

Supporting Information:

Photochemical Activation of Carbon Dioxide in $\text{Mg}^+(\text{CO}_2)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0,1}$

Tobias F. Pascher, Erik Barwa, Christian van der Linde, Martin K. Beyer*, Milan Ončák*

*Institut für Ionenphysik und Angewandte Physik, Universität Innsbruck, Technikerstraße 25, 6020
Innsbruck, Austria*

* E-mail: martin.beyer@uibk.ac.at; milan.oncak@uibk.ac.at

Experimental Methods

The experiments were performed on a modified 4.7 T FT-ICR Bruker/Spektrospin CMS47X mass spectrometer[1–3] equipped with a Bruker infinity cell[4] and an external laser vaporization source.[5–7] The ions are irradiated within the ICR cell cooled to liquid nitrogen temperature ($T \approx 80$ K) [8] under ultra-high vacuum conditions ($\sim 10^{-10}$ mbar) by UV-VIS photons from a tunable Ekspla NT342B OPO laser system calibrated with an Ocean Optics USB2000+ spectrometer. The experimental procedure involving Mg is described in more detail in Ref. [9]. The cross section is calculated as described previously within Ref. [10, 11] in arbitrary units. A correction factor has been applied at 410 nm to account for the changing laser beam alignment and beam profile upon switching from the signal to the sum frequency generation stage of the OPO system.

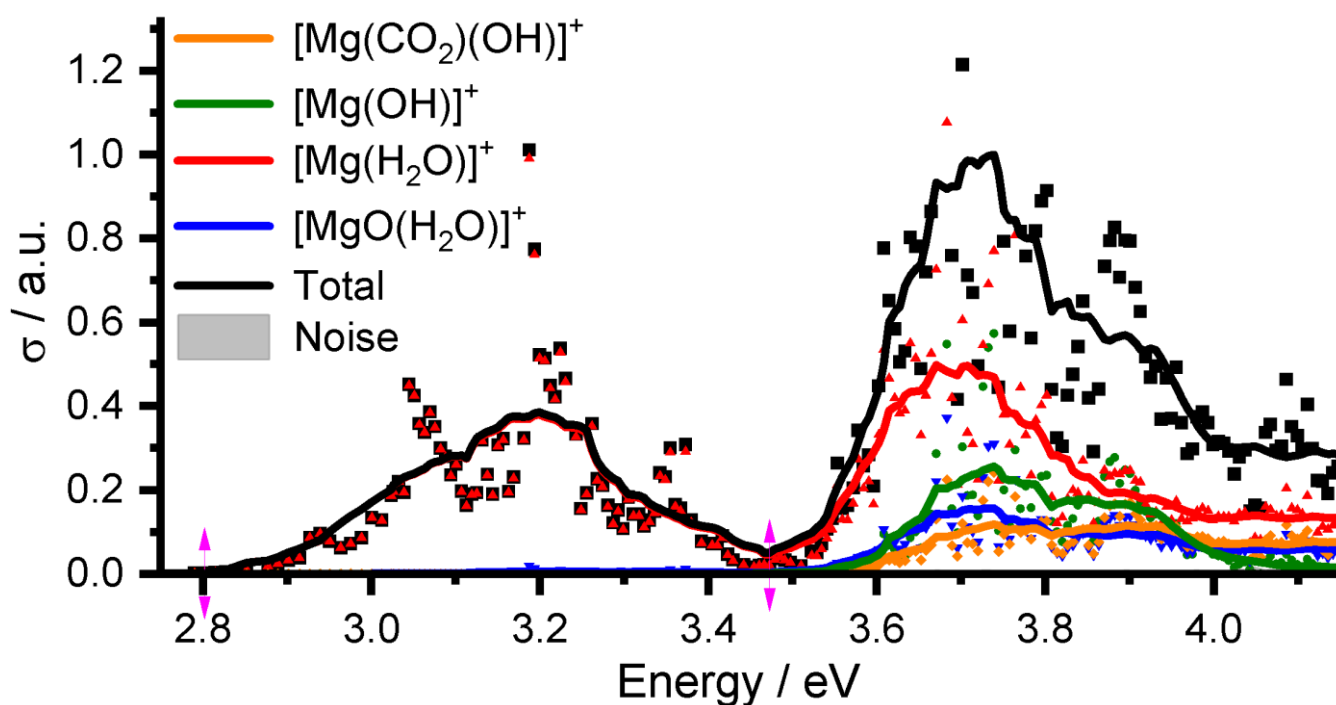


Figure S1. Photodissociation spectrum of $[\text{Mg}(\text{CO}_2)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^+$ along with decomposition into fragmentation channels using a running average of 20. Here, clusters were excited by a doubled amount of pulses (20) along with an ~ 2.5 – 3 times higher laser power in comparison to Figure 1b.

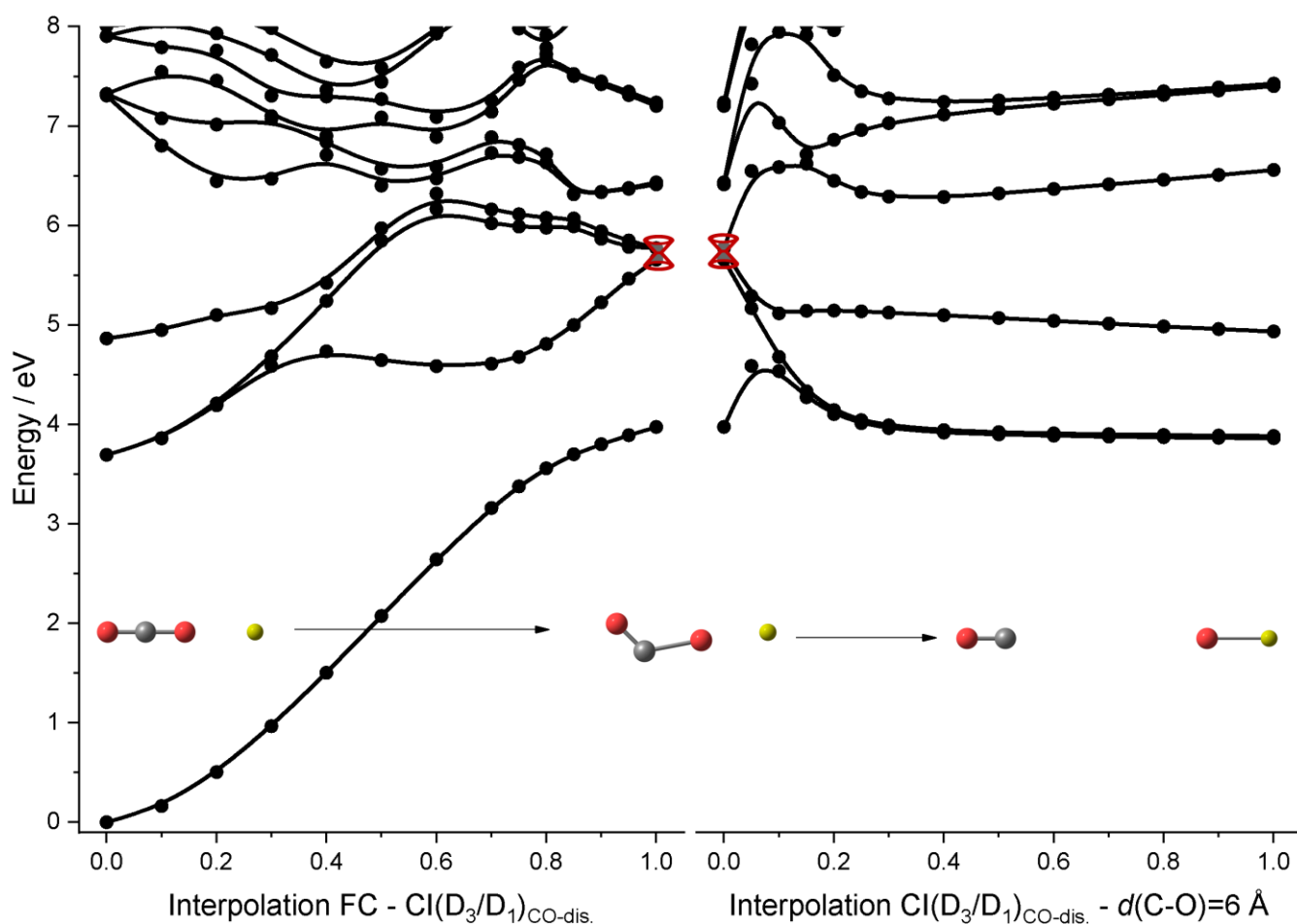


Figure S2. Interpolation for $[\text{Mg}(\text{CO}_2)]^+$ at the EOM-CCSD/def2TZVP level of theory between the FC point and the CI ($D_1/D_2/D_3$) allowing access to the charge transfer towards to the ground states of $[\text{MgO}]^+$ after the CO dissociation, left, and interpolation between the CI towards the dissociation of CO with a fixed $[\text{MgO}]^+\text{-CO}$ bond distance $d(\text{C-O})$ of 6 Å. The FC point and $[\text{MgO}]^+\text{-CO}$ structure are obtained at the CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ level of theory while the CI are obtained employing EOM-CCSD/def2TZVP as optimization on the CASSCF level of theory would require too large active space. For the CI optimization at the EOM-CCSD level of theory, the optimization starts to oscillate around the CI. Therefore, a reduced convergence criterion of $<2.0 \times 10^{-8}$ Hartree in predicted energy change was used. The obtained points are b-splined to guide the eye.

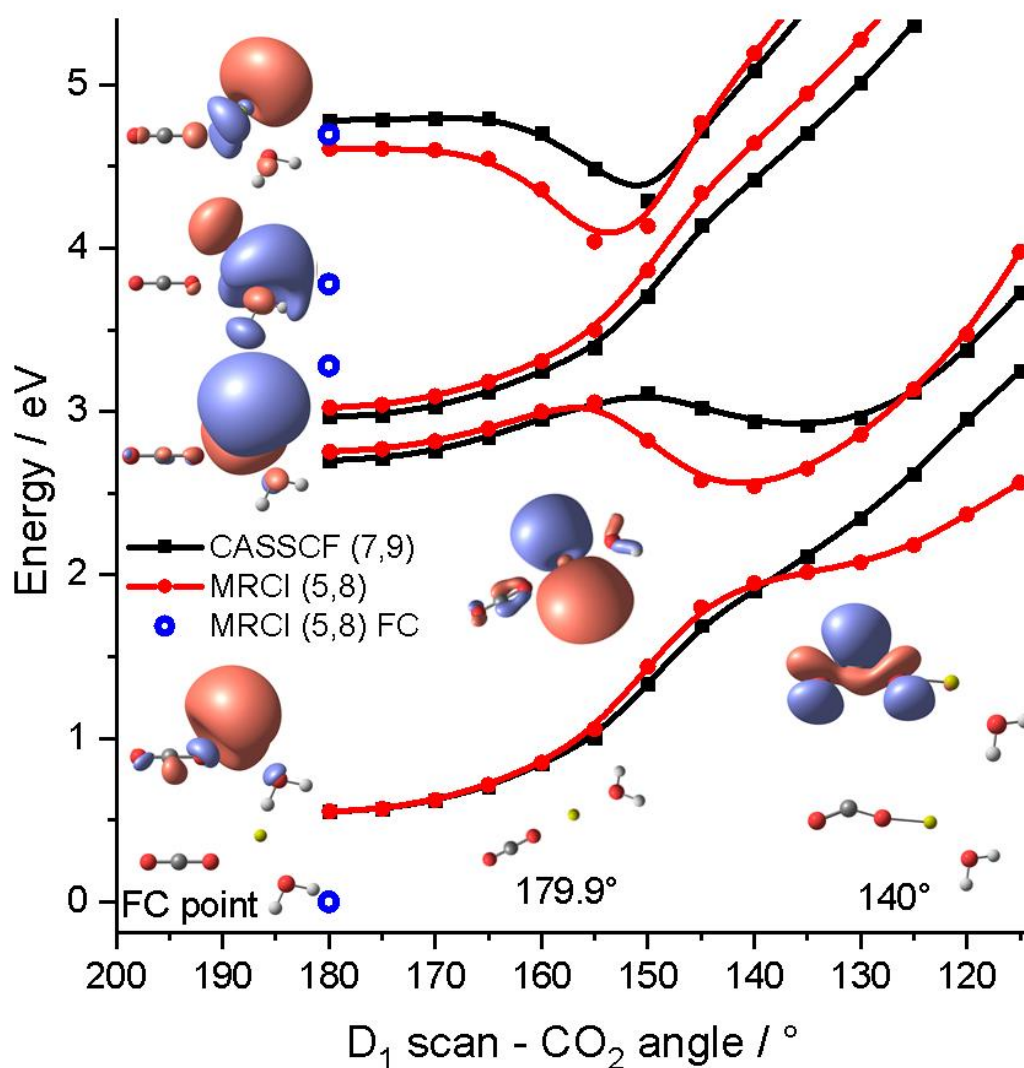


Figure S3. Relaxed PES scan of the CO₂ angle in [Mg(CO₂)(H₂O)]⁺ for D₁ at the CASSCF(7,9)/def2-TZVP and MRCI(5,8)//CASSCF(7,9)/def2-TZVP. FC point excitation energies are given at the MRCI(5,8)/def2-TZVP//CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ level of theory. The structures and the most important orbitals according to CI coefficients of the ground state and respective optimized state are shown for selected points.

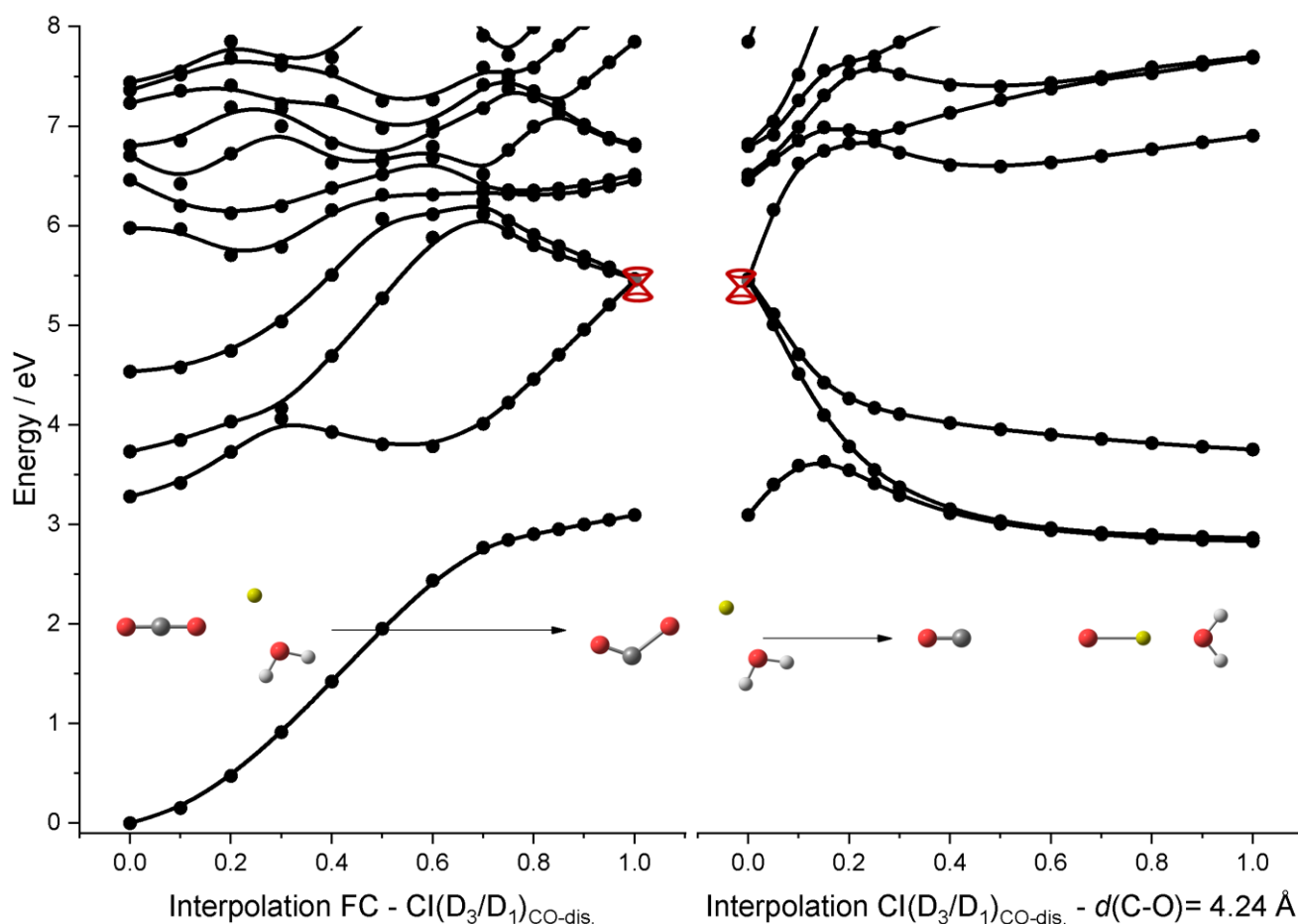


Figure S4. Interpolation for $[\text{Mg}(\text{CO}_2)(\text{H}_2\text{O})]^+$ at the EOM-CCSD/def2TZVP level of theory between the FC point and the $\text{CI}(\text{D}_3/\text{D}_2/\text{D}_1)$ allowing access to the charge transfer towards the ground states of $[\text{Mg}(\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{O}]^+$ after the CO dissociation, left, and interpolation between the CI towards the dissociation of CO at a $[\text{Mg}(\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{O}]^+ \text{-CO}$ bond distance $d(\text{C-O})$ of 4.24 Å. The FC point and $[\text{Mg}(\text{H}_2\text{O})\text{O}]^+ \text{-CO}$ structure are obtained at the CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ level of theory while the CI is obtained on the EOM-CCSD/def2TZVP as optimization on the CASSCF level of theory would too large active space. For the CI optimization at the EOM-CCSD level of theory, the optimization starts to oscillate around the CI. Therefore, a reduced convergence criterion of $<1.0 \times 10^{-7}$ Hartree in predicted energy change was used. The obtained points are b-splined to guide the eye. Note that a similar CI exists with a flipped CO_2 bending angle. However, it lies about 0.15 eV higher in energy. (Optimized via steepest decent at a reduced convergence criterion of $<5.0 \times 10^{-9}$ Hartree.)

Literature

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Cartesian coordinates (in Å) and electronic energies (in Hartree) including zero-point energy as optimized at the noted level of theory

CCSD/aug-cc-pVDZ

CO
E=-113.056365
C 0.000000 0.000000 -0.070249
O 0.000000 0.000000 1.070249

CO2
E=-188.152791
O 0.000000 0.000000 -1.170558
C 0.000000 0.000000 0.000000
O 0.000000 0.000000 1.170558

H2O
E=-76.247185
O 0.000000 -0.000000 0.120253
H 0.000000 0.760867 -0.471862
H -0.000000 -0.760867 -0.471862

H
E=-0.499334
H 0.000000 0.000000 2.142747

Mg(CO2)+
E=-387.541714
C 3.239614 0.000000 0.000000
O 4.388057 0.000000 0.000000
O 2.047728 0.000000 0.000000
Mg -0.075399 0.000000 0.000000

Mg+
E=-199.364918
Mg 0.000000 0.000000 2.142747

Mg(CO2)(H2O)+
E=-463.829436
C 1.745228 -0.145243 0.000000
O 0.556017 -0.092720 0.000000
O 2.894736 -0.205902 0.000000
Mg -1.325799 1.057718 0.000000
O -2.247589 -0.807593 0.000000
H -1.825338 -1.678605 0.000000
H -3.202425 -0.968014 0.000000

Mg(CO2)(OH)+
E=-463.250563
C 1.949039 -0.001799 -0.001799
O 3.092293 -0.038139 -0.038139
O 0.755518 0.037088 0.037088
Mg -1.238631 0.070164 0.070164
O -2.978362 -0.012812 -0.012812
H -3.898922 0.161498 0.161498

Mg(H2O)+
E=-275.659083
Mg 1.000519 0.000000 0.000000
O -1.075283 -0.000000 -0.000000
H -1.660567 0.773275 -0.000000
H -1.660567 -0.773275 0.000000

MgO+

E=-274.319201
Mg 0.000000 0.000000 2.295695
O 0.000000 0.000000 0.547052

MgO(H2O)+
E=-350.680865
O -2.068806 0.000000 0.000000
Mg -0.216880 0.000000 0.000000
O 1.784850 -0.000000 -0.000000
H 2.370555 -0.773613 -0.000000
H 2.370555 0.773613 0.000000

Mg(OH)+
E=-275.045620
Mg 0.008291 0.008291 0.759400
O -0.047845 -0.047845 -0.984923
H 0.289554 0.289554 -1.814125

MgO+ – CO fixed $d(\text{C-O}) = 6 \text{ Å}$
o 0.000000 0.000000 -5.049550
c 0.000000 0.000000 -3.909885
o 0.000000 0.000000 2.090115
mg 0.000000 0.000000 3.934647

Mg(H2O)O+ – CO $d(\text{C-O}) = 4.24 \text{ Å}$
O -0.000000 -0.000000 0.198267
Mg -0.000000 -0.000000 2.049848
O -0.000000 -0.000000 4.053108
H -0.000000 0.773671 4.638671
H -0.000000 -0.773671 4.638671
C 0.000000 0.000000 -4.037703
O 0.000000 0.000000 -5.177570

EOM-CCSD/def2TZVP

Mg(CO2)+ CI(D3/D2/D1) Figure S2

o	-1.097598	-2.018563	0.0
c	-1.249987	-0.894514	0.0
o	0.0	0.231682	0.0
mg	1.356726	1.638511	0.0

Mg(CO2)(H2O)+ CI(D3/D2/D1) Figure S4

c	1.538708	1.253379	0.0
o	0.0	0.689341	0.0
mg	-1.514376	-0.590922	0.0
o	-0.58022	-2.389213	0.0
o	1.770666	2.368348	0.0
h	0.381304	-2.500387	0.0
h	-0.964611	-3.276624	0.0

CASSCF(7,9)/def2TZVP

H 0.7758862002 0.0072106554 -3.6962255845

Mg(CO₂)(H₂O)+ Cl(D3/D2) Figure 3c

C -0.3512288897 1.9440763214 0.0000001505
O -0.0852915628 0.7936905344 0.0000033605
O -0.5570689901 3.0451397090 -0.0000028583
Mg -0.3476283942 -1.1393470956 0.0000011078
O 1.2819455510 -2.2466720313 -0.0000003052
H 2.1755047788 -1.9293871093 0.0000013618
H 1.2939355071 -3.1945593285 -0.0000028171

Mg(CO₂)(H₂O)+ Cl(D2/D1) Figure 3d

C 0.0000009726 0.0519723928 -1.9556227537
O -0.0000023828 -0.0289248408 -0.7926382396
O 0.0000007925 0.1320501469 -3.0757475066
Mg 0.0000002670 -0.3044044325 1.1715547882
O 0.0000003985 0.2669551648 3.0986782137
H -0.0000019120 1.1581458720 3.4217322133
H 0.0000027995 -0.3116234251 3.8497367851

Mg(CO₂)+ D1 bent CO₂ minimum in MRCI Figure 2a $\alpha(\text{O-C-O})$ fixed at 130°

C 0.0000000000 0.4013635838 -1.1020224189
O 0.0000000000 0.0400410212 0.1129374492
Mg 0.0000000000 -0.0642100489 1.8388556841
O 0.0000000000 -0.2438082104 -2.0790734374

Mg(CO₂)+ D1 linear CO₂ minimum

C 0.0000000000 0.0000000000 -1.1239248668
O 0.0000000000 0.0000000000 0.0465125852
Mg 0.0000000000 0.0000000000 2.0021473543
O 0.0000000000 0.0000000000 -2.2442656179

Mg(CO₂)+ D1 nearly linear CO₂ minimum Figure 2a $\alpha(\text{O-C-O})$ fixed at 180.0°

C 0.0000000000 -0.0048068356 -1.1233020098
O 0.0000000000 -0.0242887884 0.0470666628
Mg 0.0000000000 0.0092552767 2.0008722778
O 0.0000000000 0.0138374841 -2.2433502904

Mg(H₂O)(CO₂)+ D1 bent CO₂ minimum in MRCI Figure**3a** $\alpha(\text{O-C-O})$ fixed at 145°

C 0.0000000000 -0.2070744362 1.3728200713
O 0.0000000000 -0.7392045991 2.3995885726
O 0.0000000000 0.8901167136 0.7991193526
Mg 0.0000000000 0.6921901929 -1.0706612161
O 0.0000000000 -0.8786189407 -2.2758256406
H 0.0000000000 -1.7759891178 -1.9667046448
H 0.0000000000 -0.8964308553 -3.2241637021

Mg(H₂O)(CO₂)+ D1 flipped bent minimum in MRCI Figure**S3** $\alpha(\text{O-C-O})$ fixed at 140°

C -0.0000661298 -0.2324926511 1.8919515546
O 0.0004589410 0.4855779785 2.8113005427
O -0.0010051418 -0.1885937303 0.6397891102
Mg 0.0004456330 -0.4816576240 -1.0967067982
O -0.0000817767 0.5066280497 -2.7940596780
H -0.0006991542 1.4566449084 -2.8460113922
H 0.0007095102 0.1722647312 -3.6830049911

Mg(H₂O)(CO₂)+ near linear CO₂ D1 minimum Figure S3 $\alpha(\text{O-C-O})$ fixed at 179.9°

C 0.0010446158 0.0012298717 1.9765128835
O 0.0015783582 0.0043211595 3.0990943401
O -0.0015414280 -0.0021104007 0.8102167471
Mg -0.0026022273 -0.0075921471 -1.1700032680
O 0.0024190246 0.0074069639 -3.1494510492
H -0.7645696054 0.0085416261 -3.7052779858