

## REGULAR ARTICLE

# Accurate vibration-rotation spectra of $X^1\Sigma^+$ and $A^1\Pi$ in BH molecule with explicitly correlated method

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**Abstract** High-level *ab initio* calculations on the ground state  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and the excited state  $A^1\Pi$  of the BH molecule were carried out by using the explicitly correlated multireference configuration interaction method (MRCI-F12) plus Davidson correction (+Q) and scalar relativistic correction (+SR). The potential energy curves (PECs) of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states were obtained. From the computed PECs, the spectroscopic constants were determined, which are close to the observed values. Further comparisons show that the spectroscopic results determined by the MRCI-F12+Q+SR method have the best accuracy. Therefore, the PECs from the MRCI-F12+Q+SR calculation are used for the determination of the vibrational wavefunctions for the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states. And the corresponding vibrational levels  $\Delta G_v$ , vibration-dependent rotational constant  $B_v$  and centrifugal distortion constant  $D_v$  were calculated. Finally, the transition properties of the  $A^1\Pi$ - $X^1\Sigma^+$ , including Franck-Condon factors, transition energies and radiative lifetimes of the  $A^1\Pi$  state, were obtained and found to be in good agreement with the available experiments. The computed results are helpful to further experimental study of laser cooling BH molecule.

**AMS subject classifications:** 81V45, 81V55, 70F07

**Key Words:** MRCI-F12, Spectroscopic constant, Vibration levels, Radiative lifetime.

## 1 Introduction

Boron compounds have a wide range of applications in many technological areas such as separations, catalyst promoters, radiation therapy and potential high-energy fuels [1, 2]. And

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the diatomic boron hydride (BH), one of the simplest molecules in nature, is also the subject of several spectroscopic studies in the gas phase [3-9]. In addition, BH is also the candidate molecule for the laser cooling which has been applied with great success to a wide variety of atomic species and achieves huge advances in many fields including metrology, sensing, interferometry, tests of fundamental physics, ultracold collisions and studies of quantum degenerate gases [10]. Therefore, the BH, as well as other hydrides or diatomic system [11-14], has become the subject of a large number of theoretical and experimental studies for several decades.

The BH molecule was first studied in 1931 by Lochte-Holtgreven and van der Vleugel, who recorded the optically allowed  $A^1\Pi-X^1\Sigma^+$  transition at 433 nm [15]. Sahni carried out the first *ab initio* study on the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state of the BH molecule in 1956 [16]. Since then, a lot of theoretical and experimental investigations have been reported mainly on the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state of BH. Many investigations have focused on the equilibrium internuclear distance  $R_e$  and the dissociation energy  $D_e$ . For example, in 1967 Cade and Huo computed the  $R_e=1.220$  Å,  $D_e=64.108$  kcal/mol [17] and Miliordos and Mavridis obtained the dissociation energy  $D_e=84.78$  kcal/mol by using the restricted coupled cluster theory with single-double and perturbative triple excitation (RCCSDT) in 2008 [18]. Recently, the  $D_e$  was calculated to be 84.92 kcal/mol by Koput with multi-reference averaged coupled-pair function (MR-ACPF) method [19]. And several reports concerning the potential energy curves of low-lying electronic states, as well as the spectroscopic constants of BH, were found during 1970-1975 [20-22]. The potential energy curves and spectroscopic constants of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states for BH have been studied by Luh in 1983 [23]. The Fourier transforms spectrum of the  $A^1\Pi-X^1\Sigma^+$  transition of BH were recorded near 4330 Å by Fernando [4], and the some vibration levels  $\Delta G_v$  of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states were obtained. The radiative lifetimes that 116 ns ( $v'=0$ ), 137 ns ( $v'=1$ ) and 176 ns ( $v'=2$ ) for the  $A^1\Pi$  state were calculated by Diercksen in 1987 [24]. In 1989, the radiative lifetimes [25] of the  $A^1\Pi$  state were measured to be  $127\pm 10$  ns ( $v'=0$ ),  $146\pm 12$  ns ( $v'=1$ ) and  $172\pm 14$  ns ( $v'=2$ ), respectively. Since BH molecule is a candidate molecule for laser cooling [11], the detailed rotation-vibration spectroscopic information is therefore important. Very recently, some theoretical efforts [19] have been made to reproduce the experimental ground-state  $G_v$  values [3] given by Pianalto et al via computed high-level PEC of  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state

In present work, we carried out the high-level *ab initio* calculations on two low-lying electronic states of BH to obtain the accurate spectroscopic constants and rotation-vibration levels. The PECs of two electronic states,  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$ , were calculated with explicitly correlated multireference methods. The Davidson correction (+Q) and scalar relativistic (mass-velocity and Darwin term) corrections were taken into account. On the basis of computed PECs, the spectroscopic constants were determined by solving the nuclear-motion Schrödinger equations. Then, the vibrational energy levels  $\Delta G_v$ , the vibration-dependent

rotational constant  $B_v$  and centrifugal distortion constant  $D_v$  of the two electronic states were also obtained by numerically solving the one-dimensional ro-vibrational Schrödinger equations. The transition properties including the transition dipole moment (TDM), Franck-Condon factors, and the radiative lifetimes of the excited state  $A^1\Pi$  were also predicted.

## 2 Computational Method

In the present work, *ab initio* calculations on the electronic structure of the  $^{11}\text{B}^1\text{H}$  were performed with MOLPRO 2012 quantum chemistry program package [26]. The spectroscopic constants are determined by solving the radial Schrödinger equation with the aid of the LEVEL program [27].

The correlation-consistent basis sets cc-pwCV5Z-MP2FIT [28] for B atom and cc-pVQZ-MP2FIT [29] for H atom were selected in our calculation. In order to obtain the high-level PECs of BH, the Hartree-Fock calculation has been firstly carried out to generate the single-configuration wavefunction of the ground state for the BH molecule; then, the multi-configuration wavefunction was generated and optimized by using complete active space self-consistent field (CASSCF) [30, 31] method; finally, based on the CASSCF wavefunction, the dynamic correlation energies have been computed by using the explicitly correlated multi-reference configuration interaction (MRCI-F12) [32] approach. The Davidson (+Q) correction [33] was considered in order to treat the size-consistency error due to the truncated MRCI method. And the relativistic effect (SR) was estimated with Douglas-Kroll-Hess approach in combination with uncontracted cc-pVQZ basis [34].

In the current calculations, the  $C_{2v}$  ( $a_1/b_1/b_2/a_2$ ) point group was chosen in the electronic structure computations, which is the Abelian subgroup of the  $C_{\infty v}$  ( $\sigma/\pi/\delta/\dots$ ) point group. And the corresponding relationships between the reducible representations are  $\sigma^+=a_1$ ,  $\pi=b_1+b_2$ ,  $\delta=a_1+a_2$  and  $\sigma^-=a_2$ , respectively. For the BH molecule,  $5a_1$ ,  $2b_1$  and  $2b_2$  molecular orbitals are selected as the active space to construct the wavefunctions of the electronic states. The active space corresponds to the  $2s2p3s3p$  shells of B atom and the  $1s$  shell of H atom. The outermost  $2s^22p^1$  electrons of the B atom and  $1s^1$  electrons of the H atom were placed in the active space. It must be mentioned that the electrons of  $n=1$  shell for the B atom were correlated via singly and doubly electron excitation in the following MRCI-F12 computation.

At last, by solving the corresponding nuclear Schrödinger equation, the spectroscopic constants including adiabatic excitation energy  $T_e$ , equilibrium internuclear distance  $R_e$ , vibrational constants  $\omega_e$ , inharmonic coefficient  $\omega_e x_e$ , rotational constant  $B_e$  and vibration rotating coupling constant  $\alpha_e$ , were determined. Moreover, it should be pointed out that the calculations of spectroscopic constants were based on the lowest four vibrational levels for the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state and two for the  $A^1\Pi$  state. The dissociation energy  $D_e$  was obtained by subtracting

the molecular energy at  $R_e$  from the energy at a large separation. From the PECs of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states, we predicted the vibrational levels  $\Delta G_v$ , the vibration-dependent rotational constant  $B_v$  and the centrifugal distortion constant  $D_v$ . The TDM and the Franck-Condon factors were determined. Furthermore, the radiative lifetimes of  $A^1\Pi-X^1\Sigma^+$  transition, based on the calculated TDM and Franck-Condon factors, were predicted.

## 3 Results and discussion

### 3.1 The spectroscopic constants of BH

In this work, the electronic structure calculations were performed at the different levels of theory, MRCI-F12, MRCI-F12+Q and MRCI-F12+Q+SR. In the calculation of the PECs, we spacing the calculated electronic states was 0.05 Å for  $R=0.8-4$  Å, 0.1 Å for  $R=4-4.5$  Å and 1 Å for 5-10 Å. From the PECs, the spectroscopic constants ( $T_e$ ,  $R_e$ ,  $\omega_e$ ,  $\omega_e\chi_e$ ,  $B_e$ ,  $\alpha_e$ ,  $D_e$ ) of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states have been determined and tabulated in **Table 1**. At the same time, the previous theoretical and the experimental findings are also listed in Table 1 for comparison.

As tabulated in **Table 1**, for the ground state  $X^1\Sigma^+$ , the spectroscopic constants we determined by the three theoretical methods are close to each other. However, our computed spectroscopic constants including Davidson correction are somewhat improved by comparing with the MRCI-F12 method. At the same time, our computed  $R_e$  and  $\omega_e$  are in better agreement with the corresponding these experimental values [2-4]. However, the values of  $\omega_e\chi_e$  derived from these experiment measurements [2-4] exhibit the great deviations. The latest experimental value of  $\omega_e\chi_e$  was determined to be 47.710 cm<sup>-1</sup> [2], which is apparently smaller than the other experimental values of 49.338 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 49.326 cm<sup>-1</sup> [3, 4]. Our calculations with the three methods all support the latest experimental result [2]. Moreover, the calculated vibrational constant  $\omega_e$  with different methods are also very close to the results determined from the experiment [2]. In contrast, the result from the MRCI-F12 with Davidson correction and SR effect calculation has the smallest deviation with the observed value [2], and the difference between them is only 1.03 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Therefore, the  $R_e$  we evaluated using the MRCI-F12+Q+SR method is also reliable. Compared with the experimental and the previous theoretical, the  $R_e$  we evaluated is well excellently with experimental result [4] and the computation values with the methods including the CV effect such as CCSD(T)/cc-pCV5Z [35] and MR-ACPF/cc-pCV7Z [19]. It demonstrates that the CV effect has the great effect on the BH molecule. Our  $D_e$  value with MRCI-F12+Q+SR method differs from that determined with the Rydberg-Klein-Rees (RKR) method by 2.48 kcal/mol. In contrast, our computed  $D_e$  value (84.98 kcal/mol) is in accordance with the theoretical result (84.92 kcal/mol) [19] at the MR-ACPF/cc-pCV7Z level of theory. At the same time, our other computed spectroscopic

constants with MRCI-F12+Q+SR method excellently reproduce the observed values [2], the largest deviations are only 0.0541, 0.006  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the  $B_e$ ,  $\alpha_e$ , respectively.

**Table 1.** The spectroscopic constants of the  $\Lambda$ -S states

| $\Lambda$ -S  | Method           | $T_e$                | $R_e$            | $\omega_e$           | $\omega_e\chi_e$     | $B_e$                | $\alpha_e$           | $D_e$      |
|---------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|------------|
| State         |                  | ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | ( $\text{\AA}$ ) | ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) | (kcal/mol) |
| $X^1\Sigma^+$ | MRCI-F12         | 0                    | 1.2289           | 2369.50              | 47.170               | 12.0879              | 0.432                | 84.96      |
|               | MRCI-F12+Q       | 0                    | 1.2293           | 2366.28              | 47.232               | 12.0800              | 0.416                | 85.00      |
|               | MRCI-F12+Q+SR    | 0                    | 1.2293           | 2365.69              | 47.231               | 12.0801              | 0.416                | 84.98      |
|               | Expt.[2]         |                      |                  | 2364.66              | 47.710               | 12.026               | 0.422                |            |
| Expt.[3]      |                  | 0                    | 1.2322           | 2366.73              | 49.338               | 12.026               | 0.421                | 82.50      |
| Expt.[4]      |                  | 0                    | 1.2295           | 2368.62              | 49.326               |                      |                      |            |
| Calc.[11]     |                  |                      |                  |                      |                      |                      |                      | 85.01      |
| Calc.[35]     | FCI/cc-pV5Z      |                      | 1.2329           | 2358.21              | 49.2                 | 12.013               |                      |            |
|               | CCSD(T)/cc-pV5Z  |                      | 1.2327           | 2360.27              | 49.0                 | 12.016               | 0.420                |            |
|               | CCSD(T)/cc-pCV5Z |                      | 1.2295           | 2370.30              | 49.3                 | 12.079               |                      |            |
|               | CCSD(T)/cc-pV6Z  |                      | 1.2325           | 2360.25              | 49.3                 | 12.019               |                      |            |
| Calc.[19]     | cc-pCV7Z         |                      | 1.2293           |                      |                      |                      |                      | 84.92      |
| $A^1\Pi$      | MRCI-F12         | 23355.814            | 1.2214           | 2343.52              | 127.974              | 12.2798              | 0.733                | 20.598     |
|               | MRCI-F12+Q       | 23089.329            | 1.2212           | 2344.67              | 127.889              | 12.2830              | 0.739                | 20.659     |
|               | MRCI-F12+Q+SR    | 23099.838            | 1.2212           | 2343.96              | 128.178              | 12.2836              | 0.740                | 20.612     |
| Expt.[2]      |                  | 23105                |                  | 2342.41              | 127.8                | 12.2                 |                      |            |
| Expt.[36]     |                  | 23136                | 1.2186           | 2251                 |                      | 12.295               | 0.835                |            |
| Calc.[11]     |                  | 22997.9              | 1.2210           | 2404.6               | 147.3                | 12.2795              |                      | 20.980     |
| Calc.[18]     |                  | 23144                | 1.222            | 2341                 |                      |                      | 0.851                |            |
| Calc.[37]     |                  |                      | 1.2492           | 2118                 |                      |                      |                      |            |

Turning to the  $A^1\Pi$  state, the  $T_e$  values evaluated using the MRCI-F12 method without and with the Davidson correction differs from experimental measurements [2] by 250.814 and 15.671  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. Obviously, the Davidson correction leads to the great improvement of the  $T_e$  for the  $A^1\Pi$  state. Furthermore, the inclusion of the SR effect makes the deviation decrease to 5.162  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Similarly, among the calculated spectroscopic constants from the

different theoretical methods, both the  $R_e$  and  $\omega_e$  determined by the MRCI-F12+Q+SR method are in the best accuracy (1.2212 Å and 2343.96 cm<sup>-1</sup>) comparing with the previous measurements [2]. The dissociation energy of the A<sup>1</sup>Π state, to the best of the knowledge, has never been studied in experiment. Our predicted  $D_e$  is 20.612 kcal/mol in the preset work, which is very close to the theoretical value [11] of 20.980 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Therefore, comparing with experimental results, the MRCI-F12 method in combination with the Davidson and SR corrections leads to the best accuracy. On the other hand, as shown in **Table 1**, good agreements with the experiments [2] and other computations [11] could be found for the  $\omega_e\chi_e$ ,  $B_e$ ,  $\alpha_e$ . Therefore, the PECs with MRCI-F12+Q+SR method were chosen for the vibration-rotation levels calculations of the X<sup>1</sup>Σ<sup>+</sup> and A<sup>1</sup>Π states.

### 3.2 Rotation-vibration spectrum

**Table 2.** Vibrational levels  $\Delta G_v$  and rotational constants ( $B_v$ ,  $10^3 D_v$ ) of the X<sup>1</sup>Σ<sup>+</sup> state (all data are in units of cm<sup>-1</sup>)

| X <sup>1</sup> Σ <sup>+</sup> |           | $\Delta G_v$ |            |           | $B_v$     |          | $10^3 D_v$ |          |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|
| $V$                           | This work | Expt.[4]     | Errors (%) | Calc.[19] | This work | Expt.[4] | This work  | Expt.[4] |
| 0                             | 0         | 0            |            |           | 11.8718   | 11.8157  | 1.2455     | 1.2237   |
| 1                             | 2271.59   | 2269.3       | 0.10104    | 2269.60   | 11.4551   | 11.4009  | 1.2223     | 1.2020   |
| 2                             | 4447.64   | 4443.1       | 0.10207    | 4443.66   | 11.0449   | 10.9926  | 1.1987     | 1.1786   |
| 3                             | 6530.30   | 6523.6       | 0.10277    | 6524.36   | 10.6407   | 10.5898  | 1.1737     | 1.1418   |
| 4                             | 8521.82   | 8513.1       | 0.10241    |           | 10.2422   |          | 1.1455     |          |
| 5                             | 10424.42  |              |            |           | 9.8479    |          | 1.1120     |          |
| 6                             | 12240.22  |              |            |           | 9.4561    |          | 1.0703     |          |
| 7                             | 13971.26  |              |            |           | 9.0648    |          | 1.0195     |          |
| 8                             | 15619.15  |              |            |           | 8.6715    |          | 9.6027     |          |
| 9                             | 17184.90  |              |            |           | 8.2741    |          | 8.9571     |          |
| 10                            | 18668.83  |              |            |           | 7.8713    |          | 8.3069     |          |
| 11                            | 20070.40  |              |            |           | 7.4616    |          | 7.7302     |          |
| 12                            | 21387.97  |              |            |           | 7.0433    |          | 7.2709     |          |
| 13                            | 22618.96  |              |            |           | 6.6154    |          | 7.0061     |          |
| 14                            | 23759.46  |              |            |           | 6.1737    |          | 6.9784     |          |
| 15                            | 24804.20  |              |            |           | 5.7135    |          | 7.2618     |          |
| 16                            | 25746.12  |              |            |           | 5.2264    |          | 7.9236     |          |
| 17                            | 26576.17  |              |            |           | 4.7004    |          | 9.1116     |          |
| 18                            | 27282.72  |              |            |           | 4.1177    |          | 1.1071     |          |

|    |          |        |        |
|----|----------|--------|--------|
| 19 | 27851.13 | 3.4503 | 1.4349 |
| 20 | 28263.26 | 2.6501 | 2.0496 |
| 21 | 28497.80 | 1.6084 | 3.7983 |

On the basis of the PECs obtained from the MRCI-F12+Q+SR calculations, the vibrational levels  $\Delta G_v$ , vibration-dependent rotational constants  $B_v$  and centrifugal distortion constants  $D_v$  for both  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states were evaluated and tabulated in **Table 2** and **3**, respectively. We list the data of  $D_v$  results using the style of  $10^3 D_v$ , because the  $D_v$  results are so small. As listed in **Table 2** and **3**, totally 22 and 4 vibrational levels have been found for the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states, respectively. Meanwhile, the corresponding  $\Delta G_v$ ,  $B_v$  and  $D_v$  are also determined. However, the corresponding experimental data including only 5 and 3 vibrational levels are available. For the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state, the largest deviations of  $\Delta G_v$ ,  $B_v$  and  $D_v$  from experimental values [4] are only 8.72 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 0.0561 cm<sup>-1</sup>, and 0.0319 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The relative errors for all available vibrational levels are in the range of 0.10104%-0.10277%. This comparison indicates that our computed values are pretty close to the experimental values. And our calculated results are also in good agreement with the other theoretical values [19]. For  $A^1\Pi$  state, our computed values,  $\Delta G_v$ ,  $B_v$  and  $D_v$  differ from the experimental values [4] by 0.72, 0.0071 and 0.0193 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The comparison also manifests that our calculated values are in excellent agreement with the experimental ones. Moreover, our computed  $\Delta G_v$ ,  $B_v$  and  $D_v$  will be helpful for the further experiments.

**Table 3.** Vibrational levels  $\Delta G_v$  and rotational constants ( $B_v$ ,  $10^3 D_v$ ) of the  $A^1\Pi$  state (all data are in units of cm<sup>-1</sup>).

| $A^1\Pi$ | $\Delta G_v$ |          | $B_v$     |          | $10^3 D_v$ |          |
|----------|--------------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|----------|
|          | This work    | Expt.[4] | This work | Expt.[4] | This work  | Expt.[4] |
| $v$      |              |          |           |          |            |          |
| 0        | 0            | 0        | 11.9134   | 11.9063  | 1.4386     | 1.4385   |
| 1        | 2087.61      | 2086.89  | 11.1729   | 11.1680  | 1.6040     | 1.5986   |
| 2        | 3918.86      | 3918.26  | 10.2283   | 10.2282  | 1.9986     | 2.0179   |
| 3        | 5398.87      |          | 8.7692    |          | 3.7026     |          |

### 3.3 Transition dipole moments and radiative lifetimes of BH

The Franck-Condon factors  $q_{v'v''}$  represent the overlap of the two vibrational wave functions  $\phi_{v'}$  and  $\phi_{v''}$  of the upper to lower states. In this work, we evaluated the Franck-Condon factors from the vibration levels  $v'=0-2$  of the upper electronic state ( $A^1\Pi$ ) to the vibrational levels  $v''=0-5$  of the lower ground state ( $X^1\Sigma^+$ ) with the aid of the LEVEL

program, as listed in **Table 4**. From the **Table 4**, it is found that the maximum values of FCFs for  $v'-v''$  are 0.9992 (0-0), 0.9905 (1-1), 0.9193 (2-2), which are in excellent agreement with the corresponding experimental measurements [23], 0.9987, 0.9911, 0.9209, respectively. Thus, the diagonal  $\Delta v=0$  bands have the strongest transition probability. Our calculated data are also in accordance with the recent theoretical data [11]. Moreover, since the FCFs are highly diagonal, the BH molecule should be one of the good candidates for laser cooling. Furthermore, we also list the transitional energy  $T_{v'v''}$  in the **Table 4**, which are also valuable for selecting proper wavelength in further laser cooling experiments.

For the aforementioned transitions, the radiative lifetimes of the selected vibrational level  $v'$  have been computed by the following formula:

$$\tau_{v'} = (A_{v'})^{-1} = \frac{3hg'}{64\pi^4 |a_0 \cdot e \cdot TDM|^2 \sum_{v''} q_{v',v''} (\Delta E_{v',v''})^3}$$

where  $A_{v'}$  is the Einstein coefficient;  $q_{v',v''}$  is the Franck-Condon factor (FCF); TDM is averaged transition dipole moment in atomic units (a.u.);  $\Delta E$  is the energy difference between vibration level  $v'$  and  $v''$ .

**Table 4.** Franck-Condon factors of the  $A^1\Pi-X^1\Sigma^+$  transition of BH

| $v'$ |             | $v''=0$  | 1        | 2        | 3        | 4        | 5        |
|------|-------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 0    | FCFs        | 0.9992   | 0.000046 | 0.000800 | 0.000000 | 0.000001 | 0.000000 |
|      | Expt.[23]   | 0.9987   | 0.00027  | 0.000983 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 | 0.000000 |
|      | Calc.[11]   | 0.9992   |          |          |          |          |          |
|      | $T_{v'v''}$ | 23012    | 20732    | 18548    | 16458    | 14400    | 12551    |
| 1    | FCFs        | 0.000022 | 0.9905   | 0.005072 | 0.004295 | 0.000073 | 0.000018 |
|      | Expt.[23]   | 0.000275 | 0.9911   | 0.004172 | 0.004430 | 0.000073 | 0.000013 |
|      | Calc.[11]   |          | 0.9908   |          |          |          |          |
|      | $T_{v'v''}$ | 25109    | 22828    | 20644    | 18554    | 16556    | 14648    |
| 2    | FCFS        | 0.000778 | 0.007145 | 0.9193   | 0.04907  | 0.02111  | 0.002083 |
|      | Expt.[23]   | 0.000958 | 0.006074 | 0.9209   | 0.04787  | 0.02147  | 0.002178 |
|      | Calc.[11]   |          |          | 0.9235   |          |          |          |
|      | $T_{v'v''}$ | 26947    | 24667    | 22483    | 20393    | 18395    | 16486    |

The calculated radiative lifetimes for the  $A^1\Pi$  state were listed in **Table 5**. As shown in **Table 5**, we can get the lifetime 125 ns ( $v'=0$ ), 168 ns ( $v'=1$ ), 193 ns ( $v'=2$ ) are in reasonable agreement with the experimental values [25, 38], respectively. These calculation results are

also very close to the theoretical value [23].

**Table 5.** The radiative lifetimes of the  $A^1\Pi$  state

| Transition | Radiative lifetime (ns) |        |        |
|------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|
|            | $v'=0$                  | $v'=1$ | $v'=2$ |
| This work  | 125                     | 168    | 193    |
| Expt.[25]  | 127±10                  | 146±12 | 172±14 |
| Expt.[38]  | 152±6                   | 167±7  | 198±8  |
| Calc.[23]  | 123                     | 141    | 170    |

## 4 Conclusions

In the present work, the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  states for the BH molecule have been investigated by using the MRCI-F12 method. In order to obtain the high-level PECs, the Davidson correction and the scalar relativistic effect were taken into account in calculation. From the PECs, the spectroscopic constants of the corresponding states were evaluated, and the results from the MRCI-F12+Q+SR calculation exhibit the best accuracy. The  $\Delta G_v$ ,  $B_v$  and  $D_v$  for each vibrational state of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  and  $A^1\Pi$  were also determined based on the computed PECs from the MRCI-F12+Q+SR calculation, which are in good agreement with the available measurements. The Franck-Condon factors of spin-allowed transition  $A^1\Pi-X^1\Sigma^+$  were calculated. Finally, the radiative lifetimes of  $A^1\Pi$  state were evaluated and the results are in accordance with the experiment data. The presently computed results should be valuable for the further experimental studies on the electronic states and laser cooling of BH molecule.

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