

Table S1: Calculated frequencies for the “short-bond” form of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{BCl}_3$ .<sup>1</sup>

<i>mPW1</i> <sup>2</sup>		<i>B3PW91</i> <sup>3</sup>		Symmetry <sup>4</sup>	Approximate Description
Wavenumber	Intensity	Wavenumber	Intensity		
32	0	31	0	A2	Torsion
70	2.4	70	2.4	E	Intermolecular bend
208	0.0090	207	0.0050	E	$\text{BCl}_3$ asymmetric deformation
248	6.3	246	6.2	A1	B-N stretch
303	0.00010	301	0.00030	E	N-C-C bend
413	0.25	409	0.32	A1	$\text{BCl}_3$ symmetric stretch
478	0.049	473	0.089	E	B-N-C bend
667	150	659	150	A1	$\text{BCl}_3$ symmetric deformation
782	260	770	260	E	$\text{BCl}_3$ asymmetric stretch
1008	12	1001	10	A1	C-C stretch
1051	3.4	1046	3.2	E	C-C-N bend
1403	2.7	1396	2.6	A1	$\text{CH}_3$ symmetric deformation
1457	14	1450	13.8	E	$\text{CH}_3$ asymmetric deformation
2480 <sup>5</sup>	73	2457 <sup>5</sup>	64	A1	C-N stretch
3072	4.4	3054	3.9	A1	$\text{CH}_3$ symmetric stretch
3157	3.8	3138	3.5	E	$\text{CH}_3$ asymmetric stretch

1) Wavenumber values in units of  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , intensities in km/mol. 2) With the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set. R(B-N)=

1.580 Å. 3)With the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set. R(B-N) = 1.581 Å. 4) Irreducible representation in the  $C_{3v}$  point

group. 5) For a more thorough description of these motions see ref. 21. 6) No scale factor applied. See text  
for discussion.

Table S2: Calculated frequencies for the “long-bond” form of  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}-\text{BCl}_3$ .<sup>1</sup>

<i>mPW1</i> <sup>2</sup>		<i>B3PW91</i> <sup>3</sup>		Symmetry <sup>4</sup>	Approximate Description
Wavenumber	Intensity	Wavenumber	Intensity		
9i	0	9i	0	A2	Torsion
17	5.4	16	5.4	E	Intermolecular bend
41	0.87	32	0.57	A1	B-N stretch
67	2.6	57	2.8	E	B-N-C bend
253	0.62	252	0.57	E	$\text{BCl}_3$ asymmetric deformation
392	0.24	388	0.21	E	N-C-C bend
427	20	431	16	A1	$\text{BCl}_3$ symmetric deformation
473	0.85	470	0.59	A1	$\text{BCl}_3$ symmetric stretch
948	1.8	942	1.4	E	$\text{BCl}_3$ asymmetric stretch
957	330	948	330	A1	C-C stretch
1058	2.5	1053	2.3	E	C-C-N bend
1407	1.8	1400	1.8	A1	$\text{CH}_3$ symmetric deformation
1471	11	1464	11	E	$\text{CH}_3$ asymmetric deformation
2397 <sup>5</sup>	18	2376 <sup>5</sup>	16	A1	C-N stretch
3073	1.3	3056	1.7	A1	$\text{CH}_3$ symmetric stretch
3153	0.060	3134	0.13	E	$\text{CH}_3$ asymmetric stretch

1) Wavenumber values in units of  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , intensities in km/mol. 2) With the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set. R(B-N)=

3.099 Å. 3)With the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set. R(B-N) = 3.237 Å. 4) Irreducible representation in the  $C_{3v}$  point

group. 5) No scale factor applied. See text for discussion.