

NORMAL MODE ANALYSIS OF THE VIBRATIONS OF MOLECULES & CLUSTERS

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I. Theory of “small amplitude” vibrations

Classical

Quantum

II. Examples

HCO

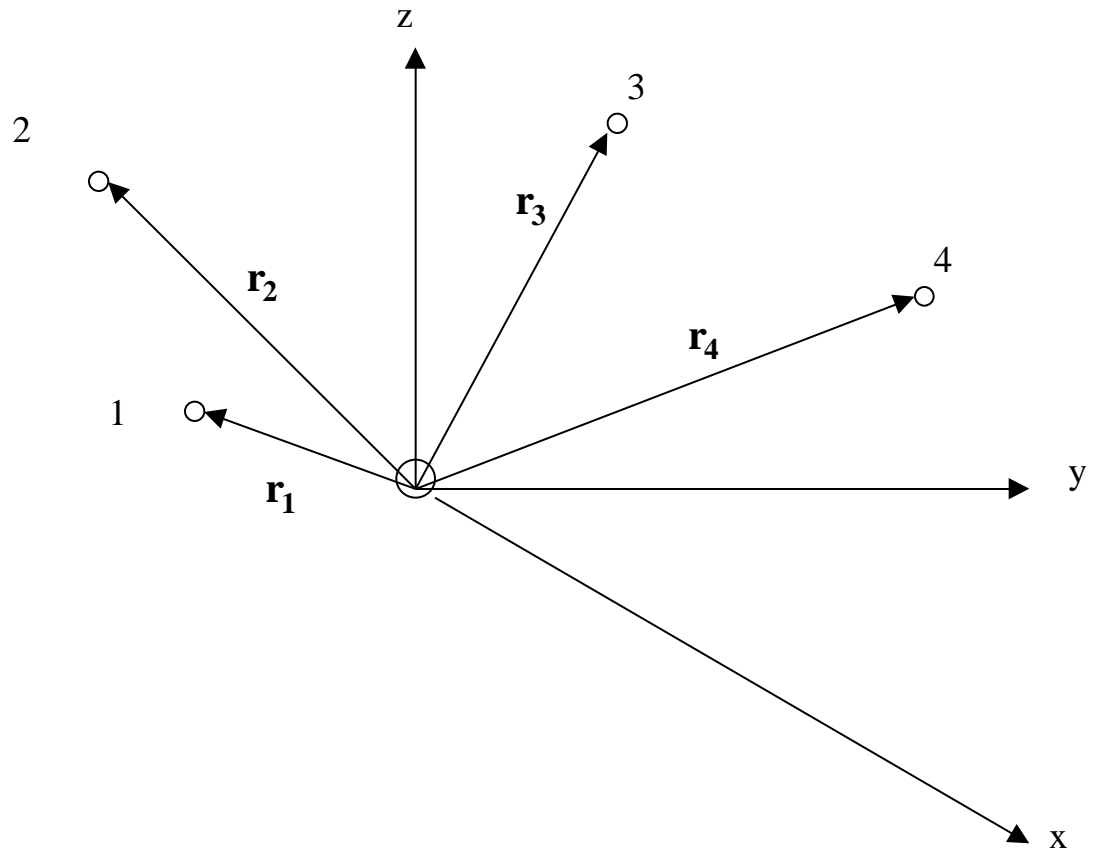
Si(100)-(2x1)

III. What about anharmonicity and coupling?

Theory

Some examples

I. Theory of Small Amplitude Vibrations



Let \mathbf{r}_i be the position vector of atom i relative to a space-fixed coordinate system.

In general

$$T \text{ (kinetic energy)} = \sum_i \frac{P_{x_i}^2 + P_{y_i}^2 + P_{z_i}^2}{2M_i} \quad (1)$$

where M_i is the mass of atom i .

$$V(\text{potential energy}) = V(\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \dots) \quad (2)$$

but typically V depends only on the distances between the atoms. Thus, for a fixed geometry of the atoms, V does not depend on a rigid rotation or translation of one entire collection of atoms. (This means there are no external fields.)

Expand V about minimum (only one?) in a Taylor series:

$$V = V \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \boxed{0} \\ / \\ u_i^0 \end{array} \right\} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial u_{i,j} \partial u_{p,j}} (u_{i,j} - u_{i,j}^0)$$

$u_{i,j}$ = x, y, or z e.g., $u_{x,1} = x_1$, $u_{z,29} = z_{29}$

and the coordinates of the minimum are

$$(x_1^0, y_1^0, z_1^0 \dots x_N^0, y_N^0, z_N^0) \text{ for } N \text{ atoms}$$

Define mass-scaled cartesian coordinates

$$\tilde{x}_i = \sqrt{M_i} x_i, \text{ etc., where } M_i \text{ is the mass of atom } i.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (m_i \dot{x}_i^2 + m_i \dot{y}_i^2 + m_i \dot{z}_i^2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (\dot{\tilde{x}}_i^2 + \dot{\tilde{y}}_i^2 + \dot{\tilde{z}}_i^2) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$P_{\tilde{x}_i} = \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{\tilde{x}}_i} = \dot{\tilde{x}}_i, \text{ etc.}$$

Define mass-scaled cartesian displacements q_i that are indexed from 1 to $3N$ as follows

$$q_1 = \tilde{x}_1 - \tilde{x}_1^0, q_2 = \tilde{y}_1 - \tilde{y}_1^0, \dots, q_{3N} = \tilde{z}_N - \tilde{z}_N^0$$

Thus, (to second order)

$$V = V(0, 0, 0, \dots, 0) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \sum_{j=1}^{3N} q_i \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} \right|_{0,0,\dots} q_j$$

(Why are the first derivative terms “missing”?) and

$$T = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \dot{q}_i^2$$

The sum $T + V$ is the Hamiltonian.

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \dot{q}_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{3N} \sum_{j=1}^{3N} q_i F_{i,j} q_j,$$

where $F_{i,j} = \left. \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} \right|_{0,0,\dots}$ is the mass scaled Force Constant Matrix. In

matrix notation

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ \vdots \\ q_{3N} \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mathbf{q}^t = [q_1 q_2 \cdots q_{3N}]$$

and thus

$$H = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^t \dot{\mathbf{q}}}_{\mathbf{T}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}^t \mathbf{F} \mathbf{q}}_{\mathbf{V}}$$

Example 3 atoms

$$\mathbf{q} = \begin{matrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \\ \vdots \\ q_9 \end{matrix} ; \quad q_1 = \tilde{x}_1 - \tilde{x}_1^0, \quad q_9 = \tilde{z}_3 - \tilde{z}_3^0$$

$$T = \frac{1}{2} [\dot{q}_1 \dot{q}_2 \cdots \dot{q}_9] \begin{matrix} \dot{q}_1 \\ \dot{q}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \dot{q}_9 \end{matrix} = \frac{1}{2} (\dot{q}_1^2 + \dot{q}_2^2 + \cdots + \dot{q}_9^2) \quad \checkmark$$

$$V = \frac{1}{2} [q_1 q_2 \cdots q_9] \begin{matrix} F_{11} & F_{12} & \cdots & F_{12} & q_1 \\ F_{21} & F_{22} & \cdots & F_{29} & q_2 \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ F_{91} & F_{92} & & F_{99} & q_9 \end{matrix} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \sum_j q_i F_{ij} q_j \quad \checkmark$$

Note $F_{ij} = F_{ji}$, i.e., \mathbf{F} is a symmetric matrix

$$\text{"Proof"} \quad \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial q_i \partial q_j} = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial q_j \partial q_i}$$

Also, note

$$T \text{ is separable, i.e., } T = \sum_i t_i, \text{ where } t_i = \frac{1}{2} \dot{q}_i^2,$$

$$\text{but } V \text{ is not separable, i.e., } V = \sum_i V_i.$$

Thus, even to lowest (2nd) order there is coupling. However, because V is bilinear in $q_i q_j$ there exists a transformation to a new set of variables, Q_i such that T and V are both separable in the Q_i .

Let $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{CQ}$, where \mathbf{C} is a $3N \times 3N$ matrix. Consider a special class of matrices called orthogonal matrices. These have the property that

$$\mathbf{C}^{-1} = \mathbf{C}^t, \text{ where } \mathbf{C}^t \text{ is the transpose of } \mathbf{C}.$$

That is,

$$(\mathbf{C}^t)_{i,j} = C_{j,i}$$

Thus,

$$\mathbf{q}^t = (\mathbf{CQ})^t = \mathbf{Q}^t \mathbf{C}^t = \mathbf{Q}^t \mathbf{C}^{-1}$$

Aside—if $D = \mathbf{EF}$ then $D^t = \mathbf{F}^t \mathbf{E}^t$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Proof—} D_{ij} &= \sum_k E_{ik} F_{kj}, & D_{ij}^t &= \sum_k F_{ik}^t E_{kj}^t \\ &= \sum_k F_{ki} E_{kj} = \sum_k E_{jk} F_{ki} \\ &= D_{ji} \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} T &= \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{q}}^t \dot{\mathbf{q}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{Q}}^t \underbrace{\mathbf{C}^t \mathbf{C}} \dot{\mathbf{Q}} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{\mathbf{Q}}^t \dot{\mathbf{Q}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \dot{Q}_i^2 = \sum_i t_i \\ V &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{q}^t \mathbf{F} \mathbf{q} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Q}^t (\mathbf{C}^t \mathbf{F} \mathbf{C}) \mathbf{Q} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{Q}^t \mathbf{Q} \end{aligned}$$

The new force const matrix $H = C^t F C$ and we determine C by requiring to be diagonal. This is an example of an eigenvalue/eigenvector problem. Before discussing that, what advantage is there in requiring to be diagonal?

$$\text{Ans: } H = \sum_i (T_i + V_i) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i \dot{Q}_i^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i Q_i^2$$

Now the system looks like 3N uncoupled harmonic oscillators with normal mode harmonic frequencies

$$\omega_i = \sqrt{F_{ii}/C_{ii}}$$

Return to $C^t F C = \text{(diagonal)}$.

Thus, multiply by C to get $\underbrace{C C^t}_I F C = C$ thus

$$\boxed{F C = C}$$

Consider a 2x2 example:

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Can show (homework) this is equivalent to:

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} \\ C_{21} \end{pmatrix} = 1 \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} \\ C_{21} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_{11} & F_{12} \\ F_{21} & F_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} C_{12} \\ C_{22} \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} C_{12} \\ C_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus,

$$FC^{(1)} = \omega_1^2 C^{(1)}; \quad FC^{(2)} = \omega_2^2 C^{(2)},$$

where

$C^{(1)}, C^{(2)}, \dots, C^{(3N)}$ are the columns of the C -matrix. These columns are called the eigenvectors. The procedure to find the C -matrix is termed finding the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of F .

$$\boxed{FC = C\Lambda}$$

(I will spare you the details on how this is “diagonalization of F ” is done.)

Remarks

There are 6 zero frequency modes, i.e., $\omega_1 = \omega_6 = 0$. These normal modes correspond to 3 translations and 3 rigid rotations of the equilibrium system, for which there is the remaining $3N-6$ $\omega_j (j=7, \dots, 3N-6)$ are not zero and they are the normal mode vibration frequencies.

For each ω_i there is a corresponding eigenvector, $C^{(i)}$ which relates normal mode Q_i to the $q_j, j=1, \dots, 3N$, the mass-scaled cartesian displacements. Recall $q = CQ$, so $Q = C^t q$,

$$\begin{array}{rcccccc} Q_1 & & C_{11} & C_{21} & \cdots & C_{N1} & q_1 \\ Q_2 & = & C_{12} & C_{22} & & & q_2 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & & & \vdots \\ Q_{3N} & & & & & & q_{3N} \end{array}$$

$$Q_1 = c_{11}q_1 + c_{21}q_2 + \dots + c_{N1}q_{3N}$$

To visualize the mode, place a vector on each atom with components (c_{11}, c_{21}, c_{31}) , etc.

Equations of motion

$$H_{\text{classical}} = \sum_i h_i^c; \quad h_i^c = \frac{p_i^2}{2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i Q_i^2$$

$$Q_i(t) = A \cos \omega_i t + B \sin \omega_i t$$

$$H_{qm} = \sum_i h_i^q; \quad h_i^q = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2} \frac{d^2}{dQ_i^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_i Q_i^2$$

$$\left(h_i^q - \frac{\hbar \omega_i}{2} \right) Q_i = 0$$

$$\frac{\hbar \omega_i}{2} = \hbar \omega_i \left(n_i + \frac{1}{2} \right); \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$E_{\text{total}} = \sum_i \hbar \omega_i \left(n_i + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Total zero-point energy = $\sum_i \hbar \omega_i / 2$

For IR-active mode light is absorbed at fundamental frequencies ω_i^{active} .

Also, obtain vibrational partition functions, x-ray structure factors, etc.

II. Examples and practical matters

HCO (formyl radical) 3 vibrational modes. Units: ω is typically

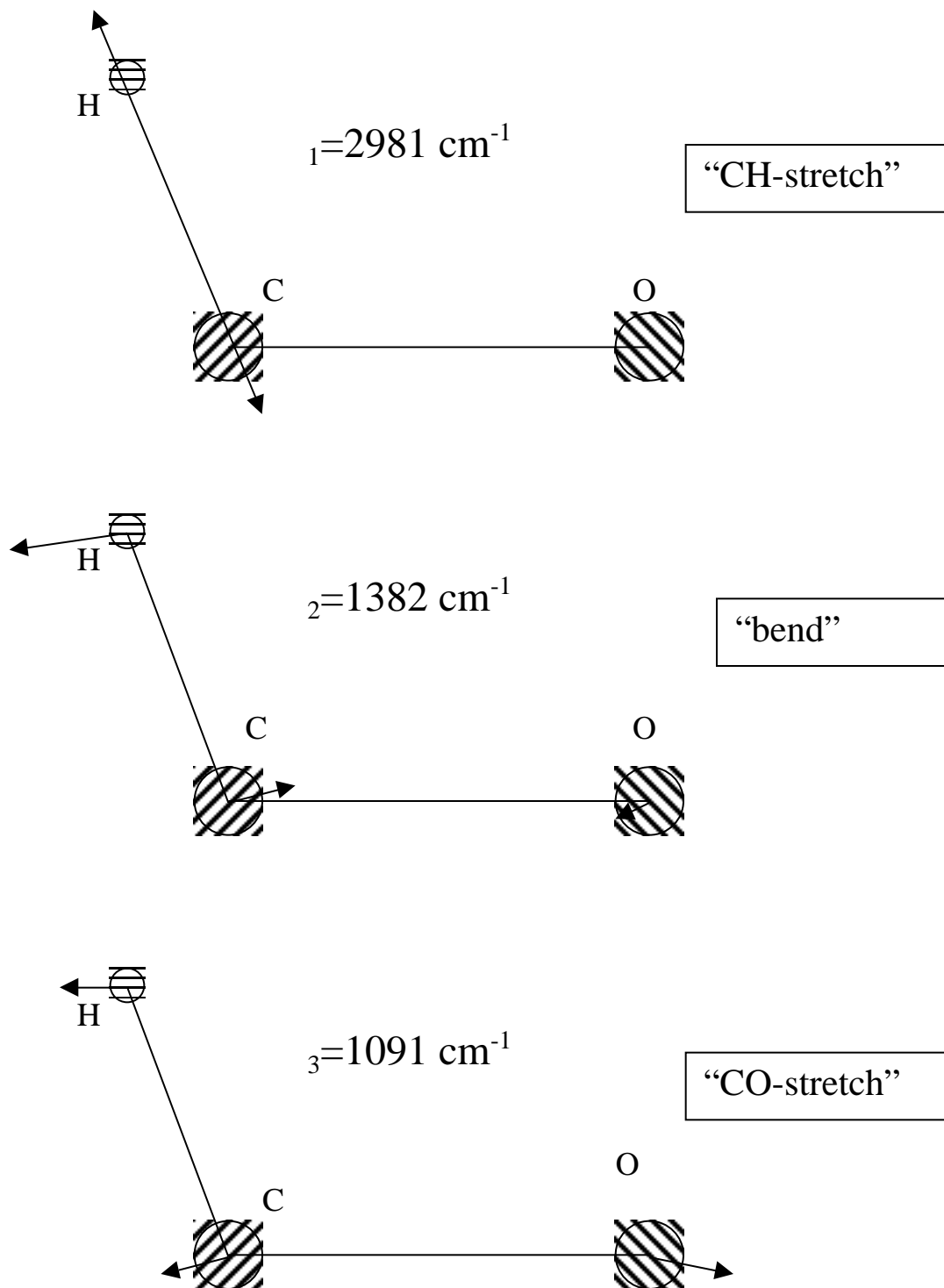
reported in spectroscopy as cm^{-1} !! But, ω should be sec^{-1} . Let $\tilde{\omega} = \omega / c$, c

is the speed of light. Then $\tilde{\nu}$ has dimensions of cm^{-1} . Notation should be $\tilde{\nu}$ but people get lazy and just use ν . What about $\hbar \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)$? This is an energy. How to convert from $\tilde{\nu} (\text{cm}^{-1})$ to energy.

$$1 \text{ hartree} = 219474.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

What about V ? This was obtained by saving the electronic energy as a function of nuclear geometry. A search for the minimum was successful and the force constant matrix was obtained numerically.

HCO Normal Modes



Si(100)—2x1 cluster (28 atoms), 2 layers. The vibrational modes of an ordered solid are termed phonons. The potential in this example was a model one based on harmonic nearest neighbor and next nearest neighbor interactions.

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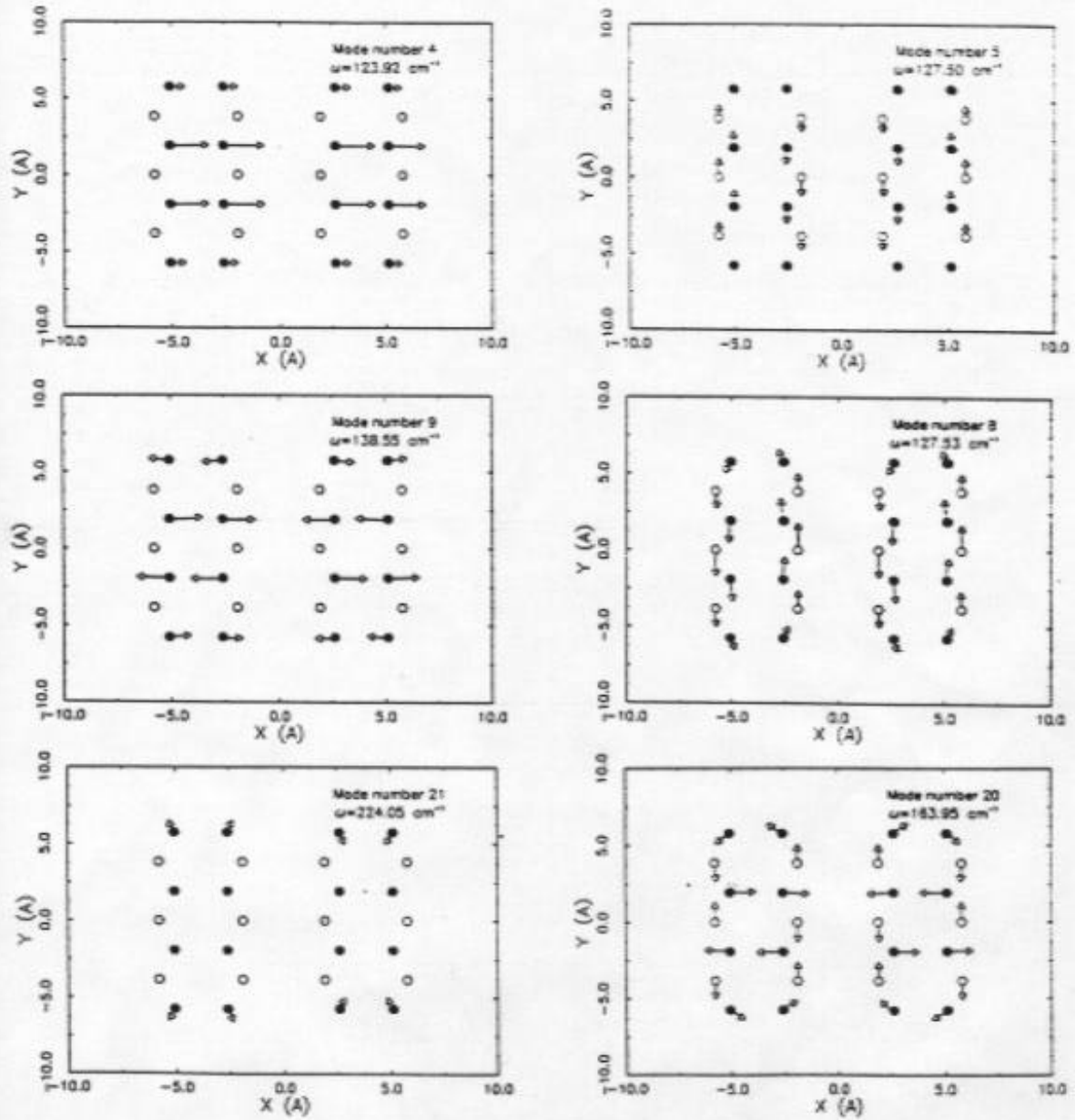


FIG. 3. Six normal modes for Si(100)-(2x1) in the xy plane. Closed circles (●) are the first-layer atoms and open circles (○) are the second-layer atoms.

III. What about anharmonicity and coupling

Anharmonicity

$$V_i(Q_i) = \frac{1}{2} k_i Q_i^2 + c_i Q_i^3 + d_i Q_i^4 + \dots$$

anharmonic terms

All potentials contain such terms; however, for very small amplitude motion they may be very small. “Easy” to treat anharmonic terms.

Coupling

$$V(Q_1, Q_2, \dots) = \sum_i V_i(Q_i) + a Q_1 Q_2^2 + b Q_1 Q_2^3 Q_4 + \dots$$

Coupling terms in $V(Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_{3N-3})$ are terms that involve two or more modes. This is hard to treat, but very important to consider. For example, H_2O $\text{OH}+\text{H}$ must involve coupling.

The importance of anharmonicity and coupling
In HCO (energies in cm^{-1})

	NMHO	NMAO	NMAO/C	EXP
ZPE	2899	2857	2836	
1	1145	1147	1104	1087
2	1905	1869	1885	1868
3	2748	2494	2448	2435

Conclusion: NMHO is qualitatively correct, but not quantitative. (Huge CH(3) stretch anharmonicity.)