

Supporting Information for

Both Zundel and Eigen Isomers Contribute to the IR Spectrum of the

Gas-phase H_9O_4^+ cluster

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Supplementary Figures S1 to S32

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References

Other Supplementary Materials for this manuscript includes the following:

Movie S0 - trans-Z conformer (trajectory as outputted from CP2K)

Movie S1 - trans-Z conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S2 - trans-Z · 1Ar conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S3 - trans-Z · 2Ar conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S4 - cis-Z conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S5 - E conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S6 - E · 1Ar conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S7 - E · 2Ar conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

Movie S8 - E · 3Ar conformer (structure aligned with the structure in the first frame)

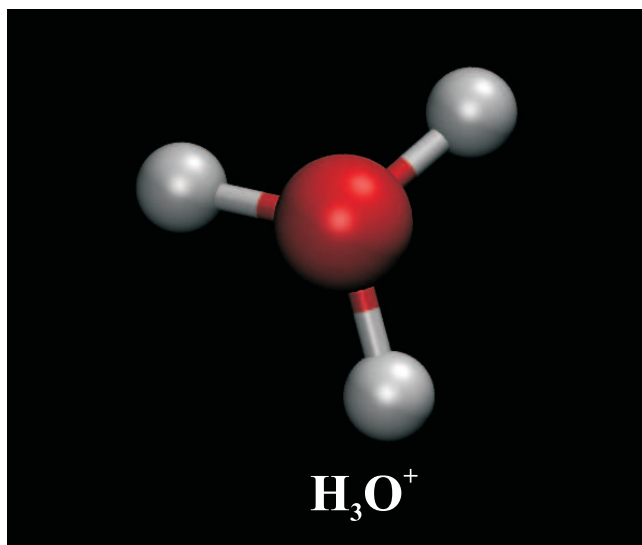
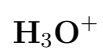


FIG. S1: Optimized structure of the H_3O^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03². XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S1.

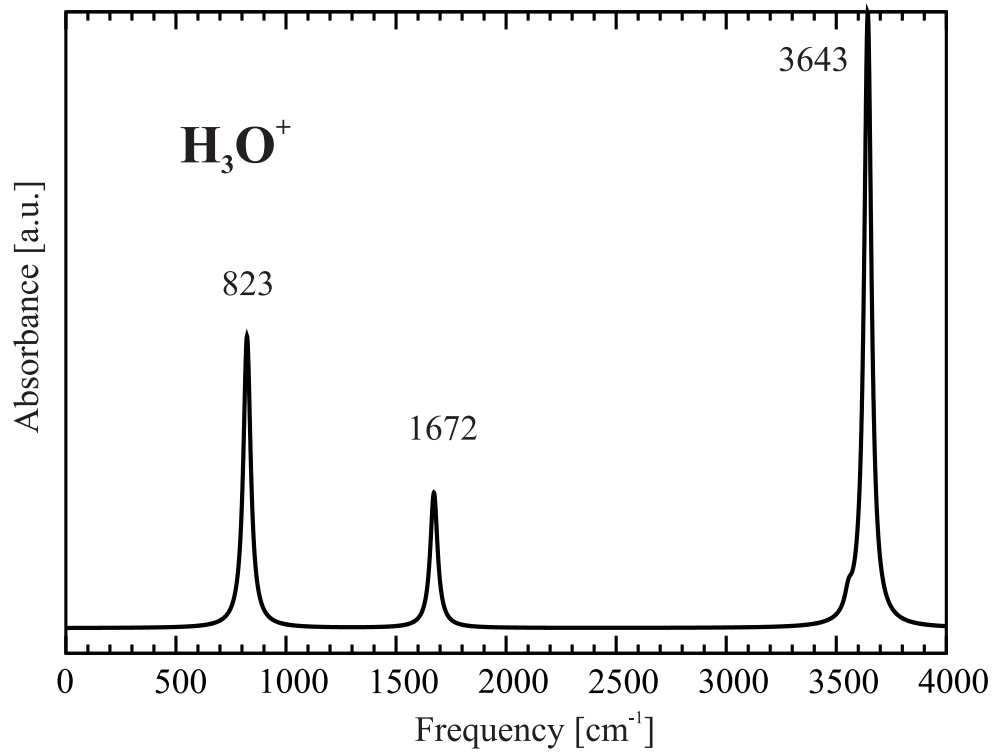


FIG. S2: Static IR spectrum of the H_3O^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

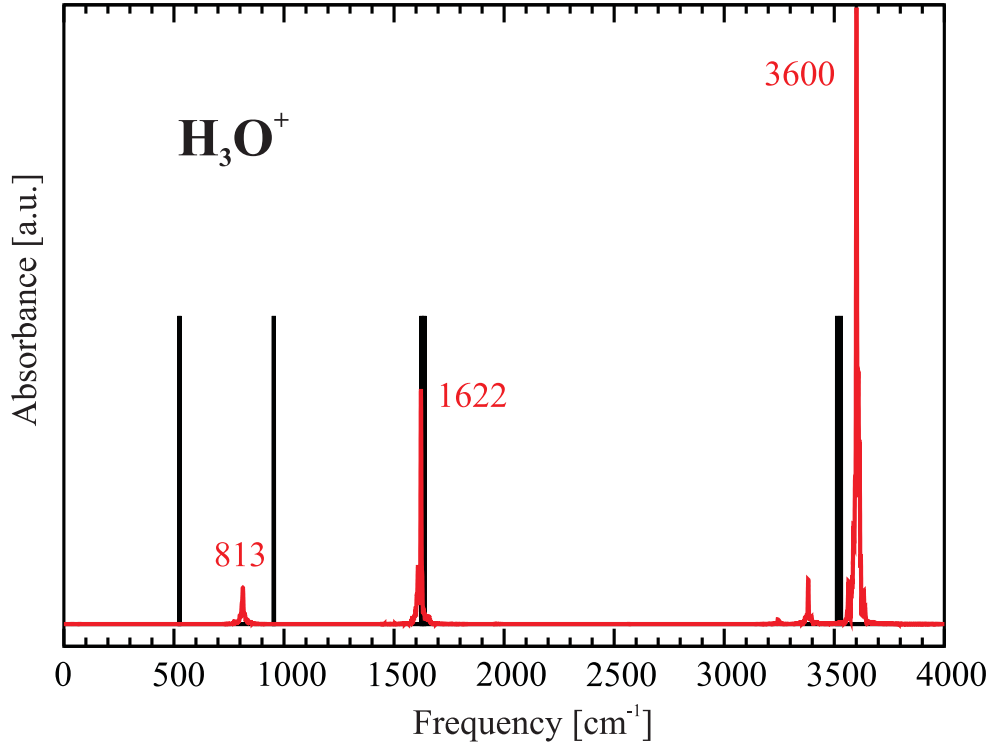


FIG. S3: Comparison between the theoretical (red) and experimental^{1,3,4,7} (black) IR spectra of the H_3O^+ cation. The (dynamic) theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 10 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K as detailed above. Note the overall agreement with the static spectrum in Fig. S2, except that the peaks there are somewhat blue shifted due to the harmonic model.

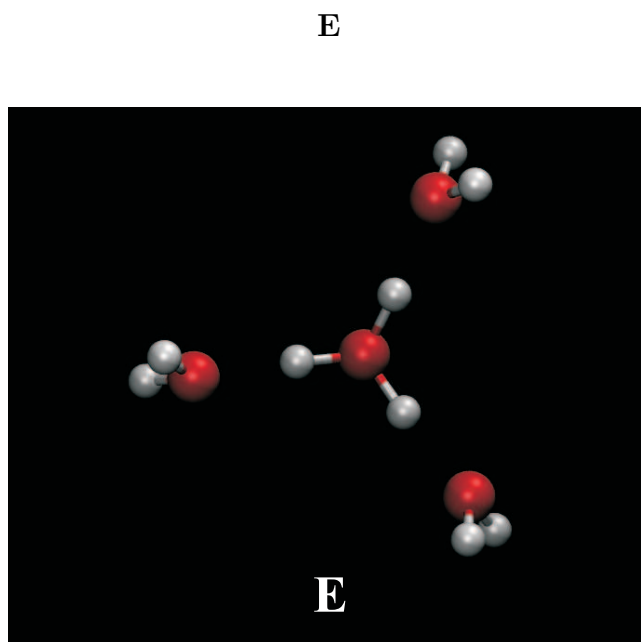


FIG. S4: The optimized structure of the E-isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S2.

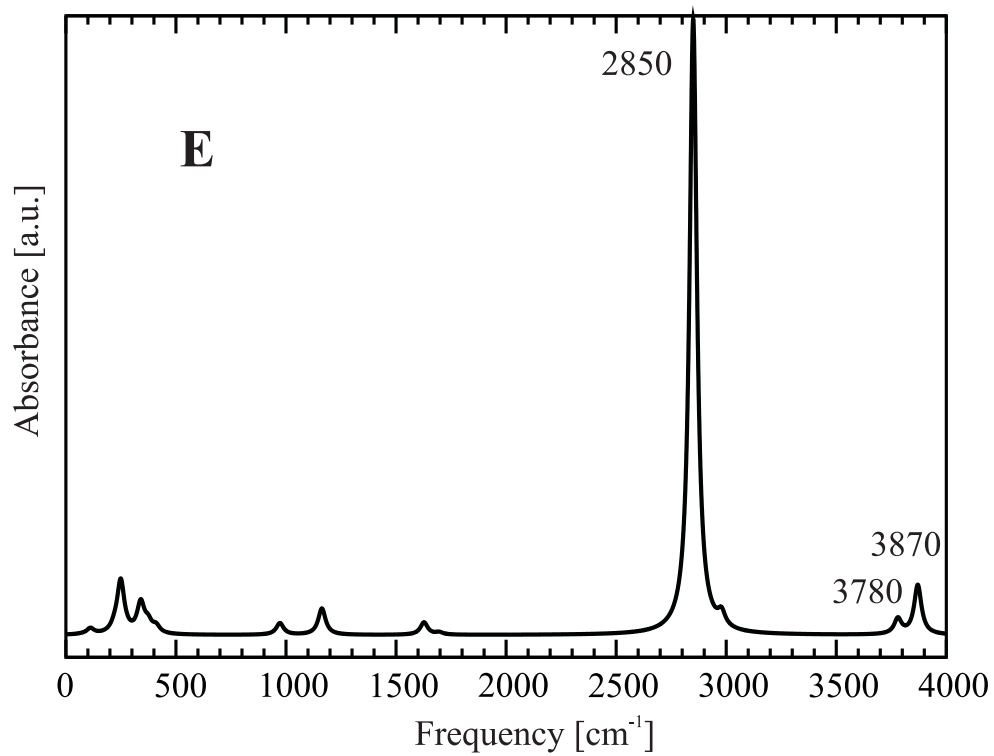


FIG. S5: Static IR spectrum of the E-isomer of H_9O_4^+ calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

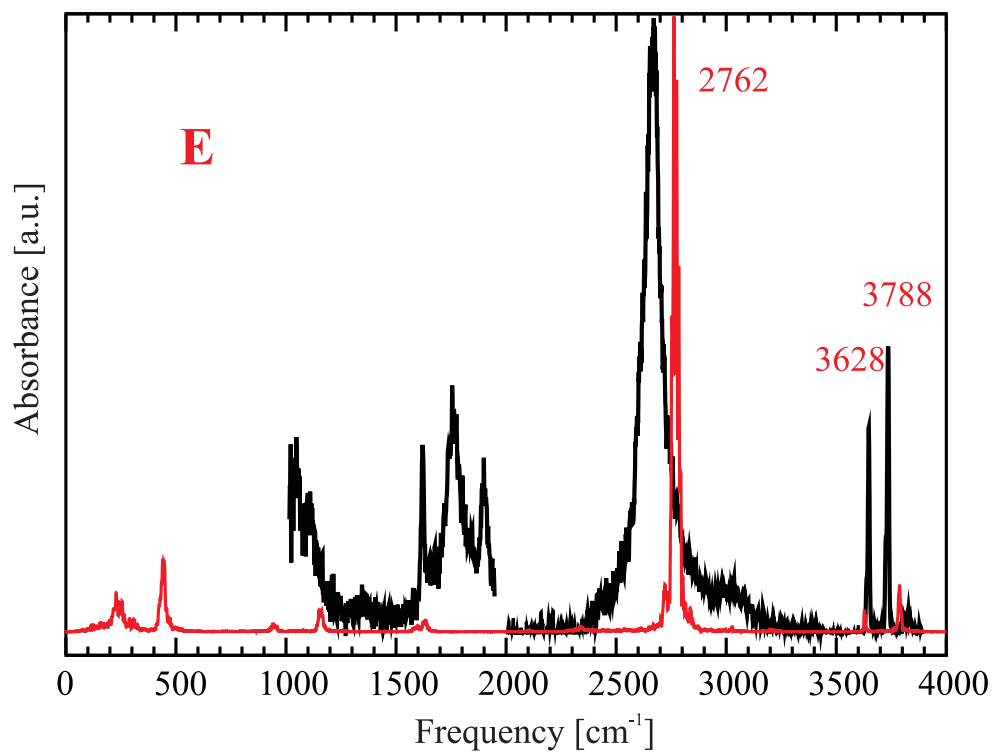


FIG. S6: Comparison between the (dynamic) theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the E-isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation. Theoretical spectrum was calculated from a 20 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

E · 1Ar

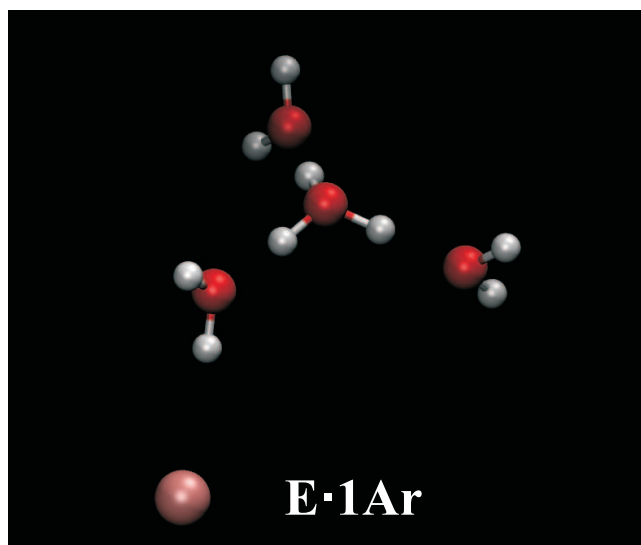


FIG. S7: The optimized structure of the $\text{E} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S3. Argon atoms rendered in pink herein.

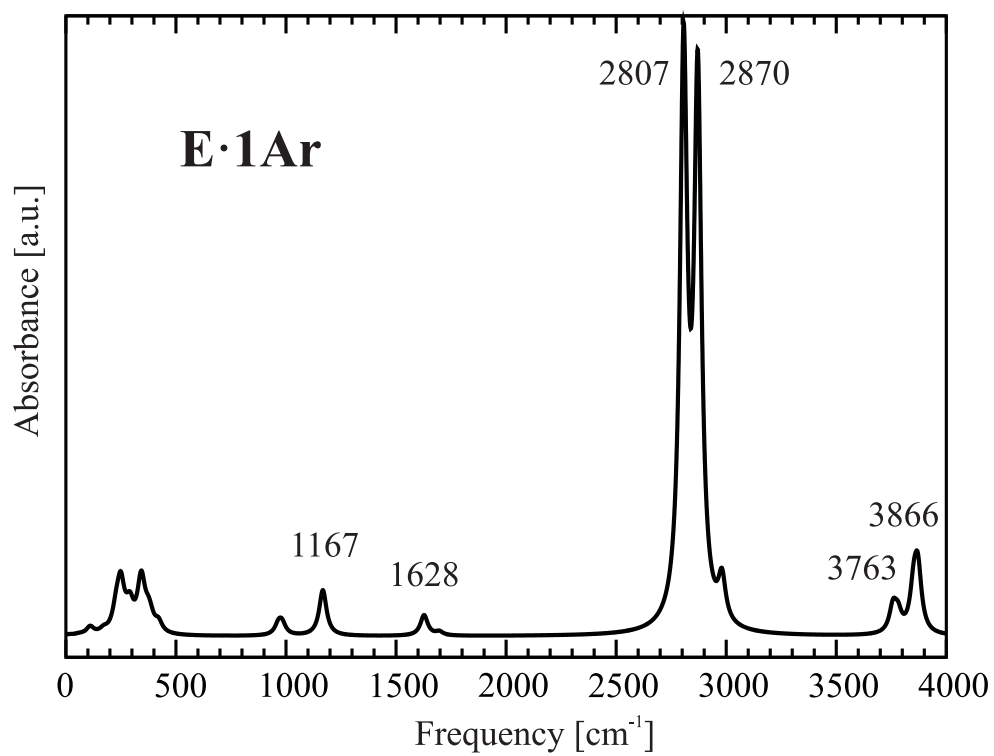


FIG. S8: Static IR spectrum of the $\text{E} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

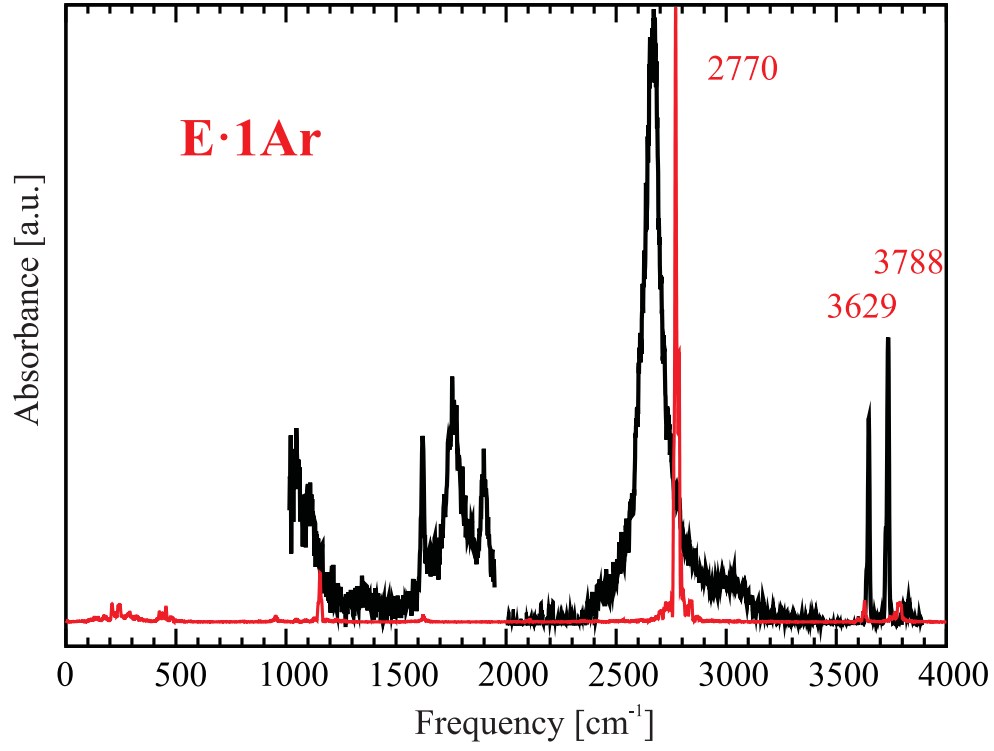


FIG. S9: Comparison between the theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the $E \cdot 1Ar$ isomer of the $H_9O_4^+ \cdot 1Ar$ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 10 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

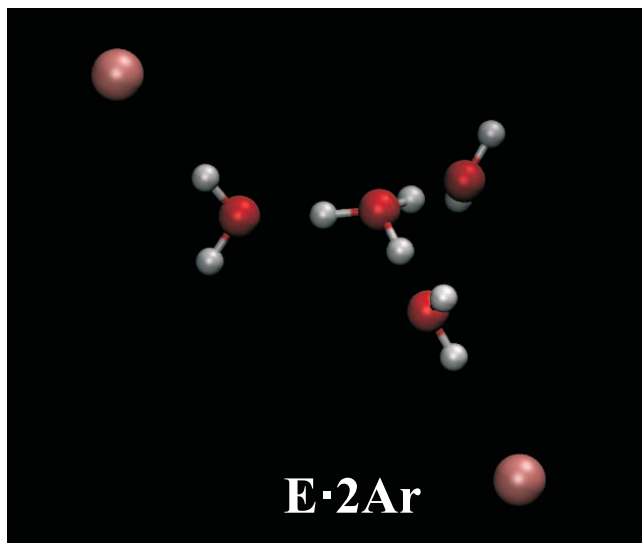
$\text{E} \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ 

FIG. S10: The optimized structure of the $\text{E} \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S4.

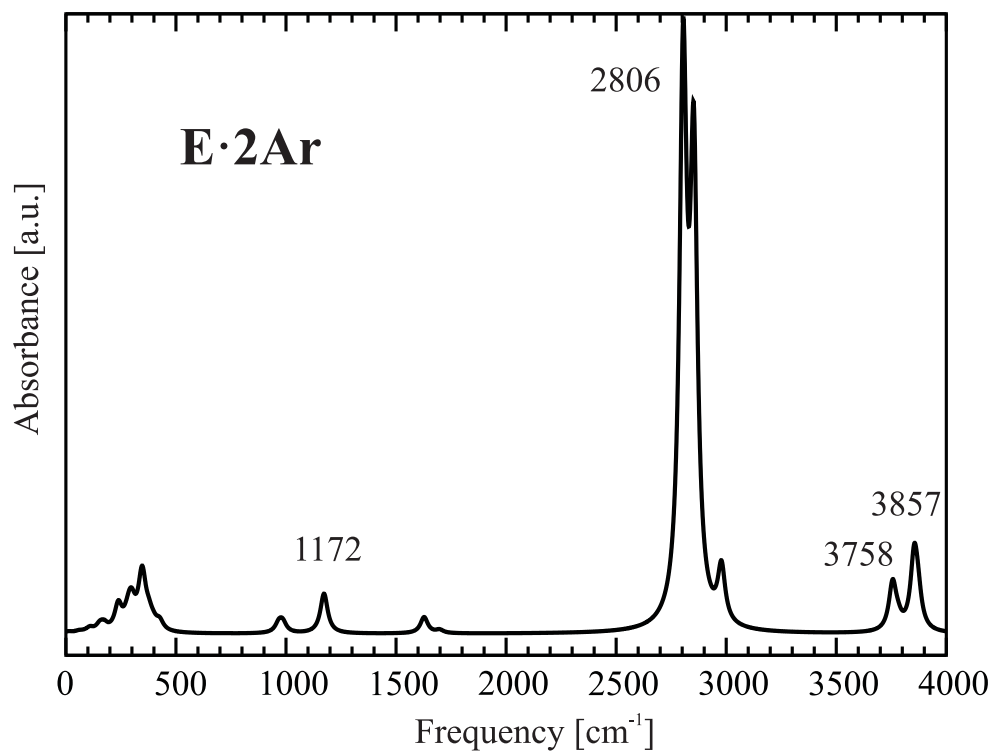


FIG. S11: Static IR spectrum of the $\text{E} \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

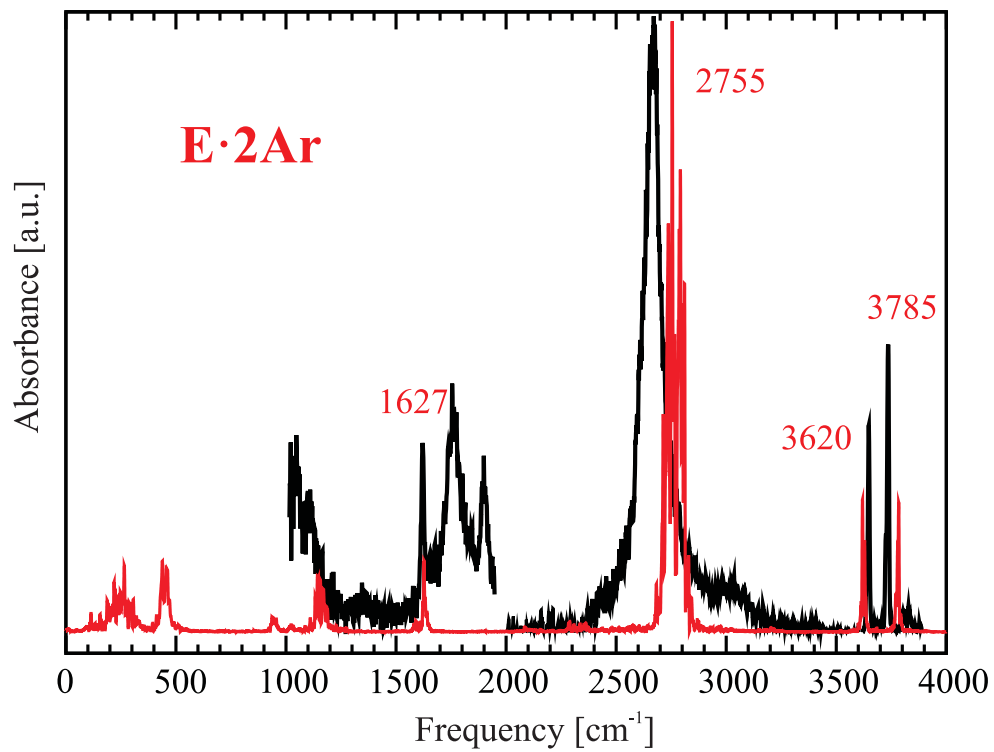


FIG. S12: Comparison between theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectrum of the E · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 10 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

E · 3Ar

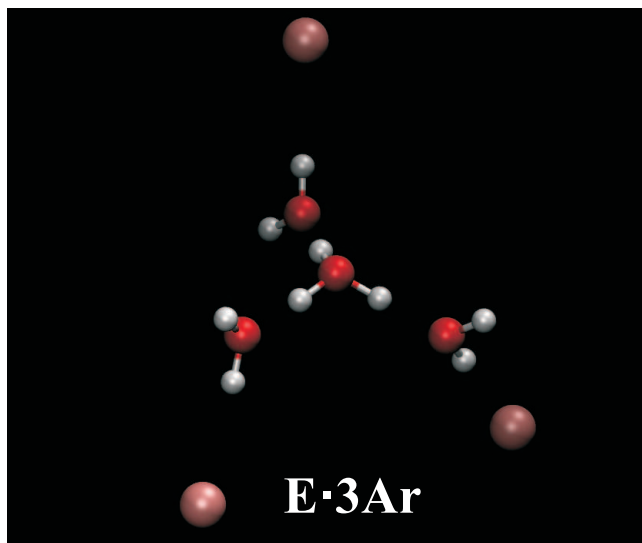


FIG. S13: The optimized structure of the E · 3Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 3\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S5.

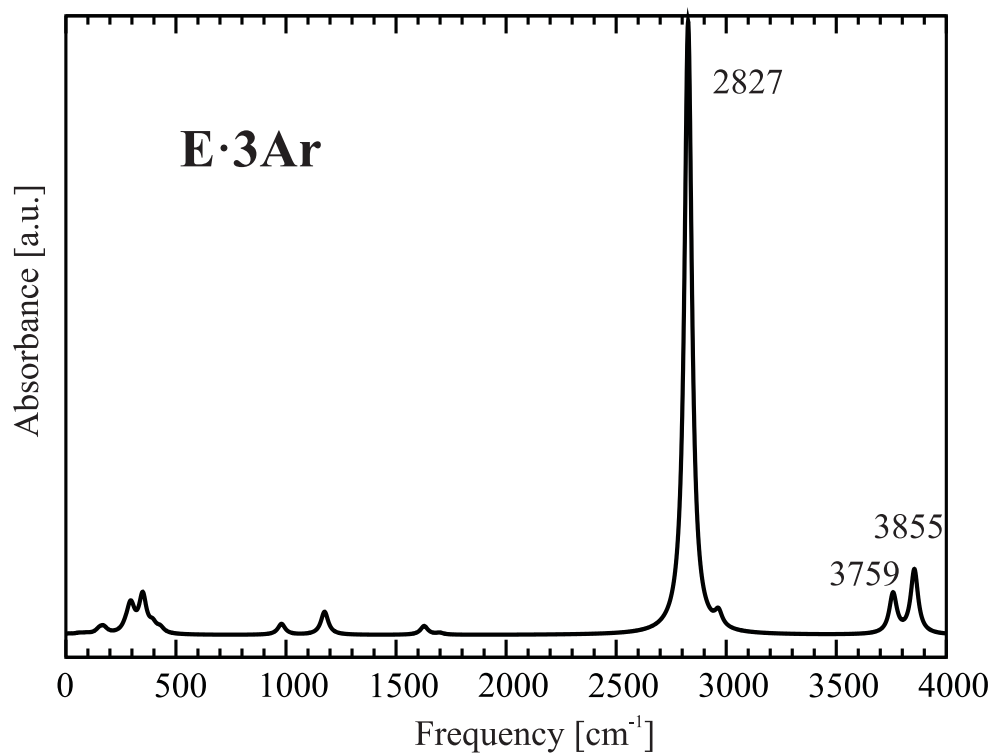


FIG. S14: Static IR spectrum of the $\text{E} \cdot 3\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 3\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

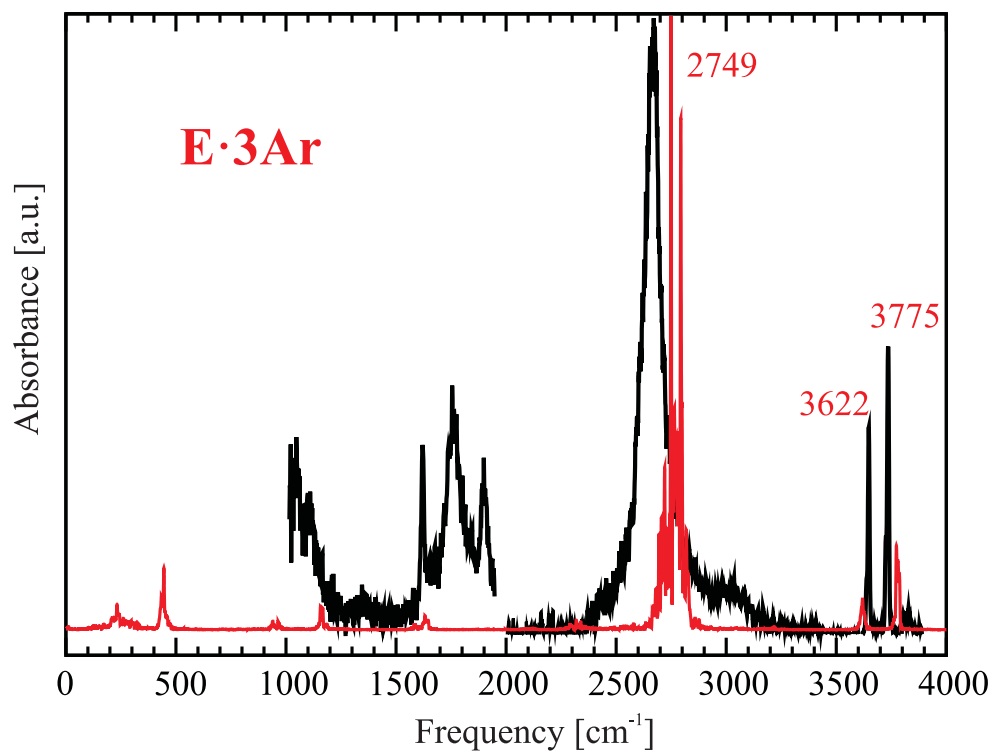


FIG. S15: Comparison between theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the $E \cdot 3Ar$ isomer of the $H_9O_4^+ \cdot 3Ar$ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 10 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

cis-Z

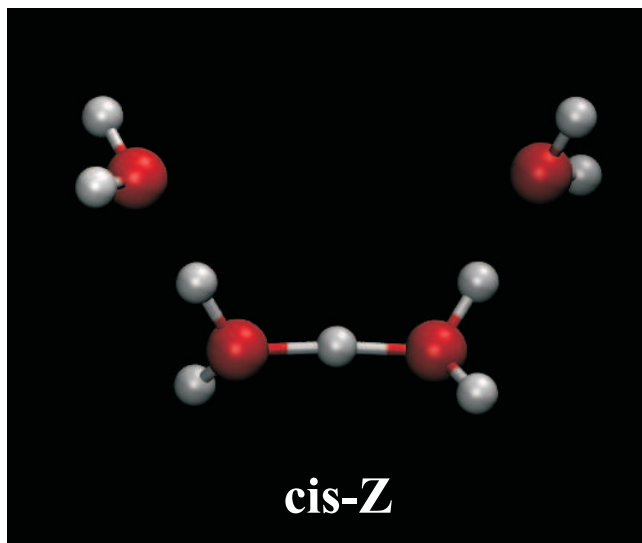


FIG. S16: The optimized structure of the cis-Z isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S6.

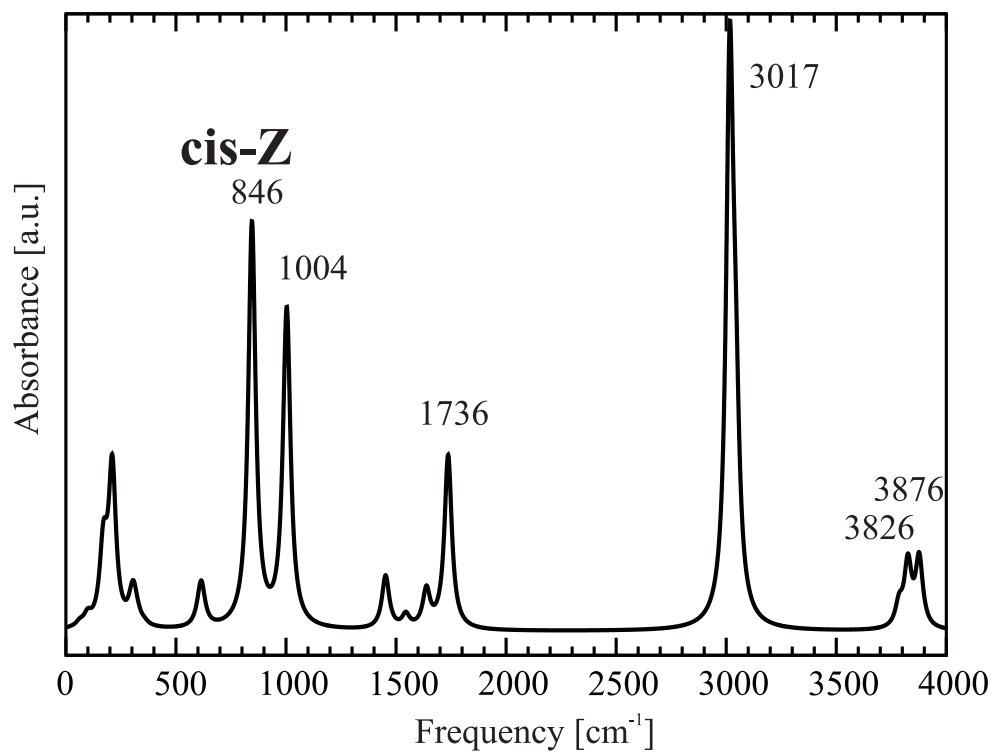


FIG. S17: Static IR spectrum of the **cis-Z** isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

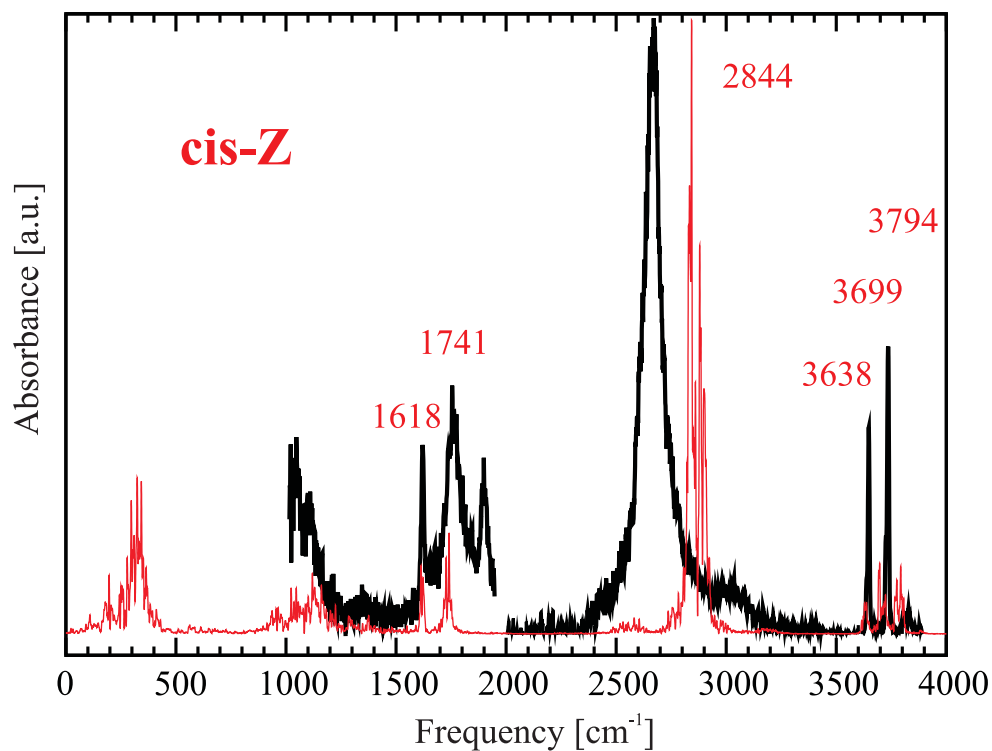


FIG. S18: Comparison between theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the *cis-Z* isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 10 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

cis-Z · 1Ar

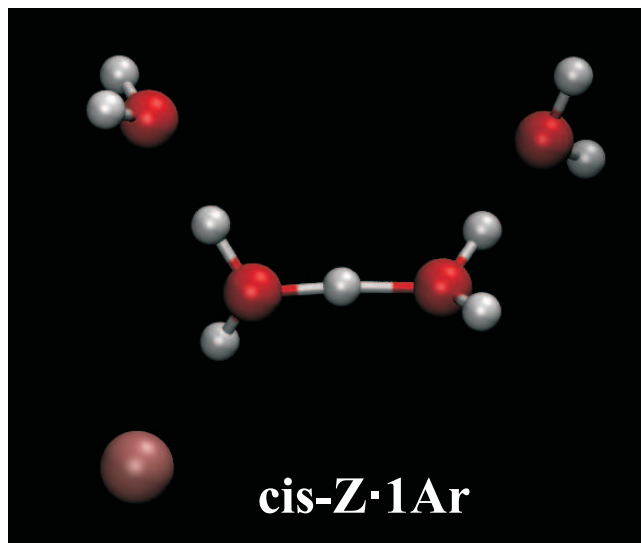


FIG. S19: The optimized structure of the $\text{cis-Z} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S7.

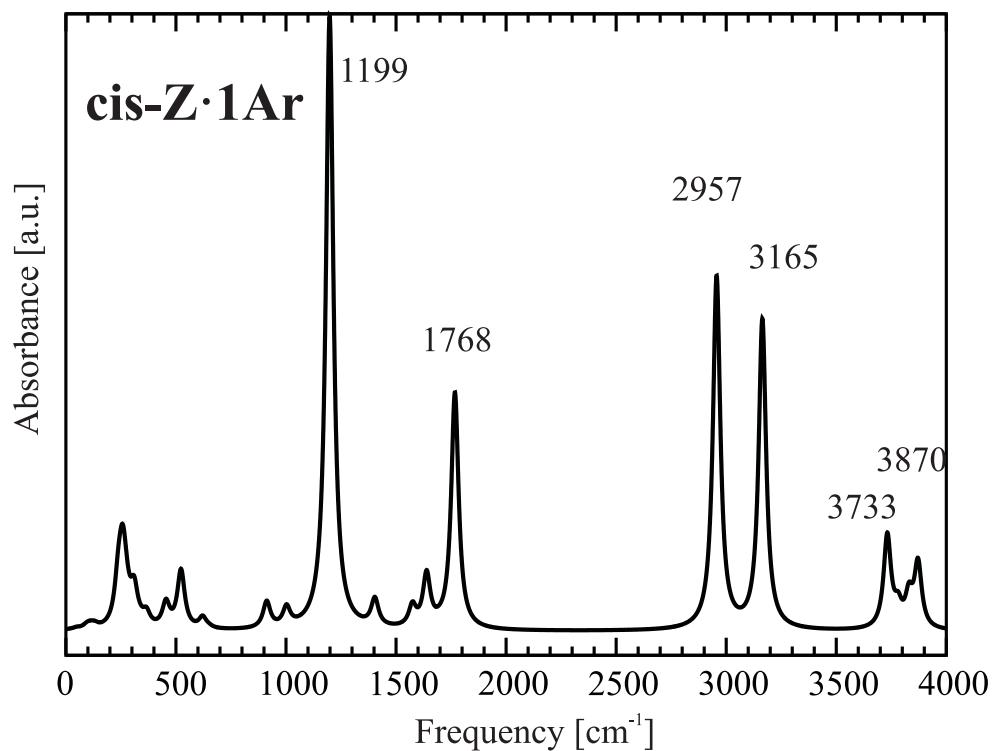


FIG. S20: Static IR spectrum of the **cis-Z · 1Ar** isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. There is no dynamic (CP2K) spectrum available, because this isomer converted to the trans form during CP2K equilibration.

cis-Z · 2Ar

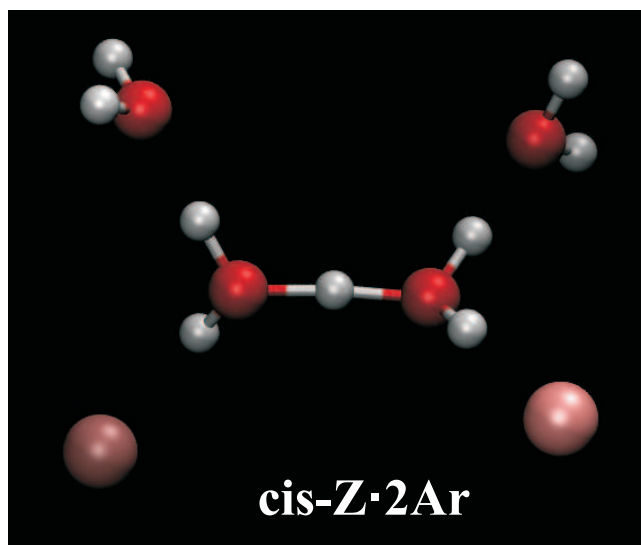


FIG. S21: The optimized structure of the cis-Z · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S8.

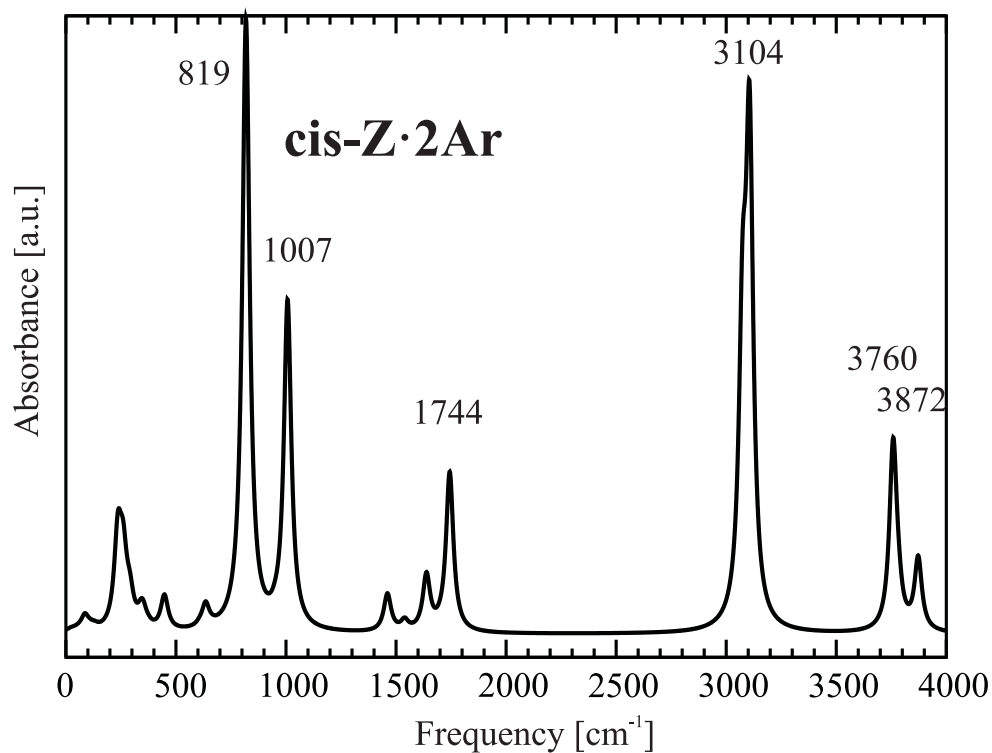


FIG. S22: Static IR spectrum of the **cis-Z · 2Ar** isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. There is no dynamic (CP2K) spectrum available, because this isomer converted to the trans form during CP2K equilibration.

trans-Z

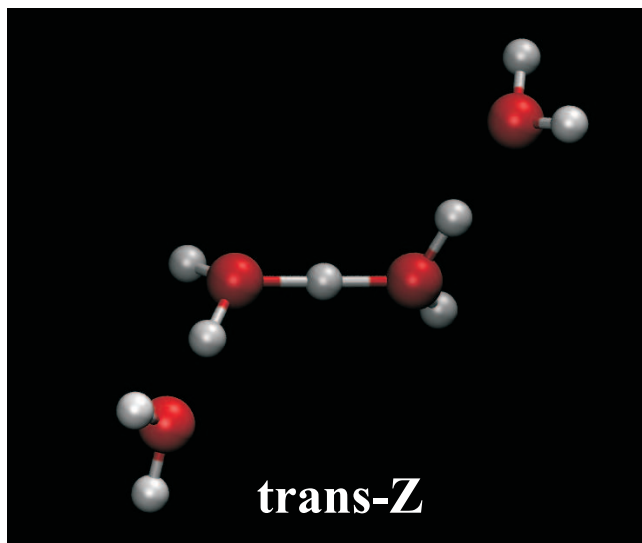


FIG. S23: The optimized structure of the **trans-Z** structure of the H_9O_4^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S9.

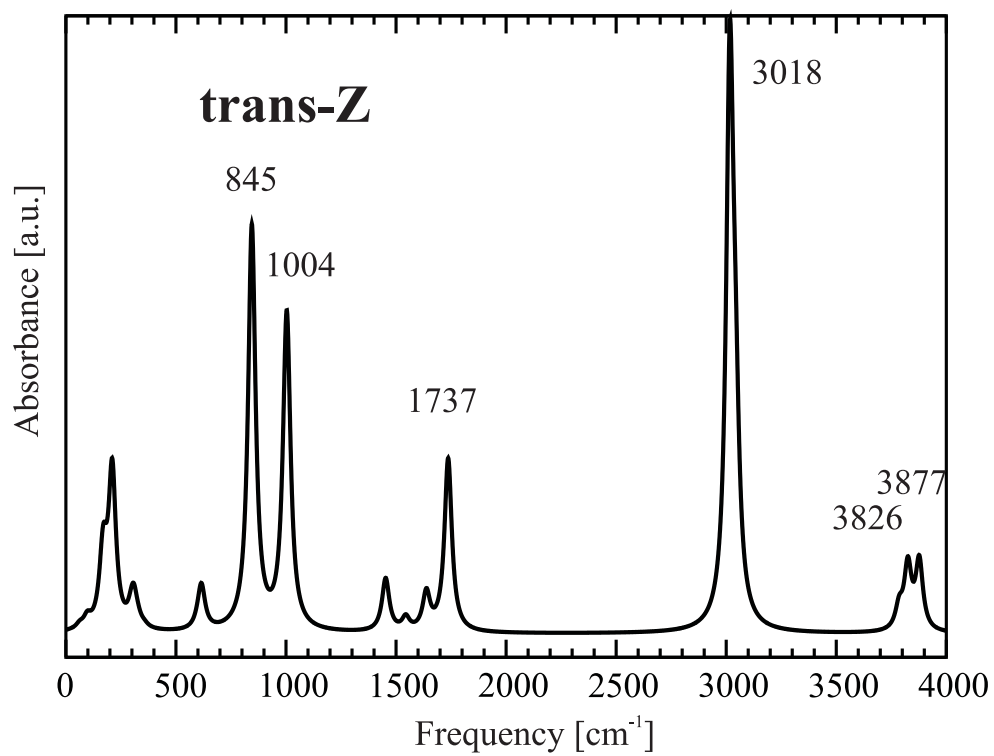


FIG. S24: Static IR spectrum of the **trans-Z** isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

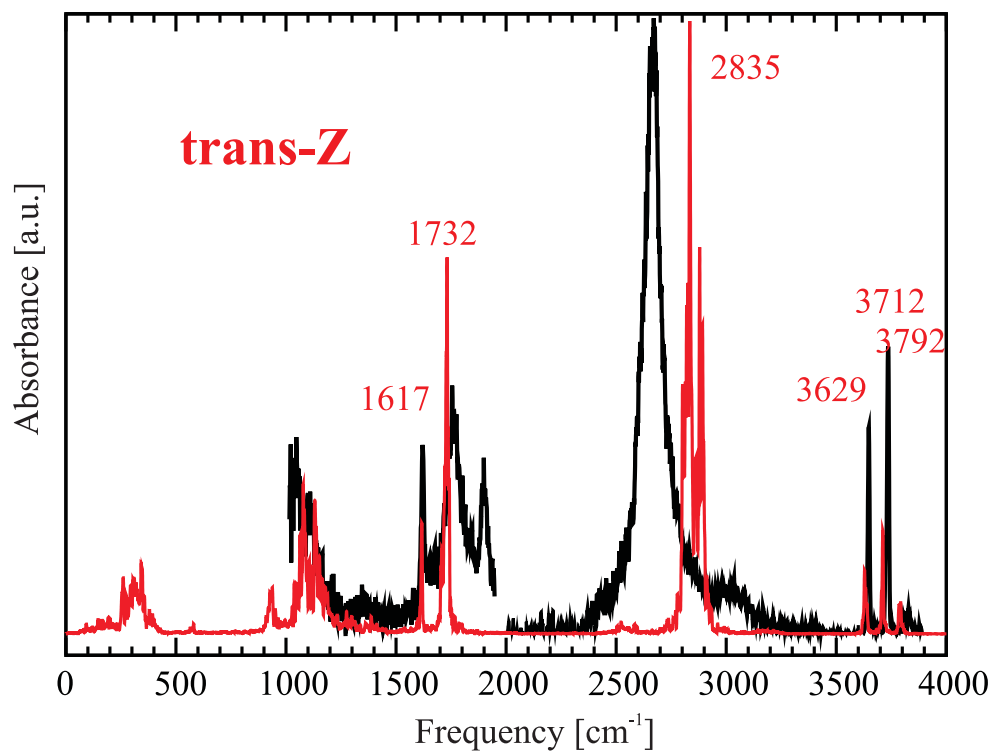


FIG. S25: Comparison between theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the *trans*-Z isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 20 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

trans-Z · 1Ar

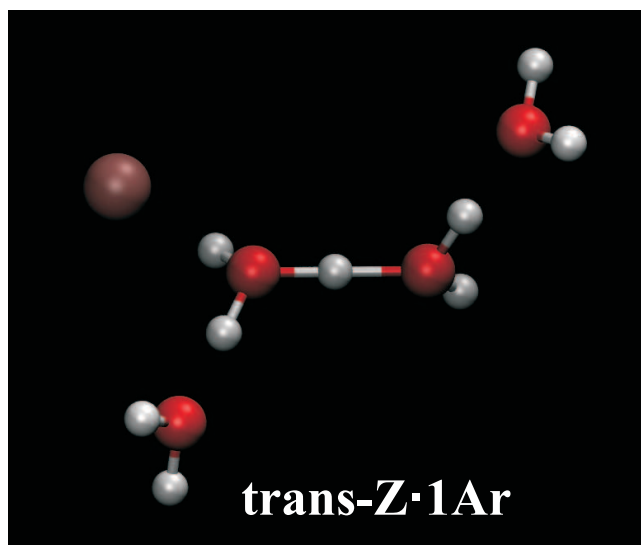


FIG. S26: The optimized structure of the trans-Z · 1Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S10.

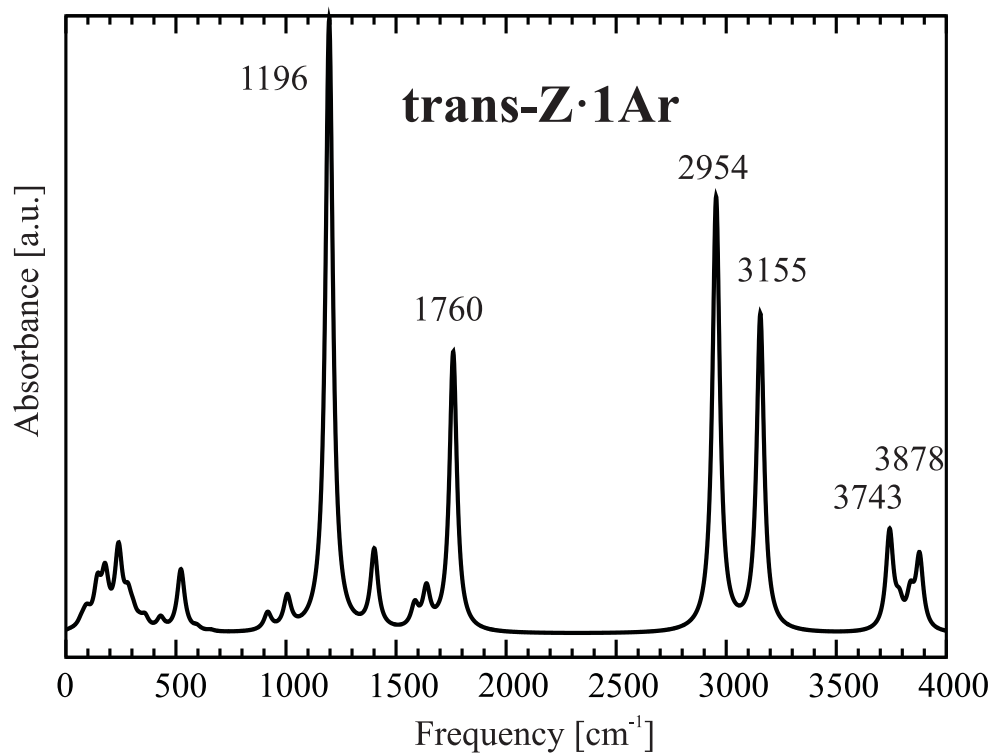


FIG. S27: Static IR spectrum of the $\text{trans-Z} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

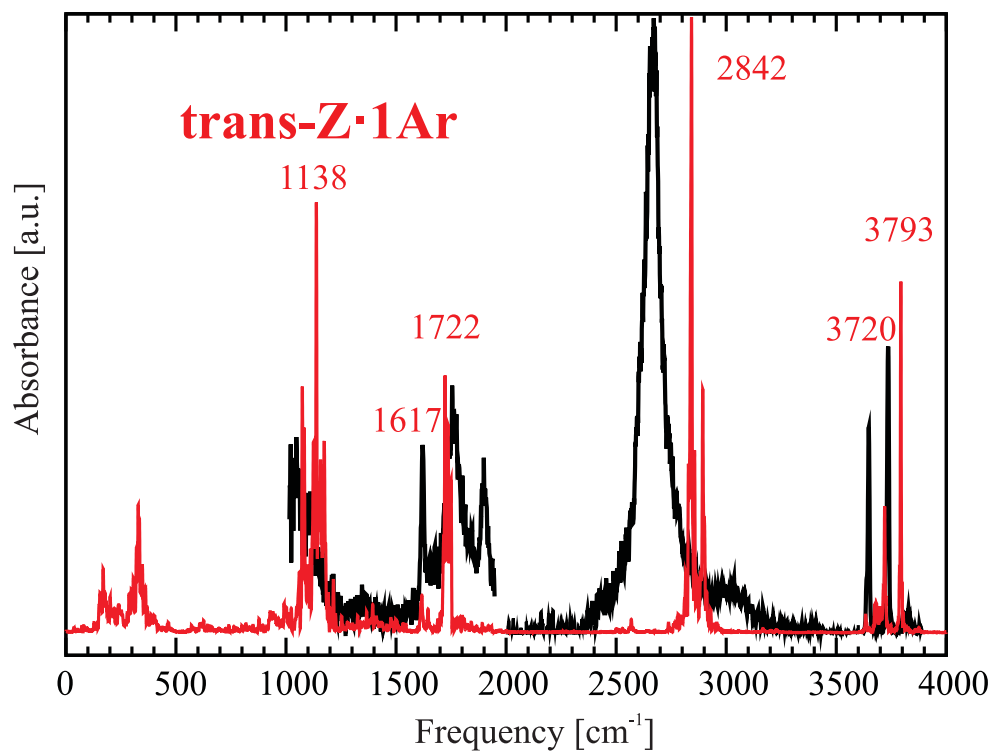


FIG. S28: Comparison between theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the trans-Z · 1Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 10 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

trans-Z · 2Ar

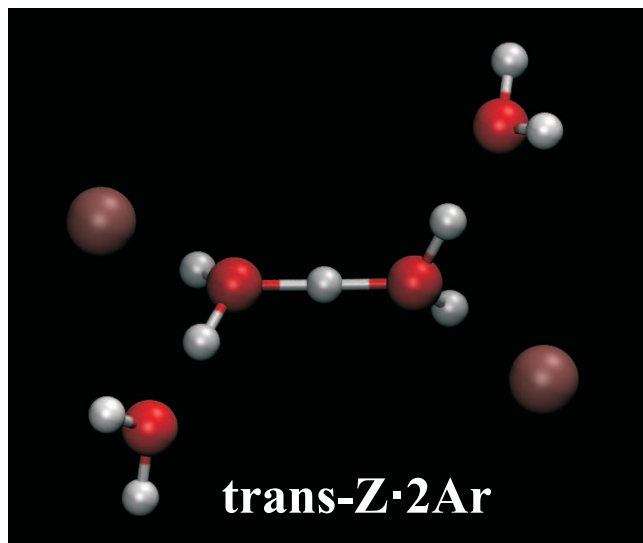


FIG. S29: The optimized structure of the trans-Z · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03. XYZ coordinates in Tbl. S11.

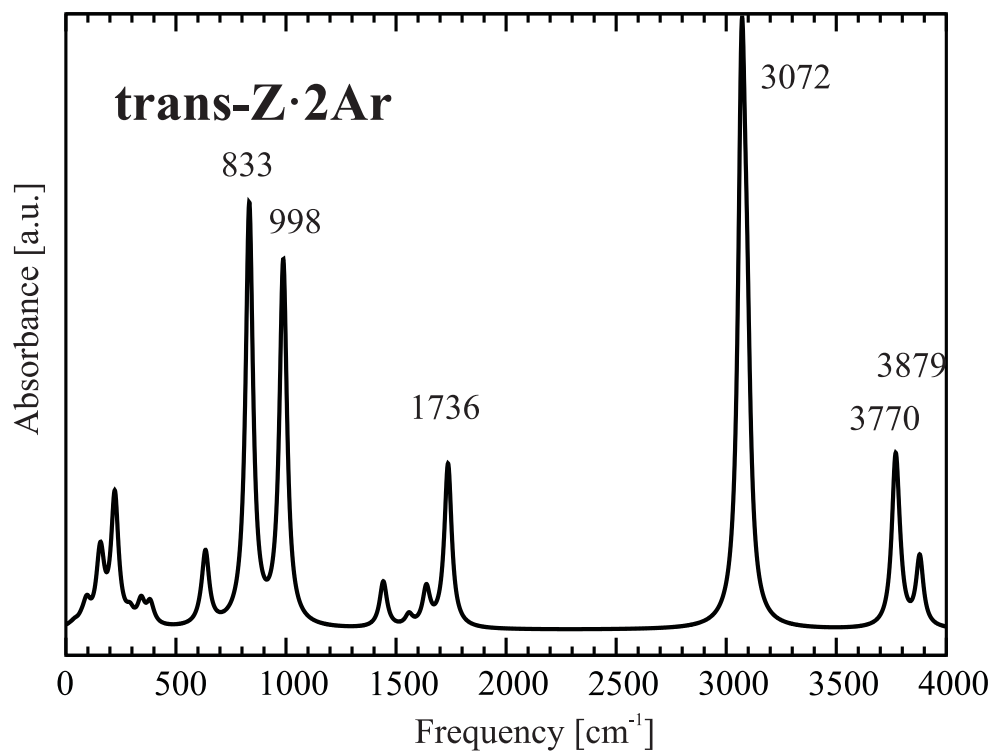


FIG. S30: Static IR spectrum of the trans-Z · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

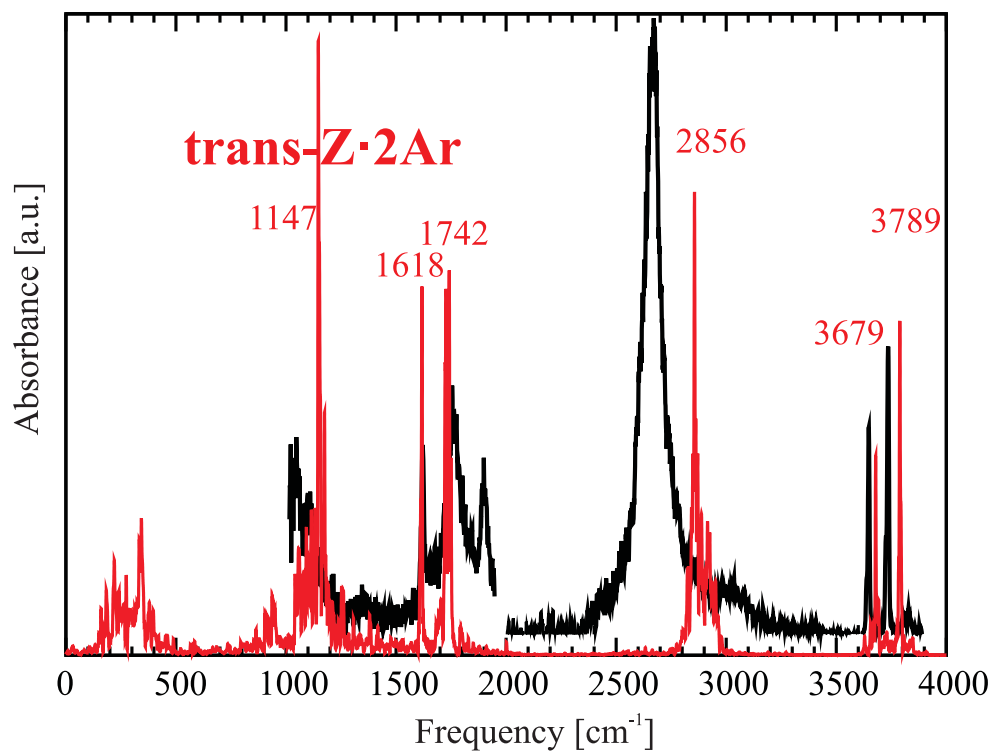


FIG. S31: Comparison between theoretical (red) and experimental⁵ (black) IR spectra of the trans-Z · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation. Theoretical spectrum was obtained from a 20 ps CP2K AIMD simulation at 50 K.

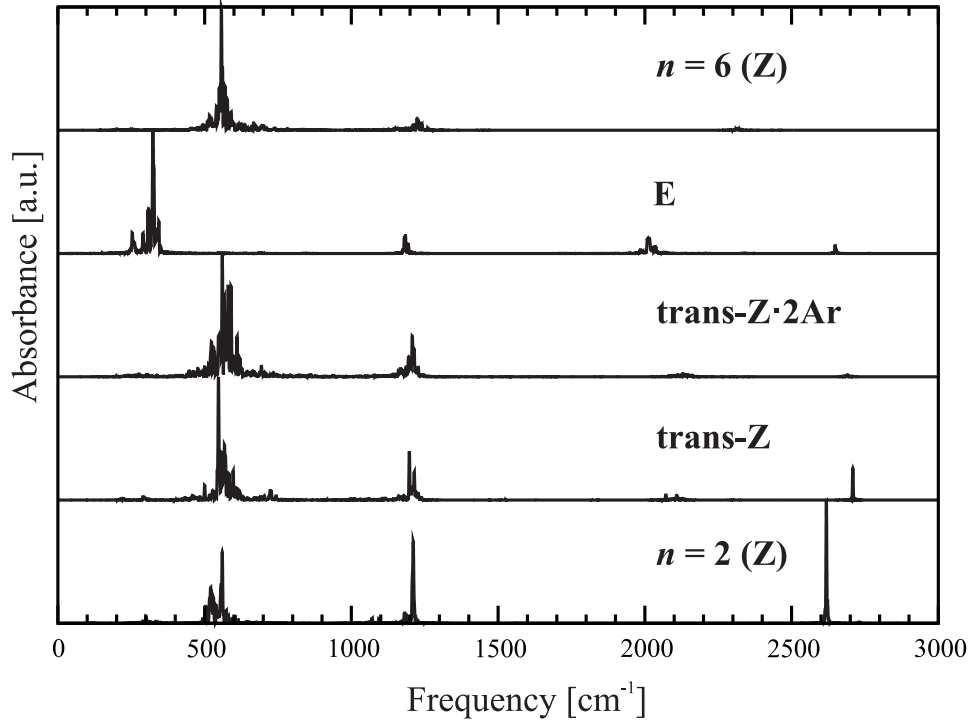


FIG. S32: Comparison between the temporal Fourier transforms of the velocity auto-correlation functions (VACF) of the $\text{O} \cdots \text{O}$ distance(s) closest to the protonated core (3 distances for an E-cation and a single one for a Z-cation). Calculated from CP2K trajectories (at 50 K) for (top to bottom): $\text{H}_{13}\text{O}_6^+$ ($n = 6$)⁶, three H_9O_4^+ isomers from the present work (E, trans-Z · 2Ar and trans-Z), and H_5O_2^+ ($n = 2$)⁶.

TABLE S1: Cartesian coordinates of a local minimum of H_3O^+ cation shown in Fig. S1, calculated at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

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13
H3O+
O 0.01675 -0.02900 0.01145
H -0.01338 0.02317 0.99011
H 0.92963 0.02350 -0.34244
H -0.48516 -0.79333 -0.34245

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TABLE S2: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the E-isomer of H_9O_4^+ shown in Fig. S4, calculated at B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

13

E conformer

O	1.00926	2.31721	0.29044
H	1.26478	2.97548	-0.36585
H	1.51922	2.49848	1.08769
O	1.5042	-1.97626	-0.01368
H	1.9213	-2.44139	-0.74785
H	1.43698	-2.60125	0.71665
O	0.02346	0.06989	-0.44705
H	0.44025	0.93596	-0.12302
H	0.57735	-0.7551	-0.24393
O	-2.47001	-0.25264	0.04812
H	-3.10955	-0.29395	-0.67203
H	-2.94906	0.02304	0.83746
H	-0.95923	-0.02636	-0.21522

TABLE S3: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the $\text{E} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation shown in Fig. S7, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

14

$\text{E} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ conformer

O	1.944575	-0.816139	0.656390
O	-0.082560	0.083769	-0.604912
O	-0.313078	2.639620	-0.617314
O	-2.270066	-1.213355	-0.261495
H	2.676334	-1.214509	0.171916
H	1.961297	-1.181989	1.549750
H	-2.641541	-1.741615	-0.977150
H	-2.995903	-0.988406	0.330929
H	0.695410	-0.296693	-0.070524
H	-0.963347	-0.390722	-0.445897
H	-0.202449	3.134415	-1.437195
H	-0.118381	3.244572	0.106978
H	-0.149545	1.094120	-0.570037
Ar	2.127377	-2.126070	3.906408

TABLE S4: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the E · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation shown in Fig. S10, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

15

E · 2Ar conformer

O	1.908834	-0.836514	1.154449
O	-0.023302	-0.350284	-0.445806
Ar	1.819159	-1.191205	4.647090
O	-0.265662	2.094015	-1.148977
O	-2.229451	-1.553169	0.093462
H	2.674457	-1.336367	0.849904
H	1.859196	-0.946788	2.112282
H	-2.546773	-2.266078	-0.472422
H	-2.998487	-1.184598	0.541932
H	0.712921	-0.556431	0.223805
H	-0.911076	-0.782297	-0.223657
H	-0.095144	2.358602	-2.062209
H	-0.112356	2.867615	-0.595724
H	-0.095834	0.634356	-0.688518
Ar	0.302922	3.048819	-4.471920

TABLE S5: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of E · 3Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 3\text{Ar}$ cation shown in Fig. S13, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

16			
E · 3Ar conformer			
O	2.037630	-0.753044	0.734968
O	0.016906	0.129549	-0.563521
O	-2.003633	-1.438851	-0.636405
O	-0.531196	2.597890	-0.170647
Ar	2.089924	-2.576149	3.743079
H	2.849616	-0.980439	0.268390
H	2.024933	-1.268363	1.551178
H	-2.249390	-1.870957	-1.461998
H	-2.801301	-1.384965	-0.095327
H	0.789244	-0.249868	-0.024918
H	-0.809166	-0.460619	-0.567654
H	-0.418581	3.241702	-0.881798
H	-0.452981	3.077508	0.661102
H	-0.177855	1.106732	-0.368166
Ar	-4.917777	-1.352957	1.325448
Ar	-0.184443	4.952886	-2.745713

TABLE S6: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the cis-Z isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation shown in Fig. S16, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

13

cis-Z conformer

O	0.443267	0.606642	-0.518902
H	0.406987	1.534007	-0.256797
H	1.380727	0.251643	-0.435912
H	-0.225968	0.313785	-1.469546
O	-0.978123	0.052785	-2.370000
H	-0.618448	-0.110584	-3.294638
H	-1.673025	-0.581924	-2.159728
O	-0.036652	-0.247105	-4.766864
H	-0.341931	0.326918	-5.478612
H	0.259107	-1.067079	-5.177492
O	2.811314	-0.416526	-0.274612
H	3.640705	-0.045774	-0.595739
H	3.026089	-0.954697	0.495815

TABLE S7: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the $\text{cis-Z} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation shown in Fig. S19, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

14

$\text{cis-Z} \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ conformer

O	0.434194	0.740127	-0.467287
O	-0.882534	0.103093	-2.382280
O	2.838907	-0.196568	-0.002584
O	0.253084	-0.213328	-4.670414
H	0.341394	1.654523	-0.178485
H	1.366497	0.424795	-0.300857
H	-0.221599	0.388646	-1.505493
H	-0.439885	-0.070142	-3.274198
H	-1.540725	-0.577308	-2.177182
H	-0.017298	0.328659	-5.420441
H	0.625730	-1.026104	-5.029611
H	3.676825	0.206199	-0.255170
H	3.010325	-0.712207	0.793385
Ar	-3.244645	-2.240239	-1.654432

TABLE S8: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the cis-Z · 2Ar isomer of the H_9O_4^+ · 2Ar cation shown in Fig. S21, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

15

cis-Z · 2Ar conformer

O	0.425327	0.639208	-0.442023
O	-0.848609	0.008611	-2.374359
O	2.845947	-0.253364	-0.084391
O	0.292053	-0.261186	-4.698891
H	0.322830	1.565185	-0.183306
H	1.373717	0.340781	-0.314711
H	-0.170910	0.309962	-1.432357
H	-0.414136	-0.144003	-3.265023
H	-1.520225	-0.665699	-2.203491
H	0.013728	0.291500	-5.437863
H	0.658219	-1.067677	-5.077959
H	3.667891	0.166692	-0.360356
H	3.052836	-0.783632	0.693435
Ar	-3.340520	-2.287505	-1.729592
Ar	-0.057801	3.901849	0.564314

TABLE S9: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the trans-Z isomer of the H_9O_4^+ cation shown in Fig. S23, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

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trans-Z conformer

O	-4.081647	-4.764178	4.650822
H	-4.932538	-5.213430	4.608411
H	-3.968065	-4.454787	5.556175
O	-2.604109	-3.904112	2.710684
H	-3.209906	-4.240202	3.440879
H	-3.040406	-3.212034	2.201155
O	1.323712	-5.103701	1.602484
H	1.937771	-5.715853	2.022577
H	1.844559	-4.517671	1.043080
O	-1.229779	-5.516815	1.586752
H	-1.942254	-4.700040	2.104707
H	-0.239561	-5.340190	1.556091
H	-1.529696	-5.904238	0.756775

TABLE S10: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the trans-Z · 1Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 1\text{Ar}$ cation shown in Fig. S26, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

14

trans-Z · 1Ar conformer

O	-4.013834	-4.843458	4.688090
O	-2.586644	-3.917307	2.762534
O	-1.212194	-5.522632	1.604401
O	1.381359	-5.178515	1.637772
H	-4.827766	-5.357093	4.652088
H	-3.899927	-4.547780	5.597984
H	-3.179022	-4.288858	3.492850
H	-3.055617	-3.256878	2.232697
H	1.979420	-5.809942	2.051934
H	1.919935	-4.606027	1.081388
H	-1.965763	-4.663260	2.175956
H	-0.223962	-5.379062	1.581219
H	-1.500677	-5.936612	0.784325
Ar	-4.161379	-1.486580	0.958389

TABLE S11: Cartesian coordinates of the local minimum of the trans-Z · 2Ar isomer of the $\text{H}_9\text{O}_4^+ \cdot 2\text{Ar}$ cation shown in Fig. S29, calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory using Gaussian 03.

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trans-Z · 2Ar conformer

O	-3.999257	-4.804498	4.766656
O	-2.565818	-3.924712	2.786008
O	-1.185095	-5.531939	1.661557
O	1.378822	-5.120388	1.738426
H	-4.822950	-5.302986	4.747011
H	-3.885644	-4.480306	5.666643
H	-3.151001	-4.267713	3.525054
H	-3.030905	-3.252379	2.270907
H	1.986785	-5.743259	2.151222
H	1.911020	-4.500656	1.228481
H	-1.898668	-4.718790	2.180222
H	-0.197529	-5.355270	1.654393
H	-1.470314	-5.892854	0.811794
Ar	-4.153815	-1.436361	0.988125
Ar	-2.227052	-6.928895	-1.323709

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