



**Figure 5:** Spectra of  $\text{NiSO}_4 \cdot x\text{H}_2\text{O}$ : (a) solid, 75mW laser power,  $4\text{cm}^{-1}$  resolution, 250 scans; (b) Pyrex flats / nujol mull, 250mW laser power,  $4\text{cm}^{-1}$  resolution, 400 scans; (c) KBr flats / nujol mull, 200mW laser power,  $4\text{cm}^{-1}$  resolution, 500 scans; (d) KCl disk, 375mW laser power,  $4\text{cm}^{-1}$  resolution, 500 scans.