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2 **Many-body calculations of molecular electric polarizabilities in asymptotically**  
3 **complete basis sets**  
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# Many-body calculations of molecular electric polarizabilities in asymptotically complete basis sets

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The static dipole polarizabilities of Ne, CO, N<sub>2</sub>, F<sub>2</sub>, HF, H<sub>2</sub>O, HCN, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> (acetylene) have been determined close to the Full-CI limit along with an asymptotically complete basis set (CBS), according to the principles of a Focal Point Analysis. In this purpose we employed the results of Finite Field calculations up to the level of Coupled Cluster theory including Single, Double, Triple, Quadruple and perturbative Pentuple excitations [CCSDTQ(P)], in conjunction with suited extrapolations of energies obtained using augmented and doubly-augmented Dunning's correlation consistent polarized valence basis sets of improving quality. The polarizability characteristics of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> (ethylene) and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> (ethane) have been determined on the same grounds at the CCSDTQ level in the CBS limit. Comparison is made with results obtained using lower levels in electronic correlation, or taking into account the relaxation of the molecular structure due to an adiabatic polarization process. Vibrational corrections to electronic polarizabilities have been empirically estimated according to Born-Oppenheimer Molecular Dynamical simulations employing Density Functional Theory. Confrontation with experiment ultimately indicates relative accuracies of the order of 1 to 2 %.

**Keywords:** electronic polarizability, molecular relaxation, electronic correlation, energy extrapolation, asymptotically complete basis sets, chemical accuracy.

## 1. Introduction

Computation of linear molecular responses to an external field is a topic of considerable and long standing interest in physics and chemistry [1]. Static dipole polarizabilities are most important properties which participate in many physical phenomena, e.g. Stark effect, dielectric polarization and intermolecular dispersion forces. These measure at first order the change in the molecular dipole moment when an external homogenous and frequency-independent electric field is applied:

$$\mu_i(\vec{F}) = \mu_i(\vec{0}) + \sum_j \alpha_{ij} F_j + \dots \quad (1)$$

The polarizability tensor [ $\alpha_{ij}$  { $i=x,y,z$ ;  $j=x,y,z$ }] is an electric property that can be cast in terms of second-order energy derivatives [2] with respect to the external static electric field, since:

$$E(\vec{F}) = E(\vec{0}) - \sum_i \mu_i F_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \alpha_{ij} F_i F_j - \dots \quad (2)$$

A main rotational invariant is the isotropic polarizability, defined as:

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$$\bar{\alpha} = \frac{1}{3}(\alpha_{xx} + \alpha_{yy} + \alpha_{zz}) \quad (3)$$

Three decades ago, agreement between experimentally derived and theoretically predicted polarizabilities was a major issue [3]. Since then, various aspects of the theoretical determination of polarizabilities have been examined in depth in comprehensive reviews [4]. On the experimental side, one has witnessed the development of numerous methods for measuring polarizabilities, such as refraction, scattering and birefringence measurements [5], Kerr-effect experiments [6], electric field induced harmonic generations [7], Laser Stark-effect spectroscopy [8], or deflection experiments in inhomogenous electric fields (see e.g. [9]).

It is now well-established that energies and related response properties are rather sensitive to electron correlation and to the employed basis set, in particular to the incorporation of polarization and diffuse functions [10]. Unfortunately, large scale treatments of electron correlation remain most often far too prohibitive for straightforward applications upon compounds of great practical relevance, as for instance large conjugated systems in non-linear optics [11]. In such situations, one of the most affordable options for reaching the so-called chemical accuracy on energies [1 kcal/mol; i.e. 0.043 eV] consists in exploiting separately the faster convergence with respect to the basis set of the highest-order correlation corrections to energies, by virtue of the principles of a Focal Point Analysis [12]. The interested reader is referred in particular to highly quantitative theoretical determinations, within chemical accuracy (1 kcal/mol, i.e. 0.043 eV) of the ionization, electron attachment and singlet-triplet excitation energies of large oligoacenes [13], which are notoriously difficult, i.e. strongly correlated, compounds.

The scope of the present study is to pursue the static polarizabilities of small but highly representative molecules at the confines of non-relativistic quantum mechanics, i.e. close to the limit of an exact (Full-CI) solution of the many-electron Schrödinger equation [14], within the framework of the Born-Oppenheimer approximation. More specifically, and in line with our recent work on acenes [13], we aim first at determining how these properties converge to the CCSD(T)/CBS level [i.e. Coupled Cluster Theory along with Single, Double and perturbative Triple

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2 electronic excitations [15], in conjunction with an asymptotically complete basis set (CBS)] when  
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4 using well-established hierarchies of basis sets and size-consistent many-electron wave function  
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6 theories, along with the finite field approach [16]. The principles of a Focal Point Analysis (FPA  
7  
8 [12, 13]) are thereafter applied in order to evaluate the static dipole electric dipole polarizabilities at  
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10 much higher levels in correlation, practically at the Full-CI/CBS limit, by combining pairwise  
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12 results obtained using Coupled Cluster treatments of electron correlation and basis sets of  
13  
14 improving quality. In the present work, we focus on the influence of electronic correlation onto  
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16 static dipole polarizabilities of clamped nuclei configurations that correspond to energy minima in  
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18 the absence of an external field, and disregard in a first stage direct and indirect vibrational  
19  
20 contributions associated to vibrational excitations and changes in the electronic polarizability due to  
21  
22 ro-vibrational distortions of the molecular structure, in the absence of an external field.  
23  
24 Vibrationally averaged results for isotropic polarizabilities at 298K are thereafter obtained by  
25  
26 combining our best FPA estimates with corrections derived from classical trajectory simulations,  
27  
28 using Born-Oppenheimer Molecular Dynamics [17].  
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35 Most experimental determinations of static polarizabilities derive from extrapolation to the zero-  
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37 frequency limit of experiments (e.g. refraction measurements) employing electric or electro-  
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39 magnetic fields with high frequencies (usually in the UV-Vis regime), and may be ascribed  
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41 therefore to the *immediate* response of the electron cloud to the external electric field, regardless of  
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43 the slower *induced* nuclear motions. In this limit, it is thus most customary to neglect induced  
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45 geometrical relaxation effects and to compute polarizabilities from second-order derivatives of the  
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47 *electronic* energy. In sharp contrast, *molecular structural* relaxation effects are known to play a  
48  
49 significant role in deflection experiments upon polarizable systems submitted to electric field  
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51 gradients [9c], due to the inherently much longer time scale for the interaction between the  
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53 molecule and the external field. These effects should also be inherent to determinations of  
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55 polarizabilities of free molecules by means of Laser Stark Spectroscopy, which is based on  
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57 measurements of electric field induced splittings and shifts of single rotational lines. In our work,  
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1  
2 we therefore wish also to evaluate up to the CCSD(T)/CBS level the influence of geometrical  
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4 relaxation upon static dipole polarizabilities, assuming an *adiabatic* (i.e. on a long time scale)  
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6 response of the nuclear configuration to the external field.  
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## 11 2. Methodology

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14 Relating linear molecular properties to second-order derivatives of the energy allows all standard  
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16 post-SCF quantum chemical techniques for calculating energies at a correlated level to be used, and  
17  
18 thus bypasses the need for more elaborate, specific analytical many-body approaches, as for  
19  
20 instance Polarization Propagator [18] or Coupled Perturbed Electron Propagator [19] theories.  
21  
22 However, in order to minimize non-linear effects, which are most commonly enhanced when  
23  
24 electron correlation is included, one has to limit the extent of the external perturbation, and the  
25  
26 energy differences to compute are therefore rather small. On the other hand, the field has still to be  
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28 large enough in order to induce energy differences that are substantially more important than the  
29  
30 uncertainties due to the employed approximations and numerical errors. For instance, exceedingly  
31  
32 accurate results upon numerical energy differences, within  $10^{-9}$  a.u. uncertainty ( $1 \text{ a.u.} = 1 E_h =$   
33  
34  $4.3597482 \cdot 10^{-18} \text{ J}$ ), are required for computing polarizabilities within an accuracy of  $10^{-2}$  a.u. ( $1 \text{ a.u.}$   
35  
36  $= 1 e^2 a_0^2 E_h^{-1} = 1.648778 \cdot 10^{-41} \text{ C}^2 \text{ m}^2 \text{ J}^{-1}$ ), using 0.0003 a.u. ( $1 \text{ a.u.} = E_h e^{-1} a_0^{-1} = 5.142 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ V m}^{-1}$ )  
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38 as the basic step size on the field.  
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45 All calculations that are presented in the sequel for CO, N<sub>2</sub>, F<sub>2</sub>, HF and H<sub>2</sub>O are based on  
46  
47 molecular geometries that were optimized using CCSD(T) [15], along with the aug-cc-pV5Z and d-  
48  
49 aug-cc-pV5Z basis sets [20] (Dunning's correlation consistent polarized valence basis set of  
50  
51 pentuple zeta quality, augmented by a double set of diffuse functions). Geometry optimizations for  
52  
53 the HCN, HCCH, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> molecules are carried out at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pV5Z level. The  
54  
55 geometry of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> was treated at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ level. The convergence thresholds on  
56  
57 HF and CCSD energies were set to  $10^{-11}$  a.u. and  $10^{-10}$  a.u., respectively ( $1 \text{ a.u.} = 1 \text{ hartree}$ ). In  
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59 addition, the maximum step size over atomic displacements (in internal coordinates) and energy  
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gradients (forces) at final convergence were set equal to  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  a.u. (bohr or radian) and  $2 \times 10^{-6}$  a.u. (hartree/bohr), respectively.

Electric polarizabilities were subsequently calculated at various theoretical levels [Hartree-Fock (HF), 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and (truncated) 4<sup>th</sup> order Møller-Plesset Perturbation (MP2 [21,22], MP3, MP4SDQ [23]), CCSD [24], and CCSD(T) [15] theories, in conjunction with basis sets of improving quality. Calculations were performed upon standard molecular orientations defined from the main symmetry elements of the target, according to the conventions described in the book by Jaffé and Orchin [25], so that all off-diagonal components of the polarizability tensor identically vanish. The diagonal components were determined according to equation (2) from second-order derivatives of the energy with respect to the relevant components of the field, using a second-order polynomial least squares fit over energies obtained after embedding the target of interest in homogenous electric fields of strength equal to  $\pm 0.9$ ,  $\pm 0.3$  and  $0.0 \times 10^{-3}$  a.u. in the  $x$ -,  $y$ - and  $z$ - directions. The employed basis sets comprise Dunning's correlation consistent polarized valence (cc-pVXZ) basis sets of double (X=D) [20a], triple (X=T) [20a], quadruple (X=Q) [20a], quintuple (X=5) [20a,c] and sextuple (X=6) quality [26, 27], as well as their augmented [20c, 26] and doubly augmented [20c,26] extensions. These basis sets allow extrapolations of electronic energies in clamped nuclei configurations to the limit of an asymptotically complete basis set. Feller's extrapolation formula [28] (eq. 4) has thus been used for the Hartree-Fock energies, while electron correlation energies are extrapolated separately according to the so-called 6(lmn) extension [29] of Schwartz's formula [30] (eq. 5).

$$E_{HF}(l) = E_{HF}(\infty) + Ae^{-Bl} \quad , \quad (4)$$

$$E_{corr}(l) = E_{corr}(\infty) + \frac{B}{\left(l + \frac{1}{2}\right)^4} + \frac{C}{\left(l + \frac{1}{2}\right)^6} \quad , \quad (5)$$

where  $l$  equals 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 ... for double, triple, quadruple, quintuple, sextuple, ... zeta basis functions, respectively. In the above equations,  $E_{HF}(\infty)$  and  $E_{corr}(\infty)$  stand for the Hartree-Fock and correlation energies in the limit of an asymptotically complete basis set, respectively. These asymptotic values are obtained according to a three-point extrapolation employing results obtained



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2 using the (d)-aug-cc-pVQZ, (d)-aug-cc-pV5Z and (d)-aug-cc-pV6Z basis sets. Whenever (d)-(aug-  
3 )cc-pV6Z results are available, a comparison is made for HF energies obtained according to a  
4 recently proposed 2-point extrapolation formula, by A. Karton and J. M. L. Martin [31]:  
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$$E_{HF}(l) = E_{HF}(\infty) + A(l+1)e^{-9\sqrt{l}}, \quad (6)$$

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11 which is expected to be more accurate. Extrapolations to asymptotically complete basis sets are  
12 expected to eliminate errors arising from the limitation of finite basis sets.  
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17 The static dipole electric dipole polarizabilities of most selected targets (Ne, CO, N<sub>2</sub>, F<sub>2</sub>, HF,  
18 H<sub>2</sub>O, HCN, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> [ethyne] were thereafter evaluated up to the CCSDTQ(P)/CBS level [i.e. Coupled  
19 Cluster Theory along with Single, Double, Triple, Quadruple and perturbative Pentuple electronic  
20 excitations in conjunction with an asymptotically complete basis sets (CBS)], by adding to the  
21 CCSD(T)/CBS results corrections derived from higher-order Coupled Cluster calculations in  
22 conjunction with finite (d)-(aug)-cc-pVXZ basis sets [X=D,T], according to the principles of a  
23 Focal Point Analysis [12, 13]. These comprise calculations at the CCSDT [32] or CCSDTQ [33]  
24 levels, as well as at the CCSDT(Q) and CCSDTQ(P) [34] levels. CCSDTQ/CBS estimates of the  
25 polarizabilities of ethylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>) and acetylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>) are also presented on the same grounds.  
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38 In the sequel, we compare at the CCSD(T) level purely electronic results for the polarizabilities  
39 of CO, N<sub>2</sub>, F<sub>2</sub>, HF, H<sub>2</sub>O, HCN, HCCH, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> on geometries that were optimized in a zero  
40 field environment, with results that also account for the influence of the field upon the molecular  
41 geometries, assuming therefore an adiabatic polarization process within the framework of the Born-  
42 Oppenheimer approximation. For the sake of conciseness, structurally “unrelaxed” and “relaxed”  
43 static electric dipole polarizabilities will be from here and henceforth referred to as *electronic* and  
44 *adiabatic* polarizabilities. In order to compute the latter response properties, geometries have been  
45 systematically re-optimized for all selected finite fields at the CCSD(T) level, along with the aug-  
46 cc-pV5Z and d-aug-cc-pV5Z basis sets. Adiabatic values reported in the sequel under the  
47 CCSD(T)/(d)-aug-cc-VXZ (X=Q,6) entries are therefore the results of further single-point  
48 calculations on these re-optimized CCSD(T)/(d)-aug-cc-V5Z geometries. Further verifications  
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2 employing fully re-optimized geometries for each selected basis set indicate variations by at most  
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4 0.0005 a.u. in the static electronic and adiabatic polarizabilities of the hydrogen fluoride (HF)  
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6 molecule, which demonstrates the convergence of the employed polarized geometries with regards  
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8 to further improvements of the basis sets, and the numerical consistency of our approach.  
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11 All electrons were correlated up to the CCSD(T) level whereas only valence electrons were  
12  
13 correlated at higher levels. Further results obtained for the HF compound at the CCSD(T) level  
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15 using the aug-cc-pV5Z and the core-corrected aug-cc-pCV5Z basis sets do not deviate by more than  
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17 0.006 a.u., which illustrates the overall extremely limited role played by core correlation in  
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19 polarization processes.  
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23 Last but not least, vibrationally averaged results for isotropic *electronic* polarizabilities (thus  
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25 regardless of induced geometrical relaxation effects) are obtained by including thermal corrections  
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27 derived from simulations employing Born-Oppenheimer Molecular Dynamics (BOMD) along with  
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29 Density Functional Theory [35] in conjunction with the dispersion corrected  $\omega$ B97XD exchange-  
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31 correlation functional [36] and the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set (except for C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, in which case the  
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33 employed basis set was aug-cc-pVDZ). In all BOMD simulations, the Bulirsch-Stoer method was  
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35 used for the integration scheme [37], along with an integration step size of 0.2 fs, and using a fifth-  
36  
37 order polynomial fit in the integration correction scheme. The trajectory step size was most  
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39 generally set to 0.250 a.u., except for H<sub>2</sub>O and HF, in which case the step size was reduced to 0.100  
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41 a.u. . The time average was made on isotropic polarizability values supplied at each point of the  
42  
43 calculated BOMD trajectory from analytic  $\omega$ B97XD energy gradients. The BOMD calculations  
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45 were run until the convergence of polarizabilities was ensured within 10<sup>-2</sup> a.u. . This implied  
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47 runtimes comprised between 2 and 7 ps, corresponding therefore to time averages over 2000 to  
48  
49 5000 structures.  
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57 All calculations up to the CCSD(T) level were performed with the MOLPRO 2010.1 package of  
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59 programs [38] and available Coupled Cluster treatments [39] therein, along with SEWARD [40] for  
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the evaluation of 2-electron integrals. All calculations beyond the CCSD(T) level were done by

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2 means of the MRCC program by M. Kállay [41], using the output of calculations made with  
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4 MOLPRO 2010.1 for HF molecular orbitals and the corresponding energies as well as for bielectron  
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6 integrals over molecular orbitals. BOMD calculations were run according to the principles of  
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8 classical trajectory simulations [42], using the implementation [43] of the approach [17] which is  
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10 available in the Gaussian 09 [44] package of programs.  
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### 17 **3. Results and discussion**

#### 18 **3.1 Neon**

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21 Static polarizabilities obtained at the CCSD(T) level and beyond for the neon atom using the cc-  
22  
23 pVXZ, aug-cc-pVXZ and d-aug-cc-pVXZ basis sets are presented in Table 1, along with values  
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25 derived from 3-point energy extrapolations based on results obtained with basis sets of triple,  
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27 quadruple and quintuple [T-Q-5]; or quadruple, quintuple and sextuple [Q-5-6] zeta quality. Due to  
28  
29 its spherical symmetry, polarizabilities of this most basic system are fully isotropic. Furthermore,  
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31 the experimentally inferred values are obviously free of any unwanted geometrical complication.  
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36 Known experimental values for the static polarizability of neon range from 2.663 a.u. [45] to  
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38  $2.667 \pm 0.002$  a.u. [46] and 2.6723 a.u [47]. In spite of the extrapolation to an asymptotically  
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40 complete basis set, CCSD(T) results obtained using the non-augmented basis sets appear to severely  
41  
42 underestimate the latter value, while the incorporation of single sets of diffuse functions in the basis  
43  
44 sets enables us at this level to reproduce experiment within relative accuracies of 0.5 to 0.7% in the  
45  
46 asymptotic CBS limit. Inclusion of double sets of diffuse functions results in further net  
47  
48 improvements, with relative accuracies ranging from 0.1 to 0.3 % in the CBS limit. Upon inspecting  
49  
50 Table 1, it is also clear that including single and double sets of diffuse functions in the basis set  
51  
52 tremendously fasten the convergence of CCSD(T) results to the CBS limit.  
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57 The same observation regarding the influence of the basis set can be made (Figure 1) at lower  
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59 levels (HF, MP2, MP3, MP4SDQ and CCSD theories). When using non-augmented basis sets  
60  
(Figure 1a), results obtained at third-order and beyond in the correlation potential are found to have

1 practically converged to the Full-CI limit in these basis sets. The sensitivity of the values obtained  
2 for polarizabilities upon the correlation treatment severely increases when adding single or double  
3 sets of diffuse functions in the basis set. On the other hand, at all theoretical levels, the sensitivity of  
4 these results to the cardinal number ( $X$ ) characterizing the polarization degree of the basis set  
5 sharply decreases when single sets of diffuse functions are incorporated, and becomes almost  
6 insignificant when the employed basis sets are augmented by double sets of diffuse functions.  
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9 Compared with CCSD theory, perturbative triple excitations [T] are found to have a very  
10 noticeable influence on the computed polarizabilities (Figure 1). Triple excitations are known  
11 indeed to be needed for describing the combined effect of correlation and orbital relaxation [48]. A  
12 comparison with higher-level FPA estimates (Table 1) indicates nevertheless that CCSD(T) results  
13 should not deviate by more than  $10^{-3}$  a.u. (0.03 % accuracy) from the full-CI limit in a given basis  
14 set. CCSD(T) and CCSDTQ(P) results are almost identical (0.0003 a.u. difference). Our best  
15 [CCSDTQ(P)/CBS] estimate for the static polarizability of Ne amounts to 2.6645 a.u., in perfect  
16 match with the reported experimental values (from 2.663 a.u. [45],  $2.667 \pm 0.002$  a.u. [46], 2.6723  
17 a.u. [47]). Our CCSDTQ(P)/CBS estimate can also be compared with an earlier CC3/d-aug-cc-  
18 pV6Z value of 2.665 a.u. [49]. Also, Larsen *et al* report a Full-CI/d-aug-cc-pVDZ value of 2.673  
19 a.u. [50].  
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### 45 **3.2 Convergence of molecular polarizability towards the CCSD(T)/CBS level: general trends.**

46 Results obtained up to the CCSD(T) level in conjunction with the d-aug-cc-pVXZ ( $X=Q, 5, 6, \infty$ )  
47 basis sets for the static dipole electronic polarizabilities of CO, N<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> and C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub> are  
48 displayed in Figures 2 – 6, respectively. It is clear from these figures that the HF and MP2 levels are  
49 totally unsuited for quantitative insights into polarizabilities. Unlike neon, convergence becomes  
50 quite problematic beyond the MP3 level. The obtained results obtained are virtually unaffected by  
51 an increase in the cardinal number  $X$  characterizing the basis set when the latter includes double  
52 sets of diffuse functions. In all cases, perturbative triple excitations appear again to have a very  
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2 significant influence, in particular when the basis set incorporates doubly diffuse sets of atomic  
3 functions. On the other hand, differences in results obtained with doubly diffuse basis sets of  
4 varying zeta quality are still far smaller than differences in results from different quantum chemical  
5 methods. We observe also quite generally an increase of the influence of the basis set when  
6 employing successively the HF, MP2, MP3, MP4SDQ, CCSD and CCSD(T) approaches, with the  
7 HF results being practically insensitive to the basis set. These observations motivate a detailed  
8 analysis of the convergence of molecular electronic polarizabilities towards the Full-CI/CBS limit  
9 on a case per case basis, by virtue of the principles of a Focal Point Analysis.  
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### 23 **3.3 Carbon Monoxide (CO).**

24  
25 Results obtained from the CCSD(T) to the CCSDTQ(P) levels for the static polarizability tensors  
26 and isotropic polarizabilities of carbon monoxide are presented in Table 2. Quite naturally, the  
27 largest component of this tensor corresponds to the  $z$ -axis, defining the main rotational axis of the  
28 molecule. The experimental value for the isotropic electronic polarizability of CO is  
29  $13.0891 \pm 0.0002$  a.u.[51], which compares quite favorably with the best theoretical CCSD(T)/d-aug-  
30 cc-pV $\infty$ Z value of 13.005 a.u. reported in Table 2. Nevertheless, in view of the convergence of  
31 results with regards to the level attained in correlation and the size of the employed basis set, the  
32 observed discrepancy of 0.085 a.u. between theory and experiment can only be ascribed to the  
33 neglect of the influence of molecular vibrations. Indeed, at the CCSD(T) level, we note a decrease  
34 of the static polarizability from 13.05 to 12.99 a.u. when the basis set evolves from the d-aug-cc-  
35 pVDZ to the d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z ones. The latter CCSD(T)/ d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z value appears in turn to  
36 be extremely stable when pursuing our quest towards higher-levels in correlation, by means of a  
37 Focal Point Analysis in the CBS limit: note in particular that the CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z and  
38 estimated CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z values do not differ by more than  $\sim 0.033$  a.u. (maximal  
39 deviation), indicating convergence of static polarizabilities to the Full-CI/CBS limit within 0.22 %  
40 in relative accuracy.  
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2 In an adiabatic depiction, the  $\alpha_{zz}$  component of the static polarizability tensor of CO is found to  
3  
4 be rather sensitive to geometry relaxation effects, whereas purely electronic and structurally relaxed  
5  
6 values for the other two components of the tensor ( $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{yy}$ ) are virtually identical, within  $10^{-4}$  a.u.,  
7  
8 when using basis sets that incorporate doubly augmented sets of diffuse functions. This is to be  
9  
10 expected since the CO bond length does not change much when a field is applied in the  $x$ - and  $y$ -  
11  
12 directions, whereas the influence on the geometry is quite noticeable (of the order of  $0.5 \text{ m}\text{\AA}$ ) when  
13  
14 fields ranging from  $-0.9$  to  $0.9 \cdot 10^{-3}$  a.u. are applied in the  $z$ -direction (see Table 3). Also,  
15  
16 geometrical relaxation effects are found to result into small but detectable increases, of the order of  
17  
18  $2.4 \%$ , of the  $\alpha_{zz}$  component of the polarizability tensor.  
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### 26 **3.4 Nitrogen molecule ( $N_2$ ).**

27  
28 In contrast to carbon monoxide, a field applied along the longitudinal ( $z$ -) axis of this molecule has  
29  
30 an extremely limited influence on its geometry (Table 4). Unsurprisingly therefore, geometrical  
31  
32 relaxation in an adiabatic depiction has almost no influence on the static polarizability, see Table 5.  
33  
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35 The experimental value for the isotropic electronic polarizability  $\bar{\alpha}$  is  $11.739 \pm 0.005$  a.u. [46], to  
36  
37 compare with our best theoretical CCSDTQ(P)/d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z estimate of  $11.6734$  a.u. ( $0.5 \%$   
38  
39 accuracy). Again, this rather significant underestimation by  $0.07$  a.u. of the experimental value  
40  
41 cannot be ascribed to a deficiency in the treatment of correlation. Indeed, in straightforward analogy  
42  
43 with what was reported for CO, *decreases* by  $0.04$  to  $0.06$  a.u. are observed in all components of the  
44  
45 polarizability tensor when upgrading the model from CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pVQZ to CCSD(T)/d-aug-  
46  
47 cc-pV $\infty$ Z. Comparison with further results beyond the CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z level indicates  
48  
49 convergence within  $0.01$  a.u. ( $0.08\%$  relative accuracy) around the Full-CI/CBS limit.  
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### 56 **3.5 Fluoride molecule ( $F_2$ ).**

57  
58 Again, decreases by  $0.04$  to  $0.06$  a.u. are seen in all components of the polarizability tensor of  $F_2$   
59  
60 when upgrading the model from CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pVQZ to CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z (Table 6).

1  
2 The experimentally known value for the isotropic static polarizability of  $F_2$  amounts to  $8.27 \pm 0.17$   
3 a.u. [52], to compare with benchmark CBS values converging to  $8.32 \pm 0.01$  a.u. from the  
4 CCSD(T)/d-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z level and beyond, confirming once more that the Full-CI/CBS limit was  
5 almost reached, within  $\sim 0.12\%$ . Note that, as with  $N_2$  and CO, geometry relaxation in an adiabatic  
6 depiction of polarization processes has virtually no influence when the field is set perpendicular to  
7 the longitudinal axis, whereas some variations in the molecular response are seen when this axis  
8 coincides with the direction of the field.  
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### 21 **3.6 Hydrogen Fluoride (HF)**

22 For this notoriously difficult compound with regards to static electronic correlation, a  
23 comparison with higher-level FPA estimates (Table 7) indicates that CCSD(T) results have  
24 converged within  $10^{-2}$  a.u. (0.1 % accuracy) from the full-CI limit in a given basis set. Again,  
25 CCSD(T) and CCSDTQ(P) results are almost identical (0.0025 a.u. difference). Our best  
26 [CCSDTQ(P)/CBS] estimate for the  $a_{xx}$  and  $a_{zz}$  components of the electronic static polarizability  
27 tensor of HF amounts to 5.154 and 6.295 a.u., respectively, to compare with the CC3/d-aug-cc-  
28 pV5Z values of 5.19 a.u. and 6.33 a.u. published by Hald *et al* [53]. Values of 5.08 and 6.40 a.u.  
29 have been correspondingly obtained on the experimental side [54]. Note the poorer agreement in  
30 this case between the theoretical and experimental values, in particular for the longitudinal ( $a_{zz}$ )  
31 component, due to the neglect of the outcome of ground state vibrations (see further) in this  
32 strongly polarized system.  
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49 Whereas most calculations indicate convergence towards 5.15 and 6.30 a.u. in the full-CI/CBS  
50 limit, values of 4.287 and 6.210 a.u. have been reported by Larsen *et al* in [50] for the  $\alpha_{xx}$  and  $\alpha_{zz}$   
51 components of the static dipole polarizability tensor of HF at the Full-CI/aug-cc-pVDZ level. These  
52 values appear to be in quite strong disagreement with our best results as well as with the  
53 corresponding available experimental data (5.08 and 6.40 a.u [54]). As is immediately apparent  
54 from the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVXZ data reported in Table 7, this discrepancy is to be ascribed to the  
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1  
2 basis set employed by Larsen *et al* [50], which was far too small to enable highly quantitative  
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4 insight into electronic polarizabilities. Note in particular that our CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ and the  
5  
6 above Full-CI/aug-cc-pVDZ values by Larsen *et al* do not differ by more than 0.02 a.u. .  
7  
8

9 In the outlook of determinations of adiabatic polarizabilities by means of deflection experiments  
10  
11 in inhomogenous fields, it is at last interesting to note that structural relaxation would in this case  
12  
13 result into a significant increase of the  $\alpha_{zz}$  value by 0.17 a.u. ( $\sim +2.7\%$ ), due to a stretching of the  
14  
15 HF bond, whereas the  $\alpha_{xx}$  and  $\alpha_{yy}$  components remain essentially unchanged.  
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### 20 21 3.7 Water (H<sub>2</sub>O)

22  
23 The  $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{yy}$  and  $\alpha_{zz}$  components of the static polarizability tensor of water were experimentally  
24  
25 found [47] to be equal to 9.2, 9.7 and 9.5 a.u., to compare with benchmark CCSD(T)/CBS  
26  
27 electronic estimates of 9.18, 9.83, and 9.47 a.u., respectively (Table 8). Maroulis *et al* obtained  
28  
29 correspondingly values of 9.34, 9.93 and 9.58 a.u., upon applying the CCSD(T) level in conjunction  
30  
31 with a finite basis set consisting of 148 contracted Gaussian-type atomic functions [55] upon the  
32  
33 experimental equilibrium geometry. More recently, the CC3 approach along with a  
34  
35 (14s9p3df/8s4p3d) contracted basis set led for the same geometry to slightly different values, equal  
36  
37 to 9.36, 9.94 and 9.62 a.u., respectively [56]. A comparison of our CCSD(T)/CBS results with  
38  
39 higher-level FPA estimates up to the CCSDTQ(P)/CBS level indicates that these results have  
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41 converged within 1 to 1.5  $10^{-2}$  a.u. (0.1 to 0.15% accuracy) around the full-CI limit.  
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46 Geometrical relaxation effects are significant when the field is aligned onto the yz-plane  
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48 intersecting all atoms of this molecule, with the z-direction corresponding to the C<sub>2</sub> rotation axis.  
49  
50 The  $\alpha_{xx}$  component is basically insensitive to geometrical relaxation effects. In contrast, in  
51  
52 deflection experiments, geometrical relaxation effects would result into a very noticeable increase  
53  
54 of the  $\alpha_{yy}$  component, by  $\sim 22.7\%$  at the CCSD(T)/CBS level, due to significant displacements of  
55  
56 the two hydrogen atoms, resulting in concerted stretchings or shortenings of the two OH bonds, as  
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58 follows:  $r_{\text{OH1}} [\text{\AA}] = 0.754185 F_y + 0.956777$ ;  $r_{\text{OH2}} [\text{\AA}] = -0.754185 F_y + 0.956777$  ( $r^2=0.999930$ ),  
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1  
2 along with non-linear variations in the HOH bond angle. According to an adiabatic depiction, these  
3  
4 relaxation effects result also into a substantial increase of the  $\alpha_{zz}$  component, by 7.5 %, this time  
5  
6 mostly as a result of an opening (closure) of the HOH bond angle ( $\theta_{\text{HOH}} [^\circ] = -123.33 F_z + 104.566$   
7  
8 [ $r^2=0.999999$ ]), along with some stretching of the OH bond ( $r_{\text{OH}} [\text{\AA}] = 0.1152 F_z + 0.9568$   
9  
10 [ $r^2=0.999864$ ]) and improved (reduced) alignment therefore of the oxygen lone pairs with the field  
11  
12 when applying an homogeneous electric field towards the  $+z$  ( $-z$ ) direction [with the oxygen atom  
13  
14 intercepting the positive side of the  $z$ -axis].  
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### 21 **3.8 Hydrogen cyanide (HCN)**

22  
23 Merely because of the neglect of the increasing influence of ground state vibrations (see further),  
24  
25 the agreement between experiment and our best theoretical values rather significantly deteriorates  
26  
27 with this compound. Dion *et al* [57] report experimental values of 13.28 and 21.71 a.u. for the  $\alpha_{xx}$   
28  
29  $= \alpha_{yy}$  and  $\alpha_{zz}$  components of the static electronic polarizability tensor of HCN, to compare with  
30  
31 CCSDTQ(P)/aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z estimates equal to 13.85 and 22.10 a.u., respectively. Maroulis *et al*  
32  
33 obtained correspondingly 13.95 a.u. and 22.32 a.u. upon using CCSD(T) in conjunction with large  
34  
35 but finite basis sets [58]. Again, according to FPA estimates at higher-order in correlation, in  
36  
37 particular the most diverging CCSDT/aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z values, the CCSD(T)/CBS results may  
38  
39 nevertheless be regarded as having converged within 0.03 a.u. (0.01 % in relative accuracy) around  
40  
41 the Full-CI/CBS limit. The CCSD(T) and CCSDTQ(P) values are once more virtually identical,  
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43 within 0.003 a.u. (0.001 % relative accuracy).  
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50 It is worth noticing that, in experimental determinations of adiabatic polarizabilities based on  
51  
52 deflection of molecular beams in inhomogenous electric fields, structural relaxation would have a  
53  
54 slight but observable influence on the polarization of HCN when the field is aligned onto the  
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56 longitudinal axis ( $z$ -axis) of this molecule (Table 9).  
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### 3.9 Ethyne (HCCH).

From MP2 and beyond, unlike the other compounds so far, and whatever the employed basis set, all theoretical treatments of electron correlation give rise to highly similar values for all components of the polarizability tensor, within a margin of 0.3 a.u. (Figure 5). Comparison of the CCSD(T)/CBS results with higher CC levels by virtue of a Focal Point Analysis indicates convergence of the theoretical electronic polarizability values within 0.02 a.u. accuracy around the Full-CI/CBS limit (Table 10). At the CCSDTQ(T)/aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z level, the isotropic static electronic polarizability of HCCH (22.476 a.u.) is thus at first glance in a most deceiving agreement with the experimentally known value of 22.96 a.u. [59]. In view of the convergence properties of polarizability values with respect to the employed basis sets and order attained in correlation, the underestimation by  $\sim 0.5$  a.u. of the experimental isotropic value is thus most certainly the outcome of the neglect of molecular vibrations (see further).

Note again that in an adiabatic depiction, geometrical relaxation effects have some sizable influence on the inferred polarizabilities when the field is aligned along the longitudinal axis ( $z$ ) of the molecule (Table 10).

### 3.10 Ethylene (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>)

Whereas our best FPA [CCSDTQ/CBS] estimates indicate an electronic isotropic static polarizability around  $26.65 \pm 0.02$  a.u. for ethylene (Table 11), values ranging from 27.70 a.u. [51] to 27.82 a.u. [60] are known on the experimental side. This rather large discrepancy (more than 1 a.u.) between theory and experiment is certainly not due to a deficiency in our treatment of correlation, but must again be ascribed to an enhancement of the polarizability by vibrations in the ground state (see further). Indeed, a comparison with higher-level FPA estimates for the individual components of the electronic static polarizability tensor indicates that CCSD(T) results have converged within 1 to  $1.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$  a.u. (0.04 to 0.06 % accuracy) from the full-CI/CBS limit. Our best [CCSDTQ/CBS] estimates for  $a_{xx}$ ,  $a_{yy}$  and  $a_{zz}$  amount to 21.65, 24.59 and 33.72 a.u., to compare

with CC3/t-aug-cc-pVTZ values equal to 21.93, 24.88 and 34.04 a.u., respectively [53]. The latter values systematically exceed our FPA estimates by 0.2 to 0.3 a.u., essentially because of differences in the employed geometries (the latter CC3 data are indeed based on a high-quality and so-called [61] empirical equilibrium geometry obtained from a combination of experimental rotational constants and CCSD(T)/cc-pVQZ theoretical estimates for vibration-rotation interaction constants).

With regards to experimental determinations of adiabatically relaxed (i.e. on a long time scale) values of the polarizabilities in deflection experiments, it is worth noticing that this time, geometrical relaxation has the strongest influence upon the polarization when the field is aligned along the  $x$ -axis, i.e. perpendicular to the plane of the molecule. This is to be ascribed to a rather strong curvature of the molecule, in the form of an out-of-plane displacement (along the  $x$ -axis) of the hydrogen atoms, which can be quantified as follows:  $\Delta x(\text{\AA}) = 2.4406 F_x [r^2=1.000]$ . The  $\alpha_{yy}$  or  $\alpha_{zz}$  components of the polarizability tensor associated with polarization in plane and perpendicular or parallel to the C=C bond are in contrast almost insensitive to geometrical relaxation effects. All in all, structural relaxation effects in such experiments would result into an increase of the effective polarizability by 1 a.u., which seems comparable to the outcome of vibrations in the ground state (see further).

### 3.11 Ethane (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>).

At the CCSD(T) level, components of the electronic polarizability tensor of ethane in its all-staggered (D<sub>3d</sub>) conformation are quite sensitive to the basis set (Table 12): decreases by ~0.1 a.u. are seen in all components of the tensor when running through the aug-cc-pVXZ series (X=T, Q, 5,  $\infty$ ). Comparison with higher levels in the CBS limit indicates convergence of polarizabilities within 0.03 a.u. (0.1 % relative accuracy) around the Full-CI/CBS values.

In deflection beam experiments, geometrical relaxation would have no significant influence on the polarizability when the electric field is applied along the C-C bond ( $z$ -axis). In straightforward analogy with ethylene, geometrical relaxation has a stronger influence on the  $\alpha_{xx}$  and  $\alpha_{yy}$

1  
2 components of the adiabatic polarizability tensor, due to a change in the relative alignment of the C-  
3  
4 H bonds with respect to the  $x$ - and  $y$  axes when a field is applied in these directions.  
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### 8 9 **3.12 Vibrational corrections to electronic polarizabilities**

10  
11 Empirical contributions of molecular vibrations at 298K to *electronic* polarizabilities of all target  
12 systems are supplied in Table 13, according to a thermal average resorting to Born-Oppenheimer  
13 dynamical simulations at the  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-pVDZ ( $C_2H_6$ ) or  $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-pVTZ level, along  
14 with calculations at the same level of analytic energy gradients and straightforward evaluation  
15 therefore of polarizabilities at each computed point in the BOMD trajectories. The latter corrections  
16 are compared with vibrationally averaged results that have been published for a few diatomic ( $N_2$ ,  
17 CO, HF) [62] or triatomic species ( $H_2O$ ) [56], according to a spline integration or Gauss-Hermite  
18 quadrature over the lowest vibrational quantized state of the (electronic) polarizability function.  
19 Although quantum-mechanical and BOMD averages rely on altogether rather different physical  
20 grounds, the trends that emerge from the comparison are more than consistent. The larger mobility  
21 of the hydrogen atoms results in particular into a clear enhancement of the vibrational correction in  
22 systems like HF, HCN or  $H_2O$ . It is also clear that this vibrational correction increases rapidly with  
23 system size. In the  $C_2H_{2n}$  series ( $n=1-3$ ), each additional hydrogen atom results very roughly into an  
24 increase of the vibrational polarizability correction by  $\sim 0.25$  a.u. Quite remarkably, adding these  
25 BOMD corrections to our best FPA estimates of the equilibrium electronic polarisabilities (see  
26 values in bold in Tables 2, 5-12) enables us to reproduce for *all* target systems the available  
27 experimental isotropic values [47, 51, 52, 59, 63, 64, 65] within  $\sim 0.1$  to  $\sim 0.2$  a.u. absolute accuracy  
28 (i.e. within 1 to 2 % in relative accuracies).  
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### 54 55 56 **3.13 Ultimate remarks**

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58 Electronic polarizability and energy results obtained at the HF/(d)-aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z level using the 2-  
59 point extrapolation formula by Karton and Martin [31] are displayed in Table 14, and compared  
60

1  
2 with results obtained using Feller's 3-point extrapolation formula. Although extrapolated HF  
3  
4 energies are slightly different in the CBS limit, the 2- and 3-point energy extrapolation formula give  
5  
6 virtually identical results for the ultimately inferred polarizabilities (within 0.0000 to 0.0024 a.u.).  
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9 When extrapolating results obtained using basis sets up to the aug-cc-pV5Z one, the 3-point Feller's  
10  
11 approach seems more reliable, an observation that is in line with conclusions drawn by Karton and  
12  
13  
14 Martin [31].  
15

#### 16 17 18 19 **4. Conclusions**

20  
21 Estimating the second derivative of the energy with respect to applied electric fields according to  
22  
23 the principles of a Focal Point Analysis has enabled us to calculate the electric static polarizability  
24  
25 tensor and related isotropic polarizabilities of a variety of molecules at the level of CCSDTQ(P) [or  
26  
27 CCSDTQ] theory in conjunction with asymptotically complete basis sets. The obtained values are  
28  
29 almost insensitive to the cardinal number characterizing the employed Dunning's correlation  
30  
31 consistent polarized valence basis sets when these include double sets of diffuse functions.  
32  
33 Compared with results obtained at lower levels in correlation (MP2, MP3, MP4SDQ, CCSD),  
34  
35 perturbative triple excitations at the CCSD(T) level are found in general to have a quite significant  
36  
37 influence, and to result into noticeable increases of electronic polarizabilities (by up to ~0.2 a.u.).  
38  
39  
40 Nevertheless, the CCSD(T) level was found to provide a very viable approach for highly  
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42 quantitative computations of electronic polarizabilities, most often within ~0.1% in relative  
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44 accuracy compared with much higher-level CC treatments that appear to have practically converged  
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46 to the Full-CI limit. The main residual source of errors in our analysis pertains to the influence of  
47  
48 thermally induced ro-vibrational motions in the electronic ground state, which has been more  
49  
50 empirically evaluated on the grounds of classical trajectory simulations employing Born-  
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52 Oppenheimer Molecular Dynamics (BOMD) along with Density Functional Theory and a  
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54 dispersion corrected exchange correlation functional. Adding such BOMD estimates for the  
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60 vibrational contributions enables us to ultimately reproduce the experimental isotropic electronic

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2 polarizabilities of all chosen targets within 1 to 2 % accuracy, a most respectable achievement  
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4 which makes us believe that the physics embodied in experimental determinations of static  
5  
6 polarizabilities through e.g. refraction measurements has been correctly grasped.  
7

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9 Comparison has been made with so-called adiabatic polarizability values, accounting for the  
10  
11 relaxation of clamped nuclei configurations in the framework of the Born-Oppenheimer  
12  
13 approximation, in the outlook of long-time scale polarization experiments. Structural relaxation  
14  
15 effects were found occasionally to result into an increase of static polarizabilities by a few %. Such  
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17 effects should be in particular detectable in experimental determinations of the polarizability of  
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19 water and ethylene based on beam deflection in inhomogeneous electric fields.  
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**Table 1:** Polarizability of neon at the CCSD(T) level of theory, and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

Method/Basis	cc-pVXZ	aug-cc-pVXZ	d-aug-cc-pVXZ
CCSD(T)/X=T	1.0303	2.4183	2.6858
CCSD(T)/X=Q	1.5151	2.5900	2.6743
CCSD(T)/X=5	1.8553	2.6382	2.6641
CCSD(T)/X=6	2.1309	2.6500	2.6630
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	2.1255	2.6624	2.6532
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^b$	2.2569	2.6561	2.6648
CCSDT <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^b$	2.2567	2.6564	2.6652
CCSDT(Q) <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^b$	2.2569	2.6566	2.6656
CCSDTQ <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^b$	2.2569	2.6564	2.6654
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>f</sup> /X= $\infty^b$	2.2568	2.6563	<b>2.6645</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=T,Q,5;

b: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6 ;

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVTZ}] - E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVTZ}]$ .

d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVTZ}] - E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVTZ}]$ .

e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVDZ}] - E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVDZ}]$ .

f: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[\text{CCSDTQ}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVDZ}] - E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-}(\text{aug})\text{-cc-pVDZ}]$

**Table 2:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx} = \alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of CO at the CCSD(T) level, and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	11.8587	11.8580	11.8518	11.8580
CCSD(T)/X=5	11.8454	11.8403	11.8286	11.8403
CCSD(T)/X=6	11.8226	11.8266	11.8254	11.8266
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	11.7771	11.8045	11.8253	11.8045
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.8171	11.7959
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.8372	11.8165
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.8419	11.8114
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.8430	<b>11.8122</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	15.8420	15.8320	15.4336	15.4266
CCSD(T)/X=5	15.7475	15.7585	15.3913	15.3970
CCSD(T)/X=6	15.7422	15.7439	15.3818	15.3800
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	15.7677	15.7416	15.3783	15.3557
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			15.3558	15.3327
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			15.4111	15.3884
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			15.4004	15.3778
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			15.4117	<b>15.3891</b>

$\bar{\alpha}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	13.1865	13.1826	13.0457	13.0475
CCSD(T)/X=5	13.1461	13.1464	13.0161	13.0259
CCSD(T)/X=6	13.1291	13.1324	13.0109	13.0111
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	13.1073	13.1169	13.0096	12.9882
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			12.9967	12.9748
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			13.0285	13.0072
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			13.0214	13.0002
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			13.0259	<b>13.0045</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6 ;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] +$

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2  $E[(\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})].$

3 c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
4  $E[(\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})].$

5 d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
6  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})].$

7 e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
8  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$   
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**Table 3:** Evolution of the internuclear distance in the CO molecule (in Å) in function of the applied external field (CCSD(T) results)

		aug-cc-pV5Z	d-aug-cc-pV5Z
$F_x$ ( $F_y = F_z = 0$ )	0.0000	1.1273395	1.1272168
	0.0003	1.1273395	1.1272168
	0.0009	1.1273399	1.1272168
$F_z$ ( $F_y = F_x = 0$ )	0.0009	1.1270821	1.1269593
	0.0003	1.1272532	1.1271304
	0.0000	1.1273395	1.1272168
	-0.0003	1.1274262	1.1273034
	-0.0009	1.1276011	1.1274783

**Table 4:** Evolution of the internuclear distance in the N<sub>2</sub> molecule (in Å) in function of the applied external field (CCSD(T) results)

		aug-cc-pV5Z	d-aug-cc-pV5Z
$F_x$ ( $F_y = F_z = 0$ )	0.0000	1.0967346	1.0965869
	0.0003	1.0967346	1.0965870
	0.0009	1.0967351	1.0965874
$F_z$ ( $F_y = F_x = 0$ )	0.0000	1.0967346	1.0965869
	0.0003	1.0967347	1.0965871
	0.0009	1.0967361	1.0965884

**Table 5:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx} = \alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of  $N_2$  at the CCSD(T) level, and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	10.2023	10.2050	10.1920	10.1934
CCSD(T)/X=5	10.1727	10.1724	10.1730	10.1726
CCSD(T)/X=6	10.1633	10.1635	10.1641	10.1635
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	10.1570	10.1570	10.1547	10.1520
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			10.1516	10.1476
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			10.1661	10.1617
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			10.1610	10.1577
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			10.1631	<b>10.1593</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	14.7928	14.8021	14.7632	14.7687
CCSD(T)/X=5	14.7341	14.7359	14.7348	14.7366
CCSD(T)/X=6	14.7244	14.7251	14.7266	14.7250
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	14.7234	14.7276	14.7173	14.7126
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			14.7461	14.7397
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			14.7052	14.6993
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			14.7091	14.7027
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			14.7079	<b>14.7014</b>

$\bar{\alpha}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	11.7324	11.7374	11.7157	11.7185
CCSD(T)/X=5	11.6932	11.6936	11.6936	11.6939
CCSD(T)/X=6	11.6837	11.6840	11.6849	11.6840
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	11.6791	11.6805	11.6756	11.6722
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.6831	11.6783
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.6791	11.6742
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.6772	11.6727
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			11.6782	<b>11.6734</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6 ;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] +$



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2  $E[(\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})].$

3 c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
4  $E[(\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})].$

5 d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
6  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})].$

7 e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
8  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$   
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**Table 6:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx} = \alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of  $F_2$  at the CCSD(T) level and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	6.3111	6.3890	6.3111	6.3890
CCSD(T)/X=5	6.3352	6.3716	6.3352	6.3716
CCSD(T)/X=6	6.3427	6.3600	6.3427	6.3600
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	6.3441	6.3465	6.3441	6.3432
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			6.3450	6.3460
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			6.3626	6.3697
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			6.3593	<b>6.3636</b>
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			6.3604	–

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	12.2501	12.3264	12.2285	12.3048
CCSD(T)/X=5	12.2754	12.2842	12.2467	12.2842
CCSD(T)/X=6	12.2538	12.2680	12.2669	12.2761
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	12.1937	12.2492	12.2955	12.2659
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			12.3352	12.3030
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			12.2374	12.2088
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			12.2523	<b>12.2254</b>
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			12.2508	–

$\bar{\alpha}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	8.2908	8.3682	8.2836	8.3610
CCSD(T)/X=5	8.3153	8.3424	8.3057	8.3425
CCSD(T)/X=6	8.3131	8.3293	8.3174	8.3320
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	8.2940	8.3118	8.3279	8.3174
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			8.3417	8.3316
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			8.3208	8.3161
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			8.3237	<b>8.3176</b>
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			8.3239	–

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6 ;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] +$

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$E[(\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .

e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDTQ}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$

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**Table 7:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx} = \alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) of HF at the CCSD(T) level and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=D	-	-	4.2762	-
CCSD(T)/X=T	-	-	4.8708	-
CCSD(T)/X=Q	5.0669	5.1888	5.0669	5.1888
CCSD(T)/X=5	5.1159	5.1680	5.1159	5.1680
CCSD(T)/X=6	5.1366	5.1600	5.1366	5.1600
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	5.1473	5.1516	5.1473	5.1516
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	5.1499	5.1541
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	5.1546	5.1601
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	5.1529	5.1574
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	<b>5.1512</b>	<b>5.1541</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=D	-	-	6.1890	-
CCSD(T)/X=T	-	-	6.2968	-
CCSD(T)/X=Q	6.4729	6.4872	6.3011	6.3141
CCSD(T)/X=5	6.4627	6.4687	6.2940	6.2996
CCSD(T)/X=6	6.4622	6.4642	6.2917	6.2947
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	6.4630	6.4617	6.2882	6.2903
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	6.2912	6.2931
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	6.2986	6.3007
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	6.2963	6.2982
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$	-	-	<b>6.2936</b>	<b>6.2951</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6 ;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}) + E[(\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(Q)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}) + E[(\text{CCSDT(Q)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}) + E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .

e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(P)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}) + E[(\text{CCSDTQ(P)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$

**Table 8:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of H<sub>2</sub>O at the CCSD(T) level and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	9.1440	9.2514	9.1402	9.2470
CCSD(T)/X=5	9.1689	9.2147	9.1702	9.2149
CCSD(T)/X=6	9.1842	9.2048	9.1820	9.2015
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	9.1966	9.1988	9.1851	9.1862
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.1865	
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.2082	
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.2009	
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			<b>9.1977</b>	

$\alpha_{yy}$	adiabatic		Electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	12.1351	12.1373	9.8553	9.8648
CCSD(T)/X=5	12.0807	12.0885	9.8392	9.8444
CCSD(T)/X=6	12.0806	12.0748	9.8323	9.8378
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	12.0980	12.0642	9.8223	9.8320
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.8245	
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.8380	
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.8345	
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			<b>9.8320</b>	

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic		electronic	
	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ	aug-cc-pVxZ	d-aug-cc-pVxZ
CCSD(T)/X=Q	10.1828	10.2608	9.4417	9.5189
CCSD(T)/X=5	10.1992	10.2356	9.4654	9.4965
CCSD(T)/X=6	10.2235	10.2391	9.4707	9.4880
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	10.2629	10.2559	9.4677	9.4786
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.4681	
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.4852	
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			9.4814	
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$			<b>9.4786</b>	

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})]=E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}) + E[(\text{CCSDT}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVTZ})) - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{d-aug-cc-pVTZ}))]]$ .

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2 c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
3  $E[(\text{CCSDT}(\text{Q})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

4 d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
5  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .

6 e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
7  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pVDZ})]$   
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**Table 9:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx} = \alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) of HCN at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVXZ levels and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	13.9242	13.8968
CCSD(T)/X=5	13.8706	13.8701
CCSD(T)/X=6	13.8626	13.8593
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	13.8656	13.8474
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		13.8402
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		13.8486
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		13.8486
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>13.8478</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	22.3881	22.1616
CCSD(T)/X=5	22.2740	22.1245
CCSD(T)/X=6	22.2799	22.1109
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	22.3355	22.0974
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		22.1279
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		22.1055
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		22.1051
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>22.1006</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] + E[(\text{CCSDT}/(\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})) - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})]]$ .

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(Q)}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] + E[(\text{CCSDT(Q)}/(\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})) - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{aug-cc-pVTZ}))]]$ .

d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] + E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/(\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})) - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{aug-cc-pVDZ}))]]$ .

e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ(P)}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/(\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z})] + E[(\text{CCSDTQ(P)}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})]$

**Table 10:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx} = \alpha_{yy}, \alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of HCCH at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVXZ level and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	18.6473	18.6167
CCSD(T)/X=5	18.5910	18.5930
CCSD(T)/X=6	18.6051	18.5942
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	18.6584	18.6100
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		18.6039
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		18.5931
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		18.5968
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>18.5936</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	30.5701	30.2771
CCSD(T)/X=5	30.4241	30.2364
CCSD(T)/X=6	30.4753	30.2403
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	30.6327	30.2563
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		30.2993
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		30.2484
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		30.2496
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>30.2393</b>

$\bar{\alpha}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	22.6216	22.5035
CCSD(T)/X=5	22.5354	22.4742
CCSD(T)/X=6	22.5618	22.4762
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	22.6498	22.4906
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		22.5024
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		22.4782
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		22.4811
CCSDTQ(P) <sup>e</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>22.4755</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(Q)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT(Q)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .



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2 e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(P)/(d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z)}]=E[\text{CCSD(T)/(d-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z)} +$   
3  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ(P)/(d-aug-cc-pVDZ)})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)/(d-aug-cc-pVDZ)})]$   
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**Table 11:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub> at the CCSD(T) level and beyond (FPA results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	24.3243	21.7471
CCSD(T)/X=5	24.2920	21.7040
CCSD(T)/X=6	24.2482	21.6793
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	24.1796	21.6531
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		21.6476
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		21.6417
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>21.6455</b>

$\alpha_{yy}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	24.7594	24.5897
CCSD(T)/X=5	24.6405	24.5980
CCSD(T)/X=6	24.7031	24.5949
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	24.8703	24.5742
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		24.5729
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		24.5898
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>24.5892</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	34.0078	33.7563
CCSD(T)/X=5	33.8718	33.7271
CCSD(T)/X=6	33.8832	33.7191
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	33.9565	33.7087
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		33.7544
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		33.7142
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>33.7167</b>

$\bar{\alpha}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=Q	27.6972	26.6977
CCSD(T)/X=5	27.6014	26.6764
CCSD(T)/X=6	27.6115	26.6644
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	27.6688	26.6453
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		26.6583
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		26.6486
CCSDTQ <sup>d</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>26.6505</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=Q,5,6;

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(Q)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT(Q)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVTZ})]$ .

d: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDTQ}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDTQ}/\text{aug-cc-}$

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2 pVDZ] –  $E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .

3 e: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}(\text{P})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{d})\text{-aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] +$   
4  $E[(\text{CCSDTQ}(\text{P})/(\text{aug-cc-pVDZ}))] - E[(\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/(\text{aug-cc-pVDZ}))]$   
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**Table 12:** Polarizability tensor ( $\alpha_{xx}$ ,  $\alpha_{yy}$ ,  $\alpha_{zz}$ ) and isotropic polarizability ( $\bar{\alpha}$ ) of  $C_2H_6$  (CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVXZ results; all values are in a.u.)

$\alpha_{xx}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=T	26.8834	26.7436
CCSD(T)/X=Q	27.0664	26.6922
CCSD(T)/X=5	27.3082	26.6744
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	27.6162	26.6586
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		26.6693
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>26.6801</b>

$\alpha_{yy}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=T	26.8868	26.7436
CCSD(T)/X=Q	27.0636	26.6922
CCSD(T)/X=5	27.3002	26.6744
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	27.6022	26.6585
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		26.6691
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>26.6800</b>

$\alpha_{zz}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=T	30.6695	30.5032
CCSD(T)/X=Q	30.6121	30.4456
CCSD(T)/X=5	30.6050	30.4173
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	30.6097	30.3902
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		30.3994
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>30.4165</b>

$\bar{\alpha}$	adiabatic	electronic
CCSD(T)/X=T	28.1465	27.9968
CCSD(T)/X=Q	28.2474	27.9433
CCSD(T)/X=5	28.4045	27.9220
CCSD(T)/X= $\infty^a$	28.6093	27.9024
CCSDT <sup>b</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		27.9126
CCSDT(Q) <sup>c</sup> /X= $\infty^a$		<b>27.9256</b>

a: 3-point extrapolation employing X=T,Q,5

b: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .

c: FPA estimate, using  $E[\text{CCSDT(Q)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] = E[\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pV}\infty\text{Z}] + E[(\text{CCSDT(Q)}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})] - E[(\text{CCSD(T)}/\text{aug-cc-pVDZ})]$ .

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**Table 13:** Comparison of Born-Oppenheimer Molecular Dynamical Estimates of thermally averaged electronic isotropic polarizabilities ( $\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle$ ) with equilibrium ( $\bar{\alpha}_e$ ) and experimental values (all results are in a.u.)

	$\bar{\alpha}_e$ (FPA result)	$\bar{\alpha}_e$ ( $\omega$ B97XD <sup>a</sup> )	$\Delta t$ (fs) <sup>c</sup>	$\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle_{BOMD}$ <sup>d</sup>	$\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle_{BOMD} - \bar{\alpha}_e$ ( $\omega$ B97XD)	$\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle_{ZPV} - \bar{\alpha}_e$	$\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle_{FPA}$ <sup>h</sup>	Exp
CO	13.00	13.13	5862	13.16	0.03	0.05 <sup>i</sup>	13.03	13.09 <sup>i</sup>
N <sub>2</sub>	11.67	11.85	5835	11.88	0.03	0.05 <sup>i</sup>	11.70	11.74 <sup>j</sup>
F <sub>2</sub>	8.32	8.16	7051	8.20	0.04	-	8.36	8.27 <sup>k</sup>
HF	5.53	5.55	1962	5.62	0.07	0.10 <sup>f</sup>	5.60	5.60 <sup>l</sup>
H <sub>2</sub> O	9.50	9.65	3441	9.87	0.22	0.31 <sup>g</sup>	9.72	9.47 <sup>m</sup> 9.92 <sup>n</sup>
HCN	16.60	16.97	4020	17.18	0.21	-	16.81	16.09 <sup>o</sup> 16.74 <sup>p</sup>
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	22.48	23.32	2079	23.82	0.50	-	22.98	22.96 <sup>q</sup>
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	26.65	27.71	1718	28.63	0.92	-	27.57	27.70 <sup>r</sup> 27.82 <sup>s</sup>
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub>	27.93	29.04 <sup>b</sup>	3361	30.54 <sup>e</sup>	1.50	-	29.43	-

a: Results obtained using the aug-cc-pVTZ basis set.

b: Results obtained using the aug-cc-pVDZ basis set.

c: run time of BOMD simulations.

d: BOMD// $\omega$ B97XD/ aug-cc-pVTZ simulations at 298K.

e: BOMD// $\omega$ B97XD/aug-cc-pVDZ simulations at 298K.

f: CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVQZ zero-point vibrational corrections to  $\bar{\alpha}$  by O. Christiansen *et al* in ref. 62 (according to an average of the polarizability tensor by means of a spline integration over the lowest vibrational quantized state).

g: CCSD/aug-cc-pV $\infty$ Z zero-point vibrational corrections to  $\bar{\alpha}$  by G. Avila in ref. 56 (according to an average of the polarizability tensor by means of a Gauss-Hermite quadrature over the lowest vibrational quantized state).

h: final estimate of vibrationally averaged isotropic values of electronic static dipole polarizabilities, based on the FPA values for  $\bar{\alpha}_e$  and BOMD// $\omega$ B97XD results for the vibrational correction, i.e.  $\langle \bar{\alpha} \rangle_{BOMD} - \bar{\alpha}_e$ .

i: Reference 51.

j: Reference 51.

k: Reference 52.

l: value extrapolated from refractive index in ref. 10a.

m: Reference 47.

n: Dynamic value (514.5 nm) by Murphy [63].

o: Reference 59.

p: Reference 64.

q: Reference 59.

r: Reference 51.

s: Reference 65.

**Table 14:** Comparison of static dipole electronic polarizabilities obtained in the HF/(d)-aug/ccPV $\infty$ Z limits using Karton-Martin modification of Jensen's formula versus results obtained using the original Feller's formula.

	Largest basis set used in the extrapolation	Karton-Martin's extrapolation	Feller's extrapolation	Polarizability Difference <sup>a</sup>	Extrapolated energy difference <sup>b</sup>
Ne	aug-cc-pV6Z	2.3708	2.3712	0.0003	29226.7
Ne	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	2.3763	2.3763	0.0000	29150.4
N <sub>2</sub> ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	9.8243	9.8243	0.0001	11031.4
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	9.8232	9.8232	0.0000	11183.6
N <sub>2</sub> ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	15.0073	15.0075	0.0002	
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	15.0042	15.0043	0.0001	
F <sub>2</sub> ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	5.5524	5.5524	0.0000	38530.9
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	5.5563	5.5563	0.0000	36584.1
F <sub>2</sub> ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	14.5361	14.5359	0.0002	
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	14.5280	14.5281	0.0001	
CO ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	11.2674	11.2676	0.0001	13949.7
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	11.2677	11.2677	0.0000	13487.5
CO ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	14.4505	14.4506	0.0001	
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	14.4486	14.4486	0.0000	
HF ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	4.4479	4.4778	0.0001	19246.5
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	4.4861	4.4862	0.0000	18964.5
HF ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	5.7451	5.7451	0.0000	
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	5.7461	5.7461	0.0000	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	19.3535	19.3535	0.0001	6940.9
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	31.3553	31.3559	0.0006	
HCN ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	13.8721	13.8721	0.0000	8815.5
HCN ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	22.4123	22.4124	0.0000	
H <sub>2</sub> O ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	7.8914	7.8915	0.0001	12156.2
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	7.8975	7.8975	0.0000	12079.2
H <sub>2</sub> O ( $\alpha_{yy}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	9.1718	9.1719	0.0001	
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	9.1742	9.1742	0.0000	
H <sub>2</sub> O ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	8.5104	8.5104	0.0000	
	d-aug-cc-pV6Z	8.5173	8.5173	0.0000	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	22.7491	22.7485	0.0005	7745.7
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( $\alpha_{yy}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	24.4088	22.4097	0.0009	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV6Z	36.3603	36.3606	0.0004	
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ( $\alpha_{xx}$ )	aug-cc-pV5Z	26.1518	26.1522	0.0004	-209736.5
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> ( $\alpha_{zz}$ )	aug-cc-pV5Z	29.4553	29.4529	0.0024	

a: in atomic units

b:  $E^{\text{HF}}/\text{CBS}[\text{Feller}] - E^{\text{HF}}/\text{CBS}[\text{Karton-Martin}]$  at zero field; values provided in nH.

## Figure Captions.

**Figure 1.** Evolution of the static polarizability of Neon as a function of the theoretical level attained in the treatment of electron correlation: (a) cc-pVXZ results; (b) aug-cc-pVXZ results; (c) d-aug-cc-pVXZ results.

**Figure 2.** Evolution of the (purely electronic, i.e. unrelaxed) static polarizability tensor of Carbon Monoxide (CO) as a function of the theoretical level attained in the treatment of electron correlation (results obtained using the d-aug-cc-pVXZ basis sets): (a)  $\alpha_{xx}=\alpha_{yy}$ ; (b)  $\alpha_{zz}$ .

**Figure 3.** Evolution of the (purely electronic, i.e. unrelaxed) static polarizability tensor of the Nitrogen molecule ( $N_2$ ) as a function of the theoretical level attained in the treatment of electron correlation (results obtained using the d-aug-cc-pVXZ basis sets): (a)  $\alpha_{xx}=\alpha_{yy}$ ; (b)  $\alpha_{zz}$ .

**Figure 4.** Evolution of the (purely electronic, i.e. unrelaxed) static polarizability tensor of water ( $H_2O$ ) as a function of the theoretical level attained in the treatment of electron correlation (results obtained using the d-aug-cc-pVXZ basis sets): (a)  $\alpha_{xx}$ ; (b)  $\alpha_{yy}$ ; (c)  $\alpha_{zz}$ .

**Figure 5.** Evolution of the (purely electronic, i.e. unrelaxed) static polarizability tensor of acetylene ( $C_2H_2$ ) as a function of the theoretical level attained in the treatment of electron correlation (results obtained using the d-aug-cc-pVXZ basis sets): (a)  $\alpha_{xx}=\alpha_{yy}$ ; (b)  $\alpha_{zz}$ .

**Figure 6.** Evolution of the (purely electronic, i.e. unrelaxed) static polarizability tensor of ethylene ( $C_2H_4$ ) as a function of the theoretical level attained in the treatment of electron correlation (results obtained using the d-aug-cc-pVXZ basis sets): (a)  $\alpha_{xx}=\alpha_{yy}$ ; (b)  $\alpha_{zz}$ .

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