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Spectroscopy for Industrial Applications: High-Temperature Processes

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DTU Chemical Engineering
Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering
Outline

• Hot flow gas cell and FTIR/UV optical set up
• A road to In Situ measurements:
  o NH3 spectroscopy at high-temperatures: band assignment and spectra modelling
  o NH3/H2O field measurements at a pilot scale 6MW gasifier
  o Phenol –major trace gas from PAH’s in low temperature gasification
  o Temperature-dependent UV absorption cross-sections
  o Why In Situ measurements are important: comparison with “standard” tools

• How planets meet the Earth

• Conclusions
Lab (Home work)  

NH3/Phenol: experimental set up

- 3-zones flow gas cell for corrosive gases;
- No internal windows;
- Stable uniform T-profile (±1.8°C);
- Tmax = 525°C
- L = 33.25 cm
- P = 1 bar
- suitable for UV-FIR optical measurements
- more details: H. Grosch et al. JQSRT 130 (2013) 392–399

- FTIR Spectrometer (Agilent 660), 0.09 cm⁻¹
- an IR light source (up to 1500°C)

- UV spectrometer (Acton 250i/CCD), 0.019 nm
- a highly stable D2-lamp
NH3 FTIR absorption spectra: changes with T

- NH3=5% 0.25cm-1 1027°C
- NH3=0.983% 0.09cm-1 500°C
- NH3=1036 ppm 0.09cm-1 23°C

DTU Chemical Engineering
Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering
Table 1: Lines assigned to previously observed bands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lines Assigned This Work</th>
<th>Previously measured</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
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</table>

Table 2: Lines assigned to previously unobserved bands* with 10 or more lines assigned in this work.

<table>
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<th>Lines Assigned This Work</th>
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<td>Band</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Have not found measurements in published works.
Lab (Home work)  

NH3 spectroscopy: line assignments, an example

**List of Assigned Lines**

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<th>Experimental Frequency</th>
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<th>Lower Quantum Numbers*</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Parity v₁ v₂ v₃ v₄ l₃ l₄ J K
Lab (Home work)  

**NH3: experiment (0.09cm⁻¹) vs calculations (BYTe)**

Can we use BYTe at 500C for practical apps?

- in general a good agreement
- some difficulties with strong line intensities
- some frequency shifts in line positions

More work to do at even higher T (>500C)
From Lab to Field | In Situ measurements on Pyroneer (6MW) gasifier

- Very complex producer gas composition (CO2, H2O, CO, H2, HC, PAH, tars) + particles
- Producer gas is feeded into an industrial burner of a power plant

Why to do it? (examples):
- H2O (related to mass balance)
- NH3 (related to NOx formation)

How?: In Situ IR abs measurements: no gas extraction
- Tough: out of the building on a platform (safety) with limited space (practical issues);
- Tgas about 530C;
- optical measurements over 30 cm;
- very strong any (UV-IR) light attenuation.
Phenol UV absorption cross-sections: experimental set up

1. Gas mixing unit
   - N₂ (industrial standard)
   - molten aromatic crystals in tube
   ⇒ concentration unknown
   - admixture of N₂ for different concentration

2. Gas cell and optics

3. Petersen column
   - sampling in acetone
   - Sampling time 30 min
   - analysis with GC/MS

Measurements strategy:
- At each T two phenol concentrations
- At each concentration two sample
- During each sampling three UV spectra and three double concentration determination
Lab (Home work)  Phenol UV absorption cross-sections: temperature effects

- Not too many reference data available even at low T (about 23°C)
- An excellent agreement with published data at low T
- Significant changes in the fine structure of the cross-section spectra with T

Low-temperature abs cross-sections: comparison

Abs cross-sections: from 23°C to 500°C
In Situ measurements on LT-CFB (100kW) gasifier

- Focus on trace gases in low- and high-temperature gasification processes;

- Producer gas issues:
  - corrosion (boilers)
  - reduced gas quality (fuel cells, gas grids)

- Phenol – major trace gas from PAH’s in the producer gas (LT-CFB process);

- $T_{gas} = 300-500^\circ C$; In Situ UV abs measurements over 3 mm;

- Phenol measurements by various techniques:
  - GC/MS (Petersen column (30 min) 215 ppm (±5%)
  - Gas extraction, 150 C: 407 ppm (±5%) (3 min)
  - In Situ, 306 C (DOAS approach): 7700 ppm (±10%) (3 min)
Industry and Universities  How other planets meets the Earth

• Far away planets on a global scale (e.g. exoplanets, stars) and current Earth’s problems on a local scale (energy, emissions, taxes)

• Spectroscopy of hot planets and high-temperature processes: the same gases/temperatures of interest;

• DTU’s projects about optical measurements in combustion (SO2, SO3, NH3, etc.), gasification (trace gases, Cl- compounds) and waste utilization in collaboration with industry (DONG Energy, Vattenfall and Babcock & Wilcox Vølund)

• UCL’s and DTU’s common PhD/postdocs projects: SO3/SO2 and Cl-compounds (KCl, HCl, CH3Cl, CH4, H2CO)
Conclusions

In general
• You can find a lot inspirations for the work on the Earth
• Different research areas can have the same origin
• Scientists can make industry guys happy

In particular:
• Excellent experimental tools are available for (VUV) UV-FIR optical measurements
• Temperature range can be also negative (e.g. gases at low T)
• New data/lines for NH3 BYTe extension and development
• New data for phenol
• Try always In Situ and avoid any Ex Situ (extraction) measurements
Industry and Universities | Acknowledgements

• To Energinet.dk: projects No. 2013-12027, 2011-1-10622, 2010-1-10422

• To MST.dk

• To DONG Energy and Vattenfall

• To UCL (Prof. Jonathan Tennyson’s group)