

Supplementary Material for:-

**The application of inelastic neutron scattering to investigate the interaction  
of methyl propanoate with silica**

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Table S1: Crystal data, data collection and refinement methods for methyl propanoate.

*Crystal data*

C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>

M<sub>r</sub> = 88.11

Triclinic, P<sup>−</sup>1 Z = 4

a = 5.9523 (5) Å

Mo K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda$  = 0.71073 Å

b = 6.7864 (5) Å

$\mu$  = 0.09 mm<sup>−1</sup>

c = 12.7209 (11) Å

T = 150 K

$\alpha$  = 87.987 (3) $^\circ$

0.80 × 0.10 × 0.10 mm

$\beta$  = 89.585 (3) $^\circ$

$\gamma$  = 84.399 (4) $^\circ$

V = 511.08 (7) Å<sup>3</sup>

*Data collection*

Nonius KappaCCD diffractometer

1996 independent reflections

Absorption correction: Multi-scan

DENZO/SCALEPACK [9]

1419 reflections with  $I > 2.0\sigma(I)$

$T_{\min}$  = 0.62,  $T_{\max}$  = 1.00

R<sub>int</sub> = 0.041

6235 measured reflections

*Refinement*

$R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)]$  = 0.064

0 restraints

wR(F<sup>2</sup>) = 0.212

Only H-atom coordinates refined

S = 0.88

$\Delta\rho_{\max}$  = 0.33 e Å<sup>−3</sup>

1996 reflections

$\Delta\rho_{\min}$  = −0.32 e Å<sup>−3</sup>

157 parameters

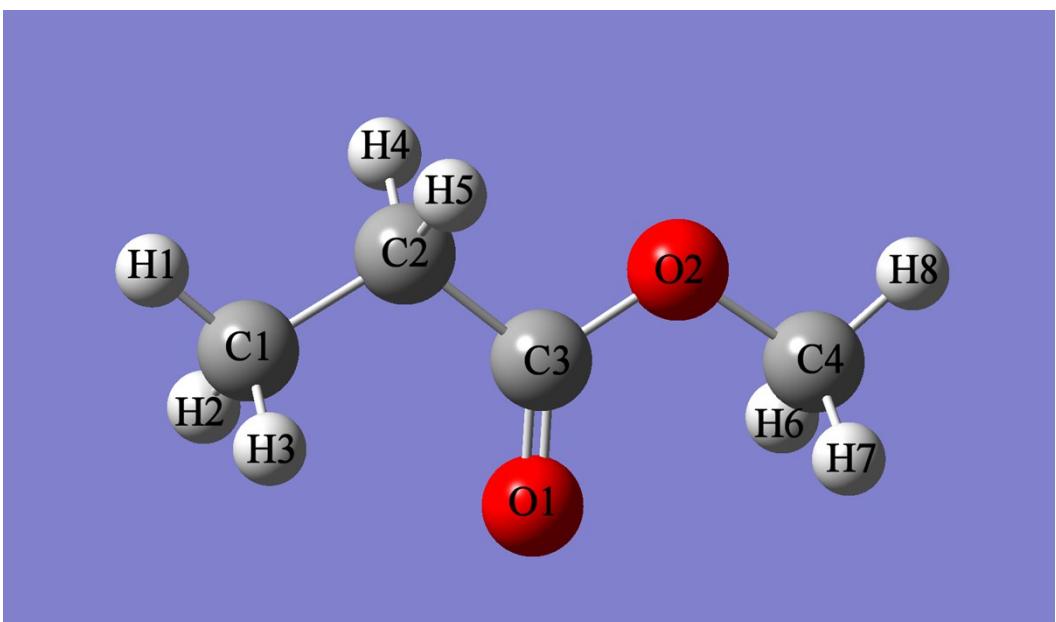


Figure S1: Numbering scheme for methyl propanoate.

Table S2: Observed and calculated structural parameters for methyl propanoate. In the crystal the almost planar molecule is called  $C_s$  and the skew molecule is called  $C_1$ .

	Crystal				Gas phase	
	Experimental		Computational			
	X-ray at 150 K		CASTEP		Gaussian 03	
	$C_s$	$C_1$	$C_s$	$C_1$	$C_s$	
Distance / Å						
C1–C2	1.516	1.492	1.526	1.529	1.523	
C2–C3	1.492	1.497	1.513	1.512	1.511	
C3=O1	1.203	1.202	1.219	1.221	1.211	
C3–O2	1.346	1.333	1.357	1.354	1.352	
O2–C4	1.449	1.443	1.449	1.447	1.435	
C1–H1					1.092	
C1–H2					1.091	
C1–H3					1.091	
C2–H4					1.095	
C2–H5					1.095	
C4–H6					1.090	
C4–H7					1.090	
C4–H8					1.087	
Bond angle / °						
C1–C2–C3	112.9	114.4	113.1	113.6	112.4	
C2–C3–O1	111.4	111.6	111.4	111.1	110.6	
C2–C3=O2	126.2	125.5	125.8	126.0	125.9	
C3–O1–C4	115.2	116.9	115.1	116.5	114.1	
H1–C1–C2			109.5	110.4	110.6	
H1–C1–H2			108.5	108.1	108.5	
H1–C1–H3			108.6	108.3	108.5	
H2–C1–H3			107.7	108.6	107.5	
H3–C2–H4			105.7	106.2	105.8	
H8–C4–O1			105.9	104.7	105.4	
H8–C4–H6			110.8	111.0	110.7	
H8–C4–H7			110.6	110.5	110.7	
H6–C4–H7			109.8	109.9	109.0	
Dihedral angle / °						
C1–C2–C3–O1	179.9	159.7	179.3	154.3	180.0	
C2–C3–O1–C4	179.3	179.9	179.1	177.8	180.0	

Table S3: Observed and calculated vibrational transition energies for methyl propanoate. In the crystal the almost planar molecule is called  $C_s$  and the skew molecule is called  $C_1$ .

Experimental				Calculated					Description
Infrared			INS	Gaussian 03		CASTEP			
Gas	Liquid	Solid	Solid	Gas	Infrared intensity	Solid	Infrared intensity	Character	
cm <sup>-1</sup>	km mol <sup>-1</sup>	cm <sup>-1</sup>	km mol <sup>-1</sup>						
			51			19	0.00	$A_g$	Translation
						39	0.00	$A_g$	Translation
			62			41	0.00	$A_g$	Translation
						44	0.00	$A_g$	Translation
						50	3.54	$A_u$	Libration
						55	6.40	$A_u$	Libration
						59	3.61	$A_u$	Translation
			81			60	0.00	$A_g$	Libration
						61	0.00	$A_g$	Libration
						63	2.94	$A_u$	Libration
						67	0.00	$A_g$	Libration
						75	0.86	$A_u$	Translation
						82	0.00	$A_g$	Translation
			29	0.00		87	0.56	$A_u$	C2–C3 torsion
						90	0.00	$A_g$	C2–C3 torsion
						92	0.00	$A_g$	C2–C3 torsion
						95	1.38	$A_u$	C2–C3 torsion
			90			103	0.71	$A_u$	Translation
						104	0.00	$A_g$	Translation
						106	1.37	$A_u$	Libration
			116			108	0.00	$A_g$	Libration
						112	0.00	$A_g$	Libration
						113	6.27	$A_u$	Libration
						124	5.98	$A_u$	Libration

			136			126	0.00	$A_g$	Libration
			162	174	1.31	160	2.15	$A_u$	$C_1 C4$ methyl torsion
			165			166	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1 C4$ methyl torsion
				147	4.81	179	1.14	$A_u$	C3–O1 torsion
						181	0.00	$A_g$	C3–O1 torsion
						185	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s C4$ methyl torsion
						189	69.95	$A_u$	C3–O1 torsion
						194	0.00	$A_g$	C3–O1 torsion
			235			213	0.88	$A_u$	$C_s C4$ methyl torsion
				215	2.01	220	0.00	$A_g$	$C1–C2–C3 + C2–C3–O1$ in-phase, in-plane bend
						221	23.11	$A_u$	$C1–C2–C3 + C2–C3–O1$ in-phase, in-plane bend
			245			228	0.00	$A_g$	$C1–C2–C3 + C2–C3–O1$ in-phase, in-plane bend
						230	11.22	$A_u$	$C1–C2–C3 + C2–C3–O1$ in-phase, in-plane bend
				233	1.88	240	1.53	$A_u$	$C_s C1$ methyl torsion
			262			242	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s C1$ methyl torsion
						242	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1 C1$ methyl torsion
						249	30.07	$A_u$	$C_1 C1$ methyl torsion
			303	343	19.91	317	68.79	$A_u$	$C_1 C1–C2–C3 + C3–C1–C4$ out-of-phase, in-plane bend
						318	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1 C1–C2–C3 + C3–C1–C4$ out-of-phase, in-plane bend
			339			329	66.67	$A_u$	$C_s C1–C2–C3 + C3–C1–C4$ out-of-phase, in-plane bend
						332	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s C1–C2–C3 + C3–C1–C4$ out-of-phase, in-plane bend
				455	0.73	428	3.52	$A_u$	$C_1 C2–C3–O1$ in-plane bend
				442		428	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1 C2–C3–O1$ in-plane bend
						438	1.80	$A_u$	$C_s C2–C3–O1$ in-plane bend

					438	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C2–C3–O1 in-plane bend	
	575	566	582	2.17	563	13.68	$A_u$	C=O out-of-plane bend	
					564	0.00	$A_g$	C=O out-of-plane bend	
					571	1.71	$A_u$	C=O out-of-plane bend	
					571	0.00	$A_g$	C=O out-of-plane bend	
	653	650	670	3.39	640	7.70	$A_u$	$C_s$ C=O in-plane bend	
					640	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C=O in-plane bend	
	671	668			661	11.22	$A_u$	$C_1$ C=O in-plane bend	
					662	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C=O in-plane bend	
807	805	807	824	10.02	788	108.75	$A_u$	Methylene rock	
					788	0.00	$A_g$	Methylene rock	
					791	7.87	$A_u$	Methylene rock	
					792	0.00	$A_g$	Methylene rock	
847	848	854	855	878	14.79	837	55.68	$A_u$	$C_s$ C2–C3 + C3–O1 in-phase stretch
						838	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C2–C3 + C3–O1 in-phase stretch
						839	34.83	$A_u$	$C_1$ C2–C3 + C3–O1 in-phase stretch
						840	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C2–C3 + C3–O1 in-phase stretch
968	963	962	960	1014	3.09	949	26.52	$A_u$	$C_1$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 out-of-phase stretch
						949	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 out-of-phase stretch
						950	25.87	$A_u$	$C_s$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 out-of-phase stretch
						951	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 out-of-phase stretch
1026	1022	1020	1020	1056	16.39	1005	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C1 methyl rock
						1006	62.24	$A_u$	$C_s$ C1 methyl rock
						1011	46.34	$A_u$	$C_1$ C1 methyl rock
						1014	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C1 methyl rock
1090	1085	1089	1091	1133	0.19	1066	5.03	$A_u$	$C_s$ C1 methyl rock
						1068	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C1 methyl rock
						1071	63.97	$A_u$	$C_1$ C1 methyl rock
						1072	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C1 methyl rock
				1137	9.90	1075	61.88	$A_u$	$C_s$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 in-phase stretch
						1077	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 in-phase stretch
						1078	27.42	$A_u$	$C_1$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 in-phase stretch

						1079	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C1–C2 + O1–C4 in-phase stretch
			1205	0.89	1131	1.42	$A_u$	$C_1$ C4 methyl rock	
					1133	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C4 methyl rock	
		1166			1144	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C4 methyl rock	
					1145	19.50	$A_u$	$C_s$ C4 methyl rock	
	1162		1249	270.53	1151	586.35	$A_u$	C2–C3 + C3–O1 out-of-phase stretch	
					1153	0.00	$A_g$	C2–C3 + C3–O1 out-of-phase stretch	
1175	1174	1175			1156	475.15	$A_u$	C2–C3 + C3–O1 out-of-phase stretch	
					1163	0.00	$A_g$	C2–C3 + C3–O1 out-of-phase stretch	
		1197	1227	101.73	1169	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl rock	
					1171	294.22	$A_u$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl rock	
1200	1199	1198			1173	306.76	$A_u$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl rock	
					1179	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl rock	
					1237	2.72	$A_u$	$C_s$ Methylenе twist	
		1258	1308	0.02	1240	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ Methylenе twist	
1285	1276	1261			1242	13.46	$A_u$	$C_1$ Methylenе twist	
					1243	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ Methylenе twist	
		1330	1415	96.41	1324	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ Methylenе wag	
1357	1356	1357			1325	135.94	$A_u$	$C_s$ Methylenе wag	
					1329	146.84	$A_u$	$C_1$ Methylenе wag	
					1331	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ Methylenе wag	
		1373	1457	4.67	1356	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C1 Methyl sym def	
		1383			1360	56.18	$A_u$	$C_s$ C1 Methyl sym def	
					1366	55.80	$A_u$	$C_1$ C1 Methyl sym def	
					1366	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C1 Methyl sym def	
		1417		1504	13.00	1393	124.53	$A_u$	$C_s$ Methylenе scissors
					1393	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ Methylenе scissors	
					1404	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ Methylenе scissors	
1442	1436	1434			1405	69.29	$A_u$	$C_1$ Methylenе scissors	
		1423	1512	12.53	1410	57.82	$A_u$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl sym def	
					1410	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl sym def	
		1444			1420	72.37	$A_u$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl sym def	

						1424	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl sym def
						1434	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl asym def
1467	1463	1456		1529	9.00	1435	50.02	$A_u$	C4 Methyl asym def
						1436	12.16	$A_u$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl asym def
			1536	9.55		1439	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C1 Methyl asym def
						1440	0.00	$A_g$	C1 Methyl asym def
		1456	1540	17.70		1441	47.80	$A_u$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl asym def
						1443	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C4 Methyl asym def
						1445	8.65	$A_u$	Methyl asym def
	1469		1544	8.53		1447	51.86	$A_u$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl asym def
						1450	26.88	$A_u$	Methyl asym def
						1450	0.00	$A_g$	Methyl asym def
						1452	0.00	$A_g$	Methyl asym def
			1540	17.70		1453	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C4 Methyl asym def
						1456	11.65	$A_u$	$C_s$ C1 Methyl asym def
						1461	30.01	$A_u$	$C_1$ C1 Methyl asym def
						1464	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C1 Methyl asym def
1764	1737	1728		1819	172.87	1691	865.03	$A_u$	$C_1$ C=O stretch
						1694	0.00	$A_g$	$C_1$ C=O stretch
						1703	740.61	$A_u$	$C_s$ C=O stretch
						1710	0.00	$A_g$	$C_s$ C=O stretch

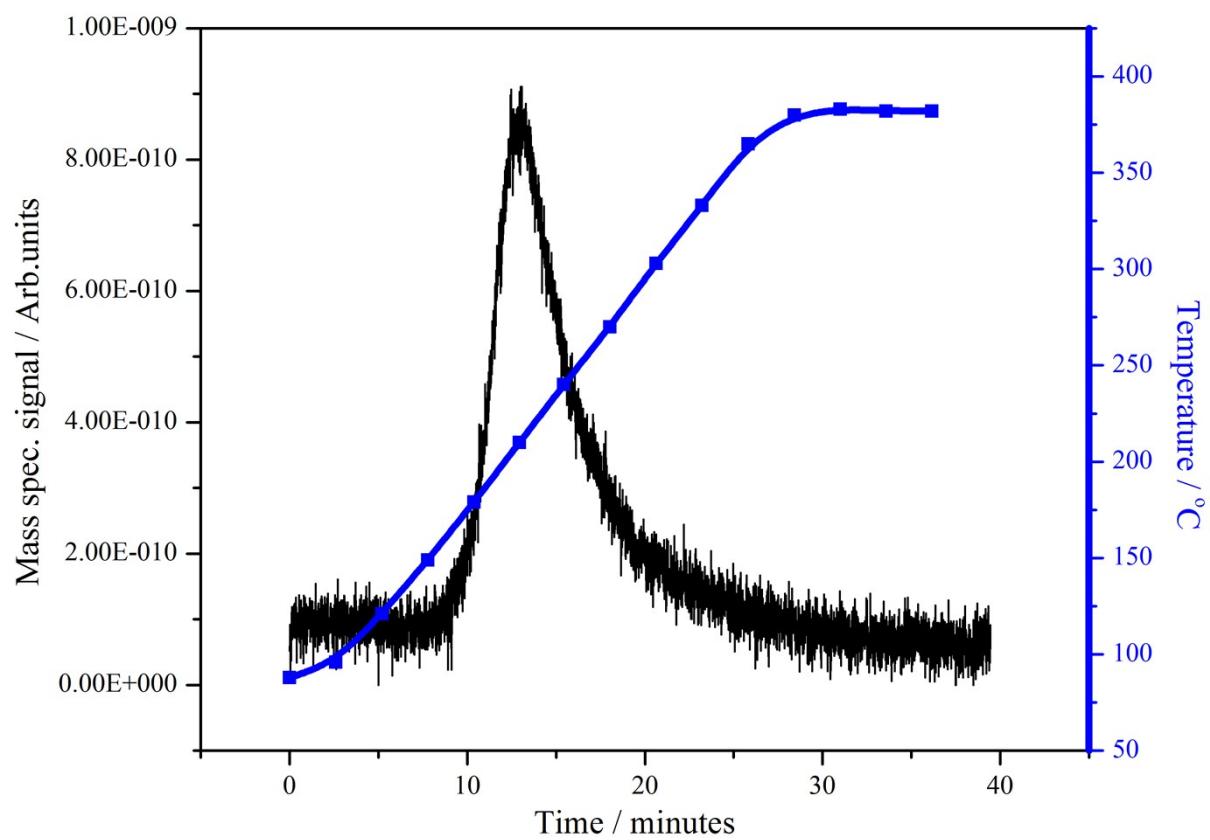


Figure S2: Temperature programmed desorption of methyl propanoate on silica.