# CHIRPED-PULSE IN UNIFORM FLOW

**Baptiste Joalland** 

Chamara Abeysekera, Lindsay N. Zack, Nuwandi M. Ariyasingha Ian R. Sims, Robert W. Field, Arthur G. Suits



How to Determine Reaction Rates and Low-Temperature Branching Ratios?



Nearly all kinetics studies report the observed rate of *reactant disappearance*, hysical Chemistry A<sup>with product identity and branching largely unknown.</sup>

Recent advances have relied upon tunable VUV from synchrotron sources. However, these studies require complex fitting to infer branching, and clear product signatures are often lacking.



#### **Chirped-Pulse MicroWave Spectroscopy**

developed by Brooks Pate and migrated to higher frequencies by R.W. Field and coworkers

combined with

#### **Pulsed Uniform Supersonic Flows**

thermalized flows at ~20 K and high density via Laval nozzle, developed by B.R. Rowe, I.W.M. Smith, and I.R. Sims - CRESU

#### Rotational spectroscopy becomes a tool for Kinetics/Dynamics and Astrochemistry



#### [G. G. Brown et al, 2008]

[I. R. Sims et al, 1994]

Analogy with NMR





- $\star$  No need to step cavity dimension
- $\star$  Pulse duration and power are independent
- ★ Signal scales as (bandwidth)<sup>-1/2</sup>

## What is so special about it?



This suggests broadband rotational spectroscopy could be used, like REMPI or LIF or VUV, as a very general probe of reaction dynamics, with <u>detailed</u> <u>structural information</u> at the same time.

Chirped pulse generated by arbitrary waveform generator and upconverted to desired region

Broadband excitation (several GHz) possible in a few ns

Low frequency system (K<sub>a</sub> band):

★ 26-40 GHz

★ peak power 40 W

High frequency system (W band)

★ 60-90 GHz

★ peak power 100 mW

Collaboration with Field group @ MIT



#### **Chirped-Pulse Microwave Spectroscopy**



## **Pulsed Uniform Supersonic Flow**



Sims., R.W. Field, A.G. Suits, Journal of Chemical Physics, 2014]

[C.Abeysekara, L.N. Zack, G.B. Park, B. Joalland, J.M. Oldham, K. Prozument, N.M. Ariyasingha, I.R. Sims., R.W. Field, A.G. Suits, Journal of Chemical Physics, 2014]

# Pulsed Uniform Supersonic Flow (Pulsed CRESU)



[C.Abeysekara, L.N. Zack, G.B. Park, B. Joalland, J.M. Oldham, K. Prozument, N.M. Ariyasingha, I.R. Sims., R.W. Field, A.G. Suits, Journal of Chemical Physics, 2014]

### **Chirped-Pulse in Uniform Flow**



Baptiste Joalland - SF2A 2015 - Toulouse

## **Chirped-Pulse in Uniform Flows**



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## **Applications for Multichannel Reactions**

CN + propyne (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>) @ 22K



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### **The Future of C-PUF**

Direct Digital Synthesis

#### Replacing AWG at low cost



[I.A. Finneran, D. B. Holland, P. B. Carroll, and G.A. Blake, Review of Scientific Instruments, 2013]

From GHz to THz: A Strong Overlap with Radioastronomy

Observing facilities reach sensitivities to probe beyond simple molecules and on spatial resolution to reveal star and planet formation in action e.g. ALMA, NOEMA

#### ALMA:

85-950 GHz, up to ~10km baselines spatial resolution <0.1" at low frequencies

sensitivity to detect more complex low abundance species in star forming regions and disks

spatial distribution and kinematics of molecules within cores, embedded protostars and disks

=> pathways to molecular complexity



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#### **Collaborators:**

Prof. Robert W. Field (MIT) Dr. G. Barratt Park (MIT) Prof. Ian Sims (IPR/Rennes)

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