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Rate Constants for the Reactions of F Atoms with H2 and D2 over the

Temperature Range 220-960 K

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Abstract

The kinetics of the reactions of F atoms with hydrogen and deuterium has been studied in a

discharge flow reactor combined with an electron impact ionization quadrupole mass

spectrometer at nearly 2 Torr total pressure of helium and in the temperature range 220 -

960 K. The rate constant of the reaction F +  $H_2 \rightarrow HF + H$  (1) was determined using both

relative rate method (using reaction F + Br<sub>2</sub> as a reference) and absolute measurements,

monitoring the kinetics of F atom consumption in excess of H<sub>2</sub>:  $k_1 = (1.24 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-10}$  exp(-

 $(507 \pm 23)/T)$  cm<sup>3</sup>molecule<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>. The rate constant of the reaction F + D<sub>2</sub>  $\rightarrow$  DF + D (2) was

measured under pseudo-first order conditions in excess of  $D_2$  over F atoms:  $k_2$  = (8.47±

 $0.42)\times10^{-11}$  exp(-(670 ± 16)/T) cm<sup>3</sup>molecule<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> (the uncertainties on both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ 

represent precision at the  $2\sigma$  level, the estimated total uncertainty on the rate constants

being 15% at all temperatures). The kinetic isotope effect measured independently,  $k_1/k_2$  =

 $(1.58 \pm 0.05) \times \exp((131 \pm 2)/T)$ , was found to be in excellent agreement (within 7% in the

temperature range of the work, T = 220-960 K) with the ratio of  $k_1$  to  $k_2$  calculated with the

Arrhenius expressions for  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  determined in the study. The kinetic data from the

present work are discussed in comparison with previous measurements and theoretical

calculations.

**Keywords:** F, hydrogen, rate coefficient, temperature dependence, KIE.

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

Reaction of F atoms with H<sub>2</sub>

$$F + H_2 \rightarrow HF + H$$
 (1)

is of practical and theoretical interest and was extensively studied over the past few decades. The kinetics of this reaction was explored in multiple studies, at high temperatures (up to 765 K),<sup>1</sup> in relation with problematic of chemical lasers based on the vibrationally excited HF formed in the reaction, and at very low temperatures (down to 10 K), in relation to the chemistry in interstellar environments where reaction (1) is considered as the only source of HF.<sup>2</sup> In parallel, the F + H<sub>2</sub> reaction has been the subject of numerous dynamic and theoretical investigations (e.g. review 3 and refs therein). Indeed, since 1972, when the first *ab initio* potential energy surface (PES) was created,<sup>4</sup> about two dozen new or modified PES have appeared.<sup>3</sup> Theoretical research of the F + H<sub>2</sub> reaction has made a progress, and at present the theory seems to reproduce the experimental kinetic and dynamic observations quite well.<sup>3</sup>

Accurate experimental determination of the Arrhenius parameters for the rate constants of the reactions of F atom with  $H_2$  and its isotope  $D_2$ 

$$F + D_2 \rightarrow DF + D$$
 (2)

in an extended temperature range is of importance for theory, since they carry information on the energetics of the reaction and the extent of the tunneling effect, which are important for further refinement of PES. However, despite the interest to the reactions of F atoms with  $H_2$  and  $D_2$ , and a large number of dedicated studies, kinetic database for these reactions seems incomplete and unsatisfactory compared to the current high level of the theoretical calculations. For the  $F + H_2$  reaction, only two<sup>5,6</sup> of the four most extended temperature-dependent studies<sup>5-8</sup> were carried out at temperatures above 376 K, and, in addition, the data on the rate constant from one of them<sup>6</sup> are widely scattered. For reaction  $F + D_2$ , only one study<sup>5</sup> was realized at temperatures above 373 K and the results of three available relatively extended temperature-dependent studies differ by a factor of 1.3-1.5 at temperatures between 230 and 360 K.<sup>5,7,8</sup> As a result of the uncertainties in the values of the rate constants for reactions (1) and (2) ( $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , respectively), the kinetic isotope effect (KIE) calculated as  $k_1/k_2$  varies by a factor of up to 1.7 depending on temperature. Above

analysis is in line with the conclusion of the most recent critical review of the kinetic data for reactions (1) and (2) by Persky and Kornweitz<sup>1</sup> that "additional careful experimental studies of the kinetics of the  $F + H_2$  system would be very useful in order to support our evaluations or to update them."

This paper presents the results of an experimental study of the reactions of F atom with  $H_2$  and  $D_2$ , including measurements of the rate constants and an independent determination of the kinetic isotope effect ( $k_1/k_2$  ratio) as a function of temperature in an extended temperature range, T = 220 - 960 K.

## **2 EXPERIMENTAL**

Kinetic measurements have been conducted at nearly 2 Torr total pressure of Helium using a conventional fast-flow reactor combined with a molecular beam sampling electron-impact ionization mass spectrometer operated at 25–30 eV energy. Depending on the temperature range two different flow reactors were used. High temperature reactor, used at T = 299 - 960 K, consisted of a Quartz tube (45 cm length and 2.5 cm i.d.) with an electrical heater and water-cooled attachments (Figure S1a, Supporting Information (SI)). Low temperature reactor (Figure S1b, SI), used at T = 220 - 325 K, consisted of a Pyrex tube (45 cm length and 2.4 cm i.d.) surrounded by a jacket through which a thermostated ethanol was circulated. To reduce the heterogeneous loss of F atoms, the inner surface of the low temperature reactor was coated with Halocarbon wax.

Fluorine atoms were generated from the microwave discharge in  $F_2$ /He mixtures in a ceramic (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) tube (Figures S1a – S1c), which was used to avoid potential reactions of F atoms with glass surface inside the microwave cavity. Monitoring of molecular fluorine by mass spectrometry showed that more than 95% of  $F_2$  was dissociated in the microwave discharge. Prior to their sampling to the mass spectrometer, fluorine atoms were converted to FBr by reaction with  $Br_2$  ([Br<sub>2</sub>] = (4 - 6)×10<sup>13</sup> molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>, added at the end of the reactor 6 cm upstream of the sampling cone as shown in Figure S1a),

F + Br<sub>2</sub> 
$$\rightarrow$$
 Br + FBr (3)  
 $k_3 = (1.28 \pm 0.20) \times 10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1} (\text{T} = 299 - 940 \text{ K}),^{13}$ 

and were finally detected at m/z = 98/100 (FBr<sup>+</sup>). Reaction (3) in excess of Br<sub>2</sub> was also used for the determination of the absolute concentrations of F atoms by linking the concentration of F atoms to the consumed fraction of [Br<sub>2</sub>]: [F] = [FBr] =  $\Delta$ [Br<sub>2</sub>]. The absolute concentrations of all stable species (H<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>2</sub>, Br<sub>2</sub>, F<sub>2</sub>) in the reactor were calculated from their flow rates obtained from the measurements of the pressure drop of their mixtures in He stored in calibrated volume flasks. All species were detected by mass spectrometry at their parent peaks: m/z = 160 (Br<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>), 98/100 (BrF<sup>+</sup>), 38 (F<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>), 21 (DF<sup>+</sup>).

The purities of the gases used were as follows: He >99.9995% (Alphagaz), passed through liquid nitrogen trap;  $D_2$  >99.7% (Alphagaz);  $H_2$  >99.998% (Alphagaz);  $Br_2$  >99.99% (Aldrich);  $F_2$ , 5% in helium (Alphagaz).

## **3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### 3.1 Rate Constant of Reaction (1): Absolute Measurements

The absolute measurements of  $k_1$  were carried out under pseudo-first order conditions monitoring consumption of F atoms ( $[F]_0 = (2 - 4) \times 10^{11}$  molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>) in excess of H<sub>2</sub> (the ranges of the initial concentrations of H<sub>2</sub> used are shown in Table 1). The flow velocity in the reactor was in the range (1750-2920) cm s<sup>-1</sup>. The F atom decays were treated with an exponential function,  $[F] = [F]_0 \times \exp(-k_1' \times t)$ , where  $k_1' = k_1 \times [H_2] + k_w$  is the pseudo-first-order rate constant and  $k_w$  corresponds to F atom loss rate in the absence of  $H_2$  in the reactor. Examples of the kinetic runs observed at T = 400 K are shown in Figure S2 (SI). To take into account the consumption of the excess reactant, H2, the average concentration of H2 in the reaction zone, calculated as  $[H_2]=[H_2]_0-\Delta[F]\times(k_1'-k_w)/k_1'$ , was used in the treatment of the experimental data. As one could expect, the corrections on [H<sub>2</sub>]<sub>0</sub> were insignificant (within a few percent) in the most kinetic runs, however reached up to 20% in a few experiments with the lowest concentrations of H2. Examples of the dependencies of the pseudo-first order rate constant,  $k_1' = k_1 \times [H_2] + k_w$ , on concentration of  $H_2$  at different temperatures are shown in Figures 1 and S3(SI). All measured values of  $k_1$  were corrected for the effects of axial and radial diffusion of fluorine atoms. 14 Corrections were <10 % in the vast majority of the experiments and up to 18% in a few kinetic runs. The slopes of the straight lines in Figures 1 and S3 provide the values of  $k_1$  at respective temperatures. All the results of the absolute measurements of  $k_1$  at different temperatures are shown in Table 1. The combined uncertainty on the measurements of the rate constants was estimated to be  $\leq$  15 %, including (in quadrature) statistical error (within a few percent, Table 1) and those on the measurements of the flows (5%), pressure (3%), temperature (1%) and absolute concentration of  $H_2$  (< 10%).

#### 3.2. Rate Constant of Reaction (1): Relative Measurements

In this series of experiments, the rate constant of the reaction of F atoms with  $H_2$  was measured relative to that of F atoms with  $Br_2$ . The experiments consisted in a fast titration of F atoms in reaction with a mixture of  $H_2$  and  $Br_2$  and the measurements of FBr yield as a function of the  $[H_2]/[Br_2]$  ratio:

$$F + H_2 \rightarrow HF + H$$
 (1)

$$F + Br_2 \rightarrow FBr + Br$$
 (3)

The fraction of the initial concentration of F atoms, [F]<sub>0</sub>, transformed to FBr in reaction 3, is:

$$[FBr] = \frac{k_3[Br_2]}{k_3[Br_2] + k_1[H_2] + k_w} \times [F]_0$$

Rearrangement of this expression provides:

$$\frac{[F]_0}{[FBr]} - 1 = \frac{k_1[H_2]}{k_3[Br_2]} + \frac{k_W}{k_3[Br_2]}$$
 (I)

At a constant concentration of Br<sub>2</sub>, the second term in equation (I) is constant and  $k_1/k_3$  can be determined as a slope of the linear dependence of ([F]<sub>0</sub>/[FBr] - 1) on the [H<sub>2</sub>]/[Br<sub>2</sub>] ratio. In the experiments, FBr was monitored in the presence of Br<sub>2</sub> in both H<sub>2</sub> -free system, corresponding to [F]<sub>0</sub>, and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub> in the reactor, corresponding to the fraction of [F]<sub>0</sub> reacted with Br<sub>2</sub>. Reaction time was around 0.02 s, [F]<sub>0</sub> = (0.5-1.0)×10<sup>11</sup>, [Br<sub>2</sub>]  $\approx$  9×10<sup>12</sup> molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>, the ranges of concentrations of H<sub>2</sub> are presented in Table 2.

The relative measurements of  $k_1$  were carried out in an uncoated quartz reactor at three temperatures: T = 320, 370 and 575 K. The observed experimental data are shown in Figure 2. In accordance with Equation I, the slopes of the straight lines in Figure 2 provide the values of  $k_1/k_3$  at respective temperatures. Final values of  $k_1$  (Table 2) were calculated with  $k_3 = (1.28 \pm 0.20) \times 10^{-10}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> (T = 299 – 940 K), determined in a recent study from this group.<sup>13</sup>

#### 3.3. Rate Constant of Reaction (1): Comparison with Previous Data

Figure 3 summarizes the results of the current measurements of the rate constant of reaction (1) in comparison with those from previous temperature dependence studies. The multiple experimental data for  $k_1$  at room temperature (293-300 K)<sup>15-24</sup> were analyzed in previous evaluations.<sup>1,25</sup> Persky and Kornweitz<sup>1</sup> considered that the most accurate results for  $k_1$  available at that moment were those of Clyne and Hodgson,<sup>22</sup> Wurzberg and Houston,<sup>8</sup> and Stevens et al.,<sup>7</sup> and recommended  $k_1 = (2.43 \pm 0.15) \times 10^{-11}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> at T = 298 K, the mean value from the three studies. Concerning the results from this study, one can note an excellent agreement between absolute and relative measurements of the rate constant. Least-squares analysis of the present temperature dependent data for  $k_1$  yields the following Arrhenius expression in the temperature range T = 220-960 K:

$$k_1 = (1.24 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(507 \pm 23)/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$$

with  $2\sigma$  uncertainties representing the precision of the fit. Our data are in very good agreement with the previous studies of Wurzberg and Houston,<sup>8</sup> and Stevens et al.,<sup>7</sup> reporting  $k_1 = 1.0 \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(433 \pm 50)/T)$  at T = 190-373 K and  $(1.2 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(470 \pm 10) \times 10^{-10})$ 30)/T) cm $^{3}$ molecule $^{-1}$ s $^{-1}$  at T = 221-376 K, respectively. In the work of Stevens et al., <sup>7</sup> the rate constant of reaction (1) was measured in a discharge flow system under experimental conditions close to those of the present work. F atoms were detected through their chemical conversion to D atoms in reaction with D2, followed by D-atom detection by atomic resonance scattering. In the study of Wurzberg and Houston, 8 the reaction rate constant was derived by monitoring the chemiluminescence of the reaction product, HF, formed upon dissociation of SF<sub>6</sub> in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>. Similar method was applied in the study of Heidner et al. who reported  $k_1 = (2.16 \pm 0.42) \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(595 \pm 50)/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1} \text{ at T} = 295$ 765 K. The absolute values of  $k_1$  measured by Heidner et al.<sup>5</sup> are by a factor of 1.4-1.7 higher than the current data, and the difference increases with temperature. The values of  $k_1$ measured by Igoshin et al.<sup>26</sup> at two temperatures (195 and 296 K), although considered in previous reviews as rather uncertain,  $^{1,25}$  and those reported by Homann et al.  $^{27}$  (in a rather narrow temperature range 300-400 K) are also in a reasonable agreement with the present measurements. In loffe et al. 6 determined  $k_1$  at T = 293-700 K in a discharge flow system with direct detection of fluorine atom decays in excess of H2 by Electron Spin Resonance (ESR) method. As one can see in Figure 3, their rather scattered data differ significantly from other studies, especially at T < 500 K. The present measurements are in good agreement (within <20%) with the recommendation from the critical review of Persky and Kornweitz,  $^1k_1 = (1.1 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(450 \pm 50)/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \text{ for T} = 190-376 \text{ K} \text{ (dashed blue line in Figure 3), and with that from the most recent NASA/JPL evaluation,} <math>^{28}k_1 = 1.4 \times 10^{-10} \exp(-500/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \text{ (uncertainty factor of 1.2) for T} = 190-765 \text{ K} \text{ (dotted blue line in Figure 3).}$ 

In Figure 4, the experimental data for  $k_1$  are shown in comparison with some theoretical calculations<sup>29-31</sup> of the rate constant in the relevant temperature range. Looking at Figure 4, one can state that the current level of theoretical understanding of the F + H<sub>2</sub> system makes it possible to reproduce the kinetic data with very good accuracy. It is interesting to note the almost perfect agreement (most likely, accidental) between experimental data from the present work and those calculated by Wang et al.<sup>31</sup> and Chen et al. with CSZ (Chen, Sun and Zhang) PES.<sup>30</sup>

## 3.4. Rate Constant of Reaction (2)

The rate constant of the reaction of F atoms with  $D_2$  was determined in an absolute way, similar to the measurements of  $k_1$ , from the kinetics of F atom consumption ( $[F]_0 = (2.0 - 4.0) \times 10^{11}$  molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>) monitored in excess of  $D_2$  (see Table 3 for the range of  $D_2$  concentrations). Examples of F atom decays observed at different concentrations of  $D_2$  at T = 440 K are shown in Figure S4 (SI). Typical plots of the pseudo-first-order rate constant,  $k_2' = k_2 \times [D_2] + k_w$ , versus concentration of  $D_2$  are shown in Figures 5 and S5 (SI). Diffusion corrections on  $k_2'$  were usually less than 10% being up to 15% in a few kinetic runs at highest temperatures of the study. All the results obtained for  $k_2$  in the current work are shown in Table 3.

The available for  $k_2$  experimental data are summarized in Figure 6. The solid line in Figure 6 results from a least-squares analysis of the present experimental data and provides the following Arrhenius expression for  $k_2$ :

$$k_2 = (8.47 \pm 0.42) \times 10^{-11} \exp(-(670 \pm 16)/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1},$$

where the uncertainties are  $2\sigma$  statistical ones. The total uncertainty on the rate constant of 15% is estimated for the whole temperature range of the study. The present data for  $k_2$  are

practically identical to those reported by Stevens et al. T = 228-358 K:  $k_2 = (9.3 \pm 1.1) \times 10^{-1}$  $^{11}$  exp(-680± 50/T) cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. The absolute values of  $k_2$  reported by Heidner et al.<sup>5</sup> (T = 295-678 K) and Wurzberg and Houston<sup>8</sup> (T = 190-373 K) are up to a factor of 1.5 higher than the present data, although the reaction activation factors reported in those studies, 604±71 and 554±50 K, respectively, are close to those determined by Stevens et al. and in the present work. The parallel shift between the two sets of kinetic data seems to support the assumption of Stevens et al.<sup>7</sup> on the possible systematic error between their data and those of both Heidner et al.  $^{5}$  and Wurzberg and Houston.  $^{8}$  The values of  $k_{2}$  reported by Igoshin et al.<sup>26</sup> at two temperatures, 195 and 295 K, which are significantly higher than all other data, were analyzed in the reviews of Anderson<sup>25</sup> and Persky and Kornweitz<sup>1</sup> and estimated to be highly uncertain. The Arrhenius expression  $k_2 = (1.06 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{-10}$  exp(-635± 55/T) cm<sup>3</sup>molecule<sup>-1</sup>s<sup>-1</sup> (dashed line in Figure 6), recommended by Persky and Kornweitz<sup>1</sup> in a critical evaluation of the available kinetic data for reaction of fluorine atoms with  $D_2$  for T = 190-376 K, provides the values of  $k_2$  by a factor of 1.4-1.5 higher than those measured in the present work. The above recommendation was based on the expression for  $k_1 = 1.1 \times 10^{-10} \text{ exp}(-450/\text{T}) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$  and that for the kinetic isotope effect,  $k_1/k_2 =$  $1.04 \times 10^{-10} \exp(186/T)$ .<sup>34</sup> It can be noted that  $k_1/k_2 = 1.46 \times 10^{-10} \exp(163/T)$ , based on the Arrhenius expressions for  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  determined in the present work, provides the values of KIE by nearly 30% higher (at T = 220-376 K) compared with those used in the critical evaluation. To determine the kinetic isotope effect more accurately, we have carried out independent relative measurements of the  $k_1$  to  $k_2$  ratio described in the next section.

## 3.5. Kinetic Isotope Effect

In addition to the direct measurements of the rate constants  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , their ratio was measured using a relative rate method. The applied procedure was similar to that employed in the relative measurements of the rate constant of the F + H<sub>2</sub> reaction. F atoms were titrated with a mixture of H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> (Figure S1c, SI) and the yield of DF was measured as a function of the [H<sub>2</sub>]/[D<sub>2</sub>] ratio:

$$F + H_2 \rightarrow HF + H$$
 (1)

$$F + D_2 \rightarrow DF + D$$
 (2)

The fraction of the initial concentration of F atoms,  $[F]_0$ , transformed to DF, is:

$$[DF] = \frac{k_2[D_2]}{k_2[D_2] + k_1[H_2] + k_w} \times [F]_0,$$

or after rearrangement:

$$\frac{[F]_0}{[DF]} - 1 = \frac{k_1[H_2]}{k_2[D_2]} + \frac{k_W}{k_2[D_2]} \tag{II}$$

Examples of the observed experimental data are shown in Figures 7 and S6 (SI). The final values of  $k_1/k_2$  at different temperatures, determined, in accordance with equation II, from the slopes of the linear dependencies in Figures 7 and S6, are given in Table 4.

Figure 8 summarizes the results of the previous and current temperature dependent measurements of the kinetic isotope effect for the F atom reactions with H2 and D2. One can note that the experimental data from the present study obtained with two different methods, direct measurements of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  (dashed black line,  $k_1/k_2 = 1.46 \times \exp(163/T)$  with estimated total uncertainty of 20% at all temperatures) and relative measurements of KIE (filled circles, fitted with a solid black line,  $k_1/k_2 = (1.58\pm0.05)\times \exp((131\pm2)/T)$  (with  $2\sigma$ statistical uncertainties, total estimated uncertainty being of nearly 10%), are in excellent agreement (within 7%) in the temperature range used, T = 220 – 960 K. Although KIE derived from the rate constant data of Heidner et al.  $(k_1/k_2 = 2.1 \times \exp(9/T))^5$  and Stevens et al.  $(k_1/k_2 = 2.1 \times \exp(9/T))^5$ = 1.29×exp(210/T))<sup>7</sup> exhibit different temperature dependence, the absolute values of  $k_1/k_2$ from these studies deviate by less than 15% from the present results. KIE reported in the relative measurements of Grant and Root,  $k_1/k_2 = (1.04\pm0.06)\times\exp((192\pm18)/T)$ , 35 and Persky  $(k_1/k_2 = (1.04\pm0.02)\times \exp((186\pm5)/T))^{34}$  are very close to each other and are by approximately 20% lower compared to the current data. Grant and Root<sup>35</sup> used a reactive competition between H<sub>2</sub>(D<sub>2</sub>) and C<sub>3</sub>F<sub>6</sub> for F atoms, measuring HF(DF) yield as a function of the composition of the  $H_2(D_2) + C_3F_6$  mixtures. In the study of Persky, <sup>34</sup> carried out in a discharge flow system, KIE was determined through mass spectrometric detection of [HF] to [DF] ratio upon consumption of F atoms in competitive reactions with H2 and D2. Similar approach, except for a few details, was used in the present relative measurements of KIE. Firstly, in the current work only DF was monitored and, as a result, there was no need to apply the corrections on HF signal due to formation of this compound in the microwave discharge and on the walls of the reactor and movable injector, and due to contribution of  $D_2O$  at m/z = 20.34 Secondly, there was no need to measure the absolute concentrations of HF and DF (in ref. 34 the sensitivities for the detection of these species by mass spectrometry were assumed to be identical): in the current experiments, initial concentration of F atom in the reactor could be related to DF signal intensity in the  $H_2$  -free system, when F atoms are consumed exclusively in reaction with  $D_2$ .

Considering the self-consistence of the independent measurements of the rate constants,  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ , and their ratio, the following Arrhenius expressions are recommended from this study at T = 220 – 960 K:

$$k_1 = (1.24 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(507 \pm 23)/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$$

$$k_2 = (8.47 \pm 0.42) \times 10^{-11} \exp(-(670 \pm 16)/T) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1},$$

with conservative independent of temperature uncertainty of 15%. For the kinetic isotope effect both expression resulting from the ratio of the recommended  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ ,

$$k_1/k_2 = 1.46 \times \exp(163/T)$$
,

and that directly measured (leading to similar within 7% results),

$$k_1/k_2 = 1.58 \times \exp(131/T)$$
,

can be used with conservative uncertainty of 10% at all temperatures of the study.

The self-consistent kinetic data set for the reaction of F atom with  $H_2$  and its isotope analog F +  $D_2$ , reported in this paper, seems to represent a good experimental basis for further refinement of the theoretical models.

## **4 CONCLUSIONS**

The rate constants of the reactions of F atoms with H<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>2</sub> have been measured using a discharge flow reactor combined with an electron impact ionization mass spectrometer at T = 220 - 960 K:  $k_1 = (1.24 \pm 0.09) \times 10^{-10} \exp(-(507 \pm 23)/\text{T}) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1} \text{ and } k_2 = (8.47 \pm 0.42) \times 10^{-11} \exp(-(670 \pm 16)/\text{T}) \text{ cm}^3 \text{molecule}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$ . The Arrhenius expressions for  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  and independently measured kinetic isotope effect,  $k_1/k_2 = (1.58 \pm 0.05) \times \exp((131 \pm 2)/\text{T})$ , provide a self-consistent data set for the F + H<sub>2</sub> reaction and its isotope analog F + D<sub>2</sub> over an extended temperature range and represent a good experimental basis to further refine the theoretical calculations.

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# **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

Additional supporting information may be found online in the Supporting Information section at the end of the article.

#### **REFERENCES**

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# **TABLES LEGENDS**

- **TABLE 1** Reaction F + H<sub>2</sub>: summary of the absolute measurements of the rate constant
- **TABLE 2** Experimental conditions and results of the relative measurements of  $k_1$
- **TABLE 3** Reaction  $F + D_2$ : summary of the measurements of the rate constant
- **TABLE 4** Experimental conditions and results of the relative measurements of  $k_1/k_2$

**TABLES** 

**TABLE 1** Reaction F + H<sub>2</sub>: summary of the absolute measurements of the rate constant

T (K) <sup>a</sup>	[H <sub>2</sub> ] (10 <sup>13</sup> molecule cm <sup>-3</sup> )	$k_1$ (± 2 $\sigma$ ) (10 <sup>-11</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Reactor surface <sup>b</sup>		
220	0.18-2.98	1.39±0.03	HW		
235	0.22-3.31	1.47±0.02	HW		
250	0.17-3.09	1.66±0.02	HW		
265	0.18-2.98	1.84±0.03	HW		
285	0.12-2.44	1.97±0.03	HW		
298	0.13-2.97	2.26±0.04	HW		
299	0.16-2.26	2.24±0.04	Q		
320	0.15-2.51	2.40±0.03	HW		
340	0.20-1.85	2.59±0.05	Q		
400	0.17-1.87	3.51±0.07	Q		
445	0.21-1.82	3.83±0.04	Q		
540	0.12-1.51	4.92±0.07	Q		
660	0.12-1.14	5.77±0.03	Q		
780	0.11-1.14	6.44±0.11	Q		
960	0.08-0.97	7.90±0.11	Q		
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 $<sup>^{\</sup>sigma}$  8-13 kinetic runs at each temperature.  $^{b}$  HW: halocarbon wax; Q: quartz.

**TABLE 2** Experimental conditions and results of the relative measurements of  $k_1$ 

$T(\mathbf{K})$	$[H_2]^a$	$[H_2]/[Br_2]$	$k_1/k_3 \ (\pm 2\sigma)$	$k_1^{\ b}$
320	0.64-26.5	0.58-25.9	$0.187 \pm 0.002$	2.39
370	0.49-16.3	0.51-17.2	$0.238 \pm 0.002$	3.05
575	0.45-14.0	0.54-16.7	$0.414 \pm 0.004$	5.30

**TABLE 3** Reaction F + D<sub>2</sub>: summary of the measurements of the rate constant

<i>T</i> (K) <sup>a</sup>	$[D_2]$ (10 <sup>13</sup> molecule cm <sup>-3</sup> )	$k_2 (\pm 2\sigma)^b$ (10 <sup>-11</sup> cm <sup>3</sup> molecule <sup>-1</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	Reactor surface <sup>c</sup>
220	0.64-7.77	0.416±0.034	HW
235	0.57-7.06	0.494±0.007	HW

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Units of  $10^{13}$  molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>.

<sup>b</sup> Units of  $10^{-11}$  cm<sup>3</sup> molecule<sup>-1</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>, estimated total uncertainty on  $k_1$  is nearly 20% and includes the uncertainty on the rate constant of the reference reaction.

2	250	0.64-6.04	0.580±0.009	HW
2	265	0.36-6.21	0.666±0.008	HW
2	285	0.31-4.70	0.835±0.007	HW
2	199	0.46-4.95	0.861±0.012	Q
3	305	0.30-6.21	0.930±0.017	HW
3	325	0.30-5.69	1.04±0.09	HW
3	365	0.31-3.30	1.39±0.02	Q
4	140	0.25-3.11	1.72±0.02	Q
5	335	0.12-2.09	2.45±0.03	Q
6	550	0.15-1.84	3.00±0.04	Q
7	<b>'</b> 90	0.20-2.18	3.65±0.04	Q
9	960	0.13-1.59	4.39±0.08	Q

**TABLE 4** Experimental conditions and results of the relative measurements of  $k_1/k_2$ 

<i>T</i> (K) <sup>a</sup>	[H <sub>2</sub> ] <sup>b</sup>	$[D_2]^b$	$k_1/k_2$ (± 2 $\sigma$ )	Reactor surface <sup>c</sup>
220	0.21-6.0	8.2	2.98±0.04	HW
235	0.32-6.4	6.6	2.74±0.03	HW
250	0.19-7.2	5.9	2.62±0.02	HW
265	0.21-6.7	5.4	2.54±0.04	HW
285	0.27-6.1	4.9	2.44±0.02	HW
298	0.17-6.7	5.8	2.38±0.03	HW
301	0.19-5.5	4.2	2.45±0.02	Q
320	0.30-6.0	5.2	2.36±0.04	HW
365	0.11-4.7	4.6	2.31±0.02	Q
440	0.18-4.6	3.9	2.12±0.01	Q
535	0.12-4.9	4.0	2.08±0.02	Q
650	0.18-4.7	3.2	1.90±0.02	Q
790	0.08-3.6	2.5	1.85±0.04	Q
960	0.06-3.1	2.0	1.81±0.02	Q

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> 10-13 runs at each temperature.
 <sup>b</sup> Units of 10<sup>13</sup> molecule cm<sup>-3</sup>.
 <sup>c</sup> HW: halocarbon wax; Q: quartz.

 $<sup>^</sup>a$  9-11 kinetic runs at each temperature.  $^b$  estimated total uncertainty on  $k_2$  is ≤ 15%.  $^c$  HW: halocarbon wax; Q: quartz.

#### FIGURE LEGENDS

- **FIGURE 1** Reaction F + H<sub>2</sub>: plots of pseudo-first-order rate constant  $k_1'$  versus concentration of H<sub>2</sub> at different temperatures. Partially shown error bars represent typical uncertainties ( $\leq$ 5%) on the determination of  $k_1'$ .
- **FIGURE 2** Yield of FBr from F atom titration by the reaction with  $Br_2 + H_2$  mixtures at different temperatures. Partially shown error bars represent typical uncertainties of the measurements ( $\sim 5\%$ ).
- **FIGURE 3** Reaction  $F + H_2$ : summary of the data on the temperature dependence of the reaction rate constant.
- **FIGURE 4** Reaction  $F + H_2$ : comparison of the experimental data with theoretical calculations of the reaction rate constant. Potential energy surface (PES) used in calculations: SW (Stark and Werner), <sup>32</sup> FXZ (Fu, Xu and Zhang), <sup>33</sup> CSZ (Chen, Sun and Zhang). <sup>30</sup>
- **FIGURE 5** Reaction F + D<sub>2</sub>: plots of pseudo-first-order rate constant  $k_2$ ' versus concentration of D<sub>2</sub> at different temperatures.
- **FIGURE 6** Reaction  $F + D_2$ : summary of the available data on the temperature dependence of the reaction rate constant.
- **FIGURE 7** Yield of DF from F atom titration with  $D_2 + H_2$  mixtures at different temperatures. Partially shown error bars represent typical uncertainties of the measurements ( $\sim 5\%$ ).
- **FIGURE 8** Temperature dependence of the kinetic isotope effect  $k_1/k_2$ . AM:  $k_1/k_2$  calculated from the reported values of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ ; RM: relative measurements of the  $k_1$  to  $k_2$  ratio. Partially shown error bars represent estimated total uncertainty of 10% on the present measurements.

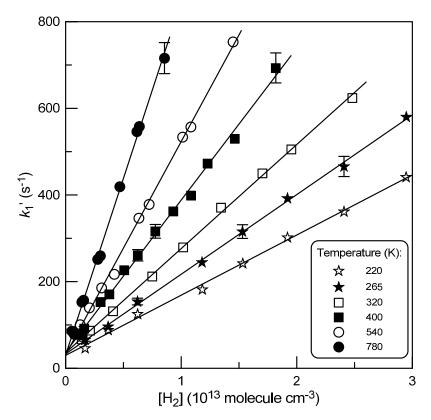


Figure 1.

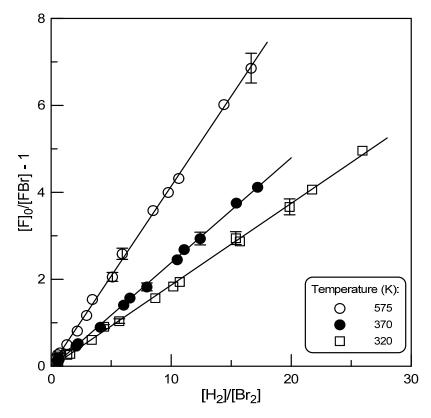


Figure 2.

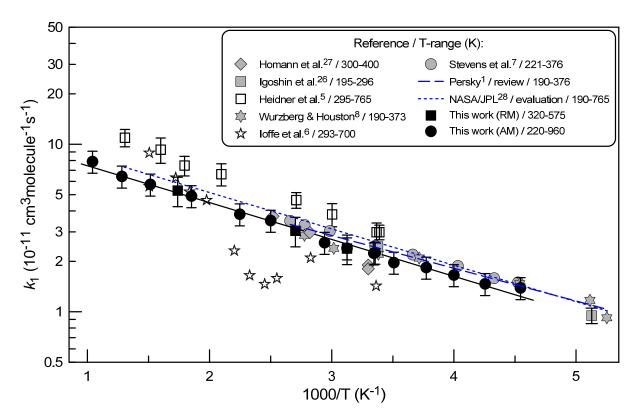


Figure 3.

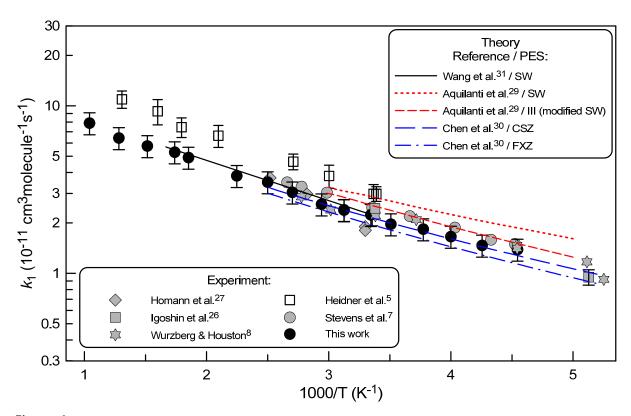


Figure 4.

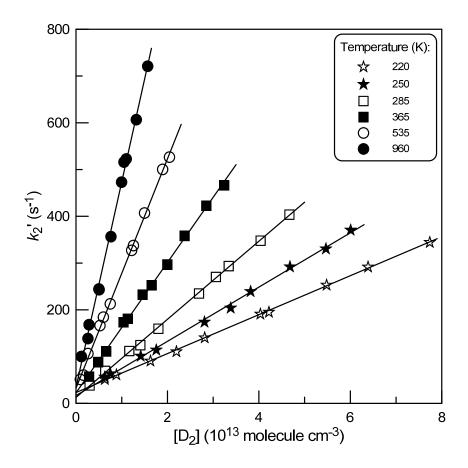


Figure 5.

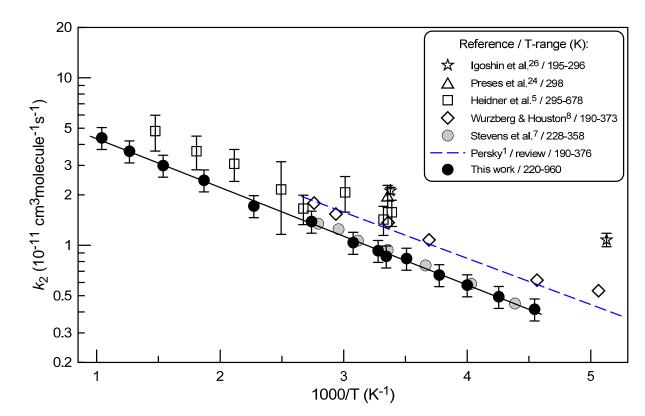


Figure 6.

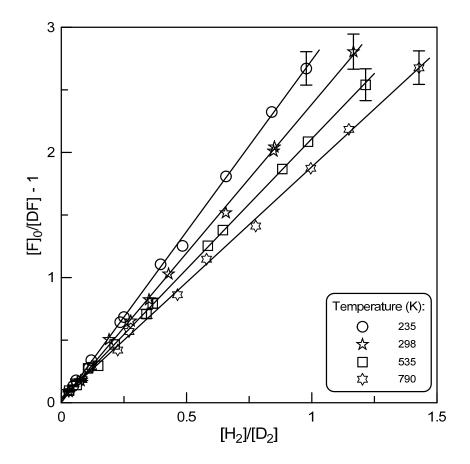


Figure 7.

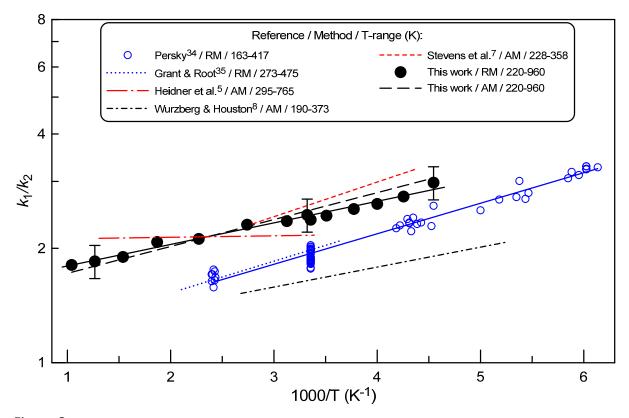


Figure 8.