

# **Supplementary Material**

## **Infrared Spectra and Phototransformations of *meta*-Fluorophenol Isolated in Argon and Nitrogen Matrices**

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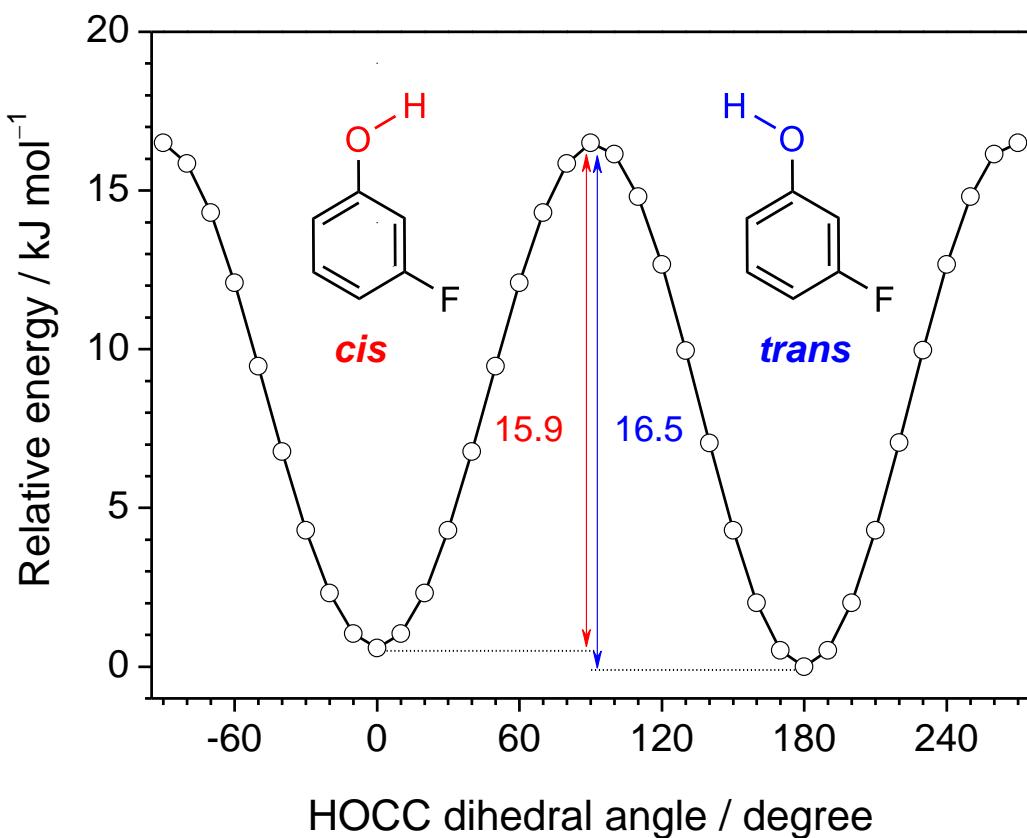
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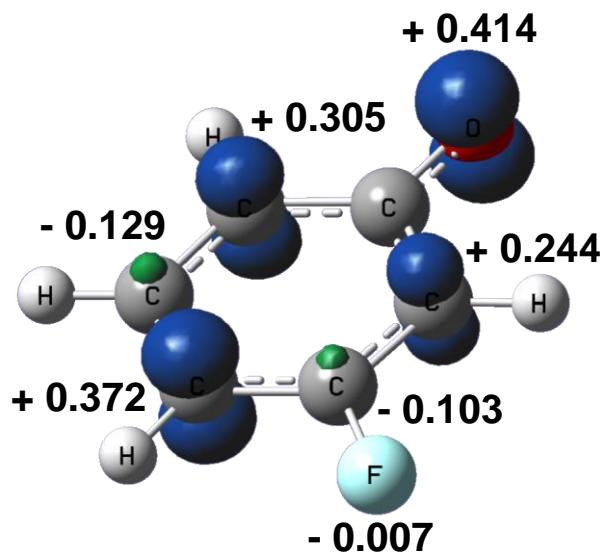
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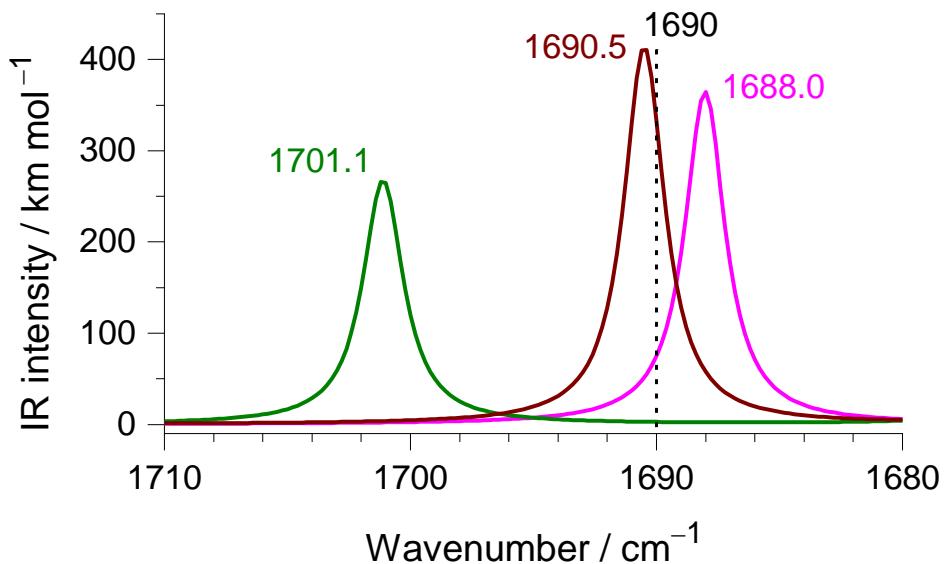
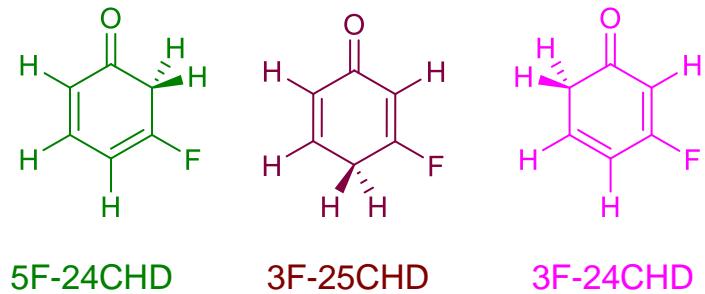
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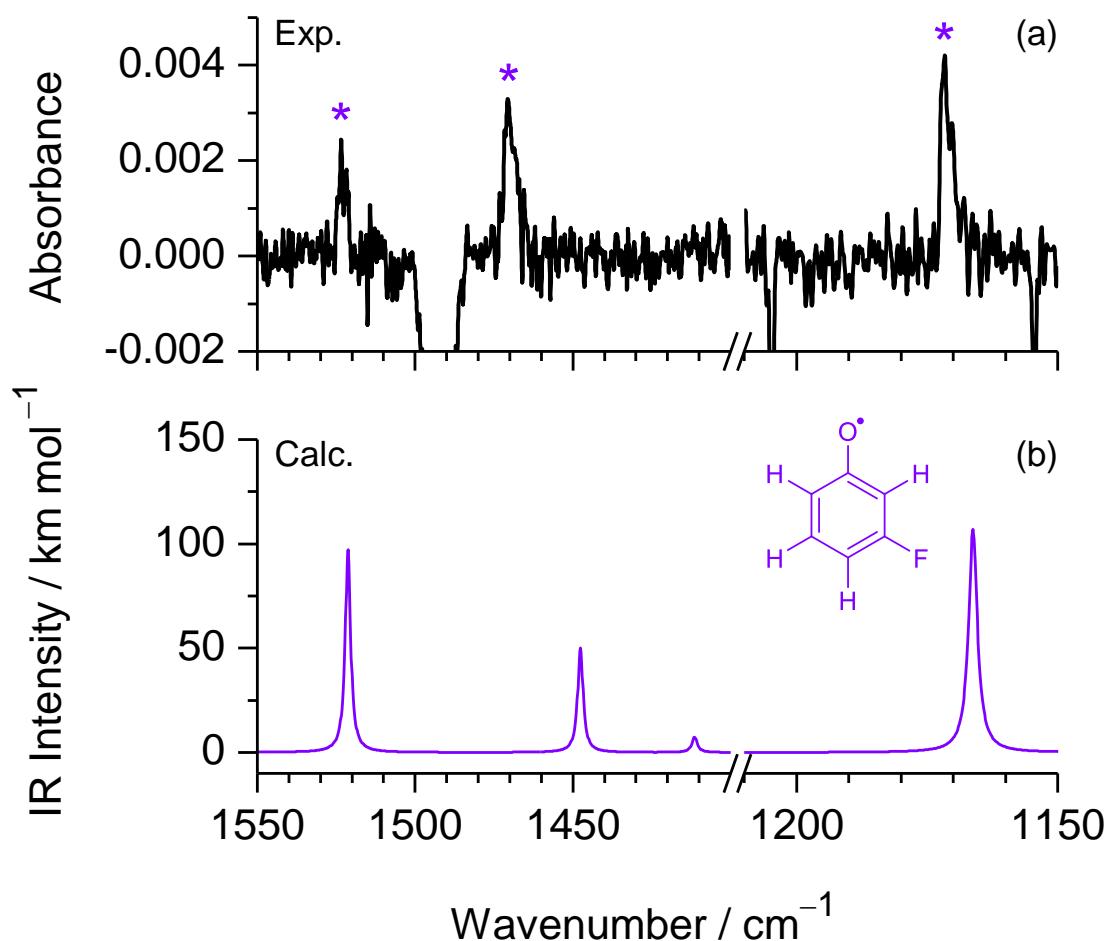
**Figure S1.** Relaxed potential energy scan calculated for *meta*-fluorophenol (*m*FP) as function of the internal rotation of the O–H group. The HOCC torsional angle was incrementally fixed in steps of 10° from −90° to +270° while all the remaining internal coordinates were optimized at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory. The values of *cis*-to-*trans* (red) and *trans*-to-*cis* (blue) isomerization barriers, calculated at the same level, are also included.



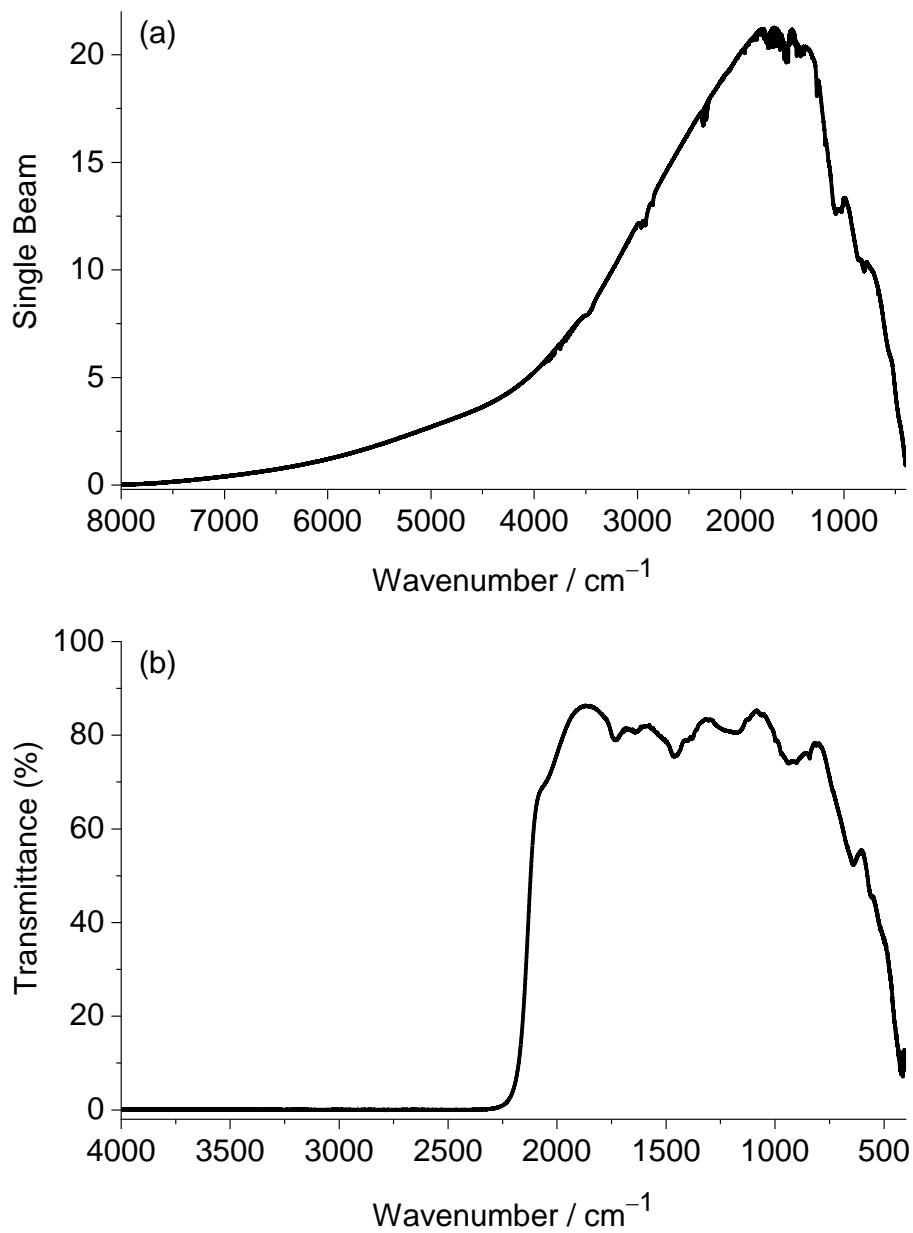
**Figure S2.** Spin density isosurface (isovalue = 0.015) generated for the *meta*-fluoro phenoxy radical (blue indicates positive and green indicates negative spin densities), including the values of the natural spin densities calculated for the heavy atoms by means of a Natural Bond Orbital analysis carried out at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level of theory.



**Figure S3.** Spectra simulated for the experimentally relevant isomeric forms of fluorosubstituted cyclohexadienones (5F-24CHD, 5-fluorocyclohexa-2,4-dien-1-one; 3F-25CHD, 3-fluorocyclohexa-2,5-dien-1-one; 3F-24CHD, 3-fluorocyclohexa-2,4-dien-1-one; structures represented in the top row) in the 1710–1680 cm<sup>-1</sup> region, showing the bands corresponding to the C=O stretching vibration ( $\nu_{\text{C=O}}$ ). The vertical dotted line corresponds to the experimental position of the photoproduct band observed in the spectrum of *m*FP isolated in solid Ar, after irradiating the sample at  $\lambda = 270$  nm (See Figure 6 of the main text).



**Figure S4.** Spectral indication of the photogeneration of the *meta*-fluorophenoxy radical. (a) Difference IR spectrum, obtained as the spectrum recorded after 2 min of UV-irradiation of the Ar/*m*FP matrix at  $\lambda = 270$  nm minus the spectrum recorded before the irradiation at this wavelength (positive bands are due to the photoproduct(s) that appear upon the irradiation while the negative ones are due to the consumed *m*FP reactant). (b) B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ simulated IR spectrum of the *m*FP $^{\bullet}$  radical.

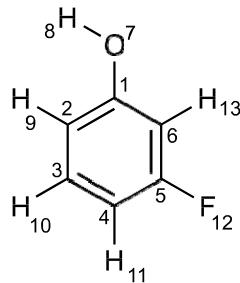


**Figure S5.** (a) Single beam spectrum recorded with the spectrometer Globar light source; (b) transmittance spectrum of the long-pass filter used in this work (transmission cut-off value at  $\sim 2200\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ).

**Table S1.** Cartesian Coordinates ( $\text{\AA}$ ) for the *cis* and *trans* conformers of *meta*-fluorophenol (*mFP*) optimized at different levels of theory

B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ						
	<i>cis</i>			<i>trans</i>		
C	1.196846	0.294599	0.000000	1.191506	0.299609	0.000000
C	1.187526	-1.098795	0.000000	1.173614	-1.093903	0.000000
C	-0.024698	-1.772669	0.000000	-0.043501	-1.764562	0.000000
C	-1.235299	-1.085007	0.000000	-1.245852	-1.068457	0.000000
C	-1.187215	0.295678	0.000000	-1.187457	0.315000	0.000000
C	0.000000	1.007138	0.000000	0.000000	1.020141	0.000000
O	2.412115	0.916431	0.000000	2.350487	1.020936	0.000000
H	2.295810	1.871641	0.000000	3.106079	0.424992	0.000000
H	2.127409	-1.631065	0.000000	2.103653	-1.648423	0.000000
H	-0.029763	-2.853934	0.000000	-0.053914	-2.845732	0.000000
H	-2.186696	-1.595047	0.000000	-2.201174	-1.571068	0.000000
F	-2.345035	0.993608	0.000000	-2.343800	1.014005	0.000000
H	-0.021323	2.088823	0.000000	0.005799	2.099730	0.000000
MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ						
	<i>cis</i>			<i>trans</i>		
C	1.197319	0.295560	0.000000	1.192335	0.300436	0.000000
C	1.189173	-1.098248	0.000000	1.176989	-1.093810	0.000000
C	-0.025250	-1.775813	0.000000	-0.041557	-1.768858	0.000000
C	-1.237438	-1.086164	0.000000	-1.246450	-1.071333	0.000000
C	-1.189691	0.296921	0.000000	-1.189709	0.314016	0.000000
C	0.000000	1.008915	0.000000	0.000000	1.020754	0.000000
O	2.416237	0.914840	0.000000	2.349049	1.029336	0.000000
H	2.282880	1.869576	0.000000	3.097197	0.421259	0.000000
H	2.130905	-1.628526	0.000000	2.108387	-1.646886	0.000000
H	-0.029398	-2.857397	0.000000	-0.050552	-2.850401	0.000000
H	-2.190062	-1.594797	0.000000	-2.202433	-1.573612	0.000000
F	-2.345099	0.994918	0.000000	-2.344444	1.011853	0.000000
H	-0.023005	2.091146	0.000000	0.005354	2.101055	0.000000
QCISD/aug-cc-pVDZ						
	<i>cis</i>			<i>trans</i>		
C	1.206307	0.299316	0.000000	1.202012	0.302894	0.000000
C	1.202245	-1.108314	0.000000	1.190361	-1.104014	0.000000
C	-0.023584	-1.791164	0.000000	-0.041228	-1.784207	0.000000
C	-1.250160	-1.097011	0.000000	-1.259003	-1.082592	0.000000
C	-1.197475	0.297541	0.000000	-1.196814	0.315675	0.000000
C	0.000000	1.022282	0.000000	0.000000	1.033817	0.000000
O	2.435405	0.922652	0.000000	2.367877	1.037674	0.000000
H	2.306675	1.879072	0.000000	3.119759	0.432674	0.000000
H	2.154558	-1.643860	0.000000	2.131728	-1.663416	0.000000
H	-0.027610	-2.885256	0.000000	-0.049871	-2.878232	0.000000
H	-2.212331	-1.613012	0.000000	-2.224908	-1.591598	0.000000
F	-2.367298	1.003332	0.000000	-2.366423	1.020467	0.000000
H	-0.022844	2.115950	0.000000	0.006119	2.125523	0.000000

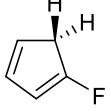
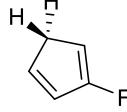
**Table S2.** Definition of the internal coordinates used in the normal mode analysis of *meta*-fluorophenol (*m*FP).



Coordinate	Definition	Approximate description
S <sub>1</sub>	$(6^{-1/2}) (r_{1,2} + r_{2,3} + r_{3,4} + r_{4,5} + r_{5,6} + r_{6,1})$	v <sub>a</sub> CC
S <sub>2</sub>	$(12^{-1/2}) (2r_{1,2} - r_{2,3} - r_{3,4} + 2r_{4,5} - r_{5,6} - r_{6,1})$	v <sub>b</sub> CC
S <sub>3</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (r_{2,3} - r_{3,4} + r_{5,6} - r_{6,1})$	v <sub>c</sub> CC
S <sub>4</sub>	$(12^{-1/2}) (2r_{1,2} + r_{2,3} - r_{3,4} - 2r_{4,5} - r_{5,6} + r_{6,1})$	v <sub>d</sub> CC
S <sub>5</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (r_{2,3} + r_{3,4} - r_{5,6} - r_{6,1})$	v <sub>e</sub> CC
S <sub>6</sub>	$(6^{-1/2}) (r_{1,2} - r_{2,3} + r_{3,4} - r_{4,5} + r_{5,6} - r_{6,1})$	v <sub>f</sub> CC
S <sub>7</sub>	$r_{1,7}$	vCO
S <sub>8</sub>	$r_{2,9}$	vC2H
S <sub>9</sub>	$r_{3,10}$	vC3H
S <sub>10</sub>	$r_{4,11}$	vC4H
S <sub>11</sub>	$r_{5,12}$	vC5F
S <sub>12</sub>	$r_{6,13}$	vC6H
S <sub>13</sub>	$r_{7,8}$	vOH
S <sub>14</sub>	$\beta_{8,1,7}$	$\delta$ OH
S <sub>15</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\beta_{7,6,1} - \beta_{7,2,1} + \beta_{12,4,5} - \beta_{12,6,5})$	$\delta$ CO + $\delta$ CF
S <sub>16</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\beta_{7,6,1} - \beta_{7,2,1} - \beta_{12,4,5} + \beta_{12,6,5})$	$\delta$ CO - $\delta$ CF
S <sub>17</sub>	$(2^{-1/2}) (\beta_{10,2,3} - \beta_{10,4,3})$	$\delta$ C3H
S <sub>18</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\beta_{9,1,2} - \beta_{9,3,2} + \beta_{11,3,4} - \beta_{11,5,4})$	$\delta$ C2H + $\delta$ C4H
S <sub>19</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\beta_{9,1,2} - \beta_{9,3,2} - \beta_{11,3,4} + \beta_{11,5,4})$	$\delta$ C2H - $\delta$ C4H
S <sub>20</sub>	$(2^{-1/2}) (\beta_{13,5,6} - \beta_{13,1,6})$	$\delta$ C6H
S <sub>21</sub>	$(6^{-1/2}) (\beta_{6,2,1} - \beta_{1,3,2} + \beta_{2,4,3} - \beta_{3,5,4} + \beta_{4,6,5} - \beta_{5,1,6})$	$\delta$ <sub>a</sub> R
S <sub>22</sub>	$(12^{-1/2}) (2\beta_{6,2,1} - \beta_{1,3,2} - \beta_{2,4,3} + 2\beta_{3,5,4} - \beta_{4,6,5} - \beta_{5,1,6})$	$\delta$ <sub>b</sub> R
S <sub>23</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\beta_{1,3,2} - \beta_{2,4,3} + \beta_{4,6,5} - \beta_{5,1,6})$	$\delta$ <sub>c</sub> R
S <sub>24</sub>	$(6^{-1/2}) (\tau_{4,3,2,1} - \tau_{5,4,3,2} + \tau_{6,5,4,3} - \tau_{1,6,5,4} + \tau_{2,1,6,5} - \tau_{3,2,1,6})$	$\tau$ <sub>a</sub> R
S <sub>25</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\tau_{5,4,3,2} - \tau_{6,5,4,3} + \tau_{2,1,6,5} - \tau_{3,2,1,6})$	$\tau$ <sub>b</sub> R
S <sub>26</sub>	$(12^{-1/2}) (-\tau_{3,2,1,6} + 2\tau_{4,3,2,1} - \tau_{5,4,3,2} - \tau_{6,5,4,3} + 2\tau_{1,6,5,4} - \tau_{2,1,6,5})$	$\tau$ <sub>c</sub> R
S <sub>27</sub>	$(2^{-1/2}) (\tau_{8,7,1,6} + \tau_{8,7,1,2})$	$\tau$ OH
S <sub>28</sub>	$\gamma_{7,6,1,2}$	$\gamma$ CO
S <sub>29</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\gamma_{9,1,2,3} + \gamma_{10,2,3,4} + \gamma_{11,3,4,5} + \gamma_{13,5,6,1})$	$\gamma$ <sub>a</sub> CH
S <sub>30</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\gamma_{9,1,2,3} + \gamma_{10,2,3,4} - \gamma_{11,3,4,5} - \gamma_{13,5,6,1})$	$\gamma$ <sub>b</sub> CH
S <sub>31</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\gamma_{9,1,2,3} - \gamma_{10,2,3,4} + \gamma_{11,3,4,5} - \gamma_{13,5,6,1})$	$\gamma$ <sub>c</sub> CH
S <sub>32</sub>	$\gamma_{12,4,5,6}$	$\gamma$ CF
S <sub>33</sub>	$(4^{-1/2}) (\gamma_{9,1,2,3} - \gamma_{10,2,3,4} - \gamma_{11,3,4,5} + \gamma_{13,5,6,1})$	$\gamma$ <sub>d</sub> CH

Abbreviations: v – stretching,  $\delta$  – in-plane bending,  $\gamma$  – out-of-plane bending,  $\tau$  – torsion, R – ring. See figure above for the atom numbering;  $r_{i,j}$  is the distance between atoms A<sub>i</sub> and A<sub>j</sub>;  $\beta_{i,j,k}$  is the angle between vectors A<sub>k</sub>A<sub>i</sub> and A<sub>k</sub>A<sub>j</sub>;  $\tau_{i,j,k,l}$  is the dihedral angle between the plane defined by A<sub>i</sub>, A<sub>j</sub>, A<sub>k</sub> and the plane defined by A<sub>j</sub>, A<sub>k</sub>, A<sub>l</sub> atoms;  $\gamma_{i,j,k,l}$  is the angle between the vector A<sub>k</sub>A<sub>i</sub> and the plane defined by atoms A<sub>j</sub>, A<sub>k</sub>, A<sub>l</sub>. The combinations [(+), (+)] and [(+), (-)] denote in-phase and in-opposite-phase couplings between coordinates of different types.

**Table S3.** Wavenumbers ( $\tilde{\nu}$  /  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) and IR intensities ( $I$ /  $\text{km mol}^{-1}$ ) extracted from B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ harmonic vibrational calculations carried out for fluorinated cyclopentadienes on geometries optimized at the same level.<sup>a</sup>

 1-fluorocyclopana-1,3-diene		 2-fluorocyclopana-1,3-diene	
$\tilde{\nu}$	$I$	$\tilde{\nu}$	$I$
3168.5	0.7	3177.6	0.8
3162.5	8.1	3165.1	3.8
3135.7	7.4	3144.7	2.0
2992.7	2.8	2974.6	5.3
2966.8	4.9	2954.8	9.8
<b>1640.0</b>	<b>88.7</b>	<b>1641.1</b>	<b>94.0</b>
<b>1546.5</b>	<b>53.1</b>	1543.2	10.9
1392.8	18.3	1390.9	4.7
1358.7	39.6	<b>1376.1</b>	<b>67.2</b>
<b>1299.6</b>	<b>59.3</b>	1261.9	34.2
1232.9	7.7	1228.8	11.3
1179.1	25.5	<b>1205.5</b>	<b>52.3</b>
1104.2	0.6	1109.7	0.3
1102.6	0.8	1068.7	6.7
980.0	2.6	975.5	10.0
940.3	0.8	937.5	0.1
936.5	12.5	923.2	28.8
901.8	14.1	903.8	6.1
894.8	15.4	902.6	26.5
850.7	21.7	793.8	2.4
794.1	5.9	<b>768.2</b>	<b>41.5</b>
<b>670.3</b>	<b>50.1</b>	675.4	3.1
606.8	24.8	608.9	12.4
494.7	1.7	594.4	22.6
392.1	3.3	400.5	1.3
389.5	8.2	373.8	3.1
255.0	1.3	258.7	1.6

<sup>a</sup> Wavenumbers were scaled by 0.980. The most intense modes, with computed IR intensities over 40  $\text{km mol}^{-1}$ , are highlighted in bold.

**Table S4.** Energetic and vibrational data calculated at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level for the different structures of the open-ring ketenes 3-fluorohexa-1,3,5-trien-1-one (3F-HT) and 5-fluorohexa-1,3,5-trien-1-one (5F-HT).<sup>a</sup>

Structure	$\Delta E_0$ / kJ mol <sup>-1</sup>	$\nu_{as}(C=C=O)$ / cm <sup>-1</sup>	$I$ / km mol <sup>-1</sup>
<b>3F-HT</b>			
	8.77	2150.3	1448.6
	11.50	2152.7	1397.8
	19.96	2147.7	768.7
	25.82	2151.5	1271.0
<b>5F-HT</b>			
	0.00 <sup>b</sup>	2136.7	1535.8
	6.17	2134.1	1555.7
	16.03	2134.6	984.3
	17.06	2138.0	1339.3

<sup>a</sup>  $\Delta E_0$  = Relative zero-point corrected energies. Wavenumbers were scaled by 0.974 (obtained for this spectral range in our recent work, see Ref. [56]). <sup>b</sup> Most stable open-ring ketene isomer among those presented here. The absolute zero-point corrected energy of this isomer, computed at the B3LYP/aug-cc-pVTZ level is equal to -406.716449 hartree.