Fundamental Vibrational Transitions of HCl Detected in CRL 2136

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ABSTRACT

Aims. We would like to understand the chemistry of dense clouds and their hot cores more quantitatively by obtaining more complete knowledge of the chemical species present in them.

Methods. We have obtained high-resolution infrared absorption spectroscopy at 3–4 μm toward the bright infrared source CRL 2136.

Results. The fundamental vibration-rotation band of HCl has been detected within a dense cloud for the first time. The HCl is probably located in the warm compact circumstellar envelope or disk of CRL 2136. The fractional abundance of HCl is (4.8–8.7)×10⁻⁴, indicating that approximately 20% of the elemental chlorine is in gaseous HCl. The kinetic temperature of the absorbing gas is 250 K, half the value determined from infrared spectroscopy of ¹³CO and H₂O. The percentage of chlorine in HCl is approximately that expected for gas at this temperature. The reason for the difference in temperatures between the various molecular species is unknown.

Key words. astrochemistry — infrared: general — ISM: molecules — line: identification — stars: individual (CRL 2136) — stars: formation

1. Introduction

Hydrogen chloride (HCl) was first detected in the interstellar medium by Blake et al. (1985) in the dense molecular cloud OMC-1 via its J =1-0 rotational emission line. Subsequent observations in OMC-1 (Schilke et al. 1995), in Sgr B2 (Zmuidzinas et al. 1995; Lis et al. 2010; Menten et al. 2011), in Orion A and Mon R2 molecular clouds (Salez et al. 1996), and in other star forming regions (Peng et al. 2010) established that HCl is a common constituent of dense clouds, with typical column densities of (1–20)×10¹³ cm⁻² and fractional abundances with respect to hydrogen of (1–30)×10⁻¹⁰. In these clouds, chlorine in HCl comprises less than one percent of elemental chlorine, with the rest presumably frozen on dust grains (Schilke et al. 1995; Peng et al. 2010).

Lines of the fundamental vibration-rotation band of HCl, located in the 3.2–3.8 μm region, were first detected in sunspot spectra by Hall & Noyes (1972), and in the photosphere of an S-type star by Ridgway et al. (1984). Here we report the first detection of fundamental band lines of HCl in the interstellar medium, within the dark cloud containing CRL 2136 most probably in the circumstellar disk or envelope of that object. CRL 2136 is a massive (~ 10 M☉), luminous (~ 5 × 10⁵L☉) young star in formation at a distance of 2 kpc (Kastner et al. 1992). It is bright at thermal infrared wavelengths (e.g., 3.0 mag in the WISE W1 band, 3.4 μm), and serves as an archetypal line of sight for the study of gas in dense clouds via absorption spectroscopy. One of the first detections of interstellar HCl* (Geballe & Oka 1996) was made toward it near 3.7 μm, as well the first infrared detection of HF near 2.5 μm (Indriolo et al. 2013a). High S/N spectroscopy of CRL 2136 at other infrared wavelengths has the potential of yielding detections of additional species.

2. Observations

The observations reported here were carried out at two telescopes. On 12 September 2012 spectra of CRL 2136 were obtained at the VLT on Paranal using the CRIRES spectrograph (Kauff et al. 2004) for DDT program 289.C-5042, whose aim was to search for the R(3,3) absorption line of HCl (which was not detected). A 0′′.2 wide slit (of length 40′′) was used to achieve a spectral resolution of R=100,000. The adaptive optics system MACAO (Bonnet et al. 2004) was used to increase the slit throughput by using a nearby visible star as a wavefront reference. The wavelength regions observed were centered at 3.576 μm, 3.658 μm, and 3.668 μm, each meant to cover key HCl lines: R(3,3)', R(2,2)' and the doublet R(1,0)/R(1,1)', respectively. The slit was oriented at position angle 45° to avoid the diffuse nebulosity near CRL 2136. The telescope was nodded along the slit by 10° every two exposures in order to sample the sky emission spectrum in the same rows as CRL 2136 was observed and subtract it from the object spectrum. No spatially extended line-emission greater than 1% of the continuum level was detected at the wavelengths of HCl lines in two-dimensional spectral images before the sky subtraction, and thus the ob-
erved absorption lines could only be slightly affected by extended line emission. The integration time was 6 min for each grating setting. A spectroscopic standard star HR 6879 (B9.5 III; L = 1.707 mag; Bouchet et al. 1991) was observed to allow accurate removal of telluric absorption lines. Other standard calibration data, including spectroscopic flat field and dark current images, were obtained at the end of the night.

Spectra of CRL 2136 in the 3–4 μm region were also obtained at the Subaru Telescope on Mauna Kea on 15 June 2012 with the cross-dispersing spectrograph IRCS in the open-time program S12A-075. A 0′14×6′7 slit was used to record the spectra at R=20,000. The slit was oriented at position angle 0°. Two grating settings were used to cover selected wavelength intervals from 3.25 μm to 4.13 μm. The integration times for the two grating settings were 6 min and 12 min. The telescope was nodded by 3′4 along the slit to sample the sky emission. A spectroscopic standard star HR 6556 (A5 III; L =1.61 mag) was observed before the observation of CRL 2136. Other calibration data were obtained on the morning after the observation. Another observation was performed with IRCS on UT 12 May 2013 in the open-time program S13A-077, using three grating settings which provided complete coverage from 3.20 μm to 4.15 μm continuously. In this case the slit was oriented at position angle 45° and the integration times were 6 to 24 min. The spectroscopic standard star HR 7001 (Vega; A0 V; L =0.00 mag) was observed before the science observation for the purpose of telluric line removal.

The CRIRES data were reduced using the CRIRES pipeline recipe3 ver. 2.3.1 on Gasgano4 and EsoRex5 platforms provided by the European Southern Observatory (ESO). The pipeline reduction included correction of the detector linearity, subtraction of the sky emission, normalization of the detector pixel responses, and extraction of one-dimensional spectra. The spectra obtained at the two locations of CRL 2136 on the slit were extracted separately to avoid degrading the spectral resolution of the combined spectrum due to the distortion of the slit image and the different degrees of defocusing at the different locations on the slit. Wavelength calibration was achieved by matching the observed telluric absorption lines to the model atmospheric transmission spectrum calculated by LBLRTM (Clough et al. 2005). In terms of velocity the uncertainty in the calibration is typically less than 1 km s\(^{-1}\). The telluric absorption lines were removed by dividing the spectra of CRL 2136 by those of the standard stars. Slight mismatches of the wavelength, spectral resolution, and optical depth of the absorption lines between the object and the standard star spectra were manually corrected to the extent possible. The spectra extracted at the two locations on the slit were added together after the wavelength calibration and the removal of the telluric lines were performed individually. The calibrated wavelengths were converted to the velocities with respect to the local standard of rest. The data obtained by IRCS were reduced in a similar manner except that the spectral extraction was done with the IRAF aperture extraction package6. Wavelength calibration was performed in the same way as for the CRIRES data; the uncertainty corresponds to a few km s\(^{-1}\).

The IRCS spectra from 2012 and 2013 were coadded to increase the signal-to-noise ratio in those instances where the same lines were observed.

3. Results

Absorption by the v=1-0 P(4)–P(7) lines of H\(^{35}\)Cl and the P(4) line of H\(^{37}\)Cl are clearly detected in the CRIRES spectra (left panel in Fig. 1) and are centered at \(v_{\text{LSR}} \approx +28\) km s\(^{-1}\). The lines have full widths at half maximum of \(\approx 15\) km s\(^{-1}\). Although some of the profiles appear to be double-peaked, the S/N is low and the peaks do not match well in velocity from line to line. Further investigation will require spectra of higher accuracy. The R(5), R(3)–R(0), and P(1)–P(5) absorption lines of H\(^{35}\)Cl and the R(2)–R(0) and P(1)–P(5) absorption lines of H\(^{37}\)Cl were detected in the IRCS spectra at the same velocity as the CRIRES detections (middle and right panels in Fig. 1). The lines as viewed by the IRCS are barely resolved.

The line equivalent widths \(W_\lambda(JJ')\) have been measured by integrating the absorptions over the velocity intervals \(+15\rightarrow+40\) km s\(^{-1}\) for the CRIRES spectra and \(0\rightarrow+50\) km s\(^{-1}\) for the IRCS spectra. The uncertainties in equivalent widths were conservatively estimated from the standard deviations of the continuum level in nearby wavelength intervals (where the dispersion of continuum values is relatively large) multiplied by the wavelength intervals of the integration divided by the square root of the number of the data points that sample the line absorption profile.

The column densities of the lower levels of the transitions \(N_j\) have been calculated from \(W_\lambda(JJ')\) using

\[
W_\lambda(JJ') = \frac{1}{\lambda} \frac{3}{8 \pi c} \frac{g_p}{g_j} A_{JJ'} N_j,
\]

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1. From UKIRT \(L\) standards. http://www.jach.hawaii.edu/UKIRT/phot_cal/phot_cal/urls/standards.html
2. From UKIRT \(L\) standards. http://www.jach.hawaii.edu/UKIRT/phot_cal/phot_cal/urls/standards.html
3. http://www.eso.org/sci/software/pipelines/crime/crine-pipe-recipes.html
4. http://www.eso.org/sci/software/gasgano/
5. http://www.eso.org/sci/software/cpl/esorex.html
6. IRAF is distributed by the National Optical Astronomy Observatories, which are operated by the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy, Inc., under cooperative agreement with the National Science Foundation.
Table 1. HCl lines detected.

|        | \(\lambda_{J'f}\) | \(E_{J'}/k\) | \(A_{J'f}\) | \(g_{J'}\) | \(W_{0}(J'')\) | \(N_{J'}\) | \(W_{J}(J'')\) | \(N_{J}\) |
|--------|-------------------|--------------|-----------|----------|---------------|----------|---------------|----------|
| H\(^{35}\)Cl |                  |              |           |          |               |          |               |          |
| R(5)   | 3.3355            | 449.95       | 17.72     | 88       | 104           | 3.7 ± 0.5 | 10.8 ± 1.4   |          |
| R(3)   | 3.3746            | 180.14       | 17.39     | 56       | 72            | 6.9 ± 1.6 | 17.9 ± 4.2   |          |
| R(2)   | 3.3957            | 90.10        | 16.90     | 40       | 56            | 6.6 ± 0.7 | 15.9 ± 1.8   |          |
| R(1)   | 3.4178            | 30.04        | 15.89     | 24       | 40            | 3.8 ± 2.6 | 8.0 ± 5.4    |          |
| R(0)   | 3.4409            | 0.00         | 13.32     | 8        | 24            | 5.5 ± 2.4 | 7.4 ± 3.3    |          |
| P(1)   | 3.4903            | 30.04        | 40.33     | 24       | 8             | 2.8 ± 0.7 | 10.6 ± 2.5   |          |
| P(2)   | 3.5166            | 90.10        | 26.97     | 40       | 24            | 3.6 ± 0.4 | 11.1 ± 1.1   |          |
| P(3)   | 3.5441            | 180.14       | 24.33     | 56       | 40            | 4.9 ± 1.0 | 13.5 ± 2.8   |          |
| P(4)   | 3.5728            | 300.12       | 23.20     | 72       | 56            | 3.9 ± 0.3 | 10.1 ± 0.8   | 2.8 ± 1.3 |
| P(5)   | 3.6026            | 449.95       | 22.57     | 88       | 72            | 2.7 ± 0.1 | 6.6 ± 0.3    | 2.4 ± 0.4 |
| P(6)   | 3.6337            | 629.54       | 22.14     | 104      | 88            | 2.0 ± 0.1 | 4.5 ± 0.3    |          |
| P(7)   | 3.6660            | 838.80       | 21.83     | 120      | 104           | 0.9 ± 0.3 | 2.1 ± 0.6    |          |
| H\(^{37}\)Cl |                  |              |           |          |               |          |               |          |
| R(2)   | 3.3982            | 89.96        | 16.85     | 40       | 56            | 3.5 ± 1.0 | 8.4 ± 2.4    |          |
| R(1)   | 3.4203            | 29.99        | 15.84     | 24       | 40            | 2.8 ± 0.4 | 5.8 ± 0.9    |          |
| R(0)   | 3.4434            | 0.00         | 13.28     | 8        | 24            | 1.6 ± 0.6 | 2.1 ± 0.8    |          |
| P(1)   | 3.4928            | 29.99        | 40.21     | 24       | 8             | 1.6 ± 0.6 | 5.9 ± 2.2    |          |
| P(2)   | 3.5192            | 89.96        | 26.89     | 40       | 24            | 3.8 ± 0.5 | 11.7 ± 1.4   |          |
| P(3)   | 3.5467            | 179.87       | 24.26     | 56       | 40            | 1.5 ± 0.9 | 4.0 ± 2.4    |          |
| P(4)   | 3.5753            | 299.67       | 23.13     | 72       | 56            | 1.7 ± 0.3 | 4.4 ± 0.7    | 2.0 ± 1.0 |
| P(5)   | 3.6051            | 449.27       | 22.50     | 88       | 72            | 1.3 ± 0.7 | 3.1 ± 1.7    |          |

Notes. The wavelength \(\lambda_{J'f}\) of the transitions, the energy of the lower level \(E_{J'}/k\), the spontaneous emission coefficient \(A_{J'f}\), and the statistical weights of the upper and lower states, and \(g_{J'}\) and \(g_{J''}\), respectively, are taken from the HITRAN database (Rothman et al. 2009).

where \(J\) is the wavelength \(\lambda_{J'f}\) of the transition, \(g_{J'}\) and \(g_{J''}\) the statistical weights of the upper and the lower states, and \(A_{J'f}\) the spontaneous emission coefficient of the transition. The A coefficients and statistical weights are taken from the HITRAN database (Rothman et al. 2009), retrieved through the web interface HITRAN on the Web\(^7\). The results are summarized in Table 1.

For each HCl isotopomer the level column densities divided by the statistical weights of the lower and upper levels \(g_{J'}\) and \(g_{J''}\), respectively, can be simultaneously fit by a single straight line without adjustment of the slope and intercept. The column densities obtained from the CRIRES and the IRCS spectra can be compared using the CRIRES database. The isotope ratio \([\text{HCl}] / [\text{HCl}]\) and the excitation temperature is 254 km s\(^{-1}\) by CRIRES. Assuming identical excitation temperatures, which can be estimated by comparing the level column densities at \(J=4\), as the \(P(4)\) line was detected for both \(^{35}\)Cl and \(^{37}\)Cl by CRIRES. Assuming identical excitation temperatures, which is justified by the similar slopes of the population diagrams, \([\text{HCl}] / [\text{HCl}] = 2.3 ± 0.4\). The total column density of HCl (both isotopomers) is then \((9.6 ± 0.7) \times 10^{13}\) cm\(^{-2}\).

4. Discussion

Infrared spectroscopy of \(^{13}\)CO by Mitchell et al. (1990) toward CRL 2136 indicates that the line of sight to the star passes through clouds with two distinct temperatures, cold gas (17 K) and warm gas (580 K), with two-thirds of the total column density residing in the warm gas. The difference between the latter temperature and that derived for HCl is discussed below. The density of the warm gas is high, as is shown by \(^{13}\)CO levels being populated up to at least \(J=24\) (implying \(n_{H_2} > 5 \times 10^6\) cm\(^{-3}\)). Gas at these temperatures and densities is likely to be directly involved in the star formation process, and is probably in a circumstellar envelope or disk. The intensity-weighted mean of the centers of the HCl lines (as measured by CRIRES) is \(+27.5 ± 0.5\) km s\(^{-1}\), which is identical within the uncertainties to that of the \(^{13}\)CO lines \(+26.5 ± 2.8\) km s\(^{-1}\) Mitchell et al. (1990) and close to that of \(H^0\) \(+23.7 ± 24.8\) km s\(^{-1}\) Indriolo et al. (2013a). The above velocities are red-shifted from the systemic velocity of CRL 2136 derived from the rotational lines of CO \(+22.8\) km s\(^{-1}\); Kastner et al. 1994) and CS \(+22.8\) km s\(^{-1}\); van der Tak et al. 2000), but agree well with the radial velocity of the water masers \(+26.5\) km s\(^{-1}\); Menten & van der Tak 2004). The near-match of the velocities reinforces the above conclusion that the gas absorption lines are formed in the envelope or disk of CRL 2136. However, the small but significant positive velocity shift relative to the pure rotational emission lines suggest that the infrared-absorbing gas is infalling or contracting.

The total column density of HCl may be compared with that of molecular hydrogen, whose \(v=1.05(0)\) line at 2223 \(\mu\)m was detected in absorption by Kulesa (2002). Indriolo et al. (2013a) have estimated the \(H_2\) column density in the warm component, assuming that \([\text{CO}] / [\text{H}_2]\) is constant along the line of sight and that the excitation temperature of \(H_2\) is same as that determined by Mitchell et al. (1990) from the \(^{13}\)CO \(v=1\) lines. They ob-

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\(^7\) http://hitran.iao.ru/
tain $N(H_2) = (5.5-9.8) \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, and therefore $N(\text{HCl})/N(\text{H}) = (4.9-8.7) \times 10^{-8}$. Assuming the solar abundance of chlorine, $3.2 \times 10^{-7}$ (Asplund et al. 2009) in CRL 2136, approximately 20\% (15-27\%) of the chlorine in the warm CRL 2136 envelope is in the form of gaseous HCl.

In diffuse clouds chlorine is singly ionized, as the ionization potential of the neutral form (13.0 eV) is slightly lower than that of atomic hydrogen; Cl\textsuperscript+ can directly react with H\textsubscript{2}, leading to additional reactions that produce neutral HCl (see Monje et al. 2013, for details). In dense clouds, where virtually no photionization photons are available, the formation of HCl is initiated by the proton hop reaction of Cl\textsuperscript+ with H\textsubscript{2}\textsuperscript{+}, and subsequent reaction of the cation with H\textsubscript{2},

$$\text{Cl} + \text{H}_2^+ \rightarrow \text{HCl}^+ + \text{H}_2$$
$$\text{HCl}^+ + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+ + \text{H}.$$

As the ionization fraction is very low, dissociative recombination of H\textsubscript{2}Cl\textsuperscript+ on electrons is not important. Instead H\textsubscript{2}Cl\textsuperscript+ participates in a second proton hop reaction with either CO or H\textsubscript{2}O,

$$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+ + \text{CO} \rightarrow \text{HCl} + \text{HCO}^+,$$
$$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{HCl} + \text{H}_3\text{O}^+,$$

$\text{Cl} + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{HCl} + \text{H}$

can also contribute.

 Destruction of neutral HCl is expected to be inefficient in dense clouds. Photodissociation is slow because of the lack of UV photons. Cations as reaction partners to promote more efficient ion-neutral reactions are also in short supply. Reactions with H\textsubscript{2}\textsuperscript{+} will occur, but will lead to another cycle of HCl formation. In the circumstellar envelope of CRL 2136, where the gas is shielded from photodissociating UV photons, yet the temperature is both high enough for neutral-neutral reactions to occur and to keep HCl from accumulating on dust grains, several tens of percent of elemental chlorine are expected to be present in HCl, with most of the rest in neutral atomic form (Neufeld & Wolfire 2009, their Fig. 13). Our result is consistent with this.

A collisional excitation and line radiation transfer model (Neufeld 2012) has been used to estimate the gas density and the kinetic temperature (Fig. 3). The parameters that best reproduce the observed population diagram are $T_k = 250 \text{ K}$ and $n(\text{H}_2) > 10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ for a column density over velocity $N(\text{HCl})/dv = 3 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}/(\text{km s}^{-1})$ that matches the observed line widths. The accurate straight line fit to the population diagram (Fig. 2) implies that the HCl is in LTE. However, as mentioned earlier, this value of the kinetic temperature is considerably lower than the temperature of $\sim 500 \text{ K}$ determined from absorption spectroscopy of $^{13}$CO (Mitchell et al. 1990) and of H\textsubscript{2}O (Boonman & van Dishoeck 2003; Indriolo et al. 2013b), whose lines appear to be formed in gas of similar density to the HCl lines. The reason

![Collisional excitation calculation of HCl in CRL 2136. The population diagram of H\textsuperscript{35}Cl in Fig. 2 is fit by the models with varying gas temperature and density, and the goodness of the fit is presented in terms of the standard deviation. Line radiation transfer is included in the model with the column density over velocity $3 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}/(\text{km s}^{-1})$, which is consistent with the observed velocity dispersion in the infrared.](image-url)

Fig. 2. Rotational population diagrams of H\textsuperscript{35}Cl and H\textsuperscript{37}Cl. R-branch lines (filled squares) and P branch lines (open circles) are shown separately. The level column densities of H\textsuperscript{35}Cl were fit by a dashed line; the same fit is shown for H\textsuperscript{37}Cl. The shaded area depicts the range of LTE fitting with the excitation temperatures and the total column densities deviating by up to ±3\% from the best-fit values.

![Collisional excitation calculation of HCl in CRL 2136. The population diagram of H\textsuperscript{35}Cl in Fig. 2 is fit by the models with varying gas temperature and density, and the goodness of the fit is presented in terms of the standard deviation. Line radiation transfer is included in the model with the column density over velocity $3 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}/(\text{km s}^{-1})$, which is consistent with the observed velocity dispersion in the infrared.](image-url)

Fig. 3. Collisional excitation calculation of HCl in CRL 2136. The population diagram of H\textsuperscript{35}Cl in Fig. 2 is fit by the models with varying gas temperature and density, and the goodness of the fit is presented in terms of the standard deviation. Line radiation transfer is included in the model with the column density over velocity $3 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2}/(\text{km s}^{-1})$, which is consistent with the observed velocity dispersion in the infrared.
for this difference in temperature is unclear. The high gas density required to populate the observed rotational levels of HCl clearly excludes the possibility that most of the observed HCl is in cold gas in the outer part of the dense cloud (17 K; Mitchell et al. 1990).

In terms of temperature, HCl is not the only outlier, but neither is it consistent with all other temperature determinations. Six other molecules in the line of sight, all observed using infrared absorption spectroscopy, have excitation temperatures ranging from 300 K to 800 K, which cannot be reconciled by the reported uncertainties (Table 2). Moreover, in this regard CRL 2136 may not be an exception. The excitation temperatures of different molecules have a substantial dispersion in the hot cores of six high-mass star forming regions studied by Keane et al. (2001) with some sightlines producing values from 180 K to 800 K (see their Table 1). A cautionary note for CRL 2136 is that the majority of the observations in Table 2 were made by the Infrared Space Observatory’s moderate resolution SWS spectrometer, for which vibration-rotation bands are not resolved and therefore appear broad and smooth. Excitation temperatures for these data were estimated by comparing model spectra convolved to the spectral resolution of SWS (R=1500–2500) with the observed spectrum. For NGC 7538 IRS 1 Knez et al. (2009) have pointed out that, by reducing the Doppler broadening parameter b from 5 km s$^{-1}$ of Lahuis & van Dishoeck (2000) to 1 km s$^{-1}$, which is indicated by their much higher resolution spectra, the best-fit excitation temperature decreased from 800 K to 190–230 K for C$_2$H$_2$ and 600 K to 250–450 K for HCN. Furthermore, they point out that bands of other molecules overlap with those of the dominant species and, if not identified, also affect temperature determinations for these species.

The band structures of HCl in the present study and of H$_2$O by Indriolo et al. (2013b) are spectrally resolved, and each observed rotational line is velocity-resolved. Thus, the above cautionary note probably does not apply to our data. It is possible that H$_2$O observed at high resolution by Indriolo et al. (2013b) mainly traces the hottest gas where the water ice evaporates most rapidly. The excitation temperature of HCl may be regulated by the endothermic formation reaction of HCl that sharply kicks in at T $\sim$250 K. However, until more detailed observations of these and additional molecular species are available the disagreement in the excitation temperatures of the various species remains an open issue.

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| Transition | Wavelength | Excitation Temperature [K] | Telescope/Instrument | Spectral resolution | Reference |
|------------|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------|
| HCl $v_1$  | 3.5 μm     | 254±10                      | VLT/CRIRES            | R=100,000           | 1         |
| CO$_2$ $v_1$ | 15.0 μm | 300±100                      | ISO/SWS               | R=1,500              | 2         |
| SO$_2$ $v_3$ | 7.4 μm  | 350±80                      | ISO/SWS               | R=2,500              | 3         |
| H$_2$O $v_2$ | 6.2 μm  | 500±150                      | ISO/SWS               | R=1,500              | 4         |
| H$_2$O $v_1, v_2, v_3$ | 2.5 μm | 506±25                      | VLT/CRIRES            | R=100,000           | 5         |
| $^{13}$CO $v_1$ | 4.7 μm  | 580±50                      | CFHT/FTS              | R=37,000             | 6         |
| HCN $v_2$  | 14.0 μm   | 600±75                      | ISO/SWS               | R=1,800              | 7         |
| C$_2$H$_2$ $v_5$ | 13.7 μm | 800±150                      | ISO/SWS               | R=1,800              | 7         |

Table 2. Excitation temperature of molecules toward CRL 2136 observed in infrared absorption spectroscopy of vibrational transitions.
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Note added in proof:
The isotopomer ratio \([\text{H}^{35}\text{Cl}] / [\text{H}^{37}\text{Cl}]\) derived based on the equivalent widths of \(P(4)\) lines of CRIRES data might be affected by a CH doublet at \(3.575 \mu \text{m}\) that overlaps with the \(\text{H}^{37}\text{Cl} P(4)\) line. The combined abundance of HCl may be affected consequently. The possibility is remote, though, since CH traces diffuse gas.