



Ion mobility in Relevant Gas Mixtures A Review

Pedro Encarnação

Laboratório de Instrumentação e Física Experimental de Partículas (LIP-Coimbra)

Physics Department

University of Coimbra

Coimbra, Portugal

E-mail: pedro.crispim.encarnacao@gmail.com

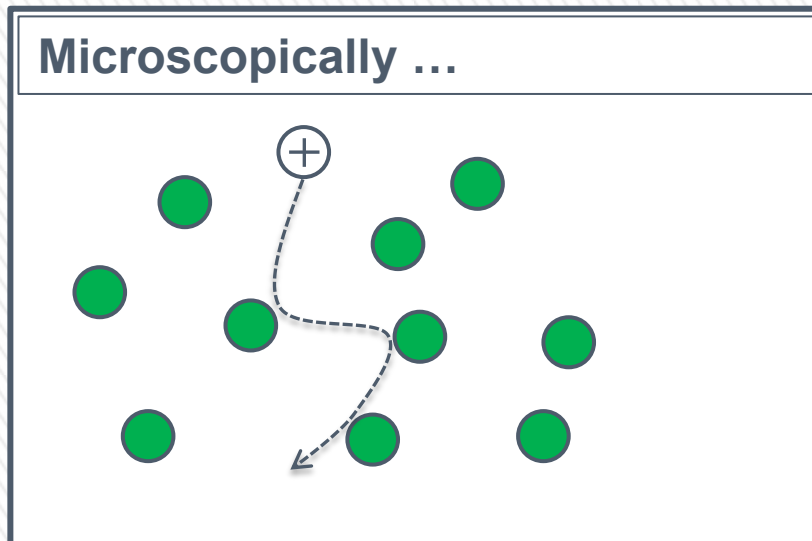
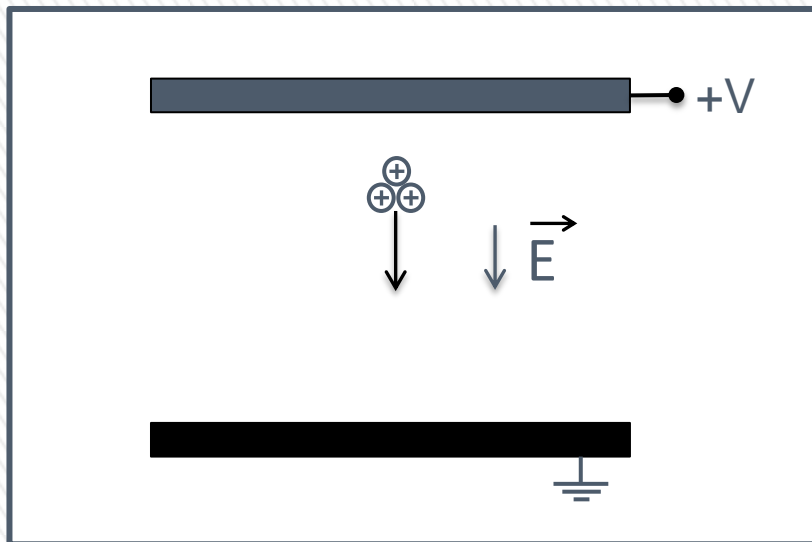




- 1** Basic Concepts
- 2** Experimental Setup and Working Principle
- 3** Ion Identification Process
- 4** Experimental results in:
 - a** Ar-CO₂
 - b** Xe-TMA

Basics

Let us consider a group of ions moving in a gaseous medium under the influence of a uniform electric field...



Drift velocity

$$v_d = KE$$

E- Electric Field

K-Ion Mobility

Reduced Mobility

$$K_0 = KN/N_0$$

N – Gas number density

N_0 –Loschmidt Number

Langevin Limit

$$K_0 = 13.88 \left(\frac{1}{\alpha m} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

m – reduced mass

a – neutral polarizability

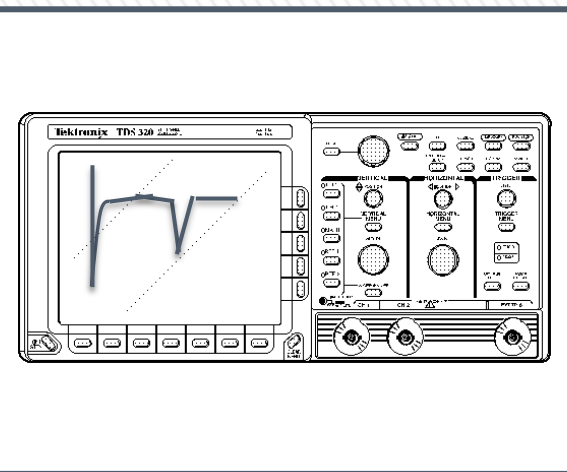
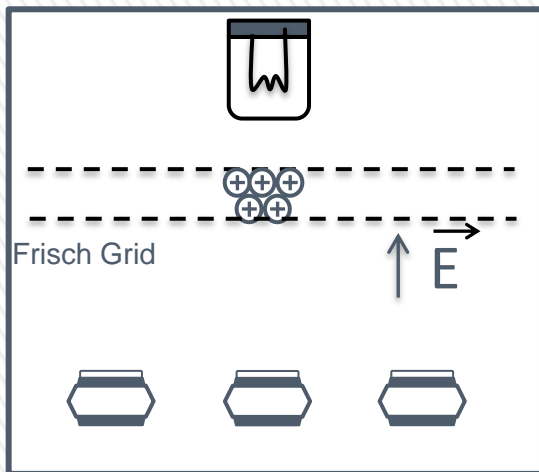
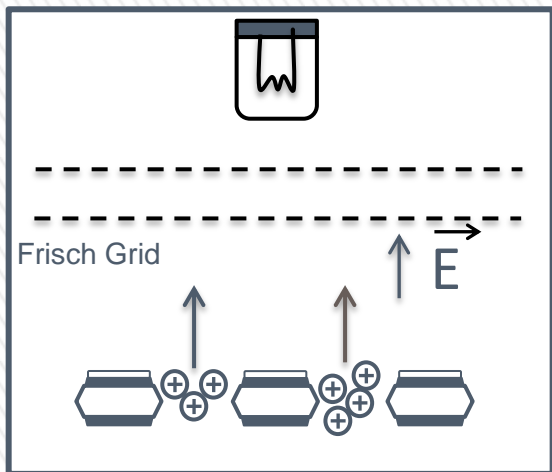
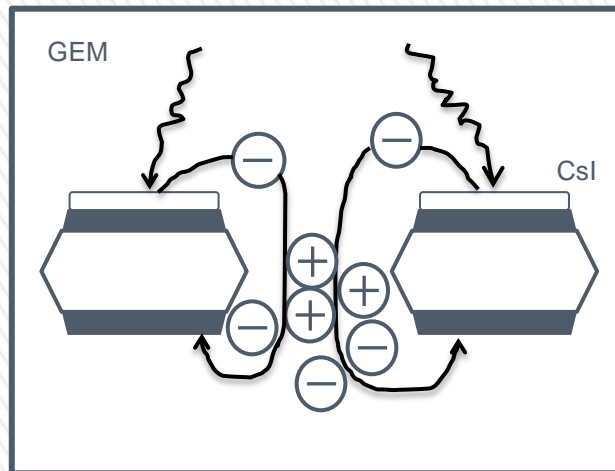
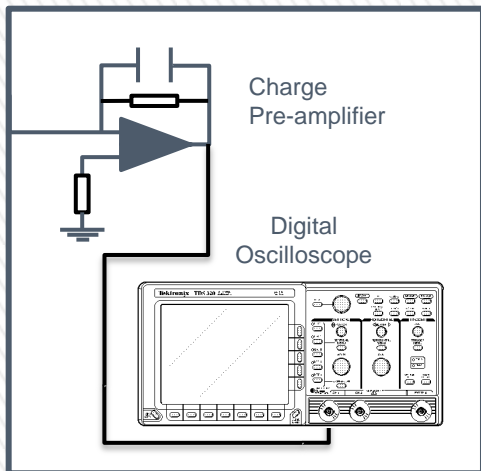
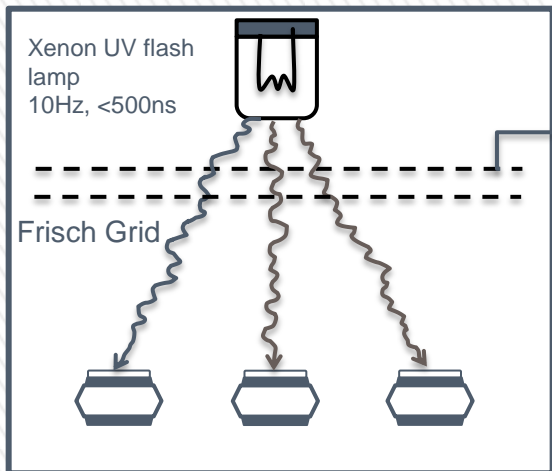
Blanc's Law

$$\frac{1}{K_{0mix}} = \frac{f_1}{K_{0g1}} + \frac{f_2}{K_{0g2}}$$

f_1, f_2 – molar fraction of gas 1, 2

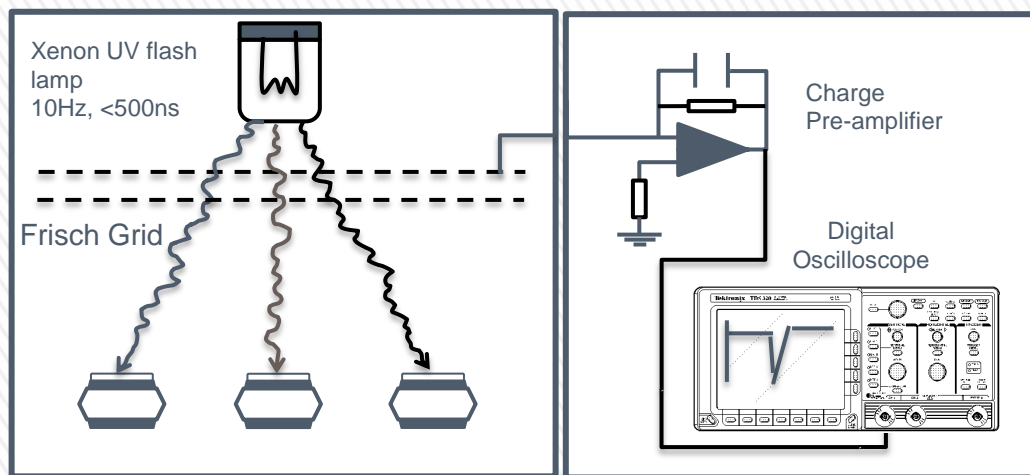
K_{0g1}, K_{0g2} – ion mobility in the gas 1 and 2

Experimental Setup and Working Principle



(Neves, Conde and Távora, 2007)

Experimental Setup and Working Principle



- Subtract the background to the signal
- Identify possible peaks
- Fit Gaussian curves to the spectrum obtained

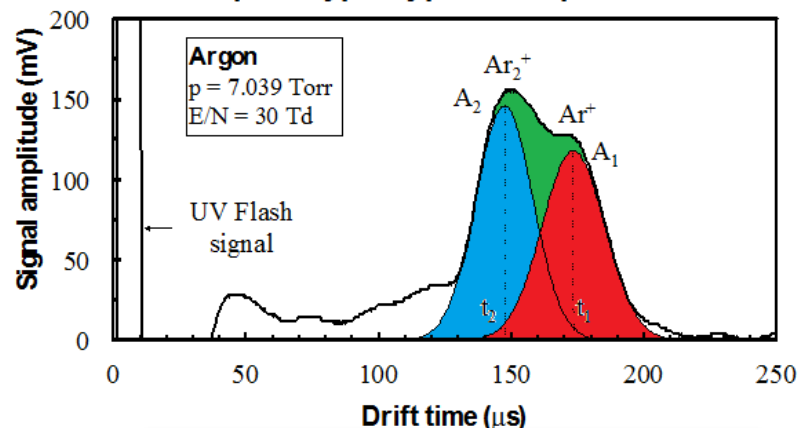
Peaks centroids



average drift time of the ion's distribution
(t_{drift})

$$v_d = \frac{x_{drift}}{t_{drift}} \rightarrow K = \frac{v_d}{E}$$

3rd prototype: typical ion pulse



$$K_{01} = 1.57 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} (\text{Ar}^+)$$

$$K_{02} = 1.92 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} (\text{Ar}_2^+)$$

Ion Identification Process

Identification of candidate ions

- GEM Voltage
- Possible Reactions
 - Cross Section
 - Reaction Rates

**Most
Probable
Candidates**

Identification of expected mobility

- Langevin Limit (formula)
- Blanc's law (mixtures)

Compare with experimental results

Theoretical
Values

=

Experimental
Values

Match?



Ion Identification Process

Assume that Experimental Results and Theoretical Values are identical

Experimental Values

Theoretical Values

Identification of the ion's mass

- Langevin Limit (formula)
- Blanc's law (mixtures)

Identification of candidate ions based on the mass

Most Probable Candidates



Candidate's Mass
=

Ion's Expected Mass

Match?



Experimental Results: Ar

Ionization



Appearance Energies

Ar^+ 15.76 eV

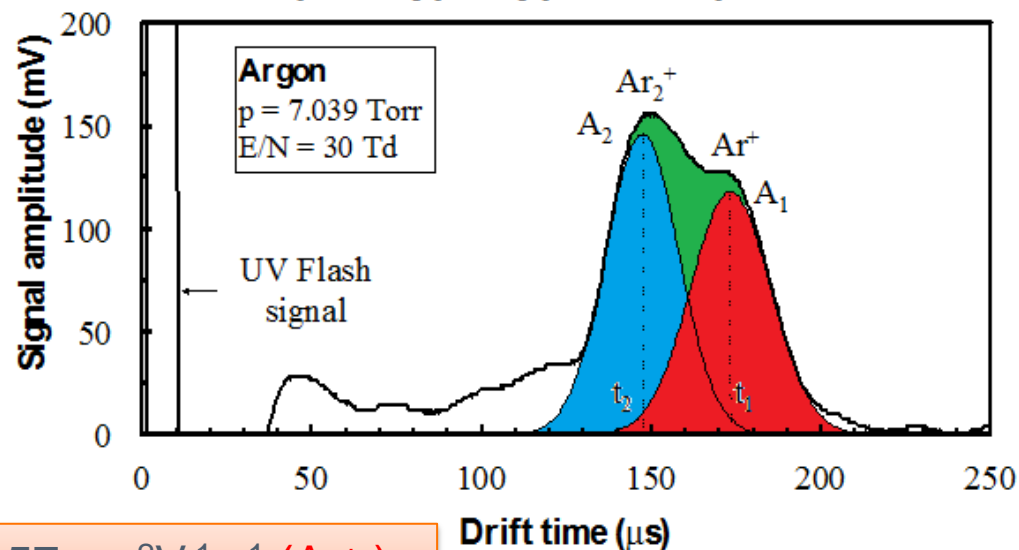
Above threshold
15.76 eV

For $V_{\text{gem}} = 20$

Secondary
Reactions



3rd prototype: typical ion pulse



$$K_{01} = 1.57 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} (\text{Ar}^+)$$

$$K_{02} = 1.92 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} (\text{Ar}_2^+)$$

Experimental Results: CO₂

Ionization

above 19.5 eV



Appearance Energies

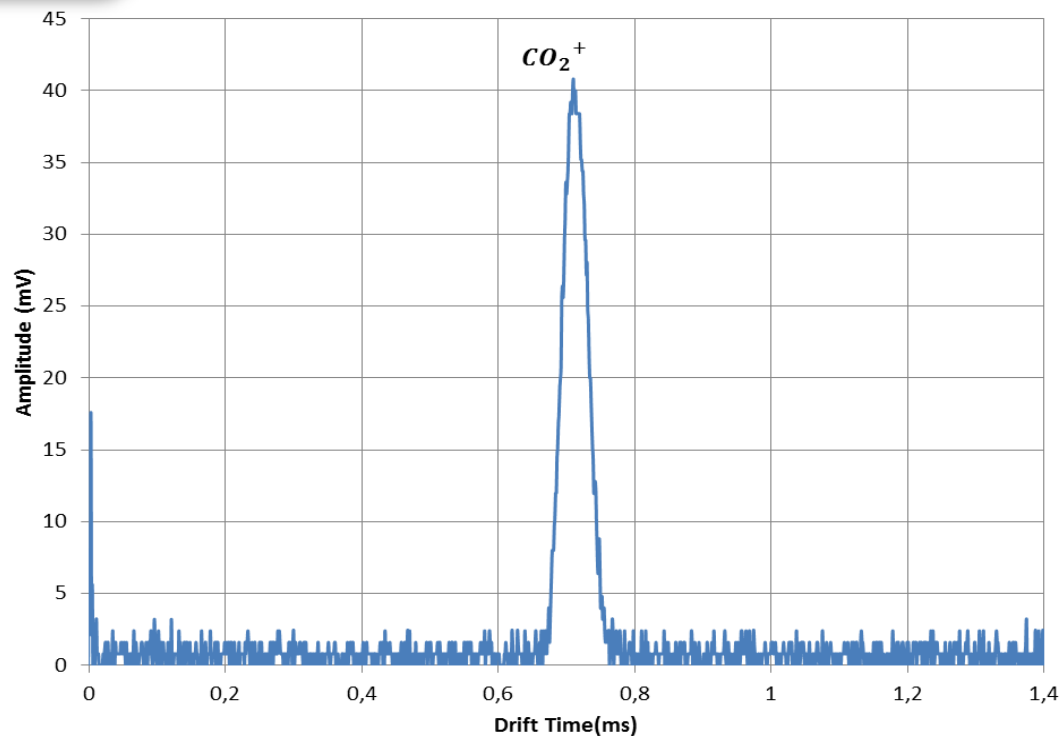
CO₂⁺ 13.8 eV

CO⁺ 19.5 eV

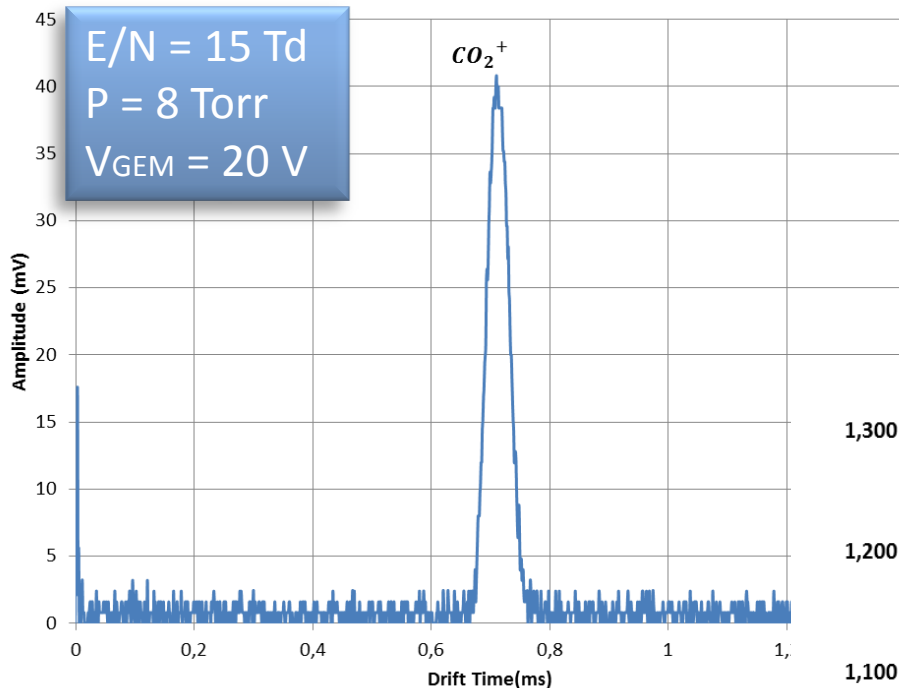
O⁺ 19.1 eV

Above threshold
13.8 eV

**Secondary
Reactions**



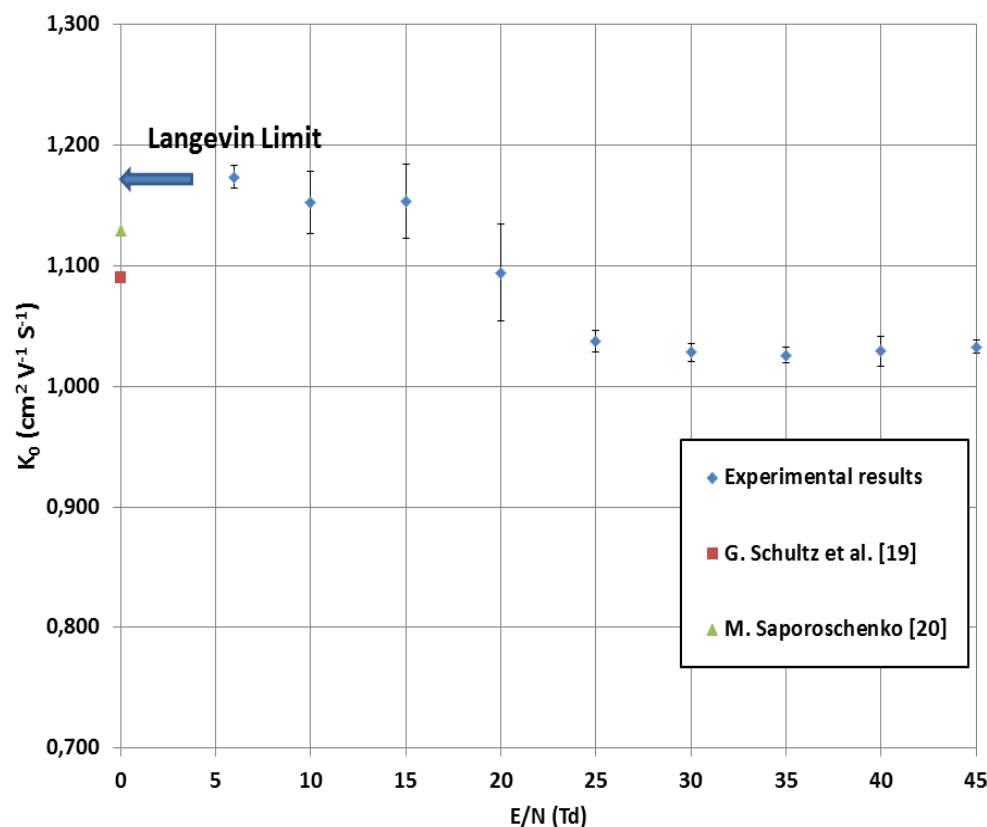
Experimental Results: CO₂



$$K_{01} \sim 1.17 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \quad \text{CO}_2^+$$

Good agreement with earlier reported works:

1. M. Saporoschenko : $1.13 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$
2. G. Schultz et al. : $1.09 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$



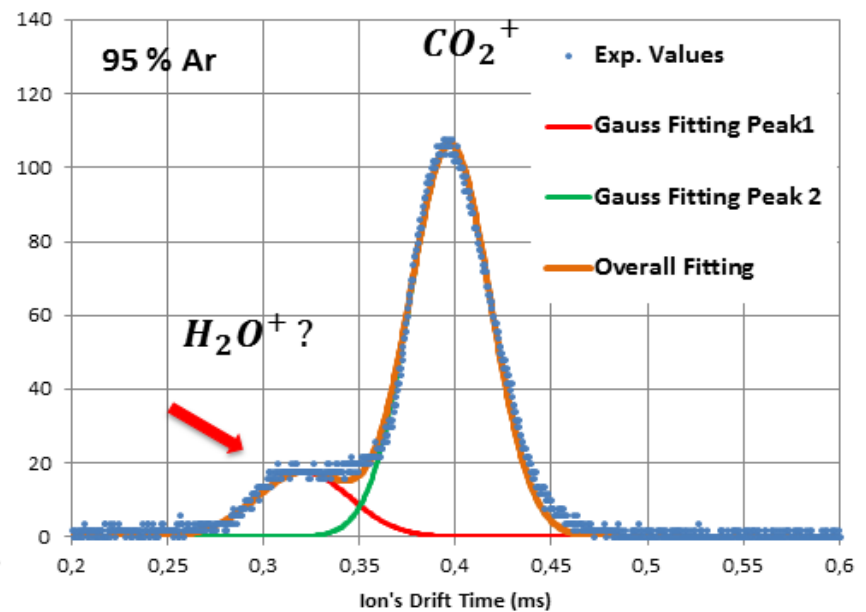
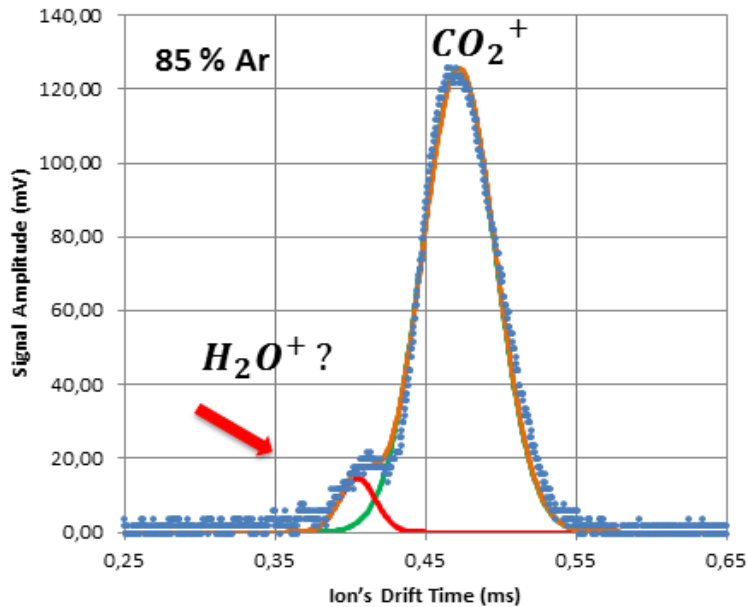
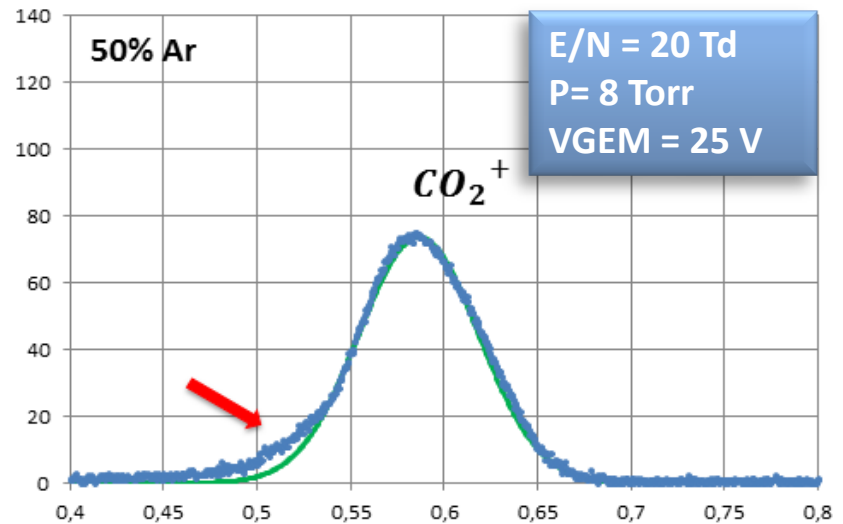
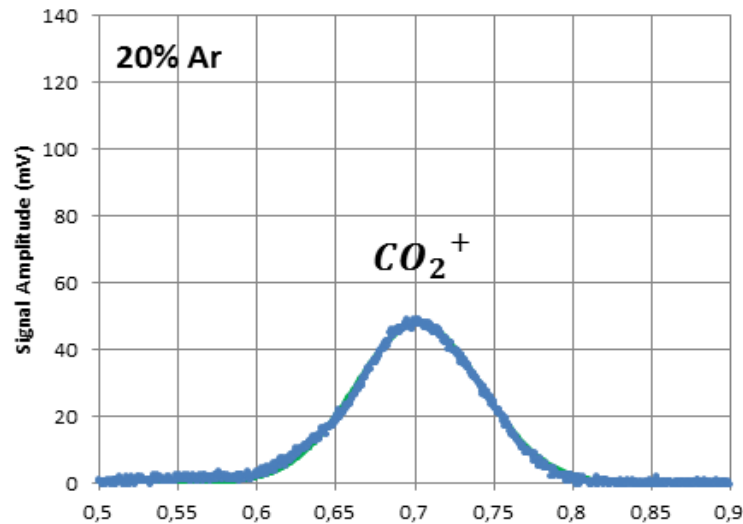
Calc. Langevin Limit

$$1.82 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \neq 1.17 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$$

Charge Transfer Process



Experimental Results: Ar-CO₂



Experimental Results: Ar-CO₂

Correction factor

- Ions move **faster** with the presence of Ar!

$$\frac{1}{K_{0 \text{ Real}}} = \frac{1}{K_{0 \text{ Blanc}}} - \Delta \frac{1}{K_{0-\text{CO}_2}} \left[\left(\frac{P(\text{Ar}\%) }{100} \right)^2 - 1 \right]$$

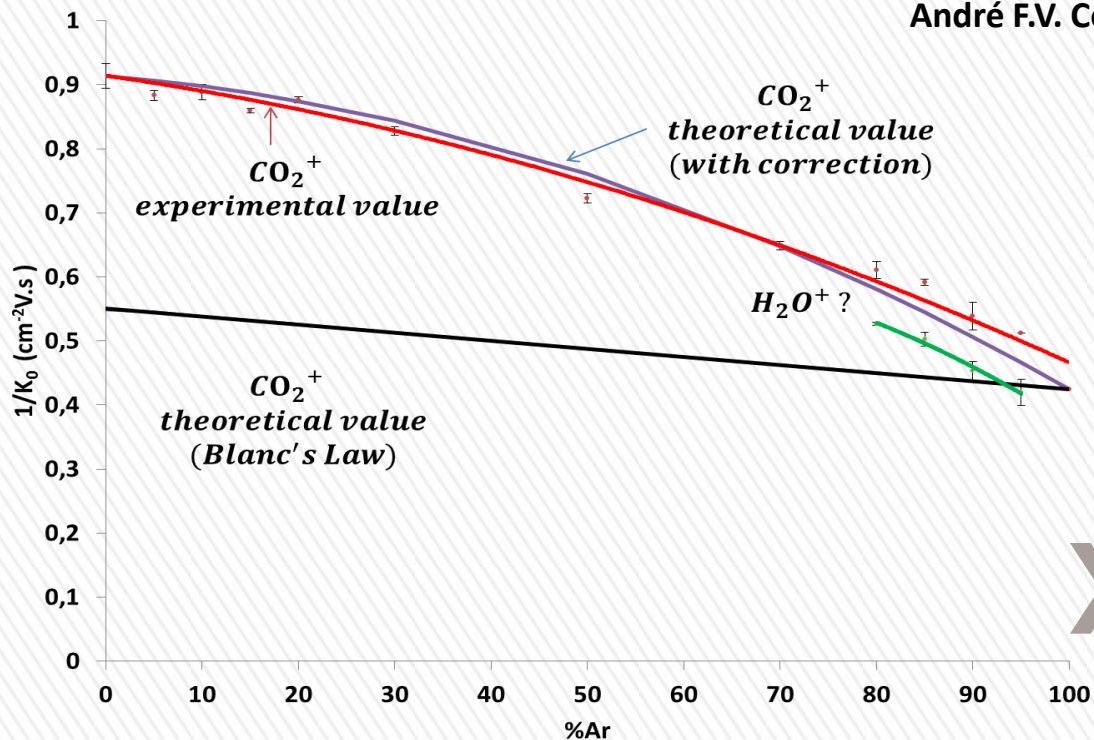
$$\Delta \frac{1}{K_{0-\text{CO}_2}} = \frac{1}{K_{0 \text{ (pure CO}_2 \text{ Exp)}}} - \frac{1}{K_{0 \text{ (pure CO}_2 \text{ Theoretical)}}}$$

We believe the **2nd** peak is maybe due to:

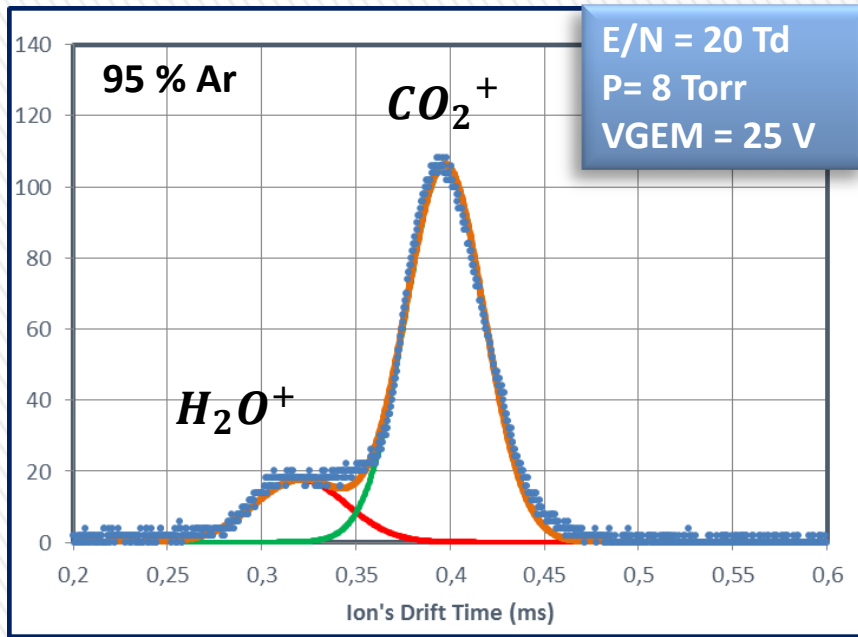


Appearance of a **2nd** peak for:
Ar > 80%

Suggested by:
André F.V. Cortez



Experimental Results: Ar-CO₂



(Charge Transfer Reaction)



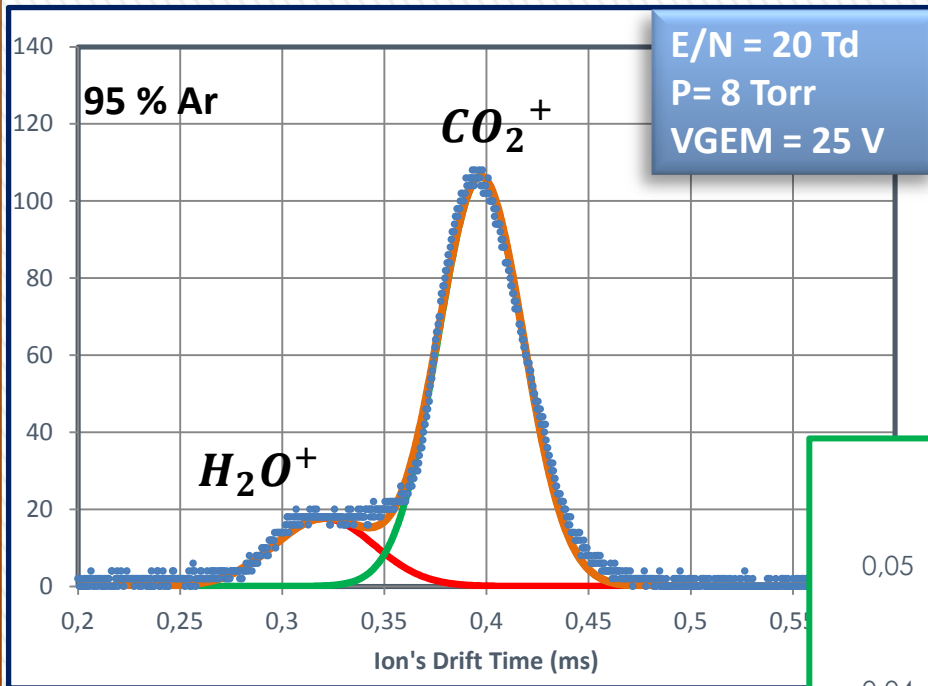
Prevents the formation of Ar_2^+ .

Same Ion Product

$$K_{02} \sim 1.953 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \text{ (CO}_2^+\text{?)}$$
$$K_{01} \sim 2.39 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \text{ (O}_2^+ \text{ or H}_2\text{O}^+\text{?)}$$



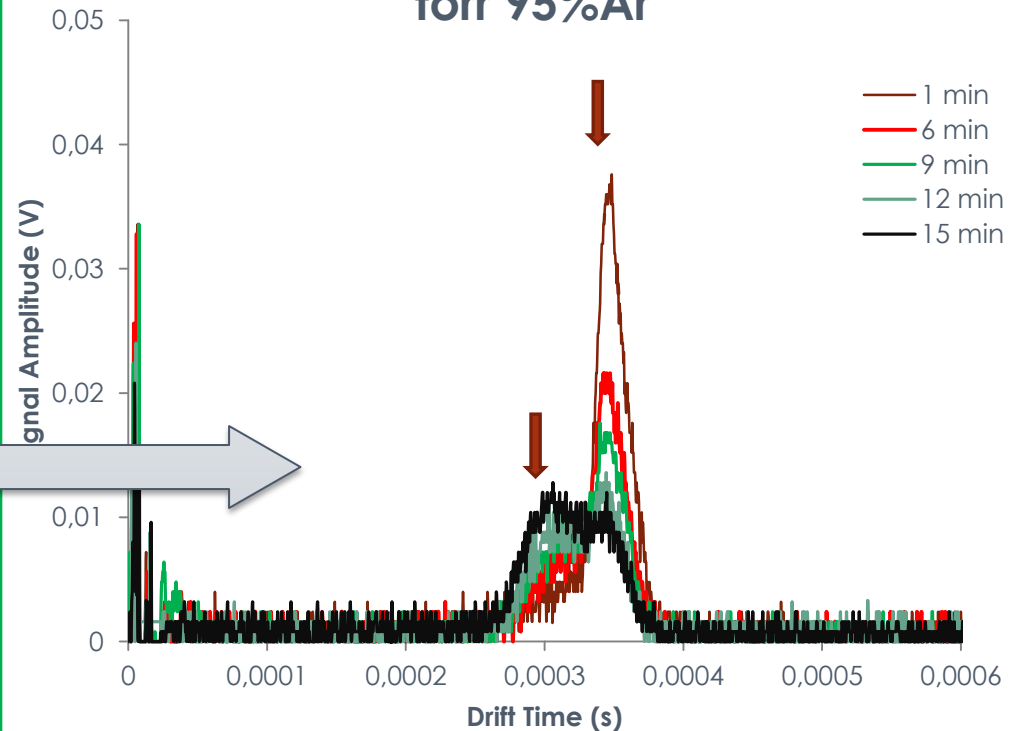
Experimental Results: Ar-CO₂



Why is the first peak not O_2^+ ?

- The small bump appears even for lower energies (18 eV).
- Even for 25 eV, Oxygen has a small probability to be formed

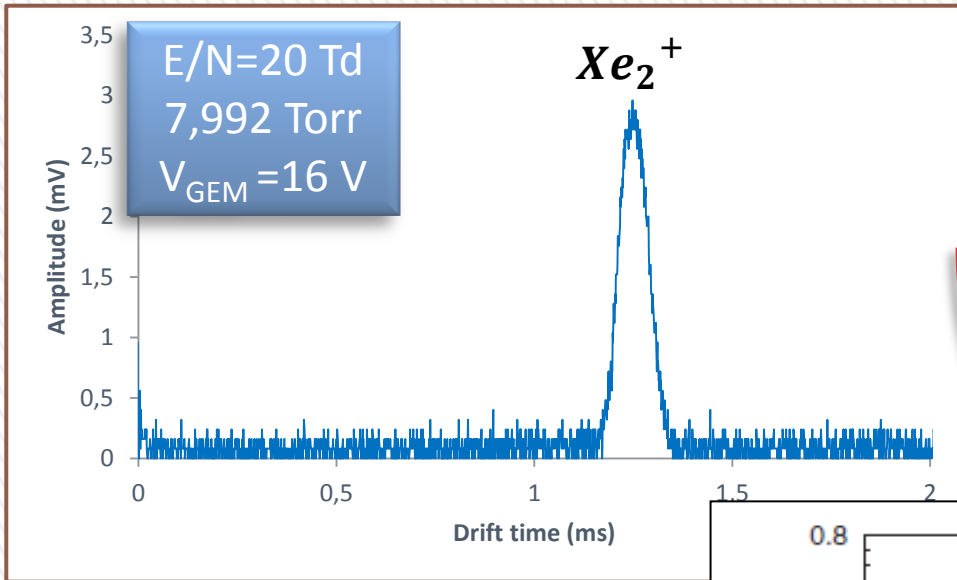
Signal Degradation 18V-GEM at 10 torr 95%Ar



Causes:

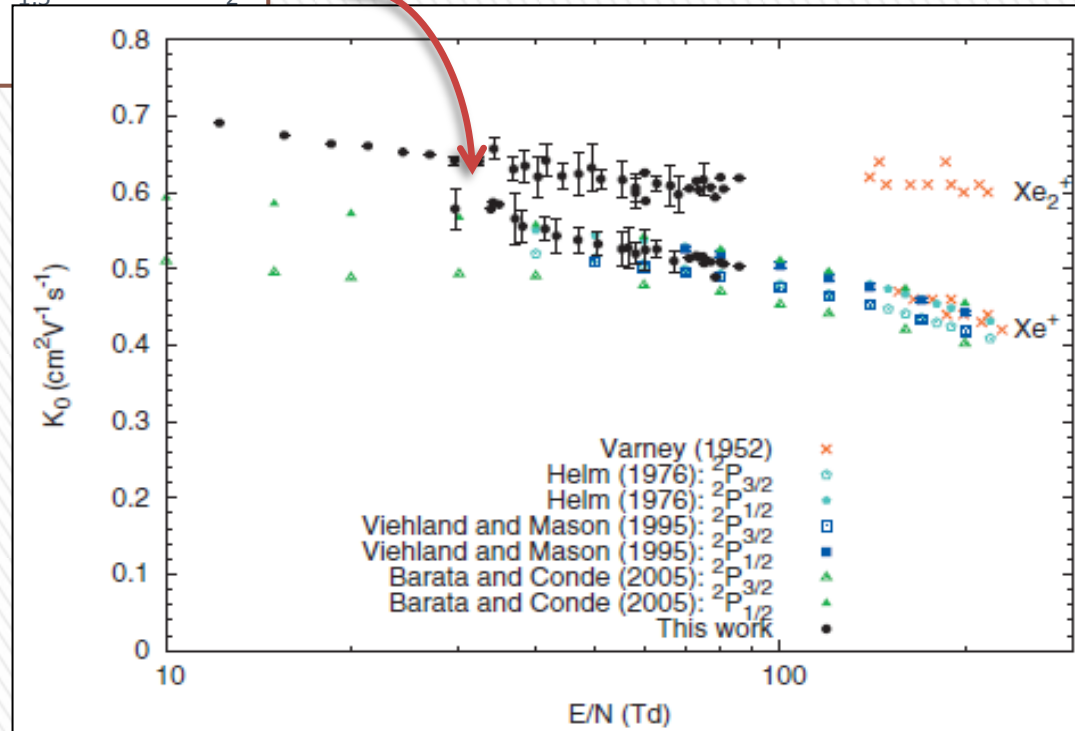
- Gas purity (99,99997%) (HP)
- Outgassing process (LP)

Experimental Results: Xe

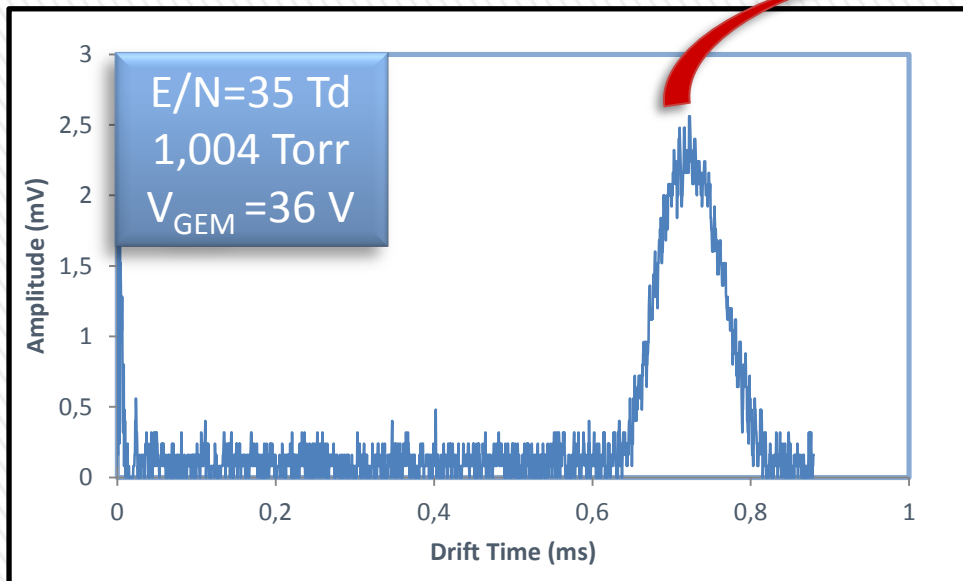


$K_{01} \sim 0,637 \text{ cm}^2\text{V}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1} \quad \text{Xe}_2^+$

P. Neves, C.A. N. Conde and
L.M.N Távora



Experimental Results: TMA

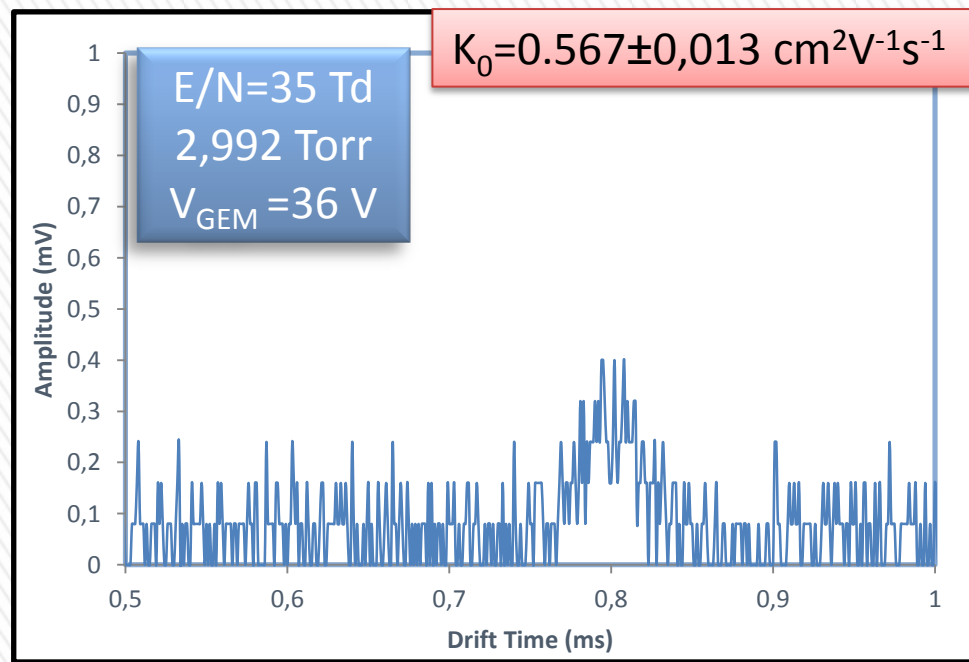


The reduced mobility has a strong dependence of the field for pressures above 3 Torr

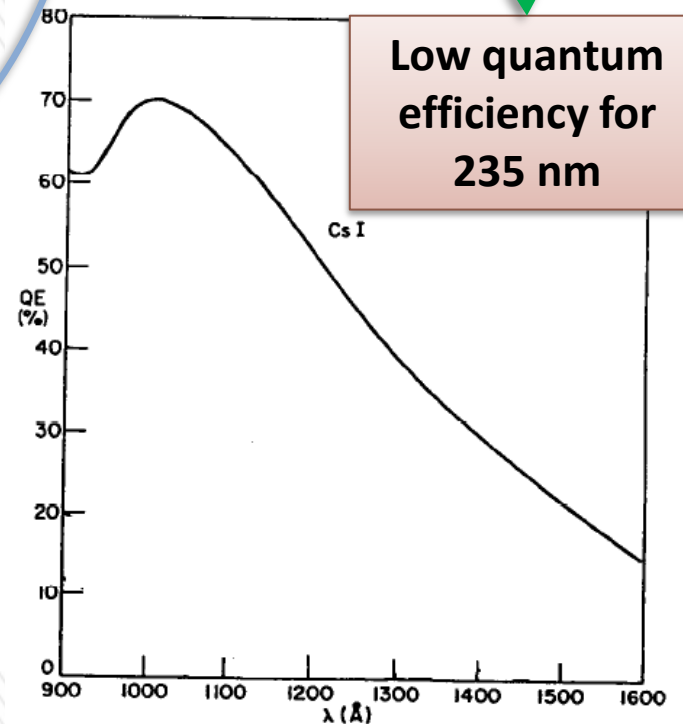
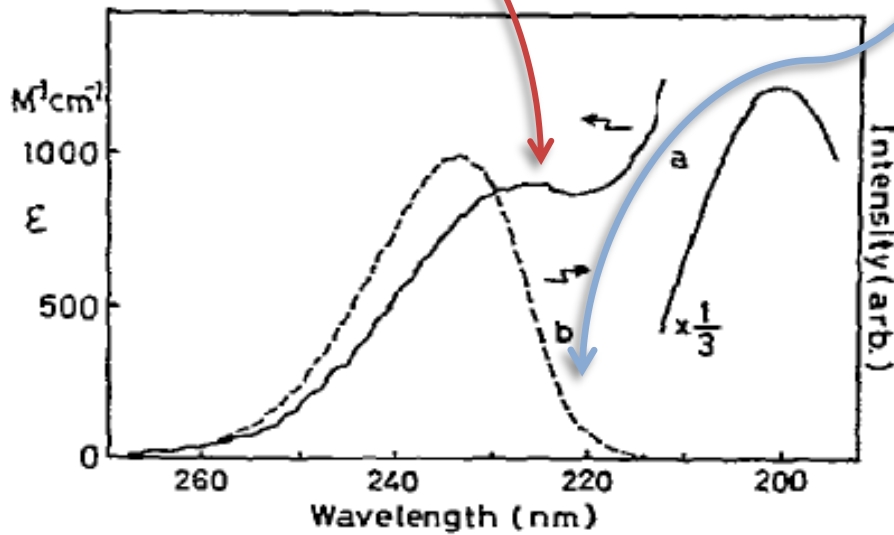
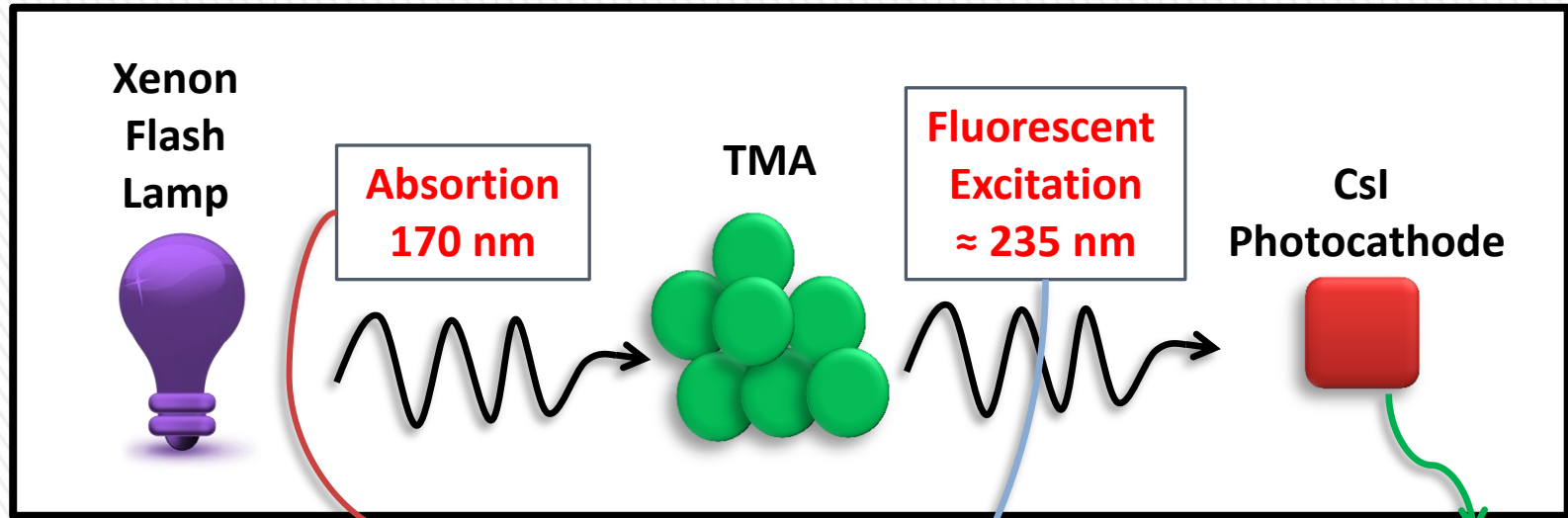
Not in Steady State Regime

Ionization Potential
7,8 – 9,4 eV

It's not possible to observed any peak in pure TMA for pressures above 3 torr or for low voltages in the GEM



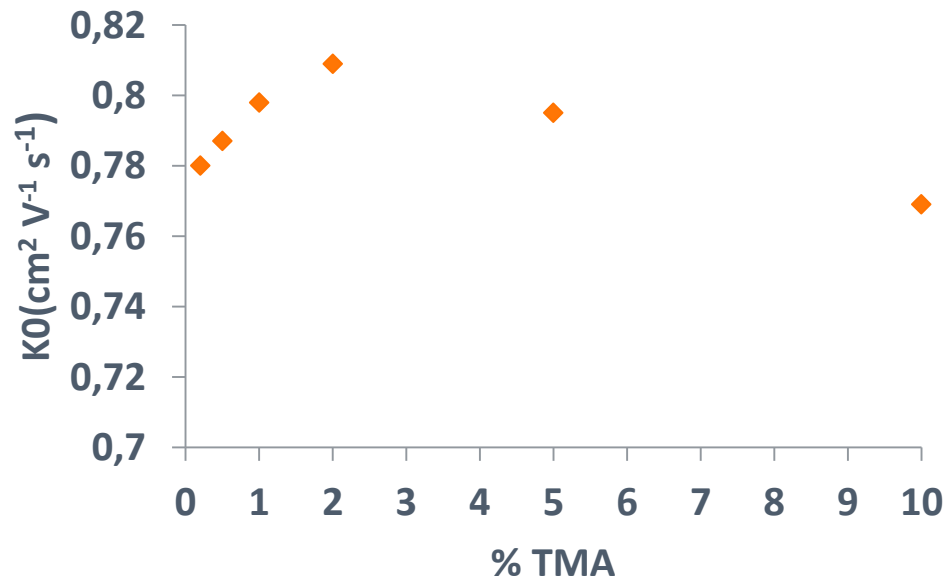
Experimental Results: TMA



Experimental Results: Xe-TMA

Interesting results

There is an **increase** in reduced mobility K_0
(Preliminary Results)



Discharges

- For the same fields does not occur for pure TMA or pure Xe.
- Seems to have a dependence with the relative amounts of TMA in the mixture.

The results obtained for TMA will be presented in NEXT-Experiment Collaboration Meeting in 6th and 7th of November

Future Work

- Pursuit the investigation on the mobility of ions in different gas mixtures of practical use:

Ne-CO2

Ne-CO2-N2

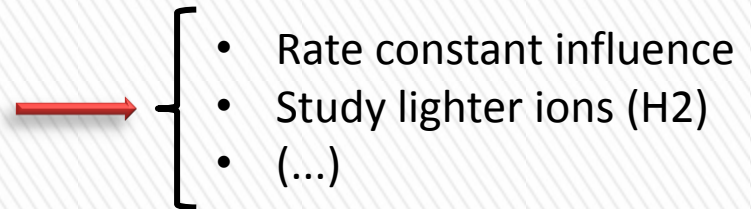
Ar-CF4

Ne-CF4

- Optimization of the detector:

Variable Drift Distance

Higher Pressure



- Study of improved ion-neutral interaction models



A special thank to FCT-Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia for supporting this work through the National funds in the frame of the Project QREN n.4825, Rad for Life.

I would like to thank also A.F.V. Cortez, M. G. A. Pinto, P.N.B. Neves, A.M.F. Trindade, F.I.G.M. Borges, F.P. Santos, J. Escada, J.A.S. Barata, C.A.N. Conde Yalçin Kalkan and Rob Veenhof for their contribution to this work.

Thank you!



Universidade de Coimbra



Mixing Langevin Limit with Blanc's Law

Langevin Limit

To determine the mobility of an ion within a gas (not the parent).

$$K_p = 13.88 \left(\frac{1}{\alpha\mu} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

μ – reduced mass
 α – neutral polarizability

Theoretical Mobility Values

Experimental Ion Mobility Values

Mobility of an ion within his parent gas (if known).

Blanc's Law

Used to calculate the mobility of an ion in a gas mixture.

$$\frac{1}{K_{0\text{mix}}} = \frac{f_1}{K_{0g1}} + \frac{f_2}{K_{0g2}}$$

f_1, f_2 – molar fraction of gas 1 and 2

Mobility of an ion in a mixture

Candidate ions identification

GEM Voltage

- Maximum energy gained by electrons.
- Primary ions possible to be formed.

Rg (pure)



Possible Reactions

Ions formed through reactions of the primary ions with neutral atoms or molecules from the medium.

Select Most Probable Ions

Reaction Time

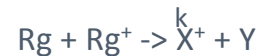
Used to calculate the mobility of an ion in a gas mixture.

$$\tau = \frac{1}{kN}$$

- Identification the possible ions present.

Universal decay law

Used to calculate the variation of the concentration of a specific ion in a mixture.



$$\frac{[\text{Rg}^+]}{[\text{Rg}^+]_0} = e^{-\frac{t}{\tau}}$$

$$\frac{[\text{X}^+]}{[\text{X}^+]_0} = 1 - \frac{[\text{Rg}^+]}{[\text{Rg}^+]_0}$$

- Identification the possible ions present.