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STUDYING THE REACTIVITY OF URACIL IN THE GAS PHASE: STATISTICAL vs. NON-STATISTICAL APPROACH

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► **To cite this version:**

Estefania Rossich Molina, Jean-Yves Salpin, Riccardo Spezia, Emilio Martinez-Nuñez. STUDYING THE REACTIVITY OF URACIL IN THE GAS PHASE: STATISTICAL vs. NON-STATISTICAL APPROACH. CECAM Workshop: “Theoretical and Computational Studies of Non-Equilibrium and Non-Statistical Dynamics in Gas-Phase, Condensed-Phase, and Interfacial Reactions”, Apr 2016, Paris, France. 2016. hal-01890967

HAL Id: hal-01890967

<https://hal.science/hal-01890967v1>

Submitted on 23 Oct 2018

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STUDYING THE REACTIVITY OF URACIL IN THE GAS PHASE: STATISTICAL vs. NON-STATISTICAL APPROACH

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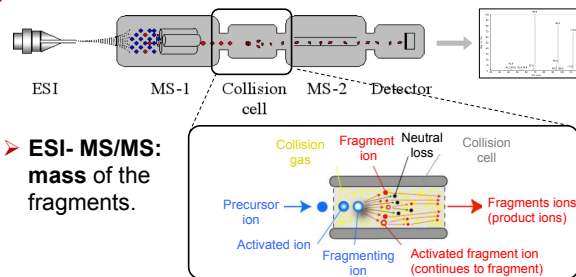
a- LAMBE, CEA, CNRS, Universit  Paris Saclay, F-91025, Evry, France

b- LAMBE, Universit  de Evry, F-91025, Evry, France

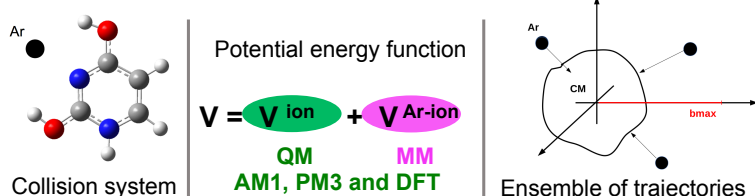
c- University of Santiago de Compostela, Physical Chemistry, Santiago de Compostela, Spain

INTRODUCTION

- Studying the reactivity of biomolecules in the gas phase allows to get rid of the effects of the environment: **intrinsic properties of the molecule**.
- System: **Uracil in DNA has cytotoxic and mutagenic potential**.
- Our AIM**
- Explain non-statistical and statistical reactivity of protonated Uracil in the gas phase and obtain predictive MS-MS spectra.



QM-MM CHEMICAL DYNAMICS SIMULATIONS ^[1]: non-statistical mechanisms

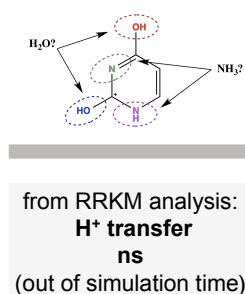
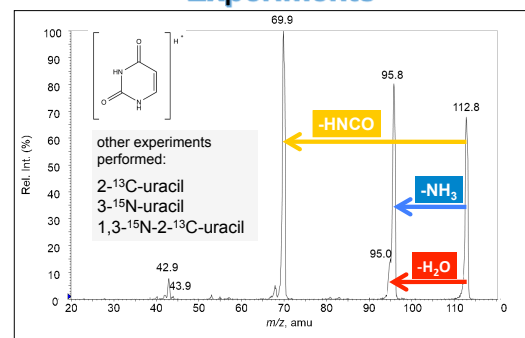


RRKM and KINETIC MONTE CARLO (KMC) SIMULATIONS : statistical reactivity.

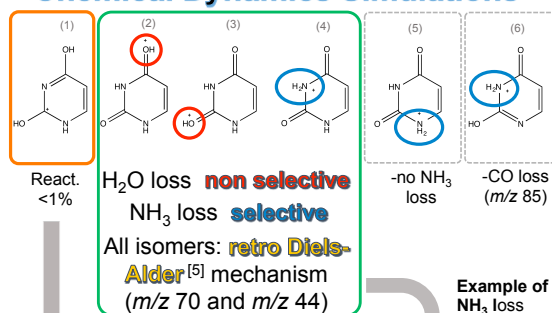
- For trajectories that did not react before IVR (intramolecular vibrational relaxation) takes place but have enough energy to react later on.
- Following automatic protocol^[3] to find all fragmentation pathways, **Ts** and **minima**. Then this is used as input for RRKM and KMC simulations.

RESULTS

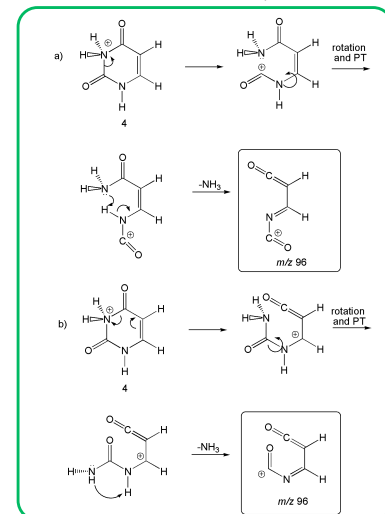
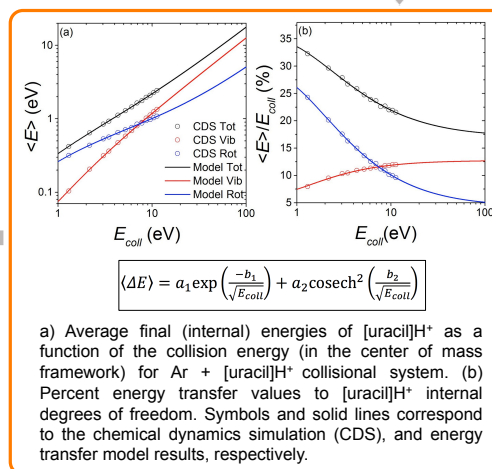
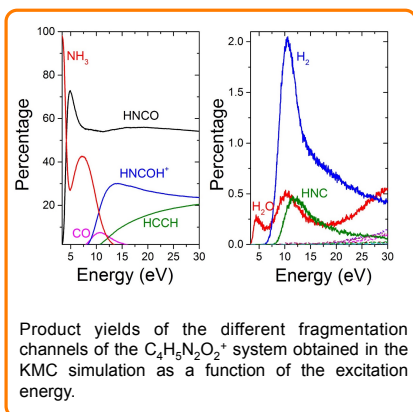
Experiments



Chemical Dynamics Simulations^[2]



RRKM and KMC



CONCLUSIONS

- As suggested by experiments, m/z 70 is obtained by a retro Diels-Alder (rDA) mechanism.
- rDA reaction does not follow the minimum energy path along the reaction coordinate, while stepwise mechanisms do. In experiments, both mechanisms can co-exist.
- Initial protonation state of the ion plays a crucial role in determining the fragmentation pathway.
- NH₃ loss is a selective reaction, while H₂O loss it is not.

Refs.

- [1] Hase et al. JPCA (1999)
- [2] Rossich Molina et al. J. Mass Spectrom. (2015)
- [3] Martinez Nu ez. Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys. (2015)
- [4] Diels and Alder. Chemische Berichte. (1929)