

Electronic Supplementary Information for:

**Electron Confinement Meet Electron Delocalization: Non-Additivity and Finite-Size
Effects in the Polarizabilities and Dispersion Coefficients of the Fullerenes**

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FINITE-FIELD EXPRESSIONS FOR THE STATIC ISOTROPIC (ELECTRONIC) MULTIPOLE POLARIZABILITIES

Finite-field expressions for the static isotropic (electronic) dipole (α_1), quadrupole (α_2), and octupole (α_3) polarizabilities were computed using the pure Cartesian tensor formalism [1–3]:

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{3}(M_{x,x} + M_{y,y} + M_{z,z}) \quad (\text{S1})$$

$$\alpha_2 = \frac{1}{5}(M_{xx,xx} + M_{yy,yy} + M_{zz,zz} + 3M_{xy,xy} + 3M_{yz,yz} + 3M_{xz,xz} - M_{xx,yy} - M_{xx,zz} - M_{yy,zz}) \quad (\text{S2})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_3 = & \frac{1}{7}(M_{xxx,xxx} + M_{yyy,yyy} + M_{zzz,zzz} + 15M_{xyz,xyz} + 6M_{xxy,xxy} + 6M_{xxz,xxz} + 6M_{xyy,xyy} + 6M_{xzz,xzz} \\ & + 6M_{yyz,yyz} + 6M_{yzz,yzz} - 3M_{xxx,xyy} - 3M_{xxx,xzz} - 3M_{yyy,xxy} - 3M_{yyy,yzz} - 3M_{zzz,xxz} - 3M_{zzz,yyz} \\ & - 3M_{xxy,yzz} - 3M_{xxz,yyz} - 3M_{xyy,xzz}) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S3})$$

in which $M_{a,a'}$, $M_{ab,a'b'}$, and $M_{abc,a'b'c'}$ are the Cartesian derivatives ($a, b, c, a', b', c' \in \{x, y, z\}$) of the total energy (E) or multipole moments (μ, Θ, Ω) with respect to an applied electric field (F_a), field gradient ($F_{ab} \equiv \nabla_a F_b$), and field Laplacian ($F_{abc} \equiv \nabla_a \nabla_b F_c$):

$$M_{a,a'} = -\left. \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial F_a \partial F_{a'}} \right|_{F=0} = -\left. \frac{\partial \mu_a}{\partial F_{a'}} \right|_{F=0} \quad (\text{S4})$$

$$M_{ab,a'b'} = -\left. \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial F_{ab} \partial F_{a'b'}} \right|_{F=0} = -\left. \frac{\partial \Theta_{ab}}{\partial F_{a'b'}} \right|_{F=0} \quad (\text{S5})$$

$$M_{abc,a'b'c'} = -\left. \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial F_{abc} \partial F_{a'b'c'}} \right|_{F=0} = -\left. \frac{\partial \Omega_{abc}}{\partial F_{a'b'c'}} \right|_{F=0}. \quad (\text{S6})$$

IDENTIFYING THE LOWEST ENERGY ISOMERS OF THE C₆₀–C₈₄ FULLERENES

To identify the most stable (lowest energy) isomers of C₆₀, C₇₀, C₇₆, C₇₈, and C₈₄, we first sorted each set of isomers by pentagon signature (P_1), second moment hexagon signature (H_2), volume, and Fowler asymmetry parameter (F) following Ref. [4]. After sorting, we used the face-spiral algorithm in the **Fullerene** (v4.4) program to generate initial coordinates for the first 20 isomers of each fullerene [5]. The geometries of these selected isomers were first optimized using the SCAN [6] functional and the “tier-1” numeric atom-centered basis set in **FHI-aims** [7] according to the following convergence criteria: 10⁻⁶ eV for the total energy and 10⁻⁵ au for the charge density during self-consistent field (SCF) optimizations; 3 × 10⁻⁵ eV/Å for the maximum force during geometry optimizations. All fullerene geometries (initially optimized at the SCAN/tier-1 level in **FHI-aims**) were further optimized at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level using **Q-Chem** (v5.1) [8] and the following convergence criteria: 10⁻¹⁰ au for the DIIS error in conjunction with a 10⁻¹⁴ integral threshold value during SCF optimizations; 3.0 × 10⁻⁴ Hartree/Bohr for the maximum gradient component and 10⁻⁶ Hartree for the energy change between successive steps during geometry optimizations. The SG-2 quadrature grid [9] (default for DFT calculations with meta-GGA functionals) was employed during all **Q-Chem** calculations. Following geometry optimizations at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level in **Q-Chem**, the isomers corresponding to each fullerene were ranked according to their relative SCAN0/6-31G(d) energetics, and the lowest energy isomer in each set was used throughout this work (unless otherwise specified); optimized Cartesian coordinates for the lowest energy isomers of C₆₀, C₇₀, C₇₆, C₇₈, and C₈₄ can be found in Tables S7–S11 at the end of this document. For comparative purposes, the relative energies (ΔE) and polarizability differences ($\Delta \alpha_\ell$ for $\ell = 1, 2, 3$)—computed with

respect to the lowest energy isomers—are provided below in Table S1 for the second lowest energy isomers of C₆₀–C₈₄. From this table, one can see that the computed α_ℓ values are within $\pm 2.0\%$ (of the lowest energy isomers) for the fullerenes with more sizable energetic gaps (C₆₀ and C₇₀) and within $\pm 0.4\%$ for fullerenes with significantly smaller energetic separations (C₈₄). As such, the inclusion of these higher energy isomers are expected to have a minor impact on the effective α_ℓ (and C_n) scaling laws derived in the work.

TABLE S1. Molecular point groups, relative energies (ΔE in kcal/mol), and polarizability differences ($\Delta\alpha_\ell$ for $\ell = 1, 2, 3$ in %) corresponding to the second lowest energy isomers of C₆₀–C₈₄. All ΔE and $\Delta\alpha_\ell$ values were computed with respect to the lowest energy isomer at the SCAN0/6-31G(d)//SCAN0/6-31G(d) and SCAN0/aug-cc-1//SCAN0/6-31G(d) levels of theory, respectively.

Molecule (Symmetry)	ΔE (kcal/mol)	$\Delta\alpha_1$ (in %)	$\Delta\alpha_2$ (in %)	$\Delta\alpha_3$ (in %)
C ₆₀ (C _{2v})	39.81	+1.54	+1.13	+1.47
C ₇₀ (C _s)	31.39	-0.11	+1.01	+1.91
C ₇₆ (C ₁)	20.14	—	—	—
C ₇₈ (D _{3h}) ^a	5.15	—	—	—
C ₈₄ (D ₂)	0.32	+0.34	+0.13	+0.20

^aC₇₈ also has a second C_{2v} isomer ($\Delta E = 6.18$ kcal/mol) that is structurally distinct from the lowest energy C_{2v} isomer considered throughout the main text.

AB INITIO METHOD CALIBRATION: BENCHMARK MULTIPOLE POLARIZABILITIES FOR THE CAGE ISOMER OF C₂₀

Since C₂₀ is the smallest possible cage-like fullerene [10], we used this system as a benchmark when determining an accurate, reliable, and computationally feasible *ab initio* level of theory for computing the static isotropic (electronic) multipole polarizabilities in the larger C₆₀–C₈₄ fullerenes. The corresponding theoretical reference values for the α_ℓ series in C₂₀ were obtained using quantum mechanical calculations that include a sophisticated treatment of electron correlation effects at the complete basis set (CBS) limit. More specifically, we computed α_ℓ with $\ell = 1, 2, 3$ for C₂₀ at the (orbital-relaxed) CCSD/CBS level of theory *via* finite-field derivatives of the following total energy expression:

$$E^{\text{CCSD/CBS}} = E^{\text{MP2/CBS}} + \left(E^{\text{CCSD/d-aug-cc-pVDZ}} - E^{\text{MP2/d-aug-cc-pVDZ}} \right), \quad (\text{S7})$$

in which $E^{\text{MP2/CBS}}$ was obtained using the two-point extrapolation procedure of Halkier *et al.* [11] in conjunction with the d-aug-cc-pVDZ and d-aug-cc-pVTZ basis sets [12]. For all calculations performed in this section, we used the C₂₀ fullerene geometry provided in Ref. [13], which was optimized at the CCSD/cc-pVTZ level of theory and translated to the (nuclear) center of charge. Using the CCSD/CBS α_ℓ values as a benchmark, we assessed the performance of a number of different *ab initio* methods and basis sets (see Table S2). Tested exchange-correlation functionals included: B3LYP [14, 15], CAM-B3LYP [16], SCAN [6], and SCAN0 [17]; tested basis sets included: Zm3PolC [18], Sadlej [19], aug-cc-X (with X = 1,2,3) [20–23], aug-cc-pVXZ (with X = D,T) [24], and d-aug-cc-pVXZ (with X = D,T) [12]. Orbital-relaxed α_ℓ values at the HF and DFT (MP2 and CCSD) levels were computed as first (second) derivatives of the corresponding multipole moments (total energies) using the finite-field approach described above (see Eqs. (S1)–(S6)); for a description of the computational methods used to perform all of the polarizability calculations in this section, see the *Computational Details* section directly below. From this table, one can see that the SCAN0/aug-cc-3 and SCAN0/Sadlej values are in excellent agreement with the reference CCSD/CBS level; since the differences in %Error and MAPE between these levels is $\leq 0.5\%$, the more computationally efficient SCAN0/Sadlej level of theory (with $N_{\text{basis}} = 480$) was used to compute α_ℓ for the larger C₆₀–C₈₄ fullerenes. Here, we note in passing that SCAN0/aug-cc-1 (which was initially used to compute the $\Delta\alpha_\ell$ values during the isomer screening protocol, see Table S1) was also replaced in favor of SCAN0/Sadlej, as this level of theory yielded α_ℓ errors that were $\approx 2.5\times$ smaller for C₂₀ (see Table S2).

COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS: AB INITIO DETERMINATION OF α_ℓ FOR THE C₆₀–C₈₄ FULLERENES

Using geometries (corresponding to the lowest energy isomer of each fullerene) optimized at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level, α_ℓ values with $\ell = 1, 2, 3$ were computed at the (orbitally-relaxed) SCAN0/Sadlej level of theory *via* finite-field

TABLE S2. Values (in atomic units) for the multipole polarizabilities (α_ℓ with $\ell = 1, 2, 3$) of the cage isomer of C₂₀ computed at various different levels of theory. Also provided are the number of basis functions (N_{basis}), the corresponding percent errors (%Error) with respect to the benchmark CCSD/CBS values, and the mean absolute percent errors (MAPE, averaged over all three α_ℓ values). Multipole polarizabilities computed using SCAN0/aug-pc-3 and SCAN0/Sadlej show very high fidelity to the reference CCSD/CBS values, and are highlighted in bold green font.

Level of Theory	N_{basis}	α_1	%Error	α_2	%Error	α_3	%Error	MAPE
SCAN0/Zm3PolC ^a	360	182.1	-2.6%	6056.4	-2.2%	224178.1	-4.4%	3.1%
B3LYP/Sadlej ^a	480	186.4	-0.3%	6381.1	+3.0%	242796.7	+3.5%	2.3%
CAM-B3LYP/Sadlej ^a	480	186.9	0.0%	6283.3	+1.4%	239585.6	+2.1%	1.2%
SCAN0/Sadlej^a	480	184.8	-1.1%	6218.1	+0.4%	231550.7	-1.3%	0.9%
SCAN/aug-pc-1 ^a	460	181.7	-2.8%	6124.8	-1.1%	226900.3	-3.3%	2.4%
SCAN0/aug-pc-1 ^a	460	183.4	-1.9%	6147.4	-0.8%	229736.1	-2.1%	1.6%
SCAN0/aug-pc-2 ^a	920	184.2	-1.5%	6192.5	0.0%	230640.4	-1.7%	1.1%
SCAN0/aug-pc-3^a	1780	185.8	-0.6%	6204.2	+0.2%	231159.6	-1.5%	0.7%
HF/Sadlej ^a	480	198.8	+6.3%	6672.5	+7.7%	265735.1	+13.3%	9.1%
HF/d-aug-cc-pVDZ ^a	640	201.8	+7.9%	6704.4	+8.2%	268938.1	+14.7%	10.3%
HF/d-aug-cc-pVTZ ^a	1240	201.3	+7.7%	6681.5	+7.9%	268204.2	+14.3%	10.0%
MP2/d-aug-cc-pVDZ ^a	640	178.5	-4.5%	6495.4	+4.9%	235291.9	+0.3%	3.2%
MP2/d-aug-cc-pVTZ ^a	1240	176.5	-5.6%	6382.2	+3.0%	227925.8	-2.8%	3.8%
MP2/CBS ^a	-	175.9	-5.9%	6344.3	+2.4%	225133.4	-4.0%	4.1%
CCSD/Zm3PolC ^a	360	184.7	-1.2%	6221.7	+0.4%	237668.5	+1.3%	1.0%
CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ ^a	460	189.8	+1.5%	6344.6	+2.4%	244029.8	+4.0%	2.7%
CCSD/d-aug-cc-pVDZ ^a	640	189.5	+1.4%	6345.6	+2.4%	244724.8	+4.3%	2.7%
LR-CCSD/cc-pVTZ ^b	600	176.6	-5.5%	-	-	-	-	-
CCSD/CBS^a	-	186.9	-	6194.5	-	234566.3	-	-

^aThis work; orbital-relaxed finite-field calculation. ^bRef. [25].

first derivatives of the corresponding multipole moments (μ, Θ, Ω) via Eqs. (S4)–(S6) for the C₆₀(I_h), C₇₀(D_{5h}), C₇₆(D₂), C₇₈(C_{2v}), and C₈₄(D_{2d}) fullerenes (see Table S3). All α_ℓ calculations were performed using Q-Chem (v5.1) [8] according to the following convergence criteria: 10^{-10} au for the DIIS error in conjunction with a 10^{-14} integral threshold value during SCF optimizations; the SG-2 grid [9] (default for DFT calculations with meta-GGA functionals) was used for numerical quadrature during all calculations. With each molecule translated to the (nuclear) center of charge, finite (electric) dipole fields, quadrupole fields (field gradients), and octupole fields (field Laplacians) were applied in Q-Chem to compute α_1 , α_2 , and α_3 , respectively. Standard central-difference formulae were used in conjunction with a finite-field step size of $\delta = -1.8897261250 \times 10^{-5}$ au.

TABLE S3. Values (in atomic units) for the multipole polarizabilities (α_ℓ with $\ell = 1, 2, 3$) of the C₆₀–C₈₄ fullerenes computed at the SCAN0/Sadlej//SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory.

Molecule	α_1	α_2	α_3
C ₆₀ (I _h)	536.81	42808.37	3318595.48
C ₇₀ (D _{5h})	663.83	57995.33	5149960.46
C ₇₆ (D ₂)	724.76	68712.75	6539186.36
C ₇₈ (C _{2v})	754.16	72172.65	6909503.65
C ₈₄ (D _{2d})	808.60	83006.18	8336174.90

AB INITIO + HS/MSFA FREQUENCY-DEPENDENT POLARIZABILITIES AND DISPERSION COEFFICIENTS

Frequency-dependent polarizabilities $\alpha_\ell(iu)$ (in the imaginary frequency domain) were obtained by inputting the static *ab initio* α_ℓ values into the hollow sphere (HS) model of Tao and Perdew [26] and invoking the modified single-frequency approximation (MSFA) of Tao *et al.* [27], *i.e.*,

$$\alpha_\ell^{\text{MSFA}}(iu) = \alpha_\ell \left[\left(\frac{\omega_\ell^2}{\omega_\ell^2 + u^2} \right) \frac{1 - \rho_\ell}{1 - \beta_\ell \rho_\ell} \right]. \quad (\text{S8})$$

In this expression, the fullerene is assumed to be metallic ($\omega_g \rightarrow 0$) and $\rho_\ell = (1 - t_\ell/R_\ell)^{2\ell+1}$ defines the shell shape in terms of $R_\ell = \alpha_\ell^{1/(2\ell+1)}$ (the ℓ -dependent fullerene radius) and $t_\ell = t = 3.4$ Bohr (the fullerene shell thickness [28, 29]; taken to be ℓ -independent [30]). The $\beta_\ell = \omega_\ell^2 \tilde{\omega}_\ell^2 / [(\omega_\ell^2 + u^2)(\tilde{\omega}_\ell^2 + u^2)]$ term accounts for coupling between the sphere and cavity plasmon oscillations, and is given in terms of $\omega_\ell = \omega_p \sqrt{\ell/(2\ell+1)}$ (the generalized local sphere plasmon frequency) and $\tilde{\omega}_\ell = \omega_p \sqrt{(\ell+1)/(2\ell+1)}$ (local cavity frequency), both of which depend on $\omega_p = \sqrt{4\pi\rho_\ell}$ (the local plasmon frequency of the extended electron gas). In the MSFA, the ℓ -dependent electron density is approximated as $\rho_\ell = \bar{N}/V_\ell$, in which \bar{N} is the number of valence electrons in the outermost sub-shell and $V_\ell = \frac{4\pi}{3} [R_\ell^3 - (R_\ell - t_\ell)^3] = \frac{4\pi}{3} [R_\ell^3 - (R_\ell - t)^3]$.

With *ab initio* + HS/MSFA $\alpha_\ell(iu)$ values in hand, the corresponding homo-/hetero- molecular dispersion coefficients (C_n with $n = 6, 8, 10$) between molecules A and B were computed *via* the Casimir-Polder relationship [31]:

$$C_n^{\text{AB}} = \frac{(n-2)!}{2\pi} \sum_{\ell=1}^{\frac{n}{2}-2} \frac{1}{(2\ell)!(2\ell')!} \int_0^\infty du \alpha_\ell^{\text{A}}(iu) \alpha_{\ell'}^{\text{B}}(iu), \quad (\text{S9})$$

in which $\ell' = \frac{n}{2} - \ell - 1$. Three-body homo-/hetero- molecular C_9 coefficients (between molecules A, B, and C) were computed *via*:

$$C_9^{\text{ABC}} = \frac{\pi}{3} \int_0^\infty du \alpha_1^{\text{A}}(iu) \alpha_1^{\text{B}}(iu) \alpha_1^{\text{C}}(iu). \quad (\text{S10})$$

All integrals in Eqs. (S9) and (S10) were performed analytically using **Mathematica** (v11), and the final values for the dispersion coefficients are provided in Tables S4 and S5.

TABLE S4. Homo-/hetero- molecular C_6, C_8, C_{10} dispersion coefficients (in atomic units) for the C₆₀–C₈₄ fullerenes. All dispersion coefficients were computed by inputting the *ab initio* α_ℓ values (computed at the SCAN0/Sadlej//SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory) into the HS/MSFA model (for the frequency dependence) followed by analytical evaluation of the Casimir-Polder integral (see Eqs. (S8) and (S9)).

A-B	C_6	C_8	C_{10}
C ₆₀ –C ₆₀	98967	42070750	14620311062
C ₇₀ –C ₇₀	146241	68911039	26963338127
C ₇₆ –C ₇₆	173454	88605067	37417198227
C ₇₈ –C ₇₈	186335	96385618	41138189628
C ₈₄ –C ₈₄	214304	118721424	53826704958
C ₆₀ –C ₇₀	120288	53916469	19917119452
C ₆₀ –C ₇₆	130998	61315555	23584490317
C ₆₀ –C ₇₈	135764	63990191	24751610151
C ₆₀ –C ₈₄	145599	71300987	28481234711
C ₇₀ –C ₇₆	159267	78203933	31802566469
C ₇₀ –C ₇₈	165073	81588114	33358360980
C ₇₀ –C ₈₄	177029	90748145	38268930320
C ₇₆ –C ₇₈	179778	92415405	39234522424
C ₇₆ –C ₈₄	192799	102648842	44924002421
C ₇₈ –C ₈₄	199831	107034920	47091516175

TABLE S5. Homo-/hetero- molecular C_9 dispersion coefficients (in atomic units) for the C₆₀–C₈₄ fullerenes. All dispersion coefficients were computed by inputting the *ab initio* α_ℓ values (computed at the SCAN0/Sadlej//SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory) into the HS/MSFA model (for the frequency dependence) followed by analytical evaluation of the Casimir-Polder integral (see Eqs. (S8) and (S10)).

A–B–C	C_9	A–B–C	C_9
C ₆₀ –C ₆₀ –C ₆₀	39636451	–	–
C ₇₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₇₀	72377616	–	–
C ₇₆ –C ₇₆ –C ₇₆	93698712	–	–
C ₇₈ –C ₇₈ –C ₇₈	104726882	–	–
C ₈₄ –C ₈₄ –C ₈₄	129113297	–	–
C ₆₀ –C ₆₀ –C ₇₀	48439100	C ₇₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₇₈	81861428
C ₆₀ –C ₆₀ –C ₇₆	52789964	C ₇₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₈₄	87777714
C ₆₀ –C ₆₀ –C ₇₈	54779706	C ₇₀ –C ₇₆ –C ₇₆	85971747
C ₆₀ –C ₆₀ –C ₈₄	58739013	C ₇₀ –C ₇₆ –C ₇₈	89219141
C ₆₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₇₀	59206074	C ₇₀ –C ₇₆ –C ₈₄	95667154
C ₆₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₇₆	64525518	C ₇₀ –C ₇₈ –C ₇₈	92589975
C ₆₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₇₈	66960054	C ₇₀ –C ₇₈ –C ₈₄	99281552
C ₆₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₈₄	71799552	C ₇₀ –C ₈₄ –C ₈₄	106456744
C ₆₀ –C ₇₆ –C ₇₆	70323127	C ₇₆ –C ₇₆ –C ₇₈	97238483
C ₆₀ –C ₇₆ –C ₇₈	72976794	C ₇₆ –C ₇₆ –C ₈₄	104266036
C ₆₀ –C ₇₆ –C ₈₄	78251124	C ₇₆ –C ₇₈ –C ₇₈	100912825
C ₆₀ –C ₇₈ –C ₇₈	75731243	C ₇₆ –C ₇₈ –C ₈₄	108205872
C ₆₀ –C ₇₈ –C ₈₄	81204605	C ₇₆ –C ₈₄ –C ₈₄	116025999
C ₆₀ –C ₈₄ –C ₈₄	87073551	C ₇₈ –C ₇₈ –C ₈₄	112295516
C ₇₀ –C ₇₀ –C ₇₆	78882252	C ₇₈ –C ₈₄ –C ₈₄	120411144

COMPARISON TO AVAILABLE THEORETICAL DATA FOR α_1 AND C_6 IN THE C₆₀–C₈₄ FULLERENES

A comparison between our α_1 and C_6 values for the C₆₀, C₇₀, C₇₈, and C₈₄ fullerenes and those from previous work is provided in Table S6.

TABLE S6. Summary of *ab initio* α_1 and C_6 values (in atomic units) for the C₆₀, C₇₀, C₇₈, and C₈₄ fullerenes.

Molecule →	C ₆₀		C ₇₀		C ₇₈		C ₈₄	
	Method [Ref] ↓	α_1	$C_6/10^3$	α_1	$C_6/10^3$	α_1	$C_6/10^3$	α_1
TD-HF/Sadlej [32]	539.5	101.0	–	–	–	–	–	–
TD-B3LYP/Sadlej [32]	557.2	101.8	–	–	–	–	–	–
TD-HF/Sadlej [33]	536.6	100.1	659.1	141.6	748.3	178.2	806.1	207.7
TD-B3LYP/Sadlej [33]	554.5	100.8	685.3	143.0	778.7	180.0	837.4	209.8
TD-CAM-B3LYP/Sadlej [33]	542.1	98.8	666.5	139.8	757.0	176.1	815.5	205.4
MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ [34]	559.6	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
LR-CC2/aug-cc-pVDZ [35]	623.7	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
LR-CCSD/Zm3PolC [36]	555.3	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
SCAN0/Sadlej (This work)	536.8	99.0	663.8	146.2	754.2	186.3	808.6	214.3

COMPUTATIONAL DETAILS: AB INITIO DETERMINATION OF α^{zpvc} FOR THE C₆₀ AND C₇₀ FULLERENES

Zero-point vibrational contributions (zpvc) to α_1 for the C₆₀ and C₇₀ fullerenes were computed at the SCAN/tier-1//SCAN/tier-1 level in FHI-aims [7]. As described above, the geometries of the C₆₀ (1812Ih) and C₇₀ (8149D5h)

isomers were optimized using the SCAN [6] functional and the “tier-1” numeric atom-centered basis set in **FHI-aims** [7]. Following geometry optimization, numerical evaluation of the corresponding Hessian (assembled at the SCAN/tier-1 level of theory using a finite-difference step size of $\delta = 0.0025 \text{ \AA}$) was performed using an in-house Numpy/Scipy script to obtain the (harmonic) vibrational frequencies ($\{\omega_i\}$) and normal modes ($\{\mathbf{q}_i\}$). All calculations in **FHI-aims** used the following more stringent convergence criteria: 10^{-8} eV for the total energy and 10^{-7} au for the charge density during SCF optimizations; $3 \times 10^{-7} \text{ eV/\AA}$ for the maximum force during geometry optimizations. Displaced geometries for each fullerene were then generated by perturbing the optimized structure along each normal mode in both the positive and negative directions with a finite-difference step size of $\Delta q = 0.130683$ [37, 38], followed by single-point energy evaluations at the SCAN/tier-1 level. Displacements included: four single displacements, $\{\pm \Delta q_i\}$ and $\{\pm 2\Delta q_i\}$, along each normal mode \mathbf{q}_i ; four double displacements, $\{\pm \Delta q_i, \pm \Delta q_j\}$ along combinations of two normal modes \mathbf{q}_i and \mathbf{q}_j (with $i \neq j$). With 174 and 204 normal modes for C_{60} and C_{70} (*i.e.*, $3N-6$ normal modes), the total number of displaced geometries (or single-point energy evaluations) required to compute α^{zPVC} was $4 \times 174 + 4 \times \frac{(174 \cdot 173)}{2} = 60,900$ for C_{60} and $4 \times 204 + 4 \times \frac{(204 \cdot 203)}{2} = 83,640$ for C_{70} , for a total of 144,540 DFT calculations. For C_{70} , $\alpha^{\text{zPVC}} = 9.6 \text{ au}$ at the SCAN/tier-1//SCAN/tier-1 level, and the contribution from each mode is plotted in Fig. S1. Similar to C_{60} , the higher-frequency (bond-stretching) modes contribute more to α^{zPVC} . While all mode contributions were positive in C_{60} , the contribution from a single mode ($\omega \approx 900 \text{ cm}^{-1}$) is slightly negative in C_{70} .

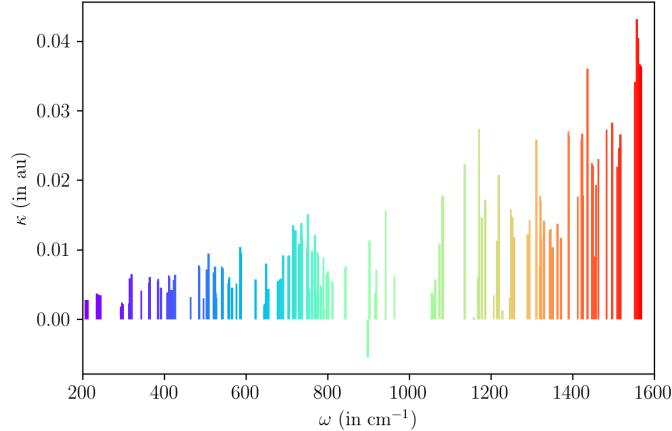


FIG. S1. Individual mode contributions (κ in au) as a function of frequency (ω in cm^{-1}) to the zero-point vibrational contribution (α_1^{zPVC}) in C_{70} computed at the SCAN/tier-1//SCAN/tier-1 level of theory.

OPTIMIZED CARTESIAN COORDINATES FOR THE $C_{60}\text{--}C_{84}$ FULLERENES

Optimized Cartesian coordinates for the $C_{60}\text{--}C_{84}$ fullerenes at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory can be found below in Tables S7–S11.

TABLE S7: Optimized Cartesian coordinates for the $C_{60}(I_h)$ fullerene at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory.

C	1.22725208	0.00000000	-3.30272818
C	0.37924175	-1.16718608	-3.30272818
C	2.40625954	0.00000000	-2.57504102
C	0.74357509	-2.28848881	-2.57504102
C	-0.24935847	-3.00964905	-1.81627209
C	-0.99286779	-0.72136067	-3.30272818
C	-1.94670486	-1.41436387	-2.57504102
C	-1.56729208	-2.58142646	-1.81627209
C	1.97076257	2.28828799	-1.81627209
C	0.74357509	2.28848881	-2.57504102
C	2.78529033	1.16718671	-1.81627209

Continued on next page

TABLE S7 – *Continued from previous page*

C	0.37924175.	1.16718608	-3.30272818
C	-0.99286779	0.72136067	-3.30272818
C	-0.24935847	3.00964905	-1.81627209
C	-1.56729208	2.58142646	-1.81627209
C	-1.94670486	1.41436387	-2.57504102
C	3.17439815	1.41433032	0.58938493
C	2.32605104	2.58197994	0.58938493
C	3.39946455	0.72164715	-0.58938493
C	1.73681954	3.01008168	-0.58938493
C	0.36416509	3.45608415	-0.58938493
C	1.56729208	2.58142646	1.81627209
C	0.24935847	3.00964905	1.81627209
C	-0.36416509	3.45608415	0.58938493
C	3.17439815	-1.41433032	0.58938493
C	2.93940235	-0.69287870	1.81627209
C	3.39946455	-0.72164715	-0.58938493
C	2.93940235	0.69287870	1.81627209
C	1.94670486	1.41436387	2.57504102
C	1.94670486	-1.41436387	2.57504102
C	0.99286779	-0.72136067	3.30272818
C	0.99286779	0.72136067	3.30272818
C	1.97076257	-2.28828799	-1.81627209
C	1.73681954	-3.01008168	-0.58938493
C	2.78529033	-1.16718671	-1.81627209
C	2.32605104	-2.58197994	0.58938493
C	1.56729208	-2.58142646	1.81627209
C	0.36416509	-3.45608415	-0.58938493
C	-0.36416509	-3.45608415	0.58938493
C	0.24935847	-3.00964905	1.81627209
C	-1.22725208	0.00000000	3.30272818
C	-0.37924175	-1.16718608	3.30272818
C	-0.74357509	-2.28848881	2.57504102
C	-2.40625954	0.00000000	2.57504102
C	-1.97076257	2.28828799	1.81627209
C	-0.74357509	2.28848881	2.57504102
C	-0.37924175	1.16718608	3.30272818
C	-2.78529033	1.16718671	1.81627209
C	-3.17439815	1.41433032	-0.58938493
C	-2.32605104	2.58197994	-0.58938493
C	-1.73681954	3.01008168	0.58938493
C	-3.39946455	0.72164715	0.58938493
C	-3.17439815	-1.41433032	-0.58938493
C	-2.93940235	-0.69287870	-1.81627209
C	-2.93940235	0.69287870	-1.81627209
C	-3.39946455	-0.72164715	0.58938493
C	-1.97076257	-2.28828799	1.81627209
C	-1.73681954	-3.01008168	0.58938493
C	-2.32605104	-2.58197994	-0.58938493
C	-2.78529033	-1.16718671	1.81627209

TABLE S8: Optimized Cartesian coordinates for the C₇₀(D_{5h}) fullerene at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory.

C	2.39747577	-0.00000000	3.19938261
C	2.76290826	-1.15500181	2.42517580
C	1.22591526	-0.00000000	3.94146362
C	1.95225760	-2.27076672	2.42517580
C	1.71837578	-2.98463573	1.19768792
C	2.37164242	-2.62518617	-0.00000000
C	1.71837578	-2.98463573	-1.19768792

Continued on next page

TABLE S8 – *Continued from previous page*

C	0.74086076	2.28013496	3.19938261
C	1.95225760	2.27076672	2.42517580
C	0.37882865	1.16591469	3.94146362
C	2.76290826	1.15500181	2.42517580
C	3.36956458	0.71196932	1.19768792
C	3.22957822	1.44433883	-0.00000000
C	3.36956458	0.71196932	-1.19768792
C	3.22957822	-1.44433883	-0.00000000
C	3.36956458	-0.71196932	1.19768792
C	3.36956458	-0.71196932	-1.19768792
C	-1.93959864	1.40920090	3.19938261
C	-1.55634671	2.55841282	2.42517580
C	-0.99178628	0.72057491	3.94146362
C	-0.24468639	2.98459709	2.42517580
C	0.36412966	3.42465697	1.19768792
C	-0.37565330	3.51783666	-0.00000000
C	0.36412966	3.42465697	-1.19768792
C	2.37164242	2.62518617	-0.00000000
C	1.71837578	2.98463573	1.19768792
C	1.71837578	2.98463573	-1.19768792
C	-1.93959864	-1.40920090	3.19938261
C	-2.91413277	-0.68958064	2.42517580
C	-0.99178628	-0.72057491	3.94146362
C	-2.91413277	0.68958064	2.42517580
C	-3.14452007	1.40458509	1.19768792
C	-3.46174473	0.72980379	-0.00000000
C	-3.14452007	1.40458509	-1.19768792
C	-1.76382260	3.06679311	-0.00000000
C	-2.30754994	2.55657565	1.19768792
C	-2.30754994	2.55657565	-1.19768792
C	0.74086076	-2.28013496	3.19938261
C	-0.24468639	-2.98459709	2.42517580
C	0.37882865	-1.16591469	3.94146362
C	-1.55634671	-2.55841282	2.42517580
C	-2.30754994	-2.55657565	1.19768792
C	-1.76382260	-3.06679311	-0.00000000
C	-2.30754994	-2.55657565	-1.19768792
C	-3.46174473	-0.72980379	-0.00000000
C	-3.14452007	-1.40458509	1.19768792
C	-3.14452007	-1.40458509	-1.19768792
C	-0.37565330	-3.51783666	-0.00000000
C	0.36412966	-3.42465697	1.19768792
C	0.36412966	-3.42465697	-1.19768792
C	-1.93959864	-1.40920090	-3.19938261
C	-1.55634671	-2.55841282	-2.42517580
C	-0.24468639	-2.98459709	-2.42517580
C	-0.99178628	-0.72057491	-3.94146362
C	-1.93959864	1.40920090	-3.19938261
C	-2.91413277	0.68958064	-2.42517580
C	-2.91413277	-0.68958064	-2.42517580
C	-0.99178628	0.72057491	-3.94146362
C	0.74086076	2.28013496	-3.19938261
C	-0.24468639	2.98459709	-2.42517580
C	-1.55634671	2.55841282	-2.42517580
C	0.37882865	1.16591469	-3.94146362
C	2.39747577	-0.00000000	-3.19938261
C	2.76290826	1.15500181	-2.42517580
C	1.95225760	2.27076672	-2.42517580
C	1.22591526	-0.00000000	-3.94146362
C	0.74086076	-2.28013496	-3.19938261
C	1.95225760	-2.27076672	-2.42517580
C	2.76290826	-1.15500181	-2.42517580
C	0.37882865	-1.16591469	-3.94146362

TABLE S9: Optimized Cartesian coordinates for the C₇₆(D₂) fullerene at the SCANO/6-31G(d) level of theory.

C	0.15448551	2.47317142	2.70668710
C	1.48223938	2.03935522	2.62932986
C	2.29970506	2.71391695	1.69180271
C	3.47059232	2.08047210	1.15545509
C	3.82798555	0.83353518	1.60334424
C	0.69104875	-0.23335106	3.33782782
C	1.78934713	0.67715904	3.02683257
C	3.01134824	0.14147468	2.57842825
C	0.90846413	-1.60304811	3.15507012
C	2.12703783	-2.11112253	2.62704698
C	3.17094994	-1.25539398	2.34330627
C	-0.69104875	0.23335106	3.33782782
C	-1.78934713	-0.67715904	3.02683257
C	-0.90846413	1.60304811	3.15507012
C	-3.01134824	-0.14147468	2.57842825
C	3.95152877	1.44065397	-1.14656833
C	4.34935899	0.14269191	-0.67977516
C	3.56977755	2.41403884	-0.23816067
C	4.34935899	-0.14269191	0.67977516
C	3.95152877	-1.44065397	1.14656833
C	3.82798555	-0.83353518	-1.60334424
C	3.47059232	-2.08047210	-1.15545509
C	3.56977755	-2.41403884	0.23816067
C	1.80373203	3.18909581	-1.73146361
C	2.12703783	2.11112253	-2.62704698
C	2.47671590	3.29954936	-0.53548372
C	3.17094994	1.25539398	-2.34330627
C	3.01134824	-0.14147468	-2.57842825
C	0.90846413	1.60304811	-3.15507012
C	0.69104875	0.23335106	-3.33782782
C	1.78934713	-0.67715904	-3.02683257
C	1.48223938	-2.03935522	-2.62932986
C	0.15448551	-2.47317142	-2.70668710
C	2.29970506	-2.71391695	-1.69180271
C	-1.72348647	3.52496376	-0.67473161
C	-0.34392174	3.79493486	-0.64205838
C	0.38832313	3.40499920	-1.78584590
C	-0.15448551	2.47317142	-2.70668710
C	-1.48223938	2.03935522	-2.62932986
C	-2.29970506	2.71391695	-1.69180271
C	-3.82798555	0.83353518	-1.60334424
C	-3.47059232	2.08047210	-1.15545509
C	-0.90846413	-1.60304811	-3.15507012
C	-0.69104875	-0.23335106	-3.33782782
C	-1.78934713	0.67715904	-3.02683257
C	-3.01134824	0.14147468	-2.57842825
C	0.34392174	3.79493486	0.64205838
C	1.72348647	3.52496376	0.67473161
C	-2.47671590	3.29954936	0.53548372
C	-1.80373203	3.18909581	1.73146361
C	-0.38832313	3.40499920	1.78584590
C	-3.56977755	2.41403884	0.23816067
C	-2.12703783	2.11112253	2.62704698
C	-3.17094994	1.25539398	2.34330627
C	-3.95152877	1.44065397	1.14656833
C	-3.95152877	-1.44065397	-1.14656833
C	-4.34935899	-0.14269191	-0.67977516
C	-4.34935899	0.14269191	0.67977516
C	-3.56977755	-2.41403884	-0.23816067

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TABLE S9 – *Continued from previous page*

C	-1.80373203	-3.18909581	-1.73146361
C	-2.12703783	-2.11112253	-2.62704698
C	-3.17094994	-1.25539398	-2.34330627
C	-2.47671590	-3.29954936	-0.53548372
C	1.72348647	-3.52496376	-0.67473161
C	0.34392174	-3.79493486	-0.64205838
C	-0.38832313	-3.40499920	-1.78584590
C	0.38832313	-3.40499920	1.78584590
C	1.80373203	-3.18909581	1.73146361
C	2.47671590	-3.29954936	0.53548372
C	-1.72348647	-3.52496376	0.67473161
C	-0.34392174	-3.79493486	0.64205838
C	-3.82798555	-0.83353518	1.60334424
C	-3.47059232	-2.08047210	1.15545509
C	-2.29970506	-2.71391695	1.69180271
C	-1.48223938	-2.03935522	2.62932986
C	-0.15448551	-2.47317142	2.70668710

TABLE S10: Optimized Cartesian coordinates for the C₇₈(C_{2v}) fullerene at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory.

C	4.18634767	-0.69534461	-1.16981510
C	3.39235376	-1.40335178	-2.13414214
C	4.18634767	0.69534461	-1.16981510
C	2.69630693	-0.72084514	-3.10180975
C	0.72578511	-3.58745012	-0.84764418
C	2.76069866	-2.51950258	-1.48701946
C	1.45685398	-2.93650592	-1.85466501
C	0.73069474	-2.23611346	-2.90459425
C	-0.73069474	-2.23611346	-2.90459425
C	1.39765375	-1.16750212	-3.52545401
C	-1.39765375	-1.16750212	-3.52545401
C	4.03460849	0.71843639	1.25641860
C	4.03460849	-0.71843639	1.25641860
C	4.08159485	1.40959227	0.06512165
C	4.08159485	-1.40959227	0.06512165
C	3.20111726	-2.54066087	-0.13019437
C	2.36487020	-2.99869968	0.90159381
C	1.17574828	-3.64498622	0.48507065
C	1.17700007	2.33432898	2.96867641
C	2.36421698	2.30063981	2.18236198
C	3.17626699	1.16231113	2.32131911
C	2.70088263	0.00000000	3.00745292
C	0.72806178	-1.21416679	3.68381545
C	1.45146551	0.00000000	3.66500779
C	0.72806178	1.21416679	3.68381545
C	2.36421698	-2.30063981	2.18236198
C	3.17626699	-1.16231113	2.32131911
C	1.17700007	-2.33432898	2.96867641
C	2.36487020	2.99869968	0.90159381
C	3.20111726	2.54066087	-0.13019437
C	0.00000000	3.03593919	2.52343477
C	0.00000000	3.66203557	1.31405773
C	1.17574828	3.64498622	0.48507065
C	-1.17700007	2.33432898	2.96867641
C	-2.36421698	2.30063981	2.18236198
C	-3.17626699	1.16231113	2.32131911
C	-0.72806178	-1.21416679	3.68381545
C	-1.45146551	0.00000000	3.66500779
C	-0.72806178	1.21416679	3.68381545

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TABLE S10 – *Continued from previous page*

C	-2.70088263	0.00000000	3.00745292
C	0.72578511	3.58745012	-0.84764418
C	1.45685398	2.93650592	-1.85466501
C	2.76069866	2.51950258	-1.48701946
C	3.39235376	1.40335178	-2.13414214
C	2.69630693	0.72084514	-3.10180975
C	-0.73069474	2.23611346	-2.90459425
C	0.73069474	2.23611346	-2.90459425
C	1.39765375	1.16750212	-3.52545401
C	-1.39765375	1.16750212	-3.52545401
C	-0.68206600	0.00000000	-3.92803194
C	0.68206600	0.00000000	-3.92803194
C	-0.72578511	3.58745012	-0.84764418
C	-2.76069866	2.51950258	-1.48701946
C	-1.45685398	2.93650592	-1.85466501
C	-2.36487020	2.99869968	0.90159381
C	-1.17574828	3.64498622	0.48507065
C	-3.20111726	2.54066087	-0.13019437
C	-4.18634767	0.69534461	-1.16981510
C	-3.39235376	1.40335178	-2.13414214
C	-2.69630693	0.72084514	-3.10180975
C	-4.18634767	-0.69534461	-1.16981510
C	-4.03460849	-0.71843639	1.25641860
C	-4.03460849	0.71843639	1.25641860
C	-4.08159485	1.40959227	0.06512165
C	-4.08159485	-1.40959227	0.06512165
C	-1.17700007	-2.33432898	2.96867641
C	-2.36421698	-2.30063981	2.18236198
C	-3.17626699	-1.16231113	2.32131911
C	-1.17574828	-3.64498622	0.48507065
C	0.00000000	-3.66203557	1.31405773
C	0.00000000	-3.03593919	2.52343477
C	-3.20111726	-2.54066087	-0.13019437
C	-2.36487020	-2.99869968	0.90159381
C	-2.69630693	-0.72084514	-3.10180975
C	-3.39235376	-1.40335178	-2.13414214
C	-2.76069866	-2.51950258	-1.48701946
C	-1.45685398	-2.93650592	-1.85466501
C	-0.72578511	-3.58745012	-0.84764418

TABLE S11: Optimized Cartesian coordinates for the C₈₄(D_{2d}) fullerene at the SCAN0/6-31G(d) level of theory.

C	-2.34681285	0.72969839	3.36820633
C	-1.17292014	1.40733292	3.76625677
C	-3.94989250	-0.68362702	1.47719467
C	-3.94989250	0.68362702	1.47719467
C	-3.15431927	1.41173840	2.44168945
C	-3.95864732	-1.38571161	0.24172869
C	-3.95864732	1.38571161	0.24172869
C	-3.84011201	0.72570106	-0.99537632
C	-3.84011201	-0.72570106	-0.99537632
C	-2.57708540	-0.72535308	-3.11475767
C	-3.17209194	-1.44925528	-2.06935099
C	-2.61053299	-2.72556699	-1.82001821
C	-2.72556699	2.61053299	1.82001821
C	-1.44925528	3.17209194	2.06935099
C	-0.72535308	2.57708540	3.11475767
C	0.72535308	2.57708540	3.11475767

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TABLE S11 – *Continued from previous page*

C	1.44925528	3.17209194	2.06935099
C	2.72556699	2.61053299	1.82001821
C	-3.28571990	2.63078259	0.49659764
C	-0.72570106	3.84011201	0.99537632
C	0.72570106	3.84011201	0.99537632
C	-2.63078259	3.28571990	-0.49659764
C	-1.38571161	3.95864732	-0.24172869
C	-2.61053299	2.72556699	-1.82001821
C	-2.57708540	0.72535308	-3.11475767
C	-3.17209194	1.44925528	-2.06935099
C	1.17292014	1.40733292	3.76625677
C	3.15431927	1.41173840	2.44168945
C	2.34681285	0.72969839	3.36820633
C	3.94989250	0.68362702	1.47719467
C	3.94989250	-0.68362702	1.47719467
C	2.63078259	3.28571990	-0.49659764
C	3.28571990	2.63078259	0.49659764
C	3.95864732	1.38571161	0.24172869
C	1.38571161	3.95864732	-0.24172869
C	-0.00000000	0.68162807	4.17798961
C	3.15431927	-1.41173840	2.44168945
C	2.34681285	-0.72969839	3.36820633
C	1.17292014	-1.40733292	3.76625677
C	-0.00000000	-0.68162807	4.17798961
C	3.28571990	-2.63078259	0.49659764
C	2.72556699	-2.61053299	1.82001821
C	1.44925528	-3.17209194	2.06935099
C	0.72535308	-2.57708540	3.11475767
C	2.63078259	-3.28571990	-0.49659764
C	3.95864732	-1.38571161	0.24172869
C	3.84011201	-0.72570106	-0.99537632
C	3.84011201	0.72570106	-0.99537632
C	-3.15431927	-1.41173840	2.44168945
C	-2.34681285	-0.72969839	3.36820633
C	-1.17292014	-1.40733292	3.76625677
C	-0.72535308	-2.57708540	3.11475767
C	-1.44925528	-3.17209194	2.06935099
C	-2.72556699	-2.61053299	1.82001821
C	-2.63078259	-3.28571990	-0.49659764
C	-3.28571990	-2.63078259	0.49659764
C	1.38571161	-3.95864732	-0.24172869
C	0.72570106	-3.84011201	0.99537632
C	-0.72570106	-3.84011201	0.99537632
C	-1.38571161	-3.95864732	-0.24172869
C	1.41173840	-3.15431927	-2.44168945
C	0.68362702	-3.94989250	-1.47719467
C	-0.68362702	-3.94989250	-1.47719467
C	1.40733292	-1.17292014	-3.76625677
C	0.72969839	-2.34681285	-3.36820633
C	2.61053299	2.72556699	-1.82001821
C	3.17209194	1.44925528	-2.06935099
C	2.57708540	0.72535308	-3.11475767
C	2.57708540	-0.72535308	-3.11475767
C	3.17209194	-1.44925528	-2.06935099
C	2.61053299	-2.72556699	-1.82001821
C	-0.68362702	3.94989250	-1.47719467
C	0.68362702	3.94989250	-1.47719467
C	0.72969839	2.34681285	-3.36820633
C	1.41173840	3.15431927	-2.44168945
C	1.40733292	1.17292014	-3.76625677
C	-0.68162807	-0.00000000	-4.17798961
C	-1.40733292	1.17292014	-3.76625677
C	-0.72969839	2.34681285	-3.36820633

Continued on next page

TABLE S11 – *Continued from previous page*

C	-1.41173840	3.15431927	-2.44168945
C	0.68162807	-0.00000000	-4.17798961
C	-1.41173840	-3.15431927	-2.44168945
C	-0.72969839	-2.34681285	-3.36820633
C	-1.40733292	-1.17292014	-3.76625677

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