

## Supplementary material

### I. Normalized cross section data

In the main body of the manuscript we present absolute cross sections for PT, DT and CT. For illustrating the relative importance of the rotation it is helpful to plot relative cross sections, here normalized to the values on the R(1) pump line, see Figures S1, S2 and S3.

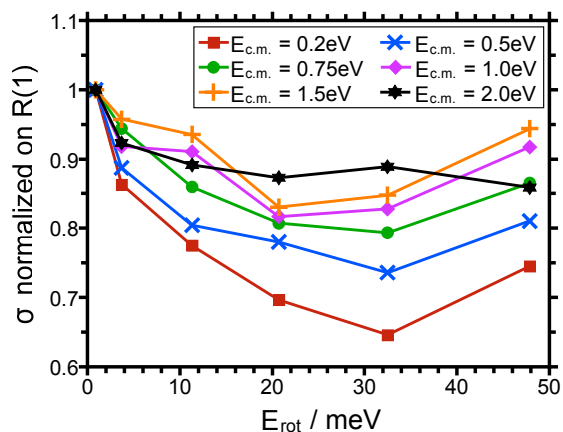


Figure S1 Normalized cross sections for proton transfer in the title reaction as a function of the average rotational energy,  $\langle E_{rot} \rangle$ . The different traces correspond to different center of mass energies as indicated.

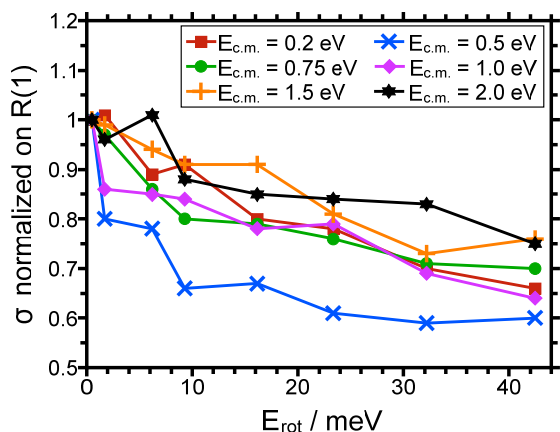


Figure S2 Normalized cross sections for deuteron transfer in the title reaction as a function of the average rotational energy,  $\langle E_{rot} \rangle$ . The different traces correspond to different center of mass energies as indicated.

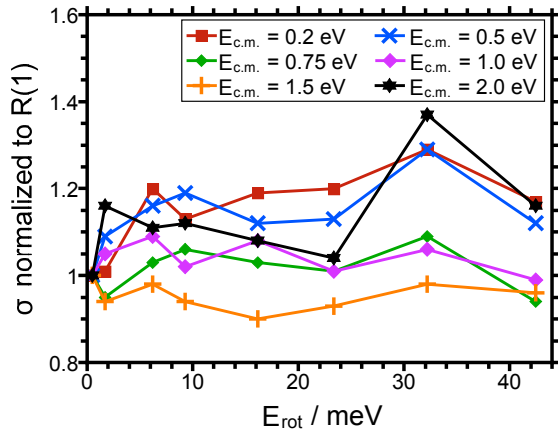


Figure S3 Normalized cross sections for charge transfer in the title reaction as a function of the average rotational energy,  $\langle E_{rot} \rangle$ . The different traces correspond to different center of mass energies as indicated.

In particular for the PT shown in Figure S1 the rotational effect is clearly most pronounced at the lowest center of mass energy. The effect becomes smaller with increasing  $E_{c.m.}$ . For both PT and DT the relative variation of the cross section with  $E_{rot}$  is smallest for the highest  $E_{c.m.}$ . In the charge transfer the rotational dependence of the cross section is less pronounced. The local maximum of the cross section around  $E_{rot}=32.5$  meV mentioned in the main text becomes evident in Figure S3 for all  $E_{c.m.}$ .

## II. Additional model calculations

In the main body of the manuscript we presented model calculation based on the concept of matching rotational velocities. We wish to point out that a slightly different approach in the model leads to smaller rms deviation, however at the cost of a larger number of parameters.

This alternative model is based on discussing the actual rotational energy of the ion (the rotational energy of the neutral is not explicitly taken into account). In this model the cross section is given by Equation (S1).

$$\sigma = a \cdot \left[ E_{c.m.} + \frac{\left( \frac{E_{rot} + b}{B_0} \right)^2 + c}{d \cdot E_{c.m.}^e} \right]^f \quad (\text{S1})$$

This model function can be rationalized as follows: The general form of Equation S1 resembles the classical form of the Langevin relation. However the energy operative has been corrected by a term containing the contribution of rotational energy, the 2nd summand in the bracket. As evident from looking at Figure of the main text the rotational dependence of the cross section exhibits a minimum around a rotational energy of 30 meV. Here, we assume that the rotational dependence of the cross

section can be modelled by an inverted parabola with 2 parameters for shifting in x- (b) and y- direction (c) respectively and a third parameter for the scaling of the parabola (d). Further inspection of Figure (main text) reveals that the effect of the rotational correction depends on the center of mass collision energy, the correction being largest for the largest  $E_{c.m.}$ . Taking into account this effect requires another parameter (e).

By including the rotational constant we tried to generalize our proposed model function shown in Equation (S1). As a result we arrive at the fits included in Figure S4 and Figure S5. The optimized parameters are given in table S1

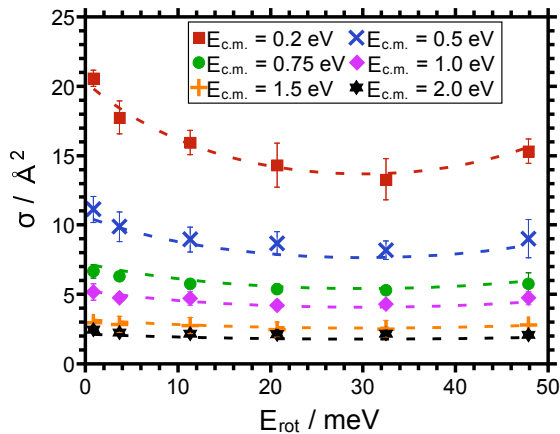


Figure S4 Cross sections for proton transfer in the title reaction as a function of the average rotational energy,  $\langle E_{rot} \rangle$ . The different traces correspond to different center of mass energies as indicated.

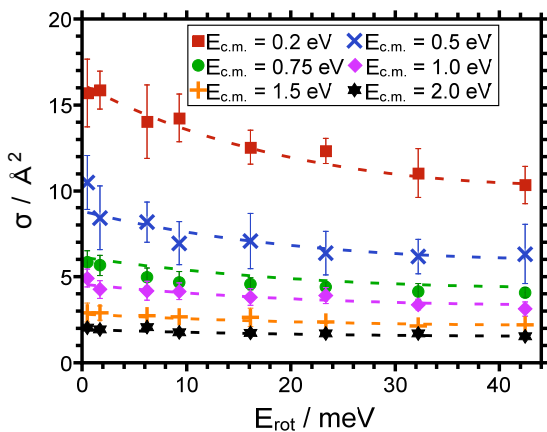


Figure S5 Cross sections for deuteron transfer in the title reaction as a function of the average rotational energy,  $\langle E_{rot} \rangle$ . The different traces correspond to different center of mass energies as indicated.

**Table S1** Parameters obtained in the modeling of cross sections for PT and DT according to Equation (S1). The rotational constants are taken from ref. [1].

	PT	DT
a	26.129	
b	-0.03	-0.048
c	$-4.782 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$-4.063 \cdot 10^{-4}$
d	$-3.522 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$-2.567 \cdot 10^{-4}$
e	-0.105	
f	-2.164	
B <sub>0</sub>	9.794 (HCl)	5.062 (DCI)

It is interesting to compare the optimized parameter sets. The fits described above used three parameters in common for simulating the PT and the DT data, i.e. the parameters a, e, and f.

The difference between the two parameter sets is observed in the values of b, c and d. We note, that b represents the rotational energy for which the cross section is minimum for a given collision energy. The parameter c reflects the shifting of the parabola on the sigma axis, i.e. the minimum value of sigma for a given collision energy. The parameter d reflects the scaling factor for the parabola accounting for the rotational correction. Evidently the model proposed is capable of describing the experimental data convincingly. Three parameters mainly affecting the collision energy dependence of  $\sigma$  are common to both data sets. Three parameters affecting the specific role of the rotational energy (or angular momentum) are specific for PT and DT. Note that we chose to include the rotational constant in the rotational term of equation (S1). Apparently this does not lead to a simplification of the model, but not to a complication either.

The form of the model function includes the possibility to account for a parabolic characteristic. This however, does not imply that the modelling is biased to this feature. As a matter of fact the data for DT are also well described by the model function although the data do not exhibit a minimum in the data range covered.

### III. Geometry, energies and frequency parameters from ab initio calculations

#### S2 Geometry parameters on UMP2/def2-tzvpp, lengths in Å, angles in °

spezies	bond length / Å			bond angle / °		dihedral / °	
	1 - 2 - 3 - 4	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	1 - 2 - 3	2 - 3 - 4	1 - 2 - 3 - 4
HCl		1.26957	-	-	-	-	-
HCl <sup>+</sup>		1.30869	-	-	-	-	-
HHCl <sup>+</sup>		1.30026	1.30049	-	42.922	-	-
HClHCl (int1)		1.29005	2.89729	1.29005	97.333	61.222	-80.465
HClHCl (ts)		1.28390	1.97742	1.33968	99.414	124.010	-95.273
HClHCl (int2)		1.29185	1.42968	1.75246	94.942	178.273	180.000

#### S3 Geometry parameters on CCSD/def2-tzvpp, lengths in Å, angles in °

spezies	bond length / Å			bond angle / °		dihedral / °	
	1 - 2 - 3 - 4	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	1 - 2 - 3	2 - 3 - 4	1 - 2 - 3 - 4
HCl		1.27205	-	-	-	-	-
HCl <sup>+</sup>		1.31085	-	-	-	-	-
HHCl <sup>+</sup>		1.30119	1.30120	-	42.718	-	-
HClHCl (int1)		1.29079	2.91858	1.29079	97.419	61.148	-80.189
HClHCl (ts)					not optimizable with Gaussian 03		
HClHCl (int2)		1.29420	1.39154	1.85123	95.325	178.241	180.000

## UMP2 / def2-tzvpp

### S4 Energies on UMP2/def2-tzvpp in a.u.

	energies in a.u.			
	E	ZPVE	thermal	E + ZPVE
HCl	-460.30270	6.998E-03	-460.31356	-460.29570
HCl <sup>+</sup>	-459.83973	6.264E-03	-459.84976	-459.83119
DCI	-460.30270	5.019E-03	-460.31621	-460.29768
DCI <sup>+</sup>	-459.83973	4.493E-03	-459.85220	-459.83296
H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sup>+</sup>	-460.52338	1.558E-02	-460.52803	-460.50779
HDCl <sup>+</sup>	-460.52338	1.341E-02	-460.53074	-460.50997
Cl	-459.63724	0.00	-459.65098	-459.63530
Cl <sup>+</sup>	-459.16965	0.00	-459.18408	-459.16802
int1_HClHCl	-920.19761	1.659E-02	-920.20431	-920.17755
ts_HClHCl	-920.16670	1.433E-02	-920.17673	-920.15010
int2_HClHCl	-920.18156	1.529E-02	-920.19066	-920.16418
int1_DClHCl	-920.19761	1.434E-02	-920.20696	-920.17980
int1_HClDCI	-920.19761	1.434E-02	-920.20696	-920.17980
ts_DClHCl	-920.16670	1.211E-02	-920.17938	-920.15232
ts_HClDCI	-920.16670	1.264E-02	-920.17864	-920.15178
int2_DClHCl	-920.18156	1.302E-02	-920.19337	-920.16644
int2_HClDCI	-920.18156	1.339E-02	-920.19271	-920.16608

### S5 Sum of electronic and thermal free energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.115	-1.121	-1.121
ts	-0.365	-0.371	-0.350
int2	-0.744	-0.751	-0.733
products	-0.427	-0.434	-0.434
CT	-0.006		

### S6 Sum of electronic and zero-point energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.379	-1.392	-1.392
ts	-0.632	-0.644	-0.629
int2	-1.015	-1.028	-1.018
products	-0.441	-0.452	-0.452
CT	-0.006		

## CCSD/def2-tzvpp

### S7 Energies on CCSD/def2-tzvpp in a.u.

	energies in a.u.			
	E	ZPVE	thermal	E + ZPVE
HCl	-460.31590	6.912E-03	-460.33430	-460.31644
HCl <sup>+</sup>	-459.85667	6.209E-03	-459.87563	-459.85706
DCI				
DCI <sup>+</sup>				
H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sup>+</sup>	-460.53903	1.555E-02	-460.55159	-460.53135
HDCI <sup>+</sup>				
Cl	-459.65283	0.00	-459.67456	-459.65888
Cl <sup>+</sup>	-459.18764	0.00	-459.20908	-459.19302
int1_HClHCl	-920.21931	1.648E-02	-920.24575	-920.21896
ts_HClHCl	-920.19020	1.420E-02	-920.22256	-920.19593
int2_HClHCl	-920.20842	1.578E-02	-920.23413	-920.20748
int1_DClHCl				
int1_HClDCI				
ts_DClHCl				
ts_HClDCI				
int2_DClHCl				
int2_HClDCI				

### S8 Sum of electronic and thermal free energies in eV

	HCl
educts	0
int1	-0.975
ts	-0.343
int2	-0.658
products	-0.441

### S9 Sum of electronic and zero-point energies in eV

	HCl
educts	0
int1	-1.237
ts	-0.610
int2	-0.925
products	-0.456

CCSD(T)/def2-tzvpp // CCSD/def2-tzvpp

**S10** Energies on CCSD(T)/def2-tzvpp // CCSD/def2-tzvpp in a.u.

	energies in a.u.			
	E	ZPVE	thermal	E + ZPVE
HCl	-460.32335	6.902E-03	-460.34223	-460.32436
HCl <sup>+</sup>	-459.86326	6.202E-03	-459.88162	-459.86304
DCI	-460.32335	4.950E-03	-460.34484	-460.32631
DCI <sup>+</sup>	-459.86326	4.448E-03	-459.88404	-459.86479
H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sup>+</sup>	-460.54691	1.550E-02	-460.55954	-460.53930
HDCl <sup>+</sup>	-460.54691	1.334E-02	-460.56224	-460.54146
Cl	-459.65888	0.00	-459.68032	-459.66465
Cl <sup>+</sup>	-459.19302	0.00	-459.21348	-459.19742
int1_HClHCl	-920.23533	1.624E-02	-920.26321	-920.23623
ts_HClHCl	-920.22724	1.402E-02	-920.23999	-920.21327
int2_HClHCl	-920.22326	1.569E-02	-920.24966	-920.22300
int1_DClHCl	-920.23533	1.402E-02	-920.26589	-920.23844
int1_HClDCI	-920.23533	1.404E-02	-920.26584	-920.23843
ts_DClHCl	-920.22724	1.186E-02	-920.24260	-920.21542
ts_HClDCI	-920.22724	1.234E-02	-920.24194	-920.21495
int2_DClHCl	-920.22326	1.345E-02	-920.25235	-920.22524
int2_HClDCI	-920.22326	1.364E-02	-920.25187	-920.22505

**S11** Sum of electronic and thermal free energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.071	-1.078	-1.077
ts	-0.439	-0.445	-0.427
int2	-0.702	-0.710	-0.697
products	-0.436	-0.443	-0.443
CT	-0.005		

**S12** Sum of electronic and zero-point energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.329	-1.341	-1.341
ts	-0.704	-0.715	-0.702
int2	-0.969	-0.982	-0.977
products	-0.450	-0.461	-0.461
CT	-0.005		



CCSD(T)/cc-pVTZ // CCSD/def2-tzvpp

**S13** Energies on CCSD(T)/cc-pVTZ // CCSD/def2-tzvpp in a.u.

	energies in a.u.			
	E	ZPVE	thermal	E + ZPVE
HCl	-460.34	6.936E-03	-460.35	-460.33
HCl <sup>+</sup>	-459.88	6.167E-03	-459.89	-459.87
DCI	-460.34	4.925E-03	-460.35	-460.33
DCI <sup>+</sup>	-459.88	4.423E-03	-459.89	-459.87
H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sup>+</sup>	-460.56	1.555E-02	-460.56	-460.54
HDCl <sup>+</sup>	-460.56	1.338E-02	-460.57	-460.55
Cl	-459.67	0.000E+00	-459.69	-459.67
Cl <sup>+</sup>	-459.20	0.000E+00	-459.22	-459.20
int1_HClHCl	-920.26	1.614E-02	-920.27	-920.25
ts_HClHCl	-920.24	1.393E-02	-920.25	-920.23
int2_HClHCl	-920.25	1.553E-02	-920.26	-920.24
int1_DCiHCl	-920.26	1.394E-02	-920.28	-920.25
int1_HClDCI	-920.26	1.395E-02	-920.28	-920.25
ts_DCiHCl	-920.24	1.180E-02	-920.25	-920.23
ts_HClDCI	-920.24	1.224E-02	-920.25	-920.23
int2_DCiHCl	-920.25	1.330E-02	-920.26	-920.24
int2_HClDCI	-920.25	1.352E-02	-920.26	-920.24

**S14** Sum of electronic and thermal free energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.061	-1.068	-1.067
ts	-0.446	-0.451	-0.435
int2	-0.712	-0.720	-0.706
products	-0.438	-0.446	-0.446
CT	-0.008		

**S15** Sum of electronic and zero-point energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.318	-1.331	-1.330
ts	-0.707	-0.718	-0.706
int2	-0.979	-0.992	-0.986
products	-0.452	-0.464	-0.464
CT	-0.008		

## CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ // CCSD/def2-tzvpp

**S16** Energies on CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVTZ // CCSD/def2-tzvpp in a.u.

	energies in a.u.			
	E	ZPVE	thermal	E + ZPVE
HCl	-460.34321	6.944E-03	-460.35414	-460.33627
HCl <sup>+</sup>	-459.87842	6.170E-03	-459.89083	-459.87225
DCI	-460.34324	4.931E-03	-460.35684	-460.33830
DCI <sup>+</sup>	-459.87842	4.425E-03	-459.89324	-459.87399
H <sub>2</sub> Cl <sup>+</sup>	-460.56401	1.555E-02	-460.56870	-460.54846
HDCl <sup>+</sup>	-460.56401	1.338E-02	-460.57141	-460.55063
Cl	-459.67622	0.00	-459.69189	-459.67622
Cl <sup>+</sup>	-459.20669	0.00	-459.22275	-459.20669
int1_HClHCl	-920.27515	1.608E-02	-920.28637	-920.25924
ts_HClHCl	-920.25007	1.390E-02	-920.26314	-920.23625
int2_HClHCl	-920.26081	1.549E-02	-920.27199	-920.24532
int1_DCIHCl	-920.27515	1.387E-02	-920.28911	-920.26145
int1_HClDCI	-920.27515	1.389E-02	-920.28902	-920.26143
ts_DCIHCl	-920.25007	1.177E-02	-920.26575	-920.23837
ts_HClDCI	-920.25007	1.220E-02	-920.26518	-920.23794
int2_DCIHCl	-920.26081	1.326E-02	-920.27468	-920.24755
int2_HClDCI	-920.26081	1.349E-02	-920.27417	-920.24733

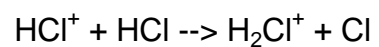
**S17** Sum of electronic and thermal free energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.127	-1.136	-1.133
ts	-0.495	-0.500	-0.484
int2	-0.735	-0.743	-0.729
products	-0.425	-0.433	-0.433
CT	-0.008		

**S18** Sum of electronic and zero-point energies in eV

	HCl	DCI1	DCI2
educts	0	0	0
int1	-1.380	-1.393	-1.392
ts	-0.755	-0.765	-0.753
int2	-1.002	-1.015	-1.009
products	-0.440	-0.451	-0.451
CT	-0.008		

**S19** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on UMP2 / def2-tzvpp

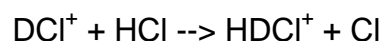


educts	HClHCl			product	
$\text{HCl}^+$	(int1)	(ts)	(int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$	
	2749.6	199.0	-736.2	229.1	1218.5
		288.2	222.9	417.7	2802.4
HCl		493.9	306.7	666.3	2818.3
	3071.6	508.8	520.3	1161.8	
		2892.2	2294.3	1353.5	
		2898.9	2943.7	2881.4	

**S20** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on UMP2 / def2-tzvpp

$\text{HCl}^+$	HClHCl (int1)	HClHCl (ts)	HClHCl (int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$	
	301.23	155.54	240.29	313.23	338.08
HCl		4.29	3.26	2.81	276.56
	320.08	4.26	3.24	2.78	152.12

**S21** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on UMP2 / def2-tzvpp

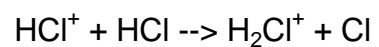


educts								product
DCI <sup>+</sup>	DCIHCl (int1-1)	HCIDCl (int1-2)	DCIHCl (ts-1)	HCIDCl (ts-2)	DCIHCl (int2-1)	HCIDCl (int2-2)	HDCI <sup>+</sup>	
1972.0	173.1	173.1	-735.7	-540.0	227.9	225.3	1060.6	
	283.7	283.7	213.0	215.8	323.8	363.5	2015.9	
HCl	365.2	365.2	252.9	266.6	666.3	474.7	2809.5	
3071.6	501.3	501.3	443.1	477.4	1079.6	936.3		
	2076.9	2076.9	2110.7	1644.5	1351.6	996.0		
	2895.6	2895.6	2294.7	2943.6	2067.6	2880.8		

**S22** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on UMP2 / def2-tzvpp

DCI <sup>+</sup>	DCIHCl (int1-1)	HCIDCl (int1-2)	DCIHCl (ts-1)	HCIDCl (ts-2)	DCIHCl (int2-1)	HCIDCl (int2-2)	HDCI <sup>+</sup>
154.95	105.80	105.80	142.27	191.57	161.55	313.23	311.29
HCl	4.22	4.22	3.20	3.24	2.76	2.81	154.39
320.08	4.15	4.15	3.15	3.23	2.72	2.78	103.20

**S23** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD / def2-tzvpp

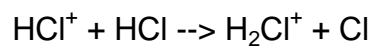


educts	HClHCl			product
$\text{HCl}^+$	(int1)	(ts)	(int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
2725.6	197.1	-673.1	192.7	1232.9
	283.7	243.2	388.6	2789.0
HCl	483.2	282.4	620.1	2805.4
3034.0	513.8	491.2	1203.1	
	2872.0	2287.5	1666.1	
	2884.4	2930.7	2854.5	

**S24** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{HCl}^+$	HClHCl (int1)	HClHCl (ts)	HClHCl (int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
300.24	155.45	240.29	312.65	340.32
HCl	4.23	3.26	2.70	274.35
318.83	4.21	3.24	2.68	151.90

**S25** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD(T) /def2-tzvpp // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

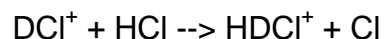


educts				product
$\text{HCl}^+$	HClHCl (int1)	HClHCl (ts)	HClHCl (int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
2722.3	148.3	-653.7	194.4	1216.4
	282.3	240.0	371.4	2786.7
HCl	459.6	244.0	606.8	2801.5
3029.7	490.1	461.3	1186.1	
	2867.8	2282.8	1677.8	
	2879.5	2924.3	2850.7	

**S26** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD(T) /def2-tzvpp // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{HCl}^+$	HClHCl (int1)	HClHCl (ts)	HClHCl (int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
300.24	155.45	240.29	312.65	340.32
HCl	4.23	3.26	2.70	274.35
318.83	4.21	3.24	2.68	151.90

**S27** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD(T) /def2-tzvpp // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

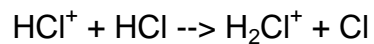


educts								product
$\text{DCI}^+$	$\text{DCIHCl (int1-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int1-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (ts-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (ts-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (int2-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int2-2)}$	$\text{HDCI}^+$	
1952.4	120.5	127.4	-652.7	-482.4	193.3	191.8	1057.7	
	277.1	277.1	192.8	203.0	292.0	319.2	2003.5	
HCl	346.0	346.0	241.9	232.9	606.7	432.3	2794.3	
3029.7	475.9	476.0	392.6	419.2	1087.8	981.1		
	2060.9	2061.3	2097.0	1636.2	1676.2	1213.5		
	2874.0	2873.4	2283.0	2924.2	2046.2	2850.0		

**S28** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD(T) /def2-tzvpp // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{DCI}^+$	$\text{DCIHCl (int1-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int1-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (ts-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (ts-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (int2-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int2-2)}$	$\text{HDCI}^+$
154.44	105.75	105.75	142.27	191.57	161.26	312.65	311.88
HCl	4.16	4.16	3.20	3.24	2.66	2.70	153.88
318.83	4.10	4.10	3.15	3.23	2.62	2.68	103.04

**S29** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD(T) / cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp



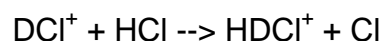
educts	HClHCl			product
$\text{HCl}^+$	(int1)	(ts)	(int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
2707.1	145.0	-661.2	197.7	1205.8
	281.1	197.1	368.8	2804.7
HCl	455.2	242.7	602.9	2815.2
3044.7	486.1	434.1	1173.6	
	2852.2	2301.9	1634.1	
	2864.2	2939.5	2839.8	

**S30** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD(T) / cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{HCl}^+$	HClHCl (int1)	HClHCl (ts)	HClHCl (int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
298.29	154.57	240.29	311.20	340.32
HCl	4.21	3.26	2.71	274.35
318.83	4.19	3.24	2.68	151.90



**S31** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD(T) / cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

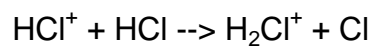


educts								product
$\text{DCI}^+$	$\text{DCIHCl (int1-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int1-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (ts-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (ts-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (int2-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int2-2)}$	$\text{HDCI}^+$	
1941.5	117.8	124.3	-660.2	-487.4	196.7	195.1	1047.7	
	276.1	276.1	159.3	158.3	289.7	317.1	2014.9	
HCl	342.9	342.9	239.8	233.6	602.7	429.5	2810.2	
3044.7	471.7	471.8	369.8	391.6	1076.8	969.9		
	2049.9	2050.2	2107.9	1649.9	1632.6	1182.7		
	2858.5	2857.9	2302.1	2939.4	2038.1	2839.3		

**S32** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD(T) / cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{DCI}^+$	$\text{DCIHCl (int1-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int1-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (ts-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (ts-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (int2-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int2-2)}$	$\text{HDCI}^+$
153.43	105.16	105.16	142.27	191.57	160.52	311.20	311.88
HCl	4.14	4.14	3.20	3.24	2.66	2.71	153.88
318.83	4.08	4.08	3.15	3.23	2.62	2.68	103.04

**S33** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD(T) / aug-cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

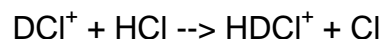


educts	HClHCl			product
$\text{HCl}^+$	(int1)	(ts)	(int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
2708.4	121.6	-647.5	196.3	1205.1
	282.5	180.0	358.9	2806.0
HCl	451.6	245.7	591.8	2815.4
3048.3	480.2	425.5	1175.0	
	2854.9	2306.7	1636.0	
	2866.4	2942.7	2841.5	

**S34** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD(T) / aug-cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{HCl}^+$	HClHCl (int1)	HClHCl (ts)	HClHCl (int2)	$\text{H}_2\text{Cl}^+$
298.29	154.57	240.29	311.20	340.32
HCl	4.21	3.26	2.71	274.35
318.83	4.19	3.24	2.68	151.90

**S35** Harmonic vibrational frequencies in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for different species on CCSD(T) / aug-cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp



educts								product
$\text{DCI}^+$	$\text{DCIHCl (int1-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int1-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (ts-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (ts-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (int2-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int2-2)}$	$\text{HDCI}^+$	
1942.5	92.1	100.6	-646.4	-478.1	195.3	193.7	1046.7	
	277.7	277.7	146.2	140.1	282.2	308.6	2015.4	
HCl	339.5	339.5	241.9	236.2	591.7	421.6	2811.0	
3048.3	466.8	466.9	361.6	383.5	1077.5	971.2		
	2051.6	2052.0	2110.2	1653.3	1634.7	1184.0		
	2861.0	2860.4	2306.9	2942.7	2039.2	2840.9		

**S36** Rotational constants in GHz for different species on CCSD(T) / aug-cc-pVTZ // CCSD / def2-tzvpp

$\text{DCI}^+$	$\text{DCIHCl (int1-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int1-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (ts-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (ts-2)}$	$\text{DCIHCl (int2-1)}$	$\text{HCIDCl (int2-2)}$	$\text{HDCI}^+$
153.43	105.16	105.16	142.27	191.57	160.52	311.20	311.88
HCl	4.14	4.14	3.20	3.24	2.66	2.71	153.88
318.83	4.08	4.08	3.15	3.23	2.62	2.68	103.04

#### IV. Comparison of relevant orbiting and rotational angular momenta

**Tables S37** Rotational angular momenta of the HCl<sup>+</sup>

Pump line	N /(kg*m <sup>2</sup> *s <sup>-1</sup> )	N / ħ
R(1)	4.463E-35	0.4232
R(2)	1.529E-34	1.4503
R(3)	3.060E-34	2.9019
R(4)	4.225E-34	4.0063
R(5)	5.340E-34	5.0639
R(6)*	6.665E-34	6.3203

\* extrapolated

**Table S38** Orbiting angular momenta of the HCl<sup>+</sup> + HCl system

E <sub>c.m.</sub> / eV	L /(kg*m <sup>2</sup> *s <sup>-1</sup> )	L / ħ
0.2	1.957E-32	185.561
0.5	2.461E-32	233.331
0.75	2.723E-32	258.223
1.0	2.926E-32	277.479
1.5	3.238E-32	307.081
2.0	3.480E-32	329.980

**Table S39** Rotational angular momenta of the DCI<sup>+</sup>

Pump line	$N / (\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1})$	$N / \hbar$
R(1)	5.020E-35	0.4760
R(2)	1.351E-34	1.2814
R(3)	3.034E-34	2.8773
R(4)	3.875E-34	3.6746
R(5)	5.245E-34	4.9738
R(6)*	6.405E-34	6.0733
R(7)*	7.606E-34	7.2122
R(8)*	8.807E-34	8.3511

\* extrapolated

**Table S40** Orbiting angular momenta of the  $\text{DCI}^+ + \text{HCl}$  system

$E_{\text{c.m.}} / \text{eV}$	$L / (\text{kg} \cdot \text{m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1})$	$L / \hbar$
0.2	1.970E-32	186.811
0.5	2.477E-32	234.902
0.75	2.741E-32	259.962
1.0	2.946E-32	279.348
1.5	3.260E-32	309.149
2.0	3.503E-32	332.202

## Literature

- 1 K. L. Saenger, R. N. Zare and C. Mathews, *Journal of Molecular Spectroscopy*, 1976, **61**, 216–230.