

## Wavelengths

The quantity called  $\bar{\nu}$ , which is the wavenumber, but divided by  $2\pi$ , i.e. not  $k$ ,  $\bar{\nu} = 1/\lambda$ , while  $\bar{\lambda} = \frac{\lambda}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{k}$

It is customary to give the energy in terms of  $\bar{\nu}$ , i.e. one of the units of energy is  $cm^{-1}$

$$1eV = 8065.48cm^{-1} = 806548m^{-1}$$

$$1a.u.energy \rightarrow 219475cm^{-1}$$

To show the relations, we introduce  $k_0^\gamma$ , which is the photon ( $\gamma$ ) wavenumber, when the photon has energy 1 a.u.; It is thus *not* the  $k_0$ , which is  $1/a_0$  !!

$$k_0^\gamma = \frac{\omega_0}{c} = \frac{E_0}{\hbar c} = \frac{e^2}{a_0 \hbar c} = \frac{e^2}{\hbar c a_0}$$

We can thus write

$$\bar{\lambda}_0 = \frac{\lambda_0}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{k_0^\gamma} = 137a_0$$

so that

$$\lambda_0 = 2\pi \cdot 137 a_0 = 6.28 \times 137 \times 0.529 \text{ \AA}$$

which can be summarized as

$$\begin{aligned} 1a.u. &= 27.2eV \rightarrow 540 \text{ \AA} \\ 1 eV &\rightarrow 27.2 \times 540 \text{ \AA} = 12\,386 \text{ \AA} \end{aligned}$$

A simple general relation is

$$\lambda [ \text{ \AA } ] = \frac{12\,386}{E[eV]} \text{ \AA}$$