

## Laboratory study of thermal and non-thermal desorption processes of interstellar ices

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Philippe, Pascal Jeseck, & Jean-Hugues Fillion

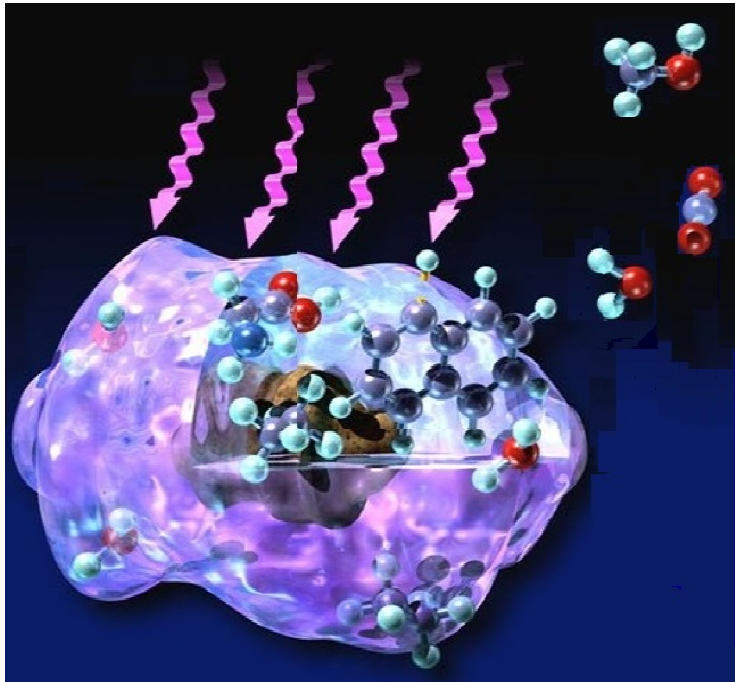
## Motivations: *Interstellar molecular ices*

Cold regions of ISM (10 – 100 K) :

**Rich variety of molecular species**

H<sub>2</sub>, CO, H<sub>2</sub>O, CO<sub>2</sub>

HCOOCH<sub>3</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>OH, CH<sub>3</sub>CN...



Molecules form or condense at the surface of micro-sized dust grains

**Ices = main reservoir of molecules in the cold interstellar region**

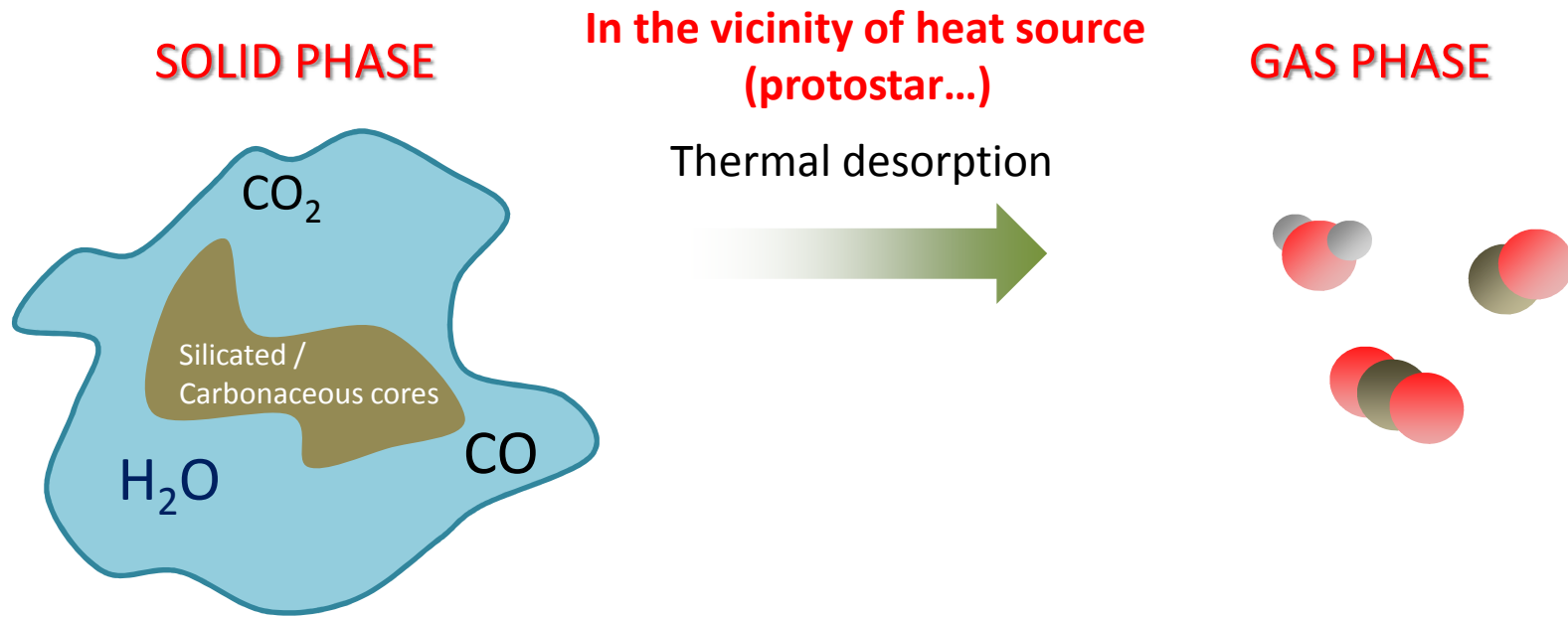
Molecules are mainly detected in the gas phase

**Solid-gas exchanges play a major role in gas phase abundance ratio and chemistry**

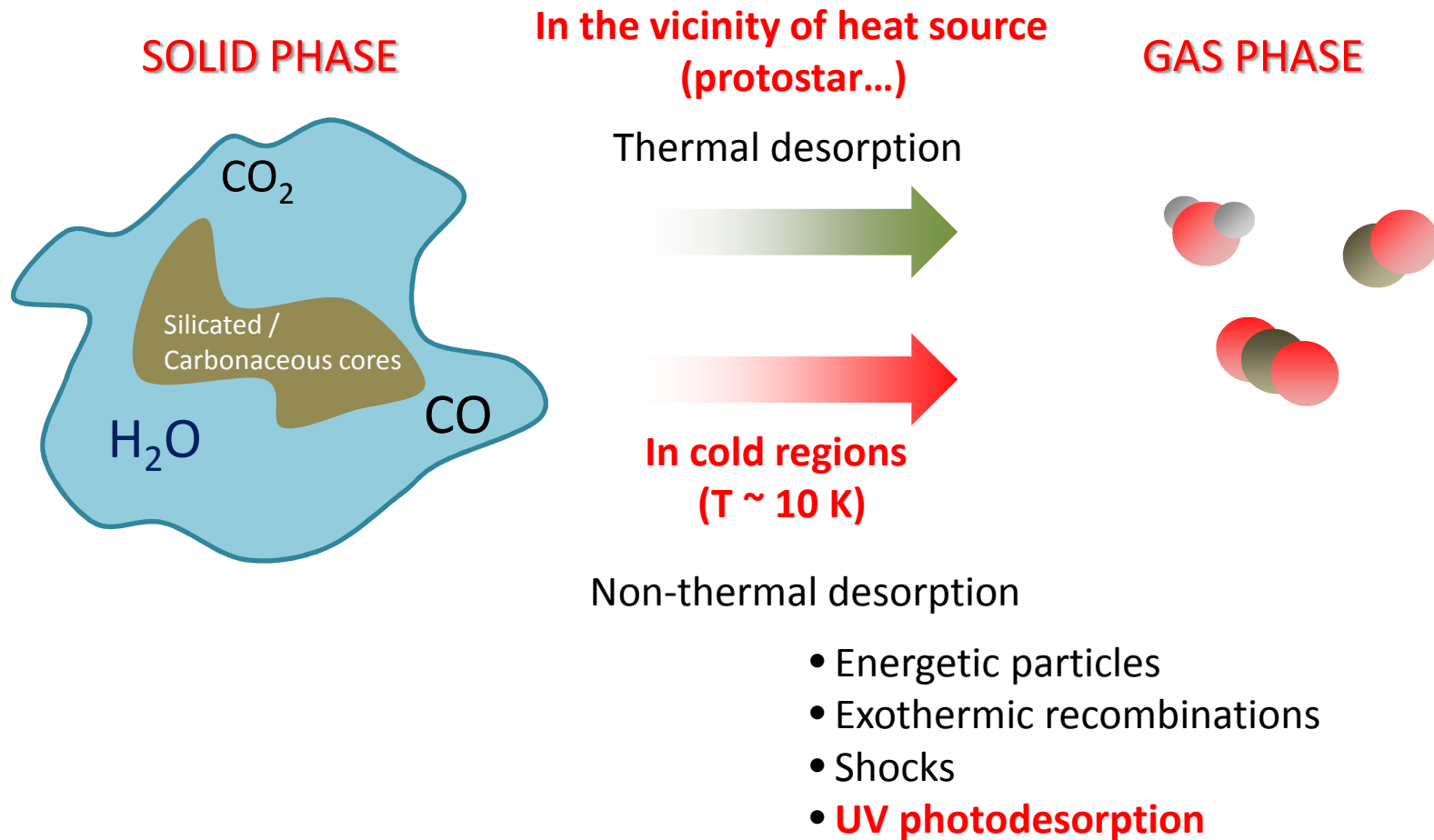
**Desorption processes need to be quantified in order to be considered in astrochemical models**

## Motivations: Desorption processes

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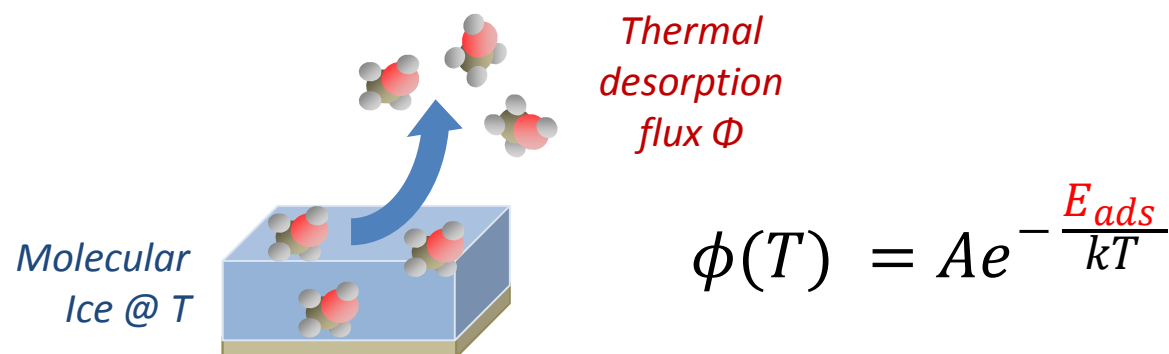


## Motivations: Desorption processes



## Thermal desorption: a joint experimental-theoretical approach

- How to quantify thermal desorption?



- Aim: access reliable values for adsorption energies

Experimental measurements:  
TPD technique in SPICES setup

Intercomparisons



Theoretical calculations:  
periodic DFT method



F. Pauzat, Y. Ellinger, A. Markovits

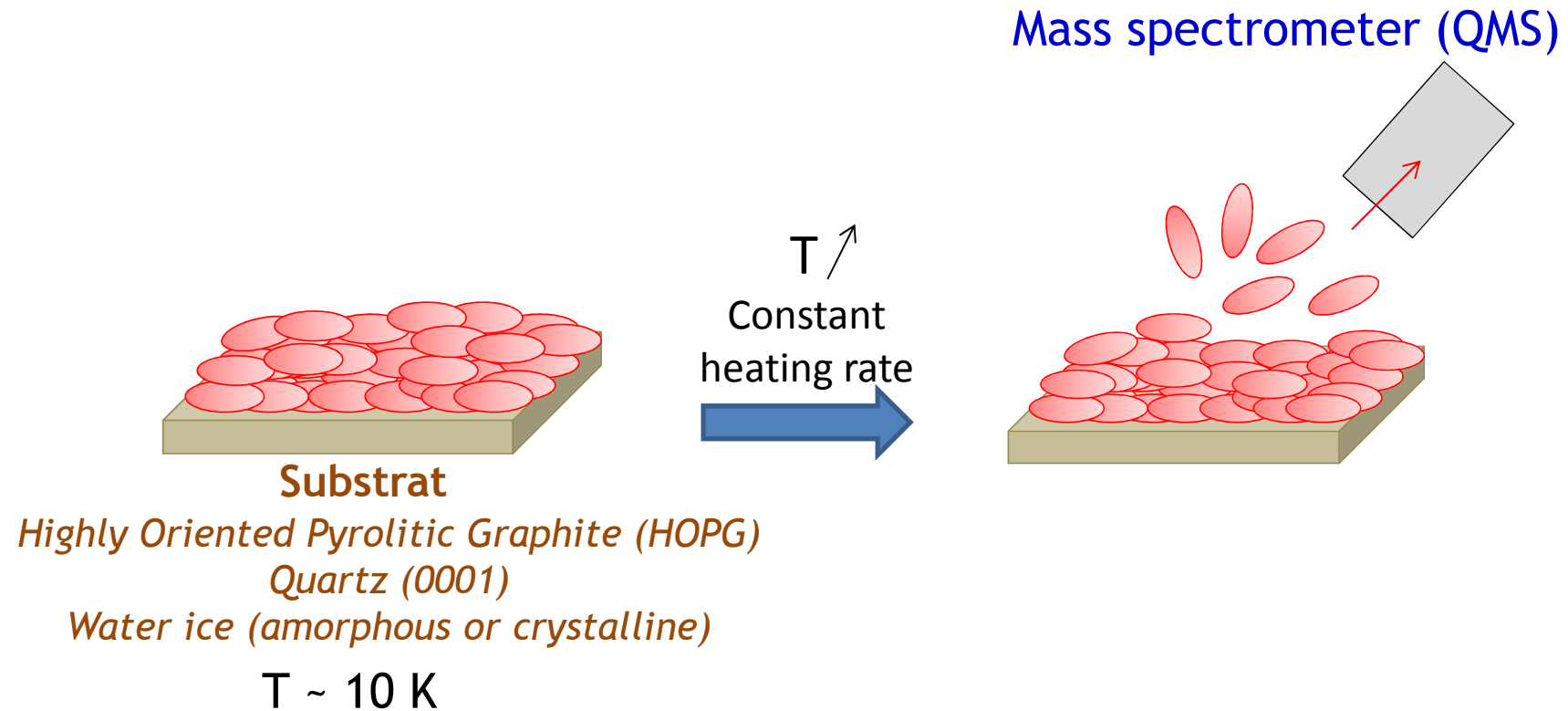
PhD: M. Doronin (see poster)



Organic molecules synthesis: J.-C. Guillemin



## Thermal desorption: Temperature Programmed Desorption method

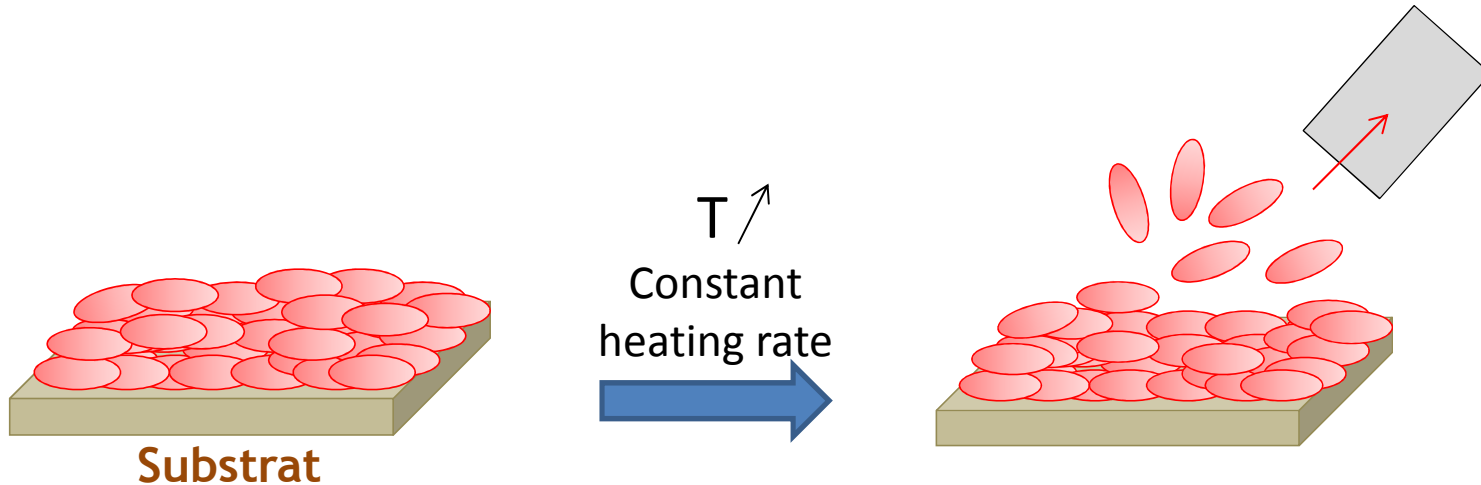


**Desorbing flux :**

$$\phi = - \frac{d\theta_{surface}}{dT} = \frac{\nu}{\beta} \cdot \theta^n \cdot e^{-\frac{E_{ads}}{kT}}$$

## Thermal desorption: Temperature Programmed Desorption method

Mass spectrometer (QMS)



**Substrat**

*Highly Oriented Pyrolytic Graphite (HOPG)*

*Quartz (0001)*

*Water ice (amorphous or crystalline)*

$T \sim 10 \text{ K}$

**Desorbing flux :**

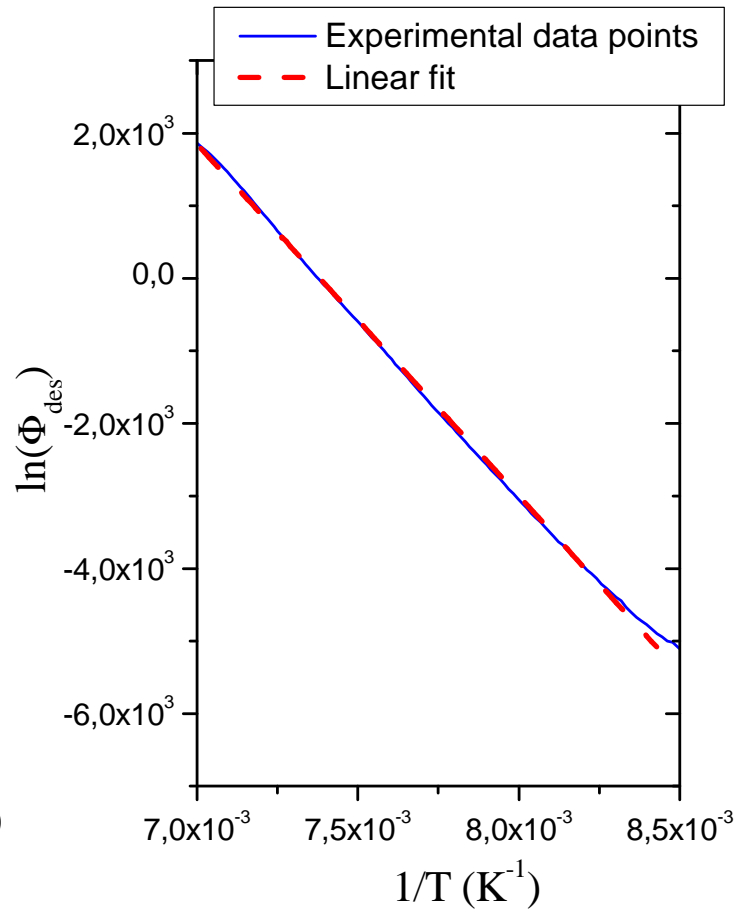
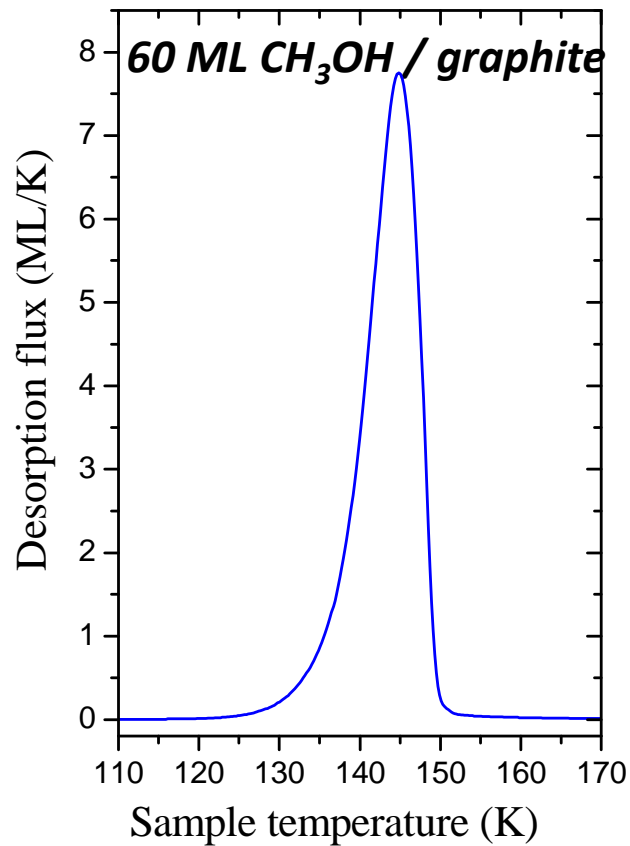
$$\phi = - \frac{d\theta_{\text{surface}}}{dT} = \frac{\nu}{\beta} \cdot \theta^n \cdot e^{-\frac{E_{\text{ads}}}{kT}}$$

## Thermal desorption: *the case of methanol on graphite*

### Thick ices: Multilayers

Zeroth order desorption:  $n = 0$

$$\ln(\phi) = -\frac{E_{ads}}{k} \frac{1}{T} + \ln\left(\frac{\nu}{\beta}\right)$$



$$E_{ads} = 420 \text{ meV}$$
$$\nu = 5.10^{14} \text{ s}^{-1}$$



## Thermal desorption: *the case of methanol on graphite*

Thin ices: (sub)Monolayers

Higher order desorption: 
$$\phi = - \frac{d\theta_{surface}}{dT} = \frac{\nu}{\beta} \cdot \theta^n \cdot e^{-\frac{E_{ads}}{kT}}$$

**Our method :**

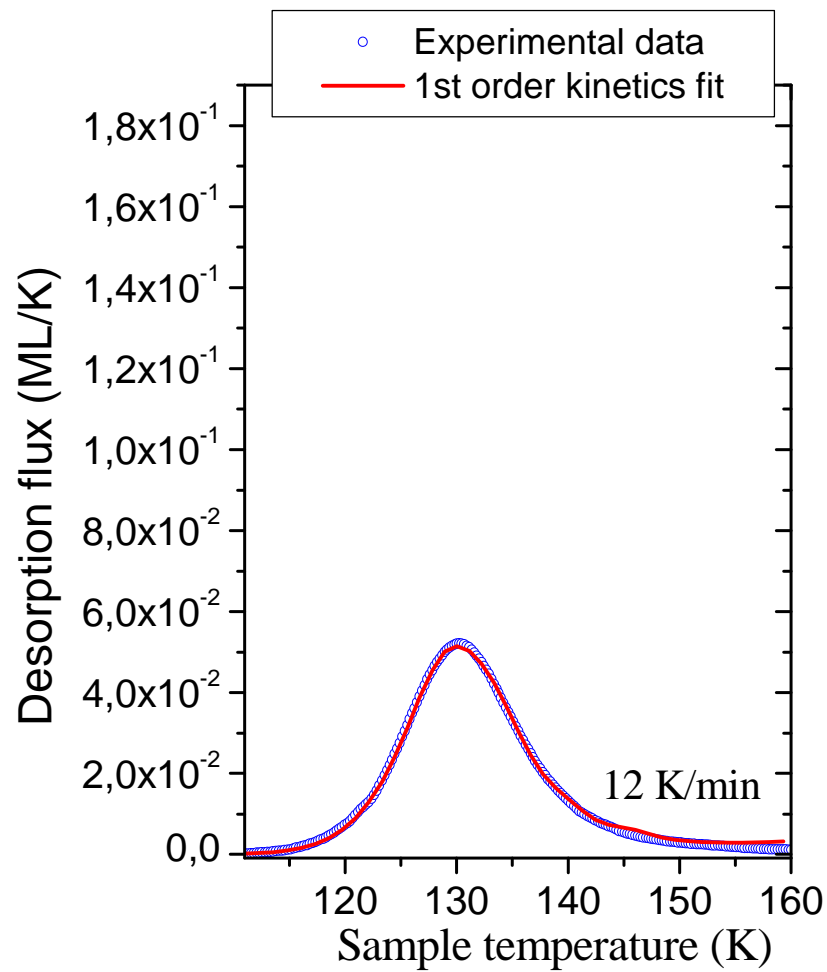
- **First order approximation (n = 1)**
- **Determination of  $\nu$  from a set of TPD curves, made at different heating rates  $\beta$**
- **Consideration of a distribution of adsorption energies**

$$\phi(T) = \frac{1}{\beta} \nu \sum_i \theta_i e^{-\frac{E_i}{kT}}$$

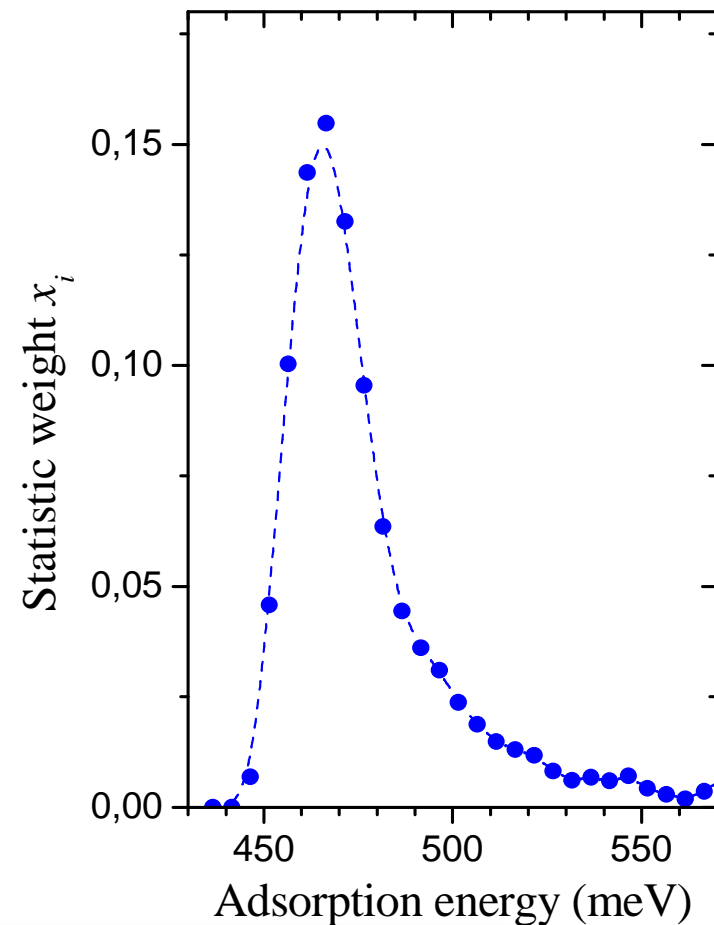
# Thermal desorption: *the case of methanol on graphite*

Thin ices: (sub)Monolayers

**0.8 ML  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  / graphite**



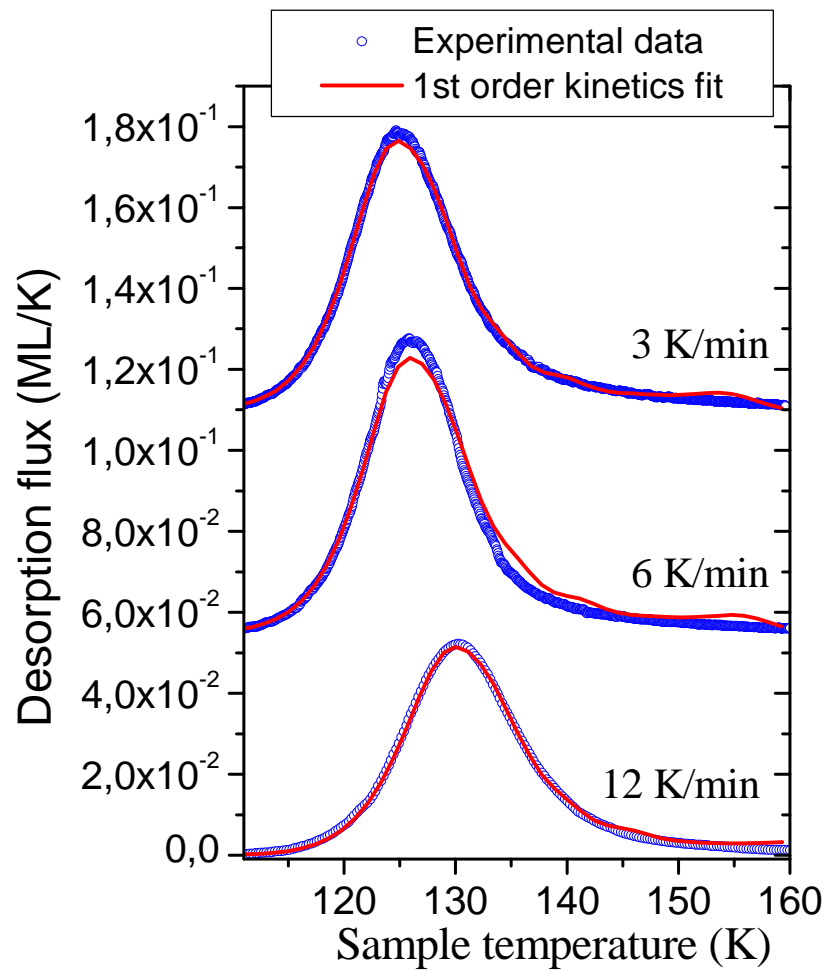
**Adsorption energies distribution for an arbitrary  $v$  at 3 K/min**



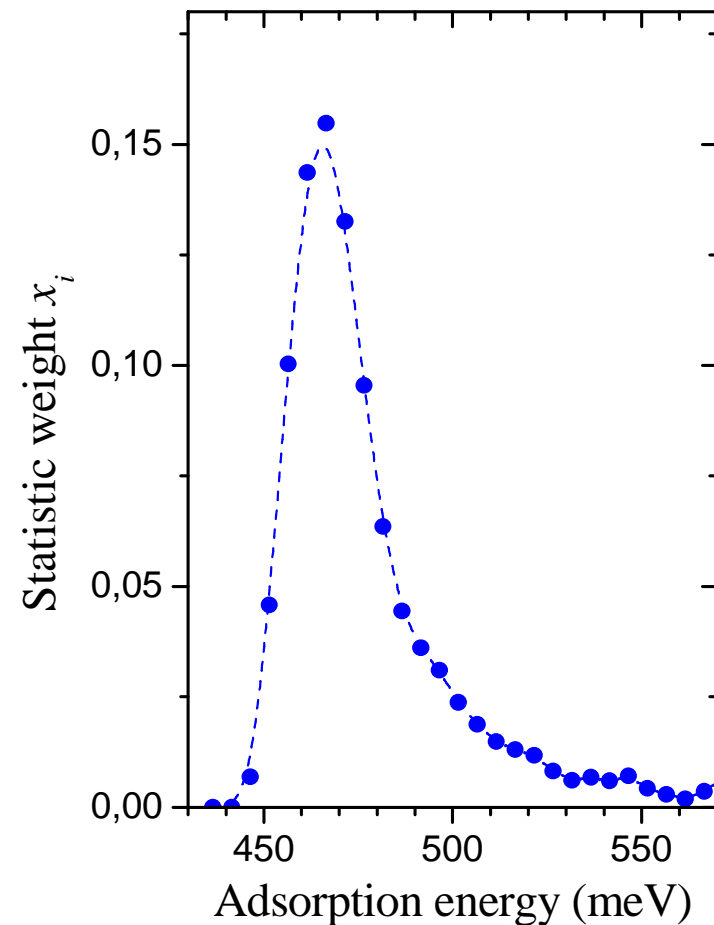
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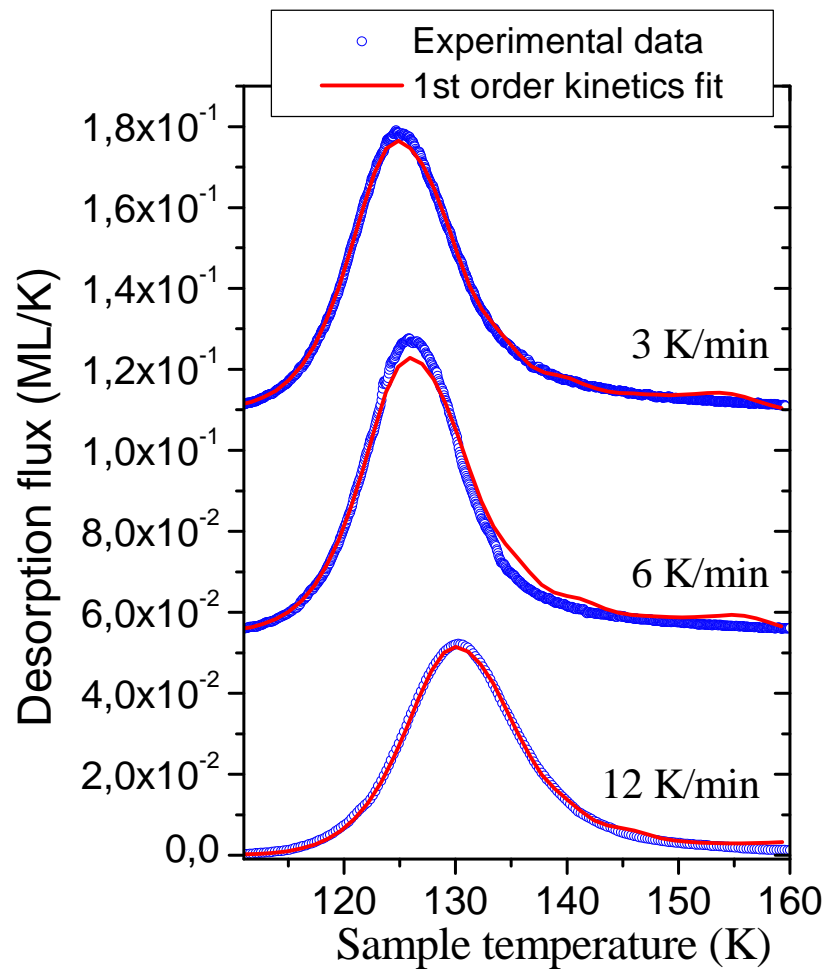
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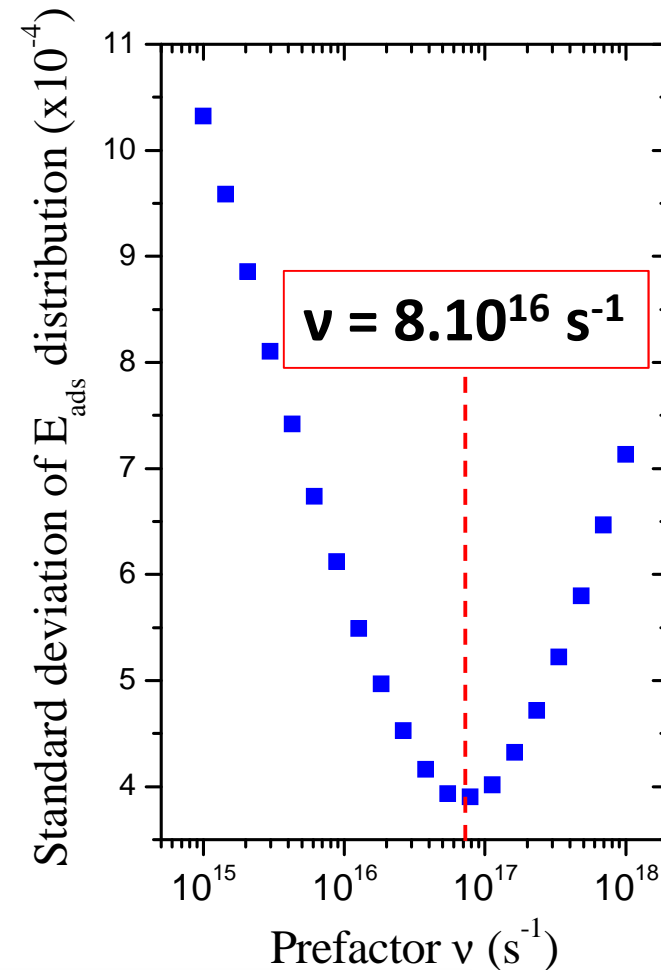
# Thermal desorption: *the case of methanol on graphite*

Thin ices: (sub)Monolayers

**0.8 ML CH<sub>3</sub>OH / graphite**

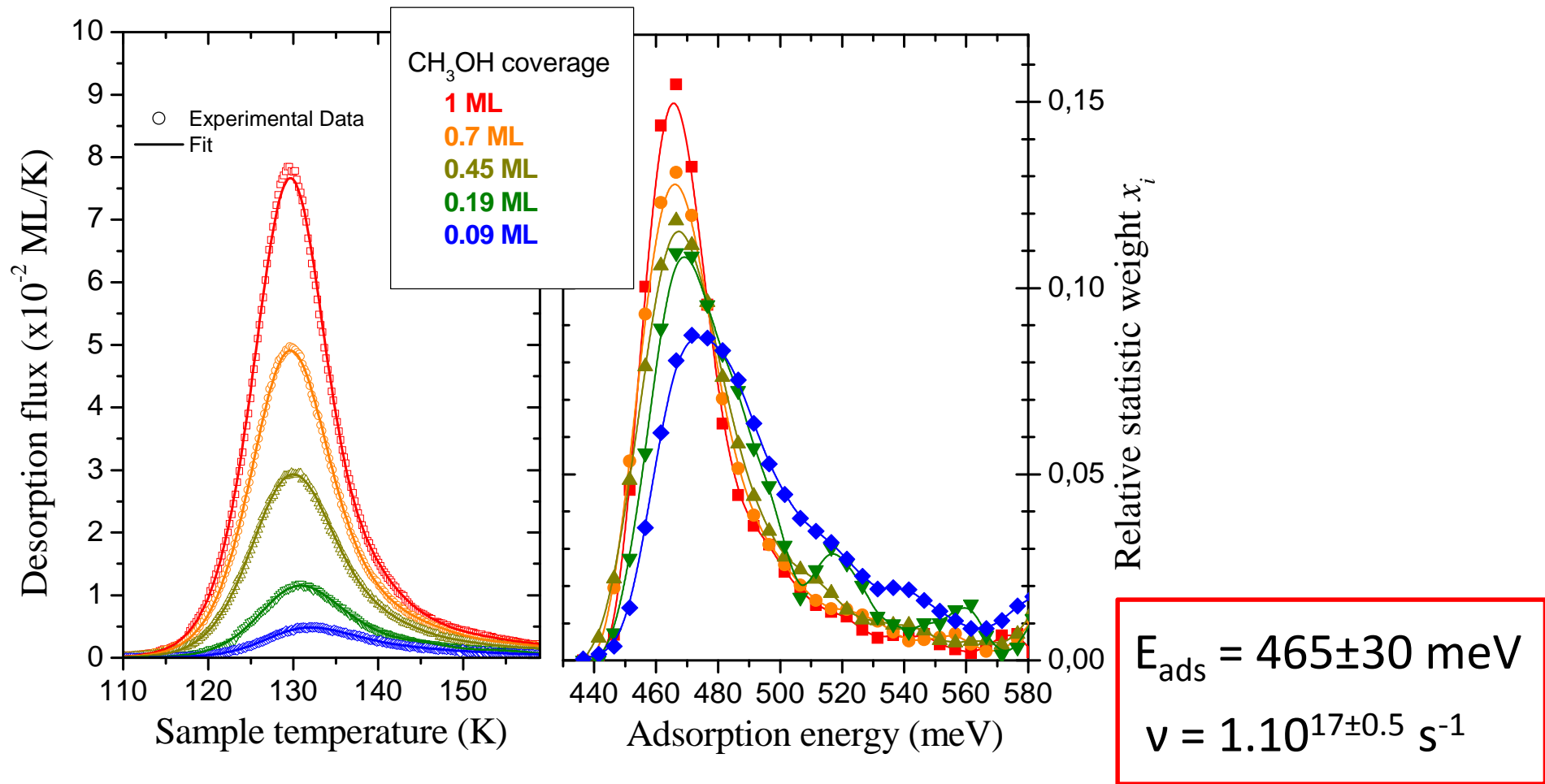


*The 'good' value is the one for which the energy distribution is independent from the heating rate*



# Thermal desorption: *the case of methanol on graphite*

## Thin ices: (sub)Monolayers



## Thermal desorption: *conclusions*

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- method to extract quantitative parameters ( $E_{ads}$ ,  $v$ ) from experimental data
  - good agreement with theoretical values of adsorption energies from the LCT team
  - results compare well with previous experimental results from with Smith et al. 2014 et Bolina et al. 2005
- 
- limitations :
    - requires to have a very good reproducibility on the ice growing method
    - diffusion is neglected
-

## Thermal desorption: *conclusions*

Some systems studied so far (data for low coverage regime  $\sim 0.2$  ML):

	Amorphous Water ice		Crystalline Water ice		Graphite		Quartz $\alpha$ (0001)	
	$\nu$ ( $s^{-1}$ )	$E_{\text{ads}}$ (meV)	$\nu$ ( $s^{-1}$ )	$E_{\text{ads}}$ (meV)	$\nu$ ( $s^{-1}$ )	$E_{\text{ads}}$ (meV)	$\nu$ ( $s^{-1}$ )	$E_{\text{ads}}$ (meV)
CH <sub>3</sub> OH					$10^{17}$	465		
CH <sub>3</sub> CN			$10^{18}$	> 570	$2 \cdot 10^{16}$	480	$10^{17}$	540
CH <sub>3</sub> NC			$10^{18}$	> 540	$5 \cdot 10^{17}$	500	$10^{17}$	480
HCOOCH <sub>3</sub>	$10^{13-15}$	370	$10^{13-15}$	380				
Ar			$10^{10}$	75				
Kr			$2 \cdot 10^{12}$	125				
Xe			$7 \cdot 10^{12}$	173				

## UV Photodesorption: *wavelength-resolved studies*

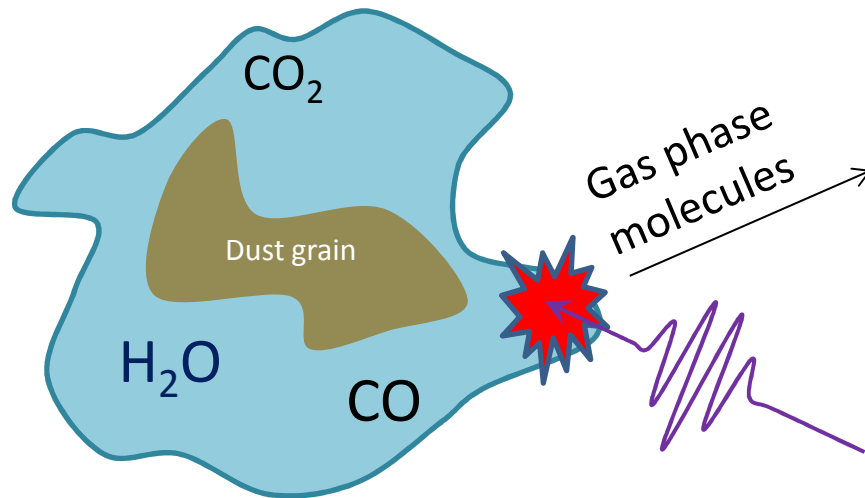
- UV photodesorption as a source for gas phase molecules in cold media:

*Dominik et al., 2005*

*Hersant et al., 2009*

*Guzman et al., 2011*

...



- UV photodesorption of simple molecules has been studied in laboratory mainly using discharge lamp, with varying spectra, as UV sources:

*Westley et al., 1995*

*Öberg et al., 2007, 2008, 2009*

*Muñoz-Caro et al., 2010*

Our approach: determination of photodesorption rate **as a function of the photon energy**

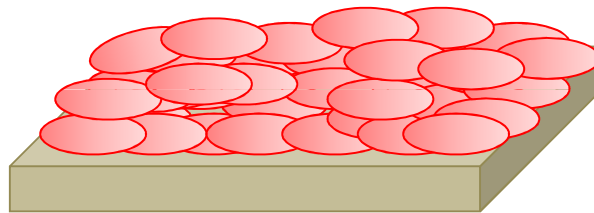
- to take into account different UV fields
- to access molecular mechanism responsible for the desorption



## UV Photodesorption: *wavelength-resolved studies*

Experiments in the SPICES instrument (UPMC)

$P \sim 10^{-10}$  Torr



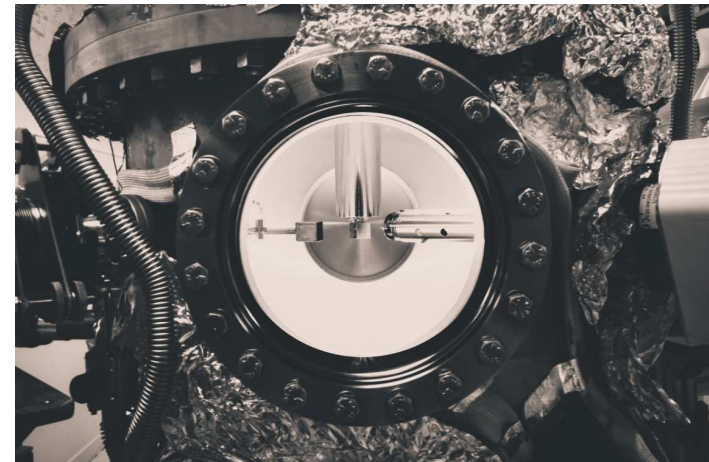
**Substrate**

*Highly Oriented Pyrolytic Graphite (HOPG)*

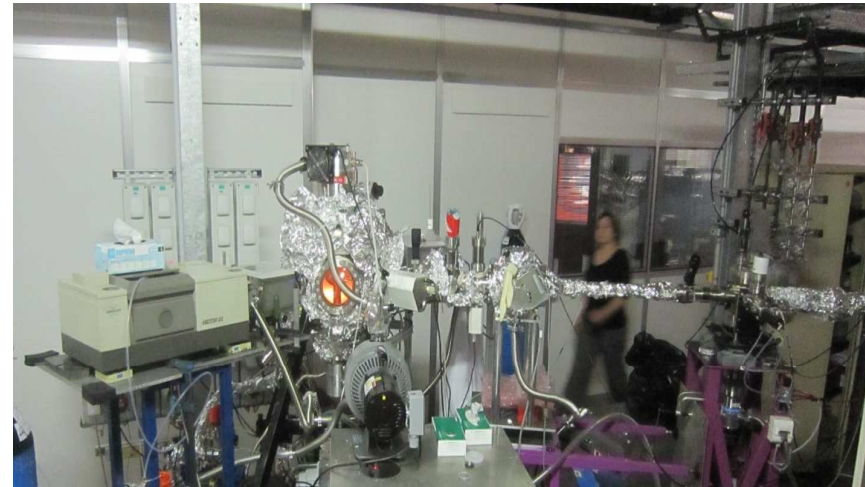
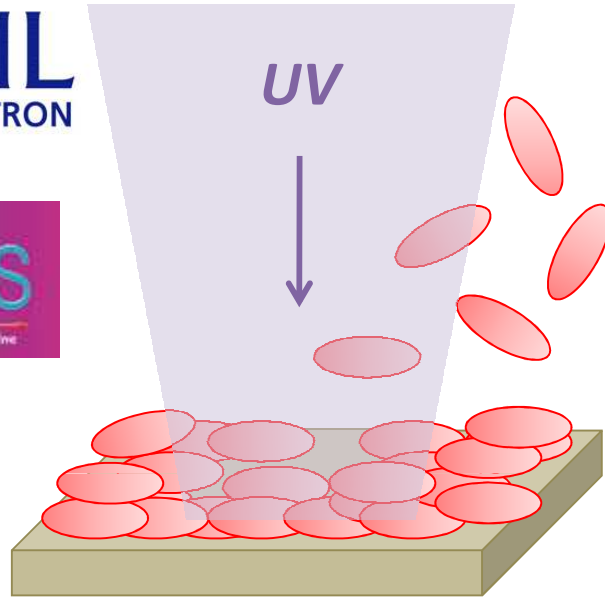
*Au polycrystallin*

*Quartz (0001)*

**T ~ 10 K**



## UV Photodesorption: *wavelength-resolved studies*



**Substrate**

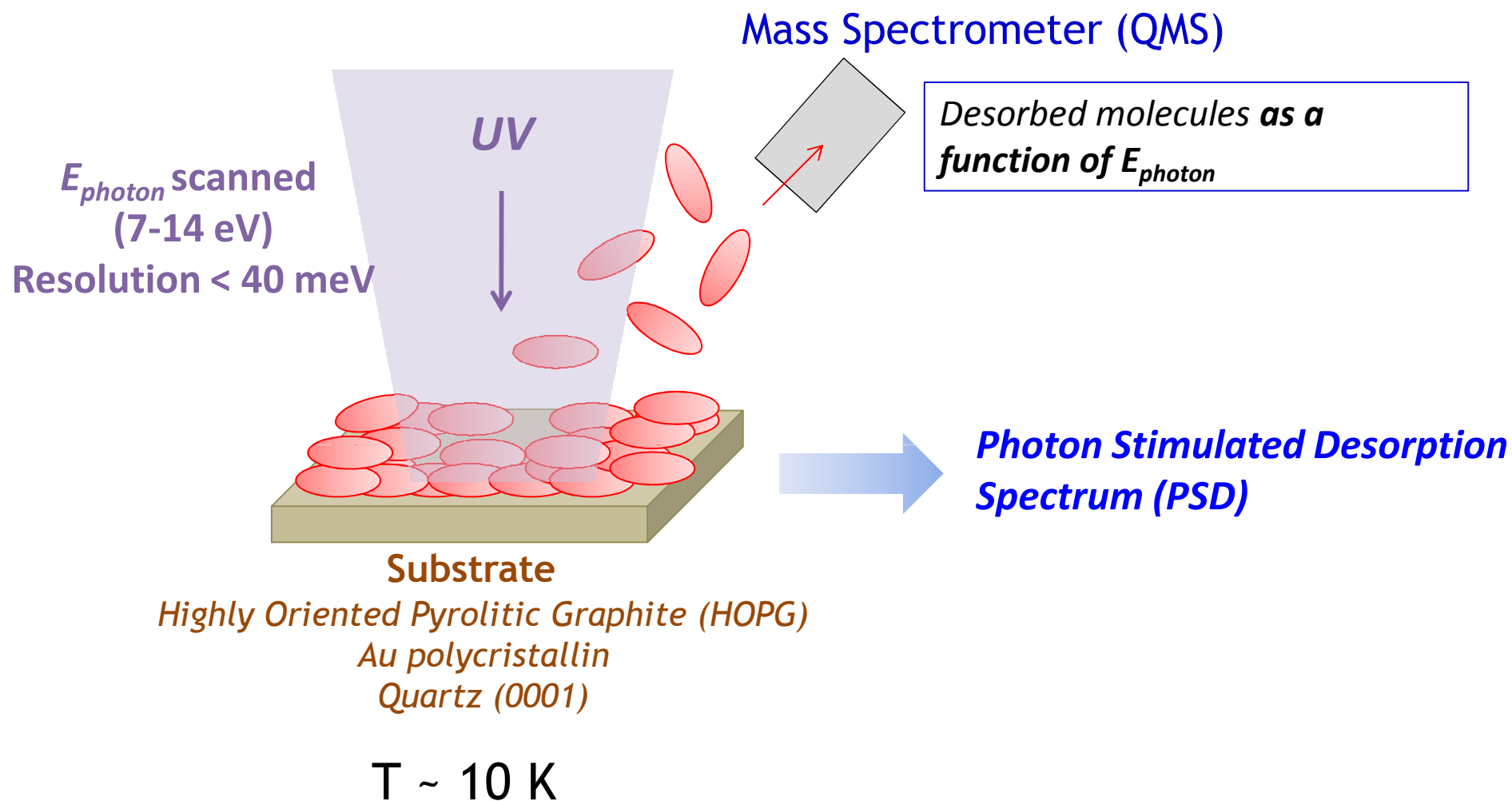
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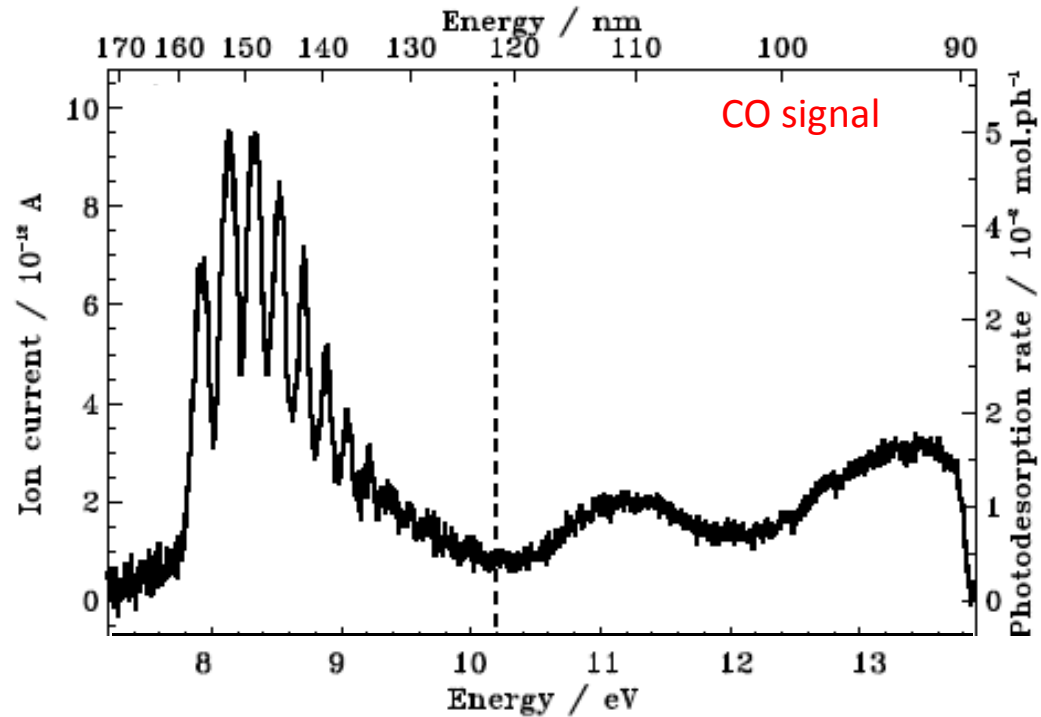
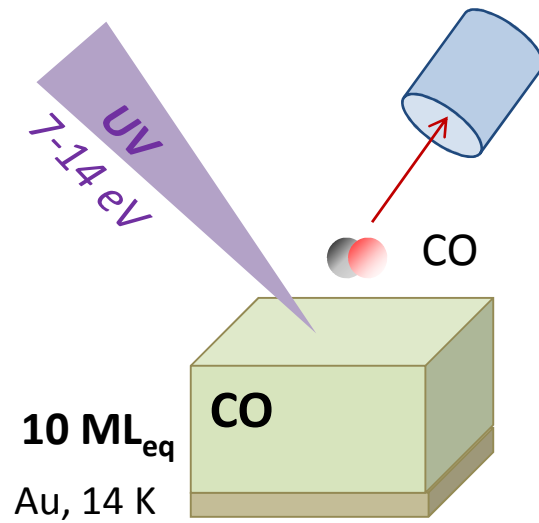
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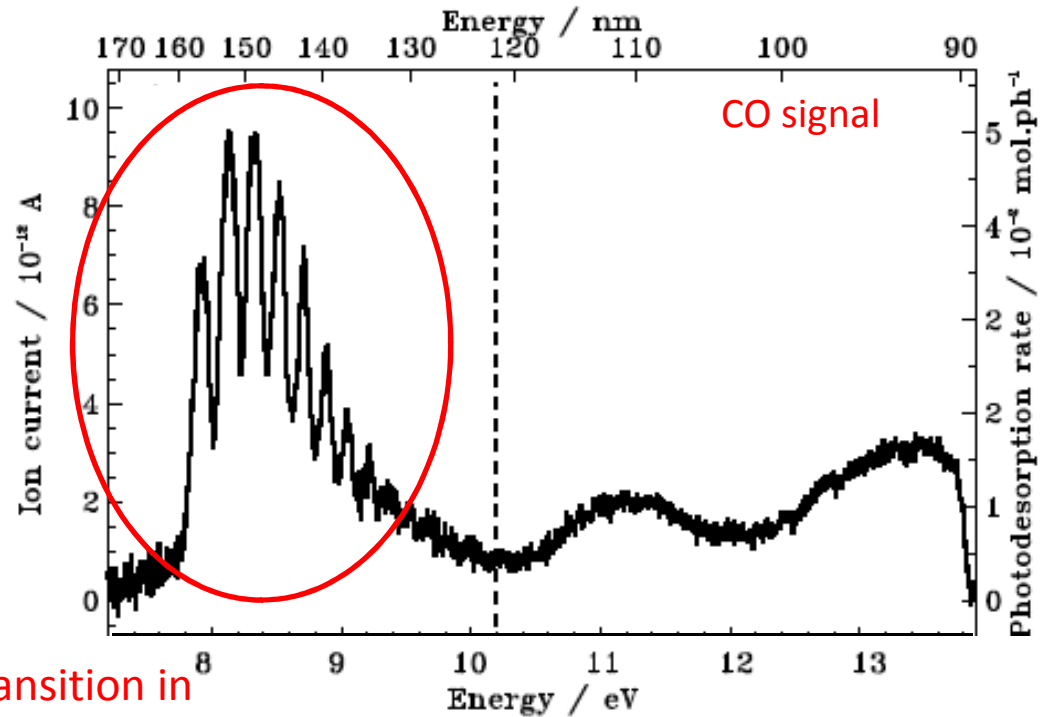
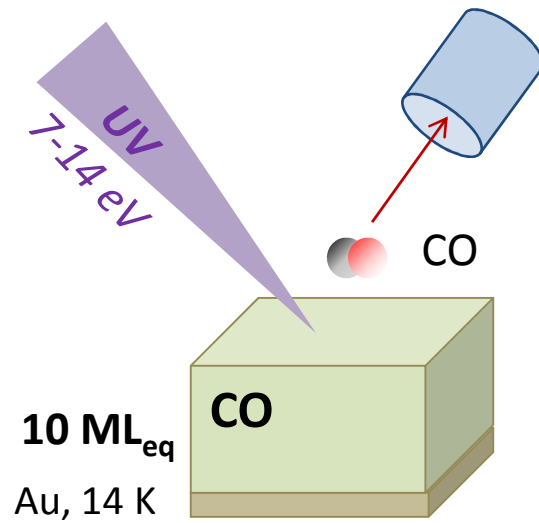
**T ~ 10 K**

## UV Photodesorption: *wavelength-resolved studies*

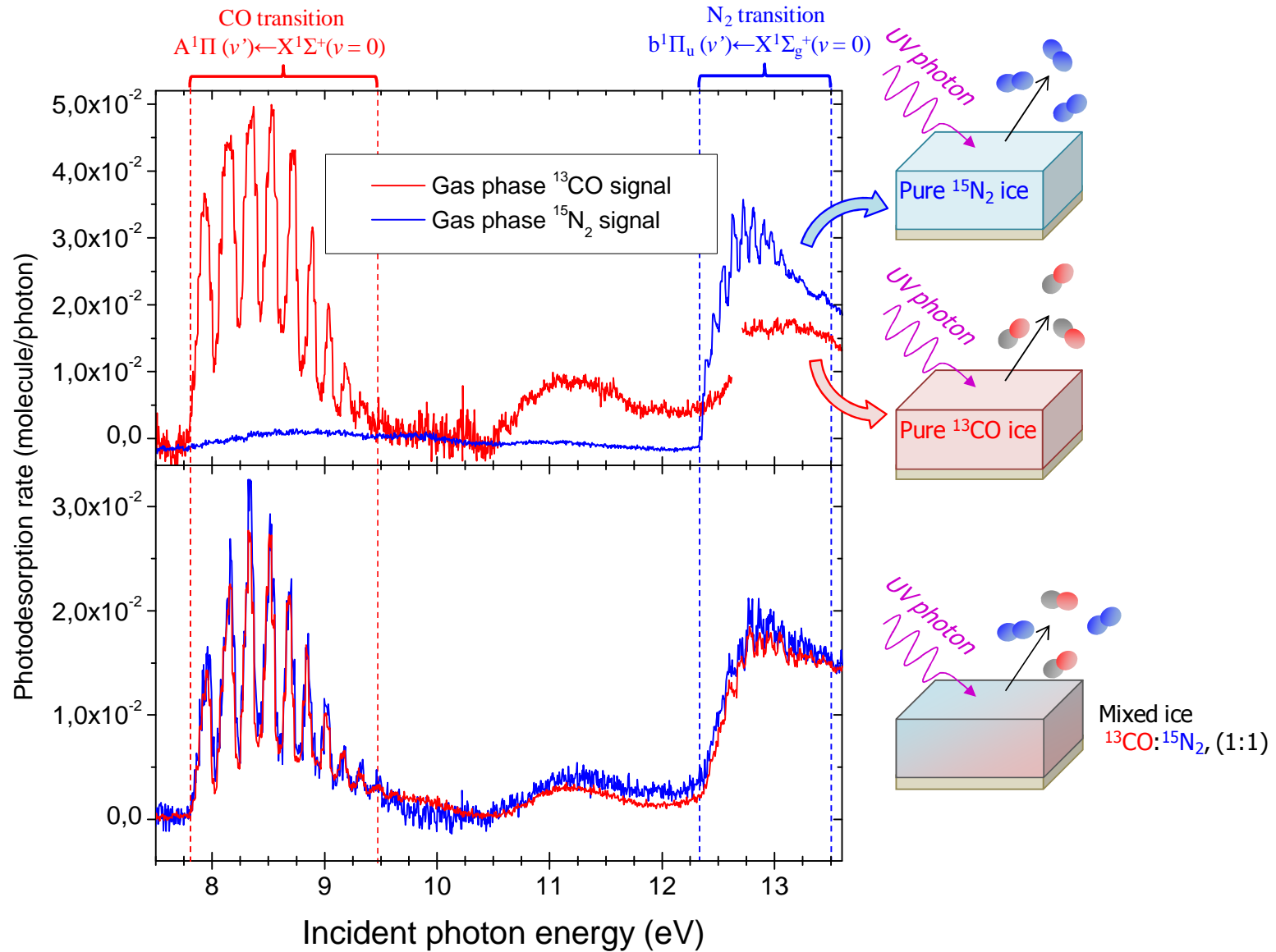




Photodesorption efficiency very dependent on photon energy



Process initiated by electronic transition in the condensed molecules (**DIET**)



## UV Photodesorption: indirect effects on photodesorption rates

- CO and N<sub>2</sub> co-adsorbed

*Bertin et al., ApJ 2013*

	Pure Ices	Mixed Ice (1:1)	Layered ice (1ML N <sub>2</sub> / CO)
CO photodesorption (molecule/photon)	$1.0 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$2.9 \cdot 10^{-3}$
N <sub>2</sub> photodesorption (molecule/photon)	$2.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$3.0 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$5.1 \cdot 10^{-3}$

*UV spectra in dense cores from Gredel 1987*

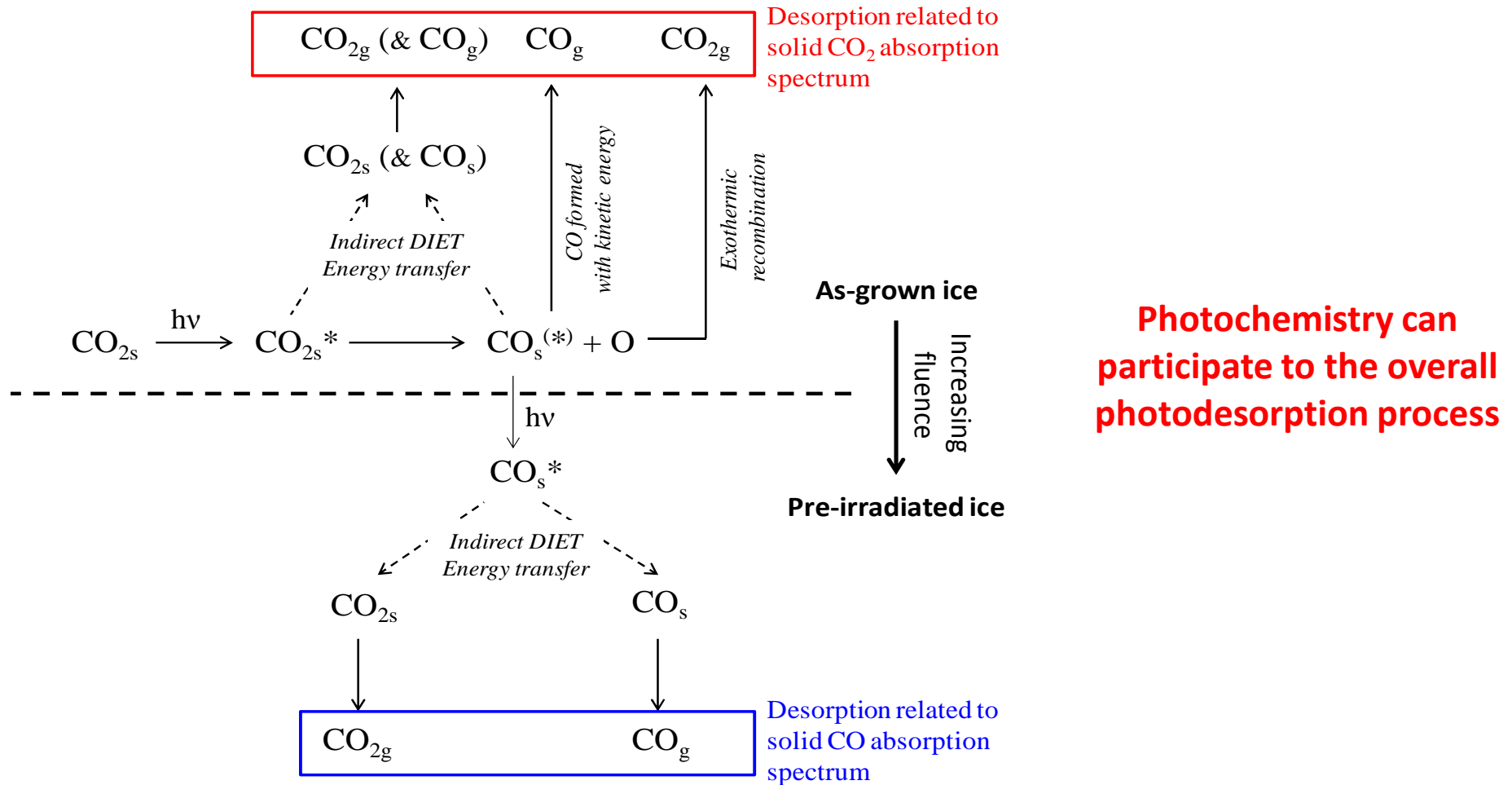
- CO co-adsorbed with H<sub>2</sub>O

*Bertin et al., Phys Chem Chem Phys 2012*

**Photodesorption of CO interacting with H<sub>2</sub>O molecules is strongly suppressed**

# UV Photodesorption: What about photodissociation?

- Cases of pure O<sub>2</sub> and pure CO<sub>2</sub> *Fayolle et al., A&A 2013*  
*Fillion et al. Faraday Disc 2014*





## *UV Photodesorption: UV photodesorption of COMs*

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- **The case of methanol**

*Recent data from last SOLEIL beamtime  
Treatment still in process*

**The main desorbing signal comes from the photofragments of methanol  
(CH<sub>3</sub>, OH, CO, HCO, H<sub>2</sub>CO...)**

**No dependency in the CO/methanol ratio is observed for the fragments desorption**

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## *UV Photodesorption: UV photodesorption of COMs*

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- **The case of methanol**

*Recent data from last SOLEIL beamtime  
Treatment still in process*

**Desorption of the intact methanol is only observed for pure CH<sub>3</sub>OH ices, and is comparatively weaker than the desorption of the fragments**

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## UV Photodesorption: *conclusions and open questions*

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- **How to take into account wavelength dependency**

*Wavelength-dependent Photodesorption spectra can be used with any UV spectra to obtain integrated photodesorption rates*

- **How to take into account indirect effects: Important role of the ice composition**

*Measures of photodesorption rates in CO-rich / H<sub>2</sub>O-rich ices with different stoichiometries*

*Only the **composition of the top-layers** needs to be considered*

- **Photodissociating molecules: photofragments vs intact molecules**

*Photodesorption of 'complex' molecules is **dominated by the fragments desorption***

*Photodesorption rates of photofragments/photoproducts can be measured*

*Photodesorption of **reactive fragments** may participate to the origin of COMs in the **gas** of the cold regions*

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## Acknowledgments

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### Co-workers

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E.C. Fayolle, H. Linnartz



C. Romanzin



K.I. Öberg



F. Pauzat, Y. Ellinger, A. Markovits



J.-C. Guillemin



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*DIM – Astrophysique et Conditions d'Apparition de la Vie*

*Programme national PCMI*

*PHC program Van Gogh*

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