

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

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AFRL/PRS  
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Air Force Research Laboratory (AFMC)  
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MEMORANDUM FOR PRS (In-House Publication)

FROM: PROI (STINFO)

10 April 2001

SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Technical Information, Control Number: AFRL-PR-ED-VG-2001-078  
Fajardo, Mario, "Chemistry and Spectroscopy in Solid Parahydrogen"

U. Wyoming Chemistry Dept. Seminar  
(Caramie, WY, 20 April 2001) (Deadline: 20 April 2001)

(Statement A)

1. This request has been reviewed by the Foreign Disclosure Office for: a.) appropriateness of distribution statement, b.) military/national critical technology, c.) export controls or distribution restrictions, d.) appropriateness for release to a foreign nation, and e.) technical sensitivity and/or economic sensitivity.

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_  
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APPROVED/APPROVED AS AMENDED/DISAPPROVED

\_\_\_\_\_  
PHILIP A. KESSEL Date  
Technical Advisor  
Space & Missile Propulsion Division

# Chemistry and Spectroscopy in Solid Parahydrogen

Mario E. Fajardo

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- \* Cryosolid Propellants Team
- \* HEDM Cryosolid Propellants Concept (Atoms in Solid Hydrogen)
- \* Rapid Vapor Deposition of Transparent Parahydrogen (pH<sub>2</sub>) Solids
- \* B and Al Doped pH<sub>2</sub> Solids
- \* High Res. IR Spectroscopy of Molecular Dopants in Solid pH<sub>2</sub>
- \* Summary

# Cryosolid Propellants Team

Mario E. Fajardo, Michelle E. DeRose, and Simon Tam

- \* Mario E. Fajardo, Michelle E. DeRose, and Simon Tam
- \* Bill Larson (thermal B atom source)
- \* Jeff Sheehy, Jerry Boatz, Peter Langhoff (in-house theory)
- \* AFOSR Contractors:
  - P. Dagdigan @ Johns Hopkins: Al/H<sub>2</sub> & B/H<sub>2</sub> Complexes
  - M. Alexander @ U. Maryland: B/H<sub>2</sub> Interaction Potentials
  - G. Voth @ U. Utah: Path-Integral Monte Carlo Simulations
  - G. Scoles & K. Lehmann @ Princeton U.: Helium Clusters
- \* External Collaborators:
  - T. Momose @ Kyoto U.: High Resolution IR Spectroscopy
- \* Summer Visiting Professors:
  - R.J. Hinde @ U. Tennessee: Dopant-Induced IR Activity
  - D. Anderson @ U. Wyoming: Dopant IR Absorptions

# Propellant Performance Figures of Merit

Specific Impulse,  $I_{sp}$ :

$I_{sp} \equiv$  (total impulse / propellant weight)

$= g_0 \langle V_{exh} \rangle$  “seconds”

$$\propto \sqrt{\frac{\langle \text{K.E.} \rangle}{m}} \propto \sqrt{\frac{\Delta H}{m}} = \sqrt{\Delta H_{sp}}$$

Density,  $\rho$ :

higher density  $\Rightarrow$  smaller & lighter tanks

$\Rightarrow$  less aerodynamic drag

$\Rightarrow$  condensed phase propellants

# “Revolutionary” vs. “Evolutionary”

## HEDM Concepts

\* “Revolutionary” means better than LOX/LH<sub>2</sub>:

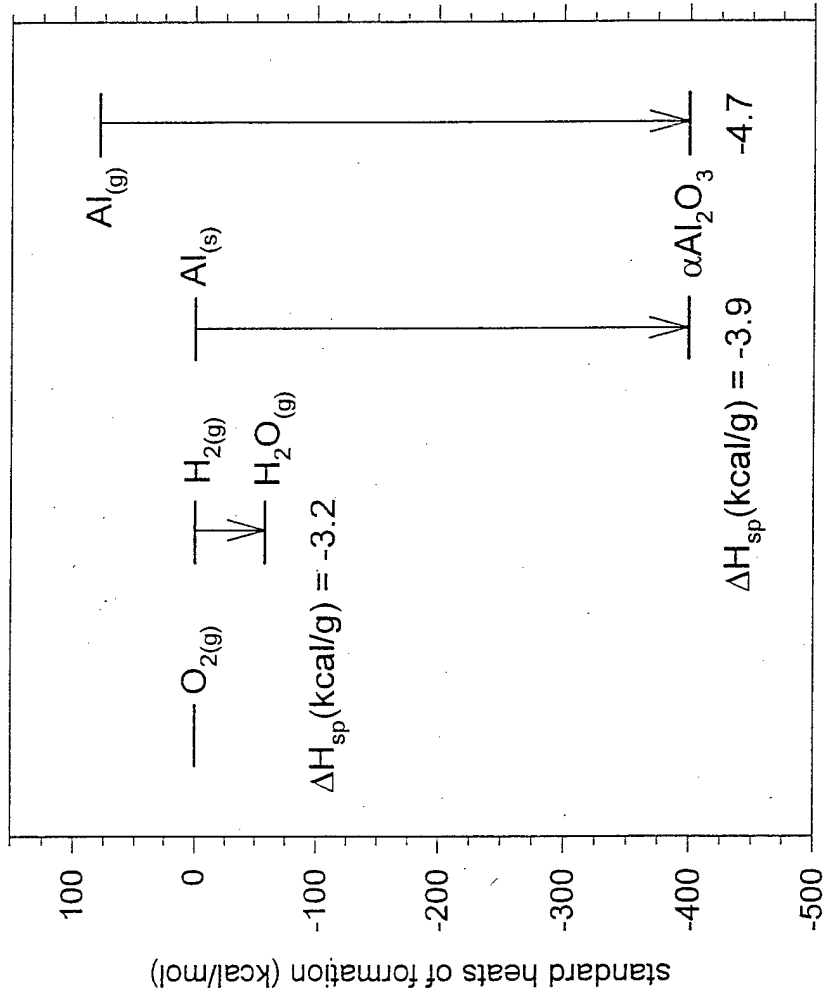
LOX/LH<sub>2</sub>       $\Delta H_{sp} = 12.6 \text{ MJ/kg}$  (3.0 kcal/g)

HEDM Target:       $\Delta H_{sp} > 15.0 \text{ MJ/kg}$  (3.6 kcal/g)

- \* Early (c1990) Revolutionary HEDM Concepts:
- tetrahydrogen (H<sub>4</sub>)
  - metastable triplet helium (He\* and He<sub>2</sub>\*)
  - spin-polarized atomic hydrogen (H↑)
  - high-spin species (<sup>5</sup>CO)
  - dications (AB<sup>++</sup>, ABC<sup>++</sup>)
  - ♥ “non-metallics” (e.g. O<sub>4</sub>/H<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>4</sub>, N<sub>8</sub>, N<sub>20</sub>)      N<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup>!
  - metallic hydrogen
  - ♥ metal atoms and clusters in solid H<sub>2</sub>

# Cryosolid Propellants Concept

Use cryogenic solid hydrogen as a “packaging material” to store energetic species such as metal atoms and clusters.



# Atom Additive Payoffs (5 % molar)

Sea level specific impulse,  $I_{sp}$ , in seconds (% change)

$$P_{\text{chamber}} = 1000 \text{ PSIA}, P_{\text{exhaust}} = 14.7 \text{ PSIA}$$

<u>Additive</u>	<u>in standard state</u>		<u>as atoms</u>		<u>monoprop.</u>	
	<u>M(5%)/LOX/H<sub>2</sub></u>		<u>M(5%)/LOX/H<sub>2</sub></u>		<u>M(5%)/H<sub>2</sub></u>	
none	403					
C	381 (-5%)		515 (+28%)		515 (+28%)	
B	407 (+1%)		508 (+26%)		465 (+15%)	
Be	427 (+6%)		493 (+22%)			
Si	400 (-1%)		460 (+14%)			
Al	407 (+1%)		454 (+13%)			
H	403		430 (+7%)		380 (-6%)	
Li	404		428 (+6%)			
Mg	400 (-1%)		416 (+3%)			

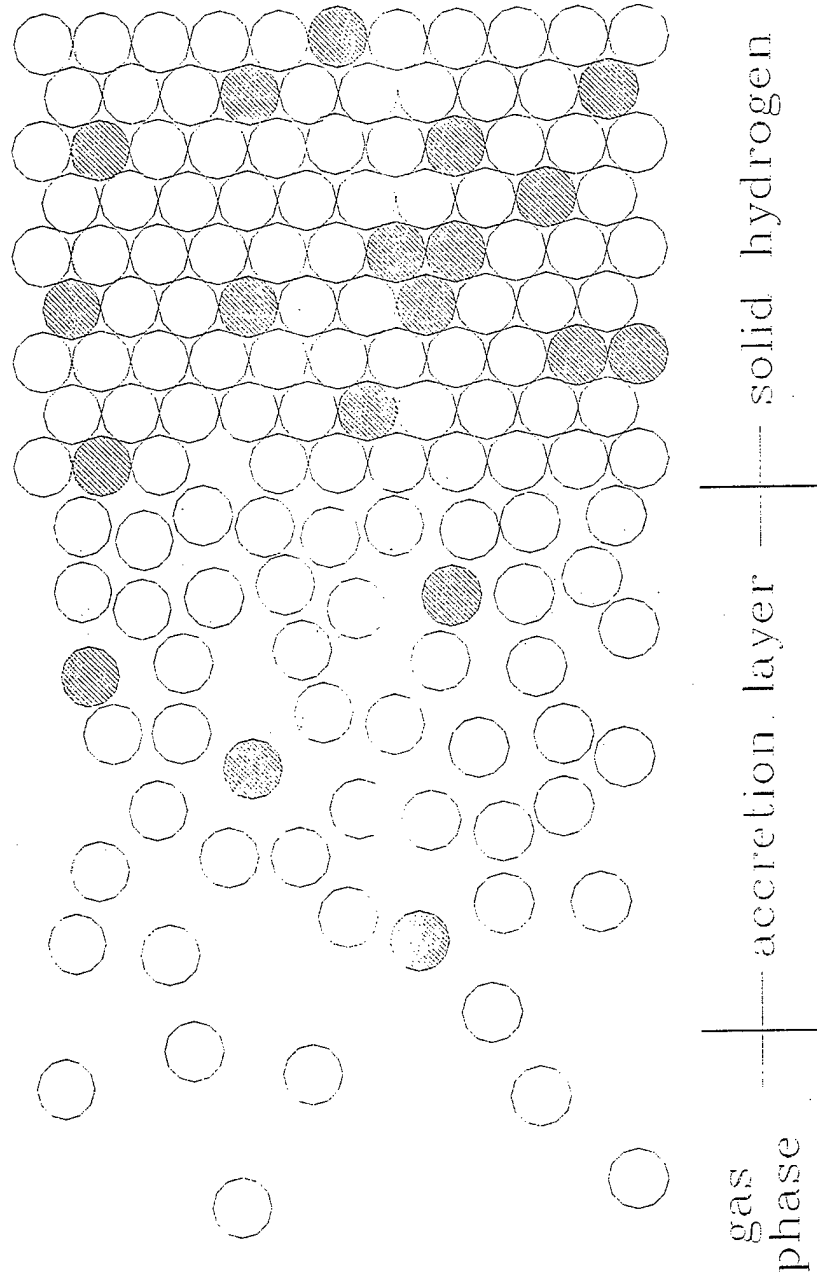
# Cryosolid Propellants Objectives

- \* Make solid hydrogen samples (any size) containing 5% molar concentration of trapped energetic additives.
- \* Measure absolute concentrations of energetic species.
- \* Scale-up samples; produce  $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^3$  samples in our lab.

Example: 5% Al/pH<sub>2</sub>,  $V = 1 \text{ cm}^3$   
assume each Al atom replaces one H<sub>2</sub> molecule  
 $\Rightarrow 58 \text{ mg Al} / 83 \text{ mg } ^v\text{H}_2$  (\*see display item\*)  
 $\therefore \rho = 0.142 \text{ g/cm}^3$  (+100%)

# Cryosolid Propellants Approach

- \* Rapid vapor deposition of metal atom vapor and pre-cooled parahydrogen gas onto a liquid helium cooled substrate in vacuum.

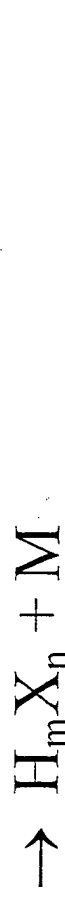
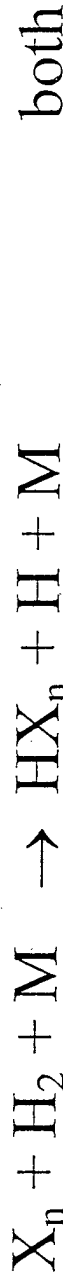
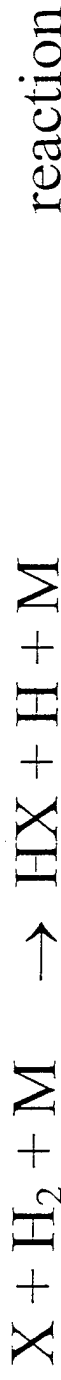


# Dopant Reactions within solid $p\text{H}_2$

\* ideally:



\* in practice:



# The Perils of Calorimetry

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GEORGE C. PIMENTEL

**TABLE IX**  
**CONCENTRATIONS OF FREE RADICALS REPORTED**

Radical	Matrix	Mole per cent radicals	Method of production and estimate <sup>a</sup>	Reference
O	O <sub>2</sub>	4-20	Gas, cal	Minkoff <i>et al.</i> (1959).
		<3	Gas, IR	Harvey and Bass (1958)
		~1	Gas, cal	Broida and Lutes (1956)
OH	C <sub>2</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub>	0.6	γ, ESR	R. Livingston <sup>b</sup>
N	N <sub>2</sub>	4	Gas, cal	Minkoff <i>et al.</i> (1959)
		0.2	Gas, cal	Broida and Lutes (1956)
		0.03	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959b)
		>0.03	Gas, cal	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1958)
		0.01-0.04	Gas, MS	Fontana <sup>c</sup>
OH(?)	HCOOH	0.2	γ, ESR	Matheson and Smaller (1955)
CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>4</sub>	0.14	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959a)
H	CH <sub>4</sub>	0.1	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959a)
N	NH <sub>3</sub>	0.1	Gas, ESR	Cole and Harding (1958)
H	HClO <sub>4</sub> -H <sub>2</sub> O	0.1	γ, ESR	Livingston <i>et al.</i> (1955)
H	H <sub>2</sub> O	0.01	γ, ESR	Matheson and Smaller (1955)
H, NH <sub>2</sub> (?)	NH <sub>3</sub>	0.01	γ, ESR	Matheson and Smaller (1955)
ROH	Alcohols	~0.01	UV, ESR	D. Ingram <sup>b</sup>
H	H <sub>2</sub>	0.0006	γ, ESR	Wall <i>et al.</i> (1959a)

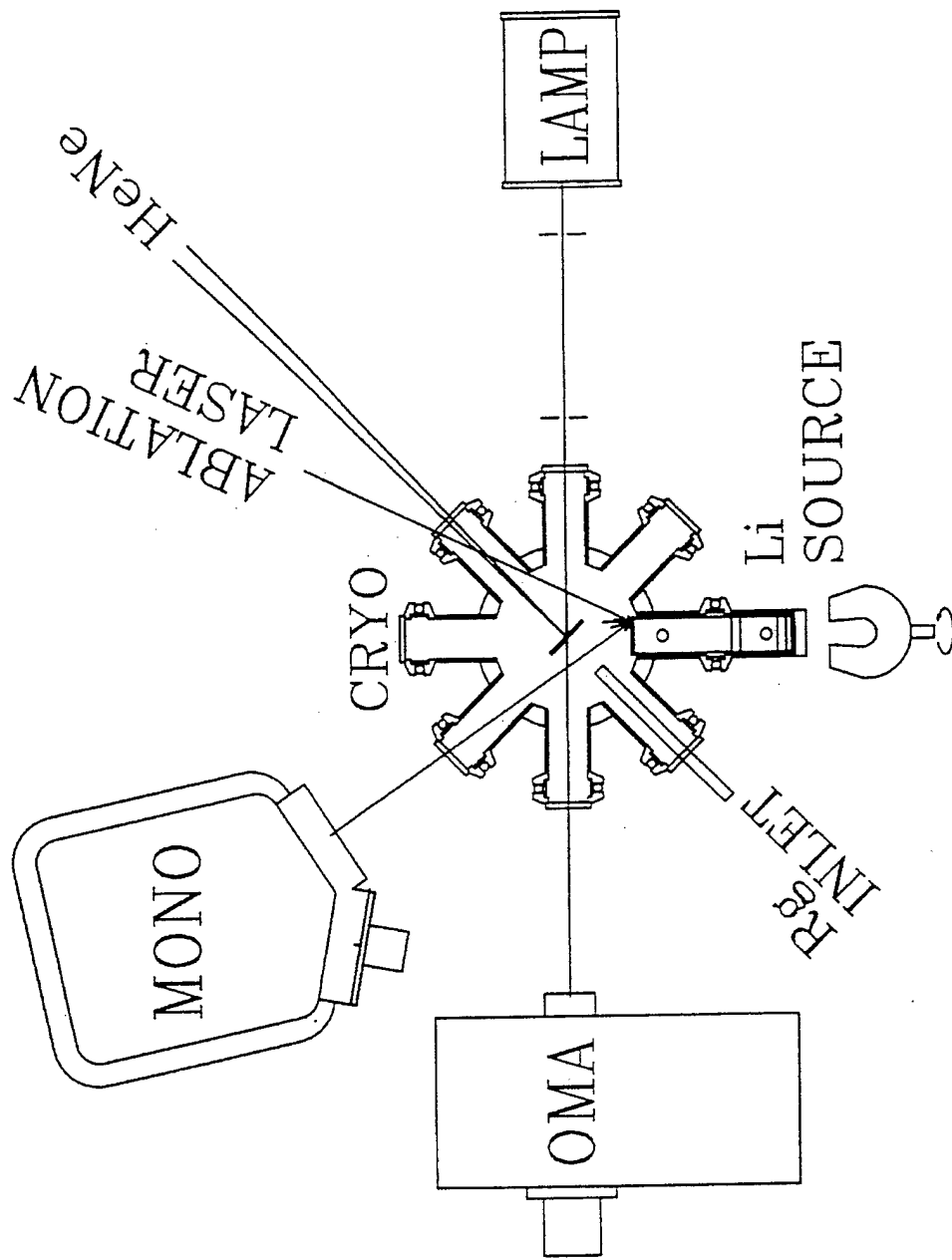
<sup>a</sup> Abbreviations: gas = rapid condensation of gaseous radicals; γ = gamma ray *in situ* production; UV = photolytic *in situ* production; IR = infrared analysis; cal = calorimetry; MS = magnetic susceptibility.

<sup>b</sup> Private communication.

<sup>c</sup> Fontana, B. J. (1959). *J. Chem. Phys.* **31**, 148.

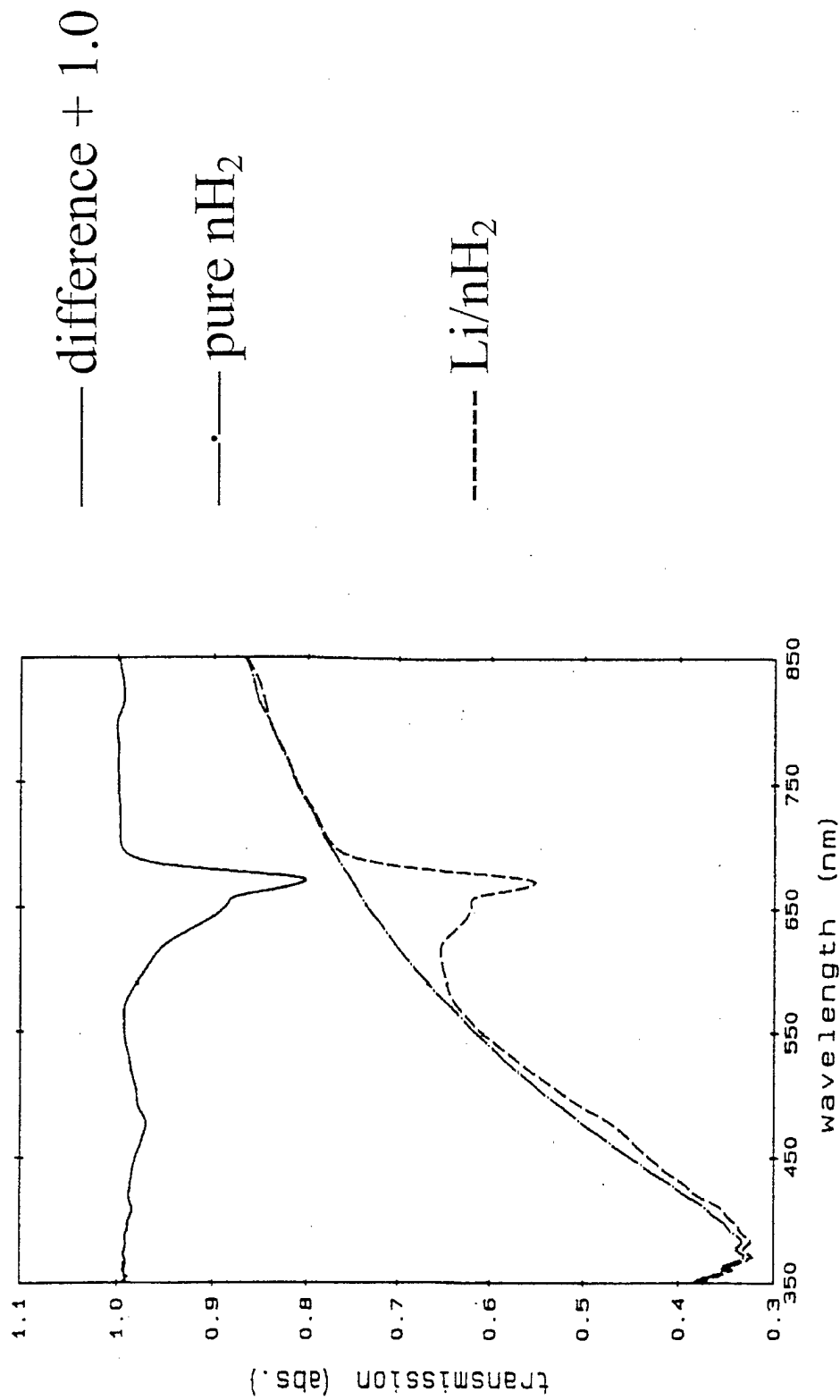
[A.M. Bass and H.P. Broida, "Formation and Trapping of Free Radicals" (Academic, New York, 1960).]

# Experimental Diagram (c1993)



M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **98**, 110 (1993).

# Transmission Spectrum of Li/nH<sub>2</sub>, d ≈ 10 μ



M.E. Fajardo, J. Chem. Phys. **98**, 110 (1993).

# Optical Scattering in Solid Hydrogen

## Crystal Growing and Quality (p. 81)

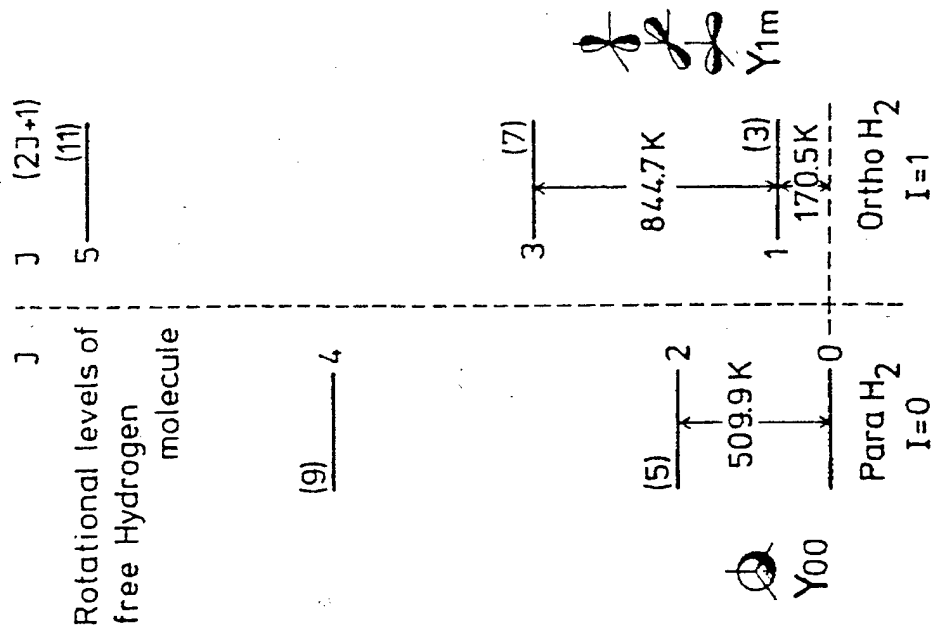
“There is a considerable art to growing hydrogen crystals of high quality. Good crystals are always grown slowly from the melt; a rapid freeze from the gas produces snow.”

## Crystallite Light Scattering (p. 83)

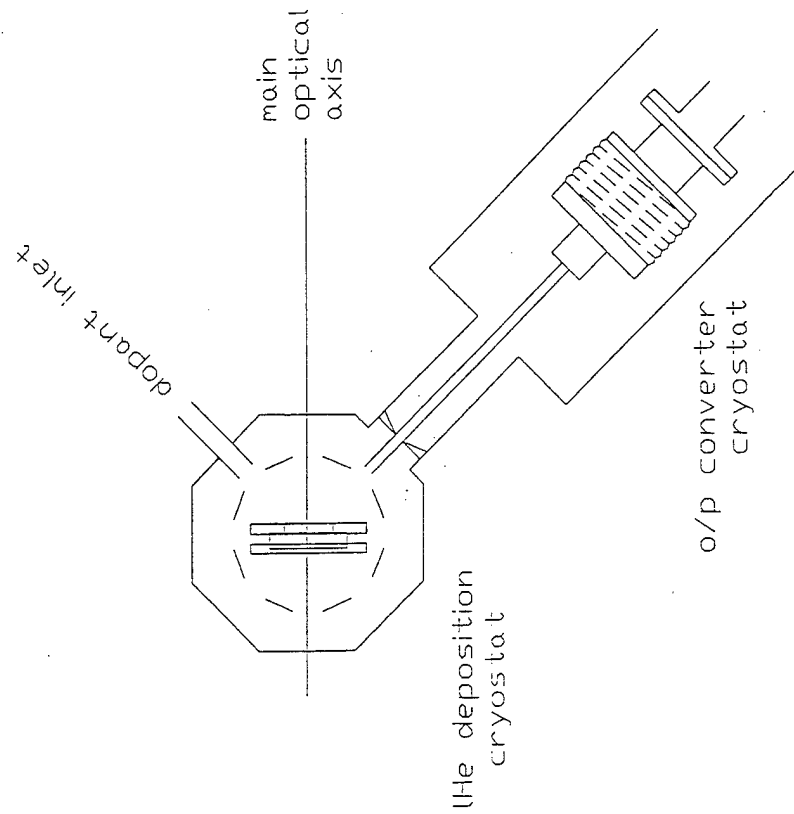
“The reason that a good hydrogen crystal is so hard to see is its low refractive index...an estimated 1.16!

Yet a 1 mm-thick layer of hydrogen crystallites can be a completely opaque brown-black.”

# ortho- and para-hydrogen

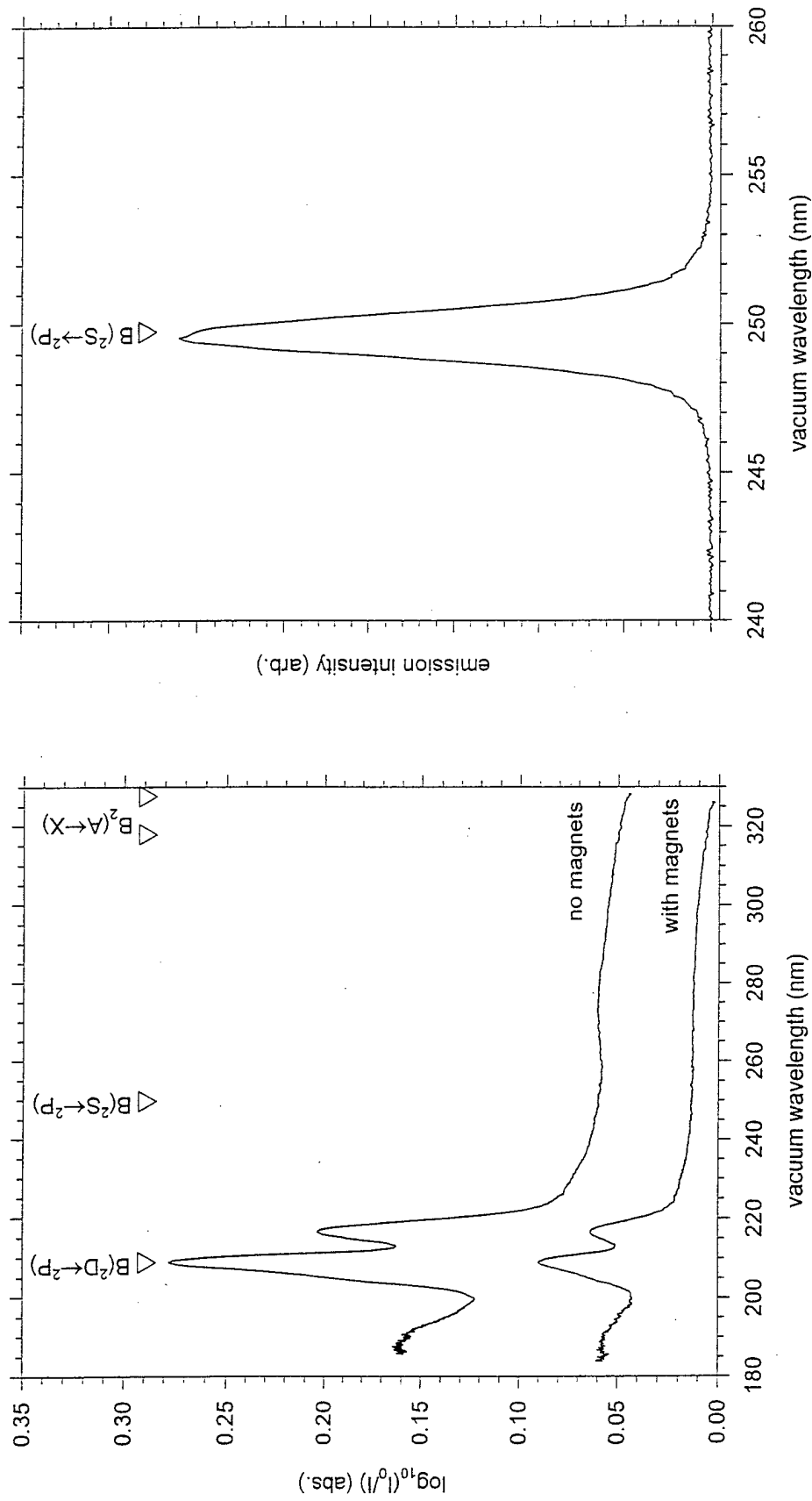


# Rapid Vapor Deposition of Gram-Scale Optically Transparent $\text{pH}_2$ Solids (c1997)



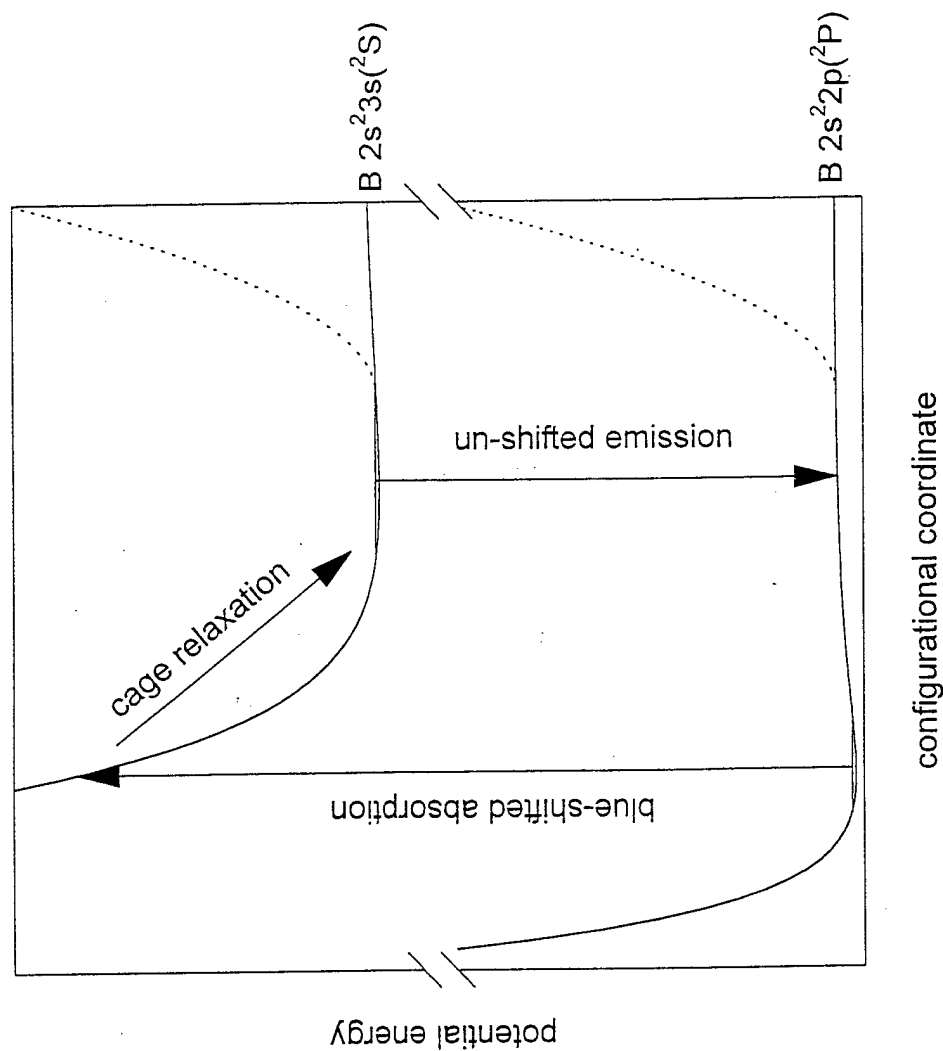
M.E. Fajardo and S. Tam, *J. Chem. Phys.* **108**, 4237 (1998).  
S. Tam and M.E. Fajardo, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* **70**, 1926 (1999).

# Electronic Spectroscopy of B/pH<sub>2</sub> (d ≈ 2 mm)



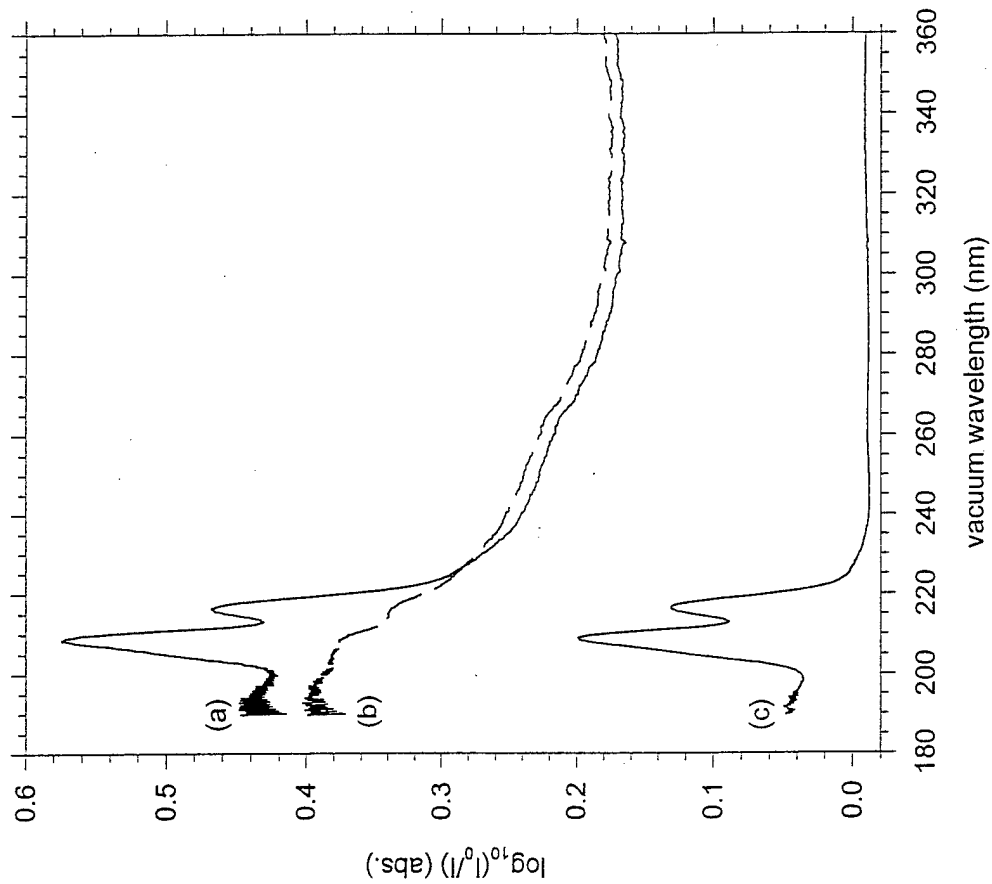
S. Tam, M. Macler, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, *J. Chem. Phys.* **113**, 9067 (2000).  
[J.R. Krumrine, S. Jang, G.A. Voth, and M.H. Alexander, *J. Chem. Phys.* **113**, 9079 (2000)]

# Photodynamics Cartoon for B/pH<sub>2</sub>



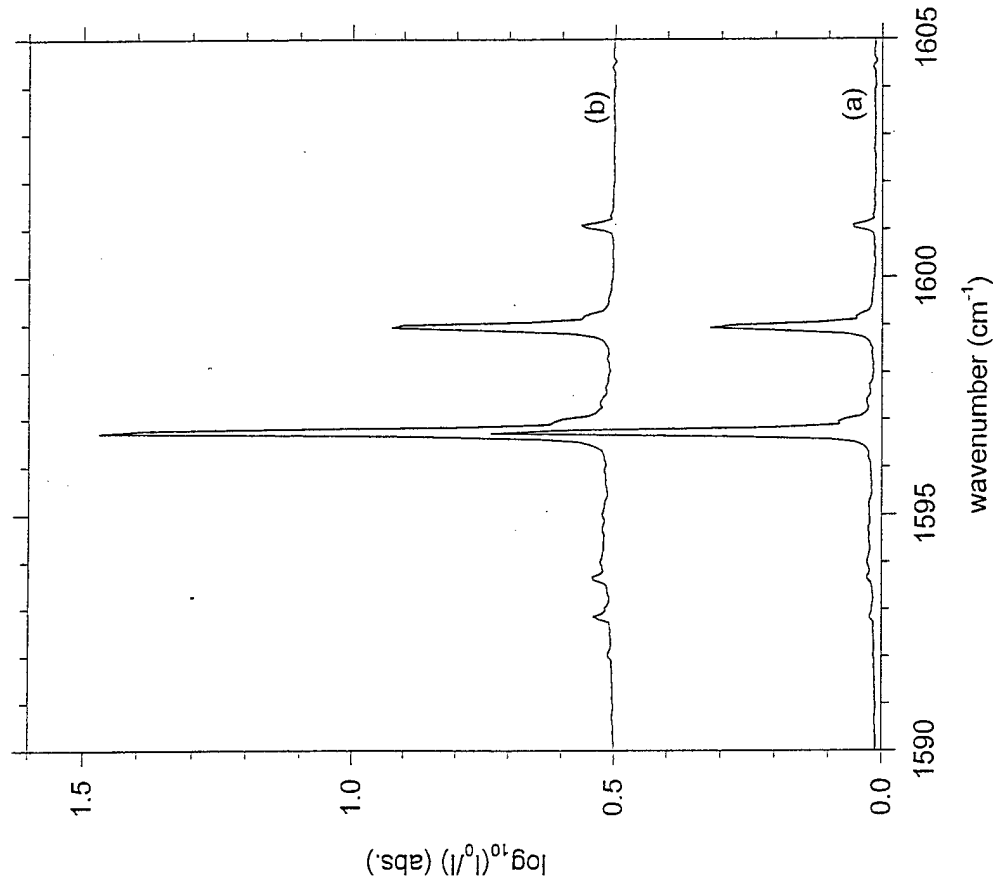
S. Tam, M. Macler, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, *J. Chem. Phys.* **113**, 9067 (2000).

# Photobleaching of B/pH<sub>2</sub> Absorptions



S. Tam, M. Macler, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, *J. Chem. Phys.* **113**, 9067 (2000).

# IR Absorption Spectra of $B_2H_6/pH_2$



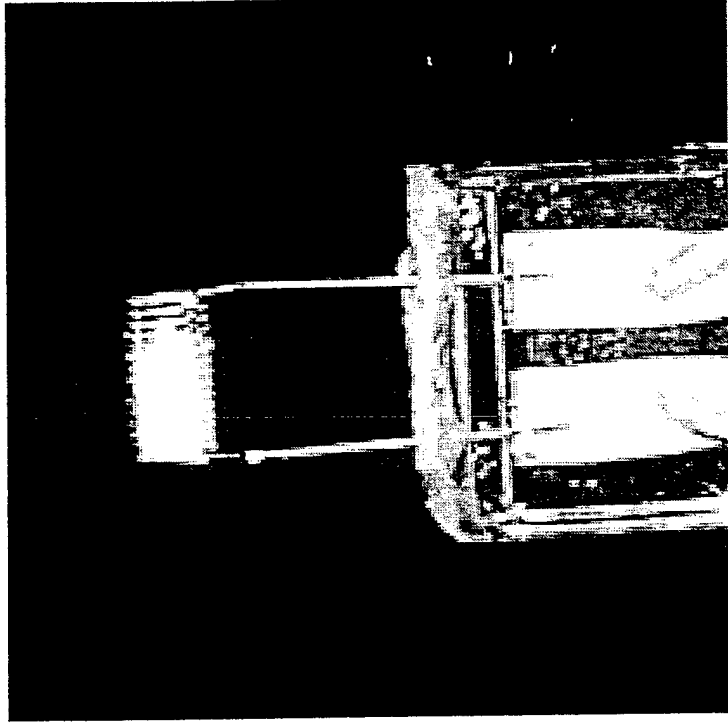
S. Tam, M. Macler, M.E. DeRose, and M.E. Fajardo, *J. Chem. Phys.* **113**, 9067 (2000).

# Requirement for High Flux HEDM Sources

\* A 5 % doping level, and a sample growth rate of 1 mm/hour, require a flux of  $\Phi_{\text{HEDM}} \approx 3 \times 10^{16}$  #/cm<sup>2</sup>-s at the deposition substrate. For Al atoms, this translates to a mass flux of 5.8 mg/cm<sup>2</sup>-hour, delivered to the deposition substrate.

\* Began FY00 using miniature tungsten filament evaporation sources based on our FY99 effort to produce thermal B atoms.

\* Total mass loadings of Al metal were ~ 10 mg, just enough to detect trapped Al atoms in Ar;  $\Phi_{\text{Al}} \sim 10^{11}$  #/cm<sup>2</sup>-s @ R = 5 cm.



# High Flux HEDM Sources

- \* Purchased commercial Al evaporator; PBN crucible holds  $\approx 10$  g Al in horizontal orientation.
- \*  $T_{\max} = 1200$  °C  $\Rightarrow P_{\text{vap}}(\text{Al}) \approx 8 \times 10^{-3}$  torr  $\Rightarrow \Phi_{\text{Al}} \approx 10^{18}$  #/cm<sup>2</sup>-s

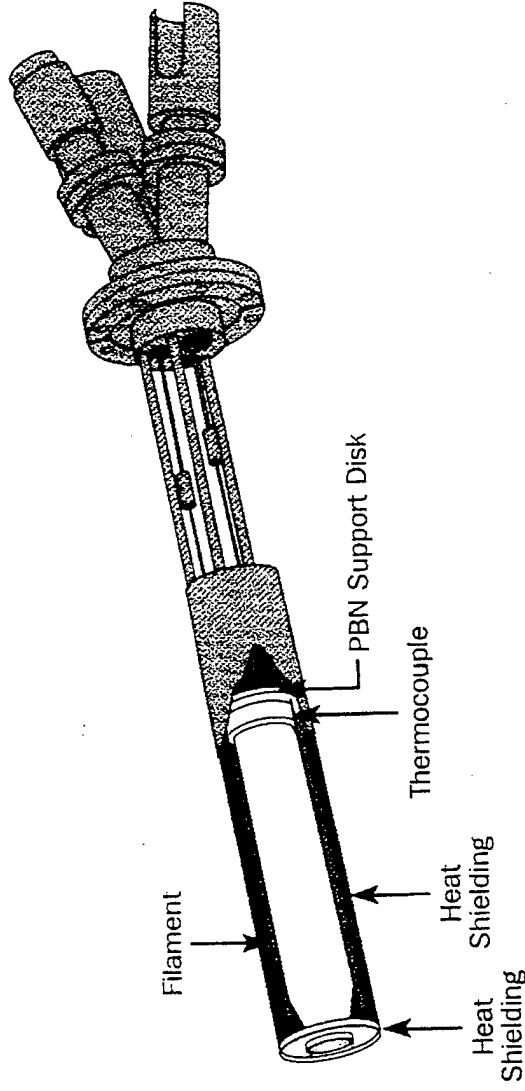
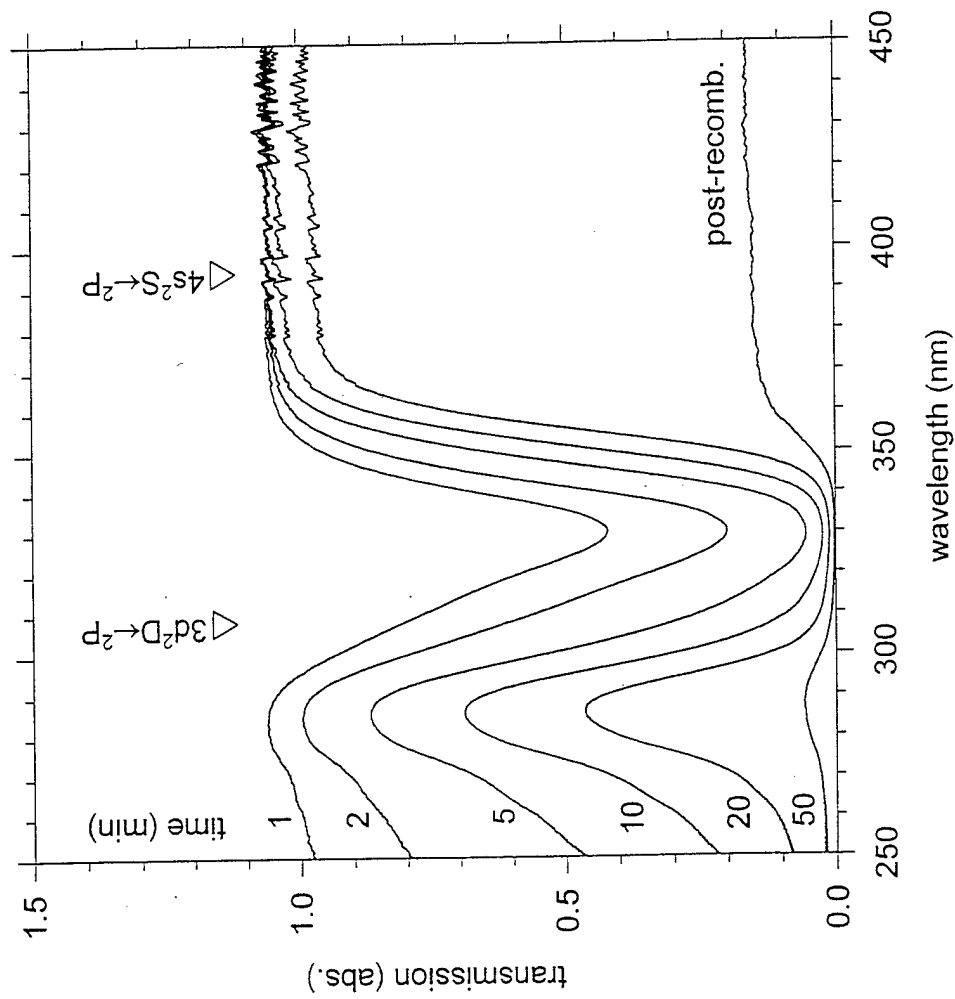


Figure 1-3: Schematic of the EPI SUMO™ Effusion Cell.

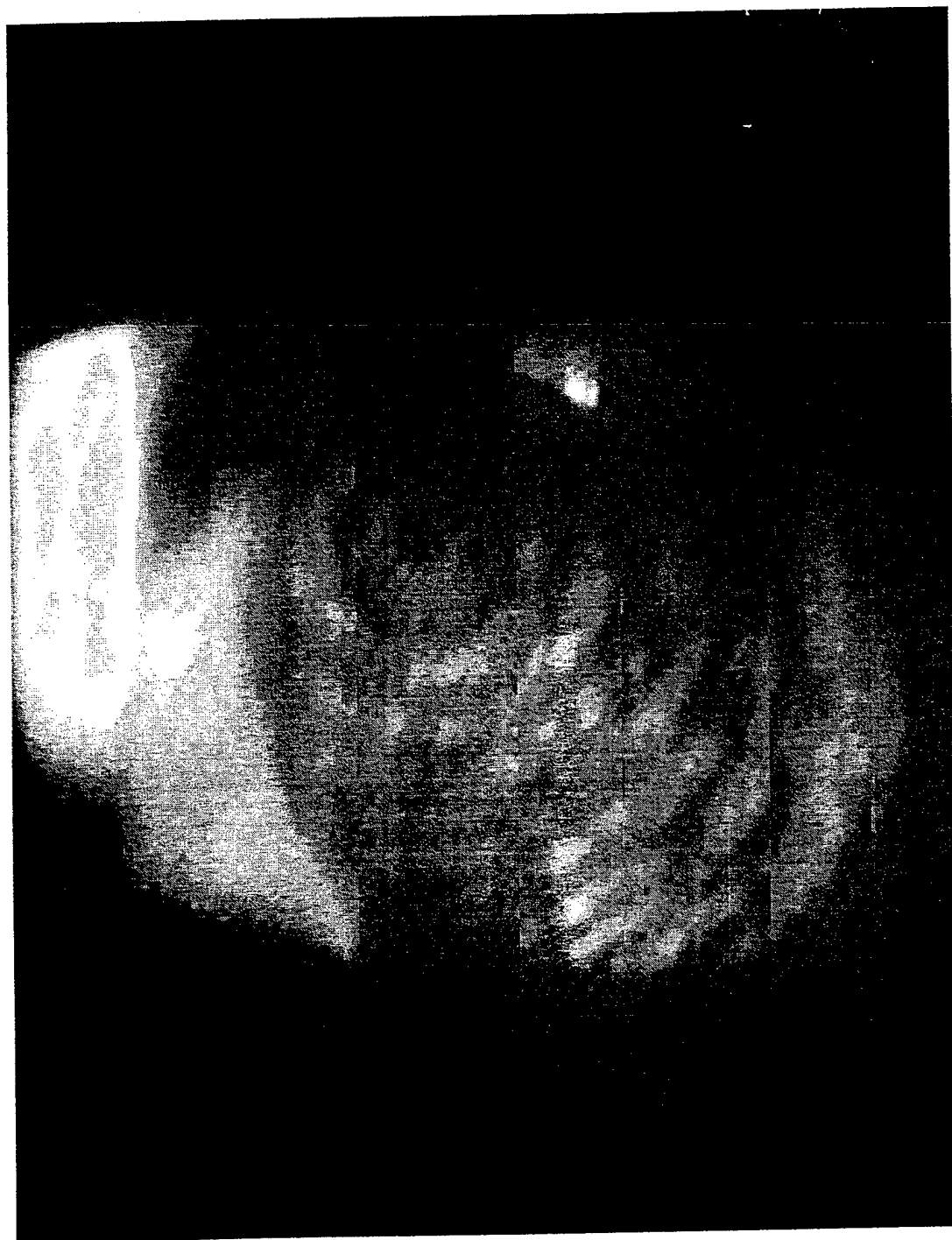
# UV Spectroscopy Al/pH<sub>2</sub>

\* Al atom UV absorption saturates at high column densities.

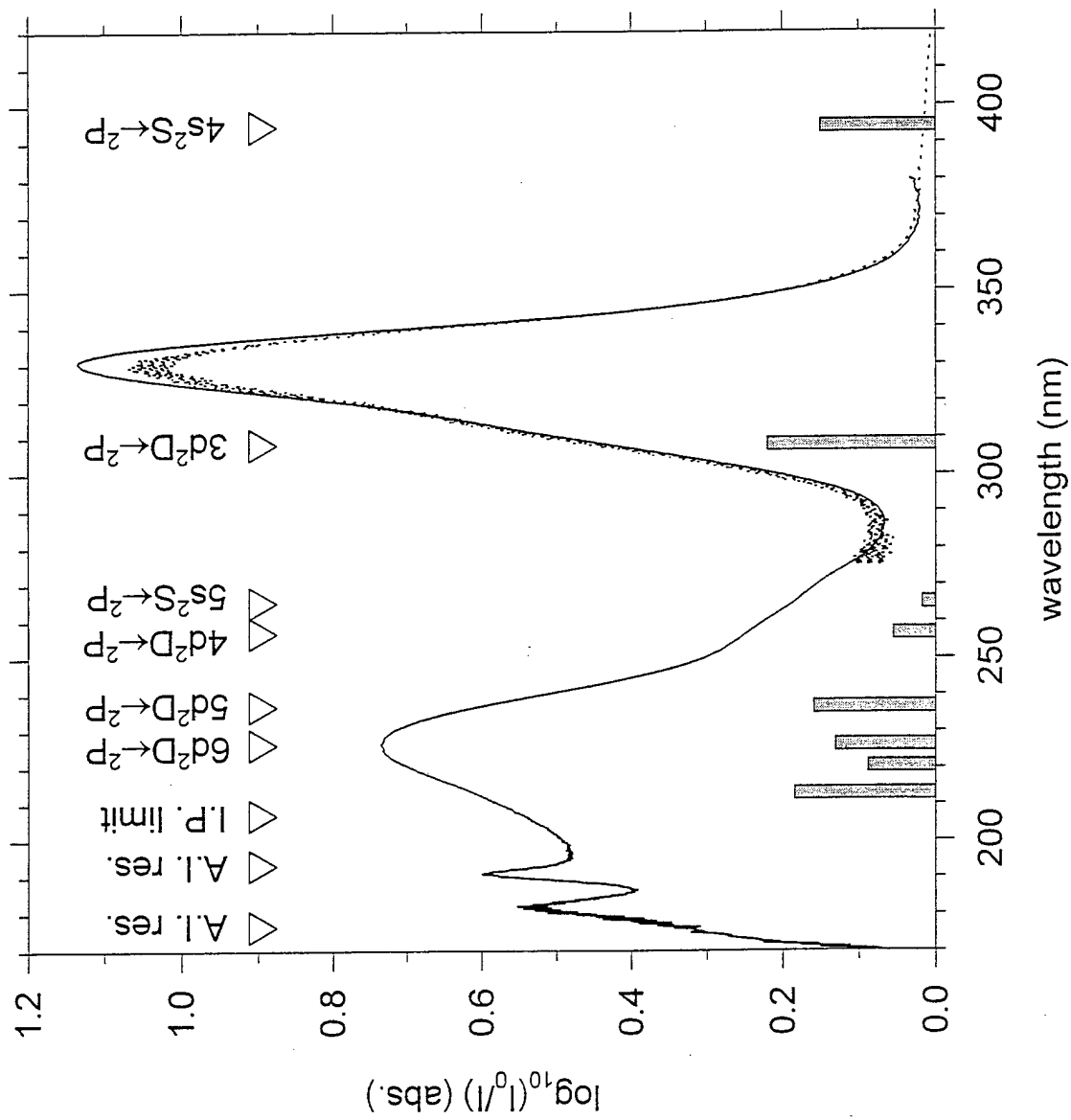


Department of Chemistry, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY, 20 April 2001

# Recombination/reaction in $Al/pH_2$



# Assignment of Al/pH<sub>2</sub> UV Absorptions

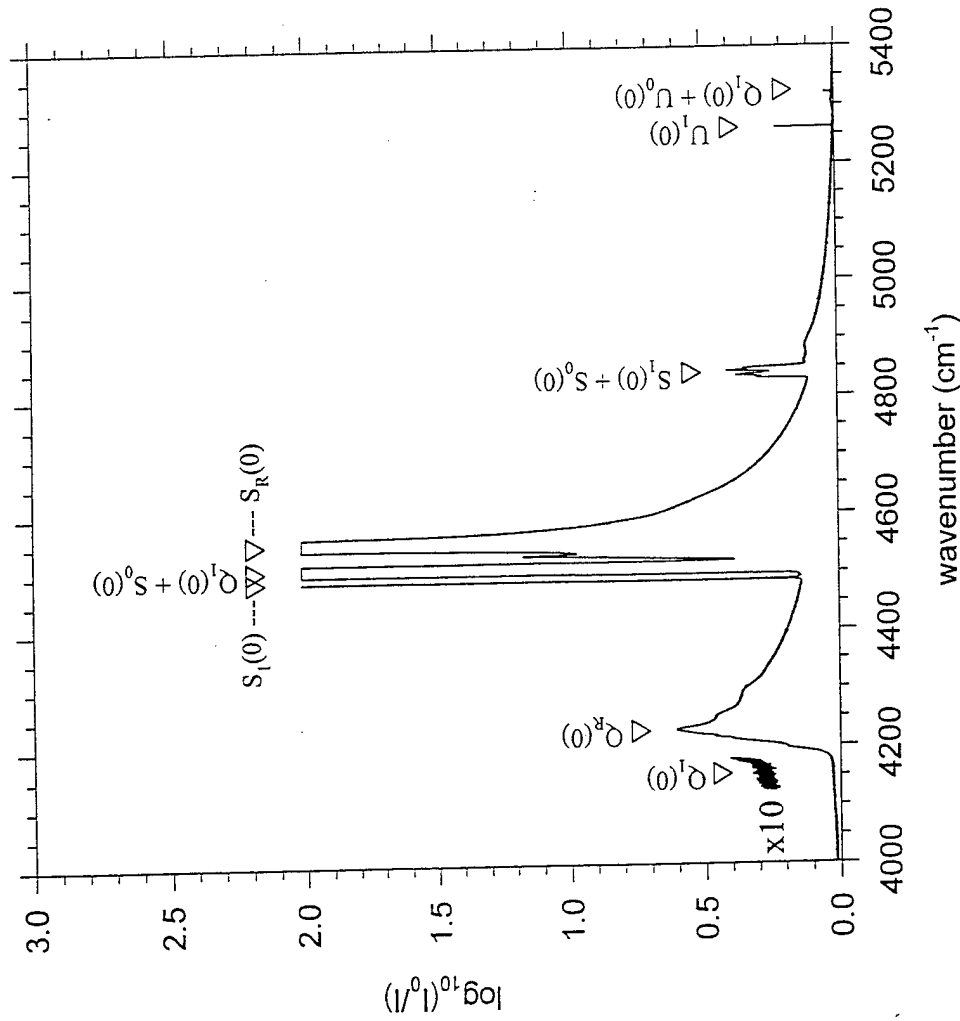




# IR Absorption of 6 mm Thick pH<sub>2</sub> Solid

Non-observation of the Q<sub>1</sub>(0) transition demonstrates the absence of oH<sub>2</sub> impurities, and that the microscopic structure is not amorphous or porous.

Observation of S<sub>1</sub>(0) transition demonstrates the absence of inversion symmetry for some H<sub>2</sub> molecular environments.

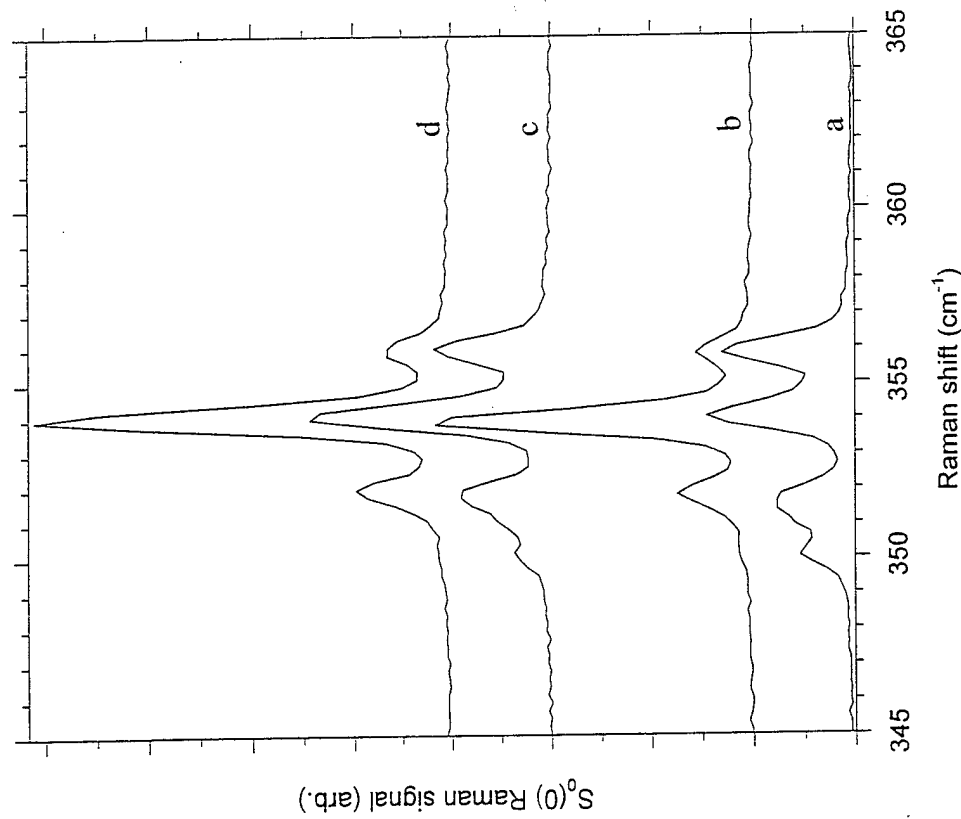


[van Kranendonk and Gush, Phys. Lett. 1, 22 (1962)]

M.E. Fajardo and S. Tam, J. Chem. Phys. 108, 4237 (1998).

# Raman Spectra of pH<sub>2</sub> Solids

Mixed hcp/fcc as-deposited structure, anneals to hcp; compare with: [G.W. Collins, et al., Phys. Rev. B **53**, 102 (1996)].

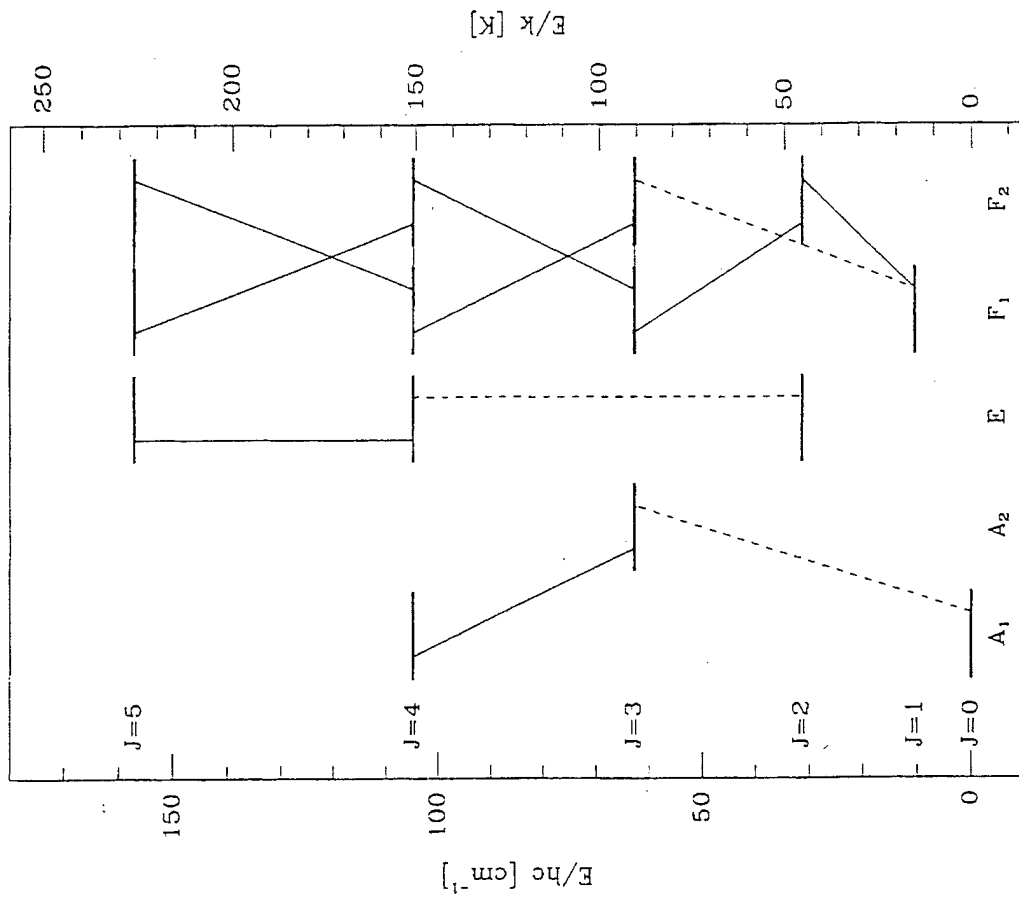


(d) sample in (c) warmed to 4.5 K.  
(c) 4.5 mm sample as deposited at 3.3 K ( $\Phi = 290$  mmol/hr).

(b) sample in (a) warmed to 4.5 K.  
(a) 6 mm sample as deposited at 3.1 K ( $\Phi = 200$  mmol/hr).

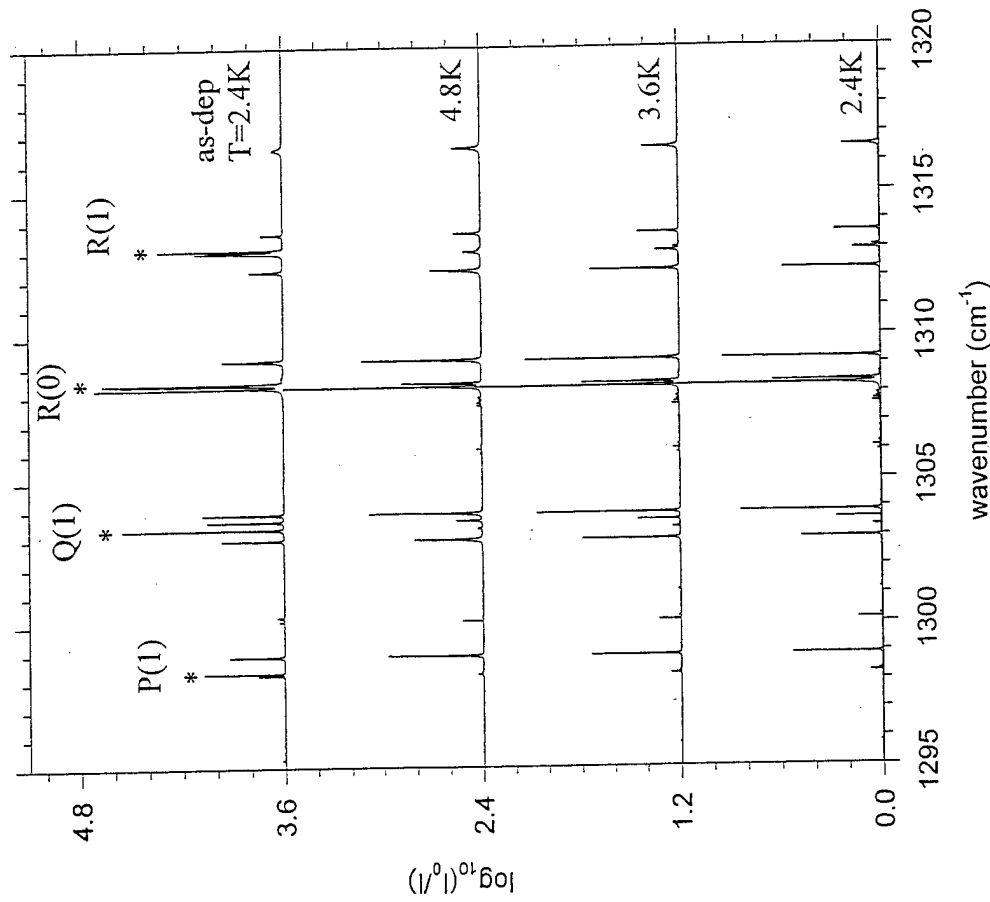
M.E. Fajardo and S. Tam,  
J. Chem. Phys. **108**, 4237 (1998).

# CH<sub>4</sub> Nuclear Spin Modifications



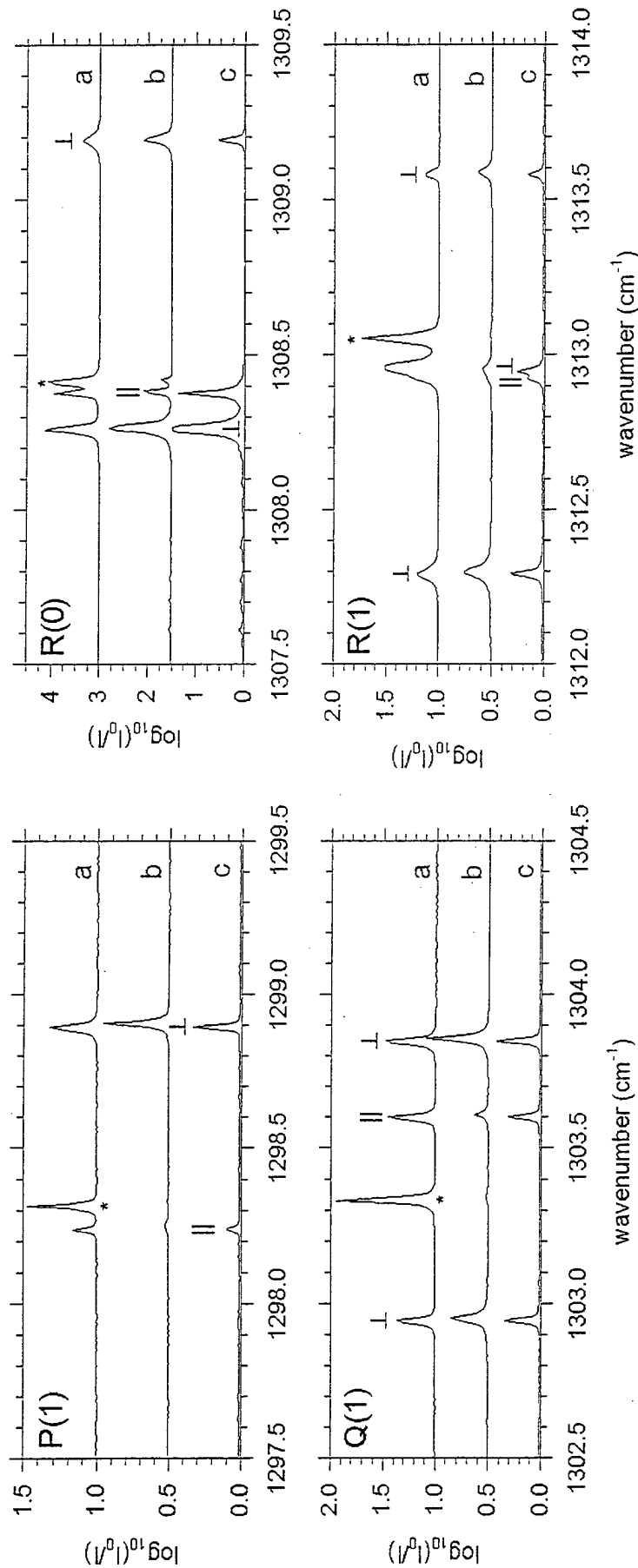
[M. Hepp, G. Winnewisser, and K.M.T. Yamada, J. Mol. Spectr. **164**, 311 (1994)]

# $\nu_4$ CH<sub>4</sub>/pH<sub>2</sub> IR Absorptions (res = 0.01 cm<sup>-1</sup>)



S. Tam, M.E. Fajardo, H. Katsuki, H. Hoshina, T. Wakabayashi, and T. Momose, *J. Chem. Phys.* **111**, 4191 (1999).

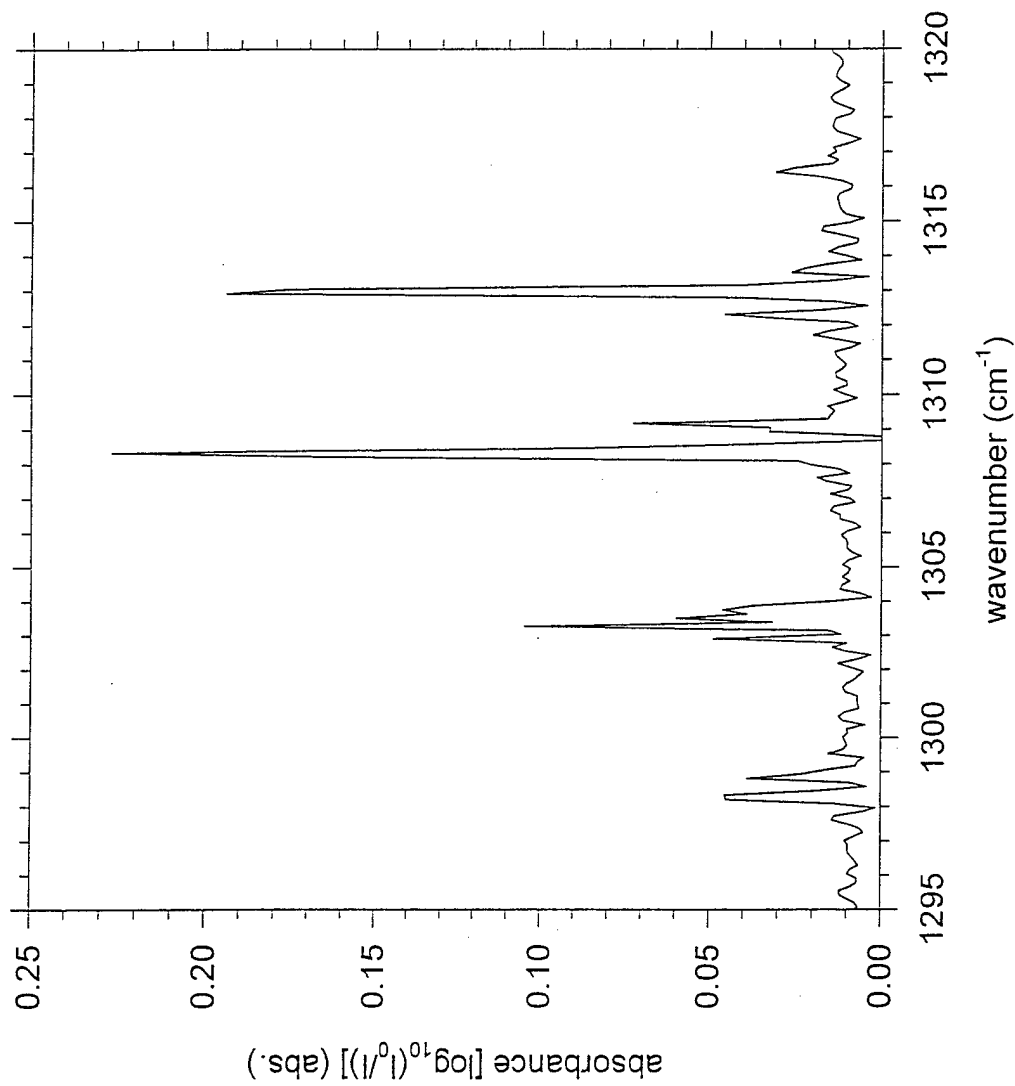
# $\nu_4$ $\text{CH}_4/\text{pH}_2$ IR Absorptions



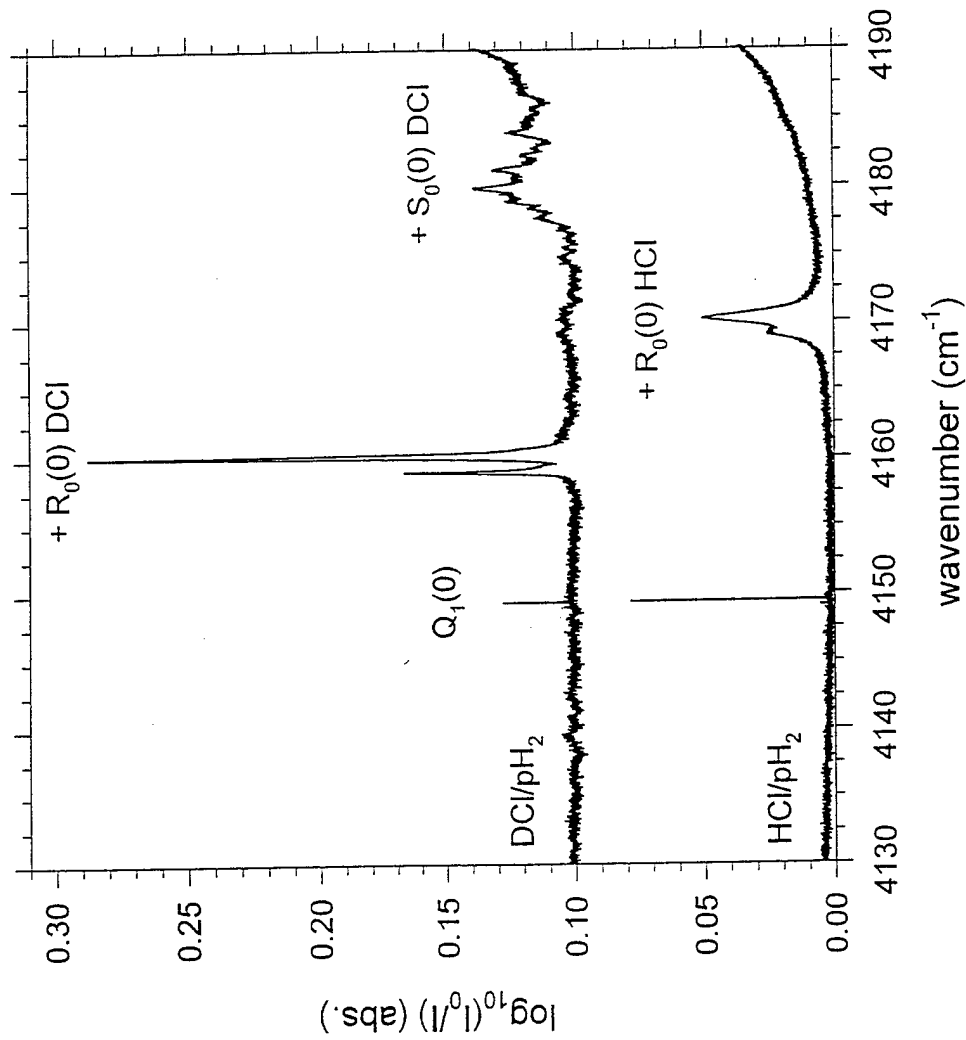
- (a) Rapid Vapor Deposited sample: as-deposited at 2.4 K
- (b) Rapid Vapor Deposited sample: annealed to 4.8 K
- (c) Enclosed Cell Condensed sample: cooled to 4.8 K



# CH<sub>4</sub>/pH<sub>2</sub> from Laser Ablation of Graphite

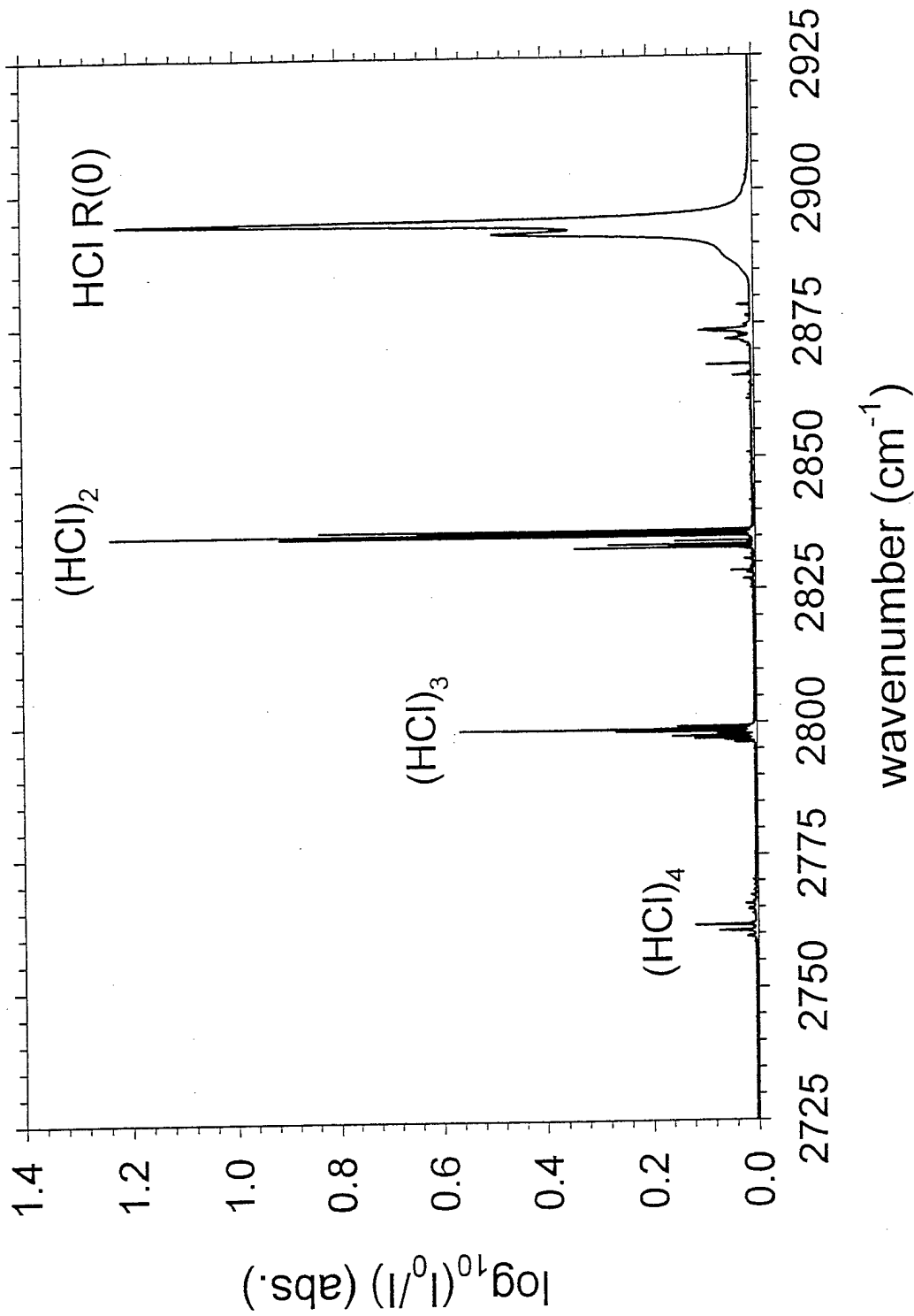


# Co-operative IR absorptions



analysis in collaboration with D.T. Anderson, U. Wyoming and R.J. Hinde, U. Tennessee, Knoxville.

# 88 PPM HCl/pH<sub>2</sub>



# Gas Phase $(\text{HCl})_2$

## High resolution, jet-cooled infrared spectroscopy of $(\text{HCl})_2$ : Analysis of $\nu_1$ and $\nu_2$ HCl stretching fundamentals, interconversion tunneling, and mode-specific predissociation lifetimes

Michael D. Schuder,<sup>a)</sup> Christopher M. Lovejoy,<sup>b)</sup> Robert Lascola,<sup>c)</sup> and David J. Nesbitt<sup>d)</sup>  
*Joint Institute for Laboratory Astrophysics, National Institute of Standards and Technology and  
 University of Colorado, and the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Colorado,  
 Boulder, Colorado 80309*

(Received 5 April 1993; accepted 7 June 1993)

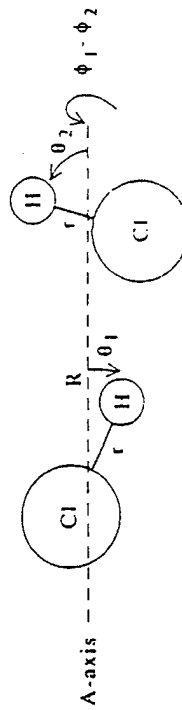
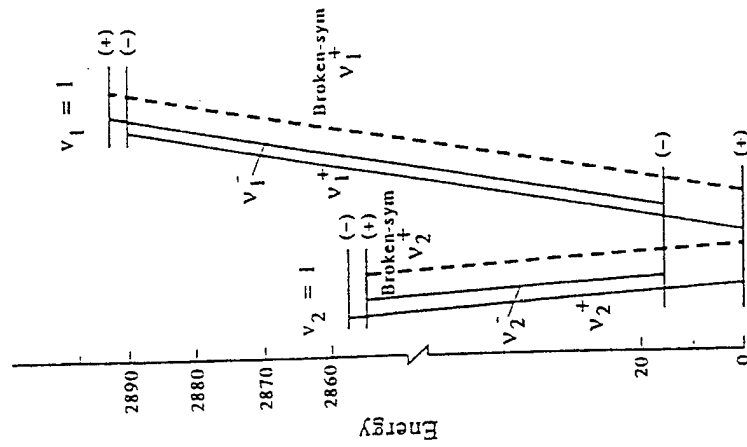
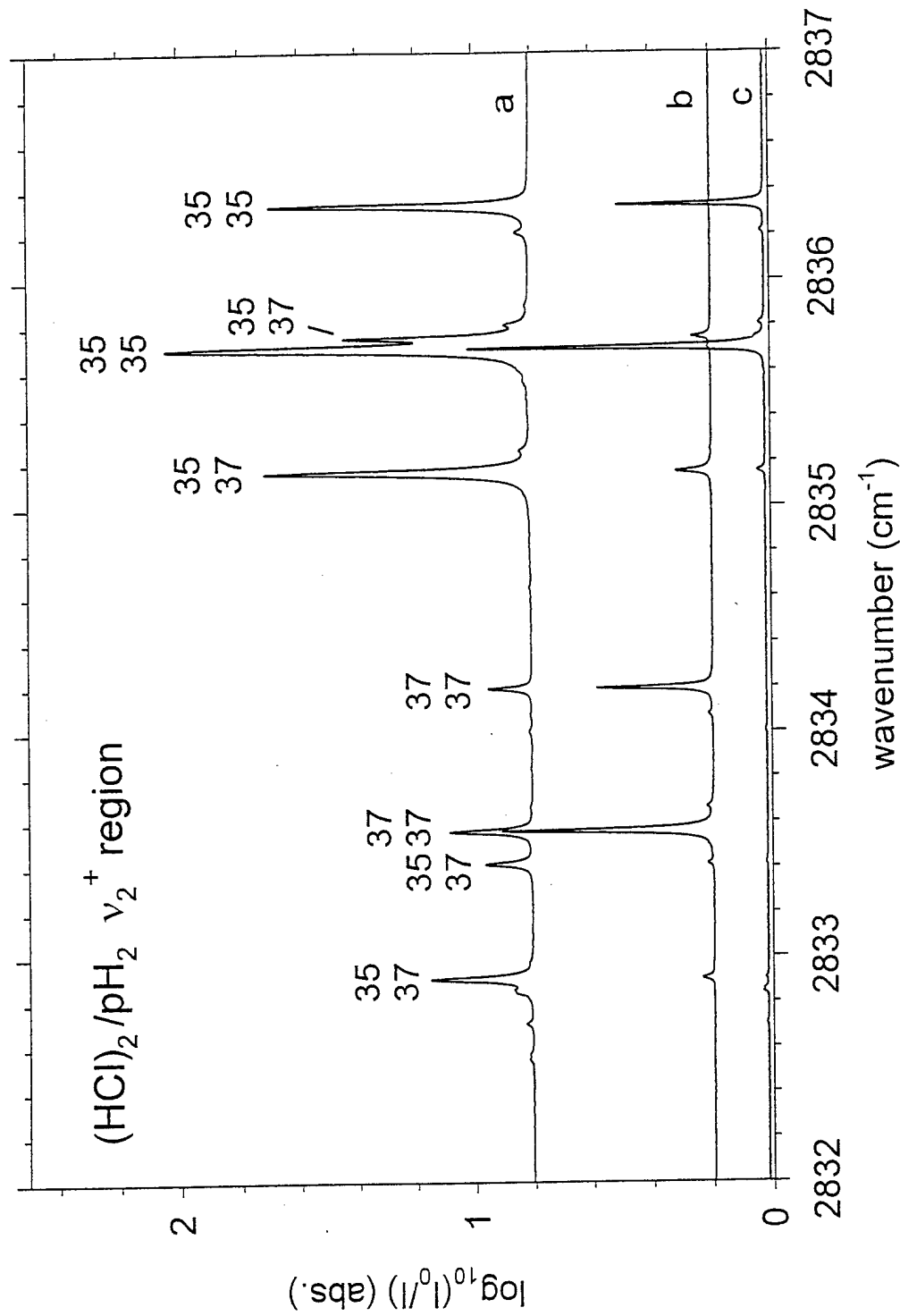


FIG. 1. Vibrationally averaged structure and internal coordinates for HCl dimer. The intermolecular axis  $R$  connects the HCl centers of mass. The internal angles,  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ , are measured from the intermolecular axis to the HCl bonds  $r$ . The torsion angle,  $\phi = \phi_1 - \phi_2$ , is shown at  $180^\circ$  (planar). The minimum energy configuration shown is for  $\theta_1 = 16^\circ$ ,  $\theta_2 = 87^\circ$  with  $\phi_1 - \phi_2 = 180^\circ$ . The HCl subunit on the left is referred to as the bonded HCl with an associated vibration labeled  $\nu_2$ . The proton on the other HCl is not involved with the hydrogen bond, and this subunit is referred to as the free HCl, with a vibration labeled  $\nu_1$ .



# $(\text{HCl})_2/\text{pH}_2$ isotopomers



analysis in collaboration with D.T. Anderson, U. Wyoming.

# HEDM Cryosolids Accomplishments

(a list of “things that’ll never work.”)

- \* Trapped Li, B, Na, Mg, Al atoms in solid hydrogen at  $T \approx 2$  K; attempts to demonstrate useful chemical energy storage still in progress
- \* Demonstrated production of gram-scale optically transparent pH<sub>2</sub> solids by rapid vapor deposition.
- \* Demonstrated that vapor deposited pH<sub>2</sub> solids are densest close-packed solids, NOT amorphous.
- \* Demonstrated suitability of vapor deposited pH<sub>2</sub> solids as hosts for high resolution IR absorption spectroscopy of chemically interesting dopants; spectral assignments ongoing.
- \* Generalized phenomena of dopant-induced and co-operative IR absorptions to chemically interesting dopants.