

**Electronic Supplementary Information for PCCP** 

**Figure** S1. Comparison of the inelastic neutron scattering spectrum of pentane (solid line) with that calculated by DFT (B3LYP/6-31G\*(d,p)) (dashed line).

## Tables.

Table S1: Comparison of observed and calculated positions and intensities of *cis*-1,3-pentadiene

Observed			DFT	Assignment		
Position / cm <sup>-1</sup>	Infrared intensity	Raman intensity	Position / cm <sup>-1</sup>	Infrared intensity / km mol <sup>-1</sup>	Raman intensity / $Å^4$ amu <sup>-</sup>	
A" modes	5					
			118	0.9	0.4	Methyl torsion
140		VW	144	0.1	2.0	=C-C= torsion
353	vw	vw	361	0.5	2.1	Out-of- plane skeletal deformation
621	S	W	643	32.5	1.7	<i>cis</i> -CH=CH wag
777	S	W	802	7.4	1.3	<i>cis</i> -CH=CH wag
905	VS	W	933	54.6	8.1	CH <sub>2</sub> wag
			992	1.1	4.5	=CH out-of- plane deformation
997	S		1038	15.8	0.1	=CH out-of- plane deformation
1035	W	W	1059	1.7	3.9	Methyl rock
1452	W	m	1482	7.7	6.9	Asymmetric methyl deformation
2949	W	VW	3052	18.3	126.1	Methyl C-H stretch
A' modes	2					
214	VW	VW	217	1.7	0.2	In-plane skeletal deformation d
385	m	m	390	4.3	7.8	In-plane skeletal deformation
612		W	618	5.0	4.1	In-plane skeletal deformation
884	W	m	891	4.0	3.3	=CH <sub>2</sub> rock

954	W		964	12.6	1.5	C-CH <sub>3</sub>
						stretch
1127	W	W	1063	0.1	1.9	Methyl rock
1166	W	m	1188	1.5	18.3	=CH-CH=
						stretch
1251	W	S	1289	2.4	91.9	-CH= bend
1297	W	S	1323	0.8	33.0	-CH= bend
1358	W	W	1394	1.9	3.0	=CH-CH=
						stretch
1390	m	m	1417	3.3	25.9	Symmetric
						methyl
						deformation
1437	m	W	1469	15.8	6.8	$=CH_2$
						scissors
			1491	8.6	67.1	Asymmetric
						methyl
						deformation
1603	S	m	1651	6.3	18.0	C=C
						asymmetric
						stretch
1655	m	VS	1705	13.6	468.3	C=C
						symmetric
						stretch
2928	m	m	3015	29.6	290.3	Symmetric
						methyl C-H
						stretch
2970	VW	W	3107	5.7	60.7	Asymmetric
						methyl C-H
						stretch
2990		w	3124	4.6	38.6	Symmetric
						=C-H
						stretch
3010		S	3130	8.4	67.5	Symmetric
						$=CH_2$
						stretch
3033	S		3143	16.7	224.8	Symmetric
						-CH=
20.00					10.0	stretch
3068	W		3152	28.1	19.8	Asymmetric
						-CH=
2007				4.5.0		stretch
3097	m	m	3219	15.0	89.6	Asymmetric
						$=CH_2$
						stretch

Observed			DFT	Assignment			
Position	Infrared	Raman	Position	Infrared	Raman		
$/ \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$	intensity	intensity	/ cm <sup>-1</sup>	intensity	intensity		
				/ km	$/ Å^4 amu^-$		
				mol <sup>-1</sup>	Ī		
A" modes	3	1	1	1	T		
150		VW	136	1.6	0.4	Out-of-	
						plane	
						skeletal	
						deformation	
205	VW	W	208	0.2	0.8	Methyl	
						torsion	
250	m	W	259	2.2	0.2	Out-of-	
						plane	
						skeletal	
						deformation	
698	W		647	3.4	0.1	Out-of-	
						plane	
						skeletal	
						deformation	
			847	8.0	7.0	=CH out-of-	
						plane	
						deformation	
899	S	W	926	41.7	11.0	CH <sub>2</sub> wag	
948	m	VVW	978	15.6	0.5	=CH out-of-	
						plane	
						deformation	
1003	VS		1041	47.8	1.2	=CH out-of-	
						plane	
						deformation	
1043	VW	W	1063	0.5	3.1	Methyl rock	
1435	W	vw	1478	8.3	8.5	Asymmetric	
						methyl	
						deformation	
2946	W	W	3050	19.5	137.3	Methyl C-H	
						stretch	
A' modes							
383	VW	VW	198	1.8	1.0	In-plane	
						skeletal	
						deformation	
						d	
454	W	VW	454	0.5	1.2	In-plane	
						skeletal	
						deformation	

Table S2: Comparison of observed and calculated positions and intensities of *trans*-1,3-pentadiene

483	VW	S	483	0.1	13.4	In-plane skeletal deformation
620			008	7 1	1.2	d —CII. real:
030	W	<b>X/XX</b> /	908	/.1	1.2	-Сп2 Юск
1082	W	v w	1007	0.1	0.6	C-CH2
1002		vv	1077	0.1	0.0	stretch
1170		W	1207	1.7	77.0	=CH-CH= stretch
1180		m	1298	1.6	0.2	-CH= bend
1280	W	S	1318	1.0	87.1	-CH= bend
1306	m		1335	3.1	0.8	-CH= bend
1376	m	W	1412	2.8	38.9	Symmetric methyl deformation
1420	m	W	1451	5.0	17.3	=CH <sub>2</sub> scissors
1449	m	W	1491	11.3	56.3	Asymmetric methyl deformation
1608	m		1660	10.0	43.7	C=C asymmetric stretch
1660	m	VS	1711	21.3	521.1	C=C symmetric stretch
2931	m	W	3009	36.4	356.1	Symmetric methyl C-H stretch
2973	m	VW	3091	10.1	95.1	Asymmetric methyl C-H stretch
2980	W		3116	1.5	137.9	Symmetric =C-H stretch
2997		S	3121	9.8	13.4	Symmetric =CH <sub>2</sub> stretch
3018	S	VW	3130	47.8	10.6	Symmetric CH= stretch
3050	W		3134	5.9	156.8	Asymmetric CH= stretch
3098	m	W	3219	14.3	93.3	Asymmetric =CH <sub>2</sub> stretch