

# Simulation of Meteor Plasma using Terawatt Laser

Martin Ferus

# Why do we study impact plasma?



„Wise man“

(Pablo Picasso, 1899)

**Chemical Consequences**  
**Chemistry of early planets**

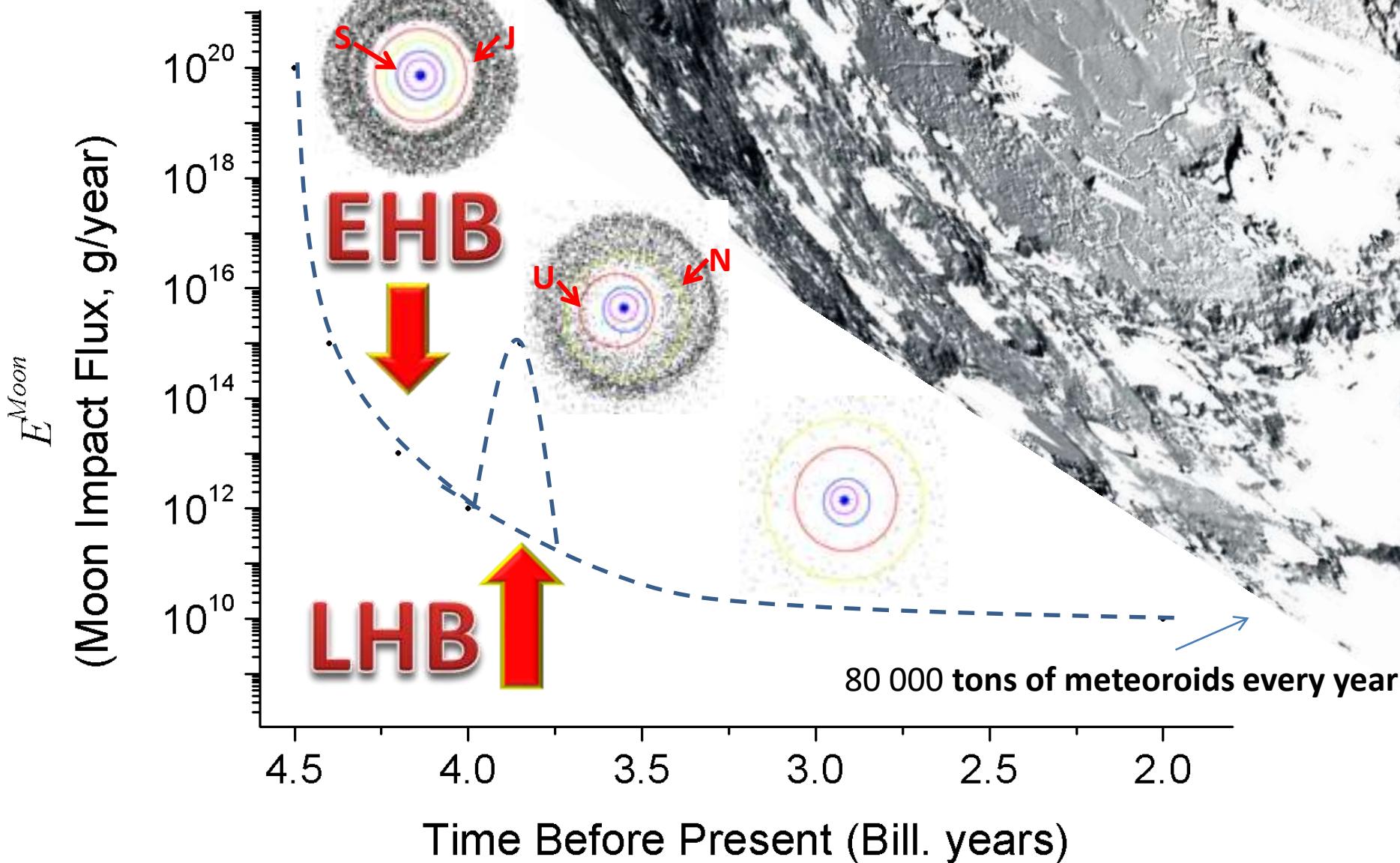
**Origin of Life**

**Chemistry of Solar System**

**Mining on Asteroids?**

# WHY Origin of Life?

Bombardment by bodies lingering on unstable trajectories



# Consequences?

DER SPIEGEL

W 49/12.11.2018  
Ausgabe €4,90



Chemical consequences of impacts for chemistry of early Earth and its evolution:  
Is it source of energy for synthesis? is it destructive event preventing synthesis?

# WHY Meteors?

"All theory, dear friend, is grey, but the golden tree of life springs ever green."

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

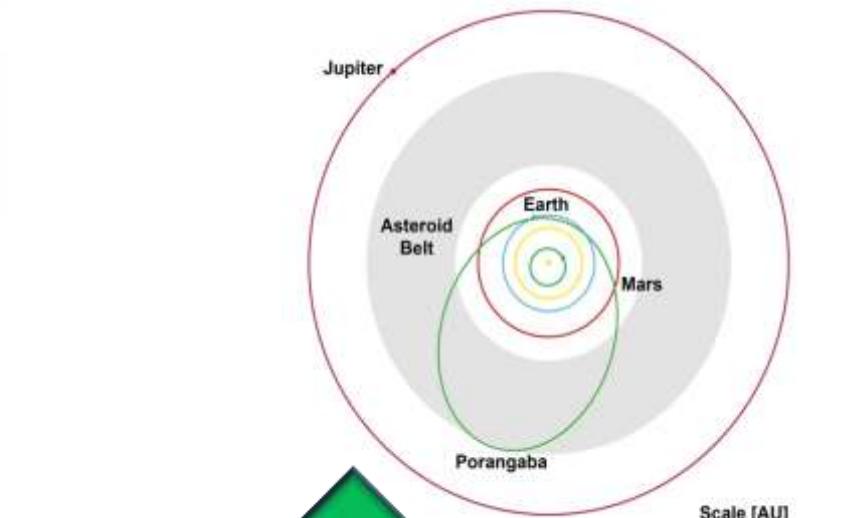


Comparative Database

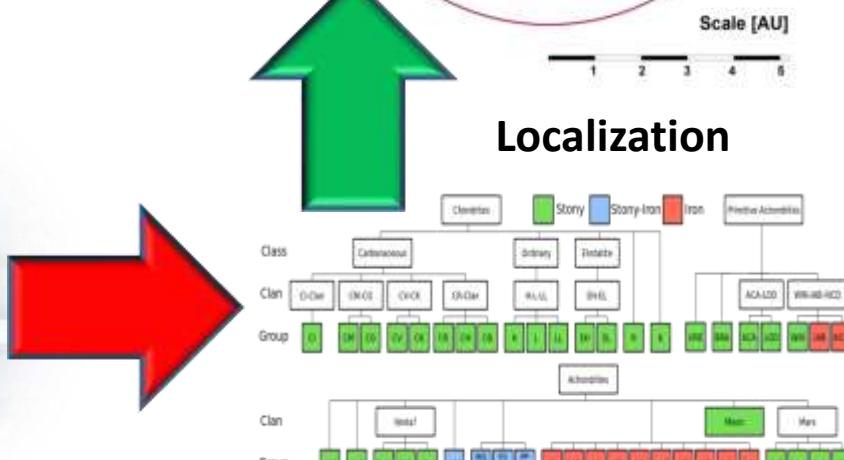


Observation

Experimental Data



Localization

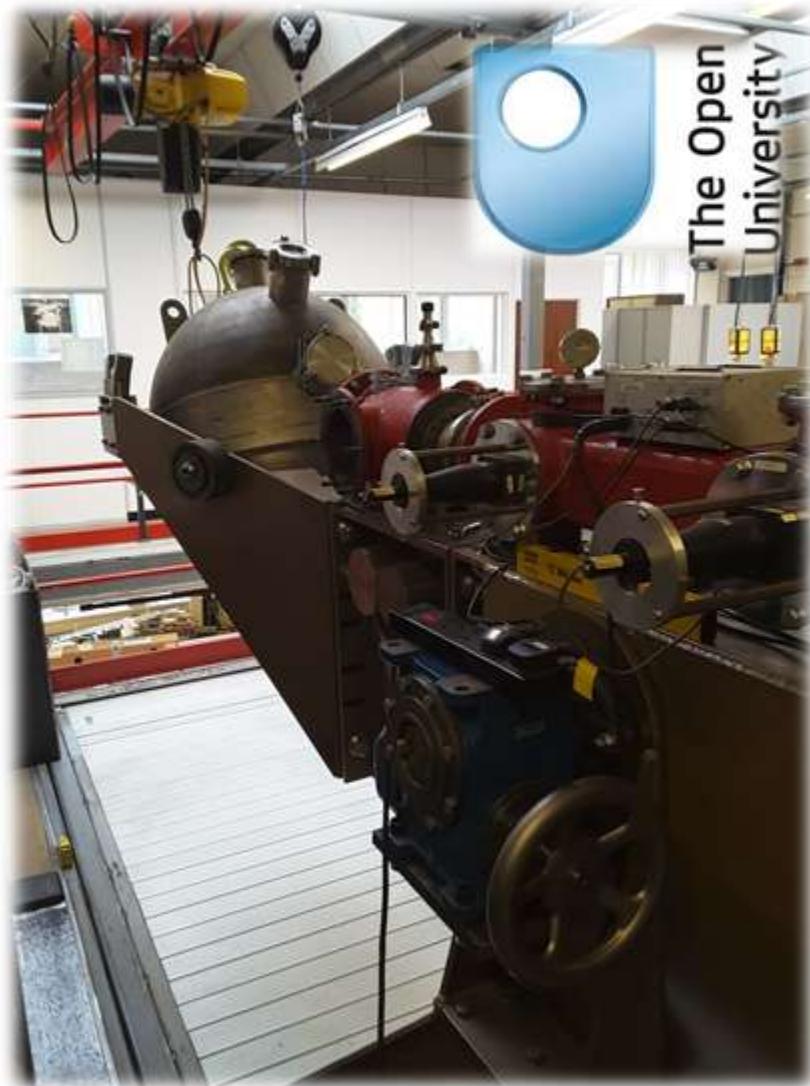


Classification

# How to trap impact plasma in a test tube?



# Existing experimental approaches



**High speed projectiles** fired by Hypersonic guns (no airglow, up to 10 km/s).



**Shock Tubes** simulate chemical consequences, interaction with a target and its ablation?

# LIBS using Laboratory Lasers

Both interaction with the target as well as airglow plasma.

Simultaneous recording by lab+astro devices.

Rotation optical stage



Si coated lens



Quantel Nd:YAG Laser 850 mJ

1064 nm

or

532 nm

256 nm



Compex Excimer Laser 200 mJ

ArF - 193 nm



Echelle ESA WIN Spectrograph

200-780 nm, roz. 0.005 – 0.019 nm



Astro-spectrograph  
res. 0.5 nm

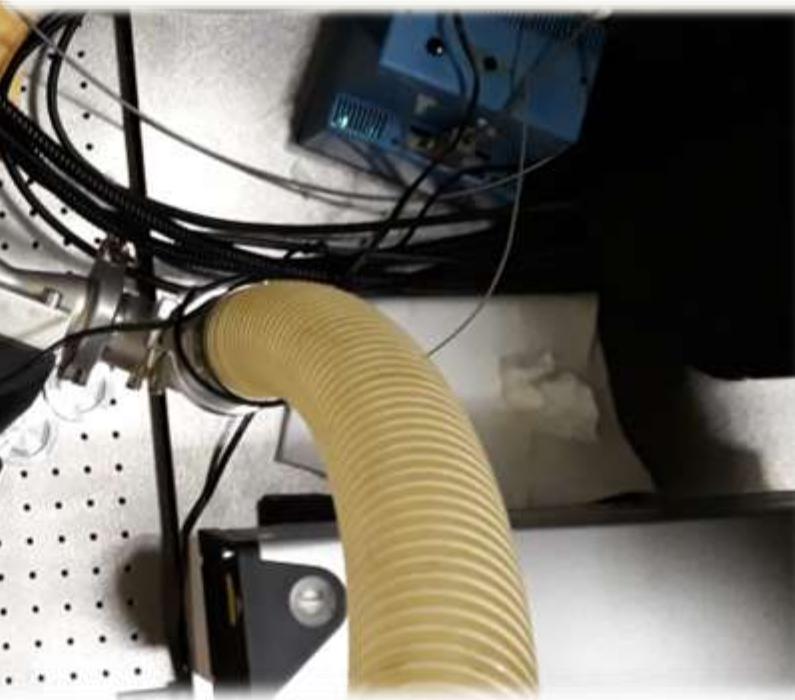
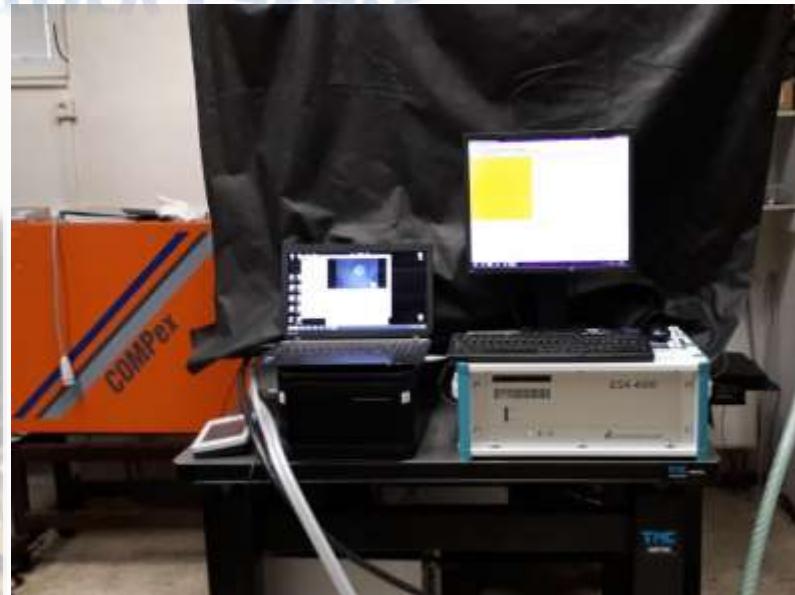
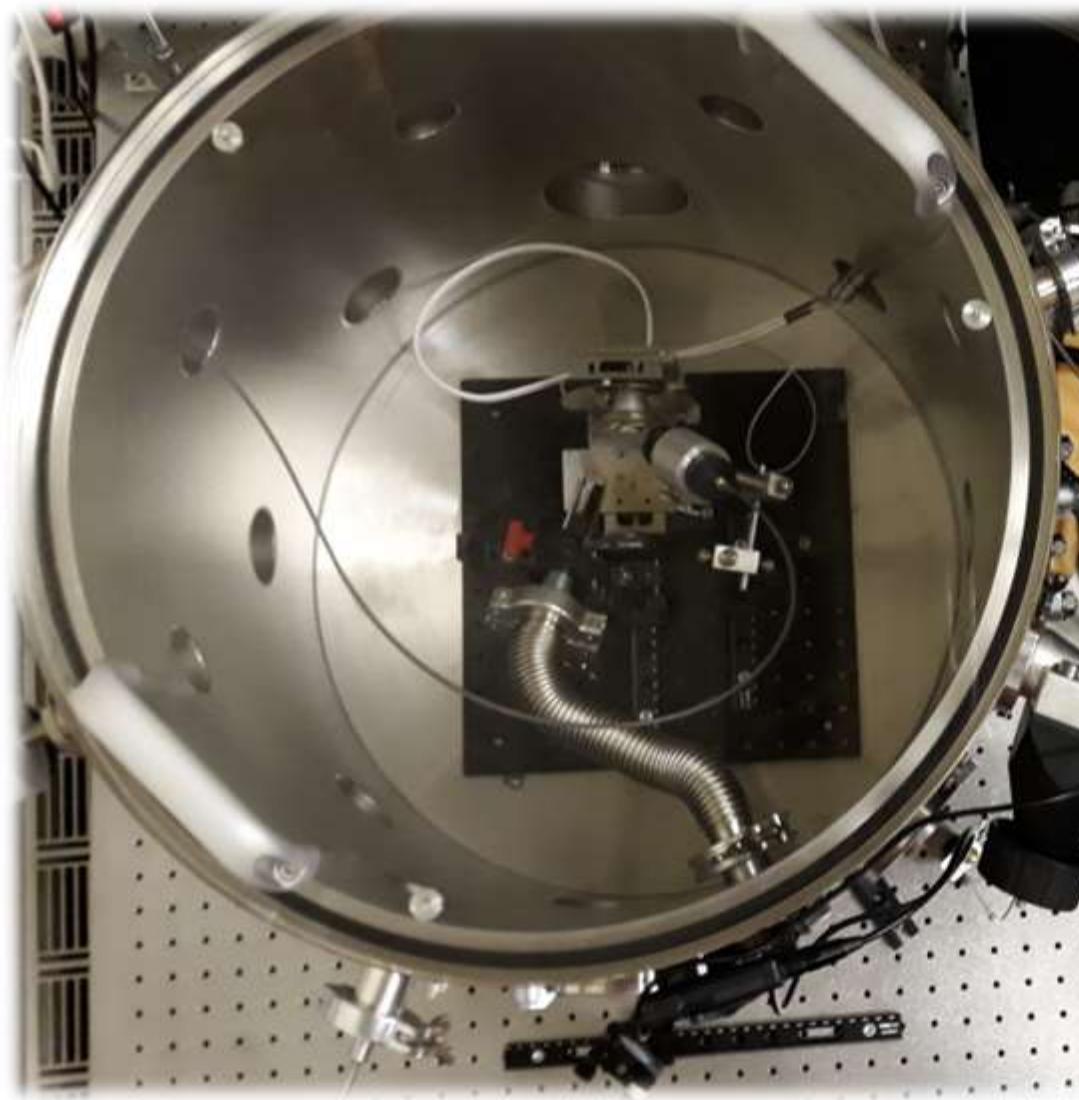


Ocean Optics CCD Spectrograph

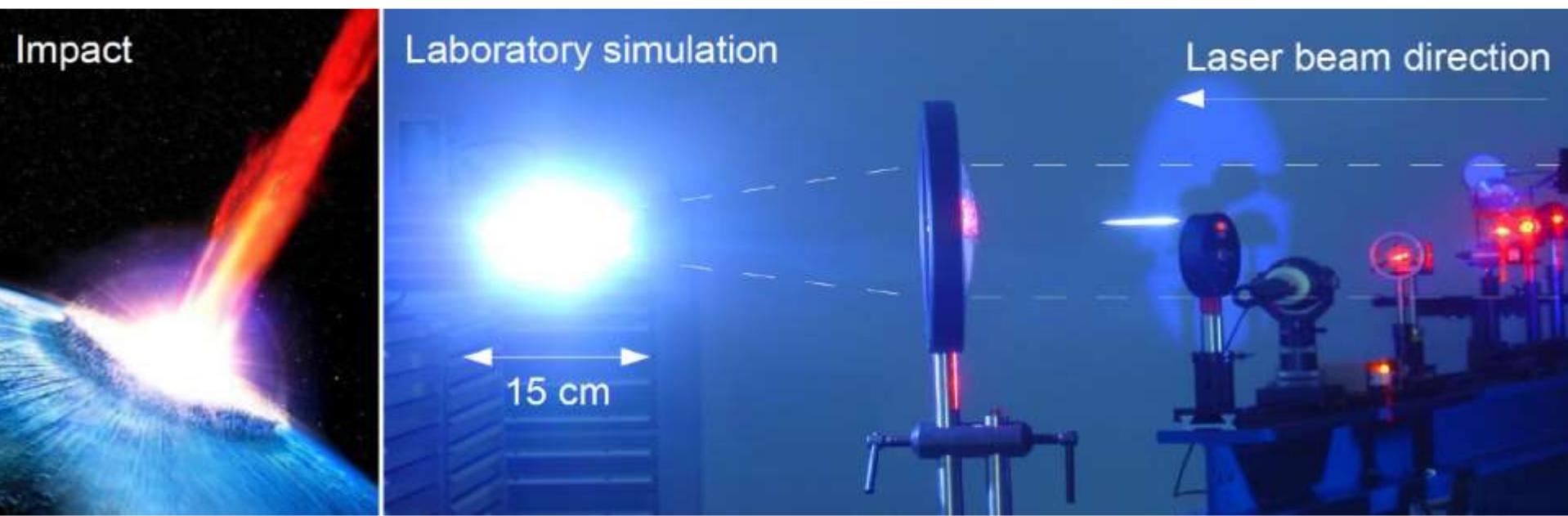
200 – 1100 nm, res. 0.5 nm

# LIBS using Laboratory Lasers

Vacuum Chamber – controlled pressure  
and composition of the atmosphere

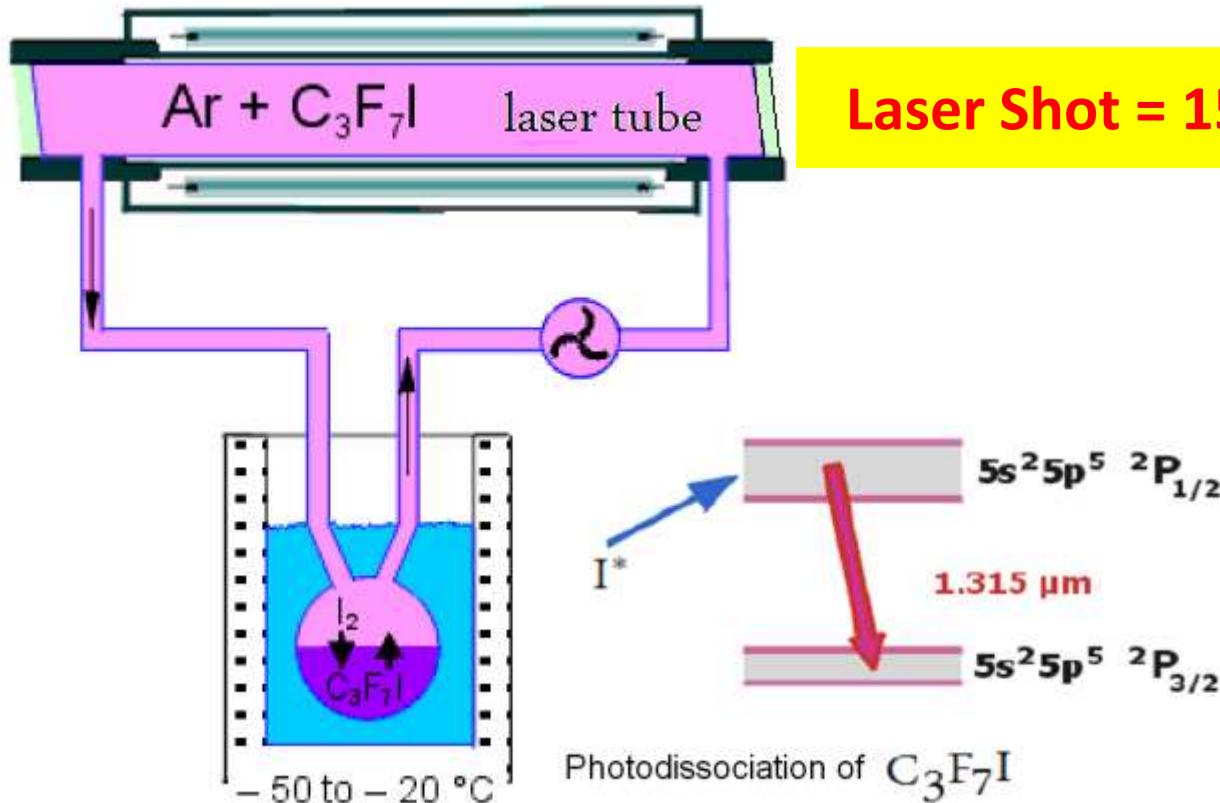


# Simulation using Terawatt Laser

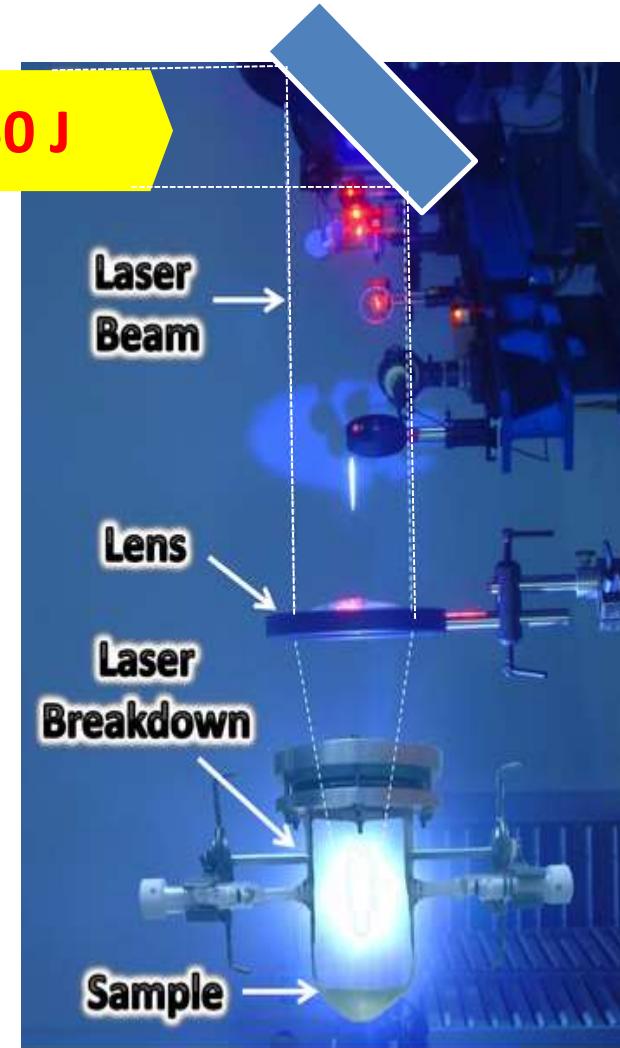


# Large Laser Fireballs – Asterix System

Chemical Laser ( $\text{C}_3\text{F}_7 + \text{Ar}$ ),  $\lambda = 1315 \text{ nm}$ ,  $E_{\text{max}} = 1 \text{ kJ} / 0.5 \text{ ns}$



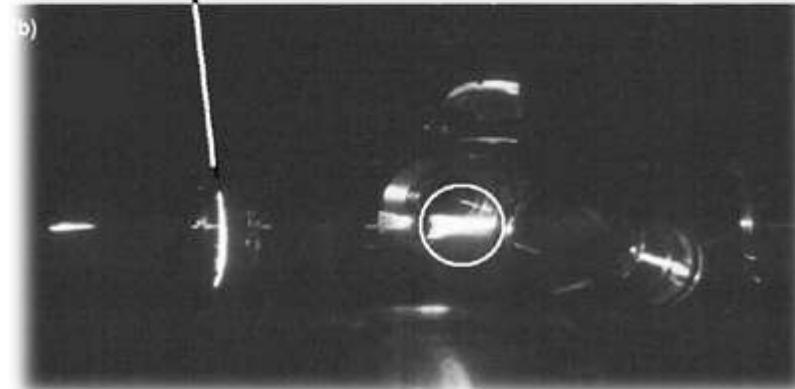
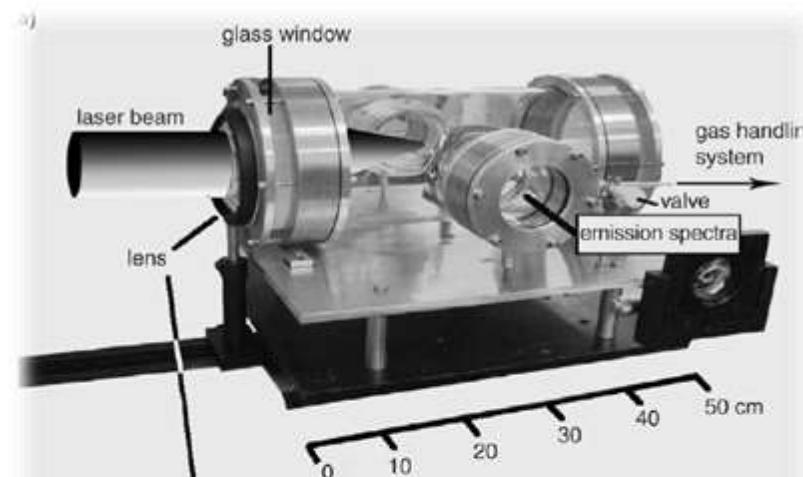
Emission of laser light from deexcitation of iodine atom.



# Origin of Biomolecules started in 2004

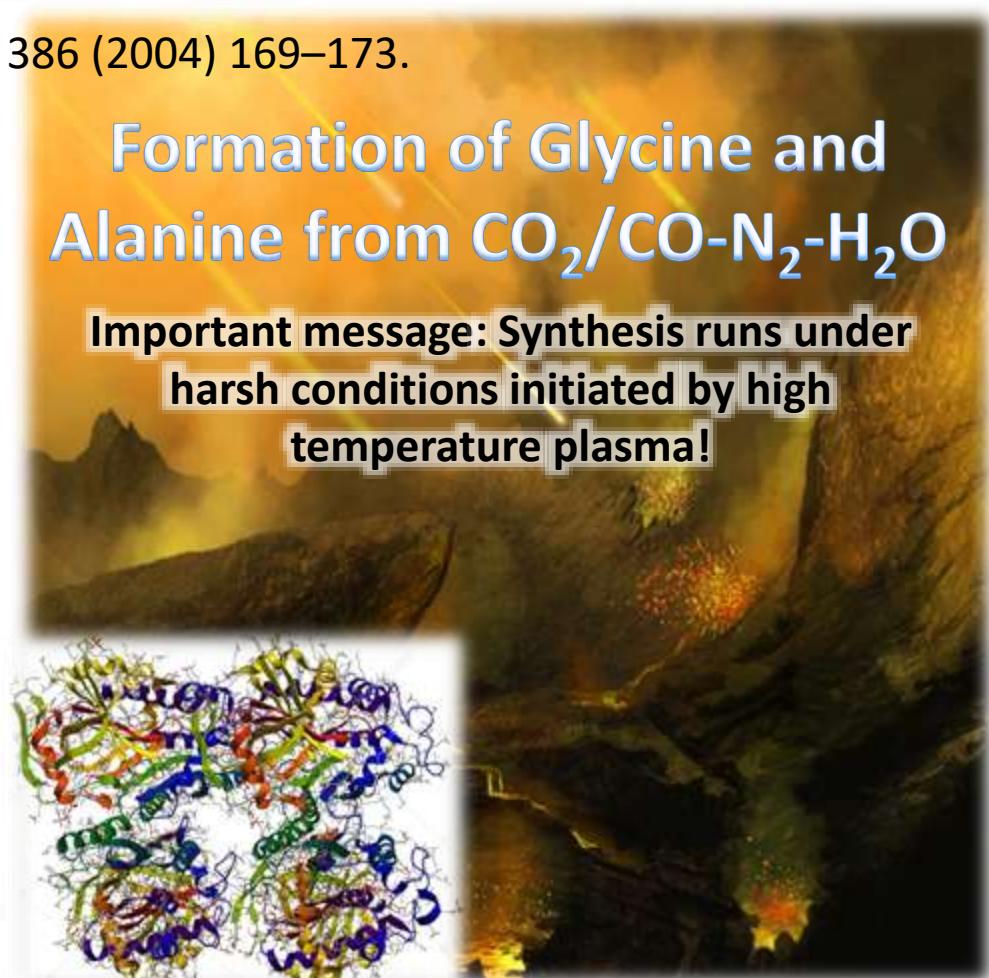
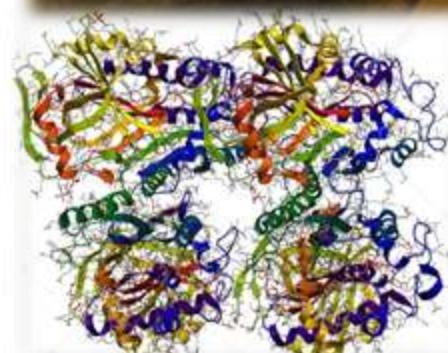


2004: Civiš et al.: Chemical Physics Letters 386 (2004) 169–173.



## Formation of Glycine and Alanine from $\text{CO}_2/\text{CO-N}_2\text{-H}_2\text{O}$

Important message: Synthesis runs under harsh conditions initiated by high temperature plasma!

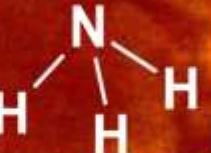


# Electric Discharges

Energy

A

Reducing Atmosphere



# Impact activity

Energy + exogenous delivery

Ferus, Civiš, Saitta  
et al. PNAS  
2017. 114 (17)  
4306-4311

Ferus , Civis, et  
al. (2015)  
PNAS 112:657–  
662



B

Formamide



Reactive Intermediates

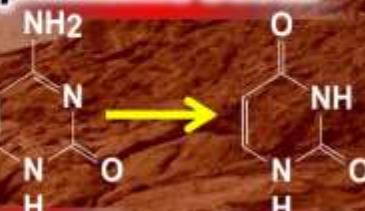


Radical CN

Radical H



Pyrimidine Bases



Purine Bases

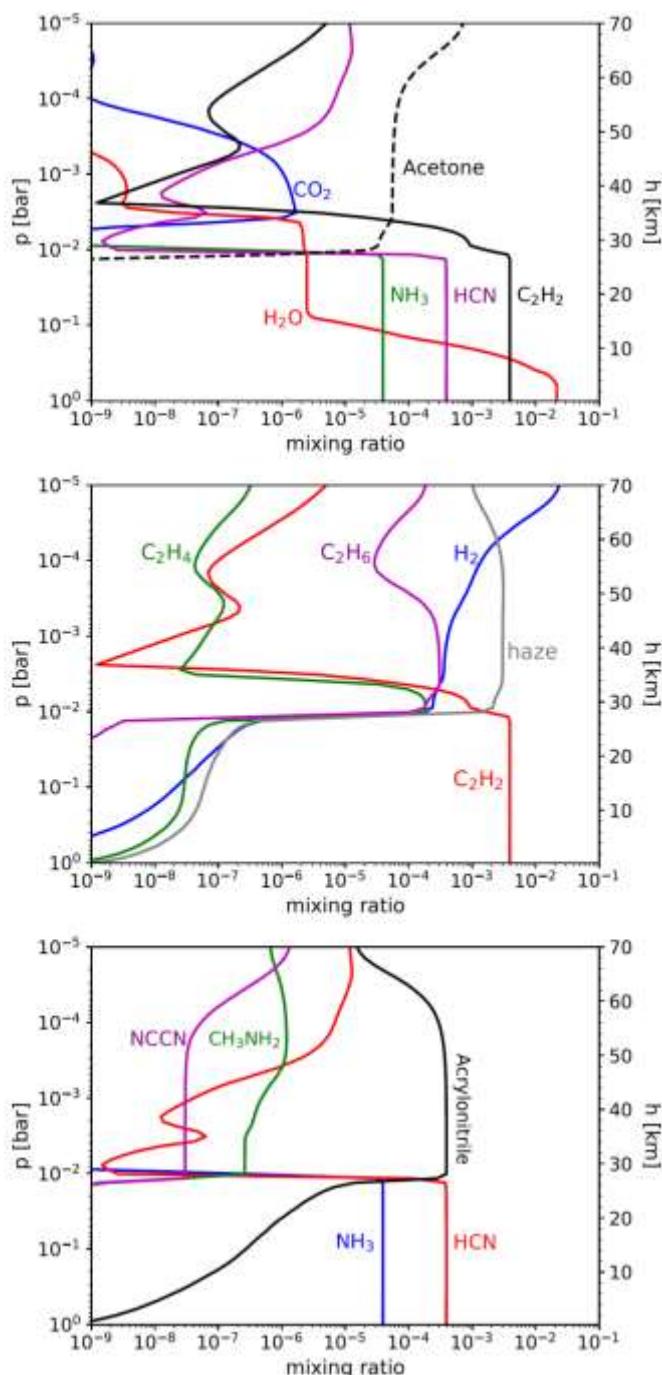
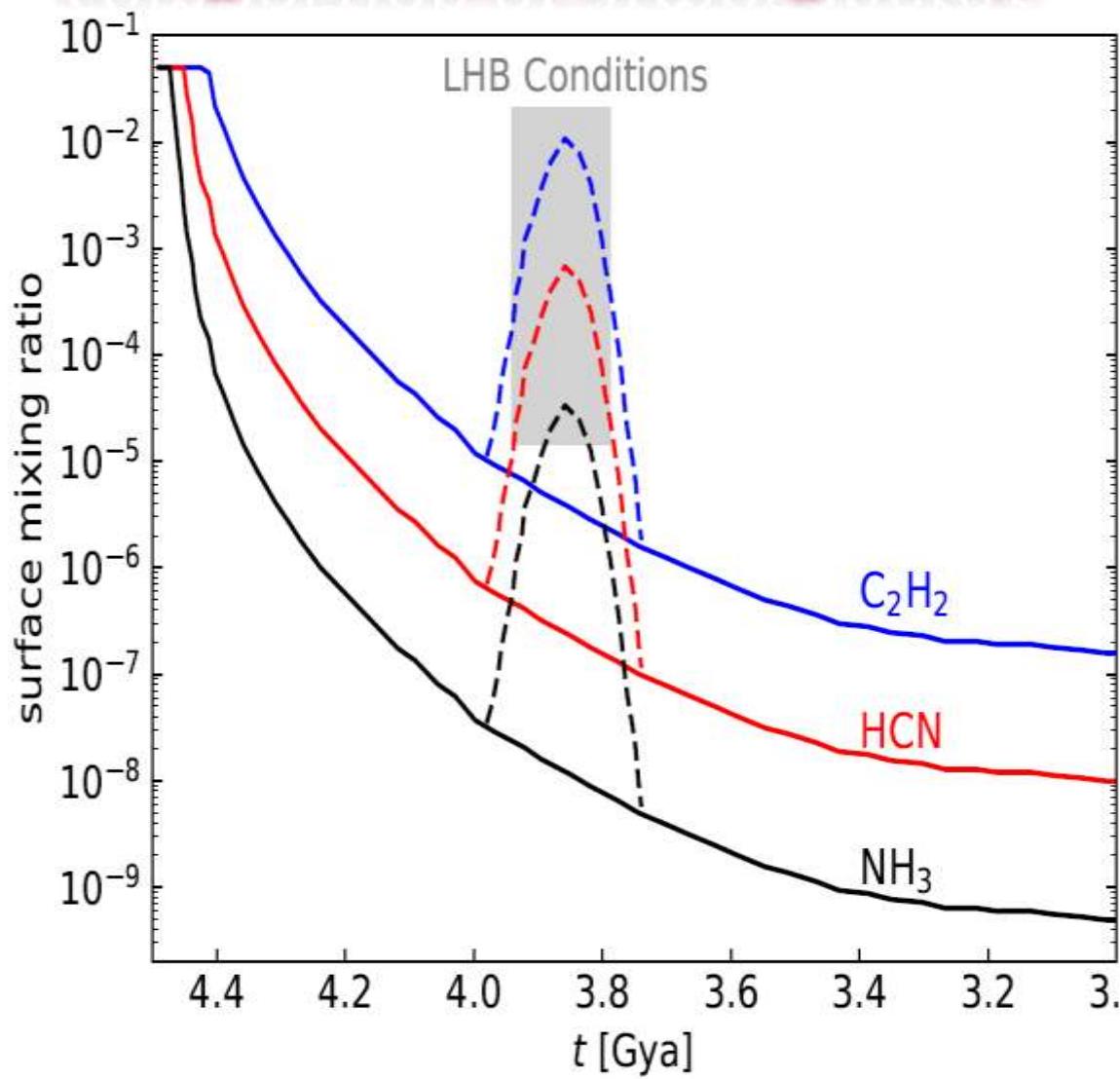


C

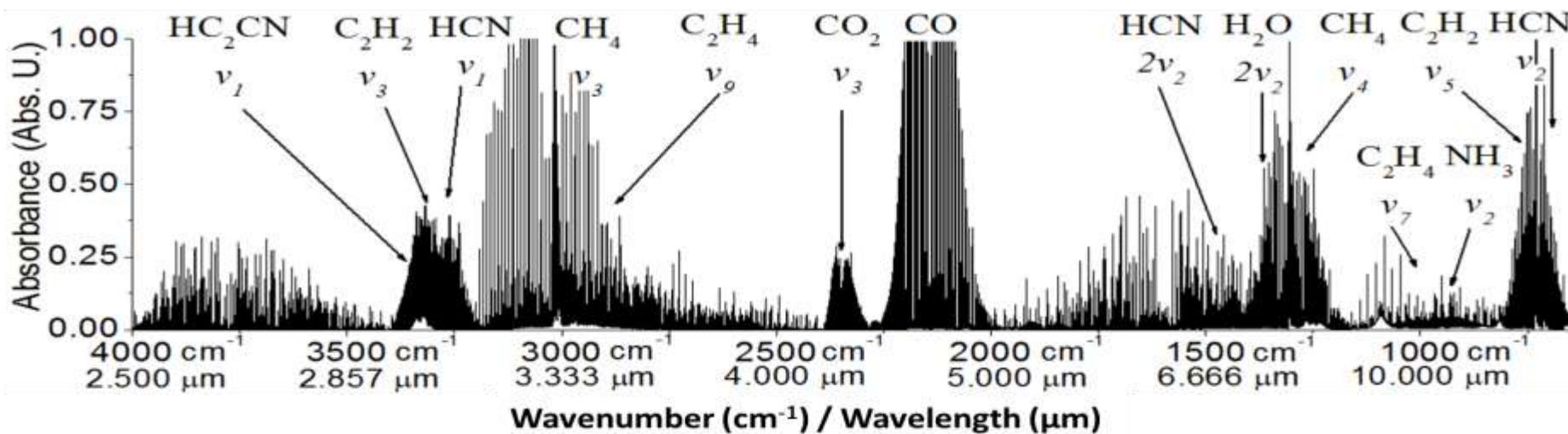


# Impact-driven chemistry on early planets.

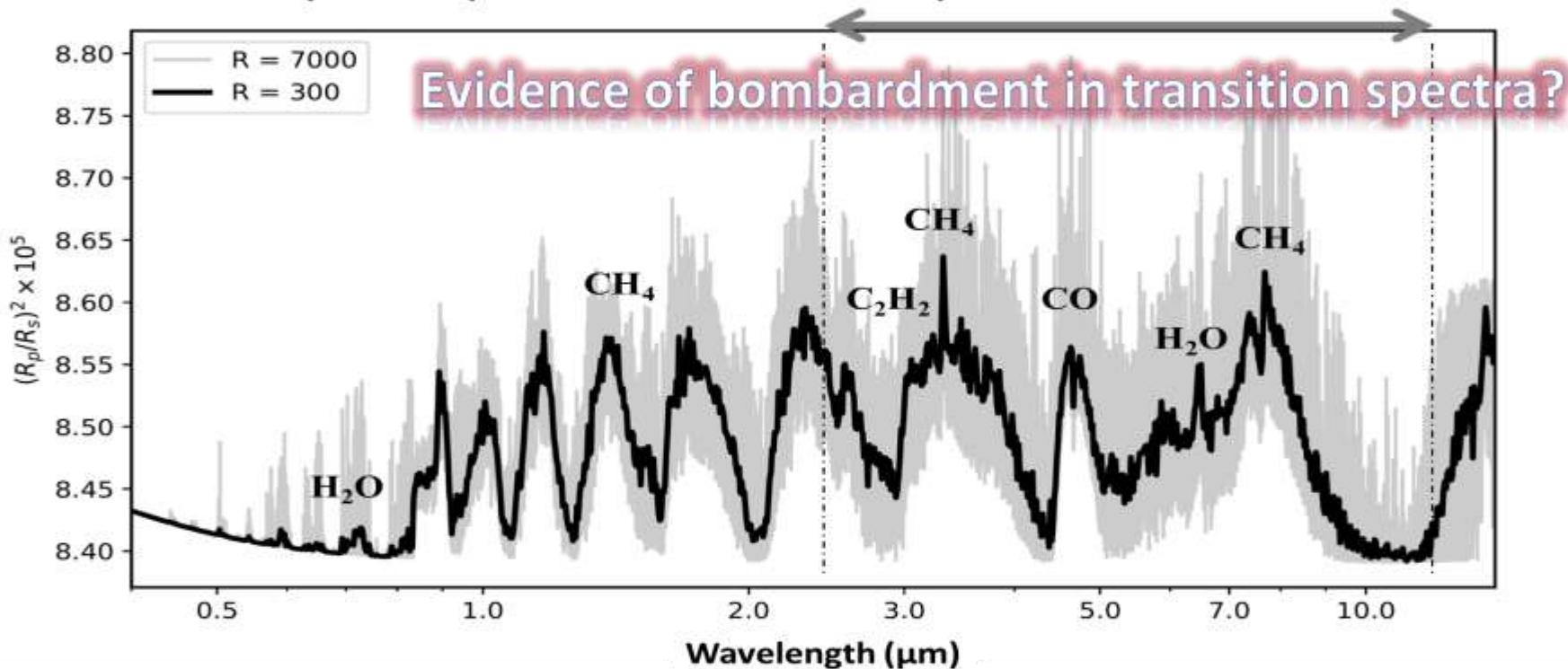
## Does it change a global composition of atmosphere?



## A Absorption Spectra for CH<sub>4</sub>:CO:H<sub>2</sub>O exposed to laser plasma



## B Transition Spectra expected for a simulated exoplanet

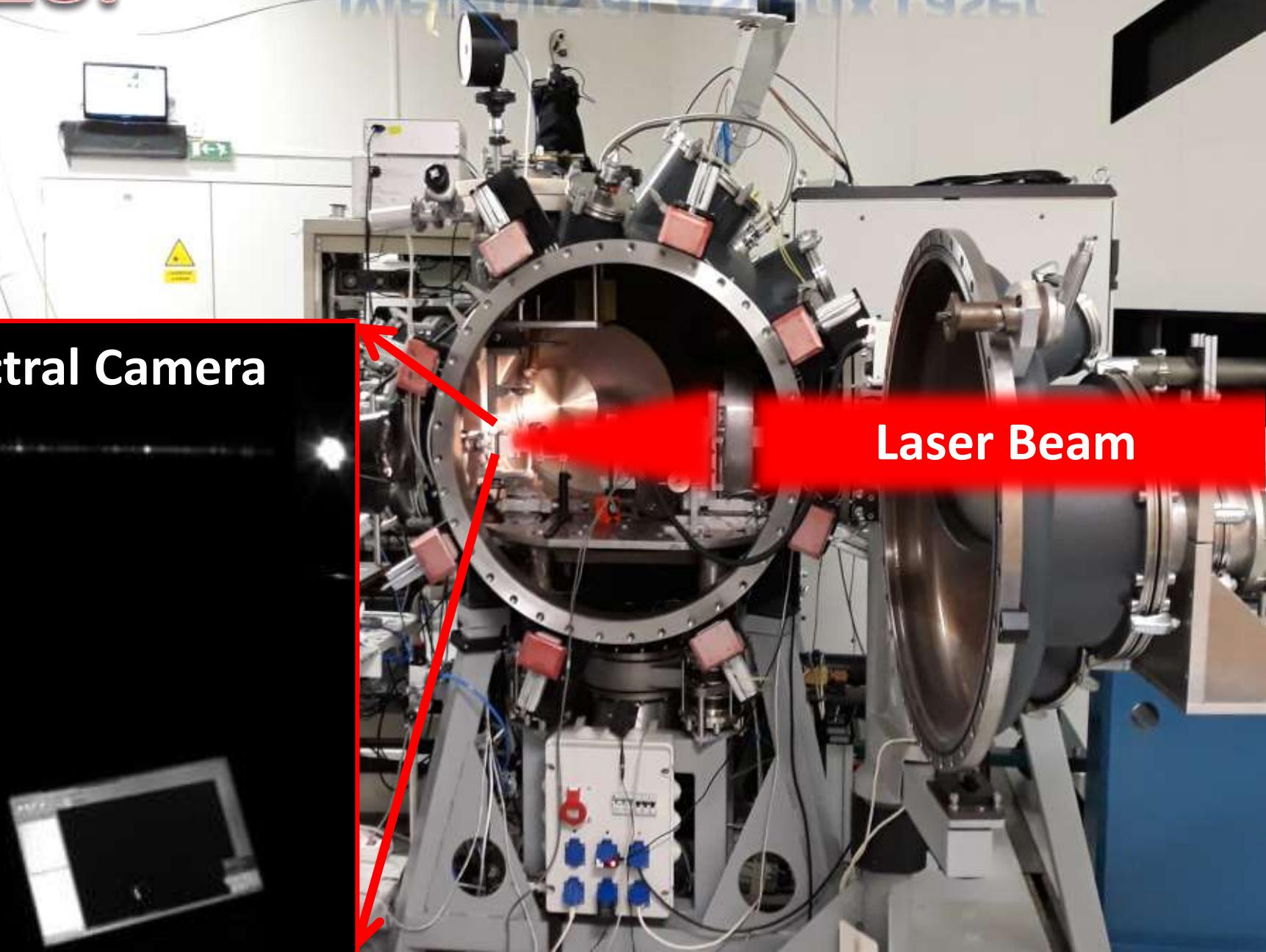


**2018:**

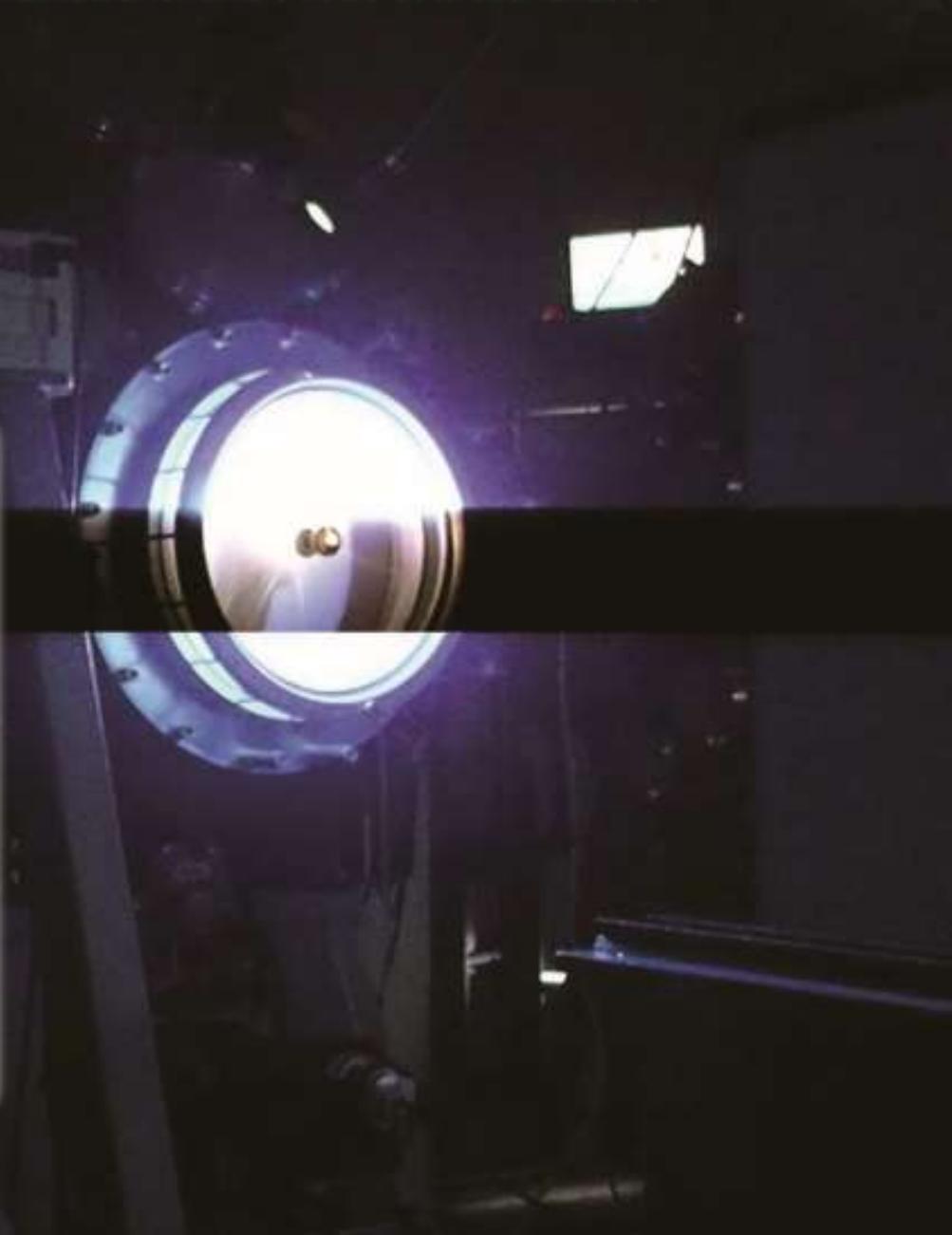
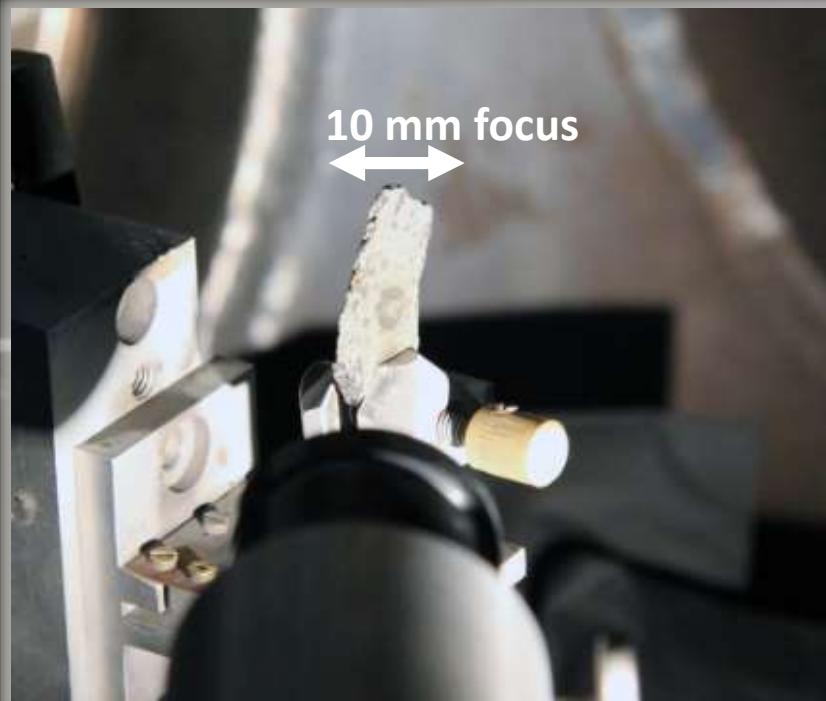
# Meteors at Asterix Laser

Spectral Camera

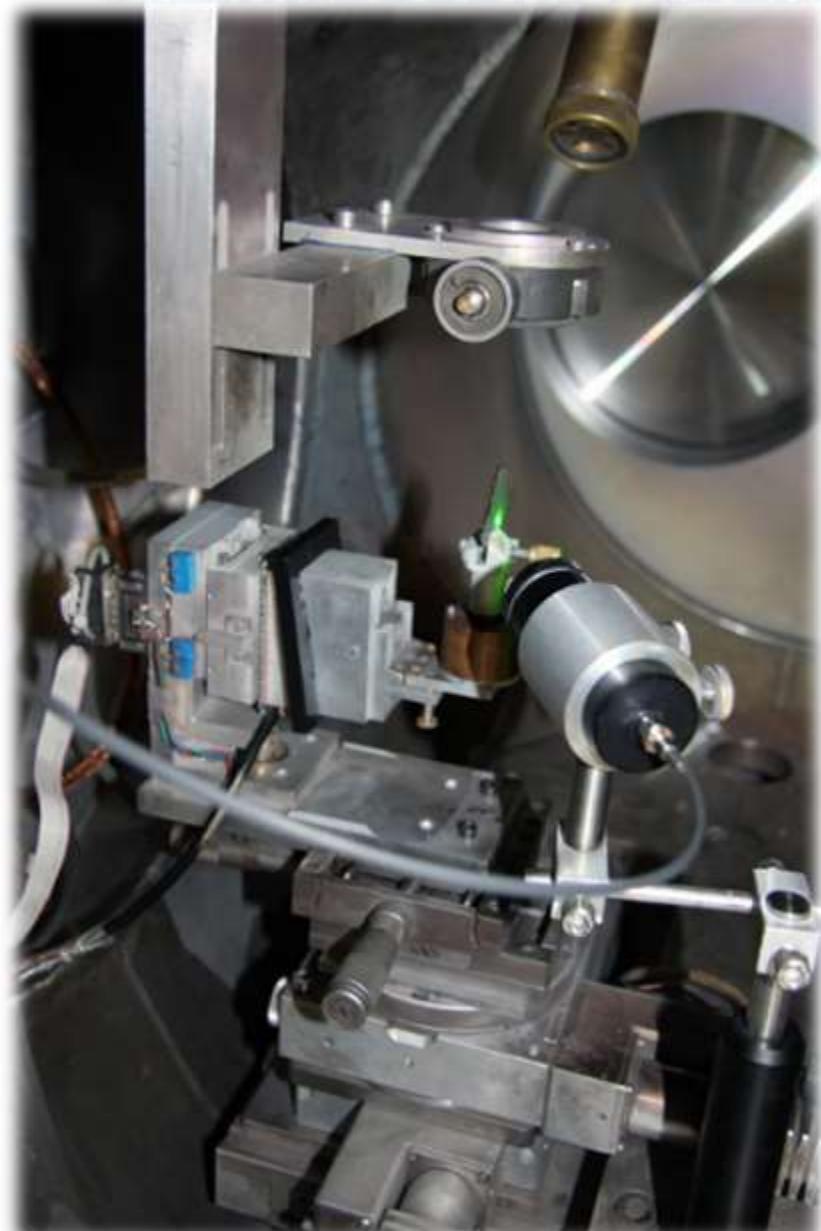
Laser Beam



# LIBS plasma produced by Asterix



# Simultaneous Echelle and Camera Measurement

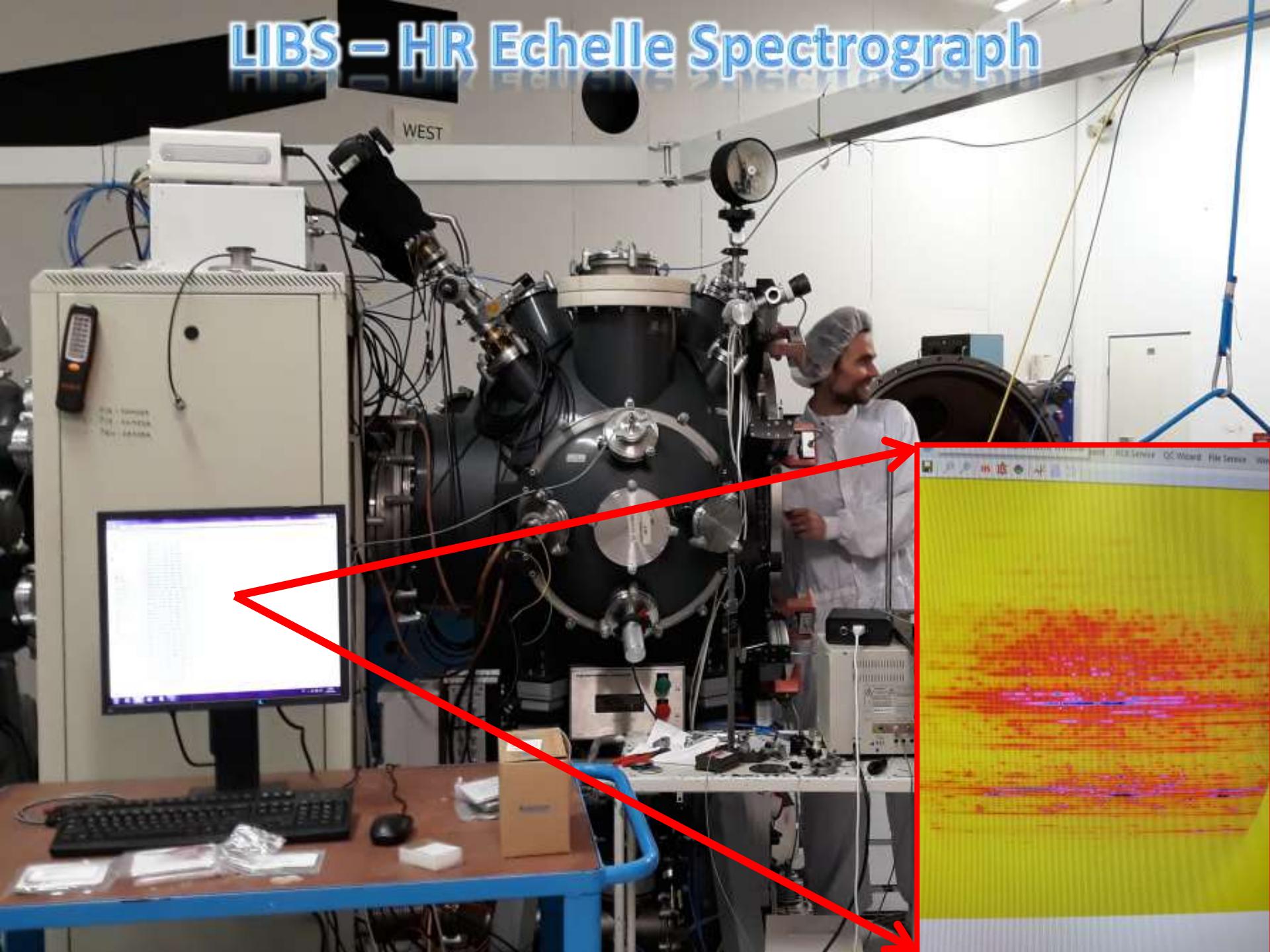


Echelle Collimator



Astronomical Spectrograph

# LIBS – HR Echelle Spectrograph

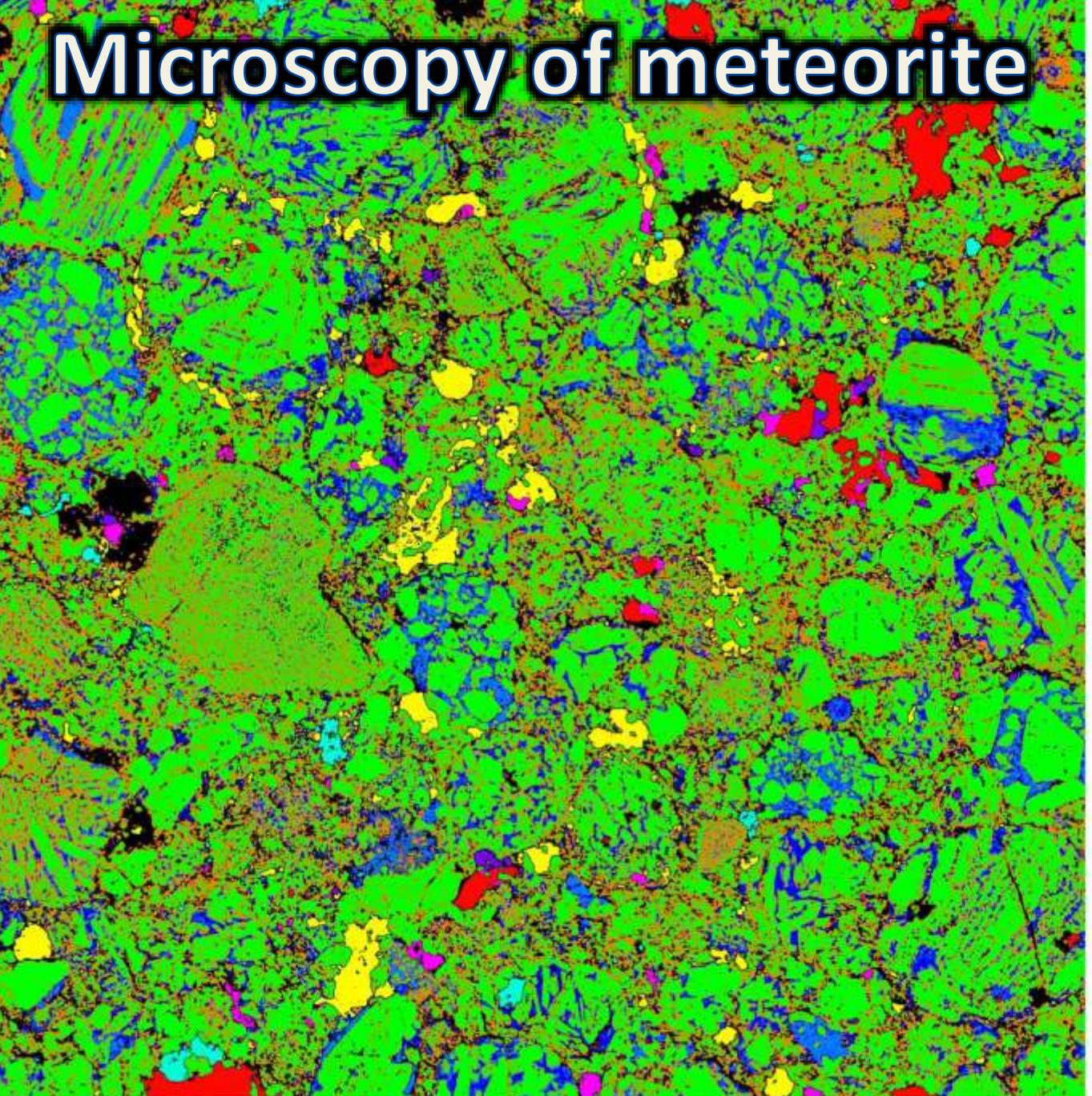


# Comparative analysis

## Energy dispersive microprobe



# Microscopy of meteorite

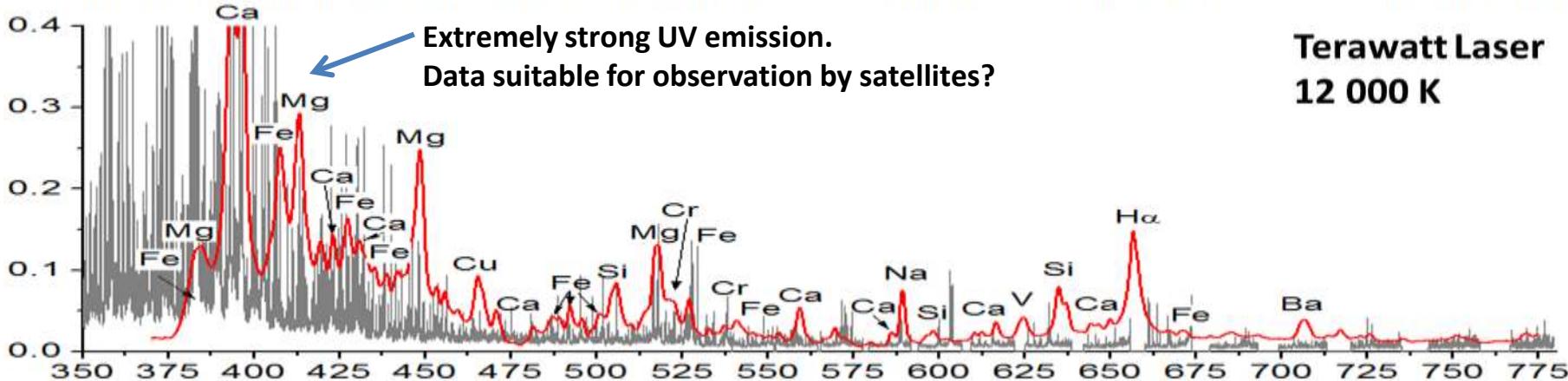
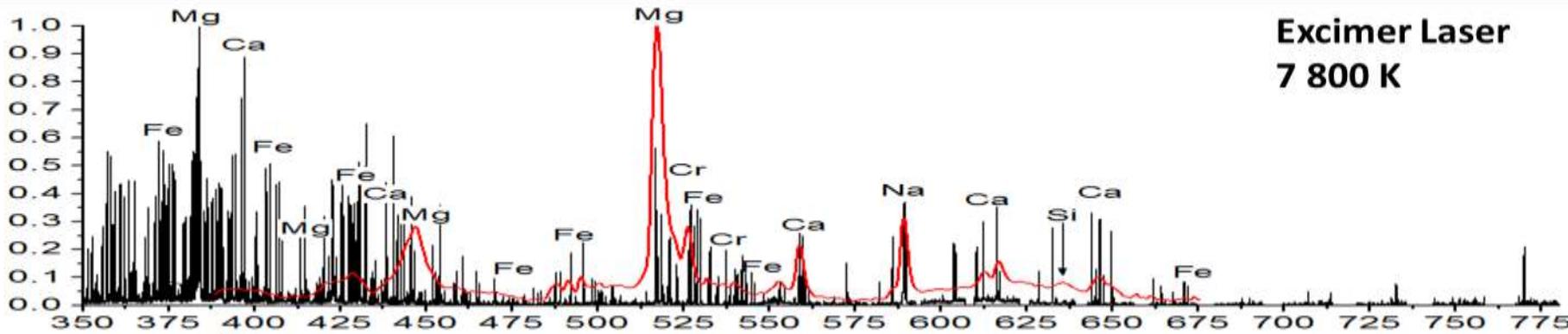
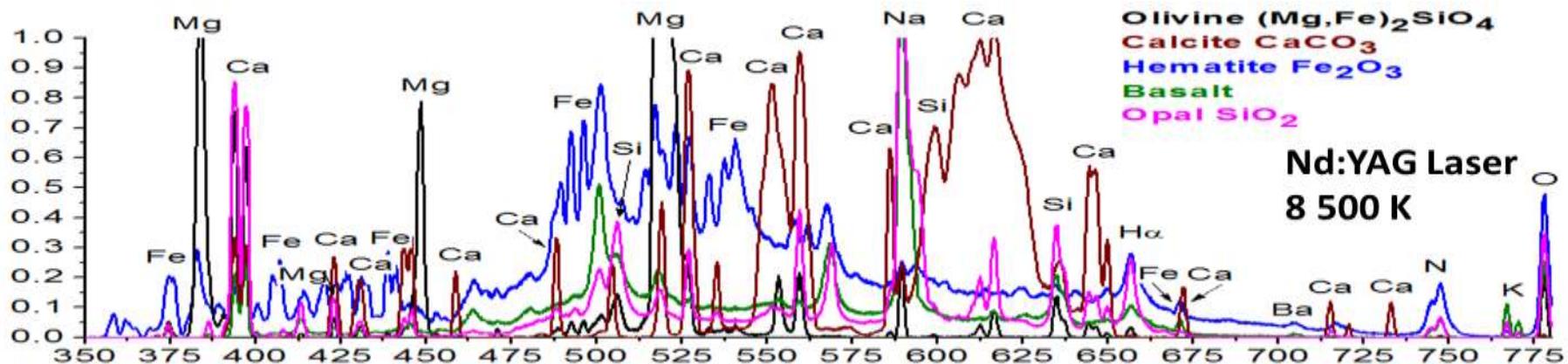


- Olivine ( $\text{Mg}^{2+}, \text{Fe}^{2+}\text{SiO}_4$ )
- Orthopyroxene  $\text{FeSiO}_3, \text{MgSiO}_3$
- Troilite  $\text{FeS}$
- Plagioclase  $\text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8 - \text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$
- Kamacite  $\alpha-(\text{Fe}, \text{Ni})$ ;  $\text{Fe}^{0+}_{0.9} \text{Ni}_{0.1}$
- Apatite  $\text{Ca}_5(\text{PO}_4)_3(\text{F}, \text{Cl}, \text{OH})$
- Taenite  $\gamma-(\text{Ni}, \text{Fe})$
- Chromite  $(\text{Fe}, \text{Mg})\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_4$
- Glass
- Clinopyroxene  $x\text{Y}(\text{Si}, \text{Al})_2\text{O}_6$

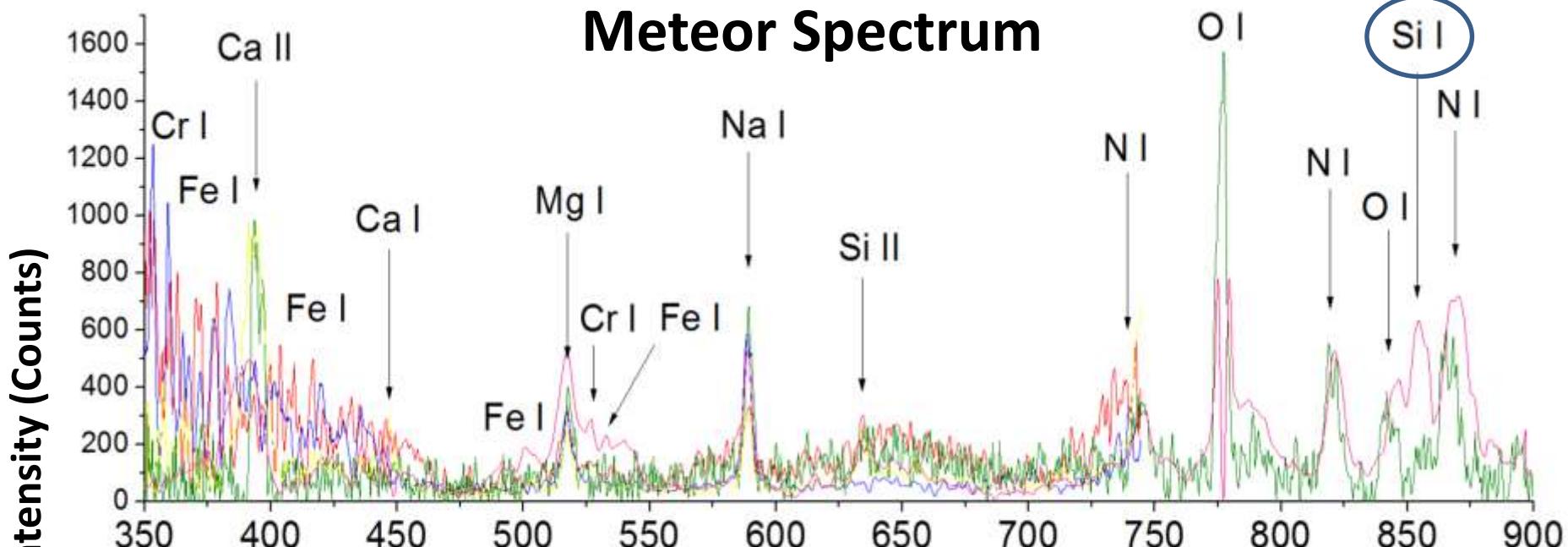


1 mm

# Qualitative Comparative Catalogue



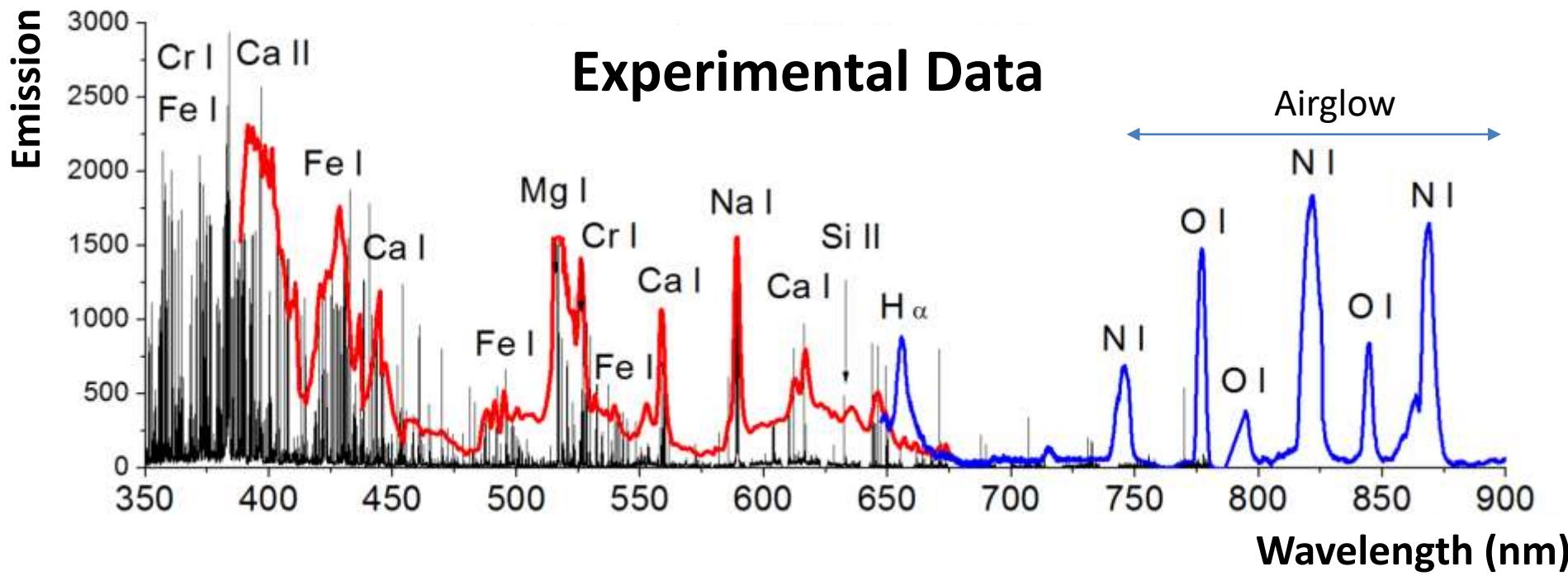
# Meteor Spectrum



Perseids

Si I

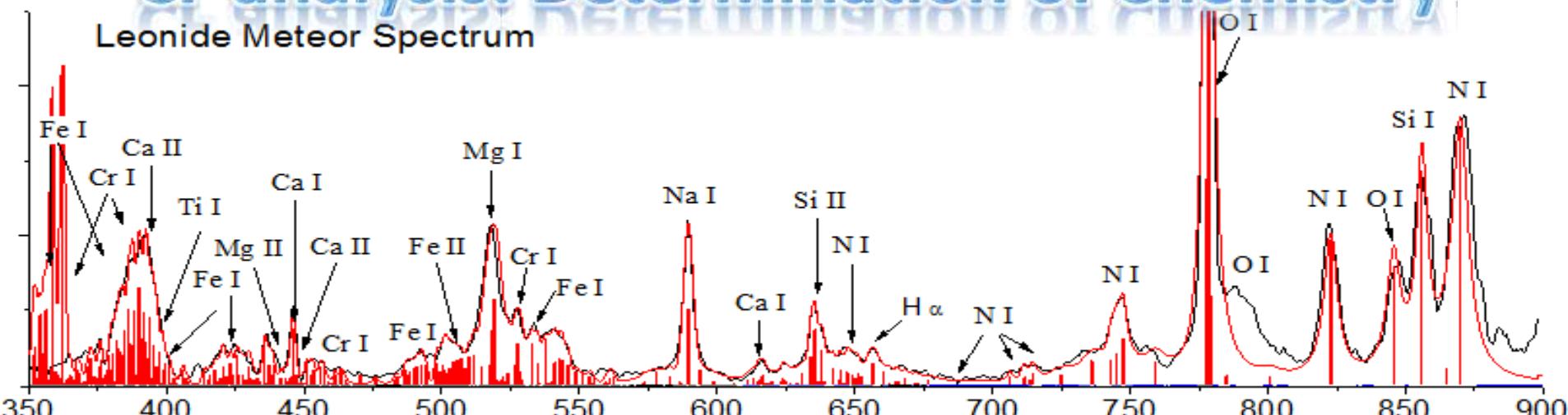
# Experimental Data



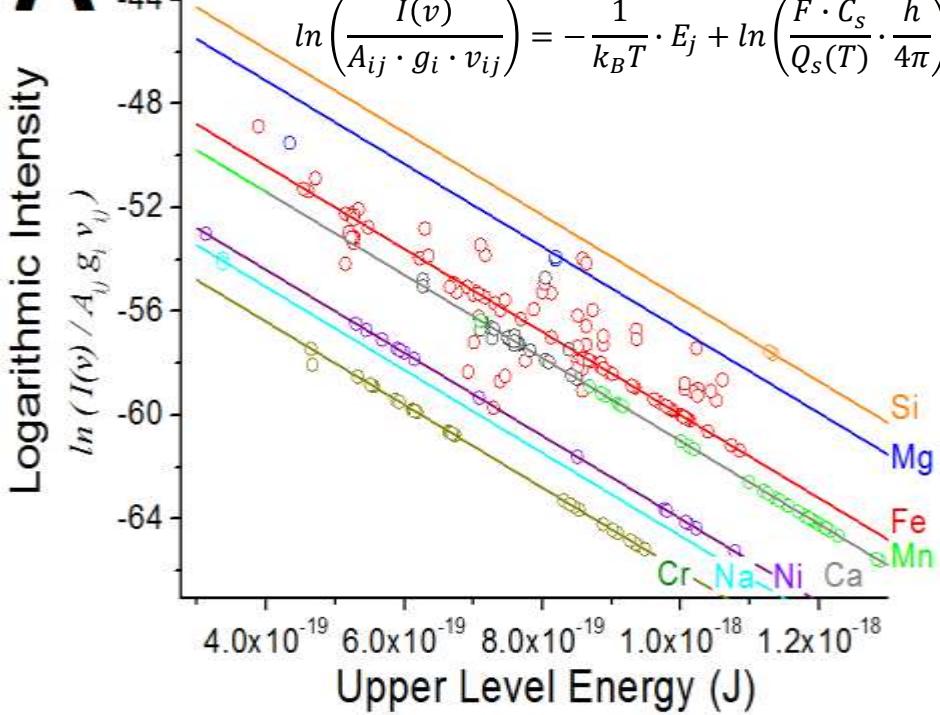
Wavelength (nm)

# CF analysis: Determination of Chemistry

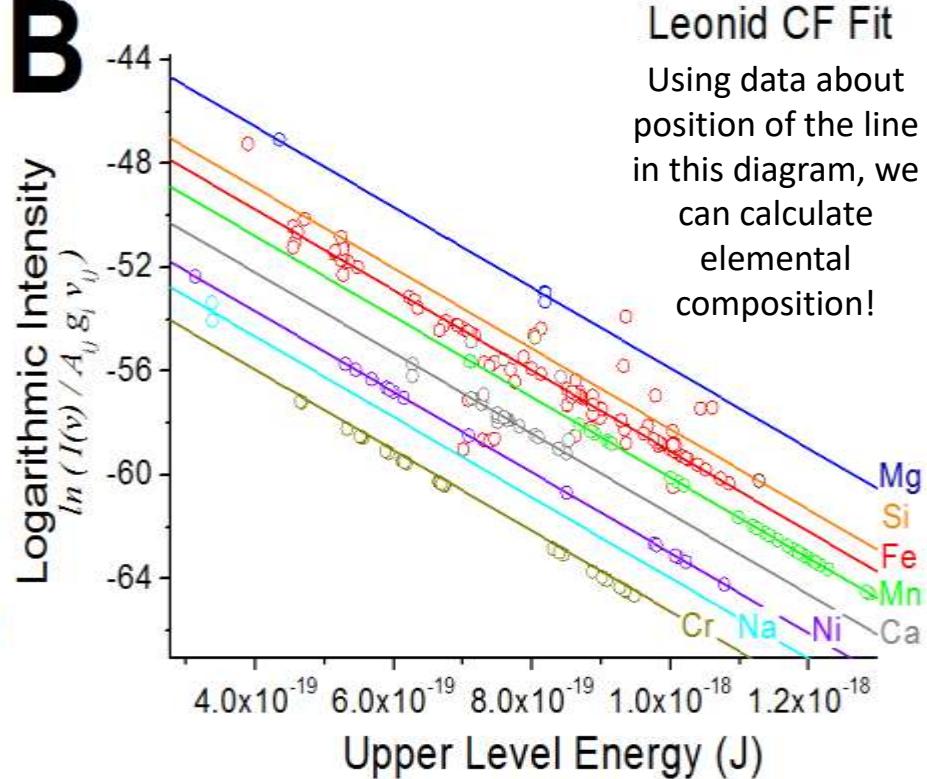
Leonide Meteor Spectrum



**A** Perseid CF Fit



**B** Leonid CF Fit

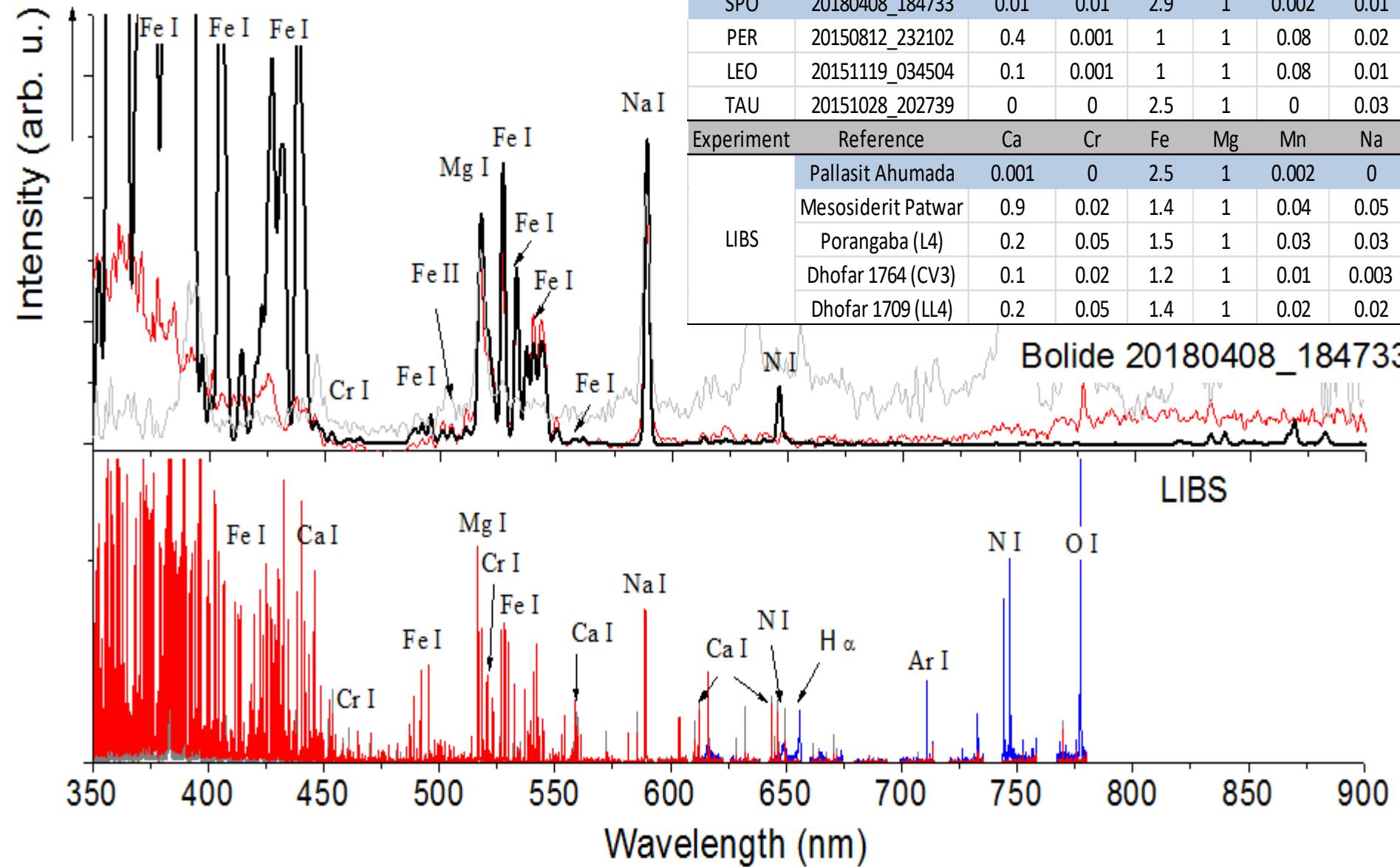


# CF analysis: Results and Verification of Calibration Free Method.

Spectrum	Fe	Na	Mg	Si	Ca	Cr	Mn	Ni
Micrometeorites	0.9	0.06	1	1.2	0.03	0.02		0.04
C1 group	0.8	0.05	1	0.9	0.1	0.01	0.01	
CM group	0.8	0.03	1	1.0	0.07	0.01		0.04
L6 Sahara 98222 L6	0.9		1	1.2	0.1		0.02	0.02
H5 Košice	2.1	0.1	1	1.3	0.1	0.03	0.02	0.04
CV3 Dhofar 1764	1.2	0.003	1	0.8	0.1	0.02	0.01	0.06
LL4 Dhofar 1709	1.4	0.02	1	1.2	0.2	0.05	0.02	0.09
L4 Porangaba	1.5	0.03	1	1.6	0.2	0.05	0.03	0.1
Halley dust	0.5	0.1	1	1.8	0.1	0.01	0.01	
Wild 2	1				0.005	0.006	0.005	0.028
Perseid 0	0.5	0.05	1		0.03	0.005	0.01	
	1.0		1	2.5				
	0.5	0.05	1		0.03	0.01	0.01	
	0.9		1	1.8				
Perseid 1	0.8	0.00074 0.1	1	0.9	0.04	0.01	0.002	
Perseid 2	0.8	0.0008 0.1	1	1.1	0.0	0.01	0.003	
Perseid 3	1.0	0.00047 0.1	1	1.2	0.03	0.01	0.01	
Perseid 4	1.1	0.00052 0.1	1	1.0	0.1	0.01	0.01	
Leonide	1.0	0.1	1		0.03	0.005	0.01	
Perseid 2015	1.0	0.0008 0.0166	1	3.0	0.0260 0.52	0.001	0.086	0.02
Leonide 2015	1.0	0.00063 0.0125	1	1.3	0.006 0.12	0.001	0.081	0.02

# Simulation: Determination of Chemistry

## Famous „Hungarian“ April Bolide

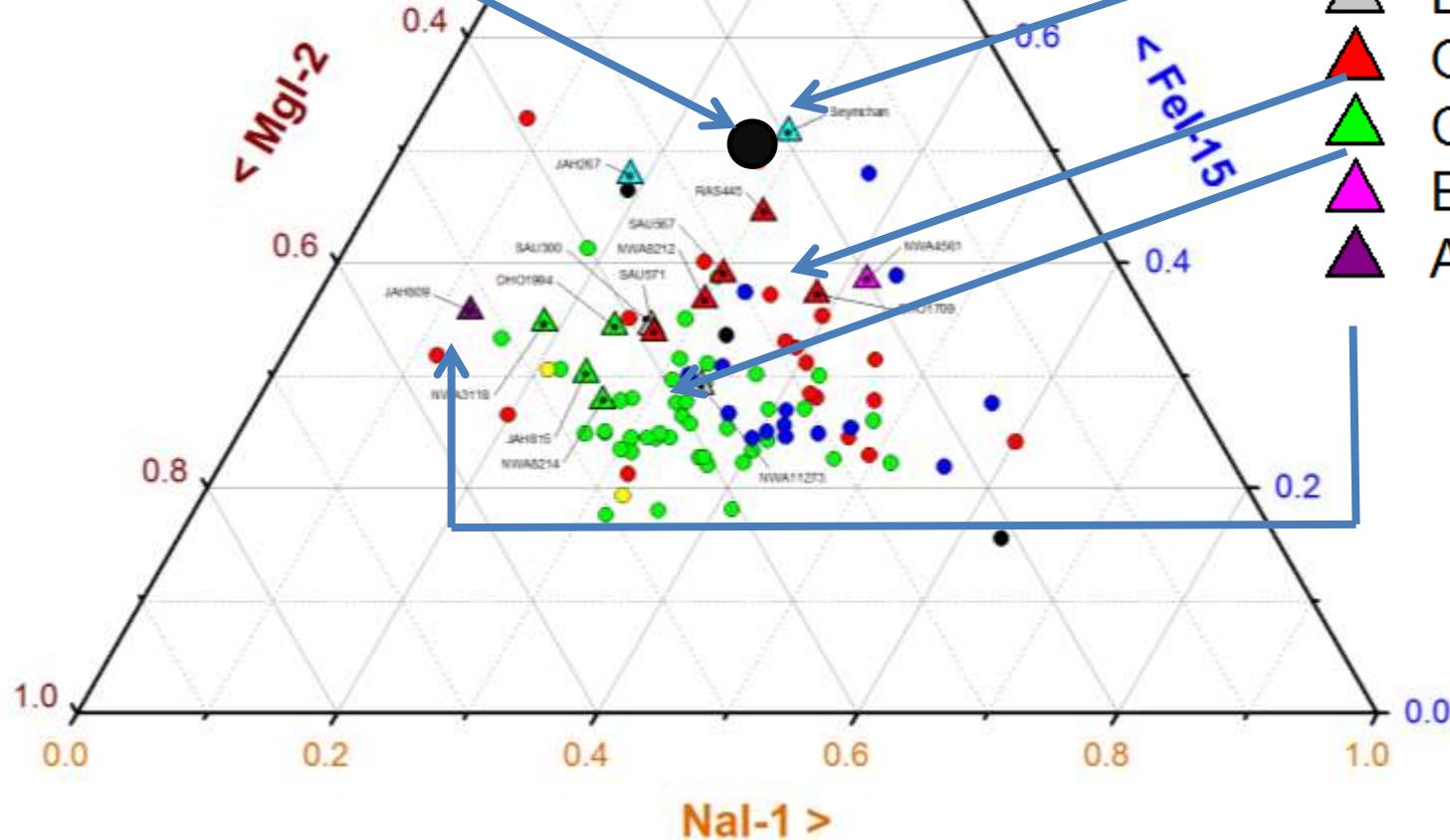


# Ternary Diagram: Observed and experimental

Bolide 20180408\_184733

Famous „Hungarian“  
Bolide is not ordinary  
chondrite based on our  
spectra, but its  
trajectory belongs to AC  
group.

WHY?



- A-C Asteroidal
- ES Encke Complex
- HT Halley Type
- JF Jupiter Family
- SA Sun Approaching Siderite
- △ Lunar
- ▲ O chondrite
- ▲ C chondrite
- ▲ E chondrite
- ▲ A achondrite

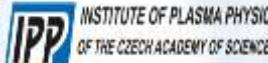


AKADEMIE VĚD  
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY  
Czech Academy of Sciences



P A L S •

PRAGUE ASTERIX LASER SYSTEM



Martin  
Ferus



Svatopluk  
Civiš



Petr  
Kubelík



Libor  
Lenža



Antonín  
Knížek



Lukáš  
Petera



Jakub  
Koukal



Jiří  
Srba



Anna  
Křivková



Vojtěch  
Laitl



Tadeáš  
Kalvoda



Giuseppe  
Cassone



Miroslav  
Krůs



Adam  
Pastorek



Jana  
Hrnčířová



Ondřej  
Ivanek



Alex  
Rosen-  
bergerová



Elias  
Chatzitheo-  
doridis



Paul  
Rimmer



Didier  
Queloz



Ingo  
Waldmann



Jonathan  
Tennyson



Judit E.  
Šponer



Jiří  
Šponer



Antonino  
M. Saitta

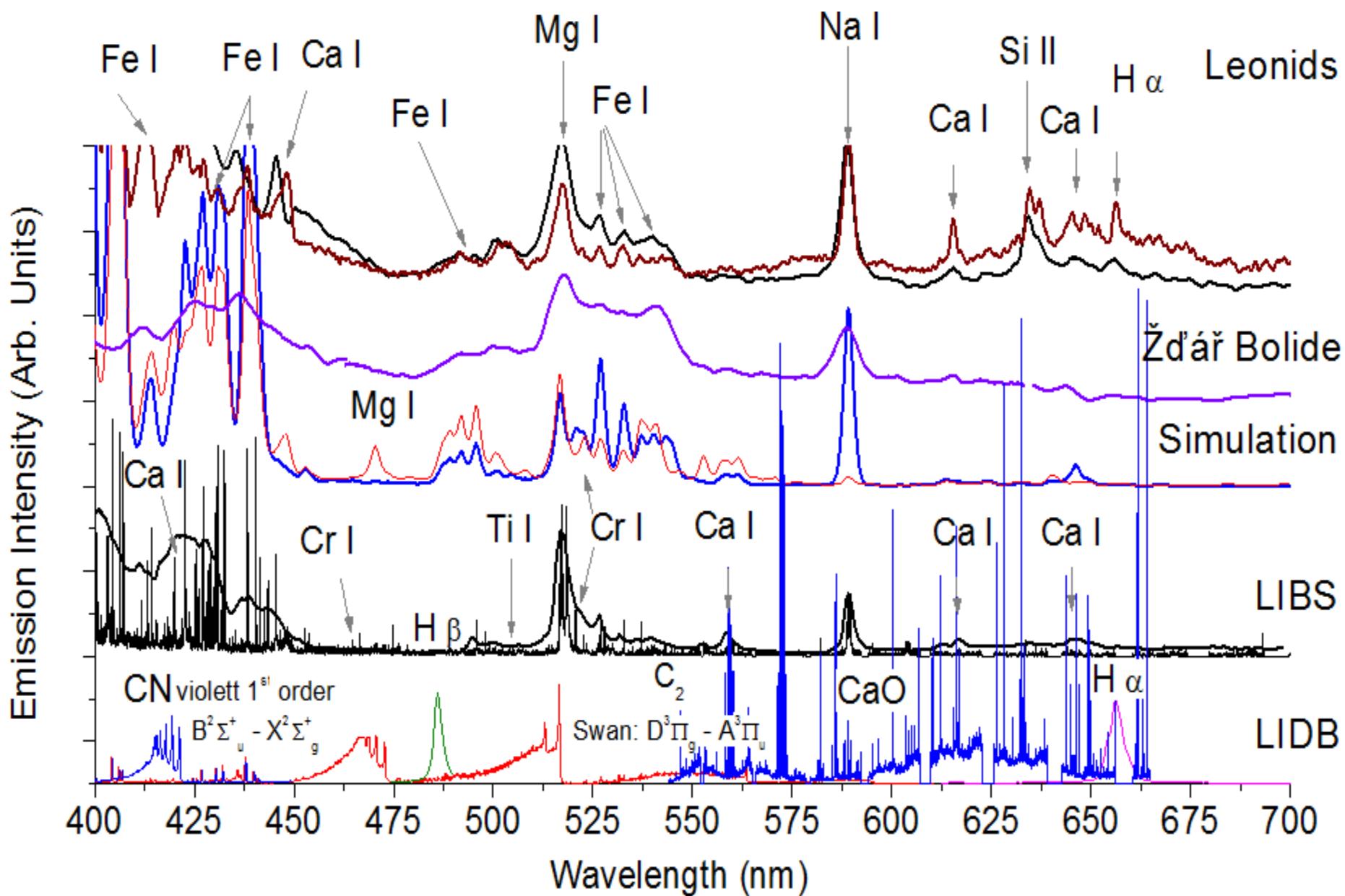


Fabio  
Pietrucci

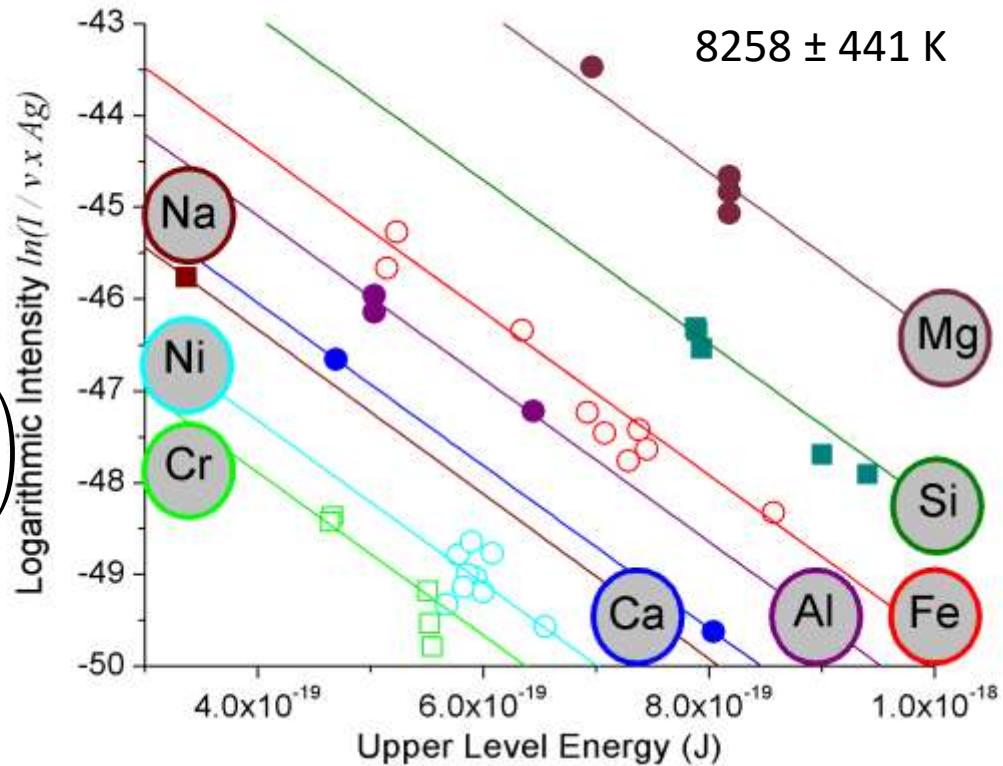
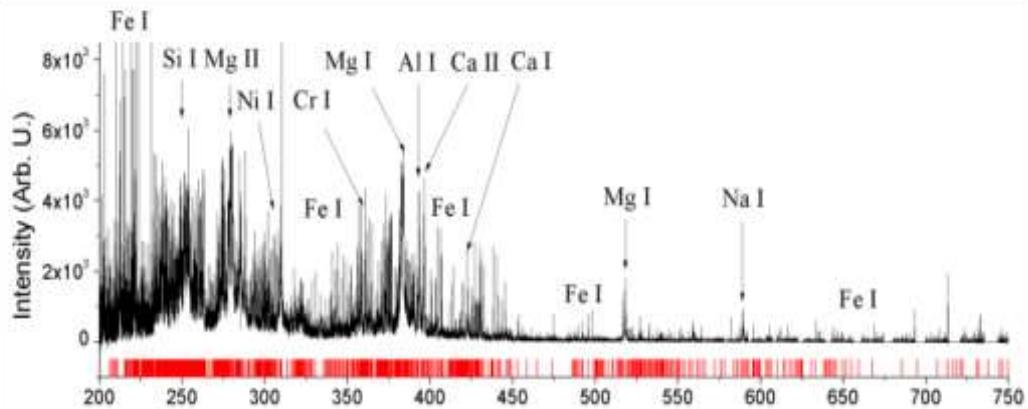
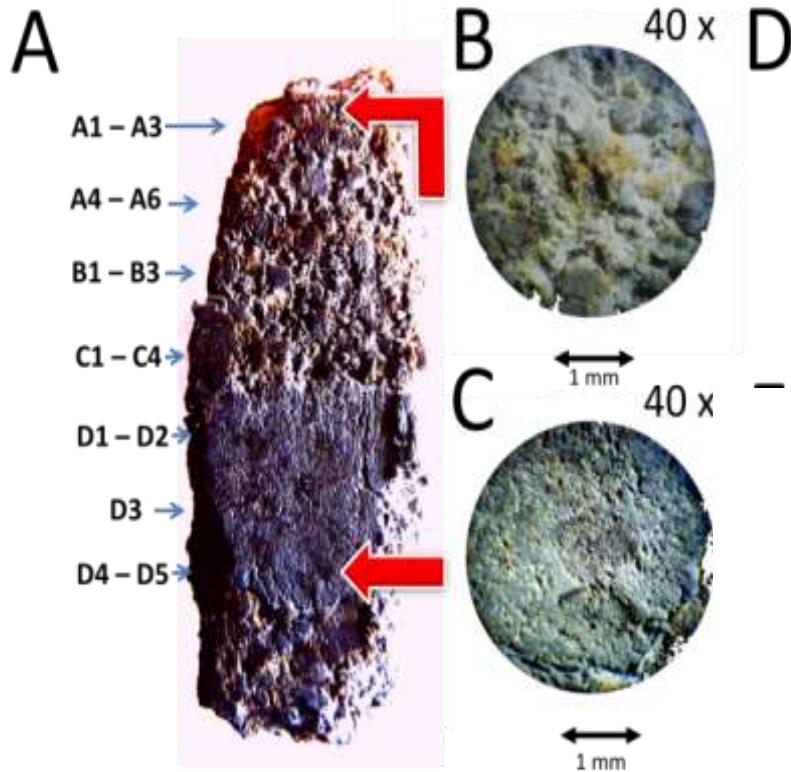


John  
Sutherland

# Meteor Spectrum and ranges for several molecular species

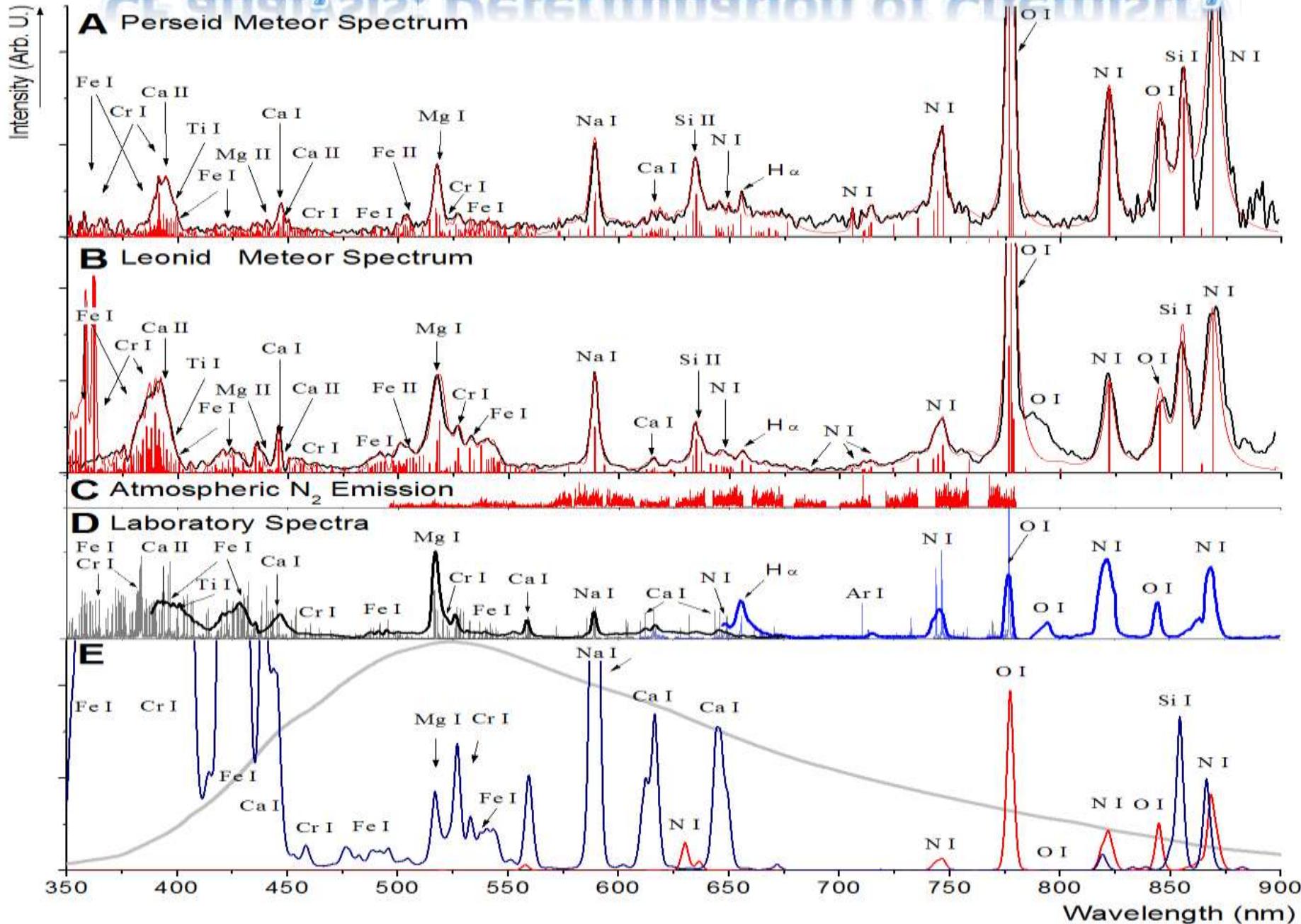


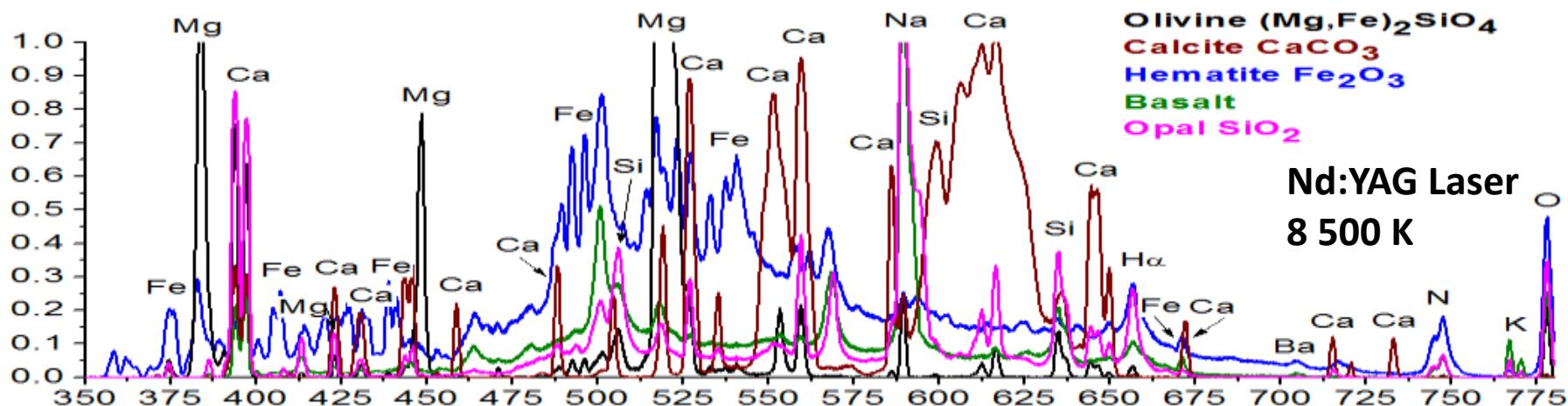
# LIBS of the Meteorite



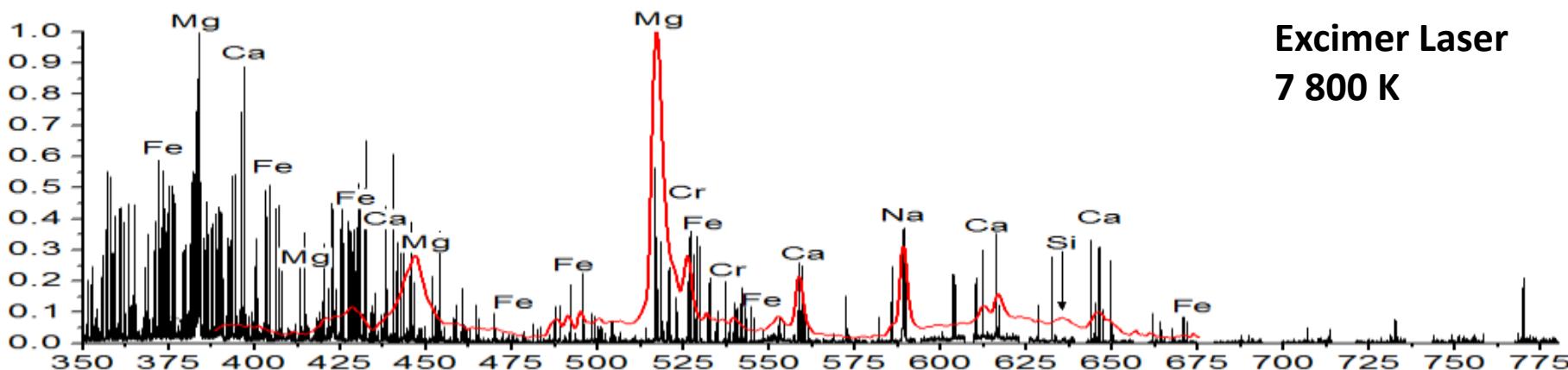
$$\ln\left(\frac{I(v)}{A_{ij} \cdot g_i \cdot v_{ij}}\right) - \ln\left(\frac{2(2\pi \cdot m_e \cdot k_B \cdot T)^{\frac{3}{2}}}{N_e \cdot h^3}\right) = -\frac{1}{k_B T_e} \cdot (E_j + E_{ion}) + \ln\left(\frac{F \cdot C_s}{Q_s(T)} \cdot \frac{h}{4\pi}\right)$$

# CF analysis: Determination of Chemistry

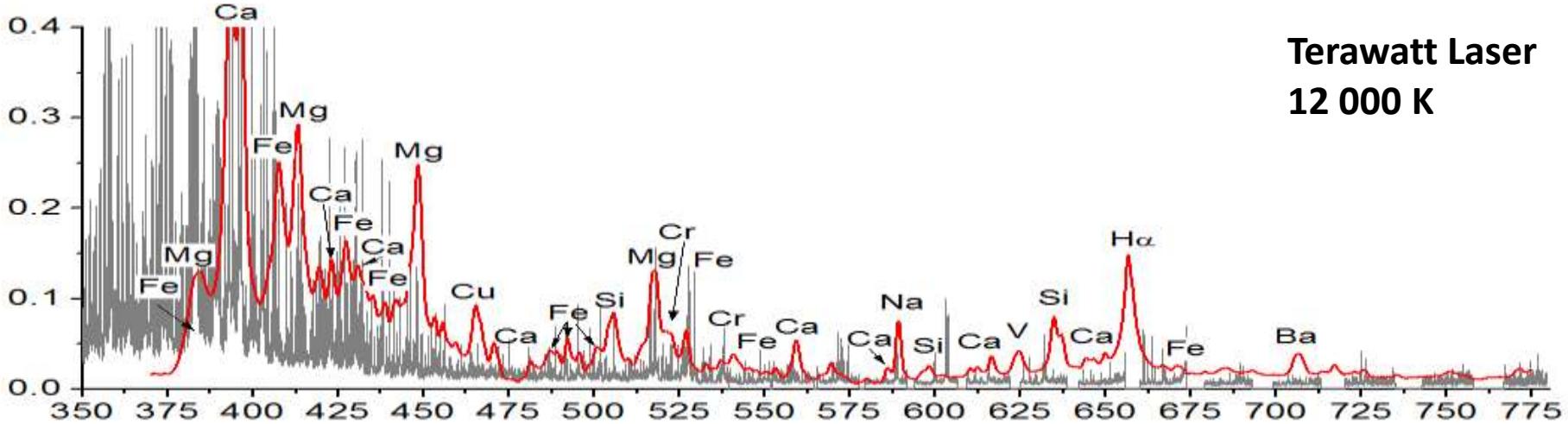




Nd:YAG Laser  
8 500 K



Excimer Laser  
7 800 K



Terawatt Laser  
12 000 K

