

Photoionization cross sections of Ethylene Oxide

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In this work a theoretical study for photoionization of Ethylene Oxide is presented. Ethylene oxide, EtO, (C₂H₄O), also called oxirane, is an important molecule in many areas, such as health, environmental, chemical industry and molecular bio/astrophysics. The photoionization cross sections for each of nine valence orbitals and also the summed cross sections are presented. The calculations are shown in for different approaches: dipole-length/velocity form, static-exchange and static-exchange-polarization levels. A correlation between the ion fragment appearance energies and the different electronic states of parent ion (C₂H₄O⁺), is proposed. The partial PICS for each orbital shows which symmetry of continuum states are responsible for resonance features and it is also shown how the polarization effects affect the cross sections magnitudes near threshold. The summed PICS presents a maximum peak at 17.4eV in all approaches. The photoionization of C₂H₄O is more efficient at the photon energy of 17.4 eV, in the SEP-L level the contributions of six outermost orbitals to the peak are: (2b₂)⁻¹ (12.56%), (6a₁)⁻¹ (13.55%), (3b₁)⁻¹ (29.50%), (1a₂)⁻¹ (15.30%), (5a₁)⁻¹ (18.94%); (1b₂)⁻¹ (10.15%). The six outermost valence orbital are the ones who contribute the most to the summed PICS and is expected that the correspondent C₂H₄O⁺ ion states should be the ones leading to major ion fragments. The summed cross section of all valence orbitals of Ethylene Oxide is compared with the results for acetaldehyde and an analysis suggest that the photoionization cross sections, in a given energy range, can be used to identify isomers.

Acknowledgments

MHR acknowledges to Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior - Brasil (CAPES) for scholarship process number 88882.344196/2019-01; The authors acknowledge computational support of National Supercomputing Centre (CESUP) of Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) and Scientific Computational Laboratory (LCC) of Physics Department of Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR).