Determining the binding energy of aromatic compounds on particle-like carbonaceous surfaces from the signal decay in two-step laser mass spectrometry

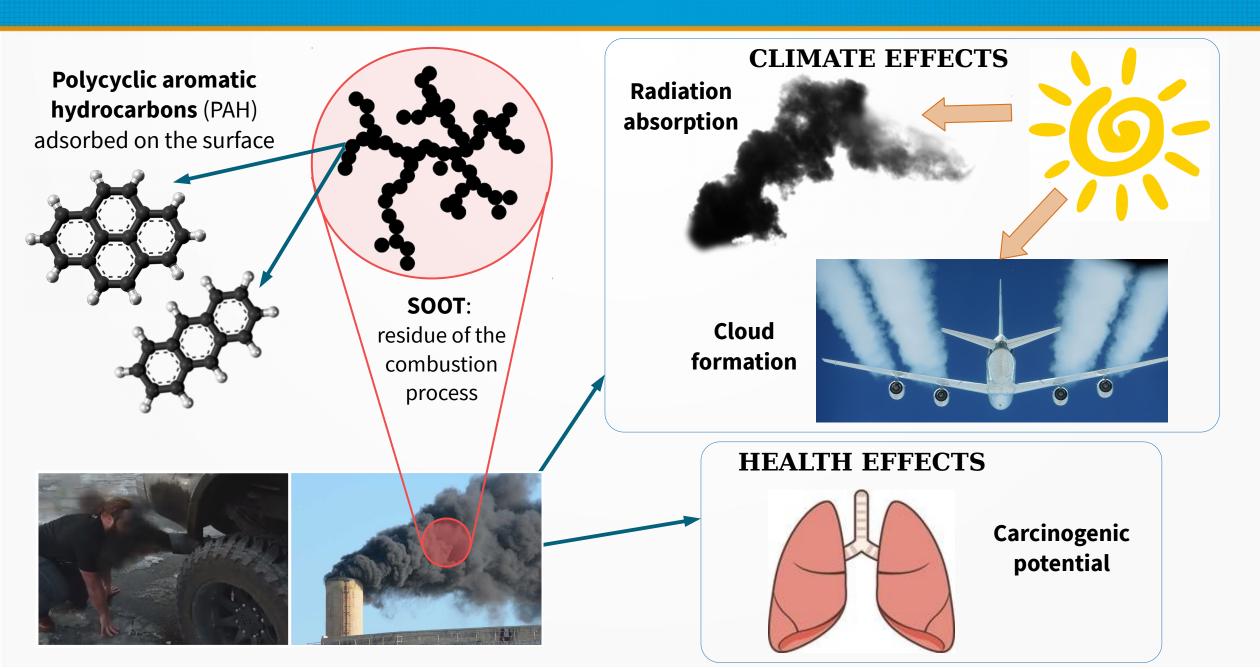
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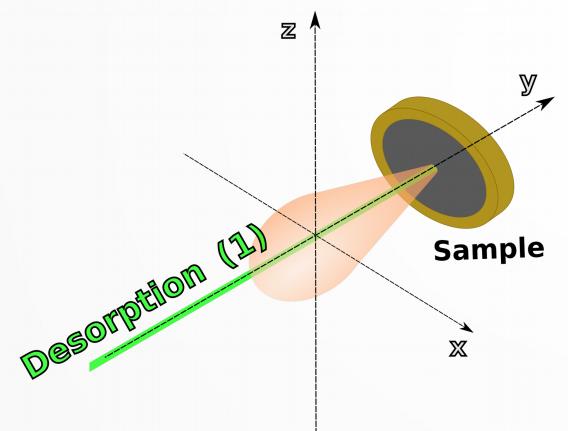
Motivation

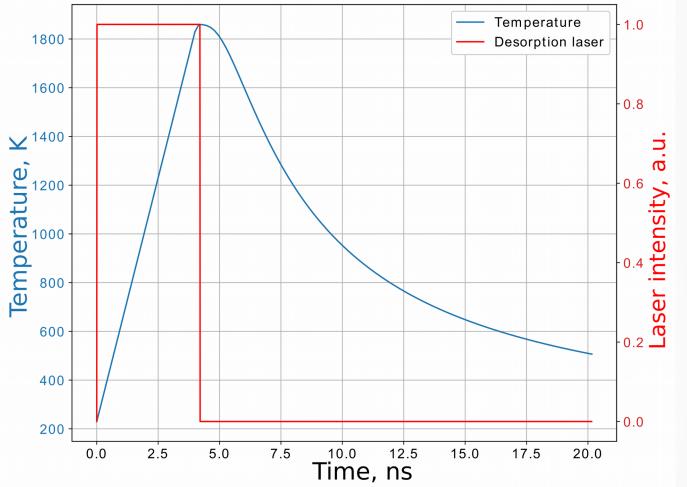


Experimental setup

Two step laser mass spectrometry (**L2MS**) can be divided into three key stages^[1]:

- 1) Laser desorption (λ =532nm)
- 2) Laser ionisation (λ =266nm)
- 3) Time-of-flight mass spectrometry





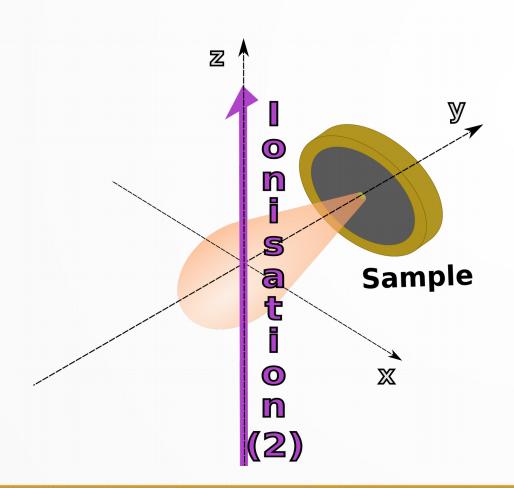
The increase in surface temperature promotes thermal desorption of the adsorbates

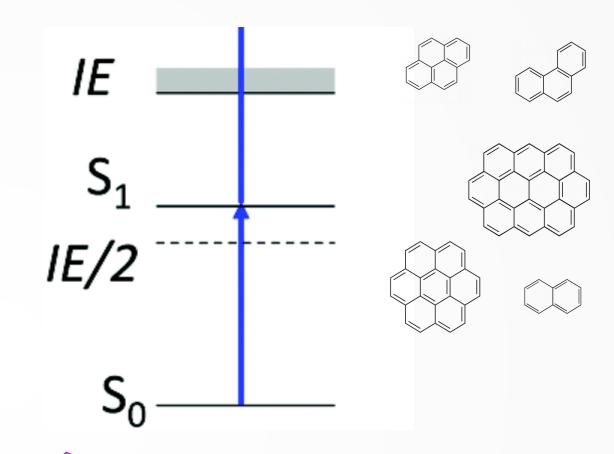
[1] A. Faccinetto et al., Environmental Science and Technology 49 (2015), pp. 10510–10520.

Experimental setup

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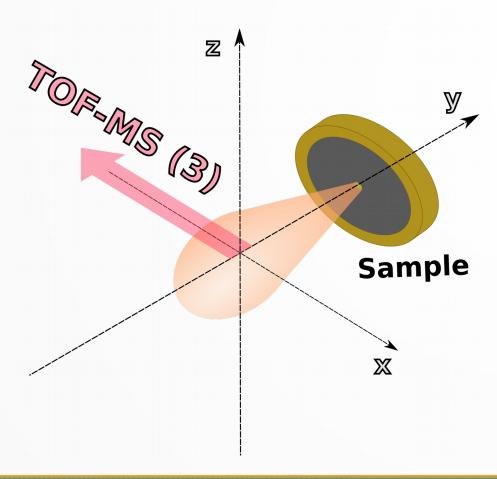


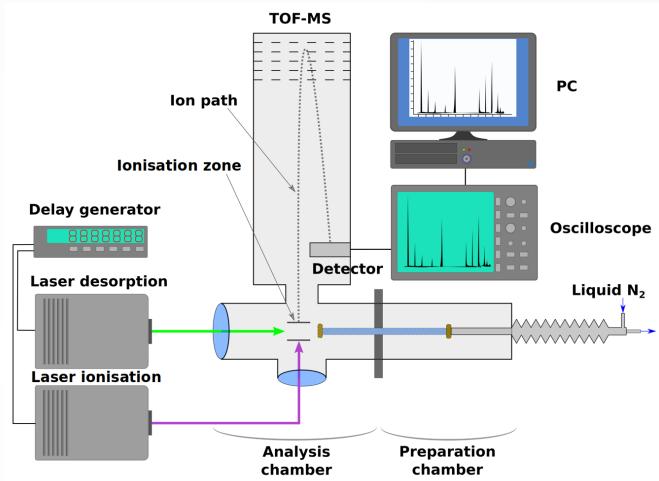
Desorbed species will be ionised via a resonant two photon process

Experimental setup

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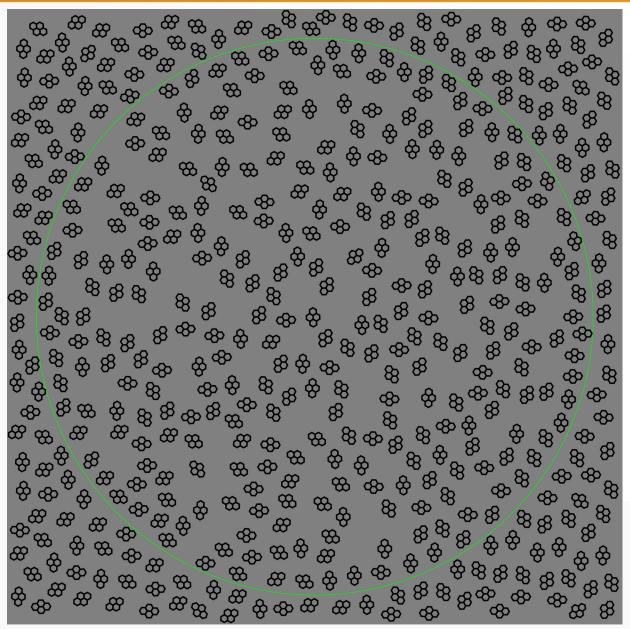
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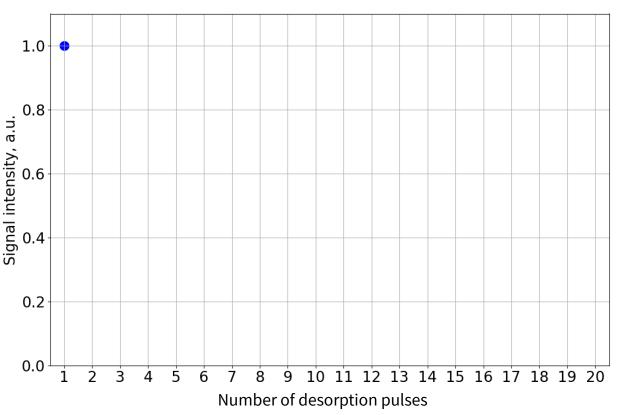


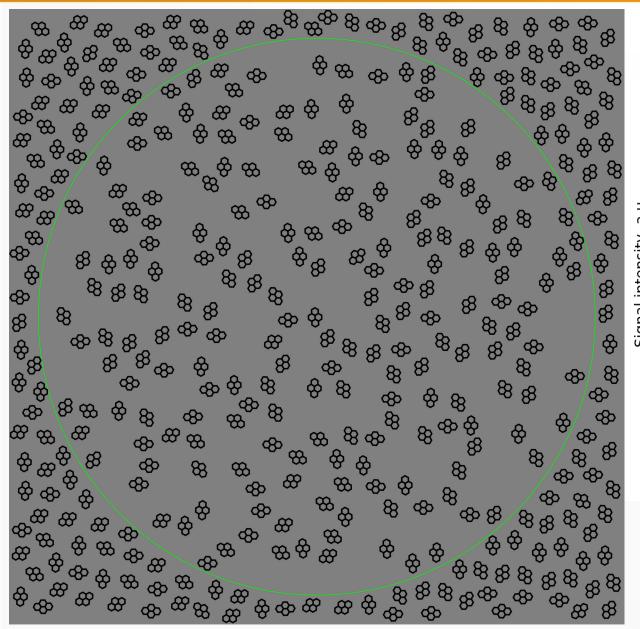


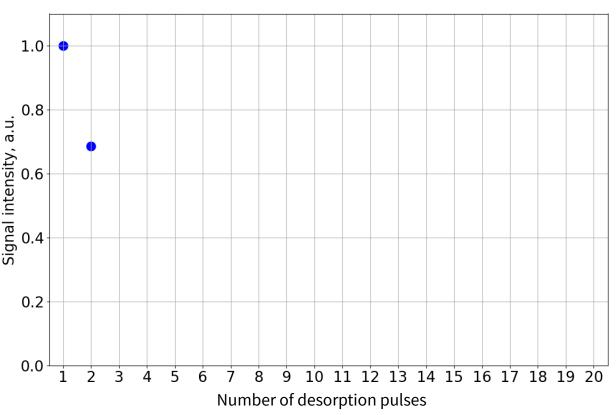
Pyrene molecule (not to scale)

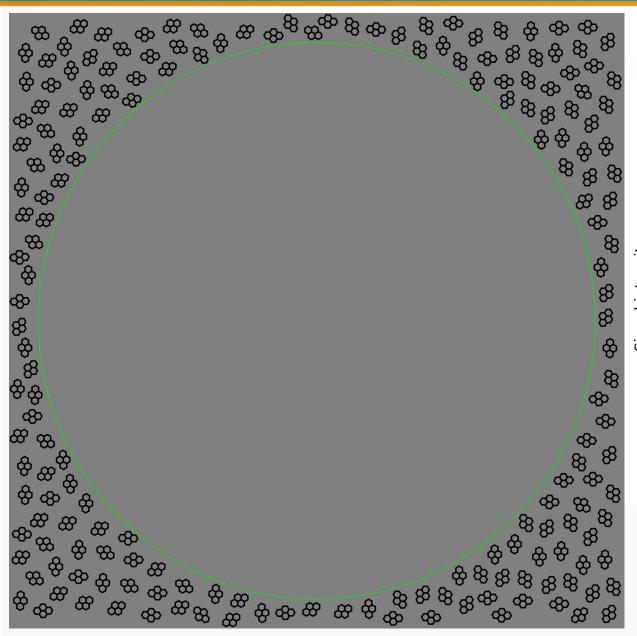
Desorption laser spot

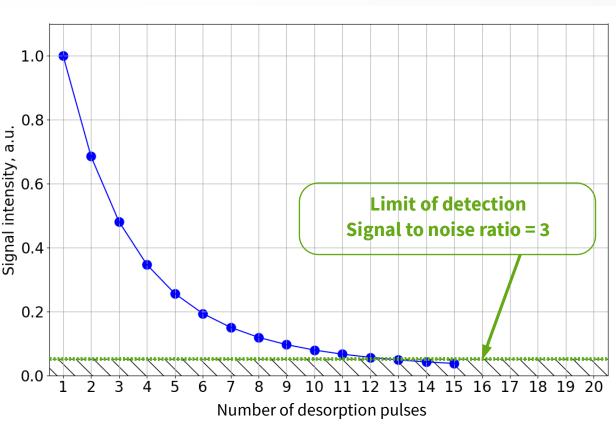


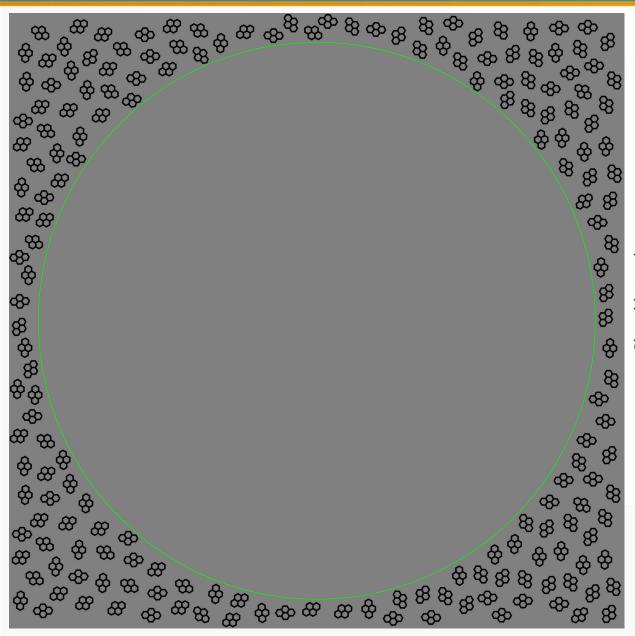


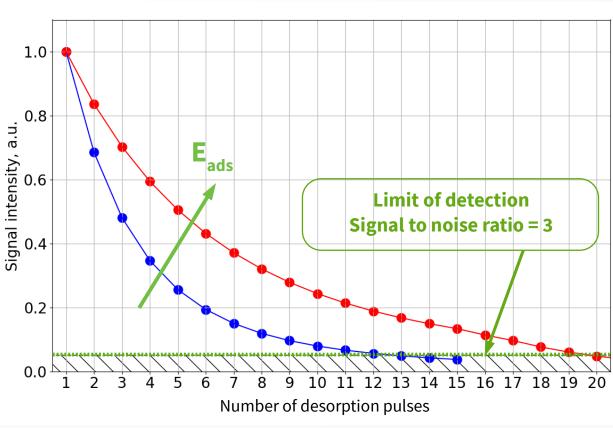












Steady state approximation – estimation of the desorption rate

The number of desorbed molecules per desorption pulse is [2,3]:

$$N \simeq A \cdot n_0 \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{E_{ads}}{k_B(T_0 + BF)}\right)$$

where \mathbf{E}_{ads} is the adsorption energy,

n_o – surface concentration of the adsorbate

F- laser fluence (J/cm²) and

B is a conversion factor of the deposited energy into an increase of the surface temperature

Effective temperature is:

$$T_{eff} = T_0 + BF$$

B coefficient depends on the optical and thermal properties of the sample

For the used desorption fluence values, the effective temperature is:

$$T_{eff} \approx 2400 \, K$$

Steady state approximation – estimation of the desorption rate

The number of desorbed molecules per desorption pulse is [2,3]:

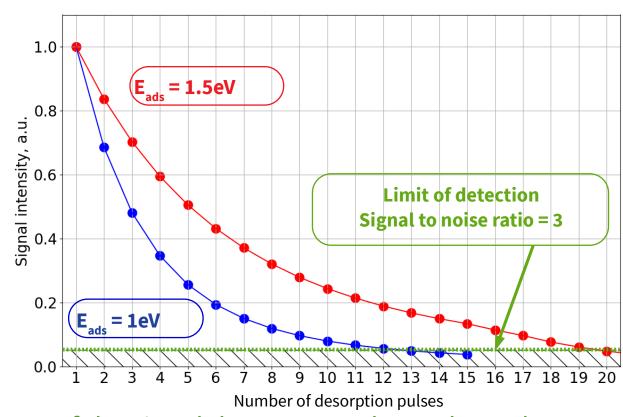
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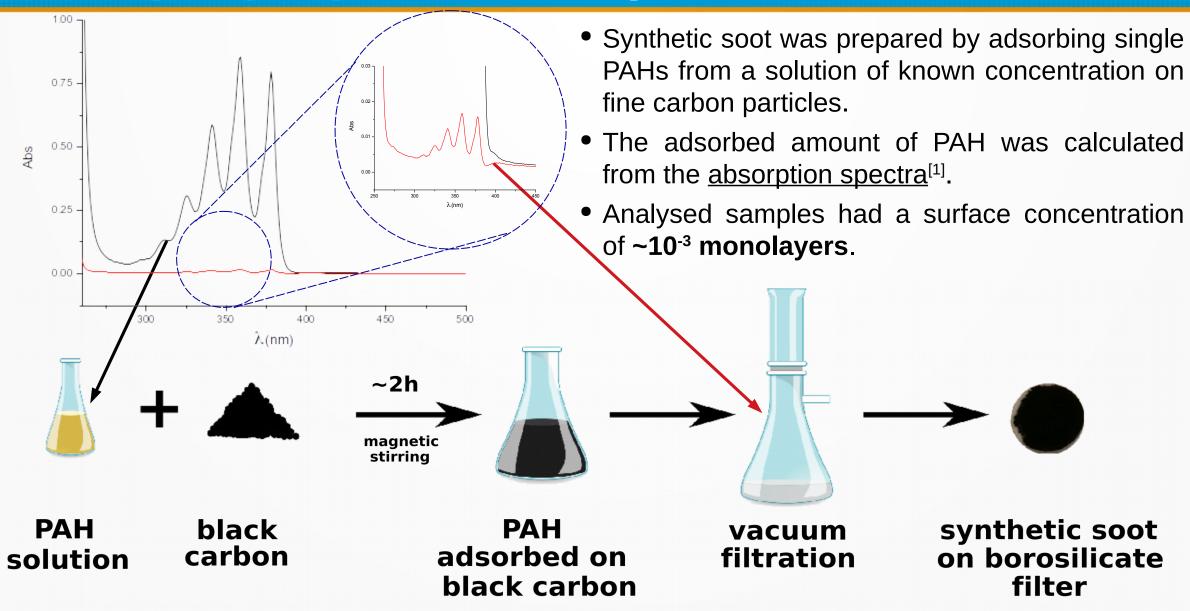
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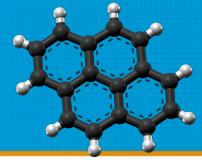


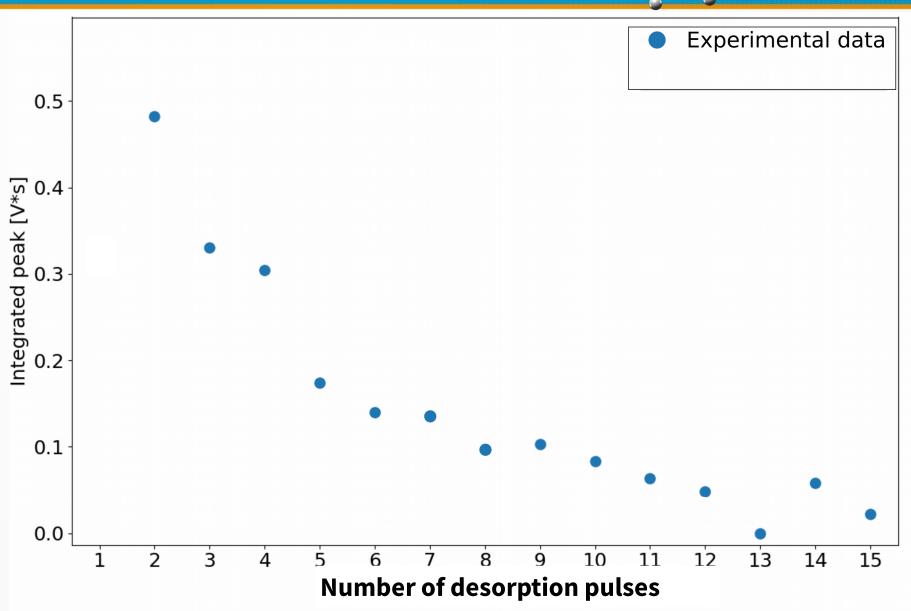
The shape of the signal decay curve depends on the adsorption energy $\mathbf{E}_{\mathrm{ads}}$

Sample preparation – synthetic soot

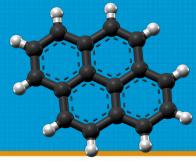


Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)



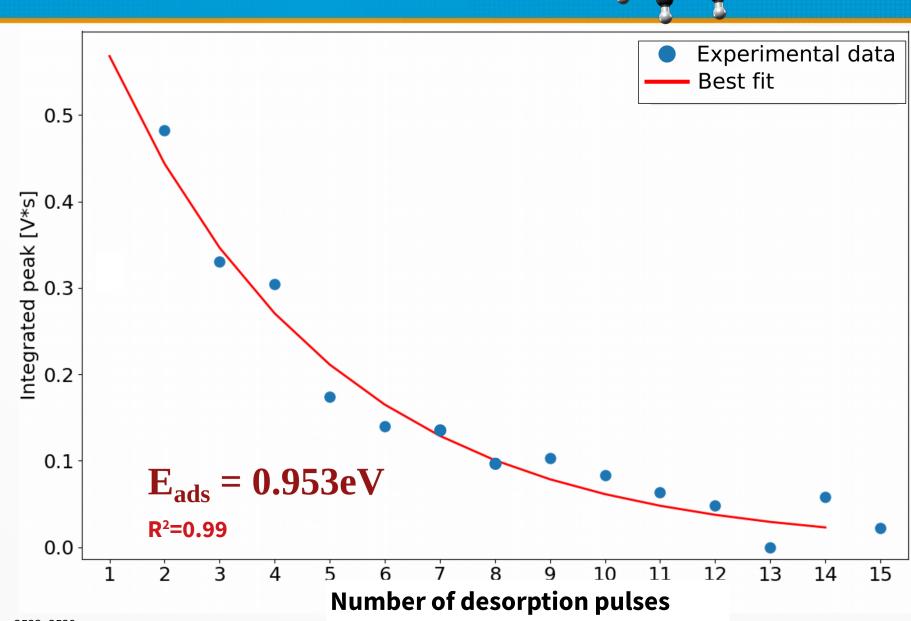


Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)

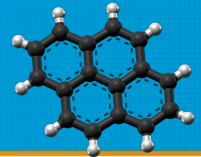


The adsorption energy was retrieved by fitting the experimental data

The obtained value is close to the one found in literature **0.986eV**^[4,5]



Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)

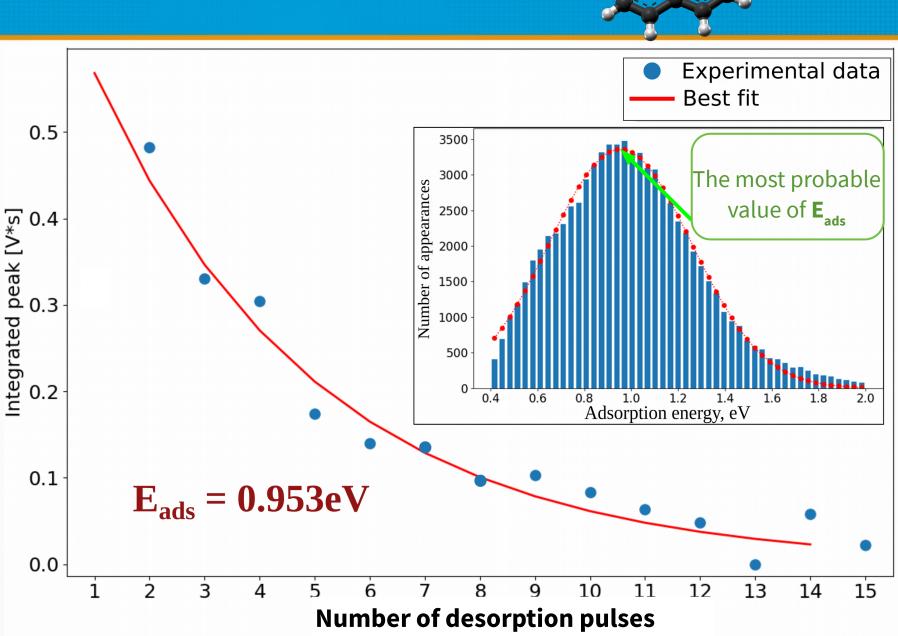


$$N \simeq A \cdot n_0 \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{E_{ads}}{k_B(T_0 + BF)}\right)$$

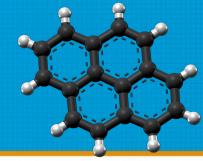
There is a high correlation between $\mathbf{E}_{\mathsf{ads}}$ and \mathbf{B}

Solution:

Multiple fits with different initial values for the fit



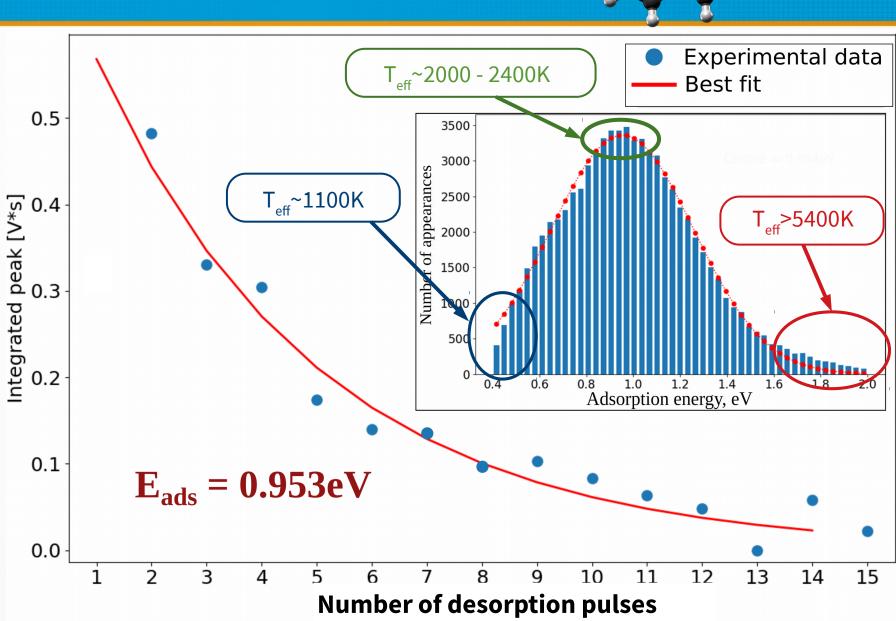
Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)



$$N \simeq A \cdot n_0 \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{E_{ads}}{k_B(T_0 + BF)}\right)$$

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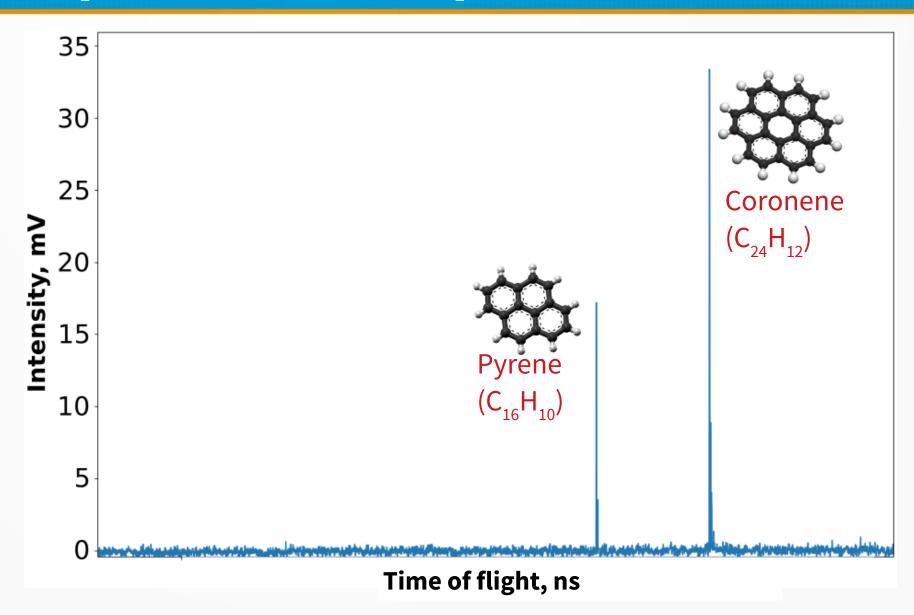
$$T_{eff} = T_0 + BF$$



Retrieval of adsorption energy - sample with <u>multiple PAHs</u>

Synthetic soot with two PAHs adsorbed on the surface was analysed (pyrene and coronene)

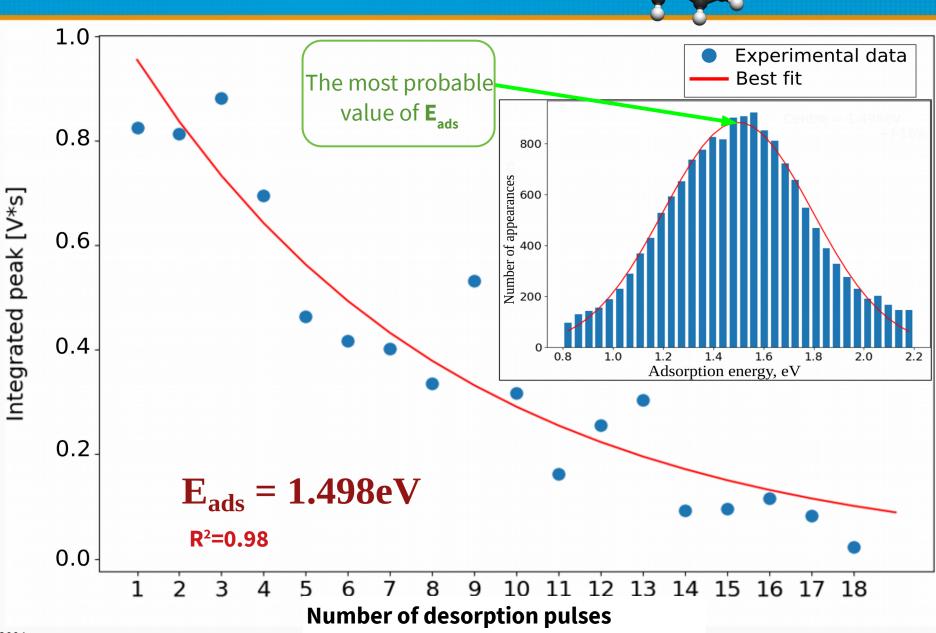
The adsorption energy retrieval is independent for different molecules



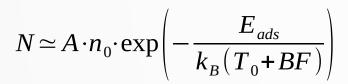
Adsorption Energy of Coronene (C24H12)



The obtained value is close to the one found in literature - from **1.32 to 1.48eV**^[6]



Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)

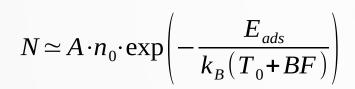


The fluence curve -

variation of the signal corresponding to the first desorption shot with laser fluence.

Each shot was taken on a different spot on the sample (same initial surface concentration)

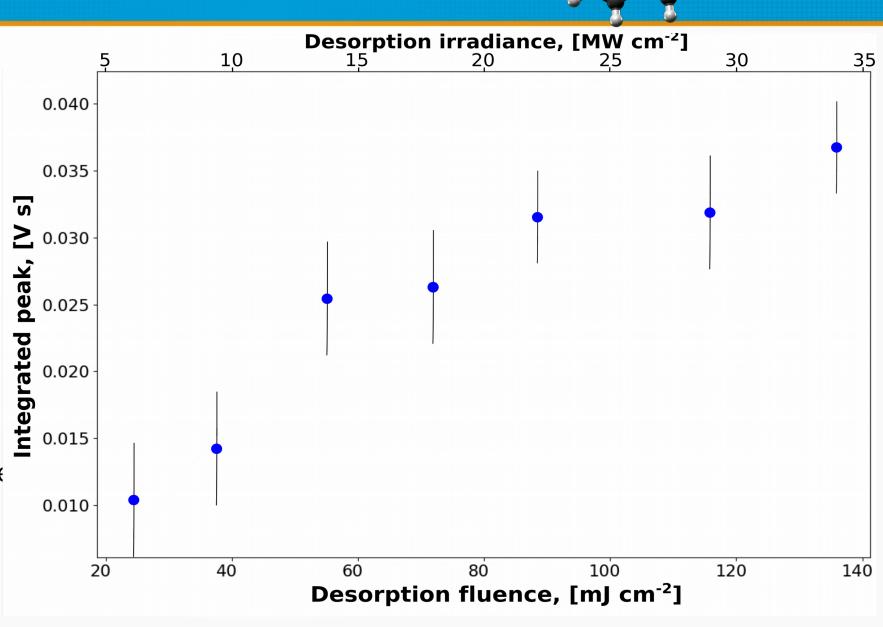
Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)



The fluence curve – variation of the signal

corresponding to the first desorption pulse with laser fluence.

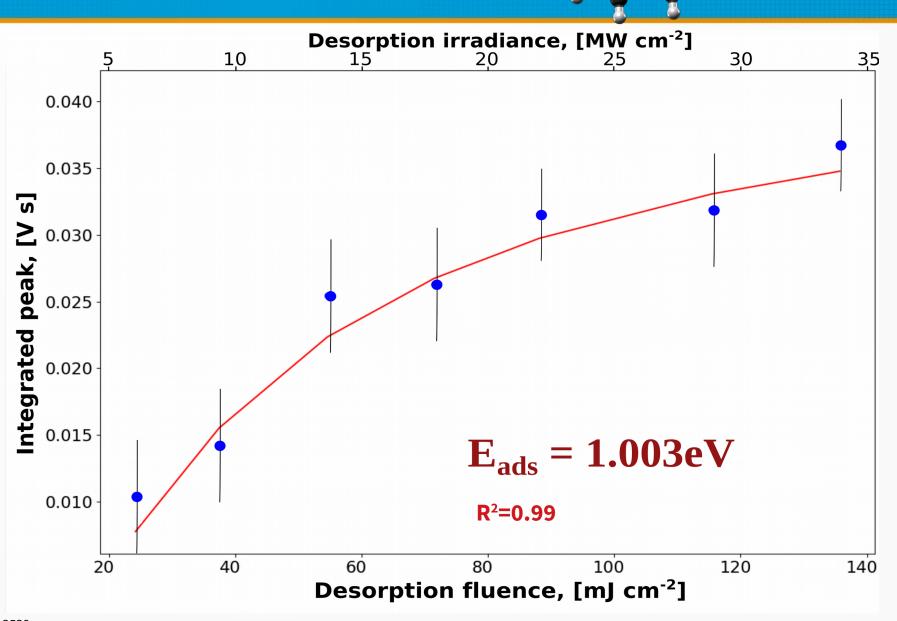
Each pulse was taken on a different spot on the sample (same initial surface concentration)



Adsorption Energy of Pyrene (C16H10)

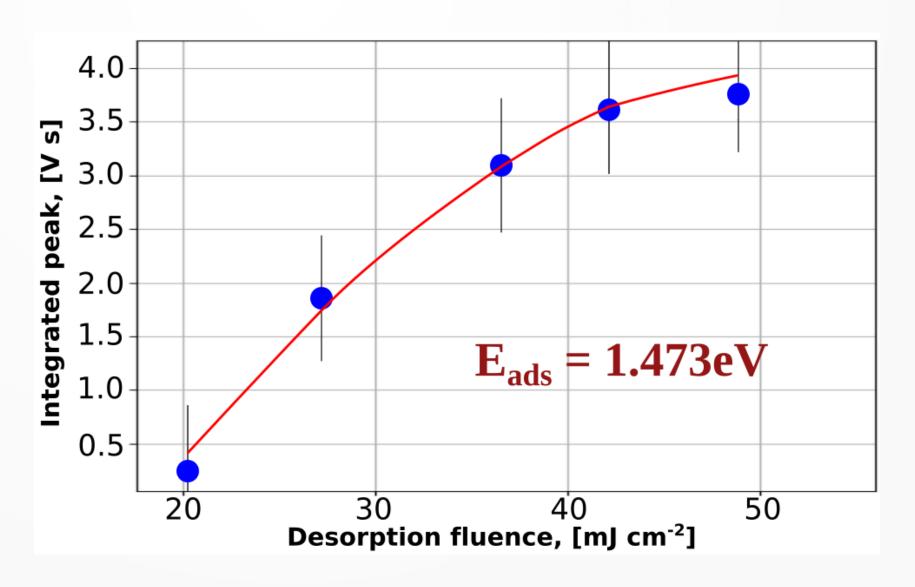
The adsorption energy was retrieved by fitting the experimental data

The obtained value is close to the one retrieved from the signal decay (0.953eV) and the one found in literature (0.986eV)^[4,5]



Adsorption Energy of Coronene (C24H12)

The obtained value is close to the one retrieved from the signal decay (1.498eV) and the one found in literature (1.32 to 1.48eV)^[6]



Transient temperature approach

Determining the adsorption energy from the temperature profile

Determining the temperature variation

A two-dimensional heat equation was considered:

$$\rho_{app} c_p \frac{\partial T(x,y,t)}{\partial t} = k_{app} \left(\frac{\partial^2 T(x,y,t)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T(x,y,t)}{\partial y^2} \right) + q_H(x,y,t)$$

where

$$q_{H}(x,y,t)=(1-R)\alpha I_{0}f(x,y)g(t)$$

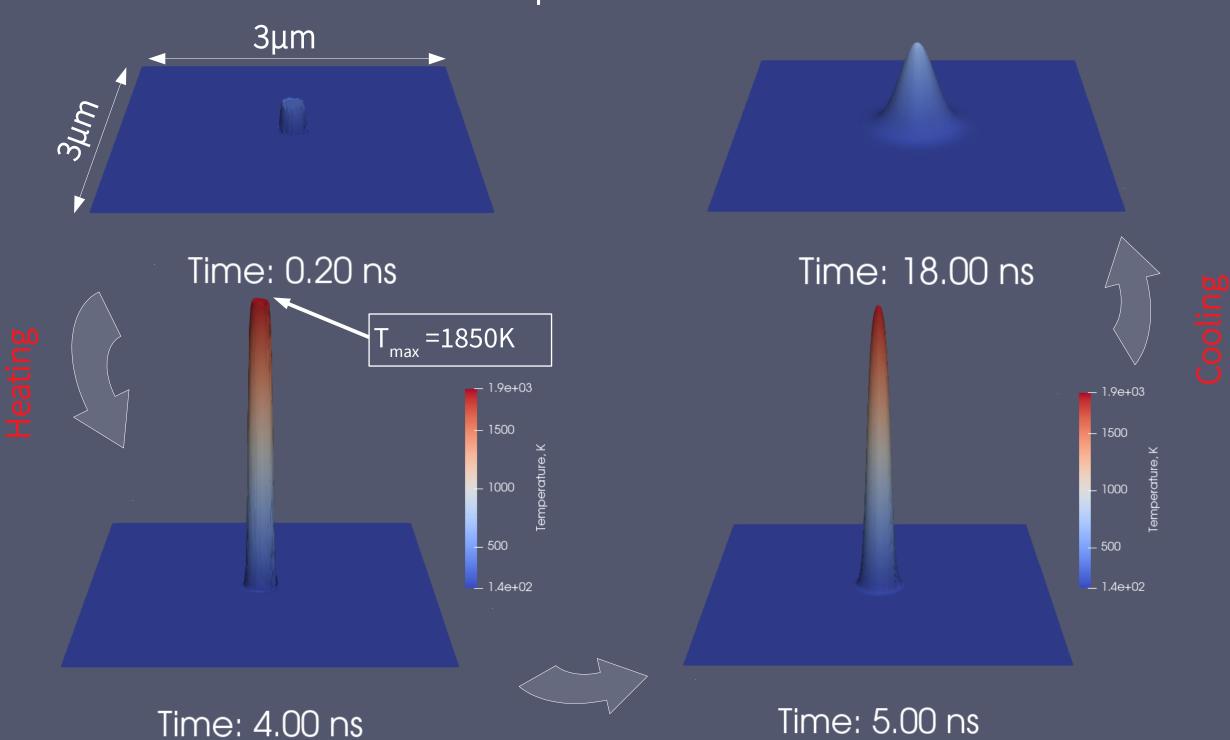
$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \le d_{des}/2 \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \leq \tau_{des} \\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

Boundary conditions:

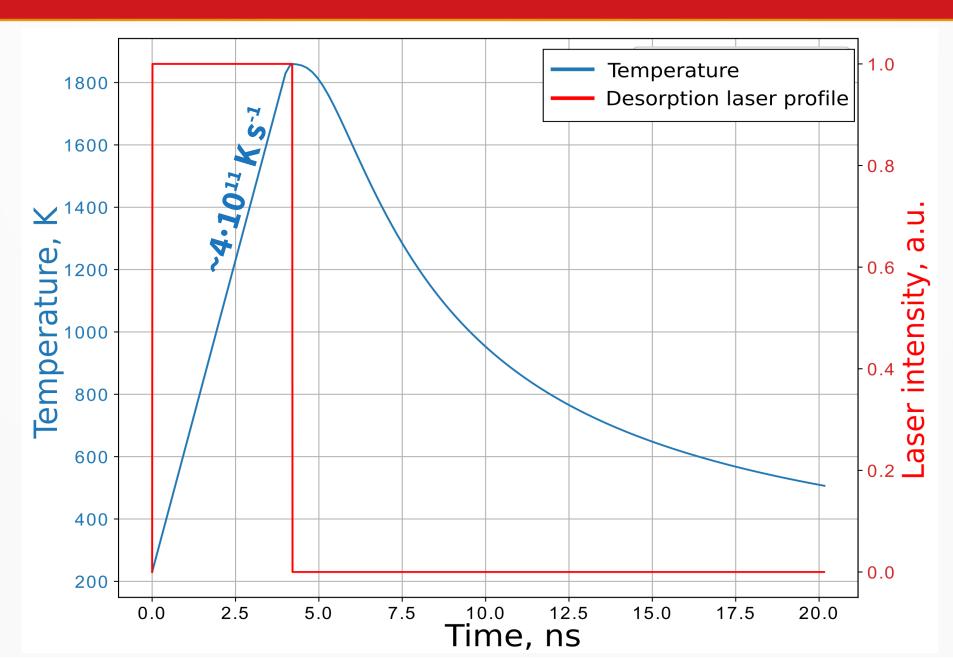
$$\begin{cases} T(x, y \rightarrow \infty, t) = T_i \\ T(x, y, t = 0) = T_i \end{cases}$$

Temperature variation



Time: 5.00 ns

Temperature variation in the centre of the desorption spot



Desorption rate

The desorption rate can be calculated from the Langmuir adsorption isotherm and is:

$$-\frac{d\theta}{dt} = v\theta \exp\left(-\frac{E_{ads}}{k_B T}\right)$$

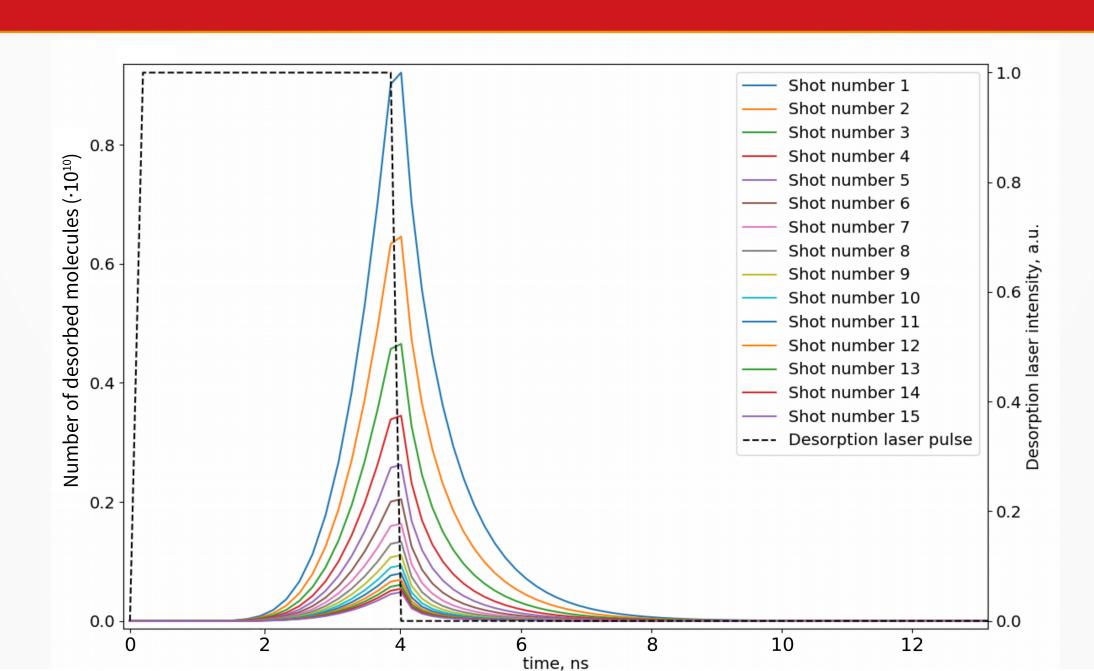
Where θ is the surface coverage, v is the pre-exponential factor. The surface concentration changes as follows:

$$\theta(t, T) = \theta_0 \exp \left(-v \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_B \cdot T(t)}\right) \cdot t\right)$$

Total number of molecules desorbed per desorption pulse is:

$$\Delta \theta = \theta_0 \left(1 - \int_0^{+\infty} \exp \left(-v \cdot \exp \left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_B \cdot T(t)} \right) \cdot t \right) dt \right)$$

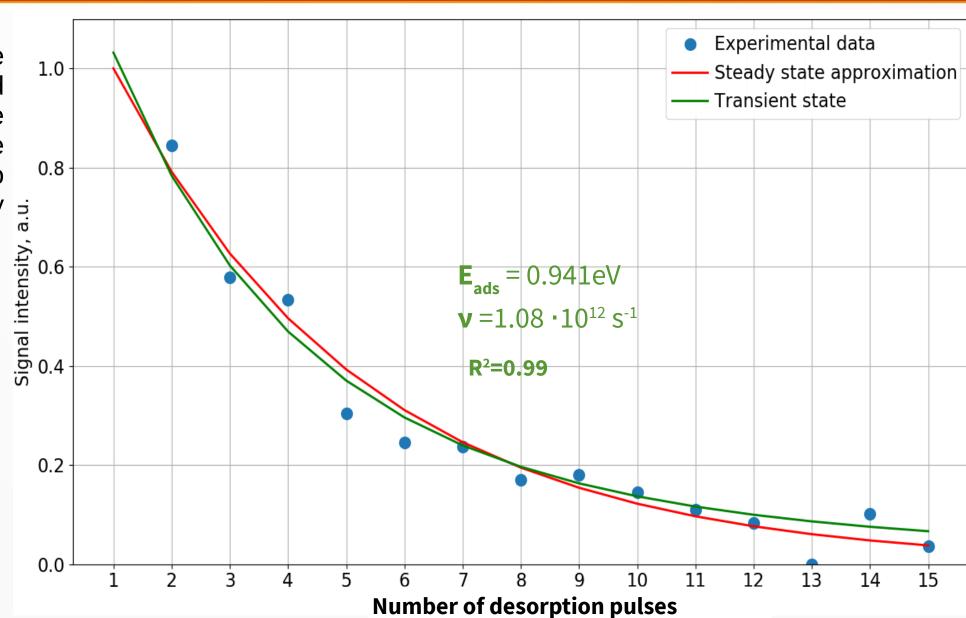
Desorption rate (pyrene)



Transient state approach (pyrene)

The shape of the signal decay obtained for the transient state (from the temperature variation) is similar to the one for the steady state approximation.

The value of the preexponential factor is lower than the one reported in the literature (different temperature ranges).



Work in progress...

Conclusions

- An original method for measuring the adsorption energy of PAHs, based on Laser Induced Thermal Desorption, was proposed.
- Two different approaches were derived from the steady state assumption and used to determine the adsorption energy of two PAHs of interest (pyrene and coronene).
- The results obtained from the steady-state assumption are in good agreement with ones calculated for a transient regime.
- The results are in good agreement with values reported in the literature, thus providing a *proof-of-concept* for the method.

Thank you

Questions?

Expressions used for fitting

The number of desorbed molecules on the *j* desorption pulse is:

$$N_{j} = k \cdot n_{0} \cdot \left(1 - k \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)}\right) \right)^{j-1} \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)}\right)$$

Where **k** is a proportionality constant.

Total number of desorbed molecules is:

$$N_{j} = \sum_{1}^{j} \left(k \cdot n_{0} \cdot \left(1 - k \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)} \right) \right)^{j-1} \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)} \right) \right)$$

The signal measured with a mass spectrometer will be:

$$S_{j}[V] = c \cdot N_{j} = c \cdot k \cdot n_{0} \cdot \left(1 - k \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)}\right)\right)^{j-1} \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)}\right)$$

Expressions used for fitting

The number of desorbed molecules for the first laser pulse, as a function of laser fluence, is:

$$N_{j} = c \cdot k \cdot n_{0} \cdot \exp\left(\frac{-E_{ads}}{k_{B}(T_{0} + BF)}\right)$$

The logarithm of the signal was fitted with:

$$\ln(S1) \left(\frac{1}{k_B(T_0 + BF)} \right) = C_1 + E_{ads} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{k_B(T_0 + BF)} \right)$$

where
$$C_1 = \ln(c \cdot k \cdot n_0)$$