

Electronic Supplementary Information

**Impact of resonance effects on the protonation of
aminobenzoic acid derivatives†**

Jongcheol Seo,^{‡a} Stephan Warnke,^{‡a} Sandy Gewinner,^a Wieland Schöllkopf,^a Michael T. Bowers,^b
Kevin Pagel*^c and Gert von Helden*^a

^a Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft, Faradayweg 4-6, 14195 Berlin, Germany.

^b Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara,
California 93106, United States.

^c Freie Universität Berlin, Department of Biology, Chemistry and Pharmacy, Takustrasse 3, 14195 Berlin,
Germany.

[‡] These authors contributed equally to this work.

* e-mail: helden@fhi-berlin.mpg.de (G.v.H.), kevin.pagel@fu-berlin.de (K.P.)

1. Time-of-Flight Mass Spectra of Aminobenzoic Acids (ABAs) and Their Ethyl Esters (ABEs)

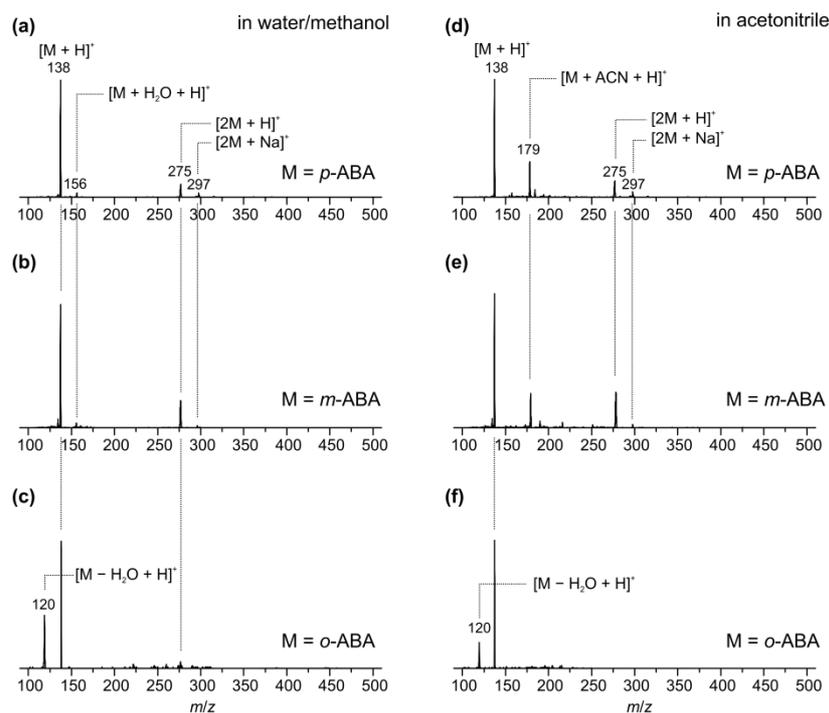


Figure S1. Nano-electrospray ion mobility-TOF mass spectra of (a,d) *p*-, (b,e) *m*-, and (c,f) *o*-aminobenzoic acids (ABAs) in (a,b,c) water/methanol and (d,e,f) acetonitrile. Drift gas was He.

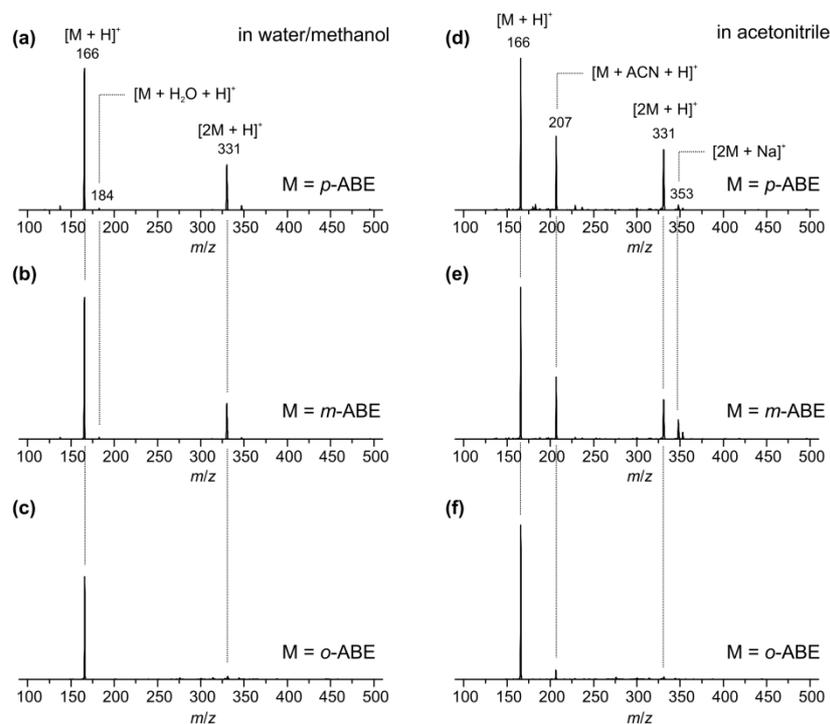


Figure S2. Nano-electrospray ion mobility-TOF mass spectra of (a,d) *p*-, (b,e) *m*-, and (c,f) *o*-aminobenzoic acid ethyl esters (ABEs) in (a,b,c) water/methanol and (d,e,f) acetonitrile. Drift gas was He.

2. Optimized Geometries of ABAs and ABEs

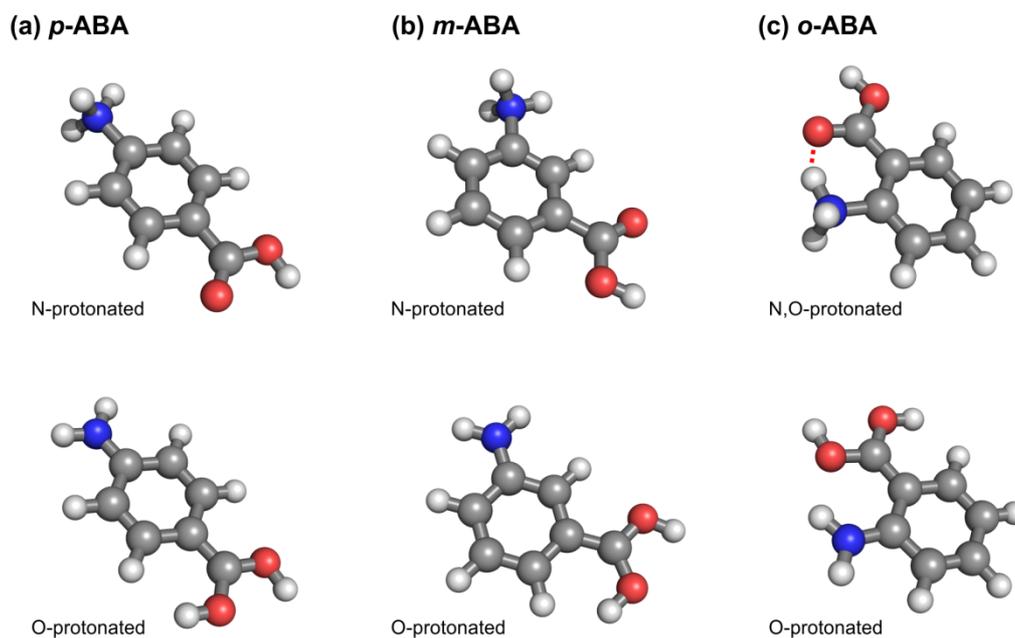


Figure S3. Optimized geometries of protonated (a) *p*-, (b) *m*-, and (c) *o*-aminobenzoic acids (ABAs).

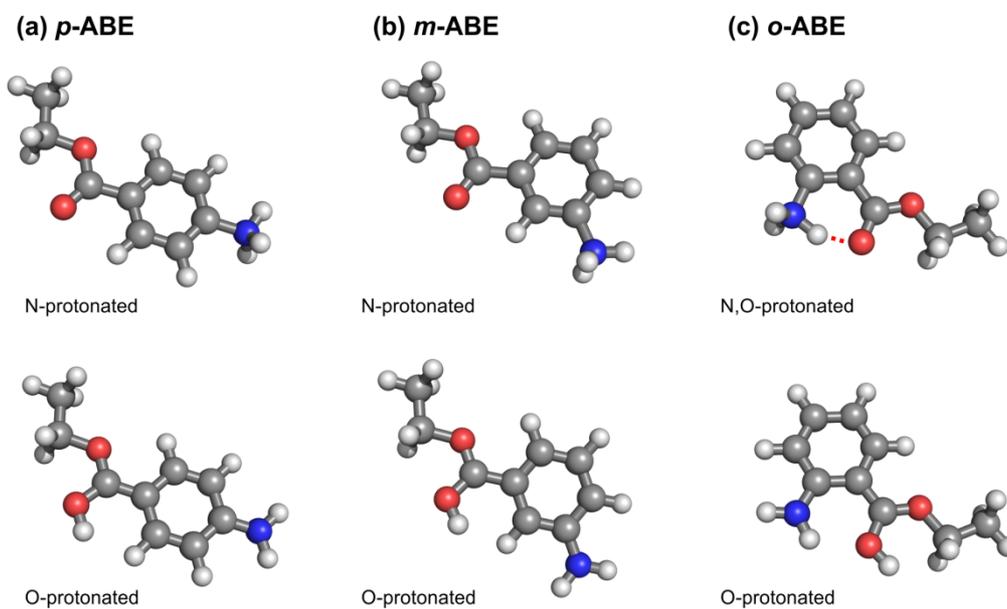
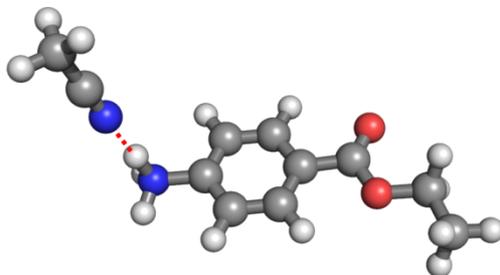


Figure S4. Optimized geometries of protonated (a) *p*-, (b) *m*-, and (c) *o*-aminobenzoic acid ethyl esters (ABEs).

3. Optimized Geometries of Protonated ABE-Acetonitrile complex

(a) N-protonated *p*-ABE + ACN



(b) O-protonated *p*-ABE + ACN

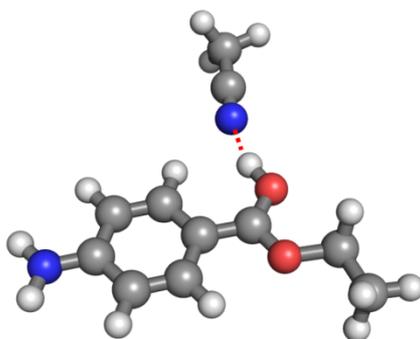
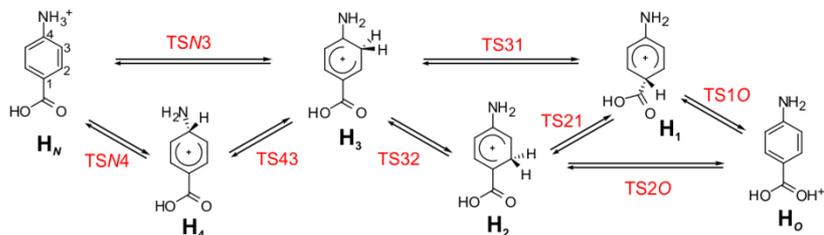


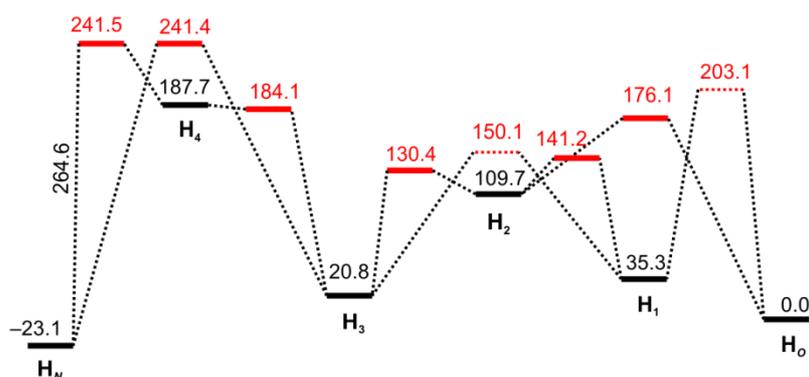
Figure S5. Optimized geometries of acetonitrile-bound complexes of (a) N- and (b) O-protonated *p*-ABEs.

4. Potential Energy Surface for Intramolecular Proton Migration

(a) proton migration pathway



(b) PES in water ($\epsilon = 78.4$)



(b) PES in vacuum ($\epsilon = 1$)

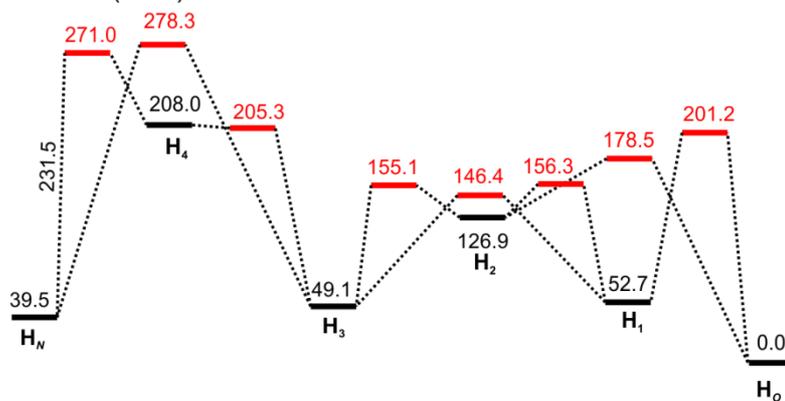


Figure S6. (a) Pathway for the intramolecular proton migration from N-protonated to O-protonated *p*-ABA, and calculated potential energy surface (a) in water and (b) in vacuum. All energies are in kJ mol^{-1} .

5. Optimized Geometries of Proton-Bound Dimers

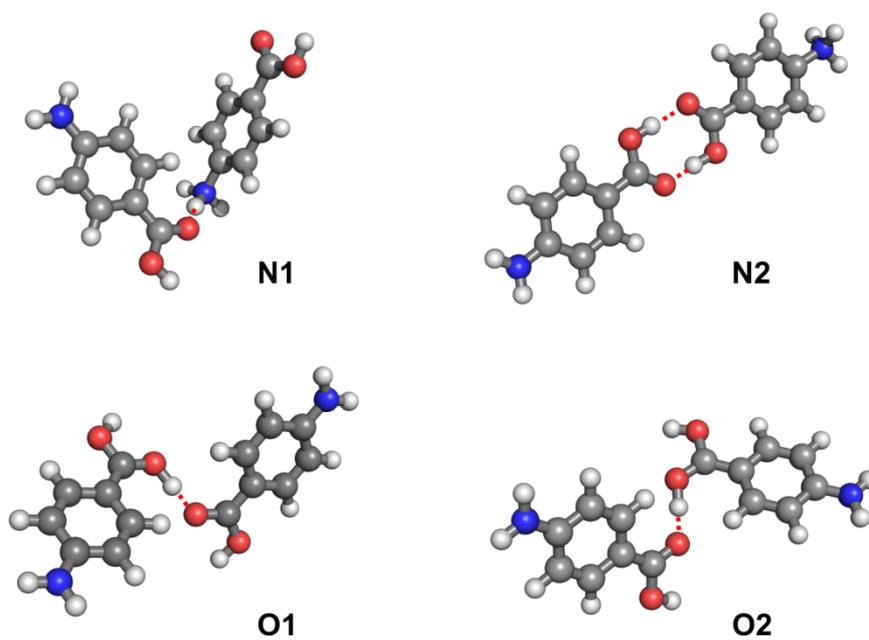


Figure S7. Optimized geometries of proton-bound dimers of *p*-aminobenzoic acid.

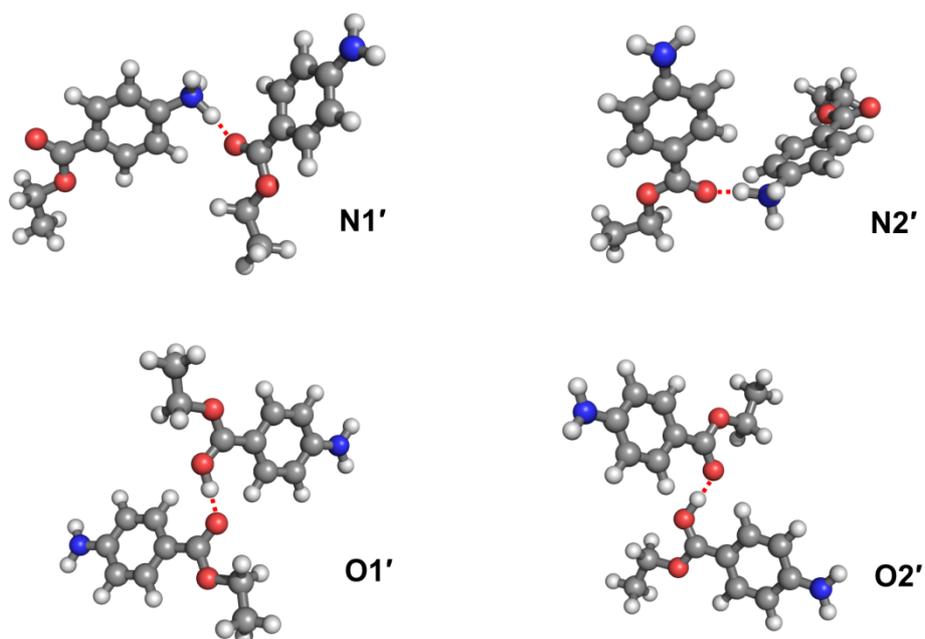


Figure S8. Optimized geometries of proton-bound dimers of *p*-aminobenzoic acid ethyl ester.