

Supporting information for:

**Insights into the terahertz response of L-Glutamic acid and its receptor**

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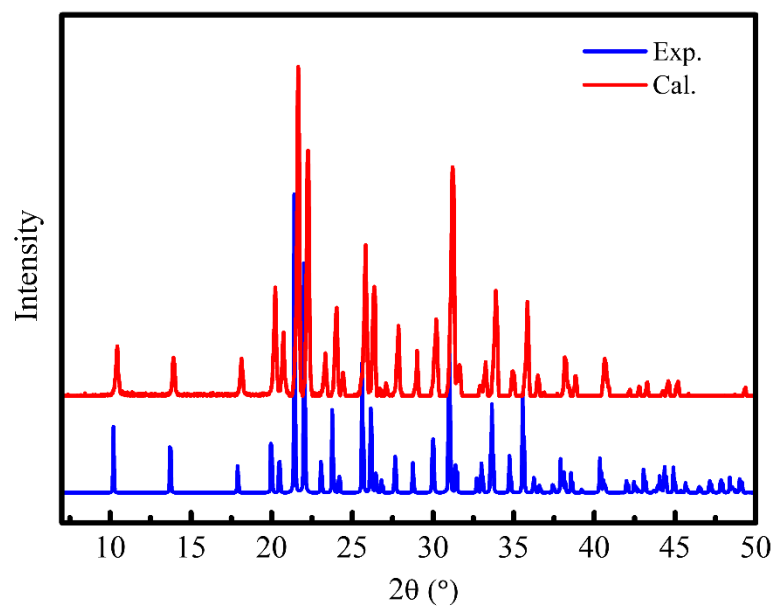
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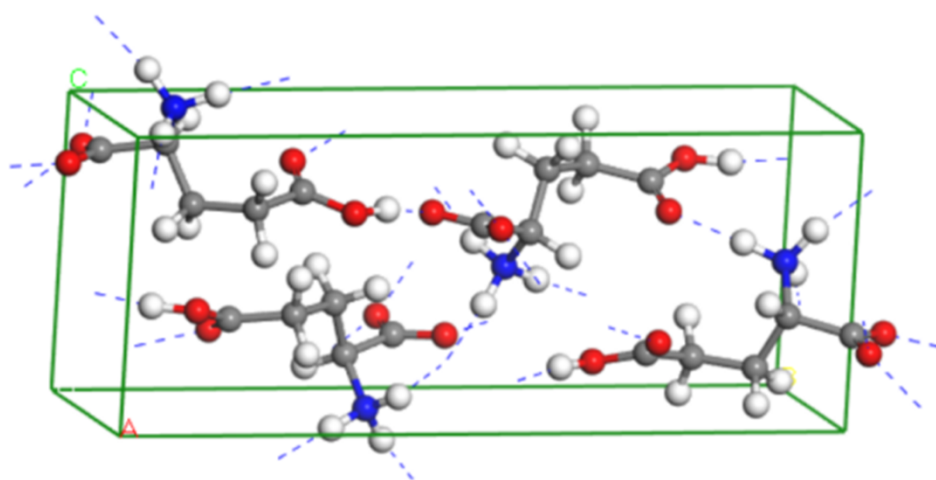
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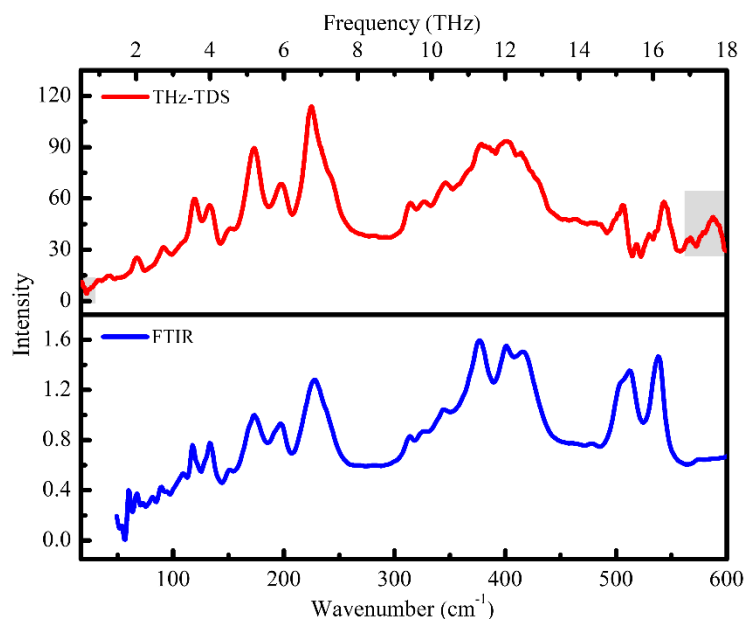
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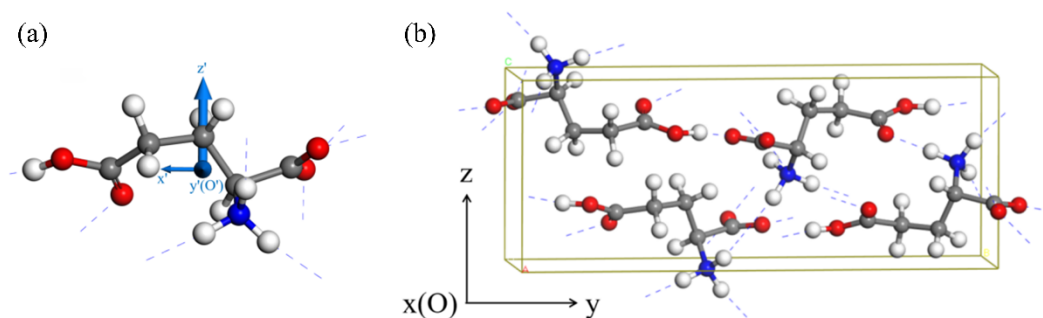
**Fig. S1** The PXRD experimental (blue line) and calculated (red line) spectra of L-Glu.



**Fig. S2** Schematic diagram of unit cell structure of L-Glu.



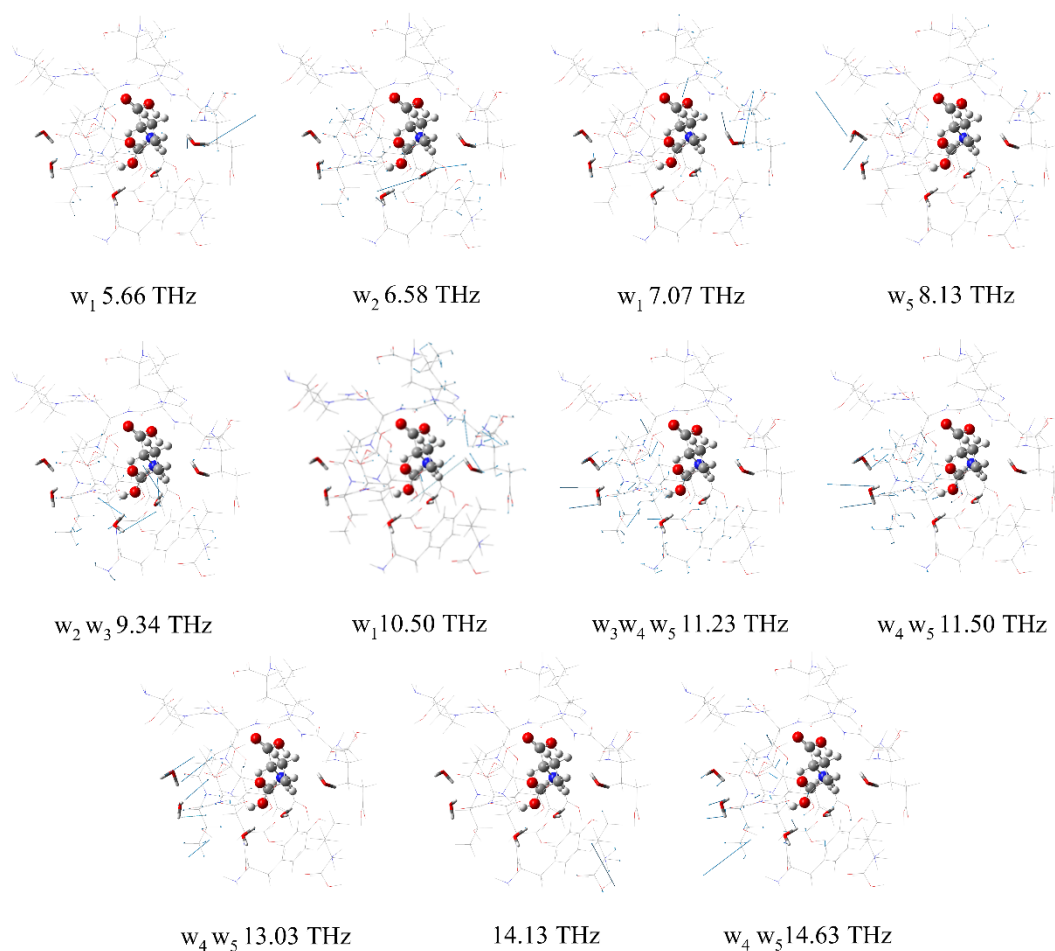
**Fig. S3** THz absorption spectra of L-Glu obtained by THz-TDS (red line) and FTIR (blue line).  
The absorption in the grey area is for reference only.



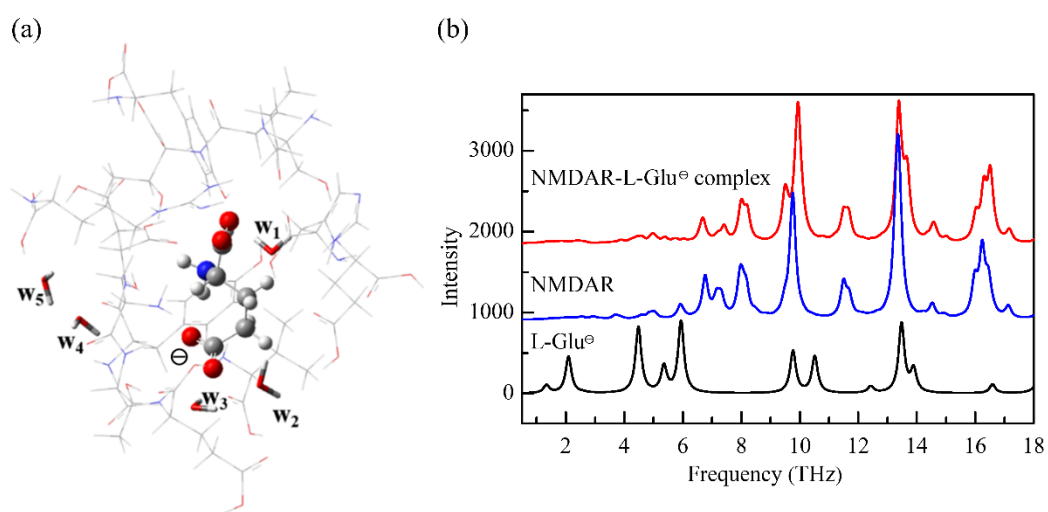
**Fig. S4** (a) The coordinate system determined by the three principal axes of a single L-Glu molecule, and (b) the coordinate system of L-Glu unit cell.

**Table S1** List of surrounding molecules that were included in molecular models used in ONIOM calculation.

GLU A 14 MM	HIS A 88 MM	SER A 114 MM
LEU A 115 MM	THR A 116 MM	ARG A 121 MM
VAL A 169 MM	SER A 173 MM	THR A 174 MM
GLU A 175 MM	TYR A 214 MM	ASP A 215 MM
TYR A 245 MM	HOH A 316 MM	HOH A 320 MM
HOH A 321 MM	HOH A 338 MM	HOH A 365 MM
GLU A1001 QM		

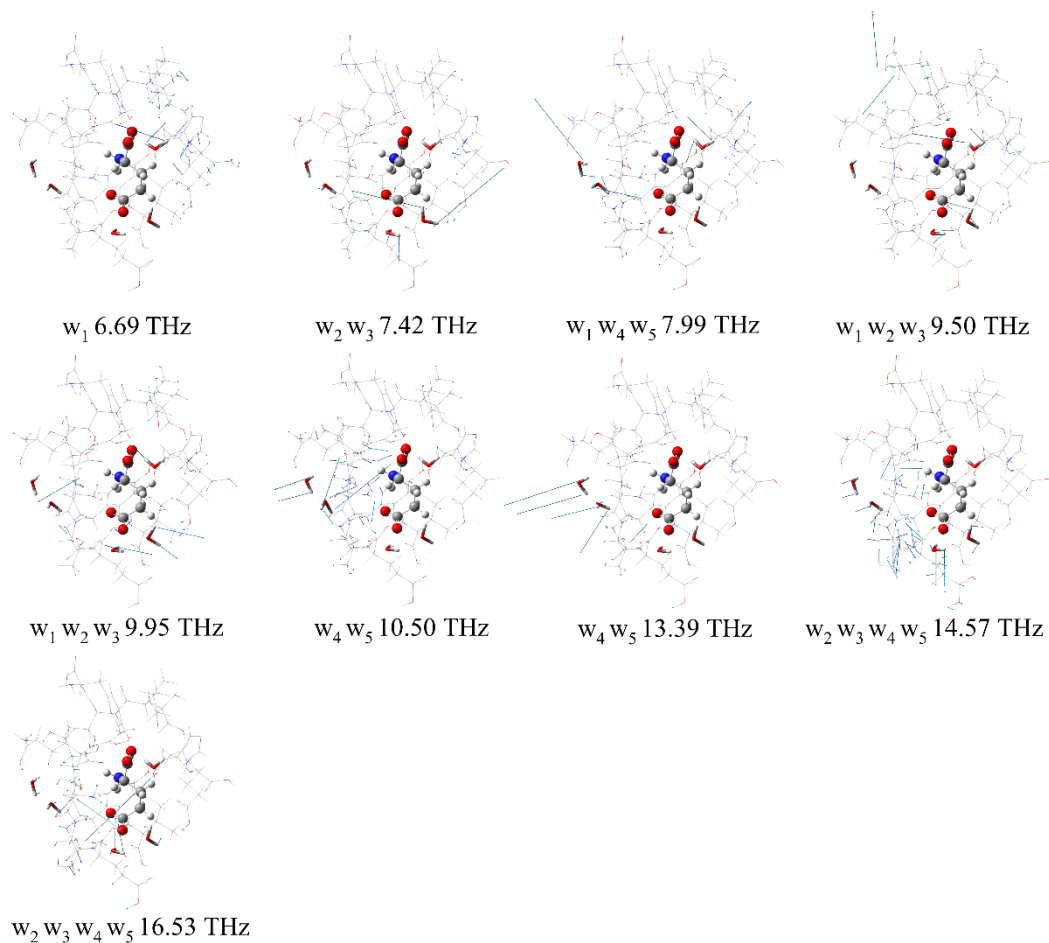


**Fig. S5** Schematic diagram of normal modes of different water molecules in the NMDAR-L-Glu complex at specific frequencies.

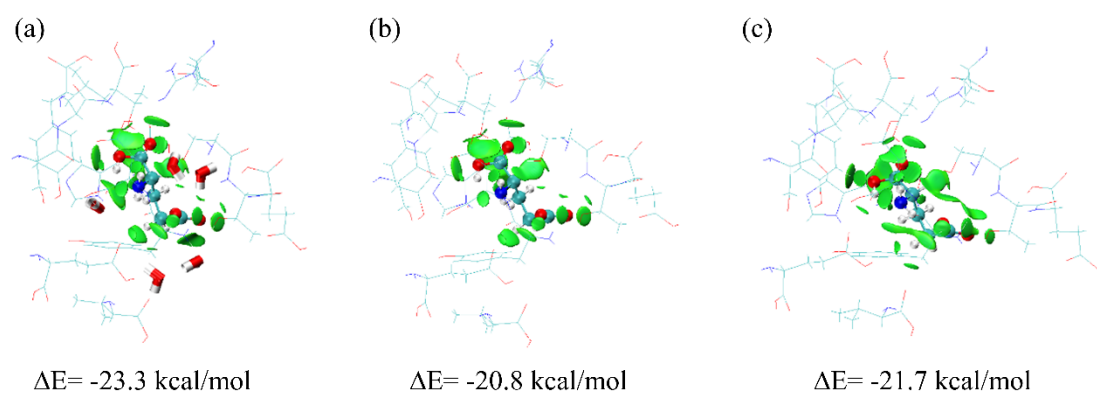


**Fig. S6** (a) Structure diagram of the NMDAR-L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup> complex, where L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup> stands for HOOC-CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-COO<sup>⊖</sup>. (b) THz spectra of NMDAR-L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup> complex and NMDAR and L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup>

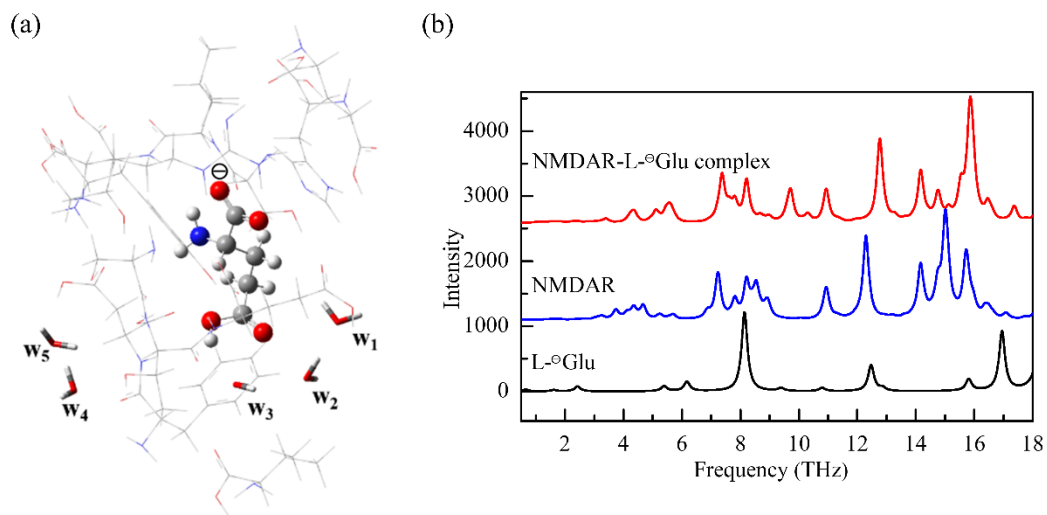
in the range of 0.5~18 THz obtained by theoretical calculation, the spectral intensity of L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup> is amplified to 12 times to facilitate comparison.



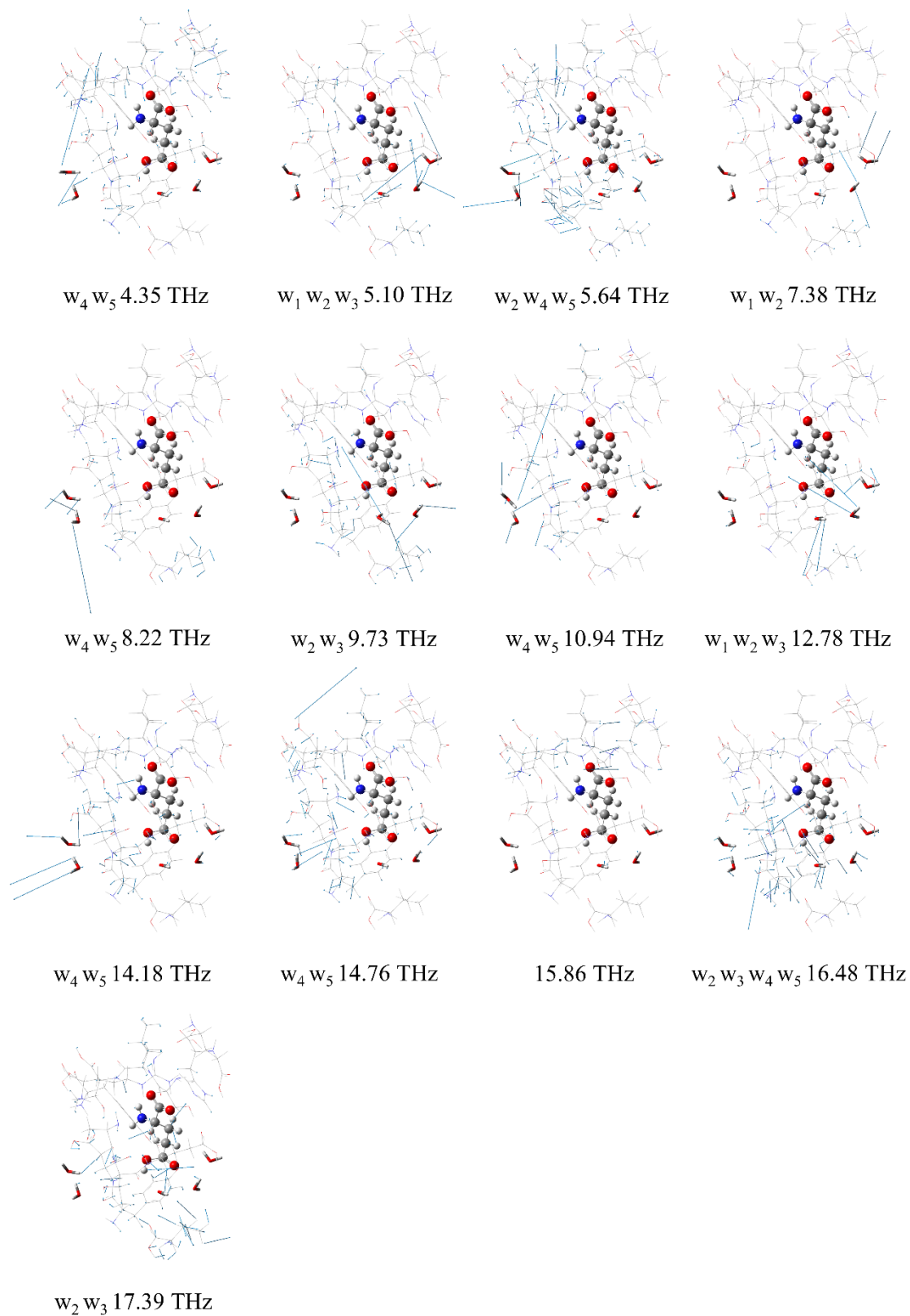
**Fig. S7** Schematic diagram of normal modes of different water molecules in the NMDAR-L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup> complex at specific frequencies.



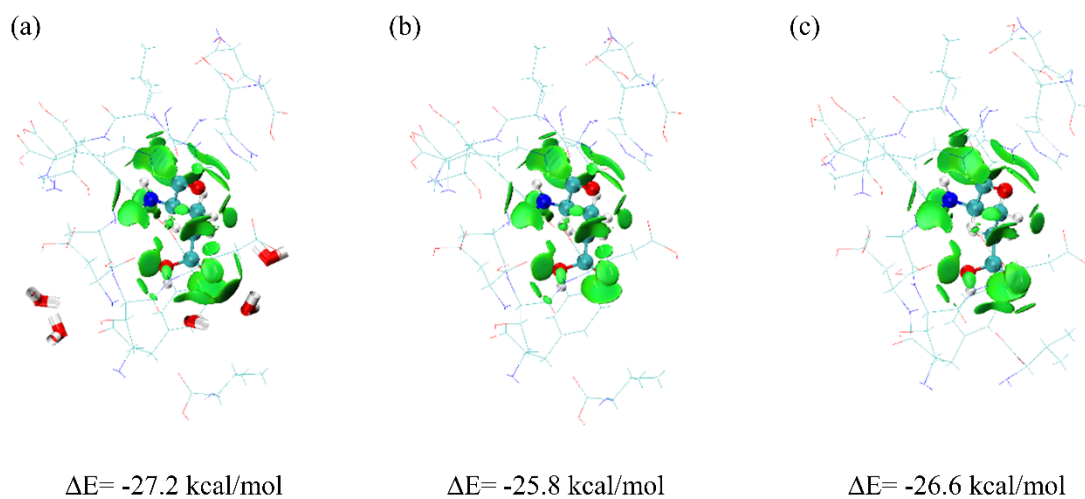
**Fig. S8** Influence of water molecules on the conformation and binding energy of NMDAR-L-Glu<sup>⊖</sup> complex.



**Fig. S9** (a) Structure diagram of the NMDAR-L-<sup>⊖</sup>Glu complex, where L-<sup>⊖</sup>Glu stands for <sup>⊖</sup>OOC-CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-COOH). (b) THz spectra of NMDAR-L-<sup>⊖</sup>Glu complex and NMDAR and L-<sup>⊖</sup>Glu in the range of 0.5~18 THz obtained by theoretical calculation, the spectral intensity of L-<sup>⊖</sup>Glu is amplified to 7 times to facilitate comparison.



**Fig. S10** Schematic diagram of normal modes of different water molecules in the NMDAR-L- $\ominus$ Glu complex at specific frequencies.



**Fig. S11** Influence of water molecules on the conformation and binding energy of NMDAR-L- $\ominus$ Glu complex.