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The anharmonic infrared spectra of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons

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THE ANHARMONIC INFRARED SPECTRA
OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS

PROEFSCHRIFT

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de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden,
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volgens besluit van het College voor Promoties
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door
Cameron J. Mackie
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in 1984

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Cover: Depicted on the cover is a golden hexagon inscribed with an ancient Greek phrase. In Greek mythology, the goddess Eris having been spurned by the other gods, wanted to cause discord and *inharmonicity* between them. She crafted a golden apple, and on this apple she inscribed “τῇ καλλίστῃ”, which translates to “to the Fairest One”. She tossed this Apple of Discord amongst the gods, knowing they would each think themselves the fairest and fight over who is the true owner of the gift. In an analogous manner, this thesis aims to introduce *anharmonicities* into the infrared spectra of PAHs; a Benzenoid of Discord tossed amongst the PAHs.

To the Fairest One

“Science may be described as the art of systematic over-simplification – the art of discerning what we may with advantage omit.”

-Karl Popper

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