Abstract Submitted for the NWS09 Meeting of The American Physical Society

New Photoelectron/Photoion Spectrometer: New Look at the Adiabatic Ionization Potential of Acetic Acid PIOTR W. FORYSINSKI, PHILIPP ZIELKE, DAVID LUCKHAUS, RUTH SIGNORELL, University of British Columbia — We report the setup of a new photoion/photoelectron spectrometer for the investigation of the interaction of extreme ultraviolet (EUV) light (wavelength > 70nm) with molecules, clusters and aerosol particles. We perform pulsed field ionization zero kinetic energy electron (PFI-ZEKE) spectroscopic studies of the acetic acid monomer (AA) as a stepping stone on the way to larger systems. We measure the adiabatic ionization potential of AA at higher resolution than previously reported, ending a 40 year debate regarding its true position. The newly established value for the ionization potential is thus $85912 \pm 5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. We resolve torsional hot bands adjacent to the 0 - 0 transition, explaining the shift in previously reported values. These hot band frequencies allow us to calculate the torsional barrier in the cation, which is nearly double of that in the ground state. The value of $316 \pm 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ for the torsional barrier suggests a significant shortening of the C-C bond in the molecular cation. Furthermore, we also observe the CCO deformation mode of the cation at 357 ± 5 cm⁻¹ above the adiabatic ionization potential.

> Piotr W. Forysinski University of British Columbia

Date submitted: 10 Apr 2009 Electronic form version 1.4