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.

 $E C_2^{z} C_2^{y} C_2^{x} i \sigma_{xy} \sigma_{xz} \sigma_{yz}$

$$A_g := \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 1 \right\rangle} \qquad \qquad B_{1g} := \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 2 \right\rangle} \qquad \qquad B_{2g} := \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 3 \right\rangle} \qquad \qquad B_{3g} := \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 4 \right\rangle}$$

$$A_u \coloneqq \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 5\right\rangle} \qquad \qquad B_{1u} \coloneqq \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 6\right\rangle} \qquad \qquad B_{2u} \coloneqq \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 7\right\rangle} \qquad \qquad B_{3u} \coloneqq \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\!\! \left\langle 8\right\rangle} \qquad \qquad h \coloneqq \sum D2h$$

$$\Gamma_{trans} \coloneqq B_{1u} + B_{2u} + B_{3u} \qquad \qquad \Gamma_{rot} \coloneqq B_{1g} + B_{2g} + B_{3g} \qquad \qquad \Gamma_{tot} \coloneqq \overline{\left(\Gamma_{uma} \cdot \Gamma_{trans}\right)}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{vib}} := \Gamma_{\text{tot}} - \Gamma_{\text{trans}} - \Gamma_{\text{rot}}$$
 $\Gamma_{\text{vib}}^{T} = (18 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ 4 \ 6 \ 2)$
 $i := 1...8$

$$\Gamma_{\text{stretch}} := \Gamma_{\text{bonds}}$$
 $\Gamma_{\text{bend}} := \Gamma_{\text{vib}} - \Gamma_{\text{stretch}}$

$$Vib_{i} := \frac{\sum \boxed{D2h \cdot \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\langle i \rangle} \cdot \Gamma_{vib}}}{h} \qquad Stretch_{i} := \frac{\sum \boxed{D2h \cdot \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\langle i \rangle} \cdot \Gamma_{stretch}}}{h} \qquad Bend_{i} := \frac{\sum \boxed{D2h \cdot \left(C_{D2h}^{T}\right)^{\langle i \rangle} \cdot \Gamma_{bend}}}{h}$$

$$Vib = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & A_{g} : x^{2}, y^{2}, z^{2} \\ 2 & B_{1g} : R_{z}, xy \\ 2 & B_{2g} : R_{y}, xz \\ 1 & B_{3g} : R_{x}, yz \\ 1 & A_{u} \\ 3 & B_{1u} : z \\ 2 & B_{2u} : y \\ 3 & B_{3u} : x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Stretch = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & A_{g} : x^{2}, y^{2}, z^{2} \\ 1 & B_{1g} : R_{z}, xy \\ 1 & B_{2g} : R_{y}, xz \\ 0 & B_{3g} : R_{x}, yz \\ 0 & A_{u} \\ 1 & B_{1u} : z \\ 1 & B_{2u} : y \\ 2 & B_{3u} : x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Bend = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & A_{g} : x^{2}, y^{2}, z^{2} \\ 1 & B_{1g} : R_{z}, xy \\ 1 & B_{2g} : R_{y}, xz \\ 1 & B_{3g} : R_{x}, yz \\ 1 & A_{u} \\ 2 & B_{1u} : z \\ 1 & B_{2u} : y \\ 1 & B_{3u} : x \end{pmatrix}$$

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).