

Theoretical vibrational spectra and analyses of isocyanatoketene $O=C=CH-N=C=O$.
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Abstract

The conformational stability of isocyanatoketene $O=C=CH-N=C=O$ was studied by D.
Functional B3LYP and ab initio second-order Moller Plesset MP2 calcns. with the 6-311 + G**
basis set. Isocyanatoketene was predicted to have the s-cis s-trans conformational equil. with
the s-trans being the predominant form. Full structural optimization was performed at the
ground and transition states and the trans-cis barrier is .apprx.2 kcal/mol. The vibrational
frequencies were computed at the DFT-B3LYP level, and the calcd. IR and Raman spectra of
the cis-trans mixt. were plotted. Vibrational calcns. were also done for deuterated d1-
isocyanatoketene. Reliable vibrational assignment was provided from normal coordinate
calcns. for the stable conformers of the mol.