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BAND ASSIGNMENTS IN THE INFRARED SPECTRUM OF ZINC
ACETYLACETONATE MONOHYDRATE BY ^{18}O -, ^{68}Zn - AND ^{64}Zn -LABELLING

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ABSTRACT

The infrared spectrum of *bis*(acetylacetonato)zinc(II) monohydrate and its ^{18}O -, ^{68}Zn - and ^{64}Zn -labelled analogues have been determined. Band assignments have been made on the basis of the isotopically-induced shifts in relation to the C_{4v} localized point symmetry of the molecule. Unlike *tris*(acetylacetonato)chromium(III), there is no disagreement between the results of the ^{18}O and metal isotope labelling techniques.

INTRODUCTION

There are serious discrepancies between the assignments resulting from ^{18}O -labelling^{1,2} and metal isotope ($^{53,50}\text{Cr}$) labelling³ studies on the vibrational spectra of chromium(III) *tris*(acetylacetonate), $[\text{Cr}(\text{acac})_3]$. The results of these studies and those employing normal coordinate treatments^{4,5} are compared in Table 1.

TABLE 1

Frequencies (cm^{-1}), isotopically-induced shifts ($\Delta\nu$, cm^{-1}) and band assignments for $[\text{Cr}(\text{acac})_3]$ ^a

| 592 | Band frequency | | | Method | Ref. |
|--|--|---|--|------------------------------------|------|
| | 463 | 416 | 358 | | |
| oop ring def | $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ | oop ring def | $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ | nct | 4 |
| oop ring def | $\nu(\text{Cr-O}) + \delta(\text{C-CH}_3)$ | ring def | $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ | nct | 5 |
| $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ $\Delta\nu = 19\text{b}$ | $\nu(\text{Cr-O}) + \delta(\text{C-CH}_3)$ $\Delta\nu = 5\text{b}$ | $\delta(\text{O-Cr-O})$ $\Delta\nu = 8\text{b}$ | na | ^{18}O -labelling | 1 |
| oop ring def $\Delta\nu = 0.7\text{c}$ | $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ $\Delta\nu = 3.0\text{c}$ | oop ring def $\Delta\nu = 0\text{c}$ | $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ $\Delta\nu = 3.9\text{c}$ | $^{53}, ^{50}\text{Cr}$ -labelling | 3 |
| $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ $\Delta\nu = 19\text{b}$ | $\nu(\text{Cr-O}) + \delta(\text{C-CH}_3)$ $\Delta\nu = 10\text{d}$ | ip $\delta(\text{O-Cr-O})$ $\Delta\nu = 5\text{d}$ | ip $\delta(\text{C-C-C})$ $\Delta\nu = 2\text{d}$ | ^{18}O -labelling | 2 |

- ^a Abbreviations: oop = out-of-plane, def = deformation, nct = normal coordinate treatment, na = not assigned, ip = in-plane.
- ^b Shift in infrared band on ^{18}O -labelling.
- ^c Difference in frequencies between ^{53}Cr - and ^{50}Cr -labelled species.
- ^d Shift in Raman band on ^{18}O -labelling.

One would expect that the vibrationally-purest $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ band would exhibit maximum shift on both ^{18}O - and $^{53,50}\text{Cr}$ -labelling. In practice, the 592 cm^{-1} band shifts most on ^{18}O -labelling while the 358 cm^{-1} band shifts most on $^{53,50}\text{Cr}$ -labelling.

We have now examined the effects of both ^{18}O - and $^{68,64}\text{Zn}$ -labelling on the infrared spectrum of $[\text{Zn}(\text{acac})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$ in order to determine whether mutually contradictory assignments were observed for this complex also. The zinc complex was studied because the availability of the ^{68}Zn and ^{64}Zn isotopes represents an isotopic pair with sufficient mass difference to yield reasonable $^{68,64}\text{Zn}$ -induced shifts.

EXPERIMENTAL

Zinc acetylacetonate monohydrate was prepared by the reported method.⁶ The ^{18}O -, ^{64}Zn - and ^{68}Zn -labelled analogues were similarly prepared from ^{18}O -acetylacetone of 72% isotopic purity, $^{64}\text{ZnSO}_4$ of 98.6% isotopic purity and $^{68}\text{ZnSO}_4$ of 97.6% isotopic purity supplied by BOC Prochem Ltd. Spectra were determined on nujol mulls between caesium iodide plates (or, below 300 cm^{-1} , between polyethylene plates) on Beckman IR-12 and Perkin-Elmer 180 spectrophotometers. The purity of all compounds was determined by microanalysis (C, H).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The frequencies, isotopically-induced shifts and assignments are given in Table 2.

TABLE 2

Frequencies, isotopically-induced shifts ($\Delta\nu$) and band assignments in the infrared spectrum of $[\text{Zn}(\text{acac})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$.

| Frequency (cm^{-1}) | $\Delta\nu$ (cm^{-1}) | | Assignment |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| | ^{18}O | $^{68,64}\text{Zn}^a$ | |
| 3300 | | | $\nu(\text{C-H})$ |
| 2966 | | | $\nu(\text{C-H})$ |
| 2927 | | | $\nu(\text{C-H})$ |
| 1599 | 2 | | $\nu(\text{C=O})$ |
| 1522 | 1 | | $\nu(\text{C=C}) + \nu(\text{C=O})$ |
| 1513 | 4 | | $\nu(\text{C=O}) + \delta(\text{C-H})$ |
| 1453 | | | $\delta(\text{C-H})$ |
| 1400 | | | $\delta(\text{CH}_3)$ deg. def. |
| 1370 | | | $\delta(\text{CH}_3)$ sym. def. |
| 1264 | | | $\nu(\text{C-C}) + \nu(\text{C-CH}_3)$ |
| 1191 | | | $\delta(\text{C-H})$ in-phase |
| 1020 | | | $\delta(\text{CH}_3)$ rock |
| 933 | 1 | | $\delta(\text{C-CH}_3) + \nu(\text{C=O})$ |
| 779 | | | $\delta(\text{C-H})$ out-of-plane |
| 772 | | | $\delta(\text{C-H})$ out-of-plane |
| 656 | | 1 | ring def. |
| 570 | | 1 | ring def. |
| 557 | 3 | 2 | $\nu(\text{Zn-O}) + \delta(\text{C-CH}_3)$ |
| 439 | 1 | 2 | $\nu(\text{Zn-OH}_2)$ |
| 422 | 1 | | $\delta(\text{C-C-C})$ in-plane |
| 413 | 5 | 6 | $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$ |
| 388 | 1 | 1 | $\delta(\text{O-Zn-O})$ in-plane |
| 241 | 6 | 5 | $\delta(\text{O-Zn-O})$ out-of-plane |
| 208 | | | $\delta(\text{C-C-C})$ out-of-plane |
| 173 | 1 | 3 | $\delta(\text{O-Zn-OH}_2)$ |

^a Difference between frequencies of ^{68}Zn - and ^{64}Zn -labelled compounds

The 4000 - 560 cm⁻¹ region

Only four bands exhibit ¹⁸O-sensitivity in this region of the spectrum, suggesting that each has a component of $\nu(\text{C=O})$. These correspond precisely with those four bands for which $\nu(\text{C=O})$ provides a contribution in the assignments previously obtained on the basis of normal coordinate analysis.⁴ The ¹⁸O-induced shifts are rather small compared with those observed¹ for $[\text{Cr}(\text{acac})_3]$, suggesting a greater degree of vibrational coupling in the Zn(II) complex. The remaining assignments are based on normal coordinate analyses of Cu(II) and metal(III) acetylacetonates.^{4,5}

The 560 - 150 cm⁻¹ region

Two bands (at 413 and 241 cm⁻¹) exhibit maximum ¹⁸O-sensitivity. Moreover, as would be expected, the same two bands exhibit maximum sensitivity to metal isotope substitution. The band at higher frequency (413 cm⁻¹) is firmly assigned to $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$ while that at 241 cm⁻¹ is assigned to $\delta(\text{O-Zn-O})$.

The C_{4v} localized point symmetry of $[\text{Zn}(\text{acac})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$, which has been crystallographically shown^{6,7} to have approximate square based pyramidal coordination, implies the existence of six infrared-active metal-ligand modes: $2a_1 + e$ stretches and $a_1 + 2e$ bends of which two $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$ and one $\nu(\text{Zn-OH}_2)$ stretches and two $\delta(\text{O-Zn-O})$ and one $\delta(\text{O-Zn-OH}_2)$ bends are expected. The band at 557 cm⁻¹ is logically assigned, on the grounds of its ¹⁸O- and ^{68,64}Zn-sensitivities, to the second $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$ stretch, while the 439 cm⁻¹ band is probably $\nu(\text{Zn-OH}_2)$. The 388 cm⁻¹ and 173 cm⁻¹ bands are assigned to $\delta(\text{O-Zn-O})$, one of them involving the water molecule.

Comparison of the assignments in $[\text{Cr}(\text{acac})_3]$ and $[\text{Zn}(\text{acac})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$

Two features of $[\text{Cr}(\text{acac})_3]$ suggest that $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ in this complex would be considerably higher than $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$ in $[\text{Zn}(\text{acac})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$. One is the crystal field stabilization energy (cfse) effect⁸. On this basis, the high cfse of the Cr(III) complex (12 Dq) would raise $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ well above $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$, since the Zn(II) complex has zero cfse. The second feature is the oxidation state effect⁹ which would again yield $\nu(\text{Cr-O}) > \nu(\text{Zn-O})$. On the other hand, these effects will be offset to some extent by the lower coordination number of the zinc(II) ion in $[\text{Zn}(\text{acac})_2(\text{H}_2\text{O})]$. Overall, it seems likely that $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ will exceed $\nu(\text{Zn-O})$, favouring the assignment of the 592 cm^{-1} band to $\nu(\text{Cr-O})$ rather than the 358 cm^{-1} band.

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