

Supplementary Information

**Rotational and Nuclear-Spin Level Dependent Photodissociation
Dynamics of H₂S**

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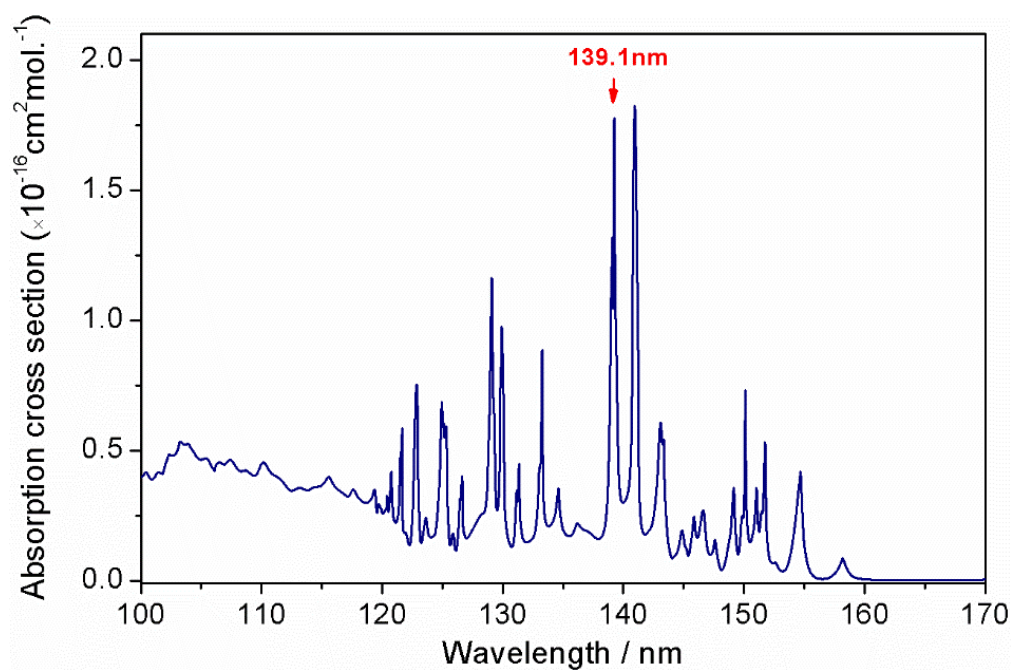
Supplementary Table 1. (a) Experimental wavenumbers and wavelengths of transitions contributing to the four ${}^1\text{B}_1 - \tilde{\text{X}}{}^1\text{A}_1$ features of interest, along with the corresponding excited state $\langle J_q^2 \rangle$ values, where $q = a, b, c$ refer to the inertial axes (a is parallel to H.....H, b bisects the angle $\angle\text{H-S-H}$, and c is perpendicular to the molecular plane). (b) Relative populations of the various $\tilde{\text{X}}$ state rotational levels, with energies E , assuming a nuclear spin (T_{ns}) temperature of 300 K and rotational temperatures (T_{rot}) of 3 and 15 K. These values were determined using PGOPHER¹ and the previously reported² spectroscopic parameters for the $\tilde{\text{X}}{}^1\text{A}_1$ and ${}^1\text{B}_1$ states, but with the band origin value reduced by 0.2 cm^{-1} (to 71897.1 cm^{-1}) and excited state centrifugal distortion constants as for the ground state cation.³ Transitions involving *ortho*- / *para*- nuclear spin levels of H_2S are displayed with **bold**/normal font, respectively. Note that the line intensities in any measured PHOFEX spectrum depend on the ground state level populations, the transition linestrengths and the various excited level dependent decay rates and product branching ratios.

(a)

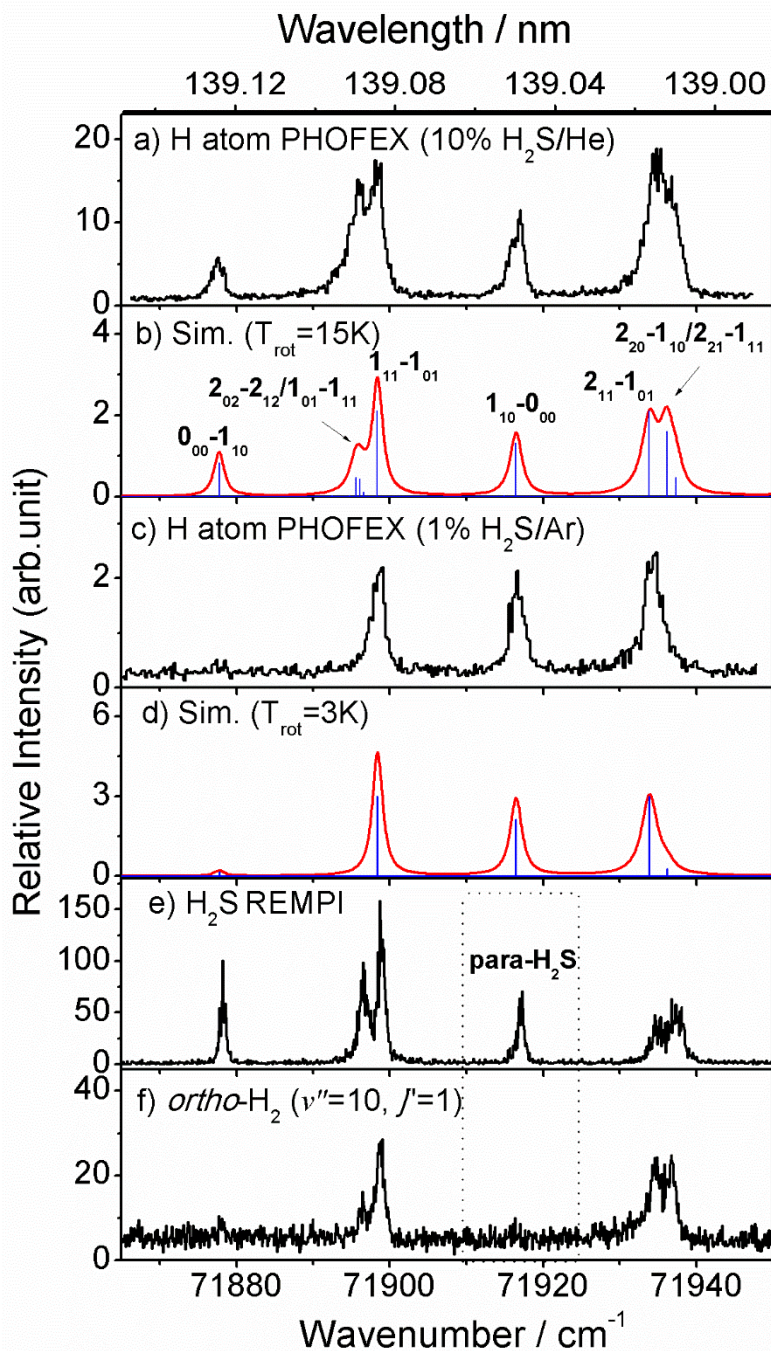
Transition wavenumber / cm^{-1}	Transition wavelength / nm	${}^1\text{B}_1$ state, J_{KaKc}'	$\tilde{\text{X}}{}^1\text{A}_1$ state, J_{KaKc}''	${}^1\text{B}_1$ state		
				$\langle J_a^2 \rangle$	$\langle J_b^2 \rangle$	$\langle J_c^2 \rangle$
71877.7	139.125	0₀₀	1₁₀	0	0	0
71895.5	139.091	1 ₀₁	1 ₁₁	0	1	1
71896.3	139.089	2₀₂	2₁₂	0.59	1.48	3.93
71896.9	139.088	2 ₁₂	2 ₀₂	1	1	4
71898.4	139.085	1₁₁	1₀₁	1	0	1
71916.5	139.050	1 ₁₀	0 ₀₀	1	1	0
71934.1	139.016	2₁₁	1₀₁	1	4	1
71936.2	139.012	2₂₀	1₁₀	3.41	2.52	0.07
71937.4	139.010	2 ₂₁	1 ₁₁	4	1	1

(b)

J_{KaKc}''	E / cm^{-1}	Relative populations	
		$T_{\text{rot}} = 3 \text{ K}$	$T_{\text{rot}} = 15 \text{ K}$
0 ₀₀	0	0.249	0.132
1₀₁	13.76	0.702	0.420
1 ₁₁	15.09	0.001	0.093
1₁₀	19.37	0.047	0.245
2 ₀₂	38.07		0.017
2₁₂	38.30		0.067
2 ₁₁	51.14		0.005
2₂₁	55.16		0.013
2 ₂₀	58.32		0.002



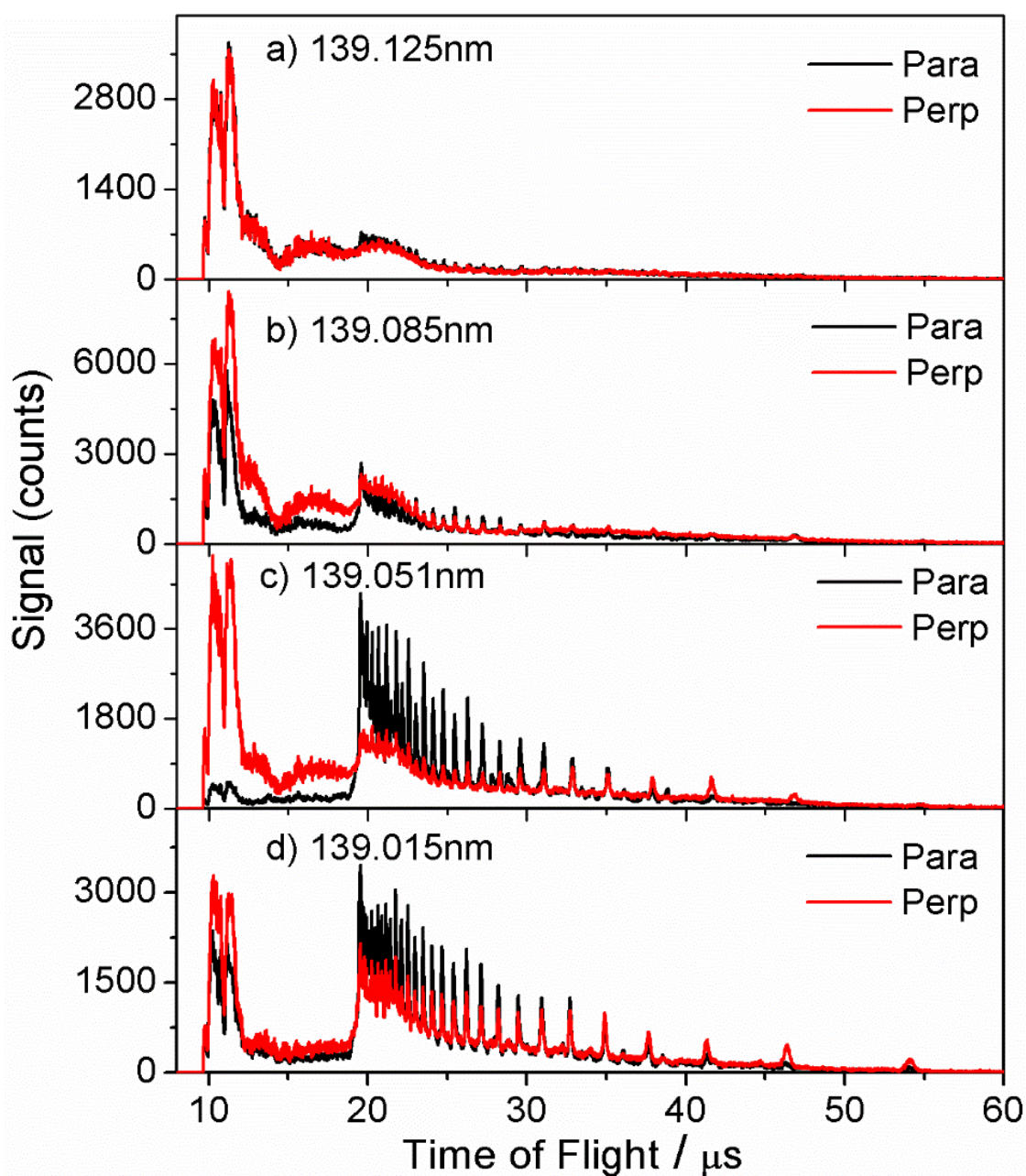
Supplementary Figure 1. Absorption Spectrum of H₂S. Electronic absorption spectrum of a room temperature, gas phase H₂S sample in the wavelength range 100-170 nm, with the 139.1 nm band of current interest highlighted. (Adapted from ref. 4)



Supplementary Figure 2. Various $\text{H}_2\text{S}(^1\text{B}_1\text{-X}^1\text{A}_1)$ absorption/excitation spectra. H atom PHOFEX spectra, recorded using jet-cooled (a) 10% H_2S in He and (c) 1% H_2S in Ar gas mixtures. Panels (b) and (d) show the complementary PGOPHER simulations of the parent absorption spectrum, using spectroscopic parameters from refs. 2 and 3, the previously reported line broadening model outlined below and assuming $T_{\text{ns}} = 300$ K and $T_{\text{rot}} =$ (b) 15 K and (d) 3 K. Panels (e) and (f) show, respectively, a $1 + 1'$ parent REMPI spectrum recorded using a 10% H_2S in He gas mixture obtained by scanning the pump wavelength at $\lambda \sim 139$ nm and probing (by ionizing) with 532 nm photons and a PHOFEX spectrum obtained by probing

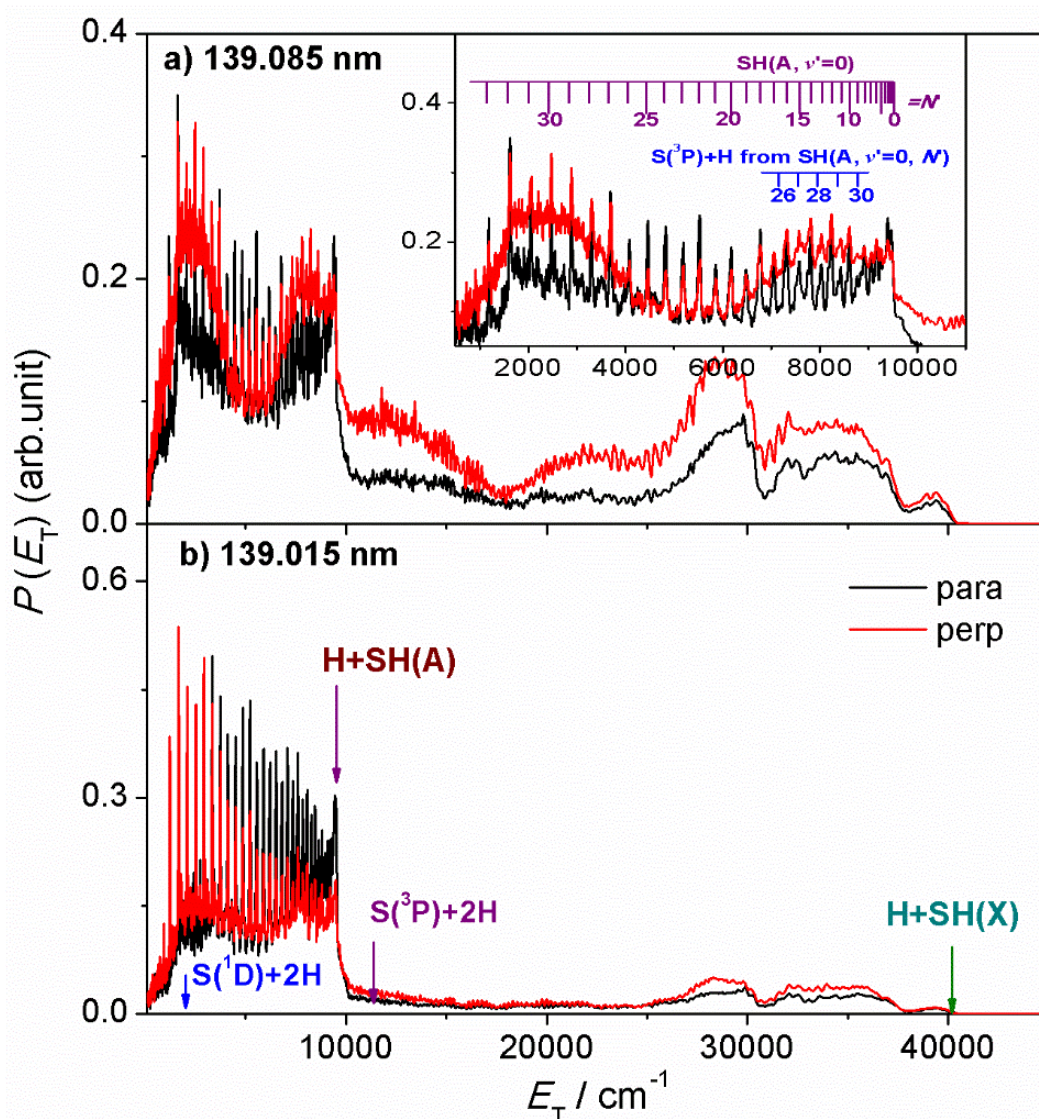
ortho-H₂ ($v'' = 10, J'' = 1$) fragments while scanning the pump wavelength around $\lambda \sim 139$ nm. The PGOPHER simulation of (e) returns $T_{\text{rot}} \sim 20$ K, while (f) shows parent resonances attributable to *ortho*-H₂S only and provides further demonstration of the conservation of nuclear spin symmetry in the H₂S \rightarrow H₂ + S(¹D) dissociation process.

The line broadening model used in the PGOPHER simulations was originally developed to reproduce the envelope of the room temperature 3 + 1 REMPI spectrum of this ¹B₁-X¹A₁ band.^{2,5} Briefly, the width of an individual rovibronic transition in the present experiments is determined by the (level dependent) excited state lifetime and modelled as the sum of homogeneous and heterogeneous contributions using the function $\omega = \omega_0 + \omega' \langle J_b^2 \rangle$ with, in the present case, $\omega_0 = 1.5 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ and $\omega' = 0.15 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. The peak amplitude is reduced in a compensatory manner to conserve the rovibronic transition linestrength.

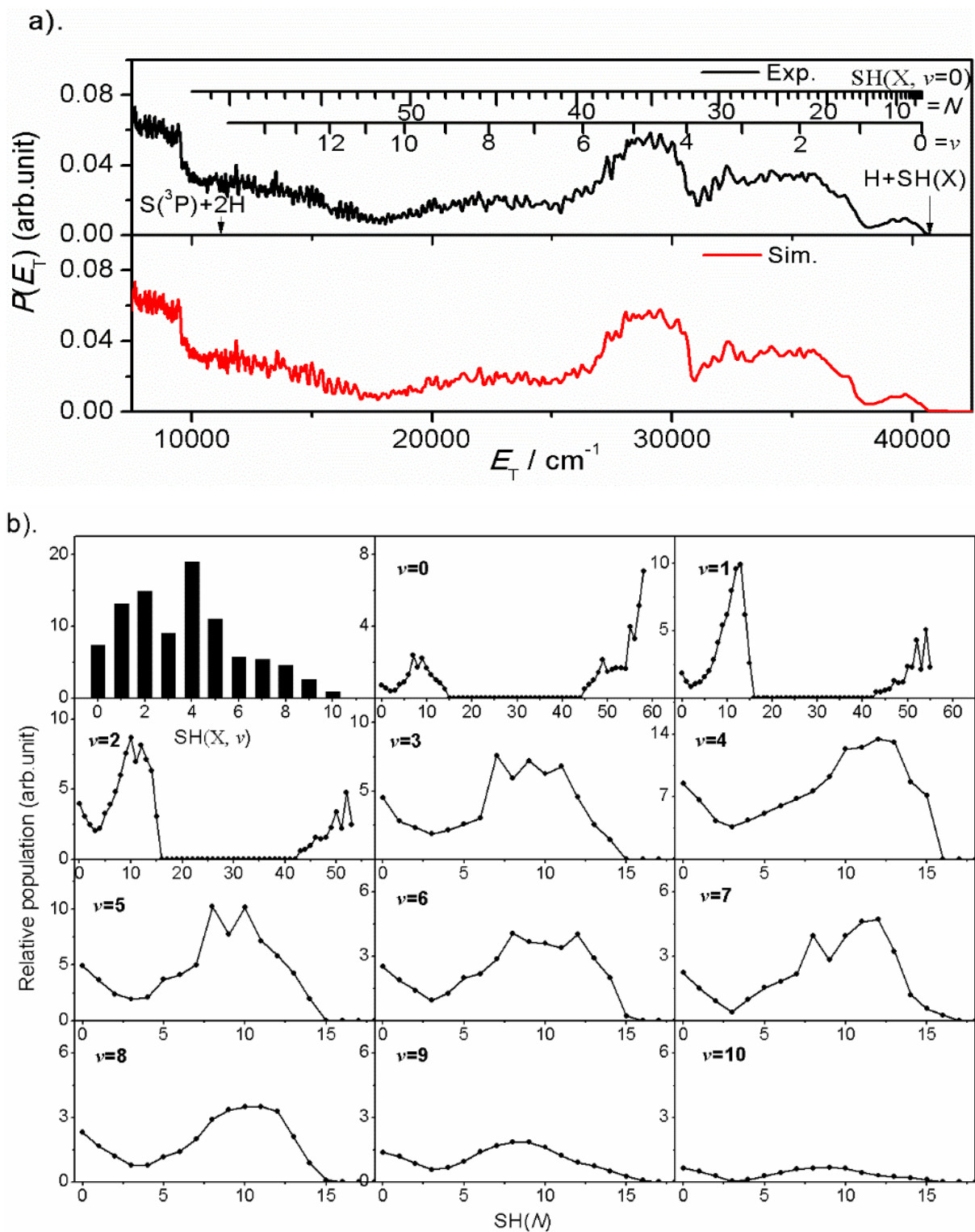


Supplementary Figure 3. H atom TOF spectra from H₂S photolysis at four wavelengths.

H atom TOF spectra obtained following photolysis of a jet-cooled 30% H₂S in Ar sample at a) 139.125, (b) 139.085, (c) 139.051 and (d) 139.015 nm, with the polarization vector of the photolysis laser radiation (ϵ_{phot}) aligned, respectively, parallel ($\theta = 0^\circ$, shown in black) and perpendicular ($\theta = 90^\circ$, in red) to the detection axis.

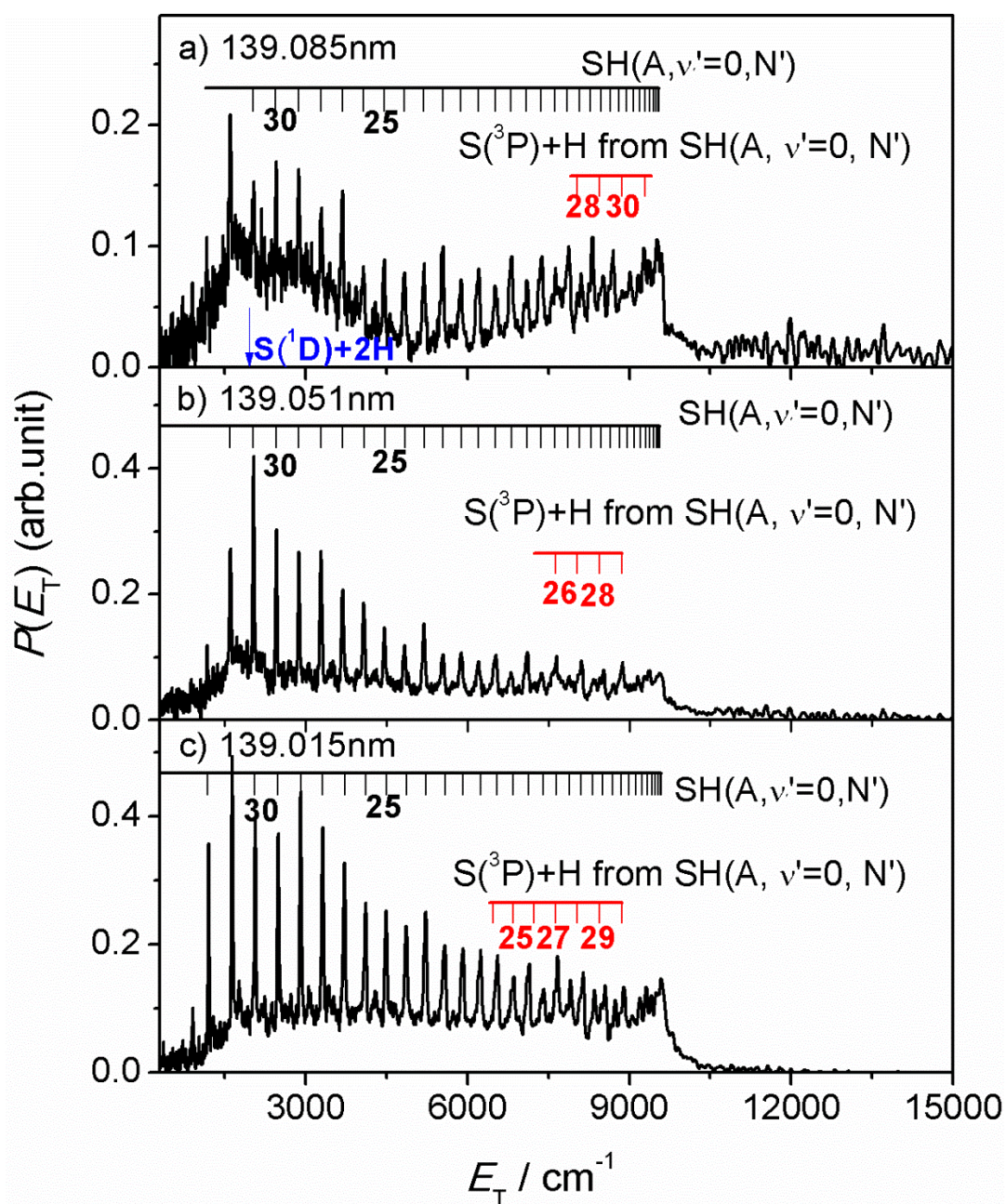


Supplementary Figure 4. The H + SH product translational energy ($P(E_T)$) spectra from H_2S photodissociation. $P(E_T)$ spectra derived from H atom TOF spectra following photodissociation of H_2S at $\lambda =$ (a) 139.085 and (b) 139.015 nm with ϵ_{phot} aligned, respectively, parallel ($\theta = 0^\circ$, black) and perpendicular ($\theta = 90^\circ$, red) to the detection axis. The combs in the inset to panel (a) show the E_T values associated with formation of H atoms in conjunction with selected rovibrational levels of the primary SH(A) fragments and of the H atoms formed (along with $S(^3P_2)$ products) from predissociation of primary SH(A, $v' = 0$) fragments in selected high N' levels. The maximum E_T values associated with each of channels I–IV are shown by vertical arrows.

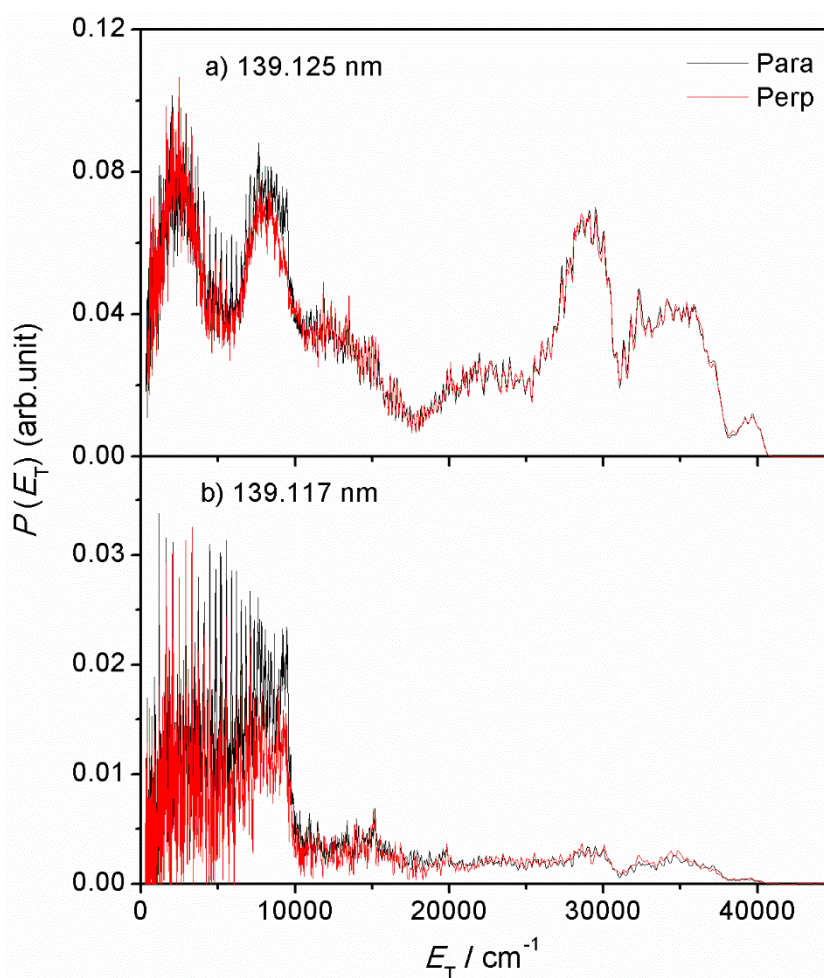


Supplementary Figure 5. The experimental and simulated translational energy spectra and the SH(X) product quantum state distributions. (a) $P(E_T)$ spectra from H atom TOF data recorded following excitation to the 0_{00} level at $\lambda = 139.125$ nm with ϵ_{phot} aligned at the

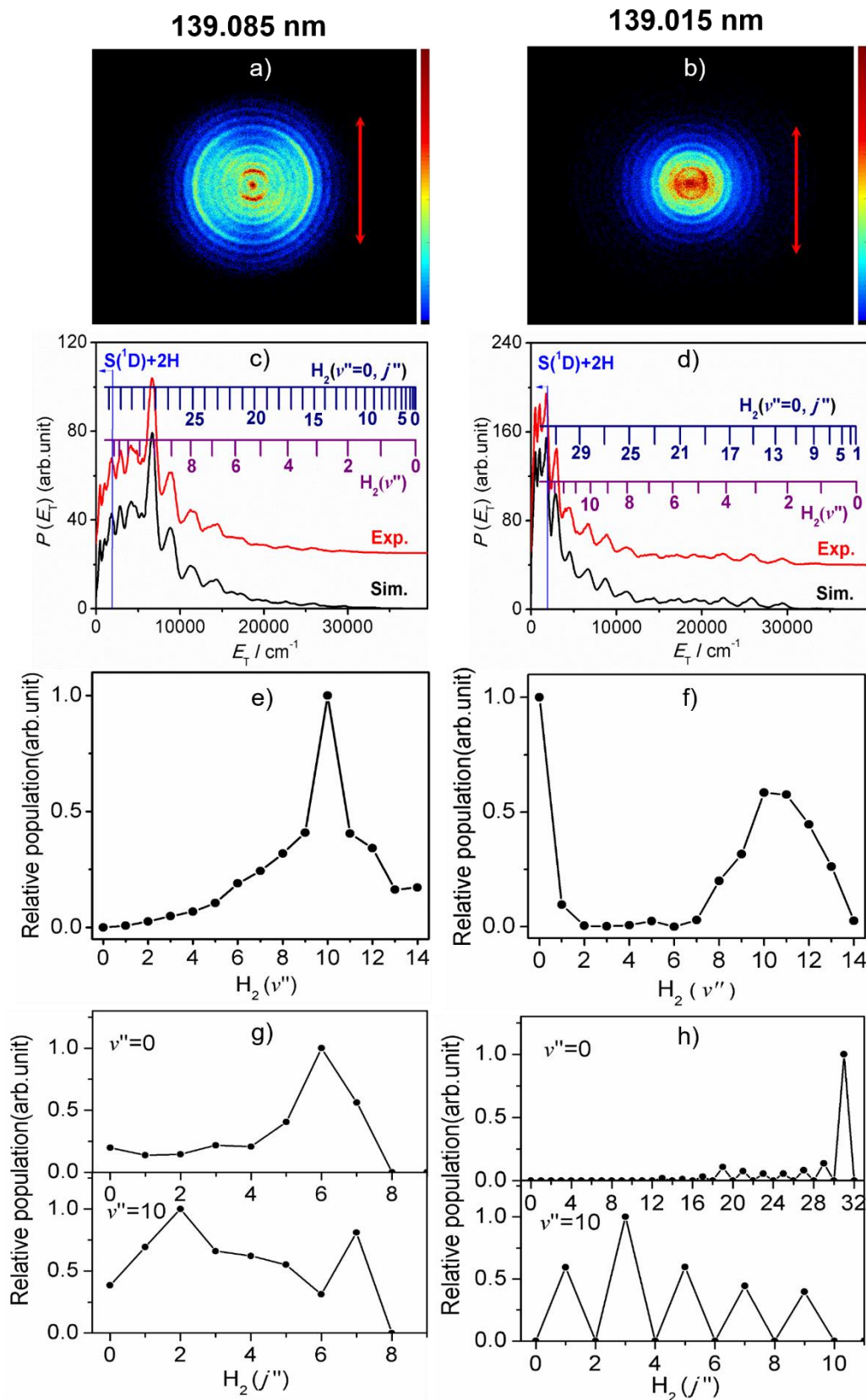
90° angle to the detection axis (in black) and the best-fit simulation (below, in red) obtained using the $SH(X, \nu$ and $N)$ population distributions shown in panel (b).



Supplementary Figure 6. The translational energy spectra highlighting the H+SH(A) product channel. $P(E_T)$ spectra highlighting the H + SH(A) product channel (process II) following excitation of a jet-cooled 30% H₂S in Ar sample at $\lambda = 139.085$, (b) 139.051 and (c) 139.015 nm with ϵ_{phot} aligned at $\theta = 90^\circ$, after subtracting a suitably weighted amount of the $P(E_T)_{\text{vib}}$ distribution shown in Supplementary Fig. 5(a) to minimize the signal at $E_T > 10000$ cm⁻¹. The superposed combs illustrate the expected E_T values of the H + SH(A, $v' = 0, N'$) products and of the H + S(³P₂) products from predissociation of selected SH(A, $v' = 0, N'$) levels.

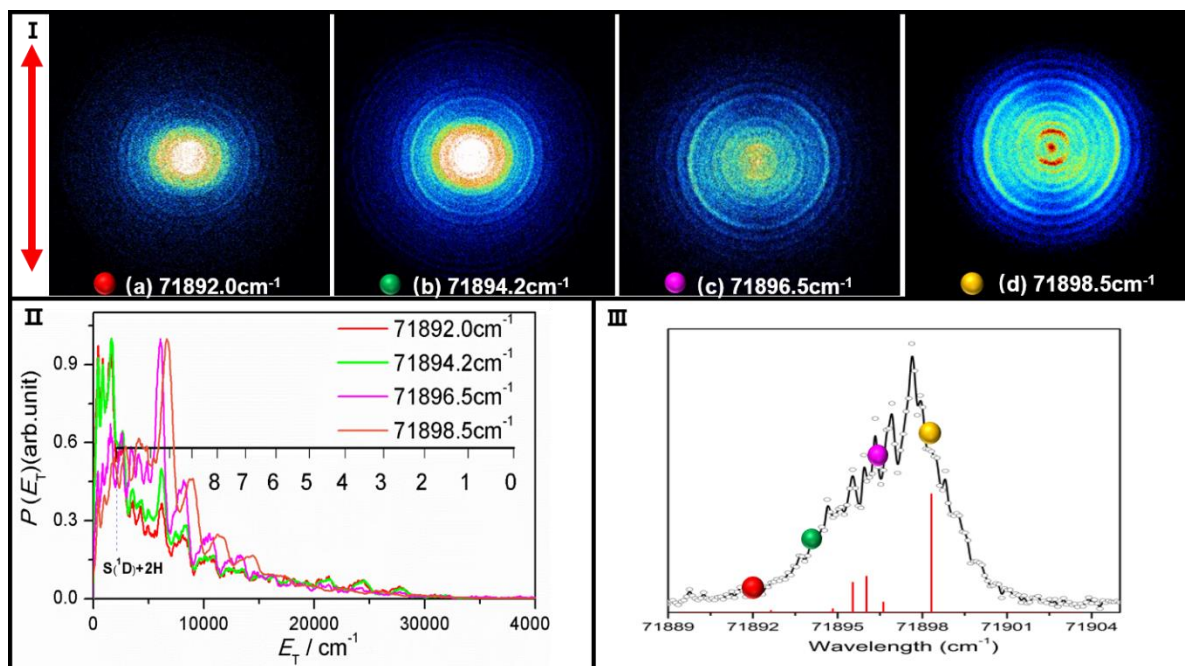


Supplementary Figure 7. The H+SH product translational energy spectra from H₂S photodissociation. $P(E_T)$ spectra from H atom TOF data recorded following excitation at $\lambda =$ (a) 139.125 nm (on the peak of the $0_{00}-1_{10}$ line) and (b) 139.117 nm (exciting the background continuum), with ϵ_{phot} aligned, respectively, parallel ($\theta = 0^\circ$, black) and perpendicular ($\theta = 90^\circ$, red) to the detection axis. Both show rotational structure attributable to formation of H + SH(A, ν' and N') products.



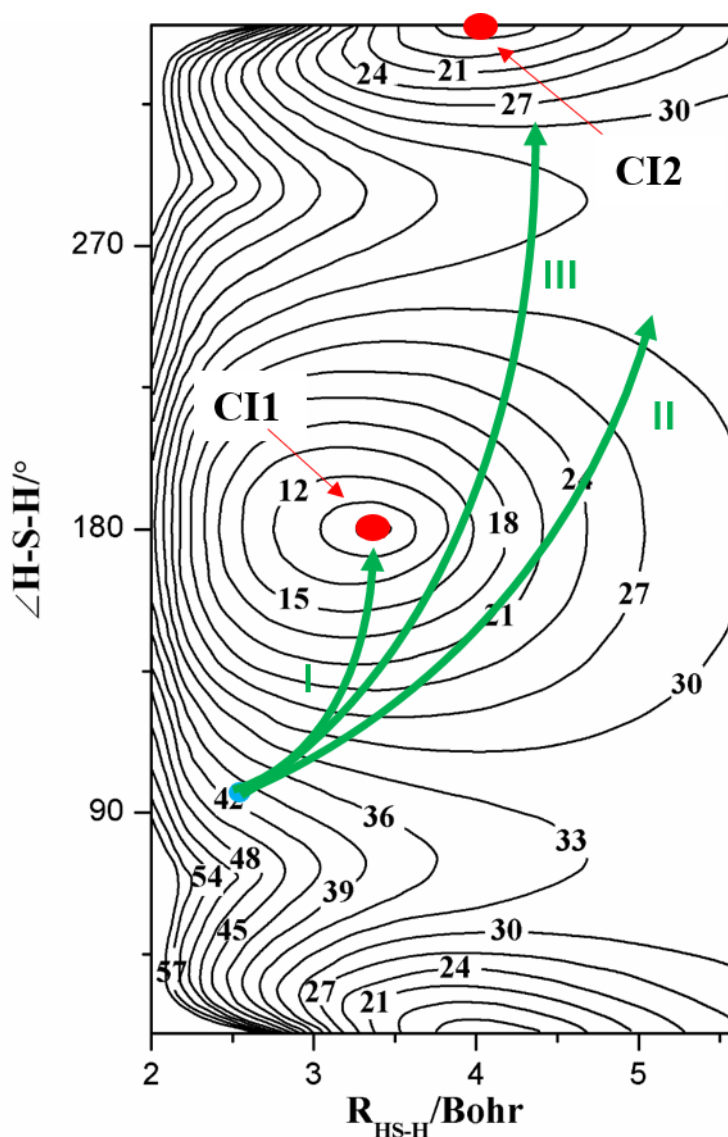
Supplementary Figure 8. The $S(^1D) + H_2$ product translational energy distributions and the H_2 product quantum state population distributions. Time-sliced velocity map images of the $S(^1D_2)$ photofragments from photolysis of H_2S at $\lambda =$ (a) 139.085 and (b) 139.015 nm

with ϵ_{phot} aligned vertically in the plane of the image (as illustrated by the doubled headed red arrow in (a)). The $P(E_T)$ spectra derived from these images are shown in (c) and (d), in red, along with the best-fit simulations of the spectra at E_T values down to the $S(^1D) + H_2$ dissociation threshold, in black and offset vertically for clarity. The superposed combs in (c) and (d) indicate the E_T values associated with formation of the various $H_2(v'', J'' = 0)$ and, respectively, the *ortho*- and *para*- J'' states of $H_2(v'' = 0)$. The energetic limit of the $S(^1D) + 2H$ channel is marked by the vertical blue line. Panels (e) and (f) show the $H_2(v'')$ state population distributions returned by the respective best-fit simulations, while panels (g) and (h) show the J'' state population distributions for H_2 products in representative low ($v'' = 0$) and high ($v'' = 10$) vibrational states formed at each wavelength.



Supplementary Figure 9. The S(¹D) + H₂ product translational energy distributions with slightly different photolysis wavelengths. Time-sliced velocity map images of the S(¹D₂) photofragments from photolysis of H₂S at (a) 71892.0 cm⁻¹, (b) 71894.2 cm⁻¹, (c) 71896.5 cm⁻¹, and (d) 71898.5 cm⁻¹ with ϵ_{phot} aligned vertically in the plane of the image (shown by the doubled headed red arrow in I). The $P(E_T)$ spectra derived from these images are shown in panel II, along with a superposed comb indicating the E_T values associated with formation of the various H₂(v'' , $J'' = 0$) products. Panel III shows the locations of these excitation wavenumbers along with the envelope of the blended feature at $\lambda \sim 139.09$ nm in the S(¹D) PHOFEX spectrum (reproduced from Fig. 1(b)).

The $P(E_T)$ distribution determined at 71896.5 cm⁻¹ is similar to that at 71898.5 cm⁻¹ (also shown in Supplementary Fig. 8(a)) indicating that, under the prevailing molecular beam conditions, the 1₁₀-1₀₁ transition is still the dominant contributor to absorption at this wavenumber. But the $P(E_T)$ spectra obtained when making one (and two) additional ~ 2 cm⁻¹ steps to lower wavenumber show obviously increased relative intensity and different structure at low E_T , implying an increased yield of H₂(low v'' , high j'') products. As panel III shows, the dominant absorptions sampled at 71894.2 cm⁻¹ access the 2₀₂ and 1₀₁ levels (both of which have $\langle J_b^2 \rangle > 0$). By 71892.0 cm⁻¹, most of the excitation is likely to be to the weak underlying continuum.



Supplementary Figure 10. The mechanism of H₂S photodissociation processes. Illustrative potential energy surface of the lowest excited ¹A' state of H₂S, plotted as functions of $R_{\text{S-H}}$ (the distance of one H atom departing from the S atom, with the other S–H bond held fixed at the ground state equilibrium bond length ($R_{\text{S-H}} = 2.5$ bohr)) and the interbond angle $\angle\text{HSH}$ (adapted from refs. 6 and 7). The contour labels are in units of 10^3 cm^{-1} , with the energy zero calculated at $R_{\text{S-H}} = 100$ bohr (*i.e.* the H + SH(X) dissociation limit). The two regions of conical intersection with the $\tilde{\text{X}}$ state PES at linear H–S–H and S–H–H geometries (CI1 and CI2, respectively) are highlighted in red and the green curves depicting nuclear motions, originating from the equilibrium geometry of the ¹B₁ state, that could lead to I: H + SH(X, low ν'' , high N''); II: H + SH(A, low ν' , high N') and III: H + SH(X) and S(¹D) + H₂ products. Note: the present experimental data shows no evidence for any contribution from possible process I.

References

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