

# Storage Ring Experiments on Electron – Molecular Ion Interactions

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**Molecular processes in interstellar environment:  
Challenges for laboratory studies**

**Storage-ring studies of dissociative recombination**

**Recent results with improved experimental tools**

**Developments toward cryogenic ion storage ring experiments**



## Cooling of gas clouds



# Molecules in space

Interstellar medium

Molecular clouds near galactic centres

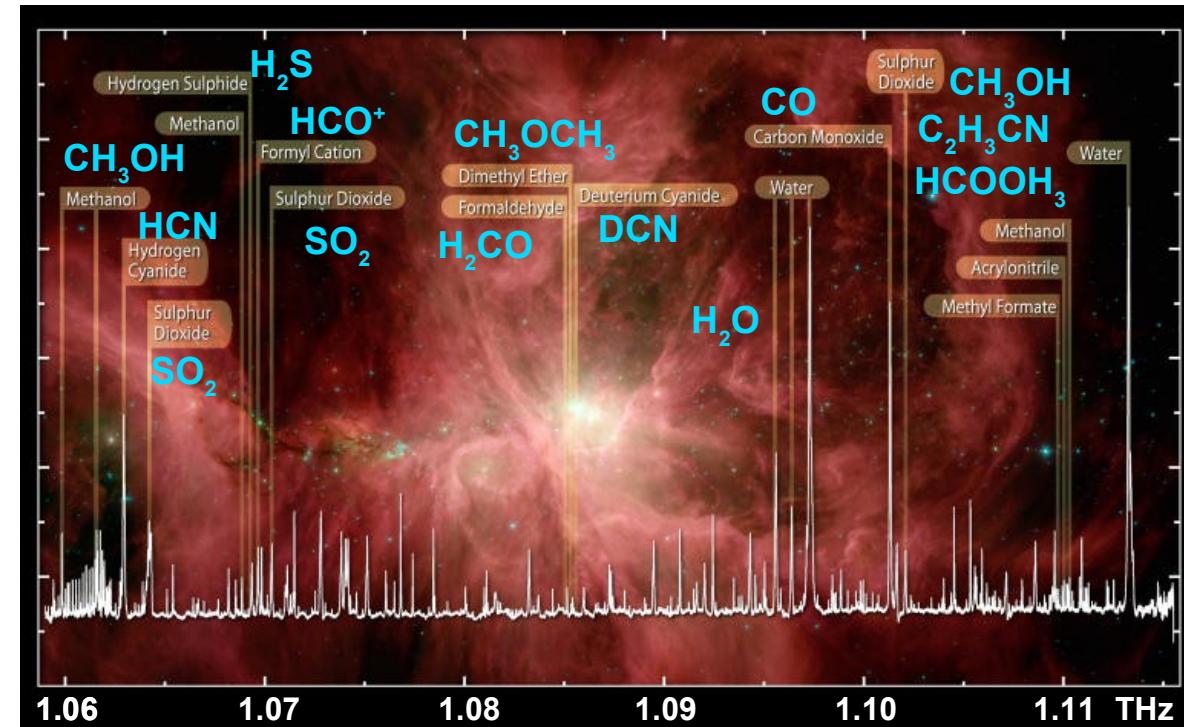
Star-forming regions

Protoplanetary discs



Orion nebula  
Hubble

## Chemical complexity



HIFI Spectrum of Water and Organics in the Orion Nebula

© ESA, HEXOS and the HIFI consortium  
A&A 521, L20 (2010) E. Bergin

## Isotope (deuterium) fractionation

Spectroscopic diagnostic  
(temperature, radiation, dynamics)

# Interstellar environment – challenges for the laboratory

## Low density and temperature

Down to  $1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , 10 K

High reaction rates  
Barrier-less reactions

## Ions and radicals as drivers of chemistry

Unstable species

Special production mechanisms

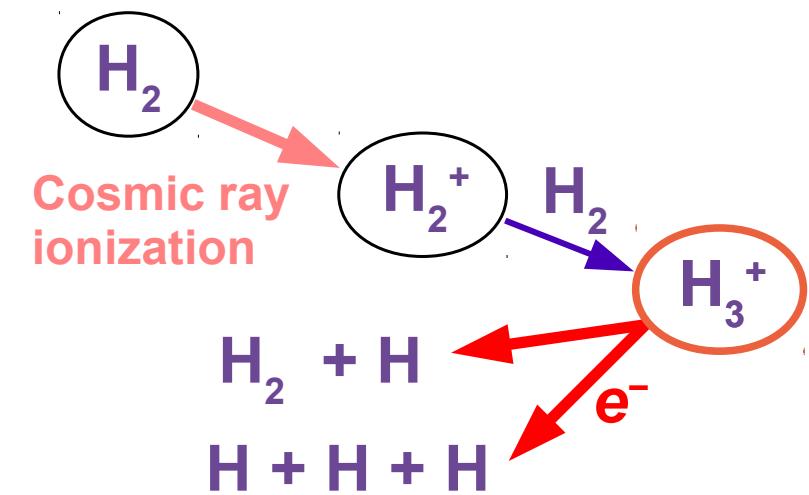
## Wide range of molecular species

Choice of representative model systems

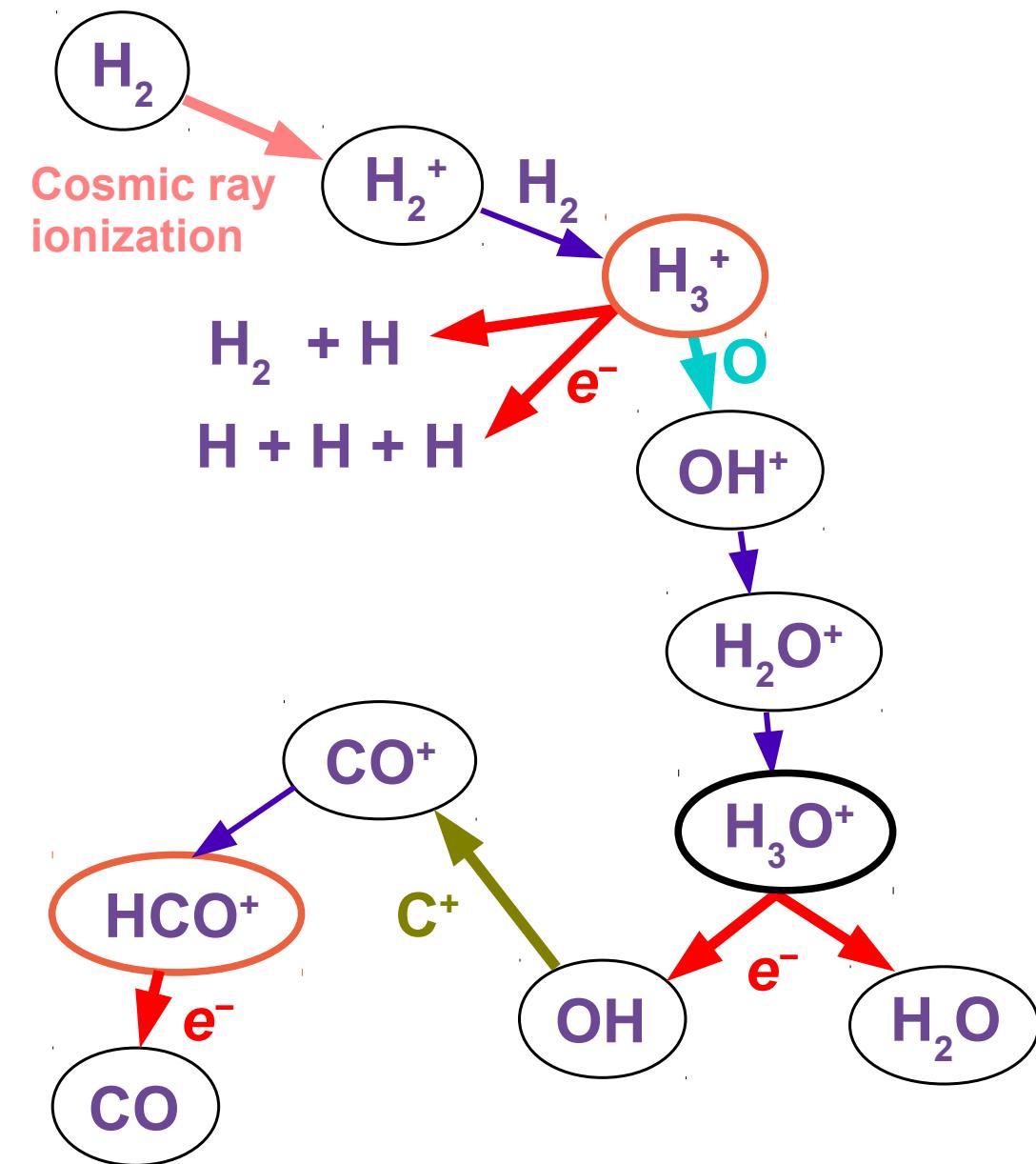
Benchmarking of theories with high predictive power

Knowledge of quantum levels, innermolecular interactions,  
needed for many individual cases

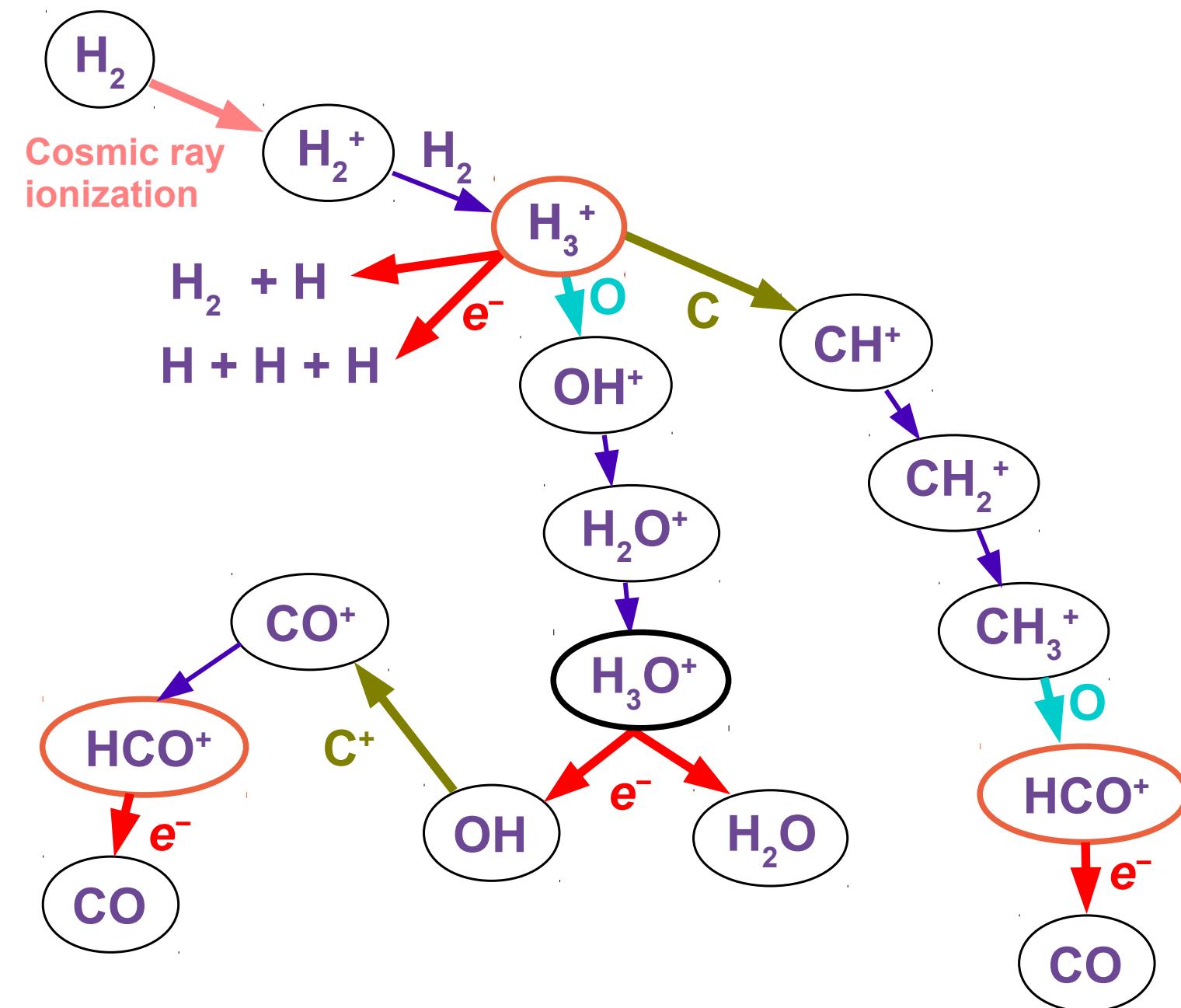
# Chemical evolution driven by ionic collisions



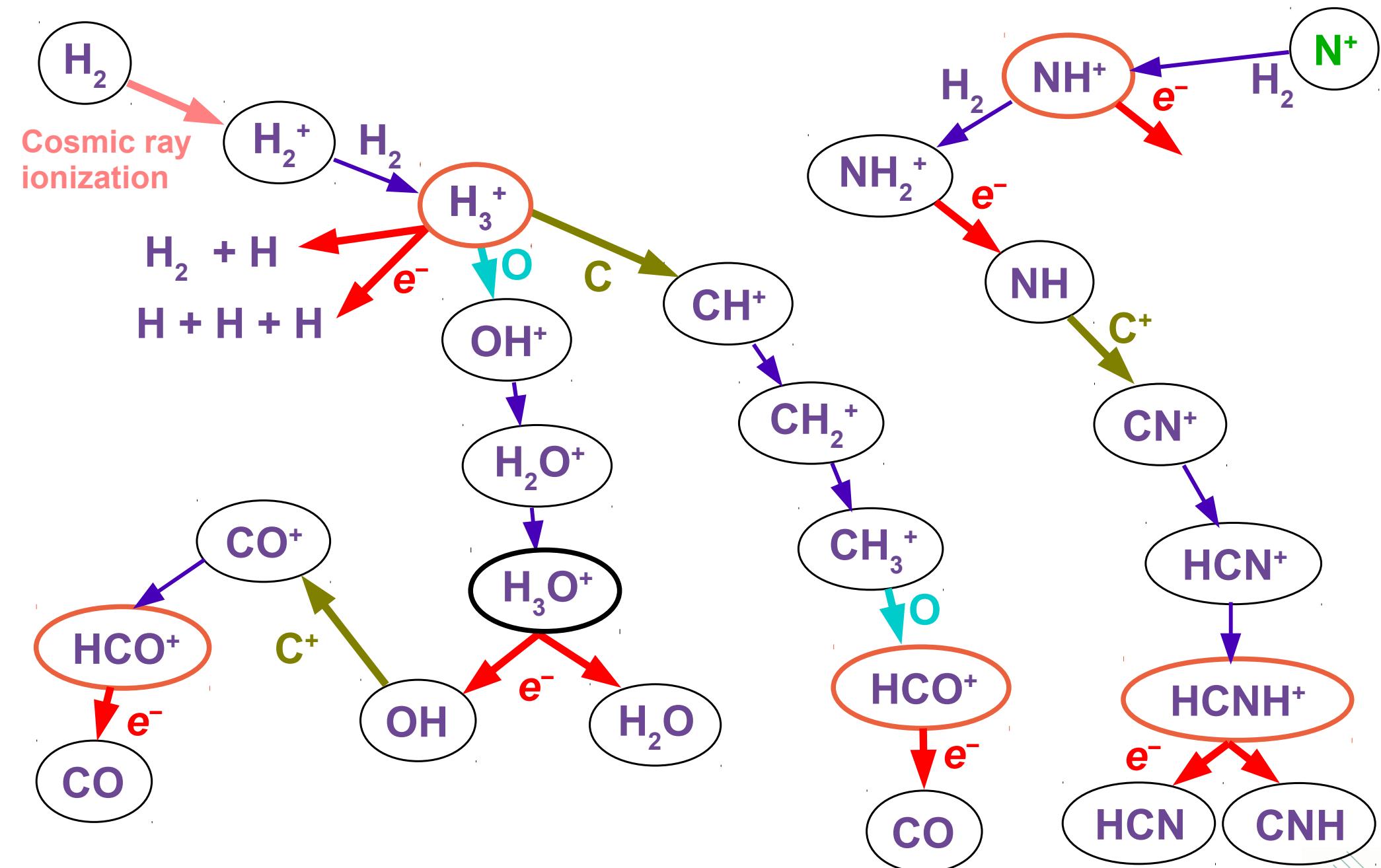
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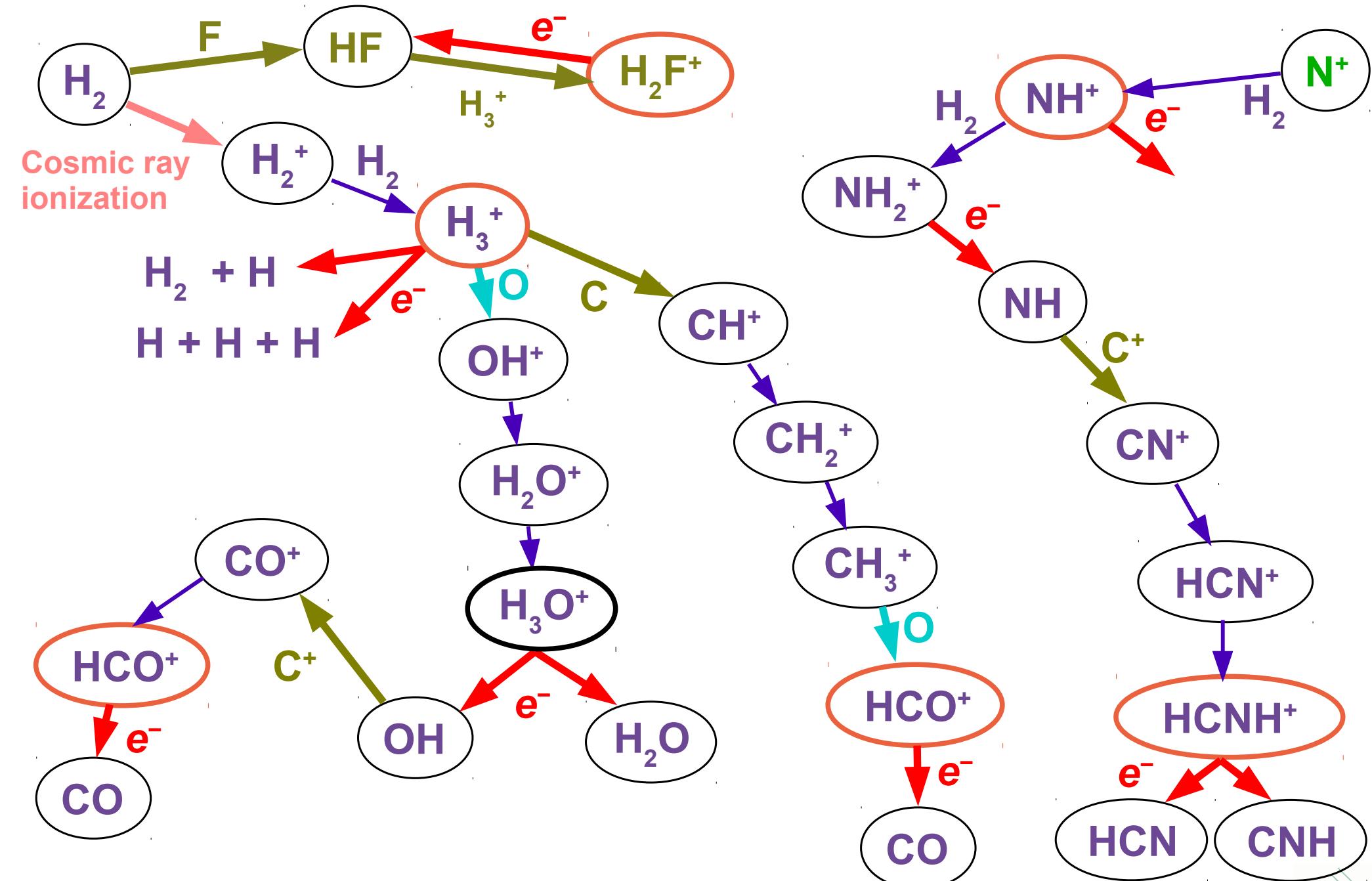
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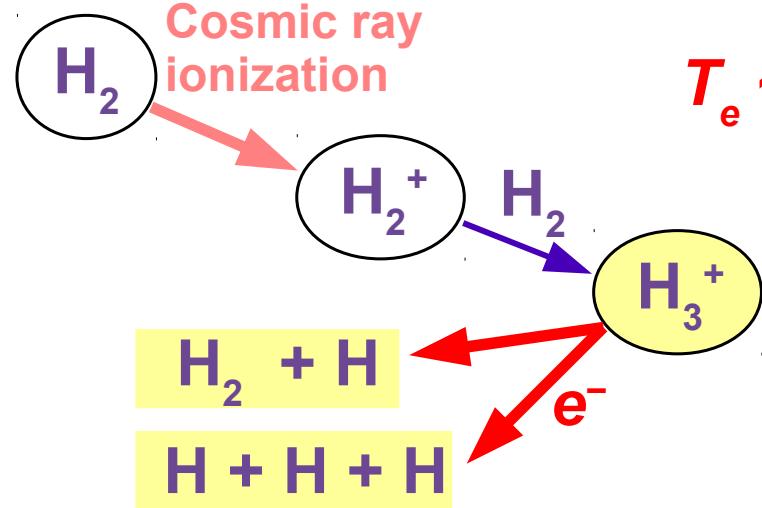
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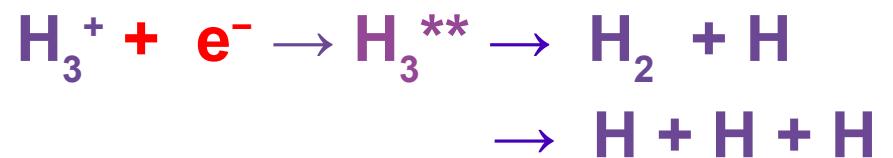
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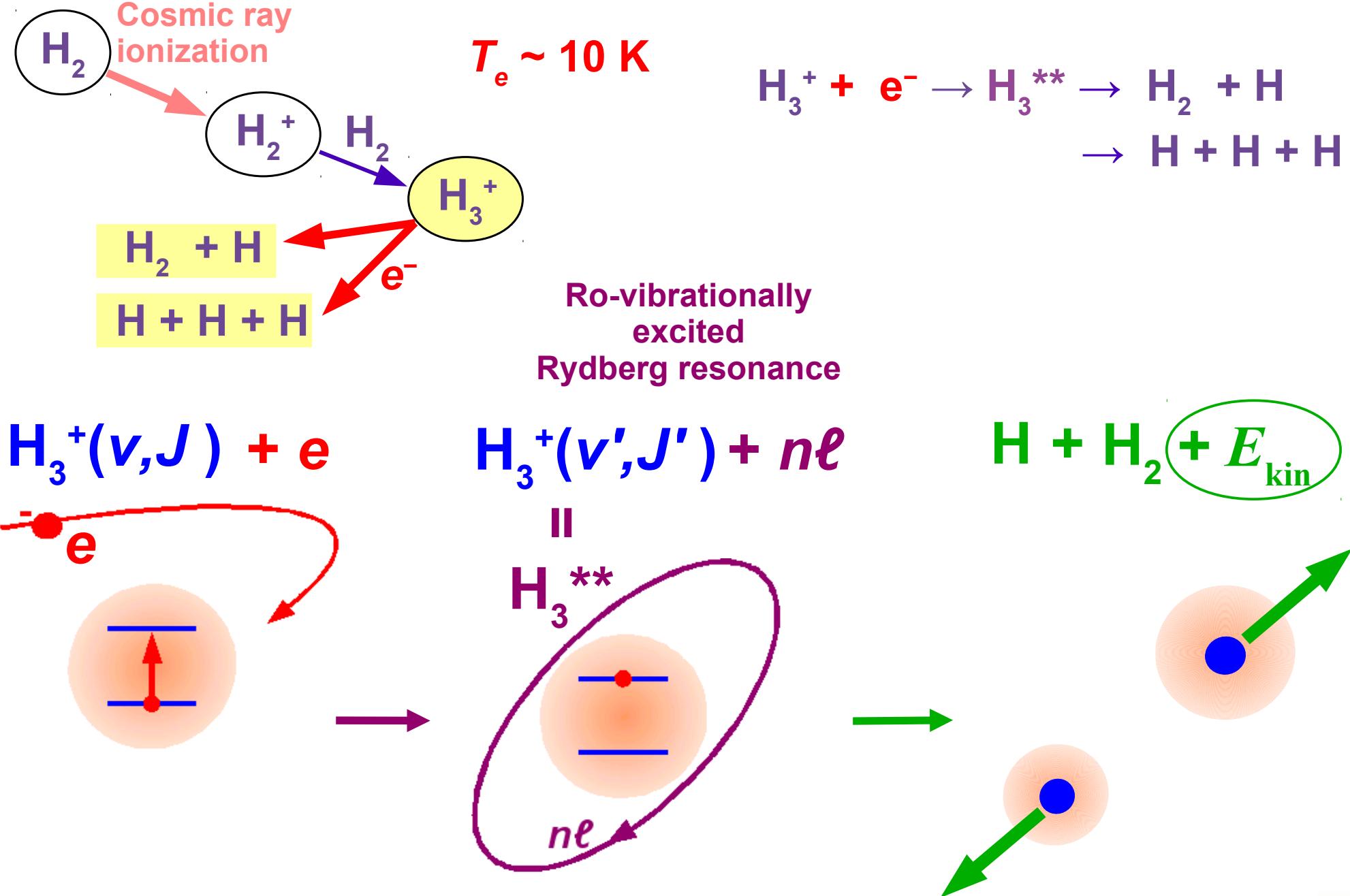
# Dissociative recombination: flea and elephant



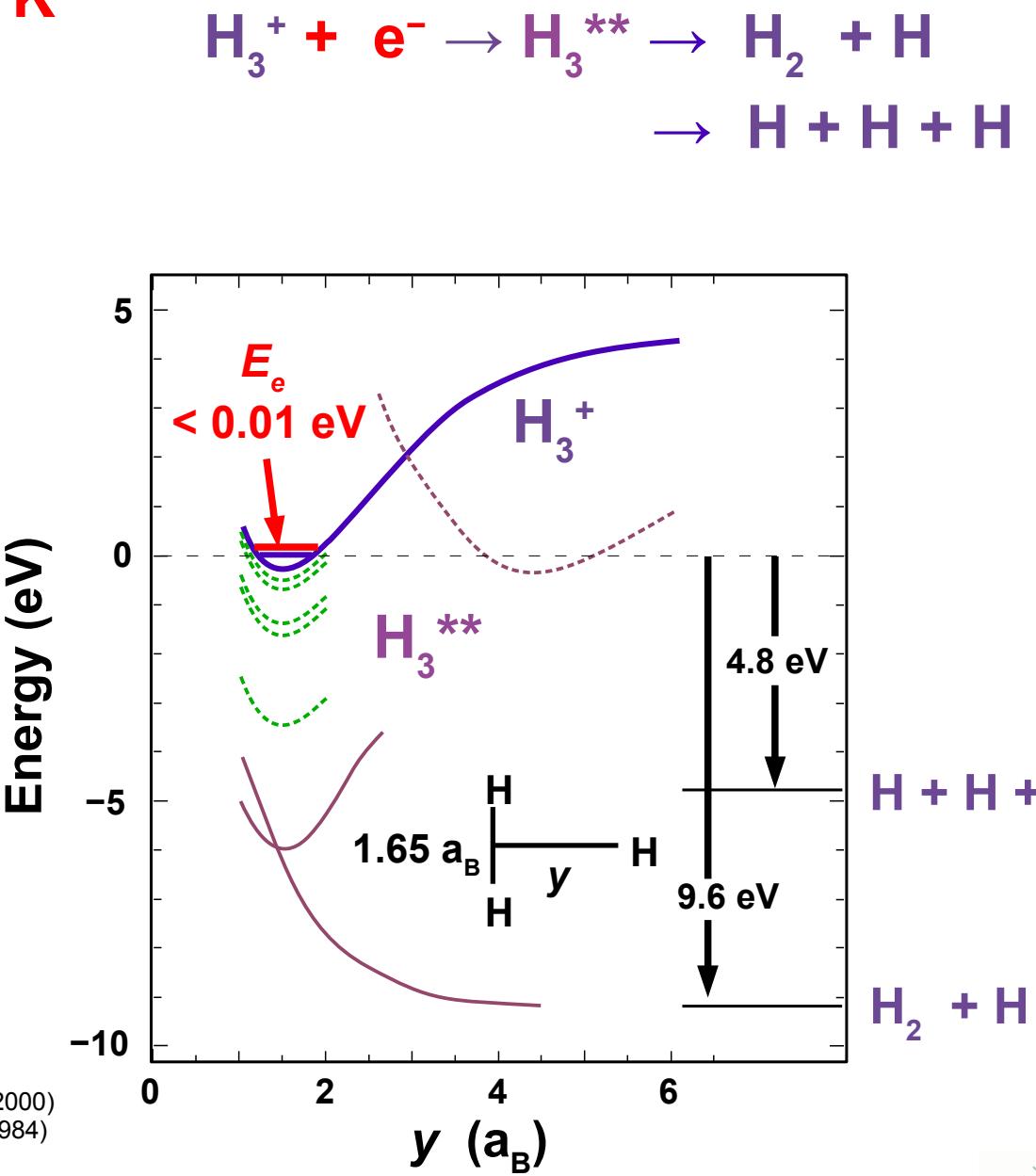
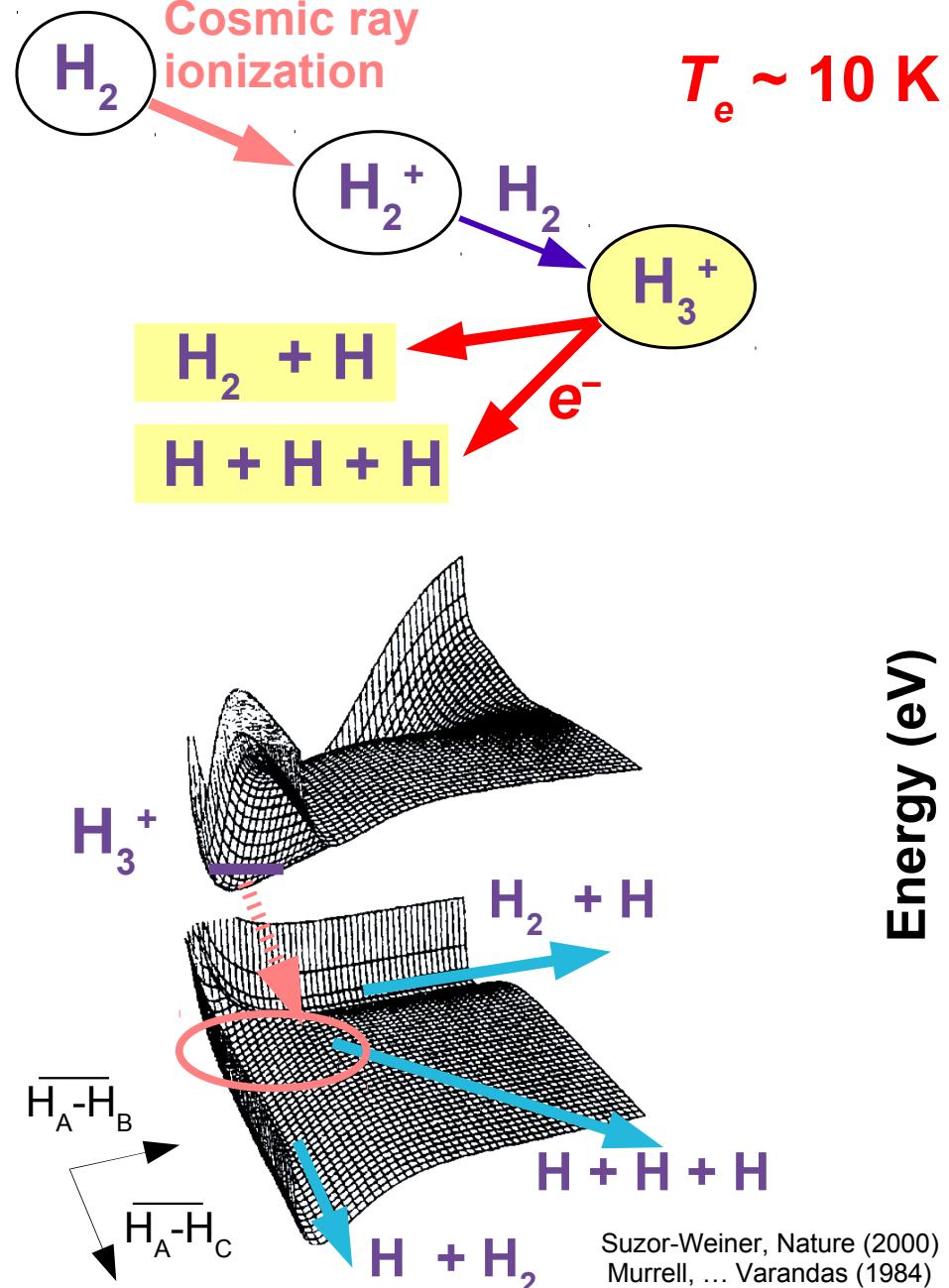
$T_e \sim 10 \text{ K}$



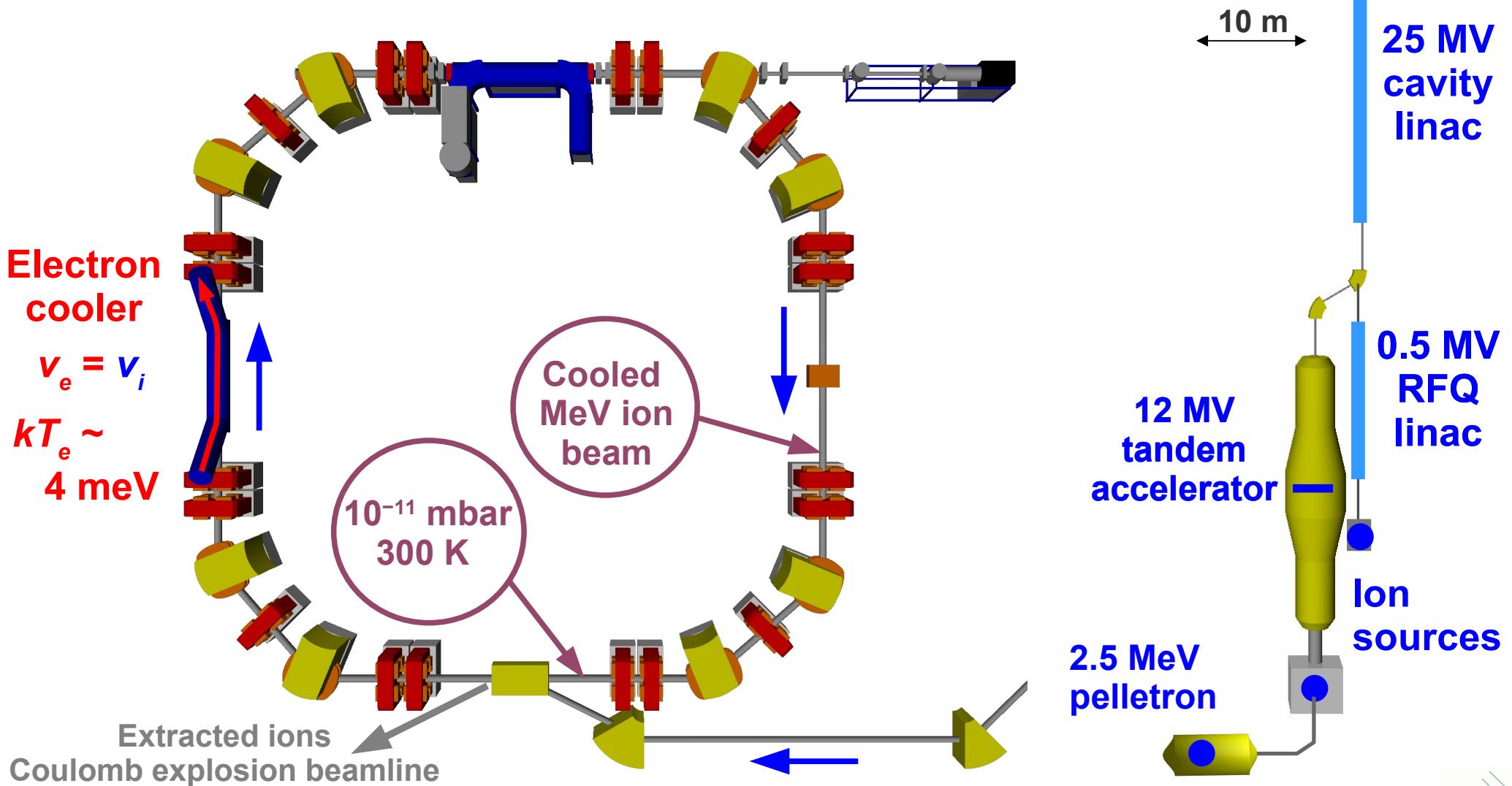
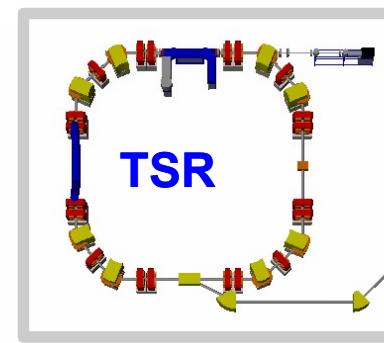
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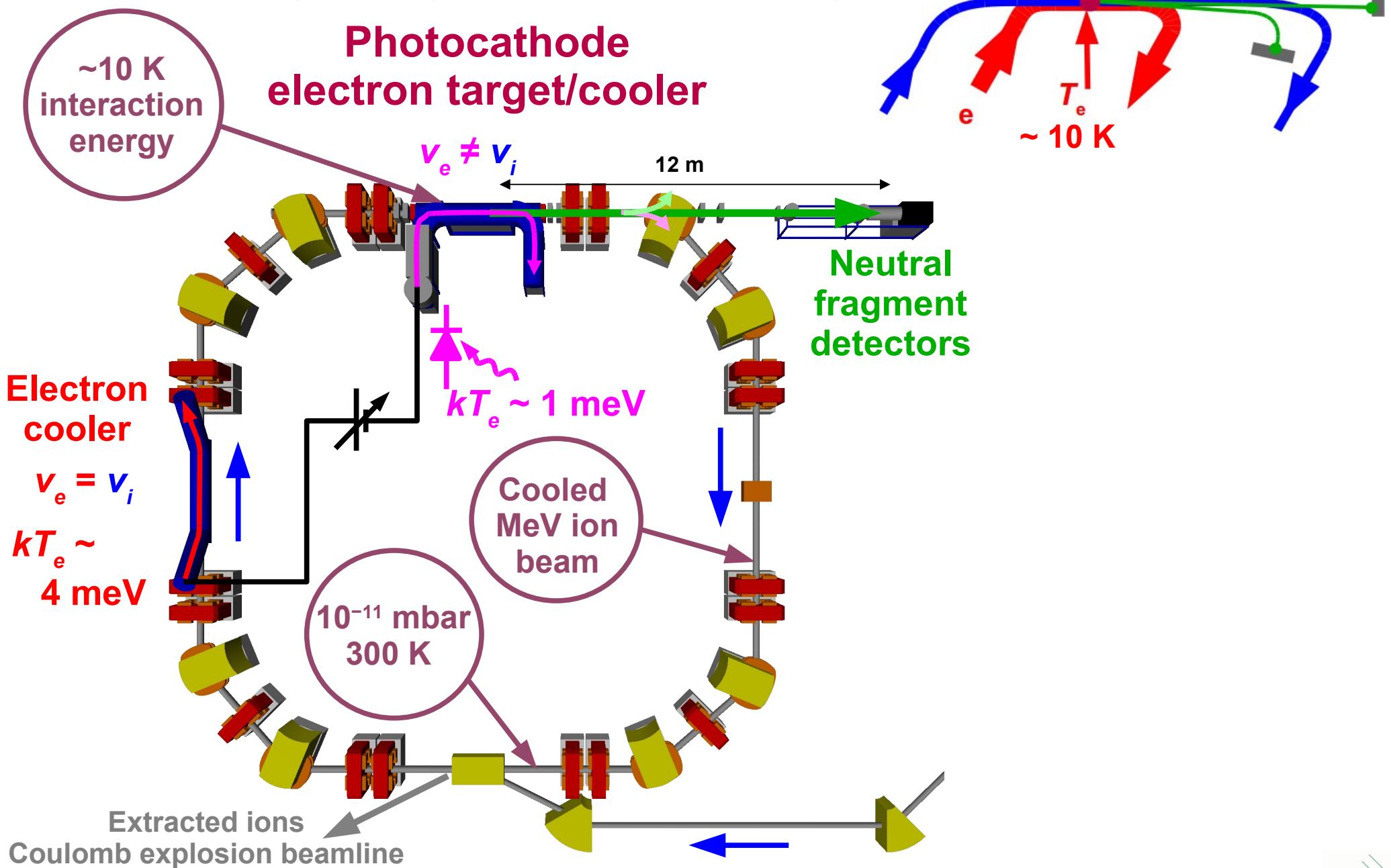
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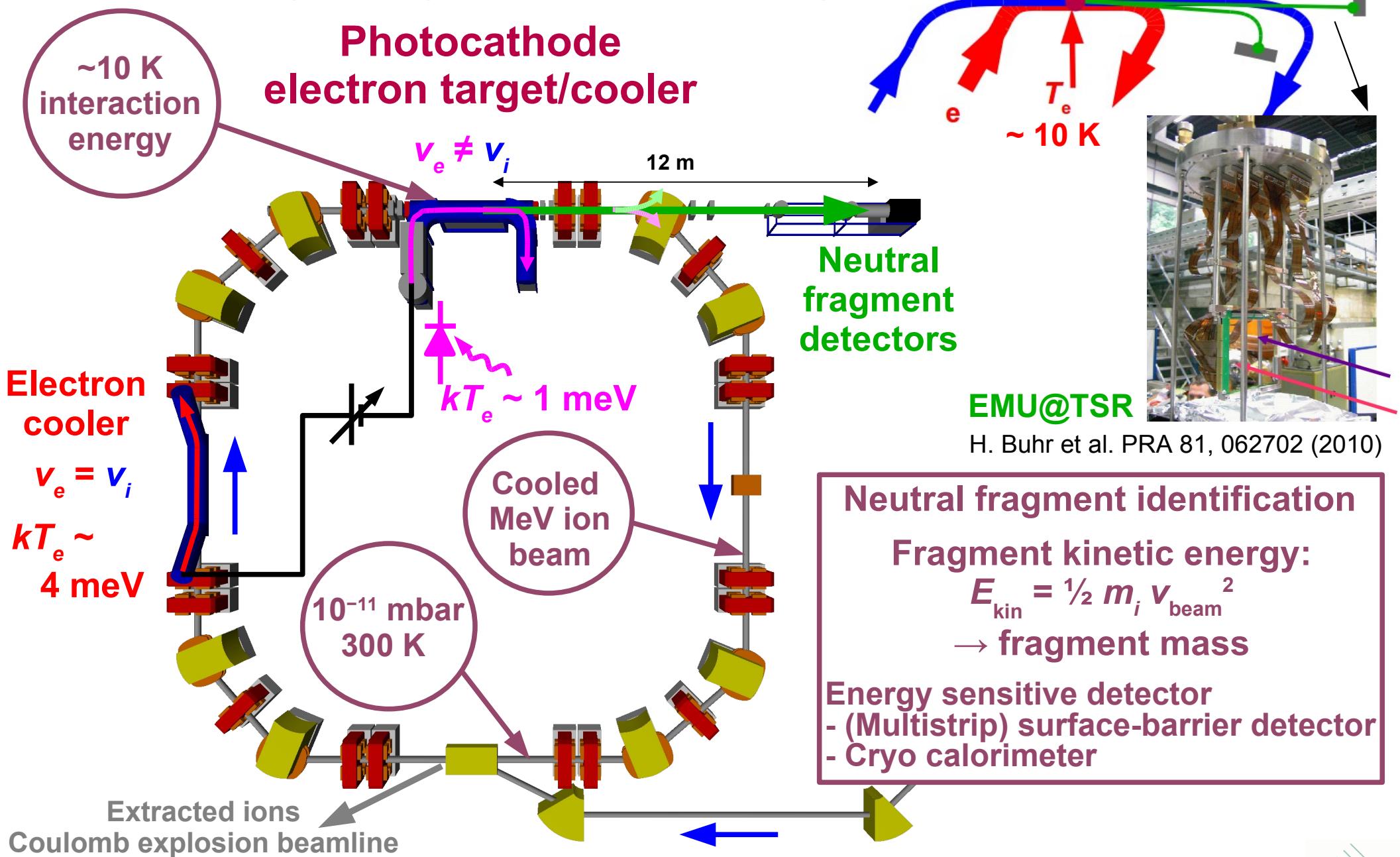
# Electron–ion merged beams Ion storage ring TSR, Heidelberg



# Electron–ion merged beams Ion storage ring TSR, Heidelberg



# Electron–ion merged beams Ion storage ring TSR, Heidelberg



# Results from storage-ring merged beams

Product rates

Cross section (collision energy dependent)

Thermal rate coefficients

Product masses

Reaction branching ratios

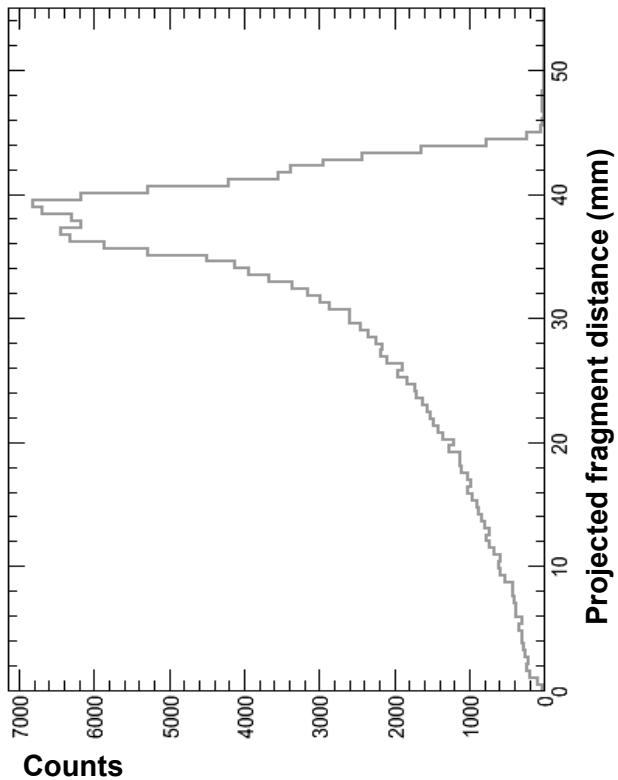
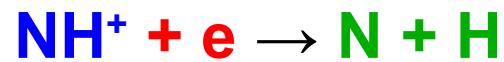
Product kinetic energies

Internal excitation of molecular products

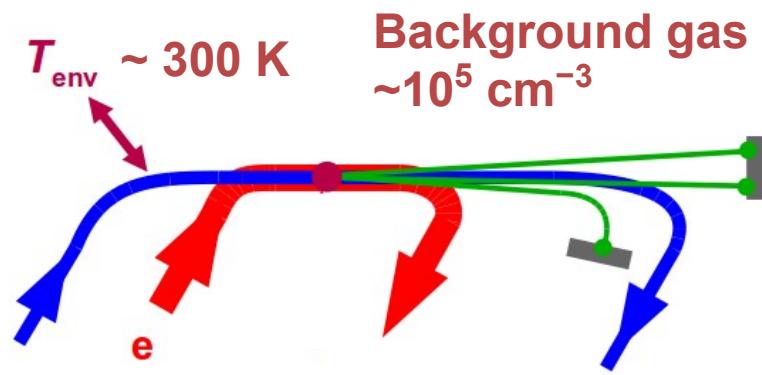
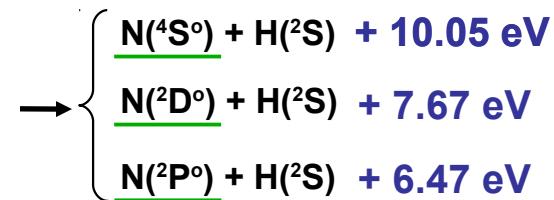
Internal excitation of incident molecular ion

Atomic final states and  
*measurement of dissociation energies*  
(diatomic reactions)

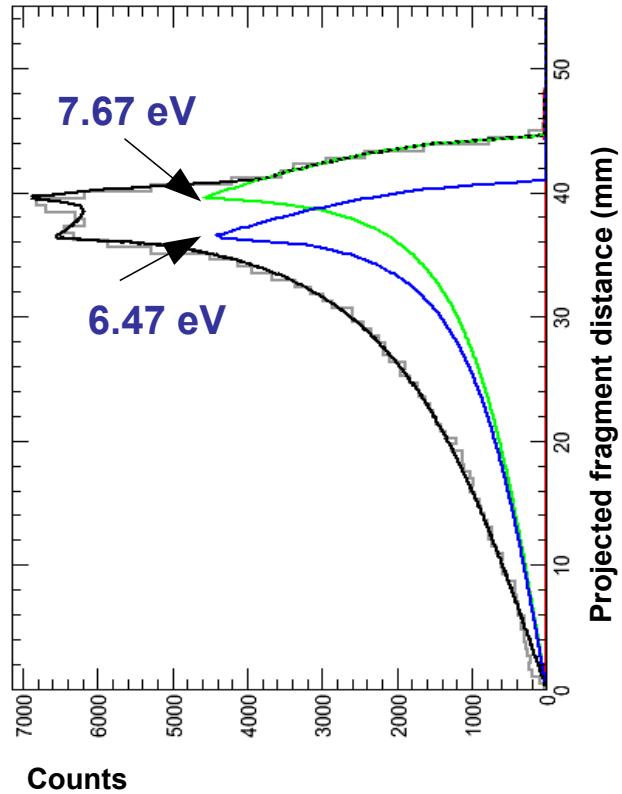
# Fragment imaging and rate coefficient



$$E_{\text{cm}} = 0$$



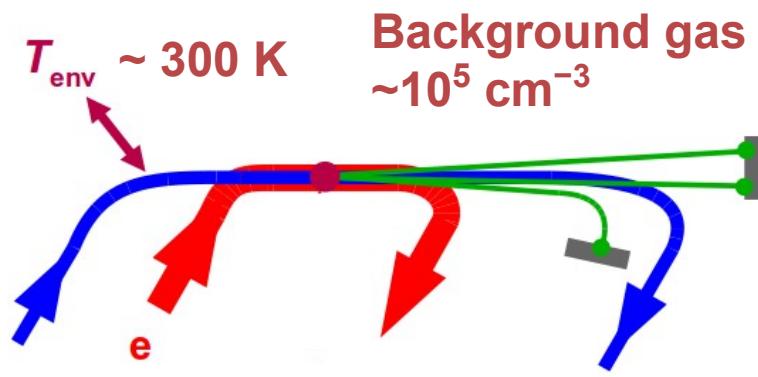
# Fragment imaging and rate coefficient



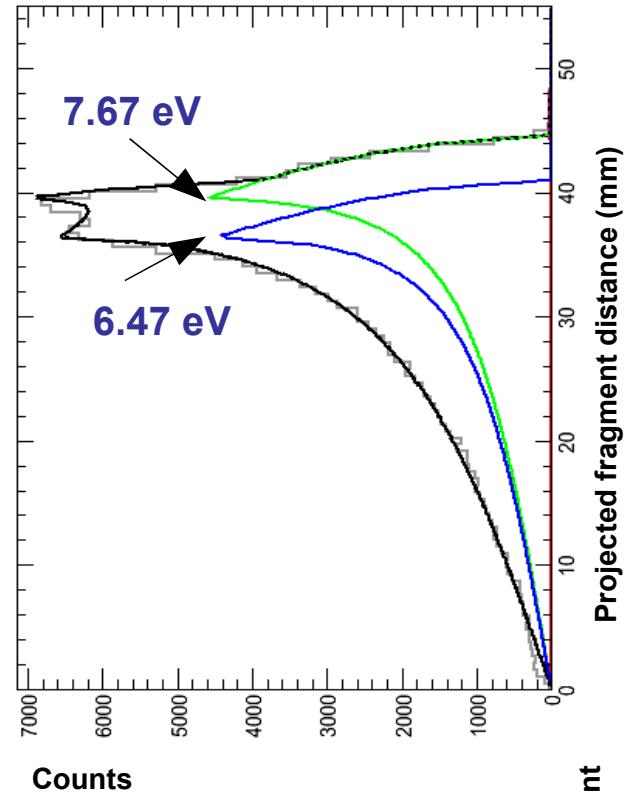
$$E_{\text{cm}} = 0$$



- {
- N(<sup>4</sup>S<sup>o</sup>) + H(<sup>2</sup>S) + 10.05 eV
  - N(<sup>2</sup>D<sup>o</sup>) + H(<sup>2</sup>S) + 7.67 eV
  - N(<sup>2</sup>P<sup>o</sup>) + H(<sup>2</sup>S) + 6.47 eV



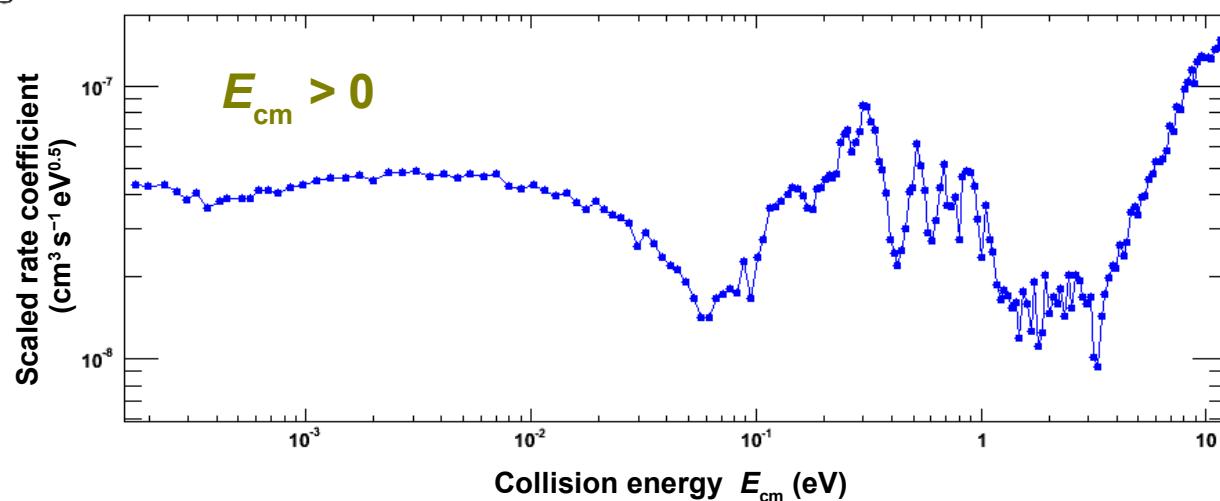
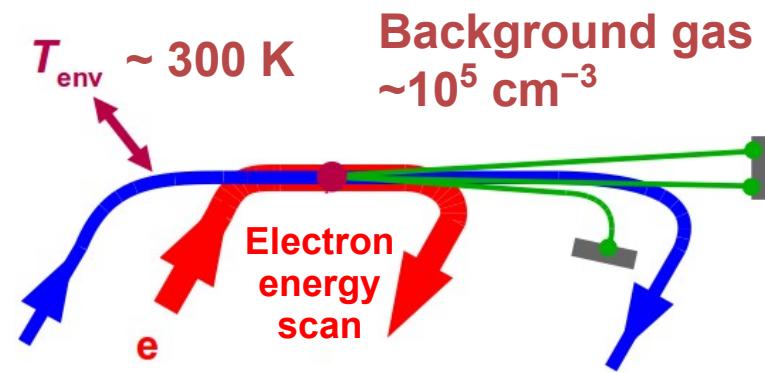
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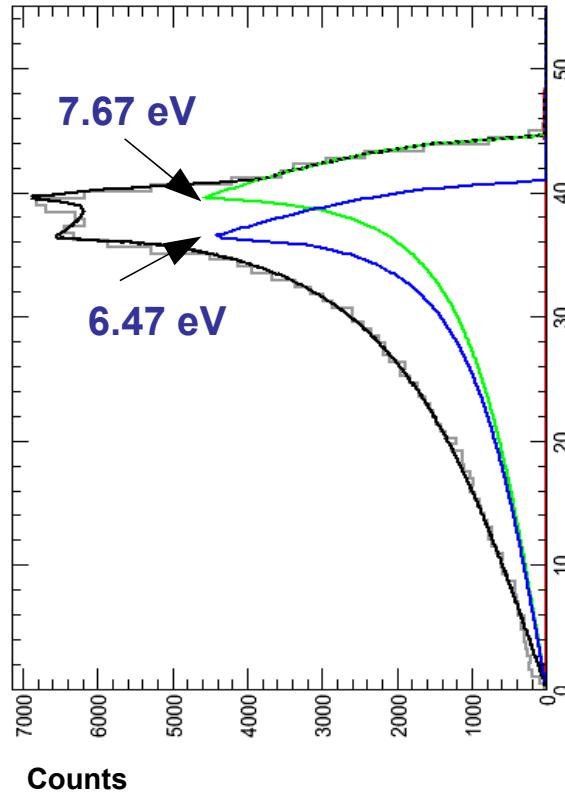
$$E_{\text{cm}} = 0$$



- $\text{N}(\text{^4S}^0) + \text{H}(\text{^2S}) + 10.05 \text{ eV}$
- $\text{N}(\text{^2D}^0) + \text{H}(\text{^2S}) + 7.67 \text{ eV}$
- $\text{N}(\text{^2P}^0) + \text{H}(\text{^2S}) + 6.47 \text{ eV}$



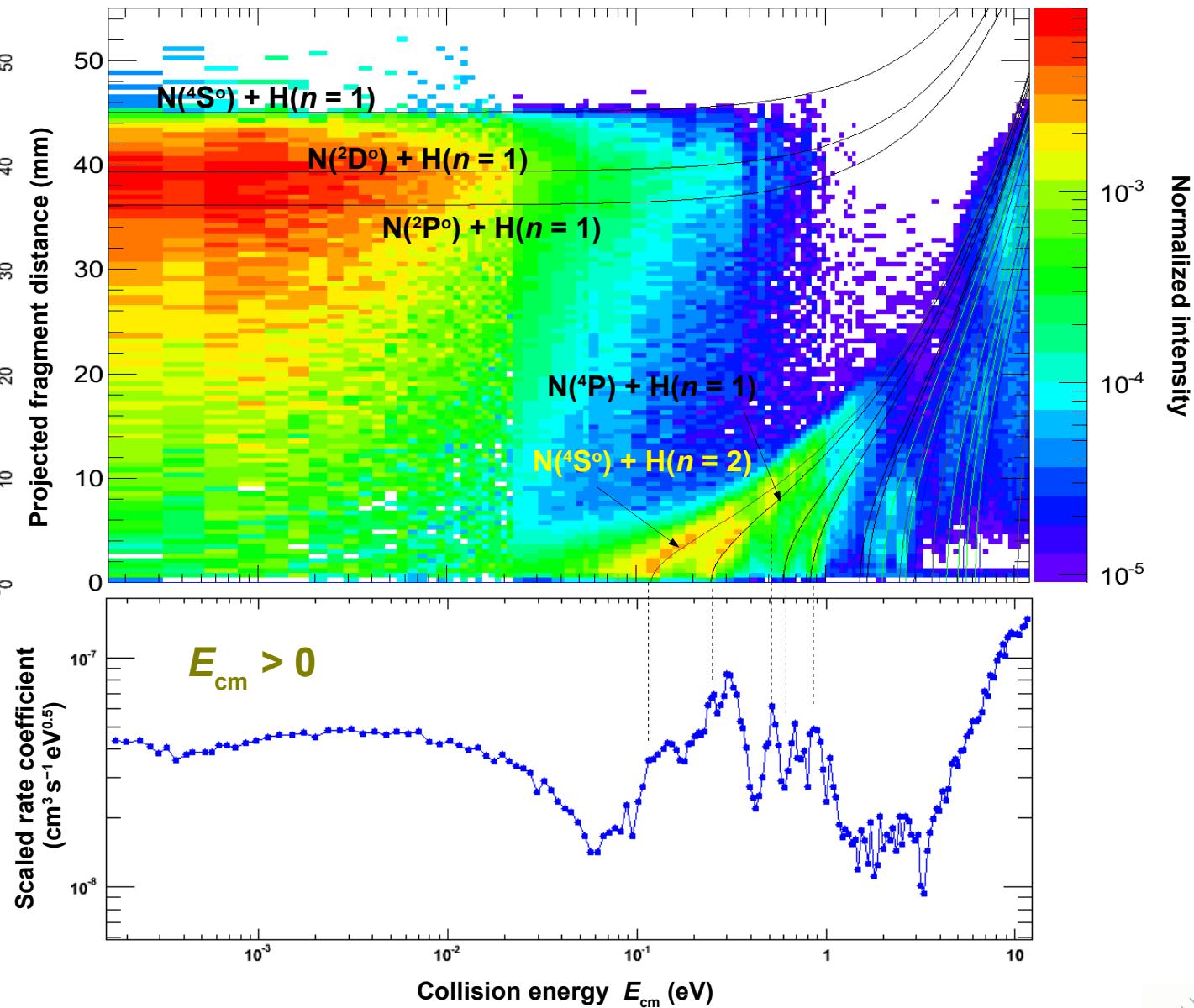
# Fragment imaging and rate coefficient



$\text{NH}^+(\text{X}^2\Pi) + e^- \rightarrow$

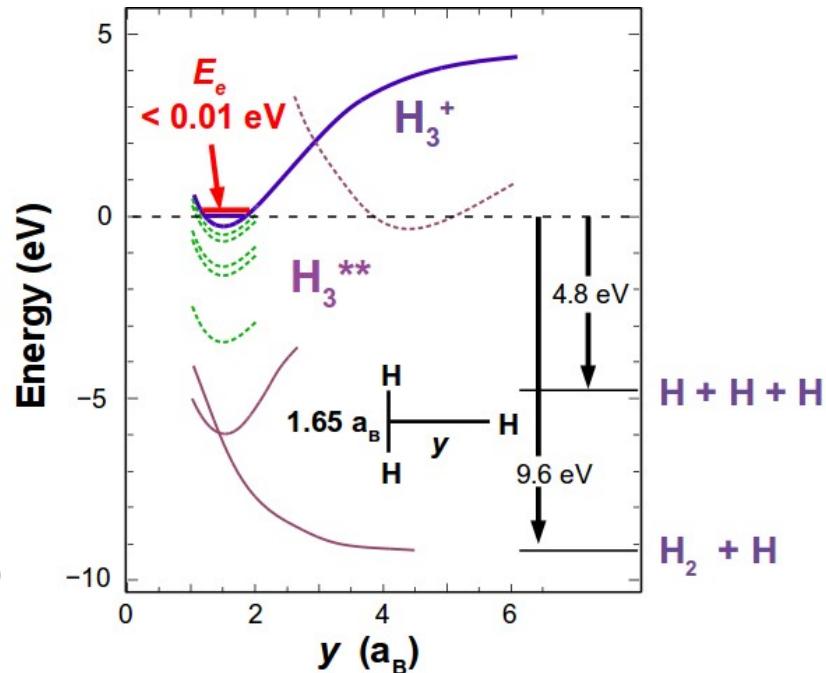
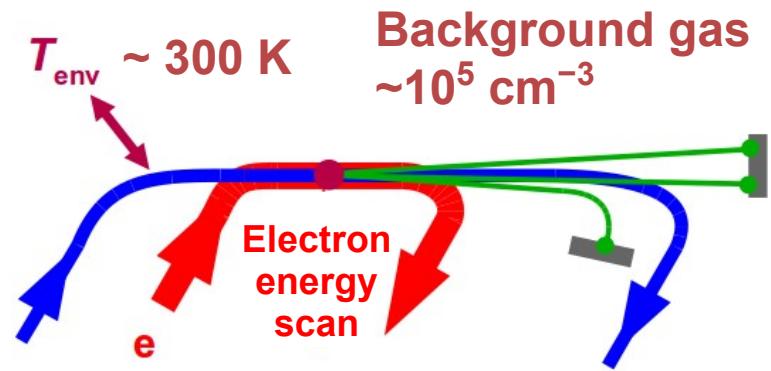
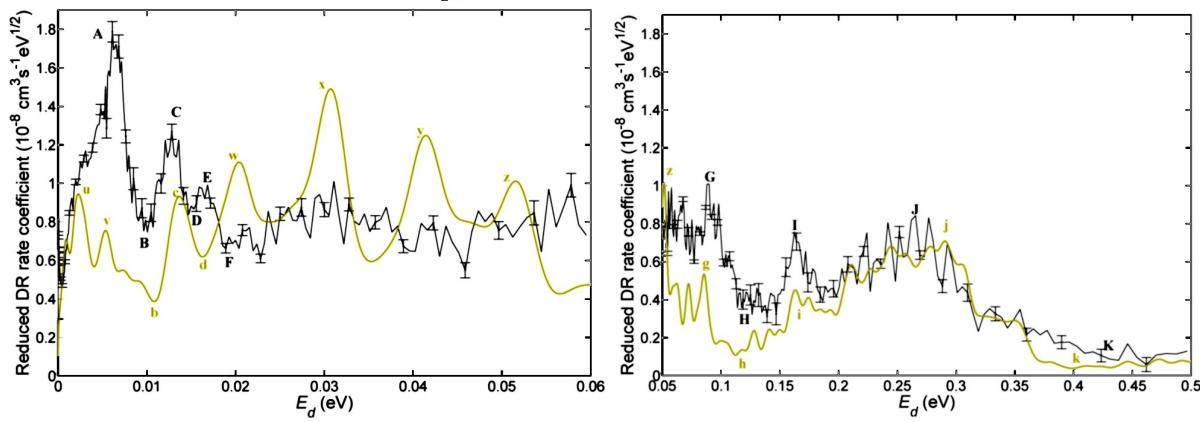
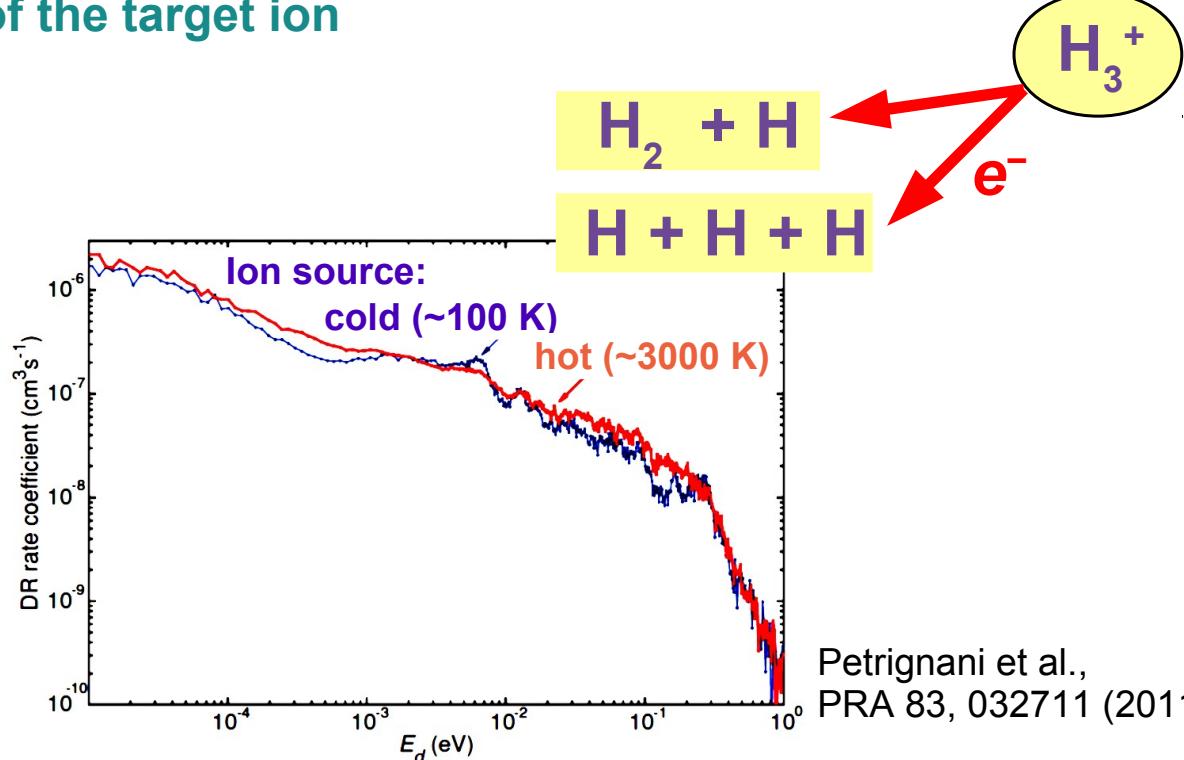
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- $\text{N}(\text{^2D}^\circ) + \text{H}(\text{^2S}) + 7.67 \text{ eV}$
- $\text{N}(\text{^2P}^\circ) + \text{H}(\text{^2S}) + 6.47 \text{ eV}$

**EMU detector:**  
High-count-rate fragment imaging at  $E_{\text{cm}} > 0$   
**Molecular-ion dissociation energies**  
probed on <0.1 eV level (sometimes to <1 meV)



# Probing the Rydberg resonances that drive recombination

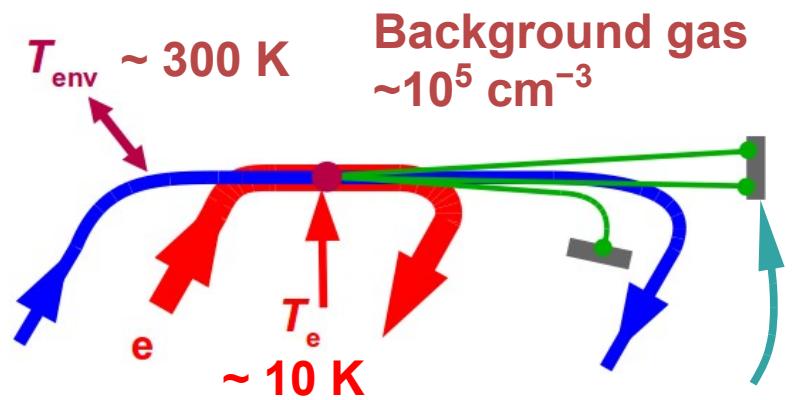
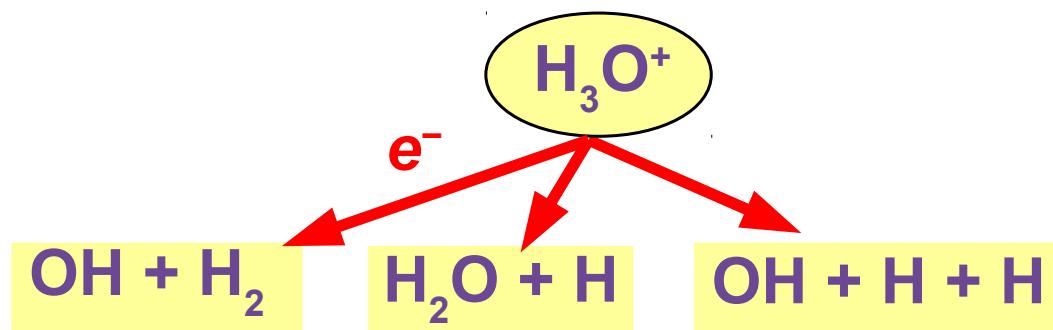
Electron capture by ro-vibrational excitation of the target ion



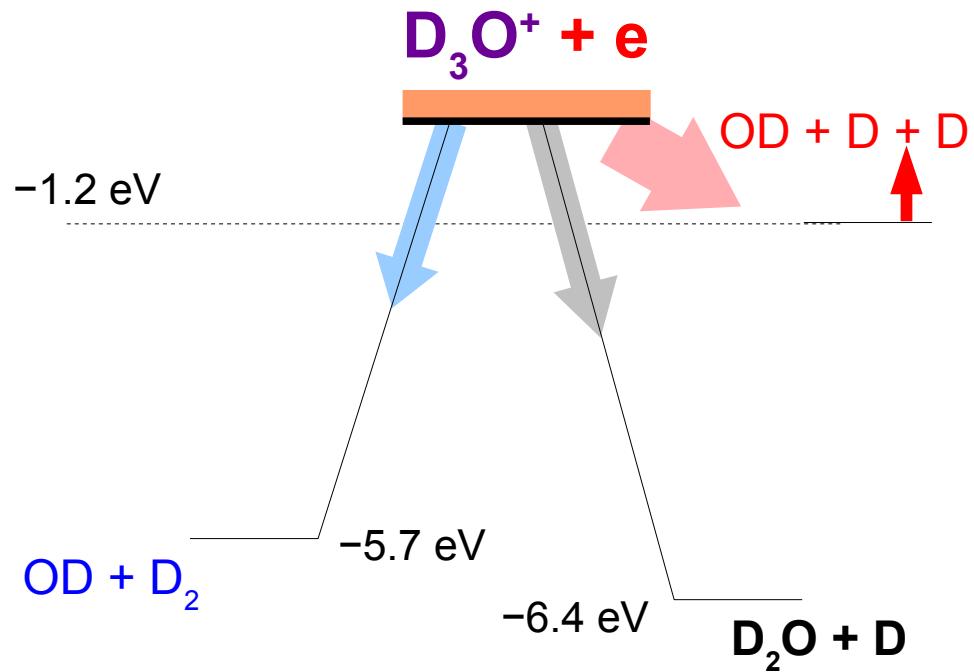
Theory of Rydberg recombination resonances

C. H. Greene, V. Kokouline  
(Boulder / Miami / Paris)

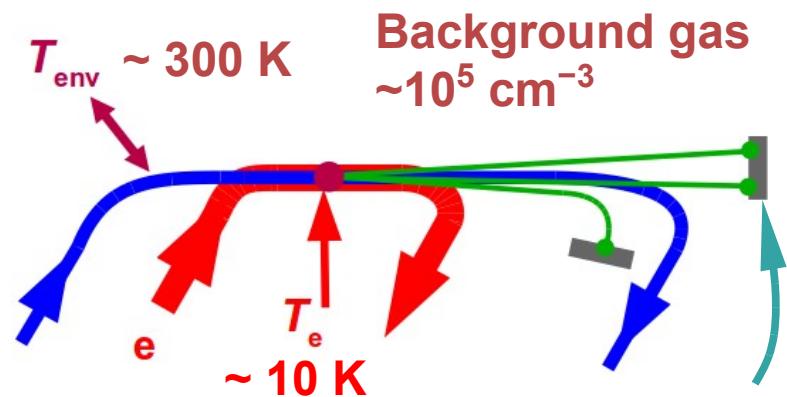
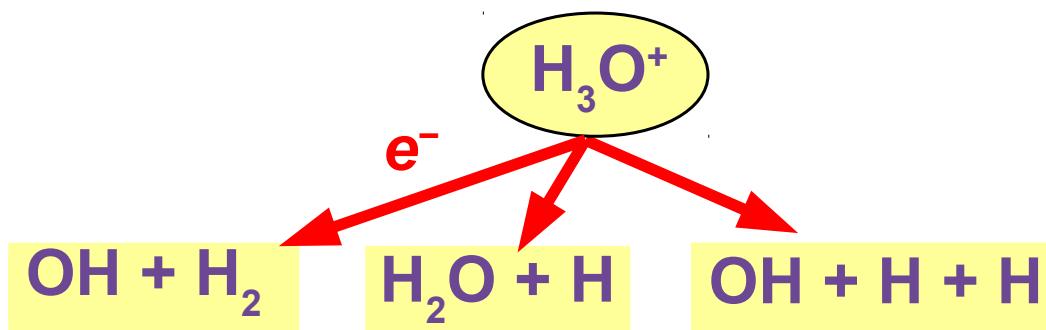
# Probing the fragmentation into molecular products



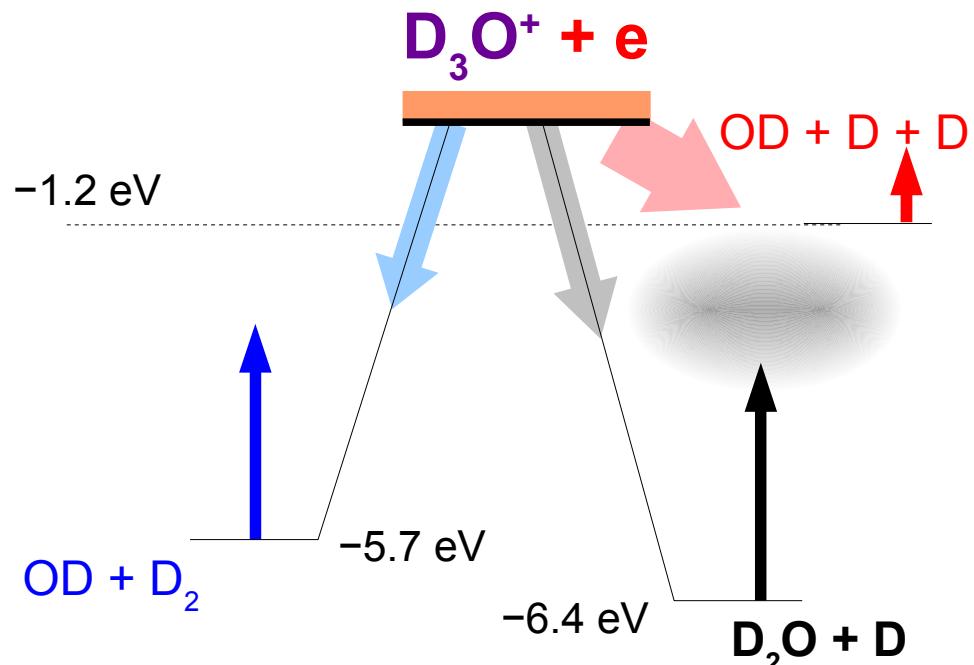
**EMU detector:**  
Fragment mass identification  
and momentum spectroscopy



# Probing the fragmentation into molecular products

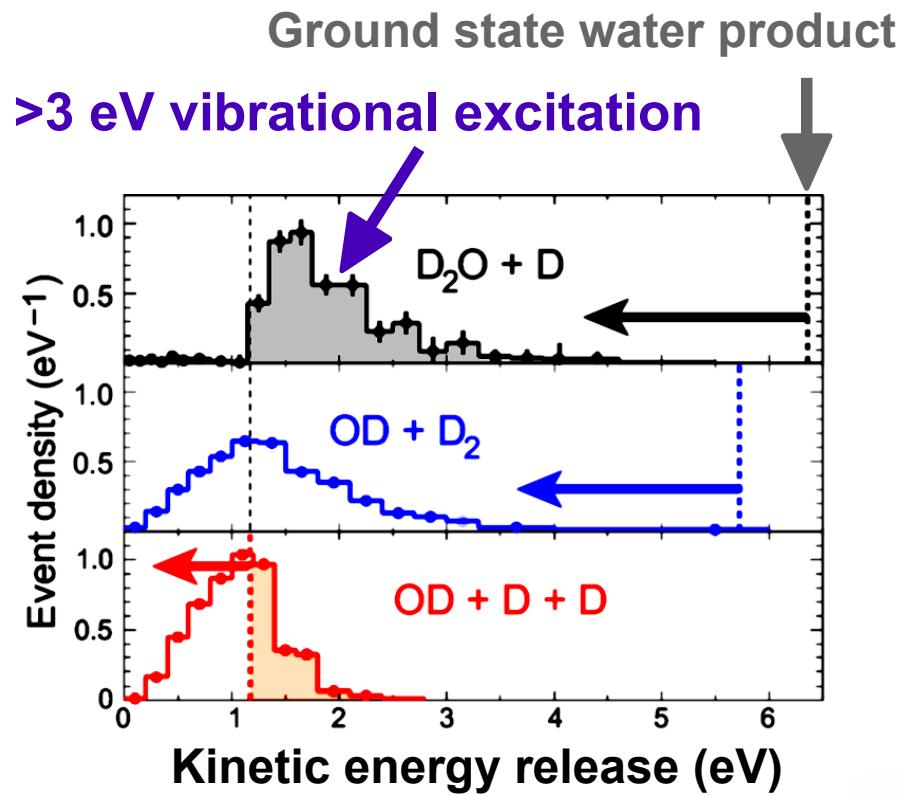


**EMU detector:**  
Fragment mass identification  
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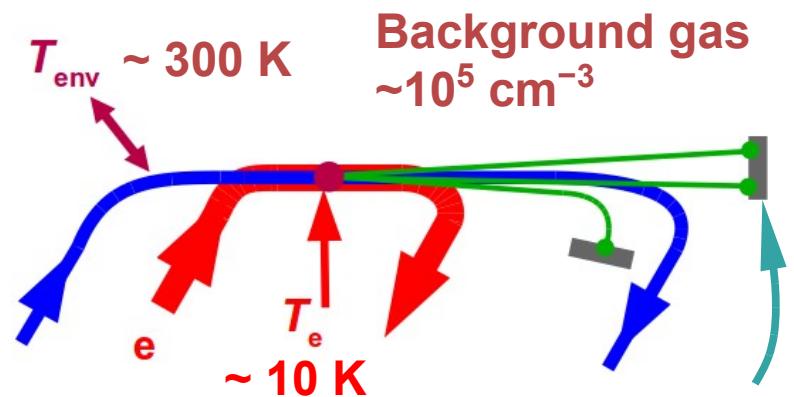
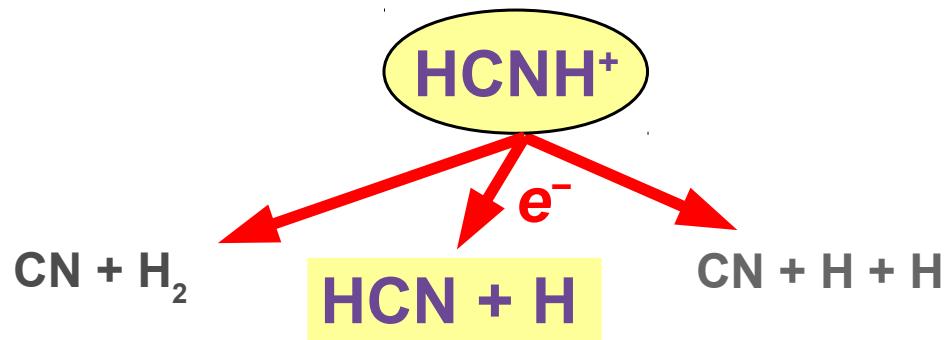


Water formed with extreme inner excitation

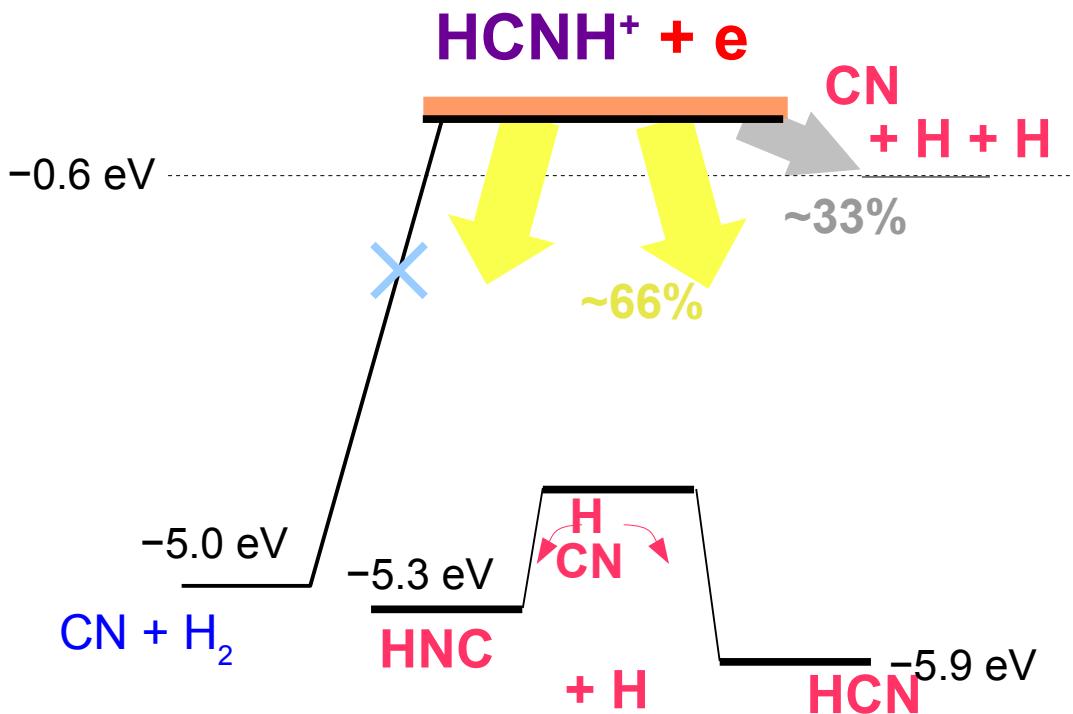
H. Buhr et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 105, 103202 (2010)



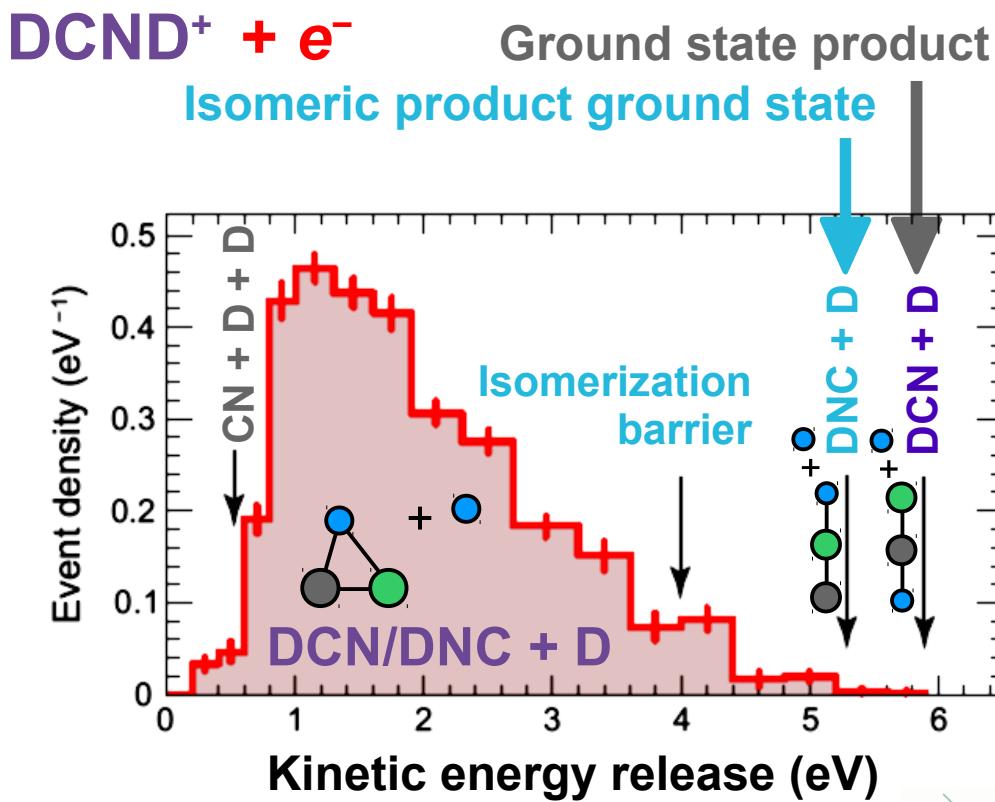
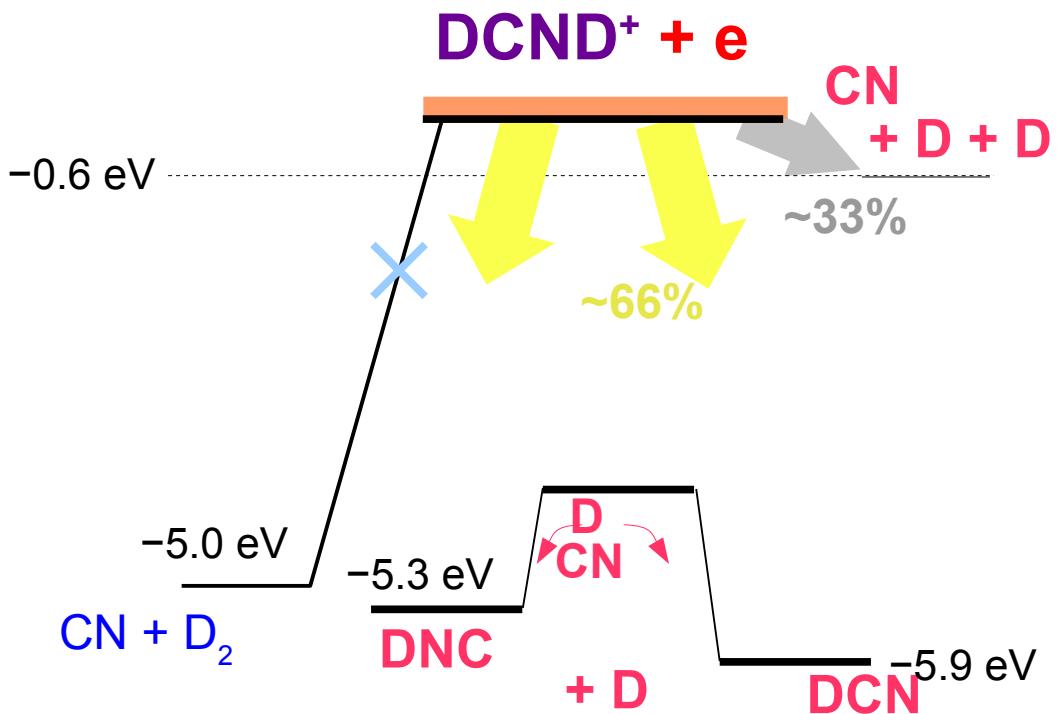
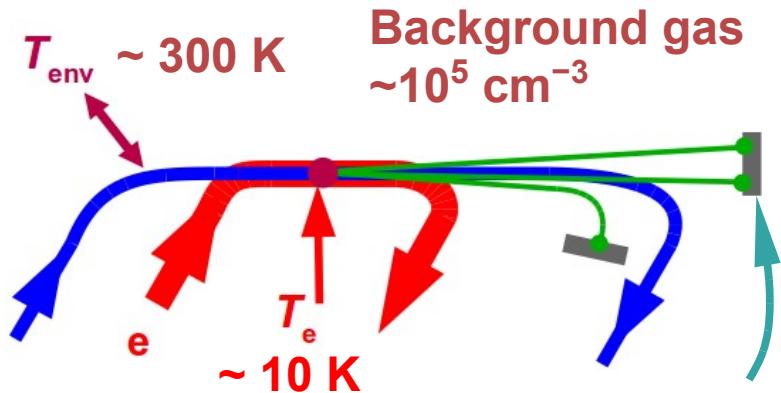
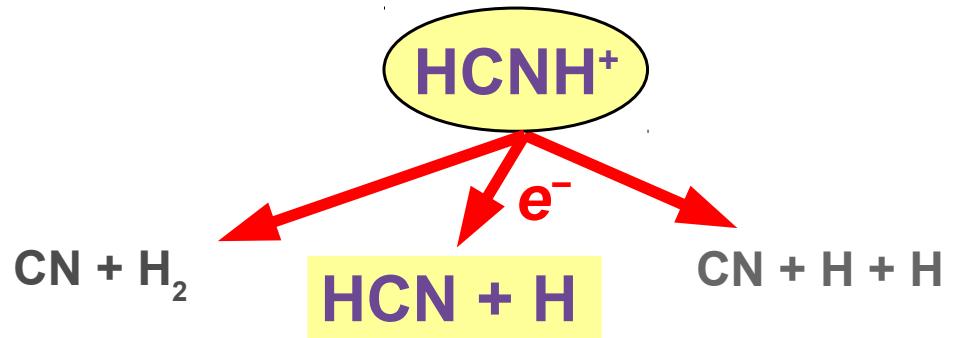
# Production of molecular isomers by dissociative recombination



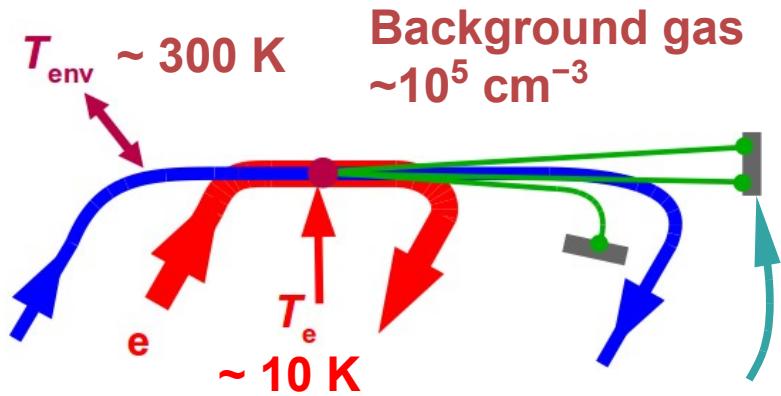
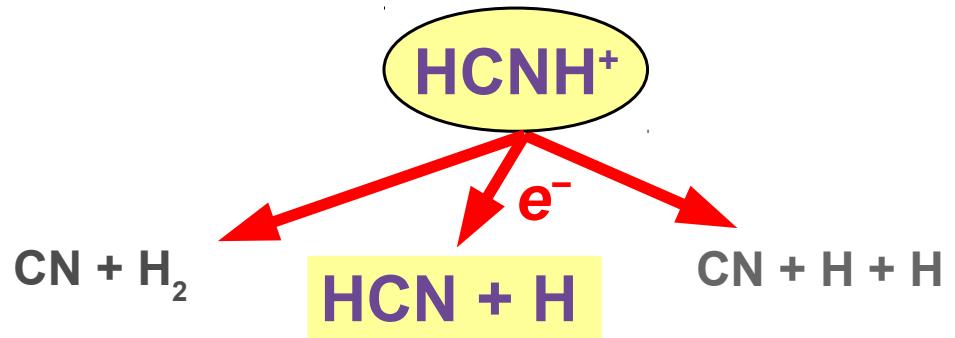
**EMU detector:**  
Fragment mass identification  
and momentum spectroscopy



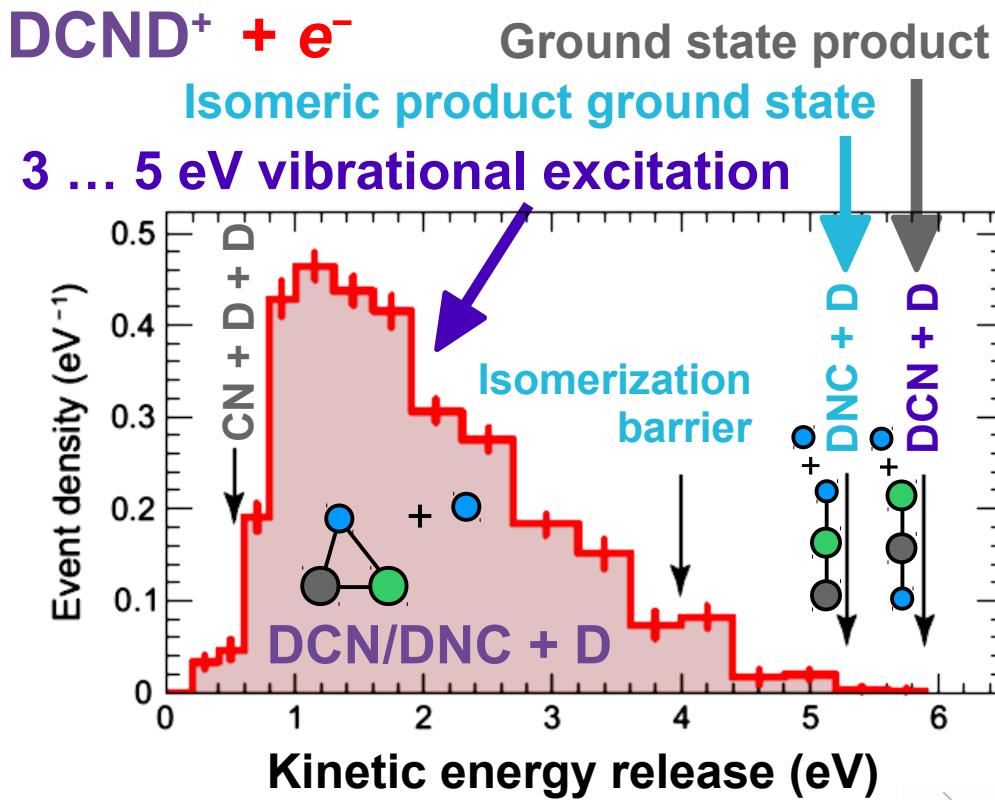
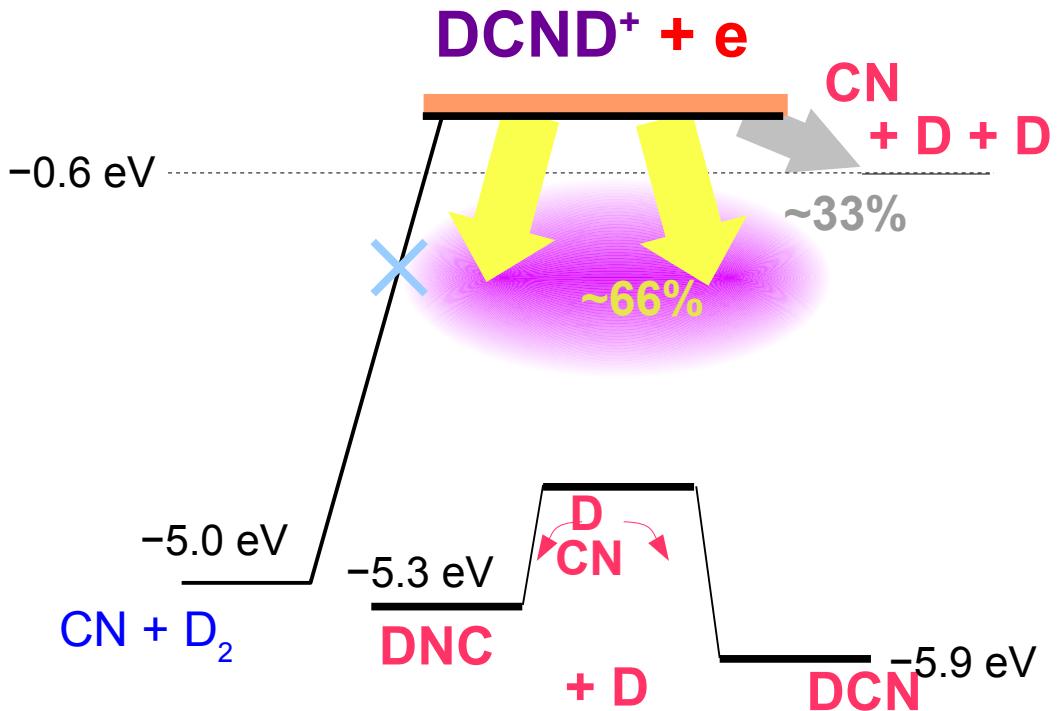
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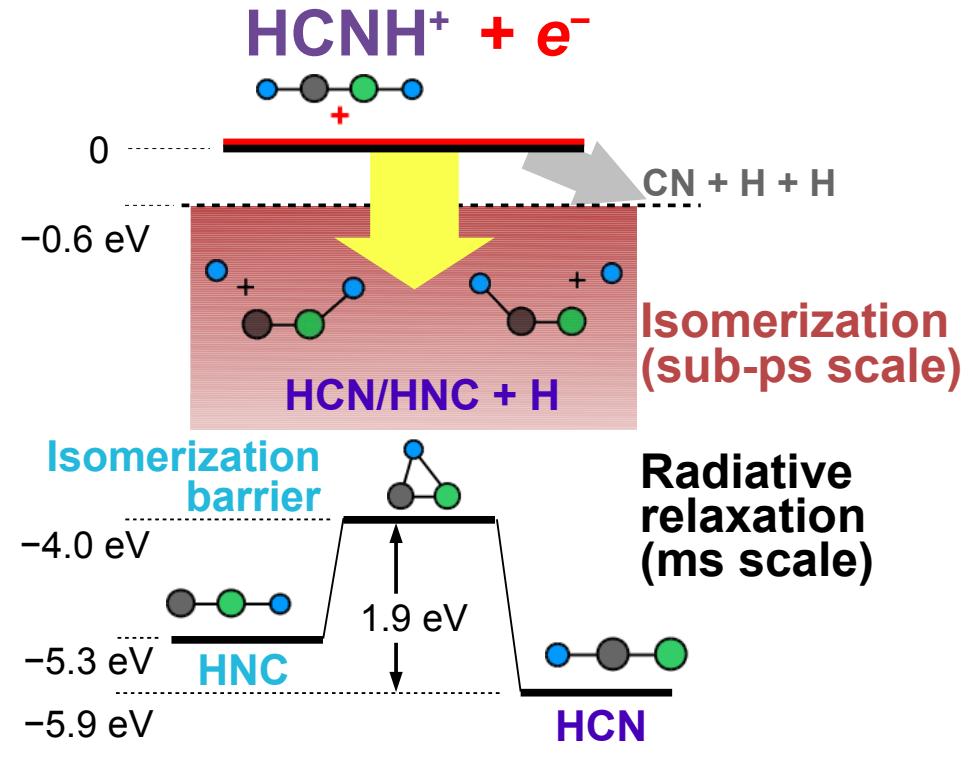
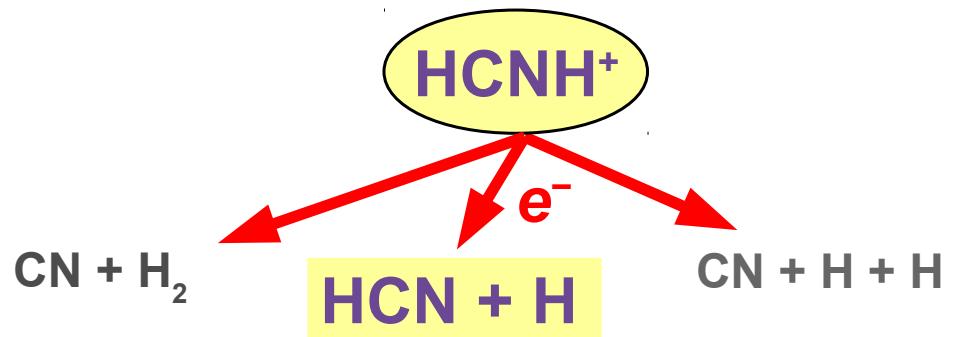
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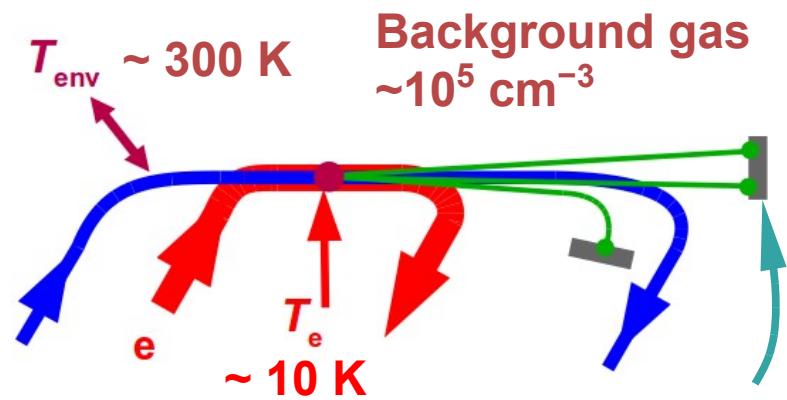
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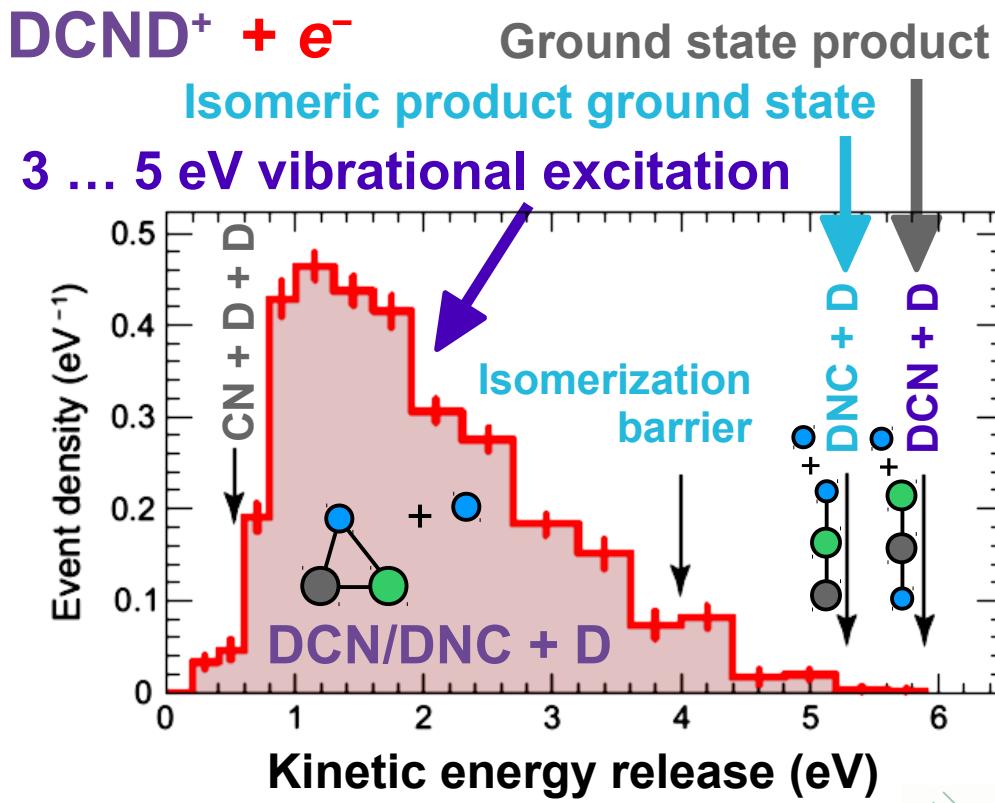
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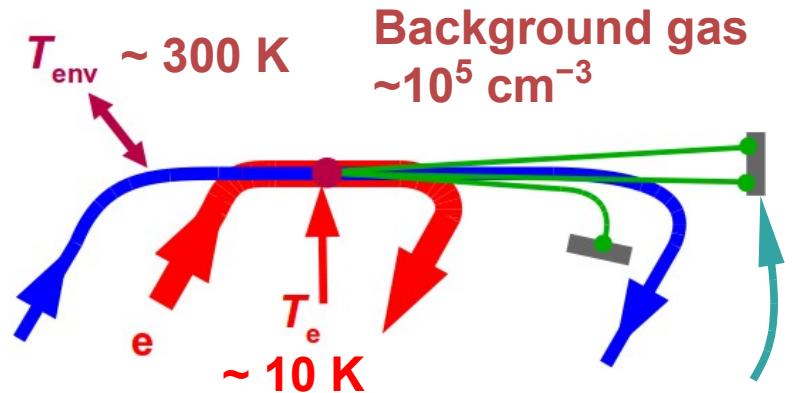
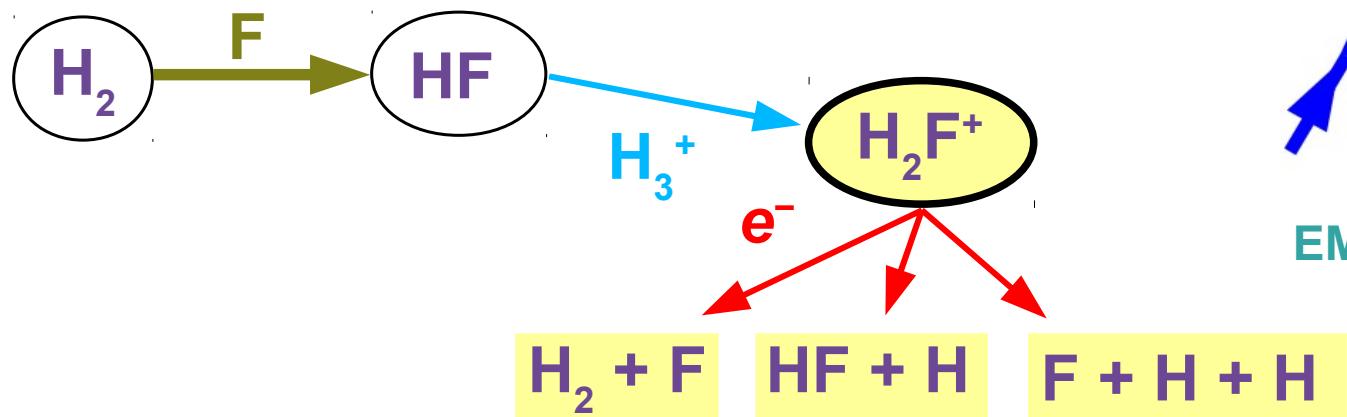
M. Mendes et al., *Astrophys. J. Lett.* 746, L8 (2012)



**EMU detector:**  
Fragment mass identification  
and momentum spectroscopy



# Halogen chemistry: destruction of HF



**EMU detector:**  
**Fragment mass identification**  
**and momentum spectroscopy**

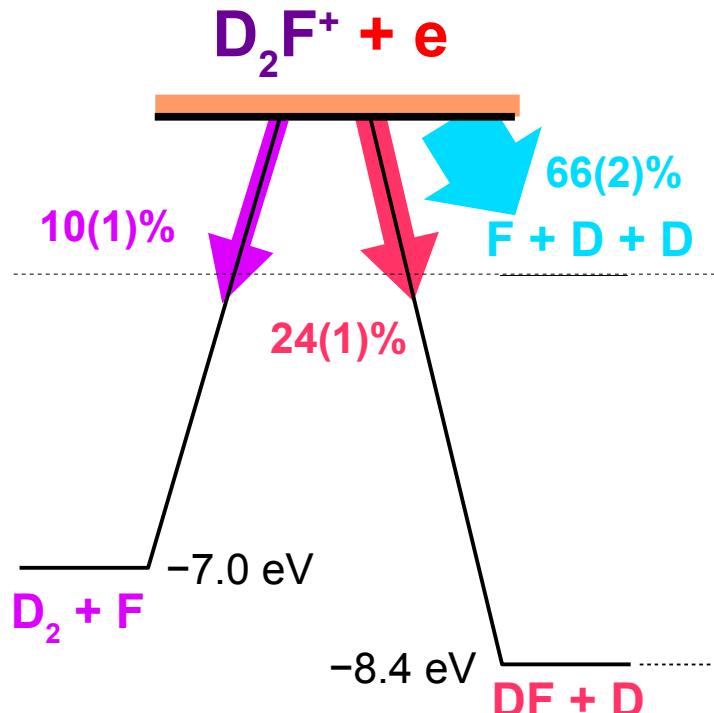
**Strong three-body (fully atomic) fragment channel**

O. Novotný

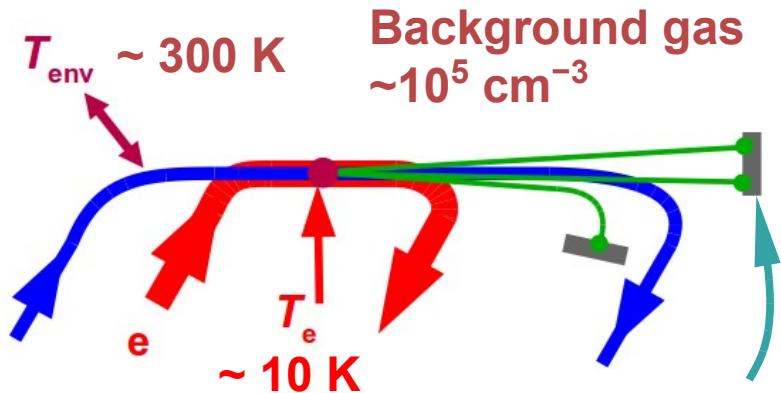
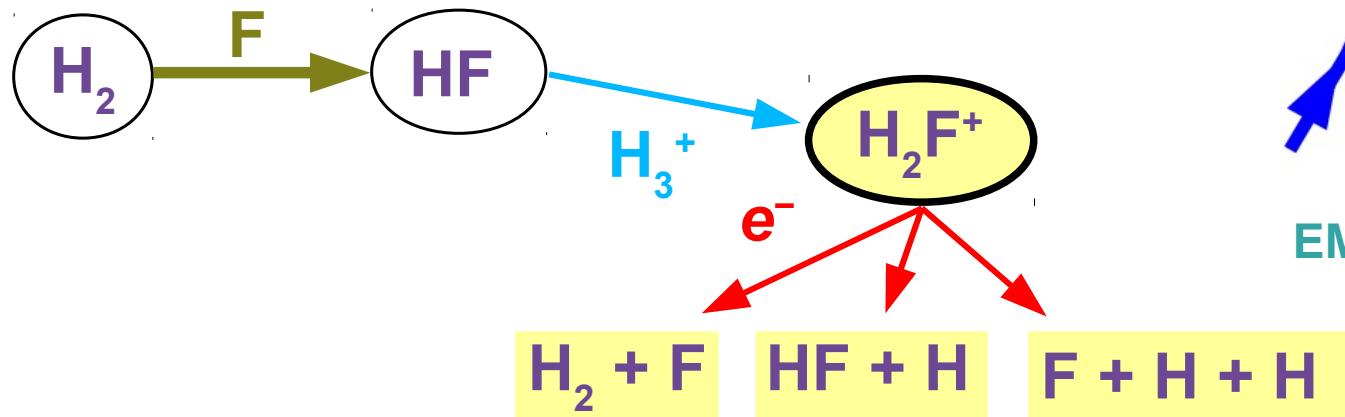
Columbia/  
Heidelberg  
collaboration

2010/11

(also with  
W. Geppert  
M. Hamberg,  
Stockholm Univ.)



# Halogen chemistry: destruction of HF



Fragment mass identification  
and momentum spectroscopy

Strong three-body (fully atomic) fragment channel

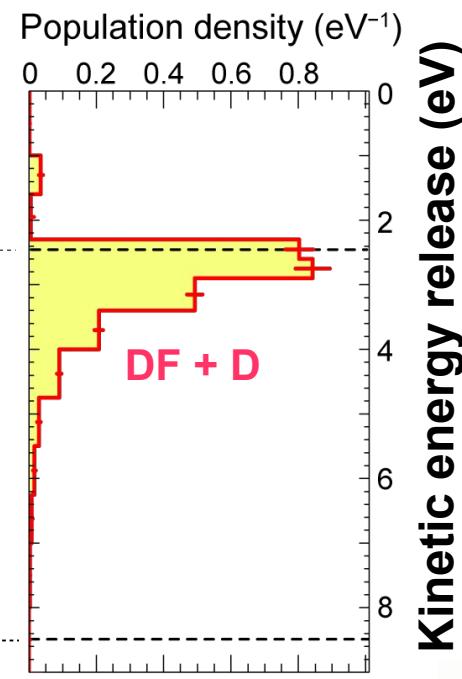
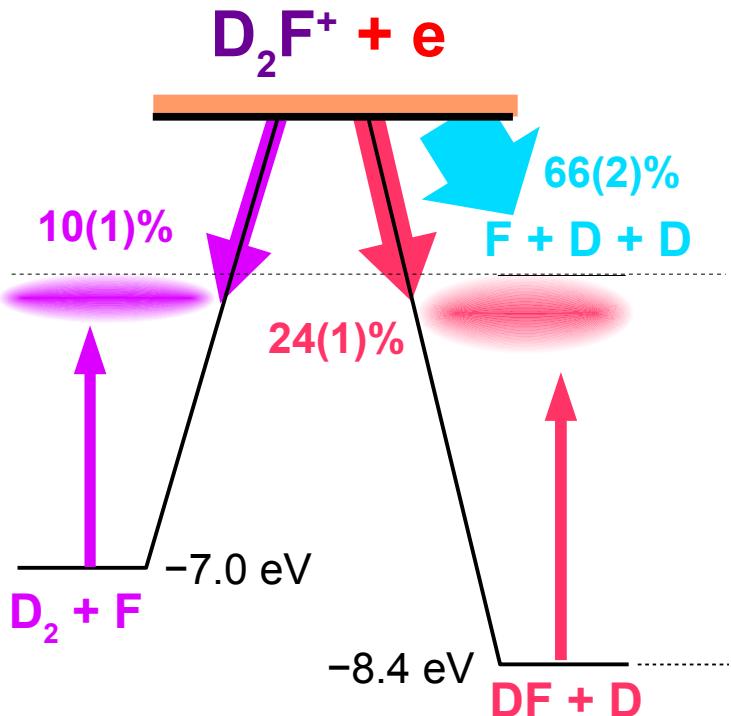
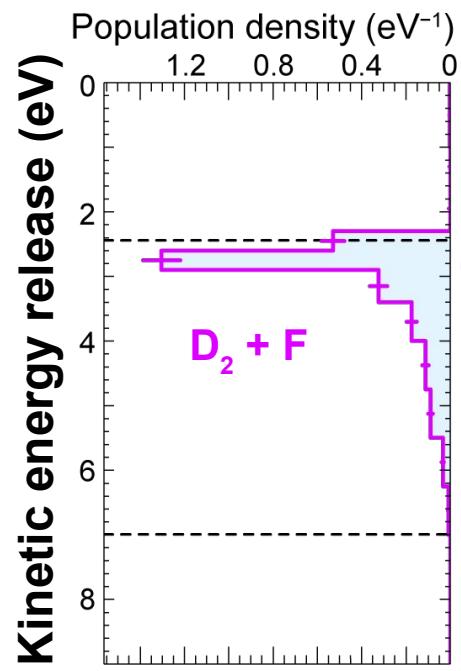
Extreme vibrational excitation in all molecular product channels

O. Novotný

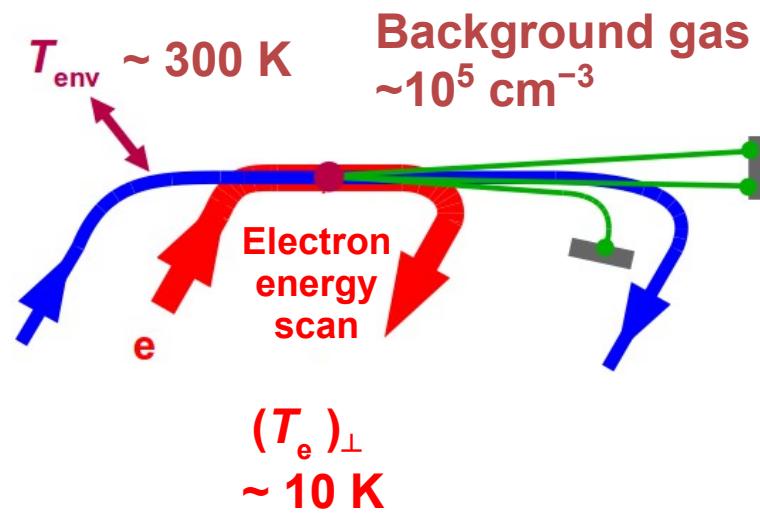
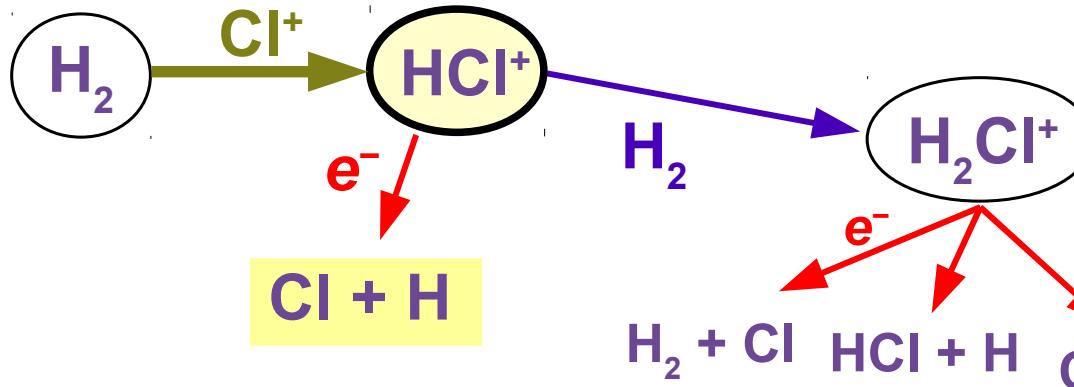
Columbia/  
Heidelberg  
collaboration

2010/11

(also with  
W. Geppert  
M. Hamberg,  
Stockholm Univ.)



# Halogen chemistry: HCl<sup>+</sup> DR rate

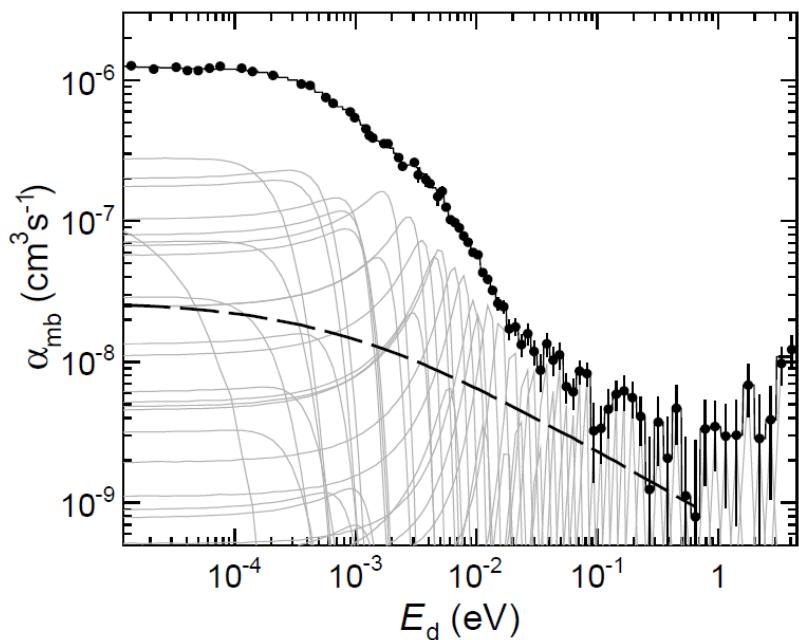


Fitting-deconvolution method for low-energy DR cross section

O. Novotný

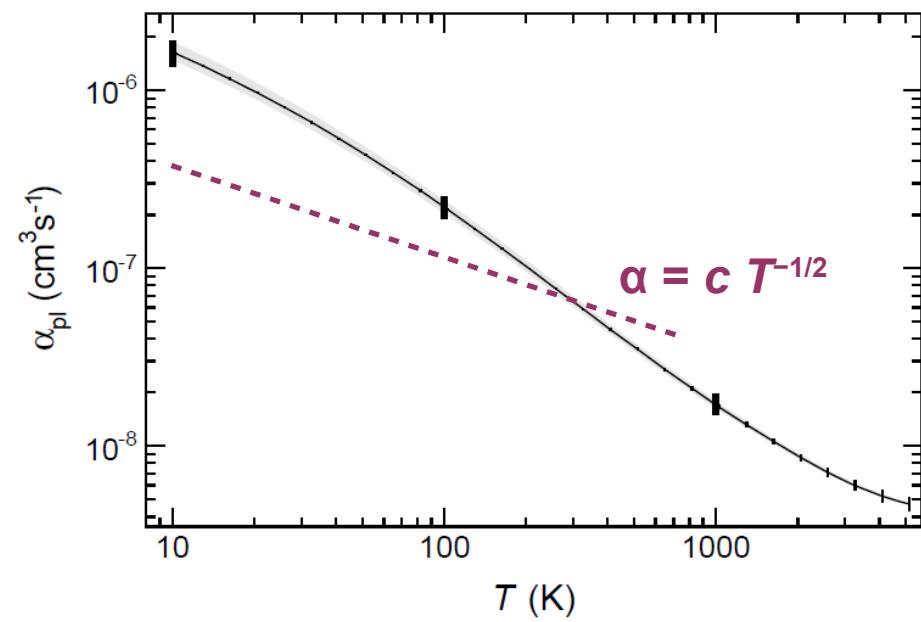
Columbia/  
Heidelberg  
collaboration

2010/11



O. Novotný et al., to be published

Plasma rate coefficient

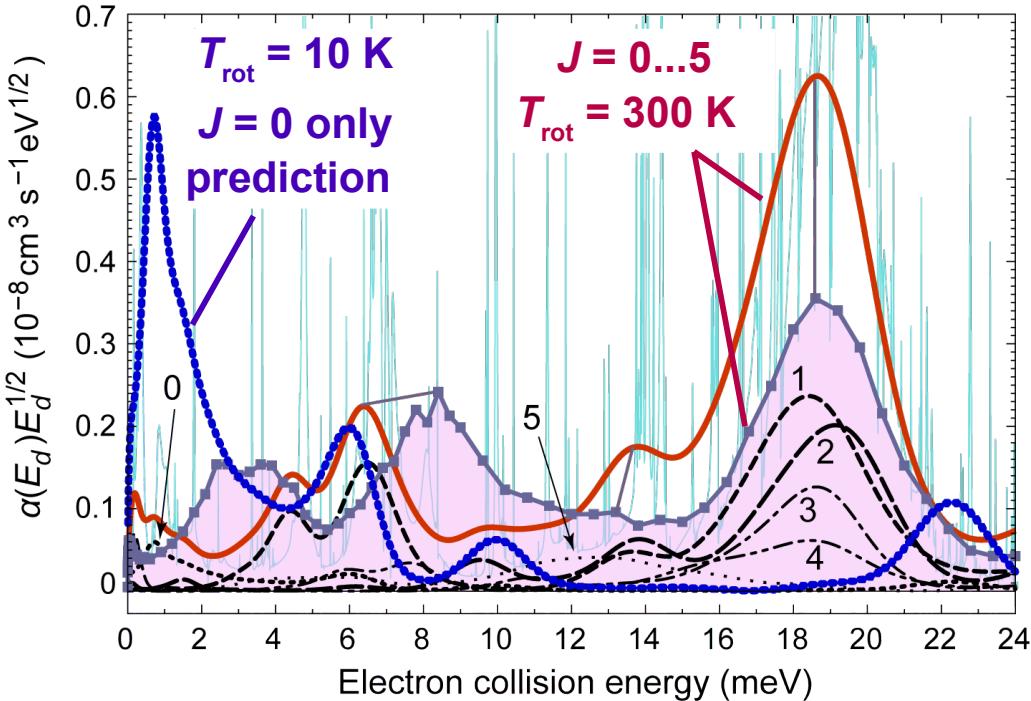


# Toward cryogenic ion beam experiments

TSR result for recombination cross section



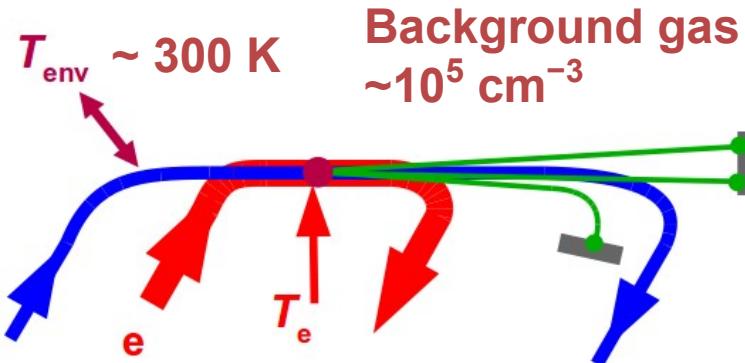
Waffeu-Tamo et al.,  
Phys. Rev. A 84, 022710 (2011)



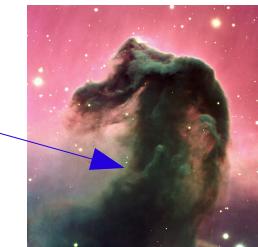
Rovibrational capture resonances



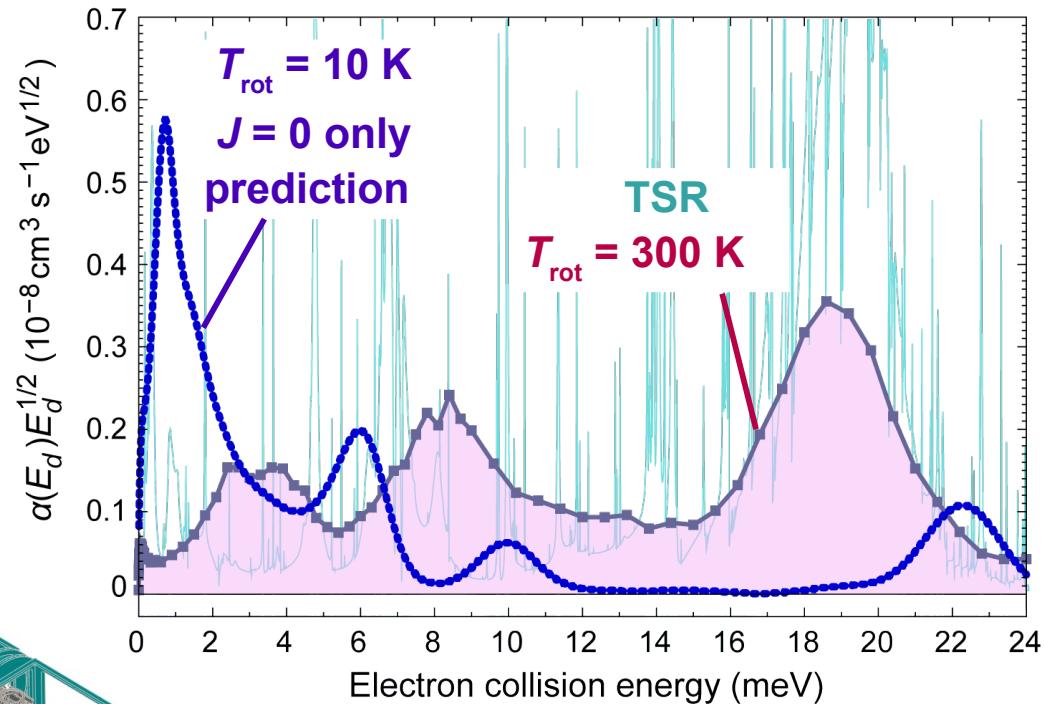
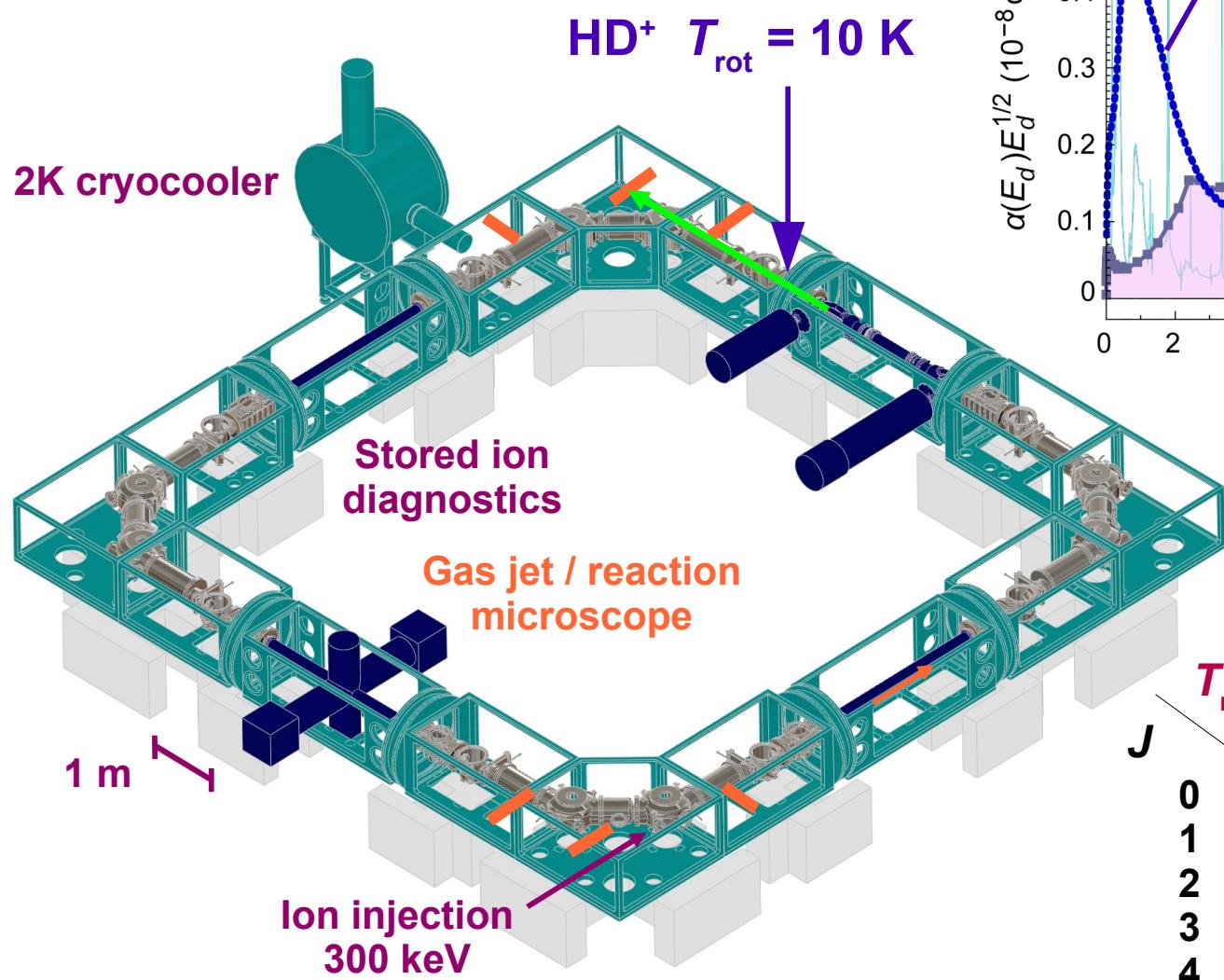
Measured recombination cross section dominated by  $J \geq 1$



$J$	$T_{\text{rot}} = 300 \text{ K}$	$T_{\text{rot}} = 10 \text{ K}$
0	0.104	0.995
1	0.251	0.005
2	0.271	0.0
3	0.199	0.0
4	0.108	0.0



# Toward cryogenic ion beam experiments



Rydberg capture resonances  
at low rotation

$J$	$T_{\text{rot}}$	300 K	10 K
0		0.104	0.995
1		0.251	0.005
2		0.271	0.0
3		0.199	0.0
4		0.108	0.0



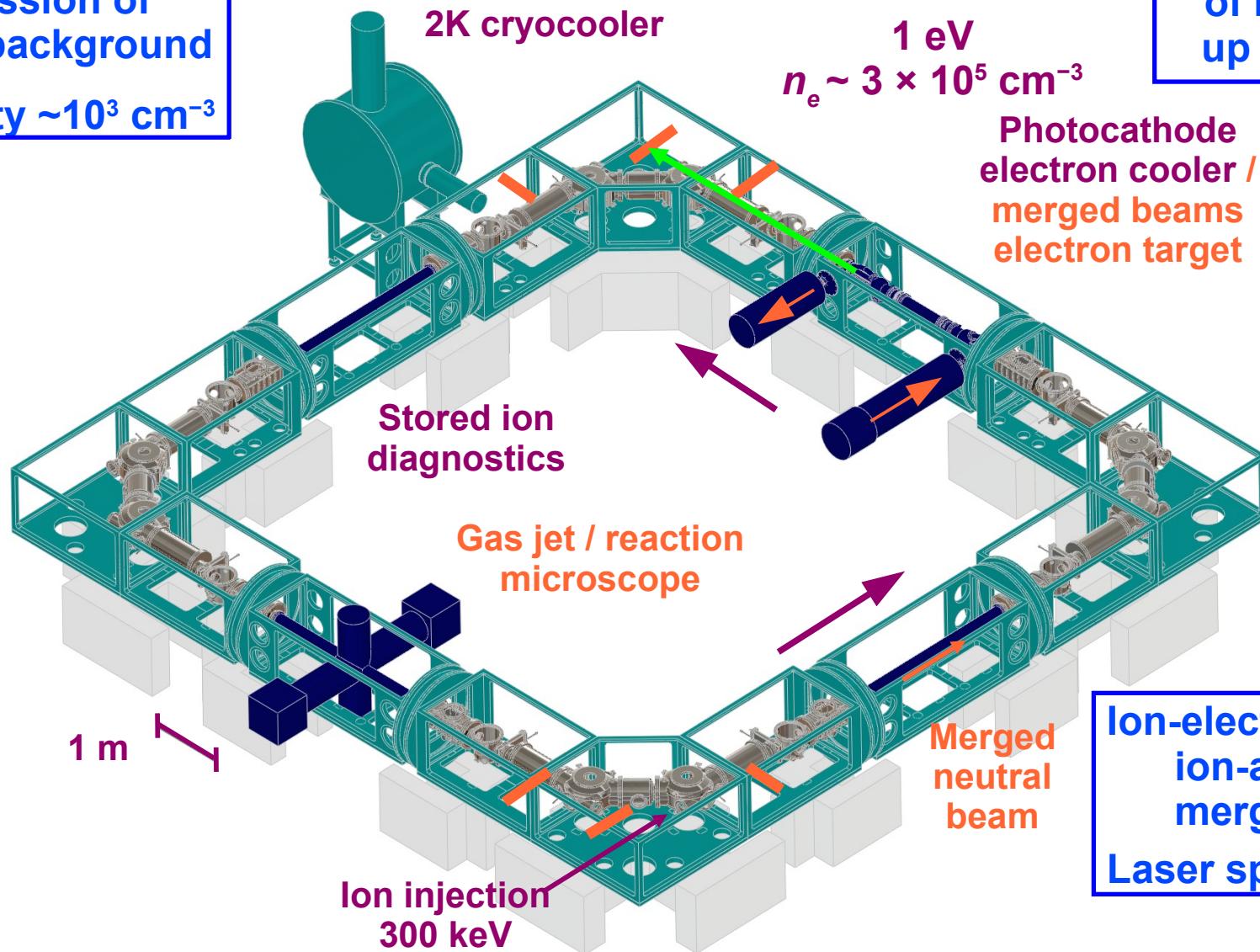
# Cryogenic electrostatic storage ring CSR

A 300 keV ion storage ring with electrostatic beam optics  
for molecular ions and clusters (cations, anions),  
heavy atomic beams, highly charged ions

2 K cryopumping and  
suppression of  
radiation background

Gas density  $\sim 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

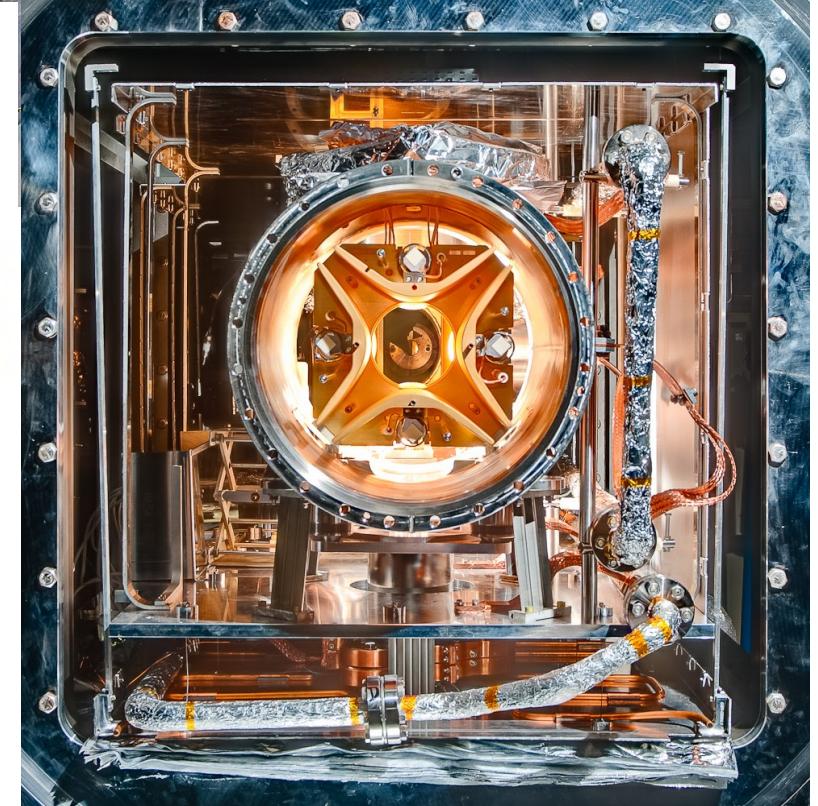
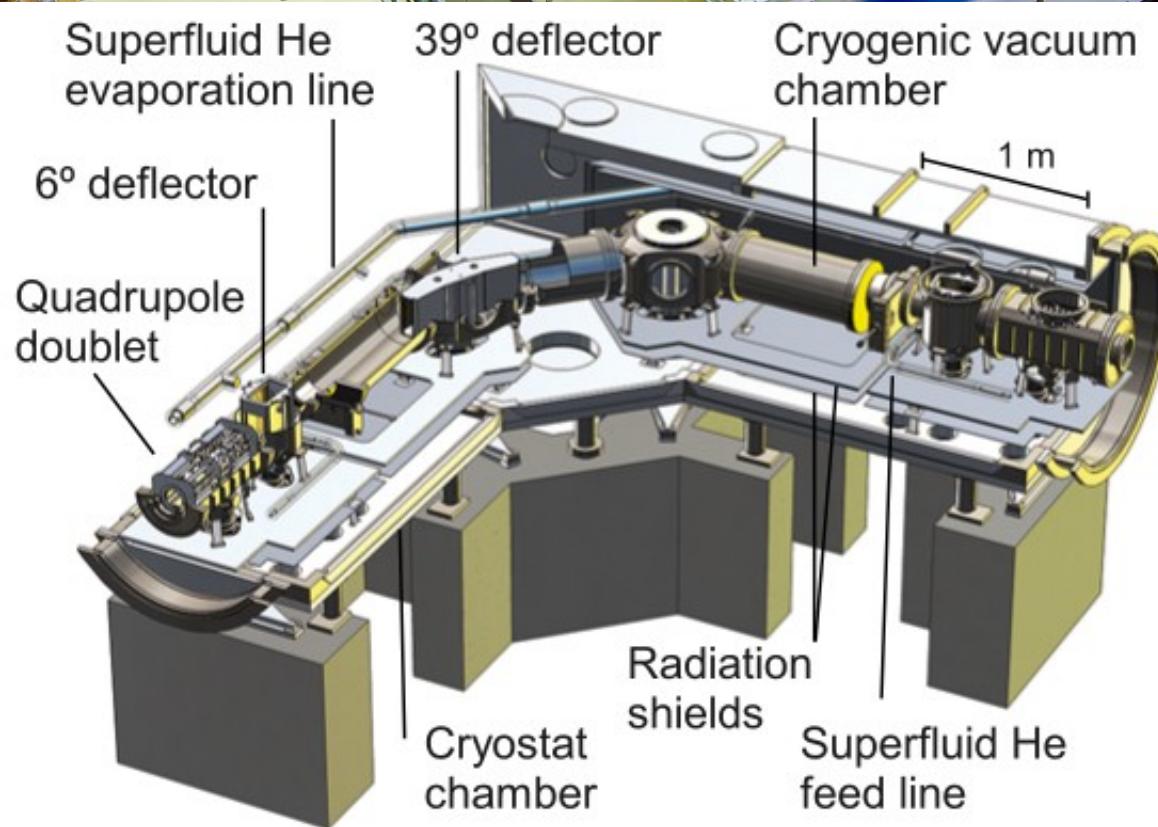
Electron cooling  
of molecules  
up to  $A \sim 160$



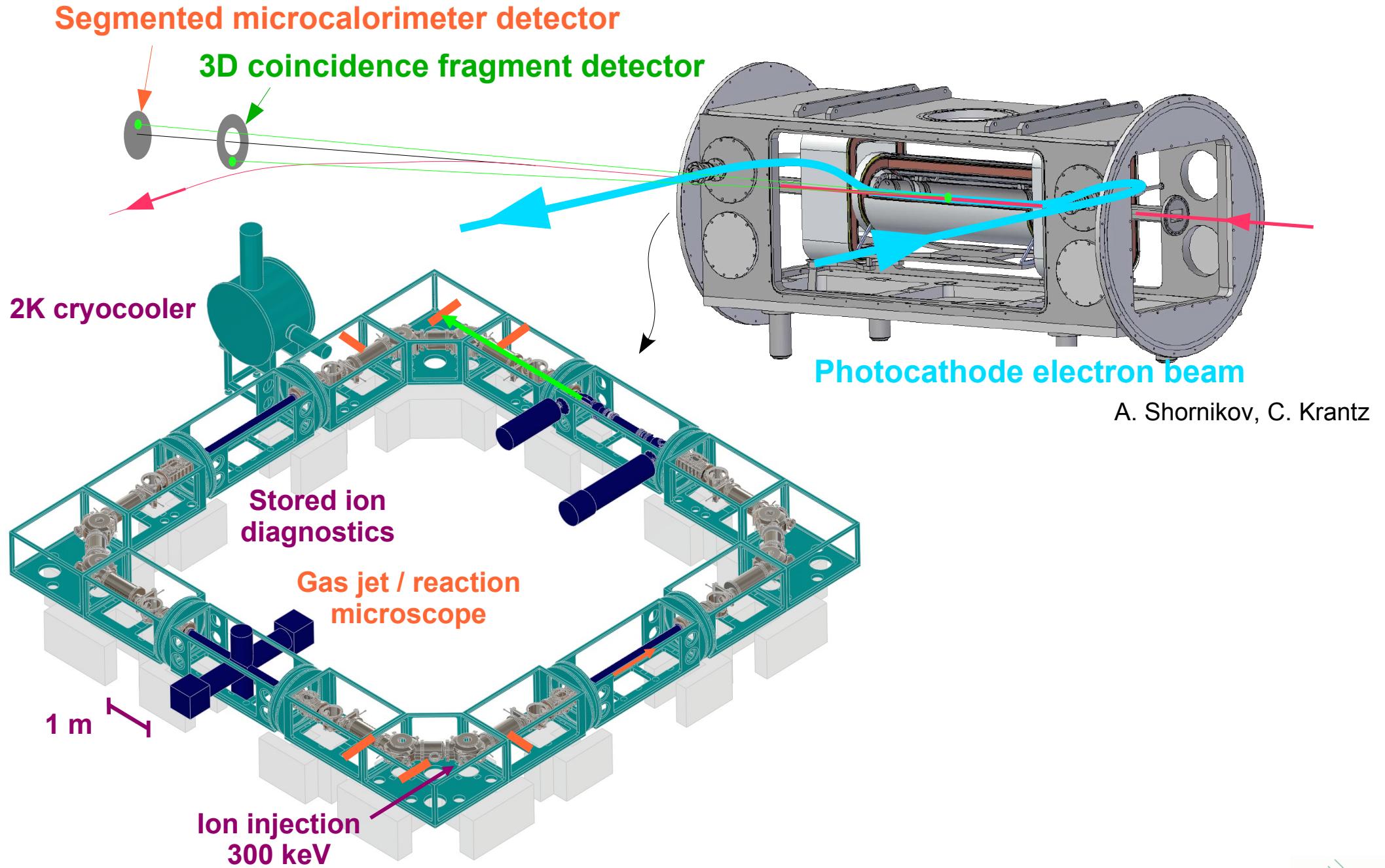
D. A. Orlov,  
C. Krantz,  
A. Shornikov  
et al.

Ion-electron and  
ion-atom  
merged beams  
Laser spectroscopy

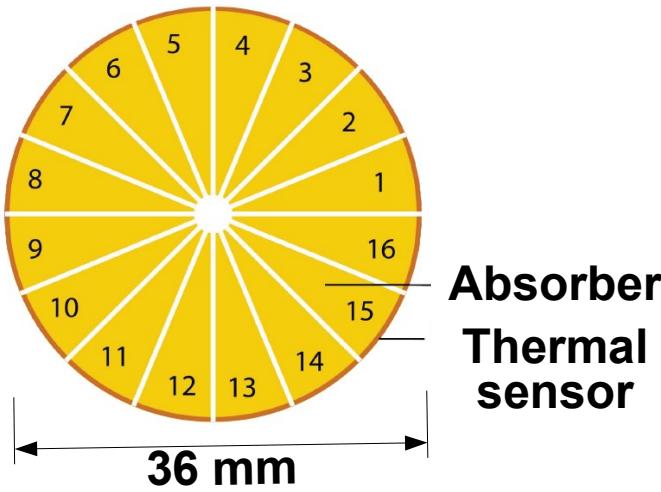
# Cryogenic storage ring CSR



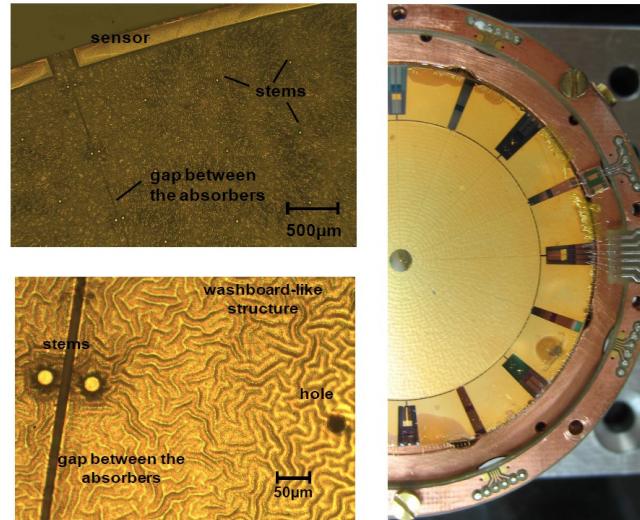
# Cryogenic merged electron–ion beams



# Fragment imaging microcalorimeter



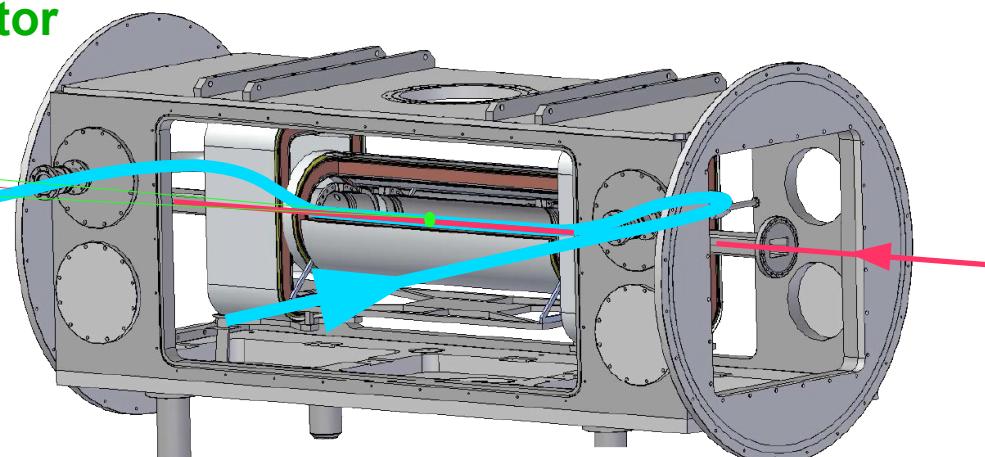
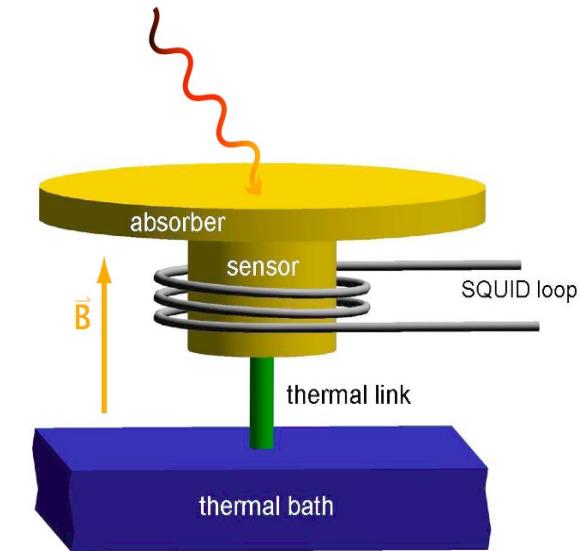
A. Fleischmann, C. Enss et al.



Segmented microcalorimeter detector



In development at  
Kirchhoff Institute of Physics  
University of Heidelberg

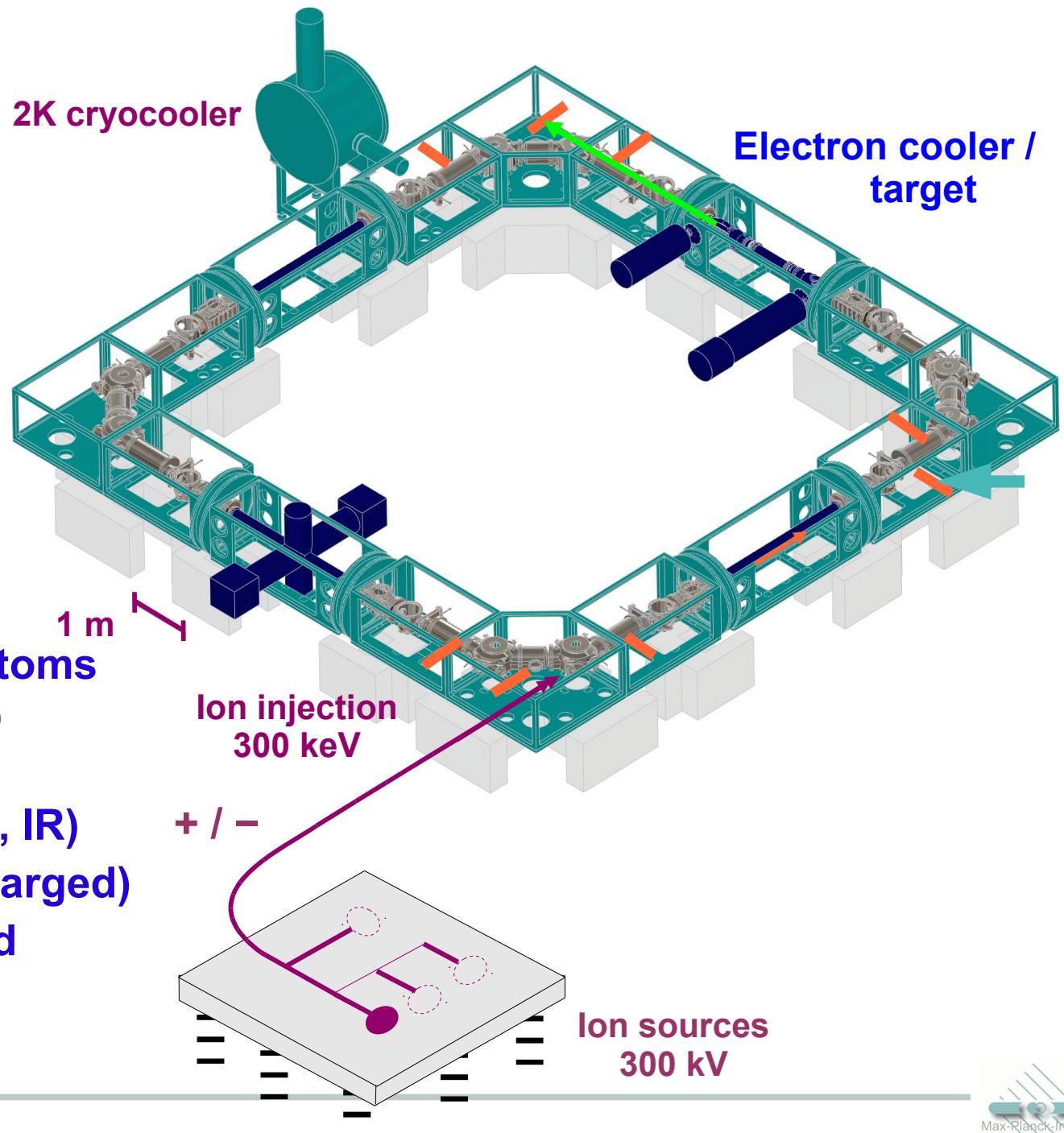


Photocathode electron beam

A. Shornikov, C. Krantz

# Cryogenic ion beam experiments at CSR

- Stored ion beams at 10 K internal temperature
- Organic molecules, heavy atoms (300 keV for all masses)
- Rotationally resolved ion spectroscopy (laser, IR)
- Negative ions (also multi-charged)
- Cluster systems, H<sub>2</sub>O-loaded



# Cryogenic ion beam experiments at CSR

Holger Kreckel group @ MPIK

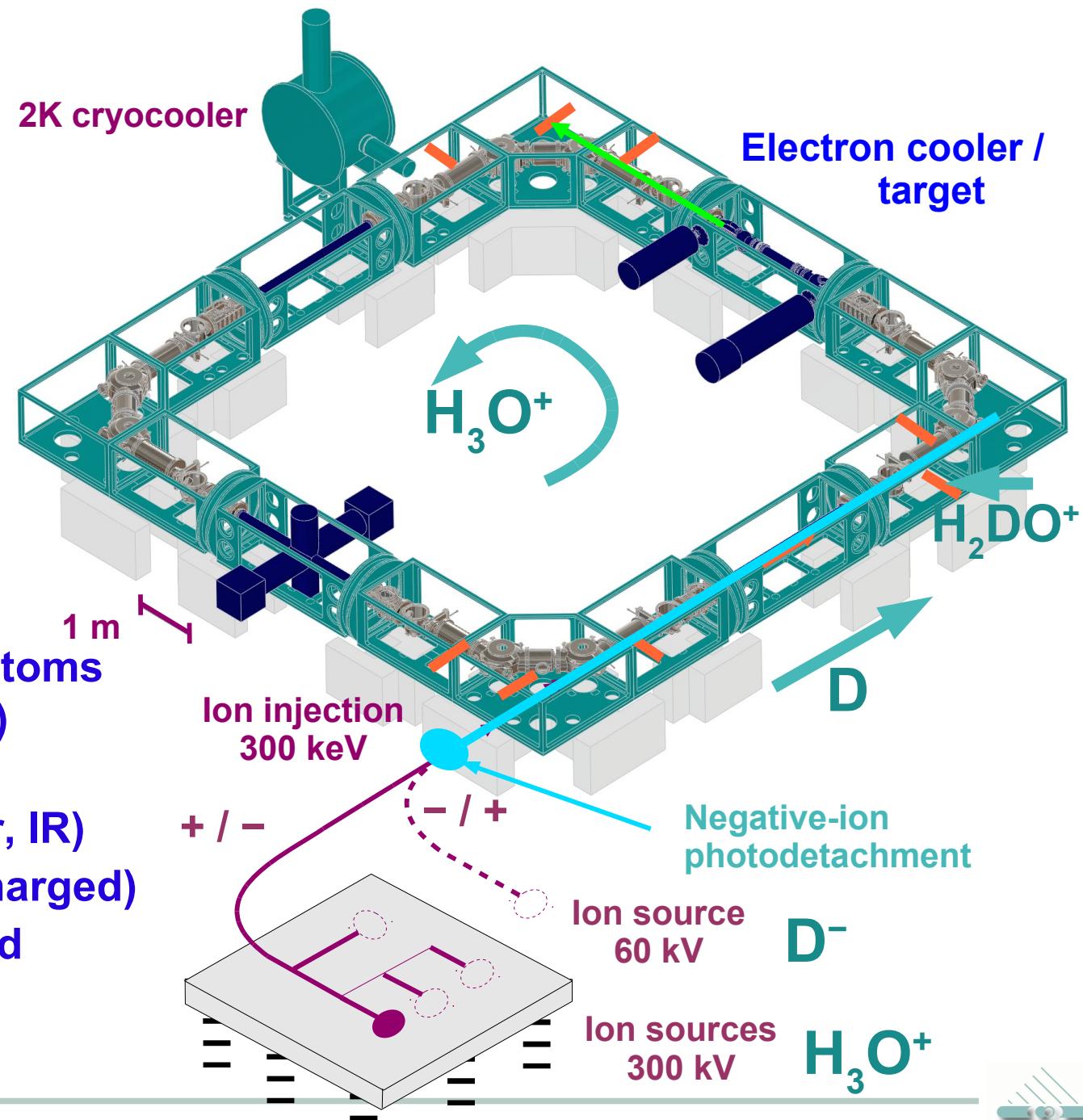
Ion–atom merged beams

Example:



→ Deuterium enrichment by ion chemistry

- Stored ion beams at 10 K internal temperature
- Organic molecules, heavy atoms (300 keV for all masses)
- Rotationally resolved ion spectroscopy (laser, IR)
- Negative ions (also multi-charged)
- Cluster systems,  $H_2O$ -loaded



# Summary

## **Storage-ring merged beams technique for molecular fragmentation** – Cross sections, branching ratios, product excitation

**Experimental advances:**

**Collision energy resolution down to ~10 K (photocathodes)**  
**Mass sensitive fragment imaging detectors**

**Recent results for dissociative recombination:**

- Collision energy dependence of final-channel partial rates
- Deconvolution of low-energy rate coefficients
- Internal excitation of molecular fragments

**New developments using cryogenic ion storage:**

- Internal state control
- Merged beams experiments in electrostatic rings
- Goal to implement cryogenic microcalorimeters

# The collaboration

**Max-Planck-Institut für Kernphysik, Heidelberg**

**Division on Stored and Cooled Ions (K. Blaum)**

**Atomic and molecular quantum dynamics**

O. Novotný(\*), C. Krantz, M. Froese, M. Lange

*PhD:* A. Shornikov, S. Menk, C. Domesle,  
K. Spruck, A. Becker, P. Herwig, Bian Yang

*Recently completed post-docs:* H. Buhr, A. Petrignani

*Recently completed PhD:* J. Stützel, M. Berg, M. Mendes, D. Bing, F. Laux



**Cooled and stored ions instrumentation**

M. Grieser, R. von Hahn, R. Repnow

*PhD:* F. Fellenberger, F. Berg

## Heidelberg collaborations

Kirchhoff Inst., Univ. Heidelberg

A. Fleischmann  
C. Enss

## Microcalorimeter ion detector



Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie



## External collaborations

Weizmann Institute of Science Rehovot, Israel



D. Zajfman, O. Heber,  
D. Schwalm



DFG



Univ. Giessen, Germany  
S. Schippers, A. Müller



Univ. Stockholm  
W. D. Geppert

Columbia Univ., NYC  
D. Savin, O. Novotný(\*)



Univ. of Illinois, Urbana  
B. McCall, H. Kreckel



Univ. Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium  
X. Urbain

