

Electronic Supplementary Information for

**Competition between Dispersion Interactions and Conventional
Hydrogen Bonding: Insights from a Theoretical Study on Z-Arg-OH**

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Table S1 Energy values (in kcal mol⁻¹) of the noncovalent interaction from the energy decomposition analysis between the three different parts: the guanidine group (P₁), the benzene group (P₃) and the middle part (P₂), including the peptide bond and the carboxylate group in conformer AT₁₁ and AC₁₂.

		Electrostatic	Repulsion	Dispersion	Total
AT ₁₁	P ₁ and P ₃	0.62	0.12	-1.03	-0.29
	P ₁ and P ₂	-10.84	7.00	-5.21	-9.06
AC ₁₂	P ₁ and P ₃	-0.52	0.02	-0.37	-0.87
	P ₁ and P ₂	-7.89	8.19	-7.87	-7.56

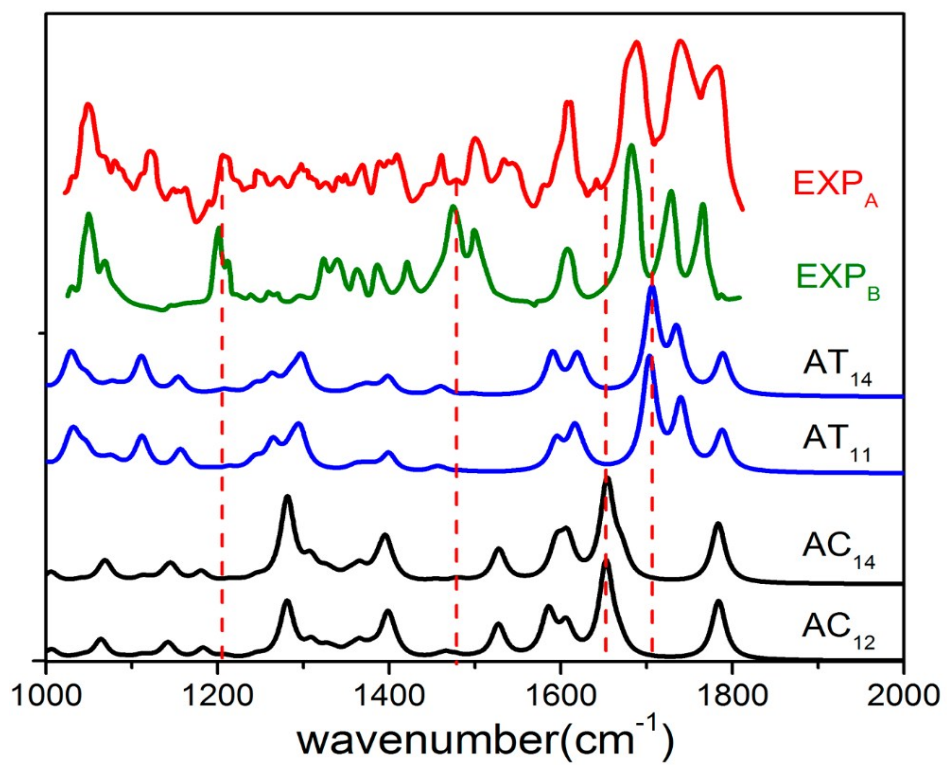


Fig. S1 Simulated IR spectra of the most stable folded structures AC₁₂, AC₁₄, AT₁₁ and AT₁₄ at the B3LYP-D3 level with experimental results EXP_A and EXP_B for comparison. A Lorentzian profile with a FWHM of 20 cm⁻¹ is used to convolute the calculated spectra.

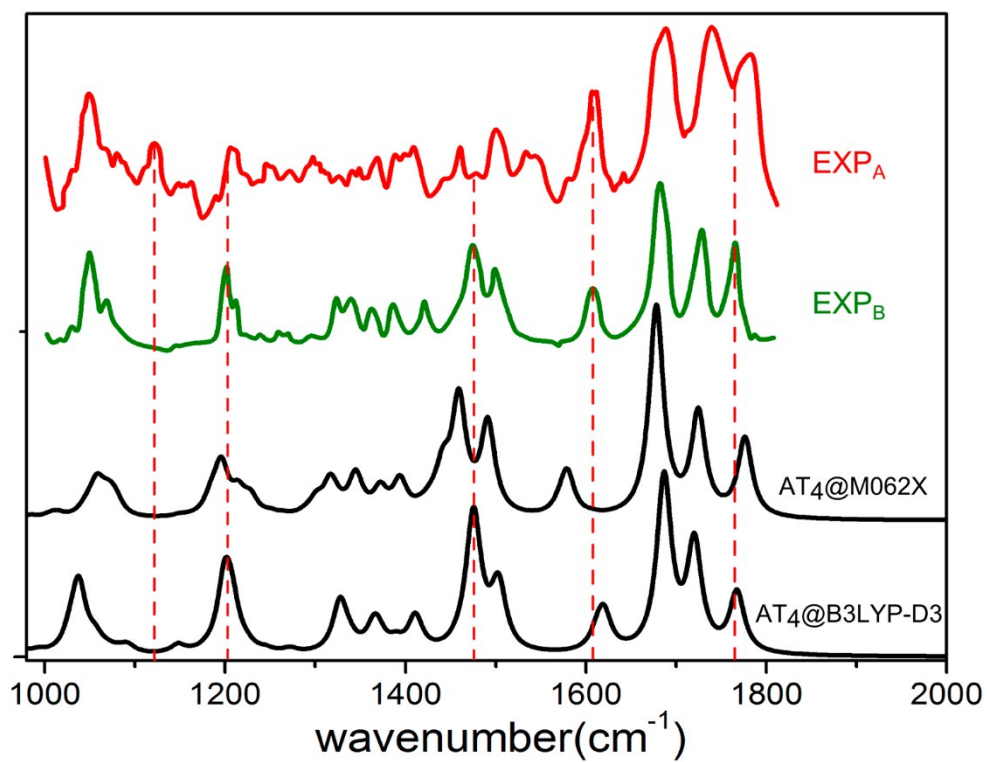


Fig. S2 Simulated IR spectra of conformer AT₄ at the B3LYP-D3 and M062X level with experimental results EXP_A and EXP_B for comparison. A Lorentzian profile with a FWHM of 20 cm⁻¹ is used to convolute the calculated spectra.

Table S2 Conformers with low Gibbs free energy of the three different isomers (AC₁, AT₁-AT₅, AZ₁) of Z-Arg-OH, together with their respective percent abundances at four different temperatures: 350, 300, 250 and 200 K.

conformer	Percent (%)			
	350 K	300 K	250 K	200 K
AC ₁	0.32	0.20	0.10	0.03
AT ₁	19.57	22.18	25.22	29.23
AT ₂	16.73	18.87	21.34	24.55
AT ₃	11.57	13.18	15.07	17.59
AT ₄	22.78	21.45	18.82	14.87
AT ₅	20.92	19.25	16.37	12.40
AZ ₁	0.80	0.40	0.20	0.05

Note: the abundances were calculated using the DSD-PBEP86-D3(BJ)/aug-cc-pVTZ electronic energies and Gibbs free energy corrections at the B3LYP-D3(BJ)/6-311++G (d, p) level of theory.

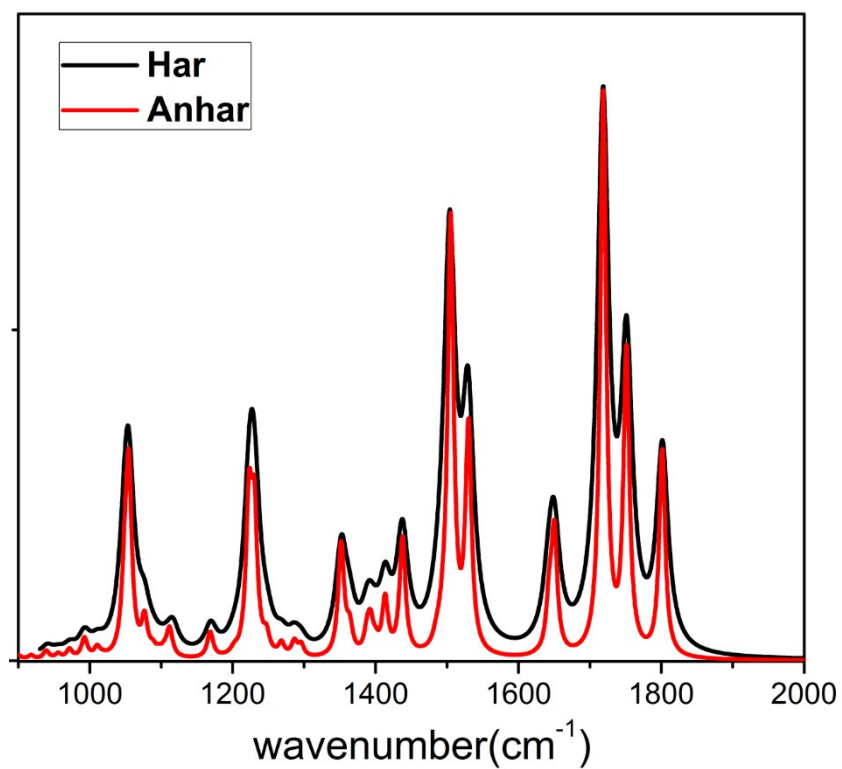


Fig. S3 The computed IR spectrum of representative conformer AT₁ in the anharmonic motion (red) and the calibrated harmonic motion (black, scaling factor: 0.9813) at the B3LYP(BJ)/6-311++G (d, p) level. A Lorentzian profile with a FWHM of 20 cm⁻¹ is used to convolute the calculated spectra.

Table S3 Conformers with low Gibbs free energy of the three different isomers (AC₃, AT₁-AT₅, AZ₃) of Z-Arg-OH, together with their respective percent abundances at 498 K.

Conf.	AC ₃	AT ₁	AT ₂	AT ₃	AT ₄	AT ₅	AZ ₃
Percent (%)	1.05	14.70	12.71	8.59	23.86	22.94	2.06

Note: the abundances were calculated using the DSD-PBEP86-D3(BJ)/aug-cc-pVTZ electronic energies and Gibbs free energy corrections at the B3LYP-D3(BJ)/6-311++G (d, p) level of theory.