

Reactive collisions of electrons with molecular cations

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Research topics

- partial differential equation methods in quantum mechanics

AIP Journal of Mathematical Physics



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Exact solution to the Schrödinger's equation with pseudo-Gaussian potential

J. Math. Phys. **56**, 121501 (2015); <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.4936309>

 Felix Iacob^{1, a)} and Marina Lute^{2, b)}

Research topics

- differential geometric methods in physics



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On the geometric quantization of the ro-vibrational motion of homonuclear diatomic molecules

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Romania

Research topics

- collision theory of electrons on molecular cations

Study of bound and resonant states of NS molecule in the R-matrix approach

submitted

to

[Journal of Physics B: Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics](#)

D_2^+ , BeD^+ , BeT^+ , H_2^+ , HD^+ , ArH^+ ,
 SH^+

Outline

- 1) Scattering technique in electron-ion collision
- 2) Research method
- 3) Applications, NS^+
- 4) MQDT mechanism on CH^+ cation,
and how the cross-section undergoes changes by introducing different excited cores

Scattering technique in electron-ion collision

Fundamental processes:

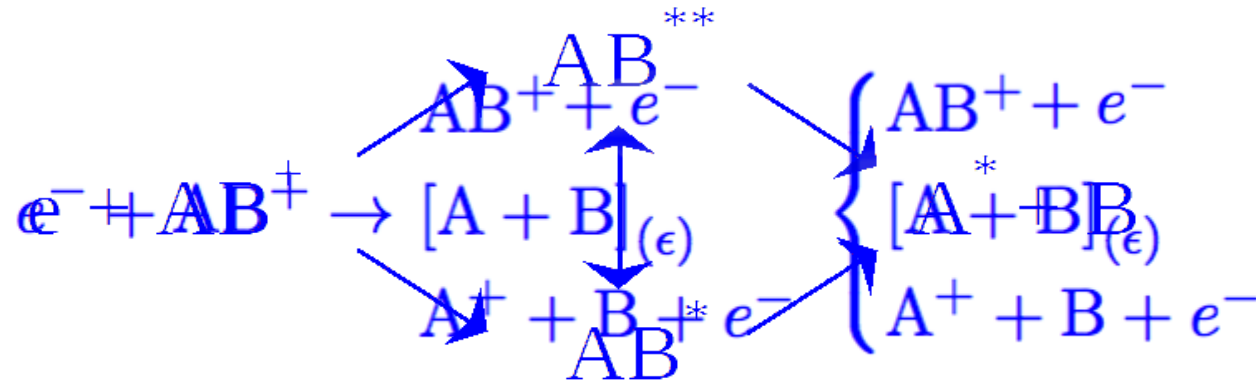
$e^- (l) + \mathbf{AB}^+(N_i^+, v_i^+)$ →	$\mathbf{AB}^+ (N_f^+, v_f^+) + e^- (l')$	Ro-Vibrational (de)Excitation: VE(VdE)	
	$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$	Dissociative Recombination: DR	Rearrangement or Resonance scattering
	$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}^+ + e^-$	Dissociative Excitation: DE	

Consider:

- partial wave of projectile, l
- internal structure of target, N_{pi}, v_i

Scattering technique in electron-ion collision

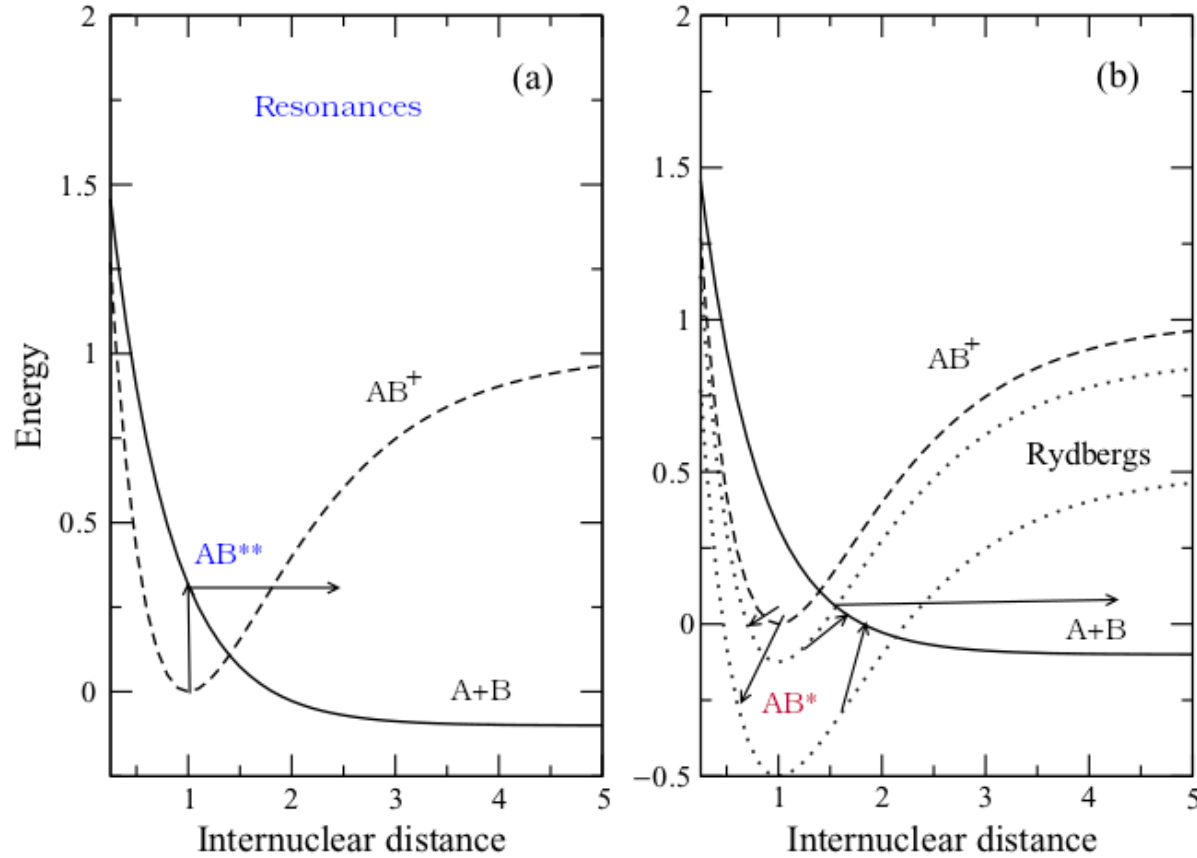
DIRECT
dissociative state



chemical
reaction

bound state
INDIRECT

Scattering technique in electron-ion collision

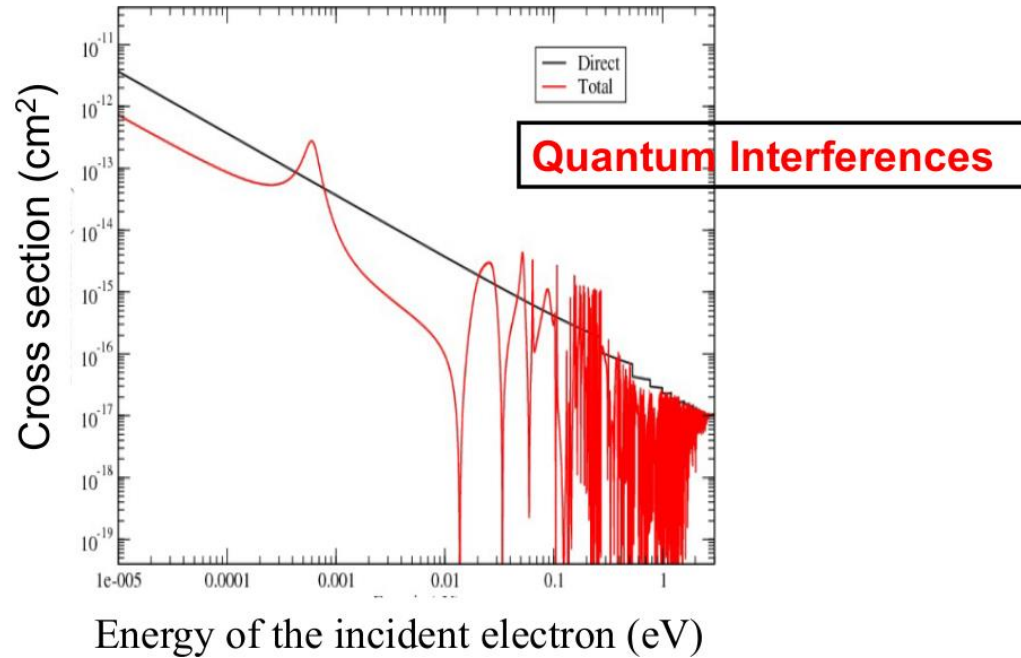


Born-Oppenheimer

Scattering technique in electron-ion collision

H_2^+ : DR

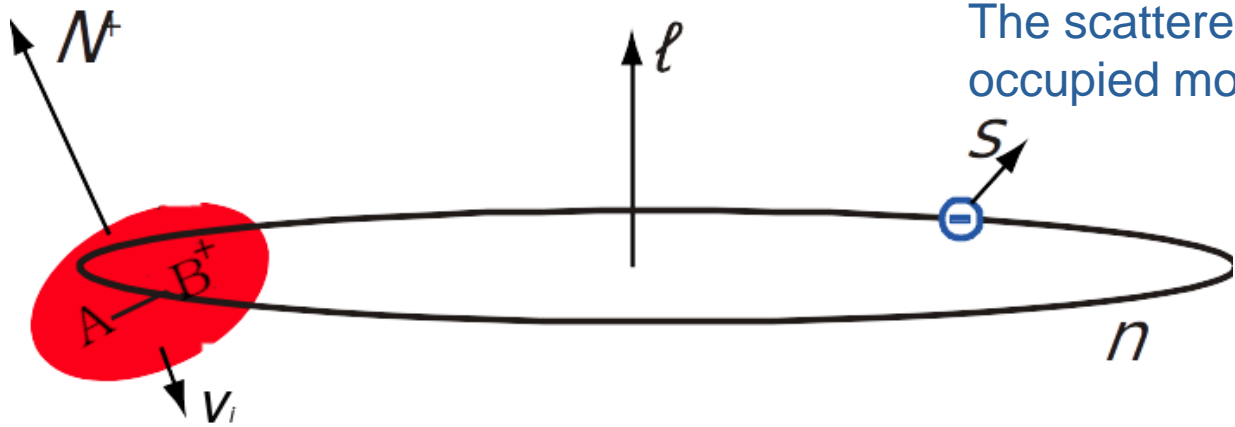
Total (direct & indirect) vs **direct** mechanisms



Super-excited molecular states

Electronic excitation emerges when:

- **intense** radiation arising from sources such as lasers, swift ions, or high-flux X-ray or electron pulses, interact with molecules.
- **low** electron collision with molecules, especially molecular cations



The scattered electron is viewed in the outermost occupied molecular orbital, called virtual orbital

Research method

I. Ab-Initio calculation involving multireference electronic structure configurations

Deliverables:

Feshbach resonances

bound mono-excited Rydberg states

autoionization widths

quantum defects

II. Multichannel Quantum Defect Theory

Deliverables:

cross-sections

thermal rate coefficients

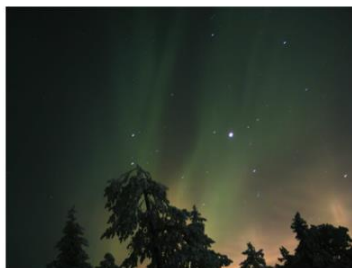
Result applies to molecular dynamics

incorporating
rate constants
as kinetic
constraints

Interstellar molecular
clouds



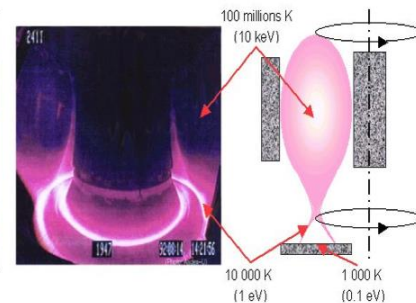
Planetary
atmospheres



Cold laboratory
plasmas



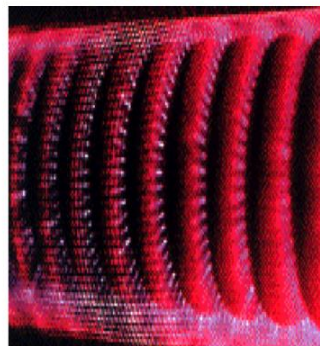
At the wall of the fusion
devices (ITER) project



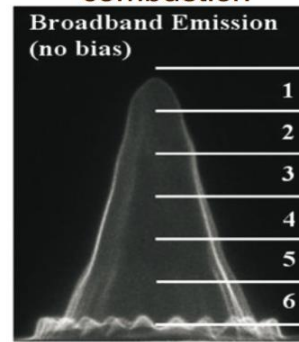
Hypersonic entry of
spacecrafts



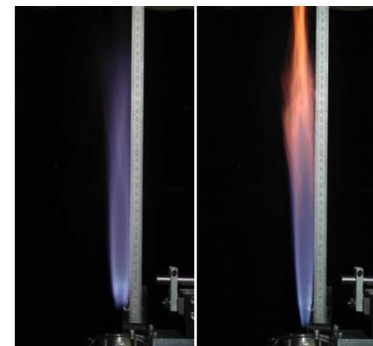
Plasma-assisted
depollution



Electric-field-
assisted
combustion



Plasma-assisted-
combustion



$e^- + NS^+$ scattering, R-matrix method

- In the **inner region**, exchange and other short range, possibly non-local, interactions are important
- In the **outer region** it is assumed that only long range potentials will affect the scattering

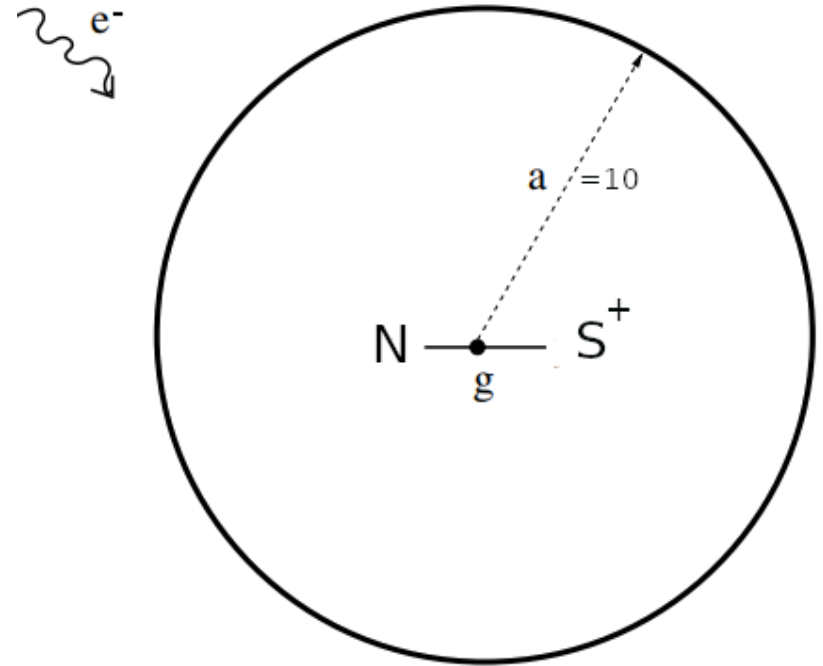
Asymptotic channel i is a state

- 1) of target with energy E_i^N
- 2) and of the scattering electron of energy E with partial wave (l_i, m_i) .

The wavenumber of the scattering electron associated with this channel $k_i^2 = 2(E - E_i^N)$.

A channel is said to be **open** if $k_i^2 \geq 0$

The wave function of the outer region solutions:



$$F_{ij} \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_i}} (\sin \theta_i \delta_{ij} + \cos \theta_i K_{ij})$$

$$\mathbf{S} = \frac{(\mathbf{1} + i\mathbf{K})}{(\mathbf{1} - i\mathbf{K})}$$

$$\delta(E) = \sum_i \arctan(K_{ii}^D)$$

NS⁺ target

Multi-Configuration, Self-Consistent-Field approach

Complete Active Space - CASSCF

C_{2v} point group

code symmetry

Ordering:

A₁ B₁ B₂ A₂

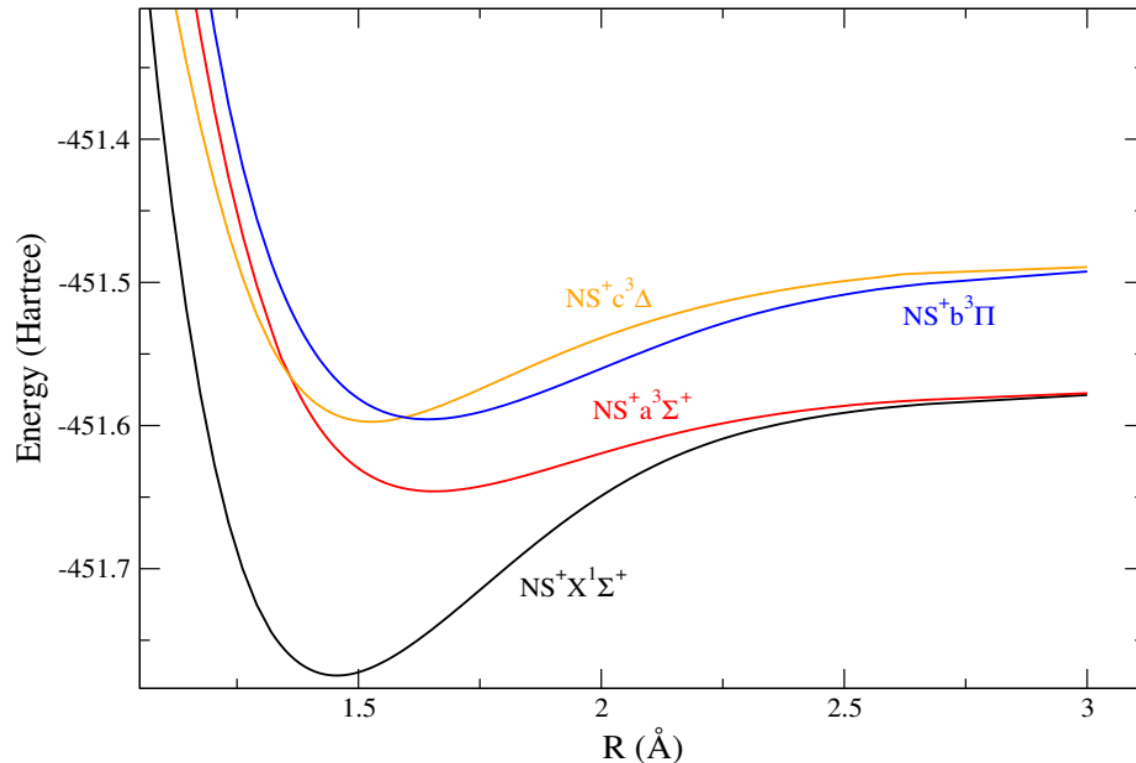
FRO(4,1,1,0)

CAS(4,2,2,0)

OCC(8,3,3,0)

VIR(2,1,1,1)

TOT(10,4,4,1)



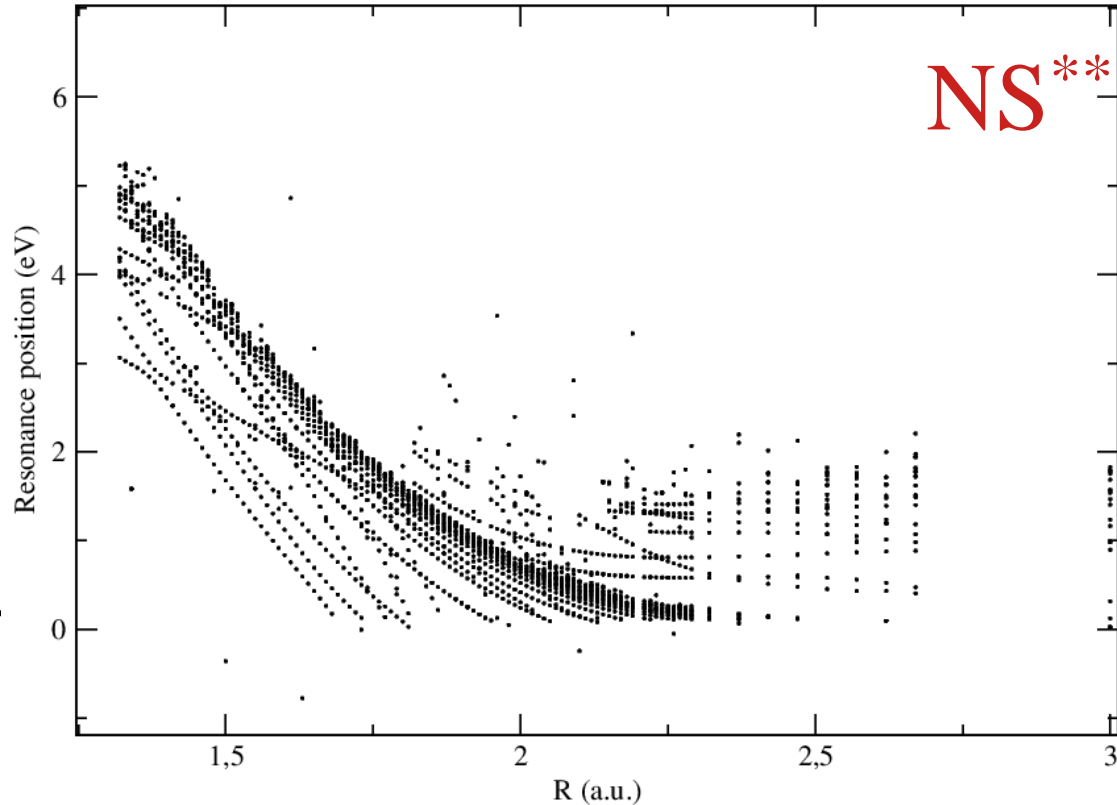
$e^- + NS^+$ scattering, R-matrix method

Feshbach resonances:

temporary trapping of an electron to form a quasibound or short-lived state of neutral in continuum of ion.

-
-

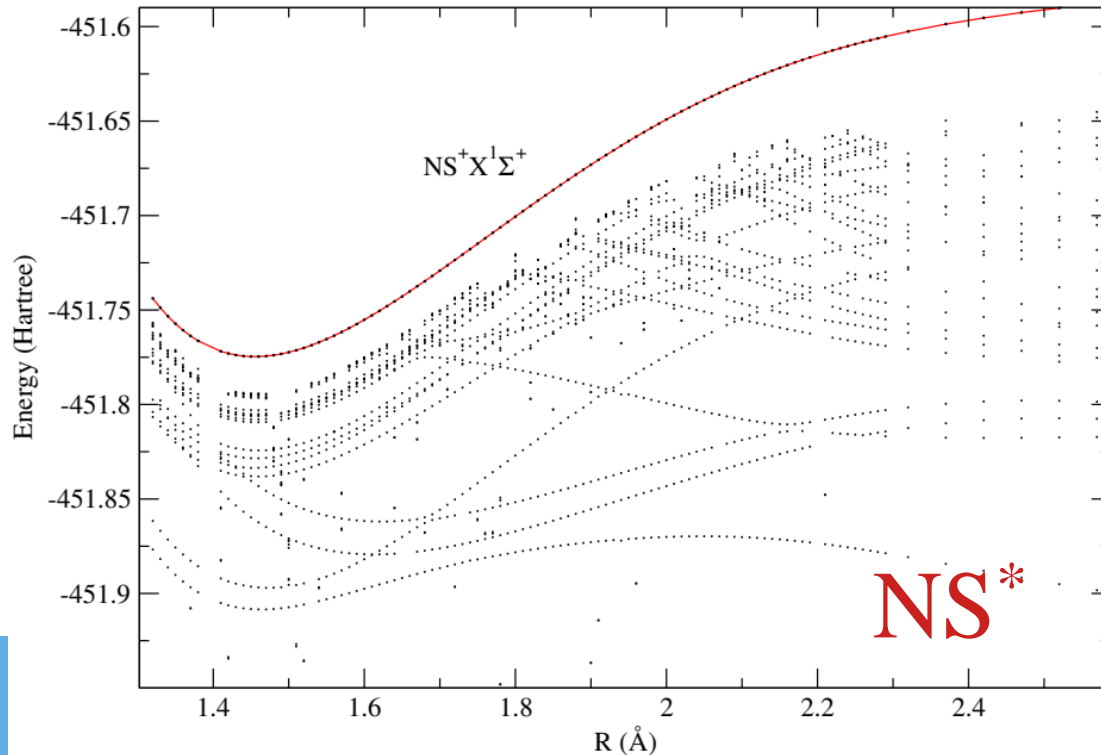
energy of ion is
zero reference



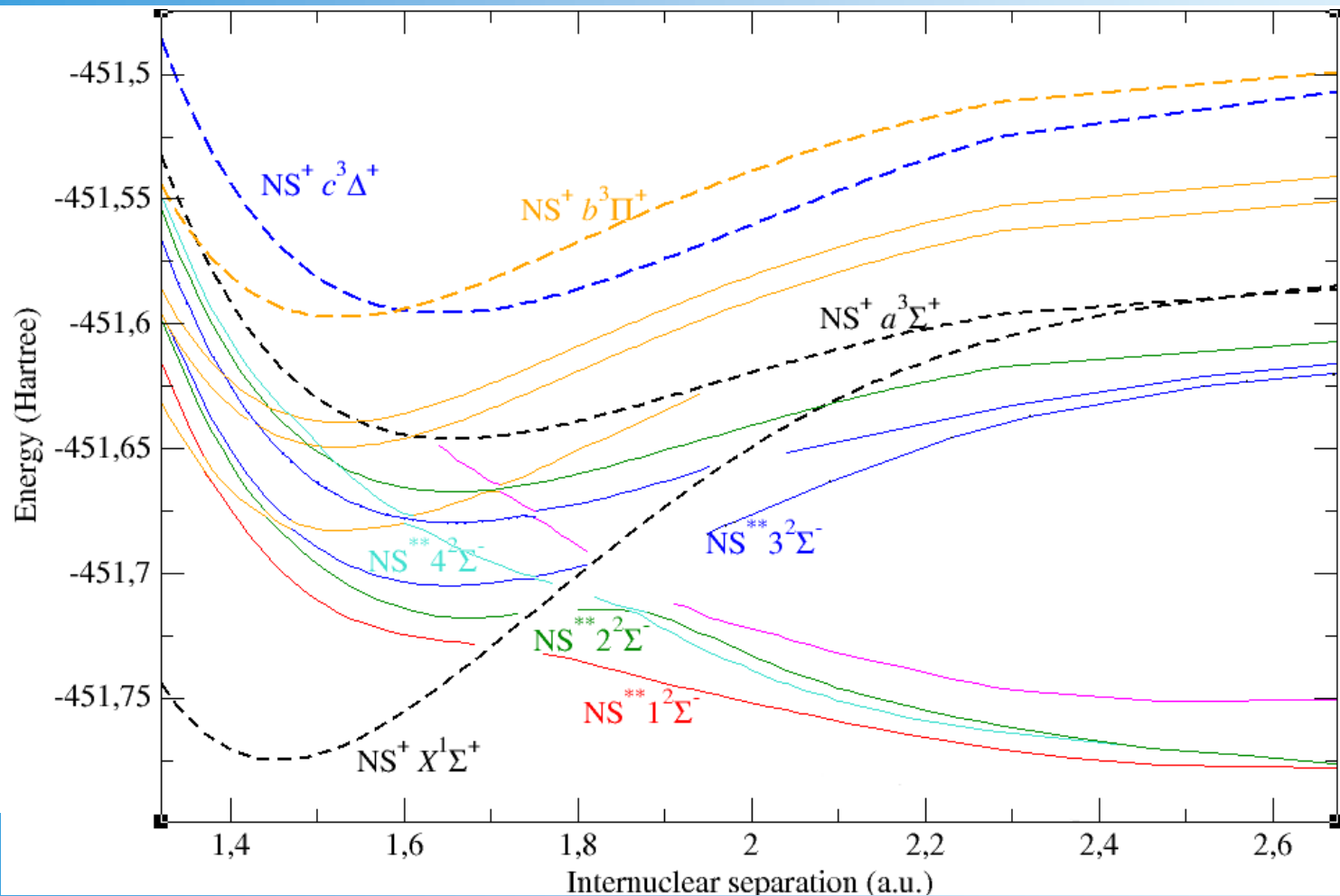
$e^- + \text{NS}^+$ scattering, R-matrix method

Bound states

temporary trapping of an electron to form a quasibound or short-lived state of neutral,
are found by performing the scattering calculations at negative energy.



Diabatization: PEC of NS^* , NS^{**}

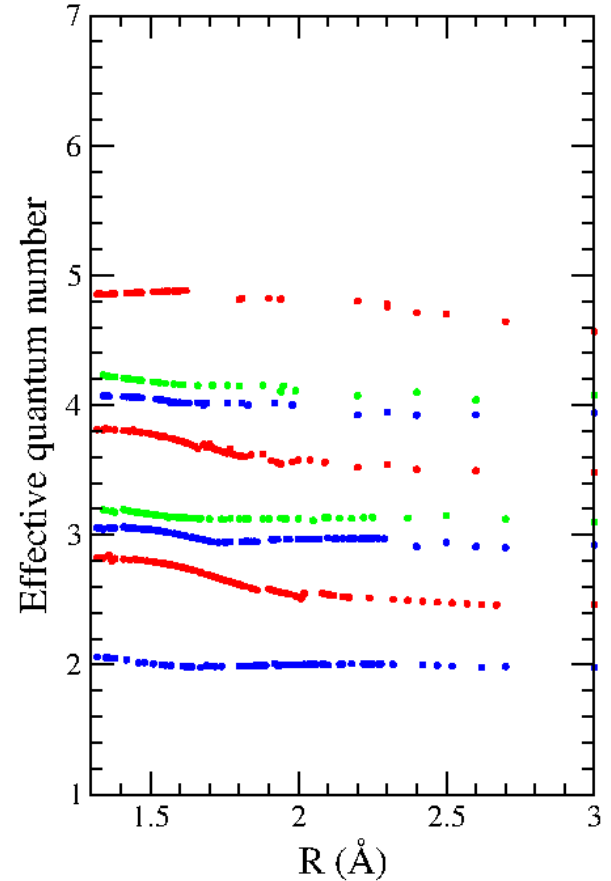
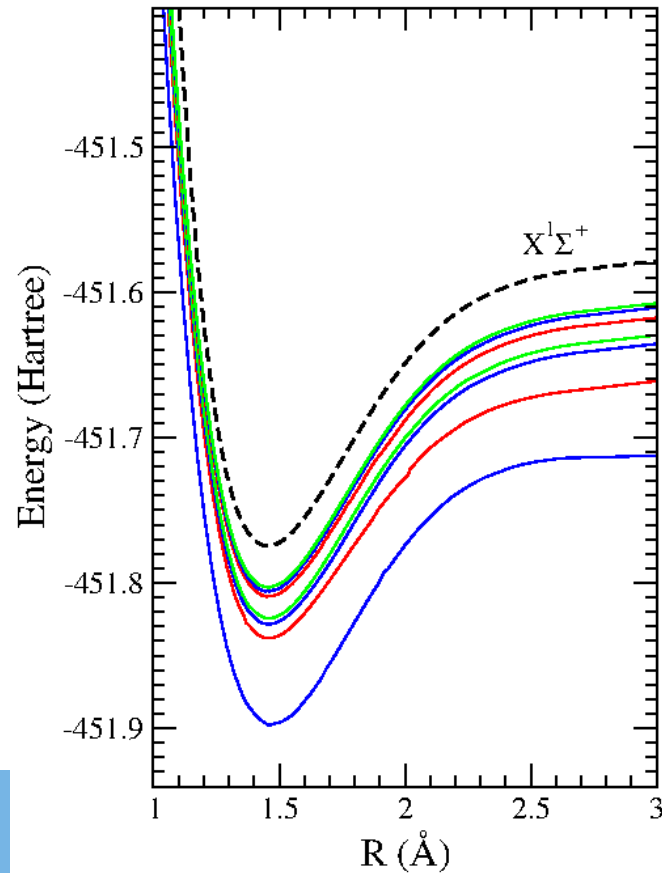


Diabatization: PEC of NS*

partial wave characterizing
the incoming electron:

- blue s-state,
- red p-state,
- green d-state

NS ($^2\Sigma^+$)



Multichannel Quantum Defect Theory

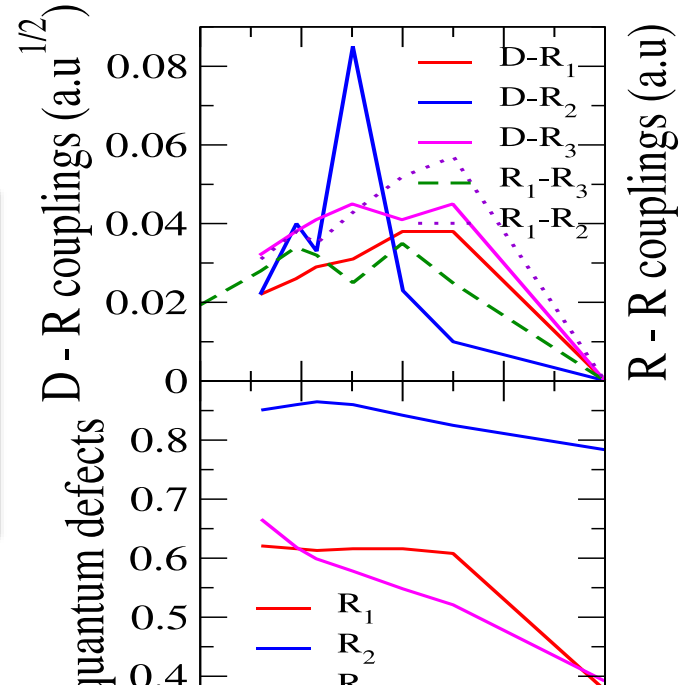
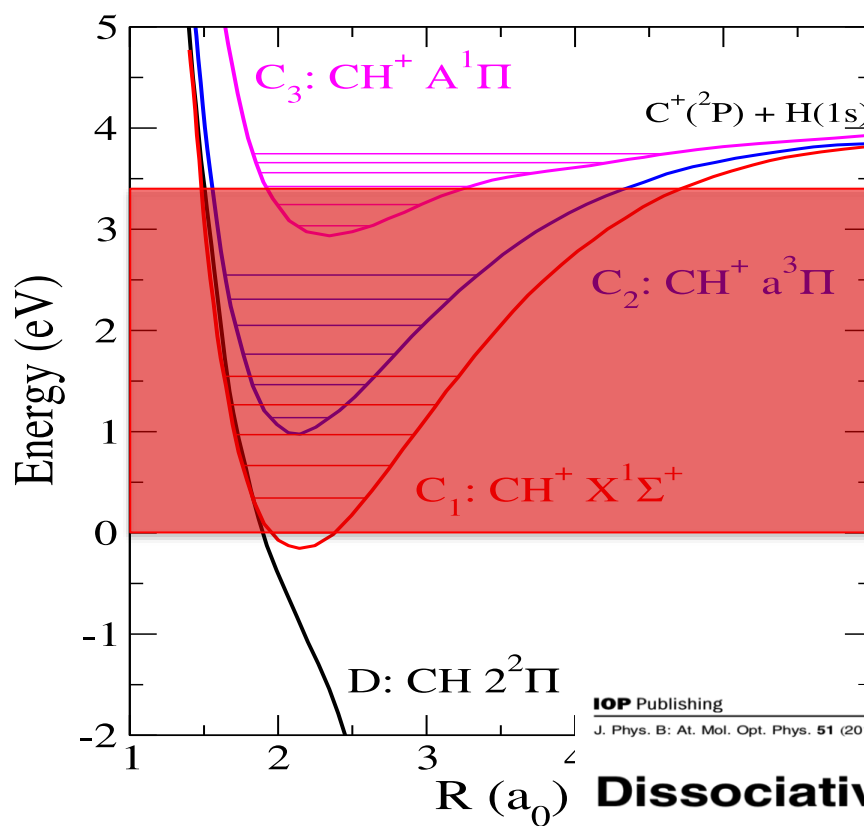
The minimum set of **input data** for an MQDT:

- PEC of the ground state of the molecular ion,
- PEC of the dissociative states of the neutral,
- Widths, electronic couplings of the dissociative states with the ionization continuum of the ground state of ion,
- Quantum defects of the each Rydberg series converging to the ground state of the ion.

MQDT → cross-sections,
thermal rate coefficients

CH⁺: molecular data

MQDT
mechanism



IOP Publishing

J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 51 (2018) 104002 (8pp)

Journal of Physics B: Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics

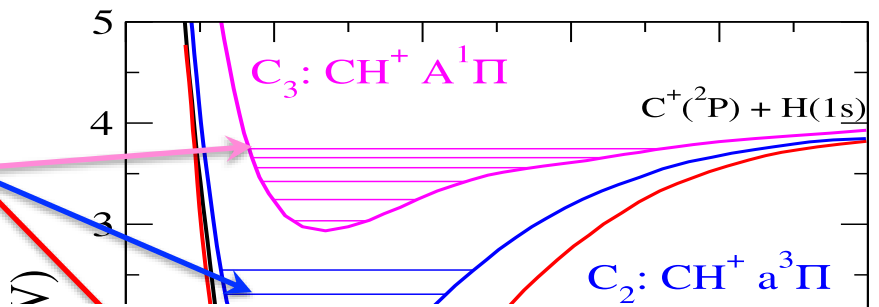
<https://doi.org/10.1088/1361-6455/aab937>

Dissociative recombination of the CH⁺ molecular ion at low energy

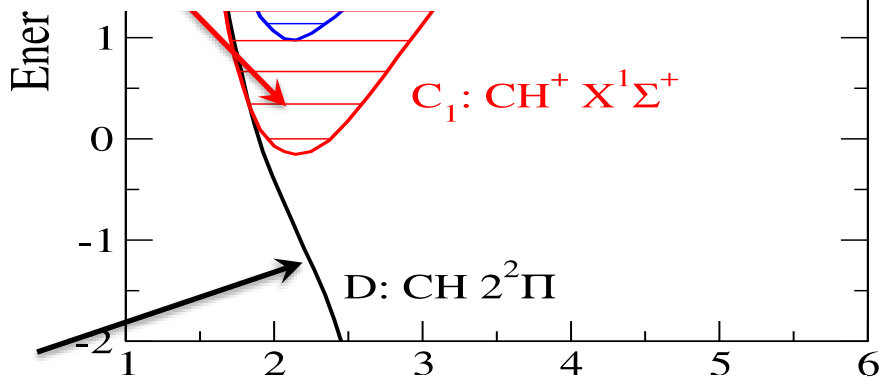
K Chakrabarti^{1,2}, J Zs Mezei^{1,3,4} , O Motapon⁵, A Faure⁶, O Dulieu⁷,
K Hassouni³ and I F Schneider^{1,7}

CH⁺: molecular data

ION

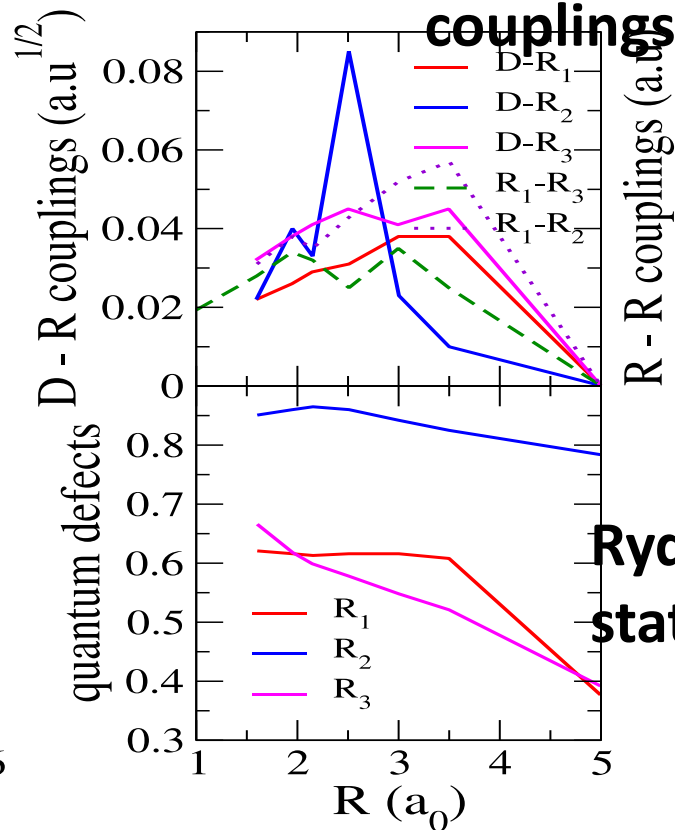


Valence IONIZATION states



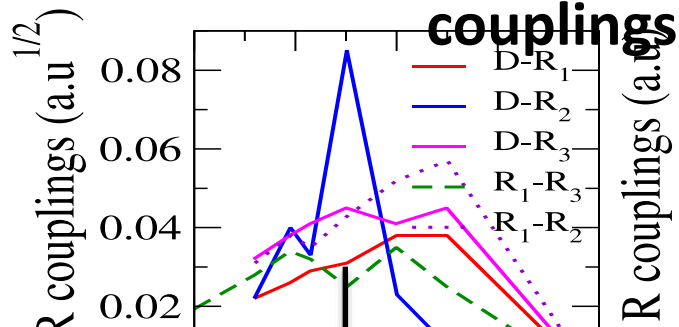
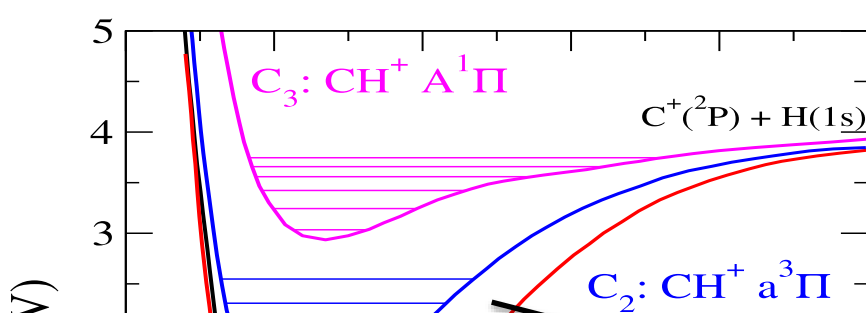
Valence DISSOCIATIVE states

Valence-
Rydberg
couplings

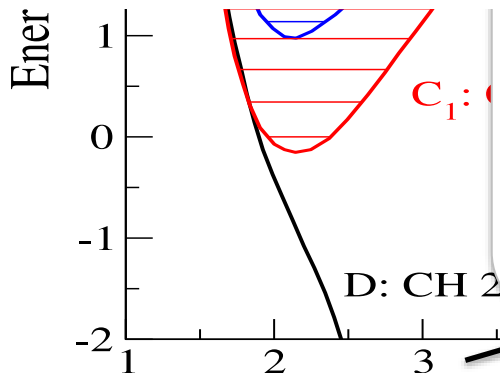


CH⁺: molecular data

ION



Valence IONIZATION states



$$V_{d_j, v_{c\beta}}^\Lambda(E) = \langle F_{d_j}(E) | \mathcal{V}_{d_j, c\beta}^{(e)\Lambda}(R) | \chi_{v_{c\beta}} \rangle$$

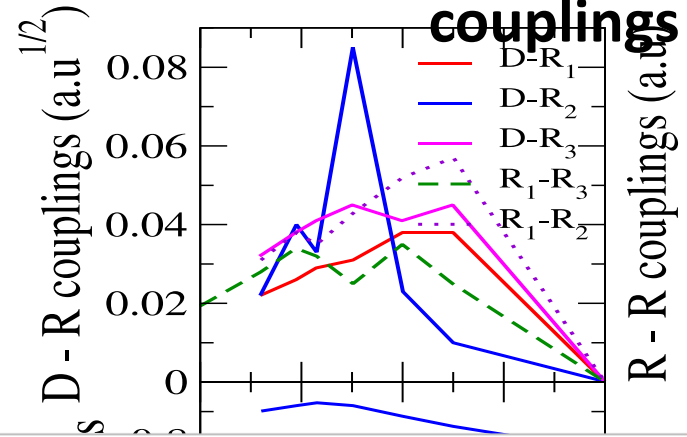
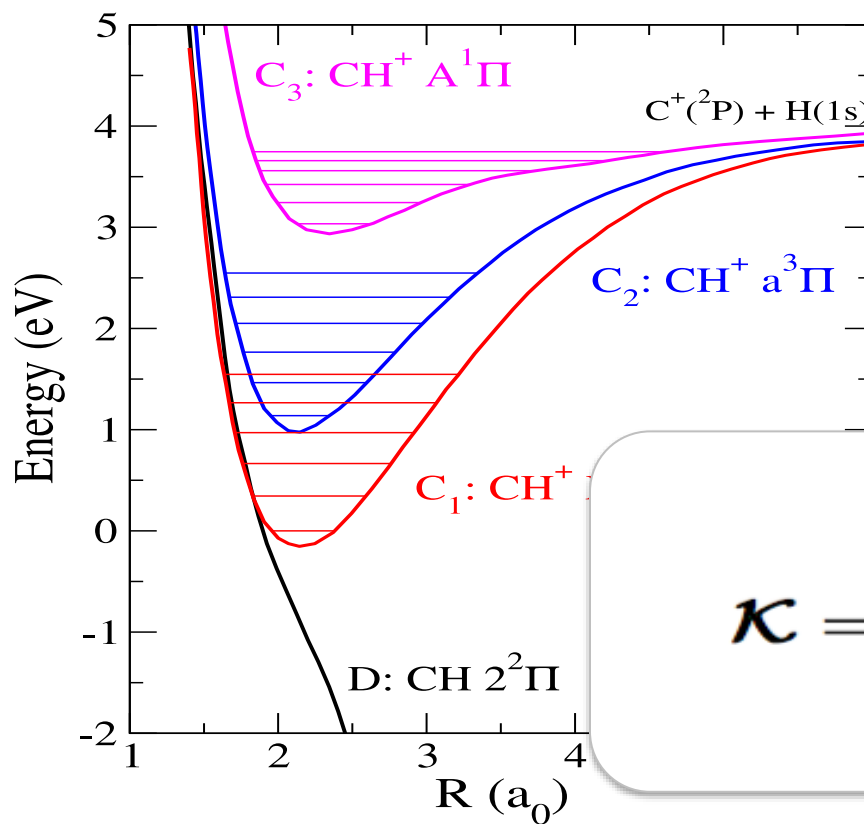
Valence DISSOCIATIVE states

berg
es

1.) Vibronic interaction matrix

CH⁺: molecular data

ION



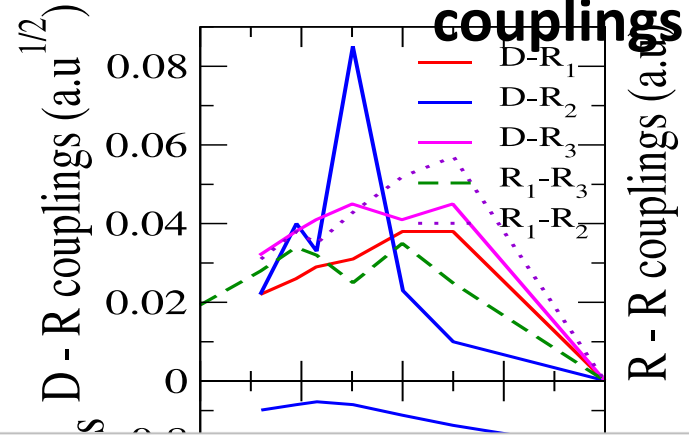
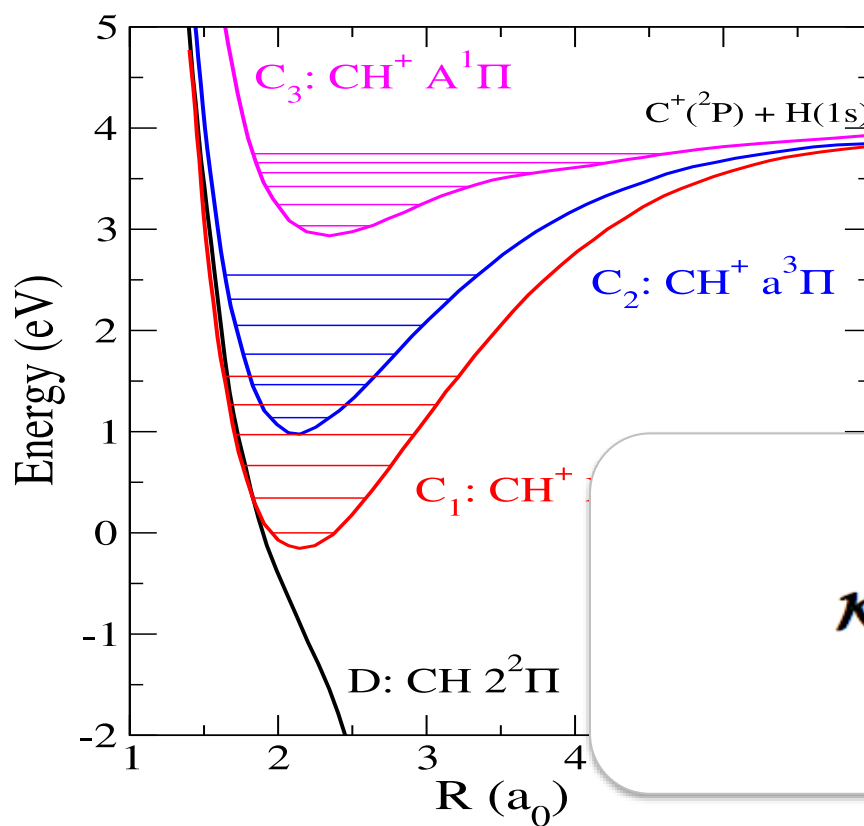
Valence-
Rydberg
couplings

$$\kappa = \nu + \nu \frac{1}{E - H_0} \nu,$$

2.) Lippmann-Schwinger equation: K-matrix

CH⁺: molecular data

ION



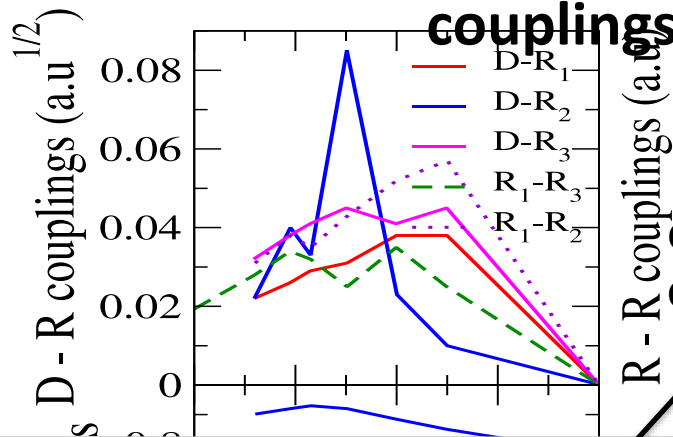
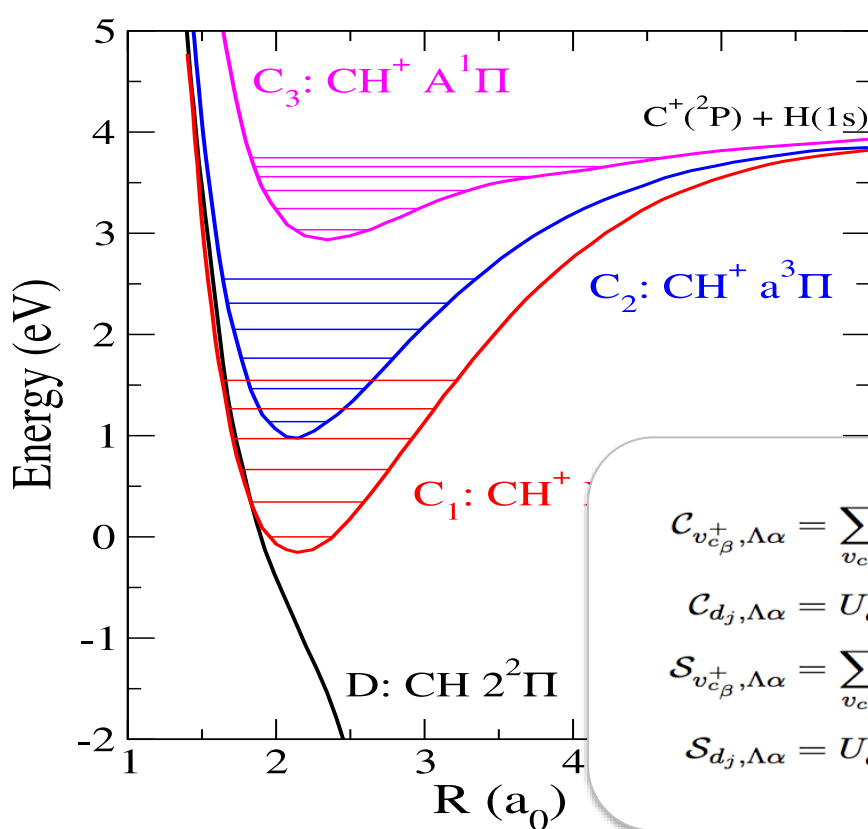
Valence-
Rydberg
couplings

$$KU = -\frac{1}{\pi} \tan(\eta)U,$$

3.) Diagonalization of the K-matrix

CH⁺: molecular data

ION



Valence-Rydberg couplings

R - R couplings (a.u.)
eigenvalues of K matrix

$$C_{v_{c\beta}^+, \Lambda\alpha} = \sum_{v_{c\beta}} U_{v_{c\beta}, \alpha}^{\Lambda} \left\langle \chi_{v_{c\beta}^+}(R) \left| \cos(\pi\mu_{c\beta}^{\Lambda}(R) + \eta_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}) \right| \chi_{v_{c\beta}}(R) \right\rangle$$

$$C_{d_j, \Lambda\alpha} = U_{d_j, \alpha}^{\Lambda} \cos \eta_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}$$

$$S_{v_{c\beta}^+, \Lambda\alpha} = \sum_{v_{c\beta}} U_{v_{c\beta}, \alpha}^{\Lambda} \left\langle \chi_{v_{c\beta}^+}(R) \left| \sin(\pi\mu_{c\beta}^{\Lambda}(R) + \eta_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}) \right| \chi_{v_{c\beta}}(R) \right\rangle$$

$$S_{d_j, \Lambda\alpha} = U_{d_j, \alpha}^{\Lambda} \sin \eta_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}$$

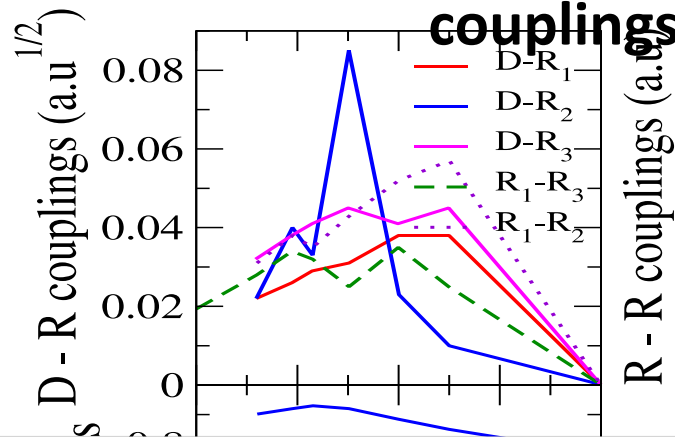
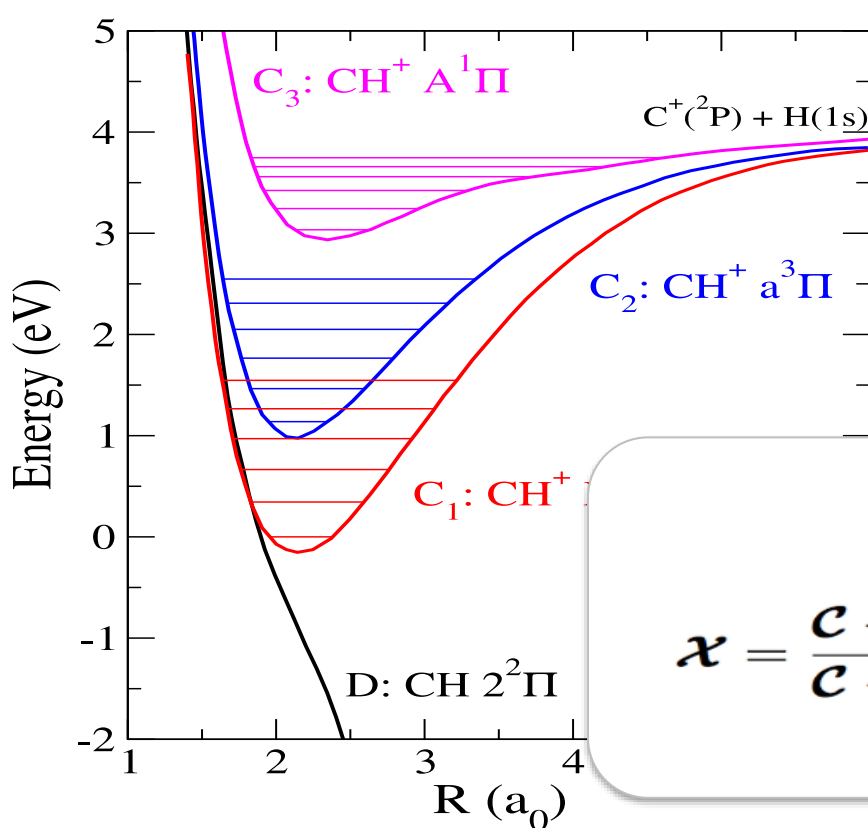
Quantum defect

4.) Frame transformation

CH⁺: molecular data

Valence-
Rydberg
couplings

ION



“o” : open channels

$$\chi = \frac{c + iS}{c - iS} \quad \chi = \begin{pmatrix} X_{oo} & X_{oc} \\ X_{co} & X_{cc} \end{pmatrix}$$

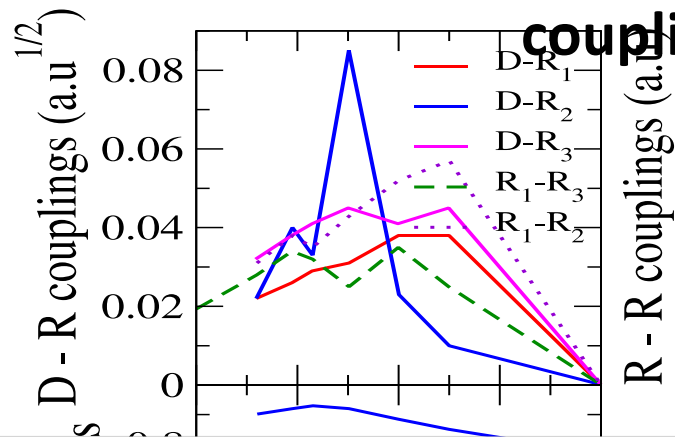
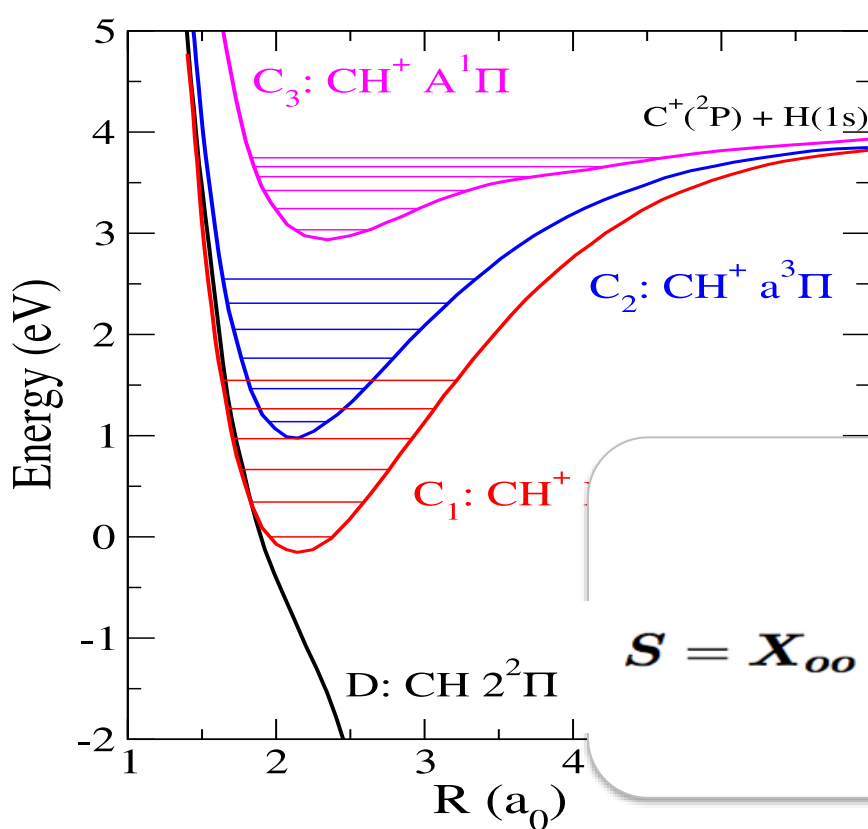
“c” : closed channels

5.) Cayley transform

CH⁺: molecular data

Valence-
Rydberg
couplings

ION



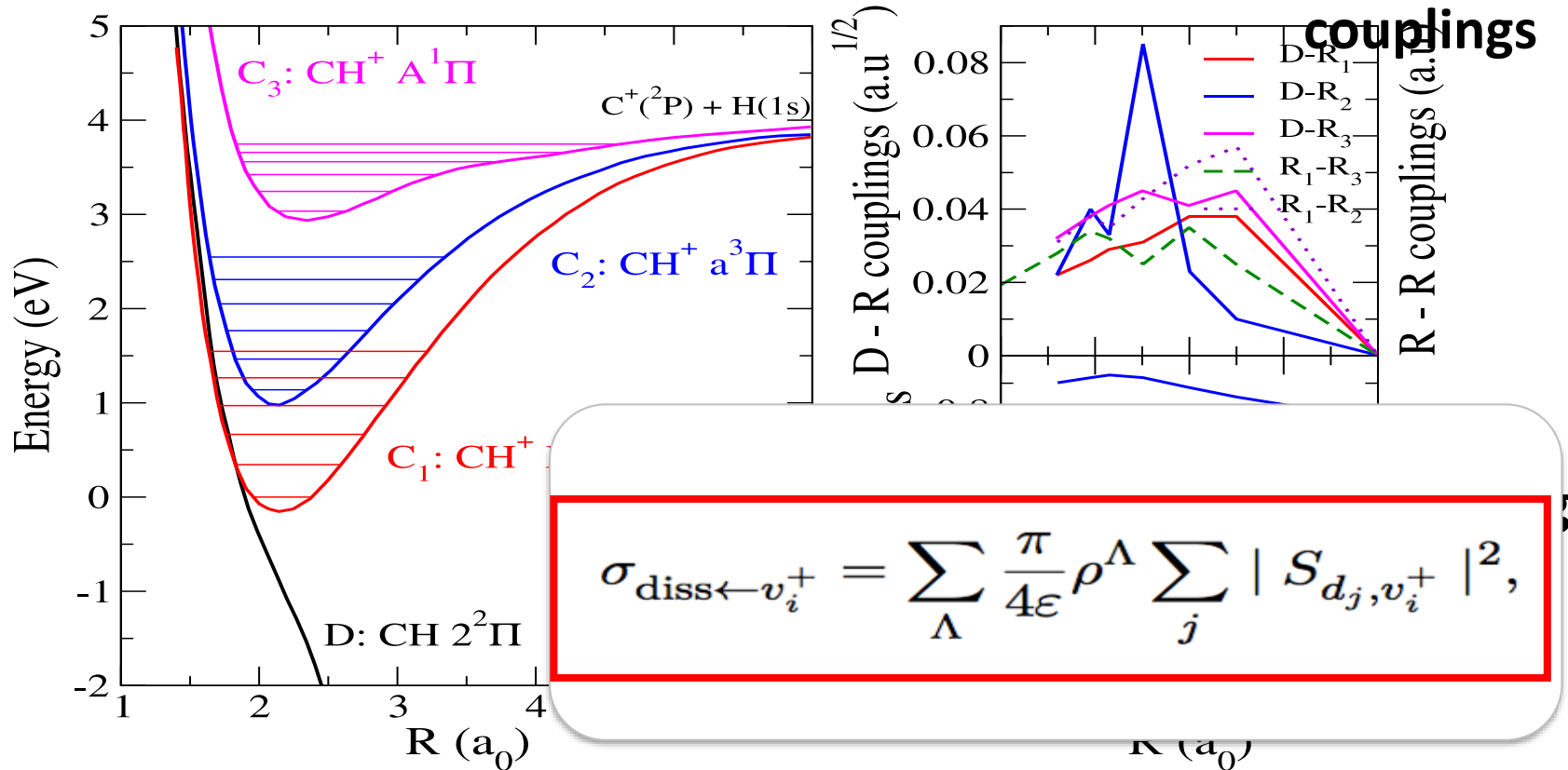
$$S = X_{oo} - X_{oc} \frac{1}{X_{cc} - \exp(-i2\pi\nu)} X_{co}.$$

6.) Scattering matrix: elimination of closed channels

CH⁺: molecular data

Valence-
Rydberg
couplings

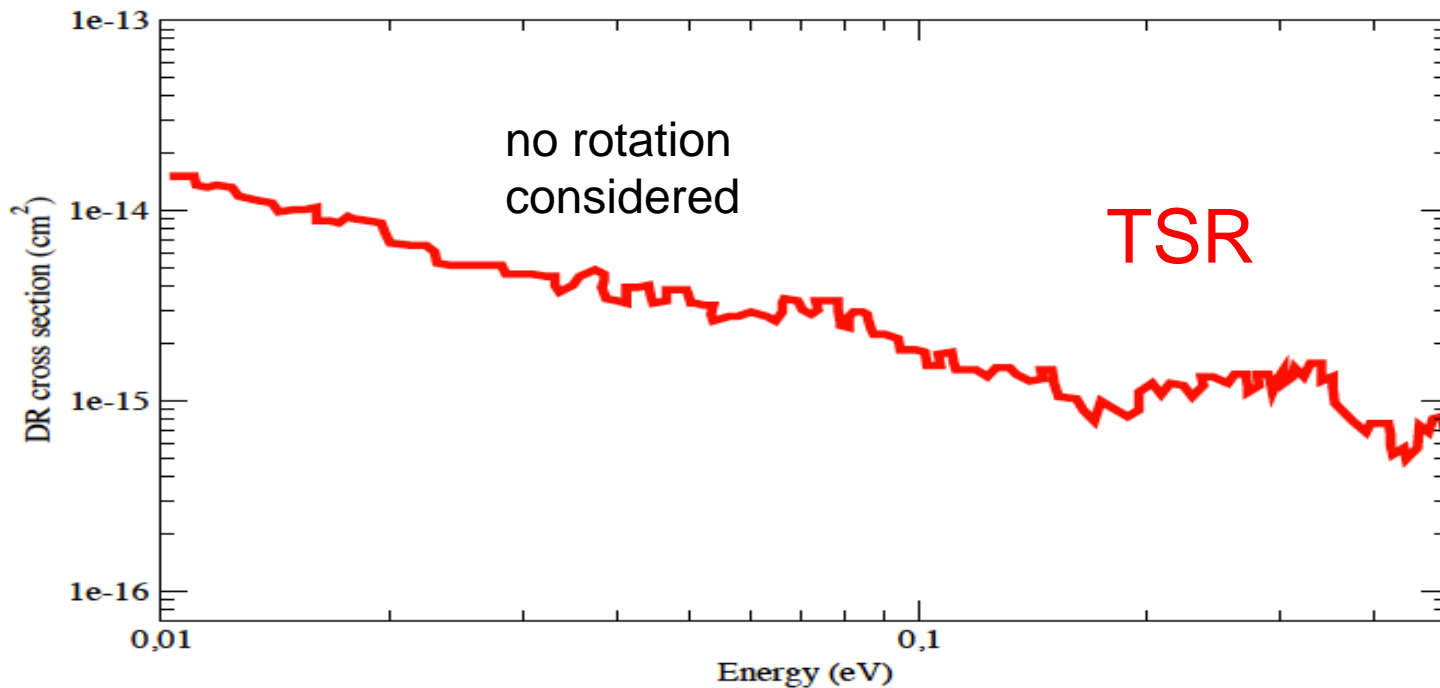
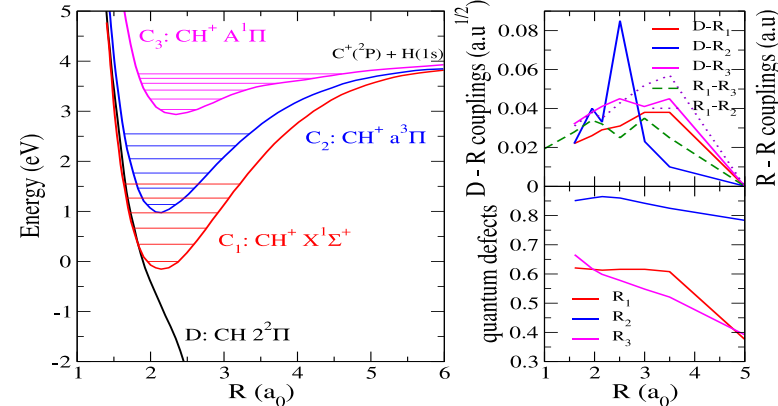
ION



7.) Cross section

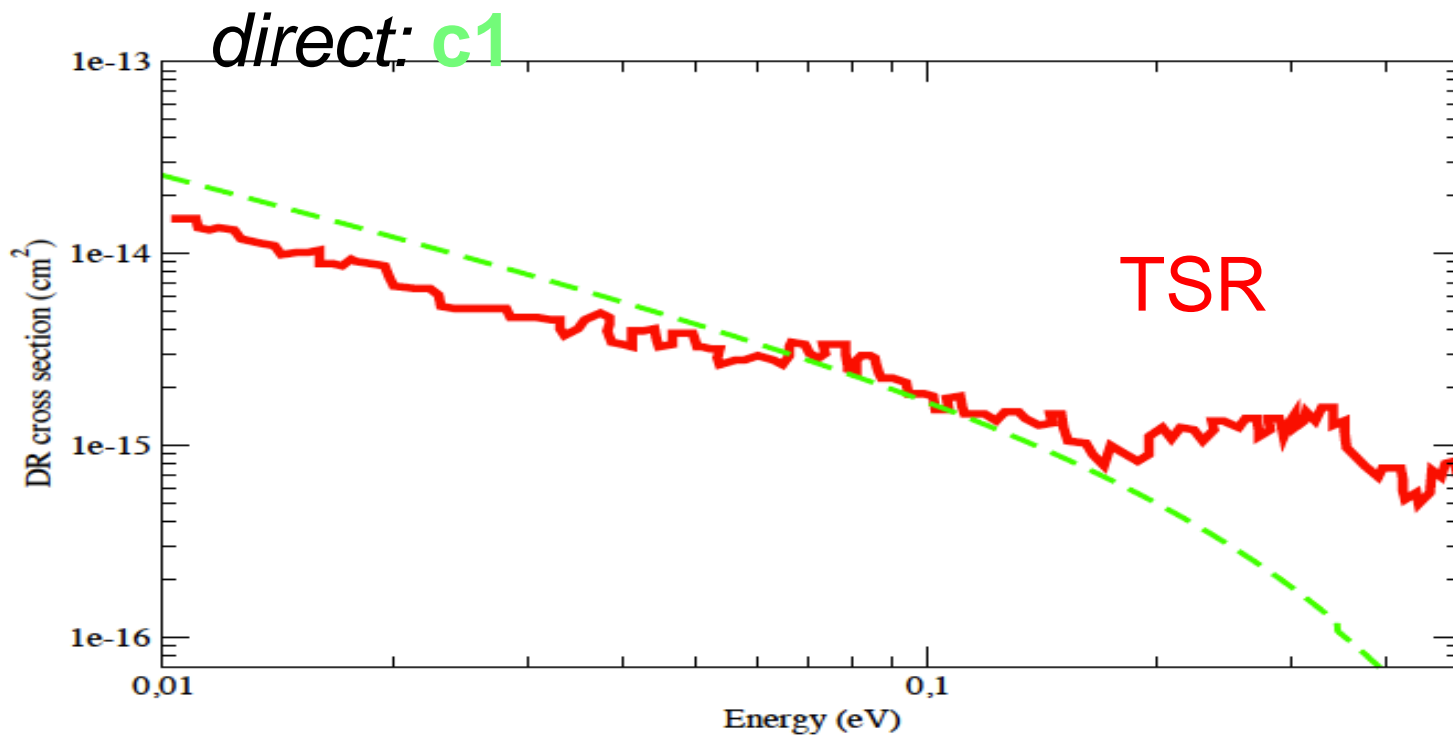
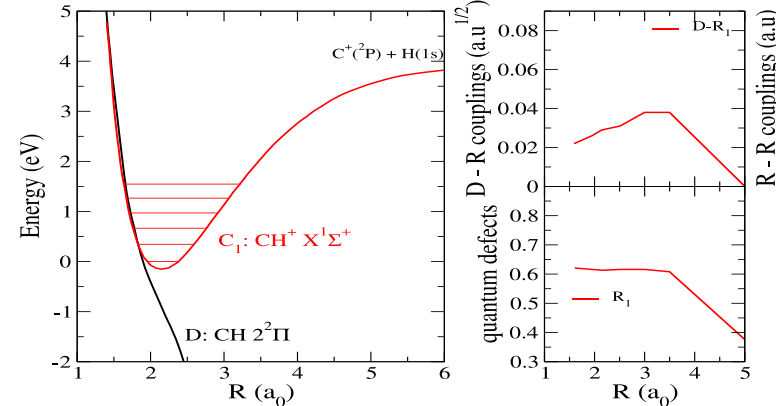
CH⁺: DR cross section

Test Storage Ring experiment

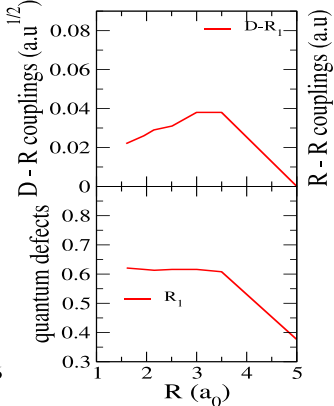
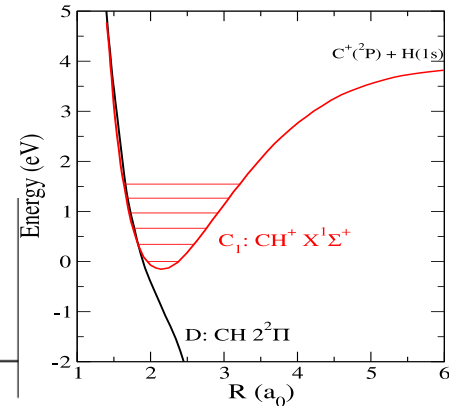
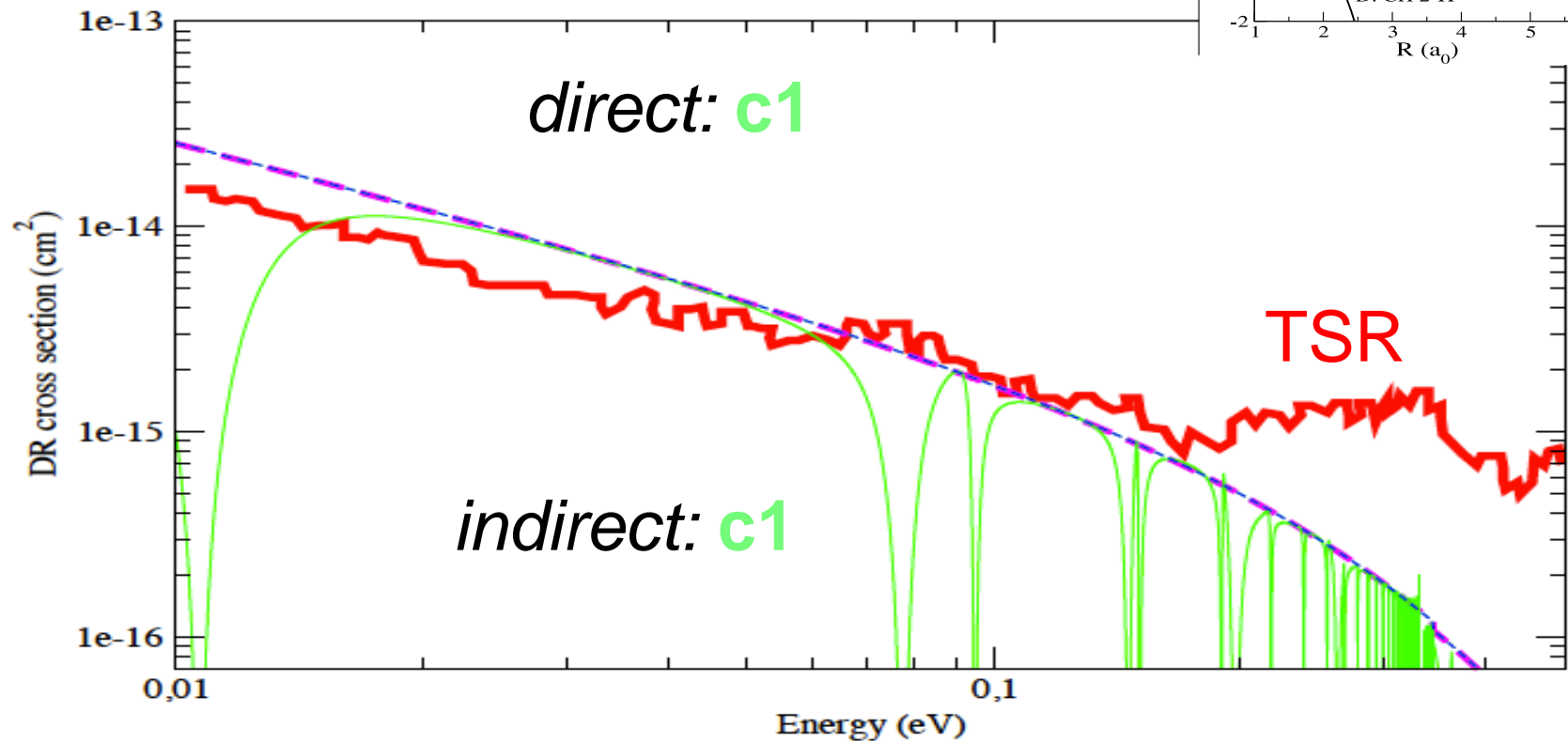


CH⁺: DR cross section

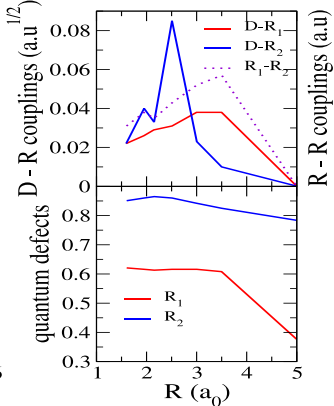
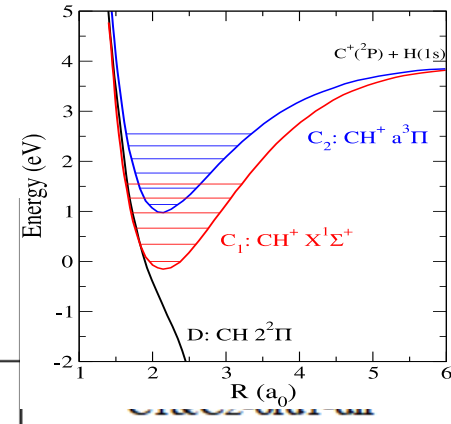
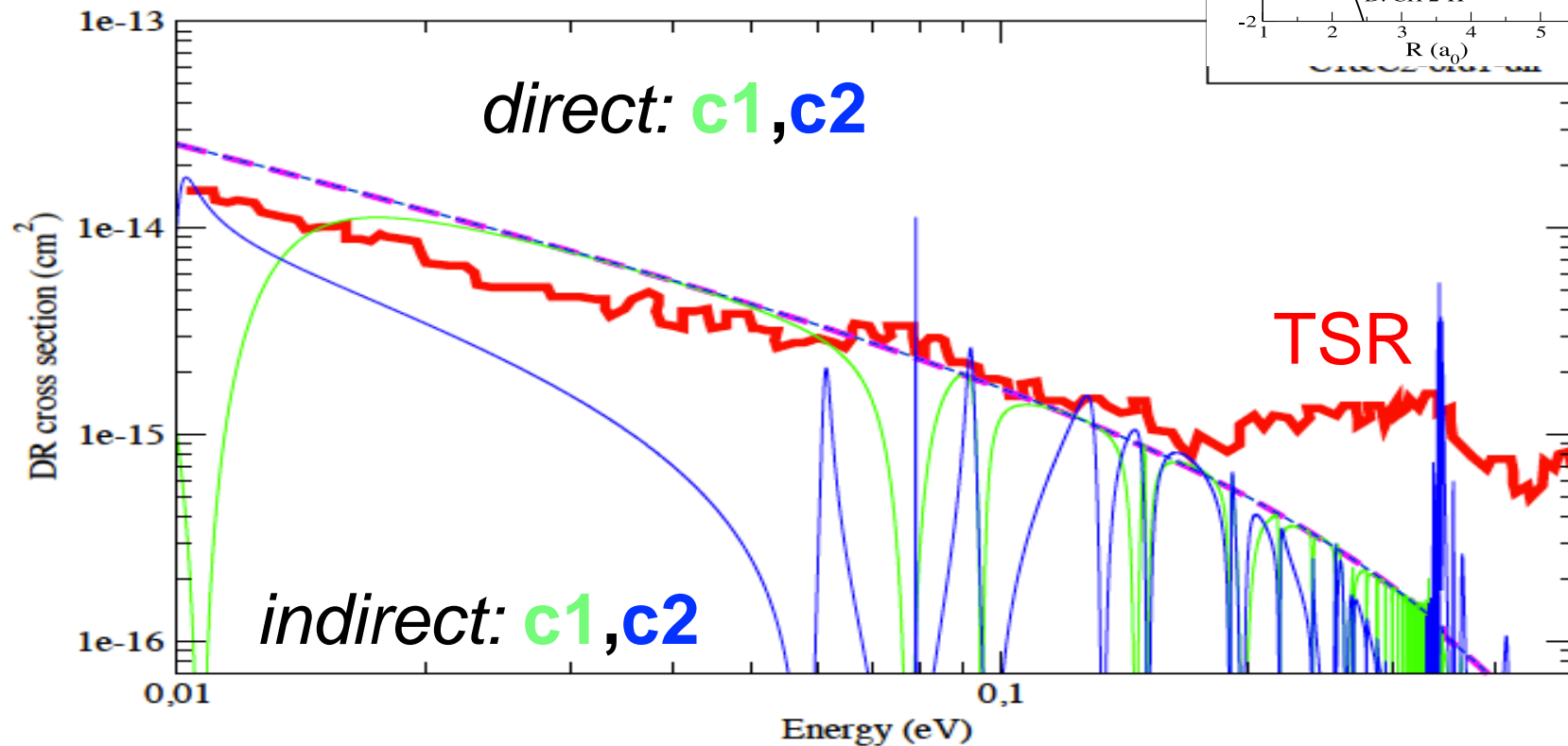
no rotation
considered



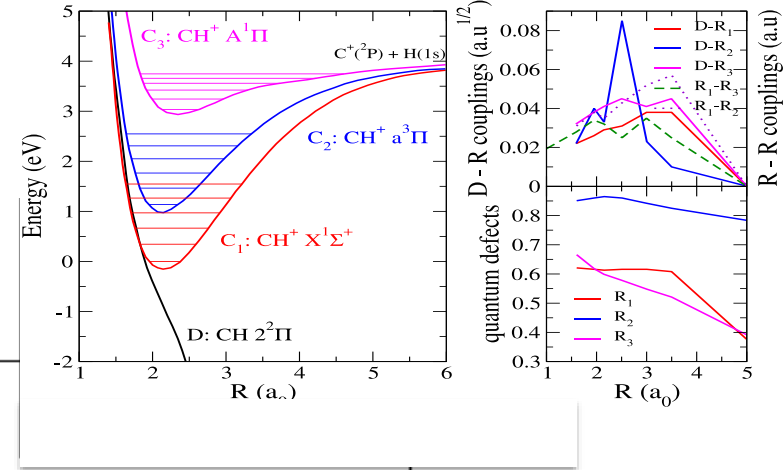
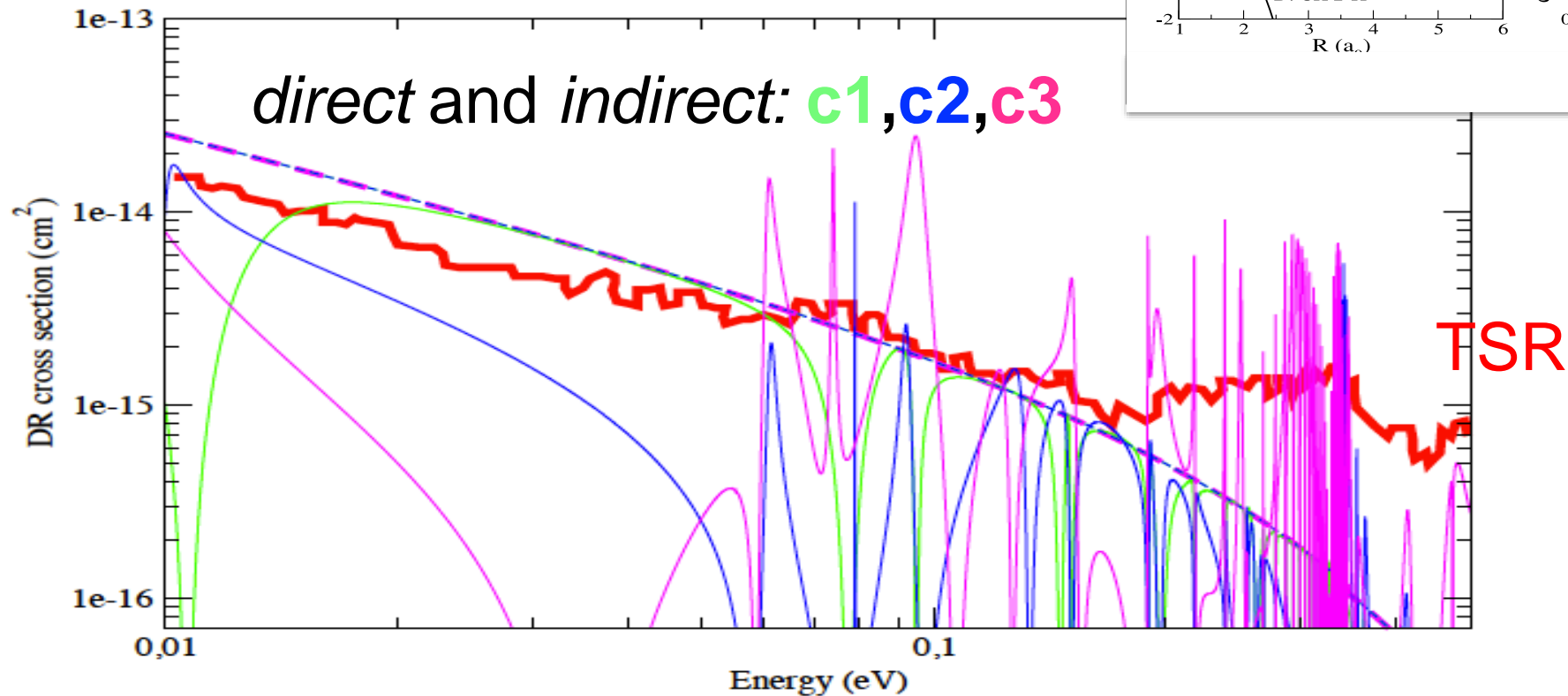
CH⁺: DR cross section



CH⁺: DR cross section



CH⁺: DR cross section



Thermal rates coefficients

Convolutd: experimental conditions

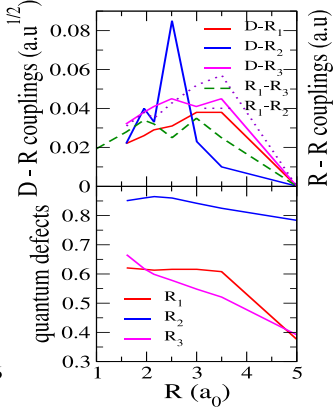
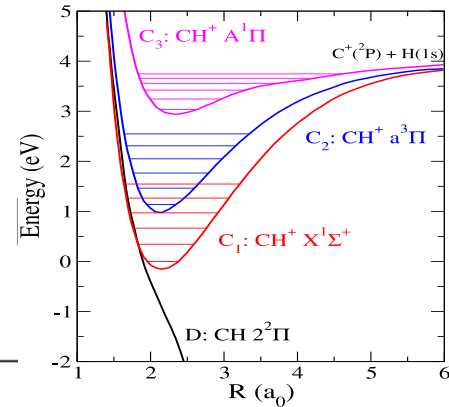
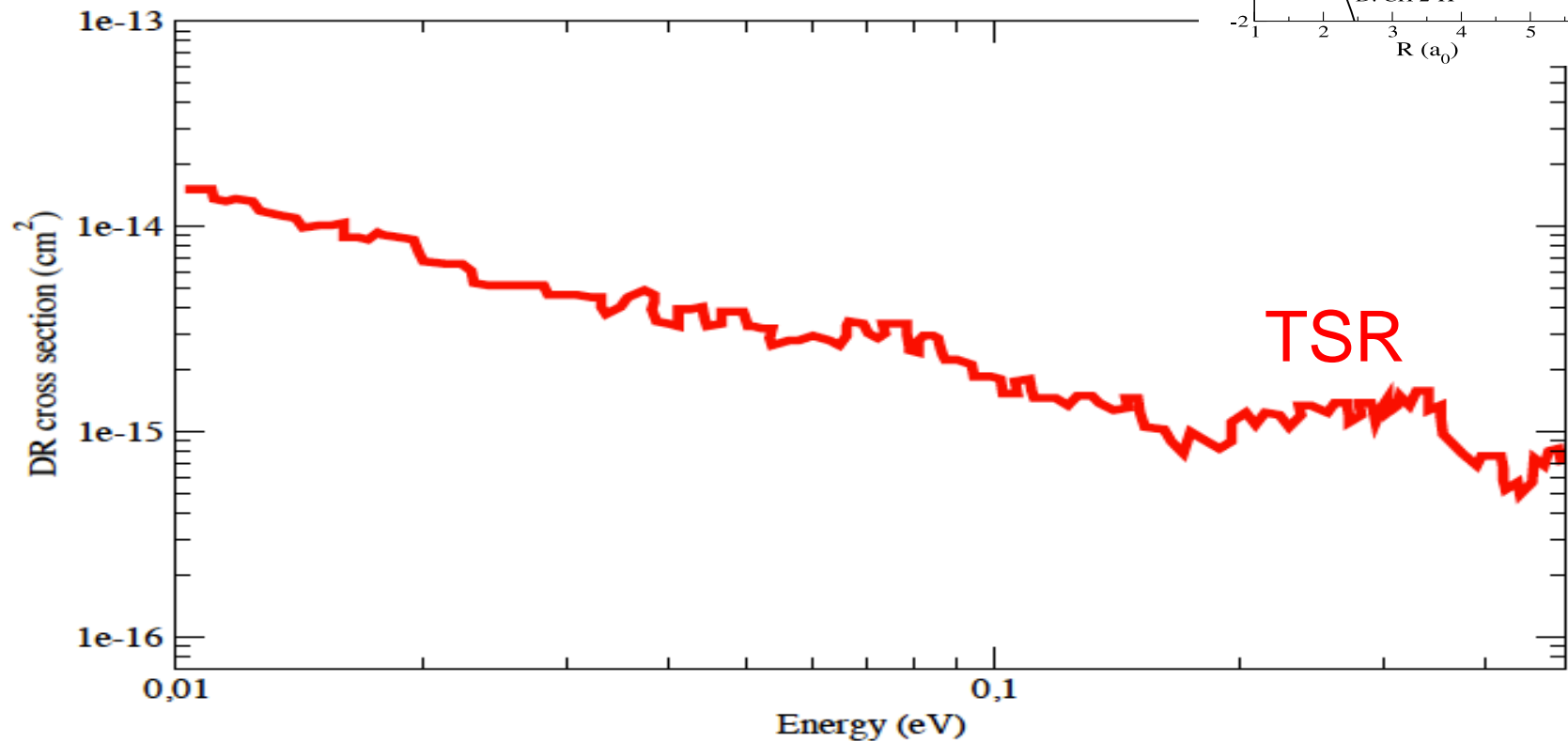
$$\alpha = \langle v\sigma \rangle = \iiint \sigma(v) v f(v_d, \mathbf{v}) d\mathbf{v}$$

$$f(v_d, \mathbf{v}) = \frac{m}{2\pi k T_{e\perp}} \exp\left(-\frac{mv_{\perp}^2}{2kT_{e\perp}}\right) \sqrt{\frac{m}{2\pi k T_{e\parallel}}} \exp\left(-\frac{m(v_{\parallel} - v_d)^2}{2kT_{e\parallel}}\right)$$

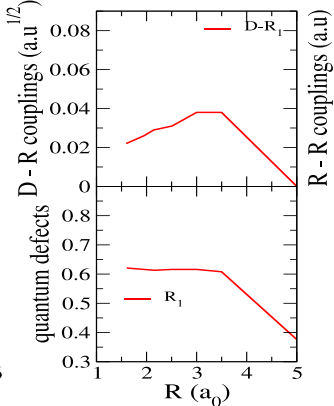
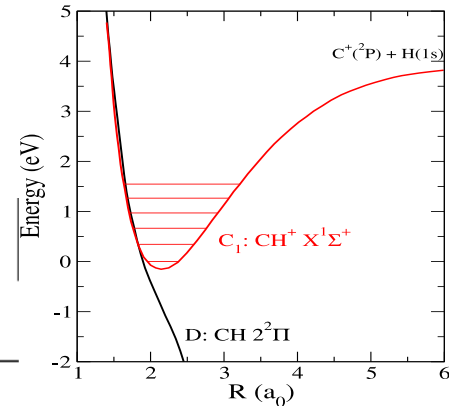
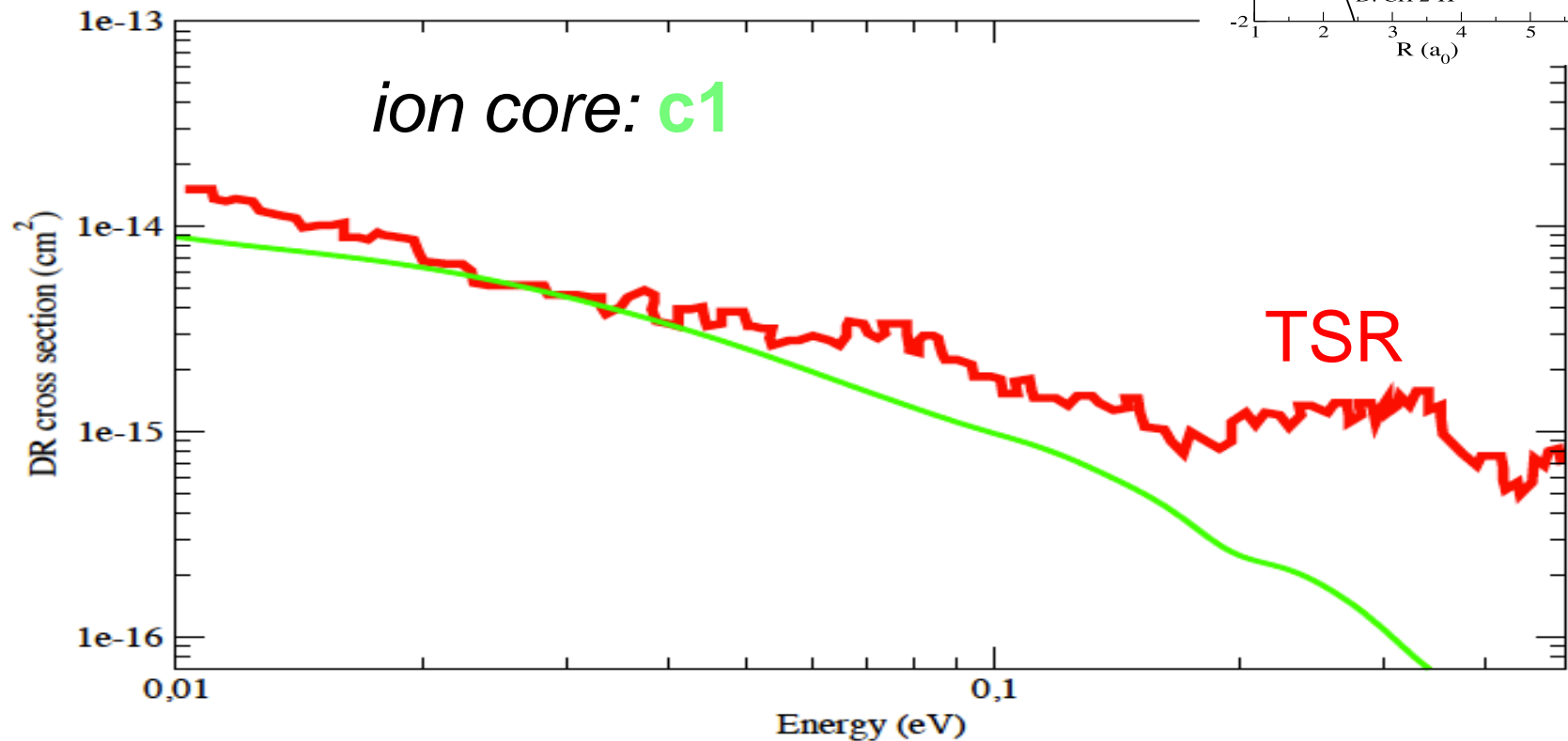
$$T_{e\perp} = 17 \text{ meV}$$

$$T_{e\parallel} = 1 \text{ meV}$$

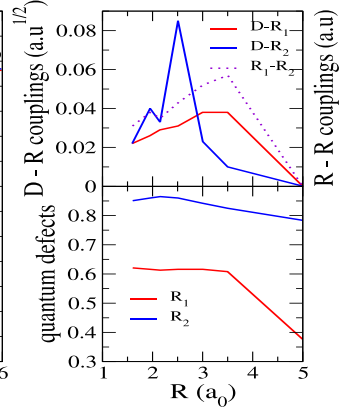
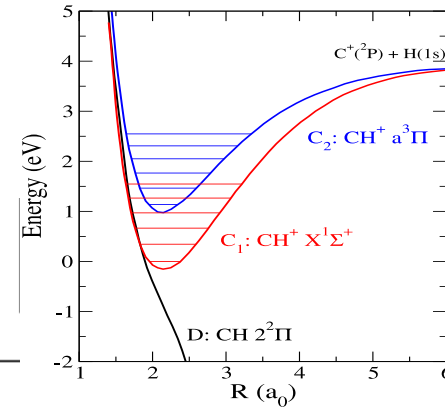
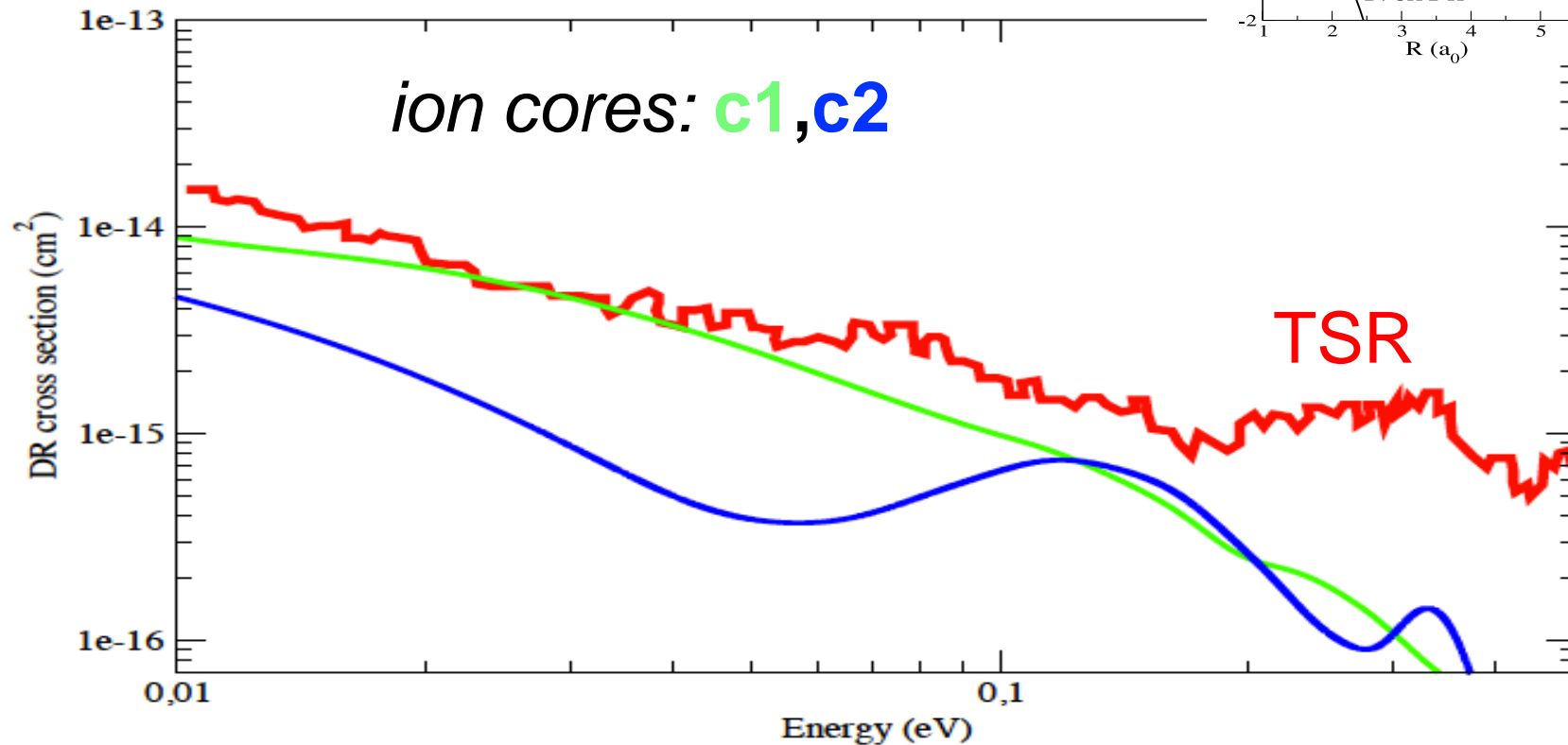
CH⁺: DR cross section



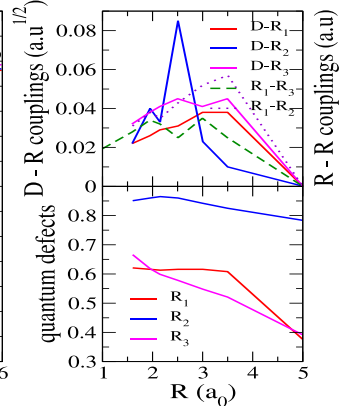
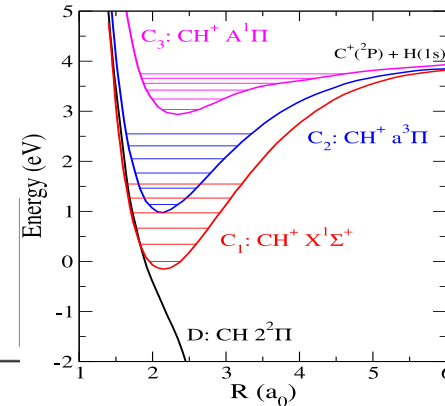
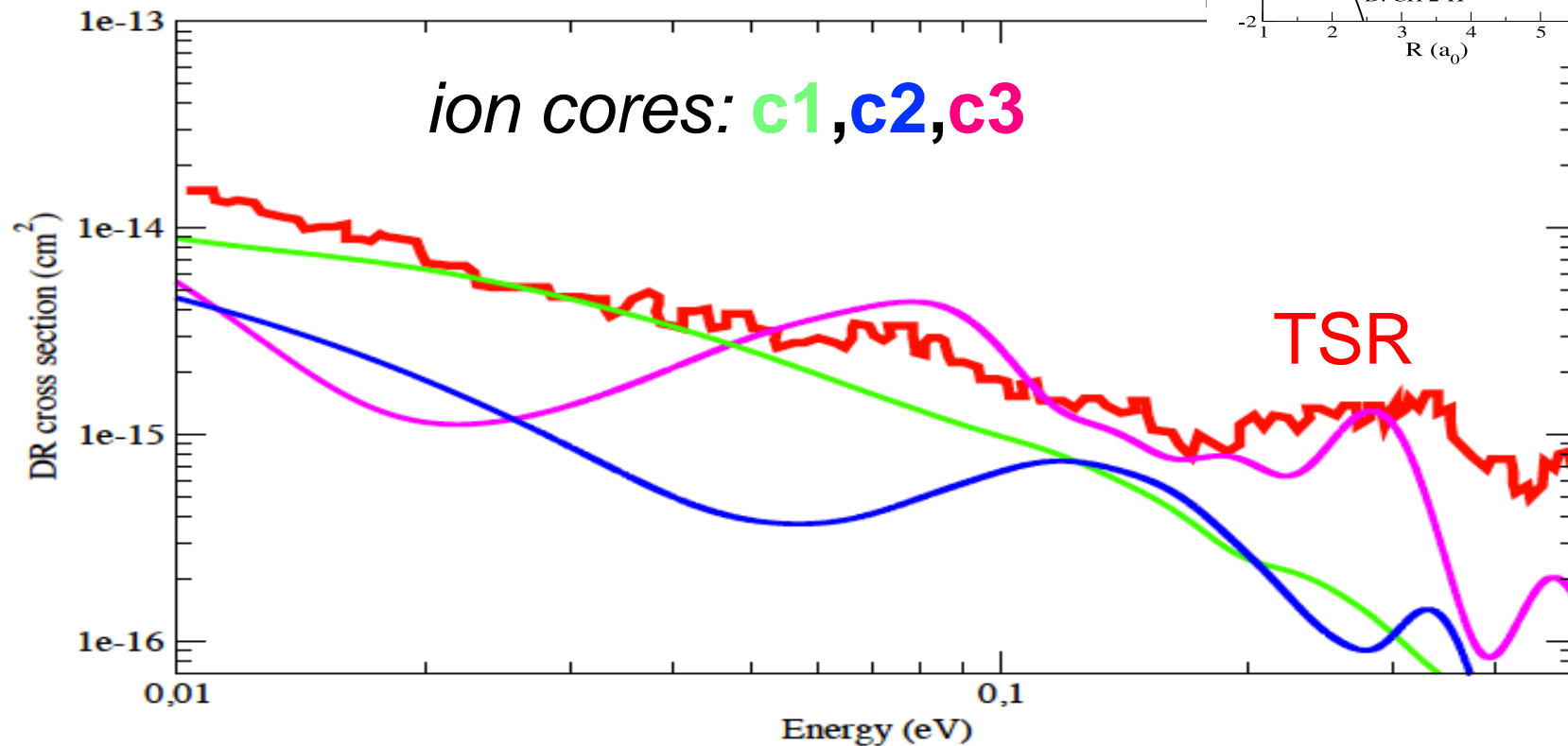
CH⁺: DR cross section



CH⁺: DR cross section

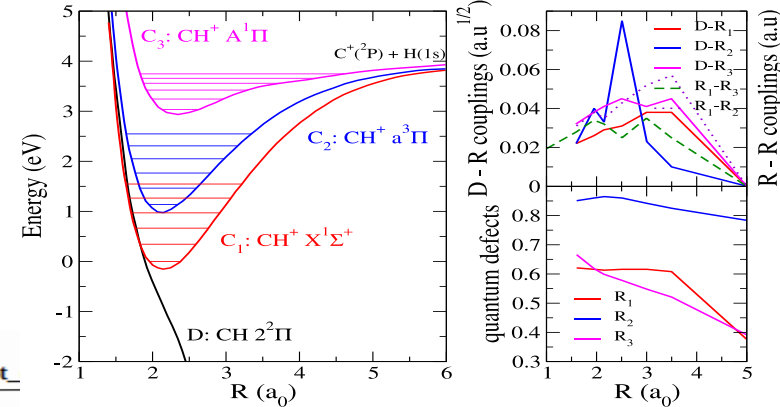
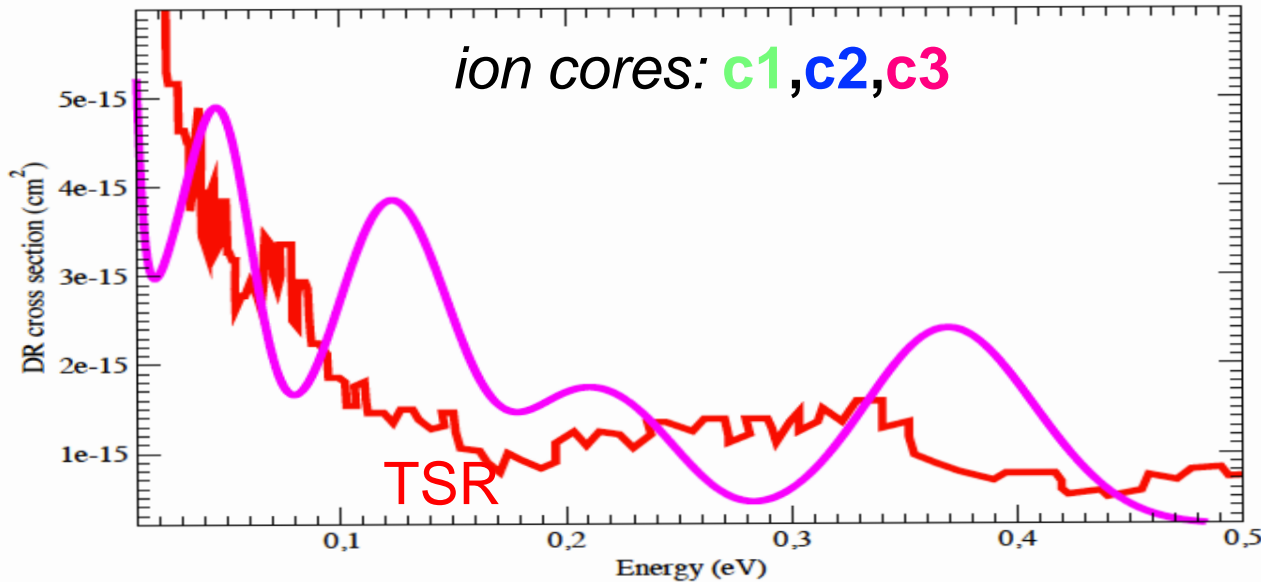
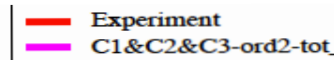


CH⁺: DR cross section



CH⁺: DR cross section

Range up to 0.5 eV



the difference at low energy is due to the lack of spin, and at higher energy is due to the lack of next dissociative curves

Thank you for your attention



acknowledge
West University of Timisoara for support

