

# Plasma physics

2023 winter s. 2/1 , C+Ex

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- Langevin theory of ion – molecule collisions
- Elementary processes in plasma: excitation, ionization



# Chemical kinetics



$$\text{number of collisions} \cdots \sigma_{AB} l_A n_B = \sigma_{AB} v_{AB} n_A n_B$$

Energy distribution  
of reactants  $f$

$$\frac{d[A]}{dt} = -\langle \sigma_{AB} v \rangle_f n_A n_B \quad \langle \sigma_{AB} v \rangle_f = \int \sigma_{AB}(v) v f dv$$

$$\frac{d[A]}{dt} = \underline{\underline{-k n_A n_B}}$$



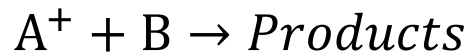
$$\mu = \frac{m_A m_B}{m_A + m_B}$$

Rigid Spheres

$$\sigma_{RS} = \pi(r_A + r_B)^2 \quad \langle \sigma_{AB} v_{AB} \rangle = \langle \pi(r_A + r_B)^2 \cdot v_{AB} \rangle = \pi b^2 \sqrt{\frac{8k_B T}{\pi \mu}} = b^2 \sqrt{\frac{8\pi k_B T}{\mu}}$$



# Langevin collisional model



$\alpha = \frac{|\vec{p}|}{|\vec{E}|}$  polarizability

$L = \mu v b_c$  angular momentum

$$U = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha q^2}{r^4} + \frac{L^2}{2\mu r^2}$$

$$E_k = \frac{1}{2} \mu v^2$$

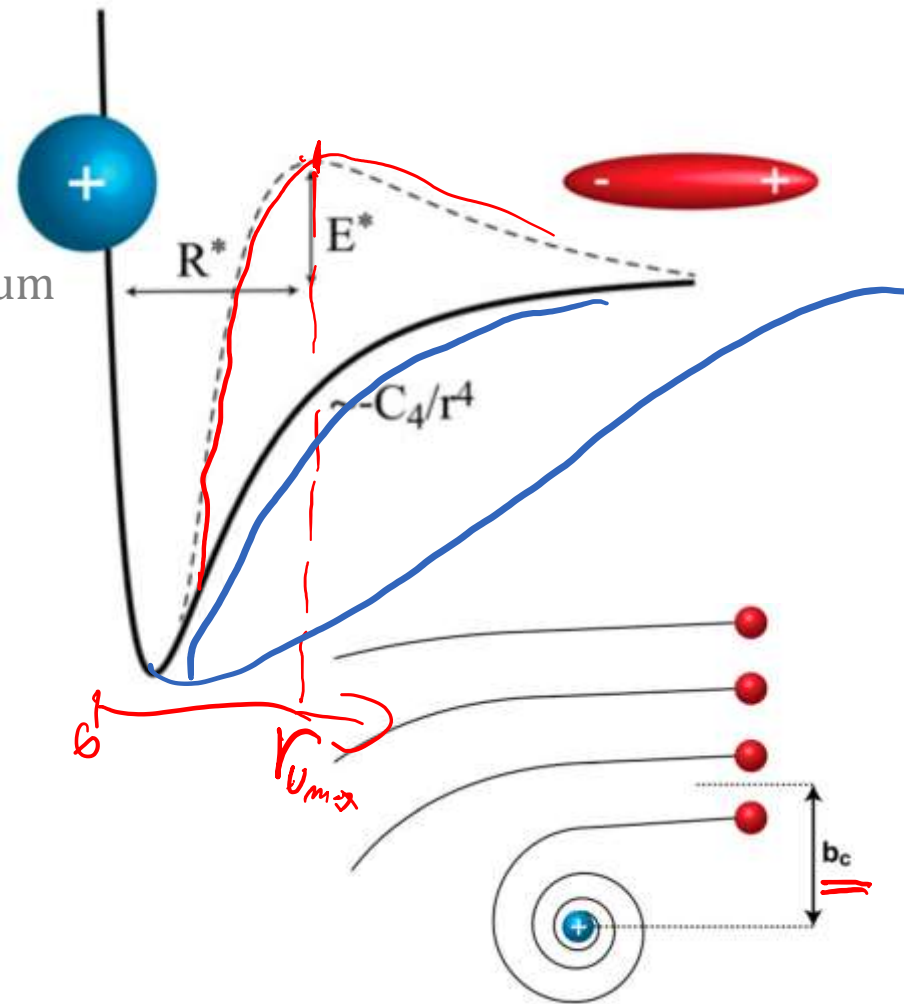
$$U = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha q^2}{r^4} + \frac{\mu^2 v^2 b_c^2}{2\mu r^2} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha q^2}{r^4} + E_k \frac{b_c^2}{r^2}$$

$U_{\max}$

$$\frac{dU}{dr} = 0 = +\frac{4}{2} \frac{\alpha q^2}{r^5} - 2E_k \frac{b_c^2}{r^3}$$

$$\Rightarrow r_{U_{\max}} = + \frac{q}{b_c} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{E_k}}$$

$$U_{\max} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{\alpha q^2}{\left(\frac{q}{b_c} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{E_k}}\right)^4} + E_k b_c^2 \frac{b_c^2 E_k^2}{q^2 \alpha} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{b_c^4 E_k^2}{\alpha q^2}$$



# Langevin collisional rate coefficient

$$U_{\max} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{b_c^4 E_k^2}{\alpha q^2}$$

$$U_{\max} \leftrightarrow E_k \quad b_c = \sqrt[4]{\frac{2\alpha q^2}{E_k}}$$

$$\sigma_L = \pi b_c^2 = \pi q \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{E_k}}$$

$$k_L = \int \underline{v} \sigma_L \underline{f(v)} dv = \int \cancel{v} \pi q \sqrt{\frac{2\alpha}{\cancel{\frac{1}{2}\mu v^2}}} f(v) dv = 2\pi q \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\mu}} \int \underline{f(v)} dv$$

For once charged ions and molecules without a permanent dipole

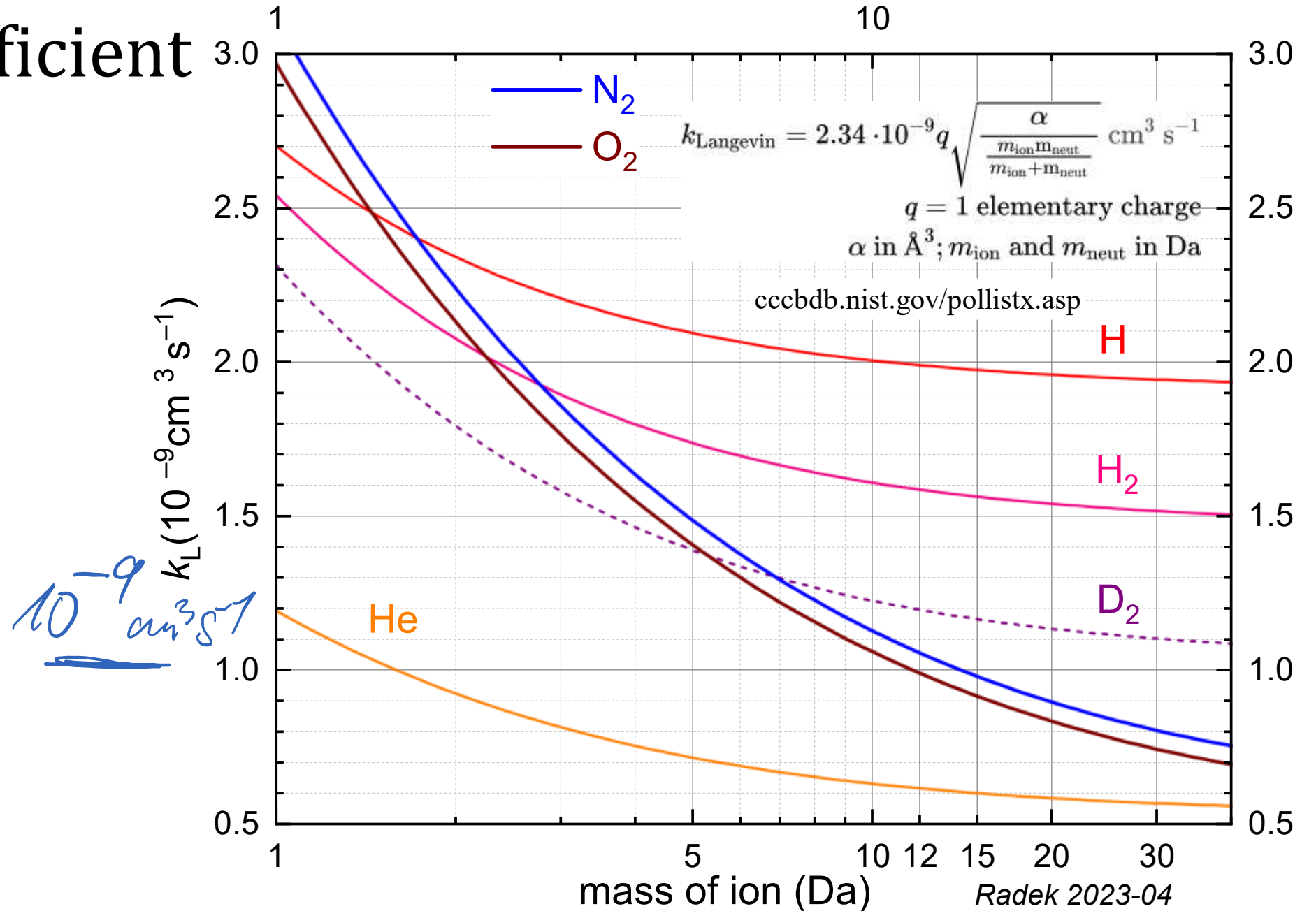
$$k_L = 2\pi q \sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{\mu}}$$

CGS

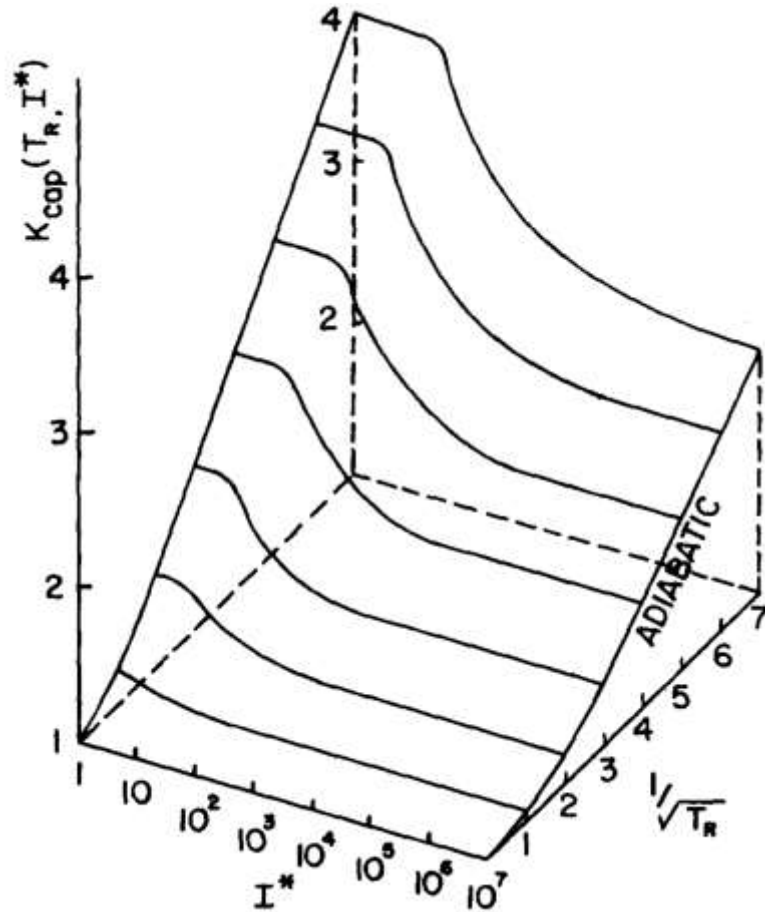
$$k_L = 2.34 \cdot 10^{-9} \sqrt{\frac{\alpha(\text{\AA}^3)}{\mu(\text{Da})}} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$



# Langevin collisional rate coefficient



# Collisional rate coefficient – permanent dipole



$$K_{\text{cap}}(T_R, I^*) = \frac{k_{\text{cap}}(T)}{k_L}$$

$$T_R = 2\alpha \frac{k_B T}{\mu_D^2}$$

$$I^* = \frac{\mu_D I}{\alpha q \mu}$$

$\alpha$  Angle-averaged polarizability

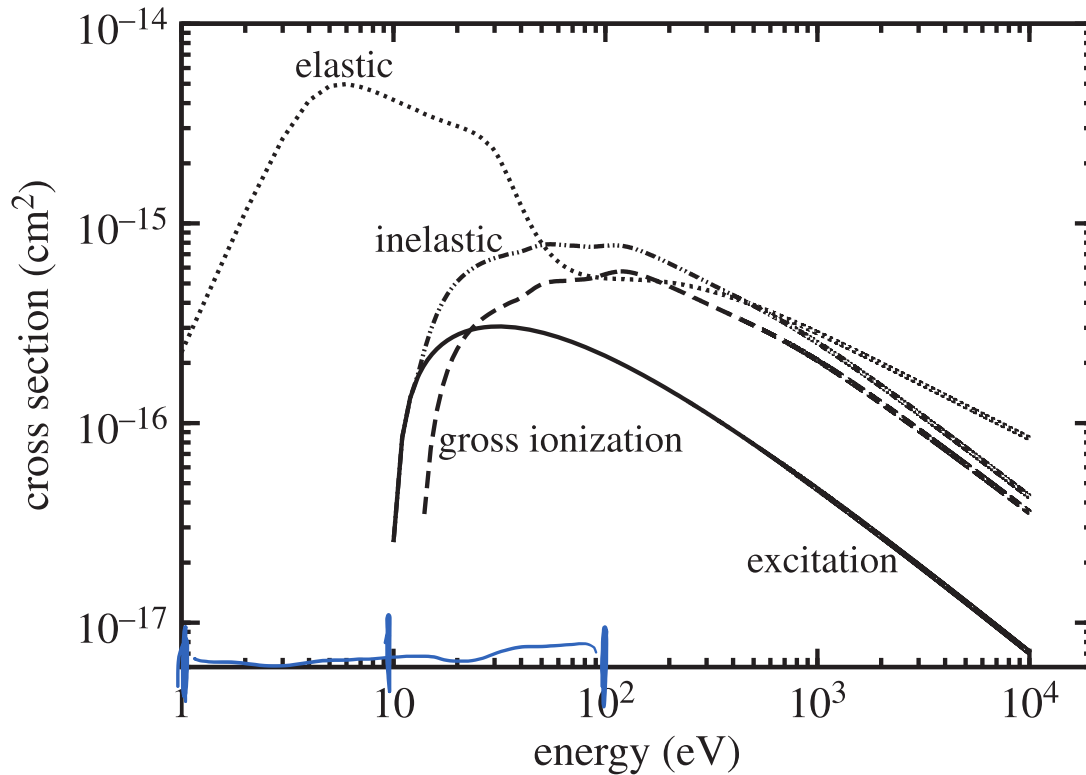
$\mu_D$  Dipole moment

$I$   
Moment of inertia of the neutral

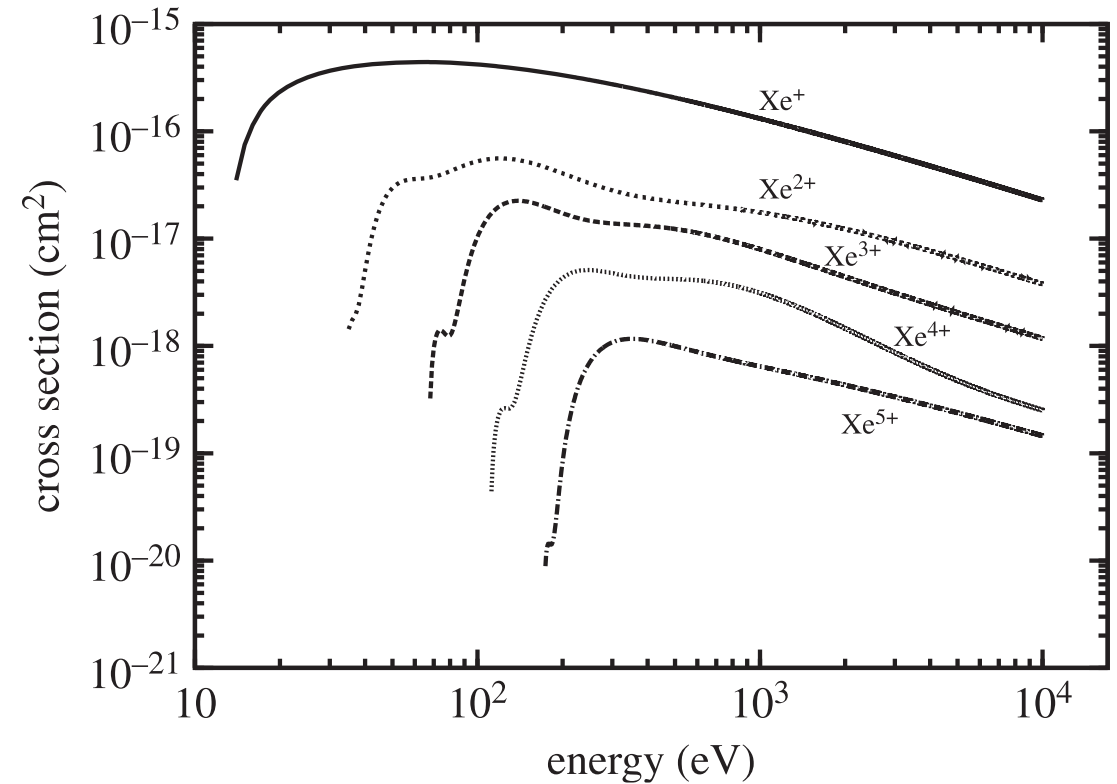
Parametrization of the ion-polar molecule collision rate constant by trajectory calculations  
 Su T, Chesnavich W.J. *J. Chem. Phys.* 76 (1982) 5183  
 doi: 10.1063/1.442828



# Electron - Atom collisions



Electron impact cross sections for various elastic and inelastic processes of Xe.

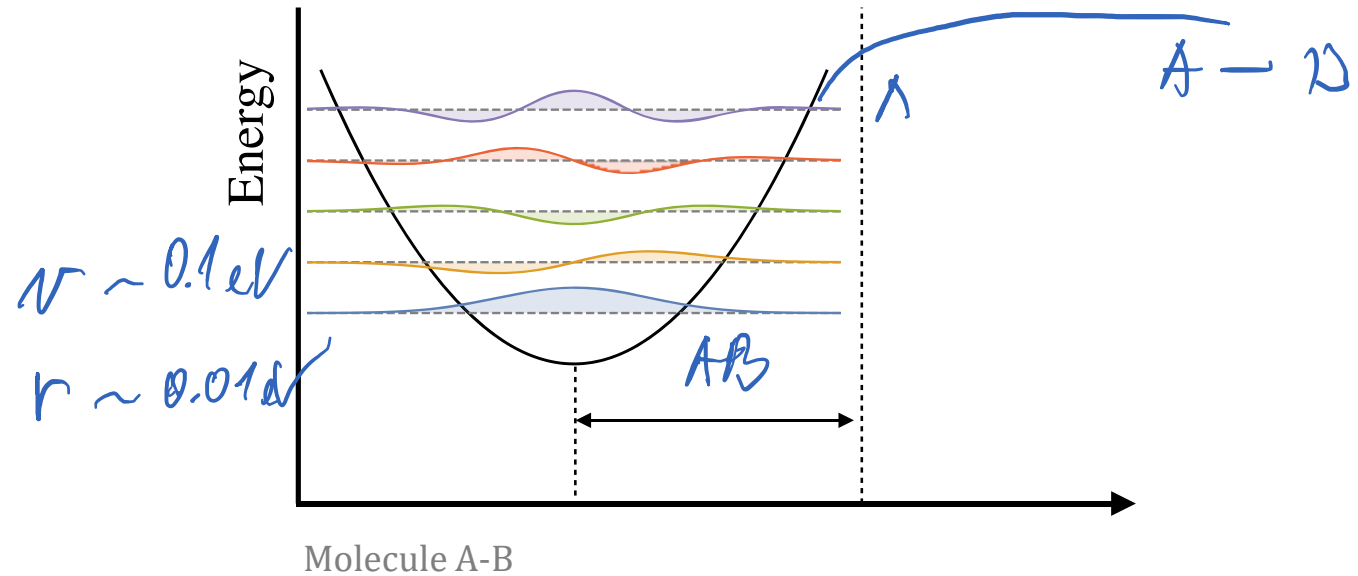


Electron impact ionization cross sections for Xe.



# Excitation collisions

- Photon
- Electron
- Molecule



Maguire H. et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 123 (2019) 093601.  
doi: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.123.093601





# N<sub>2</sub> molecule – excitation by electron

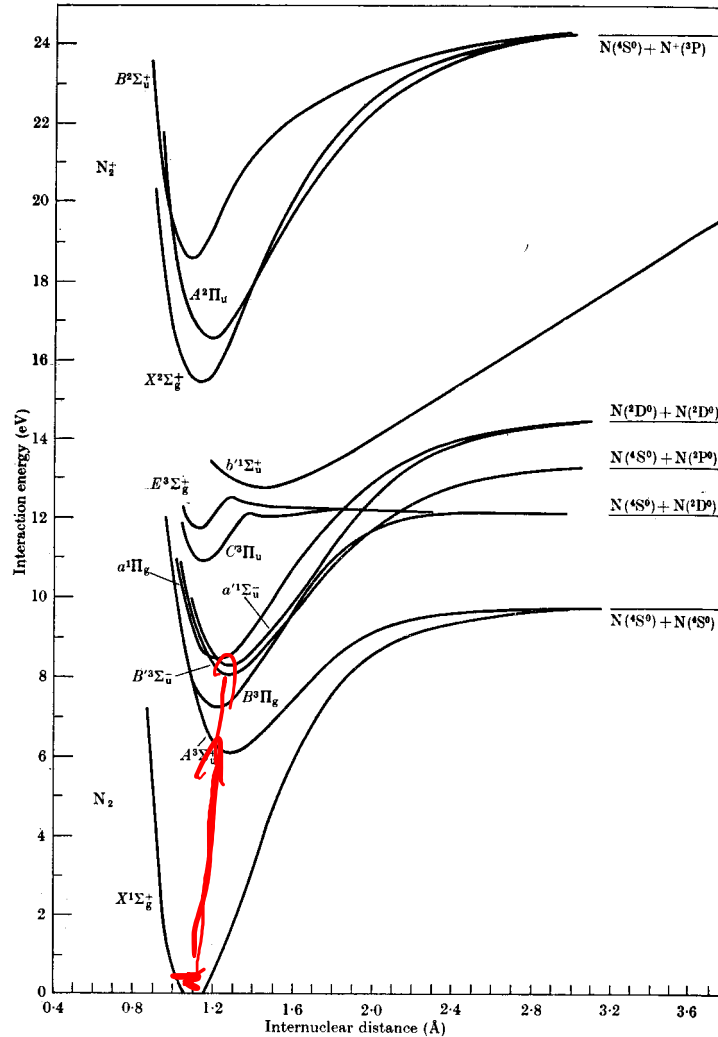


FIG. 13.46. Potential energy curves for some electronic states of N<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>.

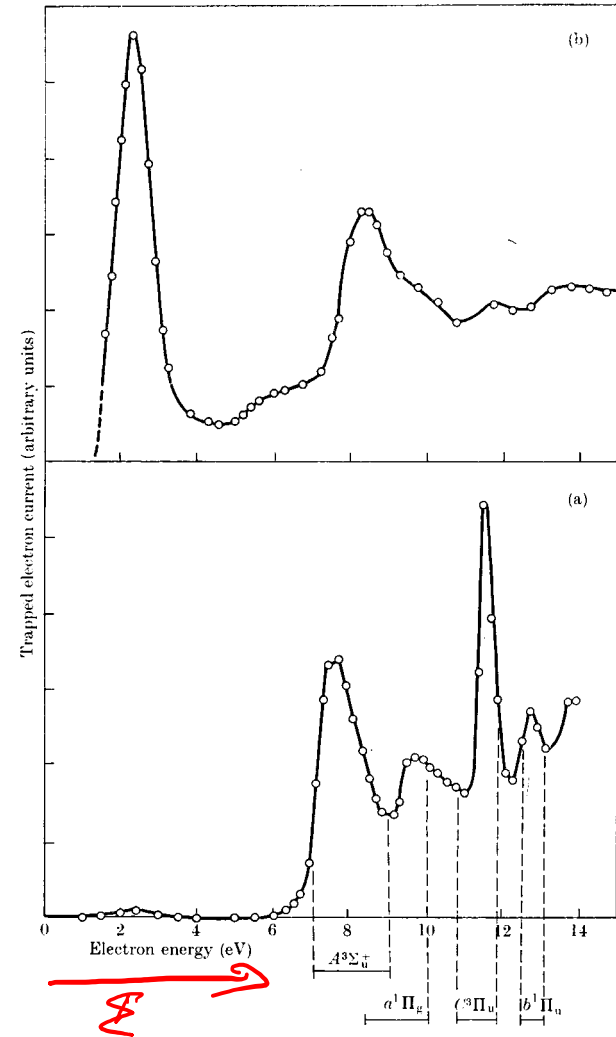
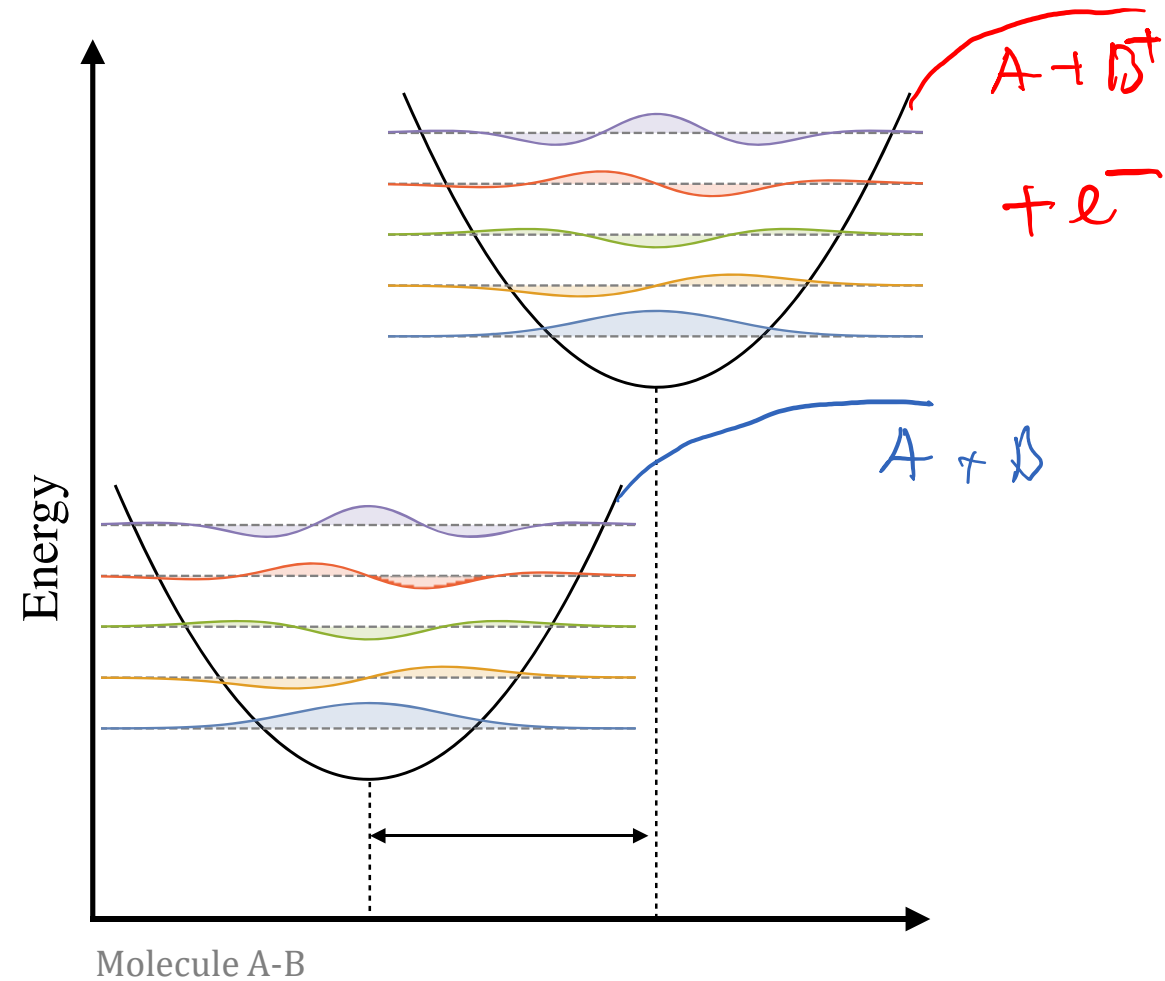


FIG. 13.47. Excitation spectrum of nitrogen obtained by Schulz using the trapped-electron method. (a) with well depth of 0.2 V. (b) with well depth of 0.8 V.



# Ionization collisions

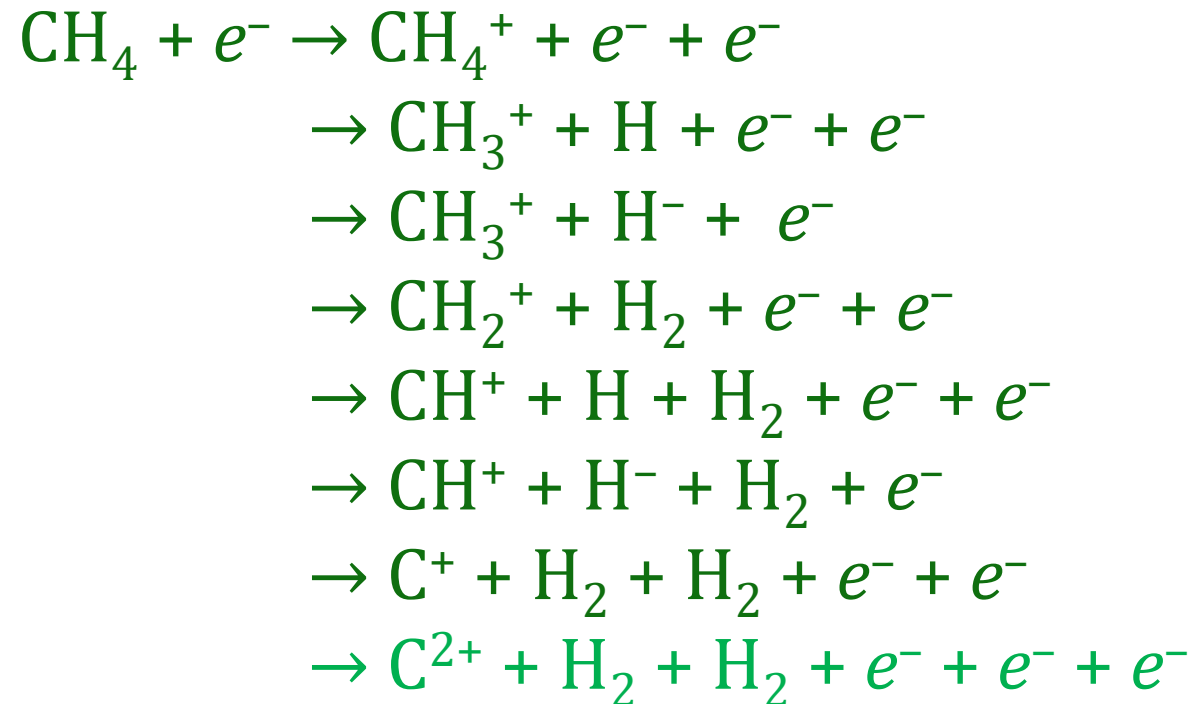
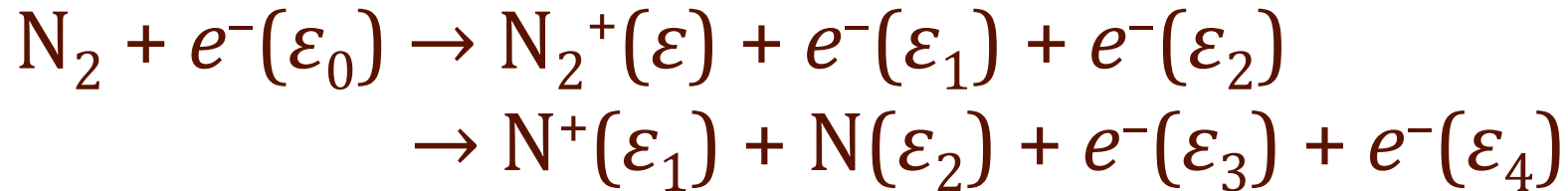
- Photon
- Electron
- Molecule



Maguire H. et al. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 123 (2019) 093601.  
doi: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.123.093601



# Ionizations by electron impact



# Ionizations near the threshold

$$\sigma(\varepsilon) = \text{const} (\varepsilon - \varepsilon_{\text{Threshold}})^{\mu_E/2 - 1/4}$$

$$\mu_E = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{100Z - 9}{4Z - 1}}$$

Z charge state of the final ion

$$\sigma(\varepsilon) = \text{const} (\varepsilon - \varepsilon_{\text{Threshold}})^{1.127} \quad \text{Single ionization of atoms}$$

$$\sigma(\varepsilon) = \text{const} (\varepsilon - \varepsilon_{\text{Threshold}})^p \quad \text{Wannier exponent}$$

Wannier G. H. *Phys. Rev.* 90 (1953) 817.  
doi: 10.1103/PhysRev.90.817



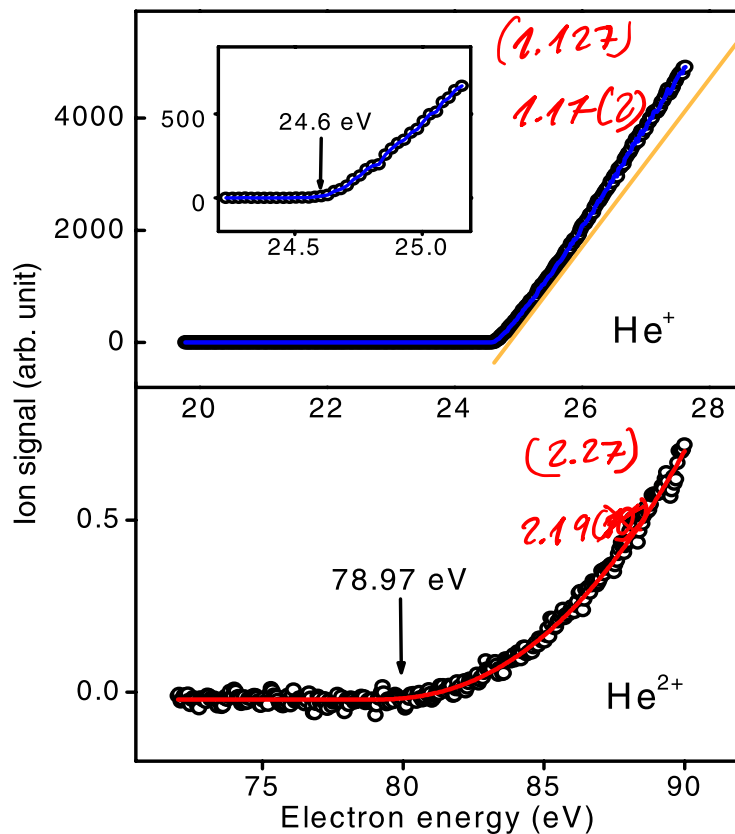
# Multiple ionization

Different context

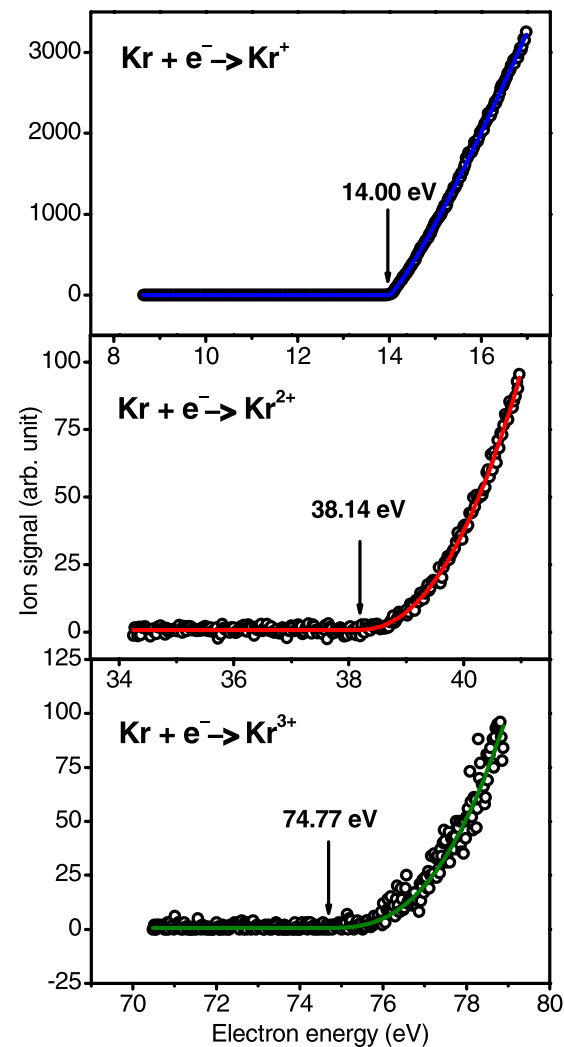
$$\sigma_{\text{Total}} = \sigma^+ + \sigma^{2+} + \sigma^{3+} + \dots$$

$$\sigma_{\text{gross}} = \sigma^+ + 2\sigma^{2+} + 3\sigma^{3+} + \dots$$

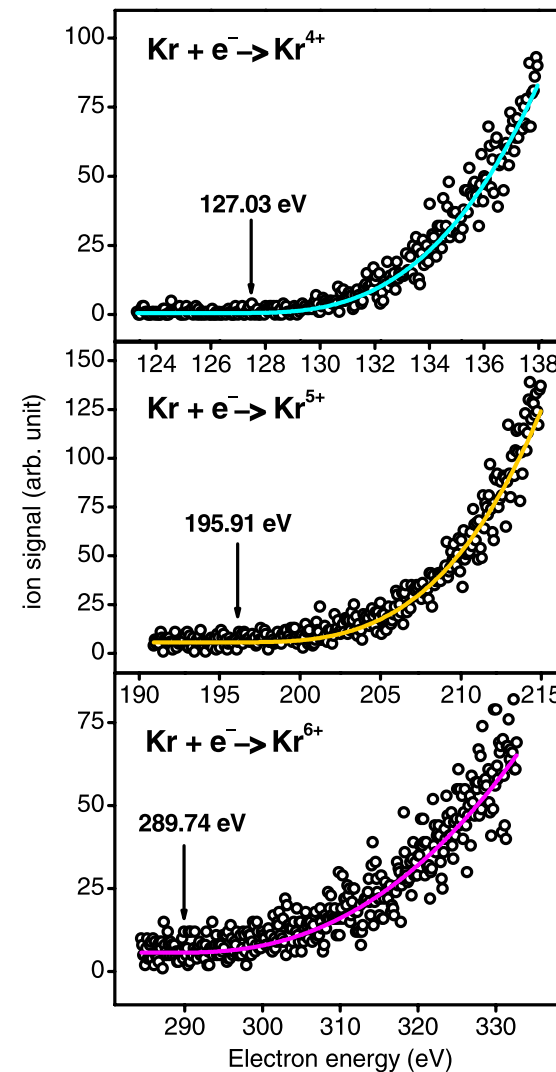
Wannier exponent



Ion signal as a function of electron energy for the formation of He<sup>n+</sup>.



Ion signal as a function of electron energy for the formation of Kr<sup>n+</sup> ions (n = 1-6) in the near-threshold region.



# Ionization details near threshold - molecules



Comparison of observed and calculated energy separation of various vibrational levels of  $H_2^+$

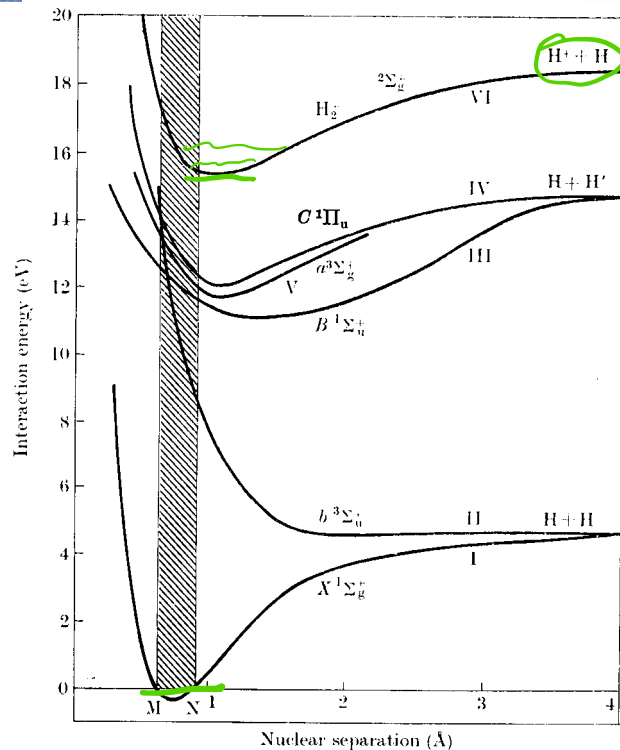
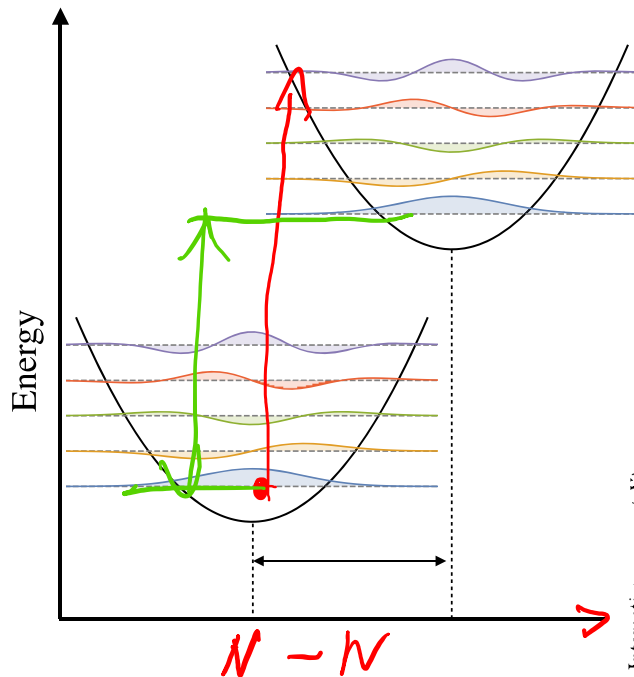


FIG. 13.1. Potential energy curves for electronic states of  $H_2$  and  $H_2^+$  lying within 20 eV of the ground state.

	Energy separations (eV)					
Vibnl. levels	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6
Calculated	0.269	0.254	0.238	0.223	0.208	0.192
Observed	0.272	0.263	0.233	0.237	0.21	0.20

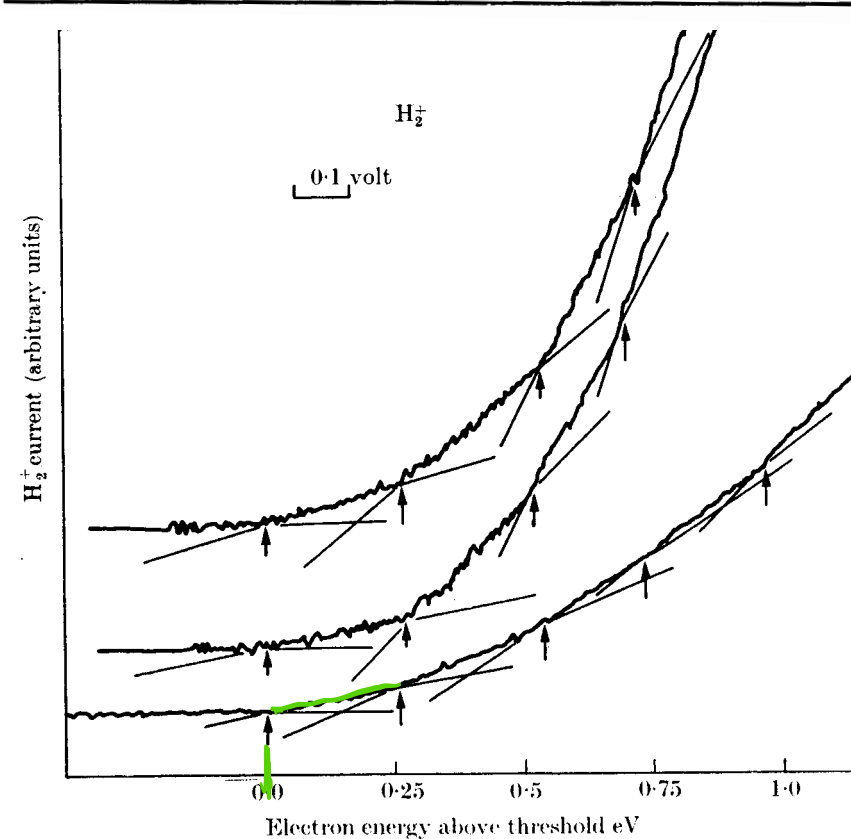


FIG. 13.19. Variation of the ionization cross-section of  $H_2$  near the threshold as observed by Marmet and Kerwin.



# N<sub>2</sub> molecule – ionization

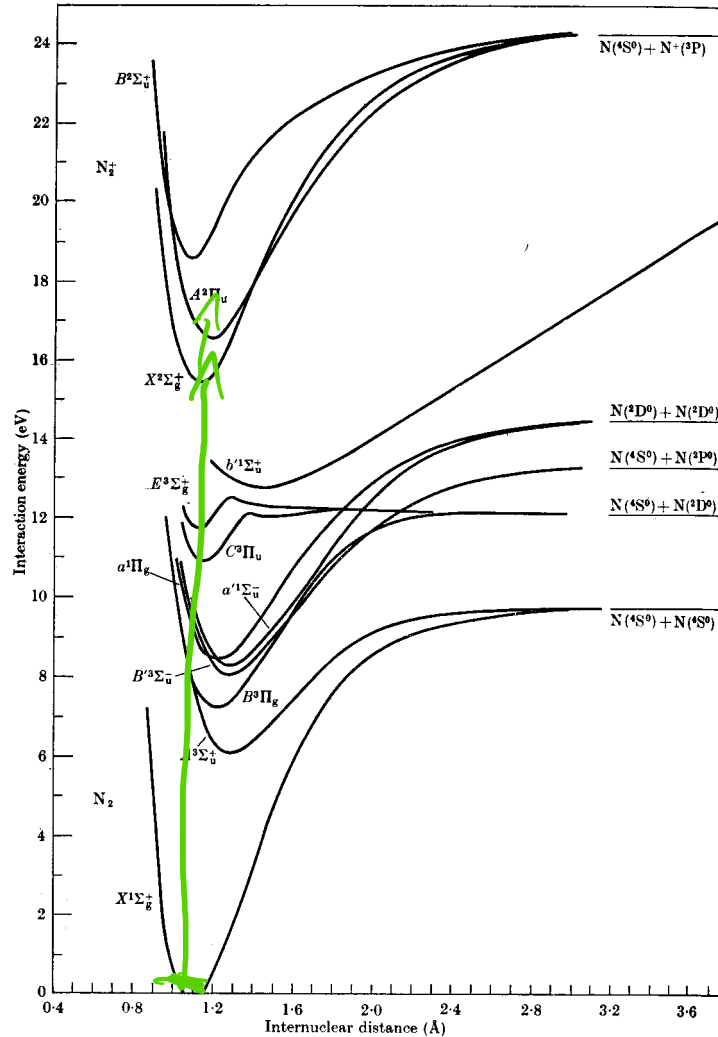


FIG. 13.46. Potential energy curves for some electronic states of N<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>.

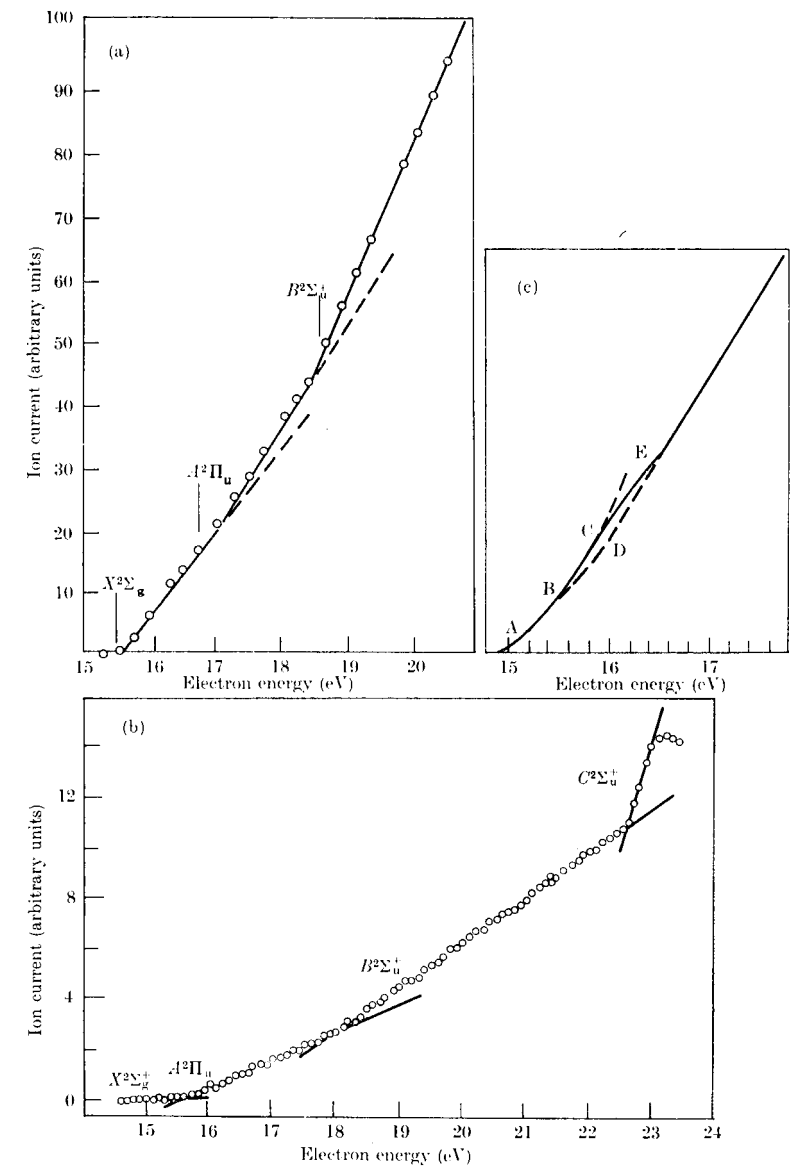


FIG. 13.58. Variation of the ionization cross-section of N<sub>2</sub> near the threshold as observed (a) by Fox and Hickam, (b) by Frost and McDowell, (c) by Clarke.



# Ionization BEB theory

The Binary-Encounter-Bethe (BEB) model

electron – atom (molecule, ions)

$$\sigma_{\text{BEB}} = \frac{S}{t + u + 1} \left[ \frac{\ln(t)}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{t^2} \right) + 1 - \frac{1}{t} - \frac{\ln(t)}{t + 1} \right]$$

$$t = T/B$$

$$u = U/B$$

$$S = 4\pi a_0^2 N R^2/B^2$$

$a_0$  Bohr radius (= 0.5292 Å)

$R$  Rydberg energy (= 13.6057 eV)

$T$  incident electron energy

$N$  electron occupation number

$B$  binding energy

$U$  average kinetic energy of the orbital

[physics.nist.gov/ionxsec](http://physics.nist.gov/ionxsec)

Kim Y.-K., Rudd M. E. *Phys. Rev. A* 50 (1994) 3954. doi: 10.1103/PhysRevA.50.3954

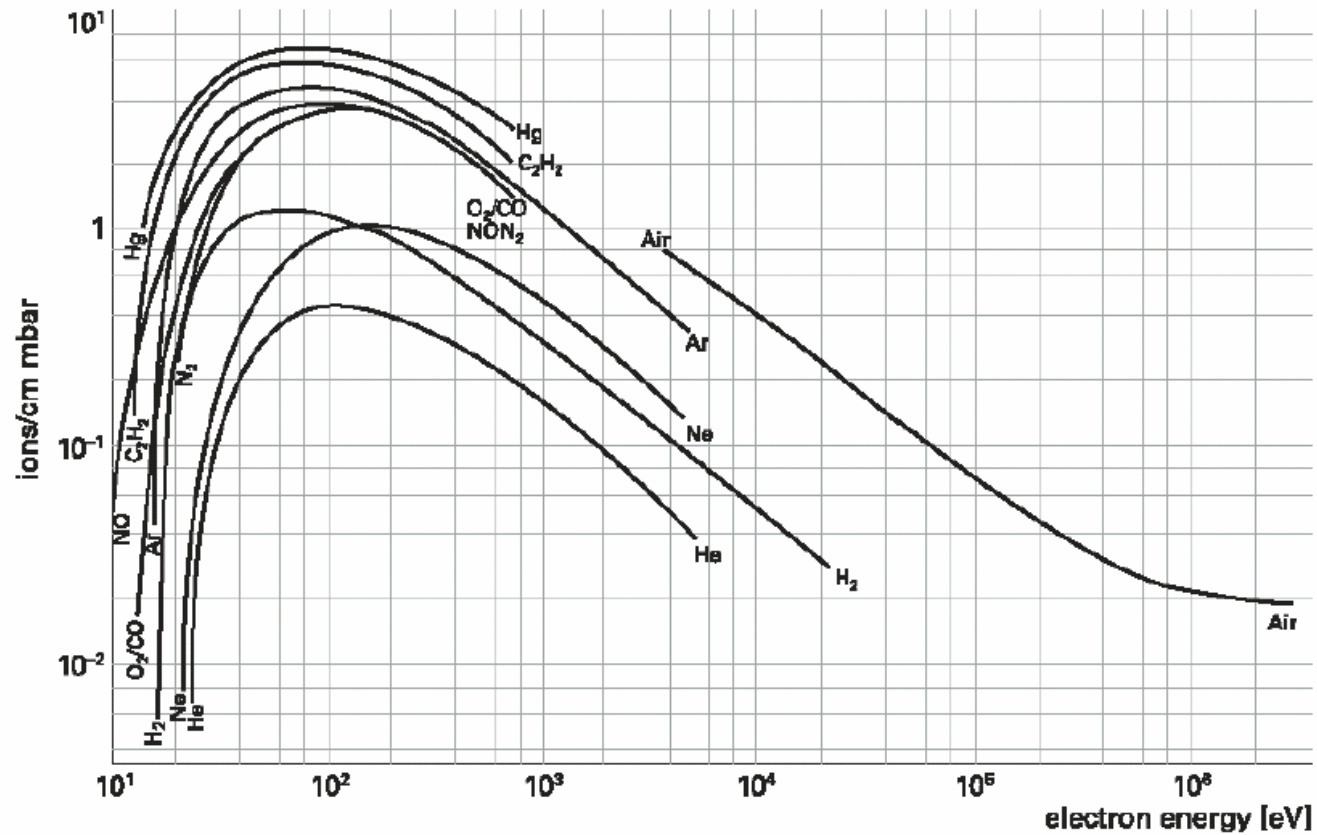
Kim Y.-K et al. *J Res Natl Inst Stand Technol* 105 (2000) 285. doi: 10.6028/jres.105.032

<http://physics.nist.gov/ionxsec>





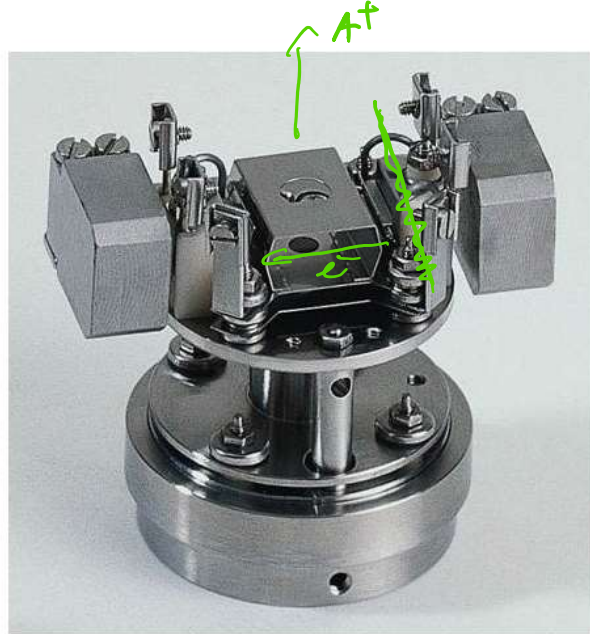
# Ionization – Residual Gas Analysis (RGA)



# Ionization by electron impact

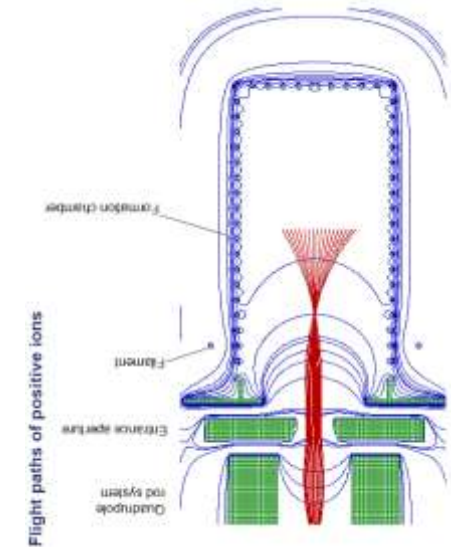
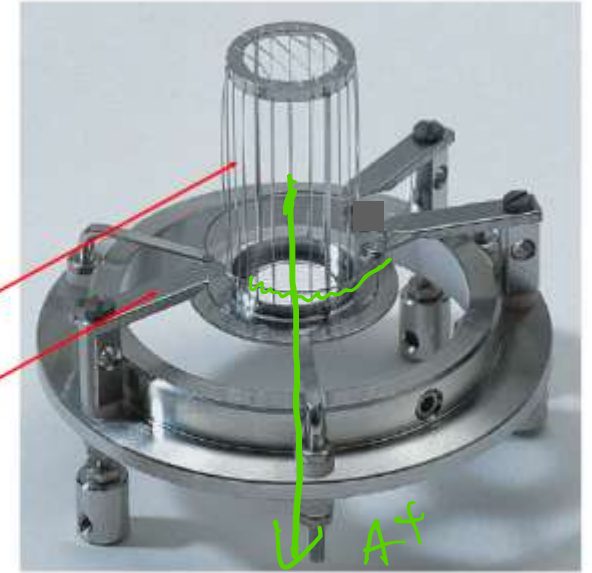
Cross Beam ion source with magnets

- Two filaments
- Easy to degas
- Good ion focussing
- Bakeable to 300°C

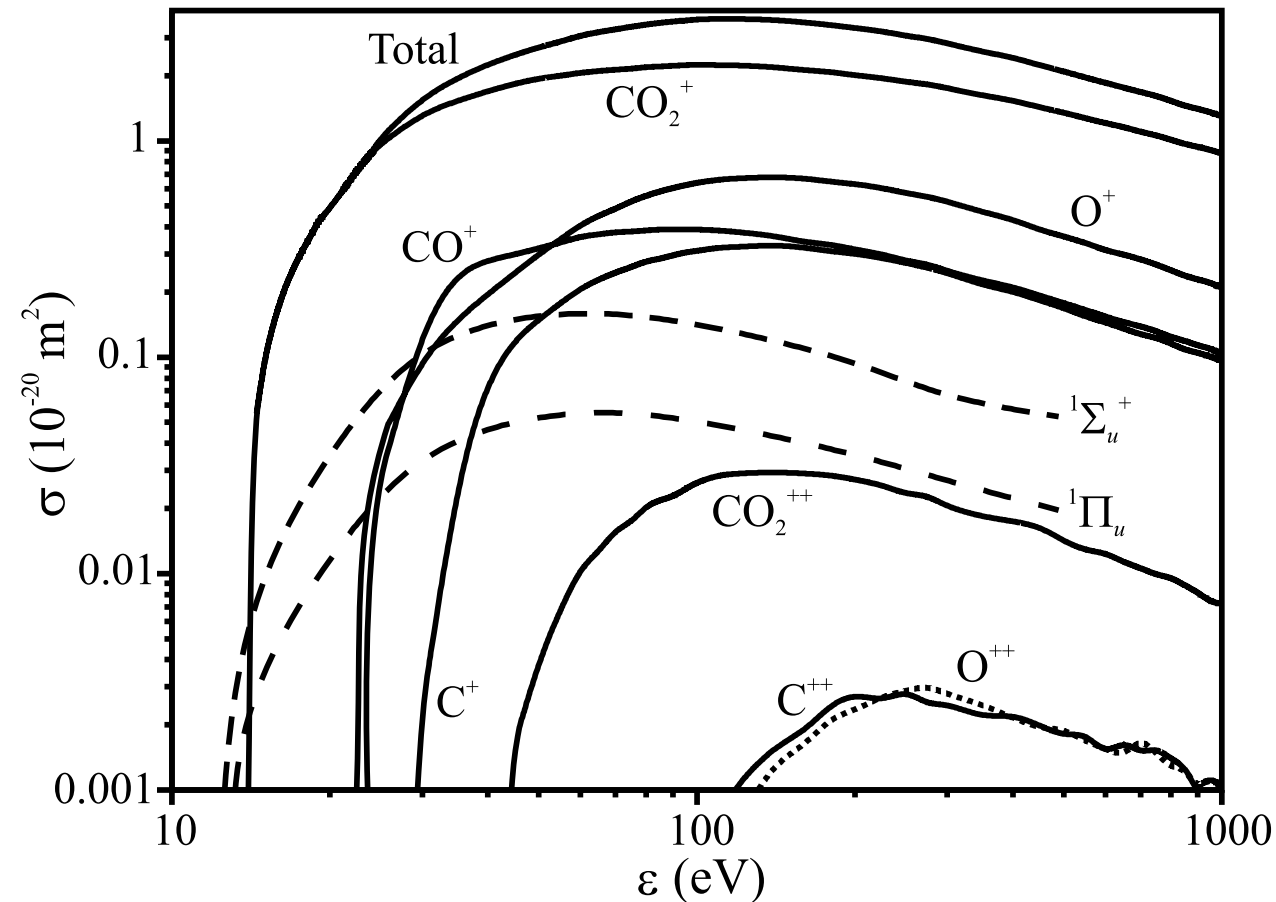


Grid ion source

- Open design
- Two filaments (W)
- Low degassing rate
  - minimum amount of material
  - Pt-Ir wires for formation chamber
  - Molybdenum filament holders
- Easy to degas via electron bombardment
- Filaments on positive potential



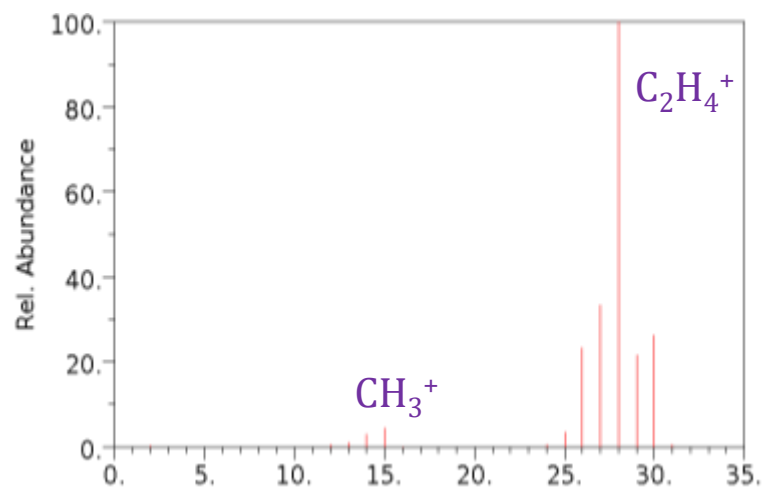
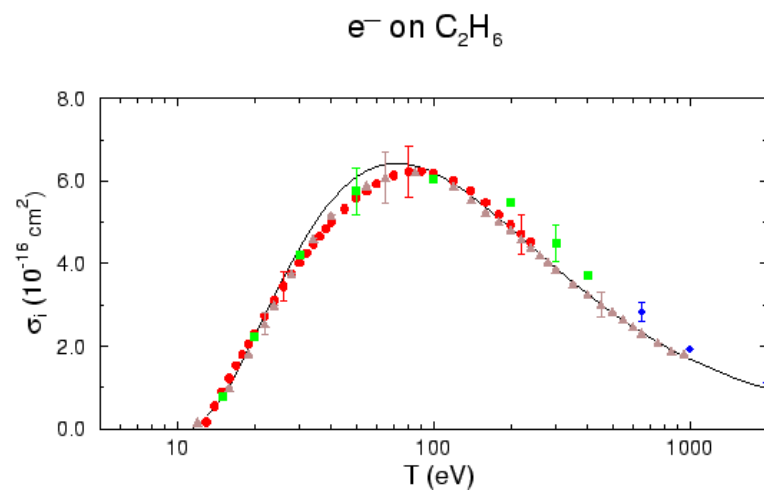
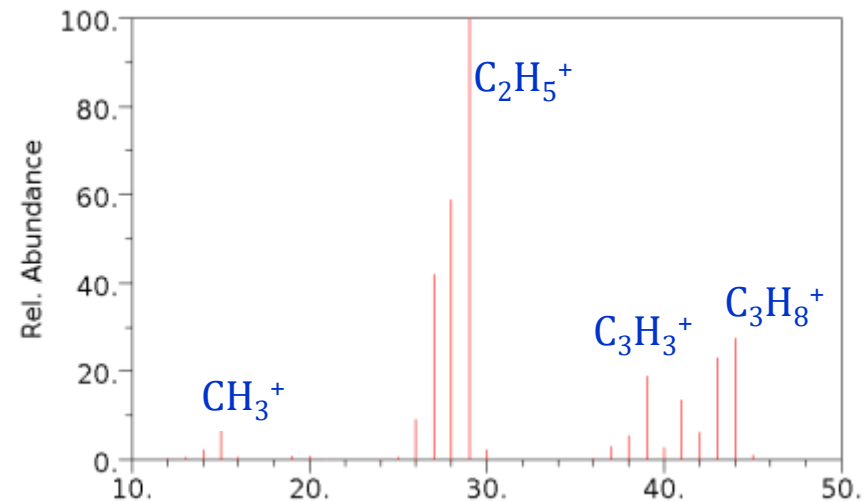
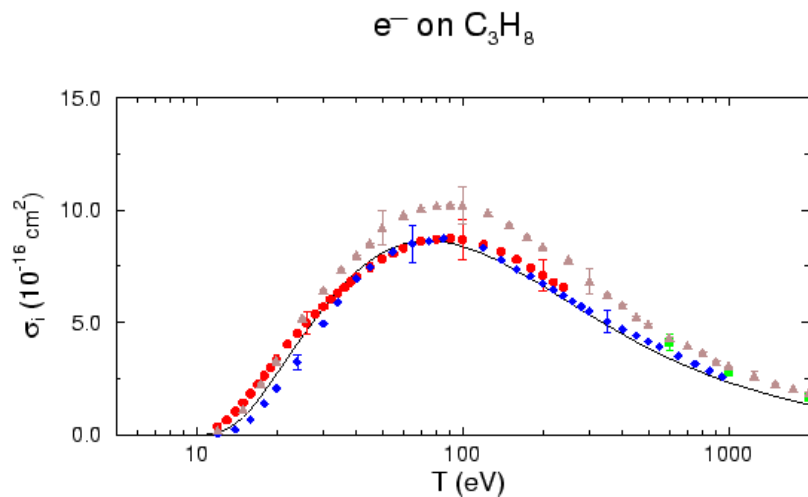
# Electron - Molecule collisions Fragmentation



Integral cross sections for electron impact ionization and for the  $^1\Sigma_u^+$  and  $^1\Pi_u$  state excitation of  $\text{CO}_2$



# Ionization – fragmentation patterns



# Ionization – fragmentation patterns

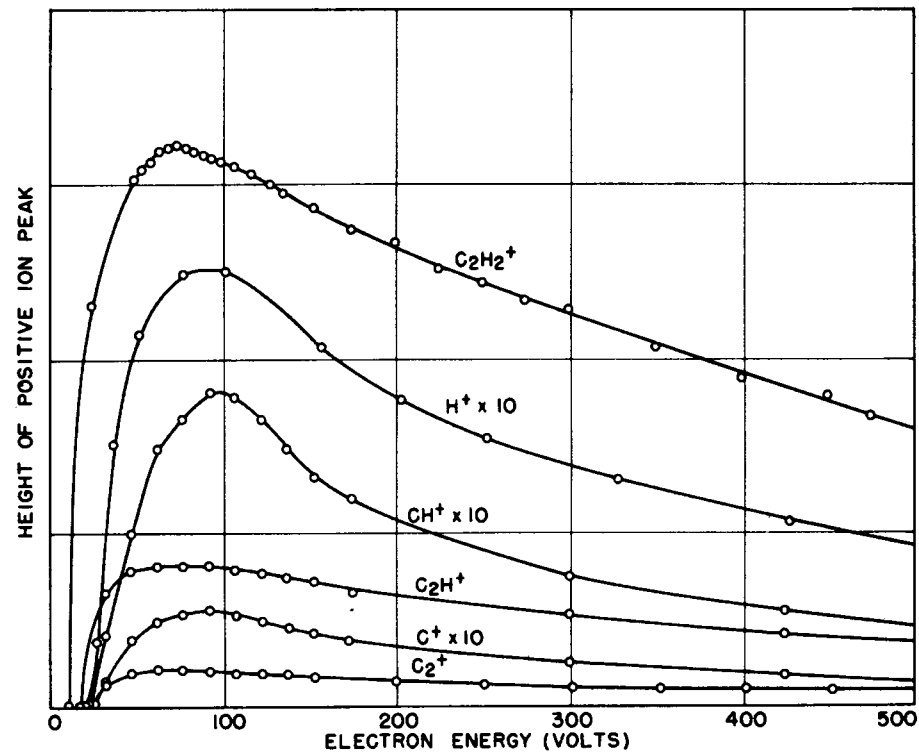
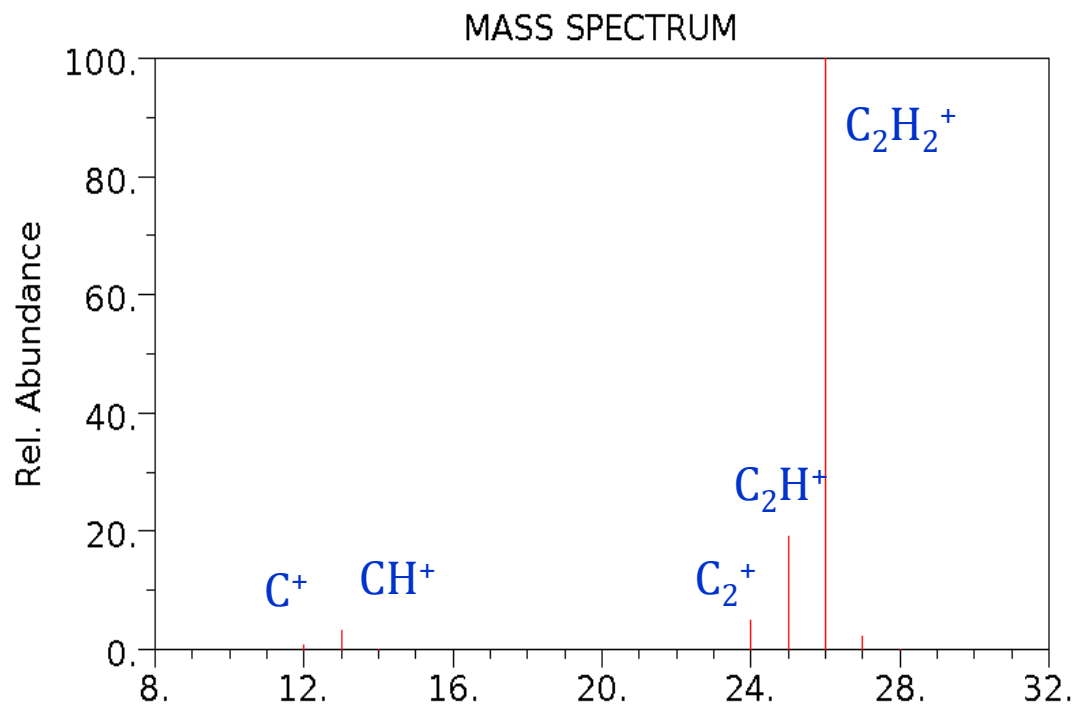
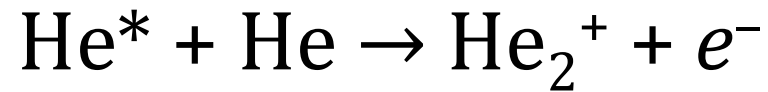
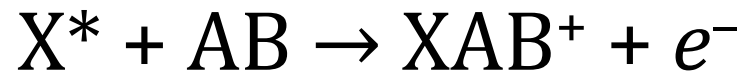
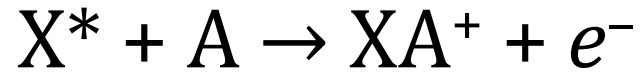


FIG. 6. Ionization efficiency curves for several ions from acetylene (493).



# Penning ionization



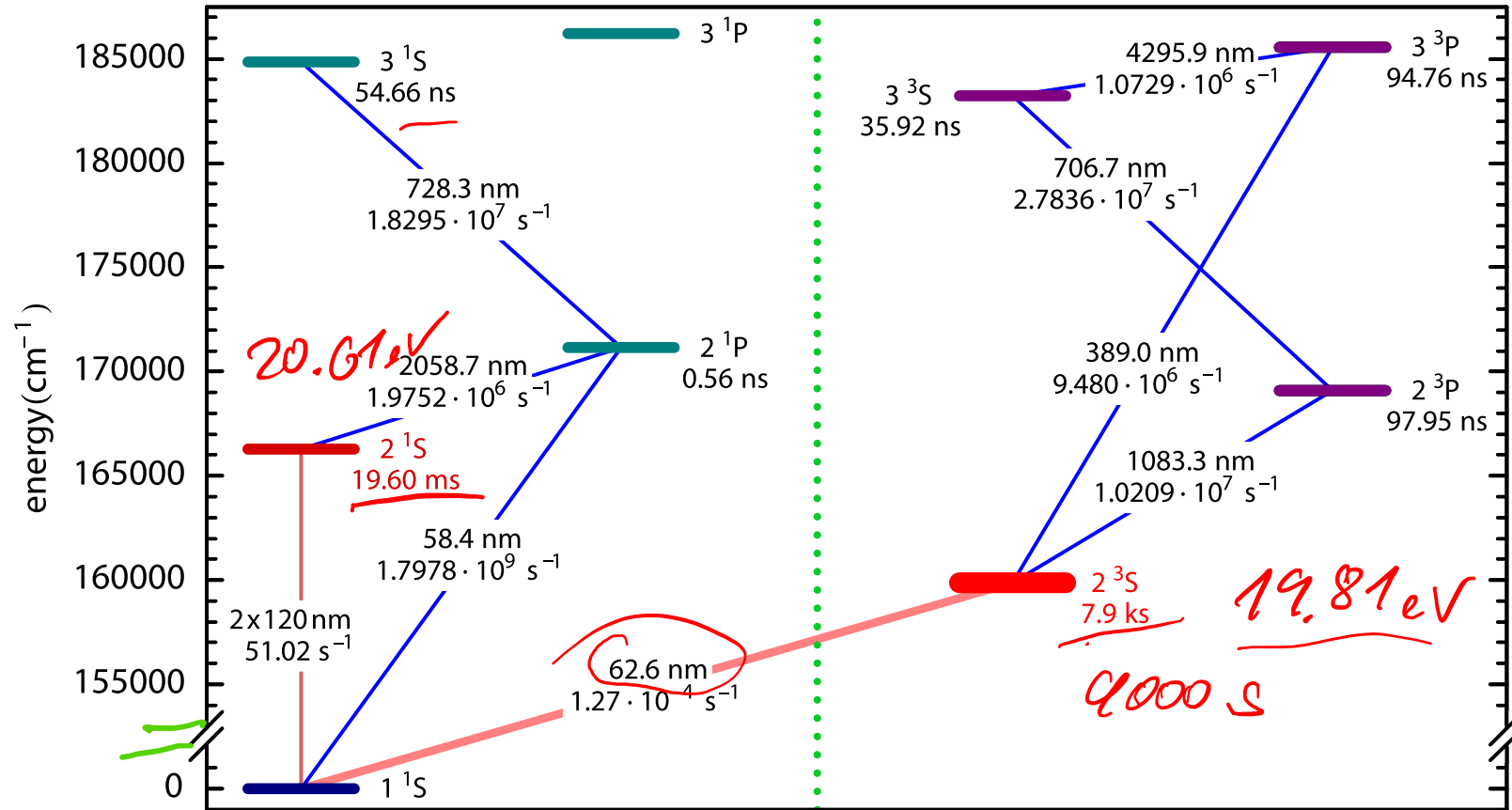
Penning Ionization (PI)

Associative Ionization (AI)

Hornbeck-Molnar process



# Helium metastable



Grotrian diagram of the lowest energy levels in helium.

Tol P. J. J. *Trapping and Evaporative Cooling of Metastable Helium*, thesis, Vrije Universiteit (2005)



# Metastable species

Excited Species	Excitation Energy (eV)	Lifetime (s)
H <sup>*</sup> (2s <sup>2</sup> S <sub>1/2</sub> )	10.1988	0.14
He <sup>*</sup> (2 <sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub> )	20.6158	0.0196
<u>He<sup>*</sup>(2<sup>3</sup>S<sub>1</sub>)</u>	19.8196	9000
Ne <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>0</sub> )	16.7154	430
Ne <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>2</sub> )	16.6191	24.4
Ar <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>0</sub> )	11.7232	44.9
Ar <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>2</sub> )	11.5484	55.9
Kr <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>0</sub> )	10.5624	0.49
Kr <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>2</sub> )	9.9152	85.1
Xe <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>0</sub> )	9.4472	0.078
Xe <sup>*</sup> ( <sup>3</sup> P <sub>2</sub> )	8.3153	150
O <sup>*</sup> (2p <sup>3</sup> 3s <sup>5</sup> S <sub>2</sub> )	9.146	1.85 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>
H <sub>2</sub> <sup>*</sup> (c <sup>3</sup> Π <sub>u</sub> <sup>-</sup> )	11.764	1.02 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>
N <sub>2</sub> <sup>*</sup> (A <sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>u</sub> <sup>+</sup> )	6.169	1.9
N <sub>2</sub> <sup>*</sup> (A <sup>1</sup> Π <sub>g</sub> )	8.549	1.20 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>
N <sub>2</sub> <sup>*</sup> (E <sup>3</sup> Σ <sub>g</sub> <sup>+</sup> )	11.875	1.90 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>
CO <sup>*</sup> (a <sup>3</sup> Π)	6.010	≥3 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>

Hotop H. *Detection of metastable atoms and molecules*. In *Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics: Atoms and Molecules*; Dunning, F.B., Hulet, R.G., Eds.; Academic Press, Inc.: San Diego, CA, USA, 1996; pp. 191–216.





# N<sub>2</sub> molecule – metastable

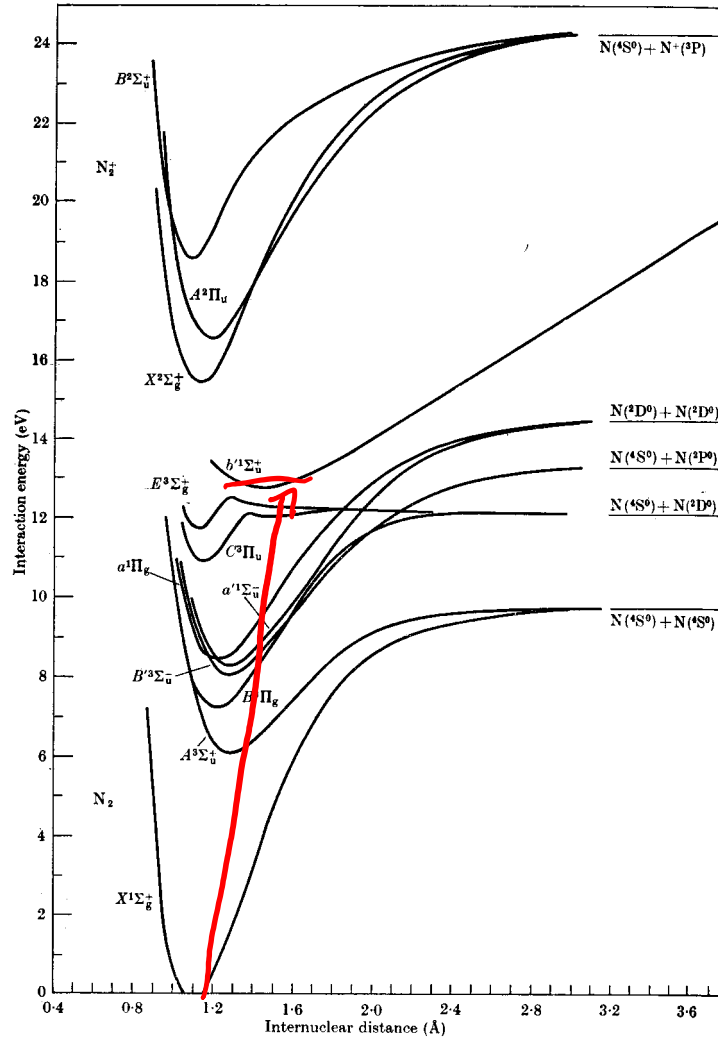


Fig. 13.46. Potential energy curves for some electronic states of N<sub>2</sub> and N<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>.

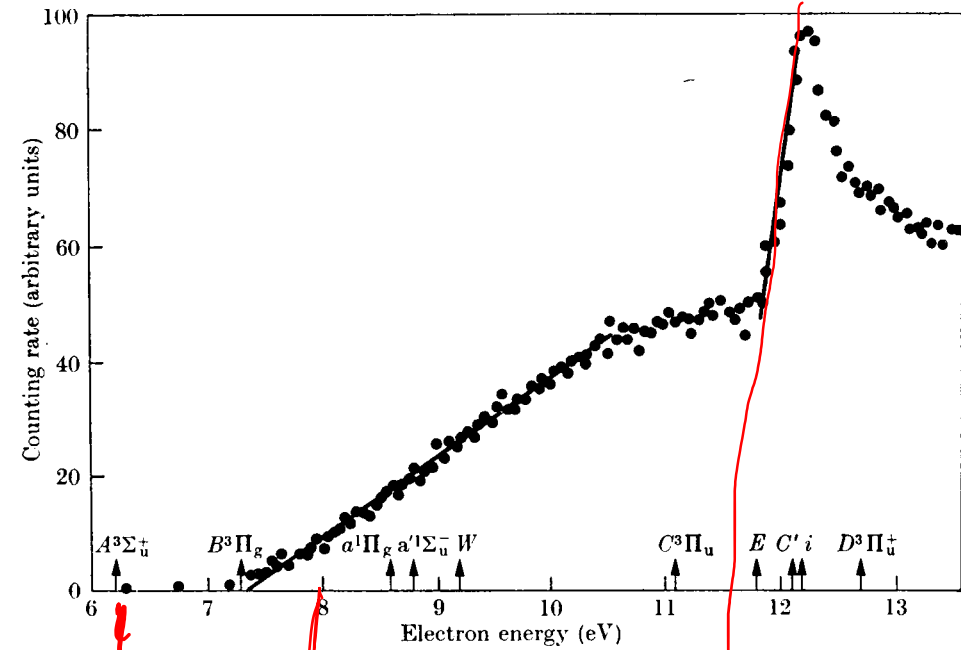
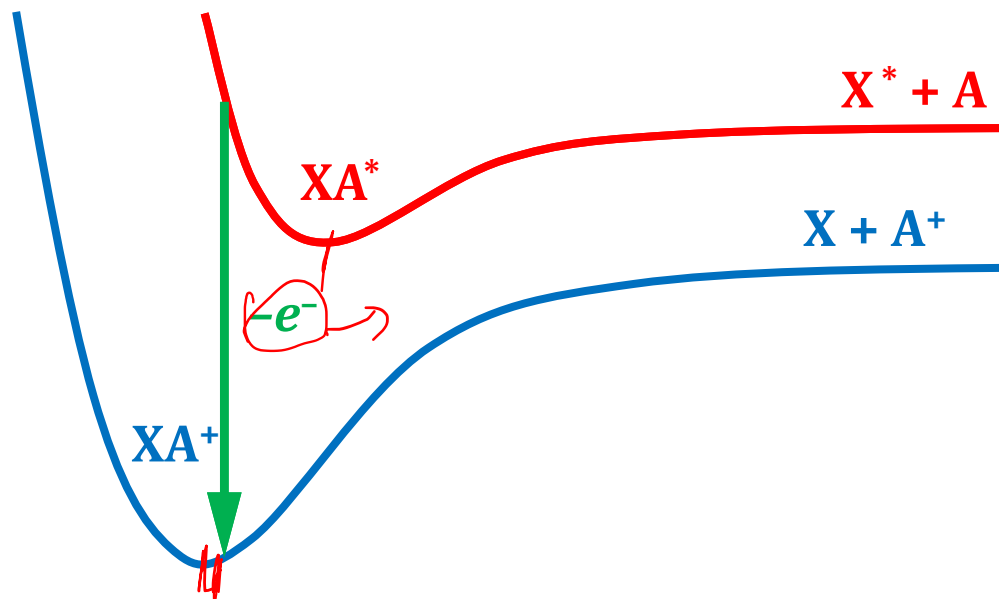
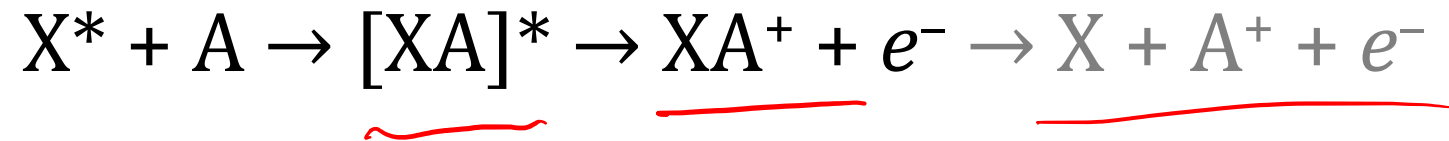


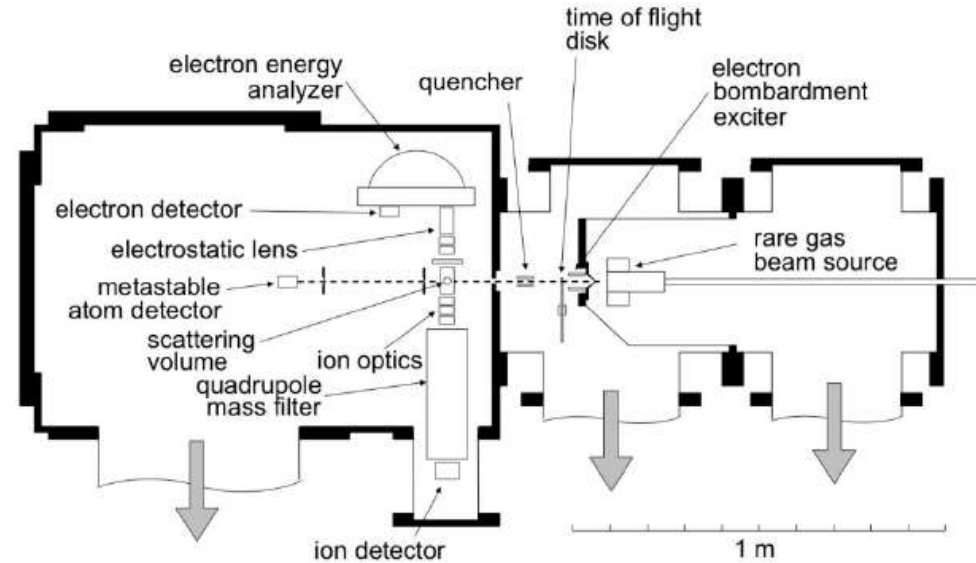
Fig. 13.50. Excitation function for metastable states of N<sub>2</sub> observed by Olmsted, Newton, and Street.



# Penning ionization - model



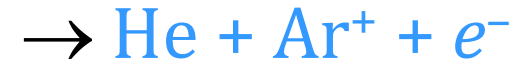
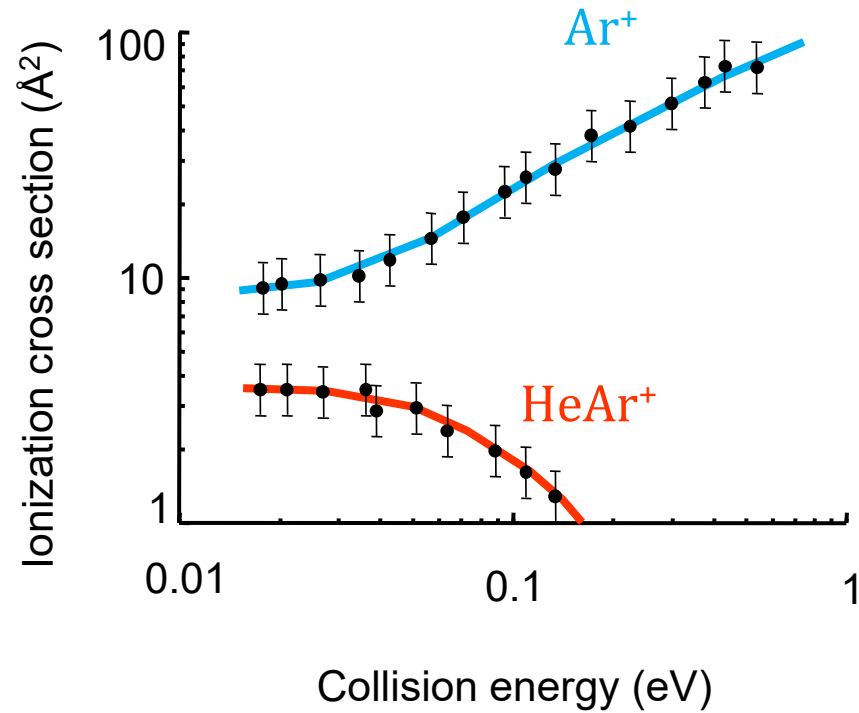
# Penning ionization studies



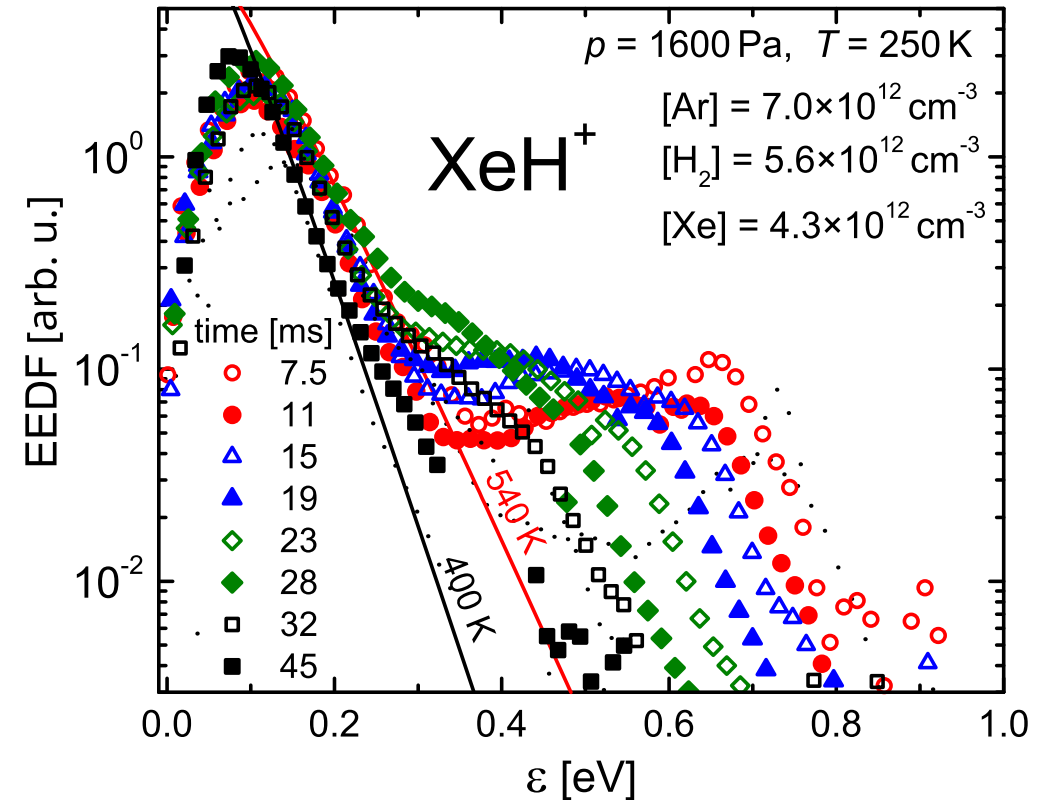
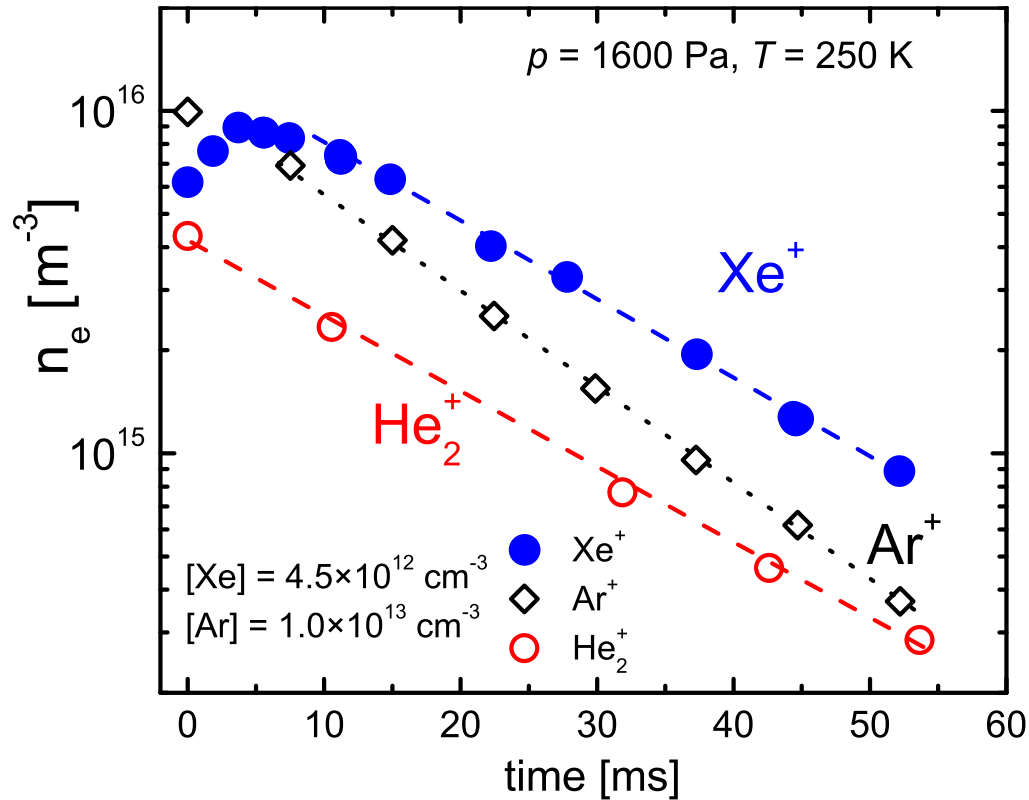
**Figure 1.** The crossed molecular beam apparatus used in Penning ionization studies.



# Penning ionization examples



# Penning ionization, superelastic collisions



The measured decay of electron density in  $\text{He}_2^+$  dominated afterglow plasma in pure He and the increase of  $n_e$  after injection of Xe.

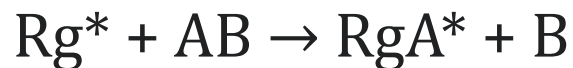
Evolution of EEDF in He/Ar/Xe/ $\text{H}_2$  plasma obtained from measured characteristics of Langmuir probe. The EEDFs are normalized to 1.



# Excimers

Excited molecules that are not stable at ground state

Typically, at least one atom has a valence shell completely filled with electrons.



Excimer UV lamps

Excimer molecule	Wavelength (nm)	Photon energy (eV)
NeF*	108	11.48
Ar <sub>2</sub> *	126	9.84
Kr <sub>2</sub> *	146	8.49
F <sub>2</sub> *	158	7.85
ArBr*	165	7.52
Xe <sub>2</sub> *	172	7.21
ArCl*	175	7.08
KrI*	190	6.49
ArF*	193	6.42
KrBr*	207	5.99
KrCl*	222	5.58
KrF*	248	5.01
XeI*	253	4.91
Cl <sub>2</sub> *	259	4.79
XeBr*	282	4.41
Br <sub>2</sub> *	289	4.29
XeCl*	308	4.03
I <sub>2</sub> *	342	3.63
XeF*	351	3.53

