

# MATRIX ISOLATION STUDY OF DIFLUOROMETHANE RADIOLYSIS: FORMATION OF UNUSUAL INTERMEDIATES AND NOVEL NOBLE GAS COMPOUNDS

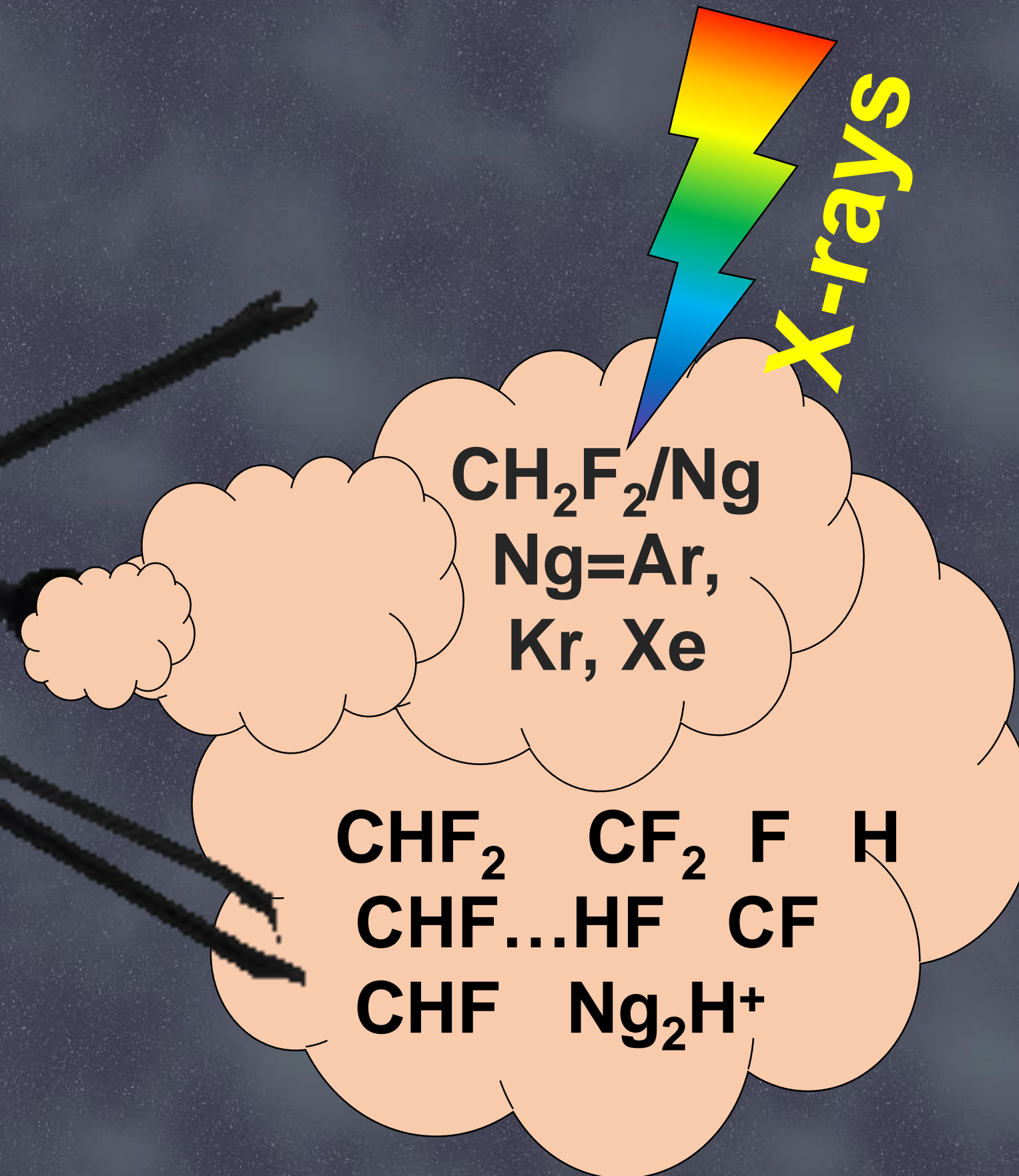
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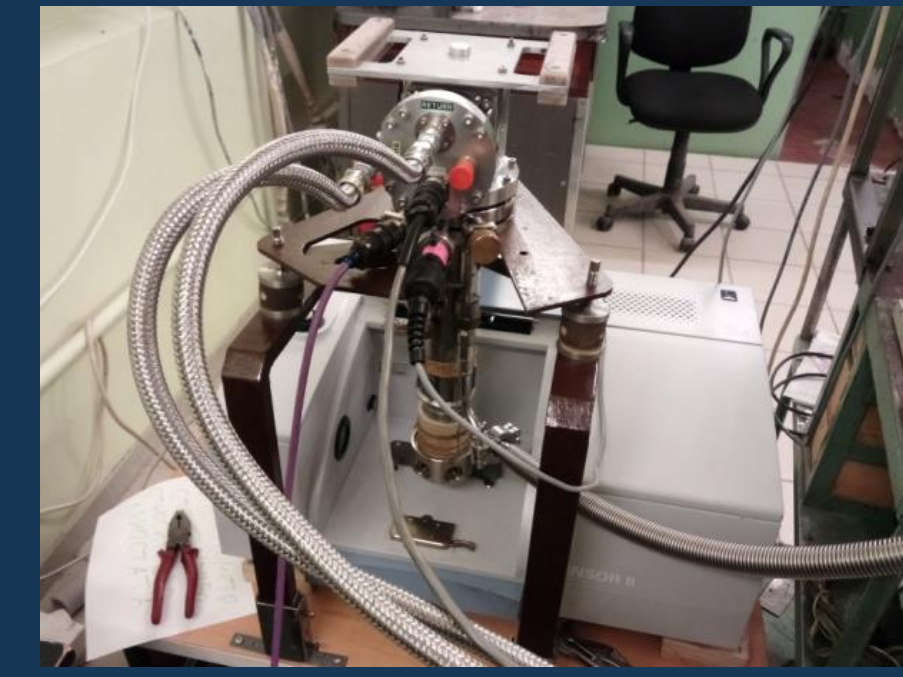


## Introduction

Difluoromethane is widely used as an ecologically friendly alternative to conventional chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). Being chemically and photochemically inert and insensitive to the near UV light,  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2$  could come to the upper layers of the atmosphere, where it is subjected to VUV or ionizing radiation. The combined matrix isolation and quantum chemistry investigation of difluoromethane radiation-induced transformations is of particular interest for atmospheric chemistry. On the other hand, these studies may provide unique information on the structure and spectroscopic features of intermediates and noble gas compounds.



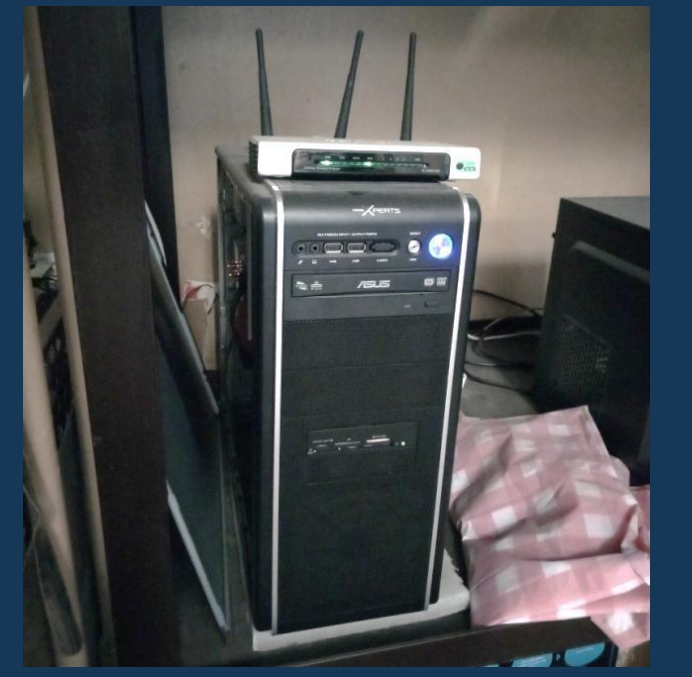
## Experiment



Matrix isolation  
 $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Ng}$  (1/1000);  
 $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2\text{O}/\text{Ar}$  (1/1/1000,  
 1/2/1000);  
 Ng = Ar, Kr, Xe;  
 Original close cycle  
 helium cryostat:

- Deposition
- X-rays irradiation
- IR spectra
- Controlled annealing

## Theory

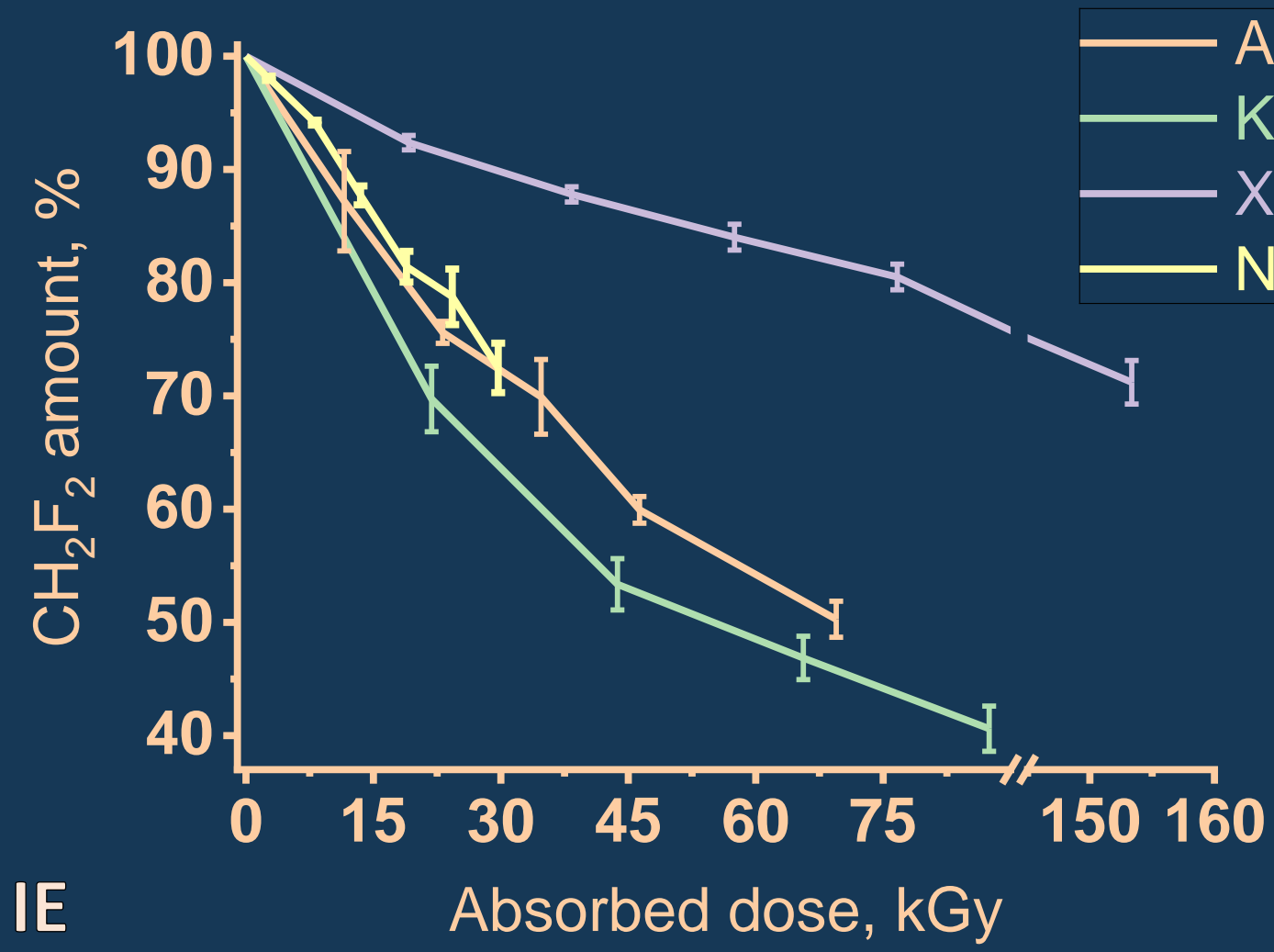
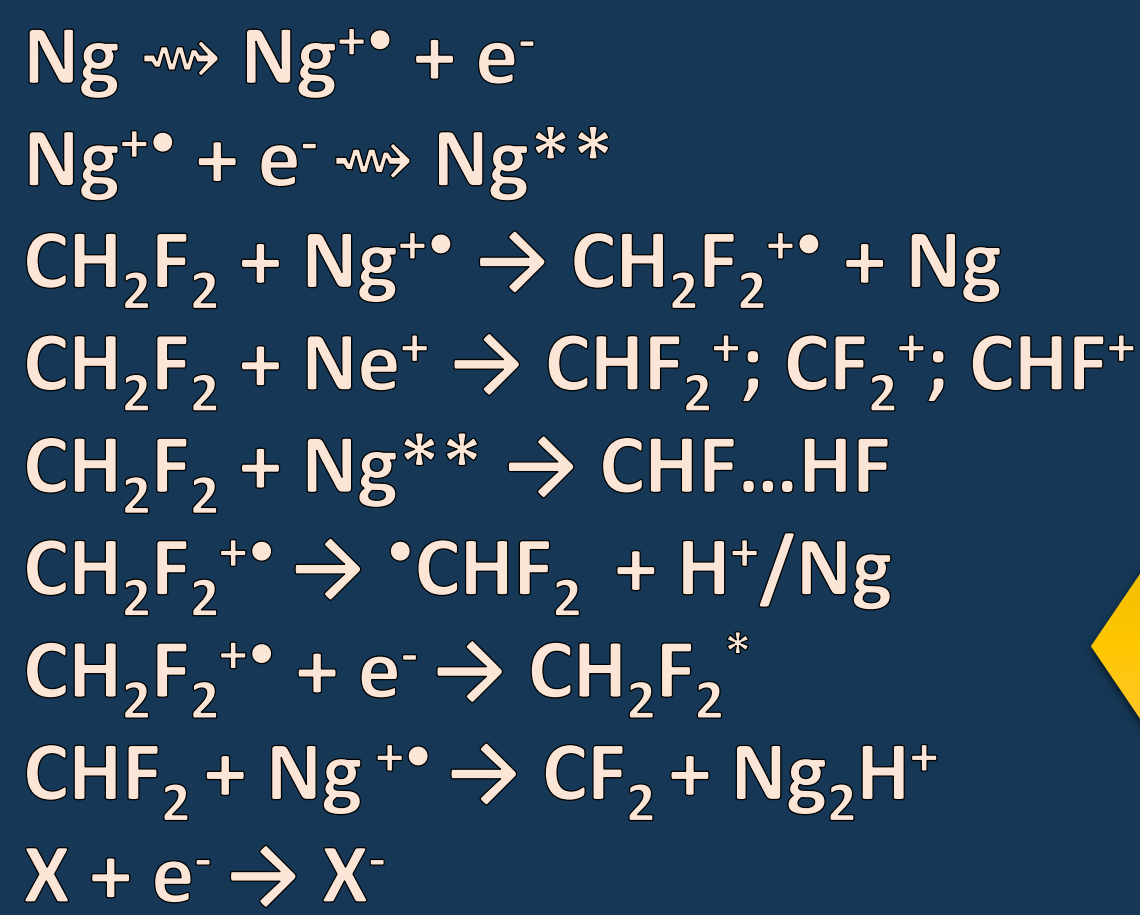


Quantum chemical  
 calculations  
 CCSD(T),  
 MP2; L2a\_3,  
 L3a\_3 basis sets

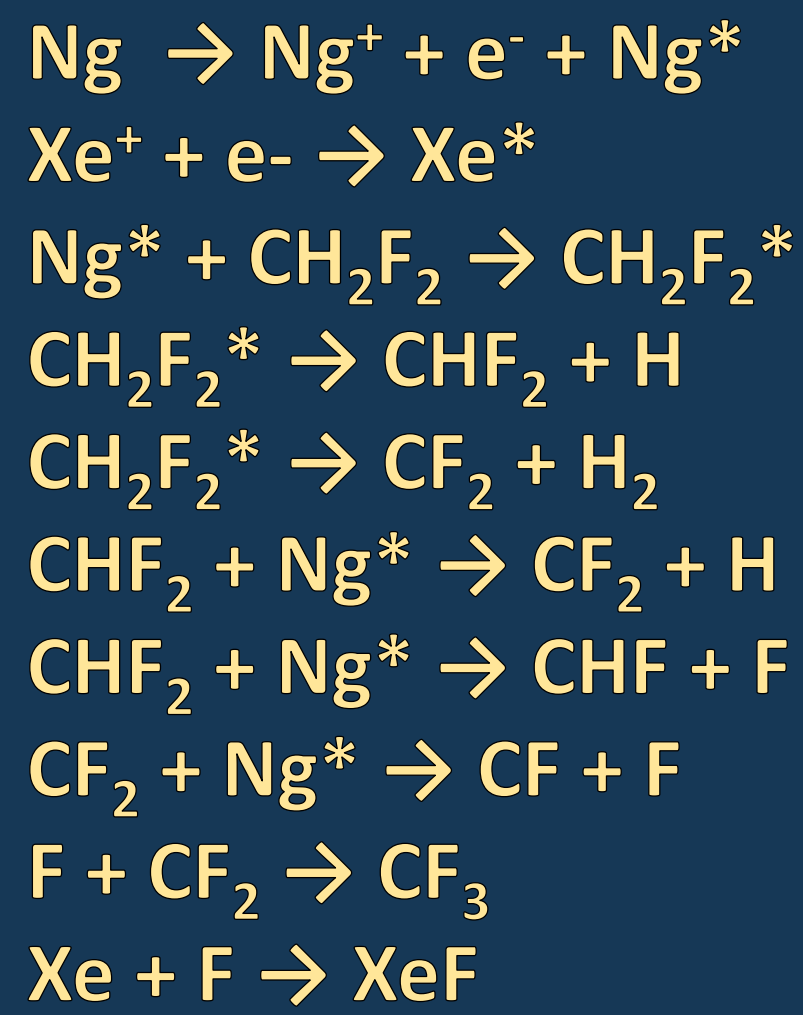
- Structure
- Spectroscopic features (harmonic frequencies, IR intensities)

## Difluoromethane radiolysis

«Ionic» channel



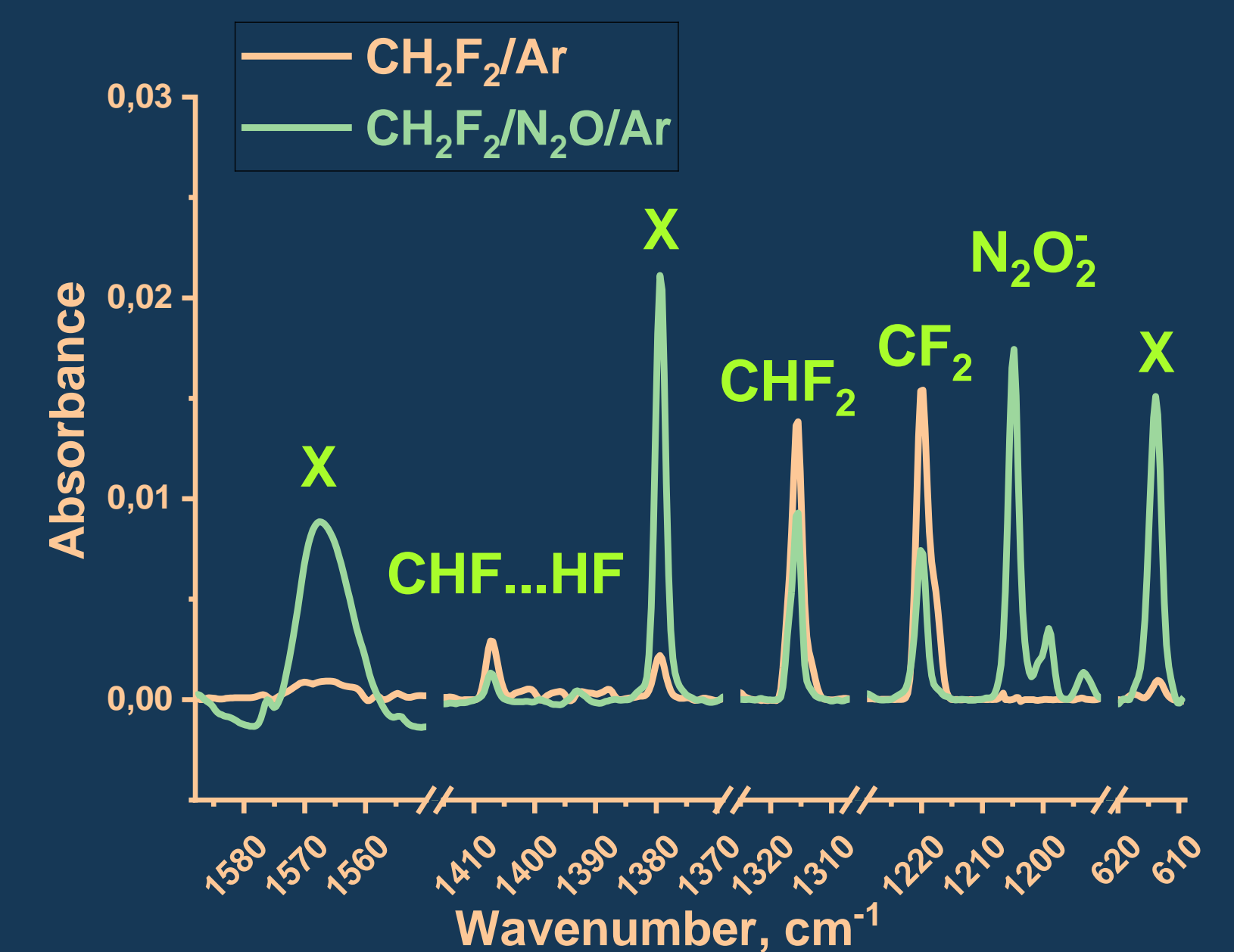
«Neutral» channel



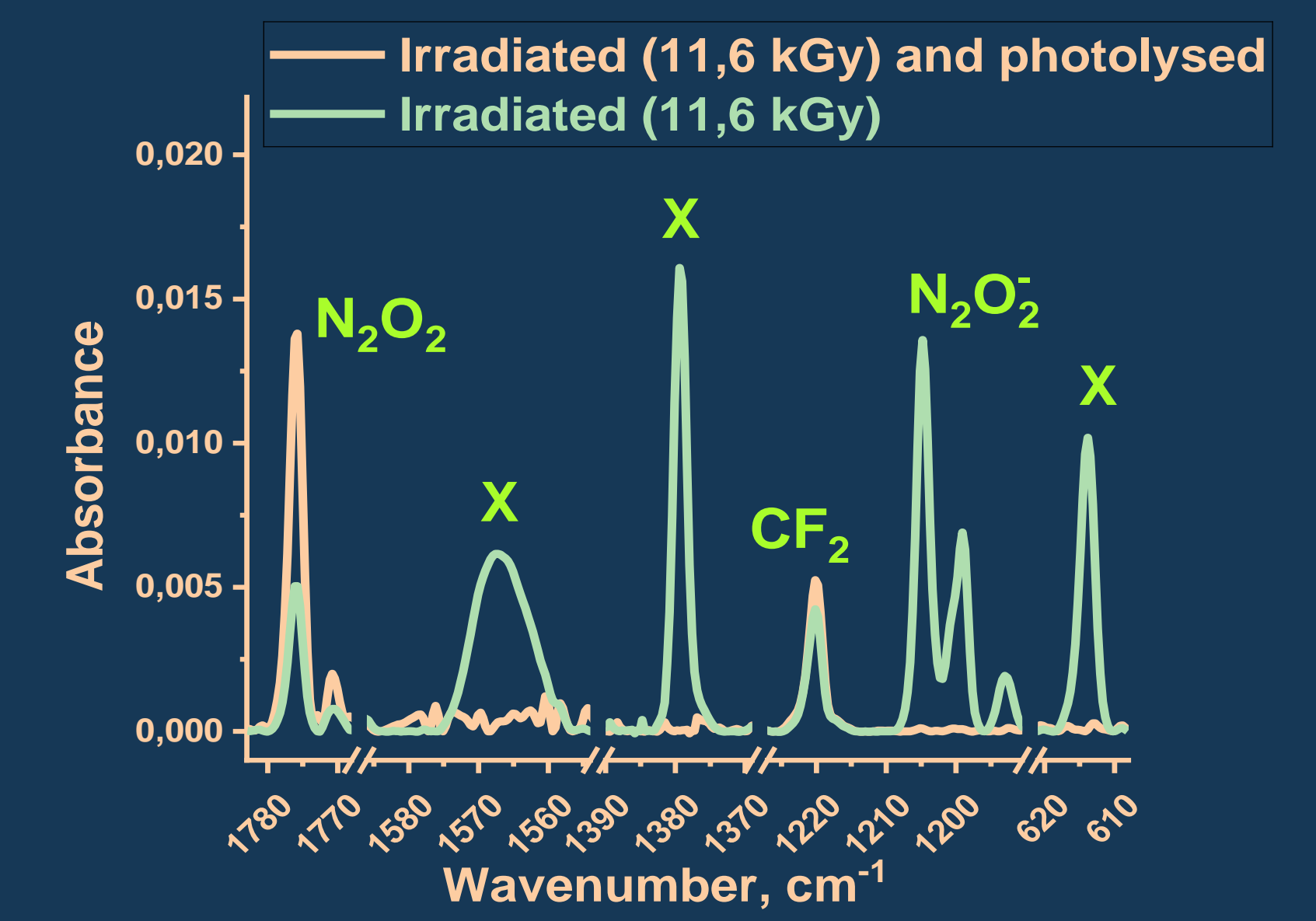
Ne, Ar, Kr  
 $\text{IE}(\text{Ng}) > \text{IE}(\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2)$   
 $\text{Xe} \sim 12 \text{ eV}$     $\text{Kr} \sim 14 \text{ eV}$     $\text{Ar} \sim 16 \text{ eV}$   
 $\text{CHF}_3 \sim 13.3 \text{ eV}$

The decay of  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2$  as a function of absorbed dose in X-irradiated Ne, Ar, Kr, and Xe matrices

## $\text{CF}_2^+$ identification



Fragments of difference FTIR spectra of irradiated minus deposited  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Ar}$  (1/1000) and  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2\text{O}/\text{Ar}$  (1/1/1000) samples



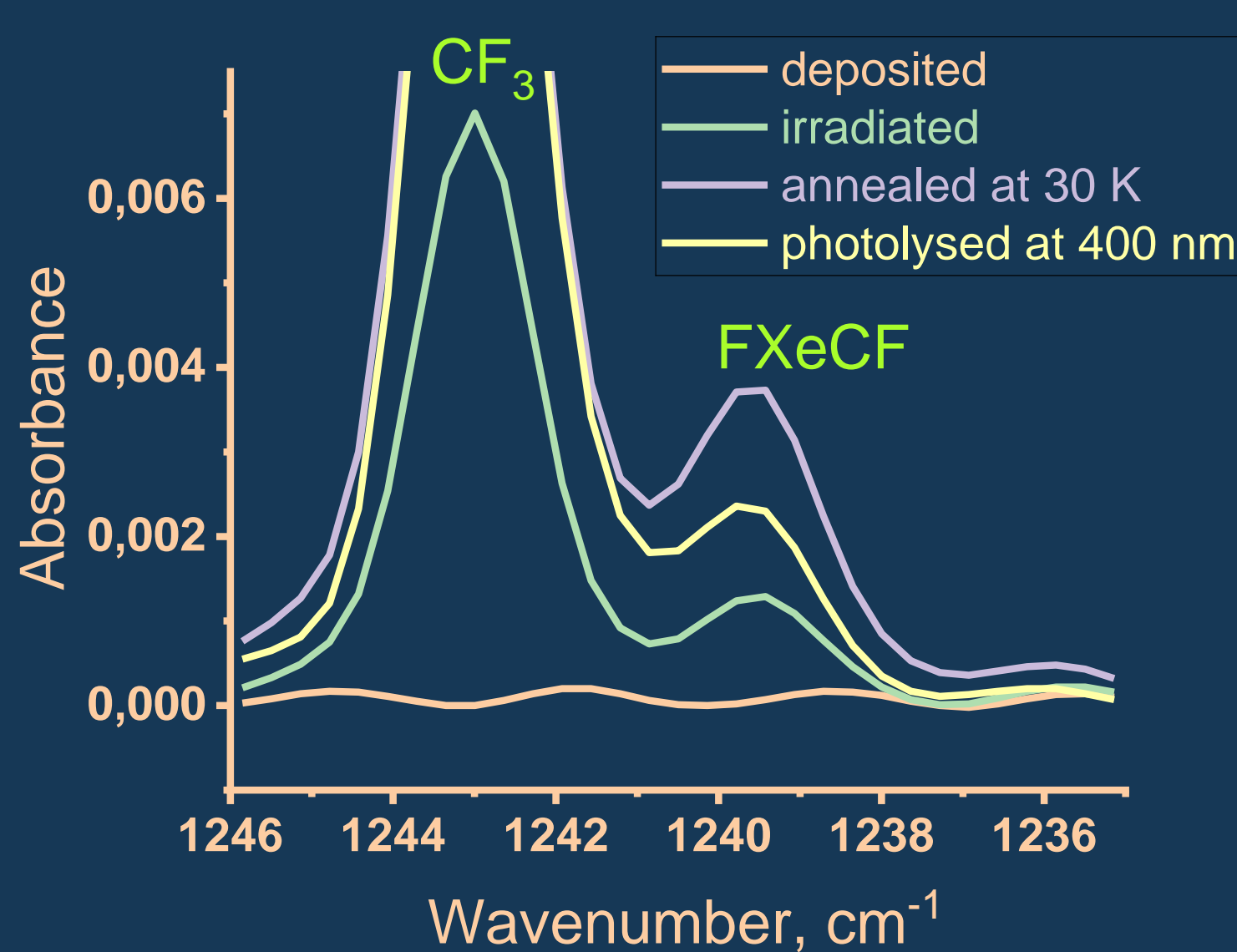
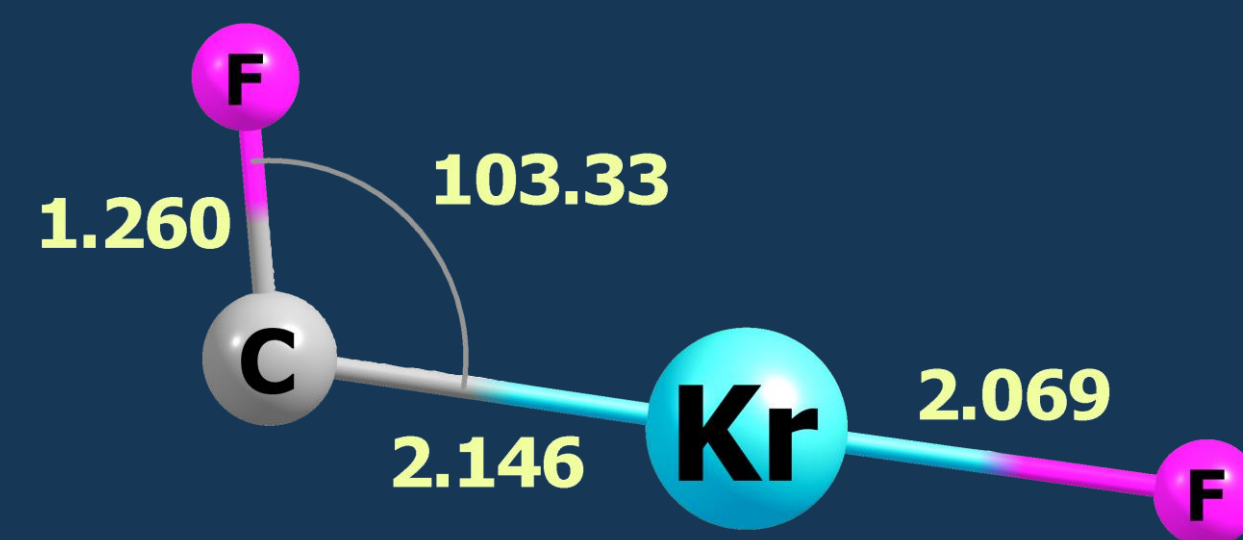
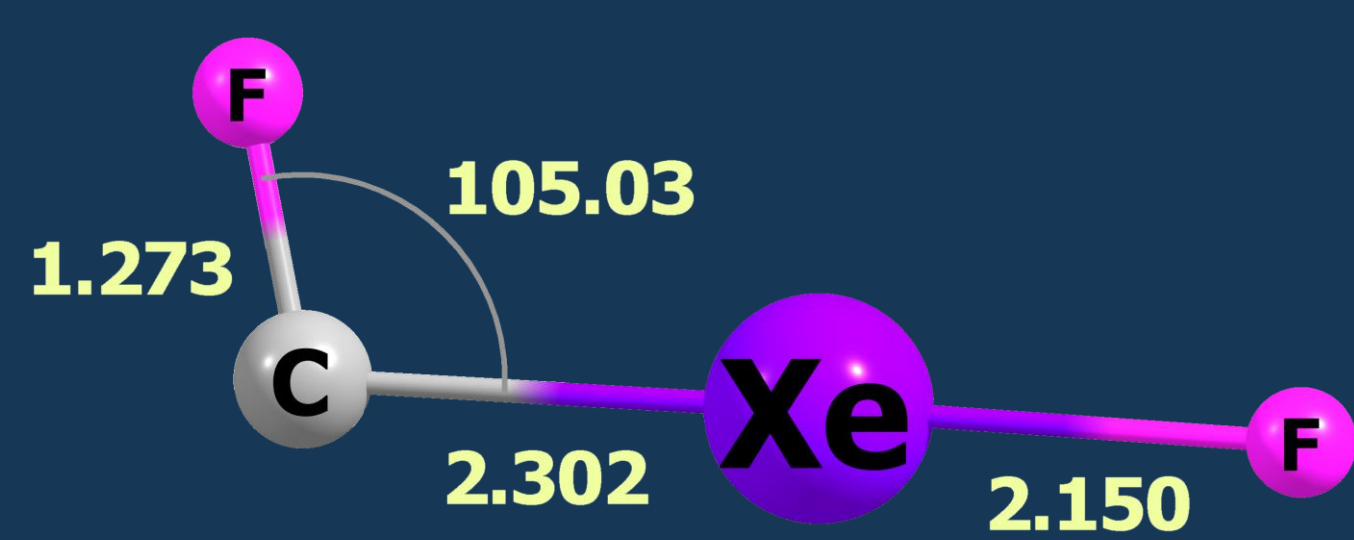
Fragments of FTIR spectra of irradiated and photolyzed  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2\text{O}/\text{Ar}$  (1/2/1000) sample.

Calculated harmonic frequencies of  $\text{CF}_2^+$  cation and corresponding experimental values

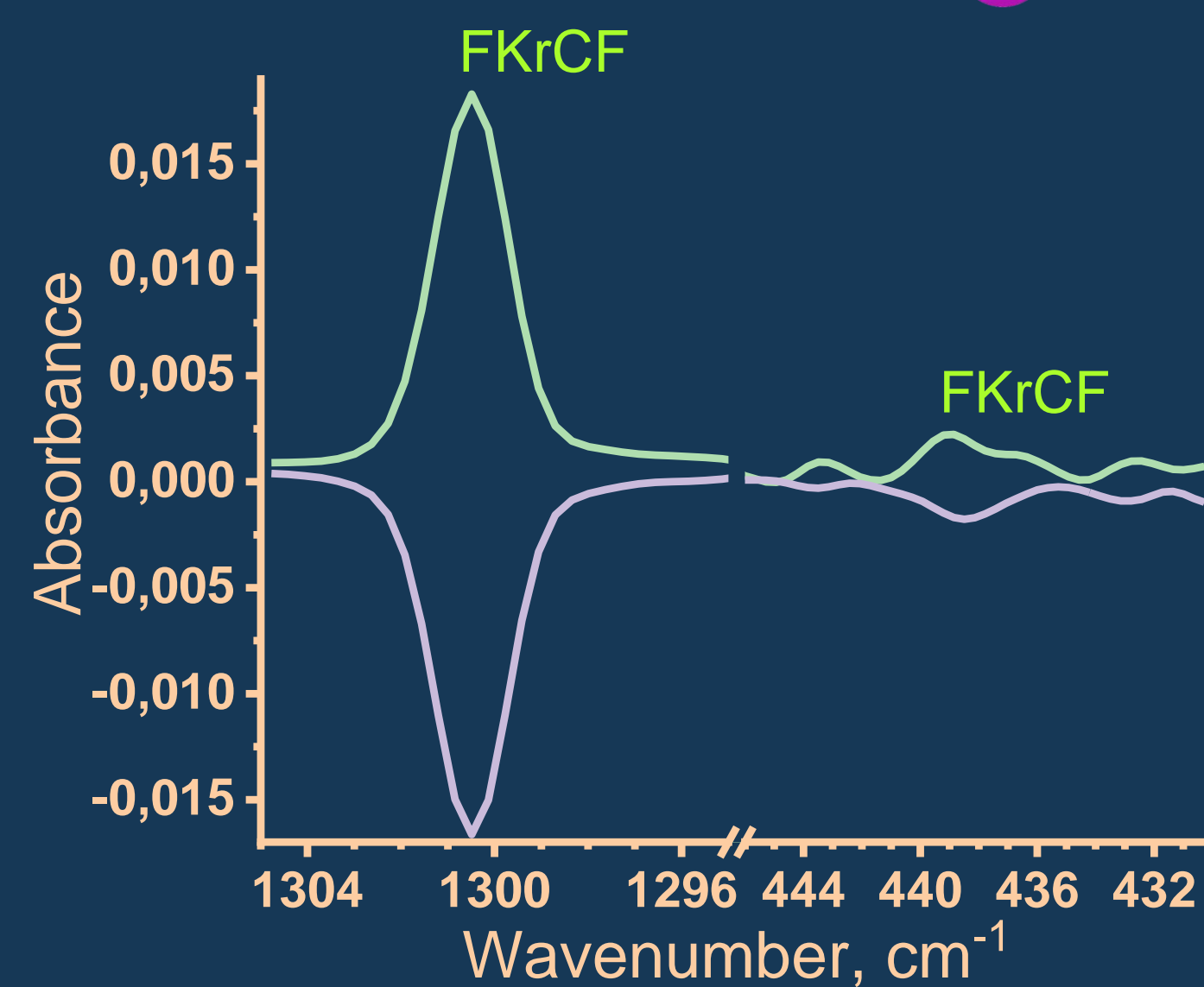
Mode	EXP	CCSD(T) L3a_3	CCSD(T) aug-cc-pVQZ <sup>a</sup>	MRSDCI DZP <sup>b</sup>
F-C-F bend	613.8 (1)	649.5 (26)	648.6	656
C-F sym str	1379.4 (1.4)	1373.9 (63)	1374.6	1259
C-F a str	1567.6 (2.7)	1698.0 (422)	1698.9	1599

<sup>a</sup> Innocenti, F. et al., Chem. - A Eur. J. 14 (2008) 11452–11460, DOI: 10.1002/chem.200801699.

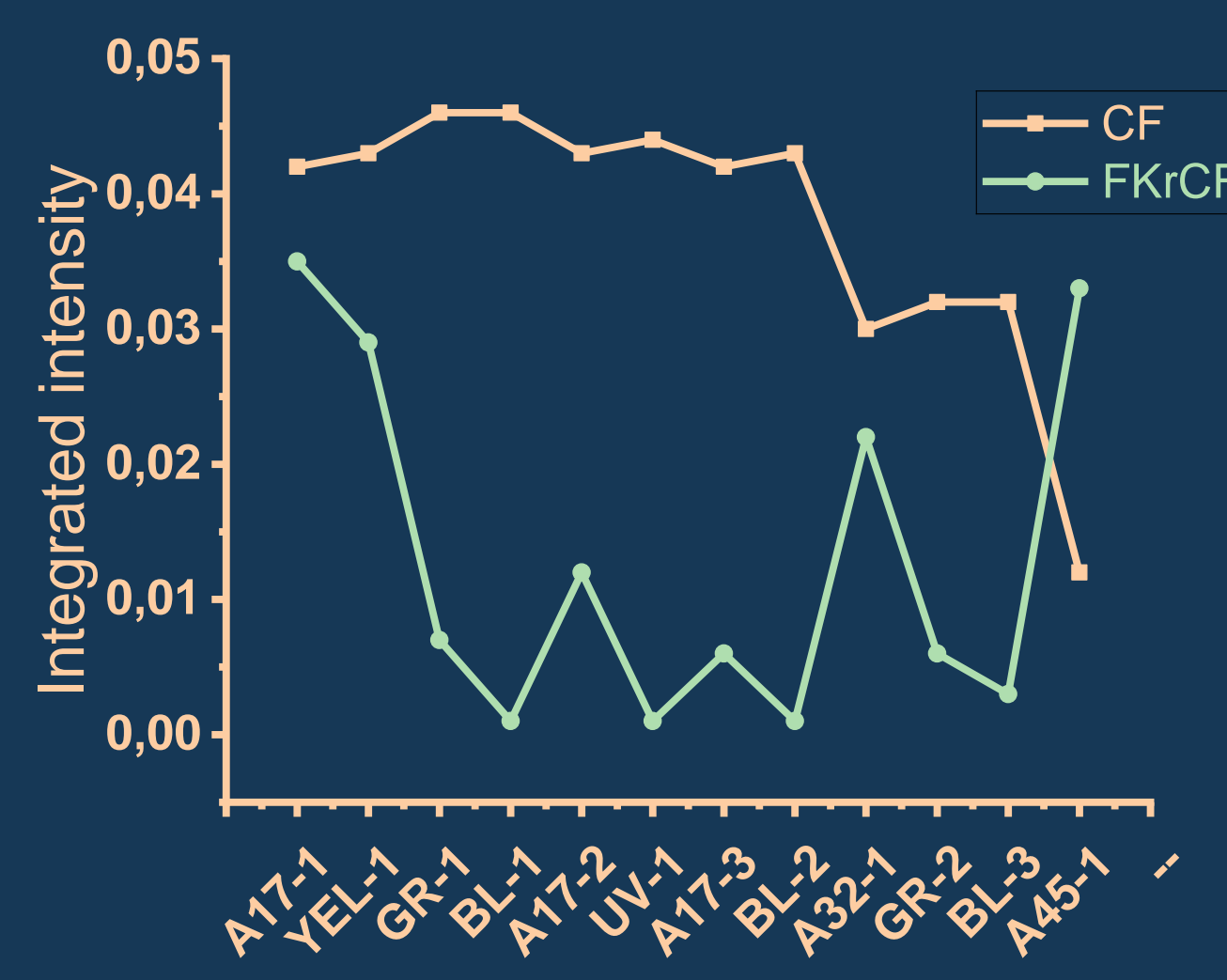
<sup>b</sup> Cai Z.L., Theor. Chim. Acta. 86 (1993) 249–256, DOI: 10.1007/BF01130821



Fragments of IR spectra of  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Xe}$  (1/1000) sample



Fragments of IR spectra of  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Kr}$  (1/1000) sample. Upper trace (positive) shows the effect of irradiation and annealing at 17 K, lower trace (negative) shows the effect of subsequent photolysis at 445 nm



Variations of the integrated intensity of FKrCF and CF bands annealing and photolysis of the irradiated sample

Calculated harmonic frequencies of FNgCF and corresponding experimental values; stabilization energies with respect to  $\text{F} + \text{Ng} + \text{CF}$  dissociation

	MP2/L2a_3		Experiment	
	FKrCF	FXeCF	Kr	Xe
F-Ng str	435.9 (312)	428.9 (264)	438,6	-
C-F str	1310.3 (531)	1266.4 (449)	1300.5	1239.6
$E_{\text{stab}}$	5.2	24.5		

## Conclusions

- $\text{CF}_2^+$  was detected as a secondary radiolysis product in the  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Ar}$  and as a primary one in  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{N}_2\text{O}/\text{Ar}$  systems
- FKrCF and FXeCF were first observed experimentally in the irradiated and annealed  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Kr}$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{F}_2/\text{Xe}$  systems