13.27	-18.78	-7.86	-10.92
$X_{12}$	-9.62	-13.51	-18.97	-27.06	-17.38	-24.62
$X_{22}$	-3.57	-6.14	-3.72	-5.14	-4.84	-5.95
$\alpha_1 \times 10^3$	-13.90	-15.01	-13.85	-14.57	-11.16	-12.32
$\alpha_2 \times 10^3$	-9.59	-10.38	-5.74	-6.41	-4.87	-5.26

<sup>a</sup> All values in this table are in cm<sup>-1</sup> and are for potential energy surface (i) of Table I.

the spectroscopic data by least-squares adjustment. Admittedly the present case is only a two-dimensional problem<sup>26</sup> and, as such, has no analogue in a real polyatomic molecule but we do expect the results of such an examination to illuminate some of the difficulties usually encountered in this least-squares adjustment.

The least-squares adjustment procedure is most simply formulated in matrix notation.<sup>27</sup> We define an  $n$ -element vector of observables,  $\mathbf{O}$ , an  $m$ -element vector of explaining parameters,  $\mathbf{X}$  (in this case the force constants), and a matrix,  $\mathbf{J}(n \times m)$ , the  $J_{ij}$  element of which is equal to  $(\partial O_i / \partial X_j)$ . Since in the present case the relationship between the explaining parameters and the observables is nonlinear,  $J_{ij}$  will depend on the values of the explaining parameters which we shall assume not to be known in advance. We further define a square weight matrix  $\mathbf{P}(n \times n)$  which is formally the inverse of the variance-covariance matrix of the observables.<sup>27</sup> It is customary practice to assume that the spectroscopic observables are stochastically uncorrelated, in which case the weight matrix  $\mathbf{P}$  assumes a diagonal form, the  $P_{ij}$  element of which is the square of the relative weight to be given to the  $i$ th observable.

In the case of a linear least-squares problem, i.e., one in which the  $\mathbf{J}$  is independent of  $\mathbf{X}$  and

$$\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{JX} \quad (34)$$

the least-squares estimates of the explaining parameters,  $\bar{\mathbf{X}}$ , are given by

$$\bar{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{O} \quad (35)$$

where  $\mathbf{J}^T$  is the transpose of  $\mathbf{J}$  and

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{J} \quad (36)$$

In the nonlinear case we assume an arbitrary starting set of explaining parameters and seek the corrections to these explaining parameters,  $\Delta \bar{\mathbf{X}}$ , which will minimize the weighted

Table V. Adjustment of Internal-Coordinate Force Constants to Observed Data<sup>a</sup>

	Exact	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
$K_{111}$	3.108 <sup>b</sup>	3.070 (3)	3.071 (2)	3.068 (7)	3.070 (7)	3.083 (1)
$K_{112}$	-0.242	-0.204 (6)	-0.228 (5)	-0.237 (6)	-0.24 (3)	-0.236 (2)
$K_{222}$	9.322	9.28 (1)	9.31 (1)	9.32 (4)	9.32 (5)	9.293 (4)
$K_{1111}$	-5.39	-3.04 (3)	-5.3 (6)	-4.91 (6)	-4.95 (8)	-4.96 (4)
$K_{1112}$	-0.13	-0.03 (2)	-0.43 (7)	-0.2 (1)	-0.07 (1)	-0.32 (4)
$K_{1122}$	0.09	-3.3 (5)	-0.2 (2)	-0.09 (2)	-0.2 (2)	0.056 (8)
$K_{2222}$	-20.98	-7.5 (7)	-19 (1)	-19.2 (2)	-19.2 (2)	-19.1 (1)
$K_{11111}$	5.57	0.0 <sup>c</sup>	8 (2)	5.9 (3)	6.0 (3)	5.6 (2)
$K_{11112}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.9 (9)	0.0
$K_{11122}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1 (2)	0.0
$K_{12222}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0 (4)	0.0
$K_{22222}$	40	0.0	36 (5)	35 (4)	35 (4)	37.4 (6)
SUMD		14.4 <sup>d</sup>	4.4	89.2	86.1	0.8
Z		10 <sup>6e</sup>	10 <sup>15</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>	10 <sup>10</sup>	10 <sup>11</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The data bases for sets (i) and (ii) above were the vibrational transition energies only, the data base for sets (iii) and (iv) included the rotational constants (actually  $B_v - B_{00}$ ) with  $P_{ii}$  for the vibrational part equal to 1 and for the rotational part equal to 10<sup>6</sup>, and the data base for set (v) includes  $\nu_2$ ,  $2\nu_2$ , and  $\alpha_2$  for HCN and  $\nu_1$ ,  $2\nu_1$ ,  $\nu_1 + \nu_2$ ,  $\nu_2$ ,  $2\nu_2$ ,  $\alpha_1$ , and  $\alpha_2$  for DCN and TCN with  $P_{ii}$  for the  $\nu$  values equal to 1 and  $P_{ii}$  for the  $\alpha$  values equal to 10<sup>6</sup>. <sup>b</sup>The units are the same as in Table I; dispersions in the last digits quoted are given in parentheses. <sup>c</sup>Values given as zero with no dispersion were constrained to be zero. <sup>d</sup>Units are (cm<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>2</sup>. <sup>e</sup>Unitless.

Table VI. Variation of Statistical Fit with the Relative Weight Assigned to the Rotational Constants ( $B_v - B_{00}$ )

	Exact	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
$K_{111}$	3.108	3.03 (6) <sup>a</sup>	3.068 (7)	3.070 (2)	3.071 (2)	3.068 (3)
$K_{112}$	-0.242	-0.25 (5)	-0.238 (7)	-0.230 (5)	-0.229 (5)	-0.238 (9)
$K_{222}$	9.322	9.7 (3)	9.32 (4)	9.31 (1)	9.31 (1)	9.31 (2)
$K_{1111}$	-5.39	-4.8 (2)	-4.91 (7)	-4.85 (8)	-5.1 (4)	-4 (3)
$K_{1112}$	-0.13	-0.00 (2)	-0.2 (1)	-0.38 (6)	-0.42 (7)	0.3 (3)
$K_{1122}$	0.09	-0.10 (2)	-0.09 (2)	-0.06 (2)	-0.09 (3)	-1.6 (8)
$K_{2222}$	-20.98	-20.4 (10)	-19.2 (2)	-19.2 (3)	-18 (2)	-45 (20)
$K_{11111}$	5.57	7 (1)	5.9 (3)	5.6 (3)	6 (2)	3 (10)
$K_{11112}$	0.0	0.0 <sup>b</sup>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
$K_{11122}$	0.0	-3 (13)	-0.6 (14)	-0.3 (4)	-0.4 (6)	3 (11)
$K_{12222}$	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
$K_{22222}$	40	5 (28)	35 (4)	36 (2)	32 (8)	264 (239)
$P_{ii}$ (rot)		10 <sup>10c</sup>	10 <sup>8</sup>	10 <sup>6</sup>	10 <sup>4</sup>	0.0
SUMD		7237 <sup>d</sup>	88.6	5.5	5.5	3.6
Z		10 <sup>7c</sup>	10 <sup>7</sup>	10 <sup>12</sup>	10 <sup>16</sup>	10 <sup>19</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The units are the same as Table I; dispersions in the last digits quoted are given in parentheses. <sup>b</sup>Values given as zero were constrained to be zero. <sup>c</sup>Unitless. <sup>d</sup>Units are (cm<sup>-1</sup>)<sup>2</sup>.

sum SUMD of the squares of the differences between the true observables  $\mathbf{O}$  and the values of the observables calculated from the explaining parameters  $\mathbf{O}_c$ . Thus SUMD is given by

$$\text{SUMD} = \sum_i P_{ii} (\Delta \mathbf{O})_i^2 \quad (37)$$

and  $\Delta \bar{\mathbf{X}}$  is given by

$$\Delta \bar{\mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{P} \Delta \mathbf{O} \quad (38)$$

where  $\Delta \mathbf{O} = \mathbf{O} - \mathbf{O}_c$ . The dependence of  $\mathbf{J}$  on the values of the explaining parameters means that eq 38 must be solved iteratively until the corrections  $\Delta \bar{\mathbf{X}}$  become arbitrarily small or until SUMD assumes a stationary value.

After eq 38 is solved in this way we calculate the variance (square of the dispersion  $\sigma_i$ ) of the  $i$ th force constant as

$$\sigma_i^2 = \phi^{-1} \text{SUMD} [(\mathbf{J}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{J})]_{ii}^{-1} \quad (39)$$

where

$$\phi = n - m \quad (40)$$

We first considered a set of observables containing only  $\nu_1$ ,  $2\nu_1$ ,  $\nu_1 + \nu_2$ ,  $\nu_2$ , and  $2\nu_2$  for the three isotopes [see Table II, column (i)] and attempted, with all  $P_{ii}$  equal to 1, to fit all 12 force constants in the general quartic force field to these 15 observables. We found the solution to be very unstable and iteration on eq 38 diverged. The physical reason for this behavior lies in the fact that there are insufficient independent spectroscopic observables to fix all 12 force

constants. Mathematically it is manifest in the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  being ill-conditioned for inversion. A useful measure of this ill-conditioning is obtained by taking the ratio  $Z$  defined by

$$Z = \prod_i |A_{ii}| / |\mathbf{A}| \quad (41)$$

which is infinite if  $\mathbf{A}$  is singular and becomes very large as  $\mathbf{A}$  becomes ill-conditioned for inversion. In this case  $Z$  was  $1.1 \times 10^{40}$ .

We then decided to constrain some of the explaining parameters at their starting values and to seek a solution to this least-squares problem which would converge in a stable way. We tried a number of constraints but none proved very satisfactory. In Table V we show in columns (i) and (ii) some typical results. In the first case we did not obtain values for quartic force constants but were modestly successful in recovering the seven cubic force constants. In the second case we obtained values for  $K_{1111}$  and  $K_{2222}$  but at the expense of considerably greater uncertainties in the other force constants.

From eq 29 it is clear that the coefficients  $\alpha_s$  depend on the cubic normal-coordinate force constants but not on the quartic ones and our thought was that, by adding the observed  $\alpha_v$  values to the set of observables (increasing  $n$  from 15 to 21 and  $\phi$  from 3 to 9), we should be able to determine the cubic force constants more reliably and hence improve our recovery of the quartic force constants. We found this indeed to be so. In addition we found that inclusion of the  $\alpha_v$  values in the calculation give a much lower value of  $Z$ ,

i.e., a better conditioned inversion. We show two typical results in Table V under columns (iii) and (iv). In the first set (iii) we constrained  $K_{1112}$ ,  $K_{1122}$ , and  $K_{1222}$  to be zero and were able to determine the remaining force constants in a fairly satisfactory way. In the second set (iv) we adjusted all 12 force constants simultaneously and were able to obtain satisfactory values for all of them although the statistical dispersions were slightly larger than those in set (iii).

There was some question in our minds as to the correct relative weights to attribute to the vibrational energies and the rotational constants.<sup>28</sup> We are obviously willing to accept a set of force constants which give a vibrational energy differing by  $1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  from the true one (cf. Table II) but it would be ridiculous to have a rotational constant in error by  $1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . For this reason we must weight the rotational constants more heavily in the least-squares calculation. We experimented with different relative weights (multiplying the rotational constants by a factor varying between  $10^2$  and  $10^5$ ). We found that the best results (cf. Table VI) were obtained with a multiplication factor of  $10^3$  which corresponds with a  $P_{ii}$  of  $10^6$  for the rotational constants and a  $P_{ii}$  of 1 for the vibrational energies.

The comparison of accurate and derived force constants shows there are significant errors associated with both the H-C stretch and the C-N stretch internal-coordinate force constants. In the test of perturbation theory for the vibrational transition frequencies and the  $\alpha_v$  values, we noted that the  $(v + \frac{1}{2})$  expansion is particularly slowly convergent for the H-C stretch normal mode. We thus repeated the calculations of Table V, column (iii), but omitting the data which pertain to the H-C stretch and using only the data pertaining to D-C, T-C, and C-N stretches. The results are shown in Table V. The improvement in the accuracy of the recovered force constants is remarkable and the improvement in SUMD (two orders of magnitude) is even more marked. Clearly the accuracy of force constants recovered from experimental data by second-order perturbation theory can be improved by giving lower weight to the data associated with larger amplitude vibrational modes.

### Summary of Conclusions

Second-order perturbation theory is in error by  $1\text{--}15 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for fundamental frequencies and by larger amounts for overtones and combinations for realistic potential energy surfaces for linear HCN. The approximate theory is generally accurate within  $0.001\text{--}0.002 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  for the  $\alpha_v$  values.

The errors<sup>29</sup> in the determination of a general quartic force field are larger for the anharmonic force constants than for the harmonic ones. The quadratic internal-coordinate force constants are determined to within about 1% or less. For the cubic force constants the errors are no larger than  $1.8 \text{ mdyne}/\text{\AA}^2$  and typically about  $0.6 \text{ mdyne}/\text{\AA}^2$  (while the largest cubic force constant is  $21 \text{ mdyne}/\text{\AA}^2$ ) and for the quartic force constants the errors are no larger than  $5 \text{ mdyne}/\text{\AA}^3$  (while the largest quartic force constant is  $40 \text{ mdyne}/\text{\AA}^3$ ).

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- (22) For masses we used:  $M_H = 1.007 825 \text{ amu} = 1837.1085 \text{ au of mass}$ ;  $M_C = 2.0140 \text{ amu} = 3671.2093 \text{ au of mass}$ ;  $M_N = 3.016 05 \text{ amu} = 5497.7909 \text{ au of mass}$ ;  $M_O = 12.0 \text{ amu} = 21 874.137 \text{ au of mass}$ ;  $M_{16} = 14.003 07 \text{ amu} = 25 525.423 \text{ au of mass}$ .
- (23) We use the usual spectroscopic notation by which the wavenumbers of the fundamental frequencies are denoted  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  and overtones and combinations are designated using an algebraic formula involving  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  such that the band-origin frequencies would be given by the shorthand notation if anharmonicity constants were negligible. Further, we designate by  $\nu_1$  the fundamental frequency of the normal mode which is essentially an H-C stretch and by  $\nu_2$  the fundamental frequency of the normal mode which is essentially a C-N stretch. These are usually denoted  $\nu_3$  and  $\nu_1$ , respectively.
- (24) For the more general case, including degenerate modes, of a symmetric top, see ref 3a for  $X_{st}$ ,  $X_{tt}$ ,  $g_{tt}$ , and  $g_{tt}$ . The expansion for  $\epsilon_k$  for degenerate modes is given in ref 2. Similar formulas for spherical tops are given in ref 3b.
- (25) Note that  $X_{ss'} = x_{ss'} + x_{s's}$  for  $s \neq s'$  (and  $X_{ss} = x_{ss}$ ) in Nielson's notation and that in ref 3a  $x_{ss'}$  differs from Nielson's  $x_{ss'}$  and equals our  $X_{ss'}$ .
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