

Exploring Quantum Tunneling In Organic Reactions

José P. L. Roque

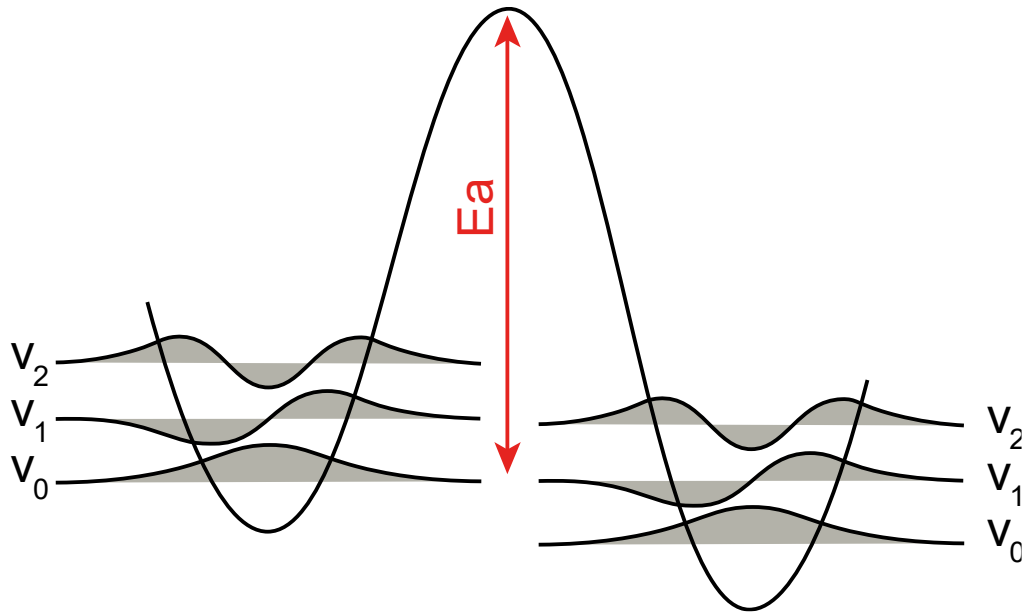
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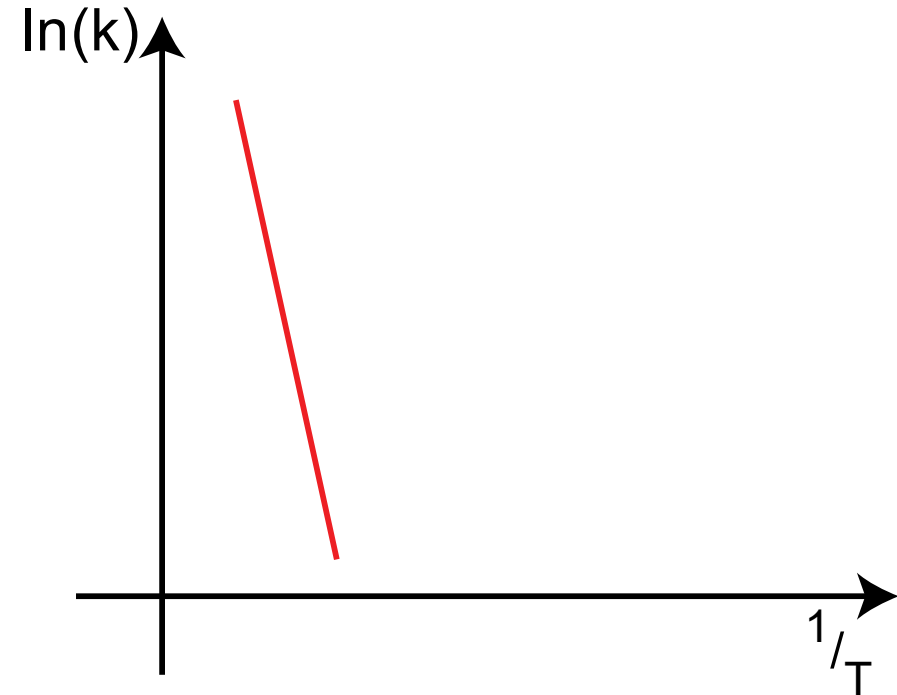
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Over-the-barrier Reactivity

Double-well Potential



Arrhenius Plot



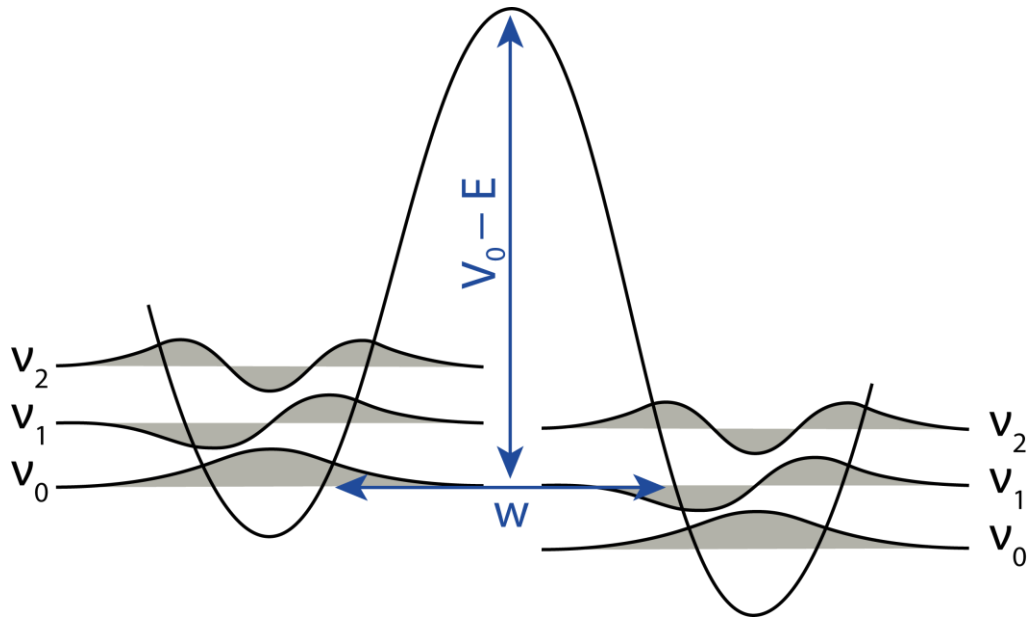
Arrhenius Equation

$$k = A \cdot e^{\frac{-Ea}{RT}}$$

$$\ln(k) = \ln(A) - \frac{Ea}{R} \left(\frac{1}{T} \right)$$

Quantum Tunneling: The phenomena

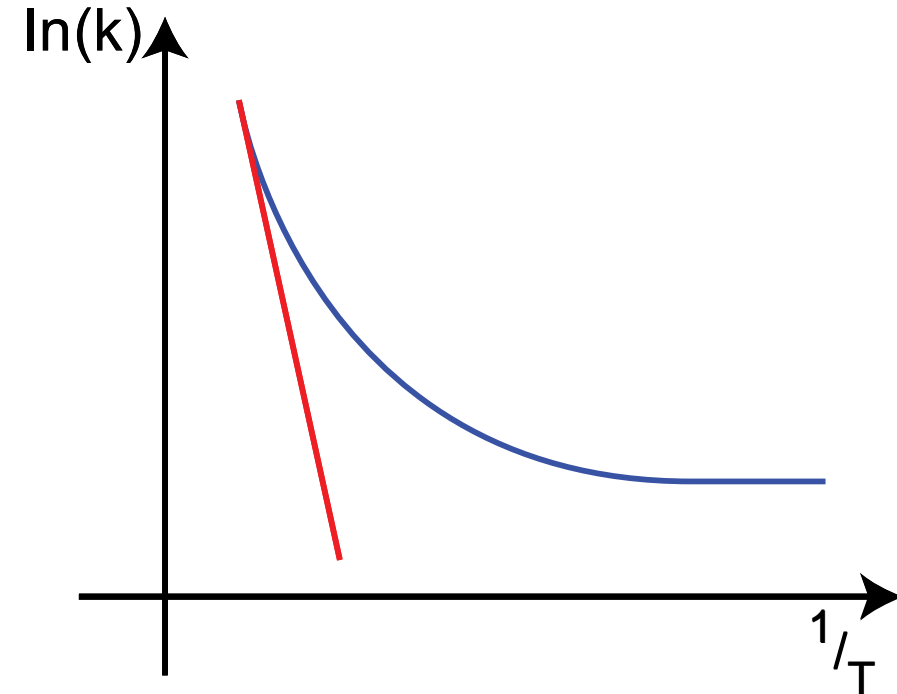
Double-well Potential



Tunneling Contribution

$$K = e \left(-\pi^2 w \sqrt{\frac{2m}{h^2} (V_0 - E)} \right) \cdot v$$

Arrhenius Plot



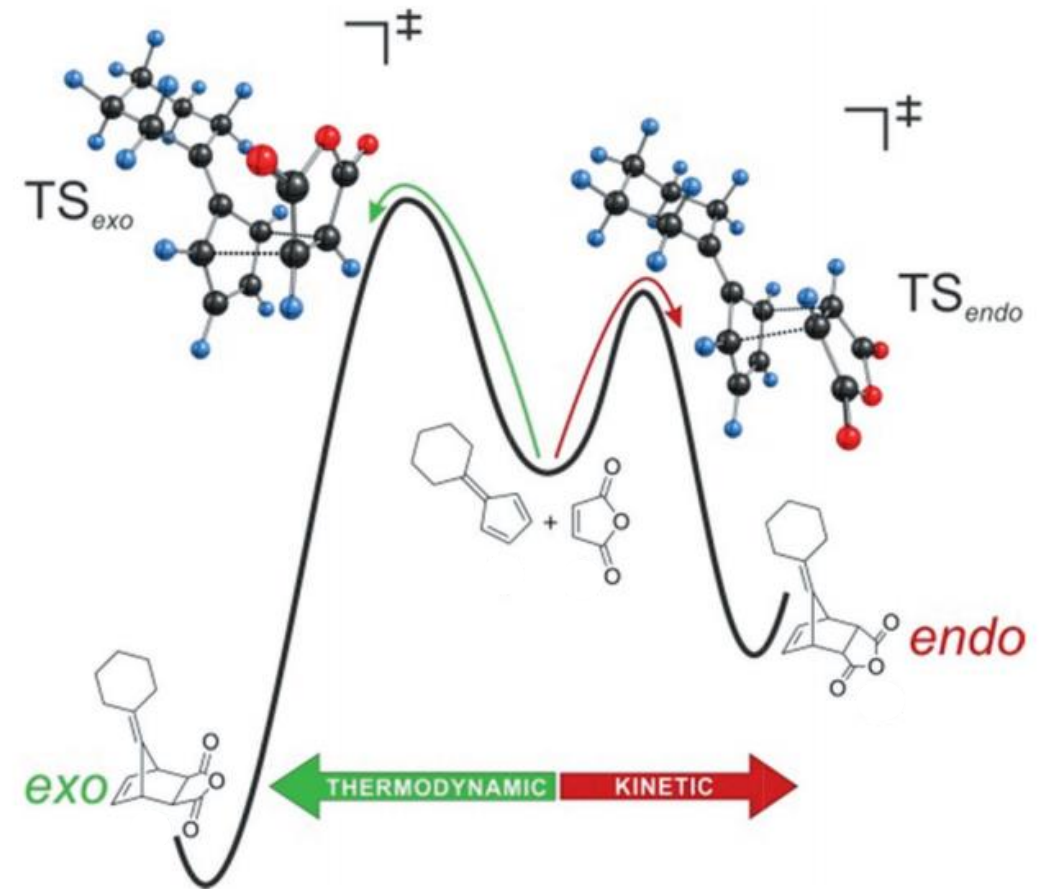
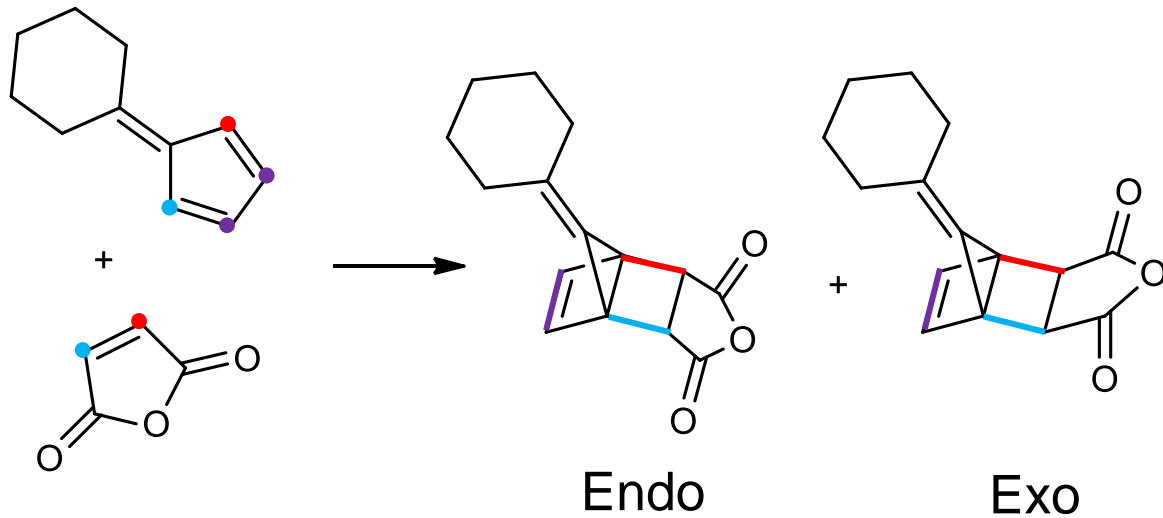
Arrhenius Equation

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Selectivity in Chemistry: Classical Interpretation

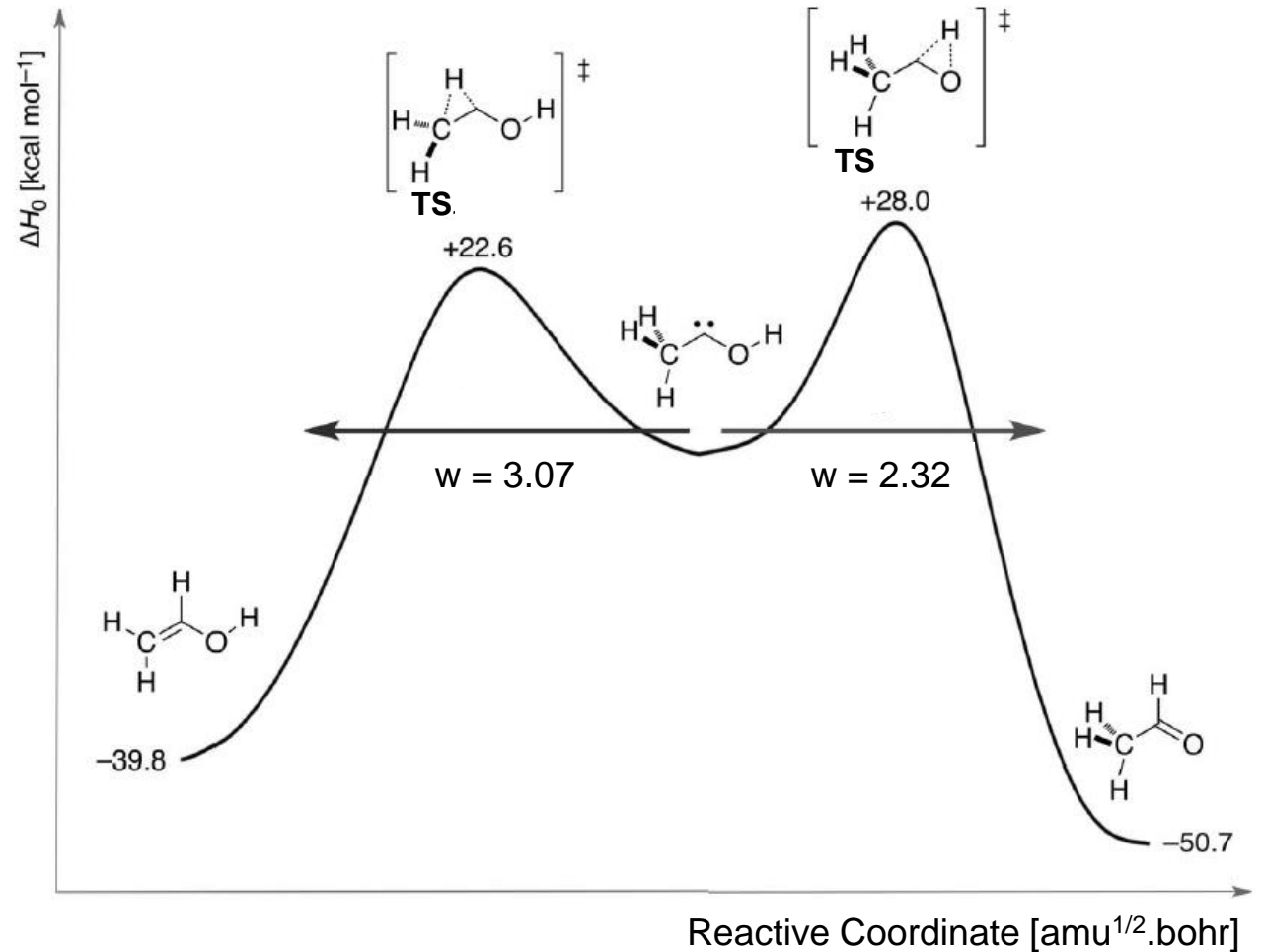
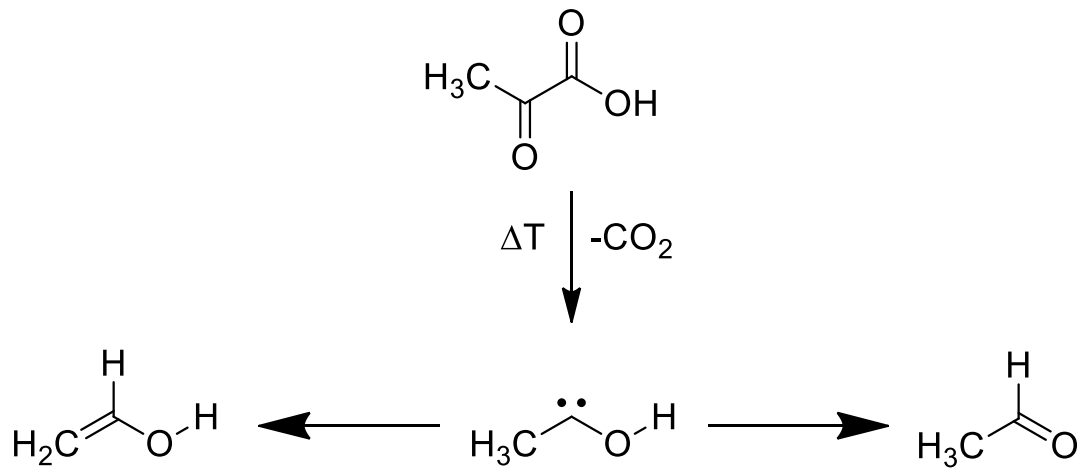
Diels-Alder Reaction



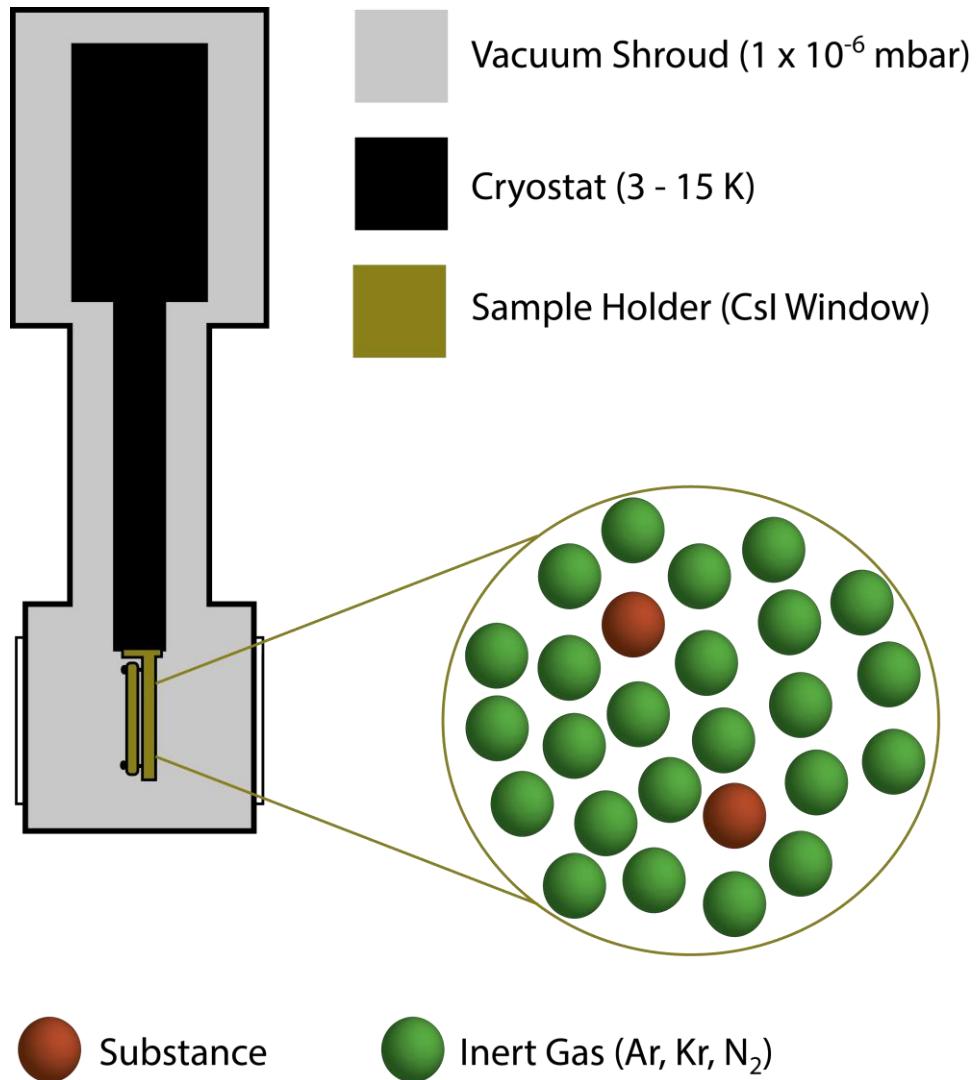
Endo Preference until $T \sim 25^\circ \text{C}$
Exo Preference from $T > 25^\circ \text{C}$

Tunneling Control: The Game Changer

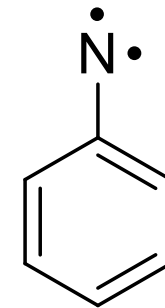
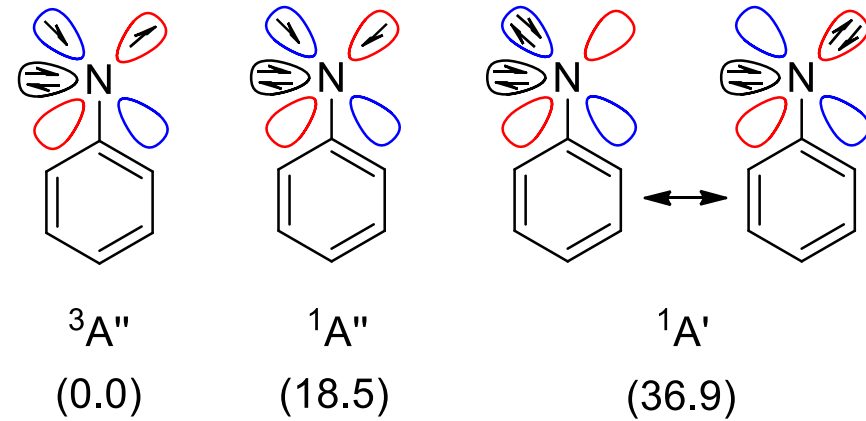
Decay of Methylhydroxycarbene in Cryogenic Matrix



Matrix-Isolation and Phenylnitrenes



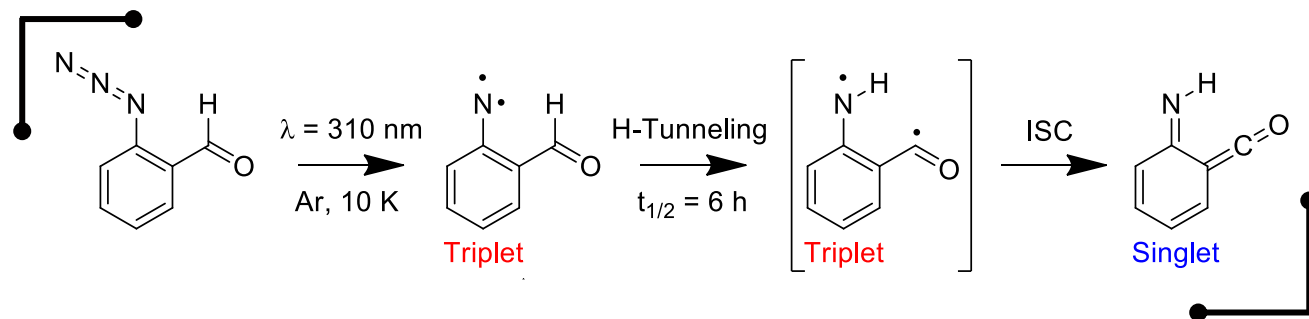
CASPT2N/6-311G(2d,p)
(kcal mol⁻¹)



Tunneling in Nitrenes: The Proof of Concept

Evidence of a Nitrene Tunneling Reaction: Spontaneous Rearrangement of 2-Formyl Phenylnitrene to an Imino Ketene in Low-Temperature Matrixes

Cláudio M. Nunes,[†] Stephanie N. Knezz,[‡] Igor Reva,^{*,†} Rui Fausto,[†] and Robert J. McMahon^{*,‡}



1

Direct Observation

Computed Barrier above 17 kcal mol^{-1}

2

Temperature Independence

Similar Kinetic profiles at 10 and 20 K

3

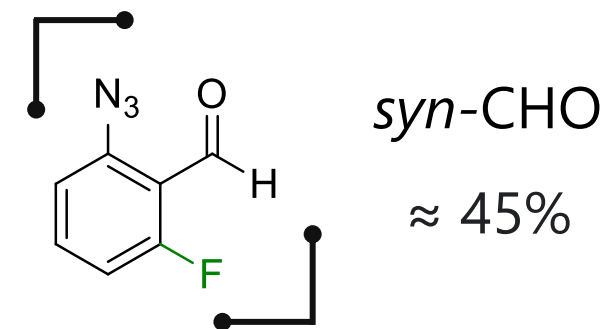
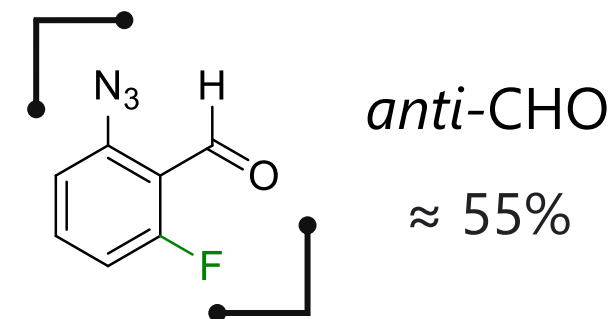
Large Kinetic Isotope Effect

No reaction for Deuterated isotopologue

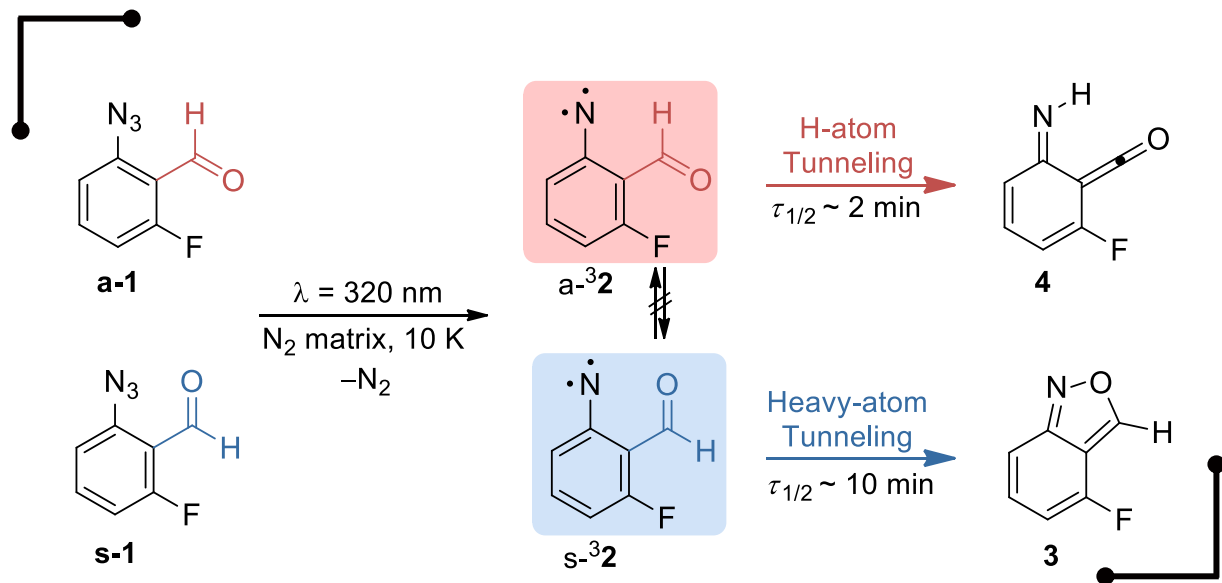
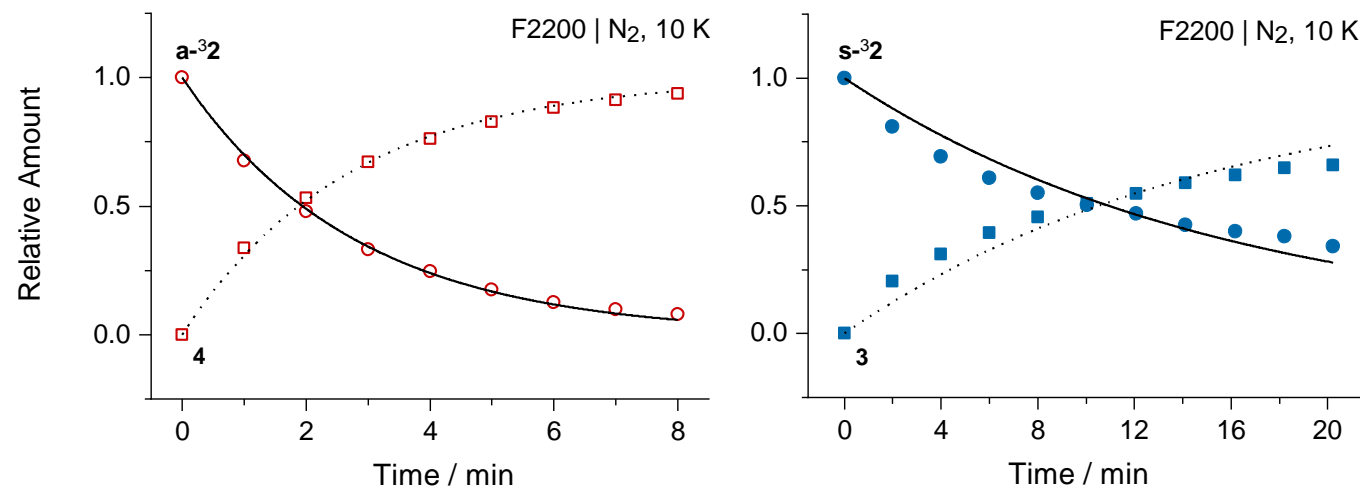
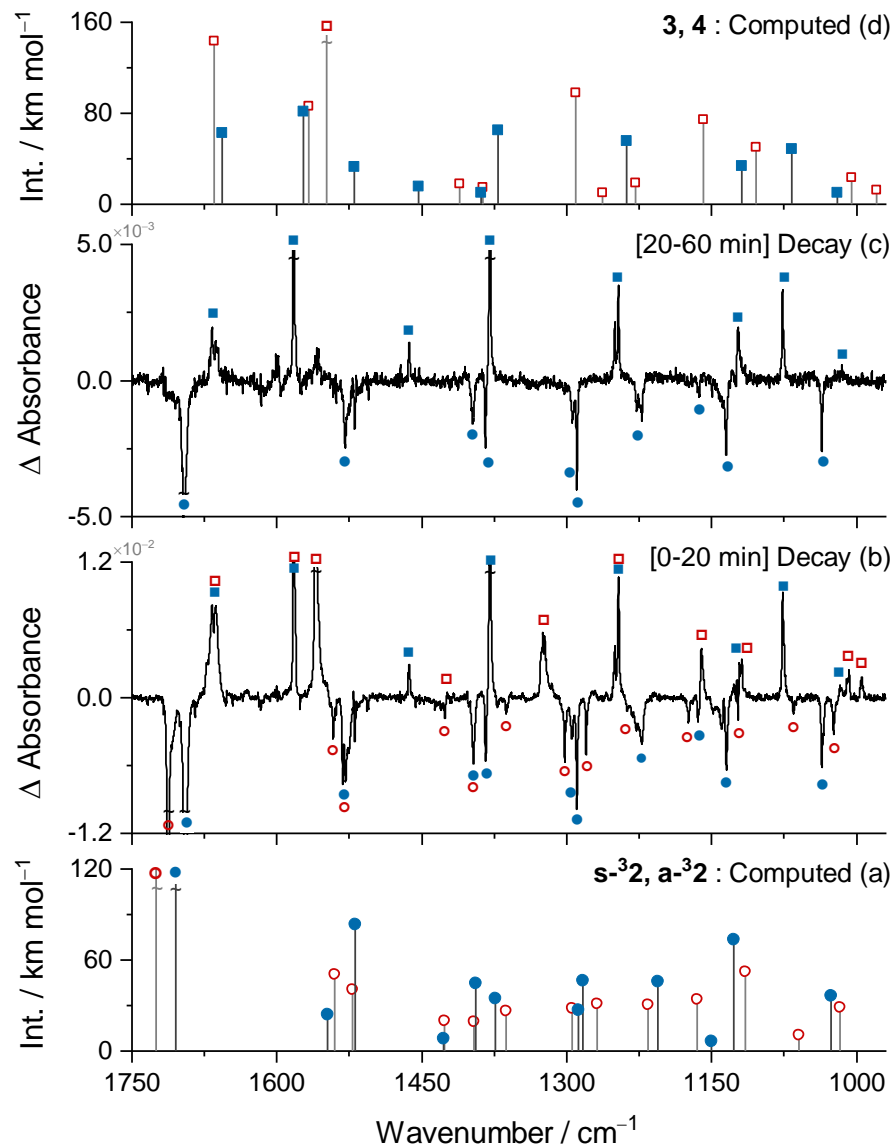
Tunneling Control in Nitrenes: The Strategy

Structure				
R = H, F				
ΔG_{298K} (B3LYP)	H F 0.0 0.0	H F 4.1 4.4	H F 2.5 0.3	H F 3.4 1.3
ΔG_{298K} (CBS-QB3)	0.0 0.0	3.6 3.5	2.7 0.4	2.9 0.6
Pop_{298K}	98 55	0 0	1 26	1 19

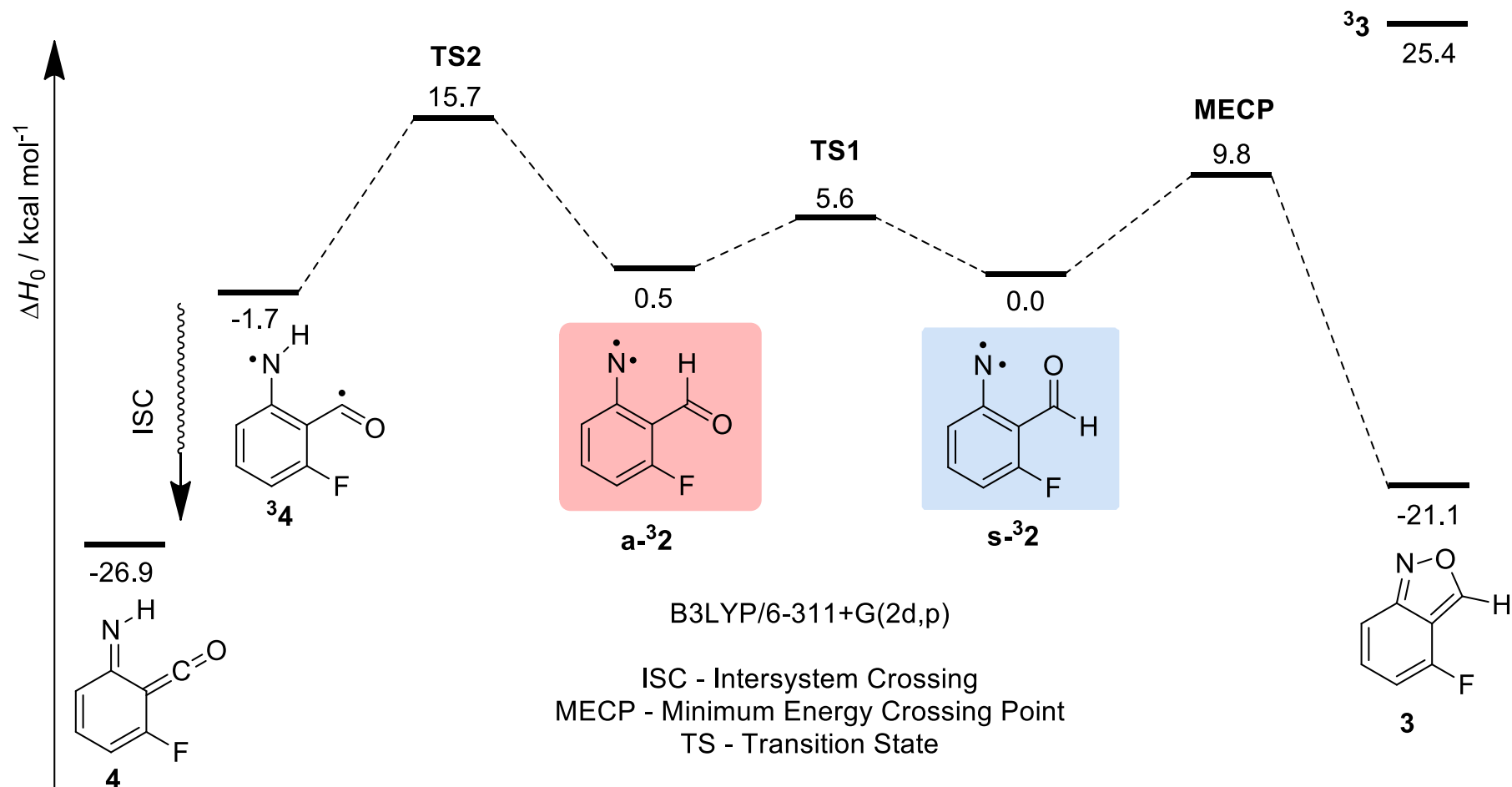
Energies are given in kcal mol⁻¹ and Boltzmann populations in %.



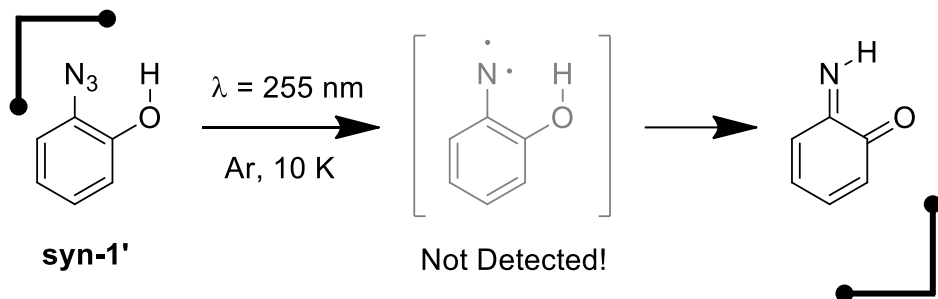
Tunneling Control in Nitrenes



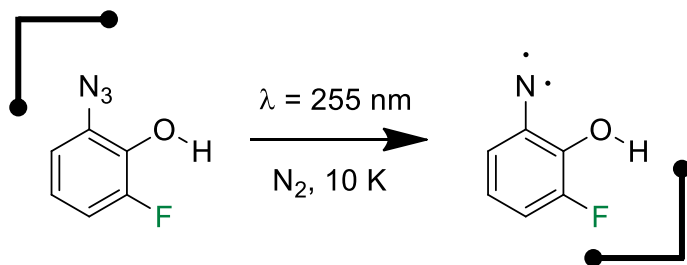
Tunneling Control in Nitrenes



Switching on Tunneling Reactions: The Strategy



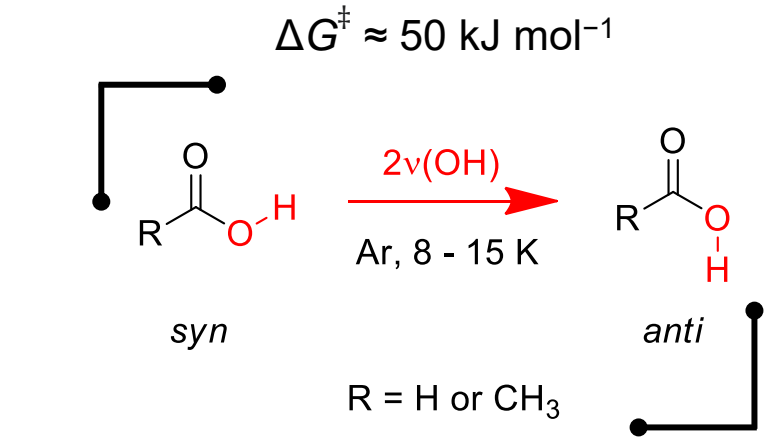
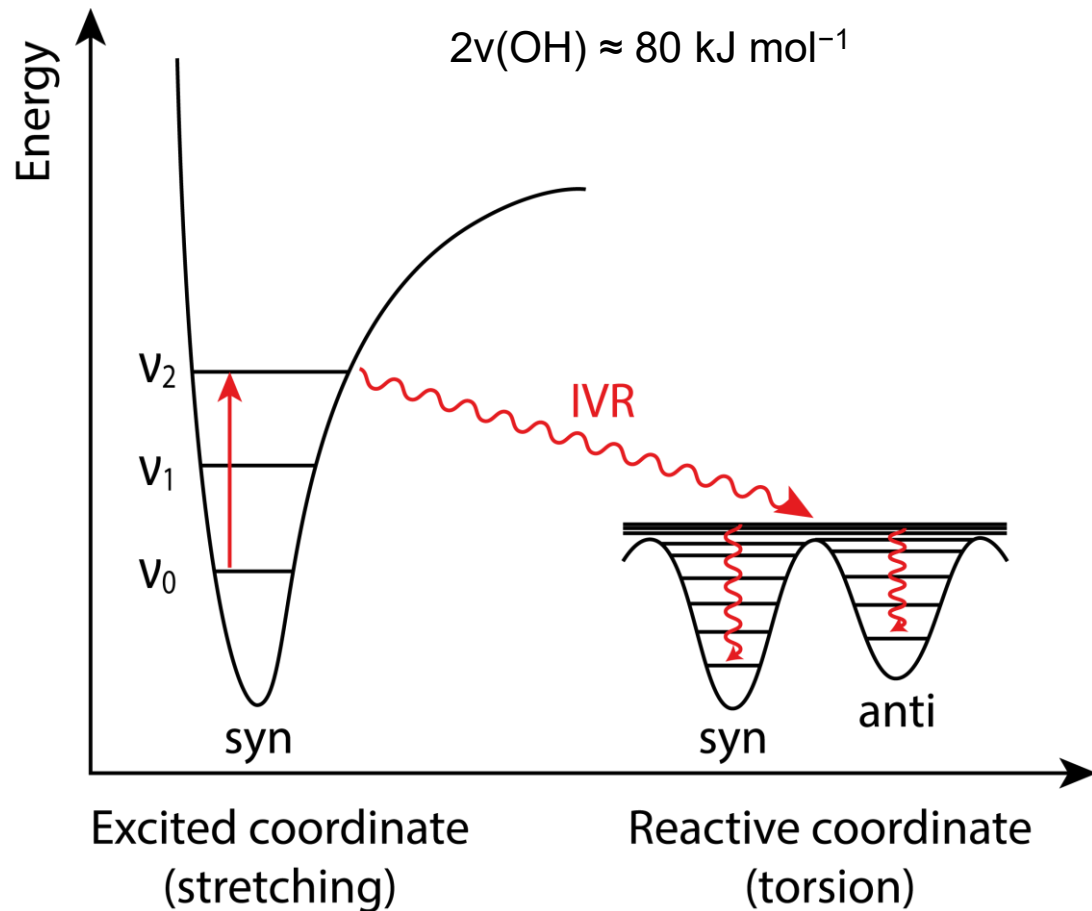
Liebigs Ann. **1996**, 2029–2037.
Liebigs Ann. **1996**, 1971–1980.



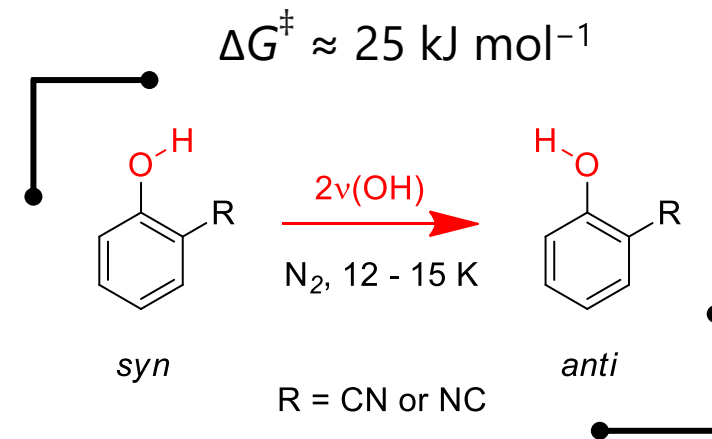
	<i>syn</i> -OH	<i>anti</i> -OH	
Structures			
1', 1			
R = H, F			
Name	H F	H F	H F
$\Delta G_{298\text{K}}$ (CBS-QB3)	0.0 0.0	15.5 4.5	12.8 2.6
Pop _{298K}	99.2 66.1	0.2 10.7	0.6 23.1

Energies are given in kcal mol⁻¹ and Boltzmann populations in %.

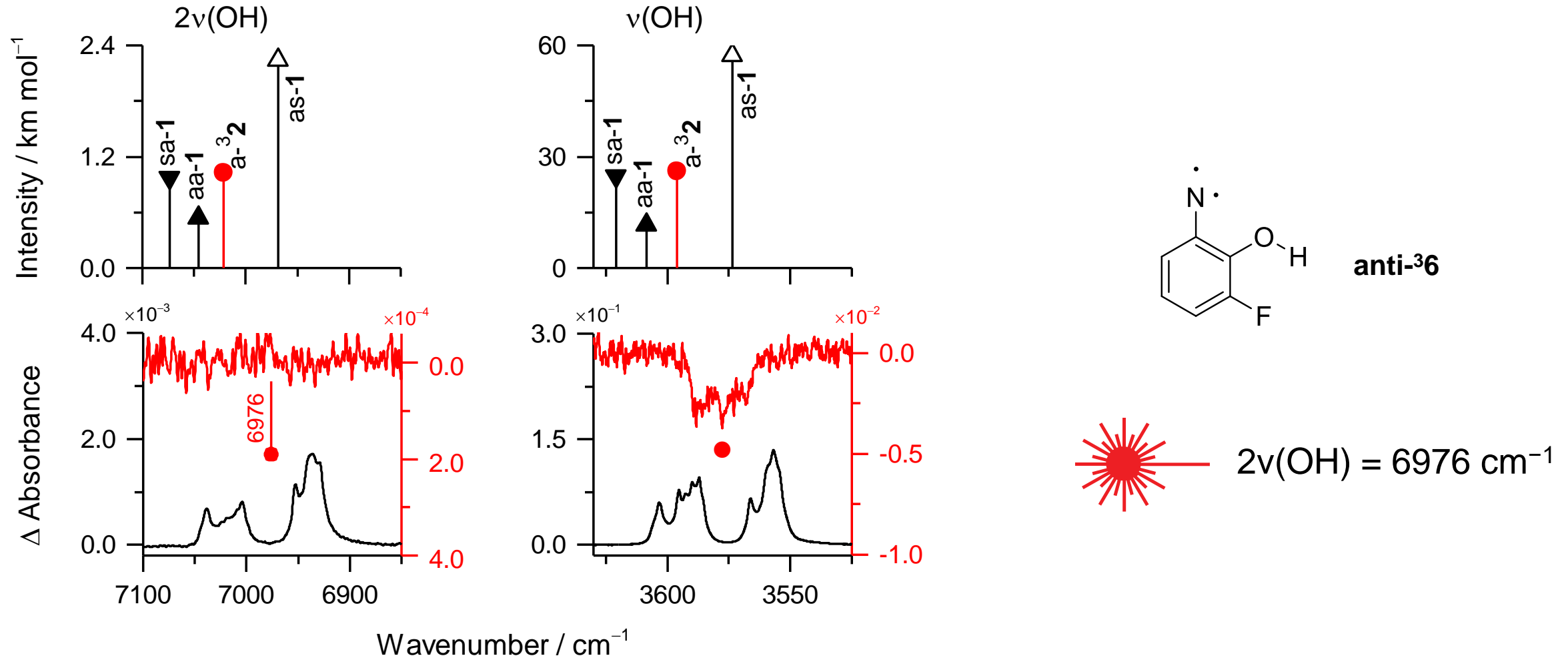
Vibrational Excitation: Mastering Conformations



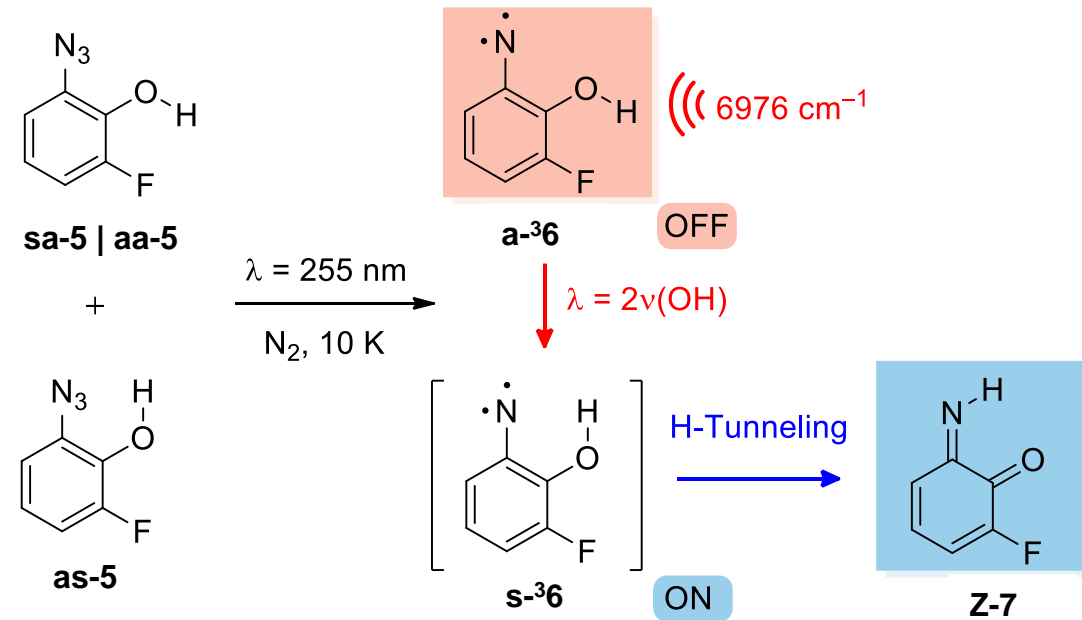
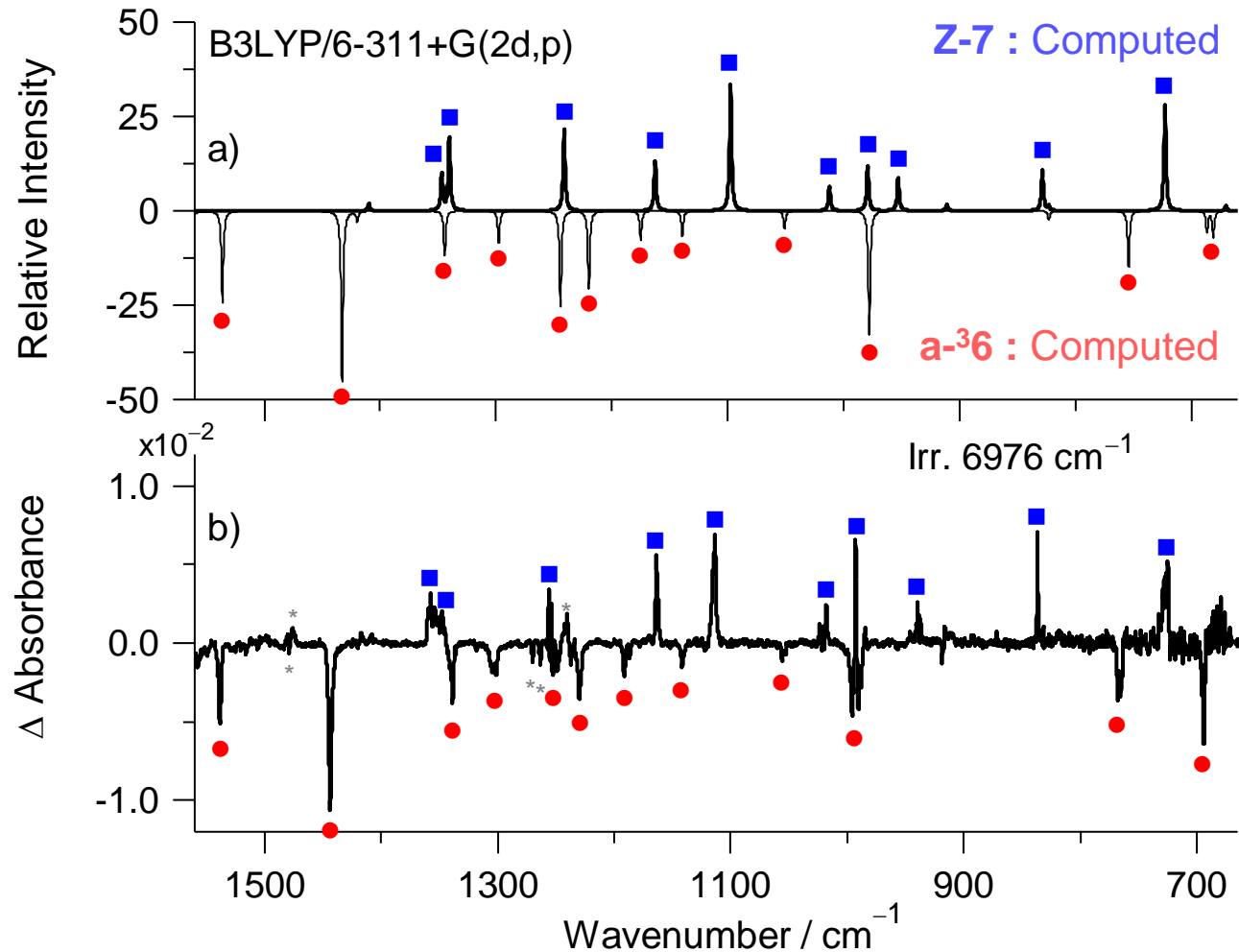
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1997**, 119, 11715-11716.
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2003**, 125, 16188-16189.



Switching on Tunneling Reactions



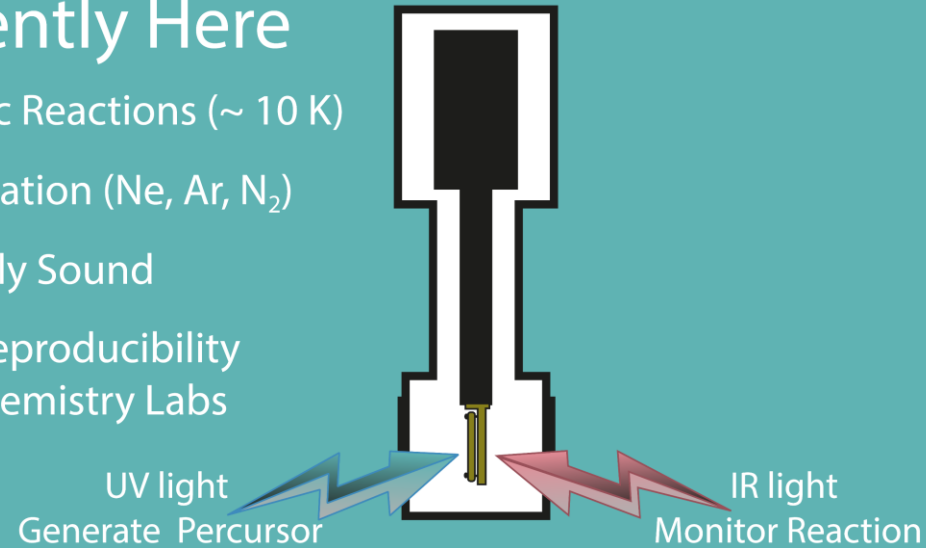
Switching on Tunneling Reactions



Conclusions and Outlook

Currently Here

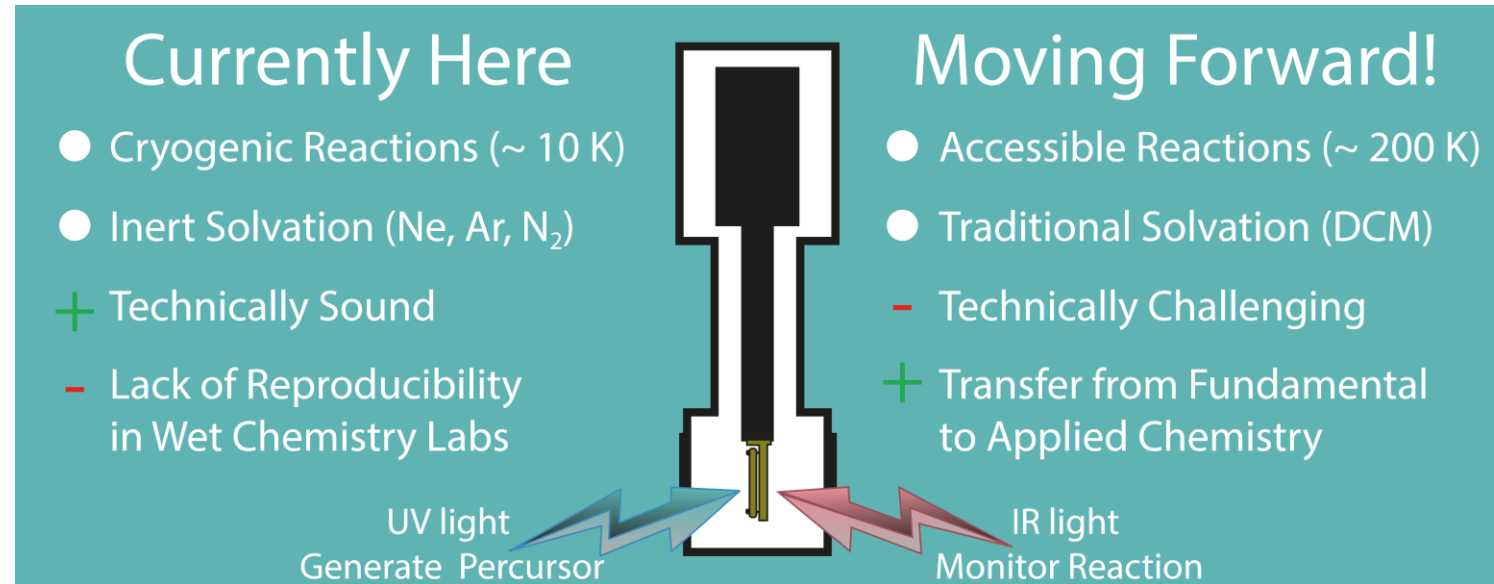
- Cryogenic Reactions (~ 10 K)
- Inert Solvation (Ne, Ar, N₂)
- + Technically Sound
- Lack of Reproducibility in Wet Chemistry Labs



Developments in Tunneling Reactivity

- Limitations of TST
- Role of Conformations

Conclusions and Outlook



Developments in Tunneling Reactivity

- Limitations of TST
- Role of Conformations

Design of Molecules and Synthesis Planning

- Unleash Tunneling Control

Acknowledgments

Supervisors and Colleagues

Rui Fausto

Peter R. Schreiner

Cláudio Nunes

Igor Reva

Robert McMahon

Teresa M. V. D. Pinho e Melo

Srinivas Doddipatla

Nelson Pereira

Luís Viegas

Stephanie Knezz

Samuel Wood



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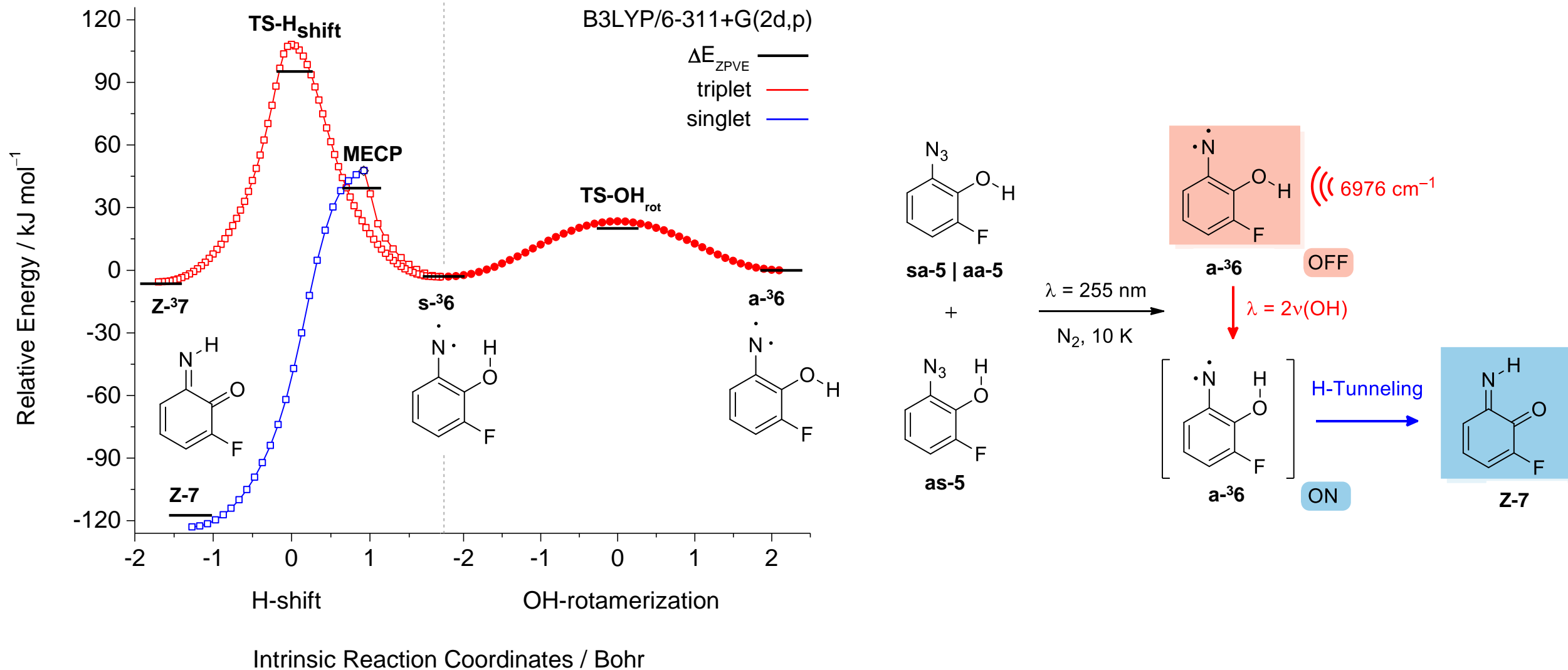


Fundação
para a Ciência
e a Tecnologia

PhD Grant (SFRH/BD/04467/2020)

This work was supported by Projects POCI-01-0145-FEDER-028973 and PTDC/QUI-QFI/1880/2020, funded by National Funds via the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), the first being also funded by FEDER, via Portugal 2020 – POCI. The Coimbra Chemistry Centre is supported by FCT through projects UIDB/QUI/0313/2020 and UIDP/QUI/0313/2020, cofunded by COMPETE. J.P.L.R. acknowledges the Project POCI-01-0145-FEDER-028973 for a Researcher grant and FCT for a PhD (SFRH/BD/04467/2020) grant. C.M.N. acknowledges FCT for an Auxiliary Researcher grant. N.A.M.P acknowledges the Project POCI-01-0145-FEDER-028973 for a Junior Researcher grant.

Switching on Tunneling Reactions



Selectivity in Chemistry: Classical Interpretation

Addition of Alkyl Halides to Asymmetric Alkenes

