

SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

**Direct evidence for base-mediated decomposition of alkyl hydroperoxides (ROOH)
in the gas phase**

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Table S1. Electronic energies calculated at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ//B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory, zero-point energies, relative energies and imaginary frequencies for the $F^- + CH_3OOH$ potential energy surface. All calculations utilized the GAUSSIAN98 suite of programs.¹

Structure ^a	Electronic Energy ^b (Hartrees)	Zero-point Energy ^c (Hartrees)	Relative Energy (kcal mol ⁻¹) ^d	Imaginary Frequency (cm ⁻¹)
$F^- + CH_3OOH$	-290.10549	0.05469	0.0	-
$(F^- \cdots CH_3OOH)_{\text{complex}}$	-290.13003	0.05380	-15.9	-
TS 1	-290.12257	0.04836	-14.6	647i
$HF + CH_2O + HO^-$	-290.15223	0.04405	-35.8	-
$(HF \cdots CH_2O \cdots HO^-)_{\text{complex}}$	-290.20982	0.04893	-69.0	-
$F^- + CH_2O + H_2O$	-290.18734	0.04786	-55.5	-
TS 2	-290.12447	0.05452	-12.0	189i
$(CH_3OOH \cdots F^-)_{\text{complex}}$	-290.16269	0.05424	-36.1	-
$HF + CH_3OO^-$	-290.09815	0.05243	1.9	-

^a Structures calculated at B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory. Important structures are presented in Table S3.

^b Electronic energy is calculated as a single point energy at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ level of theory.

^c Zero-point energy is calculated from the harmonic frequencies which are determined at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory.

^d Relative energy calculations include zero-point energies which have been corrected using the empirical scaling factor of 0.9804.²

Table S2. Electronic energies calculated at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ//B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory, zero-point energies, relative energies and imaginary frequencies for the $NC^- + CH_3OOH$ potential energy surface. All calculations utilized the GAUSSIAN98 suite of programs.¹

Structure ^a	Electronic Energy ^b (Hartrees)	Zero-point Energy ^c (Hartrees)	Relative Energy (kcal mol ⁻¹) ^d	Imaginary Frequency (cm ⁻¹)
$NC^- + CH_3OOH$	-283.01842	0.05953	0.0	-
$(NC^- \cdots CH_3OOH)_{\text{complex}}$	-283.02993	0.06005	-7.2	-
TS 1	-283.00812	0.05269	+6.5	647i
$HCN + CH_2O + HO^-$	-283.05357	0.05142	-22.0	-

^a Structures calculated at B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory. Important structures are presented in Table S4.

^b Electronic energy is calculated as a single point energy at the CCSD(T)/aug-cc-pVDZ level of theory.

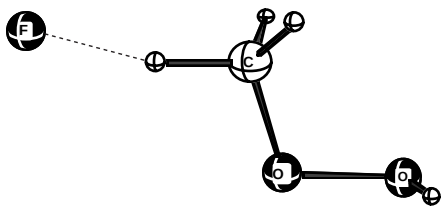
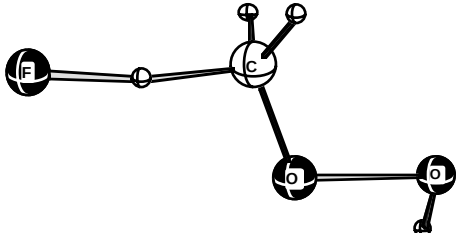
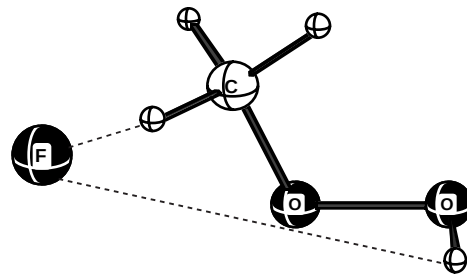
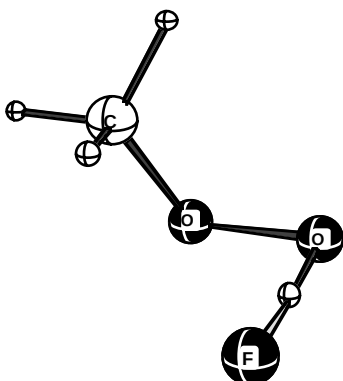
^c Zero-point energy is calculated from the harmonic frequencies which are determined at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory.

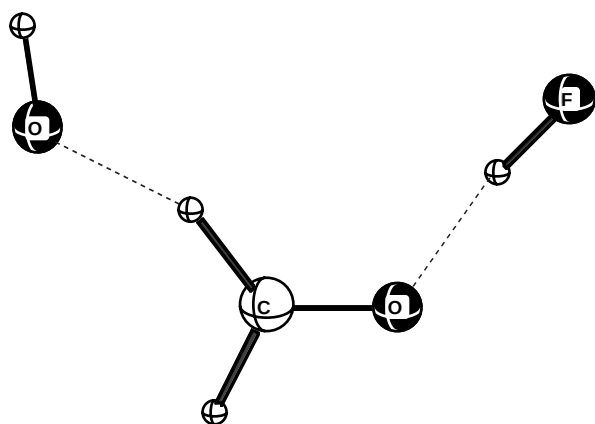
^d Relative energy calculations include zero-point energies which have been corrected using the empirical scaling factor of 0.9804.²

¹ Frisch, M. J.; Trucks, G. W.; Schlegel, H. B.; Scuseria, G. E.; Robb, M. A.; Cheeseman, J. R.; Zakrzewski, V. G.; Montgomery, J., J.A.; Stratmann, R. E.; Burant, J. C.; Dapprich, S.; Millam, J. M.; Daniels, A. D.; Kudin, K. N.; Strain, M. C.; Farkas, O.; Tomasi, J.; Barone, V.; Cossi, M.; Cammi, R.; Mennucci, B.; Pomelli, C.; Adamo, C.; Clifford, S.; Ochterski, J.; Petersson, G. A.; Ayala, P. Y.; Cui, Q.; Morokuma, K.; Malick, D. K.; Rabuck, A. D.; Raghavachari, K.; Foresman, J. B.; Cioslowski, J.; Ortiz, J. V.; Baboul, A. G.; Stefanov, B. B.; Liu, G.; Liashenko, A.; Piskorz, P.; Komaromi, I.; Gomperts, R.; Martin, R. L.; Fox, D. J.; Keith, T.; Al-Laham, M. A.; Peng, C. Y.; Nanayakkara, A.; Gonzalez, C.; Challacombe, M.; Gill, P. M. W.; Johnson, B.; Chen, W.; Wong, M. W.; Andres, J. L.; Gonzalez, C.; Head-Gordon, M.; Replogle, E. S.; Pople, J. A. *GAUSSIAN98* A.7; Gaussian Inc.: Pittsburgh PA, 1998.

² Scott, A. P.; Radom, L. *J Phys. Chem.* **1996**, *100*, 16502

Table S3. Calculated geometries for significant structures on the ($F^- + CH_3OOH$) potential surface. All structures have been calculated at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory.

 ($F^- \dots CH_3OOH$)_{complex} $FH_1 = 1.647 \text{ \AA}$ $H_1C = 1.142 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_2 = 1.102 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_3 = 1.100 \text{ \AA}$ $CO_1 = 1.417 \text{ \AA}$ $O_1O_2 = 1.495 \text{ \AA}$ $O_2H_4 = 0.974 \text{ \AA}$ $FH_1C = 167.0^\circ$ $H_1CO_1 = 107.4^\circ$ $H_2CO_1 = 110.4^\circ$ $H_3CO_1 = 110.4^\circ$ $H_2CH_3 = 109.7^\circ$ $CO_1O_2 = 109.0^\circ$ $O_1O_2H_4 = 99.5^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CO_1) = 167.4^\circ$ $dih(H_1CO_1O_2) = -178.1^\circ$ $dih(CO_1O_2H_4) = 98.8^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CH_2) = 48.0^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CH_3) = -72.2^\circ$	 TS1 $FH_1 = 1.272 \text{ \AA}$ $H_1C = 1.303 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_2 = 1.105 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_3 = 1.105 \text{ \AA}$ $CO_1 = 1.341 \text{ \AA}$ $O_1O_2 = 1.686 \text{ \AA}$ $O_2H_4 = 0.973 \text{ \AA}$ $FH_1C = 170.2^\circ$ $H_1CO_1 = 105.2^\circ$ $H_2CO_1 = 114.4^\circ$ $H_3CO_1 = 114.4^\circ$ $H_2CH_3 = 111.3^\circ$ $CO_1O_2 = 110.8^\circ$ $O_1O_2H_4 = 94.7^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CO_1) = -175.1^\circ$ $dih(H_1CO_1O_2) = 178.7^\circ$ $dih(CO_1O_2H_4) = -131.8^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CH_2) = 63.6^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CH_3) = -54.1^\circ$
 TS2 $FH_1 = 1.748 \text{ \AA}$ $H_1C = 1.122 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_2 = 1.095 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_3 = 1.101 \text{ \AA}$ $CO_1 = 1.455 \text{ \AA}$ $O_1O_2 = 1.464 \text{ \AA}$ $O_2H_4 = 0.945 \text{ \AA}$ $FH_1C = 168.2^\circ$ $H_1CO_1 = 110.4^\circ$ $H_2CO_1 = 108.5^\circ$ $H_3CO_1 = 107.1^\circ$ $H_2CH_3 = 108.5^\circ$ $CO_1O_2 = 109.6^\circ$ $O_1O_2H_4 = 99.8^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CO_1) = 127.9^\circ$ $dih(H_1CO_1O_2) = -120.7^\circ$ $dih(CO_1O_2H_4) = 89.7^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CH_2) = 8.5^\circ$ $dih(FH_1CH_3) = -112.0^\circ$	 ($F^- \dots HOOCH_3$)_{complex} $FH_4 = 1.313 \text{ \AA}$ $H_4O_2 = 1.104 \text{ \AA}$ $O_2O_1 = 1.461 \text{ \AA}$ $O_1C = 1.410 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_1 = 1.099 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_2 = 1.104 \text{ \AA}$ $CH_3 = 1.101 \text{ \AA}$ $FH_4O_2 = 175.4^\circ$ $H_4O_2O_1 = 102.6^\circ$ $O_2O_1C = 106.8^\circ$ $O_1CH_1 = 111.0^\circ$ $O_1CH_2 = 111.2^\circ$ $O_1CH_3 = 105.8^\circ$ $H_2CH_3 = 109.4^\circ$ $dih(FH_4O_2O_1) = -92.2^\circ$ $dih(H_4O_2O_1C) = 71.9^\circ$ $dih(O_2O_1CH_1) = -60.2^\circ$ $dih(O_2O_1CH_2) = 61.8^\circ$ $dih(O_2O_1CH_3) = -179.5^\circ$



(HF...CH₂O..HO⁻)_{complex}

FH₁ = 0.984 Å

H₁O₁ = 1.567 Å

O₁C = 1.239 Å

CH₂ = 1.143 Å

CH₃ = 1.115 Å

H₂O₂ = 1.643 Å

O₂H₄ = 0.971 Å

FH₁O₁ = 172.0° dih(FH₁O₁C) = -180.0°

H₁O₁C = 126.2° dih(H₁O₁CH₂) = 0.0°

O₁CH₂ = 127.9° dih(H₁O₁CH₃) = 180.0°

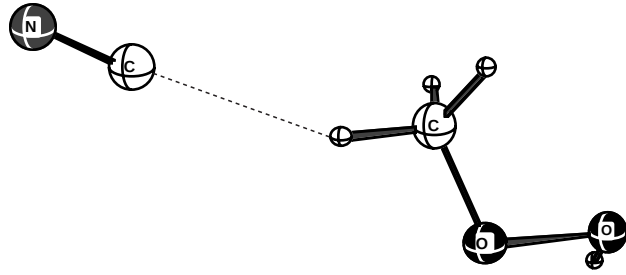
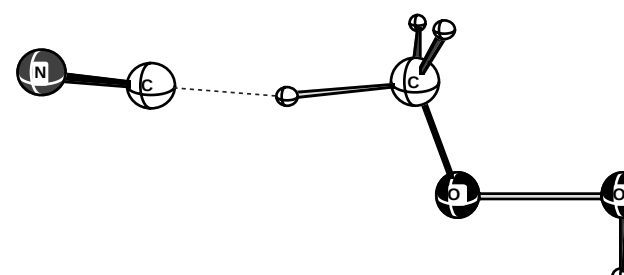
O₁CH₃ = 116.0° dih(O₁CH₂O₂) = -180.0°

CH₂O₂ = 155.5° dih(CH₂O₂H₄) = 179.9°

H₂CH₃ = 116.0°

H₂O₂H₄ = 126.4°

Table S4. Calculated geometries for significant structures on the ($\text{NC}^- + \text{CH}_3\text{OOH}$) potential surface. All structures have been calculated at the B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level of theory.

 ($\text{NC}^- \dots \text{CH}_3\text{OOH}$)_{complex} $\text{NC}_1 = 1.182 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_1\text{H}_1 = 2.438 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{H}_1\text{C}_2 = 1.101 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2 = 1.097 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3 = 1.099 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 1.425 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{O}_1\text{O}_2 = 1.469 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{O}_2\text{H}_4 = 0.974 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{NC}_1\text{H}_1 = 173.0^\circ$ $\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2 = 154.1^\circ$ $\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 106.4^\circ$ $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 110.5^\circ$ $\text{H}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 110.8^\circ$ $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_3 = 110.2^\circ$ $\text{C}_2\text{O}_1\text{O}_2 = 107.7^\circ$ $\text{O}_1\text{O}_2\text{H}_4 = 100.0^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{NC}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2) = 20.0^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{O}_1) = -163.1^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{O}_1\text{O}_2) = 178.3^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_1\text{O}_2\text{H}_4) = -105.3^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{H}_3) = 77.1^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{H}_3) = -43.8^\circ$	 TS1 $\text{NC}_1 = 1.172 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_1\text{H}_1 = 1.444 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{H}_1\text{C}_2 = 1.373 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_2\text{H}_2 = 1.107 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3 = 1.107 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 1.309 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{O}_1\text{O}_2 = 1.786 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{O}_2\text{H}_4 = 0.973 \text{ \AA}$ $\text{NC}_1\text{H}_1 = 177.5^\circ$ $\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2 = 169.6^\circ$ $\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 104.7^\circ$ $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 116.6^\circ$ $\text{H}_3\text{C}_2\text{O}_1 = 116.6^\circ$ $\text{H}_2\text{C}_2\text{H}_3 = 112.5^\circ$ $\text{C}_2\text{O}_1\text{O}_2 = 110.9^\circ$ $\text{O}_1\text{O}_2\text{H}_4 = 93.7^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{NC}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2) = 6.2^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{O}_1) = -178.0^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{O}_1\text{O}_2) = 179.3^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_2\text{O}_1\text{O}_2\text{H}_4) = -157.9^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{H}_3) = 60.2^\circ$ $\text{dih}(\text{C}_1\text{H}_1\text{C}_2\text{H}_3) = -56.1^\circ$
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