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# Tracking the energy flow in the hydrogen exchange reaction $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ 

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#### Abstract

The prototypical hydrogen exchange reaction $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ has attracted considerable interest due to its importance in a wide range of chemically active environments. In this work, an accurate global potential energy surface (PES) for the ground electronic state was developed based on $\sim 44000$ ab initio points at the level of UCCSD(T)-F12a/aug-cc-pVTZ. The PES was fitted using the fundamental invariant-neural network method with a root mean squared error of 4.37 meV . The mode specific dynamics was then studied by the quasi-classical trajectory method on the PES. Furthermore, the normal mode analysis approach was employed to calculate the final vibrational state distribution of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, in which a new scheme to acquire the Cartesian coordinates and momenta of each atom in the product molecule from the trajectories was proposed. It was found that, on one hand, excitation of either the symmetric stretching mode or the asymmetric stretching mode of the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ promotes the reaction more than the translational energy, which can be rationalized by the sudden vector projection model. On the other hand, the relatively higher efficacy of exciting the symmetric stretching mode than that of the asymmetric stretching mode is caused by the prevalence of the indirect mechanism at low collision energies and the stripping mechanism at high collision energies. In addition, the initial collision energy turns ineffectively into the vibrational energy of the products $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and OH while a fraction of the energy transforms into the rotational energy of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. Fundamental excitation of the stretching modes of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ results in the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ having the highest population in the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode, followed by the ground state and the fundamental state of the symmetric stretching mode.


## I. Introduction

Chemical changes are usually accompanied by a redistribution of energy. Whether or not a reaction will be able to proceed depends upon the flow of energy, viz., to what extent can the energy of an excited reactant mode flow into the reaction coordinate at the transition state to promote the reaction. ${ }^{1-6}$ Based on a systematic study of a considerable number of atom-diatom reactions, Polanyi proposed some intuitive and useful rules concerning the relative efficacy of the translational and vibrational excitations in promoting such reactions. ${ }^{7}$ For substantially exothermic reactions in which the barrier is located in the entrance valley ("early barrier"), the favored

[^0]degree of freedom would be translation, whereas the reactant vibration would be more effective for substantially endothermic reactions in which the barrier is located in the exit valley ("late barrier"). Taking advantage of the microscopic reversibility, the Polanyi rules can also be used to predict the product energy disposal in reactions. However, when the target reaction presents a central barrier, the Polanyi rules would lose efficacy.

The recently proposed sudden vector projection (SVP) model generalizes the venerable Polanyi rules. ${ }^{4}$ Instead of using the location of the barrier as a descriptor to predict the reactant mode selectivity, the SVP model attributes the efficacy of a reactant model, translational, vibrational or rotational, in enhancing a reaction to its coupling with the reaction coordinate at the transition state. Although the SVP model has been successfully applied to many polyatomic reactions in the gas phase and at gas-surface interfaces, it has seldom been validated in polyatomic reactions with central barriers. ${ }^{8-13}$ The thermoneutral identity hydrogen abstraction reaction, $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$, serves as an excellent candidate to test the applicability of the SVP model to central barrier reactions.

The reaction $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$, which involves the open-shell hydroxyl radical and the breaking and formation of
strong covalent bonds, plays an important role in combustion chemistry, organic chemistry, environmental chemistry, atmospheric chemistry, interstellar chemistry and a wide range of other chemically active environments. ${ }^{14-29}$ Due to the symmetry of the reaction, it is impracticable to measure its rate. Dubey et al. ${ }^{17}$ reported pressure-independent rate constants of $(2.2 \pm$ $1.0) \times 10^{-16},(3 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-16}$ and $5 \times 10^{-17} \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ molecule ${ }^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$ at 300 K by substituting the reactant OH with $\mathrm{OH}^{18}$ and OD and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ with $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The significantly lower pre-exponential factor of $A=(2.3 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-13} \mathrm{~cm}^{3}$ molecule ${ }^{-1} \mathrm{~s}^{-1}$ of the reaction $\mathrm{OH}^{18}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{HOH}^{18}+\mathrm{OH}$ in the temperature range from 300 to 420 K , as compared with the typical values, was attributed to the formation of a hydrogen-bonded prereaction complex, leading to an entropic constraint. McCabe et al. ${ }^{27}$ measured the rate coefficients for the vibrational relaxation of $\mathrm{OH}(\nu=1)$ and $\mathrm{OD}(\nu=1)$ by $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ at temperatures from 251 to 390 K and proposed that relaxation involves the transient formation of hydrogen-bonded complexes which can undergo intramolecular vibrational redistribution at a rate competitive with their re-dissociation. On the other hand, theoretical simulations presented consistent results with experimental kinetic data and demonstrated that the tunneling effects are very important especially at low temperatures. ${ }^{18,19,30,31}$ In sharp contrast, dynamics studies were rarely reported for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction. ${ }^{32,33}$ Arnold et al. ${ }^{16}$ and Deyerl et al. ${ }^{34}$ investigated the dynamics in the transition state region of the reaction by photoelectron spectroscopy and photoelectronphotofragment coincidence spectroscopy of the $\mathrm{H}_{3} \mathrm{O}_{2}{ }^{-}$negative ion. A vibrational progression was observed, indicating excitation of the antisymmetric stretching mode of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$.

Much theoretical and experimental attention has also been paid to studying the mutual interaction of OH and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} .{ }^{20,24,35-55}$ Experimental infrared spectroscopy in solid Ar matrices, ${ }^{20,37,38}$ in solid Ne matrices ${ }^{48}$ and in liquid helium droplets, ${ }^{49,54}$ and microwave spectroscopy in the gas phase ${ }^{40}$ supported the fact the global minimum of the $\mathrm{OH}-\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ complex is a structure with $C_{\mathrm{s}}$ symmetry for which hydrogen bonding occurs between the hydrogen of the hydroxyl radical and the oxygen of water. Theoretical calculations identified two different minima. ${ }^{30,36}$ Besides the aforementioned global minimum, another local minimum was located in which the hydrogen bond occurs between the water H atom and the O atom of the OH radical. Schaefer et al. ${ }^{55}$ investigated the stationary points along the reaction path of the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ reaction using the "gold standard" coupled cluster method with the singles, doubles, and perturbative triples excitations $(\operatorname{CCSD}(\mathrm{T}))$ method with the correlation-consistent basis sets up to the augmented correlationconsistent polarized quintuple zeta basis set (aug-cc-pV5Z, or AV5Z). The global (CP1) and local (CP2) minima are predicted to lie 5.74 and $3.51 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ below the separated reactants, respectively. The transition state (TS1) between CP1 and CP2 has a geometry very close to CP2 and the energy difference between TS1 and CP2 is less than $0.1 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. The classical barrier height for the reaction (TS2) is predicted to be $9.45 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. Very recently, Bai et al. ${ }^{33}$ constructed an accurate ab initio-based potential energy surface (PES) of the reaction by using the
permutation invariant polynomial-neural network method, for which $\sim 48000$ data points are sampled and calculated at the level of $\operatorname{CCSD}(T)$-F12a/aug-cc-pVTZ, resulting in a root mean squared error (RMSE) of $0.12 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$.

In this work, a new global, full-dimensional ground-state PES for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction is developed using the fundamental-invariant neural network (FI-NN) method ${ }^{56}$ based on $\sim 44000$ ab initio points sampled in the relevant configurational space. The energies of the data points are calculated at the level of the explicitly correlated version of the unrestricted $\operatorname{CCSD}(\mathrm{T})-\mathrm{F} 12 \mathrm{a} / \mathrm{AVTZ} .{ }^{57,58}$ The quasi-classical trajectory (QCT) method ${ }^{59,60}$ is then employed to study the dynamics of the reaction, including mode specificity and final-state distribution. In this regard, a new scheme is proposed to extract the final-state information from the trajectories. We aim at understanding the mode-specific dynamics of central barrier reactions and the underlying energy flow in the reaction processes. The paper is organized as follows. Section II outlines the details of the $a b$ initio calculations and PES fitting. The quasi-classical trajectory method is given in Section III. This is followed by the results and discussions in Section IV. Finally, the conclusions are supplied in Section V.

## II. Potential energy surface

The energies of the $a b$ initio points are calculated at the level of FC-UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ, implemented by MOLPRO 2012.1. ${ }^{61}$ FC denotes "frozen-core" treatment in the post-Hartree-Fock calculations. The $\operatorname{UCCSD}(\mathrm{T})$-F12 method has been shown to yield atomization energies, electron affinities, ionization potentials, equilibrium geometries and harmonic frequencies for both close and open-shell systems better than the conventional $\operatorname{CCSD}(\mathrm{T})$ with the AV5Z basis set, and thus has been widely employed in ab initio calculations. ${ }^{57,58,62-64}$

Sampling ab initio points is vital in developing an accurate global PES with reasonable computational cost. In this regard, Atom Centered Density Matrix Propagation (ADMP) molecular dynamics is first employed to sample the relevant configurations using spin-unrestricted Hartree-Fock with the contracted Gaussian basis set $6-311 \mathrm{G}$ (UHF/6-311G) by Gaussian $09 .{ }^{65}$ These points are used to generate a raw PES, which is validated by comparing its key properties of stationary points, such as geometry, energy and frequency, with $a b$ initio calculations. Starting from the raw PES, batches of trajectories at various energies are dispatched to search for unphysical regions of the PES resulting from the lack of $a b$ initio data points in the ADMP sampling. New points that are not close to the existing data set are then added to patch up these unphysical regions. The closeness between a new point $\left\{\vec{r}_{i}\right\}$ and one in the existing data sets $\left\{\vec{r}_{i}^{\prime}\right\}$ is judged by the Euclidean distance defined in terms of their bond lengths, $\chi\left(\vec{r}_{i}\right)=\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{10}\left|\vec{r}_{i}-\vec{r}_{i}^{\prime}\right|^{2}}$. The new points with $\chi>0.08 \AA$ (or $0.1 \AA$ in the asymptotic region) is retained and the permutation equivalent points are also included in such a screening. The procedure is iterated and finally a total of

44305 points with an energy below $60.0 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ relative to the global minimum are included in the dataset.

The FI-NN method ${ }^{56}$ is employed to fit the PES, in which the permutation invariant of the PES is introduced to the neural network by using fundamental invariants as the input vector. The FI-NN method shares the same spirit as the permutation invariant polynomial neural network (PIP-NN) approach ${ }^{66-68}$ in enforcing the permutation invariant. Instead of using all the PIPs truncated by a given degree as the input vector, FI minimizes the size of the input polynomials. The Morse-like variables, $P_{i j}=\exp \left(-r_{i j} / \alpha\right)$, are used to construct the polynomials with $\alpha$ as an adjustable constant $(\alpha=2.0 \AA)$ and $r_{i j}$ is the internuclear distance between the $i$ th and $j$ th atoms. ${ }^{69,70}$ For the $A_{3} B_{2}$ molecules, there exist in total 26 fundamental invariants with a maximum degree of 6 .

In each NN fitting, the dataset is divided randomly into two sets, namely the training ( $95 \%$ ) and validation (5\%) sets. The training data is then fitted by the backward propagation neural network with the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm. ${ }^{71}$ The "early stopping" method is used to avoid overfitting. ${ }^{72}$ To avoid false extrapolation due to the edge points in the randomly selected validation set, only fits with a similar RMSE for both sets are accepted. The RMSE is calculated by RMSE $=\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{\text {data }}}\left(E_{\text {fit }}-E_{a b \text { inito }}\right)^{2} / N_{\text {data }}}$. Besides, the maximum deviation is also considered in choosing the final PESs. The final PES is taken as the average of several chosen fits, as suggested by the NN ensemble approach to minimize random errors. ${ }^{73}$ The architecture of the neural network employed is $26-30-$ $70-1$, which contains 26 invariant polynomials as inputs, 30 and 70 neurons in two hidden layers, and 1 output of potential energy, resulting in 3051 parameters. Finally, four fits are determined with the RMSEs of the training/validation sets and the maximum deviation being 4.05/9.24/101.08, 4.13/9.20/139.68, 4.14/11.27/145.68, $7.25 / 15.21 / 145.35 \mathrm{meV}$, respectively. The overall RMSE of the averaged PES is 4.37 meV .

## III. Quasi-classical trajectory method

Standard QCT calculations, implemented by the software VENUS, ${ }^{59}$ are carried out on the FI-NN PES. The integral cross section (ICS) is calculated by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma_{\mathrm{r}}\left(E_{\mathrm{c}}\right)=\pi b_{\max }^{2} P_{\mathrm{r}}\left(E_{\mathrm{c}}\right) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the reaction probability $P_{\mathrm{r}}\left(E_{\mathrm{c}}\right)$ is defined as the ratio between the numbers of the reactive $\left(N_{\mathrm{r}}\right)$ and total ( $N_{\text {tot }}$ ) trajectories at a specified collision energy $E_{c}$. The maximal impact parameter $b_{\max }$ is determined using small batches of trajectories with trial values at each specified initial state. The impact parameter $b$ is sampled by $b=R^{1 / 2} b_{\max }$, where $R$ is a uniform random number in $[0,1]$. The statistical error is given by $\Delta=\sqrt{\left(N_{\text {tot }}-N_{\mathrm{r}}\right) / N_{\text {tot }} N_{\mathrm{r}}}$.

The differential cross section (DCS) is computed by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\frac{\mathrm{d} \sigma_{\mathrm{r}}}{\mathrm{~d} \Omega}=\frac{\sigma_{\mathrm{r}} P_{\mathrm{r}}(\theta)}{2 \pi \sin (\theta)} \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $P_{\mathrm{r}}(\theta)$ is the normalized probability with the scattering angle $\theta$ given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\theta=\cos ^{-1}\left(\frac{\vec{v}_{\mathrm{i}} \cdot \vec{v}_{\mathrm{f}}}{\left|\vec{v}_{\mathrm{i}}\right|\left|\vec{v}_{\mathrm{f}}\right|}\right) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here, $\vec{v}_{i}=\vec{v}_{\mathrm{OH}}-\vec{v}_{\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}}$ and $\vec{v}_{\mathrm{f}}=\vec{v}_{\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}}-\vec{v}_{\mathrm{OH}}$ denote the initial and final relative velocities. Hence, trajectories with $\theta=0^{\circ}\left(180^{\circ}\right)$ correspond to the forward (backward) scattering.

For a diatomic product molecule, the rotational quantum number is determined by the diatom's rotational angular momentum while the vibrational quantum number is determined by Einstein-Brillouin-Keller semiclassical quantization of the action integral. For the polyatomic product molecule, the normal mode analysis (NMA) approach recently developed by Corchado and Espinosa-Garcia ${ }^{74-78}$ is adopted to assign quantumlike vibrational states. The NMA approach generally yields similar results to the fast Fourier transformation method, ${ }^{79,80}$ but with a lower computational cost. Considering a polyatomic product molecule with $N$ nuclei, the final Cartesian coordinates $\vec{r}_{i}$ and momenta $\vec{p}_{i}(i=1, \ldots, N)$ in the center of the mass (COM) frame can be obtained directly from the trajectory of VENUS. The angular velocity is calculated by $\vec{w}_{i}=I_{i}^{-1} L_{i}$, in which $\vec{I}_{i}=m_{i} \vec{r}_{i}^{2}$ is the moment of inertia tensor ( $m_{i}$ denotes the mass of the $i$ th atom) and $\vec{L}_{i}=\vec{r}_{i} \times \vec{p}_{i}$ the angular momentum. To proceed with the normal mode analysis, the angular velocity is removed by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\vec{v}_{i}^{\mathrm{nr}}=\vec{v}_{i}-\vec{w}_{i} \times \vec{r}_{i} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

In order to project the Cartesian coordinate $\vec{r}_{i}$ and velocity $\vec{v}_{i}^{\mathrm{nr}}$ on the normal mode space, the displacement of each atom with respect to the reference geometry $\vec{r}_{i}^{\text {ref }}$ must be determined. Thus, the Cartesian coordinates $\left\{\vec{r}_{i}\right\}$ have to be displaced and rotated to make the COM of the molecule coincide with the COM of the reference geometry and the orientation of the molecule approach as much as possible the orientation of the reference geometry. The scheme employed here is the same as that proposed by Corchado and Espinosa-Garcia, ${ }^{78}$ for which a quaternion $q$ is determined by minimizing the function $D$, defined as

$$
\begin{equation*}
D=\left|q^{\mathrm{T}} r q-r^{\mathrm{ref}}\right|^{2} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

so that the geometry and momenta are oriented towards the normal modes. Then, the Cartesian coordinate $\vec{r}_{i}$ and velocity $\vec{v}_{i}^{\mathrm{nr}}$ are rotated as follows:

$$
\begin{align*}
\vec{r}_{i}^{\mathrm{R}} & =q^{\mathrm{T}} \vec{r}_{i} q \\
\vec{v}_{i}^{\mathrm{R}} & =q^{\mathrm{T}} \vec{v}_{i}^{n r} q \tag{6}
\end{align*}, \quad i=1, \ldots, N .
$$

The normal coordinate $Q_{k}$ and momentum $P_{k}(k=1, \ldots, 3 N-6)$ are calculated by

$$
\begin{align*}
Q_{k} & =\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sqrt{m_{i}} \vec{I}_{k i} \Delta \vec{r}_{i}^{\mathrm{R}}  \tag{7}\\
P_{k} & =\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sqrt{m_{i}} \vec{I}_{k i} \vec{v}_{i}^{\mathrm{R}}
\end{align*}
$$

where $\Delta \vec{r}_{i}^{\mathrm{R}}=\vec{r}_{i}^{\mathrm{R}}-\vec{r}_{i}^{\mathrm{ref}}$ is the displacement with respect to the reference geometry $\vec{r}_{i}^{\text {ref }}$ in the normal mode space and $\vec{I}$ is the orthogonal transformation matrix that transforms from
mass-scaled Cartesian coordinates to normal coordinates. The matrix $\overrightarrow{\mathrm{I}}$ and simultaneously the frequency of each mode $\omega_{k}$ are obtained by performing a normal mode analysis of the relevant reference geometry.

The vibrational energy for each normal mode is computed by

$$
\begin{equation*}
E_{k}=T_{k}+V_{k}=\frac{P_{k}^{2}}{2}+\frac{\omega_{k}^{2} Q_{k}^{2}}{2}, \quad k=1, \ldots, 3 N-6 \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

and a noninteger classical harmonic action number for each mode is then obtained as

$$
\begin{equation*}
n_{k}^{\prime}=\frac{E_{k}}{\omega_{k}}-\frac{1}{2}, \quad k=1, \ldots, 3 N-6 \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

This noninteger number needs to be quantized by rounding $n_{k}{ }^{\prime}$ to the nearest integer value $n_{k}$. It is noteworthy that the NMA approach introduces two approximations: the decoupling of the vibrational and rotational motions and the harmonic approximation. Therefore, this approach may not work well for highly excited product states.

Two binning methods, namely histogram binning $(\mathrm{HB})^{81}$ and Gaussian binning (GB),,${ }^{77,82}$ are implemented to confer a "quantum spirit" to these noninteger classical harmonic action numbers. For the HB method, all the trajectories are taken into account in the statistic and each action number is rounded to the nearest integer. The probability of the state $\mathbf{n}$ ( $\mathbf{n}$ denotes a vibrational state of the product molecule ( $\left.n_{1}, n_{2}, \ldots, n_{3 N-6}\right)$ ) is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
P_{\mathrm{HB}}(\mathbf{n})=\frac{N(\mathbf{n})}{N_{\text {traj }}} . \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

A well-known issue with the HB method is that some product molecules in the QCT calculations present vibrational energies below their zero-point energy. This problem can be partly handled by the GB method, in which a Gaussian weight is calculated for each product. The 1 GB method proposed by Czakó and Bowman ${ }^{77}$ is implemented in this work. The Gaussian weight of the $p$ th product geometry in a given vibrational state $\mathbf{n}$ is calculated by ${ }^{77}$

$$
\begin{equation*}
G_{p}(\mathbf{n})=\frac{\beta}{\sqrt{\pi}} \mathrm{e}^{-\beta^{2}\left(\left[E\left(\mathbf{n}_{p}{ }^{\prime}\right)-E(\mathbf{n})\right] /[2 E(\mathbf{0})]\right)^{2}}, \quad p=1,2, \ldots, N(\mathbf{n}) \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $\beta=2 \sqrt{\ln 2} / \delta$ is a positive real parameter and $\delta$ is the full width at half maximum. $E(0)$ is the harmonic zero-point energy and $E\left(\mathbf{n}_{p}{ }^{\prime}\right)=\sum_{k=1}^{3 N-6} \omega_{k}\left(n_{k, p}{ }^{\prime}+\frac{1}{2}\right)$ is the vibrational energy of the $p$ th product geometry and $E(\mathbf{n})=\sum_{k=1}^{3 N-6} \omega_{k}\left(n_{k}+\frac{1}{2}\right)$ is the vibrational energy of the state $\mathbf{n}$ assigned using the HB method. The probability is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
P_{\mathrm{GB}}(\mathbf{n})=\frac{\sum_{p=1}^{N(\mathbf{n})} G_{p}(\mathbf{n})}{N_{\text {traj }}} . \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

The start point to perform NMA calculations is to acquire the Cartesian coordinates and momenta of each atom in the
product molecule from the trajectories. Traditionally, these quantities are taken from the last step of the trajectory, denoted as Method 1. However, due to the inherent defect of the harmonic approximation, a large error of the calculated potential energy $V_{k}$ would be expected when the geometry extracted from the trajectory deviates visibly from the reference geometry, resulting in an unphysical action number. A crude, but easy way to overcome the problem is to average action numbers over at least one molecular vibration period from each trajectory, denoted as Method 2, so that the error is supposed to be canceled out. In this work, the Cartesian coordinates and momenta are extracted from one step of each reactive trajectory within the last vibrational period of the product molecule, denoted as Method 3. This step is determined by demanding that the corresponding geometry has the minimum potential energy $V_{k}$ within the vibrational period. This constraint is physically reasonable because a geometry presenting the smallest potential energy within one vibrational period resembles most the reference geometry. A comparison has been made on the accuracies of Method 1, Method 2 and Method 3, for which thousands of trajectories are launched from the reactant asymptotic region with a well-defined initial state, followed immediately by NMA calculations. The three aforementioned methods are implemented to extract the state distributions of the reactants. The obtained results are then compared with the initially defined state distribution. It is concluded that the third method generally yields relatively more accurate results although the three methods are all qualitatively correct. We are now testing the different NMA methods in more systems, including tetra-atomic reactions, penta-atomic reactions and hexa-atomic reactions with early, central and late barriers. Details will be given in a subsequent paper, in which different 1 GB methods ${ }^{77,83,84}$ will be compared as well.

Batches of trajectories (200 000-800 000) are run with collision energies ranging from $6 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ to $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$.


Fig. 1 Schematic illustration of the reaction path for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow$ $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction. The ab initio energies of the stationary points at the level of UCCSD(T)/AVTZ, the values of the fitted PES (italic) and the ZPE corrected values (underlined) are shown below the corresponding geometries. All energies are given in kcal $\mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ and relative to the reactant asymptote.

The statistical errors are all below $5 \%$ except for the $8 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ from the reactant ground state. The initial vibrational states of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ are sampled using the fixed normal mode method while the initial states of OH are sampled using the conventional semi-classical method. The trajectories are initiated with a reactant separation of $9.0 \AA$, and terminated when the products or reactants reach a separation of $10.0 \AA$ for reactive or non-reactive trajectories. The gradient of the PES is obtained numerically by a central difference algorithm. The time step is
selected to be 0.05 fs , which converses the energy better than $10^{-3} \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ in the propagation.

## IV. Results and discussion

## A. Properties of potential energy surface

Fig. 1 shows a schematic diagram of the reaction path for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction. The minimum energy path is

Table 1 Geometries in the internal coordinates (length in angstrom and angle in degree) of the stationary points for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction. The corresponding atom labels are shown in Fig. 1

| Species | Method | $R_{\mathrm{O}_{1} \mathrm{H}_{2}}$ | $R_{\mathrm{O}_{1} \mathrm{H}_{3}}$ | $R_{\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}}$ | $R_{\mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{5}}$ | $\theta_{\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{1} \mathrm{H}_{3}}$ | $\theta_{\mathrm{O}_{1} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4}}$ | $\theta_{\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{5}}$ | $\varphi_{\mathrm{H}_{5} \mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{1}}$ | $\varphi_{\mathrm{O}_{4} \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}_{1} \mathrm{H}_{3}}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| OH | $A b$ initio $^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |  | 0.973 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {b }}$ |  |  |  | 0.970 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Expt. ${ }^{\text {c }}$ |  |  |  | 0.970 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.962 |  |  |  | 104.15 |  |  |  |  |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.958 |  |  |  | 104.52 |  |  |  |  |
|  | Expt. ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 0.958 |  |  |  | 104.48 |  |  |  |  |
| CP1 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.962 | 0.962 | 3.461 | 0.979 | 104.99 | 48.83 | 14.69 | -4.87 | -136.70 |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.959 | 0.959 | 3.469 | 0.976 | 105.17 | 45.77 | 14.84 | -8.32 | -140.18 |
| TS1 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.964 | 0.961 | 2.150 | 0.975 | 105.08 | 136.27 | 84.22 | 0.00 | 180.00 |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| CP2 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.965 | 0.961 | 2.073 | 0.975 | 104.78 | 157.90 | 99.75 | 0.00 | 180.00 |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 0.963 | 0.958 | 2.078 | 0.972 | 105.05 | 164.37 | 100.42 | 0.00 | 180.00 |
| TS2 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 1.164 | 0.970 | 1.163 | 0.970 | 102.72 | 142.47 | 102.76 | 60.28 | 60.28 |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 1.165 | 0.968 | 1.165 | 0.968 | 103.47 | 141.33 | 103.47 | 59.77 | 59.77 |

${ }^{a}$ This work, UCCSD(T)/AVTZ by Gaussian $09 .{ }^{b}$ This work, FI-NN PES. ${ }^{c}$ See http://cccbdb.nist.gov.

Table 2 Energies (in kcal $\mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ ) and harmonic frequencies (in $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) of the stationary points for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction

| Frequency ( $\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ ) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Species | Method | $E\left(\mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}{ }^{-1}\right)$ | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 0.00 | 3719 | 3920 | 3812 | 1645 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $A b$ initio $^{\text {b }}$ | 0.00 | 3738 | 3942 | 3832 | 1647 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $A b$ initio $^{\text {c }}$ | 0.00 | 3742 | 3943 | 3833 | 1649 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | PES ${ }^{d}$ | 0.00 | 3744 | 3943 | 3832 | 1646 |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | Expt. ${ }^{e}$ |  | 3738 | 3756 | 3657 | 1595 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CP1 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | -5.89 | 3918 | 3811 | 3619 | 1644 | 623 | 423 | 186 | 160 | 149 |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | -5.89 | 3939 | 3831 | 3632 | 1646 | 621 | 417 | 189 | 169 | 152 |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{c}$ | -5.74 | 3943 | 3835 | 3640 | 1650 | 614 | 409 | 188 | 161 | 134 |
|  | $\mathrm{PES}^{d}$ | -5.88 | 3929 | 3833 | 3665 | 1651 | 541 | 409 | 190 | 170 | 162 |
| TS1 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | -3.63 | 3908 | 3785 | 3699 | 1644 | 414 | 259 | 158 | 101 | 115i |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{c}$ $\mathrm{PES}^{d}$ | -3.51 | 3929 | 3802 | 3724 | 1652 | 409 | 261 | 161 | 105 | 73 i |
| CP2 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | -3.68 | 3901 | 3775 | 3707 | 1655 | 374 | 297 | 160 | 97 | 90 |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | -3.63 | 3923 | 3794 | 3725 | 1655 | 386 | 314 | 166 | 149 | 90 |
|  | $A b$ initio $^{\text {c }}$ | -3.51 | 3926 | 3796 | 3729 | 1659 | 380 | 289 | 164 | 106 | 72 |
|  | PES ${ }^{d}$ | -3.64 | 3934 | 3789 | 3736 | 1650 | 366 | 288 | 159 | 112 | 72 |
| CP2-cis | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | -2.93 | 3945 | 3833 | 3754 | 1673 | 329 | 267 | 166 | 126 | 66 i |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | -2.90 | 3924 | 3803 | 3735 | 1661 | 331 | 279 | 165 | 134 | 57 |
|  | PES ${ }^{\text {d }}$ | -3.14 | 3926 | 3802 | 3770 | 1667 | 347 | 324 | 215 | 152 | 44 i |
| TS2 | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {a }}$ | 9.12 | 3774 | 3770 | 1571 | 1372 | 918 | 577 | 431 | 344 | 1958i |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {b }}$ | 9.05 | 3791 | 3786 | 1588 | 1368 | 922 | 574 | 435 | 359 | 2244 i |
|  | Ab initio ${ }^{\text {c }}$ | 9.45 | 3797 | 3792 | 1588 | 1362 | 924 | 579 | 438 | 363 | 1958i |
|  | PES ${ }^{d}$ | 9.09 | 3798 | 3776 | 1608 | 1383 | 908 | 574 | 478 | 351 | 2007i |

${ }^{a}$ This work, UCCSD(T)/AVTZ in Gaussian 09. ${ }^{b}$ UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ in Molpro 2015.1, see ref. 33. ${ }^{c} \operatorname{CCSD}(\mathrm{~T}) / \mathrm{AV} 5 \mathrm{Z}$, see ref. 55. ${ }^{d}$ This work, FI-NN PES. ${ }^{e}$ See http://cccbdb.nist.gov.
symmetric with respect to the barrier of TS2, featuring two minima (CP1 and CP2) in the entrance valley. The geometries of all the stationary points are optimized at the level of FC-UCCSD(T)/AVTZ, using Gaussian 09, Revision B.01, ${ }^{65}$ which are listed in Table 1 in the internal coordinates. For the reactants OH and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, their geometries in the PES agree well with the ab initio calculations with the bond length difference less than $0.004 \AA$ and the angle difference less than $0.4^{\circ}$. The experimental values are also listed for comparison. The conformity of the fitted geometries with experimental values becomes even slightly better than with ab initio calculations. For other stationary points but TS1, the fitted geometries also compare well with the $a b$ initio values. The fitted bond lengths deviate from the $a b$ initio values less than $0.008 \AA$. Nevertheless, the angle discrepancies of CP1 and CP2 appear to be slightly larger although they are all acceptable for the reaction dynamics calculations. In addition, as mentioned above, TS1 is very close to CP2 with an energy difference smaller than $0.1 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ and, therefore, searching for it in the PES would be in vain.

The energies and harmonic frequencies of the stationary points are calculated at the level of $\mathrm{FC}-\operatorname{UCCSD}(\mathrm{T}) / \mathrm{AVTZ}$ and listed in Table 2, together with Bai et al.'s results ${ }^{33}$ at the level of FC-UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ. The benchmark results reported by Gao et al. ${ }^{55}$ at the level of FC-UCCSD(T)/AV5Z are also shown in the same table for comparison. A cis form of CP2, denoted by CP2-cis, which has a planar geometry and was first reported by Bai et al. ${ }^{33}$ is also presented. It can be seen that the $a b$ initio values at the level of FC-UCCSD(T)/AVTZ and FC-UCCSD(T)F12a/AVTZ are very close to the benchmark results. The energy difference between FC-UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ and FC-UCCSD(T)/ AV 5 Z is less than $0.4 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ and the frequency difference less than $10 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ except for several torsional modes. As for the transition state of the reaction (TS2), the imaginary frequency predicted by


Fig. 2 Contours of the PES as a function of the bond length of the breaking and forming OH bonds with all the other coordinates optimized. The energy is taken from 0 to $66 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ with an interval of $2 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$.

FC-UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ is $286 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ higher than the benchmark value. The good agreement between the values of FC-UCCSD(T)F12a/AVTZ and FC-UCCSD(T)/AV5Z indicates that the former method is suitable for the current study. On the other hand, the energies of the stationary points are well reproduced by the PES, typically less than $0.24 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. The frequencies calculated on the PES are in good accord with the $a b$ initio values as well. Interestingly, the fitted imaginary frequency of TS2 approaches more the benchmark value although it is $237 \mathrm{~cm}^{-1}$ lower than the $a b$ initio value at the level of FC-UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ.

Fig. 2 displays a contour plot of the PES as a function of the bond length of the breaking and forming OH bonds while all the other internal coordinates are optimized. Clearly, the fitted PES is globally smooth and there does not exist any artificial well. The minimum energy path (MEP) associated with the saddle point of TS2 on the PES, as shown in the upper panel of Fig. 3, is determined using the software POLYRATE 9.7, ${ }^{85}$ starting from the saddle point geometry and going downhill to the pre- and post-reaction wells of CP2 in mass-weighted Cartesian coordinates with a step size of $5.0 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{amu}^{1 / 2} \AA$. The reaction coordinate $(s)$ is defined as the signed distance from the saddle point $(s=0)$, with $s>0$ referring to the product side and $s<0$ to the reactant side. The MEP is followed between $s=-2.0$ and $s=2.0 \mathrm{amu}^{1 / 2} \AA$ and the Hessian matrix


Fig. 3 (a) Minimum energy path, $V_{\text {MEP, }}$, and vibrationally adiabatic ground state energy, $V_{a}^{G}$, as a function of the reaction coordinate $s$. Ab initio energies along the minimum energy path are also given for comparison; (b) generalized normal mode vibrational frequencies as a function of $s$.
is calculated every 9 steps. To validate the accuracy of the fitted PES, $a b$ initio calculations along the MEP are also performed. Clearly, the MEP on the PES coincides exactly with the ab initio data, suggesting a good description of the reaction path for the PES. Meanwhile, the redundant curvilinear projection formulism is utilized to carry out a generalized normal-mode analysis along the reaction coordinate. The obtained generalized normal mode vibrational frequencies are shown in the lower panel of Fig. 3. The frequency of each mode varies smoothly with the reaction coordinate $s$. The vibrationally adiabatic ground state energy, defined as $V_{\mathrm{a}}{ }^{\mathrm{G}}(s)=V_{\mathrm{MEP}}(s)+\varepsilon_{\mathrm{int}}(s)$, is displayed in the upper panel as well. $\varepsilon_{\text {int }}(s)$ is one-half the sum of the vibrational frequencies of the generalized normal modes orthogonal to the reaction coordinate at $s$.


Fig. 4 Integral cross sections of the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction as a function of (a) collision energy and (b) total energy. The numbers $\left(v_{\mathrm{OH}} ; v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}\right)$ in parenthesis denote excitations in the OH vibration, the symmetric stretching mode, the bending mode and the asymmetric stretching mode of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, respectively.

Table 3 SVP values for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction

|  | SVP |
| :--- | :--- |
| Species | $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ |
| $v_{1}$ | 0.67 |
| $v_{2}$ | 0.10 |
| $v_{3}$ | 0.64 |
| $v_{\mathrm{OH}}$ | 0.01 |
| Trans | 0.17 |

## B. Mode-specific dynamics

Fig. 4 shows the calculated integral cross sections (ICSs) of the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction from the ground and fundamental states of OH and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The vibrational states of the reactants OH and $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ are labeled by $\left(\nu_{\mathrm{OH}} ; \nu_{1}, \nu_{2}, \nu_{3}\right)$, in which $\nu_{\mathrm{OH}}$ refers to excitation in the OH vibrational mode and the following three numbers $\left(v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}\right)$ denote excitations in the symmetric stretching mode, the bending mode, and the antisymmetric stretching mode, respectively. In Fig. 4(a), the ICSs are plotted as a function of the translational energy. It can be seen that the ICS from each state increases monotonically with the collision energy, satisfying the activation nature of the reaction. Excitation of either the symmetric mode $\left(v_{1}\right)$ or the asymmetric stretching mode $\left(v_{3}\right)$ of the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ significantly promotes the reaction while excitation of the bending mode $\left(v_{2}\right)$ presents a slight but visible enhancement effect. It is noteworthy that exciting the symmetric stretching mode is remarkably more efficient than exciting the asymmetric stretching mode in promoting the reaction over the energy region studied. Besides, the excitation energy initially deposited in the OH vibrational mode ( $v_{\mathrm{OH}}$ ) has a negligible effect on the reaction. The spectator behavior of the OH bond can be easily understood by considering that the bond length of OH varies along the MEP within only $0.005 \AA$.

The ICSs are depicted in Fig. 4b as a function of the total energy. The total energy is relative to the reactant ground states. Excitation of the symmetric stretching mode $\left(v_{1}\right)$ possesses the largest reactivity, which is followed by the asymmetric stretching mode $\left(v_{3}\right)$. They both are more efficient than the translation energy in promoting the reaction except at low collision energies. Excitation of the bending mode $\left(v_{2}\right)$ has a similar reactivity to the translational energy. The recently proposed SVP model, ${ }^{4}$ which assumes that the reaction occurs in a sudden limit, can provide some physical insights into the mode selectivity. This attributes the efficacy of a reactant mode in promoting the reaction to the projection of its normal vector $\left(\vec{Q}_{i}\right)$ onto the


Fig. 5 Differential cross sections of the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction from the ground states of both reactants with the collision energy taken at 12,20 and $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$.


Fig. 6 Differential cross sections of the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction from the fundamental states of the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ with the collision energy taken at $6,12,20$, and $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$.
reaction coordinate vector $\left(\vec{Q}_{\mathrm{RC}}\right)$ at the transition state: $P_{i}=\vec{Q}_{i}$. $\vec{Q}_{\mathrm{RC}} \in[0,1]$. The calculated SVP values are listed in Table 3. The symmetric stretching mode of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ has the largest projection ( $P_{\mathrm{v}_{1}}=0.67$ ), followed by a slightly small value of the asymmetric stretching mode ( $P_{\mathrm{v}_{3}}=0.64$ ). They are both larger than the projection of the translation mode ( $P_{\text {trans }}=0.17$ ), indicating that excitation in the stretching mode promotes the reaction
more than the translational energy. The vector of the vibrational mode of $\mathrm{OH}\left(v_{\mathrm{OH}}\right)$ has a negligible projection on the reaction coordinate vector, predicting that the OH bond is a good spectator. These predictions agree well with the QCT results. However, the SVP value of the bending mode $\left(v_{2}\right)$ is 0.10 , which is smaller than the value of the translational mode, implying that the translation energy is more efficient than the bending mode excitation. This is somewhat different from the QCT calculations. Actually, Guo et al. ${ }^{4}$ have pointed out that predictions involving bending modes are not as reliable because of the much lower frequencies at the transition state. In addition, the different efficacies of exciting the two stretching modes observed in the QCT calculations are also not well predicted by the SVP model.

Fig. 5 shows the differential cross sections (DCSs) from the ground states of both reactants. The collision energy is taken at 12,20 and $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. At low collision energies, the reaction prefers backward scattering although the sideway scattering is also significant. As the collision energy increases, the contribution of the sideway scattering becomes comparable to the backward scattering. The preference of the backward scattering indicates that the reaction is mainly dominated by the direct rebound mechanism at low collision energies. Nevertheless, the stripping mechanism becomes increasingly vigorous at high energies. Actually, as has been pointed by Bai et al., ${ }^{33}$ the direct rebound mechanism dominates small impact parameter collisions while the stripping mechanism mainly results from large impact parameter collisions.


Fig. 7 Correlation between the impact parameter and the scattering angle for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction with the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in the fundamental states of the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes and the collision energies at $6,12,20$, and $30 \mathrm{kcal}_{\mathrm{mol}}{ }^{-1}$.

The relative efficacy of the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes of hydride reactants has been debated in the mode-specific dynamics studies of elementary chemical reactions. ${ }^{11}$ It is thus not trivial to unveil the reaction mechanism resulting in the disparate efficiencies of the two stretching modes of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in promoting the reaction. Fig. 6 shows the DCSs from the fundamental states of the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ with the collision energies taken at $6,12,20$ and $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. Firstly, the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is almost isotropically scattered at low collision energies, quite different from the distribution from the reactant ground states, at which the reaction favors backward scattering. The isotropic distribution of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ indicates that the pre- and/or post-reaction wells play an important role in the reaction process when the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is excited to the fundamental states of the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes. The product angular distribution looks somewhat like the dynamical signature of a complex-forming reaction, for which the product is nearly symmetrically scattered in the forward and backward directions, stemming typically, but not always, from the long lifetime of the reaction intermediate. ${ }^{86}$ Considering the systematically larger reactivity of exciting the symmetric stretching mode $\left(v_{1}\right)$ than that of exciting the asymmetric stretching mode $\left(\nu_{3}\right)$, fundamental excitation of the symmetric stretching mode of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is expected to favor the formation of the hydrogen-bond complex that enhances
the reaction at low collision energies. Secondly, as the collision energy increases, the sideway scattering in the forward hemisphere becomes dominant although the backward scattering is also remarkable. Meanwhile, the DCS of exciting the symmetric stretching mode is significantly larger than the corresponding DCS of exciting the asymmetric stretching mode in the forward hemisphere. Therefore, the discrepancy between the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes mainly originates from the sideway scattering.

To clarify the underlying reaction mechanisms, the correlation between the impact parameter and the scattering angle is displayed in Fig. 7 with the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in the fundamental states of the symmetric and asymmetric stretching modes and the collision energies at $6,12,20$, and $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. Clearly, the data is more scattered at low collision energies, indicating that there exists another reaction mechanism, the indirect mechanism, in the reaction besides the aforementioned direct rebound and stripping mechanisms because the direct rebound and stripping mechanisms would result in the data points being distributed along the diagonal line. At high collision energies, the scattering in the forward hemisphere is correlated to large impact parameter collisions, thus resulting from the stripping mechanism. Consequently, the larger efficacy of exciting the symmetric stretching mode than exciting the asymmetric stretching mode in promoting the reaction


Fig. 8 (a) Vibrational state distributions of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, (b) rotational energy distributions of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, (c) rotational state distributions of the product OH for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction from the reactant ground states at $E_{\mathrm{c}}=20$ (left, denoted by 1) and 30 (right, denoted by 2) kcal $\mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. The two binning methods HB and GB are color coded as red and green, respectively. The product OH is exclusively in the ground vibrational state and thus not shown here.
is caused by the prevalence of the indirect mechanism at low collision energies and the stripping mechanism at high collision energies. The vibrational energy initially deposited in the symmetric stretching mode promotes the reaction to proceed more via the relevant mechanisms at different collision energies than the energy deposited in the asymmetric stretching mode.

## C. Final-state distribution

A comprehensive understanding of the microscopic reaction mechanism requires a state-to-state description of the dynamics. This section addresses the question on how the reactant translational and vibrational excitations influence the product energy disposal. The reactants $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and OH are both restricted to the ground rotational states in this work. Fig. 8 shows the vibrational state distributions and rotational energy disposal of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and the rotational state distributions of the product OH from the reactant ground states with the collision energies fixed at 20 (left) and 30 (right) $\mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}{ }^{-1}$. It can be seen from Fig. 8 a 1 and a2 that the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is dominant in the ground vibrational state, with slight but visible populations in the fundamental bands of the stretching and/or bending modes, the first and second overtones of the bending mode and the combination bands. The similar pattern of the distributions from the two collision energies means that the initial collision energy cannot flow effectively into the
vibrational modes of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The corresponding rotational energy disposal of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is displayed in Fig. 8b1 and b2. The maximum rotational energy obtained by the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ increases from $21.6 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ to $27.9 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ when the collision rises from $20 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ to $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}{ }^{-1}$, although the peak value of the rotational energy distribution remains at $E_{\text {rot }}=4.5 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. The small increment of the available rotational energy indicates that part of the initial collision energy turns into the rotational energy of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. The product OH is exclusively in the ground vibrational state and thus is not shown in the figure. The rotational state distributions of OH are given in Fig. 8 c 1 and c 2 . The two distributions are close to each other, both of which have a maximum population at $j_{\mathrm{OH}}=6$. Thus, the change of the initial collision energy from 20 to $30 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ has a negligible effect on the final state distribution of OH . It should be noted that the indirect mechanism plays an important role in the low collision energy region, and in this case the initial collision energy is expected to have a remarkable effect on the product energy disposal.

Fig. 9 shows the vibrational state distributions and the rotational energy disposal of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ from the fundamental states of the symmetric stretching mode and the asymmetric stretching mode of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and the OH vibrational mode with the collision energy fixed at $20 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. For the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in the fundamental state of the symmetric stretching mode and the reactant OH in the ground state, as shown in


Fig. 9 (a) Vibrational state distributions and (b) rotational energy distributions of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction from the fundamental states of the symmetric stretching mode (upper, labeled by 1) and the asymmetric stretching mode (middle, labeled by 2 ) of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and the OH vibration mode (lower, labeled by 3) at $E_{\mathrm{c}}=20 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. The two binning methods HB and GB are color coded as red and green, respectively.

Fig. 9 a 1 and b 1 , the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is mainly distributed to the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode with a proportion of about $30 \%$, followed by the fundamental state of the symmetric stretching mode and the ground state with an individual proportion of about $15 \%$. The proportions for the other states are relatively small, less than $10 \%$ for each one. The corresponding rotational energy distribution has a peak at $E_{\text {rot }}=2.5 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ and the maximum available rotational energy is $31.0 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. For the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode, as shown in Fig. 9 a 2 and b2, the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is largely populated into the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode and the ground state with an individual proportion of about $25 \%$, followed by the fundamental state of the symmetric stretching mode of $15 \%$ and the fundamental state of the bending mode of $10 \%$. Note that the proportions obtained by the two binning methods HB and GB are slightly different and the GB method is expected to be more reliable thereafter. The corresponding rotational energy distribution peaks at $E_{\text {rot }}=2.5 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ and the maximum available rotational energy is $27.9 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. When the reactant OH is excited to the first vibrational state, as shown in Fig. 9a3 and b3, the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is predominantly distributed to the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode with a proportion of about $45 \%$, followed by the fundamental state of the symmetric stretching mode with a proportion of about $20 \%$. Different from the relatively large
population of the ground state of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ from the fundamental excitations of the stretching modes of the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$, the proportion is less than $5 \%$. The corresponding rotational energy distribution peaks at $E_{\text {rot }}=3.0 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$ and the maximum available rotational energy is $32.1 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$.

Fig. 10 presents the vibrational and rotational state distributions of the product OH from the fundamental states of the symmetric stretching mode, the asymmetric stretching mode and the OH vibration mode with the collision energy fixed at $20 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. For the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ in the fundamental state of the symmetric stretching mode, about $93 \%$ of the product OH is in the ground state and the rest is in the first excited state. When the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is excited to the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode, about $88 \%$ of the product OH is in the ground vibrational state. In addition, the product OH is exclusively in the ground vibrational state when the reactant OH is excited to the first vibrationally excited state. The rotational state distributions of the product OH are similar for different initial states. They all have a maximum at $j_{\mathrm{OH}}=5$ and the maximum accessible rotational state is around 16.

As mentioned in Section IV.B., exciting the symmetric stretching mode promotes the reaction more than exciting the asymmetric stretching mode, which can be partially attributed to the preference of the stripping mechanism at high collision energies. If so, it means that, on one hand, the initial excitation energy deposited in the symmetric stretching mode flows into


Fig. 10 (a) Vibrational state distributions and (b) rotational state distributions of the product OH for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction from the fundamental states of the symmetric stretching mode (upper, labeled by 1), the asymmetric stretching mode (middle, labeled by 2 ) and the OH vibration mode (lower, labeled by 3) at $E_{c}=20 \mathrm{kcal} \mathrm{mol}^{-1}$. The two binning methods HB and GB are color coded as red and green, respectively.
the reaction coordinate more efficiently than the excitation energy of the asymmetric stretching mode. On the other hand, the energy flowing into the reaction coordinate will turn into the product kinetic energy via the stripping mechanism. Thus, it would be expected that the product OH obtained by exciting the symmetric stretching mode falls into the ground state more. This is actually consistent with the obtained vibrational state distribution of OH .

## V. Conclusions

In this work, we report an accurate full-dimensional global PES for the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}+\mathrm{OH}$ reaction based on $\sim 44000$ $a b$ initio points, whose energies are calculated at the level of UCCSD(T)-F12a/AVTZ. The PES is fitted with a RMSE of 4.37 meV using the FI-NN approach. The reaction path is symmetric with respect to the central barrier and features two hydrogen-bond complexes on both sides. The properties of these stationary points are well reproduced by the PES.

The quasi-classical trajectory method is employed to study the mode-specific dynamics of the $\mathrm{OH}+\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ reaction. Excitation of either the symmetric stretching mode or the asymmetric stretching mode of the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ notably enhances the reactivity while excitation of the bending mode has a slight enhancement effect. Exciting the symmetric stretching mode shows a visibly higher efficacy than exciting the asymmetric stretching mode in promoting the reaction, which is attributed to the prevalence of the indirect mechanism at low collision energies and the stripping mechanism at high collision energies. In addition, the relatively higher efficiency of the vibrational energy initial deposited in the stretching modes of $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ than the translational energy is successfully predicted by the SVP model although the efficiency of the bending mode is underestimated.

The final-state distributions are obtained by the normal mode analysis approach in combination with a new scheme to acquire the Cartesian coordinates and momenta of each atom in the product molecule from the trajectories. The initial collision energy cannot flow effectively into the vibrational modes of the products $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ and OH while a fraction of the energy transforms into the rotational energy of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. When the reactant $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ is fundamentally excited to the symmetric or asymmetric stretching mode, the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ has the highest population in the fundamental state of the asymmetric stretching mode, followed by the ground state and the fundamental states of the symmetric stretching mode. Most of the vibrational energy initially deposited in the spectator bond OH is retained in the OH bond during the reaction process and finally turns into the vibrational energy of the product $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$. For all the initial states studied in this work, the product OH is dominant in the ground state.

## Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

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