#### Absorption-based spectroscopy

• Absorption spectroscopy (*modulation of*  $\mu$ ) **NEXAFS** spectroscopy of low Z elements (C, N, O, F, etc K-edge, Si, P, S, L-edges) **XAFS (XANES and EXAFS)** spectroscopy or What we want to measure **XAS** of intermediate Z and high Z elements Photoemission spectroscopy or photoelectron spectroscopy (binding energy and distribution of electrons) XPS, UPS ESCA etc. gas phase (relative to vacuum level) solids (relative to Fermi level of the spectrometer)

#### NEXAFS, XANES and EXAFS

- NEXAFS (Near Edge X-ray Absorption Fine Structures) is used to describe the absorption features in the vicinity of an absorption edge up to ~ 50 eV above the edge (for low Z elements for historical reasons).
- It is exactly the same as XANES (X-ray Absorption Near Edge Structures), which is often used together with EXAFS (Extended X-ray Absorption Fine Structures) to describe the <u>modulation</u> of the <u>absorption coefficient</u> of an element in a chemical environment from ~ 50 eV to as much as 1000 eV above the threshold

#### NEXAFS, XANES and EXAFS

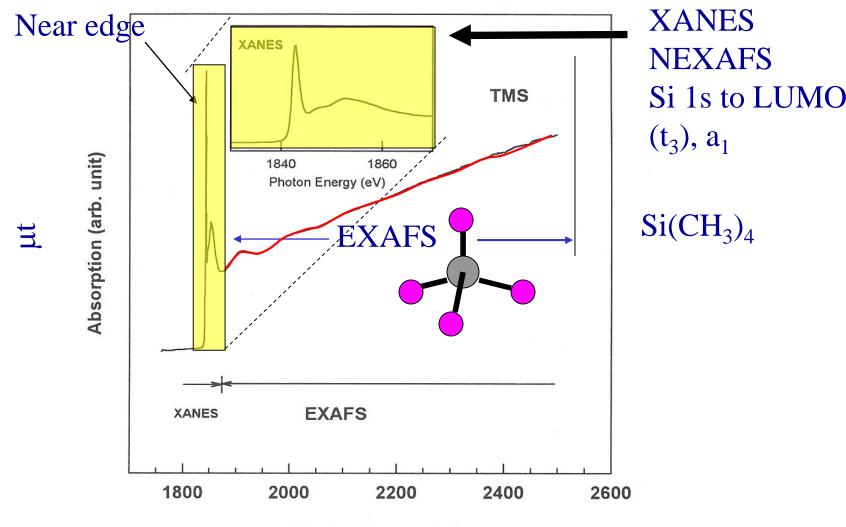
 XAFS (X-ray Absorption Fine Structure) (XAS for short, XAS is sometimes used to represent XANES or NEXAFS)

more contemporary term:

XAFS = XANES + EXAFS

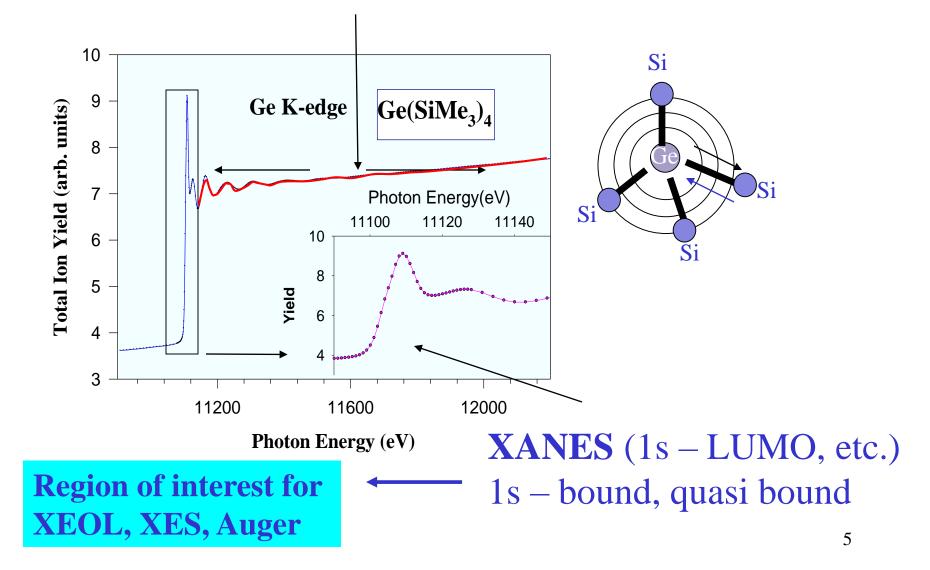
• NEXAFS and XANES are used interchangeably

# What is XAFS?



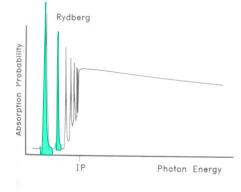
Photon Energy (eV)

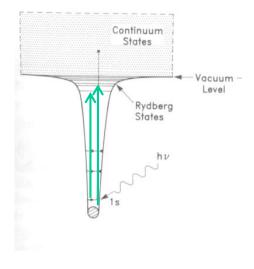
# **EXAFS** (the interference of outgoing and backscatterred electron waves) 1s - continuum



## XAFS of free atom and small molecules

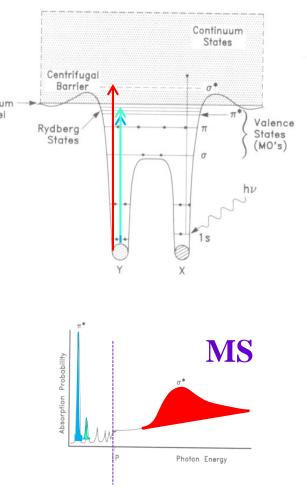
- In rare gases, the pre-edge region exhibits a series of sharp peaks arising from bound to bound transitions (dipole) called Rydberg transitions
- Spectra can be interpreted in terms of Term Values (TV) defined as the difference between ionization limit A and the Rydberg energy E<sub>n</sub> (often dealt with the quantum defect theory, a defect parameter modifies the hydrogen-like E<sub>n</sub> expression)





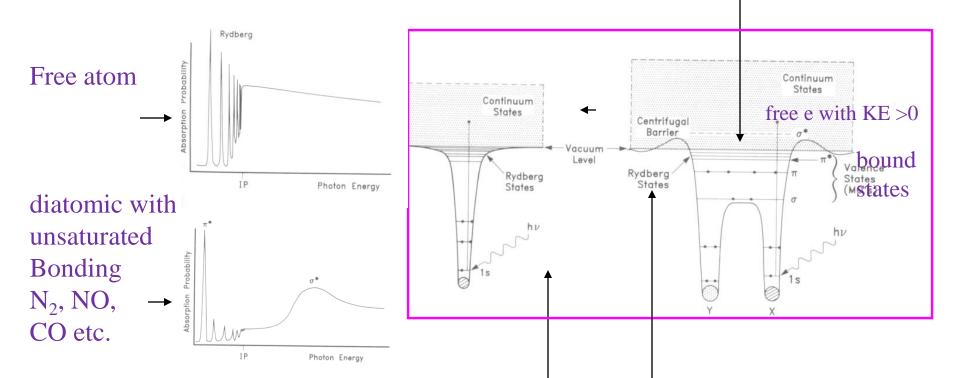
#### XAFS of free atom and small molecules

• Small molecules exhibit transitions to LUMO, LUMO + 1 etc and virtual orbital, MO in the continuum trapped but a potential barrier (centrifugal potential barrier set up by high angular momentum states and the presence of neighboring atoms), or sometimes known as **multiple scattering (MS) states** 



vacuum level

States trapped in the potential barrier are virtual MO's Or multiple scattering states (quasi bound states)



Low Z molecules with unsaturation (bond order >1, double, triple bonds, aromatic etc.)

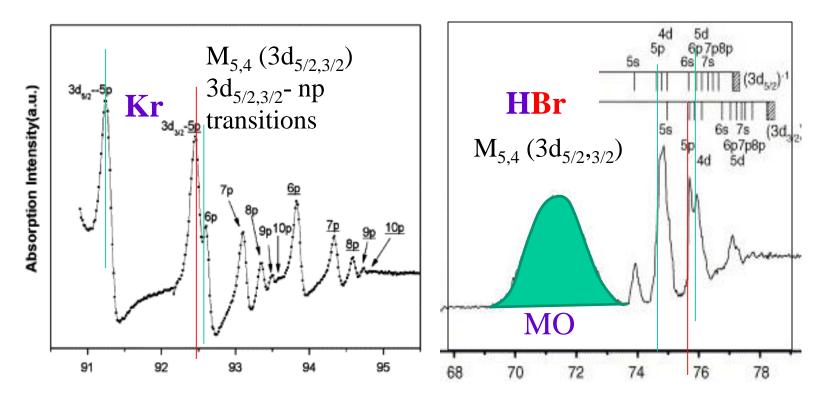
Asymptotic wing of the coulomb potential supports the Rydberg states

#### Comparison of UV-vis and XAS

	UV-visible	XAS
Initial state	HOMO, HOMO-1	Core level (element specific) 1s : K-edge; 2p <sub>3/2</sub> : L <sub>3</sub> -edge
<b>Final state</b>	LUMO, LUMO+1	Bound states: LUMO in molecules Quasi-bound states: Potential barrier, ms states Continuum: KE >> 0
Selection rules: dipole	$\left \left\langle \psi_{\scriptscriptstyle HOMO} \left  r \right  \psi_{\scriptscriptstyle LUMO} \right ight angle  ight $	$egin{array}{ccc} \left  \langle \psi_i   r \middle  \psi_f  ight angle & \mathbf{s} &  ightarrow & \mathbf{p} \ \mathbf{p} &  ightarrow & \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{s} \end{array}$
Energy range	200 – 900 nm (~ eV)	H 1s (13.6 eV) and up, e.g. I K-edge (33.169 keV) covering many core levels of <b>all elements</b> 9

#### Ar L<sub>3.2</sub> edge XANES: (Ar $2p \rightarrow ns$ , d transitions) Data: PGM High Energy Grating (CLS) $2p^6 \xrightarrow{hv}{\rightarrow} 2p^5 4s^1$ Ar (gas) 0.40 3d [Ne]3s<sup>2</sup>3p<sup>6</sup>3d<sup>o</sup>4s<sup>o</sup>4p<sup>o</sup>... 2p<sub>3/2</sub> - 4 123meV 0.35 Energetically, 4s°<3d° 0.30 $2\mathbf{p}^{1}4\mathbf{s}^{1}$ **Relative Intensity** Core hole 0.25 4d 0 244.75 $j = l \pm s$ 244.00 244.25 244.50 Photon Energy 3d 0.20 $=1 \pm 1/2$ 5d 4s 4d 0.15 6d Hund's 5d 6d 0.10 rule 0.05 $2p_{1/2}$ $2p_{3/2}$ (lower) 251 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 Photon Energy (eV)

### **NEXAFS of atom and small molecules**



Rydberg transitions in **HBr, which is isoelectronic with Kr** remain strong and a broad transition to molecular orbital emerges

# What is in a resonance (peak) ?

**Energy position (E):** one electron energy (core level)

**Peak width (** $\Gamma$ **):** convolution of the core hole lifetime broadening, instrument  $\Delta x \cdot \Delta p = \tau \cdot \Delta E_{\tau} \ge \frac{\hbar}{2}$ resolution and densities of states  $\Gamma = \sqrt{E_{\tau}^2 + E_{\tau}^2}$ 

**Peak Intensity (I):** area under the curve, transition matrix element and occupancy of the final state

$$\left|\left\langle \psi_{i}\left|r\right|\psi_{f}\right\rangle ^{2}\right|
ho(E)$$

#### Physics of X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XANES XAFS etc.)

Dipole transition between quantum states

• core to bound states (Rydberg, MO below vacuum level, -ve energy, the excited electron remains in the vicinity of the atom)- long life time-sharp peaks

• core to quasi-bound state (+ve energy, virtual MO, multiple scattering states, shape resonance, etc. these are the states trapped in a potential barrier, and the electron will eventually tunnel out of the barrier into the continuum-short lifetime, broad peaks

• core to continuum (electron with sufficient kinetic energy to escape into the continuum) -photoelectric effect.

#### Physics of X-ray absorption spectroscopy (XANES, XAFS etc.) cont'

Scattering of photoelectron by the molecular potential – how the electron is scattered depends on its **kinetic energy** 

• Low kinetic energy - Multiple scattering of electron by the molecular potential of the neighboring atoms (typically up to ~ 50 eV above the threshold, the region where bound to quasi-bound transitions take place); e is scattered primarily by valence and inner shell electrons of the neighboring atoms - XANES region

• **High kinetic energy** ( 50 -1000 eV) are scattered primarily by the core electrons of the neighboring atoms, single scattering pathway dominates - EXAFS region

## Electron scattering - general considerations

- Free electron (plane wave) scattered by an atom (spherical potential) travels away as a spherical wave
- Electrons with kinetic energy > 0 in a molecular environment is scattered be the surrounding atoms
- Low KE e<sup>-</sup> is scattered by valence electrons, undergoes multiple scattering in a molecular environment
- High KE e<sup>-</sup> is scattered by core electrons, favors single scattering

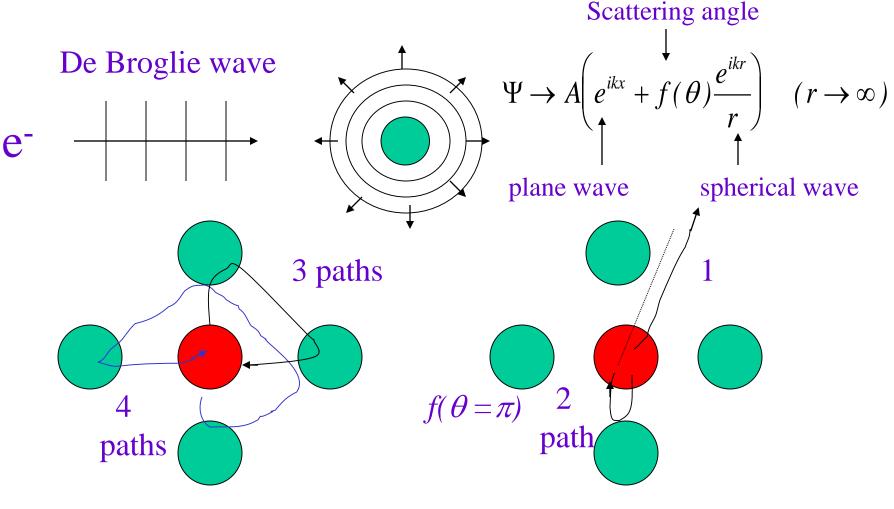
### k space

It is often convenient to look at e<sup>-</sup> with + ve KE in k space

In a free atom, the KE of a photoelectron excited by photon energy E above the threshold  $E_0$  is,  $\Delta E = E - E_0 (eV)$ 

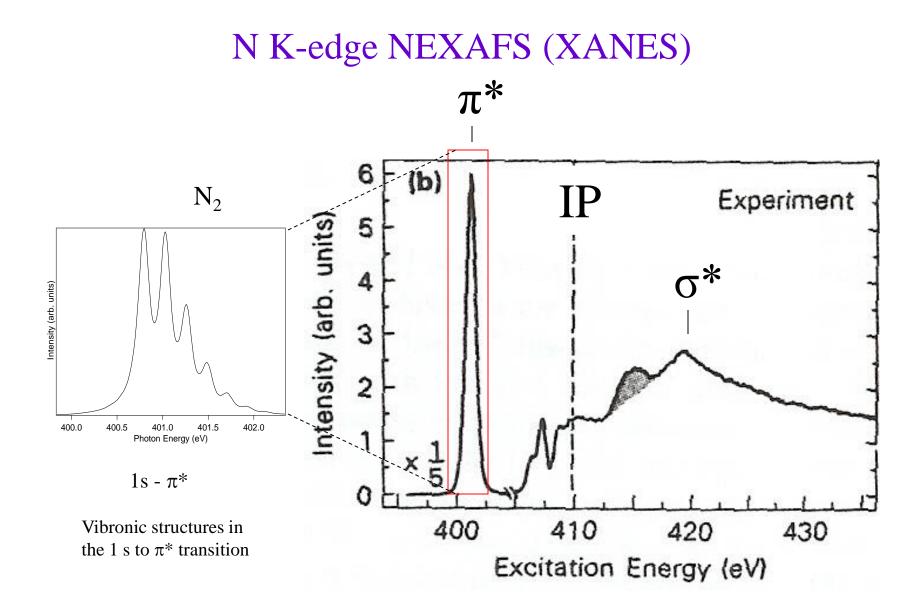
 $k = 2\pi/\lambda$  (wave vector,  $\lambda = de Broglie wavelength)$  $=\sqrt{2m}\Delta E/\hbar^2$ Conversion from  $= \sqrt{0.263\Delta E} (\text{\AA}^{-1}) = 0.513 (\Delta E)^{1/2} (\text{\AA}^{-1})$  $KE = \Delta E = 1/2 (mv^2) = 1/2(p^2/m) = h^2/2\lambda^2 m$  $\lambda = 1/2(h^2/m\Delta E)^{1/2}$  $k = 2\pi / \lambda = 2\pi / h(1/m\Delta E)^{1/2} = \sqrt{2m \Delta E / \hbar^2} \hbar = h/2\pi$ At 50 eV, k = 0.13 x  $\sqrt{50}$  = 3.63 (Å<sup>-1</sup>)

# Electron scattering - physical picture

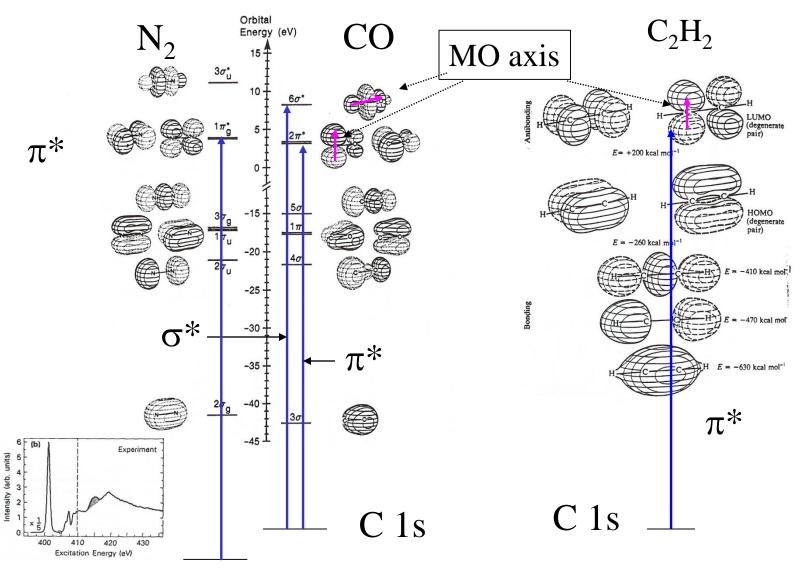


Low KE e, multiple scattering (XANES)

High KE e, single scattering along the bond (EXAFS)

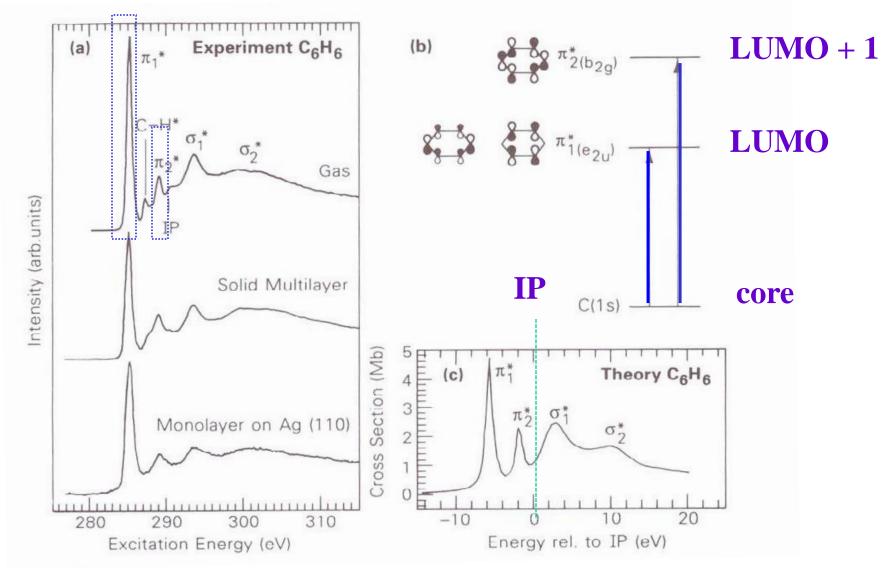


#### Molecular orbital illustration

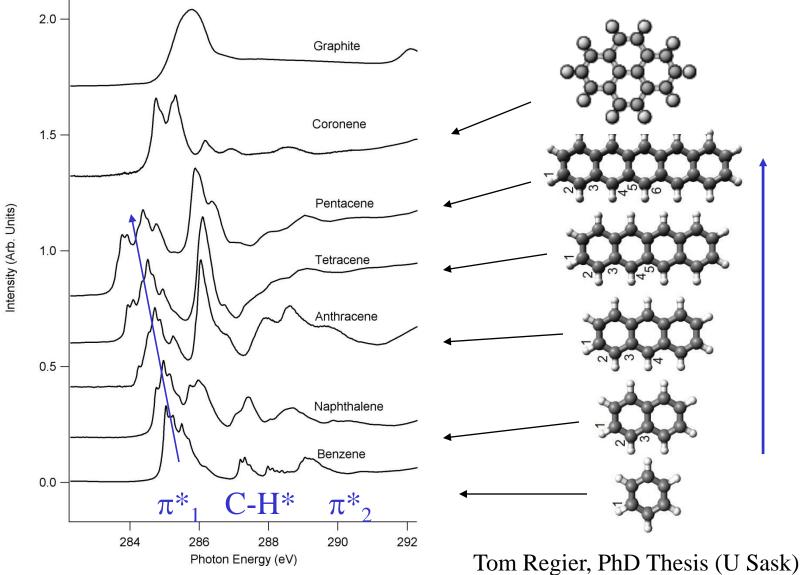


N 1s

#### **XANES of Benzene**

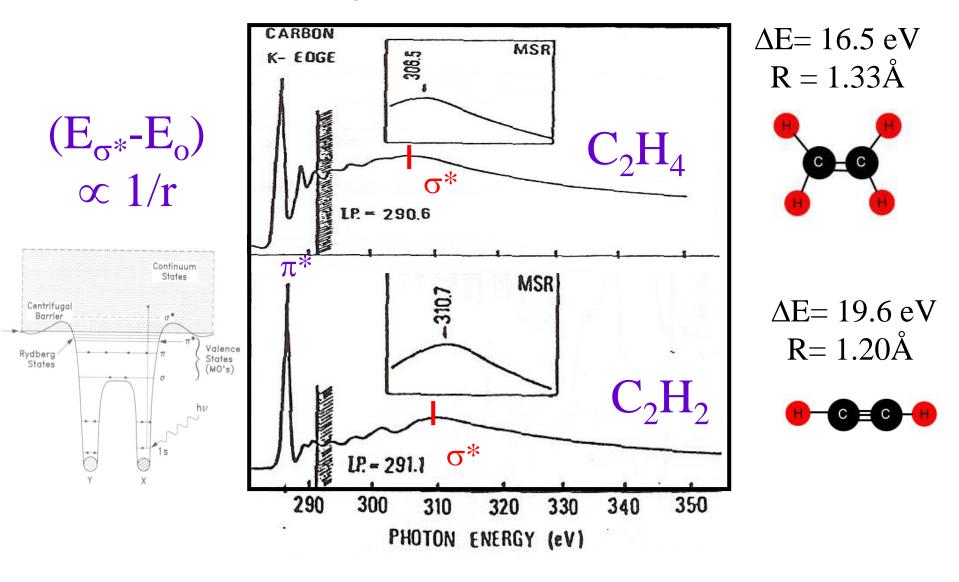


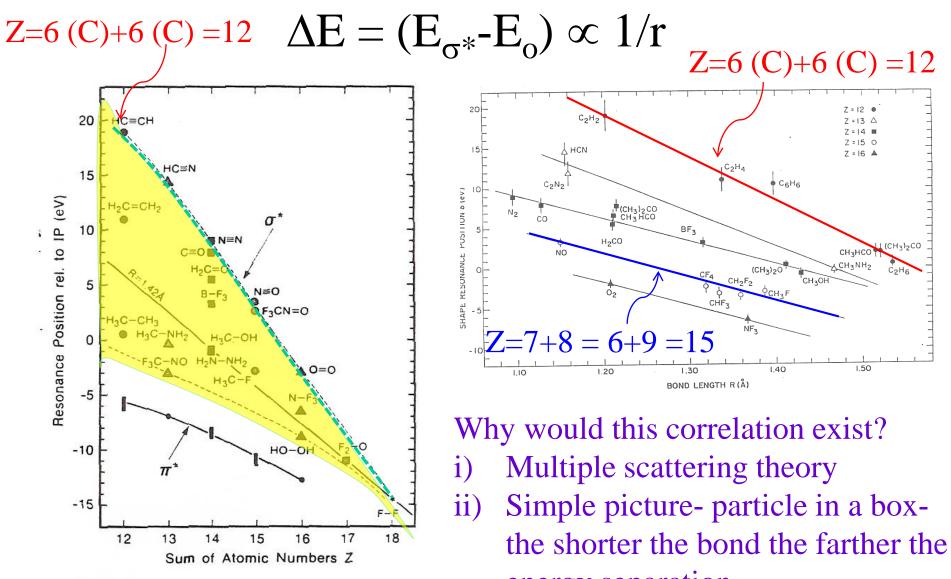
#### XANES chemical systematic



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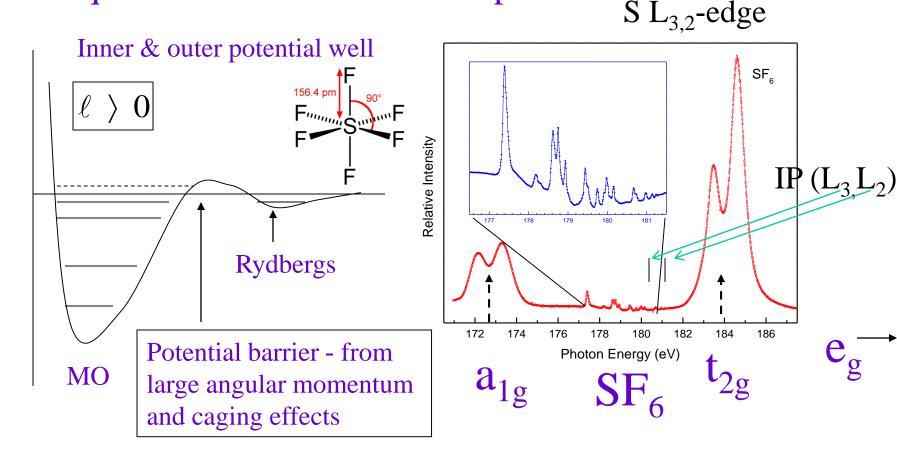
# Correlation of $\sigma^*$ resonance with bond length in low z molecules



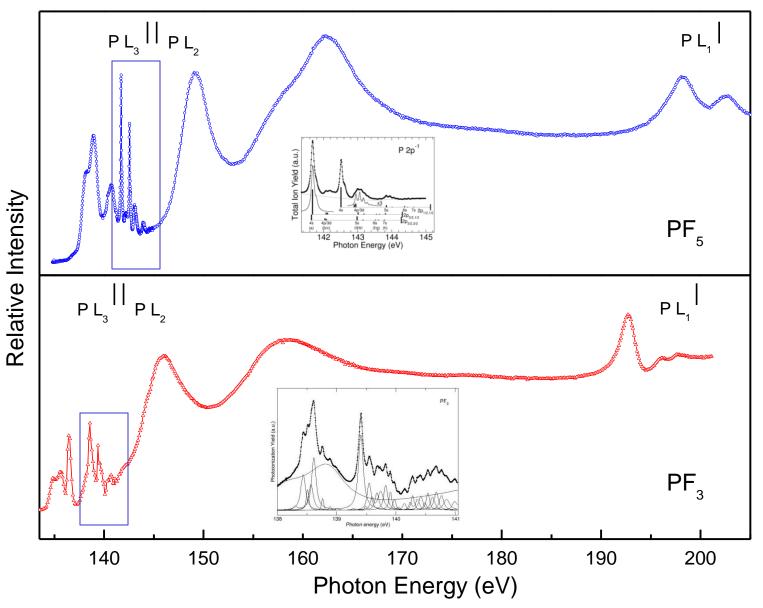


energy separation

NEXAFS of polyatomic molecules As the molecule gets bigger, Rydberg gets weaker; molecular transitions become dominant. Rydbergs are quenched in the condensed phase



#### PF<sub>5</sub> and PF<sub>3</sub>

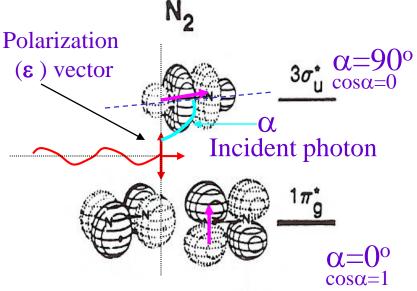


NEXAFS and polarization We recall  $\sigma \propto \left| \left\langle f_i \left| \varepsilon \cdot r \right| f_f \right\rangle \right|^2 \rho(E_f)$ 

Can have values between 0 and 1

Thus, the intensity,  $I \propto \sigma \propto |\varepsilon|^2 |r|^2 \cos^2 \alpha$ where  $\alpha$  is the angle between the  $\varepsilon$  (polarization) vector of the light and the vector of the molecular orbital (MO axis)

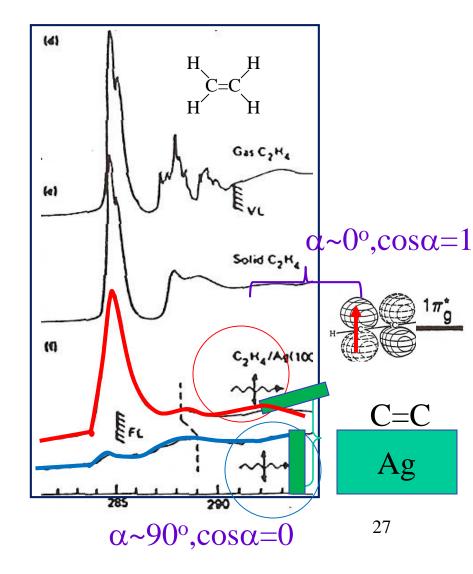
E.g. for N<sub>2</sub>, the MO axes are shown Pola for the  $\pi^*$  and  $\sigma^*$ ; if the *photon polarization* is parallel to the MO axis (*r*) of the  $1\pi^*_g$  in N<sub>2</sub>, the 1s-  $\pi^*$ transition intensity is a maximum ( $\cos^2\alpha = 1$ ) and 1s - $\sigma^*$  is minimum ( $\cos^2\alpha = 0$ )



NEXAFS of molecules oriented on a surface (angular dependence of resonance intensity)

When molecule adsorbs on a surface, the molecular axis is defined

A series of XAS made by rotating the substrate with respect to the polarization reveals the orientation of the molecule.



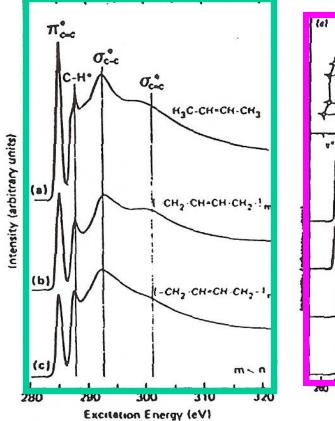
#### Chemical systematic

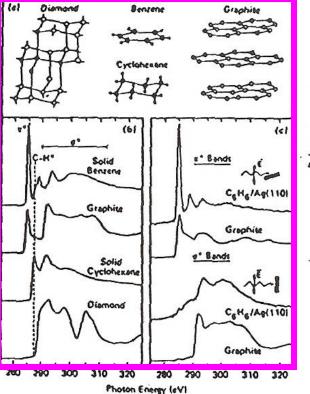
Polymer

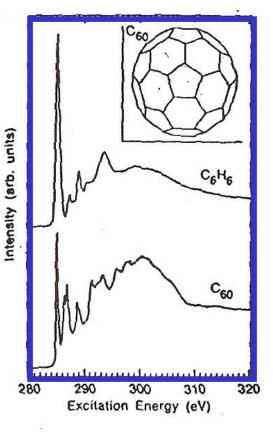
Allotropes



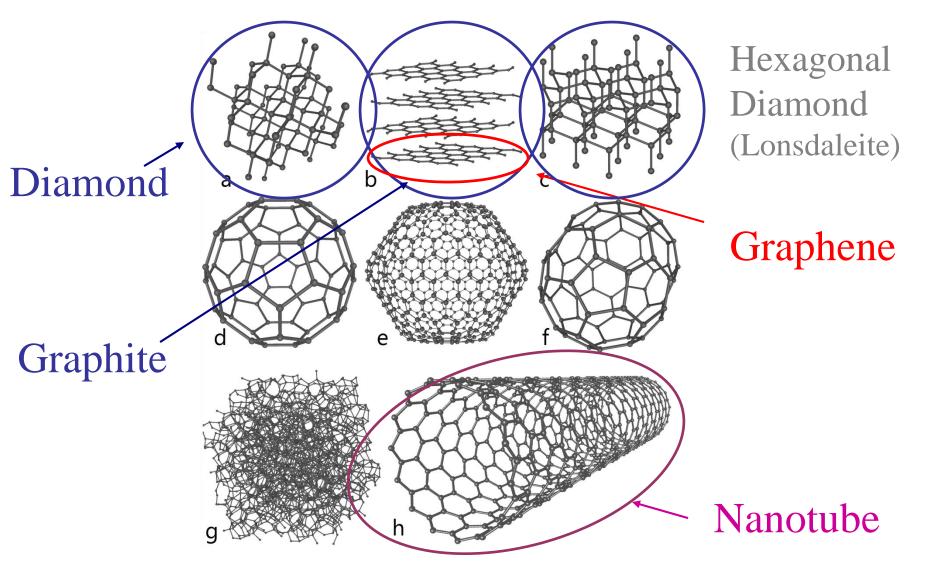
**Butene and Polymers** 







#### Carbon Allotropes



#### **Carbon Allotropes: C K-edge XAS**

