

Recombinaison d'atomes d'hydrogène physisorbés sur des surfaces à basses températures

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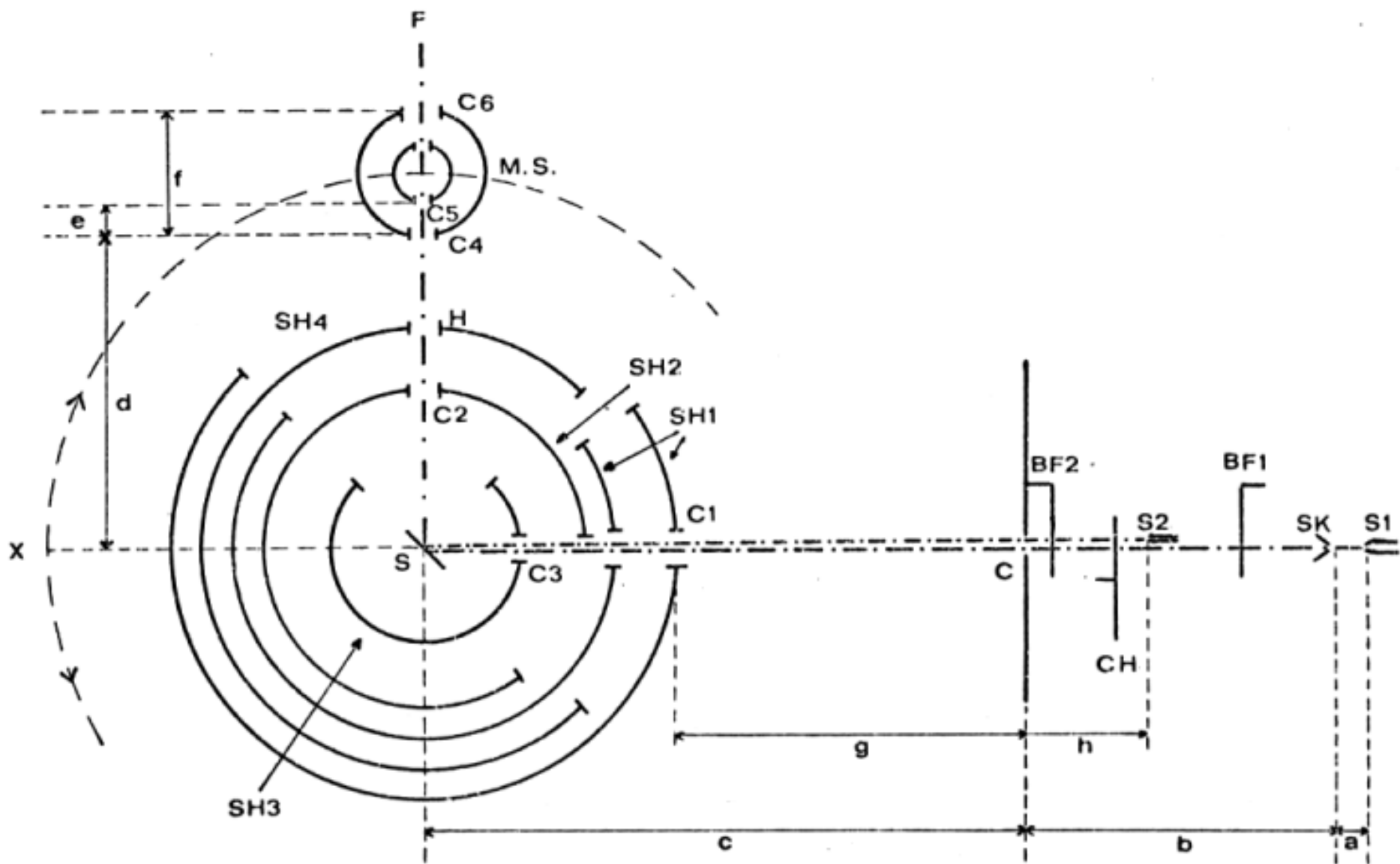
Basé sur des résultats extraits de :

Lorenzo Mattera, Ph.D. Thesis, University of Waterloo (Ontario, Canada), 1978

T.R.Govers, L. Mattera and G.Scoles, J. Chem. Phys. 72, 5446 (1980)

Manuscrit et présentation accessibles sur : www.aecono.com

T.A.Rector (NOAO/AURA/NSF) and Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA/NASA)



**Doped amorphous silicon bolometer serves as substrate
and as energy detector**

**Surface is covered by polycrystalline water ice deposited
during cooldown of the cryostat**

**and is well controlled in terms of temperature
(3 to 10 °K)**

and of hydrogen coverage (H₂ or D₂)

**Mass spectrometer measures density (= flux / velocity)
of molecules released
from or reflected by the bolometer surface**

$$1 \text{ eV} = 11606 \text{ K} ; 100 \text{ K} = 8.6 \text{ meV}$$

Average speed of H in 100 K Maxwell gas = $1.46 \cdot 10^5 \text{ cm s}^{-1}$

At H density on 10^3 cm^{-3} H impact rate is $3.64 \cdot 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$

If one defines $1\text{ML} = 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-2}$,

it takes $2.72 \cdot 10^7 \text{ s}$ to impact the equivalent of a monolayer,

i.e. 10 months + 11 days

In the lab H beam intensities are typically $4 \cdot 10^{14} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$,

it takes 5 seconds

Define sticking coefficient S as fraction of molecules that equilibrate to the surface temperature, so that their residence time can be expressed under the form:

$$\tau = \tau_0 \exp (\varepsilon/kT_s),$$

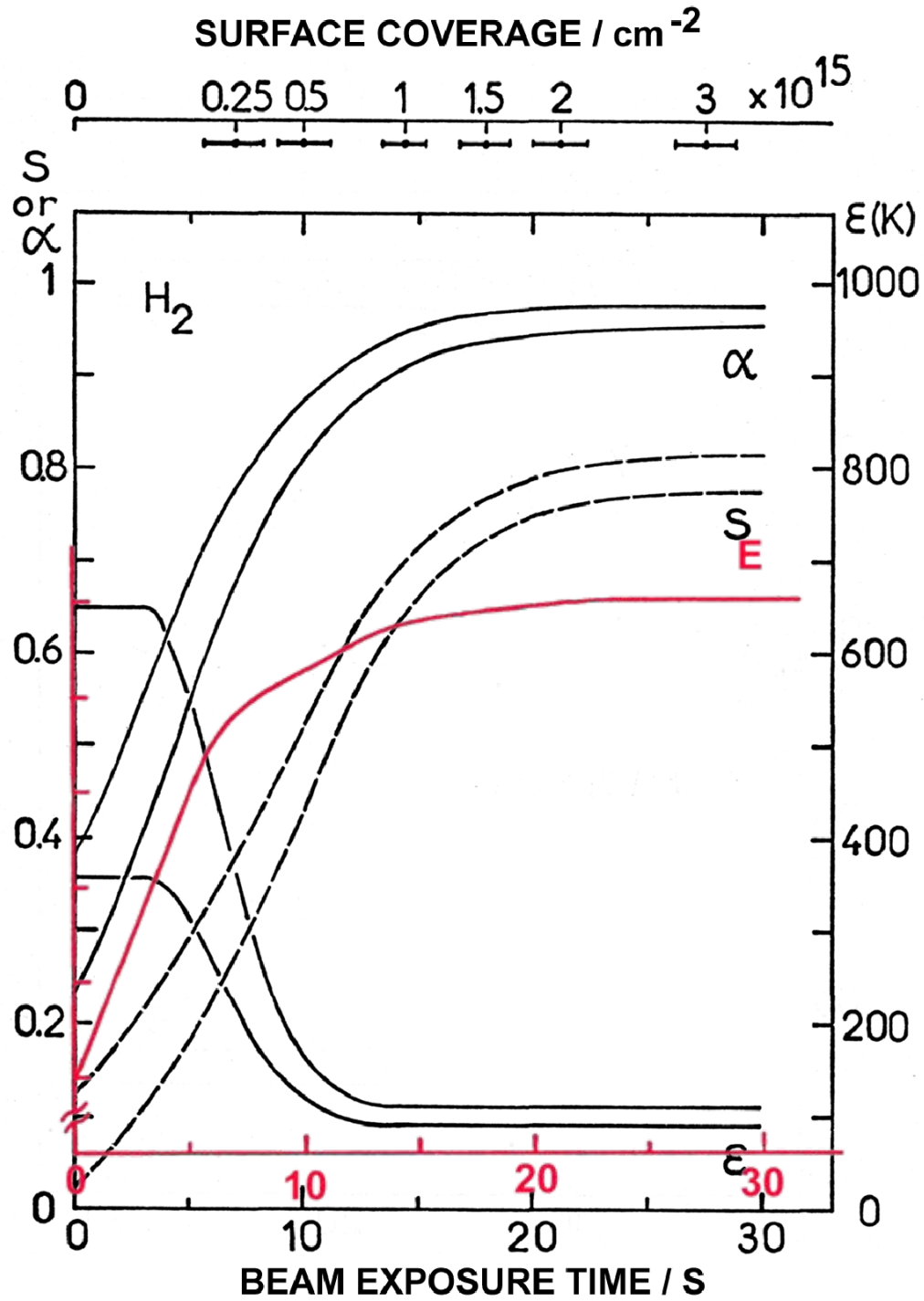
where $(1/ \tau_0)$ is the characteristic vibration frequency of adsorbed molecules, and ε the binding energy.

$$\tau = 10^{-13} \exp \varepsilon/kT_s \text{ (sec)}$$

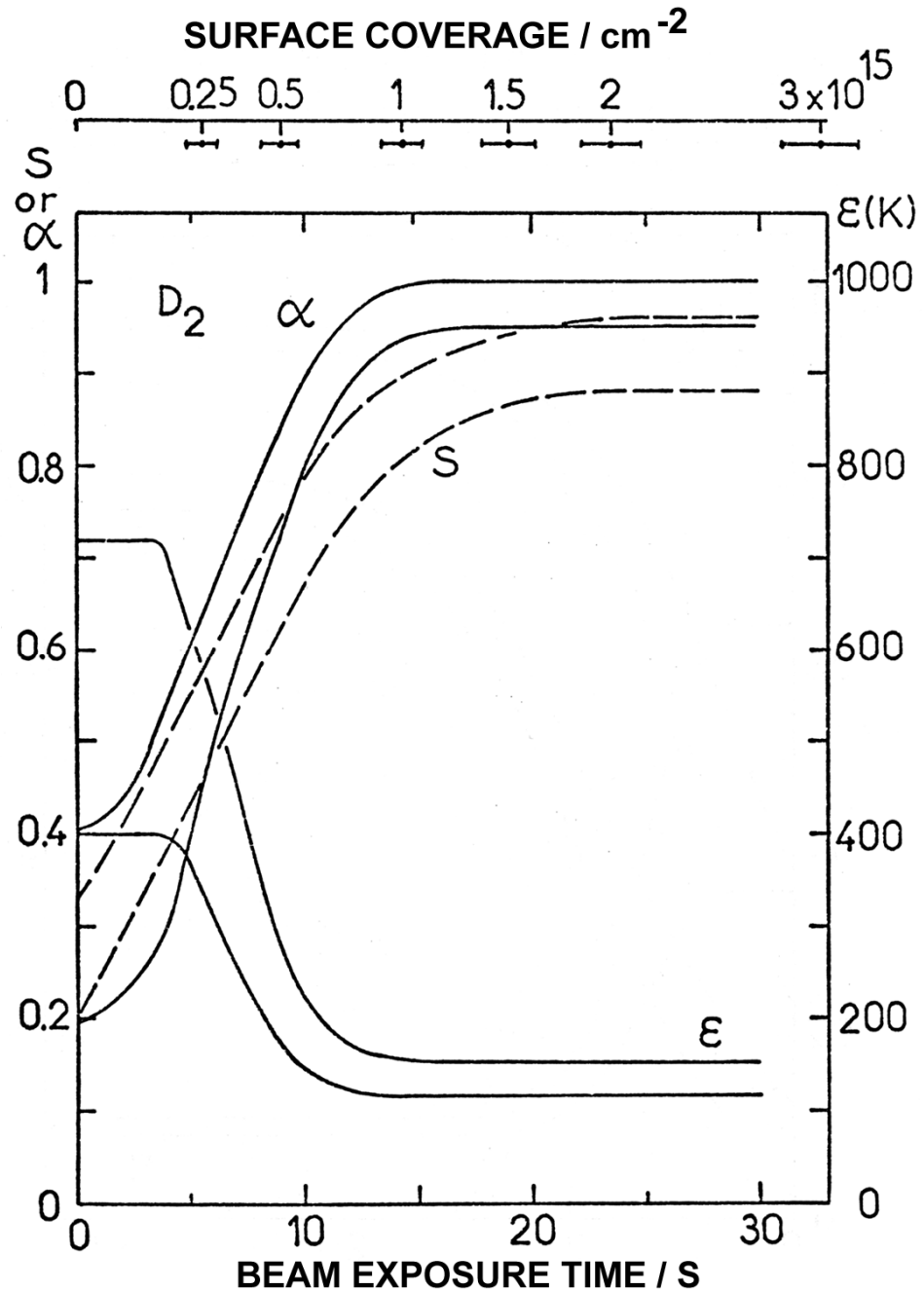
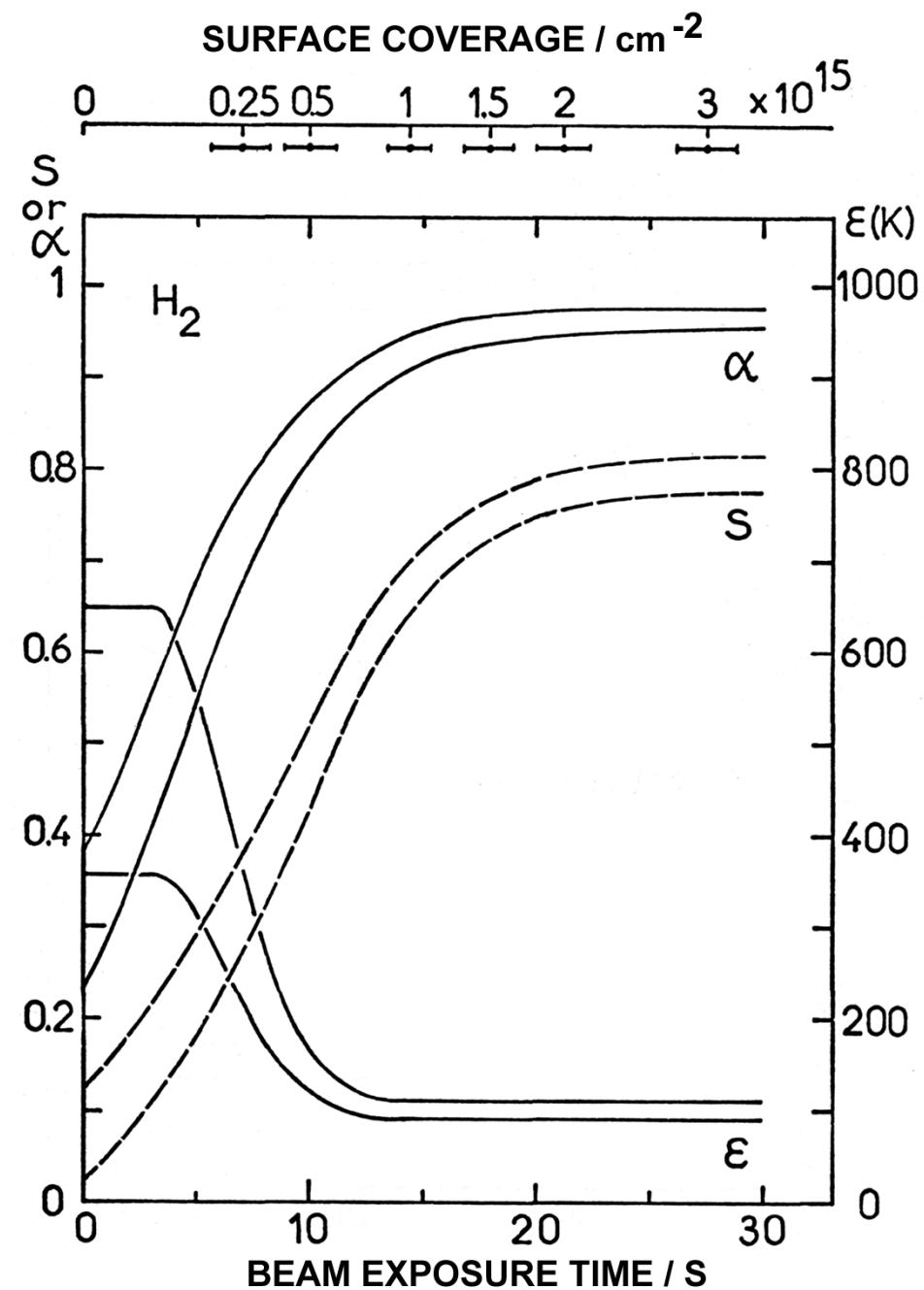
$$T_s \text{ (K)}$$

ε/k	3	4	5	10
40	6.17E-08	2.20E-09	2.98E-10	5.46E-12
80	3.81E-02	4.85E-05	8.89E-07	2.98E-10
100	3.00E+01	7.20E-03	4.85E-05	2.20E-09
120	2.35E+04	1.07E+00	2.65E-03	1.63E-08
140	1.85E+07	1.59E+02	1.45E-01	1.20E-07
160	1.45E+10	2.35E+04	7.90E+00	8.89E-07
180	1.14E+13	3.49E+06	4.31E+02	6.57E-06
200	8.97E+15	5.18E+08	2.35E+04	4.85E-05
240	5.54E+21	1.14E+13	7.02E+07	2.65E-03
300	2.69E+30	3.73E+19	1.14E+13	1.07E+00
400	8.05E+44	2.69E+30	5.54E+21	2.35E+04
500	2.41E+59	1.94E+41	2.69E+30	5.18E+08
600	7.23E+73	1.39E+52	1.30E+39	1.14E+13

N.B. : Beam modulation period is 7.4×10^{-3} sec



MOLECULAR HYDROGEN ON INITIALLY HYDROGEN-FREE SURFACE



FROM MOLECULAR HYDROGEN EXPERIMENTS ONE CONCLUDES:

- ➡ **Strong initial changes of ϵ , α and S over narrow coverage range : $\frac{1}{2}$ ML H_2 **increases α and S** and **decreases ϵ** by a factor 2 or more ($1 \text{ ML} \equiv 10^{15}$ molecules/cm²)**
- ➡ **H_2 build-up limited to $\frac{1}{2}$ ML when T_s is raised above 3.5 K, confirming that ϵ has already decreased to 120 K at such limited coverage**
- ➡ **Should expect strong influence of molecular hydrogen coverage on sticking and binding of atomic hydrogen, and therefore on recombination probability**

BINDING ENERGIES

ϵ/k (K)

Ref.			This work
1	90	H ₂ /H ₂	105±10
2	615	H ₂ /H ₂ O	500±150
3	555±35	H ₂ /(H ₂ O-CH ₃ OH)	
4	320 to 1400	H ₂ /(H ₂ O) ₄₅₀	
	most prob. 650		

References:

(1) Silvera, Rev. Mod. Phys. 1980

(2) Hollenbach & Salpeter, JCP 1970, with revised gas phase well: 130 instead of 100 K (Duquette 1977)

(3) Sandford & Allamandola, Astrophys. J. 1993

(4) Hixson et al., JCP 1992

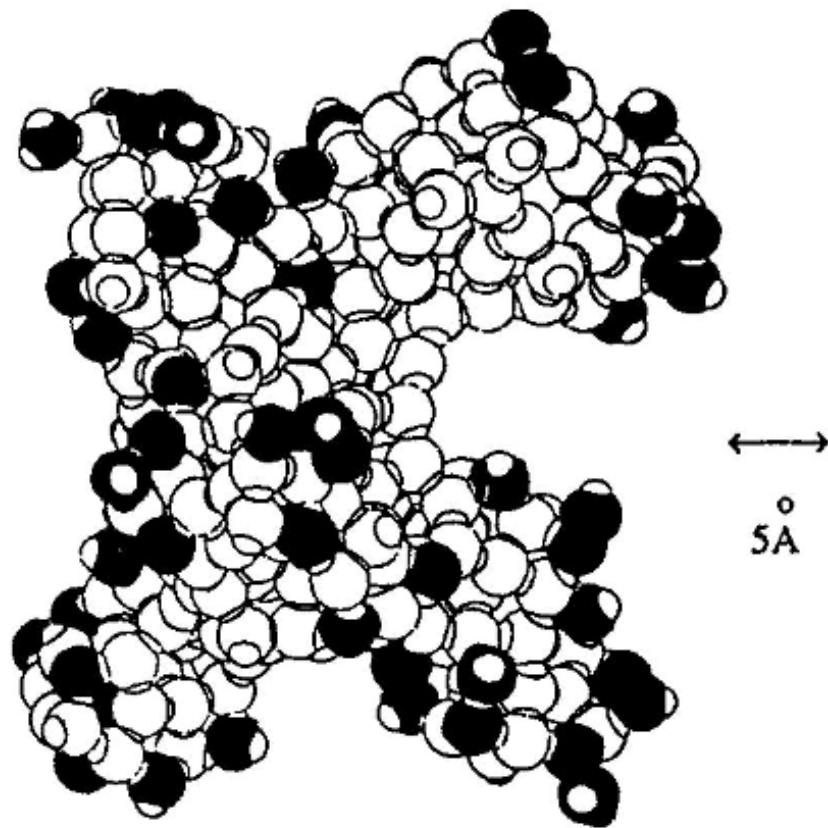


FIG. 6. The $(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{450}$ amorphous ice cluster. Dangling oxygen atoms are marked in black. (A dangling O atom participates in one hydrogen bond only.)

Hixson et al., JCP 1992

Hixson et al., JCP 1992

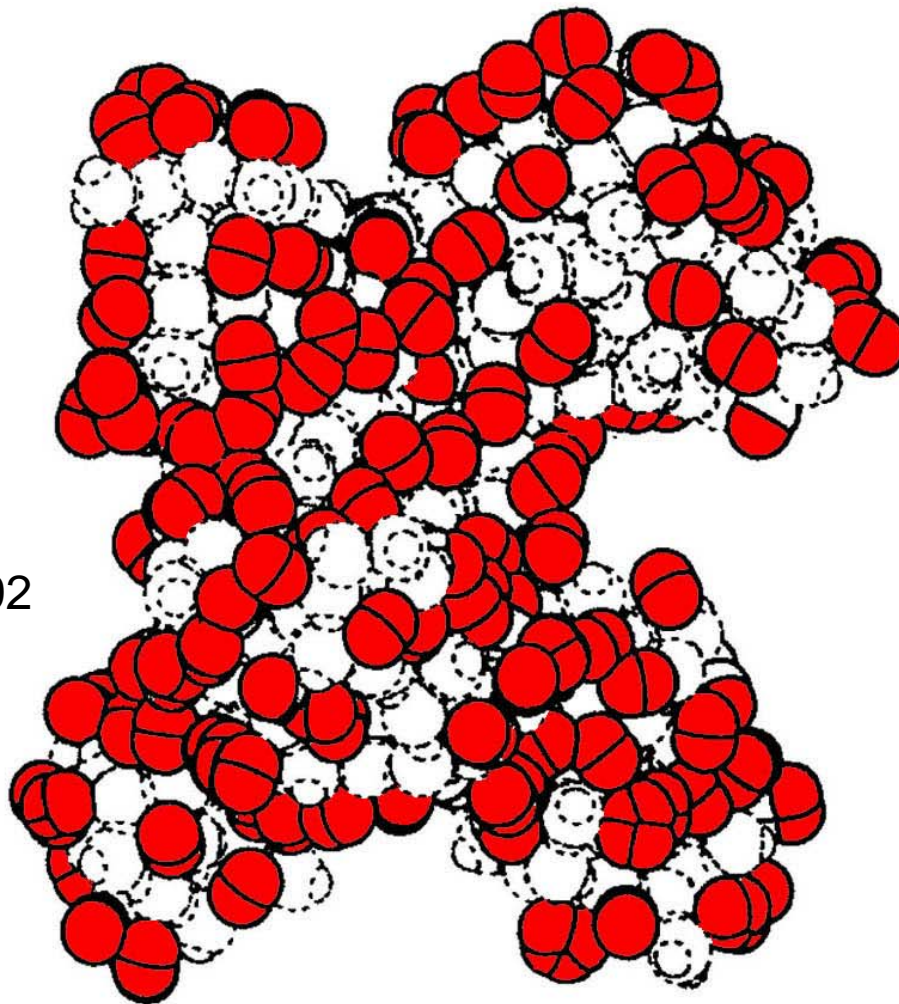


FIG. 7. Distribution of potential minima with respect to H_2 coordinates. A H_2 molecule is displayed in each minimum location. H_2 are drawn in a continuous line; cluster atoms in a dashed line. Note: the minima shown in the figure were calculated for *isolated* H_2 .

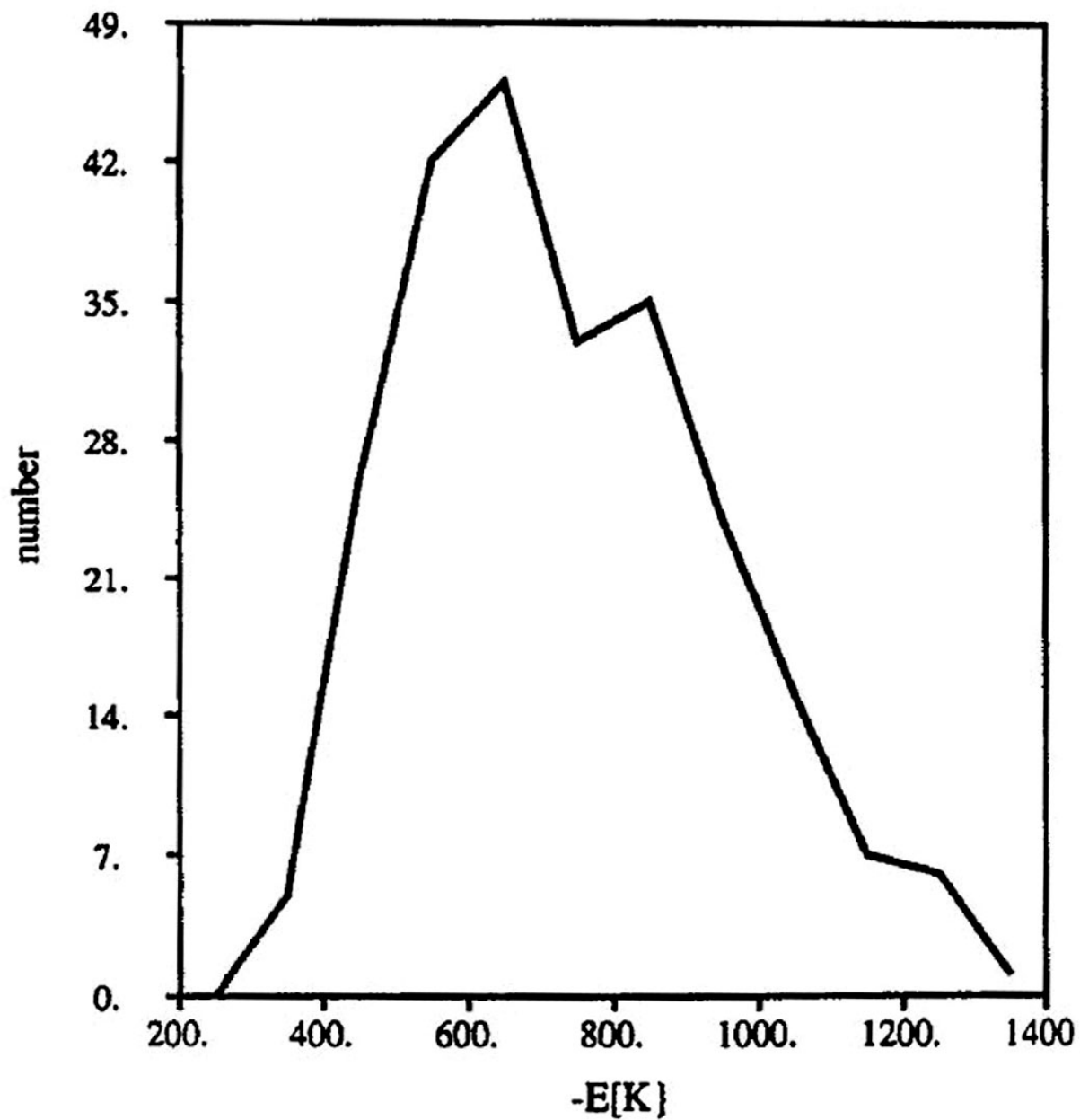
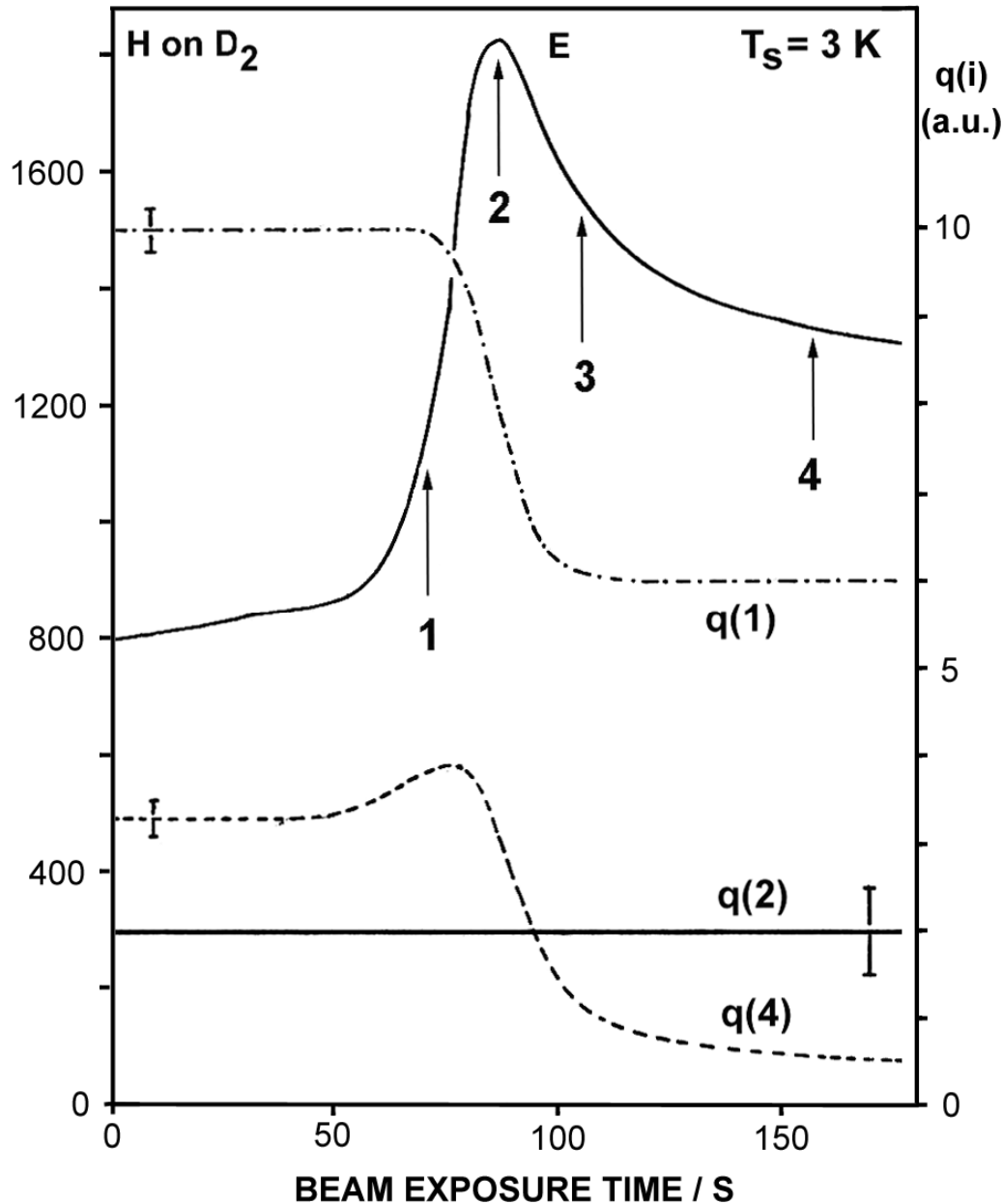


FIG. 8. Distribution of minimum energies for the 240 minima.

ATOMIC HYDROGEN ON INITIALLY HYDROGEN-SATURATED SURFACE



➤ Low E compared to recomb. energy
25 980 K / atom

➤ First order in H

➤ No mass 3

➤ Recombination ejects D₂

➤ Strong influence of D₂ coverage

➤ No significant impact of coverage by N₂, CO₂, H₂O: only H₂ or D₂ matter

H RECOMBINATION "BOILS OFF" PRE-ADSORBED D₂

- Response to D₂ beam is used to determine D₂ coverage: initially 3×10^{15} molecules cm⁻² ; arrows (1) 9×10^{14} cm⁻², (2) 1.9×10^{14} cm⁻², (3) 1.6×10^{14} cm⁻², (4) 4.5×10^{13} cm⁻²
- Incident H flux is 3.8×10^{14} atoms cm⁻² s⁻¹
- Recombining fraction is about 0.15 or less (see below)
- Each H₂ molecule formed ejects at least 1 D₂ molecule

H RECOMBINATION ANALYSIS

Energy to bolometer per incident H atom

$$E = S (2kT + \varepsilon) + 2kT (1 - S) \alpha$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} S \beta (\varepsilon_{\text{rec}} - \varepsilon_2 - 2kT_2 - E_{\text{int}})$$

$$- \frac{\varphi_4}{\varphi_i} (2kT_4 + \varepsilon_4)$$

$$- \frac{\varphi'_1}{\varphi_i} (2kT'_1 + \varepsilon)$$

where S is fraction of H atoms that stick to the surface,
and β the fraction thereof that recombines
 φ represents total flux, and ' refers to ejected atoms

H RECOMBINATION ANALYSIS

Quadrupole MS signals per incident H atom

$$Q_1 = C_1 \{ (1 - S) [T - \alpha (T - T_s)]^{-1/2} + \varphi'_1 / \varphi_i T'^{-1/2} \}$$

$$Q_2 = C_2 \times 1/2 S \beta T_2^{-1/2}$$

$$Q_4 = C_4 \times \varphi_4 / \varphi_i \times T_4^{-1/2}$$

Know $\varphi_i, T, C_1, C_2, C_4$ and measure $\varphi_4, E, Q_1, Q_2, Q_4$
as a function of time, i.e. D_2 coverage

Know ε_4 and extrapolate α , and ε from H_2 and D_2 expts

Unknowns are $S, \beta, \varphi'_1 / \varphi_i, T', T_2, T_4$, and E_{int}

4 equations, 7 unknowns

H RECOMBINATION ANALYSIS

Treat internal energy of recombined H_2 as parameter

$$\text{Assume } \varphi'_1/\varphi_i = S (1 - \beta)$$

i.e. all H atoms that stick but do not recombine
are ejected in phase with the incident beam

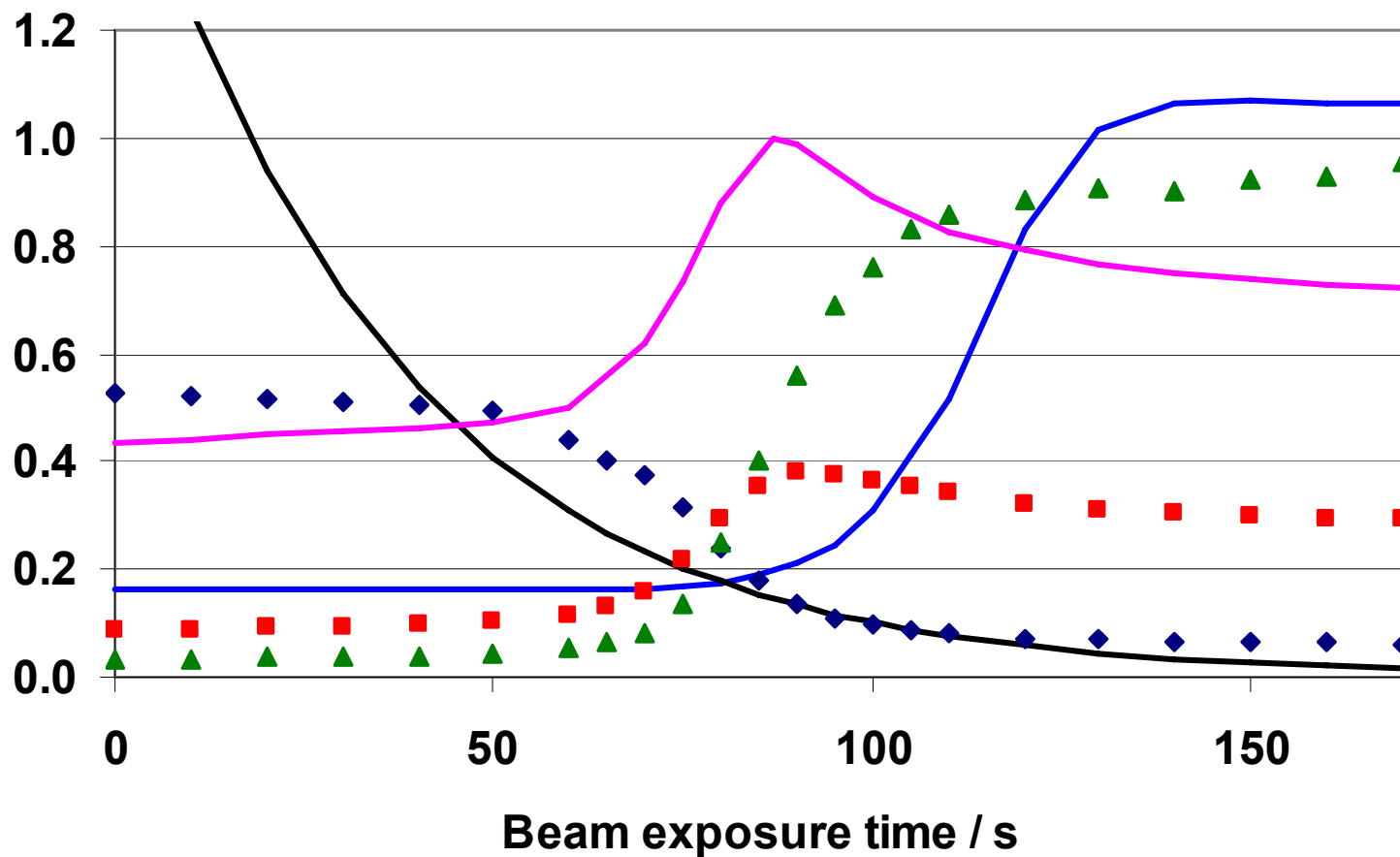
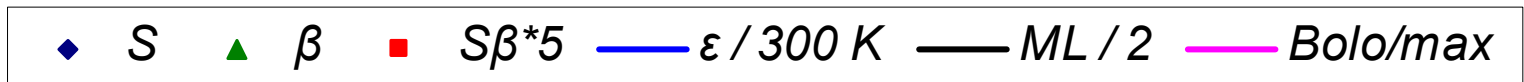
$$\text{Assume } 2 kT'_1 + \varepsilon = 2 kT_4 + \varepsilon_4$$

i.e. equipartition of energy between ejected H and D_2

Can now determine S, β , and the recombination probability $S\beta$
as a function of D_2 coverage with the internal energy E_{int}
as a parameter

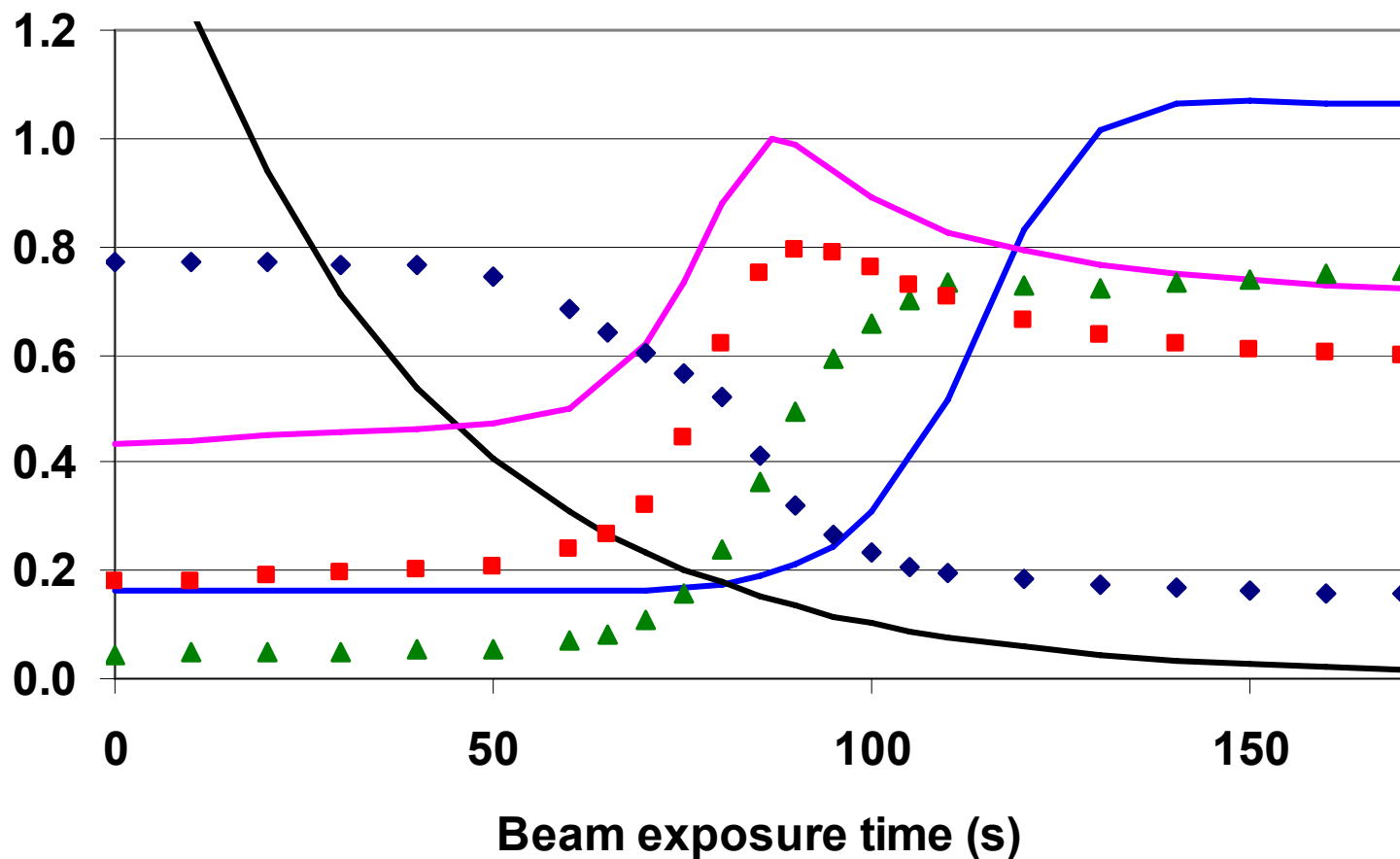
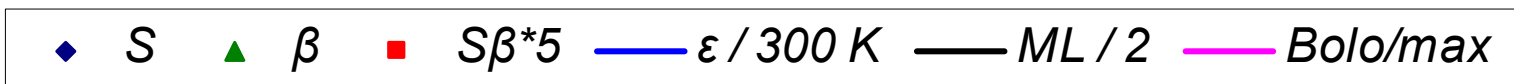
LOWER LIMIT TO E_{int} FROM S at $t = 0$ (D_2 - saturated surface)

H on D_2 , $E_{int} = 15\ 000\ K$



UPPER LIMIT TO E_{int} FROM S at $t = \infty$ (D_2 - free surface)

H on D_2 , $E_{int} = 35\ 000\ K$



BINDING ENERGIES

Ref.	ϵ/k (K)		This work
5	36	H/H ₂	
6	42	H/D ₂	
5 + 6	44	H/D ₂	50±15
7	400±50	H/H ₂ O	320±70
8	250 to 800	H/(H ₂ O) ₁₁₅	
	most prob. 550		

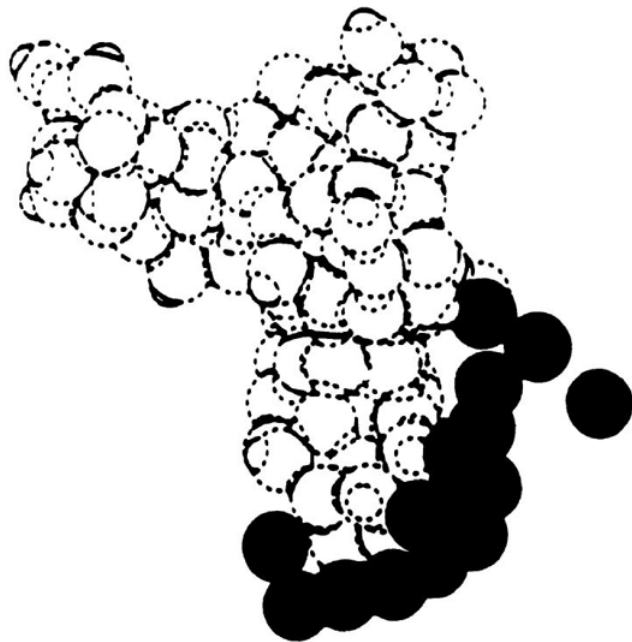
References:

(5) Crampton et al. Phys. Rev.B 1982 (exp.)

(6) Pierre et al. JCP 1985

(7) Al-Halabi et al. J.Phys.Chem.B 2002

(8) Buch & Zhang, Astrophys. J. 1991



Buch & Zhang, *Astrophys. J.* 1991



FIG. 1.—Two views on an amorphous ice particle composed of 115 water molecules. The dark circles trace a sticking trajectory of an H atom of initial energy $E = 200$ K, until its energy decreases to -100 K; this trajectory happens to make a loop on the particle. The circles correspond to snapshots at intervals of 0.25 picosecond.

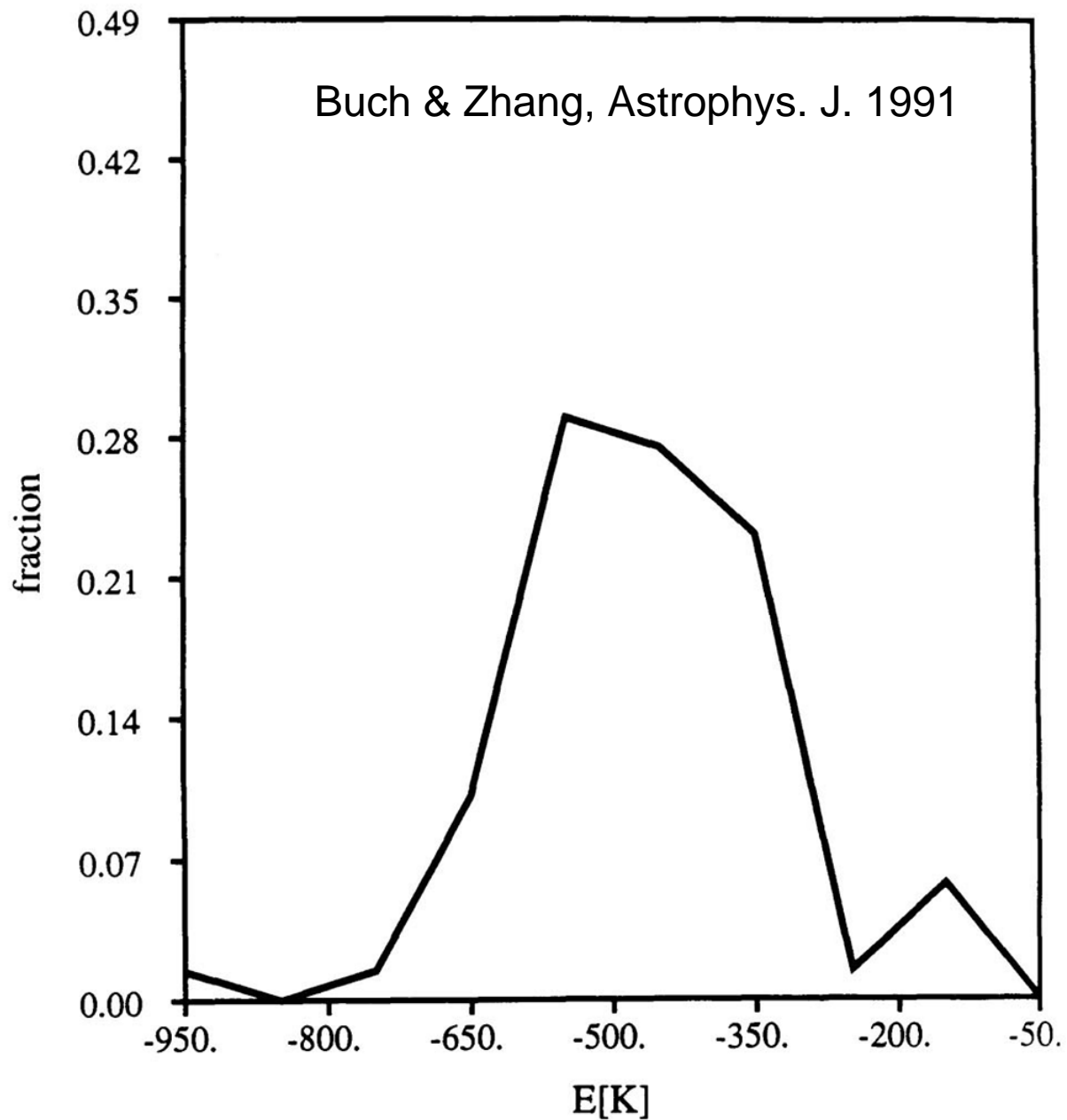
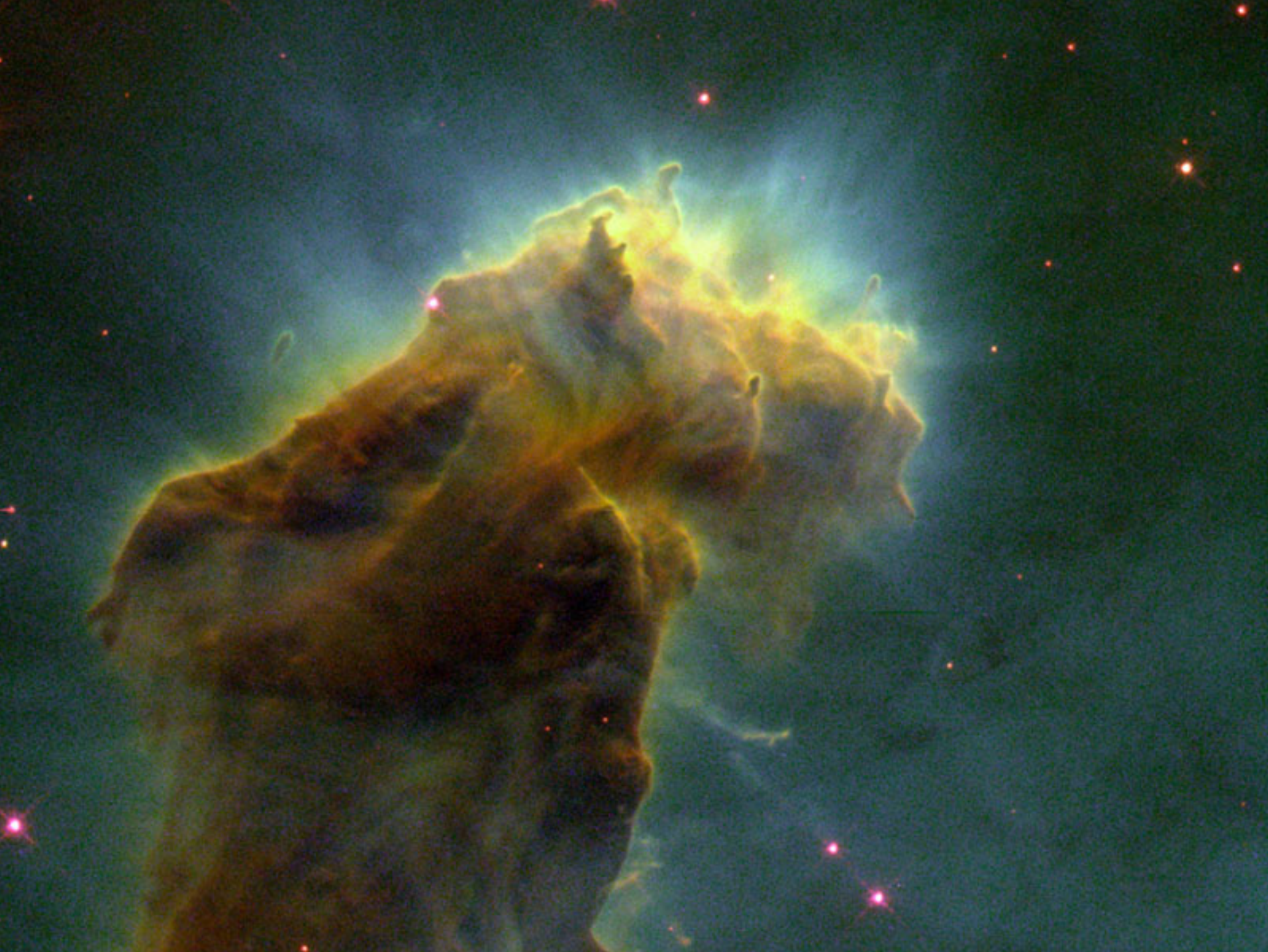


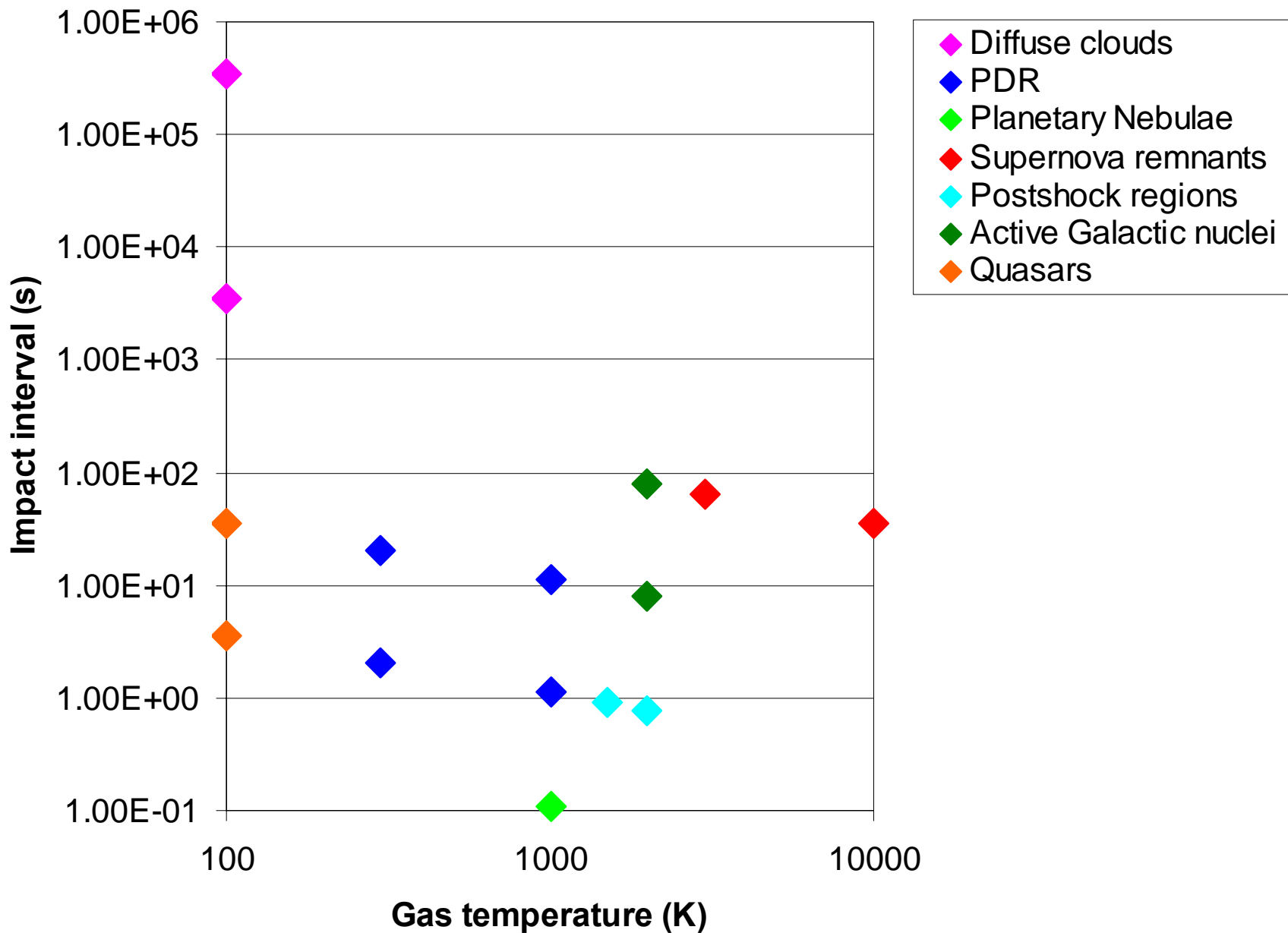
FIG. 2.—The distribution of minimum energies of the H atom on the cluster shown in Fig. 1.

ATOMIC HYDROGEN ON INITIALLY D₂-SATURATED SURFACE

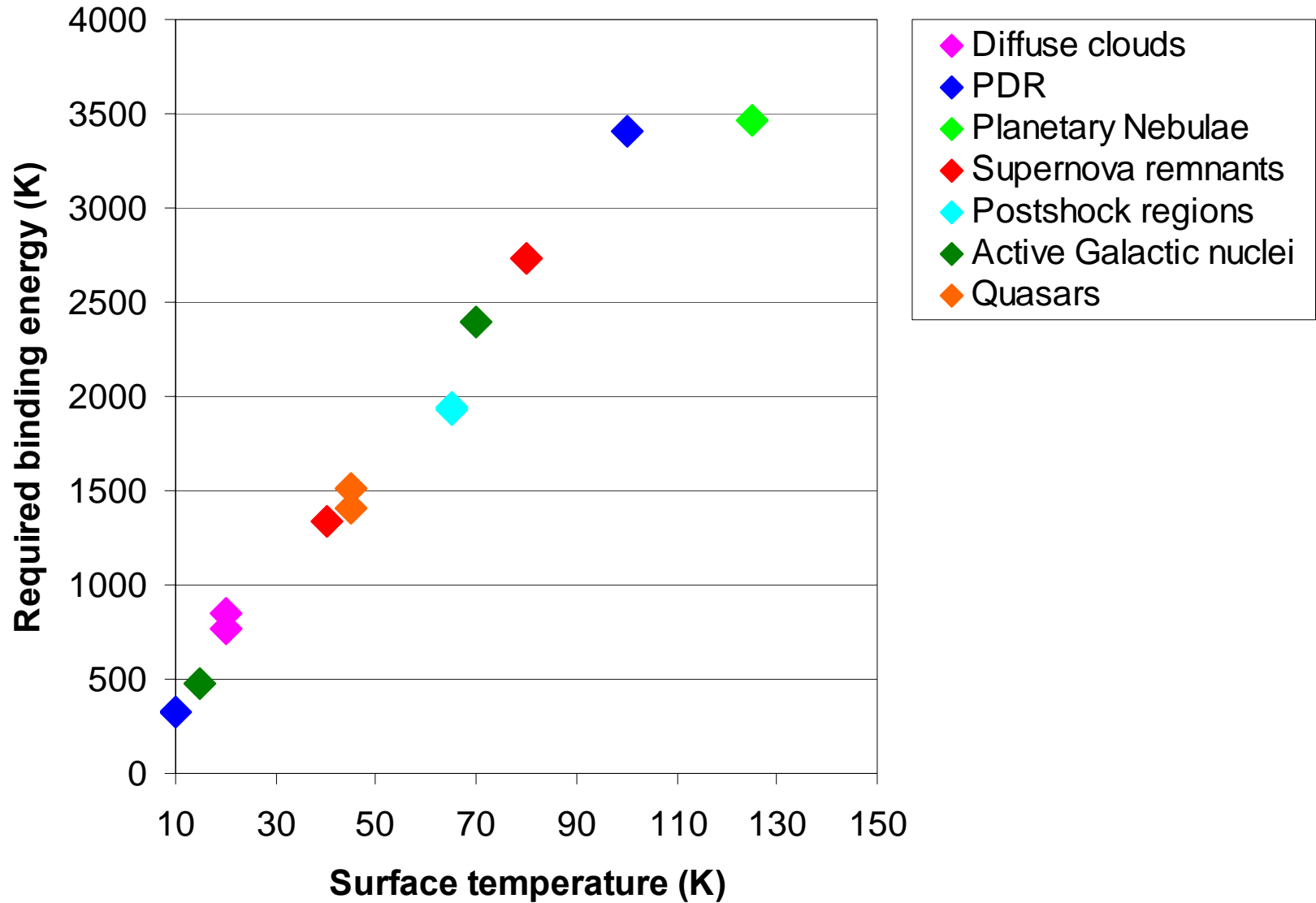
- **Maximum in bolometer signal reflects maximum in recombination probability $S\beta$**
- **At "high" D₂ coverage, S is rather large (0.5 to 0.8), but β is small, because residence time of H is low (small binding energy)**
- **At low D₂ coverage, S is small (0.06 to 0.16), while β approaches 1**
- **Optimum at about 0.25 ML D₂ coverage, with $S = 0.15$ to 0.3 and $\beta \sim 0.5$**
- **Recombination produces internally excited H₂ (most likely about 35 000 K)**



Hydrogen atom impact on 0.1 μm grains



Hydrogen atom impact on 0.1 μm grains



In dense clouds, H₂ will accumulate on the grains until the binding energy becomes low enough for evaporation to balance renewal:

$$10^{13} \exp - \epsilon/kT_s = (S \times nv / 4) / 10^{15}$$

For T = 100 K, v (H₂) = 1.03 x 10⁵ cm/s

$\epsilon / kT_s = \ln (3.88 \times 10^{23} / n)$ gives limiting ϵ

$$\epsilon / kT_s \approx (54.4 - \ln n)$$

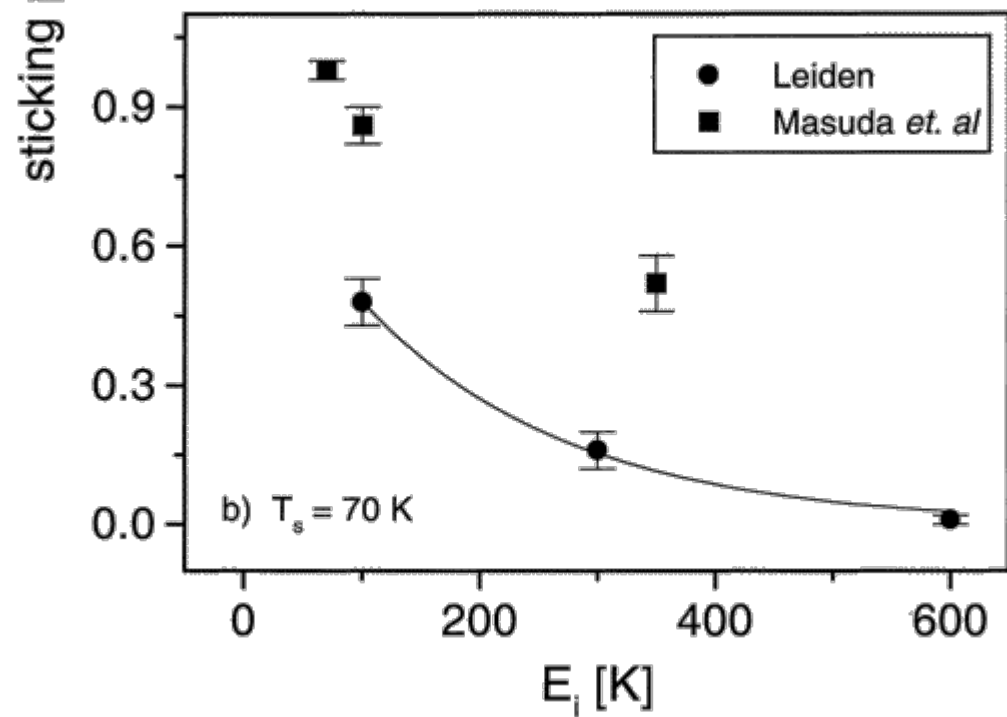
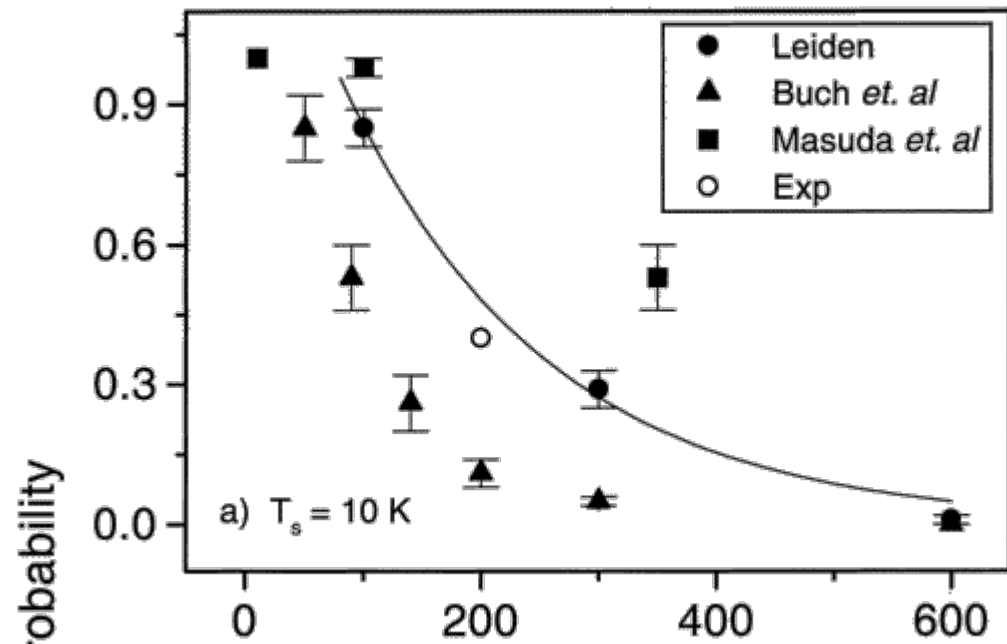
**For grains in dense clouds ($T_s \approx 10$ K, $n_{\text{H}_2} \approx 5 \times 10^3$)
one finds $\varepsilon \approx 460$ K**

**Since these grains are probably covered by water ice,
we can use our H_2 measurements to infer the
corresponding H_2 coverage**

**The result is ≈ 0.2 ML H_2 coverage, i.e. close to optimum
conditions for H recombination: $\beta \approx 0.5$**

**$S = 0.15$ to 0.4 for present $T = 350$ to 400 K,
expect $S \approx 0.9$ for $T = 100$ K (see El Halabi et al.)**

**▶ $S \beta \approx 0.5$ for grains
in dense clouds**



On hydrogen-free grains, recombination is determined by the sticking probability, which is rather small unless the hydrogen atoms are "cold". But those that do stick may recombine with high probability if enhanced-binding sites are available.

On hydrogen-saturated grains, the sticking probability can approach unity, but recombination will be limited by the low binding energy, as molecular hydrogen will effectively compete for the enhanced-binding sites.



Recombination on grains should favour HD and D_2 :

D has higher sticking probability

Adsorbed D has lower zero-point energy and therefore stronger binding

The background of the slide is a photograph of the Horsehead Nebula, a dark nebula in the constellation Orion. It is characterized by its dark, horse-head-like shape against a reddish-brown background of interstellar dust and gas. The nebula is illuminated from behind, creating a glowing edge. Several bright stars are visible in the field of view.

Conclusions from present analysis:

Recombination on grains proceeds according to a Langmuir-Hinshelwood mechanism. Even at 3K, there is no indication of limited surface mobility.

In accordance with theoretical predictions, it produces internally excited molecules.

Much of the recombination energy is therefore lost from the cloud by radiation.