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Polymer Analysis

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Chapter 5. IR Spectroscopy and Raman Scattering

(Chapter 5 Campbell & White).

[Bristol University IR Spectroscopy](#)

[Whitworth College IR/NMR problems](#)

[Scimedia on spectroscopy](#)

[CSU on IR](#)

<http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IR.htm> (Application/Chemistry)

<http://www-wilson.ucsd.edu/education/spectroscopy/spectroscopy.html> (Physics)

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/chemistry/edison/IRTutor.html> (Spectra) Good Movies

<http://avogadro.chem.iastate.edu/chem572/> (Chemistry)

Introduction:

The energy associated with electro-magnetic radiation in the infrared range (just above visible in wavelength) is sufficient to excite vibrations of chemical bonds. IR spectroscopy and Raman scattering both involve IR wavelength radiation and both characterize vibrations of chemical bonds. For this reason they are usually considered as a group although the instrumental details for the two techniques are significantly different.

The vibration of any structure is analyzed in terms of the degrees of freedom which the structure possesses. For example, a sphere has 3 degrees of translational freedom and 0 degrees of rotational freedom since rotation does not result in a perceptibly different state. A single sphere or a single atom does not have vibrational states. When two spheres are bonded the group has 3×2 degrees of translational freedom.

The grouping of 2 spheres, as a unit, possesses 3 degrees of translational freedom and 2 degrees of rotational freedom, since rotation about the axis of the two spheres does not result in a perceptible change. When considering vibrational states we fix the reference frame on the grouping of objects, so the degrees of freedom for the grouping are subtracted from the total number of translational degrees of freedom for the individual spheres. For two spheres there are $3 \times 2 - (3+2) = 1$ degree of vibrational freedom. This means that the IR/Raman spectra for a diatomic molecule such as CO will have one absorption band. This vibration would involve stretching and compressing of the CO bond. For groupings of spheres with more than 2 members *the number of vibrational states is $3n-6$* so a molecule such as water has 3 vibrational states which results in three absorption bands in IR and Raman. These are symmetric stretching of the H-O bonds, asymmetric stretching of the H-O bonds and a scissors bending of the HOH structure. The number of *stretching vibrations is $n-1$* and the number of *bending vibrations is $2n-5$* .

Carbon dioxide, O=C=O, is a linear molecule so the number of degrees of freedom are $3n-5$ rather than $3n-6$, i.e. one of the molecular rotational degrees of freedom, rotation about the molecular axis, does not result in a perceptible change.

The number of IR and Raman absorption bands is calculated from the number of degrees of translational freedom for the collection of atoms in a molecule, $3n$, minus the number of degrees of translational and rotational freedom for the molecule as a whole, usually 6, but 5 for a linear molecule.

These normal modes of vibration are useful for consideration of relatively small molecules, i.e. Benzene (C₆H₆) has 30 absorption bands in IR and Raman, each of which can be described in detail.

Consider a polymer molecule such as a 100,000 gm/mole sample of polystyrene. This molecule contains about 1,000 mer units or 16,000 atoms! The number of vibrational states for this molecule are $3 \times 16,000 - 6$ or about 50,000 different vibrations. It is impossible to identify all of the vibrational states for such a molecule. In polymer analysis we can greatly simplify the characteristic spectra for a chain by considering the repeating chemical groups which occur in the chain as independently contributing to the IR and Raman spectra. This approach is called the group contribution approach, and for polystyrene, would involve consideration of the major bands due to aromatic ring bands, C-H vibrations, C-C and C=C vibrations. In the group contribution method many of the weaker bands are simply ignored and we concentrate on the few high absorption bands which serve as a finger print for a particular polymer.

IR Active Bands:

The possible vibrations of a molecule are sensitive to IR absorption if the vibration results in a change in the *dipole moment, μ* , of the molecule. The dipole moment is the product of the charge times distance and is similar to the moment of inertia in mechanics except that charge is the weighting factor rather than mass. When an EM wave in the IR wavelengths irradiates a molecule the electric field acts on the charge distribution in the molecule, i.e. the more polar the molecule the larger the effect. The oscillation of the EM electric field, if of the quantized frequency for absorption by a particular bond, will set the bond in motion, vibrating at the specific frequency needed for that vibrational excitation. The IR absorption experiment involves the oscillating electric field changing the charge distribution so that a dipole is enhanced or diminished. Strong IR absorption bands occur for polar groups such as OH, Cl, and the C=O bond.

*In determining if a vibration is IR active consider if there is a change in the sum of the charge*distance vectors, i.e. for a symmetric stretch of O=C=O (linear molecule) the movement of the left O is offset symmetrically by the movement of the right O so there is not net change in the charge * distance vector, not change in the dipole moment so this is not IR active. For a non-linear molecule like HOH (shaped like a V) there is a change in the dipole moment for a symmetric stretch so the vibration is IR active.*

Raman Active Bands and The Raman Scattering Experiment:

The Raman scattering experiment involves shifts in the wavelength of an incident monochromatic beam. Raman scattering uses a laser as a light source (IR uses a mercury lamp or other broad spectrum source). The laser is usually in the optical wavelengths. The incident light causes motion of electrons in bonds. These moving electrons reemit light of the same wavelength for elastic scattering. Light scattering is sensitive to the mobility of electrons in bonds. The mobility of electrons in a bond is called the *Polarizability* of the bond, i.e. a measure of how easy it is to move electrons and polarize a bond. For bonds with a strong dipole moment (which are IR active) the mobility or polarizability is usually low. For bonds which have a weak dipole moment (which are IR inactive) the polarizability is usually high and the vibrational states of the bond are Raman active. IR and Raman activity are complimentary and the two techniques are used to fully characterize the vibrational states of molecules.

Raman scattering is based on a scattering event as described above. Figure 5.4 of Campbell and White shows a schematic of a Raman spectrometer. A laser (usually an argon laser) is incident on a sample. Scattered light is collected usually at 90deg. to the incident beam. The spectrum of the scattered light is measured using either a dispersive spectrometer or a Fourier transform spectrometer. Small shifts in the wavelength from the incident wavelength due to inelastic scattering are measured in the Raman spectrometer.

In the Raman measurement, an incident EM wave induces polarization of a bond through the EM wave's electric field. The energy of this excitation of the atom is $h[\nu]_0$, where $[\nu]_0$ is a larger frequency (and energy) than the IR range, $[\nu]_{\text{vibration}}$. There is a possibility that some of the energy of this excited state can be transferred to the atom in terms of a vibration of the bond, $h[\nu]_{\text{vibration}}$. Since the source of this energy is a scattering event, the absorption will be stronger for more polarizable bonds, i.e. bonds with more freedom of movement for the electrons. The loss of energy for the scattered EM wave due to transfer to a vibrational state for the bond is called a Stokes event and the resulting scattered wave is of higher wavelength and lower energy, $E_{\text{Stokes}} = h[\nu]_0 - h[\nu]_{\text{vibration}}$. The elastically scattered beam of energy $E_{\text{Rayleigh}} = h[\nu]_0$ is 10,000 times more intense than the Stokes line. It is also possible for an incident EM wave to interact with a bond which is already vibrationally excited. In this case an Anti-Stokes line of higher energy results, $E_{\text{Anti-Stokes}} = h[\nu]_0 + h[\nu]_{\text{vibration}}$. The anti-Stokes line is much weaker than even the Stokes line. If a number of absorptions occur for a material, then the spectral distribution of scattered light can be measured and the shifts from the Rayleigh (elastic scattering) line converted to wavenumber. A spectrum very similar to an IR absorption spectrum results.

In determining if a vibration is Raman active consider if there is a change in the volume of the electron cloud, i.e. for a symmetric stretch of O=C=O (linear molecule) the movement of the left O is in the opposite direction of the movement of the right O so there is a net change in the volume of the electron cloud within the molecule, this vibration is Raman active. For the asymmetric stretch the movements of the two O's are in the same direction so the volume increase on the left is offset by a volume decrease on the right and the asymmetric stretch is not Raman active.

Since the source of the Raman spectrum is a scattering event, the Scattered Intensity is directly proportional to the concentration of species giving rise to the Raman lines. This is different than in an IR absorption experiment which follows Beer's Law discussed in the previous section.

The following two spectra compare the IR and Raman absorption from nylon-6,6: $\{-(\text{CO})-(\text{CH}_2)_6-(\text{NH})-(\text{CO})-(\text{CH}_2)_4-(\text{CO})-\}_n$. NH stretch is the highest wave number absorption. This is a polar bond so strongly absorbs in IR and weakly in Raman. CH stretch is a doublet below 3000cm^{-1} (asymmetric and symmetric) which is less polar than NH and has a strong absorption in Raman but a weaker absorption in IR. Carbonyl stretch is a signature band (about 1750cm^{-1}) in IR which is weak in Raman (highly polar and volumetrically inflexible bond).

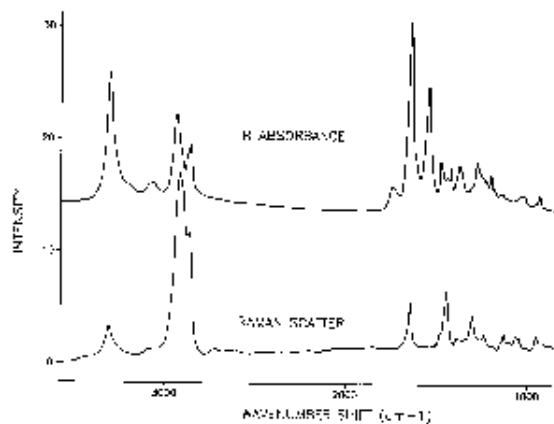


Figure 4.1 Comparison of the IR Absorbance and Raman (Raman) spectra of poly-0.6. The IR spectrum was obtained by transmission through a 100 μm film of poly-0.6, while the Raman spectrum was obtained from a chip of poly-0.6. Note the dominance of bands due to poly-0.6 in both spectra. In the IR case, while the Raman spectrum is dominated by backbone and C-H modes, the latter are less intense. The Raman spectrum is reminiscent of that of polystyrene.

From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

Intensity and wavenumber of absorptions in IR and Raman

The wavenumber (energy or frequency) of an IR/Raman Absorption depends on the *mass* of the atoms connected to a chemical bond, the *strength* of the chemical bond, and the *geometry* of the molecule. There are two basic types of vibrations, *Stretches* and *Bends*. Bends require less energy so occur at lower frequencies for the same or similar bonds. There are generally two types of stretching, *symmetric* and *asymmetric*. There are many types of bends, *Twisting, Rocking, Scissoring, Torsional, Breathing (For ring molecules)* and other specialized bends. Symmetric stretches require lower energy than asymmetric stretches.

For a simple stretching vibration,

$$\nu = \frac{1}{2\pi c} \sqrt{\frac{k}{\mu}}$$

see: <http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IR1.htm>

where k is a spring constant for the tensile deformation of a bond (bond strength) and μ is the geometric mean mass of the two atoms, $\mu = m_1 m_2 / (m_1 + m_2)$ at the ends of the bond. This is similar to Campbell and White's description of LAM modes in Raman for polymer crystals which we will discuss near the end of this chapter,

$$\nu = \frac{n}{2Lc} \left(\frac{E}{\rho} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{Campbell and White pp. 77 and R. G. Snyder, S. J. Krause, J. R. Scherer, J. Polym. Sci. Polym. Phys. ED. 16 1593 (1978, where } n = 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots$$

where L is the length of a sequence of C-C bonds, n is the order of the vibration (like the modes of a guitar string), ρ is the density and E is the Young's modulus for deformation of a series of C-C bonds. These equations quantify that higher mass leads to smaller frequencies and stronger bonds lead to higher frequencies of vibration. These equations also indicate that IR absorption is a critical tool for the quantitative determination of certain molecular features such as bond strength or bond modulus.

In most IR books one considers simple molecules first to gain a feel for the position of absorption peaks in the IR spectrum. Usually water and carbon dioxide are discussed first. Often both water and CO₂ are present as impurities in polymers so it is important to be able to identify these bands which are not related to the material. Both of these molecules have 3 atoms. Water is not a linear molecule so $3n - 6 = 3$ vibrations are expected in the IR and Raman spectra. The three vibrations are shown below (movies of these vibrations are available from the internet site mentioned).



Symmetric Stretch Asymmetric Stretch Symmetric Bend

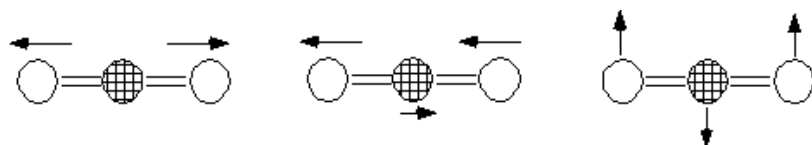
3652 cm⁻¹ 3756 cm⁻¹ 712 cm⁻¹

IR active IR active IR active

From: <http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IR1.htm> (see main site above).

The three vibrations are symmetric and asymmetric stretching of the H (white ball) - C (red ball) bonds, and a symmetric bending (scissors bend) of the H-C bonds. There is no asymmetric bend since such a vibration would result in a rotation of the molecule and no relative change of the position of the atoms. These vibrations follow the general rule that there are $N-1$ stretches ($3-1=2$) and $2N-5$ bends ($6-5=1$). The symmetric stretch is an easier deformation than the asymmetric stretch so the asymmetric stretch occurs at a higher wavenumber. The bending vibration is much easier than stretching so this occurs at a much lower wavenumber.

Carbon dioxide also displays, 2 stretching and 1 bend vibration.



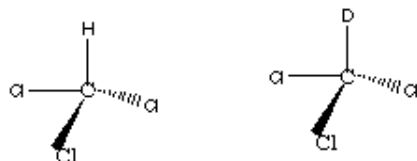
Symmetric Stretch Asymmetric Stretch Symmetric Bend

1340 cm^{-1} 2350 cm^{-1} 666 cm^{-1}

Raman active IR active IR active

Not IR active

Chloroform and deuterio-chloroform are a common example of the effect of mass on absorption bands.



Chloroform deuterio-Chloroform

H-C or D-C stretch 3035 cm^{-1} 2250 cm^{-1}

Other Band (Deutero Bend) 1224 cm^{-1} 910 cm^{-1}

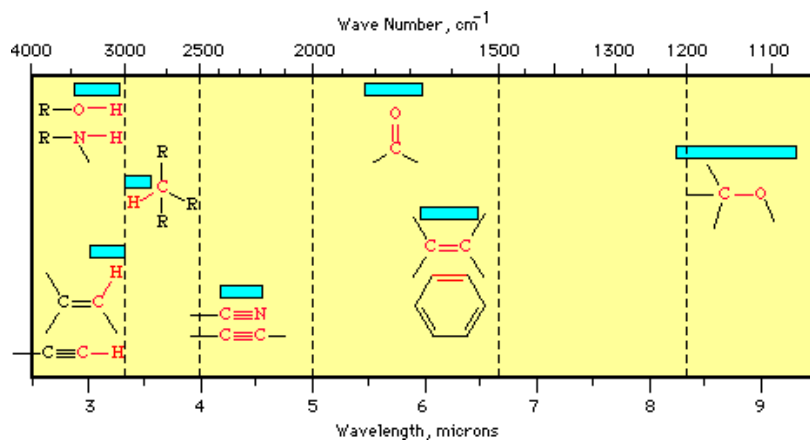
Cl Umbrella Bend 765 cm^{-1} 740 cm^{-1}

Group Contribution Method:

As noted above, the large number of atoms in a polymer chain makes the possible number of IR/Raman bands enormous, $3n-6$, where n is on the order of 5,000 to 10,000. Synthetic polymer chains are composed of repeated chemical groups, mer units, which are arranged about the chain axis in a similar fashion for all of these groups. The simplest approach to considering the IR/Raman absorption patterns from synthetic polymers is to identify characteristic chemical groups which give rise to absorptions. This approach, of identifying chemical groups as independent contributions to a complex IR/Raman pattern, is called the group contribution method. The basic assumption of the group contribution method is that vibrations from most chemical species are little effected by their bonding to the polymer chain. This approach is accurate in the sense that absorptions for most chemical groups will fall in a limited range which can be distinguished from other absorptions due to the strength of the absorption, for example polar bonds have strong absorptions in IR, combined with the range of wavenumber where the absorptions occur.

Below are three "cheat sheets" for IR group contributions which you should be familiar with.

<http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IRTable.htm> (See main site above).



This chart and the following table are from: <http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IRTable.htm> (see main site above).

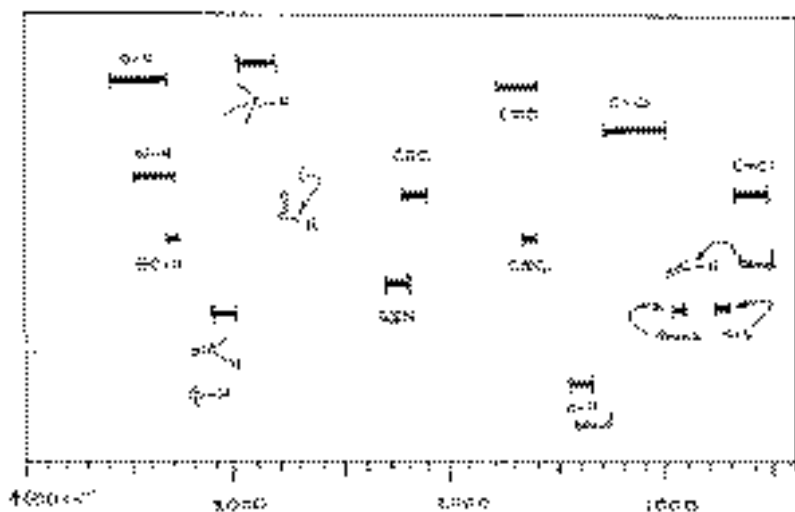
* 3700 - 2500 cm^{-1} : X-H stretching (X = C, N, O, S)

* 2300 - 2000 cm^{-1} : CX stretching (X = C or N)

* 1900 - 1500 cm^{-1} : CX stretching (X = C, N, O)

* 1300 - 800 cm^{-1} : C-X stretching (X = C, N, O)

<http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IRTable.htm> (See main site above).



This chart and the following table are From a course on polymer chemistry by D. Tirrell and T. J. McCarthy.

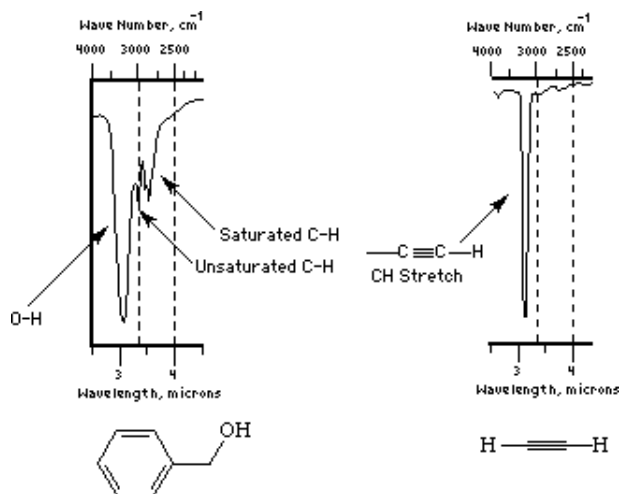
Methyl and Methylene		
* 2900-2850	—CH ₃ and —CH ₂ —	
* 1475-1450	Asymmetric bend and scissor	
* 1320	Symmetric bend	
1230-1370	<u>gem-dimethyl doublet (and 207-600)</u>	?
720	Rocking for alkanes > 4 carbons	
Alkenes		
* 3080	=CH ₂ Asymmetric stretch	
* 3020	=CHR Asymmetric stretch	
1645	R ₂ C=CH ₂	
* 1655	R ₂ C=CH ₂	
* 1660	cis-RCH=CHR	
1675	trans-RCH=CHR	
1670	R ₂ C=CHR and R ₂ C=CR ₂	
Alkynes		
* 3300-3270	≡C—H	
* 2260-2210	C≡C Internal	
* 2100-2100	C≡C External	
Nitriles		
* 2200-2100	C—N Stretch	
Aromatic Hydrocarbons		
* 3100-3000	C—H Asymmetric stretch	
2000-1650	Benzene substitution pattern region	
Carbonyls		
1900-1750	Carbonyl groups	
1750-1700	Ketones	
1700-1720	Aldehydes	
1680-1660	Unsaturated ketones	
* 2900-2850	Aldehyde C—H stretch	
Esters		
* 1750-1740	Ester C=O stretch	
* 1280-1000	Ester C—O stretch	
Ethers		
* 1100	—C(O)C—	
1050-1015	Methyl ether band	
Alcohols		
3600-3650	Primary alcohols (dilute)	
3625-3620	Secondary alcohols (dilute)	
3619-3611	Tertiary alcohols (dilute)	
3611-2900	Aprotic alcohols (dilute)	
3300-3450	Alcohol dimers	
3400-2900	Alcohol polymers	
1110-1090	Secondary and tertiary alcohols	
* 1065-1045	Cyclic alcohols	
1060-1025	Primary alcohols	
Amines		
* 3500-3300	Primary amines (doublet)	
3500-3300	Secondary amines (singlet)	
Amides		
* 1715-1650	Amide carbonyl (amide I band)	
1670-1650	Amide II band	
Chlorides		
* 700-500	C—Cl stretch	

C-H Stretch

Most polymers contain C-H bonds and this is a fairly polar bond so that a strong IR absorption band is usually observed for the C-H stretch near 3000cm⁻¹.

The Following two figures and text are from Paul R. Young's web page, The 4 examples serve to demonstrate the importance of the C-H stretch in identification of organic materials such as polymers.

<http://chipo.chem.uic.edu/web1/ocol/spec/IR1.htm>



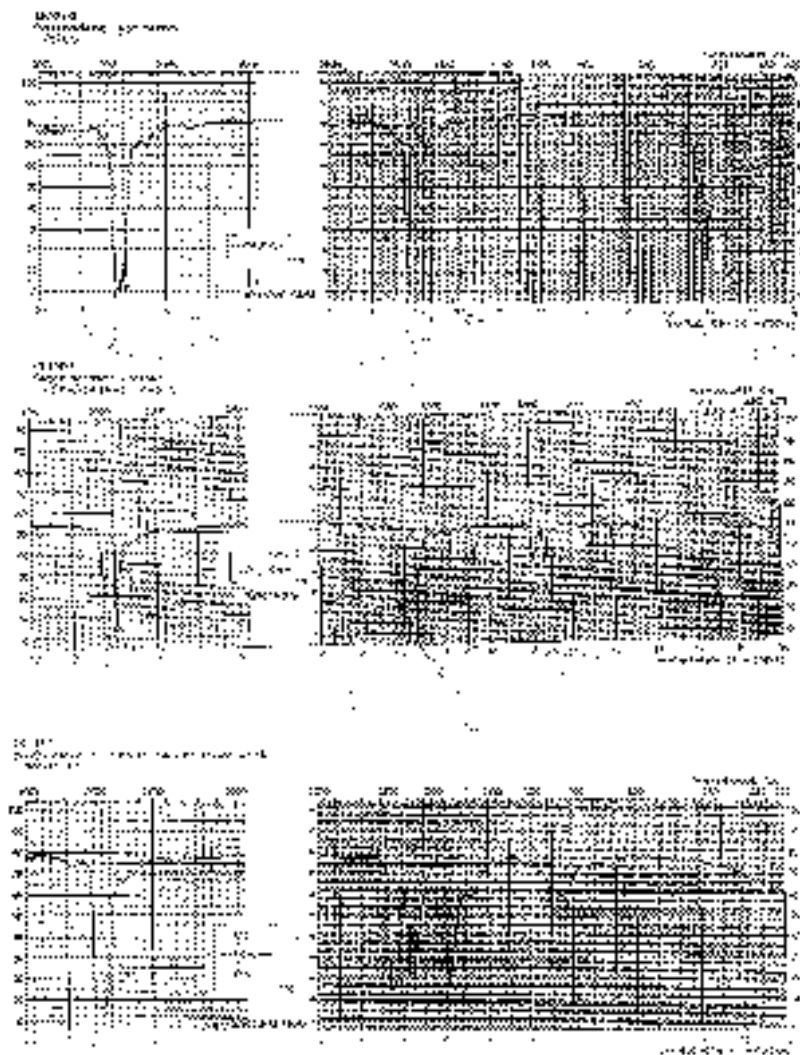
"The infrared spectrum of benzyl alcohol displays a broad, hydrogen-bonded OH stretching band in the region 3400 cm, a sharp unsaturated (sp) CH stretch at about 3010 cm and a saturated (sp) CH stretch at about 2900 cm; these bands are typical for alcohols and for aromatic compounds containing some saturated carbon. Acetylene (ethyne) displays a typical terminal alkyne CH stretch, as shown in the second panel."

Methylene, $-(CH_2)-$: The spectra of nylon 6-6 above has an example of methylene CH stretch. This is a doublet to the right of 3000cm⁻¹ (lower wavenumber) 2926 (a) 2853(s). A scissors bend is also seen at about 1465cm⁻¹.

Methyl, $-(CH_3)$: Methyl groups (such as in polypropylene, $\{-(CH_2)-(CH(CH_3))- \}$) also display a doublet in the CH stretch region just below 3000cm⁻¹, 2962 (a), 2872 (s). The bend vibration for methyl groups is a doublet (methylene is a singlet), 1450 (a) and 1375 (s). The symmetric bend for a methyl group is called an umbrella bend vibration for obvious reasons. Compare PE, PP and polyisobutylene IR spectra below. You should be able to distinguish these three spectra. Notice the broadening of the CH stretch region due to both methyl and methylene groups in PP an PIB.

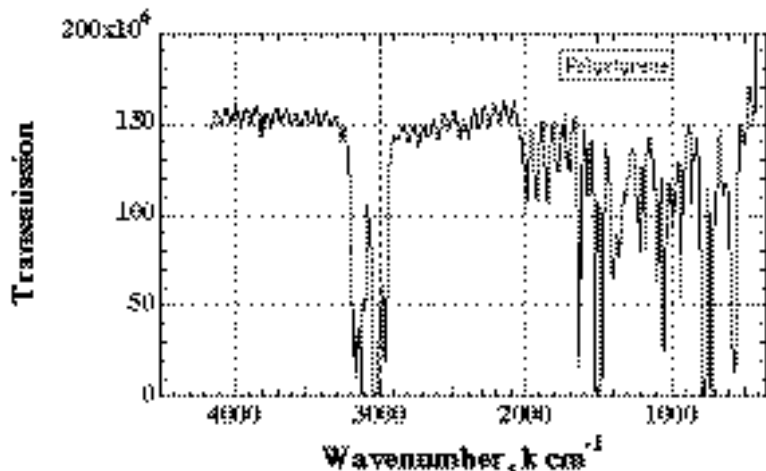
Near and between 1400 and 1500 PE has a single peak for the CH bend. For PP and PIB this methylene bend is present also. Below 1400 a doublet appears for PP and PIB indicating methyl bends in asymmetric and symmetric modes.

Other features in the fingerprint region (below 1500) are distinctive for the 3 polymers.



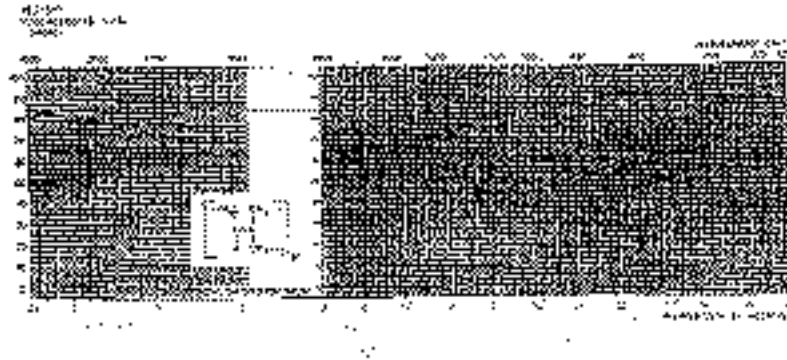
Alkenes, C=CHR: Unsaturation has a signature effect on the CH stretch shifting it to higher wavenumbers, 3020-3080 (to the left of 3000). It is easy to identify unsaturated hydrocarbons in IR by the CH stretch region.

The figure below is an IR transmission spectra for polystyrene $-(CH_2)-(CH(C_6H_5))-$. The aromatic ring, (C_6H_5) , gives rise to the group of bands above 3010. The bands below 3010 are from the saturated main chain CH groups. Aromatics display a distinctive C=C stretch at about 1600cm^{-1} which in combination with unsaturated CH stretch above 3000 identifies polymers containing aromatics. The ring breathing vibration at 1600 is always very sharp and strong.



Polysoprene displays a broad CH stretch region associated with a mixture of saturated and unsaturated CH stretches, the broad band at

about 960 and the sharp band at 750 are associated with out of plane bends for the CH bond attached to the C=C bond. In simple alkenes these two bands are used to distinguish between trans and cis stereoisomers, 960 for trans (H on opposite sides of the C=C bond) and 750 for cis (H on same side of C=C bond).

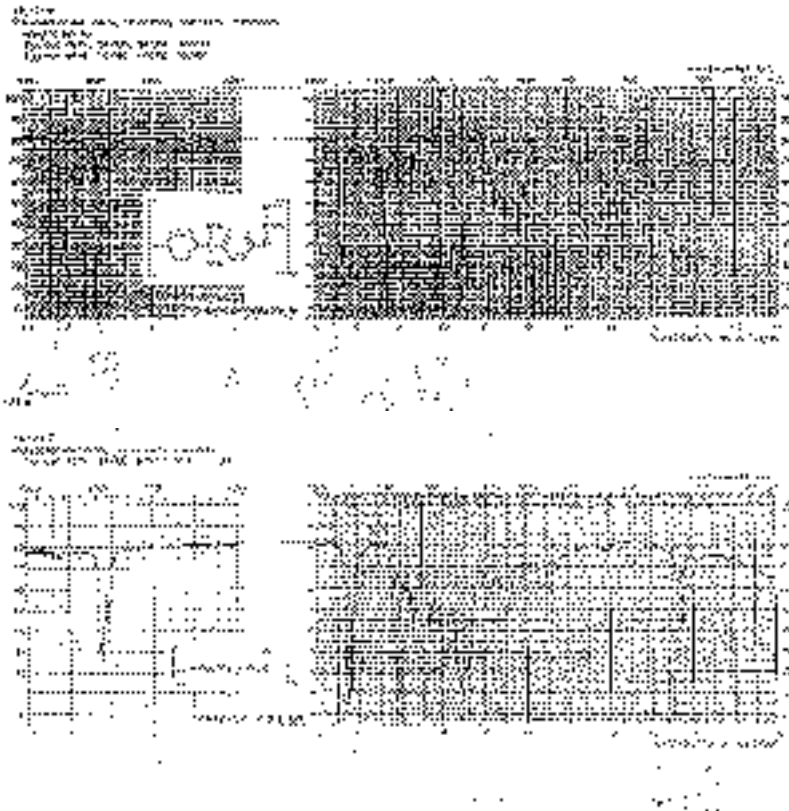


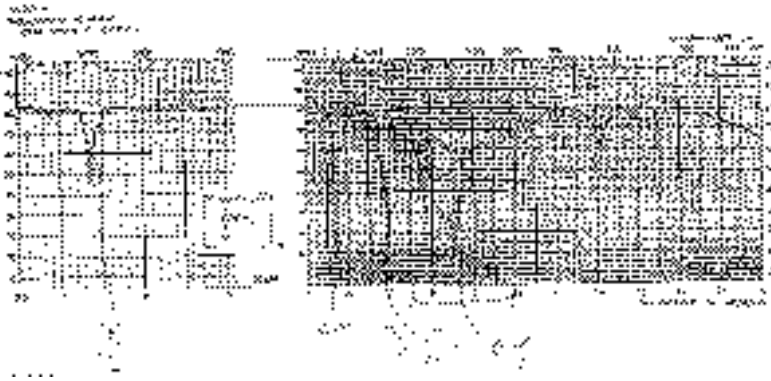
Alkynes, C≡C-H (triple bond): As the CC bond becomes stronger the CH stretch vibration goes to higher wave number (3300cm⁻¹ for alkynes). A weak resonance at 2100 to 2200 for the triple bond occurs. The latter bond vibration has a low dipole change so is weak in IR but strong in Raman.

Carbonyl, C=O: The C=O stretch is the *most distinctive* absorption in IR due to the high change in dipole moment on vibration and the unique range of wavenumber where this vibration occurs, 1700 to 1780cm⁻¹. The carbonyl stretch occurs in many commodity polymers such as polycarbonate, polyvinylacetate, polymethylacrylate and in nylon (see above, IR Raman comparison).

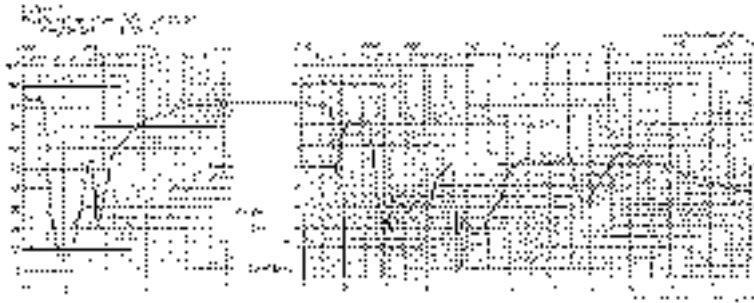
For acetone the C=O stretch occurs at 1724 (CH₃C=O), for aldehydes (R-CH=O) at 1730 and for methyl acetates at 1745cm⁻¹ (R-(C=O)-OCH₃). For methyl acetates the O-CH₃ stretch occurs at 1100 to 1280cm⁻¹.

You should be able to identify the carbonyl contribution to the following spectra.



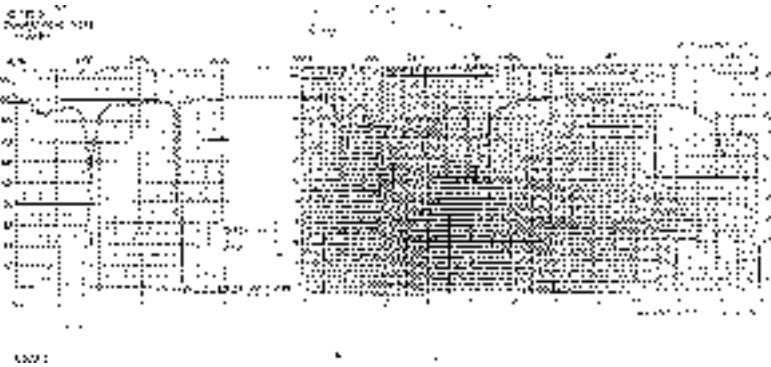


Alcohols, (-OH): The OH stretch occurs at 3500 to 3650 cm^{-1} (higher than CH). A C-O stretch occurs at 1100 to 1200 cm^{-1} . These can be identified in the spectra of polyvinyl alcohol below.

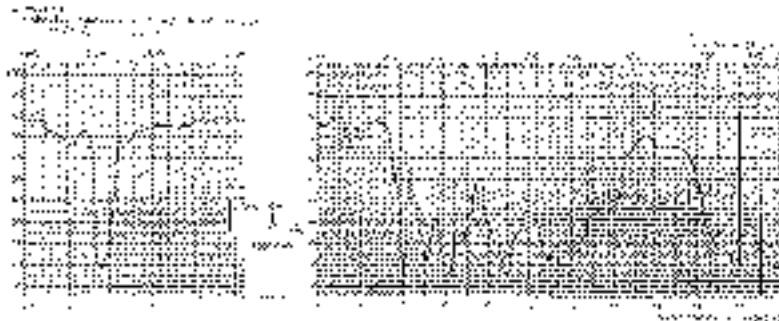


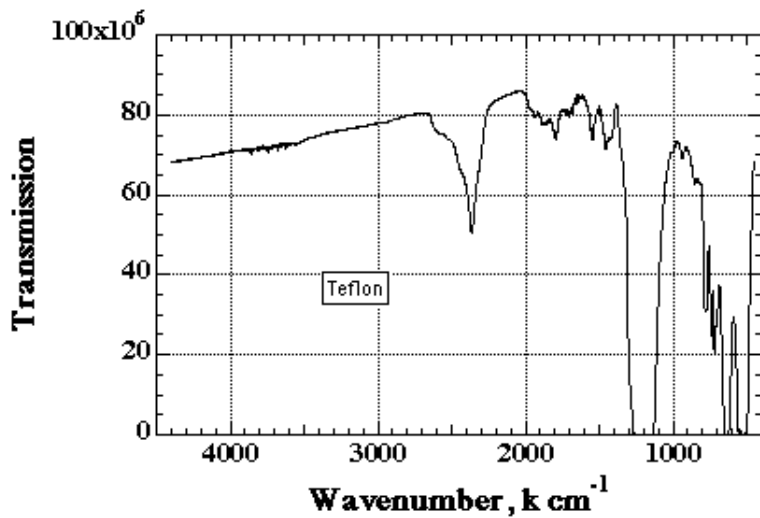
Amines, (-NH): The N-H stretch occurs between that of CH and OH. It is also intermediate in the strength of the IR absorption, see nylon Raman and IR patterns above.

Nitriles, (-C---N) triple bond CN: The CN is a strong absorption band which is seen in polyacrylonitrile (PAN) and copolymers with styrene (styrene acrylonitrile copolymers SAN). The absorption occurs in the 2200 to 2300 cm^{-1} range.



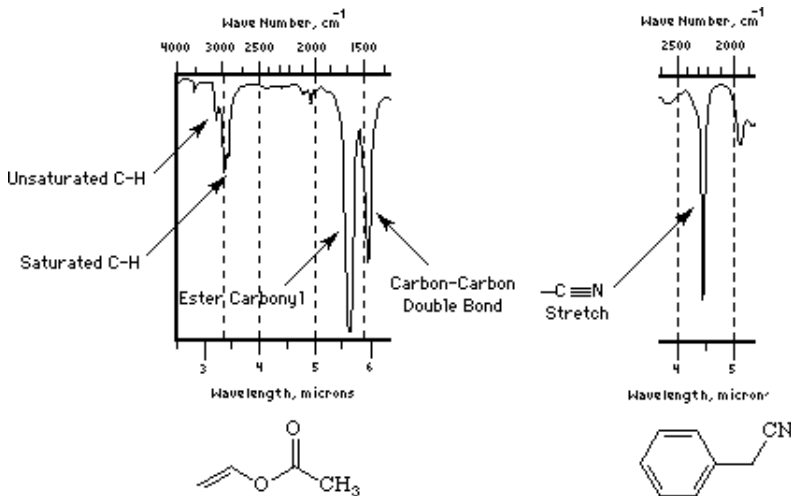
Halides, (C-Cl, C-F): The C-Cl stretch is a strong absorption at low wavenumber, 760-540 cm^{-1} . Two examples of halide stretch from PVC - ($\text{CH}_2\text{-CHCl}$)- and teflon - ($\text{CF}_2\text{-CF}_2$)- are shown below.





Other Examples from Web:

"Saturated and unsaturated CH bands also shown clearly in the spectrum of vinyl acetate (ethenyl ethanoate). This compound also shows a typical ester carbonyl at 1700 cm and a nice example of a carbon-carbon double bond stretch at about 1500 cm. Both of these bands are shifted to slightly lower wave numbers than are typically observed (by about 50 cm) by conjugation involving the vinyl ester group."



Selected Applications of IR/Raman:

Tacticity and Crystallinity:

In some cases it is possible to assign certain absorption bands with tacticity in polymer chains. In most cases only a qualitative measure of tacticity is gained from IR and Raman spectroscopy. Figures 5.13 and 5.18 of Campbell and White and the following figure show the qualitative differences observed in IR/Raman spectra for tactic forms of polypropylene. In some cases specific bands are associated with specific conformations which are possible in tactic forms. Many of these conformational differences disappear when samples are run in the melt. There is a significant overlap between tacticity and crystallinity determinations in IR analysis of polymers.

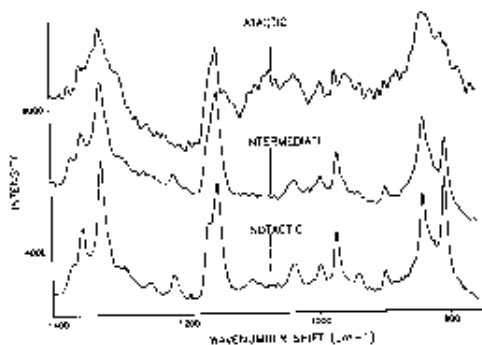


Figure 4.41 Raman spectra of polypropylene particles obtained in situ on three different alumina-supported catalysts by using the Raman microscope (488 nm excitation). The microscope allows fluorescence from the alumina support to be avoided (interfering) these samples. Enhanced when using the FT-Raman system than with the visible laser system, a result found to be quite common with catalyst samples. The variation in polymer tacticity is evident in the three spectra: the very weak, diffuse upper spectrum is characteristic of atactic material, the strong, sharp lower spectrum indicates highly isotactic polypropylene, and the middle spectrum indicates intermediate tacticity.

From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

Raman spectra form polypropylene particles. Atactic: weak, diffuse Isotactic: sharp and strong. CH₃ umbrella bend is to the left.

The presence of crystallinity also leads to predictable changes in IR patterns and has been used to qualitatively determine the degree of crystallinity for instance.

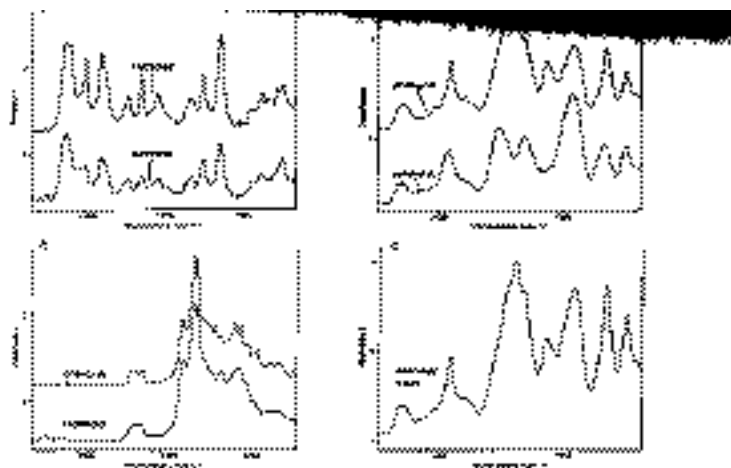


Figure 4.42 Infrared spectra of polypropylene. The IR spectra show the characteristic absorption bands of polypropylene. The spectra are stacked vertically, showing the effect of crystallinity on the IR patterns. The x-axis is labeled 'Wavenumber (cm⁻¹)' and the y-axis is labeled 'Transmittance (%)'.

From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

LAM Modes in Raman (Crystallite Thickness):

Low frequency regions (< 30cm⁻¹ in polyethylene) have been associated with longitudinal acoustical modes (accordion modes) for the planar zigzag chain conformation in a lamellar crystallite. From the frequency of absorption, the length of such a planar zigzag chain can be determined using a simple model:

$$v = \frac{n}{2Lc} \left(\frac{E}{\rho} \right)^{1/2}$$

From R. G. Snyder, S. J. Krause, J. R. Scherer, J. Polym. Sci. Polym. Phys. ED. 16 1593 (1978, where n = 1, 3, 5, 7, 9...

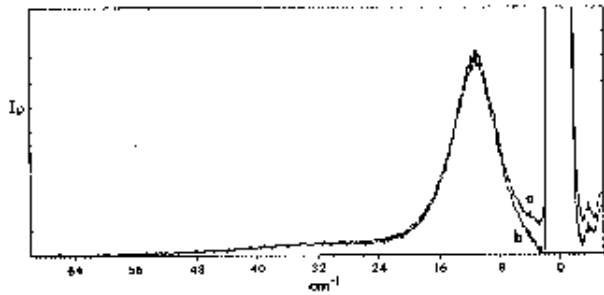


Fig. 4. Difference spectra for extruded polyethylene: $[I(\chi) - I(1.0)]$ for $\chi = 1.0$ and $\chi = 1.8$. (a) $\chi = 1.0$ cd, (b) $\chi = 1.8$ cd.

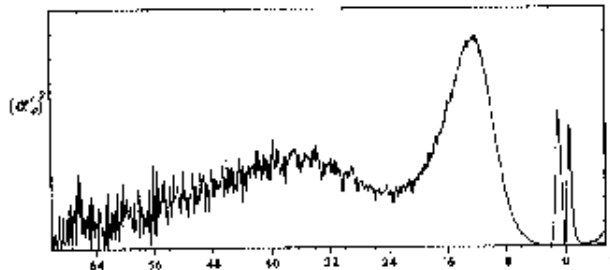


Fig. 5. Raman spectrum of oriented polyethylene (for polarization) plotted in terms of (σ_s^2) .

From R. G. Snyder, S. J. Krause, J. R. Scherer, *J. Polym. Sci. Polym. Phys. Ed.* 16 1593 (1978).

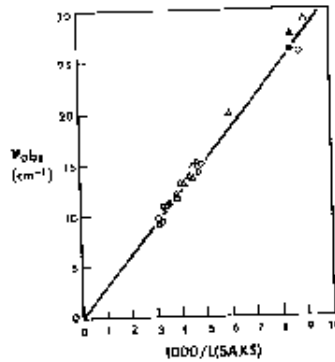


Fig. 7. Relation between observed Lamda-1 frequencies and the reciprocal of the lamellar spacing as determined by SAXS [O, from ref. 2, Δ, from ref. 1; ●, for orthorhombic and (011)-cocoradine; □, C₂₀H₃₂ and Δ, for (201)-monoclinic C₂₄H₄₈, both from ref. 10].

From R. G. Snyder, S. J. Krause, J. R. Scherer, *J. Polym. Sci.; Polym. Phys. Ed.* 16 1593 (1978).

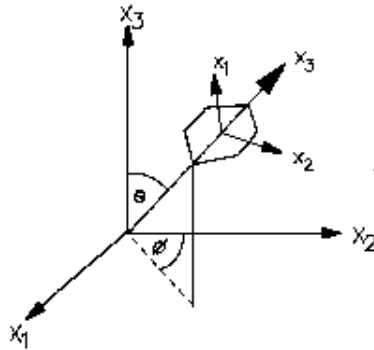
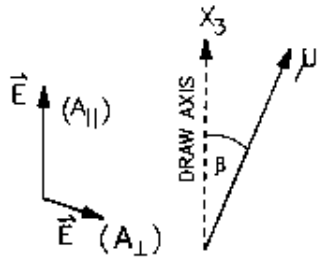
The figure above shows a comparison between the LAM method and the use of small angle x-ray scattering (SAXS) to determine the lamellar thickness. From such a comparison the constants in the LAM equation can be determined. For PE the lamellar thickness, $L \sim 6000/[\text{nu}]$.

Orientation:

If polarized radiation is used in IR/Raman it is possible to determine the relative orientation of specific absorbing groups in a processed sample. The usual way to do this is to determine the Herman's Orientation function, f , for the group of interest. f has a value of 0 for unoriented samples, 1 for samples oriented in the machine direction and $-1/2$ for samples oriented perpendicular to the machine direction but in the plane of observation. The absorption ratio for a given bond is measured by rotating the sample parallel and perpendicular to the incident direction of polarization, $R = A_{\text{parallel}}/A_{\text{perpendicular}}$. The angle between the bond axis and the polymer chain axis, α , needs to be determined from molecular models if chain orientation is of interest. The orientation function is then given by:

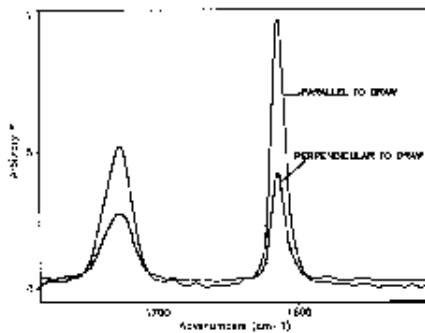
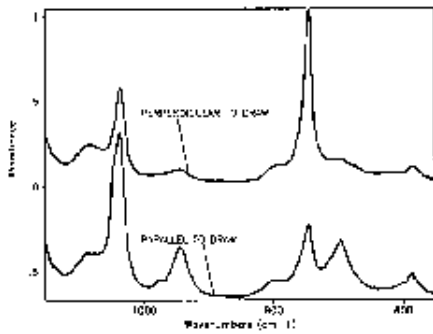
$$f = \frac{(3\cos^2 \alpha - 1)}{2} = \frac{R-1}{R+2} \left[\frac{2\cot^2 \alpha + 2}{2\cot^2 \alpha - 1} \right]$$

The first function is a generic description of the uniaxial Herman's orientation function. The second function is calculated for directional absorption in IR. The following figure from Hunt and James shows the complexity involved in calculation of IR absorption orientation. Wilkes has written a good review article on this subject, G. Wilkes (1971), *Adv. Polym. Sci.*, 8, 91.



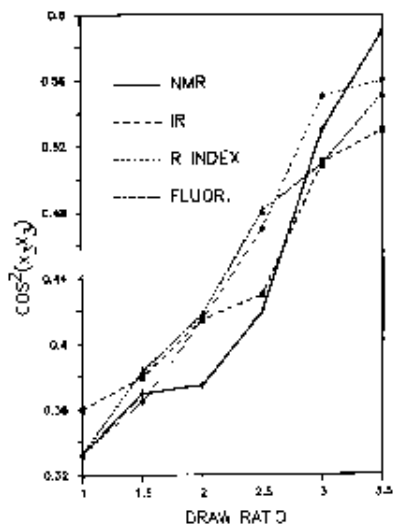
From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

The IR and Raman (lower) patterns below show the type of changes in IR and Raman patterns which are observed for oriented samples of PET.



From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

The orientation function can be calculated through a number of techniques some of which are shown in the following figure for PET as a function of draw ratio.



From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

Real time studies of deformation can yield information as to which chemical groups are involved in mechanical manipulation of samples. The following spectra are from continuous deformation of a polyether-polyurethane sample. These show the wealth of information which is available in a rheo-optical study using IR/Raman.

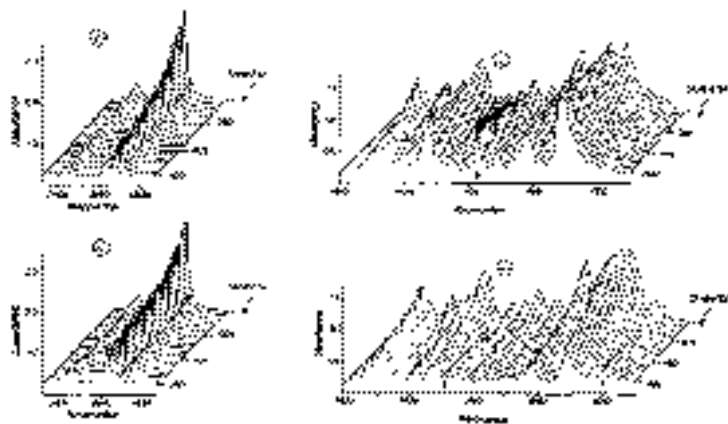


Figure 4.10. Raman and IR spectra of polyether-polyurethane during continuous deformation. The Raman spectra were recorded at 298 K. The IR spectra were recorded at 298 K. The Raman and IR spectra were recorded at 298 K. The Raman and IR spectra were recorded at 298 K.

From "Polymer Characterization" by B. J. Hunt and M. I. James, Blackie Press 1993.

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