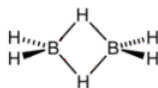


6.4: Diborane

Diborane - D_{2h} Symmetry



Diborane has 18 vibrational degrees of freedom. Nine modes are Raman active and eight are IR active. The experimental results are provided in the table below. Do a symmetry analysis to confirm the assignments given below, and identify stretches and bends.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{pmatrix} D_{2h} & A_g & A_g & A_g & A_g & B_{1g} & B_{1g} & B_{2g} & B_{2g} & B_{3g} \\ \hline \text{Raman} & 2524 & 2104 & 1180 & 794 & 1768 & 1035 & 2591 & 920 & 1012 \\ \hline D_{2h} & A_u & B_{1u} & B_{1u} & B_{1u} & B_{2u} & B_{2u} & B_{3u} & B_{3u} & B_{3u} \\ \hline \text{IR} & 0 & 2612 & 950 & 368 & 1915 & 973 & 2525 & 1606 & 1177 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \\
 \begin{array}{c} E \quad C_2^z \quad C_2^y \quad C_2^x \quad i \quad \sigma_{xy} \quad \sigma_{xz} \quad \sigma_{yz} \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} A_g : x^2, y^2, z^2 \\ B_{1g} : R_x, xy \\ B_{2g} : R_y, xz \\ B_{3g} : R_x, yx \\ A_u \\ B_{1u} : z \\ B_{2u} : y \\ B_{3u} : x \end{array} \quad D_{2h} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Gamma_{uma} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 6 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \Gamma_{bonds} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 \\
 \begin{array}{l} A_g = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<1>} \quad B_{2g} = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<2>} \quad B_{2g} = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<3>} \quad B_{3g} = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<4>} \\ A_u = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<5>} \quad B_{1u} = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<6>} \quad B_{2u} = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<7>} \quad B_{3u} = (C_{D_{4h}}^T)^{<8>} \quad h = \sum D_{2h} \end{array} \\
 \\
 \begin{array}{l} \Gamma_{trans} = B_{1u} + B_{2u} + B_{3u} \quad \Gamma_{tot} = B_{1g} + B_{2g} + B_{3g} \quad \Gamma_{tot} = \overrightarrow{(\Gamma_{uma} \Gamma_{trans})} \\ \Gamma_{vib} = \Gamma_{tot} - \Gamma_{trans} - \Gamma_{rot} \quad \Gamma_{vib}^T = \begin{pmatrix} 18 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 6 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad i = 1..8 \\ \Gamma_{stretch} = \Gamma_{bonds} \quad \Gamma_{bend} = \Gamma_{vib} - \Gamma_{stretch} \end{array} \\
 \\
 \begin{array}{l} \text{Vib}_i = \frac{\sum [D_{2h}(C_{D_{2h}}^T)^{<i>} \Gamma_{vib}]}{h} \quad \text{Stretch}_i = \frac{\sum [D_{2h}(C_{D_{2h}}^T)^{<i>} \Gamma_{stretch}]}{h} \quad \text{Bend}_i = \frac{\sum [D_{2h}(C_{D_{2h}}^T)^{<i>} \Gamma_{bend}]}{h} \\ \\ \begin{array}{c} \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} A_g : x^2, y^2, z^2 \\ B_{1g} : R_x, xy \\ B_{2g} : R_y, xz \\ B_{3g} : R_x, yx \\ A_u \\ B_{1u} : z \\ B_{2u} : y \\ B_{3u} : x \end{array} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} A_g : x^2, y^2, z^2 \\ B_{1g} : R_x, xy \\ B_{2g} : R_y, xz \\ B_{3g} : R_x, yx \\ A_u \\ B_{1u} : z \\ B_{2u} : y \\ B_{3u} : x \end{array} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{array}{l} A_g : x^2, y^2, z^2 \\ B_{1g} : R_x, xy \\ B_{2g} : R_y, xz \\ B_{3g} : R_x, yx \\ A_u \\ B_{1u} : z \\ B_{2u} : y \\ B_{3u} : x \end{array} \end{array} \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

This analysis is in agreement with the experimental data. There are 9 Raman active modes and 8 IR active modes. Furthermore there are 4 Raman stretches at 2524 (Ag), 2104 (Ag), 1768 (B1g), and 2591 (B2g). The five Raman bends occur at 1180 (Ag), 794 (Ag), 1035 (B1g), 920 (B2g), and 1012 (B3g).

The 4 IR stretches occur at 2612 (B1u), 1915 (B2u), 2525 (B3u), and 1606 (B3u). The bends appear at 950 (B1u), 368 (B1u), 973 (B2u), 1177 (B3u).

This page titled [6.4: Diborane](#) is shared under a [CC BY 4.0](#) license and was authored, remixed, and/or curated by [Frank Rioux](#) via [source content](#) that was edited to the style and standards of the LibreTexts platform.