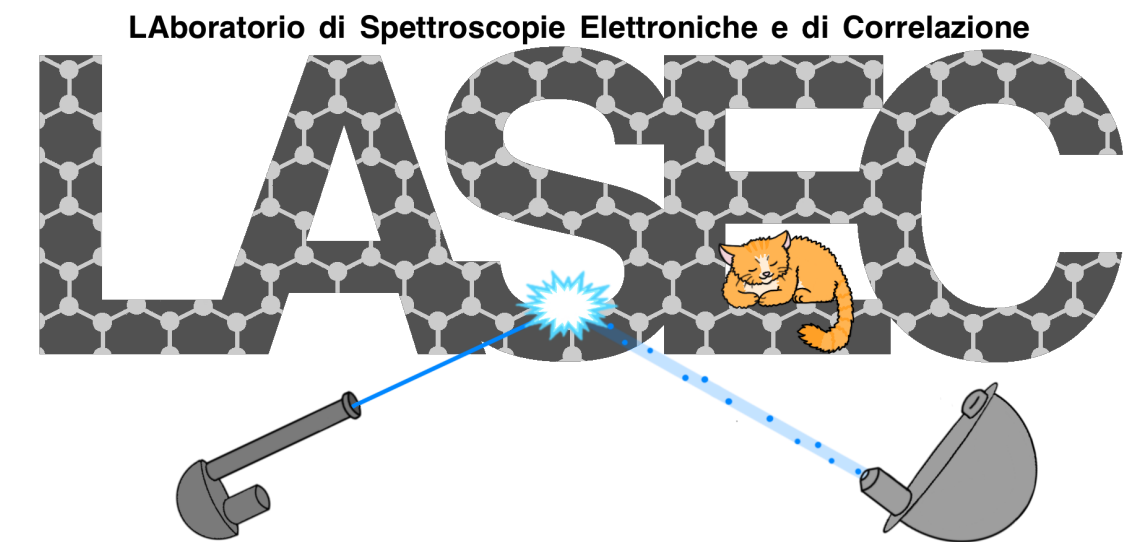


# Stability of Hydrogenated Graphene in Ultra High Vacuum and in Air

Alice Apponi, Daniele Paoloni, Orlando Castellano,

Alessandro Ruocco

Ptolemy IT Meeting 19.02.25 - Roma



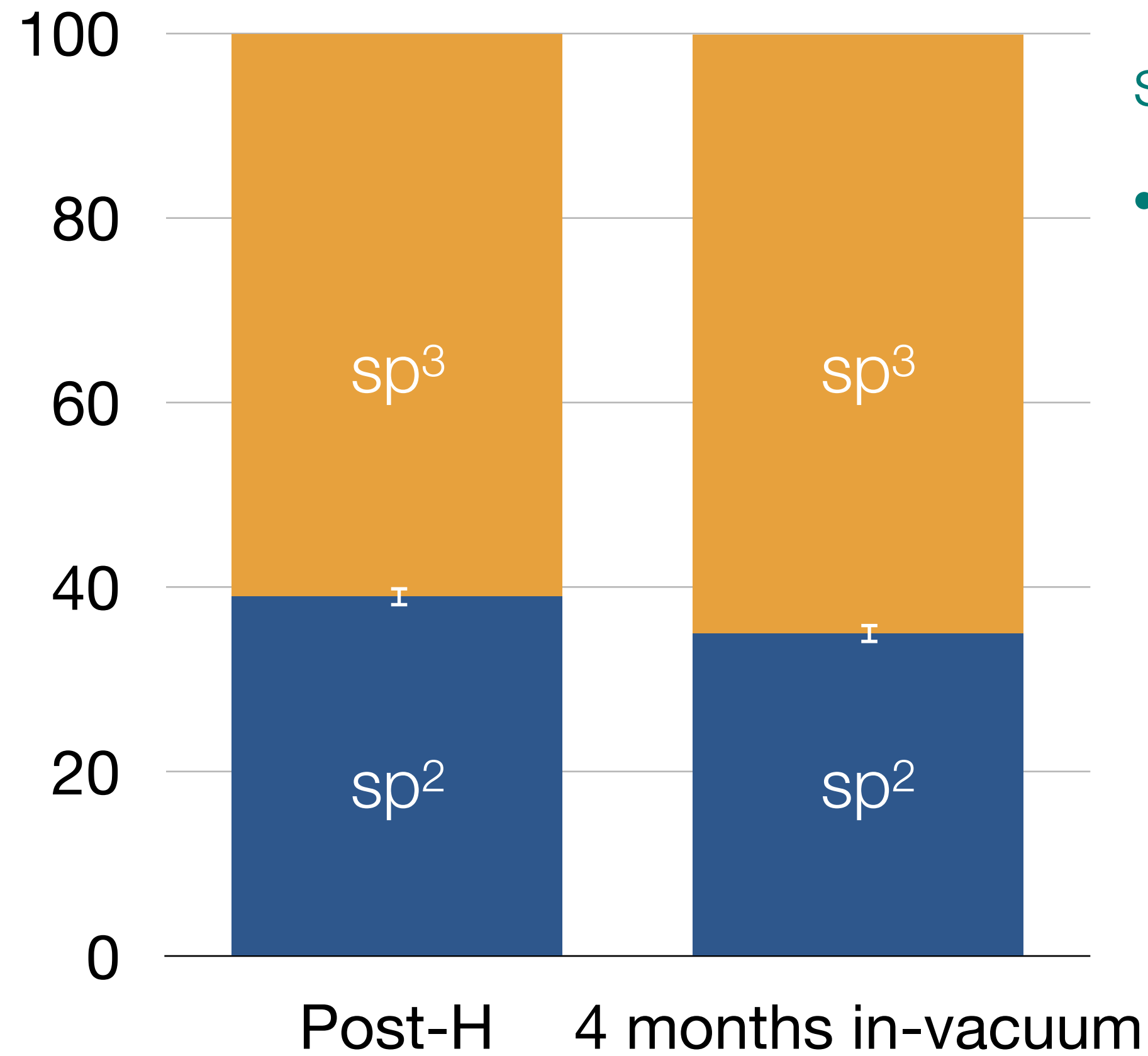
**ANDROMEDA**

Aligned Nanotube Detector for Research On MeV Darkmatter



Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

# Hydrogenation Very Stable in UHV



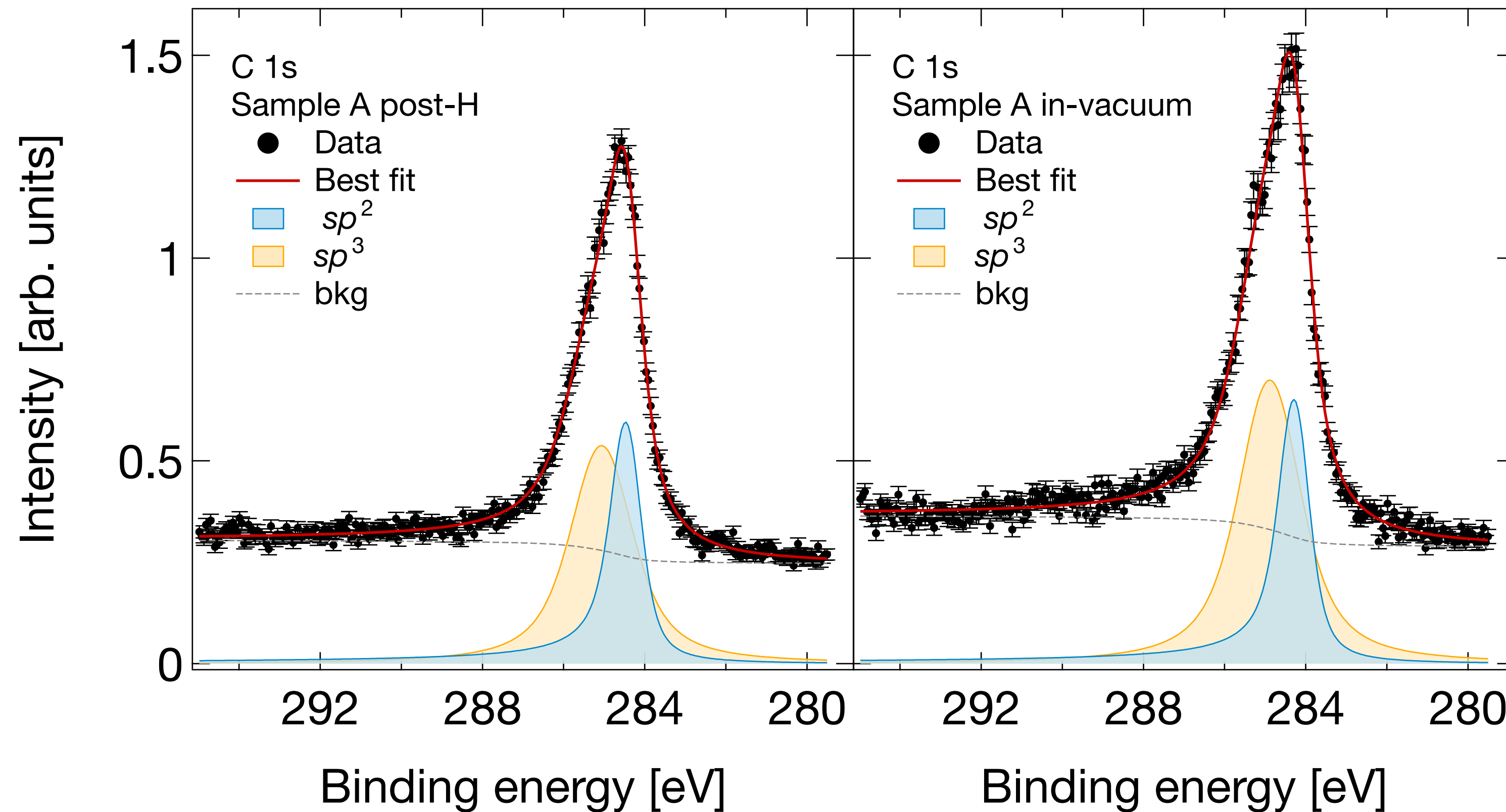
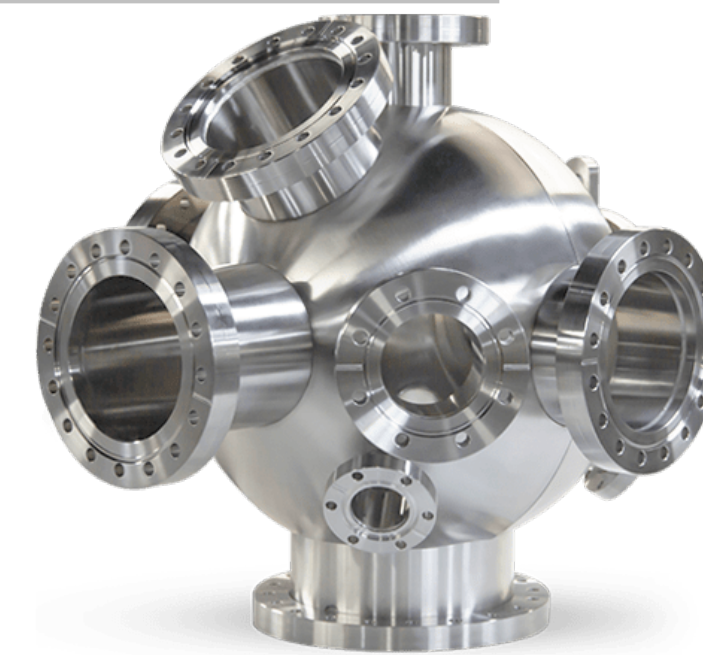
sp<sup>3</sup> relative variation:

✿ 4 ± 2 %

~10<sup>-10</sup> mbar!



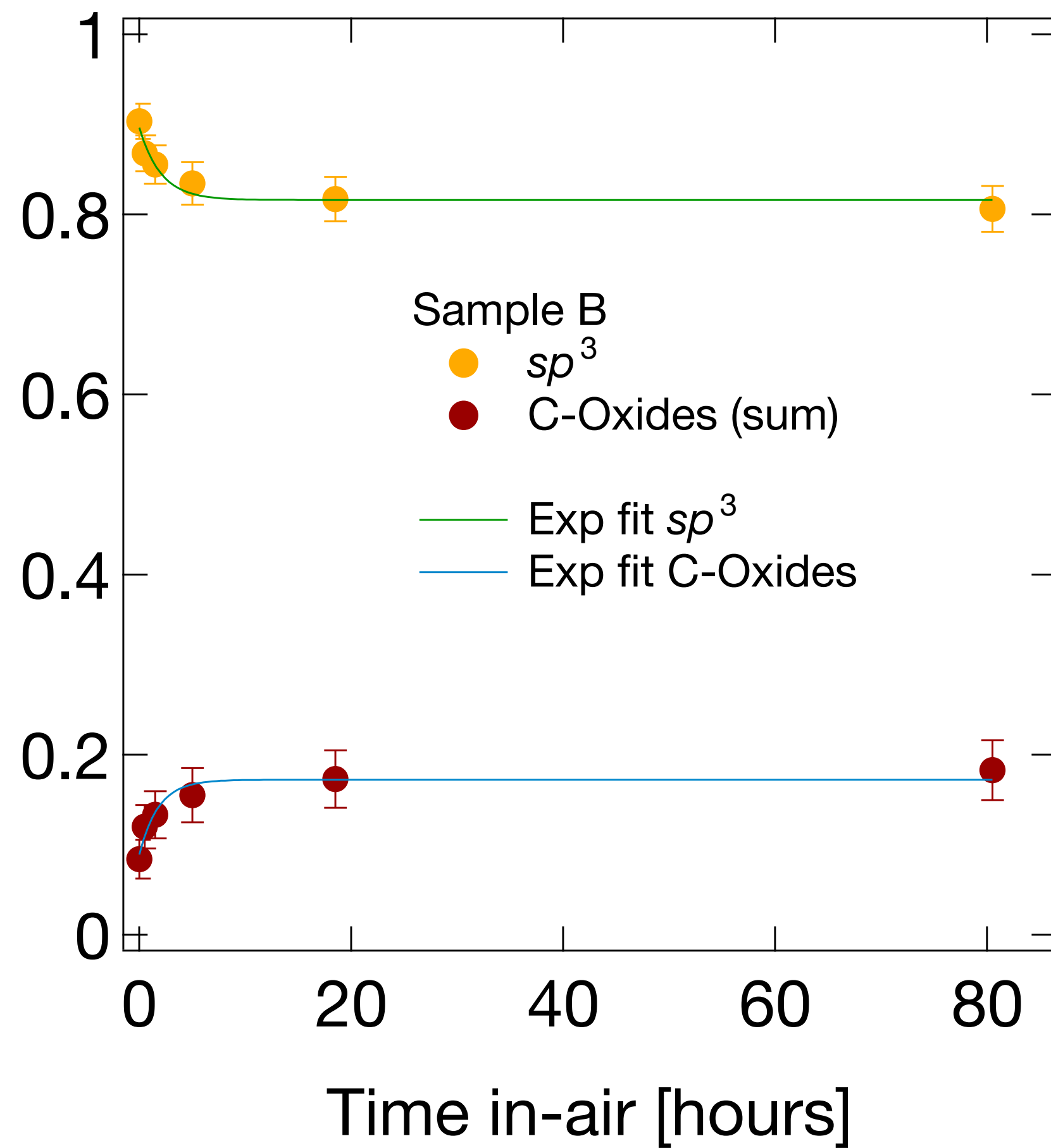
4 months



# Time-Scale of Oxidation is ~30 min



Relative intensity

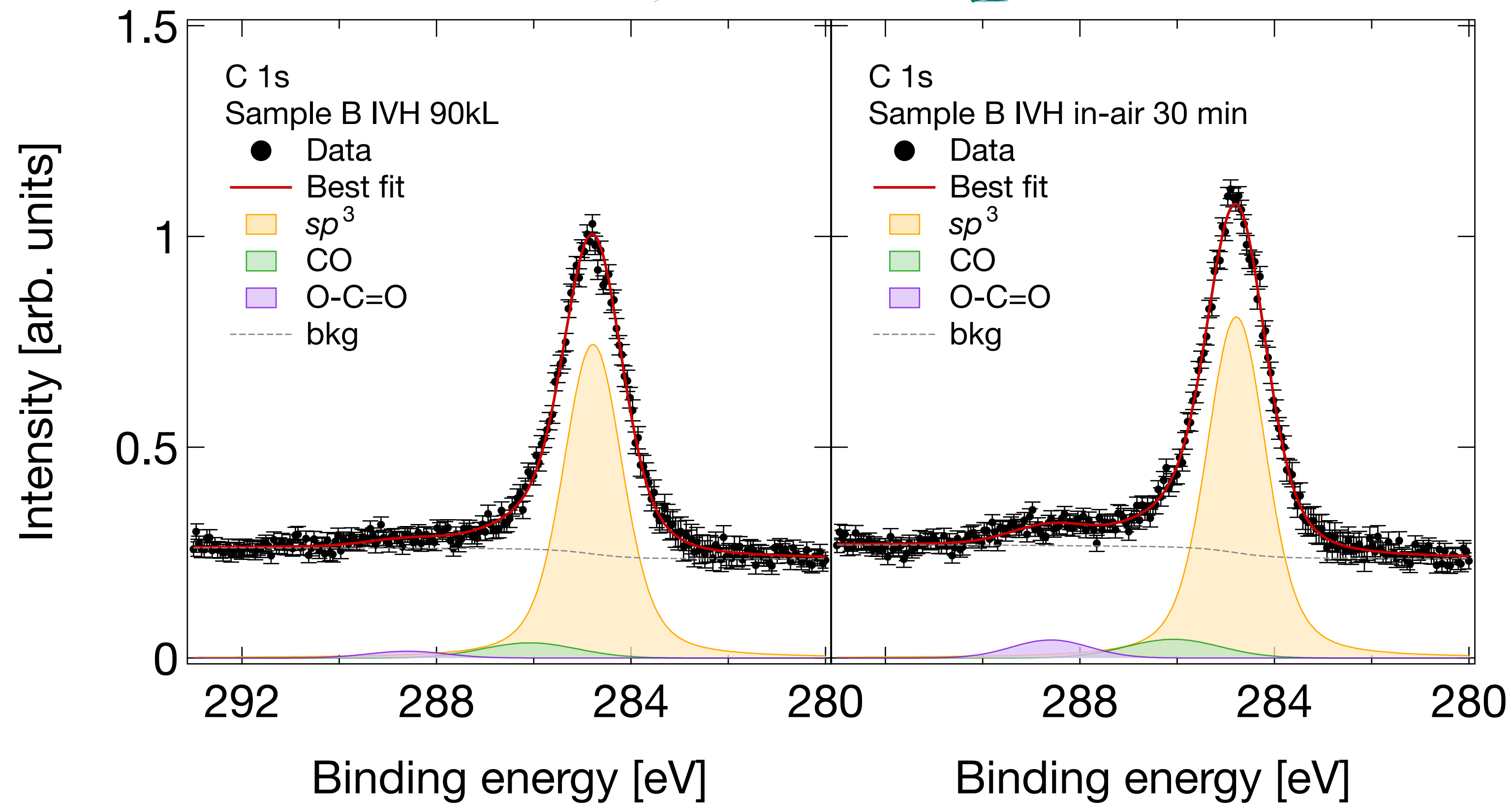


Exponential fit C-Oxides:

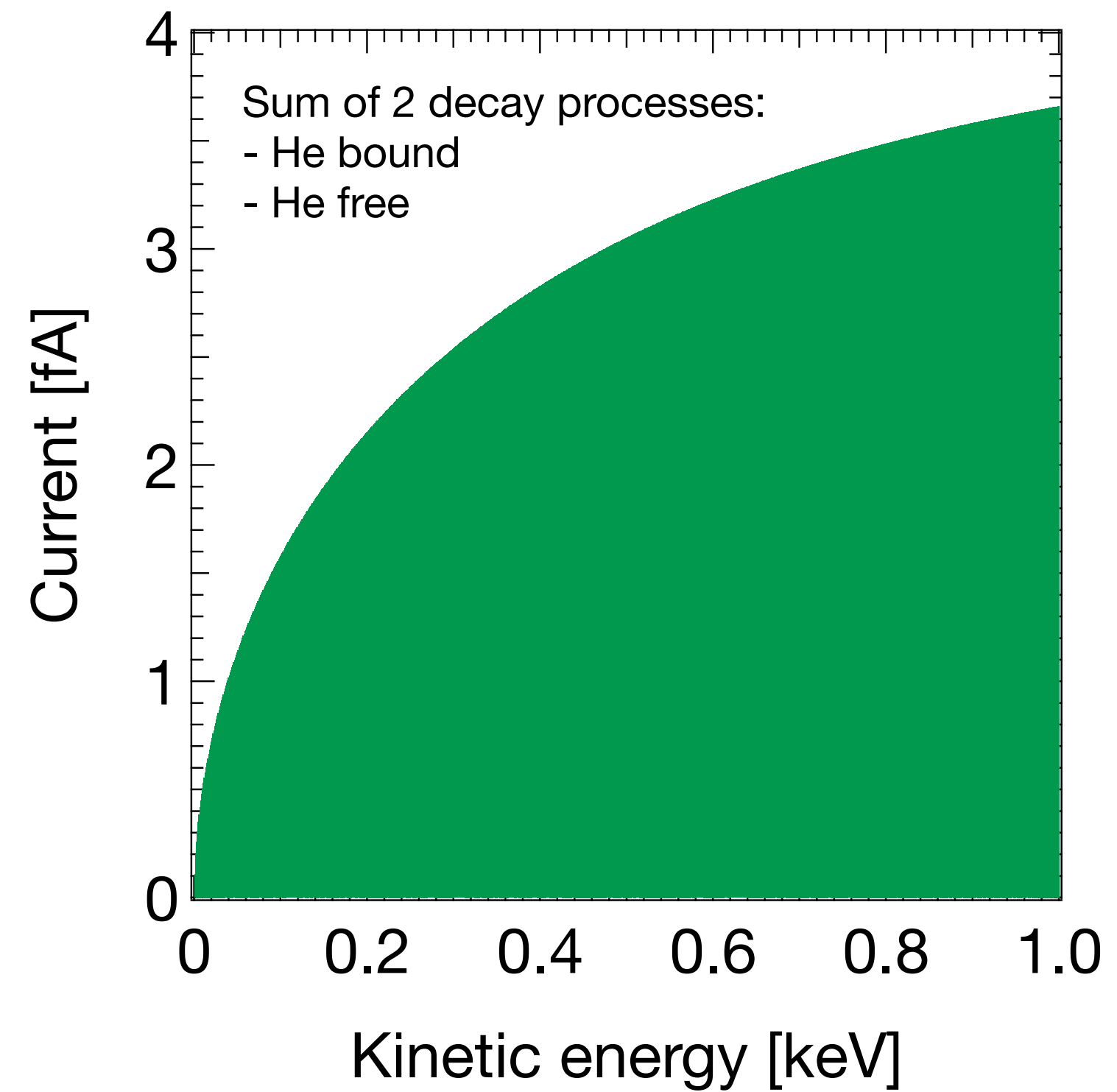
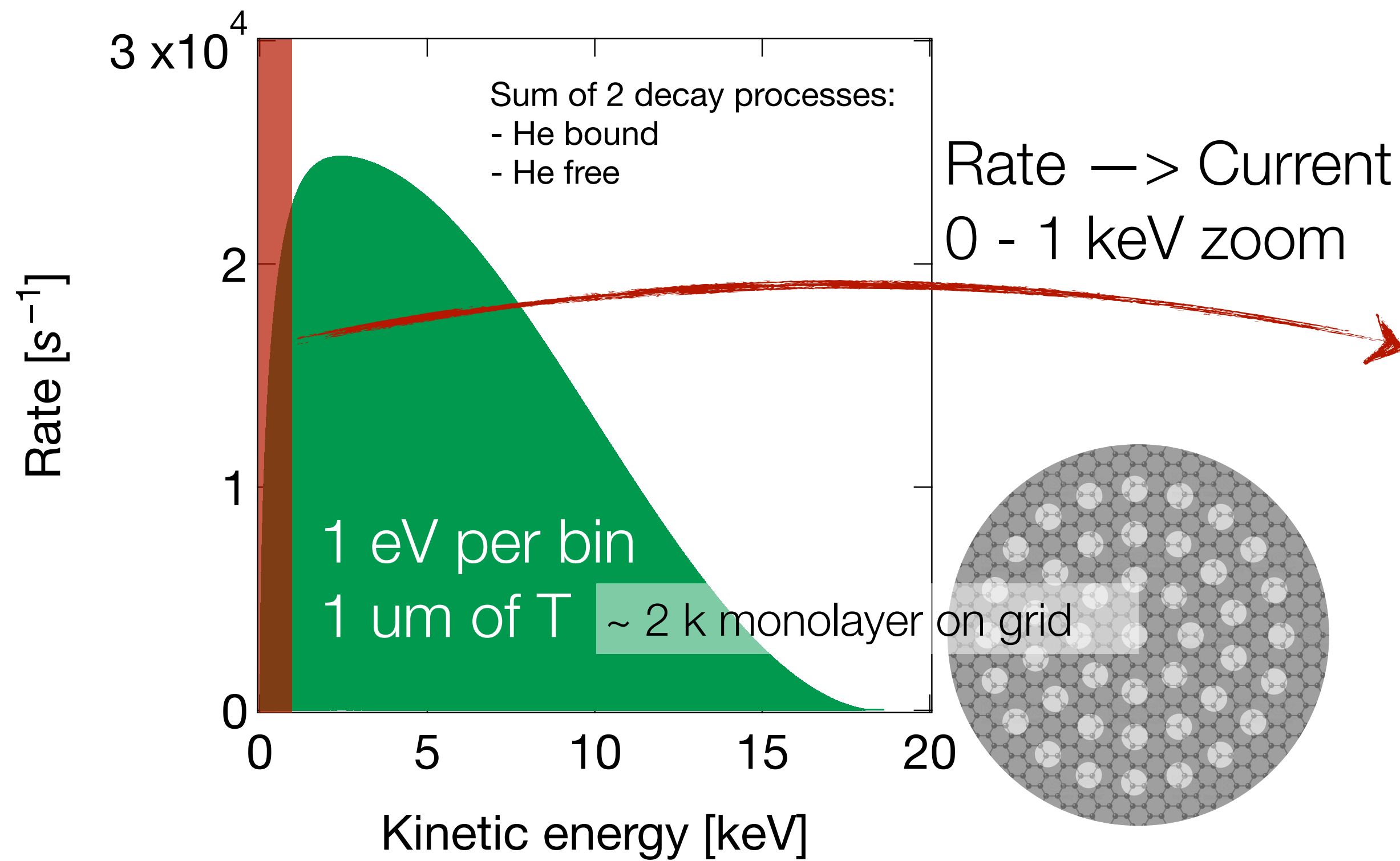
✿  $\tau = 1.8 \pm 0.2$  hours



30 min



# Radiolysis May Not Be a Problem



★ Thanks to A. Casale,  
A. Esposito, L. Cavoto

## Radiolysis issue:

- ❖ “Dangerous” electrons  $\leq 1$  keV
- ❖  $^3\text{He}^+$  energy a few eV
- ❖ Integral current ~a few pA
- ❖ Current spread on whole surf. and on  $4\pi$

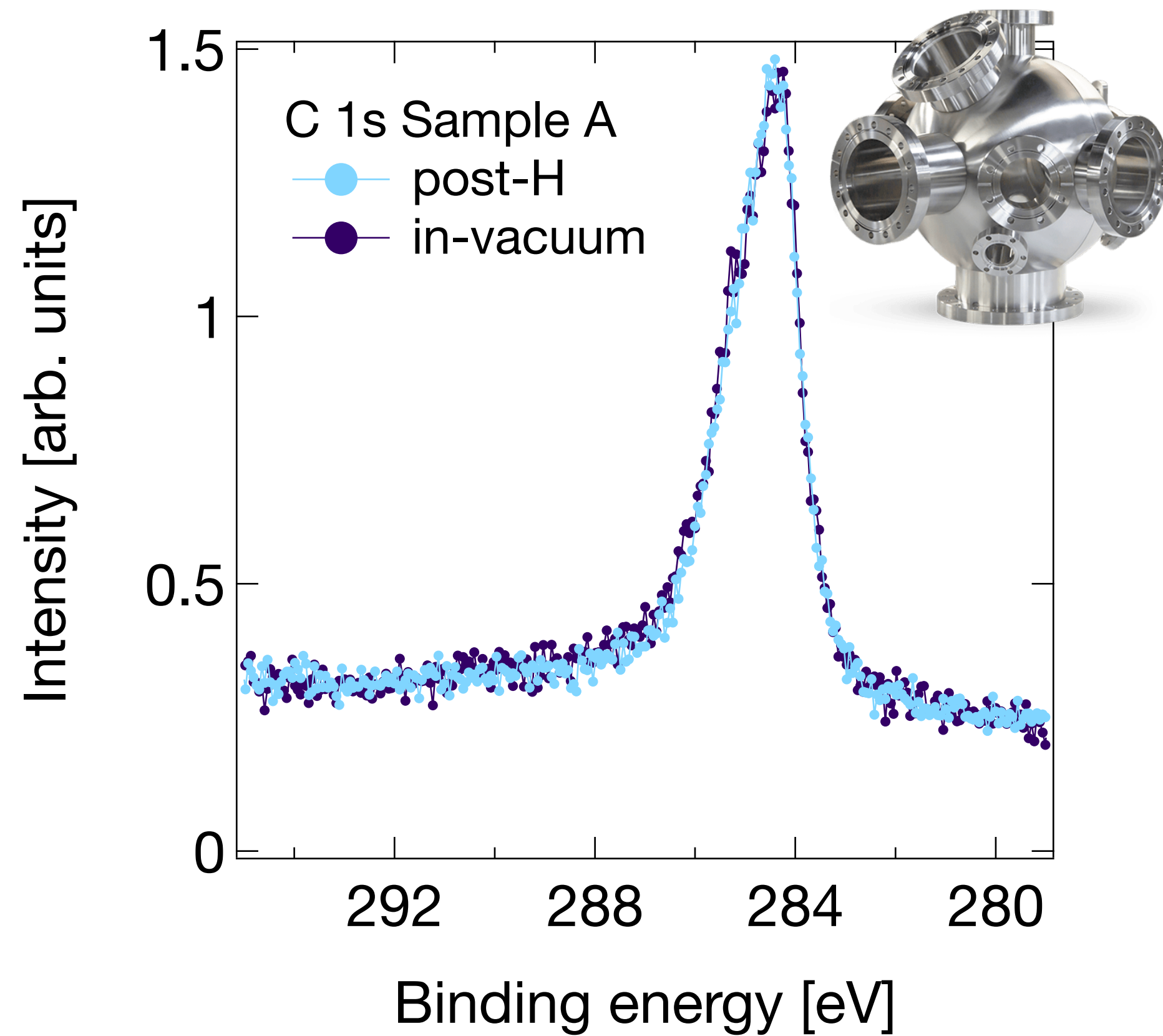


## Experience-based considerations:

- ❖ EELS:  $10^3$  pA/mm<sup>2</sup>  $\rightarrow$  no damages (at least a factor  $10^6$  higher!)
- ❖ SPUTTERING: Ar<sup>+</sup> beam ~1 keV, ~100 nA/mm<sup>2</sup>

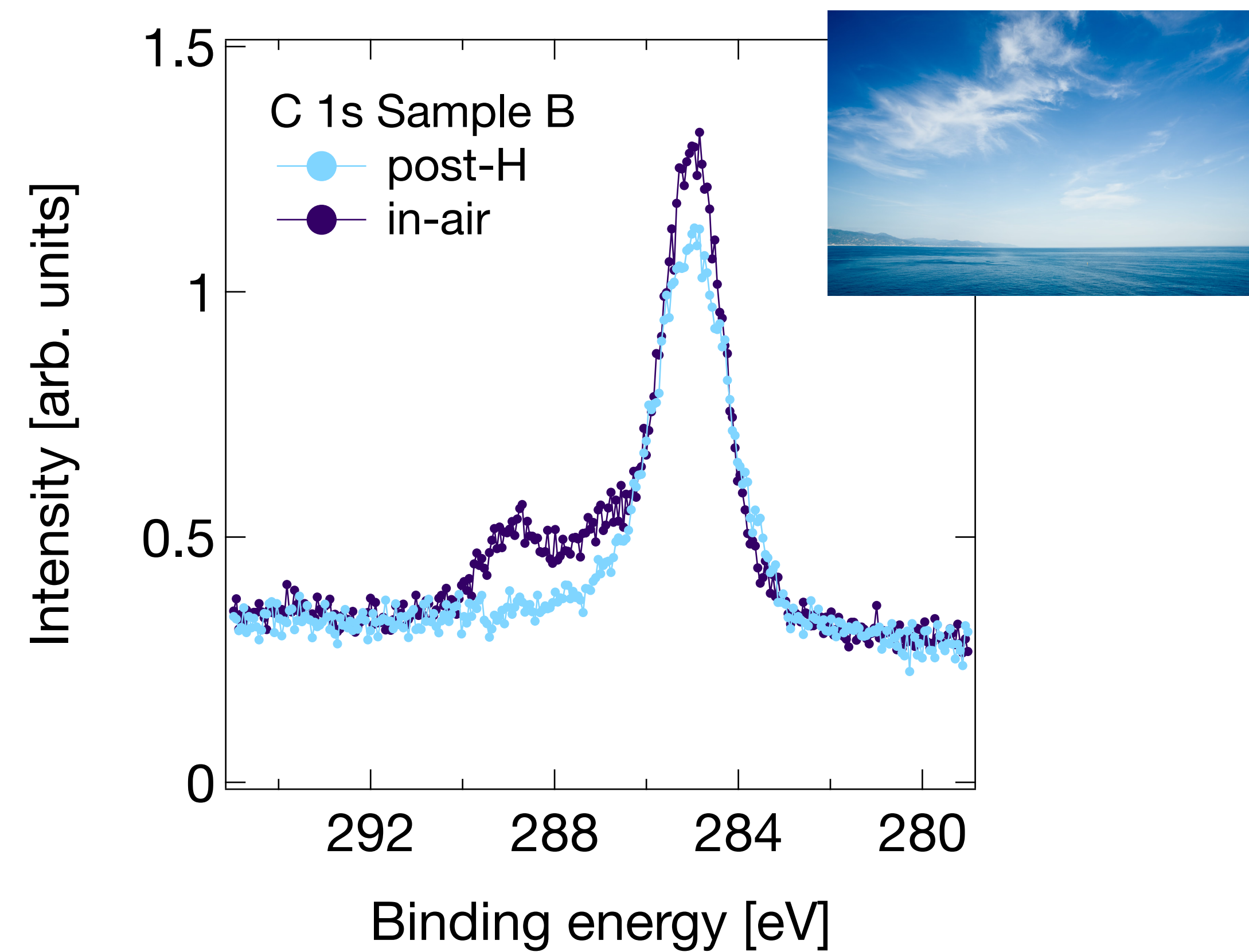
BACKUP

# Hydorgenation Stability: Good in UHV, Oxidation in Air



Sample A:

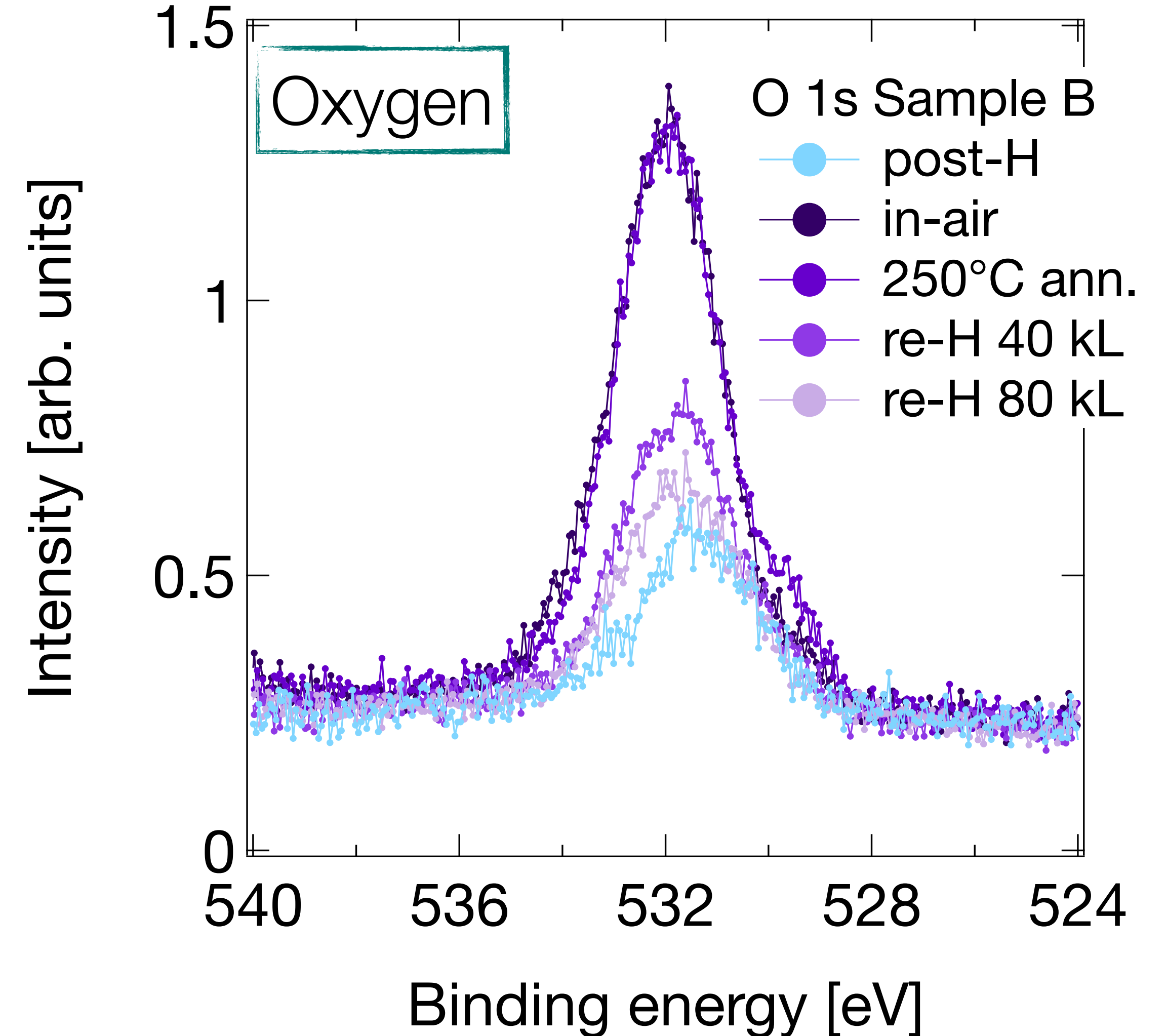
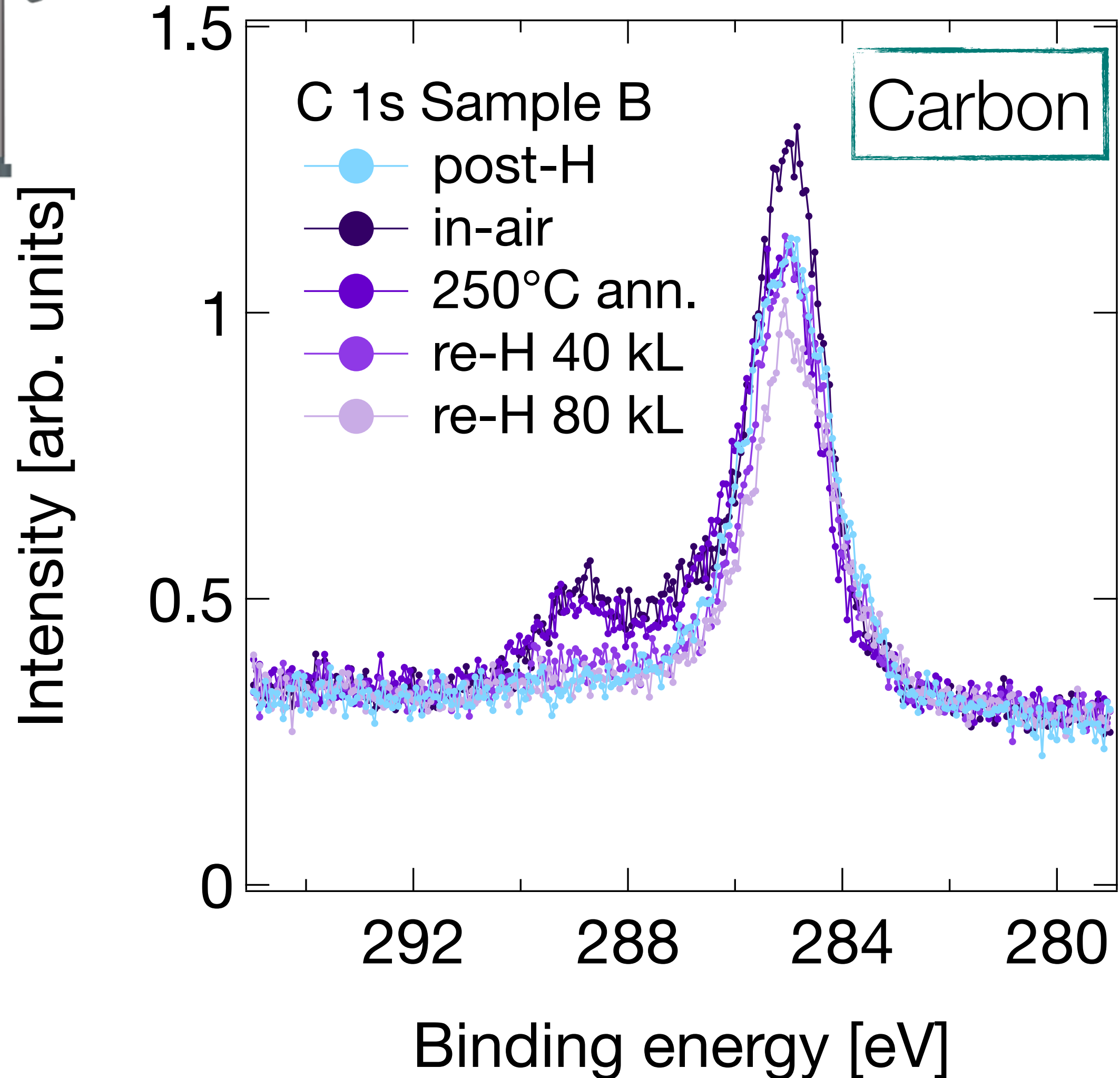
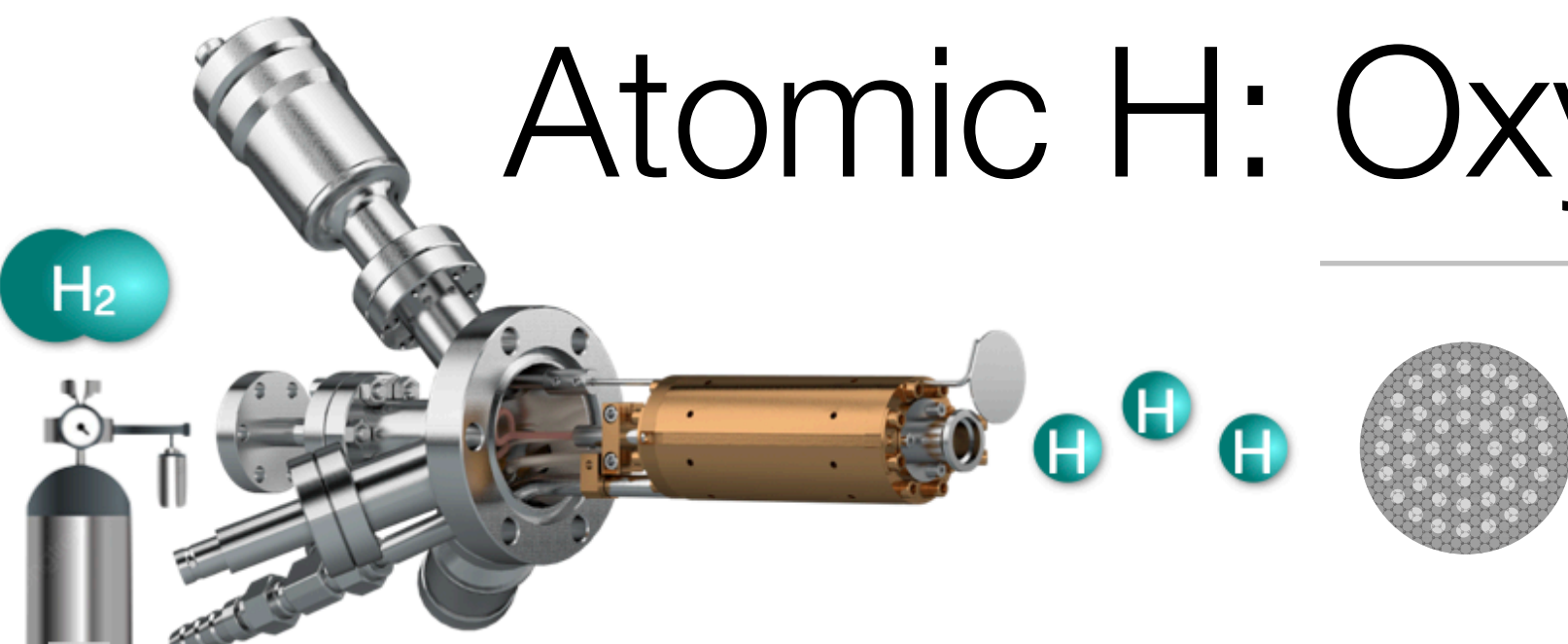
- ❖ 4 months in **ultra-high vacuum** ( $10^{-10}$  mbar)
- ❖ Almost **unchanged**



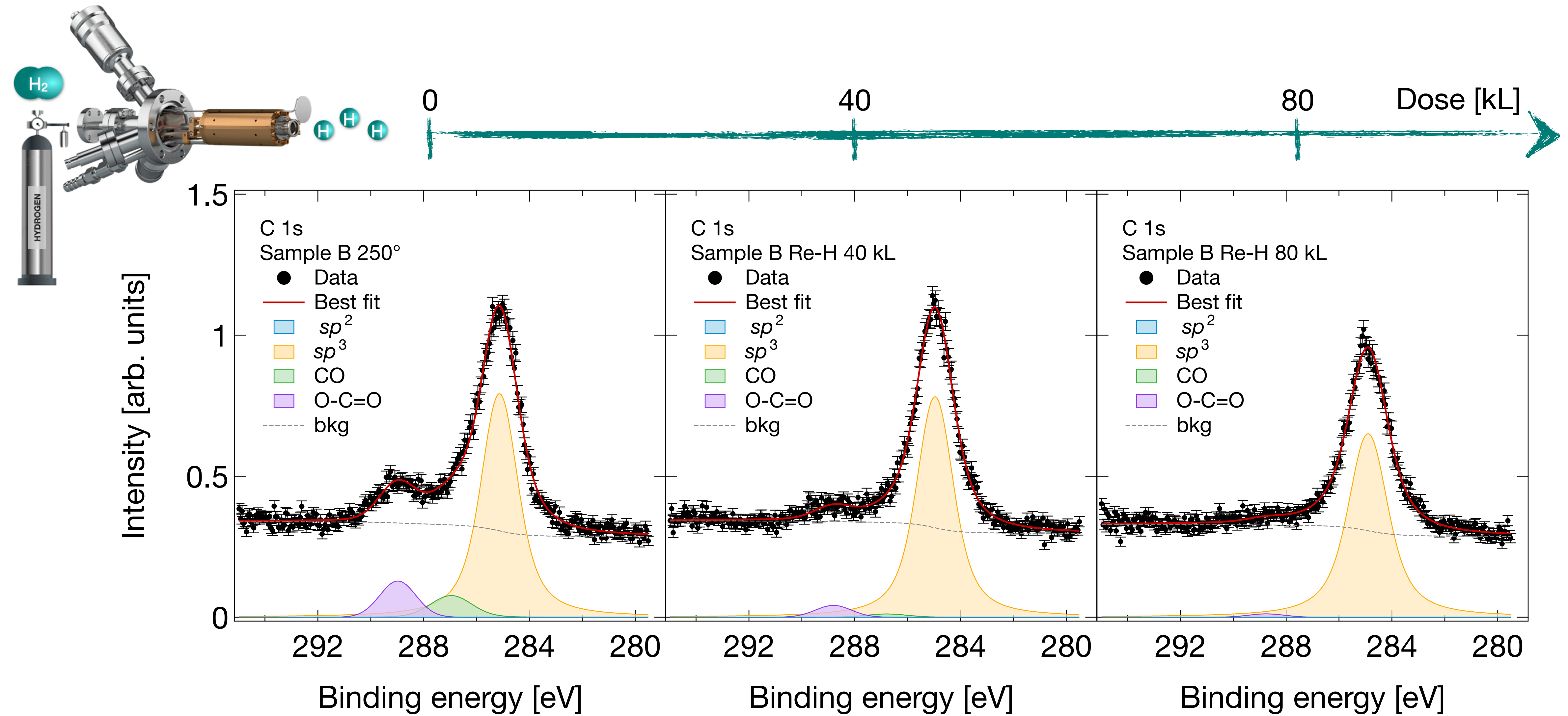
Sample B:

- ❖ 11 months **in air**
- ❖ Significant **oxidation**

# Atomic H: Oxygen Substitution and Re-Hydrogenation



# Re-H: The $sp^3$ Is the Only Component Left Again

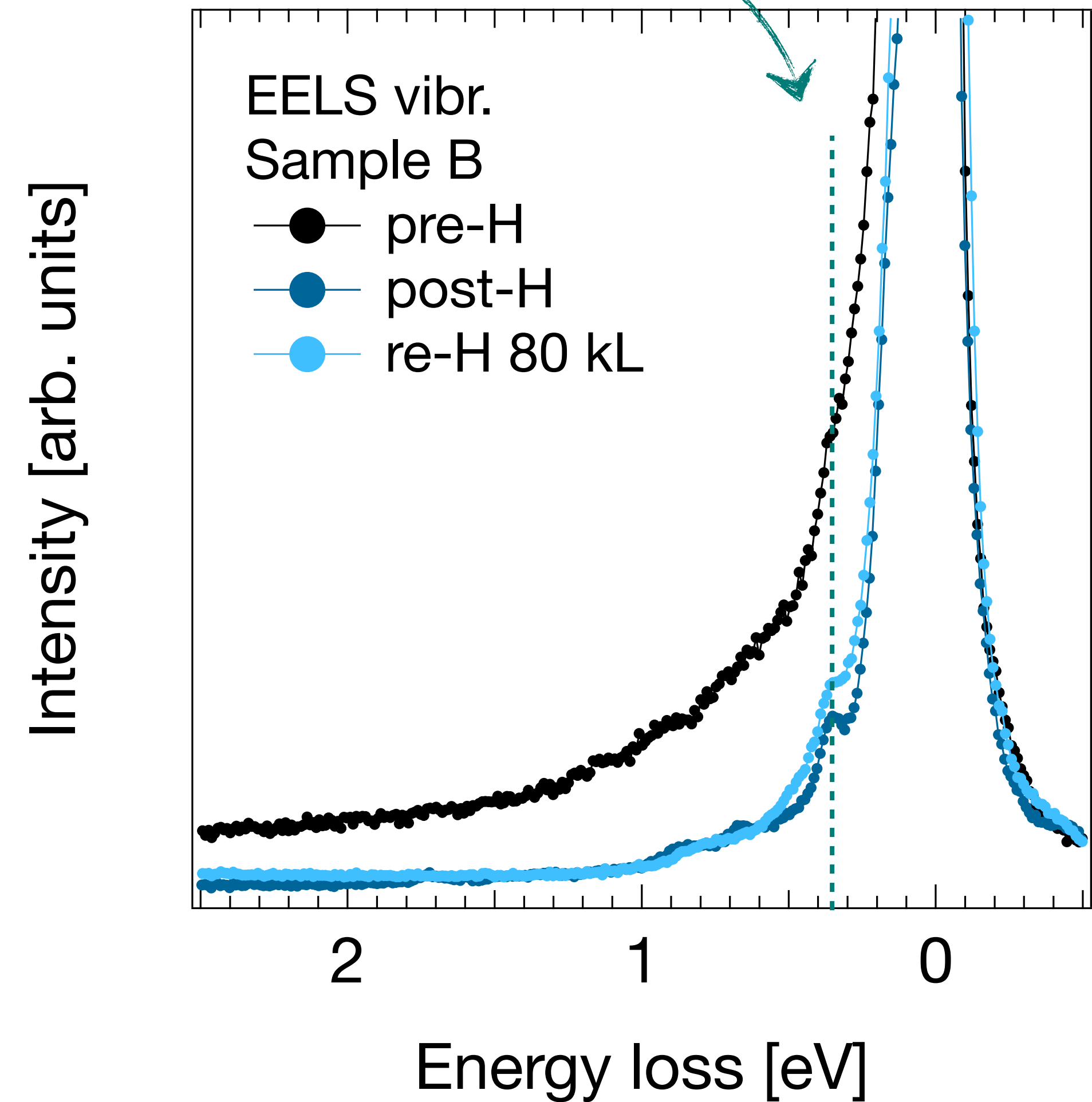
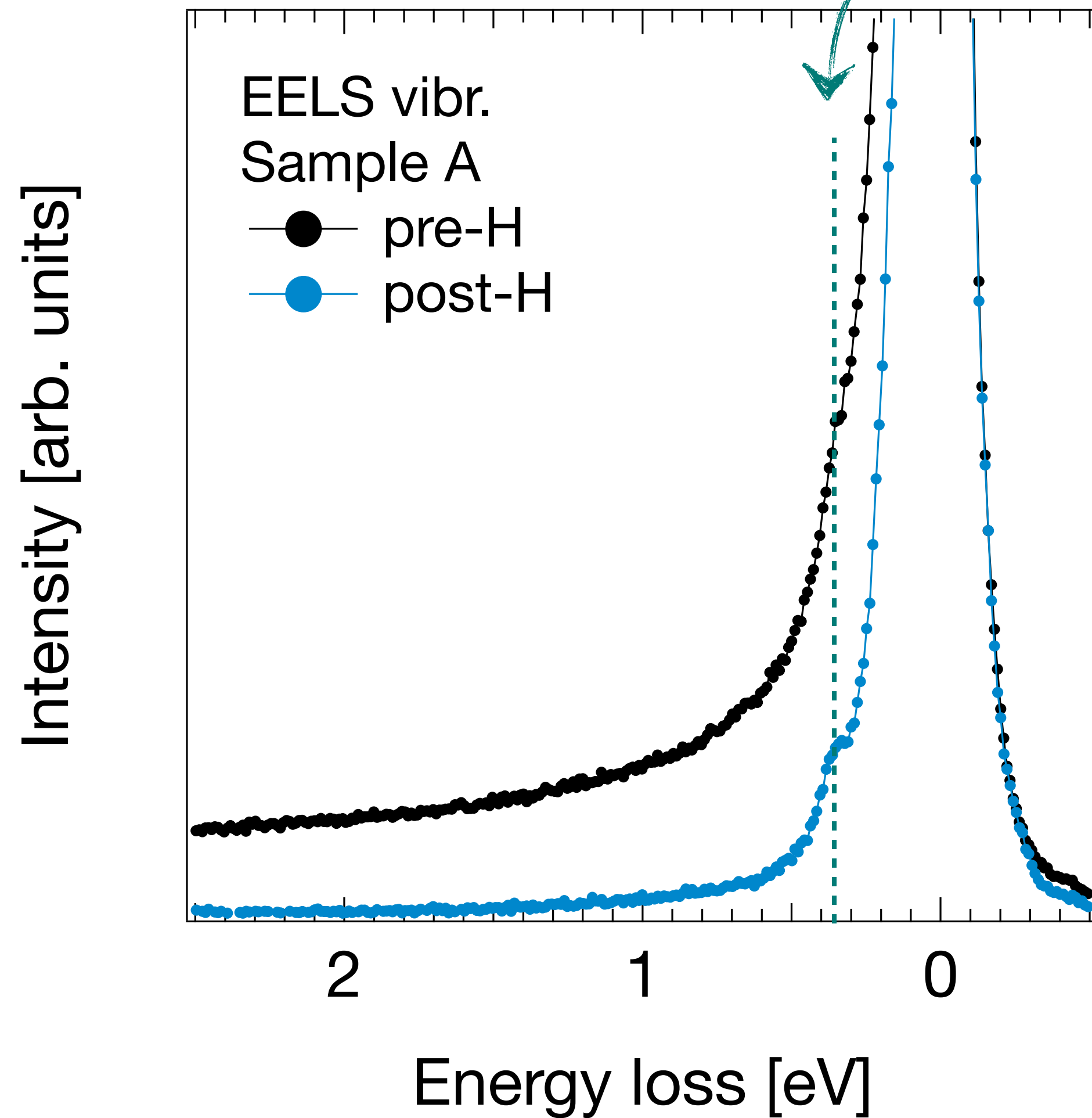




# EELS Confirms Hydrogenation and Re-Hydrogenation

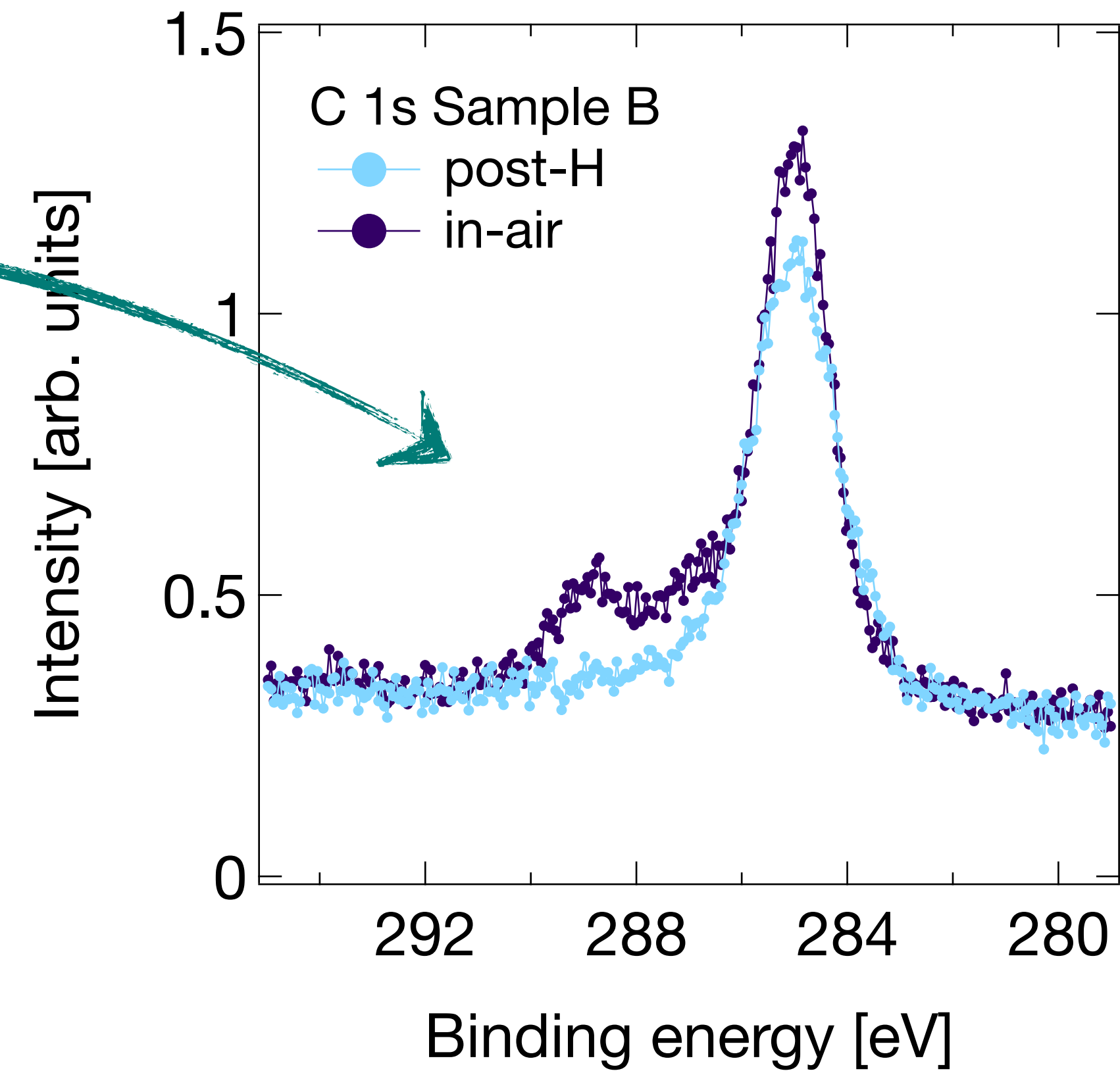
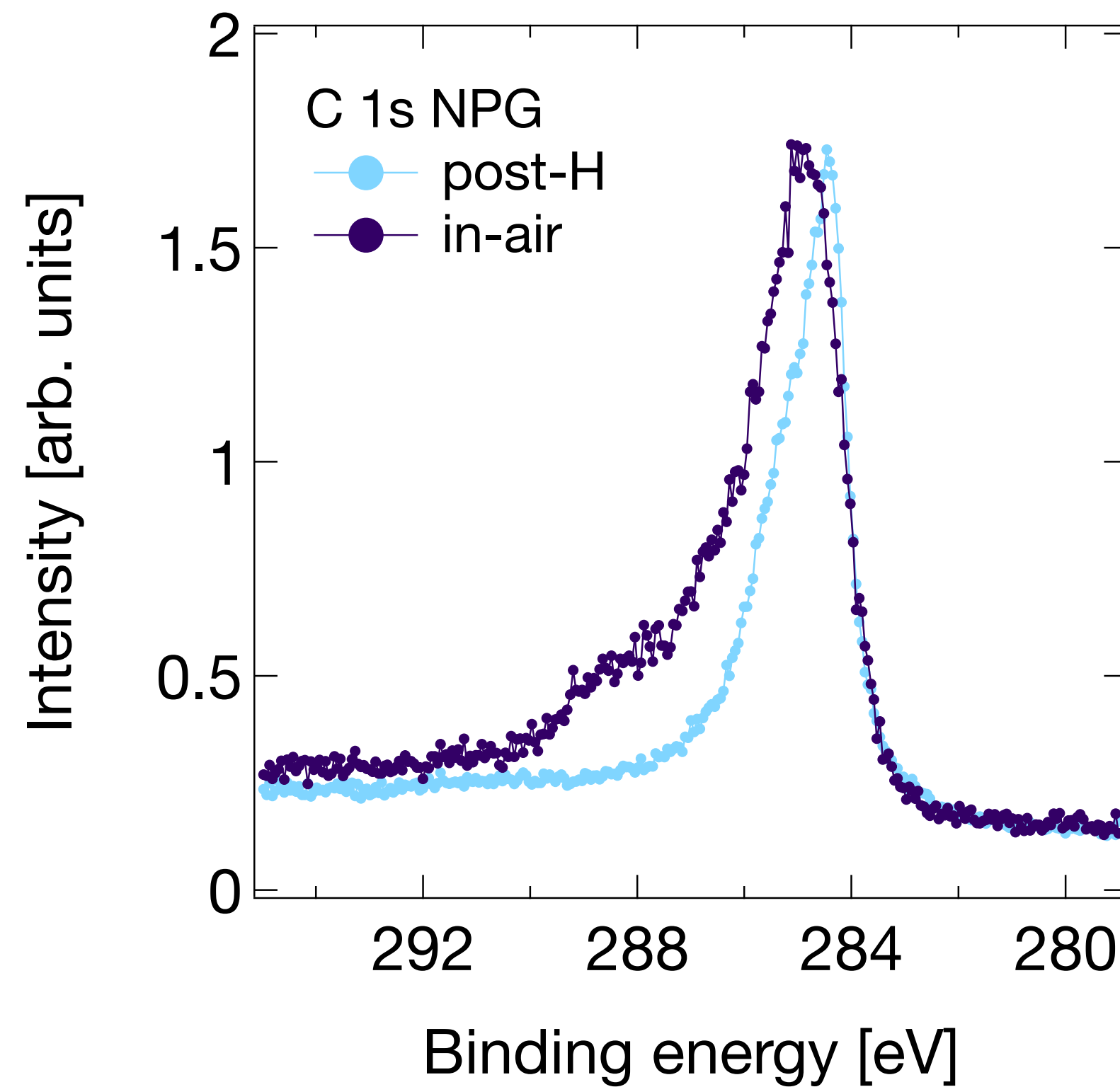
DIRECT H  
FOOTPRINT!

C-H stretching  
~360 meV



# Hydorgenation Stability: Good in UHV, Oxidation in Air

We saw something like this also for NPG after 4 months in air!



Sample B:

- ❖ Hydrogenation ~100 %  $sp^3$
- ❖ 11 months in air
- ❖ Significant oxidation

# Total C 1s Area Decreases With H Exposure

