

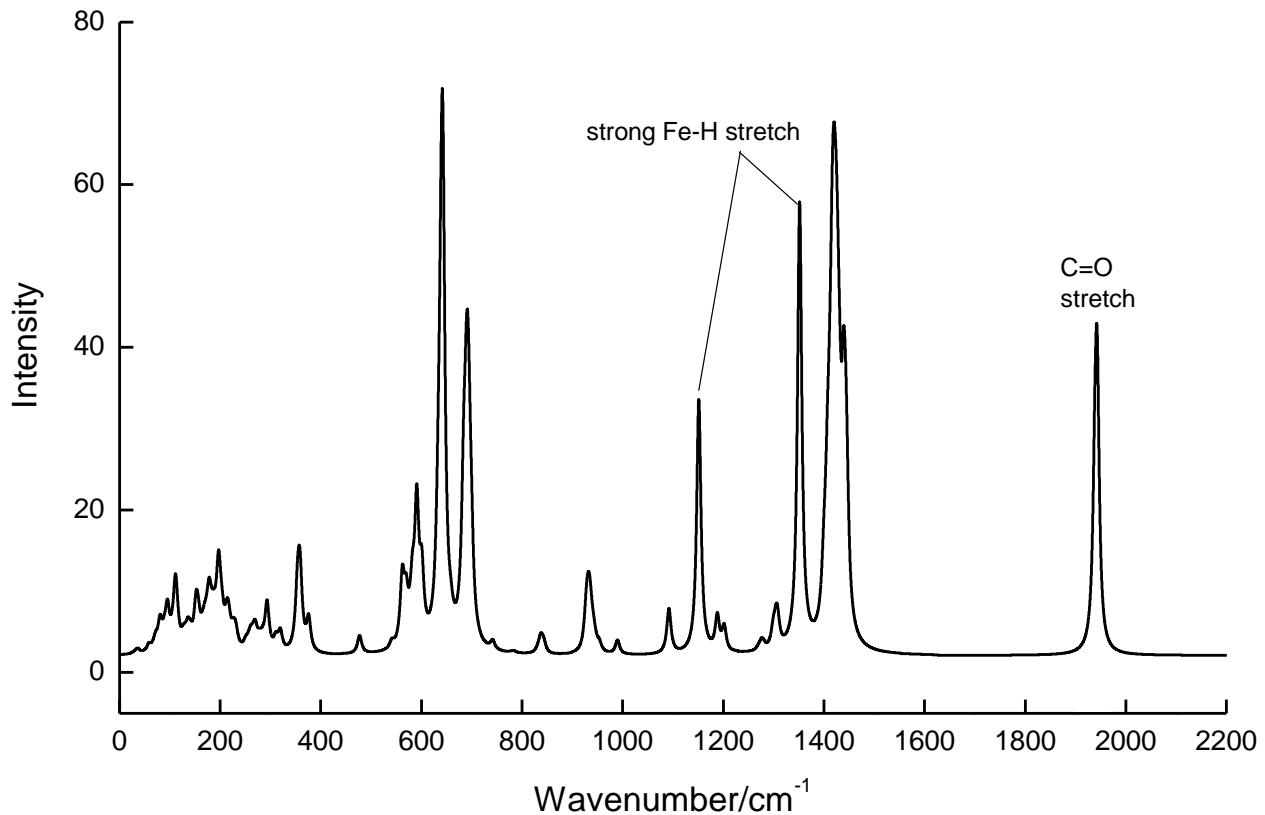
**SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**DOI:** 10.1002/ejic.201001037

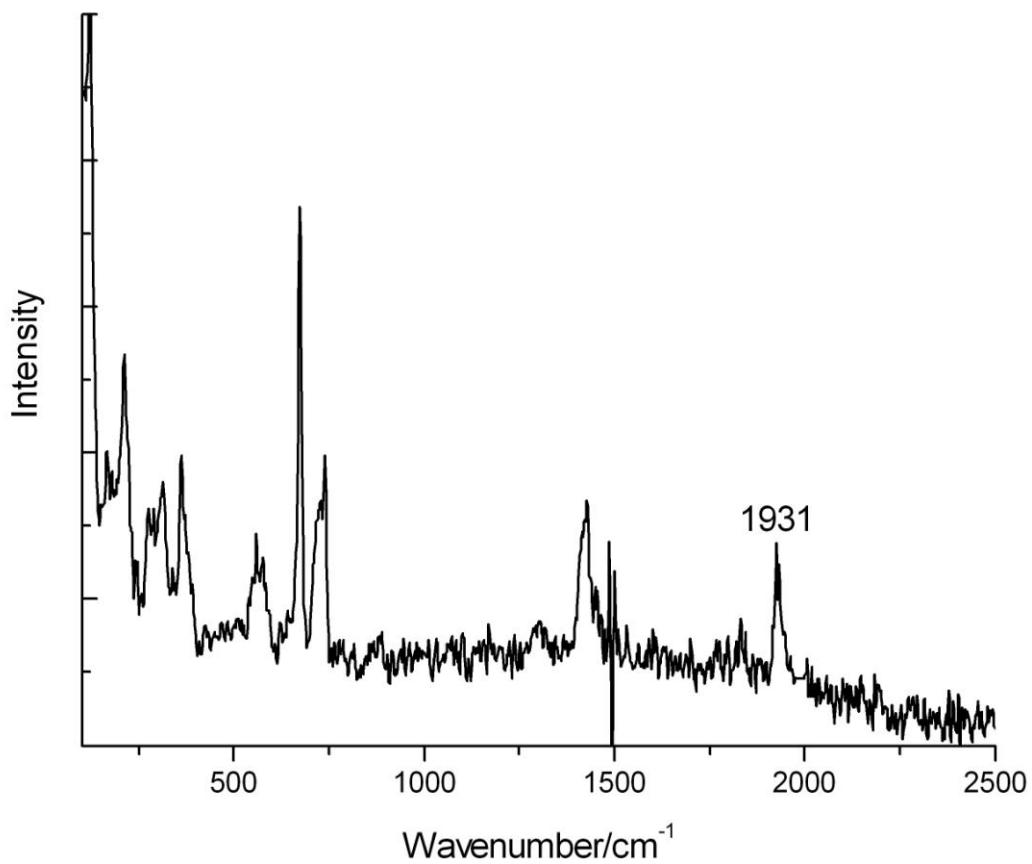
**Title:** Favorable Protonation of the ( $\mu$ -edt)[Fe<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>(H-terminal)]<sup>+</sup> Hydrogenase Model Complex Over Its Bridging  $\mu$ -H Counterpart: A Spectroscopic and DFT Study

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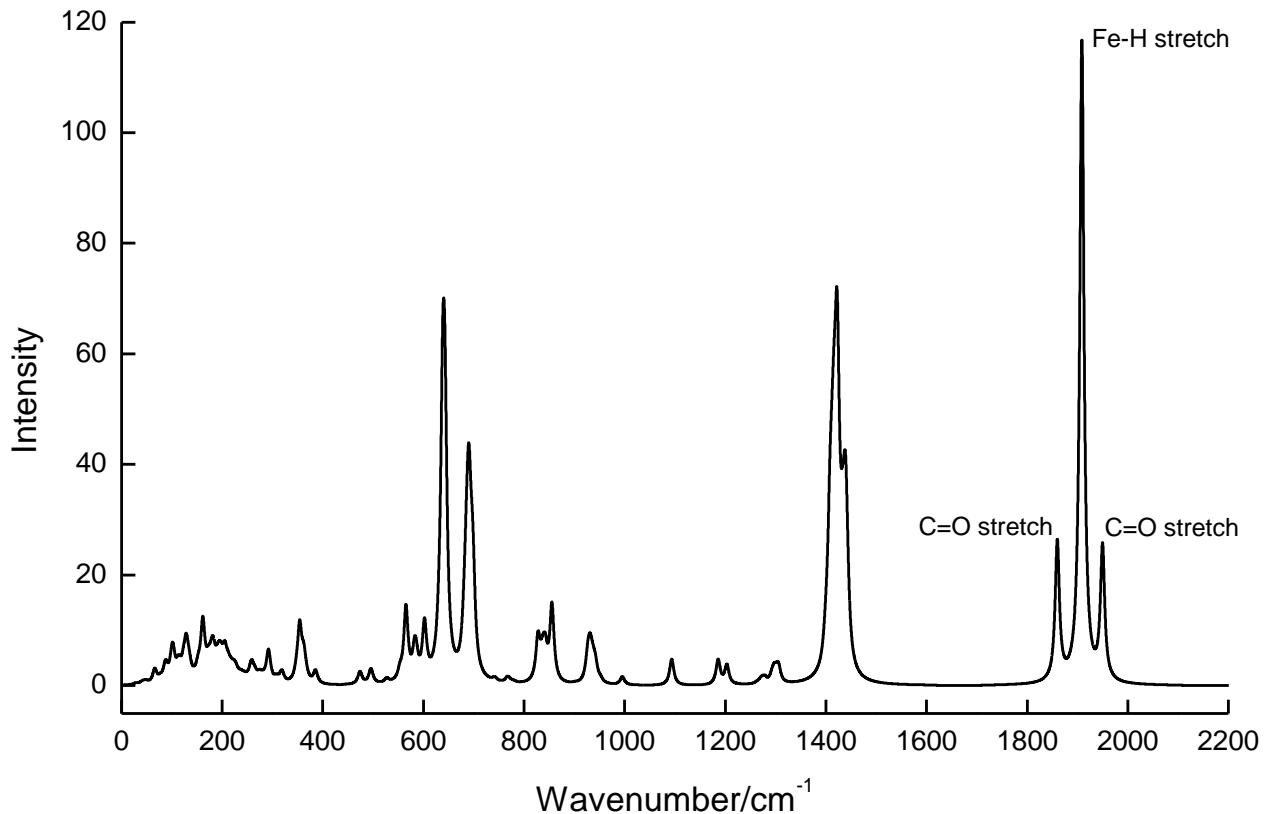
**Figure S1.** DFT (BP86/TZVP) predicted Raman spectrum of the bridging hydride isomer ( $\mu$ -H) of ( $\mu$ -edt)[Fe<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>H]<sup>+</sup>.



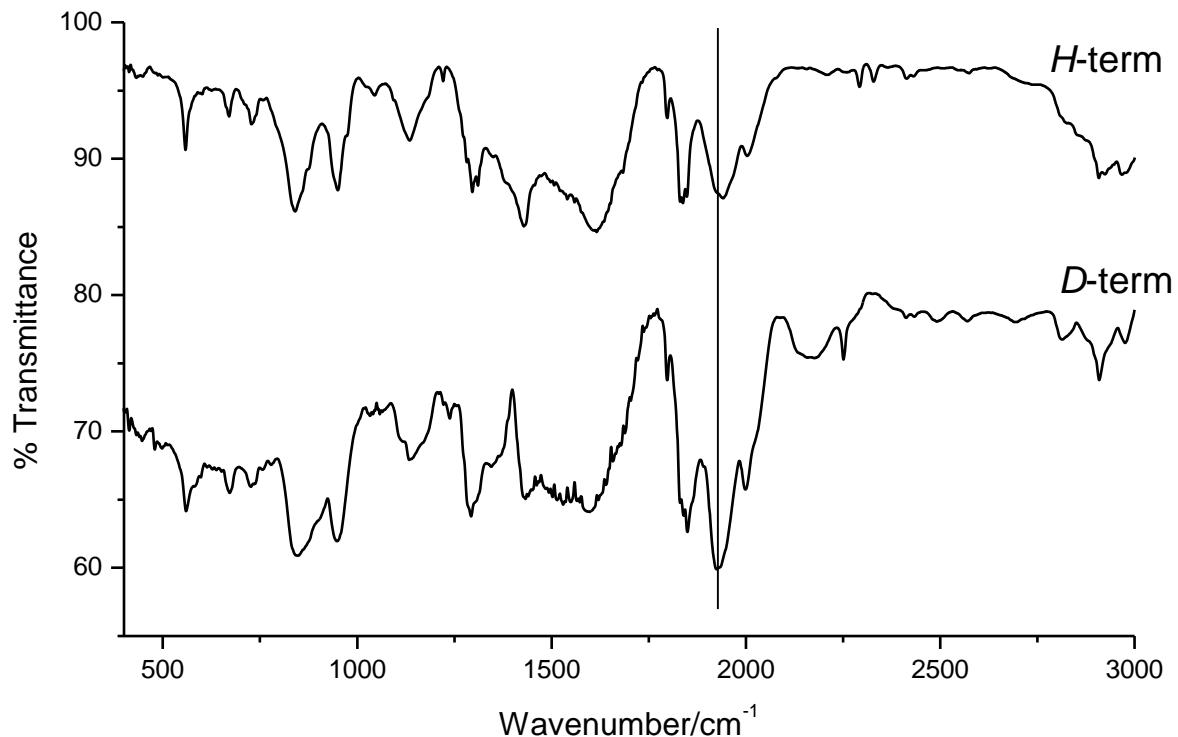
**Figure S2.** FT-Raman spectrum of solid *D*-term ( $\mu$  -edt)[Fe<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>D]<sup>+</sup>. An excitation wavelength of 1064 nm was used.



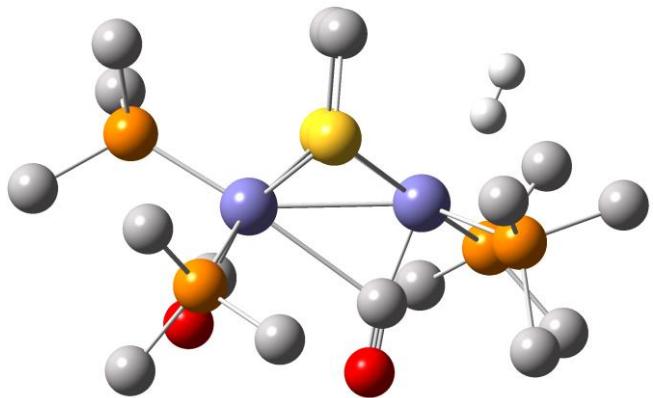
**Figure S3.** DFT (BP86/TZVP) predicted Raman spectrum of the *H*-terminal isomer (*H*-term) of  $(\mu\text{-edt})[\text{Fe}_2(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\text{CO})_2\text{H}]^+$ . Curiously, the intensity of the Fe-H stretch is largely overestimated in the calculations.



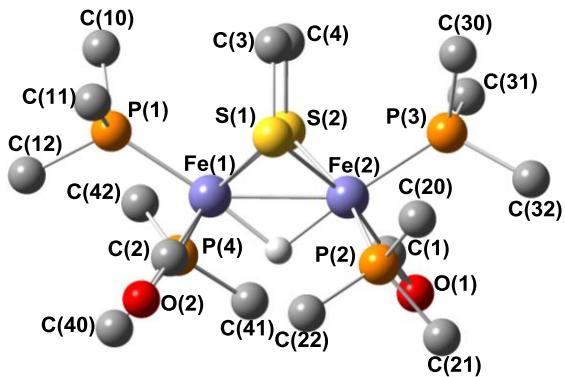
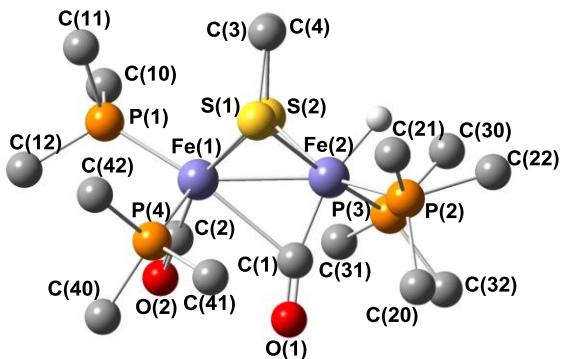
**Figure S4.** FT-IR spectra of *H*-term and *D*-term ( $\mu$ -edt)[Fe<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub> H/D]<sup>+</sup>. Note that the ν(C=O) stretching mode in *D*-term (emphasized by the bold line) is slightly shifted to lower energy and has a greater relative intensity, indicating the presence of a fraction of the  $\mu$ -D isomer.



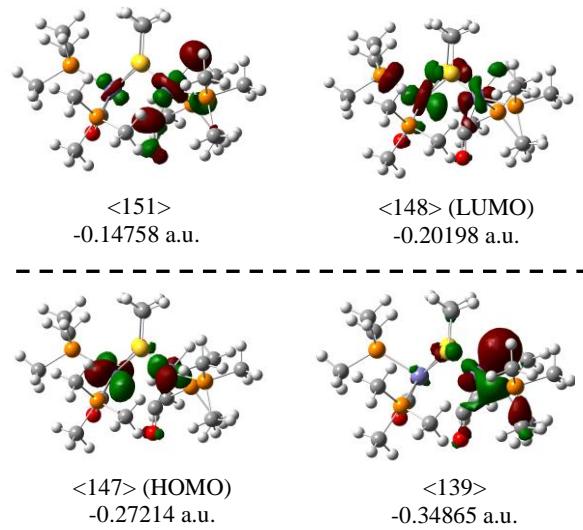
**Figure S5.** DFT (BP86/TZVP) predicted structure of the dihydrogen complex of *H*-term,  $(\mu\text{-edt})[\text{Fe}_2(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\text{CO})_2 \text{H}_2]^{2+}$ , in the absence of base. The calculated Fe-H<sub>2</sub> distance is 1.80 Å.



**Figure S6.** Optimized structures of the *H*-term (top) and  $\mu$ -H (bottom) isomers of  $(\mu\text{-edt})[\text{Fe}_2(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\text{CO})_2\text{H}]^+$  using BP86/TZVP (colored version). The atomic labeling scheme is used in pertinent sections of the discussion. Hydrogen atoms of organic side chains are omitted for clarity.



**Figure S7.** Contour plots of selected MOs of  $H$ -term ( $\mu$ -edt)[Fe<sub>2</sub>(PMe<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>(CO)<sub>2</sub>H]<sup>+</sup> calculated with BP86/TZVP (colored version).



**Figure S8.** Contour plots of selected MOs of  $\mu\text{-H}$  ( $\mu\text{-edt}[\text{Fe}_2(\text{PMe}_3)_4(\text{CO})_2\text{H}]^+$  calculated with BP86/TZVP (colored version).

