

**Table 1:** Hydrogen bond energies along with various properties calculated at MP2(full)/6-311++G(2d,2p) level of theory. The energies in a.u. of the original molecule ( $E_M$ ) and that calculated by fragmentation ( $E_e$ ) are also shown in the first column. See text for details.

Molecules	O-H...O Distances in Å	E (HB) (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )	$\rho$ at (3, -1) BCP (a.u.)	Frequency (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta E^{**} =  E_M - E_e $ (kcal mol <sup>-1</sup> )
<b>1,2,3-propanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -344.21170 $E_e$ : -344.21091	2.16(HB1) 2.08(HB2) 2.58(HB3)	1.90 (2.00)# 2.47 (2.56)# 1.63 (1.66)#	0.02178	3784 3765 3845	0.50
<b>1,2,3-butanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -383.44517 $E_e$ : -383.44437	2.13(HB1) 2.05(HB2) 2.58(HB3)	2.13 2.72 1.60	0.02287	3768 3745 3844	0.50
<b>1,2,4-butanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -383.43912 $E_e$ : -383.43849	1.98(HB1) 2.22(HB2)	2.90 1.75	0.02339	3789 3828 3875	0.40
<b>1,2,3-pentanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -422.67178 $E_e$ : -422.67097	2.13(HB1) 2.05(HB2) 2.57(HB3)	2.11 2.77 1.61	0.02298	3769 3743 3844	0.51
<b>1,2,4-pentanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -422.67251 $E_e$ : -422.67184	1.97(HB1) 2.22(HB2)	3.04 1.77	0.02421	3785 3827 3858	0.42
<b>1,2,5-pentanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -422.66590 $E_e$ : -422.66502	1.80(HB1) 2.25(HB2)	4.97 1.78	0.03581	3669 3825 3865	0.55
<b>1,3,5-pentanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -422.66727 $E_e$ : -422.66635	1.94(HB1) 1.96(HB2)	2.91 2.90	0.02558 0.02404	3763 3792 3875	0.58
<b>2,3,4-pentanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -422.67861 $E_e$ : -422.67778	2.12(HB1) 2.02(HB2) 2.56(HB3)	2.18 2.94 1.50	0.02418	3759 3731 3820	0.52
<b>2,3,5-pentanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -422.67242 $E_e$ : -422.67163	1.91(HB1) 2.23(HB2)	2.86 2.58	0.02704	3756 3805 3874	0.50
<b>2,4,6-heptanetriol</b> $E_M$ : -501.13408 $E_e$ : -501.13304	1.92(HB1) 1.93(HB2)	3.02 2.94	0.02665 0.02585	3753 3773 3857	0.65
<b><math>\alpha</math>-D-fructose</b> $E_M$ : -686.05951 $E_e$ : -686.05929	2.08(HB1) 2.44(HB2) 2.48(HB3)	3.08 2.85 2.83	0.02001 0.01004	3755 3816 3839	0.14
<b><math>\beta</math>-D-xylose</b> $E_M$ : -571.71462 $E_e$ : -571.71463	2.41(HB1) 2.45(HB2) 2.48(HB3)	1.81 1.75 2.12	–	3834 3837 3842	0.01
<b><math>\alpha</math>-cyclodextrin*</b> $E_M$ : -3665.68068 $E_e$ : -3665.68024	1.94(HB1) 2.38(HB2)	4.58 2.40	0.02426	3605 3780	0.28

\* Optimized geometry at B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level is used.

\*\* The average error  $|E_M - E_e|$  of all the 12 cases (excluding Cyclodextrin) turns out to be 0.44 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>.

# The respective hydrogen bond energy calculated at MP2(full)/ AUG-cc-pVTZ level