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Dynamical alignment of H_2^+ in an intense ultrashort laser pulse¹ FATIMA ANIS, R. CABRERA-TRUJILLO, B. D. ESRY, J.R. Macdonald Laboratory, Department of Physics, Kansas State University — We will present a study of ionization and dissociation of H_2^+ in an intense ultrashort laser pulse. Our results include all degrees of freedom – classical for the nuclei and quantum mechanical for the electron. Similar previous calculations^{1,2} have obtained the electronic wave function using a basis expansion. We, however, are solving the time-dependent Schrödinger equation on a three dimensional grid in the lab frame. One of our goal is to study dynamical alignment of H_2^+ and its fragments. We consider a distribution of initial nuclear positions and momenta so that our results are suitable for direct comparison with experiment.

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