

# Matrix Isolation Method

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- Introduction
- History of Matrix Isolation Method
- Application of Matrix Isolation Method
- Summary

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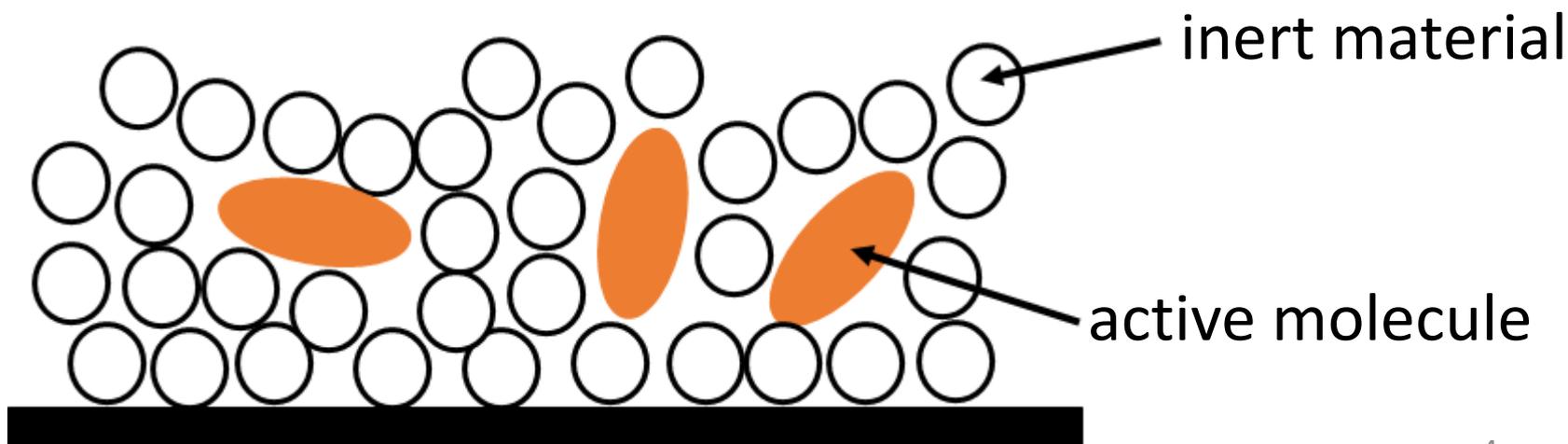
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# What is Matrix Isolation?

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- One of the methods of observation of unstable materials
- George C. Pimentel developed it in 1954.



# George Claude Pimentel

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1943: B.S. from University of California, Los Angeles  
1949: Ph.D. from University of California, Berkeley  
1949-1989: teaching at University of California, Berkeley

He was the inventor of the chemical laser.

- In low-temperature chemistry; he developed the technique of matrix isolation.
- In theoretical chemistry; he proposed the three-center four-electron bond which is now accepted as the best simple model of hypervalent molecules.

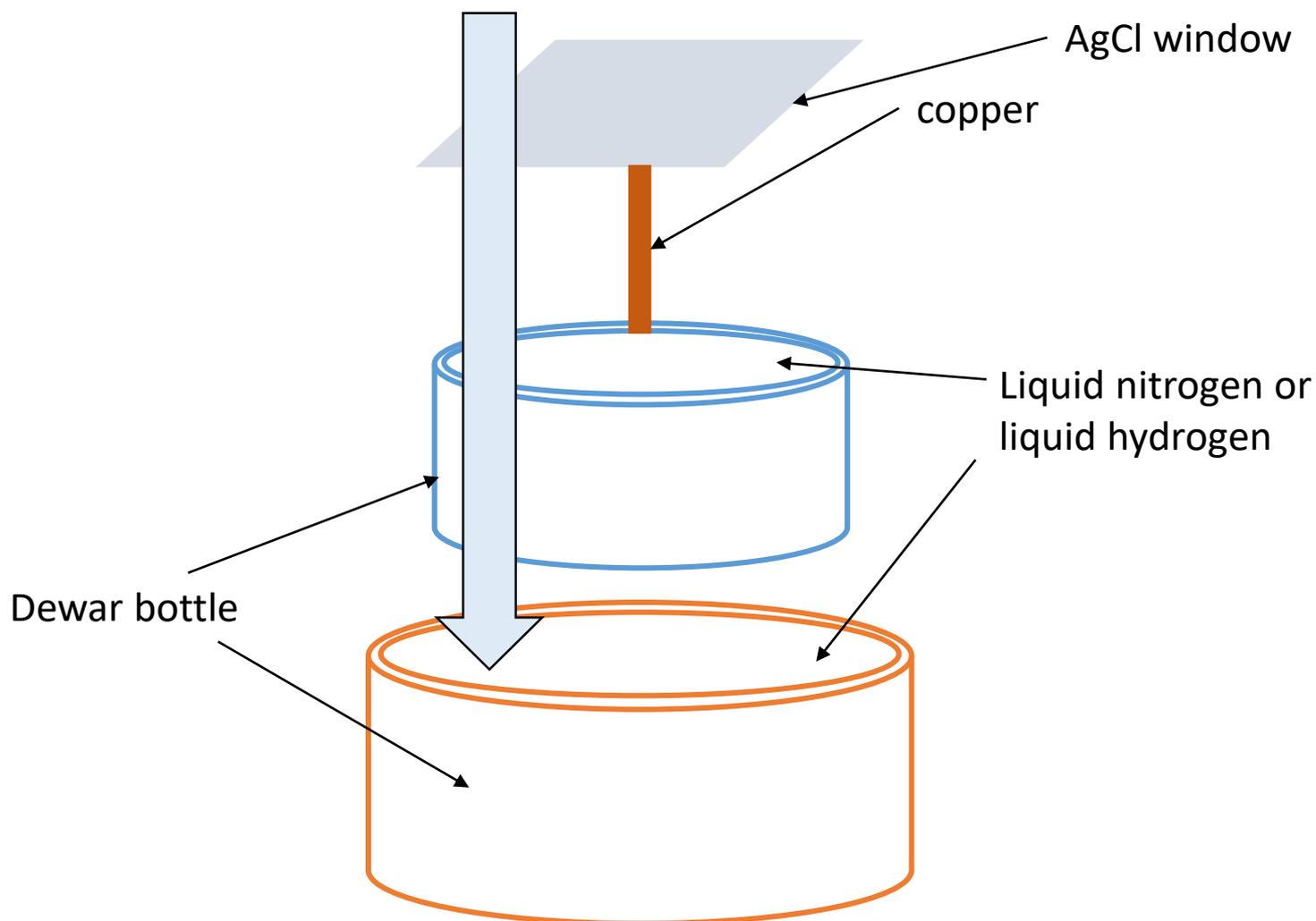
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# Experimental Method

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# Desirable Properties of Matrix

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1. Inertness
2. Rigidity
3. Transparency
4. Volatility

# Desirable Properties of Matrix

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1. **Inertness**.....A rare gas is ideal. In N<sub>2</sub> and a hydrocarbon cases, it depends on active molecules.
2. **Rigidity**.....The matrix must be sufficiently rigid to prevent diffusion of the active species.

# Desirable Properties of Matrix

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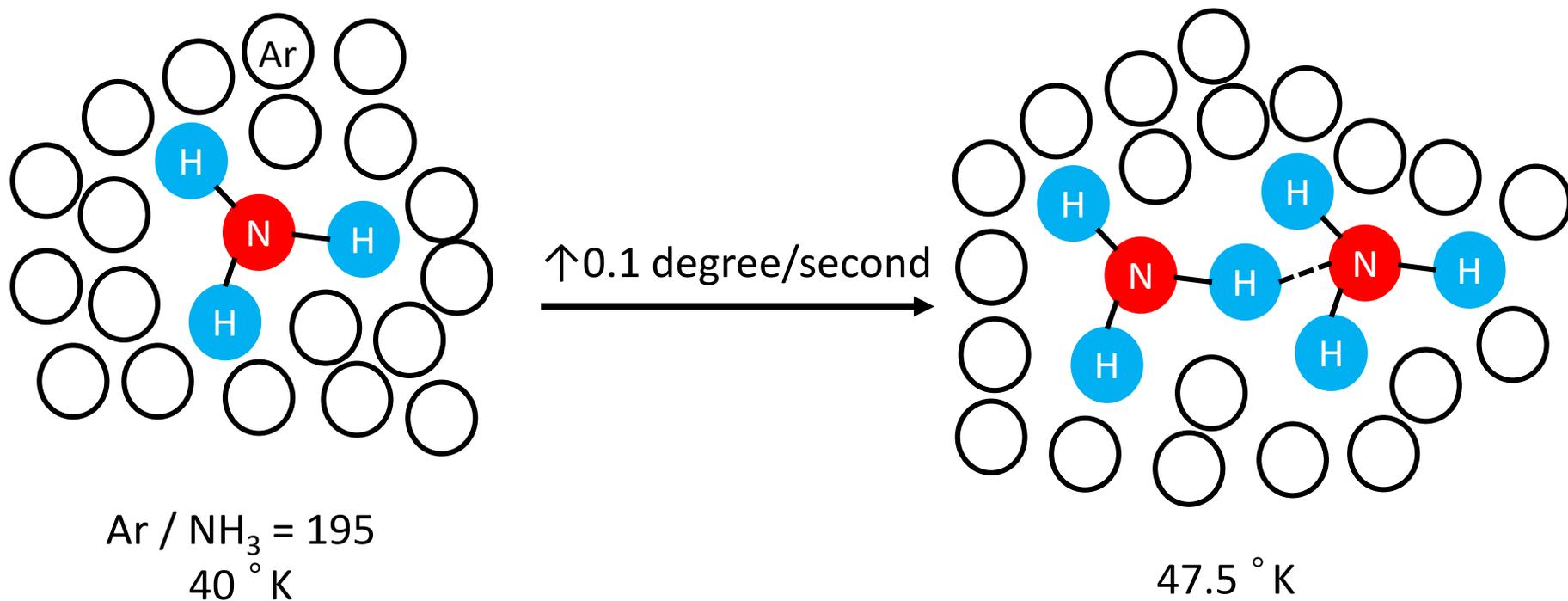
3. **Transparency**.... The matrix must have no absorption in the spectral region of interest. Also, glassy rather than a crystalline matrix is desirable.

4. **Volatility**..... The matrix must have a sufficiently high vapor pressure at room temperature to permit convenient handling of the gas in a vacuum line but a sufficiently low pressure at the temperature of the refrigerant.

# Application to Reaction Kinetics Analysis

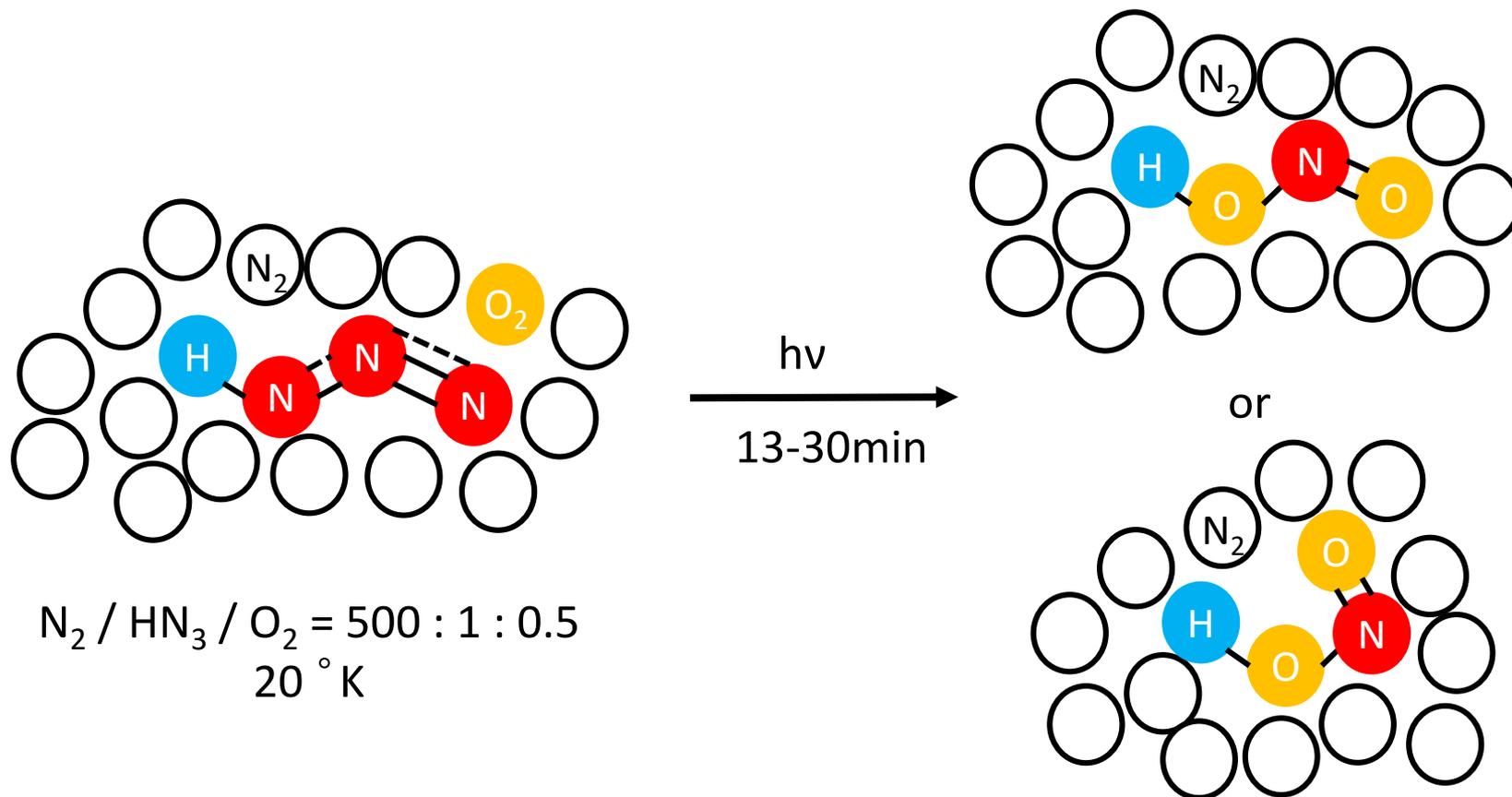
- Matrix Isolation Method can also be used **for reaction kinetics analysis**.
- It can be effectively used for a reaction having a heat of activation of **2 kcal or less**.(e.g. isomerization, bond rupture and bond formation)

# Bring Together the Active Molecules

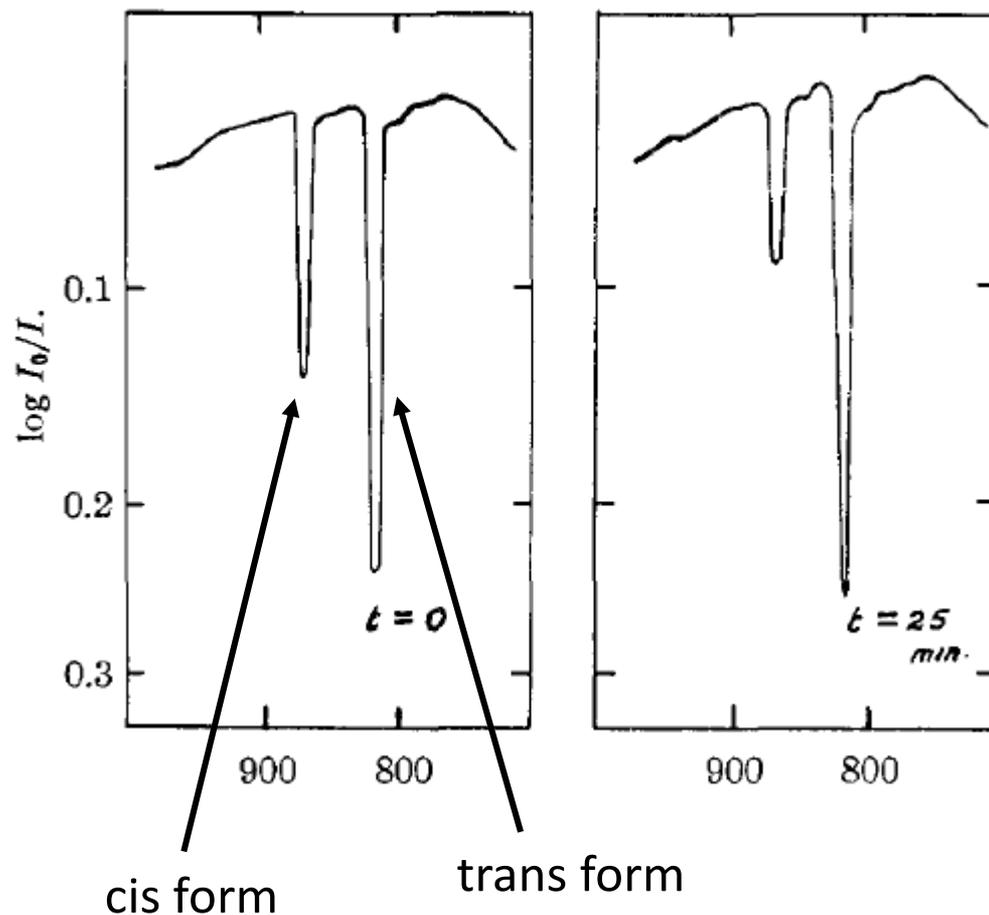


After 75 seconds, spectra revealed the disappearance of about  $88 \pm 6\%$  of the monomer.

# Reaction Kinetics of Isomerization



# Change in Absorbance



Cis form decreased  
and trans form  
increased.

# Calculating the Heat of Activation

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$$k_{1,2} = \frac{kT}{h} e^{\Delta S^{0\ddagger}/R} \cdot e^{-\Delta H^{0\ddagger}/RT} \quad (1)$$

If equation 1 is applicable and  $\Delta S^\ddagger = 0$ , the disappearance of the band at  $865 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is governed by a process with a heat of activation of  $1500 \pm 130 \text{ cal}$ .

# Short Summary

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- Desirable properties of matrix
  1. Inertness
  2. Rigidity
  3. Transparency
  4. Volatility
- Application to Reaction kinetics analysis

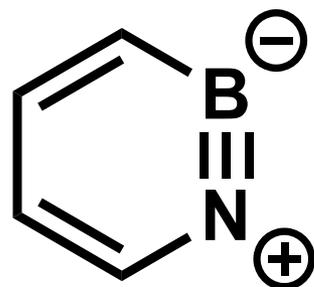
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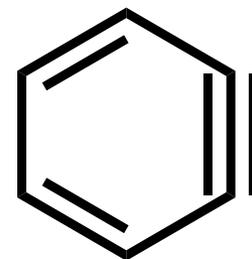
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# The Reactivity of 1,2-Azaborine

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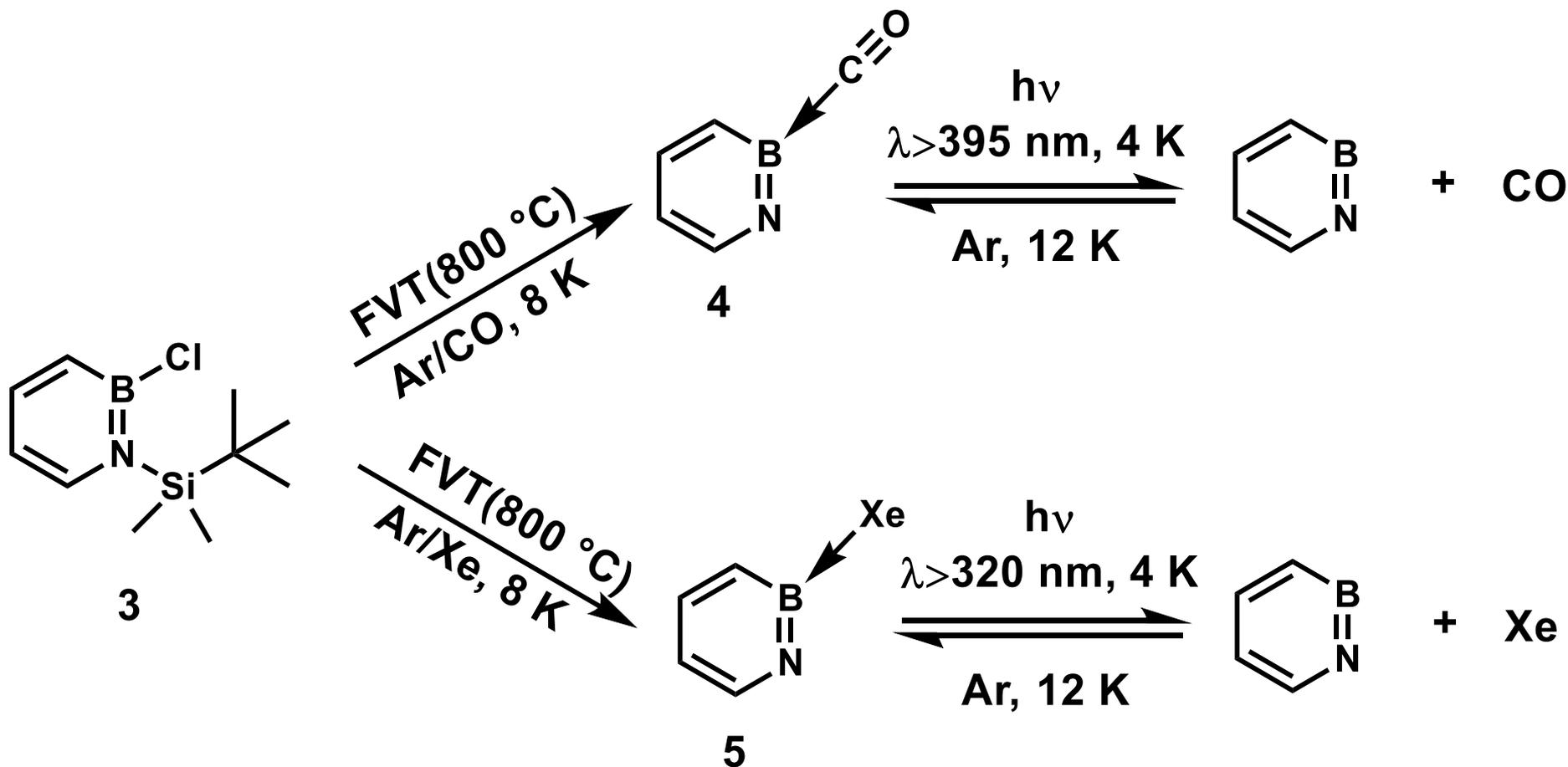


1



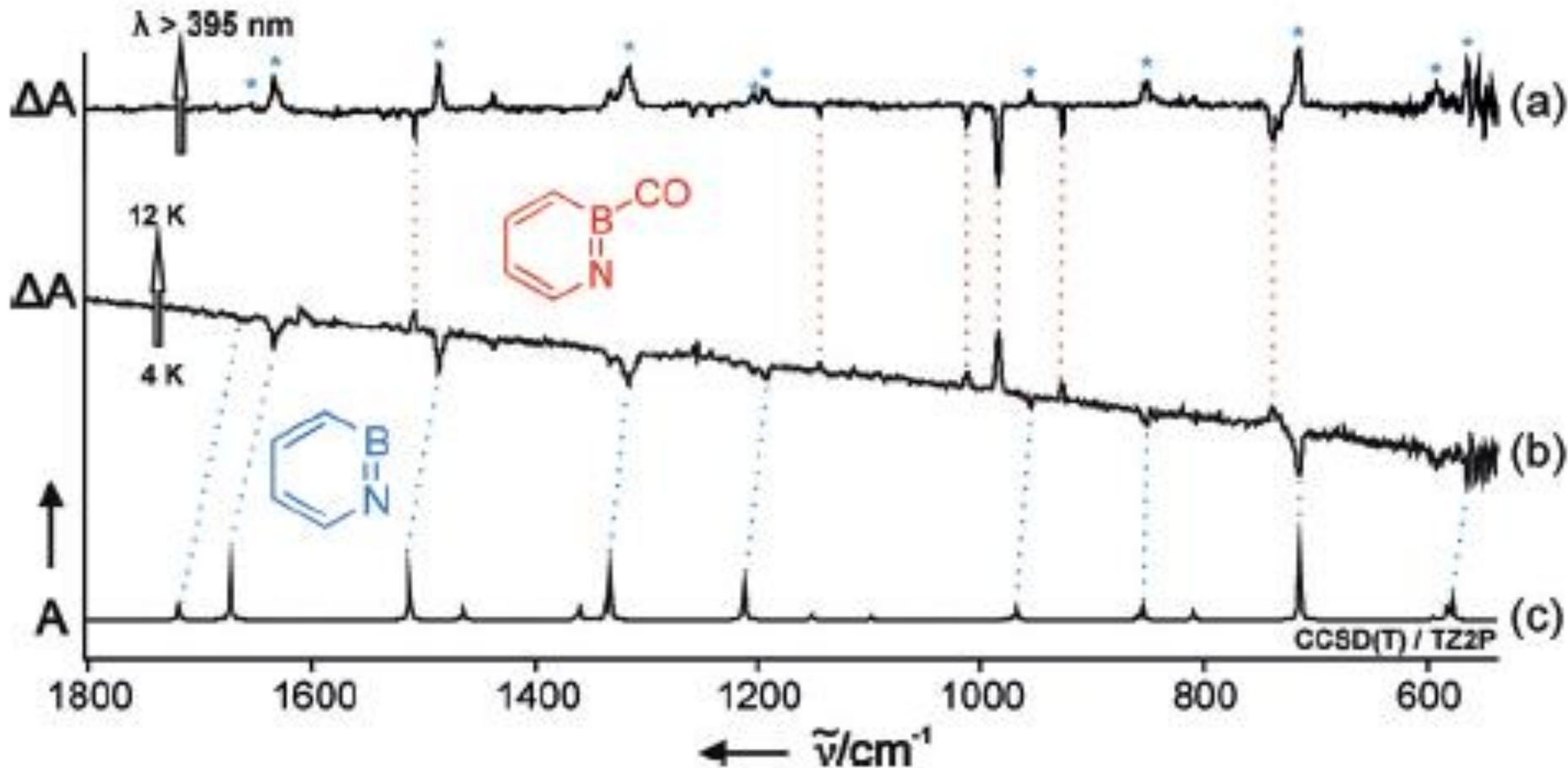
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# Experimental Method

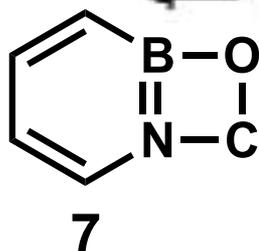
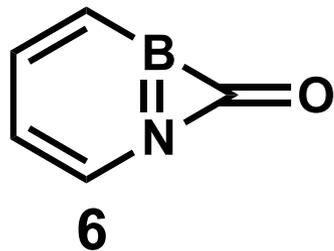
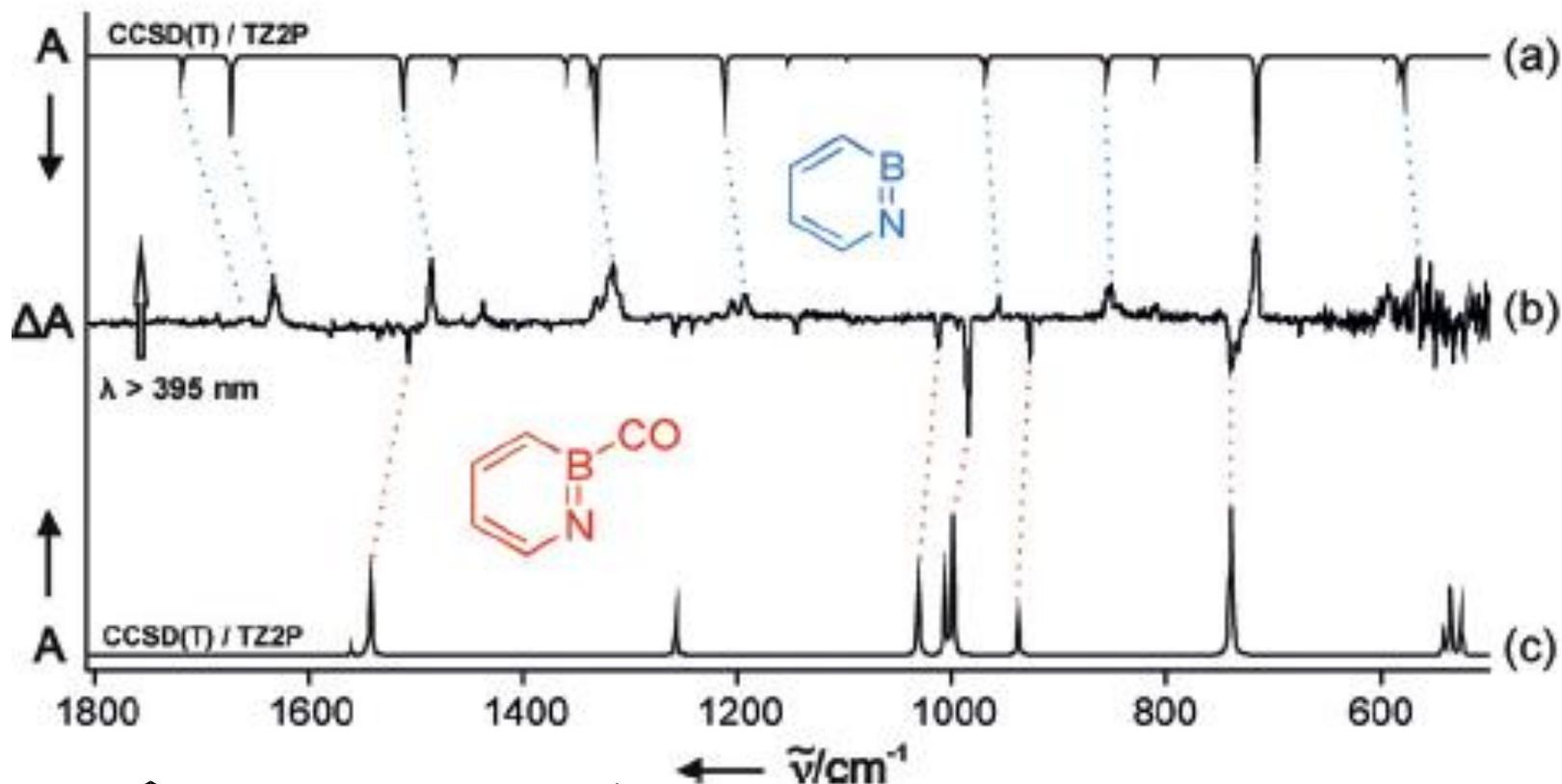


FVT...Flash Vacuum Thermolysis

# Suggested Binding with CO

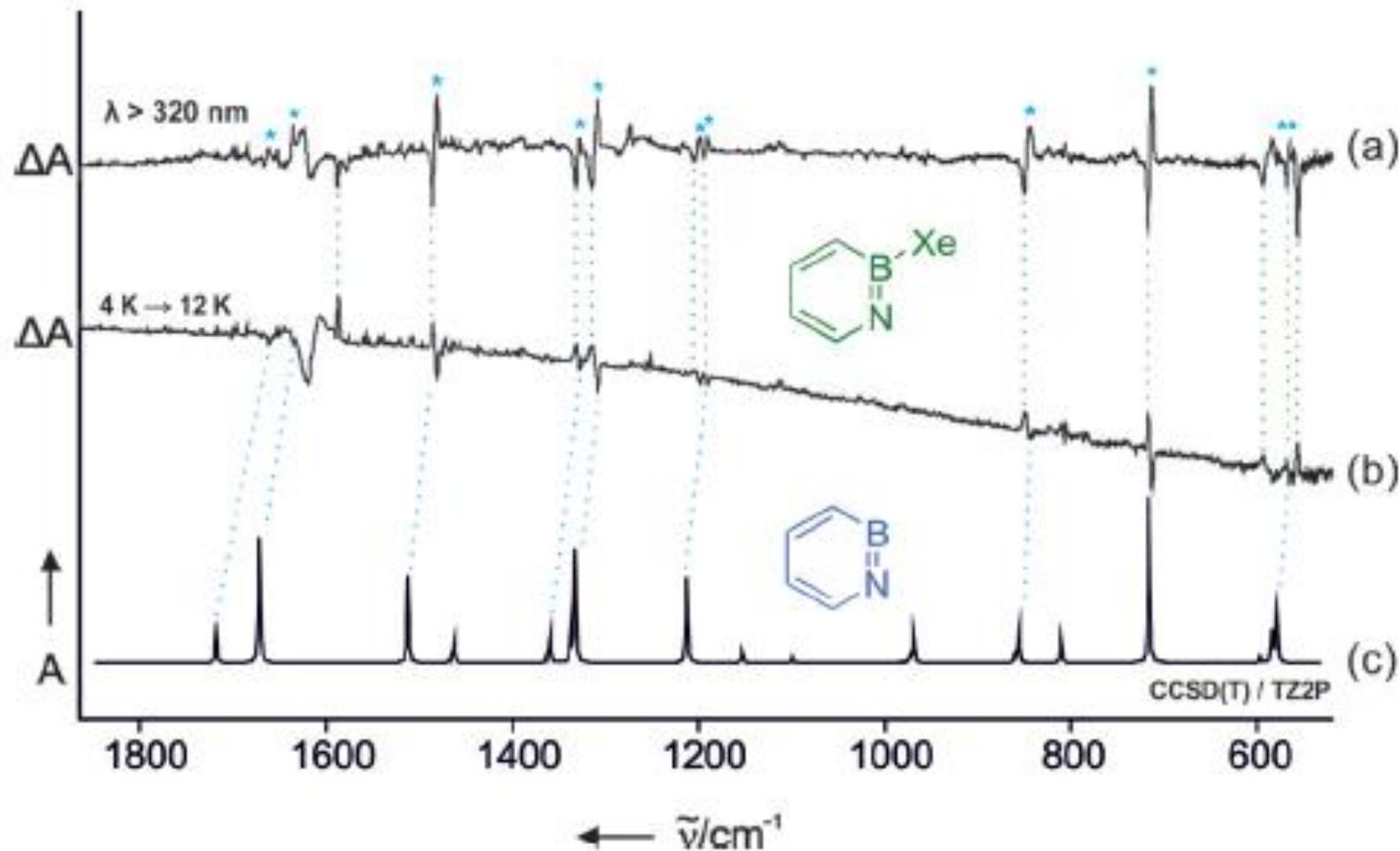


# The Computed Vibrational Spectrum

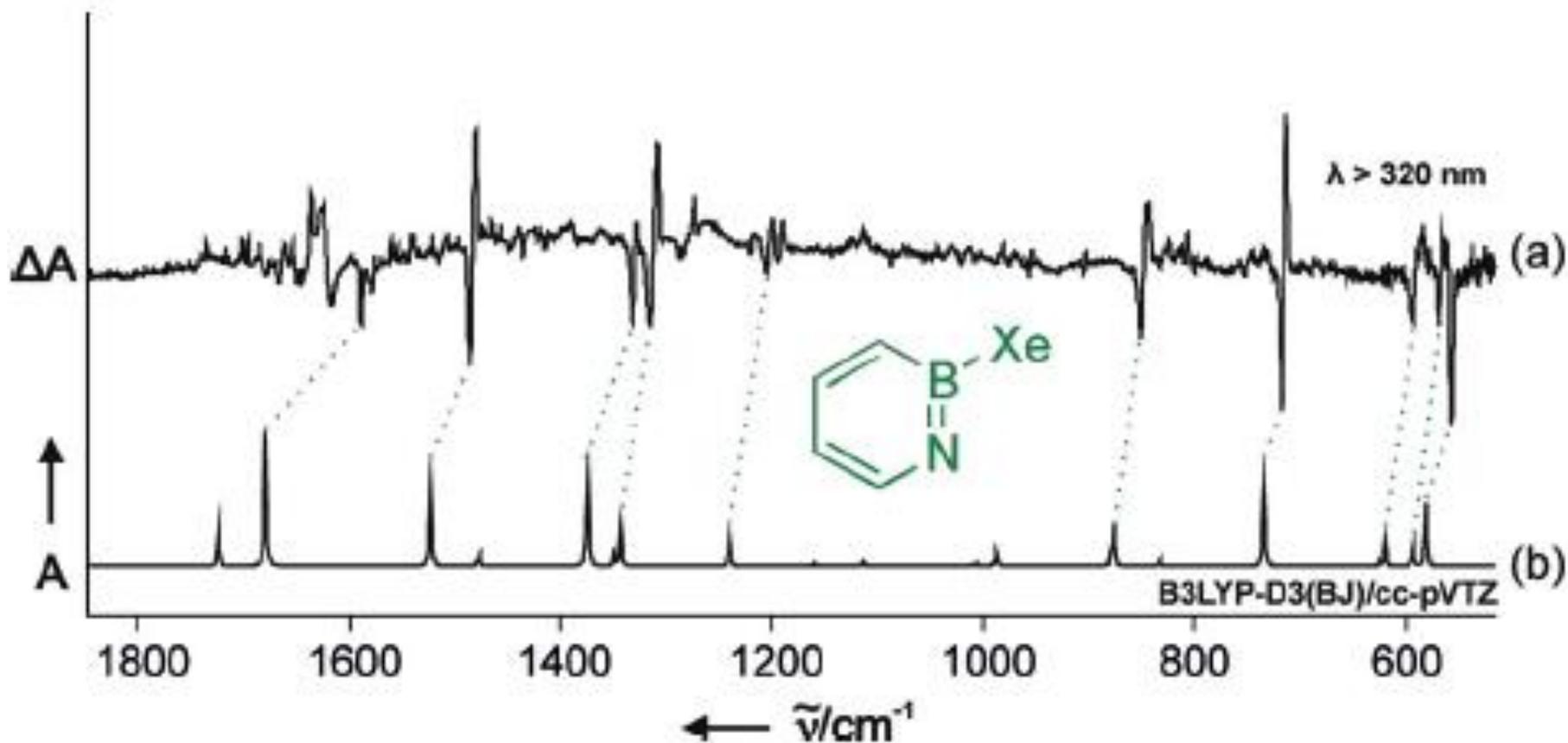


Klara Edel *et al.* *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*  
2019, **58**, 4061.

# Suggested Binding with Xe



# The Computed Vibrational Spectrum



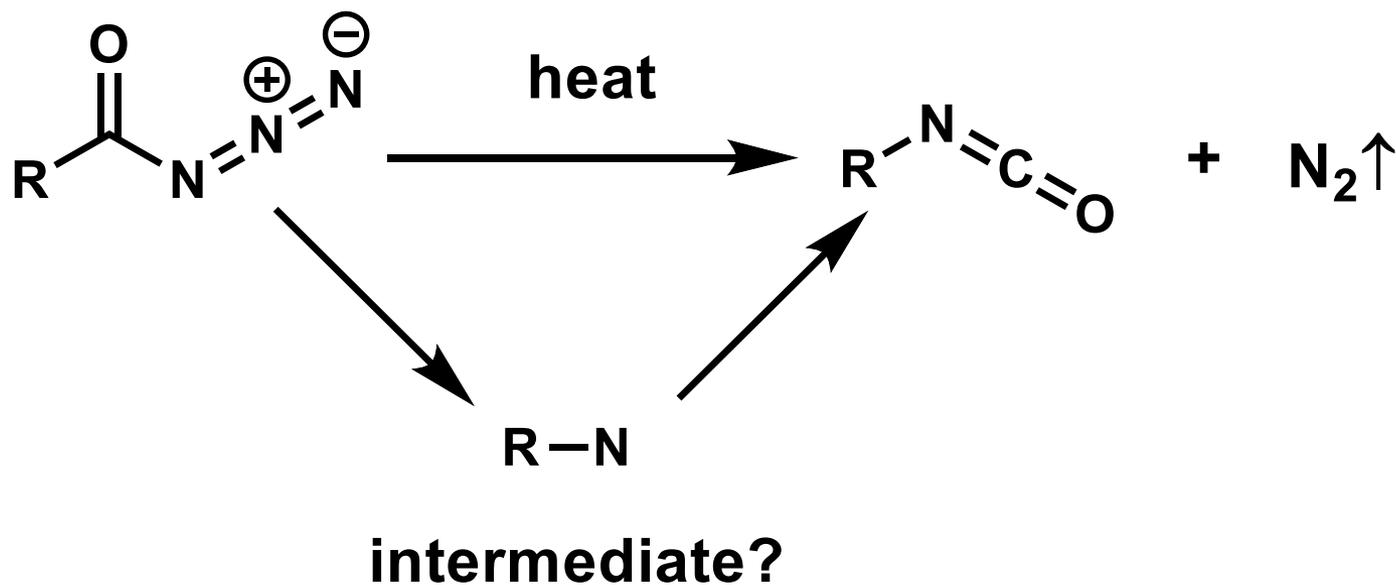
# Short Summary

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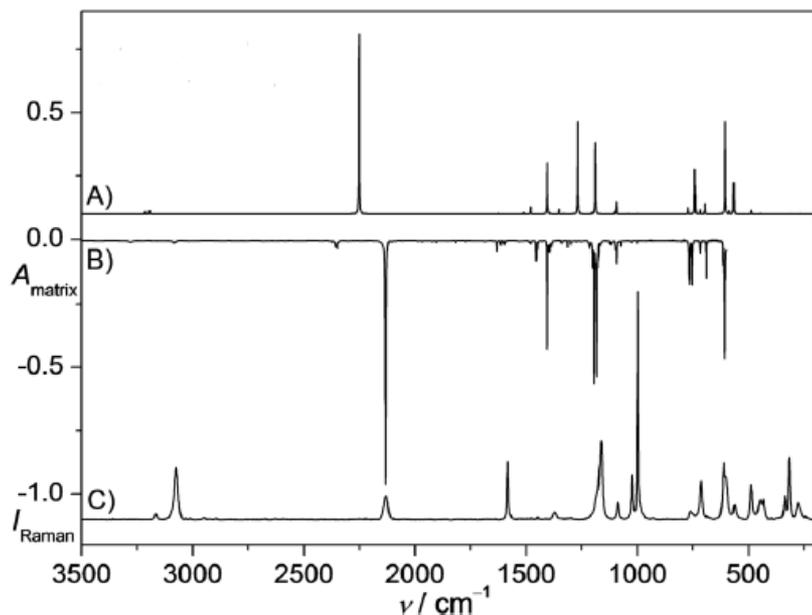
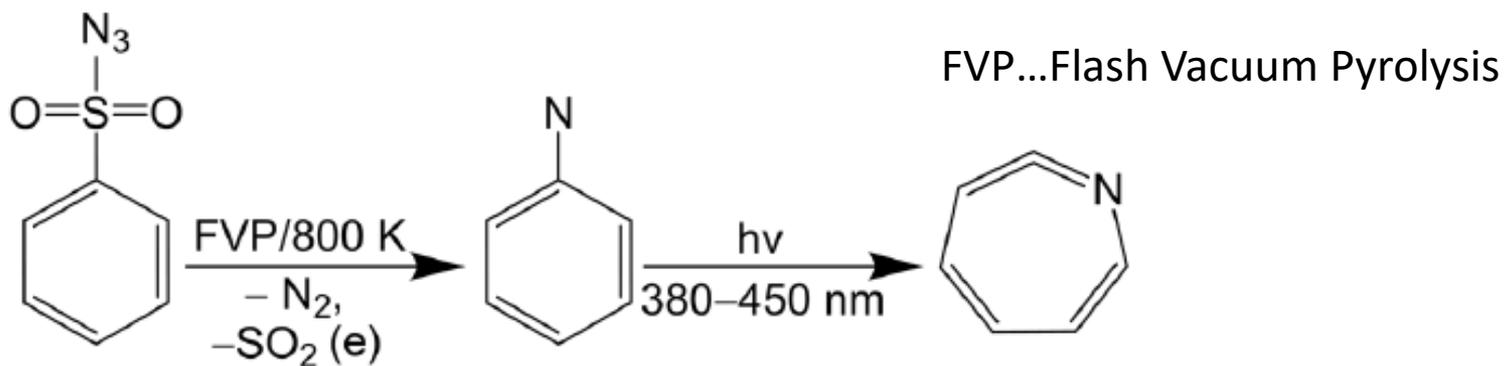
In line with the character of the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital of 1,2-azaborine, which is boron centered and lies in the molecular plane, the boron center preferentially acts as a Lewis acid towards Lewis bases of variable strength (Xe, CO).

# Curtius Rearrangement

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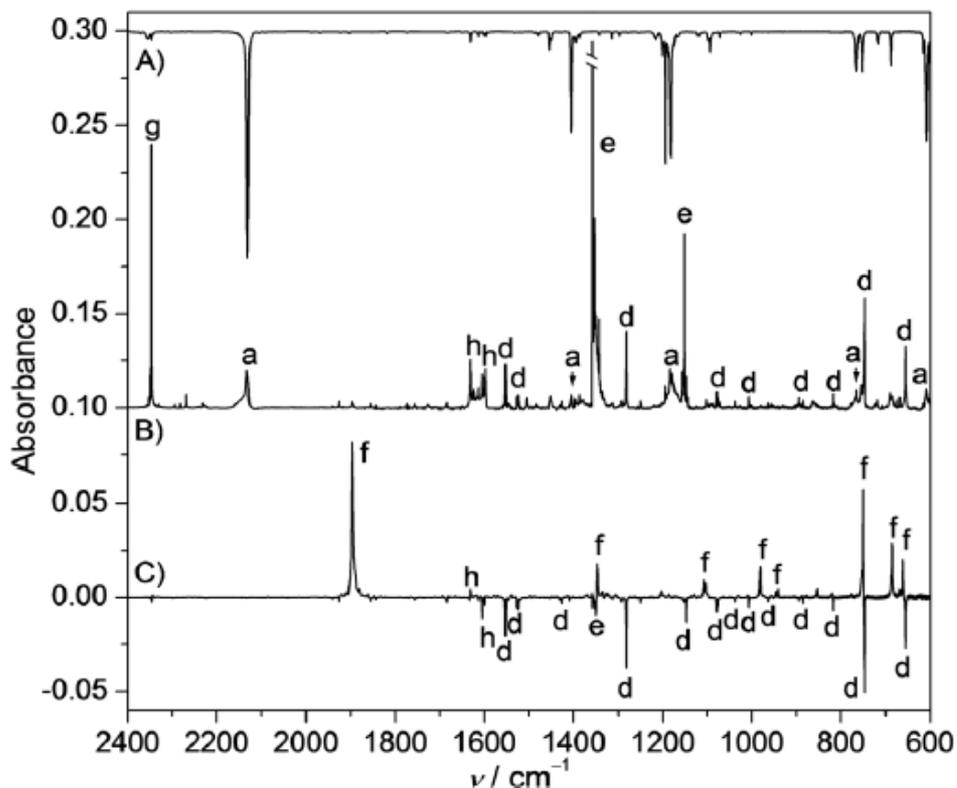
# Pseudo-Curtius Rearrangement



# Analysis of Spectral Data

Observed <sup>b</sup>				Calculated <sup>c</sup>		Approximate assignment <sup>d</sup>
IR (Ne matrix)	IR (Ar matrix)	IR (liquid) <sup>e</sup>	Raman (liquid)	B3LYP	M06-2X	
3281.9 vw	3280.5 vw	3276 w		3215 (5)	3209 (6)	$\nu(\text{CH})$
			3166 w	3214 (<1)	3205 (<1)	$\nu(\text{CH})$
3084.9 vw	3080.6 vw	3069 w	3075 m	3199 (6)	3198 (<1)	$\nu(\text{CH})$
				3190 (7)	3192 (4)	$\nu(\text{CH})$
				3178 (<1)	3181 (<1)	$\nu(\text{CH})$
2131.7 vs	2129.0 vs	2129 s	2131 m	2251 (554)	2348 (515)	$\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{N}_3)$
1591.8 w	1589.7 w	1584 w	1588 m	1622 (2)	1661 (2)	$\nu(\text{CC})$
				1621 (<1)	1658 (<1)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1479.2 w	1478.0 w	1477 w		1511 (4)	1519 (3)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1454.9 w	1452.7 w	1450 m	1449 vw	1479 (21)	1488 (29)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1405.2 s	1397.2 s	1372 s	1371 w	1404 (152)	1450 (164)	$\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{SO}_2)$
1341.9 vw	1341.2 vw			1351 (12)	1342 (9)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1314.4 vw	1312.5 vw	1313 w		1330 (2)	1326 (<1)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1298.6 w	1297.8 w	1298 w		1269 (244)	1279 (267)	$\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{N}_3)$
1194.5 s	1194.1 s		1185 w, sh	1204 (4)	1231 (268)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1182.3 s	1180.5 s	1170 s	1162 s	1189 (143)	1200 (7)	$\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{SO}_2)$
				1188 (<1)	1177 (<1)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1118.3 vw	1119.4 vw			1104 (5)	1124 (36)	$\rho(\text{CH})$
1093.4 w	1091.9 w	1088 m	1087 w	1094 (31)	1110 (5)	$\nu(\text{SC}) + \rho(\text{CH})$
1025.5 vw	1024.6 vw	1023 w	1023 m	1041 (1)	1056 (1)	Ring distortion
				1024 (<1)	1038 (<1)	Ring distortion
				1006 (<1)	1016 (<1)	$\omega(\text{CH})$
1002.4 vw	1000.9 vw	1000 w	998 vs	1000 (2)	1005 (1)	Ring breathing
				958 (<1)	967 (<1)	$\omega(\text{CH})$
				865 (<1)	874 (<1)	$\omega(\text{CH})$
765.2 vw	764.0 vw		761 w	773 (15)	803 (121)	$\nu(\text{SN})$
753.4 s	751.4 s	751 m		742 (122)	778 (25)	$\nu(\text{SC})$
716.9 vw	715.1 vw		713 m	717 (11)	735 (44)	$\delta(\text{CH})$
688.1 w	686.5 w	685 m		695 (32)	703 (39)	$\delta(\text{CH})$
			612 m	627 (<1)	635 (183)	$\delta(\text{CH})$
607.9 s	603.9 s	601 s		606 (259)	624 (36)	$\nu(\text{SN}) + \delta(\text{SO}_2)$
		564 s	563 w	586 (8)	623 (7)	$\delta_{\text{o.o.p}}(\text{N}_3)$
				566 (86)	581 (93)	$\nu(\text{SN}) + \delta(\text{SO}_2)$

# Pyrolysis of Arylsulfonylazides



**A;** IR spectrum of  $\text{PhS(O)}_2\text{N}_3$  in the solid Ne matrix at 2.8 K.

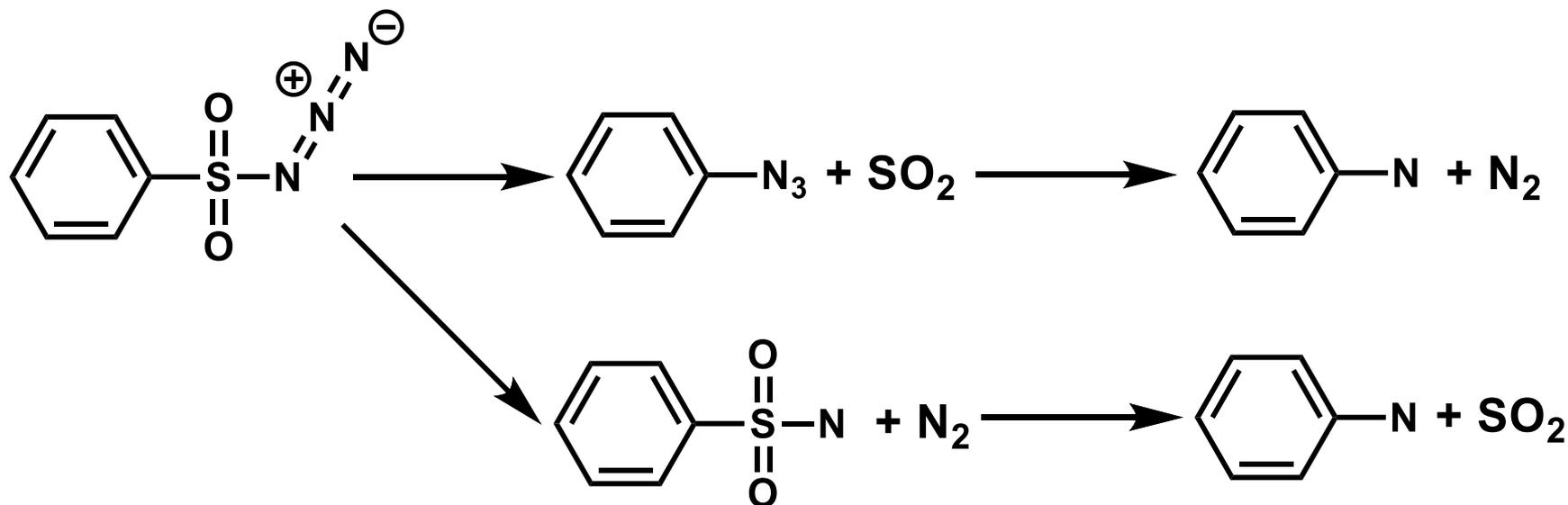
**B;** IR spectrum of the flash vacuum pyrolysis of  $\text{PhS(O)}_2\text{N}_3$  in the solid Ne matrix at 2.8 K.

**C;** IR difference spectrum showing the change of the matrix containing flash vacuum pyrolysis products of  $\text{PhS(O)}_2\text{N}_3$  upon visible light ( $\lambda = 380\text{--}450 \text{ nm}$ , 20 W, 5 min) irradiation.

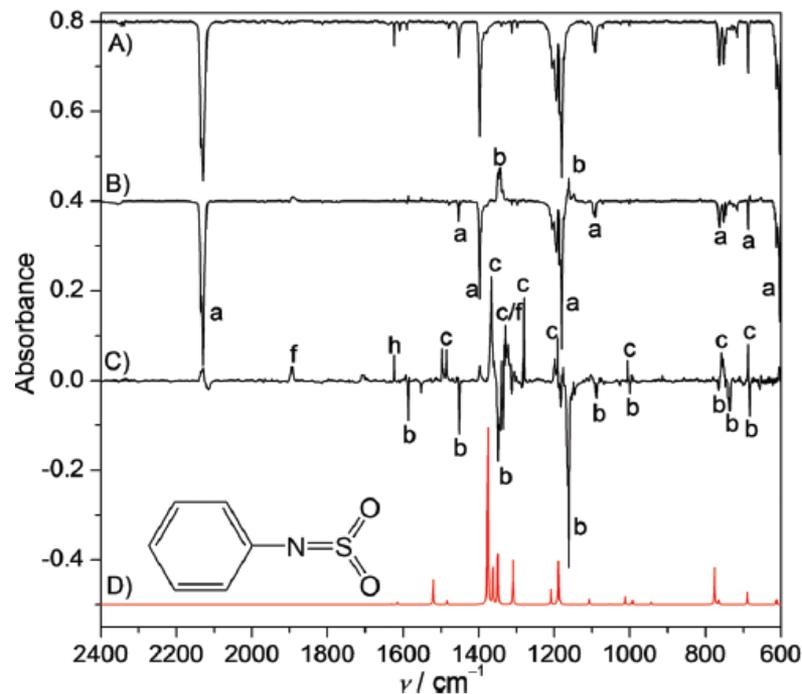
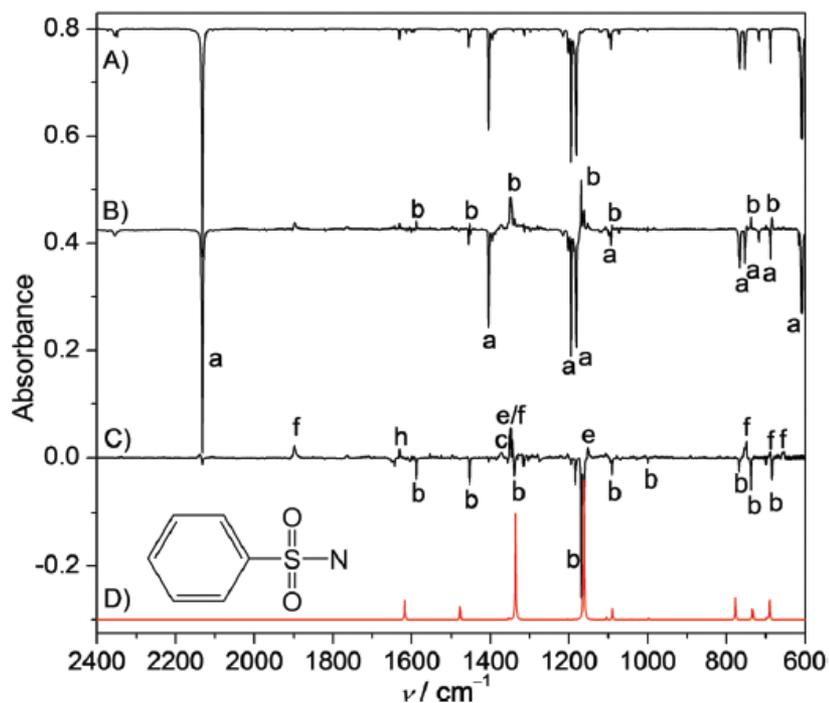
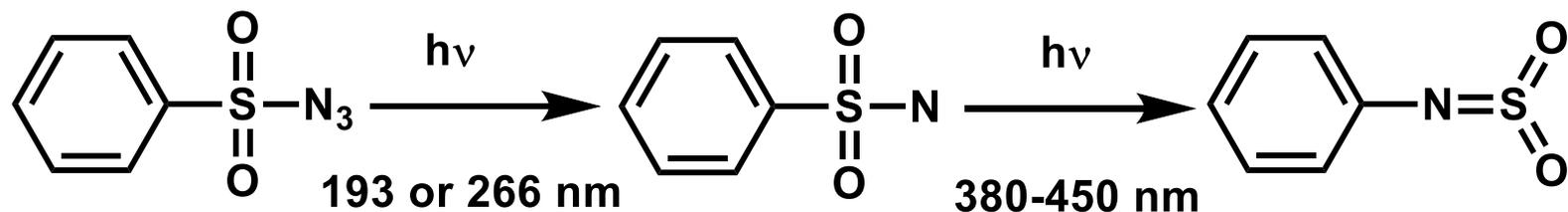
d; PhN

e;  $\text{SO}_2$

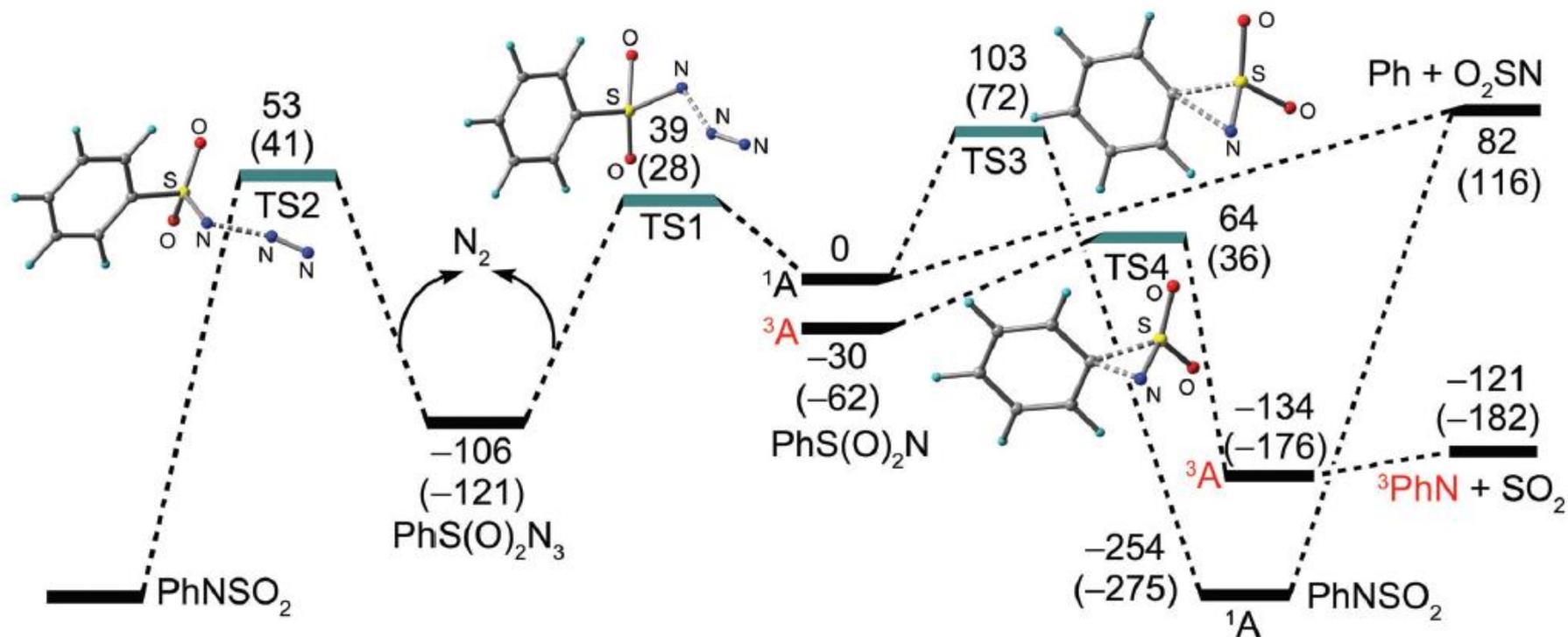
# Consideration of Reaction Pathway



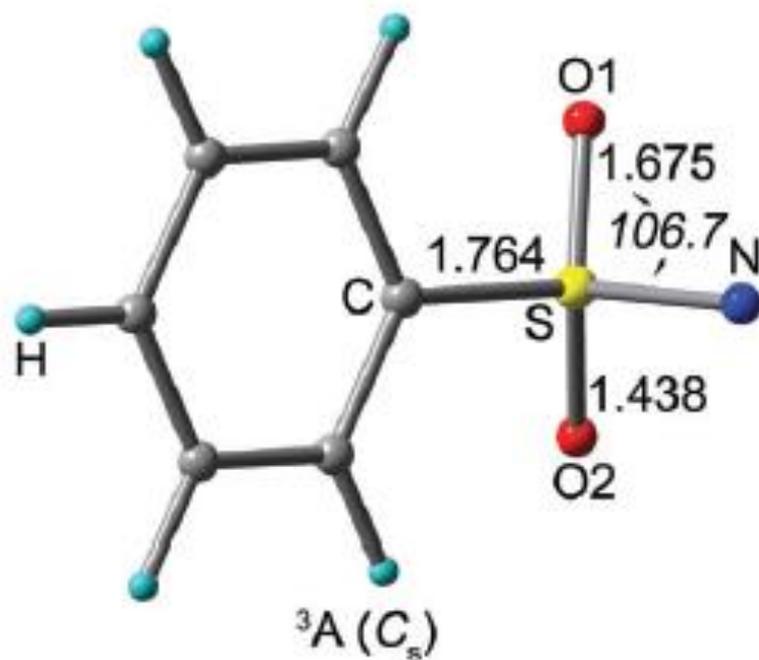
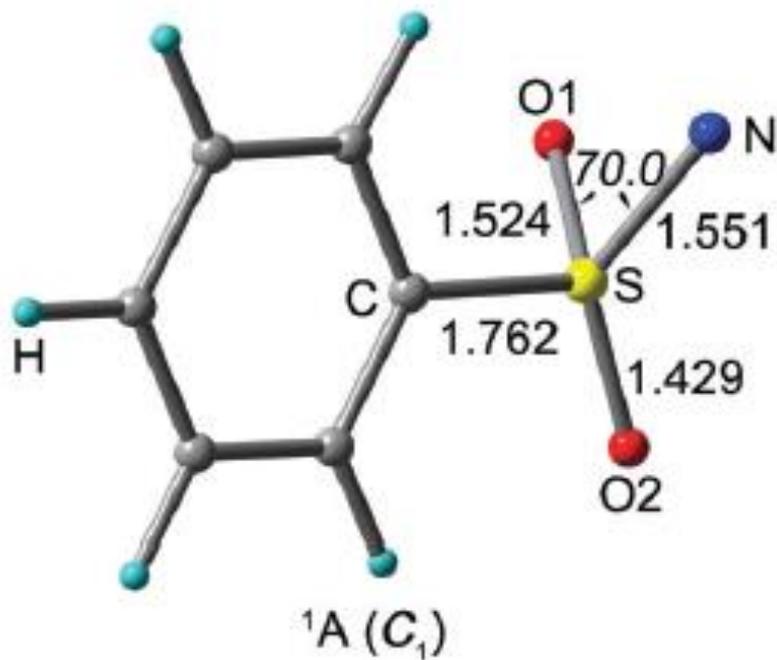
# Photolysis of Arylsulfonylazides



# Quantum Chemical Calculation

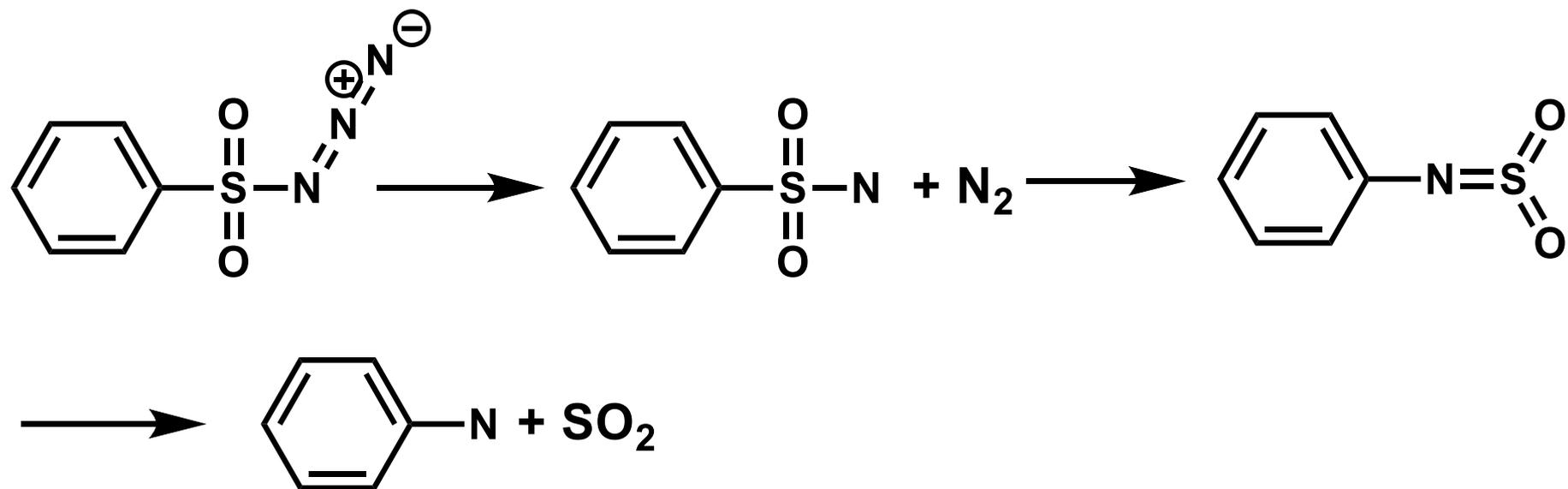


# Structure of Nitrene Intermediates



# Short Summary

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- One of the methods of observation of unstable materials
- There are a lot of conditions that go into the choice of the matrix.
- Matrix isolation method can also be applied to reaction kinetics analysis.
- In combination with quantum chemical calculation, the detailed reaction pathways can be revealed.