

## Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

# Understanding the thermal dehydrochlorination reaction of 1-chlorohexane. Revealing the driving bonding pattern at the planar catalytic reaction center

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**S1.** Full details for Ref. 39.

**S2.** Cartesian coordinates of the transition structure of the thermal dehalogenation of 1-chlorohexane calculated at the DFT M05-2X/6-311+G(d, p) level of theory are also reported

**S3.** A video file (MP4 format) presenting the change of the electron localization function (ELF) pattern of bonding at the reaction center along the IRC path of the thermal dehalogenation of 1-chlorohexane calculated at the DFT M05-2X/6-311+G(d, p) level of theory, is available for further examination as Electronic Supplementary Information. The video presents colour-filled maps of ELF for configurations in the interval defined between the points -50 to +20 along the representative energy barrier (i.e., regions a-g). This information can be used for didactical purposes in studying in detail the two stages one step mechanism that we propose as a proper way of interpretation this polar reaction process in the gas phase. The ELF values (0 to 1) are mapped on a Red-Green-Blue colour scale indicated on the left of each frame.

## **S1. Full details for reference 39**

M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Caricato, X. Li, H. P. Hratchian, A. F. Izmaylov, J. Bloino, G. Zheng, J. L. Sonnenberg, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, J. J. A. Montgomery, J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, N. Rega, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, J. E. Knox, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, V. G. Zakrzewski, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, J. Cioslowski and D. J. Fox, Gaussian 09, Revision C.01, (2010) Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT.

**S2. Cartesian coordinates of the transition structure of the thermal dehalogenation of 1-chlorohexane calculated at the DFT M05-2X/6-311+G(d, p) level of theory.**

H	-3.390300450	-1.0319563483	1.3732501353
C	-3.329065595	-1.1553404882	0.2908633027
H	-2.797681885	-2.0862103496	0.0898226456
H	-4.343290147	-1.2554682009	-0.094101591
C	-2.606417439	0.0262865393	-0.3487867394
H	-3.157940681	0.949462367	0.151978541
H	-2.581652657	-0.1003737575	-1.4336667597
C	-1.177290386	0.1715799909	0.1679464991
H	-0.612097291	-0.7364237258	-0.0619828211
H	-1.206698162	0.2647009914	1.2577471652
C	-0.476904468	1.3837223644	-0.441418706
H	-0.969838627	2.301023032	-0.1089697367
H	-0.583699809	1.353293782	-1.5274214902
C	0.9992576513	1.4861500454	-0.112208402
H	1.5547247411	2.3132013157	-0.5397567644
H	1.5717685651	0.4796745713	-0.5567879288
C	1.5893886511	0.8376519042	0.9715279868
H	1.0482742507	0.1267924158	1.5754739173
H	2.5981145646	1.0703595132	1.2747123418
Cl	2.522266179	-1.1854509623	-0.2499475137

**S3.** A video file (MP4 format) presenting the change of the electron localization function (ELF) pattern of bonding at the reaction center along the IRC path of the thermal dehalogenation of 1-chlorohexane calculated at the DFT M05-2X/6-311+G(d, p) level of theory, is available for further examination as Electronic Supplementary Information. The video presents colour-filled maps of ELF for configurations in the interval defined between the points -50 to +20 along the representative energy barrier (i.e., regions a-g). This information can be used for didactical purposes in studying in detail the two stages one step mechanism that we propose as a proper way of interpretation this polar reaction process in the gas phase. The ELF values (0 to 1) are mapped on a Red-Green-Blue colour scale indicated on the left of each frame.