

427  
MW $C_3H_7N$ 

Azetidine

 $C_s$ 

The internal dynamics of interconversion between equivalent conformations due to the coupling between ring puckering and NH inversion was investigated by rotational spectroscopy and *ab initio* computations. An effective one-dimensional reduced potential function for the ring puckering vibration  $V(X) = 10.82(X^4 + 14.29X - 8.93X^2 - 0.28X^3)$  was derived. This asymmetric single minimum potential function supports the existence of only one stable equatorial form. The barrier to interconversion between equivalent equatorial conformers, related to the  $C_{2v}$  conformation in which the ring atoms and the NH group are coplanar, was estimated to range between 1900 and 2600  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ .

López, J.C., Blanco, S., Lesarri, A., Alonso, J.L.: J. Chem. Phys. **114** (2001) 2237.

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