

## —Electronic Supplementary Information—

### Effect of aromatic ring fluorination on CH... $\pi$

### interactions: Microwave spectrum and structure of the 1,2-difluorobenzene...acetylene dimer

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**Table S1** Rotational constants, dipole moment components and relative energies of the planar form of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH (relative to the non-planar form at each level).

**Table S2** Observed transition frequencies for all isotopologues of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH.

**Table S2a** Rotational transition frequencies for parent isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex.

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**Table S3** Principal axis coordinates of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH and estimated uncertainties resulting from least-squares fit of moments of inertia.

**Table S4**  $\omega\text{B97X-D/aug-cc-pVDZ}$  (BSSE corrected) predicted principal axis coordinates ( $\text{\AA}$ ) of the non-planar and planar forms of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH.

**Table S4a** Predicted non-planar form of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH.

**Table S4b** Predicted planar form of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH.

**Table S1** Rotational constants, dipole moment components and relative energies of the planar form of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH (relative to the non-planar form at each level).  $\mu_c$  is zero by symmetry. Values in parentheses give the results for BSSE corrected optimizations. <sup>a)</sup>

	MP2/ 6-311++G(2d,2p)	MP2/ aug-cc-pvdz	M06-2X/ 6-311++G(2d,2p)	M06-2X/ aug-cc-pvdz	$\omega$ B97X-D/ 6-311++G(2d,2p)	$\omega$ B97X-D/ aug-cc-pvdz
<i>A</i> / MHz	2150.3(2157.3)	2114.0(2119.2)	2172.7(2174.1)	2158.2(2157.1)	2168.6(2169.0)	2147.7(2146.5)
<i>B</i> / MHz	711.0(688.6)	715.5(683.8)	723.8(720.1)	722.1(715.1)	710.0(707.4)	711.8(702.3)
<i>C</i> / MHz	534.3(522.0)	534.6(517.0)	542.9(540.9)	541.1(537.1)	534.9(533.4)	534.6(529.1)
$\mu_a$ / D	0.29(0.36)	0.25(0.37)	0.32(0.32)	0.33(0.33)	0.21(0.21)	0.19
$\mu_b$ / D	2.65(2.65)	2.71(2.69)	2.68(2.69)	2.67(2.67)	2.65(2.65)	2.66
$\Delta E$ / cm <sup>-1 a)</sup>	489(234)	663(243)	298(219)	331(236)	253(206)	293(218)

<sup>a)</sup>  $\Delta E$  is the relative energy of the planar form with respect to the non-planar form calculated with the same level and basis set.

**Table S2** Observed transition frequencies for all isotopologues of 1,2-DFB...HCCH.**Table S2a** Rotational transition frequencies for parent isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	2	2	2	2	1	6113.7585	-0.0014
3	1	2	2	1	1	6302.3277	0.0007
3	2	1	2	2	0	6310.4284	-0.0018
3	2	2	2	1	1	6769.8473	0.0005
4	2	2	3	3	1	7205.2467	-0.0035
3	2	1	2	1	2	7496.6987	-0.0020
3	3	1	2	2	0	7572.8438	-0.0005
3	3	0	2	2	1	7647.2727	-0.0004
4	0	4	3	1	3	7734.5482	0.0002
4	1	4	3	1	3	7751.4884	0.0025
4	0	4	3	0	3	7784.4398	0.0009
4	1	4	3	0	3	7801.3768	0.0000
4	1	3	3	2	2	7830.6180	-0.0004
4	3	2	3	3	1	8236.5499	-0.0008
5	3	3	4	4	0	8268.5027	0.0031
4	1	3	3	1	2	8298.1368	-0.0014
5	2	4	4	3	1	8310.5701	-0.0024
4	3	1	3	3	0	8317.7960	0.0049
4	2	2	3	2	1	8467.6647	0.0005
4	2	3	3	1	2	8571.0655	0.0010
4	3	2	3	2	1	9498.9648	0.0000
5	2	3	4	3	2	9538.3610	-0.0003
5	0	5	4	1	4	9636.7337	-0.0016
5	1	5	4	1	4	9641.8660	-0.0004
5	0	5	4	0	4	9653.6730	-0.0002
5	1	5	4	0	4	9658.8055	0.0012
6	2	5	5	3	2	9786.7401	0.0038
4	3	1	3	2	2	9851.3033	-0.0011
5	1	4	4	2	3	9931.0595	-0.0013
5	2	4	4	2	3	10058.3298	-0.0023
4	2	2	3	1	3	10117.7738	-0.0027
5	1	4	4	1	3	10203.9853	-0.0019
4	4	1	3	3	0	10232.3297	-0.0006
4	4	0	3	3	1	10250.7285	0.0016
5	3	3	4	3	2	10282.6758	0.0000
5	2	4	4	1	3	10331.2581	-0.0003
5	4	1	4	4	0	10339.3433	0.0025
5	3	2	4	3	1	10504.7793	0.0029
5	2	3	4	2	2	10569.6616	-0.0002
6	3	3	5	4	2	10973.8178	-0.0004

4	3	2	3	0	3	11198.9695	0.0016
5	3	3	4	2	2	11313.9774	0.0011
6	0	6	5	1	5	11523.5298	-0.0029
6	1	6	5	1	5	11524.9788	-0.0014
6	0	6	5	0	5	11528.6635	-0.0003
6	1	6	5	0	5	11530.1102	-0.0010
6	2	4	5	3	3	11840.4148	0.0009
6	1	5	5	2	4	11931.6647	0.0001
6	2	5	5	1	4	12108.2115	0.0000
5	4	2	4	3	1	12230.0496	-0.0018
5	3	2	4	2	3	12252.5377	0.0017
5	4	1	4	3	2	12353.5159	-0.0011
6	2	4	5	2	3	12584.7276	-0.0008
6	3	3	5	3	2	12699.0922	-0.0009
5	5	1	4	4	0	12871.6414	0.0023
5	5	0	4	4	1	12875.4429	0.0027
6	3	4	5	2	3	13041.3767	0.0017
7	0	7	6	1	6	13404.4738	0.0015
7	0	7	6	0	6	13405.9182	-0.0017
7	1	7	6	0	6	13406.3105	0.0021
7	3	4	6	4	3	13411.9367	0.0025
7	1	6	6	2	5	13863.4311	-0.0001
7	2	6	6	2	5	13880.2639	0.0002
7	2	6	6	1	5	13929.5370	-0.0023
7	2	5	6	3	4	14041.1465	-0.0001
6	4	3	5	3	2	14121.3640	-0.0013
7	3	5	6	3	4	14272.2913	-0.0017
7	4	4	6	4	3	14460.7914	-0.0022
6	4	2	5	3	3	14559.7040	0.0016
7	3	5	6	2	4	14728.9412	0.0016
6	3	3	5	2	4	14893.3002	0.0031
6	5	2	5	4	1	14907.3602	-0.0009
6	6	1	5	5	0	15504.6142	-0.0018
8	2	7	7	1	6	15782.9885	0.0024
8	3	5	7	4	4	15822.9895	-0.0017
8	2	6	7	3	5	16111.4099	-0.0004
8	3	5	7	3	4	16871.8517	0.0011
7	5	3	6	4	2	16887.0140	-0.0011
7	4	3	6	3	4	16959.8855	-0.0002
7	5	2	6	4	3	17041.9824	-0.0051
8	4	5	7	3	4	17542.9382	-0.0002
7	6	2	6	5	1	17551.1741	-0.0005
7	6	1	6	5	2	17558.8644	0.0040

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**Table S2b** Rotational transition frequencies for  $^{13}\text{C}_1$  isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	2	2	2	1	1	6710.7912	0.0053
3	3	1	2	2	0	7505.6305	0.0004
3	3	0	2	2	1	7585.1313	0.0005
4	0	4	3	1	3	7676.5403	-0.0049
4	1	4	3	0	3	7736.6354	-0.0003
5	0	5	4	1	4	9561.1367	-0.0016
5	1	5	4	0	4	9580.2658	-0.0014
4	3	1	3	2	2	9788.4969	-0.0172
5	1	4	4	2	3	9876.3172	0.0087
4	4	1	3	3	0	10142.6642	-0.0022
5	2	4	4	1	3	10240.6430	0.0002
5	3	3	4	2	2	11209.8807	0.0153
6	0	6	5	1	5	11431.4397	0.0010
6	1	6	5	0	5	11436.9301	-0.0045
5	4	1	4	3	2	12260.3839	0.0122
5	5	1	4	4	0	12758.9378	-0.0023
5	5	0	4	4	1	12763.3503	-0.0003
6	3	4	5	2	3	12918.6340	-0.0116
7	0	7	6	1	6	13296.4713	0.0024

**Table S2c** Rotational transition frequencies for  $^{13}\text{C}_2$  isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	2	1	2	1	2	7444.1044	-0.0038
3	3	1	2	2	0	7531.3027	0.0035
3	3	0	2	2	1	7602.2286	-0.0002
4	0	4	3	1	3	7713.3504	-0.0044
4	1	4	3	0	3	7781.7659	-0.0021
4	2	3	3	1	2	8540.6416	0.0106
4	3	2	3	2	1	9453.4841	0.0005
5	0	5	4	1	4	9612.2107	-0.0003
5	1	5	4	0	4	9635.1386	-0.0076
4	3	1	3	2	2	9790.0228	-0.0032
5	1	4	4	2	3	9891.7107	0.0109
4	4	1	3	3	0	10174.2334	-0.0041
4	4	0	3	3	1	10191.4670	0.0002
6	0	6	5	1	5	11495.5234	-0.0084
6	1	6	5	0	5	11502.4856	0.0132
6	2	5	5	1	4	12072.5078	-0.0124
5	4	2	4	3	1	12166.1403	0.0012
5	4	1	4	3	2	12282.0574	0.0002
5	5	1	4	4	0	12797.6369	0.0009
5	5	0	4	4	1	12801.1332	-0.0007
6	3	4	5	2	3	12995.6935	0.0055
7	0	7	6	1	6	13372.8664	0.0023
7	2	6	6	1	5	13888.9920	-0.0022

**Table S2d** Rotational transition frequencies for  $^{13}\text{C}_3$  isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	3	0	2	2	1	7632.4507	-0.0063
4	0	4	3	1	3	7725.6685	0.0102
4	1	3	3	2	2	7820.9573	0.0057
4	2	3	3	1	2	8558.6012	-0.0006
4	3	2	3	2	1	9482.4004	0.0049
5	0	5	4	1	4	9625.8097	0.0009
5	1	5	4	0	4	9647.8155	-0.0004
4	3	1	3	2	2	9832.8700	0.0017
5	1	4	4	2	3	9918.5281	-0.0034
4	4	1	3	3	0	10212.4932	-0.0006
4	4	0	3	3	1	10230.7830	0.0009
5	2	4	4	1	3	10317.3581	-0.0099
6	1	6	5	0	5	11517.1880	-0.0025
6	1	5	5	2	4	11916.7310	-0.0116
6	2	5	5	1	4	12092.7657	-0.0032
5	4	2	4	3	1	12207.7329	0.0093
5	5	1	4	4	0	12846.4659	-0.0145
5	5	0	4	4	1	12850.2681	0.0110
7	0	7	6	1	6	13389.6201	0.0098

**Table S2e** Rotational transition frequencies for  $^{13}\text{C}_{12}$  isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	2	2	2	1	1	6722.6840	-0.0074
4	0	4	3	1	3	7630.2659	0.0001
4	1	4	3	0	3	7707.1452	0.0035
4	2	3	3	1	2	8499.6272	-0.0007
5	0	5	4	1	4	9510.3172	-0.0049
5	1	5	4	0	4	9536.8696	-0.0011
4	4	0	3	3	1	10213.0955	0.0057
5	2	4	4	1	3	10232.7443	0.0012
6	0	6	5	1	5	11373.4525	0.0004
6	1	6	5	0	5	11381.7367	0.0073
5	5	1	4	4	0	12829.1241	-0.0014
5	5	0	4	4	1	12832.3092	-0.0010
7	0	7	6	1	6	13229.9210	-0.0022
7	1	7	6	0	6	13232.3389	-0.0010

**Table S2f** Rotational transition frequencies for  $^{13}\text{C}_{13}$  isotopic species of 1,2-difluorobenzene...HCCH complex

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	2	2	2	1	1	6710.0940	-0.0003
3	3	1	2	2	0	7553.7996	-0.0133
4	0	4	3	1	3	7562.8776	0.0025
3	3	0	2	2	1	7615.7975	0.0114
4	1	4	3	0	3	7654.9981	0.0012
4	2	3	3	1	2	8474.0082	-0.0019
5	0	5	4	1	4	9432.3381	0.0012
4	3	2	3	2	1	9446.0230	0.0005
5	1	5	4	0	4	9466.1273	0.0024
5	1	4	4	2	3	9660.8808	-0.0059
4	3	1	3	2	2	9743.8784	0.0047
5	2	4	4	1	3	10191.0521	-0.0034
4	4	1	3	3	0	10209.9835	-0.0019
4	4	0	3	3	1	10223.5009	-0.0001
5	3	3	4	2	2	11231.9212	0.0016
6	0	6	5	1	5	11282.7041	0.0008
6	1	6	5	0	5	11293.8923	0.0003



**Table S2g** Rotational transition frequencies for the 1,2-difluorobenzene...DCCD isotopic species

$J'$	$K_a'$	$K_c'$	$J''$	$K_a''$	$K_c''$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} / \text{MHz}$	$\nu_{\text{obs}} - \nu_{\text{calc}} / \text{MHz}$
3	2	2	2	1	1	6618.4920	-0.0010
3	2	1	2	1	2	7278.5833	-0.0002
3	3	1	2	2	0	7484.9149	0.0035
4	1	4	3	0	3	7496.5404	-0.0009
4	2	3	3	1	2	8341.3644	0.0001
5	1	5	4	0	4	9263.4047	0.0021
4	3	2	3	2	1	9338.2528	0.0057
5	1	4	4	2	3	9426.4593	0.0003
5	2	4	4	1	3	10015.3968	-0.0037
4	4	1	3	3	0	10120.7320	0.0030
4	4	0	3	3	1	10132.8746	-0.0109
5	5	1	4	4	0	12738.4876	0.0031
5	5	0	4	4	1	12740.5974	-0.0008

**Table S3** Principal axis coordinates of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH and estimated uncertainties resulting from least-squares fit of moments of inertia. The numbering used in Figure 3 of the manuscript is also given

ATOM <sup>a)</sup>	Fig. 3 numbering	<i>a</i>	<i>da</i> <sup>b)</sup>	<i>b</i>	<i>db</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>dc</i>
X1		-0.26271	0.01605	-1.54354	0.00096	0	0
X2		-0.54958	0.00581	-0.58557	0.00402	0	0
C3	C4	-0.54958	0.00581	-0.58557	0.00402	0.68775	0
F4	F16	-0.21154	0.01788	-1.71442	0.00041	1.34525	0
C5	C3	-0.54958	0.00581	-0.58557	0.00402	-0.68775	0
F6	F15	-0.21154	0.01788	-1.71442	0.00041	-1.34525	0
C7	C5	-0.88797	0.00628	0.54443	0.00764	1.40128	0
H8	H9	-0.87935	0.00597	0.51564	0.00755	2.48377	0
C9	C2	-0.88797	0.00628	0.54443	0.00764	-1.40128	0
H10	H8	-0.87935	0.00597	0.51564	0.00755	-2.48377	0
C11	C6	-1.23504	0.01867	1.70342	0.01135	0.69601	0
H12	H10	-1.50310	0.02824	2.59859	0.01422	1.24009	0
C13	C1	-1.23504	0.01867	1.70342	0.01135	-0.69601	0
H14	H7	-1.50310	0.02824	2.59859	0.01422	-1.24009	0
X15	X18	-0.88797	0.00628	0.54443	0.00764	0	0
X16	X17	2.95907	0.00581	0.72921	0.02352	0	0
C17	C13	3.44715	0.01111	0.37767	0.01637	0	0
X18		4.03159	0.00207	1.18911	0.00860	0	0
X19		4.89252	0.00821	0.56903	0.00896	0	0
H20	H14	4.30809	0.02057	-0.24241	0.00616	0	0
H21	H11	1.61005	0.00939	1.70083	0.04386	0	0
X22		2.19448	0.02176	2.51227	0.03500	0	0
X23		3.05542	0.01230	1.89219	0.02209	0	0
C24	C12	2.47099	0.00151	1.08075	0.03082	0	0
X25	X19	-0.67512	0.00133	-0.16637	0.00537	0	0

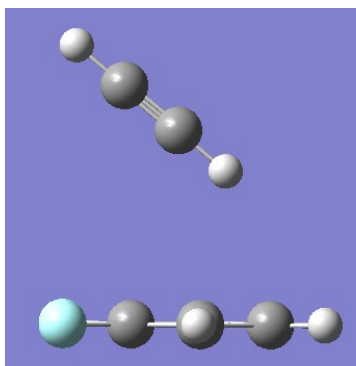
<sup>a)</sup> X are dummy atoms.

<sup>b)</sup> *da*, *db*, and *dc* are uncertainties reported in STRFIT program based on propagated errors from fitted structural parameters only.

**Table S4**  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVDZ (BSSE corrected) predicted principal axis coordinates (Å) of the non-planar and planar forms of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH. The numbering scheme in Table S4a follows that of Figure 3 of the manuscript.

**Table S4a** Predicted non-planar form of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH

	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>
C1	-1.1385	-1.7528	-0.7005
C2	-0.8424	-0.5844	-1.4041
C3	-0.5624	0.5758	-0.6997
C4	-0.5753	0.5792	0.6923
C5	-0.8681	-0.5779	1.3971
C6	-1.1513	-1.7495	0.6939
H7	-1.3611	-2.6671	-1.2488
H8	-0.8207	-0.5607	-2.4924
H9	-0.8657	-0.5477	2.4854
H10	-1.3833	-2.6616	1.2422
H11	1.6018	-1.6202	0.0209
C12	2.4735	-0.9942	0.0176
C13	3.4431	-0.2748	0.0136
H14	4.3053	0.3611	0.0095
F15	-0.2726	1.7102	-1.3532
F16	-0.2975	1.7164	1.3459



**Table S4b** Predicted planar form of 1,2-DFBZ...HCCH

	<i>a</i>	<i>b</i>	<i>c</i>
C1	-1.8433	-1.8731	0.0000
C2	-0.4565	-2.0130	0.0000
C3	0.3667	-0.8867	0.0000
C4	-0.2173	0.3699	0.0000
C5	-1.6014	0.5123	0.0000
C6	-2.4227	-0.6042	0.0000
H7	-2.4825	-2.7548	0.0000
H8	-0.0067	-3.0049	0.0000
H9	1.4533	-0.9683	0.0000
H10	-3.5028	-0.4654	0.0000
F11	-2.1336	1.7457	0.0000
F12	0.5510	1.4767	0.0000
H13	5.2237	-1.3116	0.0000
C14	4.5526	-0.4761	0.0000
C15	3.8070	0.4737	0.0000
H16	3.1321	1.3074	0.0000

