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Journal:	Physical Chemistry Chemical Physics
Manuscript ID	CP-ART-07-2024-002653.R2
Article Type:	Paper
Date Submitted by the Author:	08-Aug-2024
Complete List of Authors:	Larsson, Henrik; University of California Merced School of Natural Sciences, Department of Chemistry & Biochemistry Viel, Alexandra; CNRS - IPR,

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ARTICLE TYPE

Cite this: DOI: 00.0000/xxxxxxxxxx

2500 vibronic eigenstates of the NO₃ radical

Henrik R. Larsson,*a Alexandra Viel^b

Received Date Accepted Date

DOI: 00.0000/xxxxxxxxxx

The nitrate radical NO_3 plays an important role in atmospheric chemistry, yet many aspects of its coupled and anharmonic vibronic structure remain elusive. Here, using an accurate, coupled full-dimensional diabatic potential that includes five electronic states, we revisit the vibronic spectrum associated with the electronic \tilde{X}^2A_2' state. Using recently developed tensor network state methods, we are able to compute more than 2500 vibronic states, thereby increasing the number of computed full-dimensional states by a factor of 50, compared to previous work. While we obtain good agreement with experiment for most of the assigned vibronic levels, for several others, we observe striking disagreement. Further, for the antisymmetric bending motion we find remarkably large symmetry-induced level splittings that are larger than the zero-order reference. We discuss non-negligible nonadiabatic effects and show that the Born-Oppenheimer approximation leads to significant errors in the spectrum.

1 Introduction

 ${
m NO}_3$ is one of the first scientifically characterized radicals and has a century-old scientific history rich of drama. $^{1-18}$ NO $_3$ is important in atmospheric nighttime chemistry, $^{19-21}$ and, under polluted conditions in smoggy urban environments, also in atmospheric daytime chemistry. $^{20-22}$ Like many other small molecules and radicals, $^{23-31}$ NO $_3$ has both an intriguing electronic and vibronic structure. Throughout the decades, many scientists hence investigated various aspects of NO $_3$; see Refs. [1–22,31–78] for a selected list of examples. Despite the impressive amount of both experimental and computational research on NO $_3$, many aspects of NO $_3$ remain elusive. Here specifically, we focus on the mysteries of the vibronic eigenspectrum of levels associated with the \tilde{X}^2A_2' electronic ground state.

The vibrations of NO $_3$ are strongly anharmonic and many of the vibrational motions are coupled. Further, the \tilde{X}^2A_2' state is coupled to the degenerate \tilde{A}^2E'' , and \tilde{B}^2E' excited states through pseudo Jahn-Teller and dynamical pseudo Jahn-Teller effects. These excited states themselves are subject to a strong Jahn-Teller $e\times E$ effect. Thus, a *complete* description of all aspects of NO $_3$ requires the inclusion of these four \tilde{A} and \tilde{B} states in the computation of accurate vibronic eigenstates even for the \tilde{X} ground state.

Several theorists computed the vibrational and/or vibronic eigenspectrum using different potential energy surfaces (PESs).

Using a qualitative vibronic coupling model, 79 and neglecting the umbrella motion, Stanton computed vibronic eigenstates and hinted at a possible reassignment of one of the fundamentals. ⁴⁹ Later, he improved this model to perform more accurate simulations in reduced dimensionality that led to mounting evidence for a required reassignment of the fundamental. 13,17 The improved model also helped to analyze the photodetachment spectrum of NO₃-.73 In addition, using a quartic force field, Stanton computed the vibrational spectrum within the Born-Oppenheimer approximation, including the infrared (IR) intensities. 53 Homayoon and Bowman, using a PES from Morokuma et al., ⁵⁶ performed Born-Oppenheimer full-dimensional vibrational eigenstate computations using a semi-empirical coordinate scaling and could confirm the reassignment. 62 Viel and Eisfeld, using a full-dimensional vibronic coupling model with higher-order couplings terms, obtained vibronic levels and IR spectra that, despite a more flexible PES model compared to the previously mentioned PESs, led to no improved agreement with experiment, compared to the previous computations. However, they could confirm some previous results and revealed several non-adiabatic effects. ⁶⁹ Later, Viel and Eisfeld, joined by Williams, presented a completely new PES still based on the vibronic coupling model but now with coordinate-depending parameters fitted using artificial neural networks. ⁷⁰ Initial Born-Oppenheimer computations for selected vibrational states showed much improved agreement with experiment, compared to the PES previously developed by the two groups. 80 Subsequently, Viel et al. used the new PES to simulate the photodetachment spectra of NO₃⁻ that, among others, led to the understanding of a hitherto unexplored hot band in the experimental spectrum. ^{18,75}

Despite the aforementioned body of work on the vibra-

^a Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of California, Merced, CA 95343; E-mail: NO3a[at]larsson-research. δ e

b Univ. Rennes, CNRS, IPR (Institut de Physique de Rennes) - UMR 6251, F-35000 Rennes, France. E-mail: alexandra.viel[at]univ-rennes1.fr

 $[\]dagger$ Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) available: Additional infrared spectra and list of eigenstates. See DOI: 10.1039/cXCP00000x/

tional/vibronic spectrum, many simulations were limited by, e.g., the use of semi-empirical parameters, PESs that are not flexible enough, computations done in reduced dimensionality, or the neglect of non-Born-Oppenheimer effects. In addition, so far the largest number of full-dimensional vibronic states computed was 52,69 and most of the research focused on the eigenstates below 2000 cm⁻¹. Undeniably, this low-energy region is the most important one in the IR spectrum. However, more experimental vibronic states have been assigned with energies around 3000 cm⁻¹ that so far lack an accurate simulated counterpart.* In addition, high-energy vibronic states reveal more details about nonadiabatic coupling as these, in terms of energy, are closer to the next electronic state. Many mysteries about the vibronic spectrum hence remain and hint at possible misassigned experimental states. 17 Driven by these motivations, here we report the accurate computation of more than 2500 eigenstates. This increases the number of rigorously computed vibronic states for this system by a factor of 50. Moreover, we assign all states up to 3000 cm⁻¹, thereby increasing the number of assigned full-dimensional states by a factor of ~ 5 .

This work is possible by two recent methodological advancements. The first advancement is the development of the aforementioned PES based on a vibronic coupling model and an intricate artificial neural network. 70,75,80 The second advancement is the very efficient and accurate computation of vibrational states using the density matrix renormalization group (DMRG) and tree tensor network states (TTNS). 81,82 This approach recently enabled the computation of the vibrational eigenspectrum of the 15dimensional fluxional Zundel ion.⁸³ Other groups demonstrated a similar efficiency of related tensor network methods targeting vibrational spectra; see Refs. [84-88] for some selected recent examples. Here, we extend our TTNS approach to the computation of vibronic spectra and present an accurate way for refitting the diabatic potential matrix into a tensor network form. We further test this approach using a complementary method based on pruning. 89-91

Our outline is as follows: Section 2 introduces more details about the used coordinate system and the employed simulation methods. Section 3 specifies details about the simulation parameters and Section 4 introduces our methods for assigning the vibronic eigenstates. The results are presented and discussed in Section 5. Section 5.1 discusses the overall eigenspectrum, Section 5.2 focuses on the assigned eigenstates, Section 5.3 deals with the infrared spectrum, and Section 5.4 discusses non-adiabatic effects. We conclude in Section 6.

2 Simulation methods

We use the curvilinear coordinates that are adapted to the $C_{3\nu}$ symmetry of NO₃ and based on Radau and hyperspherical coordinates as defined in Refs. [51,92], and we use a total angular momentum quantum number of J=0. See also Refs. [93,94]

for a similar type of coordinate system. The corresponding kinetic energy operator contains terms that are not of the form of sum of products of one-dimensional operators. To use a sumof-product operator, in Refs. [51,92], second- and fourth-order Taylor expansions of the problematic terms near $C_{3\nu}$ -symmetric configurations were provided. The fourth-order expansion was tested on the NO₃ radical in Ref. [64]. There, vibronic energy levels supported by the E'' state computed with an alternative coordinate system and its exact associated kinetic operator were found in very good agreement with the ones computed with the curvilinear coordinates and the approximated kinetic energy operator. This demonstrates that the fourth-order approximation is excellent, even for geometries away from the $C_{3\nu}$ reference that are imposed by the triple-well structure of the lower E'' adiabatic surface. Accordingly, we use the fourth-order approximation in the following. The quasi-exact kinetic energy operator then can be described as sum over 58 product terms.

The diabatic PESs are described by the functional form introduced in Refs. [70,75,80]. The coupled PESs represent the five lowest electronic energies of NO₃, namely the \tilde{X}^2A_2' , \tilde{A}^2E'' , and \tilde{B}^2E' electronic states. ⁷⁵ The E states are doubly degenerate. The PES is based on accurate reference data at the multi-configuration interaction level using an adapted basis set of triple- ζ quality; see Ref. [70] and references therein for further information. The diabatic potential energy matrix is of the form of

$$\hat{V} = \begin{pmatrix}
\hat{V}_{11} & \hat{V}_{12} & \hat{V}_{13} & \hat{V}_{14} & \hat{V}_{15} \\
\hat{V}_{21} & \hat{V}_{22} & \hat{V}_{23} & \hat{V}_{24} & \hat{V}_{25} \\
\hat{V}_{31} & \hat{V}_{32} & \hat{V}_{33} & \hat{V}_{34} & \hat{V}_{35} \\
\hat{V}_{41} & \hat{V}_{42} & \hat{V}_{43} & \hat{V}_{44} & \hat{V}_{45} \\
\hat{V}_{51} & \hat{V}_{52} & \hat{V}_{53} & \hat{V}_{54} & \hat{V}_{55}
\end{pmatrix},$$
(1)

where each operator \hat{V}_{ij} is represented as function over all six coordinates. The full-dimensional 5×5 matrix in Eq. (1) results from an elaborated combination of diabatization by ansatz and artificial neural network fitting. ^{70,80} The coordinates used for the diabatic PES are not the aforementioned curvilinear coordinates but symmetry-adapted coordinates as described in the appendix of Ref. [75]. The part of the model containing the artificial neural network depends on nine invariants that are explicitly given in that appendix, also. The symmetry-adapted coordinates are mandatory to encode the symmetry of the diabatic elements, while the nine invariants (*i.e.*, totally symmetric coordinate polynomials) correspond to all unique possible combinations up to third order. They enable the flexibility of the neural network outputs and hence are responsible for the accuracy of the fit.

Recently, this PES has been used to model the photodetachment spectra of $\mathrm{NO_3}^-$ both in the lower energy region 75 and in the energy range of the second excited state. ¹⁸ The agreement with the experimental photodetachment spectra underlined the accuracy and the physical soundness of this PES. The minimum of the ground-state adiabatic PES corresponds to a D_{3h} symmetry, whereas the first and second excited states are strongly influenced by the Jahn-Teller $e \times E$ effect. The PES model also contains the pseudo Jahn-Teller and dynamical pseudo Jahn-Teller couplings between the \bar{X}^2A_2' and the two \tilde{A}^2E'' , and \tilde{B}^2E' excited states.

 $[\]rm *Stanton's$ initial study assigned states up to $2500\,\rm cm^{-1}$ and some higher-lying states, 49 but these levels are only qualitatively correct and do not include the umbrella motion.

The adiabatic representation of the PES can be described by an anharmonic "bowl" for the electronic ground state, followed by two pairs of PESs containing conical intersections surrounded by three separate wells.

To compute the eigenstates, we use the TTNS approach developed in Ref. [81]. TTNSs are the wavefunction ansatz of both the multilayer multiconfiguration time-dependent Hartree (ML-MCTDH) method 95-98 and of extended versions of the density matrix renormalization group (DMRG). 99-101 They allow for a very economic description of high-dimensional eigenstates. 82,102 Here, the eigenstates will be computed using the DMRG sweep algorithm. 103,104 We have previously demonstrated the accuracy and efficiency of our TTNS-based DMRG approach by computing about 1000 eigenstates of the 15-dimensional fluxional Zundel ion to accuracies that are below the error of the PES fit. 83 The ML-MCTDH and DMRG methods work most optimal if the Hamiltonian has a form that is compatible with TTNSs. Many (but not all ¹⁰⁵) ML-MCTDH method users typically re-fit the potential as sum-of-product form. 106,107 Here, we found such forms to be less accurate (see Section 5.1) and instead decompose the analytical form of the PES using matrix product operators (MPOs), which are straightforward extensions of matrix product states (MPSs), a subset of TTNSs, to operators and which straightforwardly can be obtained numerically using singular value decomposition. 82,85,100,108,109 Such a fit can be viewed as alternative to the "multilayer potfit" approach. 110

To provide an alternative means of testing the accuracy of the TTNS method and the MPO decomposition, we use the previously developed dynamically pruned (DP) discrete variable representation (DVR) approach (DP-DVR). ^{89,111} This is based on using only those configurations of the state in coordinate space that are larger than a certain wave amplitude threshold. Phase-space localized bases are more sparse than coordinate-space localized bases, ^{111–115} but we showed that due to the diagonality of the potential operator in DVR representation, using DVRs is more efficient despite the need for storing more important configurations. ^{89,111} Previously, one of us demonstrated the efficiency of the DP-DVR method for vibrational resonance decay dynamics, ⁹¹ strong-field electron dynamics, ^{116,117} and non-adiabatic and photodissociation dynamics in combination with the MCTDH method (DP-MCTDH). ⁹⁰

3 Setup of the computations

The states were represented using sinc DVRs 111,118,119 in each of the curvilinear coordinates. † The basis-set parameters are given in Tab. 1. These parameters were determined by comparing separate eigenstate computations for different coordinate ranges and basis sizes and by observing the reduced densities in position and momentum space. The parameters are similar to those from previous studies. 18,69 The TTNS and the MPO decompositions depend on one convergence parameter that specifies the size of the tensors, the so-called bond dimension D (also known as rank, renormalized basis size, or number of single-particle functions in

Table 1 Used basis-set parameters. The coordinate range is displayed in either bohr or radians, depending on the type of coordinate.

symbol	coordinate range	basis size
ρ	[638,770]	56
ϑ	[0.845, 1.065]	42
φ	[0.665, 0.905]	48
$\overset{\cdot}{ heta}$	[1.451, 1.691]	46
ϕ	[0.817, 1.227]	40
χ	[2.734, 3.548]	26

ML-MCTDH ⁸²). The diabatic potential matrix elements in Eq. (1) were represented as MPO with two different maximal bond dimensions for two individual simulations analyzed in Section 5. For the analysis of the first 180 states with an excitation energy of $\tilde{E}=3000\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ we used an MPO with D=1,800, whereas for the analysis of all ~2500 eigenstates (including the first 180), we used an MPO with D=600. The D=600 MPO led to an accurate description of most but not all subtleties of the vibronic states that are reported below.

We represented the eigenstates as MPS, a subset of TTNSs, using the following order of coordinates: electronic, ρ , ϑ , ϕ , θ , φ , χ . In some test computations, we found this ordering to be optimal with respect to the bond dimension. Due to the low dimensionality of the system, a tree structure is not required and hence we simply use a linear structure, as given by an MPS. The MPS was used together with a maximal bond dimension of 30. Renormalized basis states with singular values below 10^{-8} were not included, which means that the actual bond dimension for each tensor can be smaller than $30.^{81,120}$ For the DMRG sweeps a relative convergence tolerance of 10^{-6} was used. We tested the convergence of these parameters through separate computations with tighter parameters. By shifting 121,122 previously computed states up in energy, the eigenstates were computed one by one as described in Ref. [81].

The accuracy of the MPO fit of the diabatic potentials was checked by computing the direct-product-DVR amplitudes of some TTNSs and pruning them using the DP-DVR procedure described in Ref. [89] and a wave amplitude threshold of $5 \cdot 10^{-7}$. The smaller the threshold, the more accurate the representation of the DP-DVR eigenstates. The used threshold led to energy errors that are on the order of $\sim 2\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, which is small enough for this accuracy check. The energies of the DP-DVR states were computed using the original and thus non-MPO-approximated potential surfaces and an algorithm for efficiently computing matrixvector products described in Ref. [89]. The IR stick spectra were generated using the adiabatic dipole moment surface (DMS) from Ref. [69], which was converted to the diabatic representation to compute dipole matrix elements. The adiabatic-to-diabatic transformation was obtained from the eigenvectors of Eq. (1). The phases of the eigenvectors were adjusted to avoid discontinuities between different configurations in coordinate space.

4 Setup of the assignment

We assigned the vibronic states not using curvilinear but normal modes. They are displayed in Fig. 1. Q_1 corresponds to the to-

[†] We use an atomic mass of 15.9949138012 Da for 16 O and 14.0030732884 Da for 14 N.

tally symmetric stretch motion, Q_2 to the umbrella motion, the degenerate Q_{3a} and Q_{3b} to the antisymmetric stretch motions, and Q_{4a} and Q_{4b} to the antisymmetric bending motions. The symmetry irreps in D_{3h} are $a_1^{'}$, $a_2^{''}$, $e_1^{'}$, $e_2^{'}$, respectively. Note that these symmetry-adapted normal modes differ from textbook normal modes for AB $_3$ -type molecules. 123 The convention we used to define the normal modes were such that the Q_{3a} and Q_{4a} modes are mirror-symmetric along the xz-plane, hence leading to $C_{2\nu}$ -symmetric geometries, while the Q_{3b} and Q_{4b} lead to C_s -symmetric geometries.

We assigned the states mostly based on wavefunction cuts, overlaps to vibrational self-consistent field (VSCF) states, energies, and symmetry considerations. We optimized the VSCF 124 states using normal modes, keeping the degenerate Q_{3a}/Q_{3b} and the Q_{4a}/Q_{4b} mode pairs correlated. We individually optimized excited VSCF states.

Plotting the two-dimensional wavefunction cuts requires deciding which coordinates are kept frozen. Following Ref. [83], we determined the values of the frozen coordinates for the two-dimensional wavefunction cuts from the maxima of the diagonal of the one-dimensional reduced density matrices (reduced densities). In cases of several maxima of the densities, we generated all possible combinations. We chose the cuts presented here to be most representative.

To generate the wavefunction cuts and the density matrices, we transformed the wavefunction from the TTNS represented on the direct-product grid in curvilinear coordinates to a state represented in normal coordinates on a small direct-product grid. Specifically, we converted the normal-mode grid-points to curvilinear coordinates and then computed the amplitudes of the states on these points by interpolating the DVR functions and contracting the TTNS. Finally, we converted the diabatic state represented on the small direct-product grid to the adiabatic representation in order to plot the vibrational wavefunction on the adiabatic ground state only.

We obtained the symmetries for the diabatic ground state only using the $C_{2\nu}$ point group and the symmetry relationships for the curvilinear coordinates described in Ref. [69]. Given the e' symmetry of the two Q_3 and Q_4 modes, we used symmetry considerations to derive the number of energies and their associated irreps for each specific quanta in Q_3 and Q_4 . Tab. 2 lists the irreps in the $C_{2\nu}$ and D_{3h} point groups and their relationships to the used normal modes. Note that throughout we use the symmetries for the *vibrational* state on the diabatic state. Other authors list the *vibronic* symmetries that combines the vibrational symmetry and that of the electronic state. The relationship between vibrational and vibronic irreps is shown in the last two columns of Tab. 2.

5 Results and discussion

5.1 Overview

Overall, we computed approximately 2500 eigenstates up to an excitation energy of $\tilde{E}=6000\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$, and some more states up to $\tilde{E}\approx6365\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$. In the following, all energies/wavenumbers stated are relative to the vibronic ground state energy of $2396\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$. Fig. 2 gives an overview of the computed energy lev-

Table 2 Relation between ("vibrational") irreps in $C_{2\nu}$ and D_{3h} within the orientational convention of this work similar to Ref. [69]. The normal modes are listed in the line corresponding to their irrep in $C_{2\nu}$. The last two columns provide the relations of the irreps when the symmetry of the lowest diabatic state (A'_2) is taken into account ("vibronic" irreps).

$\Gamma_{C_{2\nu}}$	$\Gamma_{D_{3h}}$	normal mode	$\Gamma_{C_{2\nu}\cdot A_2'}$	$\Gamma_{D_{3h}\cdot A_2'}$
$ \begin{array}{c} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_2 \end{array} $	a'_1 or e' a'_2 or e' a''_1 or e'' a''_2 or e''	Q_1, Q_{3a}, Q_{4a} Q_{3b}, Q_{4b} Q_2	$b_1 \\ a_1 \\ b_2 \\ a_2$	a'_2 or e' a'_1 or e' a''_2 or e'' a''_1 or e''

els up to $6000\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. Note that the electronic \tilde{A}^2E'' state appears at $\tilde{E} \approx 7065 \, \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, so our high-energy vibronic states have energies just 700 cm⁻¹ below the next electronic state. At these high energies, there is a large density of states and an apparent quasicontinuum. 79 For comparison, there are 400 vibronic states up to 3761 cm⁻¹, 1000 states up to 4787 cm⁻¹, but already approximately 2500 states up to 6000 cm⁻¹. The approximate density of states as a function of excitation energy is shown in Fig. 3 and displays a steep increase of the number of states from ~ 0.5 states per cm $^{-1}$ at $3000 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ to almost 4 states per cm $^{-1}$ at $6000 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. Note that our algorithm does not necessarily return eigenstates ordered by energy. While we did additional computations to retrieve all states (by designing highly excited VSCF-optimized initial guesses for the TTNS optimization), there might be some states above $\sim 5800\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ that we missed and that would lead to a slight change in the density of states at these high energies. Since most of the following analysis is for the states below 3000 cm⁻¹, the missing states at these high energies are irrelevant.

The bond dimensions used for re-fitting the PES as MPOs (D = 600 and D = 1,800) are extremely large for 6-dimensional PESs. Using weights in the least-square MPO fit can reduce the required basis size/bond dimension in related fitting methods. ¹⁰⁶ Here, weights did not reduce the required bond dimension. This might be explained by the importance of large-energy regions on one electronic state due to the large diabatic couplings as well as the fact that low-energy regions can have large couplings. We also tried other fitting methods such as "potfit" or canonical decompositions, which recently have been generalized to diabatic PESs, ¹²⁵ but found that MPOs provide the most straightforward and accurate refits. The D=600 MPO representation of the lowest diabatic PES has a root-mean-square deviation to the fitted PES (RMSD) of 21 cm⁻¹ whereas the couplings and excited states have a maximal RMSD of $62 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. The RMSD for the D=1,800MPO are 16cm⁻¹ for the ground state and up to 25cm⁻¹ for the excited states and couplings. Note that these RMSDs reflect the mean accuracy of the PES along the complete configuration space covered. Typically, the eigenstate observables are much more accurate than the RMSD of the PES.83 However, degeneracies of high-energy states are better described by MPOs with larger bond dimension.

To estimate the error of the MPO approximation of the potential energy operator, we have checked the energy error of the first 500 and the last 160 states using the DP-DVR method by converting our TTNS state to a DP-DVR state and computing the DP-

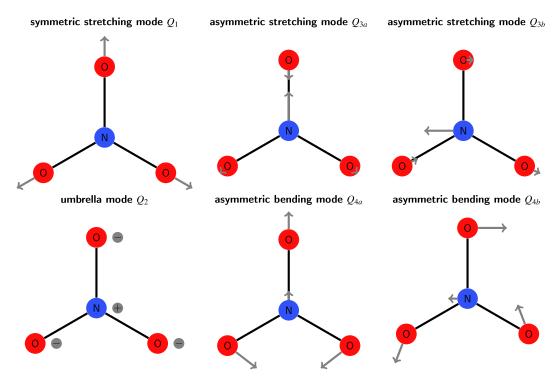


Fig. 1 Normal modes used for the assignment. For each modes the gray arrows or circles with \pm signs display the displacement vectors. The circles with \pm signs display motions out of plane. The displacement vectors (not the circles) are drawn to scale of the actually used modes, hence the small extent of some of the vectors.

DVR energy using the exact PES without MPO fit; see Section 3 for more details. The DP-DVR energies differ mostly by up to $2\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ to the TTNS-MPO energy, with maximal errors reaching $\sim 3.0\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ for the lowest 500 states and $\sim 3.6\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ for the highest 160 states. This shows that the error only modestly increase with excitation energy. Note that the approximate DP-DVR energies are converged to $\lesssim 2\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, indicating that the actual error of our TTNS-MPO energies often are much smaller than $2\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. This accuracy is more than sufficient and much higher than the accuracy of the underlying artificial-neural-network-based PES.

5.2 Assignment

The assignment in terms of vibrational zero-order states of the first 180 vibronic states up to $\tilde{E} \approx 3000 \, \mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ is shown in Tab. 3, and their energies are compared with experiment and three other calculations from literature by Viel and Eisfeld, ⁶⁹ Stanton, ¹⁷ and by Homayoon and Bowman⁶² (note that the latter is based on an empirical coordinate scaling). In addition, Tab. 3 contains symmetry labels for each vibronic level. In particular, therein we provide a "grouped assignment" using Roman numerals to pinpoint the number of energies and the explicit list of irreps for each combination of quanta in Q_3 and Q_4 . For example, two quanta in Q_4 (abbreviated as 4^2) leads to two irreps a'_1 and e', and hence two levels for the group we denote as "III: $k/2(a'_1+e')$," with k=1,2numbering the two levels in the group. The first level (k = 1) in that group corresponds to state number 3 in Tab. 3, which is of a_1 symmetry, while the states 4/5 correspond to the second level (k = 2) in group III with e' symmetry. For each row in the table, the irrep of the particular state considered in the row is underlined. The groups are also used for combination terms to denote

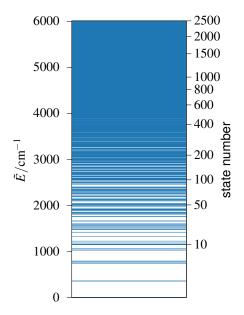


Fig. 2 Computed energy levels. A line is plotted for each level. The left (right) ordinate displays the wavenumber (state number). The vibronic ground state energy is taken as zero point.

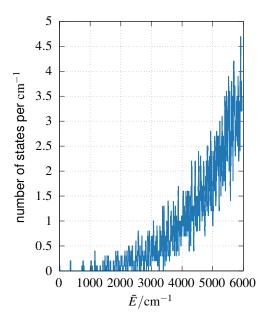


Fig. 3 Density of states as a function of energy. For each term the number of states is shown within $10\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1},$ divided by $10\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}.$ Note that degenerate states are counted separately.

excitations in both Q_1 or Q_2 and Q_3 or Q_4 . Note that, due to the a_1'' symmetry of the Q_2 mode, the irreps change if the group is combined with an odd excitation in Q_2 .

Table 3 Assignment of the first 180 vibronic states up to $\sim 3000\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. For each level, we present the vibrational irrep of the $C_{2\nu}$ point group, the quanta v_i for mode i, a grouped assignment (see below), and the wavenumbers computed in this work, absolute difference to experimental wavenumber Δ , experimental wavenumbers (as assigned) and computed wavenumbers from the literature. The zero-point vibrational energy corresponds to $2396.32\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. Note that the vibrational irrep corresponds to the vibrational symmetry of the vibronic wavefunction component onto the lowest diabatic state of A_2' symmetry; see Tab. 2 for conversions to other point groups or vibronic irreps. If explicit assignments can be made for the degenerate antisymmetric stretching and bending coordinates (v_3/v_4) , then we will show it using Dirac notation. Otherwise, we only show the main vibrational quantum number. The grouped an alternative labeling $(Q^n$ corresponds to n quanta in mode Q) and a grouping of the excitations in v_3 and v_4 together with the vibrational irreps of that group using the D_{3n} point group; see text for details. The groups are numbered using Roman numerals. Unclear assignments are marked by parenthesizing the grouped assignment. Some levels were too difficult to assign, which is marked by an asterisk. The experimental wavenumbers are shown with up to 6 digits precision. If the uncertainty was provided in the literature but actually is smaller than the precision reported here, then the uncertainty is set to 0. "S" in the experimental references refers to summation of low-energy levels as calculated in Ref. [65]. Note that the two exp. levels marked in parentheses from Ref. [126] are based on matrix isolation. Note further that some experimental values, in particular some with large deviation to our levels, were not directly observed but deduced from perturbation analysis; see the text for a discussion. Some computed levels in Ref. [69] were not assigned. These are marked with

											$\tilde{E}/\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$			
State	$\Gamma_{C_{2\nu}}$	v_1	v_2	<i>v</i> ₃	<i>v</i> ₄	grouped	assignment	this work	Δ	Exp.	Ref.	Ref. [69]	Ref. [17]	Ref. [62]
0	a_1						I: 1/1 (<i>a</i> ′ ₁)	0						
1/2	a_1/b_1				$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	4^{1}	II: 1/1 (e')	359.33	6	365.49(0)	[58]	361.1	369	369
3	a_1				$ 02\rangle + 20\rangle$	4^{2}	III: $1/2 (a'_1 + e')$	736.09	16	752.40(0)	[58,65]	711	741	746
4/5	a_1/b_1				$ 11\rangle/ 02\rangle- 20\rangle$	4^{2}	III: $2/2 \ (\overline{a'_1} + \underline{e'})$	770.68	1	771.79(1)	[58,65]	742.2	777	756
6	b_2		1			2^{1}	· · ·	792.73	30	762.34(0)	[58,65]	748.5	n/a (808)	764
7/8	a_1/b_1			$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$		3^1	IV: 1/1 (<u>e'</u>)	1029.01	25	1054.14(0)	[74]	1021.8	1069	1099
9	a_1	1				1^{1}		1064.45	13	1051.26	[76]	1038.6	1061	1067
10/11	a_2/b_2		1		$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$2^1 \cdot 4^1$	$2^1 \cdot \text{II} : 1/1 \ (\underline{e''})$	1146.88	22	1125.10(0)	[65]	1109.6	n/a	1138
12/13	a_1/b_1				3	4^{3}	V: $1/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'})$	1158.68	15	1173.61(0)	[67]	1082.5	1152	1143
14	b_1				$ 21\rangle + 03\rangle$	4 ³	V: $2/3 (a'_1 + \underline{a'_2} + e')$	1185.08	31	1216.2	[76]	1134.6	1214	1150
15	a_1				3	4^{3}	V: $3/3 (a'_1 + \overline{a'_2} + e')$	1224.77	169	1055.34	[76]	1139.7	1191	1160
16	b_1			1	1	$3^{1}4^{1}$	VI: $1/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e')$	1329.90	161	1491(3)	[59,65]	1302.4	1365	1430
17/18	a_1/b_1	1			$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$1^1 \cdot 4^1$	$1^1 \cdot \text{II} : 1/1 \cdot (\underline{e'})^{-}$	1418.46	5	1413.57(0)	[67]	1388.1	1424	1434
19/20	a_1/b_1			1	1	$3^{1}4^{1}$	VI: $2/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'})$	1476.71	16	1492.39(0)	[59,65]	1438.6	1494	1493
21	a_1			1	1	$3^{1}4^{1}$	VI: $3/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e')$	1490.45	9	1499.75(0)	[59,65]	1425.0	1522	1501
22	b_2		1		$ 02\rangle + 20\rangle$	$2^1 \cdot 4^2$	$2^1 \cdot \text{III} : 1/\overline{2} (a_2'' + e'')$	1516.41	7	1509.72(2)	[59,65]	1459.2	n/a (1598)	1519
23	a_1		2			2^{2}	<u></u>	1542.69	21	1522(2)	[59,65]	1496.2	n/a	1533
24/25	a_{2}/b_{2}		1		$ 11\rangle/ 02\rangle- 20\rangle$	$2^1 \cdot 4^2$	2^{1} ·III: $2/2 (a_{2}'' + \underline{e''})$	1559.70	22	1537.54(2)	[59,65]	1490.2	n/a	1529
26	a_1				4	4^{4}	VII: $1/3 (a'_1 + e' + e')$	1587.41	22	1609(10)	[65]	1446.9	1569	1553
27/28	a_1/b_1				$ 04\rangle/ 31\rangle$	4^{4}	VII: $2/3 \ (\overline{a'_1} + \underline{e'} + e')$	1597.92	31	1567	[73]	1469.1	1579	1552
29/30	a_1/b_1				4	4^{4}	VII: $3/3 (a'_1 + e' + e')$	1661.64				1542.0	1642	1568
31/32	a_1/b_1			$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$ 11\rangle/ 20\rangle$	$3^{1}4^{2}$	VIII: $1/4 (a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e')$	1763.73	186	1949.83(1)	[65]	1678.2	1769	1804
33	a_1	1			$ 20\rangle + 20\rangle$	$1^1 \cdot 4^2$	$1^1 \cdot \text{III} : 1/2 \ (a'_1 + e')$	1796.97	2	1798.5	[76]	1736.4	1792	1805
34/35	a_2/b_2		1	$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$		$2^1 \cdot 3^1$	2^{1} ·IV: $1/1 \ (\overline{e''})$	1823.72	9	1815	S	1763.1	n/a	1858
36/37	a_1/b_1	1			$ 11\rangle$	$1^1 \cdot 4^2$	$1^1 \cdot \text{III} : 2/2 \ (a_1' + \underline{e'})$	1844.97	11	1834.3	[76]	1772.6	1845	1832
38	b_2	1	1			$1^{1}2^{1}$		1855.21	45	1810	S	1783.5	n/a (1898)	1830
39/40	a_1/b_1		2		$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$2^2 \cdot 4^1$	$2^2 \cdot \text{II} : 1/1 \ (\underline{e'})$	1891.93	7	1885	S	1857.3	n/a	missing
41	b_1			1	$ 12\rangle$	$3^{1}4^{2}$	VIII: $2/4$ ($a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e'$)	1897.39	17	1914.18(0)	[65]	1803.9	1889	1890
42	a_1			1	2	$3^{1}4^{2}$	VIII: $3/4 (a'_1 + \overline{a'_2} + e' + e')$	1906.74	14	1920.76(0)	[65]	1861.3?	1923	1897
43/44	a_1/b_1			1	2	$3^{1}4^{2}$	VIII: $4/4 \ (\overline{a'_1} + a'_2 + e' + \underline{e'})$	1915.40	11	1926.15(0)	[65]	1810.7	1931	1900
45/46	a_2/b_2		1		3	$2^1 \cdot 4^3$	2^{1} ·V: $1/3 (a_{1}'' + a_{2}'' + e_{2}'')$	1939.03	10	1929.37(0)	[65]	1830.1	n/a	
47	a_2		1		$ 21\rangle + 03\rangle$	$2^1 \cdot 4^3$	2^{1} ·V: $2/3 (a_{1}'' + a_{2}'' + \overline{e''})$	1972.90	35	1937.68(8)	[65]	missing	n/a	
48	a_1			$ 20\rangle + 02\rangle$		3^{2}	X: $1/2 (a_1' + e')$	1995.12	14	2009.12(0)	[77]	1881.7?	missing	

											$\tilde{E}/\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$			
State	$\Gamma_{C_{2\nu}}$	v_1	v_2	<i>v</i> ₃	v_4	grouped a	ssignment	this work	Δ	Exp.	Ref.	Ref. [69]	Ref. [17]	Ref. [62]
49/50	a_1/b_1	1		1		$1^1 \cdot 3^1$	1 ¹ ·IV: 1/1 (<u>e'</u>)	2009.15	15	2024.32(0)	[68]	1831.2?	missing	
51	b_2		1		3	$2^1 \cdot 4^3$	$2^1 \cdot V: 3/3 (a_1'' + a_2'' + e'')$	2020.94	51	1970(10)	[65]	1882.0 ?	n/a	
52/53	a_1/b_1				$ 05\rangle/ 50\rangle$	4 ⁵	IX: $1/3 (a'_1 + \underline{e'} + \underline{e'})$	2031.72	5	2026.3	[76]	missing	1989	
54	b_1				6	4^{6}	XI: $1/5 (a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e')$	2041.77				1860.4?		
55	a_1				5	4 ⁵	IX: $2/3 (a'_1 + e' + e')$	2095.81	86	2010.0	[76]	1914.2?		
56/57	a_1/b_1				5	45	IX: $3/3 \ (\overline{a'_1} + e' + \underline{e'})$	2115.12				missing		
58	a_2		1	1	1	$2^1 \cdot 3^1 4^1$	$2^{1} \cdot \text{VI: } 1/3 \cdot (a_{1}'' + a_{2}''' + e'')$	2123.01				1887.0?	n/a (2248)	
59	a_1	2				1^{2}	, <u>1</u> 2	2138.35	21	2117.8	[76]			
60/61	a_1/b_1			2		3^{2}	X: $2/2 (a'_1 + \underline{e'})$	2139.84	15	2155.19(0)	[68]			
62	b_1			1	3	3^14^3	XII: $1/5$ $(a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$	2186.13						
63/64	a_1/b_1	1			3	$1^1 \cdot 4^3$	$1^{1} \cdot V: 1/3 \left(a'_{1} + a'_{2} + \underline{e'}\right)$	2201.43	4	2205.69(0)	[68]			
65/66	a_2/b_2	1	1		$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$1^12^1\cdot 4^1$	$1^{1}2^{1} \cdot \text{II} : 1/1 \ (\underline{e''})$	2205.46	34	2171.1	[77]			
67/68	a_1/b_1			1	3	$3^{1}4^{3}$	XII: $2/5$ $(a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e' + e')$	2245.81						
69	a_1		2		$ 02\rangle + 20\rangle$	$2^2 \cdot 4^2$	$2^2 \cdot \text{III} : 1/2 (a'_1 + e')$	2263.33	17	2245.87(0)	[68]			
70/71	a_2/b_2			1	$ 11\rangle/ 02\rangle- 20\rangle$	$2^1\cdot 3^1 4^1$	$2^{1} \cdot \text{VI: } 2/3 \left(\overline{a_{1}''} + a_{2}'' + \underline{e}'' \right)$	2263.52						
72	b_1	1			$ 21\rangle + 03\rangle$	$1^1 \cdot 4^3$	$1^{1} \cdot \text{V: } 2/3 \ (a'_{1} + a'_{2} + e')$	2269.55						
73	b_2		1	1	1	$2^1\cdot 3^1 4^1$	$2^{1} \cdot \text{VI: } 3/3 \ (a_{1}'' + a_{2}'' + e'')$	2282.60						
74	a_1	1	•	•	3	$1^1 \cdot 4^3$	$1^{1} \cdot \text{V: } 3/3 \ (a'_{1} + a'_{2} + e')$	2292.61	135	2157.8	[76]			
75/76	a_1/b_1	1	2		$ 11\rangle/ 02\rangle - 20\rangle$	$2^2 \cdot 4^2$	$2^{2} \cdot \text{III: } 2/2 \frac{(a_{1} + a_{2} + e')}{(a_{1}' + \underline{e'})}$	2297.43	54	2351.4	[76]			
73/70	b_2		3		11// 02/- 20/	2^{3}	$z \cdot \text{III.} \ z/z \ (u_1 + \underline{\epsilon})$	2315.93	66	2249.9	[70] [77]			
78/79	a_1/b_1		3	1	3	$3^{1}4^{3}$	XII: $3/5 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + \underline{e'} + e')$	2313.93	00	2249.9	[//]			
80	b_1	1		1	1	$1^1 \cdot 3^1 4^1$	1 ¹ ·VI: 1/3 $(a_1 + a_2 + e_1 + e_2)$	2343.23						
81		1		1	3	$3^{1}4^{3}$	XII: $4/5 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$	2349.16	9	2358	[40]			
82	a_1		1	1	4	$2^{1} \cdot 4^{4}$,	2336	[40]			
	b_2		1			$3^{1}4^{3}$	$2^1 \cdot \text{VII: } 1/3 (a_2'' + e'' + e'')$	2370.62	0	007(50(0)	F.C.0.1			
83/84	a_1/b_1		1	1	3	$2^{1} \cdot 4^{4}$	XII: $5/5$ $(a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + \underline{e'})$	2376.78	0	2376.52(0)	[68]			
85/86	a_2/b_2		1	2	4	$3^{2}4^{1}$	$2^{1} \cdot \text{VII: } 2/3 \ (a_{2}^{"} + \underline{e}^{"} + e^{"})$	2379.11	19	2360.0	[77]			
87/88	a_1/b_1		1	2	4	$3^{-4^{-1}}$ $2^{1} \cdot 4^{4}$	XIV: $1/4 (\underline{e'} + a'_2 + a'_1 + e')$	2399.18						
89/90 91	a_2/b_2		1		6	2 · 4 4 ⁶	2 ¹ ·VII: 3/3 $(a_2'' + e'' + \underline{e}'')$	2459.11						
	a_1					46	XI: $2/5$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e')$	2481.49						
92/93	a_1/b_1	2			6	$1^2 \cdot 4^1$	XI: $3/5$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e')$	2485.13						
94/95	a_1/b_1	2		2	$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	(3^24^1)	$1^2 \cdot \text{II}: 1/1 \ (e')$	2496.08						
96	a_1			2	1		XIV: $2/4 (e' + a'_2 + a'_1 + e')$)	2501.21	_	0510 71(0)	F.C.0.1			
97/98	a_1/b_1	1		1	1	$1^{1} \cdot 3^{1}4^{1}$ $1^{1} \cdot 3^{1}4^{1}$	11 VI: $2/3$ $(a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'})$	2513.31	5	2518.71(0)	[68]			
99	a_1	1		1	1		1 ¹ ·VI: 3/3 $(a'_1 + a'_2 + e')$	2542.83	32	2511	[40]			
100/101	a_2/b_2		1	1	$ 02\rangle/ 20\rangle$	$2^{1} \cdot 3^{1}4^{2}$	2 ¹ VIII: $1/4$ $(a_1'' + a_2'' + e_1'' + e_1'')$	2553.91						
102/103	a_1/b_1		2	101) /[10)	6	4^6 $2^2 \cdot 3^1$	XI: $4/5 (a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + \underline{e'})$	2559.20						
104/105	a_1/b_1		2	$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	7	4^{7}	$2^2 \cdot \text{IV: } 1/1 \ (\underline{e'})$	2569.23						
106	b_1				7		XVII: $1/5$ ($a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e'$)	2570.17	60	0500.0	[
107	b_2	1	1	•	$ 02\rangle + 20\rangle$	$1^{1}2^{1} \cdot 4^{2}$	$1^{1}2^{1} \cdot \text{III: } 1/2 \ (\underline{a_{2}'' + e''})$	2576.54	69	2508.0	[77]			
108/109				2	1	$3^{2}4^{1}$	XIV: $3/4 (e' + \overline{a'_2} + a'_1 + \underline{e'})$	2577.33	8	2585.11(0)	[68]			
110	a_1		-		6	46	XI: $5/5 (a'_1 + \underline{a'_1} + a'_2 + e' + e')$	2590.42		0505.5	F=63			
111	a_1	1	2		[4.4]	$1^{1}2^{2}$	**** **** *** *** ***	2592.77	56	2537.0	[76]			
112	b_1			2	11⟩	(3^24^1)	XIV: $4/4 (e' + \underline{a'_2} + a'_1 + e')$)	2615.17						
113/114	a_1/b_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $1/7$ ($a'_1 + \overline{a'_1} + a'_2 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e' + e'$)	2622.58						
115/116	a_2/b_2	1	1		$ 11\rangle/ 02\rangle- 20\rangle$	$1^{1}2^{1} \cdot 4^{2}$	$1^{1}2^{1} \cdot \text{III: } 2/2 \ (a_{2}'' + \underline{e''})$	2633.03		0510 -	F=63			
117	•	1			4	$1^1 \cdot 4^4$	$1^{1} \cdot \text{VII: } 1/3 \ (a'_{1} + e' + e')$	2639.21	126	2513.7	[76]			
118/119	a_2/b_2		3		$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$2^3 \cdot 4^1$	$2^3 \cdot \text{II: } 1/1 \ (e'')$	2661.50						
120	a_2		1	1	21⟩	$2^1\cdot 3^1 4^2$	2^{1} ·VIII: $2/4$ ($\underline{a_{1}''} + a_{2}'' + e'' + e''$)	2677.76						

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											$\tilde{E}/\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$			
State	$\Gamma_{C_{2\nu}}$	v_1	v_2	v_3	v_4	grouped a	ssignment	this work	Δ	Exp.	Ref.	Ref. [69]	Ref. [17]	Ref. [62]
121/122	a_1/b_1		2		3	$2^2 \cdot 4^3$	$2^2 \cdot V: 1/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'})$	2683.08						_
123/124	a_1/b_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $2/7$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + a'_2 + e' + \underline{e'} + e')$	2686.85						
125	b_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $3/7$ $(a_1^{i} + a_1^{i} + a_2^{i} + a_2^{i} + e' + e' + e')$	2693.42						
126	b_2		1	1	3	$2^1 \cdot 3^1 4^2$	2^{1} ·VIII: $3/4$ $(a_{1}'' + a_{2}'' + e'' + e'')$	2694.96						
127/128	a_2/b_2		1	1	2	$2^1\cdot 3^1 4^2$	2 ¹ VIII: $4/4 (a_1'' + \overline{a_2''} + e'' + \underline{e''})$	2705.88						
129	b_1		2		$ 21\rangle + 03\rangle$	$2^2 \cdot 4^3$	$2^2 \cdot V: 2/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e')$	2713.70						
130	a_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $4/7$ $(a'_1 + \overline{a'_1} + a'_2 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$	2717.39						
131/132	a_1/b_1	1			4	$1^1 \cdot 4^4$	1 ¹ ·VII: $2/3 (a'_1 + \underline{e'} + e')$	2729.40						
133	a_1		2		3	$2^2 \cdot 4^3$	$2^2 \cdot V: 3/3 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e')$	2753.55	(133)	(2621)	[126]			
134/135	a_1/b_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $5/7$ $(\overline{a_1'} + a_1' + a_2' + a_2' + e' + e' + \underline{e'})$	2761.88						
136	b_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $6/7$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$	2782.03						
137	b_2		1	2		$2^1 \cdot 3^2$	$2^{1} \cdot X: 1/2 (a_{2}'' + e'')$	2786.72						
138	b_1			1	*	*	, <u>-2</u>	2787.76						
139	a_1			1	*	*		2787.96						
140/141	a_2/b_2	1	1	1		$1^{1}2^{1}\cdot 3^{1}$	$1^{1}2^{1}$ ·IV: $1/1 (e'')$	2805.05						
142	a_1			2	2	(3^24^2)	XVIII: $1/6$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e'))$	2811.34						
143/144	a_2/b_2		1		5	$2^1 \cdot 4^5$	2^{1} ·IX: $1/3 (\overrightarrow{a_{2}''} + \overrightarrow{e''} + \overrightarrow{e''})$	2814.45						
145	a_2		1		6	$2^1 \cdot 4^6$	$2^{1} \cdot XI: 1/5 (a_{1}^{"} + \overline{a_{2}^{"}} + a_{2}^{"} + e^{"} + e^{"})$	2822.52						
146/147	a_1/b_1			2	2	(3^24^2)	XVIII: $2/6 (\overline{a'_1} + a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e' + e')$)	2826.90						
148	a_1			1	4	$3^{1}4^{4}$	XVI: $3/7$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$	2852.13						
149	b_1		2	1	1	$2^2\cdot 3^1 4^1$	$2^2 \cdot \text{VI: } 1/3 \ (a'_1 + a'_2 + e')$	2865.51						
150/151	a_1/b_1			2	2	(3^24^2)	XVIII: $3/6 (a'_1 + \overline{a'_1} + a'_2 + e' + \underline{e'} + e')$)	2874.44	(18)	(2892)	[126]			
152	a_1	1		2	2	$(1^1 \cdot 3^1 4^2)$	1 ¹ ·VIII: $1/4 (a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e')$	2880.45						
153/154	a_1/b_1			3		3^{3}	XIII: $1/3 (\underline{e'} + a'_2 + a'_1)$	2883.33						
155	b_2		1		5	$2^1 \cdot 4^5$	$2^{1} \cdot IX: 2/3 (a_{2}'' + e'' + e'')$	2886.64						
156	a_1	2		2	2	(3^24^2)	XVIII: $4/6 \left(\frac{\overline{a_1'}}{a_1'} + a_1' + a_2' + e' + e' + e' \right) \right)$	2892.68						
157	b_1			3	1	(3^34^1)	XV: $1/6 (e' + e' + e' + a'_2 + a'_1 + e')$)	2894.44						
158/159	a_2/b_2		1		5	$2^1 \cdot 4^5$	$2^{1} \cdot \text{IX: } 3/3 \ (a_{2}'' + e'' + \underline{e'''})$	2915.59						
160/161	a_1/b_1	2			$ 11\rangle/ 02\rangle- 20\rangle$	$1^2 \cdot 4^2$	$1^2 \cdot \text{III: } 1/2 \ (a_1' + \underline{e'})$	2916.70						
162	b_2	2	1		1 //1 / 1 /	$1^{2}2$, , , ,	2925.70						
163/164	a_2/b_2^{-}		1	2		$2^1 \cdot 3^2$	$2^{1} \cdot X: 2/2 (a_{2}'' + \underline{e''})$	2931.09						
165/166	a_1/b_1	1	2		$ 01\rangle/ 10\rangle$	$1^12^2 \cdot 4^1$	$1^{1}2^{2} \cdot \text{II} : 1/1 \ (\underline{e'})$	2939.55						
167/168	a_1/b_1				7	4 ⁷	XVII: $2/5$ $(a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e' + e')$	2940.87						
169	b_1				8	48	XIX: $1/6$ $(a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$	2945.96						
170	b_1			2	2	(3^24^2)	XVIII: $5/6 (a'_1 + a'_1 + a'_2 + e' + e' + e')$)	2956.48						
171/172	a_1/b_1	1		1	2	$1^1 \cdot 3^1 4^2$	1 ¹ ·VIII: $2/4$ $(a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'} + e')$	2966.44	64	2901.95(0)	[68]			
173	a_2		1	1	3	$2^1 \cdot 3^1 4^3$	2^{1} ·XII: $1/5$ $(a_{1}'' + a_{2}'' + e'' + e'' + e'')$	2975.60						
174/175	a_2	1	1		3	$1^12^1\cdot 4^3$	$1^{1}2^{1} \cdot V: 1/3 (\overline{a_{1}''} + a_{2}'' + e'')$	2988.55						
176/177	a_1/b_1		1	1	*	*	, <u> </u>	2999.39						
178	a_1	1		1	*	*		3003.62						
179/180	a_1/b_1		2	1	2	$2^2\cdot 3^14^1$	$2^2 \cdot \text{VI: } 1/3 \ (a'_1 + a'_2 + \underline{e'})$	3005.36						
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Compared to the previously computed levels, our energies differ greatly from that of Ref. [69] with a discrepancy of up to 126 cm⁻¹ for state 26 (4⁴). This discrepancy can be understood in terms of a less accurate vibronic potential energy surface used in Ref. [69], compared to the one used here. 75 A slightly improved agreement can be found between our fully ab initio levels and the semi-empirical ones from Ref. [62], where the maximal discrepancy is 100 cm⁻¹ for state 16 (3¹4¹). The computed levels from Ref. [17], which uses the Hamiltonian from Ref. [13], have served as reference in a multitude of experimental studies, see, e.g., Refs. [58,60,63,73,127]. Our levels are in good agreement with those from Ref. [17]. Compared to our energies, the largest deviation is $43 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ for states 52/53 (4⁵). The good agreement is remarkable, given the many challenges that are associated with computing the electronic structure, non-adiabatic couplings, and fitting the non-adiabatic potential energies for this molecule. Note that the potential fit used in this work has not been designed to give accurate vibronic states of a particular adiabatic state but to accurately reproduce the photodetachment spectrum of NO₃⁻, which requires a balanced description of all five electronic states involved across a large part of configuration space. 18,70,75

While comparing levels computed using different theories is useful, a comparison to experimental values is even more illuminating and, in this case, may also reveal discrepancies in the experimental assignment. Overall, the agreement of our computed levels with experiment is very good. Computed energies for states with excitations in Q_1 or Q_2 are systematically larger than the experimental references, whereas those for excitations in Q_3 or Q_4 are smaller but closer to the experimental references. Note that two levels have been reported in a Laser induced fluorescence (LIF) spectroscopy experiment by Kim et al. 40 that are below 3000 cm⁻¹ and not included here, as these levels belong to excitation groups that are not fully included in our list of assigned states in Tab. 3. An assignment of an even larger number of computed states would be required for a proper analysis of these two peaks. Assuming that the experimental assignment is correct (see below), the largest deviation to experiment is for the 3^14^2 states 31/32 with a deviation of $\sim 180\,\text{cm}^{-1}$. The RMSD for all levels is 58 cm⁻¹, which includes uncertain experimental assignments (see below).

There are five levels with differences of more than $100\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ compared to reported levels from experimental gas phase studies. All five levels have excitations in Q_4 . The IR inactive state 15 (4³) with a_1' symmetry has only recently been detected through LIF spectroscopy, ⁷⁶ where an excitation energy corresponding to $1055\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ has been reported. This value is in disagreement with not only our computed energy of $1225\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$, but also with the three other, independent theoretical predictions. State 16 (3¹4¹) is difficult to detect experimentally due to a weak intensity. ⁵⁹ As it could not be directly detected, the reported ⁶⁵ experimental value of $1491(3)\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ was determined through perturbation analysis. ⁵⁹ Our computed value is $1330\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$, which, as state 15, is close to previous theoretical predictions. ^{17,69,80} All other levels with 3^14^1 excitations are in very good agreement with experiment.

A similar pattern as for 3^14^1 exists for 3^14^2 . All excitations of type 3^14^2 but one are in very good agreement with experi-

ment. With a deviation of $186\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, states $31/32~(3^14^2)$ have the largest disagreement to experiment but, like 3¹4¹, the experimental value of 1950 cm⁻¹ is not directly observed but stems from a perturbation analysis. The same issue about deviations for these two excitations with very weak IR intensity has been discussed in Ref. [17]. Our values are in very good agreement with Ref. [17]. Additional computations on isotopologues, where some transitions have larger IR intensities, ⁶⁵ would help to illuminate more aspects of this, but this is beyond the scope of this work. The other two states with energies that have large disagreement with a LIF experiment 76 are state 74 ($1^{1}4^{3}$) and state 117 ($1^{1}4^{4}$). To summarize, three of the five levels with large disagreement to experiment are based on a recent LIF experiment, ⁷⁶ and the other two levels with large disagreement have a very weak IR intensity and the reported experimental values are based on perturbation analysis rather than direct observation. Other levels of the same type of excitation patterns with stronger intensity have excellent agreement with experiment. More experiments and computations using different potentials and targeting also high-lying eigenstates may help to clarify the disagreement.

As previous computational studies, 13,49,62,69 we also confirm the re-assignment of states 7/8 (3^1) from $1492\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ to the experimental transition at $1054\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$, and states 19/20 (3^14^1) to the transition at $1492\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. 13 Likewise, we confirm the recently reported assignment of state 26 (4^4 with e' symmetry) to the transition at $1567\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ measured using photodetachment spectroscopy. 73 A transition at $1608\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ recently reported for this state through LIF experiments 76 would much better match the energy of state 26 (4^4 with a'_1 symmetry, calculated as $1587\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$), which is in agreement with the results and discussion in Ref. [17].

In the experimental IR spectrum, there are hot bands arising from the low-energy state 1 (4^1) that recently have been analyzed in detail. 55,59,65 In particular, there are possible transitions to two states of a' symmetry with a 3^14^2 excitation, but only one of them led to an observed hot band due to low intensity. Assuming validity of our dipole surface (see Section 5.3), we can confirm this: The computed hot band IR intensity of state 41 is a factor of 6 lower than that of state 42.

The large spread of the 3^14^1 and 3^14^2 sublevels has been remarked in Ref. [17], and we can confirm this spread. However, as discussed above, more experiments would help to confirm or to disprove this spread of sublevels. Also, we notice in our results a large level splitting of many other excitation groups such as 3^14^3 and 3^24^1 . For these levels, an experimental verification is missing, save for states 83/84 and 108/109, whose energies are in excellent agreement with experiment.

In addition to the splitting of some combination bands, we observe a surprisingly large splitting of the levels with large excitations in Q_4 : The first of the five 4^6 levels is of a_2' symmetry with an energy of $2042\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. Remarkably, this level is sandwiched energetically by the 4^5 states! The next state belonging to the 4^6 has an energy that is $439\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ higher (state 91 with a_1' symmetry). This is a reoccurring pattern also for the 4^7 and 4^8 levels (compare states 106, 110, 167/168 and 169), and for combination bands (e.g. states 143/144 and 145). Thus, for high excitations in Q_4 , the energy splitting imposed by symmetry or vibrational

angular momentum is larger than the zero-order reference.

Next to these large splittings, we also observe possible resonances and a strong mixing of the 3^24^2 and the $1^13^14^2$ levels (groups XVIII and 1^1 · VIII in Tab. 3). The harmonic energies of these two excitations are energetically close ($2776\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ and $2811\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$), confirming the possibility for the occurrence of resonances. The grouped assignment in Tab. 3 only displays the largest zero-order component and, due to the mixing, is parenthesized. Due to a similar type of mixing, some states belonging to group XIV are parenthesized. Note that for these cases the grouped assignment may be different from the quanta in the individual modes given in Tab. 3. The grouped assignment does take additional symmetry and energy considerations into account.

The discussion about the large energy splittings and possible resonances indicate the difficulty of assigning states with many excitations in Q_3 and/or Q_4 . In general, the assignment based on VSCF states is straightforward for excitations in Q_1 , Q_2 (see below for a discussion), and for some lower excitations in Q_4 . In contrast, for many excitations in Q_3 and Q_4 , the assignment is not always clear and could only be done using a combination of observation of energies, symmetries, VSCF overlaps, and wavefunction cuts. The assignment was more difficult for high-energy states containing multiple vibrational quanta in each mode. Difficult assignments for such states is typical for strongly coupled, anharmonic systems. 28,53,91 The zero-order picture drawn from the assignment thus must be taken with some caution. For example, for many states the wavefunction cuts display more subtle excitation patterns. Often, lobes of small magnitude are visible in the cuts even for states formally marked as having no excitations in that mode. This is particularly the case for high-energy states and cuts along Q_3 and Q_4 , but also happens for Q_1 and partially Q_2 for states with energies larger than $2000 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. Note that the wavefunction cuts expose these subtle excitation patterns but not the reduced densities, which reflect the average excitation.

To shine more light on the intriguing nature of the vibronic dynamics of NO3, we now discuss the wavefunctions of some exemplary states. A strong coupling of the antisymmetric stretching and bending coordinates Q_3 and Q_4 already is visible even for state 5, which is assigned as 4^2 (|11) in the two Q_4 coordinates) but displays a weak excitation pattern along the Q_3 modes. This is depicted in Fig. 4. Note further the strong anharmonicity in all four modes. In general, we observe that the higher the excitation in Q_4 , the more coupling to the Q_3 modes there is. This is not surprising as the two degenerate modes are not pure stretching and bending modes (compare with Fig. 1), as has been observed previously. ^{49,69} An alternative to the normal coordinates of the NO₃ radical is to use the normal coordinates of NO₃⁻ as reference, ⁴¹ but Duchinsky rotations lead to a similarly large coupling in these coordinates. ⁴⁹ Exploring other coordinates for the assignment is beyond the scope of this work.

Another large effect of correlation is shown in Fig. 5 for the IR active state 21. While the state formally is assigned as 3^14^1 excitation, some cuts in the Q_4 modes do not display any excitation patterns but rather an extended positive wavefunction lobe, see Fig. 5 (b). The excitation in Q_4 only is revealed by inspecting plots along the Q_3 and Q_4 modes. Singular value decomposition along

the Q_3 modes and the Q_4 modes reveals three important states, the largest (!) component being an approximate ground state of type $|v_{Q_{3a}}v_{Q_{3b}}\rangle \times |v_{Q_{4a}}v_{Q_{4b}}\rangle = |00\rangle \times |00\rangle$, and the other two large components being of type $|01\rangle \times |01\rangle$, and $|10\rangle \times |10\rangle$, respectively. Indeed, a $|v_{Q_{3a}}v_{Q_{4a}}\rangle = |11\rangle$ type of excitation is visible in Fig. 5(c). This is a clear vibrational correlation effect and does not occur in VSCF computations. Only if all four modes Q_{3a}, Q_{3b}, Q_{4a} and Q_{4b} are correlated do we see the same excitation pattern. Note that this type of pattern, in particular the extended lobe in Q_4 in Fig. 5(b), is reoccurring. Specifically, it is visible in states 43/44, 73, 81, 99, 108/109, 127/128, 130, and 171/172.

In contrast to states with excitations in Q_3 or Q_4 , states with excitations only in Q_1 or Q_2 are close to harmonic and easy to assign. For example, Fig. 6 displays a cut for the 1^22^5 state. Despite the large excitations both in Q_1 and Q_2 , this state displays a clear excitation pattern. Note, the strong displacement along Q_1 , however.

States we found with excitations in Q_1 and Q_2 are tabulated in Tab. 4, and their energies are compared to harmonic estimates. States having only excitations in Q_1 mostly follow the harmonic approximation. There is a small negative anharmonicity due to vibronic interactions in Q_3/Q_4 , but the difference to the harmonic estimate for 1^5 only is $-24\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. There is a more pronounced positive anharmonicity for states with excitations in Q_2 , with the maximum deviation to the harmonic estimate being $179\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ for 2^7 . Due to coupling, combination bands have slightly larger deviations. The highest-energy state we found is 1^32^4 with an energy deviating only $153\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ from the harmonic estimate.

While correlation between Q_1 and Q_2 is weak, there is a pronounced correlation between Q_1 and Q_3 , as shown in Fig. 7. The potential along Q_3 mostly is triangular in high-energy regions and distortions due to the multiwell structure of the wavefunction in Q_3 are visible for any node with excitations in Q_1 . A distinct multiwell character is first exposed for 1^2 (state 59) shown in Fig. 7(c). The higher the excitation in Q_1 , the more pronounced the multiwell structure in Q_3 . This includes excitation patterns in Q_3 that are noticeable in the cuts. An example of this is visible in Fig. 7(f) for 1^5 . Due to the strong $Q_3 - Q_4$ modal coupling, for these states excitation patterns are visible even in Q_4 . Despite these distortions in Q_3 and sometimes even Q_4 , the excitation patterns in Q_1 remain close to harmonic with some more pronounced irregularities only visible for 1^5 .

5.3 Infrared spectrum

Fig. 8 displays the IR stick spectrum up to $\tilde{E} = 3000\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ (the region in where all of our states have been assigned) and compares it to experiment ⁶⁸ and a previously reported Born-Oppenheimer computation. ⁵³ As already shown in Section 5.2, except for a few outliers the line positions from our computations are in very good agreement with experiment. The IR intensities, however, differ vastly, [‡] For example, our spectrum contains a large intensity for

[‡] Note that there are two 3^24^1 states with e' symmetry, 87/88 in 108/109 in Tab. 3. Only one of them has a strong IR intensity. Our IR spectrum predicts a large intensity for state 87/88 (vibrational angular momentum in Q_3 of $I_3=\pm 1$) whereas

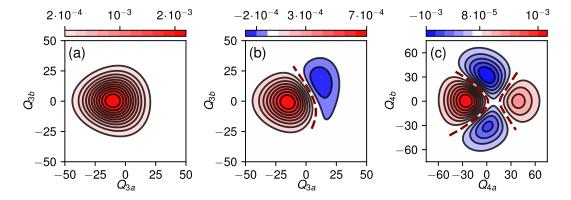


Fig. 4 Wavefunction cuts for state 5 in Tab. 3 (4^2). Shown are two cuts along the Q_3 modes at different positions of Q_4 in panels (a) and (b), and cuts along the Q_4 modes in panel (c).

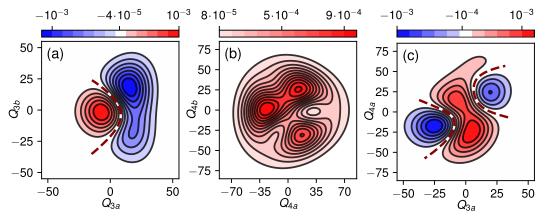


Fig. 5 Wavefunction cuts for state 21 in Tab. 3 (3^14^1). Shown are cuts along Q_3 (a), Q_4 (b) and Q_{3a}/Q_{4a} (c). Cuts along Q_{3b}/Q_{4b} are similar to those shown in panel (c).

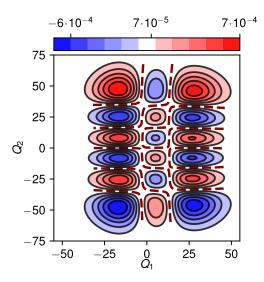


Fig. 6 Wavefunction cut for state 1^22^5 in Tab. 4.

the 31 state whereas the experimental intensity of that state is very small. 74 The large differences to the experimental IR intensities are in agreement with Ref. [69], which introduced the DMS surface we used for computing the IR intensities. Note that this DMS only describes the adiabatic ground state and thus neglects the other electronic states. In Ref. [69], the differences of the intensities to experiment are explained by missing non-adiabatic effects. For example, the correct low intensity of the vibronic 31 state might be from pseudo Jahn-Teller coupling of the \tilde{X}^2A_2' electronic state to the \tilde{B}^2E' state and intensity cancellation. ⁵⁹ This cannot be described by the current DMS. Stanton observed a similar effect for the intensities of the dispersed fluorescence spectrum when removing the pseudo Jahn-Teller coupling. 17 Note, however, that the IR spectrum from Ref. [53] that is displayed in the lower panel of Fig. 8 is in better albeit not perfect agreement with experiment but also was computed by neglecting nonadiabatic effects. One explanation for the better agreement might be that the computation from Ref. [53] not only neglected nonadiabatic effects but also did not include the umbrella Q_2 mode. Since distortions along that mode leads to non-adiabatic coupling to the ground state and pseudo Jahn-Teller distortions, the relatively good intensities of the IR spectrum from Ref. [53] might come from error cancellation (lack of both non-adiabatic effects and motion along the Q_2 mode). As side remark, note that the energies from Ref. [17] and shown in Tab. 3 are different to those from the same author reported in Ref. [53] and shown in Fig. 8. The energies from Ref. [17] are based on a vibronic coupling Hamiltonian⁷⁹ whereas the energies from Ref. [53] are based on an adiabatic force field.

To confirm that our poor IR intensities are not due to an improper description of the dipole moments of the adiabatic ground state, we generated another DMS. Compared to the DMS fit of Ref. [69], our DMS is based on interpolation and a different

Table 4 Fundamentals and combination bands of excitations in Q_1 and Q_2 . Shown are the quantum numbers in Q_1,Q_2 , computed term values, corresponding harmonic term values (with zero-point energy taken from the computed energies), and difference of the harmonic and the computed term values

v_1	v_2	$\tilde{E}_{ m calc.}/{ m cm}^{-1}$	$\tilde{E}_{\mathrm{harm.}}/\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$	Δ/cm^{-1}
0	1	793	793	0
1	0	1064	1064	0
0	2	1543	1586	43
1	1	1855	1857	2
2	0	2138	2129	-9
0	3	2318	2379	62
1	2	2593	2650	58
2	1	2926	2922	-4
0	4	3080	3172	92
3	0	3189	3193	4
1	3	3367	3443	77
2	2	3654	3715	61
0	5	3845	3965	120
3	1	3978	3986	8
1	4	4125	4236	111
4	0	4243	4257	14
2	3	4422	4508	86
	6	4611	4758	147
3	2	4695	4779	84
1	5	4887	5029	143
4	1	5033	5050	18
2 5	4	5183	5301	118
	0	5345	5322	-24
0	7	5372	5551	179
3	3	5460	5572	112
1	6	5653	5823	170
4	2	5750	5843	94
2 3	5	5934	6094	159
3	4	6213	6365	153

electronic structure method that is similar to the one used in Ref. [53]. Nevertheless, also this new DMS results in a similarly poor description of the IR intensities. Along the same argument, the IR spectrum using the same DMS but eigenstates obtained using the Born-Oppenheimer approximation has much fewer intense peaks; see Section S1 and Figure S1 in the ESI for details. A generation of a DMS that takes all five electronic states into account is beyond the scope of this work. At any rate, our results show more evidence that non-adiabatic effects are important for correctly describing the IR spectrum. The non-adiabatic effects onto the vibronic energies are discussed more in Section 5.4.

5.4 Non-adiabatic effects

Some previous studies used a purely adiabatic Born-Oppenheimer PES for computing the vibrational states of NO $_3$ for the \tilde{X}^2A_2' ground state, 53,62,80 whereas others, including this one, used a full non-Born-Oppenheimer diabatic PES model and thus compute vibronic states. 17,49,69 While there is a pseudo Jahn-Teller effect between the \tilde{X}^2A_2' diabatic state and the \tilde{B}^2E' diabatic excited state, 41,49 this can be dealt with in a Born-Oppenheimer PES as long as the distortions are well-described by such a PES and as long as the non-adiabatic coupling in regions of large amplitude of the vibronic states is not large. Then how important actually are non-Born-Oppenheimer effects? Section 5.3 already hinted at the possibility that they can significantly affect observables.

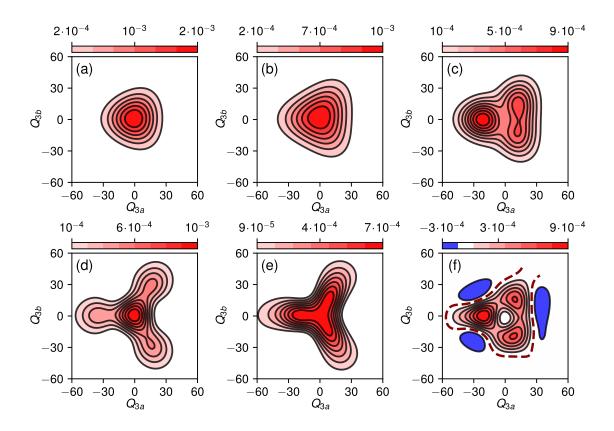


Fig. 7 Wavefunction cuts along the Q_3 modes for the following states with excitations in Q_1 : ground state (a), 1^1 (b), 1^2 (c), 1^3 (d), 1^4 (e), and 1^5 (f). Note that the potential along the cuts shown is triangular-shaped. Wavefunction cuts of 1^5 display major distortions in Q_4 also (not shown).

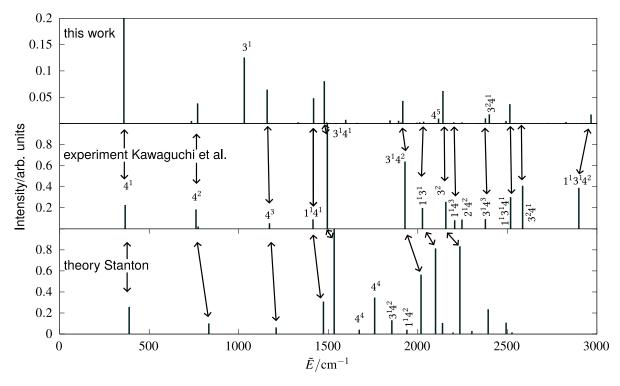


Fig. 8 IR stick spectrum. Our computation based on non-adiabatic vibronic eigenstates but a dipole moment surface for the lowest-energy state only (upper panel), experiment (middle panel, as compiled in Ref. [68]), and IR spectrum computed in Ref. [53] (lower panel). Note that the latter is based on vibrational eigenstates computed on an adiabatic Born-Oppenheimer PES without including the umbrella mode. The assignment of the states is denoted by Q^n , which means that there are n quanta in mode Q.

1-18

To address the question of how important non-Born-Oppenheimer effects are, Fig. 9 (a) displays the diabatic populations as function of energy. Importantly, the diabatic ground state only has a population of 0.95 even for the vibrational ground state. This comes from the diabatic model and the fact that the diabatic couplings (the off-diagonal part in Eq. (1)) are non-zero, save for configurations at the D_{3h} geometry. All vibronic wavefunctions spread out of D_{3h} geometries. Starting with a population of 0.95 for the ground state, for excited states the population quickly decreases further to ~ 0.9 around $1000\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. Populations of ~ 0.85 are reached around $4000\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. These populations are lower than those from Viel and Eisfeld, ⁶⁹ who report populations of 0.96 around 1000 cm⁻¹, indicating stronger non-adiabatic effects described by our PES in comparison to the one used by Viel and Eisfeld known to have flaws. With the ground state population slowly decreasing, the populations of the two E' states are slowly increased whereas the populations of the E'' states remain negligible. Since only distortions along the umbrella Q_2 motion lead to couplings to the E'' state, the negligible populations of these states is expected.

How much does the decrease in ground state population affect other observables? To estimate this, we conducted an independent computation on the adiabatic ground state surface only (i.e., a Born-Oppenheimer computation). The energetic errors resulting from the omission of non-Born-Oppenheimer effects are displayed in Fig. 9 (b). The errors can be large and reach almost 400 cm⁻¹ in the computed region. This corresponds to a relative deviation of up to 7%, which is in close agreement with the populations shown in Fig. 9 (a). Interestingly, the Born-Oppenheimer error first is negative at energies below $\sim 4000\,\mathrm{cm^{-1}}$ but at higher excitation turns positive for most states. For energies below $400\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$ the largest error is $\sim -14\,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. As mentioned in Section 5.3, the IR spectrum computed from the Born-Oppenheimer vibrational states displays much fewer non-negligible peaks compared to the IR spectrum computed using non-BO states shown in Fig. 8, highlighting further the importance of the inclusion of the excited electronic states.

6 Conclusions

The NO₃ radical features an intriguing vibronic structure where to date many aspects of it, including the infrared spectrum, remain elusive. Here, using a recently developed, accurate PES that captures all five important electronic states, curvilinear coordinates and the tree tensor network state (TTNS) approach, we analyzed the vibronic structure of NO₃. Specifically, we increased the number of previously computed vibronic states by a factor of ~ 50 to more than 2500. We are not aware of a larger number of vibronic states being computed for a six-dimensional, highly anharmonic and non-adiabatic molecule. This shows the effectiveness of our recently developed TTNS approach. Furthermore, we increased the number of previously assigned states by a factor of ~ 5 from \sim 35 to 180. All states up to 3000 cm⁻¹ are now assigned. Even though the used PES was not specifically designed for accurate vibronic eigenstate computations for the electronic ground state, overall we achieved very good agreement with experiment. In agreement with previous computations, our analysis hinted at the possibility of required reassignments of experimental levels.

Our analysis of the vibronic states revealed a strong correlation not only between the antisymmetric stretch and bending modes, Q_3 and Q_4 , but also between the symmetric and antisymmetric stretch modes, Q_1 and Q_3 . In addition, we found a large spread of sublevels with excitations in the antisymmetric bending mode Q_4 , thus showing that the energy splitting imposed by symmetry can even be larger than the zero-order reference. The higher the energy, the more difficult the assignment and hence the less useful the zero-order harmonic picture. We found evidence for resonances and significant mixing of zero-order states for energies above $2800\,\text{cm}^{-1}.$ Thus, an energy region up to $\sim3000\,\text{cm}^{-1}$ seems to be most suitable for an assignment, albeit we found straightforwardly assignable combination states in less-coupled modes even at an energy of 6213 cm⁻¹, which is just 850 cm⁻¹ below the electronic \tilde{A}^2E'' state. Nonadiabatic effects are surprisingly strong and the \tilde{B}^2E' states contribute between 5 and 10% to the vibronic eigenstates below 3000 cm⁻¹. The contribution approaches 20% for energies around 6000 cm⁻¹. These nonnegligible contributions lead to nontrivial effects on the vibronic energies and vast changes in the IR spectrum. We hope that this work will stimulate more computational and experimental studies on this intriguing free radical.

Author Contributions

H.R.L. and A.V. conceived the study; H.R.L. designed the study, developed the MPO/TTNS/DP-DVR methodology, performed and analyzed the TTNS and DP-DVR simulations; A.V. provided the Hamiltonian; H.R.L. and A.V. analyzed the results. H.R.L. drafted the manuscript; H.R.L. and A.V. edited the manuscript.

Conflicts of interest

There are no conflicts to declare.

Acknowledgements

H.R.L. thanks A. M. Nierenberg for helpful discussions on coordinate transformations. We thank W. Eisfeld for providing us with the dipole moment surface. Work by H.R.L. was supported by the US National Science Foundation (NSF) via grant no. CHE-2312005. Additional support came from University of California, Merced, start-up funding, and through computational time on the Pinnacles and Merced clusters at University of California, Merced (supported by NSF OAC-2019144 and ACI-1429783). A.V. acknowledges partial financial support from the CNRS and the University of Rennes via the IRN MCTDH grant project, as well as from the French ANR agency under grant ANR-23-CE04-0014 (project RADICALS).

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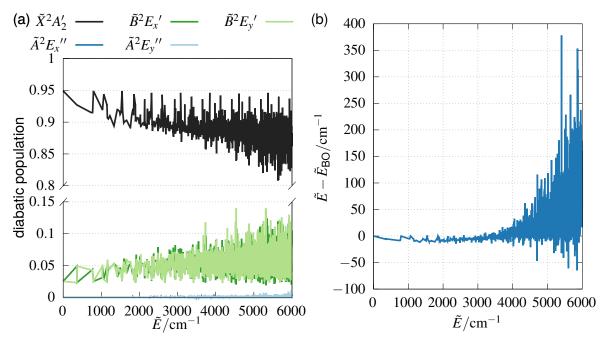


Fig. 9 Nonadiabatic effects: (a) Diabatic populations of the computed vibronic states as a function of their energy. Note the range cut in the ordinate axis. (b) Difference between vibronic energies and BO energies as a function of energy. BO energies were sorted based on the overlap of the BO states to the non-BO states.

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Further data is available from the authors upon reasonable request.