

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

**HC_nN ANIONS IN THE ISM: EXPLORING THEIR EXISTENCE AND
NEW PATHS TO ANIONS CARBONITRILES FOR n=3,5**

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Table S1. Equilibrium geometries and rotational constants of **3.n.1**, **3.a.1**, **5.n.1**, and **5.a.1**, and linear anions **3.a.lin** and **5.a.lin**, calculated at the RHF-CCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12 level of theory. Rotational constants are calculated from equilibrium geometries with average atomic masses.

Table S2. Configurational isomers of HC₃N⁻ calculated by USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVTZ method. The energies and dipole moments of the neutral HC₃N at the geometry of the corresponding anion are shown in parenthesis below the values for the anion. IR intensities are presented in parenthesis.

Table S3. Configurational isomers of HC₅N⁻ calculated by USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVTZ method. The energies and dipole moments of the neutral HC₅N at the geometry of the corresponding anion are shown in parenthesis below the values for the anion. IR intensities are presented in parenthesis.

Table S4. Electronic energies, harmonic frequencies, zero-point vibrational energies (ZPVE), and dipole moments of different states of HC₃N/HC₃N⁻ system, calculated by using the theoretical models discussed in this work and listed at the end of the Table, with experimental values given in italics. In the case of the **3.a.1** system we also present (in brackets) the energy and dipole moment of the neutral at **3.a.1** geometry.

Table S5. Electronic energies, harmonic frequencies, zero-point vibrational energies (ZPVE), and dipole moments of different states of HC₅N/HC₅N⁻ system, calculated by using various theoretical models presented in this work. Their references are at the end of Table. In the case of the **5.a.1** system we present in brackets the energy and dipole moment of the neutral at the **5.a.1** geometry.

Table S1. Equilibrium geometries and rotational constants of **3.n.1**, **3.a.1**, **5.n.1**, and **5.a.1**, and linear anions **3.a.lin** and **5.a.lin**, calculated at the RHF-CCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12 level of theory. Rotational constants are calculated from equilibrium geometries with average atomic masses.

Species	Geometry	Rotational constants / GHz
3.n.1	$rC_1H=1.0640 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_1C_2=1.2080 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_2C_3=1.3804 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_3N=1.1624 \text{ \AA}$; all angles = 180° . Previous experimental results: $rC_1H=1.058[1]$, $1.062[2]$; $rC_1C_2=1.205[1]$, $1.206[2]$; $rC_2C_3=1.378[1]$, $1.376[2]$; and $rC_3N=1.159[1]$, $1.161[2]$.	4.5270852 4.5270852 0.0000000
3.a.lin	$rC_1H = 1.0693 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_1C_2 = 1.2106 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_2C_3 = 1.3766 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_3N = 1.1629 \text{ \AA}$; all angles = 180° .	4.5296524 4.5296524 0.0000000
3.a.1	$rC_1H = 1.0950 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_1C_2 = 1.3039 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_2C_3 = 1.3887 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_3N = 1.1780 \text{ \AA}$, $\angle(HCC) = 123.6^\circ$; $\angle(CCC) = 137.4^\circ$; $\angle(CCN) = 173.0^\circ$; dihedral angles = 180°	4.6514770 4.7682720 189.9010614
5.n.1	$rC_1H = 1.0639 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_1C_2 = 1.2114 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_2C_3 = 1.3694 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_3C_4 = 1.2151 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_4C_5 = 1.3748 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_5N = 1.1639 \text{ \AA}$; all angles = 180° .	1.3231222 1.3231222 0.0000000
5.a.lin	$rC_1H = 1.0679 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_1C_2 = 1.2139 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_2C_3 = 1.3648 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_3C_4 = 1.2180 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_4C_5 = 1.3715 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_5N = 1.1644 \text{ \AA}$; all angles = 180° .	1.3243379 1.3243379 0.0000000
5.a.1	$rC_1H = 1.0806 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_1C_2 = 1.2706 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_2C_3 = 1.3272 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_3C_4 = 1.2736 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_4C_5 = 1.3754 \text{ \AA}$, $rC_5N = 1.1768 \text{ \AA}$, $\angle(HCC) = 134.3^\circ$; $\angle(C_1C_2C_3) = 168.2^\circ$; $\angle(C_2C_3C_4) = 168.2^\circ$, $\angle(C_3C_4C_5) = 144.1^\circ$; $\angle(CCN) = 174.0^\circ$; dihedral angles = 180°	1.3669609 1.3865222 96.8912467

[1] Dorofeeva, 1991

[2] Kuchitsu, 1998.

Table S2. Configurational isomers of HC_3N^- calculated by USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVTZ method. The energies and dipole moments of the neutral HC_3N at the geometry of the corresponding anion are shown in parenthesis below the values for the anion. IR intensities are presented in parenthesis.

Isomer	Electronic energy/ a.u.	Frequencies / cm ⁻¹ (IR intensities, kmmol ⁻¹)	ZPVE/a.u.	Dipole moment/D
3.a.1 ² A'	-169.5744563 (-169.5249239)	169(7), 348(6), 524(27), 680(42), 871(59), 928(85), 1814(14), 2195(551), 3024(151)	0.024040	1.111 (3.405)
3.a.2	-169.562199 (-169.486253)	256(34), 439(0), 598(10), 705(27), 948(3), 1213(7), 1502(50), 2294(265), 2968(124)	0.024886	3.509 (2.995)
3.a.3	-169.5340407 (-169.4566053)	207(12), 241(24), 420(4), 698(54), 908(2), 1122(108), 1752(178), 1939(547), 3221(276).	0.023938	4.350 (3.246)
3.a.4	-169.5336730 (-169.3519058)	214(10), 260(0), 529(22), 898(0), 963(61), 1237(5), 1644(183), 2085(318), 2922(90)	0.024495	5.142 (4.833)
3.a.5	-169.529191 (-169.472739)	241(9), 327(1), 516(63), 700(52), 855(40), 932(99), 1713(12), 2117(22), 3104(64)	0.023934	0.878 (2.670)
3.a.6	-169.5218720 (-169.4437857)	237(22), 352(0), 553(19), 709(24), 880(20), 1262(12), 1523(3), 2218(11), 3035(105)	0.024535	3.753 (2.506)
3.a.7	-169.5210818 (-169.4287570)	419(45), 445(66), 565(14), 648(104), 906(22), 1108(188), 1528(107), 1777(733), 3484(23).	0.024783	2.205 (1.111)
3.a.8	-169.5005510 (-169.4124170)	211(29), 271(2), 420(30), 586(12), 931(113), 1052(239), 1782(107), 1968(455), 2848(268)	0.022938	5.267 (5.340)
3.a.9	-169.4707660 (-169.3911138)	353(24), 619(25), 704(25), 861(11), 1030(35), 1107(13), 1330(22), 1366(13), 3032(143).	0.023697	2.894 (2.236)
3.a.10	-169.460785 (-169.337711)	213(14), 293(3), 553(25), 724(18), 939(22), 1375(2), 1518(4), 2099(111), 3375(2)	0.025263	5.395 (6.630)

Table S3. Configurational isomers of HC_5N^- calculated by USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVTZ method. The energies and dipole moments of the neutral HC_5N at the geometry of the corresponding anion are shown in parenthesis below the values for the anion. IR intensities are presented in parenthesis.

Isomer	Electronic Energy / a.u.	Frequencies/cm ⁻¹ (IR intensities, kmmol ⁻¹)	ZPVE/a.u.	Dipole moment/D
5.a.1 ² A'	-245.7505665 (-245.6904719)	44(1), 117(5), 232(3), 285(7), 383(9), 476(7), 555(0), 586(9), 635(95), 691(456), 1246(45), 1914(182), 2149(293), 2259(1096), 3191(92).	0.033628	1.5007 (3.779)
5.a.2	-245.7453192 (-245.6293754)	92(12), 174(3), 275(2), 381(1), 408(6), 553(1), 561(4), 728(37), 908(4), 1074(5), 1310(7), 1679(49), 1915(895), 2326(281), 3104(39),	0.035281	4.986 (2.137)
5.a.3	-245.7169582 (-245.6328207)	115(20), 127(0), 254(35), 424(2), 525(28), 544(10), 575(10), 706(21), 729(3), 1202(5), 1225(14), 1472(228), 2220(243), 2355(1454), 2977(111).	0.035195	4.489 (3.928)
5.a.4	-245.7125671 (-245.6183144)	144(2), 234(8), 269(33), 440(9), 501(25), 537(69), 625(4), 638(0), 655(43), 746(1), 1141(8), 1454(58), 2188(200), 2315(184), 3519(68).	0.035094	4.658 (3.391)
5.a.5	-245.7084253 (-245.6226443)	105(6), 111(7), 213(7), 250(8), 316(1), 400(0), 546(6), 588(0), 653(1), 1131(245), 1236(96), 1801(489), 1899(1471), 2083(560), 3419(27),	0.033606	7.075 (5.655)
5.a.6	-245.7047472 (-245.5905465)	97(12), 174(2), 250(1), 344(1), 407(5), 498(0), 512(4), 721(29), 917(15), 1072(6), 1334(35), 1694(2), 1935(577), 2230(39), 3142(35)	0.034912	5.574 (2.089)
5.a.7	-245.7006173 (-245.6320745)	104(2), 202(2), 272(40), 329(0), 404(211), 466(125), 530(7), 565(244), 593(45), 742(5), 1172(18),	0.033654	1.442 (3.523)

		1858(236), 2096(56), 2136(19), 3303(16).		
5.a.8	-245.6723402 (-245.5829066)	284(64), 411(13), 580(162), 587(3), 618(1), 718(266), 809(24), 897(41), 961(87), 1066(61), 1098(1), 1280(16), 1440(32), 1765(200), 3242(34)	0.035896	1.356 (2.036)
5.a.9	-245.6694167 (-245.5489128)	111(0), 132(4), 420(74), 440(18), 518(79), 519(17), 544(12), 595(7), 668(186), 813(41), 1191(26), 1505(217), 1784(1430), 2200(758), 3532(104),	0.034111	3.101 (0.393)
5.a.10	-245.6632304 (-245.5707224)	135(12), 157(4), 249(5), 397(1), 458(106), 535(9), 608(58), 773(166), 812(74), 959(0), 991(25), 1511(223), 1817(30), 2251(592), 3101(87)	0.033617	3.496 (3.741)

Table S4. Electronic energies, harmonic frequencies, zero-point vibrational energies (ZPVE), and dipole moments of different states of $\text{HC}_3\text{N}/\text{HC}_3\text{N}^-$ system, calculated by using the theoretical models discussed in this work and listed at the end of the Table, with experimental values given in italics. In the case of the **3.a.1** system we also present (in brackets) the energy and dipole moment of the neutral at **3.a.1** geometry.

Isomer	Electronic energy/ a.u.	Frequencies/cm-1	ZPVE/a.u.	Dipole moment/D
3.n.1 ($^1\Sigma^+$)	-169.5672400 ^{a)}	242(0), 242(0), 555(7), 555(7), 735(38),	0.027641 ^{a)}	-3.912 ^{a)}
	-169.5784335 ^{b)}	735(38), 909(0), 2219(1),	0.026313 ^{c)}	-3.909 ^{b)}
	-169.3502637 ^{c)}	2437(30), 3504(83). ^{a)}	0.026061 ^{f)}	-3.994 ^{g)}
	-169.3528759 ^{d)}	221, 221, 496, 496, 677, 677, 879, 2113,	0.025771 ⁿ⁾	-3.840 ^{h)}
	-169.2903628 ^{e)}	2318, 3453. ^{c)}		-4.182 ⁱ⁾
	-169.3244578 ^{f)}	224, 224, 506, 506, 673, 673, 885, 2043,		-4.183 ^{j)}
	-169.3314740 ^{g)}	2229, 3477. ^{f)}		-4.182 ^{k)}
	-169.2804743 ^{h)}	222, 499, 663, 864, 2079, 2274, 3327 ⁿ⁾		-4.183 ^{l)}
	-169.2902261 ⁱ⁾			-3.929 ^{m)}
	-169.2892771 ^{j)}			
	-169.2895561 ^{k)}			
	-169.2892480 ^{l)}			
	-169.5667065 ^{m)}			-3.72 ^{o)}
3.a.lin $^2\Sigma^+$	-169.5686812 ^{a)}	330, 330, 760, 760, 883, 902, 902,	0.028709 ^{c)}	+19.622 ^{a)}
	-169.5815316 ^{b)}	2097, 2307, 3332 ^{c)}	0.026436 ^{f)}	+12.182 ^{b)}
	-169.3273999 ^{c)}	230, 230, 493, 493, 831, 831, 889, 2032,		+15.289 ^{g)}
	-169.3319822 ^{d)}	2223, 3351. ^{f)}		+19.754 ^{h)}
	-169.2881478 ^{e)}			+19.868 ⁱ⁾
	-169.3008507 ^{f)}			
	-169.3013204 ^{g)}			
	-169.2776269 ^{h)}			
	-169.2879667 ⁱ⁾			
	no conv. ^{j)}			
	no conv. ^{k)}			
	no conv. ^{l)}			
	no conv. ^{m)}			
3.a.1 $^2\text{A}'$	-169.5744563 ^{a)}	169(7), 348(6), 524(27), 680(42),	0.024040 ^{a)}	1.111 ^{a)}
	(-169.5249239) a)	871(59), 928(85), 1814(14),	0.023874 ^{c)}	(3.405) ^{a)}
	-169.5837159 ^{b)}	2195(551), 3024(151) ^{a)}	0.025092 ^{f)}	0.919 ⁱ⁾
	-169.3502936 ^{c)}	227, 371, 546, 680, 866, 941, 1714,		0.922 ^{j)}
	-169.3530713 ^{d)}	2132, 3003. ^{c)}		0.991 ^{m)}
	(-169.3129127) d)	218, 345, 511, 687, 880, 1527, 1727,		
	-169.2902153 ^{e)}	2094, 3026 ^{f)}		
	-169.3247399 ^{f)}			
	-169.2905820 ⁱ⁾			
	-169.2893629 ^{j)}			
	-169.5737715 ^{m)}			

a) USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVTZ

b) USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVQZ//RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12

c) RCCSD(T)-F12a/cc-pVTZ-F12

- d) RCCSD(T)-F12a/cc-pVQZ-F12// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- e) RCCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pVTZ// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- f) RMP2-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- g) CAS-MRCISD(Q)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- h) CAS-MRCISD(Q)/d-aug-cc-pVTZ// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- i) UHF-CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pVTZ// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- j) UHF-CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- k) UHF-CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)1d// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- l) UHF-CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)H+1(s,p)C,N// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- m) USOOGGA11X/ aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)1d// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- n) [3]
- o) [4]; [5]

Table S5. Electronic energies, harmonic frequencies, zero-point vibrational energies (ZPVE), and dipole moments of different states of $\text{HC}_5\text{N}/\text{HC}_5\text{N}^-$ system, calculated by using various theoretical models presented in this work. Their references are at the end of Table. In the case of the **5.a.1** system we present in brackets the energy and dipole moment of the neutral at the **5.a.1** geometry.

Isomer	Electronic energy/a.u.	Frequencies / cm-1	ZPVE/a.u.	Dipole moment/D
Neutral $^1\Sigma^+$	-245.7183235 ^{a)} -245.7334428 ^{b)} -245.3906561 ^{c)} -245.3944063 ^{d)} -245.3561761 ^{e)} -245.3324649 ^{f)} -245.3049575 ^{g)} -245.3030309 ^{h)} -245.3035067 ⁱ⁾ -245.3029722 ^{j)} -245.7174895 ^{k)}	106, 106, 247, 247, 447, 447, 474, 474, 609, 657, 657, 1164, 2098, 2233, 2320, 3452. ^{c)} 97, 97, 248, 248, 458, 458, 483, 483, 614, 643, 643, 1178, 2026, 2149, 2223, 3473. ^{e)}	0.038031 ^{a)} 0.035856 ^{c)} 0.035361 ^{e)} 0.034487 ^{e)}	-4.648 ^{a)} -4.668 ^{b)} -5.033 ^{f)} -4.888 ^{g)} -4.888 ^{h)} -4.888 ⁱ⁾ -4.888 ^{j)} -4.674 ^{k)}
5.a.lin $^2\Sigma^+$	-245.7273446 ^{b)} -245.3710823 ^{c)} -245.3764349 ^{d)} -245.3358805 ^{e)} -245.3055020 ^{f)} -245.3035343 ^{g)} -245.3036148 ^{h)} -245.3040947 ⁱ⁾ -245.3035563 ^{j)} no conv.	74, 74, 174, 174, 275, 276, 533, 533, 617, 741, 741, 1186, 2013, 2146, 2214, 3368. ^{e)}		+16.099 ^{b)} +19.399 ^{f)} +23.859 ^{g)} +65.109 ^{h)} +65.111 ⁱ⁾ +55.817 ^{j)}
5.a.1 $^2\text{A}'$	-245.7505667 ^{a)} (-245.6904719) ^{a)} -245.7627827 ^{b)} -245.4126438 ^{c)} -245.4165681 ^{d)} (-245.3617062) ^{d)} -245.3810656 ^{e)} -245.3266112 ^{g)} -245.3247451 ^{h)} -245.7489382 ^{k)}	195, 317, 318, 408, 424, 477, 558, 662, 666, 939, 1230, 1849, 2032, 2189, 3248. ^{e)}	0.033628 ^{a)} 0.035337 ^{e)}	1.501 ^{a)} (3.779) ^{a)} 1.652 ^{b)} 2.109 ^{g)} 2.111 ^{j)} 1.904 ^{k)}

- a) USOGGA11X/d-aug-cc-pVTZ
- b) SOGGA11X/aug-cc-pVQZ//RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- c) RCCSD(T)-F12a/cc-pVTZ-F12
- d) RCCSD(T)-F12a/cc-pVQZ-F12// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- e) RMP2-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- f) CAS-MRCISD(Q)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- g) UHF-CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pVTZ// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- h) UHF-CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- i) UHF-CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)1d// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- j) UHF-CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)H+1(s,p)C,N// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12
- k) USOGGA11X/ aug-cc-pVTZ+4(sp)1d// RCCSD(T)-F12/cc-pVTZ-F12

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