

## **Supplemental Information**

Non-covalent interactions in paired DNA nucleobases investigated by terahertz spectroscopy and solid-state density functional theory

Matthew D. King, Wayne Ouellette, and Timothy M. Korter

### **Contents:**

**Table 1.** Bond lengths and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine.

**Table 2.** Bond lengths and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 9-methyladenine.

**Table 3.** Bond lengths and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine and 9-methyladenine in the 1:1 AT co-crystal.

**Table 4.** Bond angles and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine.

**Table 5.** Bond angles and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 9-methyladenine.

**Table 6.** Bond angles and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine and 9-methyladenine in the 1:1 AT co-crystal.

**Table 1.** Bond lengths and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine.

| bonds                          | exp.   | PBE    | PBE-D  |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> | 1.4325 | 1.4439 | 1.4460 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 1.3491 | 1.3678 | 1.3684 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 1.4988 | 1.4967 | 1.4984 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3765 | 1.3913 | 1.3926 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> | 1.2406 | 1.2538 | 1.2533 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3764 | 1.3816 | 1.3826 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3777 | 1.3906 | 1.3924 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> | 1.2241 | 1.2354 | 1.2352 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3793 | 1.3732 | 1.3741 |
| C <sub>6</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.4686 | 1.4685 | 1.4697 |
| <b>RMSD</b>                    | 0.0084 | 0.0085 |        |

**Table 2.** Bond lengths and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 9-methyladenine.

| bonds                          | exp.   | PBE    | PBE-D  |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|
| C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3190 | 1.3299 | 1.3293 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3672 | 1.3719 | 1.3719 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> | 1.3899 | 1.4045 | 1.4048 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 1.4173 | 1.4241 | 1.4237 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3853 | 1.3867 | 1.3864 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3669 | 1.3771 | 1.3777 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 1.3448 | 1.3455 | 1.3459 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 1.3513 | 1.3661 | 1.3662 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>5</sub> | 1.3355 | 1.3392 | 1.3402 |
| C <sub>5</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 1.3269 | 1.3353 | 1.3361 |
| C <sub>5</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 1.3429 | 1.3457 | 1.3459 |
| C <sub>6</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.4623 | 1.4567 | 1.4573 |
| <b>RMSD</b>                    | 0.3805 | 0.3571 |        |

**Table 3.** Bond lengths and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine and 9-methyladenine in the 1:1 AT co-crystal.

| bonds                          | 1-methylthymine |        |        | bonds                          | 9-methyladenine |        |        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|--------------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------|
|                                | exp.            | PBE    | PBE-D  |                                | exp.            | PBE    | PBE-D  |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> | 1.4339          | 1.4449 | 1.4463 | C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3190          | 1.3272 | 1.3267 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 1.3550          | 1.3649 | 1.3658 | C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3711          | 1.3752 | 1.3755 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 1.4934          | 1.4938 | 1.4958 | C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> | 1.3883          | 1.4012 | 1.4023 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3779          | 1.3888 | 1.3894 | C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 1.4104          | 1.4218 | 1.4225 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> | 1.2364          | 1.2479 | 1.2482 | C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3838          | 1.3853 | 1.3849 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 1.3716          | 1.3762 | 1.3771 | C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3738          | 1.3808 | 1.3821 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3790          | 1.3883 | 1.3899 | C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 1.3440          | 1.3461 | 1.3461 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> | 1.2313          | 1.2396 | 1.2403 | C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 1.3542          | 1.3643 | 1.3643 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.3727          | 1.3755 | 1.3768 | C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>5</sub> | 1.3325          | 1.3355 | 1.3374 |
| C <sub>6</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.4691          | 1.4654 | 1.4672 | C <sub>5</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 1.3335          | 1.3392 | 1.3396 |
|                                |                 |        |        | C <sub>5</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 1.3433          | 1.3441 | 1.3447 |
|                                |                 |        |        | C <sub>6</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 1.4524          | 1.4535 | 1.4556 |
| <b>RMSD</b>                    | 0.0070          | 0.0075 |        | <b>RMSD</b>                    | 0.2475          | 0.2374 |        |

**Table 4.** Bond angles and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine.

| bond<br>angles                                 | exp.    | PBE     | PBE-D   |
|--|---------|---------|---------|
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 115.909 | 115.579 | 115.538 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> | 123.867 | 124.256 | 124.372 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 123.430 | 123.536 | 123.640 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 118.12  | 117.825 | 117.740 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 119.112 | 119.384 | 119.528 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> | 126.510 | 126.954 | 127.057 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 120.752 | 121.349 | 121.347 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 117.716 | 117.495 | 117.623 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 122.766 | 122.792 | 122.731 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 121.531 | 121.156 | 121.029 |
| N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> | 121.642 | 122.788 | 122.798 |
| N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> | 120.224 | 120.164 | 120.087 |
| N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> | 123.117 | 122.505 | 122.591 |
| <b>RMSD</b>                                    | 0.470   | 0.504   |         |

**Table 5.** Bond angles and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 9-methyladenine.

| bond<br>angles                                 | exp.     | PBE      | PBE-D   |
|--|----------|----------|---------|
| C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> | 103.577  | 104.136  | 104.141 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> | 106.241  | 106.074  | 106.066 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 128.258  | 128.847  | 128.777 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 105.681  | 105.940  | 105.891 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 127.608  | 127.546  | 127.508 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 117.498  | 116.954  | 116.943 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>5</sub> | 124.168  | 124.628  | 124.552 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 110.735  | 110.195  | 110.221 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 116.123  | 116.234  | 116.282 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 125.487  | 125.057  | 125.114 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 110.464  | 110.790  | 110.772 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 133.133  | 133.546  | 133.482 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 119.119  | 119.625  | 119.608 |
| N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 113.760  | 113.647  | 113.672 |
| N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 126.707  | 126.499  | 126.589 |
| N <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 129.146  | 128.812  | 128.821 |
| N <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>5</sub> | 118.333  | 118.412  | 118.501 |
| <b>RMSD</b>                                    | 0.380502 | 0.357077 |         |

**Table 6.** Bond angles and RMSDs for calculated and experimental structures of 1-methylthymine and 9-methyladenine in the 1:1 AT co-crystal.

| 1-methylthymine                                |         |         |         | 9-methyladenine                                |         |         |         |
|--|---------|---------|---------|--|---------|---------|---------|
| bond angles                                    | exp.    | PBE     | PBE-D   | bond angles                                    | exp.    | PBE     | PBE-D   |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 115.763 | 115.877 | 115.820 | C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> | 104.471 | 104.556 | 104.578 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> | 123.856 | 123.580 | 123.697 | C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> | 106.236 | 106.524 | 106.442 |
| C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 123.248 | 122.856 | 123.054 | C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 127.525 | 127.596 | 127.494 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 118.255 | 118.200 | 118.061 | C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 105.881 | 105.464 | 105.461 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 117.281 | 117.316 | 117.440 | C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 126.972 | 127.063 | 127.037 |
| C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> | 126.355 | 126.256 | 126.475 | C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 117.842 | 117.628 | 117.555 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 120.714 | 121.401 | 121.322 | C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>5</sub> | 122.814 | 123.044 | 123.077 |
| C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 118.481 | 117.561 | 117.719 | C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 110.315 | 110.452 | 110.438 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 124.464 | 124.484 | 124.499 | C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> | 116.980 | 116.625 | 116.672 |
| C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 120.804 | 121.038 | 120.958 | C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> | 126.239 | 125.879 | 126.062 |
| N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> | 121.004 | 122.050 | 122.064 | C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 110.153 | 110.414 | 110.412 |
| N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -O <sub>2</sub> | 120.381 | 120.543 | 120.484 | C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -N <sub>1</sub> | 132.705 | 132.923 | 132.889 |
| N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -O <sub>1</sub> | 123.331 | 122.539 | 122.669 | C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> | 117.900 | 118.270 | 118.323 |
|  |         |         |         | N <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -N <sub>2</sub> | 113.097 | 113.004 | 113.081 |
|  |         |         |         | N <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -N <sub>3</sub> | 127.148 | 127.472 | 127.503 |
|  |         |         |         | N <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>5</sub> -N <sub>4</sub> | 130.153 | 129.998 | 130.001 |
|  |         |         |         | N <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>4</sub> -N <sub>5</sub> | 119.344 | 119.327 | 119.368 |
| <b>RMSD</b>                                    | 0.510   | 0.455   |         | <b>RMSD</b>                                    | 0.247   | 0.237   |         |