

# Supporting Information for: Methanetriol — Formation of an Impossible Molecule

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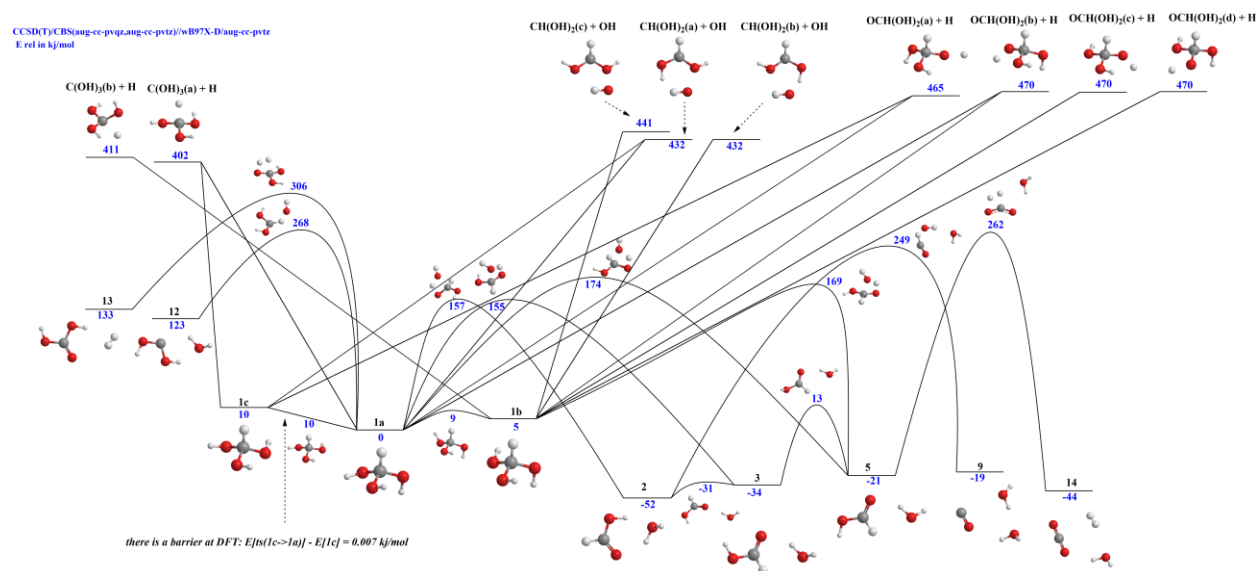
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**Figure S1.** Potential energy surface exploring the conformational structure of methanetriol (**1**,  $\text{CH}(\text{OH})_3$ ) and its decomposition pathways.

**Table S1.** Calculated structures for all minimum energy conformers of neutral and radical cationic methanetriol (**1**, CH(OH)<sub>3</sub>), hydroxyperoxymethane (**2**, CH<sub>3</sub>OOOH), and hydroperoxymethanol (**3**, CH<sub>2</sub>(OH)OOH) in Cartesian coordinates (Å) with energetics, vibrational frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) and intensities (km mol<sup>-1</sup>).

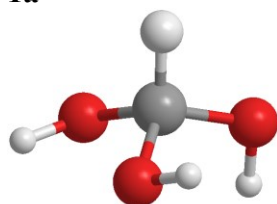
**ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ optimization and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pV(Q+T)Z single-point energy refinement**

**CH(OH)<sub>3</sub> (1)**

Neutral and cation CH(OH)<sub>3</sub> molecule correspondence table

Neutral	Cation
<b>1a</b>	<b>1a<sup>•+</sup>/1b<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>1b</b>	<b>1b<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>1c</b>	<b>1a<sup>•+</sup></b>

**1a**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.8586495 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.9298637 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.9792699 Hartree

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.87696 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.024344	0.001271	0.354546
O	-0.603189	1.154193	-0.087821
O	-0.700927	-1.072658	-0.181367
O	1.341142	0.013376	-0.046569
H	0.049558	-0.058402	1.448231
H	-1.534411	0.953540	-0.196837
H	-0.304326	-1.886879	0.132222
H	1.346906	0.224834	-0.984834

**Vibrational frequencies**

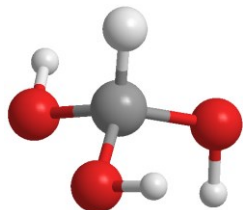
186.0174	287.6654	330.5702
511.3889	549.9037	662.3049
1007.3642	1065.7814	1115.2251
1243.2970	1299.7410	1360.6770
1418.2897	1470.5149	3042.2809
3848.8726	3894.5161	3900.4214

**IR intensities**

130.8766	71.3553	95.1454
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20.3820	43.2075	34.4329
34.9044	220.5300	260.7211
46.8775	89.5503	50.3774
65.8920	129.2279	61.9726
42.7931	51.5138	58.1660

**1b**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.8572505 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.9284232 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.9778007 Hartree**  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 39.11257 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.000002	-0.018126	0.344556
O	-1.091686	-0.705923	-0.160060
O	1.091808	-0.705707	-0.160099
O	-0.000133	1.324374	-0.032677
H	0.000020	-0.001339	1.440384
H	-1.884263	-0.268871	0.154813
H	1.884326	-0.268748	0.155034
H	-0.000004	1.345765	-0.994886

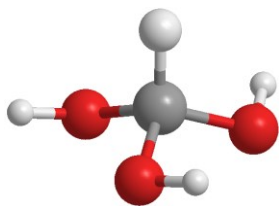
**Vibrational frequencies**

190.8675	366.3088	403.4998
516.8111	569.9034	657.0318
1009.3756	1071.2058	1095.8079
1253.0150	1300.5950	1346.2232
1446.8442	1447.6118	3038.0051
3838.4985	3903.9836	3904.0497

**IR intensities**

26.9282	212.6640	35.0128
20.6374	74.9541	36.2781
38.0791	202.3036	366.2631
0.0738	1.7206	122.7186
141.8562	23.1489	62.8689
38.3679	30.0229	85.8718

**1c**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.8536347 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.9248772 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.9743031 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.18702 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	0.002004	-0.000548	0.328767
O	-0.377880	1.245246	-0.145563
O	-0.890038	-0.946889	-0.150117
O	1.267336	-0.295123	-0.153311
H	0.005102	-0.003317	1.430540
H	-1.309367	1.373051	0.043768
H	-0.560252	-1.819331	0.073549
H	1.857144	0.427011	0.071464

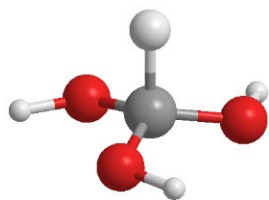
#### Vibrational frequencies

101.3872	136.4022	190.8415
501.4294	502.0359	697.5278
1055.2320	1070.5812	1072.3148
1258.5764	1297.8106	1301.2277
1447.0592	1450.5856	2956.3450
3889.7131	3891.0786	3892.0579

#### IR intensities

82.5869	79.4460	219.8974
5.0781	5.2900	4.3536
19.3576	205.2706	206.3839
79.6693	93.6281	94.4956
95.9581	94.8663	105.6092
38.3309	61.2929	61.6375

#### 1a<sup>+</sup>



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.4577676 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.5277866 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.5763637 Hartree

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 35.48788 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.000039	-0.000024	0.166080
O	-0.775523	-1.052745	-0.085482
O	1.299514	-0.145229	-0.085530
O	-0.524002	1.197991	-0.085396
H	0.000458	0.000107	1.400286
H	-0.275493	-1.883823	-0.114833
H	1.769094	0.703431	-0.115224
H	-1.493734	1.180283	-0.115451

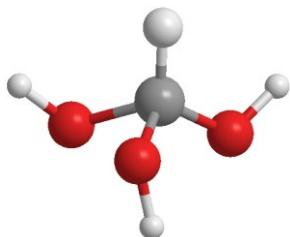
**Vibrational frequencies**

345.9340	421.9106	426.4778
525.0813	528.5023	737.1865
738.2031	738.8241	903.5575
1145.8479	1149.0589	1197.6617
1483.4682	1485.2112	1752.0843
3742.3304	3743.2146	3759.5794

**IR intensities**

392.2822	26.4466	26.4376
5.8644	5.8807	23.5185
106.7350	106.8235	1.0021
247.2820	247.1521	16.2793
187.9914	187.4067	75.9047
483.3157	482.7526	9.6196

**1b<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.4575415 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.5263634 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.57411 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 38.11163 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.145797	-0.036157	0.396583
O	-1.300492	-0.084145	-0.239962
O	0.784077	-0.931701	-0.225334
O	0.652124	1.069492	0.011083
H	-0.153558	-0.109256	1.481805

H -2.054600 -0.245133 0.336636  
H 1.534365 -1.146682 0.360601  
H 0.462901 1.288846 -0.924834

### Vibrational frequencies

199.8368 445.9188 479.7661  
512.8748 626.7224 647.9027  
705.1196 997.1912 1115.0916  
1168.5388 1272.5556 1305.9261  
1365.4350 1490.3258 3161.2076  
3628.7692 3687.6330 3848.6551

### IR intensities

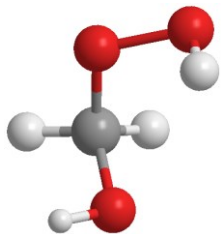
122.5978 21.4910 69.0798  
10.9943 44.3453 123.6521  
10.2626 128.5760 203.6289  
71.2128 28.1257 37.9694  
143.4335 73.0744 0.2339  
408.1228 234.1454 242.2292

### CH<sub>2</sub>(OH)OOH (2)

Neutral and cation CH<sub>2</sub>(OH)OOH molecule correspondence table

Neutral	Cation
<b>2a</b>	<b>2a<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>2b</b>	<b>2b<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>2c</b>	<b>2b<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>2d</b>	<b>2b<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>2e</b>	<b>2c<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>2f</b>	<b>2c<sup>•+</sup></b>

2a



Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.7493029 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.8190162 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.8673812 Hartree

Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 38.63843 kcal/mol

### Cartesian coordinates

C -0.024867 -0.002403 0.355575

O	0.683526	1.084793	-0.178345
O	-1.341010	-0.035108	-0.047842
O	0.624514	-1.144568	-0.085342
H	-0.050702	0.054945	1.448628
H	0.265051	1.894778	0.118164
H	-1.349038	-0.252186	-0.984956
H	1.547644	-0.924062	-0.223051

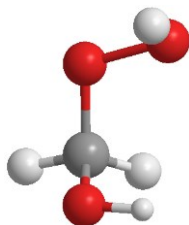
### Vibrational frequencies

177.4630	281.9756	334.9831
510.5253	547.7915	661.5397
1005.0589	1065.0734	1112.4481
1241.3322	1299.6508	1355.3727
1415.5131	1468.0871	3049.8476
3847.1595	3892.6496	3896.2906

### IR intensities

141.8181	66.2521	90.8498
20.9583	42.8167	32.7156
35.4030	221.7146	258.1905
47.4645	85.1011	55.2376
67.0553	129.3402	60.9121
43.4002	44.8023	66.9310

2b



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.7489051 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.8186433 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.8670256 Hartree

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.54608 kcal/mol

### Cartesian coordinates

C	-0.024847	0.002402	0.355569
O	0.683413	-1.084877	-0.178359
O	0.624599	1.144504	-0.085400
O	-1.340996	0.035242	-0.047813
H	-0.050649	-0.054931	1.448626
H	0.264820	-1.894806	0.118144
H	1.547809	0.924074	-0.222681
H	-1.349018	0.252297	-0.984933

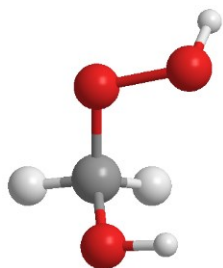


**Vibrational frequencies**

177.4525	281.9396	335.0022
510.5251	547.7916	661.5457
1005.0770	1065.0616	1112.4480
1241.3320	1299.6082	1355.4060
1415.4975	1468.0871	3049.8288
3847.1463	3892.6308	3896.2681

**IR intensities**

141.7229	66.3370	90.8971
20.9458	42.8180	32.7202
35.3969	221.6692	258.1921
47.4783	85.1895	55.1864
67.0204	129.3521	60.9190
43.4015	44.7944	66.9214

**2c**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.7479032 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.817676 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.8660822 Hartree

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.5062 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

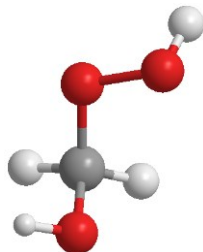
C	0.024840	0.002383	0.355562
O	-0.624203	1.144705	-0.085425
O	-0.683755	-1.084666	-0.178396
O	1.341002	0.034821	-0.047795
H	0.050608	-0.054989	1.448619
H	-1.547553	0.924680	-0.222413
H	-0.265550	-1.894732	0.118276
H	1.349100	0.251852	-0.984922

**Vibrational frequencies**

177.5687	282.0346	335.0044
510.5203	547.8045	661.5498
1005.0801	1065.0456	1112.4631
1241.3231	1299.5846	1355.4261
1415.5061	1468.0826	3049.8115
3847.1362	3892.6201	3896.2701

**IR intensities**

141.6017	66.4200	90.9457
20.9409	42.8185	32.7317
35.3909	221.6371	258.2242
47.4741	85.2554	55.1461
66.9890	129.3588	60.9236
43.4022	44.8980	66.8018

**2d**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.7467519 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.8164751 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.8648469 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 38.37899 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.614395	0.521940	-0.291307
O	0.600639	0.531228	0.407509
O	1.409624	-0.535553	-0.090928
O	-1.428755	-0.559099	0.009419
H	-0.439539	0.488491	-1.366572
H	-1.059578	1.478620	0.002210
H	2.156193	-0.041772	-0.444313
H	-1.622774	-0.549582	0.948520

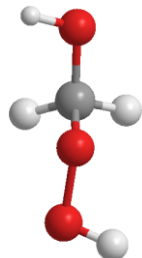
**Vibrational frequencies**

170.6401	222.3170	342.1523
414.9567	616.2100	924.8382
1044.6620	1084.6172	1130.7174
1292.6200	1382.5910	1408.5167
1442.9984	1496.3590	3035.0930
3116.3448	3837.7690	3883.0620

**IR intensities**

7.6171	118.2870	99.6186
18.5004	44.0817	38.4153
27.8488	66.8311	146.2756
21.4352	10.9700	41.2864
57.5544	4.4041	44.0203
23.6460	43.0304	42.6250

2e



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.7434442 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.8131931 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.8615827 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.33593 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.024871	0.002399	0.355572
O	-1.341017	0.034987	-0.047840
O	0.683625	-1.084726	-0.178357
O	0.624407	1.144625	-0.085341
H	-0.050695	-0.054955	1.448626
H	-1.349066	0.252028	-0.984963
H	0.265301	-1.894758	0.118237
H	1.547561	0.924206	-0.223027

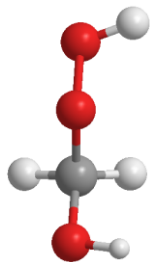
**Vibrational frequencies**

177.4738	282.0315	334.9753
510.5257	547.7951	661.5393
1005.0560	1065.0710	1112.4554
1241.3280	1299.6550	1355.3720
1415.5171	1468.0839	3049.8443
3847.1576	3892.6374	3896.2862

**IR intensities**

141.7733	66.2892	90.8545
20.9584	42.8170	32.7188
35.3990	221.7102	258.2077
47.4609	85.1101	55.2289
67.0523	129.3397	60.9122
43.3999	44.8589	66.8719

2f



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.74258 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.8123327 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.860725 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.37528 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	0.024868	-0.002393	0.355568
O	1.341018	-0.034878	-0.047829
O	-0.683713	1.084671	-0.178372
O	-0.624299	-1.144676	-0.085360
H	0.050673	0.054969	1.448622
H	1.349092	-0.251892	-0.984958
H	-0.265508	1.894741	0.118290
H	-1.547511	-0.924394	-0.222873

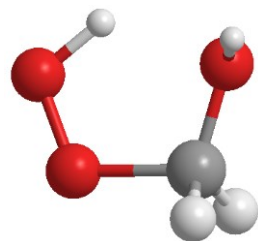
#### Vibrational frequencies

177.5303	282.0710	334.9740
510.5259	547.7988	661.5411
1005.0590	1065.0643	1112.4616
1241.3245	1299.6416	1355.3844
1415.5171	1468.0815	3049.8353
3847.1541	3892.6296	3896.2813

#### IR intensities

141.7121	66.3355	90.8789
20.9547	42.8173	32.7238
35.3944	221.6910	258.2234
47.4603	85.1477	55.2056
67.0375	129.3431	60.9148
43.4003	44.8865	66.8352

#### 2a<sup>++</sup>



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.3895904 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.4577077 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.5049655 Hartree**  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 38.49164 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.758677	0.645435	0.057750
O	-0.799937	0.642365	-0.090565
O	1.164394	-0.633613	0.069110
H	0.866505	1.129819	1.027650
H	1.062908	1.261767	-0.785993
H	1.580646	-0.906420	-0.758206
O	-1.307011	-0.534165	0.026191
H	-0.521688	-1.154476	0.132156

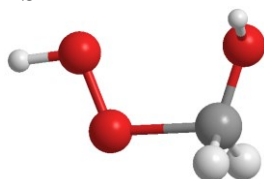
**Vibrational frequencies**

194.8607	322.4063	495.6151
596.8166	690.6485	849.4633
1029.3211	1183.4240	1222.5780
1298.7937	1369.0099	1398.2036
1496.0443	1528.4891	3090.4892
3171.2874	3186.4387	3801.4029

**IR intensities**

15.1510	19.9309	4.5693
177.5610	11.3276	119.6902
27.8561	12.9046	125.5598
14.4639	18.5246	10.4272
43.3555	113.1844	19.2297
214.2799	10.6451	205.2081

**2b<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.3885305 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.4565571 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.503752 Hartree**  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 38.0473 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.894531	0.595944	-0.009060
O	-0.830442	0.644516	-0.022430
O	-1.297753	-0.560987	0.008422
O	1.304395	-0.627290	0.115214

H	1.003765	1.189061	0.894319
H	1.032678	1.115781	-0.955316
H	-2.272564	-0.453559	0.030328
H	1.459338	-1.076862	-0.724613

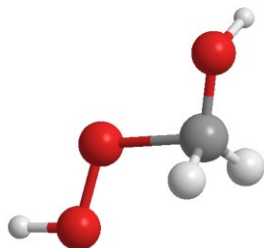
**Vibrational frequencies**

65.6836	212.0004	311.1524
512.0955	568.8735	638.2888
1013.3572	1170.5767	1275.2200
1331.9551	1356.7715	1408.3988
1470.1310	1553.7505	3104.0442
3213.6294	3604.0950	3804.4592

**IR intensities**

6.6455	38.4635	94.9997
132.2764	17.4936	174.6652
25.7509	61.7787	43.9008
110.2234	69.7310	7.7483
71.2644	35.1106	14.3954
5.7696	307.0418	183.4860

**2c<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.3876796 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.4556433 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.5027945 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 37.96285 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.728254	0.541429	0.046702
O	1.749407	-0.230159	-0.146158
H	0.564690	0.980236	1.029171
H	0.468023	1.145287	-0.817348
H	2.134811	-0.582577	0.665539
O	-0.650574	-0.512064	0.024151
O	-1.732440	0.199389	-0.017042
H	-2.468194	-0.448844	-0.045185

**Vibrational frequencies**

54.7817	227.0295	258.1018
495.4250	541.5322	639.1823
1014.5519	1171.0842	1306.3699
1315.9980	1354.9243	1414.2081
1474.1403	1556.8403	3104.8785
3220.1775	3602.2198	3803.9516

#### IR intensities

2.8243	107.3473	10.9535
140.3470	29.5594	190.9987
25.4311	73.8289	1.3010
199.9704	113.9330	11.5331
69.4088	34.6234	13.6759
3.5714	305.3832	208.8586

#### CH<sub>3</sub>OOOH (3)

Neutral and cation CH<sub>3</sub>OOOH molecule correspondence table

Neutral	Cation
<b>3a</b>	<b>3a<sup>•+</sup></b>
<b>3b</b>	<b>3a<sup>•+</sup></b>

#### 3a

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.6604795 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.7289101 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.7763852 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 37.25871 kcal/mol**

#### Cartesian coordinates

O	0.542597	-0.562389	-0.391601
O	-0.611215	-0.524634	0.406962
O	-1.424234	0.526567	-0.059066
C	1.454770	0.407749	0.094562
H	-1.878266	0.115857	-0.804770
H	1.040567	1.411670	-0.002981
H	2.332083	0.308124	-0.541925
H	1.719804	0.201501	1.131952

#### Vibrational frequencies

156.2417	208.6106	386.4227
455.2105	586.5762	857.9897
962.8816	1053.7134	1182.3437
1222.6104	1421.7766	1456.1667
1478.4298	1512.4577	3045.8388
3127.7815	3152.7816	3795.0088

**IR intensities**

9.1989	3.9984	106.8079
7.1269	8.6897	52.8949
26.0530	25.0169	1.5453
4.9514	41.5274	0.1205
10.6360	10.6549	31.8227
22.0212	9.8662	37.5076

**3b**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.65662 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.7250836 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.7725816 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 37.21365 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

O	0.564318	-0.588985	-0.35770
O	-0.619500	-0.536139	0.39183
C	1.436157	0.428689	0.09284
H	1.047938	1.420941	-0.15045
H	2.362719	0.268391	-0.45486
H	1.619104	0.338264	1.16461
O	-1.482287	0.401480	-0.21430
H	-1.346951	1.189419	0.32503

**Vibrational frequencies**

135.6033	234.3172	371.2695
466.0617	568.2317	862.7535
962.8616	1061.5568	1177.8101
1223.3060	1404.7974	1459.7141
1489.8534	1507.0000	3036.0909
3111.3730	3156.7738	3801.9511

**IR intensities**

4.5029	2.5102	64.7205
30.9652	1.9107	64.8933
23.0849	21.1276	0.8791
3.4342	39.2754	2.0636
11.1804	9.8396	33.5057
30.0050	8.4836	23.9588

**3a<sup>+</sup>**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.2968275 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.3641558 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.4108662 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 37.14846 kcal/mol**



**Cartesian coordinates**

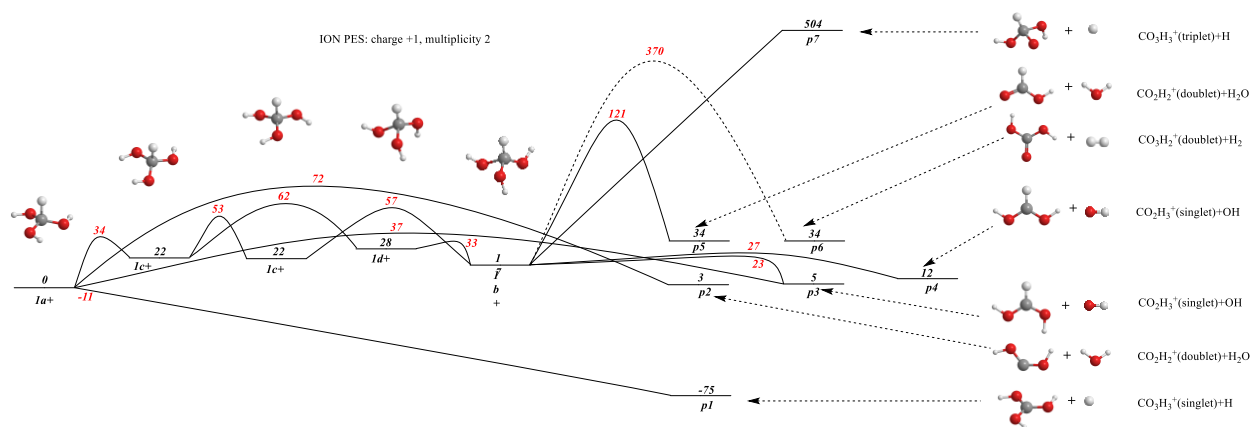
O	0.572136	-0.732111	0.000000
O	-0.735357	-0.642129	0.000000
O	-1.156217	0.649818	0.000000
C	1.347633	0.503291	0.000000
H	-2.127977	0.533258	0.000001
H	1.118260	1.064160	-0.905045
H	2.361161	0.114040	0.000000
H	1.118260	1.064161	0.905044

**Vibrational frequencies**

210.6266	241.2203	352.5814
358.5699	631.1912	838.0121
1022.1494	1089.2702	1115.8241
1191.8778	1439.5383	1453.2823
1457.1859	1502.1904	3058.8692
3168.2160	3205.5248	3649.5847

**IR intensities**

8.7814	28.1344	7.9138
120.3713	11.3330	19.9597
140.4205	13.6991	0.3502
4.9167	3.6411	27.4267
8.9026	77.9705	22.5575
6.8551	10.3387	413.7004

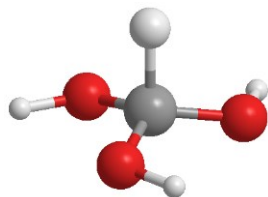


**Figure S2.** Full potential energy diagram calculated for  $1^+$ . Figure 2 is derived from this data by exclusion of reaction pathways not accessible with relevant photon energies. Relative energies are shown in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ .

**Table S2.** Calculated structures for all structures used in Figure 4 in Cartesian coordinates (Å) with energetics, vibrational frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) and intensities (km mol<sup>-1</sup>).

**ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ optimization and CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pV(Q+T)Z single-point energy refinement**

**1a<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.4577676 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.5277866 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.5763637 Hartree

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 35.48788 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.000039	-0.000024	0.166080
O	-0.775523	-1.052745	-0.085482
O	1.299514	-0.145229	-0.085530
O	-0.524002	1.197991	-0.085396
H	0.000458	0.000107	1.400286
H	-0.275493	-1.883823	-0.114833
H	1.769094	0.703431	-0.115224
H	-1.493734	1.180283	-0.115451

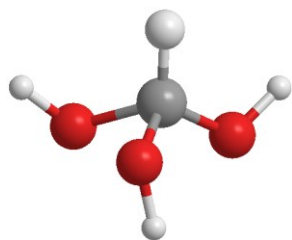
**Vibrational frequencies**

345.9340	421.9106	426.4778
525.0813	528.5023	737.1865
738.2031	738.8241	903.5575
1145.8479	1149.0589	1197.6617
1483.4682	1485.2112	1752.0843
3742.3304	3743.2146	3759.5794

**IR intensities**

392.2822	26.4466	26.4376
5.8644	5.8807	23.5185
106.7350	106.8235	1.0021
247.2820	247.1521	16.2793
187.9914	187.4067	75.9047
483.3157	482.7526	9.6196

**1b<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.4575415 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.5263634 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.57411 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 38.11163 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.145797	-0.036157	0.396583
O	-1.300492	-0.084145	-0.239962
O	0.784077	-0.931701	-0.225334
O	0.652124	1.069492	0.011083
H	-0.153558	-0.109256	1.481805
H	-2.054600	-0.245133	0.336636
H	1.534365	-1.146682	0.360601
H	0.462901	1.288846	-0.924834

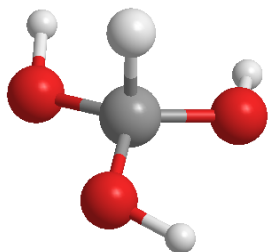
**Vibrational frequencies**

199.8368	445.9188	479.7661
512.8748	626.7224	647.9027
705.1196	997.1912	1115.0916
1168.5388	1272.5556	1305.9261
1365.4350	1490.3258	3161.2076
3628.7692	3687.6330	3848.6551

**IR intensities**

122.5978	21.4910	69.0798
10.9943	44.3453	123.6521
10.2626	128.5760	203.6289
71.2128	28.1257	37.9694
143.4335	73.0744	0.2339
408.1228	234.1454	242.2292

**1c<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.44932 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.51922 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.56772 Hartree**  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 35.41862 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.004731	-0.016315	0.171144
O	1.081483	-0.748119	-0.070538
O	0.134074	1.295539	-0.067610
O	-1.118079	-0.689253	-0.136302
H	0.007781	-0.078626	1.389334
H	1.872112	-0.196820	-0.192066
H	-0.695013	1.777573	-0.191737
H	-1.936310	-0.269571	0.163203

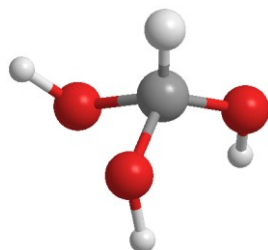
**Vibrational frequencies**

135.2510	380.8314	473.3246
510.6292	535.9086	713.0169
763.9920	787.4153	919.2250
1140.8158	1150.7044	1172.8693
1409.4217	1489.0558	1876.8027
3734.1315	3782.4690	3799.8204

**IR intensities**

94.3361	85.9866	198.9271
34.1301	56.9059	24.5872
68.6651	107.7934	5.2636
344.2338	197.9218	29.4608
267.8757	46.5810	94.3431
443.1370	128.8627	373.8154

**1d<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.45323 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.52198 Hartree**  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.56967 Hartree**  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 38.03991 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.144833	-0.018148	0.411906
O	-1.373454	0.033147	-0.049018
O	0.655253	-0.998060	-0.220422

O	0.773358	1.016040	-0.027233
H	-0.113981	-0.026514	1.497505
H	-1.465617	-0.221818	-0.976909
H	1.387847	-1.303900	0.345505
H	0.619499	1.252105	-0.964164

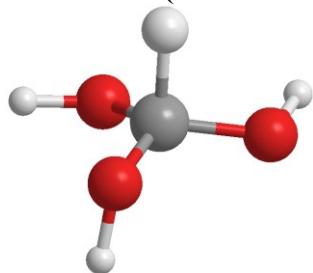
### Vibrational frequencies

342.9979	425.9950	453.2616
509.3668	588.4033	620.7370
661.6816	989.3739	1119.2969
1145.1018	1216.5496	1326.1743
1414.1013	1474.3003	3186.7172
3649.4910	3696.8060	3788.9520

### IR intensities

45.7183	2.5864	25.9418
91.3351	63.2175	101.2374
43.3031	38.2516	102.3290
123.2169	291.1878	24.0751
12.9360	106.9598	1.9012
390.8822	239.7628	159.0452

### 1a<sup>+</sup> → 1c<sup>+</sup> (Transition State)



Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.44508 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.51491 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.56335 Hartree

Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 35.43709 kcal/mol

### Cartesian coordinates

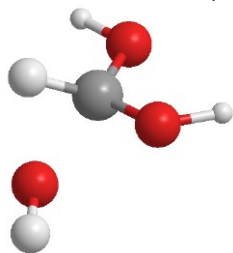
C	0.007410	0.016829	0.182917
O	-1.155675	0.637779	-0.112356
O	0.024785	-1.296868	-0.110333
O	1.097488	0.751674	0.030464
H	-0.165203	-0.003215	1.378292
H	-1.918862	0.032483	-0.079544
H	0.904866	-1.681955	0.028015
H	1.401950	0.811037	-0.886469

**Vibrational frequencies**

-439.5370	440.6736	473.8734
514.1912	583.7065	653.3533
679.9557	877.9783	1033.9202
1115.5813	1150.3563	1219.3967
1352.7232	1464.4732	2023.9272
3691.0404	3743.8956	3769.5567

**IR intensities**

97.9312	130.0901	11.3889
118.9647	48.7237	131.3254
123.9997	24.2986	34.4144
249.6608	129.9688	147.3143
107.1448	186.1145	177.3409
413.4642	298.3289	234.9150

**1a<sup>+</sup> → CO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>(*cis-trans*) + •OH (Transition State)**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.44688 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.51577 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.56356 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 36.34225 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

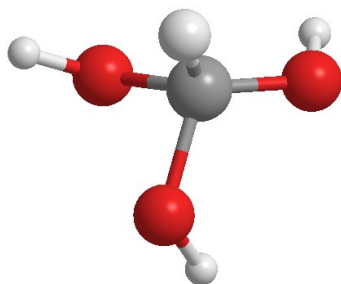
C	-0.143642	0.003398	0.288331
O	-0.826509	-1.010520	-0.143839
O	1.461990	-0.170387	-0.148823
O	-0.577344	1.184703	-0.013409
H	-0.520075	-1.870029	0.175496
H	1.900762	0.705922	-0.108119
H	-1.297986	1.164994	-0.662757
H	0.314053	-0.051642	1.313956

**Vibrational frequencies**

-508.2198	302.0904	421.0514
449.6723	488.7117	602.0283
629.7966	922.4784	1083.6771
1171.2185	1180.5179	1259.8121
1404.9365	1567.6707	2762.7082
3638.5612	3745.3026	3791.5402

**IR intensities**

4.1465	26.5325	131.9063
91.8678	121.2745	106.8831
31.2191	175.1136	104.2208
92.3874	76.7538	101.2828
209.8345	219.9366	156.9900
280.9131	288.6893	243.4755

**1b<sup>+</sup> → 1d<sup>+</sup> (Transition State)**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.45088 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.51961 Hartree

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.56729 Hartree

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 37.59518 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.121528	0.019711	0.422077
O	1.340801	-0.065761	-0.092450
O	-0.677114	0.989103	-0.223449
O	-0.729459	-1.034946	-0.044607
H	0.055908	0.038693	1.509319
H	1.647225	0.743055	-0.519861
H	-1.437186	1.260235	0.324283
H	-0.468931	-1.267419	-0.962149

**Vibrational frequencies**

-376.2622	437.2463	472.2006
504.1141	627.8968	642.1009
696.0173	1017.2008	1135.4152
1158.3217	1207.1024	1317.4331
1351.2903	1464.9088	3149.2129
3606.4902	3689.0984	3822.1619

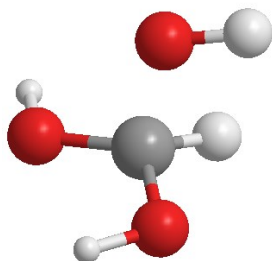
**IR intensities**

146.1234	4.8541	14.2944
49.1813	89.4995	76.6017
60.6921	62.5415	35.6161
324.5812	113.0752	30.7795



5.4772	114.3694	2.4898
392.9596	261.4490	208.4816

**1b<sup>+</sup> → CO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>(*gauche-trans*) + <sup>•</sup>OH (Transition State)**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -265.45433 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -265.52284 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -265.57036 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 37.30037 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.226767	0.056045	0.416116
O	-1.270221	-0.347477	-0.234632
O	1.102719	-0.815142	-0.200752
O	0.335487	1.174797	-0.020367
H	-0.150030	-0.089660	1.489291
H	-1.790305	-1.017738	0.226082
H	1.894371	-0.706736	0.366446
H	0.062679	1.380437	-0.932511

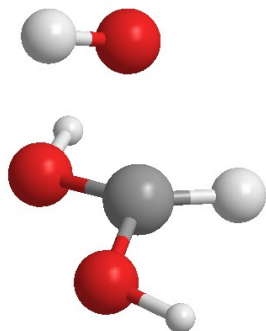
**Vibrational frequencies**

-393.1862	357.6493	434.3780
462.3520	502.9440	613.2432
666.1711	910.9236	1115.3035
1188.0209	1207.4501	1324.5317
1405.1314	1553.7103	3188.3276
3650.8282	3697.8366	3813.1849

**IR intensities**

25.7311	39.2152	76.7519
82.8525	91.4014	48.8994
134.2363	130.0077	103.3846
80.6983	53.8979	87.4839
117.6484	186.5084	1.4530
286.0280	243.1041	250.6375

**1b<sup>+</sup> → CO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>(*trans-trans*) + <sup>•</sup>OH (Transition State)**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -265.45299 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.52146 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.56896 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 37.32711 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	-0.240065	-0.122956	0.392683
O	-1.296480	0.269382	-0.239701
O	0.373946	-1.121862	-0.225694
O	1.099907	0.904931	0.025118
H	-0.189406	-0.055565	1.476730
H	-1.873341	0.834671	0.288894
H	1.025733	-1.569434	0.334478
H	1.058420	1.108461	-0.933987

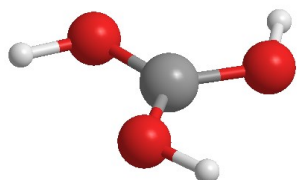
#### Vibrational frequencies

-387.9181	323.5199	431.5201
512.3354	535.8041	589.8768
632.0720	901.4325	1138.2943
1173.0561	1202.4682	1313.0378
1391.2611	1576.6148	3170.7558
3634.8801	3769.2617	3814.5043

#### IR intensities

23.1993	3.8470	78.9537
187.6872	11.6277	96.3022
145.5771	36.0245	84.1328
163.2585	74.6272	60.7619
154.2835	145.3976	0.9124
214.8429	321.3006	234.5217

**CO<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -264.98142 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -265.05194 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -265.10086 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 33.02151 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	0.000189	0.000057	0.000000
O	-0.709024	-1.059799	0.000000
O	1.272641	-0.084036	0.000000
O	-0.563645	1.143891	0.000000
H	-0.188841	-1.879382	0.000000
H	1.721458	0.776704	0.000000
H	-1.533527	1.101894	0.000000

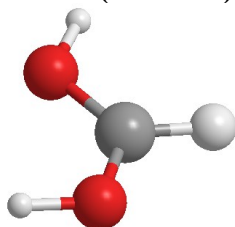
#### Vibrational frequencies

548.5261	561.3777	563.3336
637.0359	641.4008	793.7696
1076.6379	1197.8460	1201.1629
1214.5150	1713.1466	1714.3346
3739.2240	3741.1719	3755.3970

#### IR intensities

447.4642	31.9019	31.3549
0.0007	0.5106	28.9729
0.0003	231.2358	216.8927
14.3876	412.6308	412.5796
432.0344	428.0167	4.6780

#### CO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (*cis-trans*)



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -189.81157 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -189.86163 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -189.89636 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 29.67746 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

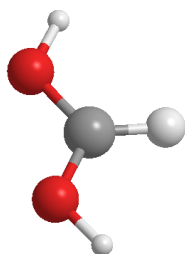
C	-0.003929	0.424292	0.000000
O	-1.041431	-0.302056	0.000000
O	1.141453	-0.094540	0.000000
H	-0.044107	1.512090	0.000000
H	-1.881163	0.184801	0.000000
H	1.148665	-1.069875	0.000000

**Vibrational frequencies**

616.7192	669.3787	788.4130
1090.2243	1182.5585	1205.8680
1371.1239	1486.8109	1729.6667
3191.7771	3681.0684	3746.0739

**IR intensities**

46.0981	227.4068	91.2219
7.0425	80.7069	139.7489
109.3808	118.8580	330.0518
10.1332	289.7585	301.2327

**CO<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> (*trans-trans*)**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -189.80892Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -189.85898 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -189.89371 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 29.66159 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

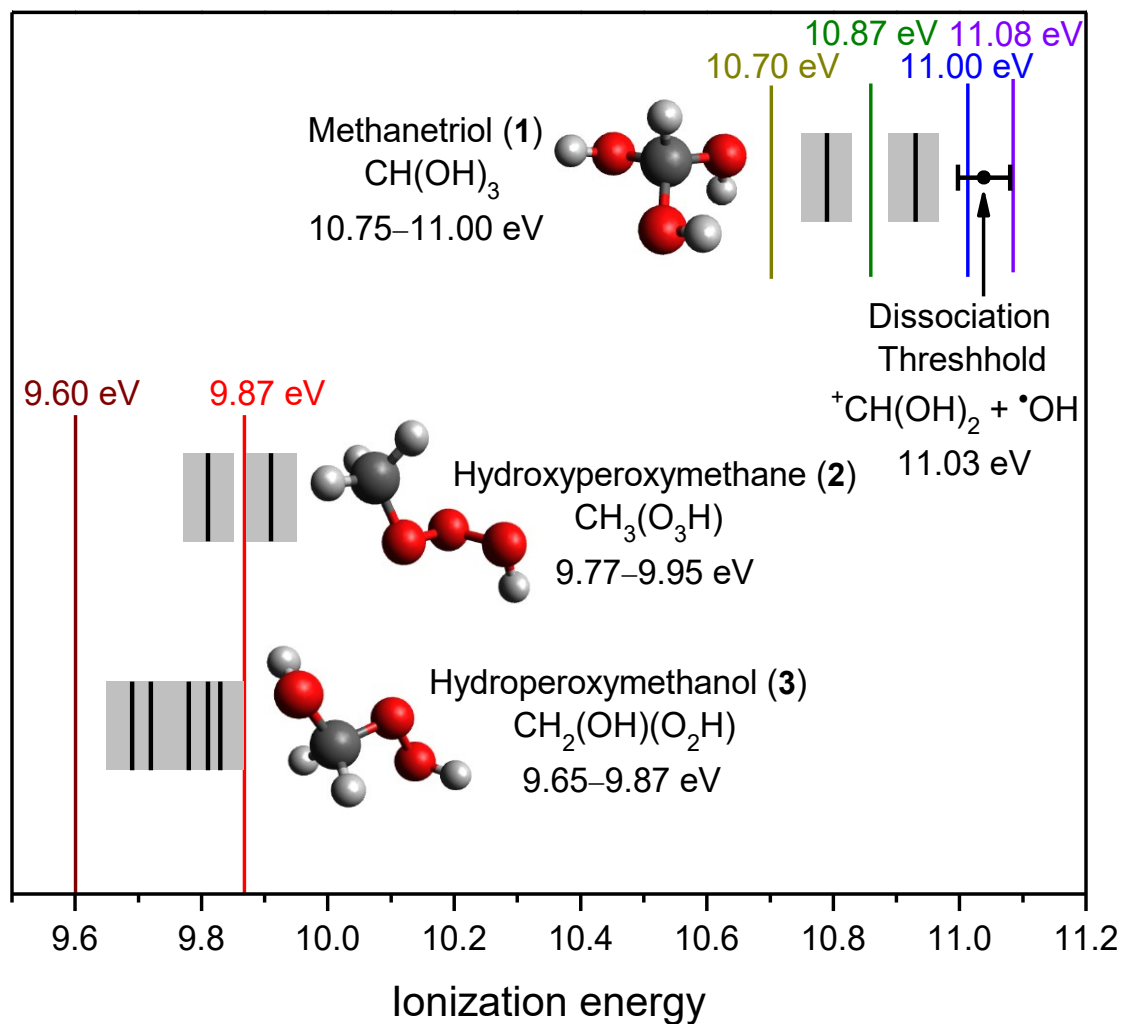
C	-0.000002	0.393674	0.000000
O	-1.070567	-0.273037	0.000000
O	1.070574	-0.273034	0.000000
H	-0.000006	1.484668	0.000000
H	-1.880161	0.260927	0.000000
H	1.880121	0.260934	0.000000

**Vibrational frequencies**

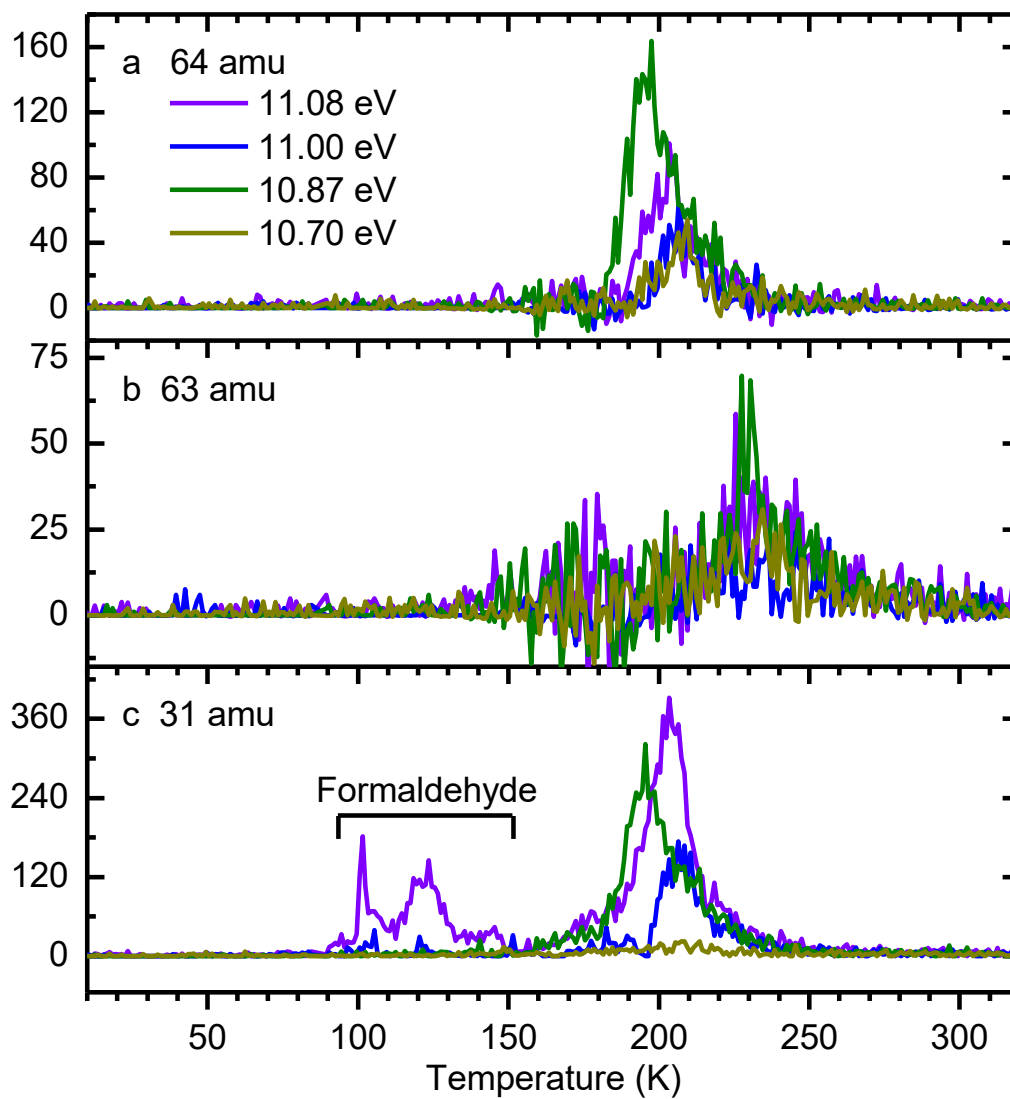
634.0464	650.0609	734.2336
1084.4265	1165.9819	1208.7187
1372.1567	1478.9024	1749.7648
3155.4039	3750.4645	3764.4252

**IR intensities**

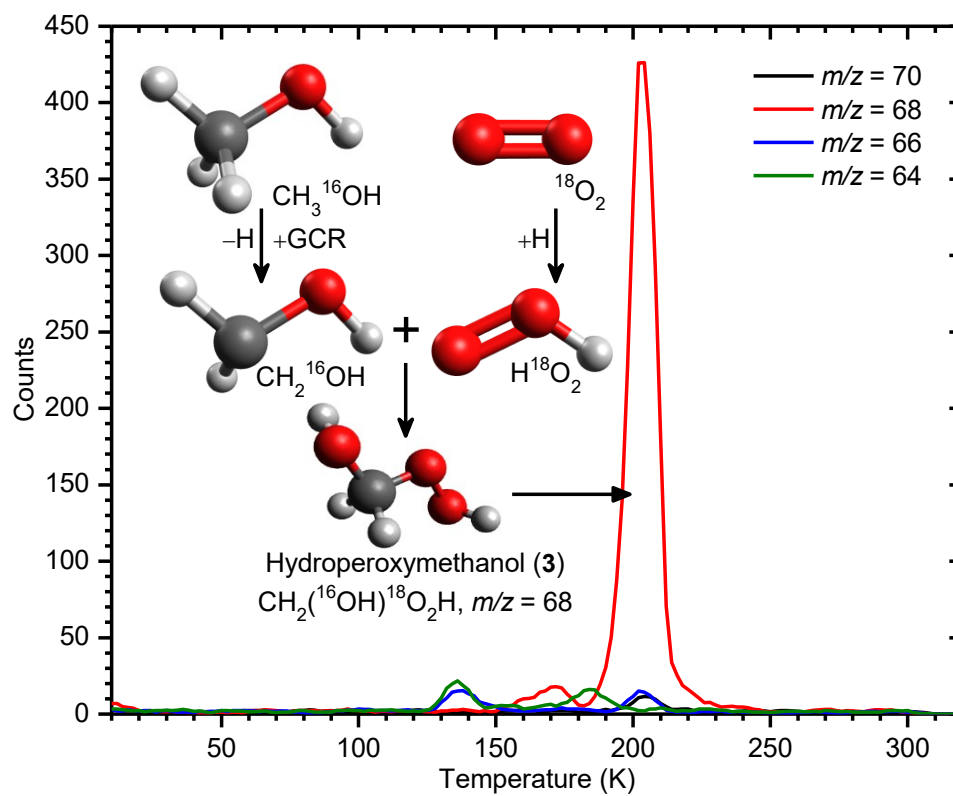
0.0007	3.7855	222.8641
1.1527	261.1838	58.3199
87.1281	145.0828	272.8373
3.5539	627.5643	48.7257



**Figure S3.** Calculated ionization energies for conformational and structural isomers of  $\text{CH}_4\text{O}_3$ . Black lines represent conformer specific calculated adiabatic ionization energies of each structural isomer after correction ( $-0.03$  eV) to account for thermal and Stark effects, gray rectangles represent an error of  $\pm 4$   $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ .

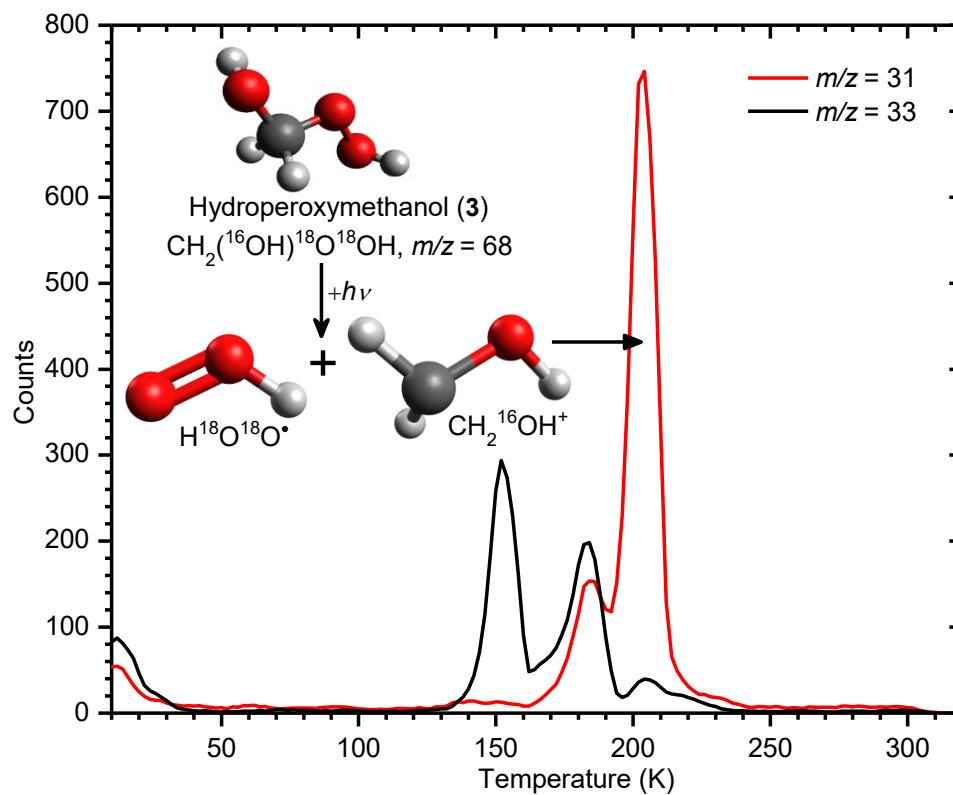


**Figure S4.** TPD profiles observed during SVUV-PI-ReToF-MS experiments with  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH-O}_2$  ices after background subtraction (Figures S9–S12).

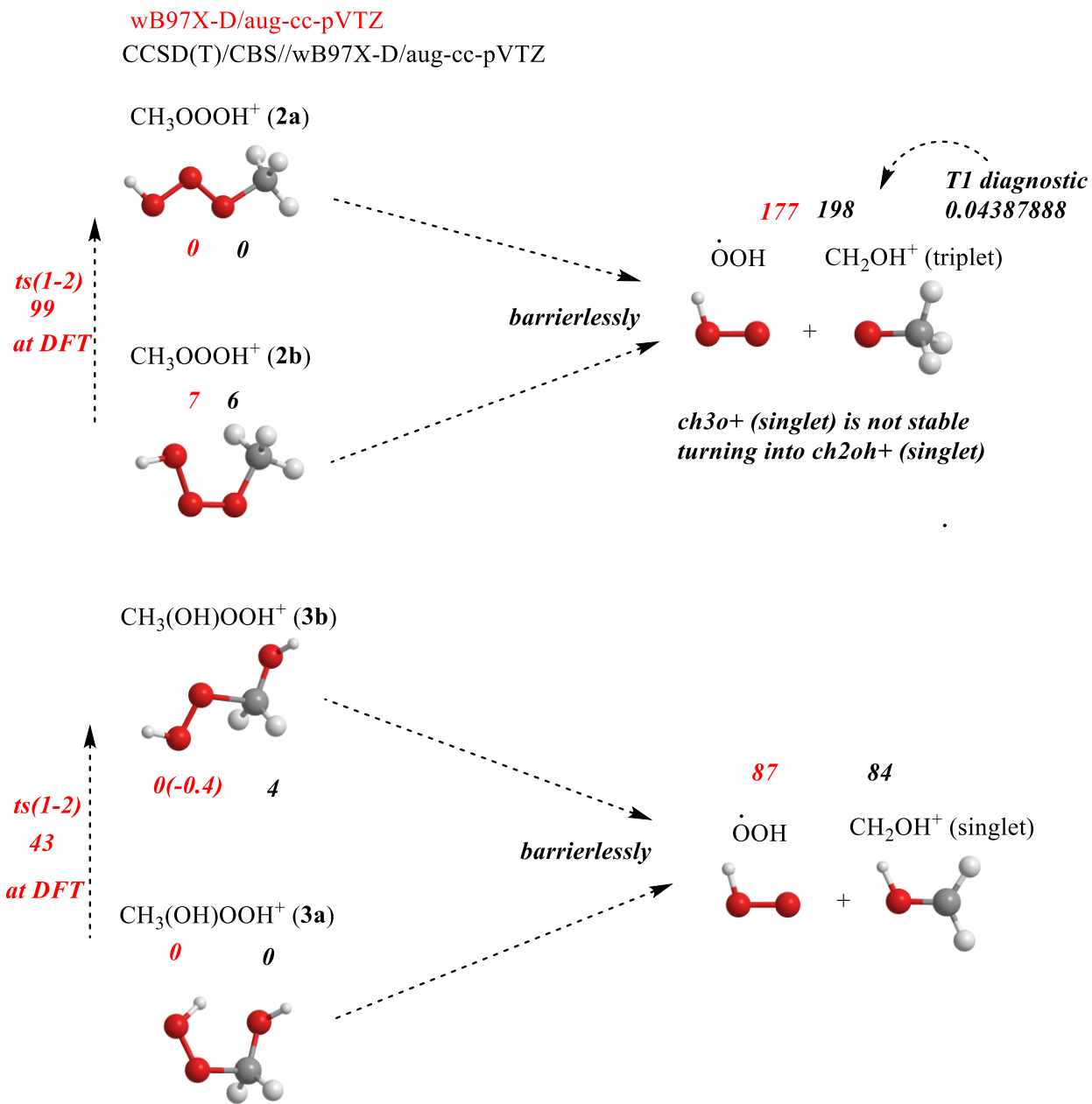


**Figure S5.** Molecule **3** is only observed as intact molecular radical cation at  $m/z = 68$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}-^{18}\text{O}_2$  ice.

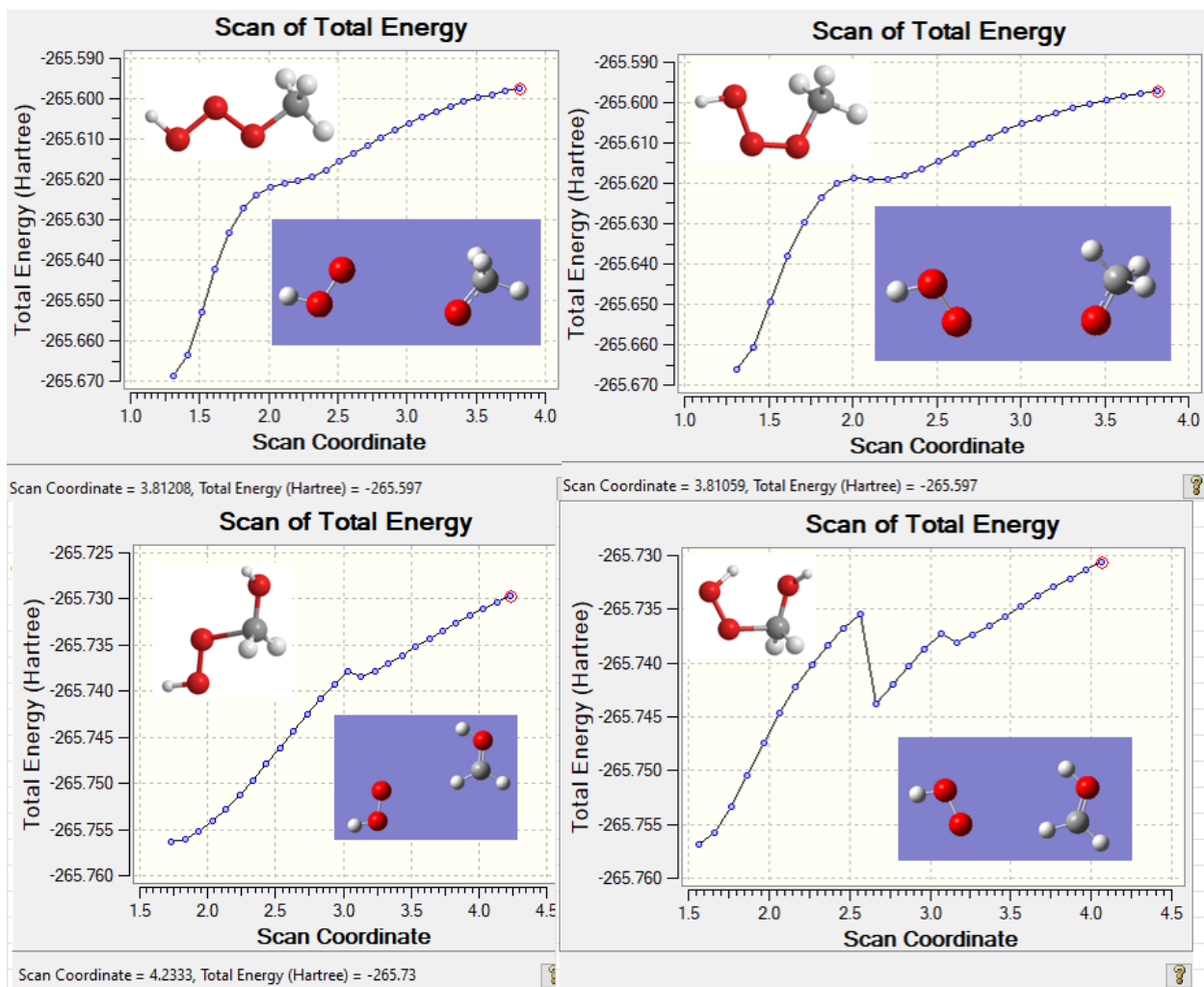




**Figure S6.** The OH fragment of **3** is observed at  $m/z = 31$  in  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}-^{18}\text{O}_2$  ice.



**Figure S7.** Calculated enthalpies of reaction ( $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) for unimolecular dissociation of **2** and **3** radical cations.



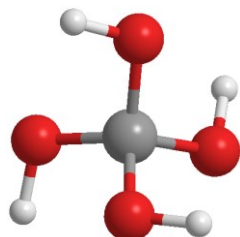
**Figure S8.** Scans along the reaction coordinate (the breaking bond distance in Å) for investigated channels of unimolecular dissociation of the  $2^+$  and  $3^+$  radical cations.

**Table S3.** Calculated conformers of methanetetrol (**4**, C(OH)<sub>4</sub>) with Cartesian coordinates (Å), energetics, vibrational frequencies (cm<sup>-1</sup>) and intensities (km mol<sup>-1</sup>).

Neutral and cation C(OH)<sub>4</sub> molecule correspondence table

Neutral	Cation
<b>4a</b>	<b>4a<sup>+</sup></b>
<b>4b</b>	<b>4b<sup>+</sup></b>
<b>4c</b>	<b>4c<sup>+</sup></b>

**4a**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -341.0142177 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -341.1056313 Hartree**

**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -341.1690513 Hartree**

**Zero-point vibrational energy ωB97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 41.67905 kcal/mol**

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	0.000066	-0.000096	-0.000089
O	-0.107760	-1.154254	0.755043
O	1.154618	-0.106018	-0.755173
O	-1.152562	0.107716	-0.757656
O	0.105853	1.152668	0.757681
H	0.756955	-1.340698	1.127421
H	1.340947	0.759712	-1.125201
H	-1.339344	-0.757621	-1.128459
H	-0.760144	1.338281	1.127617

**Vibrational frequencies**

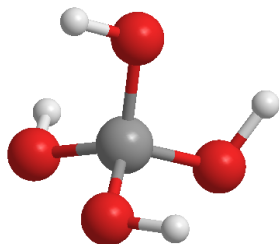
254.3659	318.0202	318.6812
336.4093	472.0474	487.3487
598.2872	598.3857	623.7500
893.7786	1053.2428	1053.3664
1165.4348	1242.3422	1329.6548
1434.6355	1434.7867	3883.6451
3883.9876	3885.5051	3887.2428

**IR intensities**

0.0126	73.1748	73.3920
230.5764	0.0002	14.3339
23.3065	23.3220	48.6247

0.0002	208.5001	208.3306
426.7613	0.0006	0.1967
276.5910	276.7123	93.1319
94.5416	3.3683	54.0028

4b



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -341.0100746 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -341.1014236 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -341.1647988 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 41.33085 kcal/mol

**Cartesian coordinates**

C	-0.030131	-0.002448	-0.025965
O	0.569809	0.108019	1.238319
O	1.021238	0.030060	-0.932033
O	-0.773237	-1.154361	-0.145398
O	-0.933744	1.007835	-0.257524
H	-0.129691	0.056751	1.893212
H	1.835908	0.086021	-0.428978
H	-0.159133	-1.887135	-0.213965
H	-0.438828	1.826626	-0.321389

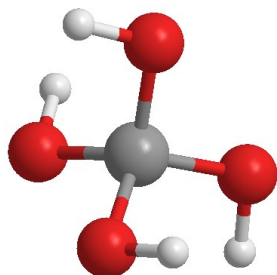
**Vibrational frequencies**

88.5383	195.9188	330.9558
356.5840	458.7774	488.6144
599.6219	604.6234	610.8578
890.0907	1033.9027	1076.2919
1112.5879	1274.5594	1347.0745
1402.1735	1458.9655	3886.1521
3892.8151	3898.7659	3903.4762

**IR intensities**

20.6513	124.9995	200.0186
7.0515	6.0053	37.1268
38.9388	30.3091	0.8857
3.9248	132.9415	229.6618
418.3671	65.0262	202.6601
35.0171	317.4728	56.5004
74.3034	75.8186	47.7827

4c



Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -341.0116948 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -341.1029803 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -341.1663114 Hartree

Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 42.06959 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	0.000011	0.000098	-0.000008
O	0.807912	0.730379	0.855719
O	-0.730207	0.807681	-0.856116
O	0.729903	-0.808035	-0.855825
O	-0.808045	-0.729585	0.856217
H	1.386021	1.260326	0.302781
H	-1.263521	1.383128	-0.303458
H	1.263338	-1.383231	-0.303006
H	-1.382399	-1.264326	0.303775

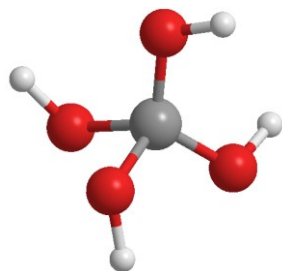
#### Vibrational frequencies

165.6371	353.3359	444.0346
445.1013	450.8050	549.4664
602.7085	605.5072	605.5748
892.1585	1036.6806	1095.2266
1095.5678	1302.6161	1395.0579
1395.4906	1440.1602	3886.0930
3887.4429	3888.1667	3891.2776

#### IR intensities

0.0037	0.0205	180.1127
179.7773	0.2102	0.0552
16.3077	69.4187	69.6002
0.0001	30.5225	428.6288
428.6867	0.0011	24.1048
24.1704	427.9923	22.2095
117.5697	104.6326	5.2061

4a<sup>+</sup>



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -340.6097973 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -340.6988196 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -340.7605805 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 40.59458 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	0.124488	-0.000016	0.000013
O	0.787489	1.116013	0.280110
O	-0.879269	-0.294443	0.968920
O	-0.879431	0.294366	-0.968849
O	0.787534	-1.115955	-0.280262
H	1.524262	0.968696	0.886232
H	-1.163156	-1.226742	0.878550
H	-1.163356	1.226653	-0.878427
H	1.524745	-0.968365	-0.885782

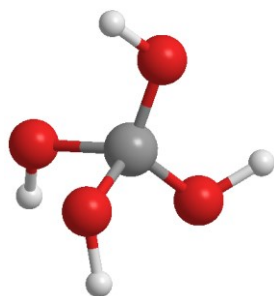
#### Vibrational frequencies

264.9343	380.2543	403.2648
463.2202	485.4933	549.1358
557.2576	590.5619	678.2141
680.1626	893.0150	1108.7090
1114.7559	1170.3615	1248.5427
1386.7305	1486.7211	3639.1495
3665.0524	3811.5756	3819.2117

#### IR intensities

149.1980	8.7446	1.2427
126.0316	40.4667	7.9705
6.1054	46.1154	50.4907
124.6388	25.2887	288.5694
132.6045	86.9130	185.9035
87.1200	325.1486	578.3800
85.7095	153.4231	246.4113

**4b<sup>+</sup>**



**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ** -340.6087898 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ** -340.6978735 Hartree  
**Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ)** -340.759677 Hartree  
**Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ** 40.1732 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

C	0.129572	-0.003300	0.000346
O	1.076652	0.909718	-0.002562
O	0.569675	-1.255022	0.000778
O	-0.859579	0.221616	1.015615
O	-0.862119	0.218295	-1.014966
H	0.745059	1.817069	-0.000646
H	1.534804	-1.293283	0.002607
H	-1.225372	-0.628135	1.330906
H	-1.228954	-0.632701	-1.325866

#### Vibrational frequencies

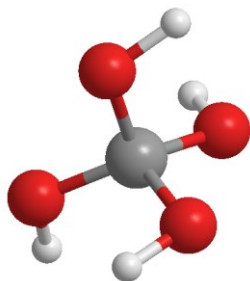
229.1276	292.4825	395.3978
423.4975	482.3854	544.6198
546.4837	605.9160	609.6634
672.7050	869.2186	1098.3967
1117.0351	1117.8507	1207.8287
1401.5717	1546.7816	3648.1412
3678.2232	3805.0669	3809.1692

#### IR intensities

125.9287	48.2624	6.0773
33.1685	128.5539	12.4484
6.2582	35.2103	56.2831
17.6253	36.5697	127.4728
154.5214	212.3027	57.5175
271.2622	261.0098	400.0295
286.1094	262.6994	163.5878



4c<sup>+</sup>



Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ -340.6077432 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ -340.6967101 Hartree

Total electronic energy CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pVQZ, aug-cc-pVTZ) -340.7584326 Hartree

Zero-point vibrational energy  $\omega$ B97X-D/aug-cc-pVTZ 40.8331 kcal/mol

#### Cartesian coordinates

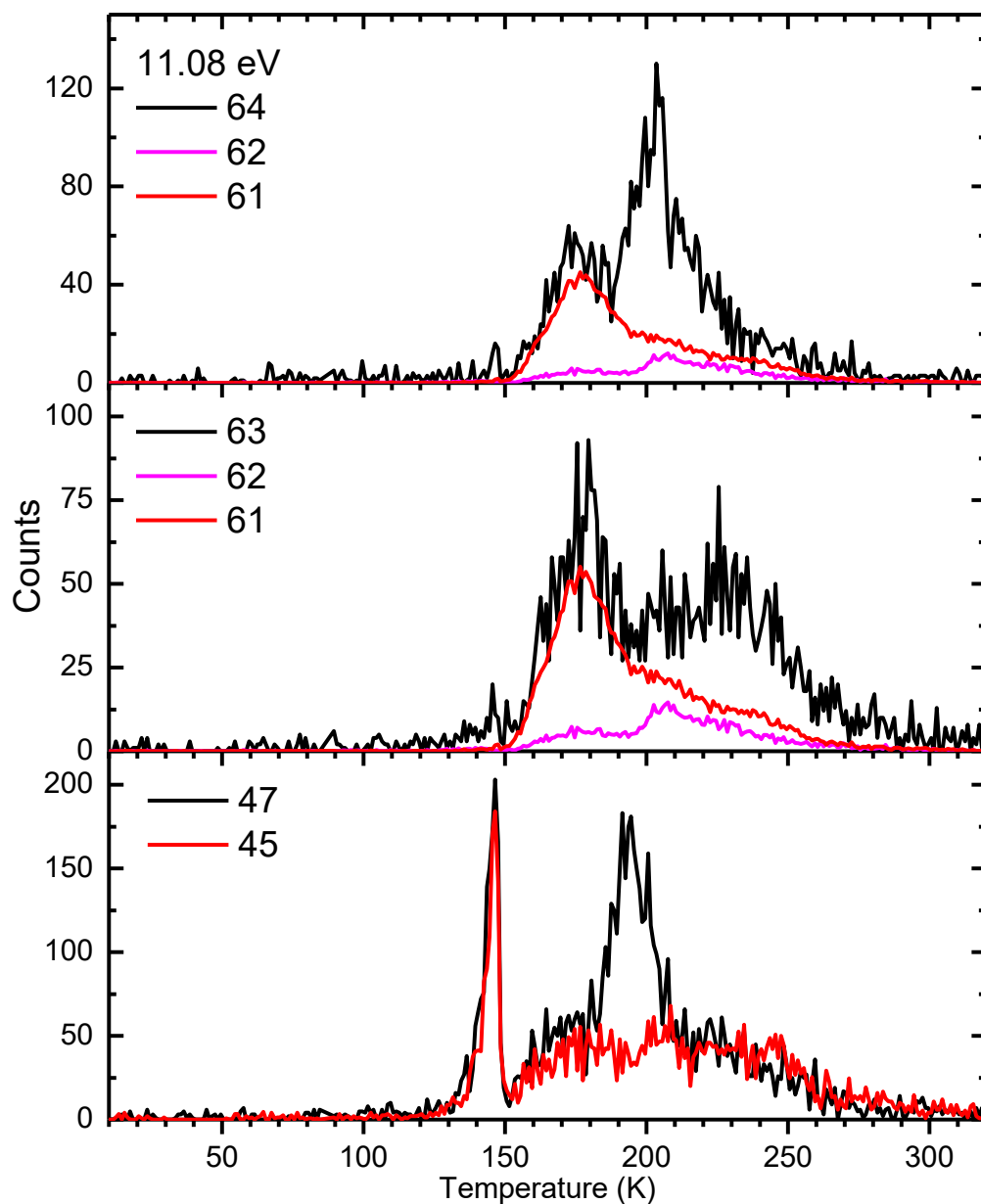
C	0.126519	0.000000	0.000000
O	0.789924	-1.125839	-0.239595
O	-0.883910	-0.091435	1.007088
O	0.789924	1.125839	0.239595
O	-0.883910	0.091435	-1.007088
H	1.585050	-1.201364	0.302020
H	-1.212715	-1.011043	1.046905
H	1.585050	1.201364	-0.302020
H	-1.212716	1.011043	-1.046905

#### Vibrational frequencies

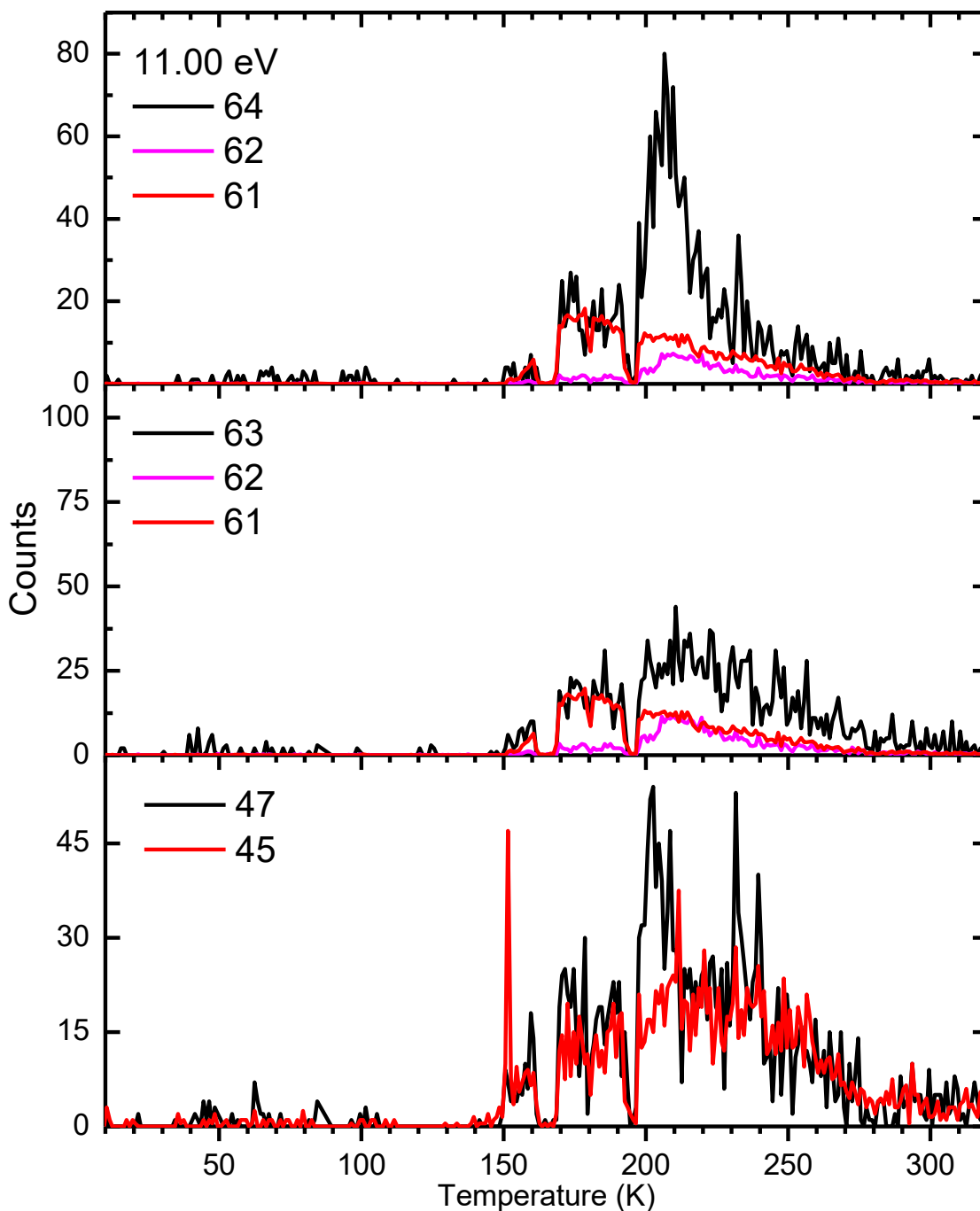
309.9726	383.5389	421.3418
471.3126	496.7507	572.2230
574.3520	586.0824	672.4268
688.9481	889.7482	1089.3838
1114.2133	1187.8846	1235.0273
1405.0630	1490.0177	3655.5776
3679.9434	3815.3320	3824.0234

#### IR intensities

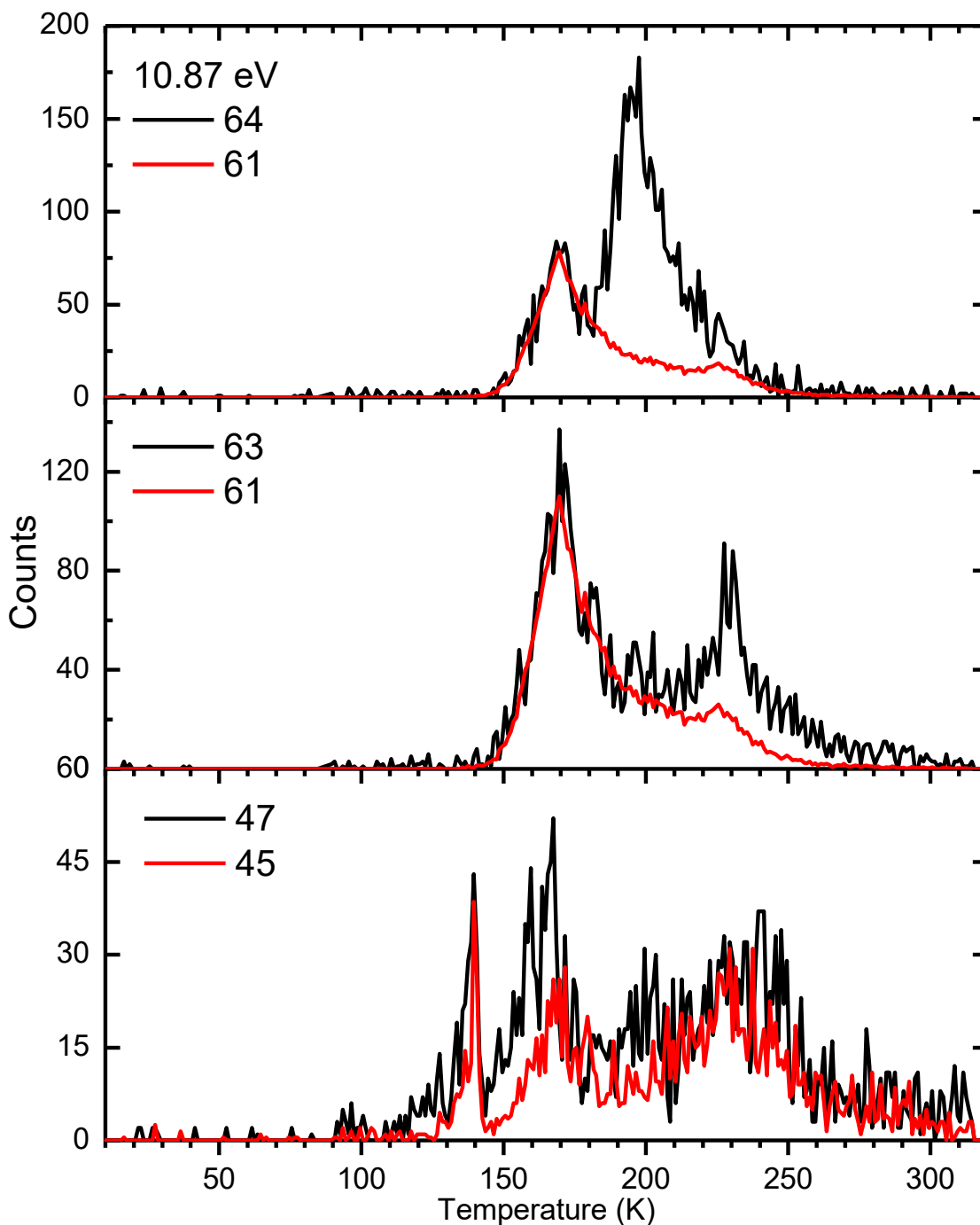
128.6482	8.5398	17.3704
112.9472	31.5818	9.9617
22.2587	119.5949	21.2939
96.6968	24.9306	321.6313
115.7520	43.5222	181.5496
81.7308	312.0763	531.2545
113.0084	119.4096	274.2664



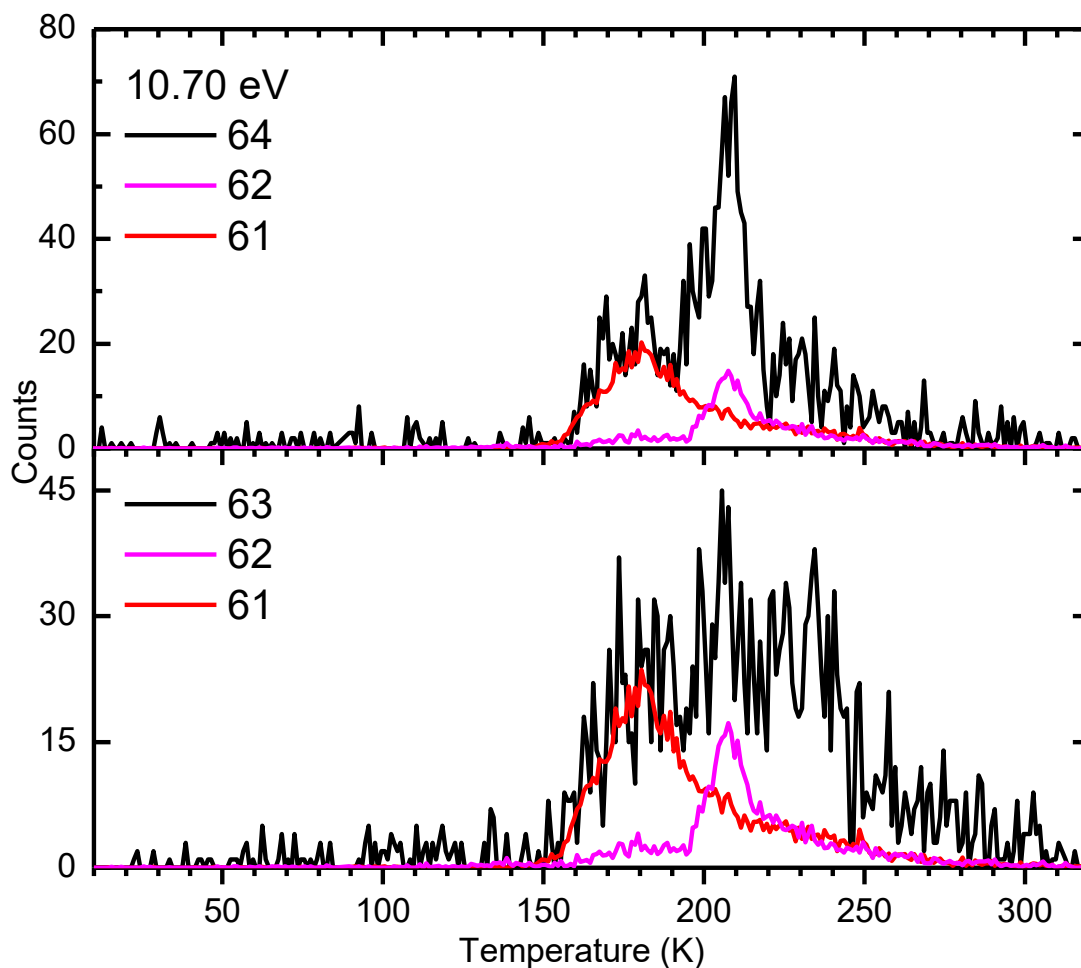
**Figure S9.** The interface of a quasi-continuous light source to a pulsed mass spectrometer means that during extraction ions are produced continuously, but not effectively mass-analyzed. The temporal width of the extraction (typically  $2.5 \mu\text{s}$ ) results in background from ions produced during extraction with flight times approaching  $2 \mu\text{s}$  greater than expected for an ion of that mass. Subsequently, peaks in the TPD profile of an ion of  $m/z = X$  must be corrected for any major peaks occurring with  $m/z = X-1, X-2, X-3$ . This figure shows the signal observed at 11.08 eV (black) and the scaled signal at lower mass (red, magenta) that was subtracted as part of the background.



**Figure S10.** The interface of a quasi-continuous light source to a pulsed mass spectrometer means that during extraction ions are produced continuously, but not effectively mass-analyzed. The temporal width of the extraction (typically  $2.5 \mu\text{s}$ ) results in background from ions produced during extraction with flight times approaching  $2 \mu\text{s}$  greater than expected for an ion of that mass. Subsequently, peaks in the TPD profile of an ion of  $m/z = X$  must be corrected for any major peaks occurring with  $m/z = X-1, X-2, X-3$ . This figure shows the signal observed at 11.00 eV (black) and the scaled signal at lower mass (red, magenta) that was subtracted as part of the background.



**Figure S11.** The interface of a quasi-continuous light source to a pulsed mass spectrometer means that during extraction ions are produced continuously, but not effectively mass-analyzed. The temporal width of the extraction (typically  $2.5 \mu\text{s}$ ) results in background from ions produced during extraction with flight times approaching  $2 \mu\text{s}$  greater than expected for an ion of that mass. Subsequently, peaks in the TPD profile of an ion of  $m/z = X$  must be corrected for any major peaks occurring with  $m/z = X-1, X-2, X-3$ . This figure shows the signal observed at 10.87 eV (black) and the scaled signal at lower mass (red, magenta) that was subtracted as part of the background.



**Figure S12.** The interface of a quasi-continuous light source to a pulsed mass spectrometer means that during extraction ions are produced continuously, but not effectively mass-analyzed. The temporal width of the extraction (typically  $2.5 \mu\text{s}$ ) results in background from ions produced during extraction with flight times approaching  $2 \mu\text{s}$  greater than expected for an ion of that mass. Subsequently, peaks in the TPD profile of an ion of  $m/z = X$  must be corrected for any major peaks occurring with  $m/z = X-1, X-2, X-3$ . This figure shows the signal observed at 10.70 eV (black) and the scaled signal at lower mass (red, magenta) that was subtracted as part of the background.

CCSD(T)/CBS(aug-cc-pvqz,aug-cc-pvtz)//wB97X-D/aug-cc-pvtz E rel in kJ/mol; IE in eV

E rel in kJ/mol (local relativity): the theory level is the same as for the black one

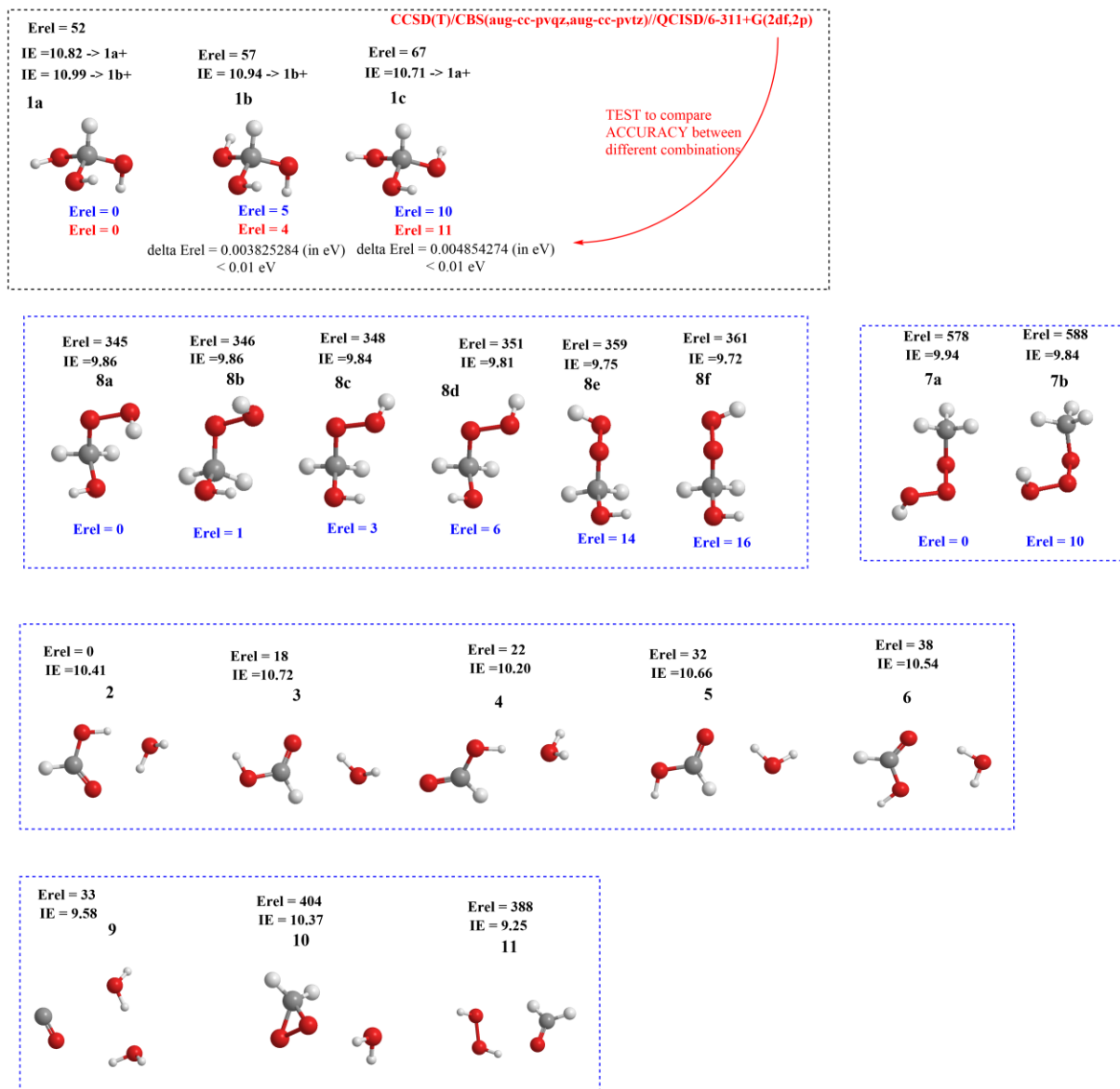


Figure S13. All computed local minima configurations of CH<sub>4</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.