

The Vibrational Spectra of Linear and Branched Perchlorosilanes $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ and Their Simulation Using a Local Symmetry Force Field

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Infrared and *Raman* vibrational spectra of *n*- $\text{Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$, *n*- $\text{Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$, *neo*- $\text{Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ and $[(\text{SiCl}_3)_3\text{Si}]_2$ have been measured and assigned. A local symmetry force field has been developed to simulate vibrational spectra of all (noncyclic) perchlorosilanes $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ known today ($n = 2, 3, 4, 5, 8$). The observed spectra are reproduced satisfactorily

$$\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum \left| \frac{\Delta \nu}{\nu} \right| = 4\%, m = \text{total number of observed fundamentals} \right).$$

(*Keywords: IR Spectra; Perchlorosilanes; Raman spectra*)

Die Vibrationsspektren linearer und verzweigter Perchlorosilane $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ und deren Simulation mittels eines lokalen Symmetrie-Kraftfeldes

Infrarot- und *Raman*-Spektren von *n*- $\text{Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$, *n*- $\text{Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$, *neo*- $\text{Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ und $[(\text{SiCl}_3)_3\text{Si}]_2$ wurden aufgenommen und zugeordnet. Ein lokales Symmetrie-Kraftfeld zur Simulation der Spektren aller bisher bekannten (nicht cyclischen) Perchlorosilane $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ ($n = 2, 3, 4, 5, 8$) wird angegeben. Die beobachteten Spektren werden zufriedenstellend reproduziert

$$\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum \left| \frac{\Delta \nu}{\nu} \right| = 4\%, m = \text{Gesamtzahl beobachteter Grundschwingungen} \right).$$

Introduction

Besides a wide variety of synthetic routes yielding mixtures of chlorosilanes $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ with different *n*'s and structural isomers (e.g. the reaction of metal silicides with halogens^{1,2} or the method of *Thiel* and *Schwarz*³) only a limited number of reactions leading to products with definite chain length and structure are known. The first three members of the series (SiCl_4 , Si_2Cl_6 and Si_3Cl_8) are usually prepared by the silicide-

Table 1. *Infrared- and Raman-Spectra (cm⁻¹)*

<i>n</i> -Si ₄ Cl ₁₀			<i>n</i> -Si ₅ Cl ₁₂		
IR (l)	Ra (l)	assignment	IR (l)	Ra (l)	assignment
	610 w, tp	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu_s \text{SiSi}_2^i (a_g) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_g) \end{array} \right.$	640 w, b		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu_{as} \text{SiSi}_2^i (b_2)^a \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_2 (b_1) \\ \nu_s \text{SiSi}_2^i (a_1)^a \end{array} \right.$
590 vs, b		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (a_u, b_u) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_2 (a_u) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiSi}_2 (b_u) \end{array} \right.$	590 vs, b	600 w	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_2 (a_2) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiSi}_2^i (b_2)^a \\ \nu_s \text{SiSi}_2^0 (a_1)^a \end{array} \right.$
	593 w, tp	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu \text{SiSi}^i (a_g)^a \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_g) \\ \nu_s \text{SiCl}_2 (b_u) \end{array} \right.$		580 w	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (a_1, a_2) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_1) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_2 (b_1) \\ \nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_2) \end{array} \right.$
485 m	583 w, p	$\nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (a_g)$		539 vvw	
	441 w, p	$\nu_s \text{SiCl}_2 (a_g)$	488 vs	485 vvw	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nu_s \text{SiCl}_2 (a_1) \\ \nu_s \text{SiCl}_2 (b_2) \end{array} \right.$
372 vs		$\nu_s \text{SiCl}_3 (b_u)$		458 vvw	
315 m	310 vs, p	$\nu_s \text{SiCl}_3^{''} (a_g)$	455 vs	432 vvw	
	220 w	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_g) \\ \delta_s \text{SiCl}_3 (a_g) \end{array} \right.$	407 s	404 w, p	$\nu_s \text{SiCl}_2 (a_1)$
			348 s		$\nu_s \text{SiCl}_3 (b_2)$
275 w			304 m	303 vs, p	$\nu_s \text{SiCl}_3^{''} (a_1)$
242 vs		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (a_u) \\ \delta_s \text{SiCl}_3 (b_u) \end{array} \right.$	275 w		$\tau \text{SiCl}_2 (b_2)$
232 vs		$\delta_s \text{SiCl}_2 (b_u)$	230 vs		$\delta_s \text{SiCl}_3 (a_1)$
207 vs			220 vs	220 sh, p	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (a_1, b_1) \\ \delta_s \text{SiCl}_3 (b_2) \end{array} \right.$
	196 m	$\delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (a_g)$		197 w	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_s \text{SiCl}_2 (a_1) \\ \delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_2) \end{array} \right.$
180 vs	186 m	$\delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_u)$	185 vs	180 w	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_s \text{SiCl}_2 (a_1) \\ \delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3 (b_2) \end{array} \right.$
	155 w	$\rho \text{SiCl}_2 (b_g)$		175 sh	$\tau \text{SiCl}_2 (b_1)$
	127 s, p	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \text{SiCl}_3 (b_g) \\ \delta_s, \tau \text{SiCl}_2 (a_g, b_g) \end{array} \right.$	156 w		$\tau \text{SiCl}_2 (b_1)$
	105 vs, p	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma \text{SiCl}_2 (a_g) \\ \rho \text{SiCl}_3 (a_g) \end{array} \right.$	138 w		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \delta_s \text{SiCl}_2 (a_1, b_2) \\ \tau \text{SiCl}_2 (a_2) \end{array} \right.$
		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \text{SiCl}_3 (a_u) \\ \tau \text{SiCl}_2 (a_u) \end{array} \right.$		127 s	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \text{SiCl}_3 (a_1) \\ \tau, \gamma \text{SiCl}_2 (a_2, b_2) \end{array} \right.$
150 sh		$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma \text{SiCl}_2 (a_u) \\ \rho \text{SiCl}_2 (b_u) \end{array} \right.$	107 sh	101 vs	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \text{SiCl}_3 (b_1, b_2) \\ \gamma \text{SiCl}_2 (a_1) \end{array} \right.$
90 m, b			88 s		$\rho \text{SiCl}_2 (b_1)$
			74 s	54 m	$\rho \text{SiCl}_2 (b_1)$
			54 w		

^a i = inner SiSi-bond, o = outer SiSi-bond.

method and are easily separated and purified by distillation, but with increasing chain length severe difficulties concerning purification and identification arise. Besides the „classical“ methods for the determination of molecular structures such as elemental analysis, ebullimetric determination of molecular weights or volumetric determination

of $n\text{-Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$, n - and $neo\text{-Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ and $\text{Si}_8\text{Cl}_{18}$

$neo\text{-Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$			$\text{Si}_8\text{Cl}_{18}$		
IR (s)	Ra (s) ^b	assignment	IR (s)	Ra (s)	assignment
615 sh	613 w	$\nu_{as}\text{SiSi}_4$ (f_2)		600 m	$\nu_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{1g})
597 vs	593 w	$\nu_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (e)		571 m	$\nu_{as}^1, \nu_{as}^2\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_g)
	559 w, p	$\nu_s\text{SiSi}_4$ (a_1)		547 w	$\nu_s\text{SiSi}_3$ (a_{1g})
553 m		$\nu_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (f_2)			$\nu_{as}\text{SiSi}_3$ (e_g)
397 m	402 vw	$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (f_2)			$\nu_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{2u})
	315 vs, p	$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3^{''}$ (a_1)	585 vs, b		$\nu_{as}^1, \nu_{as}^2\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_u)
346 w					$\nu_s\text{SiSi}_3$ (a_{2u})
302 vw			535 vs		$\nu_{as}\text{SiSi}_3$ (e_u)
240 s		$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (f_2)	450 w, b	455 m	νSiSi^i (a_{1g}) ^a
195 s	201 vw	$\delta_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (f_2)		391 w	$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_g)
	185 m	$\delta_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (e)	396 vs		$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_u)
	130 m, sh	ρSiCl_3 (e)		355 vw	
	118 vs, p	$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_1)		296 vs	$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3^{''}$ (a_{1g})
123 w		ρSiCl_3 (f_2)		287 w	
78 vw	76 m	δSiSi_4 (e)	383 s		
	56 m	ρSiSi_4 (f_2)	345 w		$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{2u})
				251 w	
				235 w	$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_g)
			243 sh		$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{2u})
			237 vs		$\delta_{as}^1\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_u)
			200 sh		$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_u)
				197 s	$\delta_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{1g})
				189 s	
				181 s	$\delta_{as}^1, \delta_{as}^2\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_g)
			186 vs		$\delta_{as}\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{2u})
			155 sh		$\rho^1\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_u)
				122 s	$\rho^1\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_g)
				108 s	$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_3$ (a_{1g}, e_g), $\rho^2\text{SiCl}_3$ (e_g)
			107 w		ρSiCl_3 (a_{2u}, e_u)
			78 m		$\delta_{as}\text{SiSi}_3$ (e_u)

^b Polarization measurements on benzolic solution.

of the hydrogen evolved during alkaline hydrolysis, infrared and Raman spectroscopy combined with computer-assisted interpretation of the spectra as well as ^{29}Si nuclear magnetic resonance became more and more important during the last decade. Recently, new synthetic approaches allowed an expansion of our knowledge into the region of

the Si_3 -oligomers⁴⁻⁶ and the collection of important physical data of these molecules (such as ^{29}Si chemical shifts⁶) that will be useful for future research in this area.

Experimental

$n\text{-Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$, n -, $neo\text{-Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ and $[(\text{SiCl}_3)_3\text{Si}]_2$ were prepared according to the procedures given in the literature⁴⁻⁶. IR-spectra of solid samples were recorded as nujol mulls, liquid chlorosilanes were thinned with nujol. The paraffine was deoxygenated and dried by vacuum distillation, all manipulations were performed in dry nitrogen atmosphere. The spectral regions above and below 300 cm^{-1} were examined with a Perkin Elmer 325 spectrometer and a Beckman 725 Fourier spectrophotometer, respectively. Raman spectra were taken with a SPEX Ramalog (50 mW He/Ne gas laser, $6,328\text{ \AA}$), polarization ratios are estimated. All frequencies are believed to be accurate to $\pm 2\text{ cm}^{-1}$ with the exception of FIR measurements ($\pm 5\text{ cm}^{-1}$).

Spectra

IR and Raman spectra of $n\text{-Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$, n -, $neo\text{-Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ and $[(\text{SiCl}_3)_3\text{Si}]_2$ are given in Table 1. The spectra are assigned assuming (for every individual molecule) the highest symmetry possible. Description of the modes follows the calculated potential energy distributions (PED).

$n\text{-Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$ and $[(\text{SiCl}_3)_3\text{Si}]_2$ belong to point groups C_{2h} and D_{3d} , if symmetrical arrangement of the SiCl_3 -groups around the central SiSi-bond is assumed, therefore requiring the rule of mutual exclusion. To a good approximation, the observed spectra display the features expected if it is taken into account that a number of coinciding lines must be assigned to different species (see section normal coordinate analysis). In the case of $n\text{-Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$, several IR bands are believed to originate from decomposition products (458 m, 440 m, 400 w). They are not included in Table 1. The "violation" of the rule of mutual exclusion at " $\nu_3\text{SiCl}_3$ " (a_g) (Ra : 310 vs, p. IR: 315 m) may be explained in different ways:

(i) combination band [$127 (a_g) + 207 (b_u)$], in Fermi resonance with $\nu_3\text{SiCl}_3 (b_u)$ (372 cm^{-1});

(ii) band resulting from decomposition products;

(iii) the actual symmetry of the molecule is not C_{2h} .

We prefer the first explanation since " $\nu_3\text{SiCl}_3$ " (corresponding to a "pulsation" of the whole molecule) usually exhibits the highest possible symmetry (in view of selection rules). However, the presence of a gauche conformer may not be excluded.

Similar considerations are valid for $[(\text{SiCl}_3)_3\text{Si}]_2$. With the exception of the FIR region, the spectra of $neo\text{-Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ are already known⁷. The spectra of $n\text{-Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$ are best described in terms of C_{2v} symmetry.

For disilanes of the type Si_2X_6 , the fundamentals having predominantly $\nu(\text{SiSi})$ character (according to PED) are found in the region be-

tween 403 cm^{-1} (Si_2Me_6)⁸ and 624 cm^{-1} (Si_2Cl_6)⁹. Vibrational coupling between νSiSi , $\nu_s\text{SiX}_3$ and $\delta_s\text{SiX}_3$ ¹⁰ as well as the influence of the substituents on the SiSi-force constants are responsible for this wide range. $f(\text{SiSi})$ increases in the series $\text{CH}_3 < \text{H} < \text{I} \sim \text{C}_6\text{H}_6 < \text{OCH}_3 \sim \text{Br} < \text{Cl} < \text{F}$ ⁹⁻¹². Caused by electronegativity, $f(\text{SiX})$ of disilanes decreases by 5-10% as compared with SiX_4 .

Vibrational coupling in Si_2X_6 -molecules is maximal in Si_2Cl_6 ⁹ because of the little differences between the atomic masses of silicon and chlorine and the similar value of $f(\text{SiSi})$ and $f(\text{SiCl})$. Calculations on Si_3Cl_8 ¹³ (C_{2v} symmetry) show that $\nu_s\text{SiSi}_2$ of species a_1 mixes extensively with $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ and $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_2$. $\nu_{as}\text{SiSi}_2$ of species b_2 on the contrary is not coupled with $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ since the SiSi distance is not altered during $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ ($\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ of species b_2 being an out of phase vibration).

Similar effects are expected if the chain length is increased. Coupling between $\nu_s\text{SiSi}_n$ and $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_n$ of the totally symmetric species results in a "breathing mode" of the whole molecule, giving rise to a strong *Raman* line whose frequency decreases with increasing chain length. Because of its high intensity, this mode may be used for easy identification of chlorosilanes (as, for instance, during a reaction). Table 2 gives the frequencies of " $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ " for $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ molecules:

Table 2. " $\nu_s\text{SiCl}_3$ " of chlorosilanes $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$ (cm^{-1})

Si_2Cl_6	Si_3Cl_8	<i>i</i> - $\text{Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$	<i>n</i> - $\text{Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$	<i>neo</i> - $\text{Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$	<i>n</i> - $\text{Si}_5\text{Cl}_{12}$	$\text{Si}_6\text{Cl}_{14}$
351	331	322	310	315	302	296

Normal Coordinate Analysis (NCA)

Wilson's FG-method was followed throughout the calculations. Geometrical parameters used were: $r(\text{SiSi}) = 232\text{ pm}$, $r(\text{SiCl}) = 202\text{ pm}$, all angles $109^\circ 28'$. Torsional angles were chosen in a way the most symmetrical conformer results. This simplification seems obvious if the number of predicted fundamentals (relating to different rotameres) is compared with the observed spectra.

Symmetry coordinates were constructed using the local symmetries of $-\text{SiCl}_3$ and $-\text{SiCl}_2$ groups. The following combinations of internal coordinates result (Table 3).

SiSi and SiCl force constants depend on the electronegativities of the remaining substituents on the silicon atom. If a chlorine atom is replaced by a SiCl_3 group, $f(\text{SiCl})$ decreases by 5-10% ($\text{SiCl}_4 \rightarrow \text{Si}_2\text{Cl}_6$). $f(\text{SiSi})$ behaves similarly. We parameterized these effects using the following assumptions:

(i) variation of $f(\text{SiSi})$ and $f(\text{SiCl})$ with chain length is caused by electronegativity;

(ii) the electronegativity of a SiCl_3 group nearly equals that of a CH_3 group, this assumption being justified by a comparison of νSiH of

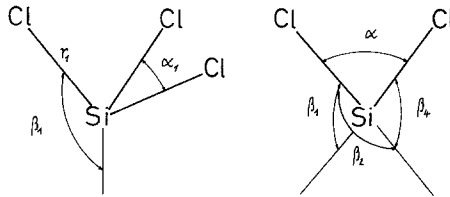


Fig. 1

Table 3. Local symmetry coordinates of SiCl_3 , SiCl_2 and SiCl -groups in chlorosilanes $\text{Si}_n\text{Cl}_{2n+2}$

	$-\text{SiCl}_3$	$-\text{SiCl}_2$	$-\text{SiCl}$
$\nu_s\text{SiCl}_n$	$r_1 + r_2 + r_3$	$r_1 + r_2$	r
$\delta_s\text{SiCl}_n$	$\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 - \beta_1 - \beta_2 - \beta_3$	$4\alpha - \beta_1 - \beta_2 - \beta_3 - \beta_4$	
$\nu_{as}^1\text{SiCl}_n$	$2r_1 - r_2 - r_3$	$r_1 - r_2$	
$\delta_{as}^1\text{SiCl}_n$	$2\alpha_1 - \alpha_2 - \alpha_3$		
$\rho^1\text{SiCl}_n$	$2\beta_1 - \beta_2 - \beta_3$	$\beta_1 + \beta_2 - \beta_3 - \beta_4$	$2\beta_1 - \beta_2 - \beta_3$
$\nu_{as}^2\text{SiCl}_n$	$r_2 - r_3$		
$\delta_{as}^2\text{SiCl}_n$	$\alpha_2 - \alpha_3$		
$\rho^2\text{SiCl}_n$	$\beta_2 - \beta_3$		
γSiCl_2		$\beta_1 - \beta_2 + \beta_3 - \beta_4$	
τSiCl_2		$\beta_1 - \beta_2 - \beta_3 + \beta_4$	

$\text{HSi}(\text{SiCl}_3)_3$ ($2,141\text{ cm}^{-1}$)¹⁵ and HSiMe_3 ($2,131\text{ cm}^{-1}$)¹⁶ and the linear relationship between $f(\text{SiH})$ of HSiX_3 molecules and $f(\text{SiSi})$ of the corresponding disilanes X_3SiSiX_3 :

(iii) replacement of several chlorine atoms results in a linear, cumulative effect.

$f(\text{SiSi})$ of Si_2Cl_6 and Si_2Me_6 are reported to be $2.4 \cdot 10^2\text{ N/m}$ (Ref.⁹) and $1.65 \cdot 10^2\text{ N/m}$ (Ref.⁸), respectively. Therefore, $f(\text{SiSi})$ decreases upon substitution of one chlorine atom by CH_3 (or equivalently, SiCl_3) by $(2.4 - 1.65)/6 = 0.125 \cdot 10^2\text{ N/m}$. If one chlorine atom in a β -position is replaced by SiCl_3 , an increment of $0.075 \cdot 10^2\text{ N/m}$ is subtracted [this value being estimated since no data are available, see (ii)]. Therefore, replacement of Cl by $-\text{SiCl}_2\text{SiCl}_3$ is thought to reduce $f(\text{SiSi})$ by

$0.2 \cdot 10^2 \text{N/m}$, $-\text{SiCl}(\text{SiCl}_3)_2$ by $0.275 \cdot 10^2$, $\text{Si}(\text{SiCl}_3)_3$ by $0.35 \cdot 10^2 \text{N/m}$. $-(\text{SiCl}_2)_2\text{SiCl}_3$ is set equal to $\text{SiCl}(\text{SiCl}_3)_3$, $-(\text{SiCl}_2)_3\text{SiCl}_3$ to $\text{Si}(\text{SiCl}_3)_3$, structural isomerism thus being neglected. In a similar way, SiCl force constants are parameterized: starting with SiCl_4 ($3.1 \cdot 10^2 \text{N/m}$), the following increments are subtracted (if one chlorine atom is replaced):

$$-\text{SiCl}_3: 0.15, \quad -\text{SiCl}_2\text{SiCl}_3: 0.25, \quad \text{SiCl}_2\text{SiCl}_3: 0.35 \\ -(\text{SiCl}_2)_3\text{SiCl}_3 = \text{Si}(\text{SiCl}_3)_3: 0.4; \quad \text{all values in } 10^2 \text{N/m}.$$

Deformation force constants are the same for all chlorosilanes [$F(\delta \text{SiCl}_n)$ weighted by $r(\text{SiCl})$, $F(\delta \text{SiSi}_n)$ by $r(\text{SiSi})$]:

	$\delta_s \text{SiCl}_3$	$\delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3$	ρSiCl_3	$\delta_s \text{SiCl}_2$	γSiCl_2	τSiCl_2	ρSiCl_2	δSiSi_n
F ($\cdot 10^2 \text{N/m}$)	0.18	0.178	0.14	0.18	0.17	0.17	0.12	0.08

The interaction force constants between two adjacent SiSi and SiCl bonds are fixed to $0.1 \cdot 10^2 \text{N/m}$ and $0.05 \cdot 10^2 \text{N/m}$, respectively.

The following non-zero off diagonal force constants (10^2N/m) were retained constant:

$$F(\nu \text{SiSi}_n/\nu_s \text{SiCl}_3): 0,04 \quad F(\nu \text{SiSi}_n/\nu_s \text{SiCl}_2): 0,04 \quad F(\nu \text{SiSi}_n/\nu \text{SiCl}): 0,04 \\ F(\nu \text{SiSi}_n/\delta_s \text{SiCl}_3): -0,04 \quad F(\nu \text{SiSi}_n/\delta_s \text{SiCl}_2): -0,04 \\ F(\nu_s \text{SiCl}_3/\delta_s \text{SiCl}_3): 0,11 \quad F(\nu_s \text{SiCl}_2/\delta_s \text{SiCl}_2): 0,11 \\ F(\nu_{as}^{1,2} \text{SiCl}_3/\delta_{as}^{1,2} \text{SiCl}_3): -0,11 \quad F(\nu_{as} \text{SiCl}_2/\rho \text{SiCl}_2): 0,05 \\ F(\nu_{as}^{1,2} \text{SiCl}_3/\rho^{1,2} \text{SiCl}_3): 0,13 \\ F(\delta_{as}^{1,2} \text{SiCl}_3/\rho^{1,2} \text{SiCl}_3): -0,016$$

Generally, F_{ij} 's corresponding to $G_{ij} = 0$ were kept zero. Table 4 gives the frequencies calculated with our model force field as well as the experimental values.

Discussion

The results of the normal coordinate analysis allow the following conclusions:

(i) NCA is able to distinguish between structural isomers (e.g. n -, i - $\text{Si}_4\text{Cl}_{10}$), but not between rotational isomers.

(ii) Increasing chain length does not lead to a serious complication of the spectra, because of the "group-frequency" character of several modes (e.g. ν_{as} , $\delta_{as} \text{SiCl}_3$, see Table 4). The number of observable transitions thus is reduced. Selection rules usually correspond to the conformer with the highest symmetry, giving no information on the actual conformation of the molecule.

Table 4. *Experimental and calculated fundamentals (cm⁻¹) of chlorosilanes Si_nCl_{2n-2}*

Si ₂ Cl ₆ (D _{3d})	Si ₃ Cl ₈ (C _{2v})	n-Si ₄ Cl ₁₀ (C _{2h})	i-Si ₄ Cl ₁₀ (C _{3v})	n-Si ₅ Cl ₁₂ (C _{2v})	neo-Si ₅ Cl ₁₂ (T _d)	Si ₆ Cl ₁₄ (D _{3d})	description	T _d	assignment	C _{2v}
v _{exp.} v _{calc.}	v _{exp.13} v _{calc.}	v _{exp.} v _{calc.}	v _{exp.17} v _{calc.}	v _{exp.} v _{calc.}	v _{exp.} v _{calc.}	v _{exp.} v _{calc.}			D _{3d} C _{2h} C _{3v}	
603	580	610	599	580	597	585	} ν _{as} SiCl ₃	e	e _u	a ₁
590	625	590	590	572	553	600		f ₂	e _g	a ₂
	625	590	600	570	570	571			e _g	e
	594	585	574	580	569	576			a _{1g}	b ₂
						585			e _u	
						585			a _{2u}	
							} ν _{as} SiCl ₂		a _{1u}	b ₁
									b _{1u}	a ₂
							} ν _{as} SiSi _n		b ₁	b ₁
									e _g	b ₂
							} ν _s SiSi _n		e _u	b ₂
									e _g	e
624	630	617	593	580	559	571	} ν _s SiSi _n	a ₁	a _{1g}	a ₁
									a ₁	a _{1g}
						535			a _{1g}	a ₁
						517			a _{2u}	
						391	} ν _s SiCl ₃	f ₂	e _g	b ₂
						396			e _g	e
460	457					345			a _{2u}	
						396			e _u	
						301	} ν _s SiCl ₃ ^{cc}	a ₁	a _{1g}	a ₁
						396			a _{1g}	a ₁
						377	} ν _s SiCl ₂		a _{1g}	a ₁
						489			b _{1u}	a ₁
						488			b _{1u}	b ₂
						506	νSiCl		a ₁	
						496				

211	209	187	183	242	254	175	163	197	195	185	193	188	197	δ -as-SiCl ₃	e _g	a _u	a ₁	a ₁
179	179	182	173	180	179	198	191	197	200	195	182	188	197	δ -as-SiCl ₃	e _g	a _g	e	b ₁
								180	182			237	221	δ -as-SiCl ₃	e _u	b _u	c	b ₂
238	241	232	221	232	231	214	207	220	228	240	244	243	252	δ -s-SiCl ₃	a _{1g}	b _u	a ₁	a ₁
127	120	232	242	220	233	225	240	197	204	118	109	200	218	δ -s-SiCl ₃	a _{2u}	a _g	b ₂	b ₂
				220	253							208	218	δ -s-SiCl ₃	a _{1g}	a _g	e	
				242	254							235	238	δ -s-SiCl ₃	e _u	b _g	e	
		135	123	127	122			127	129					δ -s-SiCl ₂	e _g	a _u	a ₁	a ₁
				207	203									δ -s-SiCl ₂	a _g	b _u	b ₂	b ₂
								180	179					δ -s-SiCl ₂	a _g	b _u	a ₁	a ₁
132	128	149	157	127	140	112	111	101	95	130	133	122	125	ρ -SiCl ₂	e _g	b _g	b ₁	b ₁
74	84	116	111	105	106	120	113	101	111	123	110	108	102	ρ -SiCl ₂	e _g	a _g	e	a ₁
				130	140	120	110		155			107	113	ρ -SiCl ₂	e _u	a _u	e	a ₂
				101	119			101	107			155	134	ρ -SiCl ₂	e _u	b _u	e	b ₂
												100	109	ρ -SiCl ₂	a _{1g}	a _{2u}		
												107		ρ -SiCl ₂	b _u	b _u	b ₁	b ₁
		69	72	90	98			175	182					ρ -SiCl ₂	b _g	a ₂	a ₂	a ₂
				155	165			74	69					ρ -SiCl ₂	b _g	b ₁	b ₁	b ₁
								220	233					γ -SiCl ₂	a _g	a _g	b ₂	b ₂
		116	115	105	109			101	105					γ -SiCl ₂	a _u	a _u	b ₂	b ₂
				90	92			88	84					γ -SiCl ₂	b _g	a ₁	a ₁	a ₁
								127	118					τ -SiCl ₂	b _g	a ₂	a ₂	a ₂
				96	119			138	135					τ -SiCl ₂	b _g	b ₁	a ₂	a ₂
		55	39		50	80	87	54	47	76	96		57	δ -SiSiSi	e _g	a _g	e	b ₁
					29		48	54	46	56	43	108	31	δ -SiSiSi	a _{1g}	b _u	a ₁	a ₁
													113	δ -SiSiSi	e _g	a ₁	b ₂	b ₂
													50	δ -SiSiSi	a _{2u}	b ₁	a ₁	a ₁
													102	δ -SiSiSi	e _u	a ₁	b ₂	b ₂
													107	δ -SiSiSi	e _u	a ₁	b ₂	a ₁
														δ -SiSiSi	e _u	a ₁	b ₂	a ₁

(iii) According to calculated PED's, strong mixing occurs between SiCl_n -deformation modes, the PED usually spreading out over several coordinates (e.g. ρSiCl_3 , $\rho, \tau, \gamma, \delta \text{SiCl}_2$). Vibrational coupling between $\nu_s \text{SiSi}_n$ and $\nu_s \text{SiCl}_n$ has already been mentioned.

(iv) Refinement of the given force field with iterative methods is hindered by vibrational coupling, large variations of bond stretch force constants leading to only slight variations of calculated frequencies. In the SiCl_n -deformation region, small off diagonal force constants may cause an interchange of modes (according to PED).

(v) The given force field is transferable to chlorosilanes with other substituents M by combining it with a local M force field using appropriately chosen off diagonal force constants. Electronegativity of M has to be taken into account. Applications to HSi_2Cl_5 and $M\text{e}_3\text{SiSiCl}_3$ resulted in good agreement between experimental and calculated frequencies.

Readers interested in details of the calculations are invited to write for additional data.

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