

## Rotational energy relaxation quantum dynamics of a diatomic molecule in a superfluid helium nanodroplet and study of the hydrogen isotopes case

Miquel Blancafort-Jorquera, Arnau Vilà and Miguel González\*

Departament de Ciència de Materials i Química Física and IQTC, Universitat de Barcelona, Martí i Franquès, 1-11, 08028 Barcelona, Spain.

\*e-mail: [miguel.gonzalez@ub.edu](mailto:miguel.gonzalez@ub.edu); Fax: +34934021231

### Supplementary Information

Time evolution of several properties ( $N=100$  unless otherwise indicated)

**Figure s1.** Comparison between the  $(j=0, m_j=0)$  and  $(j=2, m_j=0)$  populations of  $T_2@HeND$  obtained from the relaxation dynamics and the results derived from a sigmoid function fitting of the  $(j=0, m_j=0)$  population.

**Figure s2.** Expected value of  $\hat{j}^2$  for the  $(j=0, m_j=0) \leftarrow (j=2, m_j=0)$  relaxation of the molecules in HeND, as a function of time.

**Figure s3.** Helium radial density of  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)@HeND$  along the x, y and z-axes, as a function of time.

**Figure s4.** Snapshots of the helium density in the xy-plane for  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)@HeND$ , as a function of time.

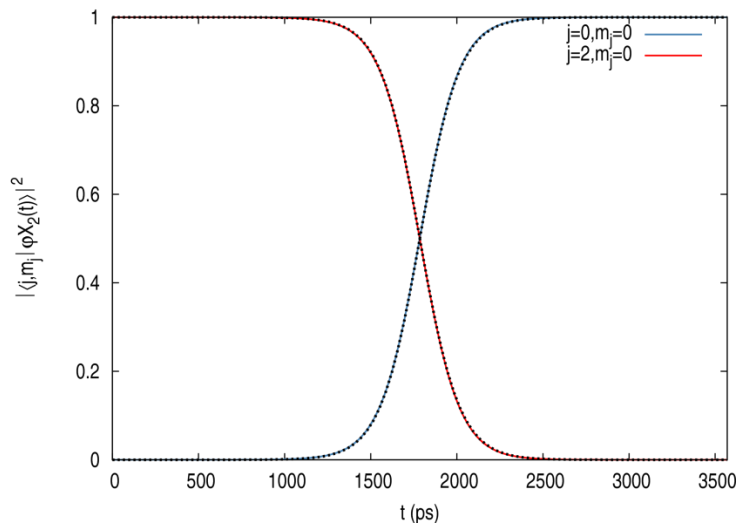
**Table s1.** Coupling terms squared values between the rotational states of the molecules in HeND, including those of  $T_2$  with HeNDs of different sizes.

**Figure s5.** Relaxation of the  $(j=2, m_j=0)$  state of the molecules in HeND: inverse of the relaxation time properties *vs.*  $1/B_e$ ; inverse of the relaxation time properties relative to those of  $Sx_2$  *vs.*  $B_e$ .

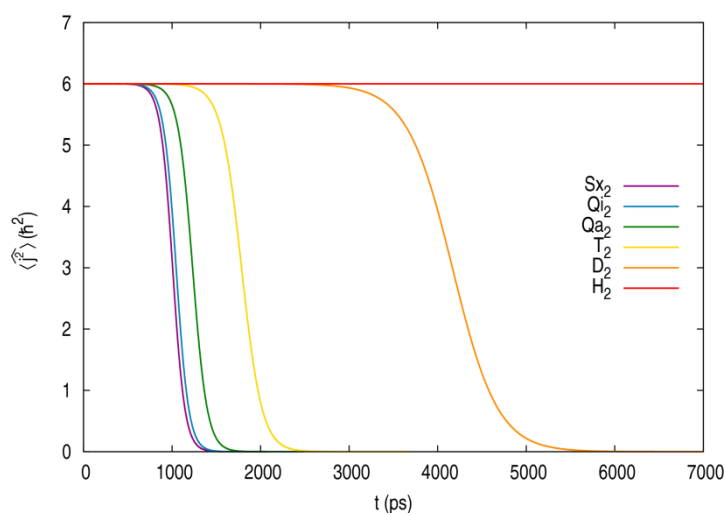
**Figure s6.** Relaxation of  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)$  in HeND: populations of the  $(j=2, m_j=0)$  and  $(j=0, m_j=0)$  states; components of the helium energy;  $T_2$ -helium interaction energy;  $V_{ij}$  coupling term between the two states.

**Figure s7.** Expected value of  $\widehat{j^2}$  for  $Sx_2$  in HeND at three different initial excitations,  $(j_0, m_{j_0}=0)$ :  $(2, 0)$ ,  $(4, 0)$  and  $(6, 0)$ , as a function of time.

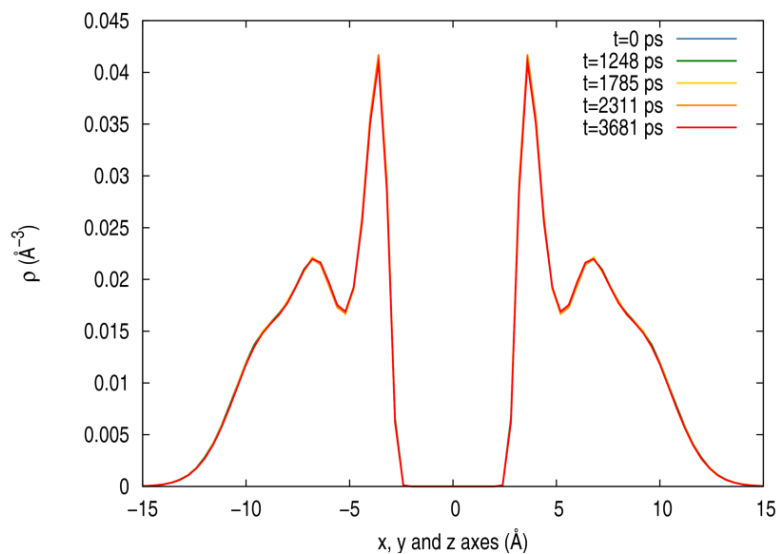
**Figure s8.** Relaxation of  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)$  in HeNDs of different sizes: inverse of the relaxation time properties *vs.* average  $V_{ij}^2$ ; average  $V_{ij}^2$  *vs.*  $T_2$ -helium interaction energy;  $T_2$ -helium interaction energy *vs.*  $N$ .



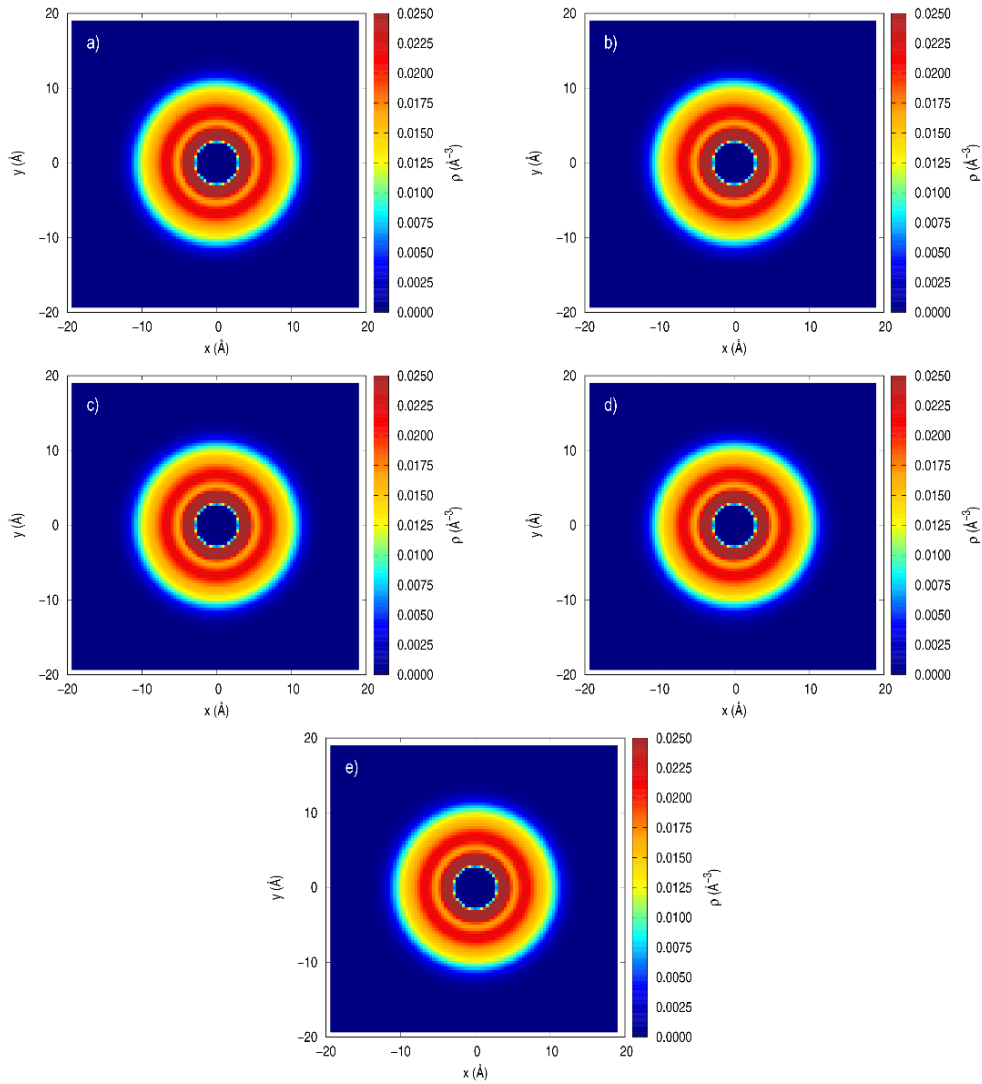
**Figure s1.** Comparison between the time evolution of the  $(j=0, m_j=0)$  and  $(j=2, m_j=0)$  populations for the  $T_2@(^4\text{He})_{100}$  nanodroplet obtained from the relaxation dynamics (blue and red lines, respectively) and the results derived from a sigmoid function fitting of the  $(j=0, m_j=0)$  populations.



**Figure s2.** Expected value of  $\hat{j}^2$  for the  $(j=0, m_j=0) \leftarrow (j=2, m_j=0)$  relaxation of the molecules in  $(^4\text{He})_{100}$ , as a function of time.



**Figure s3.** Helium radial density of the  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)@(^4\text{He})_{100}$  nanodroplet along the x, y and z-axes, as a function of time. The time values of 0, 1785 and 2311 ps correspond to the initial excitation, lifetime and global relaxation time of the molecule, respectively (cf. Table 1).

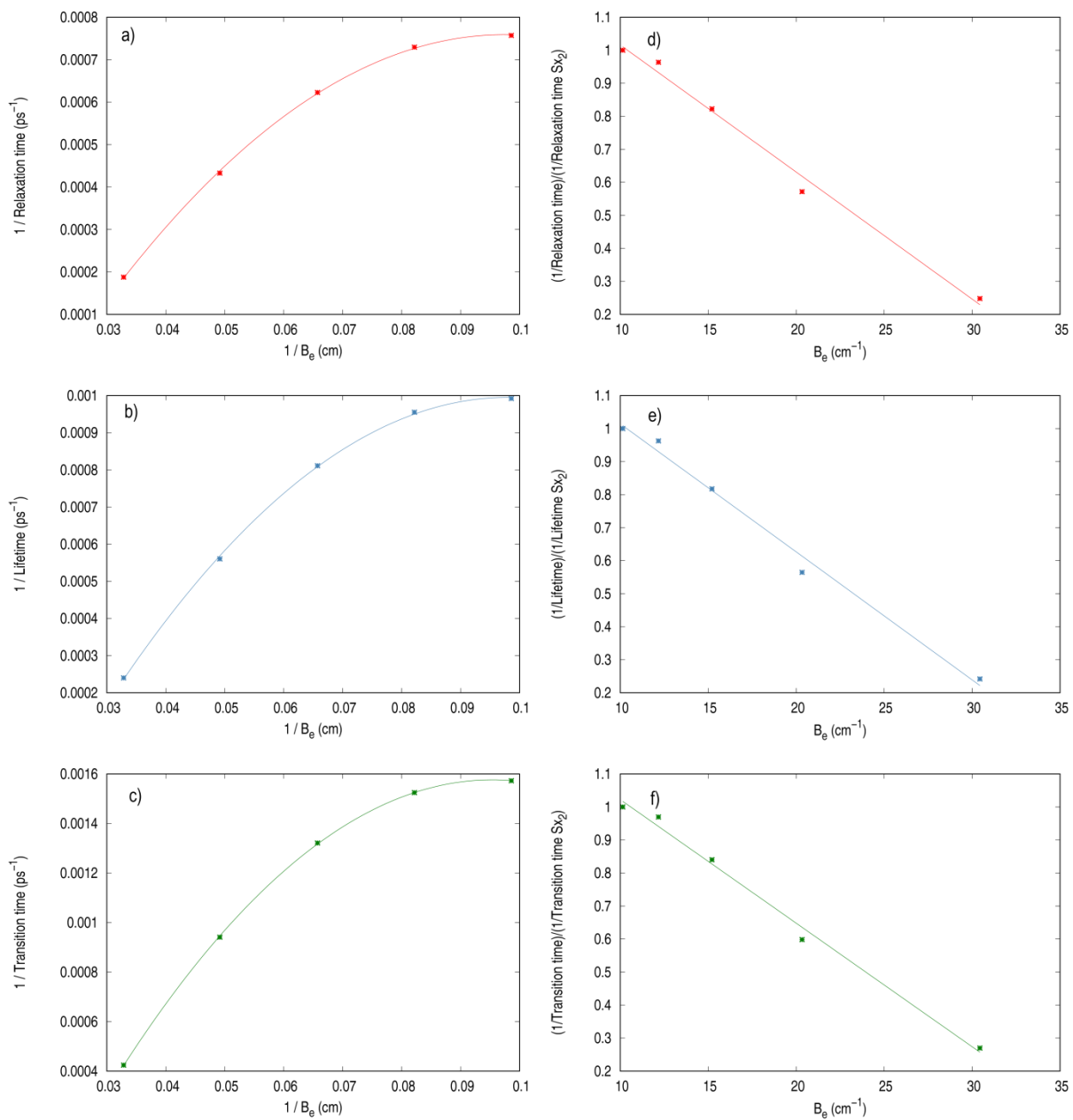


**Figure s4.** Snapshots of the helium density in the  $xy$ -plane for the  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)@(^4\text{He})_{100}$  nanodroplet, as a function of time. The same time values as in Figure s3 are considered ( $t=0, 1248, 1785, 2311$  and  $3681$  ps for (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e), respectively).

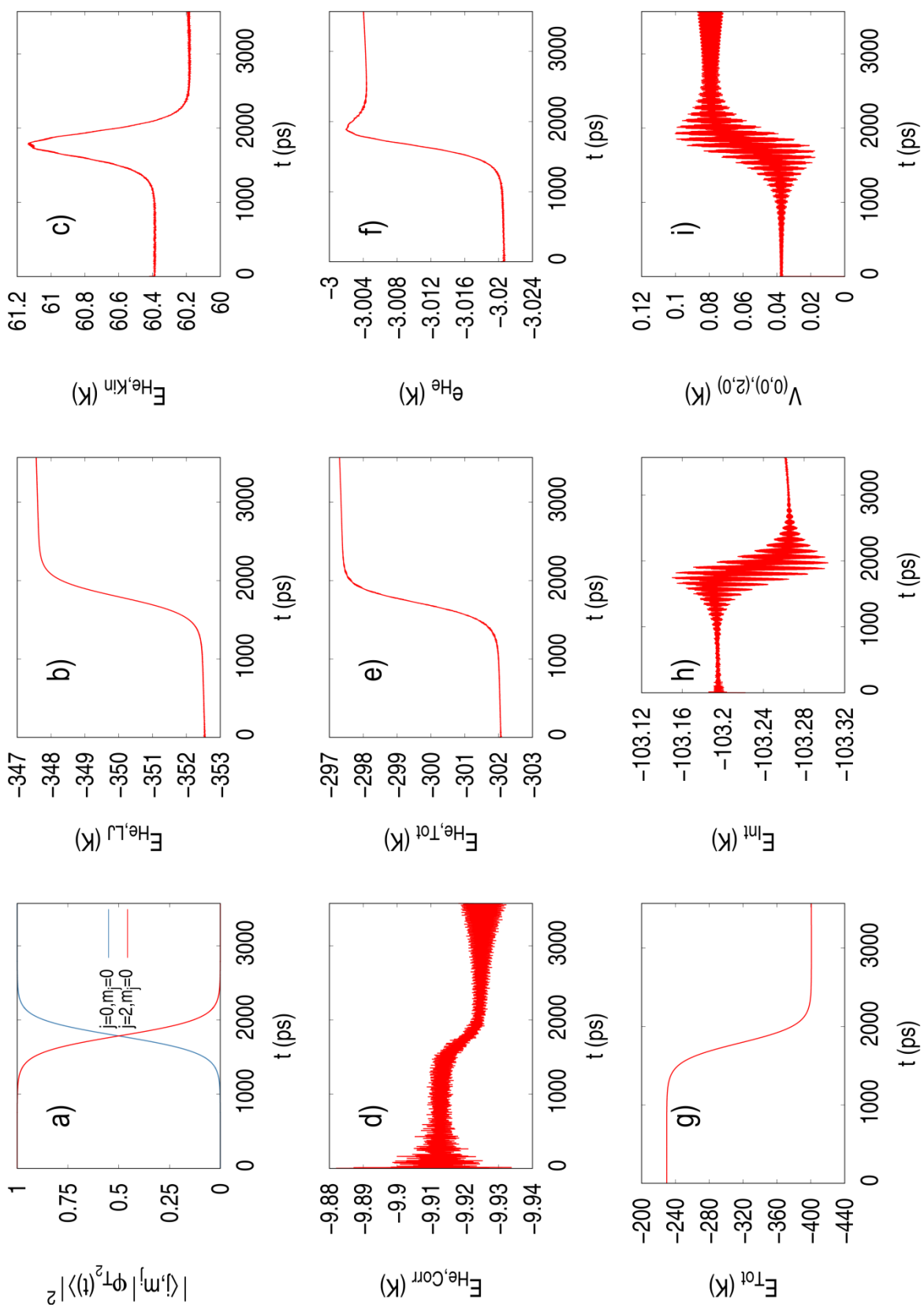
**Table s1.** Coupling terms squared values (in  $K^2$ ) between the rotational states.<sup>a</sup>

Relaxation from $j=2, m_j=0$ to $j=0, m_j=0$								
	$V_{ij}^2$ initial	$V_{ij}^2$ average	$V_{ij}^2$ max	$V_{ij}^2$ min	t(p=0.99)	t(p=0.01)	N points	
$D_2$	1.43 E-03	3.23E-03	9.98E-03	4.73E-04	2972	5334	1576	
$T_2$	1.43E-03	3.42E-03	1.01E-02	2.99E-04	1248	2310	709	
$Qa_2$	1.43E-03	3.37E-03	1.23E-02	4.45E-05	849	1606	506	
$Qi_2$	1.43E-03	3.45E-03	1.45E-02	1.34E-07	715,5	1369	437	
$Sx_2$	1.42E-03	3.29E-03	1.58E-02	2.38E-08	685,5	1320	424	
Several relaxations of $Sx_2$ ( $j_0, m_{j0}=0$ )								
	$V_{ij}^2$ initial	$V_{ij}^2$ average	$V_{ij}^2$ max	$V_{ij}^2$ min	t(p=0.99)	t(p=0.01)	N points	
$j_0=2$	$0 \leftarrow 2$	1.42E-03	3.29E-03	1.58E-02	2.38E-08	685.5	1320	424
$j_0=4$	$0 \leftarrow 2$	1.73E-03	3.35E-03	1.69E-02	1.01E-08	3564	4253	459
	$2 \leftarrow 4$	4.24E-02	4.18E-02	5.20E-02	3.24E-02	1839	3564	1150
$j_0=6$	$0 \leftarrow 2$	1.80E-03	3.65E-03	2.43E-02	5.34E-09	11532	12297	510
	$2 \leftarrow 4$	4.26E-02	4.10E-02	6.35E-02	2.51E-02	9760	11532	1184
	$4 \leftarrow 6$	1.25E-01	1.25E-01	1.53E-01	1.01E-01	4990	9760	3188
Relaxation from $j=2, m_j=0$ to $j=0, m_j=0$ for $T_2$								
N	$V_{ij}^2$ initial	$V_{ij}^2$ average	$V_{ij}^2$ max	$V_{ij}^2$ min	t(p=0.99)	t(p=0.01)	N points	
25	7.01E-04	1.95E-03	5.99E-03	1.43E-04	1609	2927	879	
50	1.11E-03	2.81E-03	8.26E-03	2.59E-04	1356	2495	760	
75	1.32E-03	3.11E-03	9.18E-03	3.24E-04	1290	2380	728	
100	1.43E-03	3.42E-03	1.01E-02	2.99E-04	1248	2310	709	
125	1.50E-03	3.54E-03	1.02E-02	3.76E-04	1228	2278	701	

<sup>a</sup> The  $V_{ij}$  coupling terms are real numbers. The reported initial values correspond to the value at  $t=0$ , that is after the sudden rotational excitation. They essentially coincide with the values at the propagation time where the population of the excited state is equal to 0.99. In this table are also indicated the time values at which the population of the excited state is equal to 0.99,  $t(p=0.99)$ , and 0.01, ( $t(p=0.01)$ ), where the time is given in ps.  $N$  points indicates the number of propagation times considered when analyzing the data in the corresponding time interval.

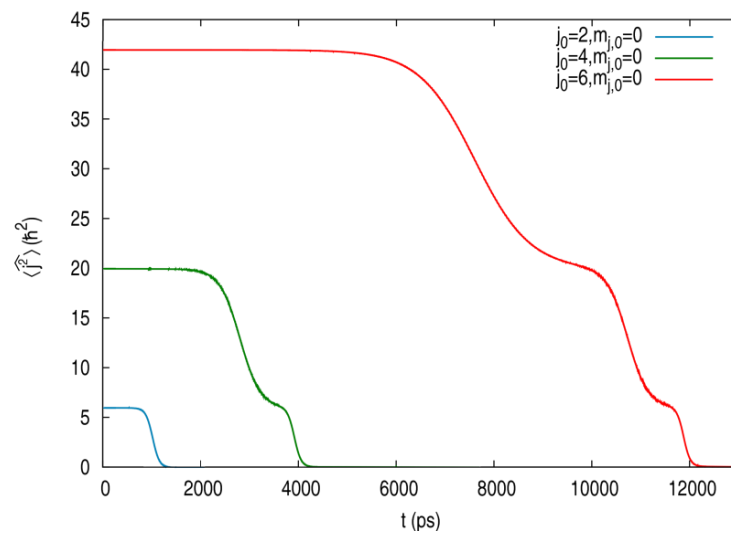


**Figure s5.** Relaxation of the ( $j=2$ ,  $m_j=0$ ) state of the molecules in ( $^4\text{He}$ )<sub>100</sub>. Inverse of the relaxation time properties (global relaxation time (a), lifetime (b) and transition time (c)) vs.  $1/B_e$ . Moreover, the previous inverse values, taken with respect to the corresponding inverse values of  $Sx_2$ , vs.  $B_e$  (d-f, respectively) are also given.

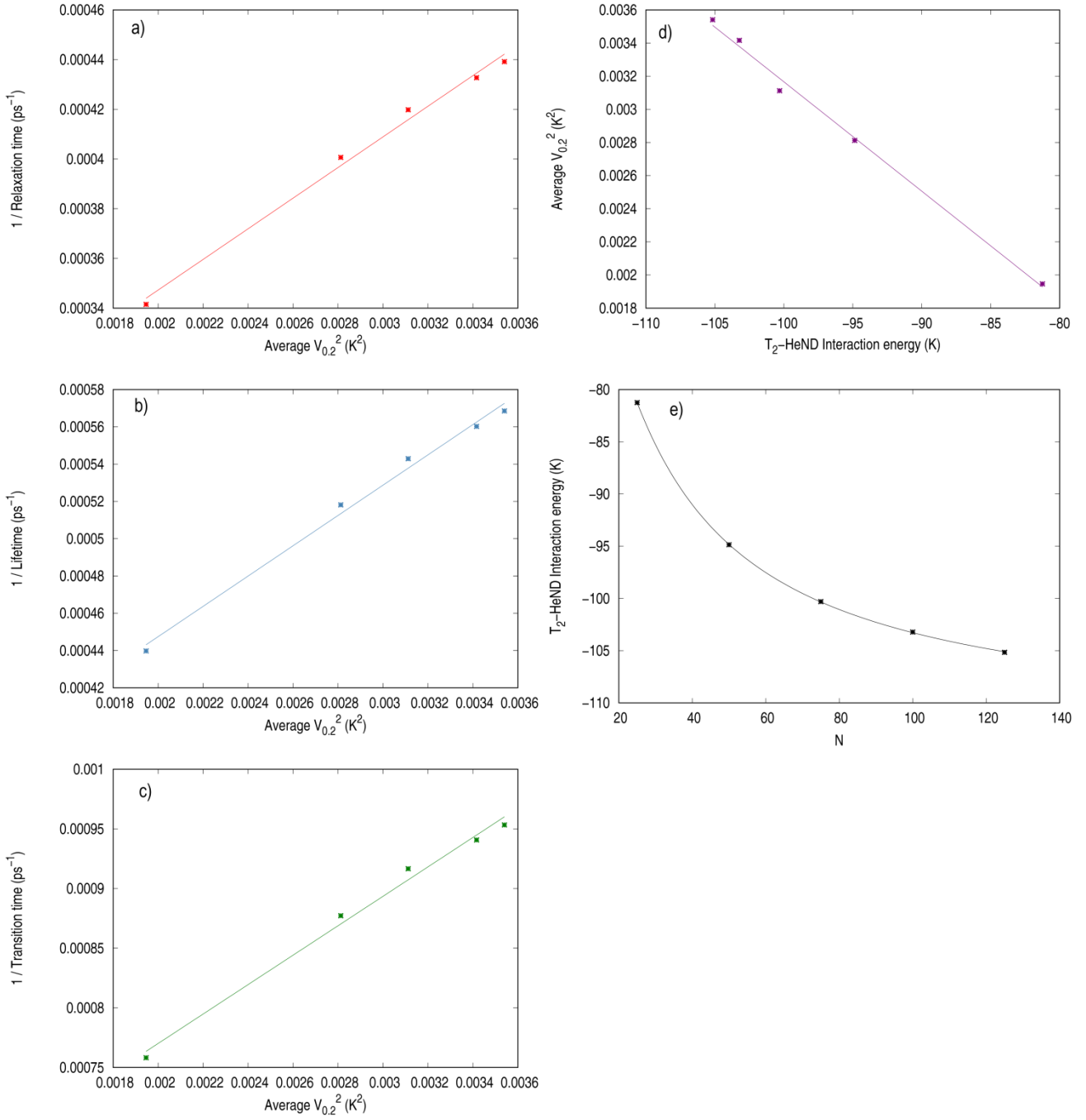


**Figure s6.** Relaxation of  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)$  in  $(^4\text{He})_{100}$ : (a) populations of  $(j=2, m_j=0)$  and  $(j=0, m_j=0)$ ; (b) potential energy of helium; (c) kinetic energy of helium; (d) correlation energy of helium; (e) energy of helium (sum of the previous three energy terms); (f) energy per helium atom of the HeND; (g) energy of the doped HeND; (h) interaction potential energy  $T_2$ -helium; (i)  $V_{ij}$  coupling term between  $(j=2, m_j=0)$  and  $(j=0, m_j=0)$ . Please, note the different energy scales.





**Figure s7.** Expected value of  $\hat{j}^2$  for  $Sx_2$  in  $(^4\text{He})_{100}$  at three different initial excitations,  $(j_0, m_{j_0}=0)$ : (2, 0), (4, 0) and (6, 0), as a function of time.



**Figure s8.** Relaxation of  $T_2(j=2, m_j=0)$  in HeNDs of different sizes. Inverse of the relaxation time properties (global relaxation time (a), lifetime (b) and transition time (c)) vs. the average  $V_{ij}^2$ . Moreover, the average  $V_{ij}^2$  vs. the  $T_2$ -helium interaction energy (d) and the  $T_2$ -helium interaction energy vs.  $N$  (e) are also given.