## Hydration of Guanidinium Depends on Its Local Environment

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## **Supporting Information**

#### Full Citation for Reference 51 :

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Gilbert, A. T. B.; Slipchenko, L. V.; Levchenko, S. V.; O'Neill, D. P.; DiStasio,
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# Comparison of the Experimental and Theoretical IRPD spectra for $[Gdm(H_2O)_n]^+$ with n=6-9



**Figure S1.** Comparison of the normalized (a) full and (c) free OH region (3620-3780 cm<sup>-1</sup>) of the experimental IRPD spectrum of [Gdm(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>6</sub>]<sup>+</sup> at 133 K (upper panel) to the calculated harmonic IR spectra (lower panels) of the corresponding structures shown in (b). All structures and frequency calculations were performed at the B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* level of theory, a frequency scaling factor of 0.954 to account for anharmonic corrections was used and the frequencies in the free and bonded OH region were convoluted with Gaussians with a width of 15 and 60 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The Gibbs Enthalpies at 0, 133 and 300 K in meV are given below each isomer in (b) relative to isomer A.



**Figure S2.** Comparison of the normalized (a) full and (c) free OH region  $(3620-3780 \text{ cm}^{-1})$  of the experimental IRPD spectrum of  $[\text{Gdm}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_7]^+$  at 133 K (upper panel) to the calculated harmonic IR spectra (lower panels) of the corresponding structures shown in (b). All structures and frequency calculations were performed at the B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* level of theory, a frequency scaling factor of 0.954 to account for anharmonic corrections was used and the frequencies in the free and bonded OH region were convoluted with Gaussians with a width of 15 and 60 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The Gibbs Enthalpies at 0, 133 and 300 K in meV are given below each isomer in (b) relative to isomer A.



**Figure S3.** Comparison of the normalized (a) full and (c) free OH region (3620-3780 cm<sup>-1</sup>) of the experimental IRPD spectrum of [Gdm(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>8</sub>]<sup>+</sup> at 133 K (upper panel) to the calculated harmonic IR spectra (lower panels) of the corresponding structures shown in (b). All structures and frequency calculations were performed at the B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* level of theory, a frequency scaling factor of 0.954 to account for anharmonic corrections was used and the frequencies in the free and bonded OH region were convoluted with Gaussians with a width of 15 and 60 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The Gibbs Enthalpies at 0, 133 and 300 K in meV are given below each isomer in (b) relative to isomer A.



**Figure S4.** Comparison of the normalized (a) full and (c) free OH region (3620-3780 cm<sup>-1</sup>) of the experimental IRPD spectrum of [Gdm(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>9</sub>]<sup>+</sup> at 133 K (upper panel) to the calculated harmonic IR spectra (lower panels) of the corresponding structures shown in (b). All structures and frequency calculations were performed at the B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* level of theory, a frequency scaling factor of 0.954 to account for anharmonic corrections was used and the frequencies in the free and bonded OH region were convoluted with Gaussians with a width of 15 and 60 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The Gibbs Enthalpies at 0, 133 and 300 K in meV are given below each isomer in (b) relative to isomer A.



Figure S5. Low-energy isomers for  $[Gdm(H_2O)_6]^+$ ,  $[Gdm(H_2O)_7]^+$ ,  $[Gdm(H_2O)_8]^+$  and

 $[Gdm(H_2O)_9]^+$  (B3LYP/6-31++G\*\*). The Gibbs Enthalpies at 0, 133 and 300 K in meV are given below each isomer relative to isomer A.

# **Experimental details and reproducibility**

All experimental spectra for  $[Gdm(H_2O)_n]^+$ ,  $[Na(H_2O)_n]^+$ ,  $[Cs(H_2O)_n]^+$ , and  $[TMA(H_2O)_n]^+$ , with the same number of water molecules *n* attached where measured within 24 hours to ensure comparability of the spectra. BIRD rate constants were remeasured after 5 to 15 IRPD data points to account for long term drifts of the cell pressure during the experiments.



**Figure S6.** Experimental reproducibility for  $[Gdm(H_2O)_{50}]^+$  at 133 K and three predefined wavelength in the free OH (3700 cm<sup>-1</sup>, black) and bonded OH (3275 cm<sup>-1</sup>, blue) region as well as for an intermediate wavenumber (3673 cm<sup>-1</sup>, red) where only little dissociation is observed. Ten consecutive experiments were performed for each wavelength. The mean IRPD rate constant and the relative standard deviation are 0.056  $W^{-1}s^{-1}\pm 3.8\%$  (3700 cm<sup>-1</sup>, blue), 0.177  $W^{-1}s^{-1}\pm 3.3\%$  (3275 cm<sup>-1</sup>, blue) and 0.009  $W^{-1}s^{-1}$  $\pm 4.6\%$  (3673 cm<sup>-1</sup>, blue), respectively.



**Figure S7.** Experimental reproducibility of the full IRPD spectrum of  $[Gdm(H_2O)_{100}]^+$  at 133 K. On four days the full IRPD spectrum of  $[Gdm(H_2O)_{100}]^+$  was measured, tuning the OPO/OPA every time to identical wavelength starting at ~ 3780 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The data

points represent the mean of the measurements and the error bars indicate the standard deviation for every data point. The calculated relative uncertainty of I(fOH)/I(HB) for this spectrum is  $\pm 8\%$ .



**Figure S8.** Representative structures of  $[Gdm(H_2O)_n]^+$ ,  $[Na(H_2O)_n]^+$  and  $[TMA(H_2O)_n]^+$  obtained from B3LYP/6-31++G\*\* calculations. Oxygen, hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen and sodium atoms are shown as red, white, black, blue and green spheres, respectively.

Table S1. RMSD value of the HB region of IRPD spectra between 2900-3630 cm<sup>-1</sup> for

Size	Na <sup>+</sup>	TMA <sup>+</sup>	(Na <sup>+</sup> /TMA <sup>+</sup> )-1 / %	
20	0.1537	0.1028	50	
30	0.1336	0.0593	125	

<b>N</b> T 1	1	<b>F</b> A $\perp$	1 /	· / 1			<u>¬1</u> ⊥	1 /	C .1	1	•
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INA	and in	י הוע	CIUSICIS	with	ICSDUCL	ιUV	Juill	CIUSICIS	UI U	пса	Same Size.

40	0.1060	0.0587	81
50	0.0796	0.0708	12
75	0.0790	0.0783	1
100	0.0497	0.0470	6