

# Hiểu biết sâu sắc hơn về độ bền và đặc trưng của các liên kết hydrogen O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···Z trong các hệ phức tương tác giữa dẫn xuất của chalcogenoaldehyde acid và formamide

## TÓM TẮT

Các cấu trúc bền của các phức tương tác giữa RCZOH và NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ, với R = H, F, CH<sub>3</sub> và Z = O, S, Se và Te đã được tìm thấy trong nghiên cứu này. Độ bền của các liên kết hydrogen O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···Z có xu hướng giảm dần khi Z lần lượt là O, S, Se, và Te. Sự chuyển dời độ tàn số dao động hóa trị của liên kết O-H trong các liên kết hydrogen O-H···O lớn hơn so với các liên kết hydrogen O-H···S/Se/Te, trong đó sự chuyển dời độ O-H rất lớn đạt đến 958,0 cm<sup>-1</sup> được phát hiện ở các liên kết hydrogen O-H···O. Mức độ chuyển dời độ O-H càng tăng khi nhóm thế Z trong RCZOH đi từ O đến Te và R chuyển từ nhóm đầy electron CH<sub>3</sub> sang nhóm thế hút electron F. Đáng chú ý, sự chuyển dời xanh đáng kể của C<sub>sp2</sub>-H lên đến 104,9 cm<sup>-1</sup> trong liên kết hydrogen không có điện C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···O đã được quan sát thấy. Tàn số dao động hóa trị của C<sub>sp2</sub>-H trong các liên kết hydrogen C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···S/Se/Te có xu hướng đi từ chuyển dời xanh sang chuyển dời đỏ khi nhóm thế Z trong NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ dần được thay thế từ O đến Te. Đặc biệt, ái lực proton tại phần tử nhận proton Z và độ phân cực của phần tử cho proton O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H càng tăng thì mức độ chuyển dời độ của O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H càng rõ rệt và ngược lại.

**Từ khóa:** *liên kết hydrogen có điện, liên kết hydrogen không có điện, chuyển dời đỏ, chuyển dời xanh, NBO.*

# An insight into stability and characteristics of O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···Z hydrogen bonds in the binary systems of chalcogenocarboxylic acid and formamide derivatives

## ABSTRACTS

Forty-eighth stable structures of complexes were identified for interaction of RCZO<sub>H</sub> and NH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>Z</sub>, with R= H, F, CH<sub>3</sub> and Z= O, S, Se, Te. Strength of O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···Z hydrogen bonds decreases in the order of the Z acceptors: O > S > Se > Te. The O-H stretching frequency's red shifts of the O-H···O hydrogen bonds are larger than those of the O-H···S/Se/Te ones, in which the significant O-H red shift of 958.0 cm<sup>-1</sup> is detected in the O-H···O ones. There is an increase in the O-H red shift as Z in the RCZO<sub>H</sub> goes from O to Te, and R changes from the electron-donating CH<sub>3</sub> group to the electron-withdrawing F substituent. Remarkably, a substantial blue shift of the C<sub>sp2</sub>-H up to 104.9 cm<sup>-1</sup> in the nonconventional C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···O hydrogen bond is found, and an obvious trend from blue shift to red shift of C<sub>sp2</sub>-H stretching frequencies in the C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···S/Se/Te hydrogen bonds is also detected as Z in the NH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>Z</sub> varying from the O to Te substituent. It is noteworthy that the proton affinity at the Z proton acceptors and the polarity of the O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H proton donors increase along with the enhancement of the O/C<sub>sp2</sub>-H red shift, and *vice versa*.

**Keywords:** conventional hydrogen bonds, nonconventional hydrogen bonds, red shift, blue shift, NBO.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Hydrogen bond is one of the noncovalent interactions, playing essential roles in chemistry, physics, and biological systems such as DNA, RNA, or protein.<sup>1,2</sup> The importance of hydrogen bonds especially appears in biochemical reactions, supermolecule synthesis, and crystal design.<sup>2-4</sup> Therefore, a thorough understanding of hydrogen bonds can expand their application in various fields of life.

Up to now, the A-H···B hydrogen bonds have had two main types, including conventional, and nonconventional hydrogen bonds. Therein, the A and B atoms in the conventional hydrogen bonds often possess high electronegativity or electron-rich regions. This type of hydrogen bonds is usually characterised by a stretching frequency red shift of the proton donor, which is displayed by an increase in the A-H bond length and a decrease of its stretching frequency.<sup>4,5</sup> By contrast, either or both A and B in the nonconventional hydrogen bonds have low electronegativity or lower electron density regions.<sup>5,6</sup> Notably, the nonconventional hydrogen bonds not only show the attributes of the red shift but also present the blue shift of stretching frequency, named the blue-shifting hydrogen bonds. The blue-shifting hydrogen bond is associated with a contraction of the

proton donor bond length and an enhancement of its stretching frequency.<sup>7,8</sup>

The nature of hydrogen bonds, especially the blue-shifting ones, has been investigated both by experimental and theoretical methods.<sup>6,7,9,10</sup> Therein, some studies showed that attaching either electron-donating or electron-withdrawing groups to the C-H proton donors may change the electron density of the C-H bond,<sup>11-13</sup> affecting the strength and characteristics of hydrogen bonds. Noted that the blue shifts of the C<sub>sp2</sub>-H bonds are very large and even surpass those of the C<sub>sp3</sub>-H bonds.<sup>11,14</sup> Indeed, the increase in the C<sub>sp2</sub>-H bond's stretching frequency of the nonconventional C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···O/S hydrogen bonds in the range of 81 – 96 cm<sup>-1</sup> was reported for the complexes of HCOOH with XCH<sub>Z</sub> (X= H, F, Cl, Br, CH<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>; Z= O, S).<sup>11</sup> Besides, a huge blue shift of the C<sub>sp2</sub>-H bond up to 104.5 cm<sup>-1</sup> was obtained in the FCOOH···CH<sub>3</sub>CHO complex.<sup>15</sup> The characteristics of nonconventional C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···Se/Te, and O-H···Se/Te hydrogen bonds were also investigated in some recent studies. For instance, the nonconventional C<sub>sp2</sub>-H···Se/Te and O-H···Se/Te hydrogen bonds were found by Cuc *et al* in XCH<sub>Z</sub>···nH<sub>2</sub>O (X= H, F, Cl, Br, CH<sub>3</sub>; Z= O, S, Se, Te; n = 1-3) and XCHO···nH<sub>2</sub>Z (X= H, F, Cl, Br, CH<sub>3</sub>; Z= O, S, Se, Te; n = 1-2) complexes.<sup>16,17</sup> It is interesting that these nonconventional hydrogen bonds are

characterized by the red shifts. Likewise, Quyen *et al* had observed the red shifts of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Se/Te hydrogen bonds in the dimer of chalcogenoaldehyde derivatives and complexes of  $XCHZ\cdots RCZOH$  ( $X=H, F$ ;  $R=H, F, Cl, Br, CH_3, NH_2$ ;  $Z=O, S, Se, Te$ ) recently.<sup>18,19</sup> These reports pave the way for more studies on the stability and nature of nonconventional hydrogen bonds with heavy chalcogen atoms playing as proton acceptors. Specially, Mishra *et al* discovered the existence and red shifts of nonconventional N-H $\cdots$ Se and O-H $\cdots$ Se hydrogen bonds both experimentally and computationally in the interactions of indole $\cdots$ dimethyl selenide, and phenol $\cdots$ dimethyl selenide.<sup>20</sup> Therefore, it is necessary to investigate the hydrogen bonds containing chalcogen atoms in various complexes to provide fundamental knowledge to exploit their applications in other fields.

Remarkably, Trung *et al* suggested that the strength and characteristics of nonconventional C-H $\cdots$ Z hydrogen bonds involve the inherent properties of the C-H proton donor, and the Z proton acceptor. In particular, the C-H stretching frequency's shift of these nonconventional hydrogen bonds can be predicted thanks to polarity of the proton donors, and proton affinity of the proton acceptors.<sup>21-24</sup> This model has provided a quick sign to detect characteristics of the hydrogen bonds. These observations lead to an idea of studying the interaction and characteristics of conventional and nonconventional hydrogen bonds in complexes between  $NH_2CHZ$  and  $RCZOH$  with  $R=H, F, CH_3$ ;  $Z=O, S, Se, Te$  by using quantum computational approach in order to have a more obvious understanding of origin of nonconventional hydrogen bonds. In addition, the system is chosen for investigation because as mentioned above some chalcogenoaldehydes substituted by electron-donating group and carboxylic acids replaced by electron-withdrawing one cause a blue shift of C-H bond involving in the hydrogen bond. Furthermore, studying different R and Z substituents can help to clarify their impact on the inherent properties of proton donors and proton acceptors which could be considered as one of the reasons for the various characteristics of nonconventional hydrogen bonds. The strength and nature of nonconventional O-H $\cdots$ Se/Te, and  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z ( $Z=O, S, Se, Te$ ) hydrogen bonds are also highlighted in the present work.

## 2. COMPUTATIONAL METHODS

The geometrical structures of the monomers and investigated complexes were optimized using the second-order perturbation theoretical method (MP2)<sup>25</sup> with the pseudopotential basis set aug-cc-pVDZ-PP for Te,<sup>26</sup> and full-electron Pople basis set 6-311++G(3df,2pd) for the other atoms through the Gaussian 16 program.<sup>27</sup> The infrared spectra for both complexes and monomers were then calculated at the same level of theory. Interaction energies of the complexes were computed as the following expression:

$$\Delta E^* = (E + ZPE)_{\text{complex}} - \sum (E + ZPE)_{\text{monomer}} + \text{BSSE}$$

In which the single-point energy of the complex and monomer (E), and the basis set superposition error (BSSE) correction were calculated using couple cluster CCSD(T) method. The zero-point vibrational energies (ZPE) were obtained at the optimized geometries of the molecule. The deprotonation enthalpy (DPE) and the proton affinity (PA) were respectively computed for the proton donors  $C_{sp^2}$ -O-H and the proton acceptors Z in the monomers using CCSD(T) method in combination with the 6-311++G(3df,2pd) basis set, except the aug-cc-pVDZ-PP applied for the Te atom. These parameters will be used to evaluate polarity of the proton donors  $C_{sp^2}$ -O-H and proton affinity of the proton acceptors Z in the isolated monomers.

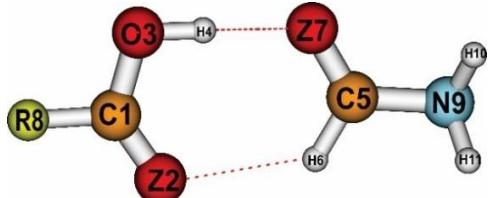
Moreover, the formation and strength of hydrogen bonds in complexes were determined by the AIMall program<sup>28,29</sup> using MP2 method with the aug-cc-pVDZ-PP basis set for Te atom, and the 6-311++G(3df,2pd) for the remaining atoms. This analysis showed the bond critical points (BCPs) which could explicitly prove the existence of hydrogen bonds. Some typical parameters at BCPs such as electron density  $\rho(r)$ , Laplacian electron density  $\nabla^2\rho(r)$ , and potential energy density  $V(r)$  were collected to evaluate for the strength of hydrogen bonds on the basis of the empirical formula:  $E_{HB} = 0.5V(r)$ ,<sup>30</sup> with  $E_{HB}$  being the energy of individual hydrogen bonds. Natural bond orbital (NBO) analysis<sup>31</sup> was also applied utilizing the same level of theory as for the AIM analysis. The NBO analysis provides data on intermolecular electron density transfer between two monomers, changes in electron density of a specific orbital and atomic charges.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### 3.1. Geometrical structures and AIM analysis

Interaction of RCZOH with  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  (with  $\text{R} = \text{H, F, CH}_3$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S, Se, Te}$ ) induces 48 stable complexes with the similar structures shown in Figure 1a. These structures are symbolized as **RZ2-Z7**, with  $\text{R}$  being  $\text{H, F, and CH}_3$ ;  $\text{Z2}$  and  $\text{Z7}$  being  $\text{O, S, Se, and Te}$  atoms in the  $\text{RCZOH}$  and  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  monomers, respectively. All the complexes are stabilized by two intermolecular interactions  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  and  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$ . The topological features obtained

(a)

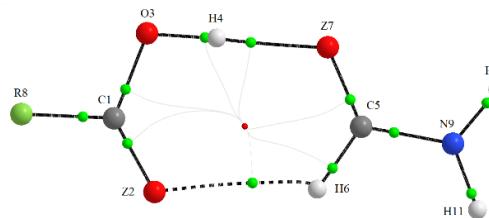


**Figure 1.** (a) The stable geometrical structures and (b) their topological analysis of  $\text{RCZOH}\cdots\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  complexes, with  $\text{R} = \text{H, F, CH}_3$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S, Se, Te}$ .

The data from AIM analysis in Tables S1a, and S1b of Supporting Information (SI) showed the values of electron density ( $\rho(\mathbf{r})$ ) and Laplacian of electron density ( $\nabla^2\rho(\mathbf{r})$ ) at the BCPs of the  $\text{O}\cdots\text{Z7}$  interactions being  $0.022 - 0.068$  au and  $0.026 - 0.109$  au, respectively. The  $\rho(\mathbf{r})$  and  $\nabla^2\rho(\mathbf{r})$  values for the  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  interactions are  $0.009 - 0.017$  au, and  $0.021 - 0.063$  au, respectively, which are smaller than those of the  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  contacts. In general, these parameters belong to the range of the hydrogen bond formation.<sup>32</sup> Accordingly, the  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$ , and  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  intermolecular interactions in the investigated complexes are tentatively assumed as hydrogen bonds, and the formers are much more stable than the latters. This is evidenced by the much more negative  $E_{\text{HB}}$  values of the  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  hydrogen bonds ( $-16.0$  to  $-101.3$   $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) compared to the  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  ones ( $-5.3$  to  $-16.4$   $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) (*cf.* Tables S1a, and 1b). The negative values of the local electron energy density ( $H(\mathbf{r})$ ) at BCPs of the  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  reflect their partially covalent character (*cf.* Table S1b). The larger strength of  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z}$  relative to  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z}$  was also suggested in the  $\text{RCZOH}\cdots\text{CH}_3\text{CHZ}$  ( $\text{R} = \text{H, F, CH}_3$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S}$ )<sup>15</sup> and  $\text{RCZOH}\cdots\text{FCHZ}$  ( $\text{R} = \text{H, F, Cl, Br, CH}_3, \text{NH}_2$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S, Se, Te}$ ) complexes.<sup>18</sup> The energies of the individual  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{O/S}$  and  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{O/S}$  hydrogen bonds calculated at MP2/6-311++G(3df,2pd) in the  $\text{RCZOH}\cdots\text{CH}_3\text{CHZ}$  complexes were indeed in the ranges of  $-6.4 \div -13.5$   $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ , and  $-23.9 \div -71.8$   $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ , respectively.<sup>15</sup> This indicates that replacement of

from the AIM analysis point out the presence of bond critical points (BCPs) between  $\text{H}$  and  $\text{Z}$  atoms, and ring critical point (RCP) in complexes as displayed in Figure 1b. The intermolecular distances of  $\text{H}\cdots\text{O}$ ,  $\text{H}\cdots\text{S}$ ,  $\text{H}\cdots\text{Se}$ , and  $\text{H}\cdots\text{Te}$  contacts are smaller than their sum of Van der Waals radii, affirming the existence of the  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  and  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  interactions and ring-shaped structures following the complexation.

(b)



the  $\text{CH}_3$  group in the  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHZ}$  with a group that exerts a stronger electron-donating conjugation effect, such as  $\text{NH}_2$ , induces an increase in the strength of  $\text{O/C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z}$  hydrogen bonds.

For the nonconventional  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds, their strength decrease in the order of  $\text{Z2}$  substituents  $\text{O} \gg \text{S} > \text{Se} > \text{Te}$  upon fixing  $\text{R}$  and  $\text{Z7}$  groups. This order agrees well with the less negative of  $E_{\text{HB}}$  when  $\text{Z2}$  goes from  $\text{O}$  to  $\text{S}$  to  $\text{Se}$  and then to  $\text{Te}$  (*cf.* Table S1a). Indeed, the  $E_{\text{HB}}$  values of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{S2/Se2/Te2}$  range from  $-5.3$  to  $-9.7$   $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ , which are less negative than those of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{O2}$  (from  $-11.2$  to  $-16.4$   $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ). A similar observation was also obtained in the studies of Quyen *et al.*<sup>18</sup> and An *et al.*<sup>15</sup> This result emphasizes the importance of the oxygen compared to sulfur, selenium, and tellurium as  $\text{Z2}$  in the stability of the nonconventional  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds. In contrast, for the same  $\text{R}$  and  $\text{Z2}$ , the strength of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  tends to increase along with the shortening in intermolecular distance  $\text{H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  when  $\text{Z7}$  turns from  $\text{O}$  via  $\text{S}$  via  $\text{Se}$  and then  $\text{Te}$  (*cf.* Figure S1a). The similar observation was found in the complexes of  $\text{CYHNH}_2$  with  $\text{XH}$  ( $\text{Y} = \text{O, S, Se, Te}; \text{X} = \text{F, HO, NH}_2$ ).<sup>12</sup> It is noteworthy that the DPE values of the  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}$  bonds in the monomers decrease in the order  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHO} > \text{NH}_2\text{CHS} > \text{NH}_2\text{CHSe} > \text{NH}_2\text{CHTe}$  (*cf.* Table 1), implying the polarity of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}$  bonds in the  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  increase in the sequence of  $\text{Z7}$  substituents  $\text{O} < \text{S} < \text{Se} < \text{Te}$ . Figure S1a also reflects the weakening of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds in the order  $\text{CH}_3\text{Z2-Z7} >$

**HZ2-Z7 > FZ2-Z7** with Z2 and Z7 being O, S and Se, whereas the strength of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Te2 in the **HTe2-O7**, **FTe2-O7**, and **CH<sub>3</sub>Te2-O7** are almost similar. This comparison suggests that for the

same Z2 and Z7, the stronger  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 hydrogen bonds are obtained for R being the electron-donating  $CH_3$  substituent than the electron-withdrawing F one.

**Table 1.** Deprotonation enthalpy (DPE) of O/ $C_{sp^2}$ -H bond, and proton affinity at proton acceptors Z in  $NH_2CHZ$  and  $RCZOH$  monomers with R= H, F,  $CH_3$ ; Z= O, S, Se, Te

| Monomer                    | PA(Z)<br>(kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) | DPE(O/C-H)<br>(kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) | Monomer                   | PA(Z)<br>(kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) | DPE(O/C-H)<br>(kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>COOH</b>  | 823.7                            | 1495.1                                | <b>FCOOH</b>              | 736.9                            | 1406.9                                |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>CSOH</b>  | 840.6                            | 1433.0                                | <b>FCSOH</b>              | 780.8                            | 1351.6                                |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>CSeOH</b> | 840.0                            | 1406.0                                | <b>FCSeOH</b>             | 785.5                            | 1327.1                                |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>CTeOH</b> | 864.9                            | 1382.0                                | <b>FCTeOH</b>             | 825.6                            | 1302.4                                |
| <b>HCOOH</b>               | 780.1                            | 1480.4                                | <b>NH<sub>2</sub>CHO</b>  | 873.2                            | 1668.4                                |
| <b>HCSOH</b>               | 805.8                            | 1421.4                                | <b>NH<sub>2</sub>CHS</b>  | 888.3                            | 1625.3                                |
| <b>HCSeOH</b>              | 806.2                            | 1396.5                                | <b>NH<sub>2</sub>CHSe</b> | 882.8                            | 1605.4                                |
| <b>HCTeOH</b>              | 839.0                            | 1374.2                                | <b>NH<sub>2</sub>CHTe</b> | 909.6                            | 1587.8                                |

Regarding the O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds, for the same R and Z2, their strength decreases in the order of the Z7 groups: O > S > Se > Te. This result agrees with the observations of Biswal *et al.*, and Das *et al* in previous reports.<sup>33,34</sup> The atomic charges at the Z7 atoms in the investigated complexes become less negative when Z7 goes from O to Te (*cf.* Table S2), leading to a descending in the electrostatic attraction of H4 $\cdots$ Z7 in the sequence H4 $\cdots$ O7 > H4 $\cdots$ S7 > H4 $\cdots$ Se7 > H4 $\cdots$ Te7. This tendency is one of the reasons for the superior strength of O-H $\cdots$ O7 relative to O-H $\cdots$ S7/Se7/Te7. For the same R and Z7, the O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds experience an enhancement in their strength when Z2 varies from O to S, to Se, and then to Te. This observation is consistent with the increase of O-H polarity in the order  $RCOOH < RCSOH < RCSeOH < RCTeOH$  (*cf.* Table 1). Thus, the polarity of O-H bonds and the strength of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds are affected by the Z7 atom in the  $RCZOH$  monomers, in which, Te7 is more influential than O7, S7 or Se7. Notably, the strength of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 goes down when R changes from F to H and then  $CH_3$ , being opposite to the tendency observed for  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 hydrogen bonds (*cf.* Figures S1a, and S1b). This is reasonable because F surpasses  $CH_3$  group in raising the polarity of O-H bonds (*cf.* Table 1) and the electrostatic attraction between H4 and Z7. Consequently, the electron-withdrawing substituent (F) induces stronger O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds than the electron-donating one ( $CH_3$ ). This effect was also reflected in the

complexes of  $XCHZ\cdots RCZOH$  (with X= H, F; R= H, F, Cl, Br,  $CH_3$ ,  $NH_2$ ; Z= O, Se, Se, Te).<sup>18</sup>

### 3.2. Interaction energy

The interaction energies corrected by both ZPE and BSSE (denoted by  $\Delta E^*$ ) of **RZ2-Z7** complexes are calculated at the CCSD(T)/6-311++G(3df,2pd)//MP26-311++G(3df,2pd) level of theory (except the aug-cc-pVDZ-PP basis set used for Te atom) to evaluate the stability of investigated complexes. The data in Table 2 shows the negative interaction energies of complexes ranging from -30.9 to -73.8 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>, indicating their certain stability on their potential energy surfaces.

For the same R and Z2, the individual interaction energies of **RZ2-O7**, **RZ2-S7**, **RZ2-Se7**, and **RZ2-Te7** are in the ranges -44.5  $\div$  -73.8 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>, -34.8  $\div$  -55.5 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>, -32.9  $\div$  -55.8 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>, and -31.3  $\div$  -47.0 kJ.mol<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. These values indicates that the stability of **RZ2-Z7** complexes decreases in the order of Z7 substituents: O > S > Se > Te, which is consistent with the lowering strength of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 in the sequence: O-H $\cdots$ O7 >> O-H $\cdots$ S7 > O-H $\cdots$ Se7 > O-H $\cdots$ Te7 as resulted from the AIM analysis. This observation emphasizes a predominant influence of the oxygen compared to sulfur, selenium, or tellurium as Z7 on the stability of **RZ2-Z7**. Besides, the superior role of the O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds relative to  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 in stabilizing complexes is noticed.

**Table 2.** Interaction energies corrected by both ZPE and BSSE ( $\Delta E^*$ ,  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) of complexes between  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  and  $\text{RCZOH}$  ( $\text{R} = \text{H, F, CH}_3$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S, Se, Te}$ ) at  $\text{CCSD}(\text{T})/6-311++\text{G}(3\text{df},2\text{pd})/\text{MP2}/6-311++\text{G}(3\text{df},2\text{pd})$  ) level of theory (except the aug-cc-pVDZ-PP basis set used for Te atom)

| Complex   | $\Delta E^*$ | Complex   | $\Delta E^*$ | Complex  | $\Delta E^*$ | Complex  | $\Delta E^*$ |
|---|--------------|---|--------------|--|--------------|--|--------------|
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>  | -44.5        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>  | -36.7        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>  | -35.3        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>  | -43.5        |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>  | -44.7        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>  | -34.8        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>  | -32.9        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>  | -40.1        |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b> | -46.3        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b> | -35.7        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b> | -34.2        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b> | -42.2        |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b> | -55.3        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b> | -44.2        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b> | -45.0        | <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b> | -31.3        |
| <b>HO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | -46.3        | <b>HO<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | -37.4        | <b>HO<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>               | -35.8        | <b>HO<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>               | -40.2        |
| <b>HS<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | -47.6        | <b>HS<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | -35.1        | <b>HS<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>               | -33.1        | <b>HS<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>               | -36.6        |
| <b>HSe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | -47.2        | <b>HSe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | -36.2        | <b>HSe<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>              | -34.5        | <b>HSe<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>              | -38.9        |
| <b>HTe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | -55.2        | <b>HTe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | -44.1        | <b>HTe<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>              | -44.8        | <b>HTe<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>              | -30.9        |
| <b>FO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | -58.9        | <b>FO<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | -46.1        | <b>FO<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>               | -44.6        | <b>FO<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>               | -47.0        |
| <b>FS<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | -60.0        | <b>FS<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | -44.2        | <b>FS<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>               | -42.3        | <b>FS<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>               | -43.6        |
| <b>FSe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | -63.2        | <b>FSe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | -46.0        | <b>FSe<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>              | -44.3        | <b>FSe<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>              | -46.3        |
| <b>FTe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | -73.8        | <b>FTe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | -55.5        | <b>FTe<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b>              | -55.8        | <b>FTe<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub></b>              | -40.7        |

For the same  $\text{R}$  and  $\text{Z7}$ , the more negative interaction energies of **RZ2-O<sub>7</sub>**, **RZ2-S<sub>7</sub>**, and **RZ2-Se<sub>7</sub>** are observed for the  $\text{Z2}$  being the  $\text{Te}$  atom rather than the  $\text{O, S, and Se}$  (*cf. Table 2*), in line with the decreasing strength of  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  hydrogen bonds when  $\text{Z2}$  goes from  $\text{Te}$  to  $\text{O}$ . However, an opposite trend is obtained for **RZ2-Te<sub>7</sub>** complexes, in which, **RO<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub>** is more stable than **RSe<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub>**, **RS<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub>**, and **RTe<sub>2</sub>-Te<sub>7</sub>** (*cf. Table 2*).

Fixing  $\text{Z2}$  and  $\text{Z7}$ , the interaction energies of **FZ2-Z7** are more negative than those of **HZ2-Z7** and **CH<sub>3</sub>Z2-Z7**. Indeed, the  $\Delta E^*$  values range from -40.7 to -73.8  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$  for **FZ2-Z7**, from -30.9 to -55.2  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$  for **HZ2-Z7**, and from -31.3 to -55.3  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$  for **CH<sub>3</sub>Z2-Z7** (*cf. Table 2*). This implies that replacing  $\text{R}$  in the  $\text{RCZOH}$  with  $\text{F}$  can strengthen the stability of **RZ2-Z7** more than  $\text{CH}_3$  which is also consistent with the larger strength of  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  hydrogen bonds in **FZ2-Z7** compared to that of **CH<sub>3</sub>Z2-Z7**. Therefore, this observation affirms the crucial role of  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  hydrogen bonds in the stability of the investigated complexes.

### 3.3. NBO analysis

To evaluate the electron density transfer between monomers upon the complexation, the NBO analysis is performed and the selected data are gathered in Tables 3a, and 3b. The total electron density transfer (EDT) of  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  monomers ranging from 0.036 to 0.091 indicates electron

density transferring mainly from  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  to  $\text{RCZOH}$ . This is proven by the intermolecular hyperconjugative energy ( $E_{\text{inter}}$ ) of electron transfer from nonbonding orbital  $n(\text{Z7})$  to  $\sigma^*(\text{O-H})$  antibonding orbital (*ca.* 85.3-252.0  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) surpasses that from  $n(\text{Z2})$  to  $\sigma^*(\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H})$  (*ca.* 6.8-21.2  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ), confirming the larger strength of  $\text{O-H}\cdots\text{Z7}$  compared to that of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds.

For the same  $\text{R}$  and  $\text{Z7}$ , the  $E_{\text{inter}}$  values of the electron density transfer from  $n(\text{Z2})$  to  $\sigma^*(\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H})$  increase in the order of the  $\text{Z2}$  substituents:  $\text{O} < \text{S} < \text{Se} < \text{Te}$  (*cf. Tables 3a, and 3b*), which is in a consistent with the enhancement of proton affinity at  $\text{Z2}$  in the order  $\text{RCOOH} < \text{RCSOH} < \text{RCSeOH} < \text{RCTeOH}$  (*cf. Table 1*). This order is opposite to the strength tendency of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds. Therefore, the higher strength of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{O2}$  compared to  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{S2/Se2/Te2}$  hydrogen bonds is primarily determined by the electrostatic attraction rather than the intermolecular electron density transfer. The outstanding contribution of electrostatic attraction compared to the intermolecular electron density transfer on the strength of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z}$  hydrogen bonds was also pointed out in the  $\text{XCHZ}\cdots\text{RCZOH}$  complexes (with  $\text{X} = \text{H, F; R} = \text{H, F, Cl, Br, CH}_3, \text{NH}_2$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S, Se, Te}$ ) by Quyen *et al.*<sup>18</sup> When fixing  $\text{R}$  and  $\text{Z2}$ , the  $E_{\text{inter}}$  values of the nonconventional  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds go up as  $\text{Z7}$  varies from  $\text{O}$  to  $\text{Te}$ , which is in line with the strength of  $\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}\text{-H}\cdots\text{Z2}$  hydrogen bonds.

**Table 3a.** Data from NBO analysis of **RZ2-Z7** complexes with  $\text{R} = \text{H, F, CH}_3$ ;  $\text{Z} = \text{O, S}$

| Complex | Hydrogen bond | EDT <sup>(a)</sup><br>(Electron) | $E_{\text{inter}}$<br>( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) | $\Delta E_{\text{intra}}^{(b)}$<br>( $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) | $\Delta\sigma^*(\text{C}_{\text{sp}2}/\text{O-H})$<br>(Electron) | $\Delta\%s(\text{C}_{\text{sp}2})$ |
|---------|---------------|----------------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------------------|
|---------|---------------|----------------------------------|---|--|--|------------------------------------|

|   |                           |       |               |               |                   |            |
|---|---------------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|------------|
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>  | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···O7  | 0.036 | 8.3<br>126.4  | -34.9<br>1.2  | -0.0106<br>0.0388 | 1.4<br>4.8 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>  | C5-H6···S2<br>O3-H4···O7  | 0.037 | 12.3<br>145.9 | -33.0<br>2.1  | -0.0062<br>0.0418 | 1.3<br>5.2 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b> | C5-H6···Se2<br>O3-H4···O7 | 0.039 | 13.5<br>157.0 | -34.4<br>0.3  | -0.0059<br>0.0441 | 1.3<br>5.3 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b> | C5-H6···Te2<br>O3-H4···O7 | 0.040 | 15.7<br>162.9 | -34.9<br>0.3  | -0.0047<br>0.0447 | 1.3<br>5.5 |
| <b>HO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···O7  | 0.039 | 8.3<br>140.3  | -35.5<br>0.0  | -0.0106<br>0.0416 | 1.4<br>4.9 |
| <b>HS<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···S2<br>O3-H4···O7  | 0.039 | 12.4<br>156.0 | -33.6<br>-1.3 | -0.0060<br>0.0434 | 1.3<br>5.4 |
| <b>HSe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Se2<br>O3-H4···O7 | 0.041 | 13.7<br>166.4 | -34.9<br>-1.5 | -0.0056<br>0.0455 | 1.3<br>5.6 |
| <b>HTe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Te2<br>O3-H4···O7 | 0.040 | 15.9<br>170.7 | -34.9<br>-1.3 | -0.0042<br>0.0450 | 1.3<br>5.7 |
| <b>FO<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···O7  | 0.052 | 6.8<br>184.9  | -39.4<br>6.5  | -0.0126<br>0.0540 | 1.3<br>5.0 |
| <b>FS<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···S2<br>O3-H4···O7  | 0.055 | 11.5<br>211.6 | -39.3<br>-1.6 | -0.0090<br>0.0602 | 1.3<br>5.3 |
| <b>FSe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Se2<br>O3-H4···O7 | 0.059 | 13.4<br>231.5 | -41.6<br>0.6  | -0.0086<br>0.0649 | 1.4<br>5.5 |
| <b>FTe<sub>2</sub>-O<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Te2<br>O3-H4···O7 | 0.061 | 16.9<br>252.0 | -43.1<br>-1.5 | -0.0072<br>0.0686 | 1.5<br>5.6 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>  | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···S7  | 0.049 | 14.8<br>112.9 | -19.4<br>4.4  | -0.0050<br>0.0534 | 1.8<br>4.7 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>  | C5-H6···S2<br>O3-H4···S7  | 0.051 | 18.3<br>132.9 | -16.1<br>12.9 | 0.0010<br>0.0604  | 1.7<br>5.1 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b> | C5-H6···Se2<br>O3-H4···S7 | 0.055 | 19.3<br>143.3 | -16.3<br>8.6  | 0.0016<br>0.0642  | 1.7<br>5.3 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b> | C5-H6···Te2<br>O3-H4···S7 | 0.057 | 21.2<br>148.5 | -15.6<br>9.3  | 0.0030<br>0.0657  | 1.7<br>5.5 |
| <b>HO<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···S7  | 0.055 | 14.5<br>125.2 | -19.2<br>3.4  | -0.0049<br>0.0583 | 1.7<br>4.9 |
| <b>HS<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···S2<br>O3-H4···S7  | 0.055 | 18.2<br>143.5 | -16.1<br>10.0 | 0.0013<br>0.0641  | 1.6<br>5.4 |
| <b>HSe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Se2<br>O3-H4···S7 | 0.059 | 19.3<br>153.6 | -16.3<br>8.1  | 0.0020<br>0.0678  | 1.7<br>5.6 |
| <b>HTe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Te2<br>O3-H4···S7 | 0.059 | 21.1<br>156.2 | -15.5<br>8.1  | 0.0035<br>0.0681  | 1.7<br>5.8 |
| <b>FO<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···S7  | 0.075 | 11.7<br>165.1 | -20.2<br>-0.2 | -0.0070<br>0.0754 | 1.7<br>5.4 |
| <b>FS<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>               | C5-H6···S2<br>O3-H4···S7  | 0.078 | 15.9<br>186.8 | -17.8<br>6.1  | -0.0019<br>0.0840 | 1.6<br>5.8 |
| <b>FSe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Se2<br>O3-H4···S7 | 0.083 | 17.5<br>200.7 | -18.3<br>9.0  | -0.0011<br>0.0898 | 1.7<br>6.0 |
| <b>FTe<sub>2</sub>-S<sub>7</sub></b>              | C5-H6···Te2<br>O3-H4···S7 | 0.086 | 20.7<br>210.3 | -18.1<br>7.2  | 0.0006<br>0.0936  | 1.8<br>6.1 |

(a) The total electron density transfer from NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ to RCZOH

(b) The total intramolecular electron density transfer to the  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}/O-H)$  orbitals

**Table 3b.** Data from NBO analysis of RZ2-R7 complexes, with R= H, F, CH<sub>3</sub>; Z= Se, Te

| Complex   | Hydrogen bond                         | EDT <sup>(a)</sup><br>(Electron) | E <sub>inter</sub><br>(kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) | $\Delta E_{intra}^{(b)}$<br>(kJ.mol <sup>-1</sup> ) | $\Delta\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}/O-H)$<br>(Electron) | $\Delta\%s(C_{sp^2})$ |
|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|-----------------------|
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b> | C5-H6···O2<br>O3-H4···Se <sub>7</sub> | 0.044                            | 15.1<br>98.1                                  | -16.3<br>4.9  | -0.0031<br>0.0494                            | 1.8<br>4.4            |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>-Se<sub>7</sub></b> | C5-H6···S2                            | 0.048                            | 17.7  | -12.8   | 0.0026                                       | 1.7                   |

|                              |             |       |       |       |         |     |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|-----|
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 119.2 | 11.5  | 0.0574  | 5.0 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se2-Se7</b> | C5-H6···Se2 | 0.052 | 18.5  | -12.7 | 0.0032  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 129.3 | 12.7  | 0.0617  | 5.2 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te2-Se7</b> | C5-H6···Te2 | 0.060 | 20.5  | -10.8 | 0.0051  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 149.1 | 12.9  | 0.0692  | 5.6 |
| <b>HO2-Se7</b>               | C5-H6···O2  | 0.051 | 14.7  | -16.1 | -0.0031 | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 110.0 | 6.3   | 0.0546  | 4.7 |
| <b>HS2-Se7</b>               | C5-H6···S2  | 0.052 | 17.5  | -12.8 | 0.0028  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 129.4 | 11.5  | 0.0616  | 5.3 |
| <b>HSe2-Se7</b>              | C5-H6···Se2 | 0.057 | 18.3  | -12.8 | 0.0035  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 139.0 | 11.7  | 0.0655  | 5.5 |
| <b>HTe2-Se7</b>              | C5-H6···Te2 | 0.063 | 20.4  | -10.6 | 0.0055  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 155.9 | 9.5   | 0.0716  | 5.9 |
| <b>FO2-Se7</b>               | C5-H6···O2  | 0.072 | 11.6  | -16.7 | -0.0050 | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 146.4 | 0.3   | 0.0717  | 5.3 |
| <b>FS2-Se7</b>               | C5-H6···S2  | 0.076 | 14.9  | -13.8 | -0.0001 | 1.6 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 168.6 | 6.8   | 0.0810  | 5.7 |
| <b>FSe2-Se7</b>              | C5-H6···Se2 | 0.081 | 16.4  | -14.1 | 0.0007  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 181.9 | 9.9   | 0.0872  | 6.0 |
| <b>FTe2-Se7</b>              | C5-H6···Te2 | 0.090 | 19.6  | -12.6 | 0.0029  | 2.1 |
|                              | O3-H4···Se7 |       | 207.4 | 8.4   | 0.0976  | 6.3 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>O2-Te7</b>  | C5-H6···O2  | 0.040 | 14.6  | -12.0 | -0.0018 | 1.8 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 85.3  | 5.9   | 0.0459  | 4.1 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>S2-Te7</b>  | C5-H6···S2  | 0.047 | 16.2  | -8.8  | 0.0035  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 110.3 | 16.4  | 0.0572  | 4.7 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Se2-Te7</b> | C5-H6···Se2 | 0.053 | 18.4  | -8.7  | 0.0048  | 1.8 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 123.1 | 15.8  | 0.0637  | 5.1 |
| <b>CH<sub>3</sub>Te2-Te7</b> | C5-H6···Te2 | 0.058 | 18.1  | -7.5  | 0.0054  | 1.8 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 130.1 | 15.9  | 0.0667  | 5.3 |
| <b>HO2-Te7</b>               | C5-H6···O2  | 0.047 | 14.0  | -11.7 | -0.0018 | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 96.1  | 7.8   | 0.0516  | 4.4 |
| <b>HS2-Te7</b>               | C5-H6···S2  | 0.052 | 15.7  | -13.2 | 0.0036  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 118.6 | 11.2  | 0.0614  | 5.1 |
| <b>HSe2-Te7</b>              | C5-H6···Se2 | 0.057 | 18.0  | -8.7  | 0.0049  | 1.8 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 131.7 | 15.2  | 0.0680  | 5.4 |
| <b>HTe2-Te7</b>              | C5-H6···Te2 | 0.060 | 17.7  | -7.5  | 0.0056  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 136.0 | 14.9  | 0.0695  | 5.6 |
| <b>FO2-Te7</b>               | C5-H6···O2  | 0.071 | 10.7  | -11.7 | -0.0036 | 1.6 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 132.1 | 5.4   | 0.0704  | 5.1 |
| <b>FS2-Te7</b>               | C5-H6···S2  | 0.079 | 13.1  | -9.0  | 0.0010  | 1.6 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 158.3 | 10.9  | 0.0832  | 5.7 |
| <b>FSe2-Te7</b>              | C5-H6···Se2 | 0.086 | 15.7  | -9.2  | 0.0023  | 1.7 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 173.8 | 16.6  | 0.0917  | 6.0 |
| <b>FTe2-Te7</b>              | C5-H6···Te2 | 0.091 | 16.6  | -8.3  | 0.0033  | 1.8 |
|                              | O3-H4···Te7 |       | 183.6 | 14.6  | 0.0969  | 6.3 |

(a) The total electron density transfer from NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ to RCZOH

(b) The total intramolecular electron density transfer to the  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}/O-H)$  orbitals

Remarkably, Tables 3a, and 3b also figure out that the change in the electron density of the  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$  antibonding orbital ( $\Delta\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$ ) become less negative as Z7 goes from O to S to Se and then Te. Therein, the decrease in the electron density at the  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$  hits bottom when Z7 is O atom, which is explained by the intramolecular hyperconjugative energy ( $E_{intra}$ ) from n(O7) to  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$  overcoming the intermolecular hyperconjugative energy of electron density transfer from n(O2) to  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-$

H), resulting in a rearrangement of electron density throughout **RO2-O7**. Therefore, an increase in occupation of  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$  orbital causes a lengthening of the C<sub>sp<sup>2</sup></sub>-H bond length and a decrease their stretching frequencies upon complexation. In other words, the stretching frequency of C<sub>sp<sup>2</sup></sub>-H in the nonconventional C<sub>sp<sup>2</sup></sub>-H···Z2 hydrogen bonds tends to turn from blue shift to red shift as Z7 changes from O to Te. For the same Z2 and Z7, the intermolecular transfer of electron density from n(Z2) to  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$

orbital witnesses an increase according to the substitution of R as the following order: F < H < CH<sub>3</sub>. This is consistent with the increase in the proton affinity at Z2 in RCZOH in the order of R: F < H < CH<sub>3</sub> (*cf.* Table 1). This implies that the intermolecular electron density transfer from n(Z2) to  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$  orbital can be promoted when R varies from an electron-withdrawing group (F) to an electron-donating one (CH<sub>3</sub>). When Z2 and Z7 are fixed, the lessening in occupation at  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}-H)$  becomes more pronounced as R changes from H to CH<sub>3</sub> and then F (*cf.* Tables 3a, and 3b). This trend suggests that the characteristic of the nonconventional C<sub>sp<sup>2</sup></sub>-H···Z2 hydrogen bonds shifts gradually from red shift to blue shift when R transitions from an electron-donating group to an electron-withdrawing one.

Regarding the O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds, there is an increase in the intermolecular electron density transfer from n(Z7) to  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  orbitals when Z2 is replaced by O, S, Se, and Te, respectively. In contrast, for the same R and Z2, the E<sub>inter</sub> values of O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds decrease in the sequence of Z7 substituents: O > S > Se > Te. These results agree with the strength tendency of O-H···Z7 as found in AIM analysis. Thus, the intermolecular electron density transfer also affects the strength of O-H···Z7.

It is noted that the increase in the electron density at  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  in complexes compared to the corresponding monomers ( $\Delta\sigma^*(O-H)$ ) (*ca.* 0.0388-0.0969 e) lengthens the O-H bond length and decreases its stretching frequency, which can induce the red shift of O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds. For the same Z2 and Z7, the changing of R from CH<sub>3</sub> via H via F results in an improvement in the electron density transfer from n(Z7) to the  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  orbitals, and an increase in the  $\Delta\sigma^*(O-H)$  values (*cf.* Tables 3a, and 3b). Therefore, the larger strength and red shift of O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds are gained for R being the electron-withdrawing group (F).

### 3.4. Changes in bond length and stretching frequency of the O-H and C<sub>sp<sup>2</sup></sub>-H

The change in the bond length ( $\Delta r$ ) and stretching frequency ( $\Delta v$ ) of the O-H and C<sub>sp<sup>2</sup></sub>-H bonds in the **RZ2-Z7** complexes compared to the corresponding monomers are collected in Tables S3a, and S3b and Figures 2a, and 2b.

The results show the elongation of the O-H bond length and the decrease of its stretching frequency in O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds following the complexation. Indeed,  $\Delta r(O-H)$  and  $\Delta v(O-H)$

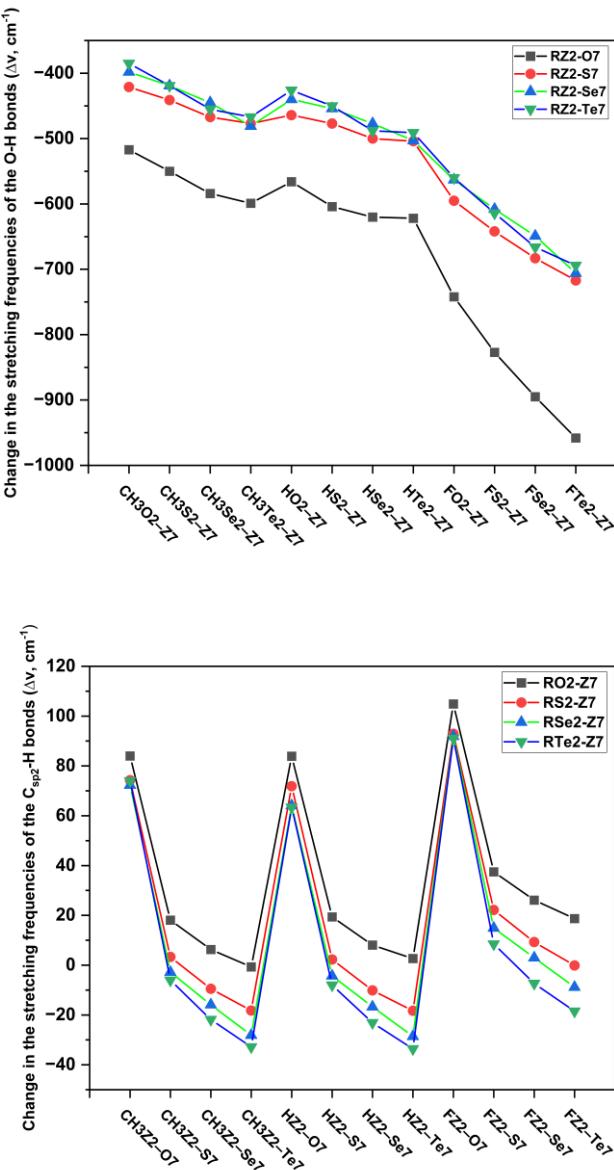
values range from 0.0180 to 0.0482 Å, and from -385.0 to -958.0 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. This validates the red shift of O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds as predicted in the NBO analysis above. For the same R and Z2,  $\Delta v(O-H)$  values in the **RZ2-O7** are more negative than those in the **RZ2-S7**, **RZ2-Se7**, and **RZ2-Te7** (*cf.* Figure 2a), implying a larger red shift of O-H···O7 hydrogen bonds compared to O-H···S/Se/Te ones. This is in line with the larger intermolecular electron density transfer from n(O7) to  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  than from n(S7/Se7/Te7) to  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  orbitals (*cf.* Tables 3a, and 3b).

This observation, however, differs from the result collected in the complexes of RCZOH with FCHZ. Therein, the O-H red shift of O-H···O hydrogen bonds in the FCHO···RCOOH was less than that of O-H···S hydrogen bonds in the FCHS···RCSOH.<sup>18</sup> Besides, the O-H red shift increases significantly as the F atom in FCHZ monomer is substituted by the NH<sub>2</sub> group. This is due to a strong electron-donating group such as NH<sub>2</sub> surging the electron density at the Z sites in NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ. As a result, the Z sites in NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ exhibit a higher proton affinity compared to those in FCHZ, and the intermolecular electron density transfers from n(Z) to  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  orbital in the RCZOH···NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ are larger than those in the RCZOH···FCHZ. Notably, the red shift of O-H···Z hydrogen bonds in the RCZOH···NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ complexes is even more significant than that in the RCZOH···CH<sub>3</sub>CHZ.<sup>15</sup> This substantially large shift affirms the outstanding influence of a strong electron-donating substituent (NH<sub>2</sub>) in NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ on the O-H red shift. Figure 2a points out that for the same R and Z7, the O-H red shift in investigated complexes increases in the order of Z2: O < S < Se < Te. This agrees well with the rise in the occupation at the  $\sigma^*(O-H)$  orbitals (*cf.* Tables 3a, and 3b) and the polarity of O-H bond in RCZOH (*cf.* Table 1) when Z2 shifts from O to S to Se and then Te. In the case of fixing Z2 and Z7, the red shift of O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds witness a decline in the sequence **FZ2-Z7 > HZ2-Z7 > CH<sub>3</sub>Z2-Z7** (*cf.* Figure 2a), being consistent with the decrease in the E<sub>inter</sub> values of O-H···Z7 hydrogen bonds when R changes from F to CH<sub>3</sub> (*cf.* Tables 3a, and 3b). This trend emphasizes the more dominant role of the electron-withdrawing group (F) relative to the electron-donating one (CH<sub>3</sub>) in promoting the O-H red shift. Such observation was once determined in the interaction between XCHZ and YCOOH, where X= H, CH<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>, and Y= H, F, Cl, Br, CH<sub>3</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub> calculated at the same level of theory.<sup>24</sup> The polarity of the O-H bonds in

FCZO<sub>H</sub> is also better than that in HCZO<sub>H</sub> and CH<sub>3</sub>CZO<sub>H</sub> (*cf.* Table 1). Accordingly, the red shift of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds is closely related to the increase in the polarity of the O-H bond in the RCZO<sub>H</sub> monomers, and the strong (a)

intermolecular electron density transfer from n(Z7) to  $\sigma^*$ (O-H) orbitals upon complexation.

(b)



**Figure 2.** (a) Change in the stretching frequency of the O-H bond in the **RZ2-Z7** complexes compared to the RCZO<sub>H</sub> monomers, with R= H, F, CH<sub>3</sub>; Z (Z2, Z7) = O, S, Se, Te. (b) Change in the stretching frequency of the C<sub>sp2</sub>-H in the **RZ2-Z7** complexes compared to the NH<sub>2</sub>CHZ monomers, with R= H, F, CH<sub>3</sub>; Z (Z2, Z7)= O, S, Se, Te

On the other hand, Figure 2b shows that for the same R and Z7, the stretching frequency of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H involving nonconventional  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ O2 hydrogen bonds increases during the formation of **RO2-Z7** complexes ( $\Delta\nu(C_{sp^2}$ -H) = 2.7 – 104.9  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ), indicating the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H blue shift in  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ O2 hydrogen bonds. This blue shift can be attributed to a reduction of the electron density at the  $\sigma^*(C_{sp^2}$ -H) orbital following the **RO2-Z7** complexation (cf. Tables 3a, and 3b) that leads to a contraction in the bond length and an increase in the stretching frequency of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H bond in the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ O2. When Z2 is replaced with S, Se, and Te, the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H stretching frequencies in  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ S2/Se2/Te2 hydrogen bonds in most complexes tend to be red-shifted, except for **RS2-O7**, **RS2-S7**, **RSe2-O7**, **RSe2-S7**, **RTe2-O7**, and **RTe2-S7**. Therefore, the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H stretching frequencies of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 hydrogen bonds turn from blue- to red shift as Z2 varies from O to S to Se and then Te. This tendency is proportional to the enhancement of the proton affinity at Z2 in the order O < S < Se < Te (cf. Table 1). For the same R and Z2, there is a growth in the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H red shift upon the substitution of Z7 from O to Te which accords with the rise in the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H polarity of the  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  monomers in the order  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHO} < \text{NH}_2\text{CHS} < \text{NH}_2\text{CHSe} < \text{NH}_2\text{CHTe}$  (cf. Table 1). Therefore, the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H red shift in  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 is closely related to the increase in the proton affinity at the Z sites and the polarity of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H donor fragment. This observation was also suggested in some previous reports.<sup>15,16,19,24</sup> When fixing Z2 and Z7, the magnitude of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H blue shift in  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ O2 significantly increases in the order of the R substituents:  $\text{CH}_3 < \text{H} < \text{F}$ , corresponding to the decrease in the proton affinity at Z site according to the trend above. Hence, the blue shift of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H bond can be observed along with the decline in the proton affinity at the proton acceptor Z. In comparison with the complexes of the RCZOH with the  $\text{CH}_3/\text{FCHZ}$ , the blue shift of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ O is presented more obvious when an electron-donating atom (F) or a weaker electron-donating group ( $\text{CH}_3$ ) in the chalcogenoaldehyde derivatives is replaced with a strong electron-donating substituent ( $\text{NH}_2$ ).<sup>15,18</sup> This trend relates to the decrease in the polarity of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H bonds in the order of chalcogenoaldehyde derivatives:  $\text{FCHZ} > \text{CH}_3\text{CHZ} > \text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$ . Besides, the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H stretching-frequencies in  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ S2/Se2/Te2 hydrogen bonds turn from red shift to blue shift when R changes from H to  $\text{CH}_3$  and then F. This observation suggests that the electron-donating group can urge forward the red shift of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z

hydrogen bonds more than the electron-withdrawing one.

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

There are 48 stable complexes formed between RCZOH and  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  (**RZ2-Z7**) (with R= H, F,  $\text{CH}_3$ ; Z= O, S, Se, Te) whose structures are stabilized by O-H $\cdots$ Z7 and  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 hydrogen bonds, in which the formers play a predominant role in the stability of the complexes. The increase in the stability of **RZ2-Z7** is observed when R changes from the electron-donating  $\text{CH}_3$  group to the electron-withdrawing F one, and Z2 turns from O to Te. For Z7 being O, S, and Se, **RTe2-Z7** is higher in stability than **RS2-Z7**, **RSe2-Z7**, and **RO2-Z7** while the **RO2-Te7** is more stable than the **RSe2-Te7**, **RS2-Te7**, and **RTe2-Te7**.

The strength of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds (ca. -16.0  $\div$  -101.3  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ) is larger than those of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 ones (ca. -5.3  $\div$  -16.4  $\text{kJ}\cdot\text{mol}^{-1}$ ). The O-H stretching frequencies in the O-H $\cdots$ Z7 are characterised by the red shift. The strength and the red shift of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 decrease in the order of Z7 substituents: O > S > Se > Te. In contrast, the change of Z2 from O to Te, and R from  $\text{CH}_3$  to F leads to an increase in the O-H red shift. Remarkably, the O-H red shift agrees well with the rise in the O-H polarity, and the proton affinity at the proton acceptors Z. The very strong intermolecular transfer of electron density from n(Z7) to  $\sigma^*(\text{O-H})$  orbitals also contributes significantly to the strength and the red shift of O-H $\cdots$ Z7 hydrogen bonds.

The nonconventional  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 hydrogen bonds experience a decrease in their stability as Z2 in RCZOH goes from O to Te, and R changes from  $\text{CH}_3$  to F. The substitution of the O atom in  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHZ}$  with S, Se, and Te results in the larger strength of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ Z2 hydrogen bonds. In addition, the stretching frequencies of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H bond turn from blue shift to red shift as Z2 and Z7 vary from O to Te, in which the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H blue shift of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H $\cdots$ O2 reaching 104.9  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . The magnitude of the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H red shift becomes more obvious when R goes from F to  $\text{CH}_3$  substitution. The increase in the  $C_{sp^2}$ -H stretching frequencies occurs along with the decrease in both the proton affinity at Z2 sites and the polarity of  $C_{sp^2}$ -H bonds, and *vice versa*. Interestingly, this work highlights the remarkable impact of  $\text{NH}_2$  relative to  $\text{CH}_3/\text{F}$  substituent in chalcogenoaldehydes on the increase in the stretching frequency O-H red- and  $C_{sp^2}$ -H blue shift involving hydrogen bond.

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