

Infrared spectroscopy of astrophysically relevant hydrocarbons ${\tt Doney,\ K.D.}$

Citation

Doney, K. D. (2018, June 20). *Infrared spectroscopy of astrophysically relevant hydrocarbons*. Retrieved from https://hdl.handle.net/1887/62922

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Issue Date: 2018-06-20

- Electronic spectra of C₃ from the ground state bending mode
 Q. Zhang, K. D. Doney, J. Gu, D. Zhao, H. Linnartz, and Y. Chen, in preparation
- 2. Stretching our understanding of C_3 : Experimental and theoretical spectroscopy of highly excited $nv_1 + mv_3$ states ($n \le 7$ and $m \le 3$)
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 - K. D. Doney, D. Zhao, and H. Linnartz, The Journal of Physical Chemistry A, 122 (2018) 582
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- 7. High-resolution infrared spectrum of triacetylene: The v_5 state revisited and new vibrational
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- 8. *Laboratory gas-phase detection of the cyclopropenyl cation* (*c*-*C*₃*H*⁺₃)
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- High-resolution infrared spectra of vibrationally excited HC₄H in a supersonic hydrocarbon plasma jet
 - D. Zhao, K. D. Doney, and H. Linnartz, Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy, 296 (2014) 1

I was born in Dallas, Texas in 1988, and spent most of my formative years in Austin, Texas. My undergraduate degree started at Texas A&M University (for one year), and was completed at The University of Texas at Austin, from which I obtained a B.Sc. in Chemistry and a B.A. in Astronomy in December 2011. For undergraduate research experience, I worked on a project to model the young stellar object IRAS 03245+3002 under the supervision of Hyo Jeong Kim and Dr. Neal J. Evans II. During my bachelor's degree, I switched from majoring in biochemistry to pure chemistry and astronomy, which required multiple labs in biology, chemistry, and physics, and cemented an interest in being an experimentalist. This interest was furthered through 1) work in the chemical stockroom during undergrad making and suppling chemicals for the teaching labs, and 2) work as a teaching assistant for general chemistry teaching labs after graduating.

In 2012, I began my graduate career at the University of Leiden. My master's study was financially supported in the first year by the Silver Leiden University Excellence Scholarship (LExS), and in the second year by the van de Hulst fellowship. In 2014, I obtained a M.Sc. in Astronomy; with a minor project studying the high-resolution infrared spectrum of diacetylene at 3 µm under the supervision of Dr. Dongfeng Zhao and Prof.dr. Harold Linnartz, and a major project searching for deuterated PAH infrared features in observational spectra of HII regions of the Milky Way and Magellanic Clouds under the supervision of Dr. Alessandra Candian and Prof.dr. A. G. G. M. Tielens. Immediately following the completion of my masters degree I began my doctoral degree, and on the work described in this thesis. The Ph.D. was promoted by Prof.dr. Harold Linnartz and Dr. Dongfeng Zhao as part of the Sackler Laboratory for Astrophysics. During the course of my doctoral career, I presented the work in this thesis at various conferences and workshops in the Netherlands, the United States, England, France, Finland, and China, the attendance of which were partially supported by my three Leids Kerkhoven-Bosscha Fonds (LKBF) grants, one Leids Universiteits Fonds (LUF) grant, and one University of Science and Technology of China fellowship B grant.

Along the way there have been many engaging, extravagant, brilliant people without whom I would not be where I am today, and I would like to thank them for their support while I was working on and writing the parts of this thesis. Thank you, dank u wel, 谢谢

First and foremost, thank you to the Bosses: Harold and Dongfeng, and Collaborators: John, Xander, Alessandra, Qiang, Benjamin, Takashi, and Tamami for helping me to do the research I love. Strictly speaking this thesis would not be here without you; your contributions have been invaluable to the final manuscripts.

Thank you to my colleagues (past and present) in the Sackler Laboratory (SLA): Niels, Ko-Ju, Daniel, Pablo, Xavier, Gwen, Gustavo, Anton, Junfeng, Andreas, Jordy, Vincent, Danna, Michal, Gleb, Thanja, Jeroen, Martijn, and Aart, for keeping me company at work, for the scientific discussions, for all the lovely lunch discussions, and, of course, the fantastic games of Dominos. And a special thank you to my officemates Niels, Ko-Ju, and Vincent, for always being my sounding board (even when sometimes it was just gossip).

I would like to thank the ISM group: Francisco, Cameron, Pedro, Heather, Cornelia, Liz, Tao, Kim, Raymond, Sascha, and Claudia, and the Astrochem group: Arthur, Alyssa, Alex, Alan, Catherine, Sierk, Eva, Nico, Mason, Łukasz, Maria, Luke, Merel, and Mikhel, for always teaching me new things about astronomy, and for all the good times at meetings (plus all the cookies and pizza). Thank you to the UT/CFOUR group: Devin, Josh, Filippo, James, and Lam, for helping an experimentalist start doing calculations, and letting my crash in your office for a few weeks. Thank you to the USTC group: Chunting, Chao, Deping, Boxing, Jingwang, Shaowen, Hao, Zengjun, Zhengfang, and Zefeng, for letting me be a part of your group for a few months. And thank you to the Leiden support staff: Evelijn, Els, Debbie, Yvonne, Marjan, Liesbeth, and Anita, and the computer group: Erik, Eric, David and Leonardo, your continued help with day to day problems (particularly the weird logistical problems) have helped me continue my work.

Moreover, to everyone, I truly believe that the people are what make the workplace, and everyone has truly made my many workplaces fantastic. And I was lucky to have not one, but three great workplaces.

I would also like to give a special thank you to my work out buddies, because all of the sports helped balance all the academia. Thank you to the CrossFito71 community: Alice, Christian, Esther, Nelus, Jordan, Casey, Rui, Robert, Dirk, Kasper, Merlin, Francette, Marije, Marnix, Niels, Pyne, Joost, and Manuel, and to my cycling buddy: Andrej, thank you for working out with me, without y'all the suffering would be less fun.

Importantly, I would like to thank my family - I love y'all - I have been extremely lucky to have you and to have grown up with your eccentricities. So to Mom, Dad, Rachel, Jake, Grandma, Uncle Michael, Aunt Lori, Aunt Stephanie, Uncle David, Alex, Kelly, Maxie, Jack, Uncle Mark, Aunt Kim, Kaitlin, and Hanna, thank you for the years of adventures, the holidays together, and making life interesting. And many thanks for visiting/calling/texting me frequently, making the 5,000+ miles seem not too terribly far.