

# 248-nm Laser Photolysis of $\text{CHBr}_3$ /O-atom Mixtures: Kinetic Evidence for UV CO(A)-Chemiluminescence in the Reaction of Methylidyne Radicals With Atomic Oxygen

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| Report Documentation Page                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                    |                                     |                            | Form Approved<br>OMB No. 0704-0188       |                                 |
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| 1. REPORT DATE<br><b>APR 2005</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                    | 2. REPORT TYPE                      |                            | 3. DATES COVERED<br>-                    |                                 |
| 4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE<br><b>248-nm Laser Photolysis of CHBr<sub>3</sub>/O-atom Mistures: Kinetic Evidence for UV CO(A)-Chemiluminescence in the Reaction of Methylidyne Radicals with Atomic Oxygen</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                                     |                            | 5a. CONTRACT NUMBER                      |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                            | 5b. GRANT NUMBER                         |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                            | 5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER               |                                 |
| 6. AUTHOR(S)<br><b>Ghanshyam Vaghjiani</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                    |                                     |                            | 5d. PROJECT NUMBER<br><b>2303</b>        |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                            | 5e. TASK NUMBER<br><b>0423</b>           |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                            | 5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER                     |                                 |
| 7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)<br><b>Air Force Research Laboratory (AFMC),AFRL/PRSP,10 E. Saturn Blvd.,Edwards AFB,CA,93524-7680</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                    |                                     |                            | 8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER |                                 |
| 9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                                     |                            | 10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)         |                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     |                            | 11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)   |                                 |
| 12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT<br><b>Approved for public release; distribution unlimited</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                    |                                     |                            |                                          |                                 |
| 13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                    |                                     |                            |                                          |                                 |
| 14. ABSTRACT<br><b>N/A</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                                    |                                     |                            |                                          |                                 |
| 15. SUBJECT TERMS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                    |                                     |                            |                                          |                                 |
| 16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                    |                                     | 17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT | 18. NUMBER OF PAGES<br><b>18</b>         | 19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON |
| a. REPORT<br><b>unclassified</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | b. ABSTRACT<br><b>unclassified</b> | c. THIS PAGE<br><b>unclassified</b> |                            |                                          |                                 |



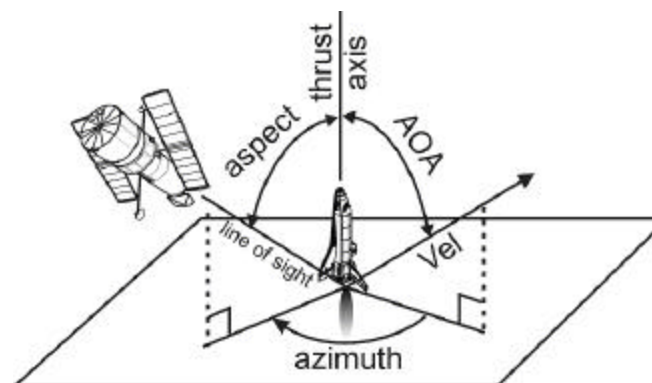
## AFRL's Motivation



- **Spacecraft Atmospheric Interactions**
- **Chemiluminescent Combustion Processes**

- **Strong Emissions From:**
  - $O(^1D)$ ,  $O(^1S)$
  - $NH(A)$
  - $OH(A)$
  - $CO(a)$
- **Cause of Chemiluminescence:**
  - **Plume-Atmospheric Interactions**
- **Source Chemistry:**
  - Precursors? & Formation?
  - O-atom Reactions
  - Other Reactions

- **Space Experiment**



### Observation Platforms

Space Shuttle  
Mir Space Station  
MSX

### Thrusters

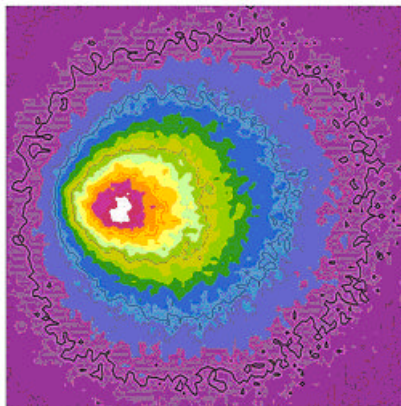
Space Shuttle  
Progress-M  
Soyuz-TM



## UV/Vis Plumes



### Radiance Data



↑ Plume Data ↑



Modeling Studies



Laboratory Studies

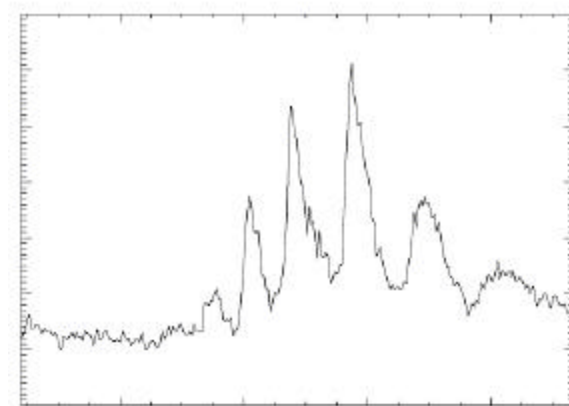


Chemiluminescent Processes



Identify Spacecraft Atmospheric Interactions

### Spectral Data



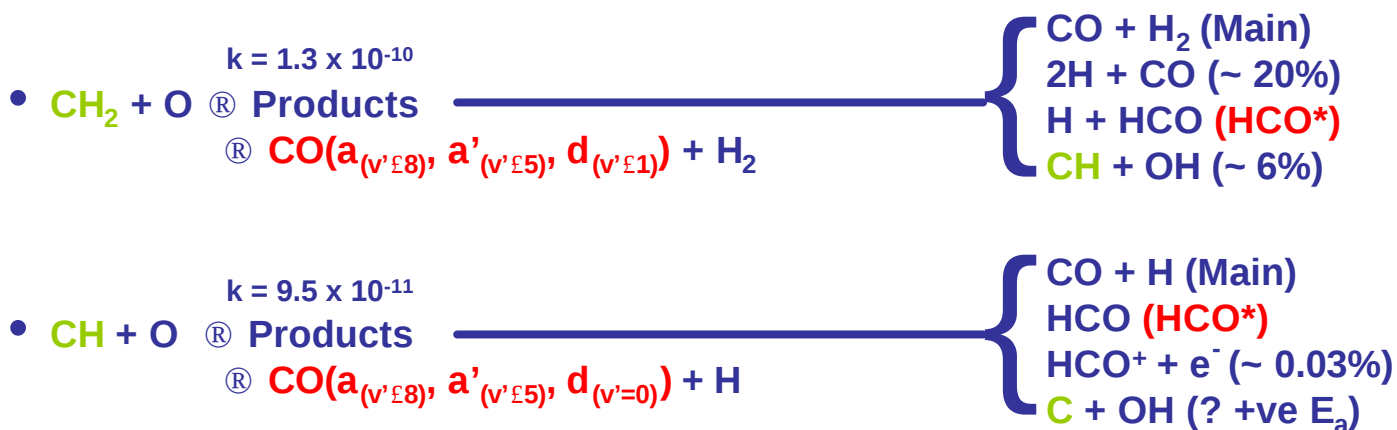


## Proposed CO(a) Source Chemistry



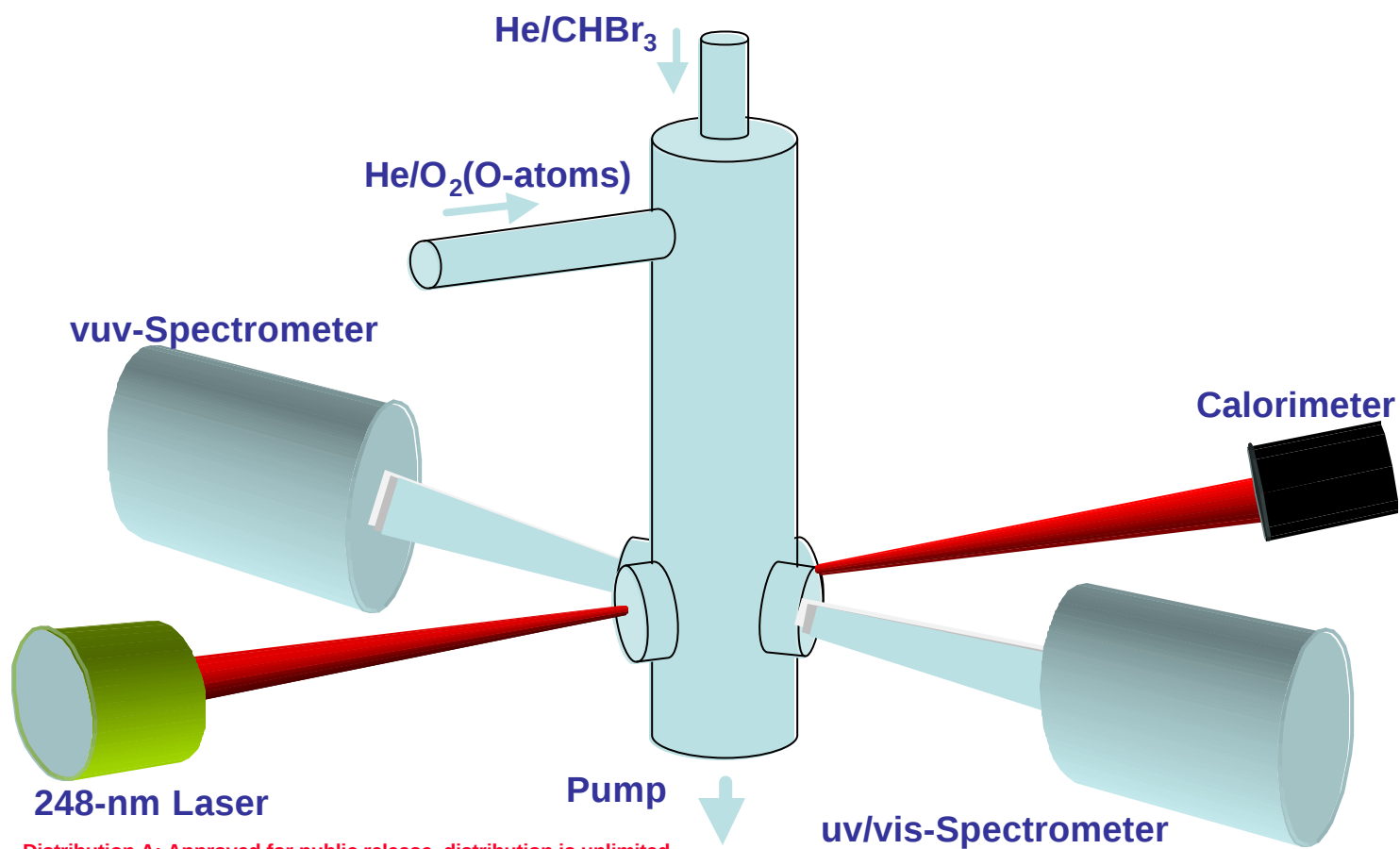
- Unreacted Fuel ® ® Precursor(s)

- Precursor(s) + O ® Products





## Apparatus



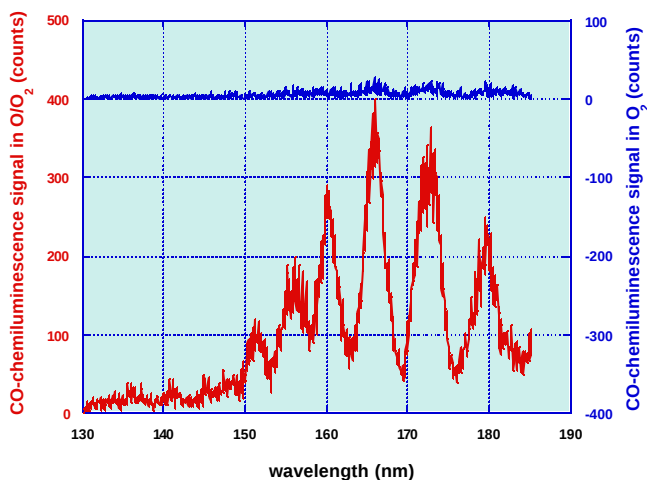
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# Comparison of CO & OH-Chemiluminescence

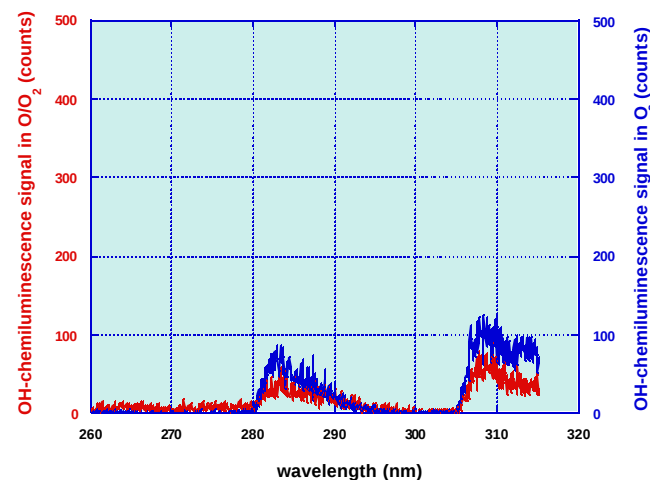


Strong CO(A) Signal in O/O<sub>2</sub>

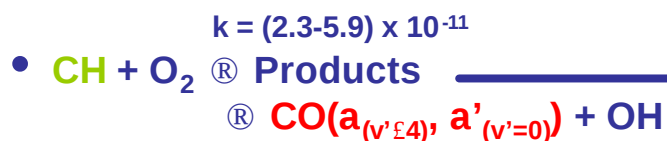


Very Weak CO(A) Signal in O<sub>2</sub> only

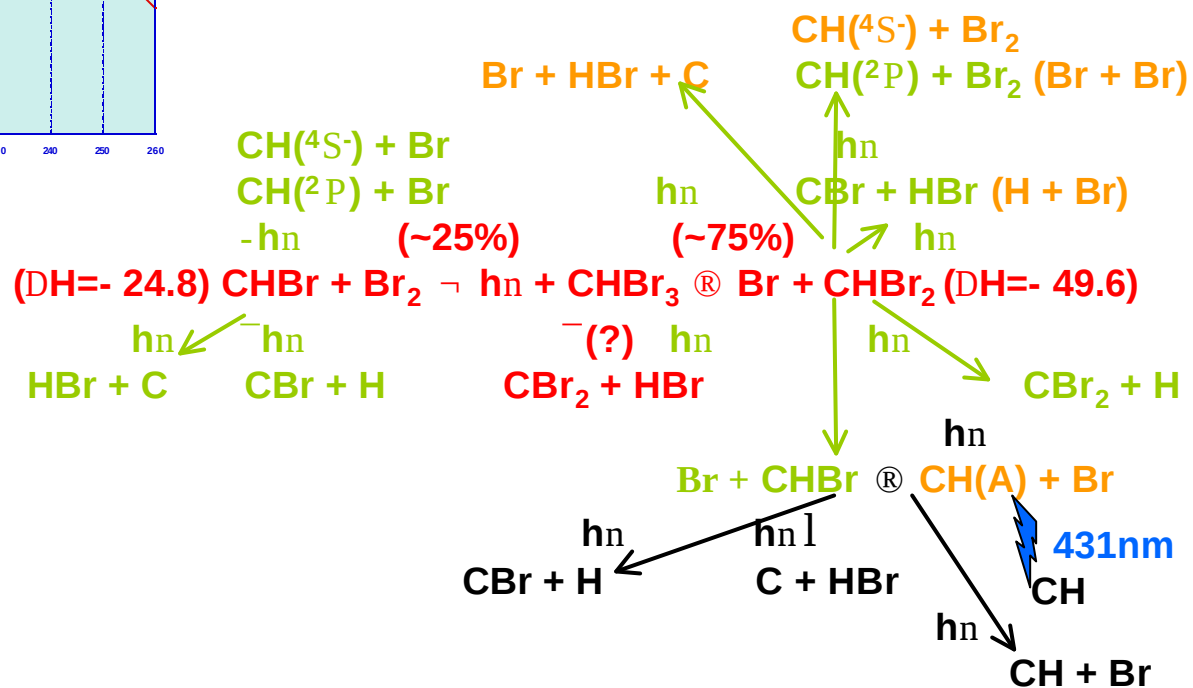
Weakened OH(A) Signal in O/O<sub>2</sub>



Strong OH(A) Signal in O<sub>2</sub> only



- CO + OH (~ 20%)
- CO<sub>2</sub> + H (~ 30%)
- HCO + O (~ 20%)
- H + CO + O (~ 30%)
- CO + OH(A) (~ 0.48%)**





## CO(A) Source Reactions



- Chemiluminescence Intensity Varied as (Laser Fluence)<sup>2</sup>

|                                                                                                                   | $DH^{\circ}_{298K}(\text{kcal mol}^{-1})$ |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| $\text{C}(^3\text{P}) + \text{O}(^3\text{P}) \rightarrow \text{CO}(\text{A}^1\text{P})$                           | (-71.8)                                   |
| $\text{CHBr} + \text{O}(^3\text{P}) \rightarrow \text{HBr}(\text{X}^1\text{S}^+) + \text{CO}(\text{A}^1\text{P})$ | (+1.3)                                    |
| $\text{CH} + \text{O}(^3\text{P}) \rightarrow \text{H}(^2\text{S}) + \text{CO}(\text{A}^1\text{P})$               | (+9.2)                                    |
| $\text{CBr} + \text{O}(^3\text{P}) \rightarrow \text{Br}(^2\text{P}_{3/2}) + \text{CO}(\text{A}^1\text{P})$       | (+3.8)                                    |
| $\text{CBr}_2 + \text{O}(^3\text{P}) \rightarrow \text{Br}_2(^1\text{S}^+_g) + \text{CO}(\text{A}^1\text{P})$     | (+29.1)                                   |

- Diatomics or Triatomics Need to be Internally Excited



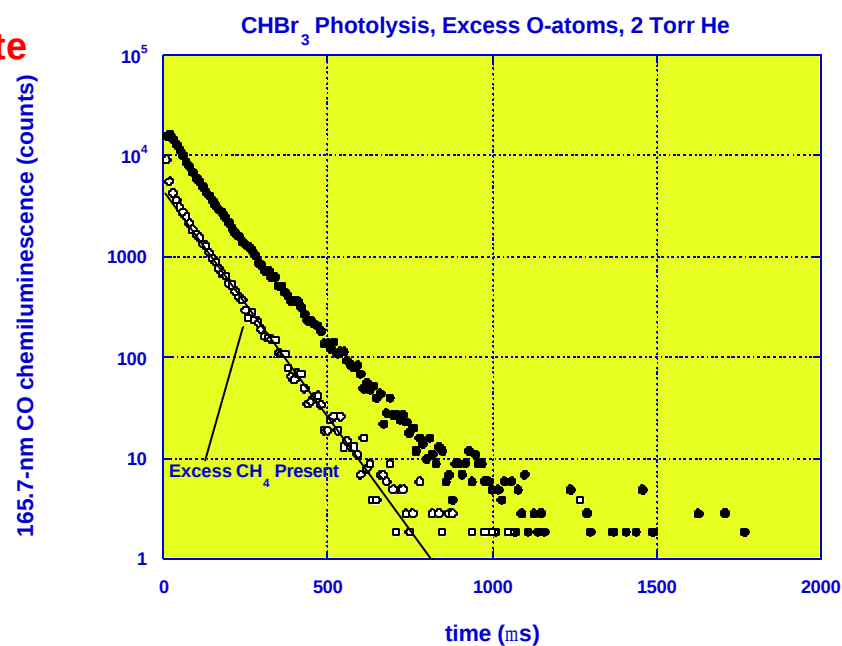
## Time Resolved CO(A)-Chemiluminescence



### ☐ Bimolecular Reaction Rate Coefficients of Added Substrate When CH<sub>4</sub> Present

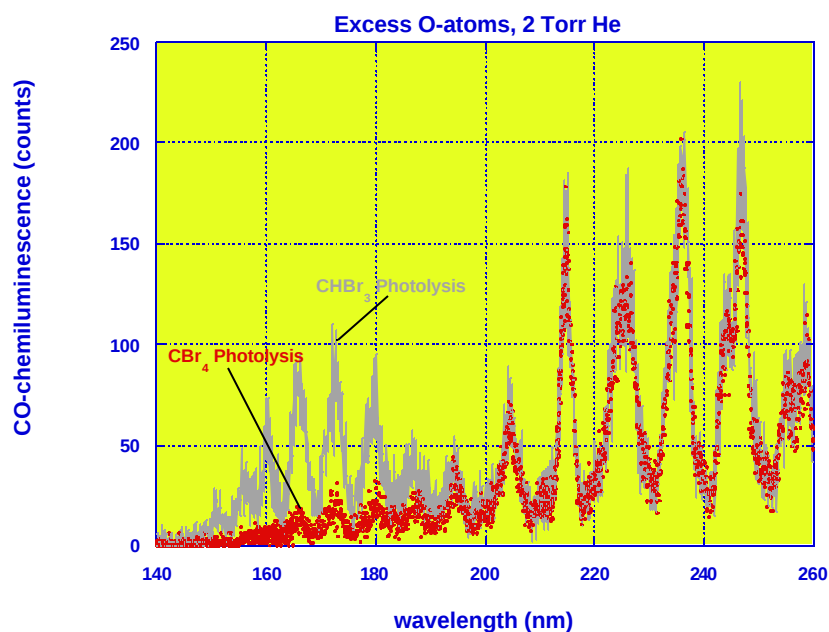
$$\begin{aligned}k_{\text{O}_2} &= (2.2 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-11} \\k_{\text{N}_2\text{O}} &< 7 \times 10^{-14} \\k_{\text{NO}} &= (3.4 \pm 0.5) \times 10^{-11} \\k_{\text{H}_2} &< 2 \times 10^{-13} \\k_{\text{CH}_4} &< 6 \times 10^{-14}\end{aligned}$$

### ☐ (C + O) Not the Source





## $\text{CHBr}_3$ Versus $\text{CBr}_4$ Photolysis



☐ Stronger VUV Signal in  $\text{CHBr}_3$  Photolysis

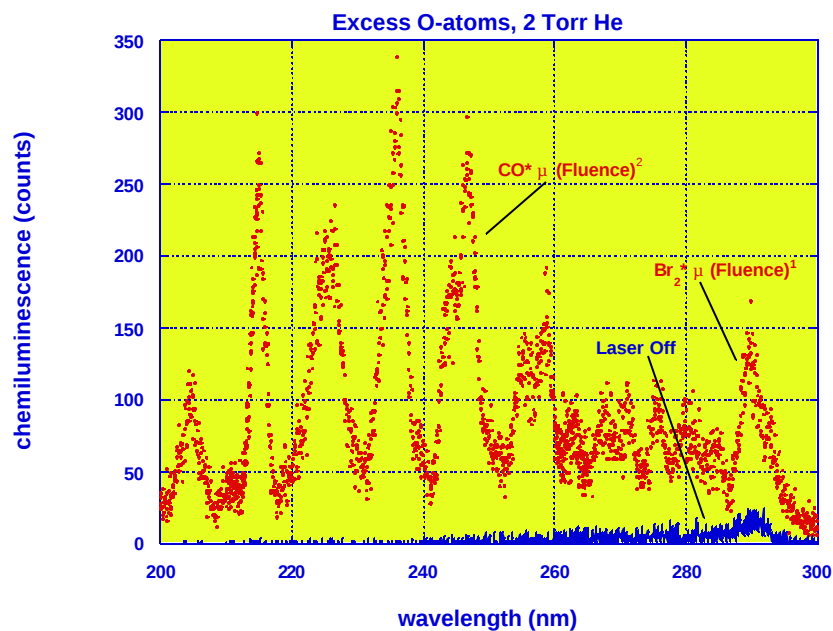
( $\text{CH}^\#$  (or  $\text{CHBr}^\#$ ) + O) Important

☐ Signal in  $\text{CBr}_4$  Photolysis Varies as (Fluence)<sup>2</sup>

( $\text{CBr}_2^\#$  + O) not Important, Since  $\text{Br}_2^*$  Signal Varies as (Fluence)<sup>1</sup>



## CBr<sub>4</sub> Photolysis



☐  $\text{CBr}_2$  Formed in  
Absence of Photolysis

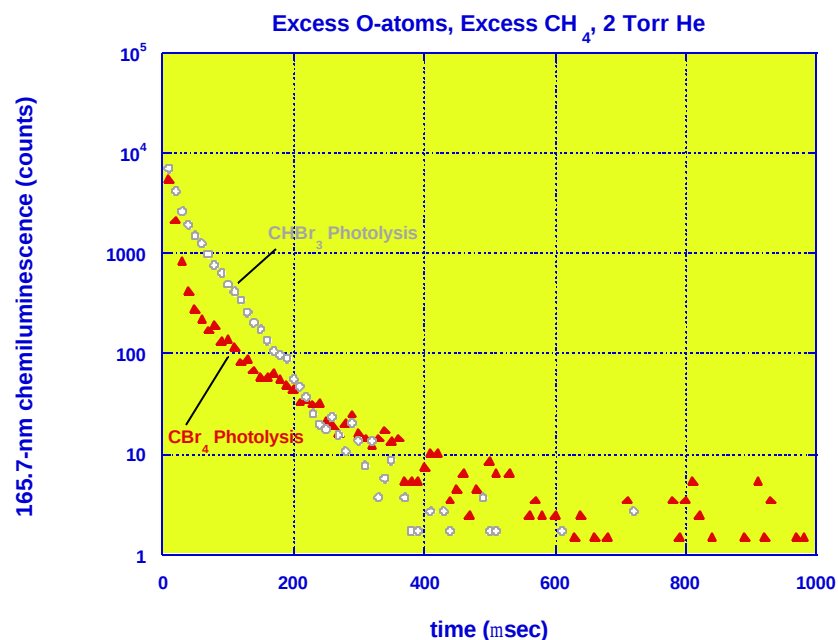
☐  $\text{CBr}_2$  Formed in  
Photolysis



$\text{CBr}_2 + \text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO}^* + \text{Br}_2$   
not Important



## CHBr<sub>3</sub> Versus CBr<sub>4</sub> Photolysis



□ CHBr<sub>3</sub>  
 $k_{O_2} = (2.2 \pm 0.3) \times 10^{-11}$

□ CBr<sub>4</sub>  
 $k_{O_2} = (2.4 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{-12}$

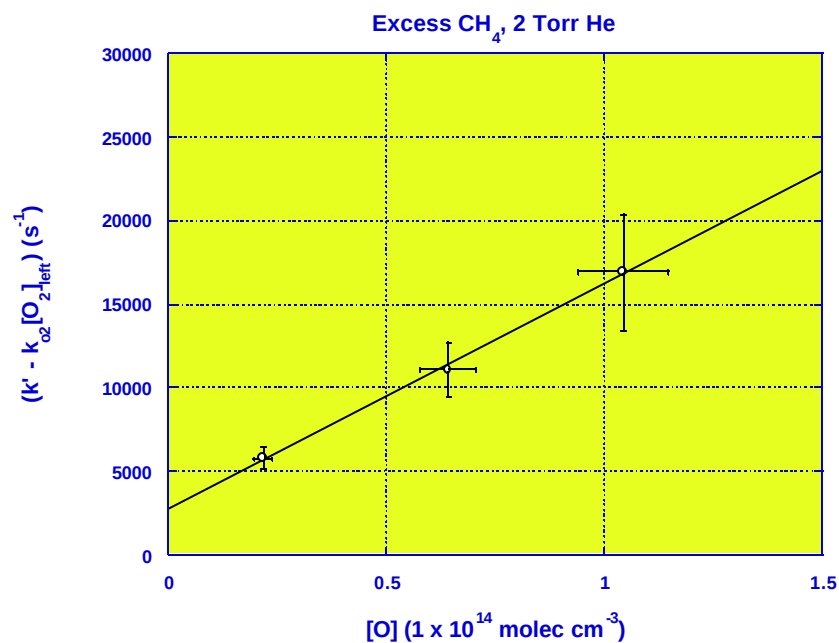
(CBr<sup>#</sup> + O) Source is not as Important as (CH<sup>#</sup> + O) in CHBr<sub>3</sub> Photolysis

□ CHBr<sup>#</sup> has Very Short Lifetime (~ 5 ms) and  
 $k_{(CHBr + O_2)} < 2 \times 10^{-14}$

(CHBr<sup>#</sup> + O) Source not Important in CHBr<sub>3</sub> Photolysis



## CH(a<sup>4</sup>S-) + O Reaction Rate Coefficient



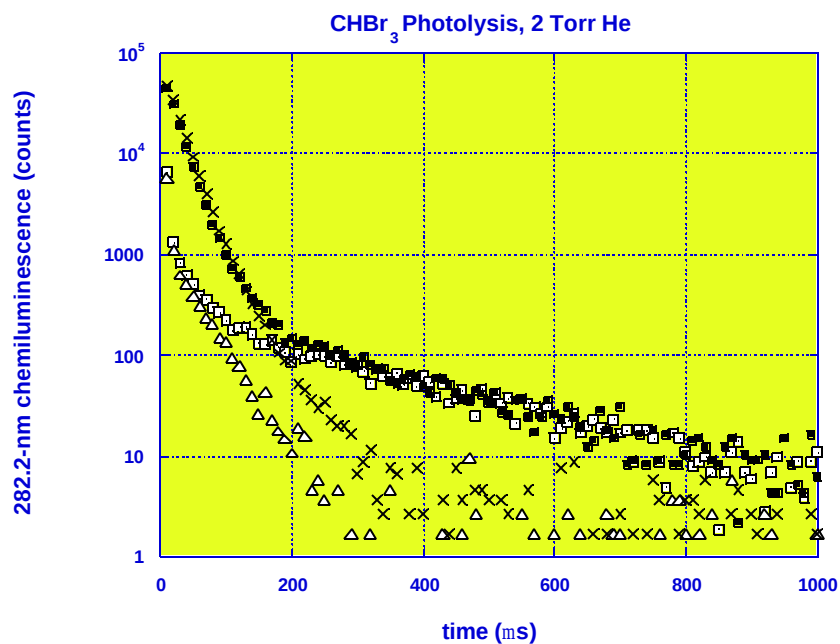
□  $k_{\text{CH(a)} + \text{O}} = (1.35 \pm 0.47) \times 10^{-10}$

Previously:

□  $k_{\text{CH(X)} + \text{O}} = (9.5 \pm 1.4) \times 10^{-11}$



## 282.2-nm Signal



Distribution A: Approved for public release, distribution is unlimited

### □ Absence of O-atoms

X-trace: (O<sub>2</sub>, 8.8 x 10<sup>14</sup>)

D-trace: (O<sub>2</sub>) + (CH<sub>4</sub>, 5.0 x 10<sup>15</sup>)

—



### □ 5.0 x 10<sup>13</sup> of O-atoms

• -trace: (O<sub>2</sub>, 8.8 x 10<sup>14</sup>)

?-trace: (O<sub>2</sub>) + (CH<sub>4</sub>, 5.0 x 10<sup>15</sup>)

—





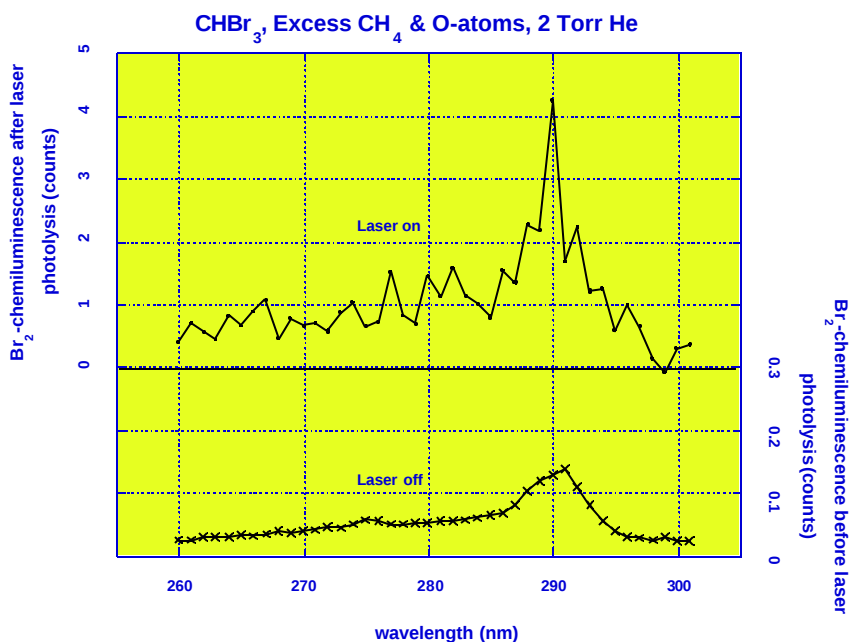
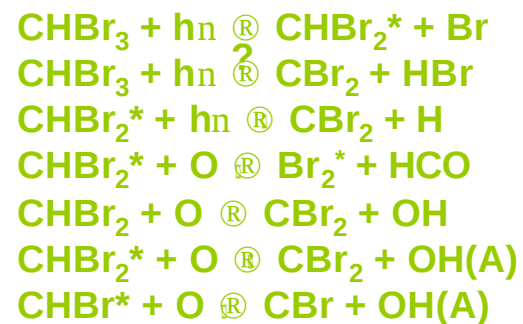
# Br<sub>2</sub>\*-Chemiluminescence



☐ Laser off

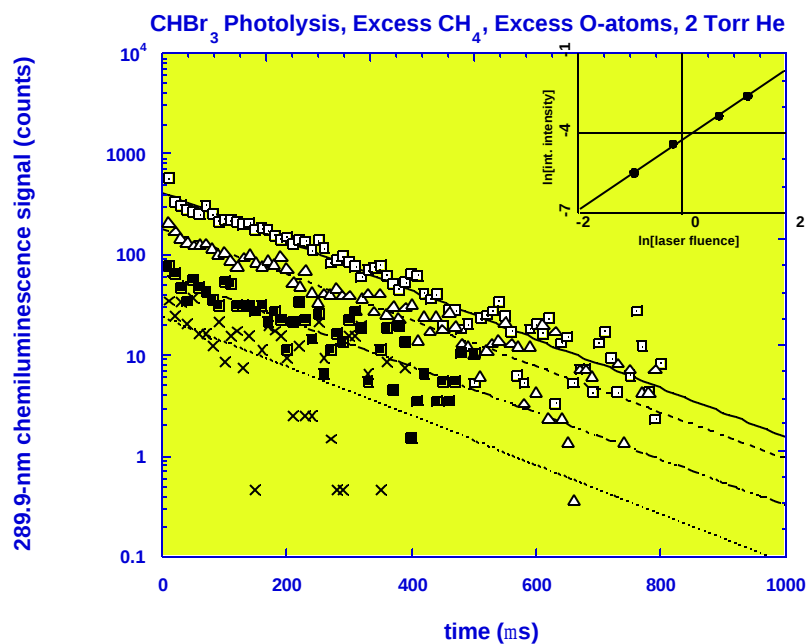


☐ Laser on





## Time Resolved $\text{Br}_2^*$ -Signal



□ Fast  $\text{Br}_2^*$  Rise

■ Also:

$$k_{\text{O}_2} < 9 \times 10^{-14}$$

$$k_{\text{CH}_4} < 7 \times 10^{-14}$$

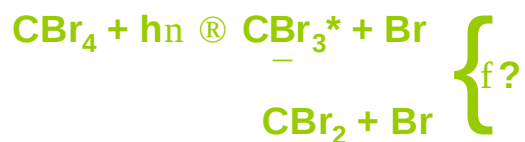
$$k_{\text{O}} = (5.4 \pm 1.0) \times 10^{-11}$$



Less Important

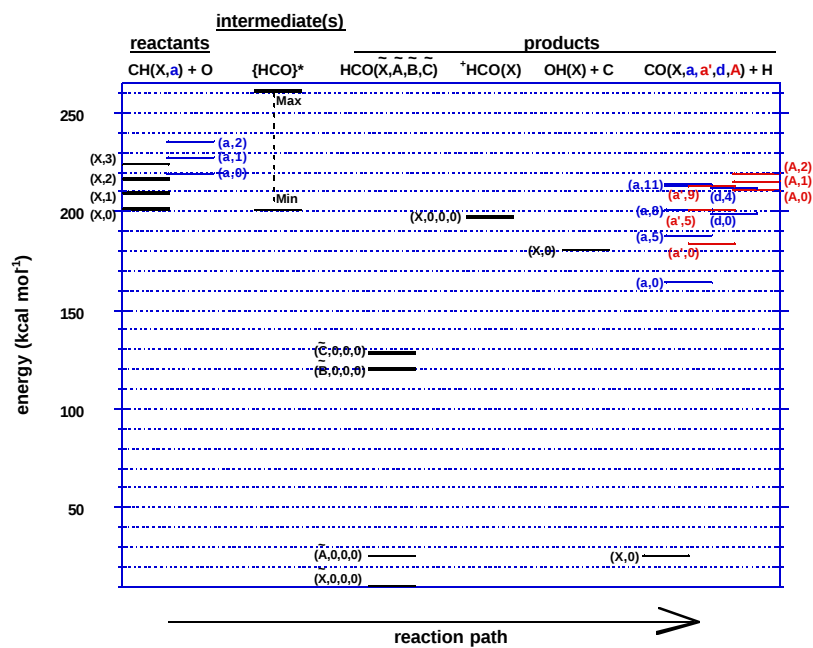


□ Since:





# CO\* Production Mechanism





## Conclusions



### • 248-nm Photolysis of $\text{CHBr}_3$ /O-atom Mixtures

#### Strong Emissions From:

- $\text{CO(A)}$ ,  $\text{CO(a)}$
- $\text{OH(A)}$  when  $\text{O}_2$  Present
- $\text{NH(A)}$  when  $\text{NO}$  Present
- $\text{Br}_2(\text{D})$

#### Kinetic & Laser Fluence Trend Analyses of the Chemiluminescence:

- $\text{CH} + \text{O}$
- $\text{CH} + \text{O}_2 (\text{NO})$
- $\text{CBr}_2 + \text{O}$

### • 248-nm Photolysis of $\text{CBr}_4$ /O-atom Mixtures

- $\text{CBr} + \text{O}$
- $\text{CBr}_2 + \text{O}$

### • Thermospheric O-atoms + Plume Fragments (CH) ® UV Emissions