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SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Technical Information, Control Number: AFRL-PR-ED-TP-FY99-0159  
S. Tam and M.E. Fajardo, "Quantitative Matrix Isolation Spectroscopy in Heavily Doped Millimeters Thick Parahydrogen Solids"

Gordon Research Conference (International)

(Statement A)

GORDON CONFERENCE, PHYSICS AND CHEMISTRY OF MATRIX ISOLATED SPECIES  
PLYMOUTH, NH, 11-15 JULY 1999

# Quantitative Matrix Isolation Spectroscopy in Heavily Doped Millimeters Thick Parahydrogen Solids

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## TASK OBJECTIVE

Develop a technique for quantifying dopant species identities and concentrations in optically dense samples using the dopant-induced infrared (IR) absorptions.

## BACKGROUND

Have demonstrated we can produce gram scale samples of solid  $\text{pH}_2$  doped with HEDM species with concentrations of 0.01 to 0.1%.

Dopants were produced using laser ablation which is not a suitable method for producing high concentrations.

Three teams in the Cryosolids Working Group tasked with: 1) developing new dopant sources; 2) developing a diagnostic for characterizing the new sources; and **3) developing diagnostic tools for detecting the products of these new sources in  $\text{pH}_2$ .**

## APPROACH

Direct absorption measurements of thick, heavily concentrated samples of HEDM doped  $\text{pH}_2$  solids will not work as a diagnostic for these new sources.

Alternative is to use the dopant-induced IR absorptions as a diagnostic.

## High Energy Density Matter (HEDM) Cryosolid Propellants

### HEDM Cryosolid Program Objectives

Trap 5% molar concentration of energetic additives in solid hydrogen.  
Demonstrate size-scalable sample production method.

### Payoffs

#### Increased Specific Impulse

$$I_{sp} \propto \sqrt{\Delta H_{sp}}$$

$$\text{LOX/LH}_2: I_{sp} = 390 \text{ s}$$

$$5\% \text{ B/H}_2 + \text{LOX}: I_{sp} = 500 \text{ s (+30%)*}$$

\*calculated for  $P_{\text{chamber}} = 1000 \text{ psia}$ ,  $P_{\text{exhaust}} = 14.7 \text{ psia}$

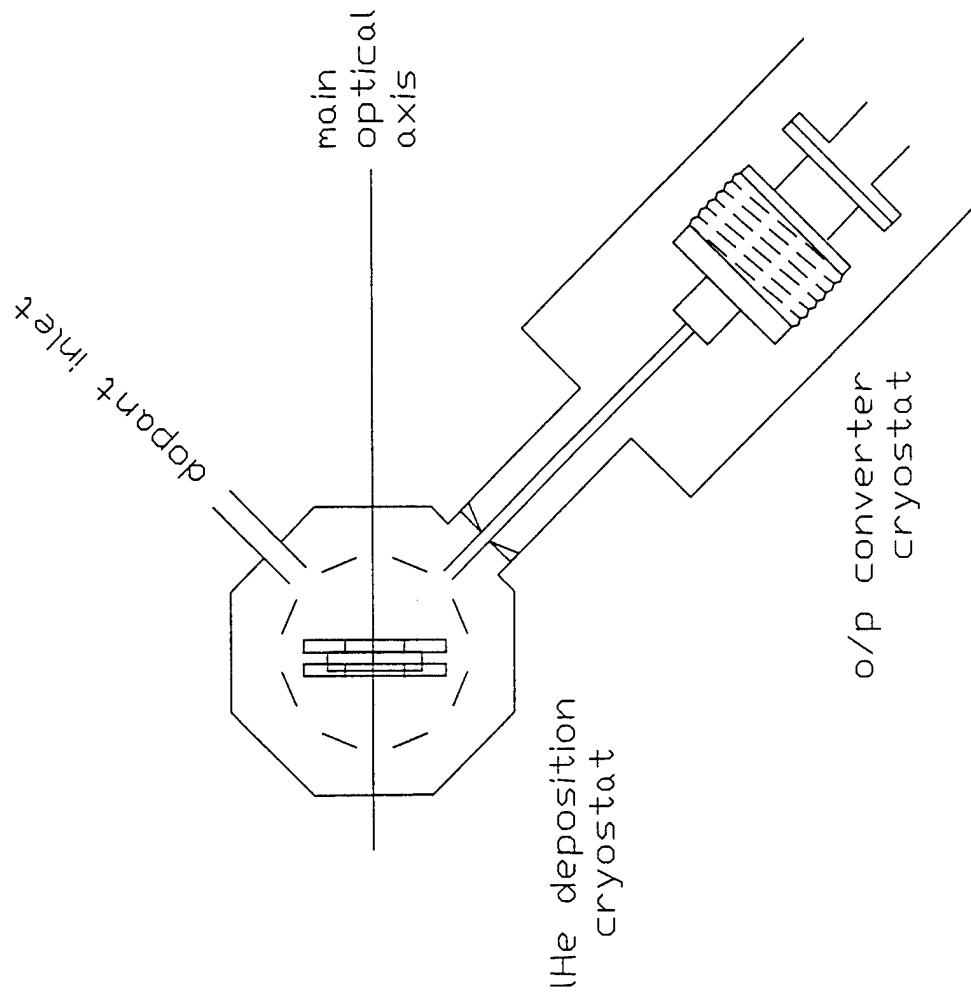
#### Greater Propellant Density

$$\text{liquid H}_2: = 0.070 \text{ g/cm}^3$$

$$\text{solid H}_2: = 0.087 \text{ g/cm}^3 (+25\%)$$

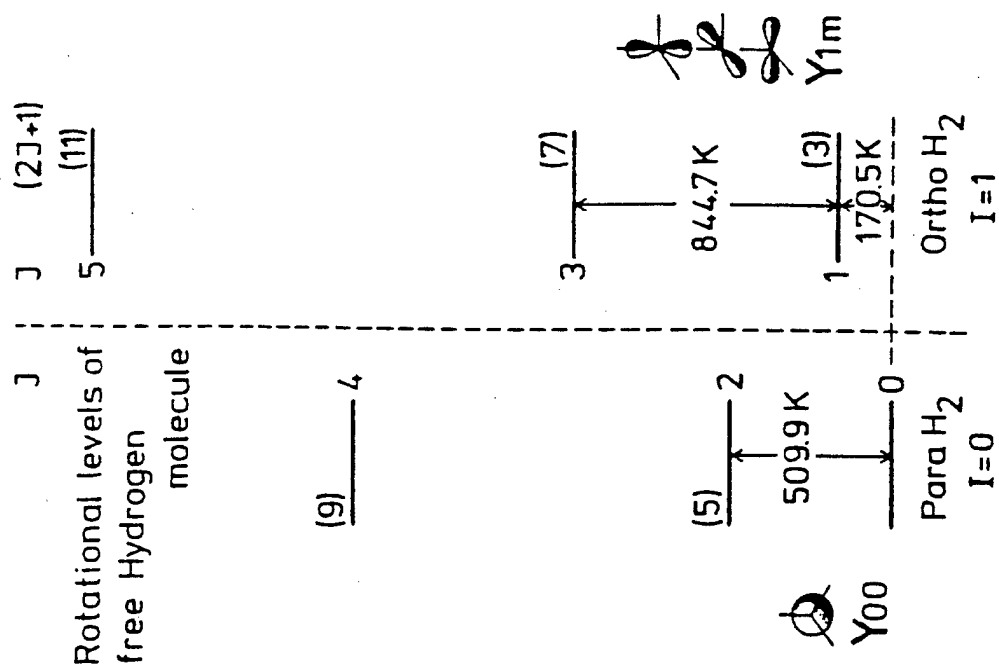
$$50/50 \text{ liquid He/solid H}_2: = 0.105 \text{ g/cm}^3 (+50\%)$$

# Experimental Diagram



~~NEW~~  
SLIDE

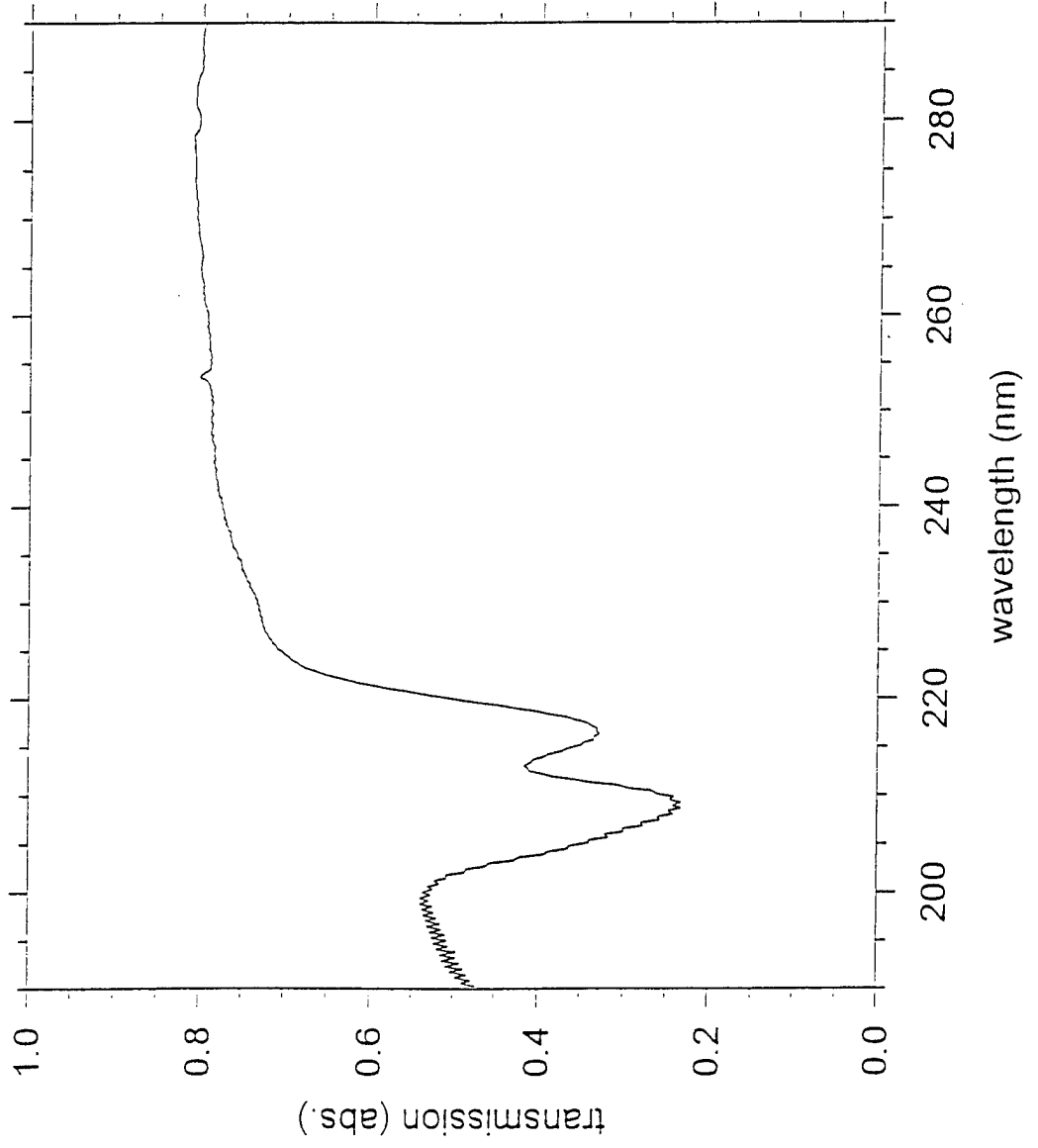
# Ortho- and Para-Hydrogen



I.F. Silvera  
 Rev. Mod. Phys.,  
 52, 393 (1980).

Now ~~5~~ 15

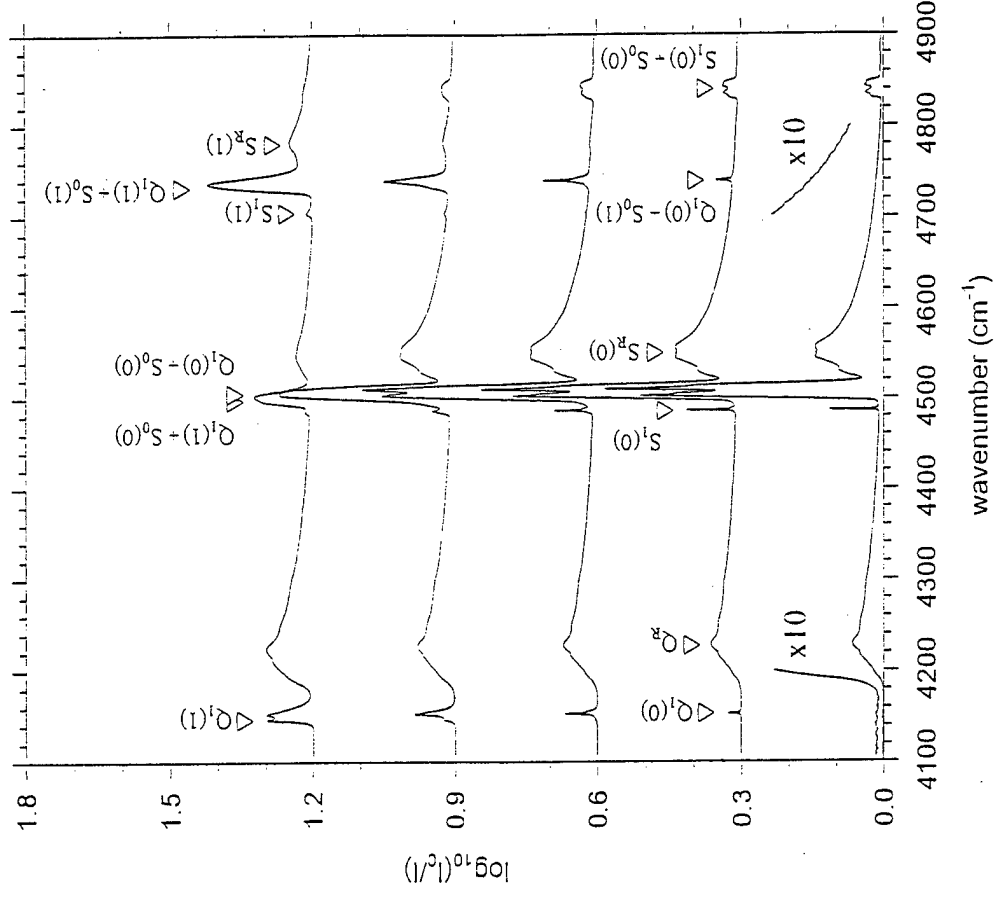
# B Ablation in p-H<sub>2</sub> Matrix Transmission Spectrum at 2 K



NOTE:  
Transmission = 0.8  
at 240 nm!

NEW

# Demonstration of Control of o-H<sub>2</sub> Fraction

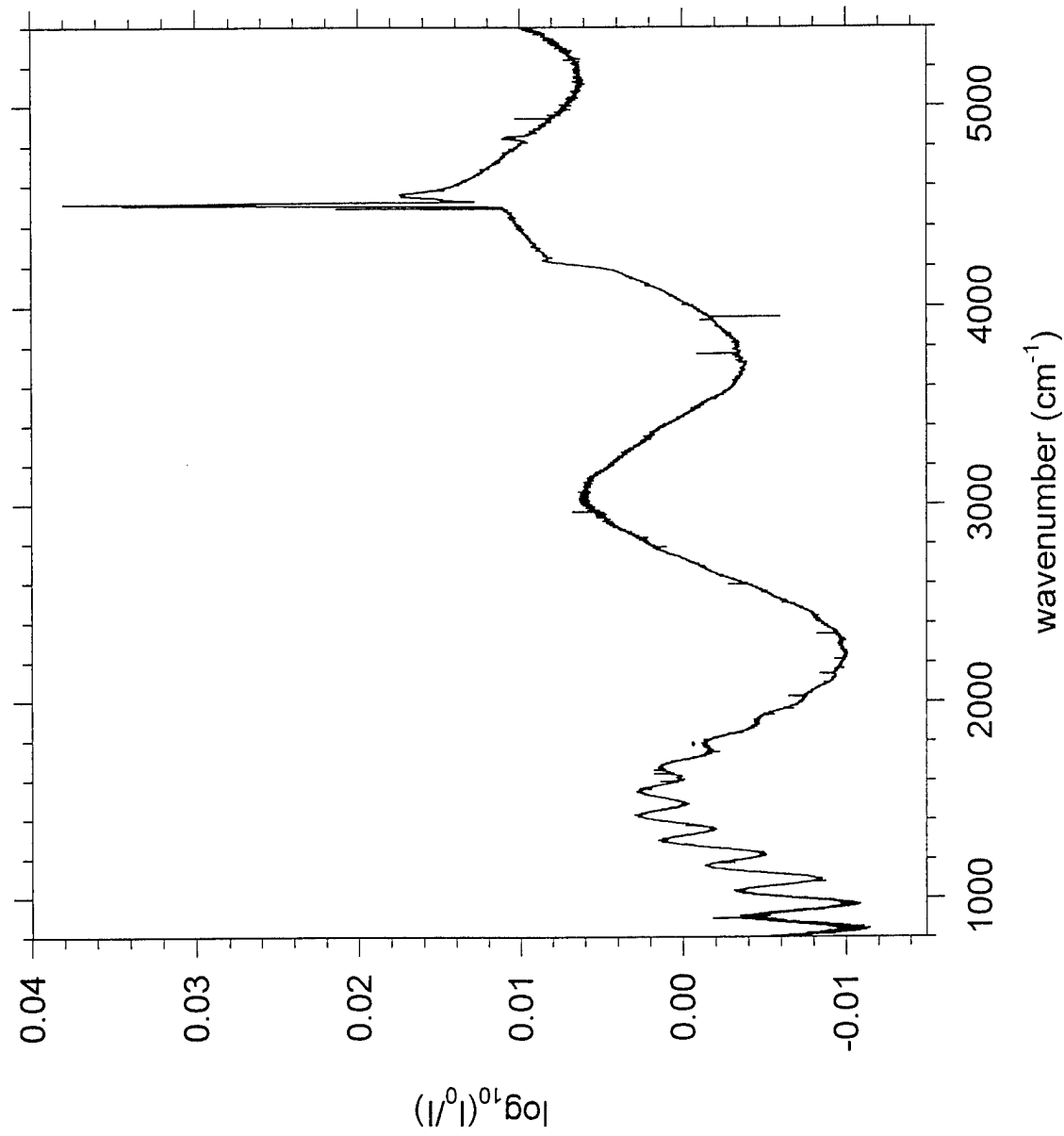


Converter Temp	% o-H <sub>2</sub>
135 K	70
52 K	25
37 K	8
28 K	2
15 K	< 0.01

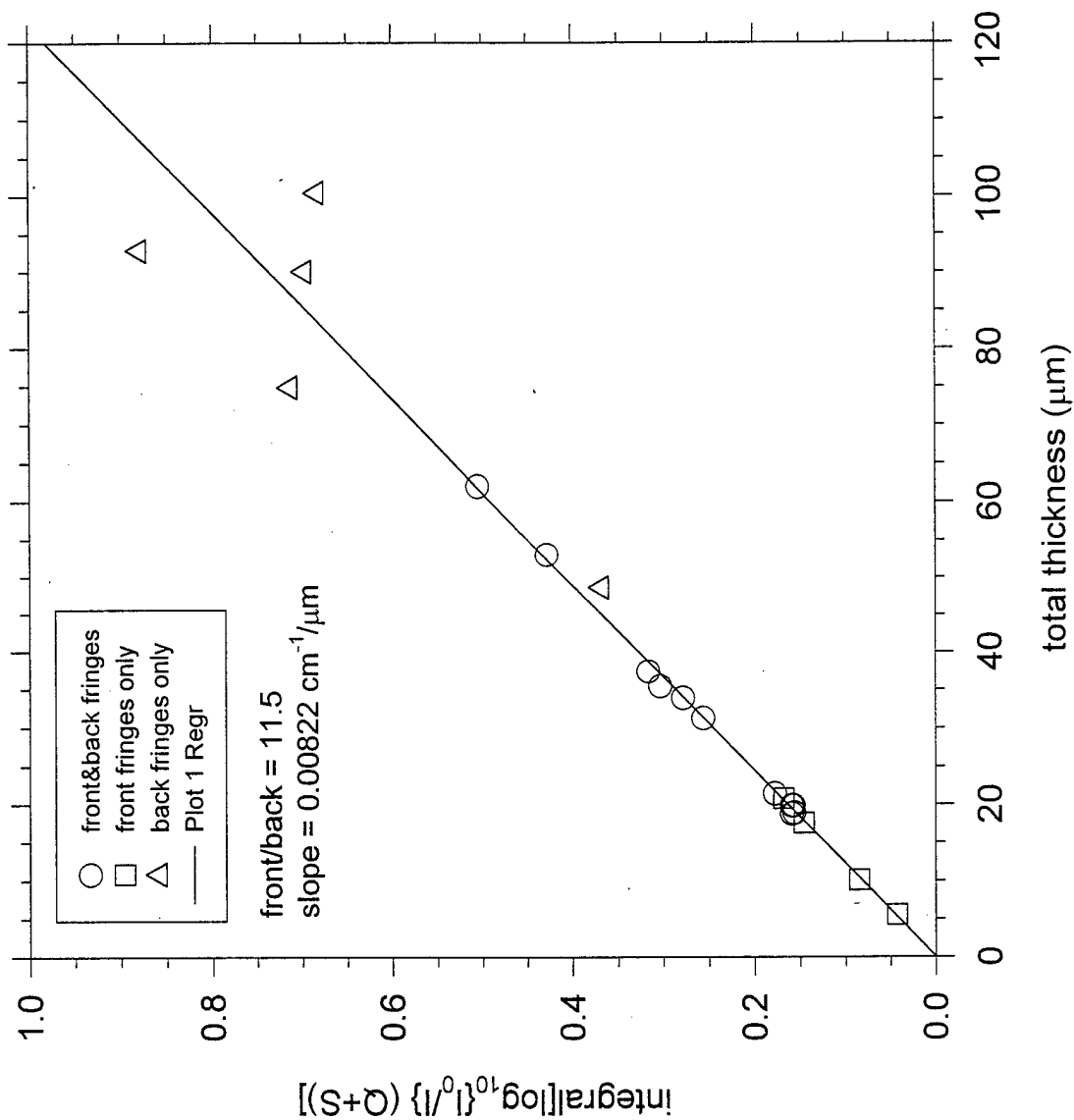
**At 0% o-H<sub>2</sub>:**  
 Observation of S<sub>1</sub>(0) and non-observation of Q<sub>1</sub>(0) implies h.c.p. solid

**Reference:**  
 J. van Kranendonk & H.P. Gush, Phys. Lett., **1**, 22 (1962).

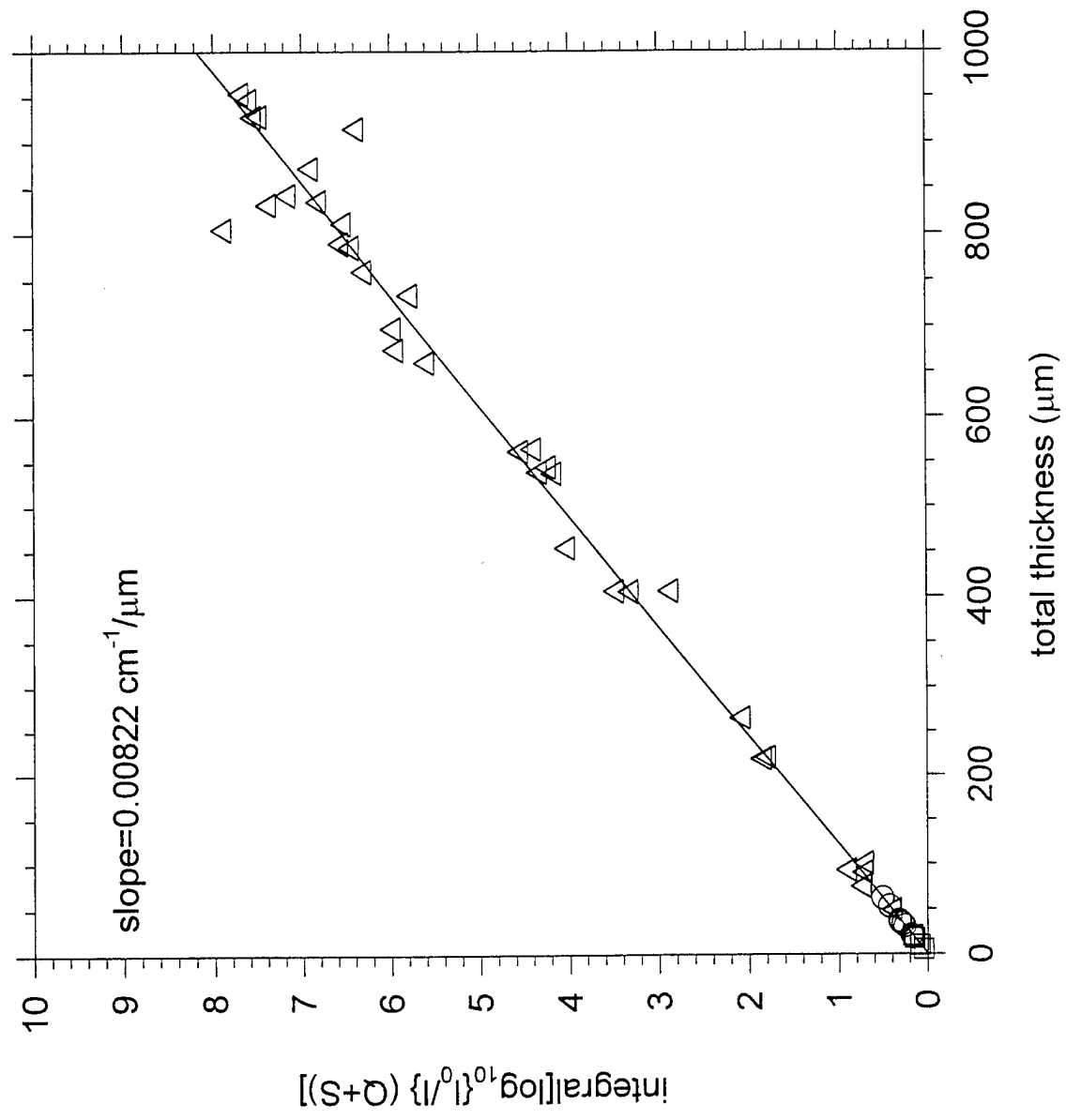
**IR Absorption Spectrum of a 37.4  $\mu\text{m}$  Thick Vapor Deposited  $\text{pH}_2$   
Solid (34.4  $\mu\text{m}$  front + 3.0  $\mu\text{m}$  back)**



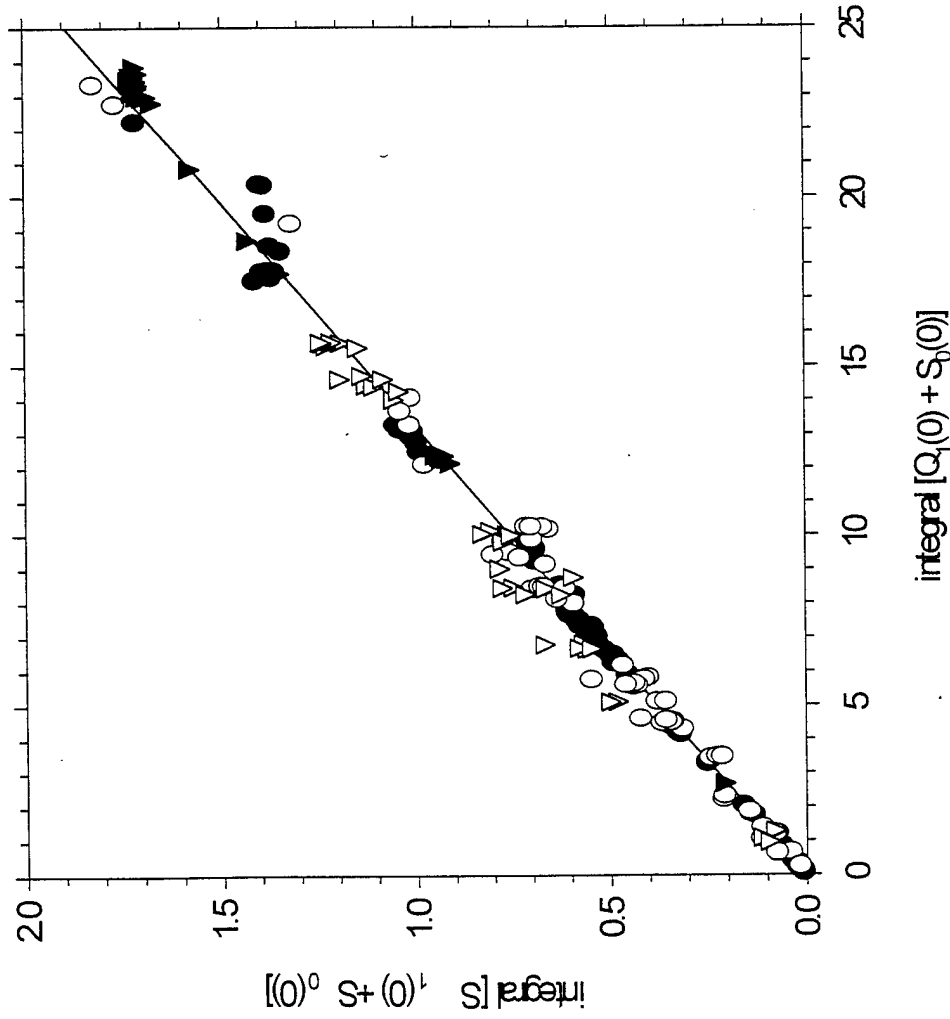
# Correlation of the Total Thickness Determined by Interferometry versus the Integrated Absorption Intensity of the $Q_1(0)+S_0(0)$ Transition of Solid $pH_2$



# Extrapolation of the Total Thickness versus the Integrated Absorption Intensity of the $Q_1(0)+S_0(0)$ Transition of Solid $\text{pH}_2$



# Correlation between the Integrated Intensities of the $Q_1(0)+S_0(0)$ and $S_1(0)+S_0(0)$ Transitions of Vapor Deposited $pH_2$ Solids



## NOTES

$$\alpha_{Q+S} = 188 \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

$$\alpha_{S+S} = 0.0757 \alpha_{Q+S} = 14.2 \text{ cm}^{-2}$$

For determining thickness:

<u>Band</u>	<u>Range</u>
$Q_1(0)+S_0(0)$	0-1 mm
$S_1(0)+S_0(0)$	1-10 mm

## Beer's Law

$$A(\tilde{\nu}) \equiv 2.303 \log_{10} \left( \frac{I_0}{I} \right) = \alpha c l$$

$$c = \frac{A(\tilde{\nu})}{\alpha l} \Rightarrow \frac{2.303 \int_{band} \log_{10} \left( \frac{I_0}{I} \right) d\tilde{\nu}}{l \int_{band} \alpha(\tilde{\nu}) d\tilde{\nu}}$$

Increased path lengths or highly concentrated samples can cause saturation of the absorption.

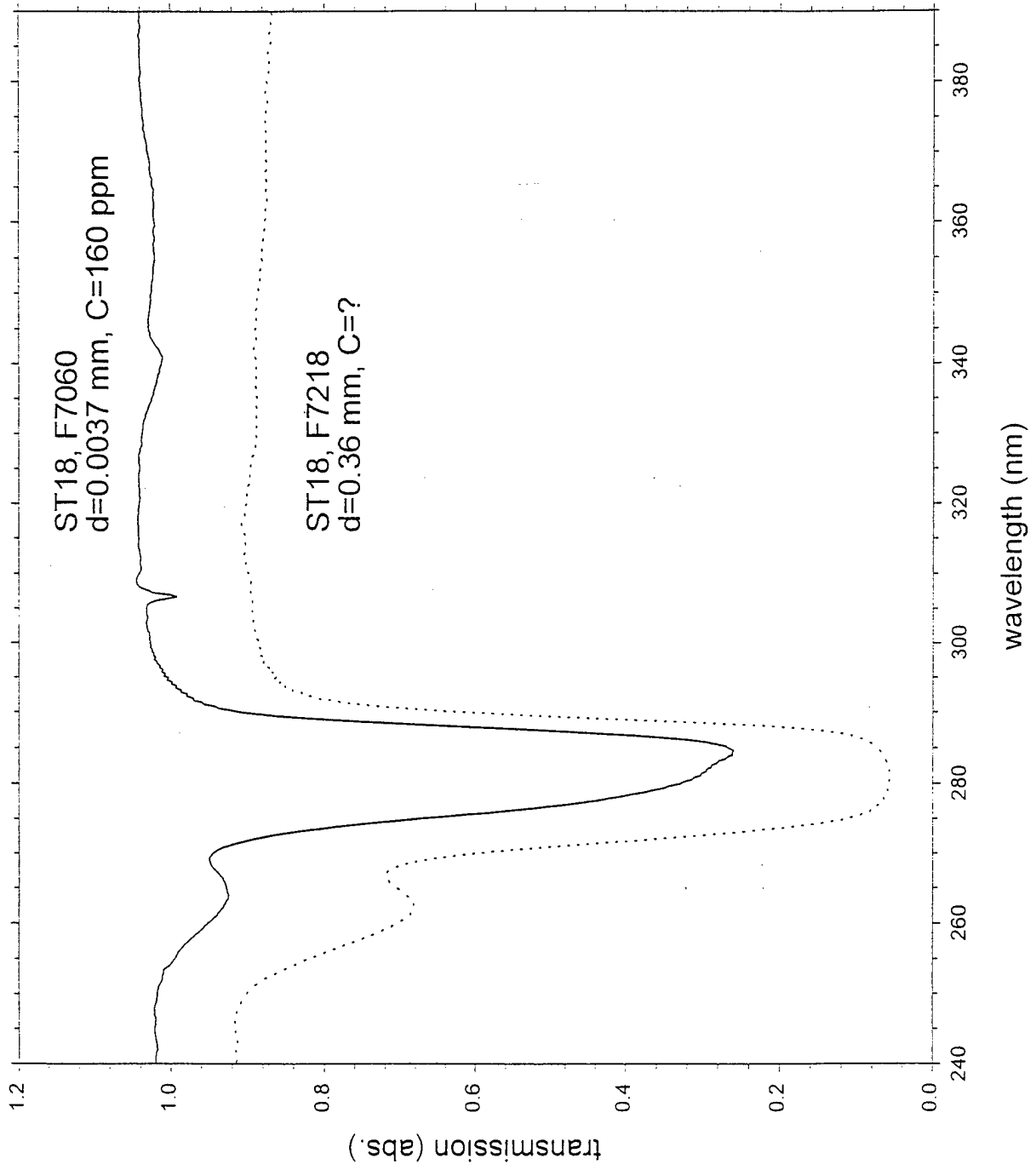
If we want to work with gram scale, heavily-doped  $\text{pH}_2$  samples, we require a spectral feature that has a very small intrinsic absorption coefficient ( $\alpha$ ) to compensate for the higher  $c$  and  $l$ .

We can use dopant-induced infrared absorptions to determine the concentration.

BUT: Need to determine  $\alpha_{ind}$   $\equiv$  the dopant-host intrinsic absorption strength

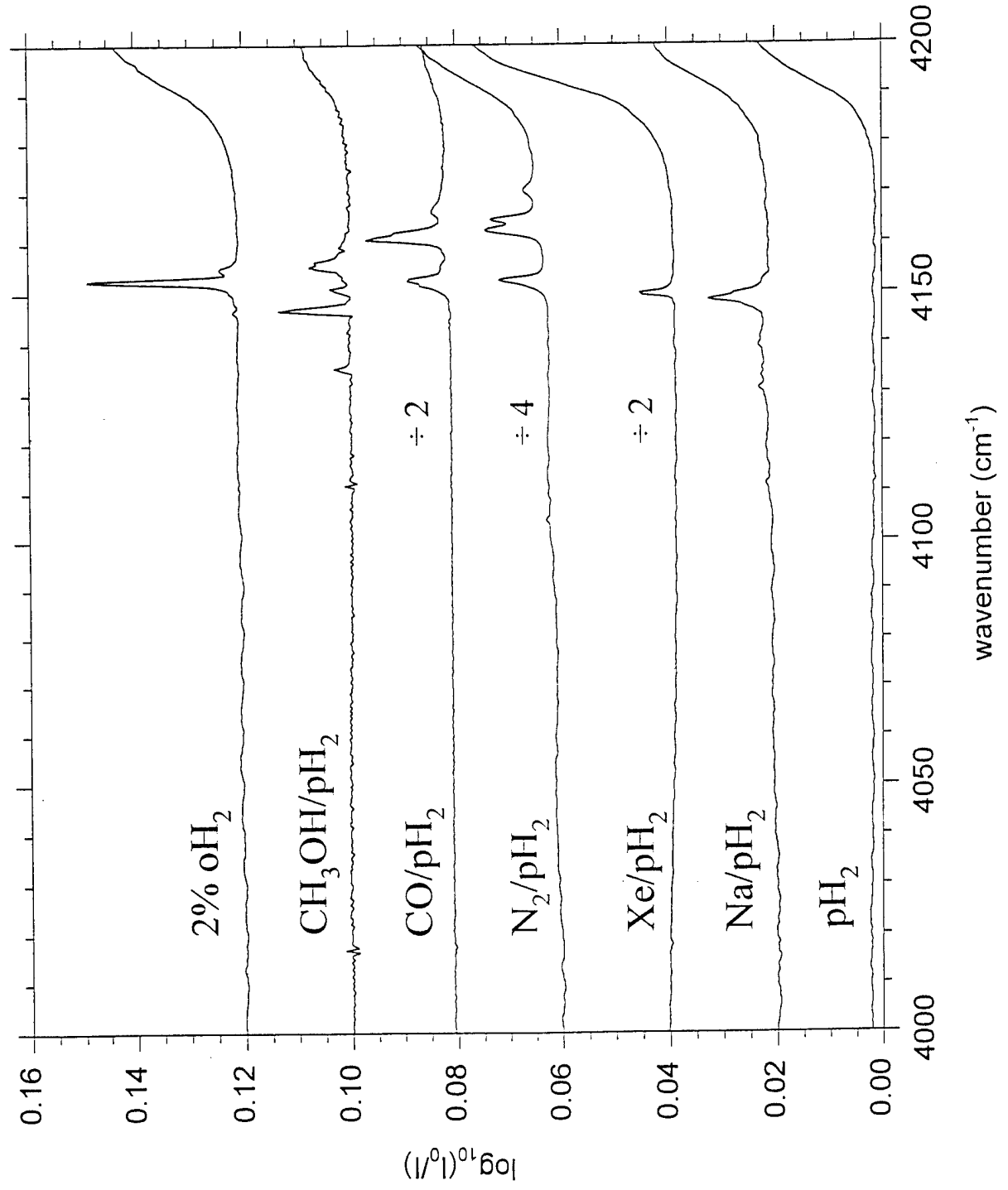
OK  
SLIDE

# Mg/pH<sub>2</sub> and Mg/oD<sub>2</sub>, T=2 K

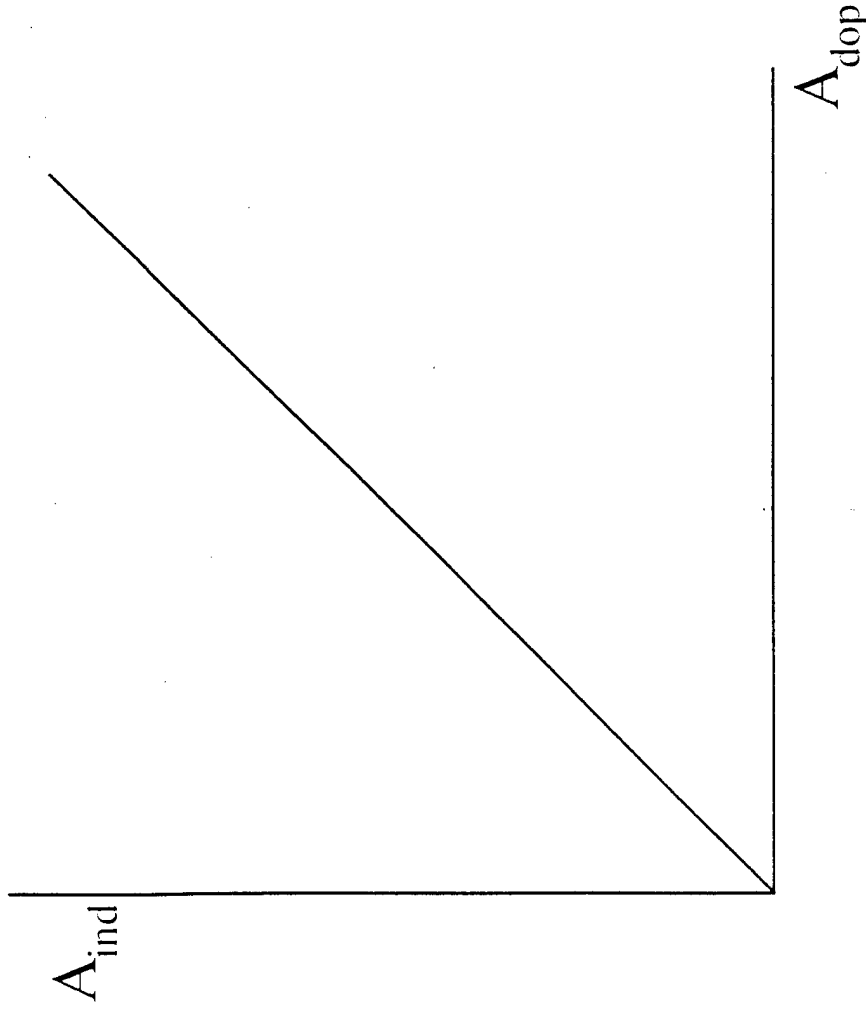


Old  
SIDE

# Examples of Dopant Induced H<sub>2</sub> Absorptions



**Determining  $\alpha_{ind}$  from  $\alpha$**



Where:

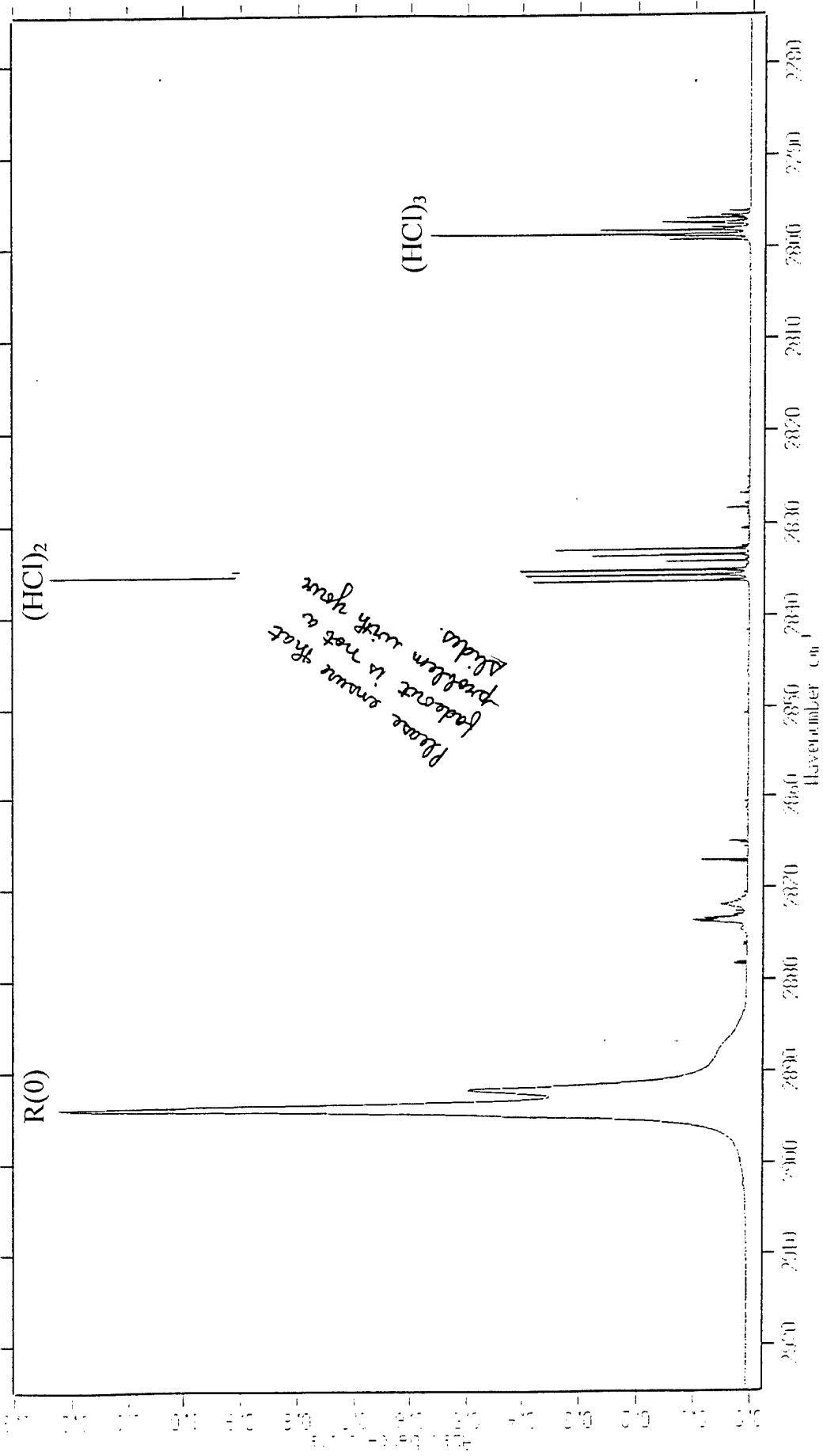
$$\text{Slope of the line} = \frac{\alpha_{ind}}{\alpha}$$

$\alpha \equiv$  property of the dopant in the gas phase

$\alpha_{ind} \equiv$  property of the dopant and  $pH_2$  in solid  $pH_2$

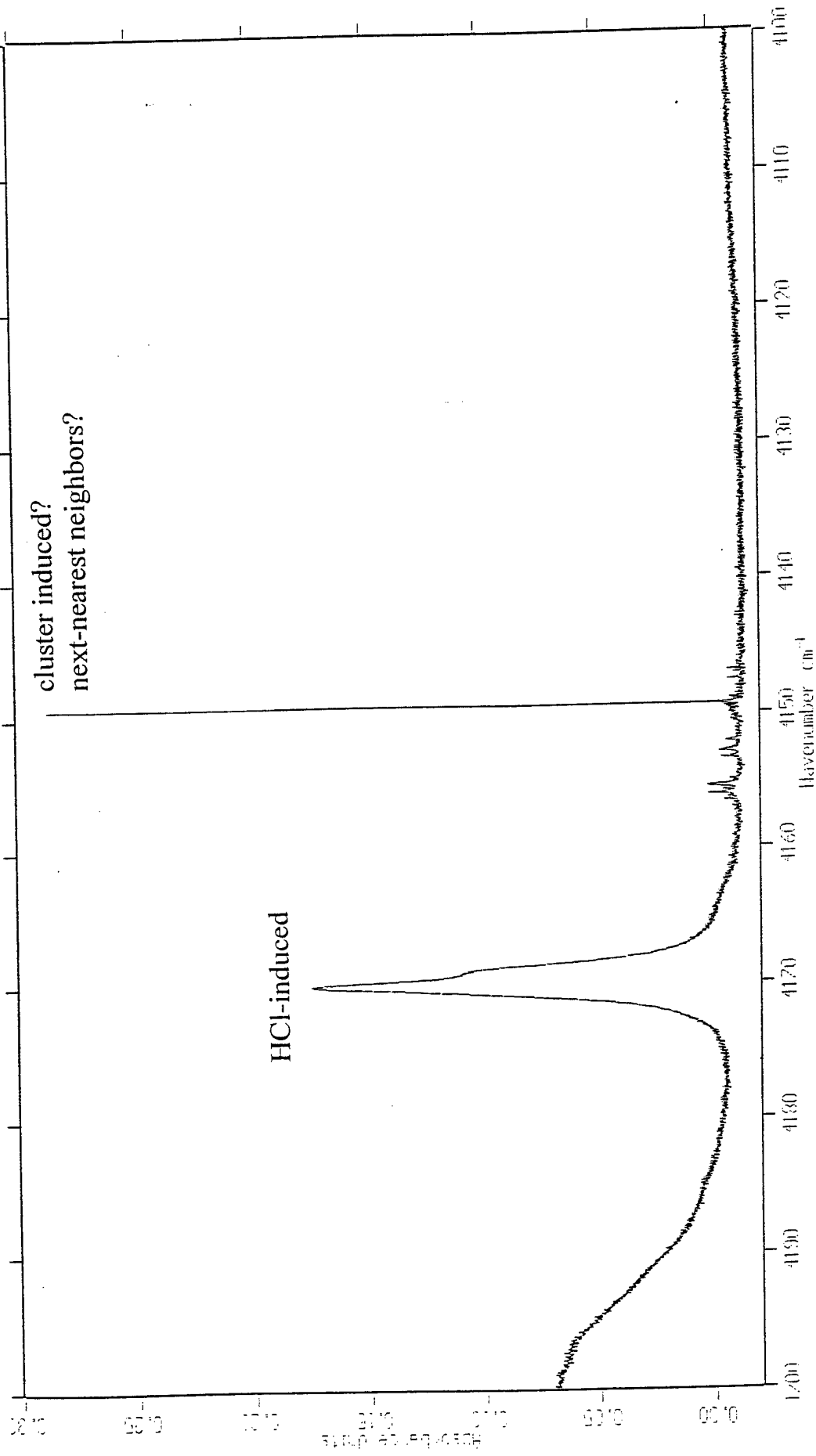
old slides

HCl/pH<sub>2</sub> at 2.4 K, 88 ppm, Resolution = 0.0075 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
Annealed Sample, HCl Absorptions Region



01/13  
SNDI

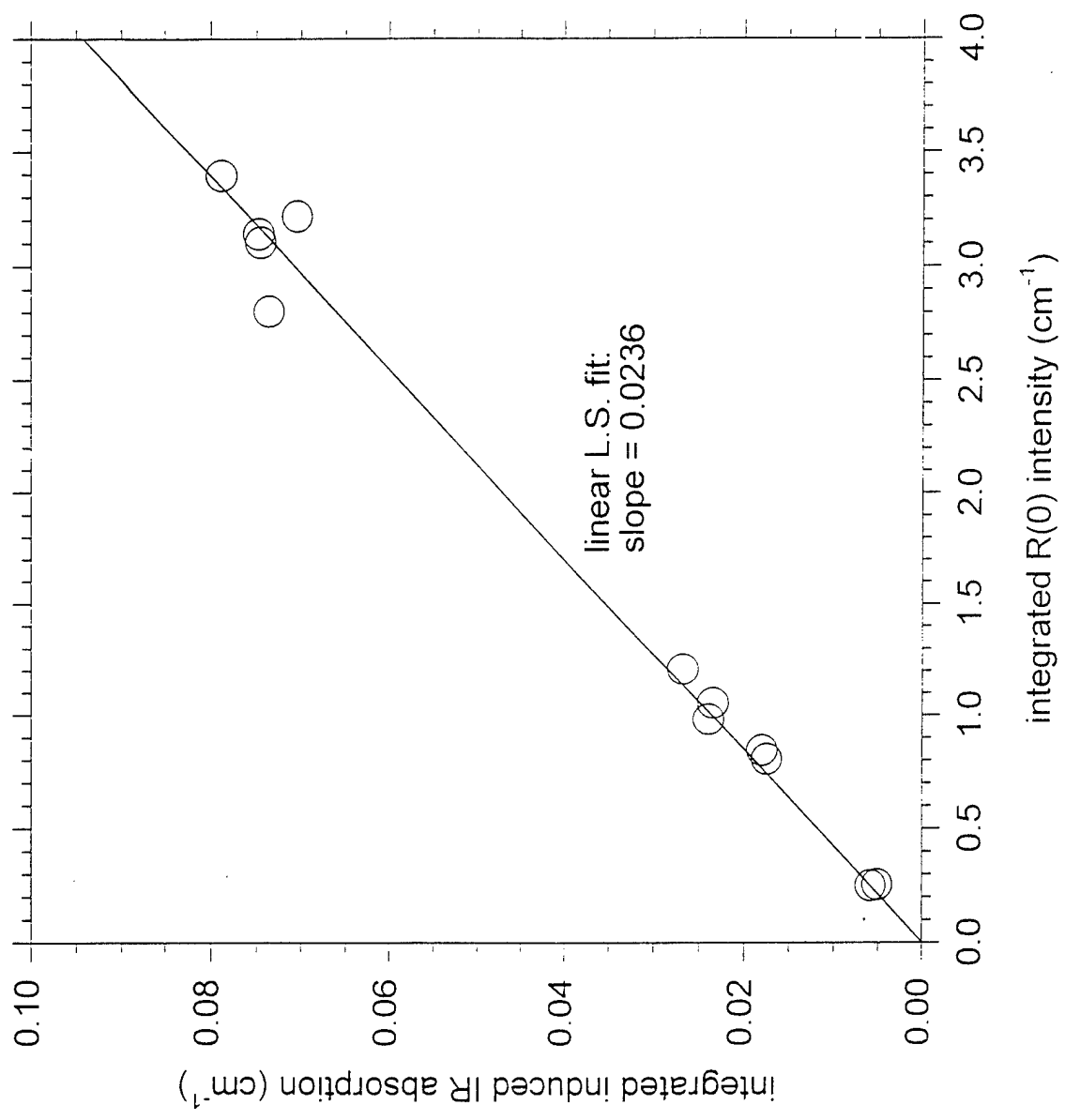
**HCl/pH<sub>2</sub> at 2.4 K, 494 ppm, Resolution = 0.0075 cm<sup>-1</sup>  
As Deposited Sample, Induced Absorption Region**



OW/S  
5/10/82

OH  
SH

# Correlation between HCl-Induced $\text{pH}_2$ IR Absorption and HCl $R(0)$ Absorption



## HCl-Induced pH<sub>2</sub> Intrinsic IR Absorption Strength

$$\int \alpha_{\text{ind}}(\text{HCl}/\text{pH}_2) dv = 0.0236 \int \alpha(\text{HCl}) dv$$

literature:  $\int \alpha(\text{HCl}) dv = 19.8 \text{ km/mol}^*$

$$\therefore \int \alpha_{\text{ind}}(\text{HCl}/\text{pH}_2) dv = \underline{\mathbf{0.47 \text{ km/mol}}}$$

\*K. N. Rao, ed., *Molecular Spectroscopy: Modern Research Vol. III* (Academic Press, Inc., New York, 1985).

**Question:** What is the maximum, measurable concentration of HCl/pH<sub>2</sub>?

Assume: a) 1 mm thick sample

b)  $\int A_{\text{max}} dv = 2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$

$$c_{\text{max}} = \frac{2.303 (2 \text{ cm}^{-1})}{(0.1 \text{ cm})(4.7 \times 10^4 \frac{\text{cm}}{\text{mol}})}$$

$$= 9.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ mol/cm}^3$$

$$\Rightarrow 2.3\% \text{ HCl}/\text{pH}_2$$

**Answer:**

## SUMMARY

For millimeters thick, heavily-doped samples, direct absorption spectroscopy fails because of limitations on dynamic range and achievable signal-to-noise levels.

Dopant-induced  $\text{pH}_2$  transitions are a possible solution to this problem.

- 1) appear to obey Beer's Law
- 2) are very weak IR transitions (i.e., increased dynamic range for heavily doped samples)

For HCl in  $\text{pH}_2$ , the intrinsic absorption strength of the induced transition is approximately 2.4% of the intrinsic absorption strength of HCl in the gas phase.

Can calculate the maximum measurable concentration for a HCl-doped  $\text{pH}_2$  solid: 2.3% for a 1 mm thick sample, achieving objective of measuring  $\sim 1\%$  concentration in millimeters thick samples.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

We are in the process of completing a survey of various dopants in solid  $\text{pH}_2$  to determine the generality of using the induced absorptions for concentration measurements.