

## Supplementary Materials

# Infrared and microwave spectra of the acetylene-ammonia and carbonyl sulfide-ammonia complexes: a comparative study of a weak C-H...N hydrogen bond and an S...N bond

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Supplementary Materials include:

1. *Ab initio* harmonic and anharmonic frequency calculations
2. Calculation of electrostatic interactions
3. The experimental infrared and microwave transitions are listed in Table 2 and Table 3

### 1 *Ab initio* harmonic and anharmonic frequency calculations

Harmonic and anharmonic vibrational frequencies and zero-point energies of the complexes and the monomer subunits at the MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory.

HCCH-NH<sub>3</sub>:

| Mode (Quanta)                              | E (harm) | E (anharm) | Aa (z)   | Ba (x)    | Ca (y)    |
|--|----------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Fundamental Bands (DE w.r.t. Ground State) |          |            |          |           |           |
| 1 (1)                                      | 3496.371 | 3384.925   | 0.180750 | -0.001946 | -0.001946 |
| 2 (1)                                      | 3494.521 | 3361.181   | 0.161732 | -0.001980 | -0.001980 |
| 3 (1)                                      | 3335.407 | 3259.993   | 0.189251 | -0.000978 | -0.000978 |
| 4 (1)                                      | 1949.820 | 1924.933   | 0.193146 | -0.002007 | -0.002007 |
| 5 (1)                                      | 1076.846 | 1014.298   | 0.147592 | -0.002292 | -0.002292 |
| 6 (1)                                      | 130.982  | 136.235    | 0.193765 | -0.003977 | -0.003977 |
| 7 (1)                                      | 3639.281 | 3471.484   | 0.183533 | -0.002027 | -0.002027 |
| 8 (1)                                      | 3639.281 | 3471.639   | 0.183533 | -0.002027 | -0.002027 |
| 9 (1)                                      | 1669.153 | 1626.978   | 0.136596 | -0.001978 | -0.002004 |
| 10 (1)                                     | 1669.153 | 1627.728   | 0.136596 | -0.002004 | -0.001978 |
| 11 (1)                                     | 868.800  | 773.318    | 0.197668 | -0.003414 | -0.003388 |
| 12 (1)                                     | 868.800  | 774.761    | 0.197668 | -0.003388 | -0.003414 |
| 13 (1)                                     | 640.486  | 644.191    | 0.194749 | -0.002215 | -0.002246 |

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|                                 |         |         |                                |           |           |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| 14 (1)                          | 640.486 | 646.389 | 0.194750                       | -0.002246 | -0.002215 |
| 15 (1)                          | 213.692 | 223.212 | 0.540488                       | -0.002460 | -0.002516 |
| 16 (1)                          | 213.692 | 217.098 | 0.540487                       | -0.002516 | -0.002460 |
| 17 (1)                          | 90.760  | 151.613 | 0.150804                       | -0.001465 | -0.001682 |
| 18 (1)                          | 90.760  | 156.274 | 0.150804                       | -0.001682 | -0.001465 |
| ZPE (harm) = 0.16585D+03 kJ/mol |         |         | ZPE (anh) = 0.16338D+03 kJ/mol |           |           |

### OCS-NH<sub>3</sub>:

| Mode (Quanta)                              | E (harm) | E (anharm) | Aa (z)                         | Ba (x)    | Ca (y)    |
|--|----------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fundamental Bands (DE w.r.t. Ground State) |          |            |                                |           |           |
| 1 (1)                                      | 3496.905 | 3352.323   | 0.310162                       | -0.000321 | -0.000321 |
| 2 (1)                                      | 2069.121 | 2044.655   | 0.352849                       | -0.000399 | -0.000399 |
| 3 (1)                                      | 1061.474 | 986.344    | 0.300634                       | -0.000466 | -0.000466 |
| 4 (1)                                      | 878.034  | 865.696    | 0.352474                       | -0.000318 | -0.000318 |
| 5 (1)                                      | 86.661   | 69.156     | 0.352690                       | -0.001312 | -0.001312 |
| 6 (1)                                      | 3642.217 | 3474.483   | 0.344760                       | -0.000326 | -0.000326 |
| 7 (1)                                      | 3642.217 | 3474.412   | 0.344760                       | -0.000326 | -0.000326 |
| 8 (1)                                      | 1668.642 | 1621.773   | 0.295348                       | -0.000351 | -0.000347 |
| 9 (1)                                      | 1668.642 | 1622.226   | 0.295348                       | -0.000347 | -0.000351 |
| 10 (1)                                     | 534.858  | 542.887    | 0.353333                       | -0.000430 | -0.000439 |
| 11 (1)                                     | 534.858  | 537.535    | 0.353333                       | -0.000439 | -0.000430 |
| 12 (1)                                     | 123.310  | 111.301    | 0.842806                       | -0.000338 | -0.000353 |
| 13 (1)                                     | 123.310  | 114.526    | 0.842811                       | -0.000353 | -0.000338 |
| 14 (1)                                     | 33.234   | 41.209     | 0.328577                       | -0.000293 | -0.000388 |
| 15 (1)                                     | 33.234   | 51.612     | 0.328575                       | -0.000388 | -0.000293 |
| ZPE (harm) = 0.11721D+03 kJ/mol            |          |            | ZPE (anh) = 0.11519D+03 kJ/mol |           |           |

### NH<sub>3</sub>:

| Mode (Quanta)                              | E (harm) | E (anharm) | Aa (z)                         | Ba (x)    | Ca (y)    |
|--|----------|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Fundamental Bands (DE w.r.t. Ground State) |          |            |                                |           |           |
| 1 (1)                                      | 3503.370 | 3360.670   | -0.217151                      | -0.217197 | -0.154949 |
| 2 (1)                                      | 1039.089 | 961.134    | -0.149187                      | -0.149168 | -0.174113 |
| 3 (1)                                      | 3650.040 | 3484.095   | -0.241515                      | -0.240649 | -0.120067 |
| 4 (1)                                      | 3650.040 | 3484.114   | -0.240613                      | -0.241551 | -0.120067 |
| 5 (1)                                      | 1668.900 | 1621.450   | 0.300007                       | 0.016024  | -0.172464 |
| 6 (1)                                      | 1668.900 | 1621.453   | 0.016029                       | 0.300003  | -0.172464 |
| ZPE (harm) = 0.90799D+02 kJ/mol            |          |            | ZPE (anh) = 0.89335D+02 kJ/mol |           |           |

### HCCH:

|                        |           |           |                             |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Frequencies --         | 601.3897  | 601.3897  | 753.9250                    |
| Frequencies --         | 753.9250  | 1967.8846 | 3431.6016                   |
| Frequencies --         | 3533.6350 |           |                             |
| Zero-point correction= |           |           | 0.026526 (Hartree/Particle) |

### OCS:

Frequencies -- 522.6526 522.6526 888.0232  
 Frequencies -- 2083.7994  
 Zero-point correction= 0.009152 (Hartree/Particle)

## 2 Calculations of electrostatic interactions

Potential energies for the dipole-dipole interaction in the  $C_{3V}$  symmetric conformer of the complexes is:<sup>1</sup>

$$E_{d-d} = -2 \frac{\mu^A \mu^B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^3} \quad (1)$$

dipole-quadrupole interaction ( $C_{3V}$  symmetric conformation, with the dipole moment pointing to or away from the quadrupole):

$$E_{d-q} = \pm 3 \frac{\mu^A Q_{ZZ}^B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \quad (2)$$

dipole-quadrupole interaction (T-shaped conformation, with the dipole moment of  $NH_3$  pointing to HCCH in HCCH- $NH_3$  or pointing away from OCS in OCS- $NH_3$ ):

$$E_{d-q} = \mp 1.5 \frac{\mu^A Q_{ZZ}^B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^4} \quad (3)$$

quadrupole-quadrupole interaction ( $C_{3V}$  symmetric conformer):

$$E_{q-q} = 6 \frac{Q_{ZZ}^A Q_{ZZ}^B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^5} \quad (4)$$

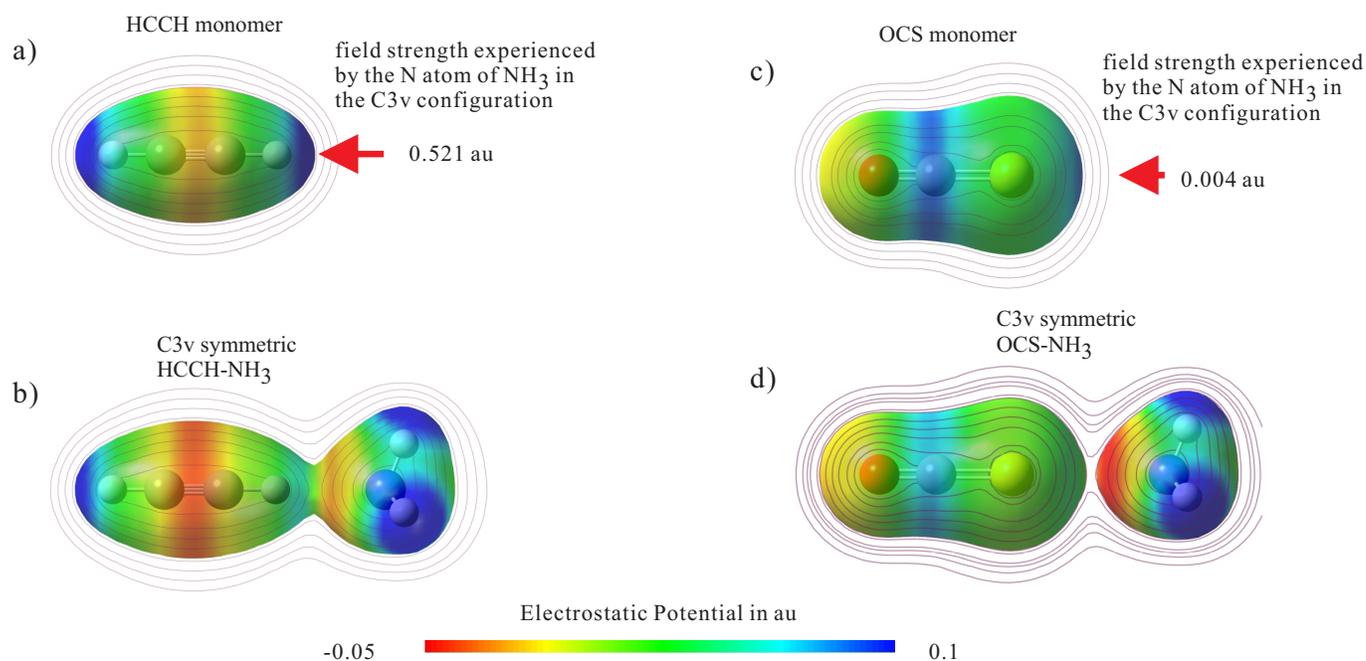
quadrupole-quadrupole interaction (T-shaped conformer):

$$E_{q-q} = -3 \frac{Q_{ZZ}^A Q_{ZZ}^B}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r^5} \quad (5)$$

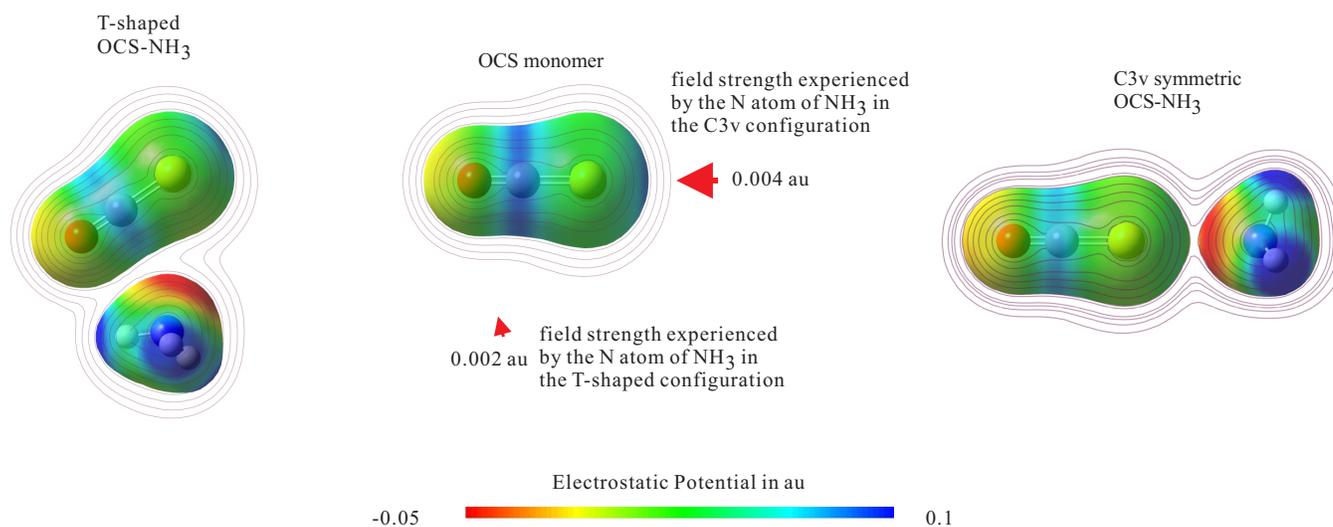
By taking the experimental values for the dipole moments of ammonia (1.472 Debye)<sup>2</sup> and OCS (0.715 Debye)<sup>3</sup>, quadrupole moment of acetylene (6.335 DebyeÅ)<sup>4</sup>, ammonia (-2.320 DebyeÅ)<sup>5</sup>, and OCS (-0.584 DebyeÅ)<sup>6</sup>, and the distance between the subunits determined from this work, the electrostatic interaction energies were estimated and listed in Table 1 (negative means attractive).

**Table 1** Electrostatic interaction energies of HCCH- $NH_3$  and OCS- $NH_3$  (in kJ/mol)

|                       | $C_{3V}$ -HCCH- $NH_3$ | T-shaped HCCH- $NH_3$ | $C_{3V}$ -OCS- $NH_3$ | T-shaped OCS- $NH_3$ |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| dipole-dipole         |                        |                       | -1.5                  |                      |
| quadrupole-dipole     | -6.2                   | -3.1                  | 0.4                   | -0.2                 |
| dipole-quadrupole     |                        |                       | -0.8                  |                      |
| quadrupole-quadrupole | -4.8                   | 2.4                   | 0.3                   | -0.2                 |
| sum                   | -11.0                  | -0.7                  | -1.6                  | -0.4                 |



**Fig. 1** Electrostatic potential (from -0.05 au to 0.1 au) mapped on the electron density isosurface of 0.01 for a) HCCH, b) HCCH- $\text{NH}_3$ , c) OCS, and d) OCS- $\text{NH}_3$ . The blue part of the surface shows a positive electrostatic potential and hence attracts the electronegative N atom of ammonia. In a) and c), the arrows indicate the attractive field strength experienced by the N atom of ammonia if an ammonia molecule is placed at the position as in the corresponding complexes observed.



**Fig. 2** Electrostatic potential (from -0.05 au to 0.1 au) mapped on the electron density isosurface of 0.01 for OCS,  $\text{C}_{3v}$  and T-shaped OCS- $\text{NH}_3$ . The blue part of the surface shows a positive electrostatic potential and hence attracts the electronegative N atom of ammonia. For the two possible binding sites of ammonia, the attractive field strengths experienced by the N atom of ammonia are different, showing a subtle preference for the linear configuration.

### 3 The experimental infrared and microwave transitions

The observed infrared and microwave transitions are listed in Table 2 and Table 3.

**Table 2** Observed infrared transitions of HCCH-NH<sub>3</sub>  $K = 1 \leftarrow 0$  subband and OCS-NH<sub>3</sub>  $K = 2 \leftarrow 1$  subband (in cm<sup>-1</sup>)

| $J' \leftarrow J''$ | HCCH-NH <sub>3</sub> | $\Delta\nu$ | OCS-NH <sub>3</sub> | $\Delta\nu$ |
|---------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 11←12               | 1652.5440            | -0.0001     |                     |             |
| 10←11               | 1652.7250            | -0.0003     |                     |             |
| 9←10                | 1652.9082            | -0.0001     |                     |             |
| 8←9                 | 1653.0911            | -0.0002     | 1636.6666           | -0.0004     |
| 7←8                 |                      |             | 1636.7667           | -0.0006     |
| 6←7                 | 1653.4573            | 0.0005      | 1636.865            | -0.0024     |
| 5←6                 | 1653.6400            | 0.0006      | 1636.967            | -0.0008     |
| 4←5                 | 1653.8219            | -0.0000     | 1637.0681           | 0.0000      |
| 3←4                 | 1654.0038            | -0.0004     | 1637.269            | 0.0046      |
| 2←3                 | 1654.1857            | 0.0005      | 1637.1728           | 0.0002      |
| 1←2                 |                      |             | 1637.3692           | 0.0006      |
| 1←0                 |                      |             | 1637.6693           | 0.0007      |
| 2←1                 | 1655.0943            | -0.0010     | 1637.7684           | -0.0001     |
| 3←2                 | 1655.2756            | -0.0002     | 1637.8685           | 0.0000      |
| 4←3                 | 1655.4566            | -0.0004     | 1637.9674           | -0.0008     |
| 5←4                 | 1655.6377            | -0.0001     | 1638.0679           | -0.0001     |
| 6←5                 | 1655.8187            | 0.0002      | 1638.1682           | 0.0005      |
| 7←6                 | 1655.9995            | 0.0004      | 1638.2673           | -0.0002     |
| 8←7                 | 1656.1786            | -0.0004     | 1638.3674           | 0.0003      |
| 9←8                 | 1656.3595            | 0.0003      | 1638.4670           | 0.0003      |
| 10←9                | 1656.5388            | 0.0001      | 1638.5658           | -0.0003     |
| 11←10               | 1656.7183            | 0.0002      | 1638.667            | 0.0010      |
| 12←11               | 1656.8969            | -0.0004     | 1638.7647           | -0.0003     |
| 13←12               | 1657.0767            | 0.0006      |                     |             |
| 14←13               | 1657.2529            | -0.0006     |                     |             |

**Table 3** Observed microwave transitions of HCCH-NH<sub>3</sub> and OCS-NH<sub>3</sub> (in MHz)

| $J'K'$ | $F'$ | $J''K''$ | $F''$ | HCCH-NH <sub>3</sub> | $\Delta\nu^b$ | OCS-NH <sub>3</sub> | $\Delta\nu^b$ |
|--------|------|----------|-------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1 0    | 1    | 0 0      | 1     |                      |               | 5448.3207           | 0.6           |
|        | 2    |          | 1     |                      |               | 5449.2573           | 2.0           |
|        | 0    |          | 1     |                      |               | 5450.6695           | 1.4           |
| 2 0    | 2    | 1 0      | 2     | 5996.4415            | 3.2           | 10897.1010          | 0.1           |
|        | 1    |          | 0     | 5996.5962            | 2.7           | 10897.2572          | 0.3           |
|        | 2    |          | 1     | 5997.3359            | 1.2           | 10898.0414          | 1.2           |
|        | 3    |          | 2     | 5997.4092            | 8.3           | 10898.1065          | 0.8           |
|        | 1    |          | 1     | 5998.8251            | 0.4           |                     |               |
| 2 1    | 2    | 1 1      | 1     | 5994.8918            | 0.1           | 10893.6791          | 0.7           |
|        | 2    |          | 2     | 5995.3354            | 2.5           |                     |               |
|        | 1    |          | 1     | 5995.6453            | 9.6           | 10894.4634          | 0.9           |
|        | 3    |          | 2     | 5995.8145            | 1.5           | 10894.6523          | 0.1           |
|        | 1    |          | 0     | 5996.7507            | 0.4           | 10895.6364          | 0.1           |
| 3 0    | 3    | 2 0      | 3     | 8994.9376            | 0.4           | 16345.6342          | 1.7           |
|        | 2    |          | 1     | 8995.7436            | 0.9           | 16346.4841          | 1.9           |
|        | 3    |          | 2     | 8995.8890            | 4.3           | 16346.6342          | 4.5           |
|        | 4    |          | 3     | 8995.9320            | 3.2           | 16346.6768          | 0.7           |
|        | 2    |          | 2     | 8997.2346            | 2.4           | 16348.0478          | 0.2           |
| 3 1    | 3    | 2 1      | 3     | 8992.6776            | 1.0           | 16340.5782          | 2.8           |
|        | 3    |          | 2     | 8993.1555            | 0.9           | 16341.0885          | 4.4           |
|        | 4    |          | 3     | 8993.4175            | 2.8           | 16341.3620          | 1.7           |
|        | 2    |          | 2     | 8994.1584            | 0.4           | 16342.1410          | 0.2           |
| 3 2    | 3    | 2 2      | 2     |                      |               | 16324.4750          | 0.4           |
|        | 2    |          | 1     |                      |               | 16326.0382          | 1.7           |
|        | 4    |          | 3     |                      |               | 16325.4821          | 1.3           |
| 4 0    | 4    | 3 0      | 4     | 11993.3234           | 1.2           |                     |               |
|        | 3    |          | 2     | 11994.2455           | 5.6           |                     |               |
|        | 4    |          | 3     | 11994.3152           | 0.3           |                     |               |
|        | 5    |          | 4     | 11994.3392           | 1.8           |                     |               |
|        | 3    |          | 3     | 11995.5906           | 0.6           |                     |               |
| 4 1    | 4    | 3 1      | 4     | 11990.0958           | 2.7           |                     |               |
|        | 4    |          | 3     | 11990.8376           | 0.7           |                     |               |
|        | 3    |          | 2     | 11990.9114           | 5.1           |                     |               |
|        | 5    |          | 4     | 11990.9550           | 0.2           |                     |               |
|        | 3    |          | 3     | 11991.9177           | 3.0           |                     |               |
| 5 0    | 4    | 4 0      | 3     | 14992.5149           | 6.4           |                     |               |
|        | 5    |          | 4     | 14992.5613           | 4.6           |                     |               |
|        | 6    |          | 5     | 14992.5749           | 2.6           |                     |               |
| 5 1    | 5    | 4 1      | 4     | 14988.2605           | 4.4           |                     |               |
|        | 4    |          | 3     | 14988.2971           | 0.3           |                     |               |
|        | 6    |          | 5     | 14988.3304           | 0.8           |                     |               |
| 6 0    | 5    | 5 0      | 4     | 17990.5478           | 3.6           |                     |               |
|        | 7    |          | 6     | 17990.5876           | 2.1           |                     |               |
| 6 1    | 6    | 5 1      | 5     | 17985.4453           | 1.9           |                     |               |
|        | 7    |          | 6     | 17985.4940           | 6.7           |                     |               |

<sup>a</sup>  $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{I}_N + \mathbf{J}$

<sup>b</sup>  $\Delta\nu = \nu_{\text{experimental}} - \nu_{\text{calculated}}$  (in kHz)

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