

# Cosmic Ray Chemistry 2



## Cosmic Ray Irradiation of Ices



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# How do we study Cosmic Ray (CR) induced chemistry ?

To study CR chemistry we need to;

1. Produce beams of CRs – protons, alpha particles and electrons
2. Accelerate CRs to high energies
3. Prepare targets for collisions – gas phase 'easy'
  - condensed/ice phase harder

*Temperature*

*Morphology*

*Compound mixture of ices*

All needs to be prepared in ultra high vacuum to mimic space



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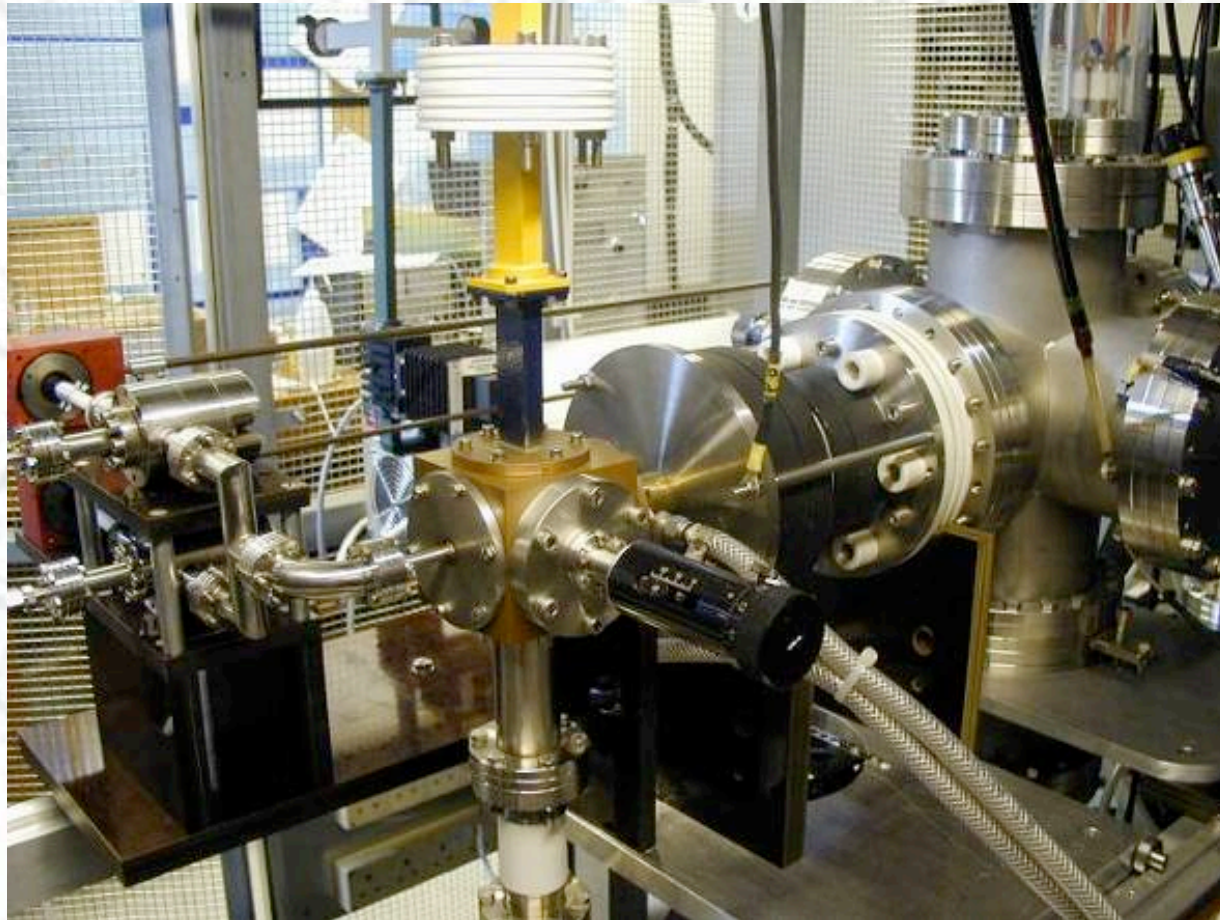
Use particle accelerators - Van der Graf Accelerators



# Modern version ECRIS Ion source



9.0 – 10.5 GHz Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source at Belfast



- Produce beams of heavy ions in multiply charged state e.g.  $C^+$  to  $C^{4+}$  *(note beam may not all be in ground state)*



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(OUB)

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(Catania)

A Team  
in ACTION



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  - condensed/ice phase harder

*Temperature*

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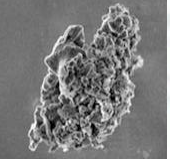
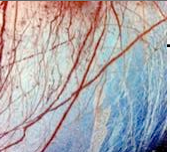
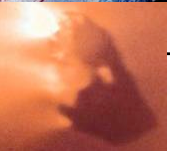
*Compound mixture of ices*

All needs to be prepared in ultra high vacuum to mimic space

# Nature of Astrochemical Ices and their Environments



- **Ices may be broadly characterised in terms of**
  - ice thickness, temperature and composition → **ice morphology**
  - energy, flux and type of processing radiation → **ice processing**

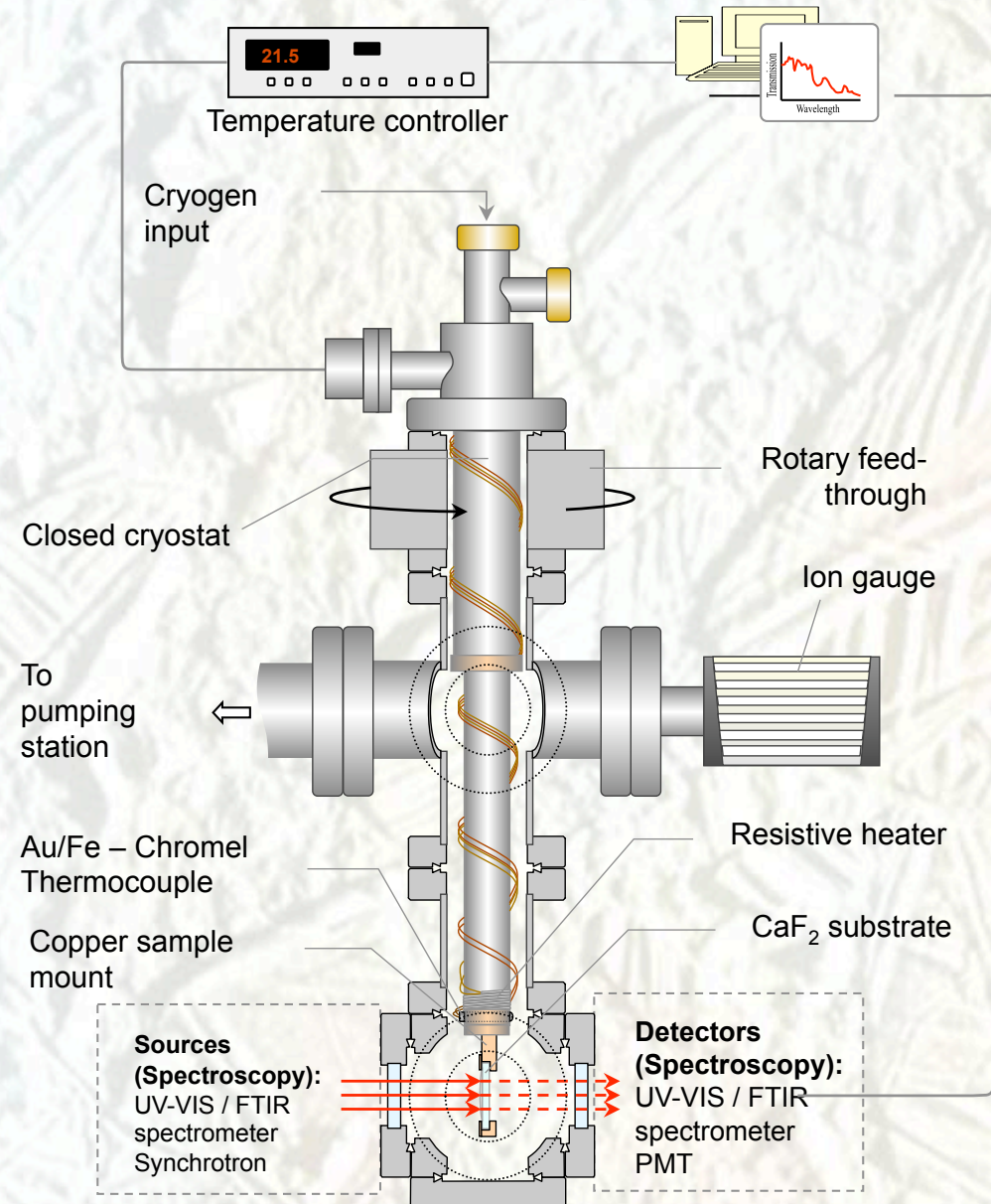
	<b>Ice environment</b>	<b>Thickness</b>	<b>Temperature</b>	<b>Processing Radiation</b>
	<b>ISM grain mantle</b>	1nm - 1 $\mu$ m	10 – 100 K	Stellar UV; Lyman- $\alpha$ photons (H <sub>2</sub> luminescence); Cosmic rays
	<b>Surfaces of planetary bodies in the outer solar system</b>	1 $\mu$ m – several km	30 – 150 K	Magnetospheric ions, Solar UV, solar wind, cosmic rays
	<b>Comets (in the Oort cloud)</b>	1m – several km	10 K	Cosmic rays

# Experimental Set-up



- HV (UHV) chamber :
  - $P \sim 10^{-8} - 10^{-10}$  mbar
  - Still 1000 higher than dense ISM !
- Temperature
  - Continuous flow or LHe/LN2 cryostat
    - $10\text{K} < T < 450\text{K}$
    - Mimics ISM and star forming regions
- Samples onto a substrate
  - deposited *in situ* by vapour deposition

What substrate ?





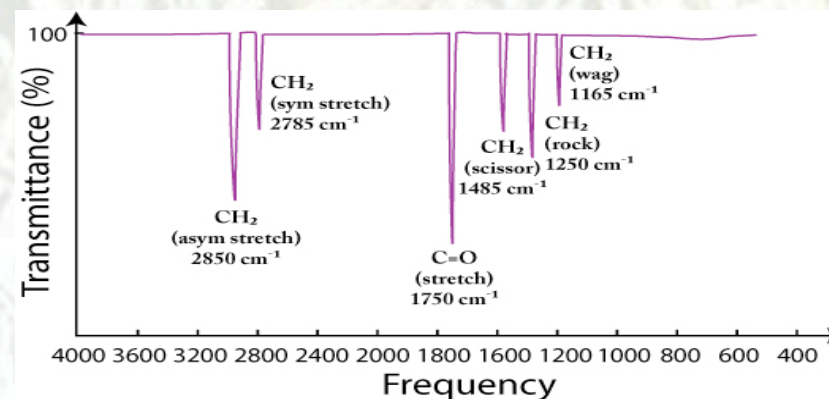
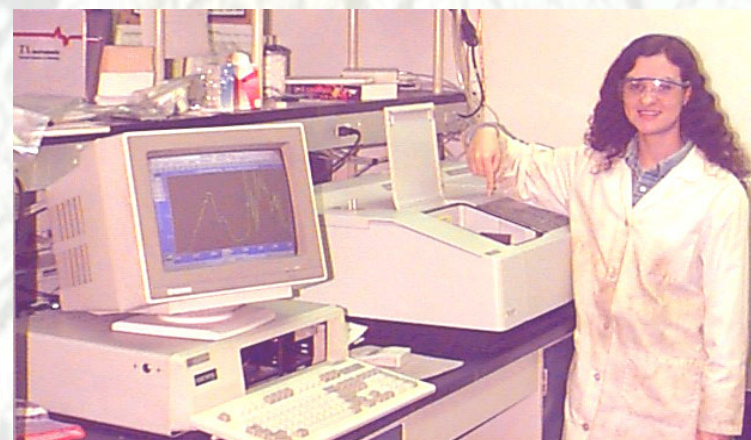


# How do we study Cosmic Ray (CR) induced chemistry ?

How do we monitor chemical change ?

Use **spectroscopy** - molecules have *spectral fingerprint*

FTIR (Infrared spectroscopy)





# How do we study Cosmic Ray (CR) induced chemistry ?

How do we monitor chemical change?

Heat to desorb from surface

Temperature Programme Desorption (TPD)

Use mass spectroscopy to detect products



What ISM condition cant we reproduce in the lab ?



## What ISM condition cant we reproduce in the lab ?

### TIME !!

- Processes take places over 10s 100s or 1000s of year
- Flux is very low
- Low dose, long exposure time



What ISM condition cant we reproduce in the lab ?

- Question

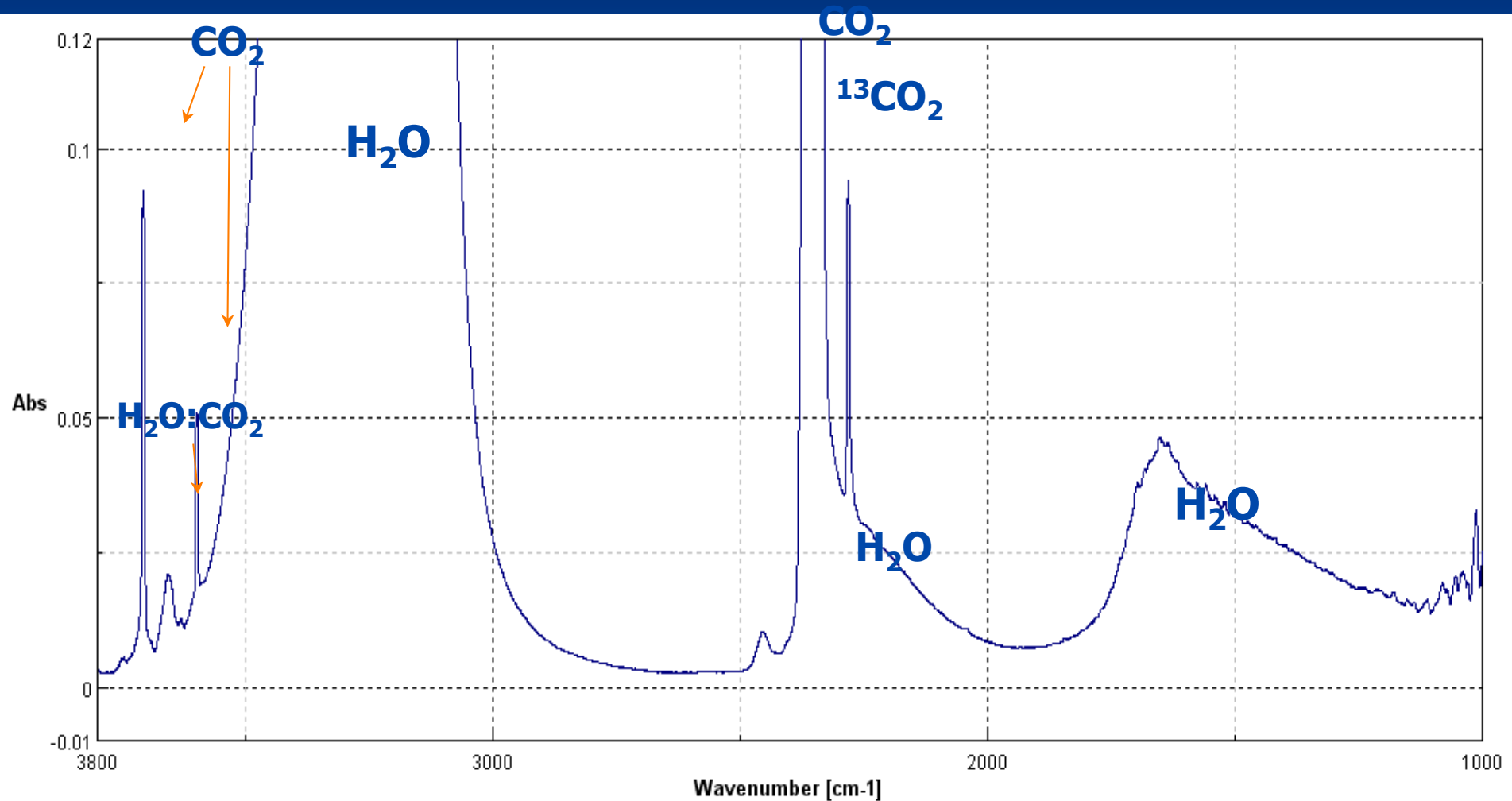
Is flux A for irradiation time Y same as flux B for time Z?



So lets do some chemistry !

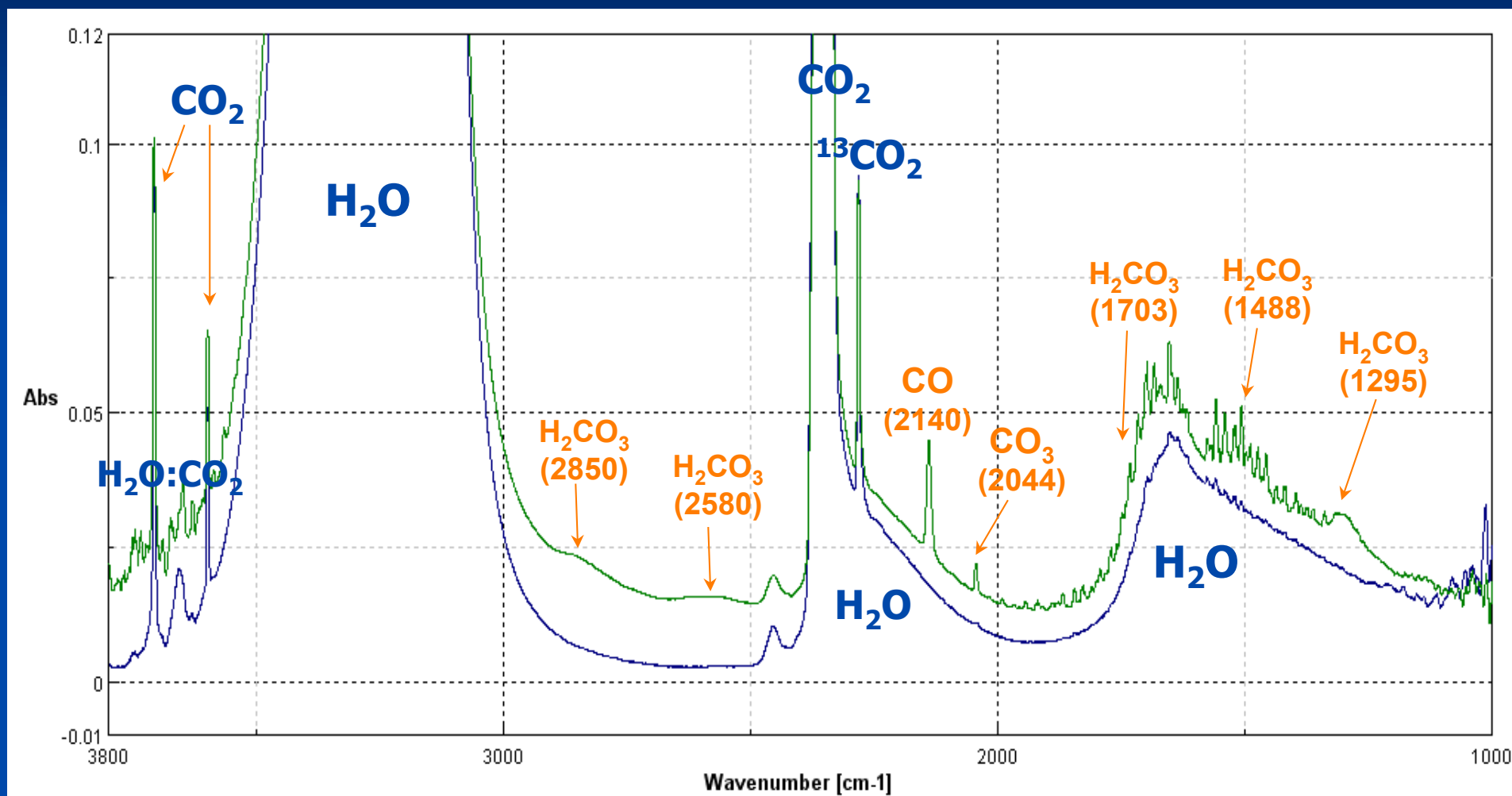
# Irradiation of $\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{CO}_2$ ice by protons

Before irradiation



# Irradiation of H<sub>2</sub>O:CO<sub>2</sub> ice

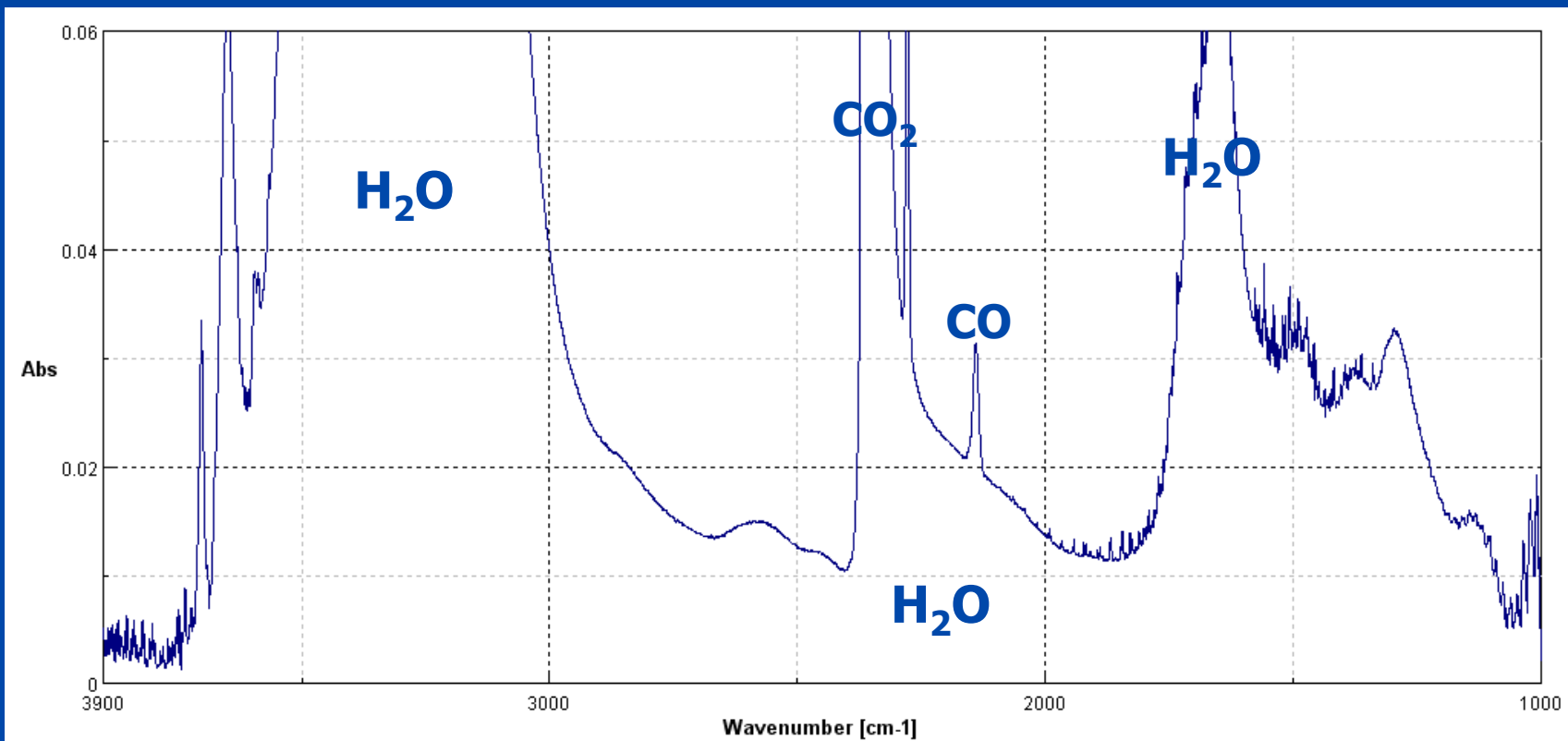
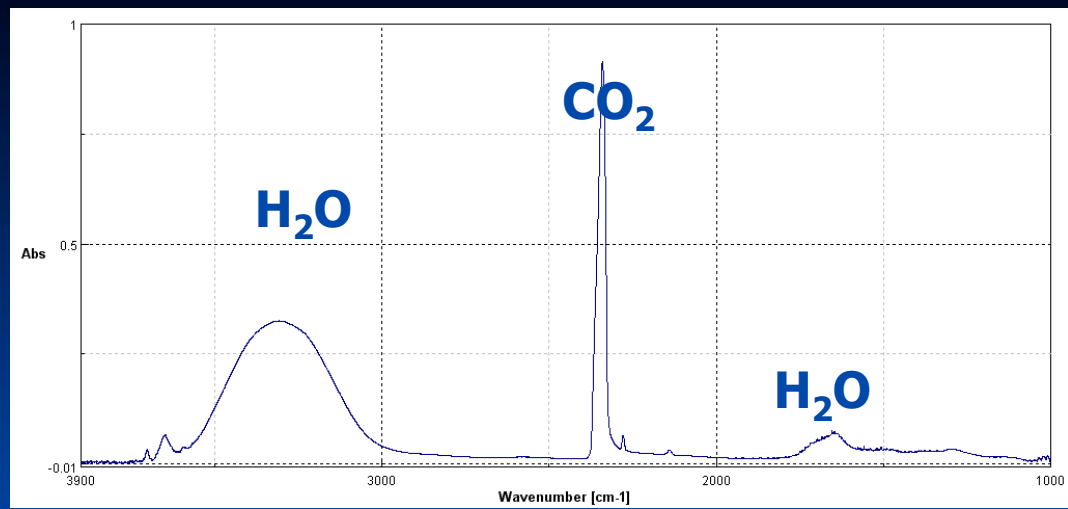
After irradiation for 1 hour





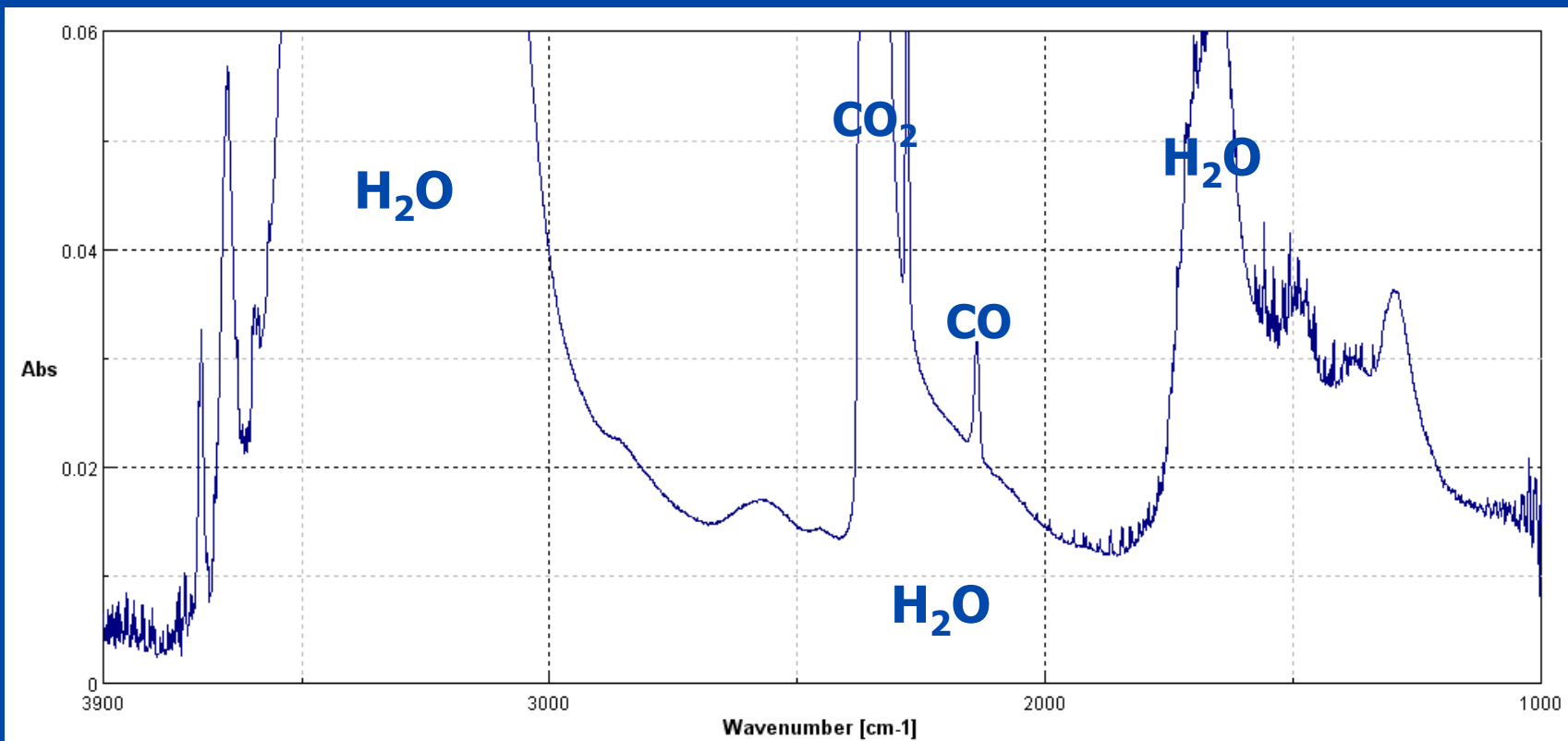
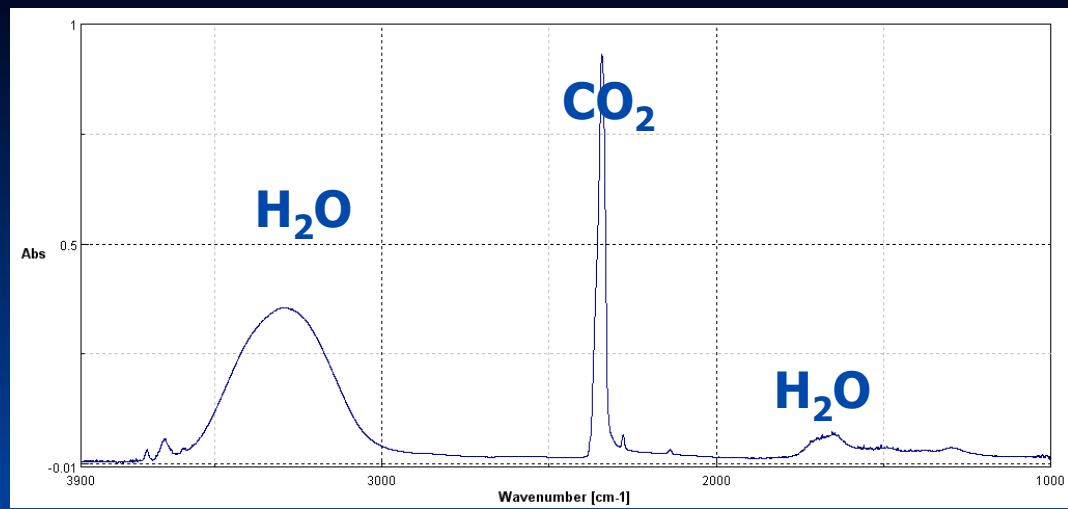
T(K)  
250  
200  
150  
100  
50

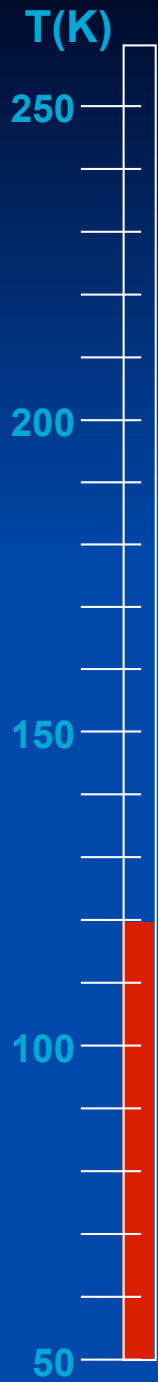
Warm-up  
+Irradiation of  
H<sub>2</sub>O:CO<sub>2</sub> ice



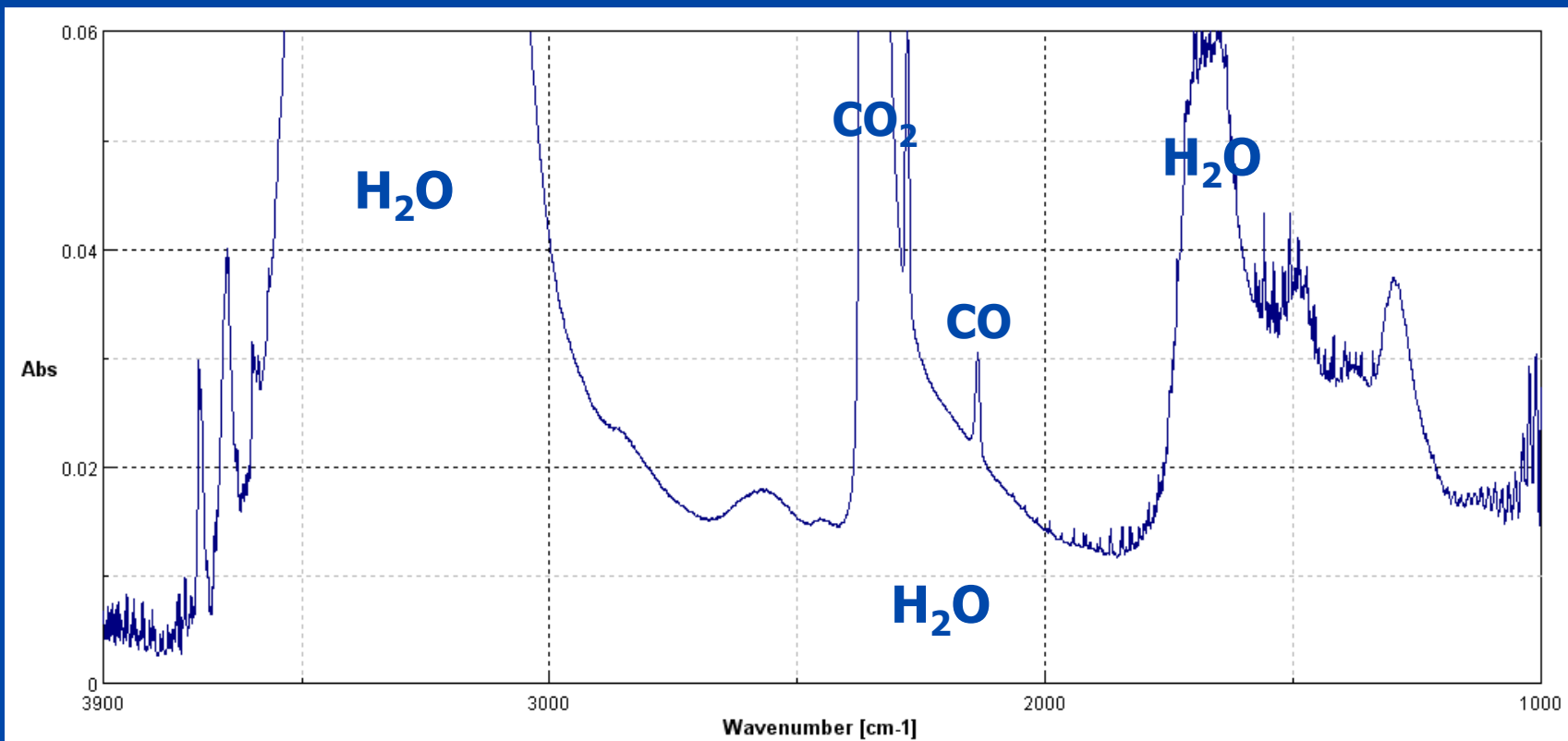
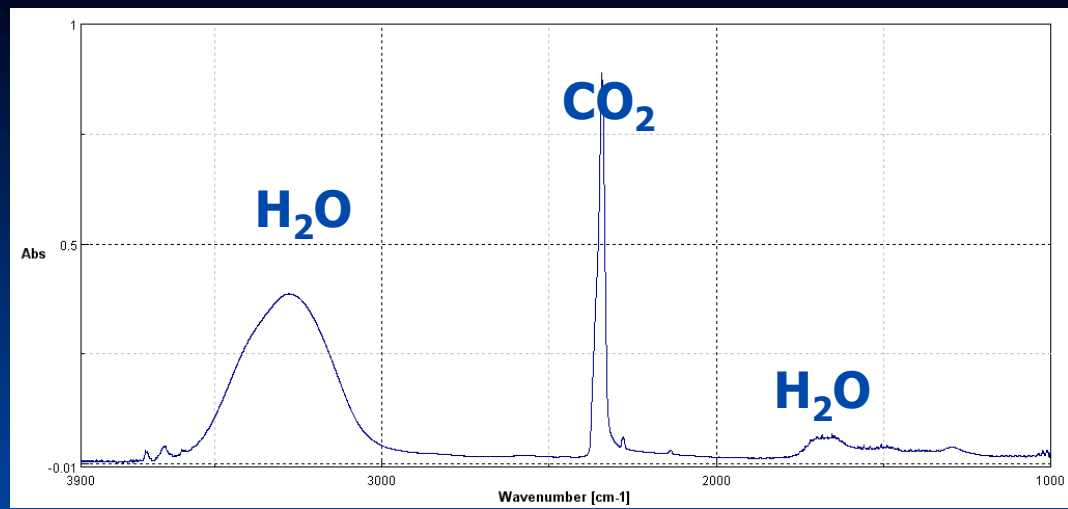


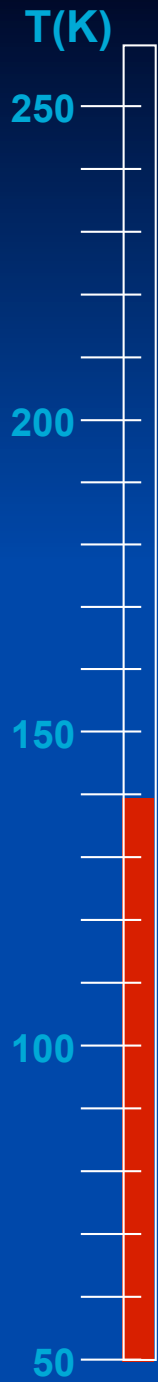
Warm-up after H<sup>+</sup>  
Irradiation of  
H<sub>2</sub>O:CO<sub>2</sub> ice



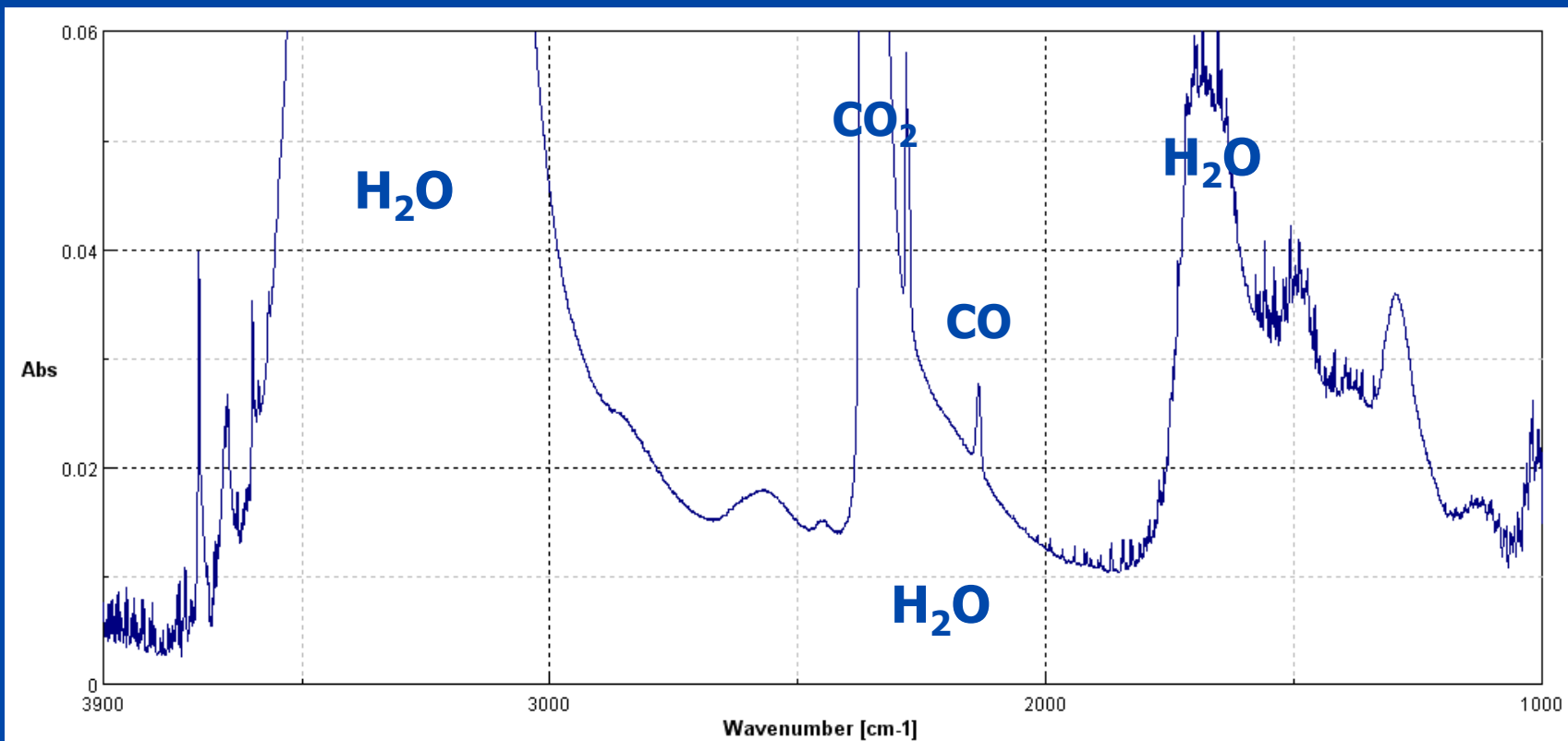
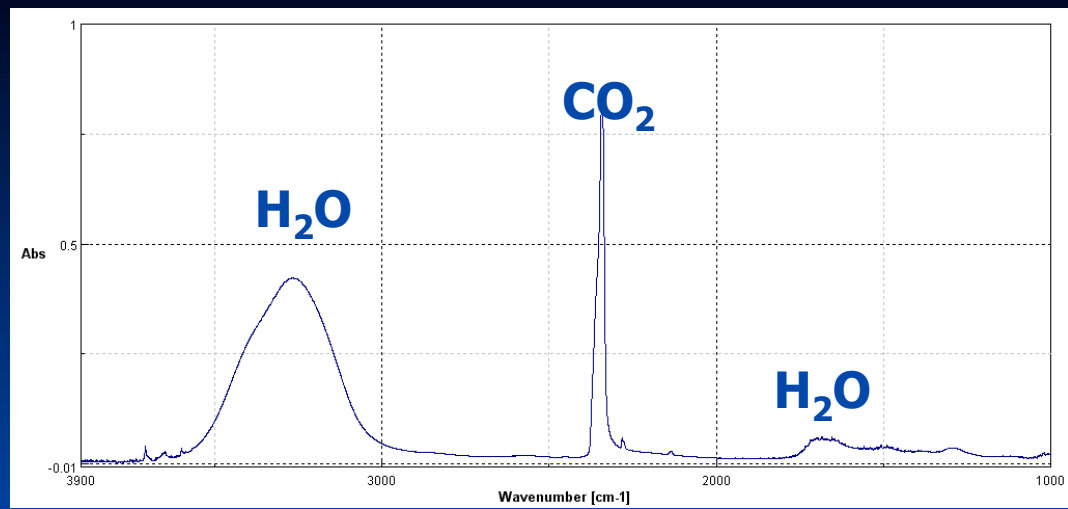


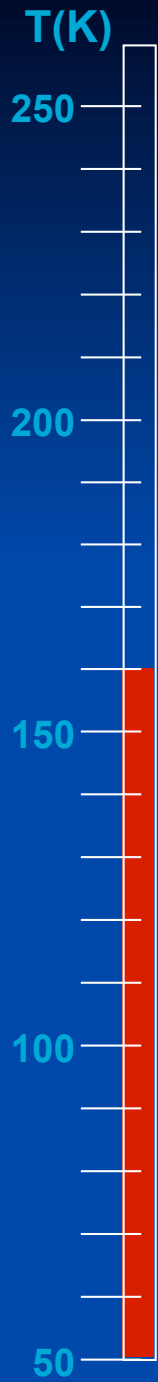
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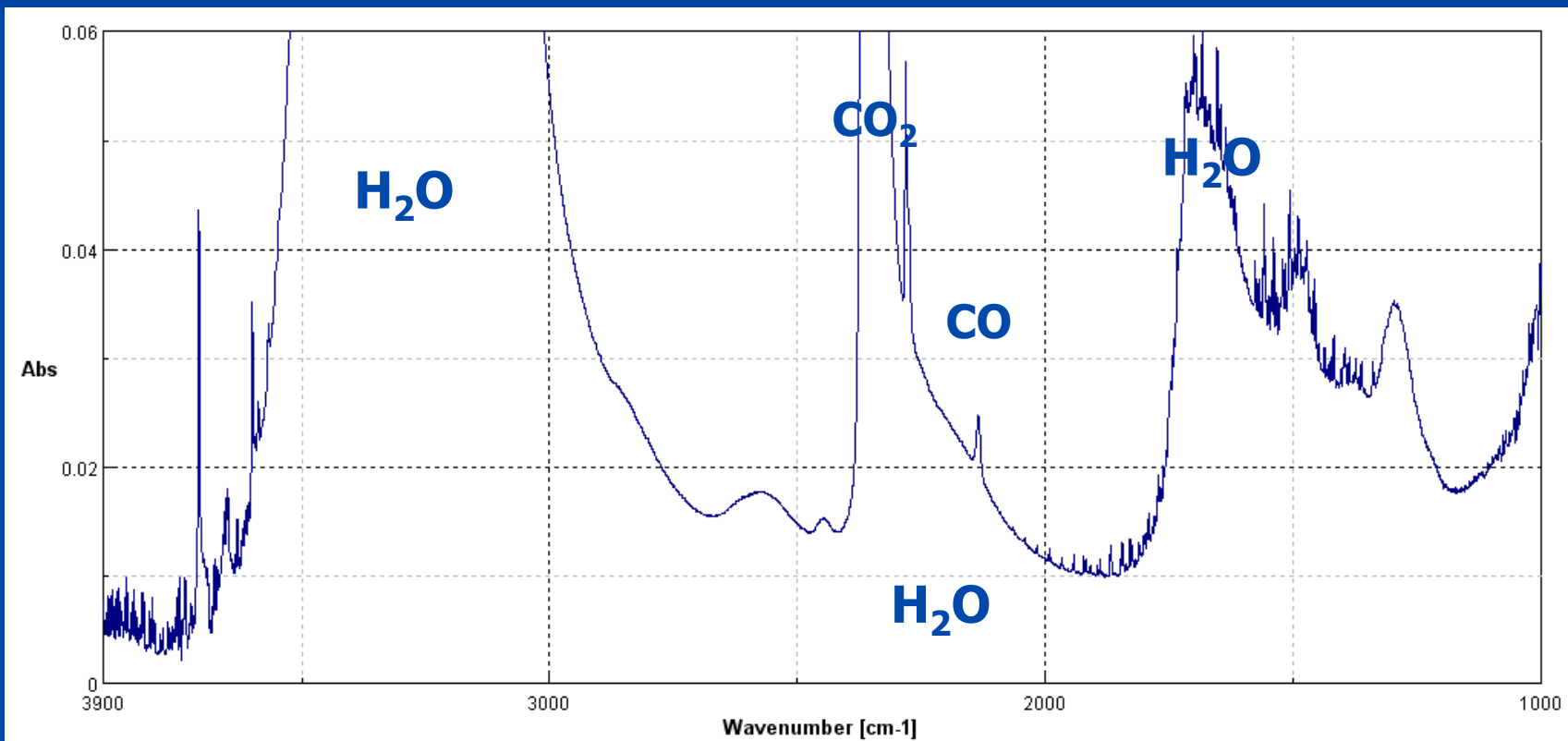
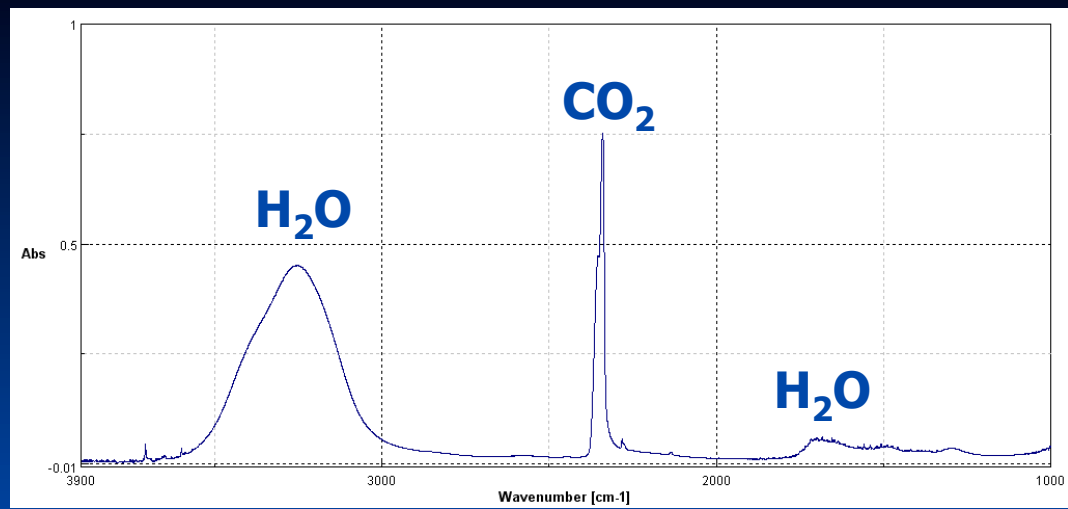


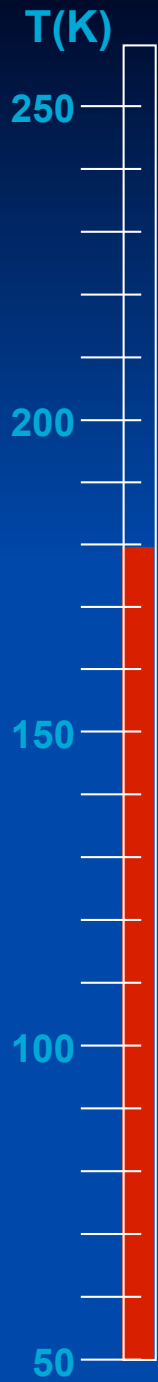
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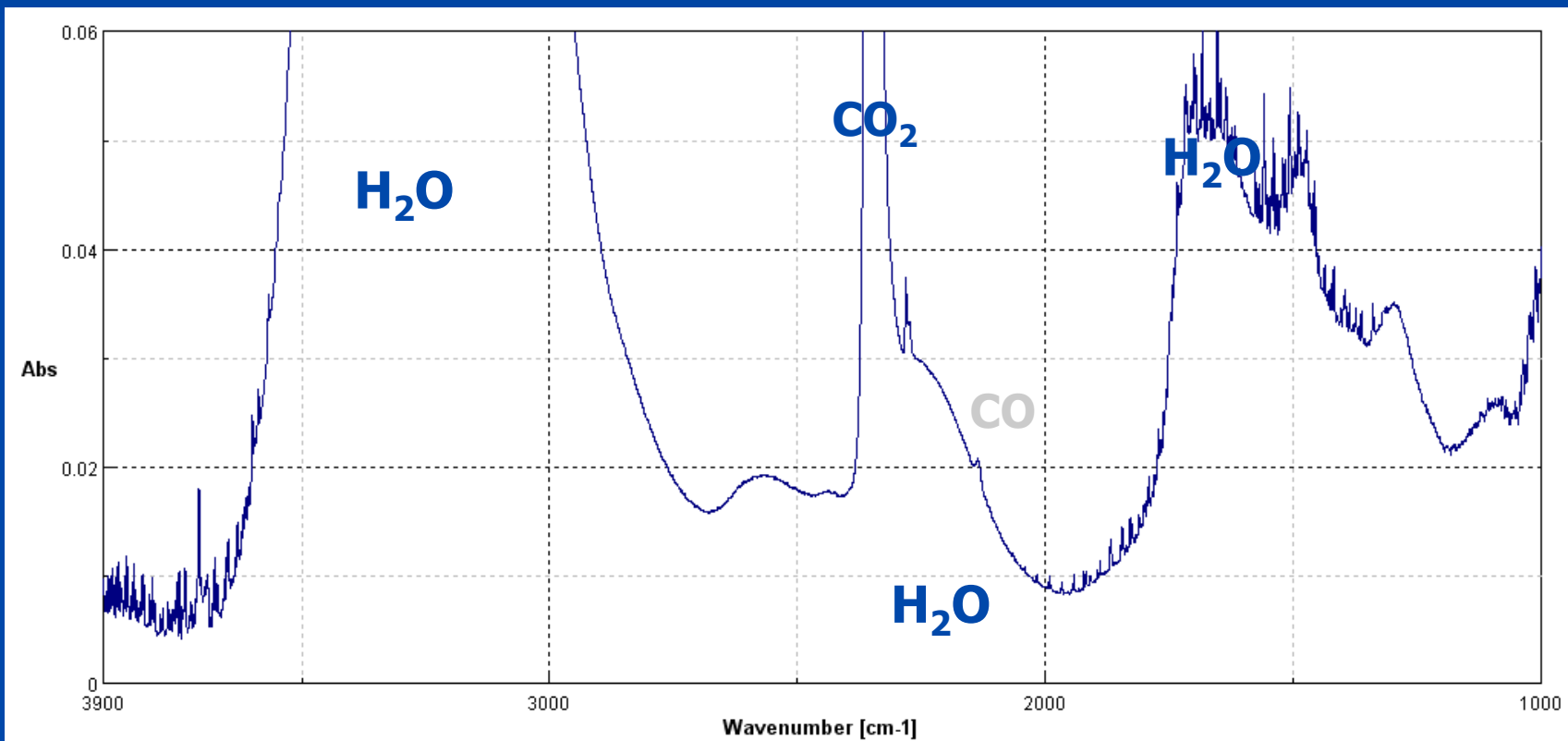
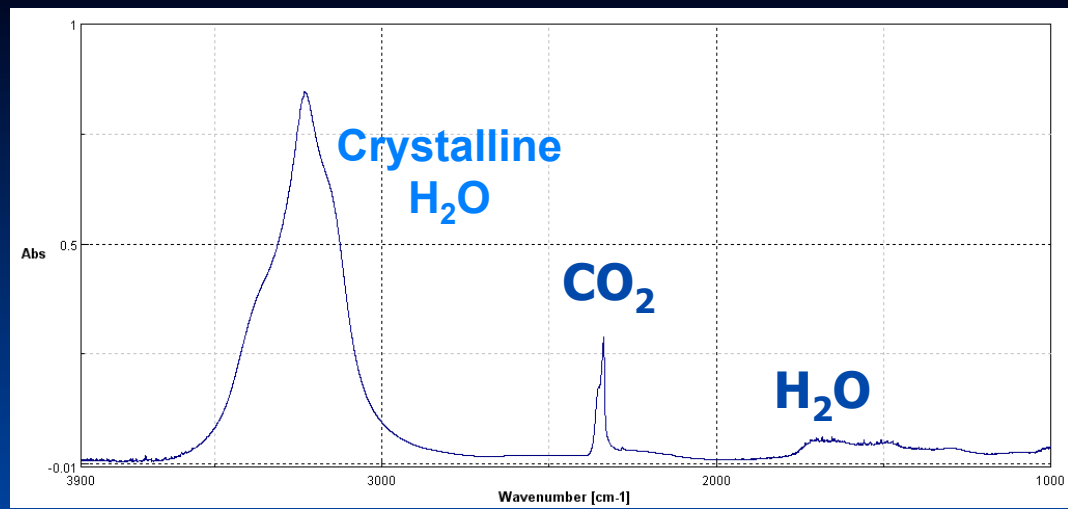


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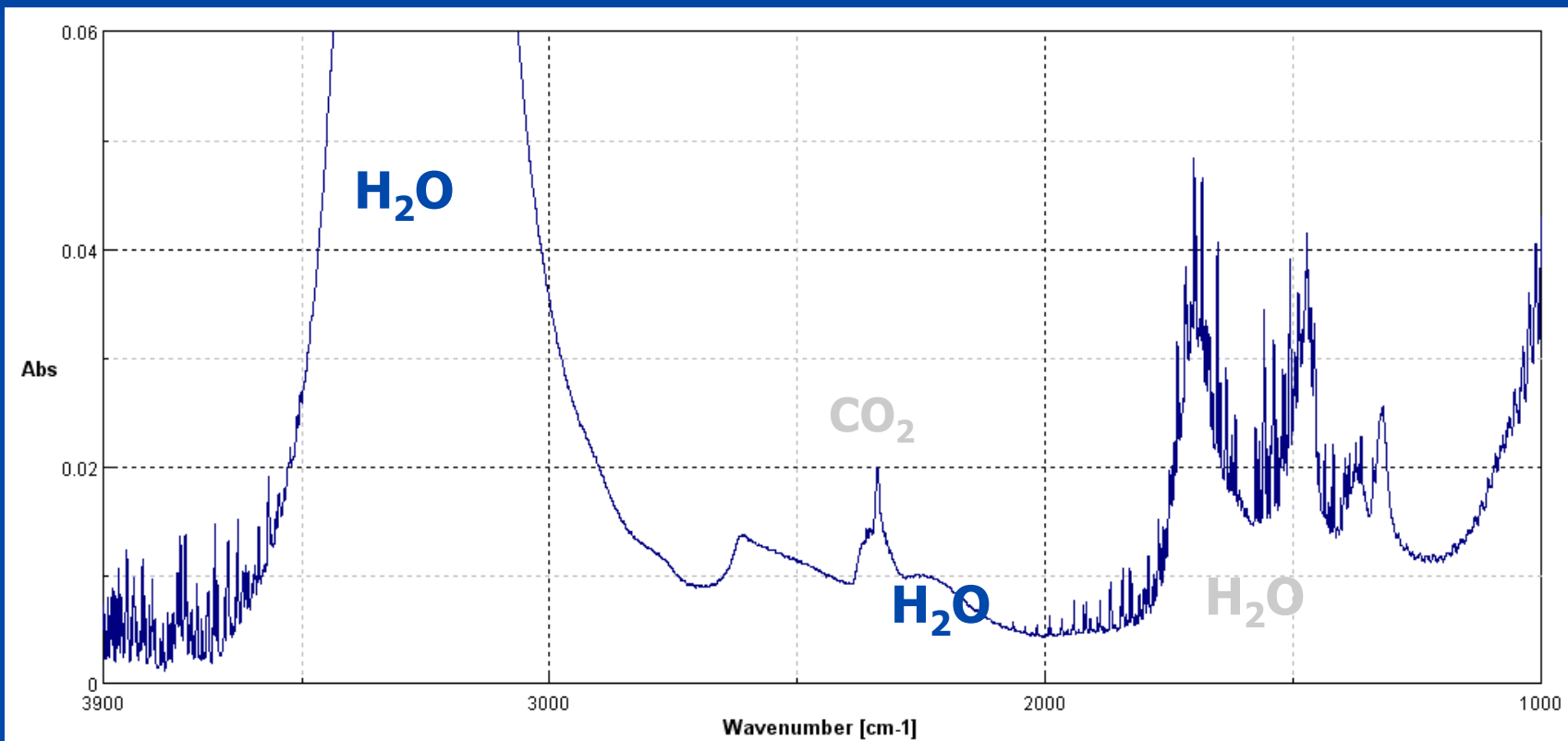
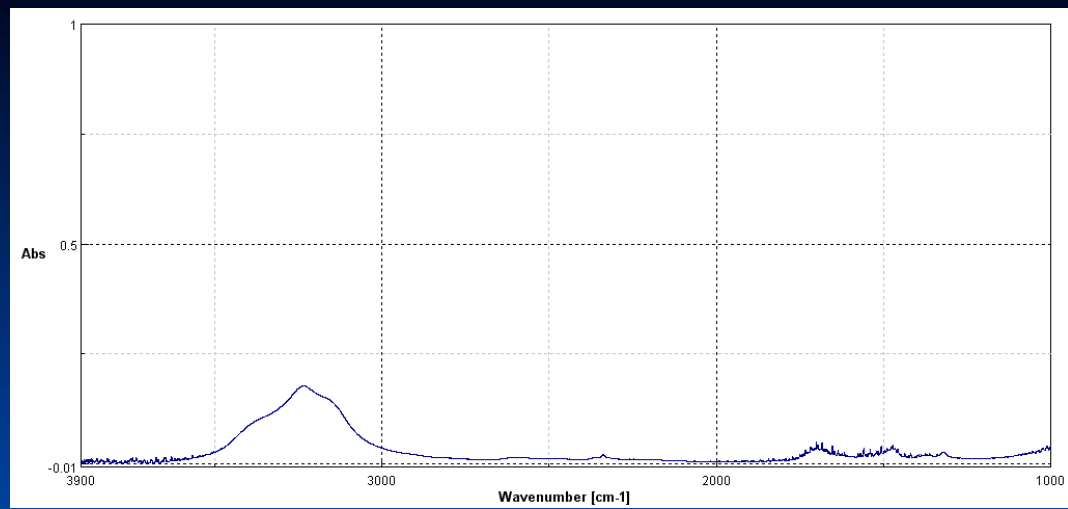
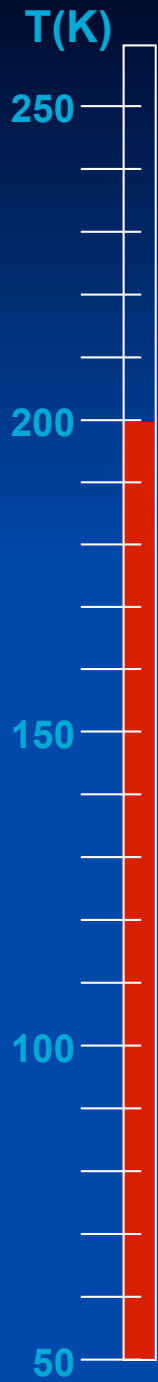


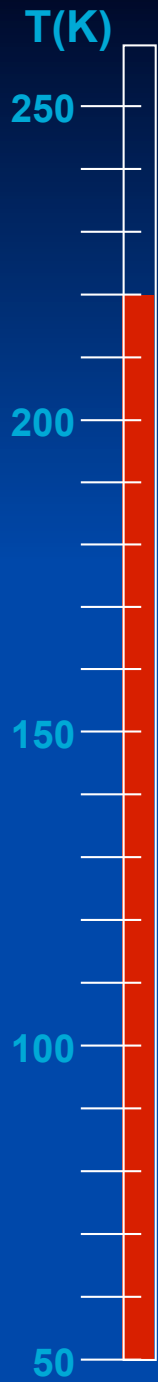


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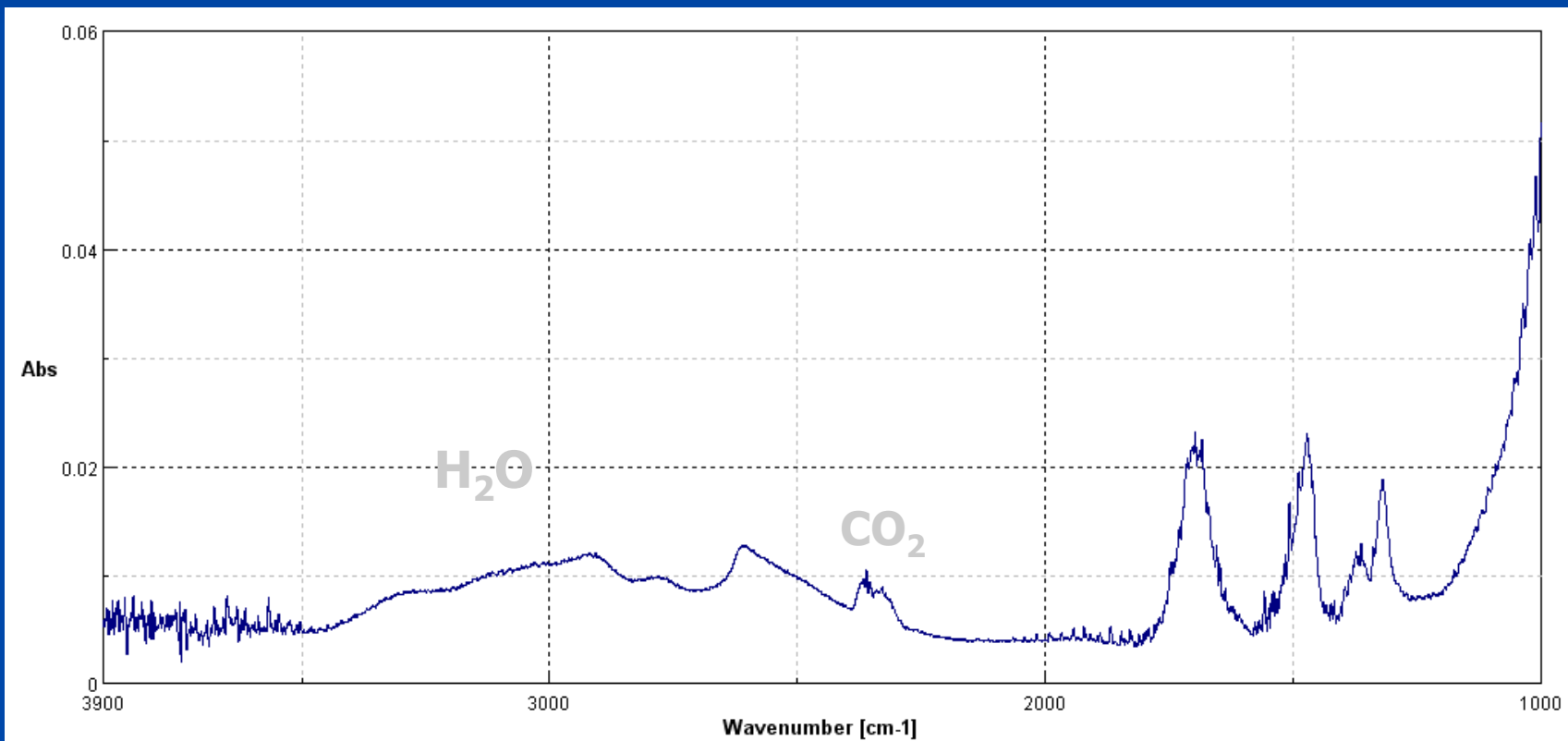
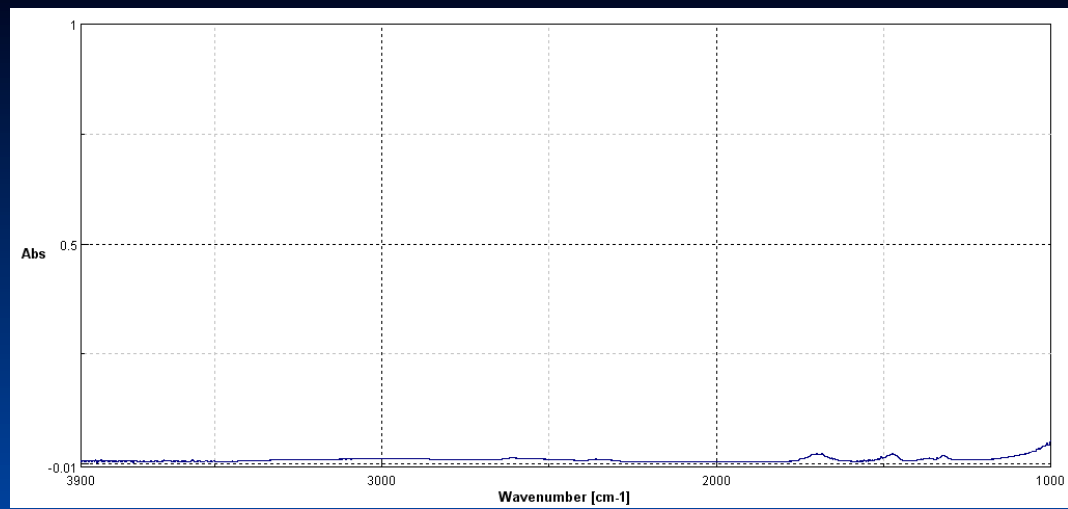


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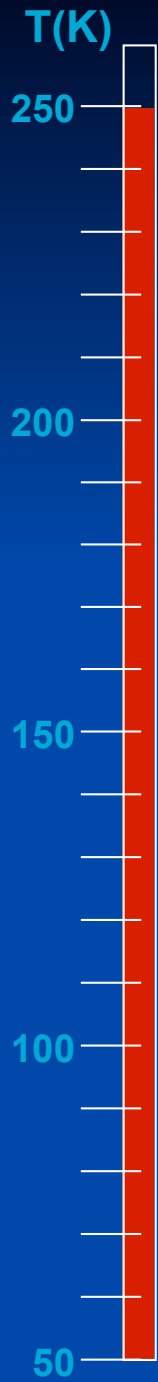




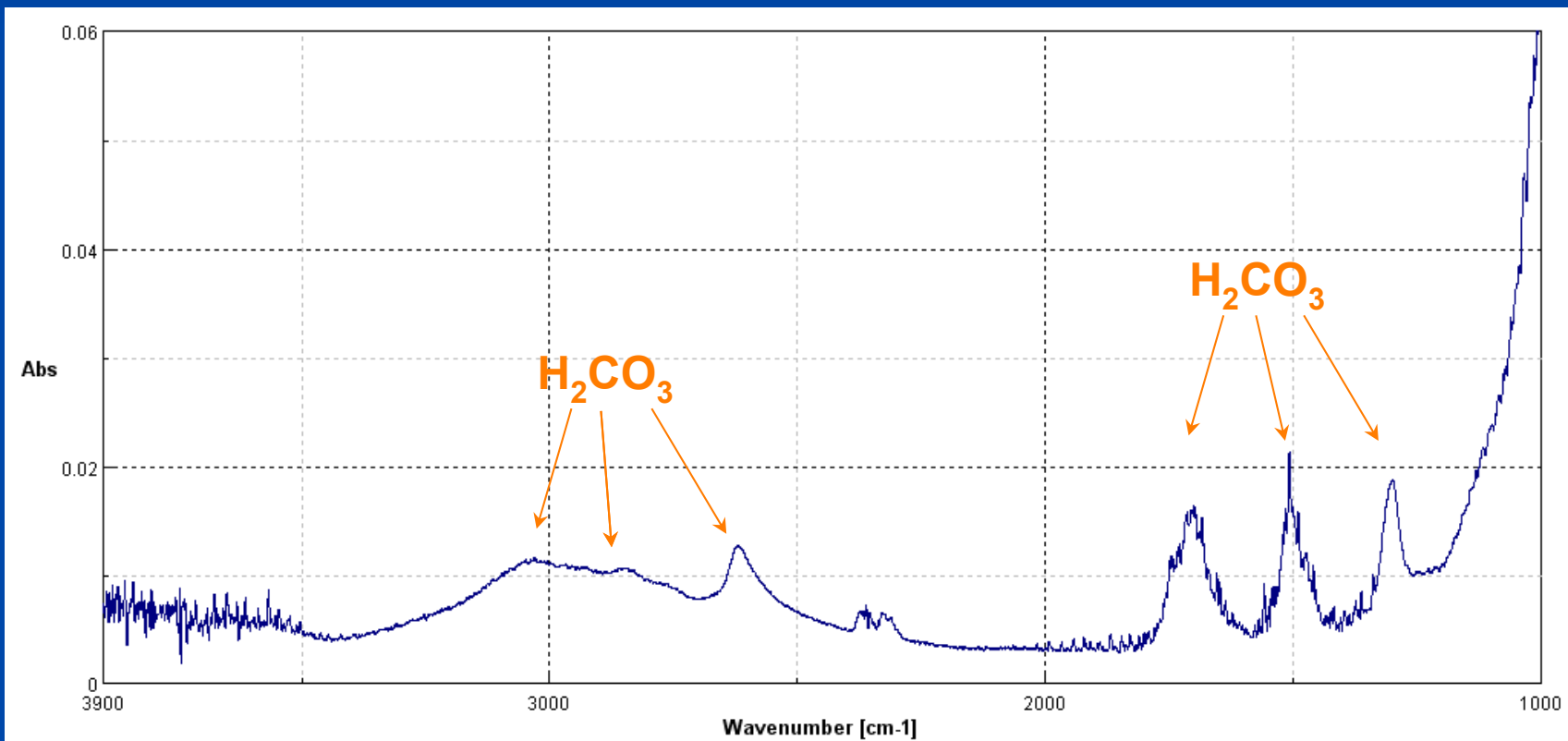
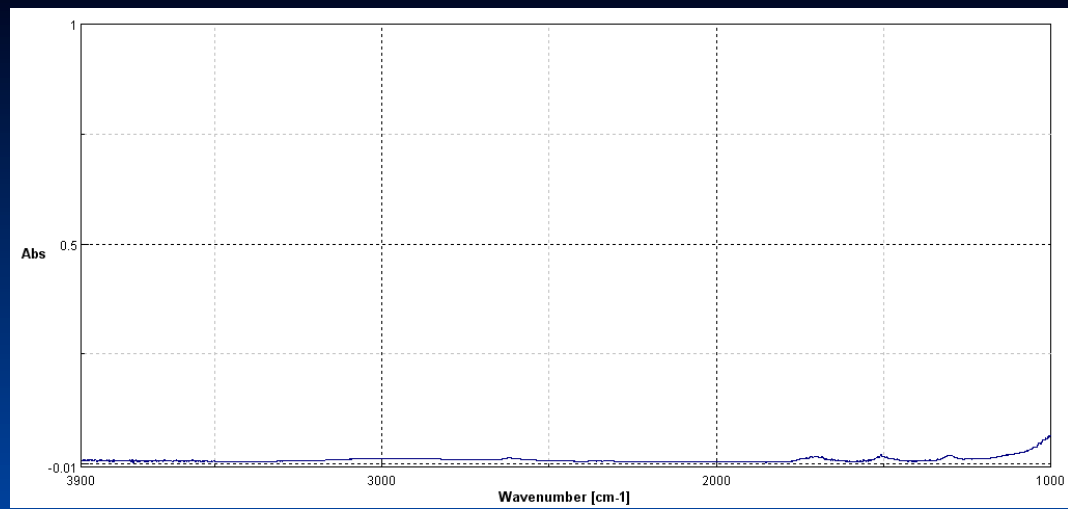
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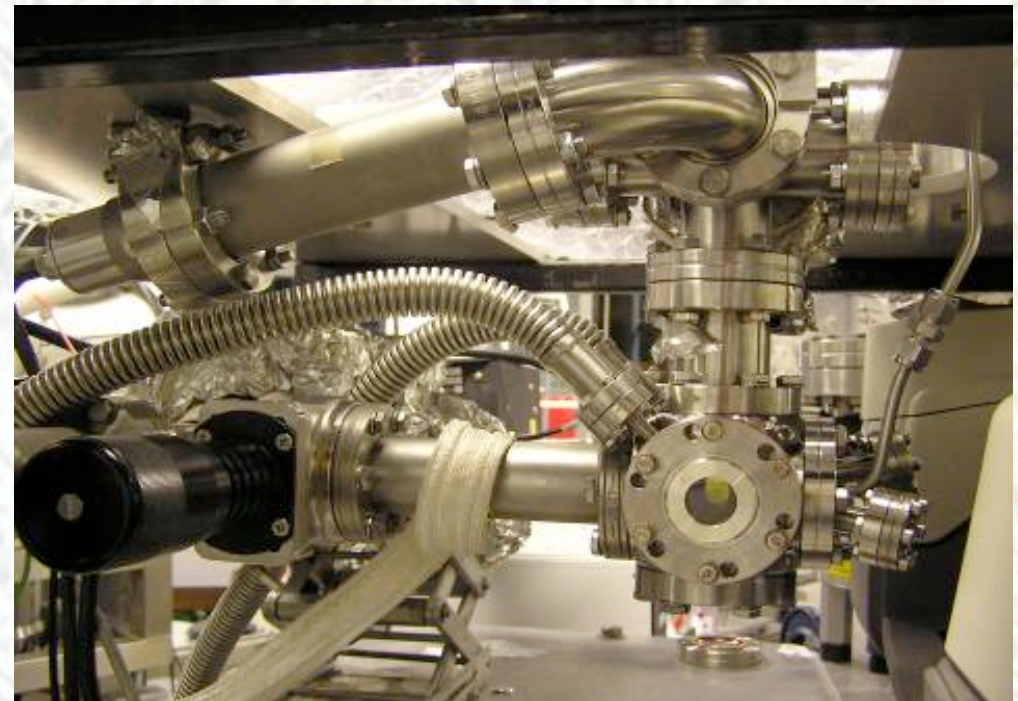
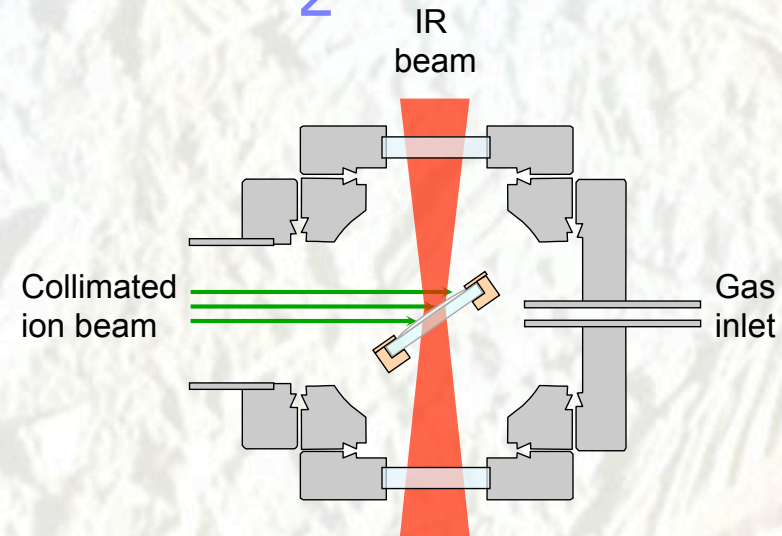
# Example $C^{n+}$ Irradiation of $H_2O$ ice



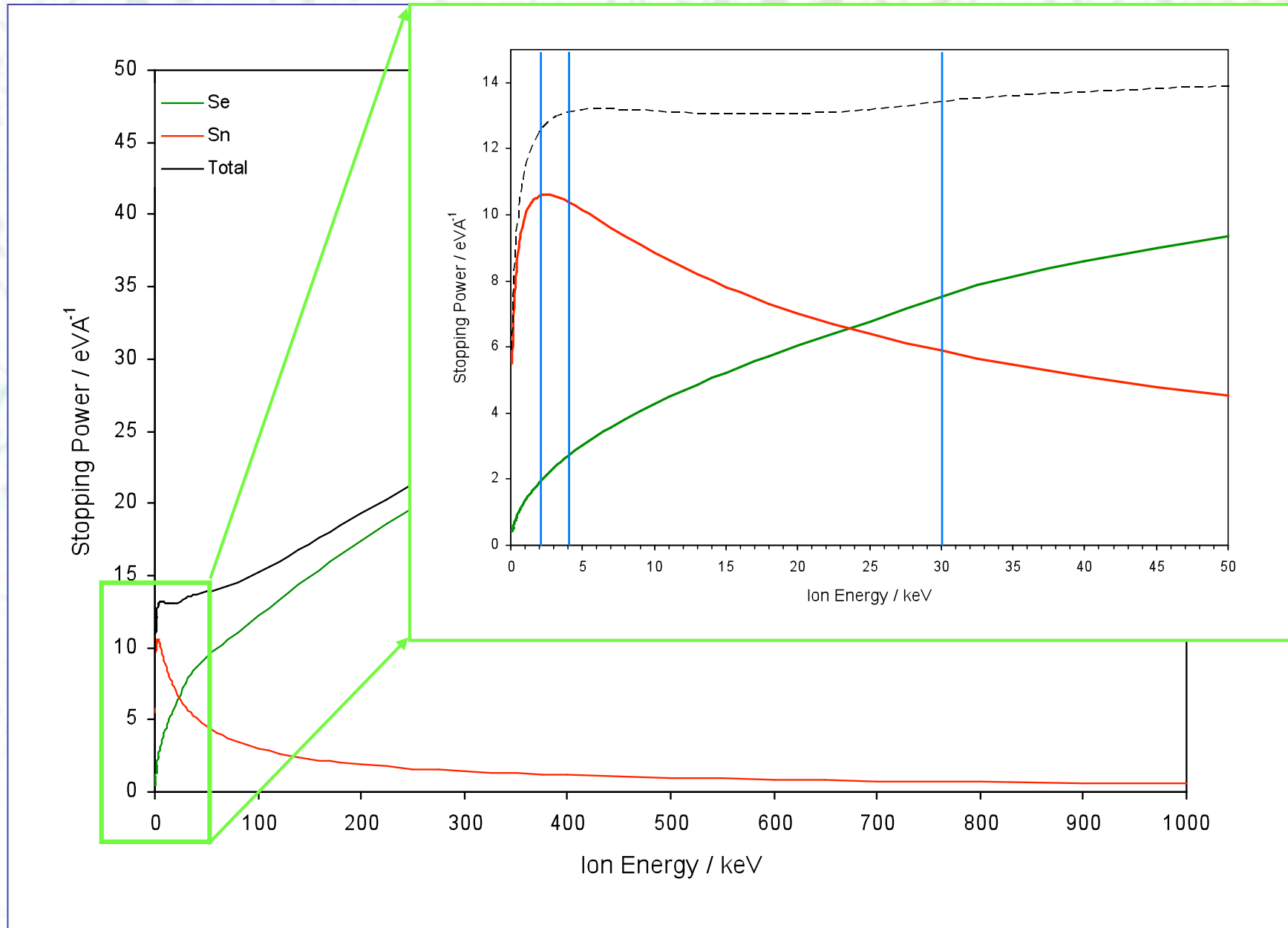
- Ions:  $^{13}C^+$  and  $^{13}C^{2+}$  (45°)
- Energies: 2 and 4 keV
- Sample Temperature: 30 and 90 K
- Sample thickness:  $\sim 300$  nm
- Analysis: FTIR transmission (45°)

$$Fluence = \frac{It}{eqA} \quad (\text{ions cm}^{-2})$$

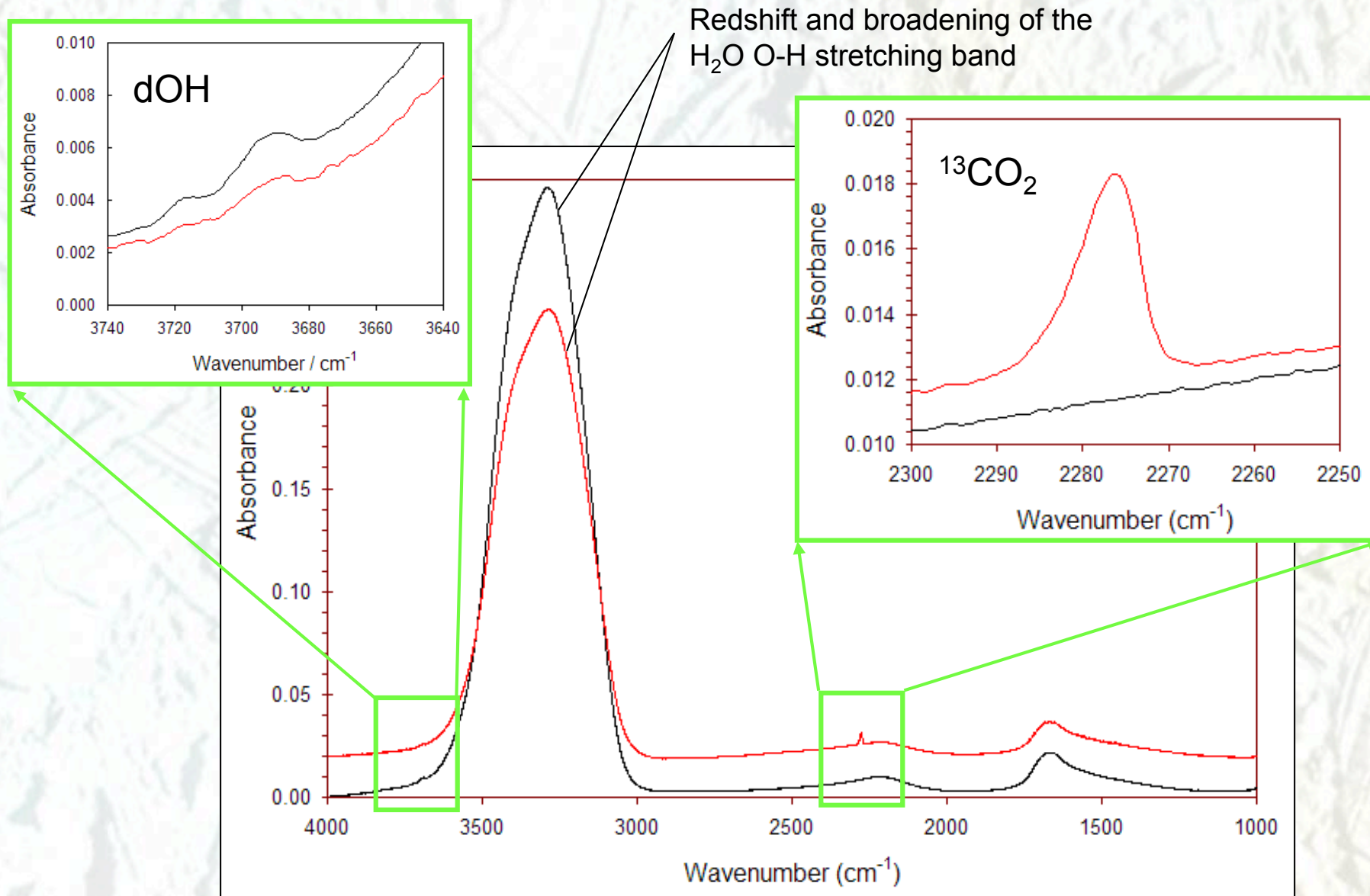
- Ion beam size measured for each ion type
- Faraday cup calibrated to determine ion current at the sample for each ion type
- Beam currents  $< 200 - 600$  nA
- Preliminary Tests:
  - No ion intensity effects



# Stopping Power – C<sup>+</sup> in H<sub>2</sub>O



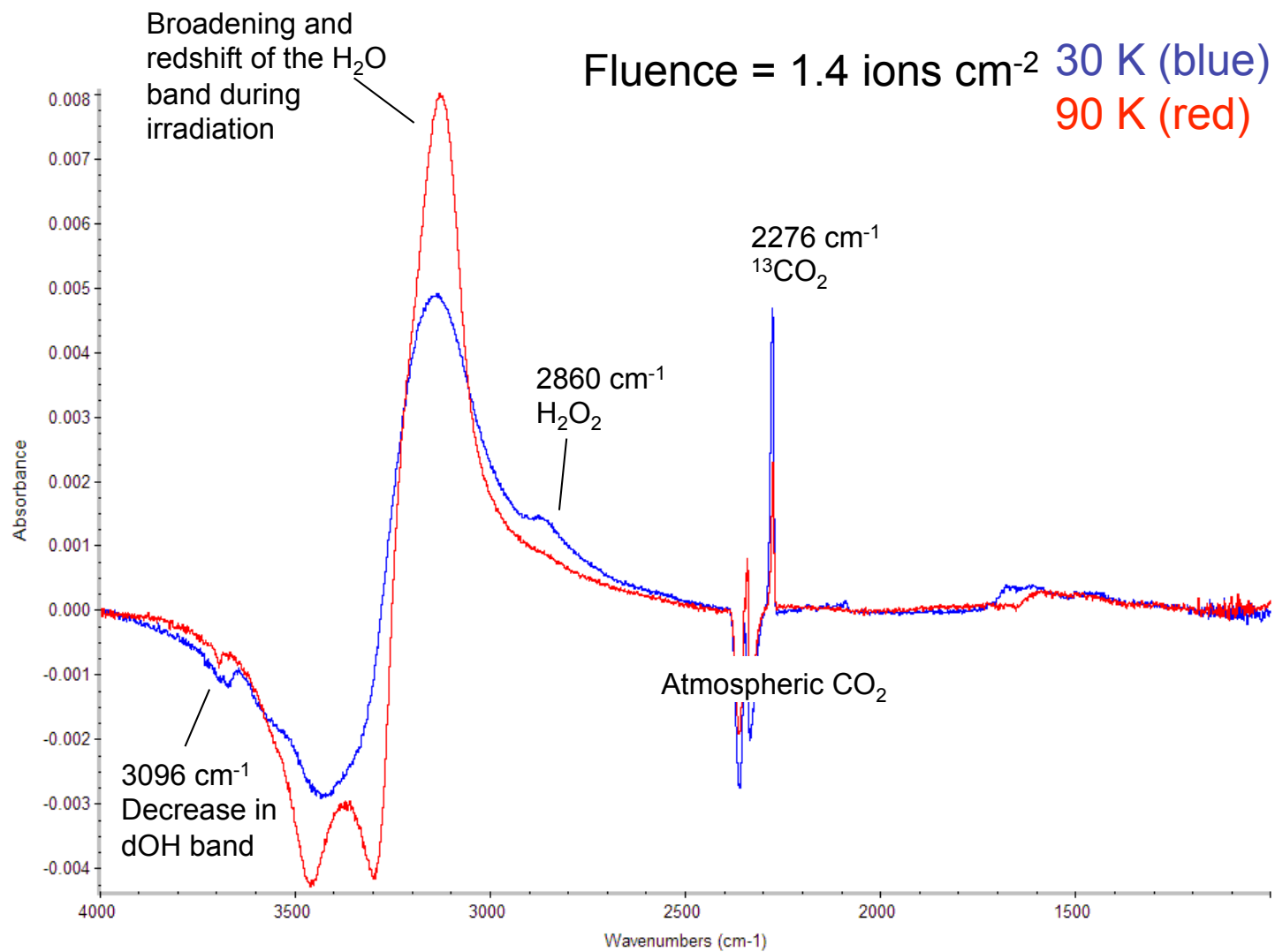
# Results: FTIR Spectroscopy



# Results: FTIR Spectroscopy



Subtraction before and after irradiation with 2 keV C<sup>+</sup>



# Temperature Dependence

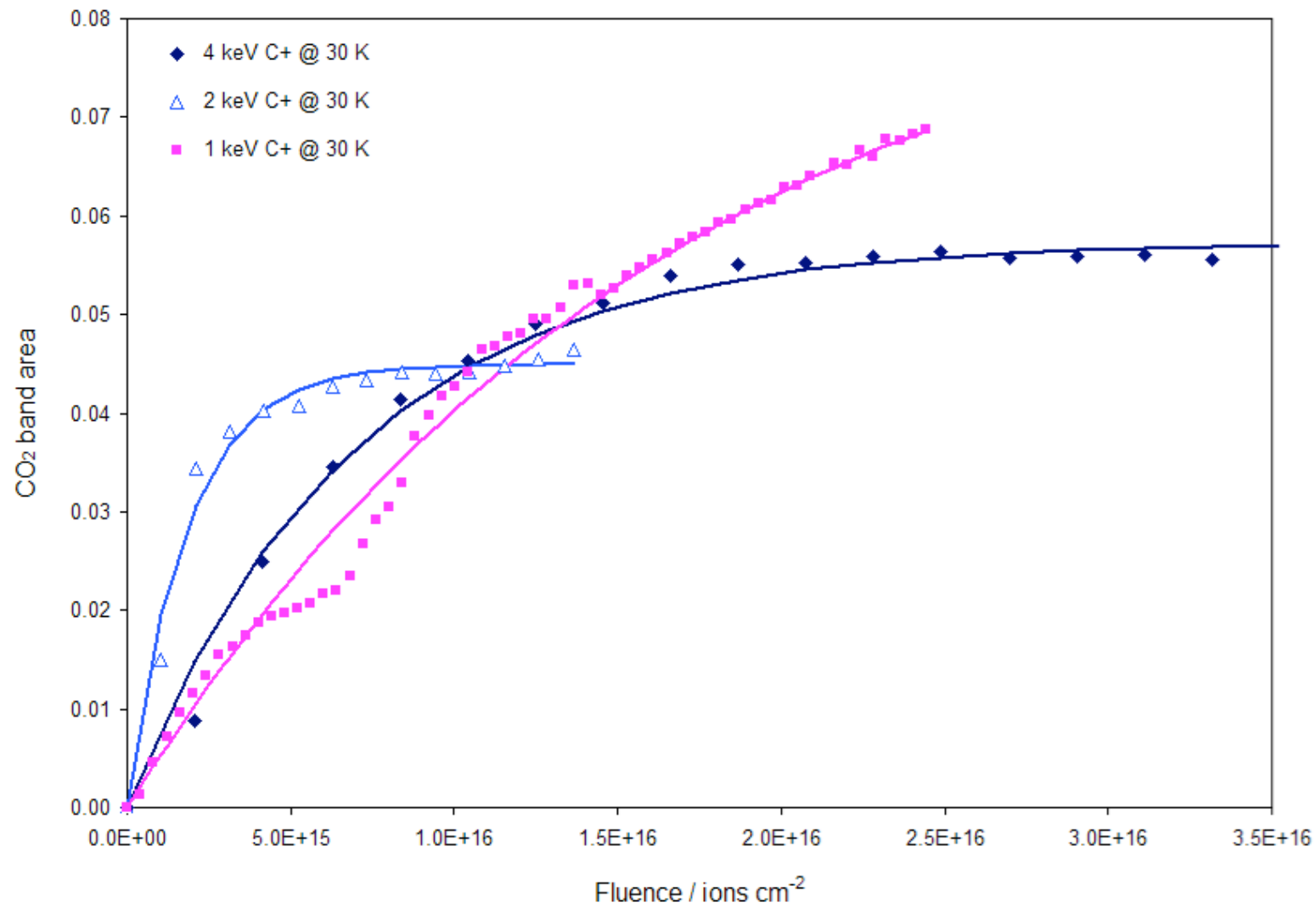


In all experiments a higher yield of  $\text{CO}_2$  (and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  – qualitatively) is observed at lower temperature! **This is general trend in many experiments**

## Ice morphology

- Plays an important role in surface chemistry (surface area, pores...)
- Density/porosity → affect stopping power and range
- Formation of dimers ??

# Preliminary $\rightarrow$ 1 keV C<sup>+</sup>





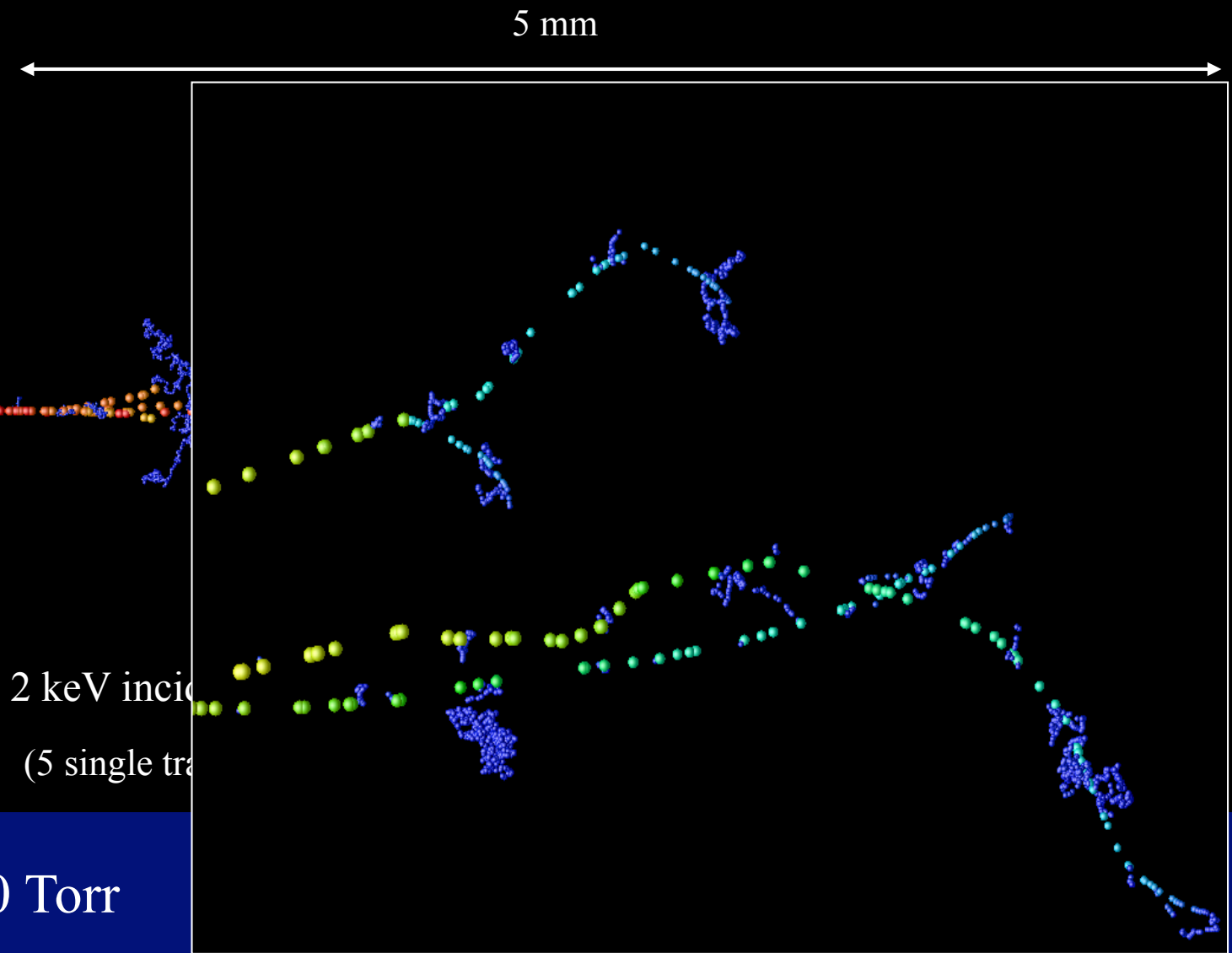
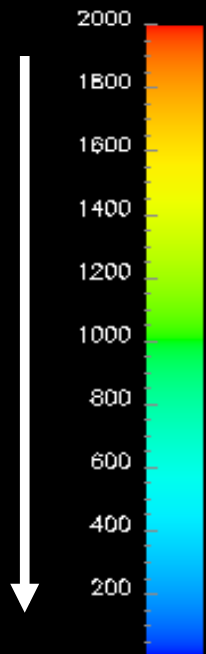
# Role of Secondaries

- Major product of cosmic rays are more particles !
- Track modelling can explore this



# Energy degradation of electrons in H<sub>2</sub>O

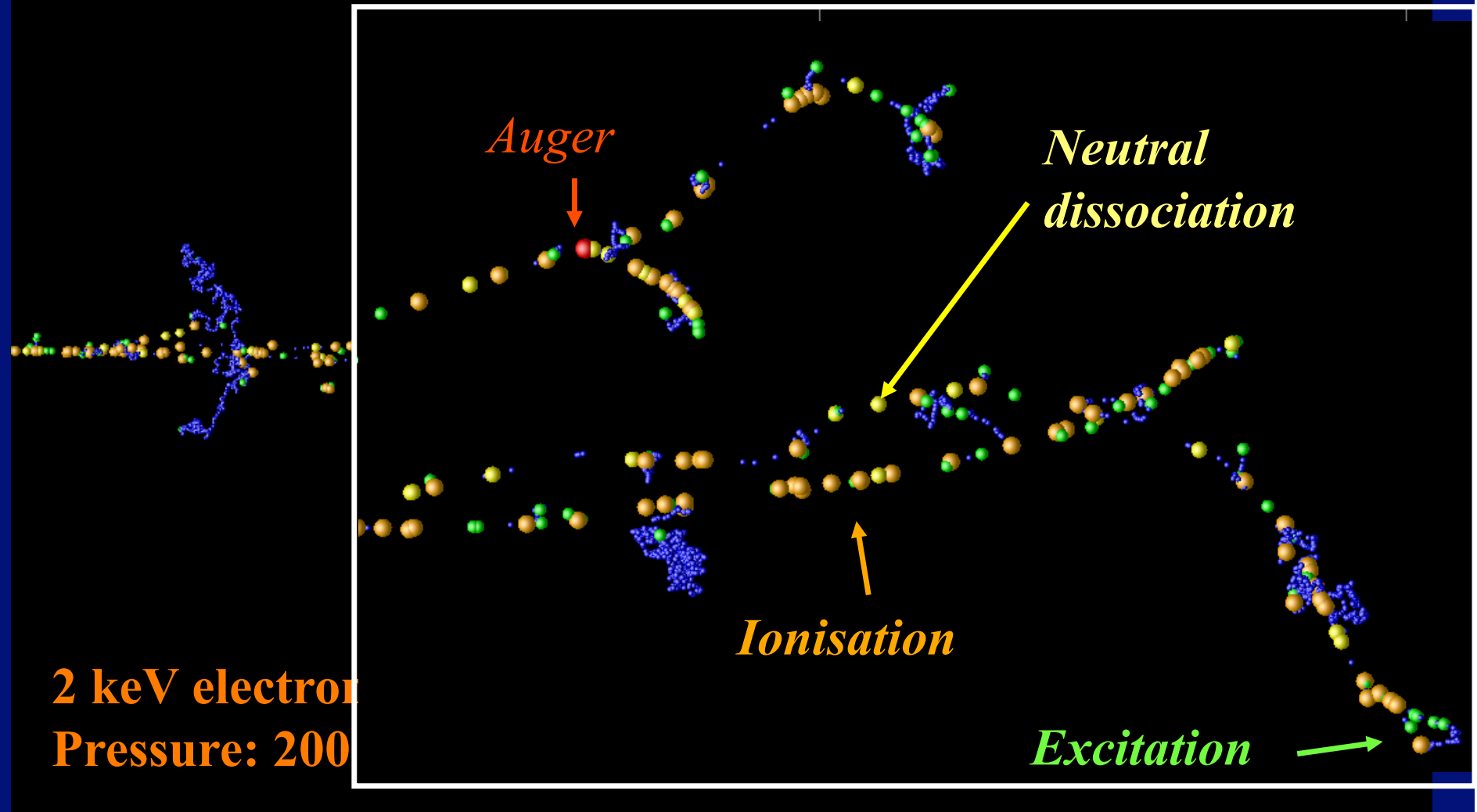
Energy scale  
(eV)



H<sub>2</sub>O , 200 Torr

# Different types of interactions

5 single tracks





# Role of Secondaries

- Major product of cosmic rays are more particles !
- **Secondary electrons are the major species**  
and they can induce chemistry as well as ions (but are not themselves reactive)

indeed one CR may produce an **avalanche of  $10^4$**  electrons whose energy vary from close to **CR energy to thermal energy.**



# 5 keV Electron irradiation of methylamine and carbon dioxide ice makes glycine simple amino acid

## Effects of Irradiation

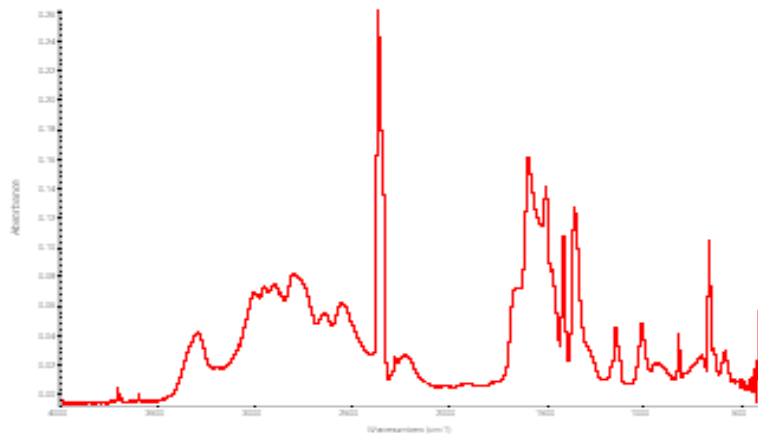


Figure 3 – Pristine  $\text{CH}_3\text{NH}_2$  &  $\text{CO}_2$  mixture

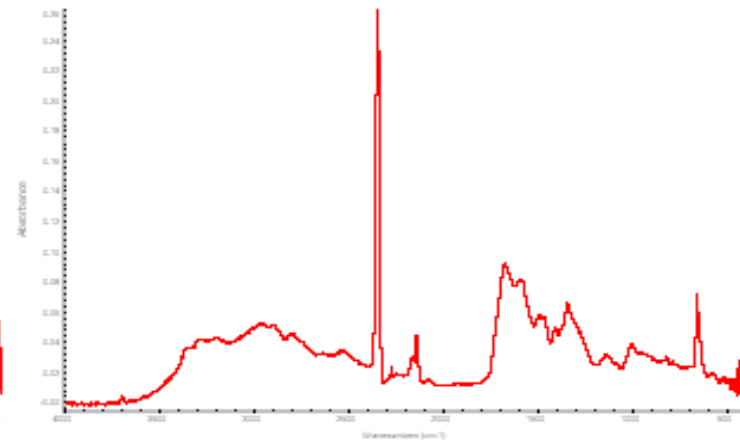


Figure 4 – 100 minute after irradiation of the mixture

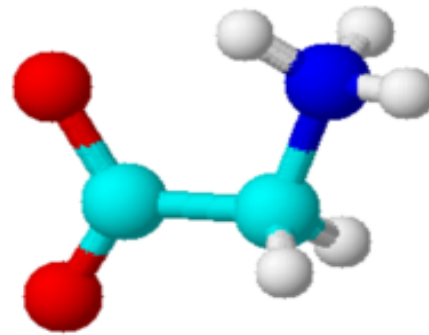


# Forms of Glycine

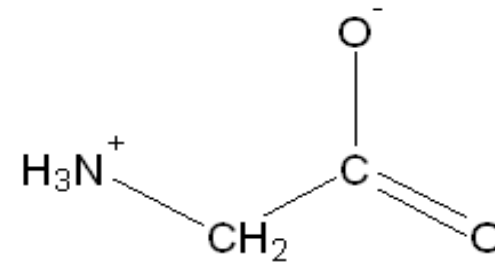
- Zwitterionic glycine

“A zwitterion is a dipolar ion that is capable of carrying both a positive and negative charge simultaneously”

E.G.  $\text{NH}_3^+\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^-$

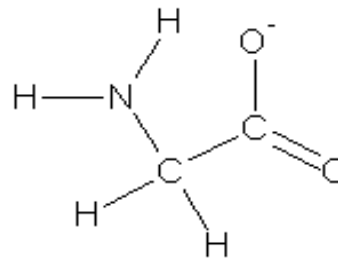


Zwitterionic Glycine



- Anionic

Negatively charged,  
e.g.  $\text{NH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{COO}^-$



Anionic Glycine

Slide 18

# Electron Induced Chemistry



- Some examples of laboratory study of electron induced synthesis of molecules under astrochemical conditions.
- Chemical synthesis in **1:1 Mixture of NH<sub>3</sub>:CO<sub>2</sub> Ice with 1 keV electrons at 30 K**

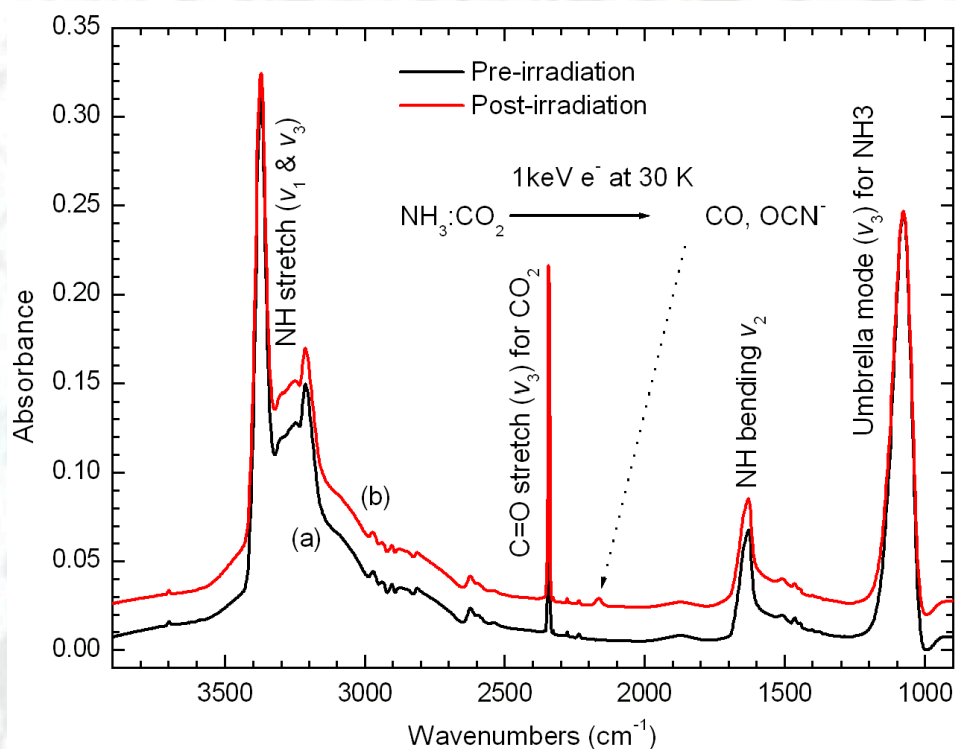


Fig 5-1: IR spectra of NH<sub>3</sub>:CO<sub>2</sub> (1:1), (a) pre-irradiation (b) post irradiation (58 min). Both spectra at 30 K

# Formation of ammonium carbamate

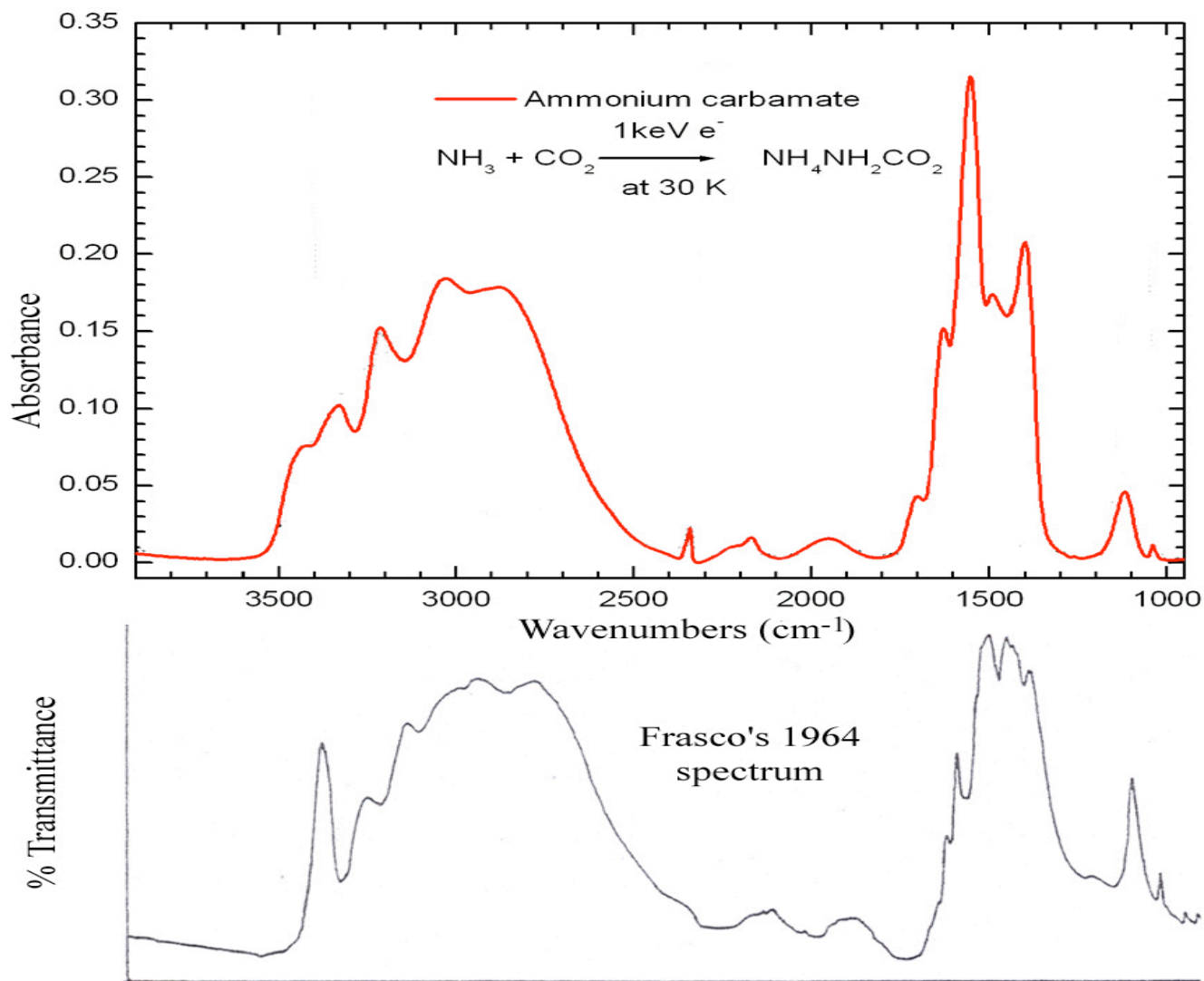


Fig. 5-5: IR spectra of  $\text{NH}_3:\text{CO}_2$  (1:1), (a) post-irradiation (58 min) and after warm-up (220 - 270 K); and (b) comparing Frasco's actual 1964 experimental spectrum at 248 K

# Formation of ethylene glycol in pure methanol ice

## $\text{HOH}_2\text{C}-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$

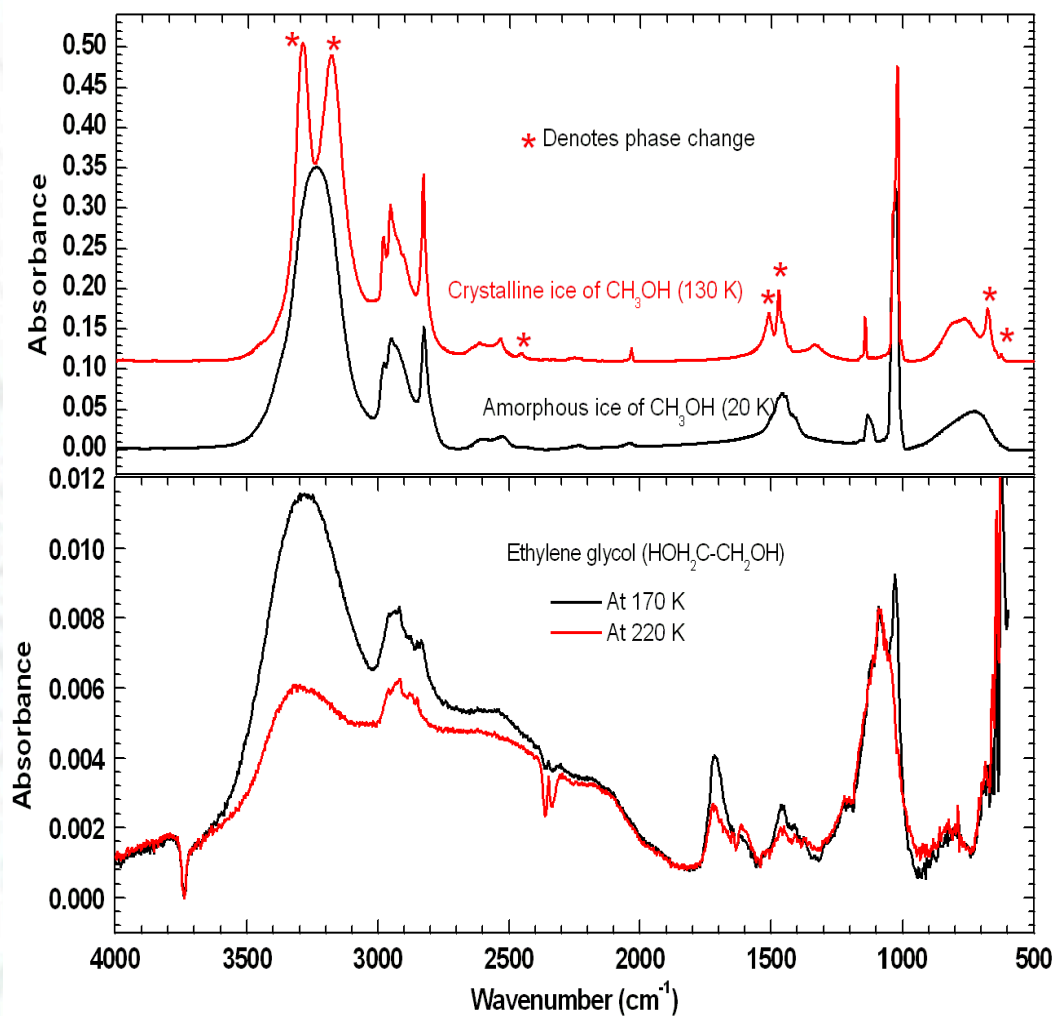


Fig. 6-3: Ethylene glycol was observed after irradiation of pure  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  with 1 keV  $e^-$  at 30 K and then annealing process



# Formation of methyl formate $\text{CH}_3\text{OHCO}$

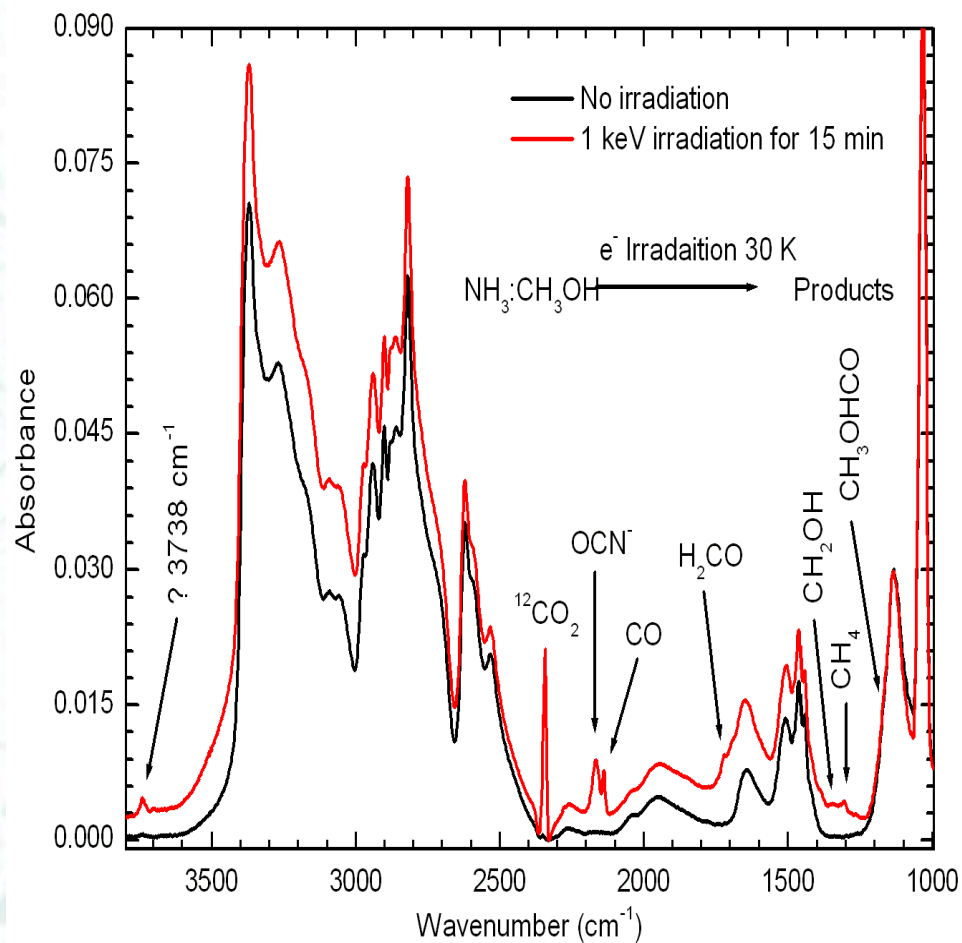


Fig. 6-9: Irradiation of 1:1 binary mixture of  $\text{NH}_3:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  with 1 keV  $\text{e}^-$  at 30 K

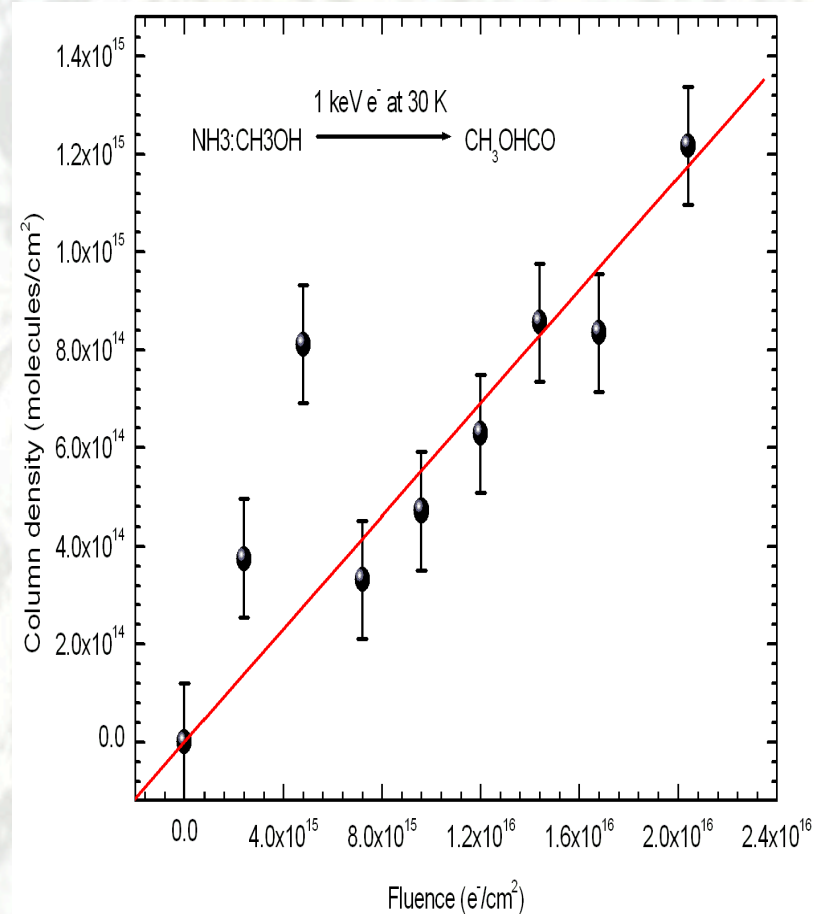


Fig 6-14: Formation of  $\text{CH}_3\text{OHCO}$  during the irradiation of binary mixture  $\text{NH}_3:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  with 1 keV  $\text{e}^-$  at 30 K

# Formation of formamide $\text{HCONH}_2$

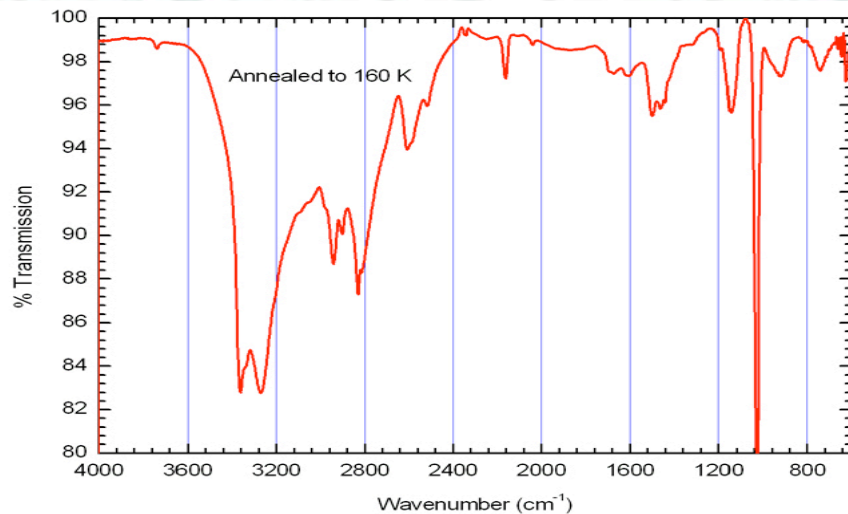


Fig. F6-16a: Spectrum of formamide formed during annealing to 160 K of irradiated ice of 1:1 binary mixture of  $\text{NH}_3:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  with 1 keV  $e^-$  at 30 K

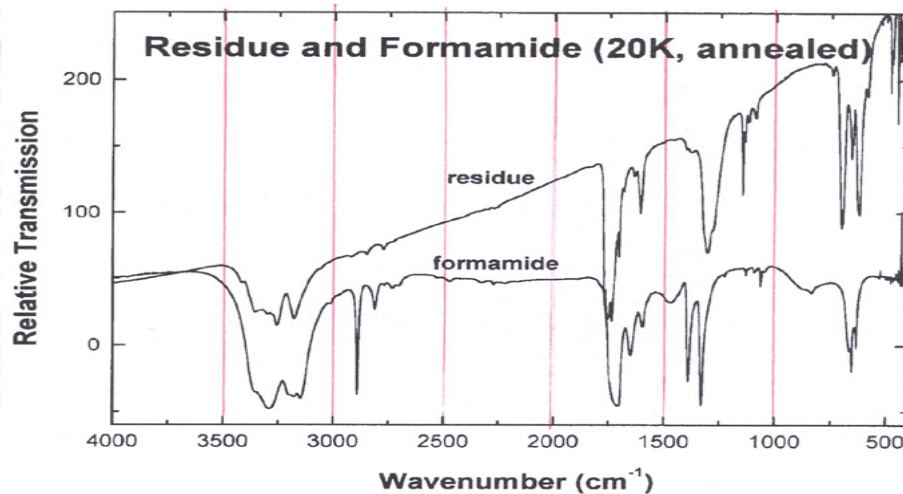


Fig. 6-16b: Comparison of infrared spectra of residue with formamide. Both deposits have been annealed (to 165 K) and recooled to 20 K to produce crystalline structure

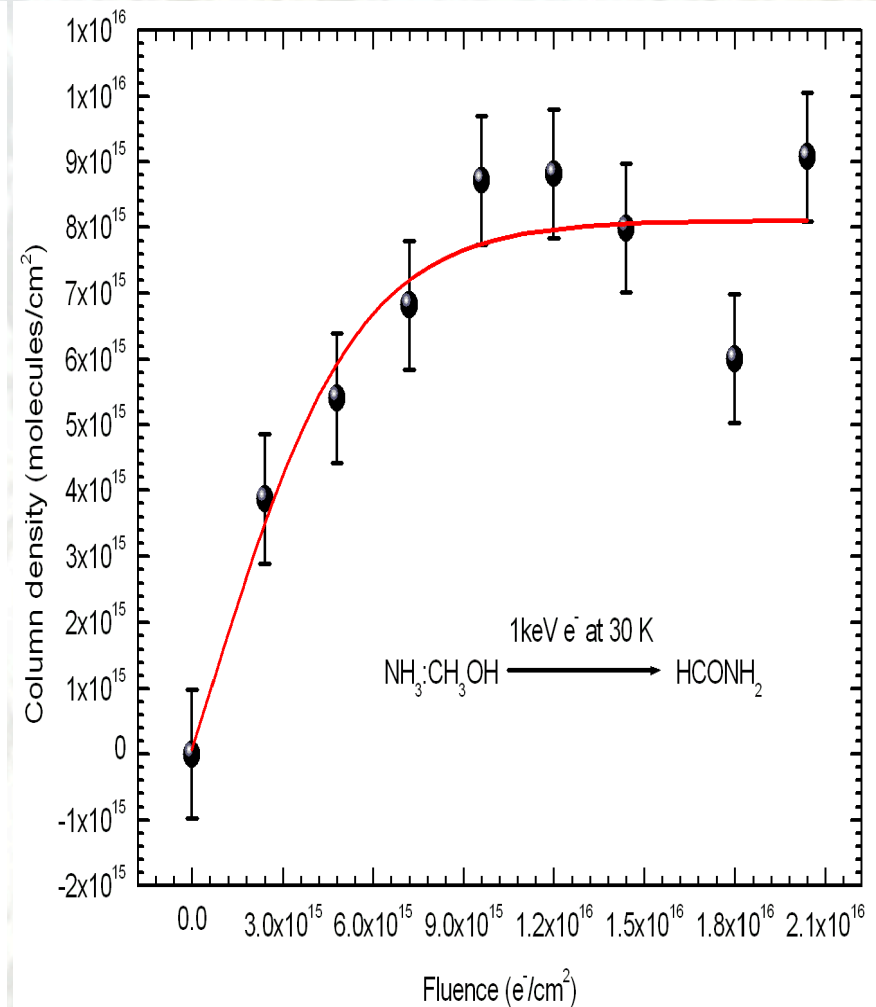


Fig. 6-15: Formation of  $\text{HCONH}_2$  during the irradiation of 1:1 binary mixture of  $\text{NH}_3:\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  with 1 keV at 30 K

(Khanna, Lowenthal et al. 2002)



# Electron Induced Chemistry

These are examples of high energy electrons 'Blasting' molecules apart or release of secondary electrons !!

But at low energies electrons can do surprising things !



# Electron Induced Chemistry

At low energies electrons can do surprising things !

- They can 'stick' to the molecule
- To form a **negative ion** or 'resonance'
- But only for a very short period of time ( $10^{-14}$  s)
  
- Then the electron detaches
- Leaving molecule excited or not (elastic scattering)
- But this process can also lead to the dissociation of the molecule

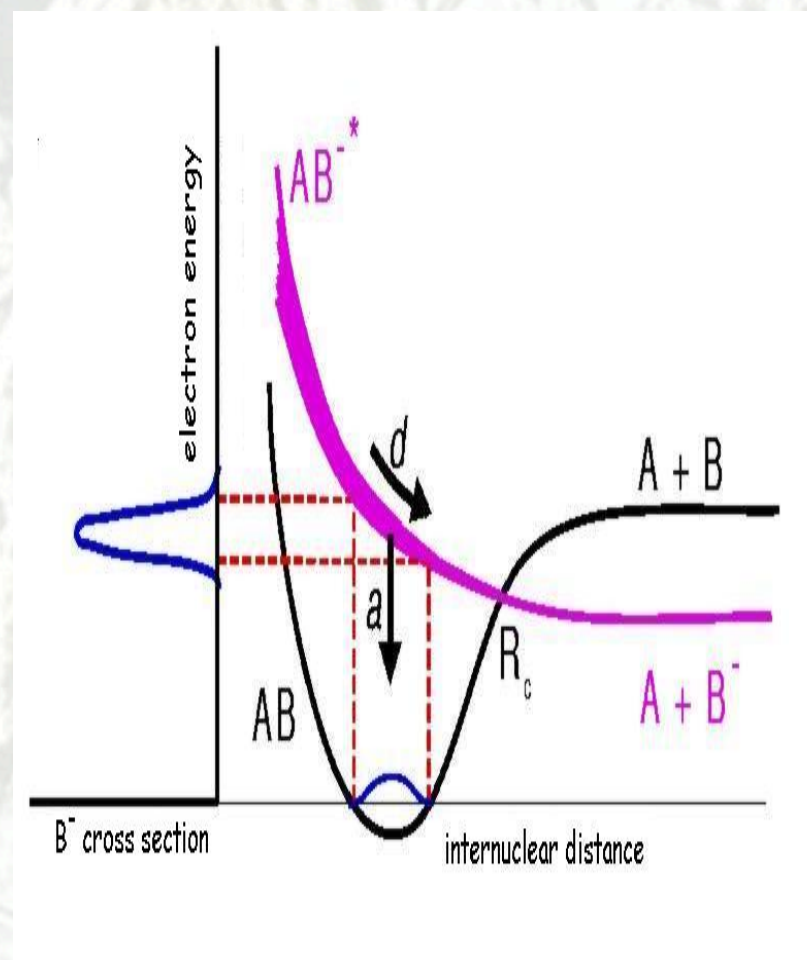
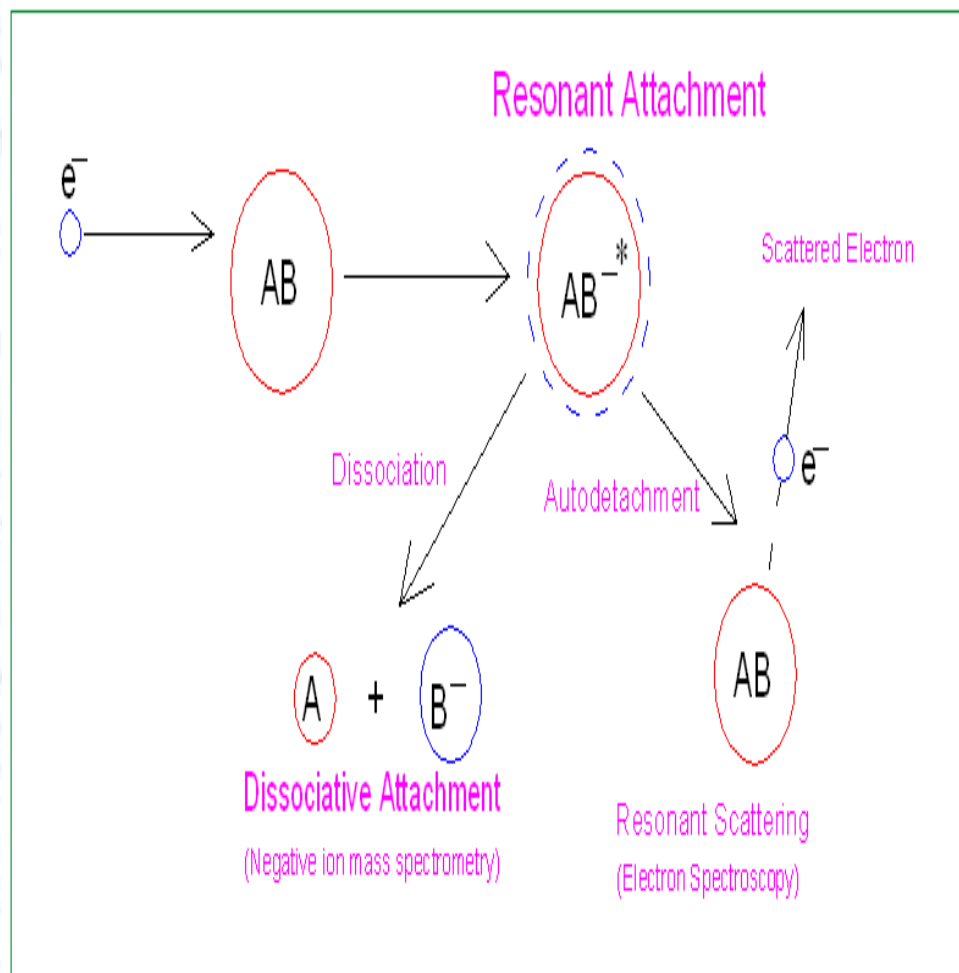
This is the process of **Dissociative Electron Attachment** (DEA)



# Bond Selectivity using Electrons

## Process of Dissociative Electron Attachment

*Product is anion and neutral(s)*



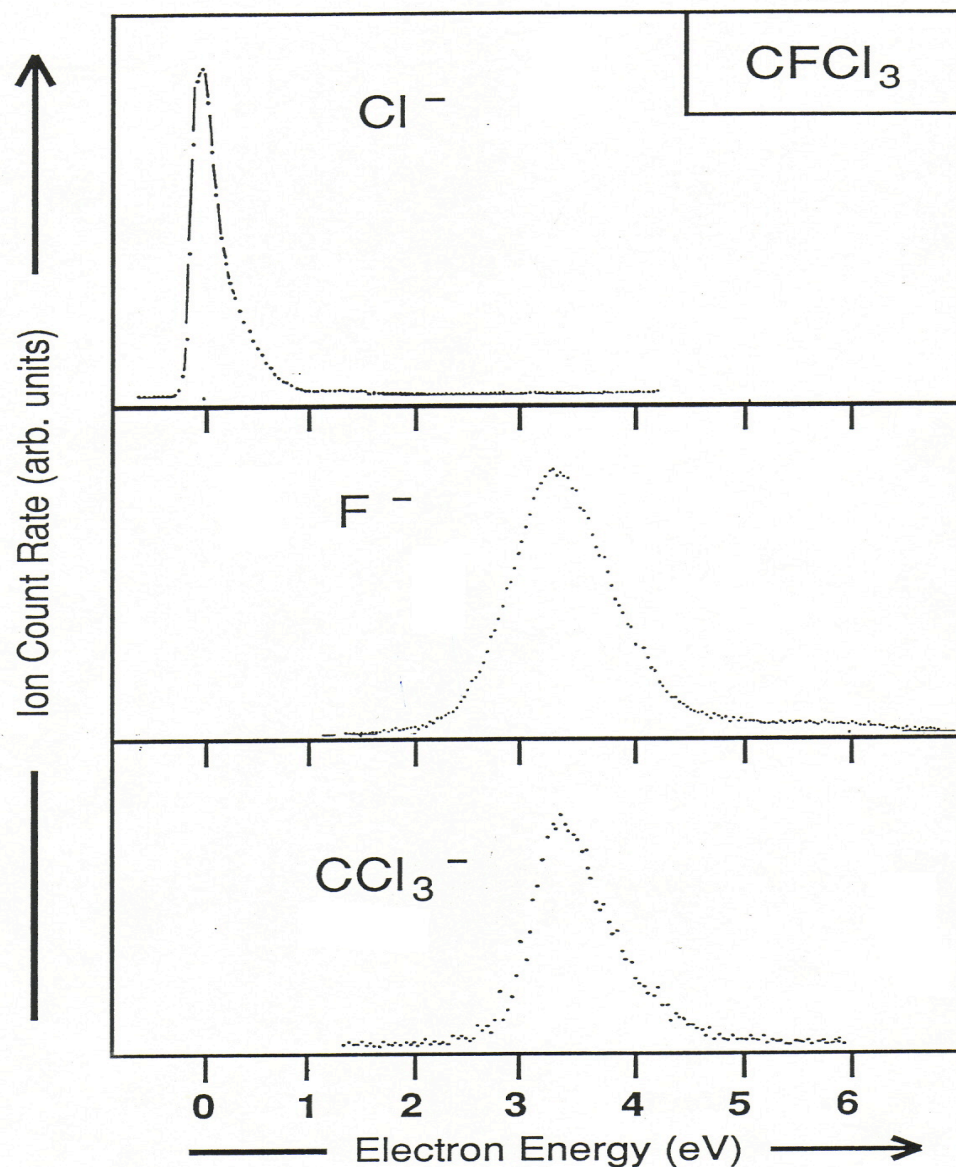


## **Electron Induced Chemistry; Chemical Control at the Molecular Level**

Dissociative electron attachment therefore provides a method for breaking up molecules at low energies

**Energies lower than the chemical bond energy !!!**

Hence electrons can initiate chemistry



Selective C-Cl bond  
cleavage at 0 eV

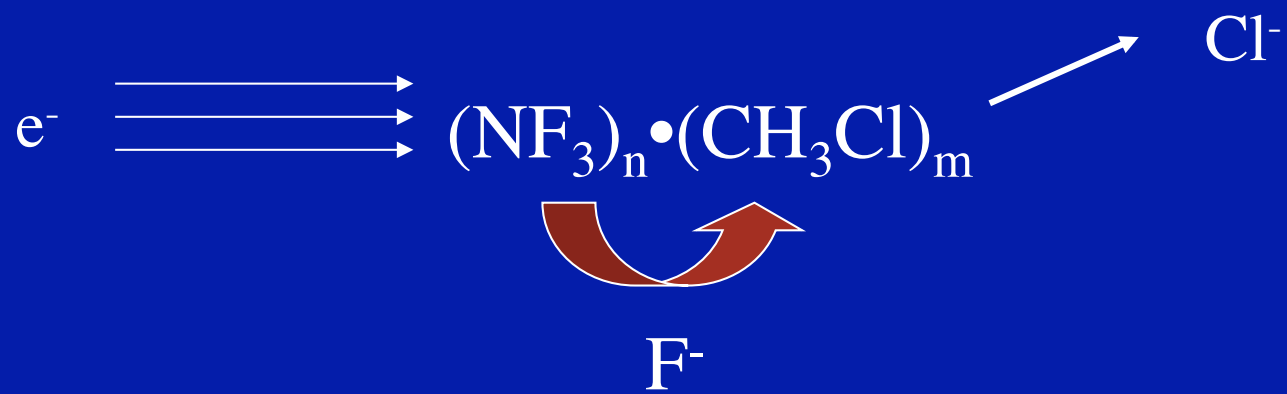
Selective C-F bond  
cleavage at 3.2 eV

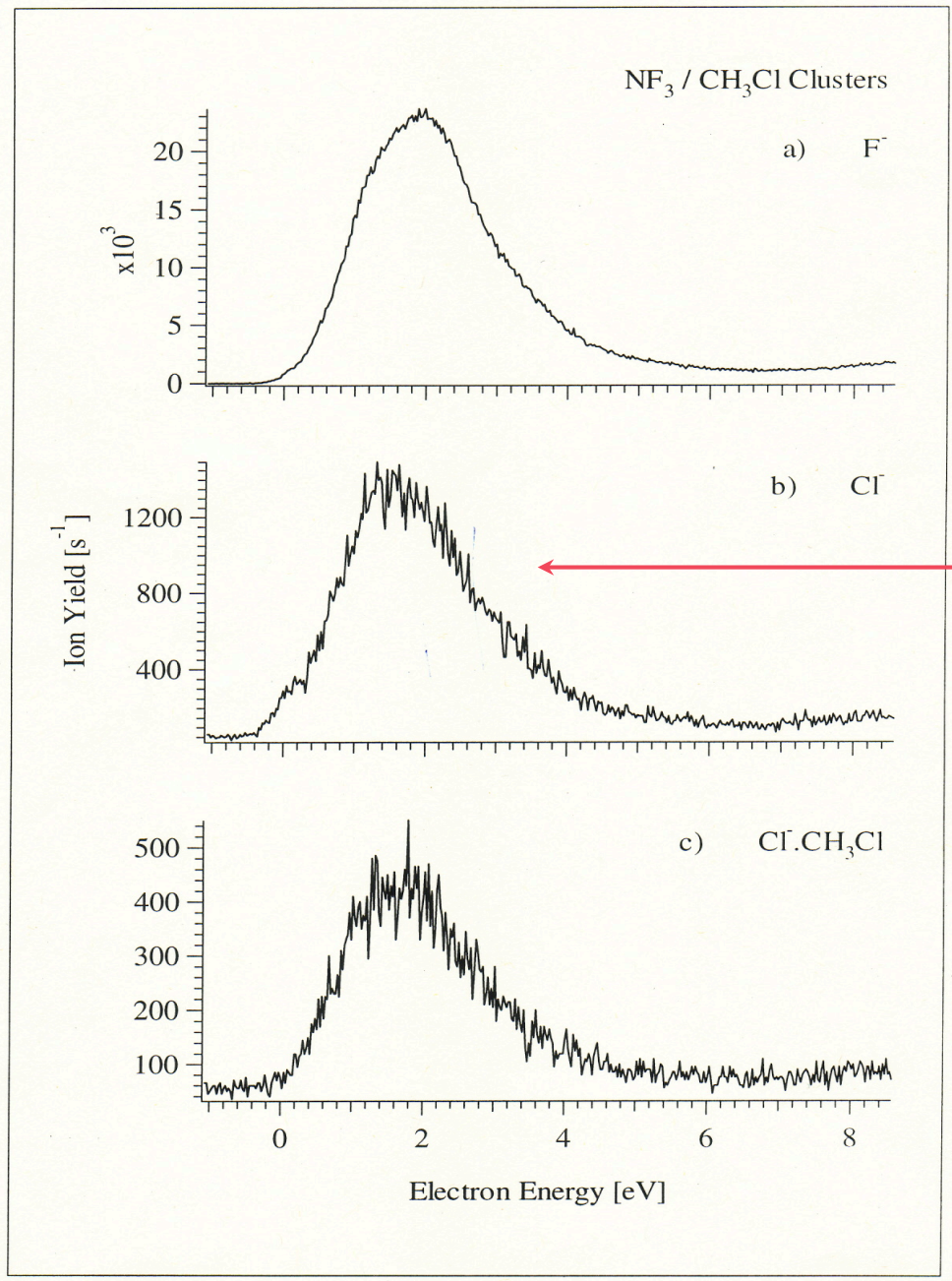
Illenberger et al Berlin

## Nucleophilic Displacement ( $S_N2$ ) Reaction









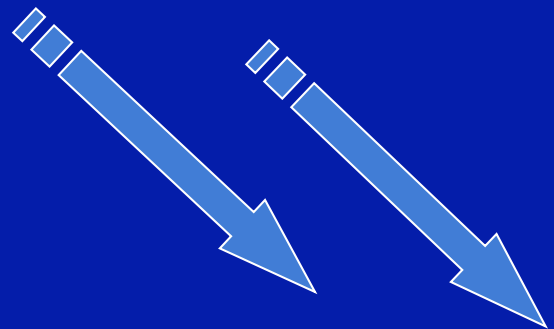
S<sub>N</sub>2 Reaction

Illenberger et al Berlin

# EIPAM

- Chemical **surface transformations** using electron induced reactions/
- DEA produces products that subsequently react on the surface
- E.g. Irradiate film of  $\text{NF}_3$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{Cl}$
- Form  $\text{CH}_3\text{F}$

$e^-$

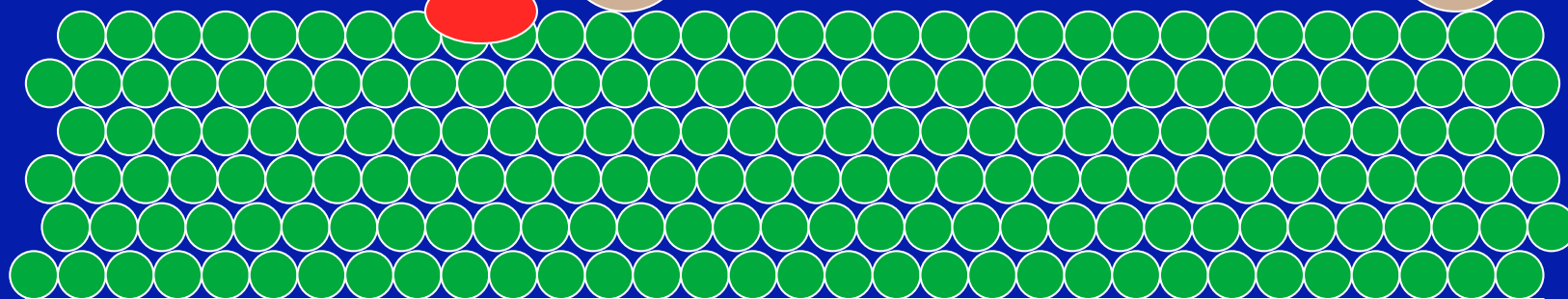


$F^-$



$CH_3Cl$

$CH_3F$

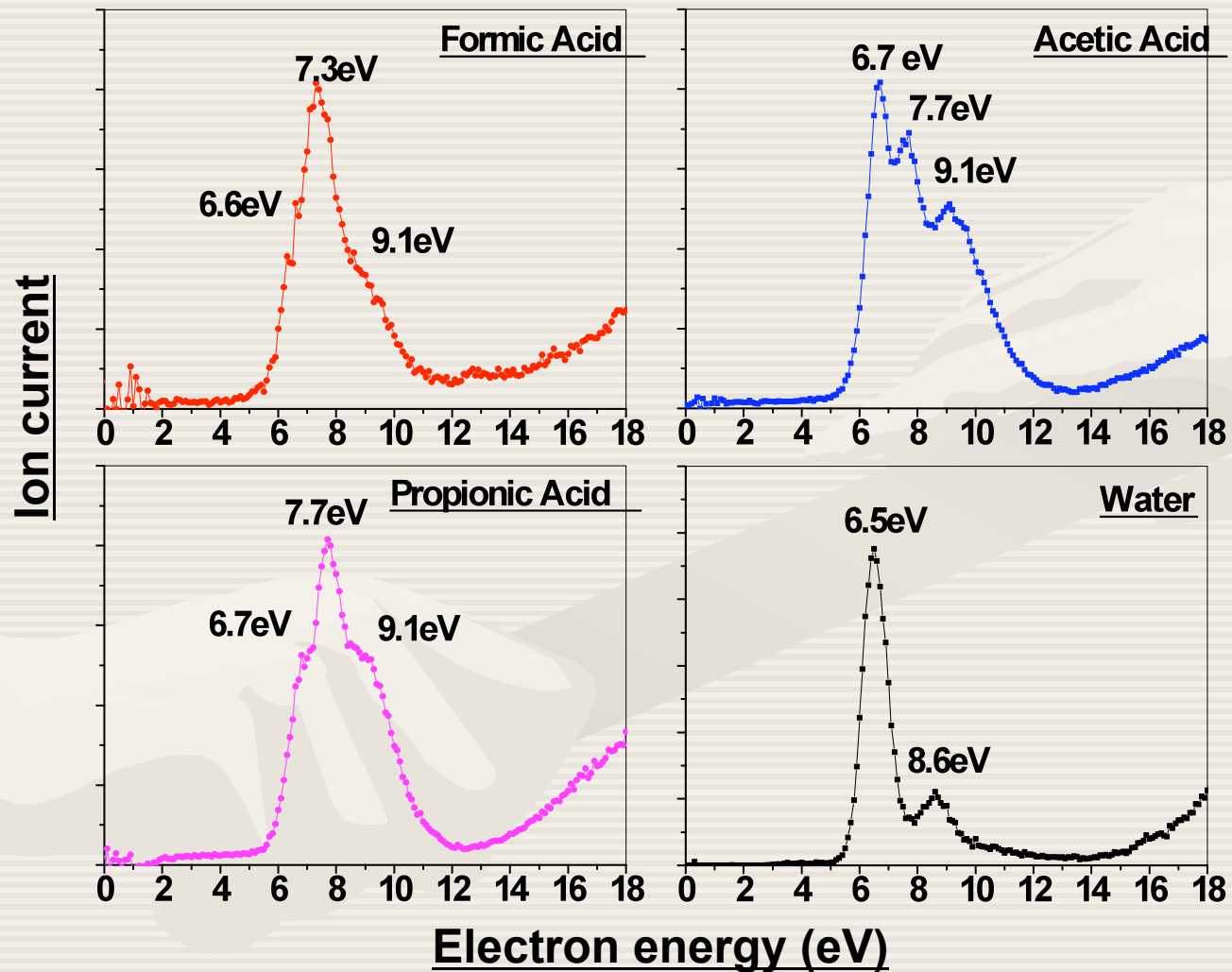


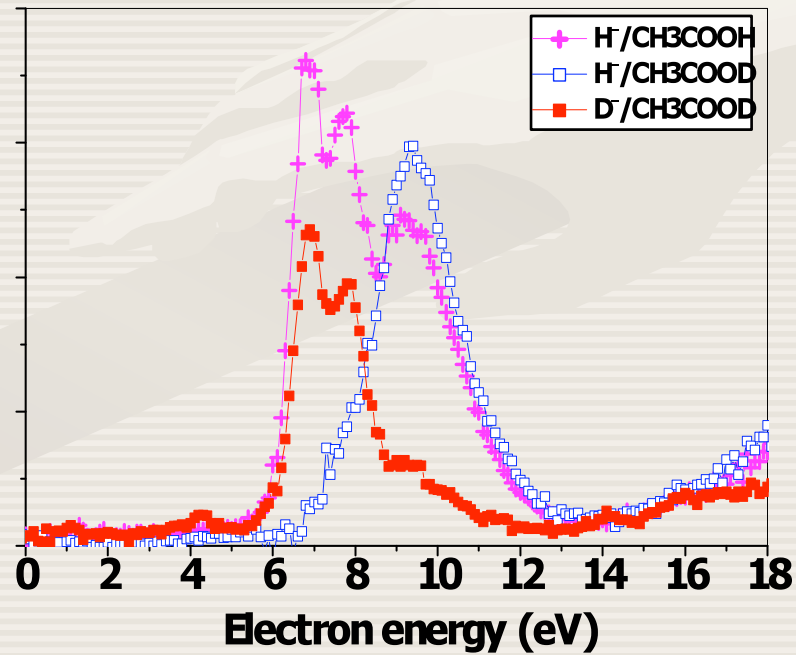
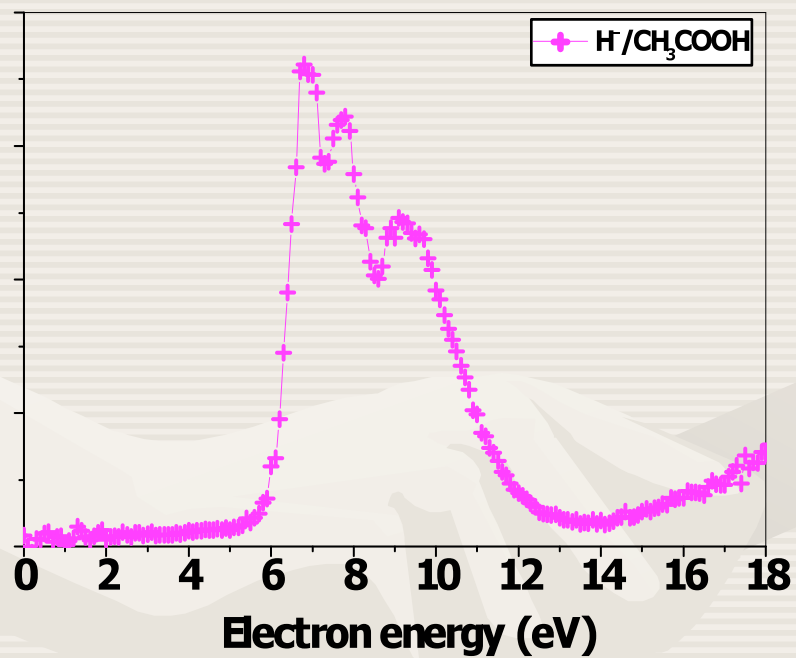
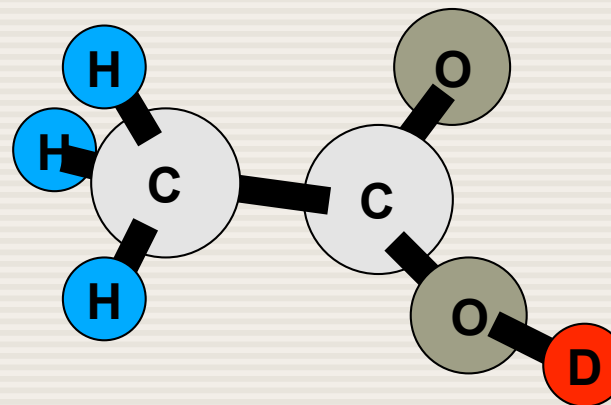
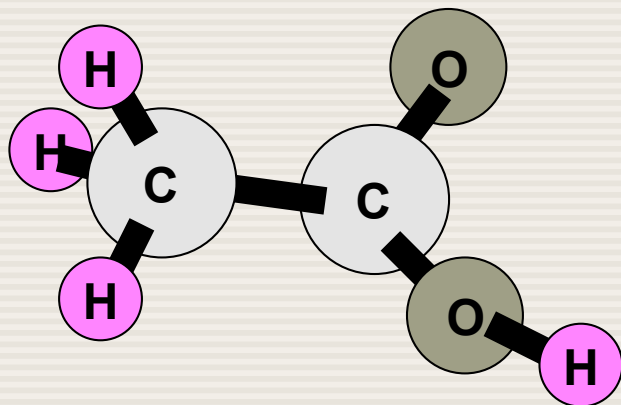
$Cl^-$



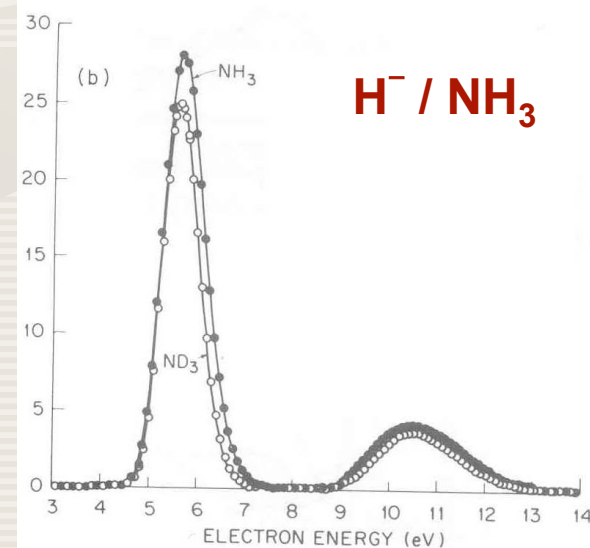
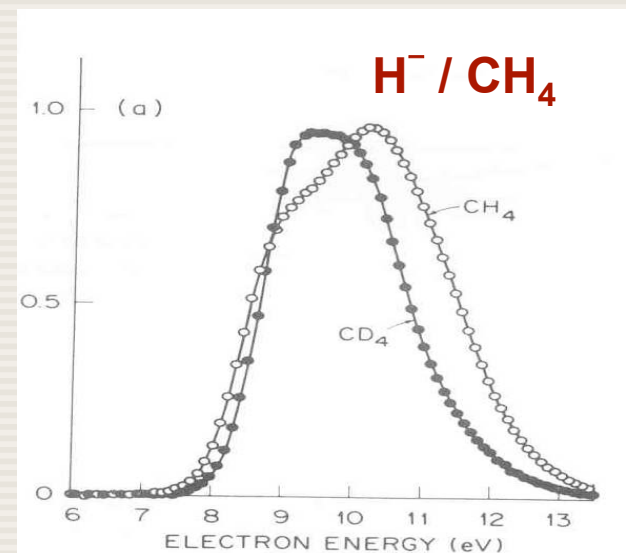
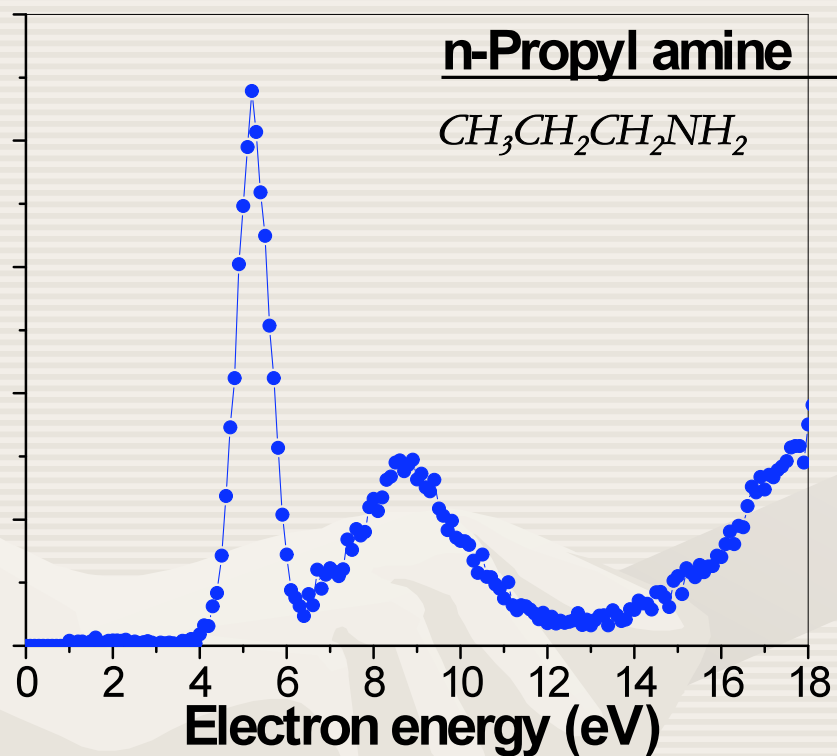
# DEA is universal

Relevant to most molecules in the ISM





# $H^-$ from Amine



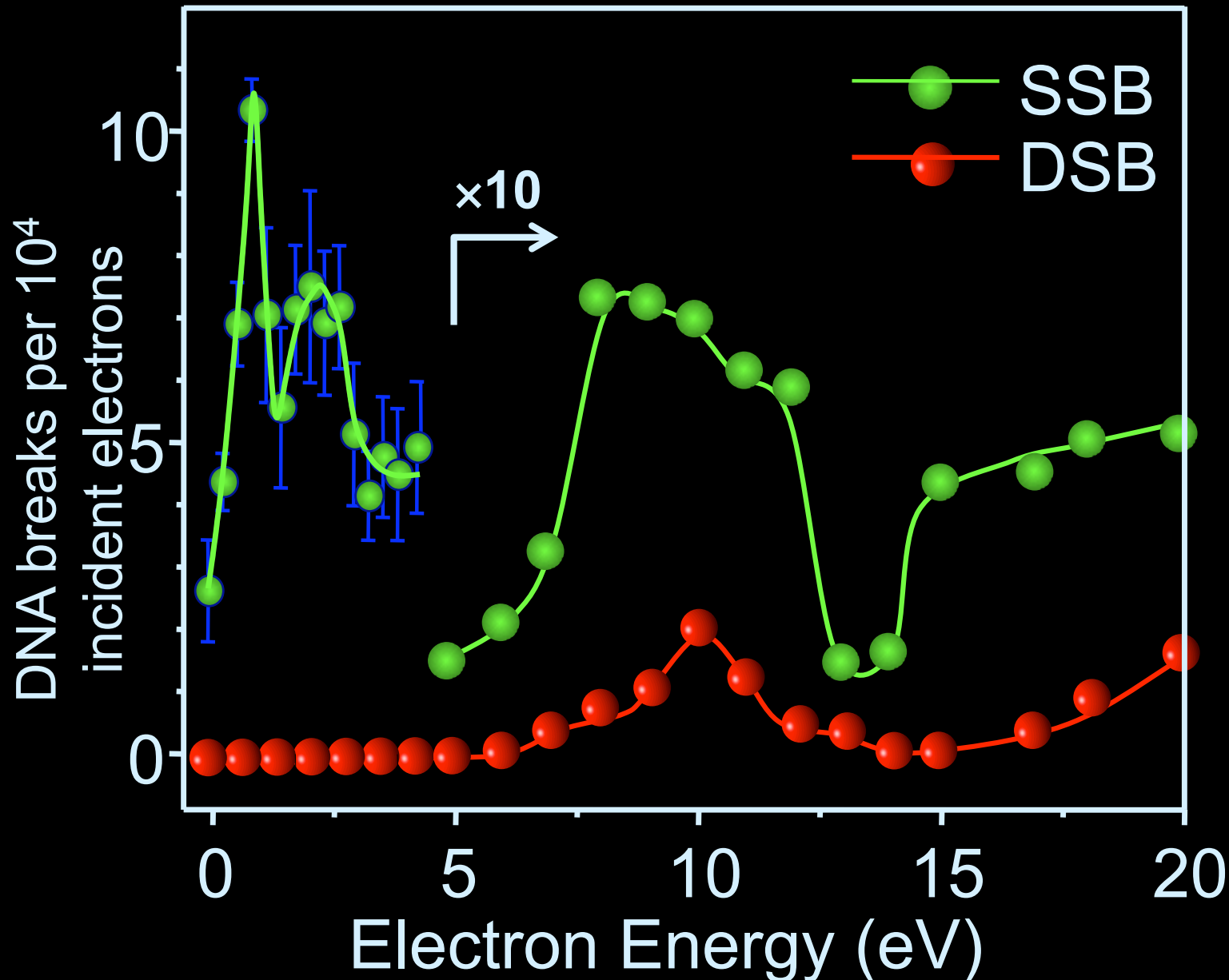
# DEA is universal

Even occurs in larger biomolecules such as DNA



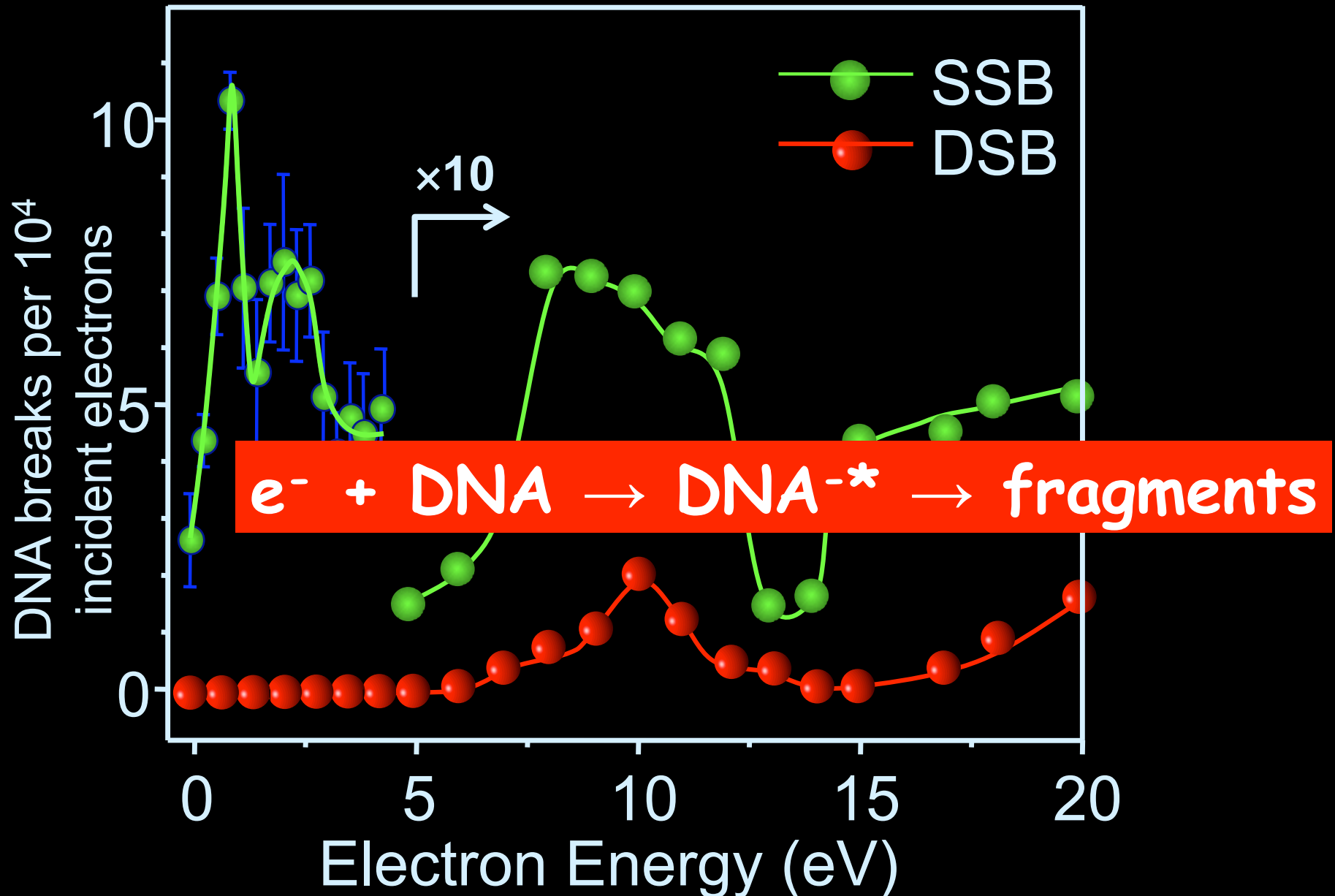


# Strand breaks of DNA



L. Sanche et al. Science, 287 (2000) 1659 and PRL (2004)

# Strand breaks of DNA

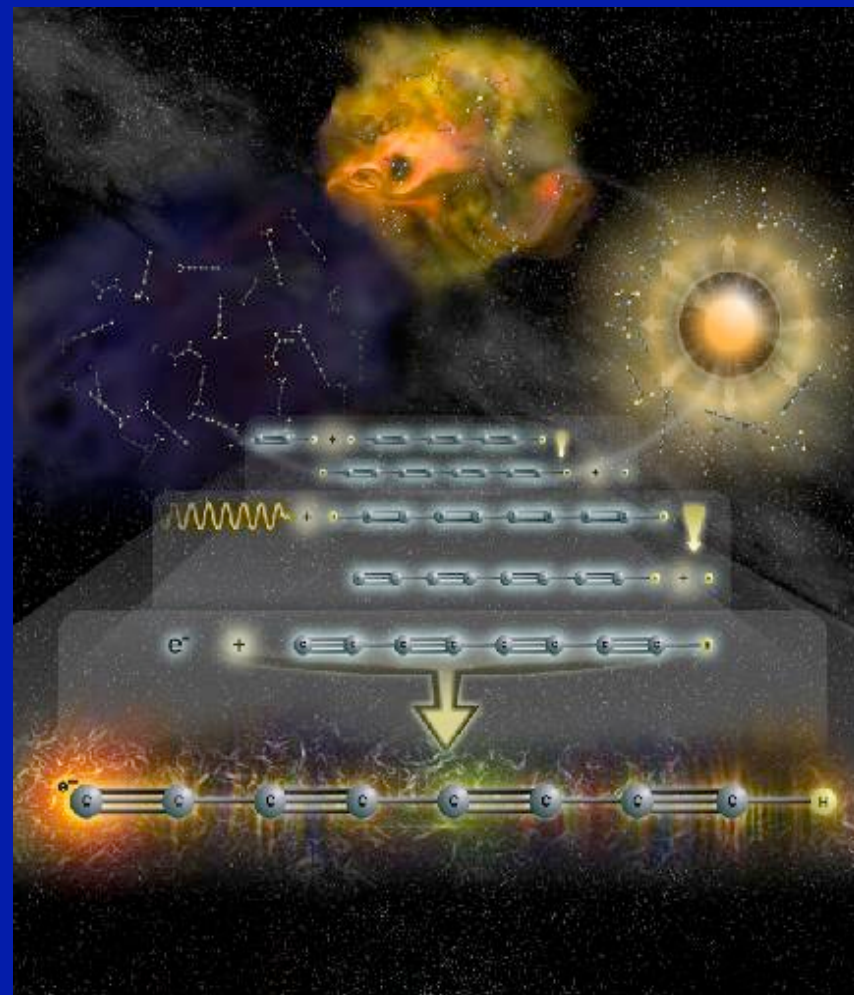


L. Sanche et al. Science, 287 (2000) 1659 and PRL (2004)

# Presence of anions in space

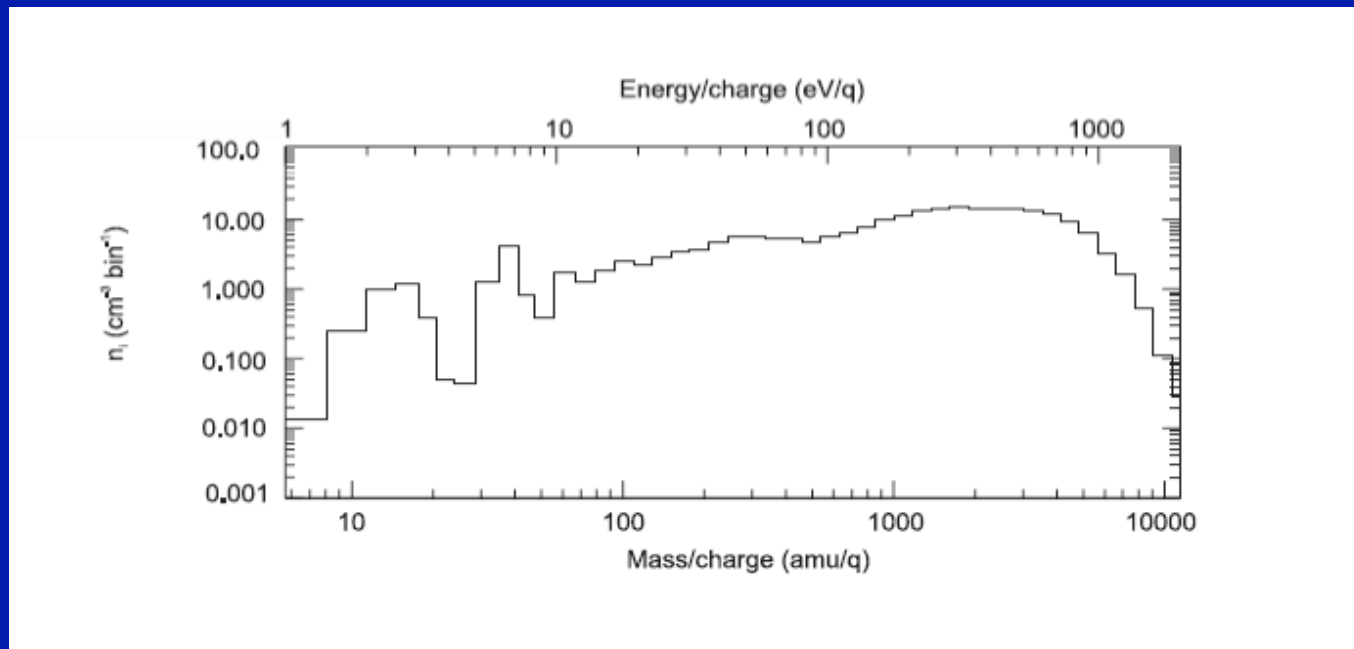
The number of molecular anions detected in space is growing with the detection of;

$C_4H^-$ ,  $C_6H^-$ ,  $C_8H^-$  and  
more recently the first nitriles  
 $CN^-$   $C_3N^-$  and  $C_5N^-$



# Anions on Titan

Negative ion density measured by ELS at an altitude of 953 km during the Titan  
(from Coates *et al.* (2007)).



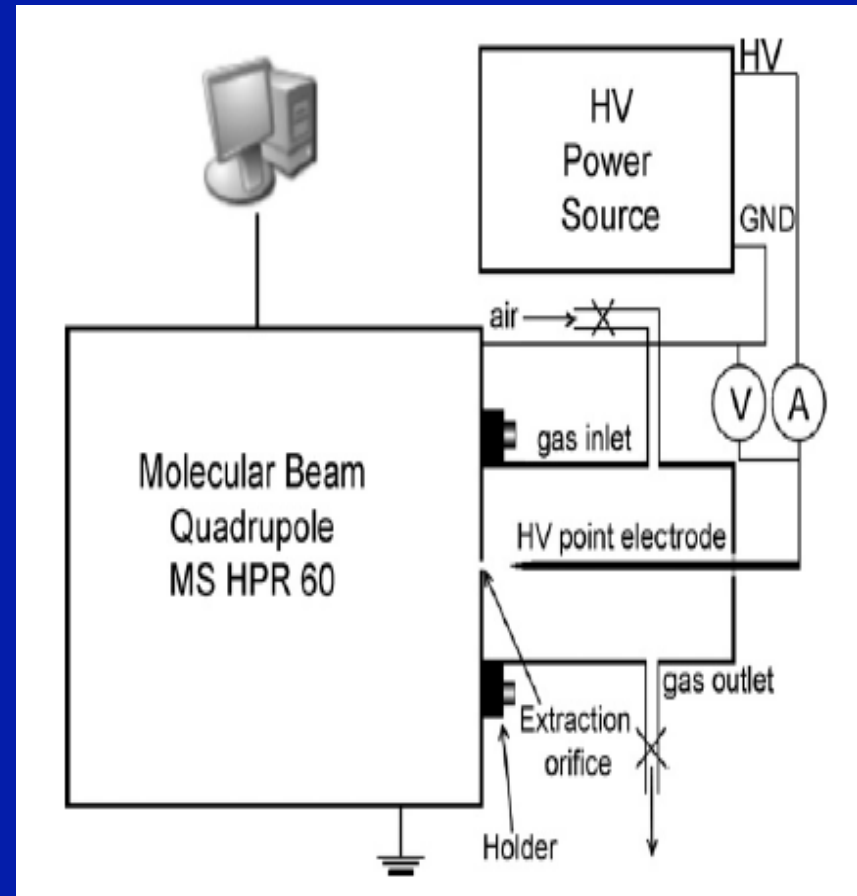
# Laboratory mimics of Titan's atmosphere

Use discharges to mimic the chemistry and physical conditions in Titan's atmosphere ( 5-10% CH<sub>4</sub> and 95-90% N<sub>2</sub>)

Corona discharge

Dielectric Barrier

Discharge

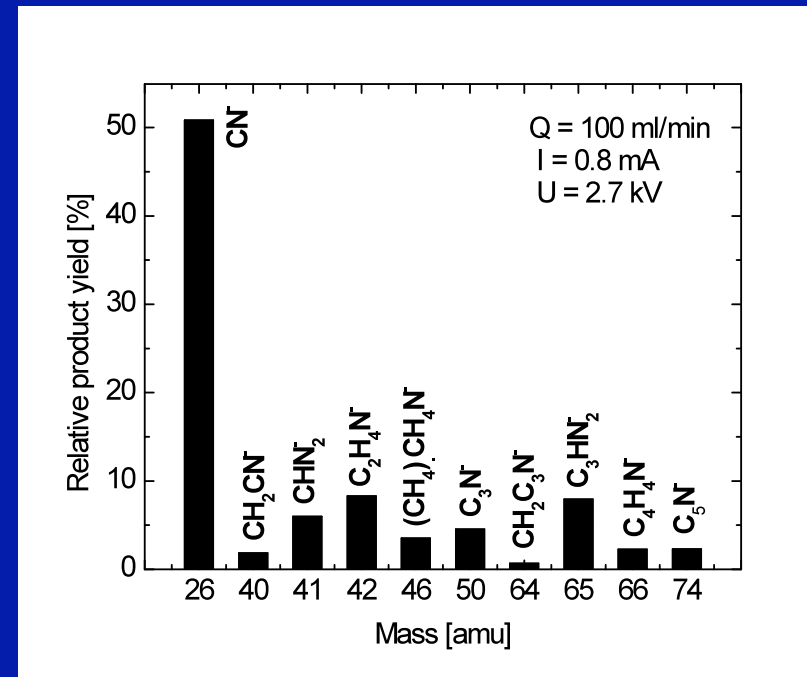


# Laboratory mimics of Titan's atmosphere

- The detection of  $\text{CN}^-$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CN}^-$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{N}^-$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CN}^-$  and  $\text{C}_5\text{N}^-$

provides good evidence of the presence of

$\text{HCN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{HC}_3\text{N}$  and  $\text{HC}_5\text{N}$   
neutrals





# Learning Outcomes Lecture 2

- Cosmic rays induce chemistry in astrochemical/planetary ices
- Laboratory experiments can replicate these conditions
- CRs produce secondary species (electrons) which may in fact drive most of the chemistry.
- ALMA will provide fascinating new maps of molecular species that will allow the routes of synthesis to be explored – Surface and CR/ Electron chemistry may be highlighted