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# Fundamentals and applications of ion-molecule reactions



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Ions are widely used in (in)organic reaction chemistry as:

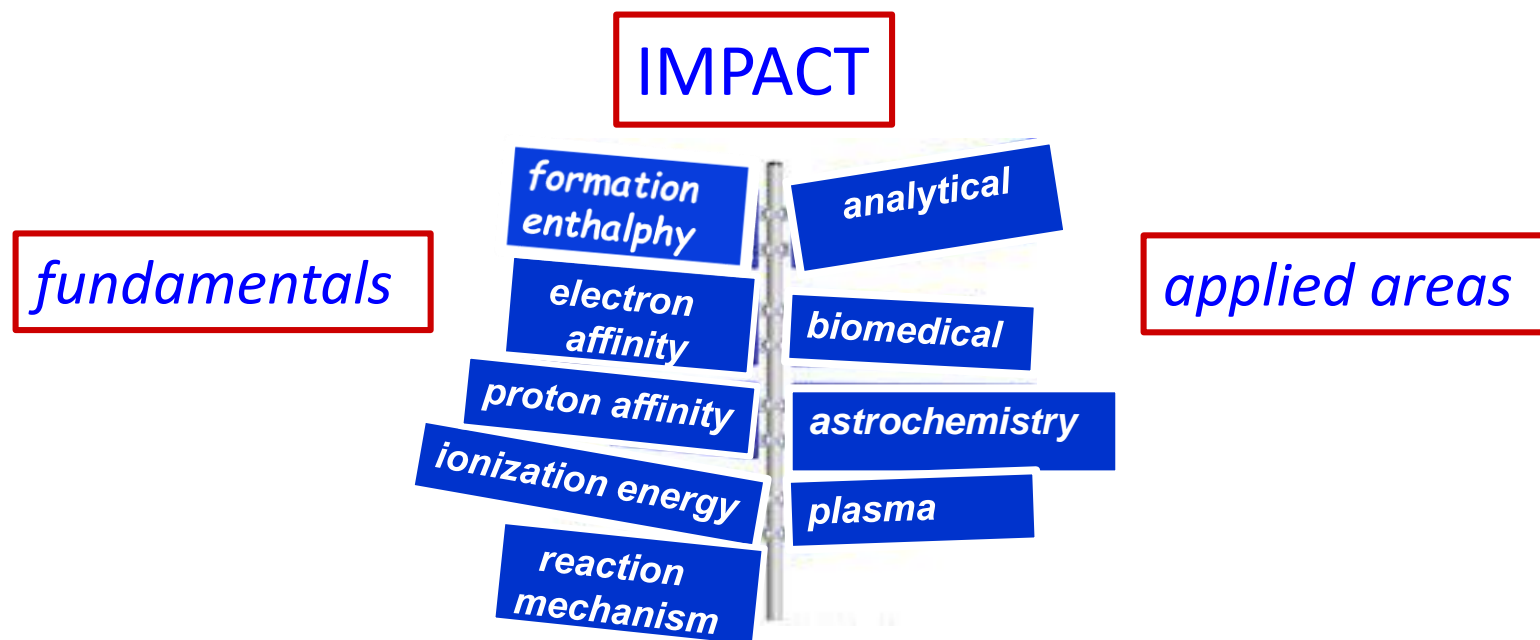
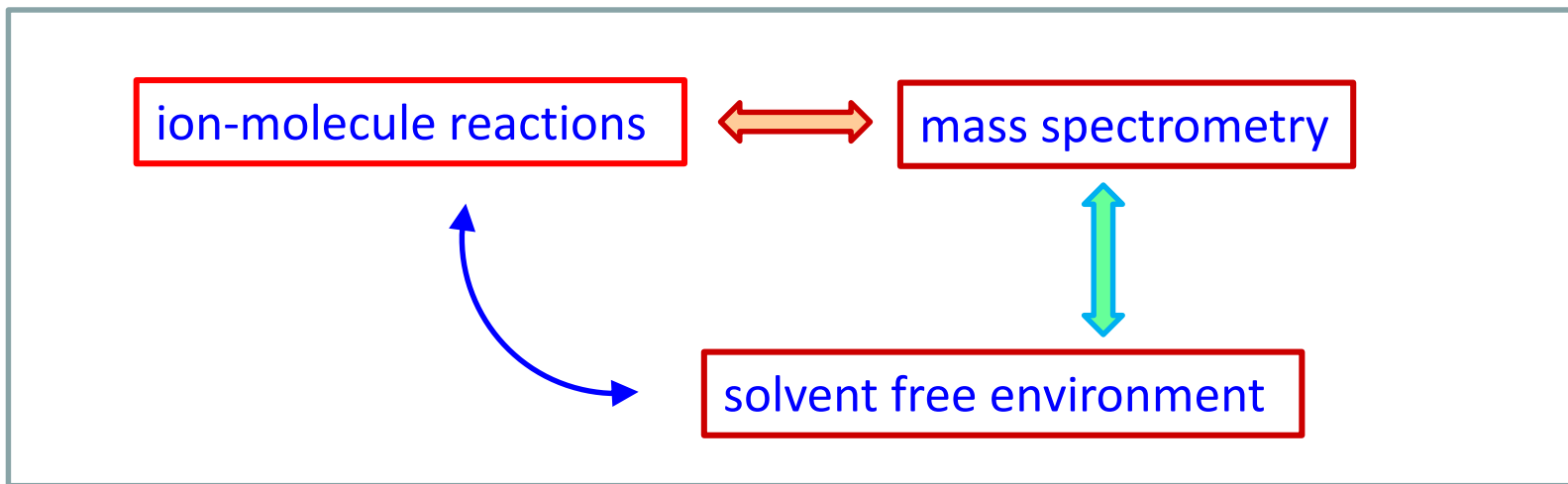
- reactants
- intermediates
- catalysts

because they are highly reactive.

Solvation energies are very large (hundreds kcal/mol) and can mask differences in intrinsic reactivity between similar species.

By studying ionic reactions in the gas phase, without solvent and counterion, we can learn the intrinsic behavior in ionic reactions and expose the role of the environment.





## Pros

## IMR

## Cons

- intrinsic properties
- sensitivity
- specificity
- speed
- efficiency
- infinite reaction-based strategies
- no extensive purification/sample preparation
- (indirect) structural information

- inferred information on neutral products
- volatile neutrals

Ion-trapping instruments (FT-ICR and ion-trap) are the most versatile for IMR studies:

- low pressure measurements ( $10^{-5}$ - $10^{-8}$  torr)
- allow time and energy control of reactions
- mass selection of reactant and product ions
- structural characterization by CID
- multistep  $MS^n$  sequences
- in FT-ICR: high resolution, high mass accuracy mode of operation

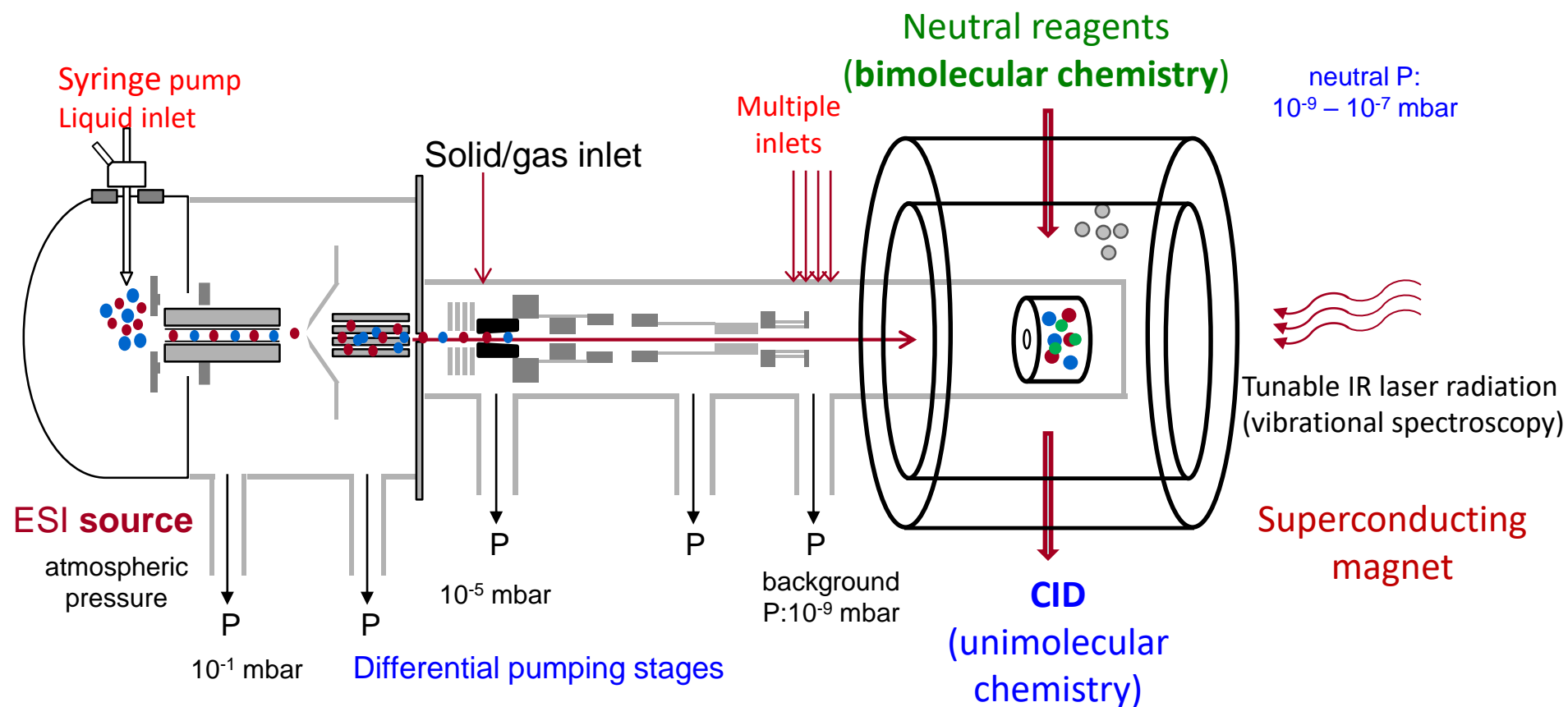


## Items

- Measure rate constants
- Determine the efficiency of the reaction
- Theory of ion-molecule capture/collision
- Slow/fast reactions: double minimum PES
- Types of IMR
- Applications of IMR



**FT-ICR mass spectrometer**



## Equipment for TNA in Roma



# Reaction Rates



$$\frac{-dR(t)}{dt} = k n R(t) \quad \text{the reaction is bimolecular}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $n = \text{number density of neutral N}$

In a conventional bimolecular process the number density of neutral reactant would decrease with time. Here, it does not.

$$I_{(t)} = I_0 e^{-nkt} \quad \text{pseudo-first order reaction}$$

$$\ln \frac{I_{(t)}}{I_0} = -n k t \quad k = k_{exp}$$





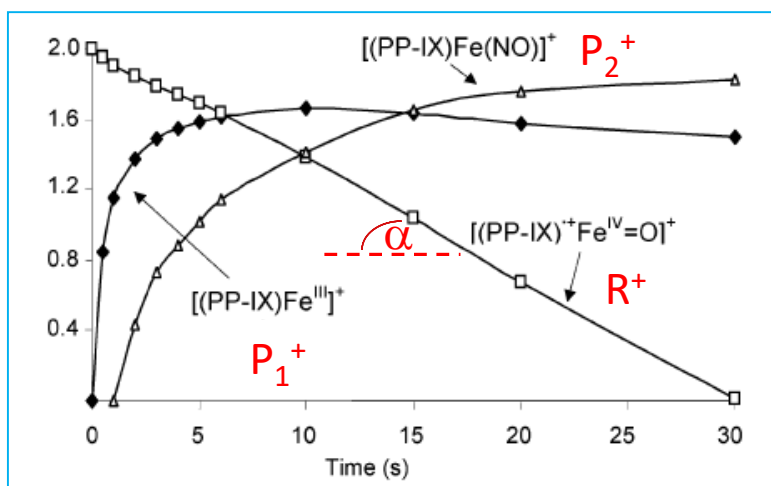
The total signal intensity is used to normalize the data and avoid errors from slight variations in the number of ions.

Monitoring the signal intensity of  $I_{(t)}$  at a given time and following the progress of the reaction with the time, the rate constants for the disappearance of reactant ions and the appearance of product ions are obtained.

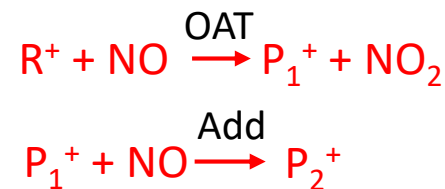


- The semilog plot of the decrease of the parent ion abundance with time is linearly interpolated and the **pseudo-first order rate constant** is obtained.
- The bimolecular rate constant ( $k_{exp}$ ) at 300 K is gained from the ratio between the negative slope and  $n$ , the number density of the neutral.
- $n$  is calculated from the ideal gas equation and allows to convert the measured value of the neutral pressure (mbar) in molecule  $\text{cm}^{-3}$  at 300 K.

$$k_{exp} = \frac{-\text{slope (s}^{-1}\text{)}}{n \text{ (molecule cm}^{-3}\text{)}} = \dots \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$



**Figure 2.** Plot of the logarithm of the relative ion abundances (%) versus time for the reaction of  $[(PP-IX)Fe^{IV}=O]^+$  with NO at  $3.0 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar.

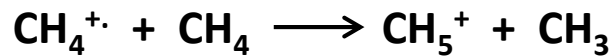


Typically, the reproducibility of  $k_{\text{exp}}$  values is within 10%;  
while the error in the absolute rate constants is estimated to be  $\pm 30\%$ .

It is mainly due to uncertainty in pressure measurements.

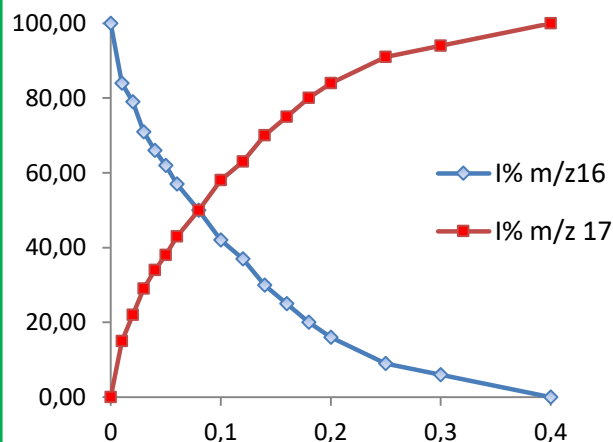


# calibration of cold cathode gauge

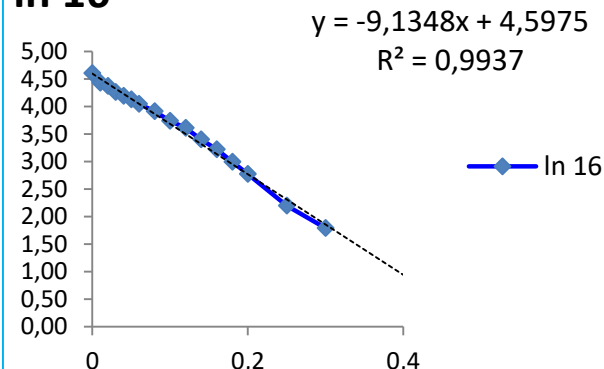


$$k_{\text{CH}_4} = 1,1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule s}^{-1}$$

time	I% m/z 16	I% m/z 17	ln 16
0	100.00	0.00	4.605
0.01	84.00	15.00	4.431
0.02	79.00	22.00	4.369
0.03	71.00	29.00	4.263
0.04	66.00	34.00	4.190
0.05	62.00	38.00	4.127
0.06	57.00	43.00	4.043
0.08	50.00	50.00	3.912
0.1	42.00	58.00	3.738
0.12	37.00	63.00	3.611
0.14	30.00	70.00	3.401
0.16	25.00	75.00	3.219
0.18	20.00	80.00	2.996
0.2	16.00	84.00	2.773
0.25	9.00	91.00	2.197
0.3	6.00	94.00	1.792
0.4	0.00	100.00	



ln 16



-slope

$$k_{\text{exp}} = \frac{9,13}{2,4 \times 10^{16} \times 1,1 \times 10^{-7}} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

number density at  $1.1 \times 10^{-7}$  mbar

$$K_{\text{exp}} / k_{\text{CH}_4} = f \text{ (calibration factor)}$$



The efficiency ( $\Phi$ ) of an ion molecule reaction can be determined by comparing the experimental rate constant ( $k_{exp}$ ) with a theoretical estimate of the capture rate constant as percentages of the collision rate constant ( $k_{coll}$ ).

$$\Phi = \frac{k_{exp}}{k_{coll}}$$

measure of reaction probability per collision  
(number of events that bring to reaction)

Many exothermic reactions exhibit unit reaction probability at room T;  
others proceed with reaction efficiency much less than unity.



**Now we have to face two questions:**

- 1) how do we calculate  $k_{\text{coll}}$**
- 2) how do we explain the evidence that many exothermic reactions have unit efficiency whereas others present (very) low reaction efficiency**

# Theoretical aspects of ion-molecule reactions



**Capture/collision rate :**  $k_{\text{coll}} \sim 1 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$

One or two order of magnitude larger than molecule-molecule reactions

## Calculations of collision rate constant

- Ion/induced dipole potential: Langevin (and Gioumousis-Stevenson) theory
- Average dipole orientation (ADO) : Su & Bowers
- Angular momentum conserved ADO : Su & Chesnavich



# Langevin Theory

$$V = \frac{-\alpha e^2}{2r^4}$$

potential energy of attraction

$$k_L = \int_0^\infty f(g) \sigma$$

$f(g) = v_0$  over a Maxwell distribution of velocities

$$\sigma = \text{cross section} = \pi (r_A + r_B)^2 = \pi b_C^2$$

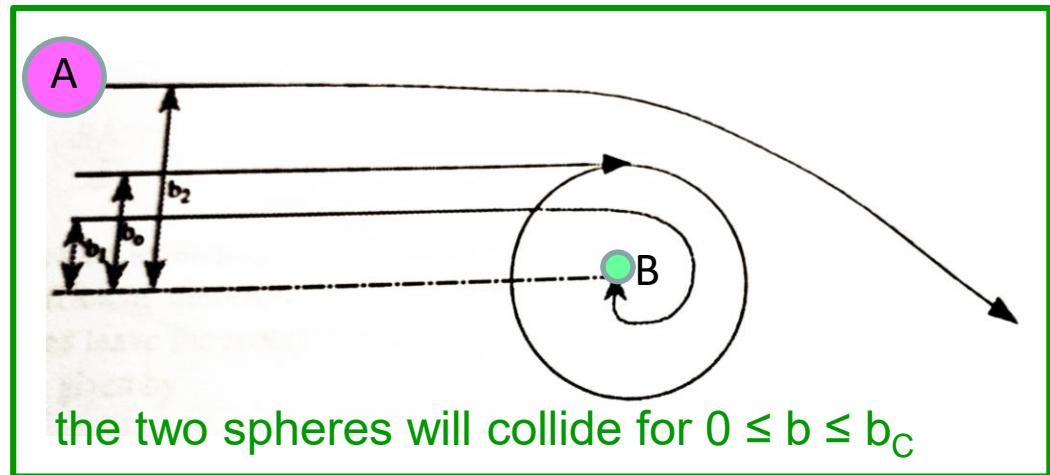
area of the circle in the yz plane

$b_C$  = critical value of impact parameter for collision

$$b_C = (4e^2\alpha/\mu g^2)^{1/4}$$

$b = b_C/\sqrt{2}$  (radius of the fixed orbit)

( $\mu$  = the reduced mass of the pair;  $g$  = relative velocity)





$$\sigma = \pi b_c^2 = (2\pi e/g) (\alpha/\mu)^{1/2}$$

collision cross section between a nonpolar molecule and an ion of charge  $e$

for slow molecules,  $b_c$  and hence  $\sigma$  are greater

for IMR with no activation energy = reaction cross section (depends on  $\alpha$  and  $g$ )

$$k_L = g \sigma = 2\pi e \left( \frac{\alpha}{\mu} \right)^{1/2}$$

equation of Giomousis and Stevenson

capture rate coefficient

The Langevin model does not deal with the case of molecules that have permanent dipole moments.

## Locked dipole Theory

- it is assumed that the dipole is oriented toward the ion with a zero degree angle.
- maximization of dipole contribution: **excessively large calculated rate constants**
- Langevin treatment and “locked dipole” served to bracket capture limit rate constants of ion-polar molecule collisions

## $k_{\text{ADO}}$ Theory

ADO: averaged dipole orientation

- it is assumed that there is no net angular momentum transfer between the rotating molecule and the ion-molecule orbital motion
- statistical methods are used to calculate the average orientation of the polar molecule in the ion field
- predicts accurately absolute proton transfer rate constants



# $k_{\text{ADO}}$ Theory

ADO: averaged dipole orientation

$$V = \frac{-\alpha q^2}{2r^4} - \frac{\mu_D q}{r^2} \cos \Theta$$

$\Theta$  is the instantaneous angle between the dipole and the line of interaction with the ion (in the locked dipole approximation  $\cos \Theta = 1$ ). It varies with  $r$ .

the first term is the Langevin or induced dipole contribution

the second term reduces the dipolar contribution to  $V$  (average dipole energy)

$$k_{\text{ADO}} = \frac{2\pi q}{\sqrt{\mu}} \left\{ \sqrt{\alpha} + C\mu_D \left( \frac{2}{\pi k_B T} \right)^{1/2} \right\}$$

$\mu$  is the reduced mass;  $\mu_D$  is the permanent dipole;  
 $C$  is a correction factor that is function of  $\mu_D / \alpha^{1/2}$ ;  
 $k_B$  is Boltzmann's constant



## $k_{\text{AADO}}$ Theory

AADO: angular momentum conserved ADO

- there is a net angular momentum transfer between the rotating molecule and the ion-molecule orbital motion.
- the AADO theory yields capture rate constants larger than ADO theory
- the AADO equation represents the best means to obtain an estimated capture rate for comparison with experimental reaction rate constants ( $\pm 10\%$ ) .

$$k_{\text{AADO}} = k_L G(x)$$

$$G(x) = \frac{(x+0.509)^2}{10.526} + 0.9754 \quad x < 2$$

$$G(x) = (x+0.509)^2 + 0.9754 \quad x \geq 2$$

empirical  
parametrization

$$x = \frac{\mu_D}{(8\pi\epsilon_0\alpha k_B T)^{1/2}}$$





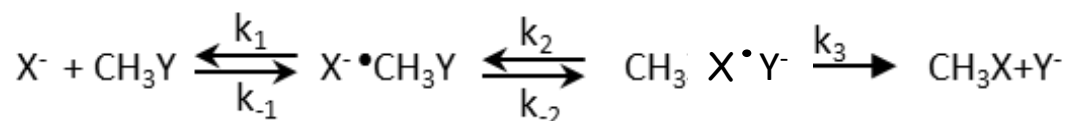
# The double-well model for IMRs

Many exothermic ion-molecule reactions proceed at collision rates :

- ion-dipole and ion-induced dipole attraction at long range;
- large interaction energy at short range

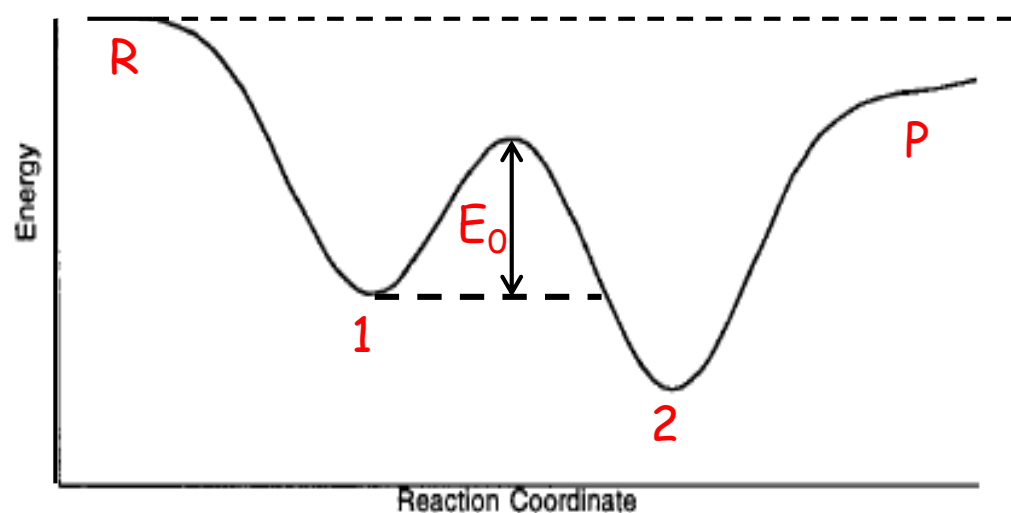
Though, many counter-examples (slow rates) are known.

slow means that most of the collisions simply return back to reactants

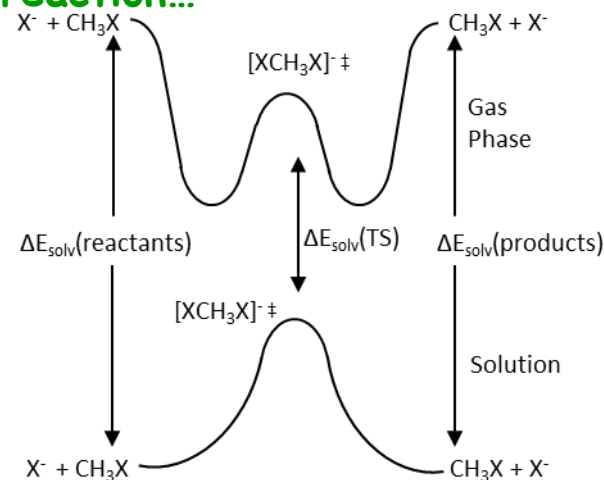


nucleophilic displacement (SN2)

Capture is a necessary but not sufficient condition for reaction...

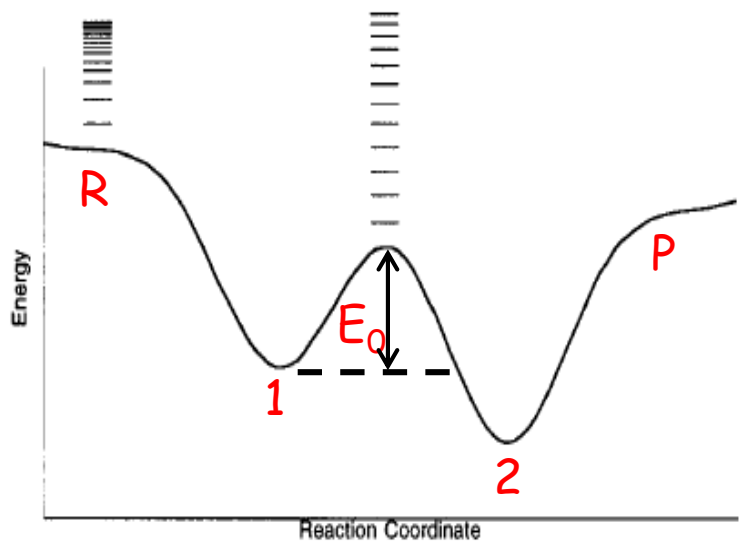
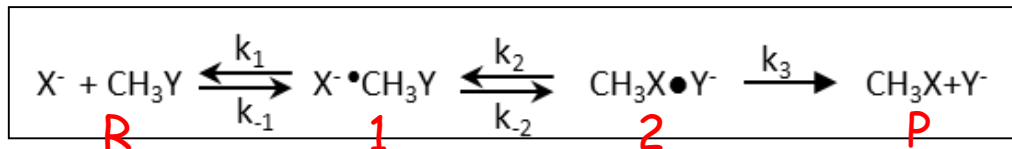


Gas-phase double-well potential energy surface.



Gas-phase and solution PES for the SN2 reaction.

Overall the efficiency depends on the height of the central barrier and the entropic constraints at the transition state.



under the collisionless conditions of FT-ICR, the intermediate complexes 1 and 2 are chemically activated

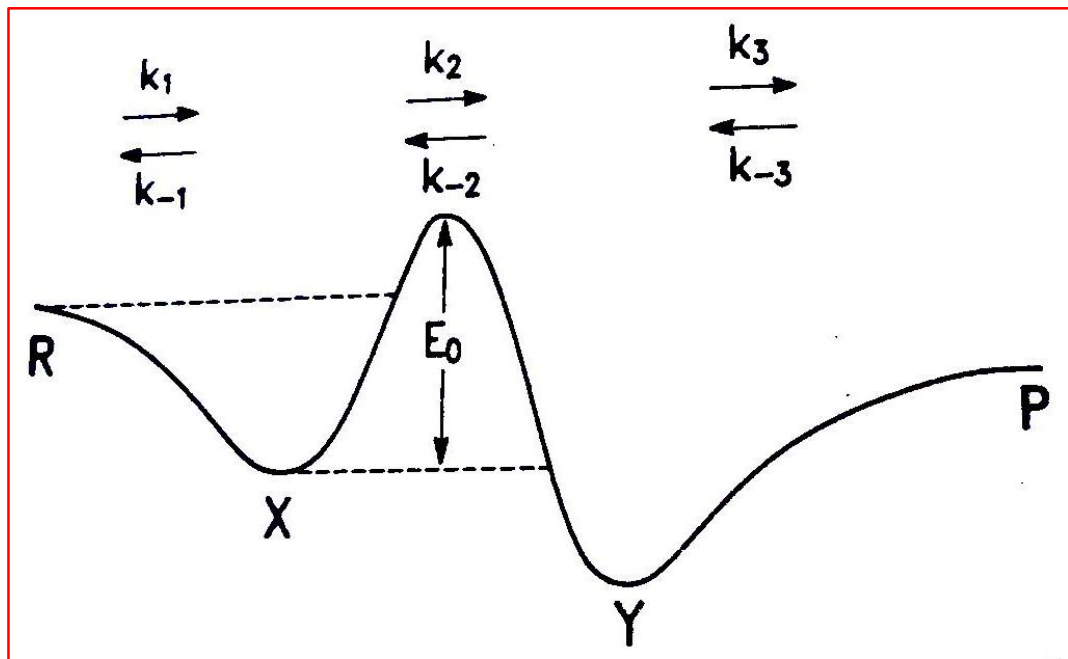
$k_2$ : unimolecular isomerization with a *tight* (highly organized) TS (low A factor);  
 $k_{-1}$ : fragmentation reaction with a *loose* (with many degrees of freedom) TS (high A factor)

energy favors  $k_2$ ; entropy favors  $k_{-1}$

Negative temperature dependence

competition takes place between one pathway that is energetically favored and another that is entropically favored.

At low  $E_0$  a fast reaction will occur



Slow reactions

Double-minimum potential surface with ST lying above the reactants in energy.

For **long-lived** initial complexes, the energy can be removed via emission of a photon (**radiative stabilization**)





# Types of Ion-Molecule Reactions

- Electron-Transfer
- Proton transfer
- H-atom/ O-atom transfer
- R<sup>+</sup> transfer
- H/D exchange
- Nucleophilic displacement
- Radiative association

**Table 1** Types of ion-molecule reaction

<i>Reaction type</i>	
Electron (charge) transfer	$A^{\pm} + B \rightarrow B^{\pm} + A$
Proton transfer	$AH^{+} + B \rightarrow BH^{+} + A$ $A^{-} + BH \rightarrow AH^{\pm} + B^{-}$
H-atom transfer	$A^{\pm} + BH \rightarrow AH^{\pm} + B$
R <sup>+</sup> transfer	$AR^{+} + B \rightarrow BR^{+} + A$
Nucleophilic displacement	$A^{-} + RX \rightarrow AR + X^{-}$
Bond redistribution	$AB^{\pm} + C \rightarrow AC^{\pm} + B$
Radiative association	$A^{\pm} + B \rightarrow AB^{+} + h\nu$
Collisional association	$A^{\pm} + B + M \rightarrow AB^{\pm} + M$
Switching	$A^{\pm} \cdot B + C \rightarrow A^{\pm} \cdot C + B$
Associative detachment	$A^{-} + B \rightarrow AB + e$



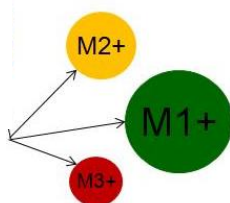
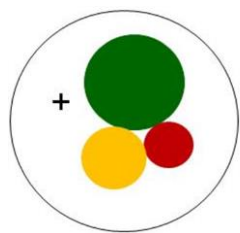
# Proton-Transfer Reactions



kinetics



equilibrium



large exothermicity



# Proton-Transfer Reactions



base A of unknown GB (PA)

base B of known GB (PA)

by using several reference bases B, the GB (PA) of A can be determined

## Bracketing method: kinetics

- measurement of  $k_{\text{exp}}$
- presence of gaseous B



## Equilibrium method: equilibrium

- measurement of  $K_{\text{eq}}$
- presence of gaseous A and B



$$K_{\text{eq}} = \frac{[\text{BH}]^+ [\text{A}]}{[\text{AH}]^+ [\text{B}]} \quad \ln K_{\text{eq}} = \frac{-\Delta G^\circ}{RT}$$



# Thermokinetic method



International Journal of Mass Spectrometry and Ion Processes 153 (1996) 37–48



A relationship between the kinetics and thermochemistry of proton transfer reactions in the gas phase

G. Bouchoux\*, J.Y. Salpin, D. Leblanc

Département de Chimie, Laboratoire des Mécanismes Réactionnels, URA CNRS 1307, Ecole Polytechnique, 91128 Palaiseau, Cedex, France

deduce thermochemical information from kinetic data



$$k_{\text{exp}} = \frac{k_{\text{coll}} k_1}{k_{-1} + k_1}$$

$$\Phi = \frac{k_{\text{exp}}}{k_{\text{coll}}} = \frac{1}{1 + (k_{-1} / k_1)}$$

the efficiency is high for highly exoergic reactions and decreases as the transfer approaches thermoneutrality

$$k_i(T) = \frac{k_B T}{h} \exp(-\Delta G_i^\ddagger / RT)$$

free energy change for the formation of the activated complex

$$\frac{k_{-1}}{k_1} = \exp(\Delta G_1^\ddagger / RT) \quad \Delta G_1^\ddagger = -(\Delta G_{-1}^\ddagger - \Delta G_1^\ddagger)$$



$$\Phi = \frac{k_{\text{exp}}}{k_{\text{coll}}} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\Delta G_l^{0*}/RT)}$$

$$\Delta G_l^{0*} = \Delta G_l^0 + \Delta G_a^0$$

free energy for the  
formation of the  
activated complex

free energy for a given  
reaction: **GB(M)-GB(B)**

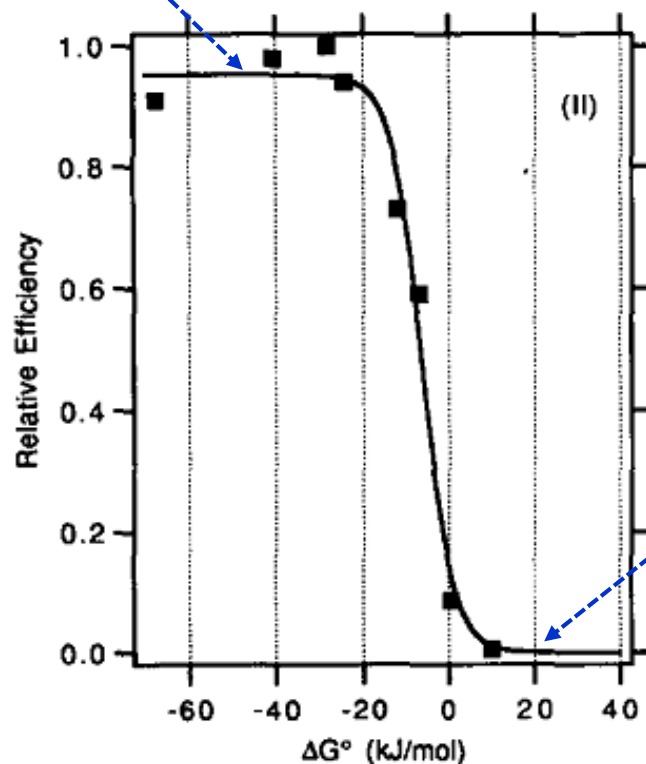
Intrinsic barrier separating  
reactants and products

$$\Phi = \frac{1}{1 + \exp[(\Delta G_l^0 + \Delta G_a^0)/RT]}$$

provides a direct link between the kinetic and  
thermodynamic properties of a proton transfer reaction



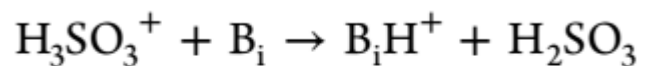
a high efficiency is observed  
for exoergic reactions  
( $\Delta G_1^0 \leq -20 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ )



an efficiency close to zero is  
associated with endoergic  
processes ( $\Delta G_1^0 \geq 10 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1}$ )

correlation of Eff with  $\Delta G^\circ$  allows to determine the unknown GB(M) from  
a series of experiments involving bases B of known GB





$$\Delta G^\circ_1 = \text{GB}(\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3) - \text{GB}(\text{B}_i)$$

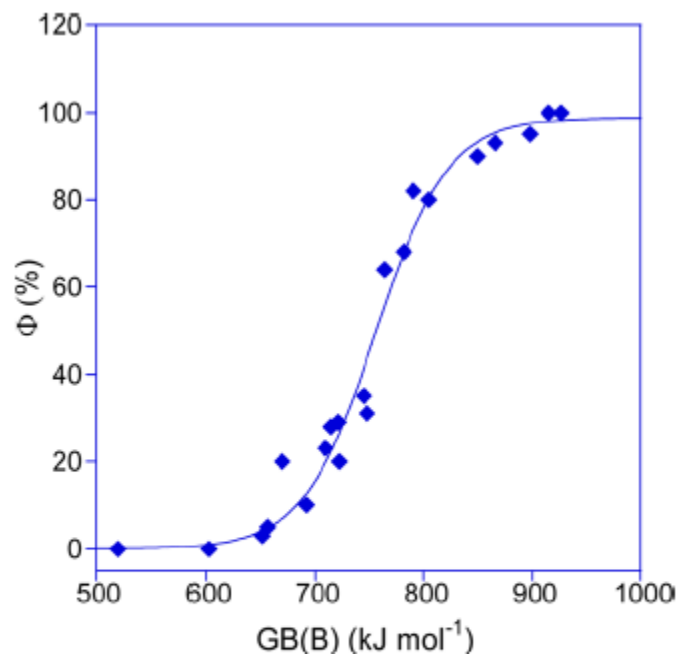
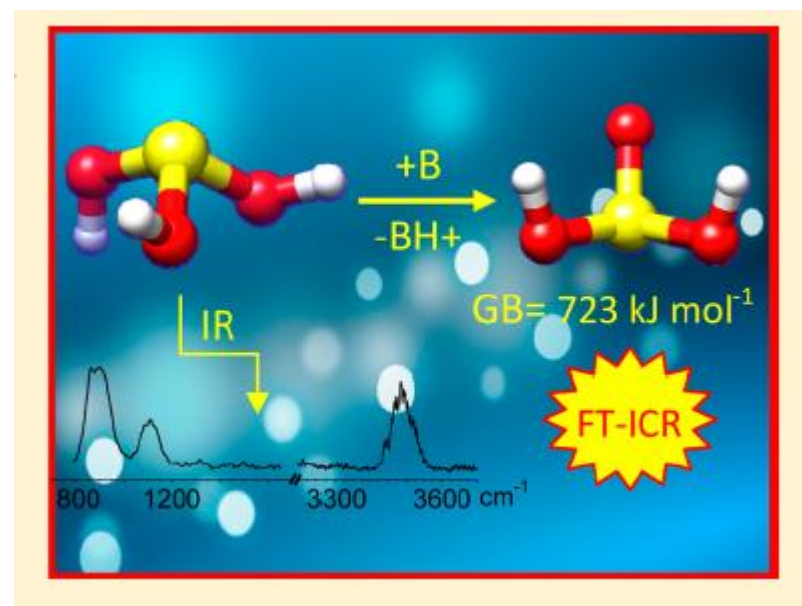


Figure 1. Reaction efficiency ( $\Phi$ ) for the  $\text{H}_3\text{SO}_3^+ + \text{B}_i \rightarrow \text{B}_i\text{H}^+ + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_3$  proton-transfer reaction plotted versus the GB of the reference bases  $\text{B}_i$ . The solid curve fits the experimental data based on the parametric function  $\Phi = a/\{1 + \exp[(c - \text{GB}_{298}(\text{B}_i))b]\}$ .

**$\text{H}_2\text{SO}_3$**   
highly elusive  
molecule





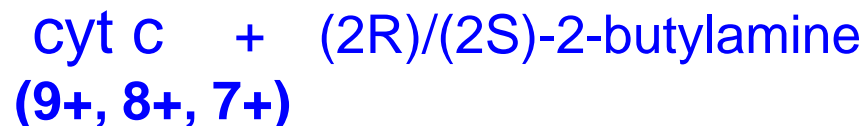
# Chiral recognition in deprotonation reactions

*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, *118*, 8751–8752

## Chiral Recognition Is Observed in the Deprotonation Reaction of Cytochrome *c* by (2*R*)- and (2*S*)-2-Butylamine

Elvira Camara, M. Kirk Green, Sharron G. Penn, and Carlito B. Lebrilla\*

*Department of Chemistry, University of California  
Davis, California 95616*



- (2*R*)- 10 times greater than (2*S*)-
- one reacting species for 9<sup>+</sup> and two for 8<sup>+</sup> and 7<sup>+</sup> : different conformers

chiral probes of gas-phase structures provide :

- indirect information on protein structures (intermediates of defined structures) and
- thermochemical data about individual sites in large (bio)molecules



# Chiral differentiation in host-guest complexes

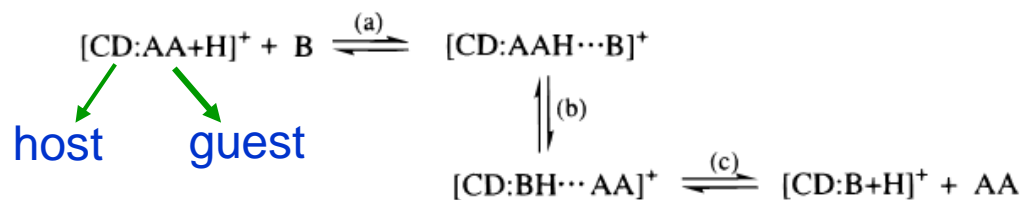
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 7387–7388

## Gas-Phase Chiral Differentiation of Amino Acid Guests in Cyclodextrin Hosts

Javier Ramirez, Fei He, and Carlito B. Lebrilla\*

chiral differentiation of AAs is  
of immediate analytical importance

Scheme 1



- complexes of protonated  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin-amino acid (Ala; Val; Phe) react with n-propylamine by **exchanging the AA guest of cyclodextrin host** for alkylamine;
- the exchange rates are found to differ according to the chirality of the AA
- Valine is the most reactive and shows the greatest selectivity:  $k_L/k_D = 1.6$  (Alanine);  $k_L/k_D = 3.1$  (Valine);  $k_L/k_D = 0.8$  (Phenylalanine).
- the differences may be related to the way the AA is included into the host cavity.**



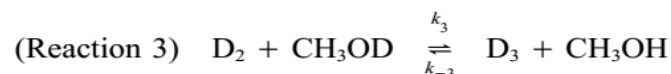
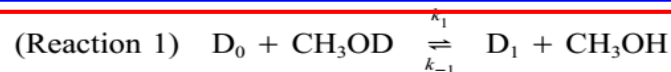


# Hydrogen/Deuterium exchange reactions

for counting the active Hs and probe the structure of biomolecules

the ions can be trapped for extended periods of time in the presence of a background pressure of the exchange reagent

to observe H/D exchange, the energy released by complex formation must be sufficient to overcome the barrier to internal PT



one approach to analyze the kinetics is the «independent site treatment», where the rate constants are determined iteratively

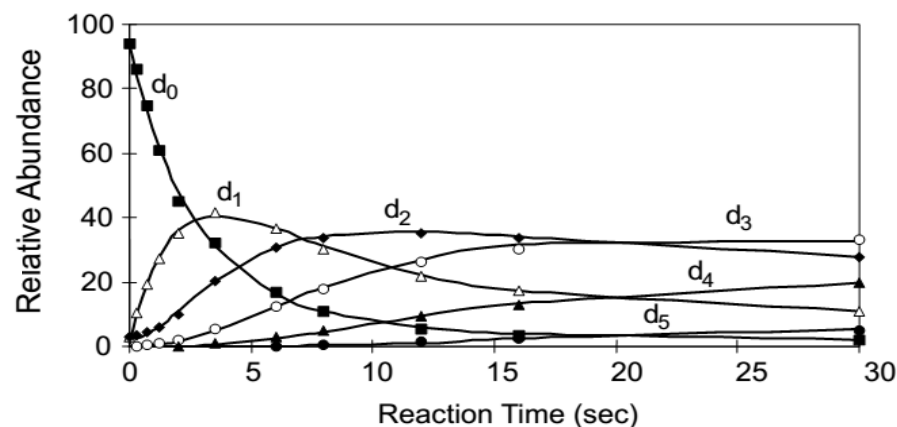


Figure 7. Time plot of the deuterium exchange products of  $\text{ATP}^+$  reacting with  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  ( $4.2 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar)

**Table 1.** Relative apparent rate constants<sup>a</sup> for the protonated and sodiated adenine nucleotides with reagent gases

Parent ion	<i>m/z</i>	Reagent gas
AMPH <sup>+</sup>	348	CD <sub>3</sub> OD
ADPH <sup>+</sup>	428	CD <sub>3</sub> OD
ATPH <sup>+</sup>	508	CD <sub>3</sub> OD

One advantage: • H/D exchange probes several sites in a molecule (proton transfer involves a single site)



## Gas-phase H/D exchange of proteins

The structural and dynamic properties of protein ions (multiply charged ions of cyt c ) have been probed by H/D exchange with D<sub>2</sub>O in a FT-ICR

At least three distinct gaseous conformers were distinguished by the number of exchangeable Hs :  
52, 113 and 74 reactive Hs atoms, possibly corresponding to solution conformers III (native), II (denatured, unfolded), and I (denatured, folded).

These forms do not interconvert in hours and are stabilized by intramolecular non-covalent interactions of similar nature both in solution and in vacuo.

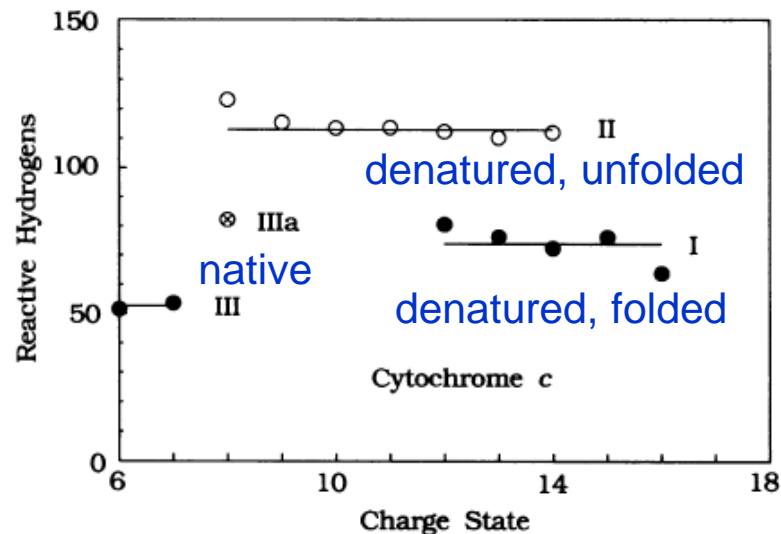


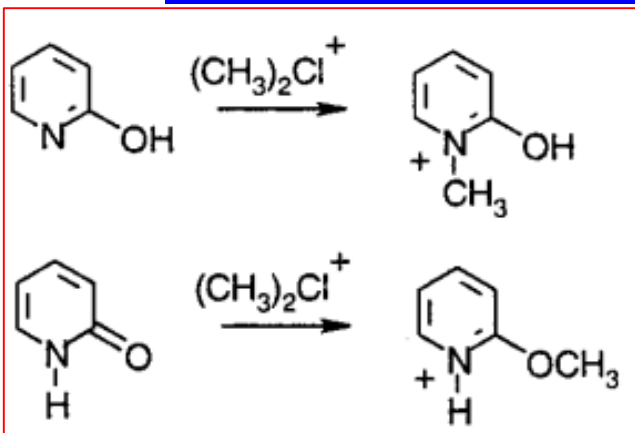
FIG. 3. Number of reactive H atoms observed for possible conformers of cytochrome c.

The use of chemical ionization is the most common **application of IMR in analytical MS** for the identification of functional groups in organic compounds.

Besides proton transfer reagents, alternative reagents has been developed allowing selective reactions, like methylation, vinylation, metal attachment and so on, to be carried out.

Some examples are following...

# Identification of functional groups in organic compounds



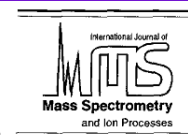
O'Hair, Eur. J. Mass Spectrom. 1995

identification via CID of independently synthesized products



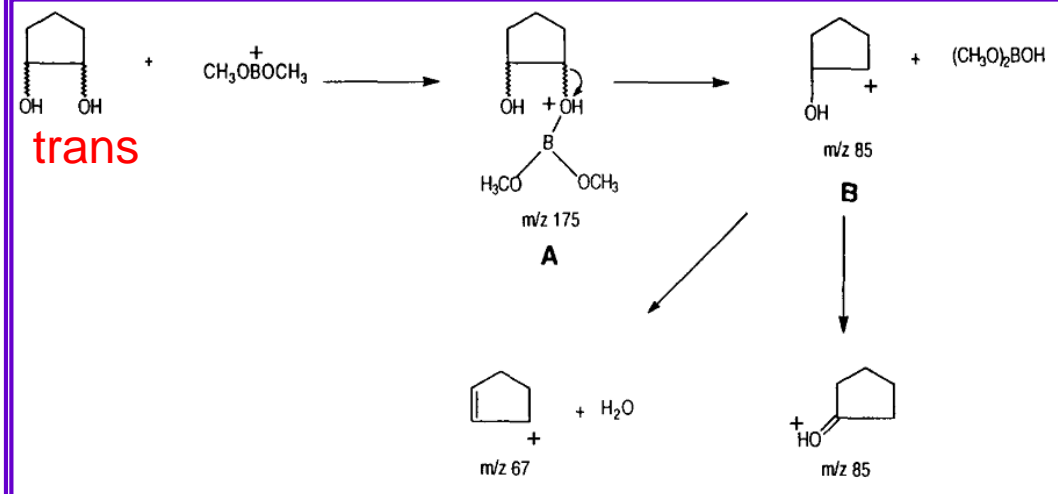
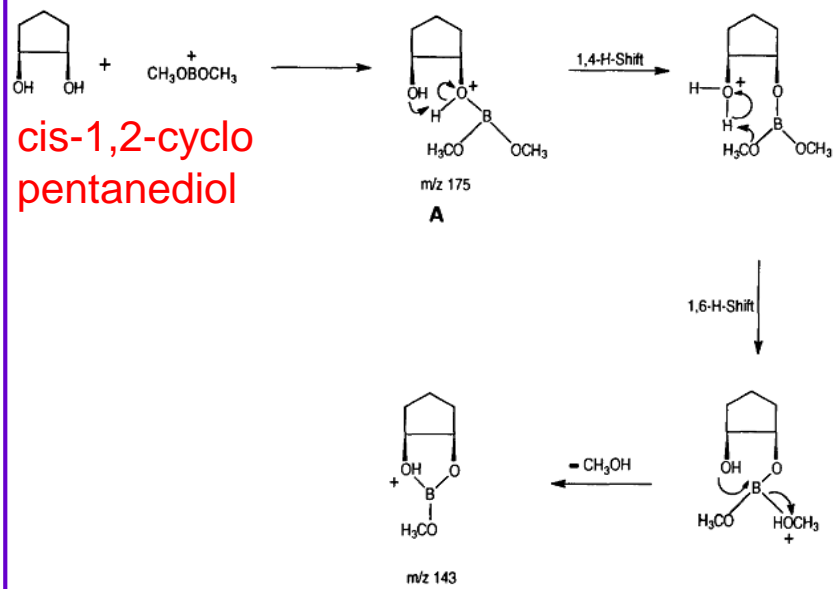
ELSEVIER

International Journal of Mass Spectrometry and Ion Processes 141 (1995) 229–240



Differentiation of stereoisomeric diols by using  $\text{CH}_3\text{OB}^+\text{OCH}_3$  in a small Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometer

D.T. Leeck<sup>a</sup>, T.D. Ranatunga<sup>a</sup>, R.L. Smith<sup>a</sup>, T. Partanen<sup>b</sup>, P. Vainiotalo<sup>b,\*</sup>,  
H.I. Kenttämää<sup>a,\*</sup>



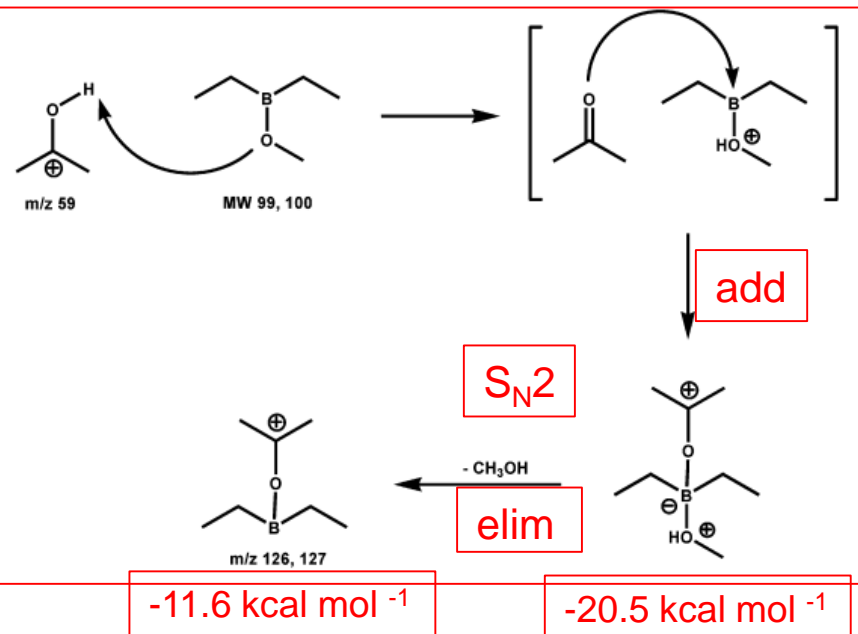
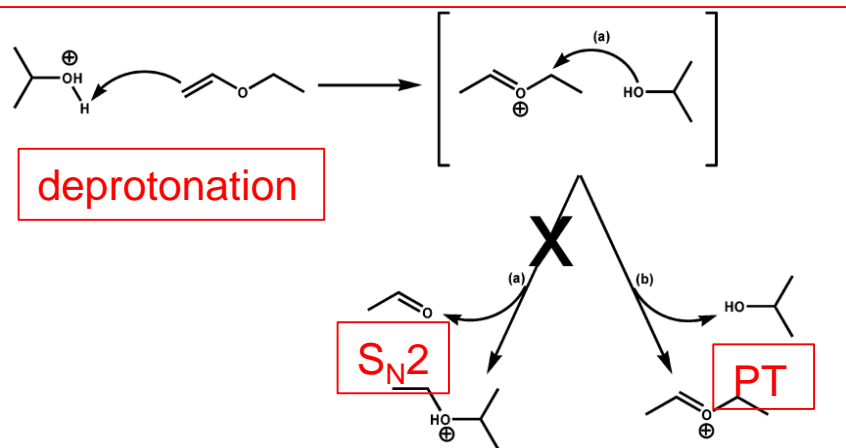
SAPIENZA  
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O'Hair, Eur. J. Mass Spectrom. 1995;  
H. I. Kenttämää, Int. J. Mass Spectrom. Ion Proc. 1995

# Ion–Molecule Reactions for Mass Spectrometric Identification of Functional Groups in Protonated Oxygen-Containing Monofunctional Compounds

Michael A. Watkins,<sup>†</sup> Jason M. Price,<sup>†,‡</sup> Brian E. Winger,<sup>§</sup> and Hilkka I. Kenttämää<sup>\*,†</sup>

- 1) ethyl vinyl ether
- 2) diethylmethoxyborane



**diethylmethoxyborane** reacts with protonated monofunctional oxygen-containing analytes (**alcohols, ketones, aldehydes, esters, ethers, carboxylic acids, amides**) by deprotonation followed by substitution of methanol:  
provides structure elucidation for unknown mixture components





# Identification of functional groups in organic compounds



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J. Am. Soc. Mass Spectrom. (2012) 23:12-22  
DOI: 10.1007/s13361-011-0249-y

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

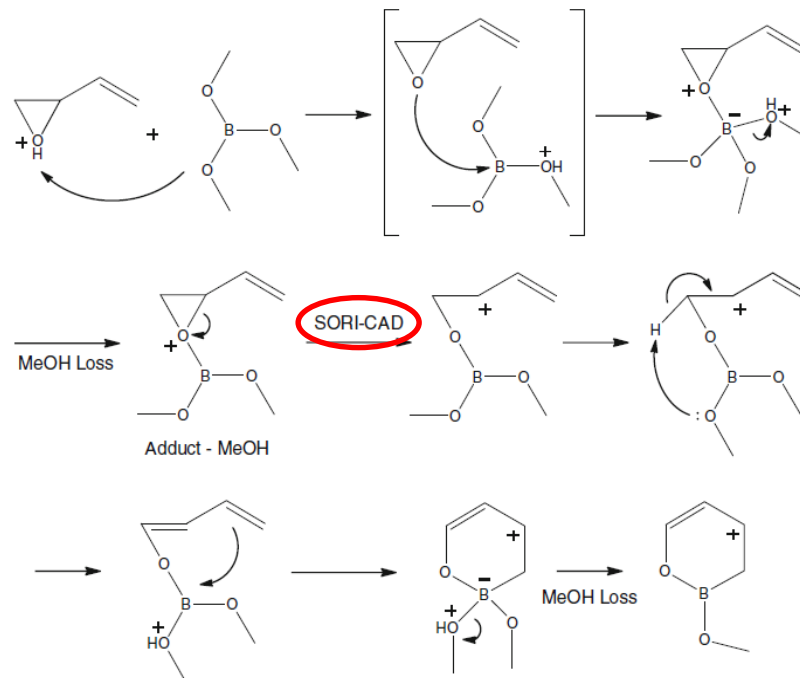
### Identification of Epoxide Functionalities in Protonated Monofunctional Analytes by Using Ion/Molecule Reactions and Collision-Activated Dissociation in Different Ion Trap Tandem Mass Spectrometers

Ryan J. Eisman, Mingkun Fu, Sonoeun Yem, Fanny Widjaja, Hilka I. Kenttämää  
Department of Chemistry, Purdue University, 560 Oval Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA

TMB is able to deprotonate O functionalities but not N groups

Vinyl and phenyl epoxides can be differentiated from other O-containing analytes, based on the loss of a second methanol molecule upon CID of the addition/methanol elimination product.

IMR involves **proton transfer** from the protonated analyte to TMB, followed by **addition** of the analyte to TMB and **elimination** of methanol



Mechanism for elimination of two methanol molecules upon reaction of protonated butadiene monoxide with TMB

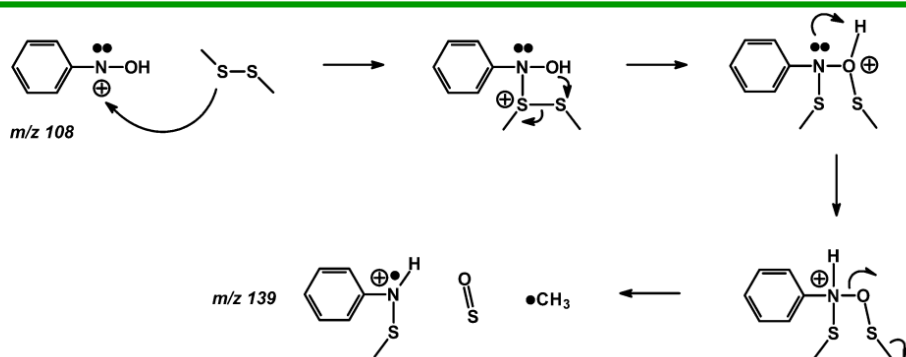


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H. I. Kenttämää, *J. Am. Soc. Mass Spectrom.* 2012

# Compound Screening for the Presence of the Primary N-Oxide Functionality via Ion–Molecule Reactions in a Mass Spectrometer

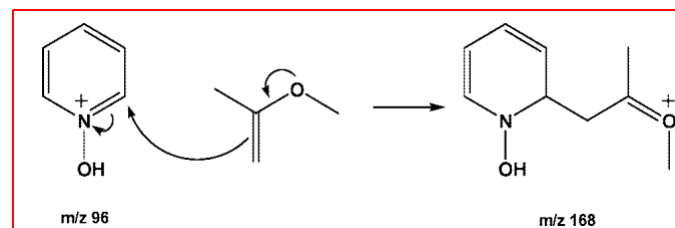
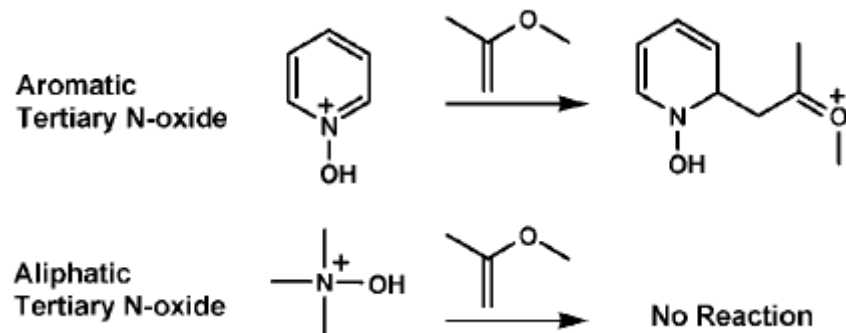
Michael A. Watkins,<sup>†</sup> Danielle V. WeWora,<sup>†</sup> Sen Li,<sup>†</sup> Brian E. Winger,<sup>‡</sup> and Hilkka I. Kenttämää<sup>\*,†</sup>



protonated primary N-oxides selectively react with  $(\text{CH}_3\text{S})_2$  forming a product with 31 Da higher mass.

# Identification of the Aromatic Tertiary N-Oxide Functionality in Protonated Analytes via Ion/Molecule Reactions in Mass Spectrometers

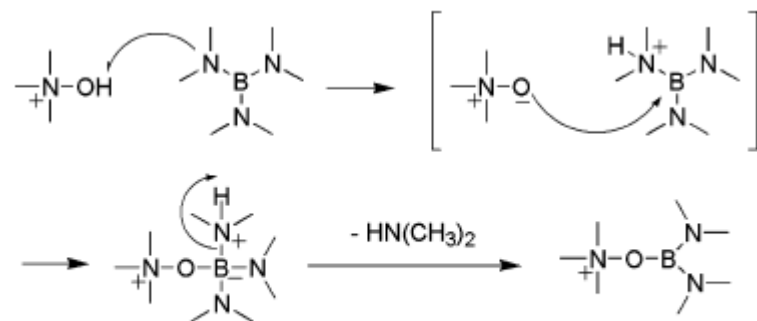
Penggao Duan,<sup>†</sup> Todd A. Gillespie,<sup>‡</sup> Brian E. Winger, and Hilkka I. Kenttämää<sup>\*,†</sup>



protonated aromatic tertiary N-oxides selectively add 2-methoxy-propene

# Identification of Aliphatic and Aromatic Tertiary N-Oxide Functionalities in Protonated Analytes via Ion/Molecule and Dissociation Reactions in an FT-ICR Mass Spectrometer

Penggao Duan,<sup>†</sup> Mingkun Fu,<sup>†</sup> Todd A. Gillespie,<sup>‡</sup> Brian E. Winger,<sup>‡</sup> and Hilkka I. Kenttämää<sup>\*,†</sup>



**Scheme 1.** Mechanism proposed for the reaction between protonated N-oxide containing analyte and neutral TDMAB.

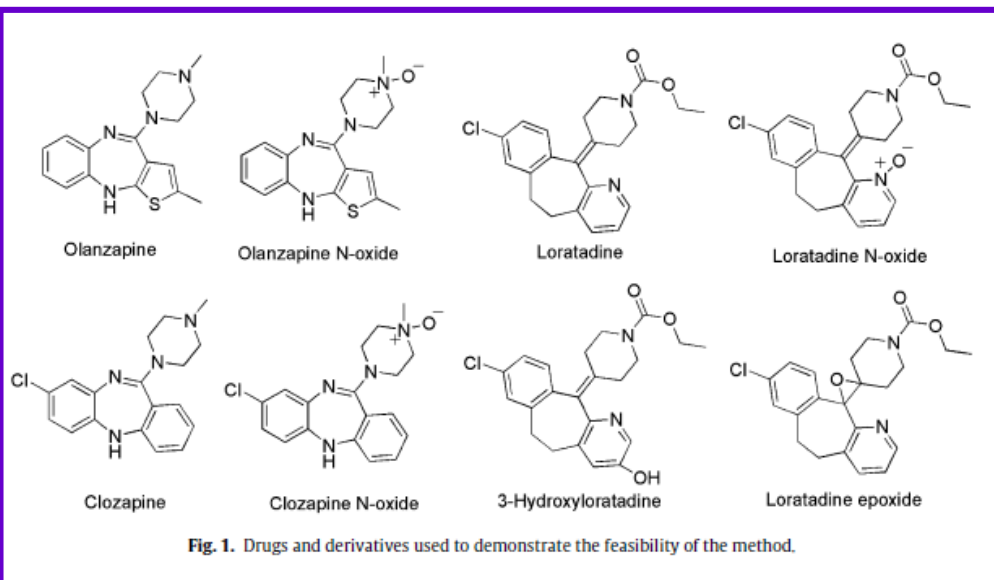
aliphatic and aromatic tertiary N-oxides react with tri(dimethylamino)borane yielding add-elim products identified via SORI-CID



Liquid chromatography/tandem mass spectrometry utilizing ion-molecule reactions and collision-activated dissociation for the identification of N-oxide drug metabolites

Steven C. Habicht, Penggao Duan<sup>1</sup>, Nelson R. Vinuesa, Mingkun Fu, Hilkka I. Kenttämää<sup>\*</sup>

Department of Chemistry, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA

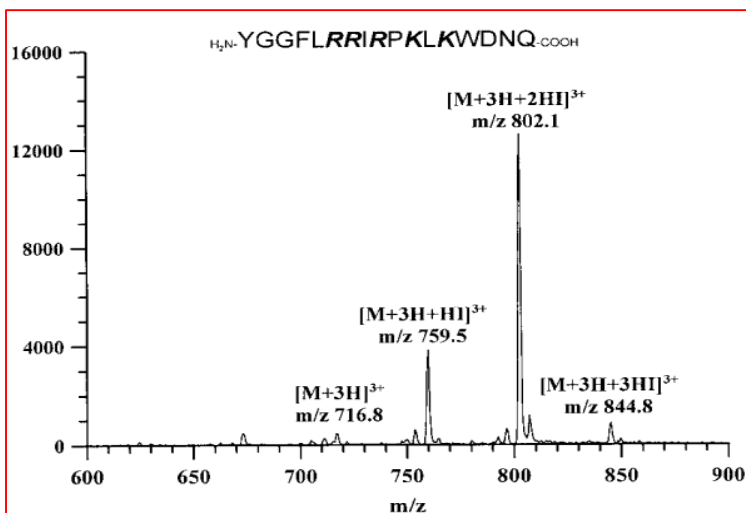


**Fig. 1.** Drugs and derivatives used to demonstrate the feasibility of the method.

application in the pharmaceutical setting

# Identification of functional groups in biomolecules

S. A. McLuckey, *Anal. Chem.* 1997



the adducts possess as many HI units as the total number of basic AAs (arginine, lysine) and the N-terminus

## Research Article



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*Rapid Commun. Mass Spectrom.* 2014, 28, 1107–1116  
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI: 10.1002/rcm.6884

## Probing the exposure of the phosphate group in modified amino acids and peptides by ion-molecule reactions with triethoxyborane in Fourier transform ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometry

Francesco Lanucara<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Simonetta Fornarini<sup>3</sup>, Claire E. Eyers<sup>2</sup> and Maria Elisa Crestoni<sup>3</sup>



**Scheme 1.** Addition-elimination reaction of phosphorylated amino acids and peptides with alkoxyboranes B(OR)<sub>3</sub>.

set of phosphorylated peptides comprising phosphorylated serine and threonine, bearing a C-terminus lysine or arginine residue and holding naturally occurring sequences

Potential to measure the effect of local environment, the exposure and accessibility of a phosphate moiety on the surface of a biomolecule and to distinguish positional phosphorylated peptide isomers

The efficiency of such reactions allows to explore the accessibility of phosphate groups in biomolecules



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S. A. McLuckey et al., *Anal. Chem.* 1997;  
Lanucara et al., *Rapid Commun. Mass Spectrom.* 2014

# Identification of functional groups in biomolecules

J Biol Inorg Chem (2007) 12:22–35  
DOI 10.1007/s00775-006-0159-9

ORIGINAL PAPER

**Heme-peptide/protein ions and phosphorous ligands:  
search for site-specific addition reactions**

Maria Elisa Crestoni · Simonetta Fornarini

Effect of axial ligand: free and ligated heme-type ions

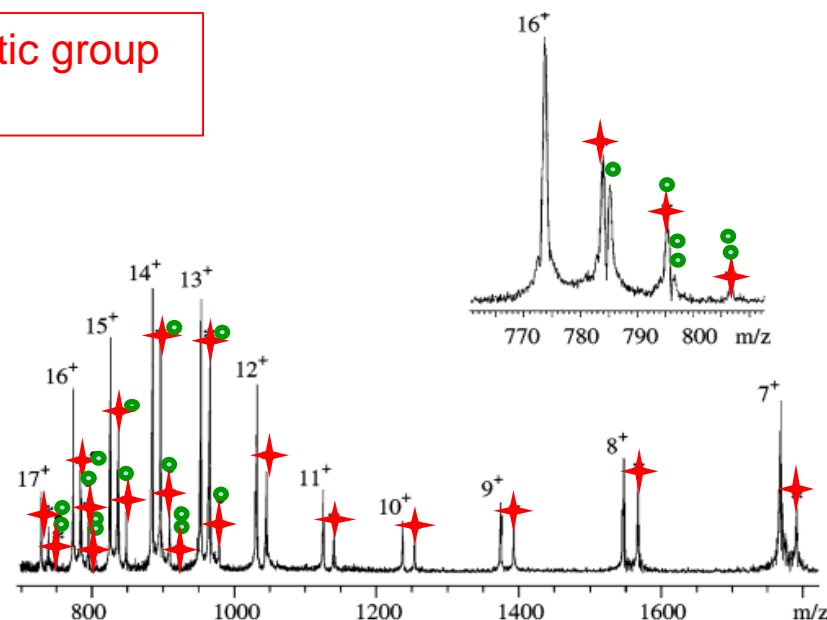
- **Fe(III)-heme<sup>+</sup>**
- **MP11**
- **cyt c**
- **myoglobin**

+ **OP(OMe)<sub>3</sub>** (GB: 206 kcal/mol)  
+ **P(OMe)<sub>3</sub>** (GB: 215.3 kcal/mol)

insight in the coordination environment of the prosthetic group  
in systems of increasing complexity

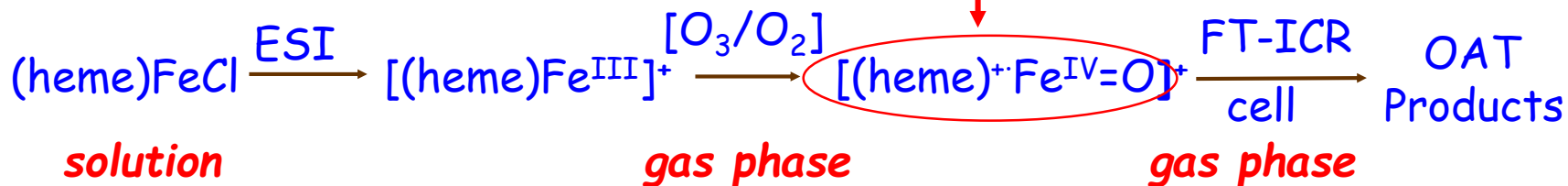
the addition of phosphite is always limited  
to just one molecule, irrespective of  
charge state, in contrast with a charge-  
dependent number of added phosphate  
ligands

- **OP(OMe)<sub>3</sub>** is engaged in H bonding to  
protonated sites
- **P(OMe)<sub>3</sub>** is sampling the protein  
prosthetic group



**Fig. 9** FT-ICR mass spectrum of cyt *c* allowed to react with a 70:30 mixture of triethylphosphite, P(OEt)<sub>3</sub>, and triethylphosphate, OP(OEt)<sub>3</sub>, at  $2.4 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar for 3 s. *Numbers* denote the charge states of cyt *c* ions. Each charge state forms adducts with a single P(OEt)<sub>3</sub> molecule (represented by a *star*). The high charge states add up to four OP(OEt)<sub>3</sub> molecules; each OP(OMe)<sub>3</sub> molecule is represented by a *circle*

# The naked core of Cpd I



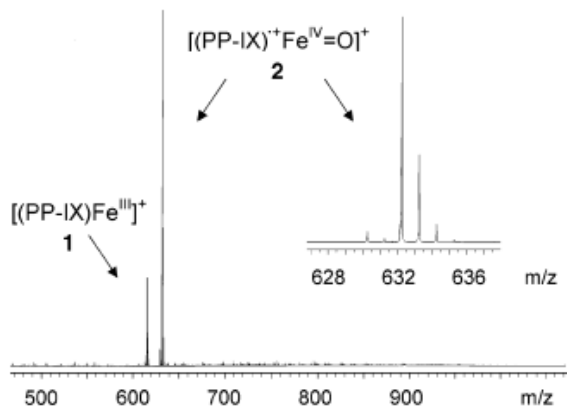
## Ion-molecule reactions of $[(\text{heme})^+\text{Fe}^{\text{IV}}=\text{O}]^+$

**Table 1.** Gas-Phase Reactivity of Selected Substrates (L) with  $(\text{PP-IX})^+\text{Fe}^{\text{IV}}(\text{O})^+$  (2) Formed by the Reaction of  $\text{Fe}(\text{PP-IX})^+$  (1) with  $\text{O}_3$

L	$k_{\text{exp}}^a$	$\Phi^b$	product ions $1/(\text{PP-IX})\text{Fe}(\text{O})(\text{L})^+$
NO	3.0	4.2	100/0
NO <sub>2</sub>	1.9	2.9	100/0
propyne	0.036	0.027	100/0
Me <sub>2</sub> S	1.7	1.3	80/20
CH <sub>3</sub> S <sub>2</sub>	2.8	2.4	90/10
pyridine	2.4	1.7	100/0
P(OMe) <sub>3</sub>	8.6	7.3	95/5

## Oxophilic Character

C  
N  
S  
P



**Figure 1.** ESI FT-ICR mass spectrum from a methanol solution of  $(\text{PP-IX})\text{FeCl}$  ( $10 \mu\text{M}$ ), admitting  $\text{O}_3/\text{O}_2$  in the capillary/skimmer interface of the ESI source. The inset is an enlargement of the spectrum displaying signals characteristic of  $(\text{PP-IX})^+\text{Fe}^{\text{IV}}=\text{O}$  ions (2).

# Association Reactions

- solvation of an ion by weak electrostatic or hydrogen bonding;
- ion ligation involving bonds of intermediate strength;
- strong chemical bond formation



at the low operating pressures of the FT-ICR cell: thermal equilibration of the adduct ion via IR radiative emission

The rate of radiative emission is expected to increase with increasing size of the ion



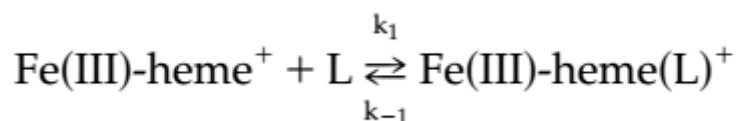


## Binding of Gaseous Fe(III)-Heme Cation to Model Biological Molecules: Direct Association and Ligand Transfer Reactions

Fausto Angelelli, Barbara Chiavarino, Maria Elisa Crestoni,  
and Simonetta Fornarini

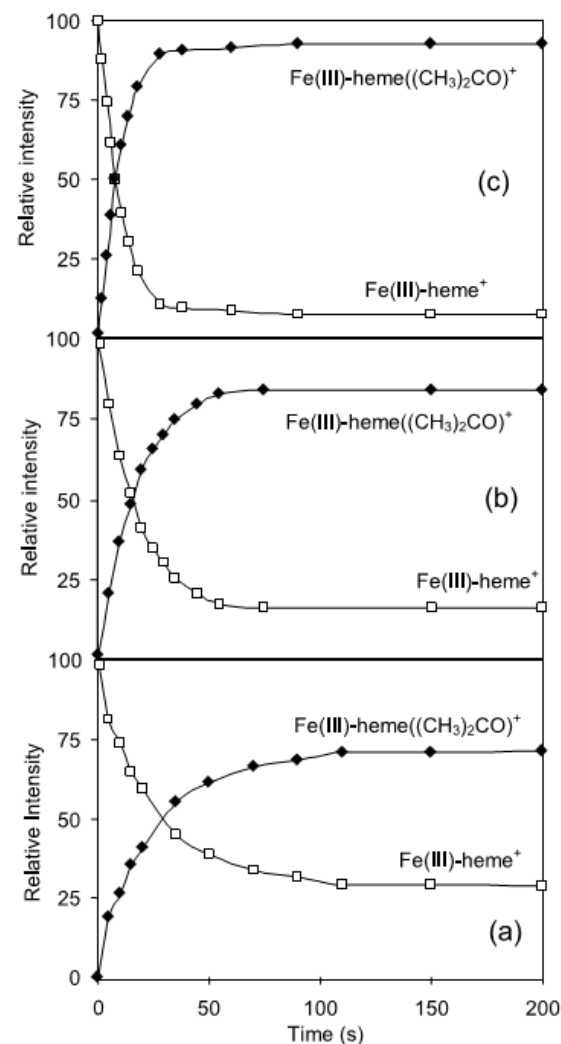
Department of Studies on Chemistry and Technology of Biologically Active Substances, University of Rome,  
"La Sapienza," Rome, Italy

### Ligand association equilibrium



L= NO, amines, carbonyl compounds, ethers,  
nitriles, sulfides, phosphoryl compounds

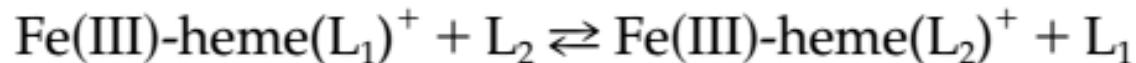
$$\text{HCB(L)} = -\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K_{\text{eq}}$$



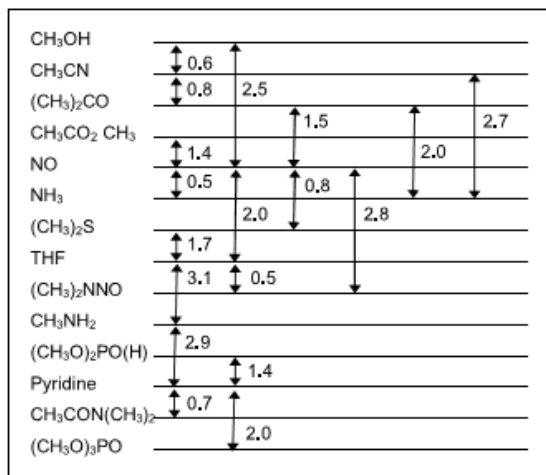
**Figure 5.** Time dependence of ion abundances for the Fe(III)-heme<sup>+</sup> ion reaction with acetone at  $5.2 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar (a),  $8.7 \times 10^{-8}$  mbar (b),  $2.1 \times 10^{-7}$  mbar (c).



# Ligand transfer equilibria



$$\text{HCB}(\text{L}_1) - \text{HCB}(\text{L}_2) = -\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K_{\text{eq}}$$

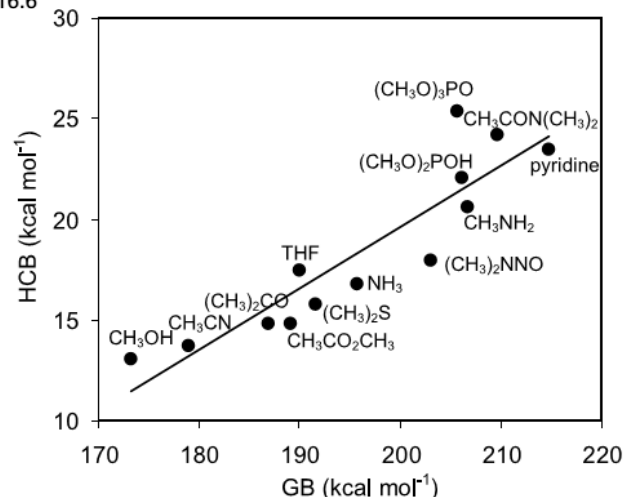


**Table 6.** Free energy changes for gas-phase ligand binding toward H<sup>+</sup> and Fe(III)-heme<sup>+</sup>

L	GB <sup>a</sup>	HCB <sup>b</sup>
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	173.2	13.1
CH <sub>3</sub> CN	179.0	13.7
(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CO	186.9	14.6
CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	189.0	14.8
NO	120.8	16.1
NH <sub>3</sub>	195.7	16.6
(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> S	191.5	
Tetrahydrofuran	189.9	
(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> N-NO	203.0 <sup>c</sup>	
CH <sub>3</sub> NH <sub>2</sub>	206.6	
(CH <sub>3</sub> O) <sub>2</sub> PO(H)	206.1	
Pyridine	214.7	
CH <sub>3</sub> CON(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	209.6	
(CH <sub>3</sub> O) <sub>3</sub> PO	205.7	

**Figure 7.**  $\Delta G_5^\circ$  (kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>, 300 K) ladder for the Fe(III)-heme<sup>+</sup> transfer reactions between selected pairs of ligands. The values in the ladder correspond to HCB differences for each couple of ligands.

A linear correlation between HCBs and  $\Delta G_1^\circ$  of the ligands suggests that similar effects play a role when a lone pair donor binds to a proton or to Fe(III)heme<sup>+</sup>



**Figure 9.** General correlation between Fe(III)-heme<sup>+</sup> cation basicities (HCB, equal to  $-\Delta G_1^\circ$  for the ligand association reaction) and gas phase basicity toward the proton (GB) values.



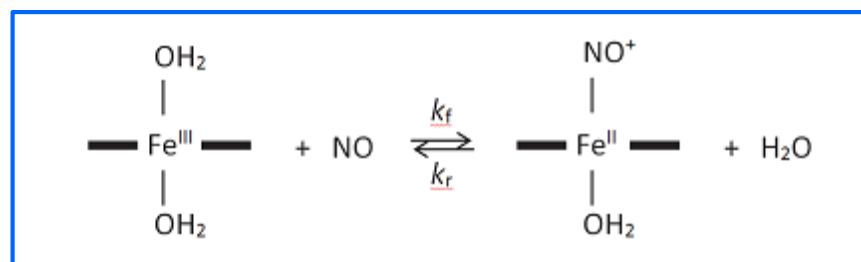
### Unravelling the Intrinsic Features of NO Binding to Iron(II)- and Iron(III)-Hemes

Barbara Chiavarino,<sup>†</sup> Maria Elisa Crestoni,<sup>†</sup> Simonetta Fornarini,<sup>\*,†</sup> and Carme Rovira<sup>\*,‡</sup>

**Table 1.** Rate and equilibrium constants for NO binding to iron(II)/iron(III) porphyrin complexes and heme proteins<sup>9</sup>

Iron(II)/(III) porphyrin <sup>(a)</sup>	$k_f / \text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$	$k_r / \text{s}^{-1}$	$K / \text{M}^{-1}$
Mb(II)	$1.7 \times 10^7$	$1.2 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.4 \times 10^{11}$
Mb(III)	$1.9 \times 10^5$	13.6	$1.4 \times 10^4$
Hb(II)	$2.5 \times 10^7$	$4.6 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.3 \times 10^{11}$
Hb(III)	$4 \times 10^3$	1	$4 \times 10^3$
Fe <sup>II</sup> (TPPS)	$1.8 \times 10^9$	$\approx 0$	$> 10^9$
Fe <sup>III</sup> (TPPS)	$7.2 \times 10^5$	$6.8 \times 10^2$	$1.1 \times 10^3$
Fe <sup>II</sup> (TMPS)	$1 \times 10^9$	—	—
Fe <sup>III</sup> (TMPS)	$3 \times 10^6$	$7.3 \times 10^2$	$4.1 \times 10^3$

<sup>(a)</sup> Mb: myoglobin; Hb: hemoglobin; TPPS: meso-tetra(4-sulfonatophenyl)porphyrinato dianion; TMPS: meso-tetra(sulfonatomesityl)porphyrinato dianion.

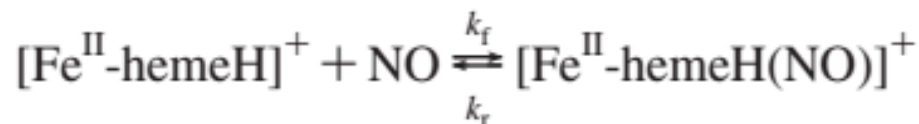


NO addition is governed by:

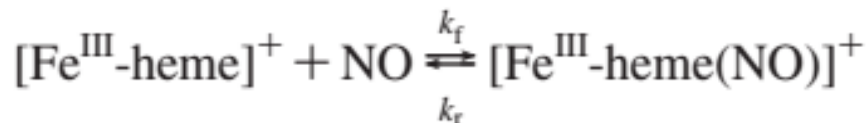
- Fe coordination number
- Fe oxidation state



tetracoordinated



pentacoordinated



**Table 4.** Kinetics and Equilibrium Data for NO Binding to  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}\text{-hemeH}]^+$  and  $[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}\text{-heme}]^+$  Ions in the Gas Phase

reagent ion	$K_1 (\times 10^{-11})^a$	$k_f (\times 10^{11})^b$	$k_r (\times 10^3)^c$
$[\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}\text{-hemeH}]^+$	5.7	3.3	0.8
$[\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}\text{-heme}]^+$	5.3	2.2	0.9

<sup>a</sup> Equilibrium constant for the association of NO to the heme ions at 300 K, obtained from the  $\text{H}^{\text{II}}\text{CB}/\text{H}^{\text{III}}\text{CB}$  values reported in Table 3 ( $K_1 = \exp(\text{HCB}/RT)$ ). Standard state 1 atm. <sup>b</sup> Forward rate constant for the association of NO to the heme ions, in units of  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ molecule}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ , at 300 K. refs 8b and 10. <sup>c</sup> Reverse rate constant for the association of NO to the heme ions, in  $\text{s}^{-1}$ , at 300 K. This work.

$$\text{HCB}^{\text{II}}_{(\text{NO})} = \text{HCB}^{\text{III}}_{(\text{NO})} = 67 \text{ kJ mol}^{-1} \text{ at 300 K}$$

both oxidation states show similar kinetic and thermodynamic behaviour



# Ion-molecule reactions of radical cations

J|A|C|S

A R T I C L E S

Published on Web 02/23/2005

## Reactions of Charged Phenyl Radicals with Aliphatic Amino Acids in the Gas Phase

Yiqun Huang, Leo Guler, Jenny Heidbrink, and Hilkka Kenttämä\*

Contribution from the Brown Laboratories, Department of Chemistry, Purdue University,  
425 Central Drive, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907-2018

distonic ion approach

phenyl radicals with a chemically inert, charged substituent remote from the radical site display the same reactions as the corresponding neutral radicals

the charged group is the essential handle for MS manipulations

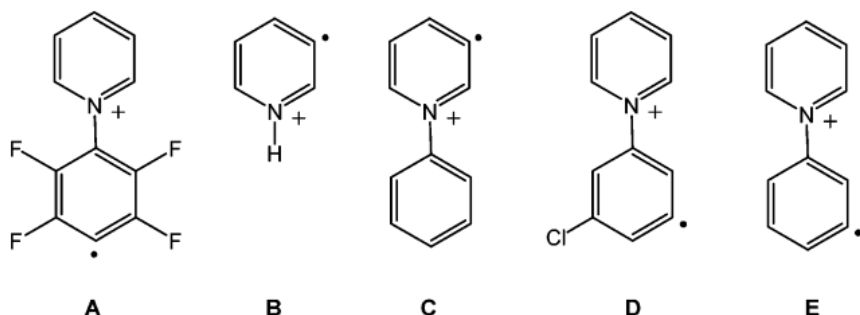


Figure 1. Positively charged phenyl radicals used in this study.

EA ordering of radicals:

A (6.2 eV) > B (6.1 eV) > C (5.8 eV) >  
D (5.1 eV) > E (4.9 eV)

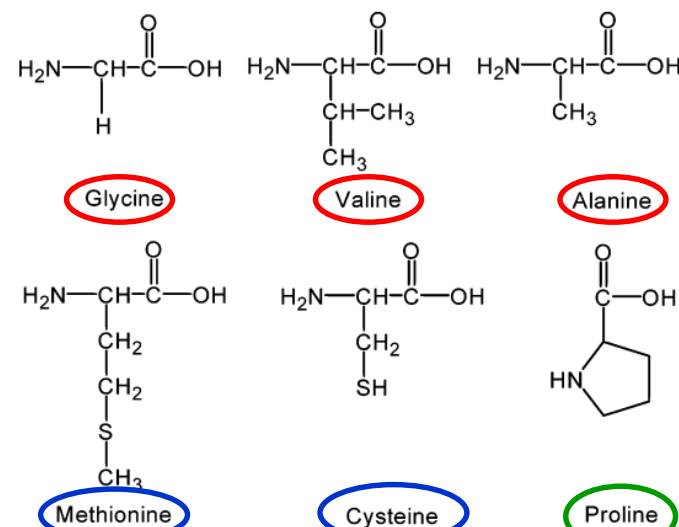


Figure 2. Structures of the amino acids used in this study.

# Ion-molecule reactions of radical anions



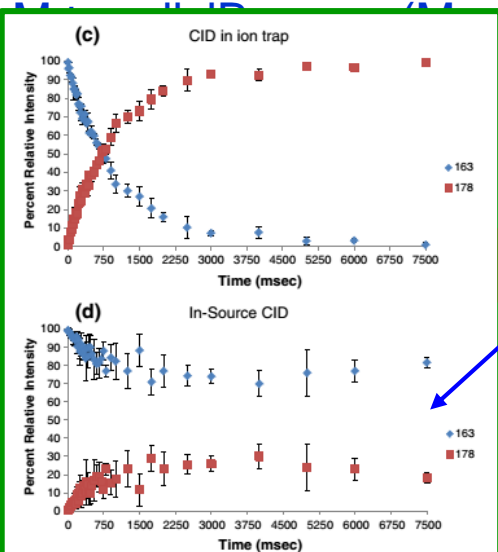
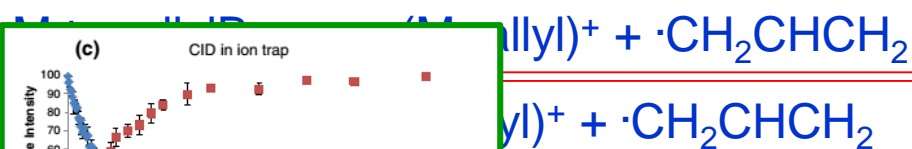
© American Society for Mass Spectrometry, 2011

J. Am. Soc. Mass Spectrom. (2011) 22:1794–1803  
DOI: 10.1007/s13361-011-0198-5

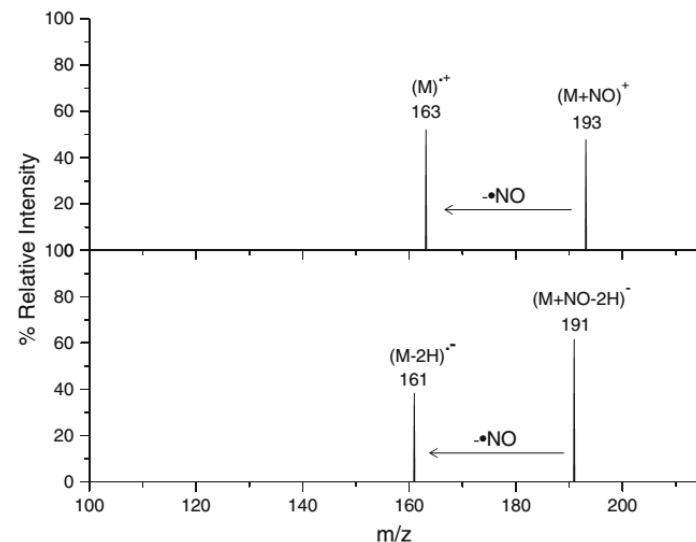
## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### Structure and Reactivity of the *N*-Acetyl-Cysteine Radical Cation and Anion: Does Radical Migration Occur?

Sandra Osburn,<sup>1</sup> Giel Berden,<sup>2</sup> Jos Oomens,<sup>2,3</sup> Richard A. J. O'Hair,<sup>4,5,6</sup> Victor Ryzhov<sup>1</sup>



**Figure 4.** Mass spectrum of the radical cation of *N*-acetyl-cysteine formed via (a) CID and (b) in-source fragmentation reacting with dimethyl sulfide. Pressure of the neutral is ca.  $10^{-7}$  Torr, reaction time is 800 ms. Kinetic plots of the radical cation formed via (c) CID and (d) in-source fragmentation reacting with dimethyl sulfide



**Figure 1.** CID of nitrosylated *N*-acetyl-cysteine ion to generate the radical (a) cation and (b) anion of acetyl cysteine

**in-source fragmentation: the radical migrates from S to the  $\alpha$ -C**



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V. Ryzhov, O'Hair et al., *J. Am. Soc. Mass Spectrom.* 2011

- **Who :** EU\_FT-ICR\_MS
- **What :** **Short Course 3 (SC3)** on  
**ion/molecule reactions: fundamental and analytical aspects**
- **When :** june 2019 (M18)
- **Where :** Roma (Italy) at Sapienza University
- **Why:** deepen the study and applications and perform experiments on IMR







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SC3, June 2019







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Simonetta Fornarini  
Dip. CTF's Colleagues



Thank you for your kind attention

Hope to see all of you in Roma in 2019 !



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