STRUCTURES OF MICROSOLVATED CAMPHOR FROM BROADBAND ROTATIONAL SPECTROSCOPY

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Using broadband rotational spectroscopy, we will present our results on the microsolvation of camphor ($C_{10}H_{16}O$) complexed with up to three water molecules. Unambiguous assignment was achieved by performing multi $H_2^{18}O$ isotopic substitution of clustered water molecules. The observation of all possible mono- and multi- $H_2^{18}O$ insertions in the cluster structure yielded accurate structural information that is not otherwise achievable with single-substitution experiments. The observed clusters exhibit water chains starting with a strong hydrogen bond to the carbonyl group and terminated by a mainly van der Waals (dispersive) contact to one of the available sites at the monomer moiety. The effect of hydrogen bond cooperativity is noticeable, and will be also discussed.

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