

Supporting Information

Solvent-Induced Dual Nucleophiles and the α -Effect in the S_N2 *versus* E2 Competition

Xiangyu Wu^[a], F. Matthias Bickelhaupt^{*[b,c,d]}, Jing Xie^{*[a]}

- [a] X. Wu, Prof. Dr. J. Xie
Key Laboratory of Cluster Science of Ministry of Education, Beijing Key Laboratory of Photoelectronic /
Electrophotonic Conversion Materials, School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Beijing Institute of
Technology, Beijing, 100081, China.
E-mail: Jing Xie, jingxie@bit.edu.cn
- [b] Prof. Dr. F. M. Bickelhaupt
Department of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, AIMMS, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, De
Boelelaan 1108, 1081 HZ Amsterdam (The Netherlands)
E-mail: f.m.bickelhaupt@vu.nl
- [c] Prof. Dr. F. Matthias Bickelhaupt
Institute for Molecules and Materials (IMM), Radboud University Nijmegen, Heyendaalseweg 135, 6525 AJ
Nijmegen (The Netherlands)
- [d] Prof. Dr. F. Matthias Bickelhaupt
Department of Chemical Sciences, University of Johannesburg, Auckland Park, Johannesburg 2006 (South
Africa)

Table of Contents

Table S1 Comparison of reaction enthalpies for $\text{HOO}^- + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ using different methods	S1
Table S2 Difference in overall barriers between anti-E2 and inv- $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ pathways of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reactions with the electronic energy (E), enthalpy (H , 298.15 K) and Gibbs free energy (G , 298.15 K)	S2
Table S3 Difference in overall barriers between HOO^-_{W} and HO^-_{PT} pathways of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reactions with the electronic energy (E), enthalpy (H , 298.15 K) and Gibbs free energy (G , 298.15 K)	S3
Table S4. Orbital energy of the HOMO of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4}$ and of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4}$.	S4
Table S5. Proton affinities (PA) and ethyl cation affinities (ECA) of anions.	S5
Table S6. Distortion index ($\%D^\ddagger$) of transition states.	S6
Table S7. NPA atom charges q for transition states of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reactions.	S7
Figure S1. Structures and relative energies ΔE of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4}$ cluster.	S8
Figure S2. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the $\text{HOO}^-_{\text{W}}\text{-S}_{\text{N}}2$ path of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$.	S9
Figure S3. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the $\text{HOO}^-_{\text{W}}\text{-E2}$ path of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$.	S10
Figure S4. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the $\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT}}\text{-S}_{\text{N}}2$ path of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$.	S11
Figure S5. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the $\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT}}\text{-E2}$ path of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$.	S12
Figure S6. Structures and relative energies ΔE of reactant complexes and product complexes.	S13
Figure S7. Correlation of $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ and E2 reaction barrier heights ΔE^\ddagger with charge asymmetry $\Delta q(\text{Cl-O}) = q(\text{Cl}) - q(\text{O})$.	S14
Figure S8. The correlation between a) $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, b) $\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, c) $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔE^\ddagger and HOMO energy level of nucleophiles.	S15

Figure S9. Activation strain analysis of transition states for $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction. **S16**

Figure S10. Occupied frontier orbitals computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p). **S17**

Figure S11. Correlation of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with PA. **S18**

Table S8. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ of reaction barriers $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HO}^- \text{ Brønsted path PA})$ derived from the proton-affinity-based HO^-_{PT} and the HO^-_{W} Brønsted-correlation path from the actual $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$ values of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. **S19**

Figure S12. Correlation of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with ECA. **S20**

Table S9. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ of reaction barriers $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HO}^- \text{ Brønsted path ECA})$ derived from the ethyl-cation-affinity-based HO^-_{PT} and the HO^-_{W} Brønsted-correlation path from the actual $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$ values of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. **S21**

Figure S13. Correlation of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with PA or ECA. **S22**

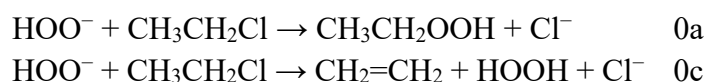
Figure S14. Correlation of $\text{HY}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3}$ ($\text{Y} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{HN}$) + $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with PA. **S23**

Table S10. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ of reaction barriers $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HY}^- \text{ Brønsted path PA})$ derived from the proton-affinity-based HY^- Brønsted-correlation path of $\text{HY}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3}$ ($\text{Y} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{HN}$) + $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ from the actual $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$ values of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. **S24**

Figure S15. Correlation of $\text{HY}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3}$ ($\text{Y} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{HN}$) + $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with ECA. **S25**

Table S11. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ of reaction barriers $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HY}^- \text{ Brønsted path PA})$ derived from the ethyl-cation-affinity-based HY^- Brønsted-correlation path of $\text{HY}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3}$ ($\text{Y} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{HN}$) + $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ from the actual $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$ values of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. **S26**

Table S1 Comparison of reaction enthalpies (298.15 K, kcal/mol) for $\text{HOO}^- + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ using different methods.^[a]



Methods	$\Delta H_r(0\text{a})$	$\Delta H_r(0\text{c})$	MUE
Expt. ^[b]	-45.8	-24.5	0.0
CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ	-46.0	-24.0	0.3
MP2/6-311++G(d,p)	-45.0	-25.4	0.9
MP2/aug-cc-pVDZ	-48.5	-27.9	3.0
MP2/aug-cc-pVTZ	-45.6	-25.1	0.5
B97-1/aug-cc-pVDZ	-47.9	-27.2	2.4
B97-1/aug-cc-pVTZ	-46.4	-27.1	1.6
B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p)	-47.2	-30.2	3.5
CAM-B3LYP/6-31+G(d,p)	-49.0	-28.6	3.5
CAM-B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p)	-49.8	-27.5	3.6

[a] All computational values were obtained in the present study.

[b] Reference for experiment formation enthalpies (in kcal/mol) of anions and neutral molecules in gas phase at 298.15 K

	$\Delta_f H$	reference
HOO^-	-24.9	<i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> 1981 , 103, 6262
Cl^-	-56.1	<i>J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data, Monograph 9</i> , 1998
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$	-26.9	CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 85 th edition
$\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OOH}$	-41.5	<i>J. Phys. Chem.</i> 1996 , 100, 8240–8249
$\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}_2$	12.6	<i>J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data, Monograph 9</i> , 1998
HOOH	-32.7	<i>J. Phys. Chem. Ref. Data, Monograph 9</i> , 1998

Table S2 Difference in overall barriers (in kcal/mol) between anti-E2 and inv-S_N2 pathways of HOO⁻(H₂O)_n + CH₃CH₂Cl reactions with the electronic energy (*E*), enthalpy (*H*, 298.15 K) and Gibbs free energy (*G*, 298.15 K).^[a]

	n	$\Delta\Delta^\ddagger = \Delta^\ddagger(\text{anti-E2}) - \Delta^\ddagger(\text{inv-S}_{\text{N}2})$		
		$\Delta\Delta E^\ddagger$	$\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$	$\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$
HOO⁻_w	0	4.3	1.2	0.4
	1	7.0	4.0	2.7
	2	7.4	5.3	6.0
	3	10.8	8.4	6.8
	4	9.9	8.1	7.0
HO⁻_{PT}	0	1.3	-1.8	-2.6
	1	5.2	1.9	0.1
	2	6.2	3.2	1.1
	3	7.2	4.5	2.6
	4	8.3	5.2	4.5

[a] Computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p).

Table S3 Difference in overall barriers (in kcal/mol) between HOO^-_{w} and HO^-_{PT} pathways of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reactions with the electronic energy (E), enthalpy (H , 298.15 K), and Gibbs free energy (G , 298.15 K).^[a]

	n	$\Delta\Delta^\ddagger = \Delta^\ddagger(\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT}}) - \Delta^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-_{\text{w}})$		
		$\Delta\Delta E^\ddagger$	$\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$	$\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$
inv-S_N2	0	0.1	-0.2	-1.5
	1	3.2	3.5	4.2
	2	2.1	2.1	3.1
	3	4.9	5.2	4.6
	4	2.0	2.7	4.2
anti-E2	0	-3.0	-3.3	-4.6
	1	1.4	1.4	1.7
	2	0.9	0.0	-1.8
	3	1.2	1.3	0.4
	4	0.4	-0.2	1.7
ret-S_N2	0	4.4	4.2	1.9
syn-E2	0	-2.2	-2.6	-4.5

[a] Computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p).

Table S4. Orbital energy (in eV) of the HOMO of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4}$ and of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4}$ ^[a]

n	$\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$		$\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$		$\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$	
0	HOO^-	1.67 (-3.11)			HO^-	1.36 (-2.87)
1	$\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	[b]	$\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})$	-0.99 (-5.40)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-0.49 (-4.62)
2	$\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-0.77 (-5.58)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	-1.66 (-6.49)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-1.37 (-5.69)
3	$\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-1.33 (-6.00)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	-2.35 (-6.89)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-2.32 (-6.60)
4	$\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$	-1.87 (-6.64)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_3$	-2.78 (-7.28)	$\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_4$	-2.89 (-7.23)

[a] Values in normal text are computed at B97-1/6-311++G(d,p); values in parentheses are computed at HF/6-311++G(d,p)//MP2/6-311++G(d,p). [b] Spontaneous formation of $\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})$.

Table S5. Proton affinities (PA) and ethyl cation affinities (ECA) of anions.^[a]

n	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) _n		HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O) _n		HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) _n
PA (Nu ⁻ + H ⁺ → NuH)					
0	HOO ⁻	375.9			HO ⁻ 390.0
1	HO ⁻ (HOOH)	356.7	HO ⁻ (HOOH)	356.7	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) 367.4
2	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₂	348.6	HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O)	347.6	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₂ 357.0
3	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₃	340.9	HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O) ₂	340.2	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₃ 355.3
4	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₄	333.6	HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O) ₃	333.0	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₄ 349.2
ECA (Nu ⁻ + CH ₃ CH ₂ ⁺ → CH ₃ CH ₂ Nu)					
0	HOO ⁻	233.6			HO ⁻ 239.6
1	HO ⁻ (HOOH)	214.9 ^[b]	HO ⁻ (HOOH)	207.6	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) 218.1
2	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₂	207.3	HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O)	198.3	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₂ 207.6
3	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₃	198.0	HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O) ₂	190.6	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₃ 198.0
4	HOO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₄	192.6	HO ⁻ (HOOH)(H ₂ O) ₃	184.5	HO ⁻ (H ₂ O) ₄ 192.8

[a] Computed at using G3(MP2).

[b] Formation of CH₃CH₂OOH(H₂O)

Table S6. Distortion index (%D[‡]) of transition states.^[a,b]

HOO⁻-w-path				HO⁻-PT-path		
inv-S_N2-TS				anti-E2-TS		
n	%C ^α Cl [‡]	%H ^β C ^β ‡	%D [‡]	%C ^α Cl [‡]	%H ^β C ^β ‡	%D [‡]
0	18.2	-0.1	18.1	20.3	-0.3	20.0
1	21.8	-0.1	21.7	25.9	-0.3	25.6
2	23.3	-0.1	23.3	26.8	-0.3	26.5
3	25.8	0.0	25.8	28.0	-0.3	27.7
4	27.0	-0.1	27.0	26.9	-0.3	26.7
anti-E2-TS				anti-E2-TS		
n	%C ^α Cl [‡]	%H ^β C ^β ‡	%D [‡]	%C ^α Cl [‡]	%H ^β C ^β ‡	%D [‡]
0	9.1	25.8	34.9	6.9	21.5	28.5
1	14.4	33.7	48.1	13.7	37.7	51.4
2	12.4	44.5	56.9	14.8	40.0	54.7
3	20.2	38.7	58.9	16.2	41.7	57.9
4	21.0	41.2	62.2	14.9	37.0	51.9

[a] Computed at MP2/6-311++(d,p).

[b] Definitions:

$$\%D^{\ddagger} = \%C^{\alpha}Cl^{\ddagger} + \%H^{\beta}C^{\beta\ddagger}$$

$$\%C^{\alpha}Cl^{\ddagger} = 100 \times (r_{C^{\alpha}-Cl}^{\ddagger} - r_{C^{\alpha}-Cl}^{\text{Reactant}}) / r_{C^{\alpha}-Cl}^{\text{Reactant}}$$

$$\%H^{\beta}C^{\beta\ddagger} = 100 \times (r_{H^{\beta}-C^{\beta}}^{\ddagger} - r_{H^{\beta}-C^{\beta}}^{\text{Reactant}}) / r_{H^{\beta}-C^{\beta}}^{\text{Reactant}}$$

Table S7. NPA atom charges q (in a.u.) for transition states of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reactions.^[a]

HOO⁻_w-path						HO⁻_{PT}-path				
inv-S_N2-TS						inv-S_N2-TS				
n	$q(\text{O})$	$q(\text{C}^\alpha)$	$q(\text{Cl})$	$q(\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl})$	$\Delta q(\text{Cl}-\text{O})$	$q(\text{O})$	$q(\text{C}^\alpha)$	$q(\text{Cl})$	$q(\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl})$	$\Delta q(\text{Cl}-\text{O})$
0	-0.656	0.012	-0.539	-0.142	0.117	-1.224	0.044	-0.580	-0.161	0.644
1	-0.636	0.056	-0.598	-0.159	0.038	-1.176	0.105	-0.663	-0.187	0.513
2	-0.618	0.065	-0.618	-0.172	0.000	-1.150	0.104	-0.672	-0.194	0.478
3	-0.651	0.091	-0.658	-0.178	-0.007	-1.138	0.111	-0.689	-0.202	0.449
4	-0.650	0.100	-0.675	-0.186	-0.025	-1.144	0.095	-0.667	-0.183	0.478
anti-E2-TS						anti-E2-TS				
n	$q(\text{O})$	$q(\text{H}^\beta)$	$q(\text{Cl})$	$q(\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl})$	$\Delta q(\text{Cl}-\text{O})$	$q(\text{O})$	$q(\text{H}^\beta)$	$q(\text{Cl})$	$q(\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl})$	$\Delta q(\text{Cl}-\text{O})$
0	-0.617	0.417	-0.355	-0.221	0.262	-1.190	0.409	-0.313	-0.199	0.877
1	-0.608	0.451	-0.458	-0.254	0.150	-1.132	0.467	-0.447	-0.267	0.685
2	-0.613	0.472	-0.422	-0.292	0.192	-1.119	0.471	-0.465	-0.276	0.654
3	-0.659	0.480	-0.564	-0.268	0.096	-1.112	0.474	-0.492	-0.283	0.620
4	-0.643	0.481	-0.580	-0.284	0.063	-1.133	0.462	-0.466	-0.255	0.666

[a] Computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p).

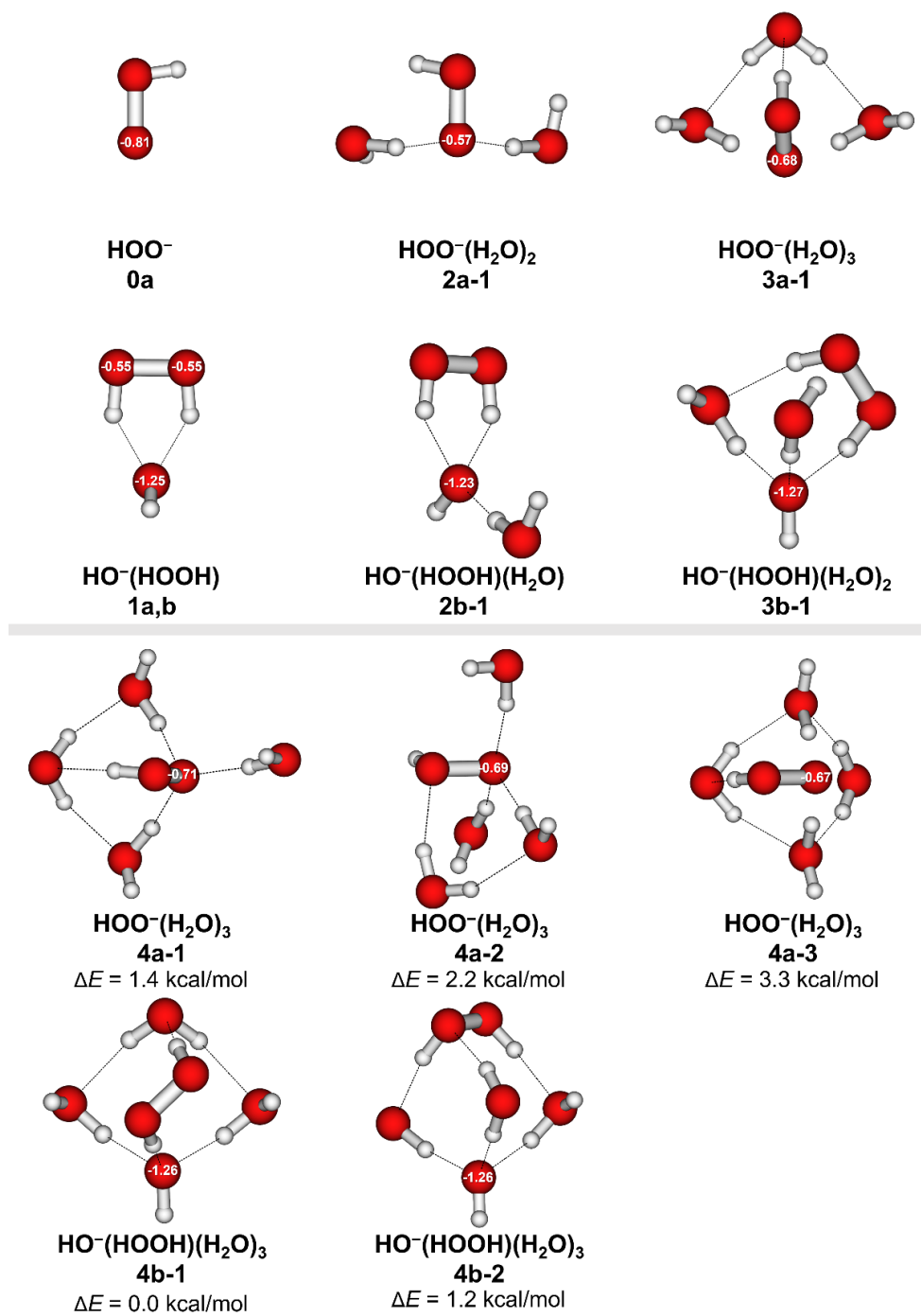


Figure S1. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4}$ cluster. Energies ΔE for the **4a** and **4b** series relative to **4b-1**, computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE). The numbers represent the NPA charges (in a.u.) on the attacking O-atom.

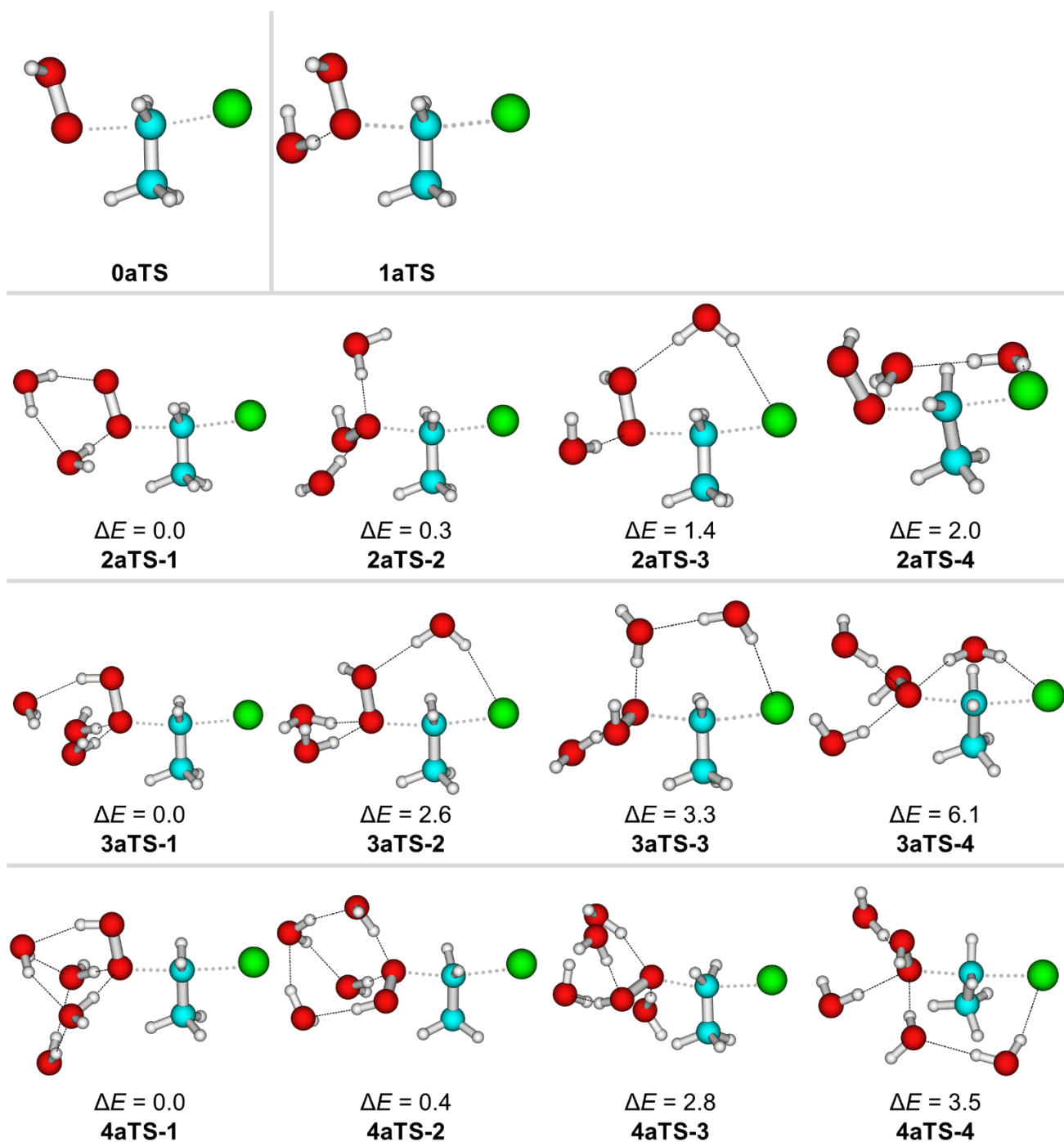


Figure S2. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the HOO^- - $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ path of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. Energies ΔE are relative to **2aTS-1**, **3aTS-1**, or **4aTS-1**, respectively, and have been computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE).

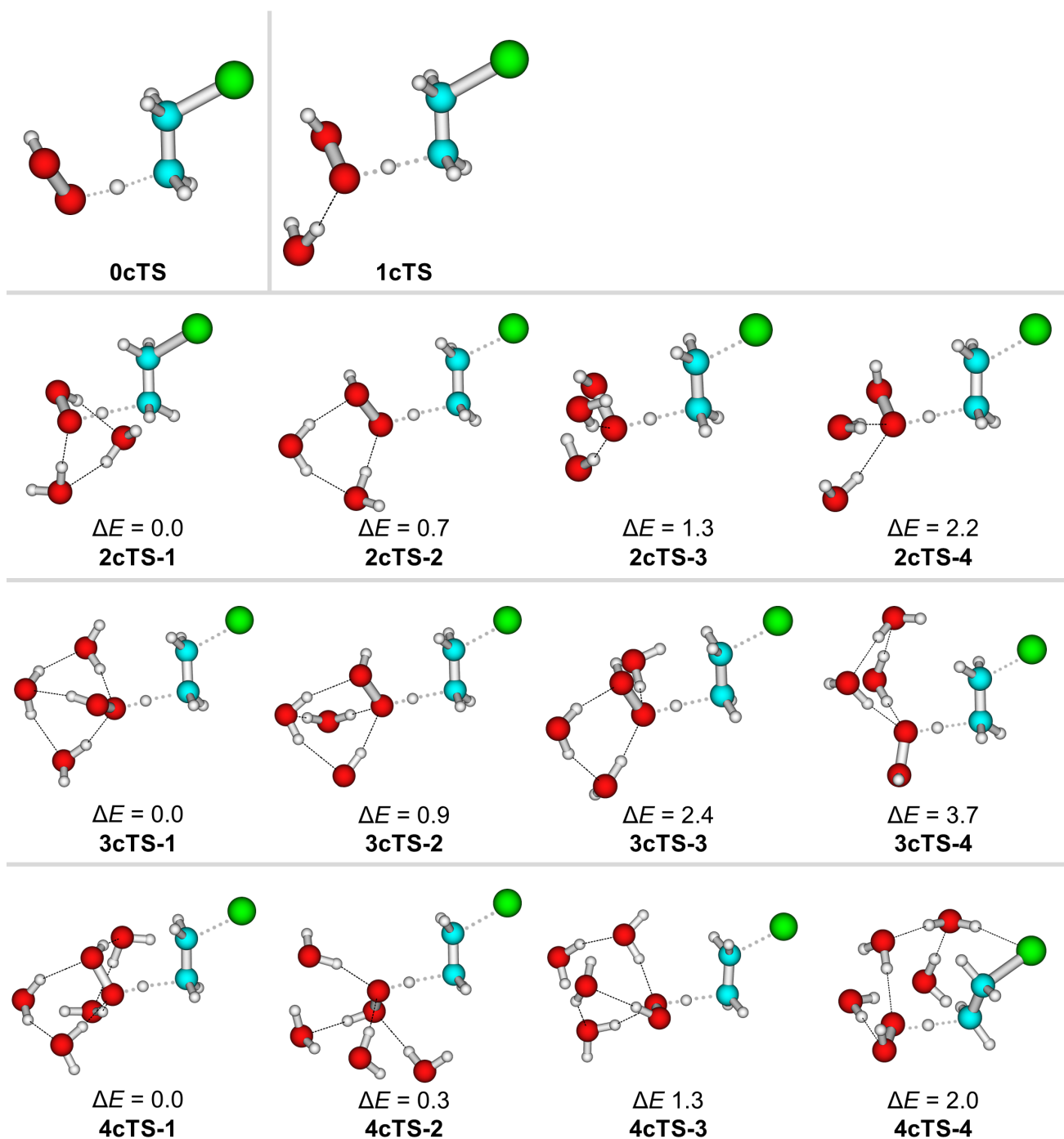


Figure S3. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the HOO^- -E2 path of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. Energies ΔE are relative to **2cTS-1**, **3cTS-1**, or **4cTS-1**, respectively, and have been computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE).

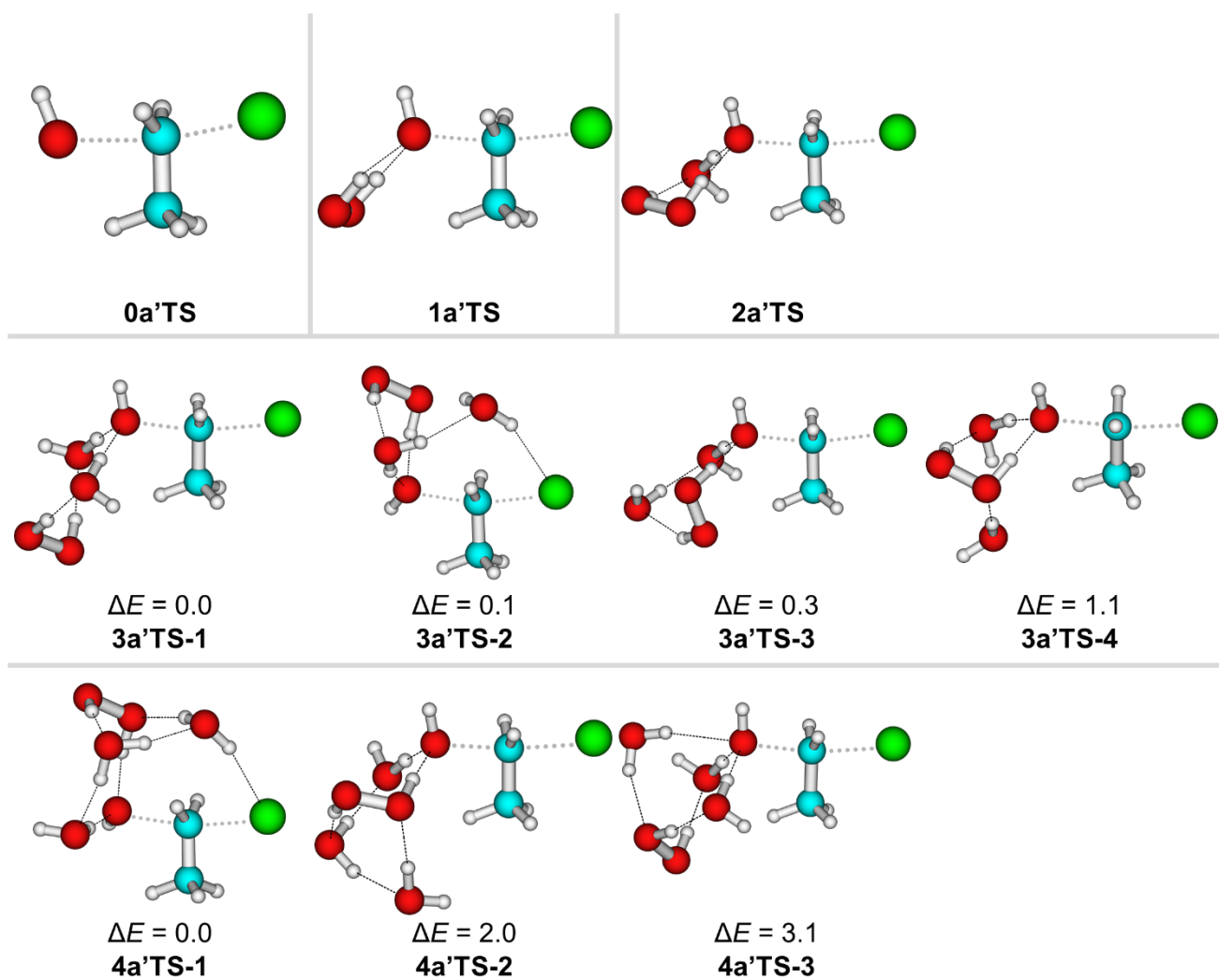


Figure S4. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the $\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT-SN2}}$ path of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. Energies ΔE are relative to **3a'TS-1** or **4a'TS-1** and have been computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE).

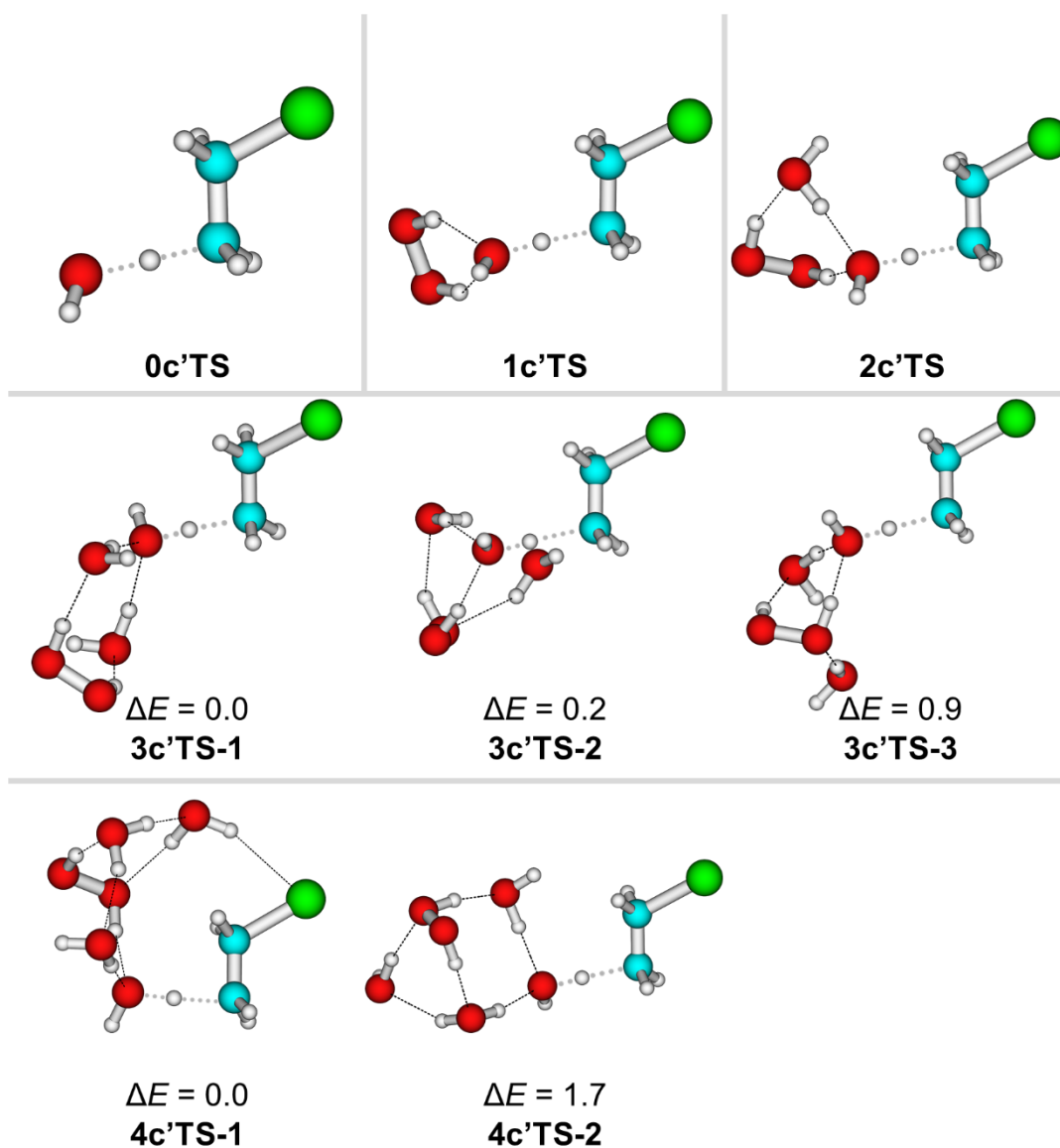


Figure S5. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of various transition states of the $\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT-E2}}$ path of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$. Energies ΔE are relative to $3\text{c}'\text{TS-1}$ or $4\text{c}'\text{TS-1}$ and have been computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE).

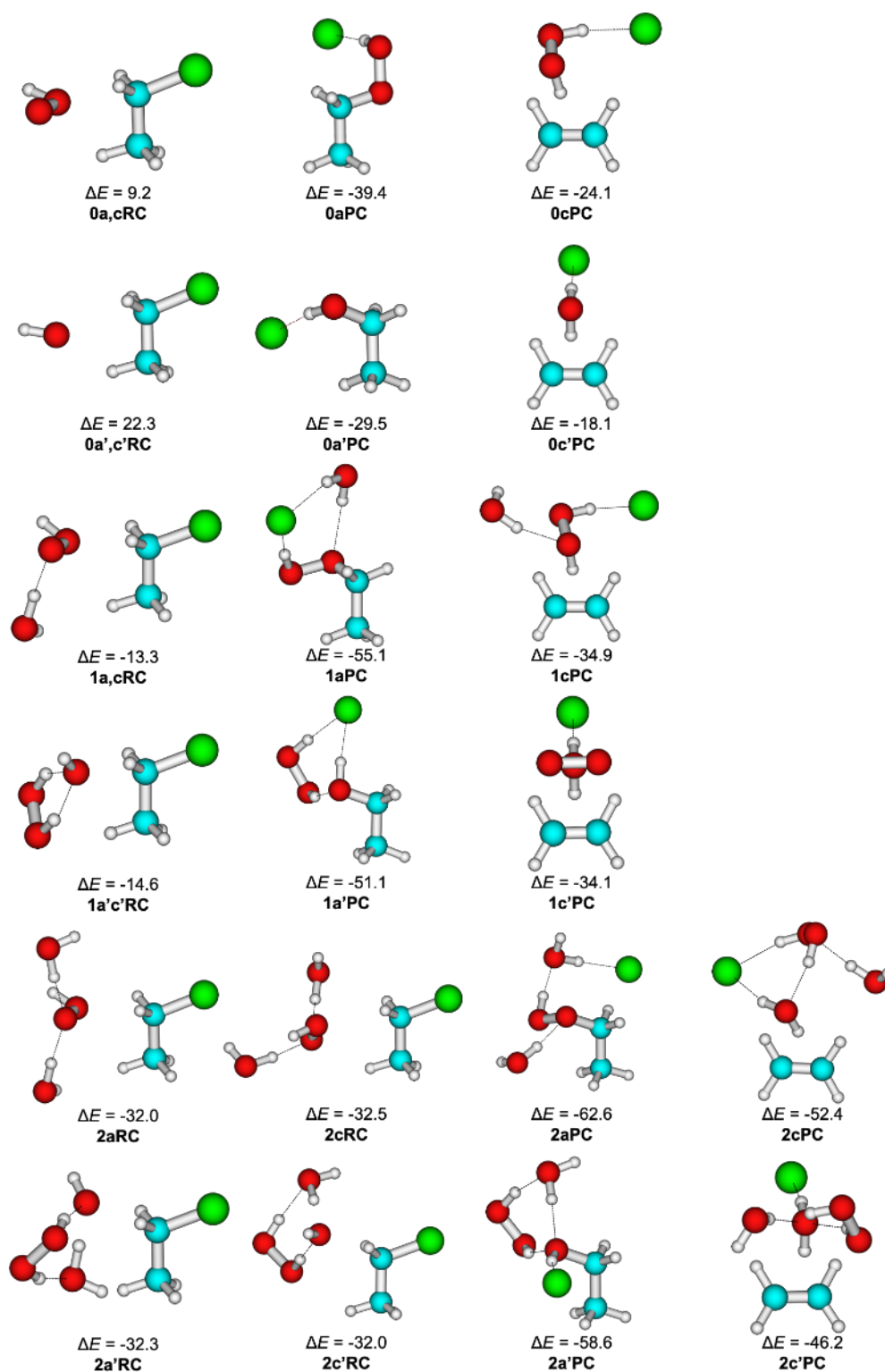


Figure S6. Structures and relative energies ΔE (in kcal/mol) of reactant complexes (RC) and product complexes (PC). Energies ΔE are relative to $\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH}) + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE).

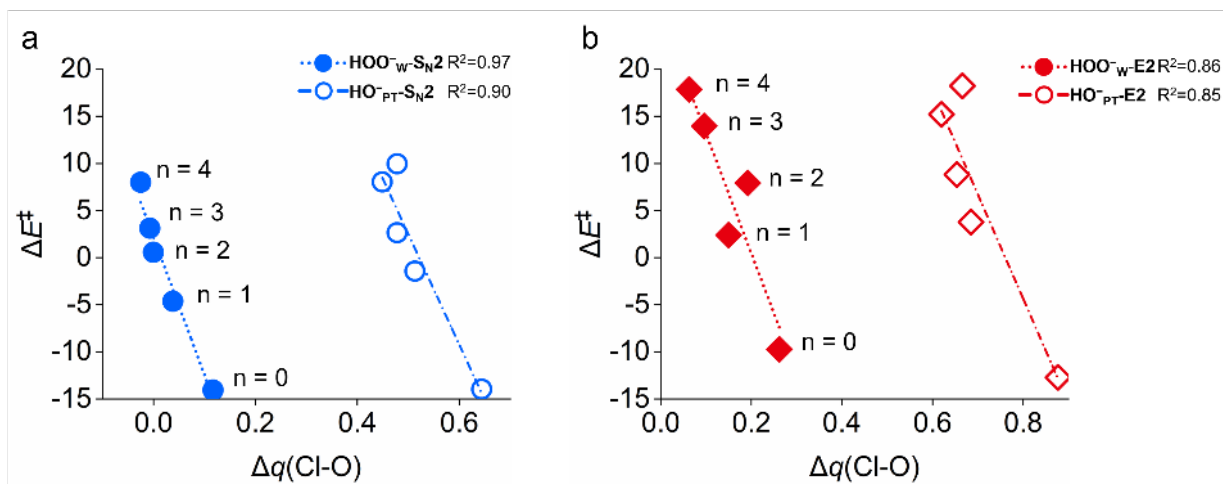


Figure S7. Correlation of $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ (a) and $\text{E}2$ (b) reaction barrier heights ΔE^\ddagger (in kcal/mol) with charge asymmetry $\Delta q(\text{Cl-O}) = q(\text{Cl}) - q(\text{O})$ (in a.u.) for the $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction, computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE). Note: for the HO^-_{PT} -pathway, $n = 0$ corresponds to the $\text{HO}^- + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction.

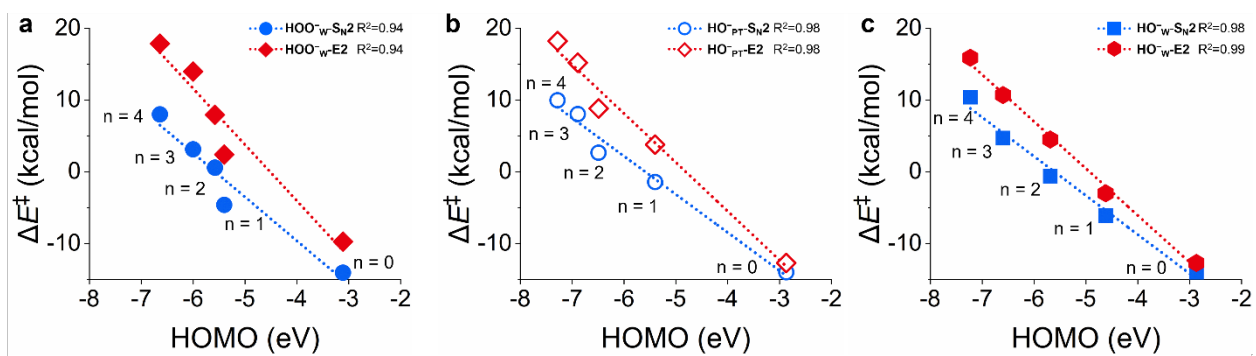


Figure S8. The correlation between (a) $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, (b) $\text{HO}^-(\text{HOOH})(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-3} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$, (c) $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔE^\ddagger (in kcal/mol) and HOMO energy level (in eV) of nucleophiles, computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE). Note: for the HO^-_{PT} -pathway, $n = 0$ corresponds to the $\text{HO}^- + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction.

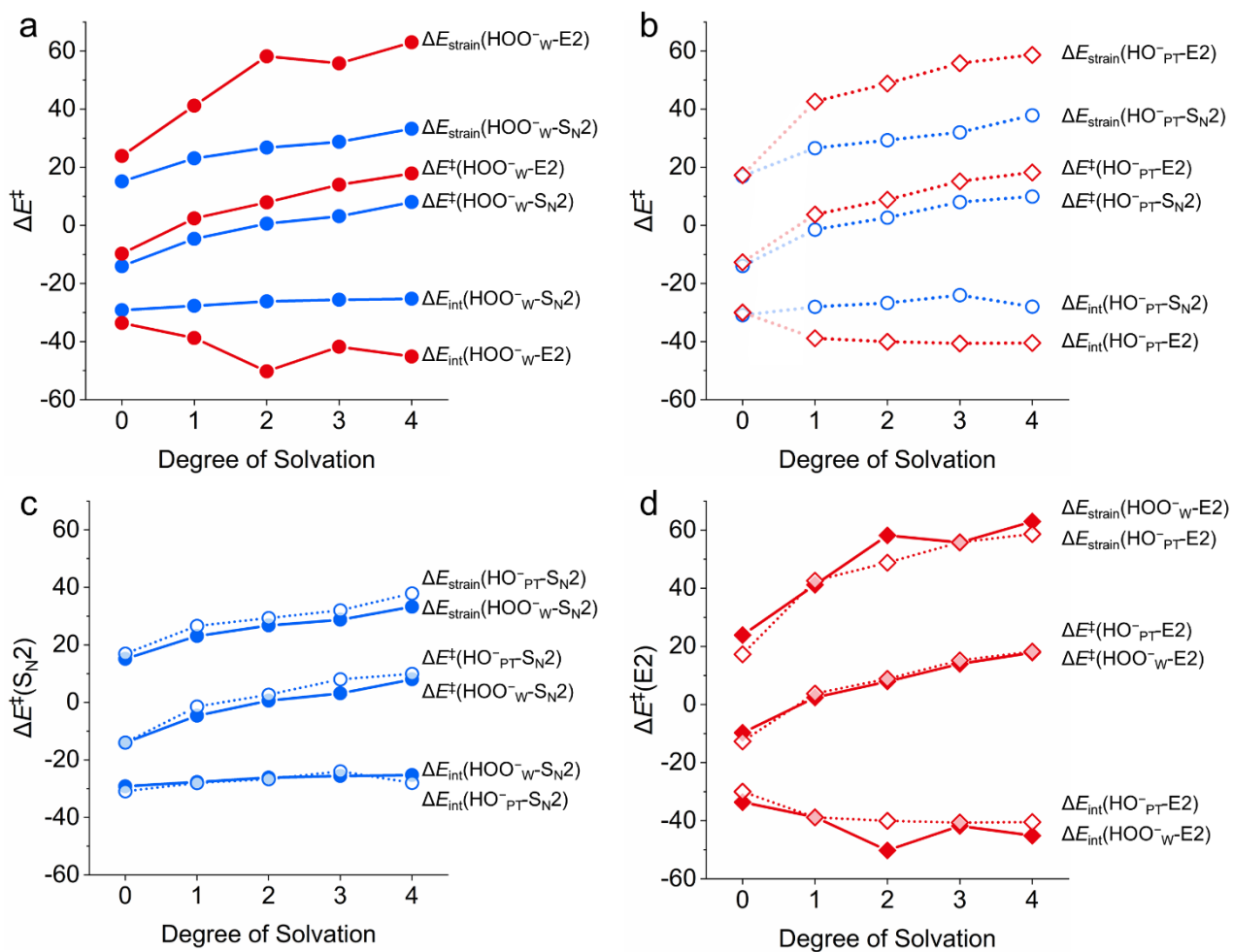


Figure S9. Activation strain analysis (in kcal/mol) of transition states for $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction, computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p) (without ZPE).

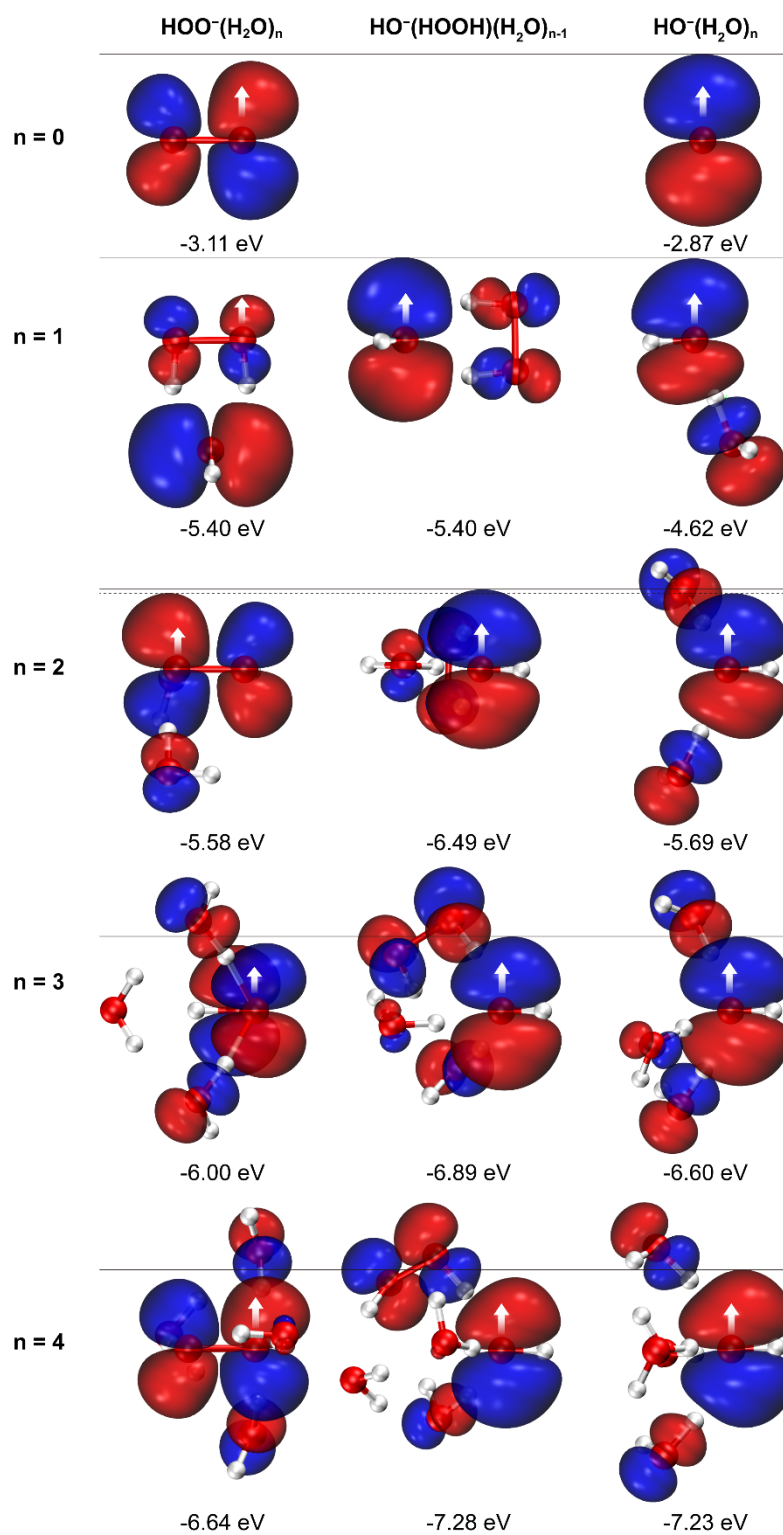


Figure S10. Occupied frontier orbitals, computed at MP2/6-311++G(d,p), using Gaussian 16^[1] and Multiwfn^[2] (isovalue = 0.03 bohr^{-3/2}).

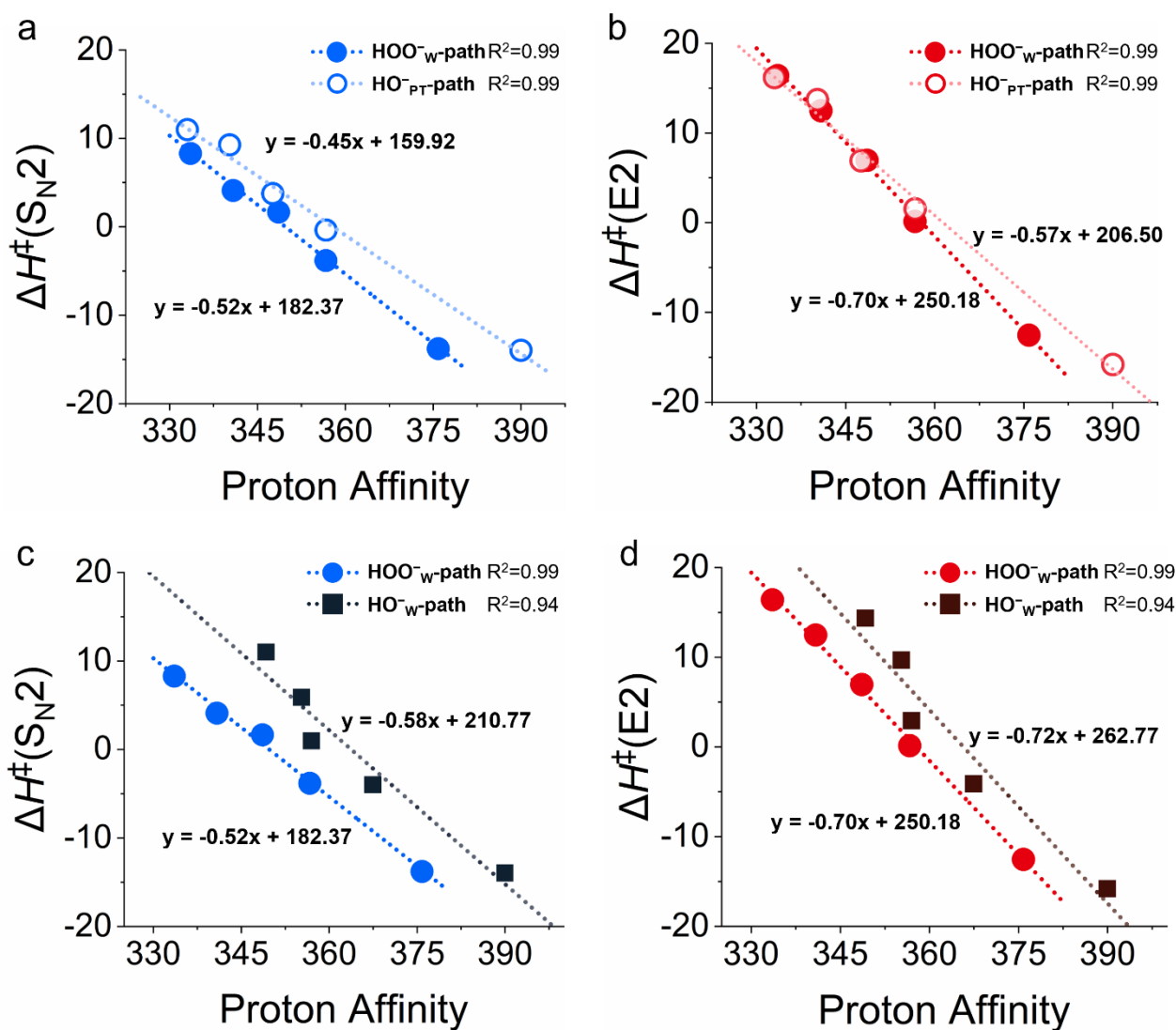


Figure S11. Correlation of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with PA (kcal/mol; S_{N2} path = blue; E2 path = red), computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p). The data of $\text{HOO}^-_{\text{w-path}}$ can be found in Table S8.

Table S8. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ (in kcal/mol) of reaction barriers $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HO}^- \text{ Brønsted path PA})$ derived from the proton-affinity-based HO^-_{PT} and the HO^-_{W} Brønsted-correlation path from the actual $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$ values of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$.^[a]

Path	n	$\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$	$\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HO}^- \text{ Brønsted path PA})$	$\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{deviation})$
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT-SN2}}$	0	-13.8	-8.0	5.8
	1	-3.8	0.5	4.3
	2	1.7	4.1	2.4
	3	4.1	7.6	3.5
	4	8.3	10.8	2.5
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT-E2}}$	0	-12.6	-8.3	4.3
	1	0.1	2.7	2.6
	2	6.9	7.3	0.4
	3	12.5	11.7	-0.8
	4	16.4	15.9	-0.5
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{W-SN2}}$	0	-13.8	-7.0	6.8
	1	-3.8	4.1	7.9
	2	1.7	8.8	7.1
	3	4.1	13.2	9.1
	4	8.3	17.5	9.2
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{W-E2}}$	0	-12.6	-7.3	5.3
	1	0.1	6.5	6.4
	2	6.9	12.3	5.4
	3	12.5	17.8	5.3
	4	16.4	23.1	6.7

[a] Computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++(d,p). Graphical representation in Figure S11.

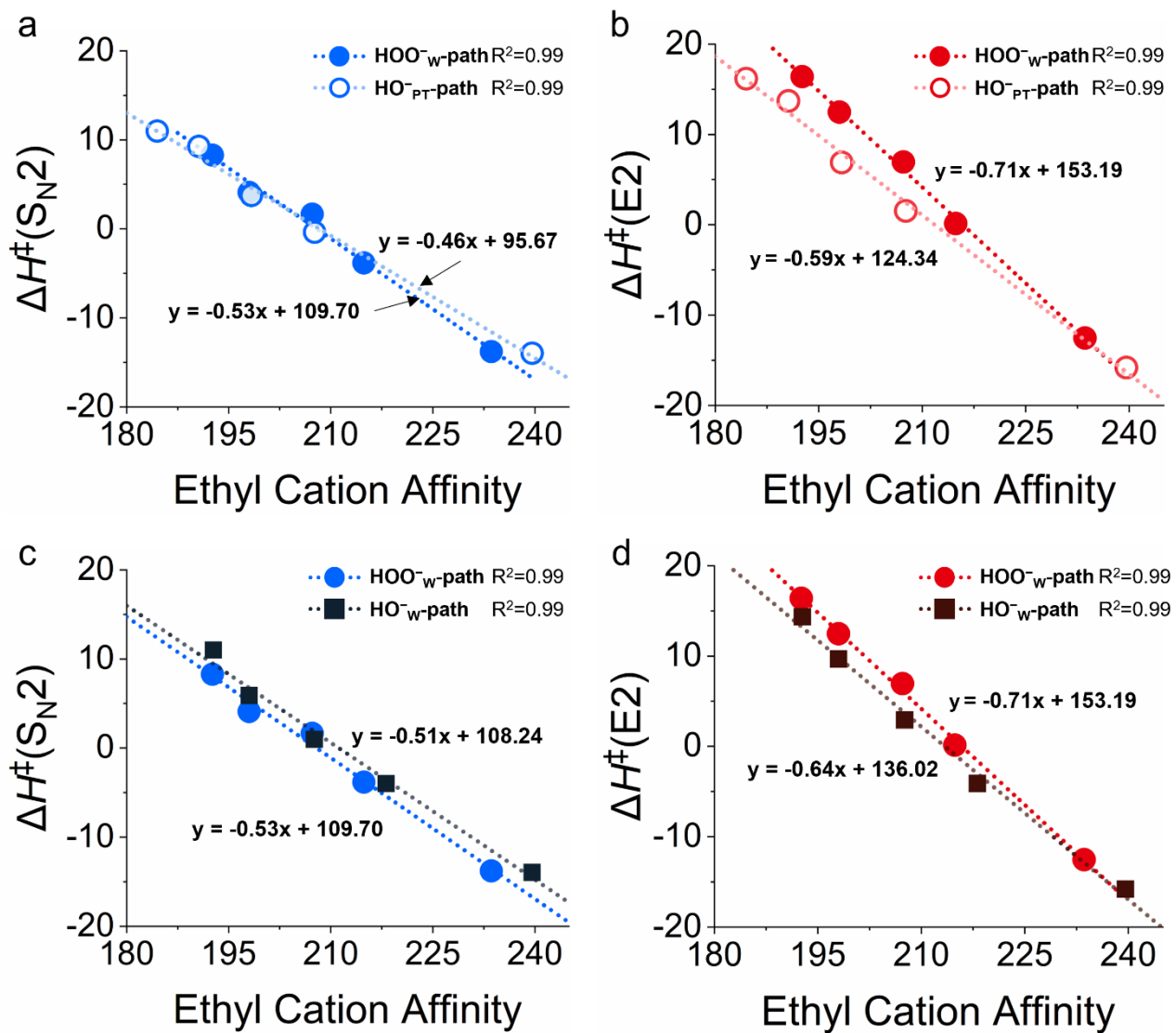


Figure S12. Correlation of $\text{HO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with ECA (kcal/mol; S_N2 path = blue; E2 path = red), computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p). The data of $\text{HOO}^-_{\text{w-path}}$ can be found in Table S9.

Table S9. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ (in kcal/mol) of reaction barriers $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HO}^- \text{ Brønsted path ECA})$ derived from the ethyl-cation-affinity-based HO^-_{PT} and the HO^-_{W} Brønsted-correlation path from the actual $\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$ values of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$.^[a]

Path	n	$\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HOO}^-)$	$\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{HO}^- \text{ Brønsted path ECA})$	$\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger(\text{deviation})$
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT-SN2}}$	0	-13.8	-11.6	2.2
	1	-3.8	-3.0	0.8
	2	1.7	0.5	-1.2
	3	4.1	4.8	0.7
	4	8.3	7.2	-1.1
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{PT-E2}}$	0	-12.6	-12.8	-0.2
	1	0.1	-1.8	-1.9
	2	6.9	2.7	-4.2
	3	12.5	8.1	-4.4
	4	16.4	11.3	-5.1
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{W-SN2}}$	0	-13.8	-11.5	2.3
	1	-3.8	-1.9	1.9
	2	1.7	2.0	0.3
	3	4.1	6.8	2.7
	4	8.3	9.5	1.2
$\text{HO}^-_{\text{W-E2}}$	0	-12.6	-12.9	-0.3
	1	0.1	-0.9	-1.0
	2	6.9	3.9	-3.0
	3	12.5	9.8	-2.7
	4	16.4	13.3	-3.1

[a] Computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++(d,p). Graphical representation in Figure S12.

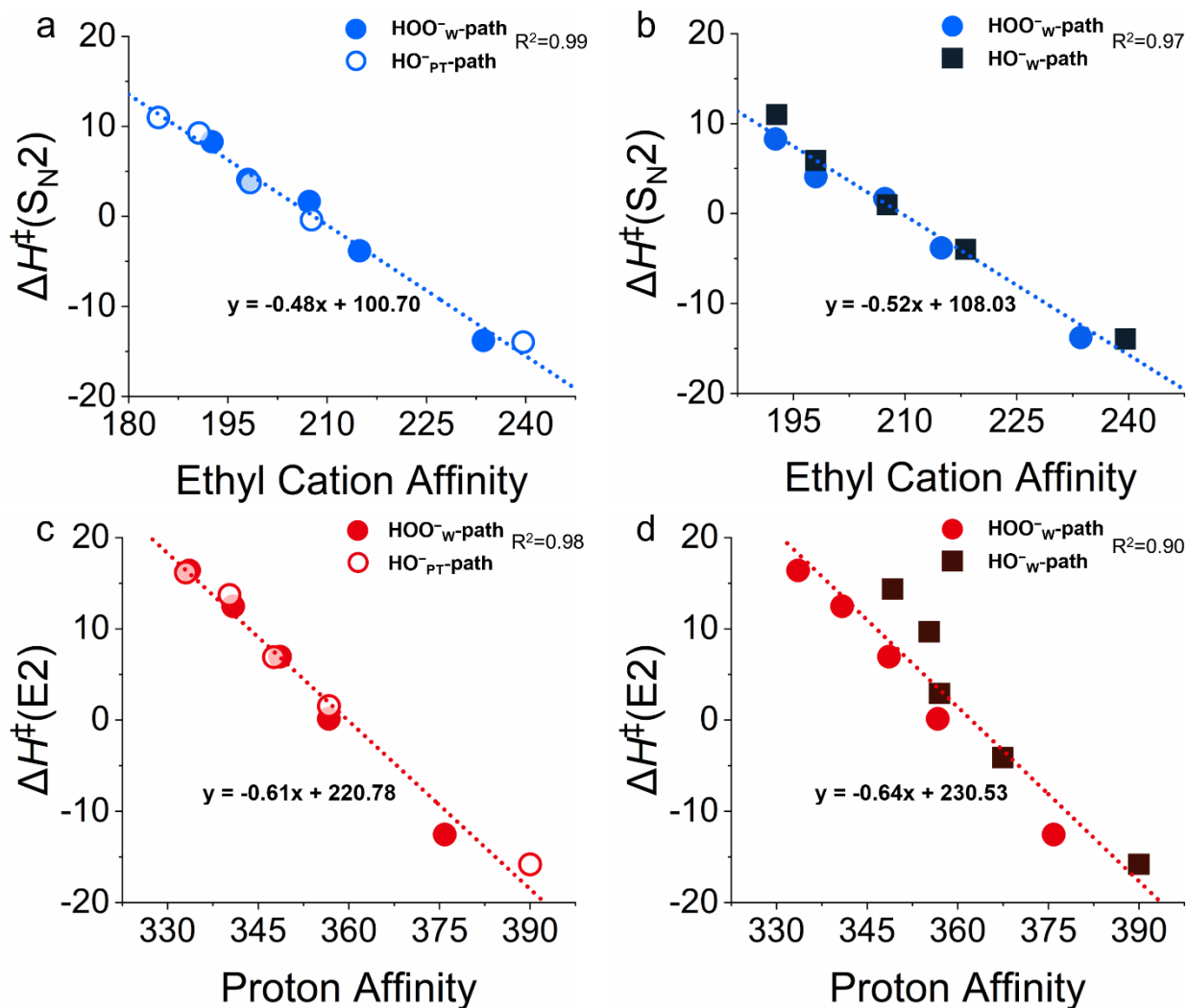


Figure S13. Correlation of $\text{HOO}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{n=0-4} + \text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with PA or ECA (in kcal/mol; S_N2 path = blue; E2 path = red), computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p).

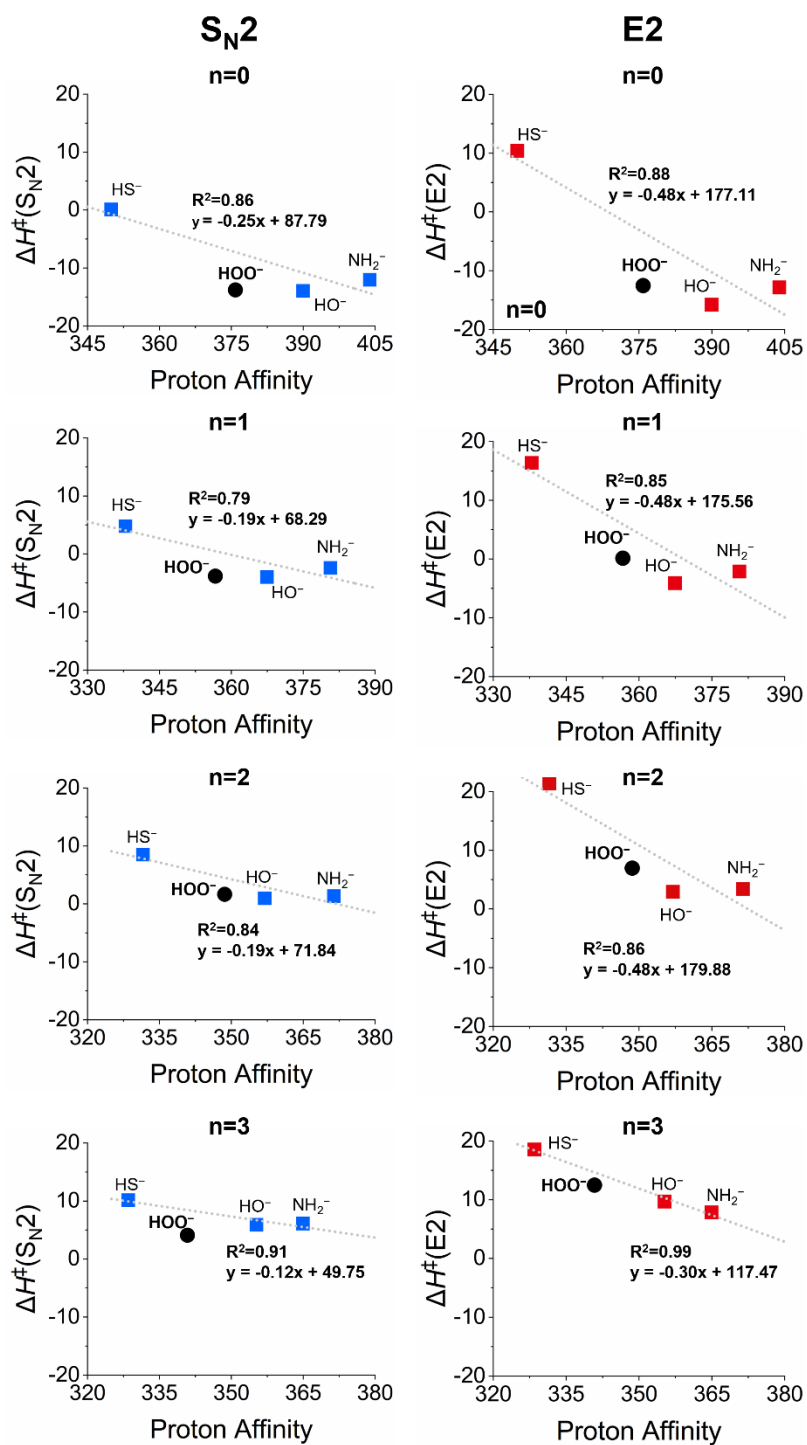


Figure S14. Correlation of $\text{HY}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$ ($\text{Y} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{HN}$) + $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with PA (in kcal/mol; $\text{S}_\text{N}2$ path = blue; E2 path = red), computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p). The data of the HOO^- -w-path can be found in Table S10.

Table S10. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ (in kcal/mol) of reaction barriers ΔH^\ddagger (HY⁻ Brønsted path PA) derived from the proton-affinity-based HY⁻ Brønsted-correlation path of HY⁻(H₂O)_{n=0-3} (Y = O, S, HN) + CH₃CH₂Cl from the actual ΔH^\ddagger (HOO⁻) values of HOO⁻(H₂O)_{n=0-3} + CH₃CH₂Cl.^[a]

n	Path	ΔH^\ddagger(actual)	ΔH^\ddagger(HO⁻ Brønsted path)	$\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$(deviation)
0	S _N 2-path	-13.8	-7.3	6.5
0	E2-path	-12.6	-3.5	9.1
1	S _N 2-path	-3.8	0.5	4.3
1	E2-path	0.1	5.9	5.8
2	S _N 2-path	1.7	4.5	2.9
2	E2-path	6.9	11.5	4.5
3	S _N 2-path	4.1	8.4	4.3
3	E2-path	12.5	14.7	2.2

[a] Computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++(d,p). Graphical representation in Figure S14.

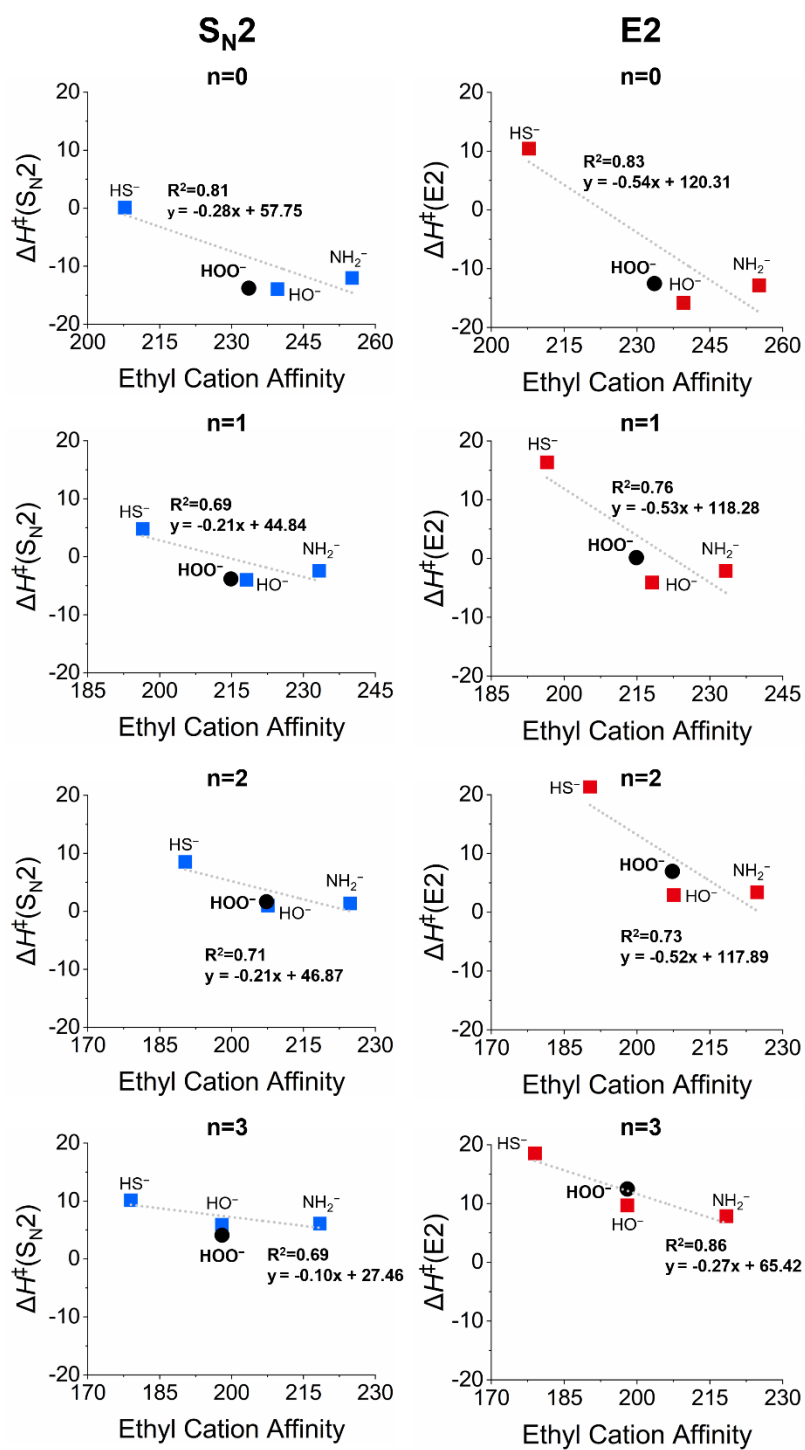


Figure S15. Correlation of $\text{HY}^-(\text{H}_2\text{O})_n$ ($\text{Y} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{HN}$) + $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$ reaction barrier height ΔH^\ddagger with ECA (in kcal/mol; $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$ path = blue; $\text{E}2$ path = red), computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++G(d,p). The data of the HOO^- -w-path can be found in Table S11.

Table S11. Deviation $\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$ (in kcal/mol) of reaction barriers ΔH^\ddagger (HY⁻ Brønsted path ECA) derived from the ethyl-cation-affinity-based HY⁻ Brønsted-correlation path of HY⁻(H₂O)_{n=0-3} (Y = O, S, HN) + CH₃CH₂Cl from the actual ΔH^\ddagger (HOO⁻) values of HOO⁻(H₂O)_{n=0-3} + CH₃CH₂Cl.^[a]

n	Path	ΔH^\ddagger(actual)	ΔH^\ddagger(HO⁻ Brønsted path)	$\Delta\Delta H^\ddagger$(deviation)
0	S _N 2-path	-13.8	-8.5	5.3
0	E2-path	-12.6	-5.8	6.8
1	S _N 2-path	-3.8	-0.3	3.5
1	E2-path	0.1	3.9	3.8
2	S _N 2-path	1.7	3.7	2.0
2	E2-path	6.9	9.4	2.4
3	S _N 2-path	4.1	7.4	3.3
3	E2-path	12.5	12.1	-0.3

[a] Computed at CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ//MP2/6-311++(d,p). Graphical representation in Figure S15.

References

- [1] Gaussian 16 (Rev. A.03), M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, G. Scalmani, V. Barone, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, X. Li, M. Caricato, A. V. Marenich, J. Bloino, B. G. Janesko, R. Gomperts, B. Mennucci, H. P. Hratchian, J. V. Ortiz, A. F. Izmaylov, J. L. Sonnenberg, Williams, F. Ding, F. Lipparini, F. Egidi, J. Goings, B. Peng, A. Petrone, T. Henderson, D. Ranasinghe, V. G. Zakrzewski, J. Gao, N. Rega, G. Zheng, W. Liang, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, T. Vreven, K. Throssell, J. A. Montgomery Jr., J. E. Peralta, F. Ogliaro, M. J. Bearpark, J. J. Heyd, E. N. Brothers, K. N. Kudin, V. N. Staroverov, T. A. Keith, R. Kobayashi, J. Normand, K. Raghavachari, A. P. Rendell, J. C. Burant, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, M. Cossi, J. M. Millam, M. Klene, C. Adamo, R. Cammi, J. W. Ochterski, R. L. Martin, K. Morokuma, O. Farkas, J. B. Foresman, D. J. Fox, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford, CT, **2016**.
- [2] T. Lu, F. Chen, *J. Comput. Chem.* **2012**, *33*, 580.