

# Advancing kinetic mechanisms for low-temperature combustion through the detection of highly elusive intermediates

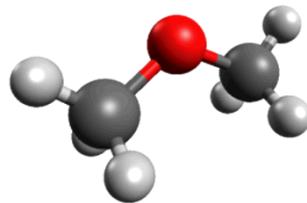
K. Moshammer, A.W. Jasper, N. Hansen

115<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the German Bunsen Society for Physical Chemistry

# Focus of this talk

- Experimental detection of the ketohydroperoxide in dimethyl ether oxidation
- Determination of photoionization cross sections for elusive species
- Experimental evidence of the Korcek Decomposition Mechanism
- Extended low-temperature oxidation scheme for hydrocarbons

# Introduction



Dimethyl ether



Simple model fuel  
with similar  
characteristics like  
gasoline/diesel

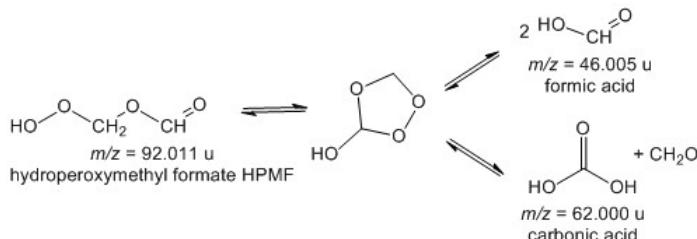
**Homogenized Low-Temperature  
Combustion:** Reduction of  $\text{NO}_x$  and  
soot at the same time



destructive instabilities  
engine knocking  
other pollutants

...

Understanding  
its chemical  
kinetics

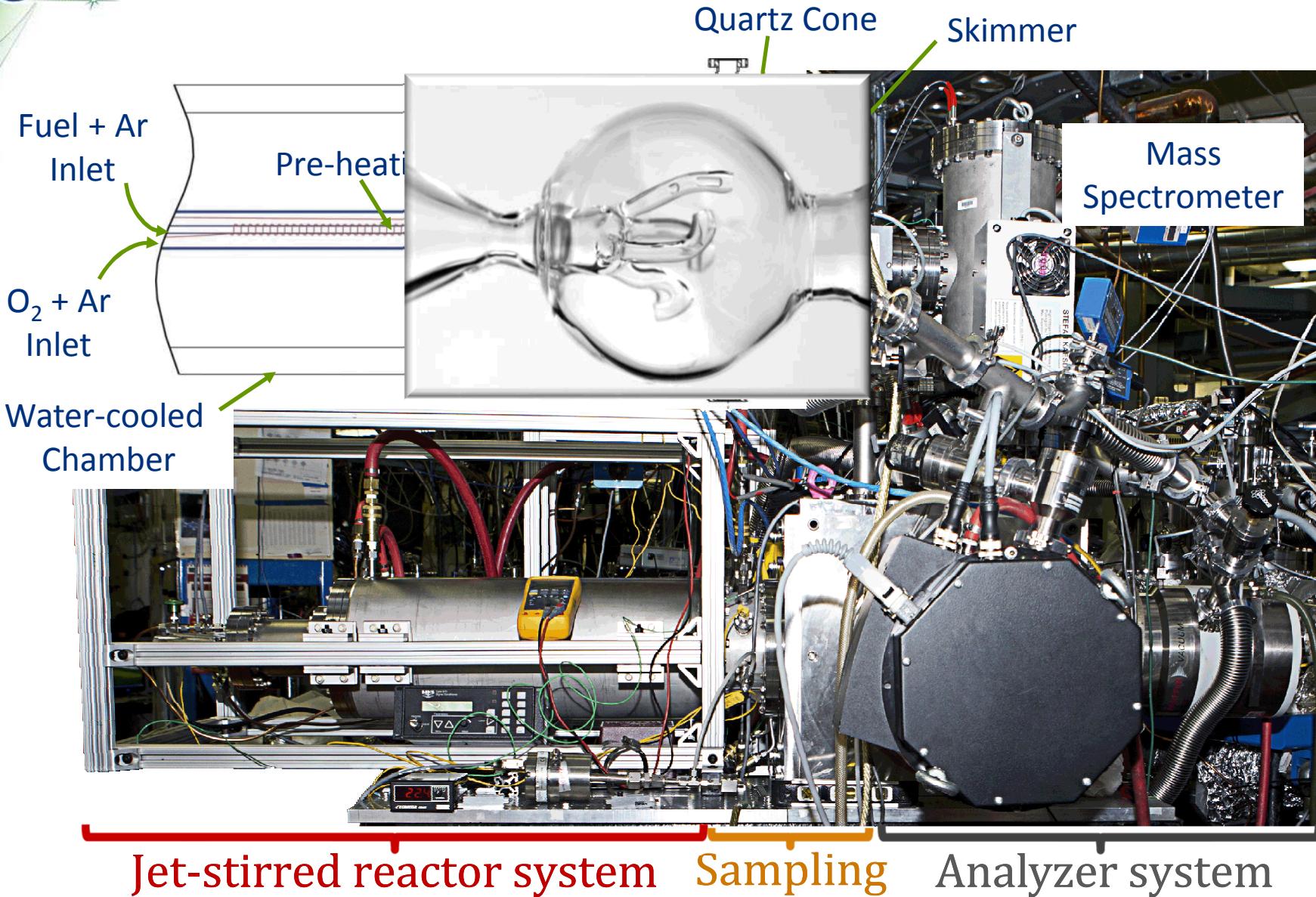


Design  
cleaner  
engines

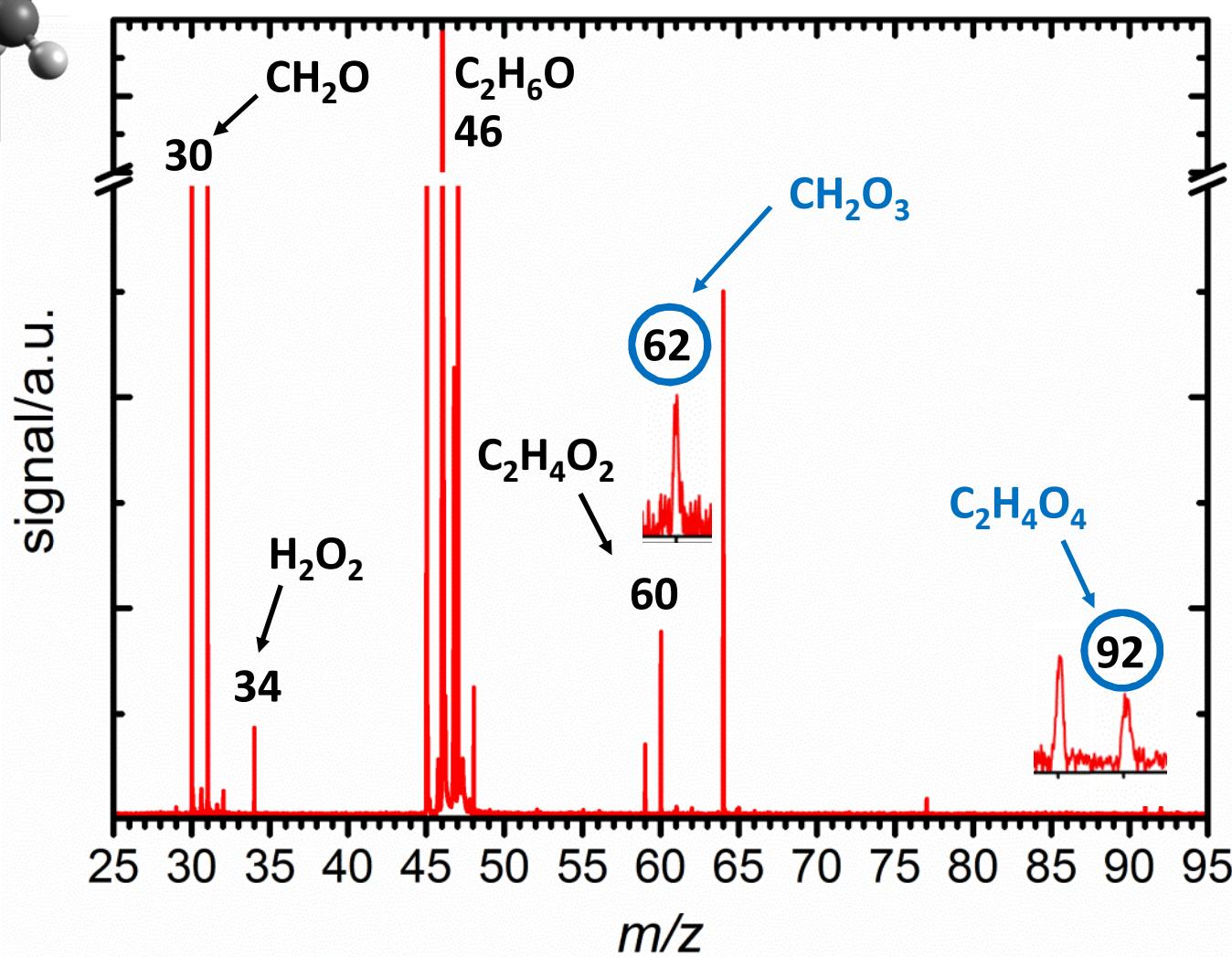
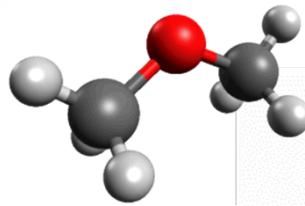


- Control autoignition
- Prevent pollutants

# Experimental approach

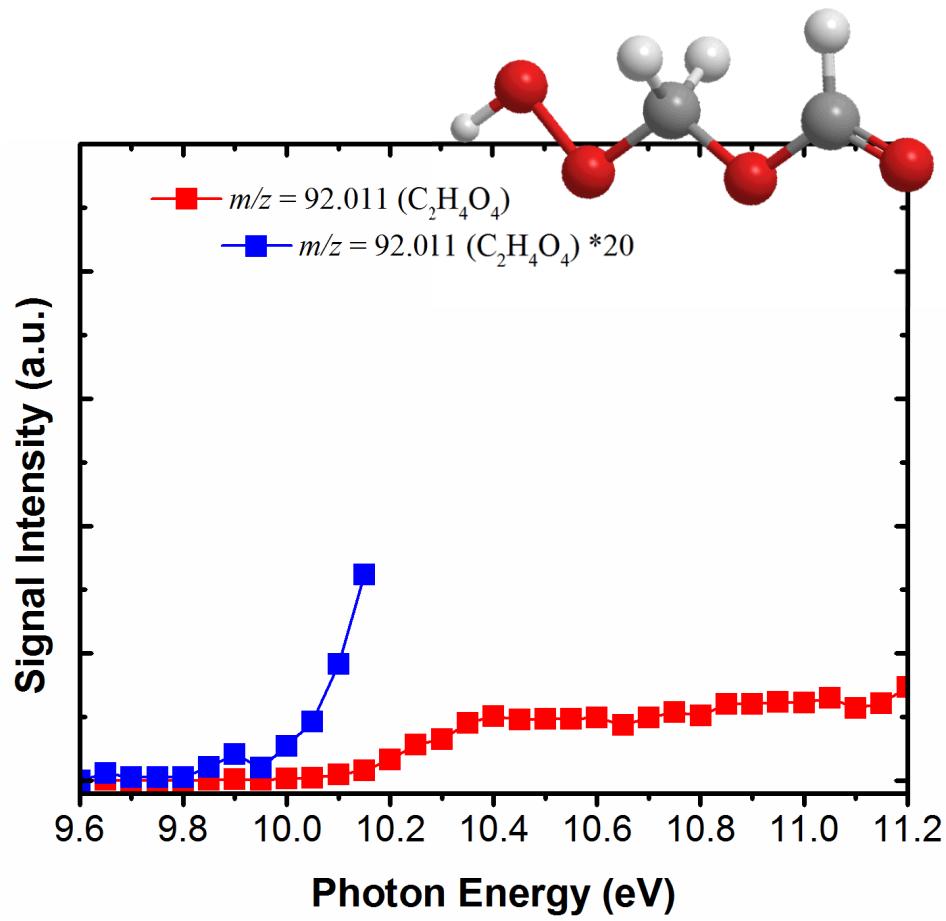
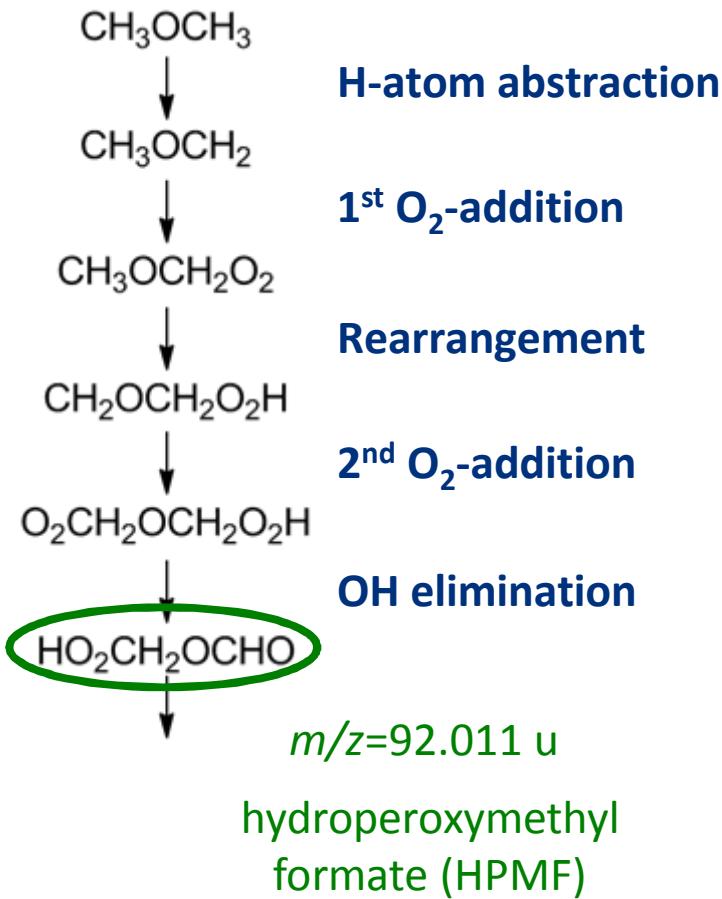


# Low-temperature oxidation of DME



# Detection of the Ketohydroperoxide

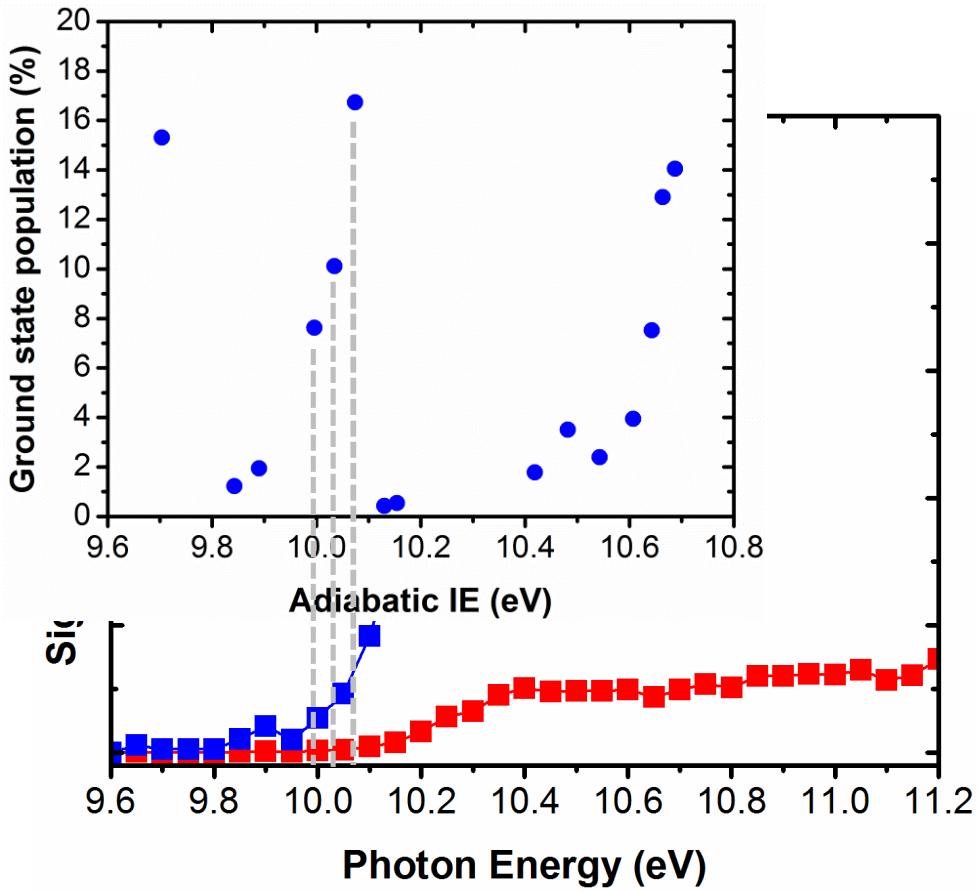
## Theory



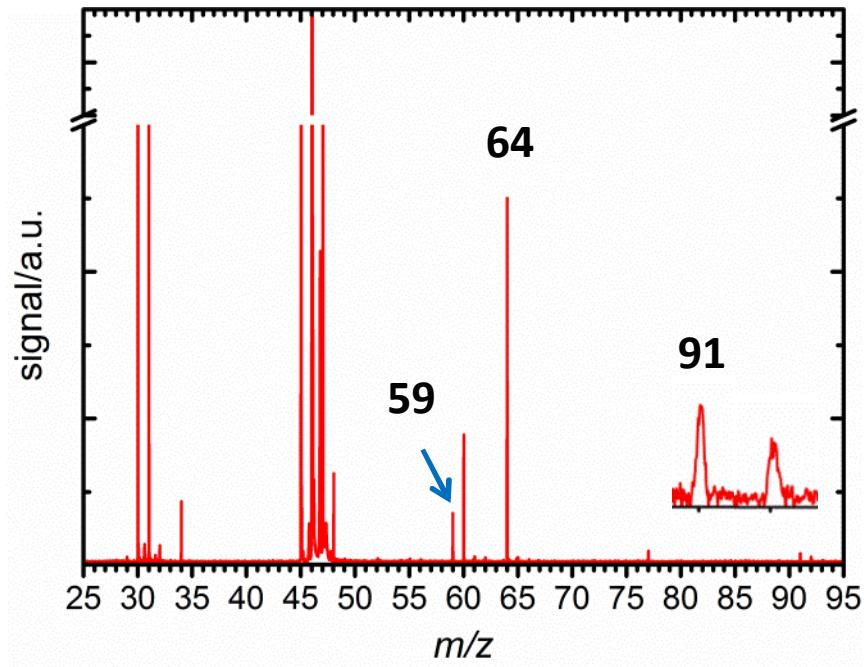
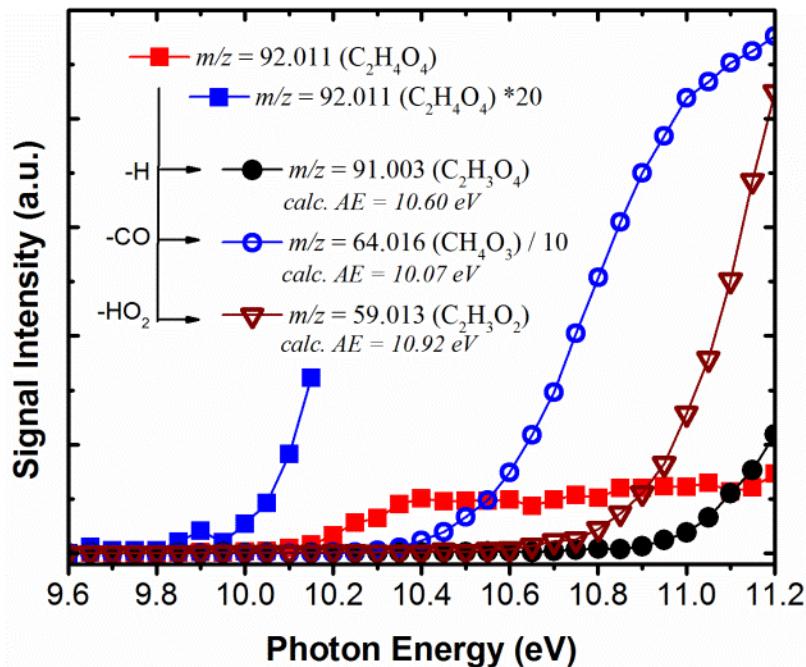
# Detection of the Ketohydroperoxide

## Conformer-dependent IEs for Larger Species

- Conformers characterized for both the neutral and cation species
- Neutral conformer populations estimated via a simple locally harmonic scheme
- Locally adiabatic IEs calculated for each conformer based on vertical excitations
- 3 conformers with ionization energies near  $\sim 10.05$  eV make up 35% of the total population
- Conformer near 9.7 eV has a poor Franck-Condon overlap



# Detection of the Ketohydroperoxide



Hydroperoxymethyl formate (HPMF) ???

Fragment pattern gives evidence for the experimental detection of HPMF

# Quantification and Comparison with Model Calculations

- using calculated photoionization cross sections  
**ePolyScat (version E3)**

F. A. Gianturco *et al.*, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **1994**, 100, 6464-6471

A.P.P. Natalense *et al.*, *J. Chem. Phys.*, **1999**, 111, 5344-5348

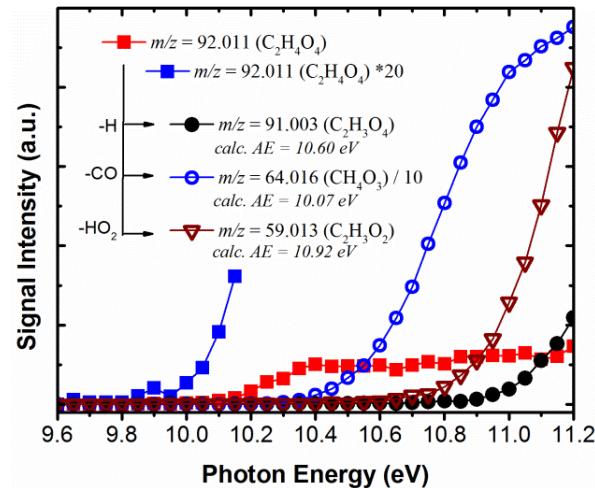
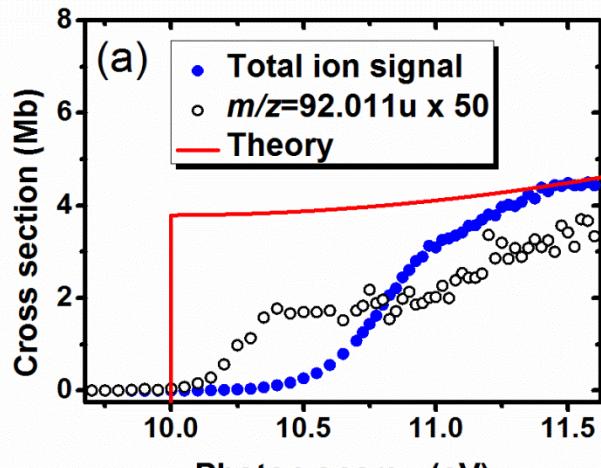
- tested against a variety of known species
- it calculates total cross sections  
⇒ fragmentation pattern needs to be known

## Models:

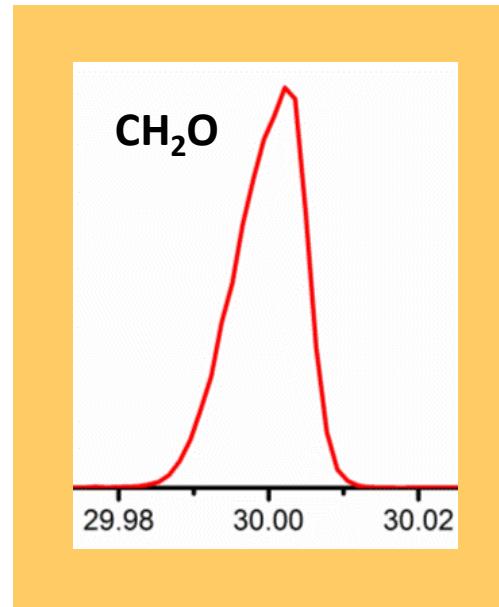
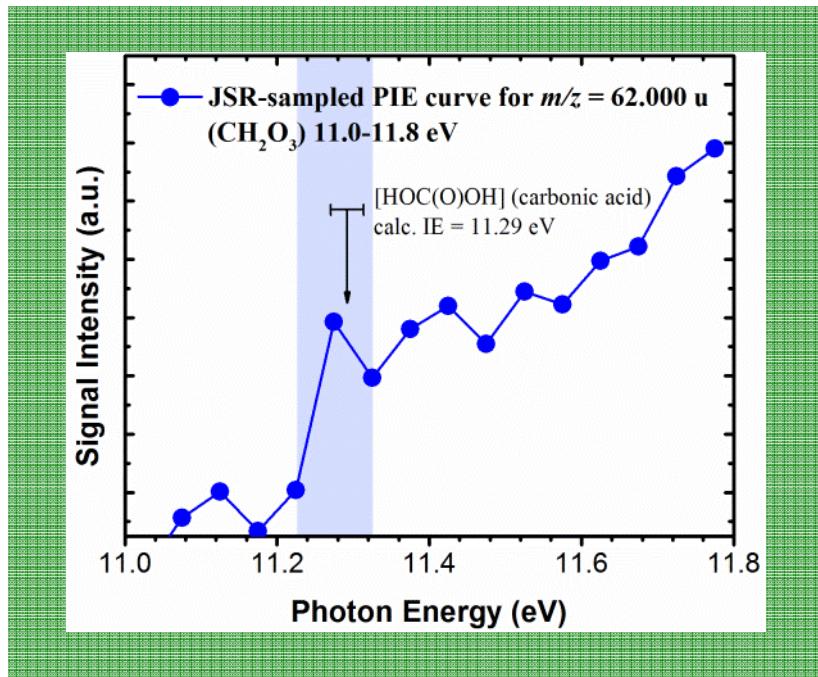
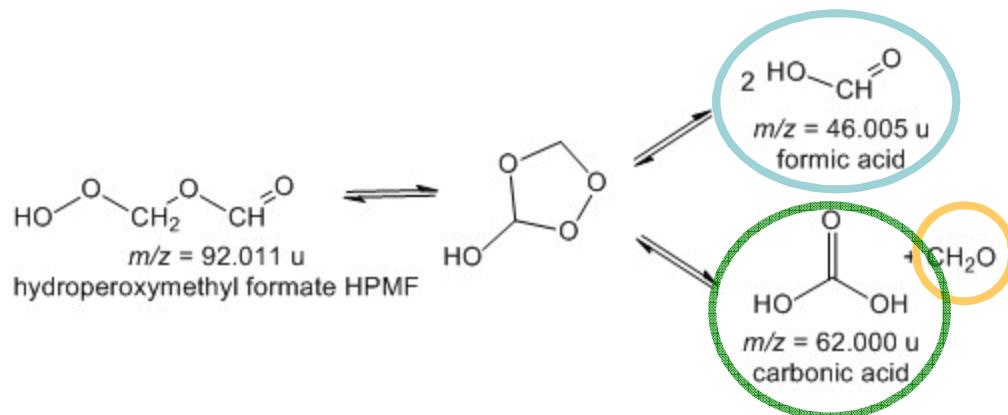
Z. Wang *et al.*, *Combust. Flame*, **2015**, 162, 1113-1125 (USTC)

U. Burke *et al.*, *Combust. Flame*, **2015**, 162, 315-330 (NUI)

A. Rodriguez *et al.*, *J. Phys. Chem. A*, **2015**, 119, 7905-2923 (CNRS)



# The Korcek Decomposition Mechanism



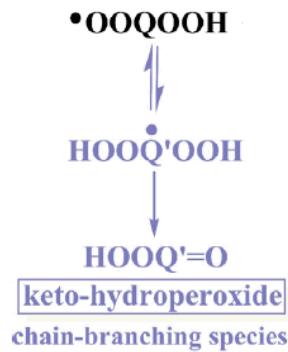
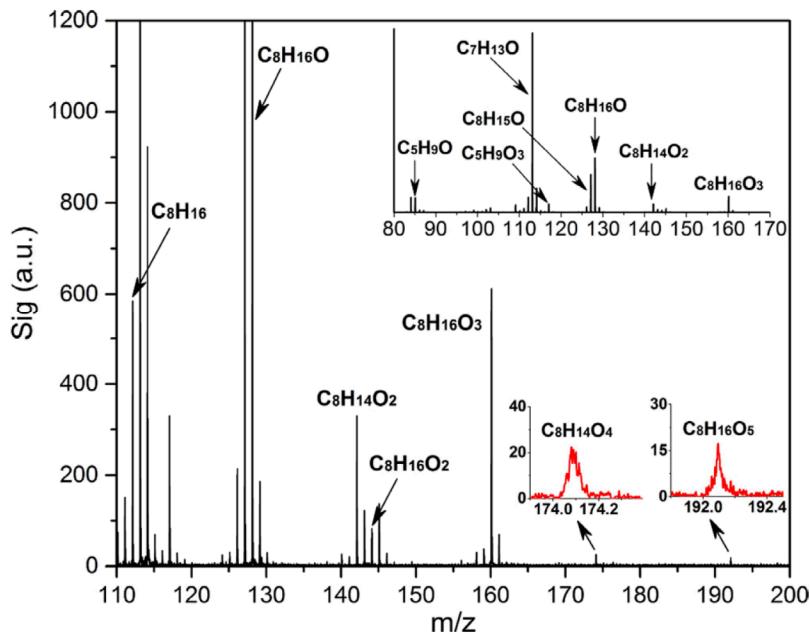
**BUT:**

Formic acid and formaldehyde are also produced by several other pathways!!!

**Detection of carbonic acid proofs Korcek decomposition mechanism!**

# Extended low-temperature oxidation scheme

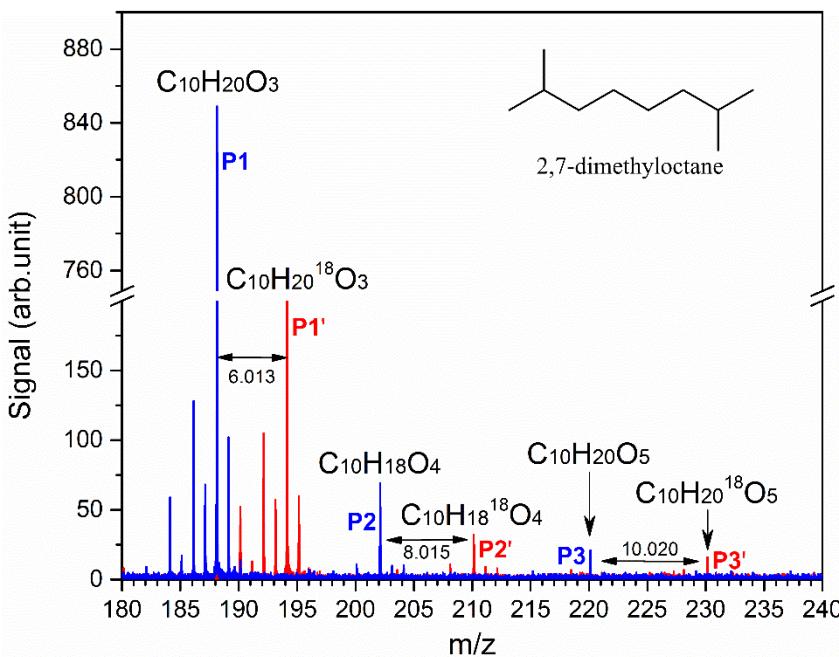
- low-temperature oxidation of 2,5-dimethylhexane



Z. Wang *et al.*, *Combust. Flame*, 2016, 164, 386-396

# Confirmation through $^{18}\text{O}_2$ experiments

- low-temperature oxidation of 2,7-dimethyloctane



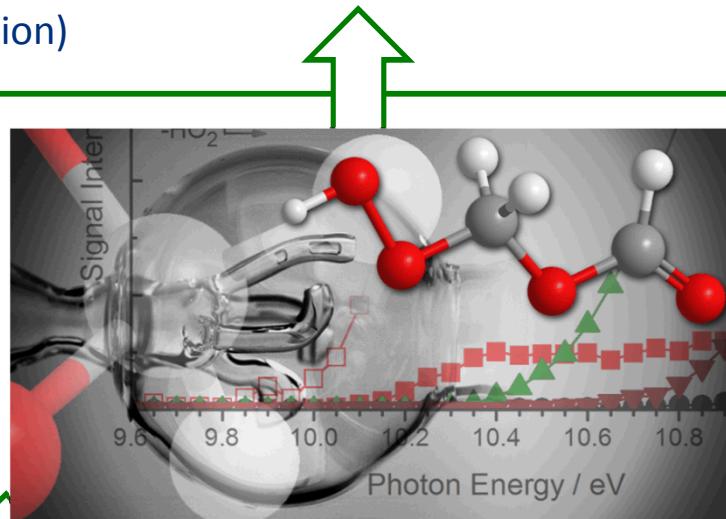
Species	$^{16}\text{O}_2$ exp.	$^{18}\text{O}_2$ exp.
$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_3$	$m/z=188.14$ u ( $P1$ )	$m/z=194.149$ u ( $P1'$ )
$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_4$	$m/z=202.121$ u ( $P2$ )	$m/z=210.136$ u ( $P2'$ )
$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{20}\text{O}_5$	$m/z=220.127$ u ( $P3$ )	$m/z=230.147$ u ( $P3'$ )

The usage of  $^{18}\text{O}_2$  instead of  $^{16}\text{O}_2$  confirms the oxygenated chemical composition in the respective mass range

# Summary

## Experimental insights

- Detection of the ketohydroperoxide (HPMF)
- Quantified temperature profile of HPMF
- Carbonic acid as evidence for the Korcek Decomposition Mechanism
- Extended low-temperature oxidation scheme (3<sup>rd</sup> O<sub>2</sub> addition)



## Theoretical insights

- Local adiabatic IPs
- Conformeric structure strongly affects adiabatic IP
- Calculation of PICS

## Future model development

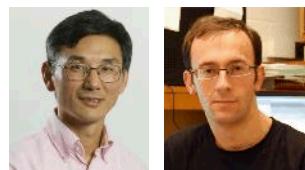
Comparisons of exp. data with model predictions



# Acknowledgements



Through Inspiration, Discovery  
King Abdullah University of Science and Technology



Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft

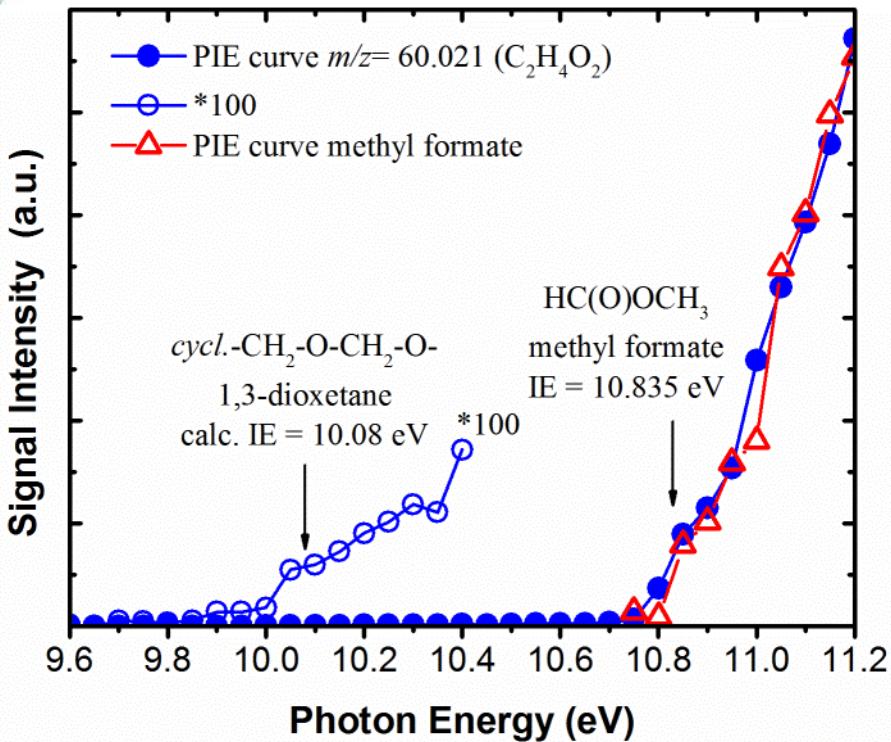


Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Science, Office of Basic Energy Sciences. Sandia is a multi-program laboratory operated by Sandia Corporation, a Lockheed Martin Company, for the National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-AC04-94-AL85000

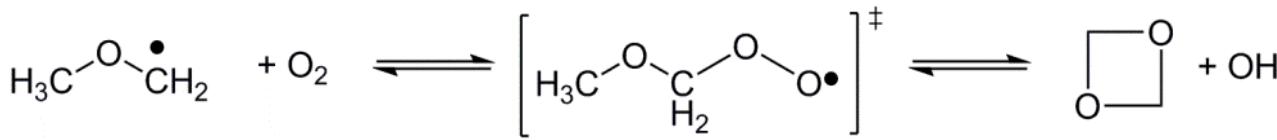
## Thank you for your attention!!!

# Cyclic ether at Mass 60



$m/z$	species	theory I <sup>a</sup>	theory II <sup>b</sup>
48	$CH_3OOH$	9.77	9.83
	$HOCH_2OH$	11.00	11.10
59	$CH_2OCHO$	7.93	7.78
	$CH_2CHOO$	10.18	9.79
60	$HC(O)OCH_3$	10.81	10.86
	$CH_2CHOOH$	9.07	9.19
	$HOCHCHOH$	8.27	8.41
	oxiran-2-ol	8.83	8.87
	3- $CH_3$ -dioxirane	10.31	10.30
	$cycl-CH_2OOCH_2-$	9.35	9.37
	$cycl-CH_2OCH_2O-$	10.00	10.08

K. Moshammer et al., J. Phys. Chem. A, 2015



Theoretically anticipated to be part of the LTC of DME