

Supporting information for:  
**Accelerated Computation of Free Energy  
Profile at ab Initio Quantum  
Mechanical/Molecular Mechanics Accuracy  
via a Semi-Empirical Reference Potential. II.  
Recalibrating Semi-Empirical Parameters with  
Force Matching**

Xiaoliang Pan,<sup>†</sup> Pengfei Li,<sup>‡</sup> Junming Ho,<sup>¶</sup> Jingzhi Pu,<sup>\*,§</sup> Ye Mei,<sup>\*,‡,||</sup> and Yihan  
Shao<sup>\*,†</sup>

<sup>†</sup>*Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Oklahoma, 101 Stephenson Pkwy,  
Norman, OK 73019, United States*

<sup>‡</sup>*State Key Laboratory of Precision Spectroscopy, School of Physics and Materials Science,  
East China Normal University, Shanghai 200062, China*

<sup>¶</sup>*School of Chemistry, University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia*

<sup>§</sup>*Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology, Indiana University-Purdue University  
Indianapolis, 402 N Blackford St, LD326, Indianapolis, IN 46202, United States*

<sup>||</sup>*NYU-ECNU Center for Computational Chemistry at NYU Shanghai, Shanghai 200062,  
China*

E-mail: jpu@iupui.edu; ymei@phy.ecnu.edu.cn.; yihan.shao@ou.edu

Table S1: Recalibrated PM3 Parameters for identity S<sub>N</sub>2 Reaction

parameters	H		C		Cl	
	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M
$U_{ss}$ (eV)	-13.073 321	-12.970 052	-47.270 320	-49.059 914	-100.626 747	-105.390 135
$U_{pp}$ (eV)			-36.266 918	-35.086 828	-53.614 396	-53.310 108
$\zeta_{ss}$ (au)	0.967 807	1.015 960	1.565 085	1.496 237	2.246 210	2.191 698
$\zeta_{pp}$ (au)			1.842 345	1.934 462	2.151 010	2.258 560
$\beta_{ss}$ (eV)	-5.626 512	-5.763 640	-11.910 015	-11.321 773	-27.528 560	-26.192 495
$\beta_{pp}$ (eV)			-9.802 755	-10.286 609	-11.593 922	-11.775 542
$G_{ss}$ (eV)	14.794 208	14.113 737	11.200 708	11.495 051	16.013 601	16.814 281
$G_{sp}$ (eV)			10.796 292	10.256 477	7.522 215	7.146 142
$G_{p2}$ (eV)			10.265 027	10.126 762	8.048 115	7.925 465
$H_{sp}$ (eV)			9.042 566	8.635 219	7.504 154	7.554 952
$a_1$ (unitless)	1.128 750	1.185 149	0.050 107	0.048 206	-0.171 591	-0.163 011
$b_1$ (1/Å <sup>2</sup> )	5.096 282	4.841 493	6.003 165	5.703 007	6.000 802	6.300 840
$c_1$ (Å)	1.537 465	1.601 794	1.642 214	1.724 325	1.087 502	1.033 128
$a_2$ (unitless)	-1.060 329	-1.007 350	0.050 733	0.052 891	-0.013 458	-0.012 785
$b_2$ (1/Å <sup>2</sup> )	6.003 788	5.861 238	6.002 979	5.703 771	1.966 618	2.060 175
$c_2$ (Å)	1.570 189	1.641 263	0.892 488	0.937 112	2.292 891	2.178 246

Table S2: Recalibrated PM3 Parameters for Menshutkin Reaction

parameters	H		C		N		Cl	
	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M
$U_{ss}$ (eV)	-13.073 321	-13.426 947	-47.270 320	-47.117 078	-49.335 672	-50.838 345	-100.626 747	-105.657 056
$U_{pp}$ (eV)			-36.266 918	-34.572 403	-47.509 736	-46.618 540	-53.614 396	-52.484 172
$\zeta_{ss}$ (au)	0.967 807	0.983 318	1.565 085	1.568 797	2.028 094	1.926 779	2.246 210	2.358 505
$\zeta_{pp}$ (au)			1.842 345	1.928 735	2.313 728	2.198 042	2.151 010	2.215 363
$\beta_{ss}$ (eV)	-5.626 512	-5.544 784	-11.910 015	-12.505 516	-14.062 521	-14.723 054	-27.528 560	-26.152 167
$\beta_{pp}$ (eV)			-9.802 755	-10.292 838	-20.043 848	-19.817 286	-11.593 922	-11.062 325
$G_{ss}$ (eV)	14.794 208	15.533 885	11.200 708	10.640 673	11.904 787	12.344 280	16.013 601	16.778 293
$G_{pp}$ (eV)			10.796 292	11.279 510	11.754 672	12.342 334	7.522 215	7.146 104
$G_{sp}$ (eV)			10.265 027	9.947 610	7.348 565	7.002 125	8.048 115	7.737 159
$G_{p2}$ (eV)			9.042 566	8.908 939	10.807 277	10.352 145	7.504 154	7.675 695
$H_{sp}$ (eV)			2.290 980	2.397 114	1.136 713	1.191 151	3.481 153	3.493 780
$a_1$ (unitless)	1.128 750	1.162 157	0.050 107	0.051 170	1.501 674	1.532 350	-0.171 591	-0.163 011
$b_1$ ( $1/\text{\AA}^2$ )	5.096 282	5.089 133	6.003 165	5.703 033	5.901 148	6.118 631	6.000 802	6.300 647
$c_1$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1.537 465	1.614 273	1.642 214	1.724 319	1.710 740	1.690 710	1.087 502	1.033 127
$a_2$ (unitless)	-1.060 329	-1.049 336	0.050 733	0.051 080	-1.505 772	-1.519 344	-0.013 458	-0.012 785
$b_2$ ( $1/\text{\AA}^2$ )	6.003 788	5.746 372	6.002 979	5.730 811	6.004 658	6.068 862	1.966 618	1.890 763
$c_2$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1.570 189	1.636 463	0.892 488	0.934 418	1.716 149	1.699 353	2.292 891	2.407 533

Table S3: Recalibrated PM3 Parameters for Glycine Intramolecular Proton Transfer Reaction

parameters	H		C		N		O	
	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M
$U_{ss}$ (eV)	-13.073 321	-12.674 075	-47.270 320	-46.083 509	-49.335 672	-51.802 434	-86.993 002	-86.142 114
$U_{pp}$ (eV)			-36.266 918	-34.968 507	-47.509 736	-49.236 109	-71.879 580	-74.960 007
$\zeta_{ss}$ (au)	0.967 807	0.975 870	1.565 085	1.643 321	2.028 094	1.926 690	3.796 544	3.764 822
$\zeta_{pp}$ (au)			1.842 345	1.881 360	2.313 728	2.198 120	2.389 402	2.348 195
$\beta_{ss}$ (eV)	-5.626 512	-5.815 402	-11.910 015	-12.311 620	-14.062 521	-14.334 434	-45.202 651	-47.304 167
$\beta_{pp}$ (eV)			-9.802 755	-10.292 698	-20.043 848	-21.044 231	-24.752 515	-24.279 161
$G_{ss}$ (eV)	14.794 208	15.300 262	11.200 708	10.641 774	11.904 787	12.485 788	15.755 760	14.968 038
$G_{pp}$ (eV)			10.796 292	11.317 896	11.754 672	12.342 130	13.654 016	14.328 987
$G_{sp}$ (eV)			10.265 027	10.198 976	7.348 565	7.634 983	10.621 160	10.312 568
$G_{p2}$ (eV)			9.042 566	8.925 504	10.807 277	10.757 669	12.406 095	13.026 097
$H_{sp}$ (eV)			2.290 980	2.299 363	1.136 713	1.137 892	0.593 883	0.605 724
$a_1$ (unitless)	1.128 750	1.072 334	0.050 107	0.049 545	1.501 674	1.509 481	-1.131 128	-1.109 980
$b_1$ ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )	5.096 282	5.351 091	6.003 165	6.107 455	5.901 148	5.751 272	6.002 477	6.024 874
$c_1$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1.537 465	1.540 395	1.642 214	1.576 570	1.710 740	1.720 493	1.607 311	1.636 194
$a_2$ (unitless)	-1.060 329	-1.066 862	0.050 733	0.049 129	-1.505 772	-1.489 828	1.137 891	1.127 476
$b_2$ ( $\text{\AA}^2$ )	6.003 788	5.703 609	6.002 979	5.844 730	6.004 658	5.963 964	5.950 512	5.924 373
$c_2$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1.570 189	1.550 327	0.892 488	0.927 347	1.716 149	1.728 580	1.598 395	1.637 895

Table S4: Recalibrated PM3 Parameters for Chorismate Mutase Reaction

parameters	H		C		O	
	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M	PM3	PM3*-M
$U_{ss}$ (eV)	-13.073 321	-13.726 100	-47.270 320	-44.906 804	-86.993 002	-91.159 430
$U_{pp}$ (eV)			-36.266 918	-35.767 445	-71.879 580	-73.725 303
$\zeta_{ss}$ (au)	0.967 807	0.950 991	1.565 085	1.643 339	3.796 544	3.837 914
$\zeta_{pp}$ (au)			1.842 345	1.800 254	2.389 402	2.269 932
$\beta_{ss}$ (eV)	-5.626 512	-5.723 666	-11.910 015	-12.232 924	-45.202 651	-45.095 535
$\beta_{pp}$ (eV)			-9.802 755	-9.312 675	-24.752 515	-24.501 735
$G_{ss}$ (eV)	14.794 208	14.596 995	11.200 708	10.646 209	15.755 760	15.108 124
$G_{pp}$ (eV)			10.796 292	10.435 611	13.654 016	14.336 625
$G_{sp}$ (eV)			10.265 027	9.751 776	10.621 160	11.052 484
$G_{p2}$ (eV)			9.042 566	9.494 557	12.406 095	12.079 680
$H_{sp}$ (eV)			2.290 980	2.402 069	0.593 883	0.601 646
$a_1$ (unitless)	1.128 750	1.106 093	0.050 107	0.052 610	-1.131 128	-1.103 303
$b_1$ ( $1/\text{\AA}^2$ )	5.096 282	5.350 960	6.003 165	6.303 323	6.002 477	6.278 579
$c_1$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1.537 465	1.545 676	1.642 214	1.622 373	1.607 311	1.575 164
$a_2$ (unitless)	-1.060 329	-1.026 373	0.050 733	0.048 211	1.137 891	1.168 329
$b_2$ ( $1/\text{\AA}^2$ )	6.003 788	5.703 599	6.002 979	6.145 504	5.950 512	6.098 653
$c_2$ ( $\text{\AA}$ )	1.570 189	1.574 917	0.892 488	0.847 864	1.598 395	1.564 796

Table S5: Free Energy Barriers (in kcal/mol) for  $\text{CH}_3\text{Cl} + \text{Cl}^- \rightarrow \text{Cl}^- + \text{CH}_3\text{Cl}$  ( $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ ), Menshutkin Reaction (MEN) Calculated Indirectly from PM3\*-M

reaction	B3LYP <sup>a</sup>	B3LYP <sup>b</sup>	M06-2X <sup>b</sup>	$\omega$ B97X-D <sup>b</sup>	$\omega$ B97X-V <sup>b</sup>	Exp.
$\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$	$21.8 \pm 0.3$	$22.9 \pm 0.3$	$26.8 \pm 0.3$	$27.5 \pm 0.3$	$27.9 \pm 0.3$	26.5
MEN	$15.7 \pm 0.3$	$18.5 \pm 0.5$	$21.6 \pm 0.4$	$21.3 \pm 0.5$	$22.4 \pm 0.4$	$> 23$

<sup>a</sup> Basis set: 6-31G\*; <sup>b</sup> Basis set: def2-TZVPPD.

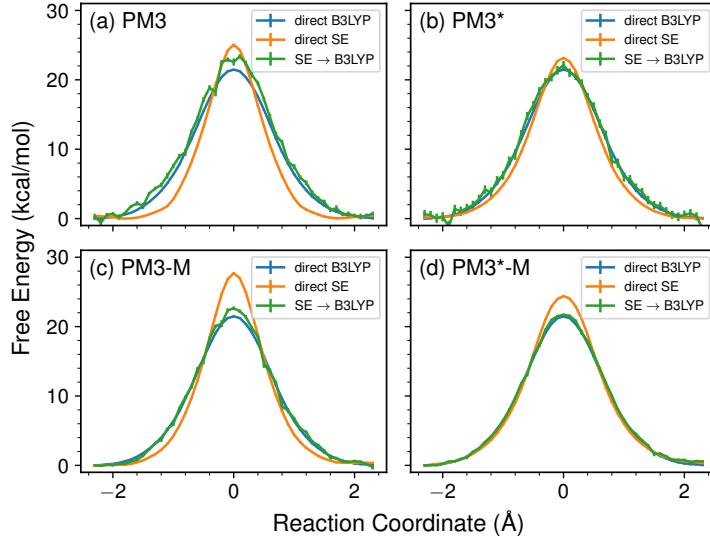


Figure S1: Direct and indirect FE profiles (without Gaussian Process Regression) for identity  $S_N2$  reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics. This figure is the same as Fig. 2 in the main text.

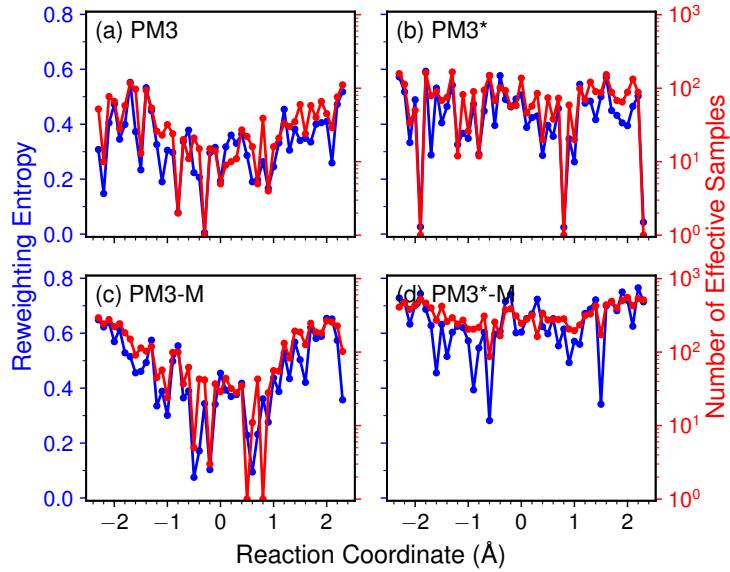


Figure S2: Reweighting entropies and numbers of effective samples for weighted TP for identity  $S_N2$  reaction calculated from (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics. For each bin, the number of effective samples excludes those frames contributing to the last 0.05 kcal/mol of free energy correction of that bin.

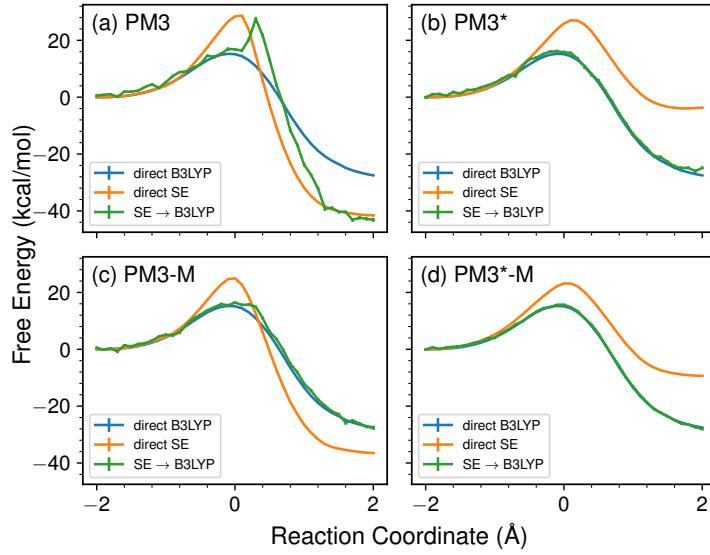


Figure S3: Direct and indirect FE profiles (without Gaussian Process Regression) for Menshutkin reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics.

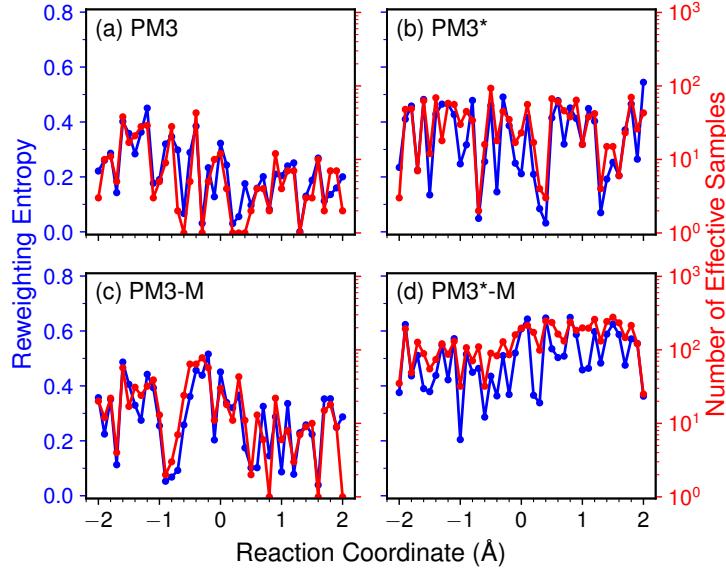


Figure S4: Reweighting entropies and numbers of effective samples for weighted TP for Menshutkin reaction calculated from (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics. For each bin, the number of effective samples excludes those frames contributing to the last 0.05 kcal/mol of free energy correction of that bin.

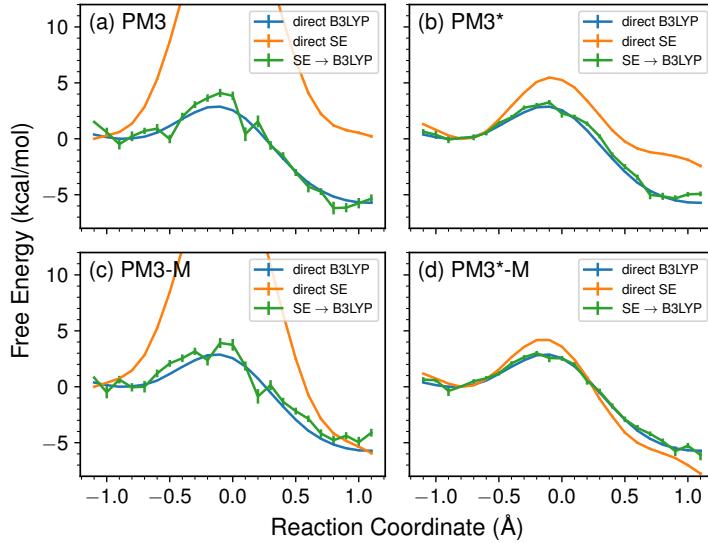


Figure S5: Direct and indirect FE profiles (without Gaussian Process Regression) for glycine intramolecular proton transfer reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics.

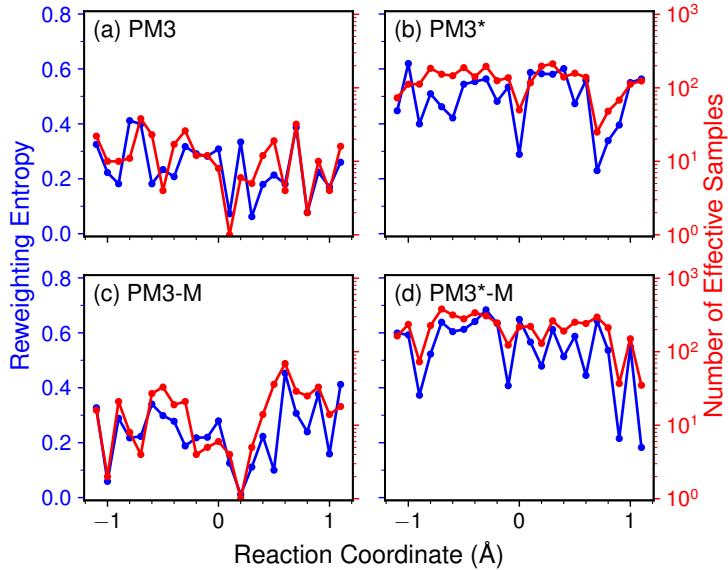


Figure S6: Reweighting entropies and numbers of effective samples for weighted TP for glycine intramolecular proton transfer reaction calculated from (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics. For each bin, the number of effective samples excludes those frames contributing to the last 0.05 kcal/mol of free energy correction of that bin.

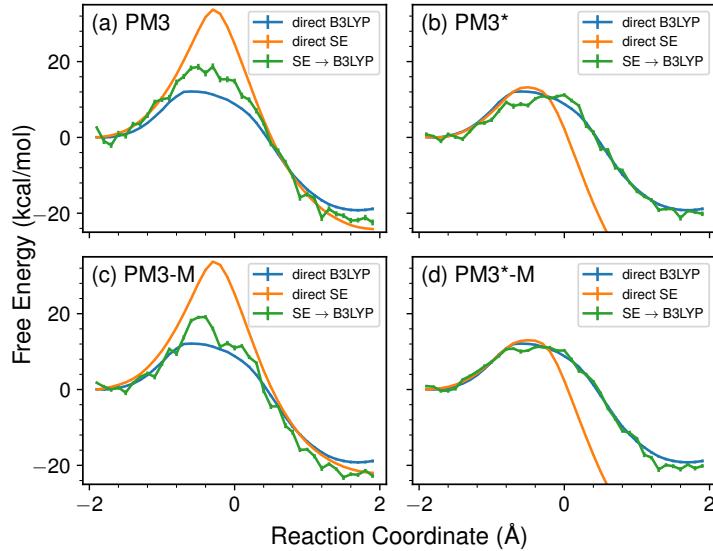


Figure S7: Direct and indirect FE profiles (without Gaussian Process Regression) for chorismate mutase reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics. This figure is the same as Fig. 6 in the main text.

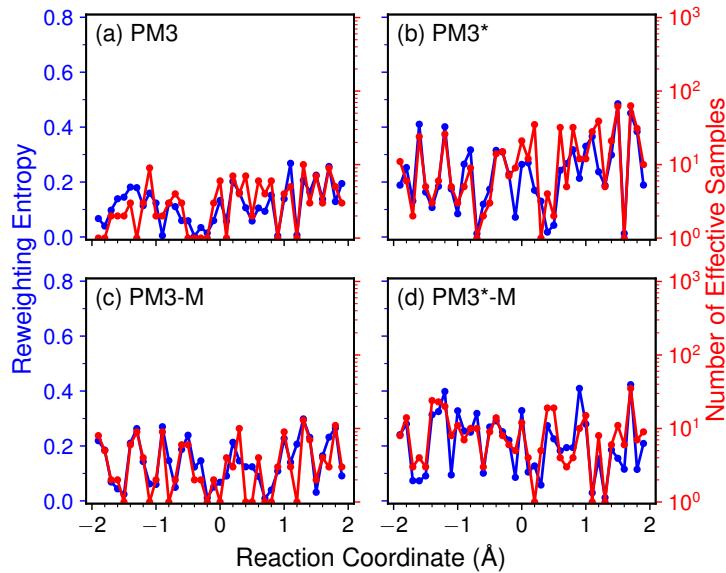


Figure S8: Reweighting entropies and numbers of effective samples for weighted TP for chorismate mutase reaction calculated from (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics. For each bin, the number of effective samples excludes those frames contributing to the last 0.05 kcal/mol of free energy correction of that bin.

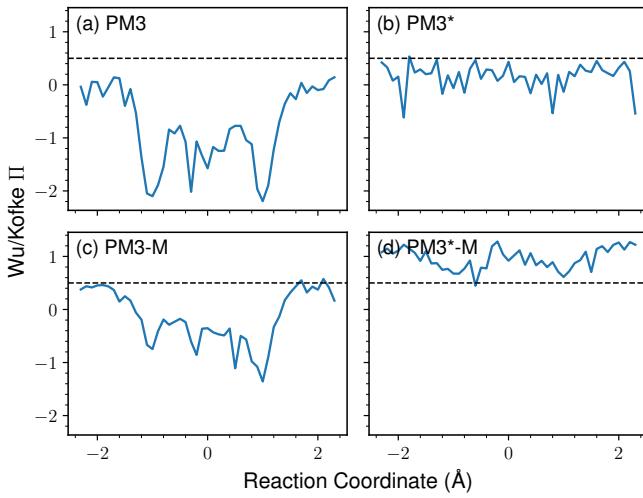


Figure S9: Wu and Kofke bias metrics (II) for identity S<sub>N</sub>2 reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics.

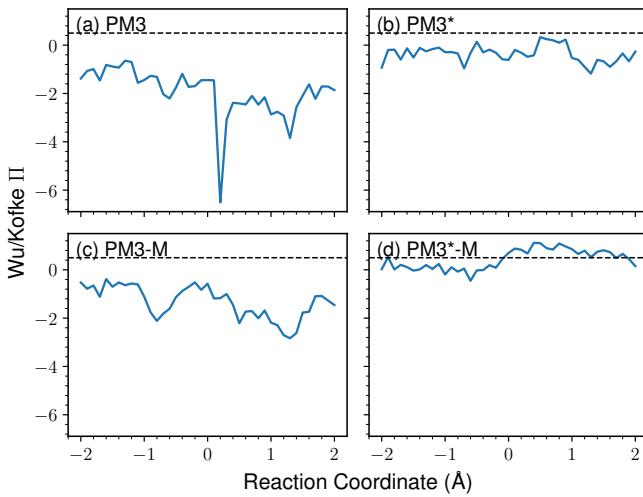


Figure S10: Wu and Kofke bias metrics (II) for Menshutkin reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics.

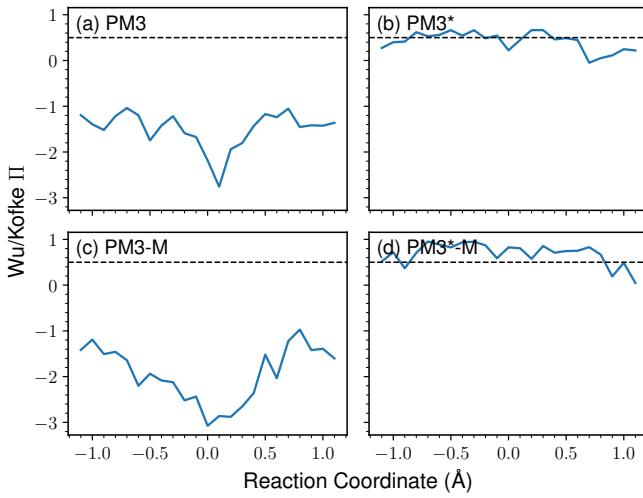


Figure S11: Wu and Kofke bias metrics ( $\Pi$ ) for glycine intramolecular proton transfer reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics.

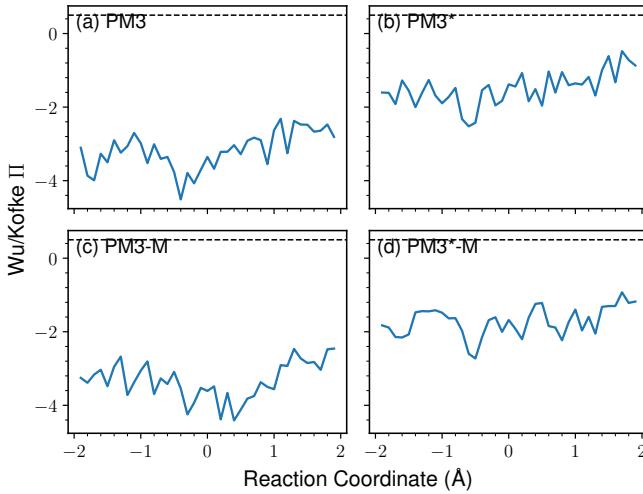


Figure S12: Wu and Kofke bias metrics ( $\Pi$ ) for chorismate mutase reaction estimated by using (a) the standard PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (b) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the standard QM-MM electrostatics, (c) the standard PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics, and (d) the recalibrated PM3 parameters and the modified QM-MM electrostatics.