



EARLY STAGE RESEARCHER

## Melby Johny

PROJECT: *Ultrafast electron dynamics in conformer selected amino acids*

Host institution: Deutsches Elektronen- Synchrotron (DESY)

Supervisors: Prof. Dr. Jochen Küpper (DESY), Dr. Sebastian Trippel (DESY), Dr. Guiseppe Sansone (FRIEB), Dr. O. Kelly (PHOTEK)

Start date: April, 07, 2016



## CURRICULUM VITAE

- April 2016 to present: ESR MEDEA, Controlled Molecule Imaging Group, Center for Free-Electron Science, Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY), Hamburg
- May 2015 - March 2016: Project assistant in the Ultrafast Biophysics Group at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai, India.
- December 2014 - April 2015: Performed Master's Thesis Project in the Ultrafast Biophysics Group at Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai, India.
- July 2010 - April 2015: 5 year Integrated M.Sc at International School of Photonics, Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), Cochin, India

### Special experiences:

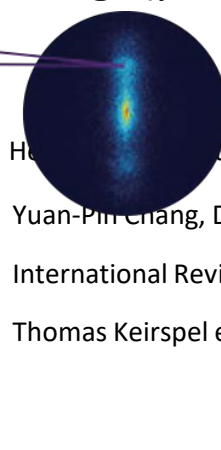
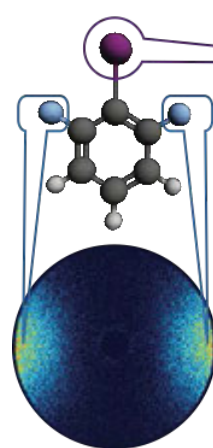
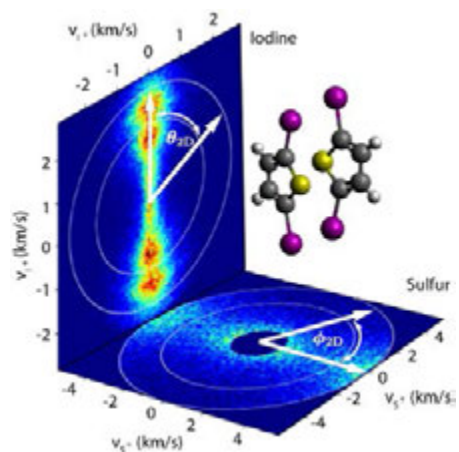
- Setting up of ultrahigh vacuum systems
- Conformer selection of molecules
- Handling Velocity Map Imaging (VMI) spectrometer and Time of Flight Spectrometer for electrons and ions.
- Simulations on VMI spectrometer
- Beam time preparations and working in beam time at PETRA III, LCLS and FLASH.
- Surface Enhanced Raman Spectroscopy, Time resolved Stimulated Raman Spectroscopy.
- Imaging techniques like Confocal Microscopy, TEM, SEM
- Self assembled peptide based nano-structures.

## SCIENTIFIC SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

Ultrafast charge re-arrangement processes after ionisation of large (bio)molecules in gas phase.

- Preparation of “ideal” molecular samples by conformer selection of amino acids and small peptides in low temperature molecular beams.
- Quantum state measurements and wave packet dynamics
- Imaging ultrafast molecular dynamics in the molecular frame utilizing 3D aligned and oriented conformers of molecules.
- Understanding elementary chemical processes:

isomerization, folding, binding, (photo)dissociation, charge migration...



Horke et al., Tamar Seideman, RMP 75, 543 (2003)

Yuan-Pin Chang, Daniel A. Horke, Sebastian Trippel, and Jochen Küpper

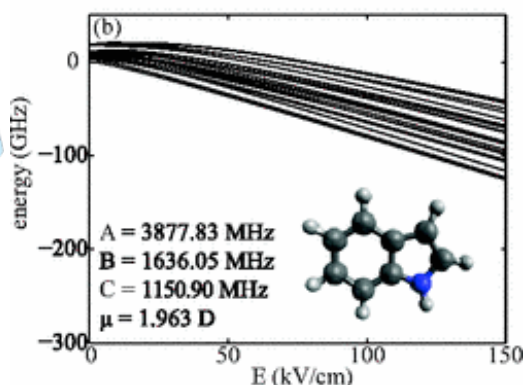
International Reviews In Physical Chemistry Vol. 34 , Iss. 4,2015

Thomas Keirspel et al, J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 48 (2015) 204002

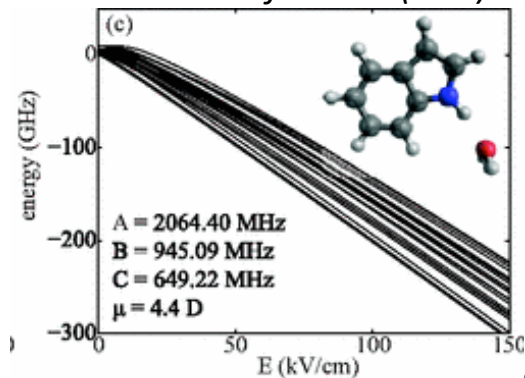
SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES AND GOALS IN PROGRESS- *Photophysics of indole and indole-water cluster*

Indole—chromophore of the amino acid tryptophan and is solvated through H-bonding to form indole-(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>1</sub>

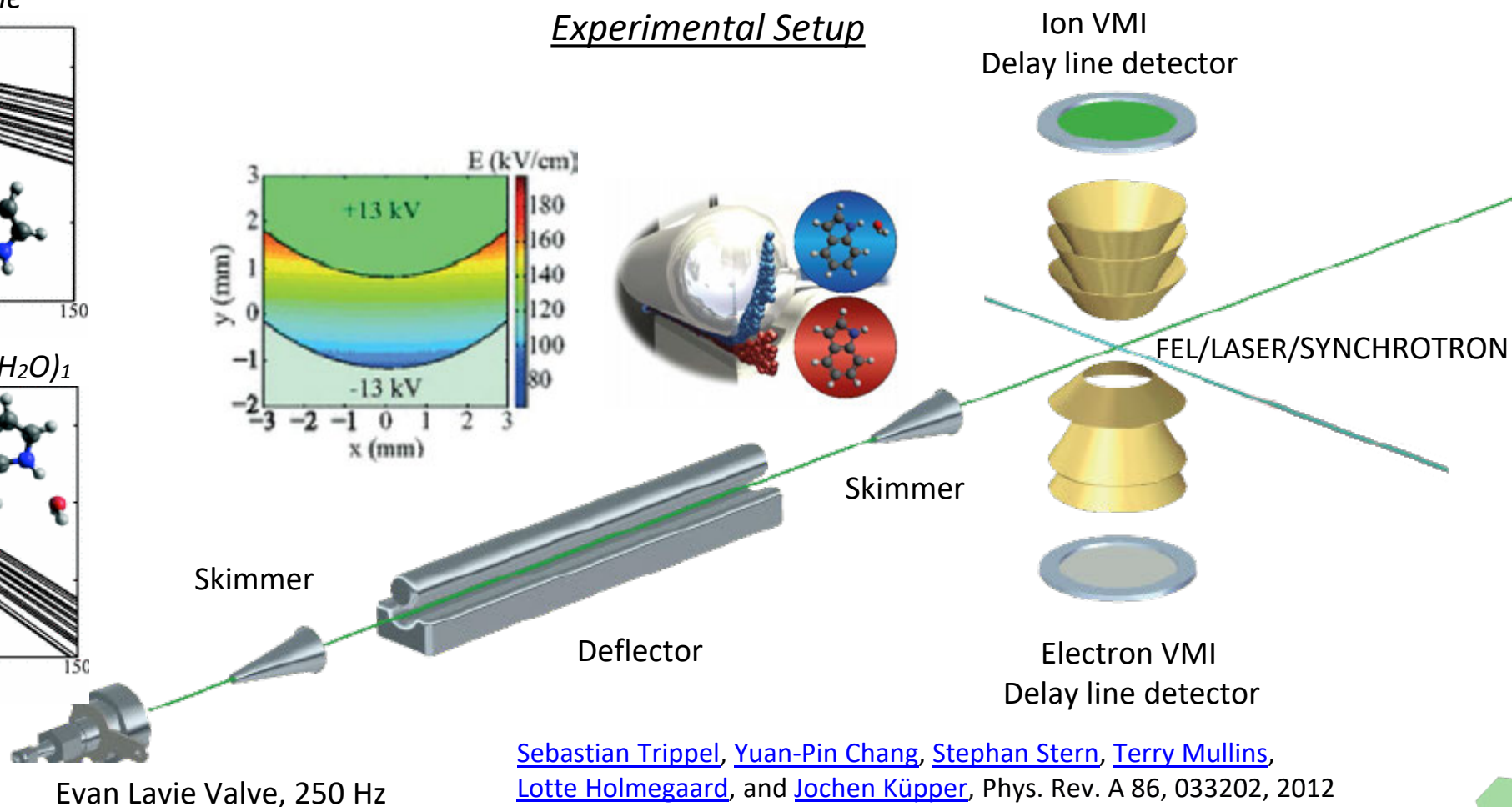
*Stark curve of indole*



*Stark curve of indole-(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>1</sub>*



Experimental Setup

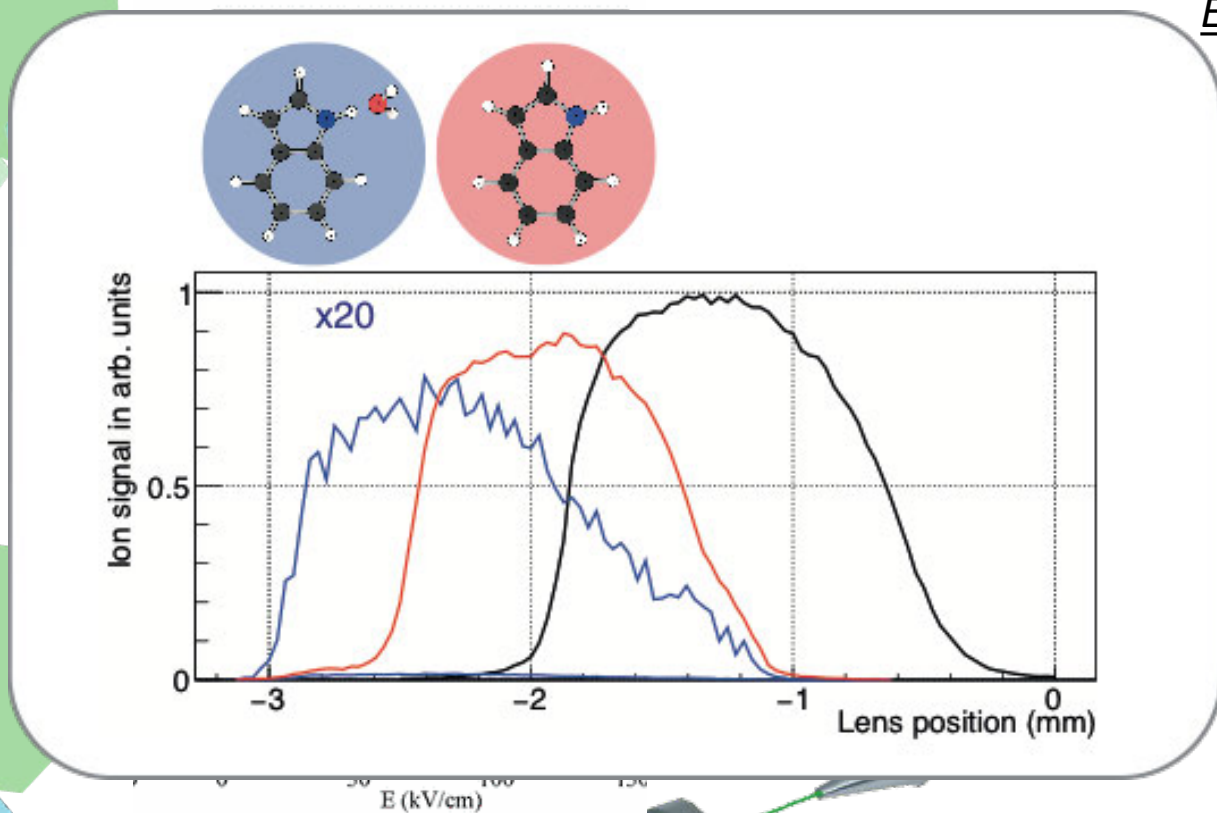


[Sebastian Trippel](#), [Yuan-Pin Chang](#), [Stephan Stern](#), [Terry Mullins](#),  
[Lotte Holmegaard](#), and [Jochen Küpper](#), Phys. Rev. A 86, 033202, 2012

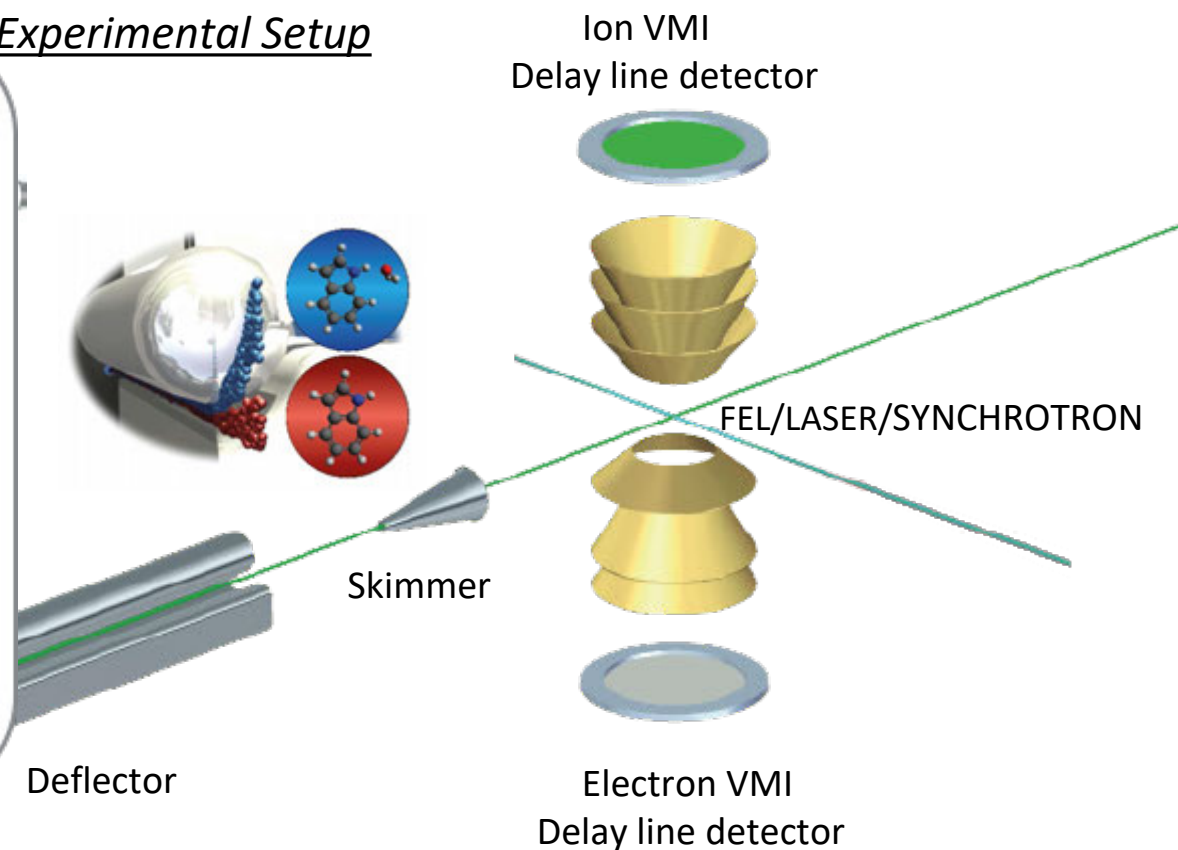
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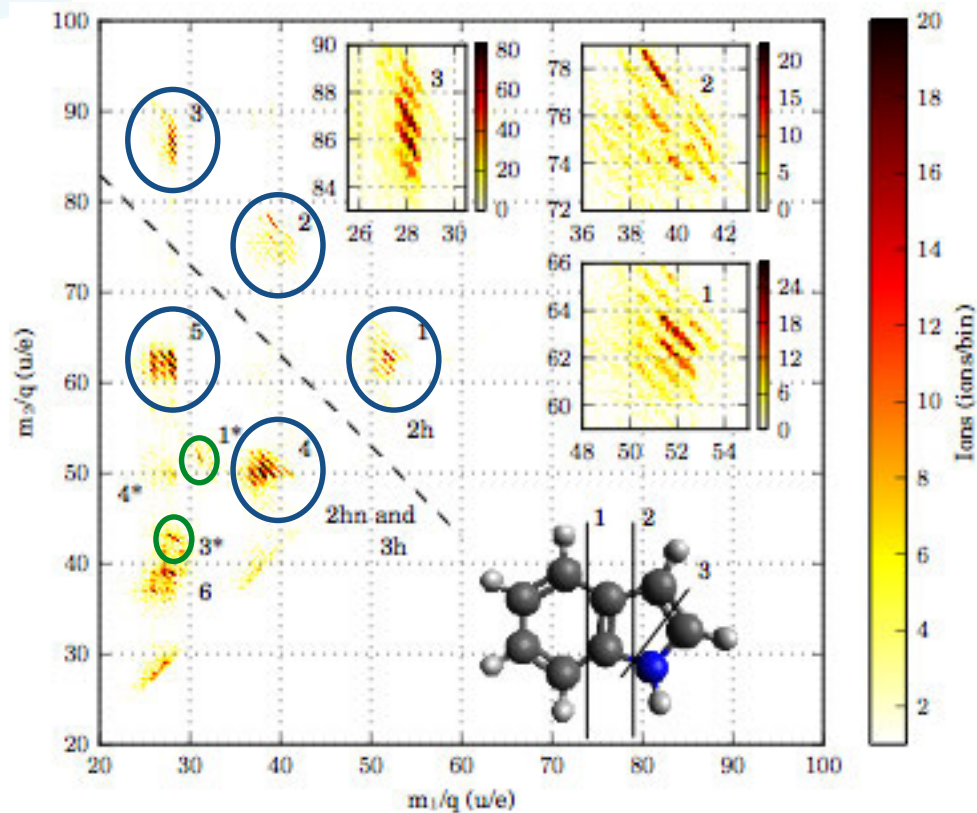


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## PETRA III beamtime PEPIICO electron and ion dynamics

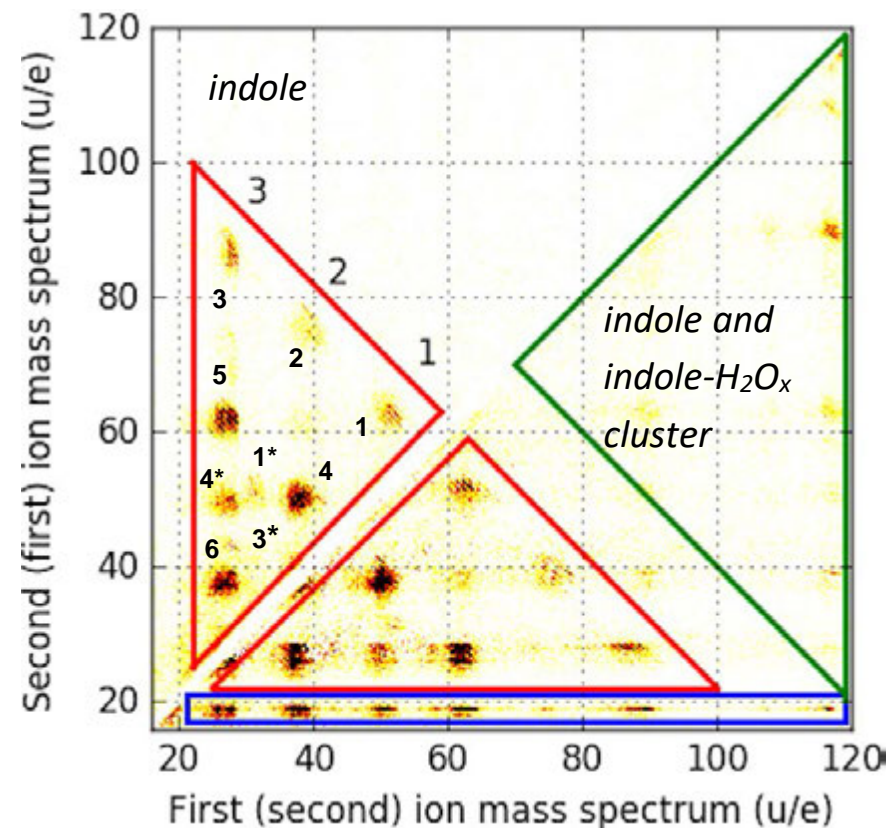
Photoelectron - Photoion Photoion Coincidence

indole monomer



- $n \rightarrow$  PIPICO island
- $n^* \rightarrow$  same fragmentation, different charge state
- $2h/3h \rightarrow$  2/3 hole
- $2hn \rightarrow$  2 hole & a neutral fragment

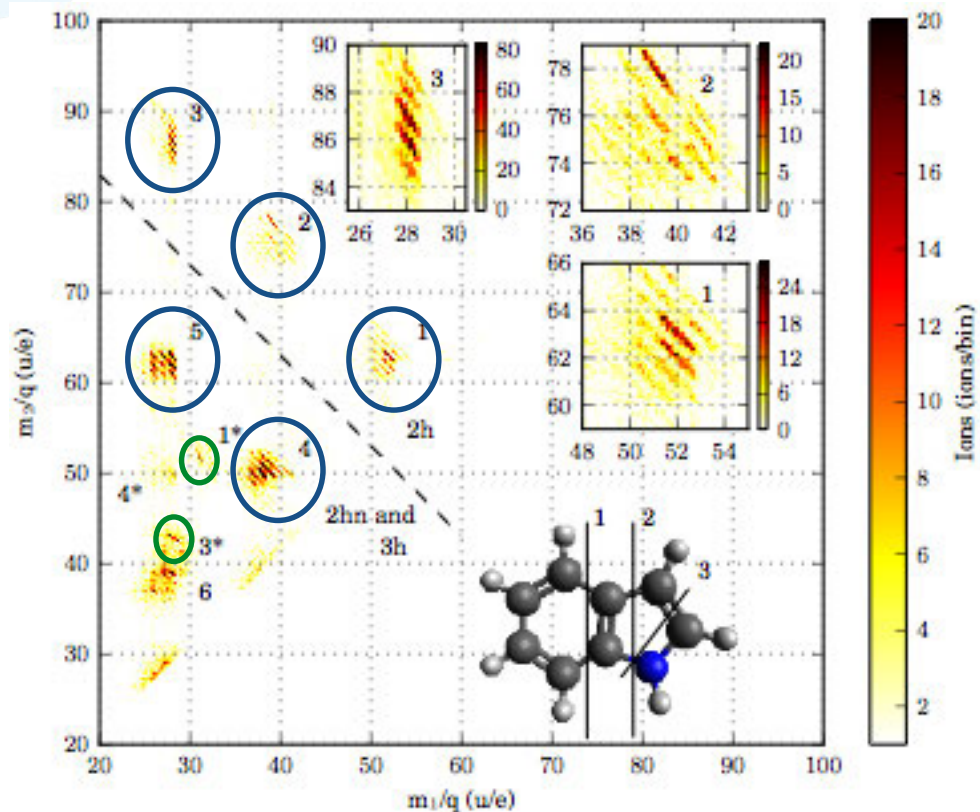
indole - water



Thomas Kierspel et.al manuscript in preparation

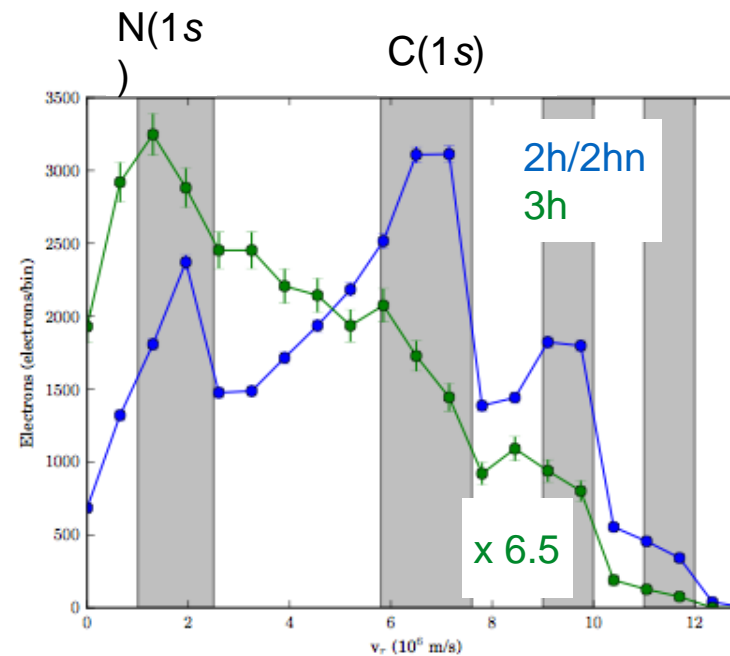
## PIPICO indole monomer

### Photoelectron - Photoion Photoion Coincidence



- n → PIPICO island
- n\* → same fragmentation, different charge state
- 2h/3h → 2/3 hole
- 2hn → 2 hole & a neutral fragment

### Electron coincidence

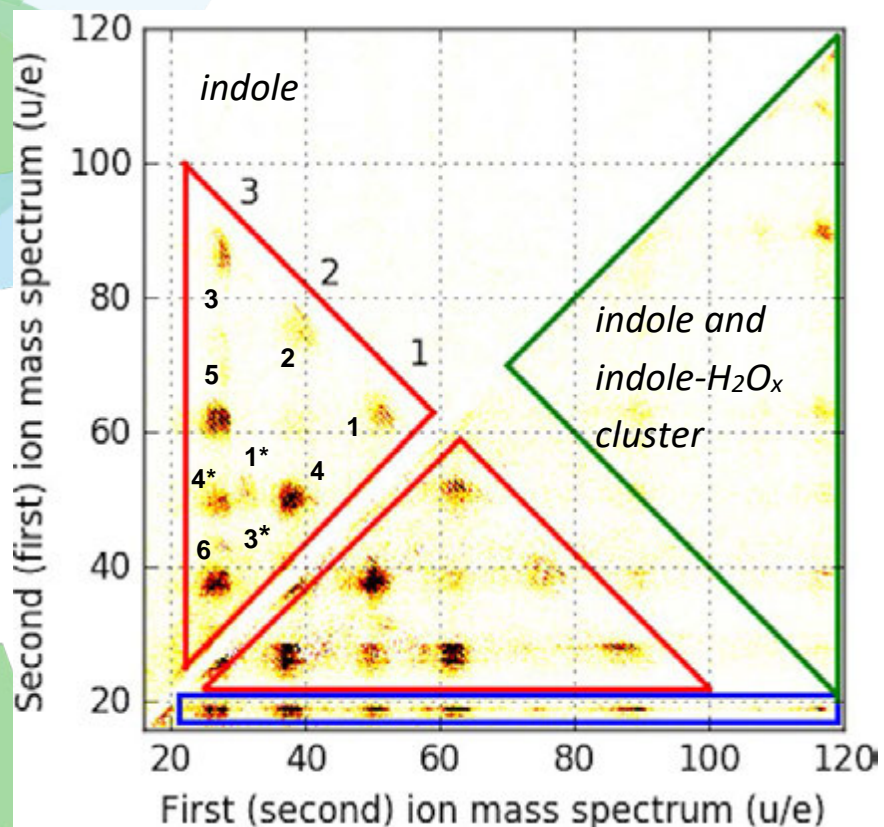


- 3h channels are dominated by N(1s) photoelectrons
- 3h channels show no strong C(1s) photoelectron contribution

Thomas Kierspel et.al manuscript in preparation

## PIPICO indole - water

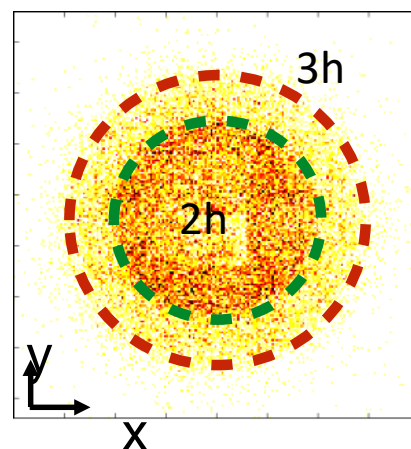
Photoelectron - Photoion Photoion Coincidence



n → PIPICO island  
 n\* → same fragmentation, different charge state

/ Indole  
/ Indole-H<sub>2</sub>O  
/ Cluster

Velocity map imaging (VMI)  
 of hydronium

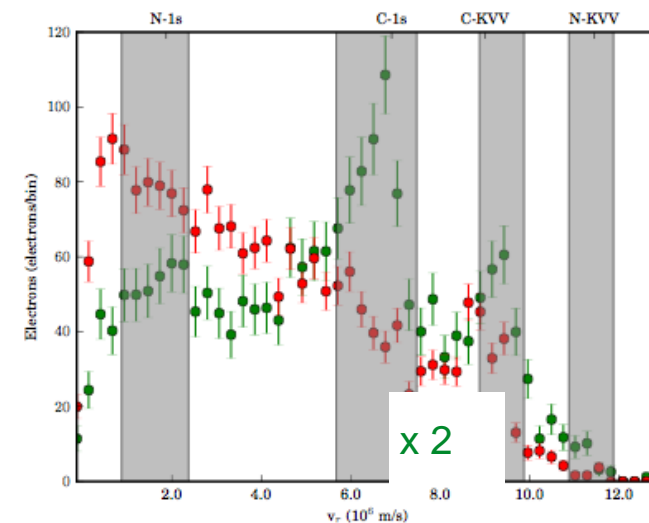


H<sub>3</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (19)



- Charge and mass transfer to hydrogen bonded water

Electron coincidence



- 3h channels are dominated by N(1s) photoelectrons
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Thomas Kierspel et.al manuscript in preparation

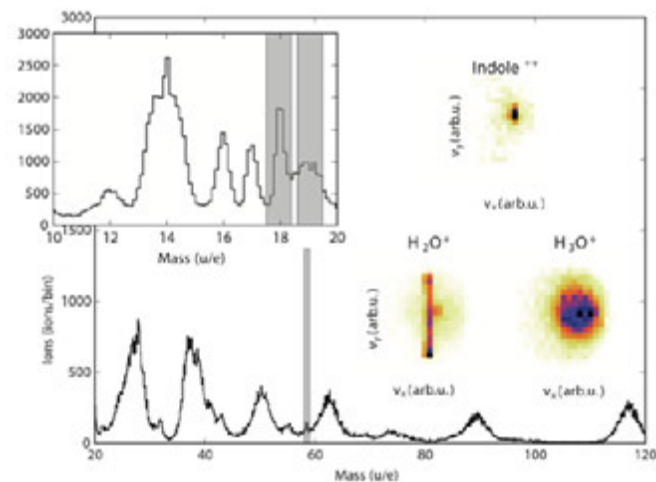
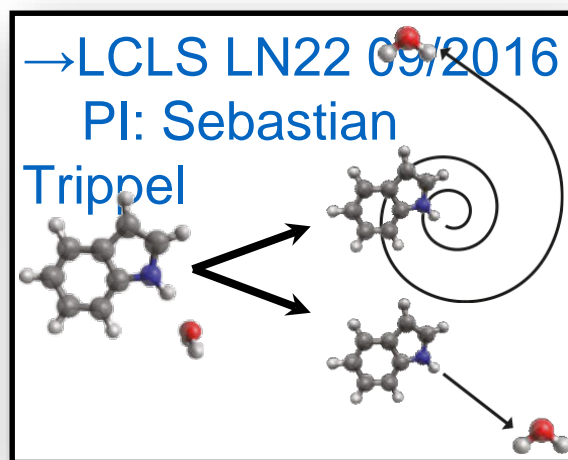


## Summary and Future directions

- Disentangled the fragmentation of indole and indole-water upon coreshell ionization.
- Observed ionization and proton/hydrogen transfer from indole to H<sub>2</sub>O as one of the dissociation pathway
- Different fragmentation channels for localized ionisation in indole and indole-H<sub>2</sub>O

### Future directions: LCLS Beamtime towards time-resolved studies of H-bond dynamics

- Unravel the hydrogen bond breaking dynamics using the combined time resolved photo-physics data.



## SECONDMENTS, OUTREACH ACTIVITIES AND SOFT SKILLS TRAINING

### Secondments

- PHOTEK (3 months in mid of 2017): Understanding the working of Double sided Velocity Mapping Imaging Spectrometer by performing Simulations. Experiments to improve the performance of high voltage switches in VMI spectrometers
- Univ. of Aarhus (2 months): Techniques for adiabatic and non-adiabatic alignment and orientation of molecules.

### Outreach Activities

- Performed outreach activities in two different schools in the year 2016.
- Higher secondary students (17) and primary students (54).

### Soft Skills Training

- Women's Carrier Day 2016 organised by PIER graduate school: Improvisation theatre techniques for scientific presentations, and scientific networking (30th June to 1st July).
- PIER graduate week 2016: Scientific and soft skill courses, innovation workshop.



## CAREER DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES

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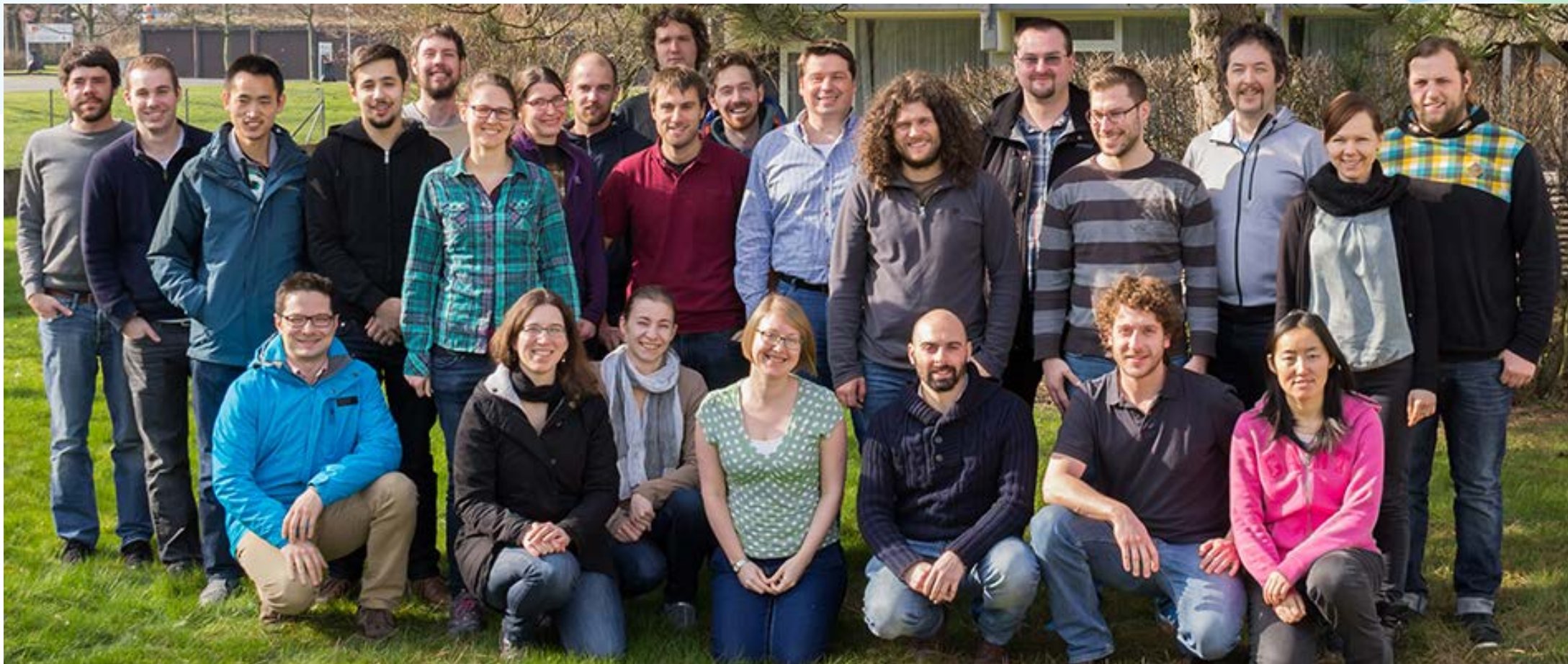
- Generation of optimised molecular beams for conformer selected amino acids and peptides.
- Implementation of techniques for adiabatic and non-adiabatic 3D alignment and orientation of individual conformers.
- Imaging electron-transfer and proton/hydrogen-transfer dynamics in indole with time and angle resolved photoelectron spectroscopy after excitation with femtosecond laser pulses.
- Atomically resolve the bond-breaking process using ultrafast diffractive imaging techniques

Chang, Horke, Trippel, Küpper International Reviews In Physical Chemistry Vol. 34 , Iss. 4, 2015

Müller, Trippel, Długołęcki, Kuppe, J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 48, 244001(2015)

Daria Popova-Gorelova, Jochen Küpper, Robin Santra, Phys. RevA94, 013412 92(2016)

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



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THE HAMBURG CENTER  
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European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission



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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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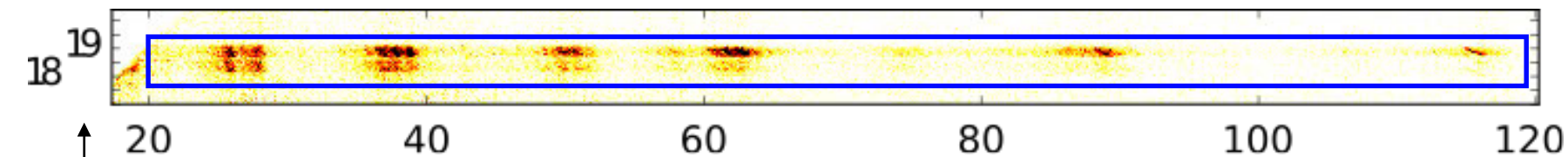
# Thanks to our collaborators

Denis Anielski<sup>4</sup>, Rebecca Boll<sup>4</sup>, Cédric Bomme<sup>4</sup>, Benjamin Erk<sup>4</sup>, Daniel Rolles<sup>5</sup>, Evgeny Savelyev<sup>4</sup>, Jens Viefhaus<sup>4</sup>

- 1) Center for Free-Electron Laser Science, DESY, Hamburg, Germany
- 2) The Hamburg Center for Ultrafast Imaging, University of Hamburg, Germany
- 3) Department of Physics, University of Hamburg, Germany
- 4) Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron (DESY), Hamburg, Germany
- 5) J.R. Macdonald Laboratory, Department of Physics, Kansas State University, Manhattan, USA

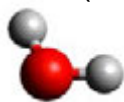
# Thank you for your attention!

# PIPICO — VMI images

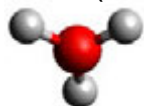


ion mass (u/e)

$\text{H}_2\text{O}^+$  (18)

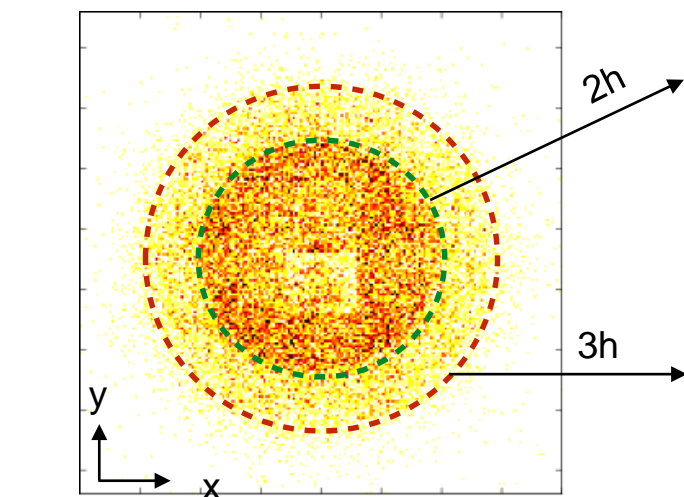


$\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$  (19)



- charge and mass transfer to hydrogen bonded water
- different fragmentation channels for mass-transfer

## Velocity map imaging (VMI) of hydronium



velocity

