

Direct detection of dark matter through molecular excitations

J. Pérez-Ríos¹, H. Ramani², O. Slone³, E. Figueroa⁴ and R. Essig⁵

¹School of Science and Technology, Universidad del Turabo, USA

²Berkeley Center for Theoretical Physics, Berkeley University, USA

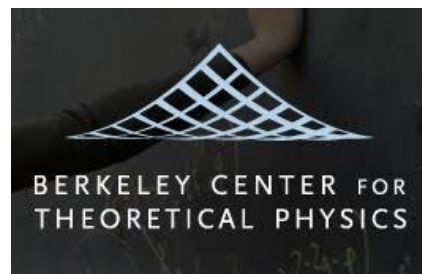
³Princeton Center for Theoretical Science, Princeton University, USA

⁴Department of Physics and Astronomy, Stony Brook University, USA

⁵C. N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics, Stony Brook University, USA



PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY

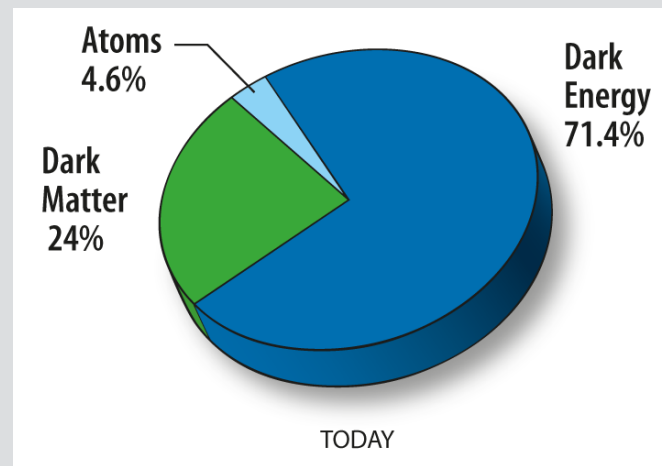


Stony Brook
University

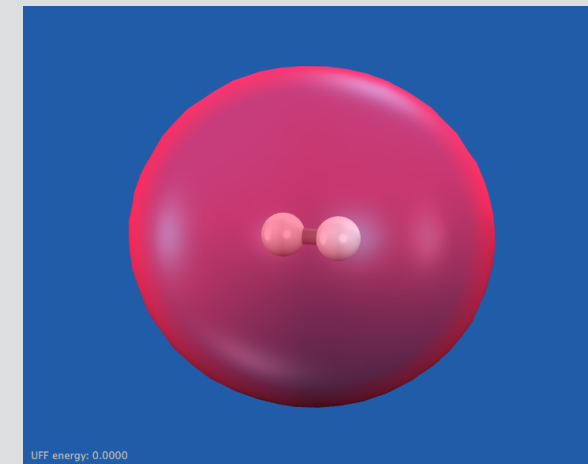


Outlook

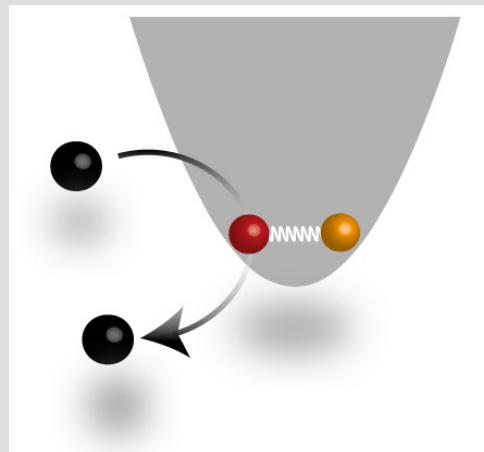
Dark Matter



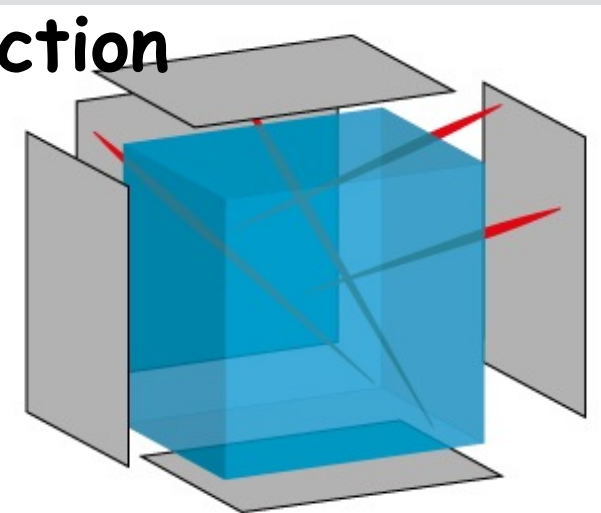
Molecules



Molecules as a probe of DM?

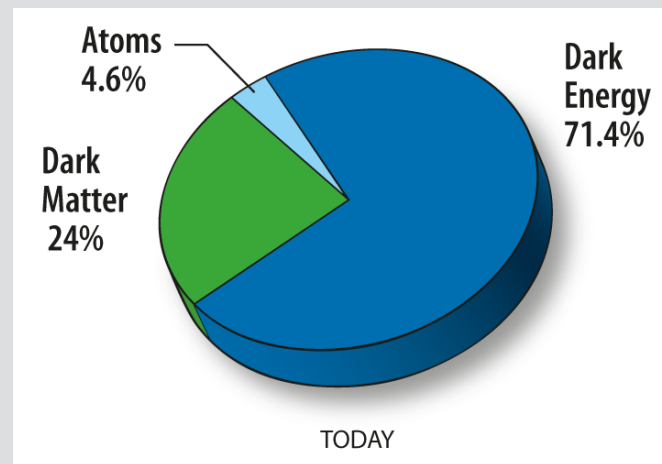


A novel approach for DM detection

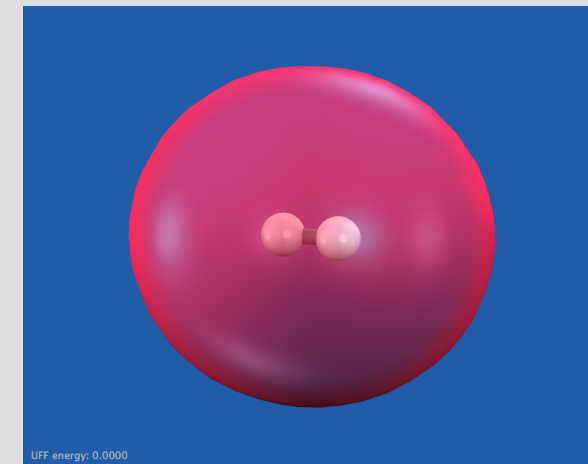


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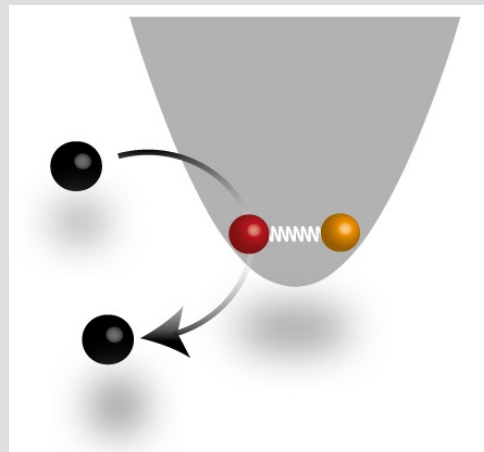
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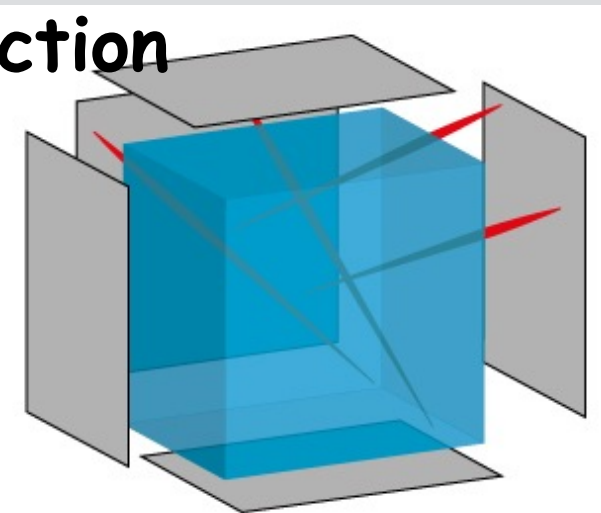
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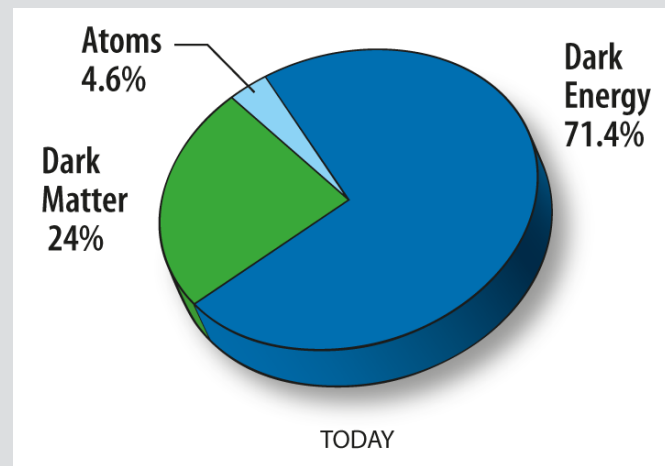


A novel approach for DM detection



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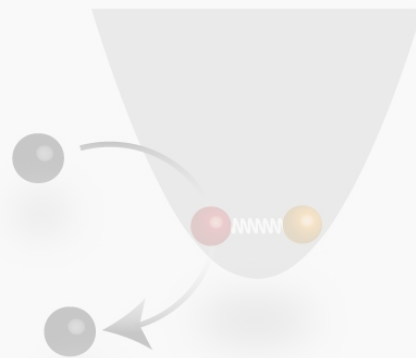
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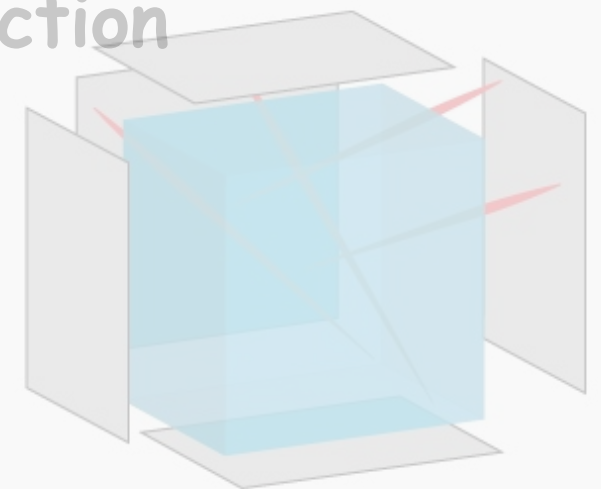
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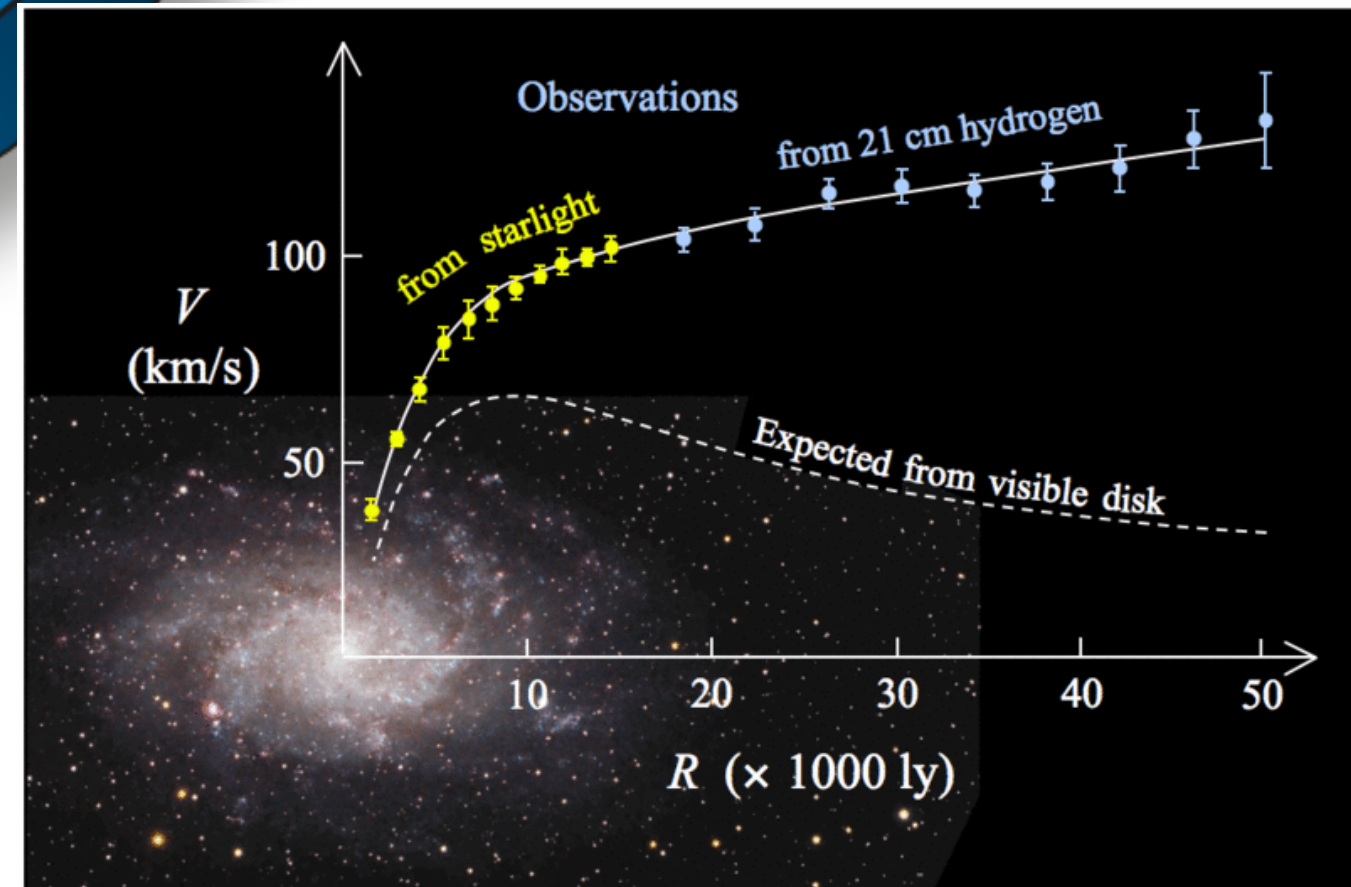
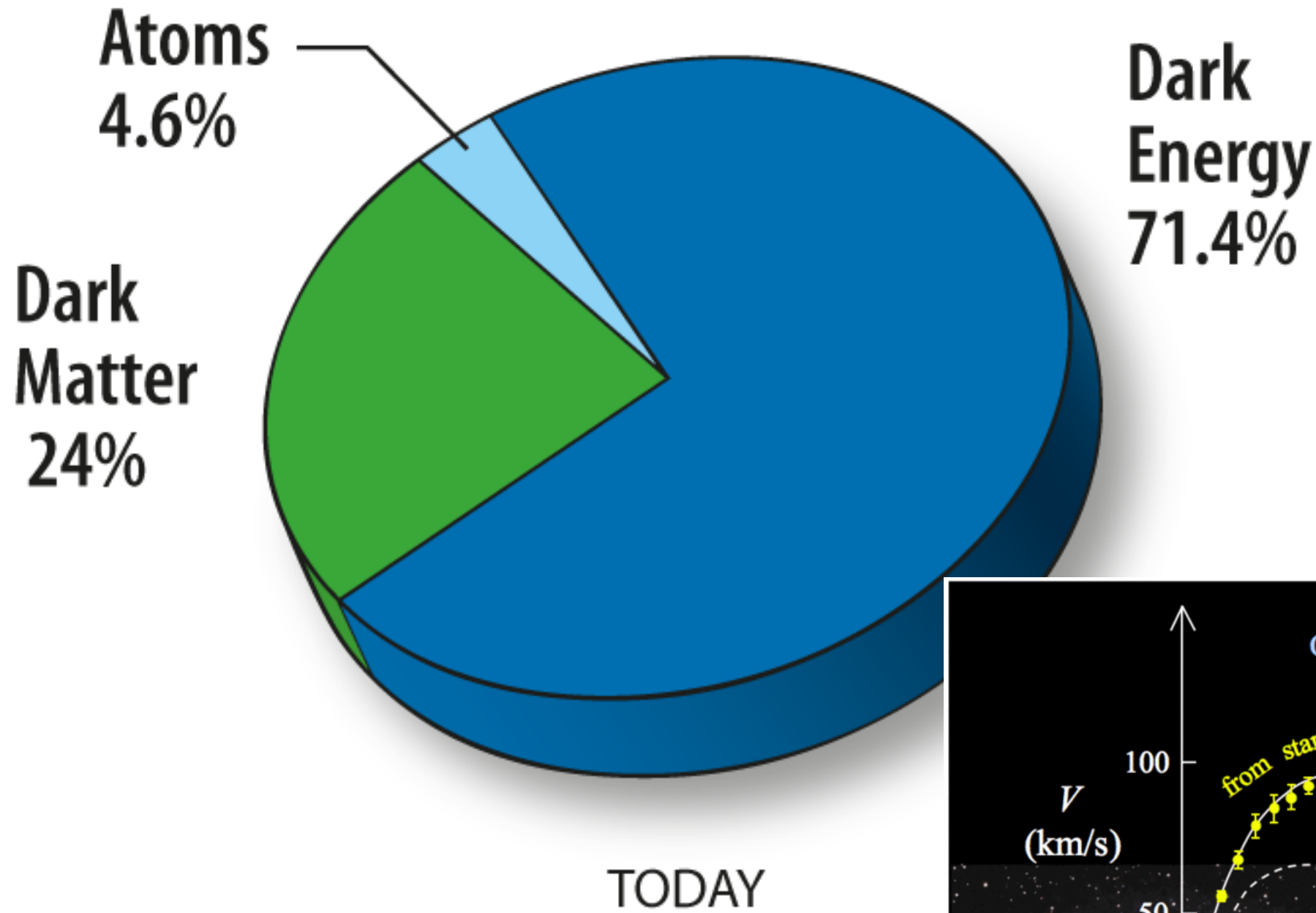
Molecules as a probe of DM?



A novel approach for DM detection



Dark Matter



Dark Matter

Dark Matter Candidates from Particle Physics and Methods of Detection

Jonathan L. Feng

Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Irvine, California 92697;
email: jlf[at]uci.edu

Annu. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 2010. 48:495–545

Table 1 Summary of dark matter particle candidates, their properties, and their potential methods of detection

	WIMPs	SuperWIMPs	Light \tilde{G}	Hidden DM	Sterile ν	Axions
Motivation	GHP	GHP	GHP/NFPF	GHP/NFPF	ν Mass	Strong CP
Naturally Correct Ω	Yes	Yes	No	Possible	No	No
Production Mechanism	Freeze Out	Decay	Thermal	Various	Various	Various
Mass Range	GeV-TeV	GeV-TeV	eV-keV	GeV–TeV	keV	$\mu\text{eV}–\text{meV}$
Temperature	Cold	Cold/Warm	Cold/Warm	Cold/Warm	Warm	Cold
Collisional				✓		
Early Universe		✓✓		✓		
Direct Detection	✓✓			✓		✓✓
Indirect Detection	✓✓	✓		✓	✓✓	
Particle Colliders	✓✓	✓✓	✓✓	✓		

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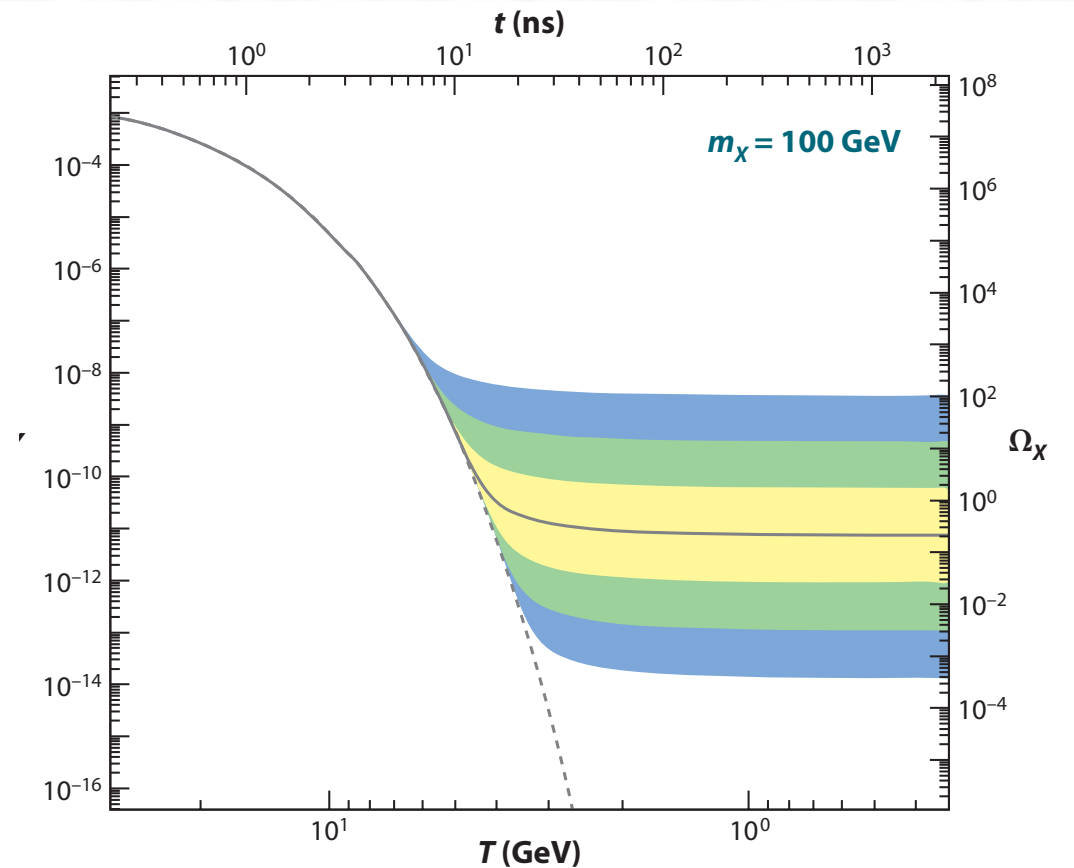


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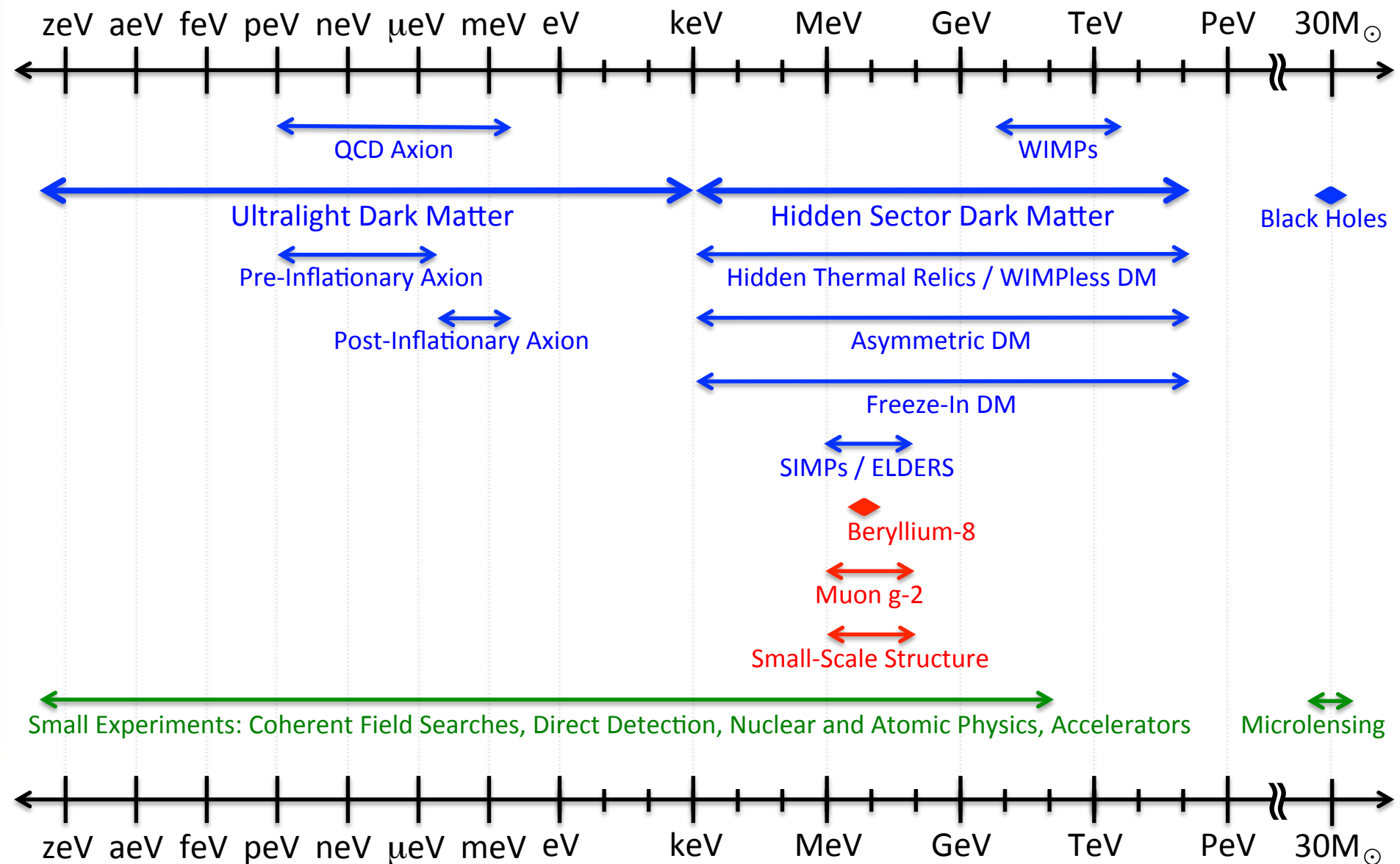
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Dark Matter

US Cosmic Visions: New Ideas in Dark Matter 2017 : Community Report

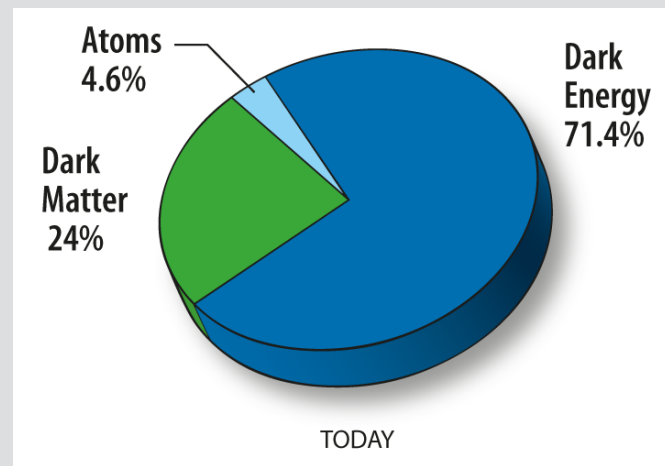
arXiv:1707.04591v1 [hep-ph] 14 Jul 2017

Dark Sector Candidates, Anomalies, and Search Techniques

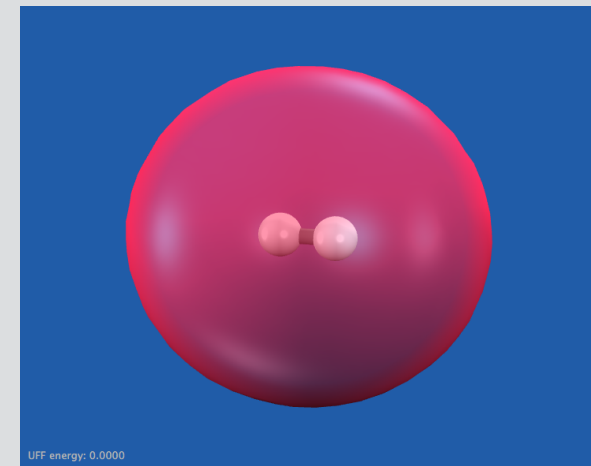


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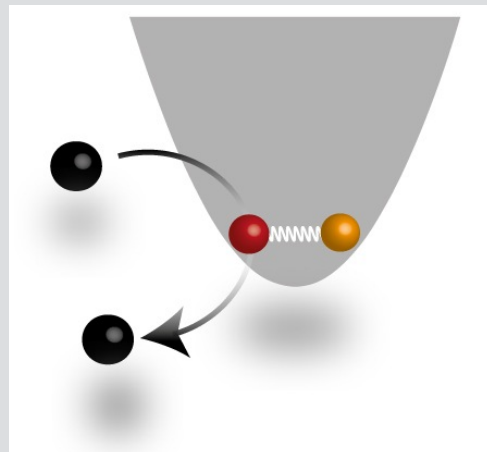
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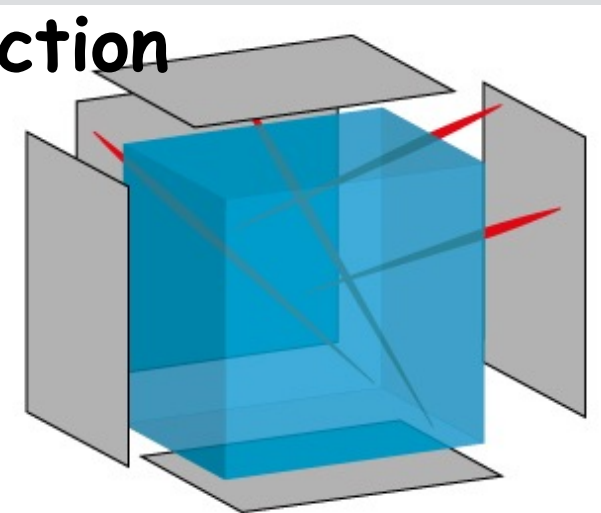
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Molecules as a probe of DM?

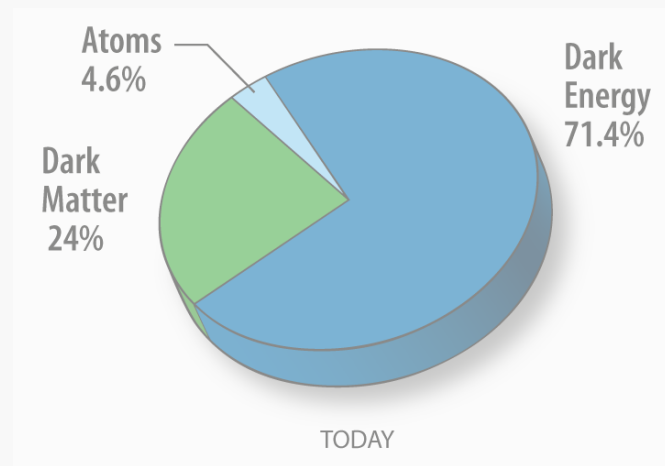


A novel approach for DM detection

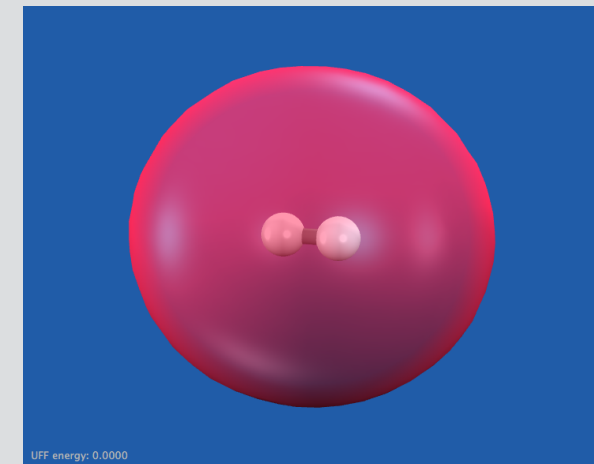


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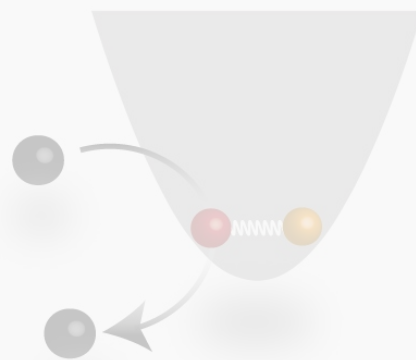
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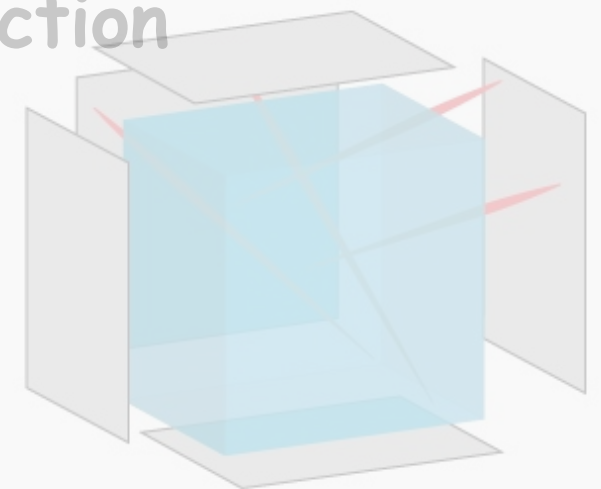
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A novel approach for DM detection



Molecules



Molecules are fun!!!!

$$H = H_{\text{el}} + T_N$$

$$H_{\text{el}} = T_e + V_{ee} + V_{NN} + V_{Ne}$$

Molecules



Molecules are fun!!!!

$$H = H_{el} + T_N$$

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Born-Oppenheimer approximation

$$\Psi(\vec{r}, \vec{R}) = \phi_{el}(\vec{r}; \vec{R})\phi_N(\vec{R})$$

Molecules

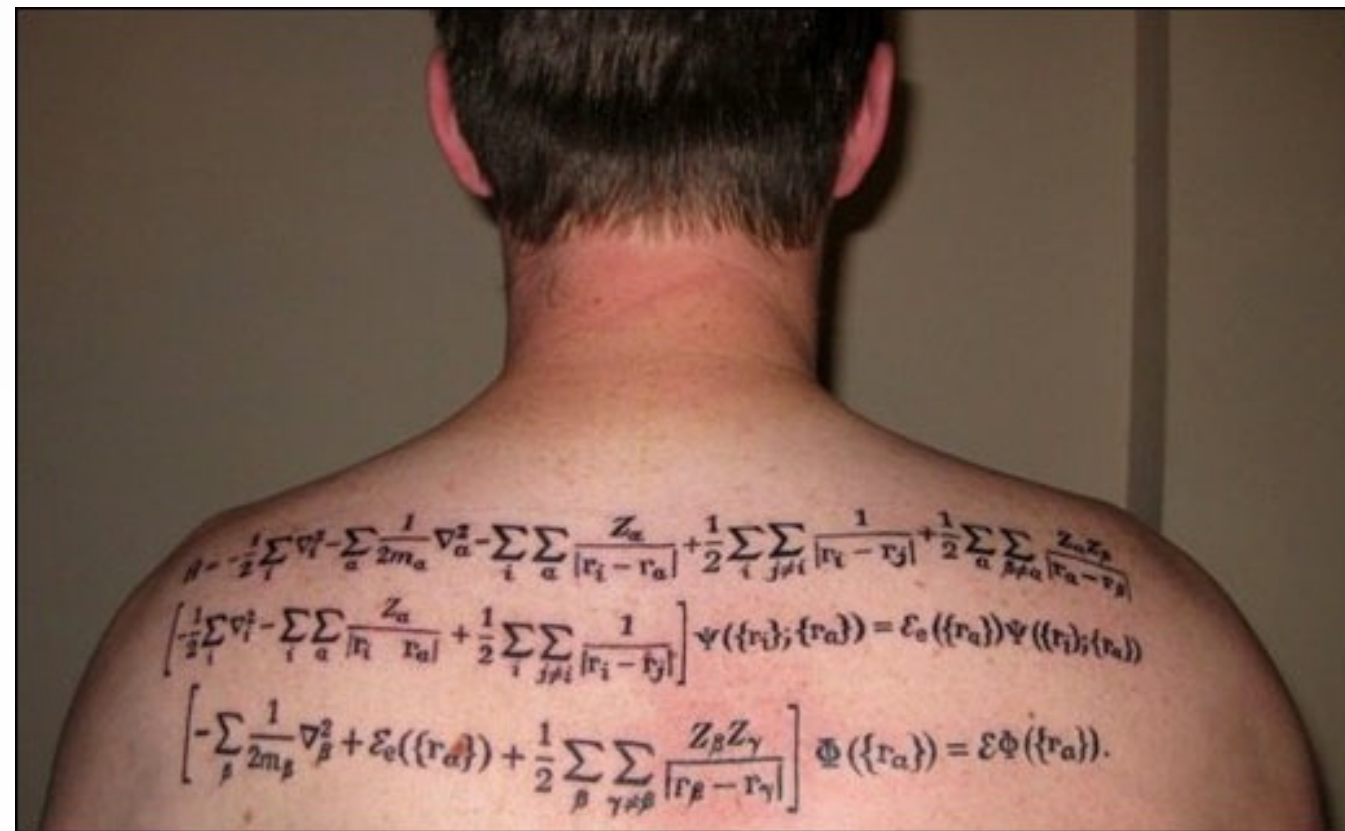
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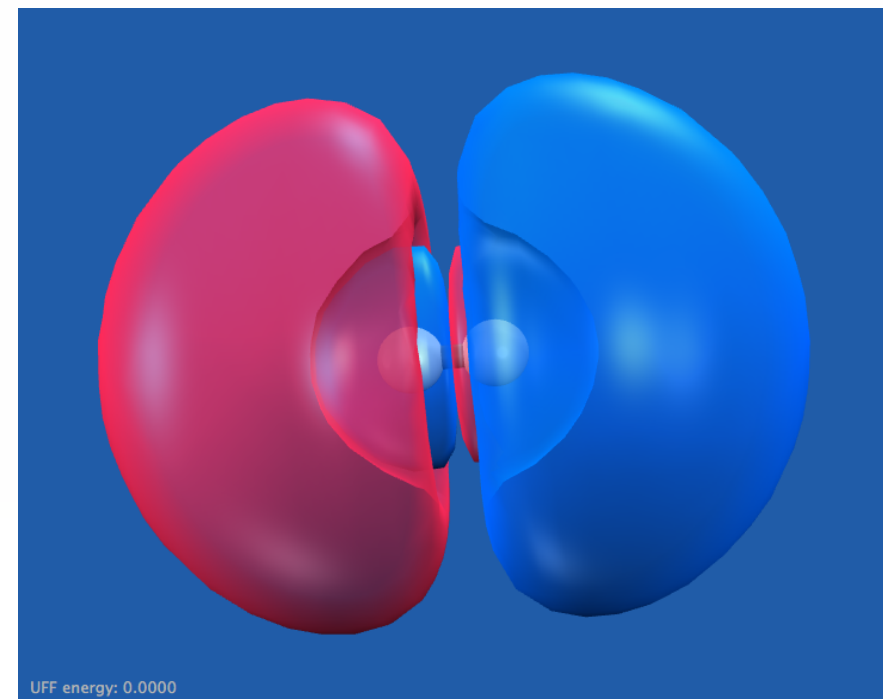
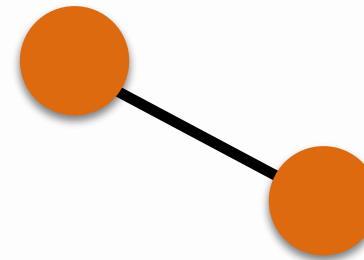
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Molecules

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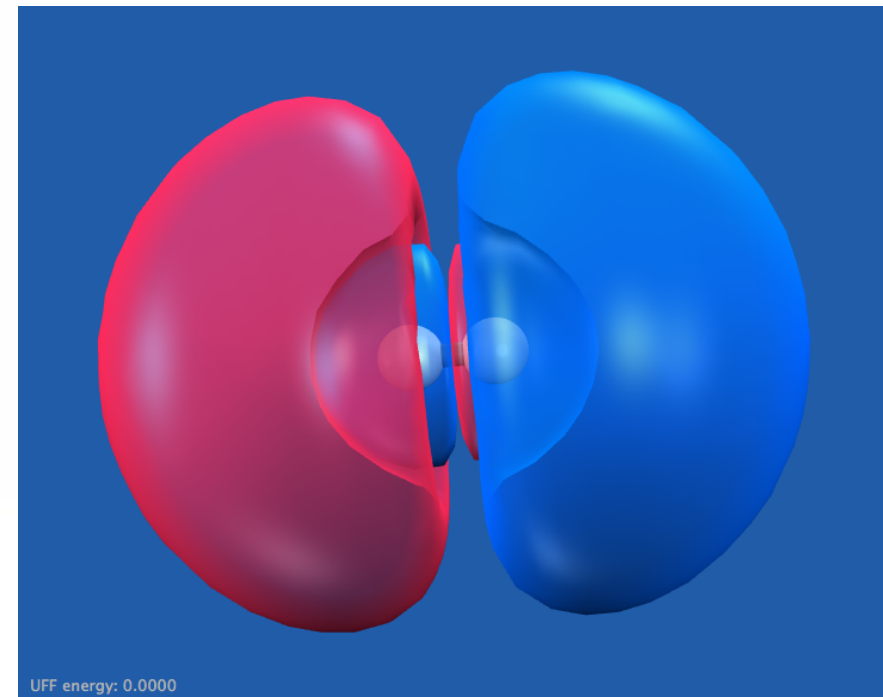
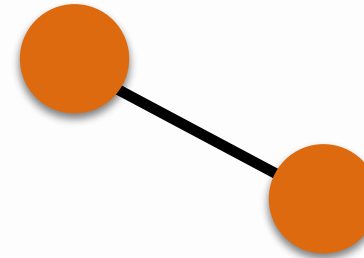
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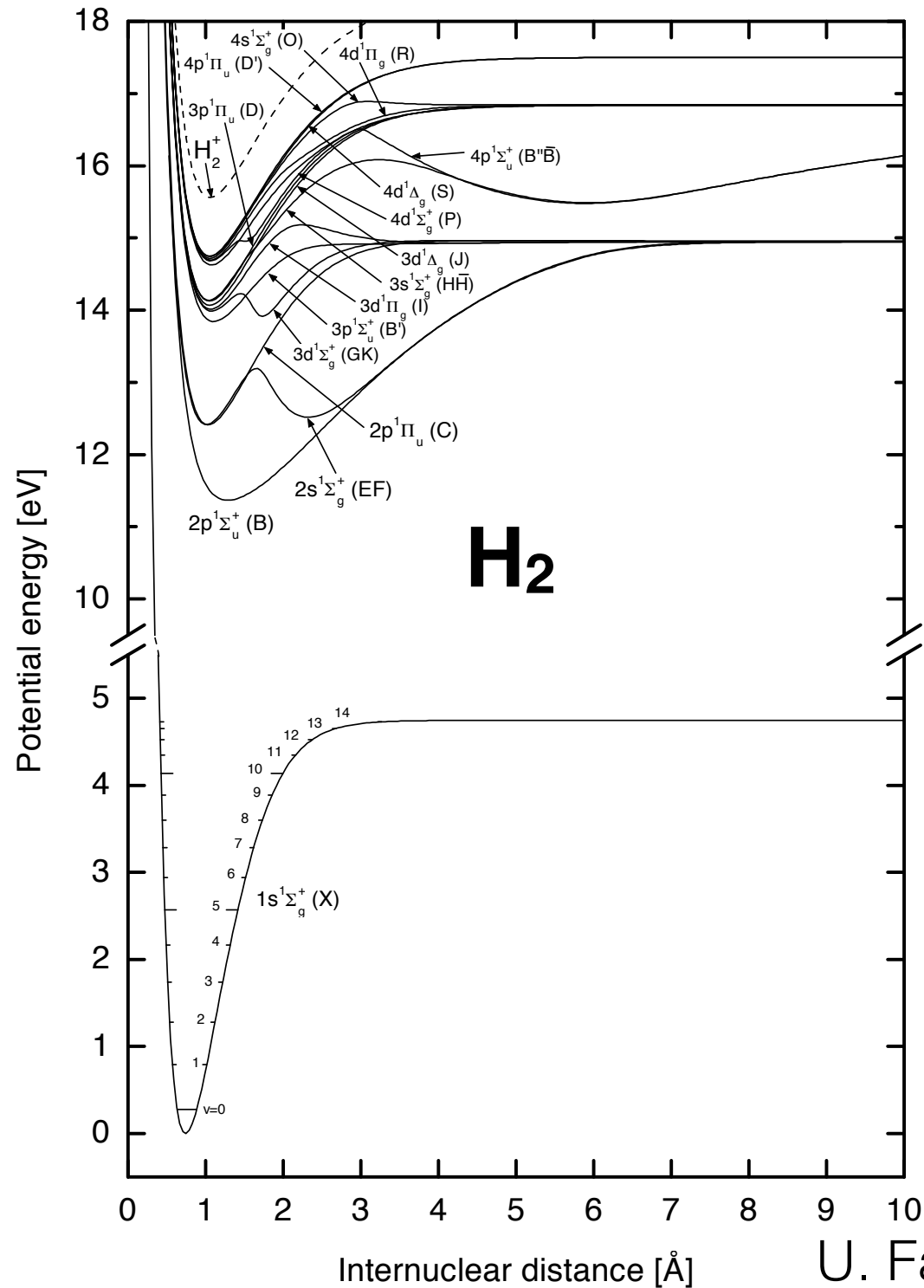
$$H = H_{el} + T_N$$



Molecules

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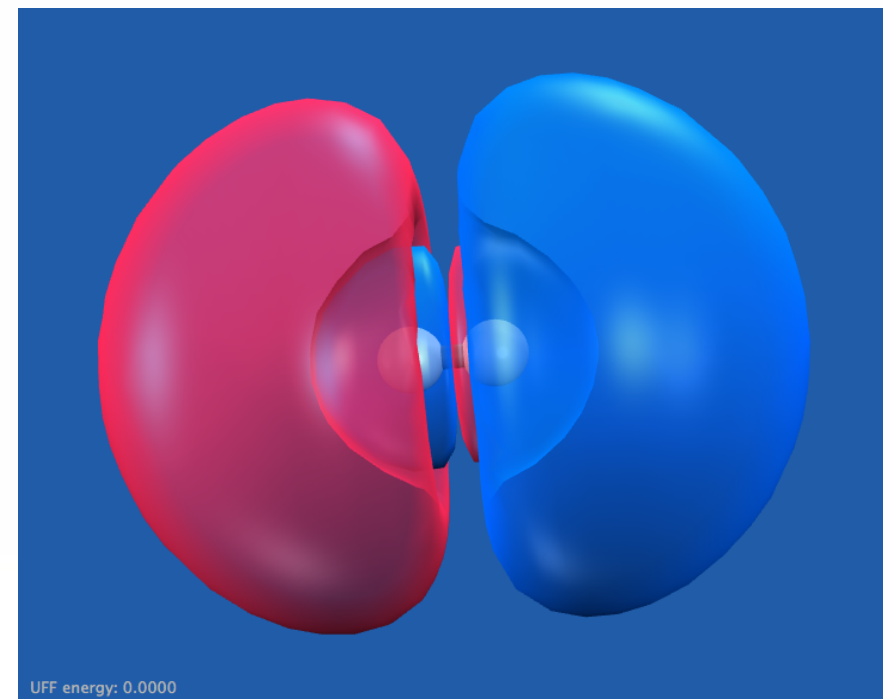
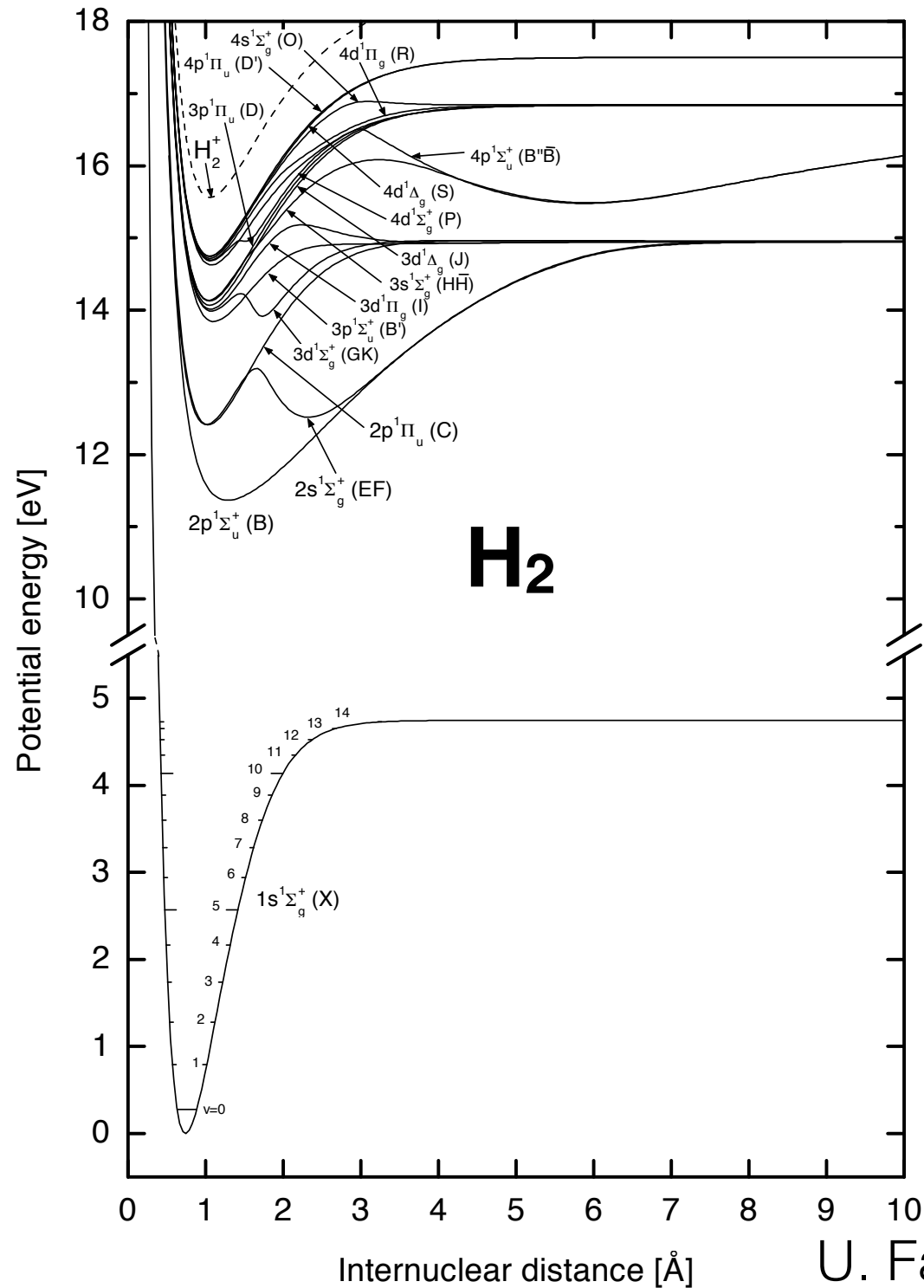
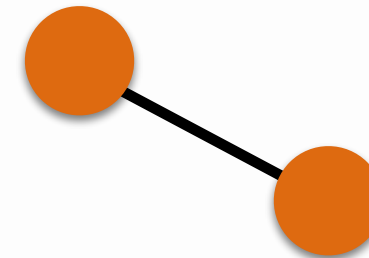


U. Fantz and D. Wunderlich

Molecules

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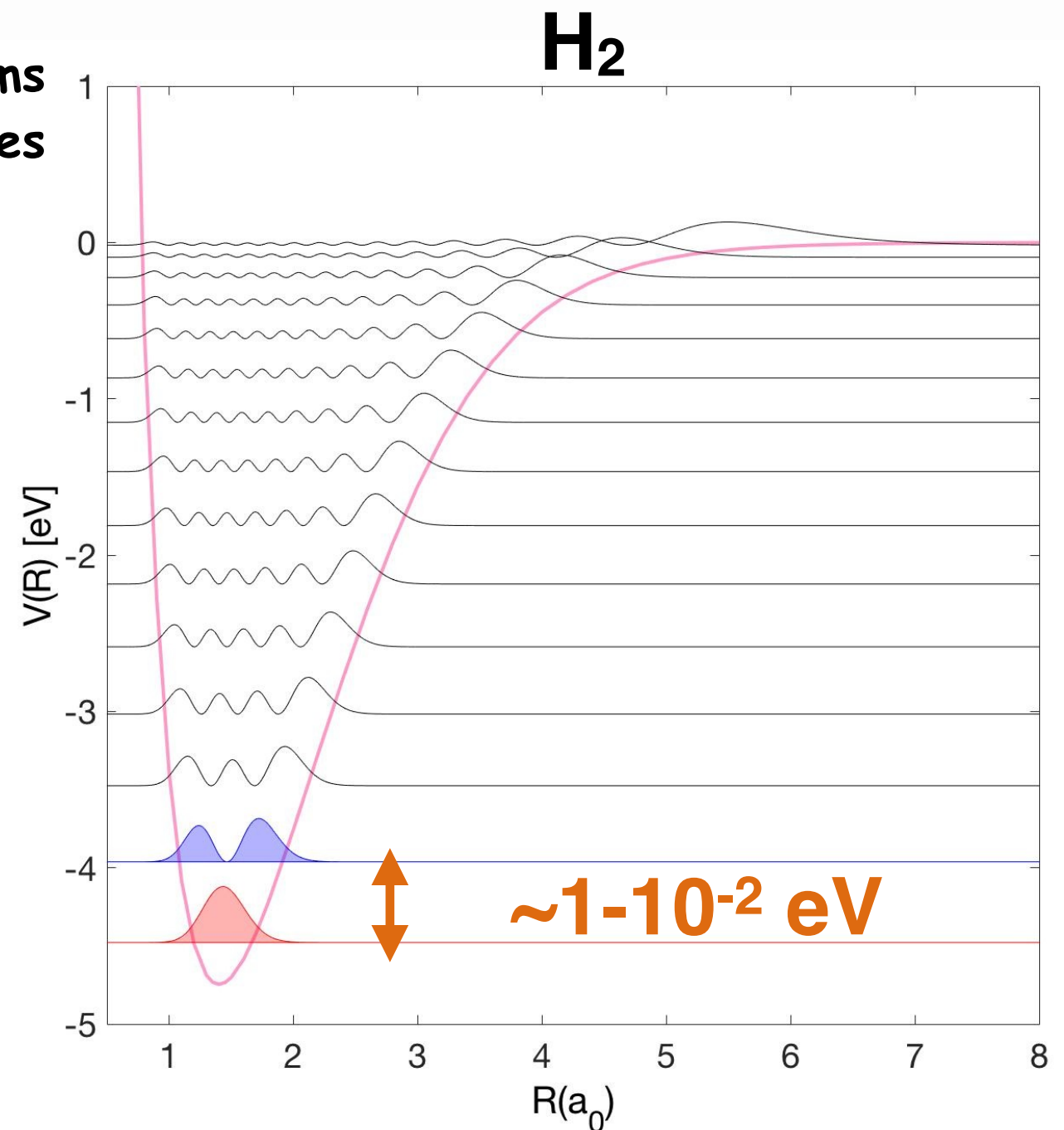
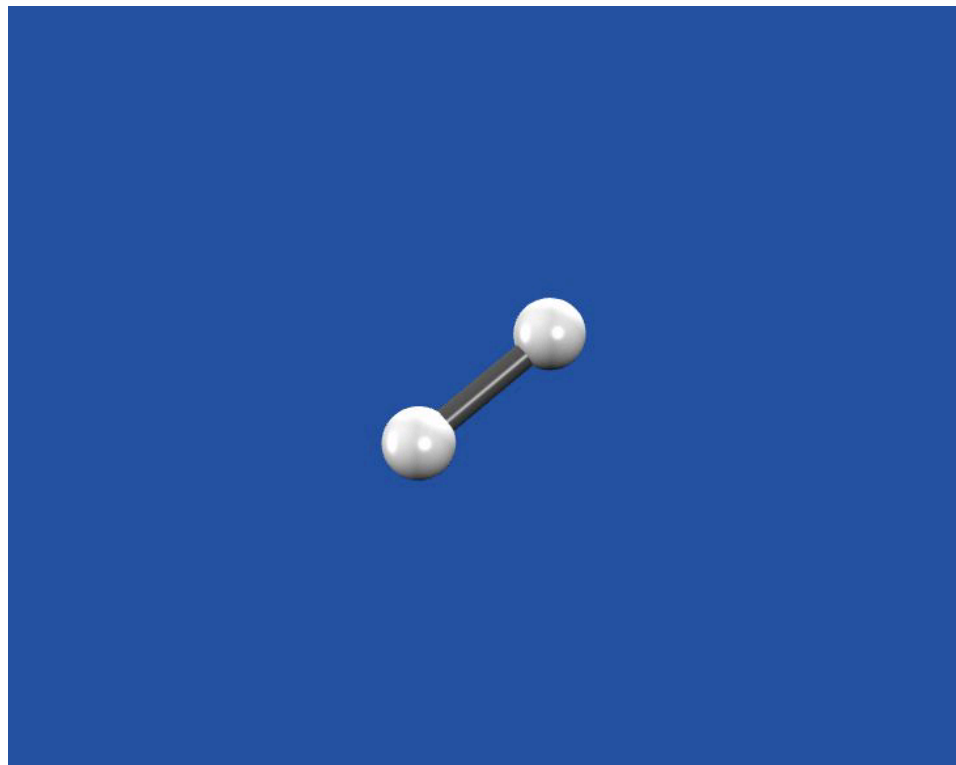


Molecules

Molecules are fun!!!!

Molecules are more versatile than atoms thanks to the presence of internal degrees of freedom:

- Electronic
- Vibrational
- Rotational

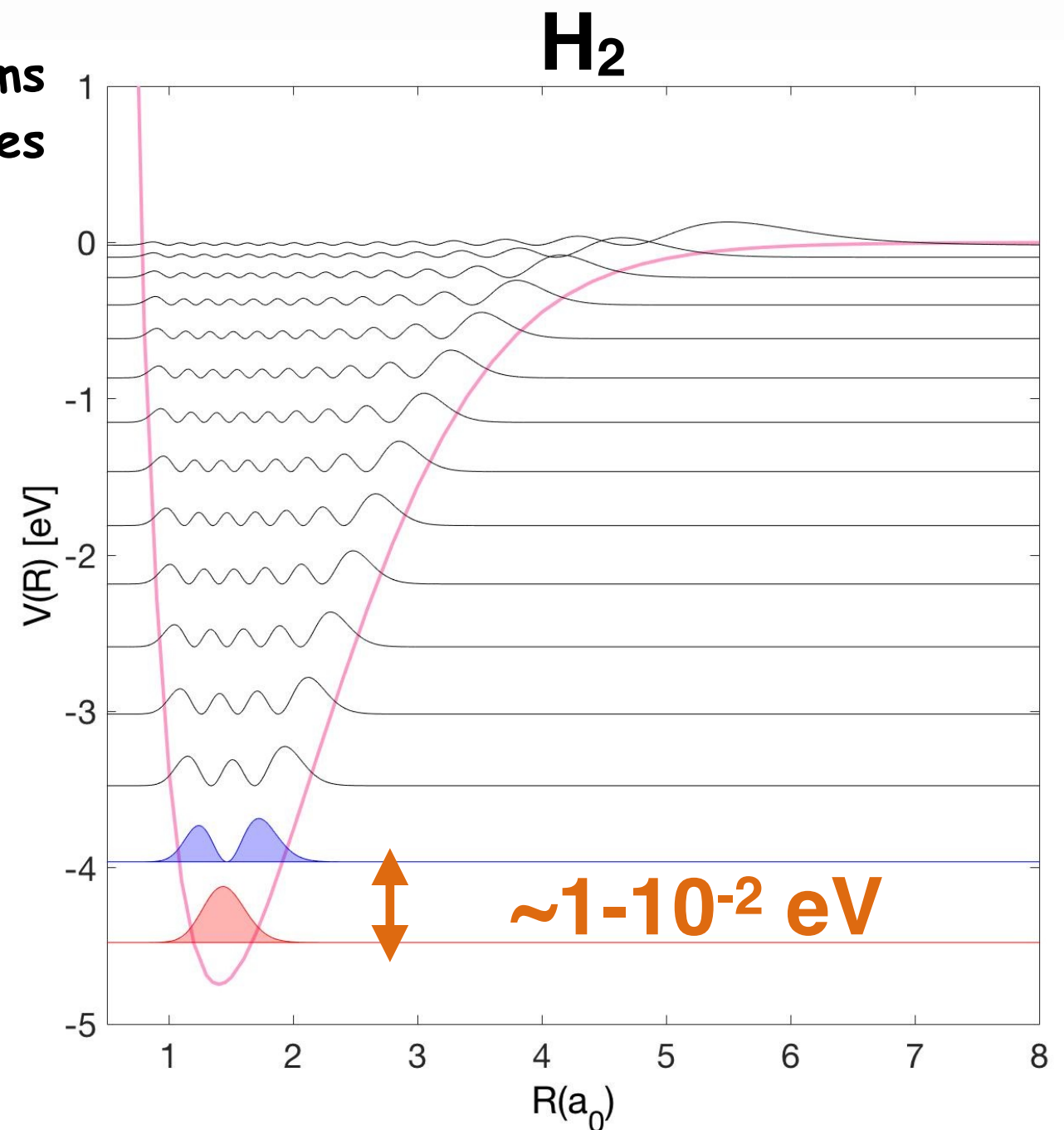
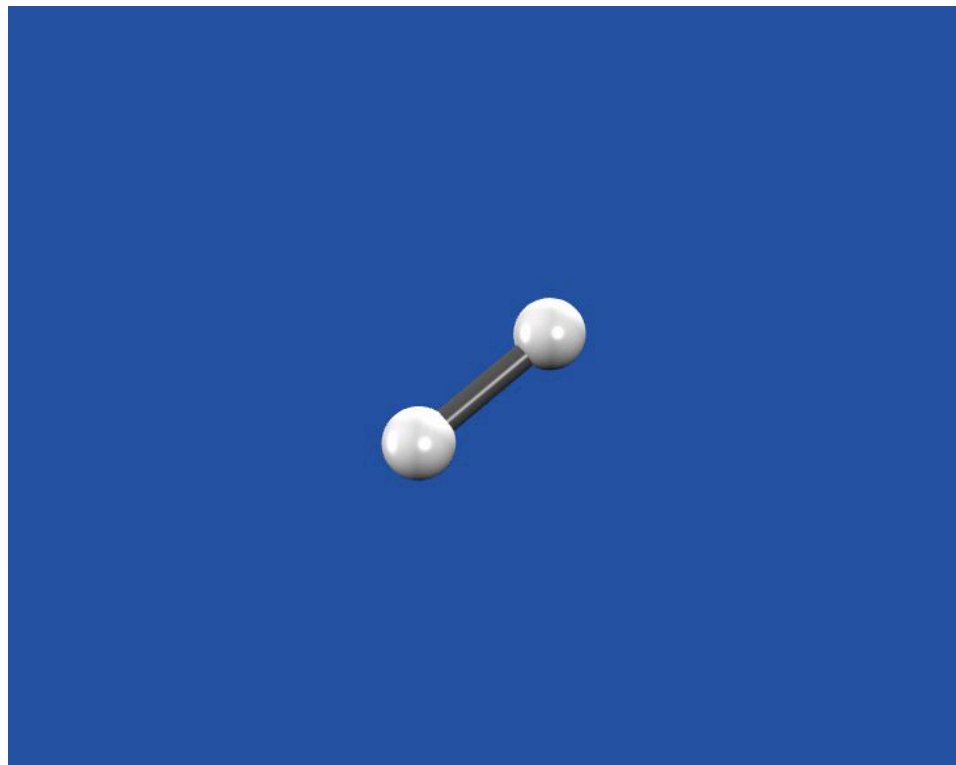


Molecules

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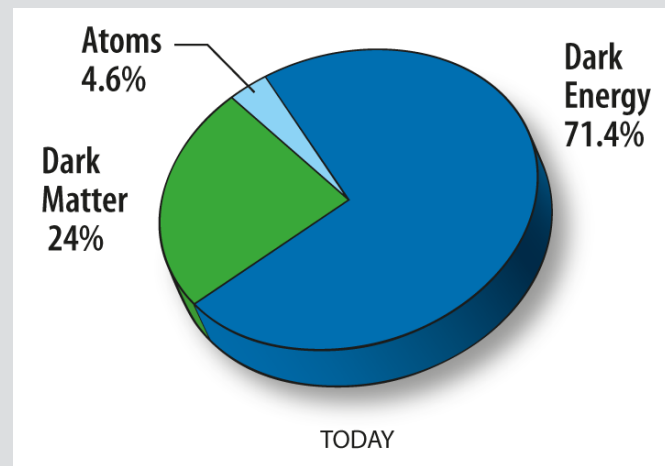
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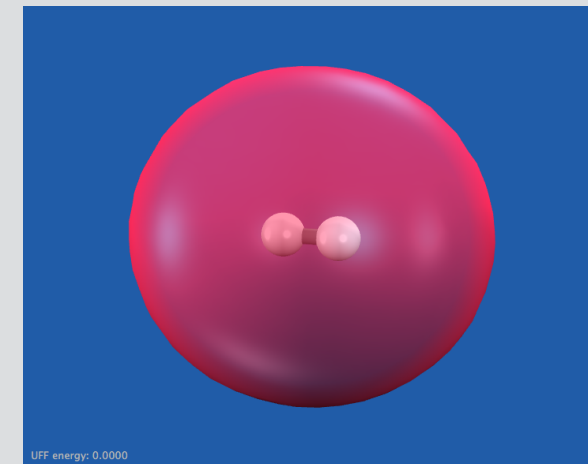


Outlook

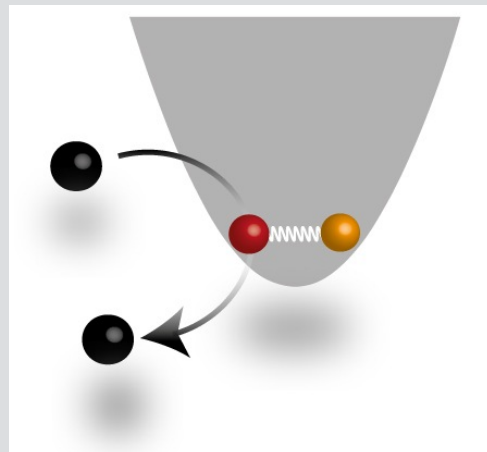
Dark Matter



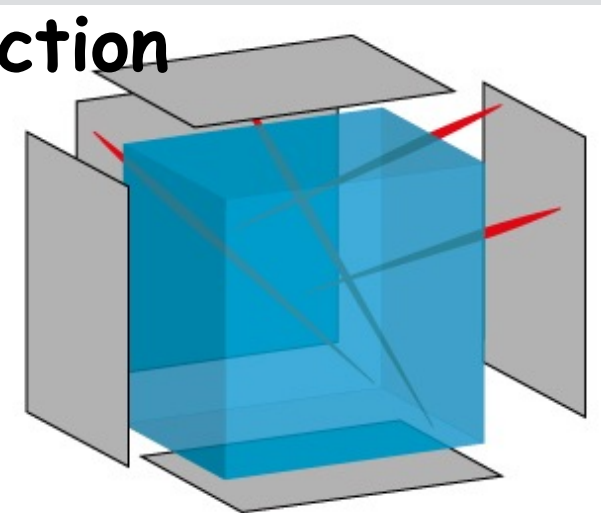
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Molecules as a probe of DM?

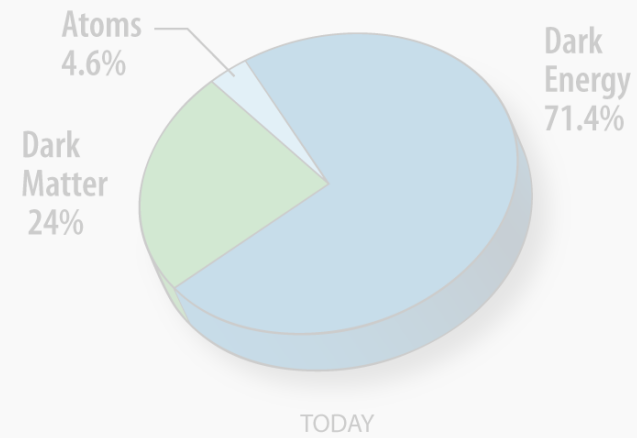


A novel approach for DM detection



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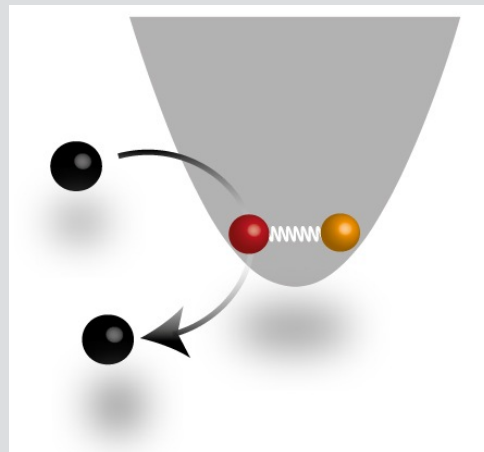
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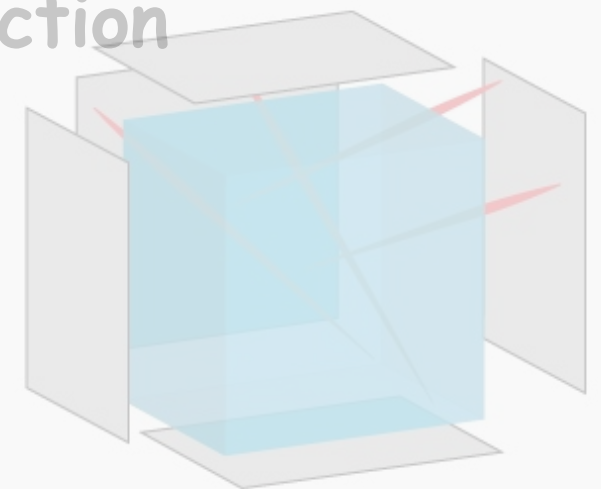
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Molecules as a probe of DM?



A novel approach for DM detection



Molecules as a probe of DM?

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **85**, 076007 (2012)

Direct detection of sub-GeV dark matter

Rouven Essig,¹ Jeremy Mardon,^{2,3,4} and Tomer Volansky^{2,3}

¹*SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Stanford University, Menlo Park, California 94025, USA*

²*Berkeley Center for Theoretical Physics, Department of Physics, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720, USA*

³*Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720, USA*

⁴*Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics, Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA*

(Received 2 October 2011; published 9 April 2012)

$$E_{\text{tot}} = m_{\text{DM}} v^2 / 2 = 50 \text{ eV} \times (m_{\text{DM}} / 100 \text{ MeV})$$

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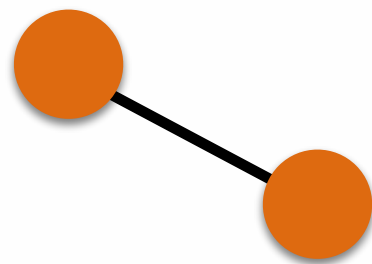
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Vibration of molecules

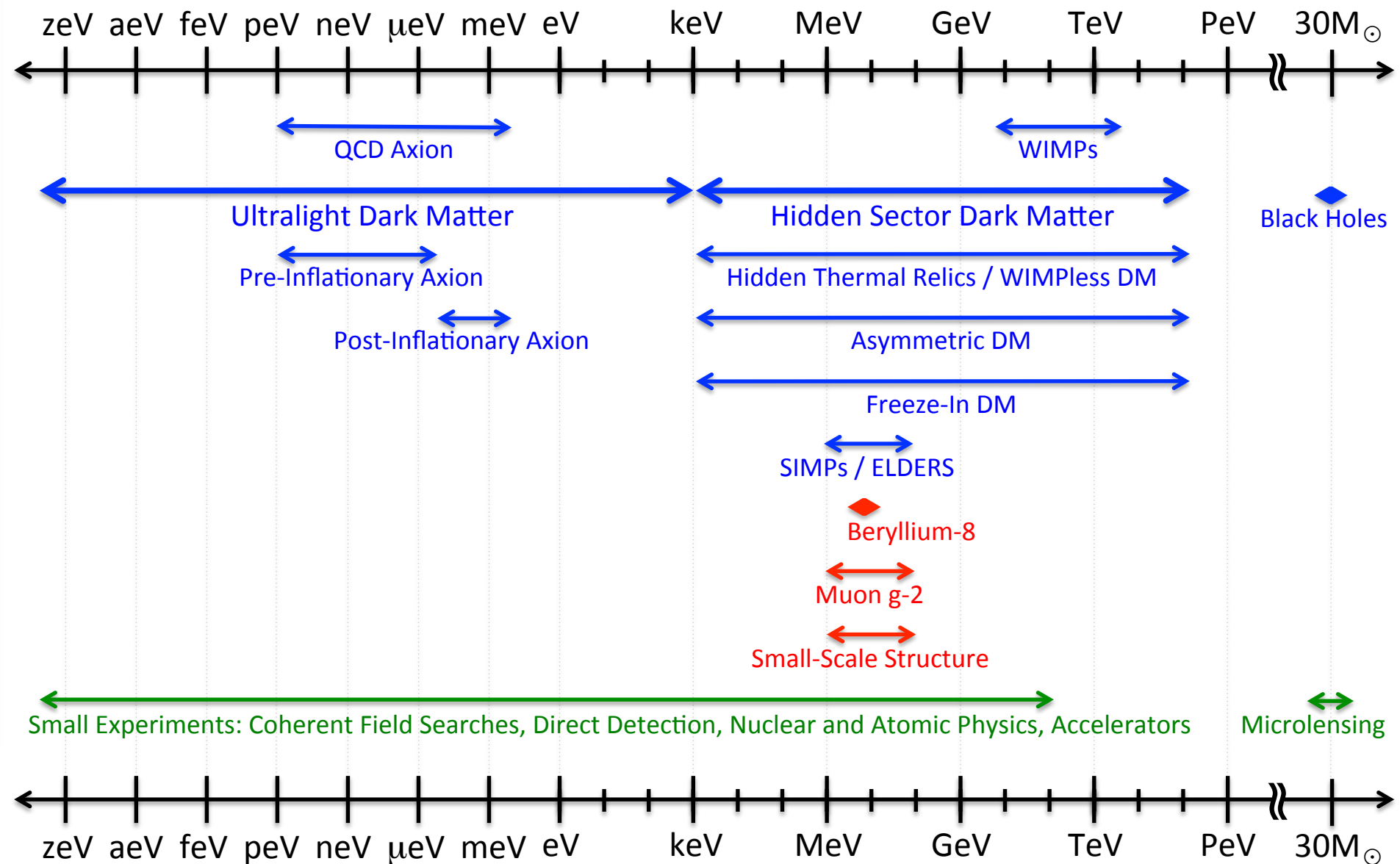
$$m_{\text{DM}} \sim \text{MeV}$$

Molecules as a probe of DM?

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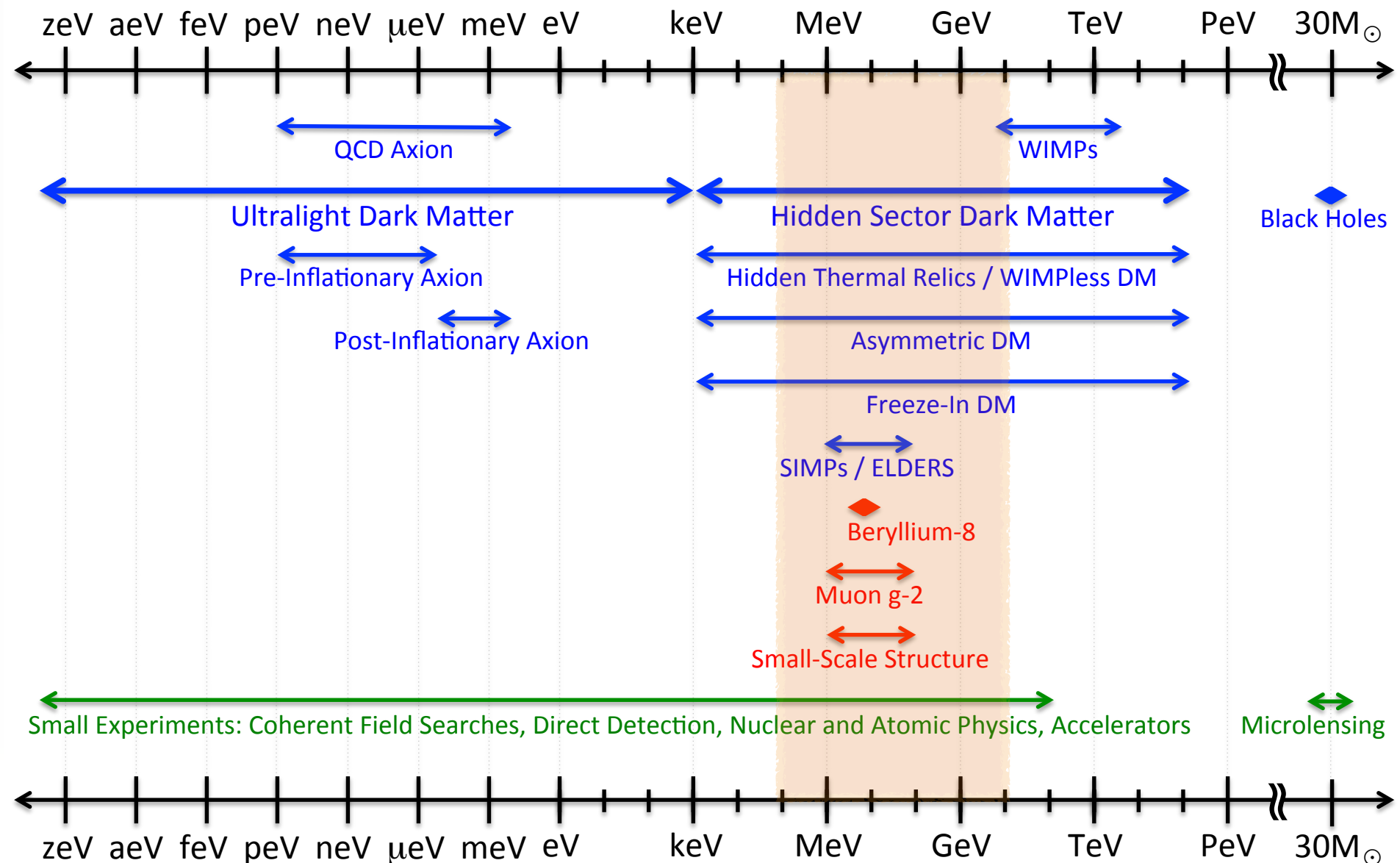


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Dark Sector Candidates, Anomalies, and Search Techniques



Molecules as a probe of DM?

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **95**, 056011 (2017)

Detection of sub-GeV dark matter and solar neutrinos via chemical-bond breaking

Rouven Essig,^{1,*} Jeremy Mardon,^{2,†} Oren Slone,^{3,‡} and Tomer Volansky^{3,§}

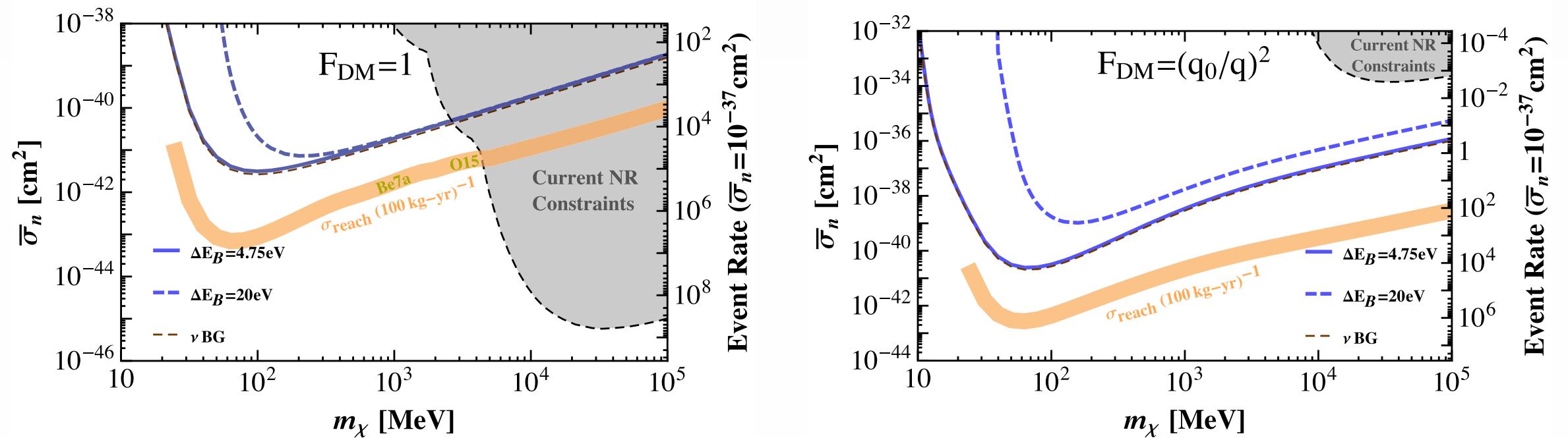
¹*C.N. Yang Institute for Theoretical Physics, Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, New York 11794, USA*

²*Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics, Department of Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA*

³*Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Physics and Astronomy, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv 69978, Israel*

(Received 11 December 2016; published 8 March 2017)

H₂-like Molecule



Molecules as a probe of DM?

Direct Detection of Light Dark Matter and Solar Neutrinos via Color Center Production in Crystals

Ranny Budnik

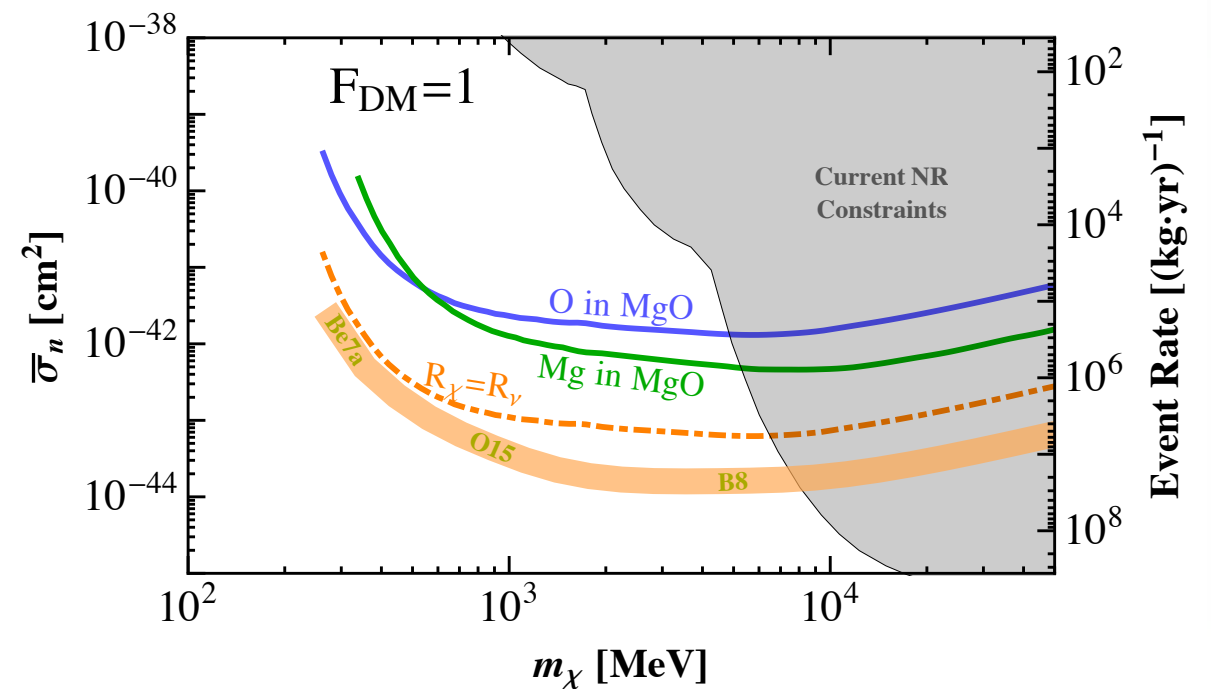
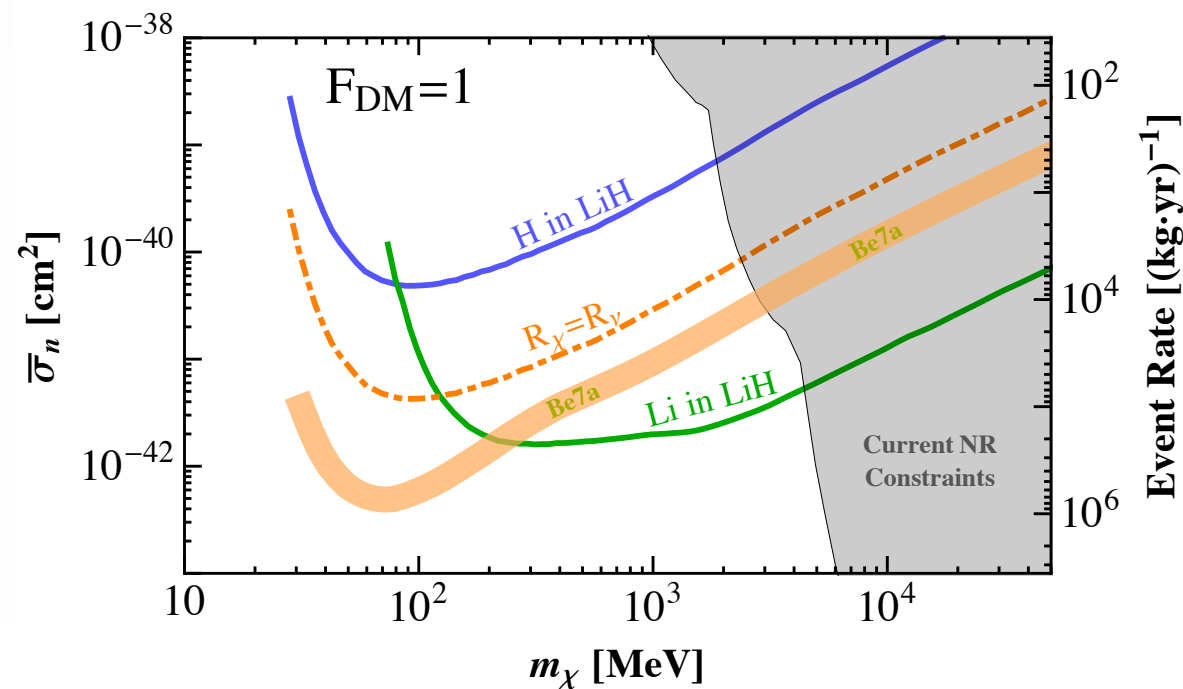
*Department of Particle Physics and Astrophysics, Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel**

Ori Chesnovsky

Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Chemistry, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel†

Oren Slone and Tomer Volansky

Raymond and Beverly Sackler School of Physics and Astronomy, Tel-Aviv University, Tel-Aviv, Israel‡



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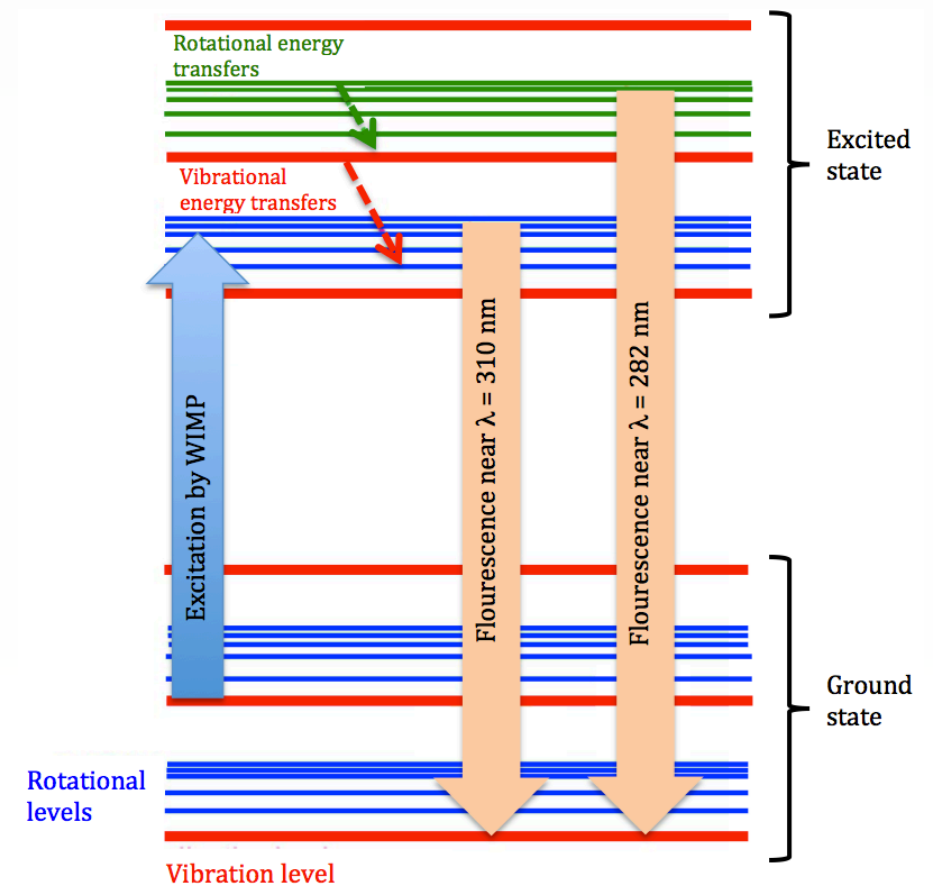
Molecular excitations: a new way to detect Dark matter

J.Va'vra

SLAC, Stanford University, CA94309, U.S.A.
e-mail: jjv@slac.stanford.edu

Table 1. A simple calculation of the transition wavelength for several frequency overtones of the OH-radicals. The last two modes correspond to visible wavelengths. Higher modes can reach the UV regime [6].

OH-band identity	Transition	Calculated wavelength [nm]
ν_1	$0 \rightarrow 1$	2803
$2\nu_1$	$0 \rightarrow 2$	1436
$3\nu_1$	$0 \rightarrow 3$	980
$4\nu_1$	$0 \rightarrow 4$	755
$5\nu_1$	$0 \rightarrow 5$	619.5



Molecules as a probe of DM?

Resonant absorption of bosonic dark matter in molecules

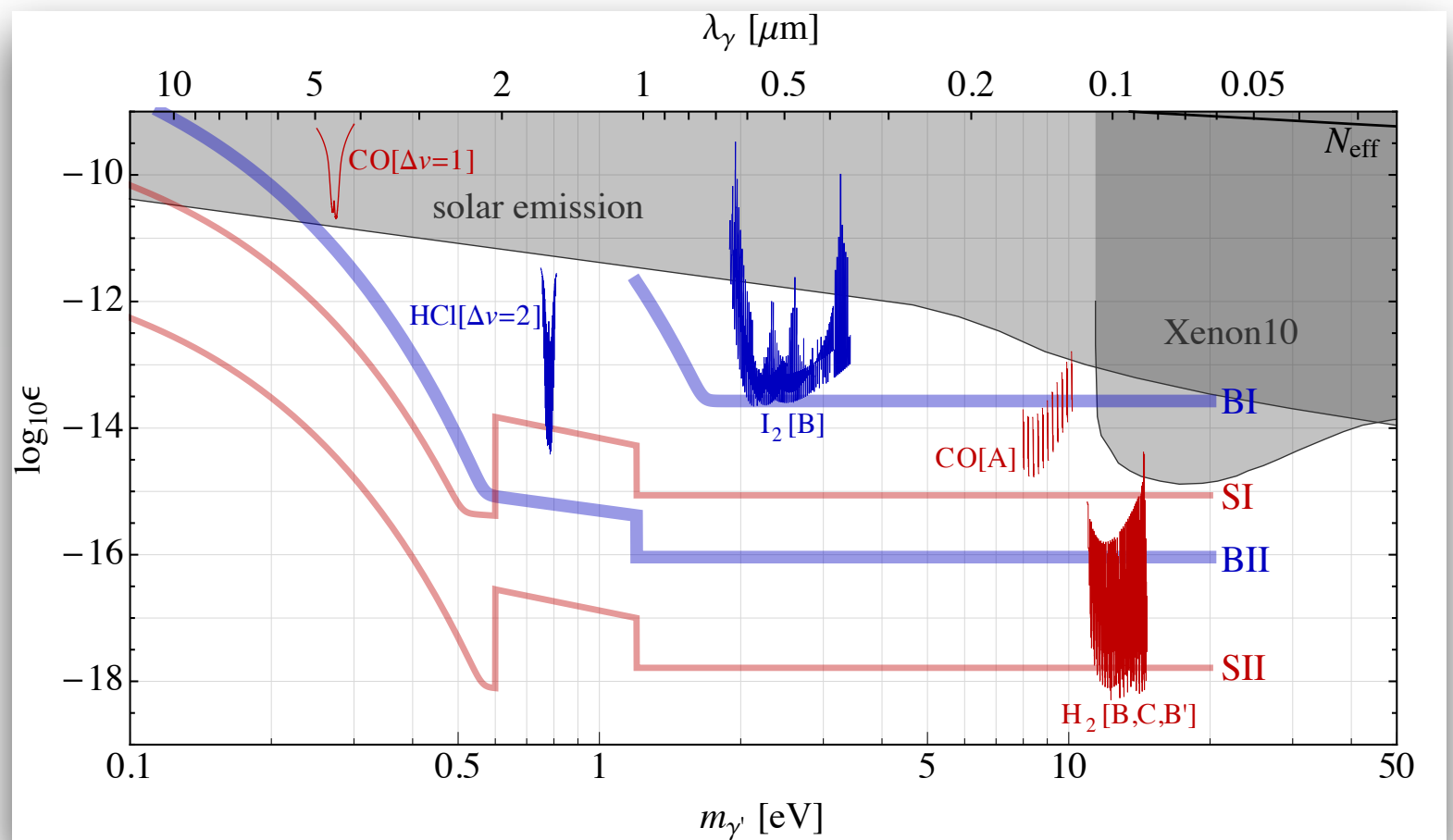
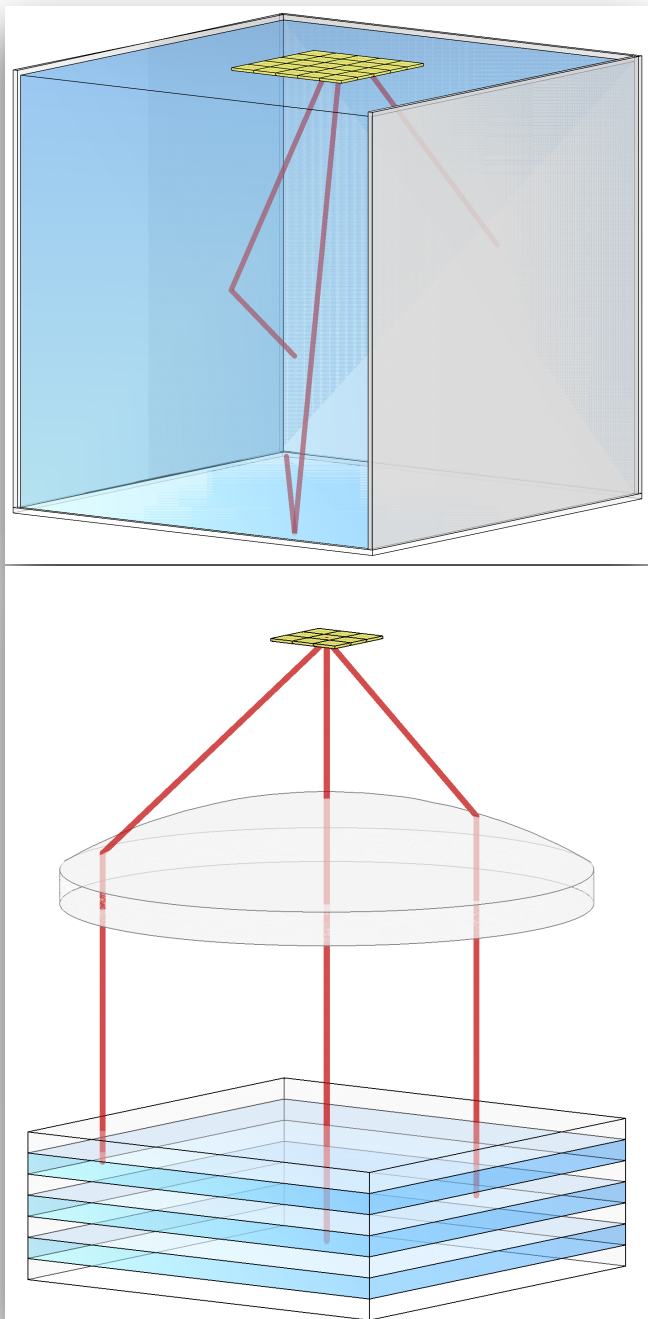
Asimina Arvanitaki,^{1,*} Savas Dimopoulos,^{2,†} and Ken Van Tilburg^{3,4,‡}

¹*Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics, Waterloo, Ontario N2L 2Y5, Canada*

²*Stanford Institute for Theoretical Physics, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305, USA*

³*School of Natural Sciences, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ 08540, USA*

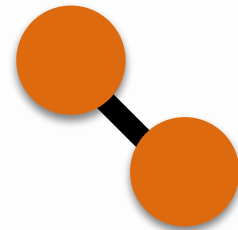
⁴*Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics, Department of Physics, New York University, New York, NY 10003*



Molecules as a probe of DM?



Kinematic constraints

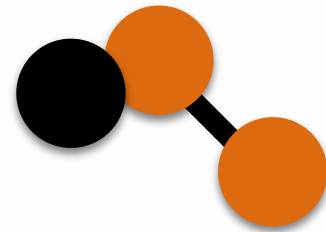


$$q_{\min/\max}^2 = \mu_{\chi N}^2 v_{\max}^2 \left[1 \mp \sqrt{1 - \frac{2\Delta E}{\mu_{\chi N} v_{\max}^2}} \right]^2$$

Molecules as a probe of DM?



Kinematic constraints

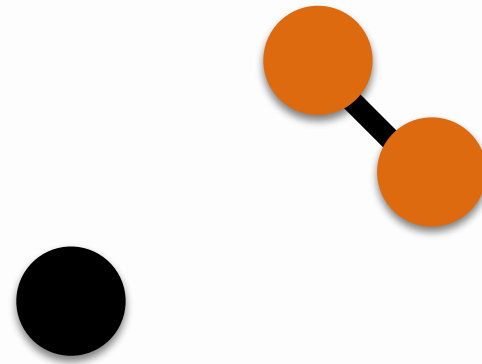


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Molecules as a probe of DM?



Kinematic constraints


$$v_{\max} = v_{\text{SS}} + v_{\text{esc}}$$

$$q_{\min/\max}^2 = \mu_{\chi N}^2 v_{\max}^2 \left[1 \mp \sqrt{1 - \frac{2\Delta E}{\mu_{\chi N} v_{\max}^2}} \right]^2$$

Molecules as a probe of DM?

$$|F_{DM}(\vec{q})|^2 = \frac{|\mathcal{M}_{free}(q)|^2}{|\mathcal{M}_{free}(q_0)|^2}$$

DM-nucleon cross section

DM velocity distribution

$$\frac{dR}{d \ln E_r} = (f_P Z + f_N (A - Z))^2 N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \frac{\sigma_N}{8\mu_{\chi n}^2} q^2 |F_{DM}(\vec{q})|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{ij}(\vec{q})|^2 \eta(v_{min})$$

Recoil energy

DM form factor

Molecules as a probe of DM?

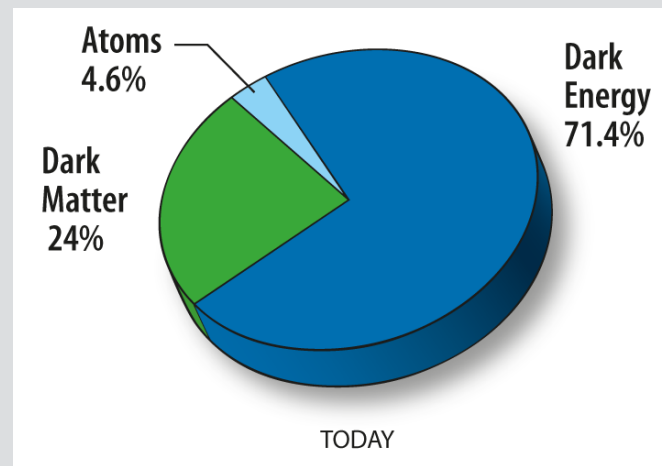
$$\frac{dR}{d \ln E_r} = (f_P Z + f_N (A - Z))^2 N_T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \frac{\sigma_N}{8\mu_{\chi n}^2} q^2 |F_{DM}(\vec{q})|^2 |\mathcal{F}_{ij}(\vec{q})|^2 \eta(v_{min})$$

Molecular form factor

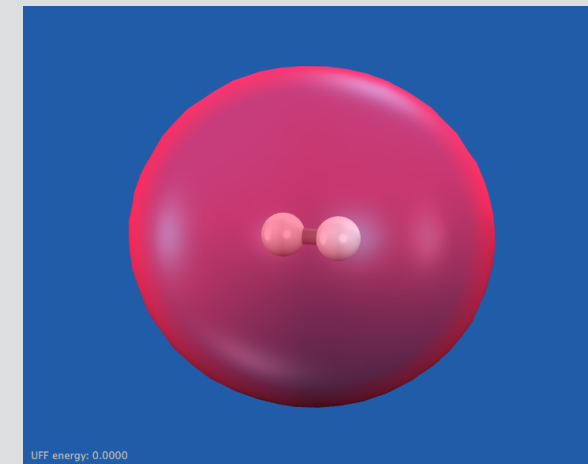
$$|\mathcal{F}_{ij}(q)|^2 = \left| \int d^3 \vec{r} e^{\frac{i\mu_{12}}{m_A} \vec{q} \cdot \vec{r}} \Psi_i^J(\vec{r}) \Psi_j^{J'}(\vec{r}) \right|^2$$

Outlook

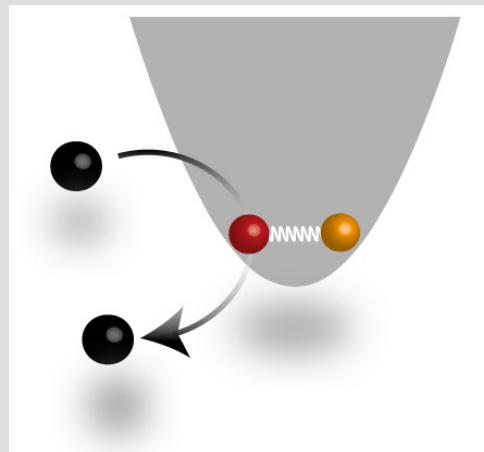
Dark Matter



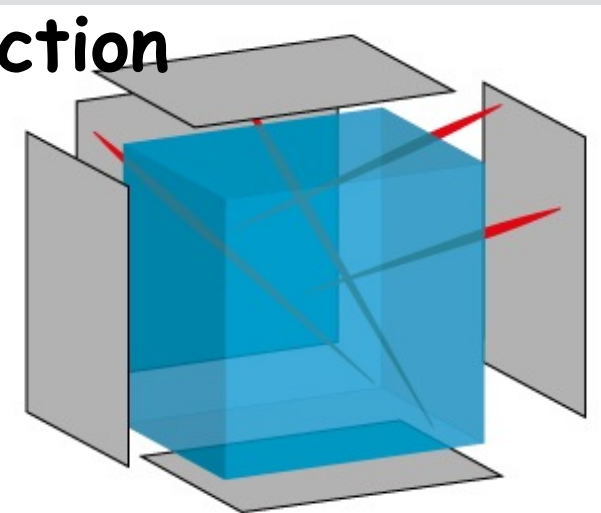
Molecules



Molecules as a probe of DM?

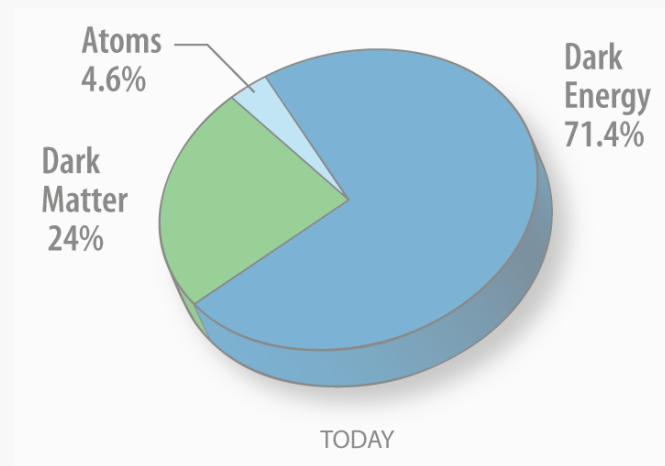


A novel approach for DM detection



Outlook

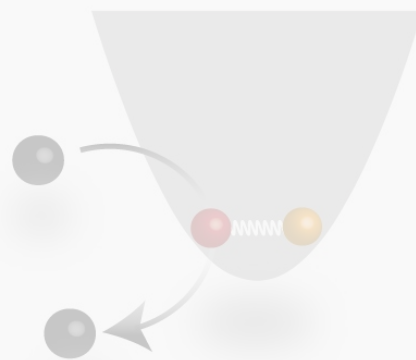
Dark Matter



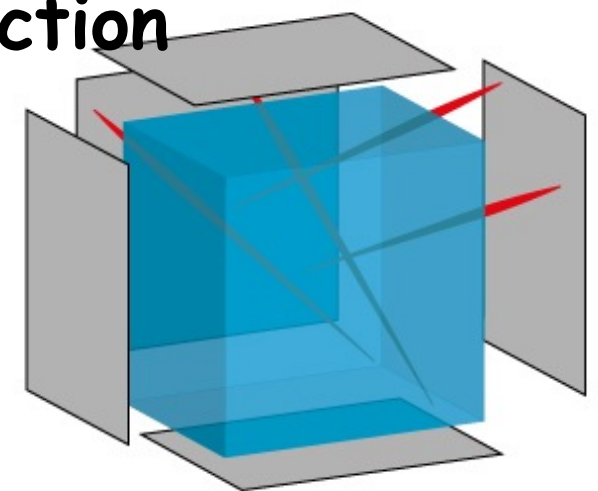
Molecules



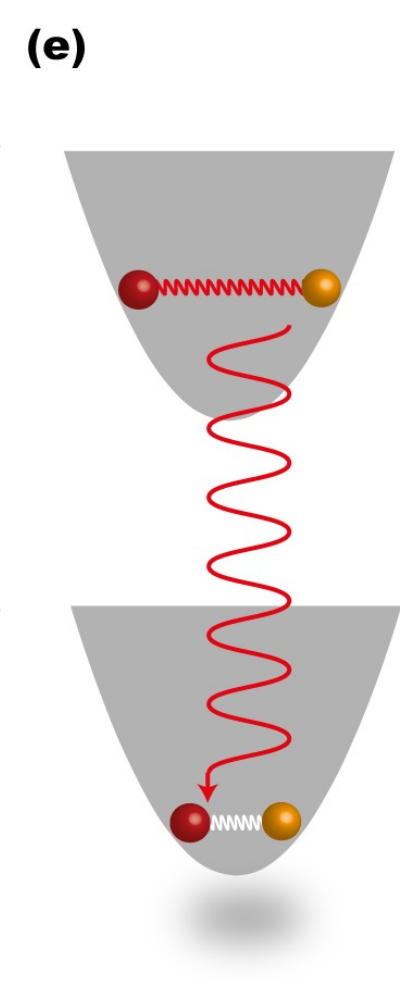
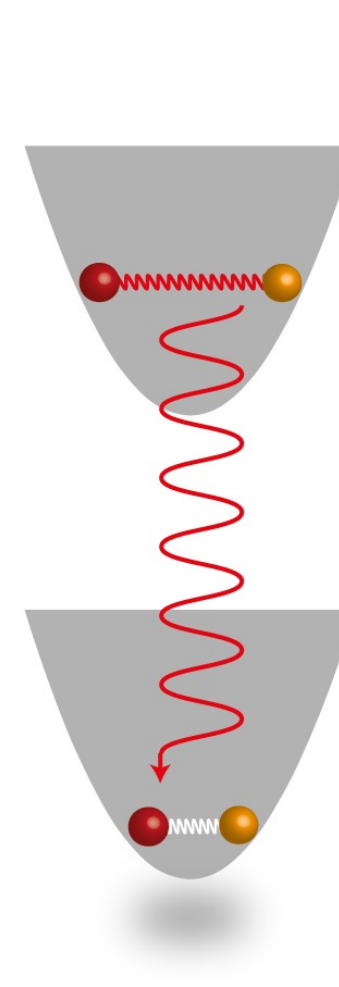
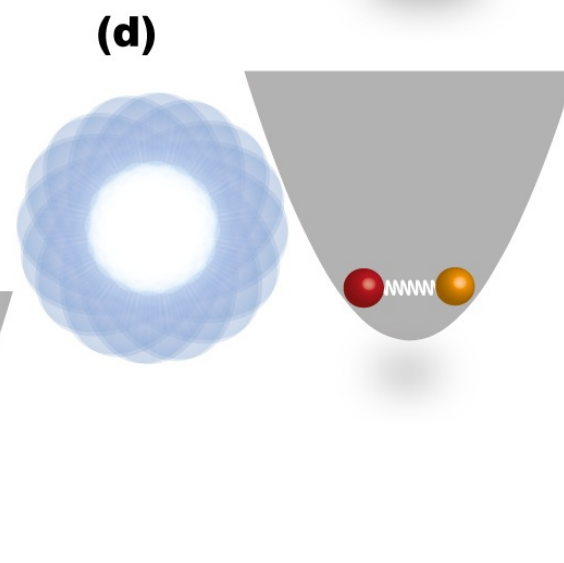
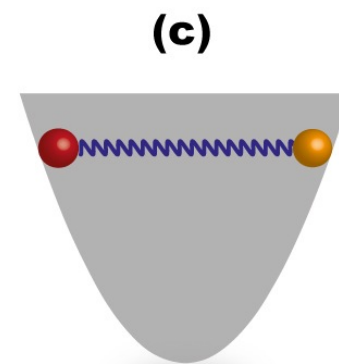
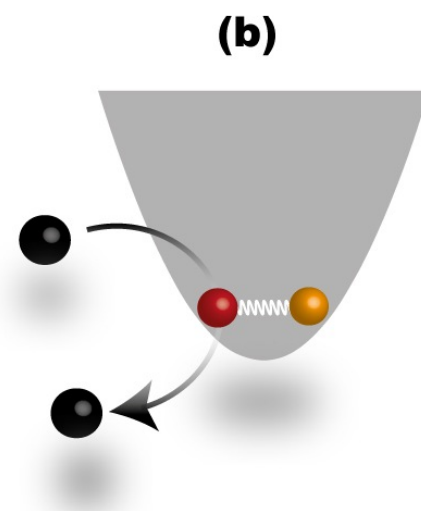
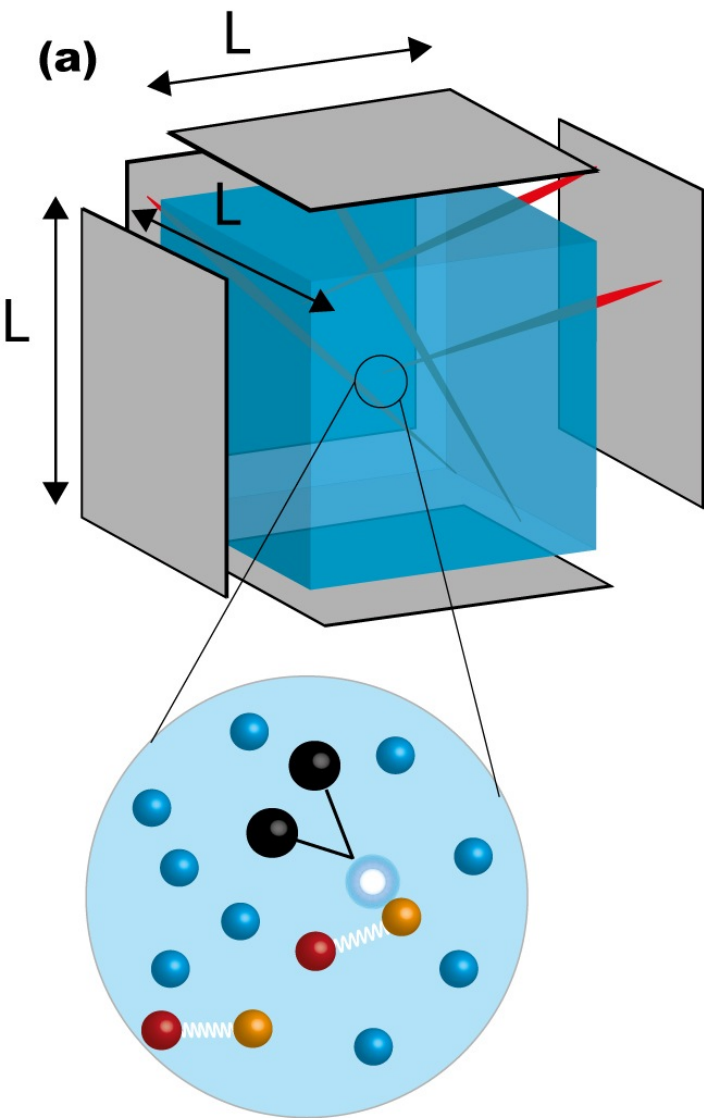
Molecules as a probe of DM?



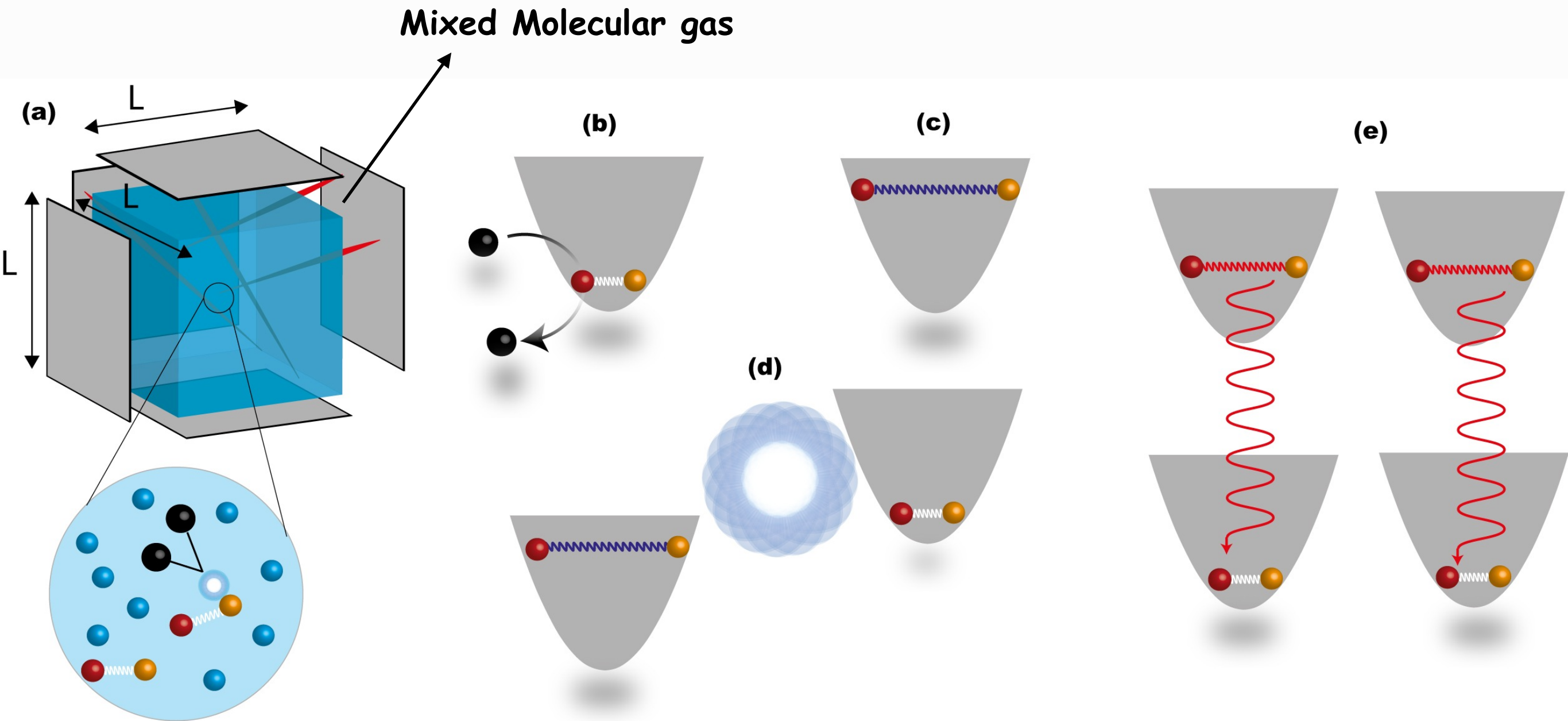
A novel approach for DM detection



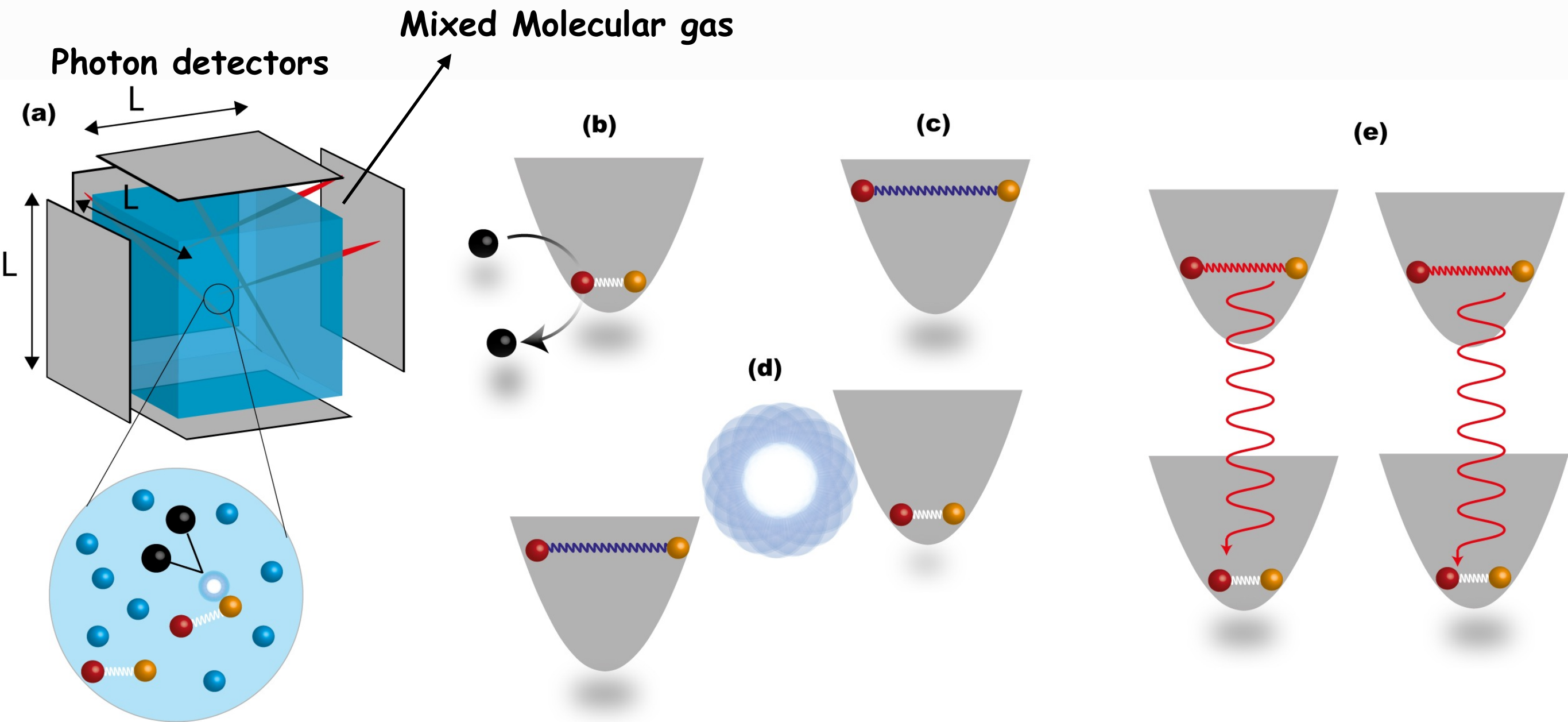
A novel approach for DM detection



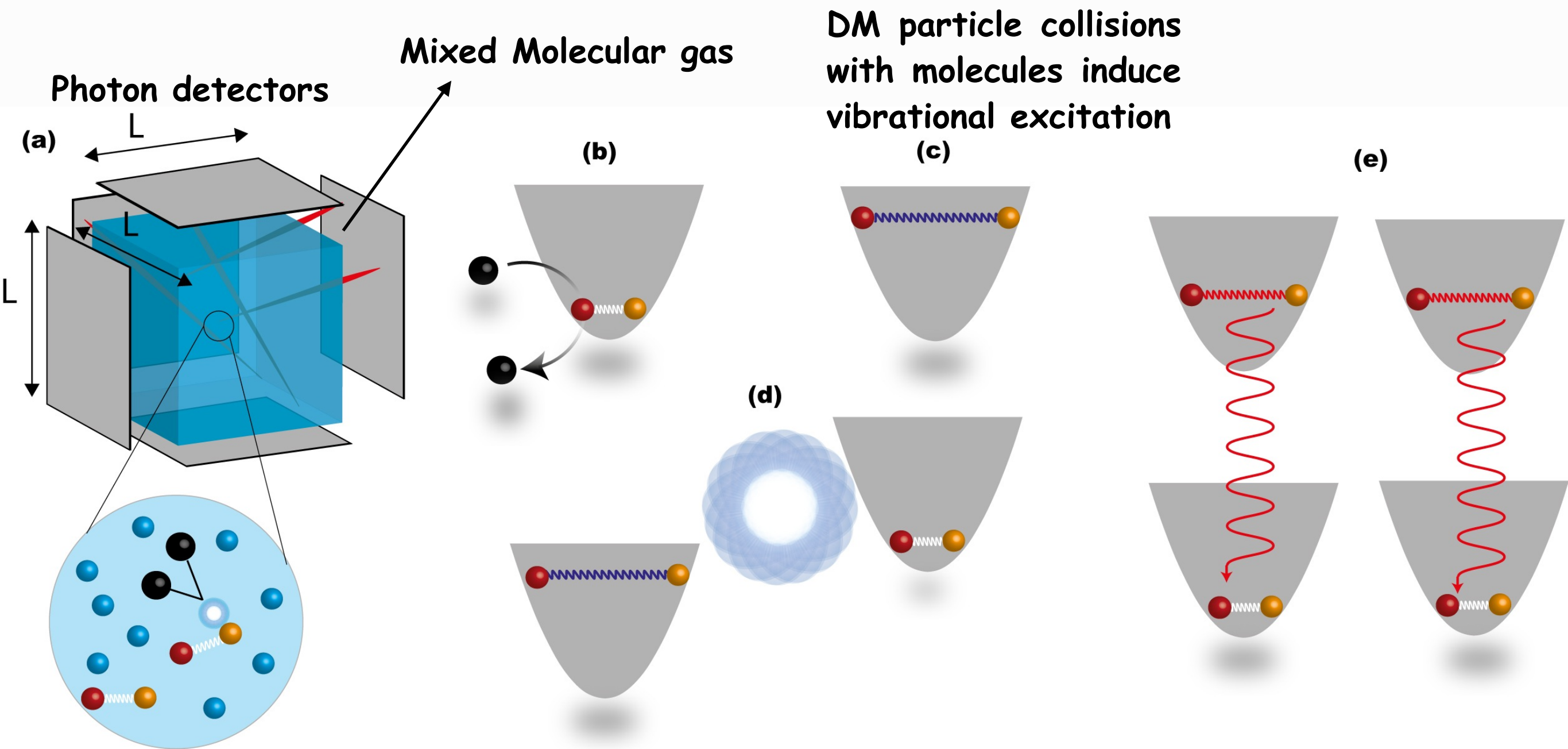
A novel approach for DM detection



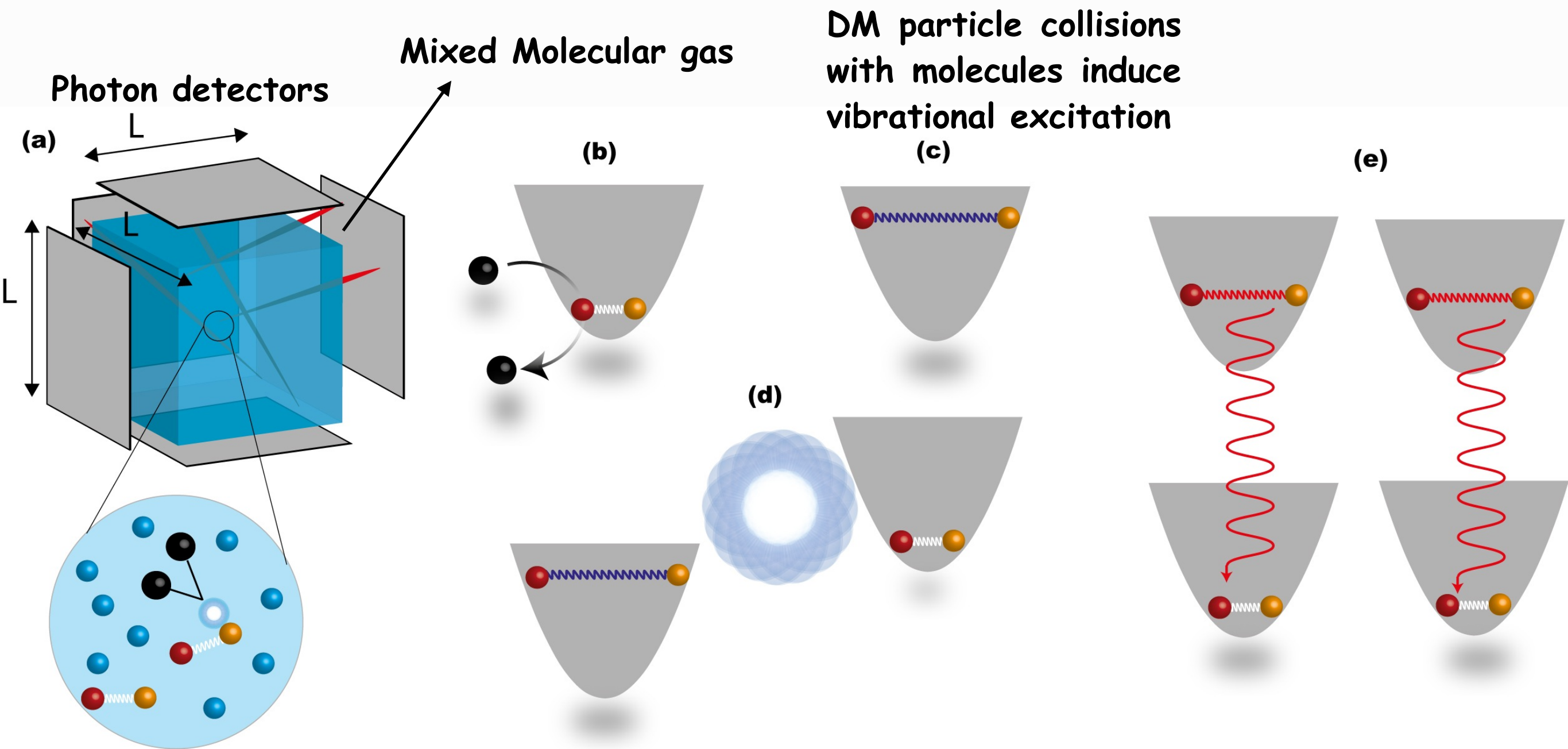
A novel approach for DM detection



A novel approach for DM detection

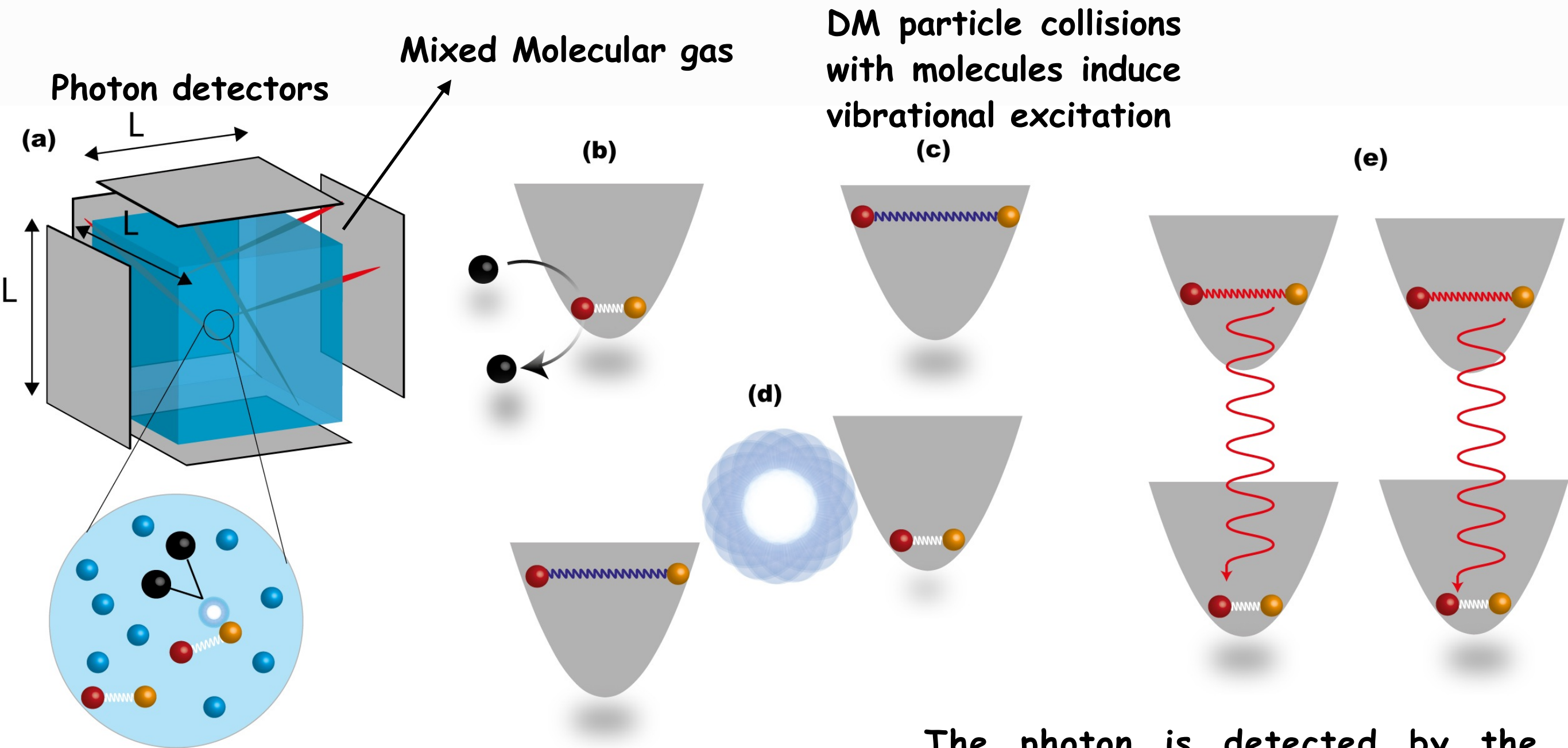


A novel approach for DM detection



Excited molecules decay emitting a photon

A novel approach for DM detection



The photon is detected by the photodetectors surrounding the gas

Excited molecules decay emitting a photon

A novel approach for DM detection



Four points to take care of

1. Spontaneous emission rate
2. Thermal population of vibrational states
3. Black Body radiation background
4. Collisional de-excitation rate

A novel approach for DM detection



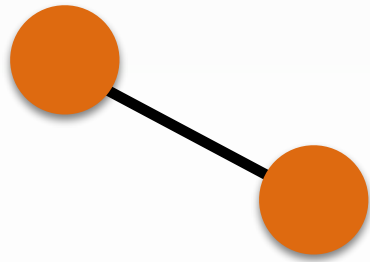
Four points to take care of

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Bonus: Photon absorption

1. Spontaneous emission rate

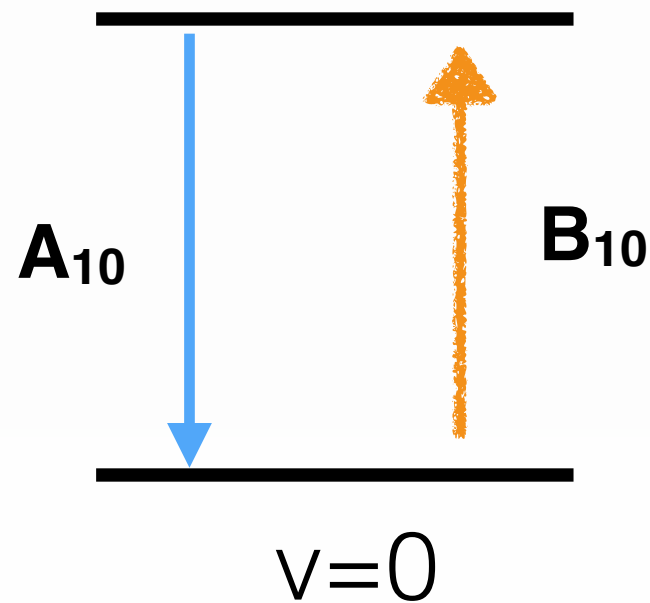
Homonuclear



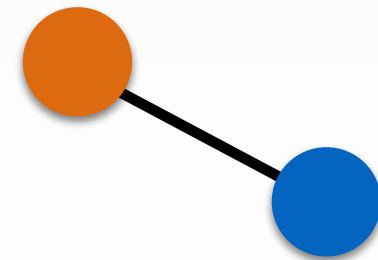
$$\frac{d\Gamma_{ij}}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha\omega_{ij}^5}{8\pi c^4} |Q|^2$$

$$A_{10} \sim 10^{-7} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

$v=1, \tau_1 \sim 100 \text{ ms}$



Heteronuclear

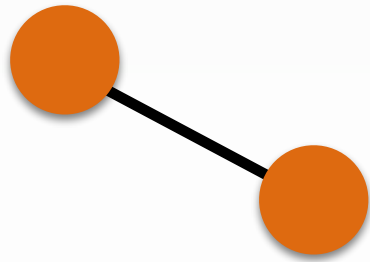


$$\frac{d\Gamma_{ij}}{d\Omega} = \frac{\alpha\omega_{ij}^3}{2\pi c^2} |d|^2$$

$$A_{10} \sim 10 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

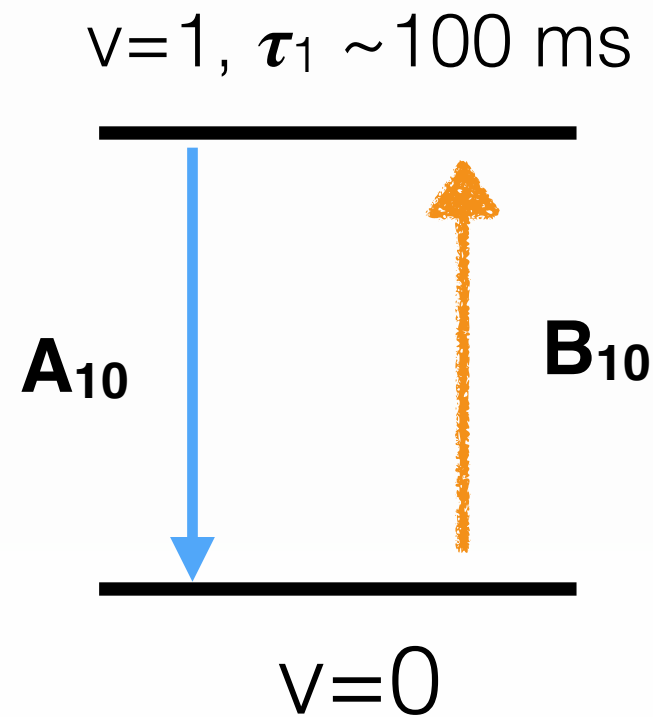
1. Spontaneous emission rate

Homonuclear

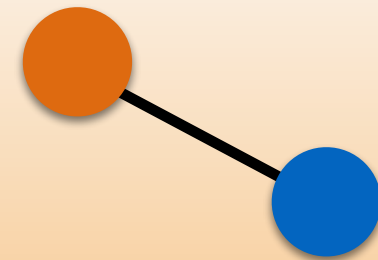


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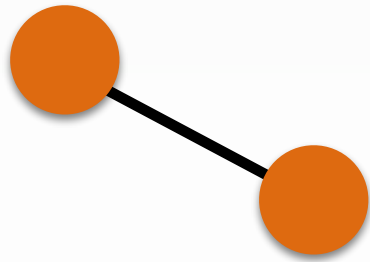


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1. Spontaneous emission rate

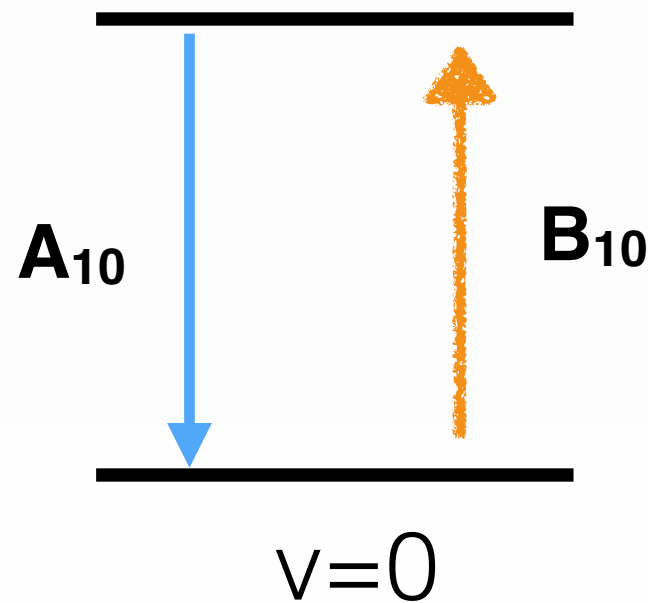
Homonuclear



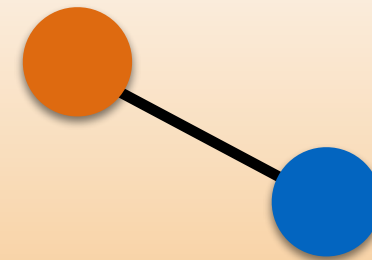
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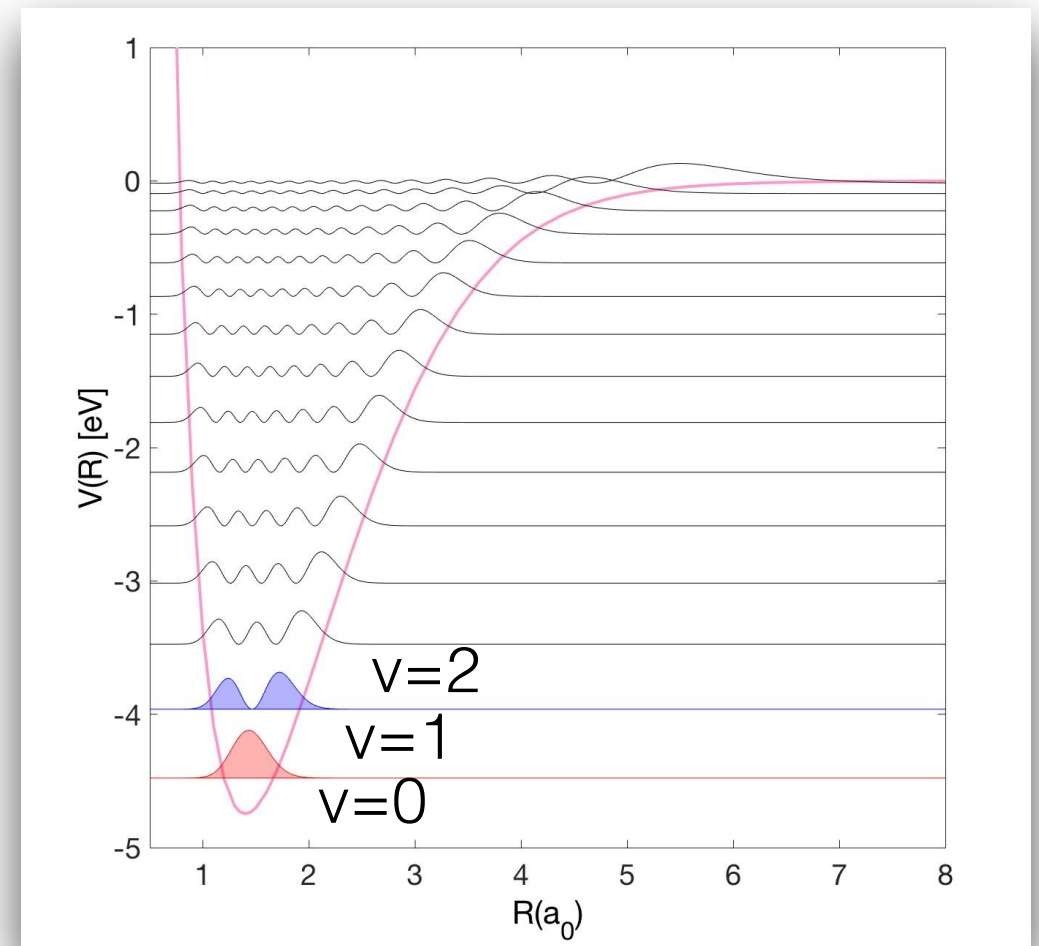
A fee to pay

Permanent dipole moment -> **faster collisional rates**
-> **BBR**

2. Thermal population

$$Z_{\text{vib}} = \sum_{\nu} e^{-\hbar\omega(\nu+1/2)/k_bT}$$

$$P_{\nu} = \frac{e^{-\hbar\omega(\nu+1/2)/k_bT}}{Z_{\text{vib}}}$$



2. Thermal population

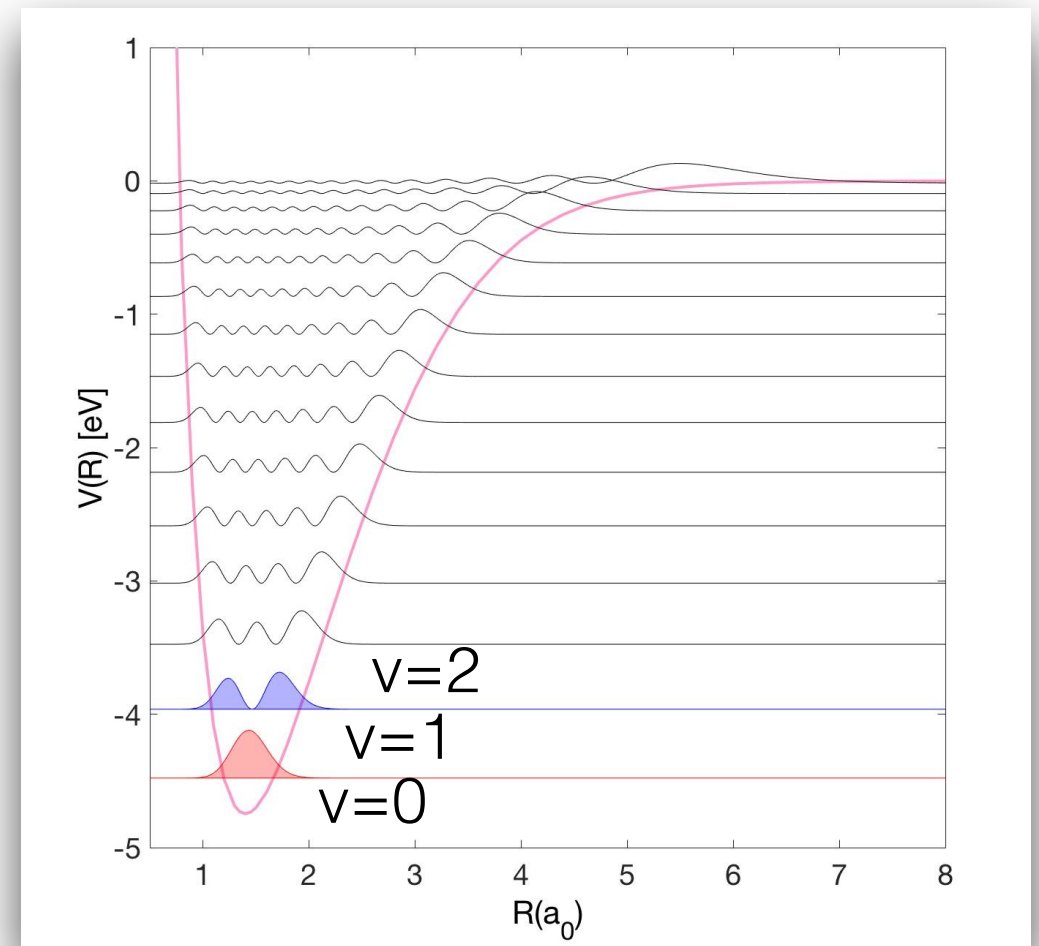
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The **temperature** has to be low enough to ensure that almost every single molecule is in the vibrational ground state



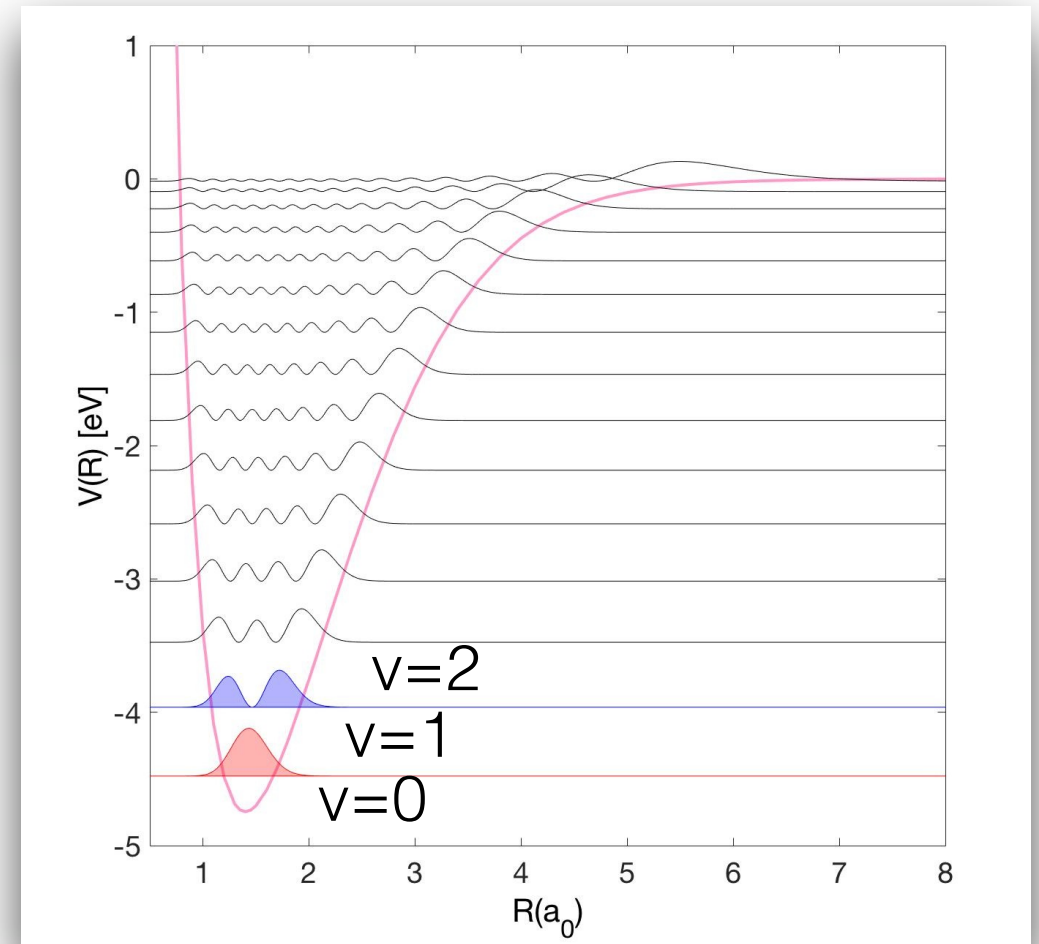
The **lower the temperature** the **lower the pressure** to avoid clustering of the gas, i.e., formation of droplets on the gas



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We prefer lighter molecules, i.e., large vibrational spacing

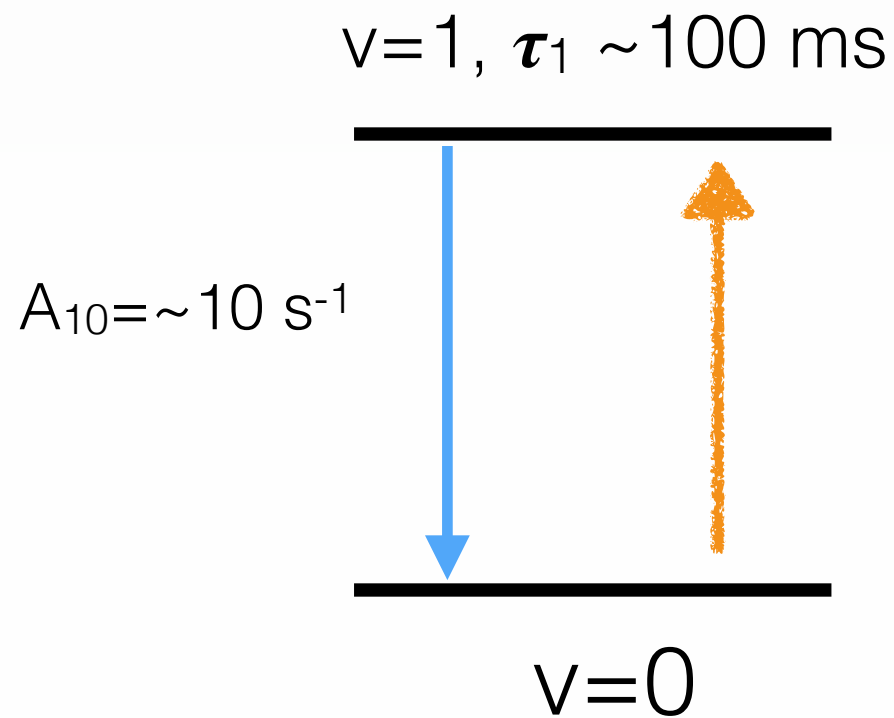
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3. Black body radiation

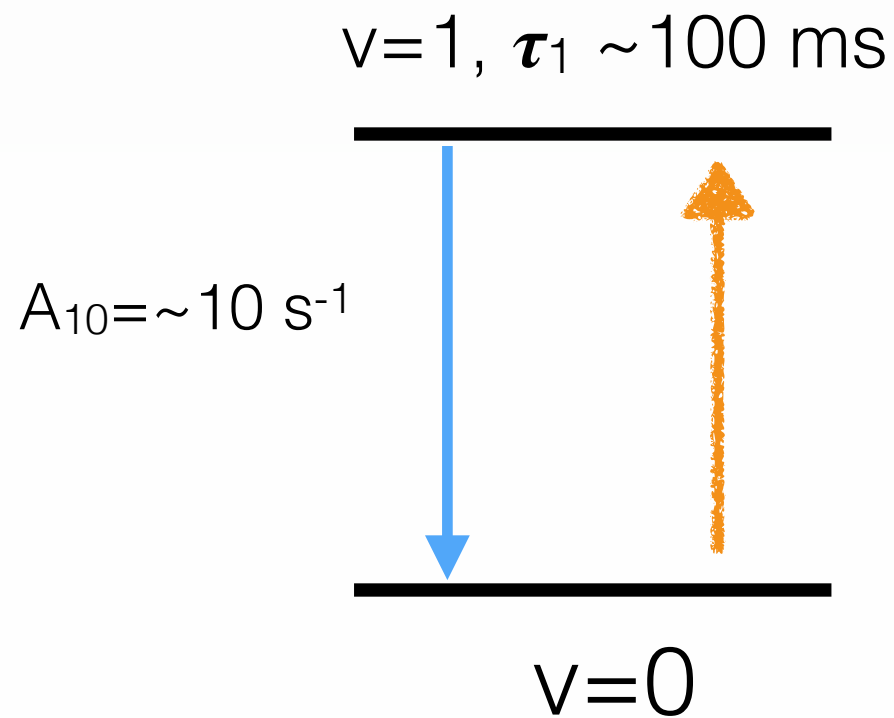
$$\Gamma_{ij}^{BBR} = \frac{8\pi^2 |d_{ij}|^2}{3\epsilon_0 \hbar c^3} \frac{\nu^3}{\exp \frac{h\nu}{k_B T} - 1}$$



3. Black body radiation

Dipole matrix element

$$\Gamma_{ij}^{BBR} = \frac{8\pi^2 |d_{ij}|^2}{3\epsilon_0 \hbar c^3} \frac{\nu^3}{\exp \frac{h\nu}{k_B T} - 1}$$

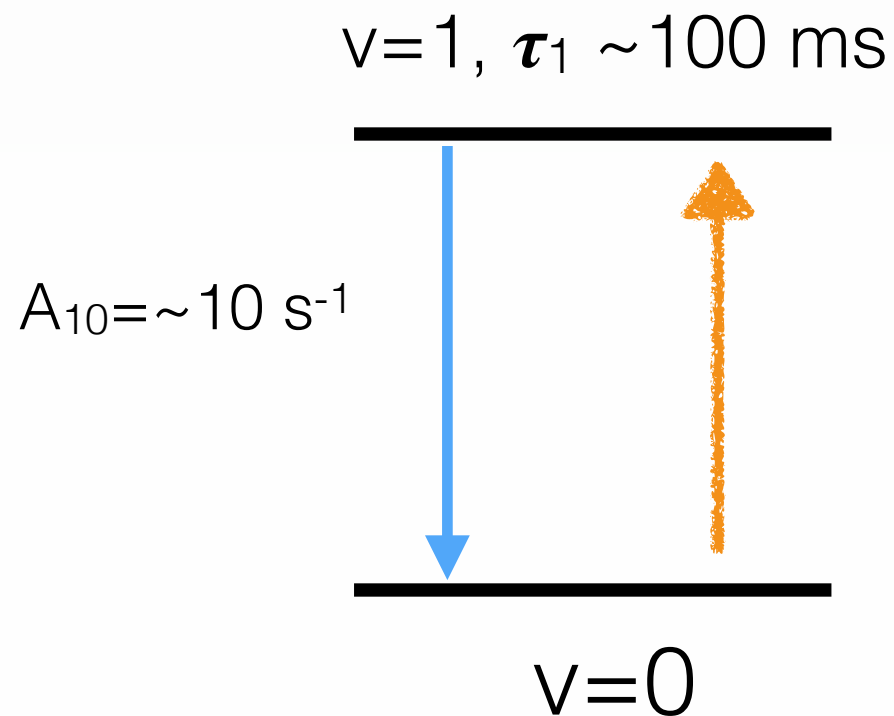


3. Black body radiation

Dipole matrix element

Vibrational frequency

$$\Gamma_{ij}^{BBR} = \frac{8\pi^2 |d_{ij}|^2 \nu^3}{3\epsilon_0 \hbar c^3 \exp\left(\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$$



3. Black body radiation

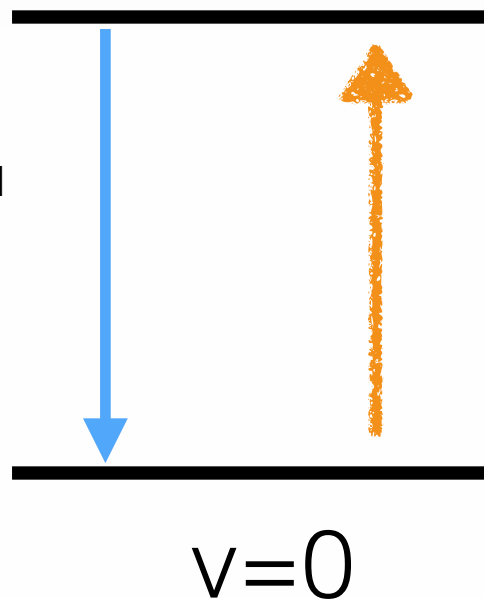
Dipole matrix element

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$v=1, \tau_1 \sim 100 \text{ ms}$

$A_{10} \sim 10 \text{ s}^{-1}$



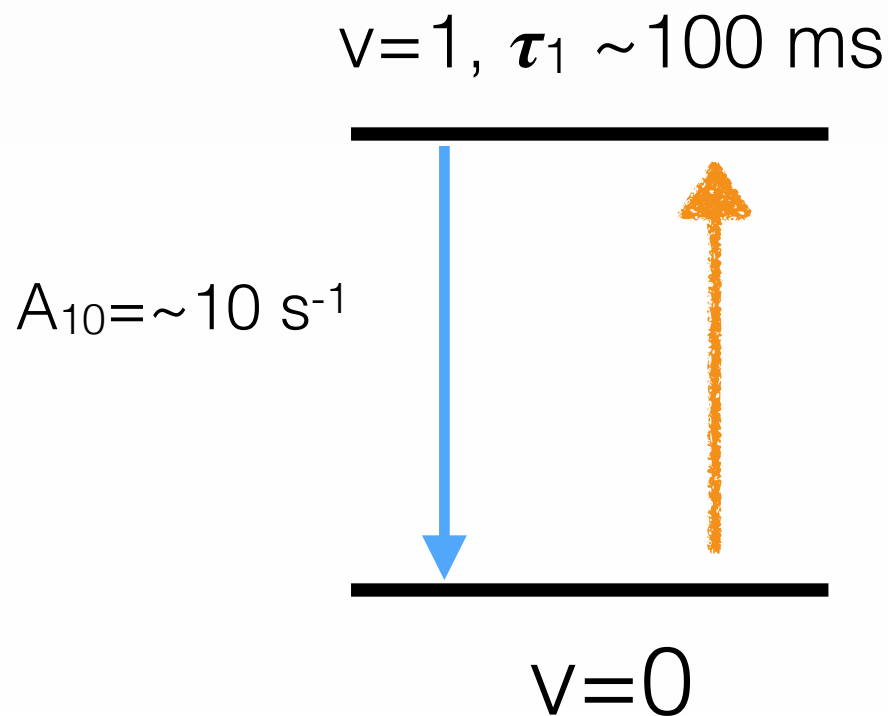
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$$\Gamma_{ij}^{BBR} = \frac{8\pi^2 |d_{ij}|^2}{3\epsilon_0 \hbar c^3} \frac{\nu^3}{\exp\left(\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$$



We prefer lighter molecules, i.e., large vibrational spacing

Molecules with smaller dipole moment will have smaller BBR rate

Low temperatures are better!!!

3. Black body radiation

Dipole matrix element

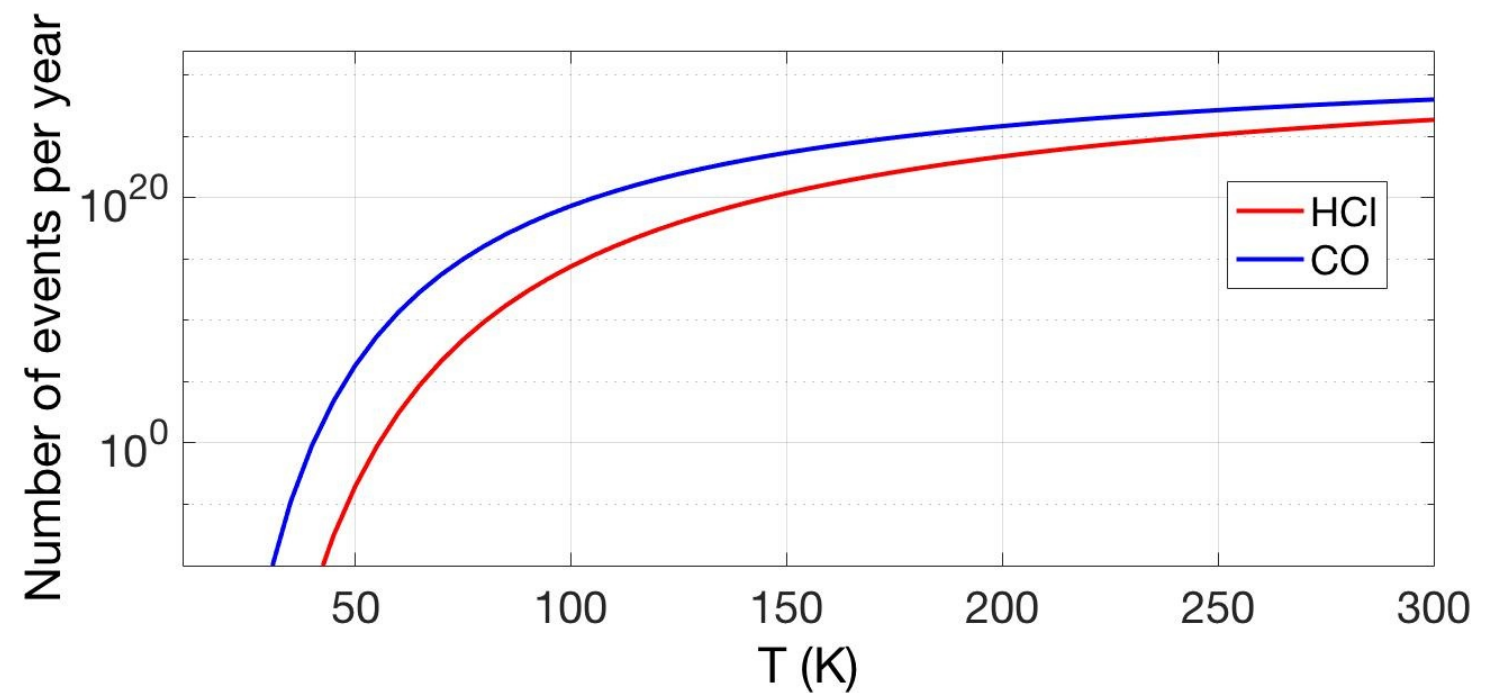
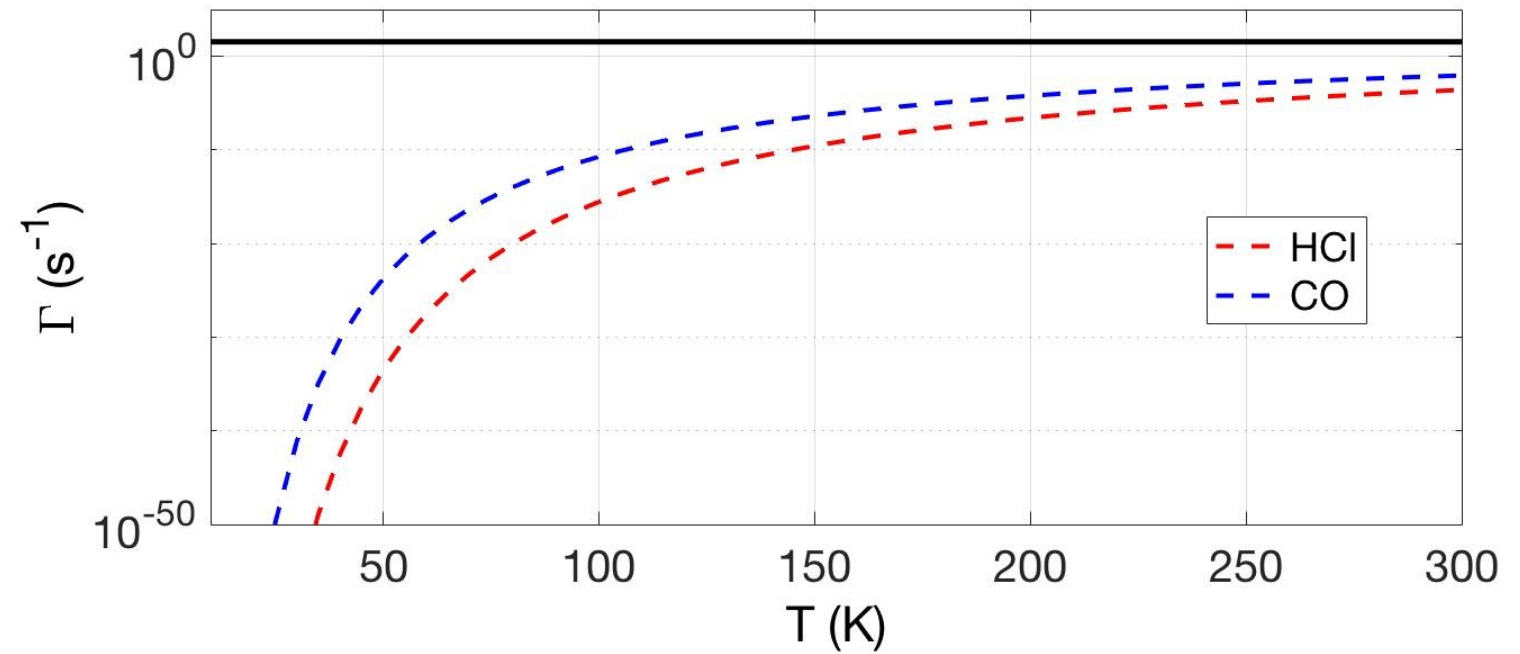
Vibrational frequency

$$\Gamma_{ij}^{BBR} = \frac{8\pi^2 |d_{ij}|^2 \nu^3}{3\epsilon_0 \hbar c^3 \exp\left(\frac{h\nu}{k_B T}\right) - 1}$$

	H	HF	CO	NO	HCl
r		1.7	2.1	2.2	2.4
ω	453 198 466	513	269	236	371
d(D)	1.80	1.98	0.12	0.16	1.03

3. Black body radiation

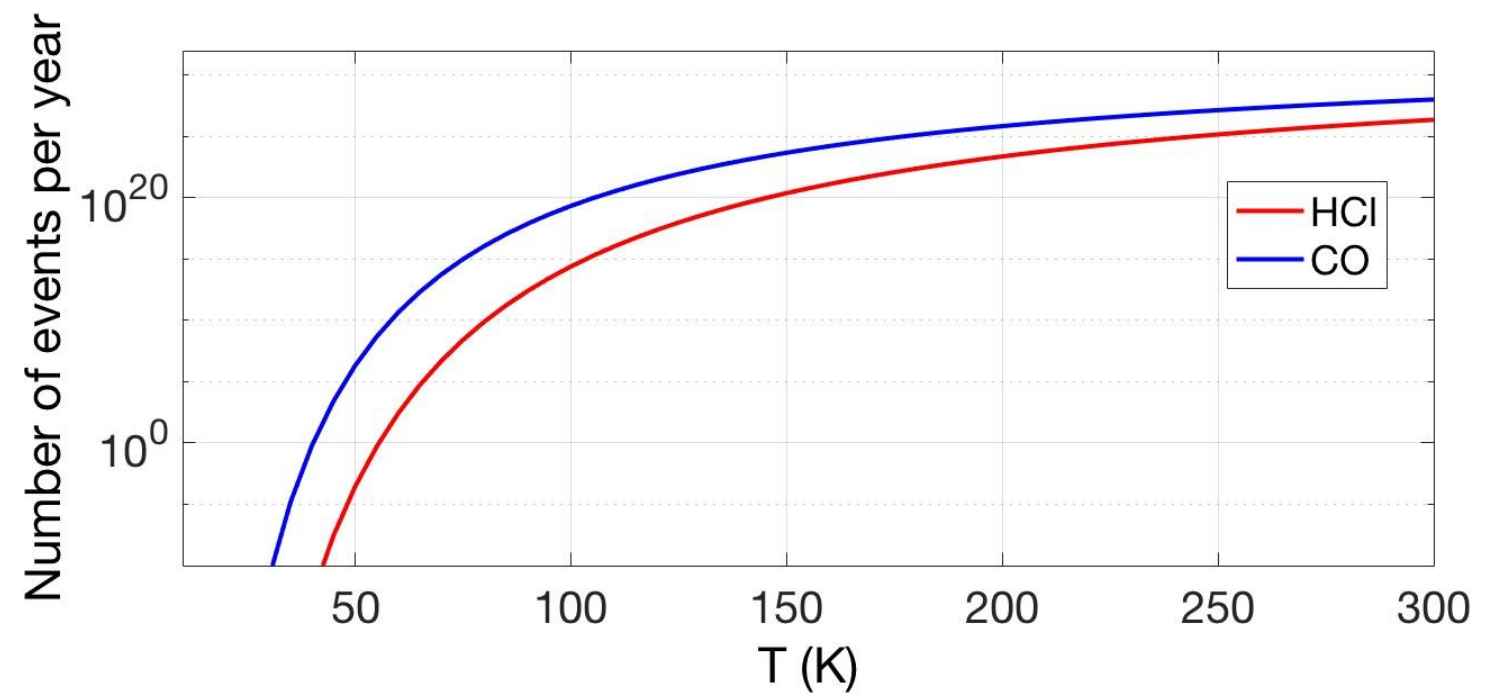
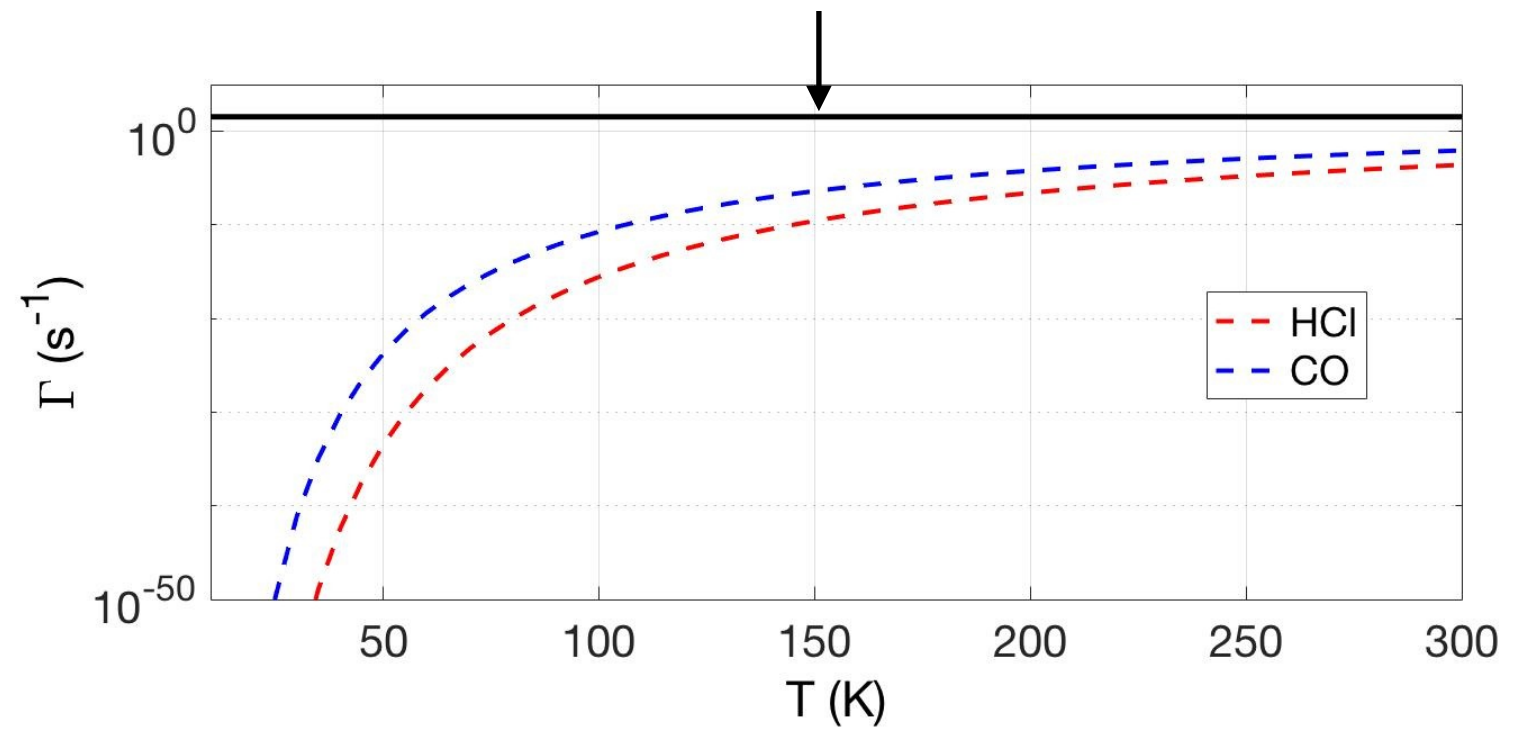
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Spontaneous emission rate



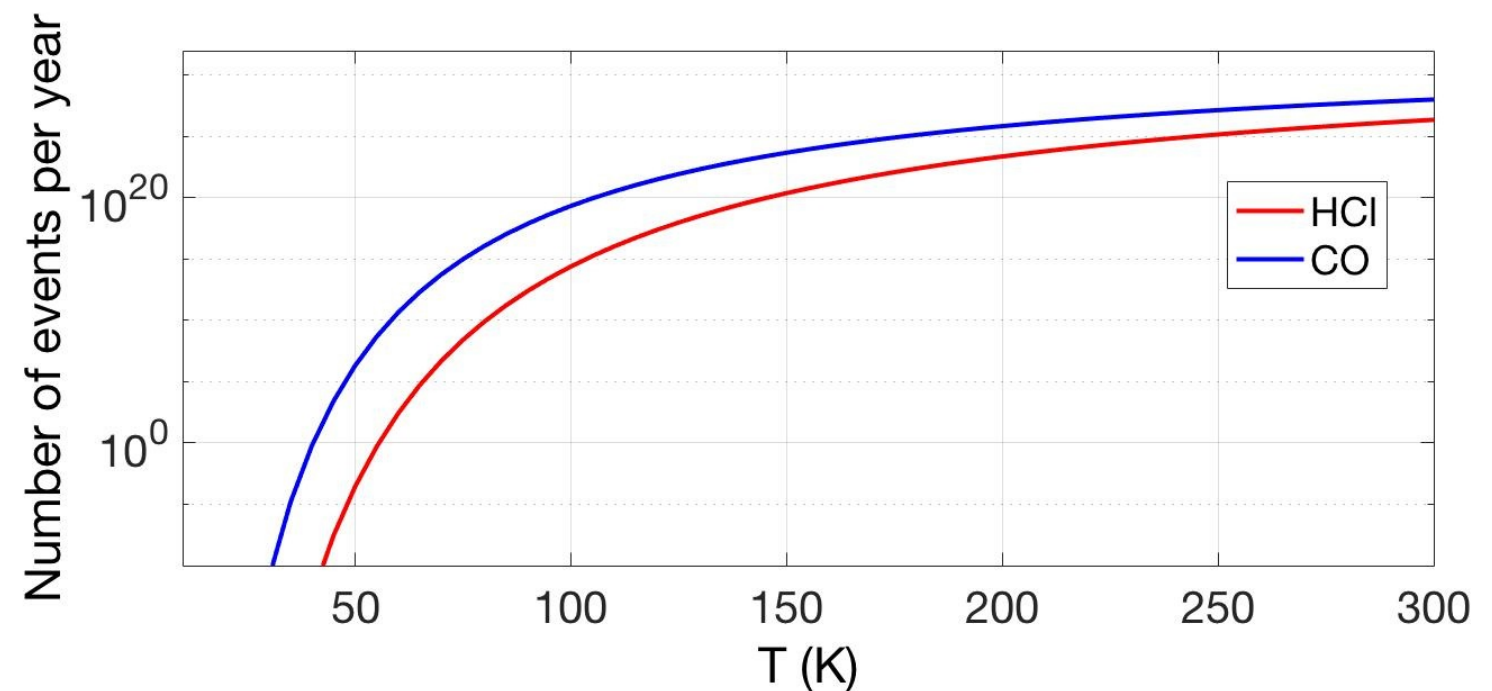
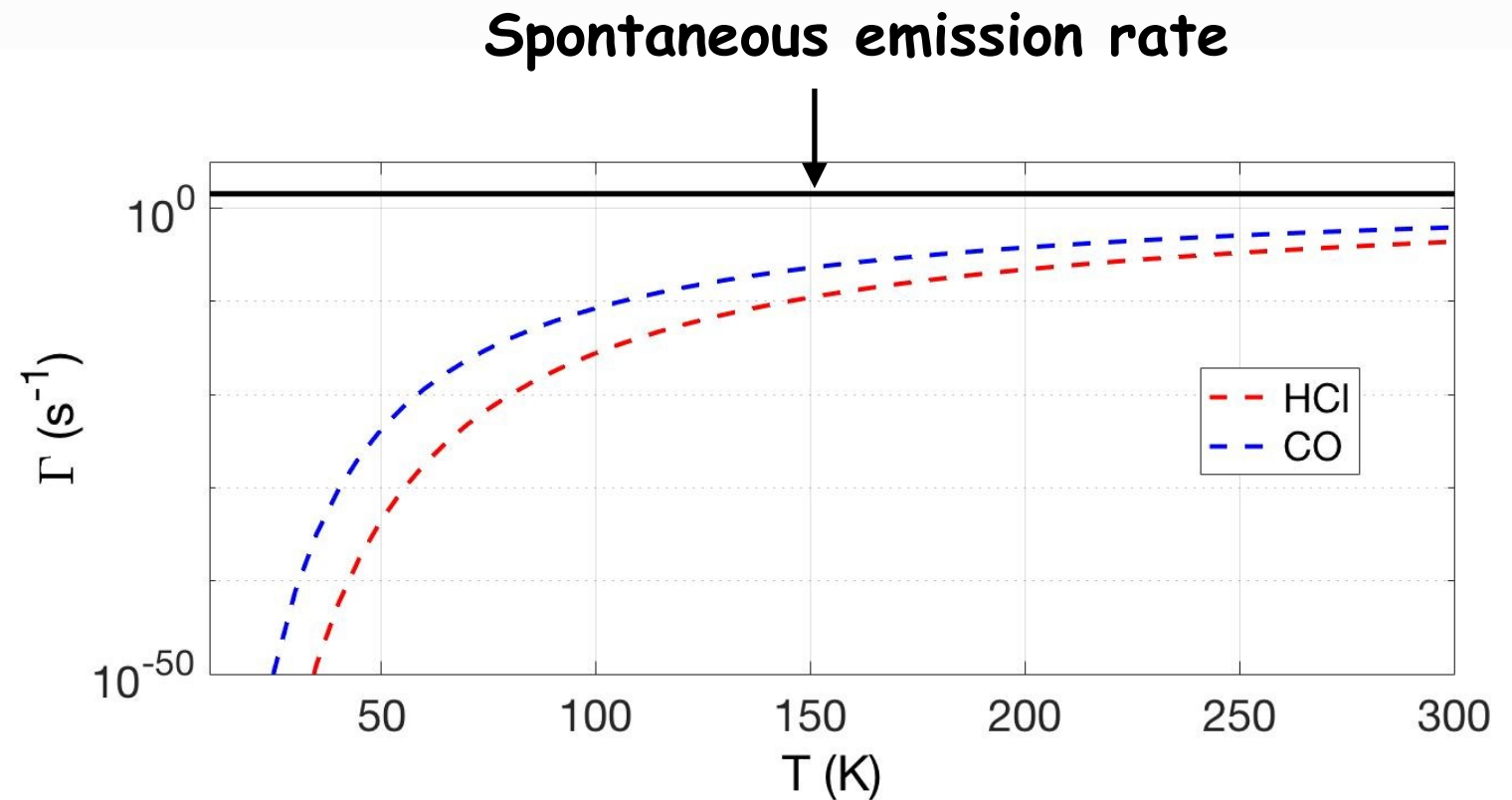
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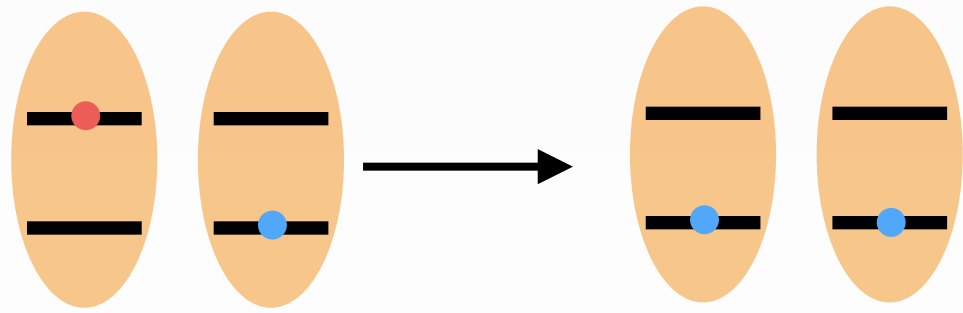
We need

Molecules with large vibrational energy spacing

Low temperatures $T \lesssim 60$ K



4. Collisional de-excitation

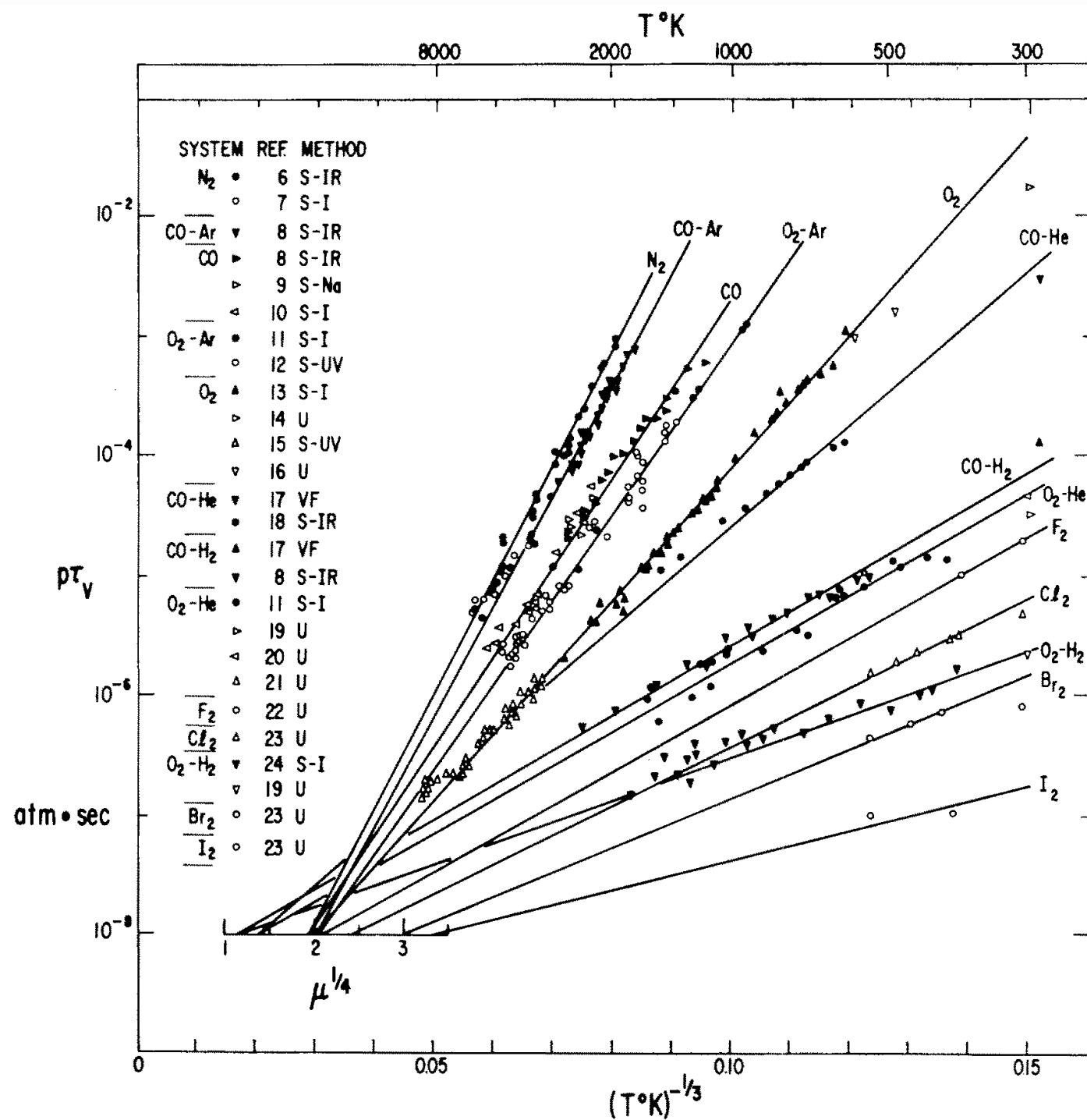
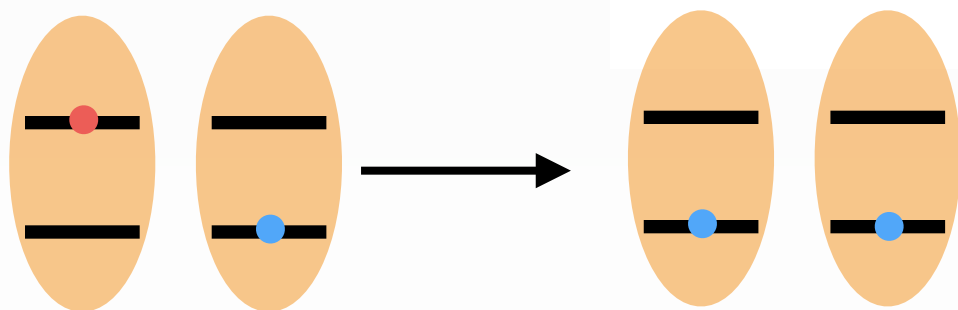


4. Collisional de-excitation

Systematics of Vibrational Relaxation*

ROGER C. MILLIKAN AND DONALD R. WHITE

General Electric Research Laboratory, Schenectady, New York

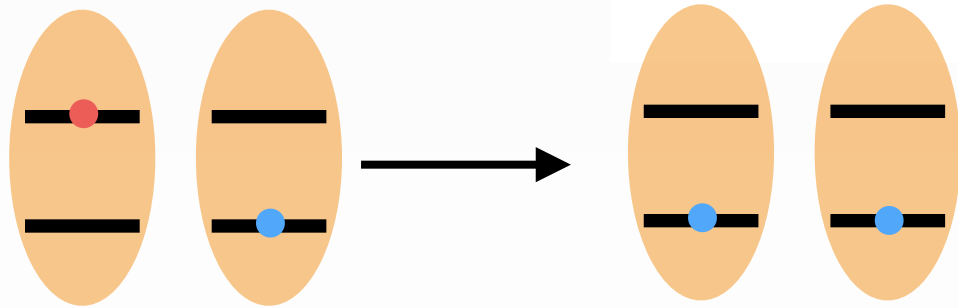


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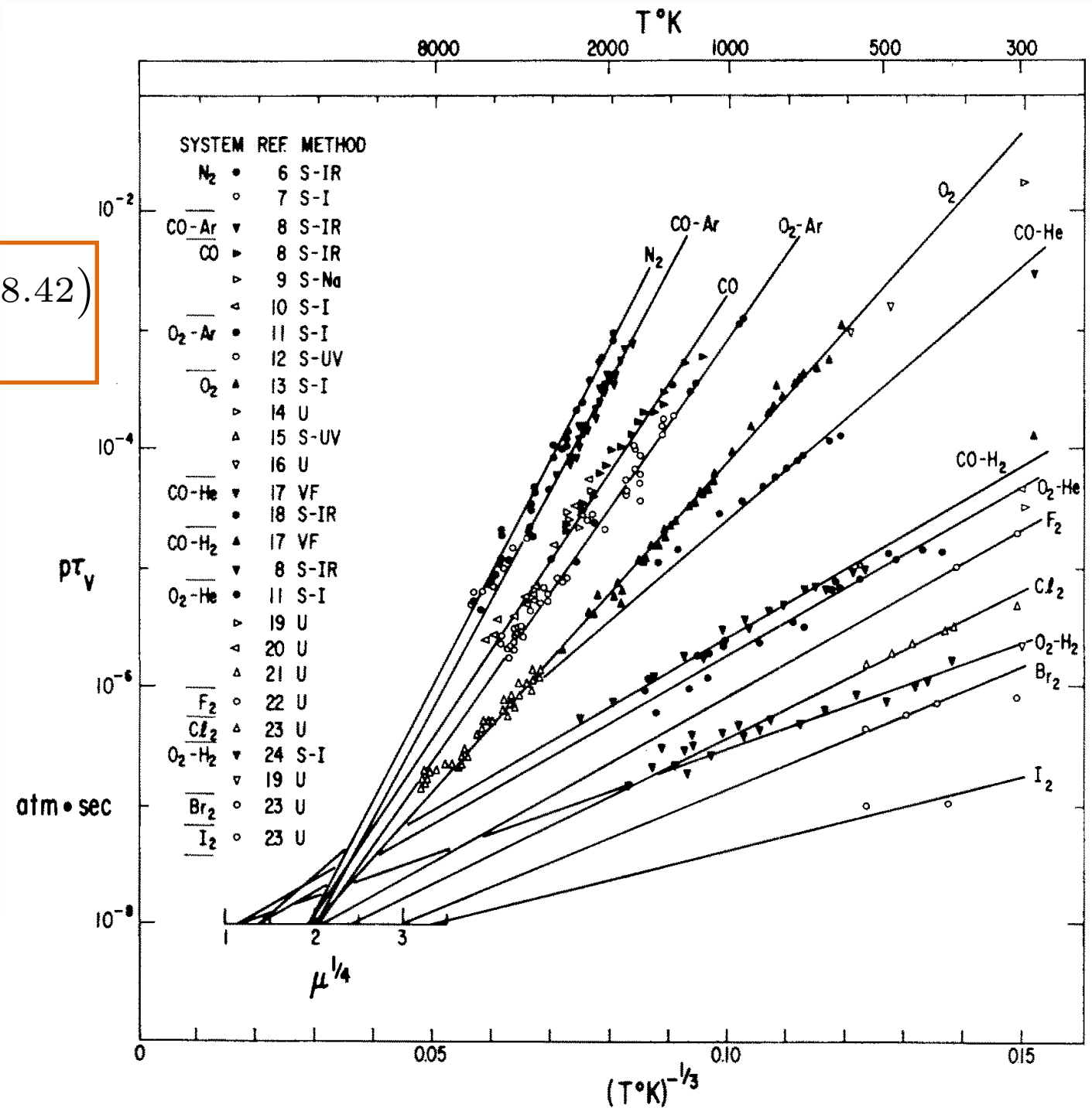
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$$p\tau_v = e^{(1.16 \times 10^{-3} \mu^{1/2} \omega^{4/3} (T^{-1/3} - 0.015 \mu^{1/4}) - 18.42)}$$

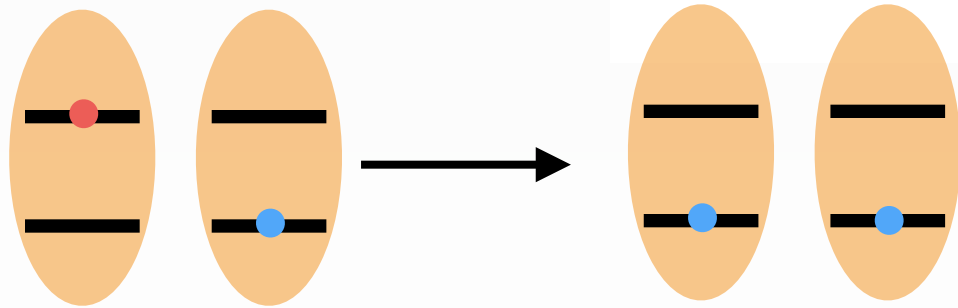


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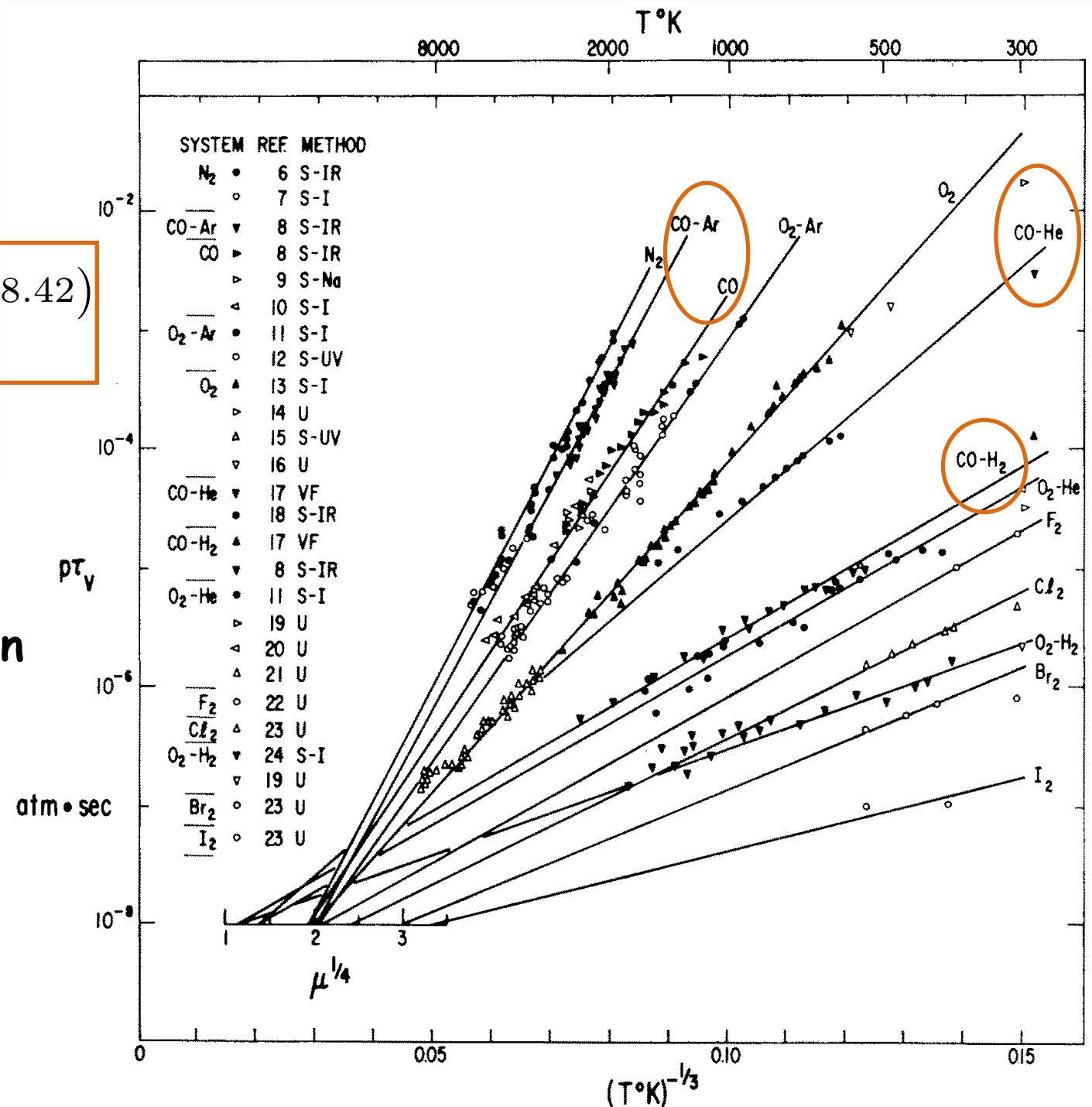
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CO shows larger vibrational quenching time
 CO has a decent vibrational spacing
 CO shows a regular BBR rate absorption spectra at low temperatures

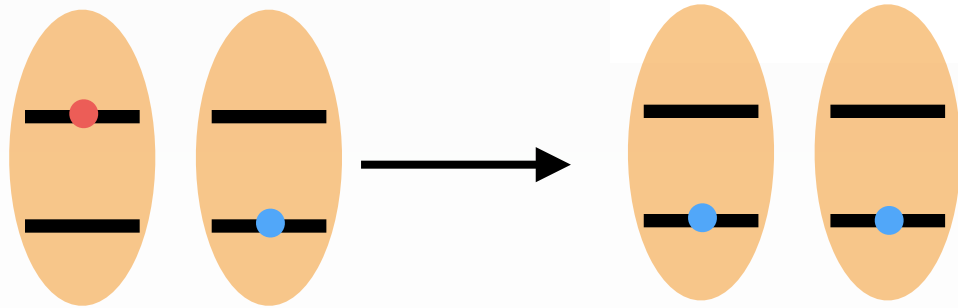


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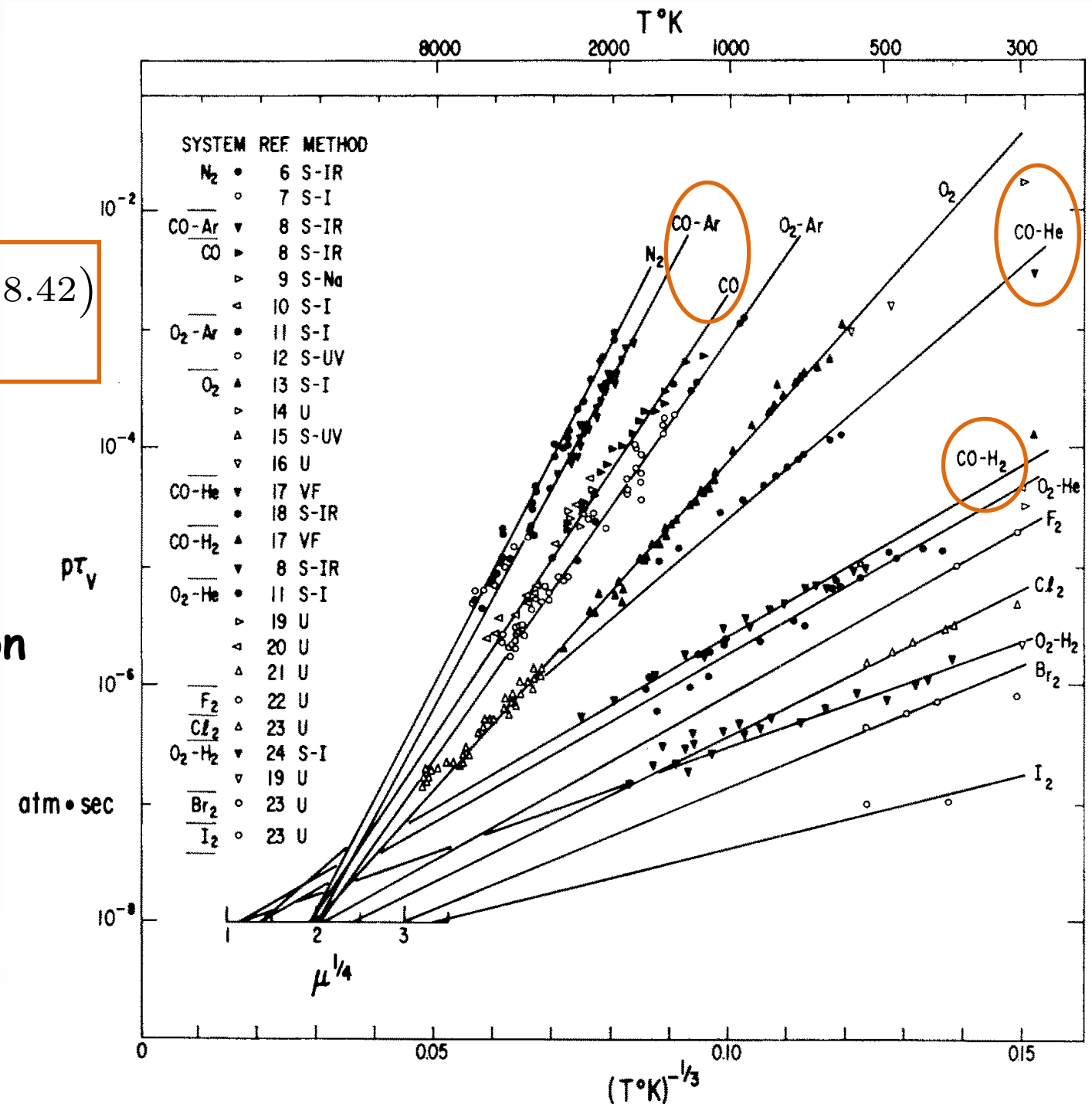
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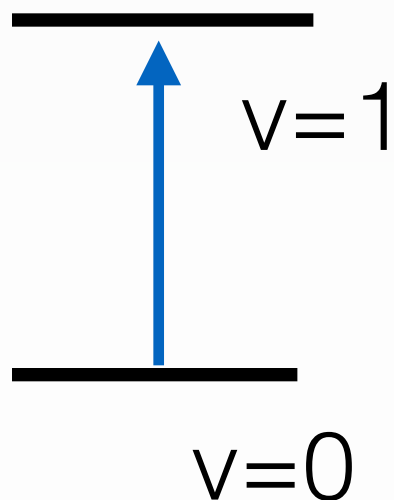
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 CO shows a regular BBR rate absorption spectra at low temperatures

CO is a great candidate



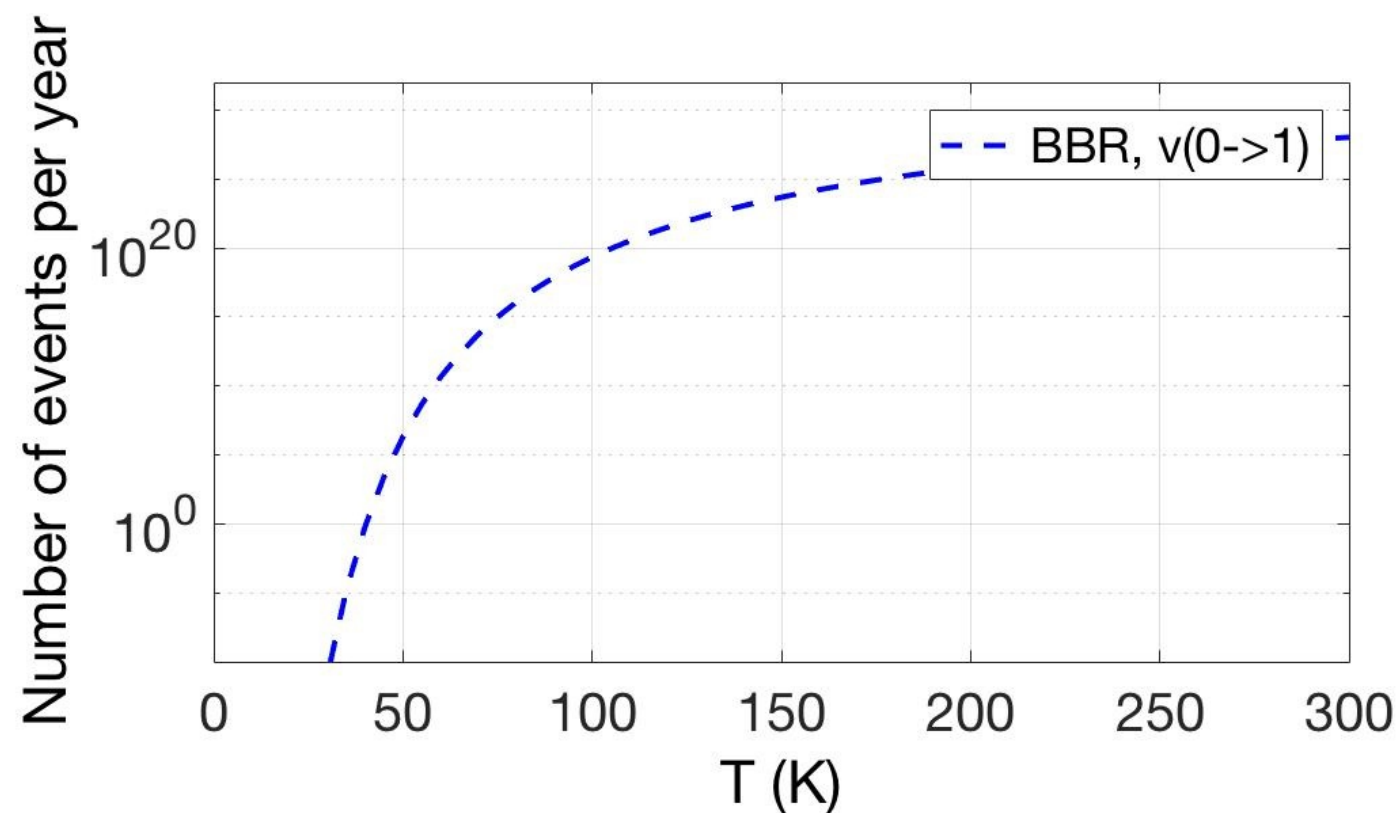
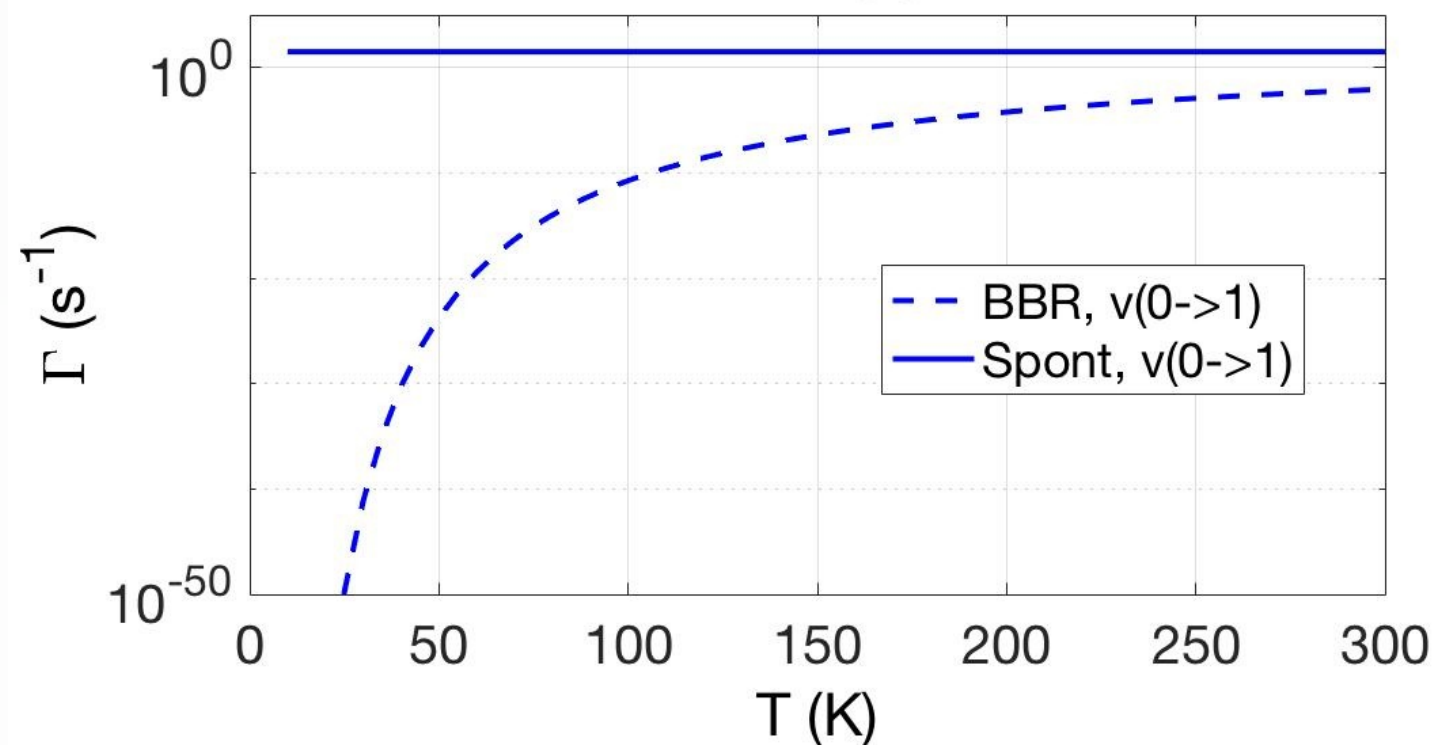
CO in detail (BBR)

$$A_{10} = 32.5 \text{ s}^{-1}$$



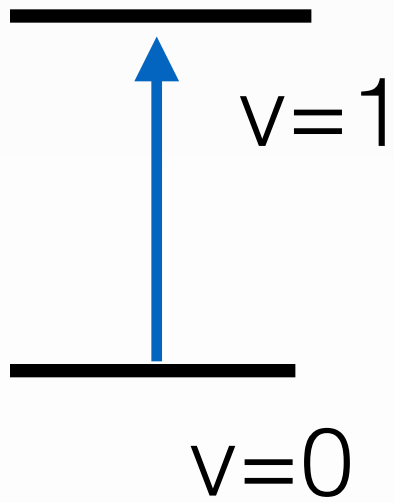
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BBR CO



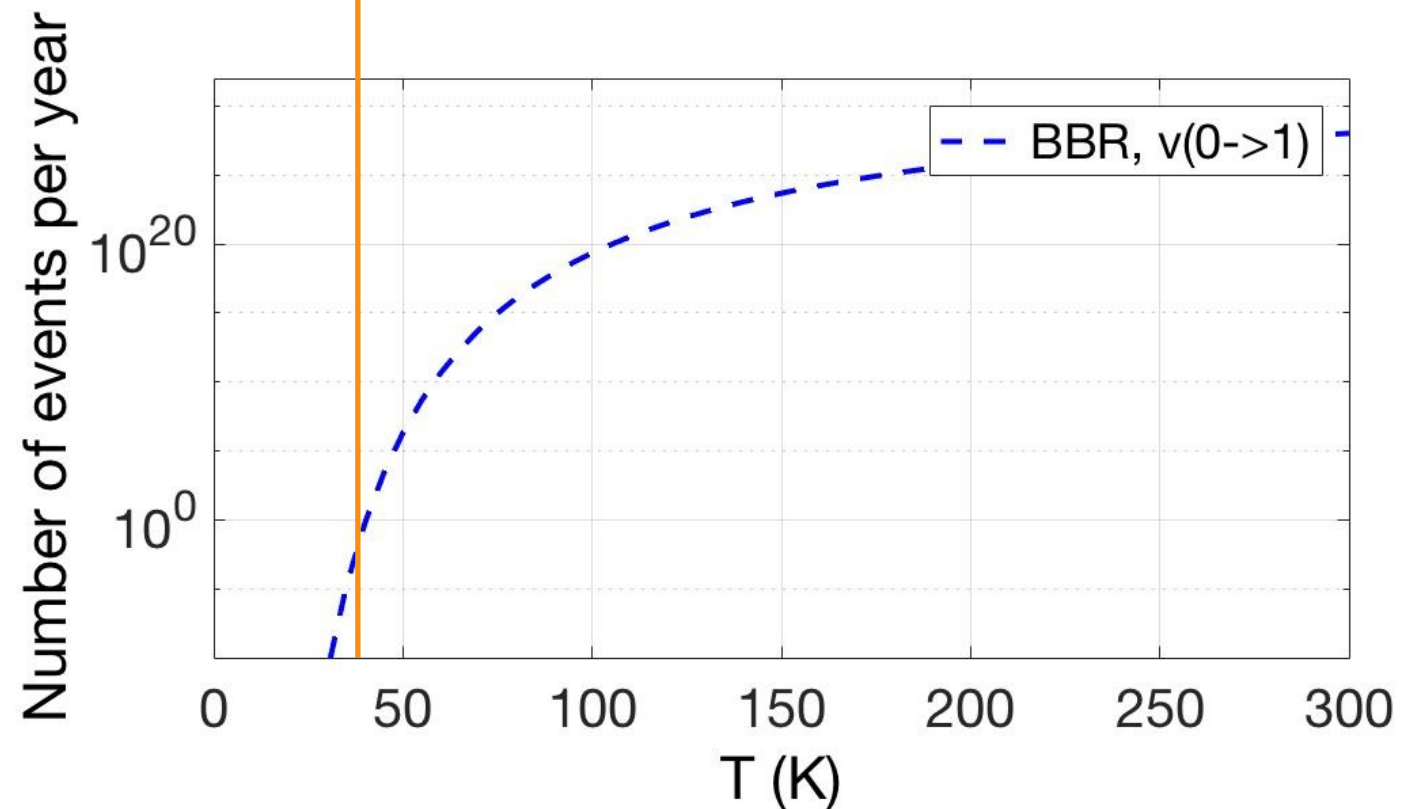
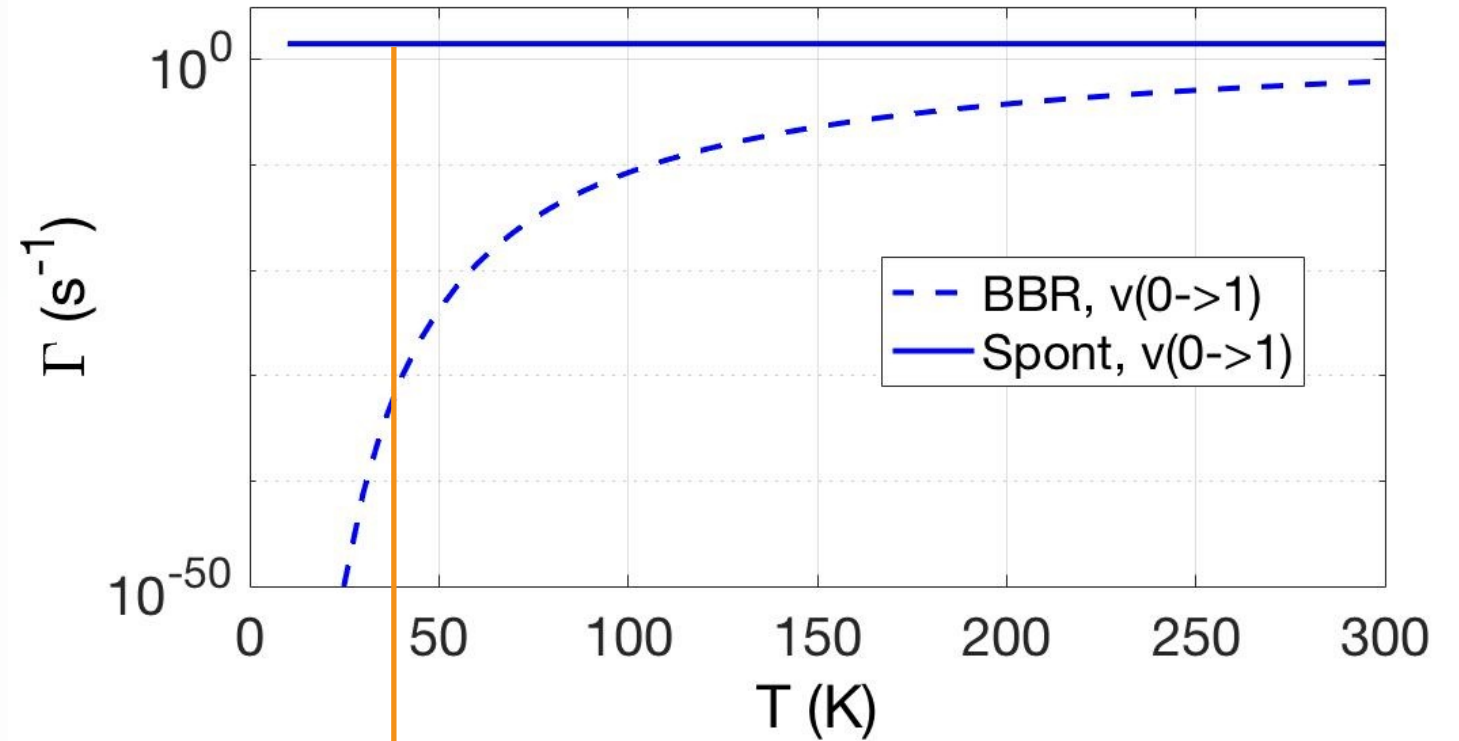
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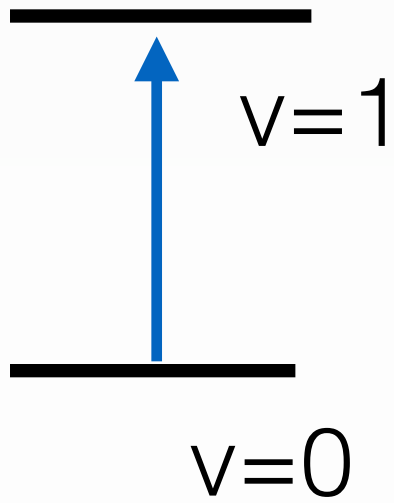
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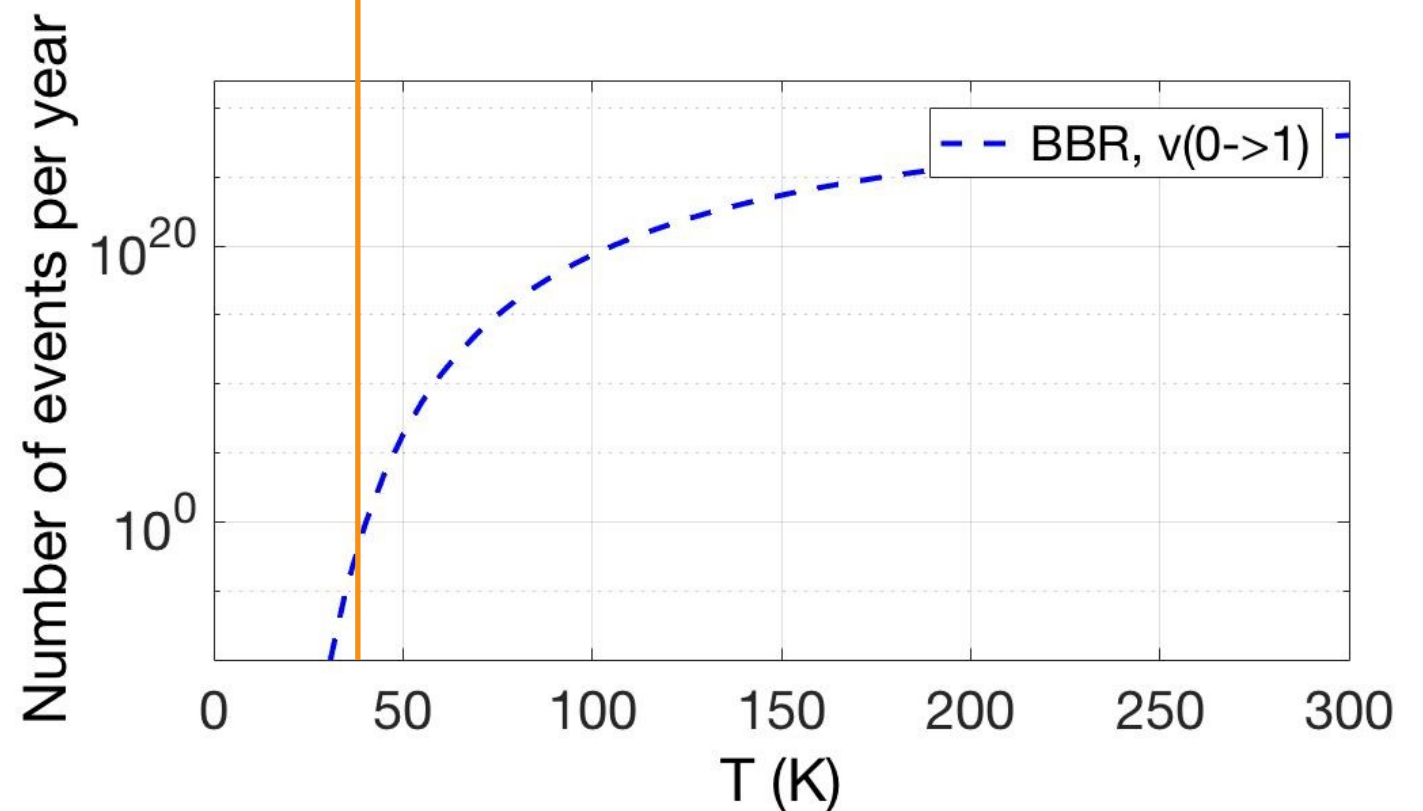
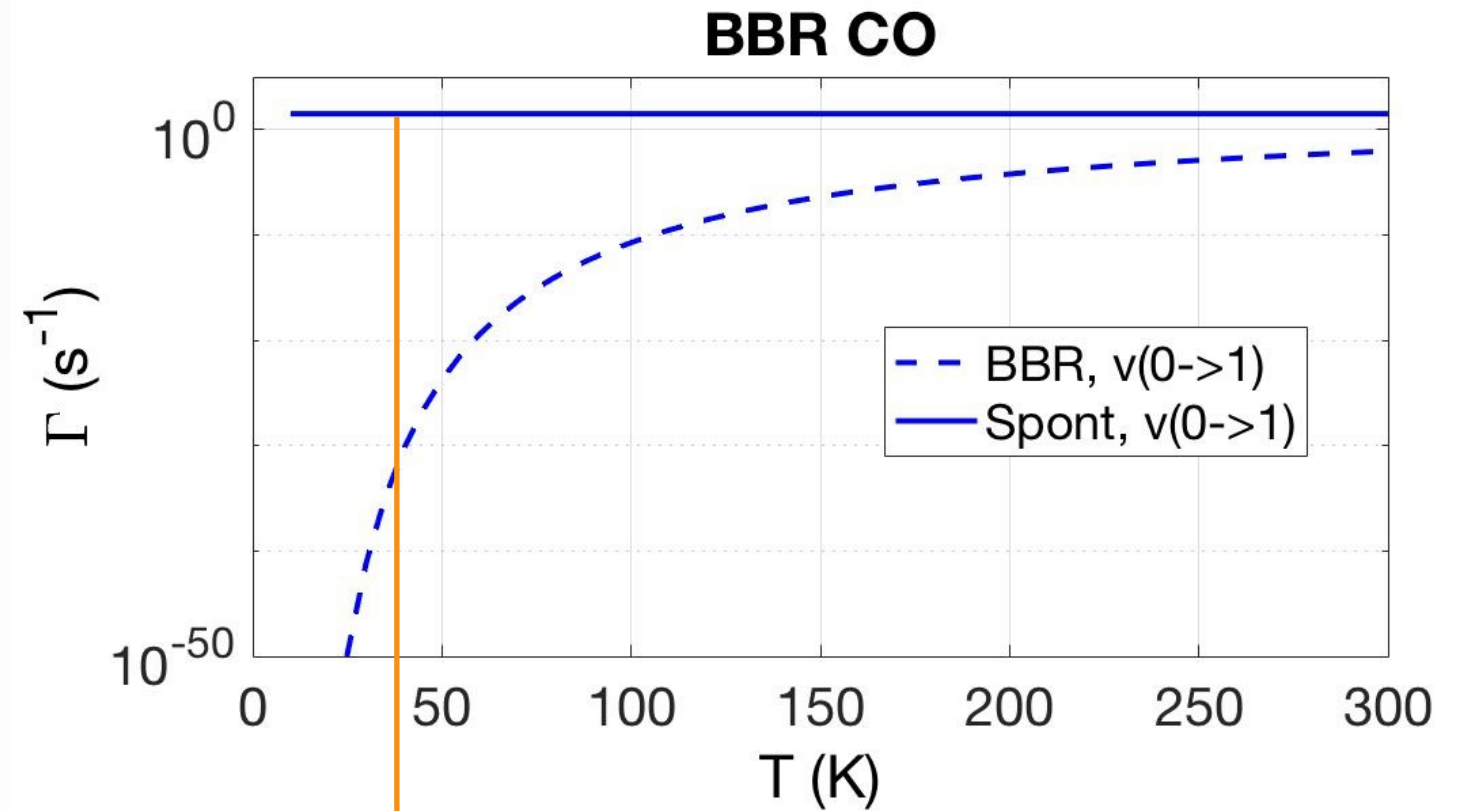
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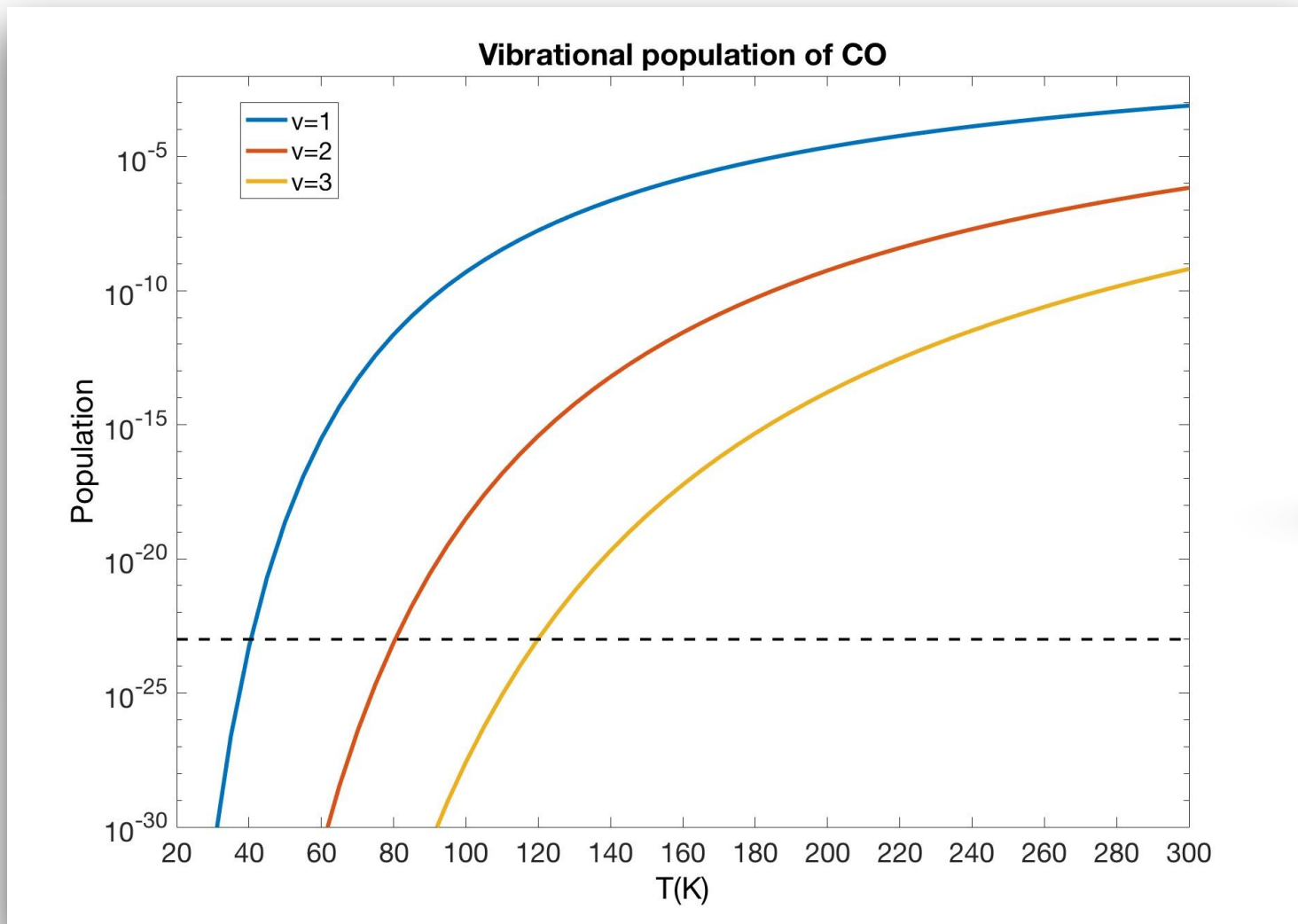


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CO @ 40K

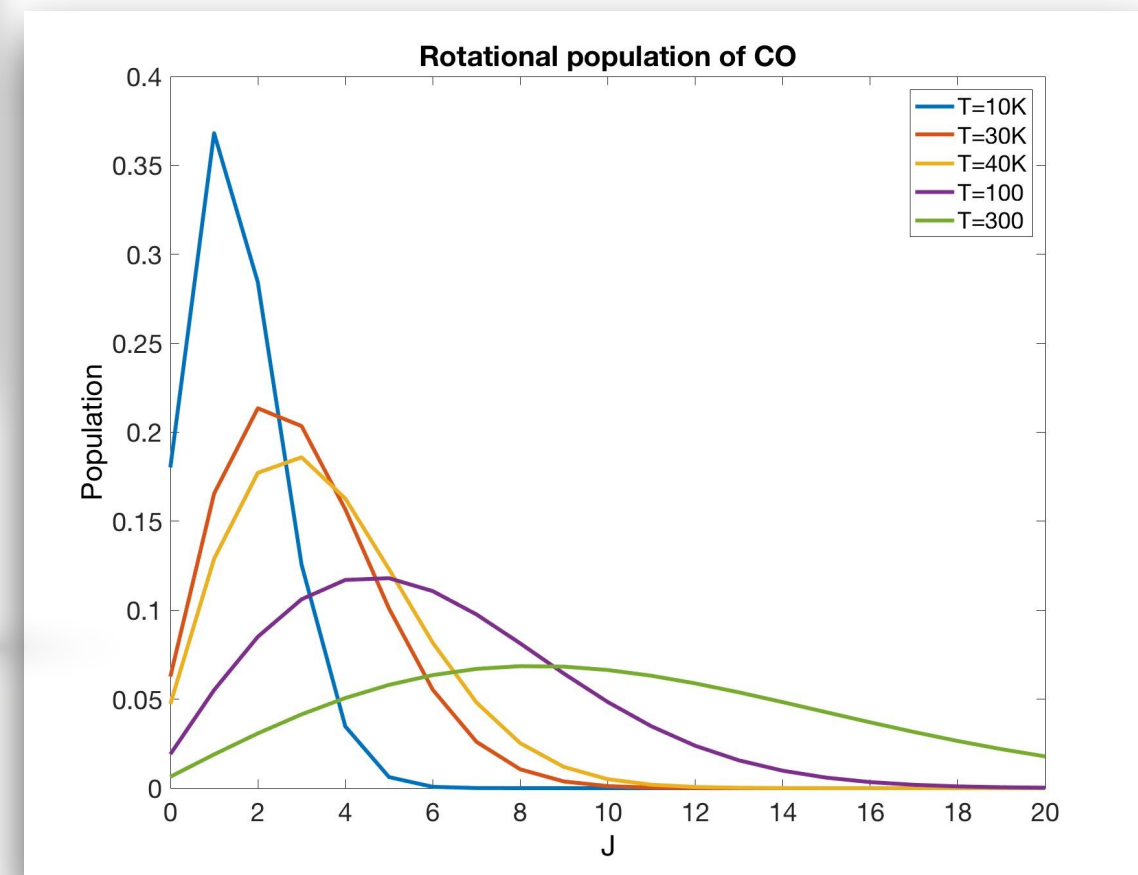


CO in detail (Rovibrational population)

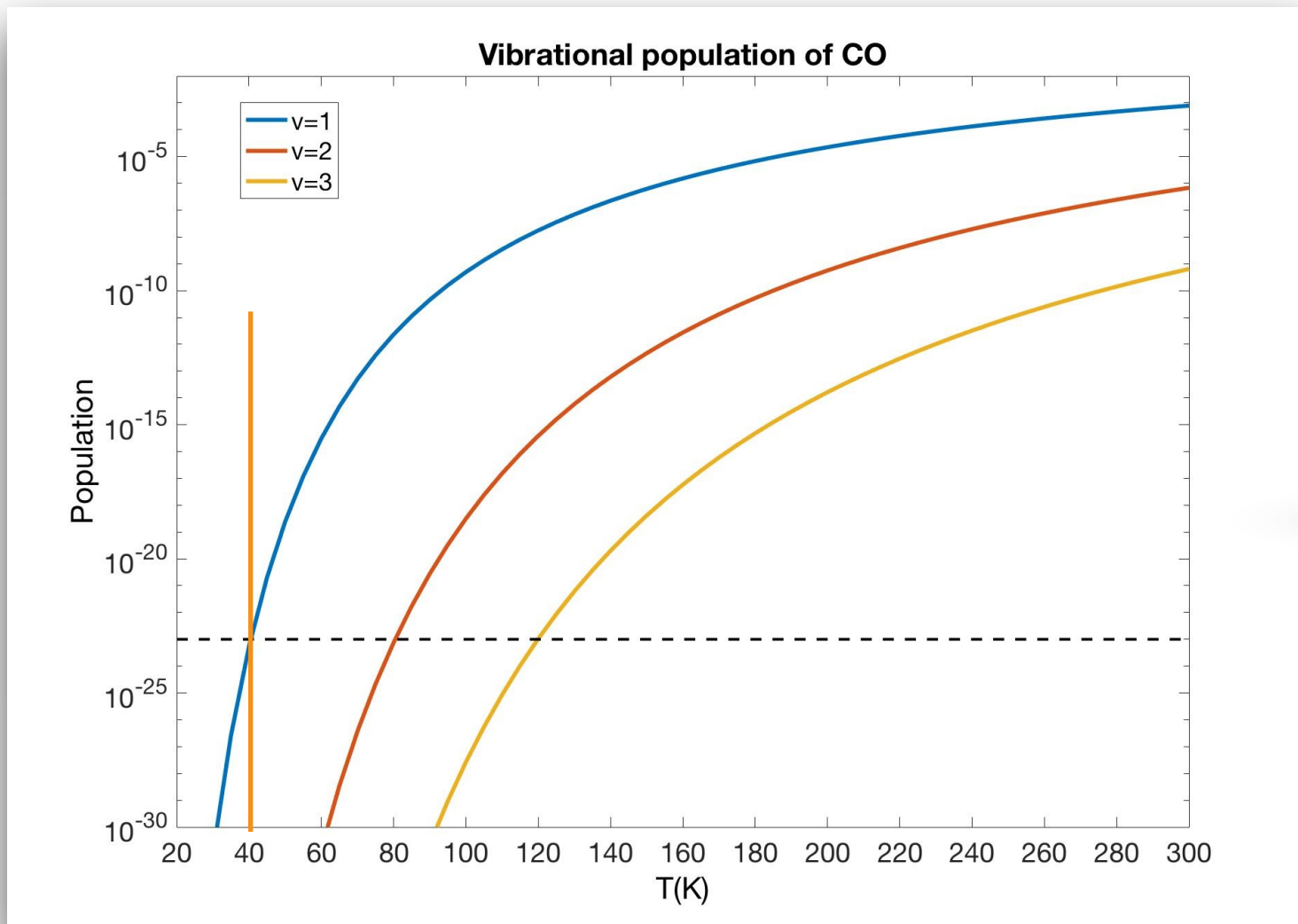


For CO @ 40 K the pressure must be ≈ 0.1 mbar to have all the molecules in gas phase

The rotational level distribution is accounted for in the rate calculation

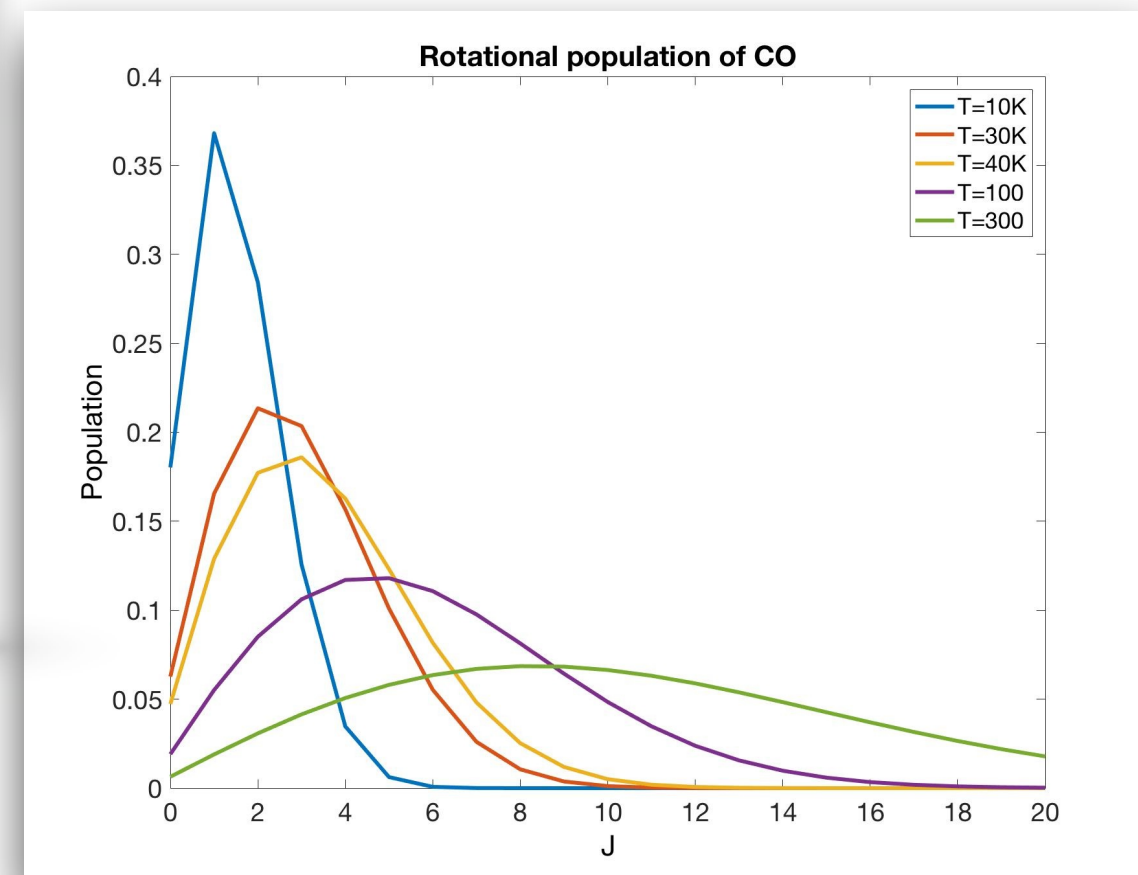


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For CO @ 40 K the pressure must be ≈ 0.1 mbar to have all the molecules in gas phase

The rotational level distribution is accounted for in the rate calculation

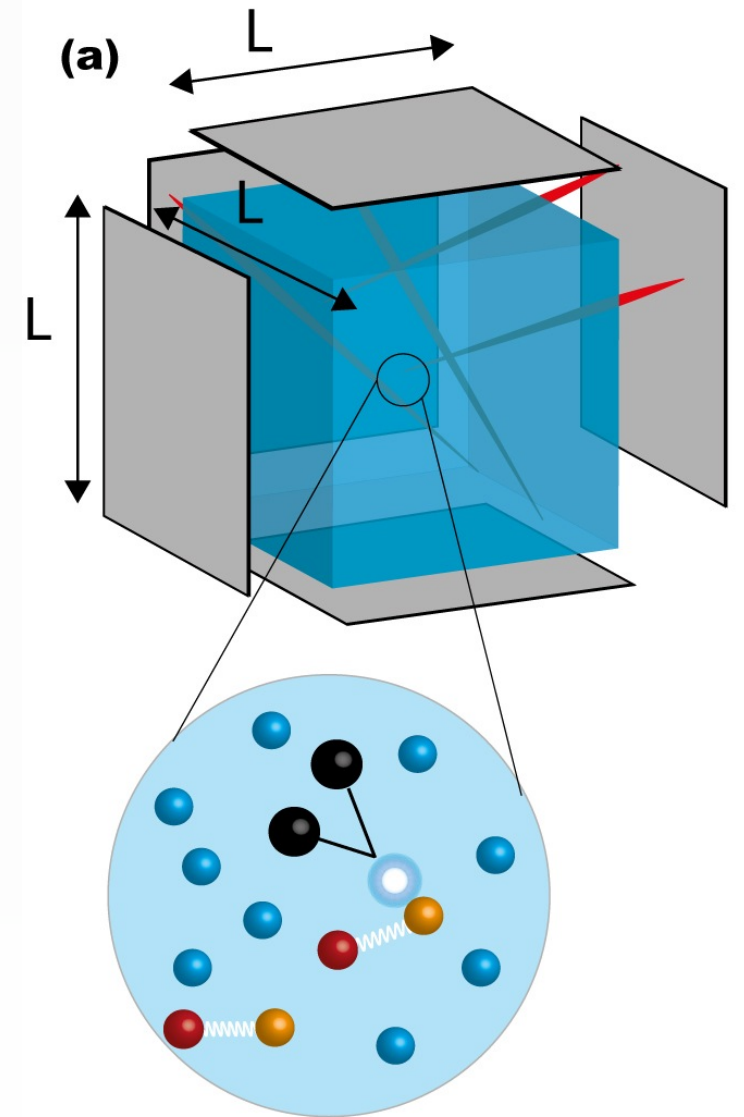


CO in detail (bonus as I promised)

$$\sigma_{\text{abs}}(\omega) = \hbar\omega B_{ij}g(\omega)$$

$$g(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\gamma_{\text{el}}}{\gamma_{\text{el}}^2 + (\omega - \omega_0)^2}$$

$$\gamma_{\text{el}} = \rho_{\text{He}} \langle \sigma_{\text{el}}(v)v \rangle$$



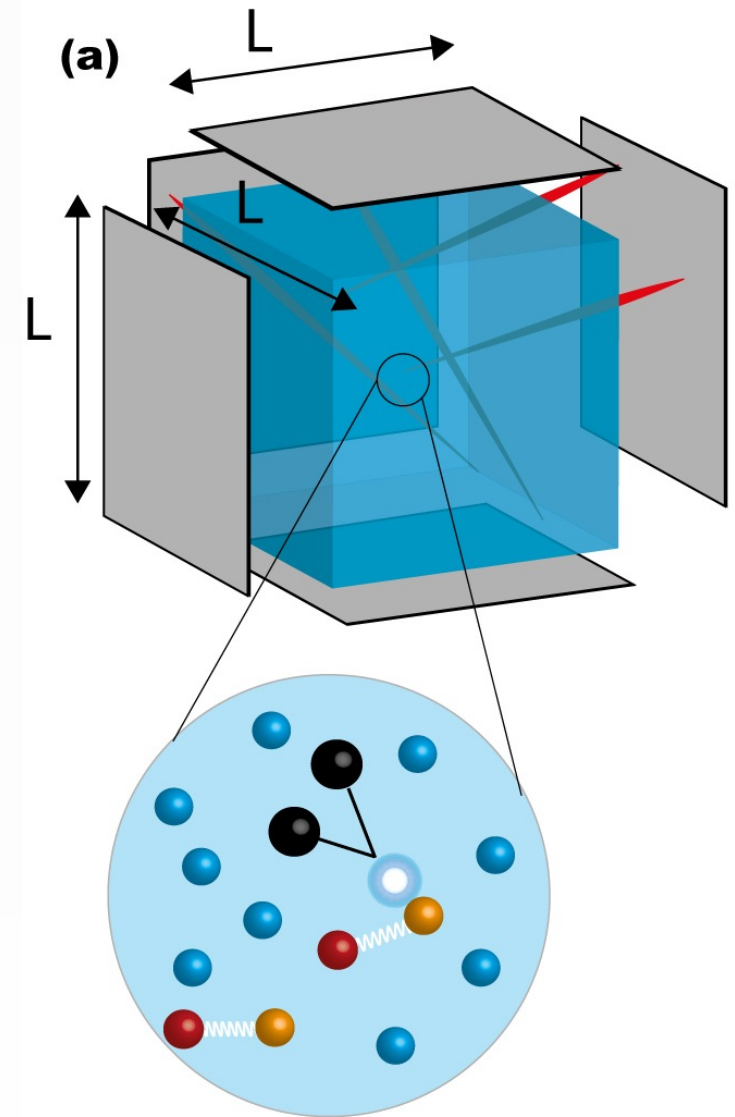
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The emitted photon can be absorbed by another molecule before it reaches the detector

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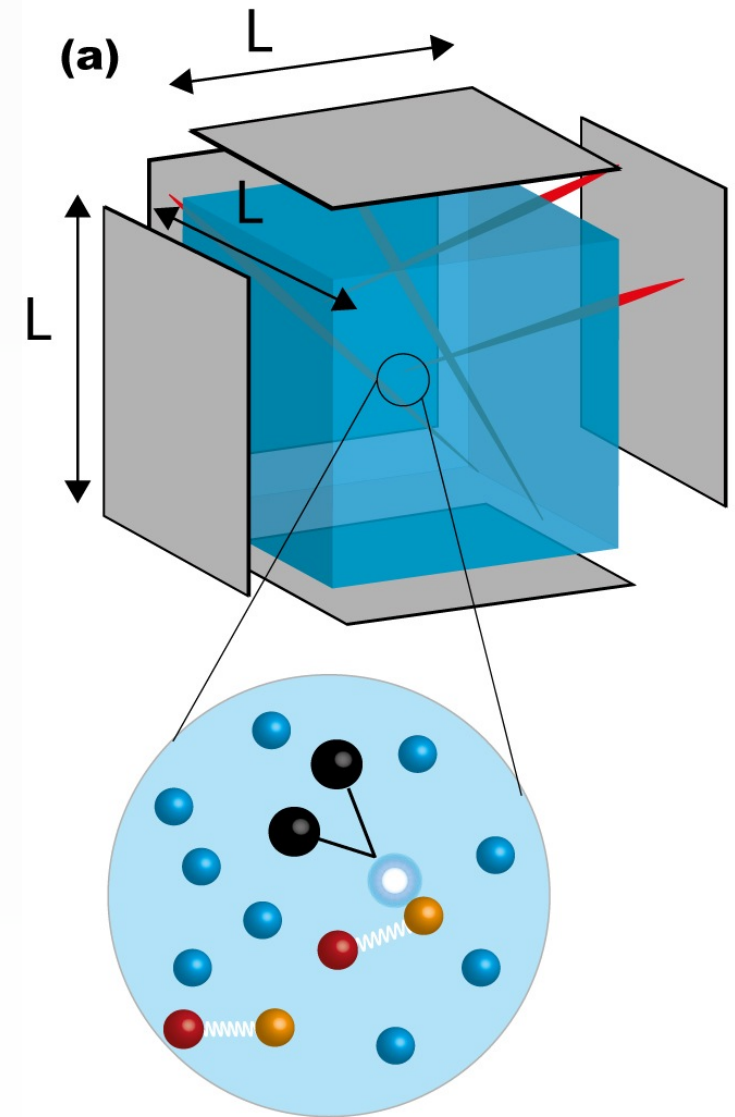
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Absorption cross section

$$\sigma_{\text{abs}}(\omega) = \hbar\omega B_{ij}g(\omega)$$

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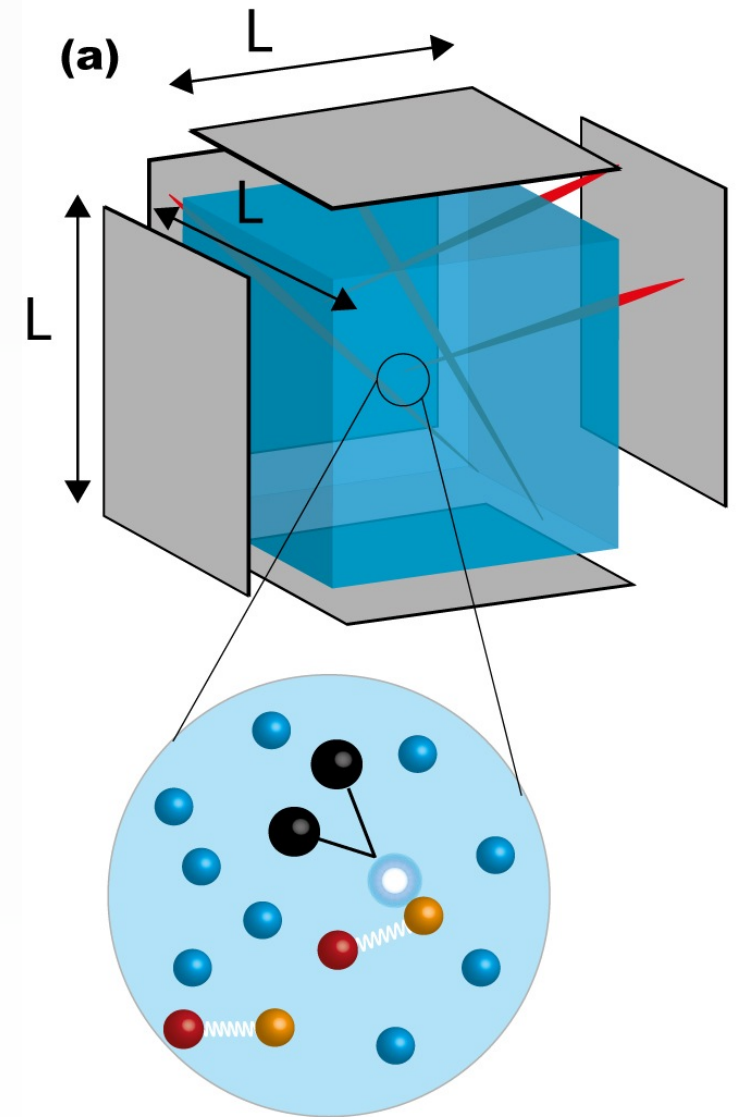


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$$\sigma_{\text{abs}}(\omega) = \hbar\omega B_{ij}g(\omega)$$

$$B_{ij} = \frac{\lambda^3}{8\pi\hbar c} A_{ij}$$

$$l(\omega) = \frac{1}{\rho_{\text{CO}}\sigma_{\text{abs}}(\omega)}$$



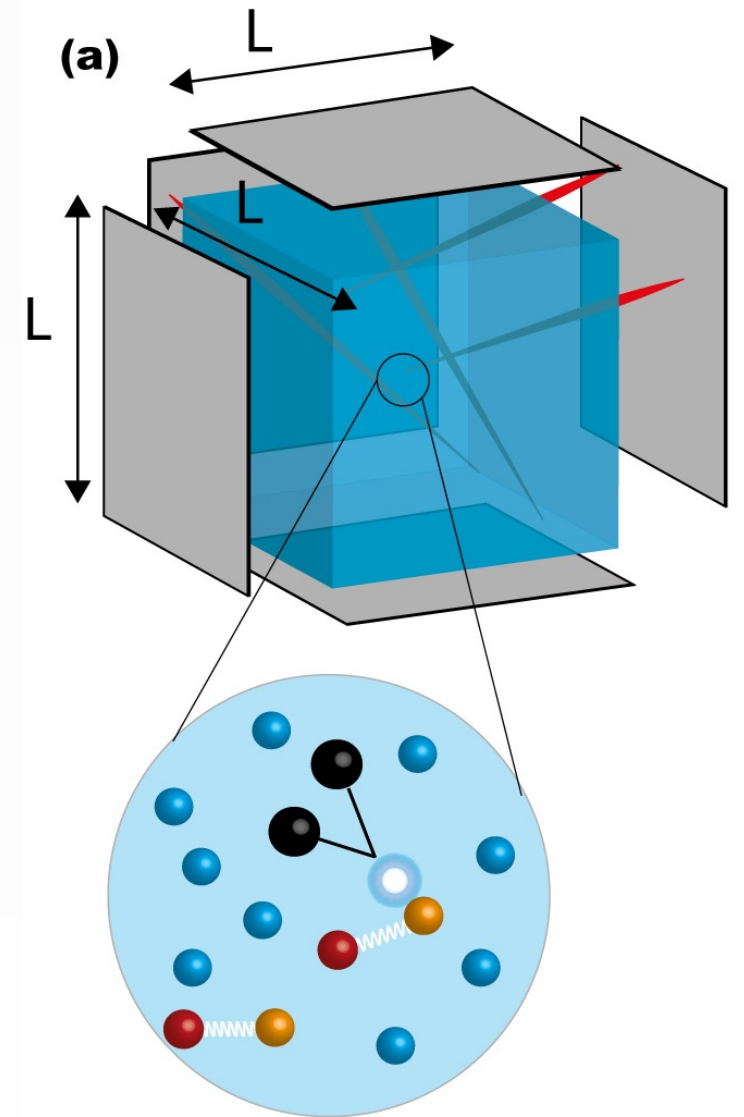
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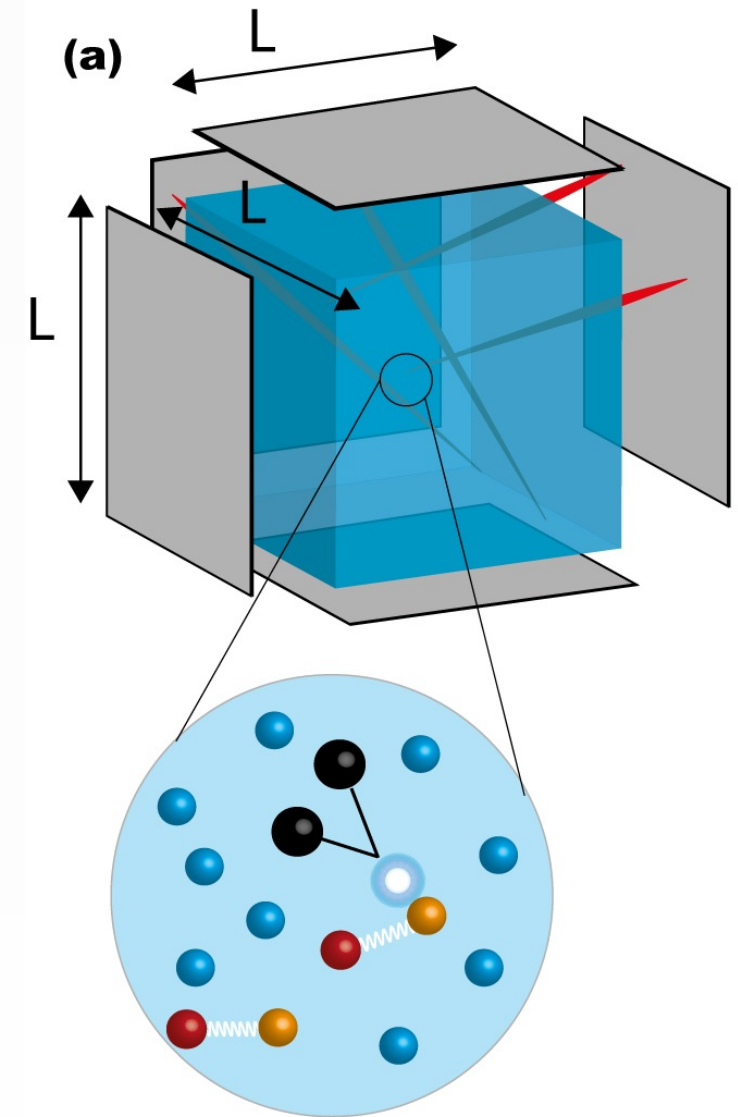
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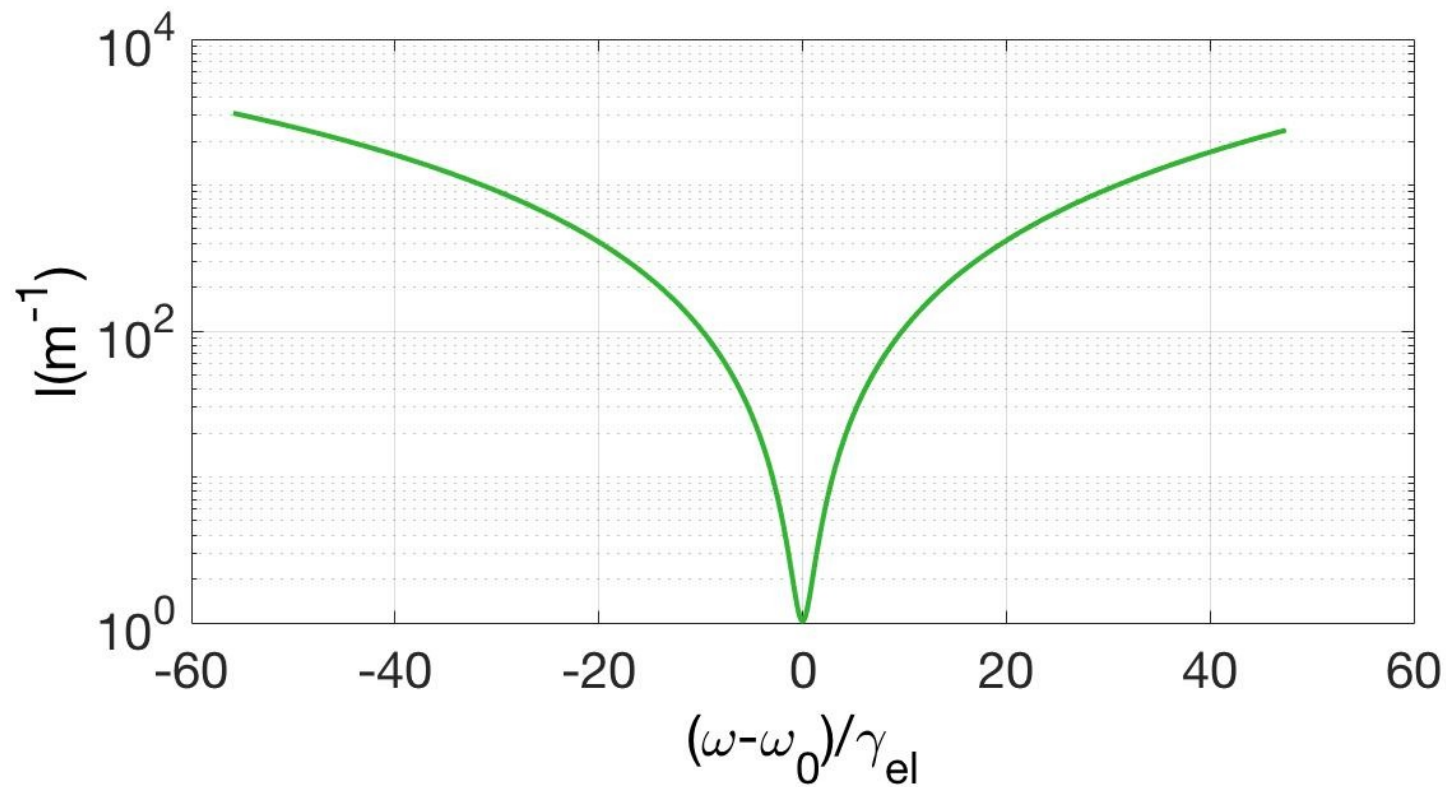
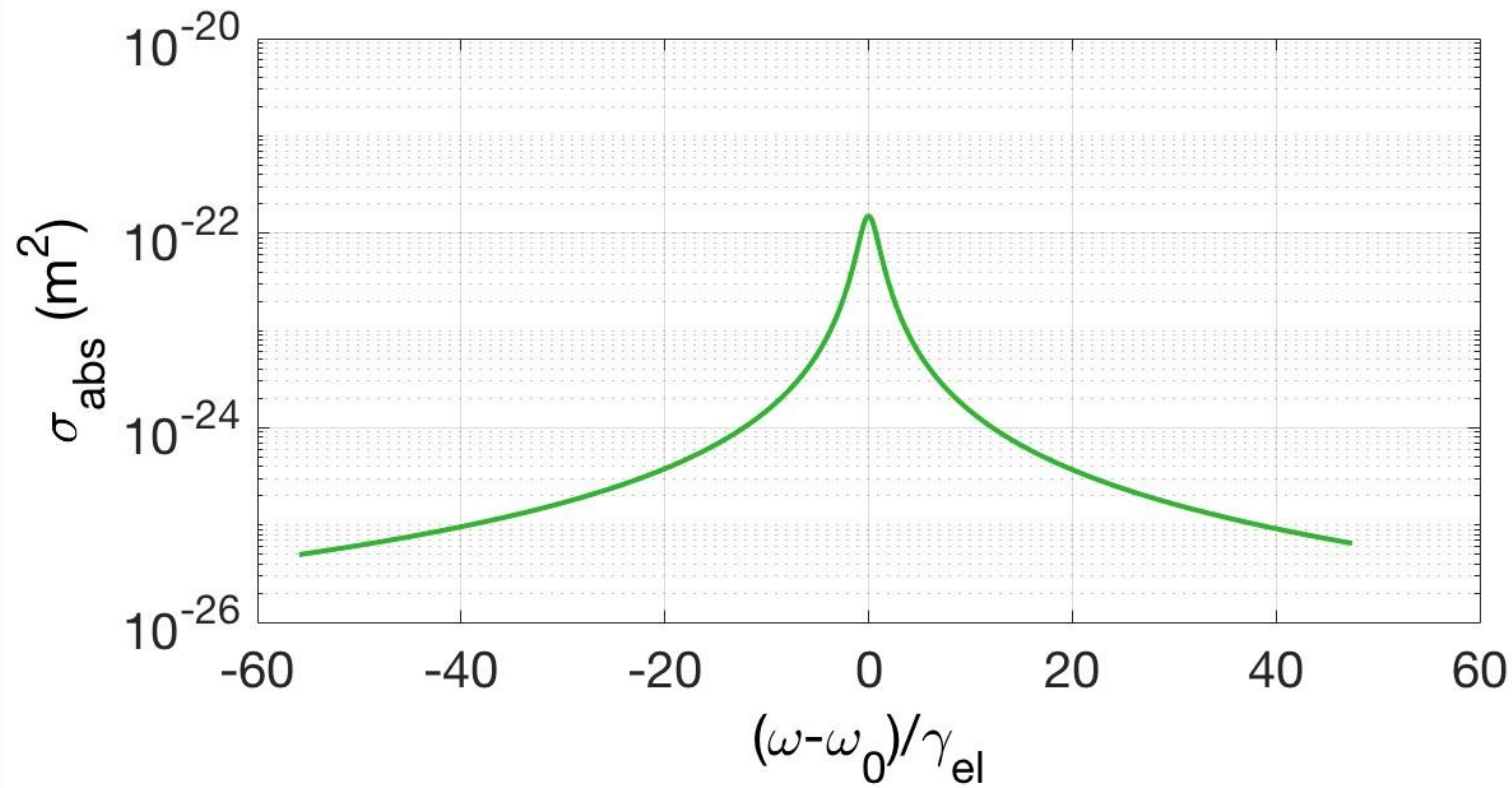
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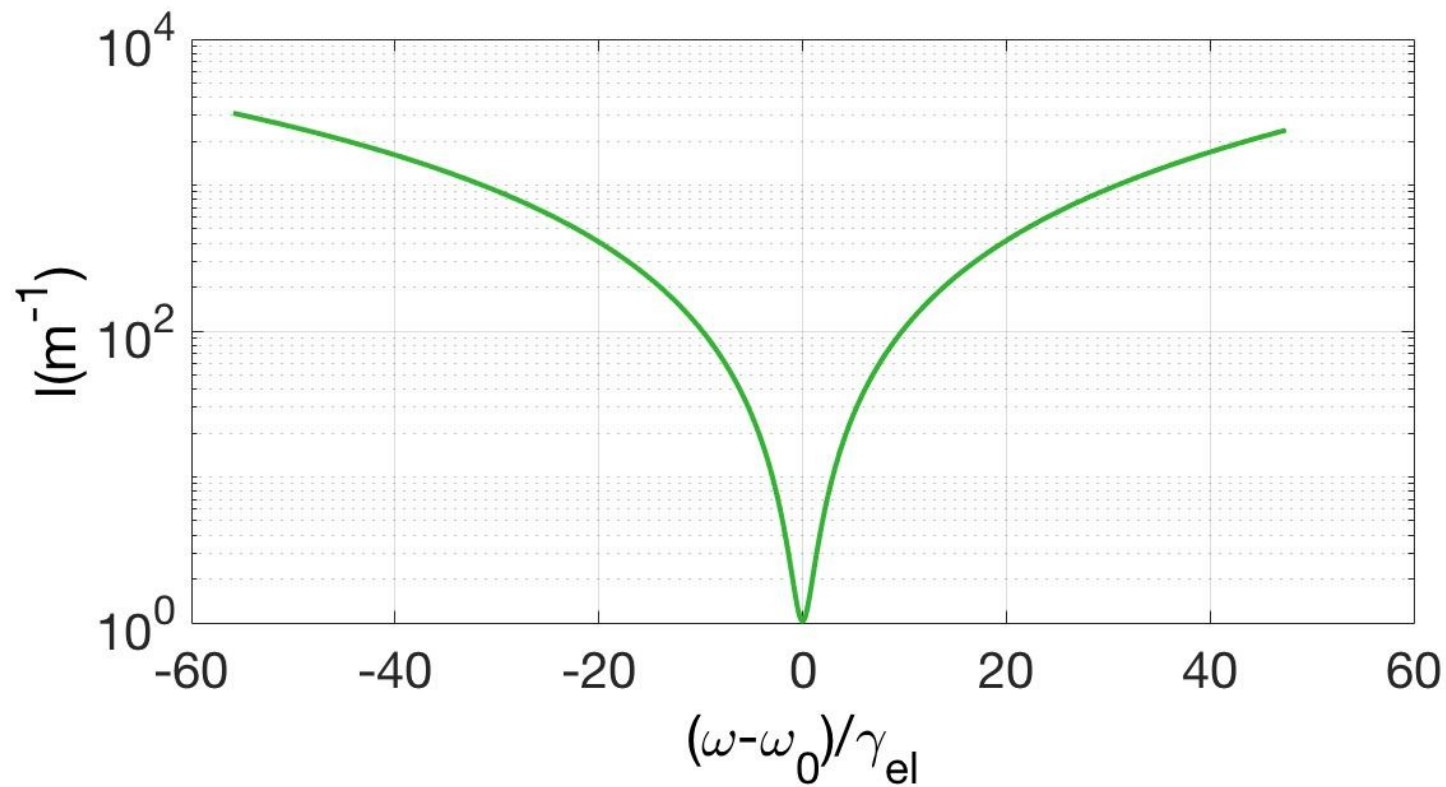
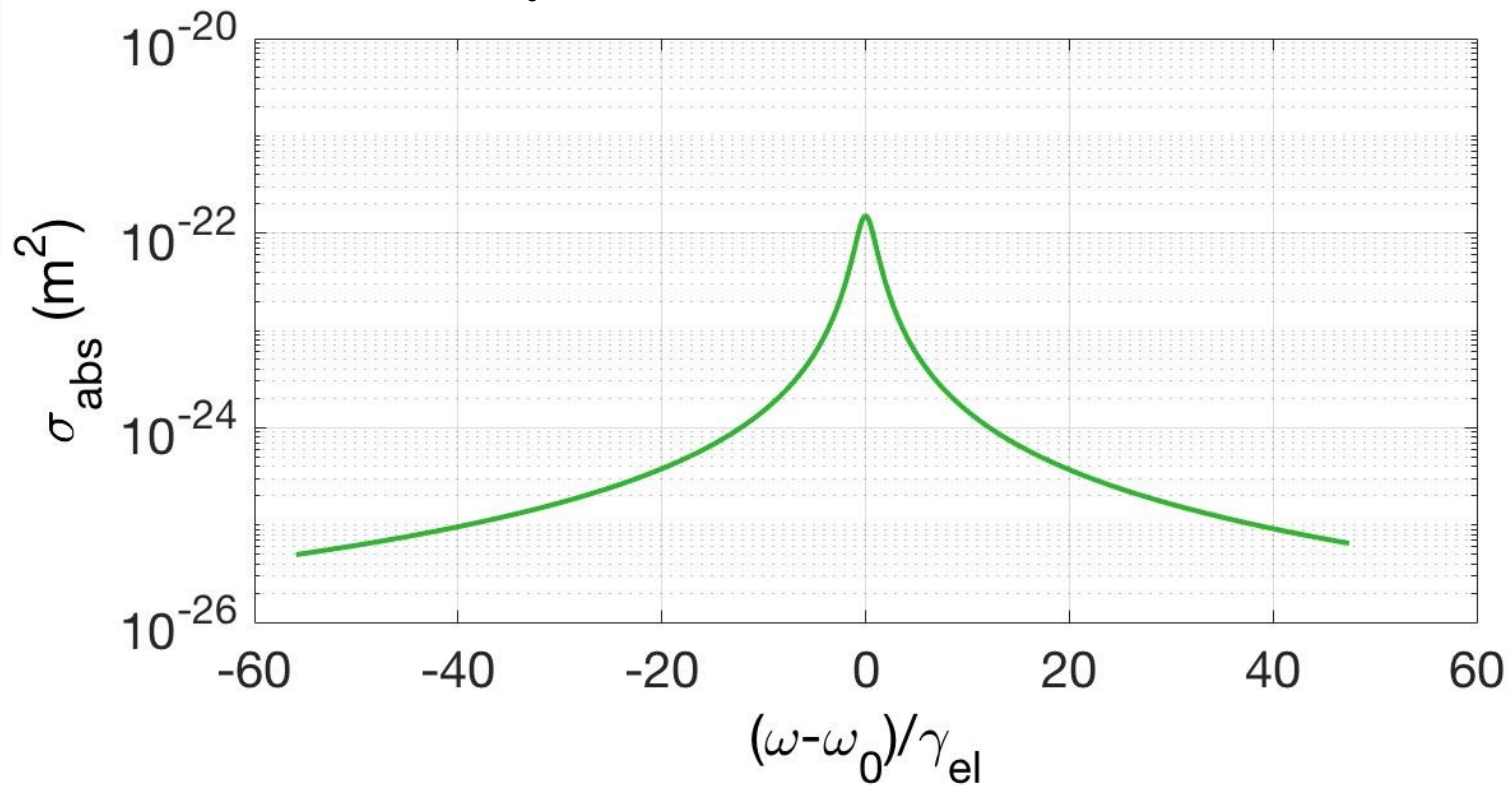
$$P_{\text{CO}} = 2.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ bar}$$

$$P_{\text{He}} = 0.999998 \text{ bar}$$

$$l(\omega) = \frac{1}{\rho_{\text{CO}} \sigma_{\text{abs}}(\omega)}$$

CO in detail (bonus as I promised)

Absorption cross section



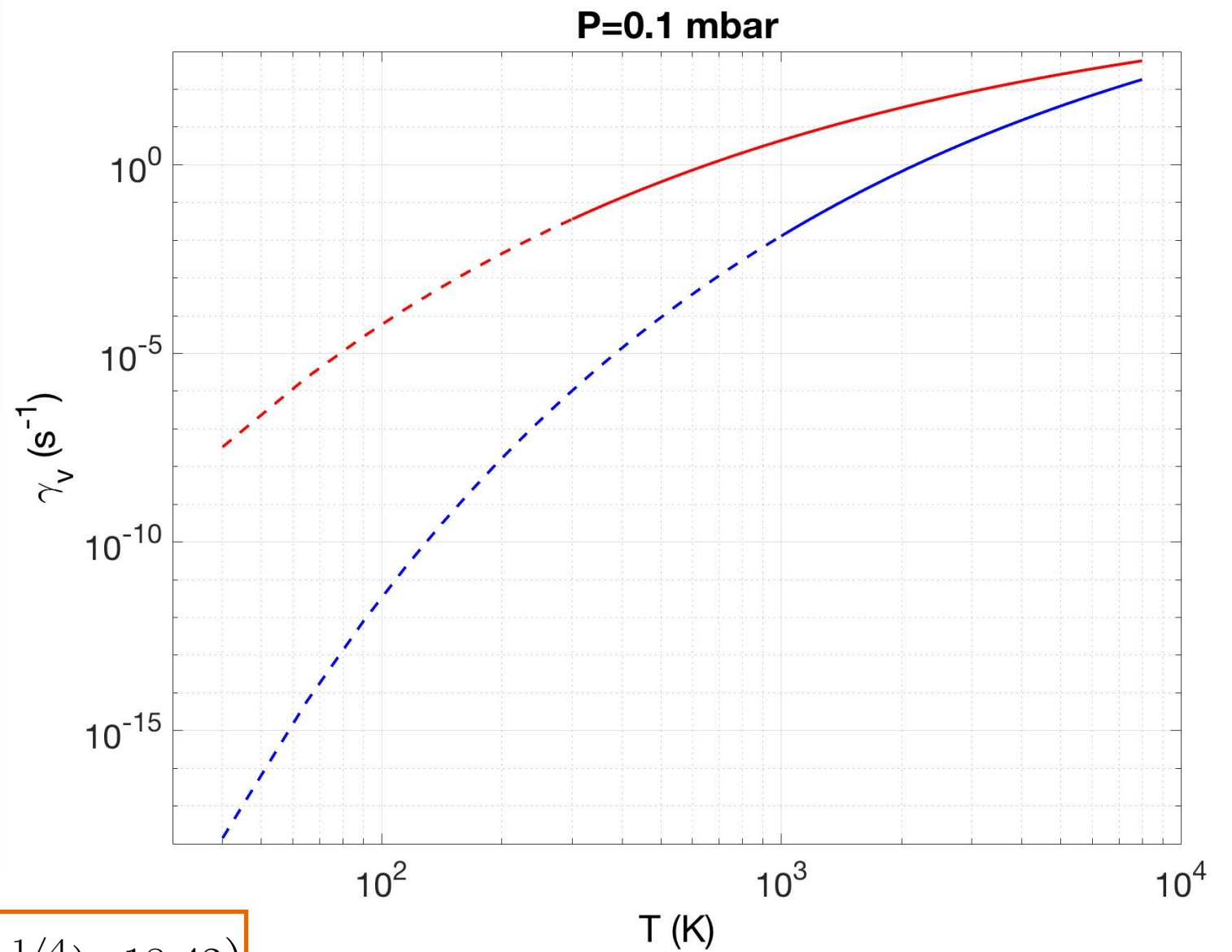
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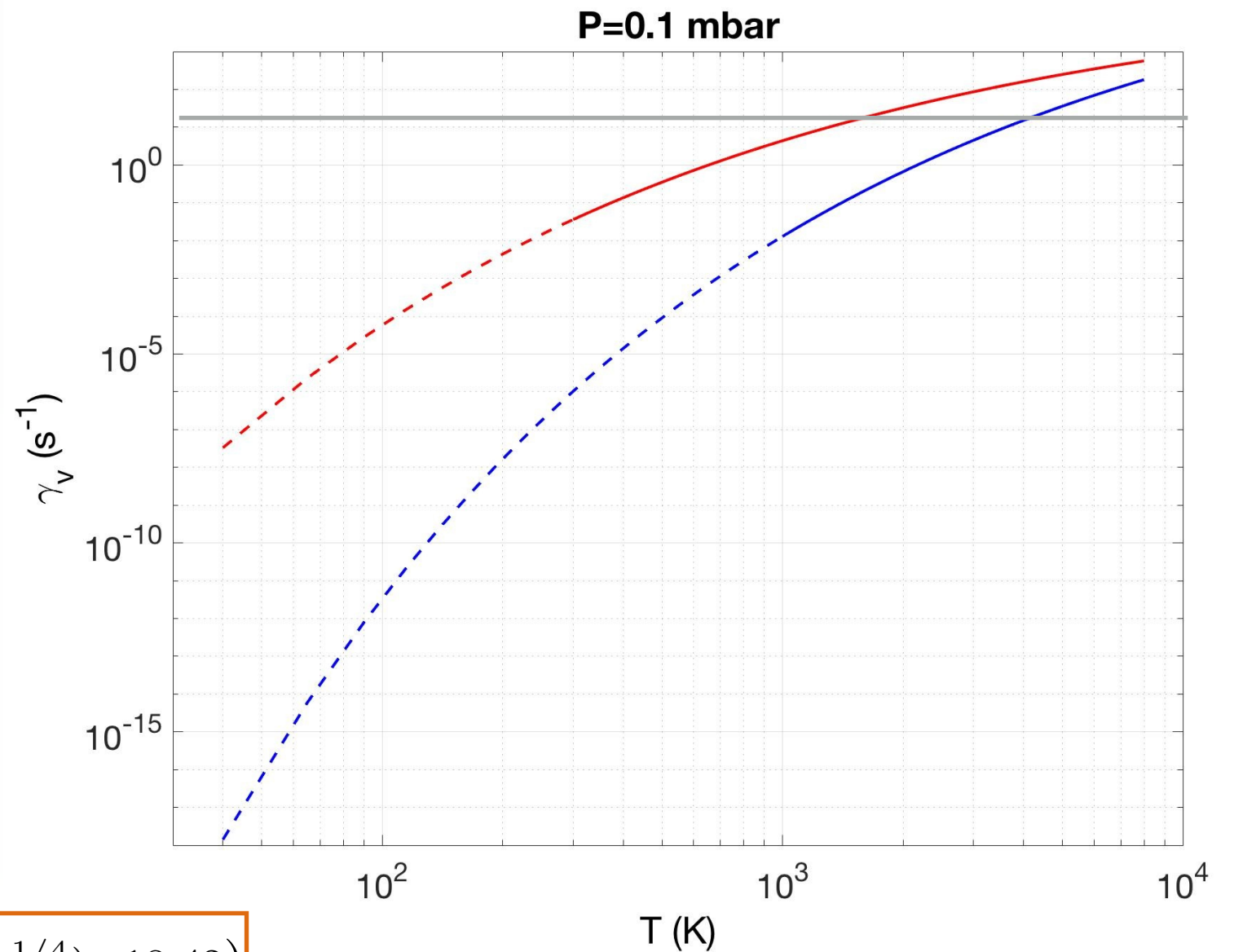
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CO in detail (collisions)



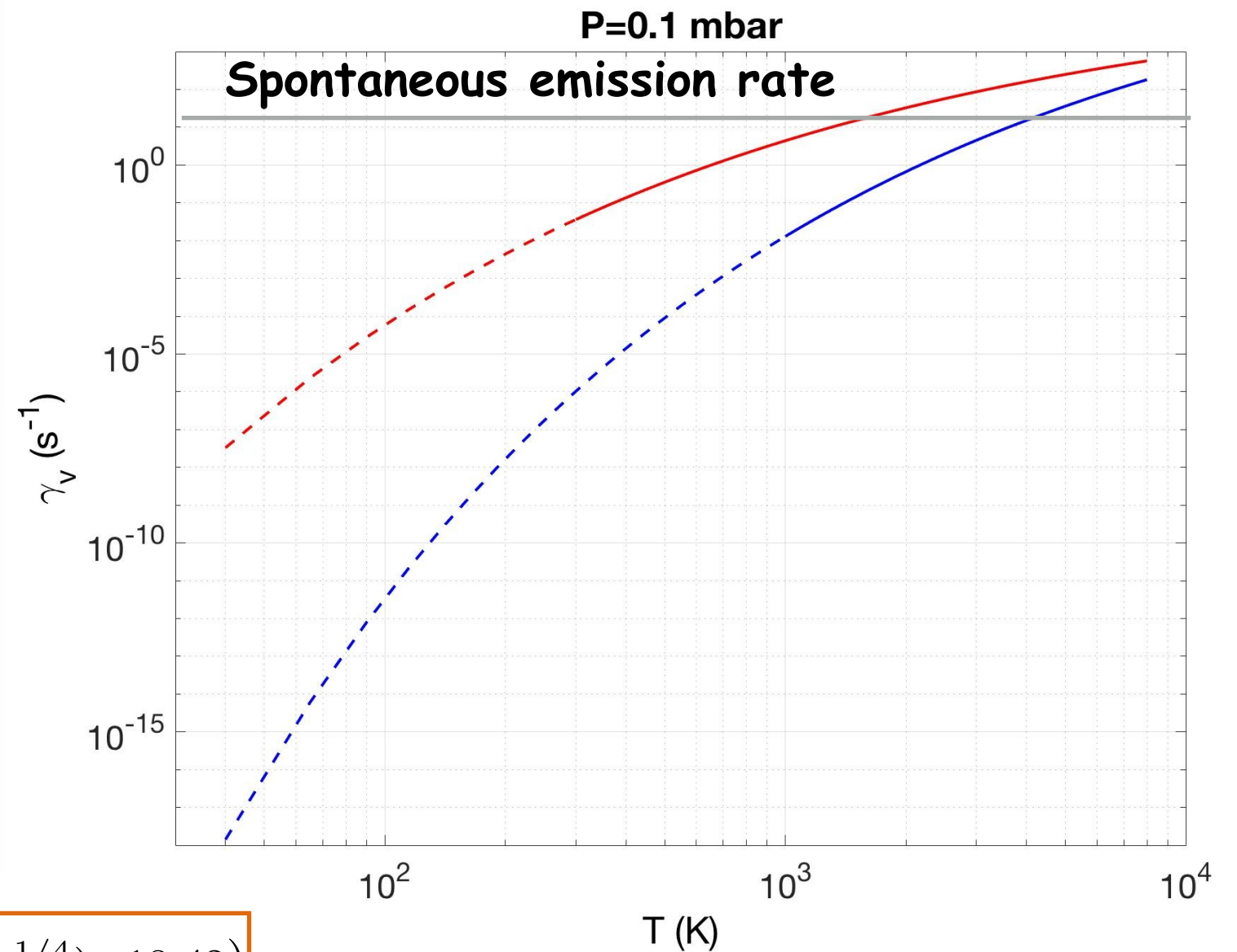
$$p\tau_v = e^{(1.16 \times 10^{-3} \mu^{1/2} \omega^{4/3} (T^{-1/3} - 0.015 \mu^{1/4}) - 18.42)}$$

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CO in detail (collisions)

JOURNAL OF CHEMICAL PHYSICS

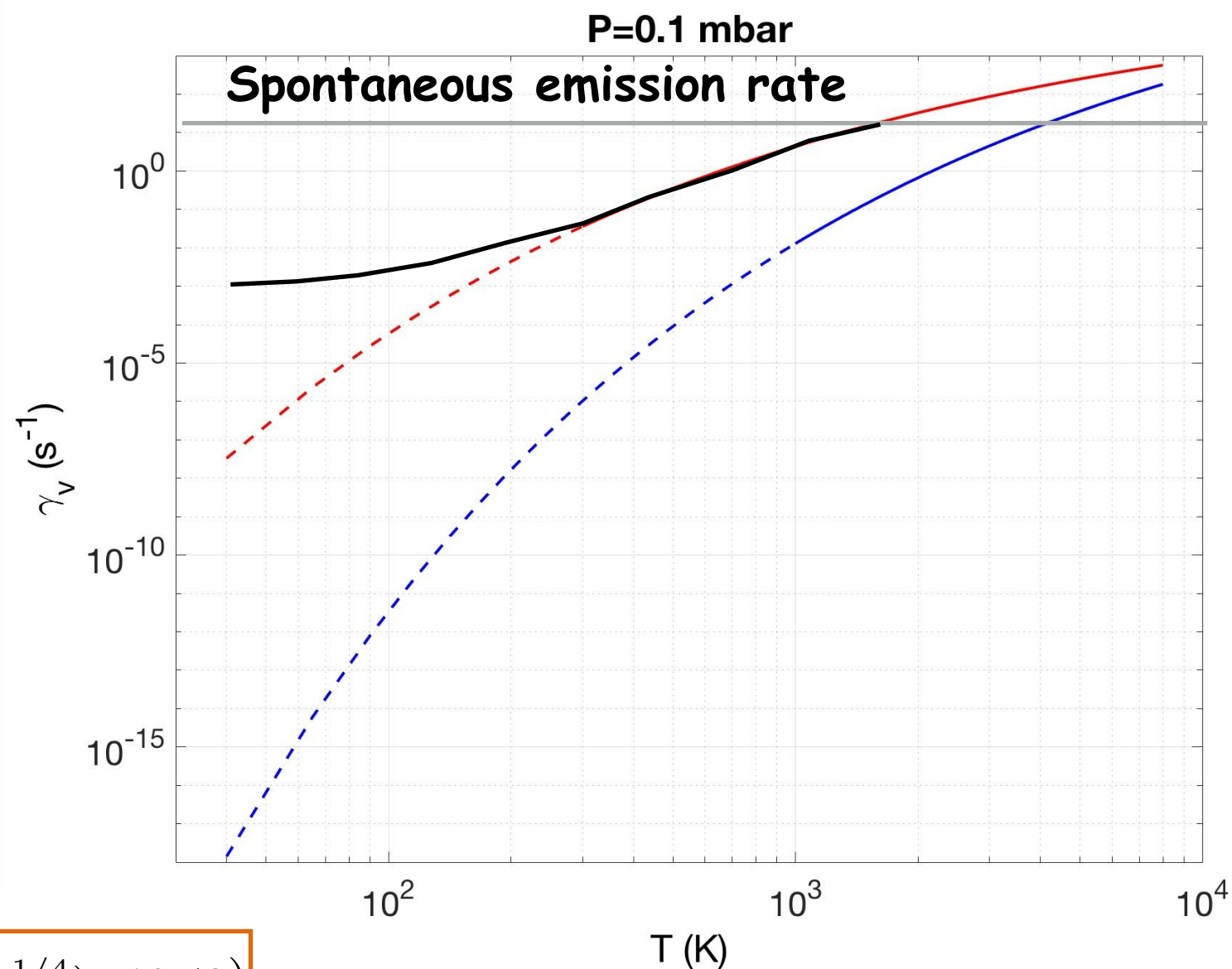
VOLUME 116, NUMBER 11

15 MARCH 2002

Vibrational relaxation of vibrationally and rotationally excited CO molecules by He atoms

Roman V. Krems^{a)}

Department of Chemistry, Physical Chemistry, Göteborg University, SE-412 96, Göteborg, Sweden



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CO in detail (collisions)

Vibrational energy exchange in CO–CO collisions at low temperature

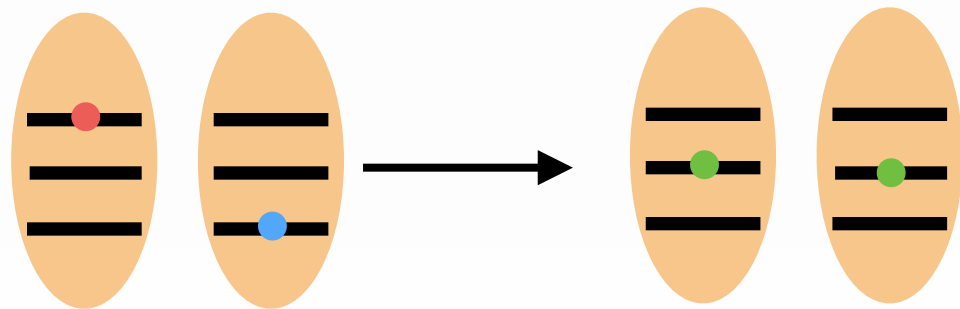
M. C. Gower, G. Srinivasan, and K. W. Billman

Citation: *The Journal of Chemical Physics* **63**, 4206 (1975);

View online: <https://doi.org/10.1063/1.431190>

View Table of Contents: <http://aip.scitation.org/toc/jcp/63/10>

Published by the *American Institute of Physics*



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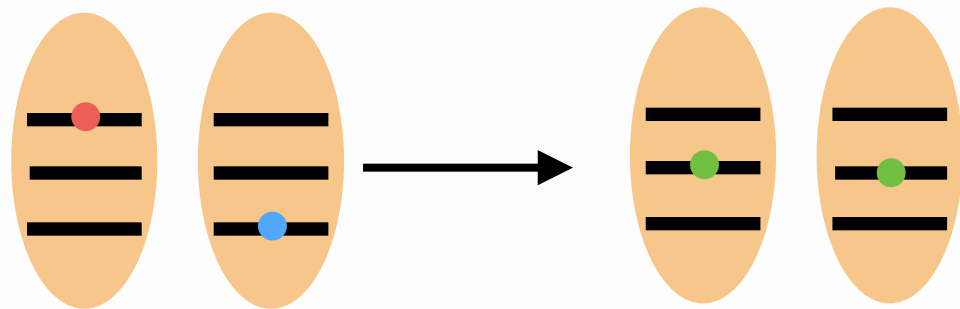
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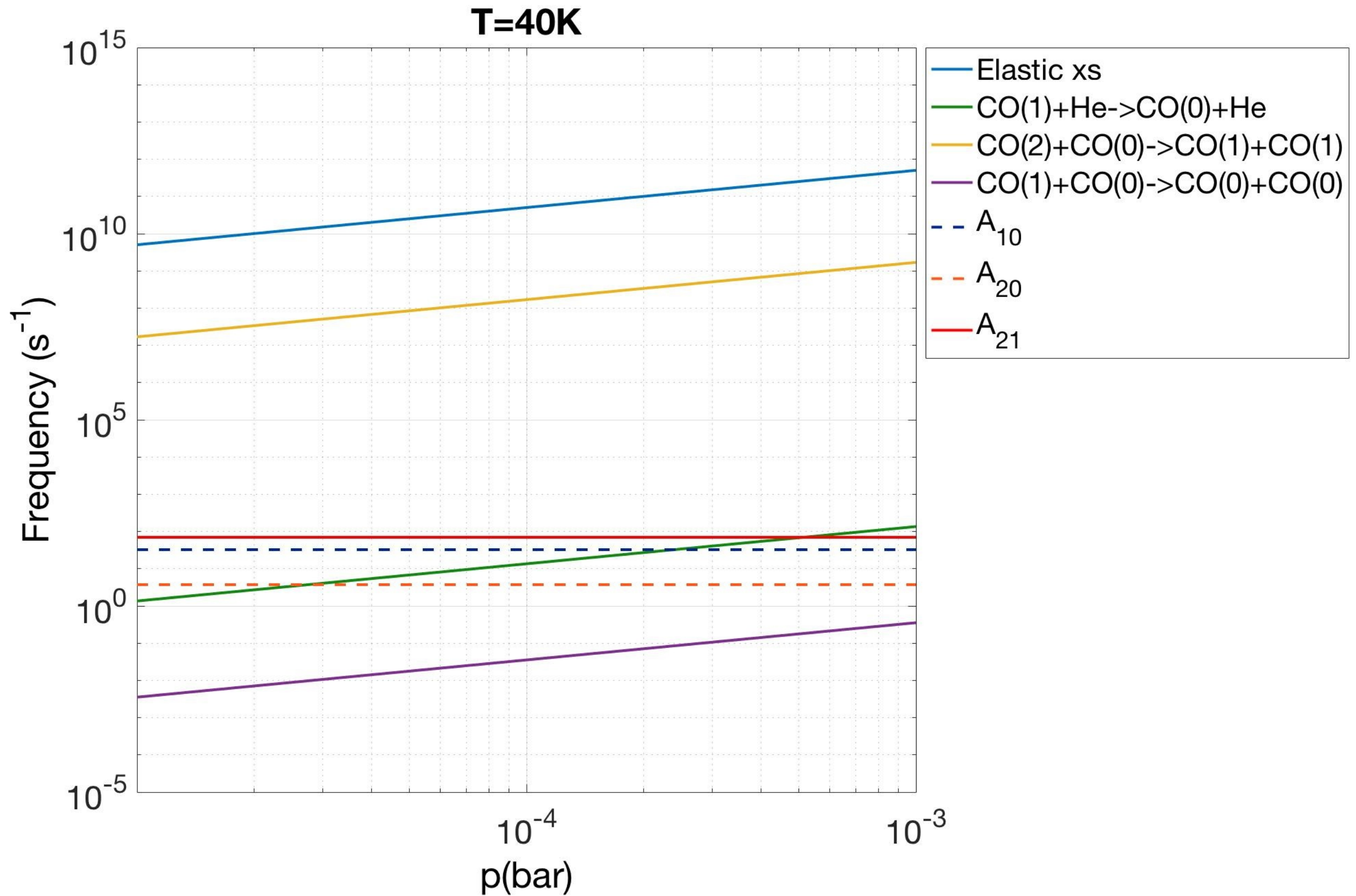
Published by the *American Institute of Physics*



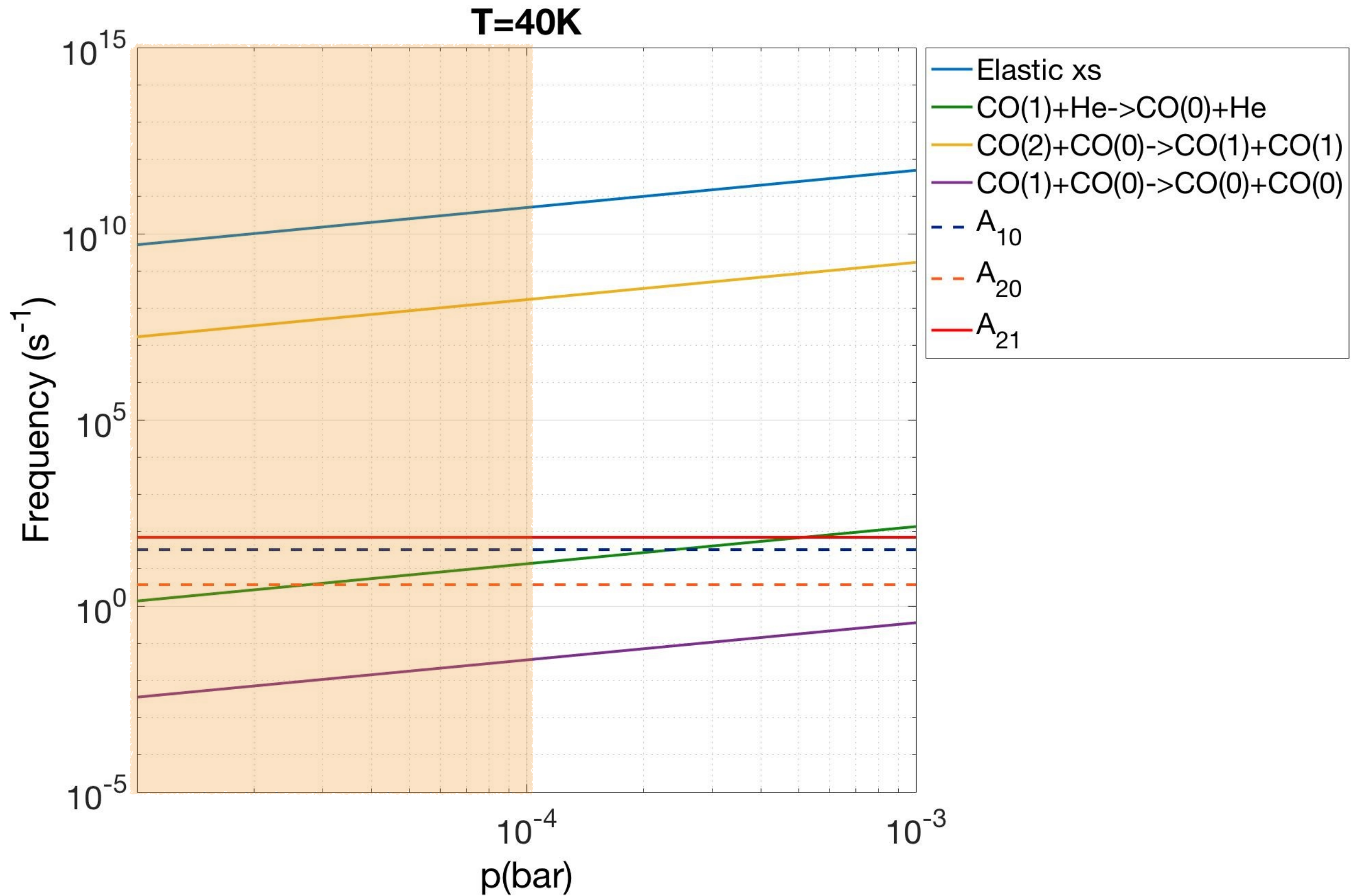
CO @ 40 K

$$k_{v,v-1} = 1.8 \times 10^{-12} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$

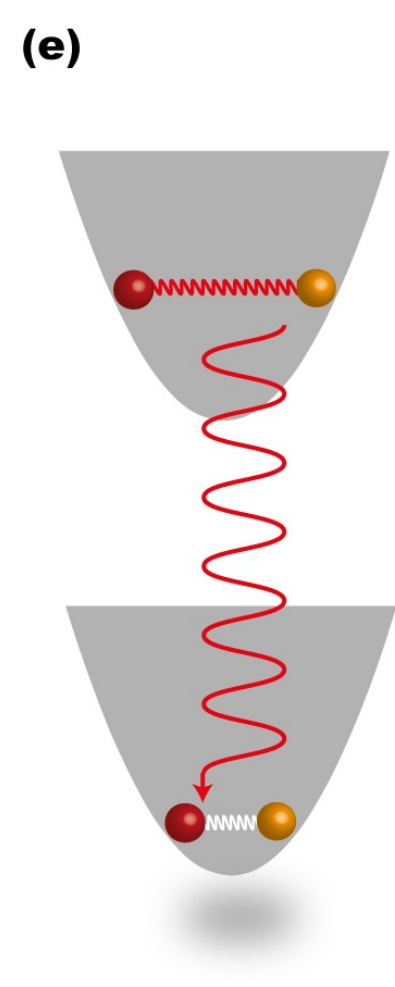
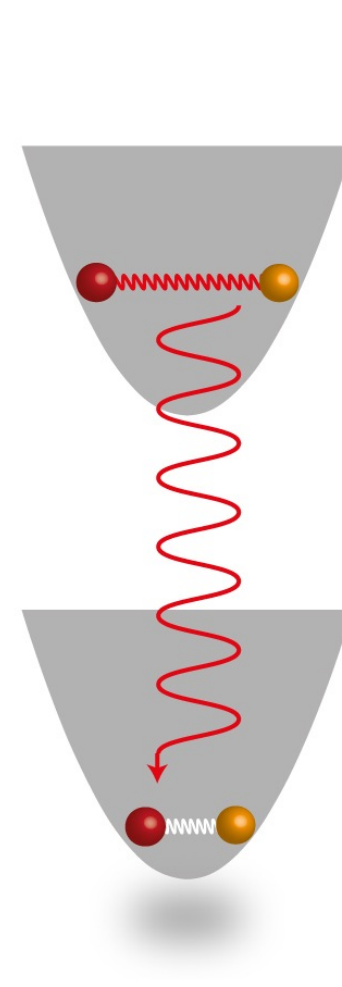
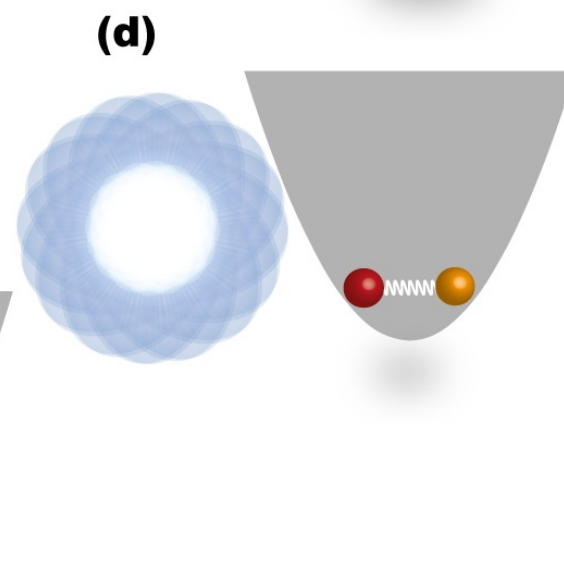
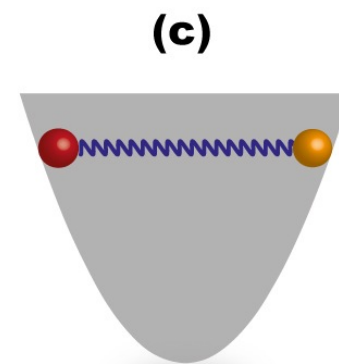
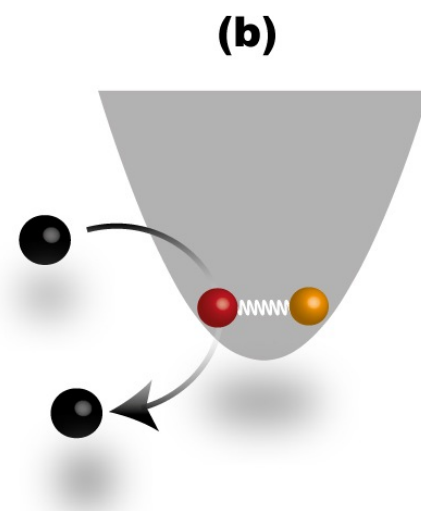
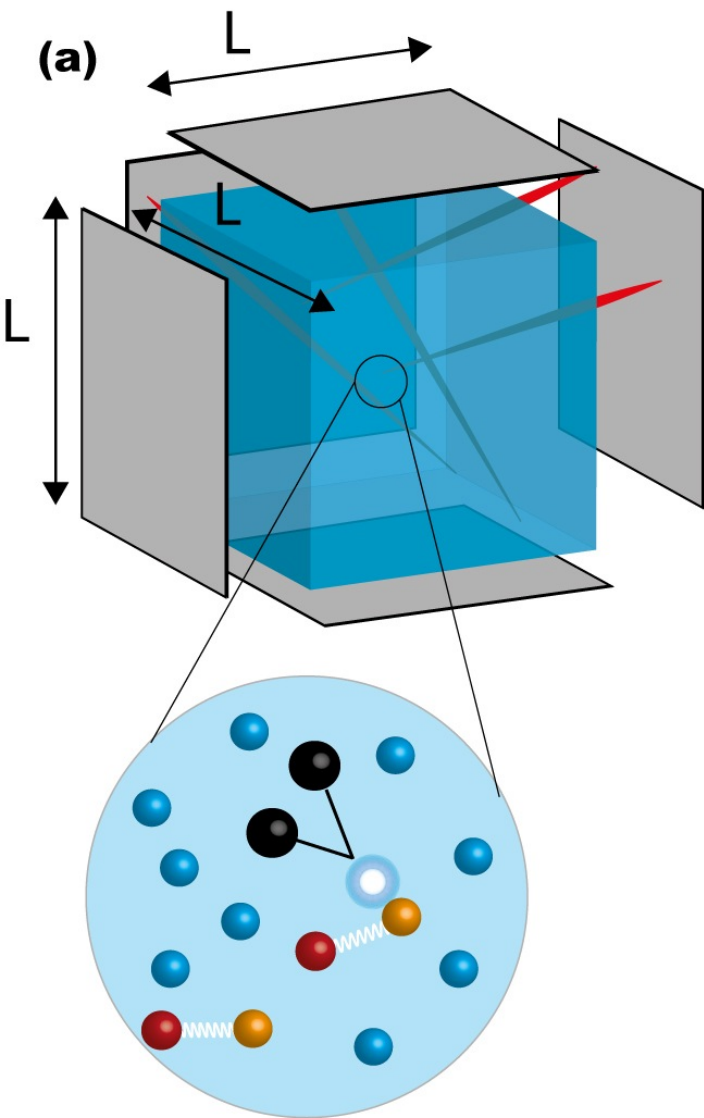
CO in detail (collisions)



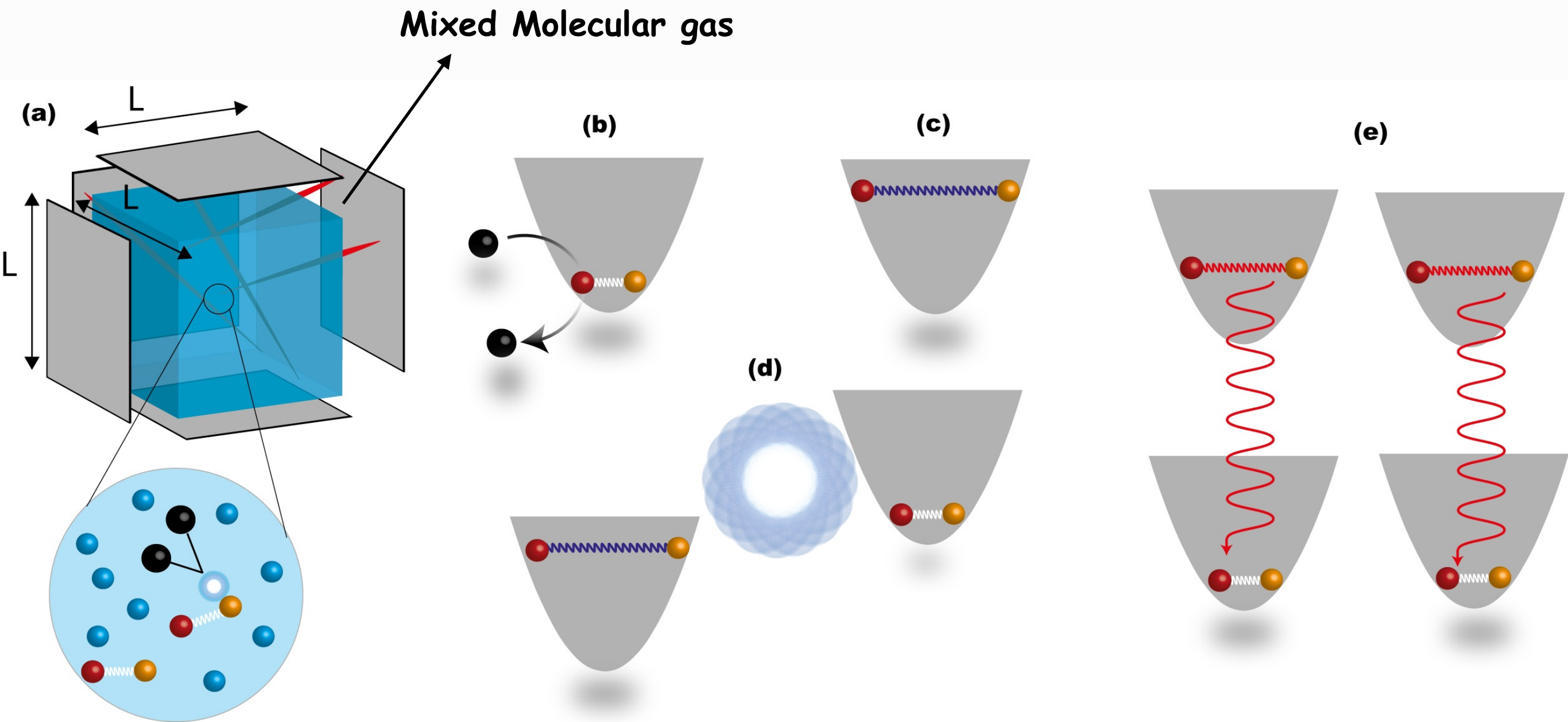
CO in detail (collisions)



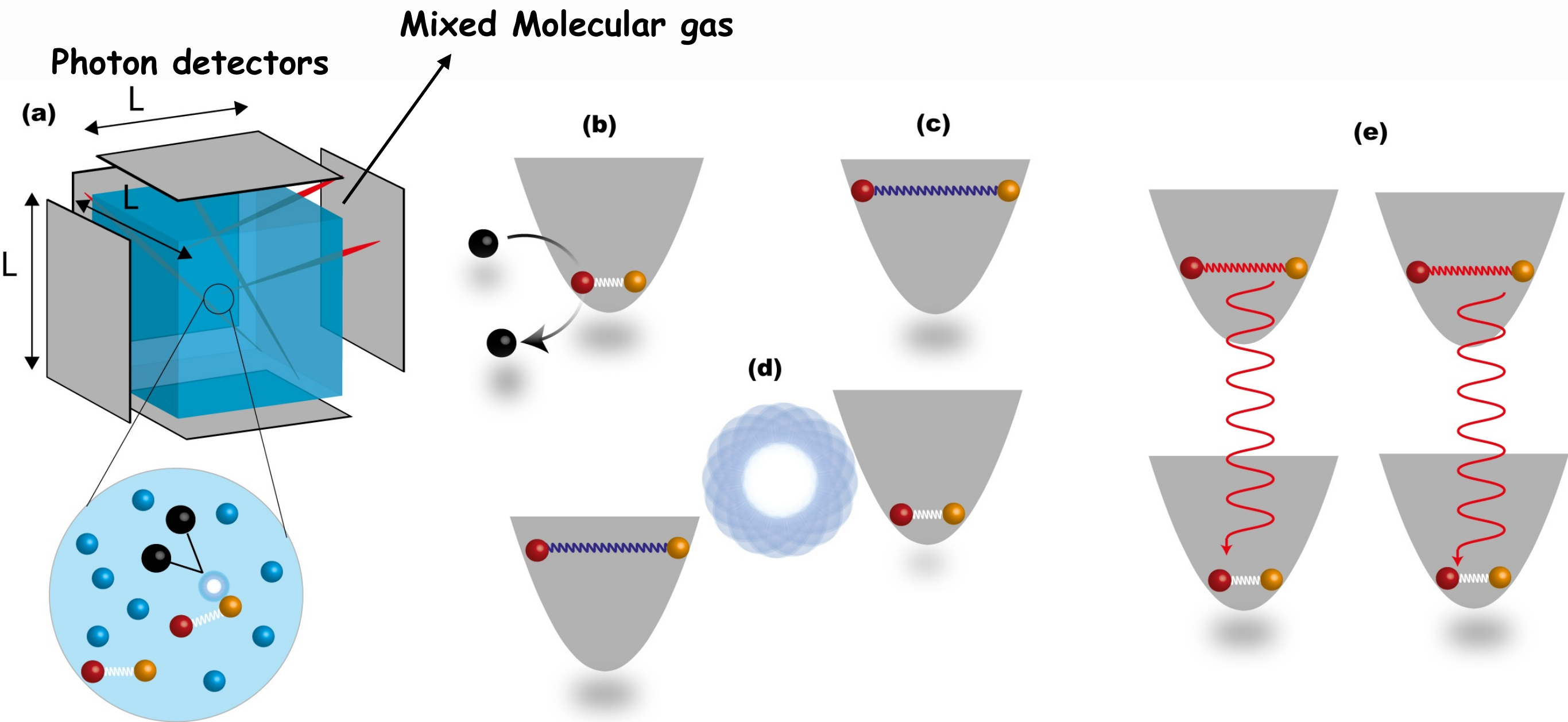
A novel approach for DM detection



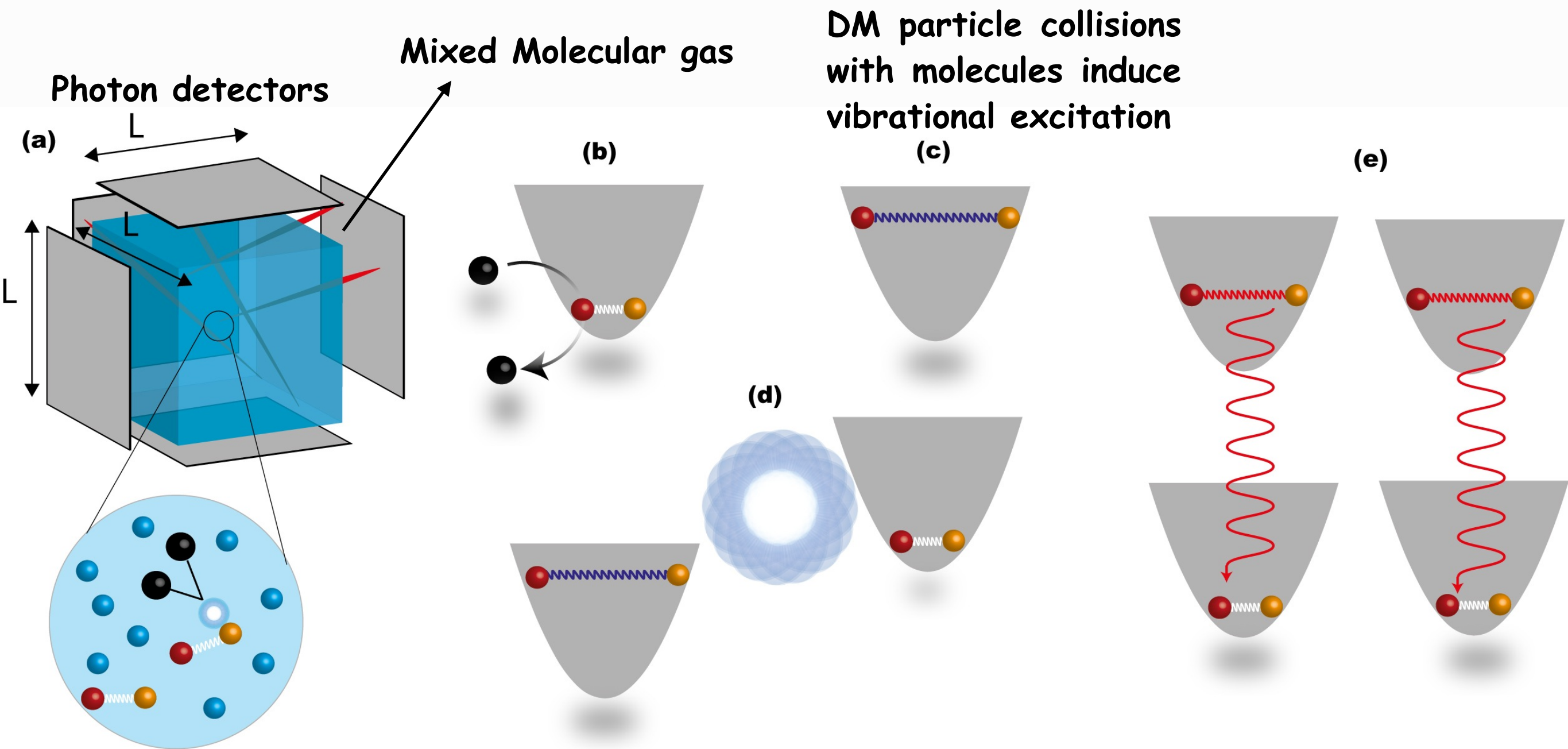
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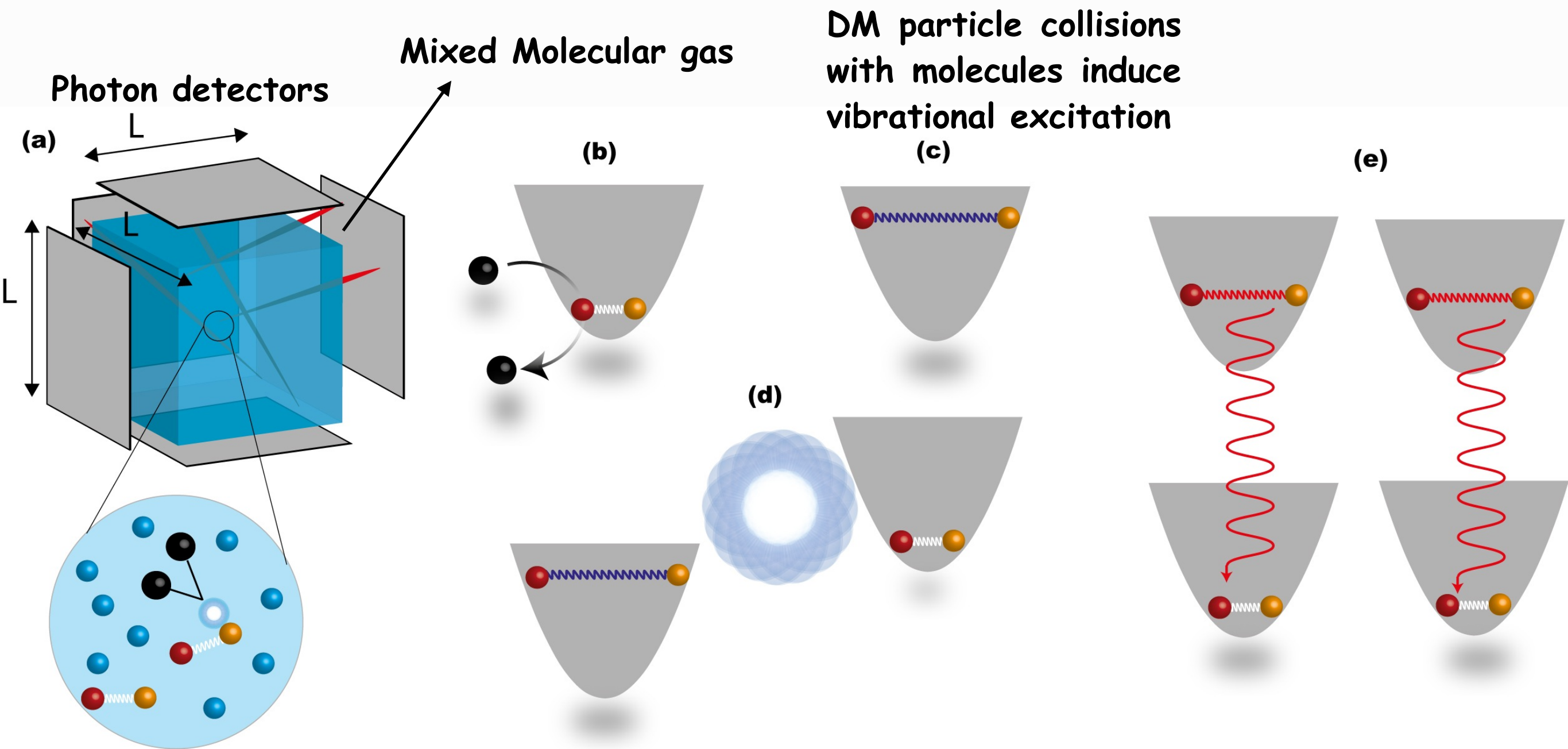
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A novel approach for DM detection

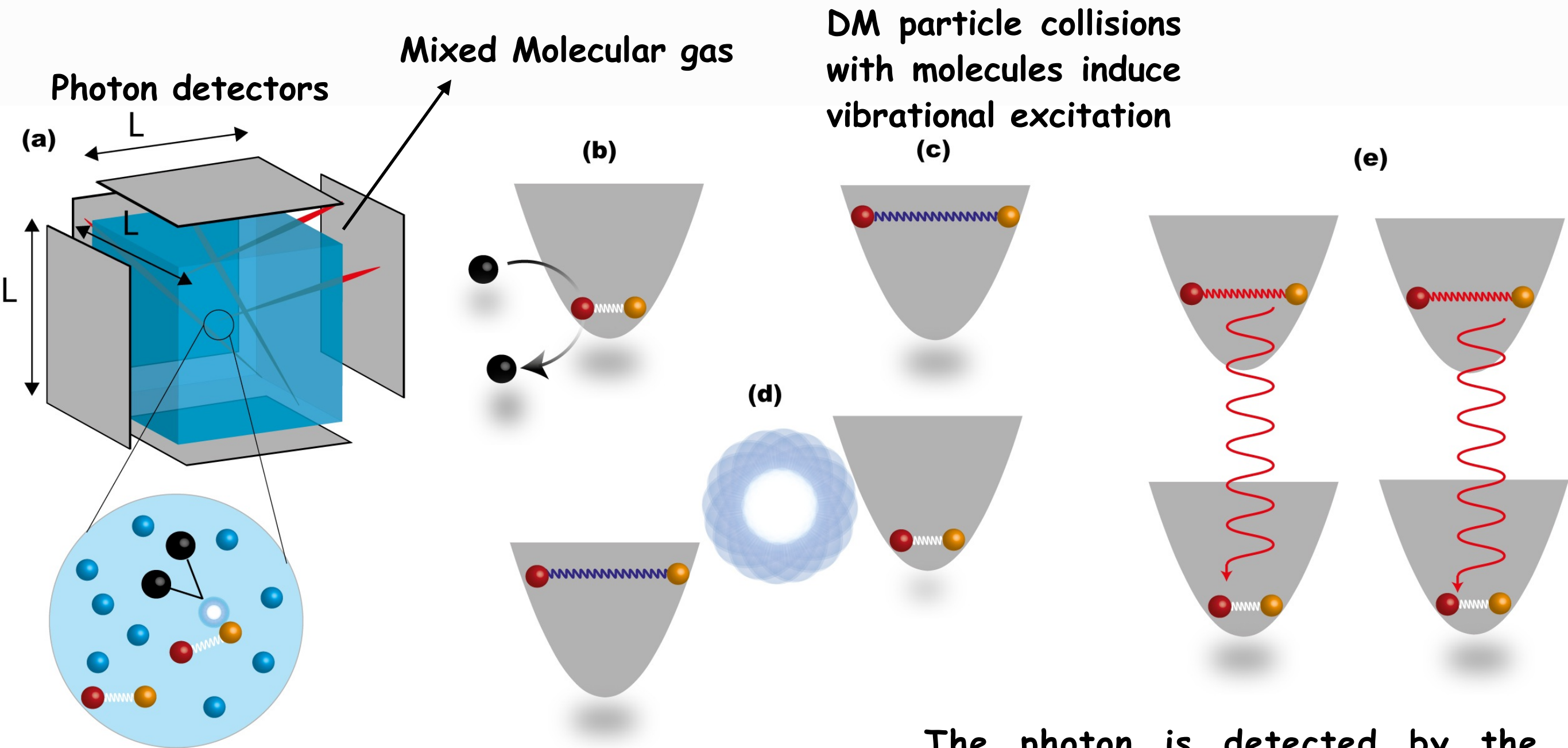


A novel approach for DM detection



Excited molecules decay emitting a photon

A novel approach for DM detection

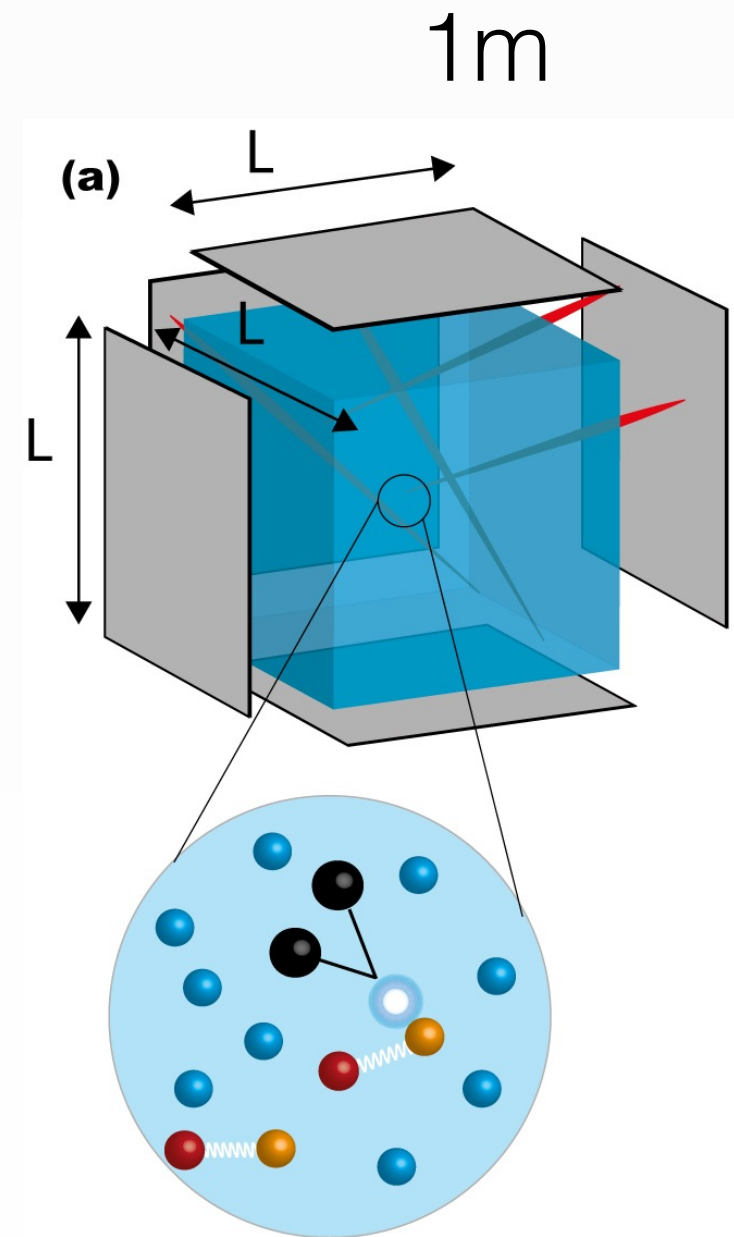
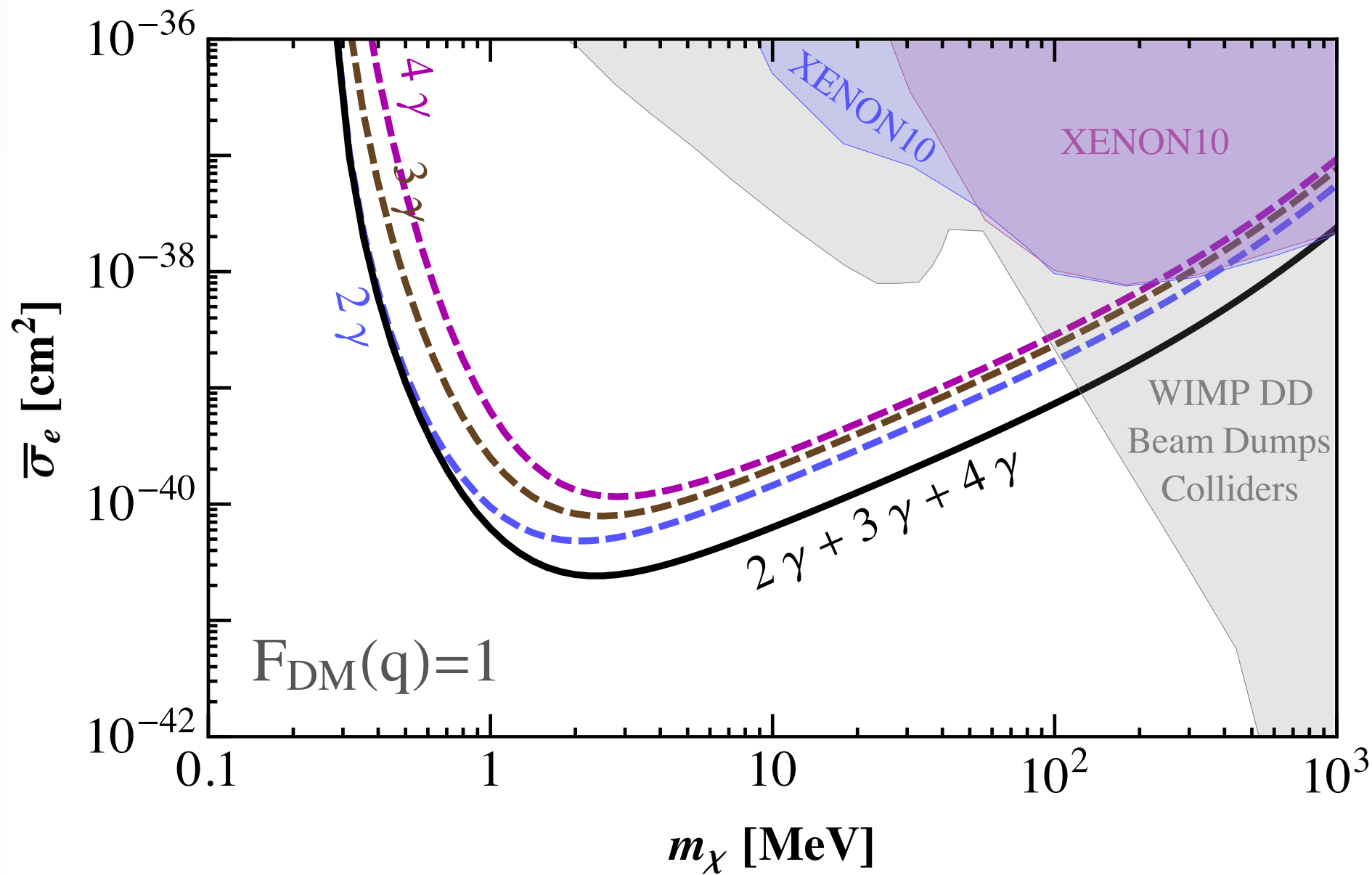


The photon is detected by the photodetectors surrounding the gas

Excited molecules decay emitting a photon

CO in detail

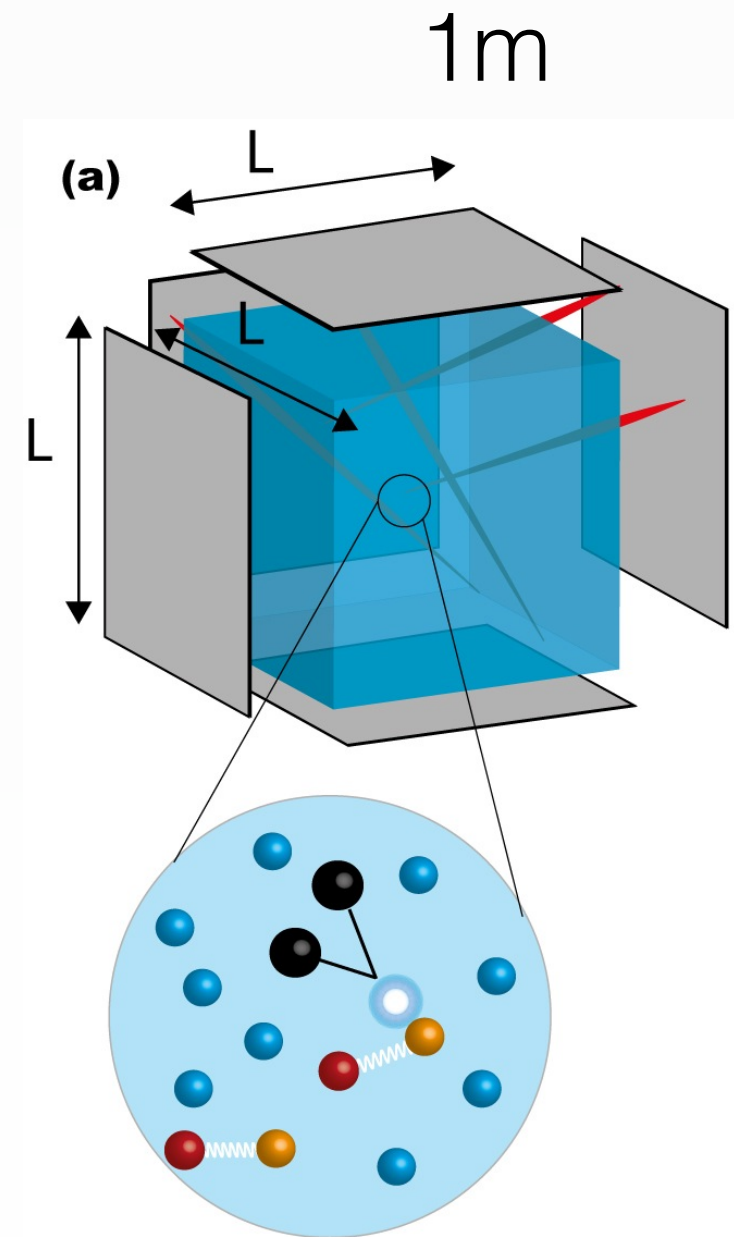
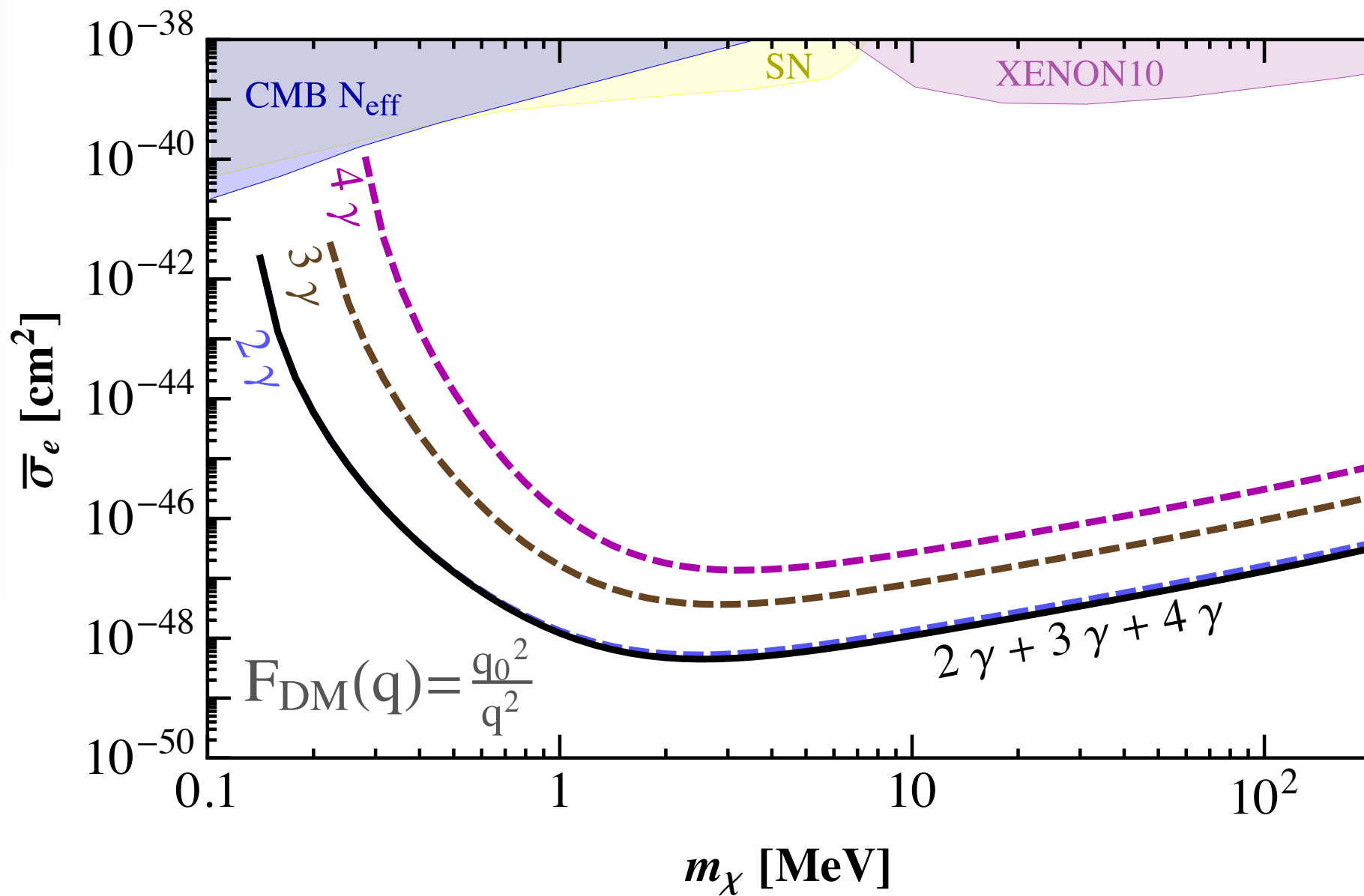
CO Sensitivity Reach $[(\text{gr}\cdot\text{yr})^{-1}]$



We will be able to explore DM particles in a mass range of almost 3 orders of magnitude, from 100 keV to 100 MeV.

CO in detail

CO Sensitivity Reach $[(\text{gr}\cdot\text{yr})^{-1}]$

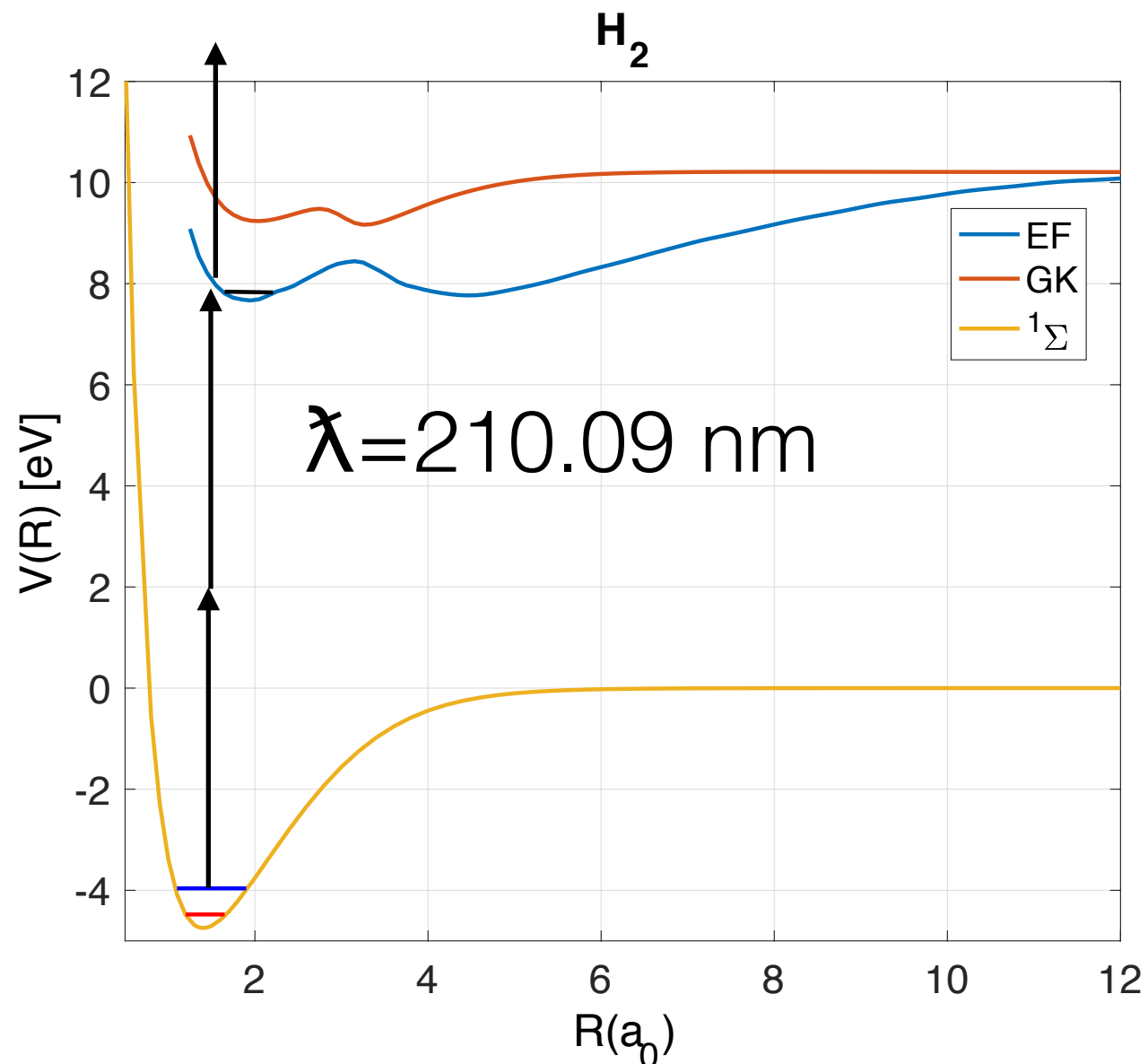


We will be able to explore DM particles in a mass range of almost 3 orders of magnitude, from 100 keV to 100 MeV.

Some future work

Electronic excitations?

REMPI through a dark state



That's all folks



Thank you so much for
your attention!!!!!!!