

Infrared Spectra and Radiative Efficiencies of Atmospherically Persistent Perfluoroamines

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Perfluoroamines (PFAs) are a class of compounds used primarily in electronic testing and heat transfer applications, which may lead to their release into the atmosphere (e.g. perfluorotributylamine, $N(C_4F_8)_3$, was observed in Toronto (Hong et al., 2013) with an atmospheric mixing ratio of ~0.18 ppt). The atmospheric loss processes of perfluoroamines are presently not well characterized, but they are expected to be atmospherically persistent compounds with lifetimes greater than 500 years. Perfluoroamines are potent greenhouse gases due to their strong infrared absorption in the atmospheric window region. A thorough understanding of the environmental impacts of PFAs necessitates further laboratory studies of the optical and chemical properties of this class of compound.

In this study, the infrared absorption spectra and radiative efficiencies (RE) of a homologous series of aliphatic perfluoroamines, $N(C_xF_{2x+1})_3$ with $x = 2-5$, were evaluated. Infrared spectra were measured using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy between 600-4000 cm^{-1} and radiative efficiencies were calculated using estimation methods. The infrared absorption spectra of PFAs have received little attention to date with only the infrared spectrum of $N(C_4F_9)_3$ being reported by Hong et al. (2013) and Godin et al. (2016). The present results are compared with these previous results and trends in the PFA REs are discussed. Potential atmospheric loss processes of PFAs, atmospheric lifetimes, global warming potentials and future laboratory studies will also be discussed.

Godin, P. J., A. Cabaj, S. Conway, A. C. Hong, K. Le Bris, S. A. Mabury, and K. Strong (2016), Temperature-dependent absorption cross-sections of perfluorotributylamine, *J. Mol. Spectrosc.*, doi:10.1016/j.jms.2015.11.004

Hong, A. C., C. J. Young, M. D. Hurley, T. J. Wallington, and S. A. Mabury (2013), Perfluorotributylamine: A novel long-lived greenhouse gas, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 40, 6010-6015, doi:10.1002/2013GL058010.

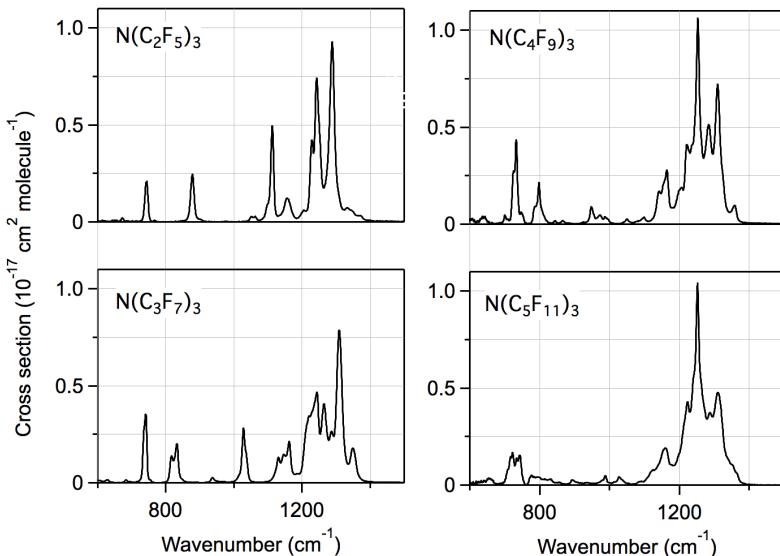


Figure 1. Infrared absorption spectra (base e) of several perfluoroamines.