## **Electronic Supplementary Information for**

## **Dimers of Acetic Acid in Helium Nanodroplets**

Julia A. Davies,<sup>†</sup> Magnus W. D. Hanson-Heine,<sup>‡</sup> Nicholas A. Besley, <sup>‡</sup> Andrew Shirley,<sup>†</sup> James Trowers,<sup>†</sup> Shengfu Yang,<sup>†</sup> and Andrew M. Ellis<sup>\*,†</sup>

<sup>†</sup> Department of Chemistry, University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH, United Kingdom

<sup>‡</sup> School of Chemistry, University of Nottingham, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD, United Kingdom

\* E-mail: andrew.ellis@le.ac.uk

Selected results from calculations at the MP2/6-311(2+,2+)G(2d,2p) level of theory are presented in Figure S1 and in Tables S1 and S2 for the *trans* acetic acid (AA) monomer and the six lowest energy *trans-trans* dimers, D1 to D6. Those dimers prepared inside helium nanodroplets are D3 and D6.



**Figure S1**. Inter- and intra-molecular bond lengths (in Å) are indicated on the calculated structures for the acetic acid monomer and the six lowest energy dimers, D1 to D6.

mono	X	Y	Ζ
Н	-1.6603	-0.7072	-0.8810
С	-1.3908	-0.1321	-0.0001
н	-1.9210	0.8108	0.0070
н	-1.6593	-0.7206	0.8722
С	0.0870	0.1250	0.0004
0	0.6243	1.2093	0.0006
0	0.7905	-1.0404	-0.0007
Н	1.7234	-0.7869	-0.0014

Table S1	. Cartesian	coordinates	(in Å) for t	he structures	of the a	cetic acid	monomer	and th	ne six
lowest en	ergy dimers	, D1 to D6,	calculated a	at the MP2/6-	311(2+,2	2+)G(2d,2	2p) level of	theor	y.

D1	X	Y	Ζ
Н	-3.7968	-0.4328	-0.8737
С	-3.4262	0.0950	0.0002
Н	-3.7754	1.1188	-0.0037
Н	-3.7961	-0.4255	0.8788
С	-1.9274	0.0673	0.0002
0	-1.2352	1.0821	-0.0004
0	-1.4340	-1.1632	0.0002
н	-0.4417	-1.1183	0.0003
н	3.7961	0.4257	-0.8787
С	3.4262	-0.0949	-0.0002
Н	3.7754	-1.1188	0.0035
Н	3.7967	0.4326	0.8739
С	1.9274	-0.0673	-0.0001
0	1.2352	-1.0821	0.0004
0	1.4340	1.1632	-0.0002
Н	0.4417	1.1183	-0.0003

D2	X	Y	Ζ		
н	-3.9121	-0.6420	-0.8473		
С	-3.5938	-0.0683	0.0185		
н	-4.0630	0.9067	0.0115		
н	-3.8894	-0.6217	0.9050		
С	-2.0995	0.0882	-0.0054		
0	-1.5141	1.1542	-0.0563		
0	-1.4750	-1.1001	0.0343		
н	-0.5071	-0.9458	0.0125		
н	2.2181	1.7753	0.9932		
С	1.8165	1.3756	0.0657		
н	0.7470	1.5369	0.0172		
н	2.3224	1.8791	-0.7528		
С	2.1097	-0.0885	0.0044		
0	1.2897	-0.9900	-0.0063		
0	3.4351	-0.3467	-0.0338		
н	3.5250	-1.3094	-0.0636		

D3	X	Y	Ζ	]	D4	X	Y	Ζ
н	-3.8405	-0.7027	-0.5385		Н	-3.9985	-0.4325	-0.9325
С	-3.3937	0.1555	-0.0443		С	-3.6533	0.0643	-0.0306
н	-3.7285	1.0702	-0.5155		н	-4.0128	1.0841	-0.0033
н	-3.7030	0.1314	0.9965		н	-4.0363	-0.4929	0.8192
С	-1.8969	0.0583	-0.1332		С	-2.1552	0.0576	0.0013
0	-1.1802	0.8585	-0.7052		0	-1.4567	1.0557	0.0493
0	-1.4308	-1.0327	0.5003		0	-1.6588	-1.1946	-0.0296
н	-0.4568	-1.0593	0.3818		н	-0.6878	-1.1334	-0.0061
н	2.5007	1.6795	1.0951		н	3.0215	-1.5904	0.8972
С	1.6036	1.1607	0.7777		C	3.1852	-1.0104	-0.0065
н	0.9614	0.9441	1.6223		н	4.2182	-0.6943	-0.0638
н	1.0517	1.7864	0.0814		н	2.9409	-1.6431	-0.8550
C	1.9506	-0.1110	0.0737		C	2.2926	0.1962	-0.0014
0	1.2942	-1.1380	0.0853		0	2.6523	1.3484	-0.0534
0	3.1004	-0.0176	-0.6251		0	0.9791	-0.1591	0.0728
Н	3.2138	-0.8653	-1.0773	]	Н	0.4199	0.6446	0.0696
D5	X	Ŷ	Z	]	D6	X	Ŷ	Z
<b>D5</b> H	X -3.4622	γ -1.3818	<i>Z</i> -0.8771	]	<b>D6</b> H	X -3.8831	γ -0.7845	<i>Z</i> -0.6675
<b>D5</b> H C	<i>X</i> -3.4622 -3.4995	Υ -1.3818 -0.7398	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017		<b>D6</b> Н С	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349	<u>ү</u> -0.7845 0.0448	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586
<b>D5</b> Н С Н	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031		<b>D6</b> Н С Н	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259
<b>D5</b> Н С Н	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763		<b>D6</b> Н С Н	X -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604
D5 H C H H C	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031		<b>D6</b> Н С Н Н	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000
D5 H C H H C O	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060		D6 H C H H C O	X -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957
D5 H C H H C O O	<i>X</i> -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010		D6 H C H H C O O	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635
D5 H C H H C O O H	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002 0.1428	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025		D6 H C H C O O H	X -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351 -0.9409	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980
D5 H C H H C O O H H	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002 0.1428 -1.8248	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514		<b>D6</b> Н С Н Н С О О Н Н	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351 -0.9409 1.5162	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293
D5 H C H H C O O H H C	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780 2.1581	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002 0.1428 -1.8248 -1.8248 -1.4317	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514 0.0174		D6 H C H C O O H H C	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347 1.7900	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351 -0.9409 1.5162 1.2546	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293 0.5774
D5 H C H H C O H H C H	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780 2.1581 1.1241	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002 0.1428 -1.8248 -1.8248 -1.4317 -1.7509	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514 0.0174 0.0122		<b>D6</b> Н С Н С О О Н Н С	X -3.8831 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347 1.7900 2.5234	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351 -0.9409 1.5162 1.2546 2.0310	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293 0.5774 0.4053
D5 H C H H C O O H H C H H	X -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780 2.1581 1.1241 2.6636	<ul> <li>γ</li> <li>-1.3818</li> <li>-0.7398</li> <li>-0.1613</li> <li>-1.3784</li> <li>0.1874</li> <li>1.3982</li> <li>-0.5002</li> <li>0.1428</li> <li>-1.8248</li> <li>-1.8248</li> <li>-1.4317</li> <li>-1.7509</li> <li>-1.8084</li> </ul>	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514 0.0174 0.0122 0.9018		D6 H C H C O O H H C H H	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347 1.7900 2.5234 1.6303	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351 -0.9409 1.5162 1.2546 2.0310 1.1207	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293 0.5774 0.4053 1.6440
D5 H C H H C O O H H C H H C	<i>X</i> -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780 2.1581 1.1241 2.6636 2.2312	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002 0.1428 -1.8248 -1.8248 -1.4317 -1.7509 -1.8084 0.0638	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514 0.0174 0.0122 0.9018 0.0043		<b>D6</b> Н С Н С О О Н Н С Н Н С	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347 1.7900 2.5234 1.6303 2.2795	<ul> <li>γ</li> <li>-0.7845</li> <li>0.0448</li> <li>0.9757</li> <li>-0.1355</li> <li>0.1042</li> <li>1.0484</li> <li>-1.0351</li> <li>-0.9409</li> <li>1.5162</li> <li>1.2546</li> <li>2.0310</li> <li>1.1207</li> <li>-0.0264</li> </ul>	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293 0.5774 0.4053 1.6440 -0.0168
D5 H C H H C O O H H C H H C O O	<i>X</i> -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780 2.1581 1.1241 2.6636 2.2312 1.2846	γ -1.3818 -0.7398 -0.1613 -1.3784 0.1874 1.3982 -0.5002 0.1428 -1.8248 -1.8248 -1.4317 -1.7509 -1.8084 0.0638 0.8290	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514 0.0174 0.0122 0.9018 0.0043 -0.0051		<b>D6</b> Н С Н С О О Н Н С С Н Н С О	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347 1.7900 2.5234 1.6303 2.2795 3.3163	γ -0.7845 0.0448 0.9757 -0.1355 0.1042 1.0484 -1.0351 -0.9409 1.5162 1.2546 2.0310 1.1207 -0.0264 -0.2160	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293 0.5774 0.4053 1.6440 -0.0168 -0.6032
D5 H C H H C O O H H C H H C O O	<i>X</i> -3.4622 -3.4995 -4.4139 -3.4628 -2.3163 -2.3746 -1.1515 -0.4128 2.6780 2.1581 1.1241 2.6636 2.2312 1.2846 3.5057	<ul> <li>γ</li> <li>-1.3818</li> <li>-0.7398</li> <li>-0.1613</li> <li>-1.3784</li> <li>0.1874</li> <li>1.3982</li> <li>-0.5002</li> <li>0.1428</li> <li>-1.8248</li> <li>-1.4317</li> <li>-1.7509</li> <li>-1.8084</li> <li>0.0638</li> <li>0.8290</li> <li>0.5093</li> </ul>	<i>Z</i> -0.8771 -0.0017 -0.0031 0.8763 -0.0031 -0.0060 -0.0010 -0.0025 -0.8514 0.0174 0.0122 0.9018 0.0043 -0.0051 0.0051		<b>D6</b> Н С Н С О О Н Н С С Н Н С О О	<i>X</i> -3.8831 -3.5349 -3.9461 -3.8647 -2.0357 -1.3812 -1.4798 -0.5117 0.8347 1.7900 2.5234 1.6303 2.2795 3.3163 1.3752	<ul> <li>γ</li> <li>-0.7845</li> <li>0.0448</li> <li>0.9757</li> <li>-0.1355</li> <li>0.1042</li> <li>1.0484</li> <li>-1.0351</li> <li>-0.9409</li> <li>1.5162</li> <li>1.2546</li> <li>2.0310</li> <li>1.1207</li> <li>-0.0264</li> <li>-0.2160</li> <li>-1.0500</li> </ul>	<i>Z</i> -0.6675 -0.0586 -0.4259 0.9604 -0.1000 -0.4957 0.3635 0.2980 0.1293 0.5774 0.4053 1.6440 -0.0168 -0.6032 0.1809

<b>Table S2.</b> Calculated unscaled harmonic vibrational frequencies ( $\nu$ in cm <sup>-1</sup> ) and IR intensities ( $I$
in km mol <sup>-1</sup> ) for the acetic acid monomer and selected dimers at the MP2/6-311(2+,2+)G(2d,2p)
level of theory.

AA mon	omer	AA din	ner D1	AA din	ner D2	AA dim	er D3	
V	1	V	1	V	1	V	1	
3786.4	77.2	3301.0	2969.5	3779.0	83.2	3777.5	85.4	
3228.4	2.6	3228.6	0.0	3514.7	1013.0	3486.4	946.9	
3187.4	1.9	3227.8	13.0	3223.8	5.4	3223.5	4.7	
3107.3	1.2	3202.6	0.0	3222.5	15.0	3222.9	4.2	
1799.8	290.5	3186.6	0.0	3184.5	2.9	3197.3	2.5	
1504.4	8.4	3186.6	3.0	3182.7	1.5	3184.0	2.9	
1500.0	16.3	3106.4	2.0	3104.4	2.2	3109.4	2.9	
1432.7	48.7	3106.3	0.0	3100.0	13.4	3104.0	2.2	
1350.3	39.1	1759.5	716.9	1783.1	617.9	1781.2	597.5	
1208.5	213.3	1719.6	0.0	1762.0	75.8	1762.2	43.1	
1082.4	5.1	1510.4	0.0	1517.4	7.8	1509.1	12.4	
1009.3	81.8	1504.0	0.0	1504.7	7.7	1505.5	7.6	
867.7	7.8	1504.0	16.9	1500.5	26.8	1500.0	18.2	
660.5	91.0	1499.6	60.4	1498.8	1.0	1491.3	23.5	
584.6	36.1	1485.6	0.0	1448.3	39.0	1447.9	37.4	
549.6	30.4	1478.9	125.0	1442.4	60.9	1436.2	93.8	
425.0	4.1	1420.9	0.0	1398.1	16.9	1398.5	6.1	
64.7	0.2	1415.3	40.7	1367.9	91.8	1368.4	71.1	
		1335.5	391.8	1270.2	270.1	1272.7	247.2	
		1318.0	0.0	1227.1	220.4	1224.3	235.8	
		1087.3	6.8	1093.5	6.0	1086.6	7.7	
		1086.1	0.0	1082.7	4.3	1082.8	4.4	
		1042.3	41.2	1029.8	49.5	1029.7	56.8	
		1038.7	0.0	1028.0	73.5	1027.2	47.0	
		1027.5	172.6	898.2	86.9	912.3	82.9	
		983.5	0.0	890.3	4.4	887.0	5.3	
		910.7	0.0	881.7	6.5	882.4	4.4	
		909.7	7.0	673.2	93.2	686.1	94.9	
		635.0	43.7	610.2	32.9	610.9	8.7	
		627.2	0.0	600.4	38.5	601.6	35.4	
		609.9	0.0	599.2	1.0	597.4	24.9	
		604.0	0.5	556.9	25.9	550.1	22.3	
		483.3	45.9	447.5	16.2	444.4	12.2	
		443.7	0.0	433.8	3.2	434.8	0.9	
		179.8	0.0	145.5	12.9	165.1	17.5	
		177.3	29.5	109.7	0.4	122.2	1.8	
		155.4	0.0	106.4	0.1	120.8	0.4	
		121.6	0.0	99.6	3.4	85.7	1.6	
		73.7	0.2	93.5	0.9	64.4	0.2	
		57.5	1.8	56.4	0.0	58.0	0.5	
		33.9	0.1	33.1	3.2	28.7	3.0	
		33.0	3.0	-	-	24.5	1.3	

AA dim	AA dimer D4		AA dimer D5		AA dimer D6	
V	Ι		v I		ν	1
3665.2	657.7		3777.0	87.9	3775.2	81.5
3559.6	312.3		3538.0	871.0	3625.8	632.7
3229.0	2.2		3226.6	0.4	3227.0	2.2
3226.3	3.9		3223.4	5.5	3225.8	3.3
3187.3	1.3		3187.3	0.7	3185.0	2.2
3184.3	2.4		3183.5	3.7	3179.0	11.0
3106.9	0.8		3105.9	1.4	3105.1	1.6
3104.2	1.6		3103.7	2.8	3097.9	11.1
1803.4	153.2		1791.1	126.6	1816.7	313.2
1769.3	473.9		1772.6	572.5	1780.1	282.3
1505.6	8.8		1505.4	0.1	1508.6	24.4
1504.0	8.6		1505.0	15.8	1505.1	7.9
1499.8	25.5		1500.8	26.1	1502.6	8.7
1498.9	9.3		1500.0	7.2	1499.5	22.5
1445.6	44.2		1442.6	71.3	1441.9	58.4
1429.9	42.2		1437.0	28.4	1435.5	36.3
1396.9	11.2		1388.1	1.0	1388.0	3.3
1347.8	10.8		1368.4	43.3	1328.6	23.5
1271.5	381.1		1251.5	282.4	1261.7	270.6
1204.3	473.4		1219.2	452.5	1199.5	207.0
1085.2	5.1		1086.9	6.5	1089.4	5.5
1081.6	3.9		1081.1	4.2	1083.4	4.5
1027.4	54.9		1024.7	70.6	1025.3	56.5
1014.7	135.1		1020.8	95.2	1004.9	81.3
887.5	4.8		881.8	7.3	883.1	11.1
869.6	4.1		876.7	5.1	850.7	33.1
855.4	164.7		874.2	81.5	825.4	91.1
741.1	15.6		671.1	93.5	645.0	66.4
620.5	55.3		611.5	7.5	605.5	34.4
603.0	18.1		598.3	86.5	594.8	2.6
591.4	0.4		595.8	0.8	585.7	19.7
588.2	1.9		555.4	26.5	542.6	38.1
453.2	4.4		441.1	0.5	441.2	7.7
435.9	13.0		434.0	6.2	428.3	1.6
186.1	22.3		165.7	16.5	142.2	0.7
117.5	0.2		95.3	0.4	131.9	8.1
97.4	0.0		92.2	0.4	110.9	3.3
77.2	0.1		59.1	0.4	94.0	3.5
57.9	0.2		53.9	0.5	75.2	0.5
53.6	1.6		35.0	0.1	59.9	1.1
49.4	2.0		28.8	1.4	20.5	0.8
21.3	0.0		-21.7	0.5	17.6	0.9