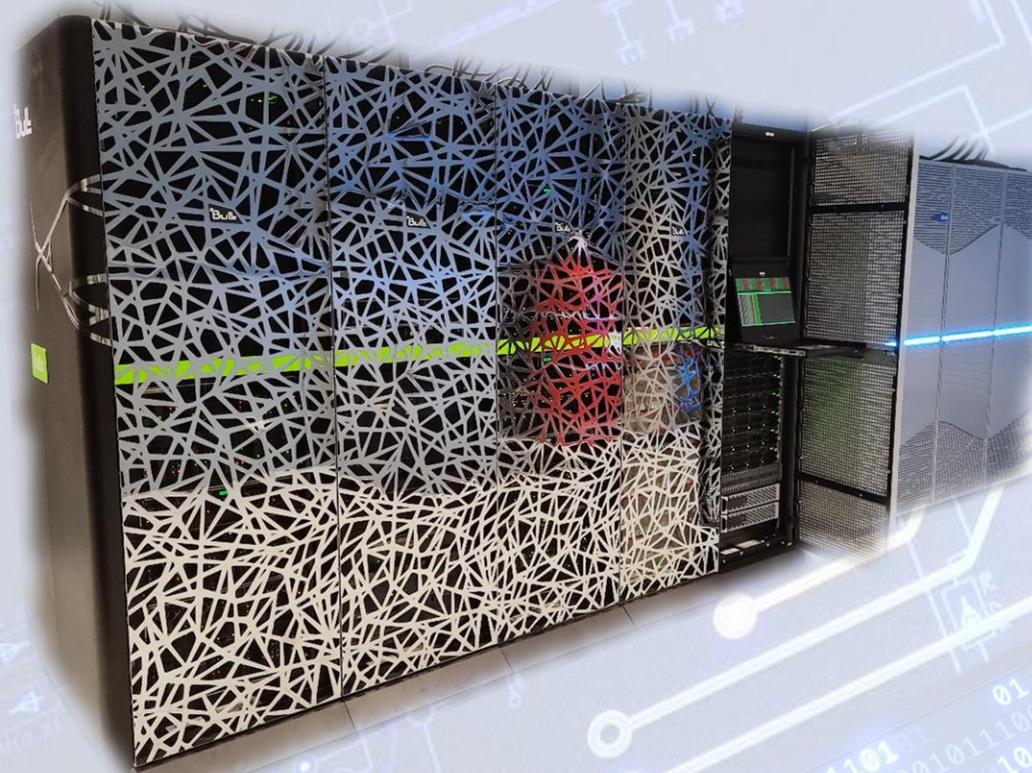




# 3<sup>RD</sup> EUROCC VILNIUS WORKSHOP ON USING HPC



## Abstract book

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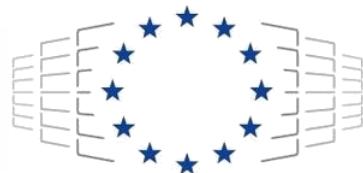
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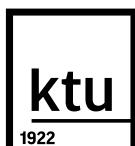
### **Project Implementers**



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# Importance of Anharmonic Calculations for the Assignment of the Vibrational Bands of Butyric Acid

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Butyric acid, or butanoic acid, is a short-chain saturated carboxylic acid [1]. Carboxylic acids are organic compounds that include one or more carboxyl groups, and their chemical and biochemical properties strongly depend on the length of the carbon chain, molecular structure, and presence of additional functional groups [2]. The main objective of this work is to perform conformational analysis of butyric acid using high-level quantum chemical calculations and low-temperature matrix isolation infrared absorption spectroscopy. The results are presented in Fig. 1.

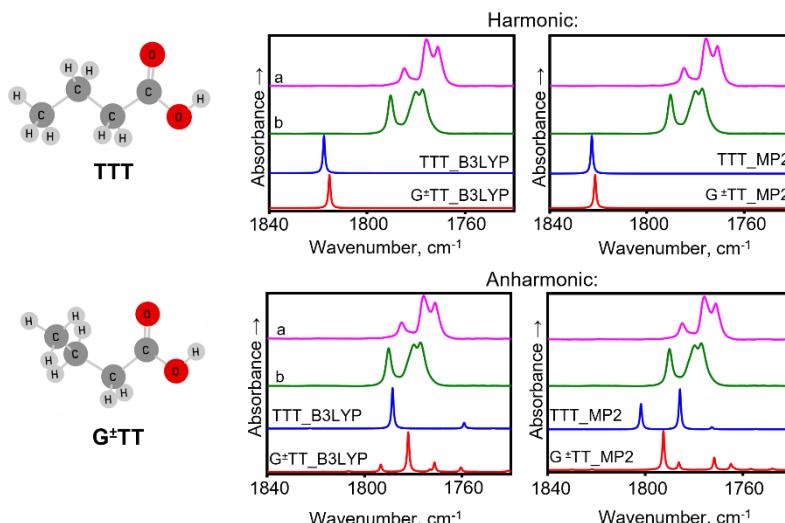


Fig. 1. Infrared absorption spectra of butyric acid: (a) experimental spectrum in argon matrix, (b) experimental spectrum in neon matrix together with theoretically in harmonic and anharmonic approximations calculated spectra of the TTT and  $G^{\pm}TT$  conformers

Geometry optimization and calculations of the fundamental vibrations for three staggered conformers of butyric acid were carried out using Density Functional Theory (DFT) with the B3LYP functional and Møller-Plesset perturbation theory (MP2) approaches. In both cases, the same cc-pVTZ basis set was employed, and the vibrational frequencies were calculated using both harmonic and anharmonic methods. Our study shows that three stable conformers of butyric acid molecules are trapped in argon and neon matrices. It was found that anharmonic calculations are extremely useful for identifying Fermi resonance experimental spectral bands. These calculations allow for a more accurate assignment of spectral bands in the C=O stretch vibration region, with the origin and behavior of these bands upon matrix annealing correctly identified only after employing anharmonic calculations at the MP2 level.

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- [1] I. Goldberg and J. S. Rokem, *Organic and Fatty Acid Production, Microbial*, Encyclopedia of Microbiology, 3rd ed., Elsevier Science, Amsterdam (2009), p. 421–442.
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