

# Ultrafast dynamics of atoms and molecules with XFELs

Sang-Kil Son

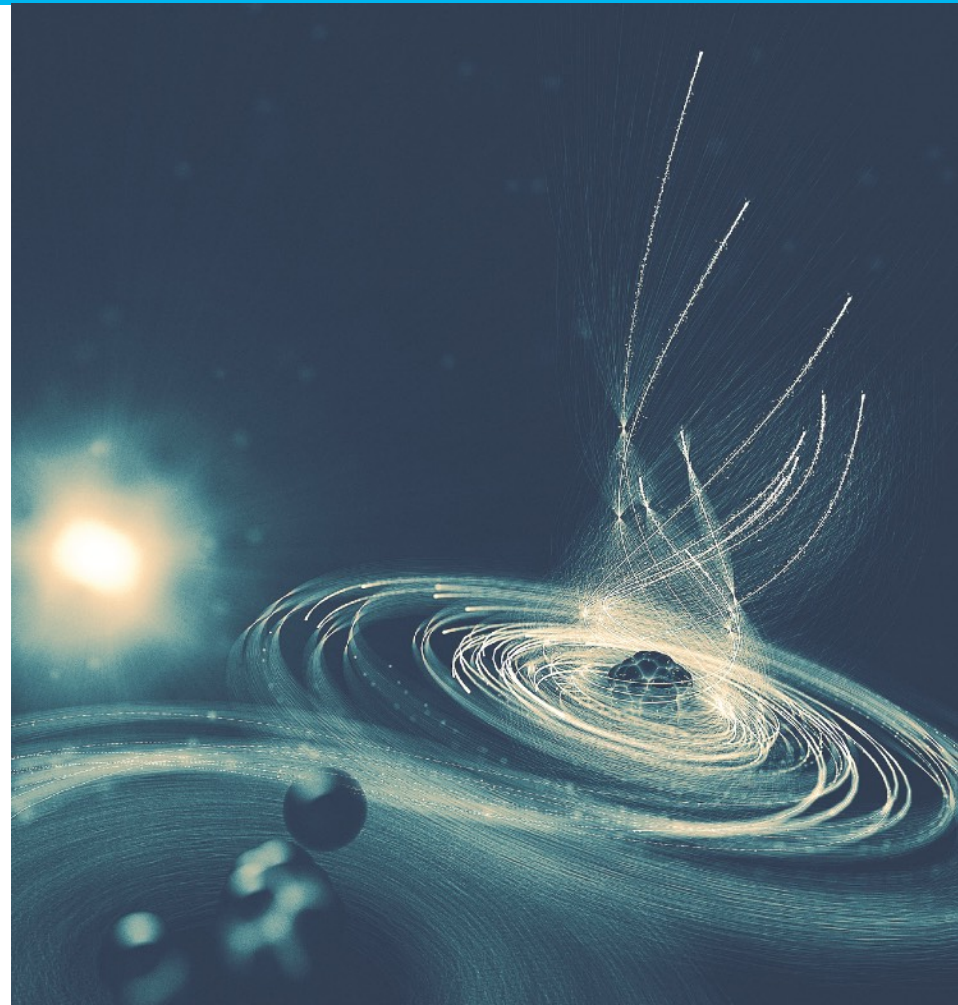
Center for Free-Electron Laser Science,  
DESY, Hamburg, Germany

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International Workshop *Attosecond  
Physics at the Nanoscale*  
PCS IBS, Daejeon, Korea  
October 29–November 2, 2018



**HELMHOLTZ**  
RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES



# Acknowledgment

## XMOLECULE development



Yajiang Hao  
Now at USTB  
(Beijing)



Ludger Inhester



Kota Hanasaki  
Now at Kyoto Univ.



Oriol Vendrell  
Now at Heidelberg Univ.



Robin Santra

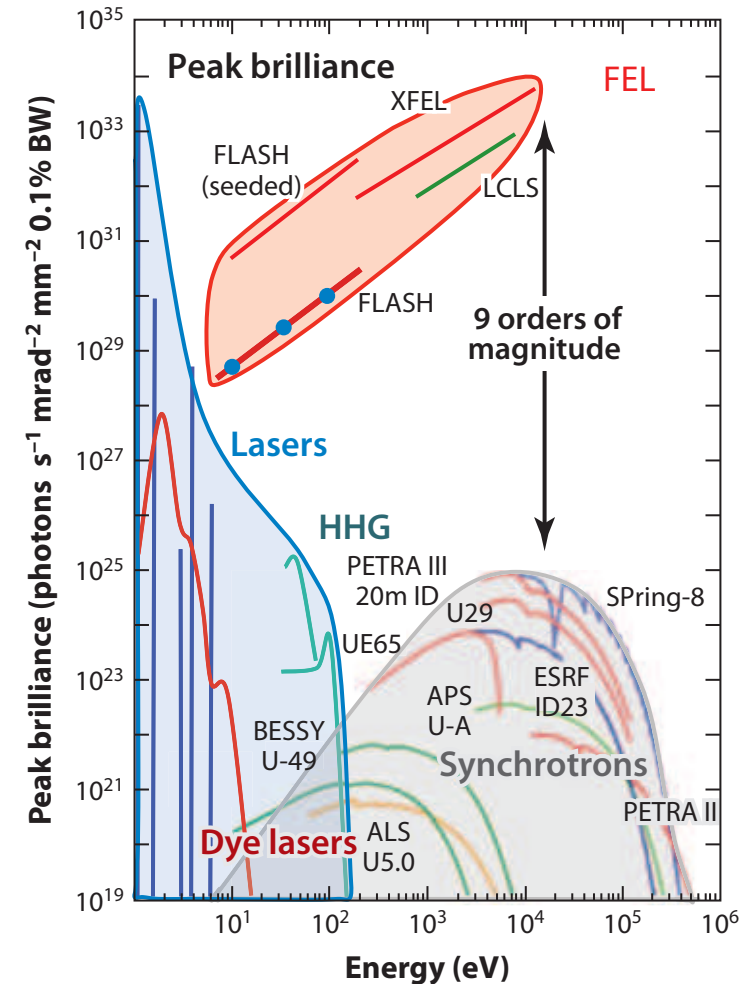
## XATOM development



Koudai Toyota

# XFEL: X-ray free-electron laser

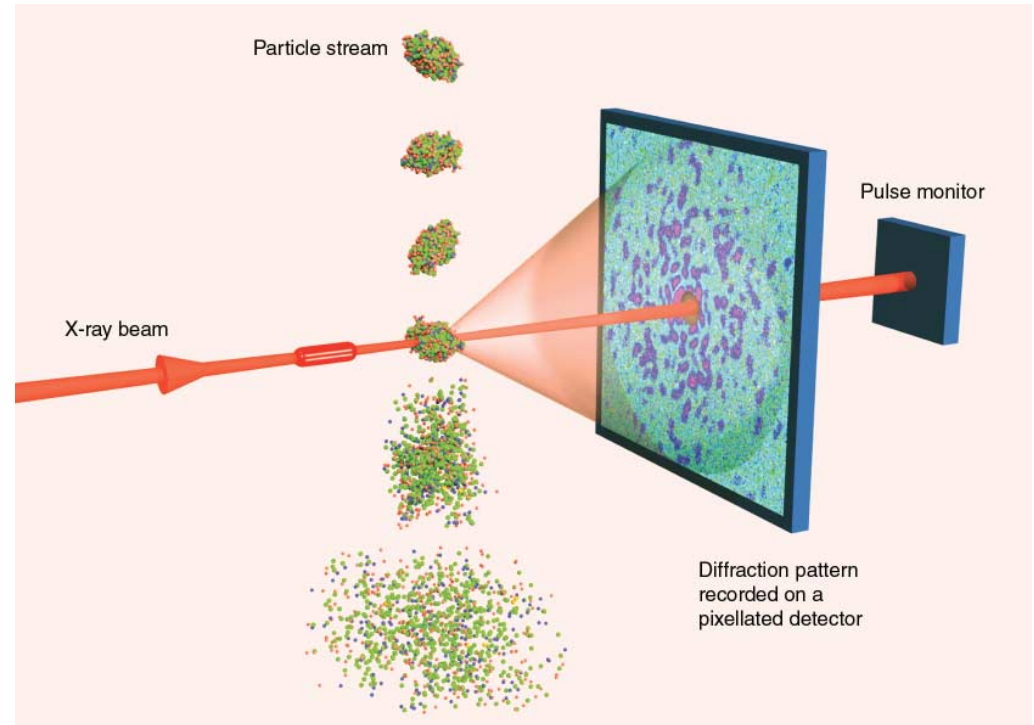
- > XFEL: *ultraintense* and *ultrashort*
- > X-ray beam parameters
  - photon energy: ~keV
  - focal size: ~submicron
  - pulse duration: ~few femtoseconds
  - peak intensity:  **$\sim 10^{20}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>**
- > Where are XFELs?
  - LCLS at SLAC, USA (2009)
  - SACLA at RIKEN Harima, Japan (2011)
  - PAL XFEL at Pohang, Korea (2017)
  - European XFEL, Germany (2017)



Ullrich *et al.*, *Annu. Rev. Phys. Chem.* **63**, 635 (2012).

# Why *ultraintense* and *ultrafast*?

- Structural determination of biomolecules with x-rays  
→ X-ray crystallography
- Growing high-quality crystals is one of major bottlenecks
- Enough signals obtained from even single molecules by using *ultraintense* pulses
- Signals obtained before radiation damage by using *ultrafast* pulses

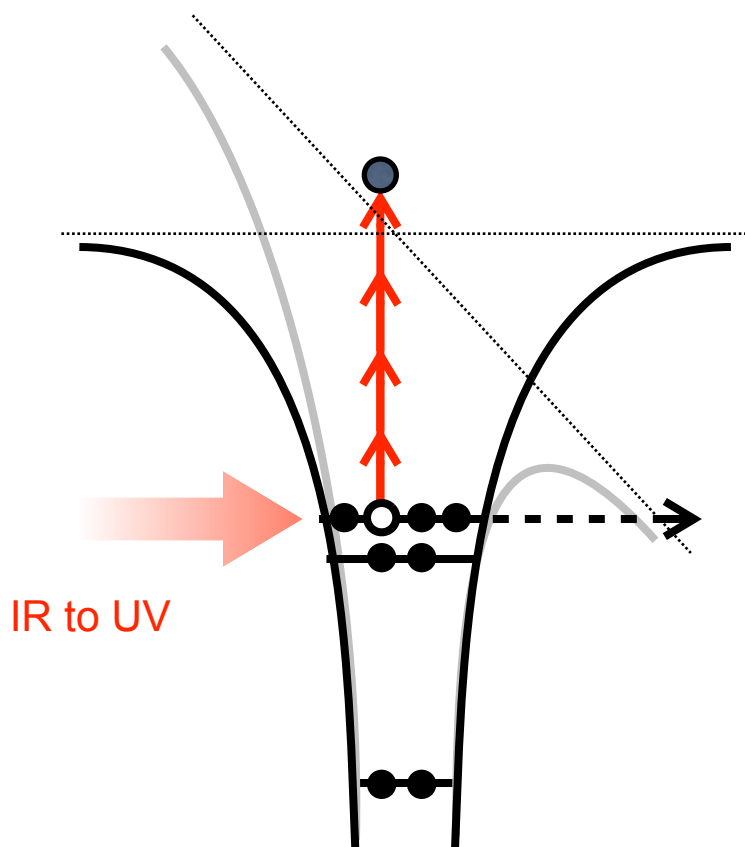


Gaffney & Chapman, *Science* **316**, 1444 (2007).

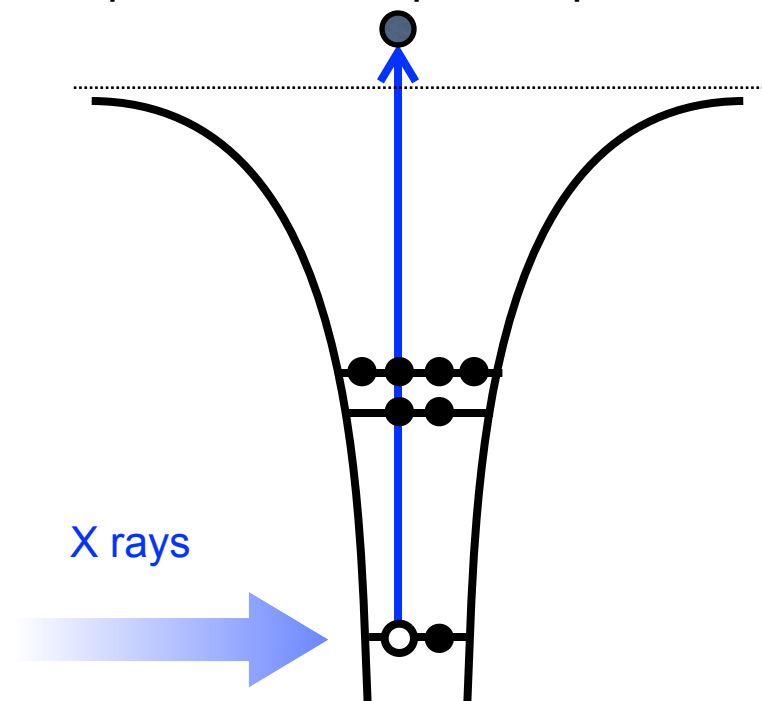
How does matter interact with *ultraintense* and *ultrafast* pulses?

# Strong light-matter interaction

- > Optical strong-field regime
  - tunneling or multiphoton processes
  - valence-electron ionization



- > Intense X-ray regime
  - mainly one-photon processes
  - core-electron ionization and relaxation
  - multiphoton multiple ionization via a sequence of one-photon processes

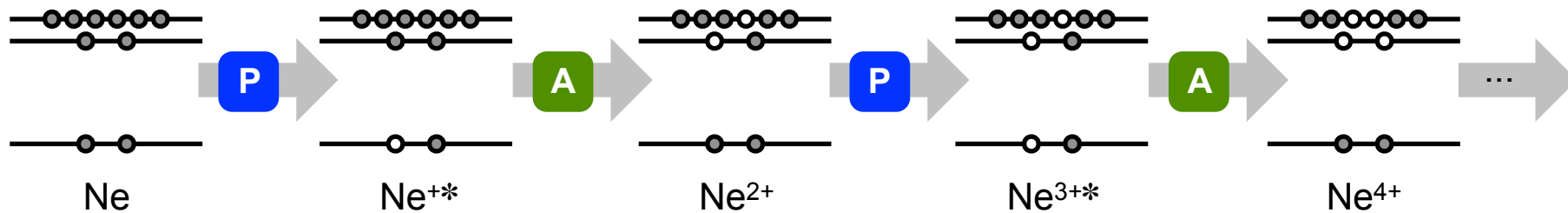


# X-ray multiphoton absorption

- > Direct multiphoton absorption cross section is too small

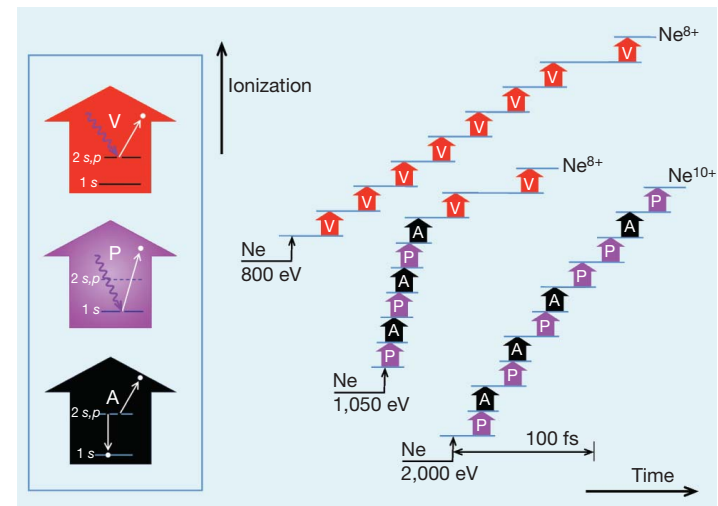
Doumy *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **106**, 083002 (2011).

- > Sequential multiphoton absorption is dominant



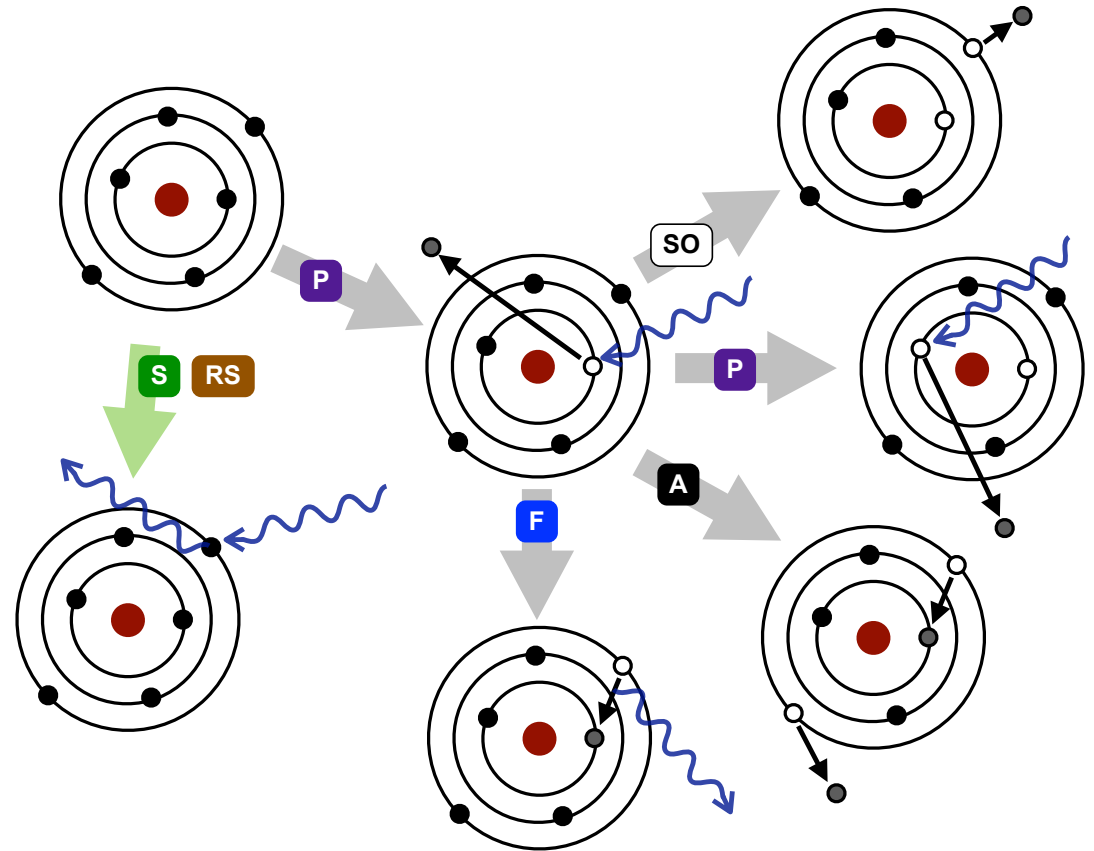
**Sequential multiphoton  
multiple ionization dynamics**

Young *et al.*, *Nature*  
**466**, 56 (2010).



# XATOM

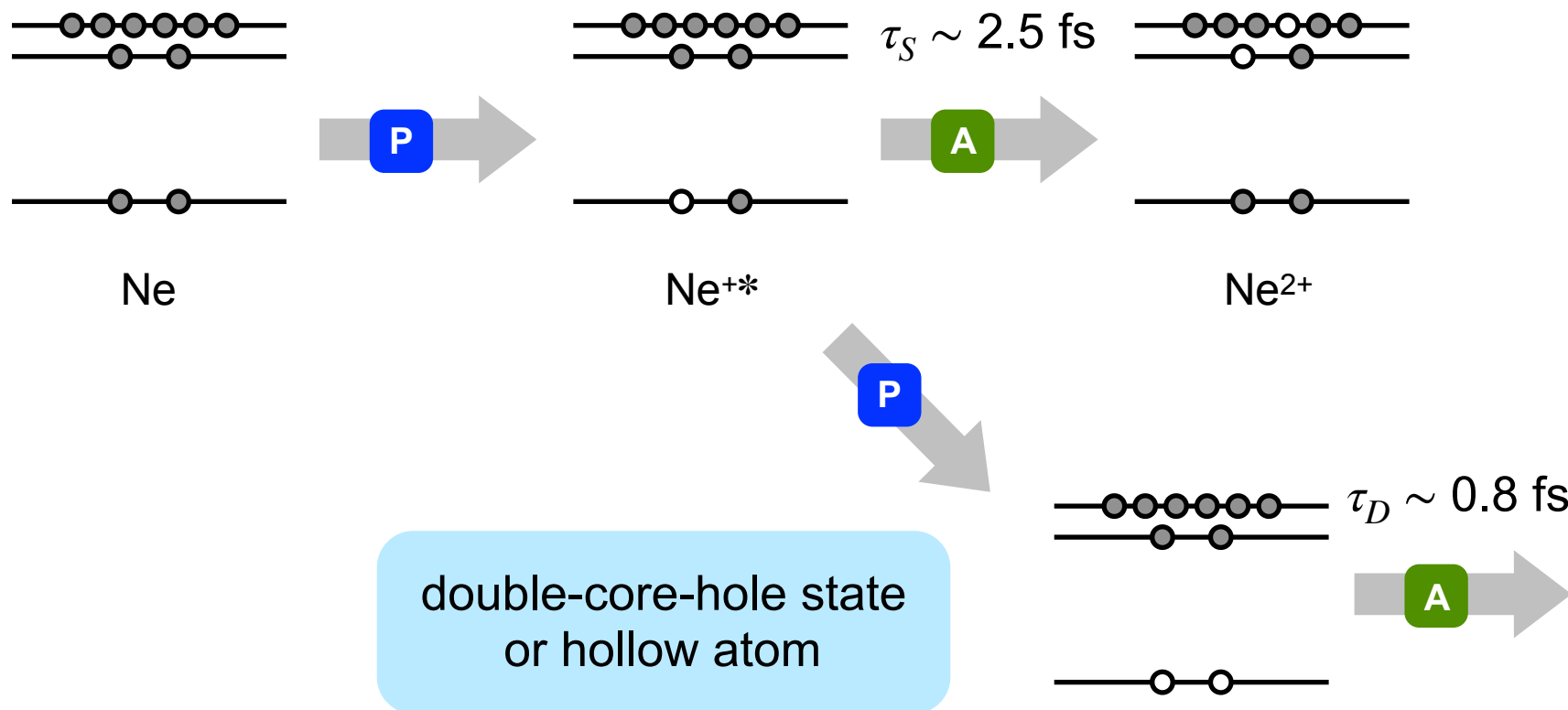
- > X-ray-induced atomic processes calculated for any given element and configuration
- > Ionization dynamics solved by a rate-equation approach
- > Sequential ionization model has been tested by a series of atomic XFEL experiments



Son, Young & Santra, *Phys. Rev. A* **83**, 033402 (2011).  
Jurek, Son, Ziaja & Santra, *J. Appl. Cryst.* **49**, 1048 (2016).

Download executables: <http://www.desy.de/~xraypac>

# Hollow atom or double-core-hole state



No more *K*-shell absorption

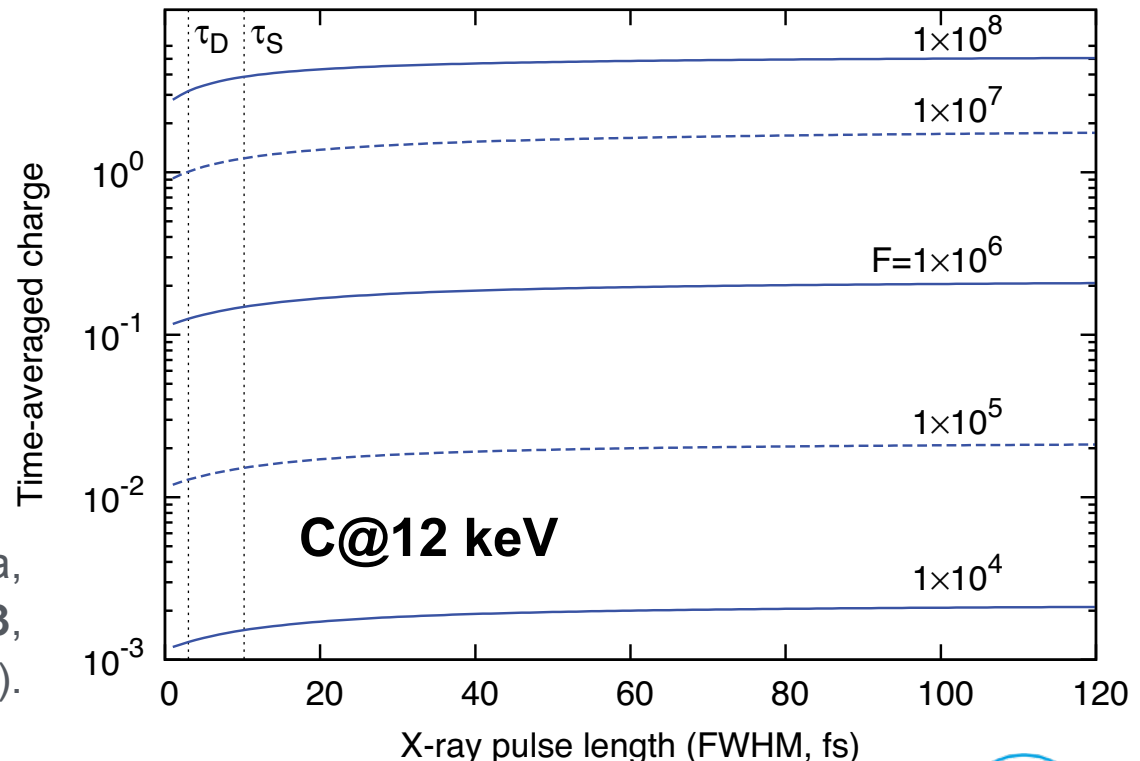


# Shorter pulse induces less ionization

- > When the pulse is short enough to compete with core-hole lifetimes
  - intensity-induced x-ray transparency Young *et al.*, *Nature* **466**, 56 (2010).
  - frustrated absorption Hoener *et al.*, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **104**, 253002 (2010).

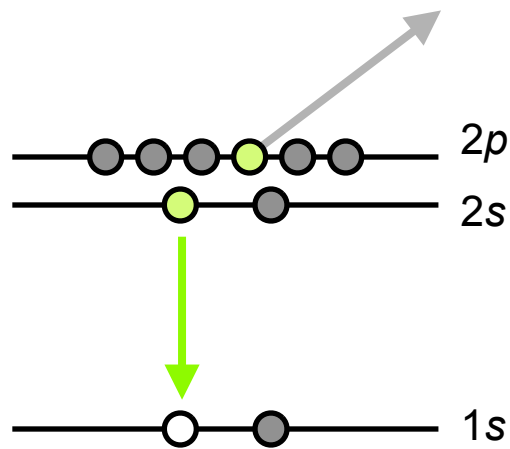
- > *Higher intensity*  
(shorter pulse duration)  
of XFEL pulses induces  
*less ionization* due to  
hollow-atom formation

Son, Young & Santra,  
*Phys. Rev. A* **83**,  
033402 (2011).

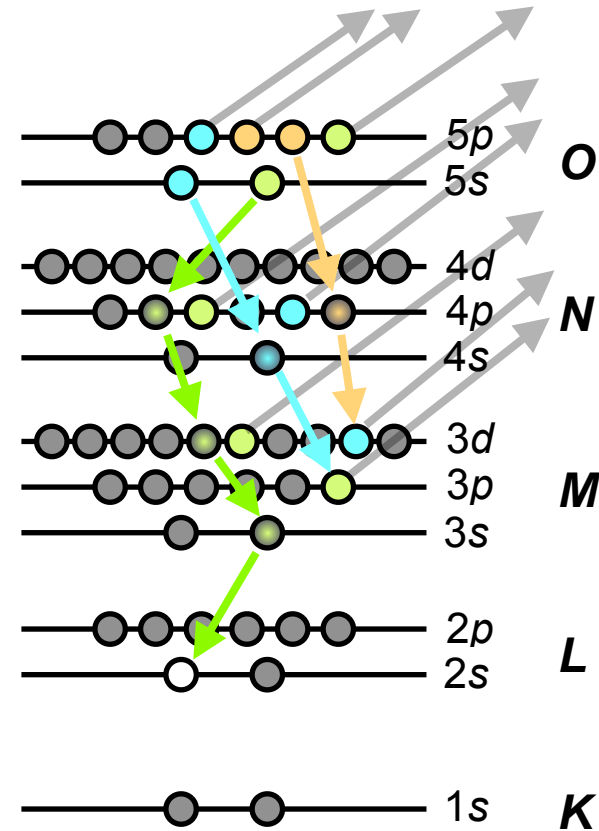


# Complex inner-shell ionization dynamics

## Ne<sup>+</sup>(1s<sup>-1</sup>)



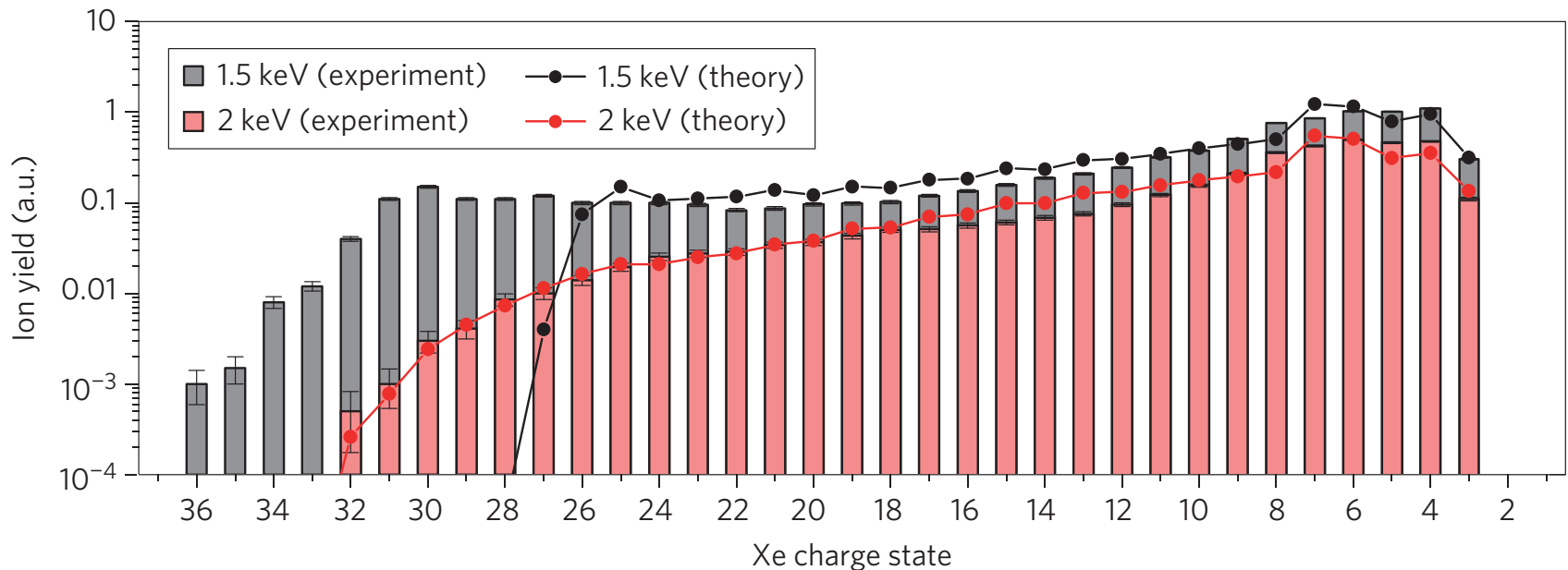
## Xe<sup>+</sup> (2s<sup>-1</sup>)



Multiphoton absorption after/during decay cascade

- About 20 million multiple-hole configurations
- About 2 billion x-ray-induced processes

# Ultra-efficient ionization by XFEL



## LCLS experiment



Daniel Rolles  
at KSU



Artem Rudenko  
at KSU

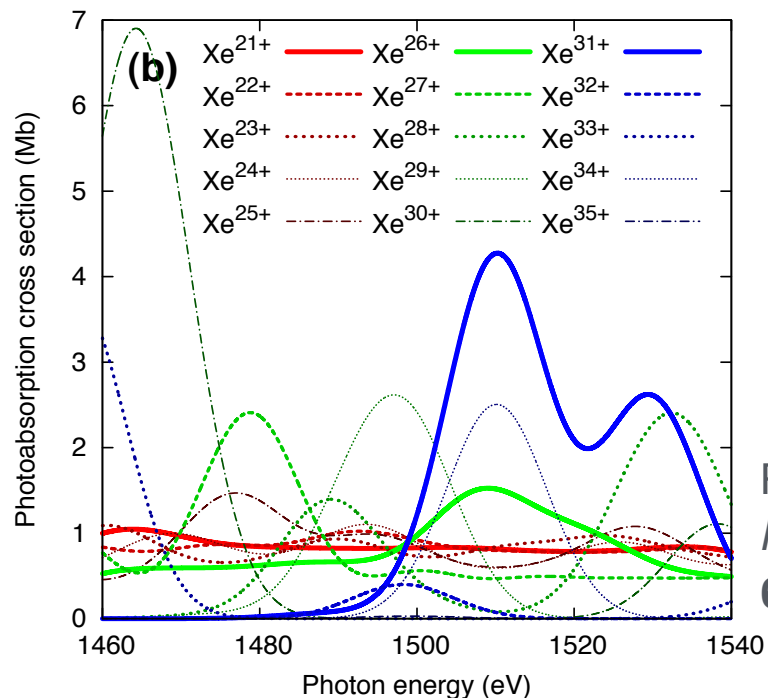
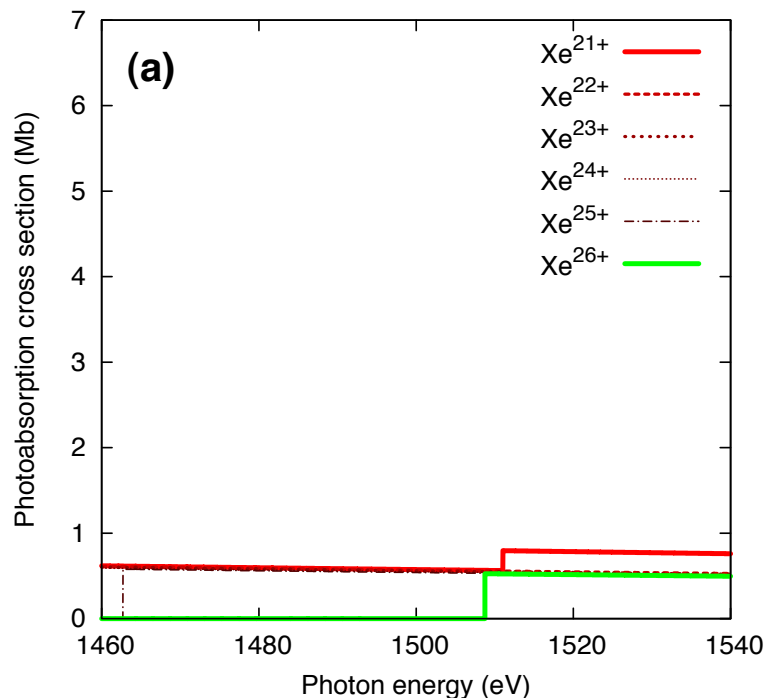


Benedikt Rudek  
at PTB

- Xe *M*-shell ionization
- 2 keV: excellent agreement between theory and experiment
- 1.5 keV: further ionization via resonance

Rudek *et al.*, *Nature Photon.* **6**, 858 (2012).

# Ionization enhanced by resonances

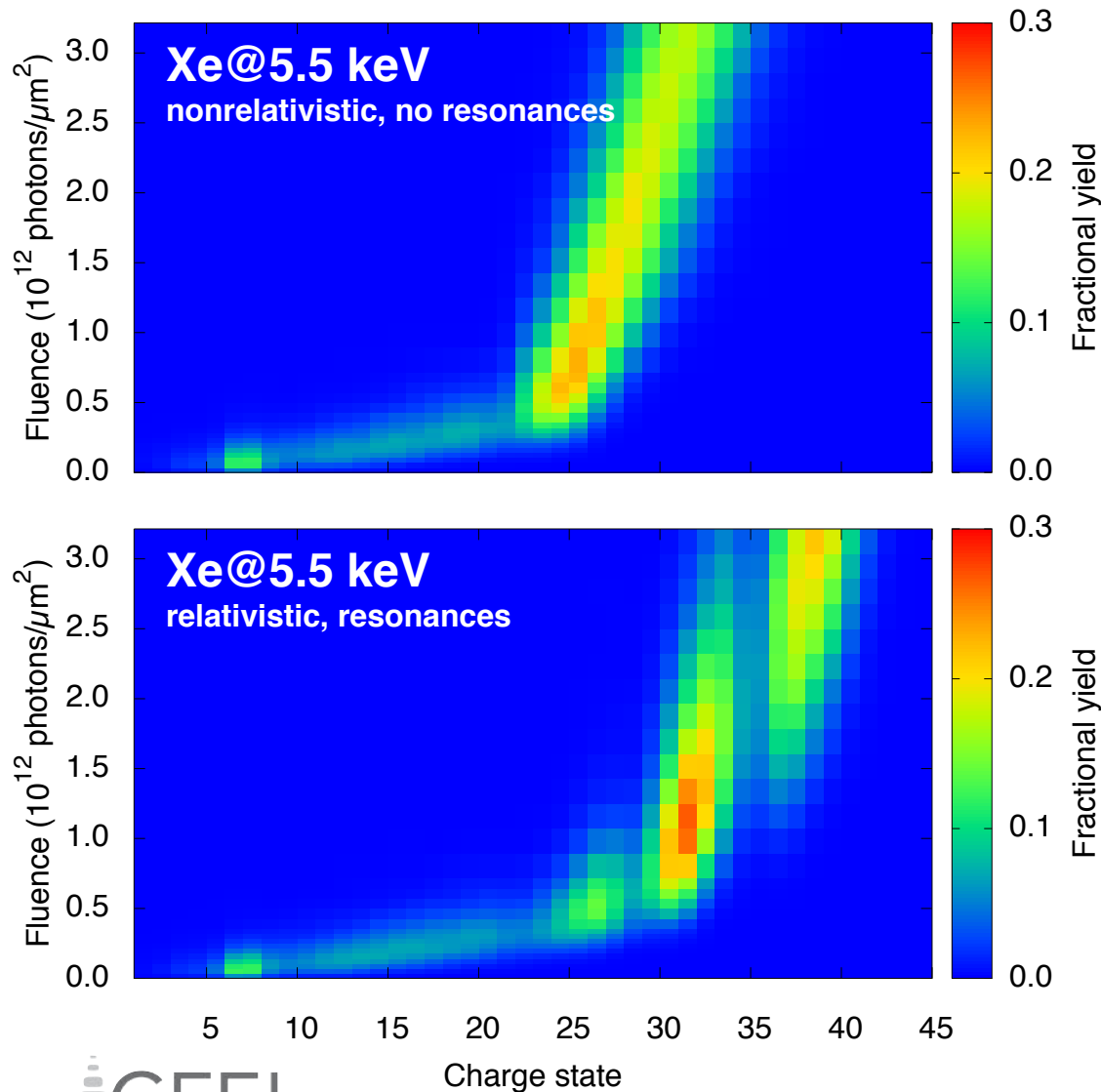


Rudek *et al.*,  
*Nature Photon.*  
**6**, 858 (2012).

**REXMI: Resonance-Enabled  
X-ray Multiple Ionization**

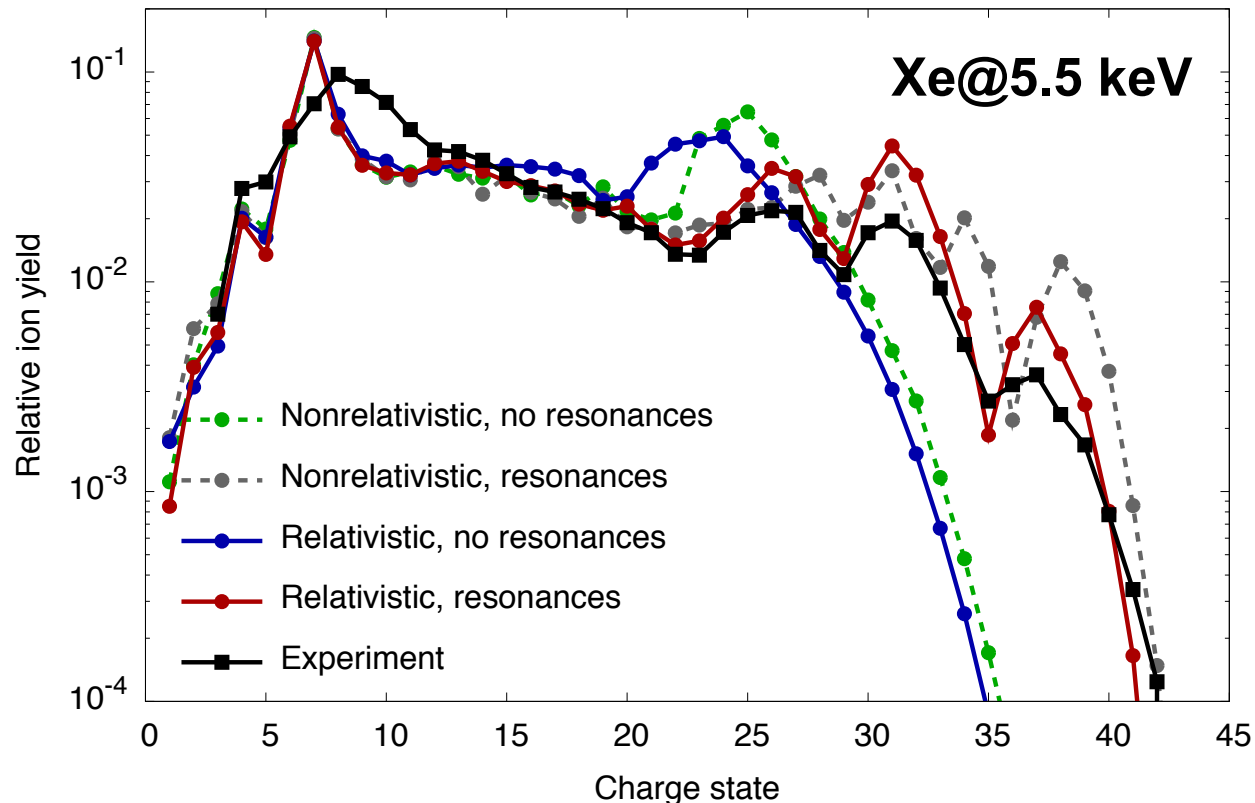
- > Multiple resonant excitations occur in a range of charge states
- > A broad bandwidth required (typical XFEL bandwidth: ~1%)

# Interplay between resonance and relativity



- > Harder x-rays drive *L*-shell ionization of Xe
- > Spin-orbit splitting:  
 $2p \rightarrow 2p_{1/2}$  and  $2p_{3/2}$
- > XATOM extended to treat both resonant and relativistic effects
- > *N* of coupled rate equations to be solved:  
~20M (non-relativistic)  
→ ~5B (relativistic)  
→ ~ $10^{68}$  (including both resonant and relativistic effects)

# REXMI with relativistic effects



**LCLS**  
**experiment:**  
Benedikt Rudek,  
Daniel Rolles,  
Artem Rudenko

- > Excellent agreement between theory and experiment
- > Distinctive bumps in the charge states → *L*-shell spin-orbit splitting

Rudek, Toyota, *et al.*, *Nature Commun.* **9**, 4200 (2018).

# Challenges for molecular dynamics at XFEL

- > No *ab initio* theoretical tools available for high x-ray intensity
  - Coupled ionization and nuclear dynamics in the same time scales
  - Extremely complicated dynamics:  
e.g. CH<sub>3</sub>I ~ 200 trillion rate equations at single geometry
  - Highly excited molecular electronic structure



## XMOLECULE

- Quantum electrons, classical nuclei
- Efficient electronic structure calculation: core-hole adapted basis functions calculated by XATOM
- Monte Carlo on the fly

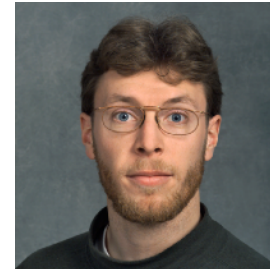
Hao, Inhester, Hanasaki, Son & Santra, *Struc. Dyn.* **2**, 041707 (2015).

Inhester, Hanasaki, Hao, Son & Santra, *Phys. Rev. A* **94**, 023422 (2016).

# Iodomethane in an *ultraintense* x-ray pulse

- > New experimental setup:  
LCLS CXI using nano-focus  
→ new realm of intensity  
approaching  $\sim 10^{20}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>

LCLS  
experiment



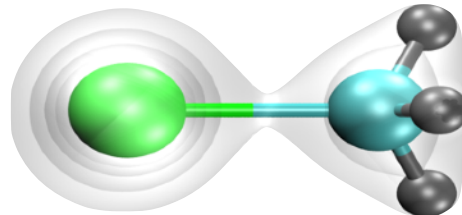
Daniel Rolles  
at KSU



Artem Rudenko  
at KSU

- > Selective ionization on heavy atom

**CH<sub>3</sub>I @ 8.3 keV**



$\sigma(\text{I}) \sim 50$  kbarn

$\sigma(\text{C}) \sim 80$  barn

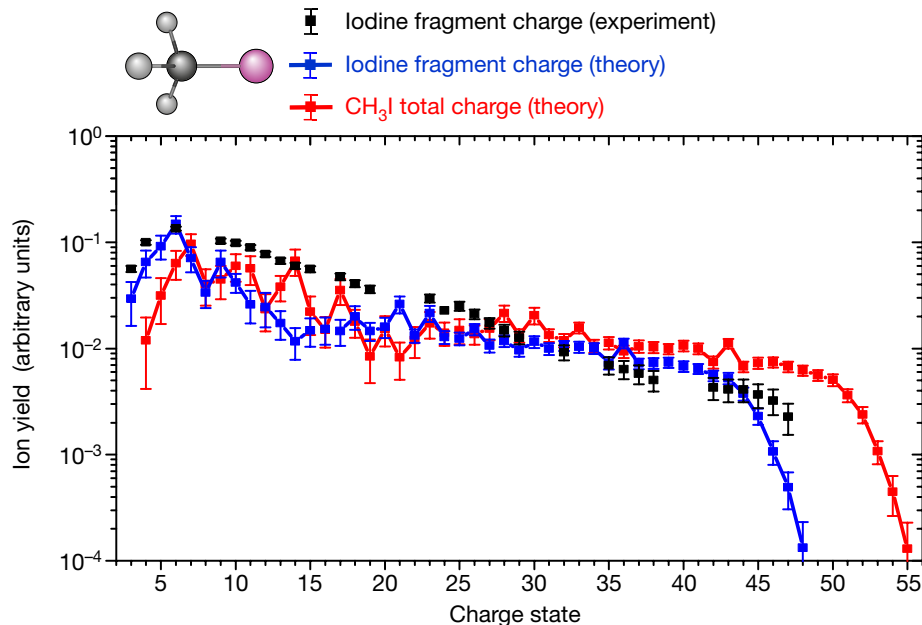
$\sigma(\text{H}) \sim 8$  mbarn

- > X-ray multiphoton ionization occurs at high intensity
- > Charge imbalance induces charge rearrangement
- > Coulomb explosion after/during ionization & charge rearrangement

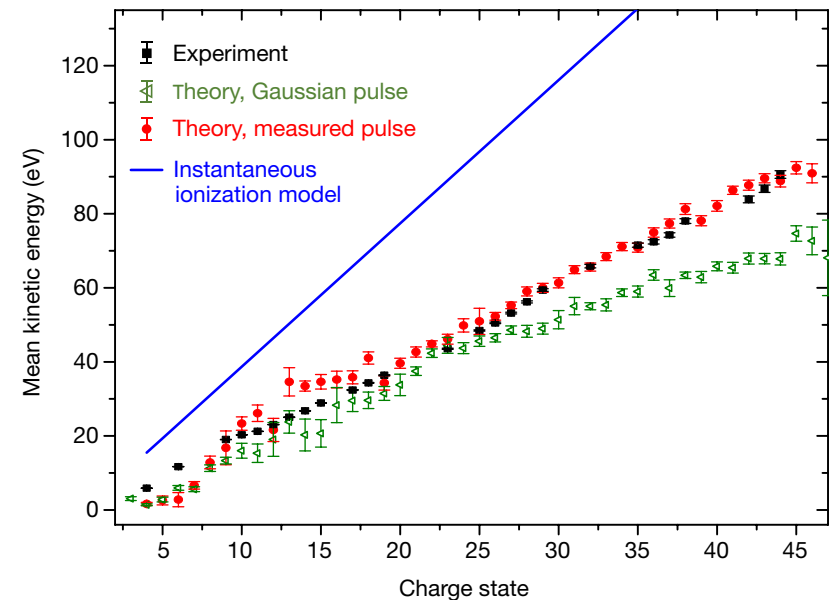


# Comparison between theory & experiment

## CSD of I and CH<sub>3</sub>I



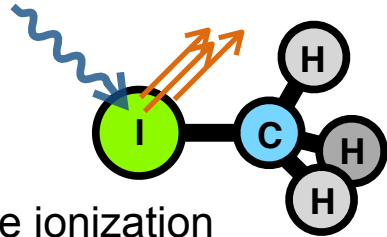
## KER of I fragment



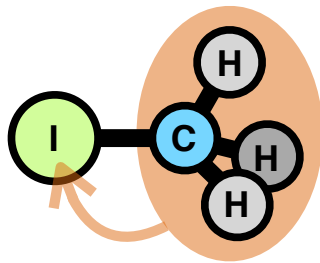
- CSD (charge-state distribution) and KER (Kinetic energy releases): sensitive to detailed ionization and fragmentation dynamics
- Capturing the essence of ionization and fragmentation dynamics of molecules at high x-ray intensity

Rudenko *et al.*, *Nature* **546**, 129 (2017).

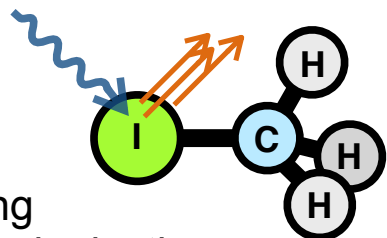
# Ionization enhanced by charge rearrangement



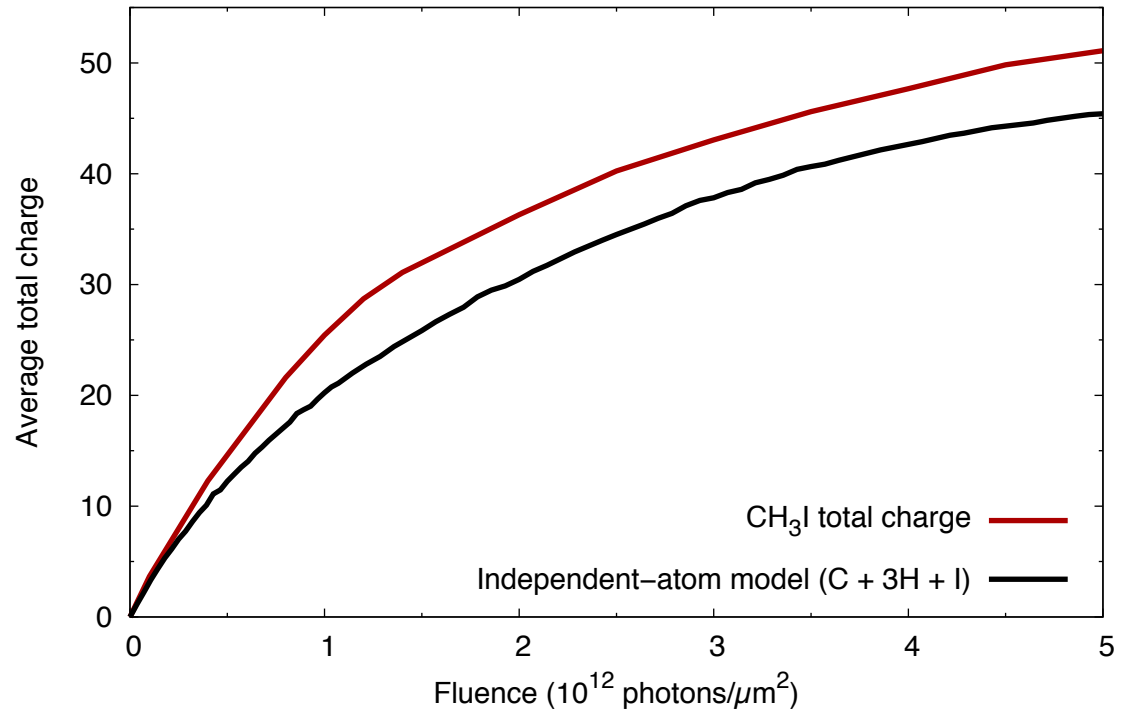
selective ionization  
induces charge imbalance



charge rearrangement



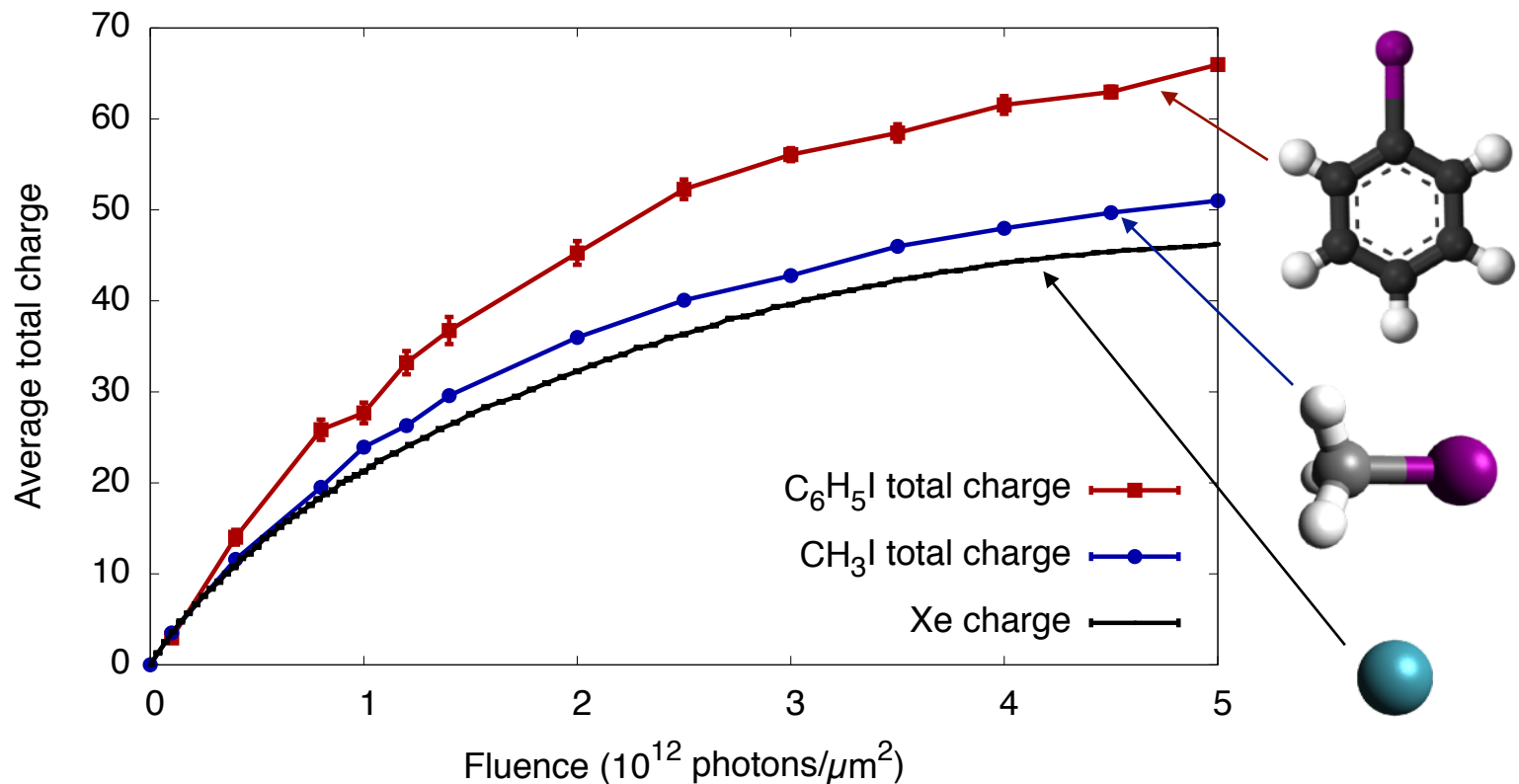
repeating  
selective ionization



**CREXIM: Charge-Rearrangement-Enhanced X-ray Ionization of Molecules**

Rudenko *et al.*, *Nature* **546**, 129 (2017).

# Bigger molecule, larger enhancement



- > Xe, iodomethane, iodobenzene: similar cross section at 8.3 keV
- > The stronger ionization for the larger molecule

Hao, Inhester, Son & Santra, (in preparation).

# Conclusion

- XFEL provides *ultraintense* and *ultrashort* x-ray pulses
- XATOM & XMOLECULE: Enabling tools to investigate x-ray multiphoton physics of atoms and molecules exposed to high-intensity x-ray pulses
- Intriguing phenomena of atoms and molecules with intense XFEL pulses
  - Shorter pulse duration reduces ionization → frustrated absorption
  - Multiple resonance enhances ionization → REXMI
  - Charge rearrangement enhances ionization → CREXIM
- Theory provides crucial insights of the XFEL–matter interaction

*Thank you for your attention!*