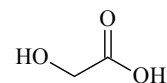


275 **C₂H₄O₃**MW, *ab initio*
calculations**Glycolic acid**

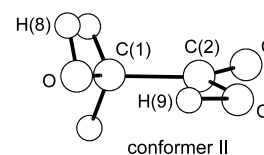
Hydroxyacetic acid

C_s (conformer I)**C₁** (conformer II)

| Atom in I | $ a_s $ [Å] | $ b_s $ [Å] | $ c_s $ [Å] |
|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| H(8) | 2.5549 | 0.3356 | 0.3098 |
| H(9) | 0.4516 | 1.485 | 0.0341 |



Two conformers I and II, not necessarily of lowest energy, were detected and identified with the help of MP2/6-31G(d,p) calculations. Conformer I is identical to the one reported by previous microwave studies, whereas a newly detected species II is most consistent with the *anti*-carboxyl conformer.



Godfrey, P.D., Rodgers, F.M., Brown, R.D.: J. Amer. Chem. Soc. **119** (1997) 2232.

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