

# Theoretical and experimental studies on plasma generation.

## Tailoring plasmas for wakefield accelerators

Gabriele Tauscher<sup>1,2</sup> and Lucas Schaper<sup>2</sup>

3<sup>rd</sup> European Advanced Accelerator Concepts  
Elba, 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017

<sup>1</sup> Hamburg University

<sup>2</sup> Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY

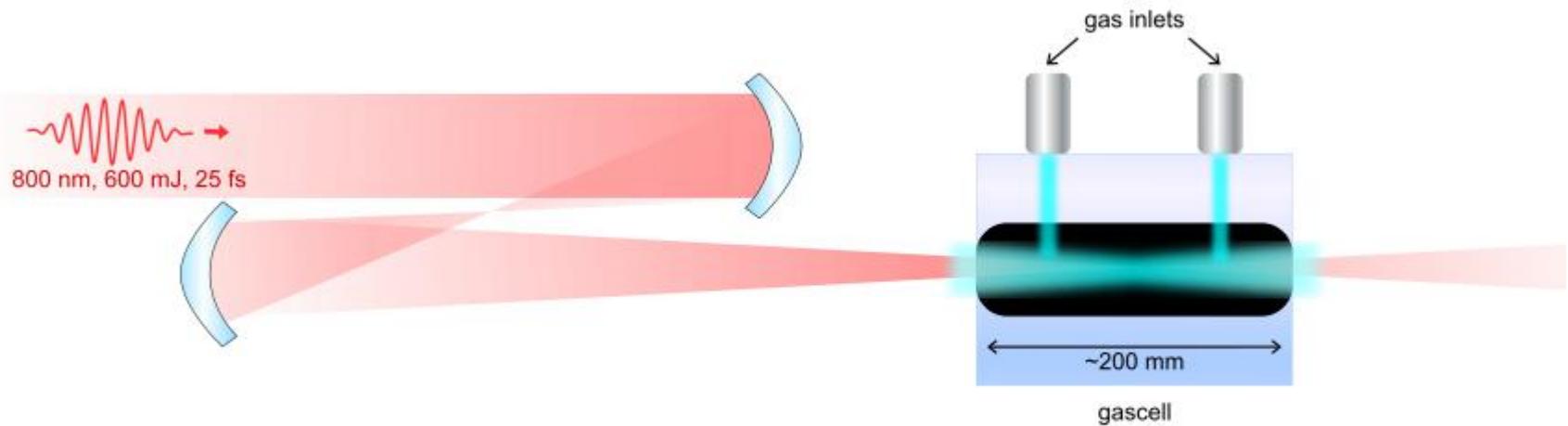
S. Bohlen<sup>1,2</sup>, K. Poder<sup>1</sup>, J.-P. Schwinkendorf<sup>1,2</sup>, T. Mehrling<sup>2</sup>, S. Wesch<sup>2</sup>, L. Goldberg<sup>1,2</sup>, M. Quast<sup>1,2</sup>, A. Aschikhin<sup>1,2</sup>, J.-H. Röckemann<sup>1,2</sup>, J. Dale, M. Streeter<sup>2</sup>, and J. Osterhoff<sup>2</sup>



# Disentangled plasma creation and wakefield acceleration

## FLASHForward►

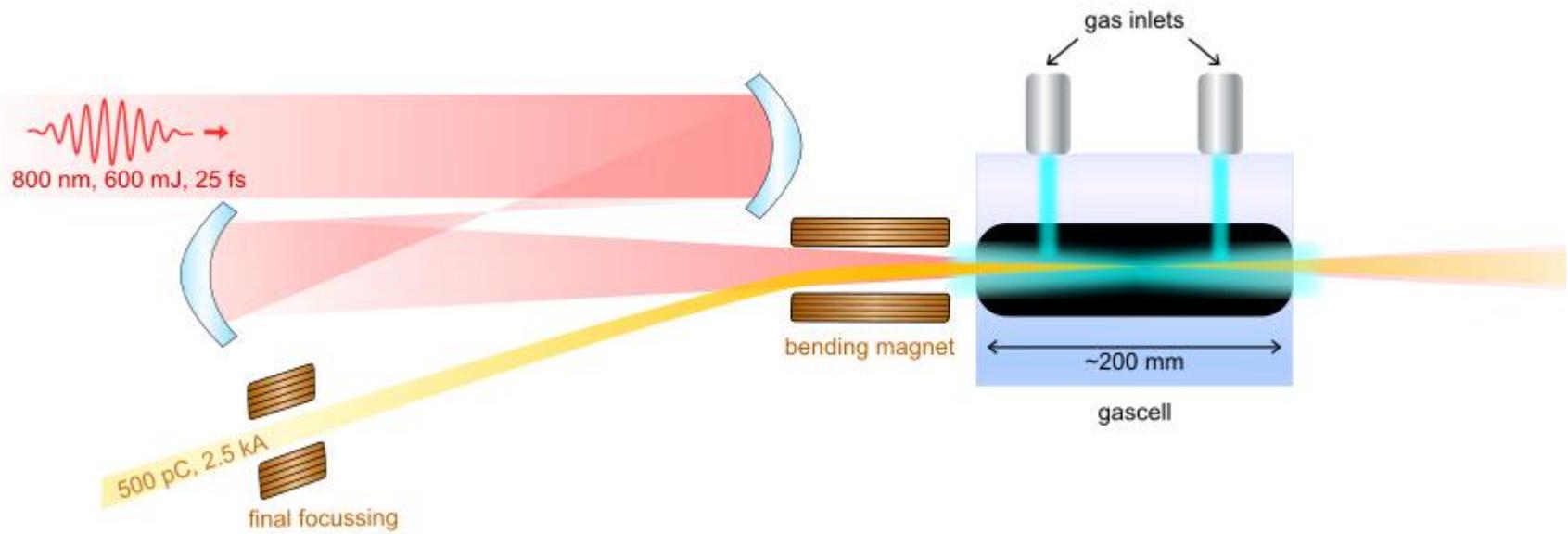
- Laser parameters and focussing determine ionisation degree



# Disentangled plasma creation and wakefield acceleration

## FLASHForward►

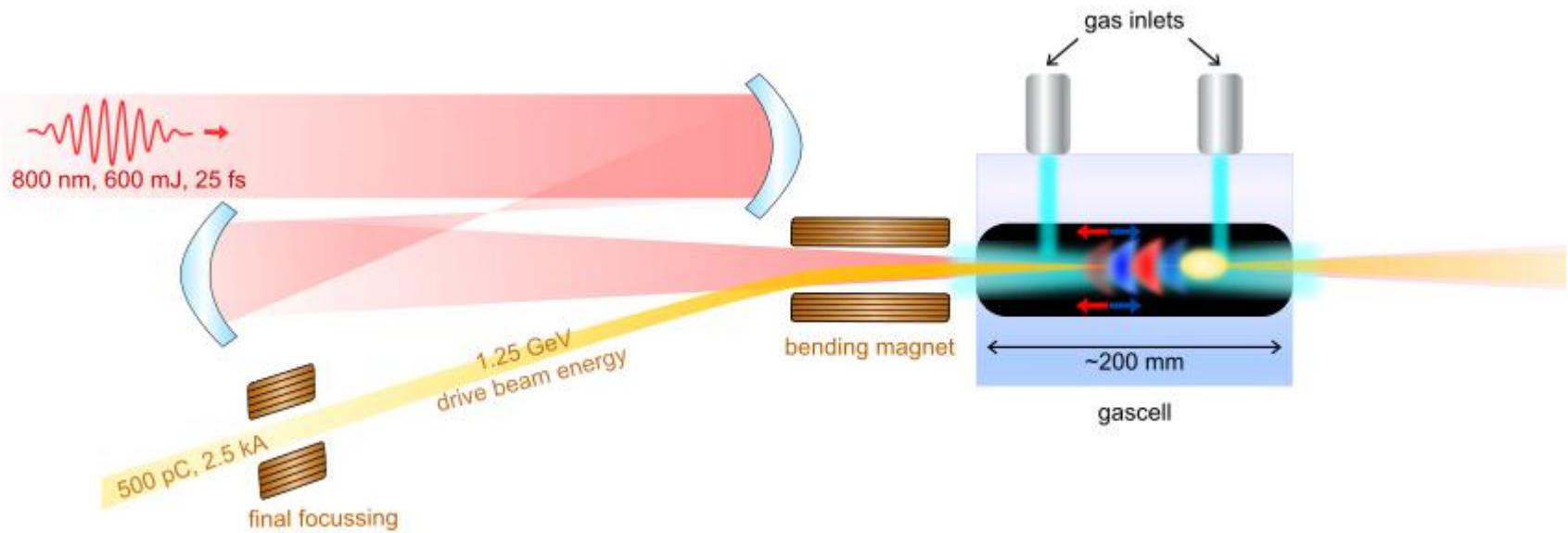
- Laser parameters and focussing determine ionisation degree



# Disentangled plasma creation and wakefield acceleration

## FLASHForward►

- Laser parameters and focussing determine ionisation degree
- Electron bunch drives wakefields

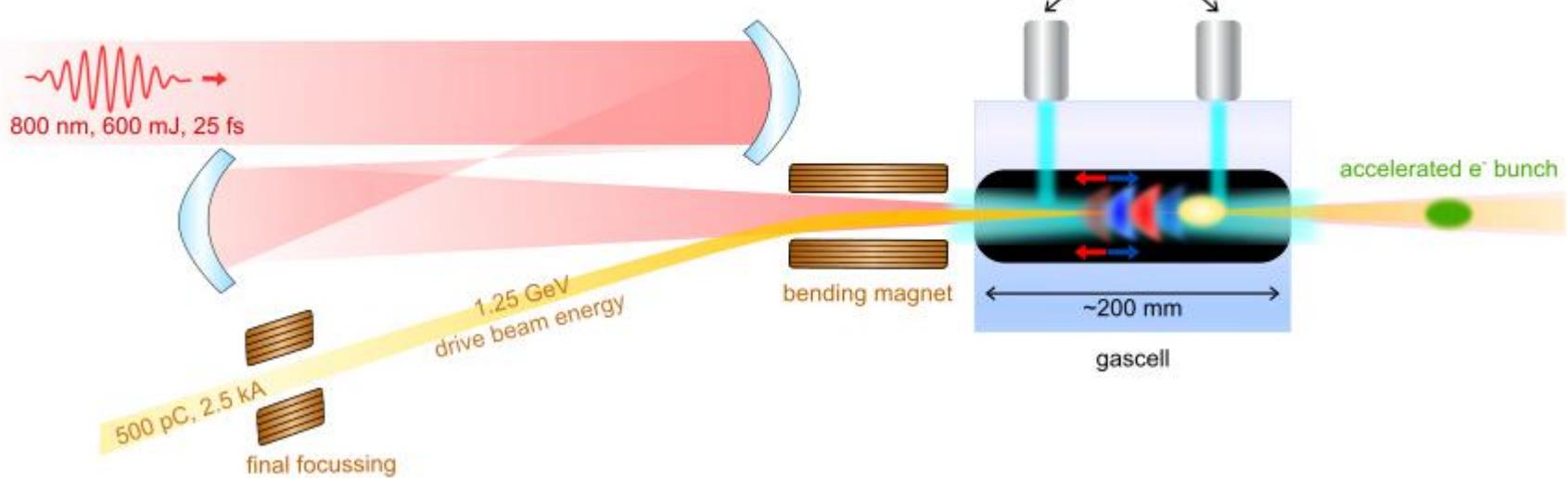


# Disentangled plasma creation and wakefield acceleration

## FLASHForward►

- Laser parameters and focussing determine ionisation degree
- Electron bunch drives wakefields

More details on  
FLASHForward in Jens  
Osterhoff's talk on joint  
WG1/WG8 session  
Wednesday 18:45

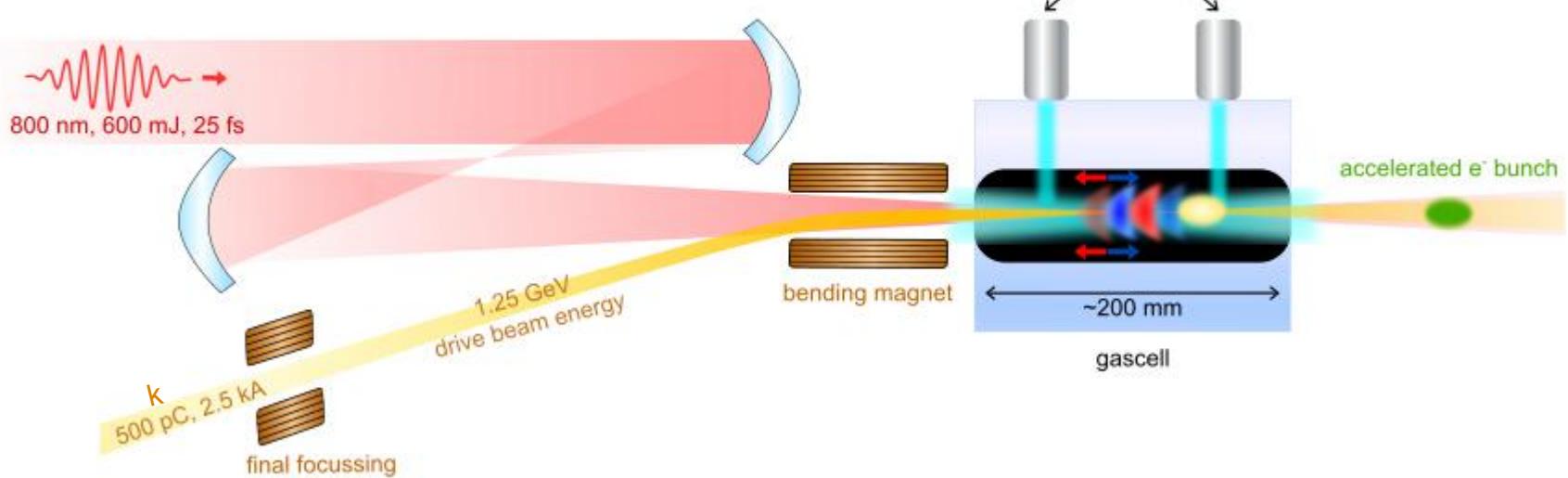


# Disentangled plasma creation and wakefield acceleration

## FLASHForward►

- Laser parameters and focussing determine ionisation degree
- Electron bunch drives wakefields
- Control of plasma properties crucial for experiments

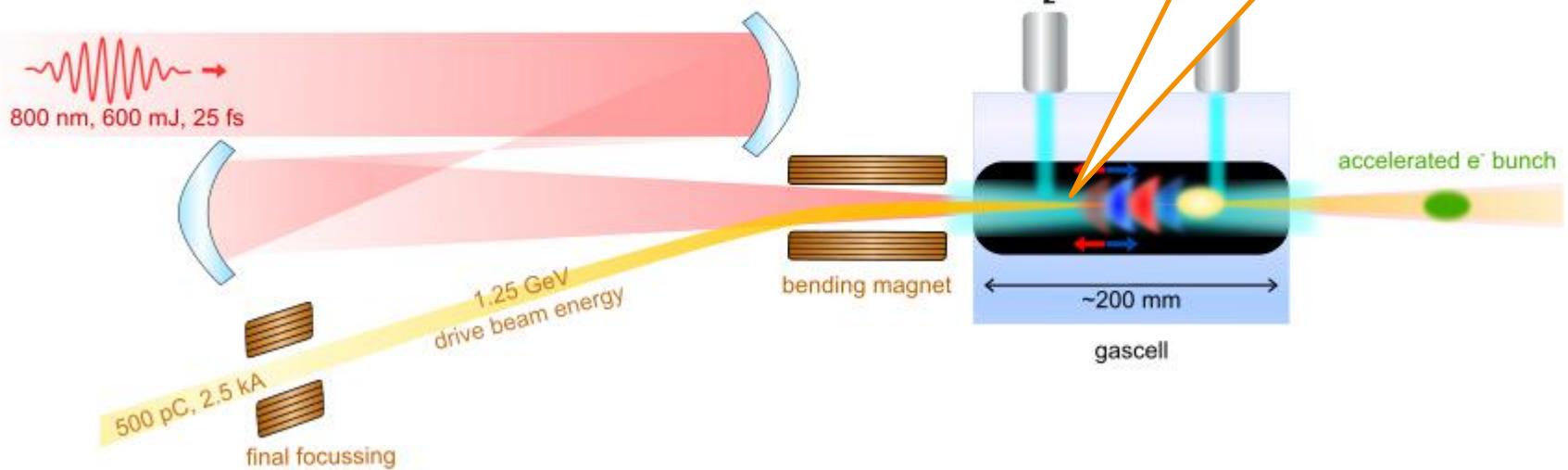
Details e.g. in Alexander  
Knetsch's  
talk in WG1 18:00



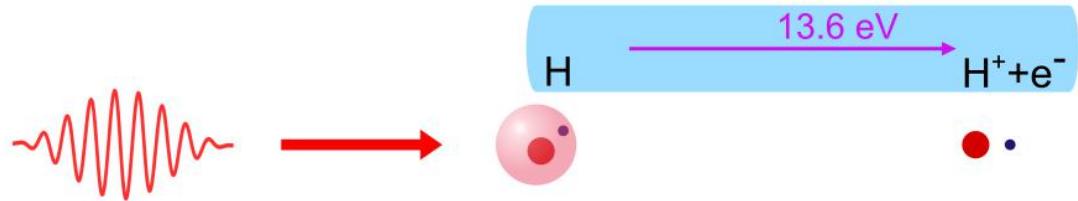
# Disentangled plasma creation and wakefield acceleration

## FLASHForward ►►

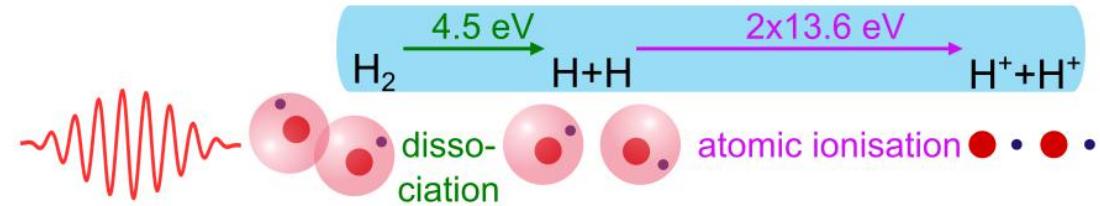
- Laser parameters and focussing determine ionisation degree
- Electron bunch drives wakefields
- Control of plasma properties crucial for experiments
- Assess ionisation properties



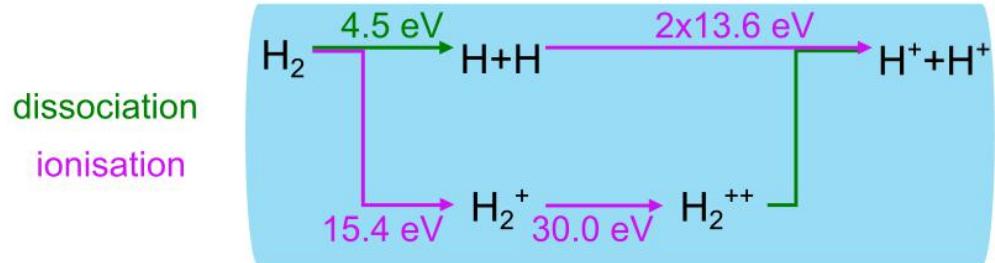
# Creating a Hydrogen plasma



# Creating a Hydrogen plasma



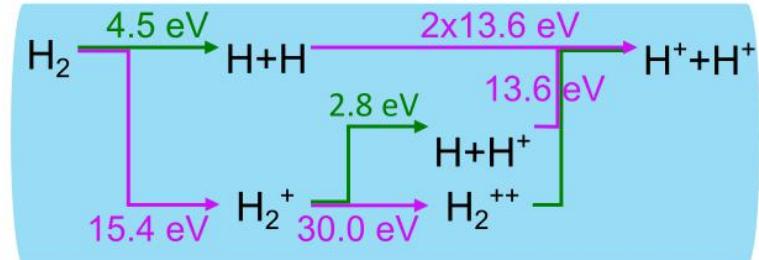
# Creating a Hydrogen plasma



# Creating a Hydrogen plasma

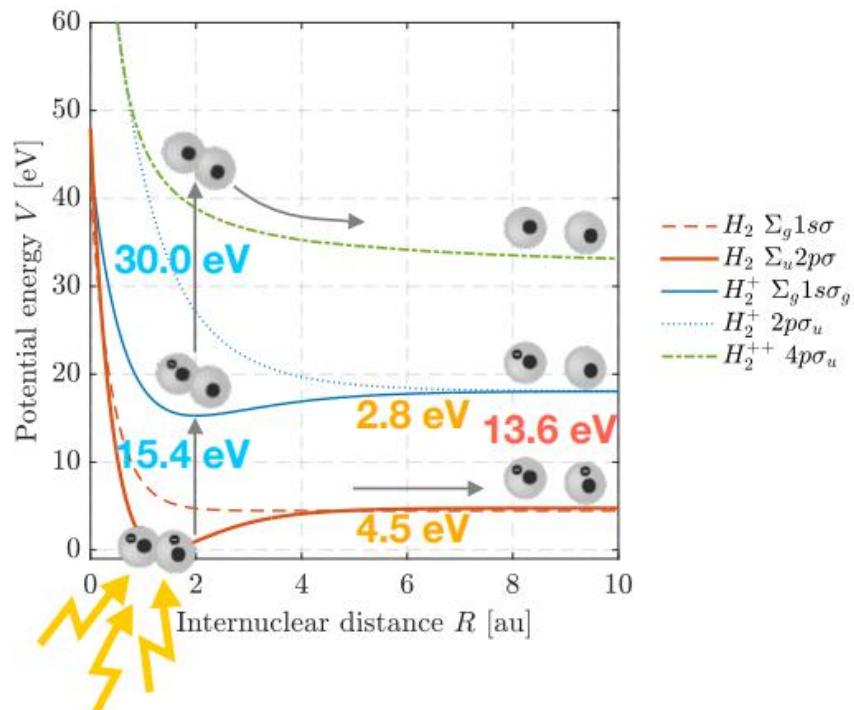
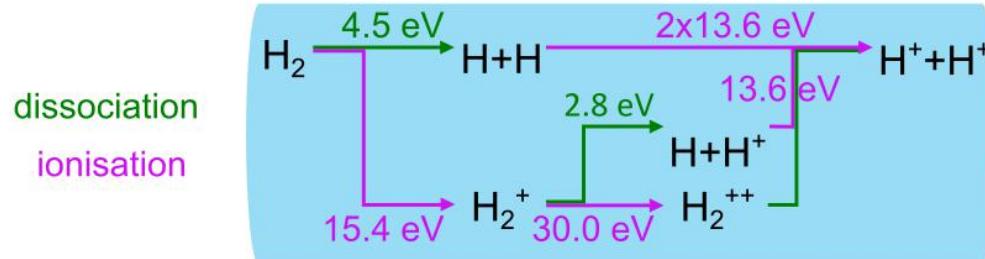
- > Molecular fragmentation dynamics are more complex

dissociation  
ionisation



# Creating a Hydrogen plasma

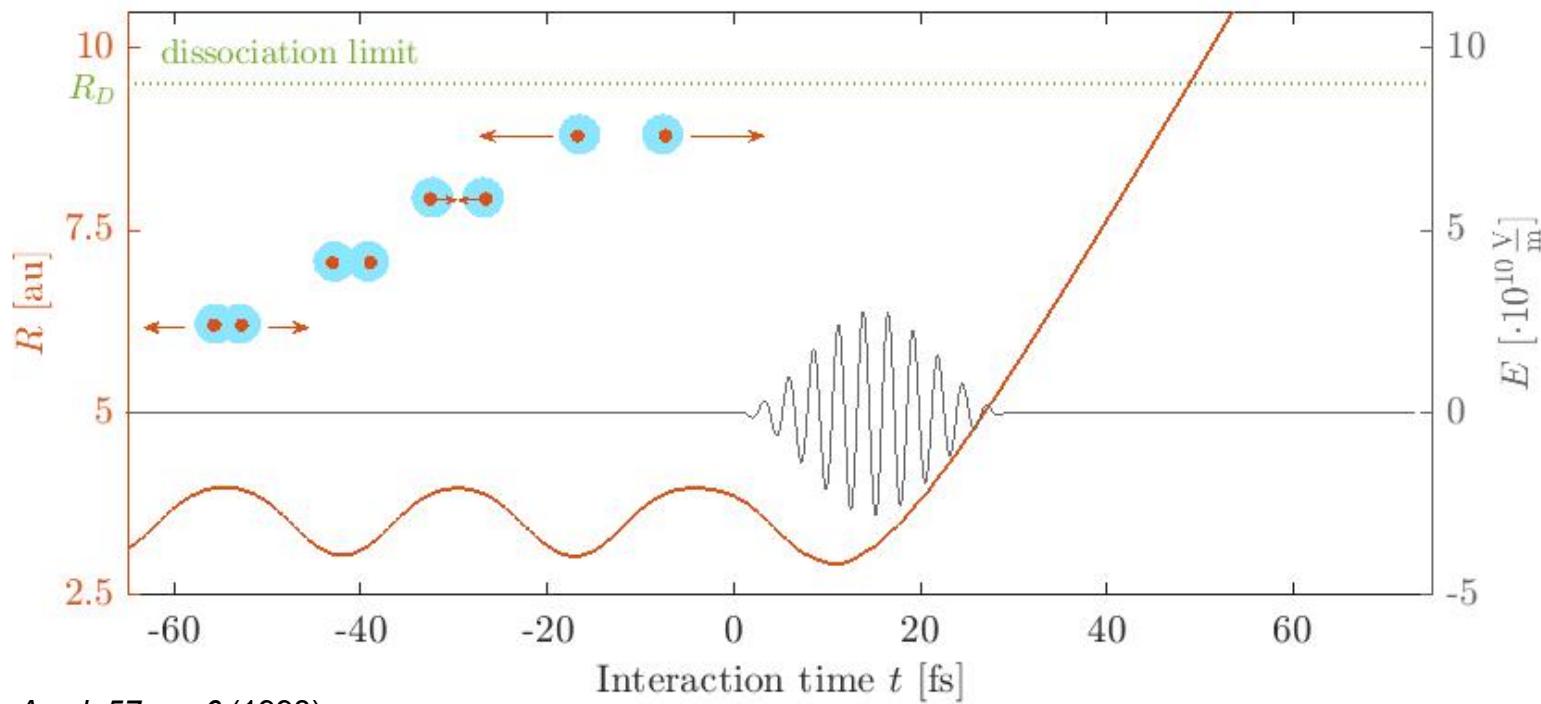
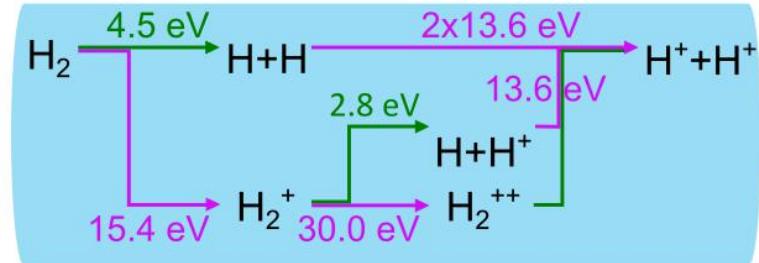
- > Molecular fragmentation dynamics are more complex
- > Atomic tunnelling ionisation is dominating<sup>[1]</sup>
- > Dissociation processes take time



[1] Keldysh, *J. Exptl. Theoret. Phys. (U.S.S.R.)* (1964)

# Classical 1D simulation of H<sub>2</sub> fragmentation dynamics [2]

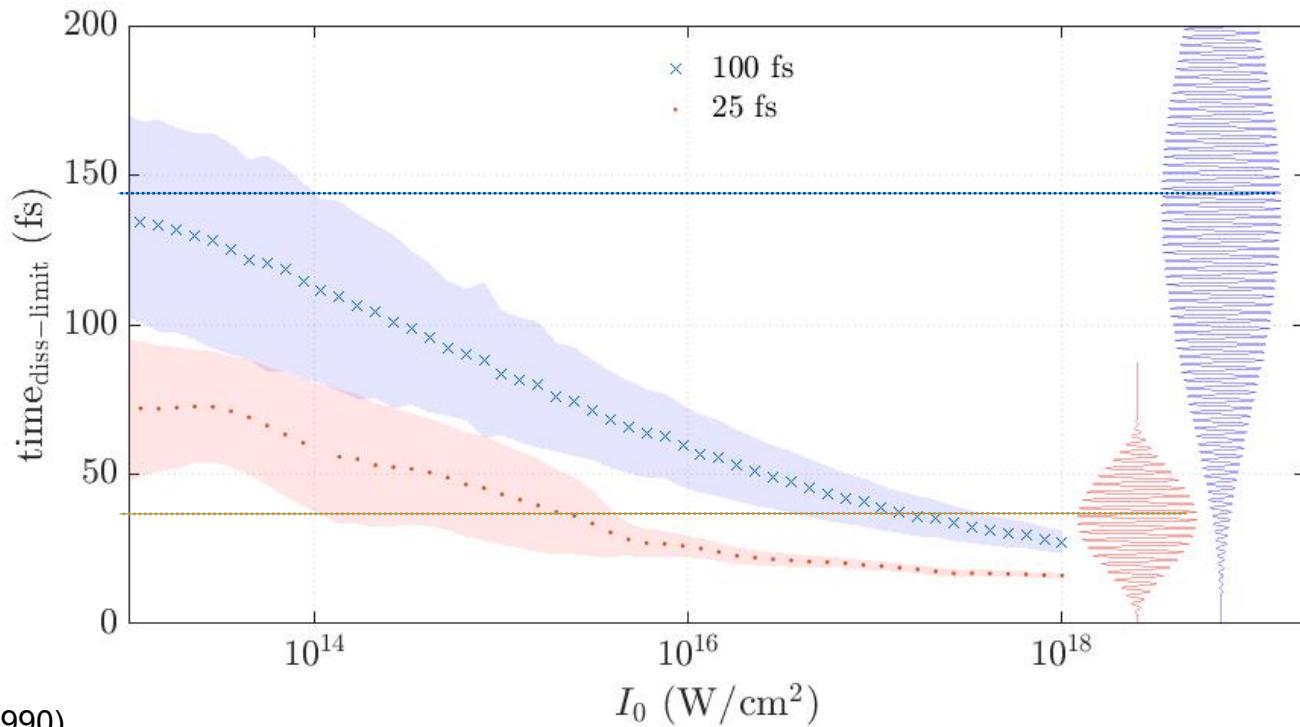
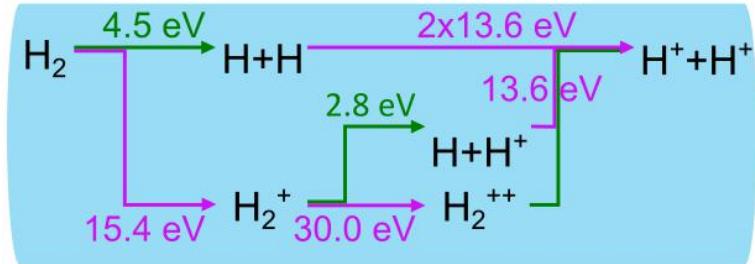
- Incorporating full fragmentation dynamics (ionisation + dissociation)
- Applicable in the case of ultrashort and intense laser pulses<sup>[3]</sup>



[2] Qu et al., *Phys. Rev. A* vol. 57 no. 6 (1998)

[3] Villeneuve et al., *Phys. Rev. A* vol. 54 no. 1 (1996)

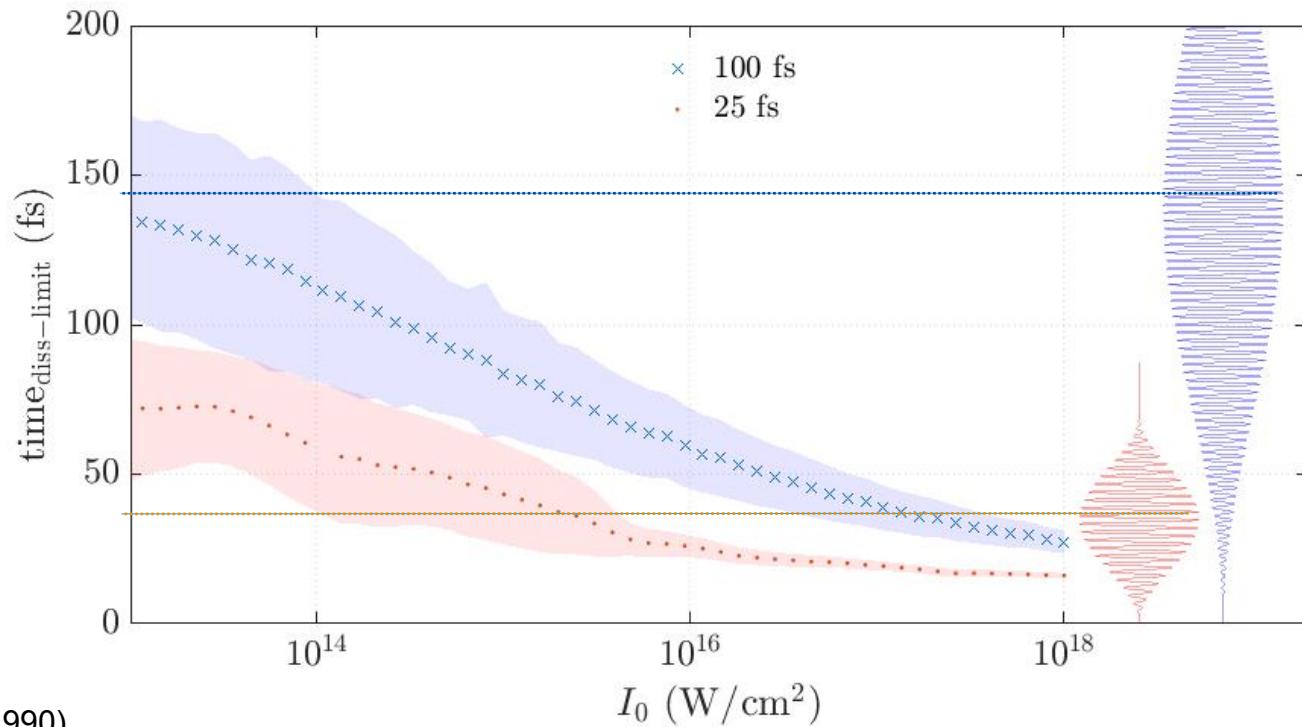
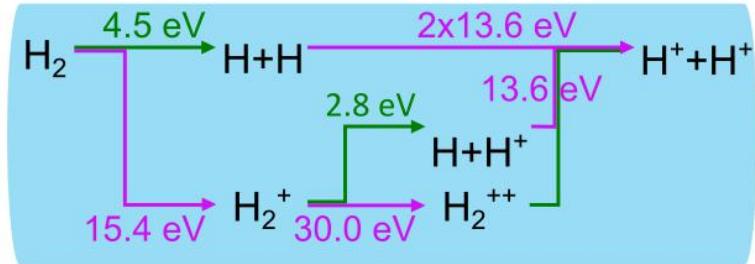
# Classical 1D simulation of H<sub>2</sub> fragmentation dynamics [2]



- [4] Zavriyev et al., *Phys. Rev. A* vol. 42 (1990)  
[5] Bandrauk, *Molecules in Laser Fields* (1994)

# Classical 1D simulation of H<sub>2</sub> fragmentation dynamics [2]

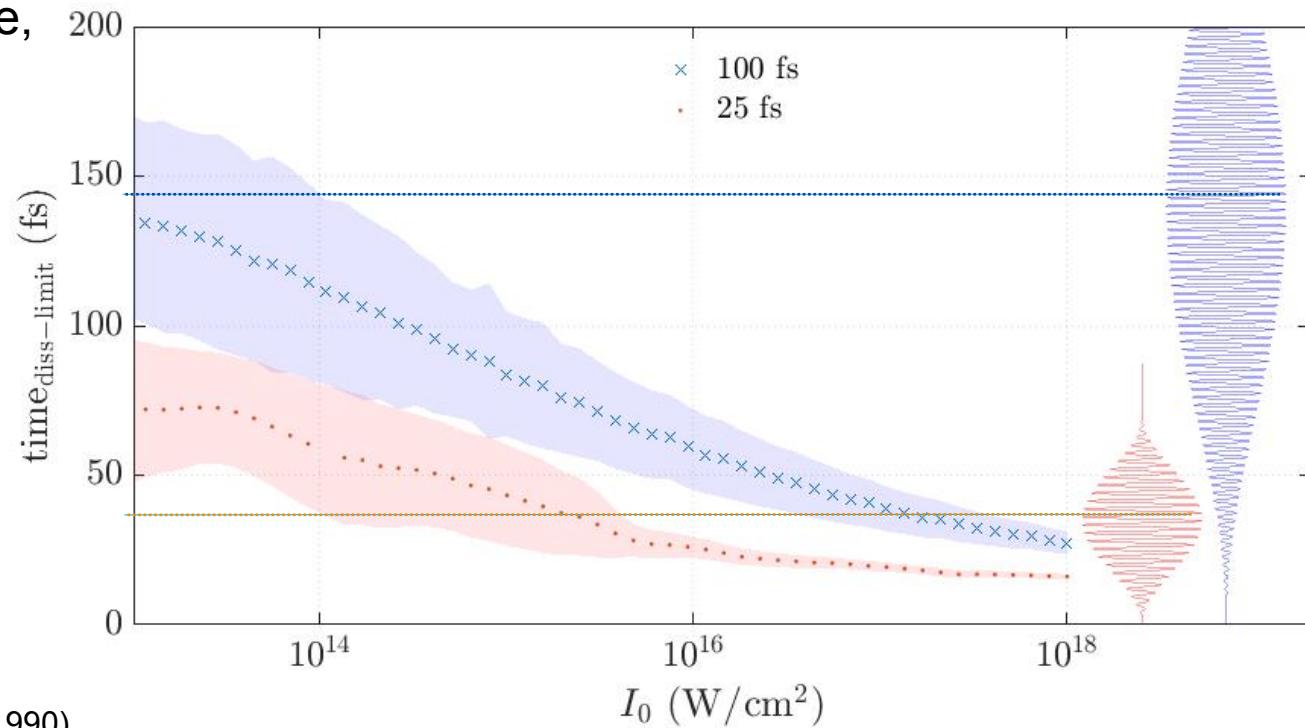
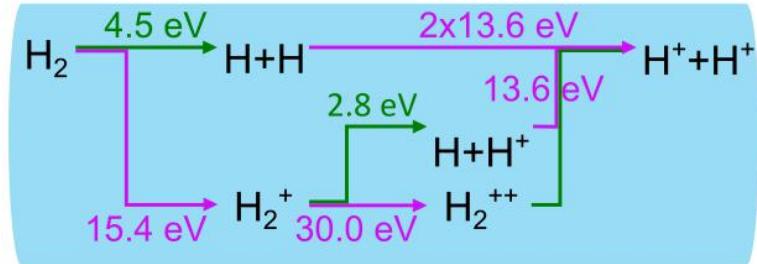
- Short pulse regime: pure ionisation
- Intermediate regime: dissociative ionisation
- Long pulse regime: dissociation before ionisation may be possible



[4] Zavriyev et al., *Phys. Rev. A* vol. 42 (1990)  
[5] Bandrauk, *Molecules in Laser Fields* (1994)

# Classical 1D simulation of H<sub>2</sub> fragmentation dynamics [2]

- Short pulse regime: pure ionisation
- Intermediate regime: dissociative ionisation
- Long pulse regime: dissociation before ionisation may be possible
- The heavier the molecule, the longer time until dissociation limit due to inertia

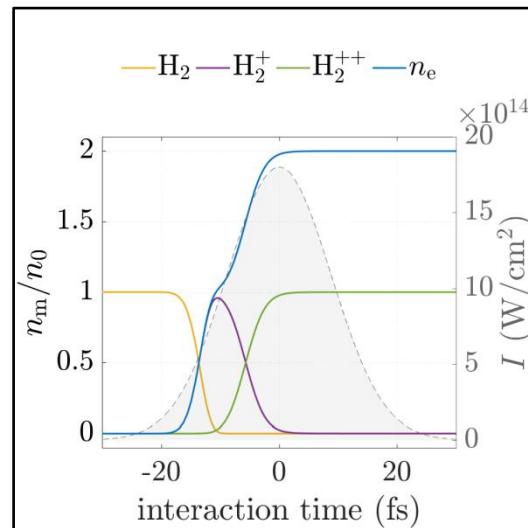


[4] Zavriyev et al., Phys. Rev. A vol. 42 (1990)

[5] Bandrauk, Molecules in Laser Fields (1994)

# Ionisation model electron density

- ADK theory<sup>[6]</sup> based formula<sup>[7,8,9]</sup> for static ionisation rates
- Rate equations describe population of states



[6] Ammasov, Delone, Krainov, *Soviet Physics – JETP* vol.91 no.64 (1986)

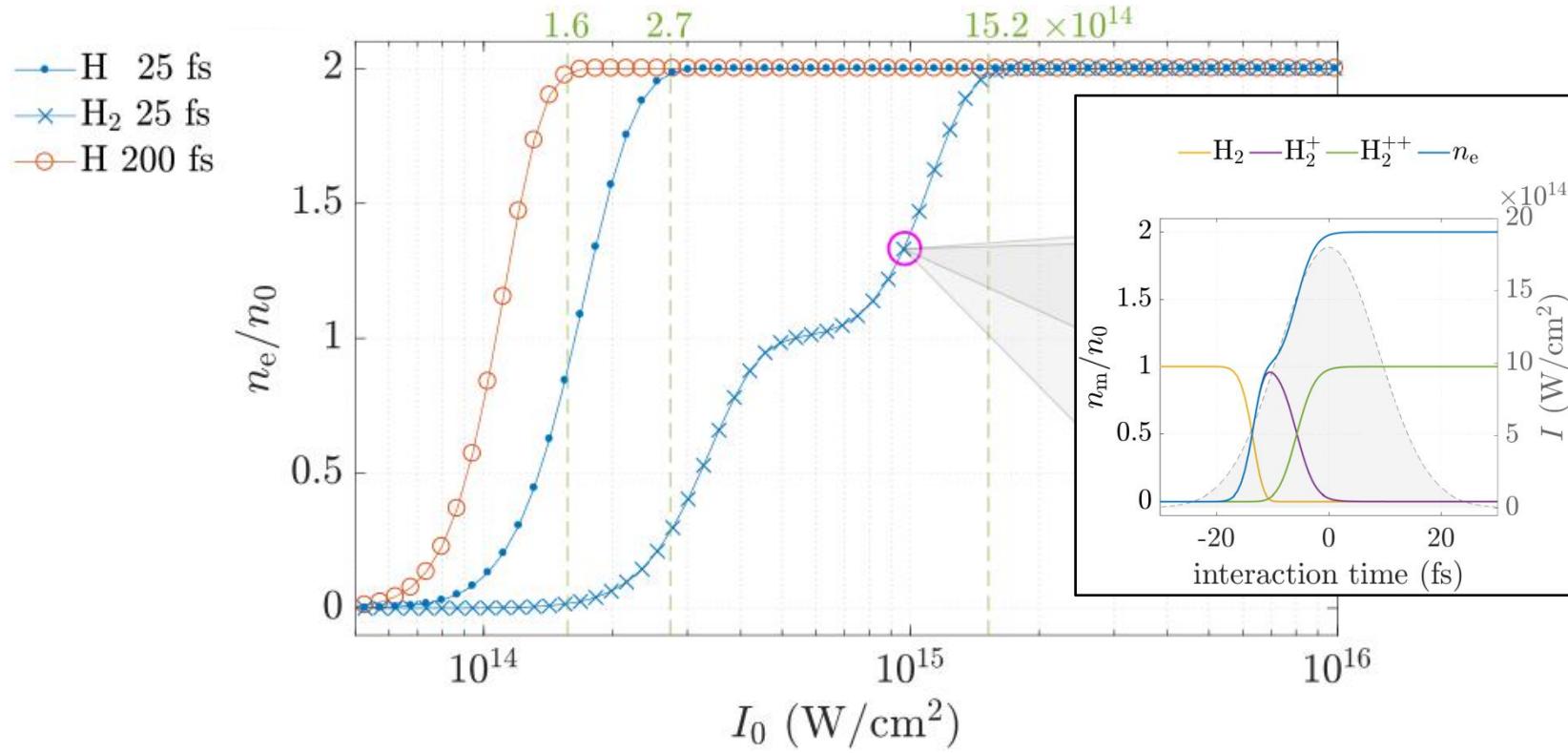
[7] Zhang, Lan, Lu, *Phys. Rev. A* 90 (2014)

[8] Tong, Lin, *Journ. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys.* (2005)

[9] Tong, Zhao, Ling, *Phys.Rev. A*, 66 (2002)    Gabriele Tauscher – gabriele.tauscher@desy.de | EAAC 2017 | 25<sup>th</sup> Sept | Page 17

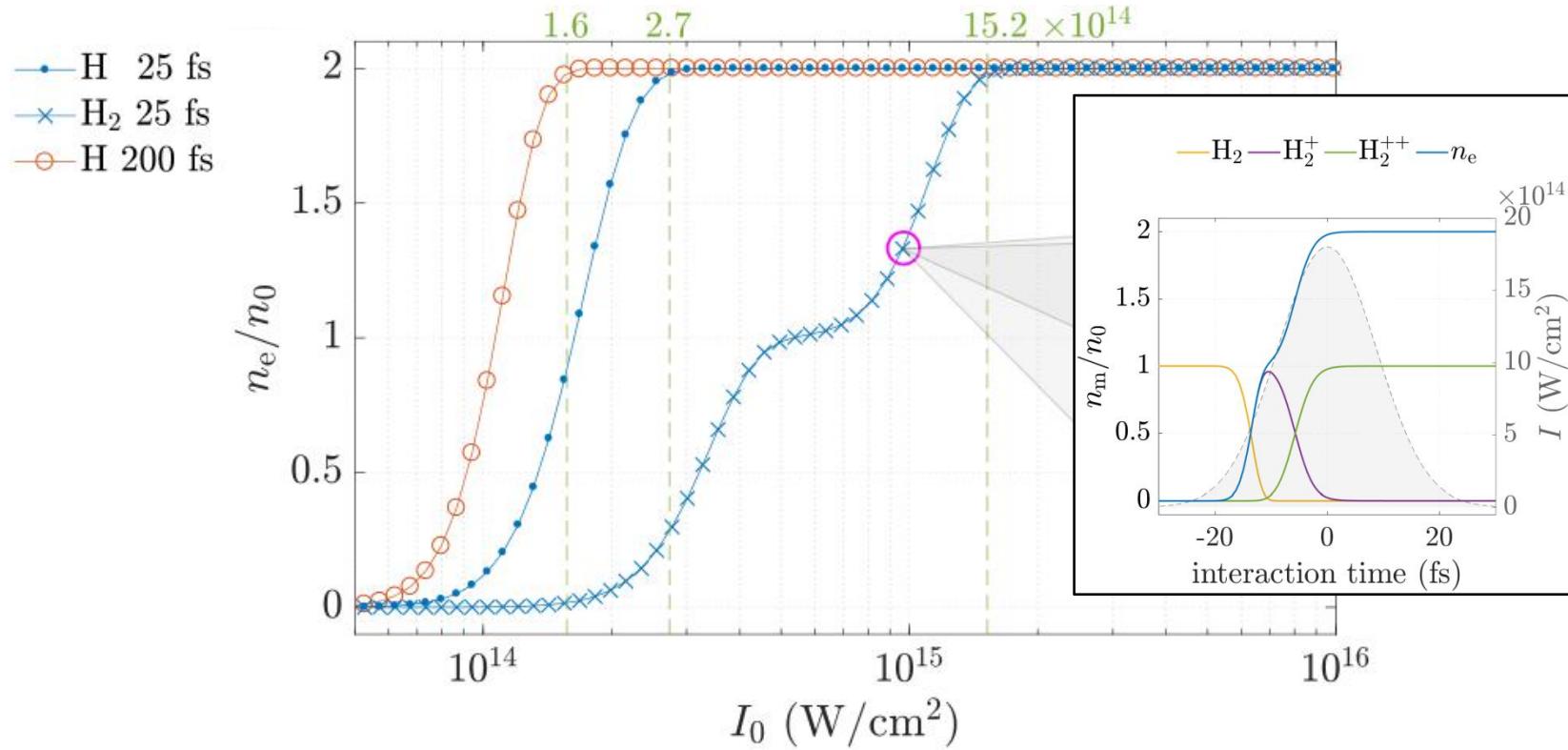


# Ionisation model electron density



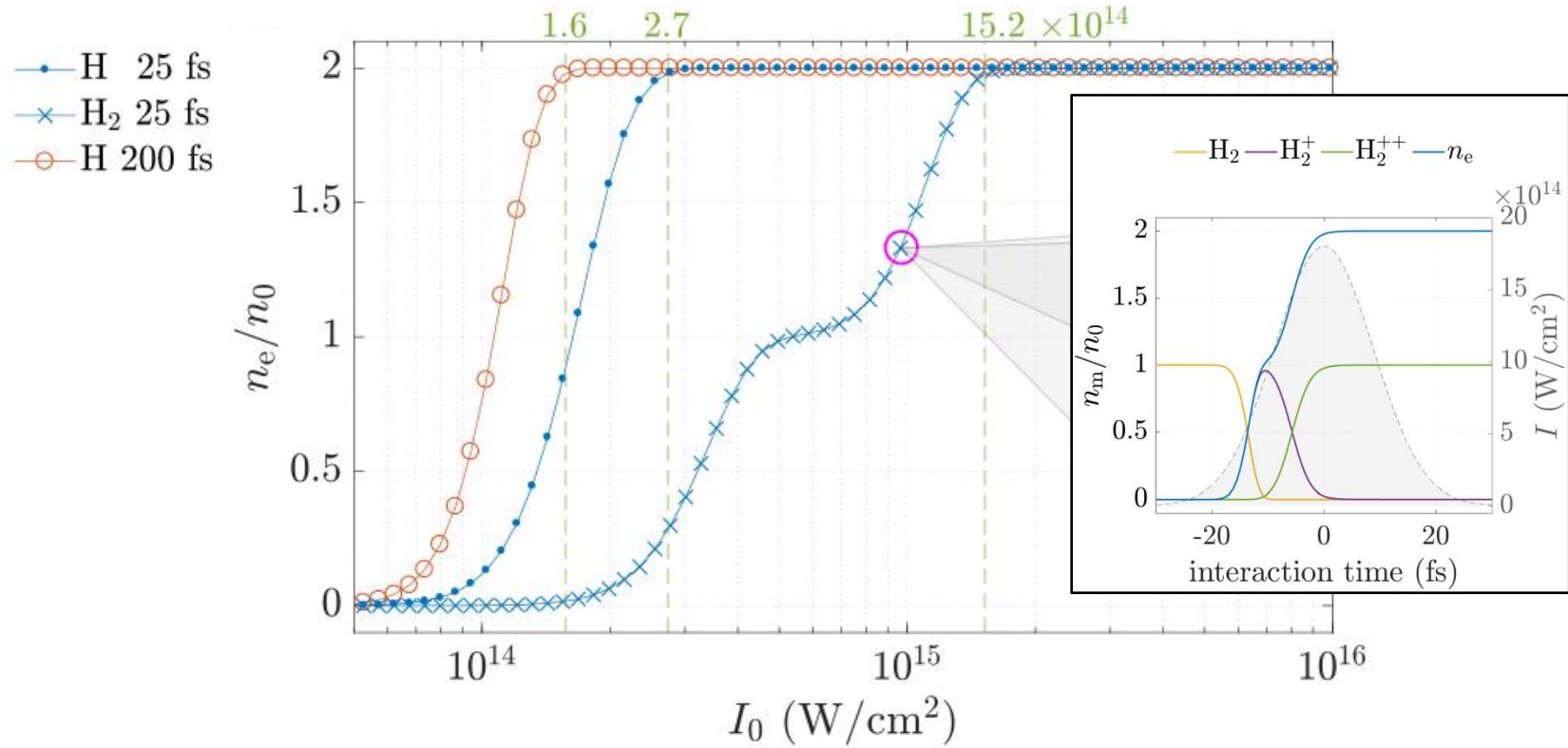
# Ionisation model electron density

- Peak intensity of full ionisation, and ionisation threshold assessable



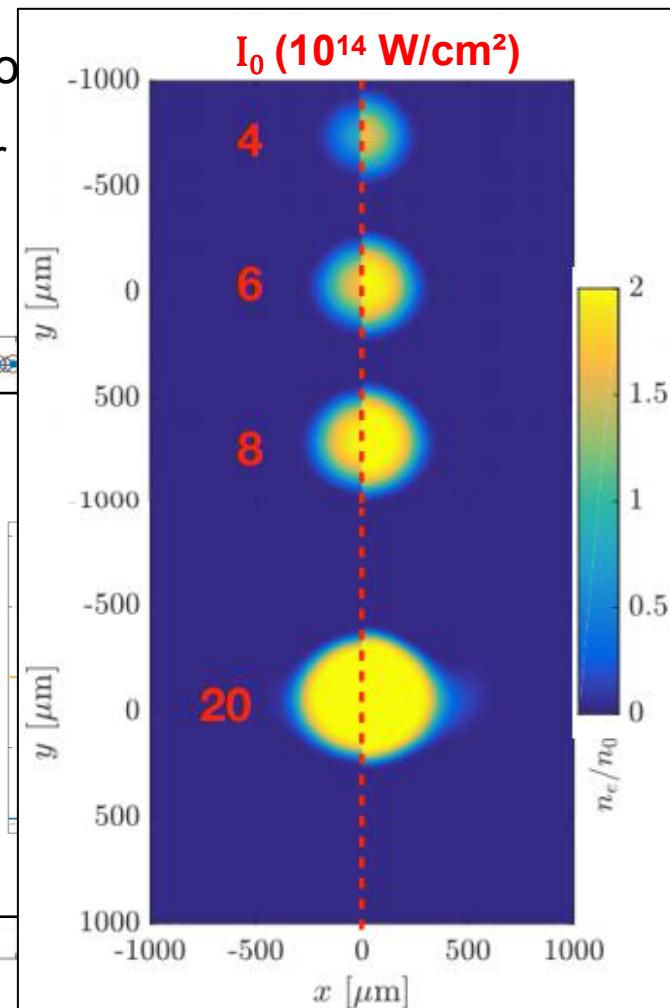
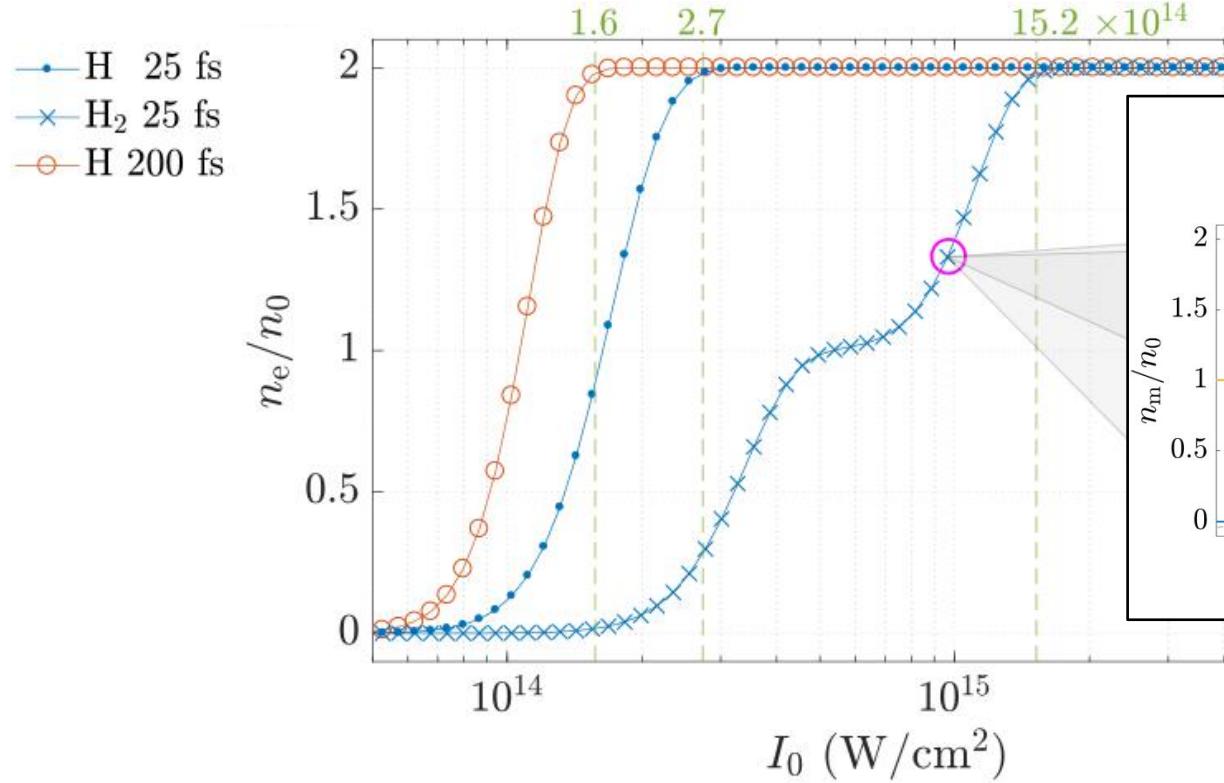
# Ionisation model electron density

- Peak intensity of full ionisation, and ionisation threshold assessable
- Molecular ionisation at higher peak intensity than atomic ionisation
- Full ionisation shifts towards lower peak intensity for longer pulses



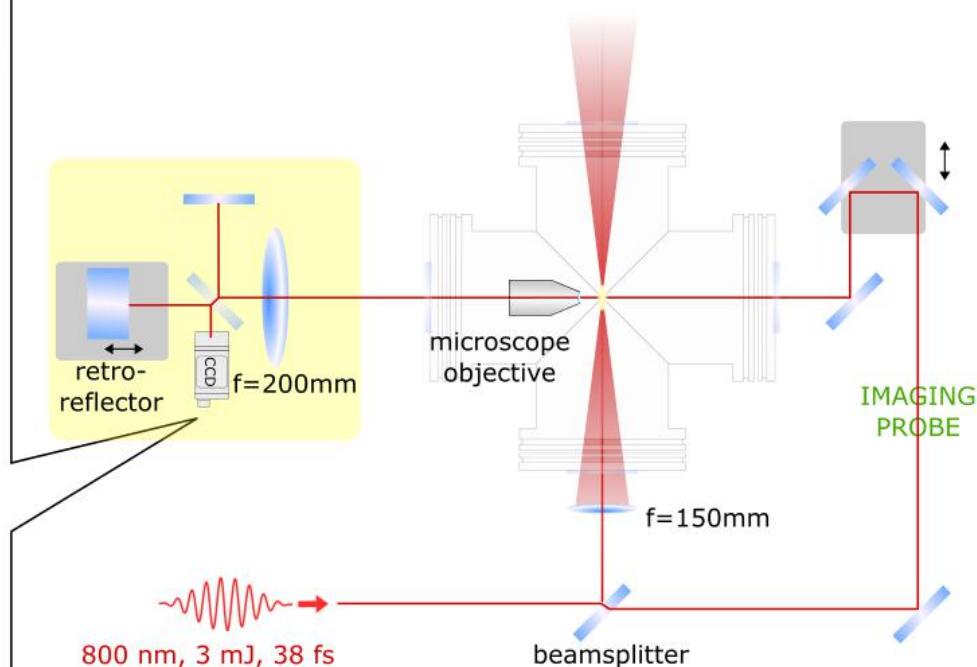
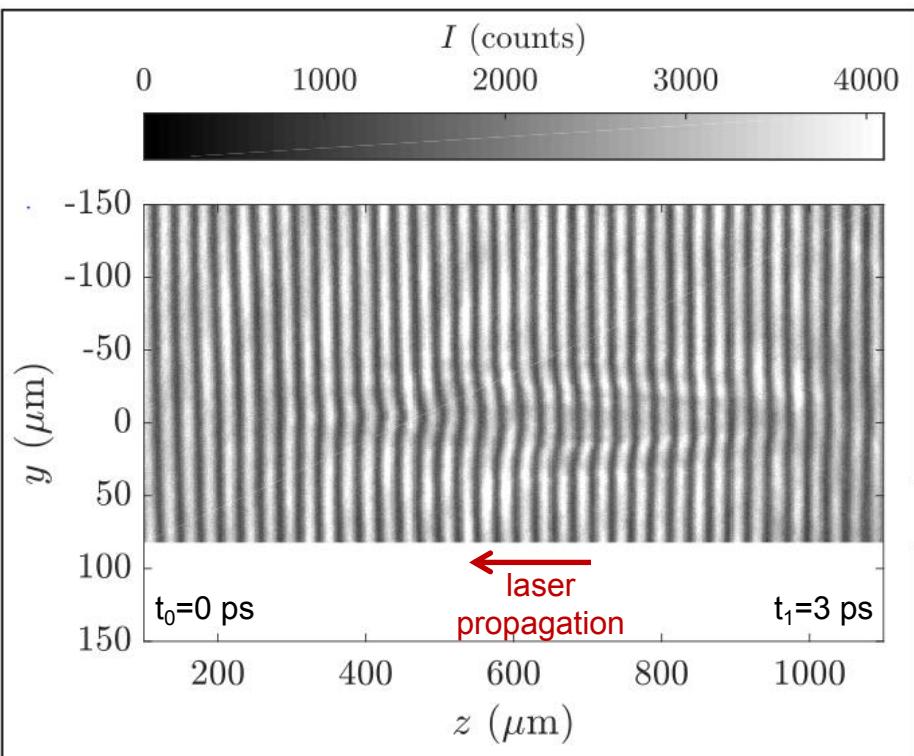
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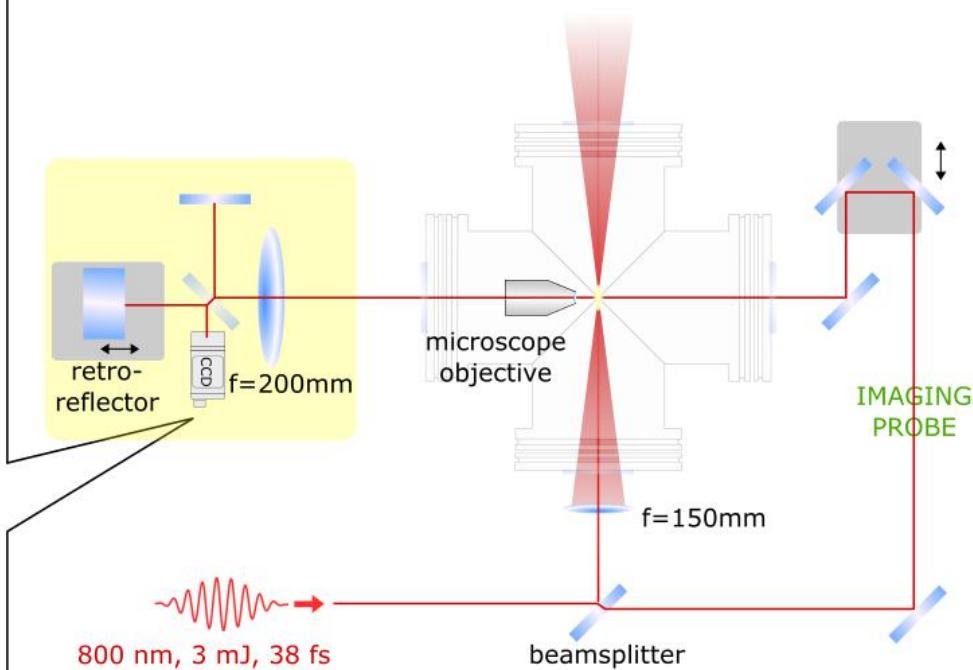
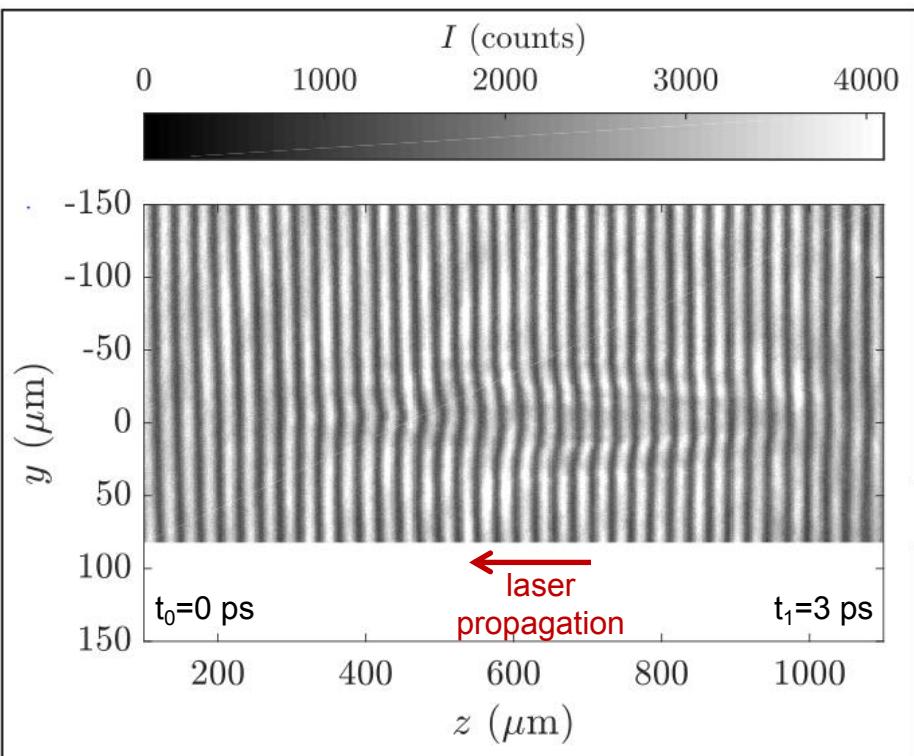
# Experimental plasma interferometry in Hydrogen

- Line-of-sight integrated phase shift, optical resolution < 2  $\mu\text{m}$
- Abel inversion: spatially resolved electron density
- Explored influence of pulse duration on electron density



# Experimental plasma interferometry in Hydrogen

- Experiment just before conference: data analysis is pending
- Results to be published soon



Thank you for your attention!

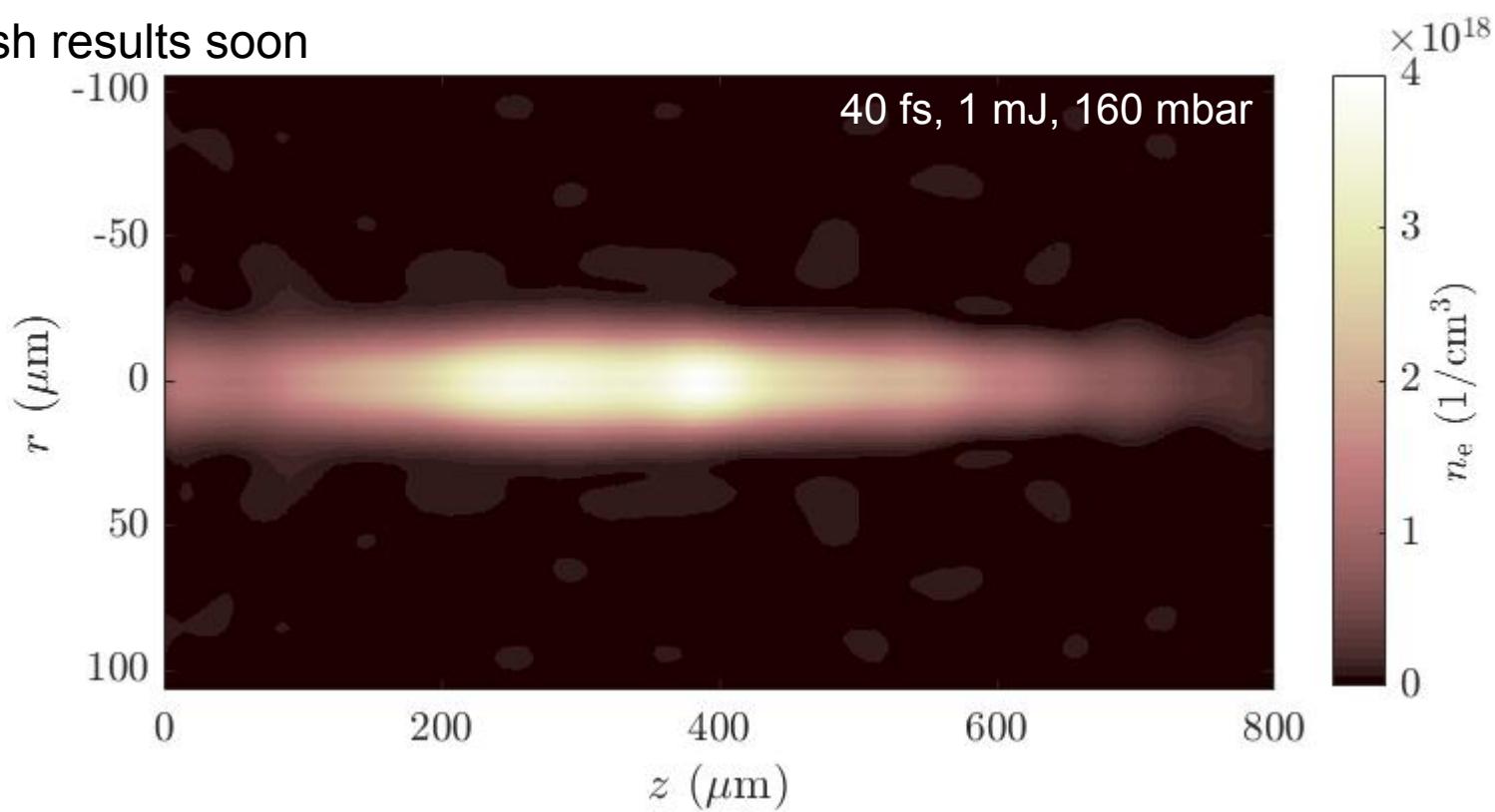
Thanks to the whole FLA Desy plasma group:

L. Schaper, C. Palmer, P. Niknejadi, B. Sheeran, A. Knetsch, P. Pourmoussavi, S. Schroeder, V. Libov, S. Bohlen, K. Poder, J.-P. Schwinkendorf, T. Mehrling, S. Wesch, L. Goldberg, A. Martinez de la Ossa, M. Quast, A. Aschikhin, J.-H. Röckemann, J. Dale, M. Streeter, B. Schmidt and J. Osterhoff



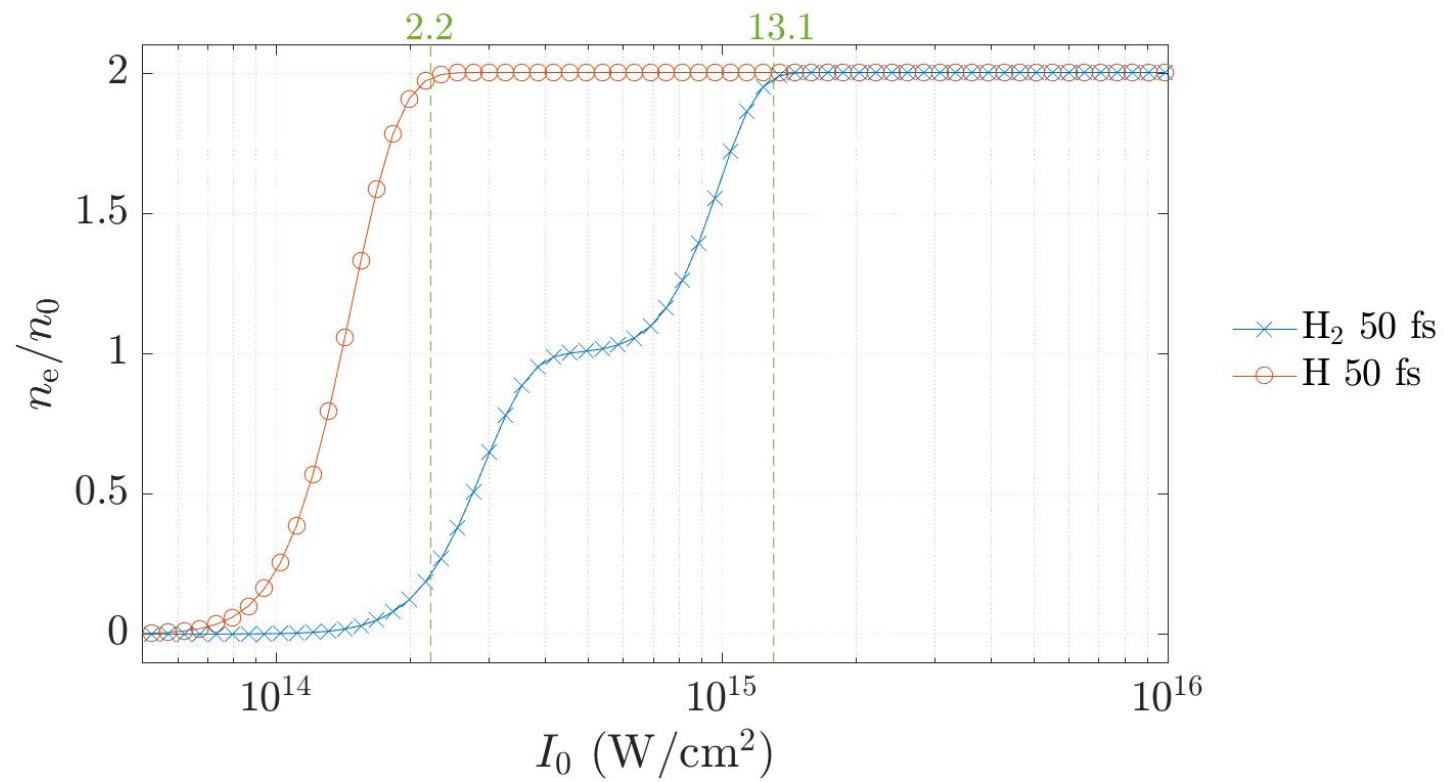
# Preliminary experimental results in Hydrogen

- > Data analysis is pending
- > Theoretical ionisation model looks promising
- > Improve model for ionisation defocussing
- > Plan to publish results soon



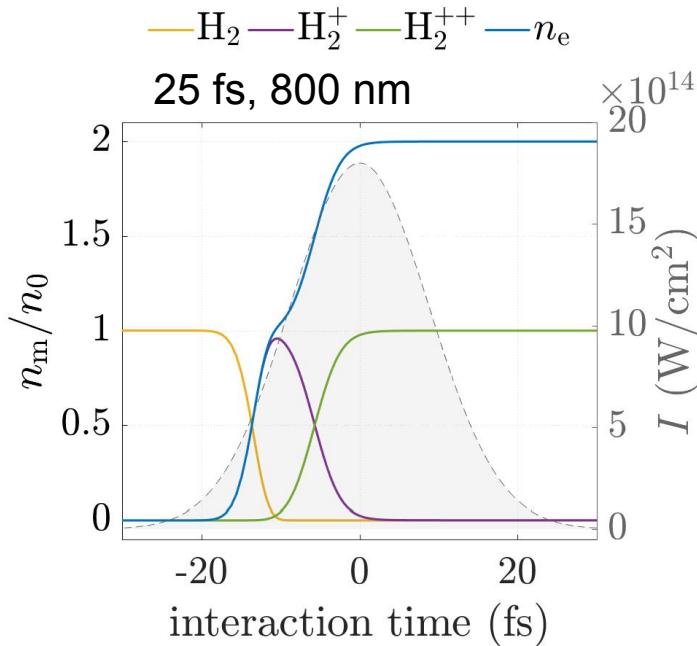
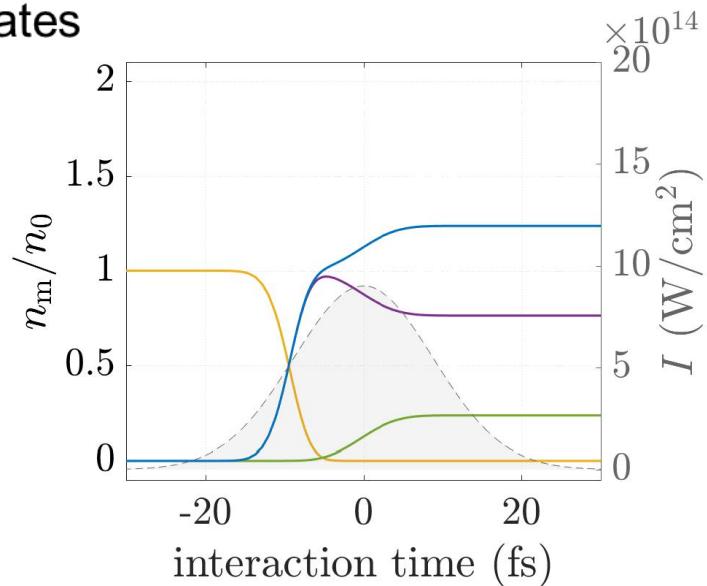
# Benchmark ionisation model

- Preliminary results confirm ionisation model quantitatively



# Pure ionisation channel theoretical model

- equations for short and long pulse regime
- Static tunnelling ionisation rates  $\Gamma_{\text{TBSI}}(E_L)$  from extended Empirical ADK<sup>[2]</sup> formula applicable for atoms and *molecules* far into BSI regime<sup>[3,6,7]</sup>
- Rate equations describing population of states



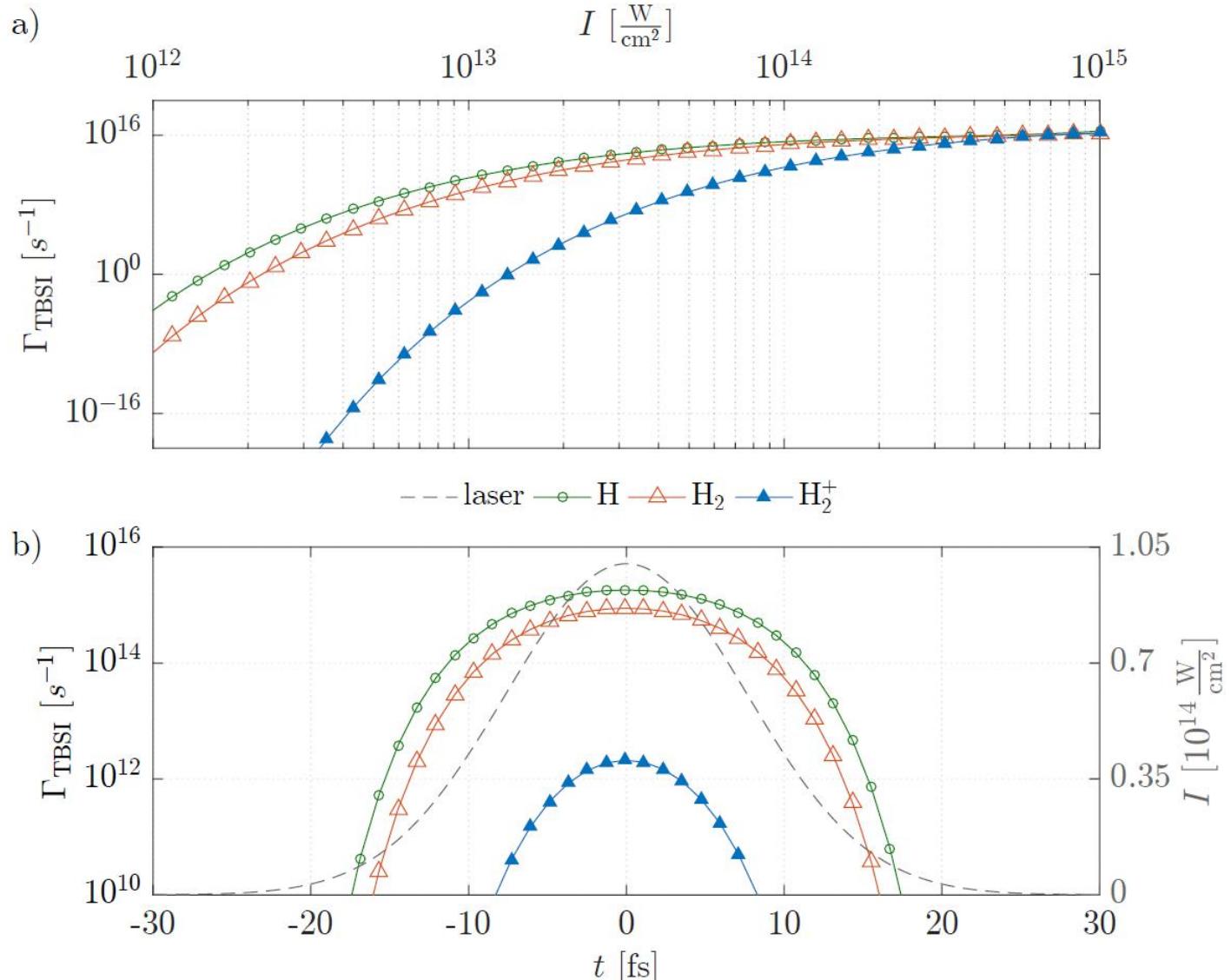
[2] Ammasov, Delone, Krainov, *Soviet Physics - JETP* vol. 91 no. 64 (1986)

[3] Zhang, Lan, Lu, *Phys. Rev. A* 90 (2014)

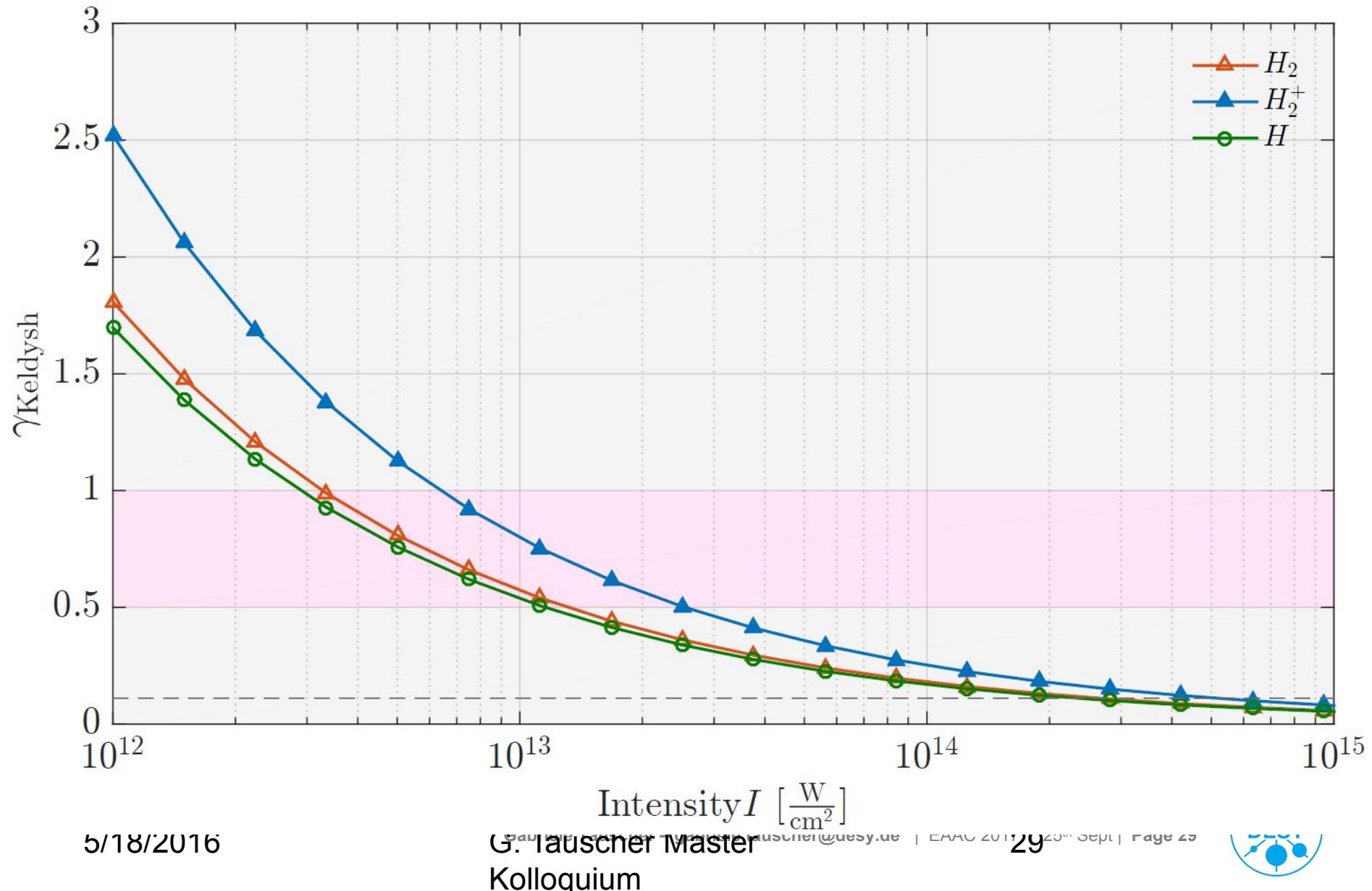
[6] Tong, Lin, *Journ. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys.* (2005)

[7] Tong, Zhao, Ling, *Phys. Rev. A*, 66 (2002) Gabriele Tauscher – gabriele.tauscher@desy.de | EAAC 2017 | 25<sup>th</sup> Sept | Page 27

# Hydrogen Tunnelling Ionisation Rates

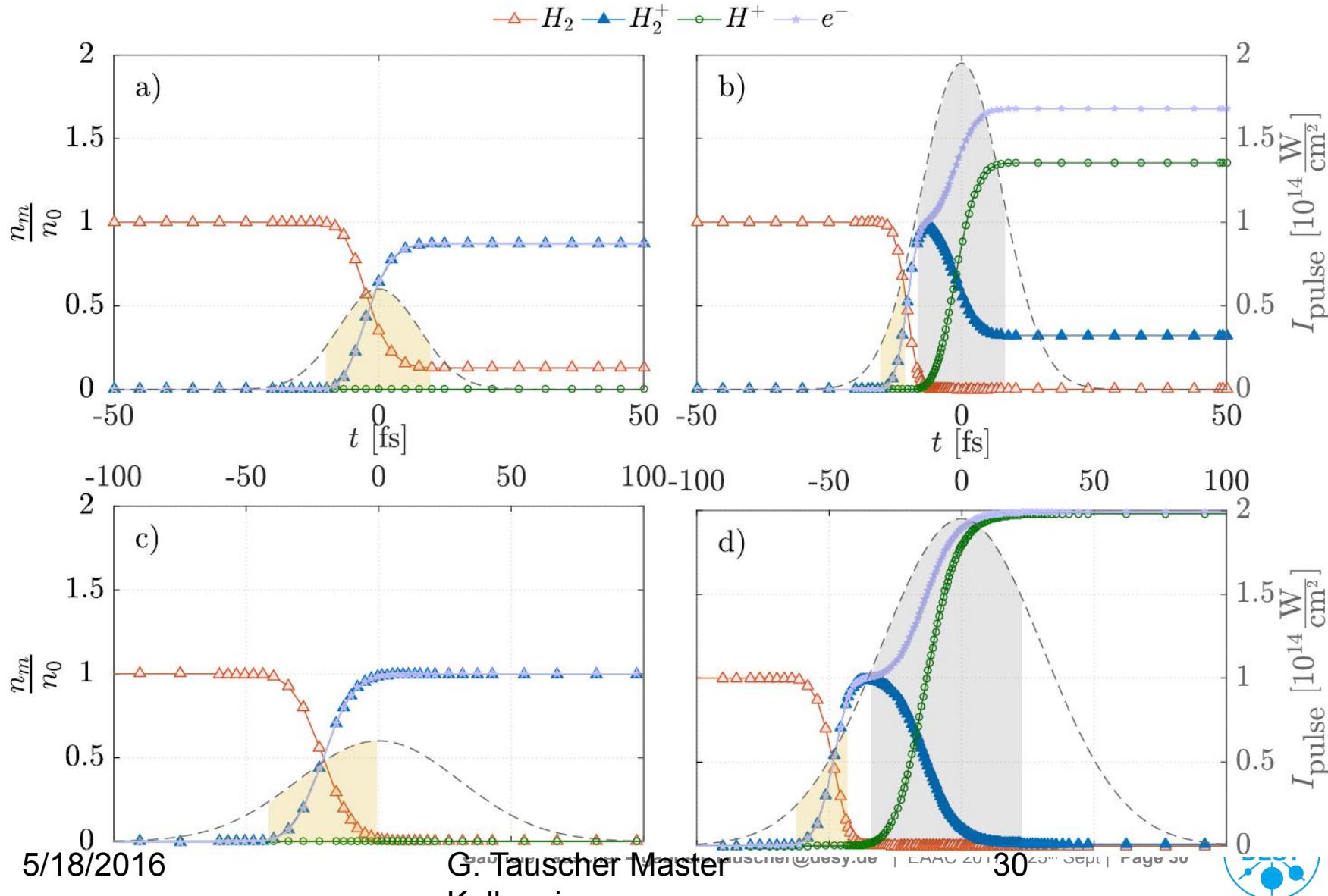


# The Keldysh Parameter



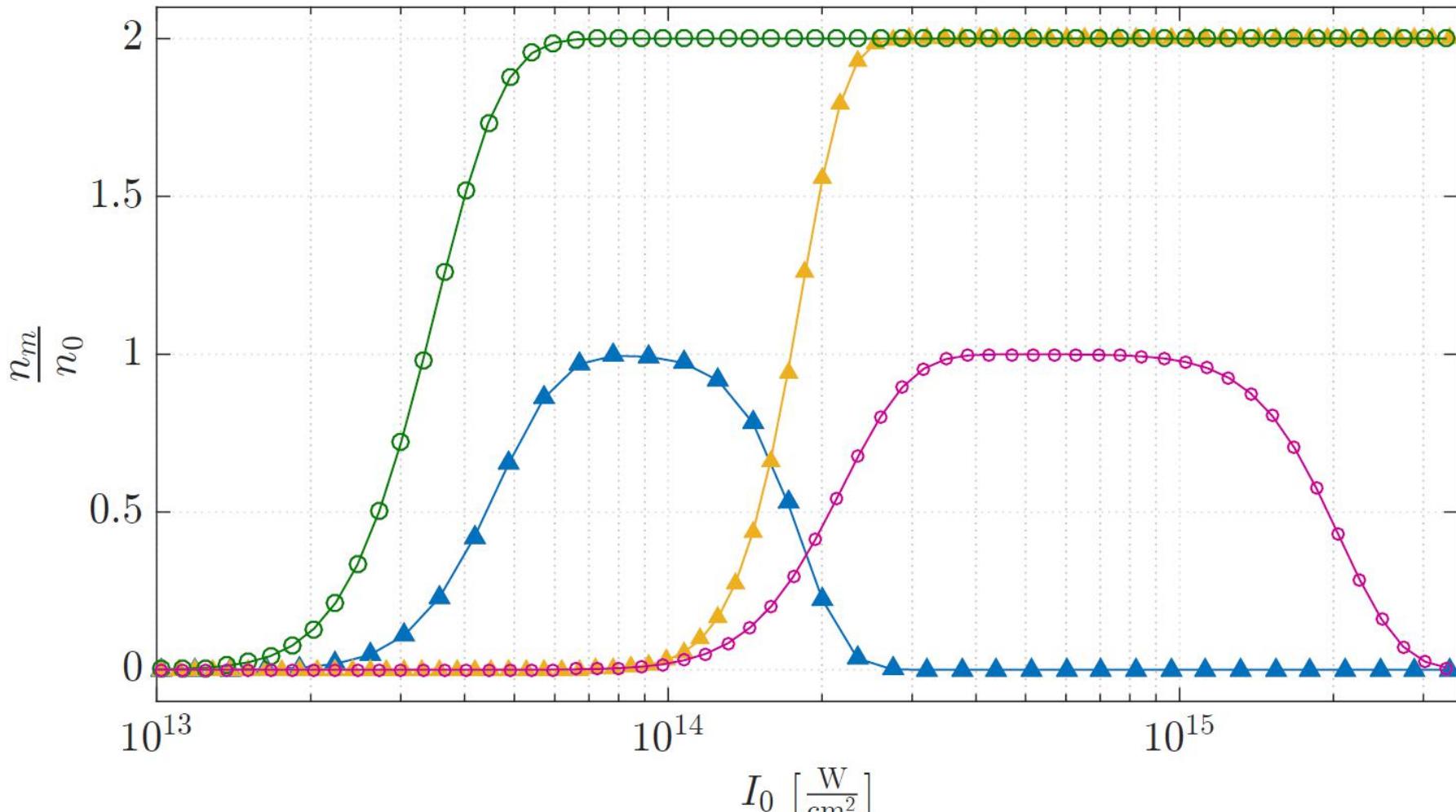
# Density of Hydrogen States

## Dependency on Pulse Duration and Peak Intensity

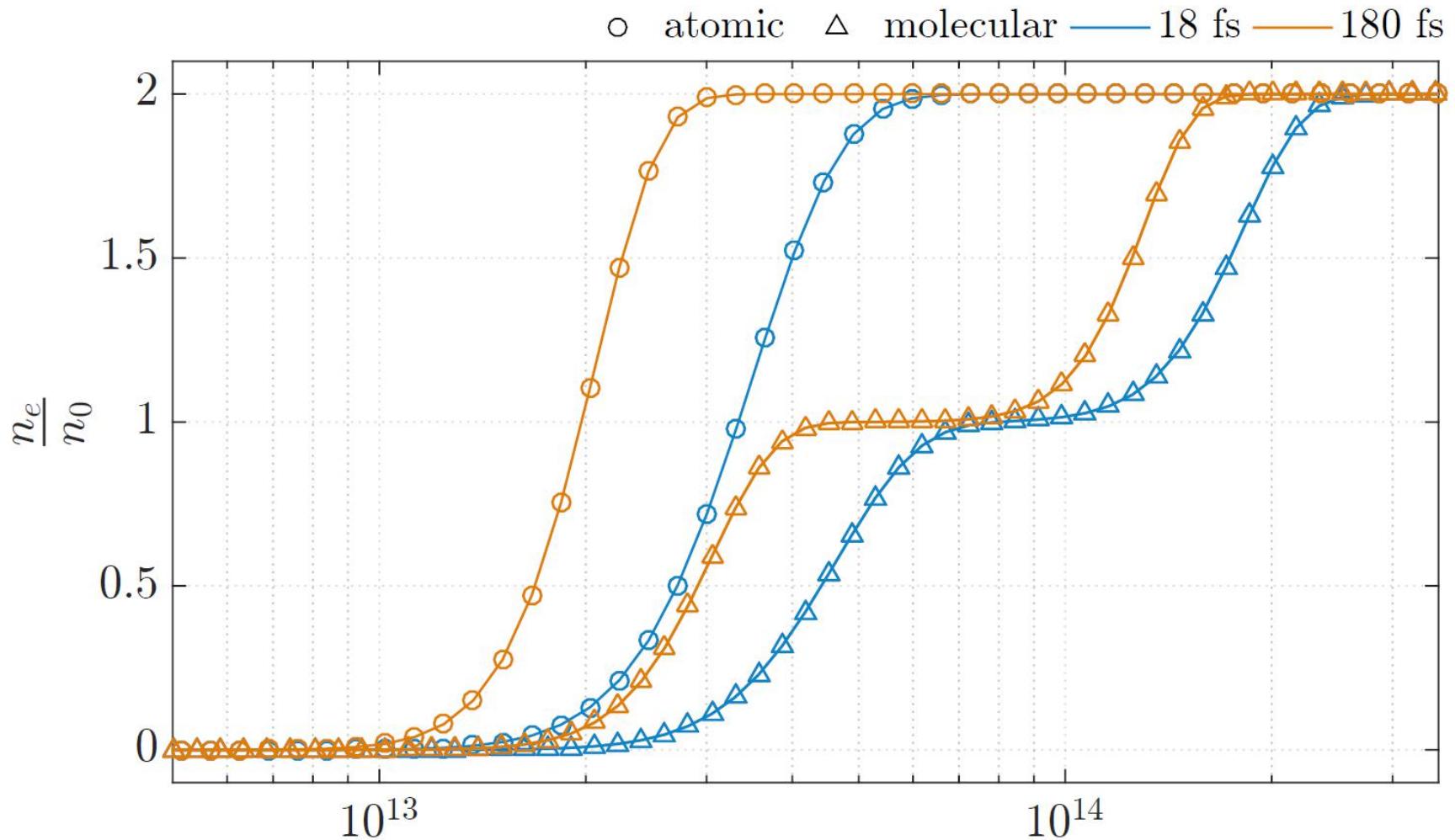


# Appearance Intensities of Full Ionisation Helium AISI and AIDI of Molecular Hydrogen

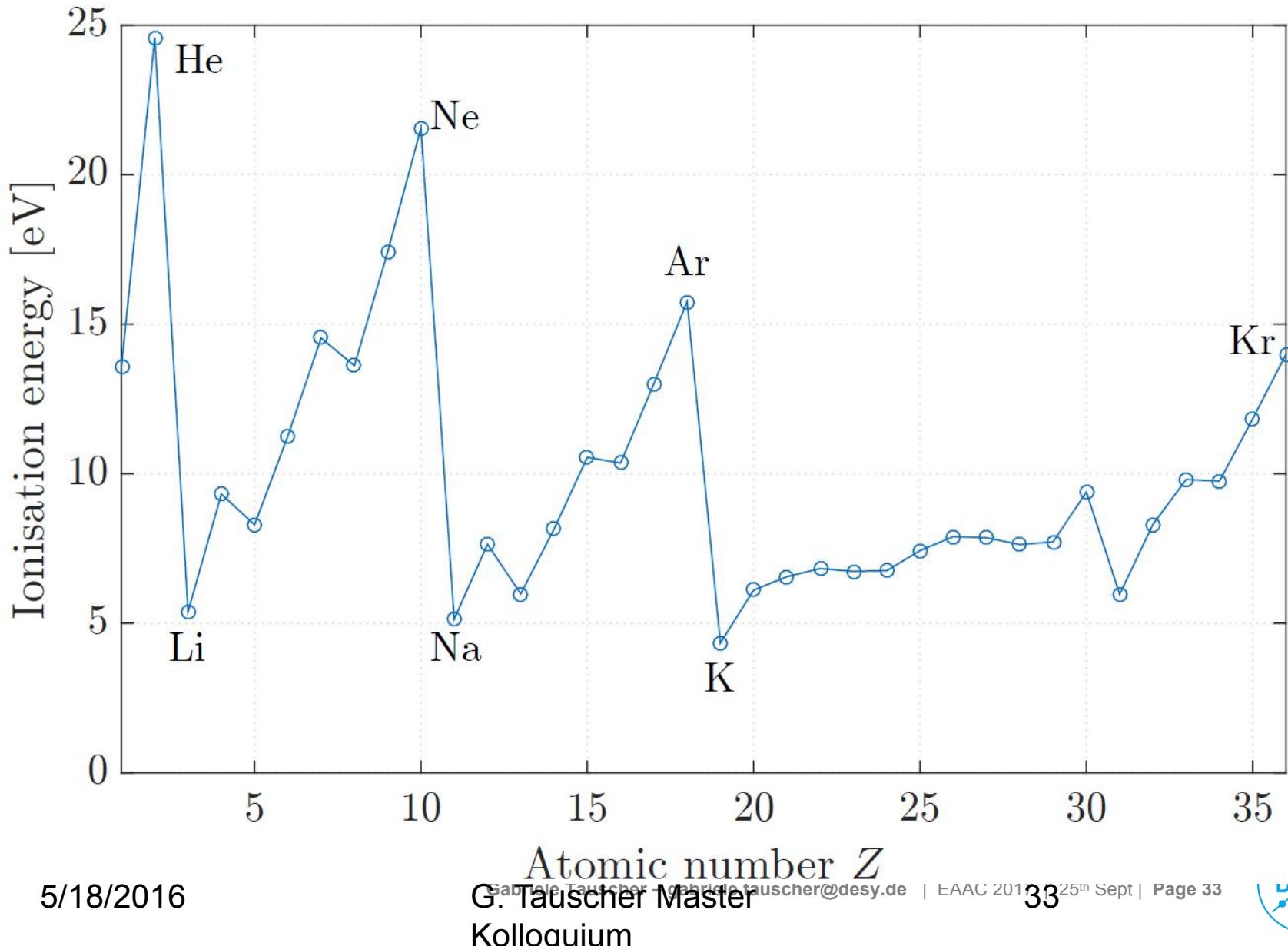
○ atomic    △ molecular     $\blacktriangleleft \text{H}_2^+$      $\blacktriangleright \text{H}^+$      $\circlearrowleft \text{H}^+$      $\circlearrowright \text{He}^+$



# Electron Yield

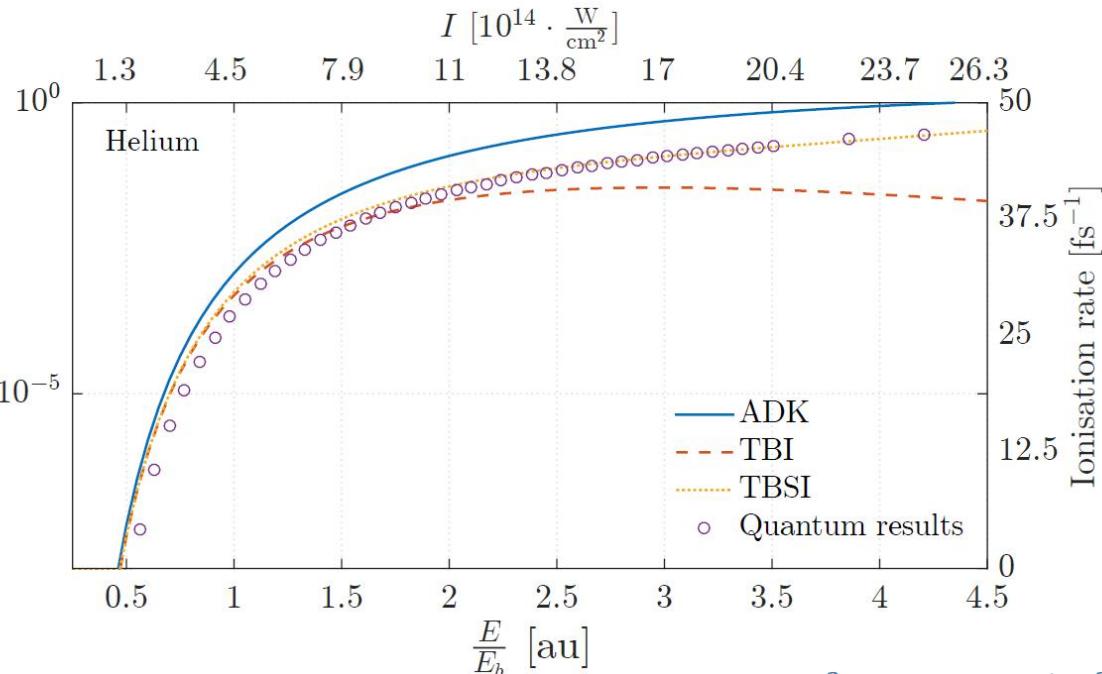


# Atomic Ionisation Potentials



# Ionisation Models

## Empirical TBSI formula



$$E_b = \frac{\kappa^4}{16Z_c}$$

$$\kappa = \sqrt{2I_p}$$

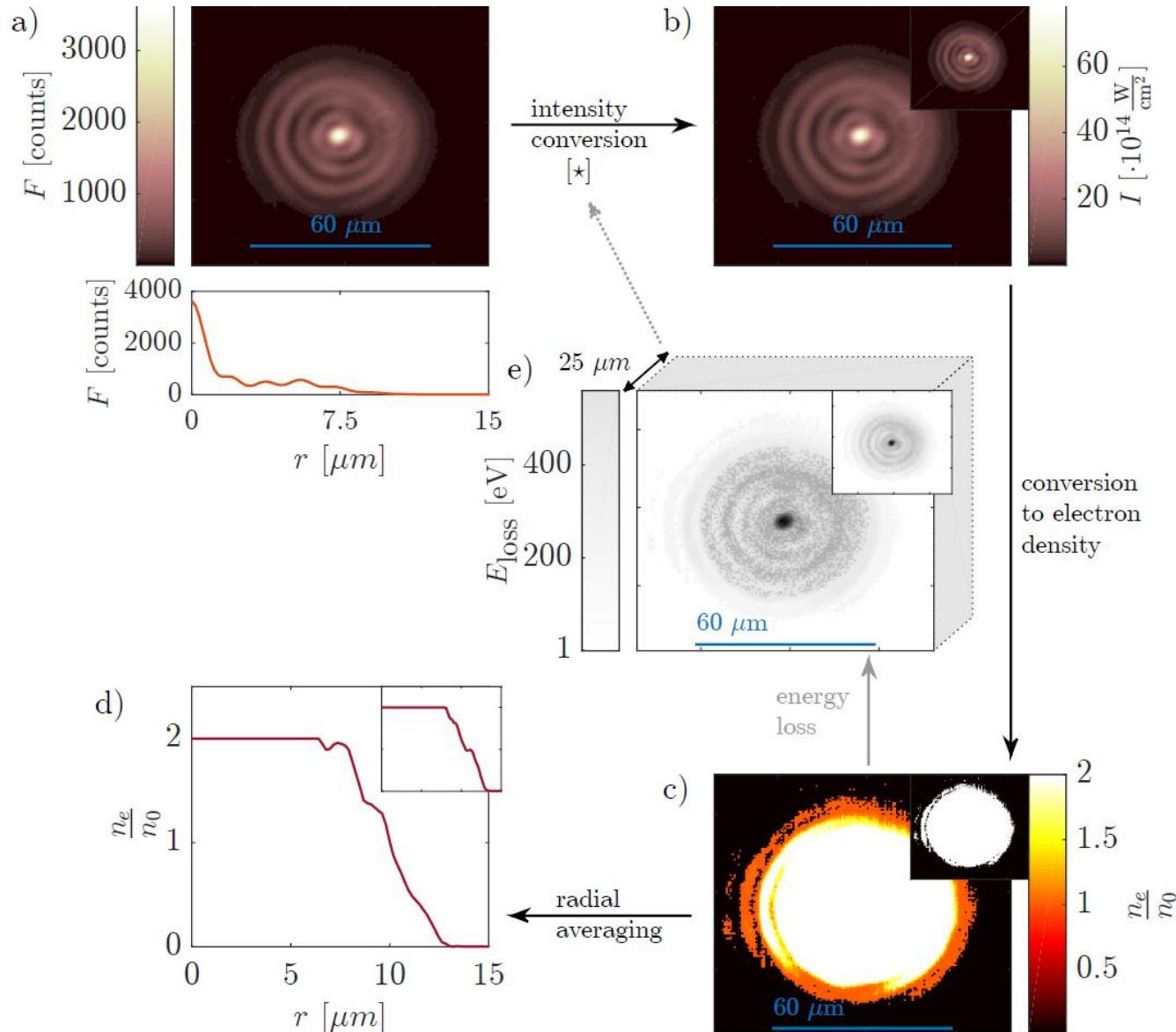
$$B(m) = \sum_l c_l (-1)^m \sqrt{\frac{(2l+1)(l+|m|)!}{2(l-|m|)!}}$$

$$W_{\text{Mol-ADK}}(E, 0) = \frac{B^2(m)}{2^{|m|} |m|!} \frac{1}{\kappa^{\frac{2Z_c}{\kappa}-1}} \left(\frac{2\kappa^3}{E}\right)^{\frac{2Z_c}{\kappa}-|m|-1} e^{-\frac{2\kappa^3}{3E}}$$

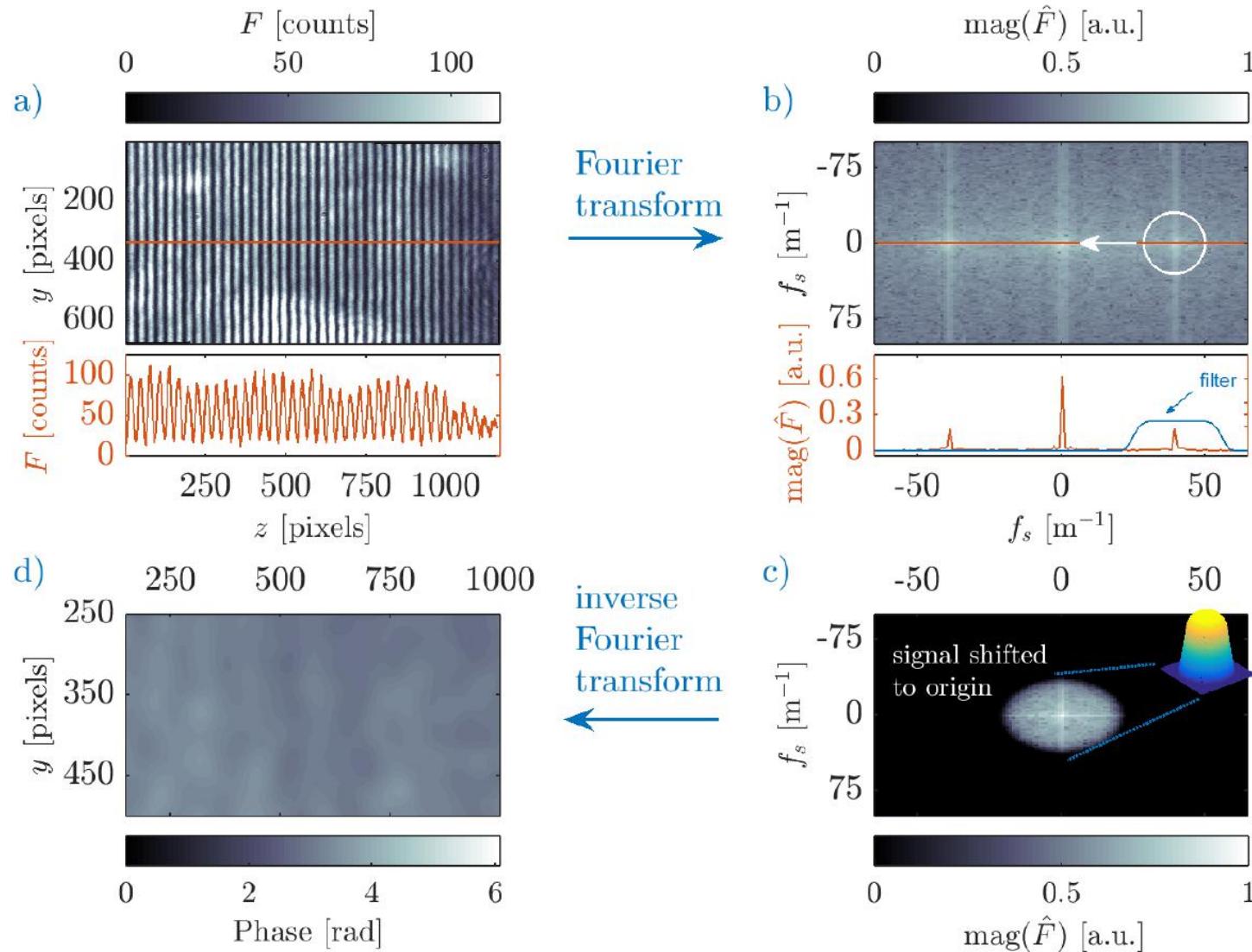
$$W(E) = W_{\text{Mol-ADK}}(E, 0) e^{\left(a_1 \frac{E^2}{E_b^2} + a_2 \frac{E}{E_b} + a_3\right)}$$

- [2] Ammasov, Delone, Krainov, *Soviet Physics - JETP* vol. 91 no. 64 (1986)
- [3] Empirical formula for over-barrier strong-field ionization; Zhang, Lan, Lu, Phys. Rev. A 90 (2014)
- [4] Empirical formula for static field ionization rates of atoms and molecules by lasers in the barrier-suppression regime; Tong, Lin, Journ. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. (2005)
- [5] Theory of molecular tunneling ionization; Tong, Zhao, Ling, Phys. Rev. A, 66 (2002)

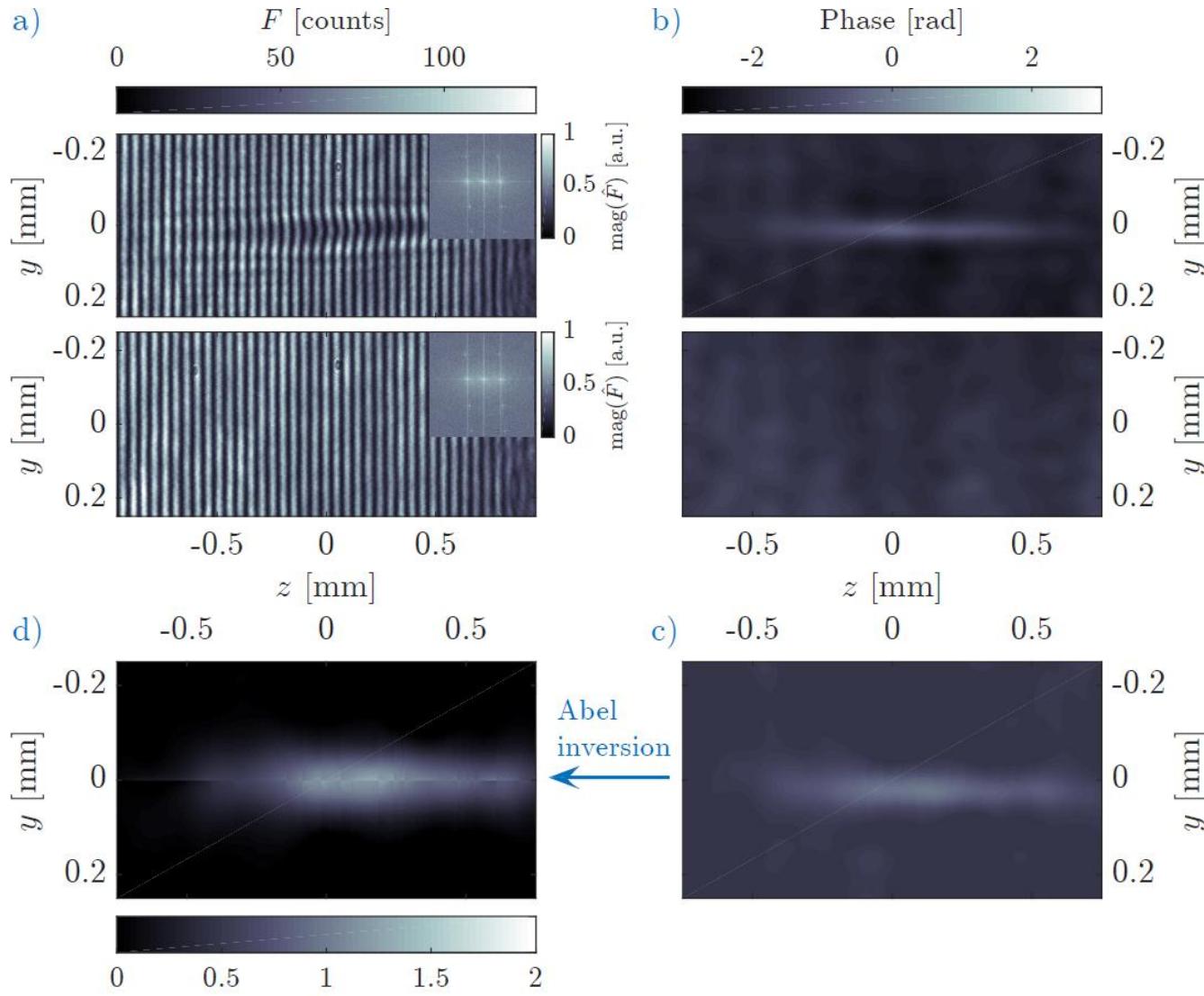
# EDDIT Method



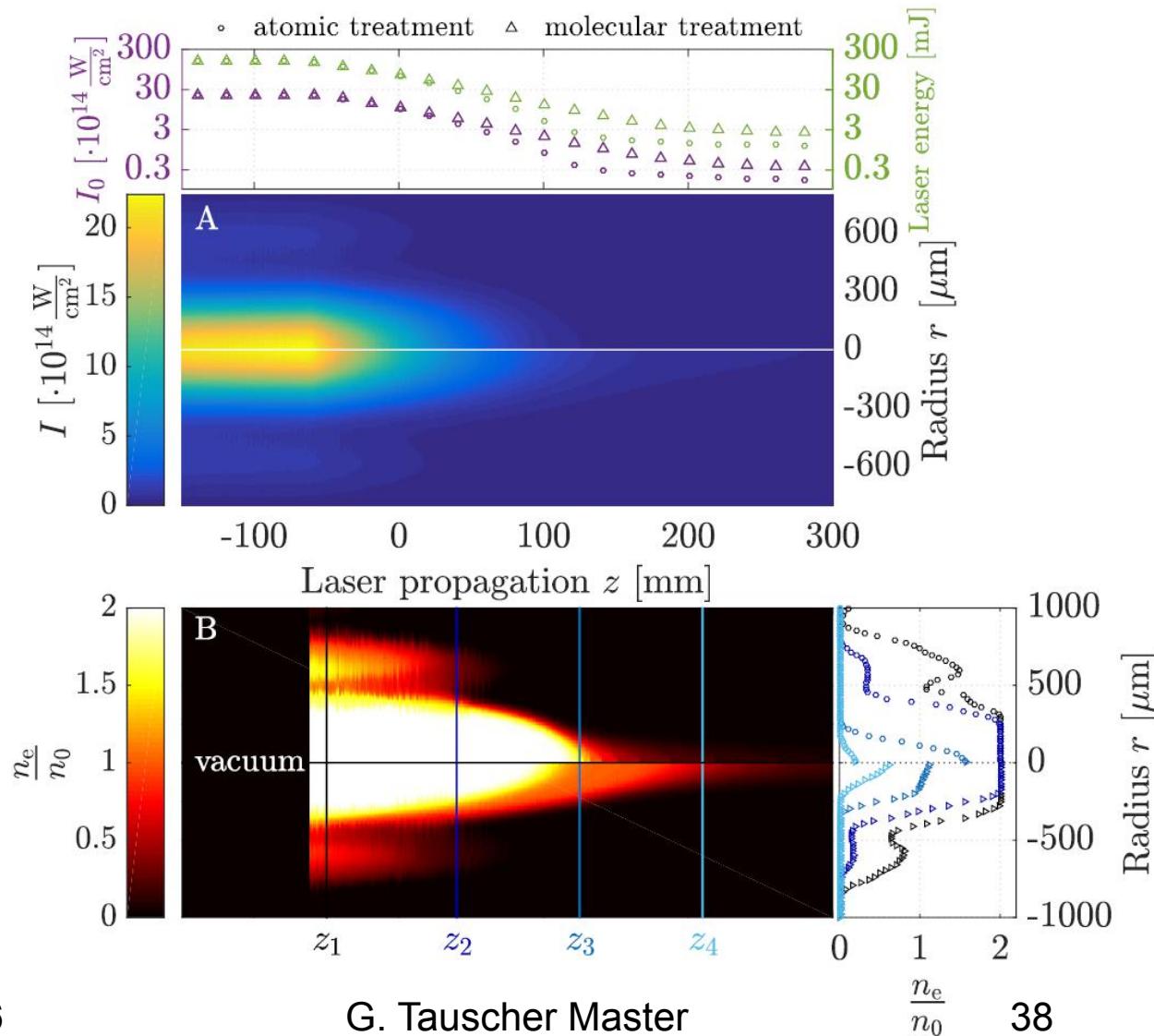
# Abel Inversion Method



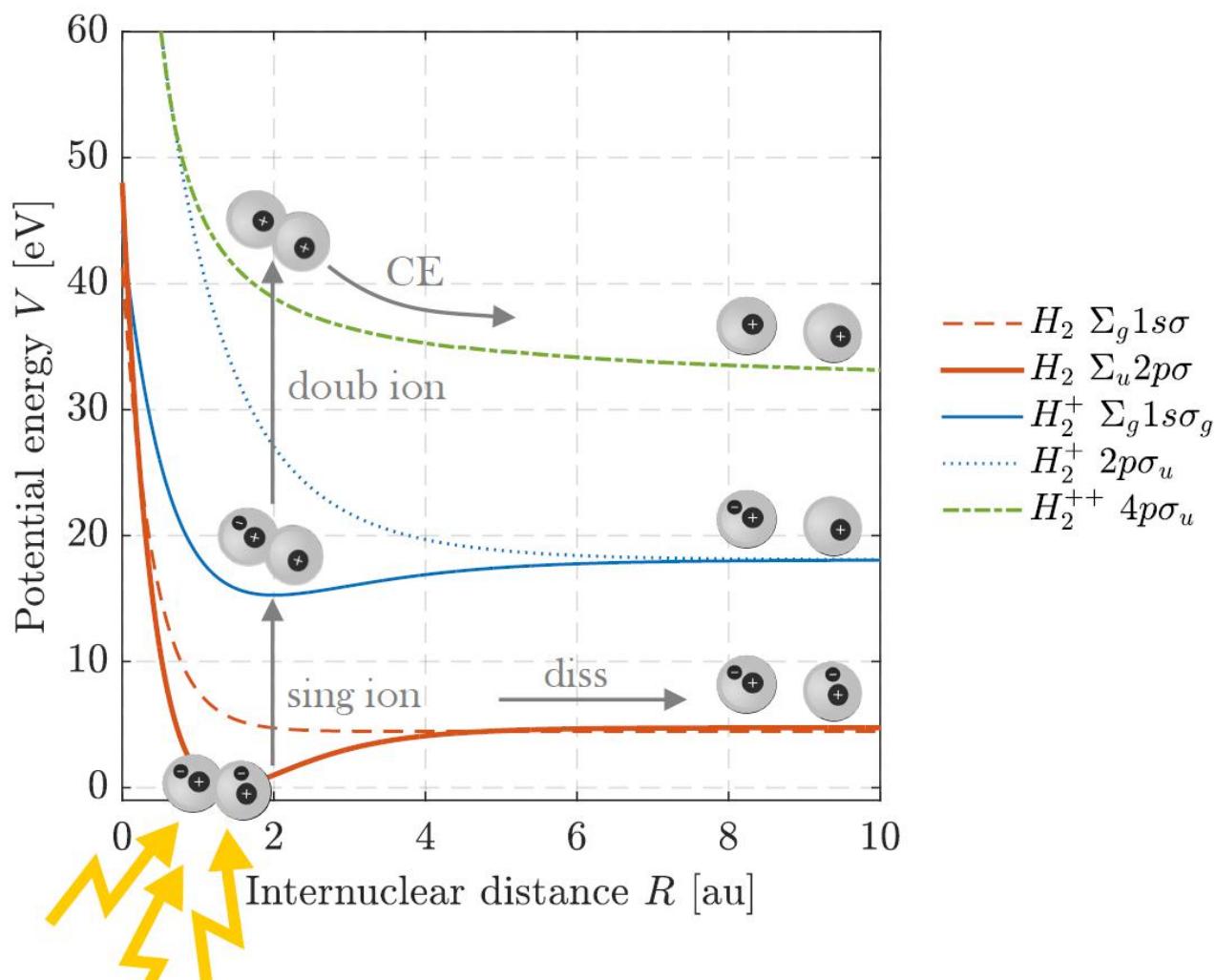
# Abel Inversion Method



# FLASHForward Focus



# Fragmentation Channels of Molecular Hydrogen



5/18/2016

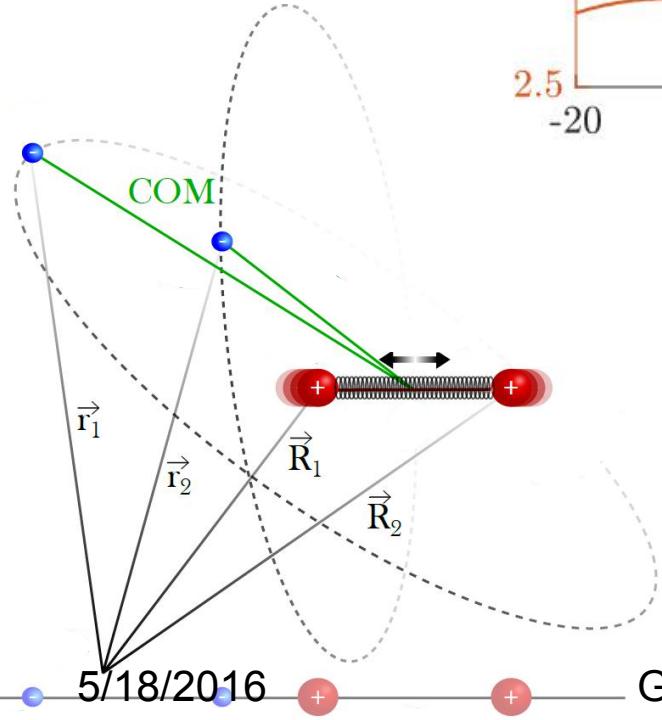
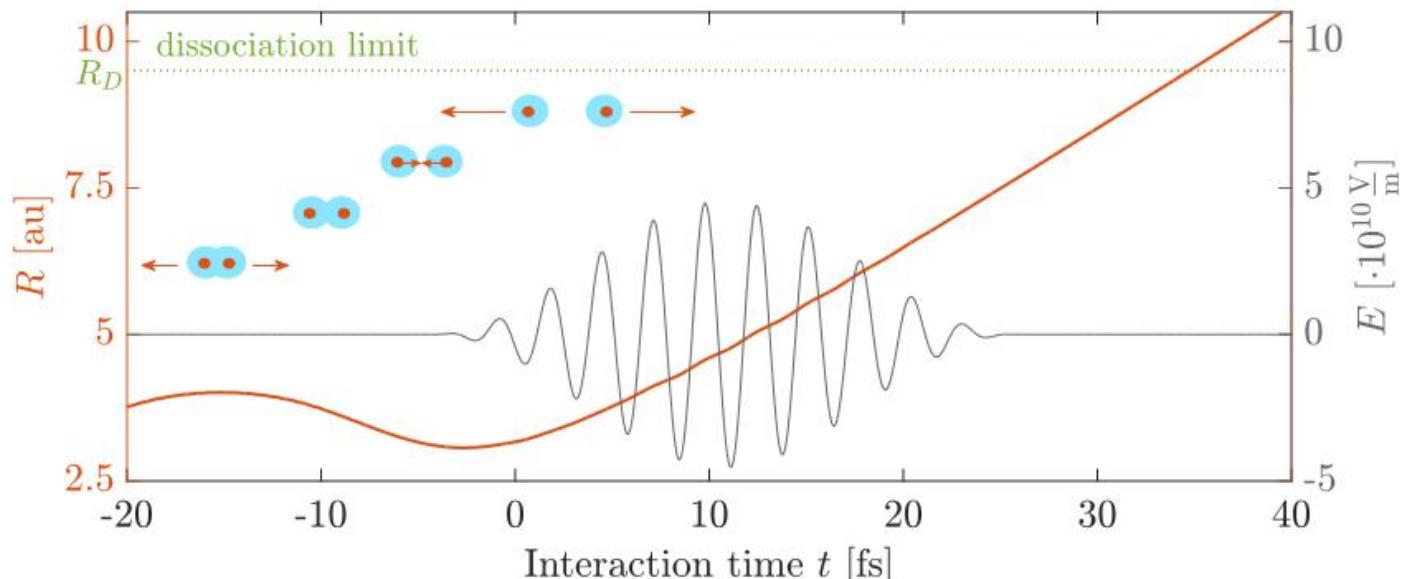
G. Tauscher Master  
Kolloquium

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# Classical Simulation for One-Dimensional $H_2^{[1]}$

## - Ionisation and Dissociation -



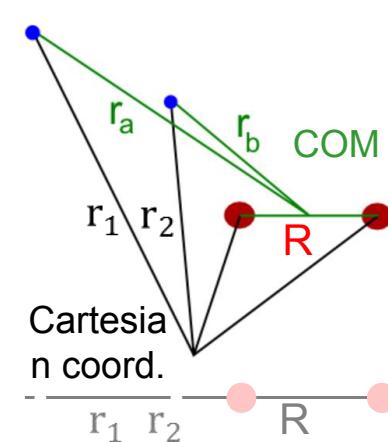
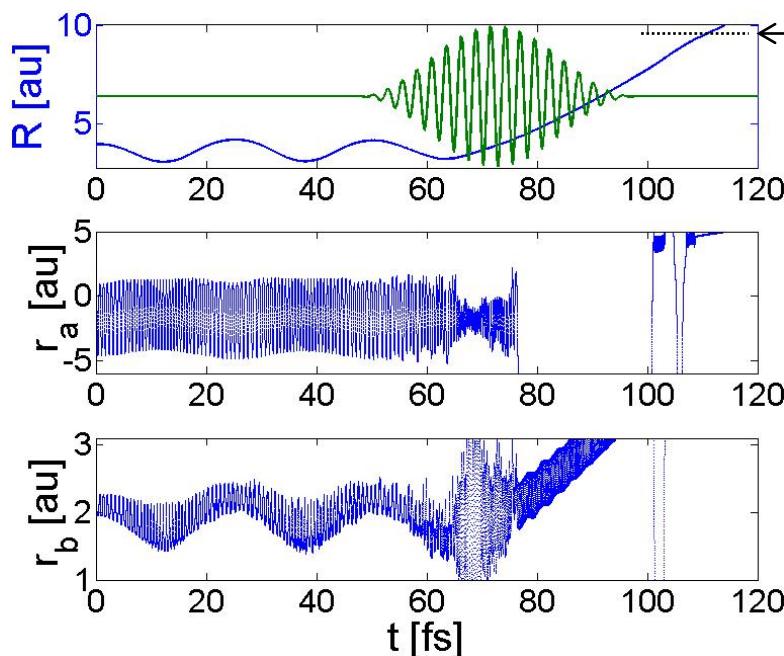
Classical one-dimension simulation of hydrogen

- Multiphoton Ionisation
- Tunnelling Ionisation not considerable!
- Barrier-Suppression Ionisation
- no dissociation for at least 20 fs

# 2<sup>nd</sup> Approach: Determine Electron Density via Case Analysis

## ionisation vs. dissociation

classical simulation for one-dim H<sub>2</sub>



	$\varepsilon_i(t)$	$R(t)$	i
diss	< 0	> $R_D$	1+ 2
sing ion	> 0	< $R_D$	1,2
doub ion	> 0	< $R_D$	1+ 2
diss ion	> 0	> $R_D$	1,2
CE	> 0	> $R_D$	1+ 2

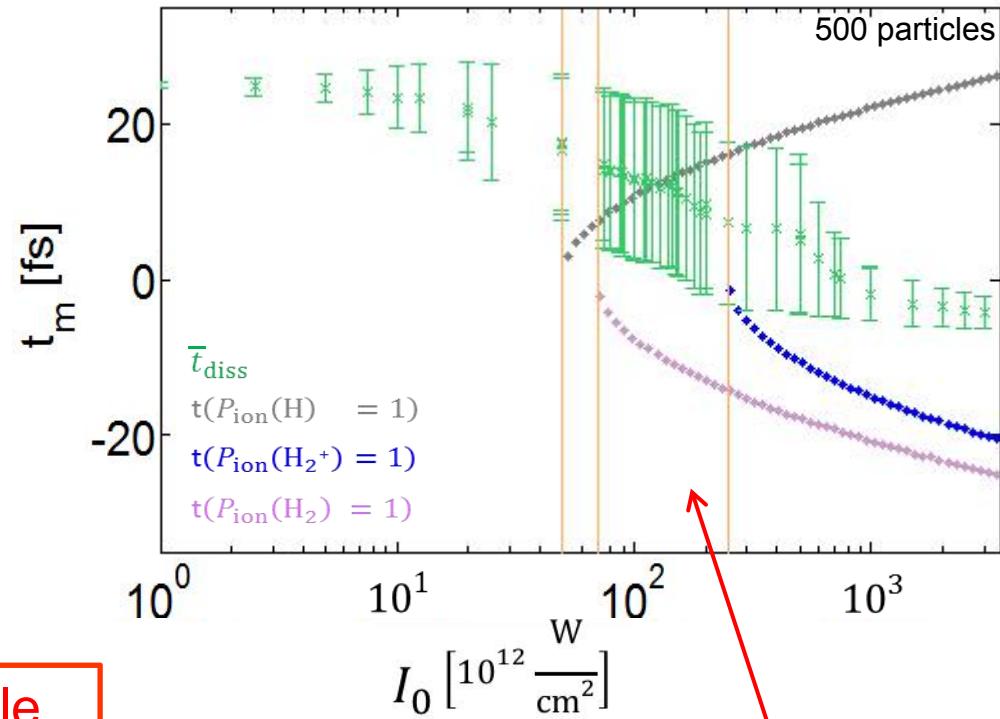
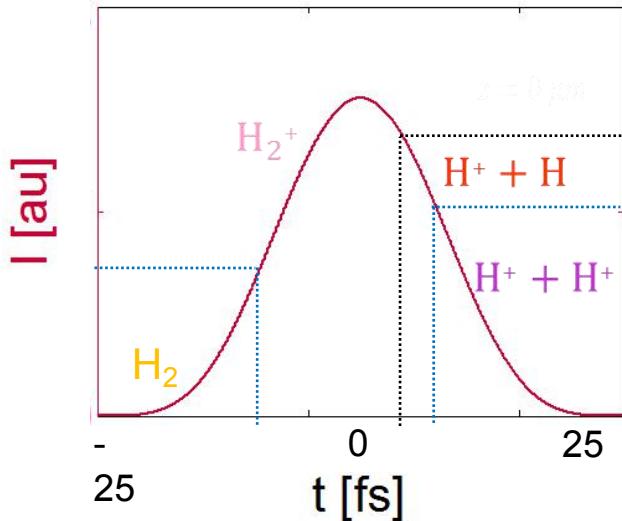
compensated energy electron  $i$   
(electron escapes if positive)

$$\varepsilon_i(t) = V_i(t) + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \dot{r}_i(t) - \int_0^t E_{laser}(t') dt' \right]^2, (i = 1,2)$$

Coulomb potential      kin. energy  $e^-$       electric field  
 $V_i(t) = V_i(r_a(t), r_b(t), s(t))$       energy

# Real dissociation time of the nuclei – short pulses

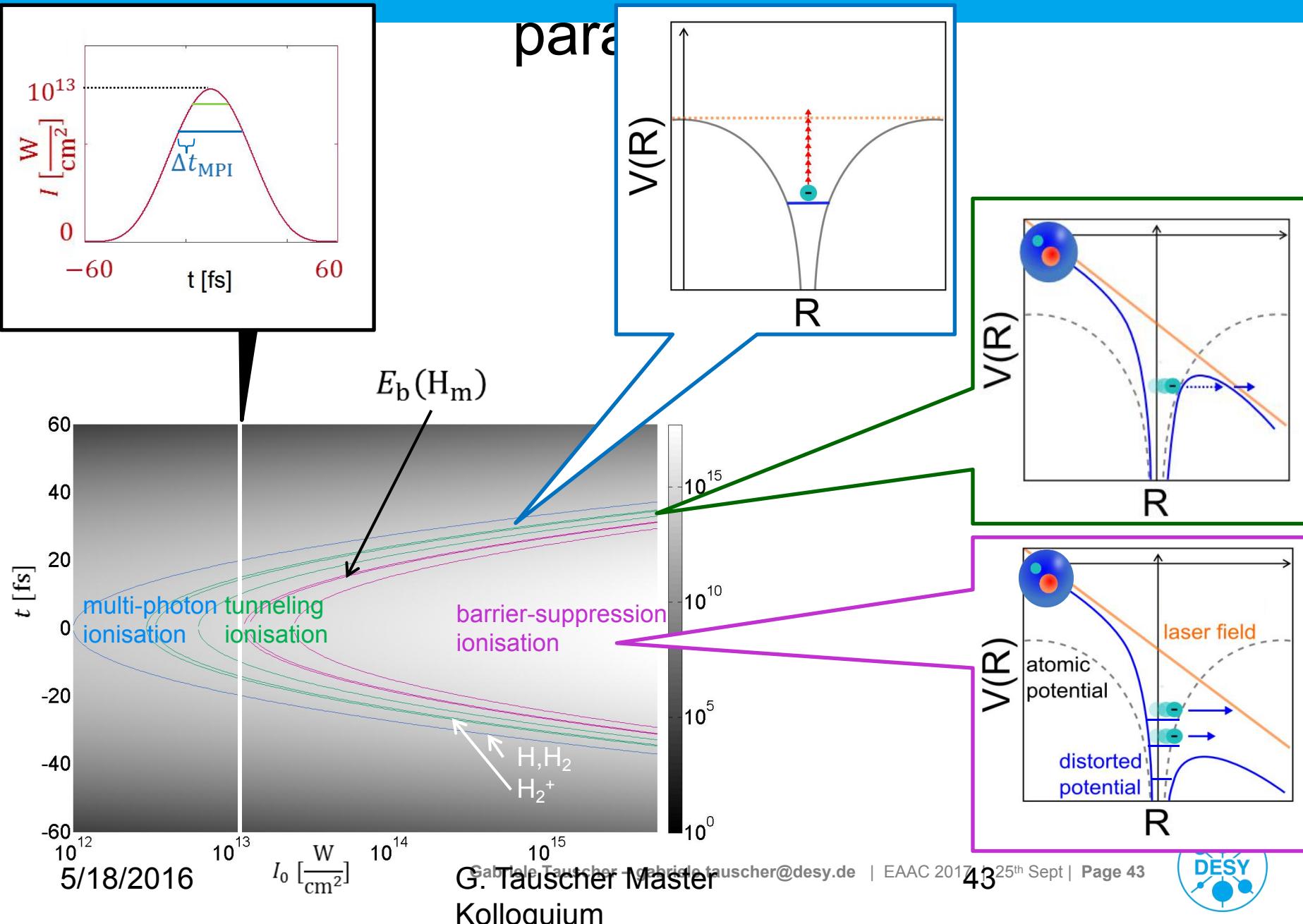
Compare to ionisation thresholds from ADK theory:



long pulses potentially enable dissociation dynamics!

2e- although still below ionisation threshold for  $\text{H}_2^+$

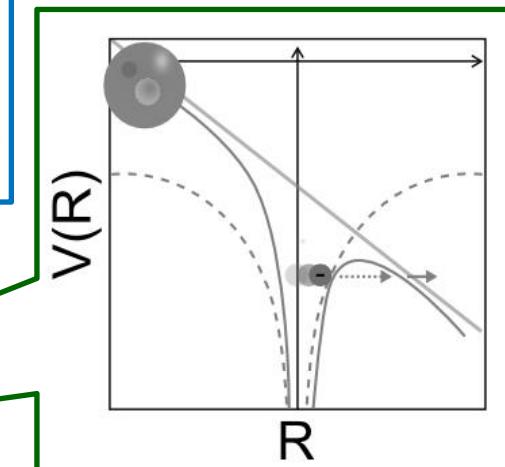
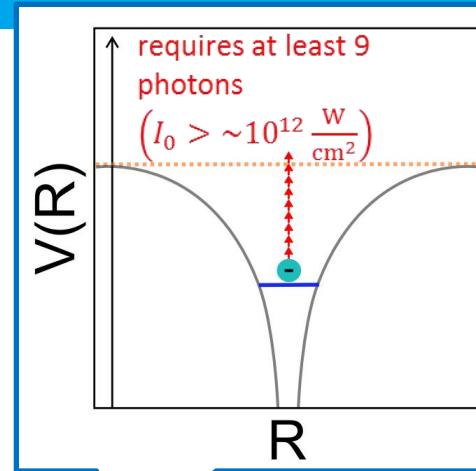
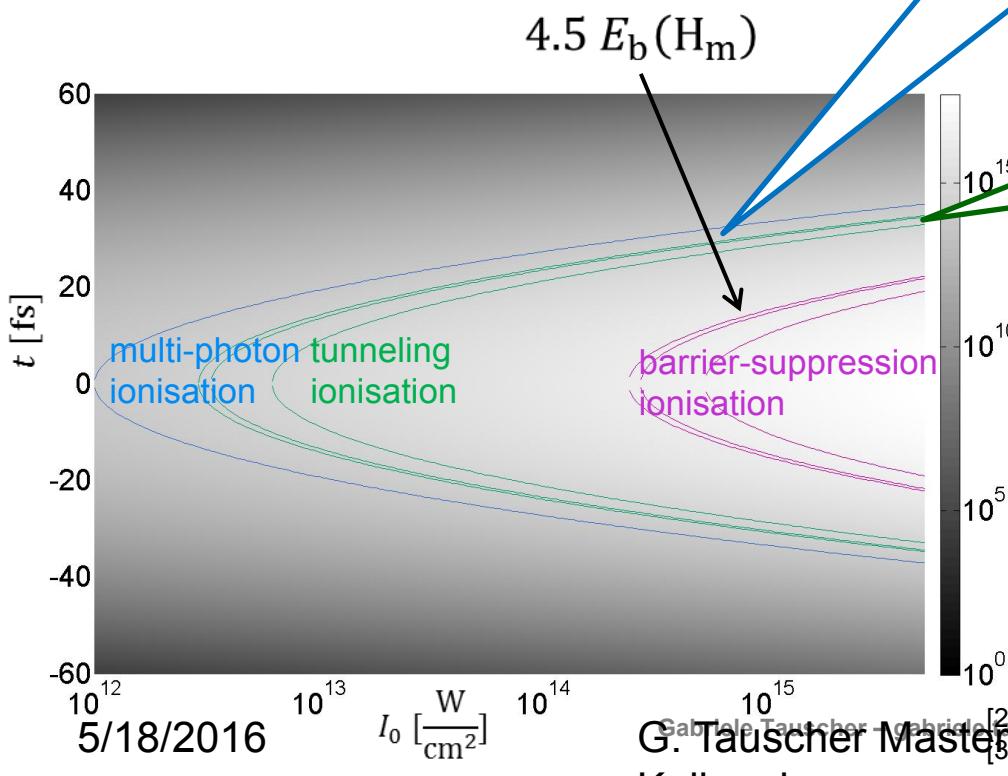
# Discern dominating process: the Keldysh parameter



# Dominating process: tunneling!

$$\Gamma_{\text{MPI}} [2] \approx \omega \cdot n_{\text{ph}}^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{E_{\text{laser}}}{2\Delta_{\text{gap}}} \right)^{n_{\text{ph}}}$$

$$P [3] = 1 - \exp \left( \int_0^{t_{\text{pulse}}} \Gamma dt \right)$$

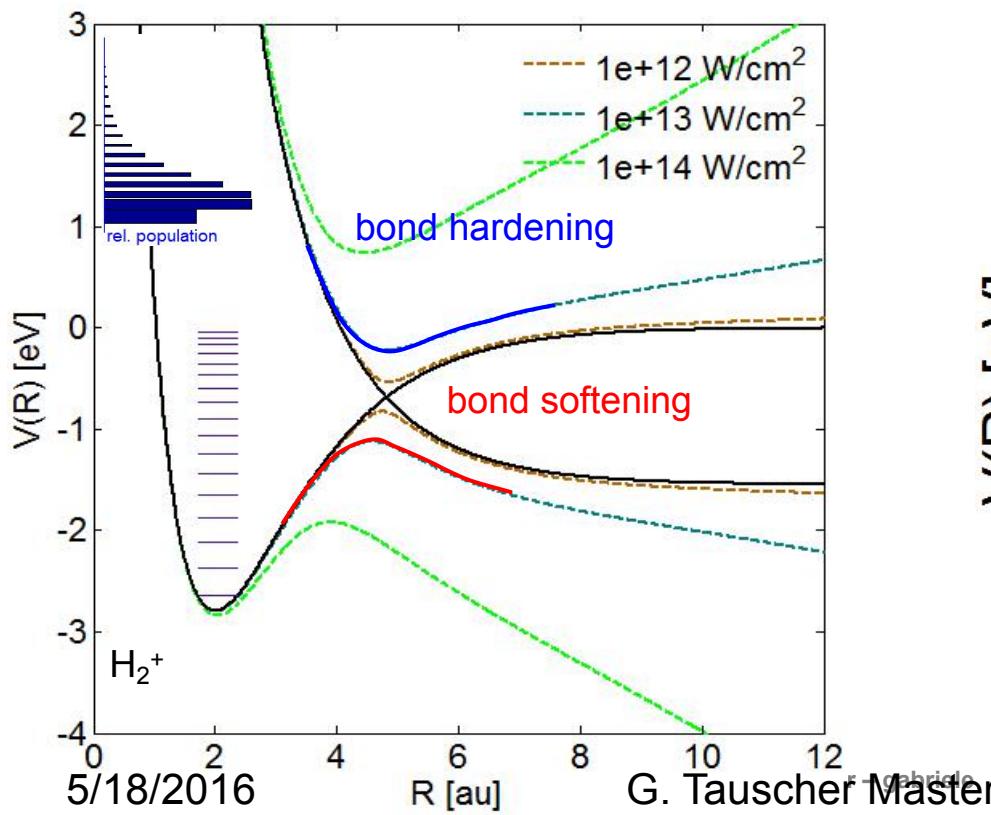


calculate static tunneling ionisation rates (ADK formalism)

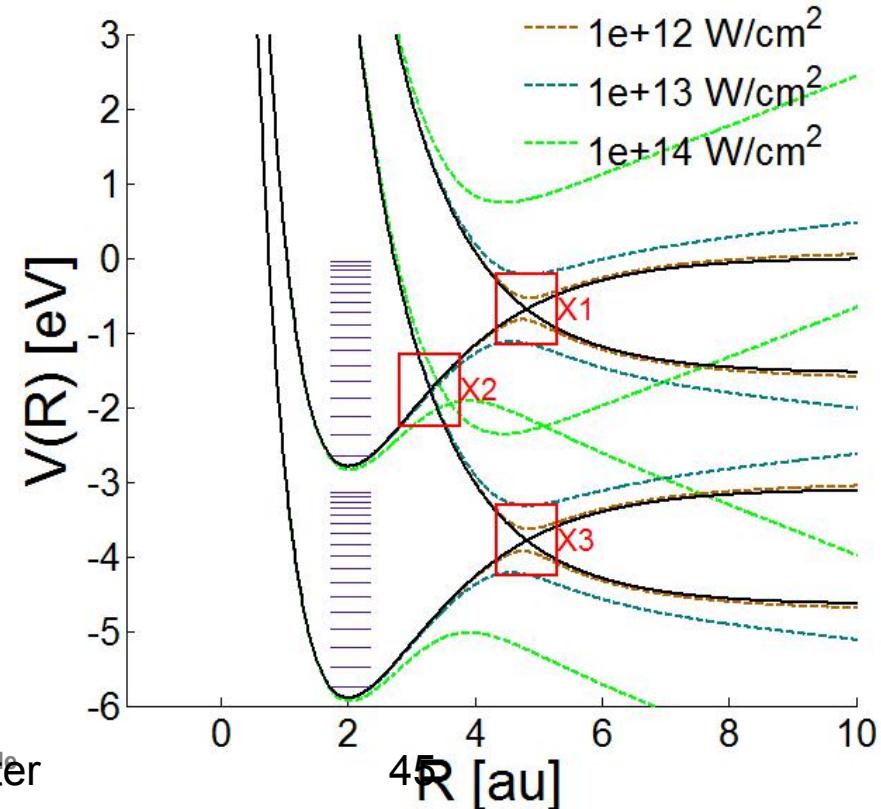


# Intensity increase distorts the potentials: BSI

- states get trapped (bond hardening)
- states get released (bond softening)
- ATI (above threshold ionisation)
- BTI (below threshold ionisation)
- CREI (charge enhanced resonant ionisation)

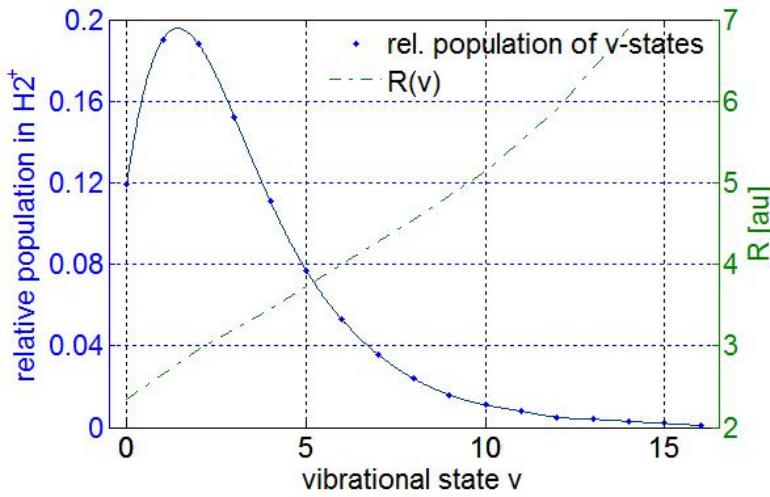


dressed states  
 $\text{H}_2^+$  two-state model

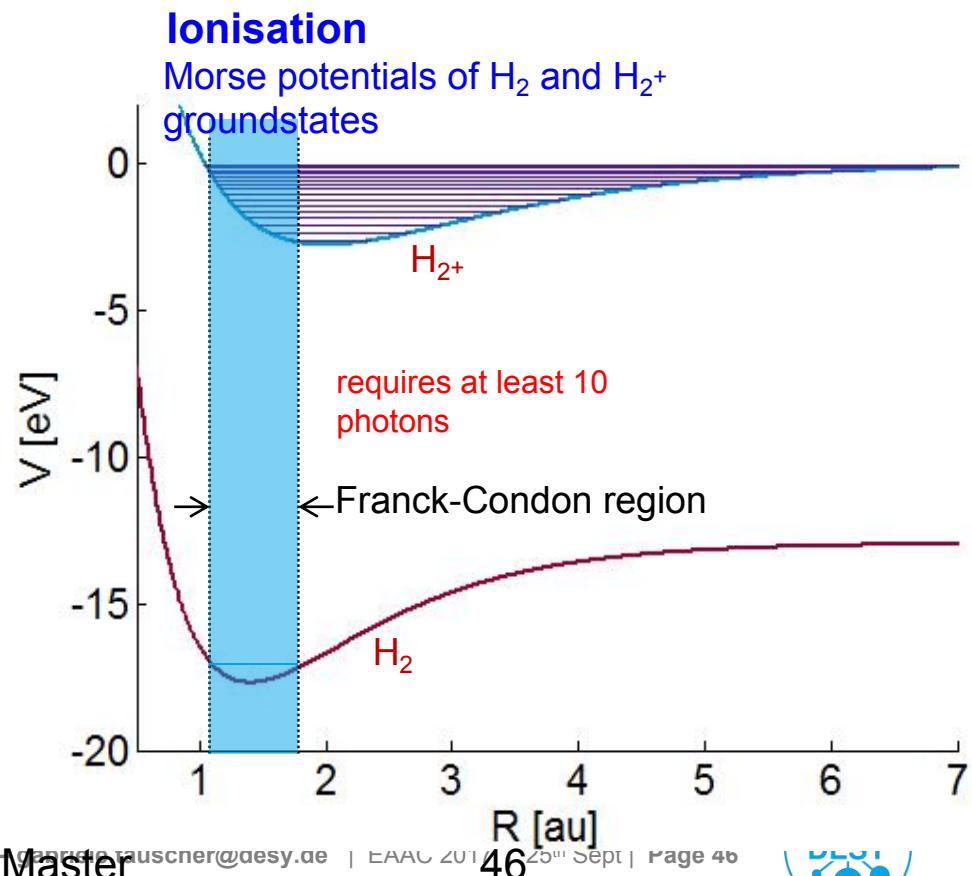
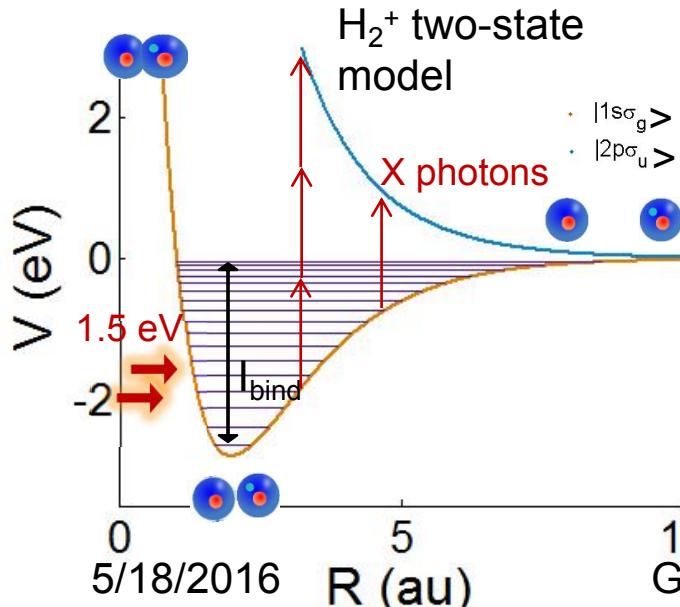


# Possible Response Channels of H<sub>2</sub>:

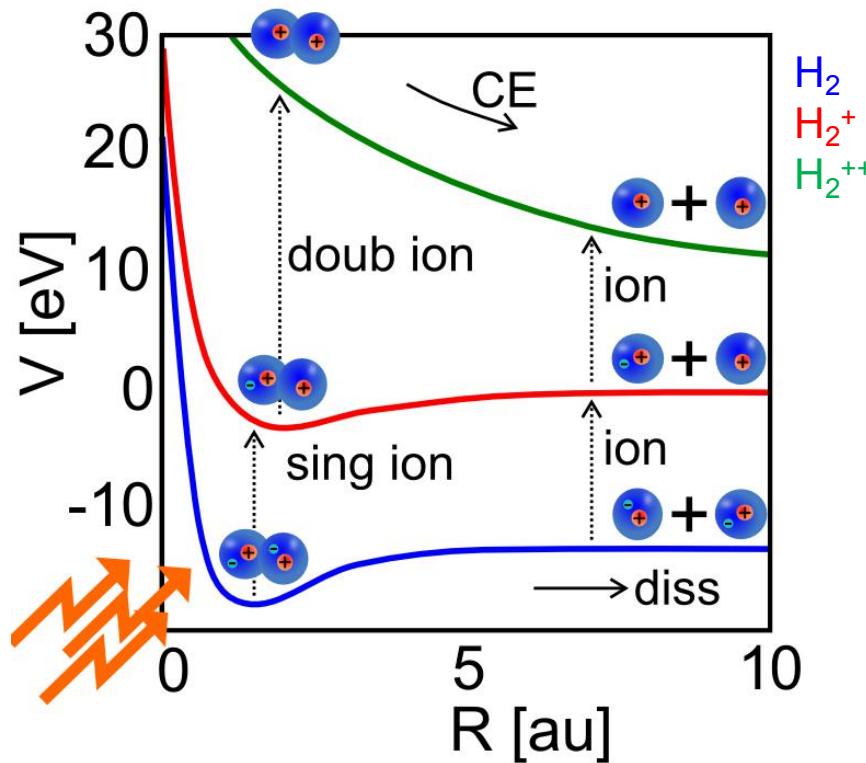
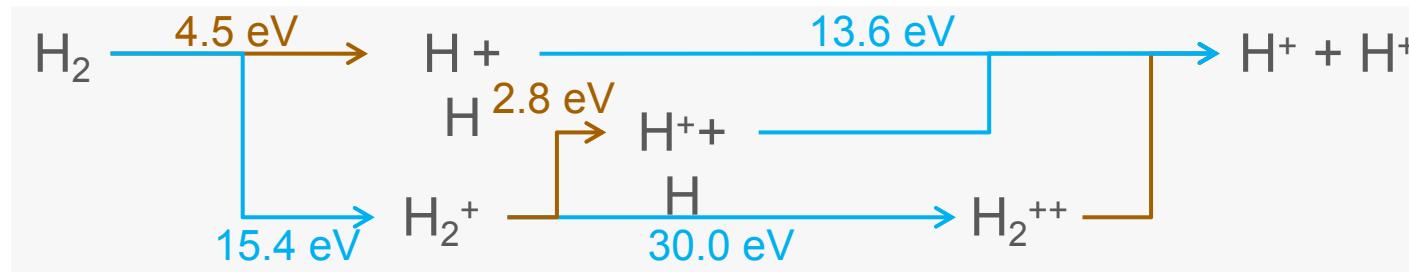
## DISSOCIATION vs. IONISATION



### Dissociation mechanisms

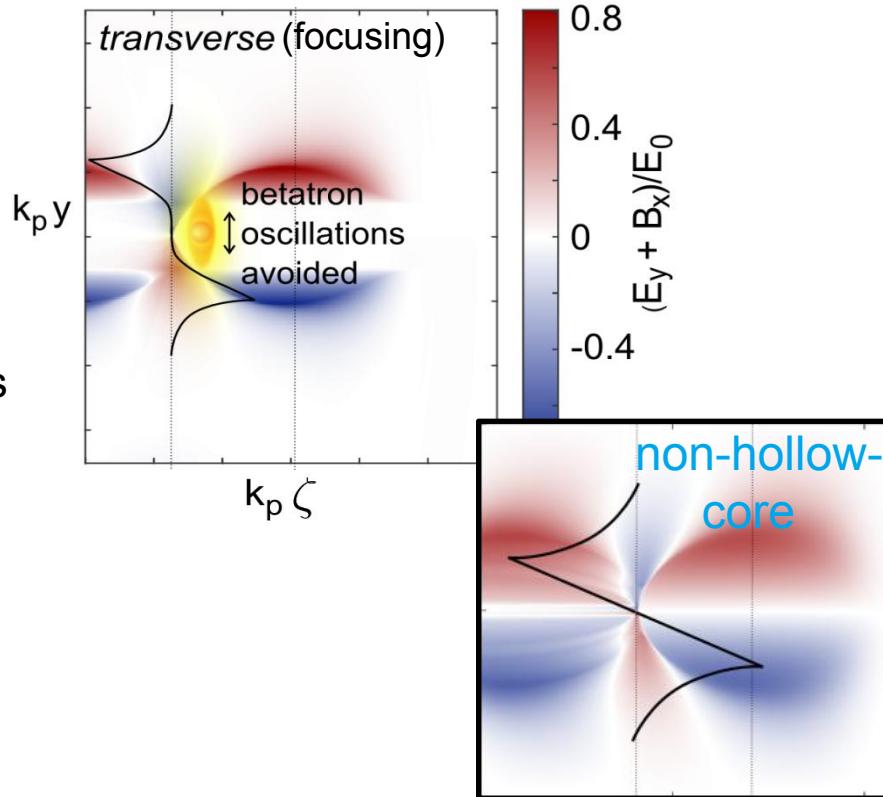


# Ionisation and Dissociation of Hydrogen

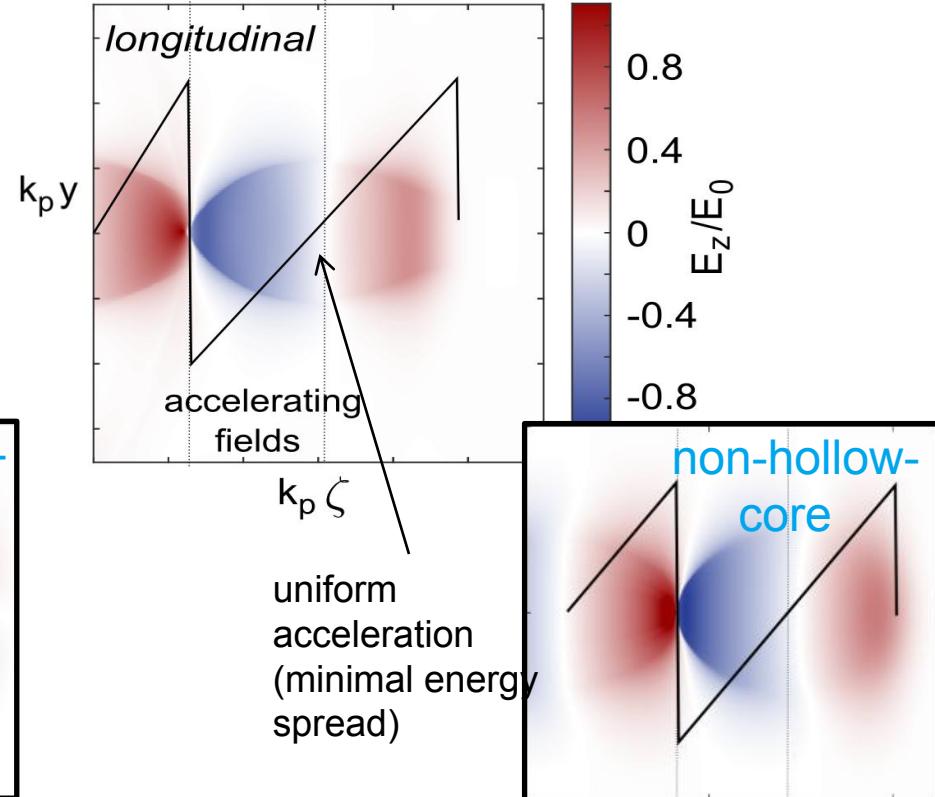


# Advantage: minimal transversal emittance growth<sup>[1]</sup>

hollow-core



hollow-core



- decoupling of accelerating and focusing wakefields in the co-moving frame
- low density region contributes to the focusing forces (linear)
- high density in the channel walls determine accelerating fields

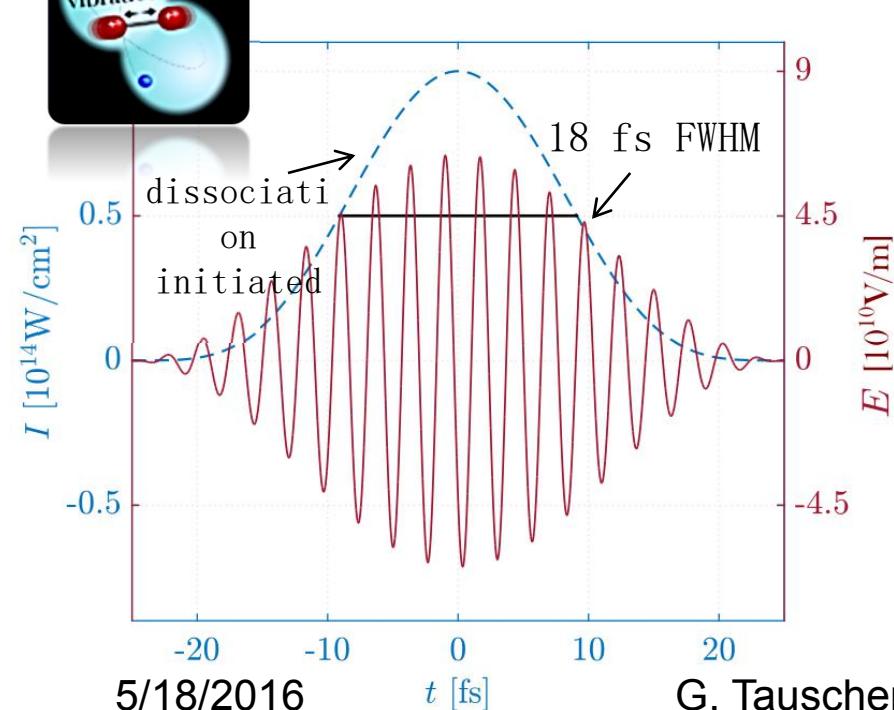
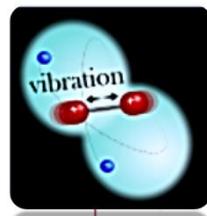
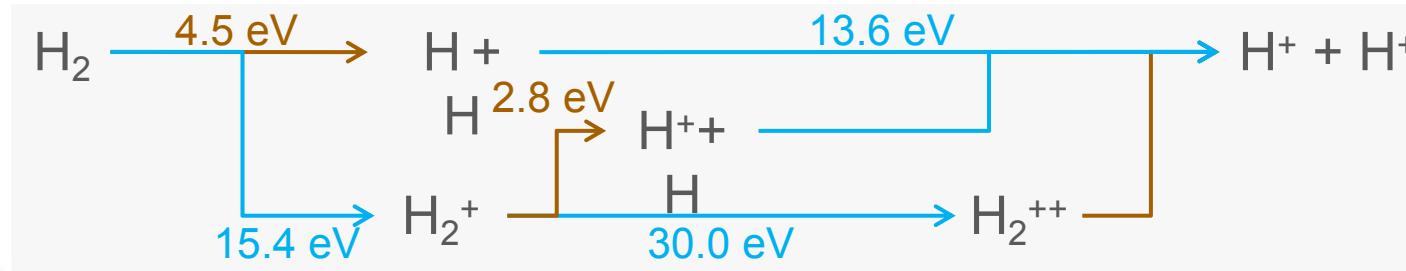
Simulations accomplished by  
Timon Mehrling

[1] T.C. Chiou et al., Phys. of Plasmas 2, 310  
(1995)

5/18/2016

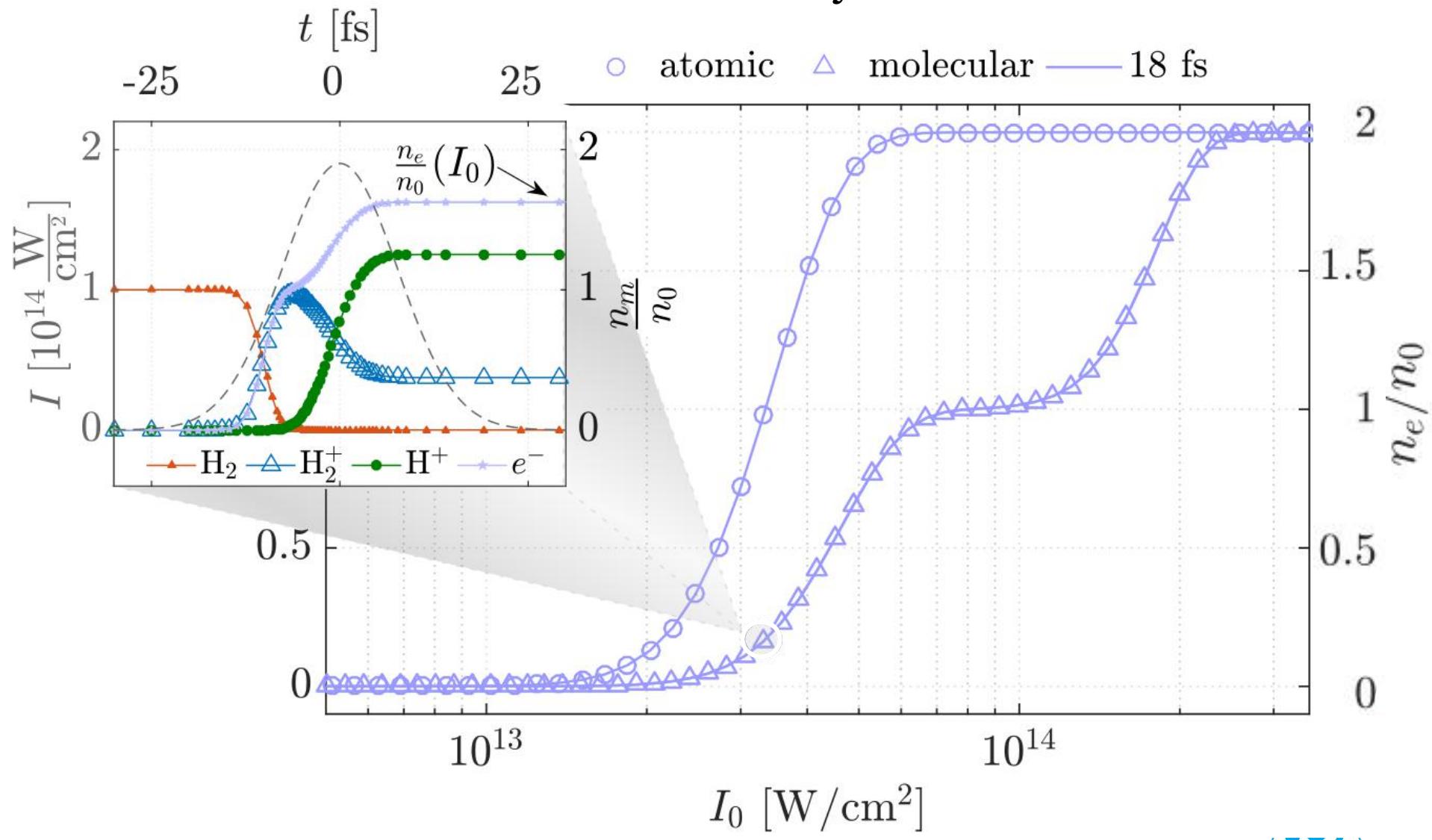
# Hydrogen Interacting with Laser Pulses

## Which ionisation path is favoured?



- Ionisation requires higher energies
- Dissociation takes at least (20–40) fs [1]

# Electron Densities as Function of Peak Intensity



# Population Evolution of H<sub>2</sub>-States

## Classical 1-dimensional Simulation<sup>[5]</sup>

- i. atomic ion. :  $H + H \rightarrow H^+ + H^+$   $\frac{n_m}{n_{\max}}$
- ii. molecular ion.  $H_2 \rightarrow H_2^+ \rightarrow H^+ + H^+$

0.6      0.8      1

