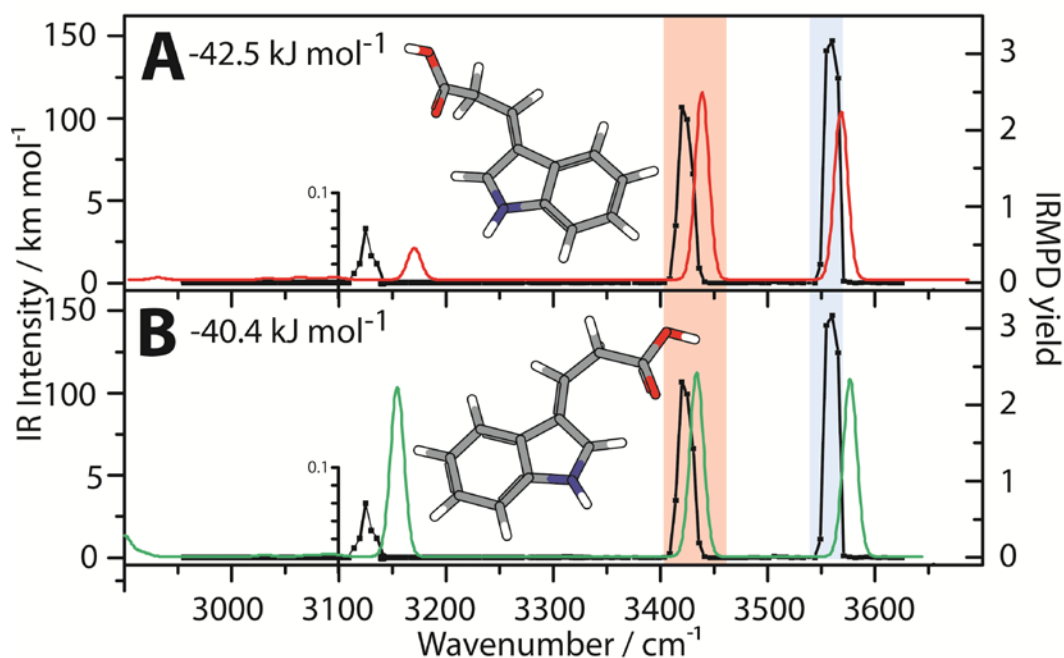


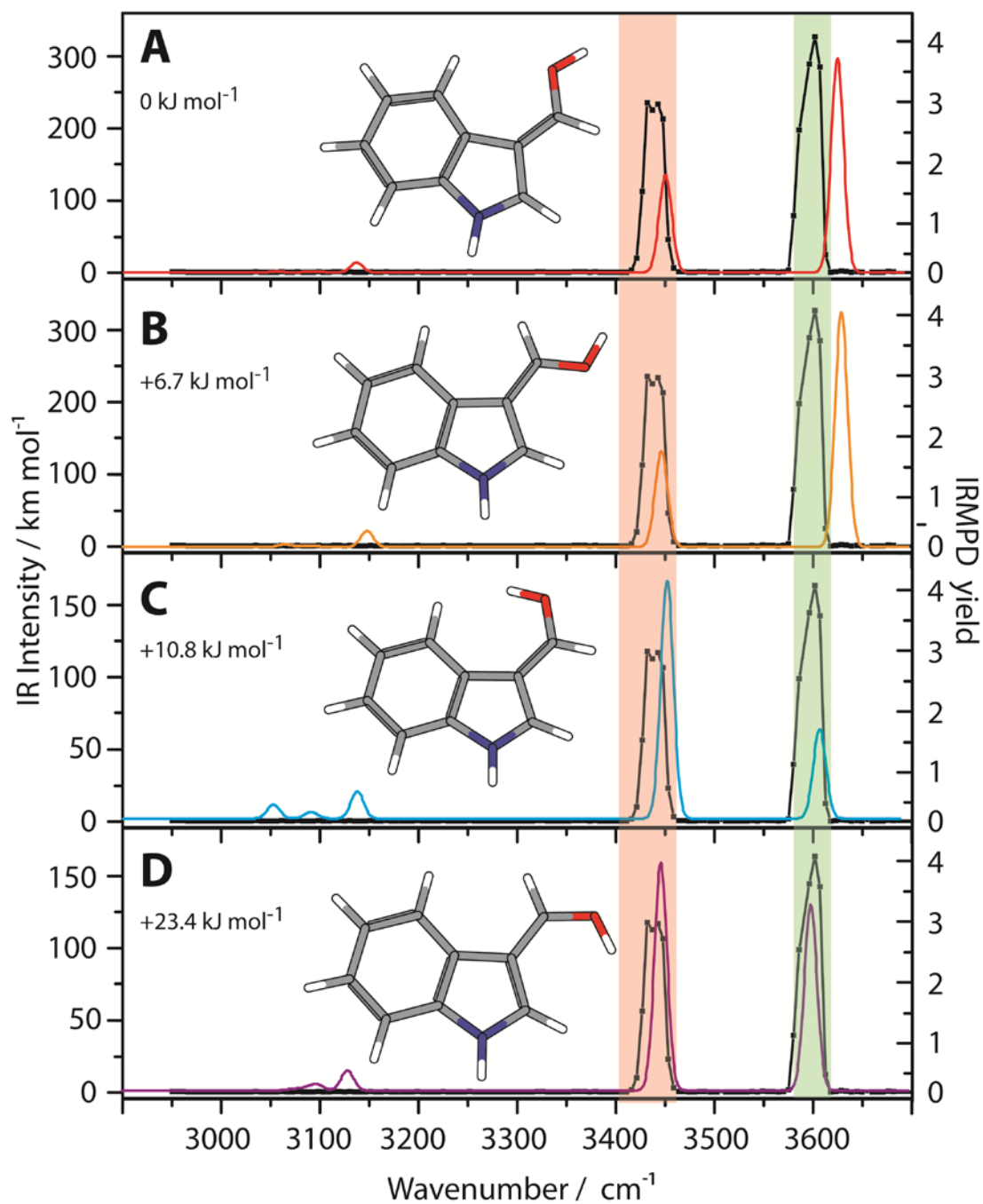
# Gas-Phase Structure and Dissociation Chemistry of Protonated Tryptophan Elucidated by Infrared Multiple-Photon Dissociation Spectroscopy

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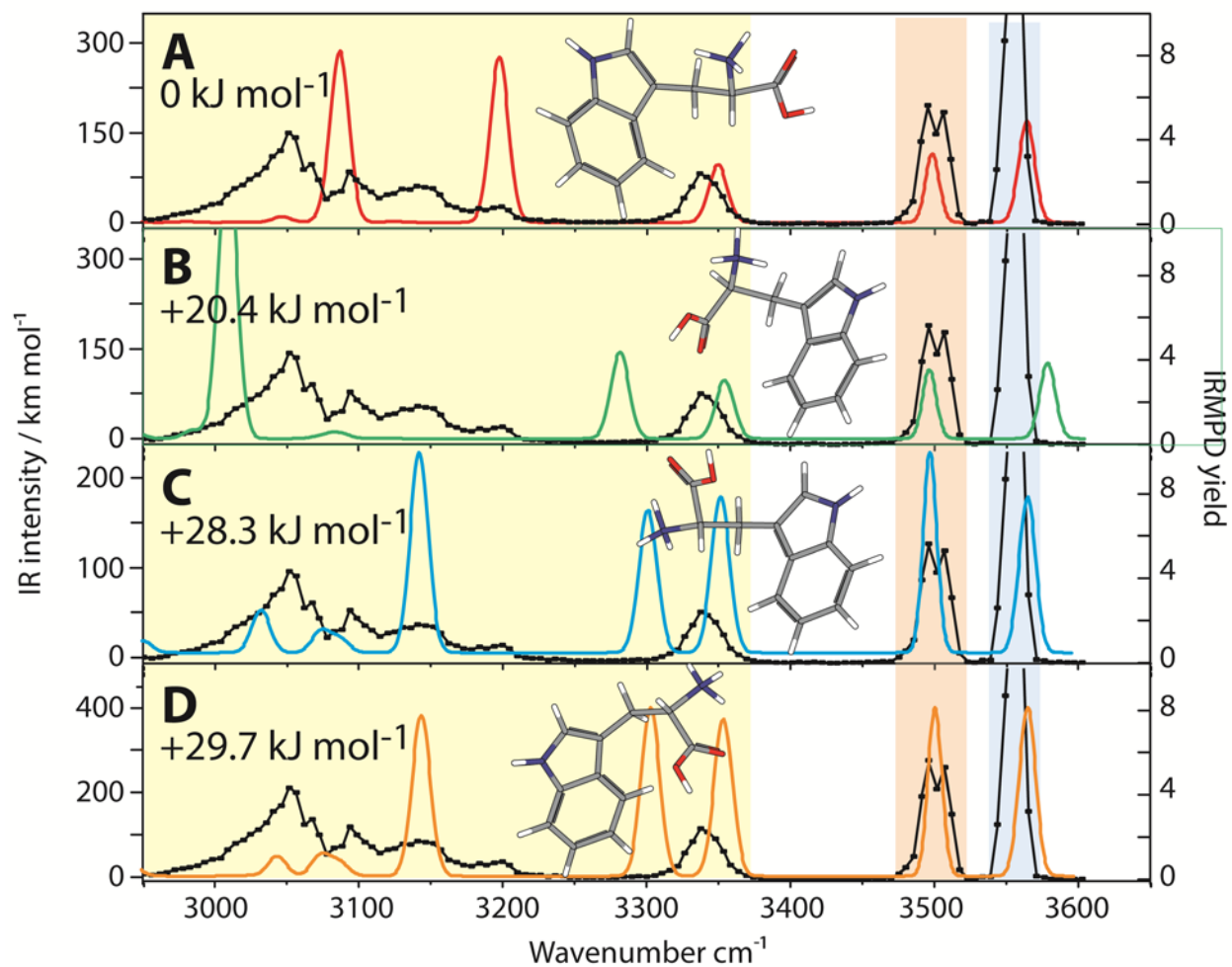
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U.S.A.



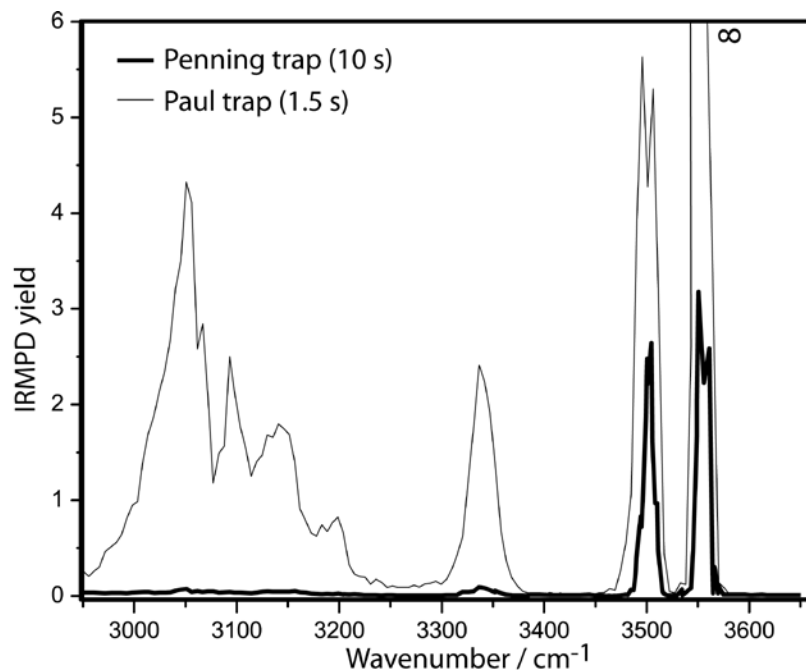
**Figure S1.** Comparison of  $[\text{Trp}+\text{H}-\text{NH}_3]^+$  IRMPD spectrum (black) to calculated spectra (different colors) for lowest-energy benzyl cation conformers. Zero-point energy corrected energies at the B3LYP/6-31+G\* level are indicated.



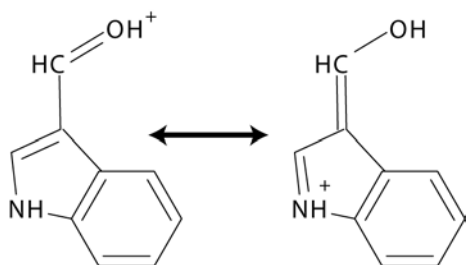
**Figure S2.** Comparison of  $[\text{Trp}+\text{H}-\text{NH}_3-\text{C}_2\text{H}_2\text{O}]^+$  IRMPD spectrum (black) to theoretical spectra (different colors) of putative rotamers. Zero-point energy corrected energies at the B3LYP/6-31+G\* level are indicated.



**Figure S3.** Comparison of TrpH<sup>+</sup> IRMPD spectrum (black) to (A) lowest-energy conformer, and (B-D) higher-energy conformers (in different colors). Zero-point energy corrected energies at the B3LYP/6-31+G\* level are indicated.



**Figure S4.** Comparison of IRMPD spectra of  $\text{TrpH}^+$  in the Penning trap of a commercial Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance (FTICR) mass spectrometer (4.7 T Apex II, Bruker Daltonics) and the “Paul-type” 3D ion trap of the custom-built mass spectrometer presented here. The ion cloud was irradiated with the tunable cw OPO laser for 10 s and 1.5 s, respectively. The laser fluxes in both experiments were estimated at  $280 \text{ mW/cm}^2$  (Penning trap) and  $280 \text{ W/cm}^2$  (Paul trap). These values are based on the measured beam waist for a 7.1 cm focal length lens.



**Scheme S5.** Resonance structures of  $[\text{Trp}+\text{H}-\text{NH}_3-\text{CH}_2\text{CO}]^+$  ( $m/z$  146) structure.

**Table S6.** Summary of B3LYP/6-31+G\*, M05-2X/6-31+G\* and (single-point) MP2/6-31+G\* energies. Note that all zero-point energy (ZPE) and Gibbs (298K) free energy corrections were done using the frequency calculations at B3LYP/6-31+G\*. The structures in Fig S3 C+D could not be optimized at the MP2 level of theory.

Structure	B3LYP			M05-2X			MP2	
	Electronic energy / Hartrees	ZPE / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	Gibbs / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	Electronic energy / Hartrees	ZPE / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	Gibbs / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	Electronic energy / Hartrees	ZPE / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>
<b>TrpH<sup>+</sup></b>								
Fig 3 A	-686.76174	0.000	0.000	-686.68491	2.765	0.627	-682.56524	4.012
B	-686.76170	0.536	1.444	-686.68443	1.405	3.880	-682.56500	2.045
C	-686.76097	2.114	2.631	-686.68620	0.000	0.000	-682.56420	0.000
D	-686.75890	7.341	8.622	-686.68252	8.845	7.848	-682.56080	7.073
FigS3 A	-686.76174	0.000	0.000	-686.68491	2.765	0.627	-682.56524	4.012
B	-686.75379	20.426	21.206	-686.67804	21.177	20.702	-682.55584	17.588
C	-686.75075	28.274	27.219	-686.67280	34.525	31.981	-682.55469	N/A
D	-686.75024	29.734	29.923	-686.67360	32.244	31.104	-682.55435	N/A
<b>[Trp+H-NH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup></b>								
Fig 2 A	-630.13190	81.782	81.645					
B	-630.15989	9.757	9.848					
C	-630.16351	0.000	0.000					
D	-630.13598	72.561	72.810					
Fig S1 A	-630.17946	-42.491	-46.327					
B	-630.17822	-40.385	-46.311					
<b>[Trp+H-NH<sub>3</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>CO]<sup>+</sup></b>								
Fig 2 E	-477.52127	0.000	0.000	-477.46255	0.000	0.000		
FigS3 A	-477.52127	0.000	0.000	-477.46255	0.000	0.000		
B	-477.51846	6.664	6.364	-477.45994	7.126	7.273		
C	-477.51690	10.788	10.056	-477.45841	10.691	9.930		
D	-477.51198	23.370	22.816	-477.45841	24.601	24.349		