

HYDRATED SUPEROXIDE CLUSTERS $\text{O}_2^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{1-4}$

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S u m m a r y

The low-energy portion of the potential energy surfaces of hydrated superoxide clusters $\text{O}_2^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$ ($n = 1 \div 4$) are thoroughly studied to resolve, first, a longstanding paradigm of what is the threshold value of n at which water-water hydrogen bonding becomes preferential over the anion-water interaction and, second, to give a solid explanation of the nature of their rather diffuse infrared spectra.