

Chemistry II: Introduction to Molecular Spectroscopy
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Lecture - 11
Diatomic Vibration Morse Oscillator Model

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Lecture 11: Anharmonic Vibrations.

Philip M. Morse MIT ~ 1929

$$V(r) = D_e \left[1 - e^{-\alpha(r-r_e)} \right]^2$$

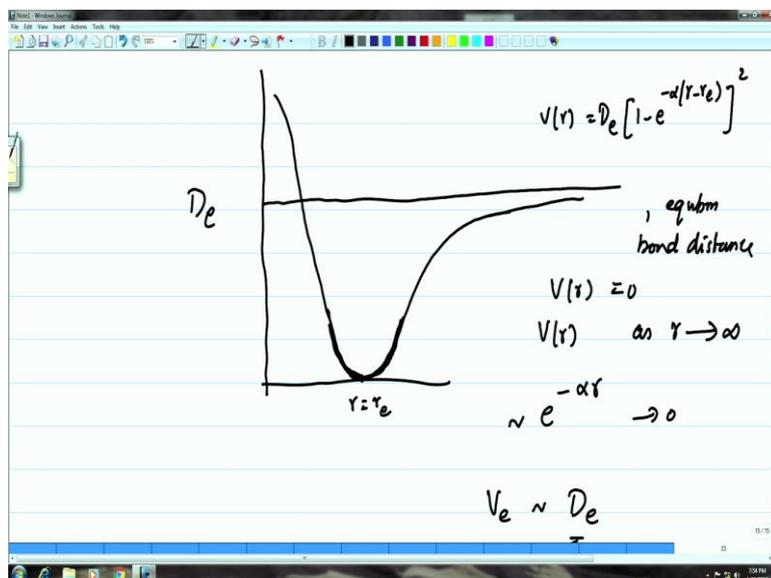
α is a constant

Welcome back to the lectures on Chemistry and Introduction to Molecular Spectroscopy. We shall continue the lecture from the Harmonic Vibrational spectroscopy of a diatomic molecule to look at one model for the Anharmonic Vibration and this model is due to Professor Philip M Morse from M I T around 1929. He came up with the molecular motion being anharmonic and the Vibrational motion eventually leading to for very large frequencies of vibration or very large the energies of Vibrational quantum (Refer Time: 00:59) with very large quantum number the molecule eventually dissociate.

In the harmonic model dissociation does not exist because no matter how high the energy is; the parabolic nature of the harmonic potential energy curve tells you that the molecule eventually reaches back to it is equilibrium state and therefore, there is nothing called dissociation or a break way of a diatomic molecule accounted for in the harmonic model.

Therefore it is very important for vibrationally induced dissociation of chemical structures that the Vibrational motion is anharmonic and the model that was proposed by Philip Morse has the following form for the potential energy. As a function of the distance from the equilibrium the $V(r)$ is given by the specific functional form a constant D_e multiplied by this particular mathematical quantity $1 - e^{-\alpha(r-r_e)}$ whole square. So, the potential energy has a very specific form due to exponential and α is a constant which we shall see in a minute how it is identified with the equilibrium or which is called the harmonic oscillated frequency. Now, it is important to visualize this potential energy first to understand why it is meaningful.

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Now, if you plot V of r as a function of r it is D_e times $1 - e^{-\alpha(r-r_e)}$ whole square therefore, at r is equal to r_e the equilibrium bond distance V of r is 0 because, this becomes 1 because, the exponent is 0 therefore, $1 - 1 = 0$ therefore, V of r is the minimum at r is equal to r_e and for very large values r ; V of r as r goes to very, very large values or say the element being the infinity you see that the exponential of minus α times r approximately r_e is too small and as r goes to infinity this goes to 0 therefore, the potential energy V_e becomes D_e which is a positive constant therefore, for very large values of r if we go back to the graph and as r increases from the equilibrium value you see there is exponential of minus value for e therefore,

the potential energy and this is a square therefore, as r is slightly different from r_e this whole graph sort of grows up and eventually it reaches a plateau and the value which does not change for very large values of r equals to r_e is the asymptotic value which you can call this; this graph reaches the asymptotic value and that value is D_e for r less than or r_e this is negative and therefore, the exponent of the exponential becomes positive and if this becomes more negative then this increases forever and therefore, what you see here is that.

So, this is the form of the potential energy for a given value for α . If α is very large; then you see that this graph is narrower. If α is very small; this graph is more elongated therefore, the α gives the spread roughly between what is called the harmonic area. This area looks more like a parabola. So, therefore, you can see that for small values of r minus r_e this function will actually become parabolic in the limit of r minus r_e being very very small and at r equals r_e this is the minimum. Therefore this is the parabolic potential which you have with the $\frac{1}{2} k x^2$ $\frac{1}{2} k r^2$ that you use for the harmonic oscillator model. It has that as the limit of small amplitude oscillations and for very large amplitude oscillations you see the active molecule is such that the atoms go far apart from each other they never come back and this is the dissociation limit.

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$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{d^2}{dr^2} + D_e [1 - e^{-\alpha(r-r_e)}]^2$$

$$H\psi_n = E_n\psi_n$$

For this potential energy with its form if you write down the Hamiltonian as minus \hbar^2 over $2\mu d^2$ plus the dissociation energy D_e times $1 - e^{-\alpha r}$ minus αr minus r^2 .

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The image shows a digital whiteboard with the following handwritten equations:

$$H\psi_n = E_n\psi_n$$

$$E_n = h\nu_e(n + \frac{1}{2}) - h\nu_e x_e(n + \frac{1}{2})^2$$

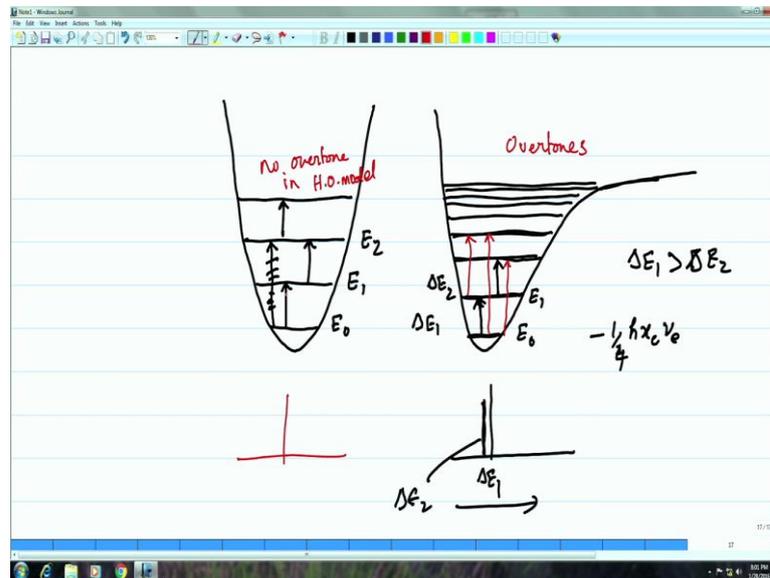
$$E_0 = \frac{1}{2}h\nu_e - \frac{1}{4}h\nu_e x_e$$

$$E_1 = \frac{3}{2}h\nu_e - \frac{9}{4}h\nu_e x_e$$

The wave functions ψ_n is equal to $E_n \psi_n$ has actually closed form solutions that are analytic solutions given by Philip Morse and later corrected by Professor Ter Haar that E_n is $h\omega_e$ times $n + \frac{1}{2}$ and there is another term which contains a small constant called anharmonic constant x_e , but with $n + \frac{1}{2}$ whole square. So, you can see that the energy level E_0 for example, is half $h\nu_e$ minus $\frac{1}{4}h\nu_e x_e$. Then E_1 for E_0 where n is 0 is half $h\nu_e$ minus number this is 1 by 4 $h\nu_e x_e$. What is the next energy level for this problem is n is equal to 1 ; E_1 is 3 halves $h\nu_e$ minus this is 3 half therefore, it is 9 by 4 $h\nu_e x_e$.

Please remember for motion very near equilibrium; the x_e is the small constant and it is called the anharmonic constant and therefore, the energy is not precisely a half $h\nu_e$, but it is slightly lower than half $h\nu_e$ because x_e is positive therefore, you see that the energy levels as you go from $0, 1, 2, 3$ etcetera or more and more away from what is called the harmonic oscillator energy levels.

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So, if you look at the harmonic oscillator energy levels if you write that it is suppose you call this is E_0 and then this is E_1 and this is as E_2 and compare that with the potential graph which goes something like that what you see is; the lower level is the lowest level is slightly lower than the original E_0 because it contains this minus half $h \times e \nu_e$ minus 1 by 4 sorry and then the E_1 is even lower than the harmonic value of E_1 , E_2 is even closer and E_3 is closer and so on. And finally, you see that the energy level becomes very dense and so on. Now you can see that as you go further and further up if the amplitude of the oscillation is sufficiently large, if the amplitude of the oscillation is fairly large and quantum energy levels are very high you see that the molecules eventually breaks down and dissociation takes place.

Therefore, the energy differences which in the harmonic oscillator model were identical between nearby levels or not so in the case of the Morse oscillator. This energy level is slightly more than this difference between the two energy levels E_0 and E_1 is definitely more you call it as ΔE_1 then this is more than ΔE_2 therefore, the frequency at which the molecules absorbs if it is anharmonic molecule and if it satisfies (Refer Time: 11:03) anharmonic model this frequency of absorption is slightly more than this frequency of absorption and therefore, what you see here is of course, a spectra line corresponding to ΔE_1 , if this is the increasing E the next is the ΔE_2 if you see it

is slightly lower than lesser than the ΔE_1 . And of course, the intensities will also decrease because the higher the energy level is the fewer the molecules are at any given temperature subject to thermal equilibrium conditions and that is the Maxwell Boltzmann distribution law.

Therefore you see that ΔE_2 if this is called ΔE_2 and then ΔE_3 is even smaller and so on. But something else also happens; in the harmonic oscillator model it is not possible for us to actually undergo a transition; actually force a molecule to undergo a transition from E_0 to E_2 this does not exist, it cannot be same the dipole moment operator does not connect to that; however, in the anharmonic oscillator model in the Morse oscillator model it is possible for you to see this transition, it is also possible for you to see let me put it on the point of medium point with some other color it is also possible for you to see this transition, it is possible for you to see this transition and even this and so on, and these are Vibrational overtones. There is no overtone in harmonic oscillator model. There is only one line what you see is only one line corresponding to this ΔE and that is the same for every other transition as well.

Therefore, the Morse oscillator provides you a slightly more realistic what is called Vibrational spectroscopy and the Vibrational spectrum that you see in the case of diatomic molecules, but please remember we have kept the rotational motion completely out of these picture, we assume that the molecule is purely vibrating and we do not worry about the rotational energy is associated with that, but after we do the microwave spectroscopy we will see how to look at the Vibrational rotational spectrum together.

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$$E_0 = \frac{1}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{1}{4} h \nu_e x_e \quad \checkmark \quad (E_1 - E_0) = h \nu_e - 2 h \nu_e x_e$$

$$E_1 = \frac{3}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{9}{4} h \nu_e x_e \quad \checkmark \quad (= h \nu_e (1 - 2 x_e))$$

$$E_2 = \frac{5}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{25}{4} h \nu_e x_e \quad \checkmark \quad (E_2 - E_1) = h \nu_e (1 - 4 x_e)$$

$$\frac{7}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{49}{4} h \nu_e x_e \quad (E_3 - E_2) = h \nu_e (1 - 6 x_e)$$

But for the time being the simple picture of the harmonic oscillator model gives you no transition other than one line; the anharmonic model due to Morse oscillator gives you several energy levels which are different from each other and therefore, the gap between them is also different. So, let us calculate the gap for a simple example say E_0 was written as $\frac{1}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{1}{4} h \nu_e x_e$, E_1 was written as $\frac{3}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{9}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ and E_2 is written as $\frac{5}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{25}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ so then it is $\frac{5}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{25}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ plus the half whole square therefore, it is $\frac{5}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{25}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ and so on. Therefore, if you calculate $E_1 - E_0$ the answer is $h \nu_e - \frac{9}{4} h \nu_e x_e - \frac{1}{4} h \nu_e x_e$. So, you get $2 h \nu_e x_e$; x_e is a very small number therefore, this is an extremely small number compared to $h \nu_e$. Essentially you can write this $h \nu_e (1 - 2 x_e)$; x_e been very small this is close to x_e , but what about $E_2 - E_1$ if you look at that that again $h \nu_e$, but the difference is $\frac{25}{4} h \nu_e x_e - \frac{9}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ therefore, you get $16/4 h \nu_e x_e$ therefore, you get $4 h \nu_e x_e$; the difference is $16/4 h \nu_e x_e$. And the next one if you want to write is $\frac{7}{2} h \nu_e - \frac{49}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ and it is $\frac{49}{4} h \nu_e x_e - \frac{25}{4} h \nu_e x_e$ and therefore, you see $E_3 - E_2$ is $h \nu_e (49/4 - 25/4)$ is $24/4 h \nu_e x_e$. Therefore, you get $6 h \nu_e x_e$.

See how the successive energy differences are becoming smaller and smaller due to the larger contribution of the x_e this is $-2 x_e$, here it is $-4 x_e$ and here it is $-6 x_e$ therefore, it is possible for us to actually obtain values for ν_e and x_e if we

get two experimental spectral lines if we get a transition due to this and if we get a transition due to this then the two equations involving the ν_e and the ν_{e,x_e} can be solved and it is possible for us to obtain numerical values for the anharmonicity constant and therefore, use it for fitting experimental spectra of diatomic molecules where the motion is slightly unharmonic.

There are molecular problems where the motion is very very highly unharmonic and in the case of polyatomic molecule we will come to look at least for a brief moment what are called the non rigid molecular motions and so on. Therefore, it is easy to understand that Vibrational spectroscopy starts with the elementary model of a harmonic oscillator, but then the corrections to the harmonic oscillator and the real molecular spectrum are usually taken into account by correcting the potential energy in such a way that unharmonic corrections can be done.

The previous lecture in the previous lecture I mentioned the unharmonic corrections can be x^3 like terms; the potential energy terms you have here that is $r - r_e$ cube terms, $r - r_e$ to the power four terms and so on; they are called cubic Anharmonicities and cubic and Anharmonicities and the $r - r_e$ square is called the quadratic harmonic term. So, keep this in mind in solving some of the problem related to Anharmonic Vibrational motions of diatomic molecule.

In the next lecture we will continue this and look at polyatomic molecular motion and then in a similar way we will extend the harmonic oscillator model to molecules with many Vibrational degrees of freedom what are called the normal modes of the vibration they will also some picture pictorial representation of some of the normal modes of vibration through a calculation tool that is quite well known today called the Gaussian 09; the Gaussian program and the Gaussian program is a computational chemistry program which allows you to calculate molecular properties quite accurately we will see the harmonic oscillator model for a polyatomic molecule in the next lecture following this until then.

Thank you very much.