

Abstract Submitted
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Quantum dynamics of H₂-H₂ collisions¹ BALAKRISHNAN NADUVALATH, SAMANTHA FONSECA DOS SANTOS, Department of Chemistry, University of Nevada Las Vegas, STEPHEN LEPP, Department of Physics, University of Nevada Las Vegas, GOULVEN QUÉMÉNER, JILA, University of Colorado, Boulder, ROBERT C. FORREY, Department of Physics, Penn State University, Berks Campus, PHILLIP STANCIL, Department of Physics and Astronomy and the Center for Simulational Physics, The University of Georgia, Athens — The H₂-H₂ system has long been considered as a benchmark candidate for quantum dynamics studies of molecule-molecule collisions. H₂ is the most abundant molecular species in the interstellar medium and rotational and vibrational transitions in collisions between H₂ molecules have been topics of considerable interest. Here, we present a full quantum mechanical treatment of collisions between ortho-ortho, para-para, and ortho-para H₂ molecules as well as the HD-H₂ system over a wide range of energies and for different initial rovibrational levels of the molecules. The computed rate constants are compared against available experimental data and previous theoretical results.

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