

Gas-Phase Salt Bridge Interactions between Glutamic Acid and Arginine

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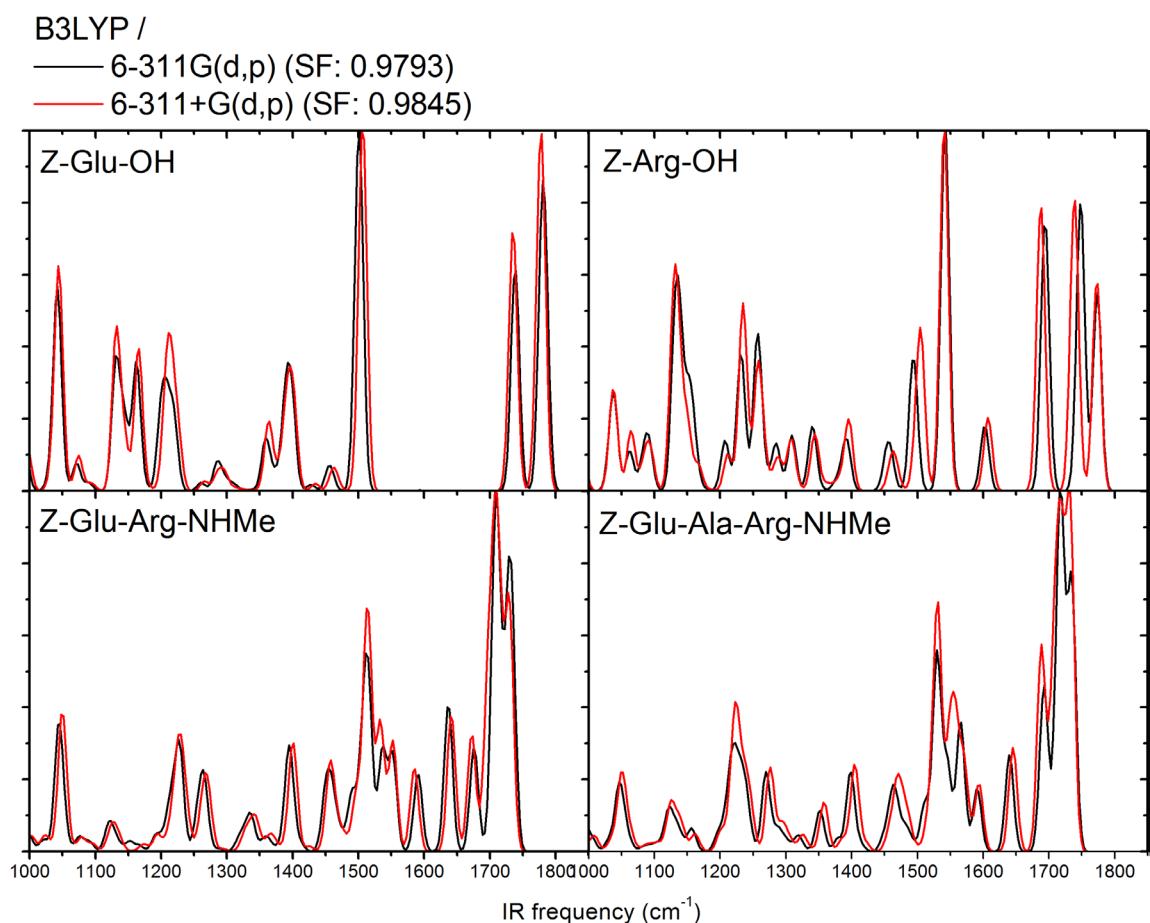


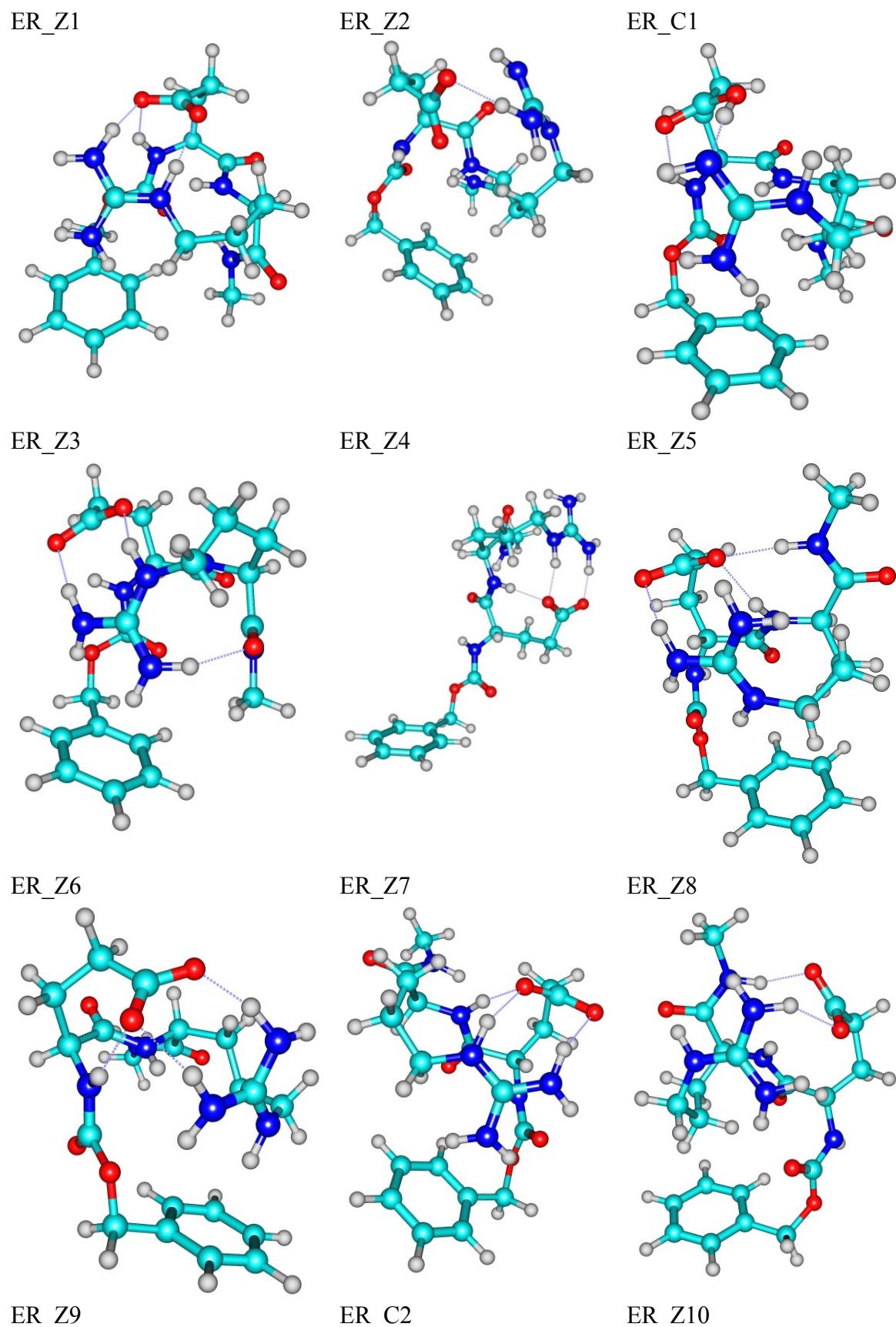
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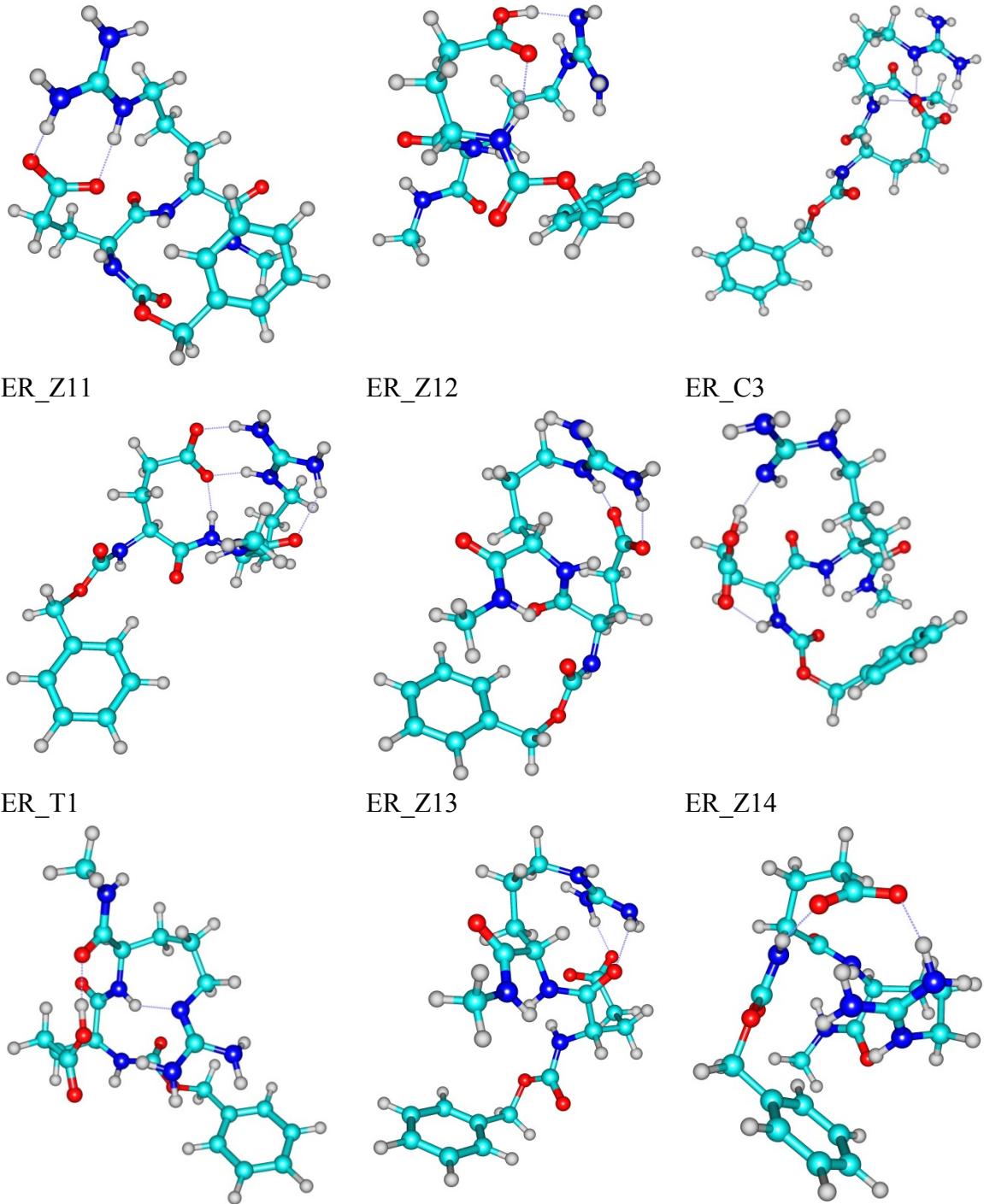
Table SI-1. ZPE-corrected energies (ZPE), Gibbs free energies at 300K (ΔG) and intramolecular interactions for the optimized structures of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe. The employed basis set for the M05-2X and B3LYP functionals is 6-311+G(d,p).

| | M05-2X | | B3LYP | | Interactions | | | |
|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | ZPE | Gibbs | ZPE | Gibbs | SC - SC | Disp. Int. | BB - BB | BB - SC |
| ER_Z1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4.06 | 5.79 | A | NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O |
| ER_Z2 | 3.76 | 3.24 | 5.89 | 5.01 | C | N2 | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O + O1-H ₂ N |
| ER_C1 | 3.81 | 2.00 | 5.41 | 5.03 | OH - NH | NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O |
| ER_Z3 | 4.08 | 4.06 | 5.82 | 8.22 | A | 2 x NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² + O2-H ₂ N |
| ER_Z4 | 4.28 | 0.54 | 0.00 | 0.00 | A | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) | N2-O + O2-H ₂ N |
| ER_Z5 | 4.37 | 3.60 | 6.60 | 7.20 | B | | C5(N1-O1) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ² + O0-(H ϵ +H ₂ N) |
| ER_Z6 | 4.46 | 2.71 | 5.14 | 6.34 | B | H ϵ + NH ₂ | C7(O1-N3) | N1-O |
| ER_Z7 | 4.56 | 2.57 | 6.55 | 6.89 | A | NH ₂ | C5(N1-O1) | N2-O + O0-H ₂ N |
| ER_Z8 | 4.85 | 4.27 | 11.21 | 11.97 | C | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) | N3-O + O0-H ₂ N + O2-H ϵ |
| ER_Z9 | 5.54 | 3.51 | 2.60 | 1.35 | A | | - | |
| ER_C2 | 6.59 | 4.41 | 5.88 | 3.74 | OH - NH | NH ₂ | C7(O1-N3) | N1-O |
| ER_Z10 | 7.84 | 5.23 | 4.64 | 3.82 | A | | C5(N1-O1) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ² |
| ER_Z11 | 8.80 | 5.28 | 5.44 | 5.75 | A | | C7(O1-N3) | N2-O + O2-N |
| ER_Z12 | 9.08 | 8.07 | 10.02 | 9.55 | A | | C10(O0-N3) | N2-O |
| ER_C3 | 9.75 | 6.06 | 8.37 | 7.56 | OH - NH | N2 | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O |
| ER_T1 | 9.98 | 7.92 | 10.83 | 10.76 | NH ₂ -OH | NH ₂ | C5(N1-O1) | N1-O + O3-HO + N2-N ϵ |
| ER_Z13 | 10.13 | 5.68 | 7.00 | 6.18 | C | | - | N1-O + O1-H ₂ N |
| ER_Z14 | 10.13 | 6.30 | 8.30 | 9.48 | B | H ϵ + NH ₂ | - | N1-O + O2-H ϵ |
| ER_Z15 | 10.30 | 6.96 | 9.17 | 9.15 | C | | C5(N1-O1) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + O0-H ₂ N |
| ER_T2 | 11.12 | 8.16 | 7.66 | 7.29 | O-(H ₂ N) ₂ | | C7(O1-N3) | N2-N ϵ + N3-N ϵ + O0-HO |
| ER_C4 | 11.41 | 9.52 | 9.76 | 9.41 | | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) | O0-HO |
| ER_T3 | 12.80 | 10.21 | 11.96 | 10.69 | | | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O + N3-N ϵ + O2-HO |
| ER_C5 | 12.90 | 9.87 | 10.48 | 9.84 | OH - NH | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) | N2-O |
| ER_T4 | 13.40 | 9.78 | 13.19 | 12.70 | O-H ₂ N | OH | | N1-N ϵ + N2-N ϵ + O2-H2N |
| ER_C6 | 13.93 | 9.78 | 8.82 | 8.03 | OH - NH | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | |
| ER_T5 | 14.53 | 12.09 | 9.98 | 8.32 | | | C10(O0-N3) | N2-N ϵ + O0-H ₂ N + O1-HO |
| ER_C7 | 14.58 | 12.28 | 14.36 | 13.97 | OH - NH | N2 | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | O0-H ₂ N |

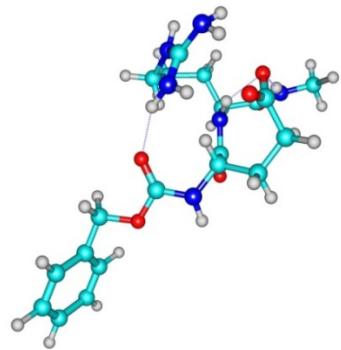
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|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---|
| ER_T6 | 14.77 | 12.39 | 12.11 | 9.49 | OH-NH ₂ | NH ₂ | C7(O1-N3) | N1-N ε + N2-N ε |
| ER_C8 | 15.58 | 11.61 | 12.16 | 11.07 | | | C5(N1-O1) + C5(N2-O2) | N2-O + N3-HN η + O2-HO |
| ER_T7 | 16.11 | 14.08 | 15.88 | 14.64 | | NH ₂ | | N2-N ε + O1-HO |
| ER_T8 | 17.32 | 14.15 | 14.77 | 13.23 | | | C7(O1-N3) | N1-H2N + N2-N ε |
| ER_C9 | 18.69 | 14.61 | 15.69 | 14.08 | | | C7(O1-N3) | N1-O |
| ER_T9 | 19.09 | 13.10 | 14.15 | 11.55 | | NH ₂ | C7(O1-N3) | N1-N ε |
| ER_C10 | 19.12 | 12.11 | 11.78 | 7.36 | | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) | N2-O |
| ER_Z16 | 20.33 | 18.60 | 16.20 | 16.03 | A | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | |
| ER_T10 | 20.48 | 17.58 | 19.92 | 19.78 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | N1-O + O1-HO |
| ER_C11 | 21.04 | 16.09 | 16.51 | 13.81 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | O2-H ₂ N |
| ER_C12 | 25.11 | 18.57 | 17.33 | 13.20 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | |

Energies are given in kcal/mol.

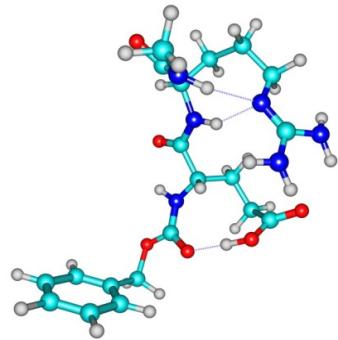




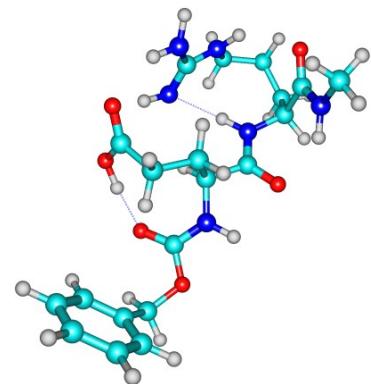
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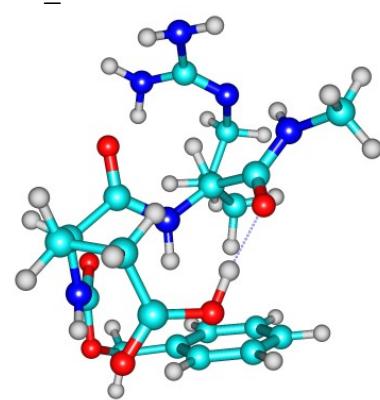
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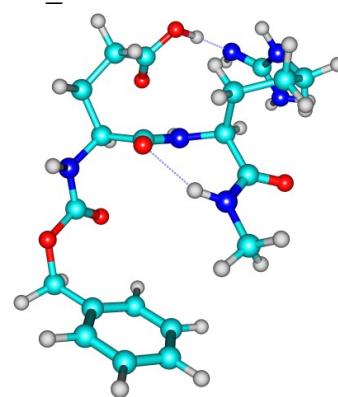
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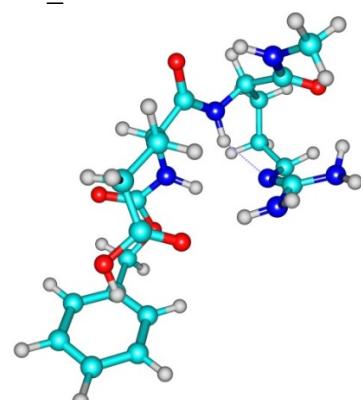
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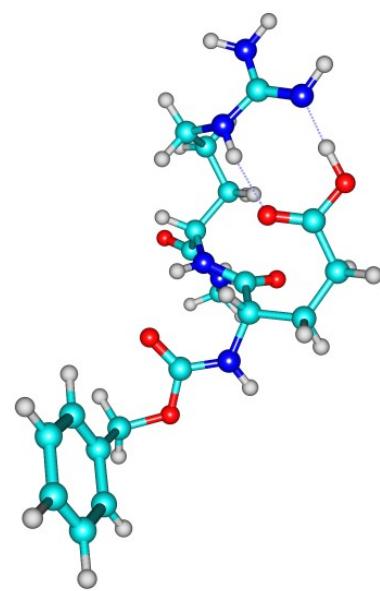
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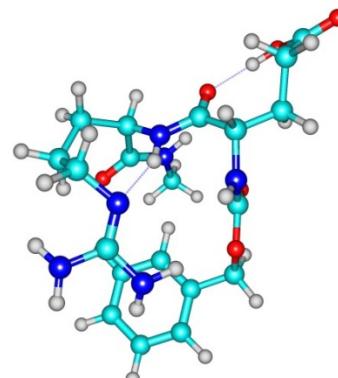
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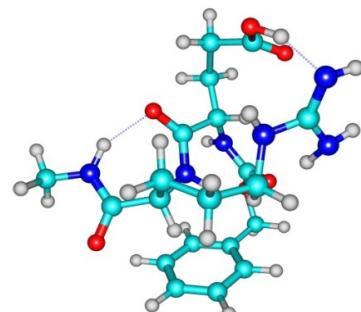
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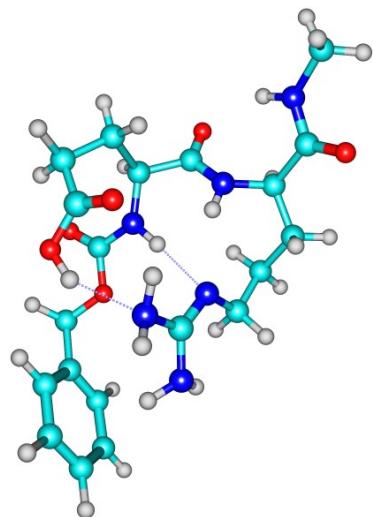
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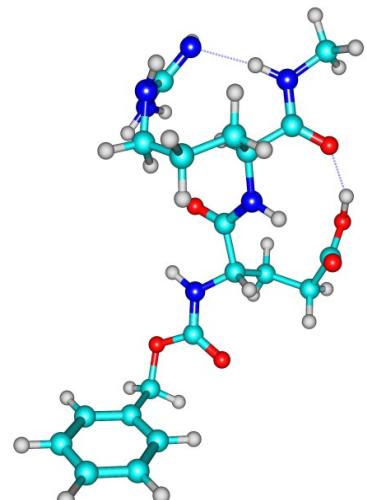
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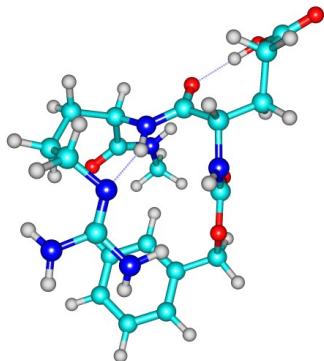
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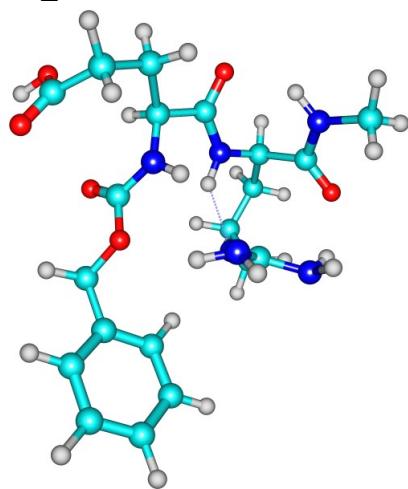
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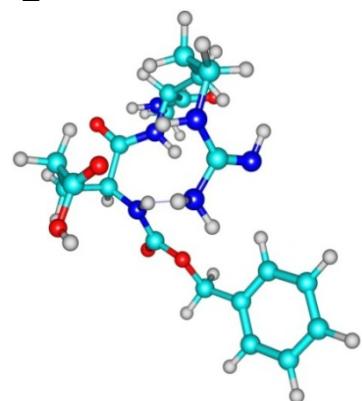
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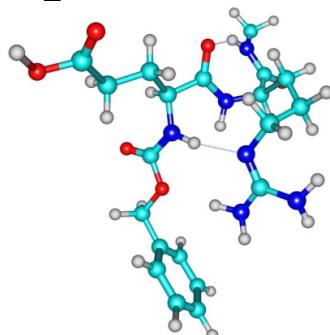
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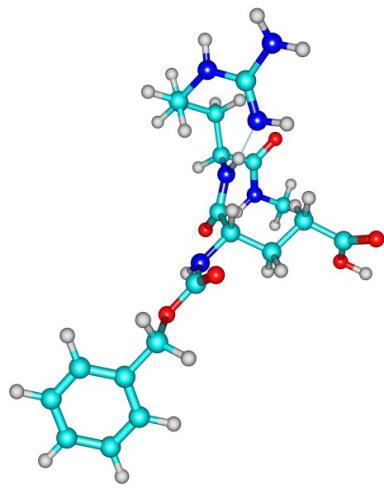
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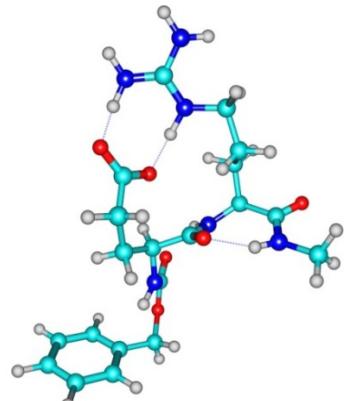
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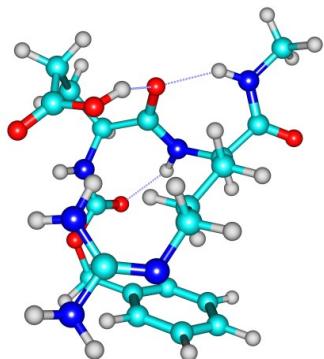
ER_C10



ER_Z16



ER_T10



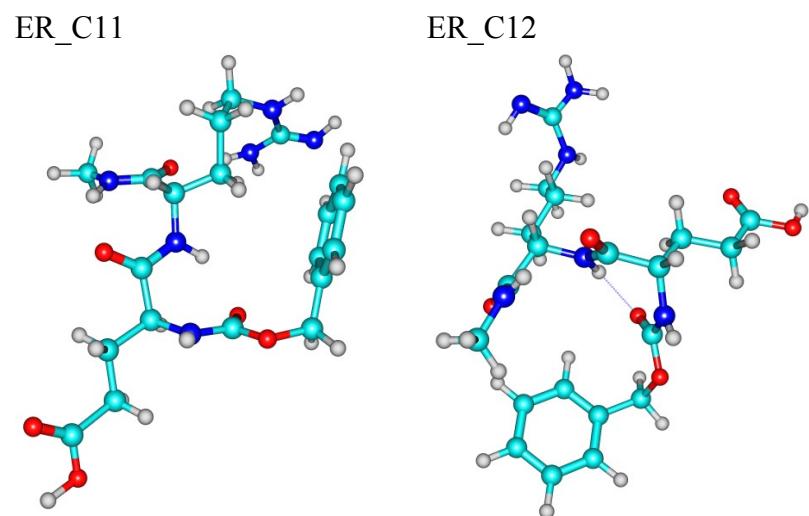
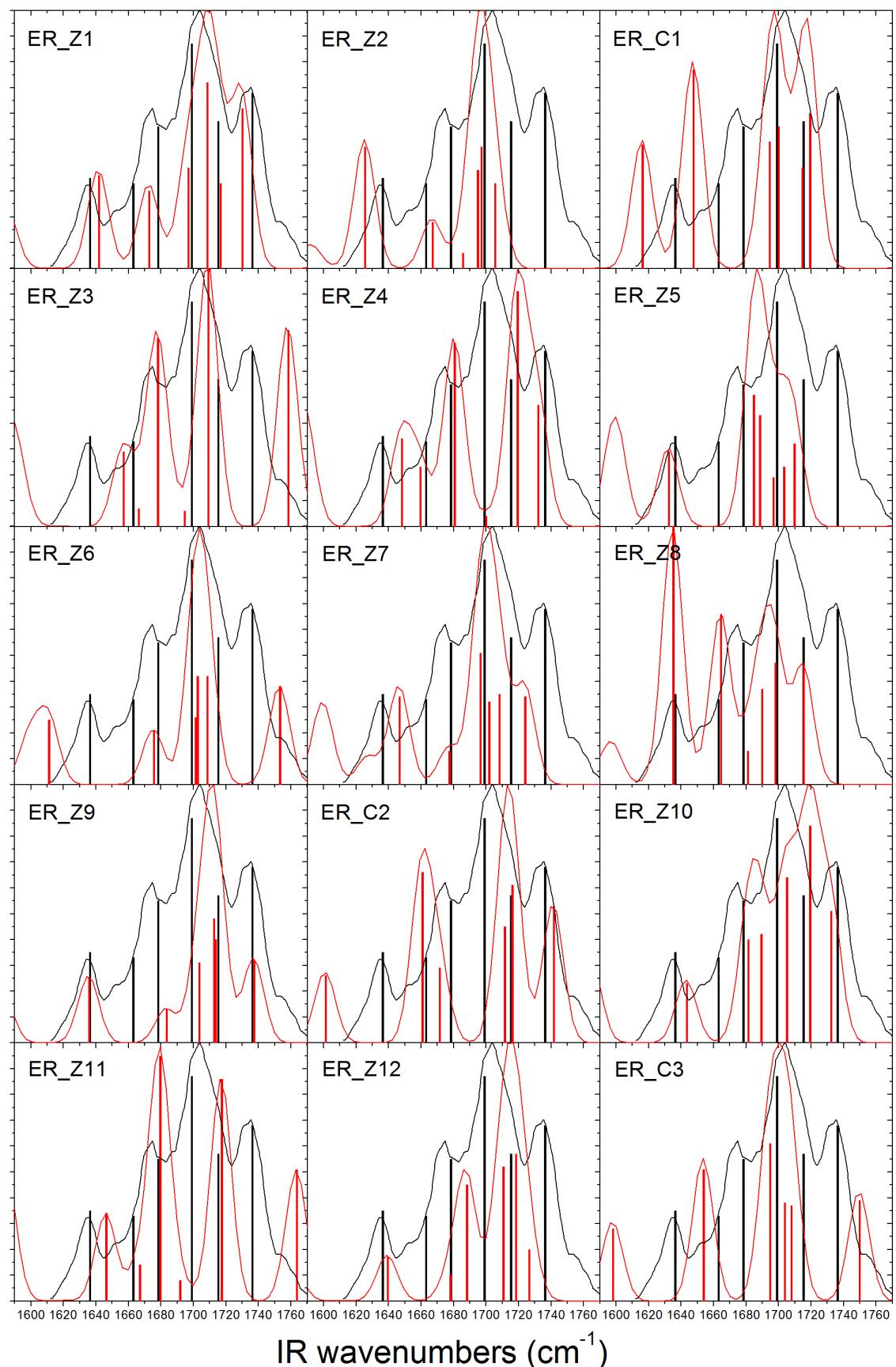


Figure SI-2. Conformations of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe, optimized with the M05-2x functional employed with the 6-311+G(d,p) basisset.



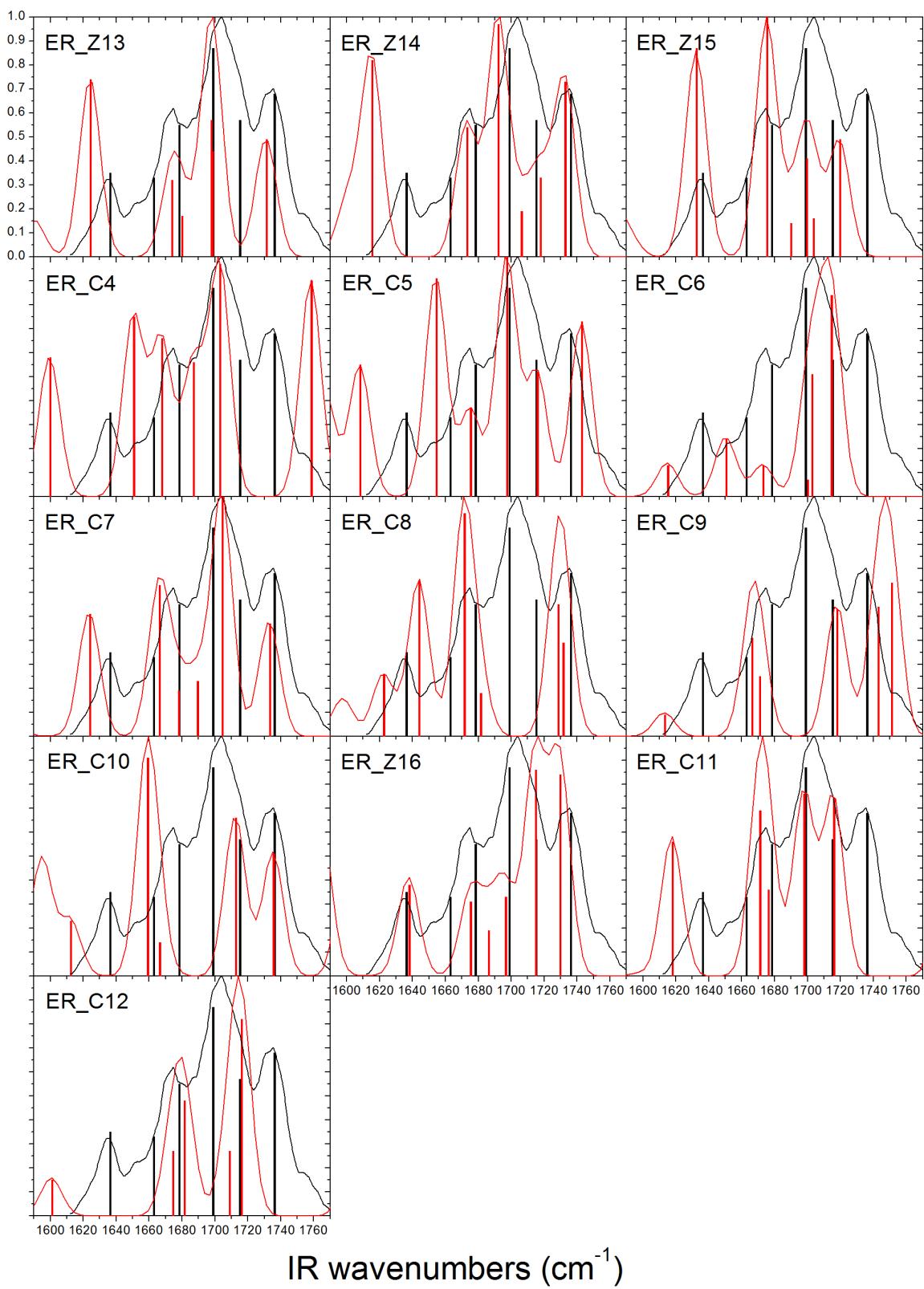
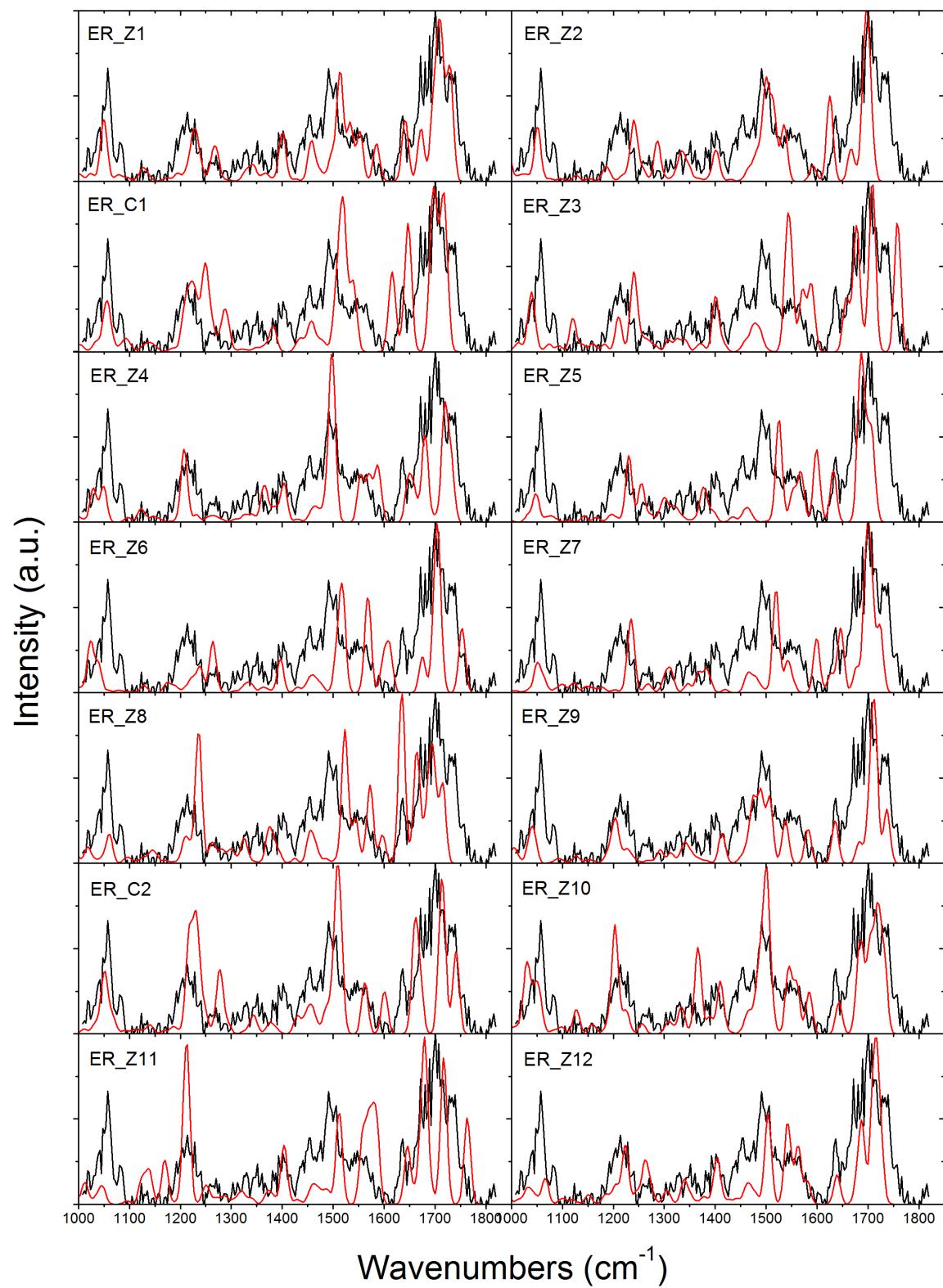
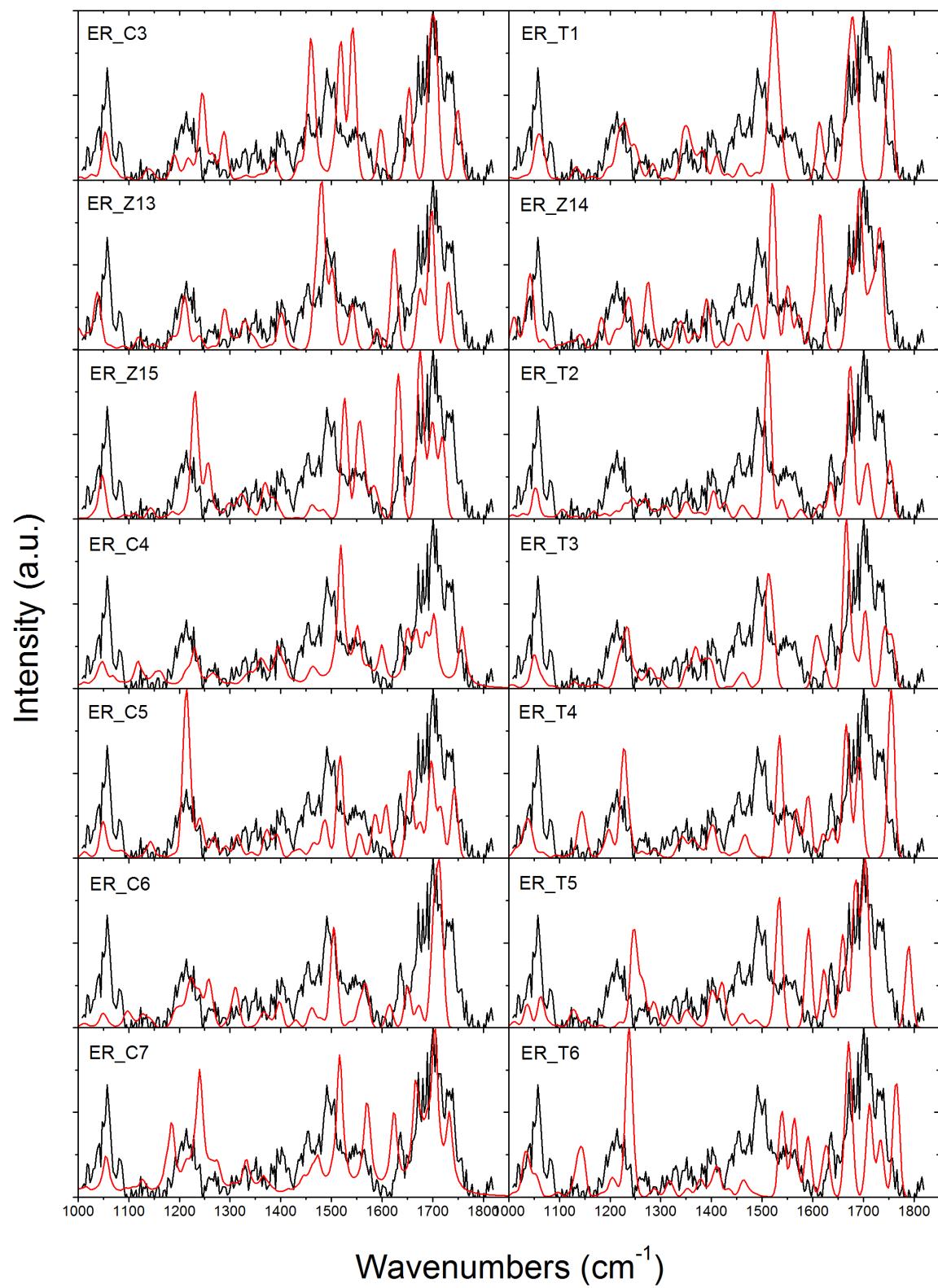


Figure SI-3. Comparison of the experimental IR-UV ion dip spectrum of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe (black trace) with spectra calculated for various isomers. The black sticks represent the deconvoluted experimental spectrum. The red traces are the theoretical spectra of the optimized structures of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe, where the red sticks represent the individual computed frequencies and intensities.





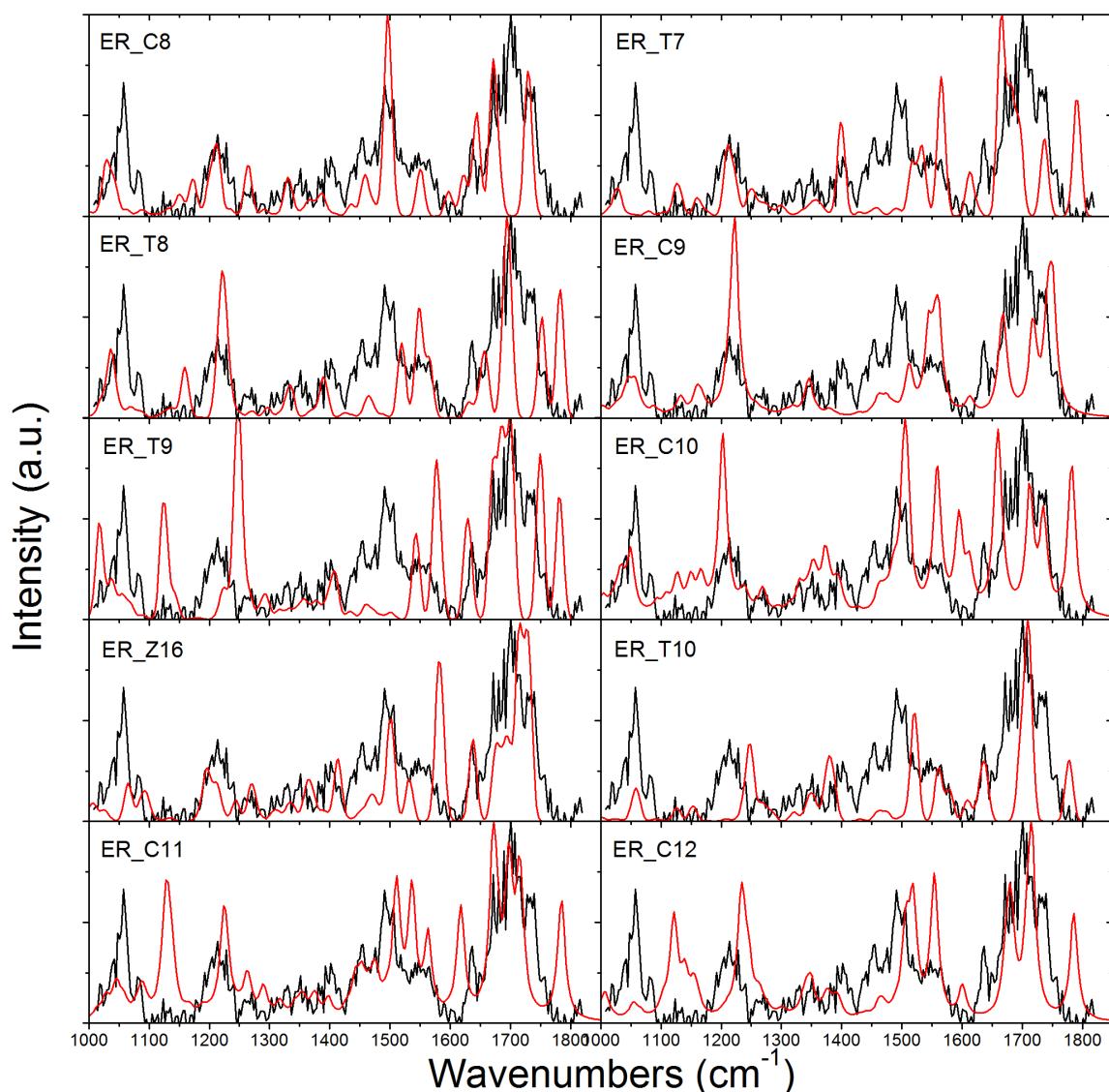


Figure SI-4. Experimental IR-UV ion-dip spectrum of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe (black trace) and the theoretical spectra of the optimized structures (red trace).

Table SI-2. Frequencies and intensities of the six deconvoluted Gaussians in the Amide I region in the experimental spectrum of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe compared to the computed bands for the optimized structures, which are listed in order of increasing relative energy.

| Exp | v ₁ | I ₁ | v ₂ | I ₂ | v ₃ | I ₃ | v ₄ | I ₄ | v ₅ | I ₅ | v ₆ | I ₆ | | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| Calculations | Δv ₁ | ΔI ₁ | Δv ₂ | ΔI ₂ | Δv ₃ | ΔI ₃ | Δv ₄ | ΔI ₄ | Δv ₅ | ΔI ₅ | Δv ₆ | ΔI ₆ | Σ(Δv) | Σ(ΔI) |
| ER_Z1 | 7.0 | 0.07 | 15.1 | 0.12 | 21.2 | -0.19 | 9.4 | -0.06 | 2.8 | -0.27 | -6.4 | -0.06 | 61.7 | 0.77 |
| ER_Z2 | -9.4 | 0.18 | 9.3 | 0.00 | 9.9 | -0.52 | -4.2 | -0.40 | -16.8 | -0.13 | -30.9 | -0.35 | 80.5 | 1.59 |
| ER_C1 | -18.6 | 0.19 | -10.2 | 0.59 | 18.5 | -0.09 | 0.8 | -0.23 | 0.5 | -0.21 | -17.0 | -0.08 | 65.7 | 1.39 |
| ER_Z3 | 22.1 | 0.00 | 8.7 | -0.11 | 2.3 | 0.15 | -4.5 | -0.72 | -4.9 | 0.40 | 21.9 | 0.08 | 64.3 | 1.47 |
| ER_Z4 | 13.2 | 0.05 | 1.7 | 0.05 | 4.8 | 0.13 | 0.8 | -0.74 | 5.4 | 0.31 | -4.4 | -0.21 | 30.3 | 1.48 |
| ER_Z5 | -2.5 | 0.00 | 26.9 | 0.33 | 12.6 | -0.15 | -2.3 | -0.59 | -10.6 | -0.37 | -26.7 | -0.36 | 81.6 | 1.80 |
| ER_Z6 | -23.7 | -0.04 | 17.9 | 0.03 | 25.4 | -0.32 | 3.5 | -0.36 | -5.3 | -0.18 | 16.9 | -0.30 | 92.7 | 1.23 |
| ER_Z7 | 11.9 | 0.05 | 19.6 | -0.05 | 20.7 | -0.07 | 2.7 | -0.46 | -5.9 | -0.25 | -12.4 | -0.34 | 73.1 | 1.22 |
| ER_Z8 | 0.3 | 0.71 | 6.8 | 0.48 | 5.2 | -0.45 | -9.4 | -0.41 | -16.0 | -0.13 | -21.1 | -0.22 | 58.7 | 2.39 |
| ER_Z9 | 0.9 | -0.04 | 25.7 | -0.05 | 27.7 | -0.27 | 13.5 | -0.30 | -0.3 | -0.20 | 0.8 | -0.36 | 68.9 | 1.21 |
| ER_C2 | -33.6 | -0.03 | 3.0 | 0.48 | -4.4 | -0.29 | 12.3 | -0.33 | 2.2 | 0.01 | 5.1 | -0.15 | 60.7 | 1.29 |
| ER_Z10 | 8.5 | -0.06 | 23.6 | 0.22 | 13.4 | -0.16 | 5.9 | -0.14 | 5.4 | 0.24 | -4.1 | -0.17 | 61.0 | 0.98 |
| ER_Z11 | 11.6 | 0.05 | 9.3 | -0.04 | 3.8 | 0.37 | -7.3 | -0.70 | 3.5 | 0.26 | 27.2 | -0.17 | 62.6 | 1.60 |
| ER_Z12 | 4.6 | -0.12 | 20.2 | -0.08 | 12.4 | -0.13 | 11.5 | -0.26 | 4.3 | -0.03 | -9.9 | -0.48 | 62.9 | 1.10 |
| ER_C3 | -36.8 | -0.01 | -3.9 | 0.33 | 18.8 | 0.03 | 4.7 | -0.40 | -6.1 | -0.23 | 13.4 | -0.29 | 83.6 | 1.29 |
| ER_Z13 | -10.4 | 0.45 | 16.3 | 0.14 | 4.2 | -0.41 | -1.3 | -0.21 | -15.2 | -0.16 | -5.1 | -0.19 | 52.4 | 1.55 |
| ER_Z14 | -19.4 | 0.53 | 15.4 | 0.36 | 16.4 | 0.39 | 7.2 | -0.59 | 3.9 | -0.27 | -3.7 | 0.05 | 66.0 | 2.19 |
| ER_Z15 | -2.3 | 0.58 | 17.6 | 0.82 | 14.2 | -0.44 | 0.5 | -0.37 | -10.3 | -0.44 | -16.7 | -0.19 | 61.6 | 2.84 |
| ER_C4 | -34.9 | 0.29 | -6.9 | 0.57 | -8.0 | 0.08 | -12.0 | -0.22 | -10.8 | 0.37 | 22.2 | 0.22 | 94.8 | 1.75 |
| ER_C5 | -26.5 | 0.26 | -3.2 | 0.73 | -0.4 | -0.21 | -1.6 | 0.22 | 2.0 | -0.08 | 6.5 | 0.05 | 40.3 | 1.55 |
| ER_C6 | -19.7 | -0.16 | -7.1 | 0.06 | -2.8 | -0.45 | 1.0 | -0.71 | -11.2 | -0.09 | -21.9 | 0.16 | 63.5 | 1.63 |
| ER_C7 | -10.8 | 0.22 | 8.7 | 0.45 | 2.1 | -0.39 | -9.6 | -0.55 | -9.4 | 0.40 | -3.1 | -0.21 | 43.7 | 2.21 |
| ER_C8 | -12.2 | -0.03 | -13.6 | 0.47 | -4.2 | 0.35 | -17.5 | -0.60 | 14.8 | -0.05 | -4.7 | -0.29 | 67.1 | 1.79 |
| ER_C9 | -21.6 | -0.20 | 8.6 | 0.23 | -4.9 | -0.33 | 18.9 | -0.25 | 29.1 | -0.06 | 14.8 | -0.04 | 97.8 | 1.11 |
| ER_C10 | -22.3 | -0.06 | 1.5 | 0.73 | -9.3 | -0.44 | 13.5 | -0.12 | 21.7 | -0.09 | 46.0 | 0.14 | 114.3 | 1.58 |
| ER_Z16 | 3.2 | 0.09 | 17.7 | 0.13 | 10.5 | -0.39 | -2.4 | -0.45 | 0.9 | 0.26 | -6.6 | 0.16 | 41.4 | 1.48 |
| ER_C11 | -16.9 | 0.27 | 13.5 | 0.51 | 0.4 | -0.22 | -1.1 | -0.02 | 2.1 | 0.14 | 48.6 | -0.05 | 82.6 | 1.21 |
| ER_C12 | -33.8 | -0.14 | 16.7 | 0.09 | 5.7 | -0.10 | 9.8 | -0.51 | 2.2 | 0.22 | 49.4 | -0.15 | 117.7 | 1.22 |

Deconvolution and assignment of the Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe spectrum in the Amide I region

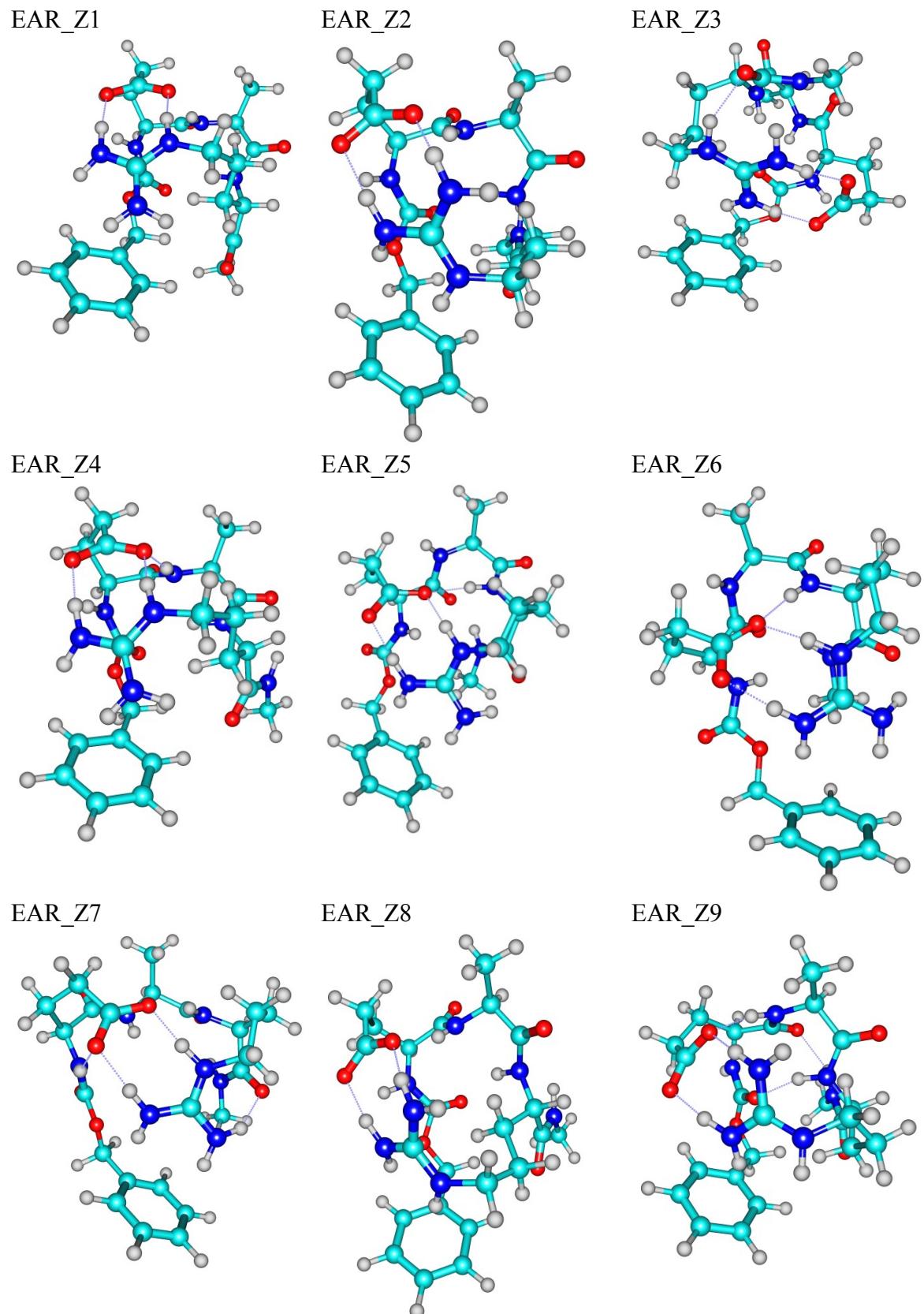
The Amide I region of the experimental spectrum of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe is deconvoluted into 6 Gaussian functions, each Gaussian representing a vibrational mode of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe. The obtained frequencies and relative intensities are compared with the theoretically obtained frequencies and relative intensities of the DFT calculations. The sum of the deviations in frequencies and relative intensities with respect to the computed ones are given in the last two columns of Table SI-2.

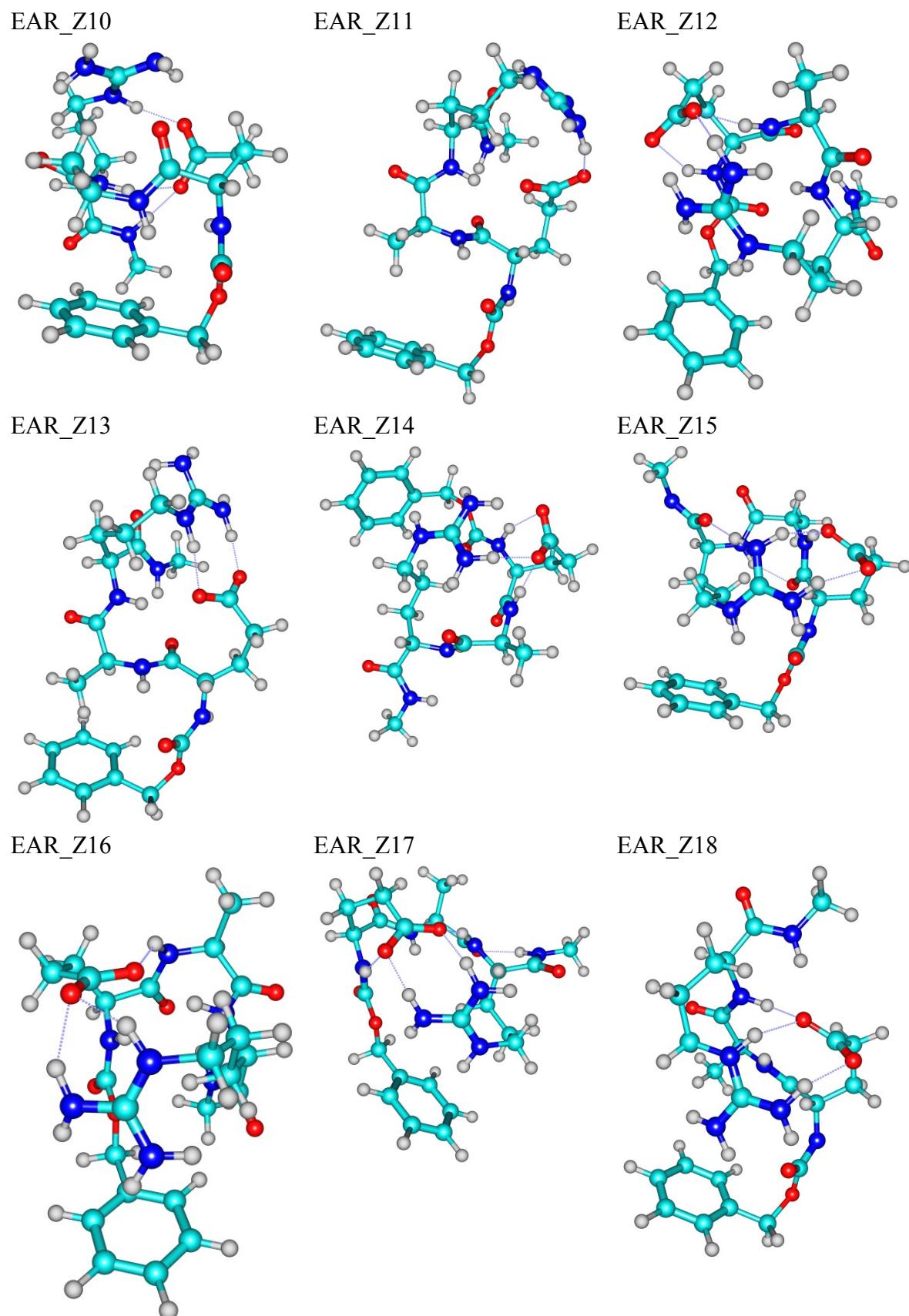
The closest agreement between experimental and calculated frequencies is found for structure ER_Z4, with the sum of the absolute frequency deviations between theory and experiment being 30 cm^{-1} . However, there is a large mismatch between the relative intensities, resulting in a completely different shape of the overall feature (see Supporting Information: Fig SI-3).

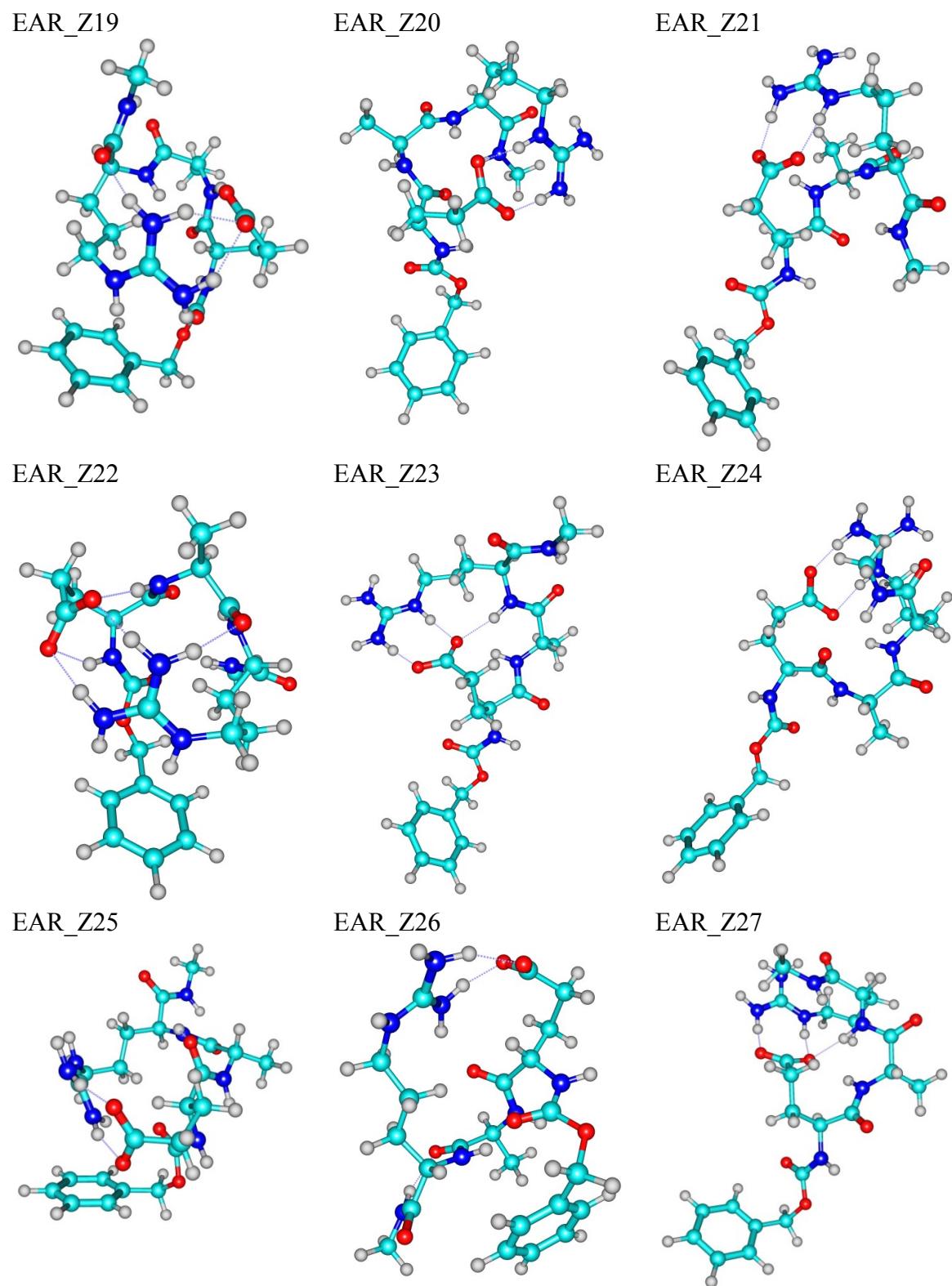
The next closest match between computed and experimental frequencies is found for ER_Z16 with a summed absolute deviation of 41.4 cm^{-1} . However, the energy of this structure is calculated to be 20.3 kcal/mol higher than the lowest energy structure. Moreover, this structure also shows a large mismatch in relative intensities. The calculated spectrum of ER_Z16 is shown together with the experimental spectrum in the bottom panel of Figure 7, showing a strong absorption at 1585 cm^{-1} which is not observed in the experimental spectrum.

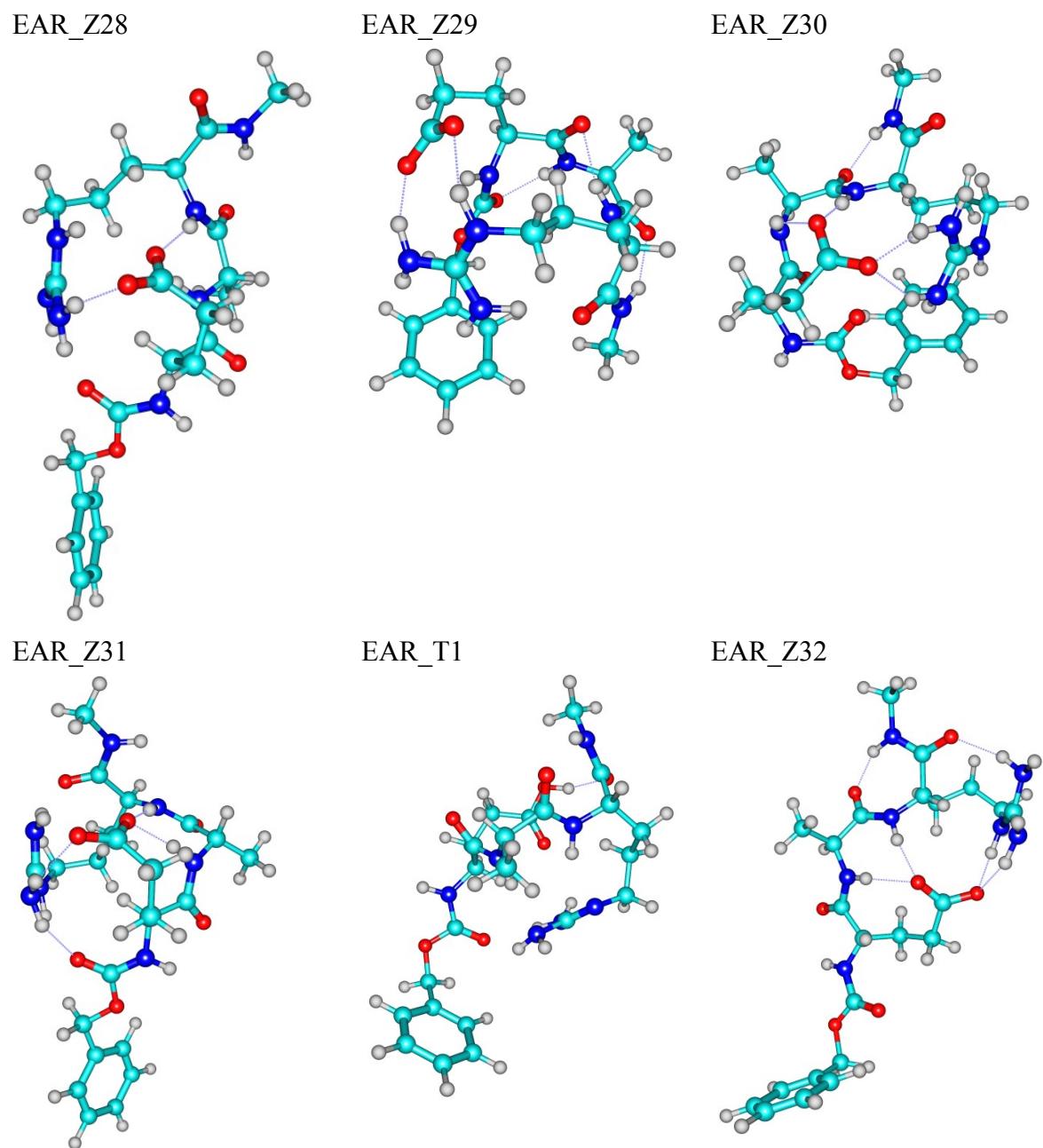
The experimental spectrum of ER_C7 in the Amide I region is shown in Figure SI-3. At first glance, there is a fairly good agreement between theory and experiment and only the lowest frequency vibration is shifted to the red by 11 cm^{-1} . However, upon comparing the individual vibrations (Table SI-2), one observes a large mismatch in relative intensities. In addition, the experimental spectrum shows a moderately strong band at 1713 cm^{-1} , which shifts to 1689 cm^{-1} . In the calculated spectrum of ER_C7 leading to the conclusion that this structure is unlikely to be responsible for the observed spectrum.

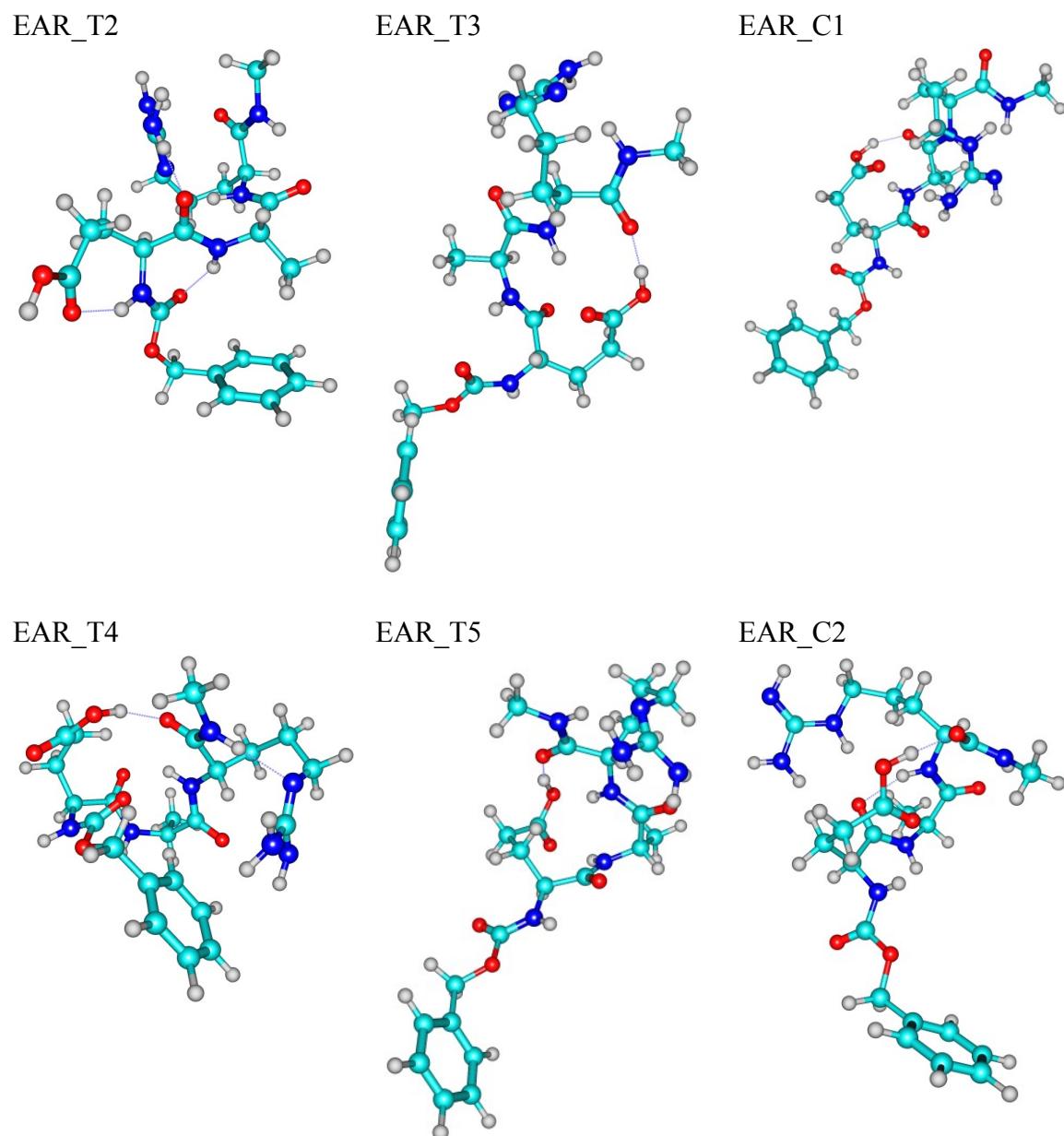
The relative intensities are thus important for assigning the experimental spectrum to one of the theoretical structures. The structure with the lowest deviation in relative intensity is ER_Z1. In addition, the deviation in frequency is also fairly low. The experimental spectrum together with computed spectrum of ER_Z1 is shown in the top trace of Figure 7 in the $1000 - 1850\text{ cm}^{-1}$ range. Besides the good match in the Amide I region, the remainder of the spectrum is also in good agreement with the experimental spectrum. To conclude, the experimental spectrum of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe is assigned to ER_Z1.











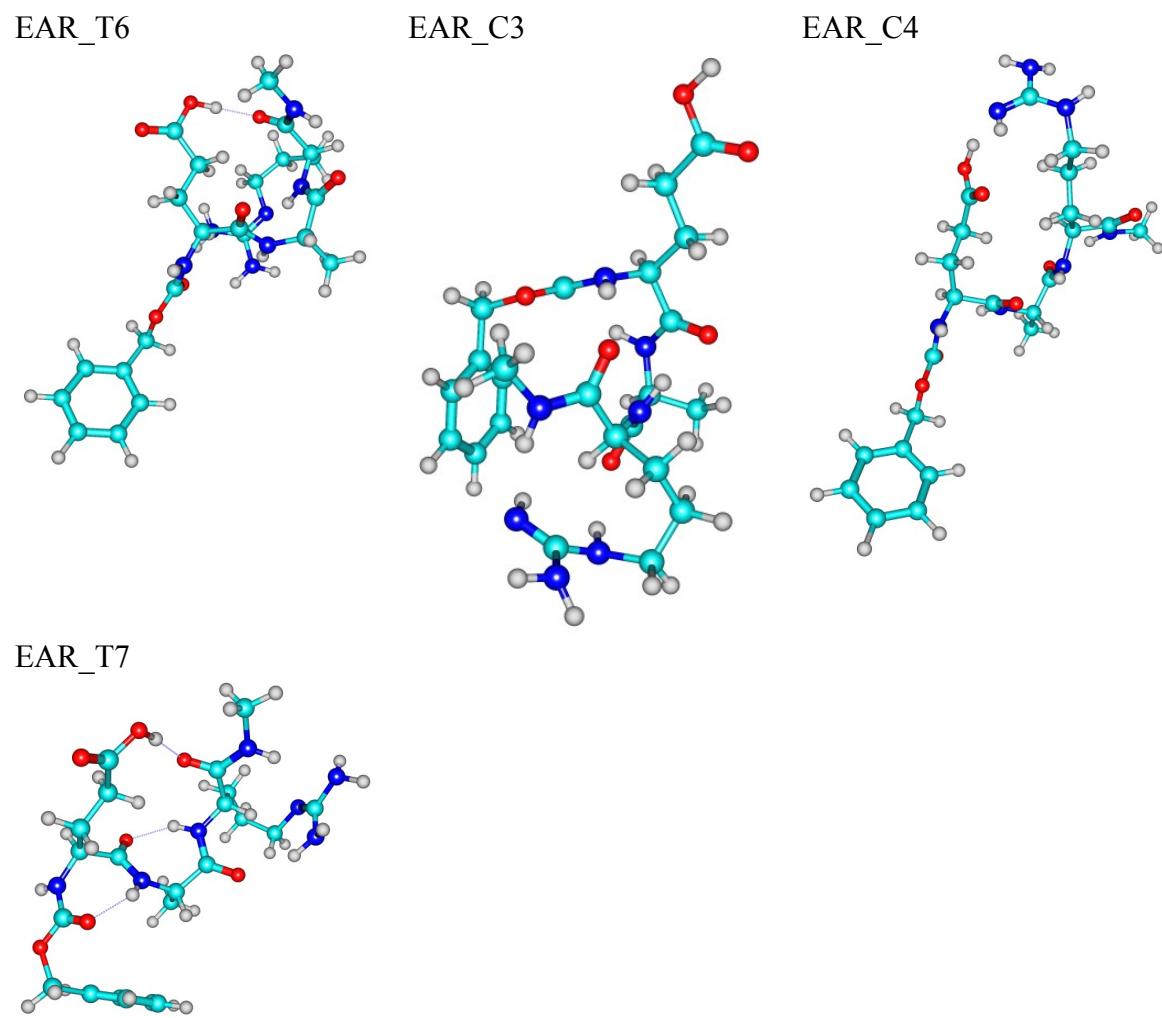
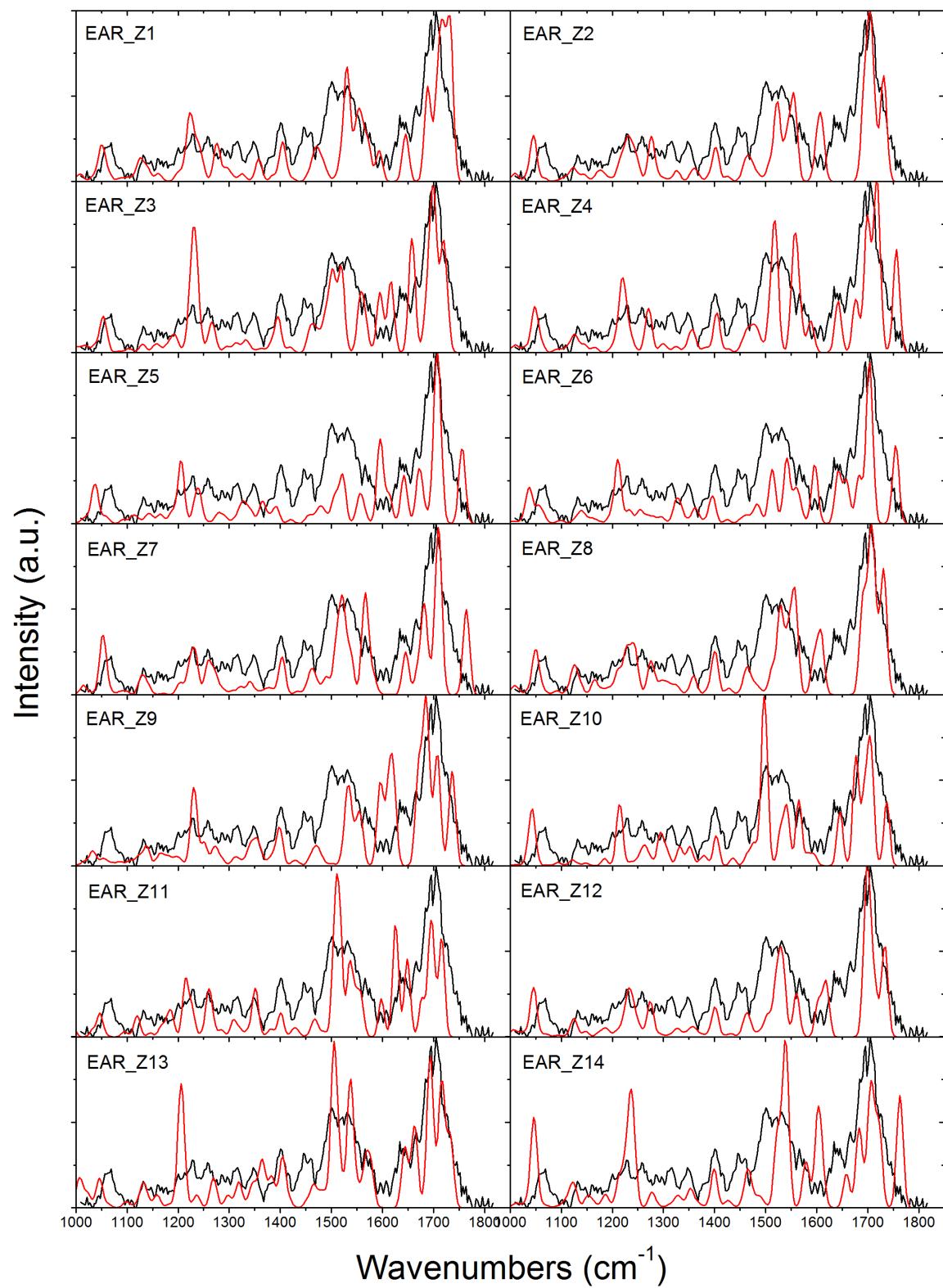
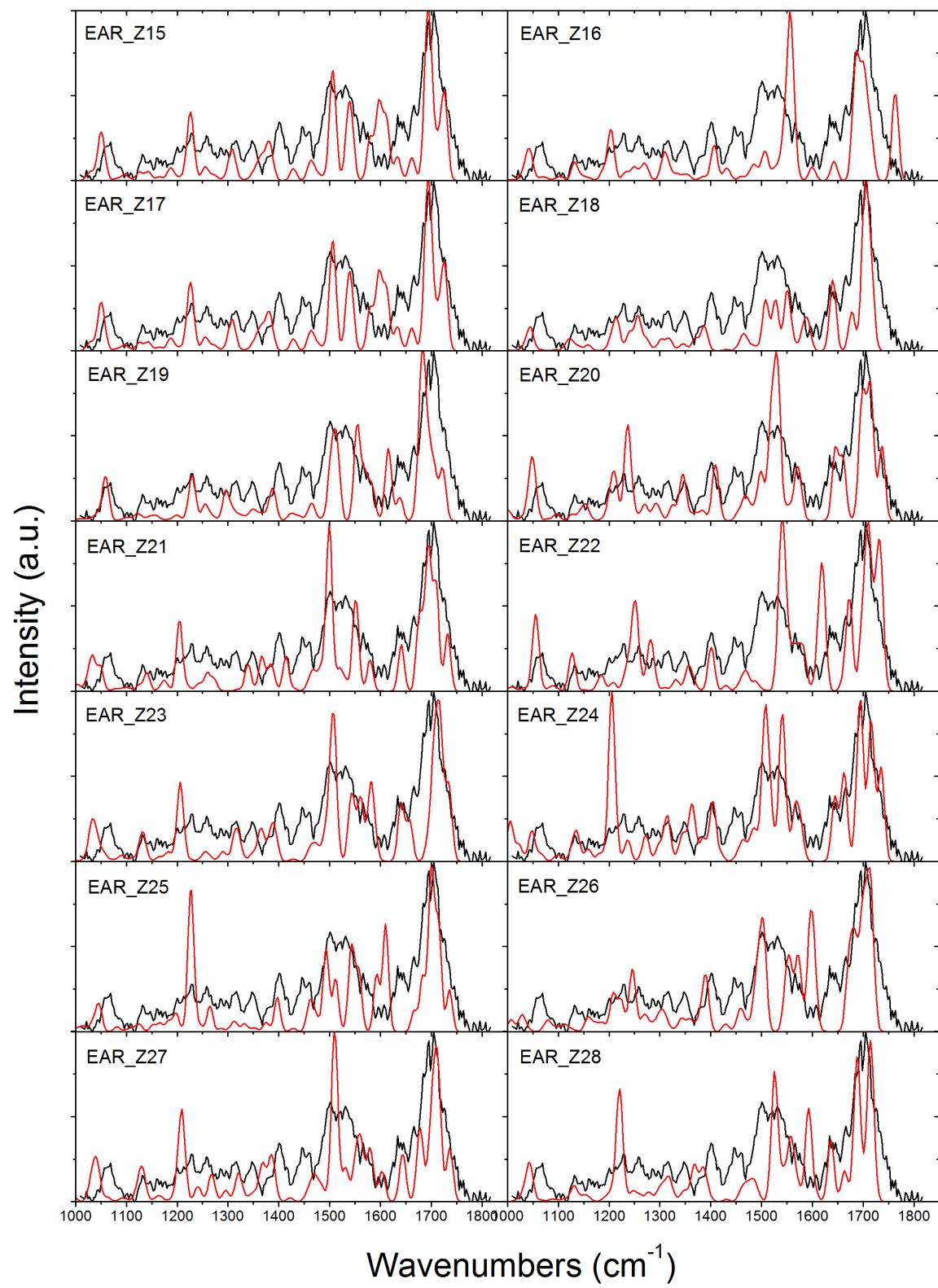
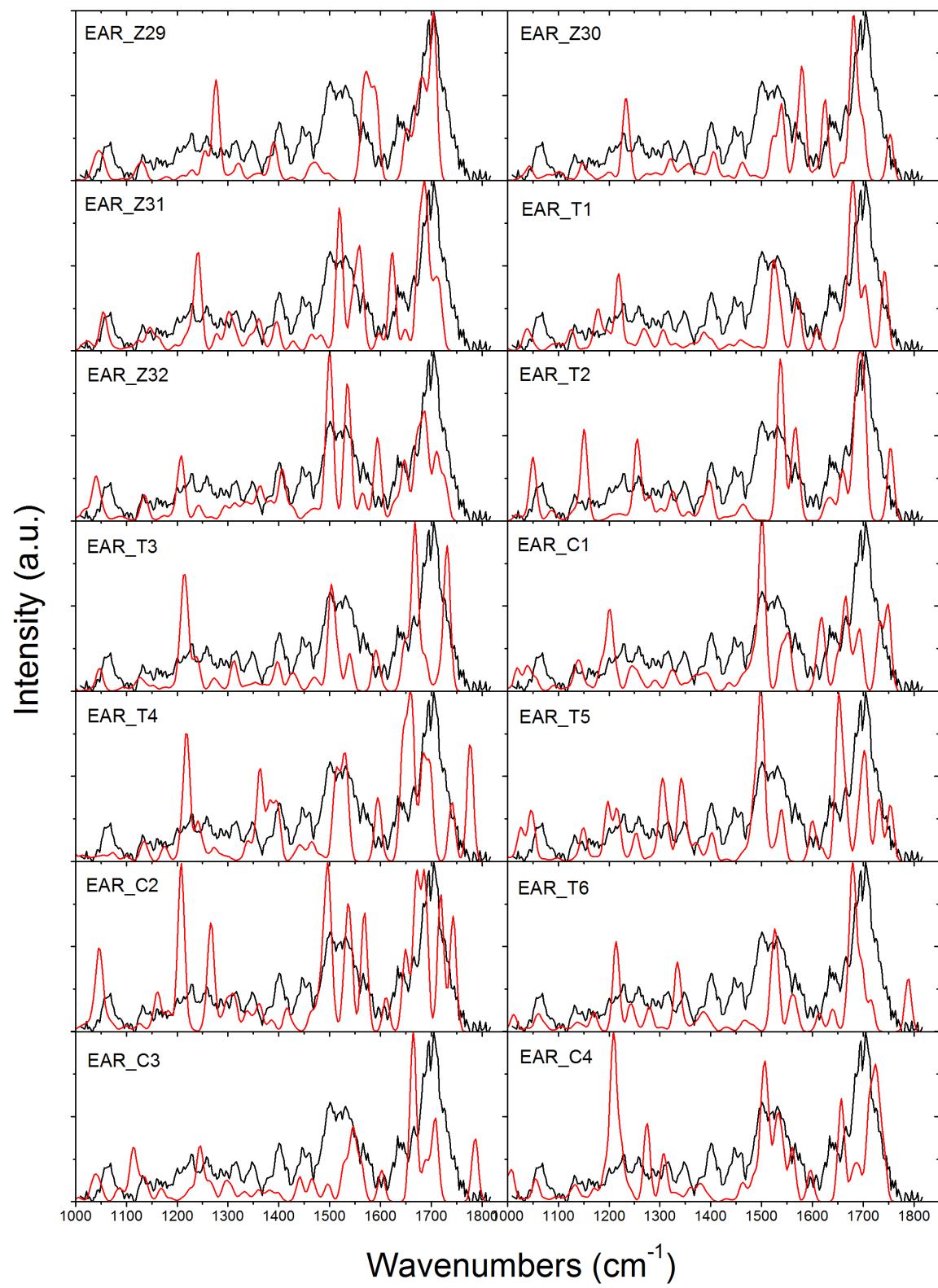


Figure SI-5. Conformations of Z-Glu-Ala-Arg-NHMe, optimized with the M05-2x functional employed with the 6-311+G(d,p) basis set.







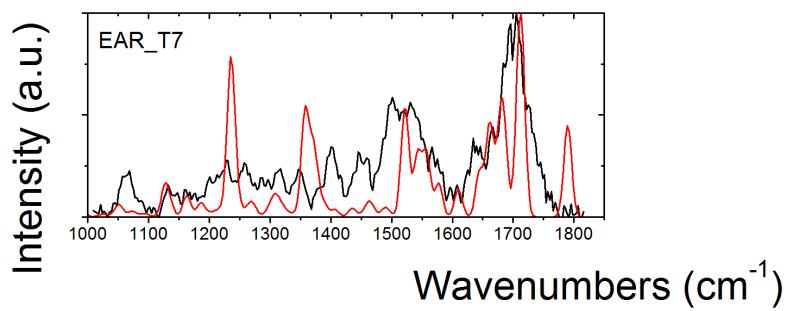


Figure SI-6. Experimental IR-UV ion-dip spectrum of Z-Glu-Ala-Arg-NHMe (black trace) and the theoretical spectra of the optimized structures for Z-Glu-Ala-Arg-NHMe (red trace).

Table SI-3. ZPE-corrected energies (ZPE), Gibbs free energies at 300 K (ΔG) and intramolecular interactions for the optimized structures of Z-Glu-Ala-Arg-NHMe. The employed basis set for the M05-2X and B3LYP functionals is 6-311+G(d,p).

| | M05-2X | | B3LYP | | SC - SC | Disp. Int. | Interactions | | |
|---------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---|-------------------------|--|--|
| | ZPE | Gibbs | ZPE | Gibbs | | | BB - BB | BB - SC | |
| EAR_Z1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 2.56 | 5.86 | A | 2 x NH ₂ NH ₂ + N ϵ NH ₂ 2 x NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² | |
| EAR_Z2 | 0.73 | 0.47 | 3.47 | 6.28 | | | C10(O0-N3) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² | |
| EAR_Z3 | 1.11 | 2.54 | 4.07 | 7.73 | | | C10(O0-N3) + C10(O1-N4) | O3-(H ₂ N + H ϵ) | |
| EAR_Z4 | 1.85 | 1.31 | 2.67 | 5.61 | | | C7(O2-N4) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² | |
| EAR_Z5 | 1.90 | 2.09 | 5.16 | 8.20 | A | 2 x NH ₂ | C10(O1-N4) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + O4-H ₂ N N3-O + O3-H ₂ N N1-O ¹ + N3-O ² + O3-H ₂ N N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² | |
| EAR_Z6 | 2.13 | 1.96 | 4.65 | 7.88 | A | 2 x NH ₂ | C10(O1-N4) | | |
| EAR_Z7 | 2.85 | 2.82 | 3.46 | 7.12 | A | 2 x NH ₂ | C7(O2-N4) | | |
| EAR_Z8 | 3.03 | 3.42 | 5.67 | 8.88 | B | NH ₂ + N ϵ | C10(O0-N3) | | |
| EAR_Z9 | 3.91 | 5.82 | 5.93 | 8.89 | B | NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) + C10(O1-N4) | N2-O N1-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + N4-O ¹ + O1-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O2-(H ₂ N) ² N3-O + O3-H ₂ N N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² | |
| EAR_Z10 | 4.40 | 5.12 | 6.33 | 8.62 | C* | N2 | C7(O0-N2) + C10(O1-N4) | | |
| EAR_Z11 | 4.82 | 4.67 | 5.61 | 7.42 | C | | | | |
| EAR_Z12 | 5.16 | 5.08 | 7.41 | 8.72 | B | | C10(O0-N3) + C10(O1-N4) | | |
| EAR_Z13 | 5.52 | 4.30 | 4.25 | 5.01 | A | HE | C7(O0-N2) + C10(O1-N4) | N3-O + O3-H ₂ N | |
| EAR_Z14 | 5.52 | 5.73 | 6.67 | 9.20 | B | | C7(O1-N3) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² + O2-H ₂ N | |
| EAR_Z15 | 6.07 | 5.97 | 7.52 | 11.60 | B | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) | N2-O + O0-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O3-(H ₂ N) ² | |
| EAR_Z16 | 6.10 | 7.21 | 9.13 | 11.29 | C* | | C10(O1-N4) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ | |
| EAR_Z17 | 6.74 | 6.85 | 7.40 | 10.39 | B | NH ₂ + N ϵ | C7(O2-N4) | N1-O ¹ + N3-O ² N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + N4-O ¹ + O0-H ₂ N N2-O + O0-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O3-(H ₂ N) ² N1-O ¹ + N3-O ² + O3-NH ₂ | |
| EAR_Z18 | 6.79 | 5.86 | 7.45 | 8.46 | A | NH ₂ | C5(N1-O1) | | |
| EAR_Z19 | 6.87 | 6.45 | 7.24 | 10.47 | C | HE | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O2-N4) | | |
| EAR_Z20 | 7.17 | 6.87 | 4.34 | 6.29 | A | C10(O1-N4) | | | |
| EAR_Z21 | 7.17 | 4.26 | 3.58 | 3.95 | A | NH ₂ + N ϵ | C5(N1-O1) + C10(O1-N4) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ² | |
| EAR_Z22 | 7.43 | 8.35 | 9.09 | 12.12 | B | | C13(O0-N4) + C7(O1-N3) | N1-O ¹ + N2-O ² + O2-H ₂ N | |
| EAR_Z23 | 7.46 | 3.02 | 0.00 | 0.00 | A | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O2-N4) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ | |
| EAR_Z24 | 7.74 | 6.30 | 4.28 | 4.71 | A | | C7(O0-N2) + C10(O1-N4) | N3-O + O3-H ₂ N | |
| EAR_Z25 | 8.01 | 7.10 | 4.50 | 6.40 | B | NH ₂ | C7(O1-N3) + C7(O2-N4) | O0-H ₂ N | |
| EAR_Z26 | 9.07 | 8.11 | 8.17 | 10.40 | B | A | C10(O0-N3) + C7(N2-O4) | O1-H ₂ N | |
| EAR_Z27 | 9.49 | 7.20 | 4.96 | 6.16 | A | | C5(N1-O1) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + O3-H ₂ N | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| EAR_Z28 | 9.56 | 7.33 | 4.07 | 5.81 | O-H ₂ N | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O2-N4) | O0- H ₂ N + N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ |
| EAR_Z29 | 9.88 | 9.65 | 8.06 | 10.93 | A | 2 x NH ₂ | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) + C7(O2-N4) | N1-O + O3-H ₂ N |
| EAR_Z30 | 10.03 | 10.34 | 11.36 | 14.50 | C | NH ₂ + N ε | C7(O2-N4) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + O0-H ₂ N |
| EAR_Z31 | 10.11 | 10.07 | 8.33 | 10.31 | C | | C5(N1-O1) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + O0-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O3-(H ₂ N) ² |
| EAR_T1 | 11.96 | 11.01 | 12.17 | 14.04 | O-H ₂ N | | C7(O2-N4) | O0-(NH ₂) ₂ + N2-H ₂ N + N3-N ε + O3-HO |
| EAR_Z32 | 15.02 | 11.53 | 7.85 | 8.36 | C* | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O2-N4) | N2-O ¹ + N3-O ¹ + O3-H ₂ N |
| EAR_T2 | 18.03 | 15.54 | 14.53 | 14.59 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O2-N4) | N1-O + O1-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O3-(H ₂ N) ² + N3-N ε |
| EAR_T3 | 18.04 | 15.21 | 12.26 | 12.74 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C5(N3-O3) | N3-O + O3-HO + N4-N ε + O2-H ₂ N |
| EAR_C1 | 18.30 | 17.31 | 15.73 | 17.00 | | | C5(N1-O1) | N3-N η H + N4-N η H + O1-H ₂ N + O2-HO |
| EAR_T4 | 18.52 | 17.87 | 21.37 | 23.85 | | NH ₂ | C7(O1-N3) + C5(N3-O3) | O3-HO + N4-N ε |
| EAR_T5 | 20.00 | 15.59 | 15.61 | 15.59 | | | C5(N1-O1) + C5(N3-O3) | N2-O + N3-OH + N4-N ε + O2-H ₂ N + O3-HO |
| EAR_C2 | 19.72 | 16.17 | 14.36 | 13.66 | | | C7(O1-N3) + C7(O2-N4) | N1-O + O1-H ε + O3-HO |
| EAR_T6 | 20.38 | 18.42 | 16.66 | 17.97 | | | C7(O2-N4) | O0-(H ₂ N + H ₂ N) + N2-NH ₂ + N3-N ε + O4-HO |
| EAR_C3 | 21.54 | 18.44 | 19.60 | 19.95 | | NH | C11(N1-O3) + C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) | O2-H ε |
| EAR_C4 | 21.56 | 18.02 | 13.17 | 12.02 | OH - NH | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) + C7(O2-N4) | |
| EAR_T7 | 24.06 | 21.24 | 19.33 | 19.18 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) + C5(N3-O3) | O3-HO + N4-(NH ₂) ¹ + O2-(H ₂ N) ² |

Energies are given in kcal/mol.

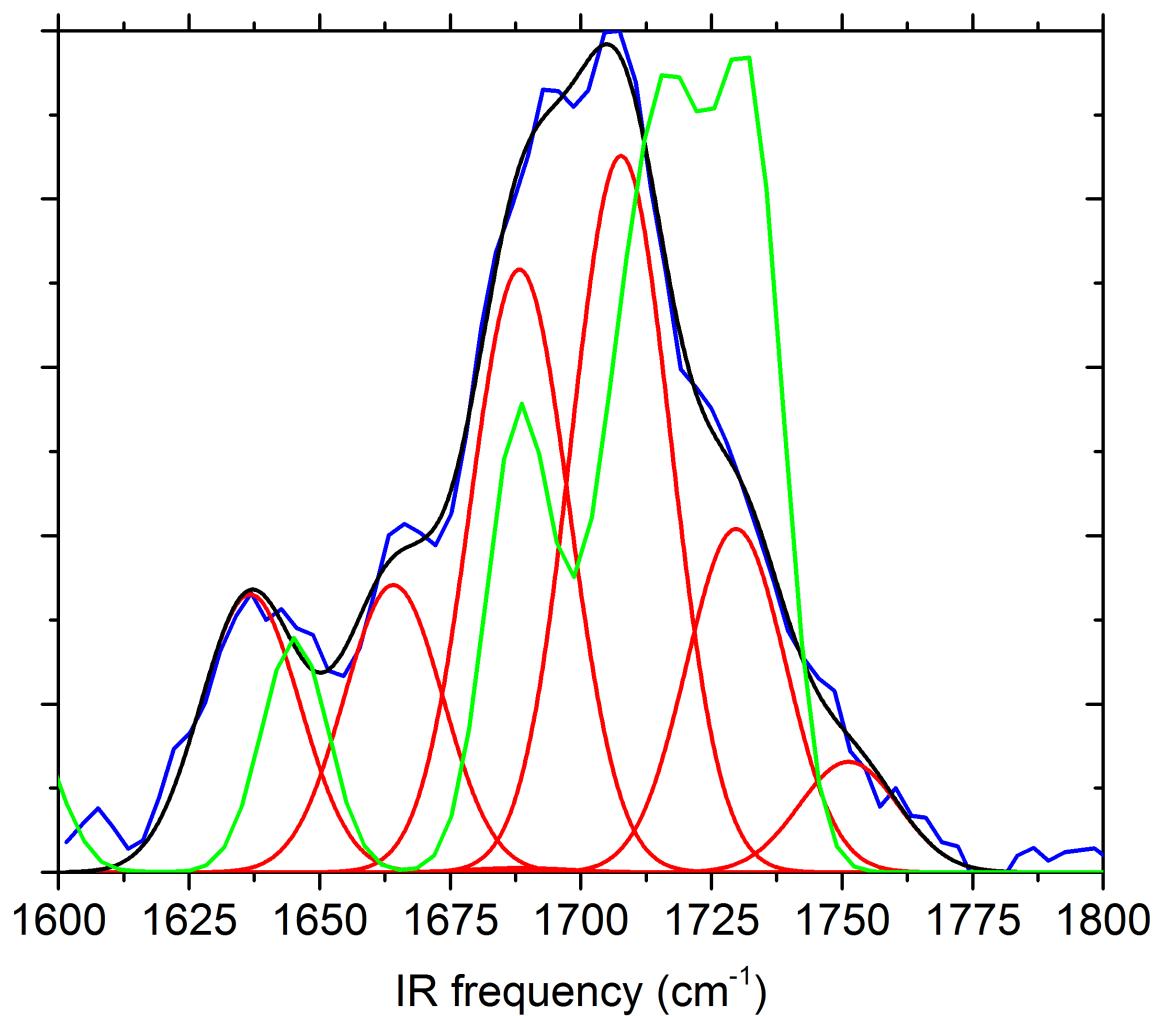


Figure SI- 7. Seven Gaussian functions, each representing a vibrational mode in the Amide I region of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe (red), the sum of the six Gaussian functions (black), the experimental IR-UV spectrum (blue) and the computed spectrum of the proposed structure (EAR_Z1) of Z-Glu-Arg-NHMe (green).

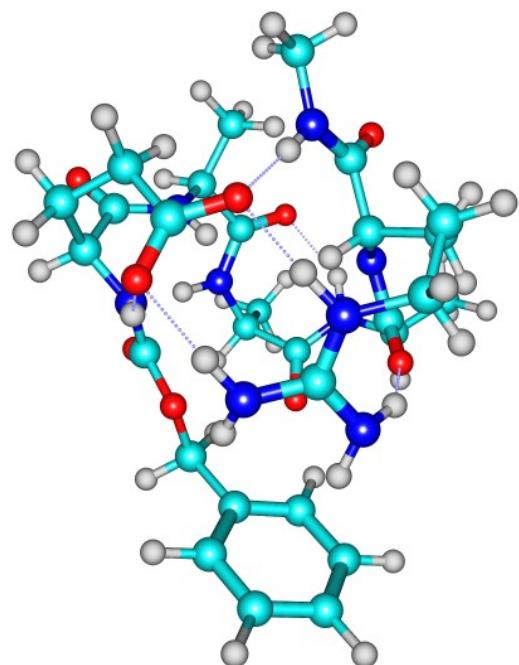
Table SI-4. ZPE-corrected energies (ZPE), Gibbs free energies at 300 K (ΔG) and intramolecular interactions for the optimized structures of Z-Glu-Ala-Ala-Ala-Arg-NHMe. The employed basis set for the M05-2X and B3LYP functionals is 6-311G(d,p).

| | M05-2X | | B3LYP | | SC - SC | Disp. Int. | Interactions | |
|----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| | ZPE | Gibbs | ZPE | Gibbs | | | BB - BB | |
| EA3R_Z1 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | A | 2 x NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) + C7(O2-N4) + C5(N5-O5) | O4-H ₂ N + N1-O ¹ + N6-O ² |
| EA3R_Z2 | 0.07 | 0.89 | 3.71 | 2.32 | B | NH ₂ + N ε | C7(O1-N3) + C10(O2-N5) + C10(O3-N6) | N1-O ¹ + N4-O ² + O4-H ₂ N |
| EA3R_Z3 | 0.36 | 0.49 | 3.93 | 1.15 | A | NH ₂ | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) + C10(O1-N4) + C10(O2-N5) + C10(O3-N6) | N2-O + O0-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O4-(H ₂ N) ² |
| EA3R_Z4 | 3.18 | 2.03 | 3.69 | -0.75 | A | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) + C10(O2-N5) + C10(O3-N6) | N2-O + O0-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O4-(H ₂ N) ² |
| EA3R_Z5 | 3.35 | 3.52 | 5.89 | 3.93 | B | NH ₂ + N ε | C7(O1-N3) + C10(O2-N5) + C13(O2-N6) | N1-O ¹ + N4-O ² + O4-H ₂ N |
| EA3R_Z6 | 3.81 | 3.64 | 6.44 | 4.92 | A | | C10(O0-N3) + C7(O2-N4) + C7(O4-N6) + C11(N2-O4) | N1-O |
| EA3R_Z7 | 4.86 | 3.37 | 7.42 | 5.26 | B | | C5(N1-O1) + C11(N2-O4) + C7(O2-N4) + C7(O4-N6) | N3-O + O0-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O3-(H ₂ N) ² |
| EA3R_Z8 | 8.64 | 5.41 | 8.61 | 4.97 | C | | C7(O0-N2) + C10(O2-N5) | N3-O + O1-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O3-(H ₂ N) ² |
| EA3R_Z9 | 9.07 | 6.04 | 7.15 | 3.23 | B | | C10(O0-N3) + C13(O1-N5) + C7(O4-N6) | O5-(N ε +H ₂ N) |
| EA3R_Z10 | 9.27 | 6.27 | 4.39 | -0.34 | C | | C7(O0-N2) + C7(O3-N5) | N3-O ¹ + N4-O ¹ + O1-(H ₂ N) ¹ + O4-(H ₂ N) ² |
| EA3R_Z11 | 11.05 | 7.70 | 6.17 | 1.35 | O-NH2 | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O4-N6) | N2-O ¹ + N4-O ¹ + N5-O ¹ + O5-N + O0 - (H ₂ N + H ₂ N) |
| EA3R_T1 | 14.84 | 13.95 | 18.09 | 15.00 | | | C10(O0-N3) + C11(N2-O4) + C7(O2-N4) | N5-N ε + N6-N ε + N1-O + O5-HO |
| EA3R_C1 | 16.69 | 15.59 | 16.41 | 11.82 | | | C7(O0-N2) + C10(O1-N4) | N3-O + N6-N η H + O4-(H ε + H ₂ N) + O5-OH |
| EA3R_T2 | 17.73 | 14.62 | 18.28 | 13.54 | | | C10(O0-N3) + C14(N2-O5) + C7(O2-N4) + C5(N5-O5) | N1-O + N6-N ε |
| EA3R_T3 | 17.95 | 15.98 | 17.58 | 13.35 | | | C5(N1-O1) + C7(O1-N3) + C7(O2-N4) | O0-H ₂ N + N2-N ε + O3-HO + N5-O |

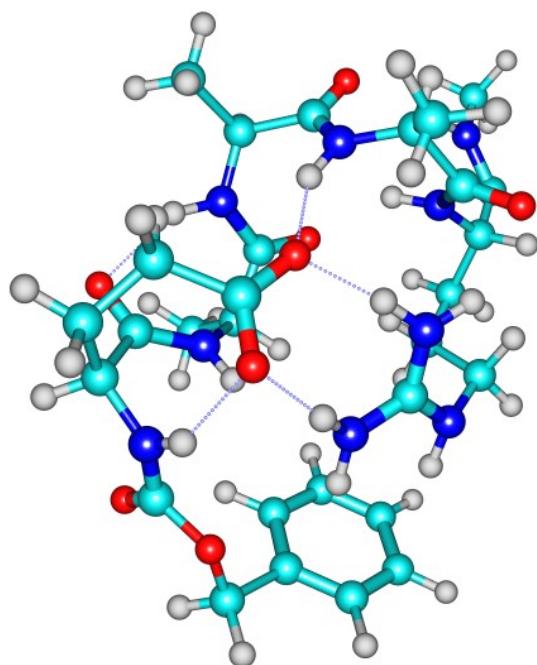
| | | | | | | | | |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|-----------------|---|--------------------|
| EA3R_T4 | 21.31 | 17.84 | 22.20 | 15.98 | | NH ₂ | C10(O0-N3) + C10(O1-N4) + C10(O2-N5) C7(O0-N2) + C7(N3-O5) + C7(N4- O6) C7(O0-N2) + C7(O1-N3) + C7(O2- N4) + C7(O3-N5) + C7(O4-N6) | N1-N ε |
| EA3R_C2 | 33.79 | 28.46 | 24.48 | 16.24 | | | O1- H ₂ N + N3- N η H | |
| EA3R_C3 | 40.35 | 30.33 | 28.03 | 18.42 | | | | O5-H ε |

Energies are given in kcal/mol.

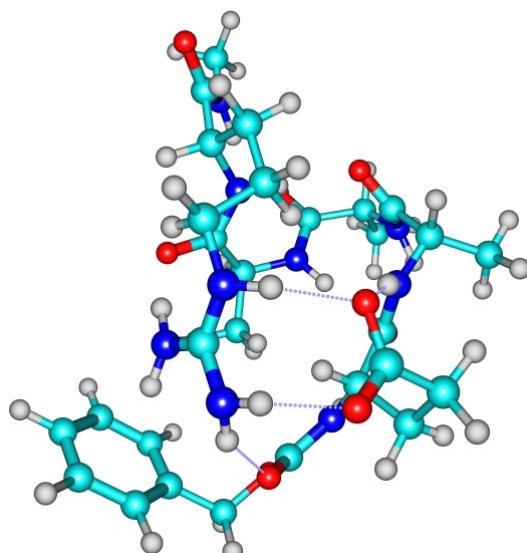
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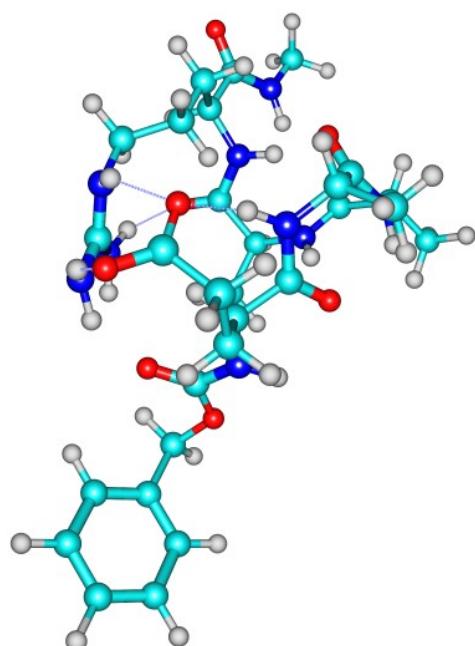
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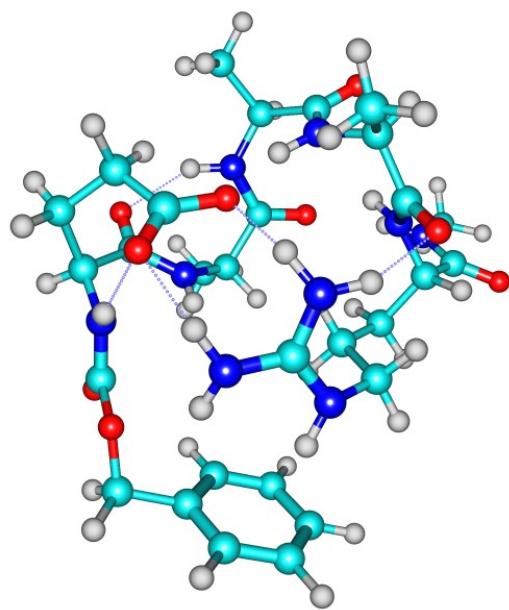
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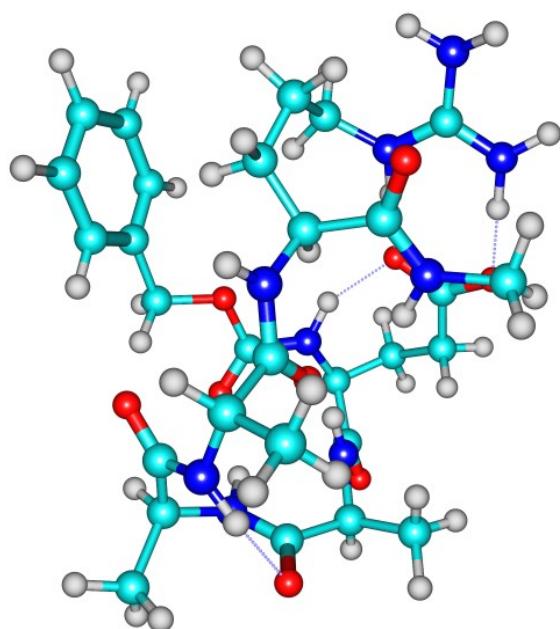
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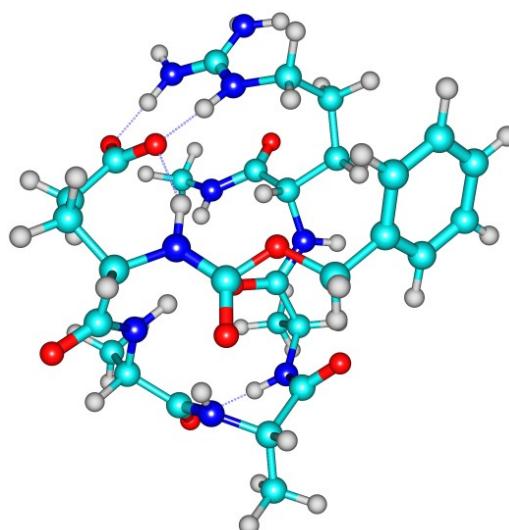
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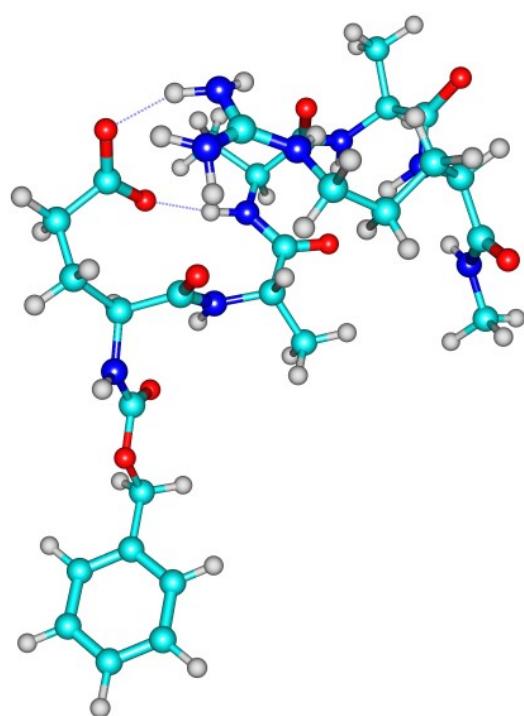
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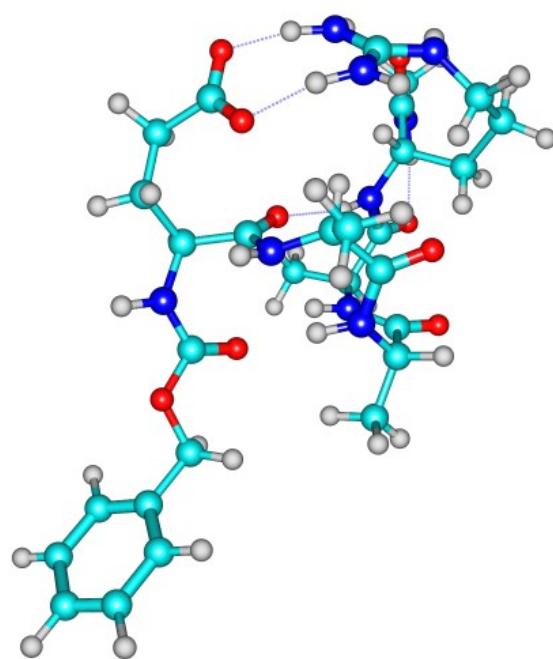
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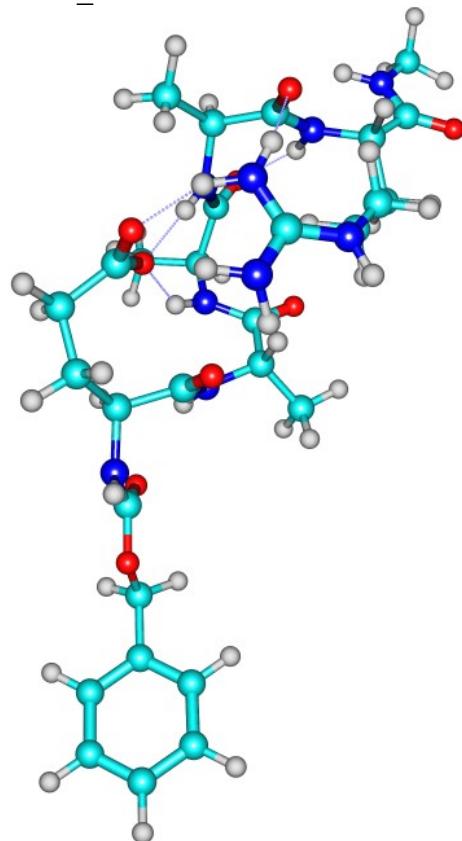
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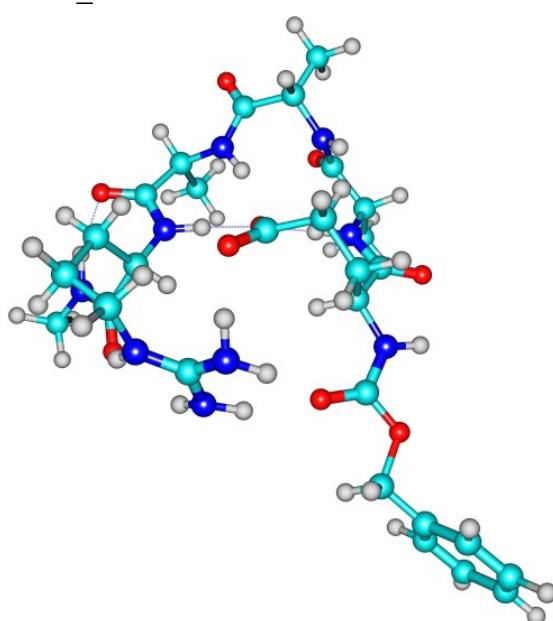
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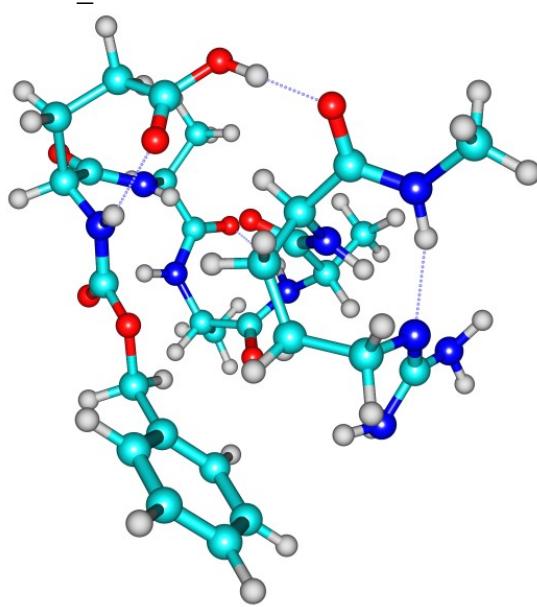
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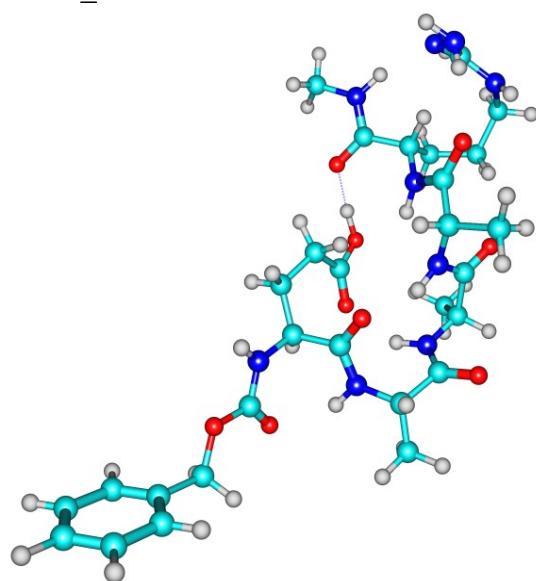
EA3R_Z11



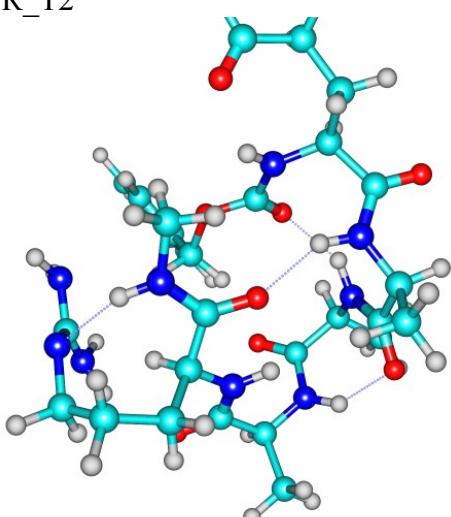
EA3R_T1



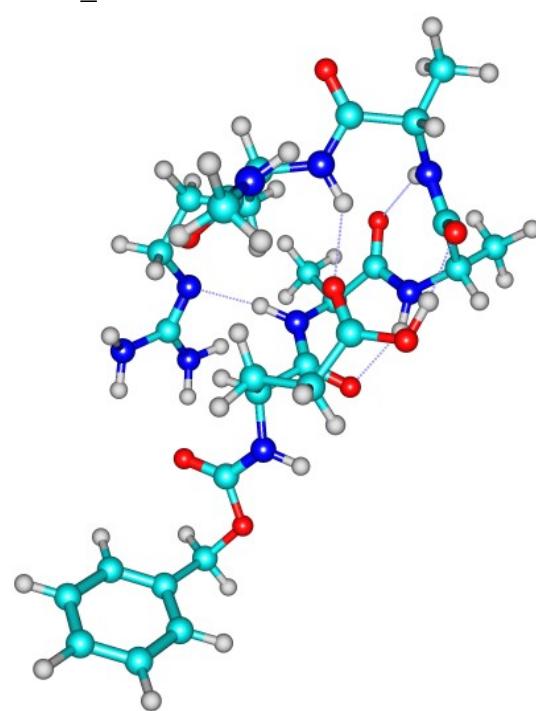
EA3R_C1



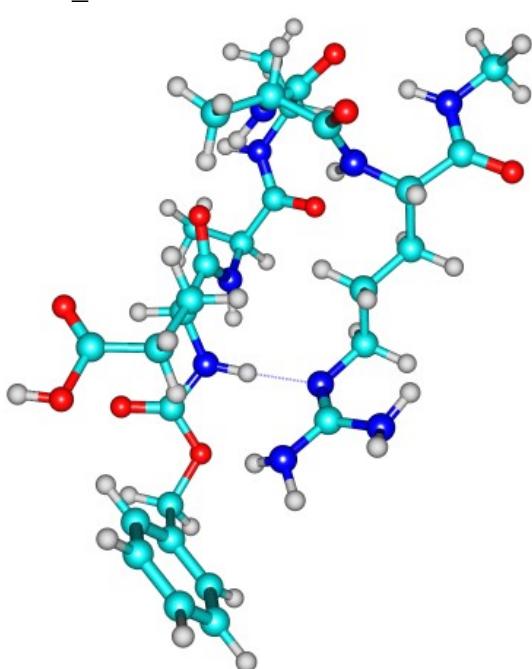
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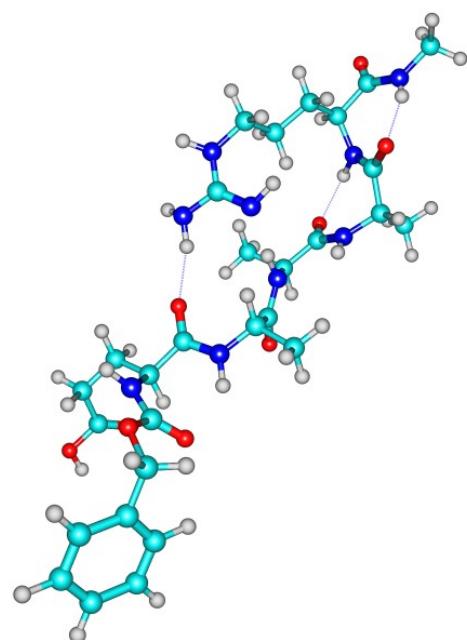
EA3R_T3



EA3R_T4



EA3R_C2



EA3R_C3

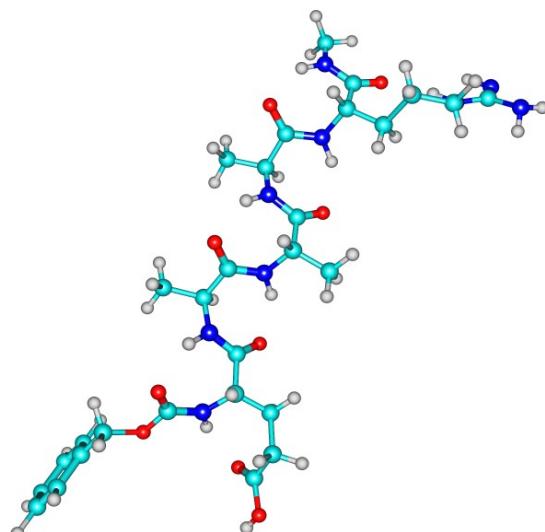
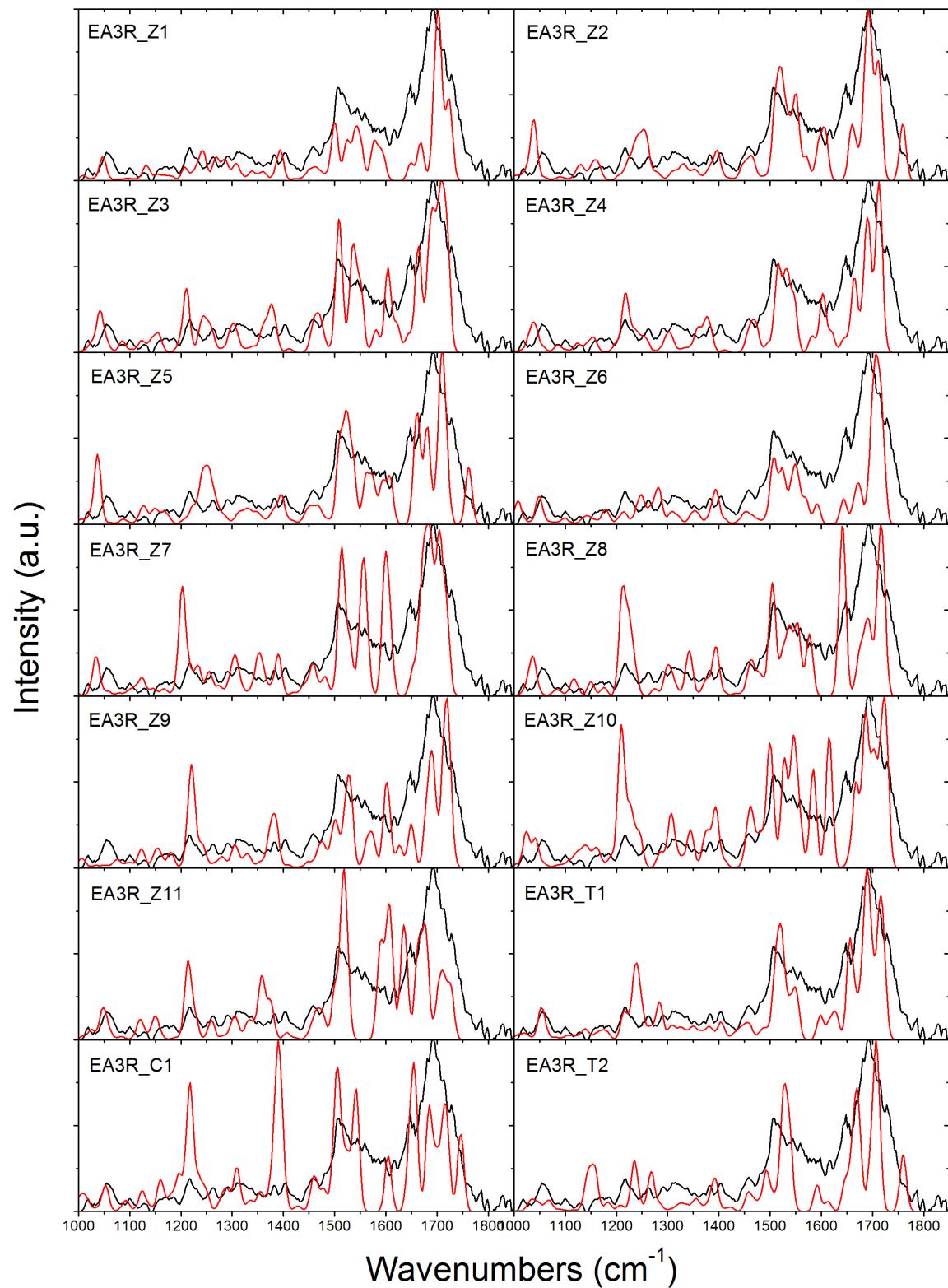


Figure SI-8. Conformations of Z-Glu-Ala-Ala-Ala-Arg-NHMe, optimized with the M05-2x functional employed with the 6-311G(d,p) basis set.



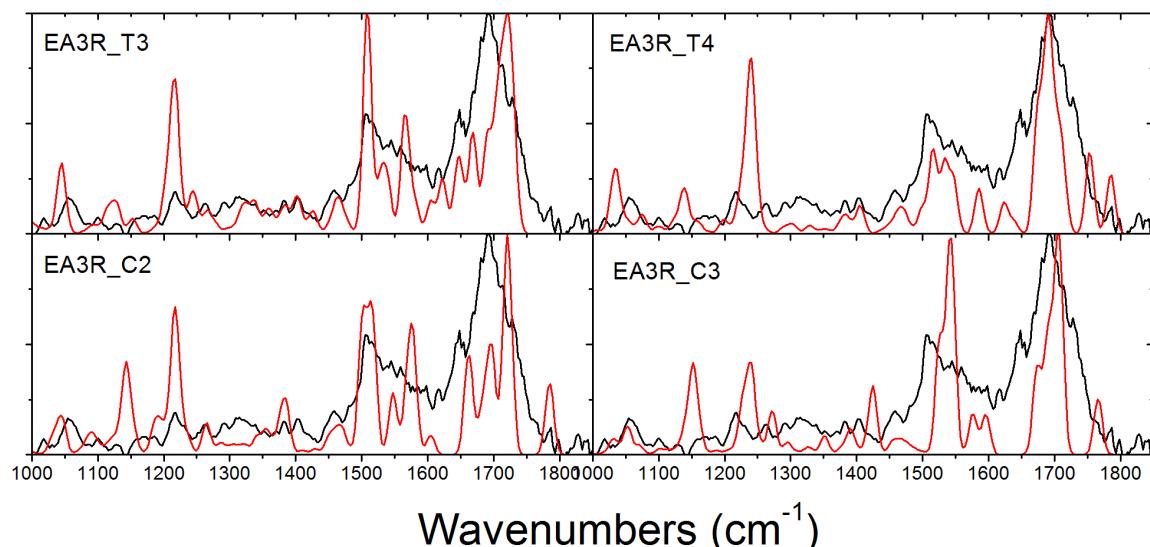


Figure SI-9. Experimental IR-UV ion-dip spectrum of Z-Glu-Ala-Ala-Ala-Arg-NHMe (black trace) and the theoretical spectra of the optimized structures for Z-Glu-Ala-Ala-Ala-Arg-NHMe (red trace).