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## THE VIBRATIONAL SPECTRUM AND STRUCTURE OF TRIFLUOROTRICHLORO- DISILOXANE

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### SUMMARY

The vibrational spectrum of trifluorotrichlorodisiloxane ( $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ ) is reported, analyzed and assigned in terms of a linear  $\text{C}_{3v}$  model, by comparison with that of structurally related hexachlorodisiloxane ( $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ ). This is the first assignment of the vibrational spectrum for this molecule. The vibrational spectrum of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  is assigned on the basis of a linear  $\text{D}_{3d}$  model, which is different from a bent  $\text{C}_{2v}$  model in the previous literature.

### INTRODUCTION

The  $\text{D}_{3d}$  model for  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  has six Raman active fundamentals and seven infrared active ones, which are mutually exclusive in the Raman and infrared. The less symmetric model  $\text{C}_{2v}$  would give twenty-one fundamentals, all of which are Raman active and seventeenth of which are infrared active. Most previous assignment [1-11] of the vibrational bands of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  have been based on  $\text{C}_{2v}$  selection rules. One paper [12] has assigned  $\text{D}_{3h}$  symmetry to  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  and another [13] has assigned  $\text{D}_{3d}$  symmetry to disiloxane ( $\text{H}_3\text{SiOSiH}_3$ ). However since only nine of twenty-one fundamental bands can be found in the observed Raman spectrum of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  and some of those may correspond to overtone or combination bands, it seems likely that the  $\text{C}_{2v}$  model which should have twenty-one fundamentals which are Raman active is incorrect. The present author has therefore found it worthwhile to investigate the structure of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  by measuring

the vibrational spectrum and comparing the spectra with those of the structurally related molecules;  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  [14],  $F_3SiCl$  and  $FSiCl_3$  [15,16]. The assignment of the vibrational spectrum of  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  would supply useful information for the structure of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$ , too.

## EXPERIMENTAL

The compound  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  was purchased from a commercial source and purified by distillation. In order to synthesize  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$ ,  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  was fluorinated using  $SbF_3$  and incorporating  $SbCl_5$  as a catalyst [17] and synthesized  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  was separated by fractional distillation.

Raman spectra were recorded on a JEOL JRS S1B spectrometer using argon ion laser, and the infrared spectra were measured with a Shimadzu IR-450 spectrometer. The gas cell had a path of 10 cm and KRS-5 windows. The infrared spectra were measured both in the gaseous and the liquid states. The differences between the patterns of the spectra in both states are hardly discernible and those between the wave numbers in both states are very small.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### VIBRATIONAL SPECTRUM OF $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$

The Raman and infrared spectra of  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  are given in Fig. 1. It is clearly seen that the spectra indicate the lack of coincidence between Raman and infrared frequencies which means that the molecule has a centre of symmetry, and are too simple to be interpreted according to  $C_{2v}$  symmetry which should have 21 Raman active fundamentals and 17 infrared active ones, as shown in the irreducible representation of  $C_{2v}$ ;  $7A_1(R,p:IR)+4A_2(R)+6B_1(R:IR)+4B_2(R:IR)$ . The spectra of  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  observed are in agreement with the selection rules expected for  $D_{3d}$  model[\*1]

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[\*1] A  $D_{3h}$  symmetry, the irreducible representations of which is  $3A'_1(R,p)+1A''_1(inac.)+3A''_2(IR)+4E'(R:IR)+3E''(R)$  is reasonable for linear  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$ , too, but does not have a symmetry center.

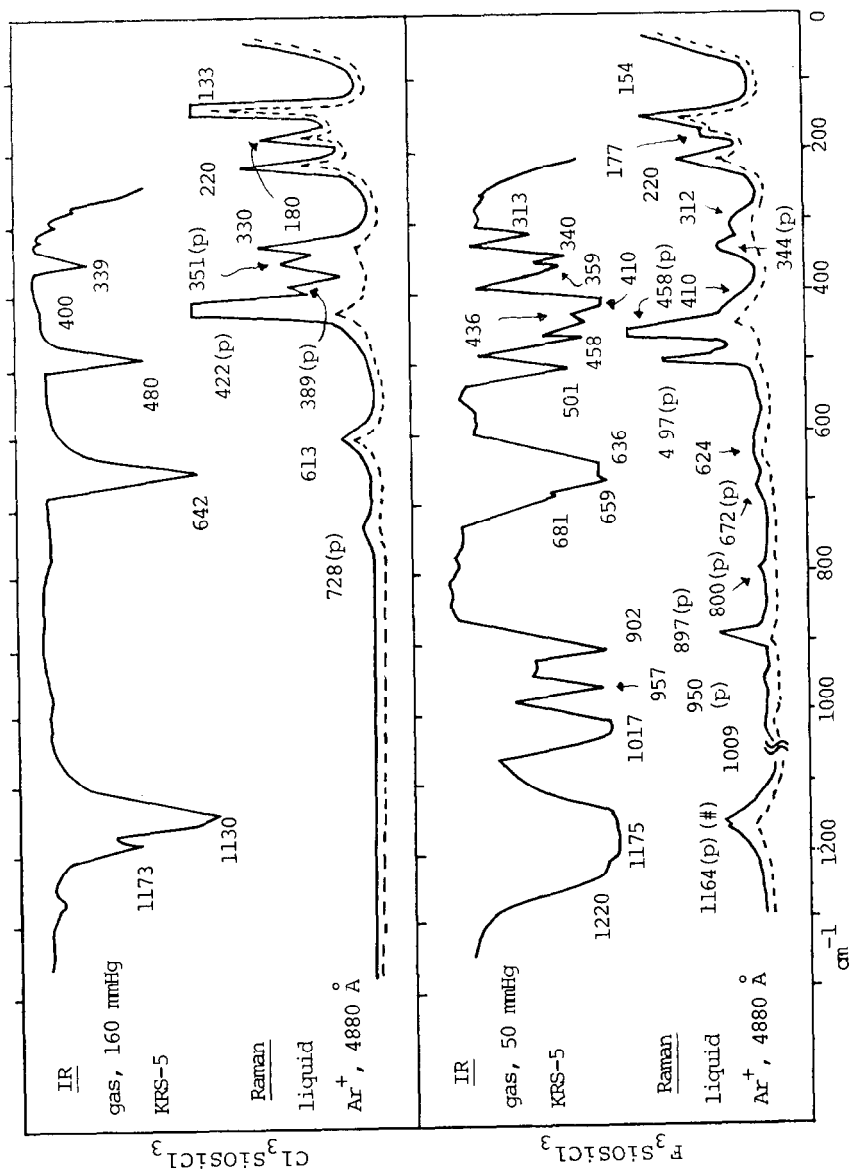


Fig. 1 Raman and infrared spectra of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  (#), in high sensitivity

the irreducible representations of which is  $3A_{1g}(R,p) + 1A_{1u}(\text{inac.}) + 3A_{2u}(\text{IR}) + 3E_g(R) + 4E_u(\text{IR})$ .

(a)  $A_{1g}$  bands

These are Raman active and polarized and infrared inactive. The Raman band of  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  [15,16] that corresponds to the  $728\text{ cm}^{-1}$  Raman band(p) of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  does not exist, but the  $672\text{ cm}^{-1}$  Raman band(p) of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  seems to correspond to the  $728\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ . Accordingly the  $728\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) should be due to  $\text{SiOSi}$  stretching or bending which is absent in  $\text{FSiCl}_3$ . By considering the polarization state, the  $728\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) can be assigned to symmetric  $\text{SiOSi}$  stretching,  $\nu_s(\text{SiOSi})$ . Some workers [2,11] have assigned the intense and polarized  $422\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band to  $\nu_s(\text{SiOSi})$ . However the most prominent band in the Raman spectra of such compounds has been observed to arise from  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$ . This band is always strong and highly polarized and occurs in  $450\text{ cm}^{-1}$  wave number region [18], with which  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  would be identified. Thus the  $422\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  should be assigned to  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$ , where the lower frequency as expected ( $\sim 450\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) might be due to the coupling of  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})(A_{1g})$  and  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)(A_{1g})$  [13]. The stretching force constants of  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  are approximately calculated from the experimental vibration frequencies. That is, the values of the force constants for compounds containing  $\text{SiCl}_3$  group(s) are calculated, using about  $450\text{ cm}^{-1}$  of  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  as shown in Fig. 2, to be  $2.2 \sim 2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  dyne/cm [\*2], which seem to be reasonable value by comparing with  $2.7 \times 10^{-5}$  of  $\text{SiCl}_4$  [19] and  $2.6 \times 10^{-5}$  dyne/cm of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  [20].

The literature [12] has assigned the  $330\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) instead of  $728\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) to  $\nu_s(\text{SiOSi})$ . However the  $330\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) seems to appear in frequency region of  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$ . There remains the symmetric  $\text{SiCl}_3$  deformation mode,  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$ , and polarized bands at  $330$ ,  $351$  and  $389\text{ cm}^{-1}$  could be considered arising from this  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$  mode. By comparison with the  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$  bands of the compounds having  $\text{SiCl}_3$  group(s) shown in Fig. 2, the  $330\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) seems to be assigned to  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$ . It is well known that the

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[\*2] The anomalous low frequency of  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiSiCl}_3$  may be due to the intensive coupling of  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  and  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$ .

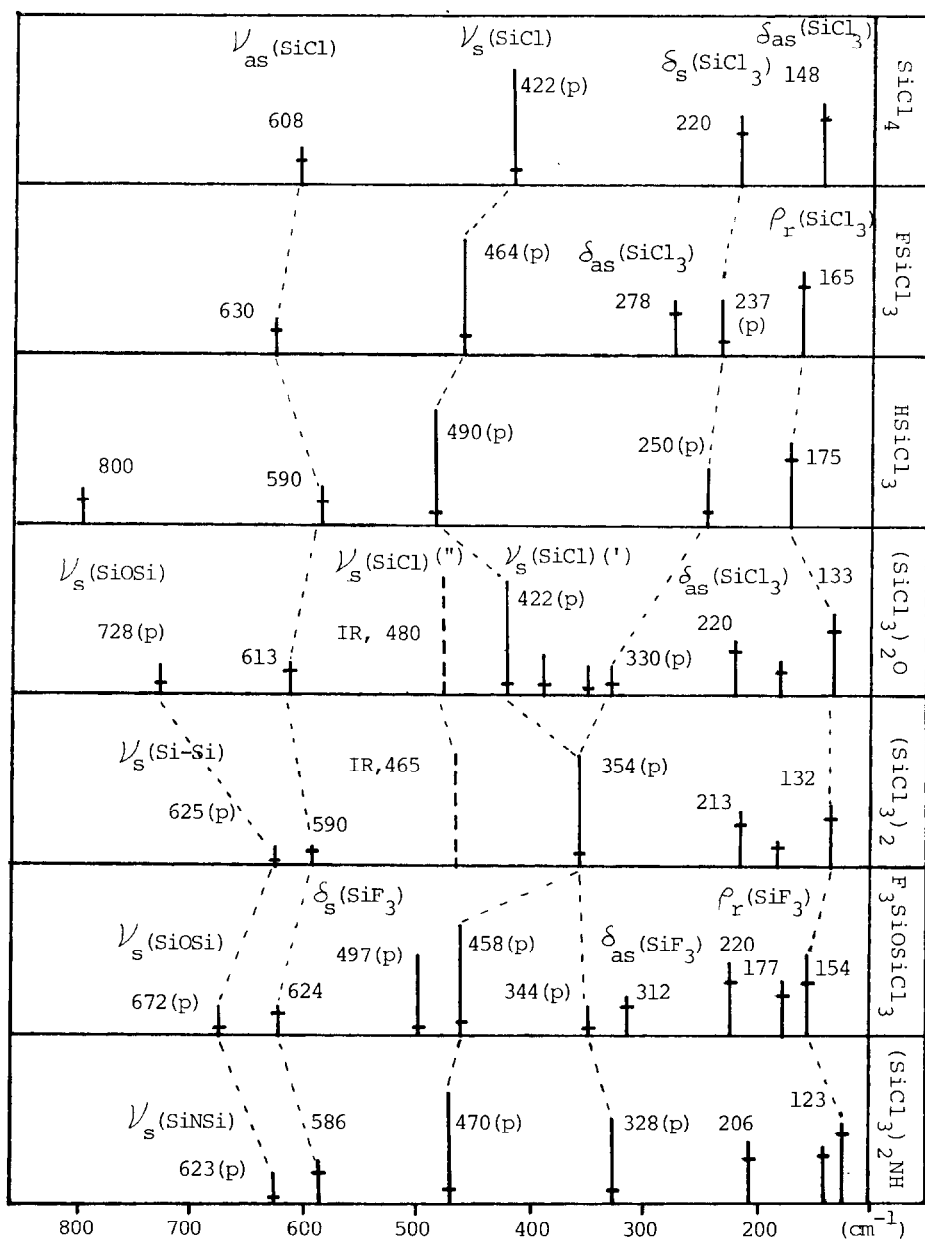


Fig. 2 Schematic Raman spectra of compounds with  $\text{SiCl}_3$  or/and  $\text{SiF}_3$ . Intensity of (//) band is shown by vertical line and top of (|) band, by horizontal bar. Dotted line shows infrared band of  $\nu_{as}(\text{SiCl})(A_{2u})$  which is Raman inactive. ('), in phase; ("), out of phase

frequencies of  $\nu_s(\text{CH}_3)$ ,  $\nu_{as}(\text{CH}_3)$  and  $\delta_s(\text{CH}_3)$  are remarkably constant throughout the series of molecule  $\text{CH}_3\text{-Z}$  ( $\text{Z}=\text{F}, \text{Cl}, \text{Br}, \text{I}$ ) [21]. This is also the case for compounds containing  $\text{SiCl}_3$  and/or  $\text{SiF}_3$  group(s) as shown in Fig. 2.

#### (b) $A_{2u}$ bands

These are infrared active and Raman inactive. The asymmetric SiOSi stretching modes of substituted disiloxanes have been found to exhibit relative constancy from one compound to the next [22]. For example, bands arising from this mode of vibration appear at  $1107\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the spectrum of  $\text{H}_3\text{SiOSiH}_3$  [13], at  $1060\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in that of  $\text{Me}_3\text{SiOSiMe}_3$  [23], at  $1075\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in that of  $\Phi_3\text{SiOSi}\Phi_3$  [24] ( $\text{Me}=\text{methyl}$ ,  $\Phi=\text{phenyl}$ ), and at  $1175\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in that of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ . The only band appearing in the spectrum of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  within this wave number region is the strong infrared band at  $1130\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Therefore, this band is assigned to  $\nu_{as}(\text{SiOSi})$ . The Raman counterpart is not observed. If  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  has  $C_{2v}$  symmetry,  $\nu_{as}(\text{SiOSi})$  band should appear in the Raman. Accordingly this further supports the  $D_{3d}$  structure for  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ .

The molecule  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  may be considered as a derivative of  $\text{FSiCl}_3$ : the  $\text{SiCl}_3$  linked to an oxygen atom replaced the fluorine atom. Thus  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  in  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  is split to give to  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  (in phase) and  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  (out of phase) in  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ , and the  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  (out of phase) of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  would appear near  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  of  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  and that (in phase) of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ . Accordingly the strong  $480\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band is assigned to  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  (out of phase), compared with the frequency ( $422\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) of  $\nu_s(\text{SiCl})$  (in phase). The  $339\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band is assigned to  $\delta_{as}(\text{SiCl}_3)$  by comparison with  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$  ( $330\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

#### (c) $E_g$ bands

These are Raman active and depolarized, and infrared active. The bands at  $613$ ,  $220$  and  $133\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , all of which are depolarized, are assigned to  $\nu_{as}(\text{SiCl})$ ,  $\delta_{as}(\text{SiCl}_3)$  and  $\rho_r(\text{SiCl}_3)$  respectively, by comparison with those of  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  and the  $E_u$  bands of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ .

#### (d) $E_u$ bands

These are infrared active and Raman inactive. The bands at  $642$ ,  $247$  [\*3] and [\*3]  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are assigned to  $\nu_{as}(\text{SiCl})$ ,

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[\*3] These are beyond the range of KRS-5, but are cited from ref. [2].

$\delta_{as}(\text{SiCl}_3)$  and  $\rho_r(\text{SiCl}_3)$  respectively, compared with those of  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  and  $E_g$  bands of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ . The  $180\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band found in liquid  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  may be the infrared fundamental at  $179\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , appearing in the Raman effect through a breakdown of the selection rules due to intermolecular force in the liquid[25].

The intensity of the SiOSi bending mode,  $\delta(\text{SiOSi})$  of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  with same end groups would be expected to be weak, so the very weak band lying at about  $400\text{ cm}^{-1}$  in  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  could be assigned to  $\delta(\text{SiOSi})$ , which is absent in  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  and  $\text{HSiCl}_3$ . The intensity of this  $\delta(\text{SiOSi})$  band of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  is in contrast to the intensity of  $\delta(\text{SiOSi})$  of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  with different end groups, as mentioned below.

#### (e) Overtone and combination bands

The infrared bands at  $1173$  and  $1130\text{ cm}^{-1}$  may arise from Fermi resonance between  $1130(A_{2u})$  and  $480(A_{2u}) + 2 \times 239(A_{2u})$ . The Raman bands at  $351$  and  $389\text{ cm}^{-1}$  could be considered as combinations of  $220(E_g) + 133(E_g)$  and of  $613(E_g) - 220(E_g)$ , respectively. The Raman bands at  $351$  and  $389\text{ cm}^{-1}$  of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  which do not appear in infrared should be overtone or combination band. If these bands would be fundamentals, the molecule,  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  would have a lower symmetry having more fundamentals than a  $D_{3d}$  and all (or most) of the fundamentals in Raman and infrared should coincide with each other in frequencies. However the obtained spectra are mutually exclusive in Raman and infrared. The Raman  $180\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band [\*4,25] of  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  which has the infrared counterpart is considered as the fundamental appearing in the Raman effect due to a breakdown of  $D_{3d}$  selection rules. Table 1 lists the assignment for the fundamental bands observed together with symmetry species and selection rules of  $D_{3d}$ .

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[\*4] In the literature [12], this  $180\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band is assigned to  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$ . However this band is observed to be depolarized, therefore the above assignment seems to be doubtful. Because  $\delta_s(\text{SiCl}_3)$  should be polarized.

Species	Normal		SiCl <sub>3</sub> OSiCl <sub>3</sub>	
	Vibr. Modes	Raman	IR	
A <sub>1g</sub>	$\nu_s$ (SiOSi)	728 (p,w)	---	
	$\nu_s$ (SiCl) (')	422 (p,vs)	---	
	$\delta_s$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> ) (')	330 (p,m)	---	
	Torsion	---	---	
A <sub>1u</sub>	$\nu_{as}$ (SiOSi)	---	1130 (vs)	
	$\nu_s$ (SiCl) (")	---	480 (s)	
	$\delta_s$ (SiCl) (")	---	339 (m)	
	$\nu_{as}$ (SiCl)	613 (d,w)	---	
E <sub>g</sub>	$\delta_{as}$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	220 (d,s)	---	
	$\rho_r$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	133 (d,vs)	---	
	$\nu_{as}$ (SiCl)	---	642 (vs)	
	$\delta$ (SiOSi)	---	400 (vw)	
E <sub>u</sub>	$\delta_{as}$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	247 (*)	
	$\rho_r$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	180 (**)	179 (*)	

Species		F <sub>3</sub> SiOSiCl <sub>3</sub>	
Vibr. Modes	Species A <sub>1</sub>	Species E	
		Raman	IR
$\nu_{as}$ (SiF)	---	1009 (w)	1017 (vs)
$\nu_s$ (SiF)	897 (w)	---	---
$\delta_{as}$ (SiF <sub>3</sub> )	---	312 (w)	313 (m)
$\delta_s$ (SiF <sub>3</sub> )	497 (s)	---	---
$\rho_r$ (SiF <sub>3</sub> )	---	177 (m)	(*)
$\nu_{as}$ (SiOSi)	1164 (vw)	---	---
$\nu_s$ (SiOSi)	672 (w)	---	---
$\delta$ (SiOSi)	---	410 (vw)	410 (vs)
$\nu_{as}$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	624 (w)	636 (vs)
$\nu_s$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	458 (vs)	---	---
$\delta_{as}$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	220 (s)	(*)
$\delta_s$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	344 (m)	---	---
$\rho_r$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	154 (s)	(*)

Species		F <sub>3</sub> SiCl & FSiCl <sub>3</sub>	
Vibr. Modes	Species A <sub>1</sub>	Species E	
		Raman	IR
$\nu_{as}$ (SiF)	---	1009 (w)	1017 (vs)
$\nu_s$ (SiF)	897 (w)	---	---
$\delta_{as}$ (SiF <sub>3</sub> )	---	312 (w)	313 (m)
$\delta_s$ (SiF <sub>3</sub> )	497 (s)	---	---
$\rho_r$ (SiF <sub>3</sub> )	---	177 (m)	(*)
$\nu_{as}$ (SiOSi)	1164 (vw)	---	---
$\nu_s$ (SiOSi)	672 (w)	---	---
$\delta$ (SiOSi)	---	410 (vw)	410 (vs)
$\nu_{as}$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	624 (w)	636 (vs)
$\nu_s$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	458 (vs)	---	---
$\delta_{as}$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	220 (s)	(*)
$\delta_s$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	344 (m)	---	---
$\rho_r$ (SiCl <sub>3</sub> )	---	154 (s)	(*)

TABLE 1 Symmetry species and selection rules of D<sub>3d</sub> and C<sub>3v</sub>, and frequency assignments of compounds; (a), (b) and (c) (\*); This is beyond the the range of RRS-5, but the figure is cited from ref. [2]. (\*\*); This would be forbidden in Raman, but may appear through a breakdown of the selection rules due to intermolecular force in liquid. ('); in phase ("); out of phase



# VIBRATIONAL SPECTRUM OF $F_3SiOSiCl_3$

The Raman and infrared spectra of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  are shown in Fig. 1. The symmetry of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  is  $C_{3v}$  or  $C_3$  for the linear model and  $C_s$  for the bent one. The irreducible representations of the skeletal modes are  $6A_1(R,p)+1A_2(inac.)+7E(R:IR)$  for  $C_{3v}$ ,  $7A(R,p:IR)+7E(R:IR)$  for  $C_3$  and  $13A'(R,p:IR)+8A''(R:IR)$  for  $C_s$ . The spectra observed seem too simple to be interpreted on the basis of  $C_s$  selection rules, which has 21 Raman fundamentals, of which 13 ones are polarized and 21 infrared fundamentals. Accordingly the symmetry of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  may be  $C_{3v}$  or  $C_3$ . It is difficult to differentiate the  $C_{3v}$  model from  $C_3$  one, on the basis of the vibrational bands obtained, but the  $C_{3v}$  model would energetically be preferable to  $C_3$  one.

## (a) $A_1$ bands

These are active in both Raman and infrared, and polarized in the Raman. The vibrational bands which belong to  $A_1$  species are assigned as shown in Table 2, compared with those for the structurally related compounds,  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$ ,  $FSiCl_3$  and  $F_3SiCl$ . The assignments of SiOSi stretching modes of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  have been discussed previously. In the case of  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$ , the Raman counterpart of  $\nu_{as}(SiOSi)$  is not observed. However, in the case of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$ , the Raman counterpart is observed to be  $1164\text{ cm}^{-1}(p)$ . If  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  has a bent model,  $\nu_{as}(SiOSi)$  band should appear in the Raman. The lack of the Raman band of  $\nu_{as}(SiOSi)$  for  $Cl_3SiOSiCl_3$  strongly supports a linear  $D_{3d}$  model. In the case of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$ ,  $\nu_{as}(SiOSi)$  is active in both Raman and infrared even in a linear  $C_{3v}$  model.

## (b) E bands

These are active in both Raman and infrared, but depolarized in the Raman. The assignments of  $\nu_{as}(SiF_3)$ ,  $\delta_{as}(SiF_3)$ ,  $\nu_{as}(SiCl_3)$  and  $\delta_{as}(SiCl_3)$  can be easily assigned in a similar manner as above mentioned for  $\nu_s(SiF_3)$ ,  $\delta_s(SiF_3)$ ,  $\nu_s(SiCl_3)$  and  $\delta_s(SiCl_3)$ .

The absorption intensity of a fundamental transition which is infrared active is related to the dipole moment derivative, so the intensity of  $\delta(SiOSi)$  of  $F_3SiOSiCl_3$  with different end groups would be expected to be not too weak. On the other hand, that of

$\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  with same end groups would be expected to be very weak. Therefore, the intense band at  $410\text{ cm}^{-1}$  of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  can be assigned to  $\delta(\text{SiOSi})$ . This is in agreement with expectations for  $\delta(\text{SiOSi})$  as mentioned above.

The  $\rho_r\text{SiF}_3$  and  $\rho_r\text{SiCl}_3$  can be assigned as shown in Table 1, compared with those of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiCl}$  and  $\text{FSiCl}_3$  and considered the polarization data.

#### (c) Overtone and combination bands

The  $1220\text{ cm}^{-1}$  infrared band seems to be interpretable as due to Fermi resonance between  $1175\text{ cm}^{-1}(A_1)$  and  $501(A_1) + 2 \times 340(A_1)$ . The center of the Fermi doublet coincides very nearly with the frequency of the combination band. The intense infrared band at  $957\text{ cm}^{-1}$  may be one of a Fermi doublet due to  $902(A_1)$  and  $2 \times 458(A_1)$ . The  $681\text{ cm}^{-1}$  infrared band can be considered as the first overtone of the  $340\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; the band at  $436$ , as that of  $220$ ; and the band at  $359$  as that of  $177\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The infrared bands at  $681$ ,  $436$  and  $359\text{ cm}^{-1}$  of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  which do not have the Raman counterpart should be overtone or combination band. If they should be fundamental, the symmetry of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  have to be less symmetry,  $C_s$  having more fundamentals than  $C_{3v}$ . The obtained spectra are too simple to be  $C_s$ .

#### (e) Impurity

The  $800\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) may be due to  $\text{SiF}_4$  included in  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  as an impurity, since the most intense Raman band of  $\text{SiF}_4$  is the  $800\text{ cm}^{-1}$  band(p) assigned to  $\nu_s(\text{SiF})$ .

### HYBRIDIZED LINEAR ORBITAL

From the observed spectra, it may be that the  $\text{SiOSi}$  skeleton is linear in both  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$ , for coincidence between Raman and infrared frequencies which are the spectral feature of  $C_{2v}$  symmetry(bent  $\text{SiOSi}$ ) for  $\text{Cl}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  does not occur and less fundamentals of  $\text{F}_3\text{SiOSiCl}_3$  appear for  $C_{3v}$  linear model to be acceptable.

The only argument against linear SiOSi is that the SiOSi chain should be bent, on the basis of the fact that  $\text{--- O ---}$  is bent in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecule, but some literature[26-29] support experimentally a linear  $\text{--- O ---}$  for gaseous  $\text{Z - O - H}$  ( $\text{Z}=\text{K, Rb, Cs}$ ). In addition, it is theoretically possible to consider the 2s and  $2p_z$  orbitals in oxygen atom as being hybridized to be linear, as follows. The ground state of the oxygen atom is  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^4$ . In order to display a linear valence of two, the oxygen atom must have two electrons with uncoupled spins. The way to obtain this condition is to excite one of the 2s electrons into 2p state, and to have the resulting  $2p_z$  electron with uncoupled spin, and  $2p_x$  and  $2p_y$  electrons with coupled spins. Then the  $180^\circ$  bond angle in SiOSi could be produced by mixing 50 per cent  $2s^1$  and 50 per cent  $2p_z^1$  [30].

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