Ortho-para transitions of molecular hydrogen in H⁺ + H₂ collisions

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1. Introduction

2. Experiments and dynamics $(D^+ + H_2, H^+ + D_2)$

3. State-to-state study of $H^+ + H_2$

Importance of H₃⁺

Almost an entire separate chapter on Chemistry, Physics and Astronomy



Most abundant ionic species in hydrogen plasmas.

Crucial role in first stages of stars formation

Largely investigated:

- (i) Spectroscopy(ii) PESs
- (iii) Reactive scattering

Both k(T) and dynamics in terms of E

Chemical clock: The *o*-H₂(odd *j*) abundance is key to estimate the age of interstellar dark clouds which lead to form stars.

Deuterium

D/H ratio ~ $1.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$ in the vicinity of Solar System. This value is supposed to remain for HDO/H₂O, N₂D⁺/N₂H⁺ etc...

However ND₃ and CD₃OH have been detected at abundances 10^{10} , 10^{15} larger than expected.

Why? Grains depleted from newborn star at the center of the core.

Modelling the time for those species (D) to disappear gives age of the protostar.

0-H₂

o-H₂ can react with deuterated species removing D. N_2D^+/N_2H^+ ratio increases when o-H₂ abundance decrease

Study of $o-H_2 / p-H_2$ ratio !!

 $o-H_2$ conversion to $p-H_2$ via collisions:

 $\begin{array}{l} \mathsf{H^{+}+o\text{-}H_{2}}\rightarrow\mathsf{H^{+}+p\text{-}H_{2}}\\ \mathsf{H_{3}^{+}+o\text{-}H_{2}}\rightarrow\mathsf{H_{3}^{+}+p\text{-}H_{2}} \end{array}$

E. Roueff et al. *Rate Coefficients in Astrochemistry* Kluwer Academ. Pub. 73-85 (1988)

"(...) At low collisional energies, $H_2(j)$ collides with H^+ in a reactive process which proceeds through the strongly coupled intermediate complex H_3^+ which leads to a redistribution of the rotational states of H_2 without any selection rule on j and induces ortho-para transitions"

 $H + H_2$?

Formation of intermediate complex \leftrightarrow Statistical methods for dynamics

A rigorous test of the statistical model for atom-diatom insertion reactions

Edward J. Rackham, Tomas Gonzalez-Lezana, and David E. Manolopoulos^a) Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory, South Parks Road, Oxford OX1 3QZ, United Kingdom

(Received 17 September 2003; accepted 1 October 2003)

$$|S_{vjk,v'j'k'}^{J}(E)|^{2} \cong \frac{p_{vjk}^{J}(E)p_{v'j'k'}^{J}(E)}{\sum_{v''j''k''}p_{v''j''k''}^{J}(E)}$$

QM calculation of probabilities Ab initio PES



 $A + BC \rightarrow (ABC) \rightarrow AB + C$

2. Experiments and dynamics: $(D^+ + H_2, H^+ + D_2)$

What we know from Theory

• Indications of:



Krenos (74); Schiler (85,87); Ichihara (00);

 Statistical approaches for J=0-CRP for: D⁺+H₂ at E < 2.1 eV Takayanagi (00) H⁺+HD : Kamisaka (02)



What we know from Experiment



VT-SIFT: Variable Temp. Selected Ion Flow Tube Henchman 81 GIB: Guided Ion Beams Ochs Teloy 74; Gerlich 92 DRIFT: Drift Tube Villinger 82

Pioneering measurements of rate coefficients

Some differences with PST approach at large E

What we know from Experiment

 $H^++D_2 \rightarrow HD+D^+$



Wrede et al. PCCP 7 1577 (2005)

Rovibrationally resolved state distributions of HD are close to those from the ion-molecule reaction

Attempts to describe things statistically:

associated with D* signal from Rydberg reactions. The relative rotational HD populations are superimposed on the fitted KES in Fig. 7 together with the statistical prior distribution⁸ for HD(v' = 0) products. The comparison between the measured and the prior distributions, which do not account for any angular momentum constrains, indicates that the HD product states are mainly statistically populated, however, some pronounced deviations from the prior distribution are evident. The higher rotational levels, j' = 7 and 8, show significantly higher populations than predicted by this simple statistical model, particularly in the spectrum recorded at $\theta_{lab} = 15^{\circ}$. In order to



What we know from Experiment

Indications of a complex-forming dynamics from the QCT calculation:

The results of the QCT calculations were completely consistent with the usual expectations for simple ionmolecule reactions. The reaction was found to proceed through a long-lived collision complex that decays exponentially in time. The lifetime was sufficiently long to yield a roughly symmetrical forward-backward peaking product distribution. The final rotational product distribution was

...and from the experiment:

The comparison of the QCT results to the experimental measurements for $H(n)+D_2 \rightarrow HD+D(n')$ seems to generally support the proposition that the reaction proceeds through the ion-molecule mechanism. The product rotational state distributions were found to be well reproduced by QCT. Furthermore, these state distributions were roughly independent of scattering angle (aside from some fluctuations in the experimental DCS) for both theory and experiment. The angular product distributions exhibited characteristic forward-backward peaking in both the experiment and QCT simulations. The most significant difference between theory and experiment was the appearance of a higher level of forward-backward asymmetry of the DCS in the experimental measurement. This disagreement needs to be addressed in future

 $H^{+} + D_{2}$







$H^++D_2(v=0,j=0) \rightarrow D^++DH$

Carmona-Novillo et al. JCP (2008)



Better agreement between theory and experiment at sideways scattering ($\Theta_{lab}=52^{\circ}$) than at backward scattering ($\Theta_{lab}=9^{\circ}$)



Agreement with and exact TIQM result except at the strict forward/backward peaks

Failure of the QCT approach \leftrightarrow QM effects

State-to-State Quantum Mechanical Calculations of Rate Coefficients for the D⁺ + H₂ \rightarrow HD + H⁺ Reaction at Low Temperature P. Honvault*^† and Y. Scribano[‡]



Article pubs.acs.org/JPCA

TIQM rate coefficients decrease as E decreases SQM results agree with TIQM; same discrepancies with EXP





 R_{max} consistent with ρ_{max} of the TIQM is only valid for $E_c \, \sim \, 10^{\text{-2}} \, \text{eV}$

 $\begin{array}{l} {\sf R}_{\rm max} \; 25 \; {\sf a}_0 \; {\sf E}_{\rm c} \, \sim \, 10^{\text{-3}} \; {\rm eV} \\ {\sf R}_{\rm max} \; 40 \; {\sf a}_0 \; {\sf E}_{\rm c} \, \sim \, 2 \, \cdot 10^{\text{-4}} \; {\rm eV} \\ {\sf R}_{\rm max} \; 70 \; {\sf a}_0 \; {\sf E}_{\rm c} \, \sim \, 10^{\text{-4}} \; {\rm eV} \end{array}$



Actual EXP vs Theory comparison with limits of validity for SQM and TIQM





SQM slightly differs from EXP beyond 0.2 eV

TIQM shows the correct trend as E_{c} increases



3. State-to-state study of $H^+ + H_2$



Good agreement (forward/backward peaks!)

QCT failure as J increases

No oscillations in SQM result



TGL et al. JCP 125, 094314 (2006)

International Reviews in Physical Chemistry, 2014 Vol. 33, No. 3, 371–395, http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/0144235X.2014.943470

The H⁺+H₂ reaction

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 $\rm H_3^+$ plays a crucial role in Astrophysics, taking part in the early chemistry responsible for the formation of the stars. It is also one of the most abundant ionic species in hydrogen plasmas. The spectroscopy of the system has been the subject of intensive work in the past. Association processes to form $\rm H_3^+$ and dissociative recombination with electrons have also been investigated in detail in order to understand the observed abundance of the molecule in the interstellar medium. Besides all these questions, in this work, we review some of the most relevant aspects regarding the dynamics of the $\rm H^+ + H_2$ reaction and its isotopic variants. A discussion on the most commonly found numerical difficulties in the theoretical study of this reactive collision is included.

keywords: reaction dynamics; spectroscopy; astrophysics



$H^{+}+H_{2}(v=0,j) \rightarrow H^{+}+H_{2}(v'=0,j')$



Chemical clock: The *o*-H₂(odd *j*) abundance is crucial to estimate the age of interstellar dark clouds which lead to form stars.



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Rovibrational transitions of H₂ by collision with H⁺ at high temperature

doi:10.1093/mnras/stx192

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Pagani, Lesaffre, Honvault, Jorfi, TGL, Faure, A&A (2012)



