



# Polyatomic ions in traps: from molecules via clusters to nanoparticles

*Dieter Gerlich*

## Introduction

## Ions in rf fields

Basics, buffer gas cooling

## Typical tests

Spectroscopy

Association reactions, cluster

LIR:  $N_2^+ + Ar$

## Recent application

Reactions with H atoms

Deuteration, nuclear spin

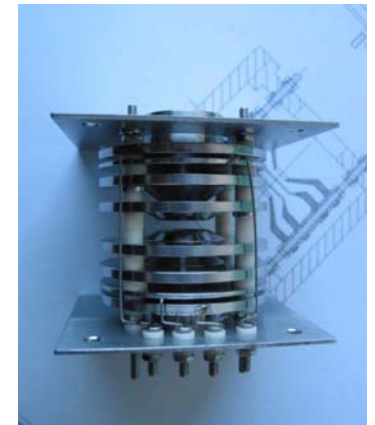
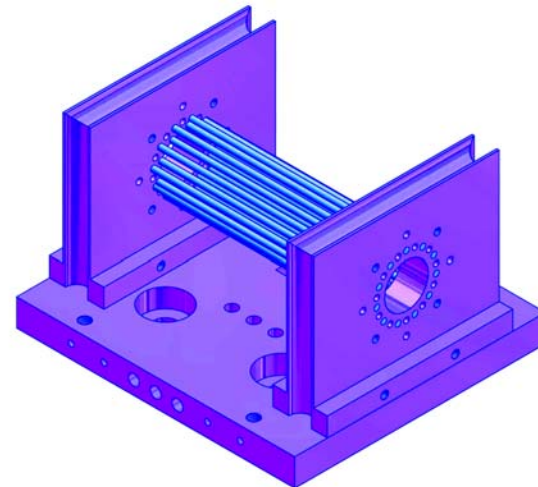
State selective preparation

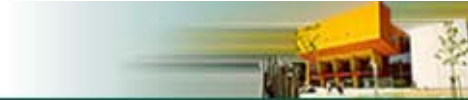
## Nanoparticles

NPMS

HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

## Summary and outlook





## **Gasentladungs- und Ionenphysik**

**DFG FG Laboratory Astrophysics**

**1993 - 2009**

TV-22PT

S. Schlemmer, O. Asvany (Köln)

**AB-22PT + H-beam**

A. Schlemmer, A. Luca, G. Borodi  
**J. Glosik, R. Plasil**, C. Mogo

**RET + C<sub>n</sub>-beam**

I. Savic, S. Decker, I. Cermak

**Black body radiation**

S. Decker, M. Kämpf

**Beam-Trap**

M. Smith

**Astrochemistry**



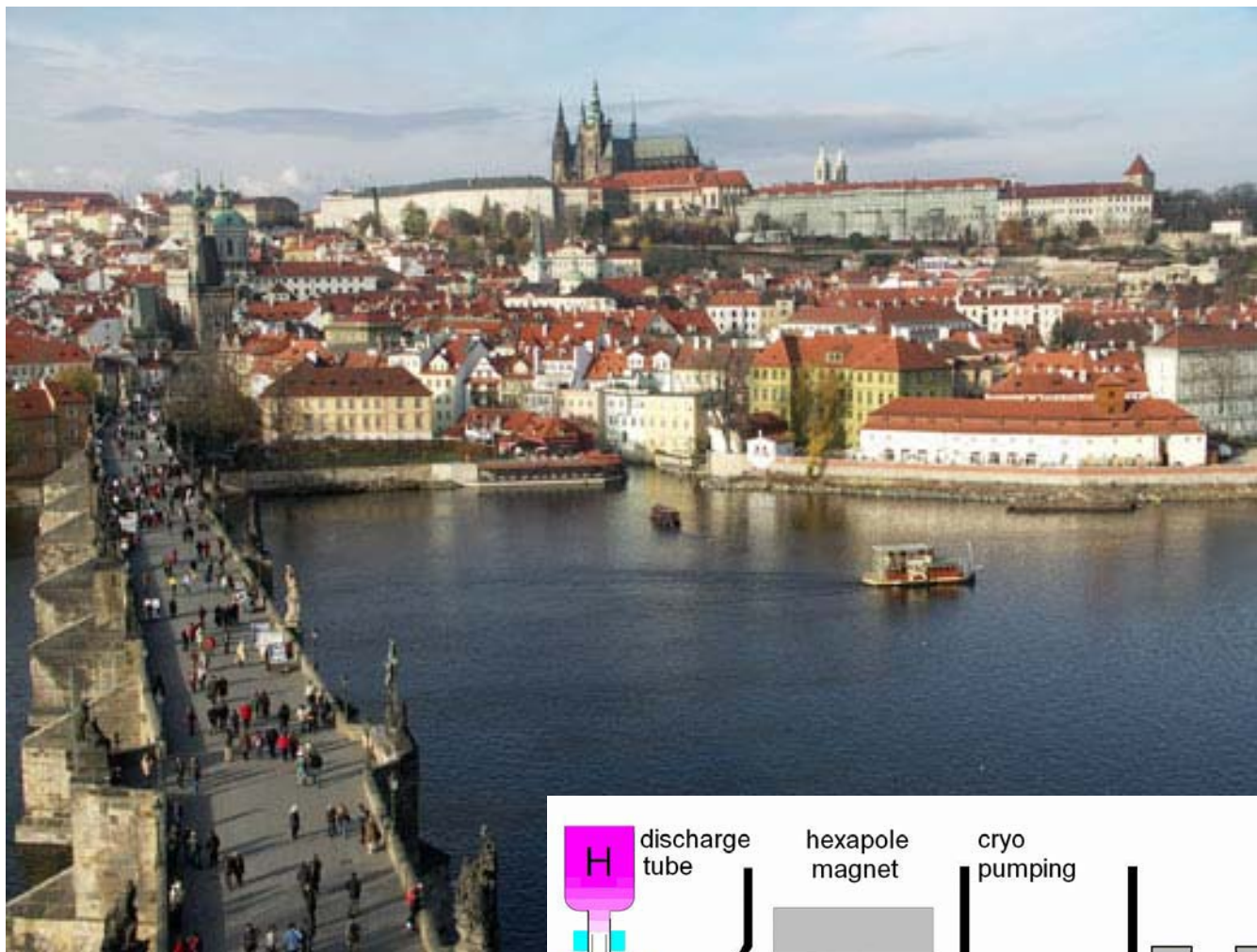
**22PT-spectroscopy**

J. Maier, Basel

**Cold TrpH<sup>+</sup>, TyrH<sup>+</sup>**

T. Rizzo, O. Boyarkin

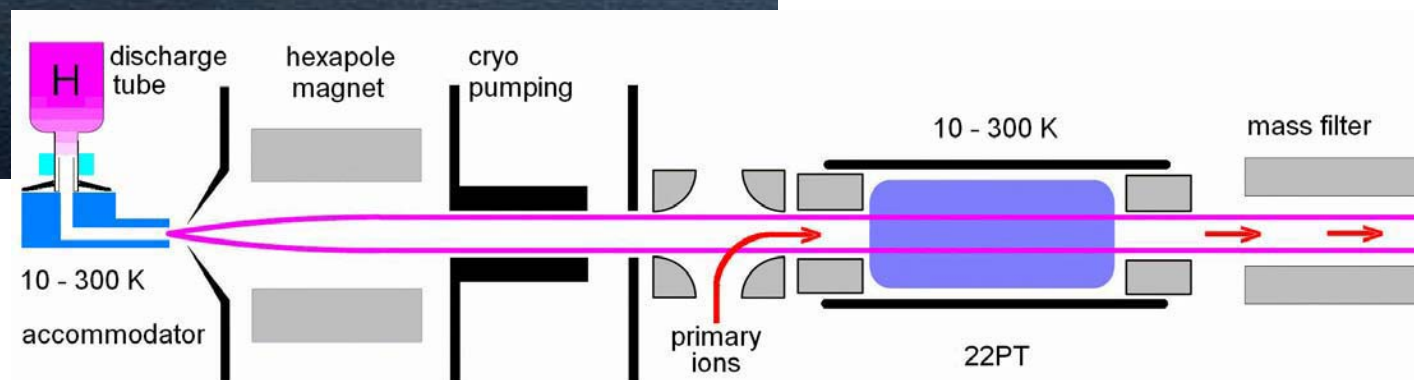
# Transfer 22PT -> Prague



01.10.2009

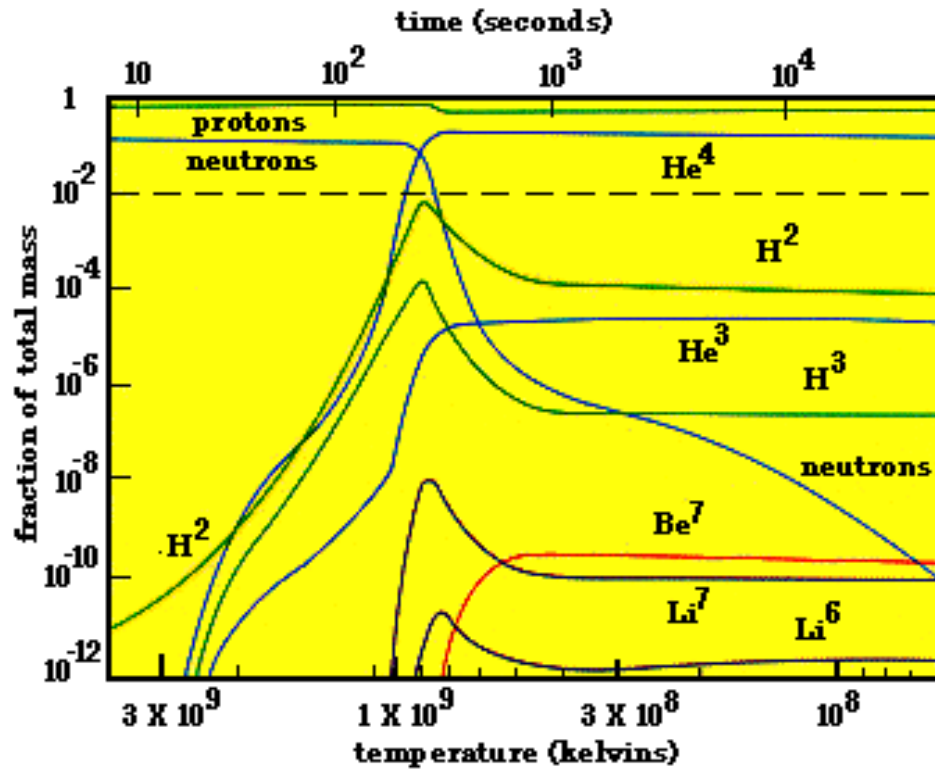
Reactions with  
H atoms

Neg ions  
 $H^- + H$

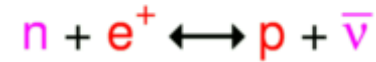


buffer gas cooling  
ultracold ions:  $N_2^+$

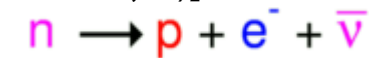
# Big Bang Nucleosynthesis



$< 1 \text{ s} : n/p \sim 1$

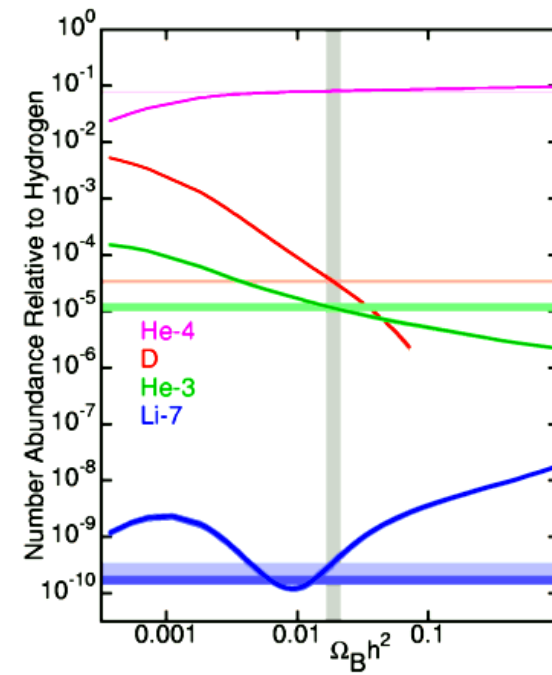
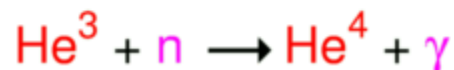
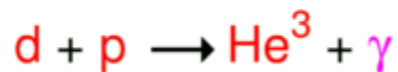
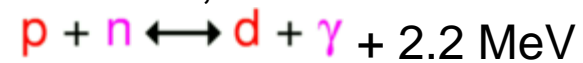


$> 1 \text{ s}, \tau_{1/2} \sim 615 \text{ s}$

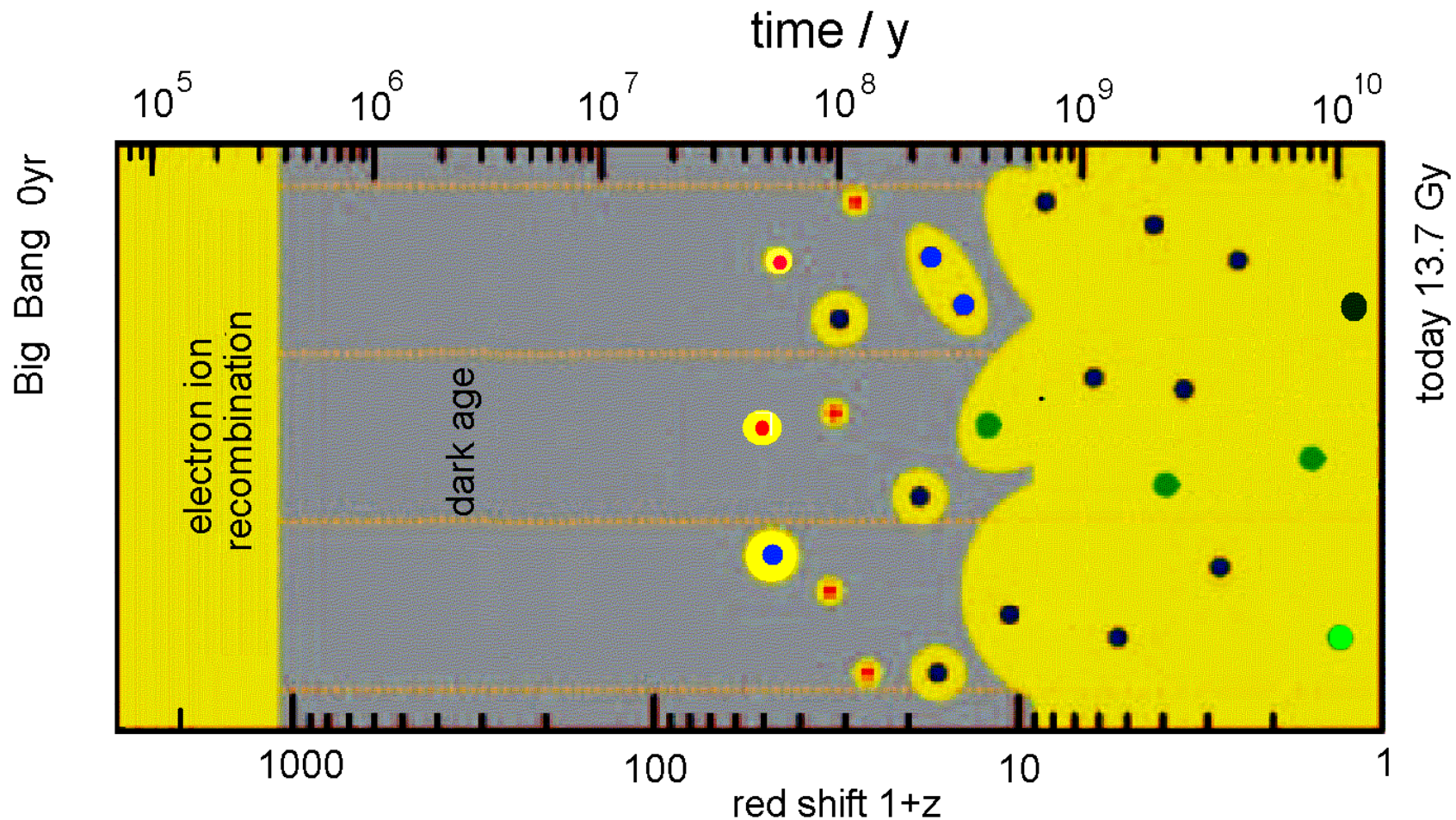


$100 \text{ s}, n/p \sim 1/7$

$10^9 \text{ K}, kT \sim 0.1 \text{ MeV}$

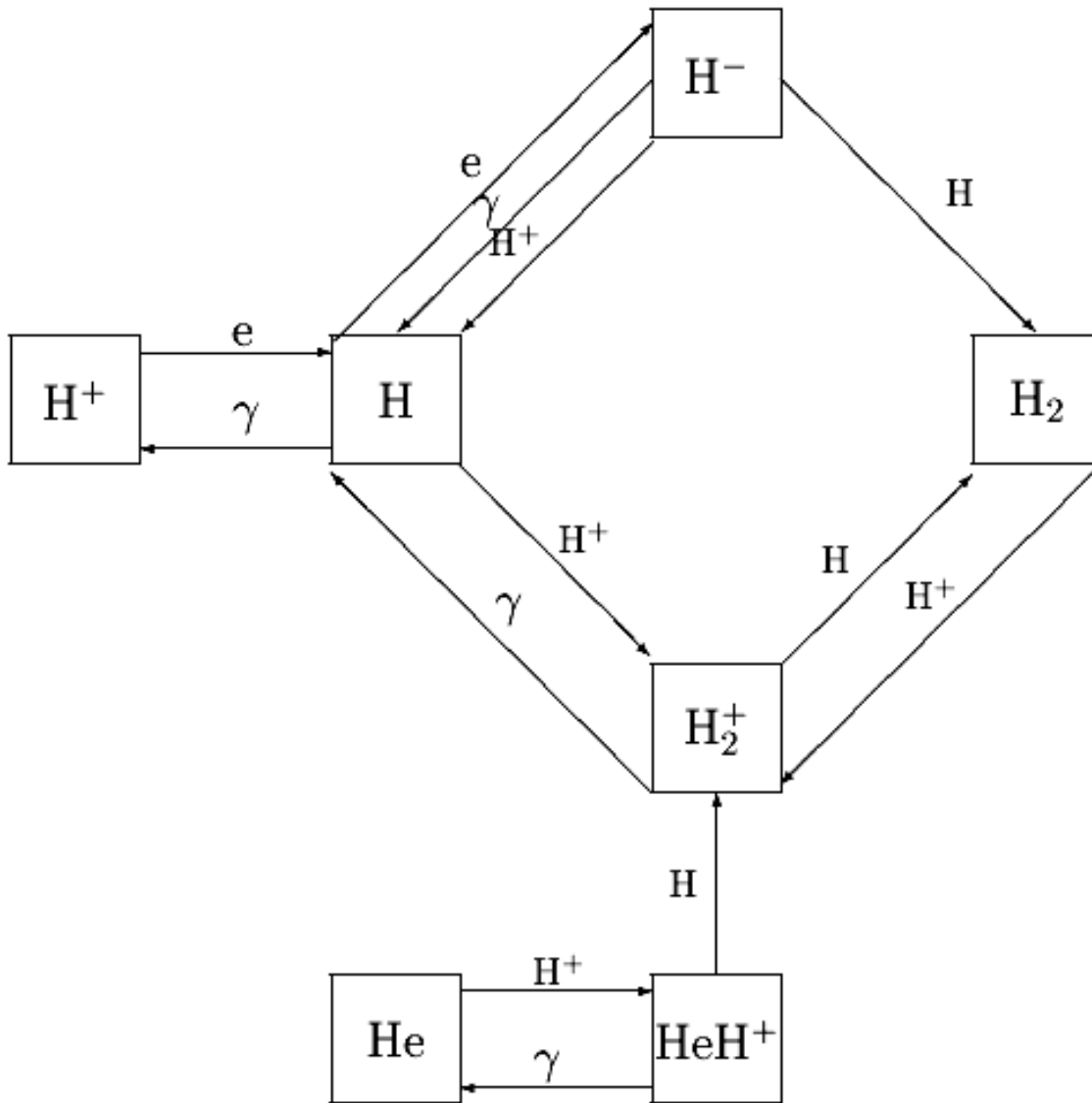


# Early universe chemistry: end of dark age



- important for cooling primordial clouds (8,000 - 200 K)
- uncertainties affect predictions for star formation

# H<sub>2</sub> formation in the early Universe



*radiative association*

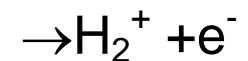
very slow



*early times*



*later times*



**H<sup>-</sup> channel**



# The periodic table of astronomers

H

He

▪  
Mg

▪  
Fe

▪  
C

▪  
N

◻  
O

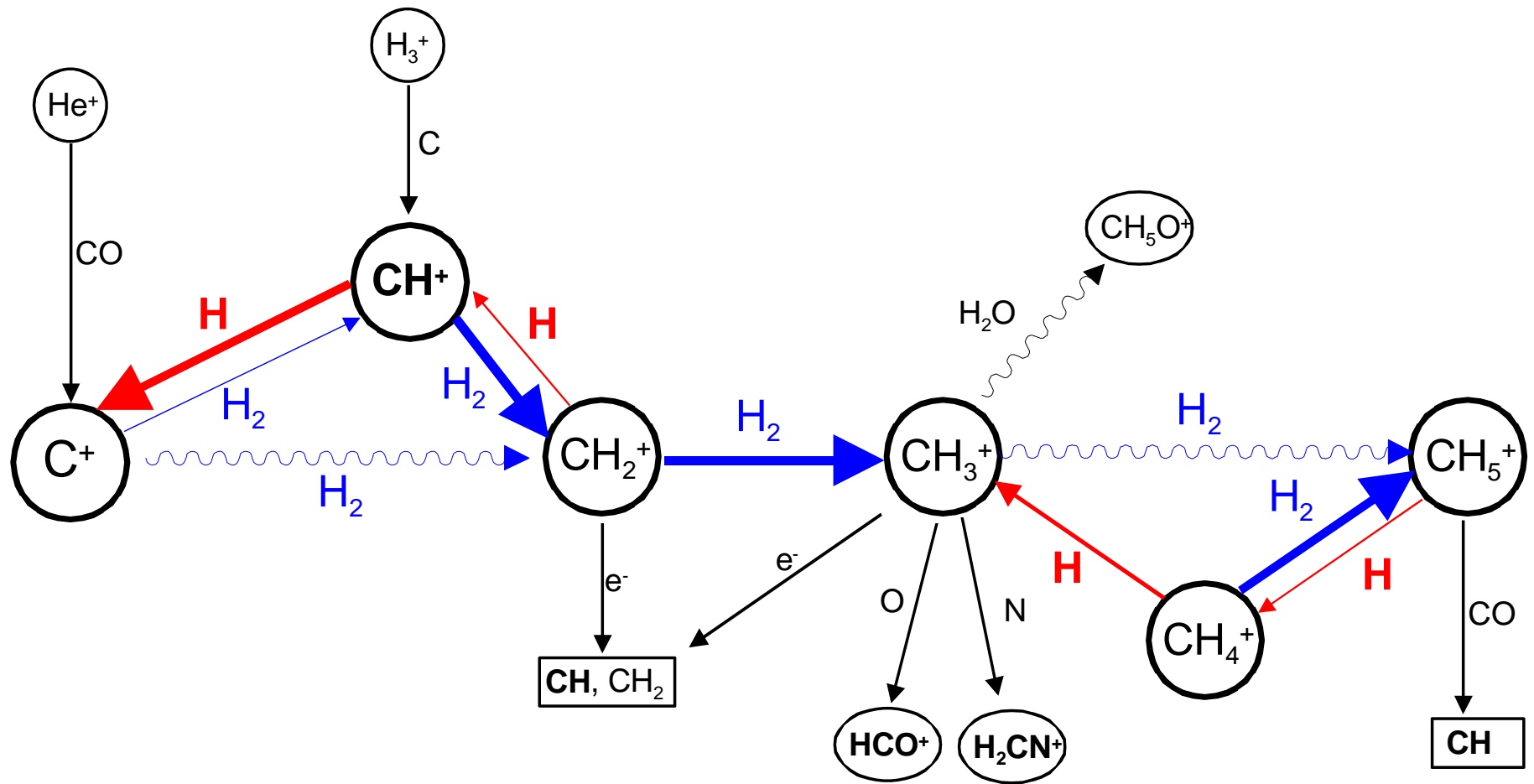
▪  
Ne

▪  
Si

▪  
S

▪  
Ar

# Formation and destruction of $\text{CH}_n^+$ in space







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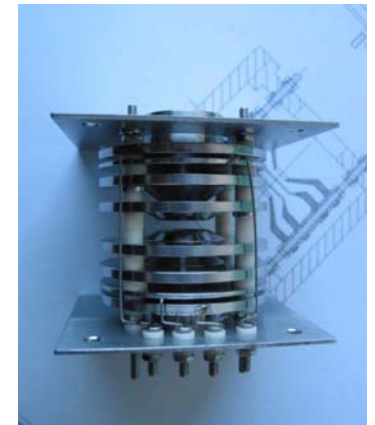
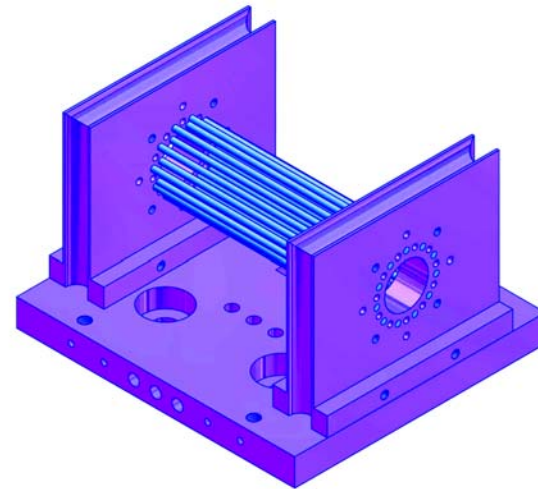
State selective preparation

## Nanoparticles

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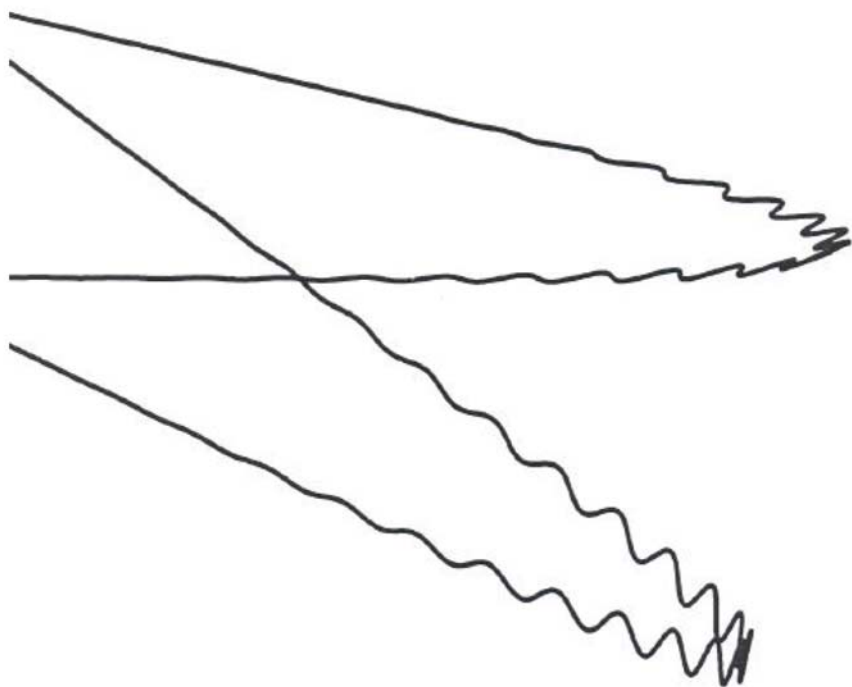
HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

## Summary and outlook



# INHOMOGENEOUS RF FIELDS: A VERSATILE TOOL FOR THE STUDY OF PROCESSES WITH SLOW IONS

DIETER GERLICH



I. Introduction

II. Motion of Charged Particles in Fast  
Oscillatory Fields

III. Experimental Applications and Tests of  
Several rf Devices

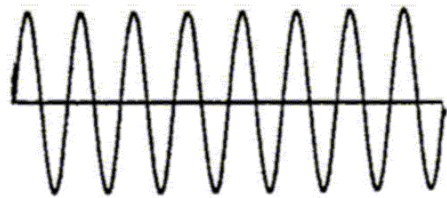
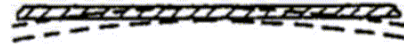
IV. Description of Several Instruments

V. Studies of Ion Processes in RF Fields:  
A Sampling

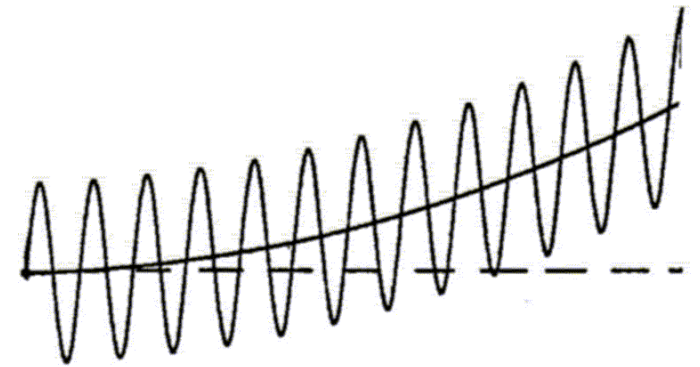
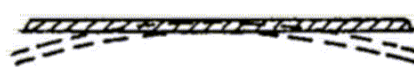
VI. Conclusions and Future Developments

# Motion in a fast oscillating field

$$m\ddot{\mathbf{r}} = q\mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{r}) \cos(\Omega t + \delta) + q\mathbf{E}_s(\mathbf{r})$$



**homogen**



**inhomogen**

## Motion in a fast oscillating field

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{r}(0) - \mathbf{a} \cos(\Omega t)$$

$$\mathbf{a} = q\mathbf{E}_0/m\Omega^2$$

$$\mathbf{r}(t) = \mathbf{R}_0(t) + \mathbf{R}_1(t)$$

$$\mathbf{R}_1(t) = -\mathbf{a}(t) \cos \Omega t$$

$$\mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{R}_0 - \mathbf{a} \cos \Omega t) = \mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{R}_0) - (\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{E}_0(\mathbf{R}_0) \cos \Omega t + \dots$$

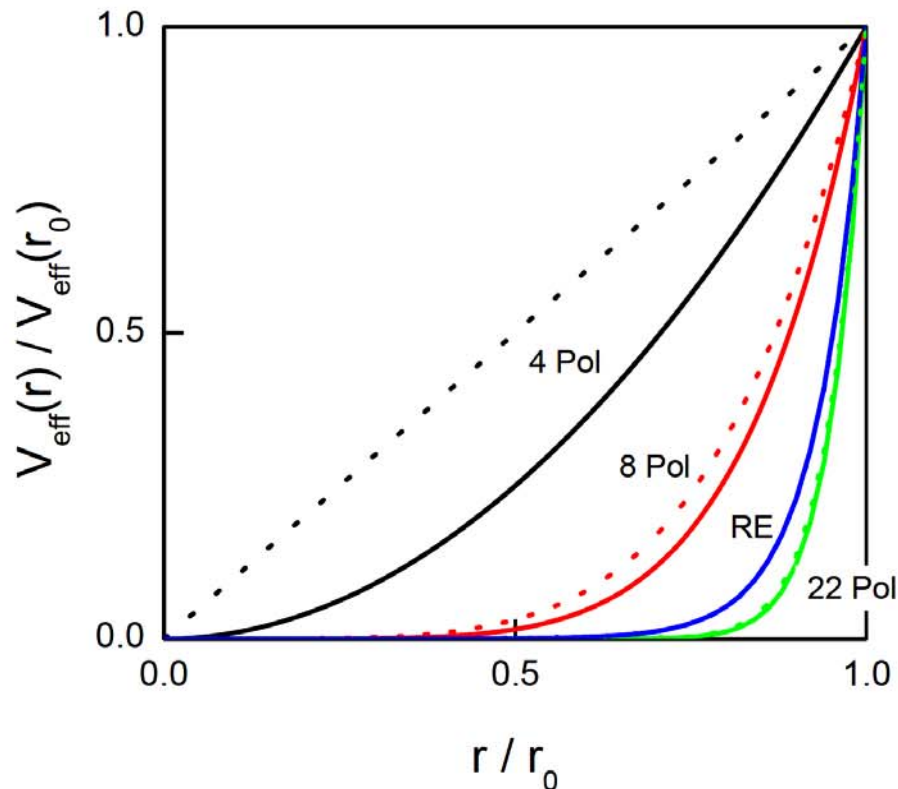
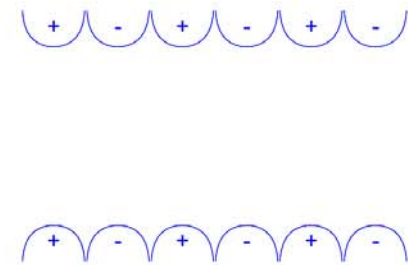
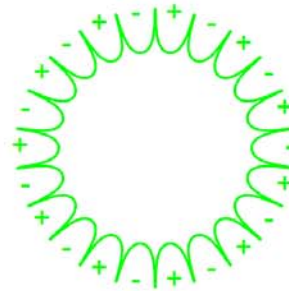
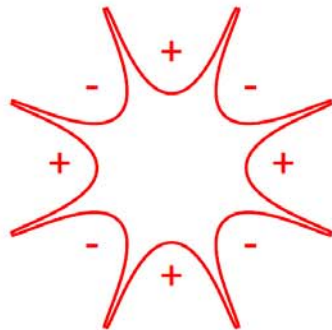
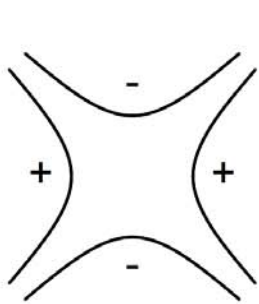
**effective potential**

$$V^*(\mathbf{R}_0) = q^2 E_0^2 / 4m\Omega^2$$

**adiabaticity parameter**

$$\eta = 2q|\nabla E_0|/m\Omega^2$$

# Ion trapping in rf fields



Effective Potential:

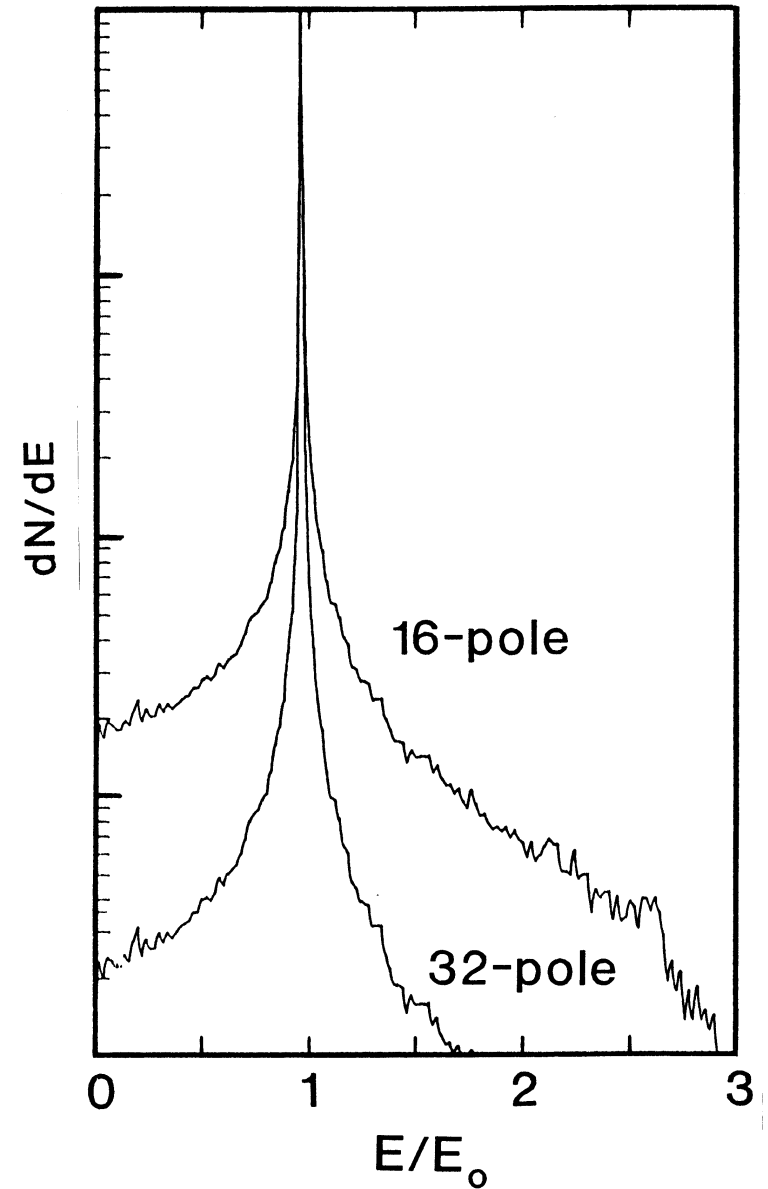
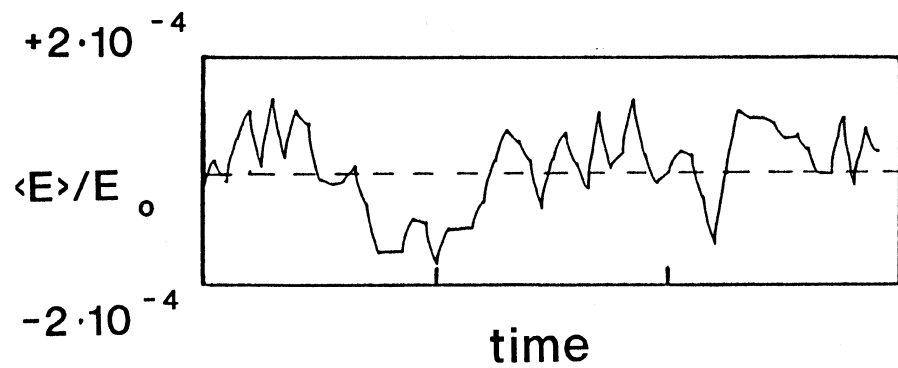
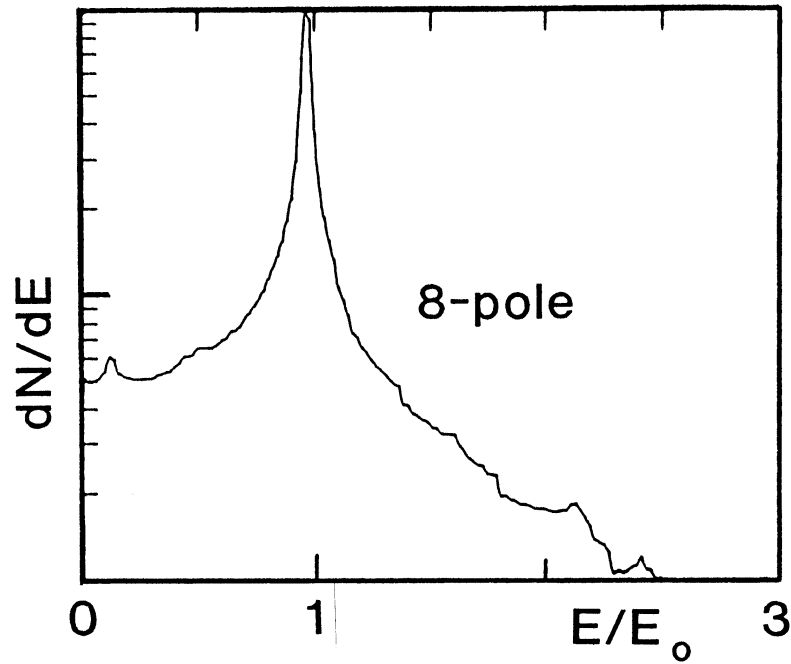
$$V_{eff} = \frac{q^2 E_0^2}{4m\Omega^2} \quad \eta = \frac{2q|\nabla E_0|}{m\Omega^2}$$

2n-Pole:

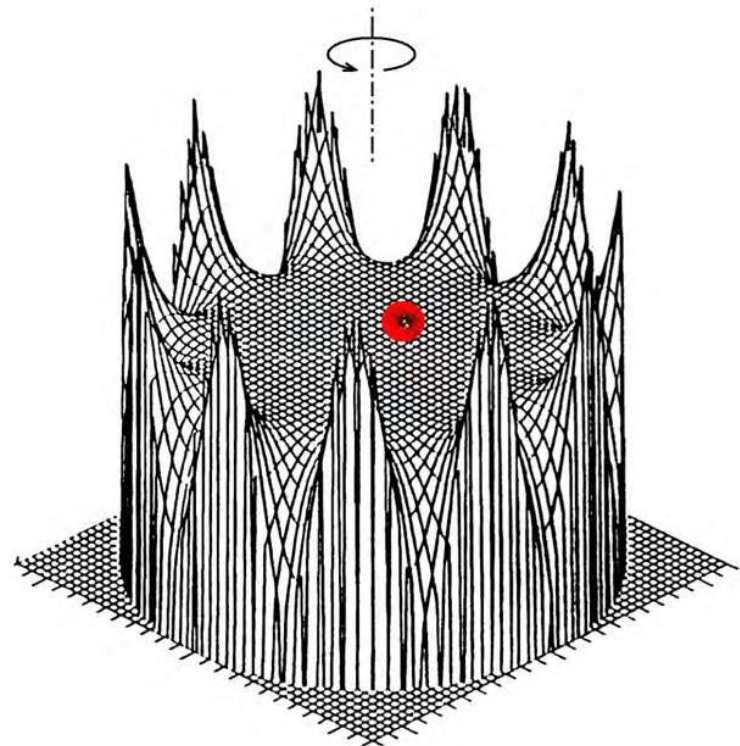
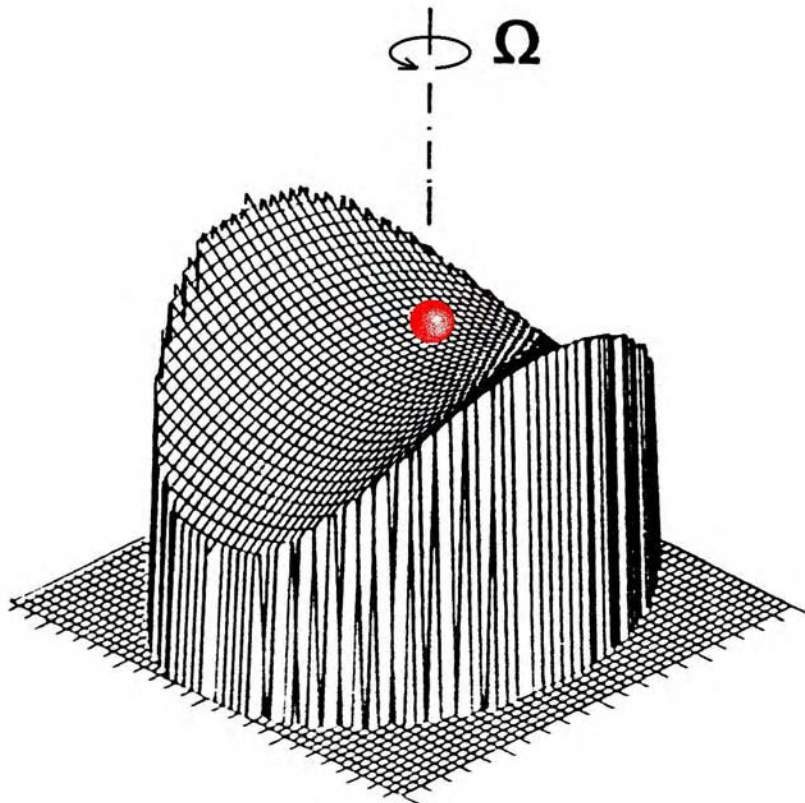
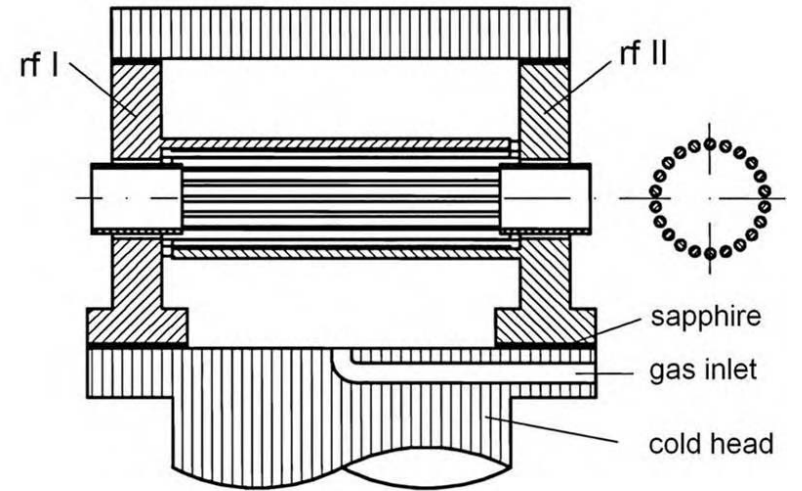
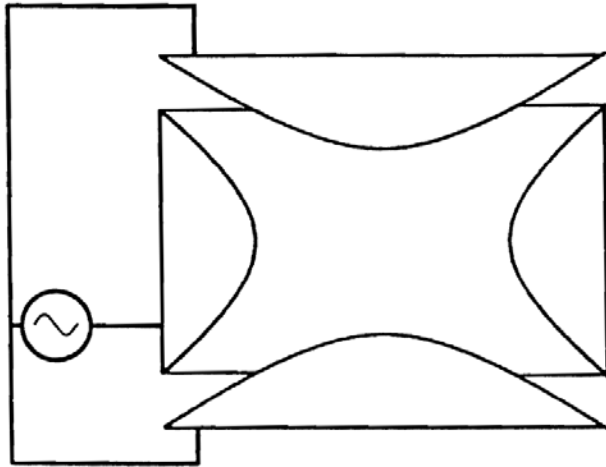
$$V_{eff} = \frac{n^2 q^2 V_0^2}{4m\Omega^2 r_0^2} \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^{2n-2}$$

$$\eta = 2n(n-1) \frac{qV_0}{m\Omega^2 r_0^2} \left( \frac{r}{r_0} \right)^{n-2}$$

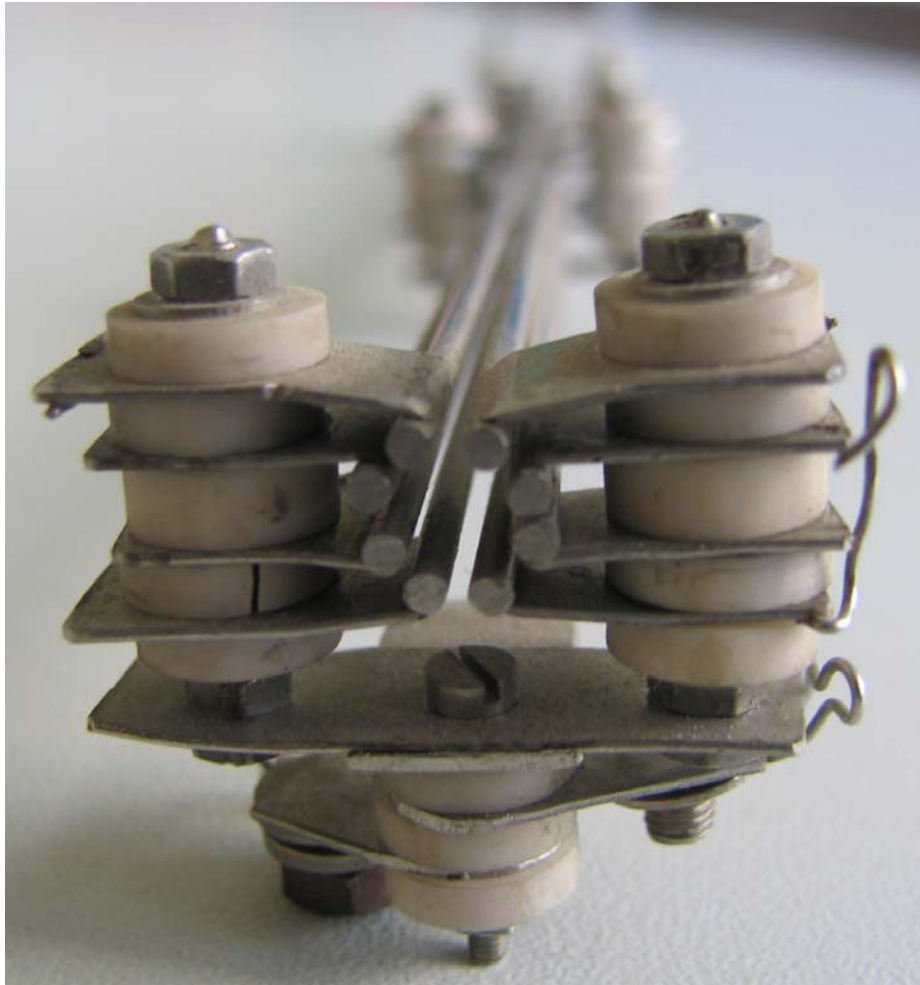
# Kinetic energy distribution



# Confinement of charged particles in rf or AC fields

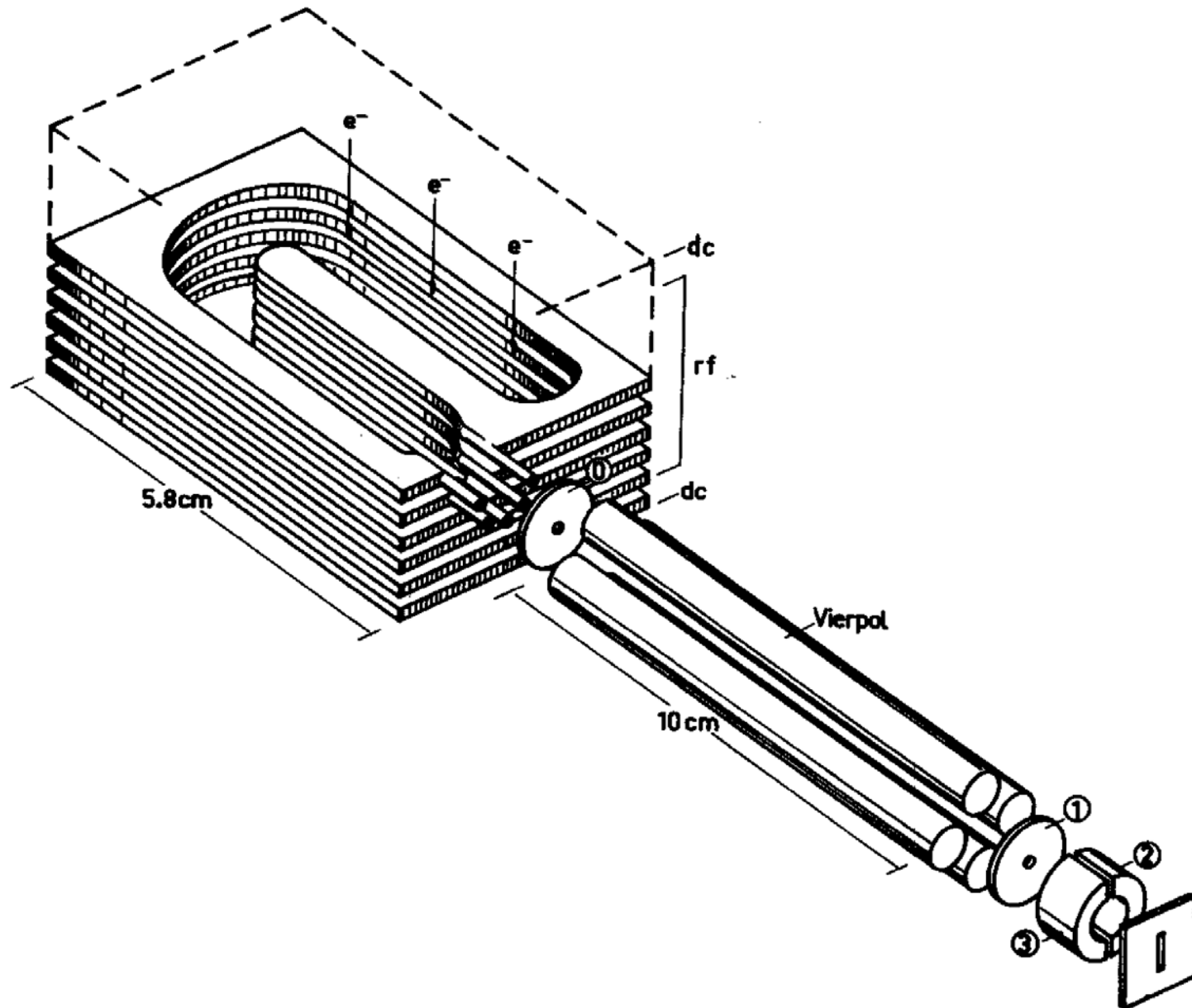


## 8-Pol (1969) / wire 4-Pol (1985)

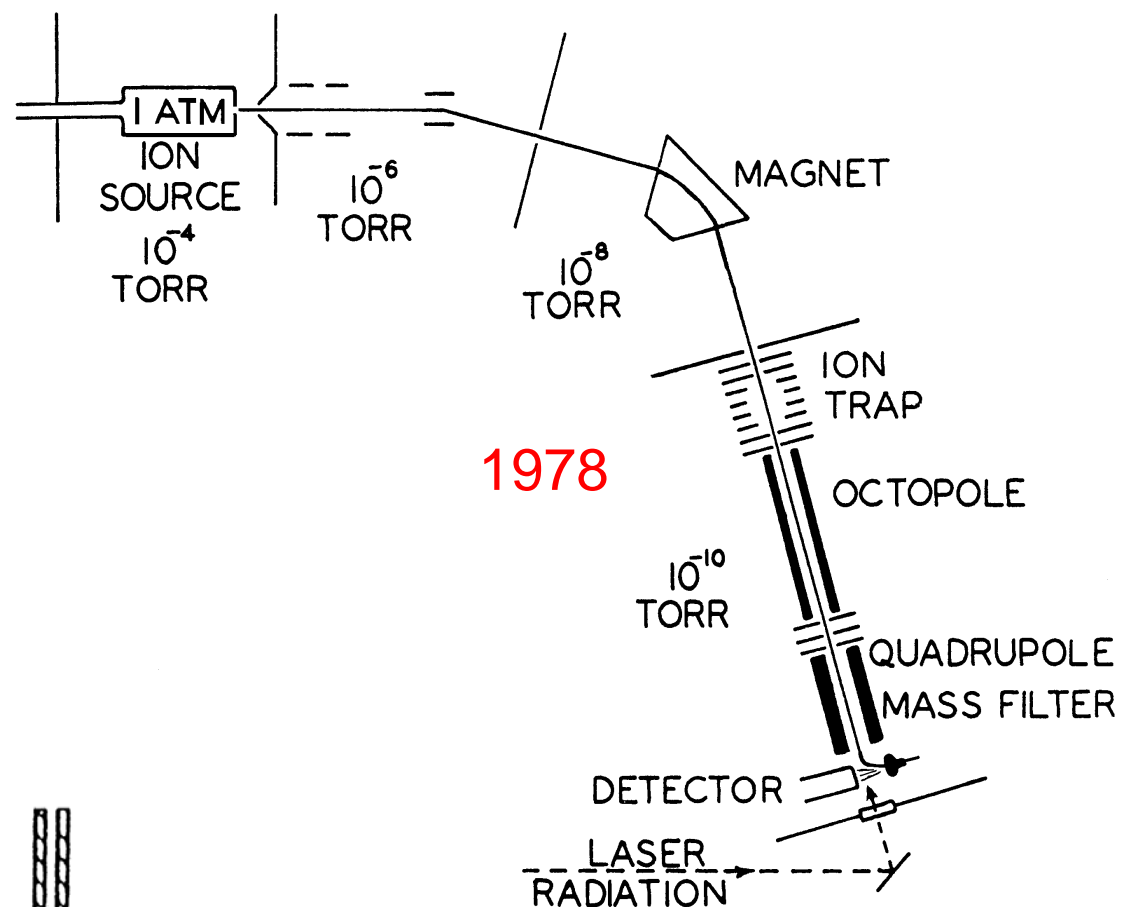
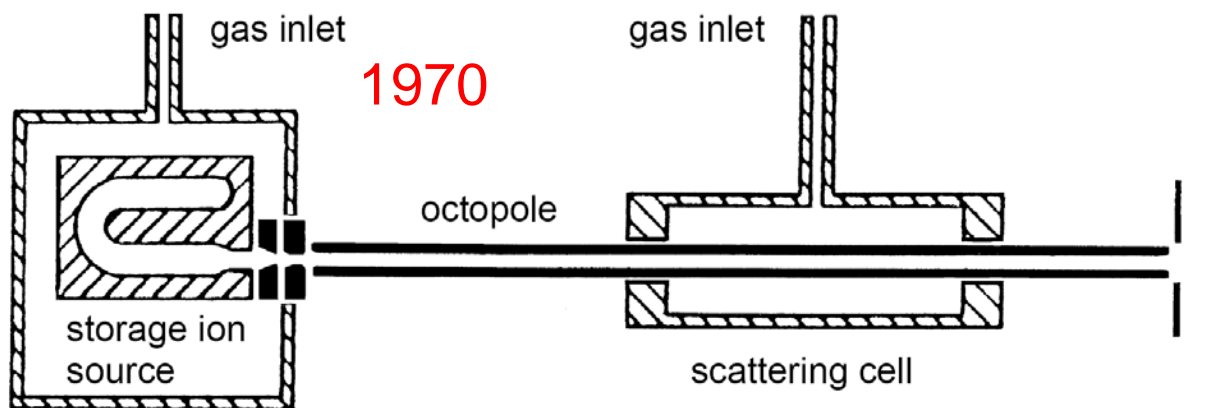
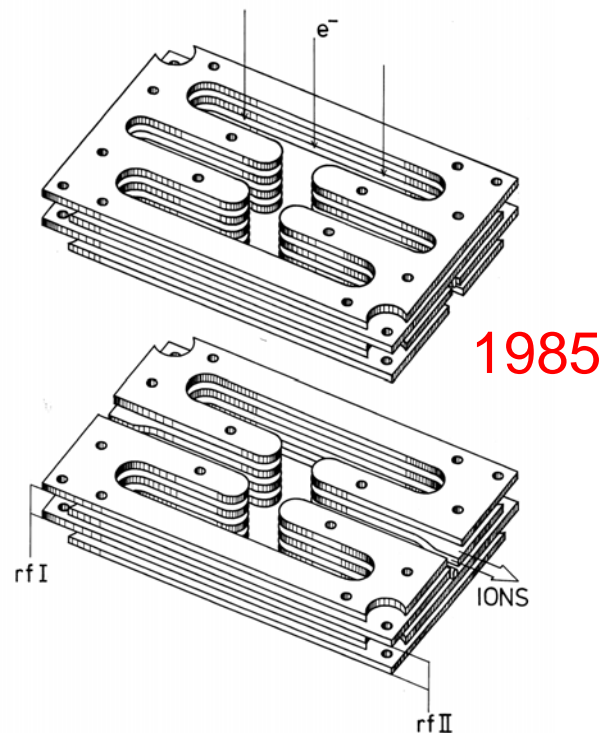




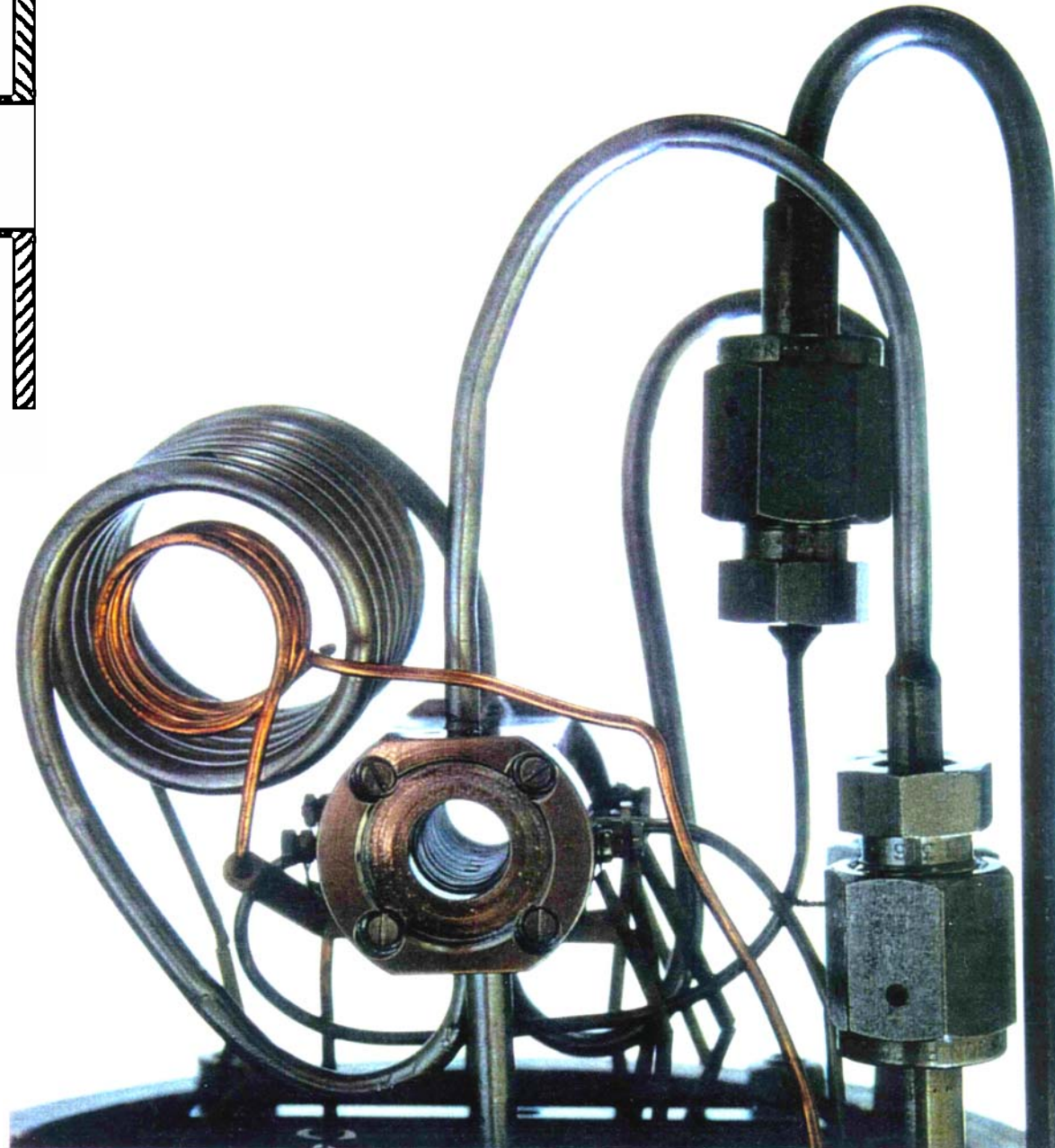
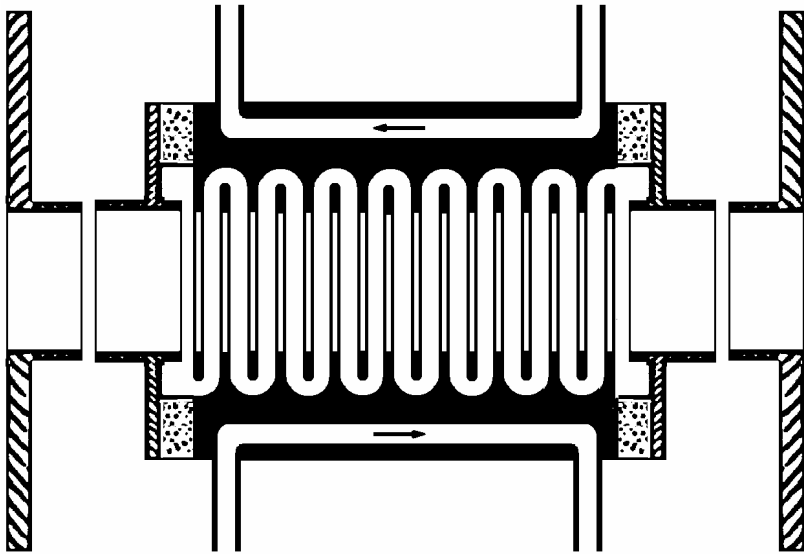
# Storage ion source



# History: thermalizing ions



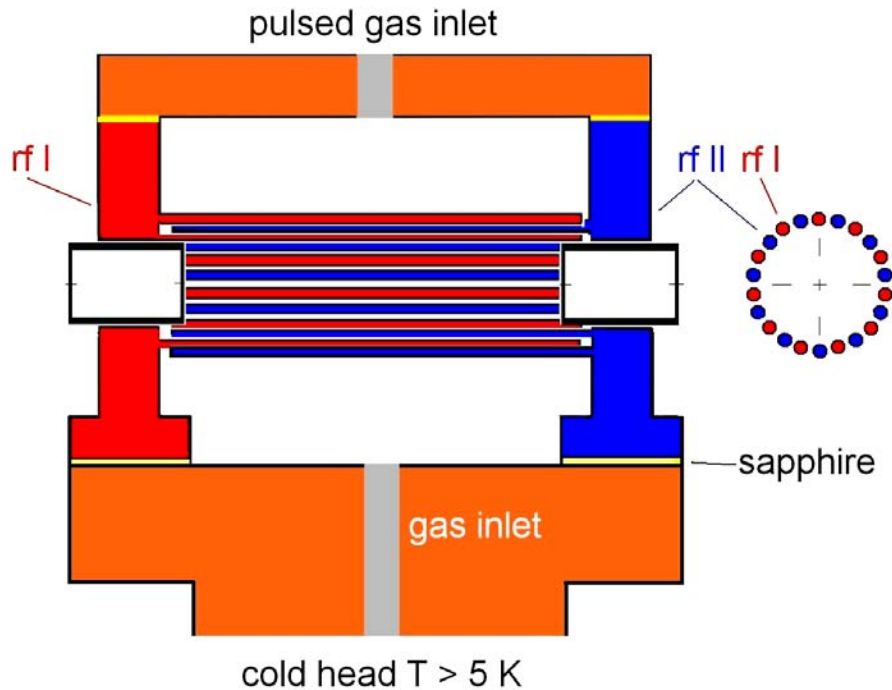
## Liquid N<sub>2</sub> cooled trap (1988)



## I-N<sub>2</sub> cooled RET (1990)



# TV 22-pole trap



$$d = 1 \text{ mm}$$

$$2 r_0 = 10 \text{ mm}$$

$$r_0 = (n-1) d/2$$

$$2n = 22$$

## Effective potential $V^*$

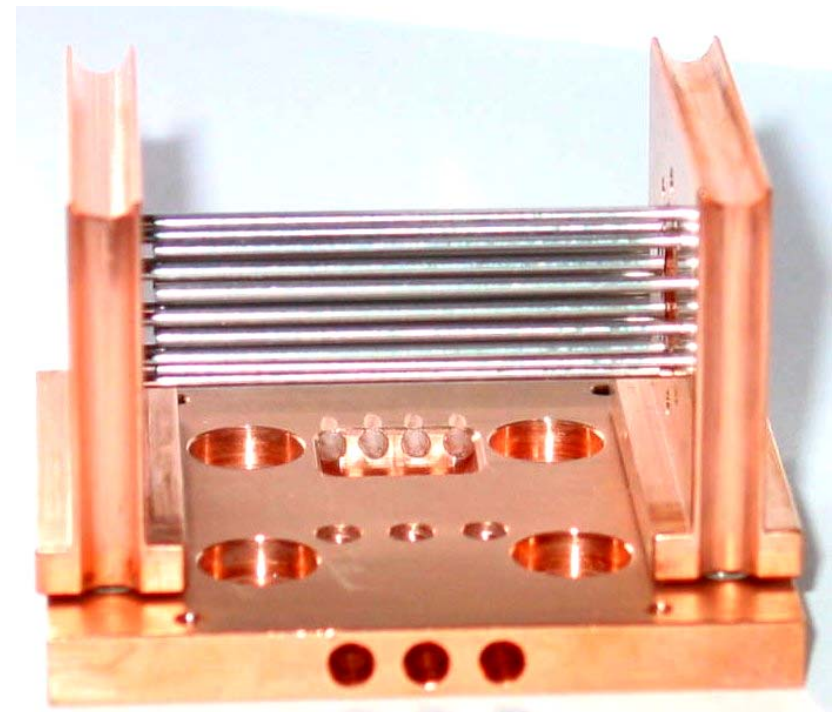
$$V^* = q^2 E_0^2 / 4m\Omega^2$$

## Adiabaticity parameter $\eta$

$$\eta = 2 q |\nabla E_0| / m\Omega^2$$

parameters:  $q$ ,  $m$ ,  $E_0$ ,  $\Omega$ , scaling:  $m\Omega^2$

$$\eta \sim E_{\max}^{(n-2)/(2n-2)} = E_{\max}^{9/20}$$



## 22: a powerful number

„The 22 is the **most powerful of all numbers**. It is often called the Master Builder. The 22 can turn the most ambitious of dreams into reality. It is potentially the most successful of all numbers“.

Source:

<http://www.decoz.com/Masternumbers.htm>



Master Numerologist Hans Decoz, author of **Numerology; Key To Your Inner Self**

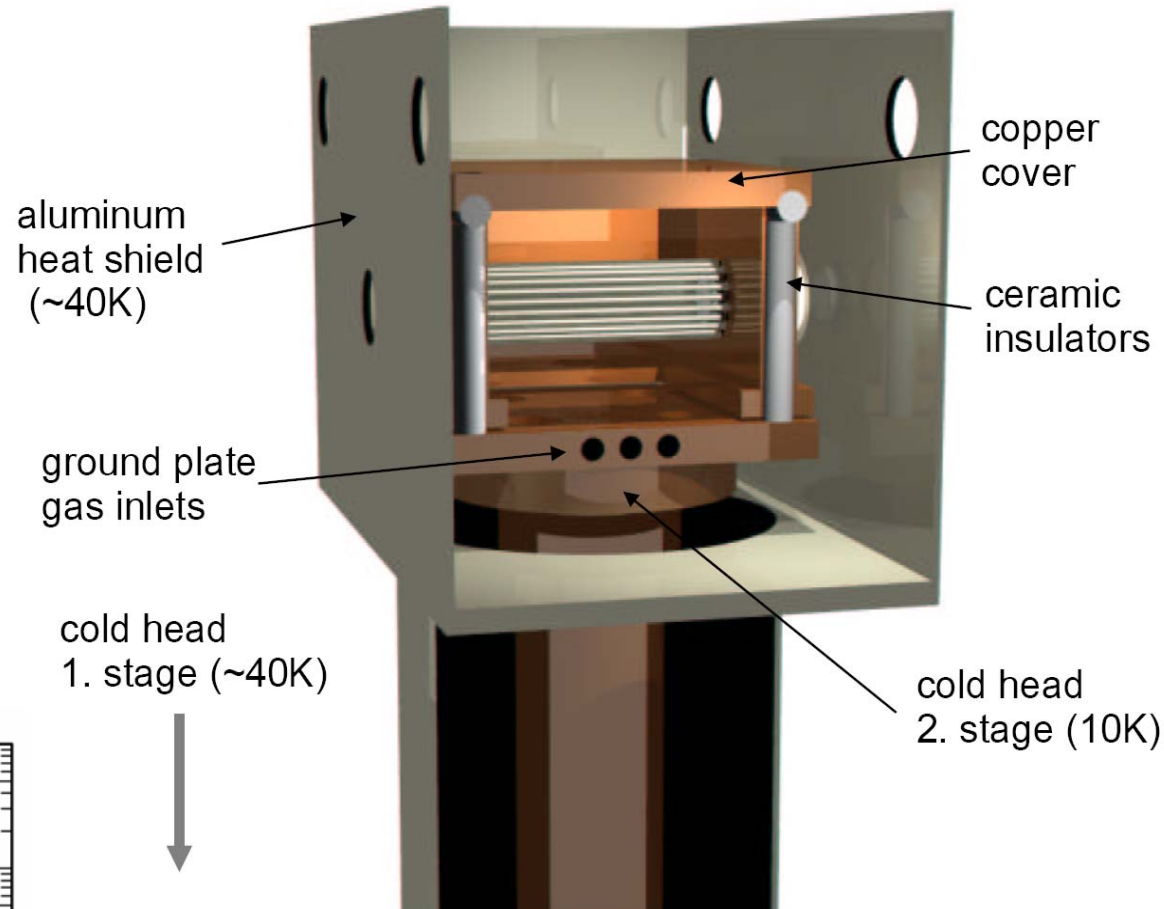
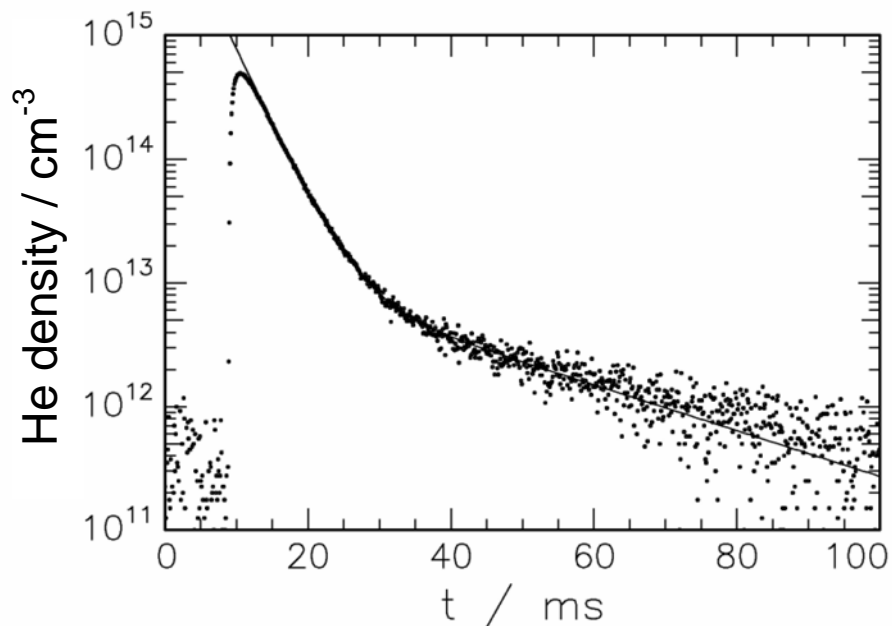
# Buffer gas cooling in an rf trap

Dynamic traps such as Penning, storage rings, cone trap do not work

Paul trap does not work  
 $\eta = \text{const}$

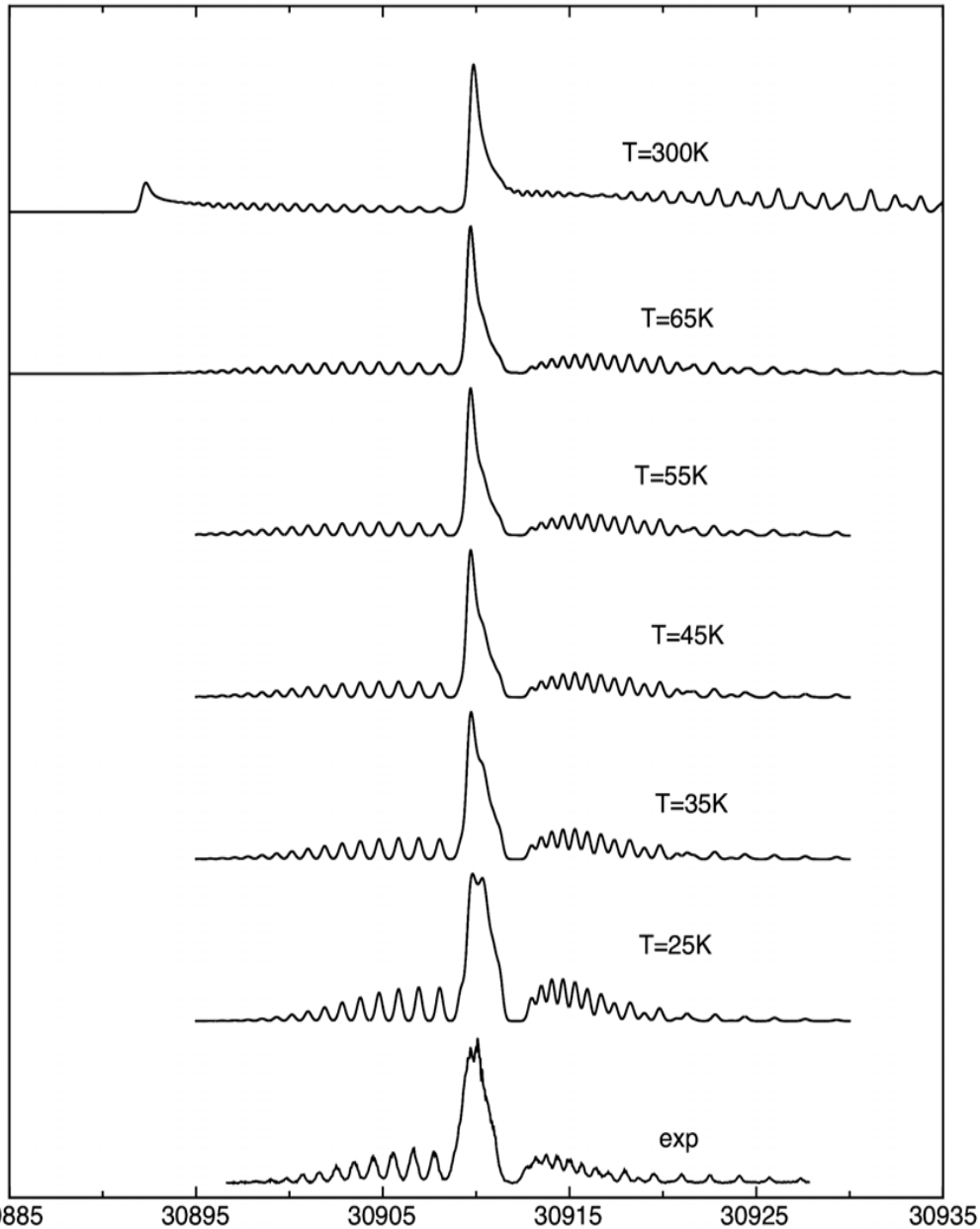
Only way to cool efficiently internal degrees of freedom are

**rf multielectrode traps**



**sub K:**  
**cold pulsed effusive beam**

# T: buffer gas, collision, rotation



## $\text{N}_2\text{O}^+$ in cold He

$$m_{\text{ion}} = 44 \text{ u} , m_{\text{He}} = 4 \text{ u}$$

The rotational temperature of the ions is determined by the collision temperature  $T_{\text{coll}}$  which is given by:

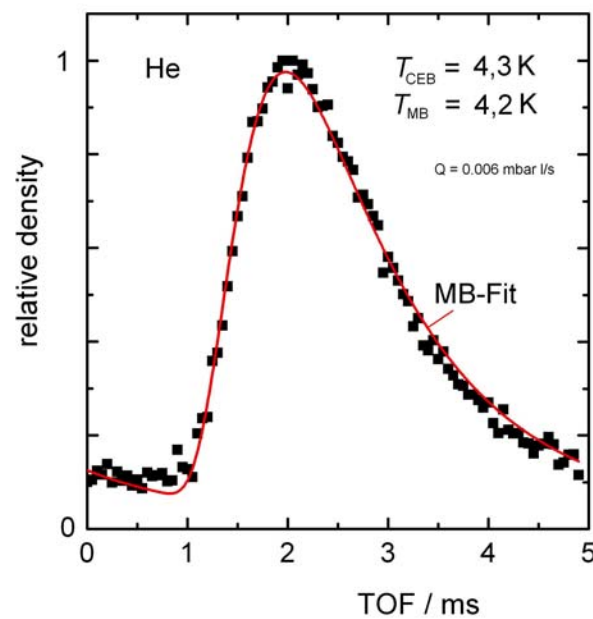
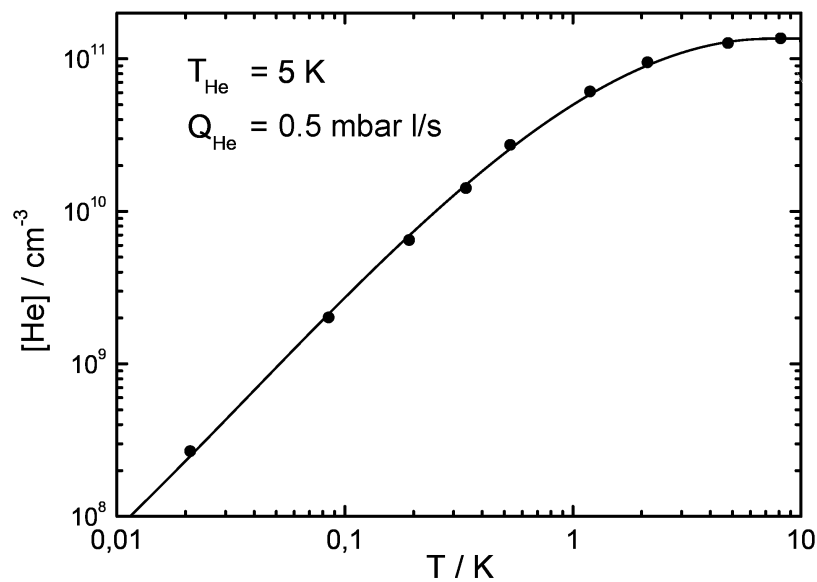
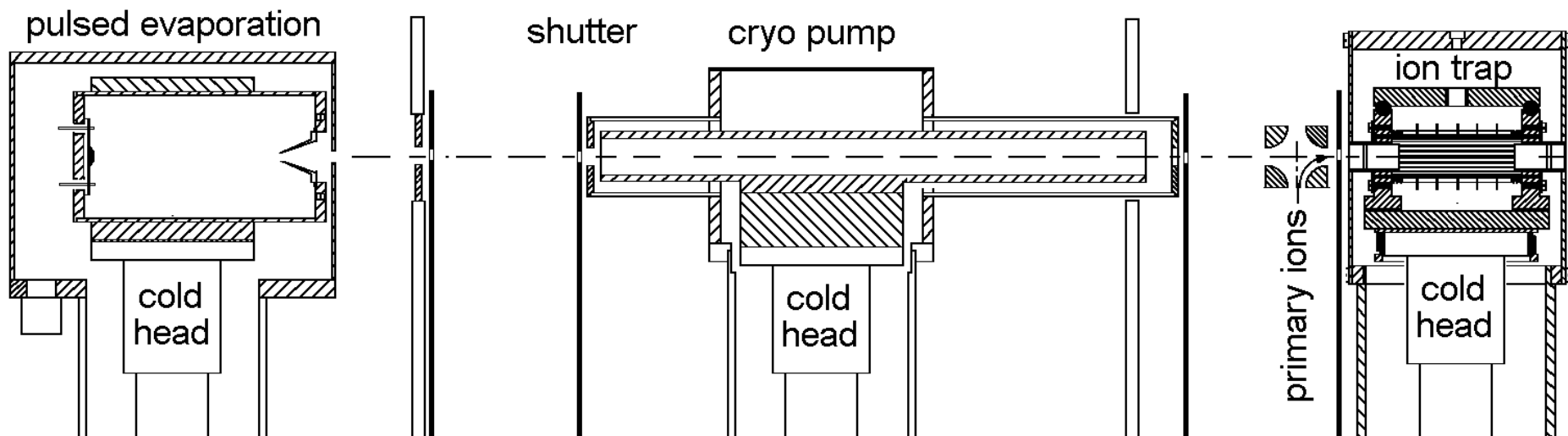
$$T_{\text{coll}} = (m_{\text{ion}} T_{\text{He}} + m_{\text{He}} T_{\text{ion}}) / (m_{\text{ion}} + m_{\text{He}})$$

$$T_{\text{He}} = 5 \text{ K}$$
$$T_{\text{rot}} = T_{\text{coll}} = 25 \text{ K}$$

$$T_{\text{ion}} = 245 \text{ K}$$



# Sub-K cooling of stored ions



# Phase space compression in ion chemistry

## Liouville theorem

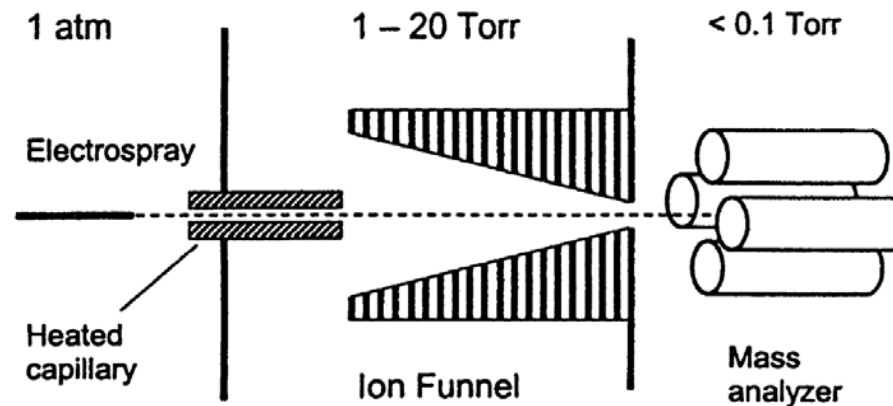
### Patent US4963736 (1988)

*Mass spectrometer and method and improved ion transmission*

### Patent suit 2002

Applied Biosystems and MDS won against Micromass to the tune of **\$47.5M**.

## Ion funnel PNNL, Richland 1998





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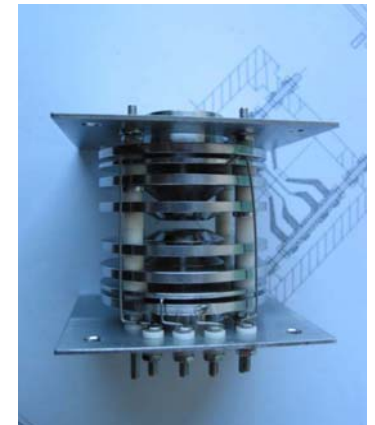
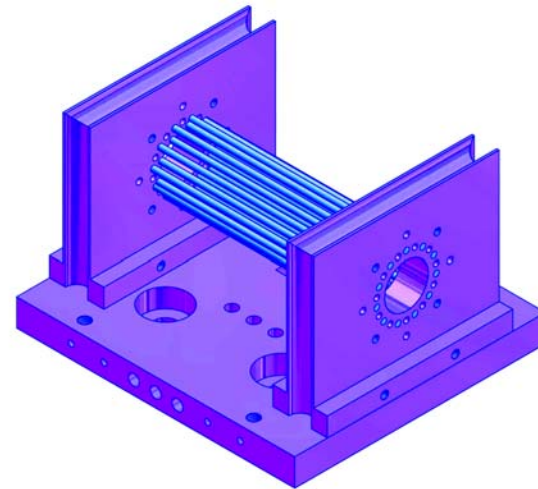
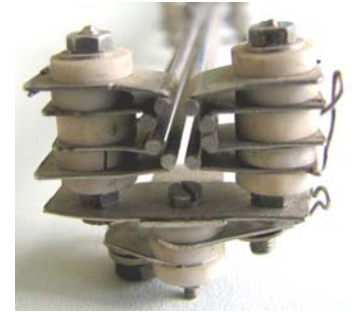
State selective preparation

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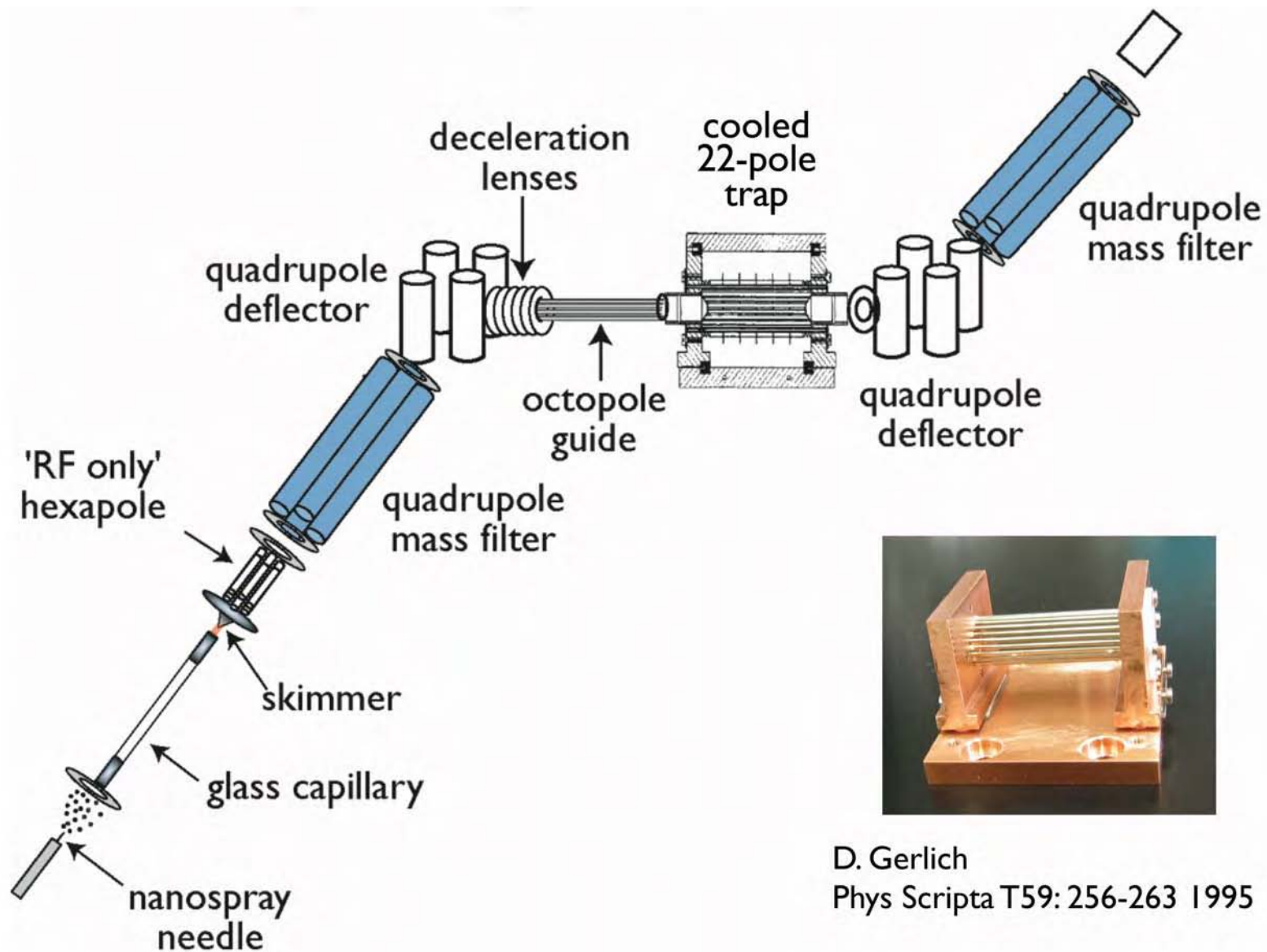
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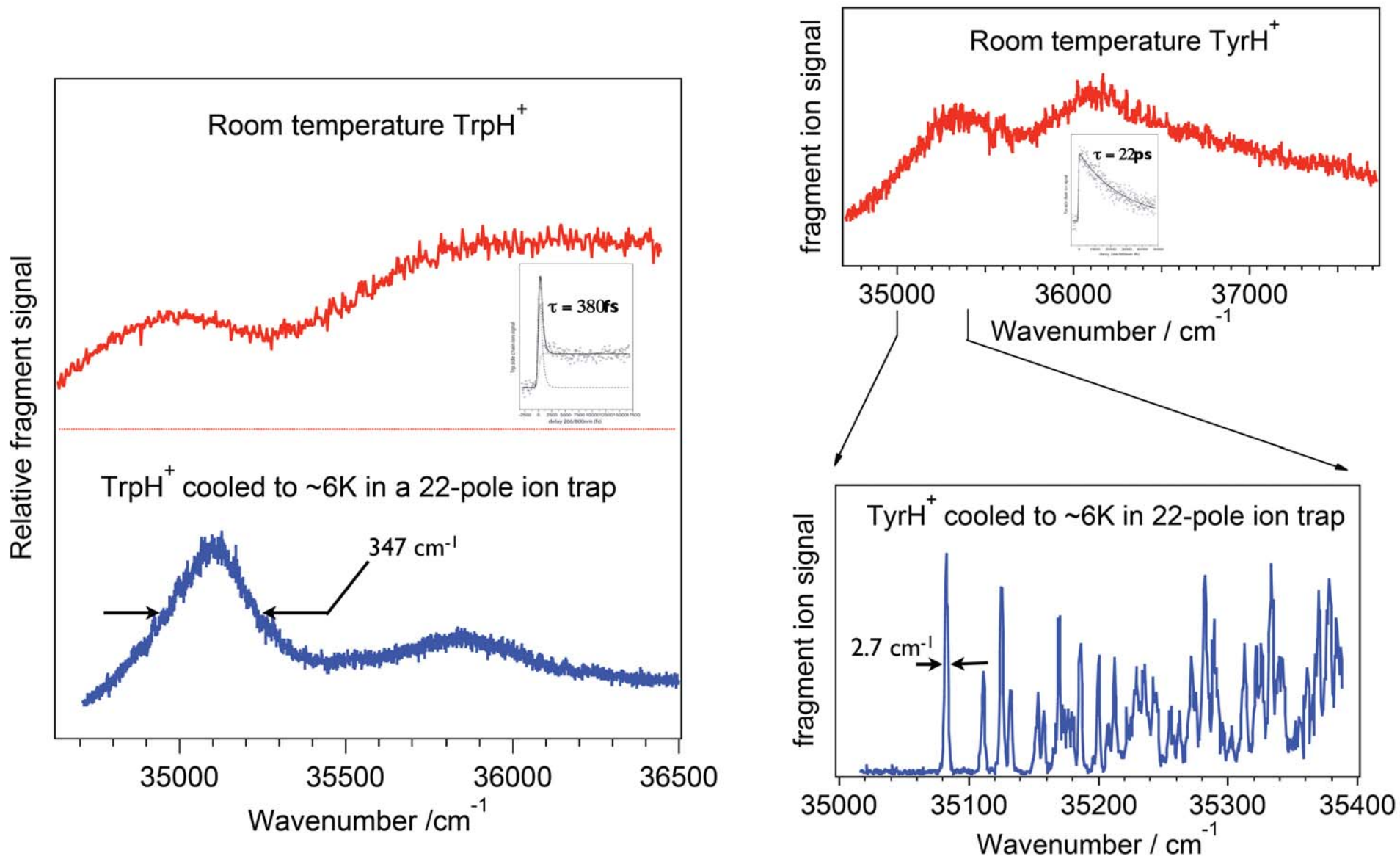
# The Lausanne cooled ion spectrometer



D. Gerlich  
Phys Scripta T59: 256-263 1995

O. Boyarkin, S. Mercier, A. Kamariotis, and T. Rizzo  
J. Am. Chem. Soc.; **128** (2006) 2816

# Electronic spectra of cold, protonated amino acids

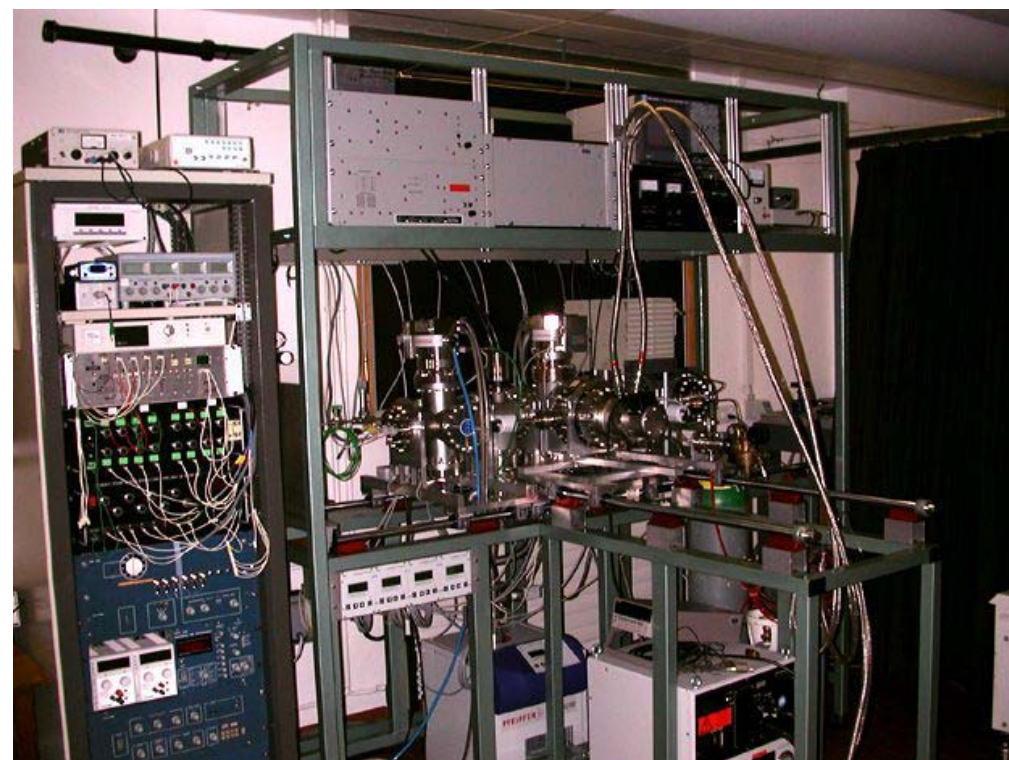
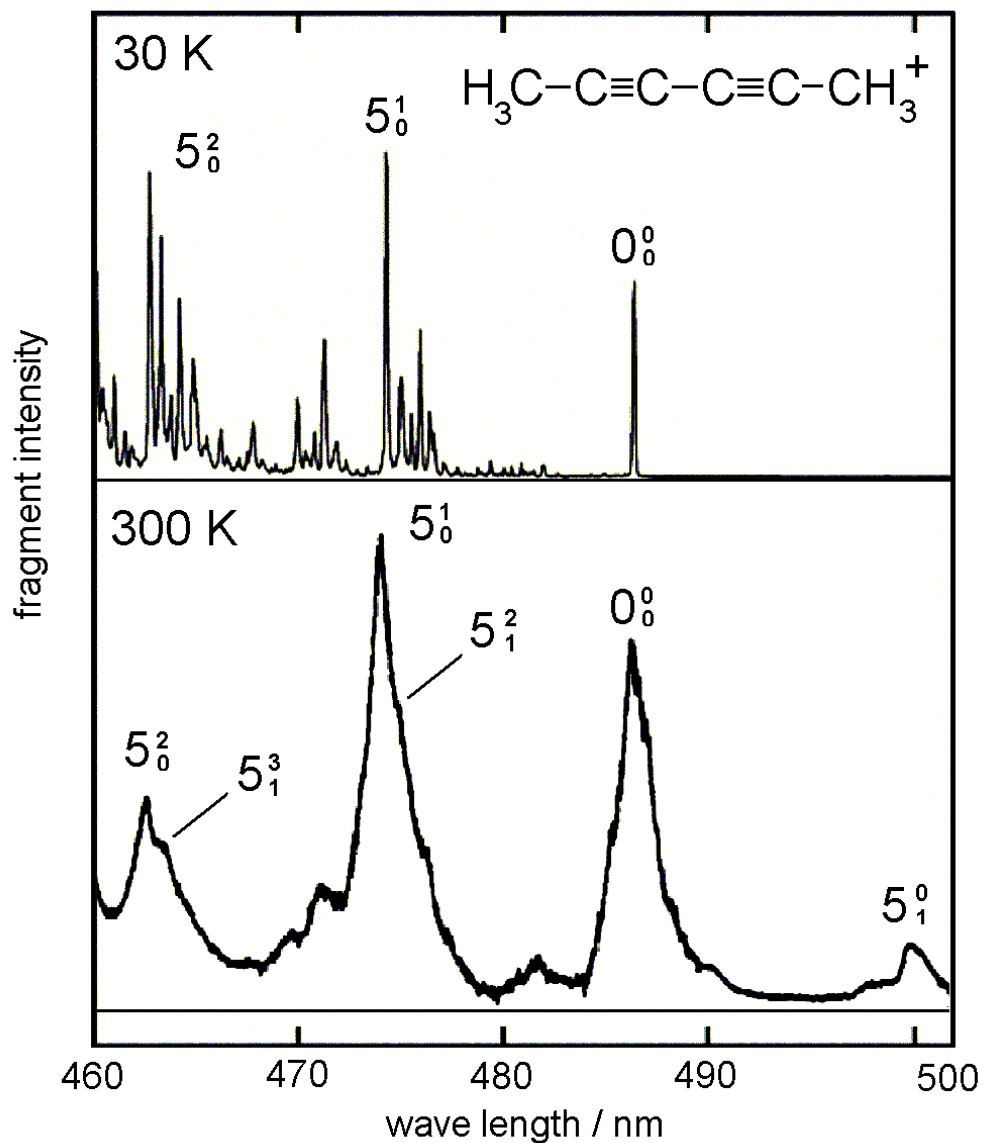


O. Boyarkin, S. Mercier, A. Kamariotis, and T. Rizzo  
J. Am. Chem. Soc.; **128** (2006) 2816

# Electronic spectra: the Basel 22PT

one photon dissociation spectrum

**30 K**  
**300 K**



A. Dzhonson, J.P. Maier *Electronic absorption spectra of cold organic cations: 2,4-hexadiyne. Int. J. Mass. Spect. 255 (2006)139*



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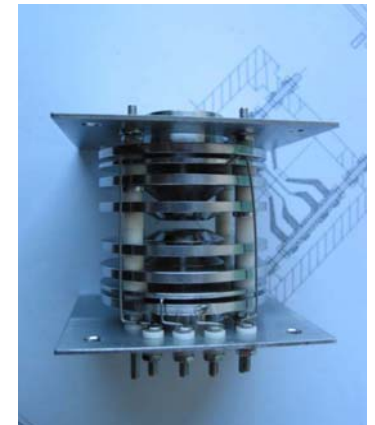
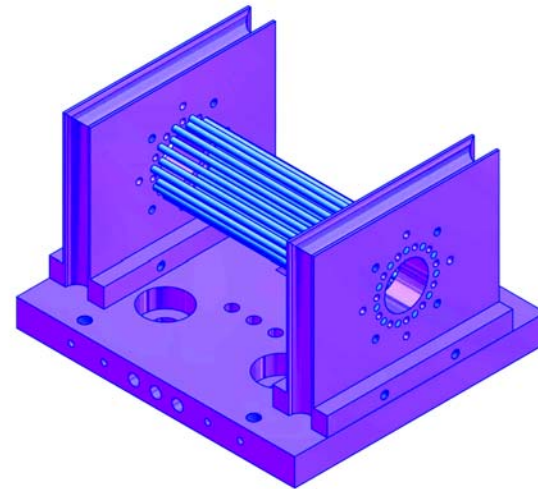
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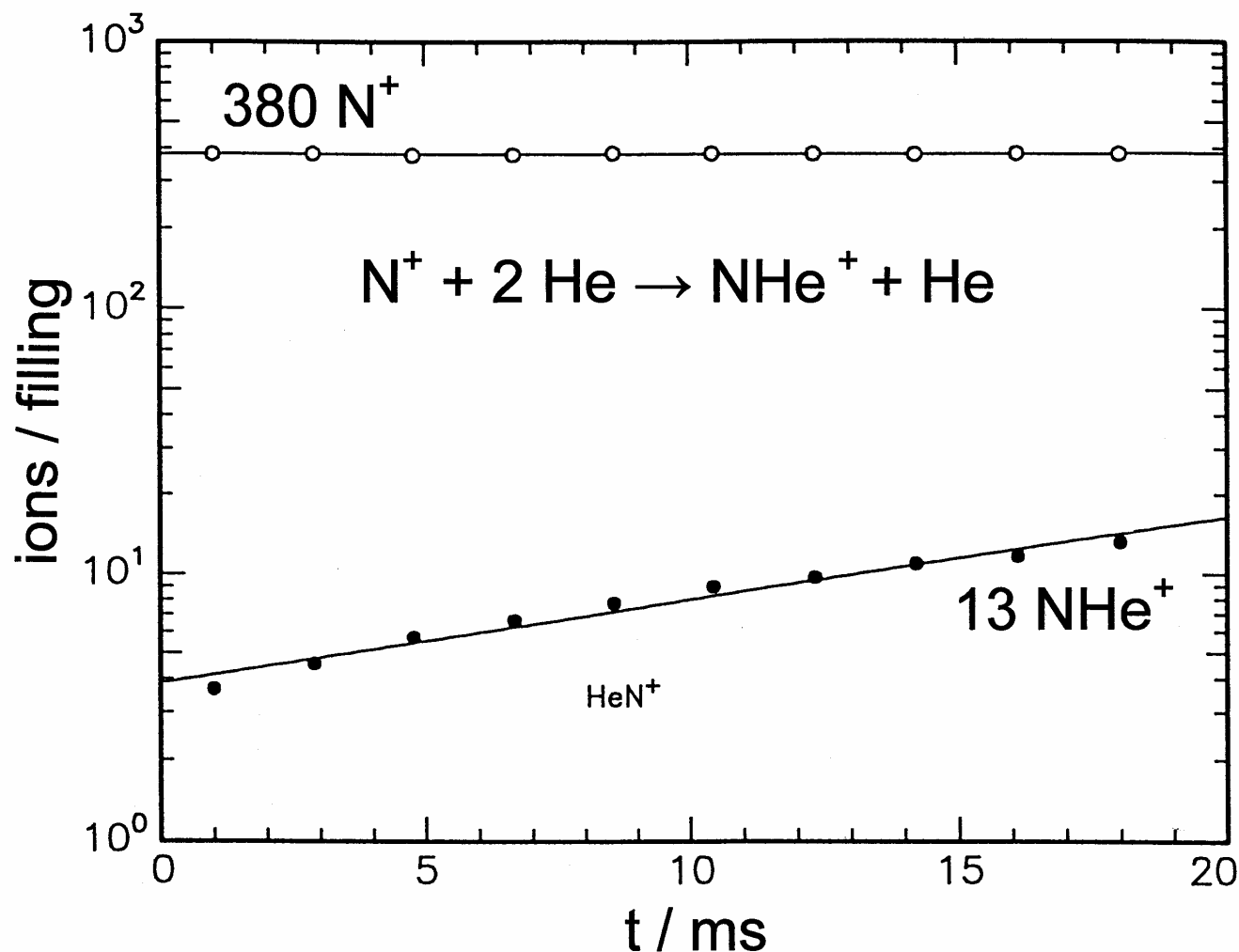
NPMS

HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

## Summary and outlook



# Ternary association: $N^+ + 2 He$



$$T = (15 \pm 5) K$$

$$[He] = 4.8 \times 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$\text{collision rate } 10^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

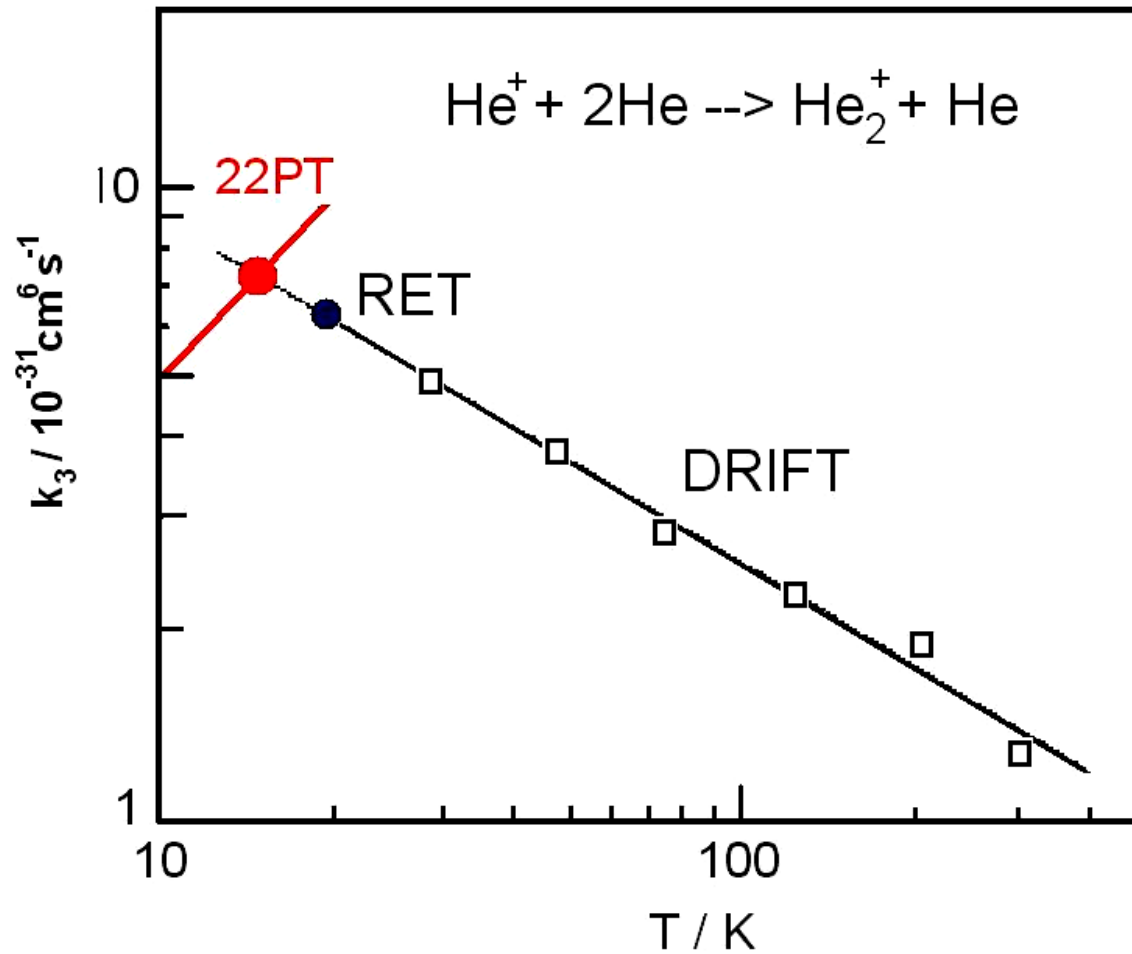
$$k_{\text{eff}} = 8.7 \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$k_3 = 4.6 \times 10^{-31} \text{ cm}^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$$\text{complex life time} \\ 1.6 \times 10^{-11} \text{ s}$$

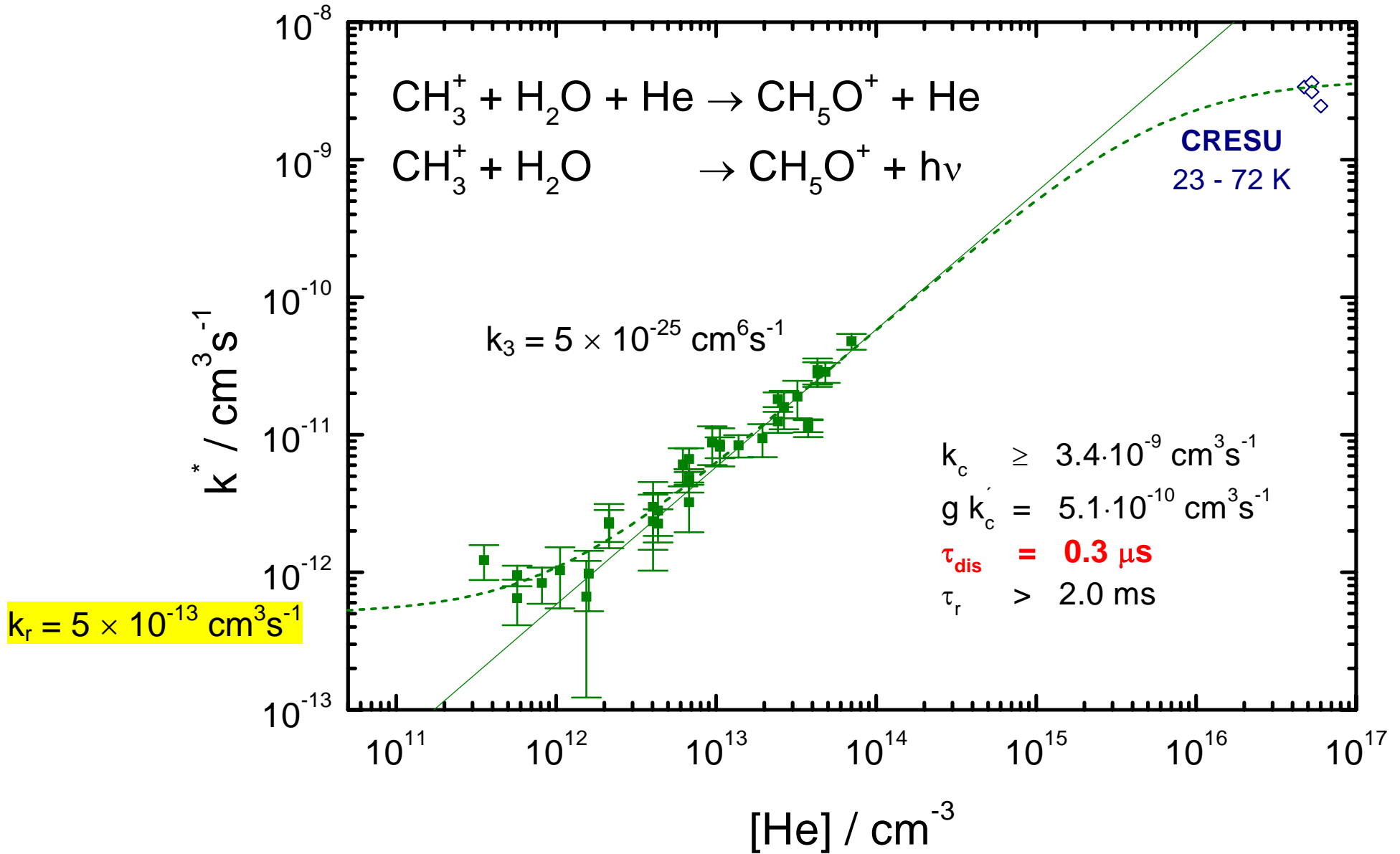


# He<sup>+</sup> + 2 He: ternary association



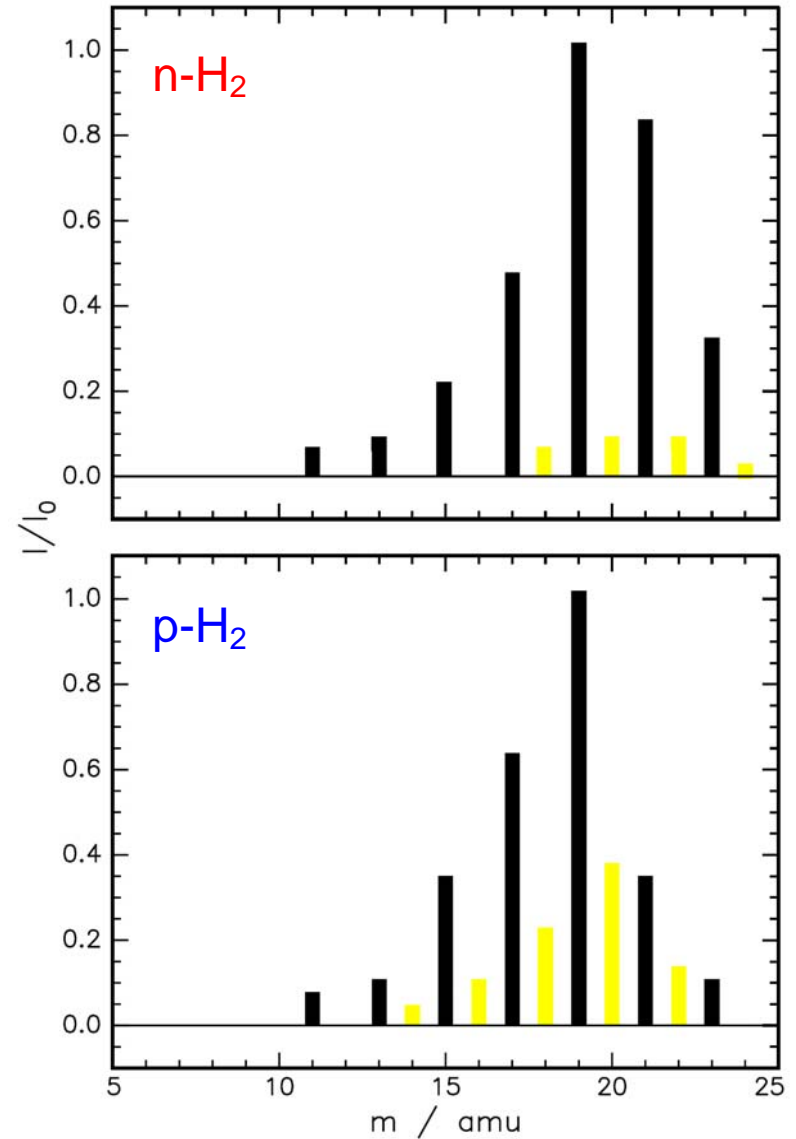
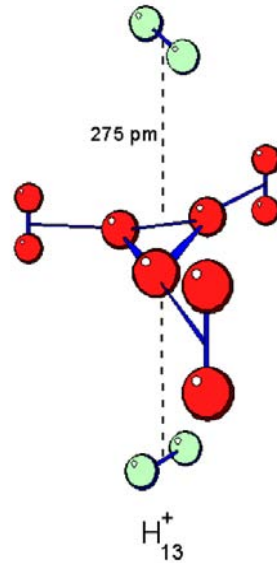
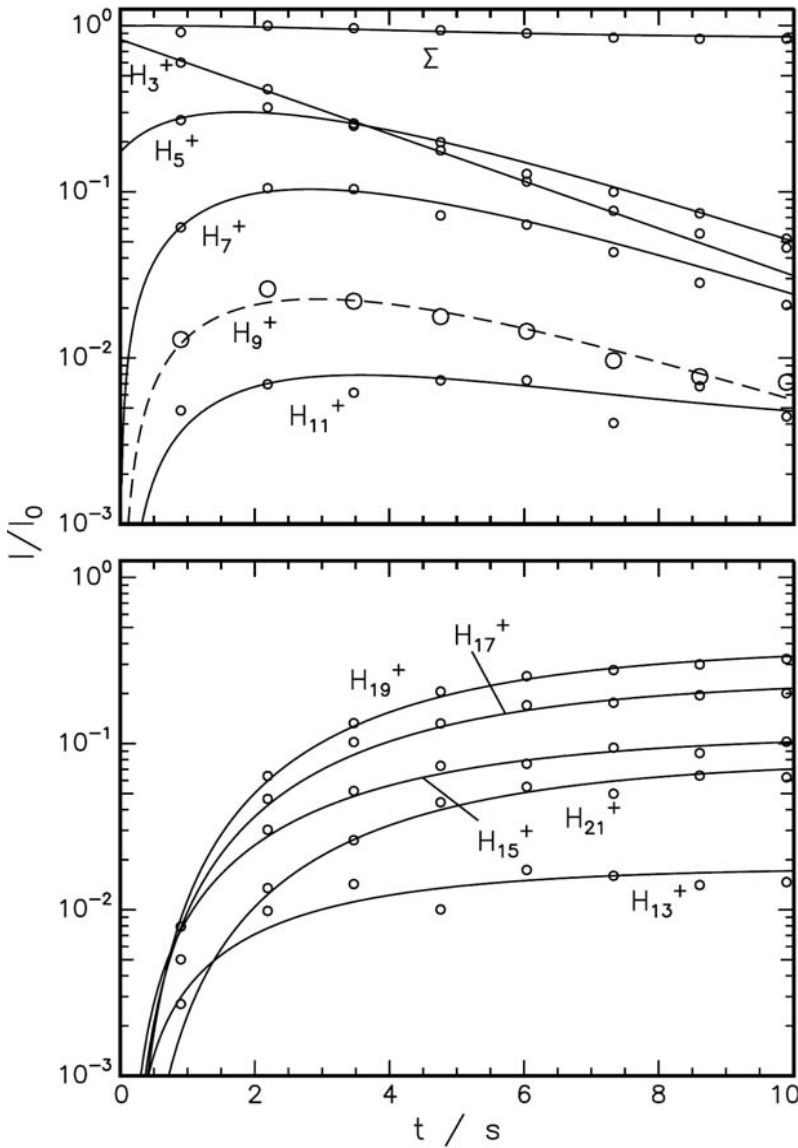
$$k_3 = 1.4 \times 10^{-31} (T/300 \text{ K})^{0.6 \pm 0.1} \text{ cm}^6 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

# Formation of Methanol in space?



# $H_n^+$ cluster growth stationary equilibrium: $n = 19$

$T = 10$  K,  $[H_2] = 10^{14}$  cm $^{-3}$ , storage time 10 s

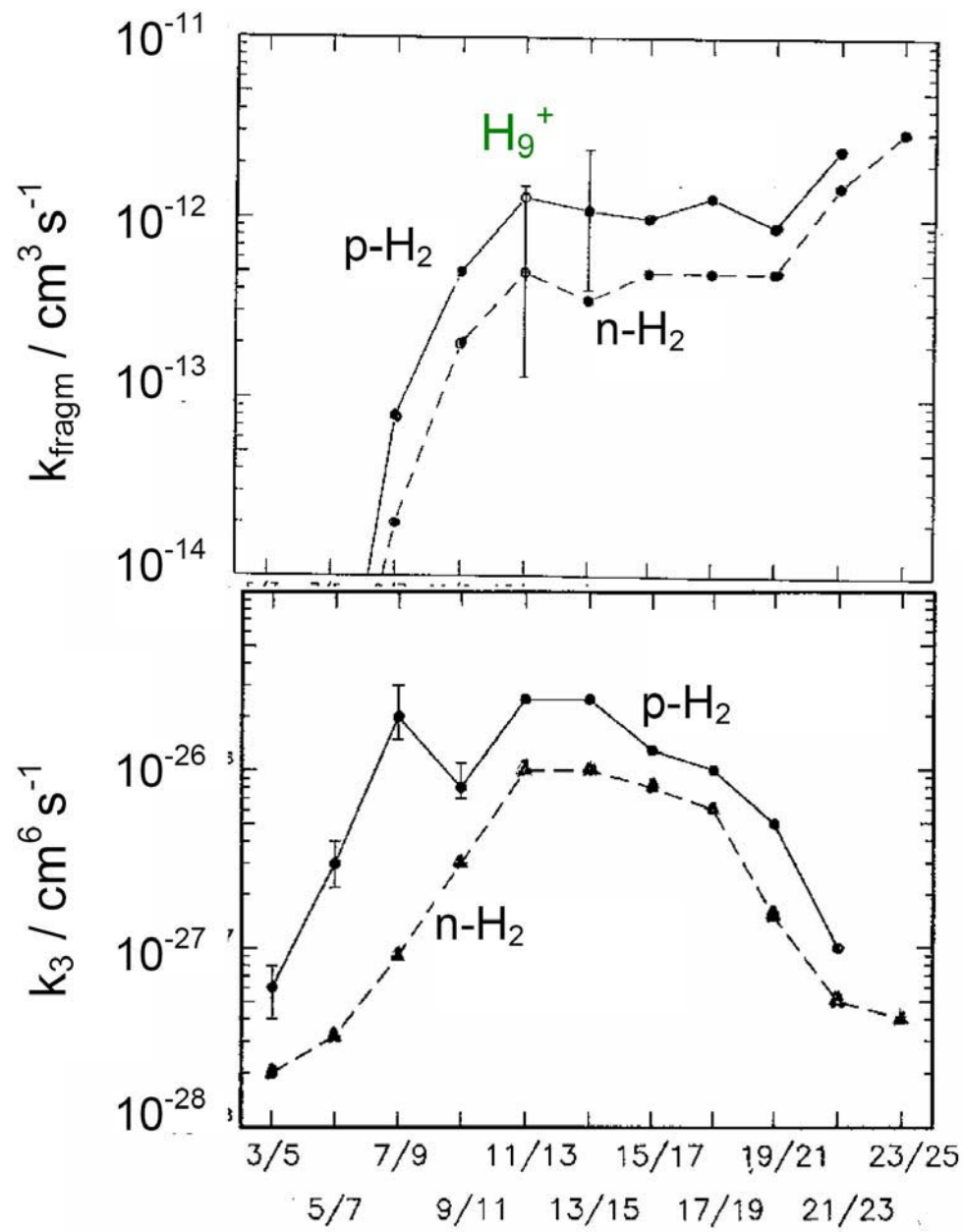
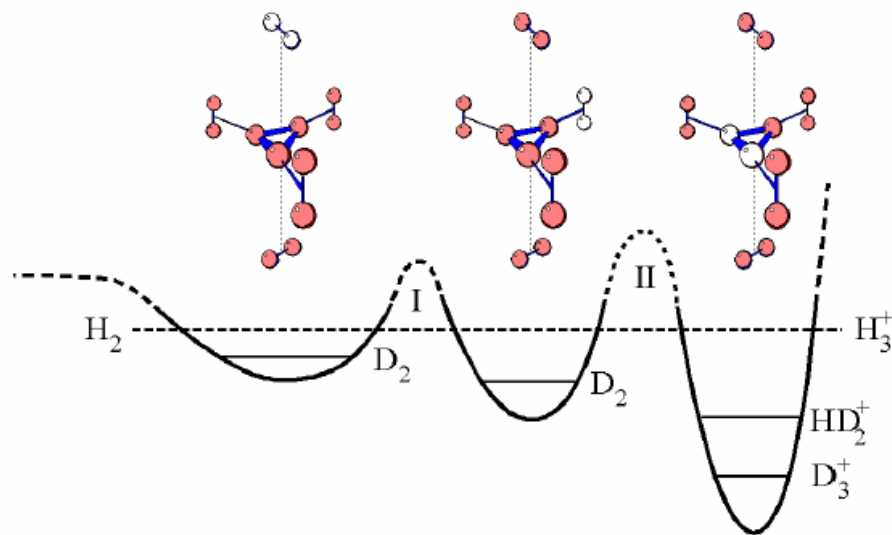


# Growth and destruction of $((\text{H}_3^+)\text{H}_2)_n$ cluster

p- $\text{H}_2$  is more destructive!

large cluster grow better with o- $\text{H}_2$

deuteration:





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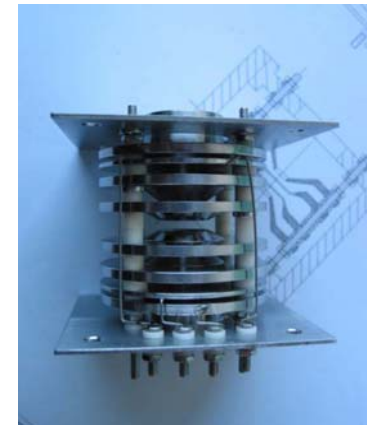
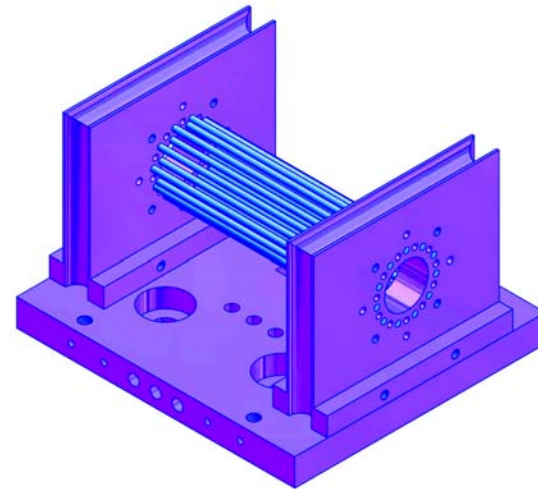
State selective preparation

## Nanoparticles

NPMS

HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

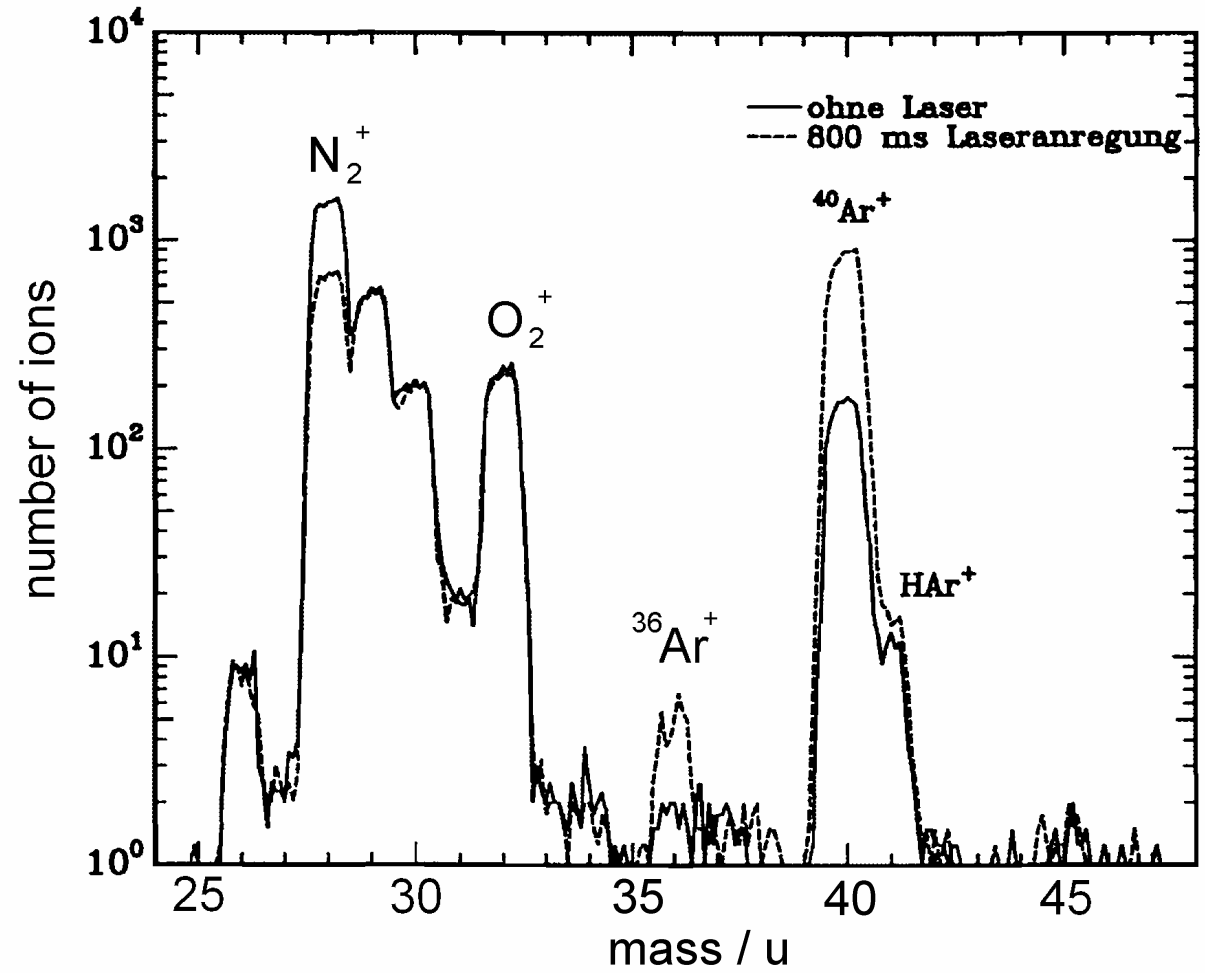
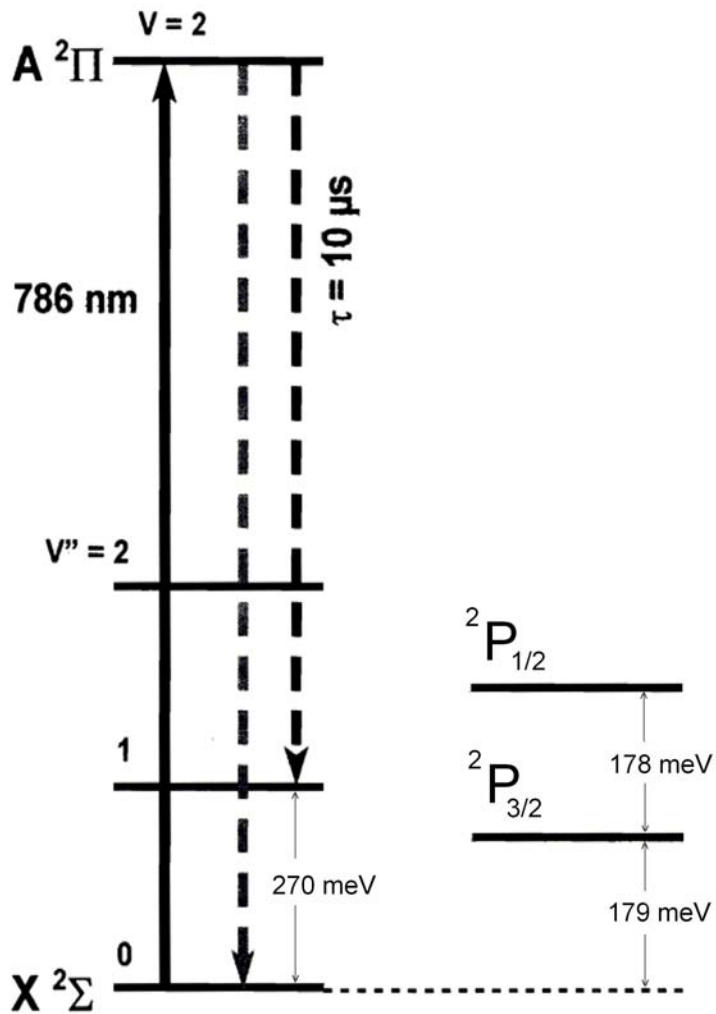
## Summary and outlook



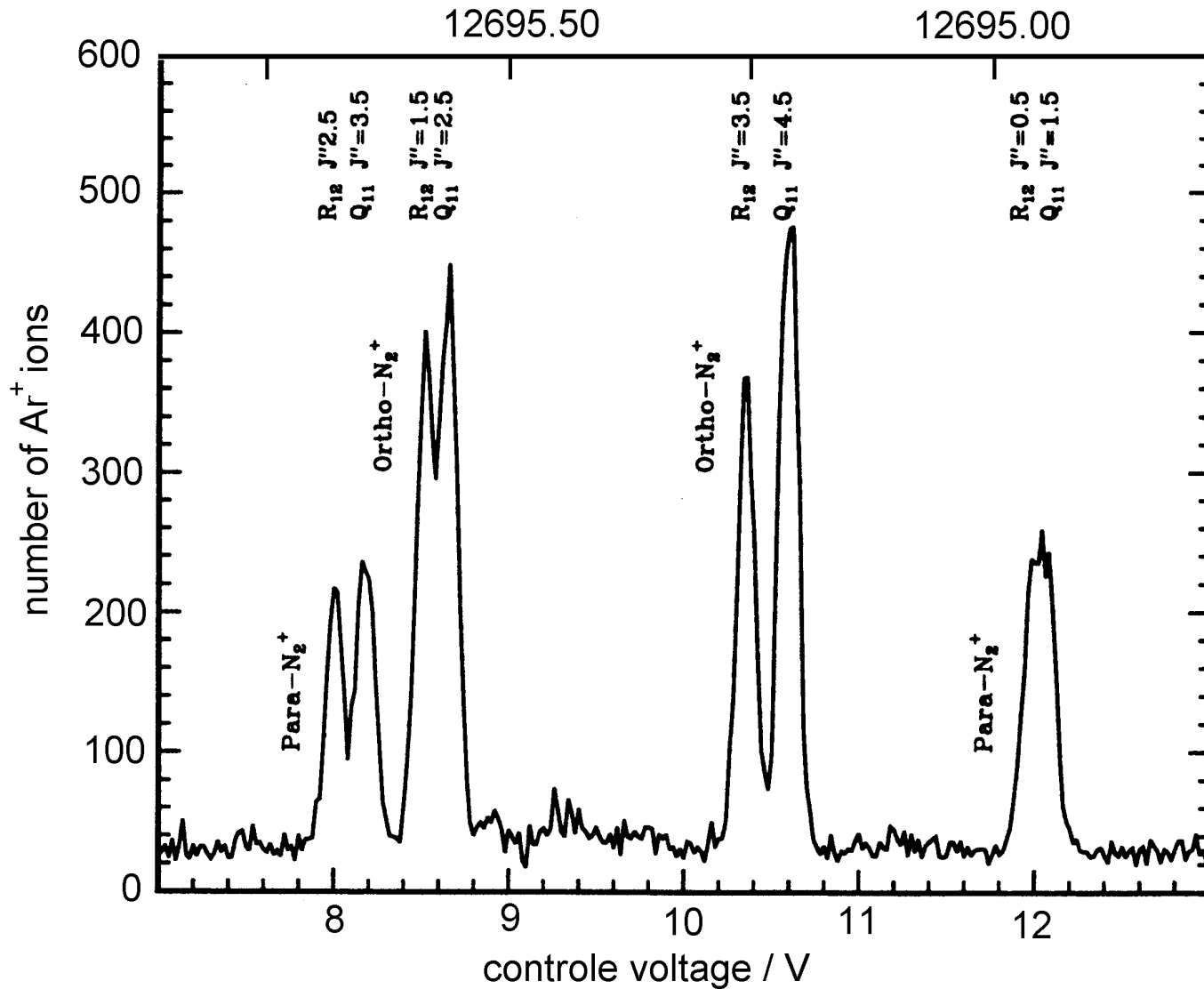
# $N_2^+ + Ar$ : LIR

$N_2^+ + Ar$

$Ar^+ + N_2$

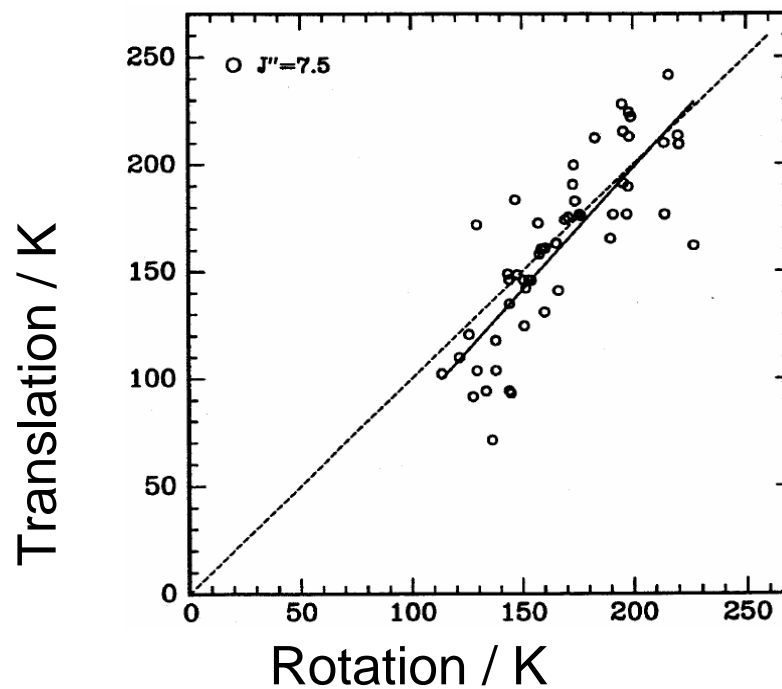
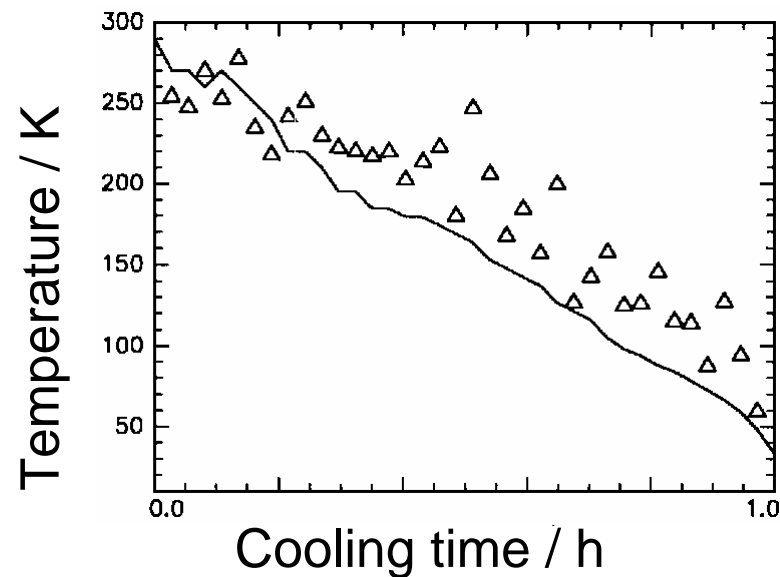
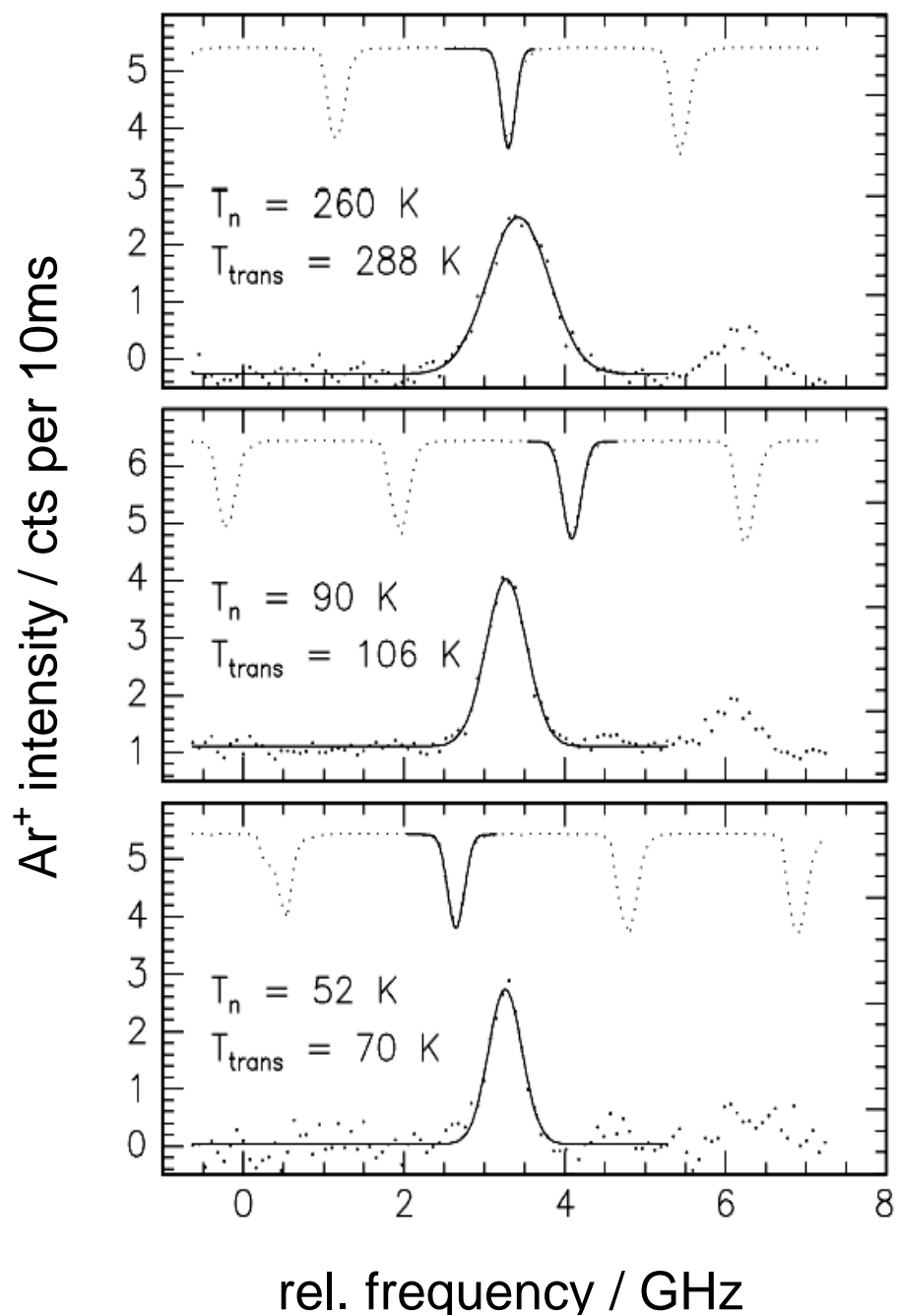


# Low lying states $N_2^+$



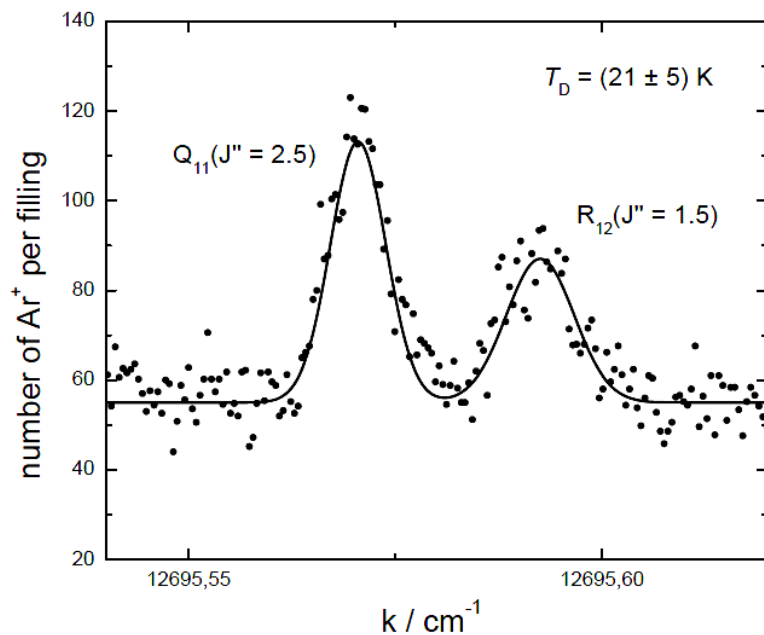
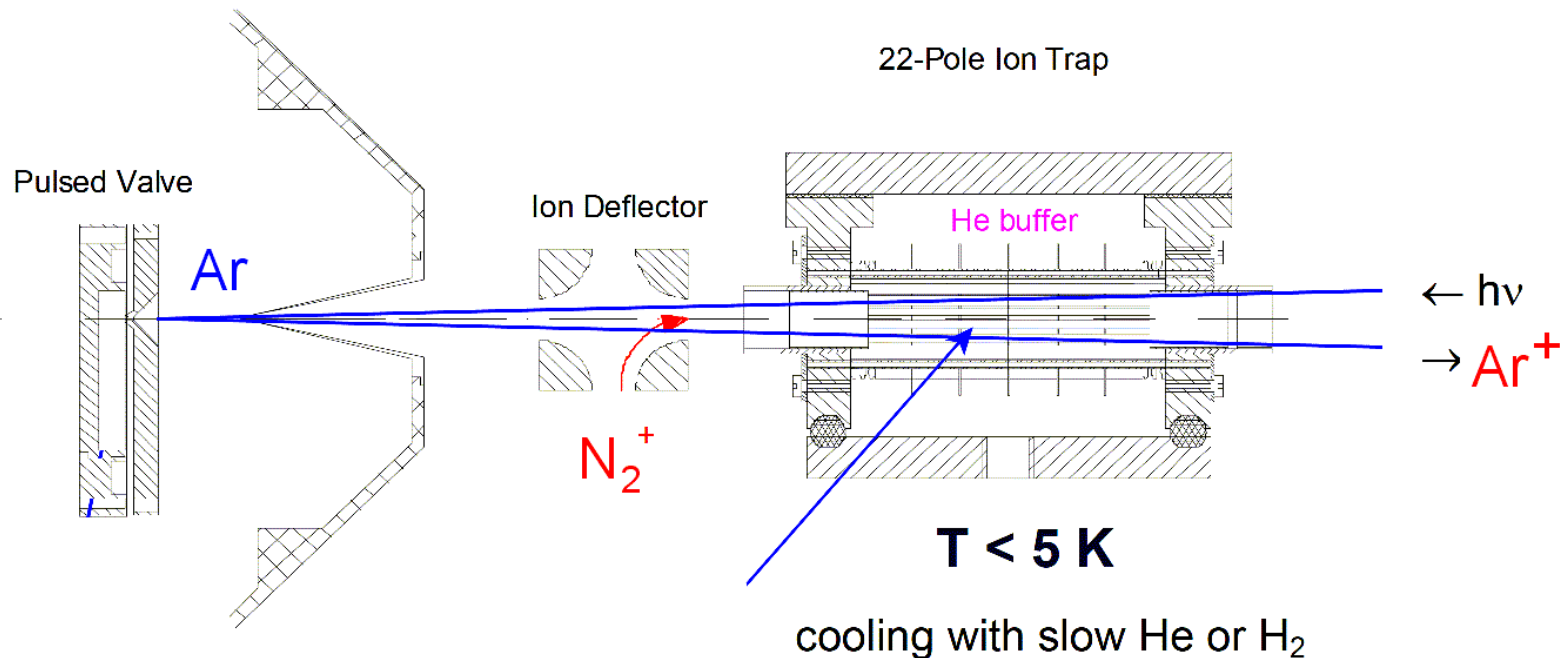
Linie	Messung
$R_{12} J'' = 0.5$	12694.9641
$Q_{11} J'' = 1.5$	12694.9460
$R_{12} J'' = 1.5$	12695.5921
$Q_{11} J'' = 2.5$	12695.5675
$R_{12} J'' = 2.5$	12695.6875
$Q_{11} J'' = 3.5$	12695.6548
$R_{12} J'' = 3.5$	12695.2586
$Q_{11} J'' = 4.5$	12695.2149

# Temperature: LIR $\text{N}_2^+ + \text{Ar} \rightarrow \text{Ar}^+ + \text{N}_2$

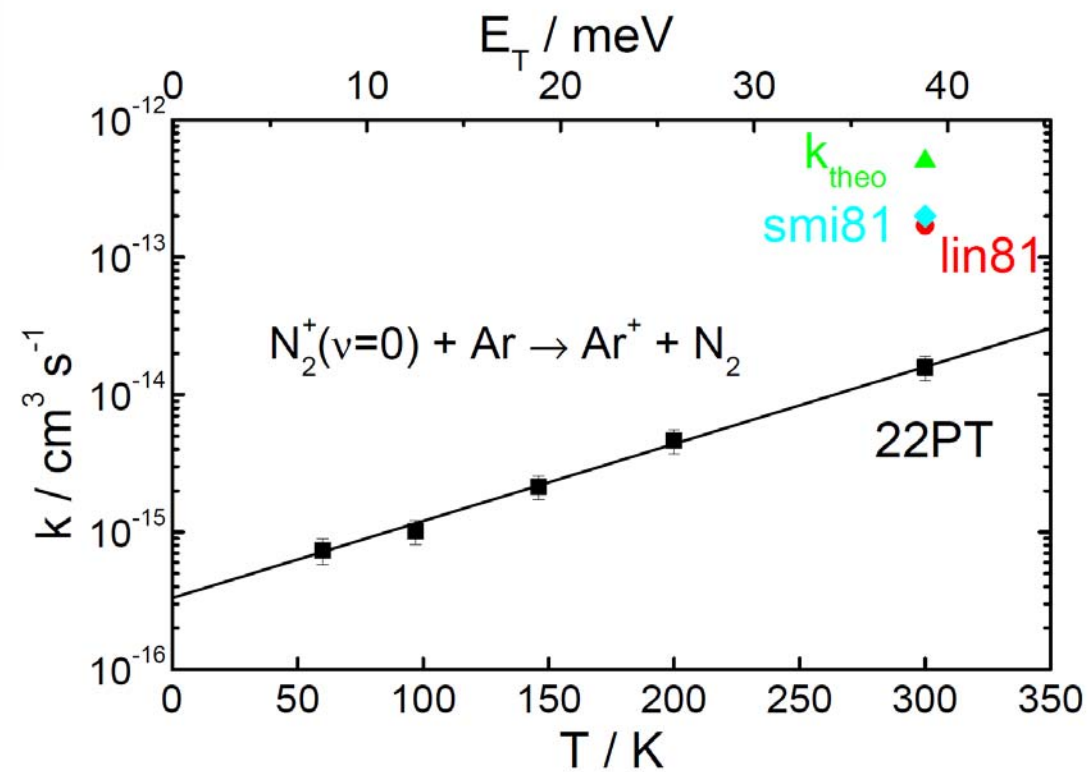
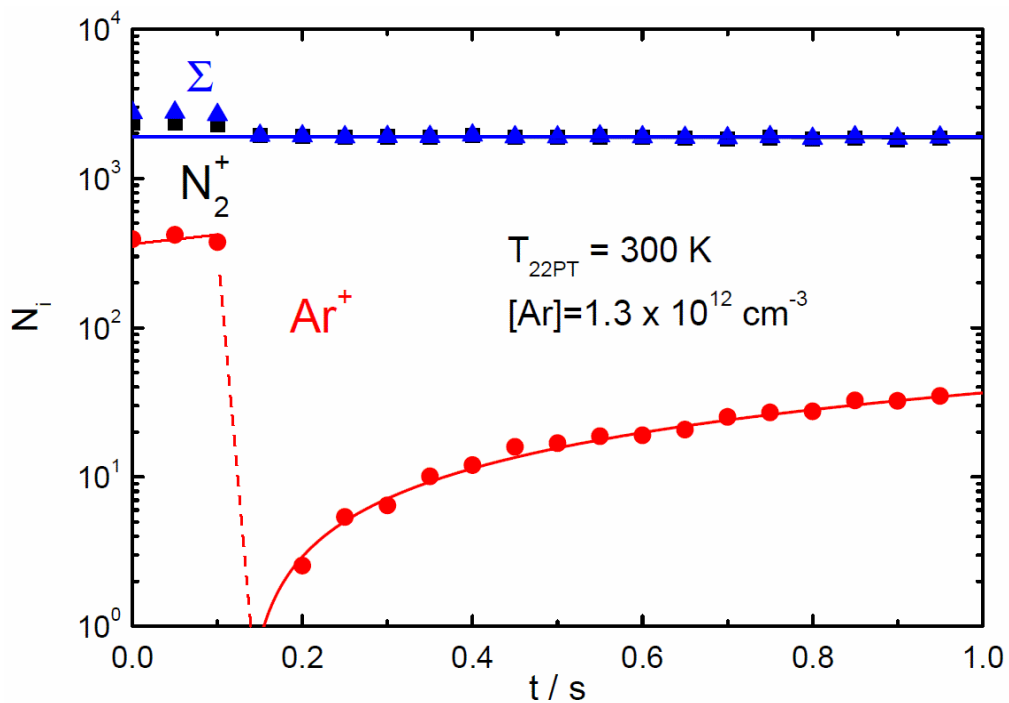




# First LIR with an Ar beam



**$T_{22PT} 10\text{ K}$**   
 **$T_D (21 \pm 5)\text{ K}$**





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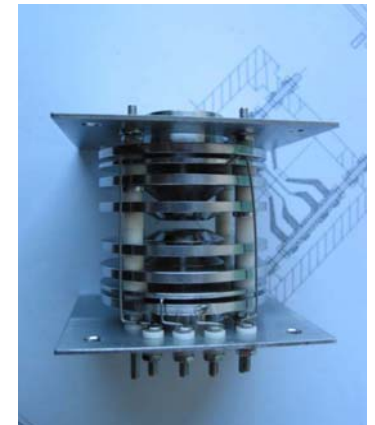
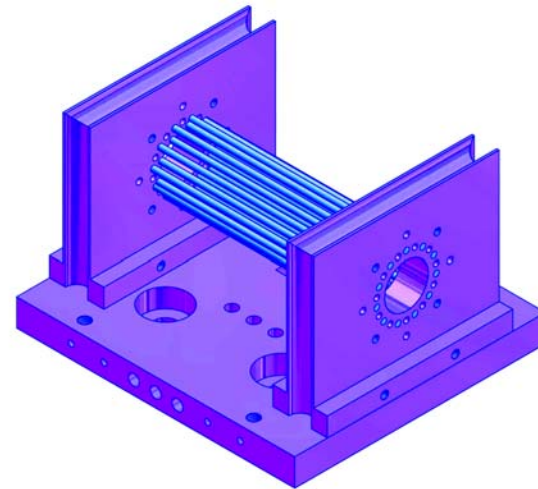
State selective preparation

## Nanoparticles

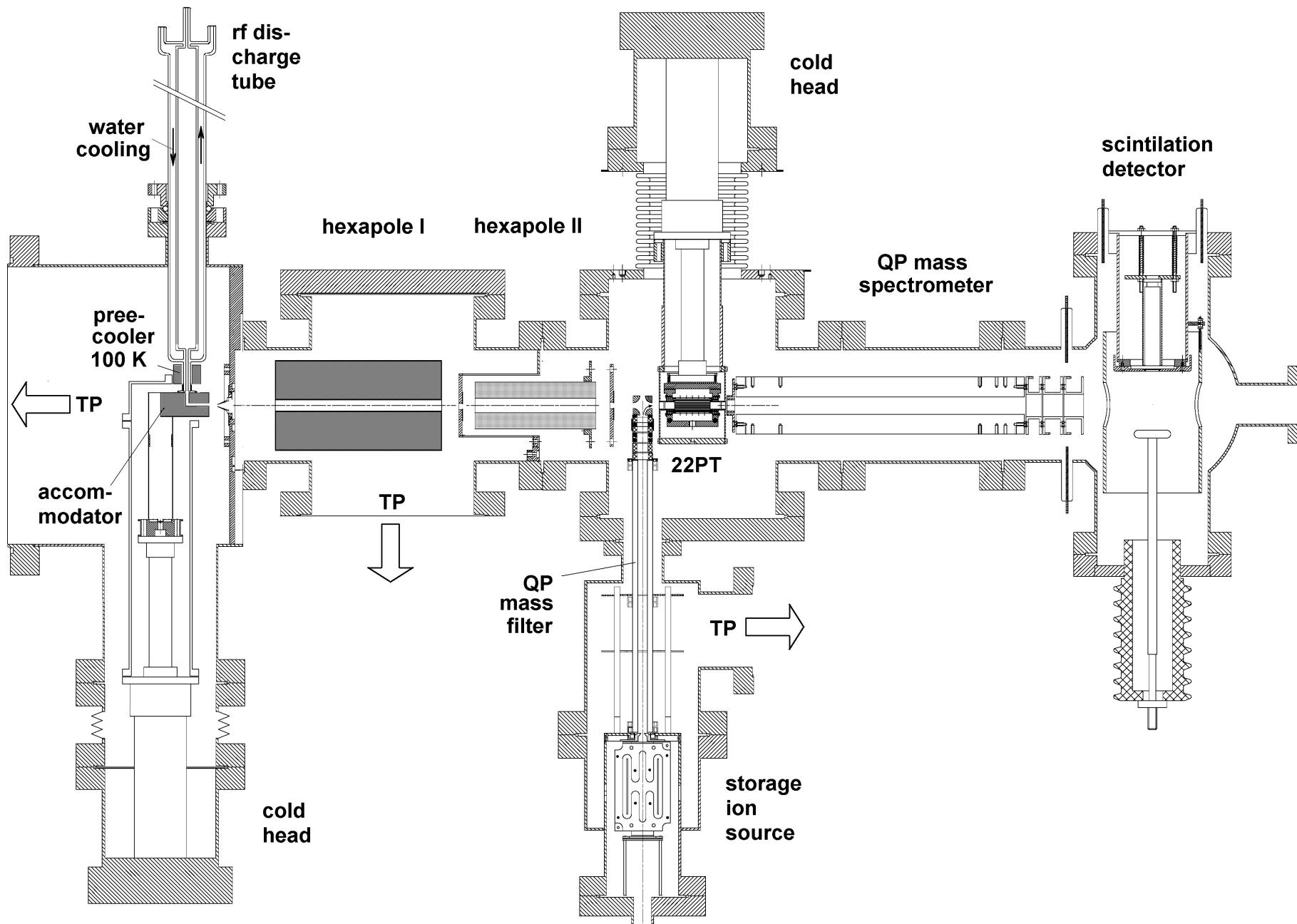
NPMS

HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

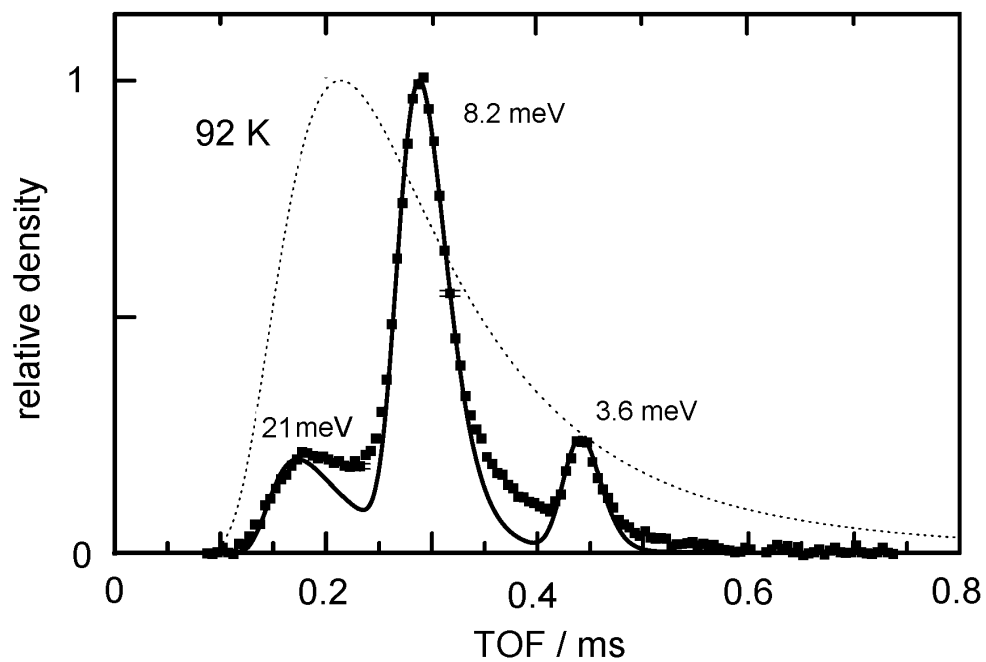
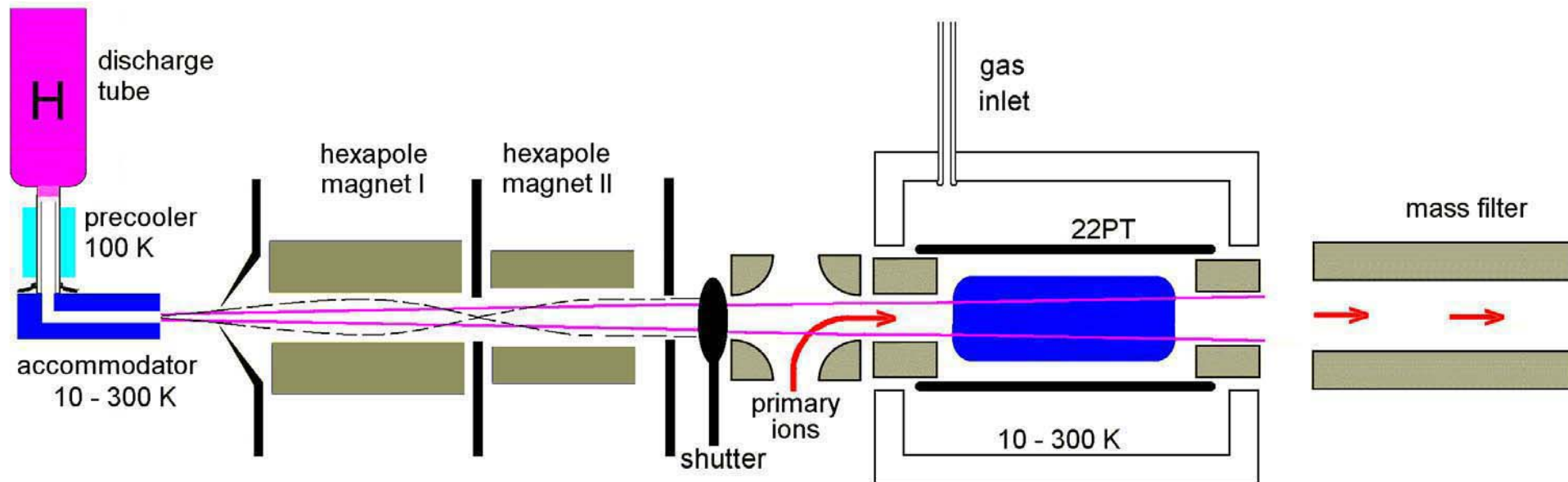
## Summary and outlook



# H-atom source + 22pole trap



# Focusing H atoms

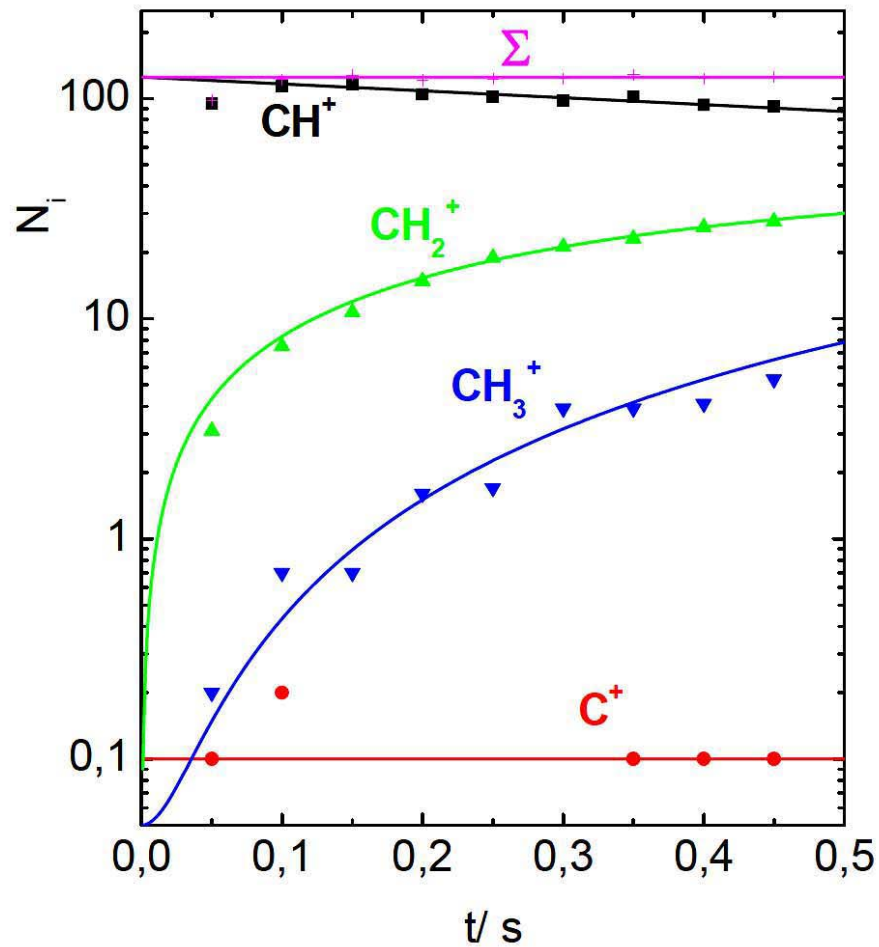




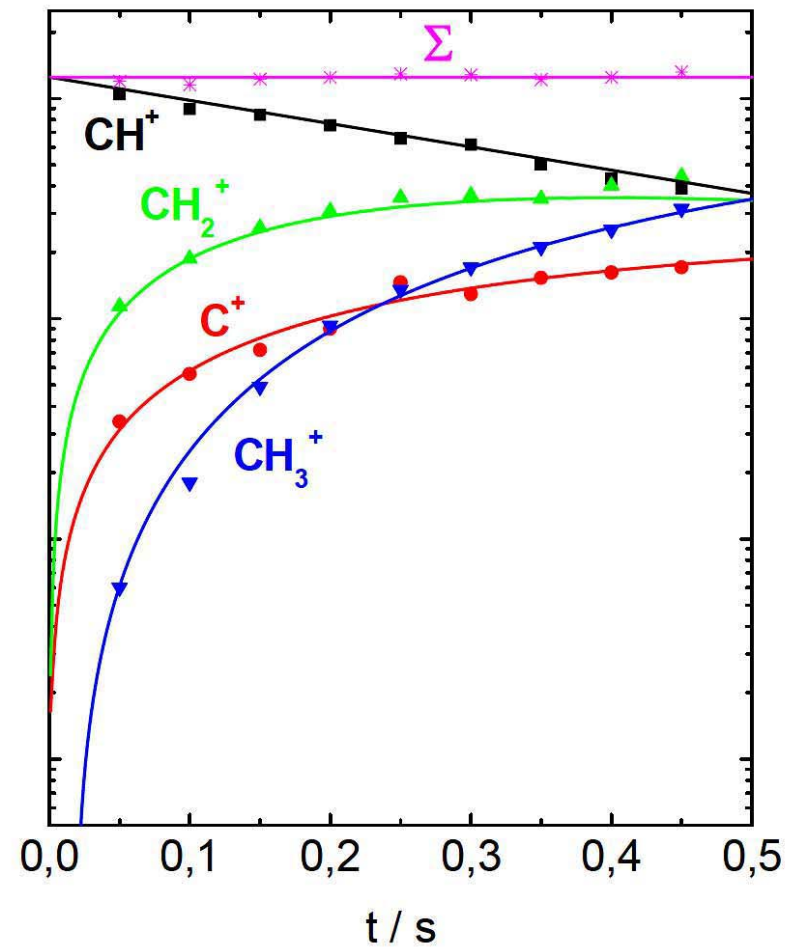
/



discharge OFF

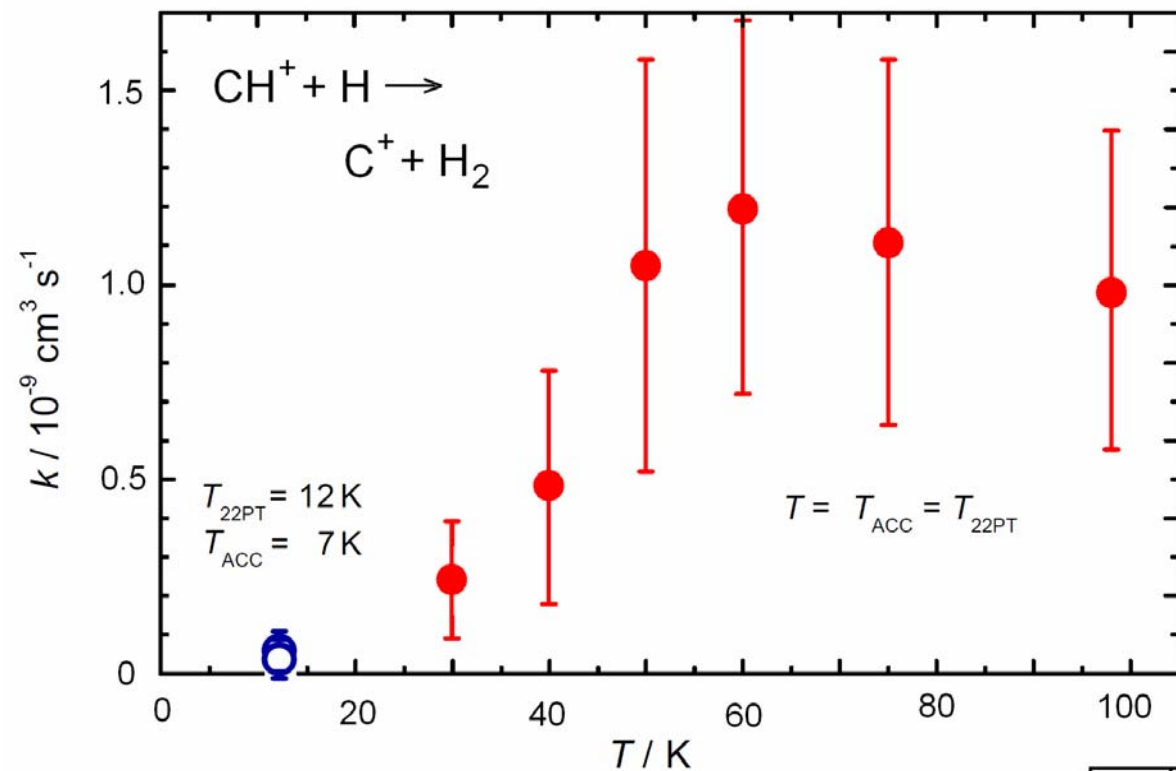


discharge ON

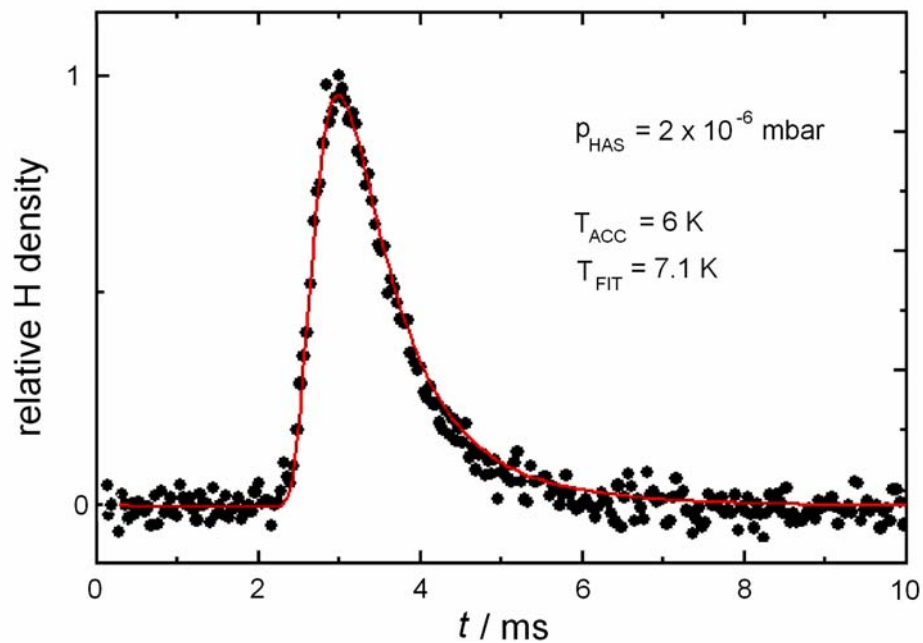


$T_{22\text{PT}} = 50 \text{ K}$   
 $[\text{He}] = 1.5 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 $[\text{H}] = 4 \times 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 $[\text{H}_2] = 1.7 \times 10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

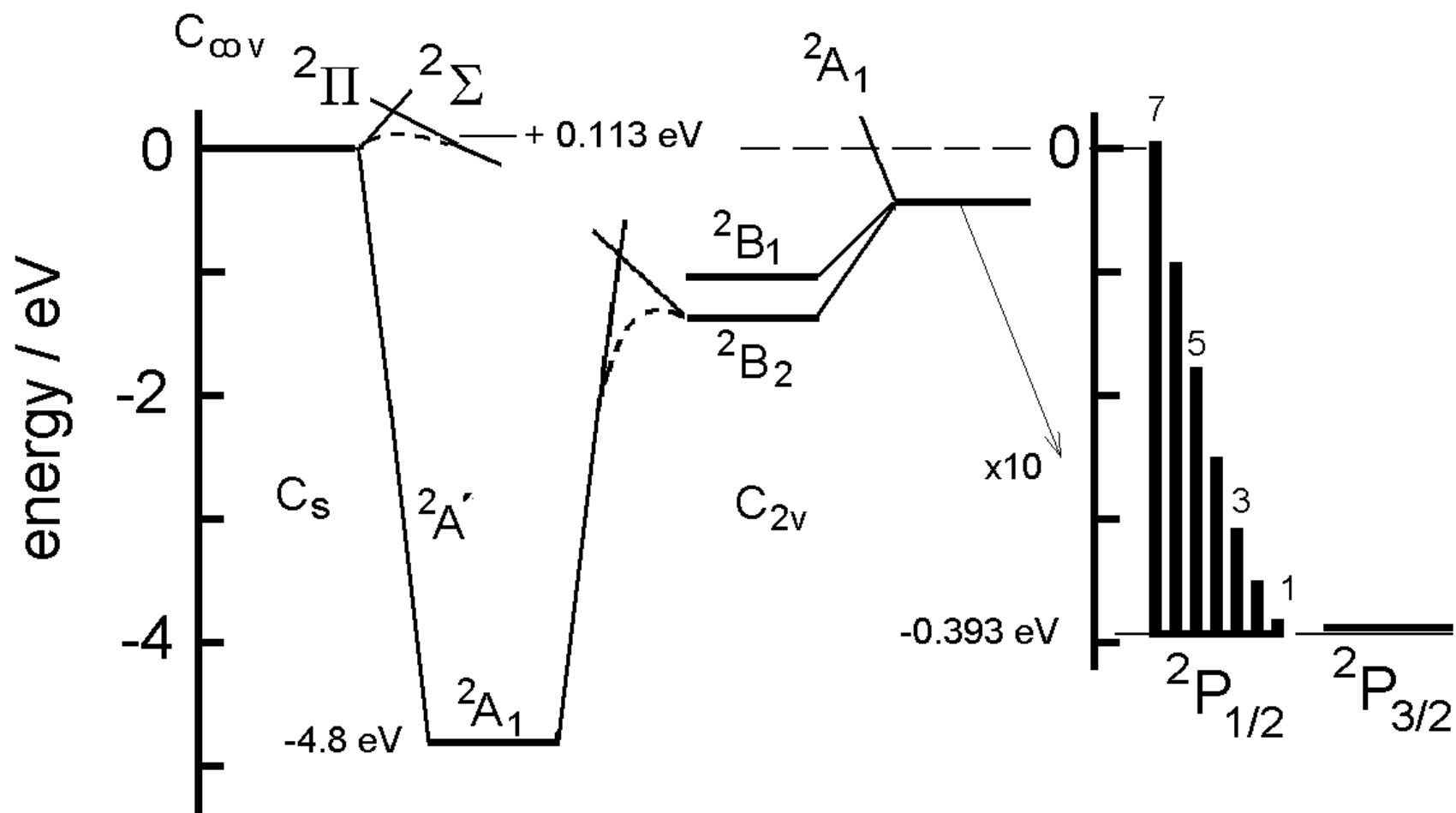
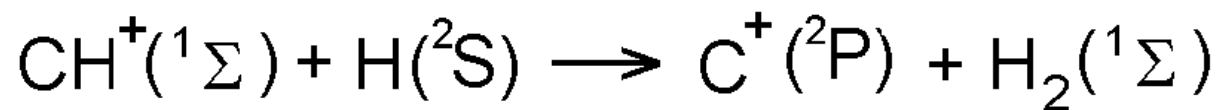
# CH<sup>+</sup> + H: barrier!



$$k(7 \text{ K, CH}^+ (j=0)) = (5 \pm 3) \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$



# Where is the barrier?







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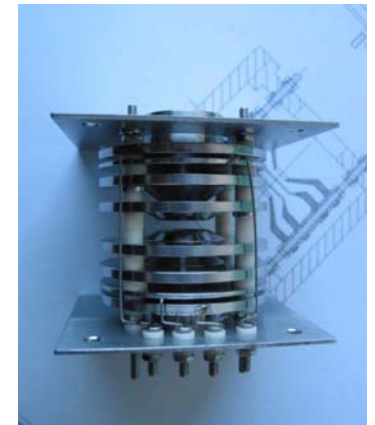
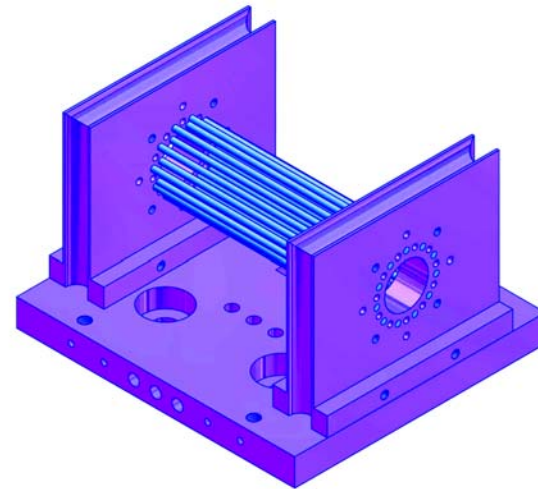
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HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

## Summary and outlook



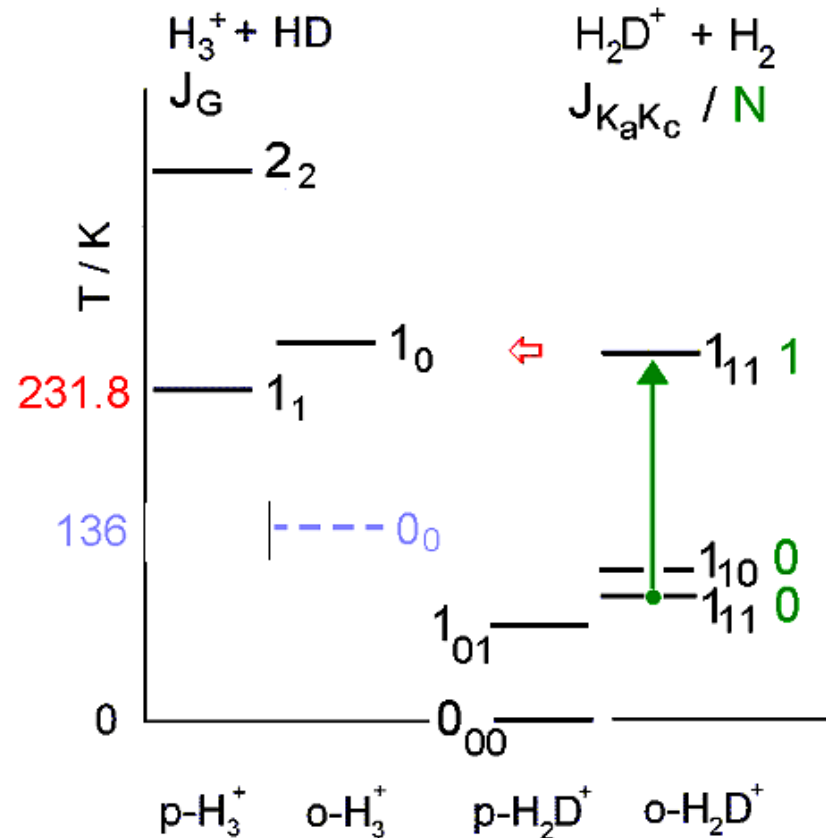
# Deuteration $\text{H}_3^+ + \text{HD} \leftrightarrow \text{H}_2\text{D}^+ + \text{H}_2$ : equilibrium constant $K$ ?

$$K \sim \exp(231.8 \text{ K} / T)$$

$T$ (K)	Adams and Smith	Herbst	Ramanlal
80	4.5 ( $\pm 1.3$ )	5.9	6.82
200	2.4 ( $\pm 0.7$ )	2.6	1.52
295	2.0 ( $\pm 0.6$ )	2.1 <sup>a</sup>	1.07 <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>The theoretical value is actually at 300 K.

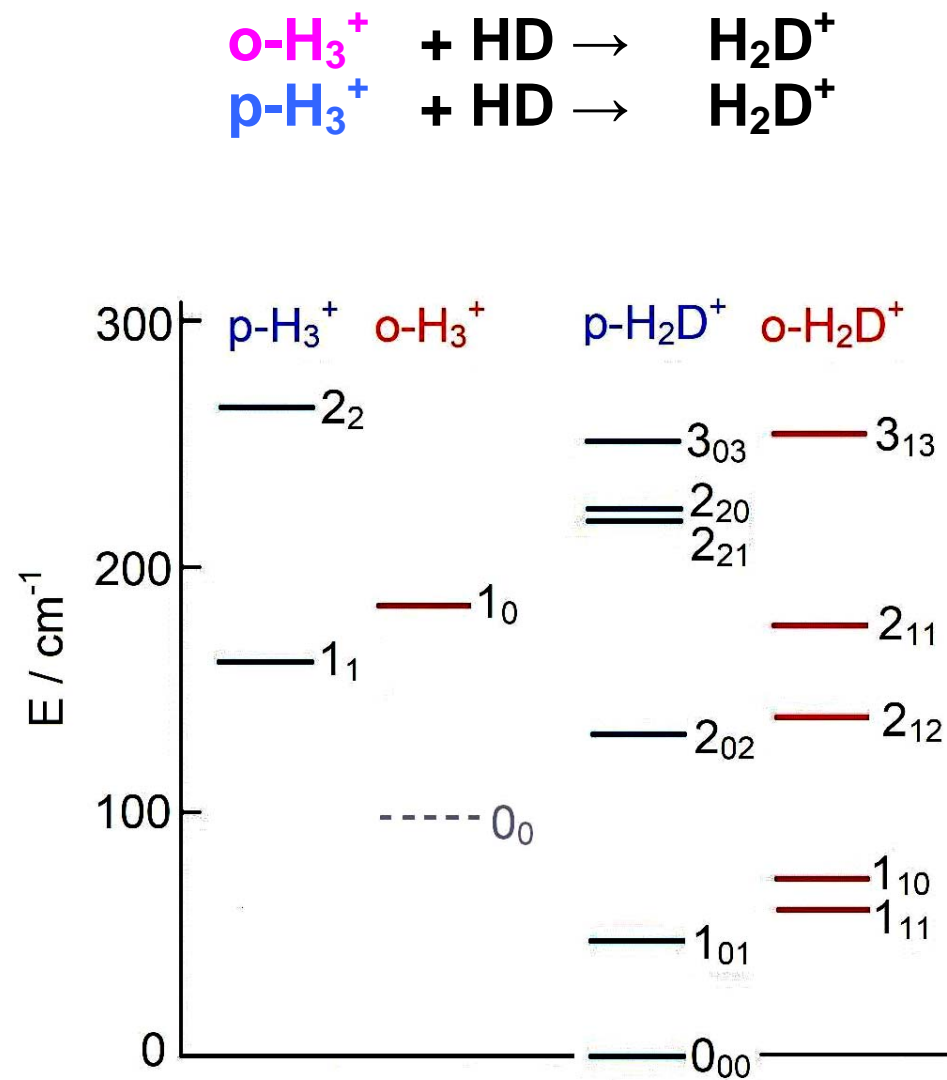
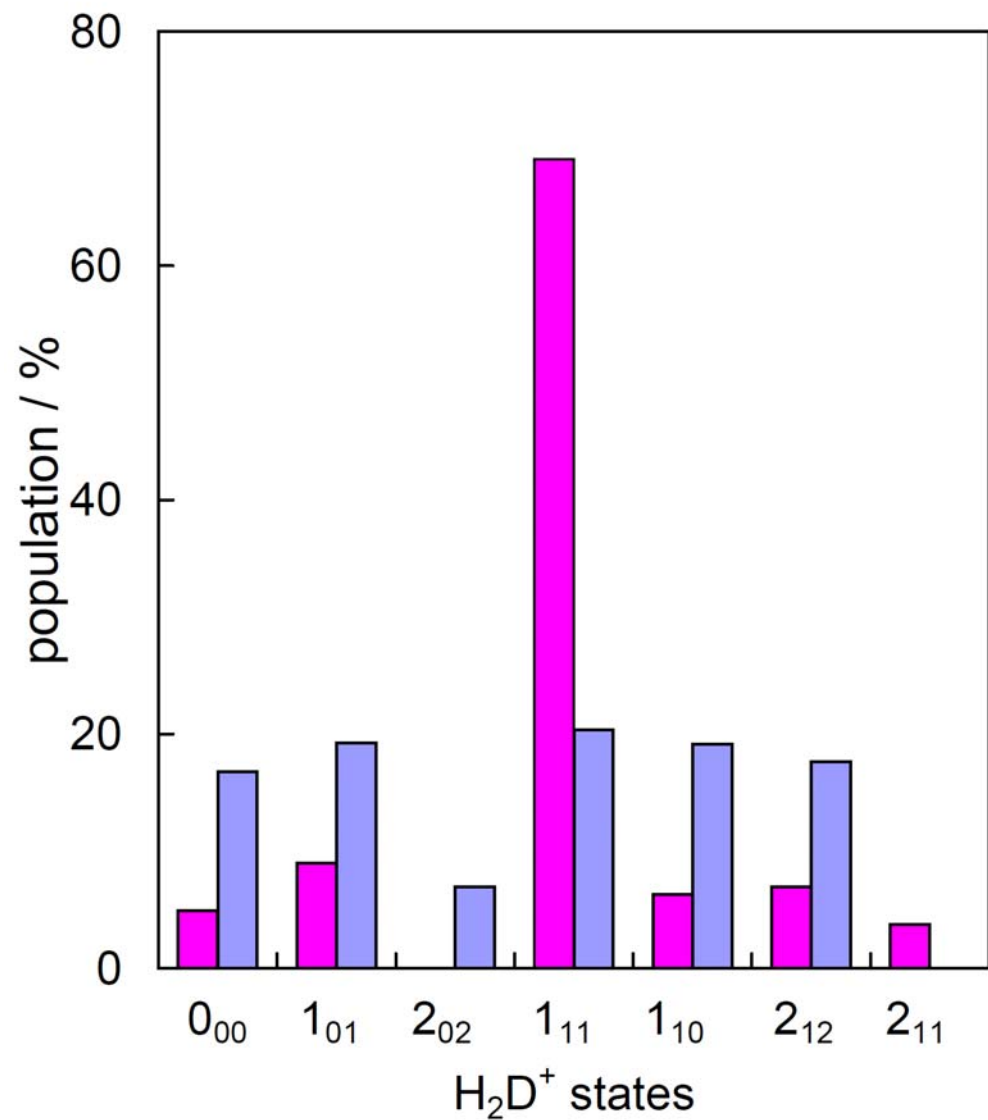
	$T = 10 \text{ K}$
Ramanlal & Tennyson	<b>2.6(+12)</b>
Gerlich et al. (2002)	<b>n-H<sub>2</sub>: <math>K = 7.4</math> p-H<sub>2</sub>: <math>K = 390</math></b>
T <sub>22PT</sub> 10 K, (2005) T <sub>p-H<sub>2</sub> Gen</sub> 12.5K	<b>&gt;500</b>



Ramanlal & Tennyson wrote in 2004:  
**trap experiment** disagrees with **calculations** by  
**12 orders of magnitude**

**role of o-H<sub>2</sub> (N=1)**  
 state specific  $k_i(T)$   
 method overtone LIR

# Nuclear spin: propensity rules





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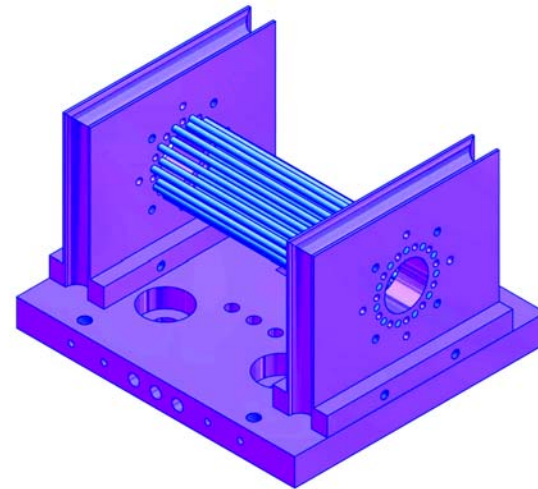
State selective preparation

## Nanoparticles

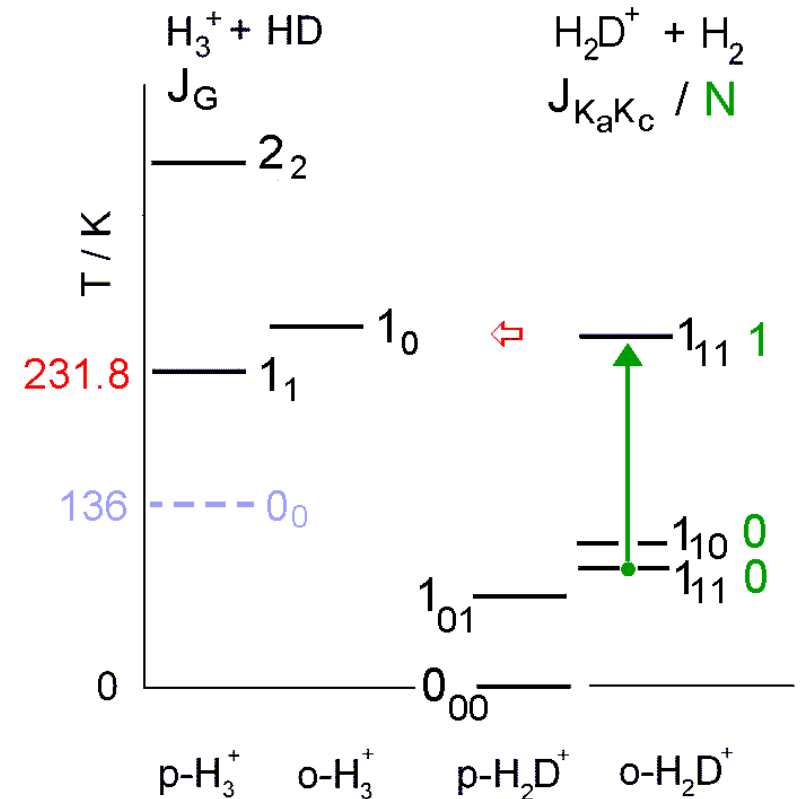
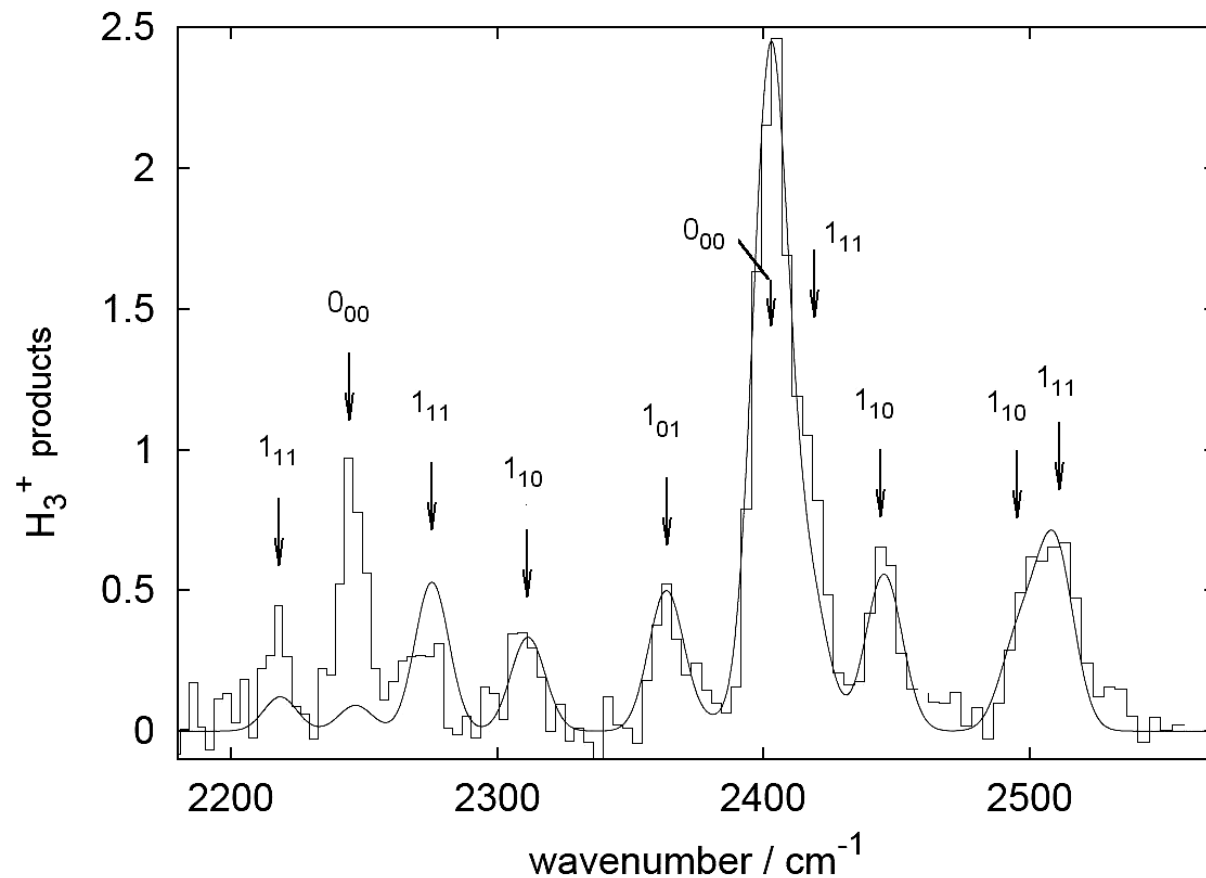
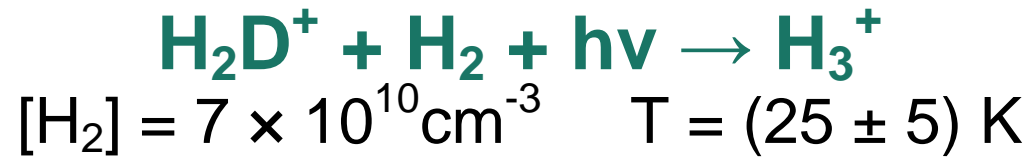
NPMS

HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

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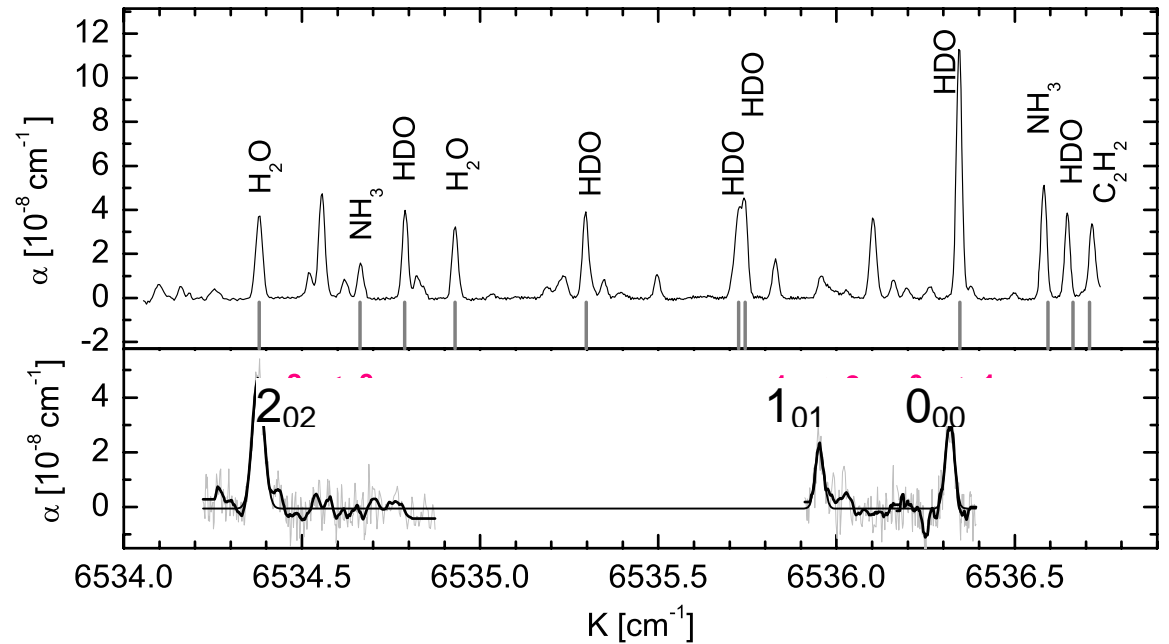
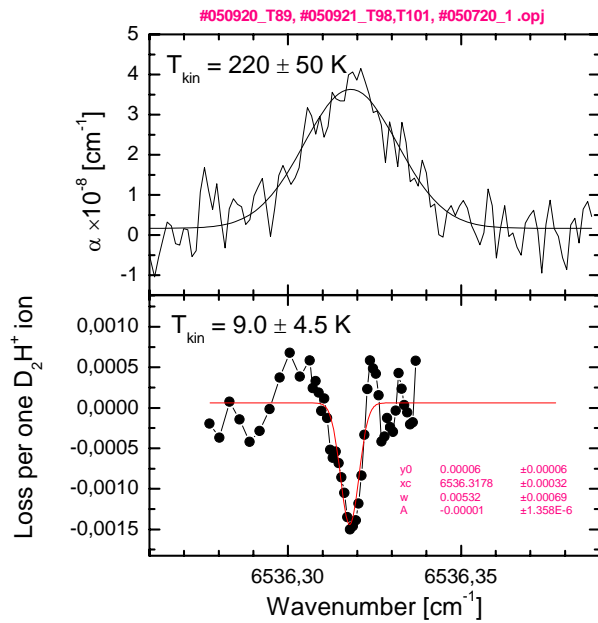


# LIR spectrum of $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$ ( $\Delta v_2$ or $\Delta v_3 = 1$ )



n-  $\text{H}_2$  : o : p = 0.75 : 1  
 "p"-  $\text{H}_2$  : o : p = 0.20 : 1

# Overtone detection of $D_2H^+$ ( $0_{00}$ )



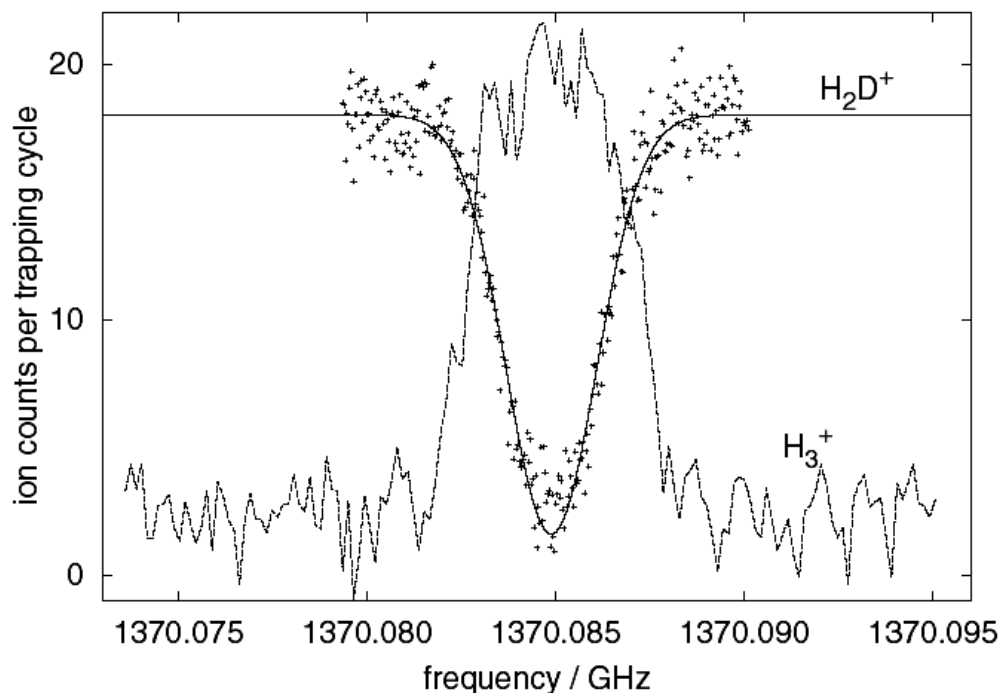
## Doppler width

discharge 250 K  
trap 9 K

## Transition

calc. 6536.301  
measured 6536.319

# THz radiation induced D-H exchange



## First LIR spectra

$\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$  1370084.880(20) MHz

$\text{D}_2\text{H}^+$  1476605.708(15) MHz

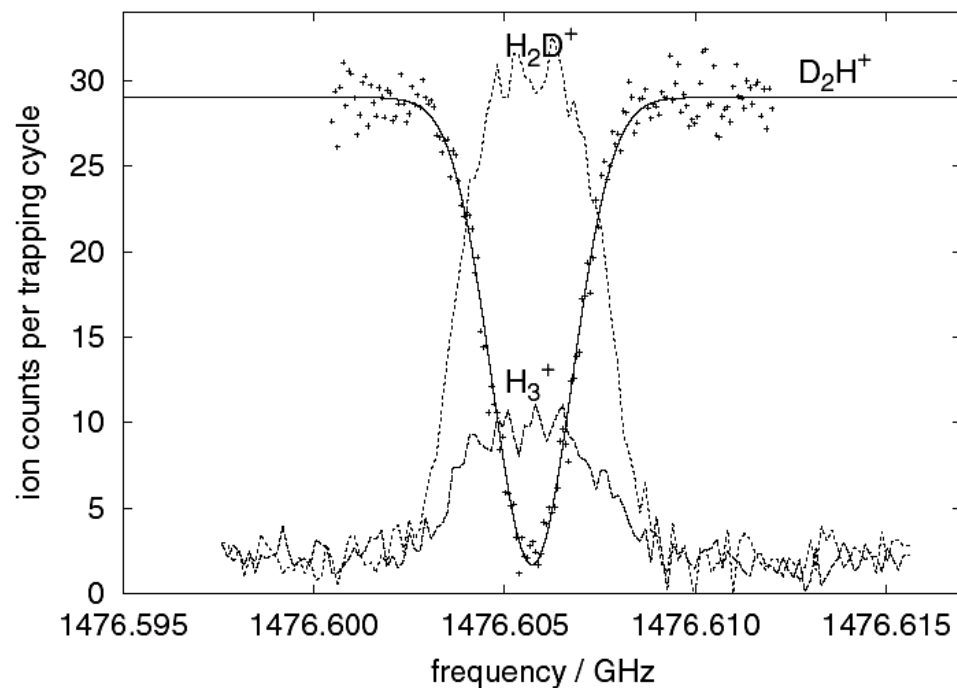


TABLE I. Frequencies for the  $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$   $1_{01} \leftarrow 0_{00}$  and  $\text{D}_2\text{H}^+$   $1_{11} \leftarrow 0_{00}$  rotational lines in MHz. The numbers in parentheses give the experimental uncertainty of the last digit.

	$\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$ $1_{01} \leftarrow 0_{00}$	$\text{D}_2\text{H}^+$ $1_{11} \leftarrow 0_{00}$
this work	1370084.880(20)	1476605.708(15)
<i>ab initio</i> <sup>a</sup>	1369991.8	1476628.0
unpublished value <sup>b</sup>	1370146.0(3)	1476605.5(3)



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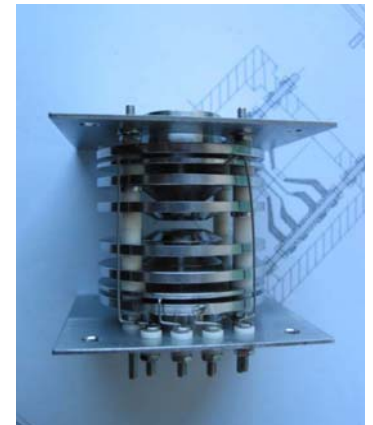
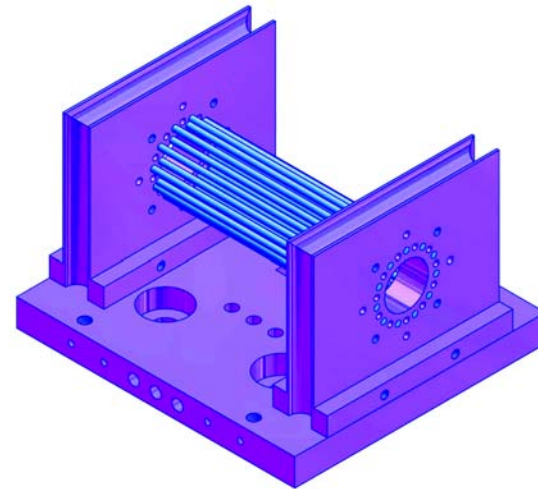
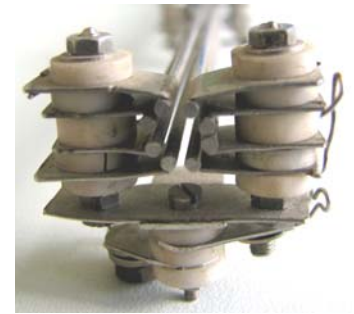
State selective preparation

## Nanoparticles

NPMS

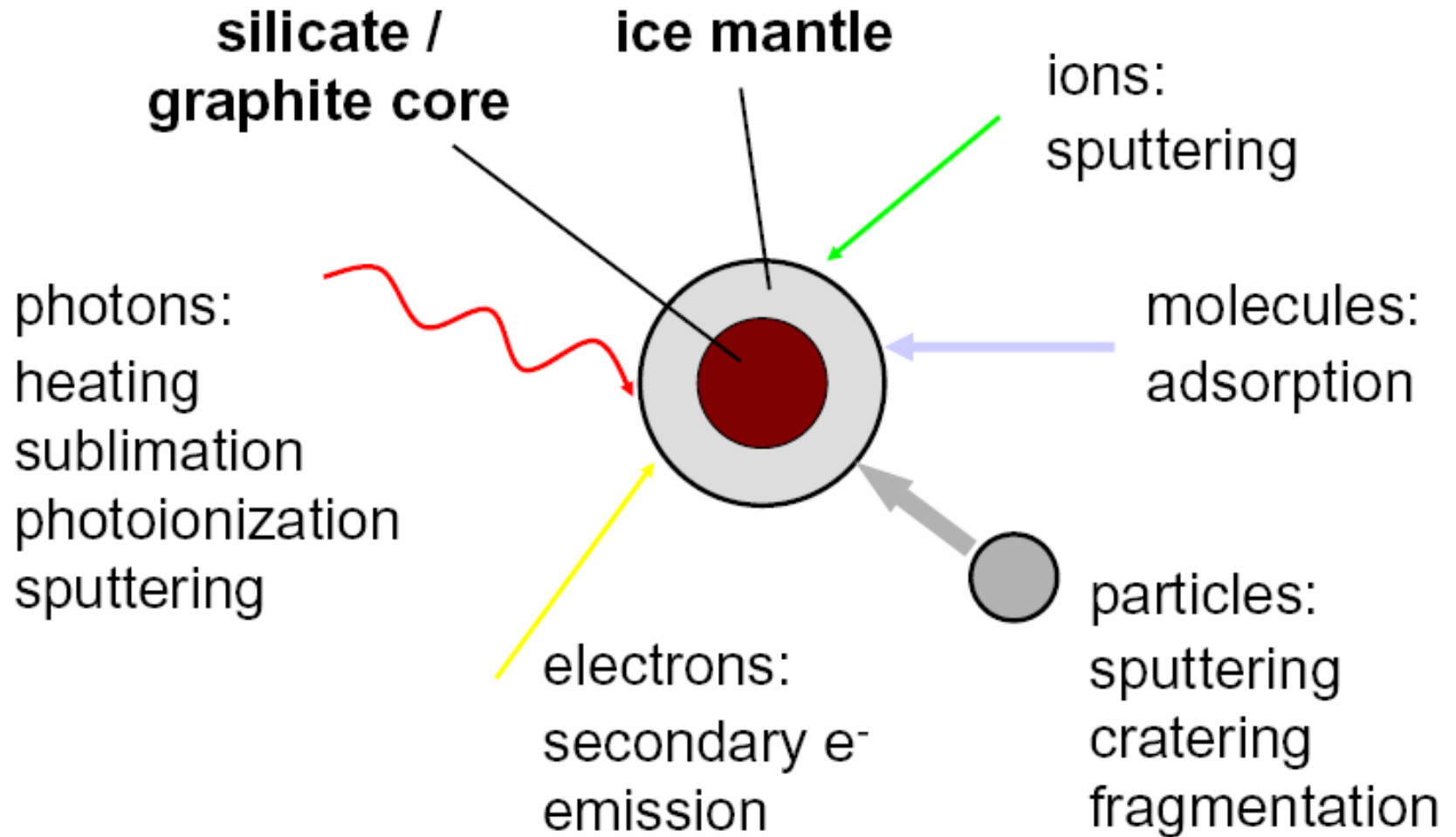
HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

## Summary and outlook

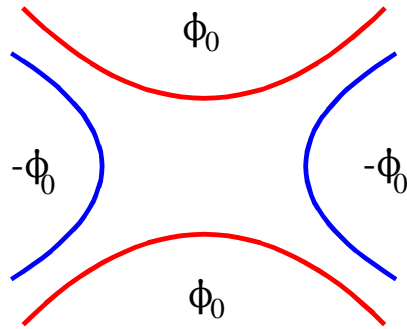




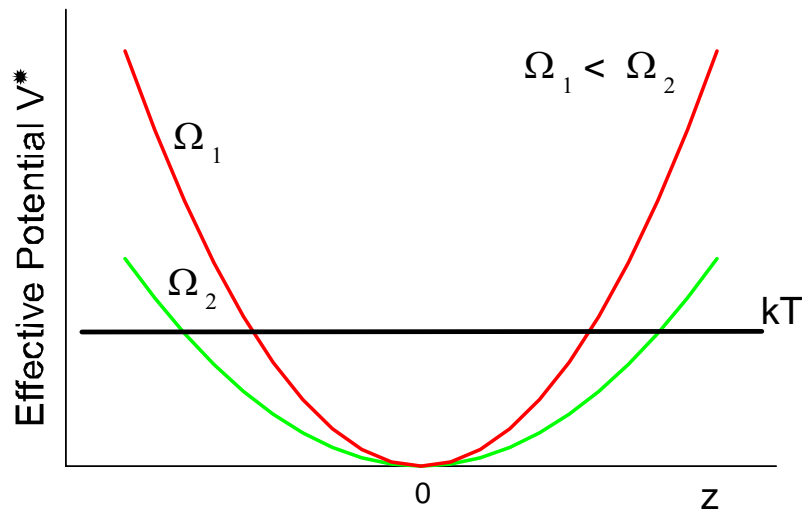
# Evaporation and erosion of dust particles



# Theory of Quadrupole Trap



Effective Potential:  
 $E_{\text{pot}} = 1/2 M \omega^2 z^2$



Applied Field:

$$\Phi_0 = U_0 - V_0 \cos(\Omega t)$$

Secular Motion:

$$\omega_z = \frac{q_z}{\sqrt{2}} \frac{\Omega}{2}$$

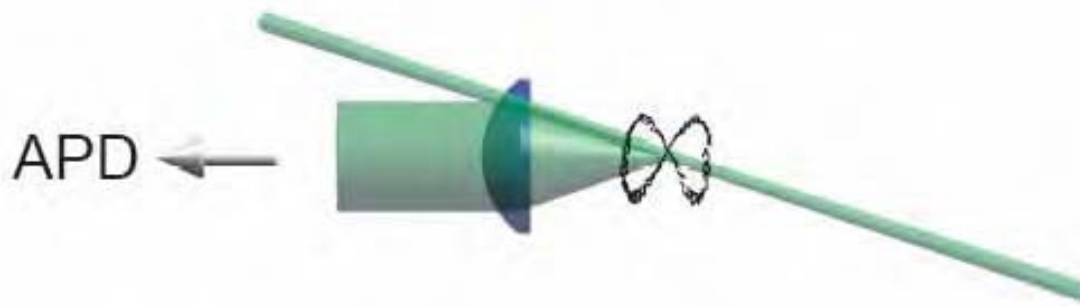
Stability Parameter:

$$q_z = \frac{4 Q \Omega}{M z_0^2 \Omega^2} < 0.3$$

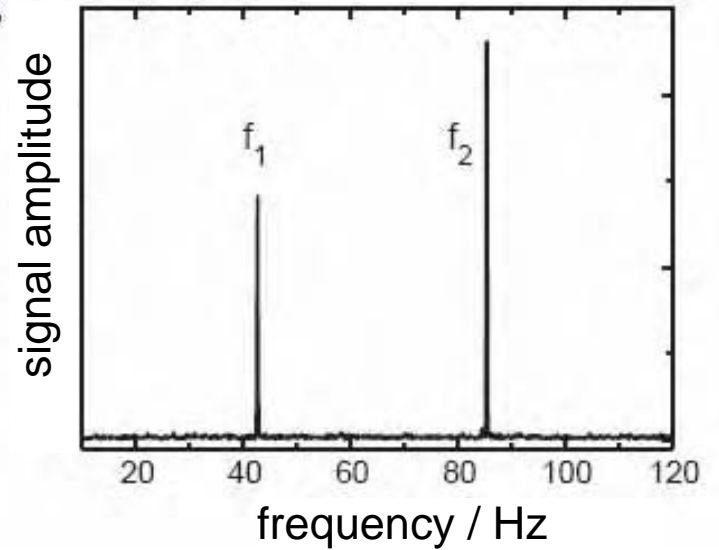
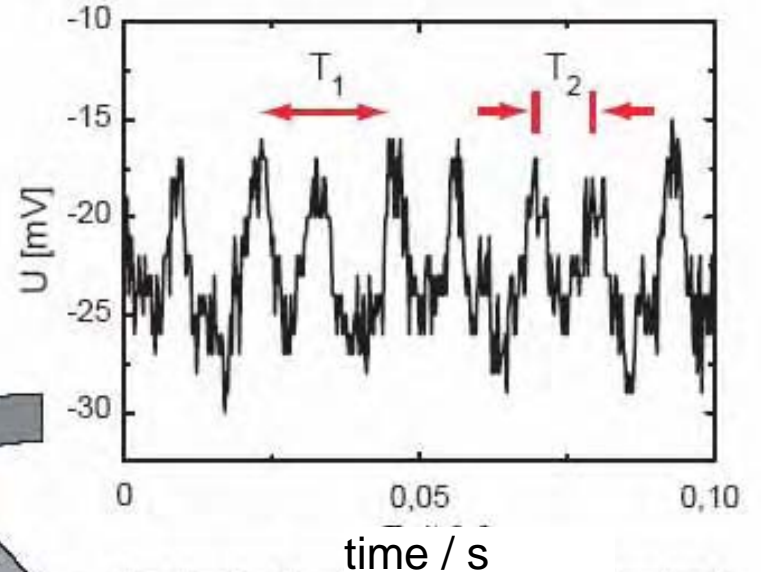
Q/M-Determination:

$$Q/M = \frac{z_0^2 \omega_z \Omega}{\sqrt{2} V_0}$$

# Determination of q/m



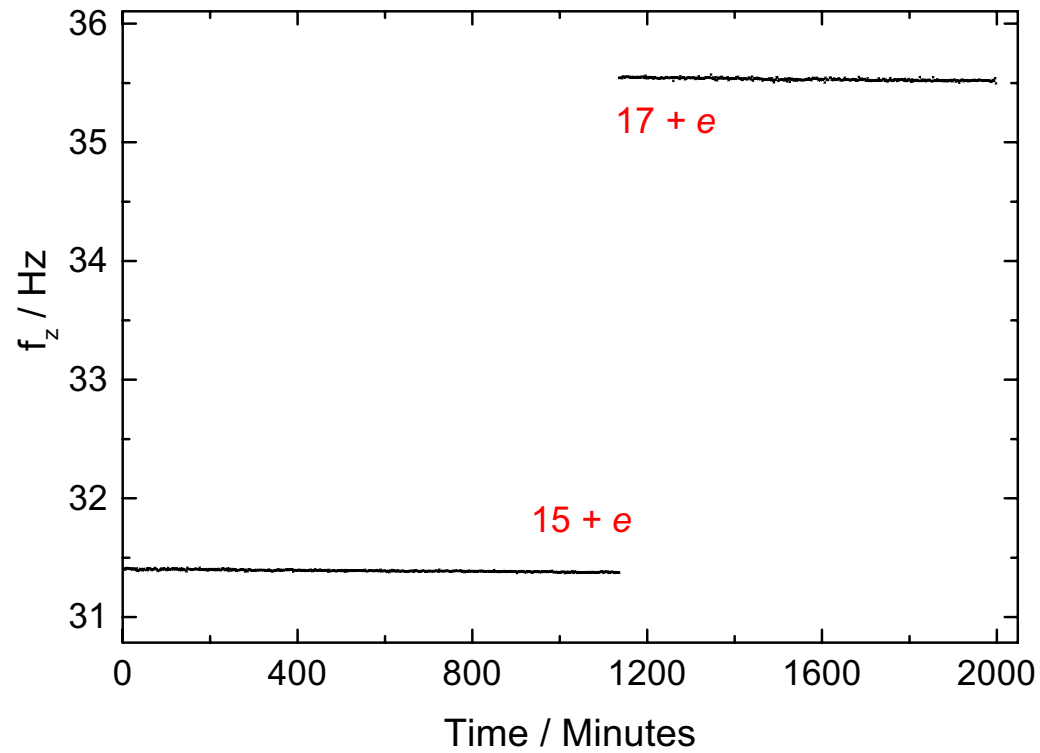
FFT



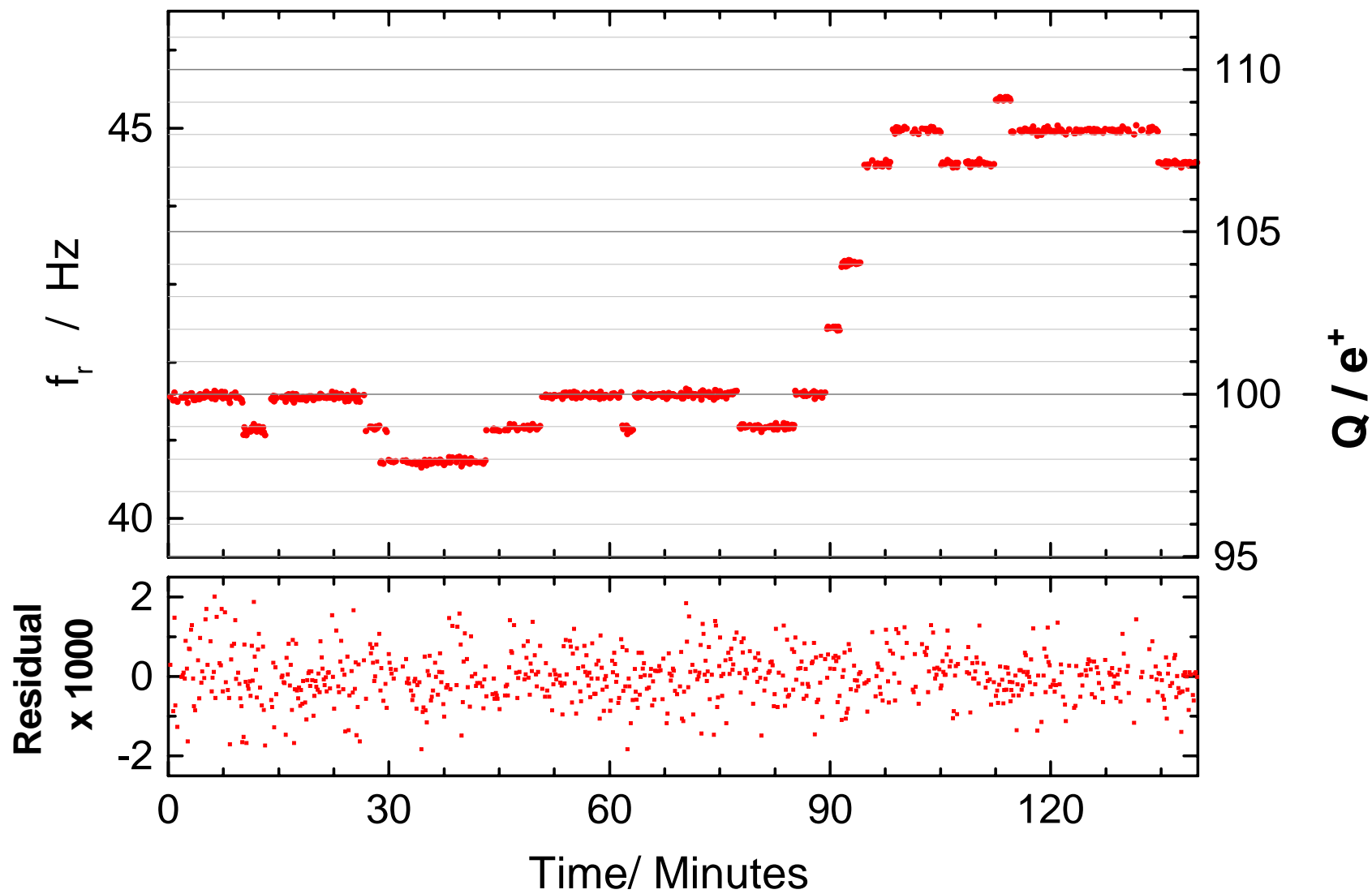
$$\begin{aligned}\omega_r &= 2\pi \cdot 42.73 \text{ Hz} \\ \Omega &= 2\pi \cdot 928 \text{ Hz} \\ V_0 &= 1365 \text{ V}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}Q/M &= 98.13 \text{ mC/kg} \\ d\omega/\omega &= 6 \cdot 10^{-5}\end{aligned}$$

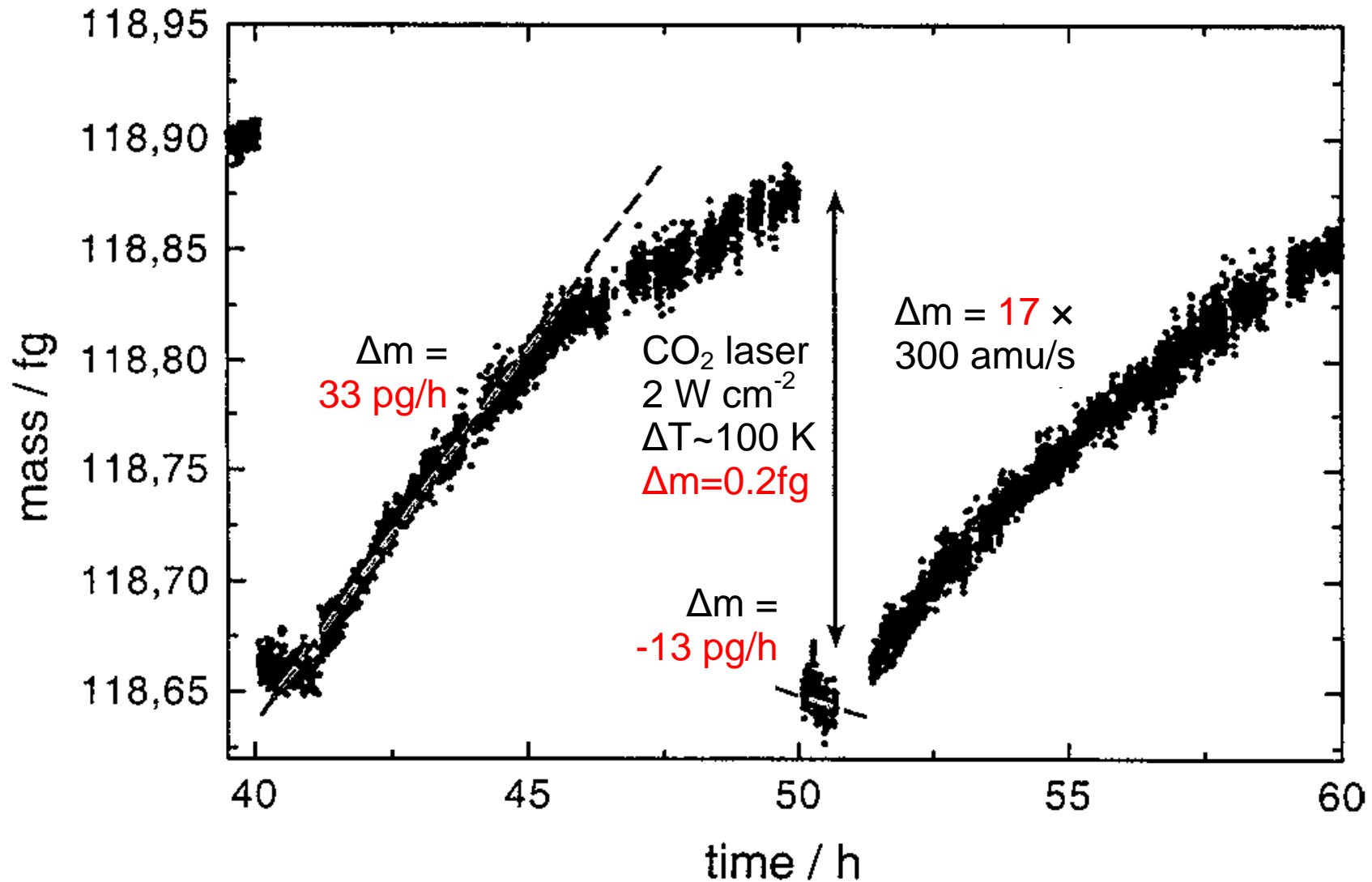
# Cosmic rays induced change



# Absolute charge state



# Gas ad- and desorption 500 nm diameter SiO<sub>2</sub> sphere



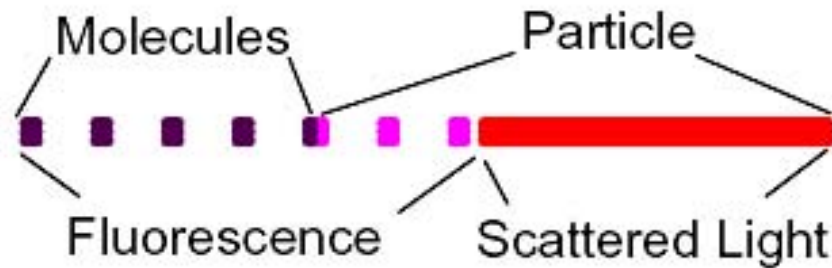
# mass spectrometers and scales

Penning-Traps

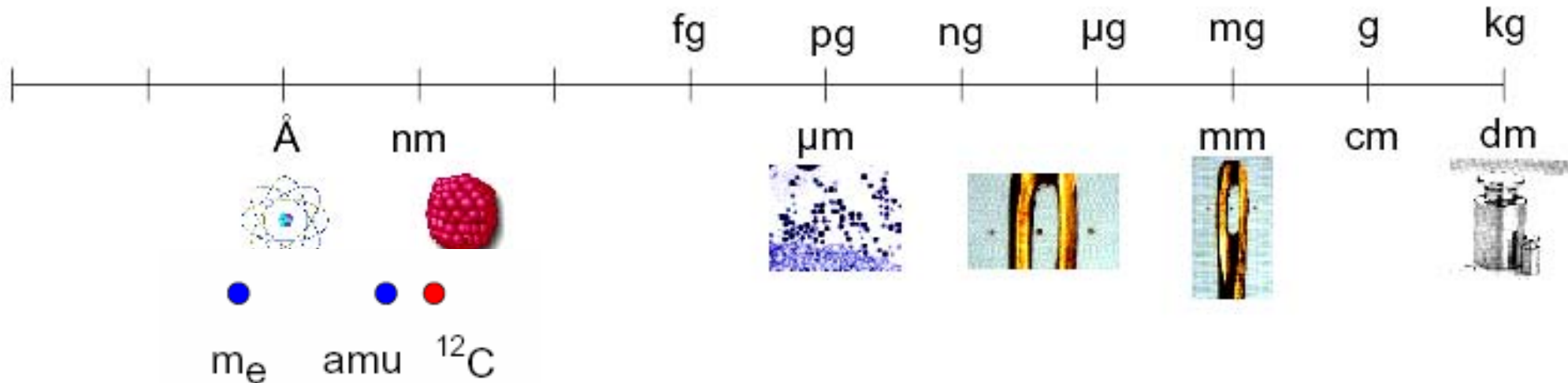
Quadrupol Mass Spectrometer

TOF-Mass Spectrometer

Commercial Balances



**New Trap**





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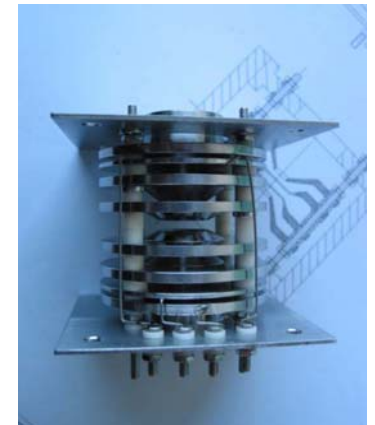
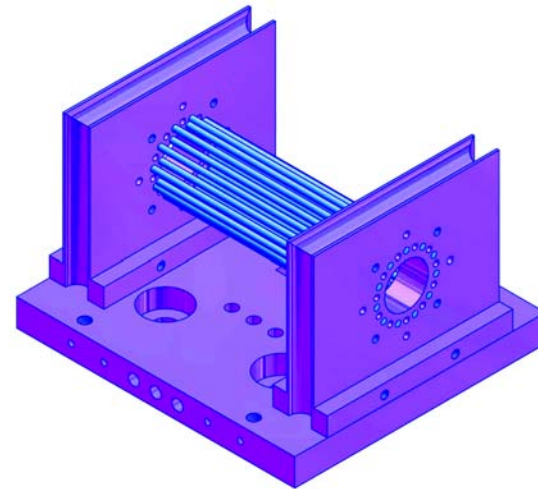
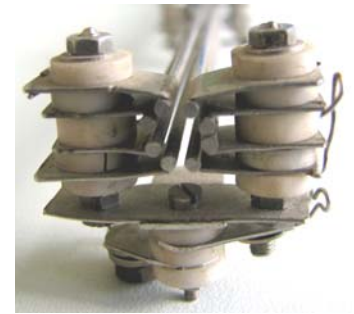
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NPMS

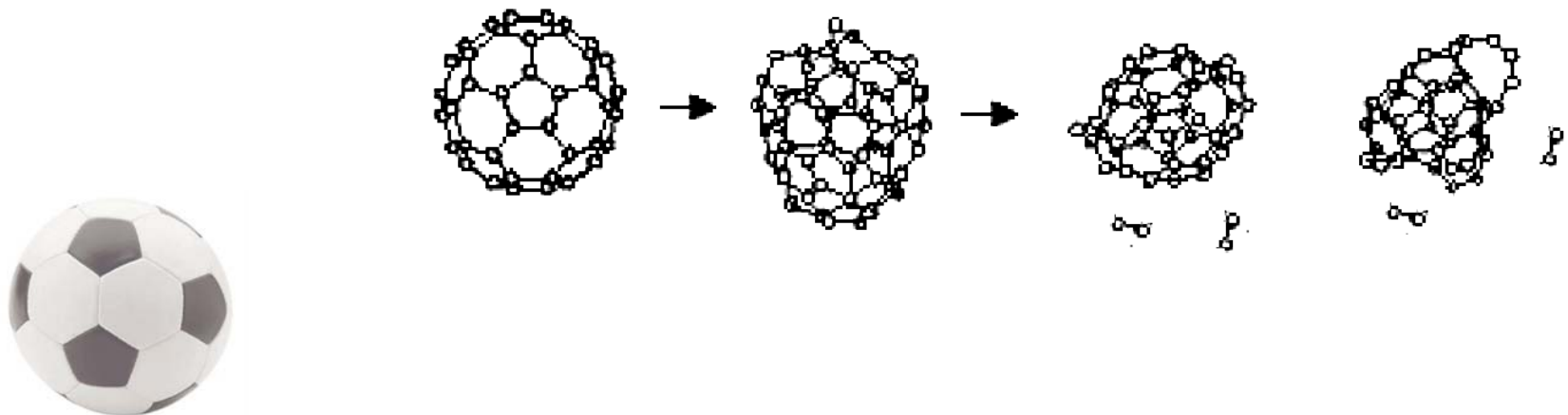
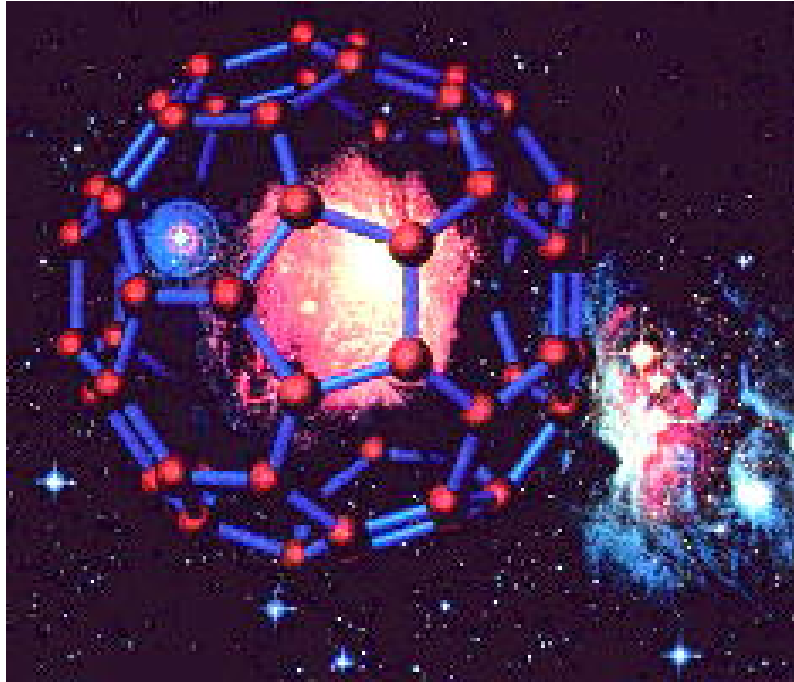
HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

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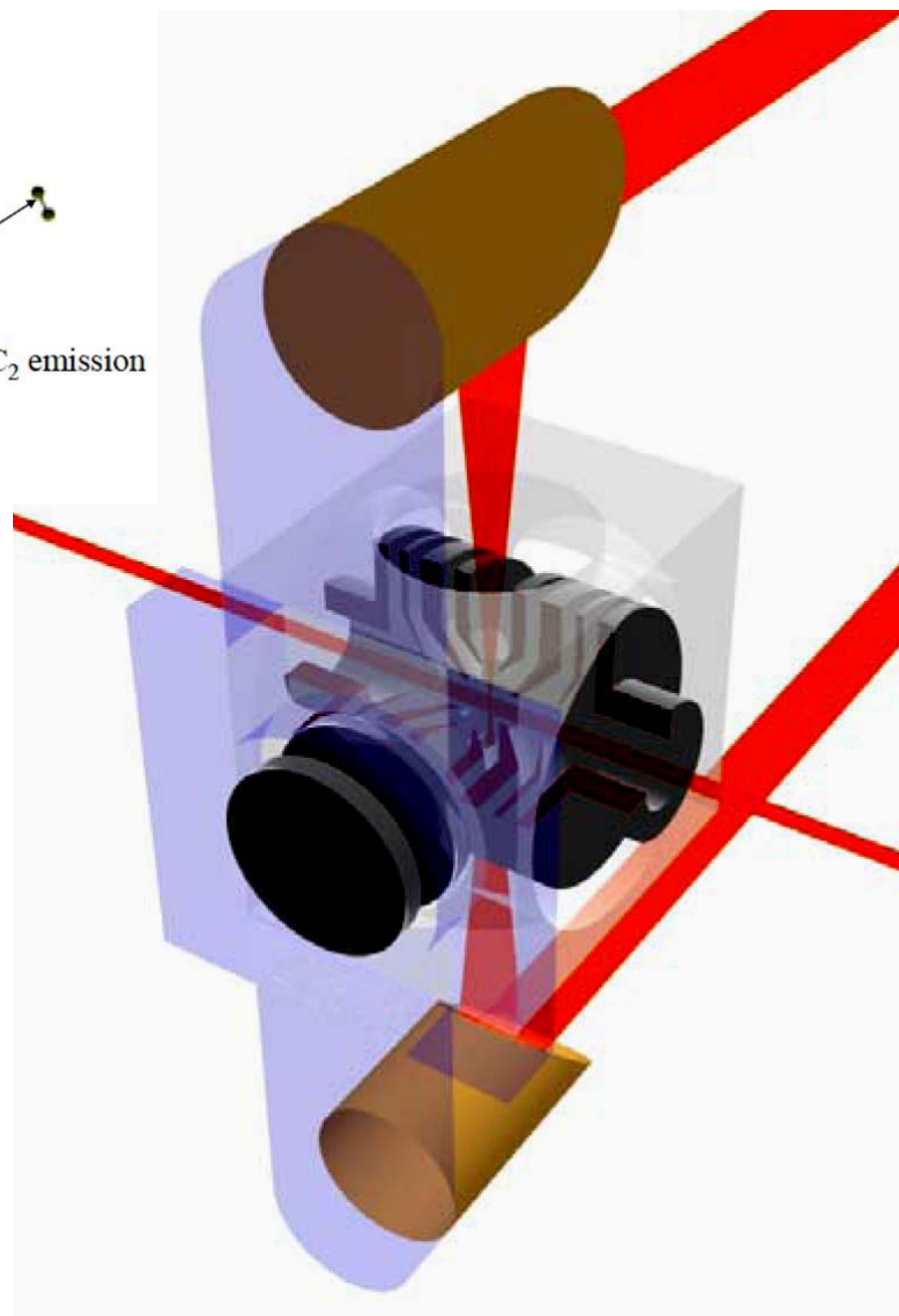
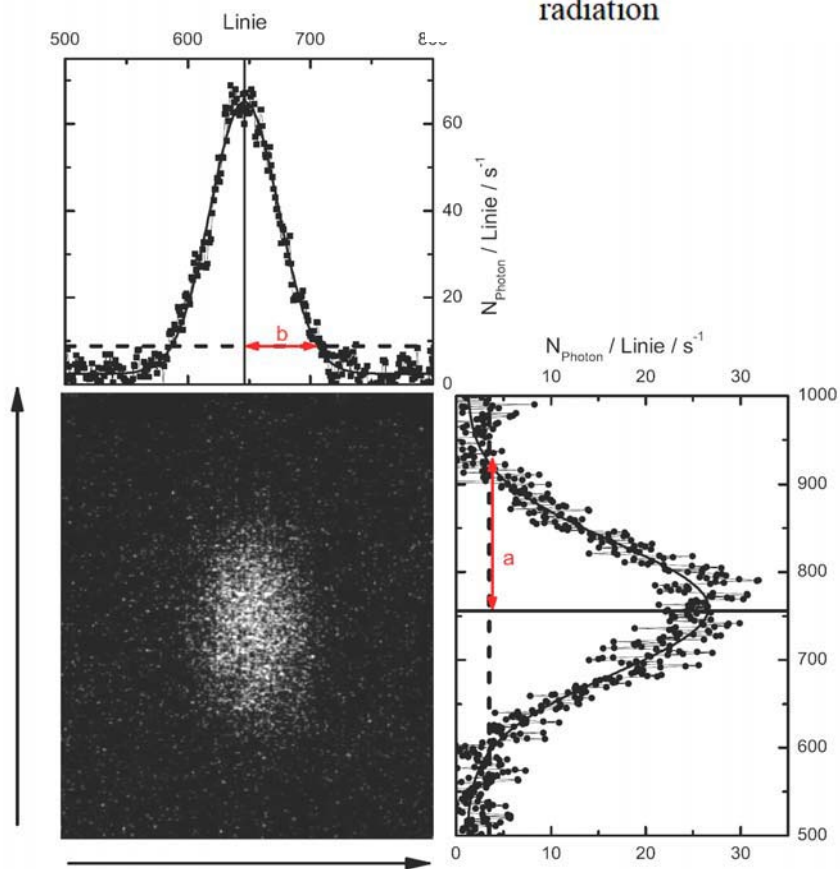
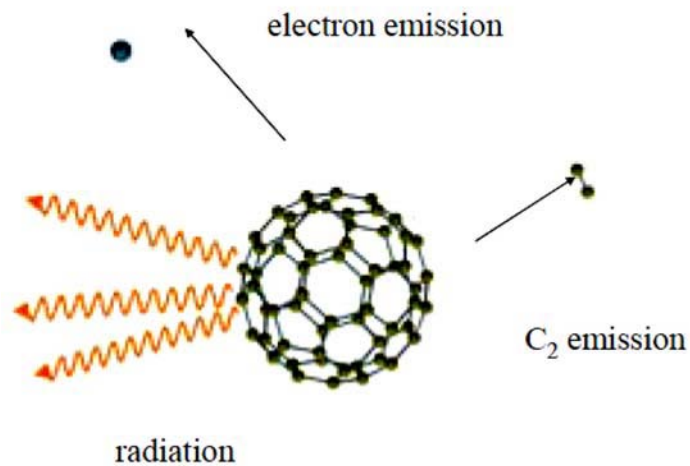




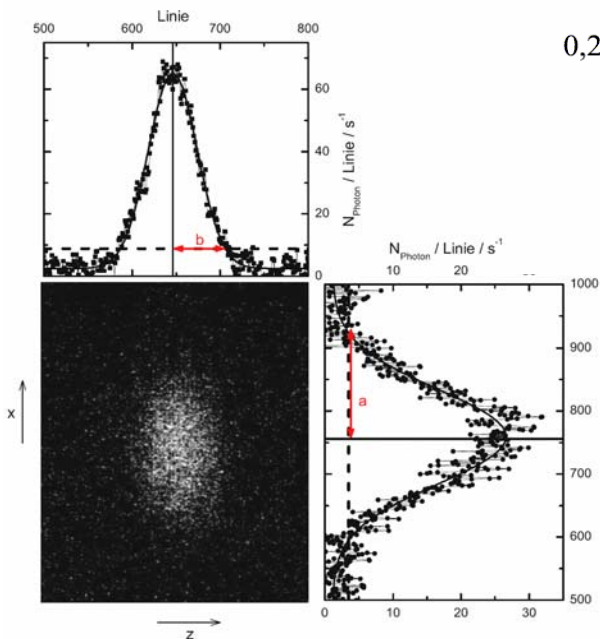
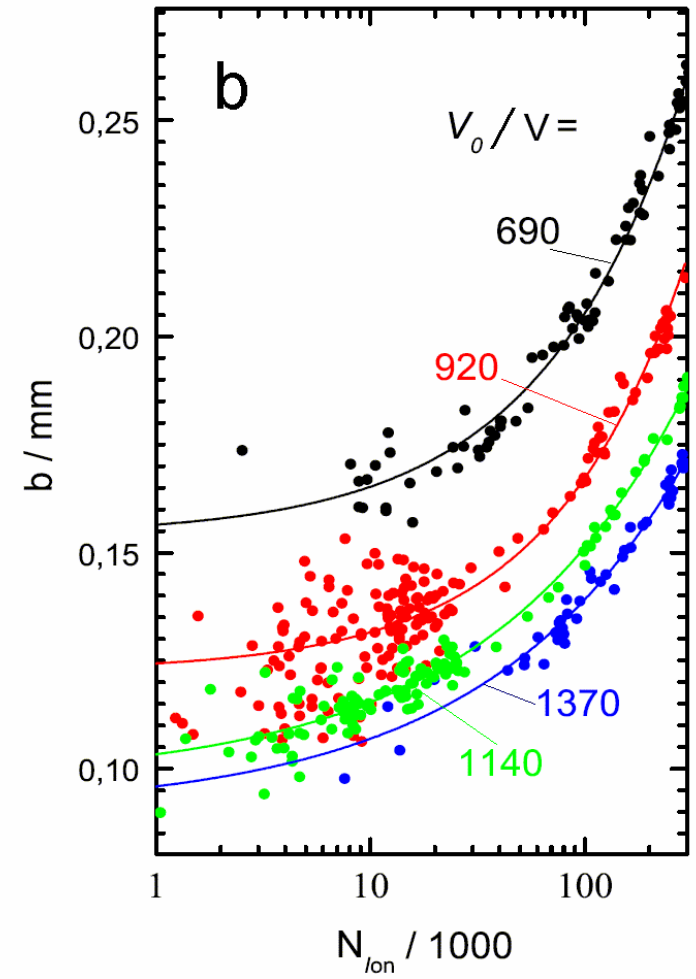
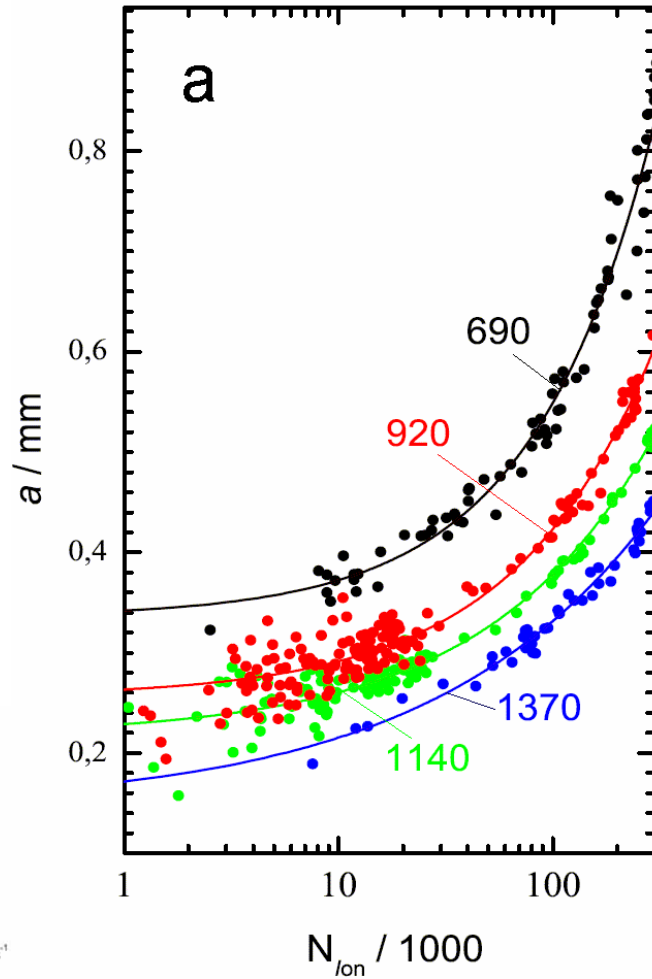
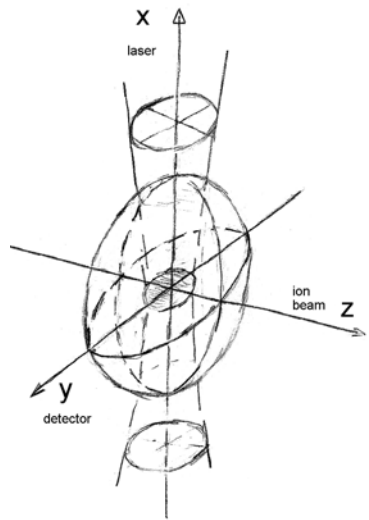
# Hot carbon nanoparticles



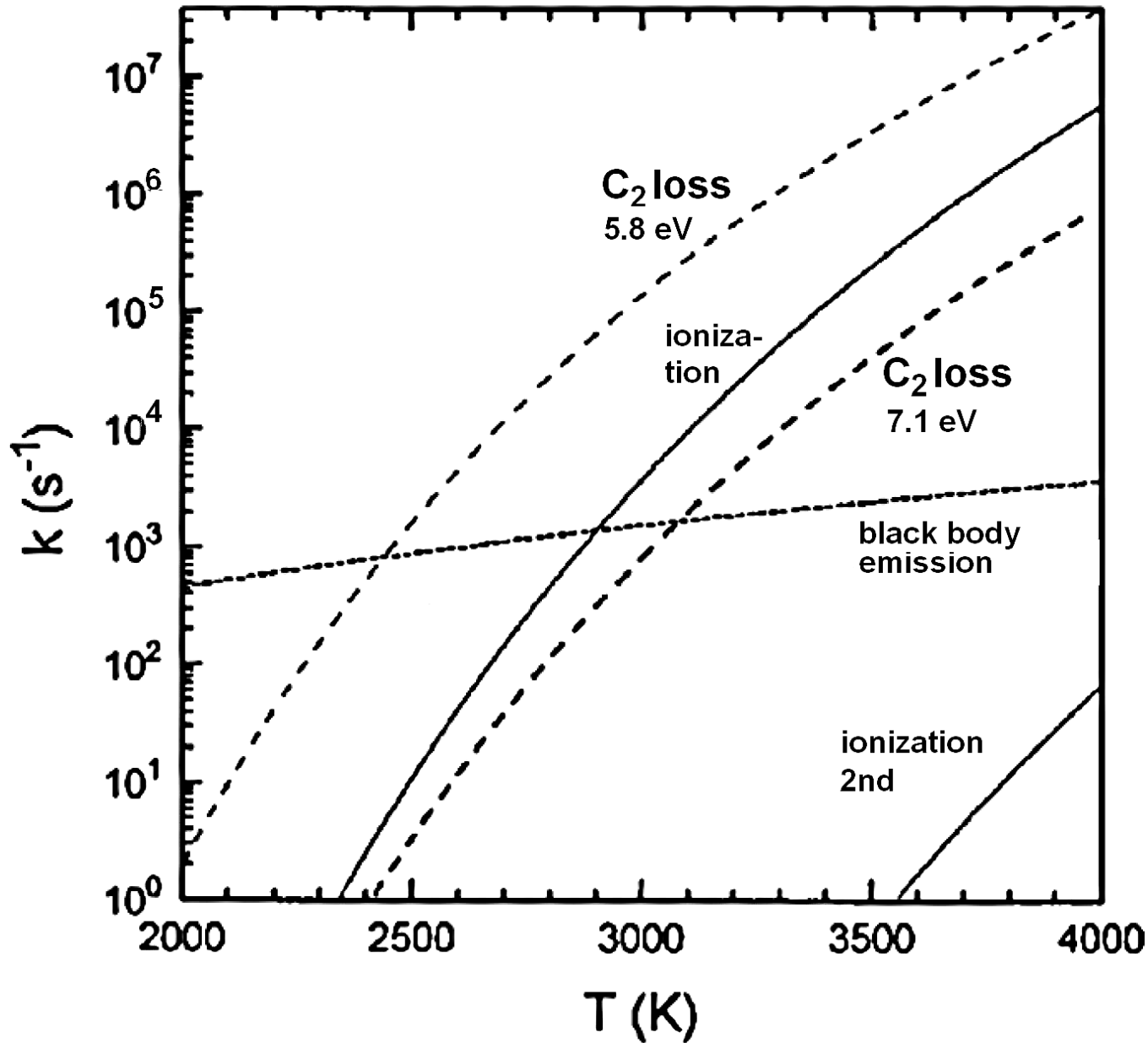
# Ions at high temperatures



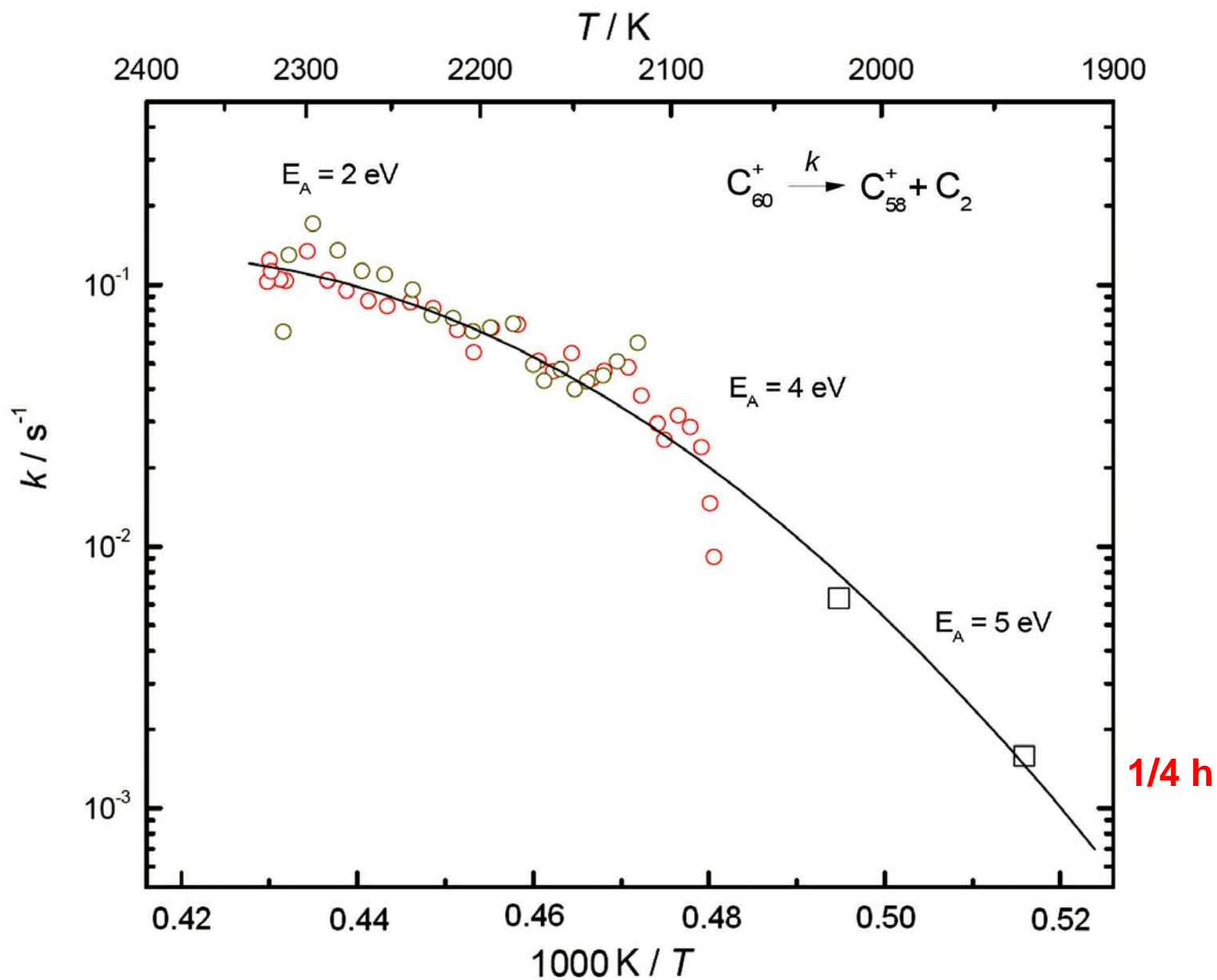
# Space charge, amplitude dependence



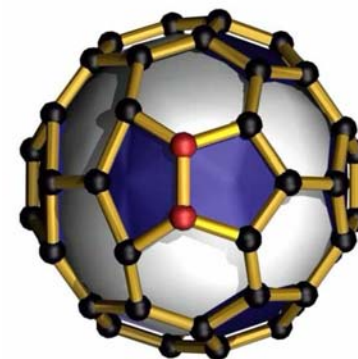
# Cooling hot C<sub>60</sub>



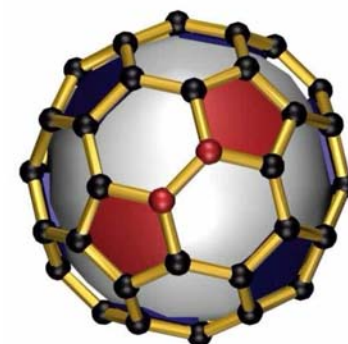
# Thermal decay of $C_{60}^+$



$C_2$  elimination



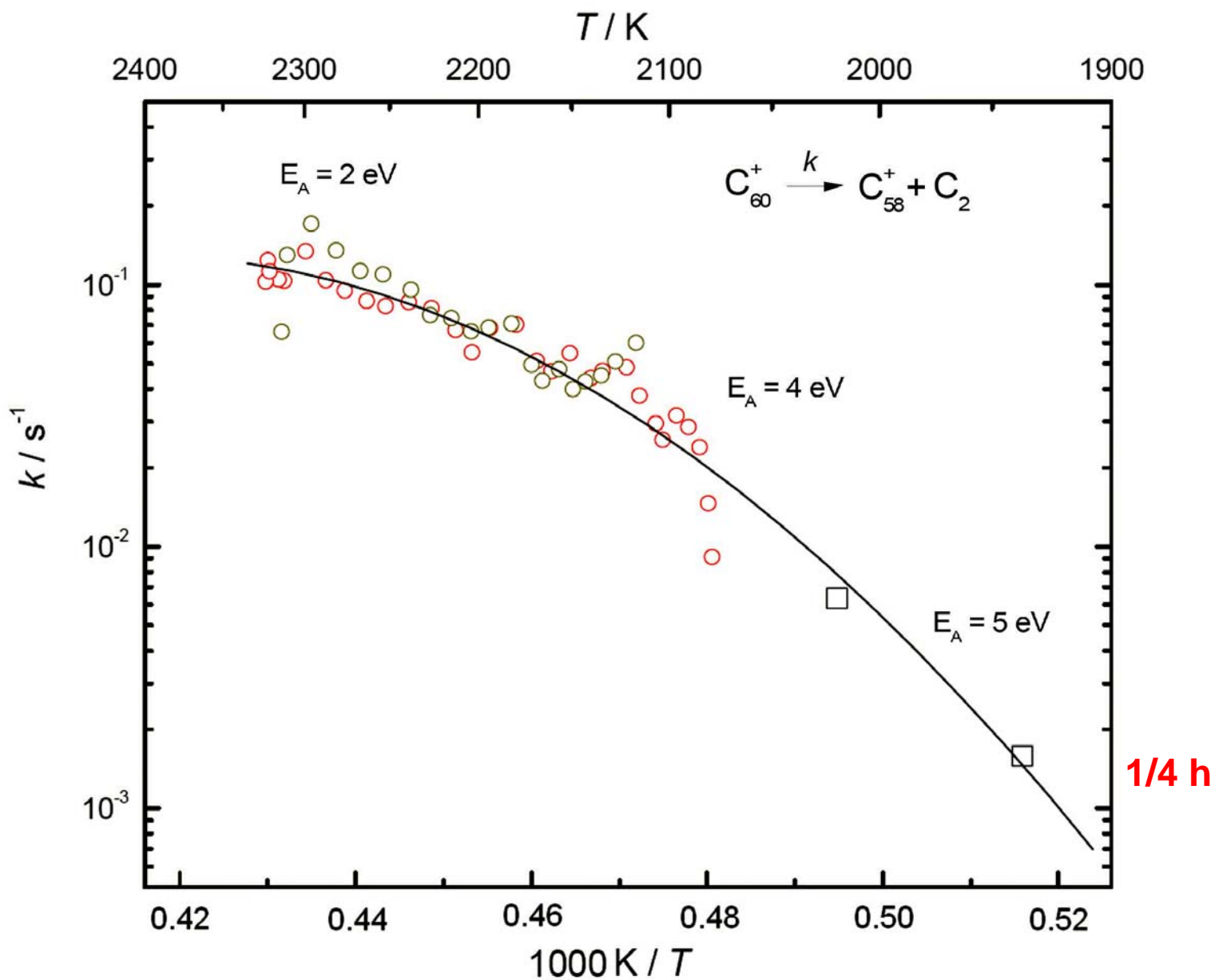
Isomerization



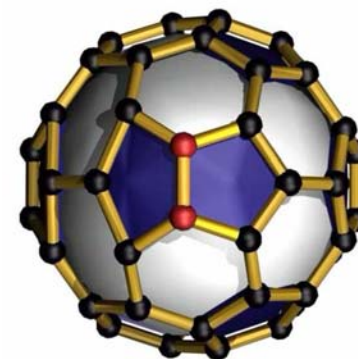
Arrhenius parameter

literature values: 3 - 12 eV

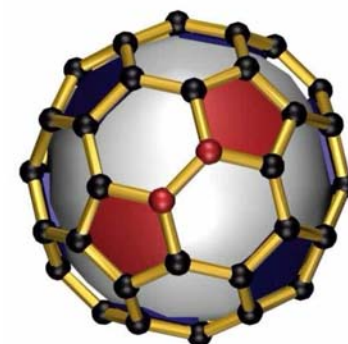
# Thermal decay of $C_{60}^+$



$C_2$  elimination



Isomerization



**Arrhenius parameter**

literature values: 3 - 12 eV



# Polyatomic ions in traps: from molecules via clusters to nanoparticles

*Dieter Gerlich*

## Introduction

## Ions in rf fields

Basics, buffer gas cooling

## Typical tests

Spectroscopy

Association reactions, cluster

LIR:  $N_2^+ + Ar$

## Recent application

Reactions with H atoms

Deuteration, nuclear spin

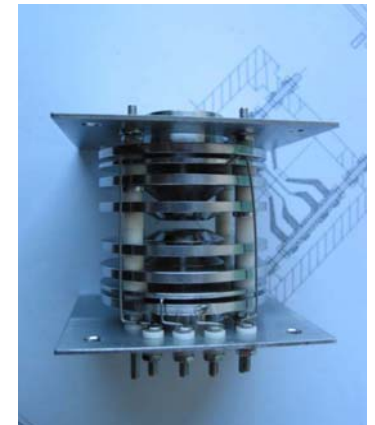
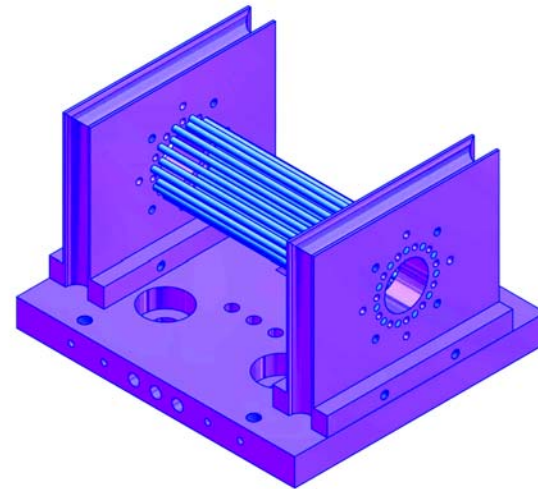
State selective preparation

## Nanoparticles

NPMS

HT - SRET, Decay of  $C_{60}^+$

## Summary and outlook



# Cold ion chemistry in traps

## Controlling all degrees of freedom

State to state reactions

Ultra slow relative velocities

## Buffer gas cooling in RF traps

Cooling ions with cold effusive beams

Chopped, very slow beams of He

Cooling with slow H-atoms

Combination ion trap - H atom trap

## Problems with ion traps

Potential distortions on surfaces

High Q resonance circuit without parasitic oscillations

Superconducting electrodes

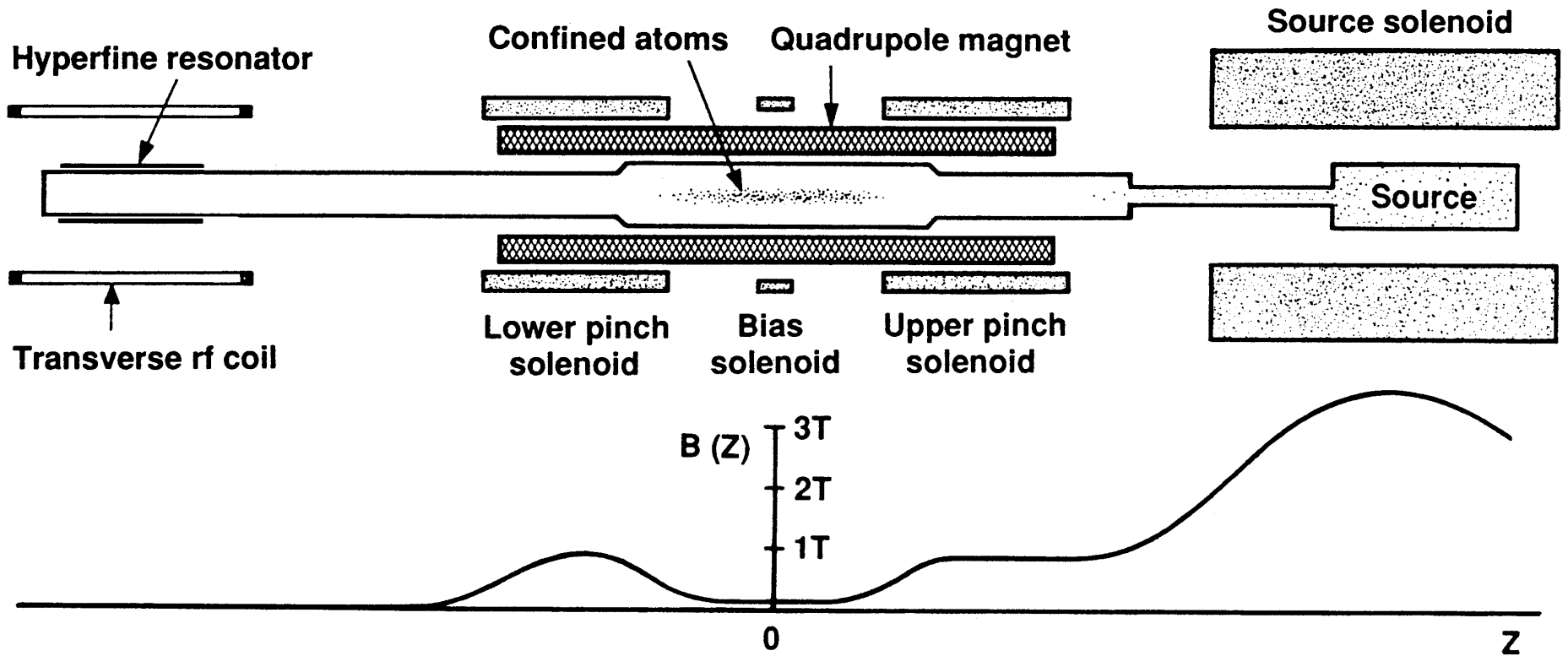
Magnetic fields

## Coulomb crystals in rf ion traps

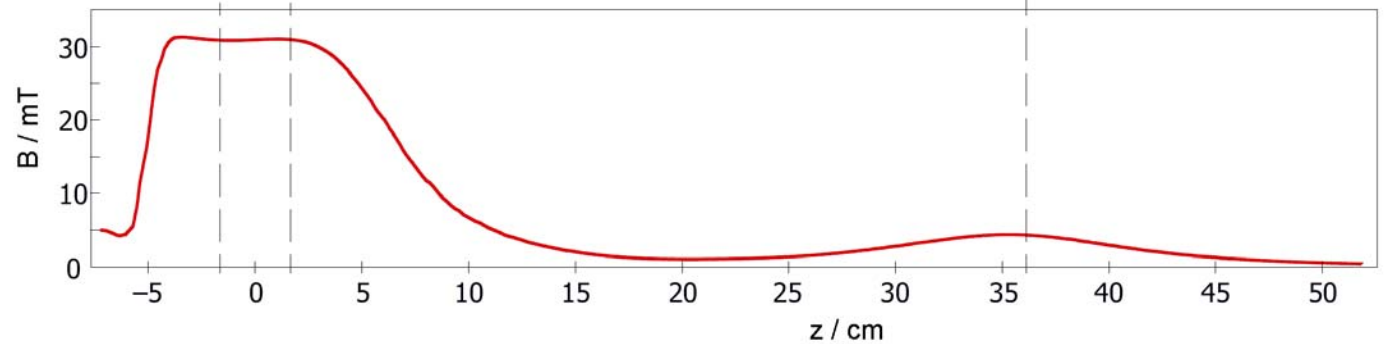
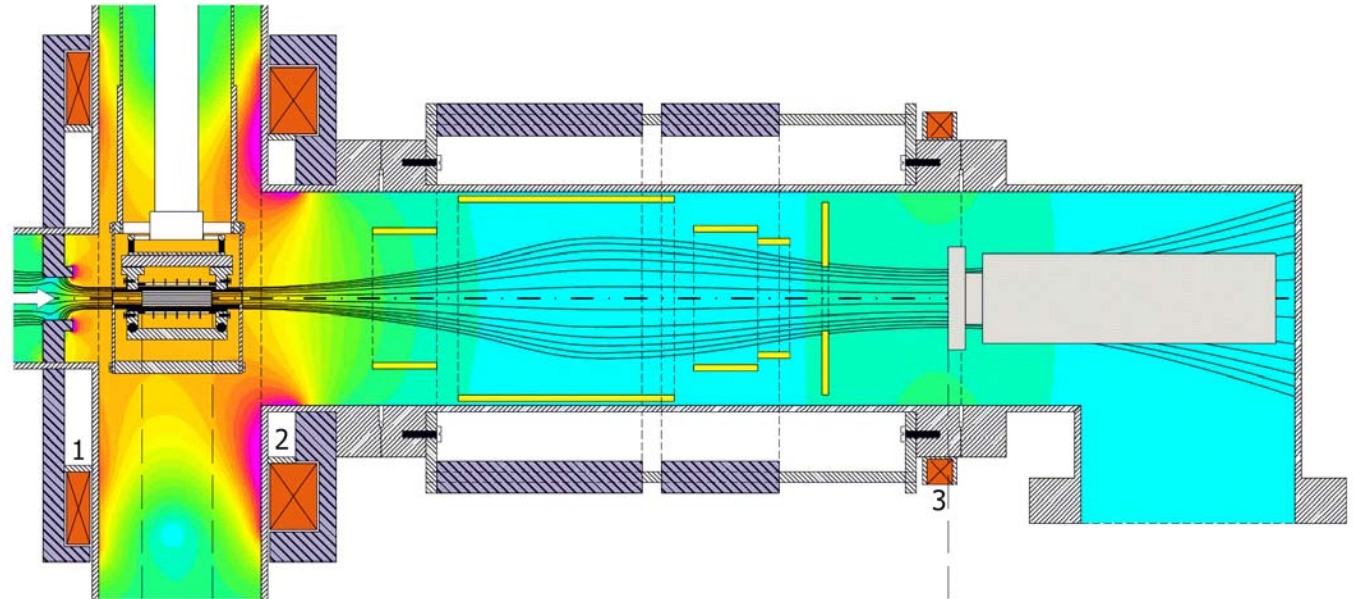
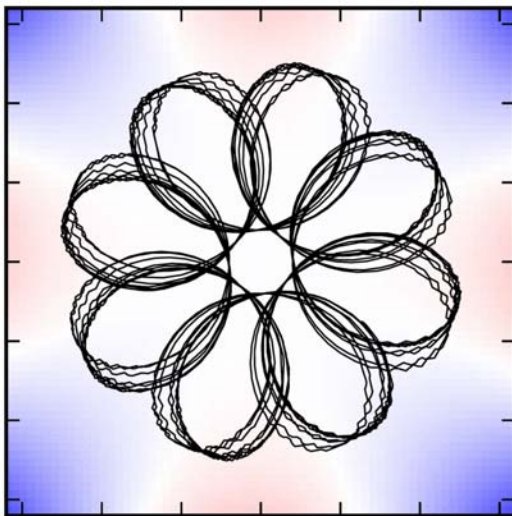
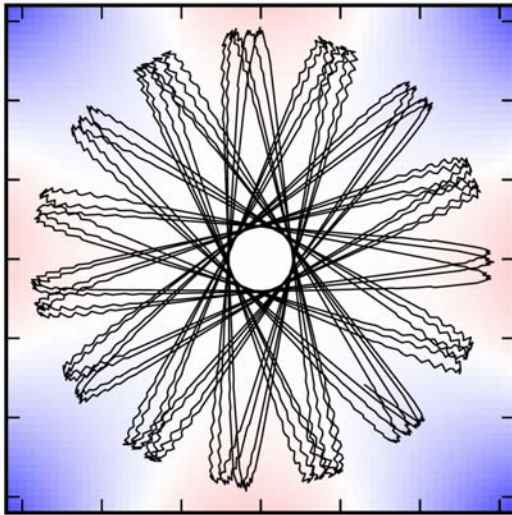
Laser cooling, sympathetic cooling



# Trapping cold H atoms



# Combination: rf ion trap and MAC $e^-$ spectrometer

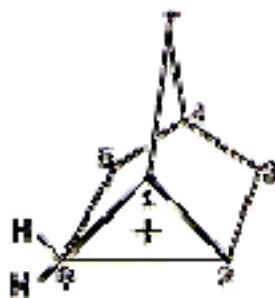
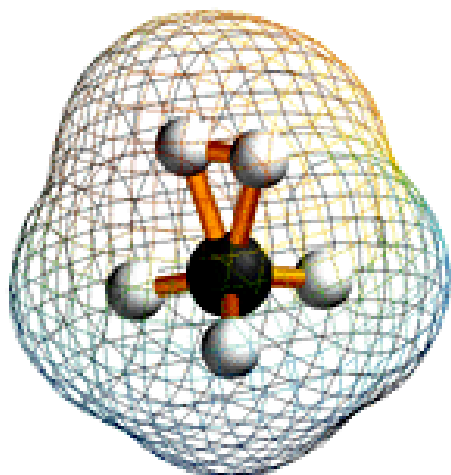




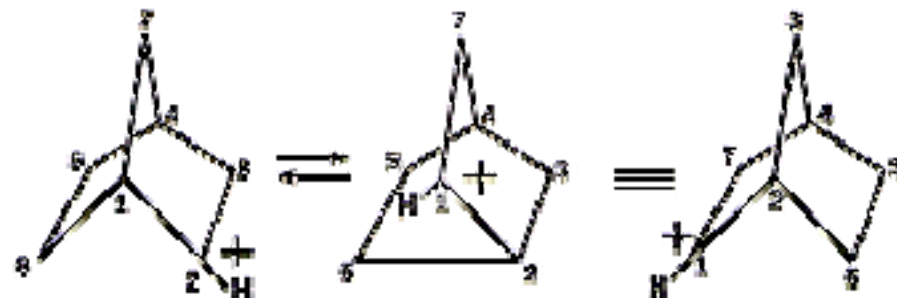
# Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1994

**George A. Olah**

"for his contribution to carbocation chemistry"



penta-coordinated  
carbocation  
(carbonium ion)



equilibrating tri-coordinated  
carbocation  
(carbenium ion)

## Carbocations

A cornerstone of the classical theory of structural chemistry since the time of Kekulé in the 1860s is that carbon can bind at most four other atoms (**tetra-coordination**).

Around 1950 S. Winstein in the USA found a short-lived carbocation that contained penta-coordinated carbon. He named the ion non-classical. Despite very great efforts by many leading physical organic chemists, the problem remained unsolved until Olah's method of preparing long-lived carbocations was applied.

## NPMS: perspectives

- long time trapping, isolation under UHV conditions
- non-destructive, absolute mass and charge determination
- high resolution of secular frequencies ( $\Delta\nu/\nu < 10^{-6}$ )
- single particle: average over time (not ensemble)
  
- experimental characterization of the trap, new trap design  
accuracy, precision, properties of the potential
- small particles ( 1- 5 nm)
- optical detection (spectroscopy, light pressure,... )
- chemistry, agglomerates, magnetic properties
- temperature range: 5 K - 3000 K

Black body radiation of  
carbonaceous material

