

# Vibrational tunneling spectra of molecules via instanton theory

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Ruđer Bošković Institute

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Operativni program  
**KONKURENTNOST  
I KOHEZIJA**

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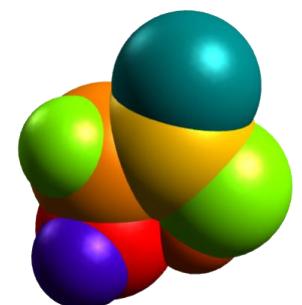
Mihael Eraković

Ruđer Bošković Institute

Computational Chemistry Day 2022

Ruđer Bošković Institute

24.9.2022.



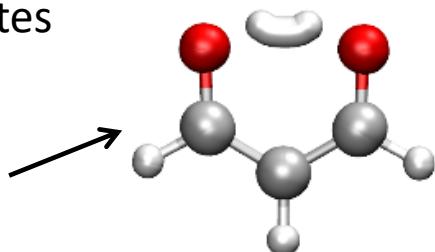
# Outline

- Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra
- Instanton theory of tunneling splittings

- RPI, JFI, modified WKB

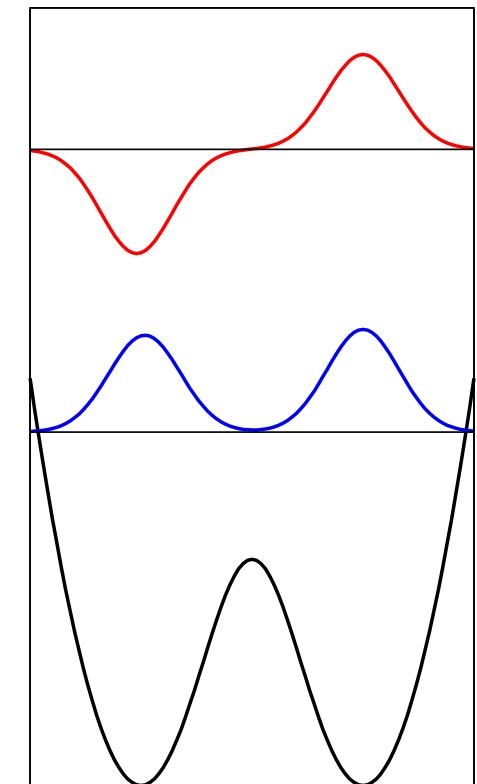
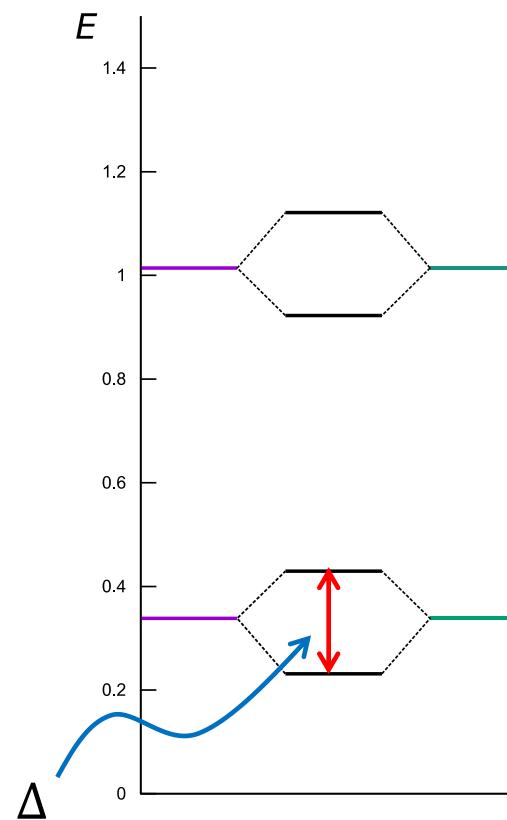
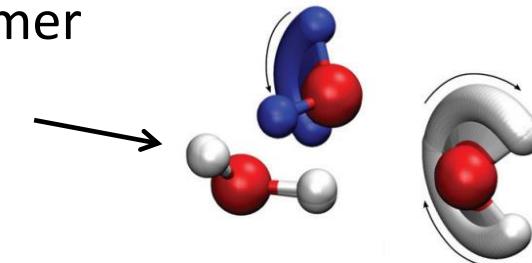
- ground state, excited states

- Results:
  - malonaldehyde



- water pentamer

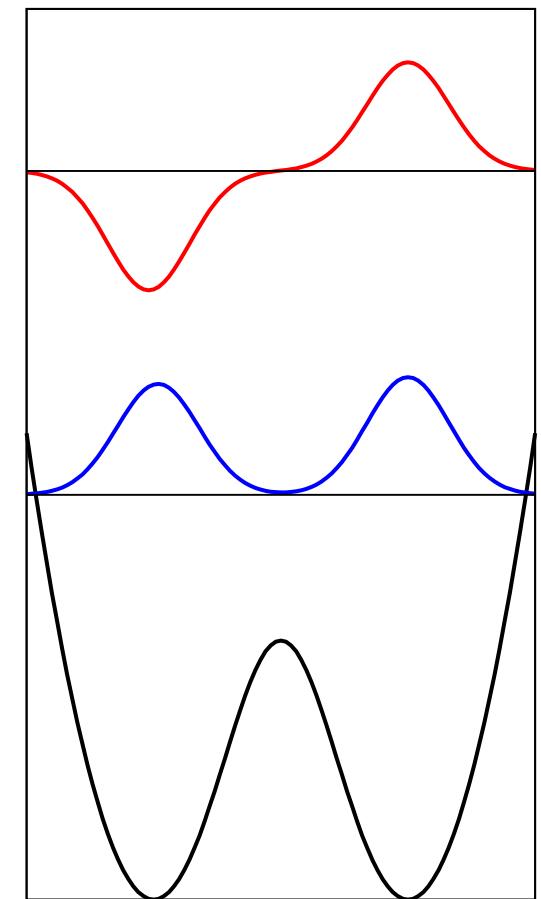
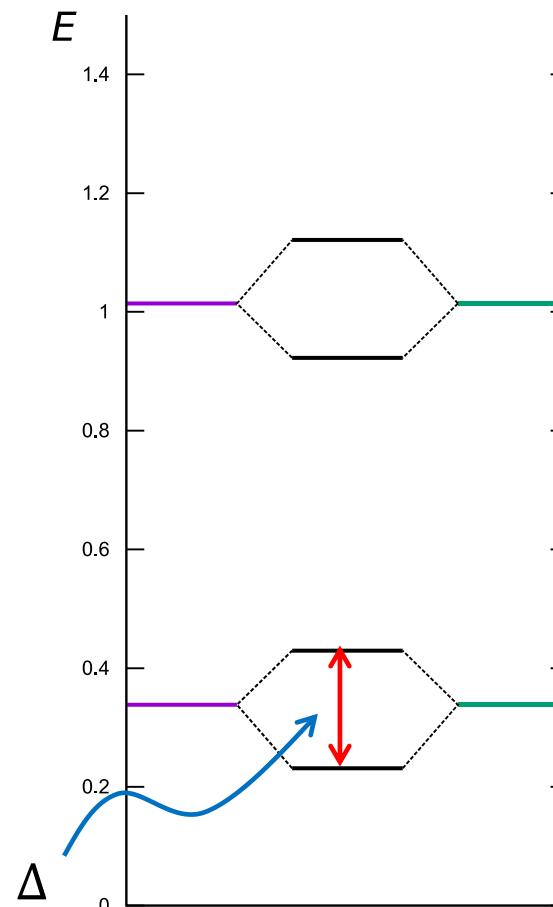
- water trimer



# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

Symmetric double well:

- Localized well states interact via tunneling to produce a delocalized wavefunctions.
- $2 \times 2$  matrix model:  $\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & h \\ h & 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- Eigenvalues :  $\pm h$ .
- Eigenfunctions :  $\psi_+ = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi^{(L)} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi^{(R)}$   
 $\psi_- = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi^{(L)} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \phi^{(R)}$
- Tunneling splitting:  $\Delta = -2h$



# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

Slightly asymmetric double well:

- 2 × 2 matrix model:  $\mathbf{H} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & h \\ h & d \end{pmatrix}$

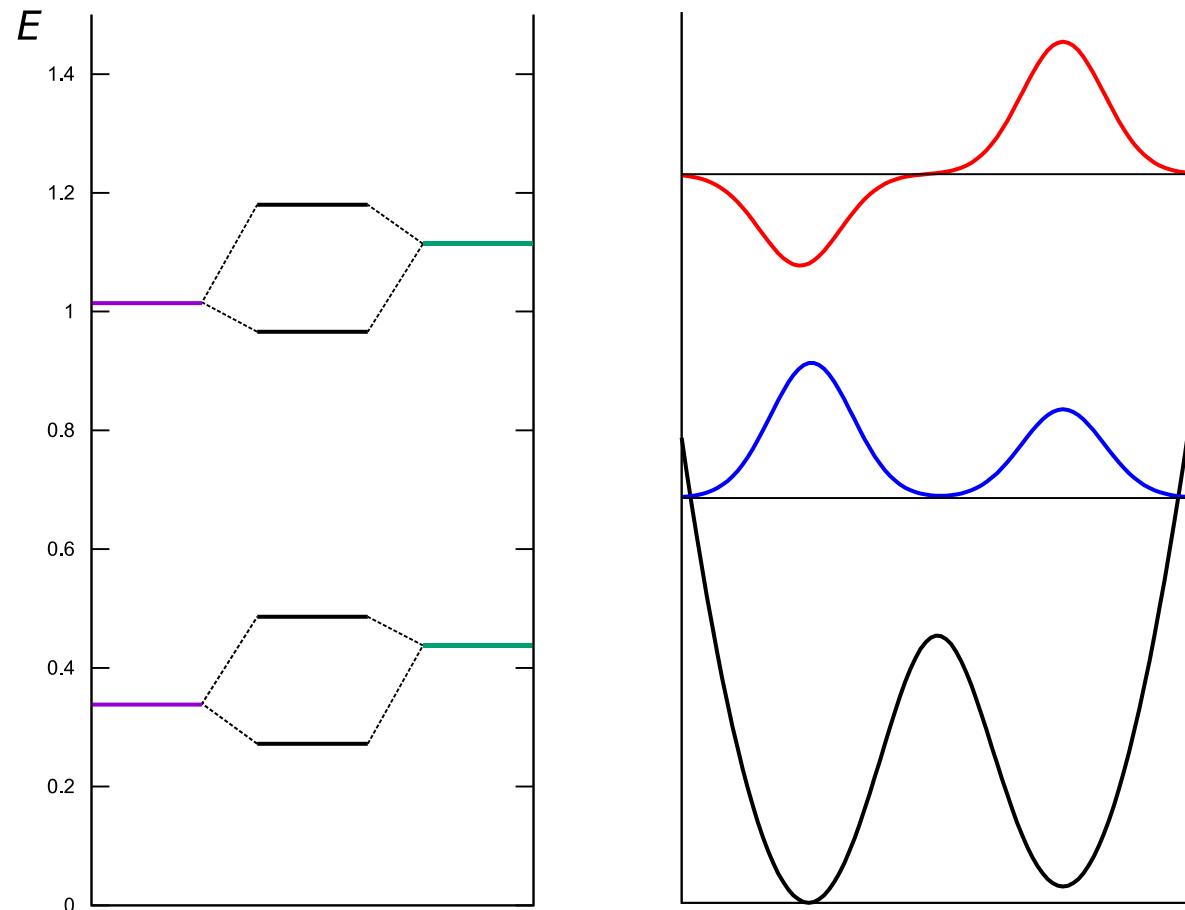
- Tunneling splitting:  $\Delta = \sqrt{d^2 + 4h^2}$

- Eigenfunctions:

$$\psi_+ = \cos(\varphi) \phi^{(L)} + \sin(\varphi) \phi^{(R)}$$

$$\psi_- = \sin(\varphi) \phi^{(L)} - \cos(\varphi) \phi^{(R)}$$

$$\tan(\varphi/2) = -\frac{h}{d}$$



# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

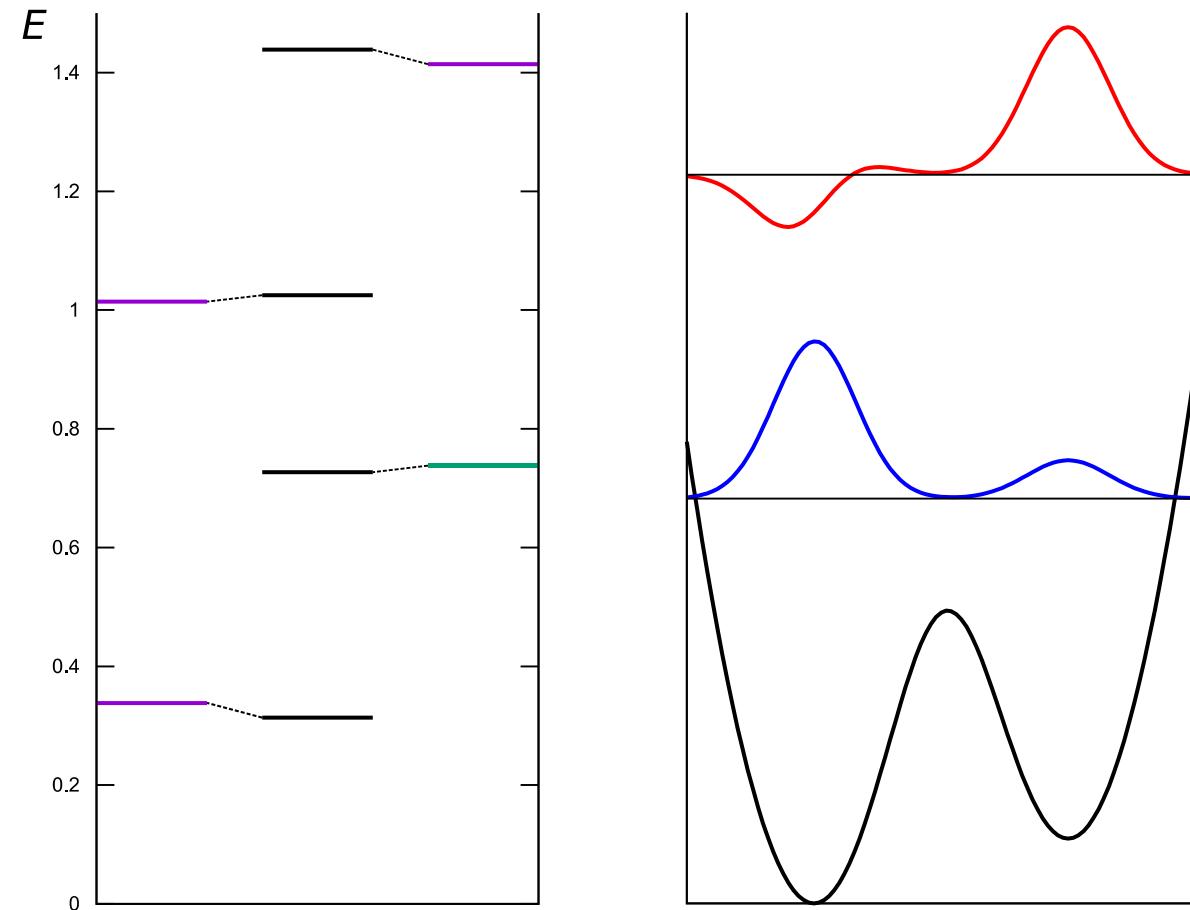
Double well with large asymmetry:

- Localized vibrational wavefunctions.

$$\psi_+ \approx \phi^{(L)}$$

$$\psi_- \approx \phi^{(R)}$$

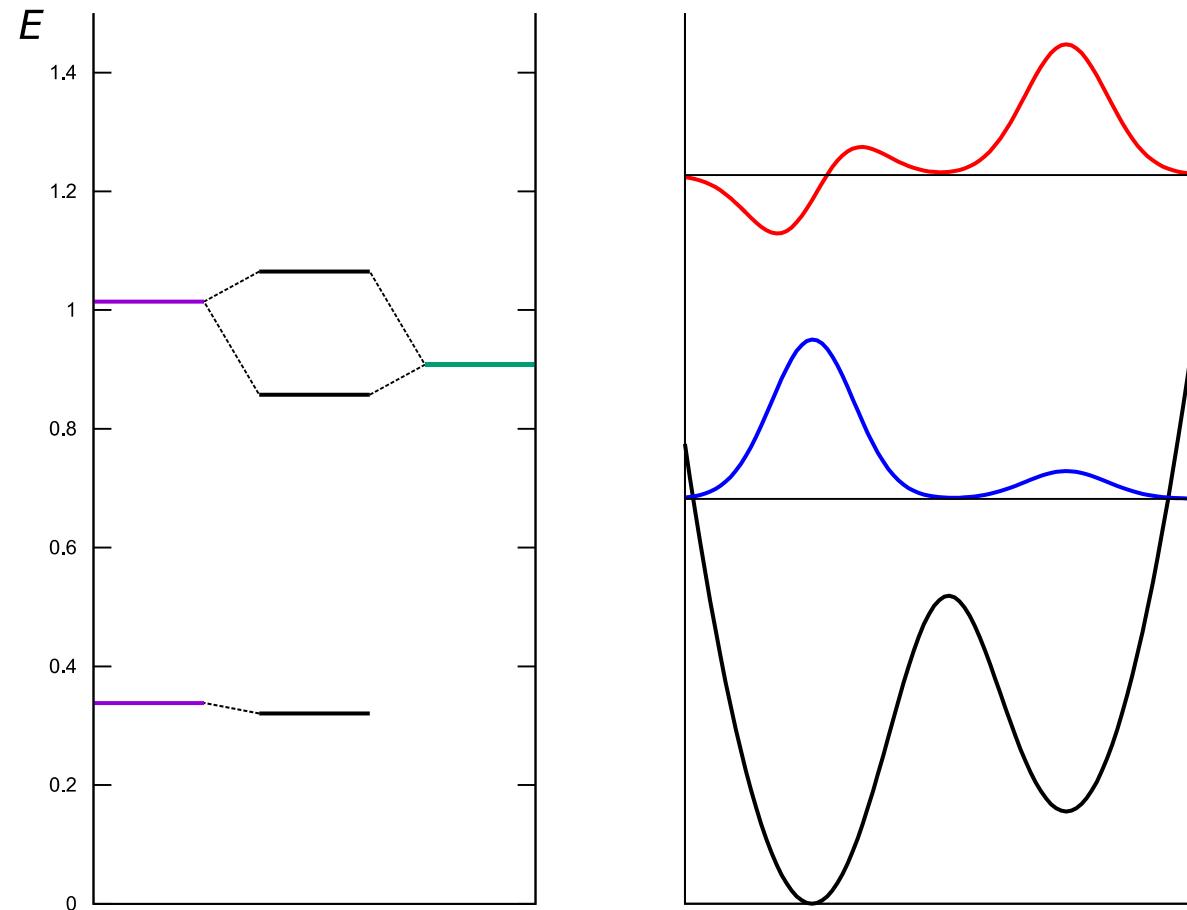
$$\varphi \approx 0$$



# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

Double well with large asymmetry:

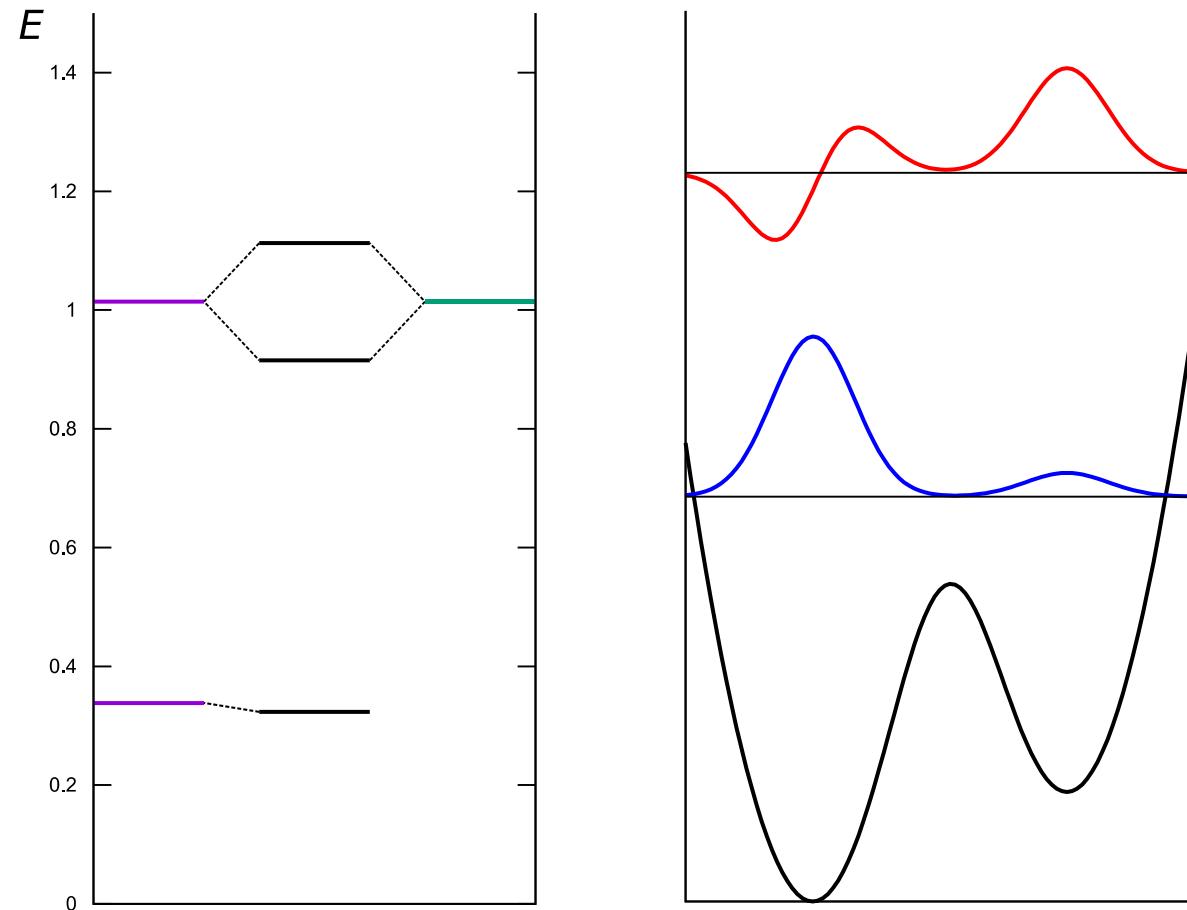
- Interaction of non-equivalent vibrational states of different minima.



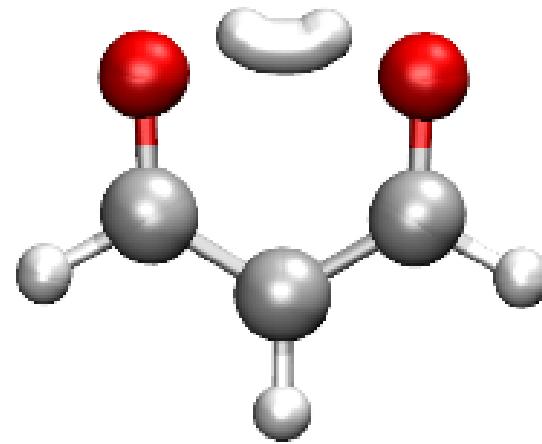
# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

Double well with large asymmetry:

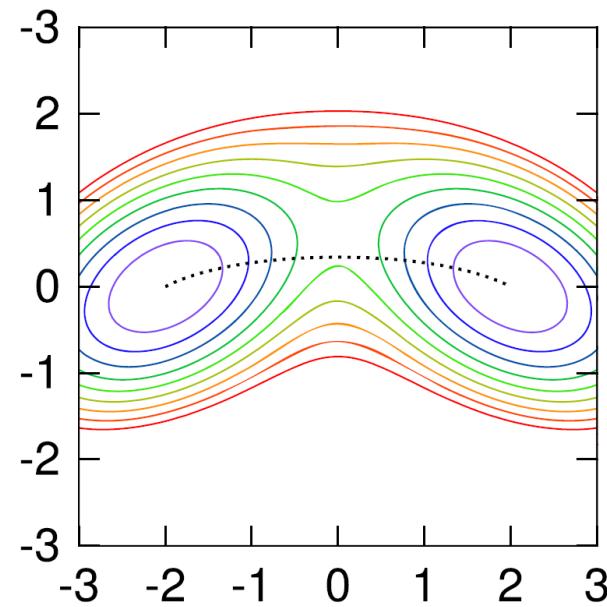
- Non-equivalent vibrational states of different minima in resonance.



# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

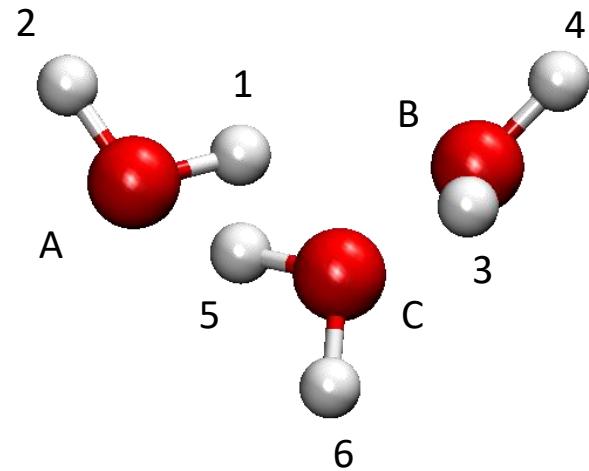


## 1. Symmetric systems



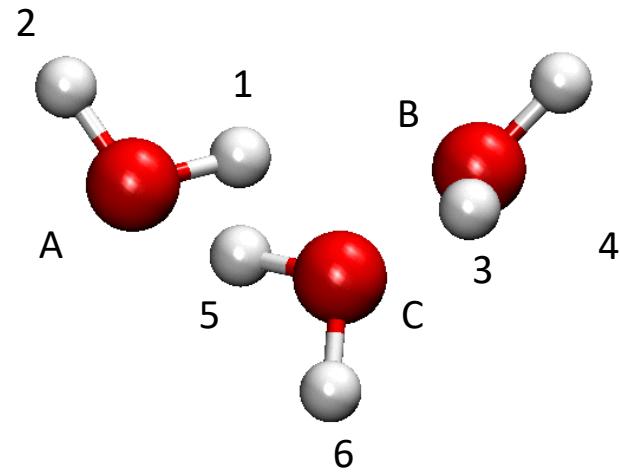
# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry



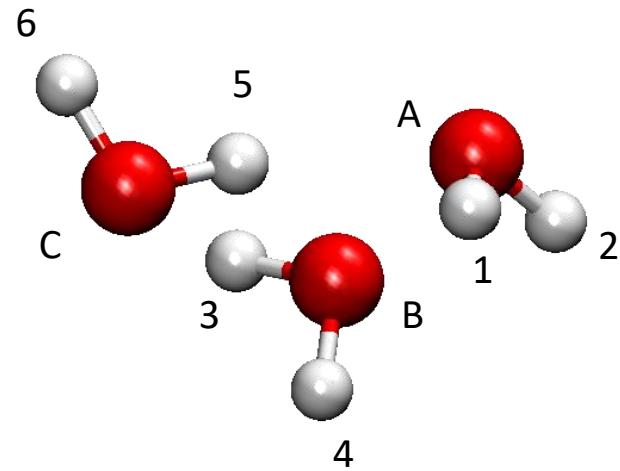
# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry

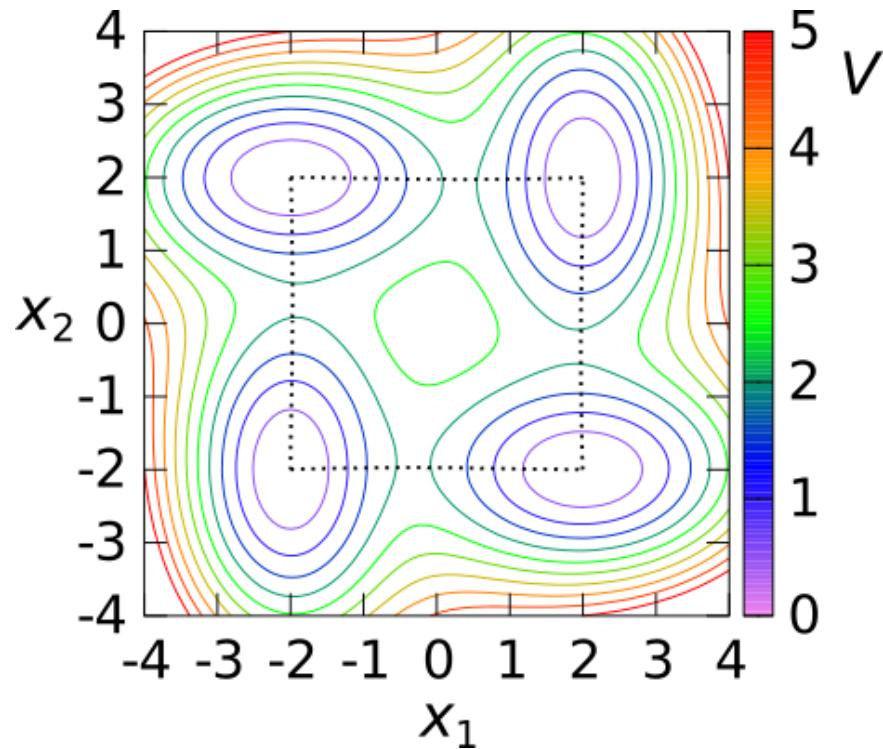


# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry

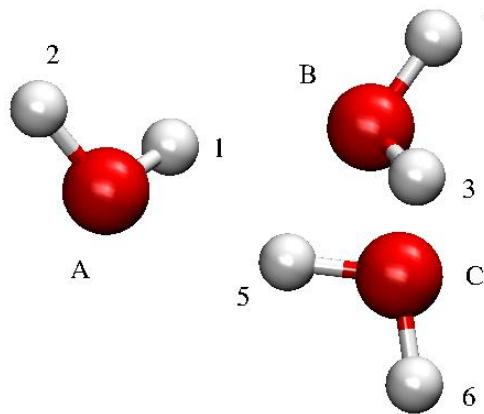
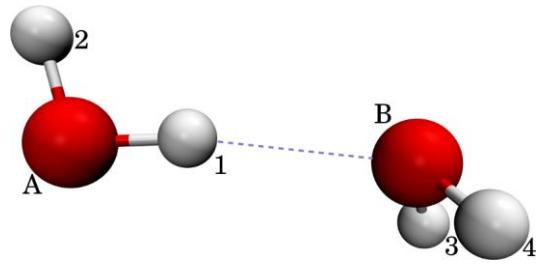


# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

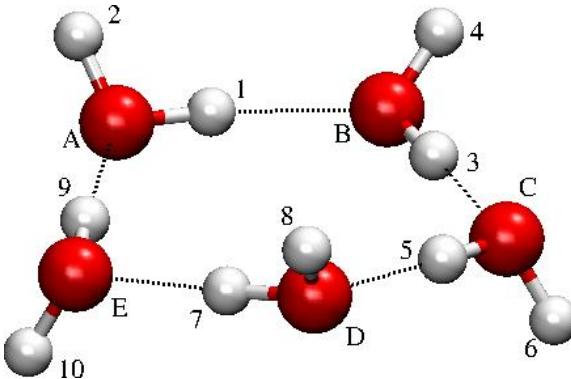
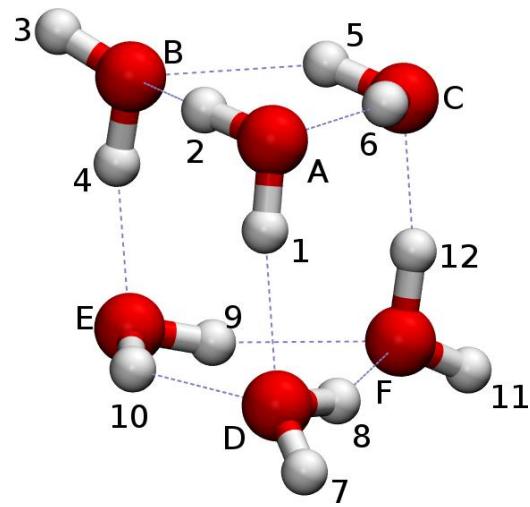


1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry

# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

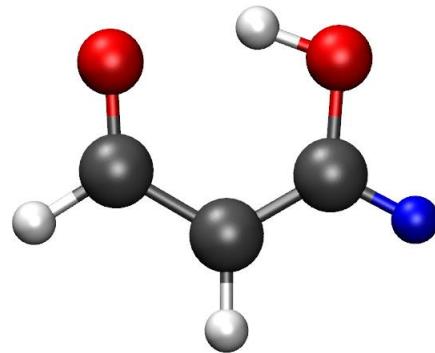
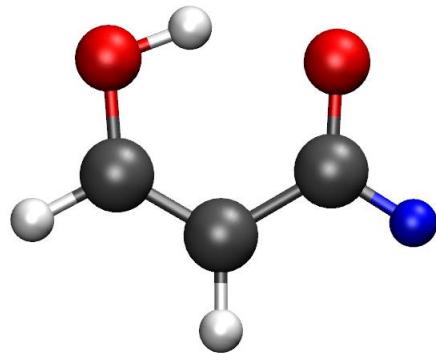


1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry



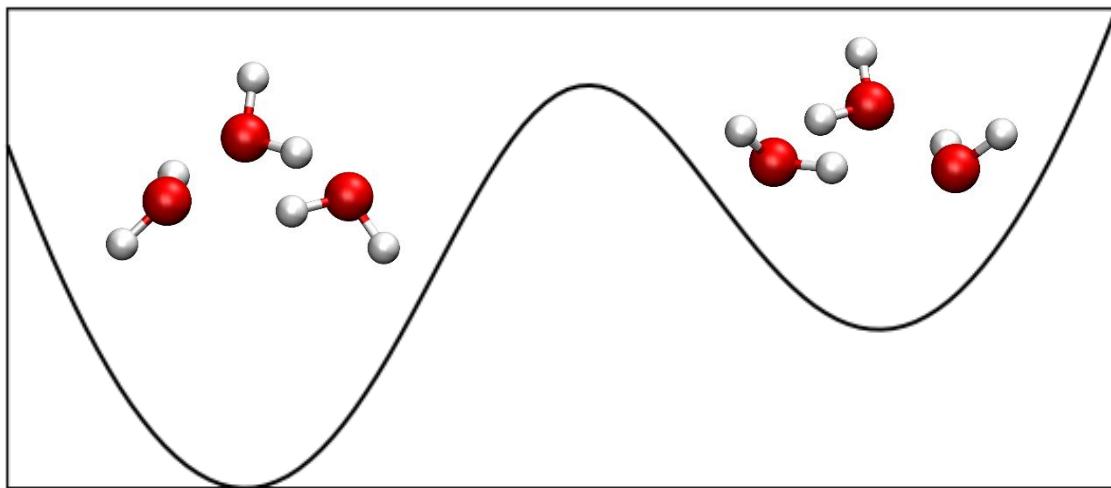
# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry
3. Energy asymmetry (asymmetrically deuterated systems)



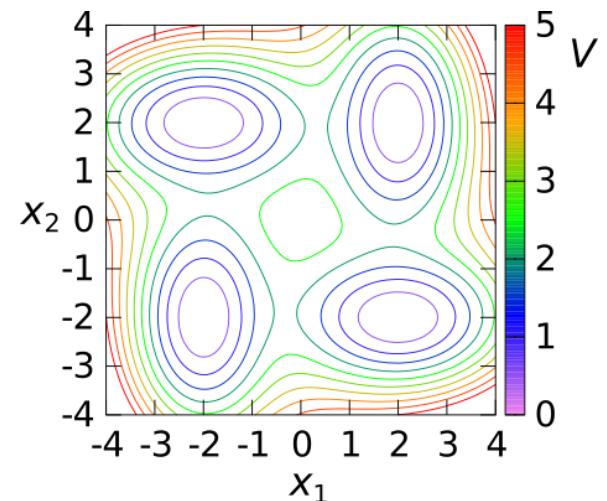
# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

1. Symmetric systems
2. Tunneling path asymmetry
3. Energy asymmetry (asymmetrically deuterated systems)
4. Energy & shape asymmetry



# Tunneling splittings & vibrational spectra

- Physical systems with two or more energetically stable minima are ubiquitous in chemistry and physics.
- Bound states localized in such wells, separated by potential barriers, interact via tunneling, which results in observable shifts of their energies.
- These shifts are sensitive to PES away from the minima and can vary over many orders of magnitude even in a single system (e.g., 3 orders of magnitude in water dimer for different pathways, or in water trimer and pentamer for different mode excitations).
- Variational methods are costly because basis set needs to cover regions between the wells sufficiently densely to obtain enough resolution to extract the energy shifts.
- Semiclassical *instanton method* : in full dimensionality
  - fewer PES evaluations
  - on-the-fly with accurate electronic structure methods
  - works better for high barriers and smaller energy shifts
  - black box: no basis set convergence, integral evaluations, ...
  - can be combined with more accurate dynamical methods



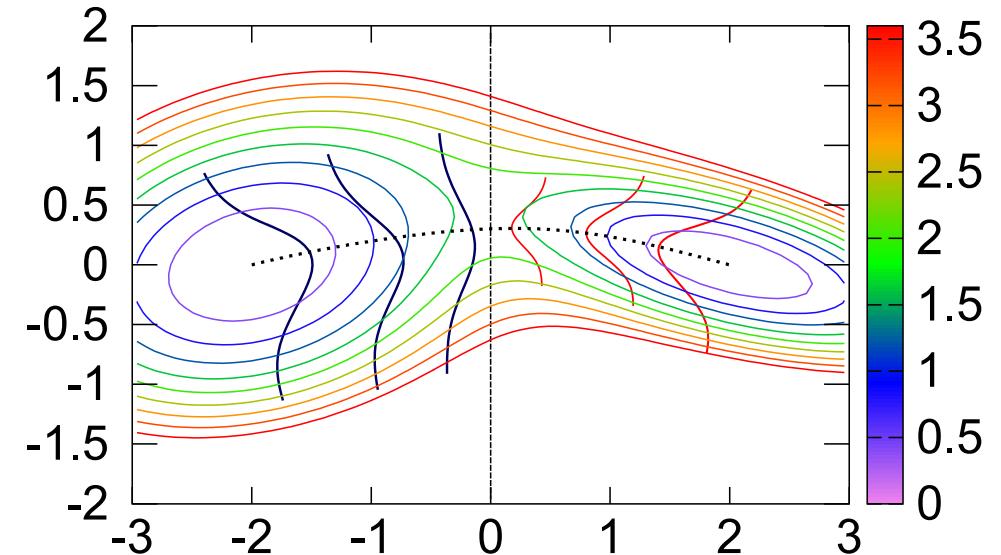
# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

$$\Psi = \begin{pmatrix} \phi^{(L)} \\ \phi^{(R)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E^{(L)} & h \\ h^\top & E^{(R)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$H\Psi = E\Psi$$



**HERRING FORMULA**

$$h_{ij} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} \left( \phi_i^{(L)} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_j^{(R)} - \phi_j^{(R)} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_i^{(L)} \right) d\Sigma$$

# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

### MODIFIED WKB

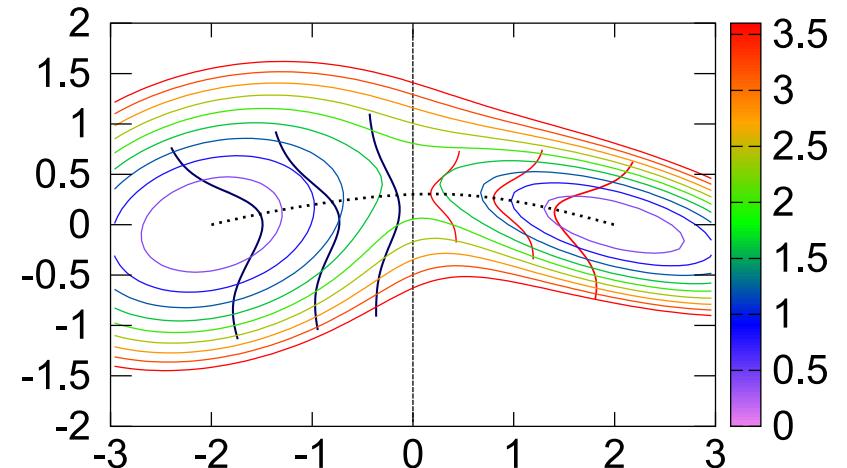
Localized wavefunctions in Herring formula can be approximated using WKB:

$$h_{ij} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} \left( \phi_i^{(\text{L})} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_j^{(\text{R})} - \phi_j^{(\text{R})} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_i^{(\text{L})} \right) d\Sigma$$

$$\phi = e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar}(W_0 + W_1 \hbar)}$$

$$\frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} = 2V(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial W_1}{\partial x_i} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 W_0}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} + E = 0$$



# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

### MODIFIED WKB

Localized wavefunctions in Herring formula can be approximated using WKB:

$$h_{ij} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} \left( \phi_i^{(L)} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_j^{(R)} - \phi_j^{(R)} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_i^{(L)} \right) d\Sigma$$

Hessian along characteristic

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} A + A^2 = \Omega^2(\tau)$$

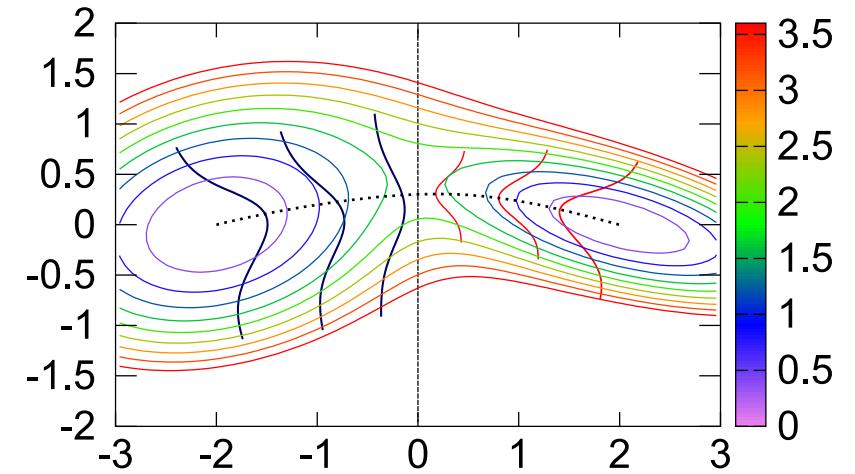
$$\phi = e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar}(W_0 + W_1 \hbar)}$$

$$\frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} = 2V(\mathbf{x}) \quad \xrightarrow[\text{Method of characteristics}]{} \quad$$

$$\frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial W_1}{\partial x_i} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 W_0}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} + E = 0$$

$$W_0(S, \Delta \mathbf{x}) = \boxed{\int_0^S \sqrt{2V(S')} dS'} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \Delta \mathbf{x}$$

Equation of characteristic: **Newton's equation of motion on inverted potential**



Change in amplitude as **exp(-Action)**

Wavefunction in orthogonal plane

# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

### MODIFIED WKB

Localized wavefunctions in Herring formula can be approximated using WKB:

$$h_{ij} = -\frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} \left( \phi_i^{(L)} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_j^{(R)} - \phi_j^{(R)} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \phi_i^{(L)} \right) d\Sigma$$

$$\phi = e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar}(W_0 + W_1 \hbar)}$$

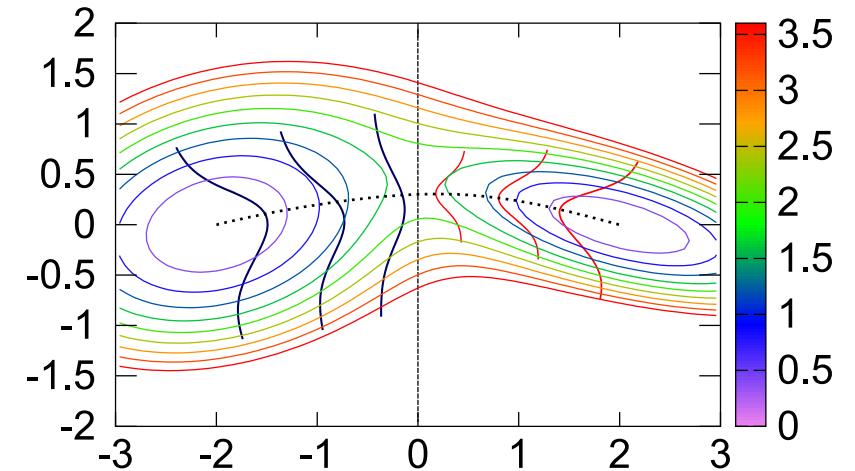
$$\frac{d}{d\tau} A + A^2 = \Omega^2(\tau)$$

$$\frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} = 2V(\mathbf{x}) \xrightarrow[\text{characteristics}]{\text{Method of}} W_0(S, \Delta \mathbf{x}) = \int_0^S \sqrt{2V(S')} dS' + \frac{1}{2} \Delta \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{A} \Delta \mathbf{x}$$

$$\frac{\partial W_0}{\partial x_i} \frac{\partial W_1}{\partial x_i} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 W_0}{\partial x_i \partial x_i} + E = 0 \xrightarrow[\text{characteristic}]{\text{Integration along}}$$

$$W_1(S) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^S \frac{\text{Tr}(\mathbf{A}(S') - \mathbf{A}_0)}{\sqrt{2V(S')}} dS'$$

Change in amplitude  
due to ZPE of  
orthogonal modes

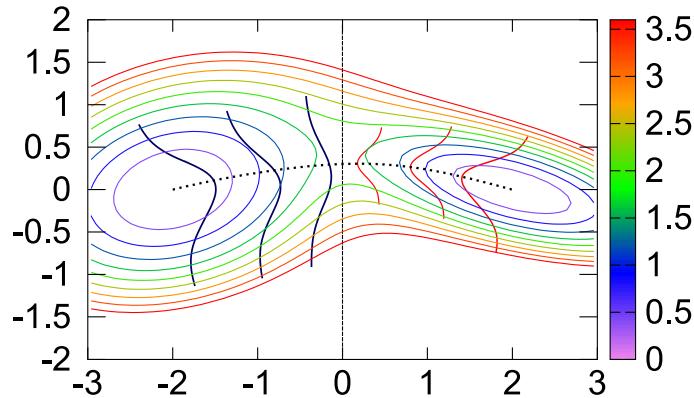


# Instanton theory

## excited state tunneling splittings

### MODIFIED WKB

Excited vibrational states:



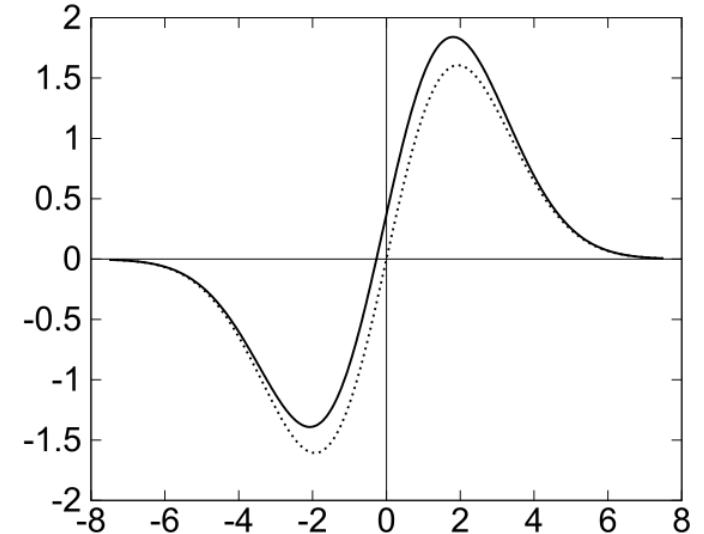
$$\phi^{(1)} = (F + \mathbf{U}^T \Delta \mathbf{x}) \phi^{(0)}$$

↓  
Direction of nodal plane

Shift of node from the instanton path

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} U = \omega_e U - AU$$

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} A + A^2 = \Omega^2(\tau)$$



# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

### RING POLYMER INSTANTONS

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Q(\beta)}{Q_0(\beta)} = \frac{e^{-\beta(E_0 - \Delta/2)} + e^{-\beta(E_0 + \Delta/2)}}{2e^{-\beta E_0}} = \cosh \frac{\beta \Delta}{2}$$

↓

ratio of partition functions

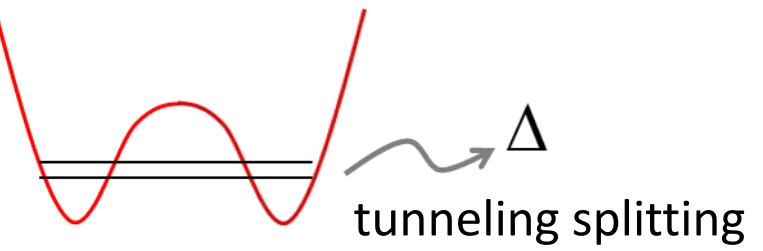
low temperature

$$Q(\beta) = \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta H}] \approx \left( \frac{1}{\beta_N 2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^{N/2} \int dx_1 \dots dx_N e^{-S(x_1, \dots, x_N)/\hbar}$$

Discretized path integral formulation

$$\beta = \frac{1}{kT}$$

$$\Delta\tau = \beta_N = \beta/N$$



$$S(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{(x_i - x_{i+1})^2}{\Delta\tau^2} + V(x_i) \right) \Delta\tau$$

# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

### RING POLYMER INSTANTONS

$$\lim_{\beta \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Q(\beta)}{Q_0(\beta)} = \frac{e^{-\beta(E_0 - \Delta/2)} + e^{-\beta(E_0 + \Delta/2)}}{2e^{-\beta E_0}} = \cosh \frac{\beta \Delta}{2}$$

↓  
ratio of partition functions  
low temperature

$$Q(\beta) = \text{Tr}[e^{-\beta H}] \approx \left( \frac{1}{\beta_N 2\pi\hbar^2} \right)^{N/2} \int dx_1 \dots dx_N e^{-S(x_1, \dots, x_N)/\hbar}$$

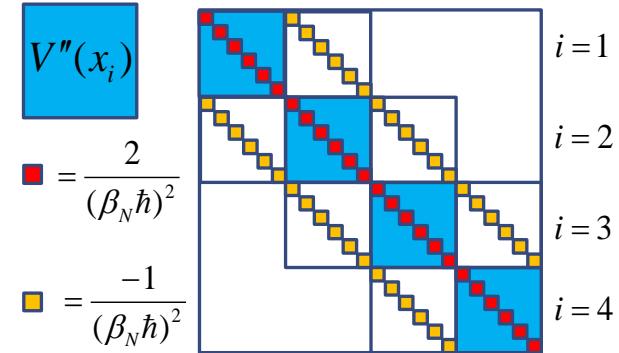
Discretized path integral formulation

Dominant contribution:

$$S(x) \approx S(x_{\min}) + \frac{1}{2} S''(x_{\min})(x - x_{\min})^2$$

Minimal action => Newton's equation of motion  
on inverted potential

$$S(x_1, \dots, x_N) = \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{(x_i - x_{i+1})^2}{\Delta\tau^2} + V(x_i) \right) \Delta\tau$$

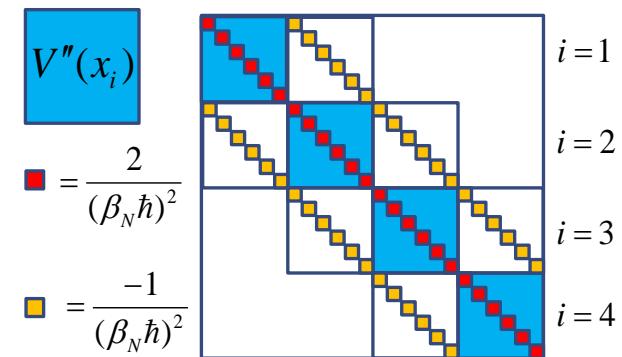


# Instanton theory

## ground state tunneling splittings

### RING POLYMER INSTANTONS

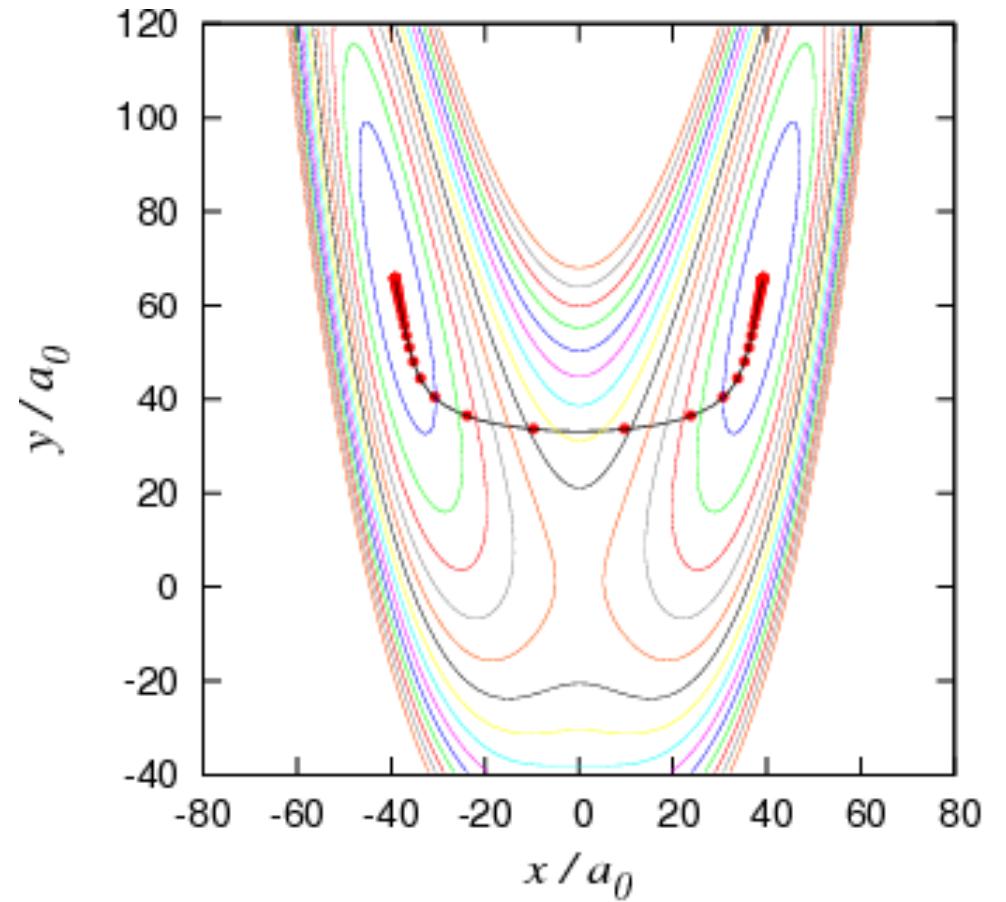
Discretized path integral formulation



### JACOBI FIELD INSTANTONS

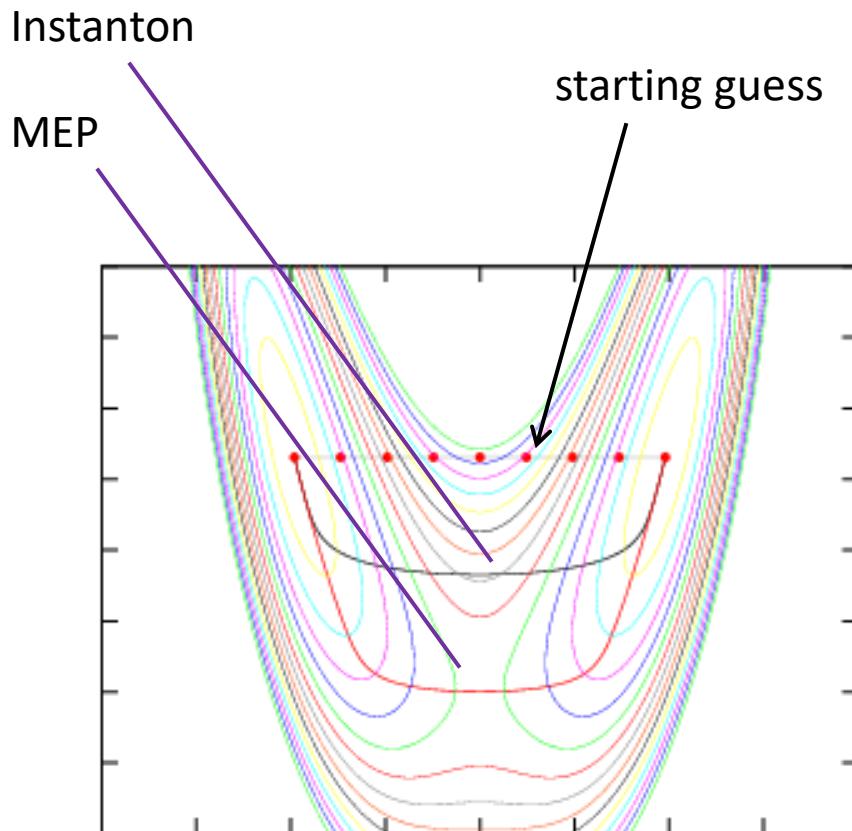
Continuous path integral formulation

$$\frac{d}{d\tau} A + A^2 = \Omega^2(\tau)$$



# Instanton theory implementation

## MINIMUM ACTION PATH SEARCH



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- string method:

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

- quadratic string method:

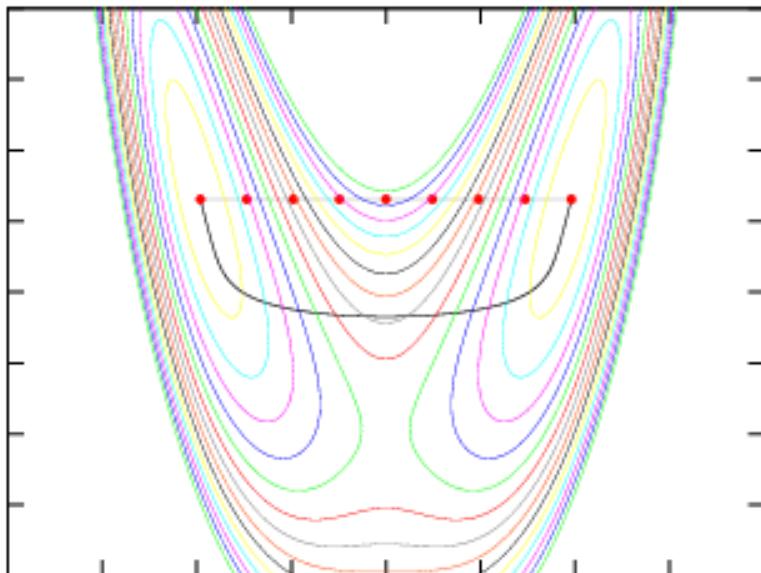
*Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

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**LBFGS + string**

iter = 1



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

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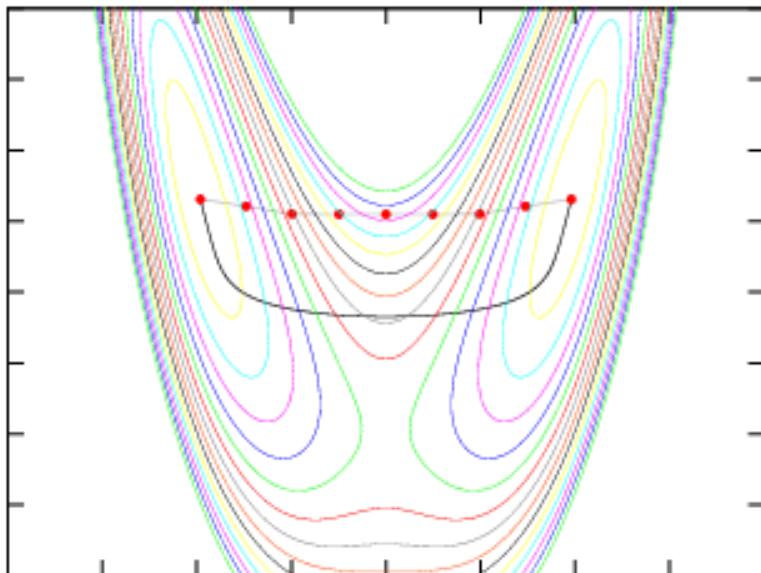
*Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

iter = 2



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- string method:

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

- quadratic string method:

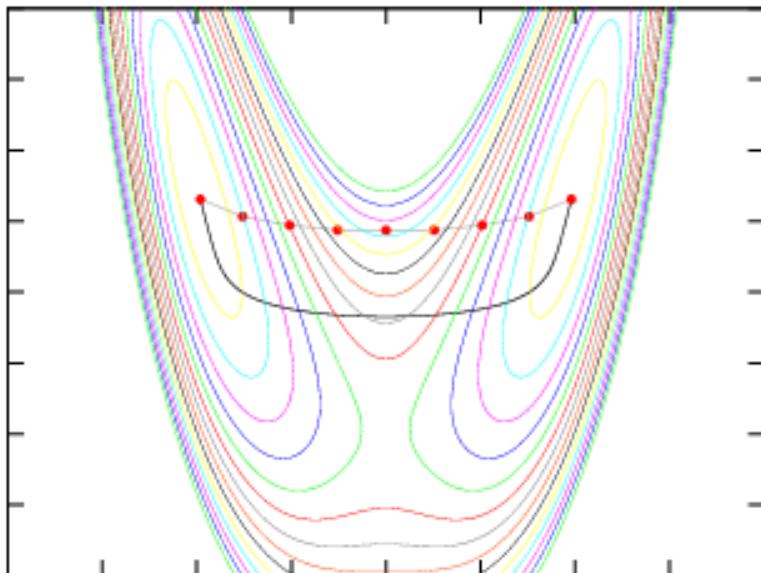
*Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 3**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

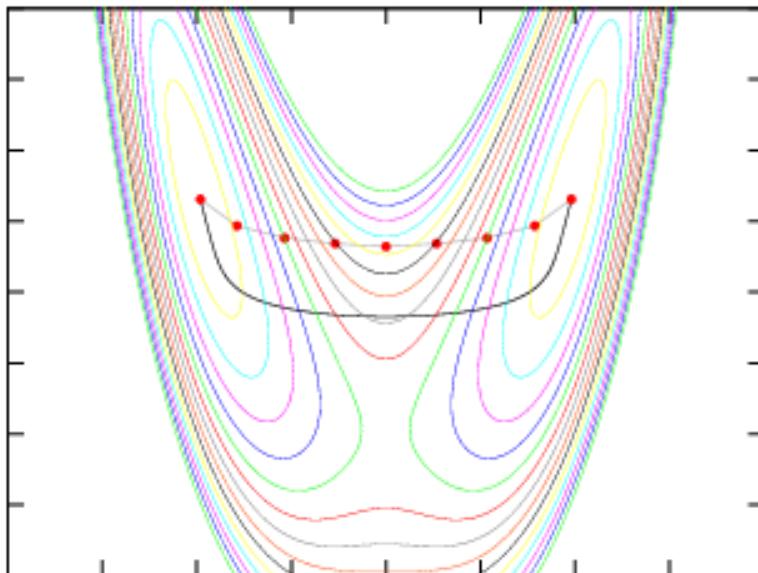
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

iter = 4



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- string method:

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

- quadratic string method:

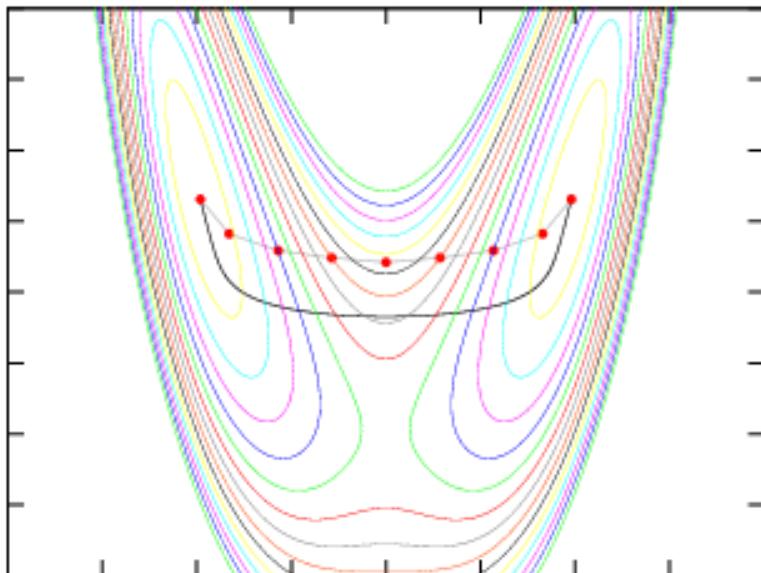
*Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 5**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

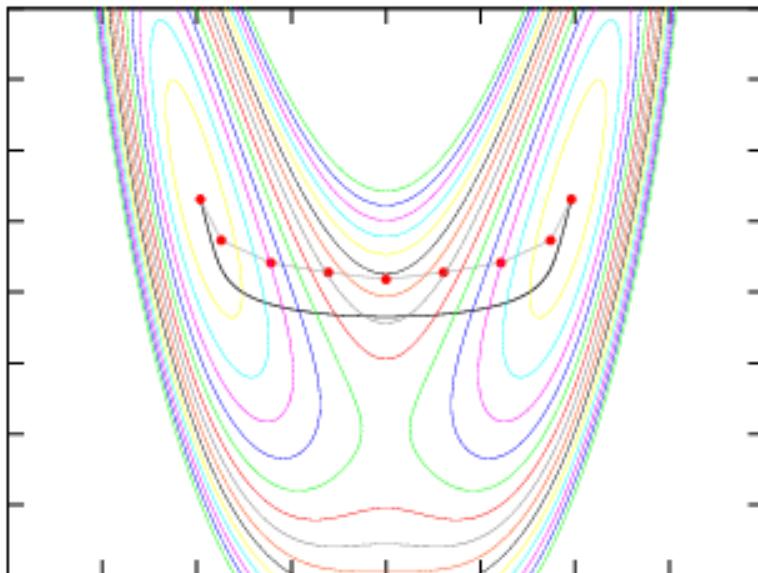
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 6**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

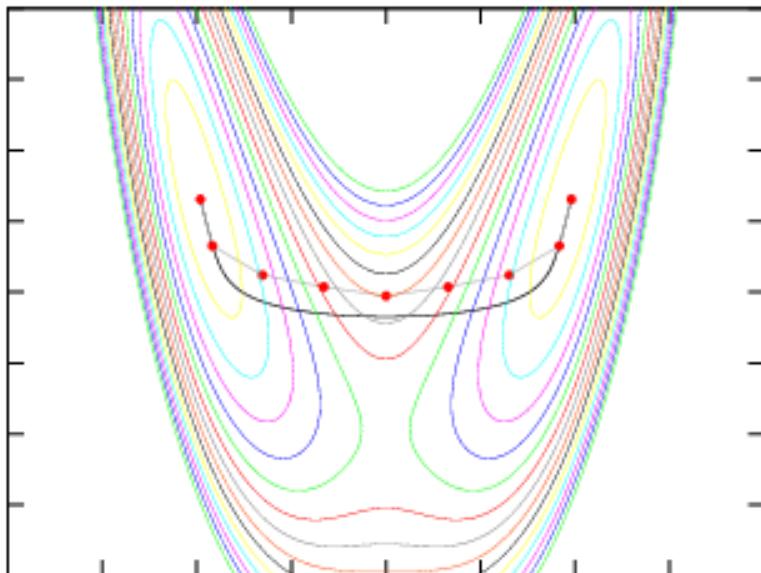
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

iter = 7



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- string method:

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

- quadratic string method:

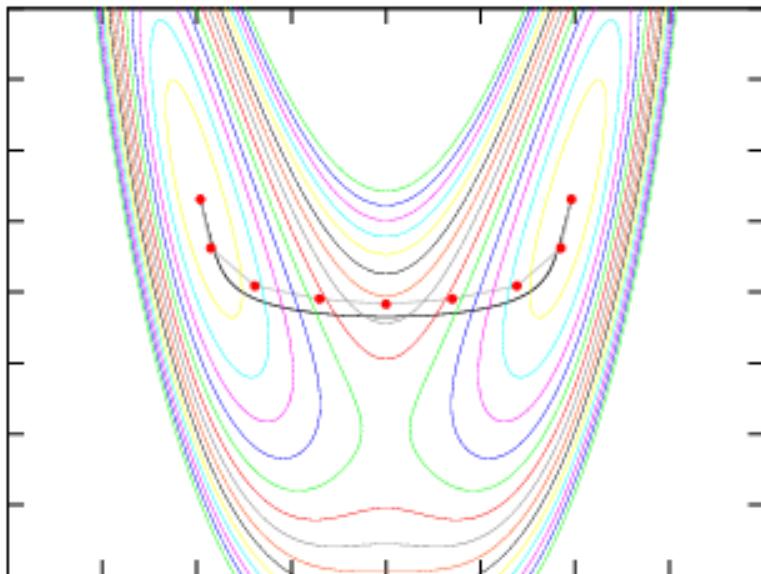
*Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 8**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

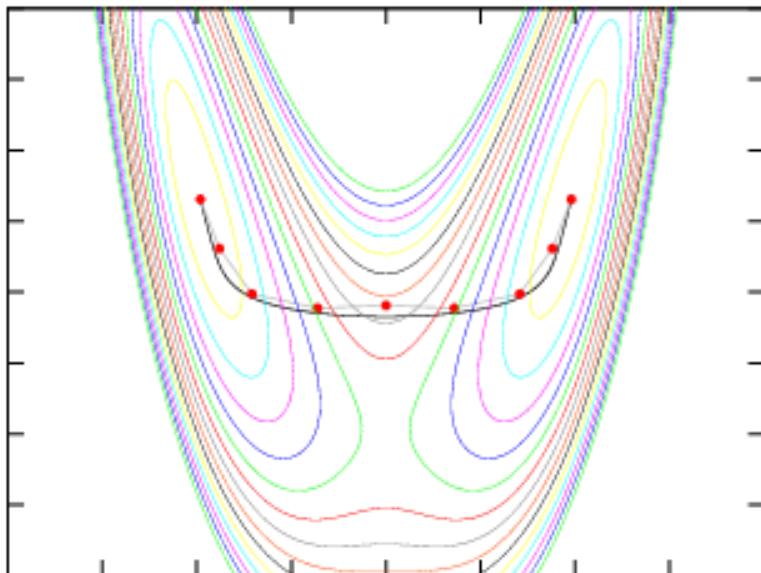
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

iter = 9



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- string method:

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

- quadratic string method:

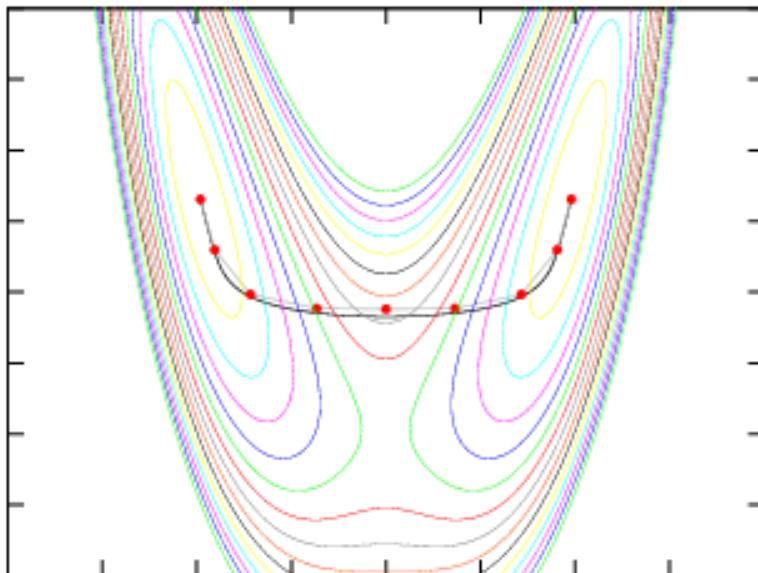
*Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 10**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

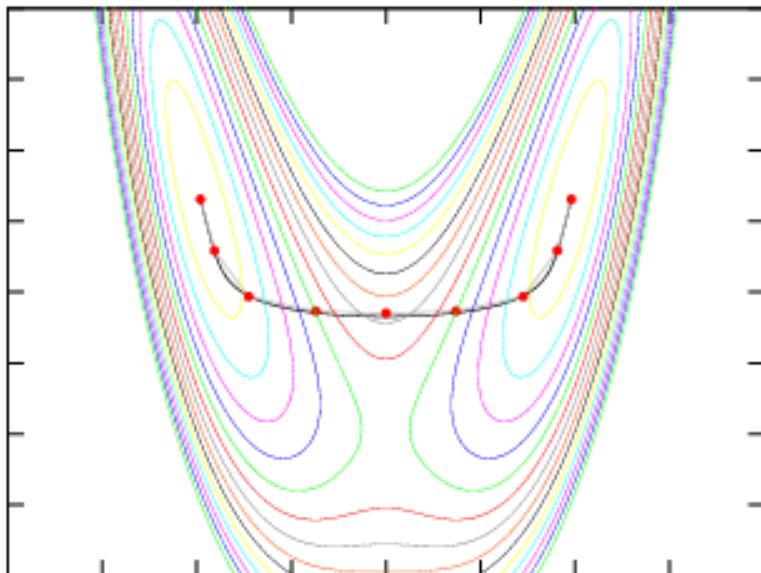
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 11**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

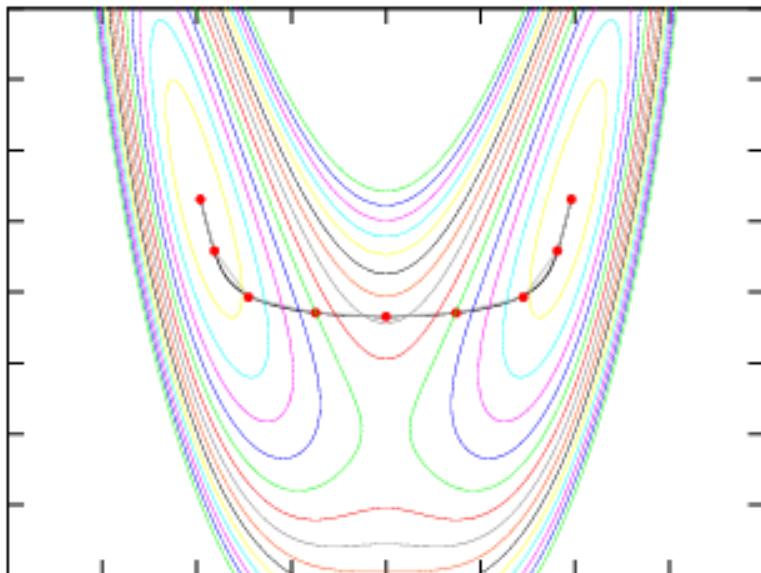
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

**LBFGS + string**

**iter = 12**



- Minimization of Jacobi action :

$$S_A = \int_{x_1}^{x_N} p dx = \sum_i \sqrt{2 \frac{V(x_{i+1}) + V(x_i)}{2}} |x_{i+1} - x_i|$$

- L-BFGS in  $N \times f$  degrees of freedom.

- **string method:**

*Cvitas, Althorpe, JCTC 2016.*

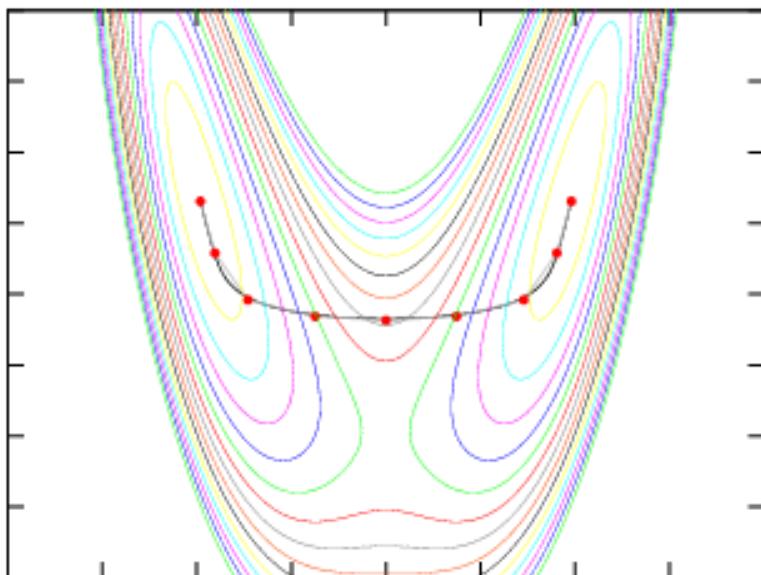
- **quadratic string method:** *Cvitas, JCTC 2018.*

# Instanton theory implementation

---

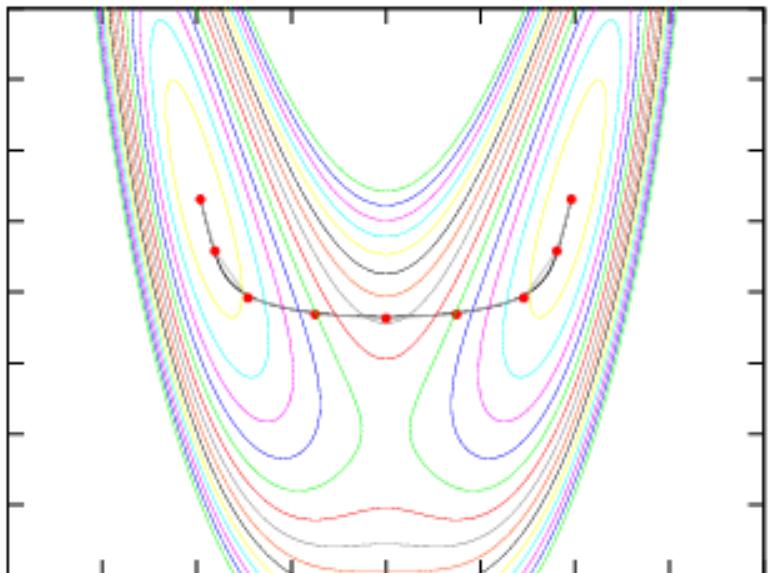
**LBFGS + string**

iter = 13 – 17



- 1) Evaluate Hessians at beads along MAP.
- 2) Interpolate Hessian matrix elements.
- 3) Solve :  
$$\frac{d}{d\tau} A + A^2 = \Omega^2(\tau)$$
- 4) Interpolate  $A$ .
- 5) Solve :  
$$\frac{d}{d\tau} U = \omega_e U - AU$$
- 6) Evaluate tunneling matrix elements  $h$ .

# Instanton theory implementation



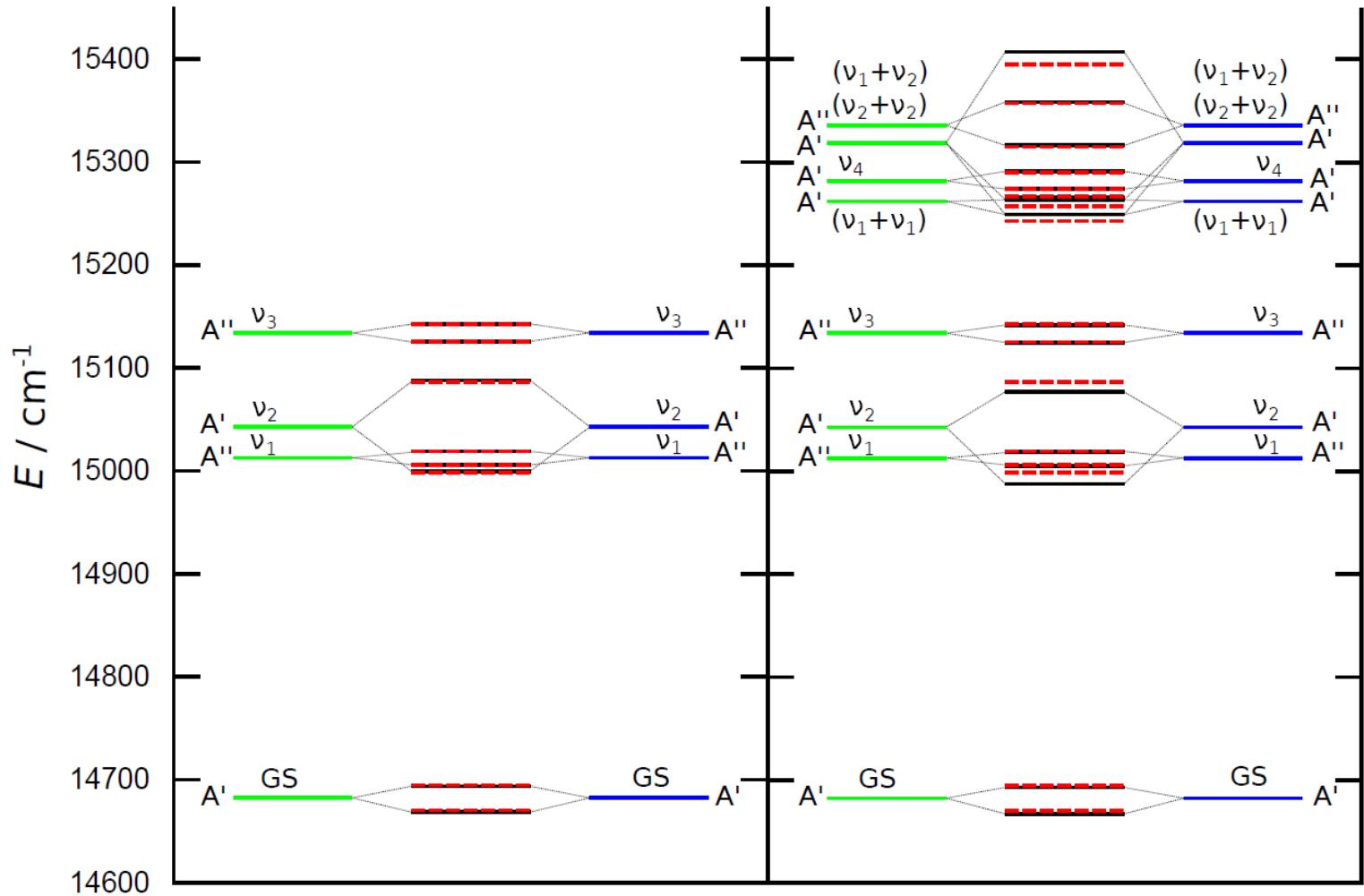
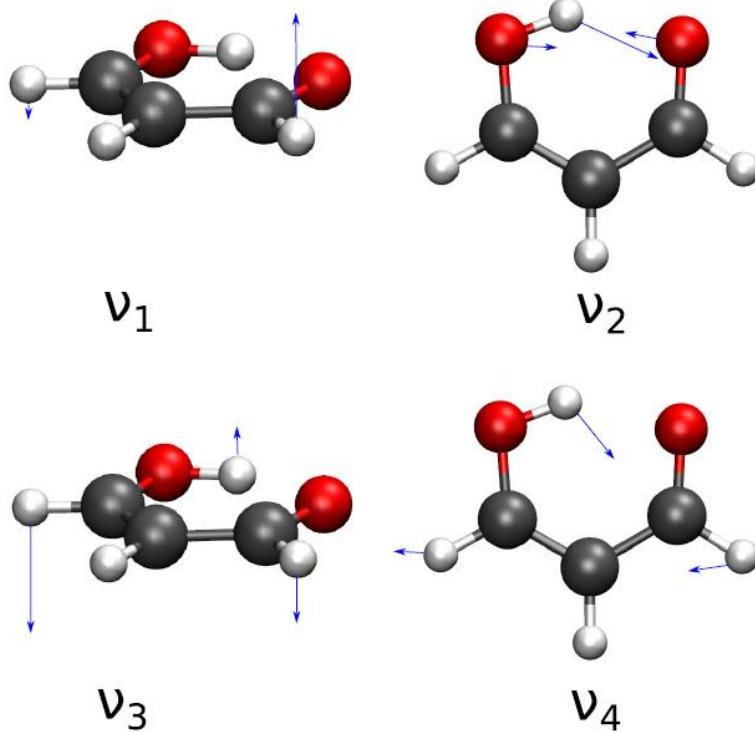
Can be computed using instantons

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} E^{(L)} & h \\ h^T & E^{(R)} \end{pmatrix}$$

Diagonal energies calculated using  
Vibrational Configuration interaction (VCI).

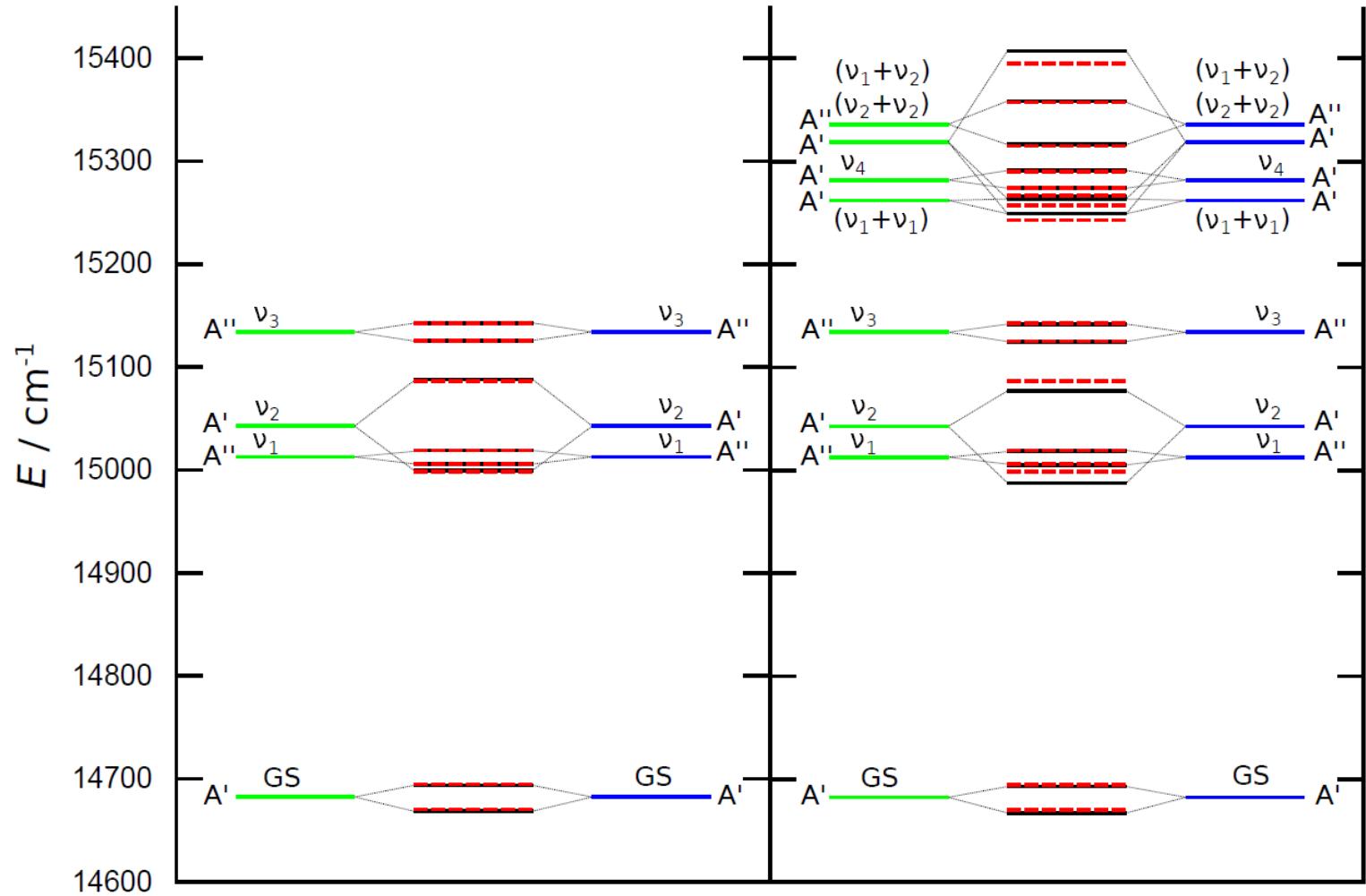
# Malonaldehyde

- PES: *Wang et al, JCP 1999.*
  - Experiment : TS =  $21.6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$   
*Baba et al, JCP 1999.*



# Malonaldehyde

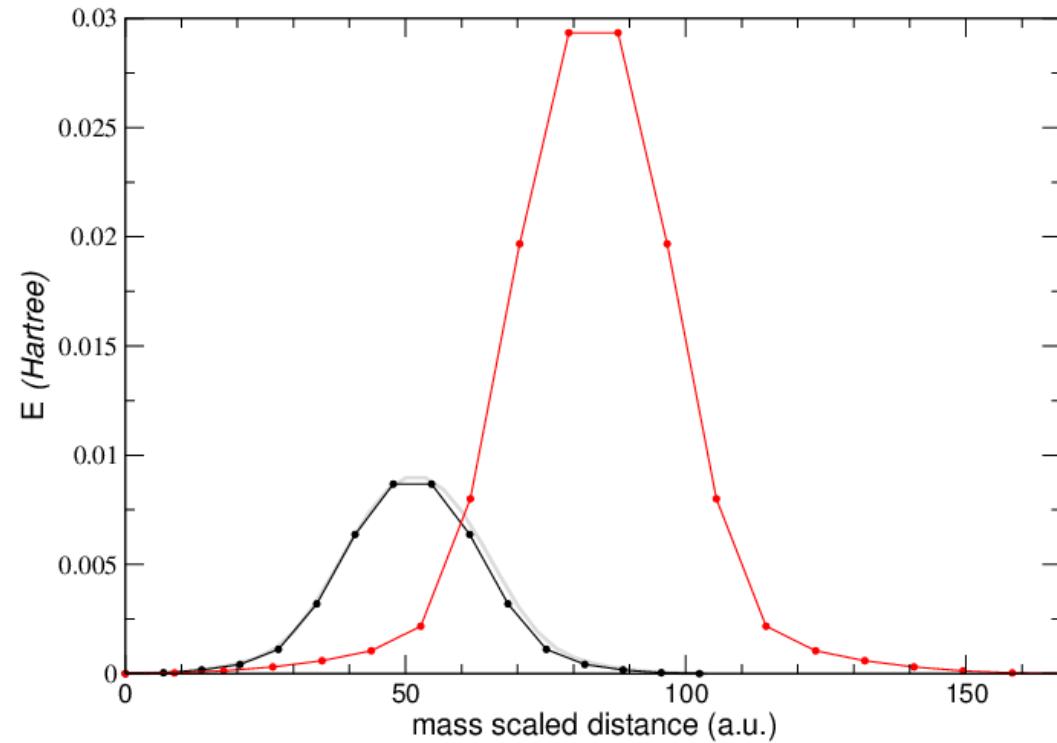
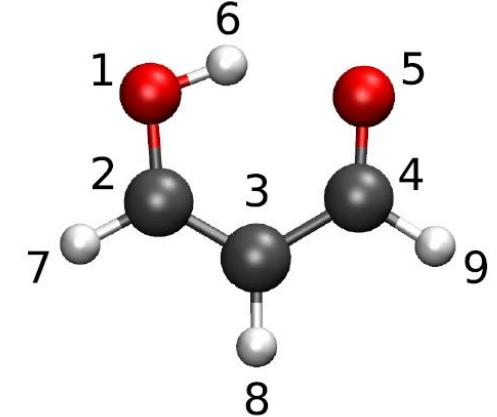
	TS ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	TS (MCTDH)
GS	24.6 (25.7)	23.5
$\nu_1$	13.4	6.7
$\nu_2$	88.4 (89.4)	69.9
$\nu_3$	17.1	16.3
$\nu_4$	15.6	18.8
$\nu_5$	24.4	21.1
$\nu_7$	39.5	33.3
$\nu_8$	15.6	14.6
$\nu_{11}$	22.1	19.5
$\nu_{11}$	22.1	19.5
$\nu_1 + \nu_1$	15.6 (17.3)	18.8
$\nu_1 + \nu_2$	42.6	49.5



# Malonaldehyde on-the-fly

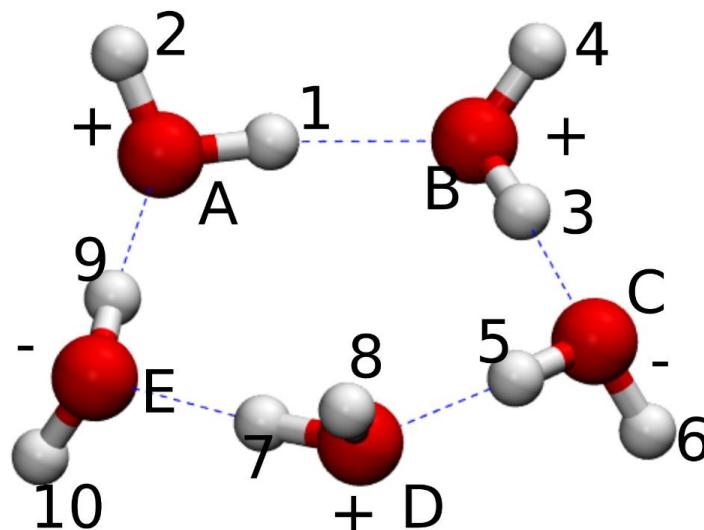
- On-the-fly calculation of  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  state of malonaldehyde.
- Collaboration with Marin Sapunar & Nađa Došlić
- Cfour: CCSDT + cc-pVDZ
- $N = 16$  beads ( $S_0$ ) and 20 beads ( $S_1$ )
- Experiment:  $S_1$  splitting  $\pm 19$  cm $^{-1}$  of ground state (*Arias, Wasserman, Vaccaro, JCP 1997*).
- Exp( $S_0$ ) : 21.6 cm $^{-1}$  (*Baba et al, JCP 1999*).

	$\Delta$ (cm $^{-1}$ )	Action ( $\hbar$ )
$S_0$ (Bow)	24.6	6.13
$S_0$	20.6	5.85
$S_1$	2.9(-2)	13.40

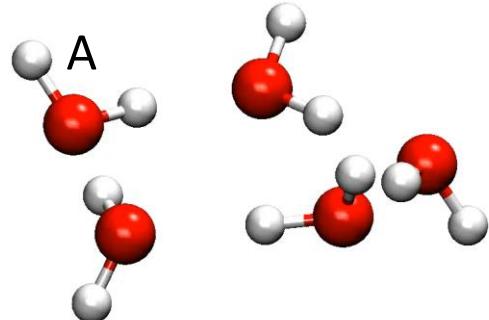


# Water pentamer

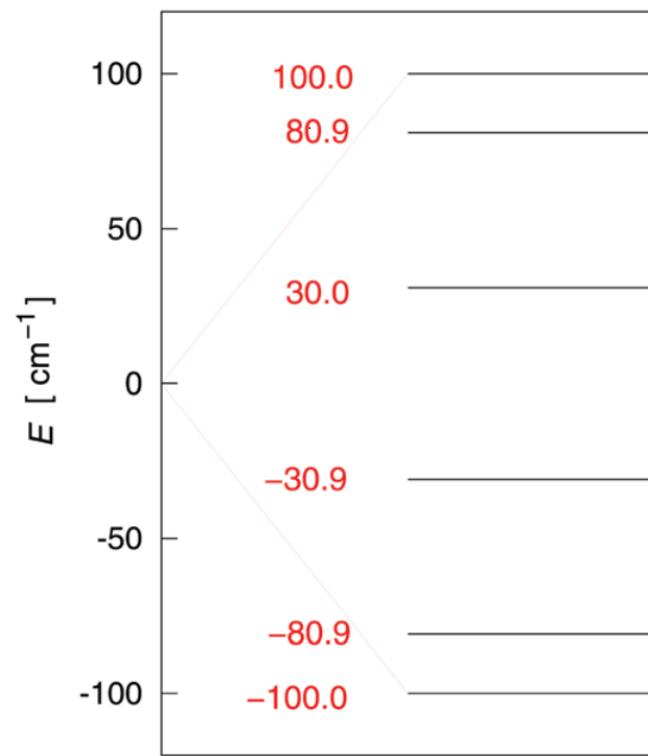
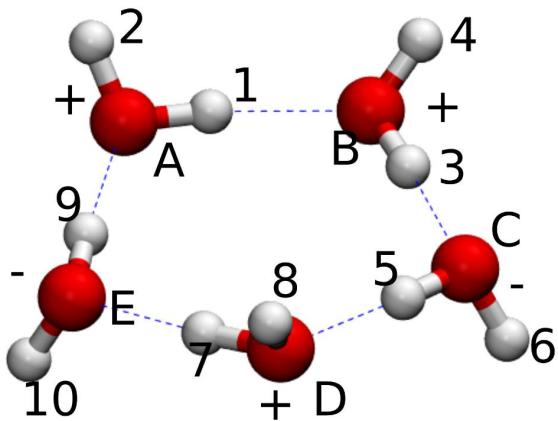
- Potential: MB-pol (*Babin et al, 2013*)  
WHBB (*Wang et al, 2009*)
- Recent experiments: *Cole et al 2016*;  
*Harker et al, 2005; Brown et al, 1998; Liu et al 1997; Cruzan et al, 1998*
- $G_{320}$  analysed by *Walsh & Wales, 1996*
- Label minima using notation: UUDUD
- 5 positions for majority monomer
- 2 for U/D of majority monomer (DDUDU)
- $2^5$  positions of hydrogens (bifurcations)
- $5 \times 2 \times 2^5 = 320$  equivalent minima



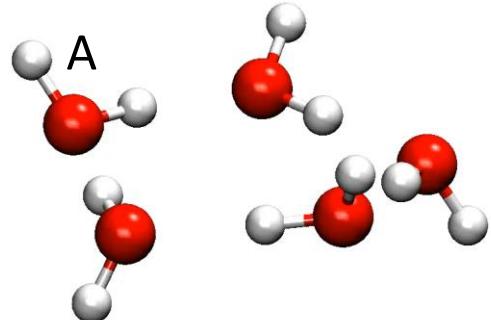
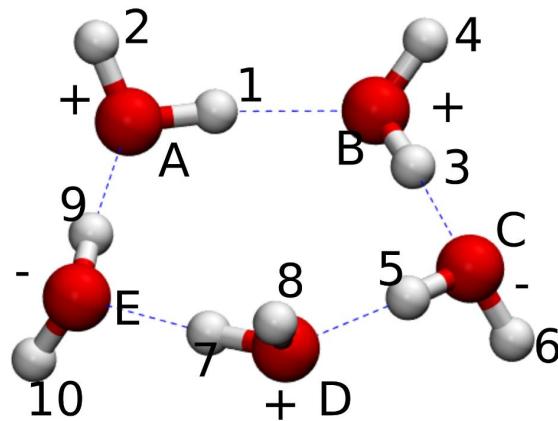
# Water pentamer



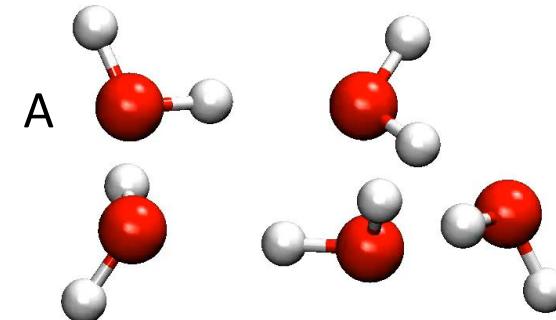
Flip A / B :



# Water pentamer

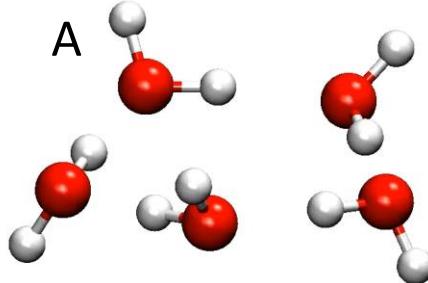


Flip A / B :



Bifur A / B :

# Water pentamer

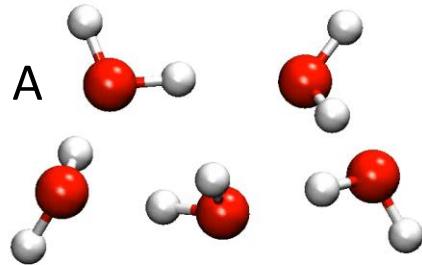


equivalent to A flip  
↓  
 $(A+E) = (A) + E$

Action =  $16.30 < (14.76 + 1.64) = 16.40$  a.u.

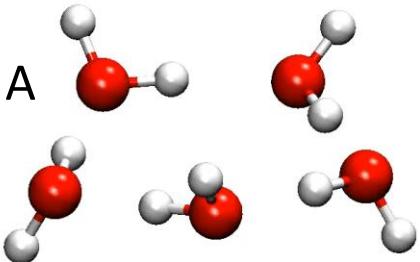
	$h / \text{cm}^{-1}$	Action
A / B	50	1.64
A / B	4.7(-4)	14.76
A+E / C+B	5.0(-4)	16.30
B+C / E+A	2.2(-4)	15.65
C+BD / E+AD	1.7(-4)	17.27

# Water pentamer



A+BCDE  
Action = 28.63 a.u.

# Water pentamer

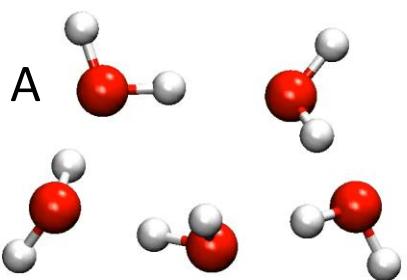


A+BCDE

Action = 28.63 a.u.



0.06% contribution



equivalent to A flip

$$A+BCDE = (A+E) + (D) + (C) + (B) :$$

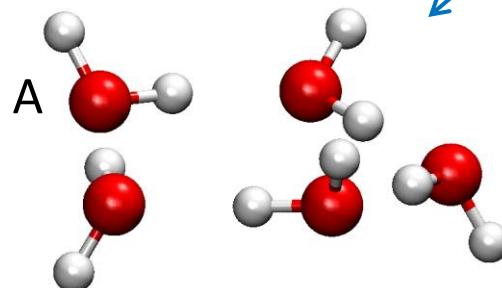
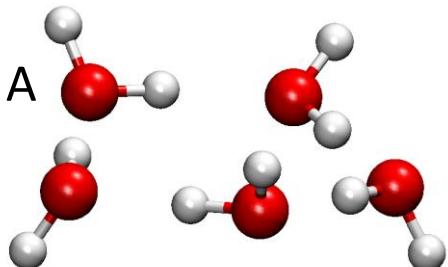
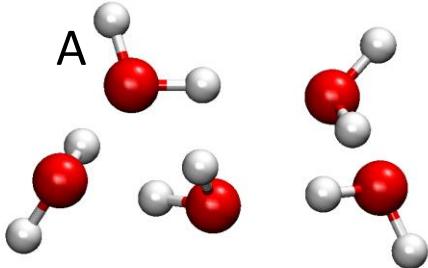
$$\text{Action} = 16.30 + 3 \times 1.64 = 21.22 \text{ a.u.}$$

# Water pentamer

	composed of	equivalent to
A + BCDE	(A+E) + D + C + B	(A+E) + 3 x A
A + CDE	(A+E) + D + C	(A+E) + 2 x A
A + DE	(A+E) + D	(A+E) + A
B + ACDE	(B+C) + D + E + A	(B+C) + 3 x A
B + CDE	(B+C) + D + E	(B+C) + 2 x A
B + CD	(B+C) + D	(B+C) + A
C + ABDE	(C+BD) + E + A	(C+BD) + 2 x A
C + BDE	(C+BD) + E	(C+BD) + A
D + ABCE	B + (D+CE) + A	(C+BD) + 2 x A
D + BCE	B + (D+CE)	(C+BD) + A
E + ABCD	(E+AD) + C + B	(C+BD) + 2 x A
E + ACD	(E+AD) + C	(C+BD) + A

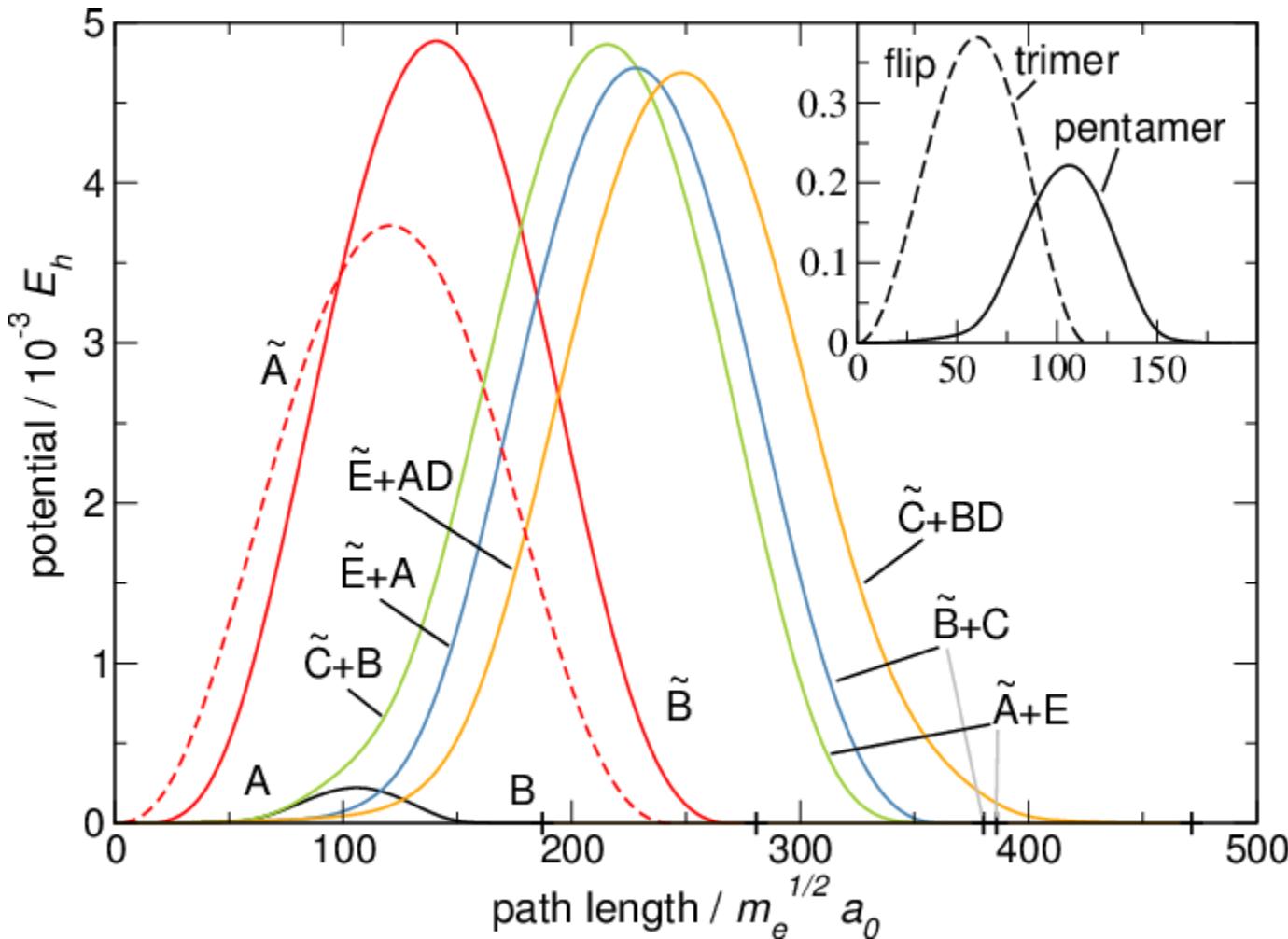
	$h / \text{cm}^{-1}$	Action
A / B	50	1.64
A / B	4.7(-4)	14.76
A+E / C+B	5.0(-4)	16.30
B+C / E+A	2.2(-4)	15.65
C+BD / E+AD	1.7(-4)	17.27

# Water pentamer



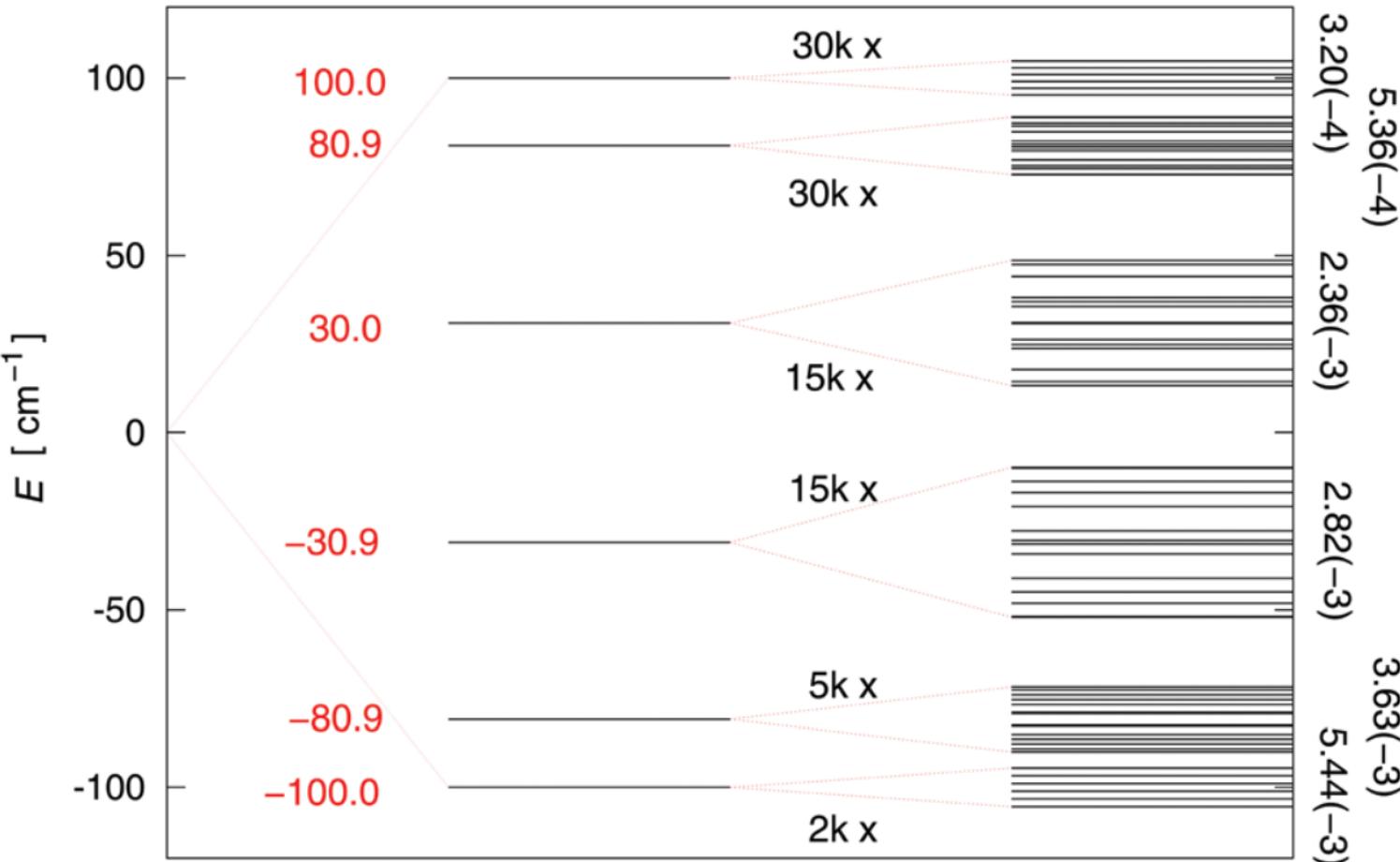
	$h / \text{cm}^{-1}$	Action
A / B	50	1.64
A / B	4.7(-4)	14.76
A+E / C+B	5.0(-4)	16.30
B+C / E+A	2.2(-4)	15.65
C+BD / E+AD	1.7(-4)	17.27

# Water pentamer



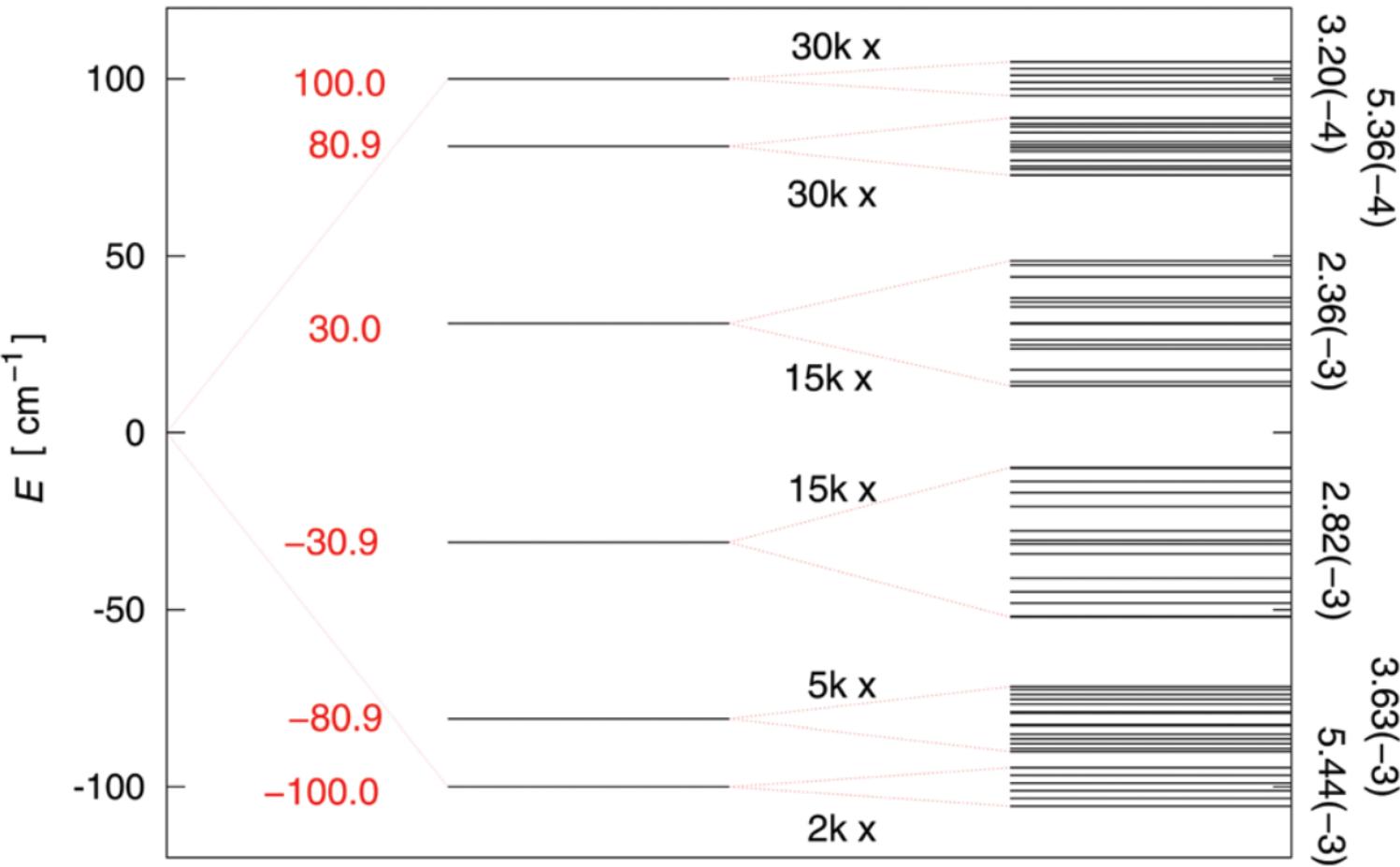
	$h / \text{cm}^{-1}$	Action
$A / B$	50	1.64
$\tilde{A} / \tilde{B}$	4.7(-4)	14.76
$E+A / C+BD$	5.0(-4)	16.30
$B+C / E+A$	2.2(-4)	15.65
$C+BD / E+AD$	1.7(-4)	17.27

# Water pentamer



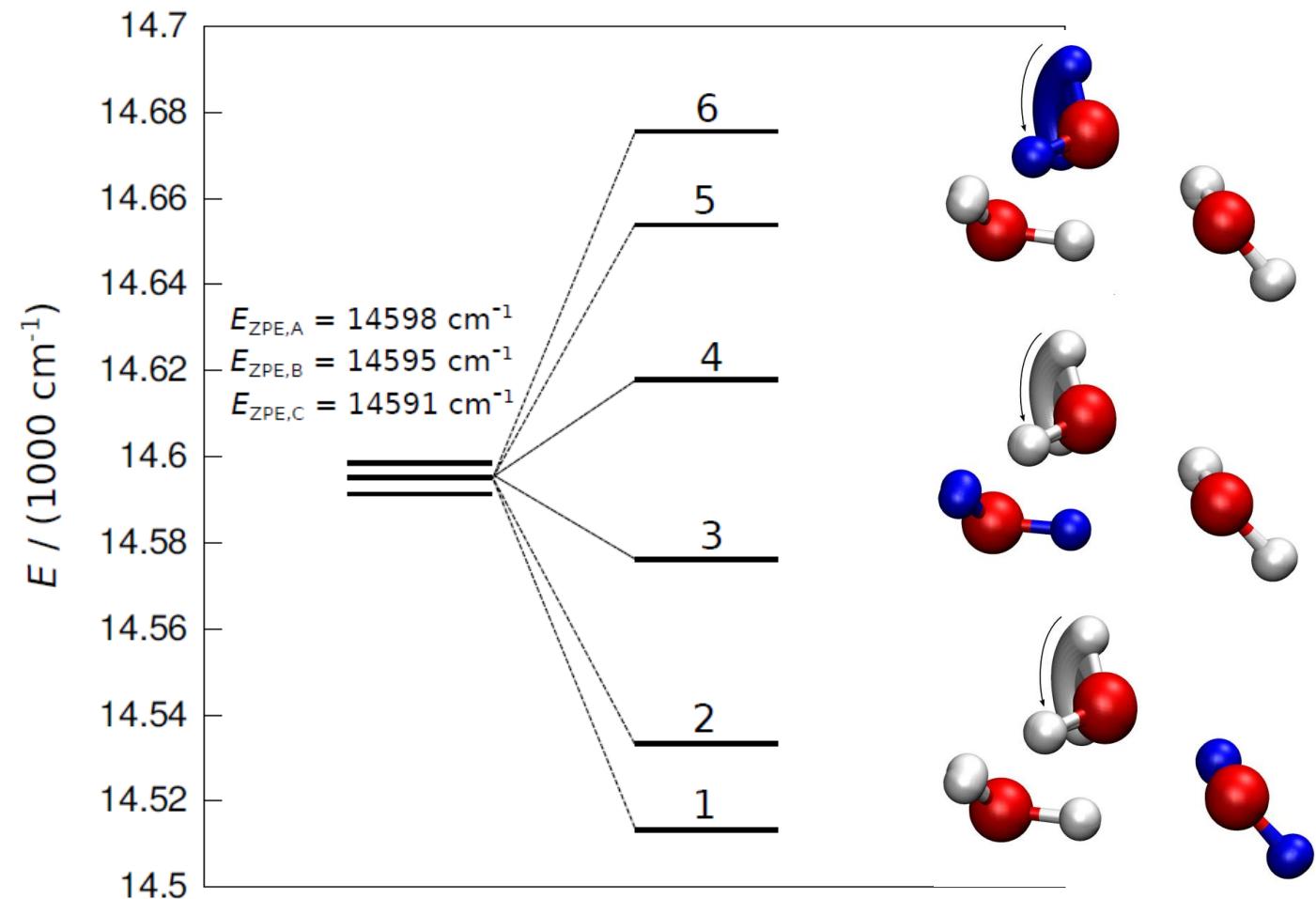
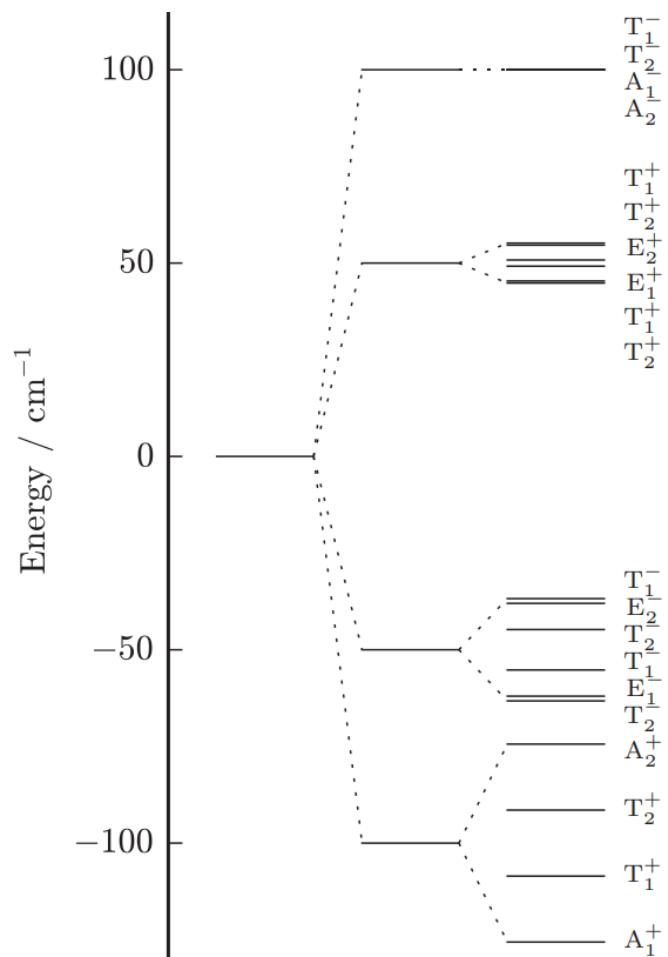
- Number 320 minima.
- Apply each symmetry operation on every minimum  $i$ , determine index  $j$  of the resulting minimum, and place  $h$  at  $H_{ij}$  in the tunnelling matrix  $H$ .
- Diagonalize  $H$  to obtain energy levels.
- State symmetries, degeneracies and nuclear-spin weights can be obtained from eigenvectors to deduce allowed transitions and their intensity patterns.

# Water pentamer

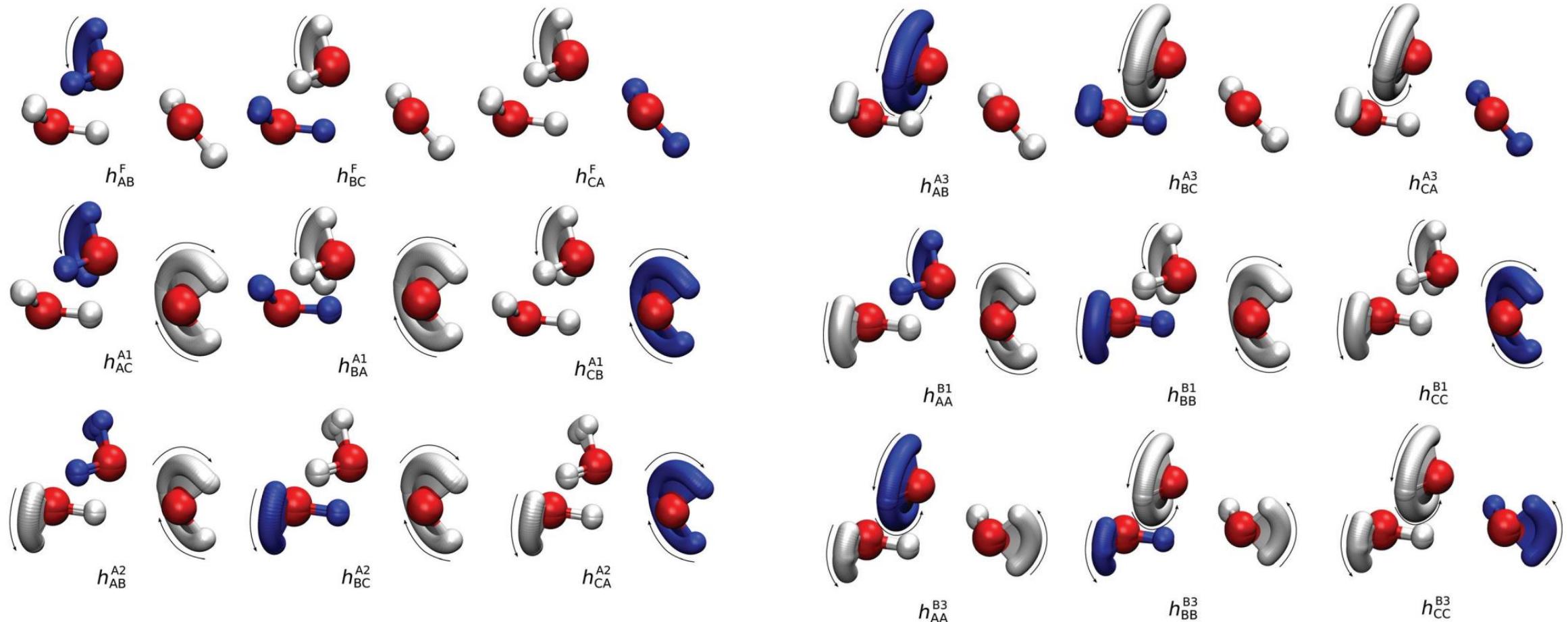


- Mechanism other than A are responsible for marked decrease in the splitting for higher flip states. Decrease 17 x.
- Lowest flip state width increases 2.9x due to other mechanisms.
- Anomalous splitting pattern in intermediate flip states (unequal spacing).
- Width of the lowest flip state is  $1.0 \times 10^{-3}$  cm<sup>-1</sup> ( $1.6 \times 10^{-4}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>). Factor of 6.9 x . (In trimer:  $3.8 \times 9.6 \times 10^{-3}$ ).
- Sextet splitting in D-pentamer is  $2.5 \times 10^{-6}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>. Experiment: splitting  $< 1.0 \times 10^{-5}$  cm<sup>-1</sup>.
- KIE(H/D) bifurcation widths: 400 x
- KIE(<sup>16</sup>O/<sup>18</sup>O) bifurcation widths: 1.11 x

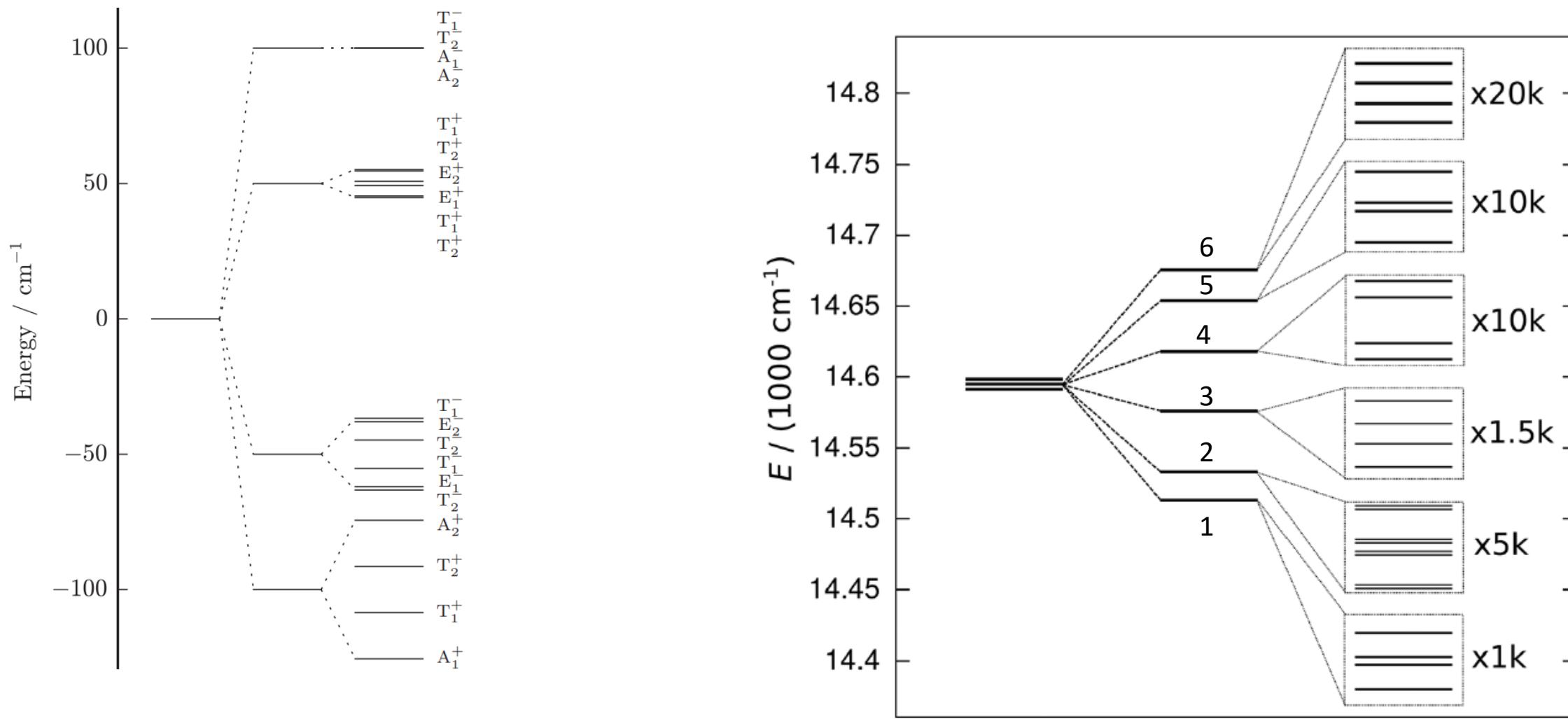
# Water trimer: D<sub>2</sub>O(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>



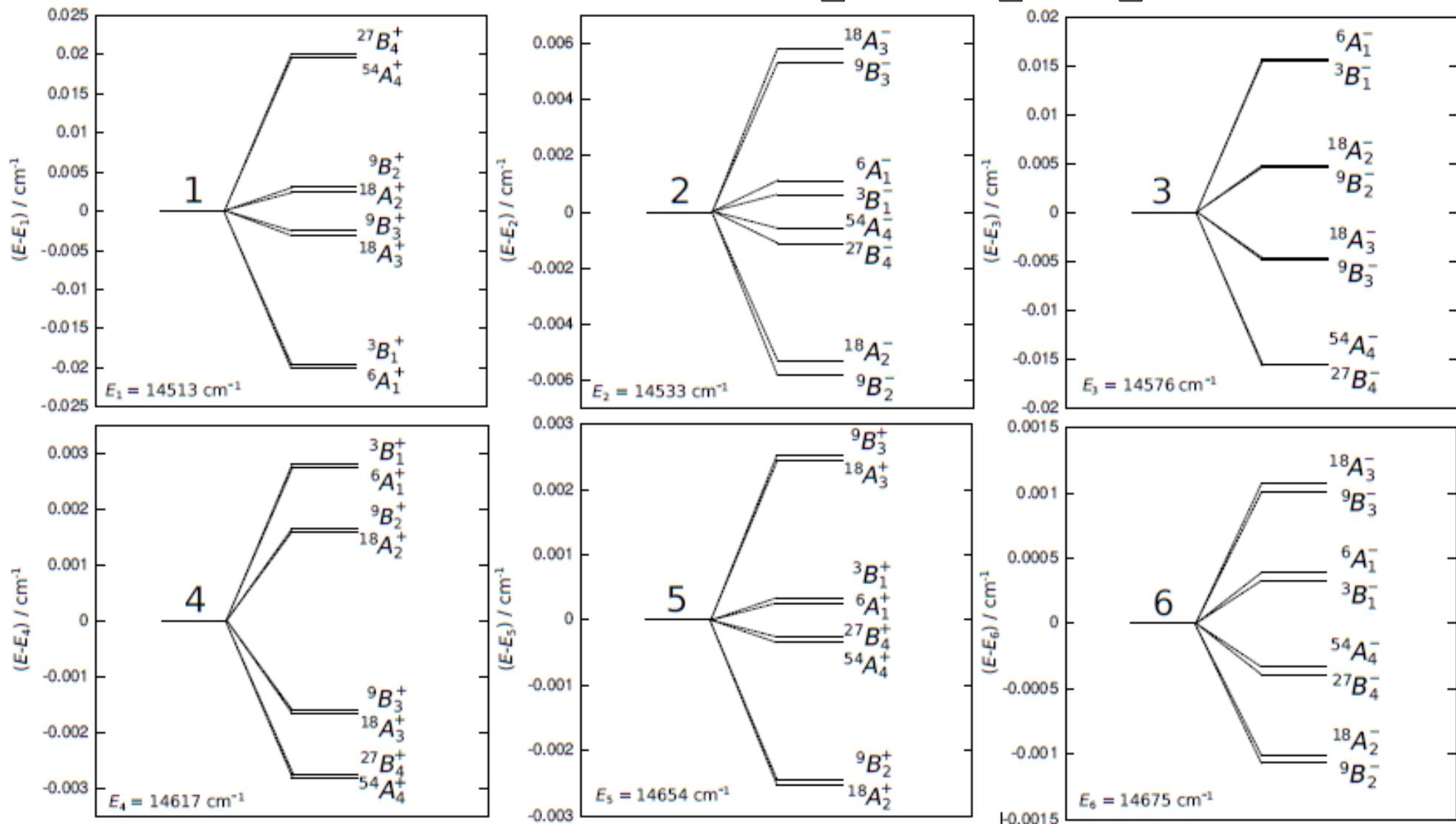
# Water trimer: $\text{D}_2\text{O}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$



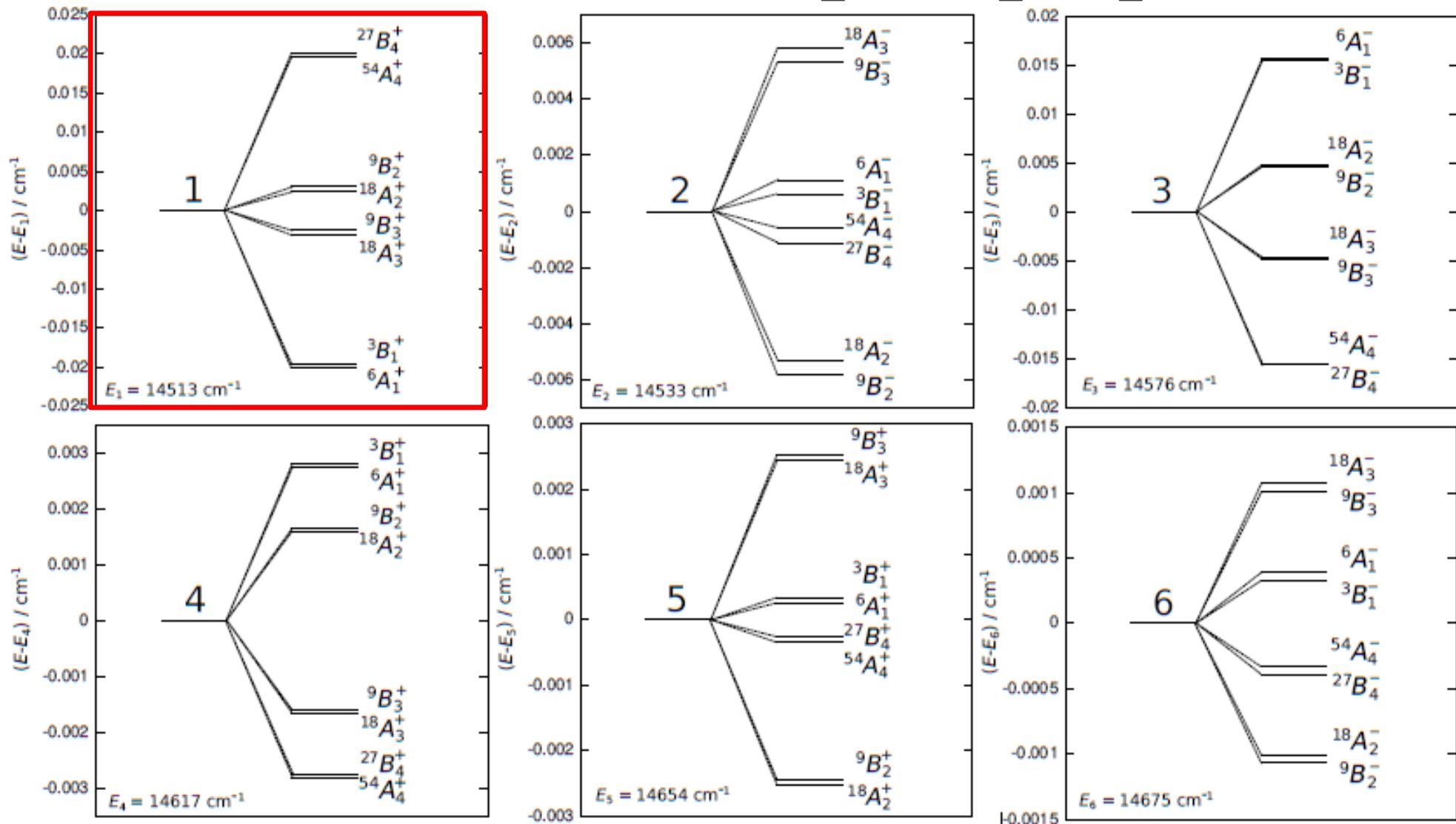
# Water trimer: $D_2O(H_2O)_2$



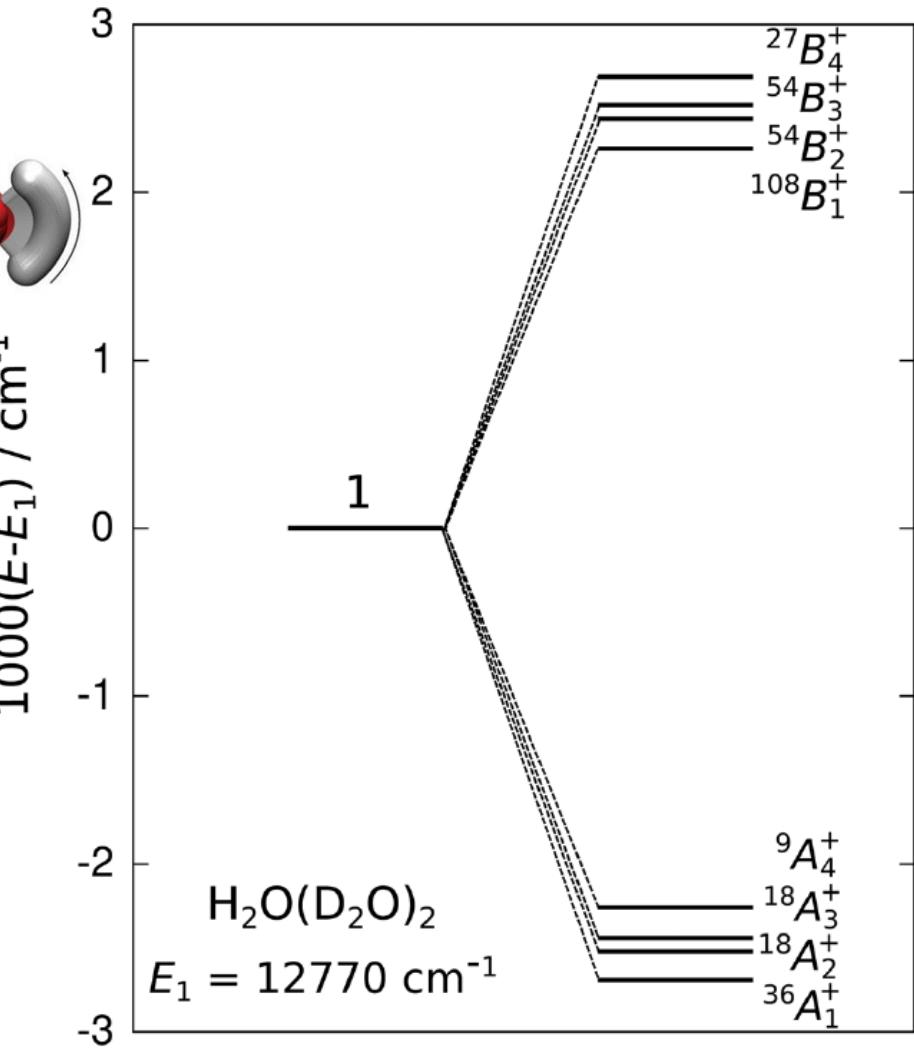
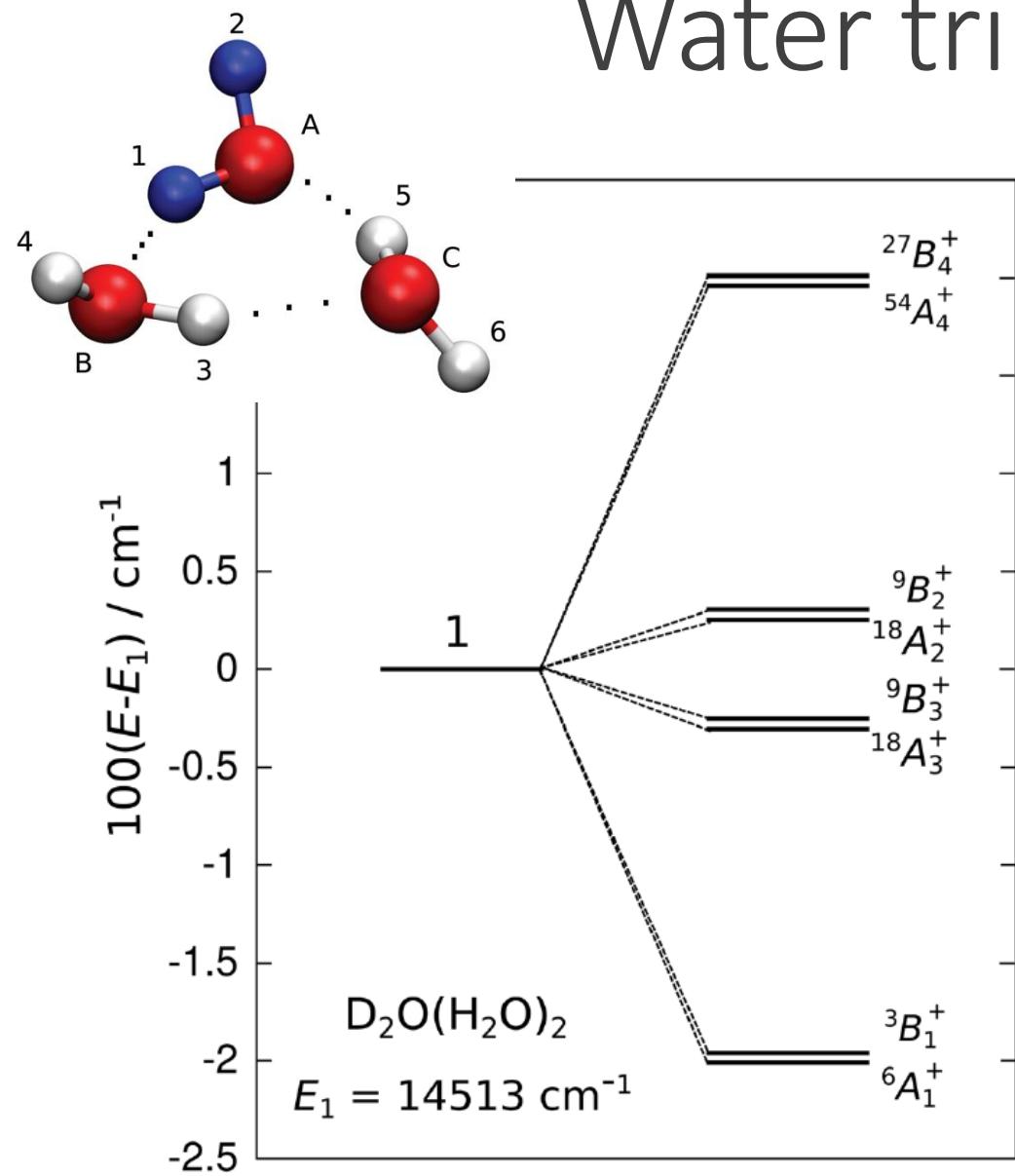
# Water trimer: D<sub>2</sub>O(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>



# Water trimer: D<sub>2</sub>O(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>

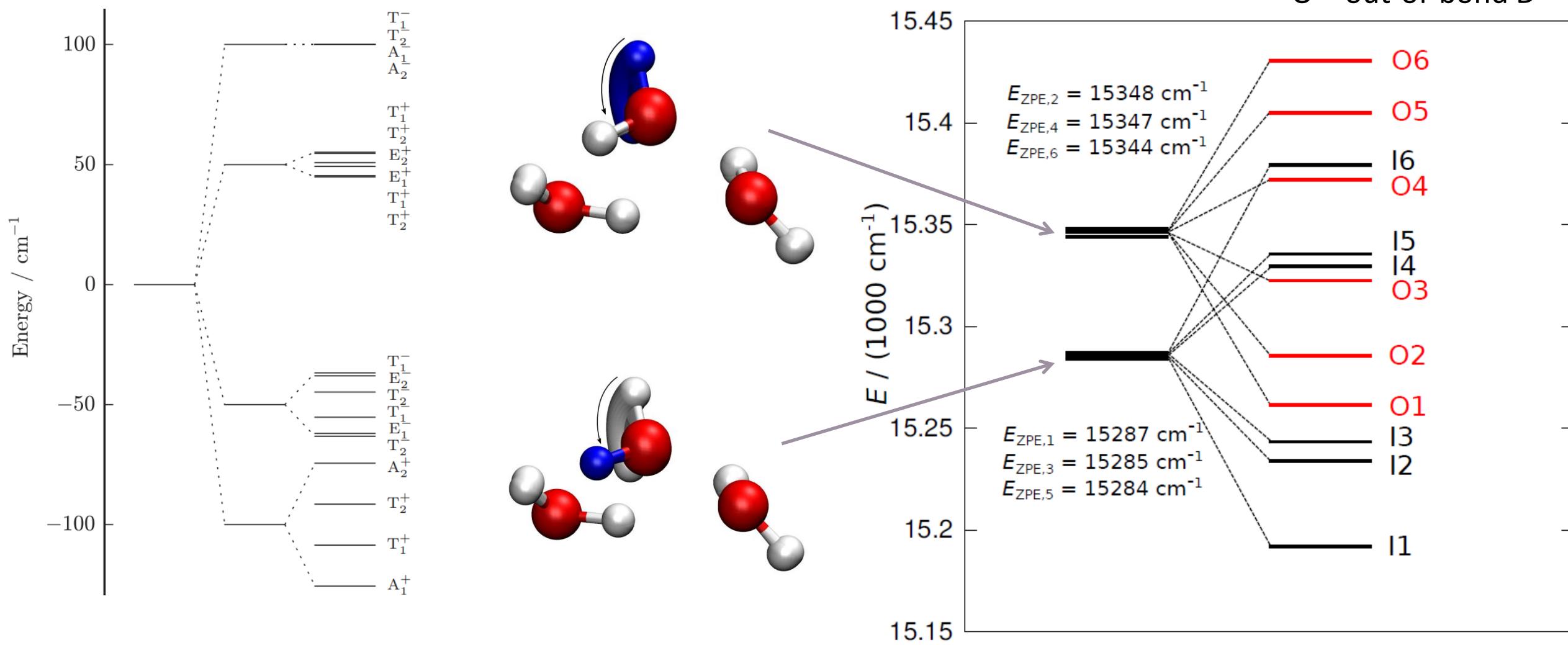


# Water trimer: D<sub>2</sub>O(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>2</sub>

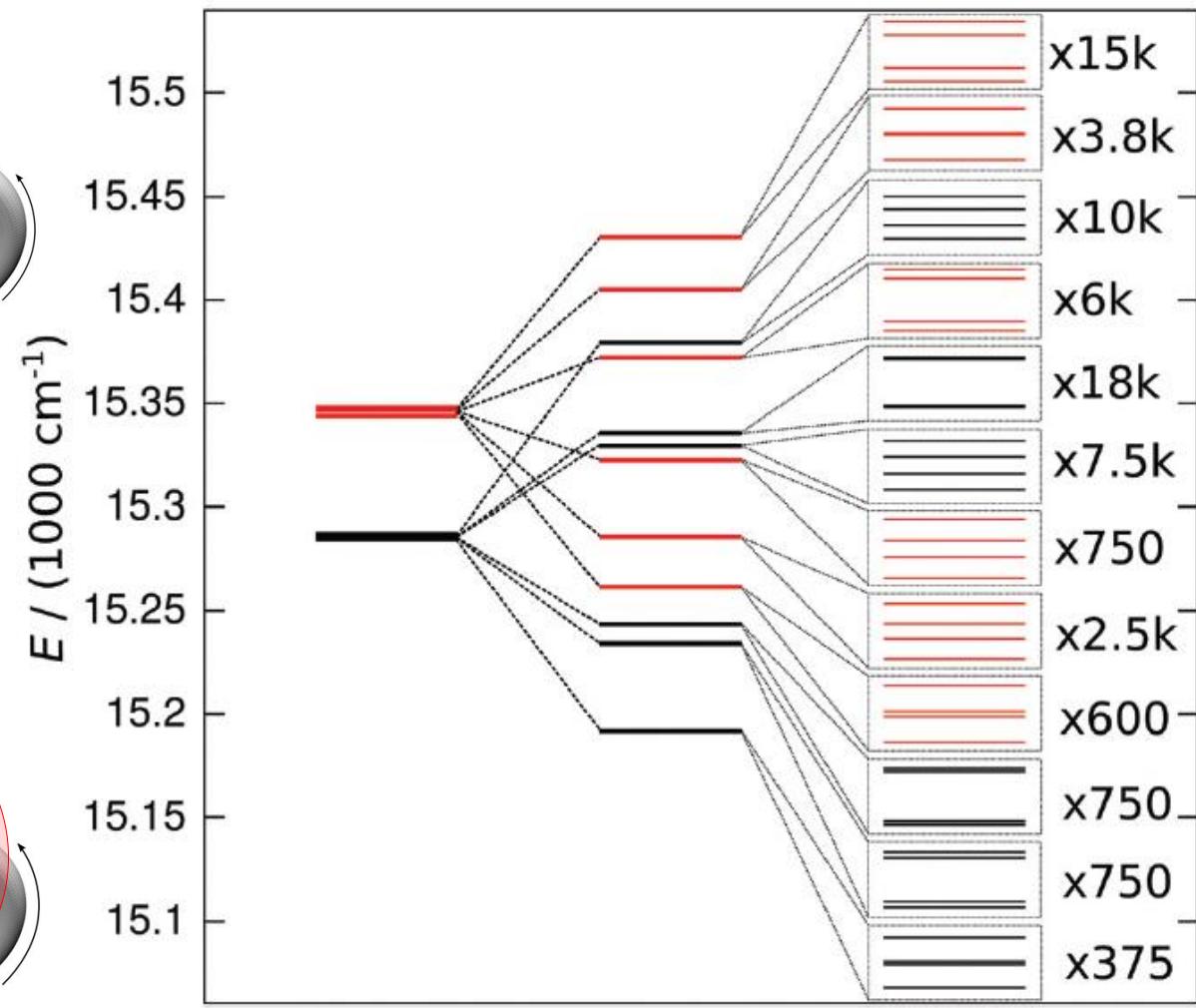
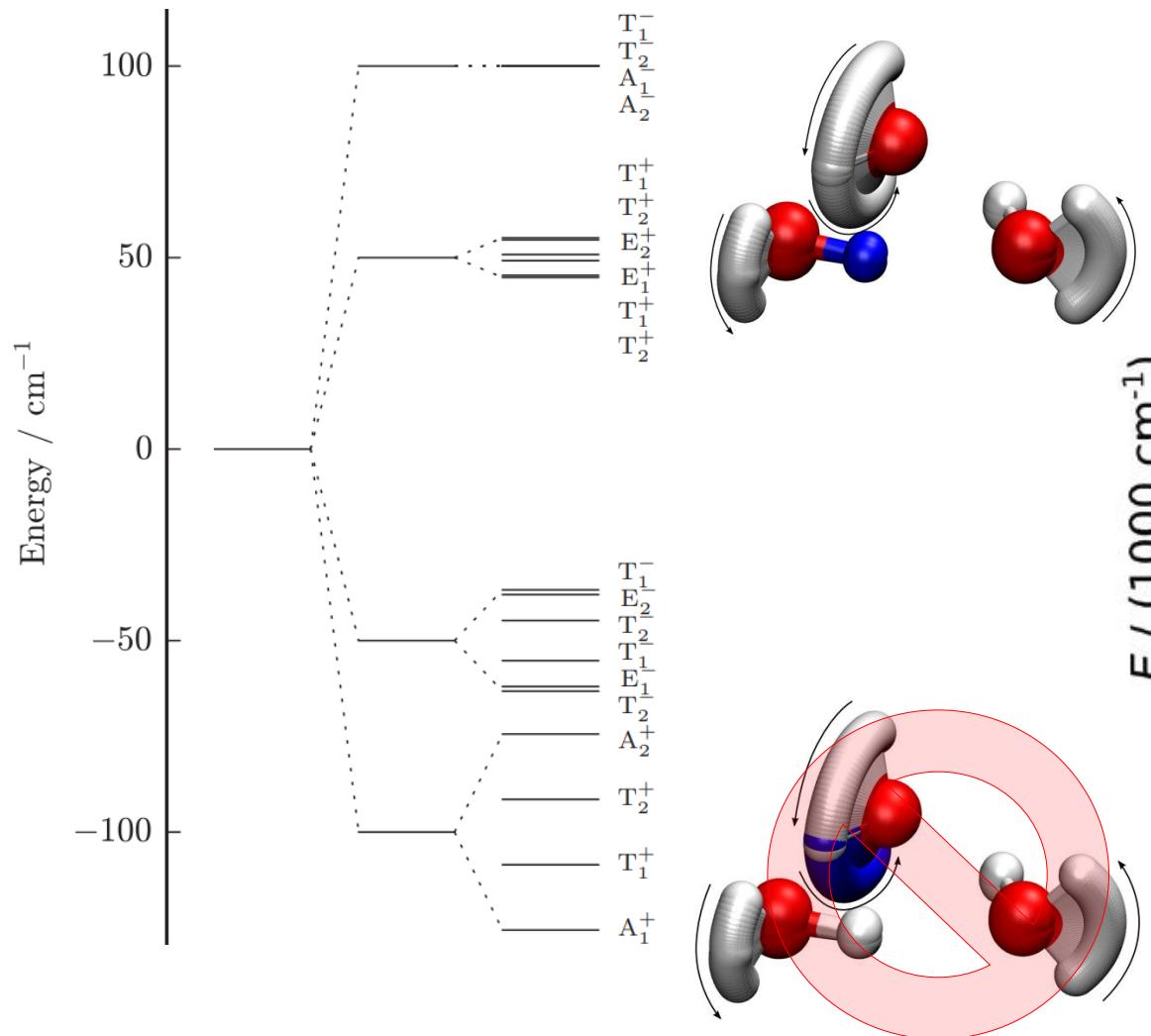


# Water trimer: HOD( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ )<sub>2</sub>

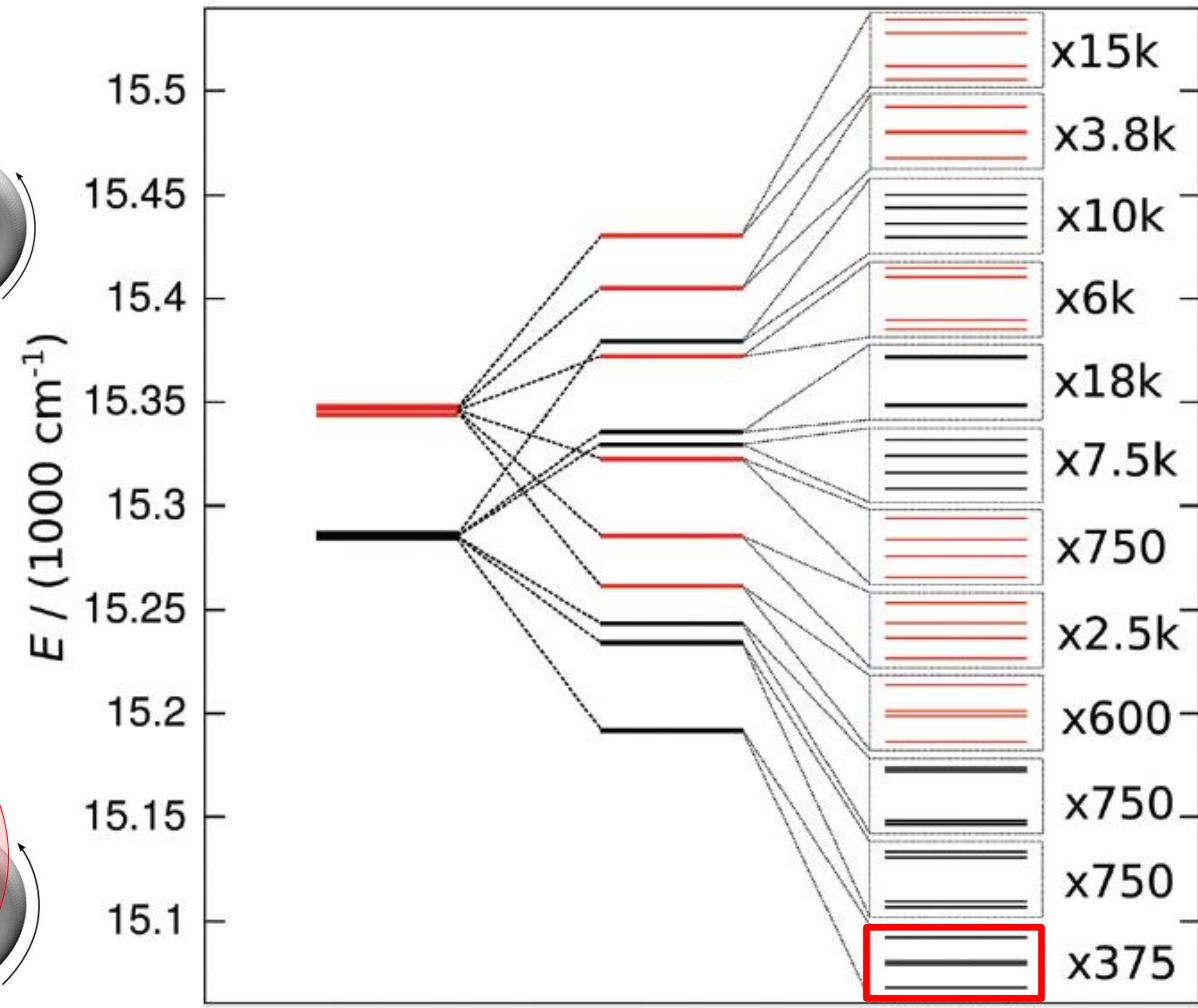
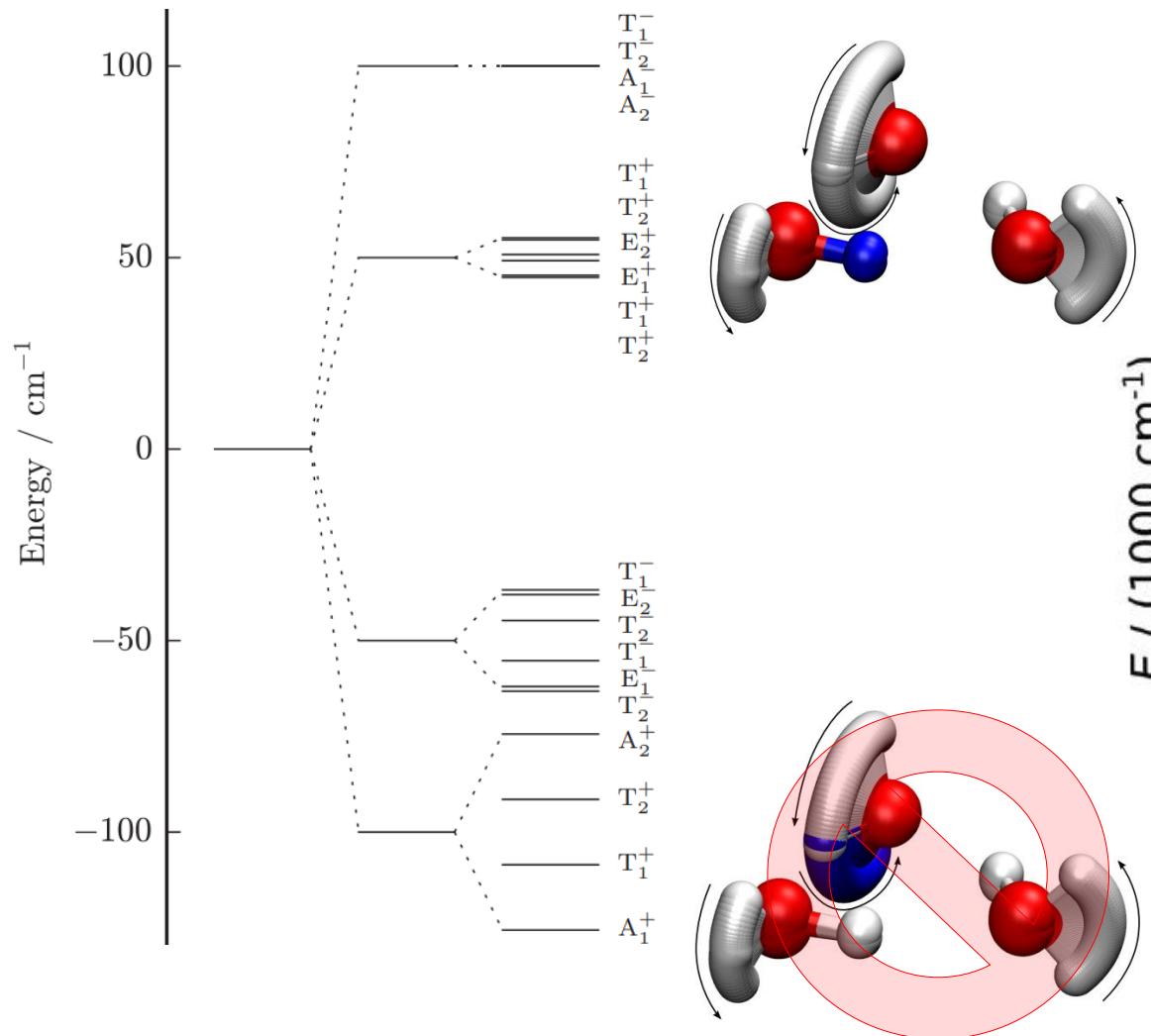
- I = in-bond D
- O = out-of-bond D



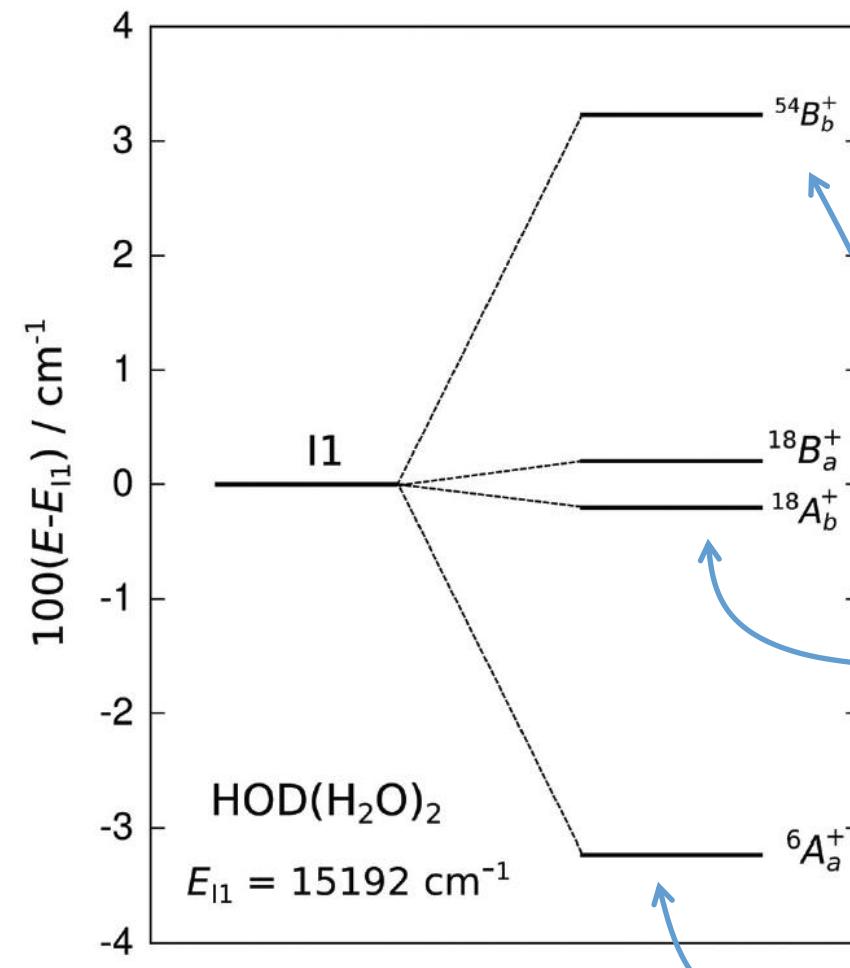
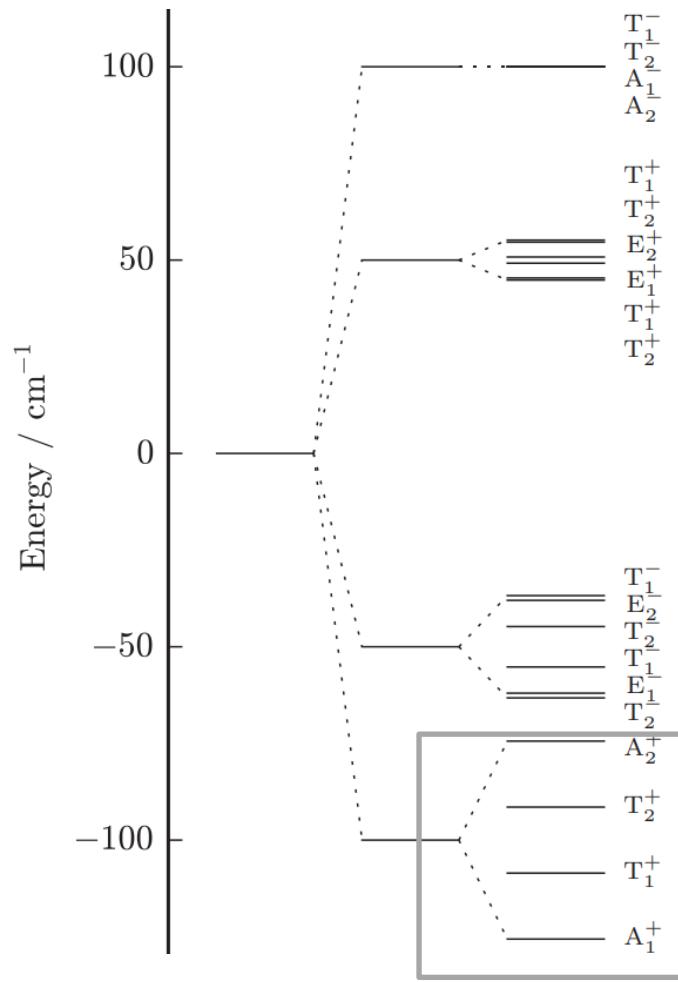
# Water trimer



# Water trimer



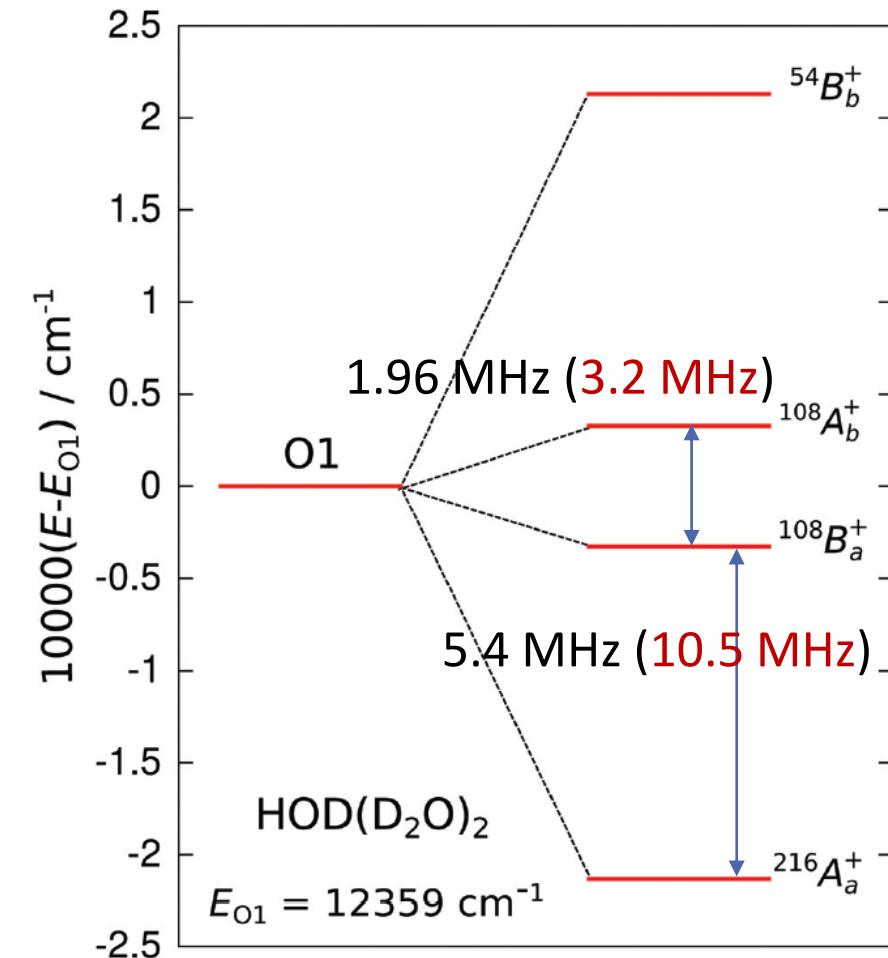
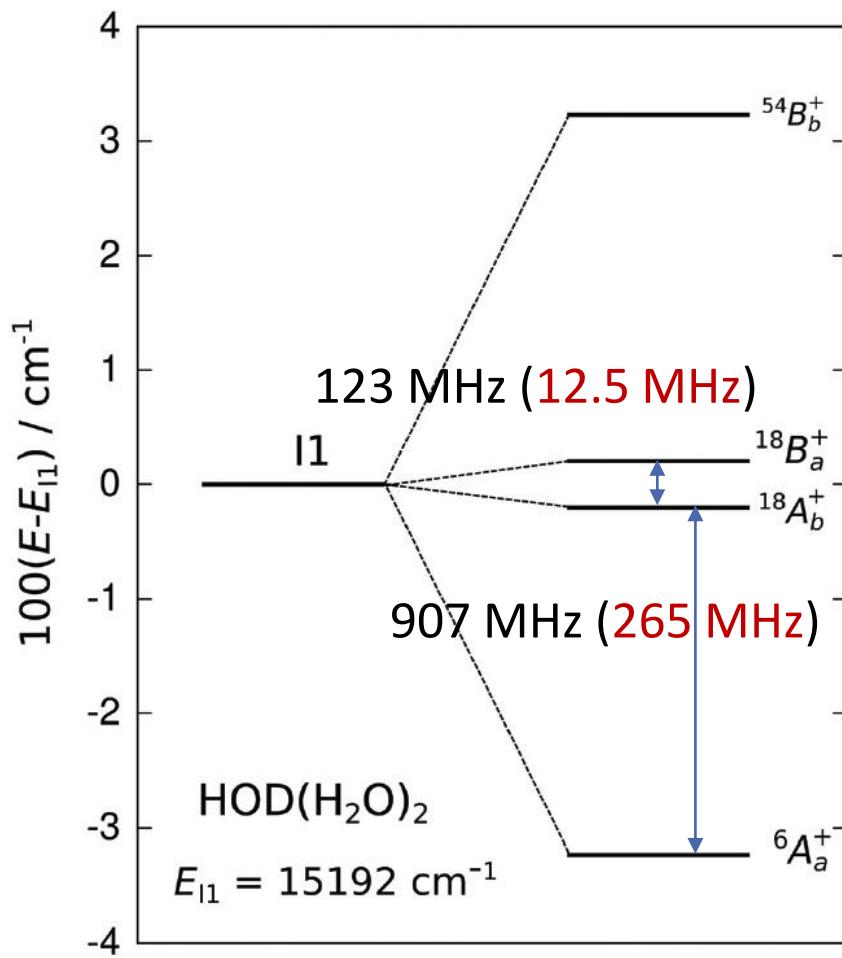
# Water trimer



- From correlation table to  $G_{48}$ :
- $A_2^+ = B_b^+$
- $T_1^+ = A_a^+ + A_b^+ + B_a^+$
- $T_2^+ = A_b^+ + B_a^+ + B_b^+$
- $A_1^+ = A_a^+$

# Water trimer

- Lowest two levels in  $(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$ :  
1100 MHz (289.4 MHz),  
and in  $(\text{D}_2\text{O})_3$ :  
3.9 MHz (5 MHz).
- Level of agreement  
comparable to  
homoisotopic trimers.
- The splitting of  
intermediate levels in  
 $\text{HOD}(\text{D}_2\text{O})_2$  is  $6.5 \times (7.6 \times)$   
smaller than the full width.



# Summary

- Tunneling matrix (TM) elements can be calculated using modified WKB for systems with asymmetric tunnelling paths and that are asymmetric in shape and energy.
- Theory can treat non-equivalent excitations in different wells.
- Instanton theory can be combined with higher-level quantum methods, such as VCI.
- Excited states come at no additional cost.
- Tunneling splittings in malonaldehyde quantitatively match exact quantum calculations.
- Instanton theory can semi-quantitatively describe TS in water pentamer and partially deuterated water trimer.
- TS in excited states of water clusters are within reach.
- Instantons are complementary to variational calculations because they work better for high barriers and small TM elements.
- Calculating TM elements using instanton theory is computationally cheap and relies on few potential evaluations, which leaves room for application to high-dimensional systems or using high-quality electronic potentials on-the-fly.

# Outlook

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- Extension of the theory to treat higher vibrational excitations.
- Inclusion of rotational degrees of freedom in the treatment.
- Application of the methodology to treat decay and rates.

# Acknowledgements

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## Collaboration:

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Nađa Došlić (RBI)

Christophe Vaillant (EPFL)

Jeremy Richardson (ETH)

Stuart Althorpe (University of Cambridge)

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I FONDOVA EUROPSKE UNIJE



Operativni program  
**KONKURENTNOST  
I KOHEZIJA**

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Thank you  
for listening