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# Harmonic Oscillator

# Harmonic Vibrations of N-Body Systems

Separation of overall (center-of-mass "com"), rot and vib motion:

$$\hat{H}(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \dots, \vec{r}_N) = \hat{H}_{com} + \hat{H}_{rot} + \hat{H}_{vib}(\{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|, |\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_j|\}_{i \neq j}) + \hat{H}_{...}(\dots)$$

Superposition of  $N_{vib}$  independent vibrational "normal modes", normal coordinates  $\{q_j\}$

$$\hat{H}_{vib}(\{|\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|, |\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_j|\}_{i \neq j}) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_{vib}} \hat{H}_{vib}(j)$$

$$\hat{H}_{vib}(j) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu_j} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q_j^2} + U(q_j) \quad \text{No interaction with other degrees of freedom } i \neq j$$

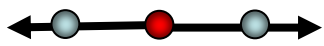
Generic example: Diatomic molecule (H-Cl),...

Discrete bound (stationary) states at low excitations

Dissociation at high excitations

## 3 Normal modes of linear molecules

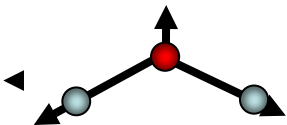
symmetric stretch  
(infrared)



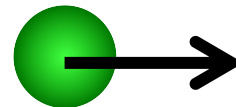
asymmetric stretch



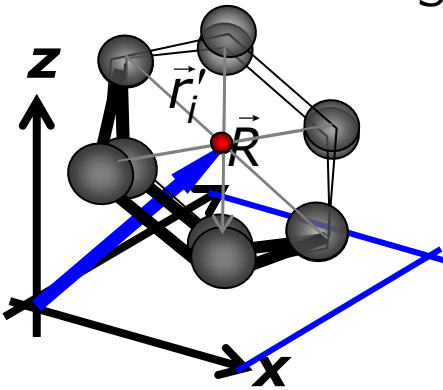
bend (2 x)



**Dissociation**



Classical vibrational frequency  $\omega_j = \sqrt{\frac{c_j}{\mu_j}}$   
 $c_j =$  Hooke's constant



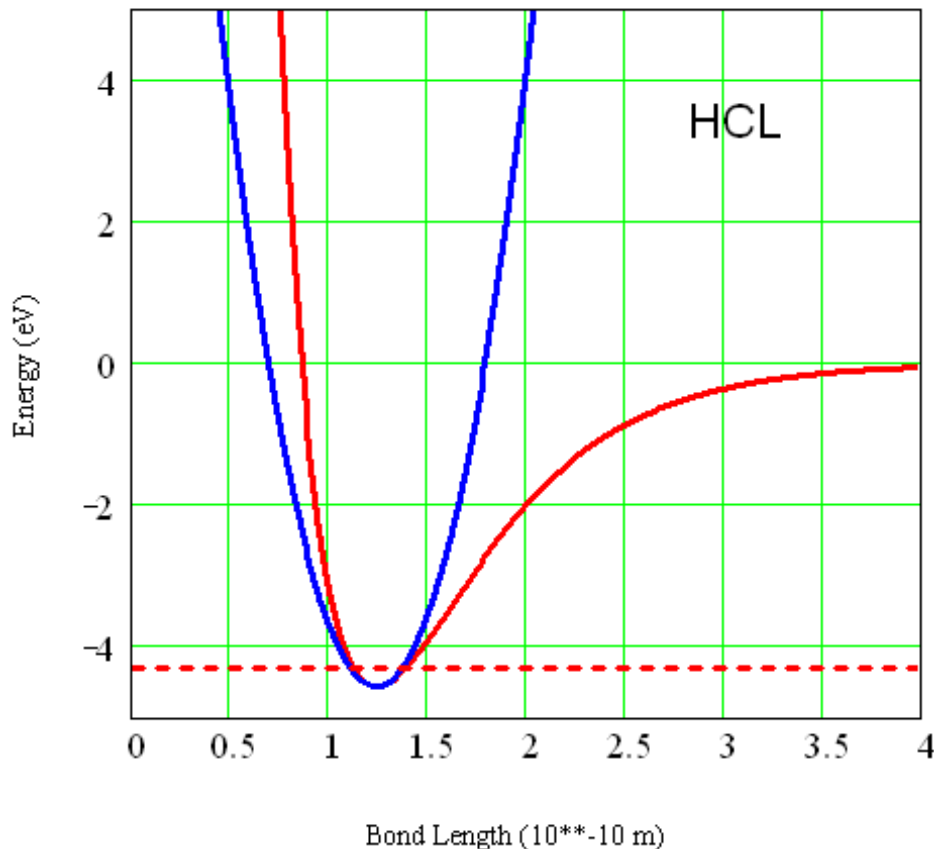
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Harmonic Oscillator

# Morse Potential and Harmonic Approximation

$$\hat{H}_{vib}(j) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu_j} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q_j^2} + U(q_j) = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q_j^2} + \frac{1}{2} c (q_j - q_{j0})^2 + U(q_{j0})$$

HCL Morse Potential+Harm. Approximation



Equilibrium bond length

$$\left. \frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} U(q_j) \right|_{q_j=q_{j0}} = 0 \rightarrow q_{j0}$$

Taylor expansion about  $q_{j0}$

$$U(q_j) = U(q_{j0}) +$$

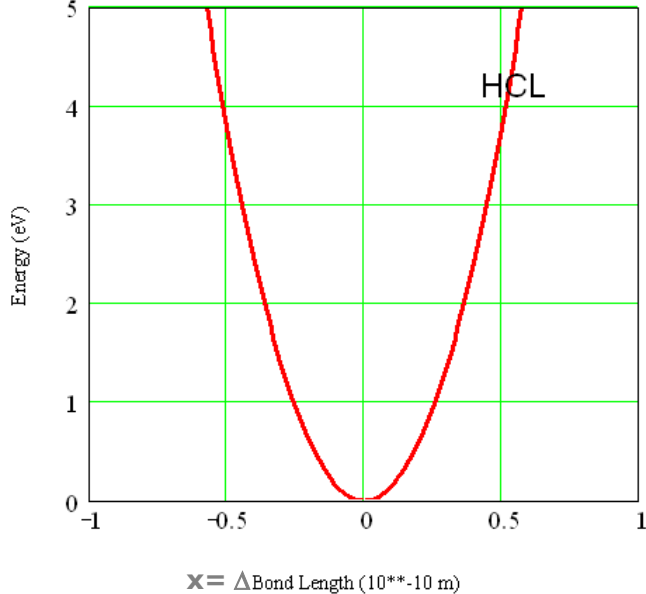
$$+ (q_j - q_{j0}) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial q_j} U(q_j) \right]_{q_{j0}}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (q_j - q_{j0})^2 \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q_j^2} U(q_j) \right]_{q_{j0}} =: c$$

+ .....(higher orders)

# Harmonic Oscillator

HCL Harmonic Approximation



$$\hat{H}_{ho} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial q^2} + \frac{1}{2} c \underbrace{(q - q_0)^2}_{=:x} + \cancel{U(q_0)}$$

Reset energy scale  $\rightarrow U(q_0) = 0$   
 $x :=$  displacement from equilibrium

$$\hat{H}_{ho} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{2} cx^2 \quad \mu := \text{reduced mass}$$

## Stationary Schrödinger Equation

$$\hat{H}_{ho}\psi(x) = \left\{ -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{2} cx^2 \right\} \psi(x) = E\psi(x)$$

## Energy eigen states

$$k^2 = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} E; \quad \lambda^2 = \frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2}$$

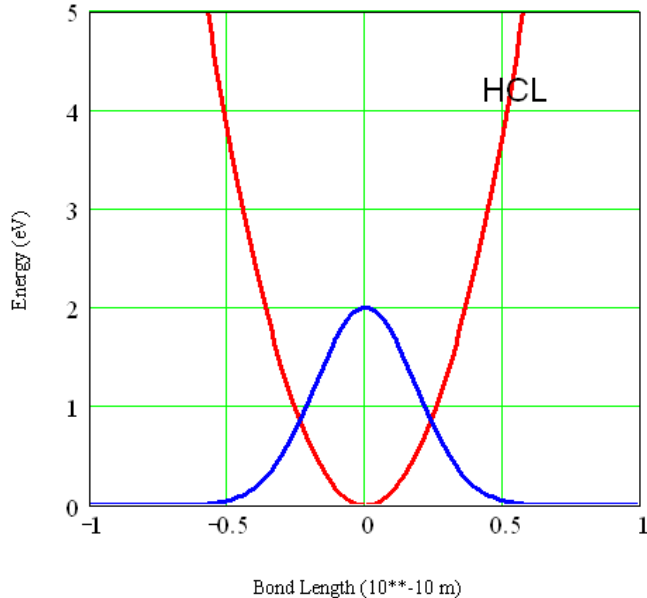
Symmetric potential  $\rightarrow$

$$[\hat{\Pi}, \hat{H}_{ho}] = 0 \rightarrow \psi = \hat{\Pi} - EF$$

$\psi(x)$  : spatially either symmetric or asymmetric

# Harmonic Oscillator: Asymptotic Behavior

HCL Harmonic Approximation



Bond Length (10\*\*-10 m)

$$[\hat{\Pi}, \hat{H}_{ho}] = 0 \rightarrow \psi = \hat{\Pi} - EF$$

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + k^2 - \lambda^2 x^2 \right\} \psi(x) = 0$$

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\lambda \partial x^2} + \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - \lambda x^2 \right\} \psi(x) = 0$$

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - \xi^2 \right\} \psi(\xi) = 0$$

$$k^2 = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} E$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Asymptotic boundary conditions ( $\psi(x)$  in classically forbidden region)?

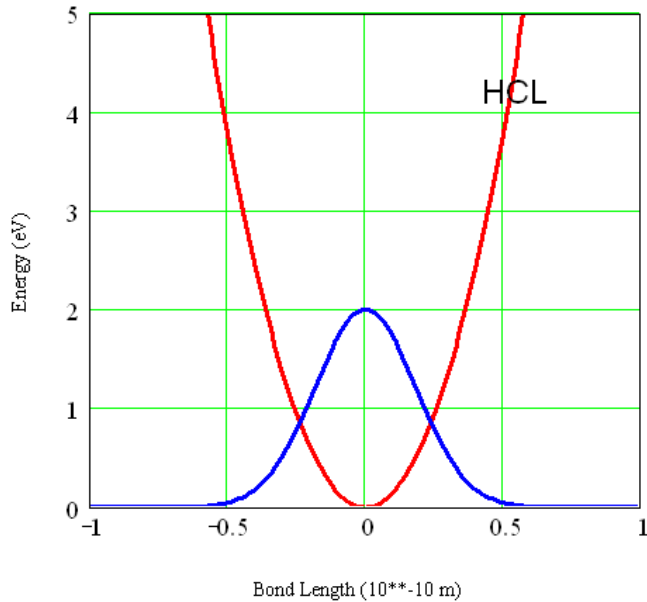
$$\xi^2 \gg k^2/\lambda \rightarrow k^2 \ll \lambda^2 x^2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \psi(\xi) \approx \xi^2 \psi(\xi) \text{ solved app. by } \psi(\xi) \approx e^{-\xi^2/2}$$

Gaussian decay of wf in forbidden region, faster for heavy particles ( $\mu$ ) and steep potential ( $c$ ). For HCL:  $\lambda \sim 84 \text{ \AA}^{-2}$

# Harmonic Oscillator Eigen Value Equation

HCL Harmonic Approximation



$$[\hat{\Pi}, \hat{H}_{ho}] = 0 \rightarrow \psi = \hat{\Pi} - EF$$

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - \xi^2 \right\} \psi(\xi) = 0$$

Trial:  $\psi(\xi) \approx e^{-\xi^2/2}$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \psi(\xi) = (\xi^2 - 1) \psi(\xi)$$

$$\psi_{n=0}(x) = e^{-\frac{\sqrt{\mu C}}{2\hbar} x^2} = \text{exact solution for } \frac{k^2}{\lambda} = 1$$

$$\frac{k^2}{\lambda} = 1 \rightarrow E = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} k^2 = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \sqrt{\frac{\mu C}{\hbar^2}} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \sqrt{\frac{C}{\mu}}$$

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega \quad \text{classical frequency} \quad \omega = \sqrt{\frac{C}{\mu}}$$

$$k^2 = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} E$$

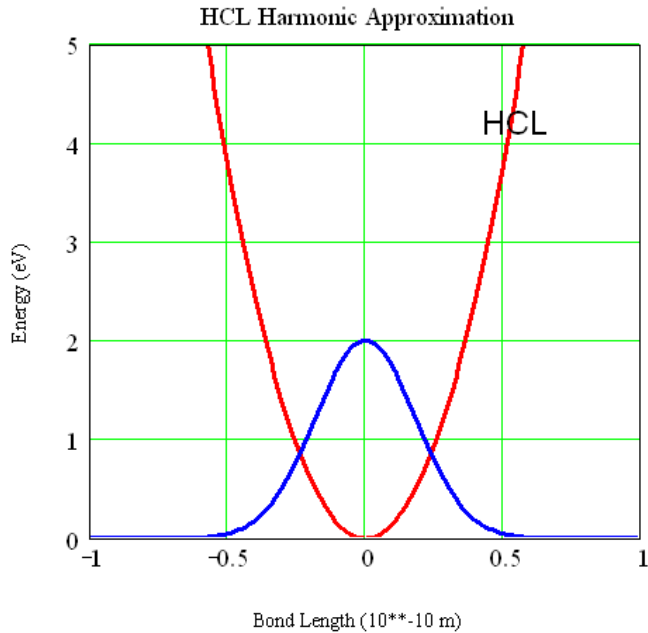
$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu C}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Found one energy eigen value and eigen function (= ground state of qu. oscillator)

Harmonic Oscillator

# Harmonic Oscillator: Hermite's Differential Equ.



$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - \xi^2 \right\} \psi(\xi) = 0$$

All asymptotic:  $\psi(\xi) \approx e^{-\xi^2/2}$

Trial function  $\psi(\xi) = H(\xi)e^{-\xi^2/2}$

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} + \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - \xi^2 \right\} H(\xi)e^{-\xi^2/2} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} H(\xi)e^{-\xi^2/2} = \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} H \right) - 2\xi \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} H \right) + \xi^2 H - H \right\} e^{-\xi^2/2}$$

Hermite's DEqu.

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} - 2\xi \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + \left( \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - 1 \right) \right\} H(\xi) = 0$$

$$k^2 = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} E$$

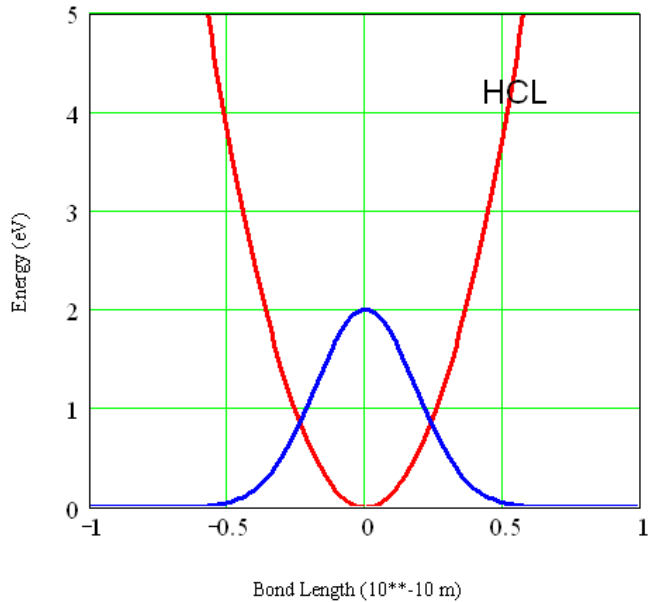
$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Asymptotic behavior:  $H(\xi)$  not exponential  $\rightarrow \mathbf{H}$  = finite power series

# Solving with Series Method

HCL Harmonic Approximation



Bond Length (10\*\* -10 m)

$$[\hat{\Pi}, \hat{H}_{ho}] = 0 \rightarrow \psi = \hat{\Pi} - EF$$

$$\psi(\xi) = H(\xi)e^{-\xi^2/2}$$

Hermite's DEqu.

$$\left\{ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} - 2\xi \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} + \left( \frac{k^2}{\lambda} - 1 \right) \right\} H(\xi) = 0$$

$$k^2 = \frac{2\mu}{\hbar^2} E$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu C}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Asymptotic behavior  $\rightarrow H(\xi)$  not exponential  
 $\rightarrow H =$  finite power series

$$H_n(\xi) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i$$

Discrete EV spectrum,  
 count states  $n=, 0, 1, \dots$   
 $\mathbf{a}_i$  from differential equ.

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \xi^2} \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i = \sum_{i=0}^n a_{i+2} (i+2)(i+1) \xi^i$$

$$-2\xi \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi} \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i = \sum_{i=0}^n (-2i) a_i \xi^i$$

$$\left( \frac{k_n^2}{\lambda} - 1 \right) \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \left( \frac{k_n^2}{\lambda} - 1 \right) \xi^i$$

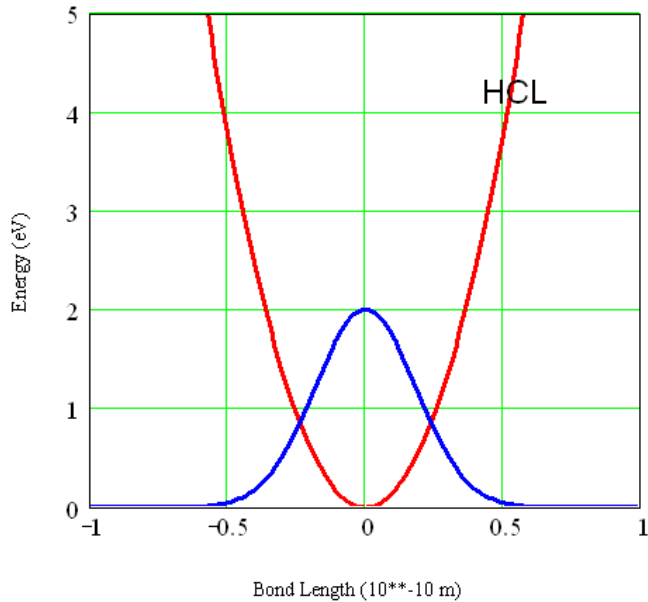
$$0 = \sum_{i=0}^n \left\{ \begin{array}{l} (i+2)(i+1)a_{i+2} \\ (-2i)a_i \\ \underbrace{\left( \frac{k_n^2}{\lambda} - 1 \right) a_i}_{\text{all } = 0} \end{array} \right\} \xi^i$$

Harmonic Oscillator



# Energy Spectrum of Harmonic Oscillator

HCL Harmonic Approximation



$$[\hat{\Pi}, \hat{H}_{ho}] = 0 \rightarrow \psi = \hat{\Pi} - EF$$

$$\psi_n(\xi) = H_n(\xi) e^{-\xi^2/2} \quad H_n(\xi) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i$$

$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 k_n^2}{2\mu}$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Recursion relations for  $a_i$   
terminate at  $i = n$

$$(i+2)(i+1)a_{i+2} = \left\{ (2i+1) - \left( \frac{k_n^2}{\lambda} \right) \right\} a_i$$

$i = \text{even or } i = \text{odd.}$

$$k_n^2 = (2n+1)\lambda$$

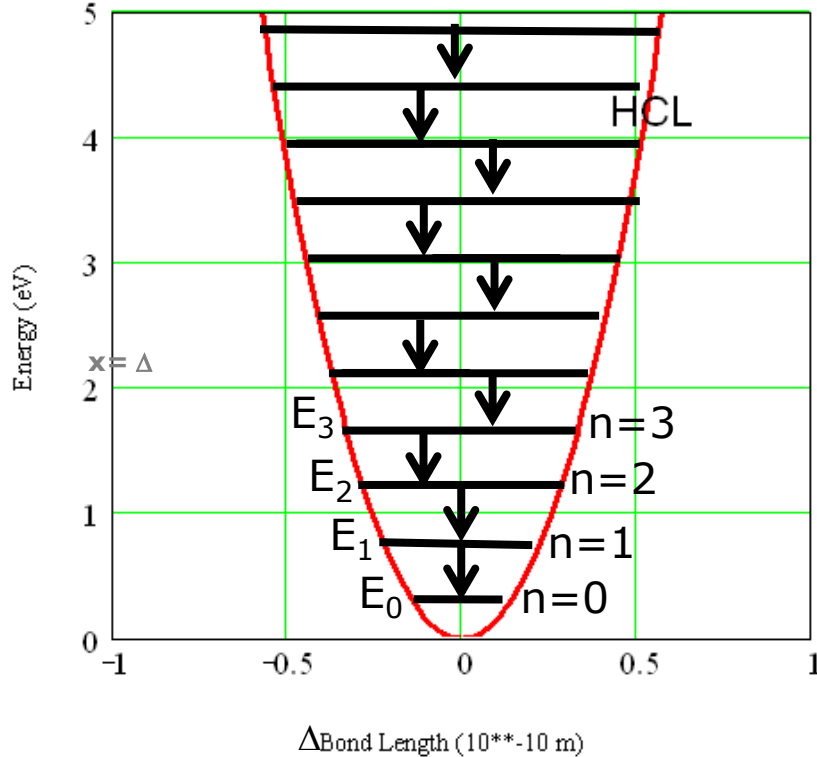
$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} k_n^2 = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} (2n+1) \sqrt{\frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2}} = \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{c}{\mu}}}_{\omega}$$

Energy eigen values of  
qu. harmonic oscillator

$$E_n = \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar \omega \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

# Harmonic Oscillator Level Scheme

HCL Harmonic Approximation



Equidistant level scheme

$$E_n = \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) \hbar \omega \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

unbounded,  $n \rightarrow \infty$

*HCl*

$$E_0 = \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega = 0.27 \text{ eV} \quad \text{Zero-point energy}$$

$$\omega = 8.2 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

Elm. E1 transitions:

$$\Delta n = \pm 1$$

+1: absorption

-1: emission

Absorption and emission in *infra-red* spectral region

$$HCl : \nu = \frac{\omega}{2\pi} = 5.85 \cdot 10^{13} \text{ Hz} \rightarrow \lambda = 5.12 \mu\text{m}$$

# Rot-Vib Spectra of Molecules

Assume independent rot and vib  $\rightarrow$  neglect centrifugal stretching

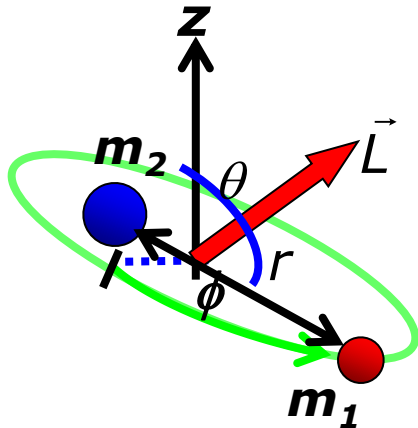
$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_{com} + \hat{H}_{rot} + \hat{H}_{vib} + \hat{H}_{el}(\dots) \quad \text{Very different energy scales}$$

$$E = \frac{p^2}{2M} + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathcal{I}} J(J+1) + \hbar\omega\left(\nu + \frac{1}{2}\right) + \dots$$

Selection rules for elm transitions:

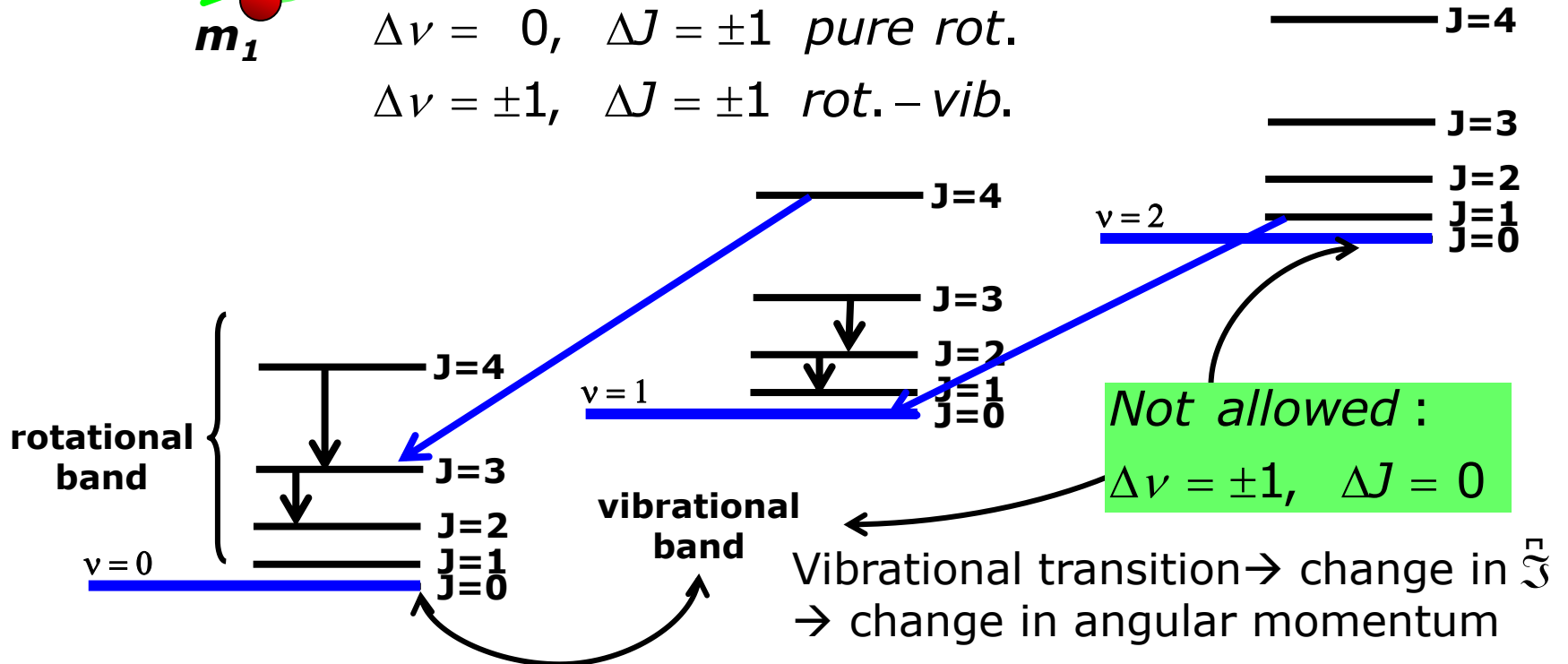
$$\Delta\nu = 0, \quad \Delta J = \pm 1 \quad \text{pure rot.}$$

$$\Delta\nu = \pm 1, \quad \Delta J = \pm 1 \quad \text{rot. - vib.}$$



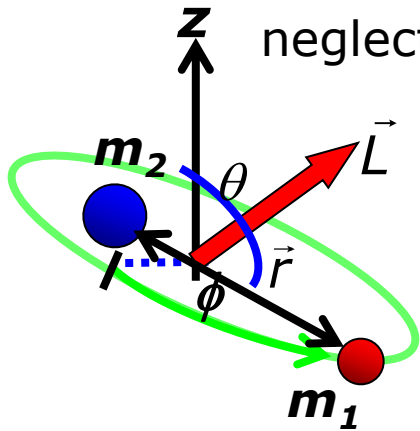
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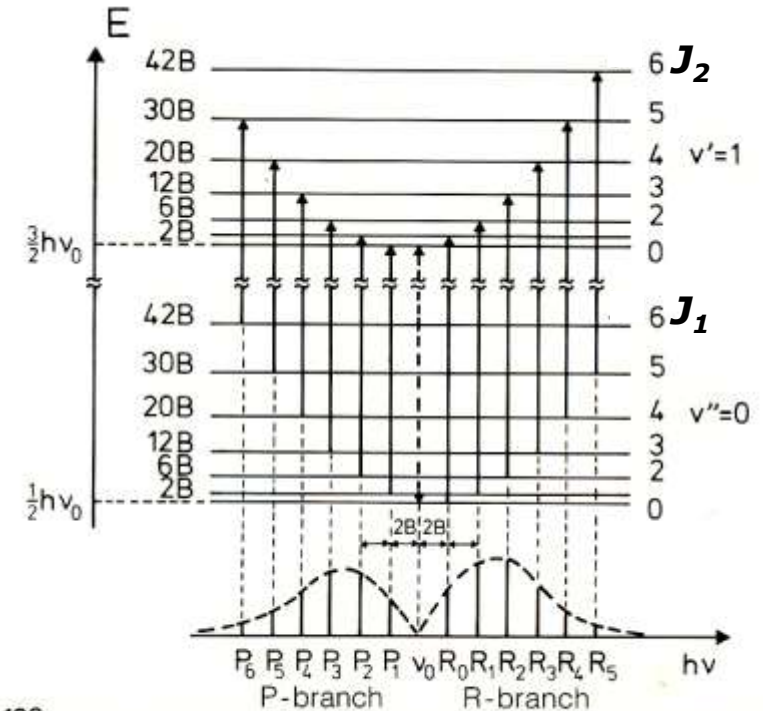
# Rot-Vib Spectra of Molecules

Assume independent rot and vib  
neglect centrifugal stretching



$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_{com} + \hat{H}_{rot} + \hat{H}_{vib}$$

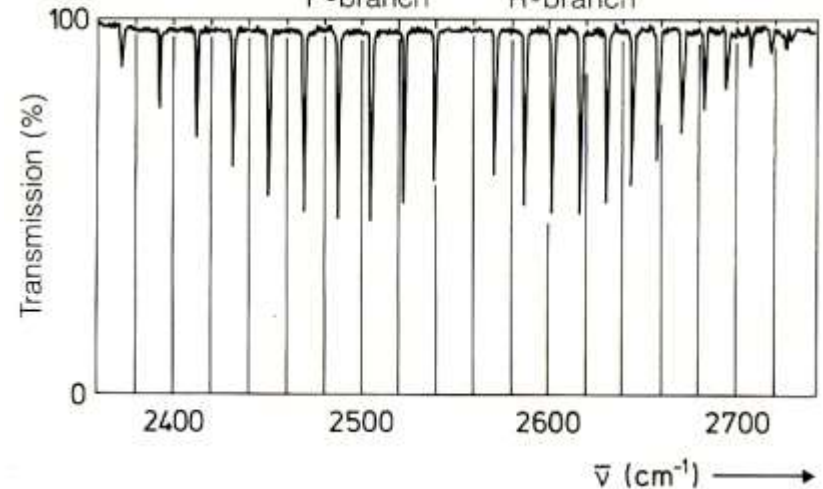
$$E = \frac{p^2}{2M} + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mathcal{I}} J(J+1) + \hbar\omega\left(\nu + \frac{1}{2}\right)$$



Rot-vib absorption/emission branches

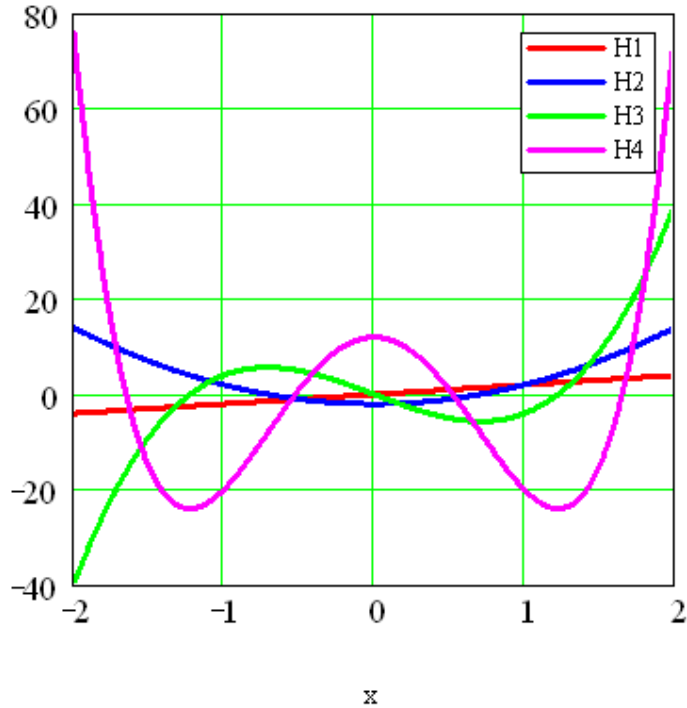
$$\Delta E_{J_1 \rightarrow J_2=J_1+1} = B[(J_1+1)(J_1+2) - J_1(J_1+1)] = 2B(J_1+2) \quad \text{R-Branch}$$

$$\Delta E_{J_1 \rightarrow J_2=J_1-1} = B[(J_1-1)J_1 - J_1(J_1+1)] = -2B(J_1+2) \quad \text{P-Branch}$$



# H Osc-Wave Functions: Hermite's Polynomials

Hermite's Polynomials H<sub>1</sub>-H<sub>4</sub>



$$H_n(\xi) = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i \xi^i$$

$$a_{i+2} = \frac{2(i-n)}{(i+2)(i+1)} a_i$$

$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 k_n^2}{2\mu}$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu C}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

Definite parity  $\pi=+1$  ,  $\pi=-1$

$$H_0(x) = 1$$

$$H_1(x) = 2x$$

$$H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2$$

$$H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x$$

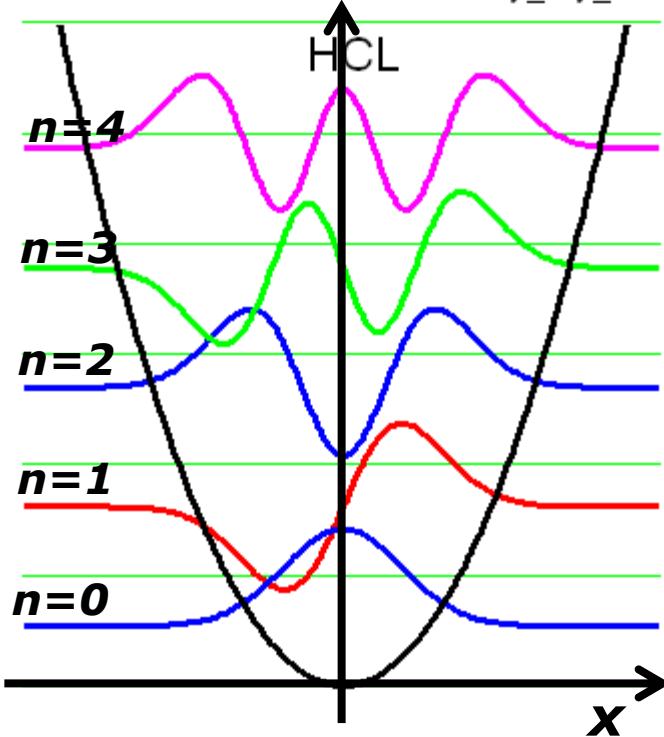
$$H_4(x) = 16x^4 - 48x^2 + 12$$

$$H_5(x) = 32x^5 - 160x^3 + 120x$$

$$H_6(x) = 64x^6 - 480x^4 + 720x^2 - 120$$

# Oscillator Eigenfunctions

HCl Harm. Oscillator Functions y\_0-y\_4



Unnormalized:

$$\psi(\xi) \propto H(\xi)e^{-\xi^2/2}$$

$$E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 k_n^2}{2\mu}$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\xi := \sqrt{\lambda} x$$

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\mu c}{\hbar^2} = \frac{\mu^2 \omega^2}{\hbar^2}$$

$$\psi_n(x) = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{\pi} 2^n n!} \right)^{1/2} H_n(\sqrt{\lambda} x) e^{-\lambda x^2}$$

Normalization  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$

All have definite parity,

$$\pi_n = (-1)^n$$

spatial symmetry.

$n = \#$  of nodes

$$\hbar\omega = 0.54\text{eV} \quad \lambda = 84.14 \text{ \AA}^{-2}$$

$$\sqrt{\lambda} = 5.454 \text{ \AA}^{-1}; \quad 1/\lambda = 0.012 \text{ \AA}^2$$

# Calculating Expectation Values

$$\psi_n(x) = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\sqrt{\pi} 2^n n!} \right)^{1/2} H_n(\sqrt{\lambda} x) e^{-\lambda x^2}$$

Mean square deviation from equilibrium bond length

$$\langle x^2 \rangle_n = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x^2 |\psi_n(x)|^2 dx$$

HCl

$$\hbar\omega = 0.54 \text{ eV} \quad \lambda = 84.14 \text{ \AA}^{-2} \quad \sqrt{\lambda} = 5.454 \text{ \AA}^{-1}; \quad 1/\lambda = 0.012 \text{ \AA}^2$$

MathCad rendition:  $s\lambda := \sqrt{\lambda}$

$$\psi(n, x) := N_n \cdot H(s\lambda \cdot x)_n \cdot e^{-\frac{\lambda}{2} \cdot x^2}$$

$$\text{Ex2}(n) := \int_{-10}^{10} x^2 \cdot (|\psi(n, x)|)^2 dx$$

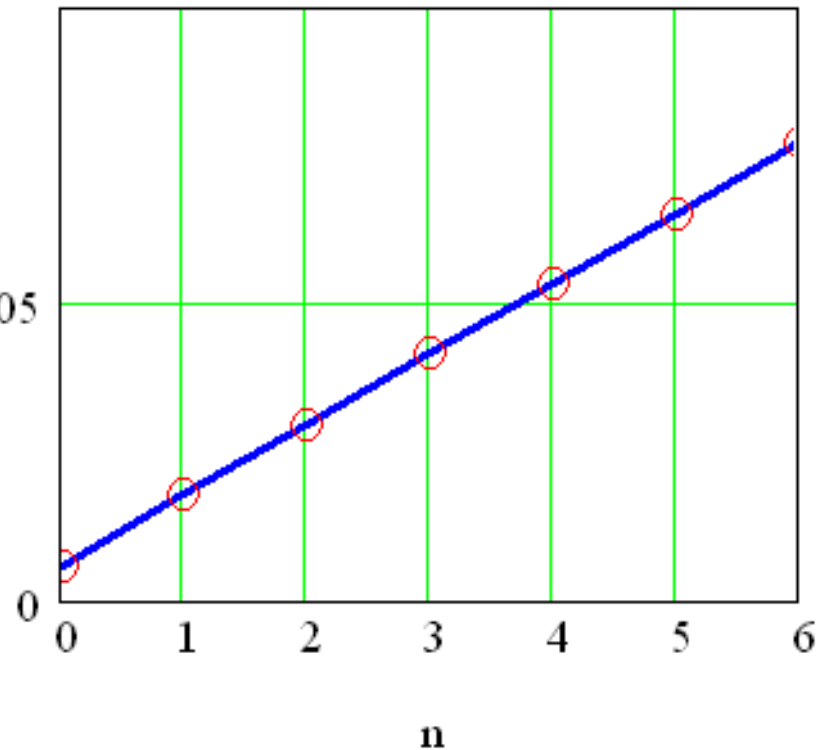
$$\frac{\text{R2}(n)}{\text{Ao}^2} = \frac{\text{Ex2}(n)}{\text{Ao}^2} = 0.05$$

Deviation from equilibrium bond length

$$\langle x^2 \rangle_n = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) = 0.012 \text{ \AA}^2 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\langle x \rangle_{\text{rms}, n} = 0.109 \text{ \AA} \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)^{1/2}$$

HCl Mean Square Radius  $\langle x^2 \rangle_n$



**End of Section**