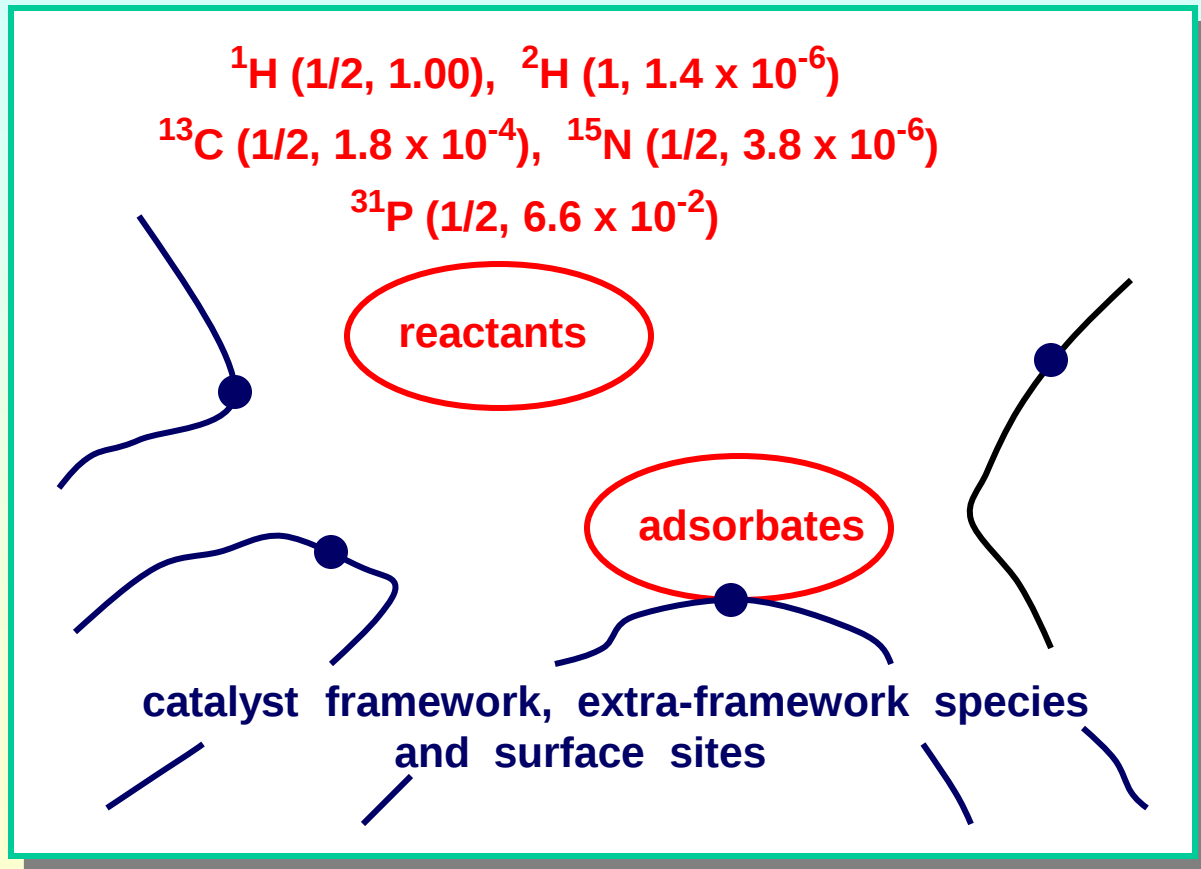


In Situ Solid-State NMR Spectroscopy in Heterogeneous Catalysis

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Examples of nuclei accessible for in situ NMR in heterogeneous catalysis



^7Li	(3/2, 0.27)
^{11}B	(3/2, 0.13)
^{17}O	(5/2, 1.1×10^{-5})
^{23}Na	(3/2, 9.2×10^{-2})
^{27}Al	(5/2, 0.21)
^{29}Si	(1/2, 3.7×10^{-4})
^{31}P	(1/2, 6.6×10^{-2})
^{51}V	(7/2, 0.38)
^{67}Zn	(5/2, 1.2×10^{-2})
^{71}Ga	(3/2, 5.6×10^{-2})
^{133}Cs	(7/2, 4.7×10^{-2})

isotope (nuclear spin, relative sensitivity in comparison with ^1H)

Contents

- specific problems of NMR spectroscopy on working catalysts
- experimental techniques applied for studies under batch and continuous-flow (CF) conditions
- solid-state NMR investigations of heterogeneous reaction systems under *in situ* conditions:
 - catalyst framework and surface sites
 - reactions catalyzed by basic zeolites
 - reactions catalyzed by acidic zeolites

Specific problems of NMR on working catalysts

magnetization:

$$M_0 = \frac{N \gamma^2 \hbar^2 I(I+1) B_0}{(2\pi)^2 3 k_B T}$$

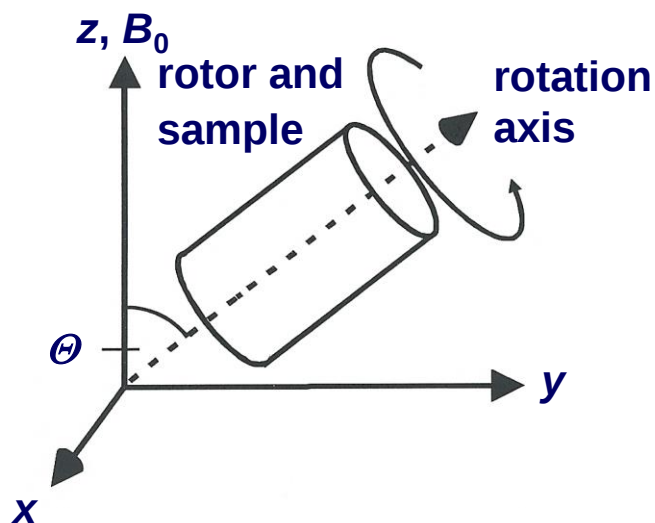
- absolute number of spins of $N > 10^{19}$ per gram (^1H NMR)
- decrease of magnetization M_0 with increasing temperature T
- rapid chemical exchange of adsorbate complexes at elevated temperatures
- observation times of 10 ms (flow conditions) to hours (batch conditions)
- quenching of signals in the neighborhood of paramagnetic and ferromagnetic sites
- broadening of signals due to solid-state interactions

Solid-state NMR techniques

spin $I = \frac{1}{2}$:

- magic angle spinning (**MAS**)

$$\nu_{\text{CSA,DI,1QI}} = f \{3\cos^2\theta - 1\} \rightarrow \theta = 54.7^\circ$$



spin $I > \frac{1}{2}$:

- double oriented rotation (**DOR**)

$$\nu_{2\text{QI}} = f \{35\cos^4\theta - 30\cos^2\theta + 3\}$$

$$\theta = 30.6^\circ$$



$$\theta = 70.1^\circ$$

- multiple-quantum MAS NMR (**MQMAS**)
 - sampling of three- and five-quantum transitions
 - recording of spin-echoes free of anisotropic contributions

***Experimental techniques applied for studies
under batch and continuous-flow conditions***

Experimental approaches

- batch experiments, external reaction
 - sealed samples
 - heating in an external stove
- batch experiments, *in situ* reaction
 - sealed samples
 - high-temperature solid-state NMR probes
 - go-and-stop studies using a Laser heating system

characteristics:

- accessible with commercial equipments
- infinite contact times

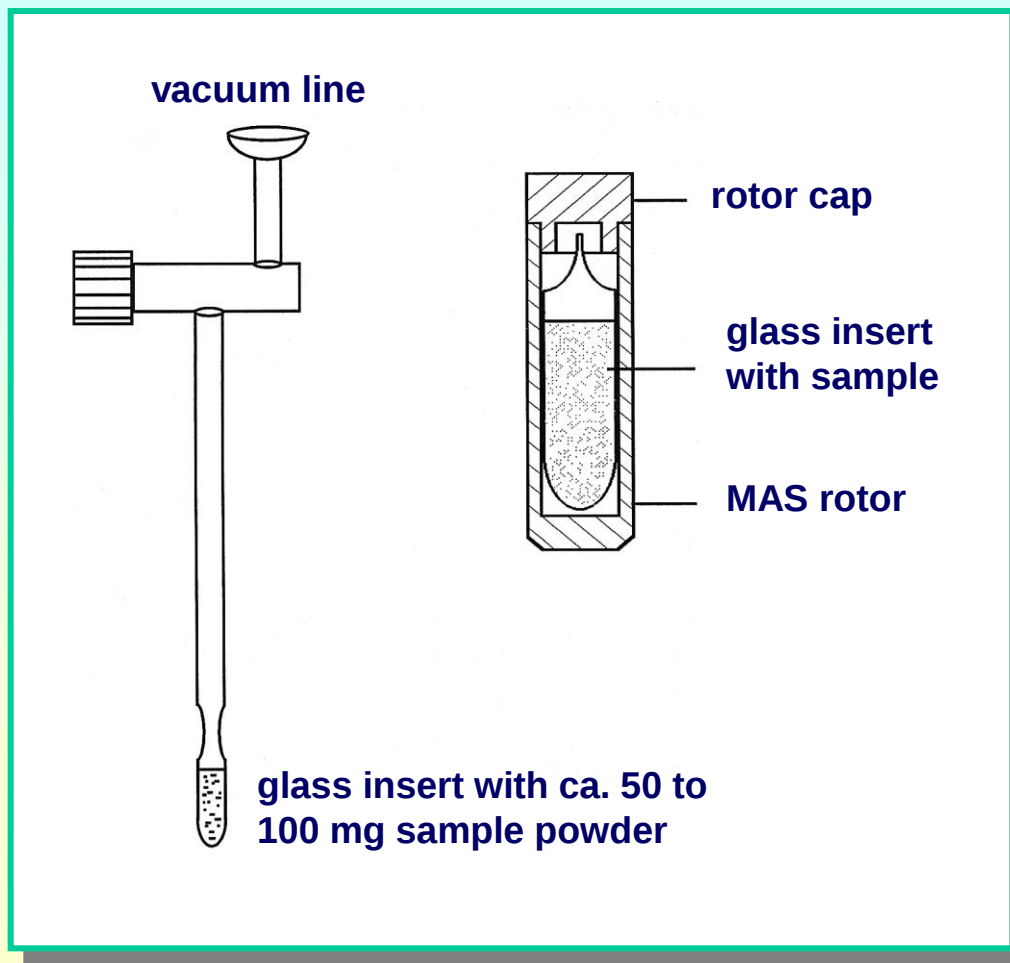
- flow experiments, external reaction
 - reaction in an external reactor
 - transfer of the loaded catalysts after quenching the reaction
- flow experiments, *in situ* reaction
 - continuous injection of reactants into the MAS NMR rotor reactor
 - high-temperature solid-state NMR probes

characteristics:

- self-made equipments
- study of reactions under steady state conditions

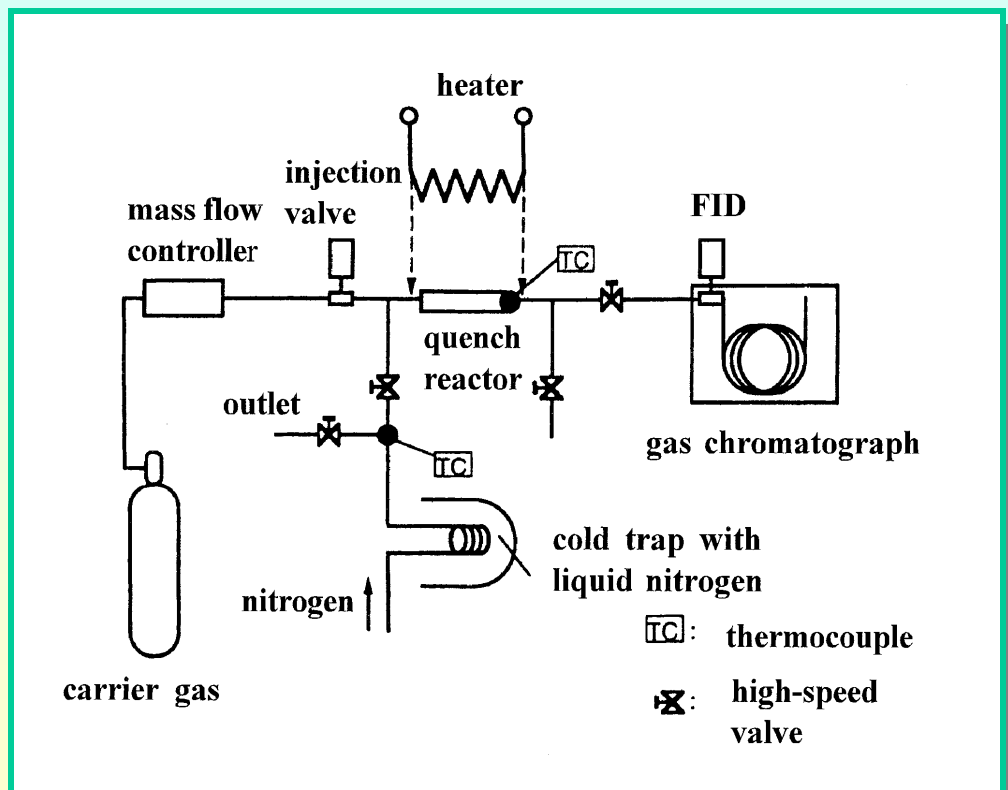
Preparation of samples under vacuum in glass inserts

- calcination and loading of the catalyst material inside a glass insert (Pyrex)
- fusing of the glass inserts during the sample is cooled with liquid nitrogen
- suitable for *ex situ* and *in situ* MAS NMR studies under batch conditions



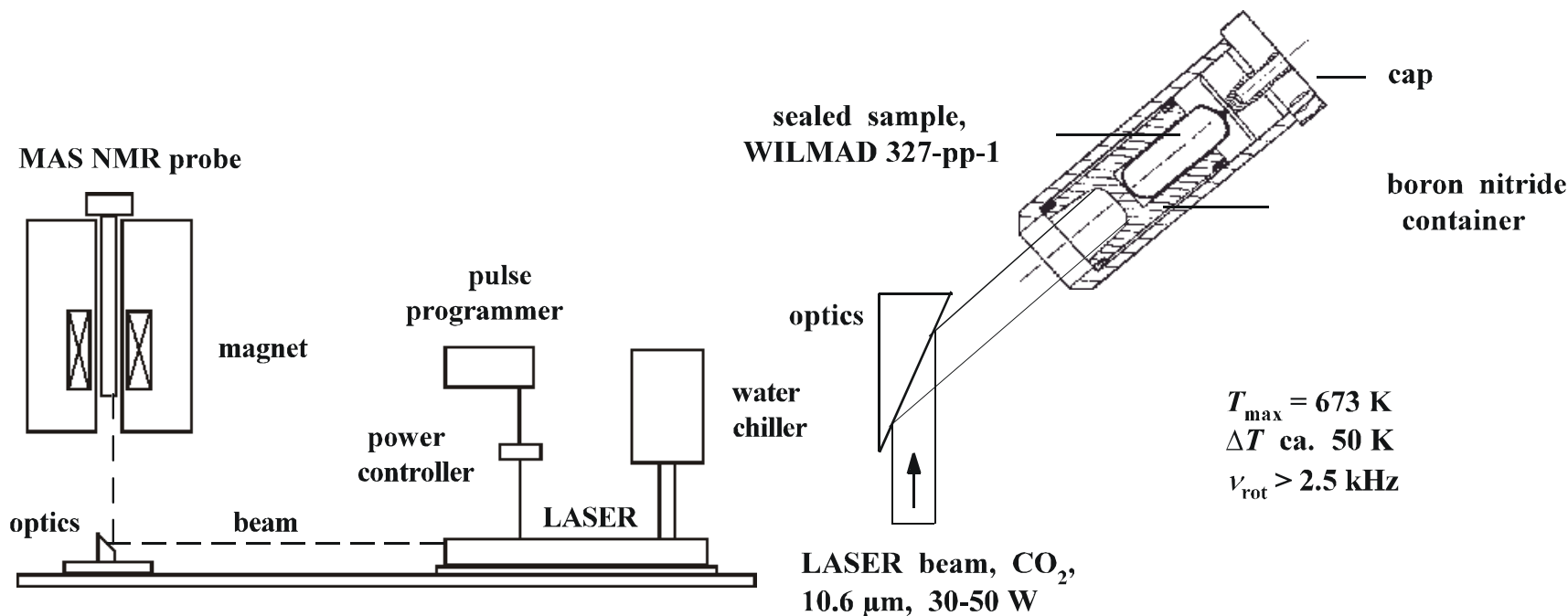
Go-and-stop experiments using an external reactor

- pulse-quench technique:
 - conversion of reactants in an external fixed-bed reactor
 - rapid stopping of the reaction by pre-cooled nitrogen gas
- NMR investigations:
 - transfer of the catalyst loaded with reaction products into an MAS NMR rotor
 - measurements performed at room temperature



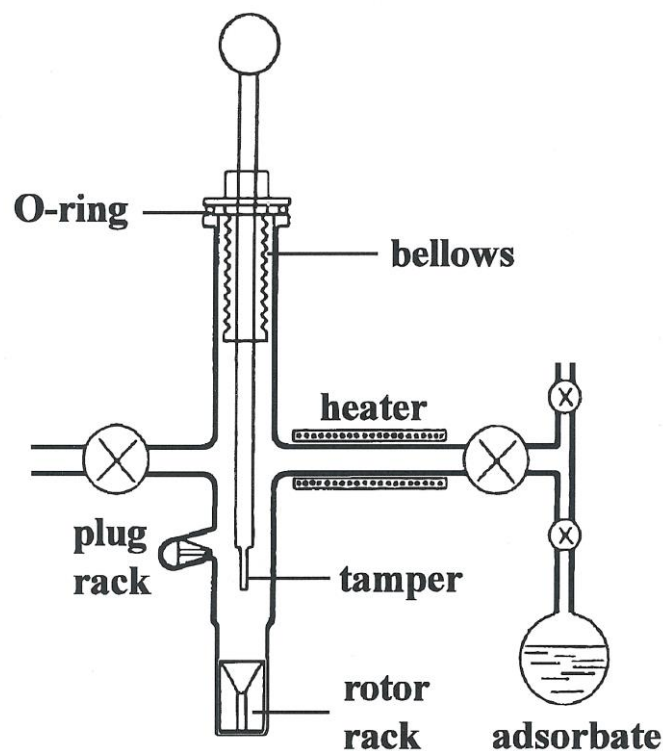
Go-and-stop in situ experiments using a Laser heating system

- *in situ* reaction inside a high-temperature NMR probe under batch conditions

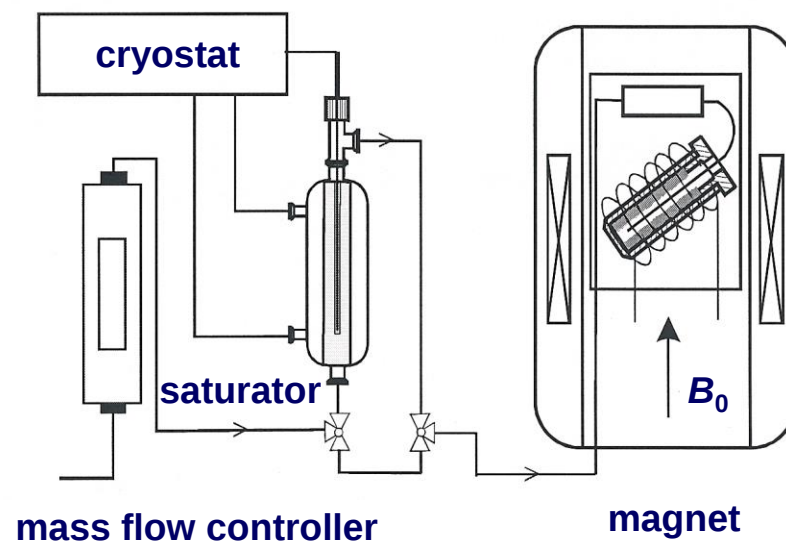
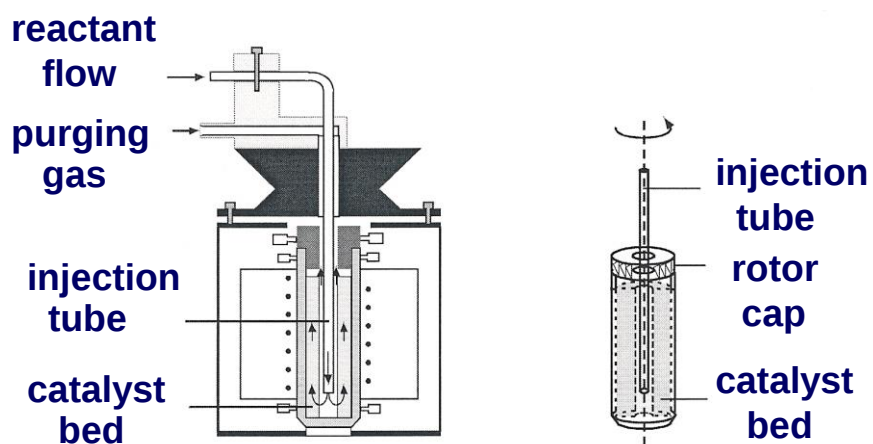


Approach for batch and continuous-flow experiments in an external reactor

- apparatus for evacuation, loading and catalysis on solid materials in an external reactor
- no contact to air during the transfer of the catalyst material into an MAS NMR rotor
- sealing of the MAS NMR rotor inside the apparatus

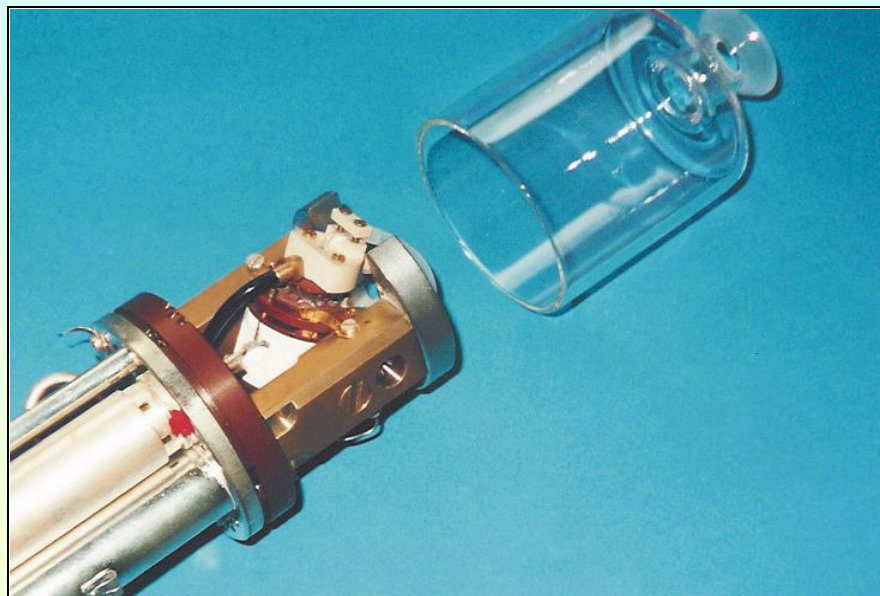
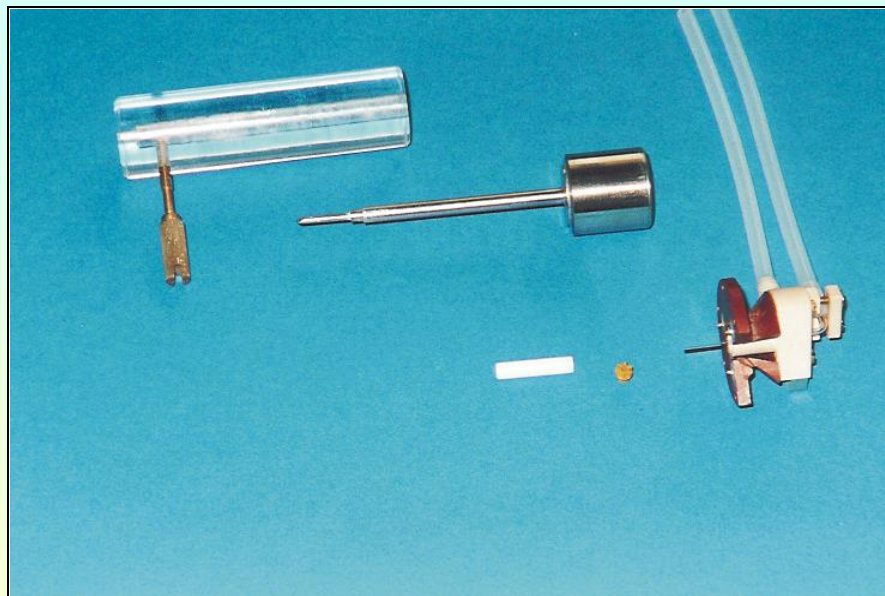


Continuous-flow (CF) MAS NMR technique



- continuous injection of reactants into a spinning MAS NMR rotor reactor ($T < 923$ K)

Continuous-flow (CF) MAS NMR technique



- **modified 4 mm Bruker MAS NMR probe equipped with an injection system**

Behavior of the high-temperature CF MAS NMR probe

- ^{207}Pb MAS NMR of $\text{Pb}(\text{NO}_3)_2$:

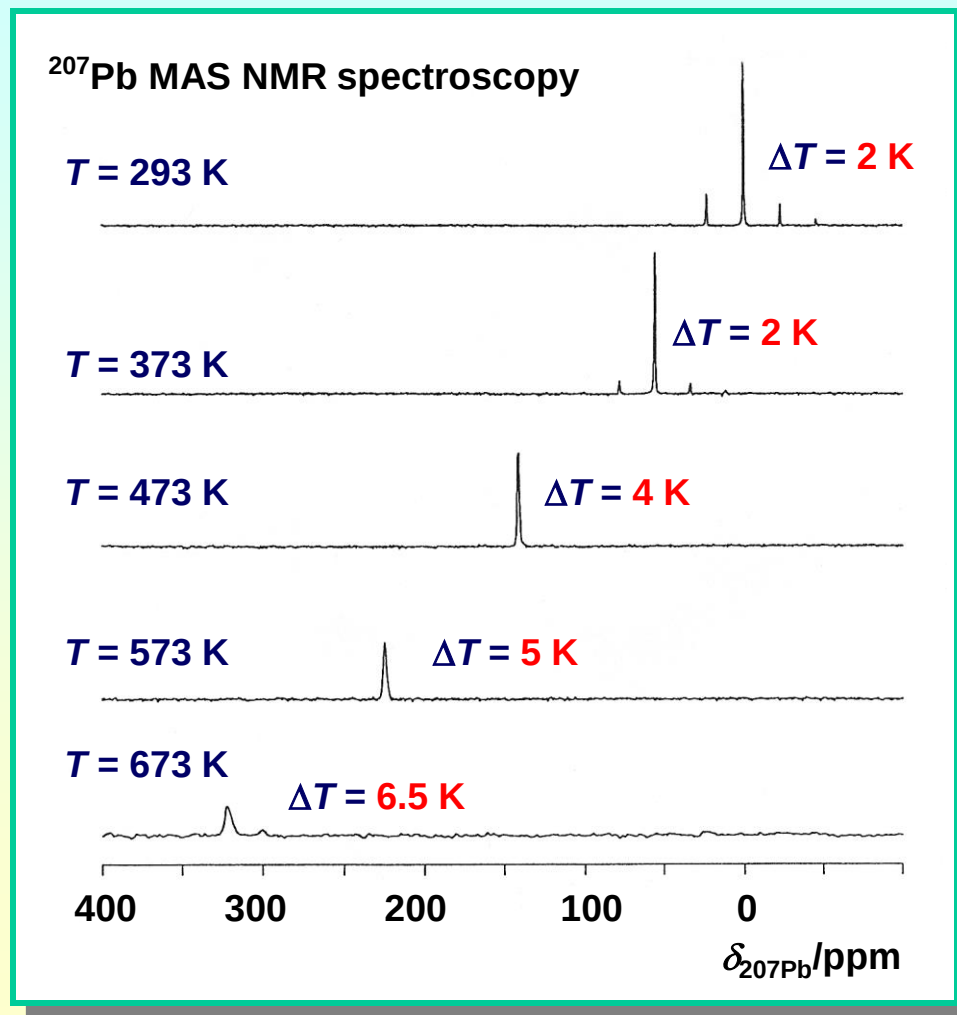
$$\Delta T / \Delta \delta = 1.29 \text{ K / ppm}^*$$

- modified 7 mm Doty MAS NMR probe DSI-740:

$$\nu_0 = 83.2 \text{ MHz}$$

$$\nu_{\text{rot}} = 2.5 \text{ kHz}$$

$$F_{\text{N}_2} = 15 \text{ ml/min}$$

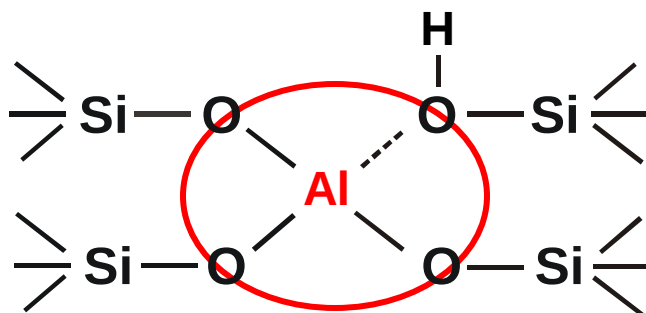


* D.B. Ferguson et al., Anal. Chem. 67 (1995) 3342.

***Investigation of framework aluminum
in non-hydrated zeolite catalysts***

Quadrupolar interactions of aluminum atoms in non-hydrated zeolites

^{27}Al : spin $I = 5/2$



- electric field gradient:

$$V_{zz} = eq$$

- quadrupole coupling constant:

$$QCC = \frac{e^2qQ}{h}$$

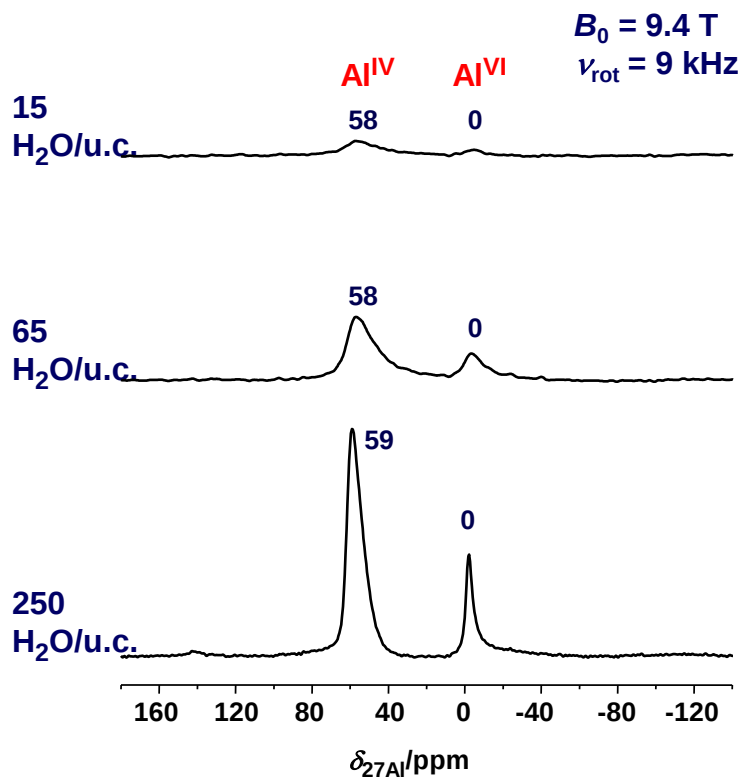
samples	QCC values*
hydrated H-Y and H-ZSM-5	2 MHz
non-hydrated Na-Y	5 MHz
non-hydrated H-Y	16 MHz
Al ^{ex} in non-hydrated H-ZSM-5	ca. 9 MHz
pyridine-loaded H-Y	5 MHz
ammonia-loaded H-Y	5 MHz

*) D. Freude et al., Solid State Nucl. Magn. Reson. 3 (1994) 271; M. Hunger et al., Stud. Surf. Sci. Catal. 94 (1995) 756; C.D. Grey, A.J. Vega, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 117 (1995) 8232; M. Hunger, Catal. Rev.-Sci. Eng. 39 (1997) 345; K.U. Gore et al. J. Phys. Chem. B 106 (2002) 6115; W. Wang et al., Chem. Phys. Lett. 370 (2003) 88.

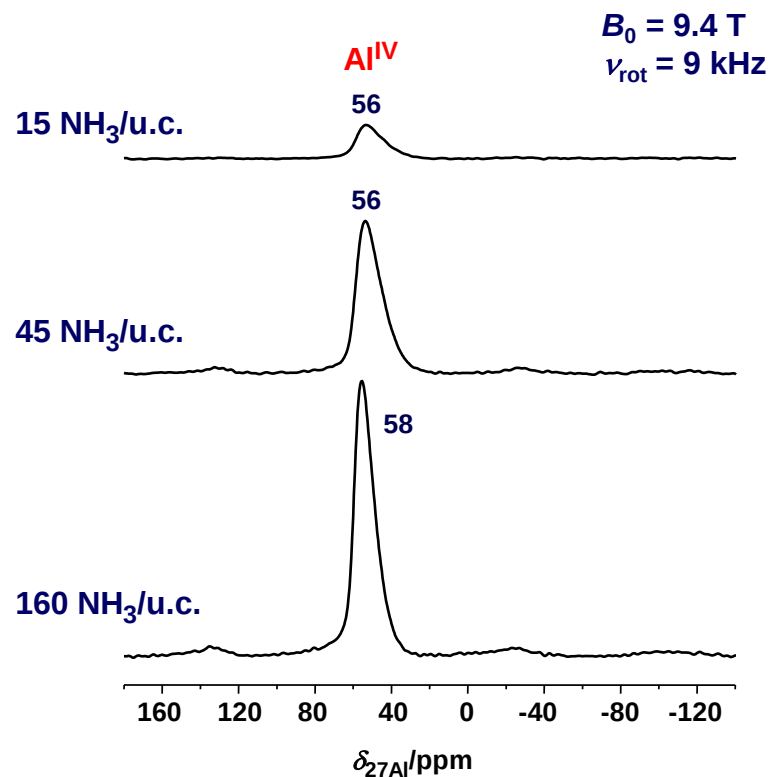
Effect of adsorption studied by ^{27}Al MAS NMR

- effect of the adsorption of H_2O and NH_3 on non-hydrated H,Na-Y

^{27}Al MAS NMR difference spectra



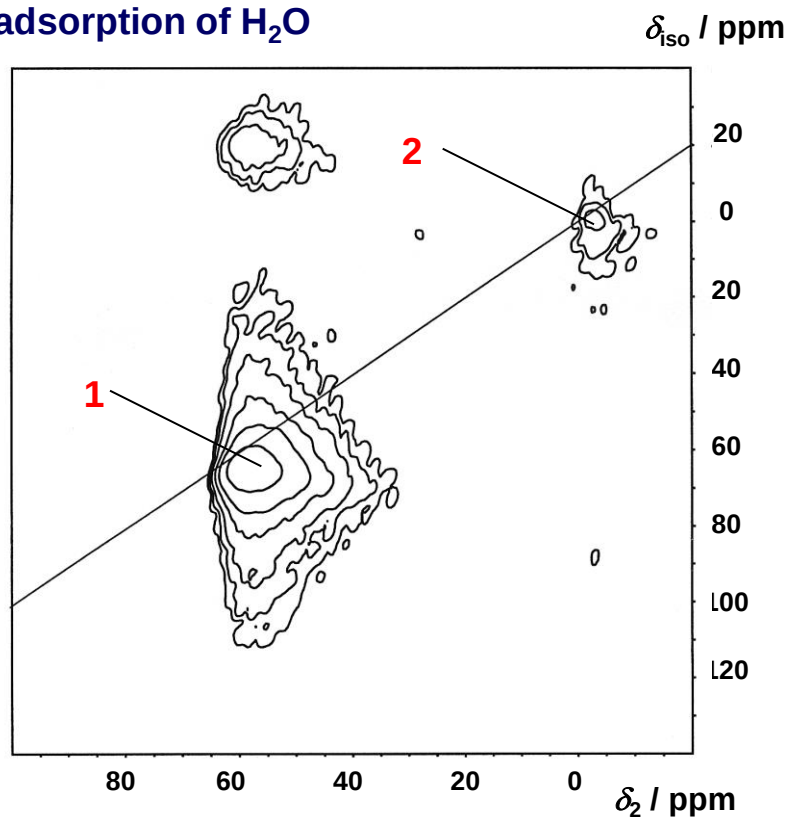
^{27}Al MAS NMR difference spectra



^{27}Al MQMAS NMR of zeolite H,Na-Y

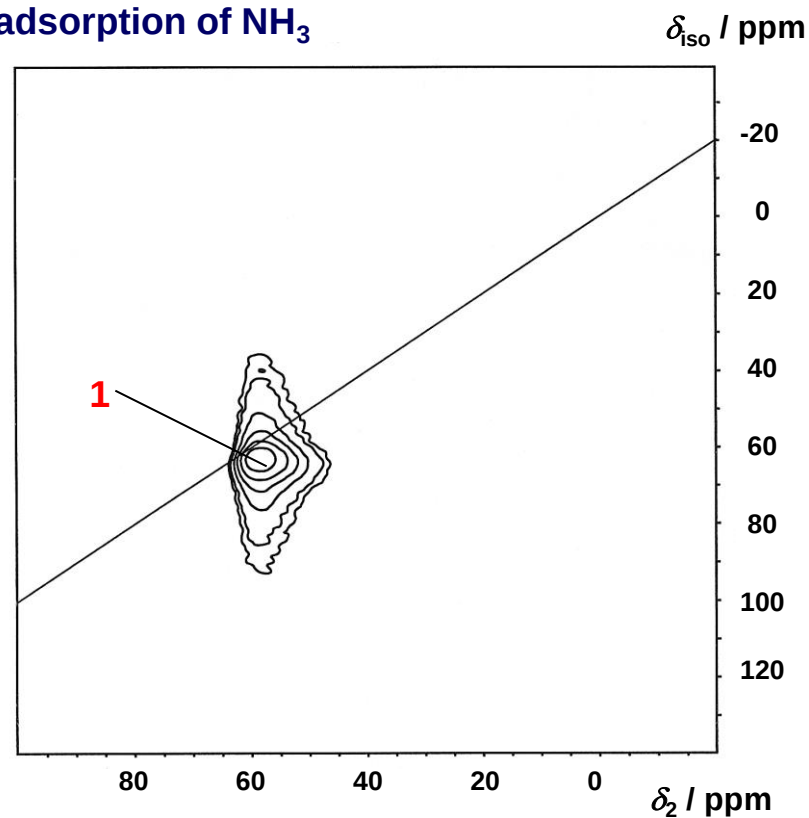
- MQMAS experiments at $B_0 = 9.4$ T, $\nu_{\text{rot}} = 9$ kHz

adsorption of H_2O



signal 1: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 64$ ppm, $\text{SOQE} = 3.3$ MHz
signal 2: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 0$ ppm, $\text{SOQE} = 2.3$ MHz

adsorption of NH_3

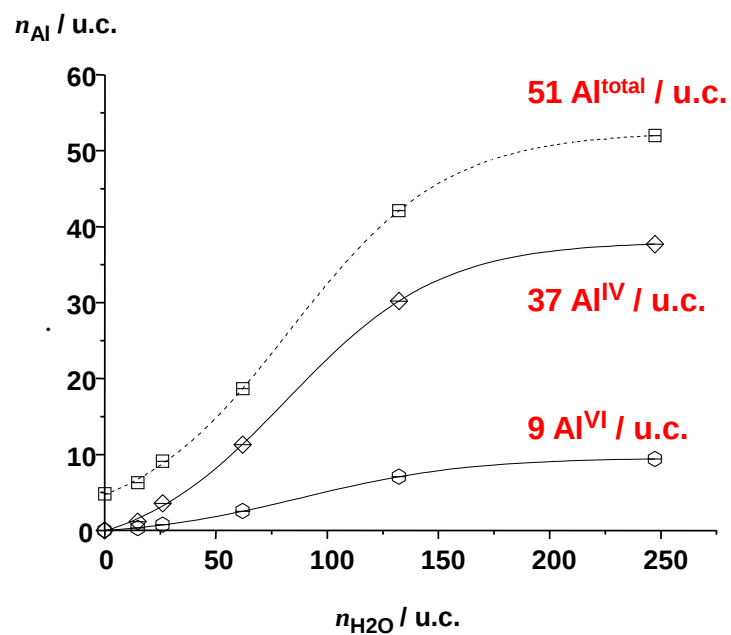


signal 1: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 62$ ppm, $\text{SOQE} = 4.0$ MHz

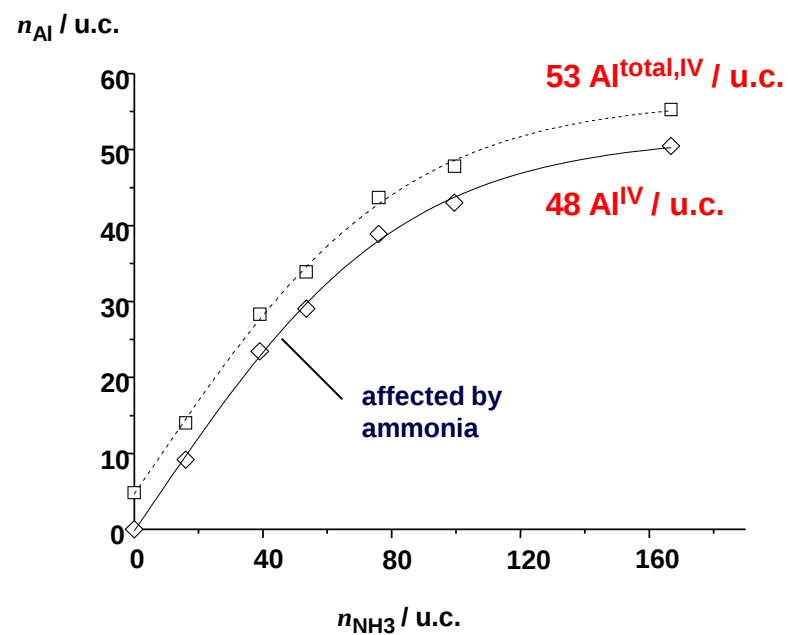
Effect of adsorption studied by ^{27}Al MAS NMR

- adsorption of H_2O and NH_3 on non-hydrated H,Na-Y

adsorption of H_2O



adsorption of NH_3

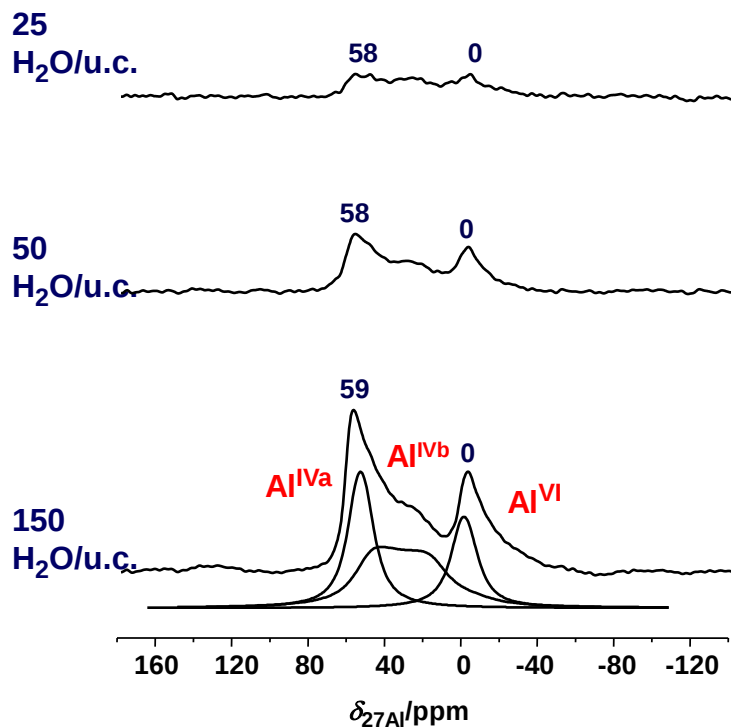


Effect of adsorption studied by ^{27}Al MAS NMR

- adsorption of H_2O and NH_3 on dehydrated zeolite deH,Na-Y/81.5

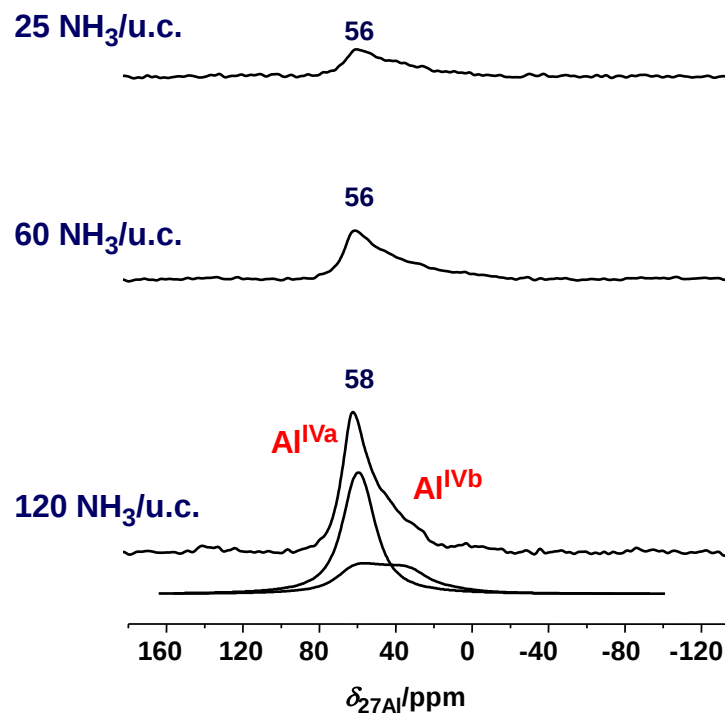
^{27}Al MAS NMR difference spectra

$B_0 = 9.4 \text{ T}$
 $\nu_{\text{rot}} = 9 \text{ kHz}$



^{27}Al MAS NMR difference spectra

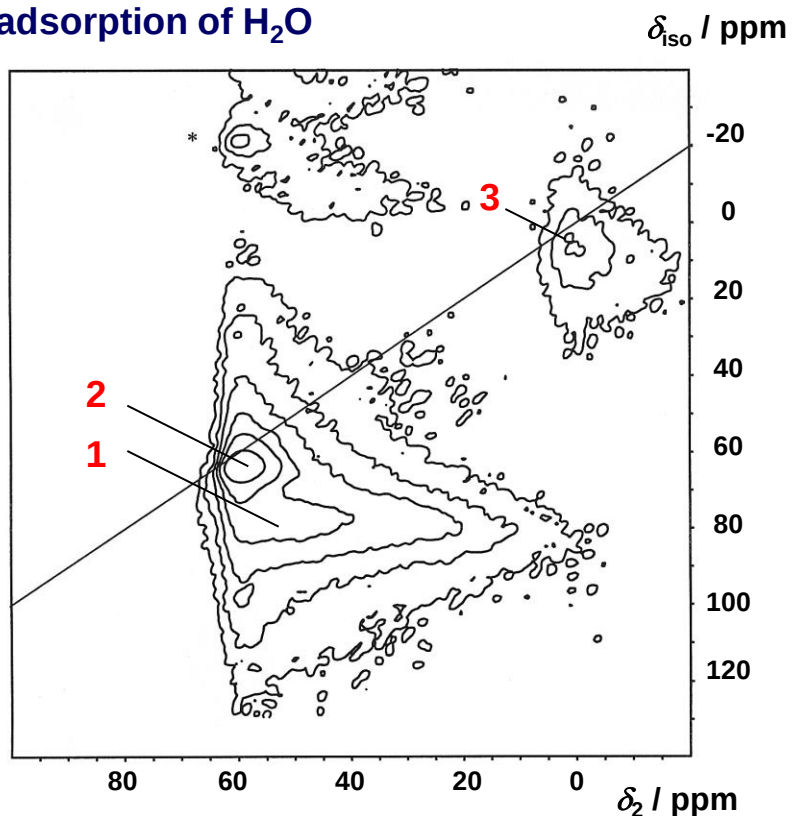
$B_0 = 9.4 \text{ T}$
 $\nu_{\text{rot}} = 9 \text{ kHz}$



^{27}Al MQMAS NMR of zeolite deH,Na-Y

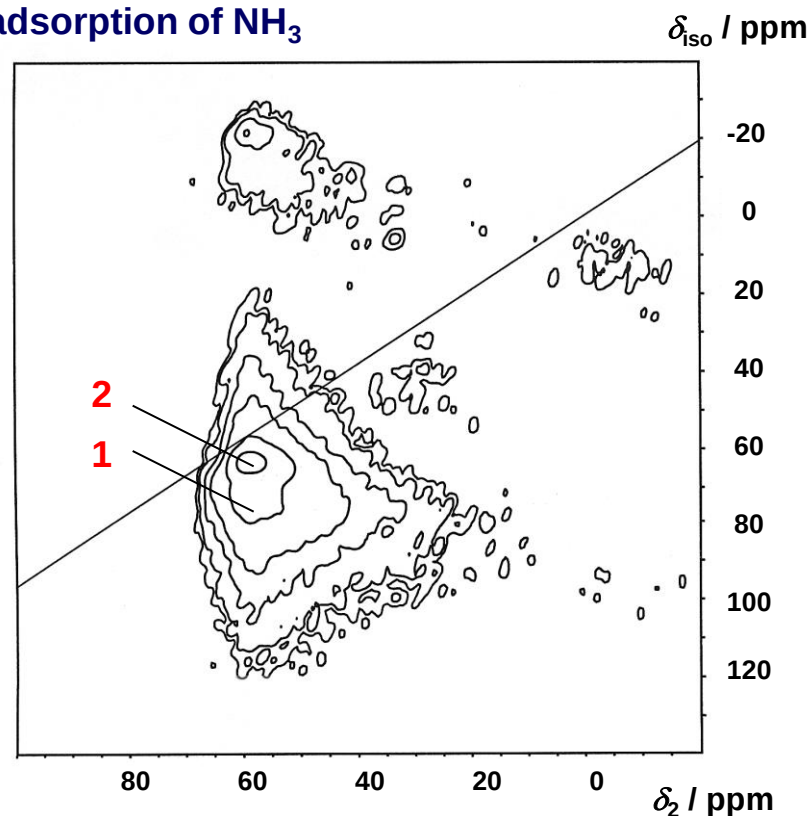
- MQMAS experiments at $B_0 = 9.4$ T, $\nu_{\text{rot}} = 9$ kHz

adsorption of H_2O



signal 1: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 75$ ppm, SOQE ca. 5.8 MHz
signal 2: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 62$ ppm, SOQE = 2.6 MHz
signal 3: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 3$ ppm, SOQE = 2.3 MHz

adsorption of NH_3

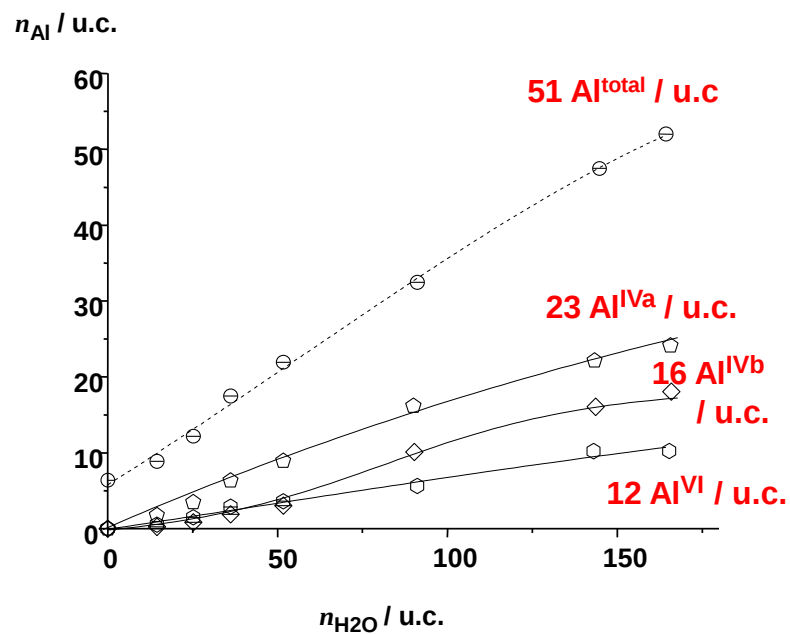


signal 1: δ_{iso} ca. 70 ppm, SOQE ca. 5.0 MHz
signal 2: $\delta_{\text{iso}} = 62$ ppm, SOQE = 4.0 MHz

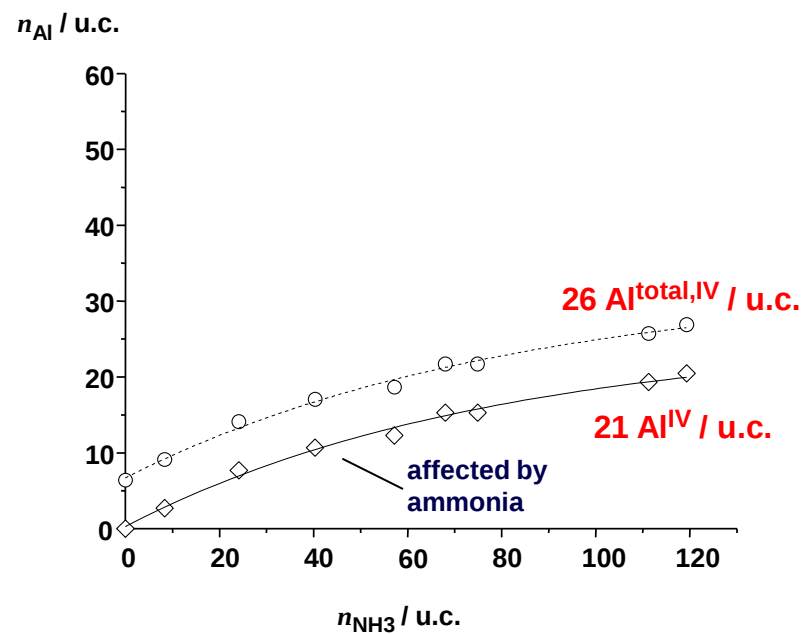
Effect of adsorption studied by ^{27}Al MAS NMR

- adsorption of NH_3 and H_2O on non-hydrated deH,Na-Y/81.5

adsorption of H_2O

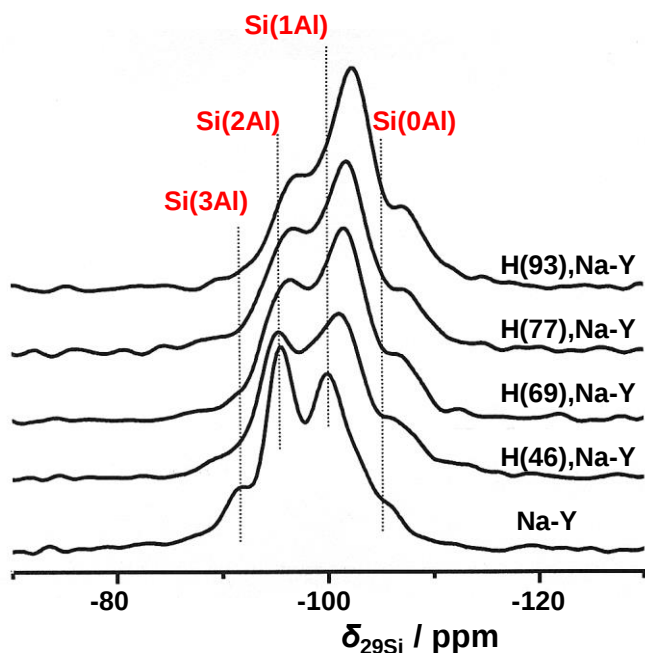


adsorption of NH_3



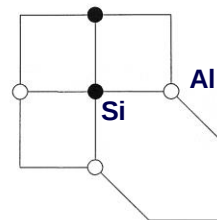
Strain of Si(*n*Al) tetrahedra in non-hydrated zeolites

^{29}Si MAS NMR $n_{\text{Si}}/n_{\text{Al}} = 2.7$

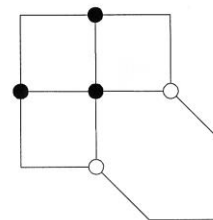


loop configuration of the FAU structure:

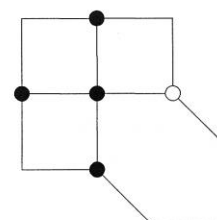
Si(3Al): $\Delta\delta_{29\text{Si}} = 5 \text{ ppm}$



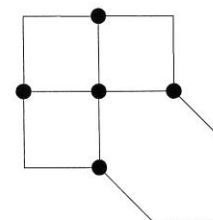
Si(2Al): $\Delta\delta_{29\text{Si}} = 2 \dots 5 \text{ ppm}$



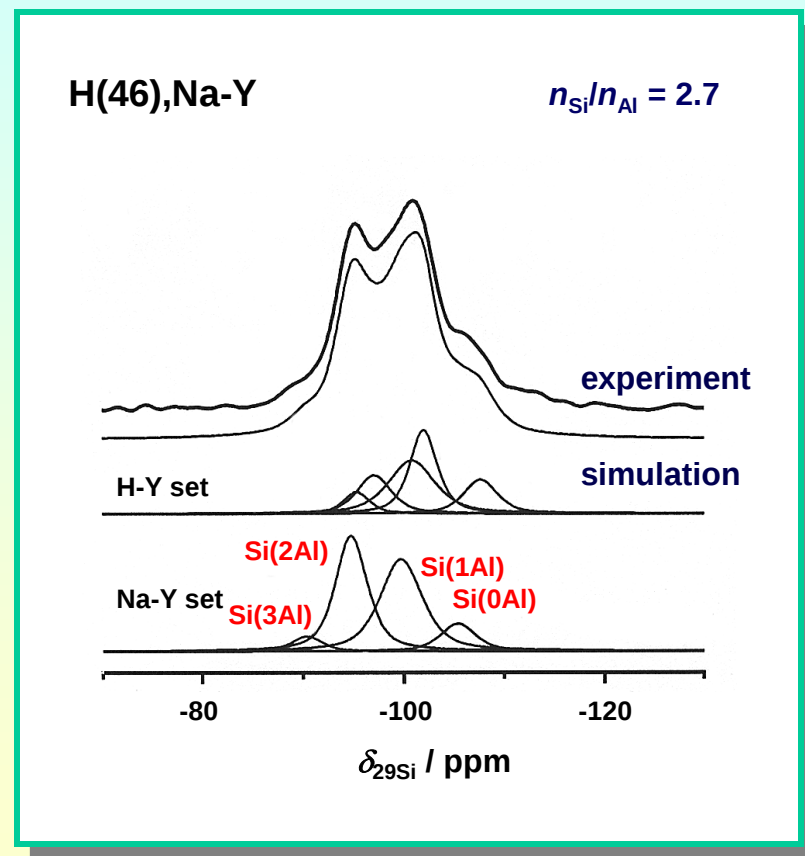
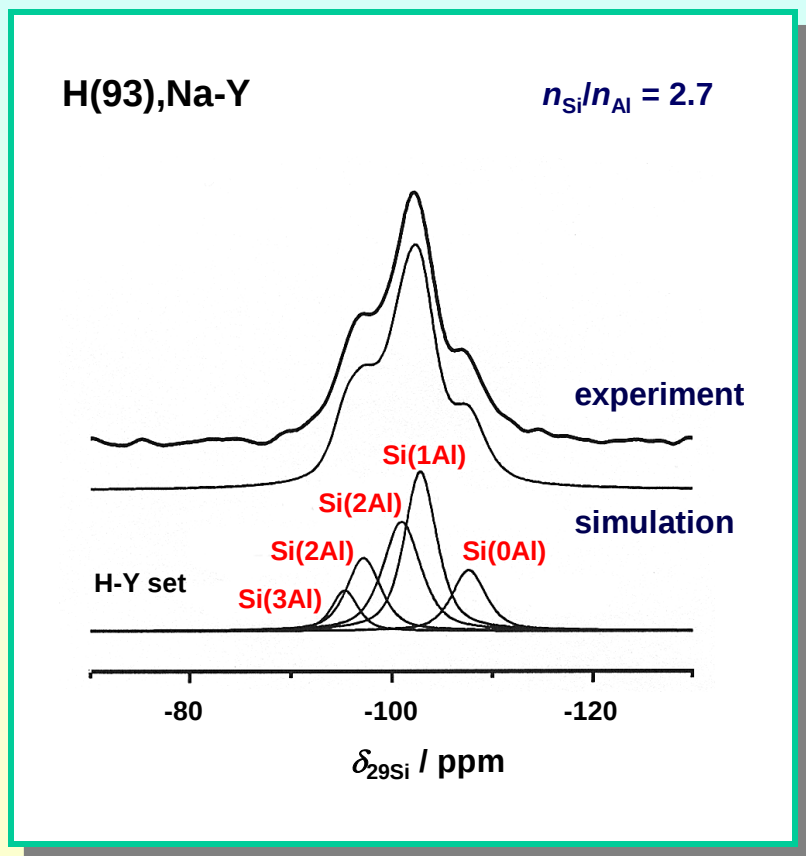
Si(1Al): $\Delta\delta_{29\text{Si}} = 2 \text{ ppm}$



Si(0Al): $\Delta\delta_{29\text{Si}} \text{ ca. } 1 \text{ ppm}$

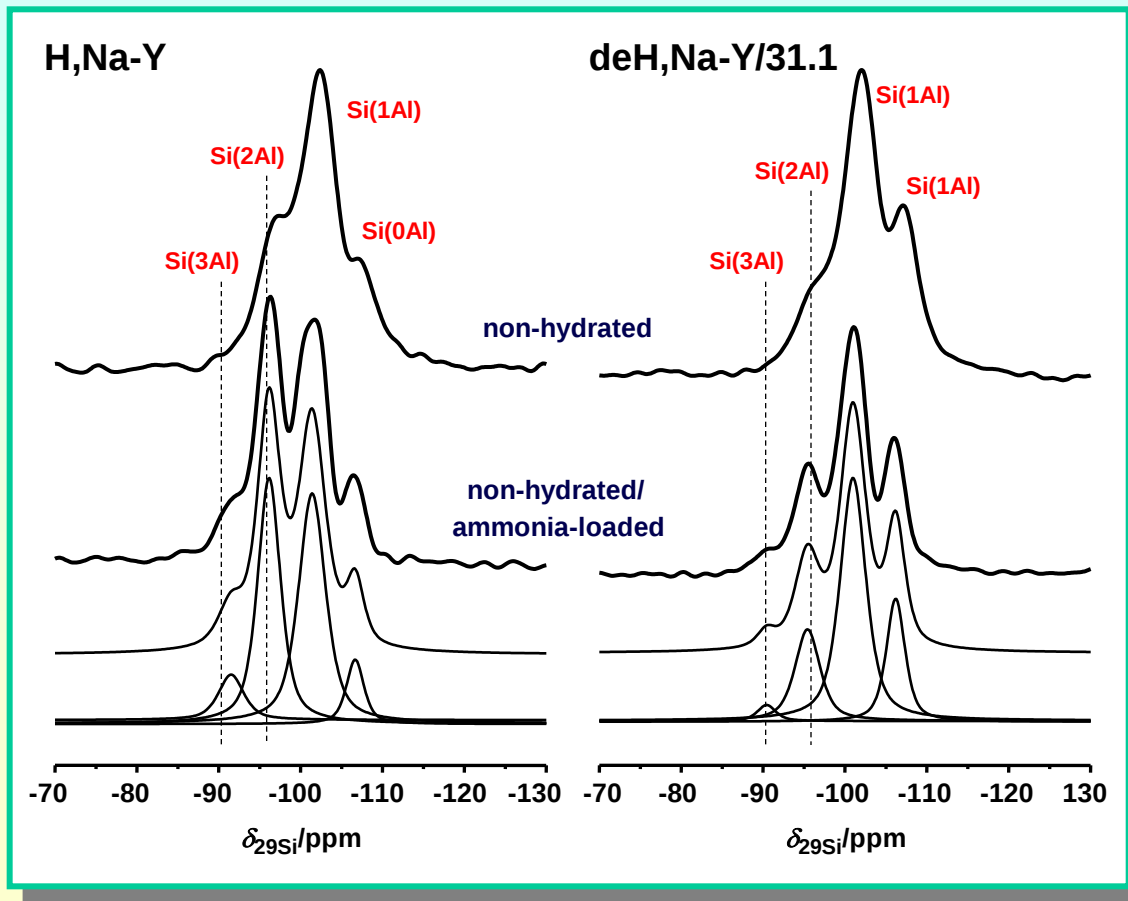


Simulation of ^{29}Si MAS NMR spectra of non-hydrated zeolites



^{29}Si MAS NMR of non-hydrated zeolites upon loading of ammonia

- **determination of the framework aluminum content after loading of ammonia**



→ no high-field shift of the signals of Si(*n*Al) species upon loading of ammonia

→ relaxation of the local structure in the vicinity of SiO₄ tetrahedra upon loading of ammonia

Comparison of ^{27}Al and ^{29}Si MAS NMR

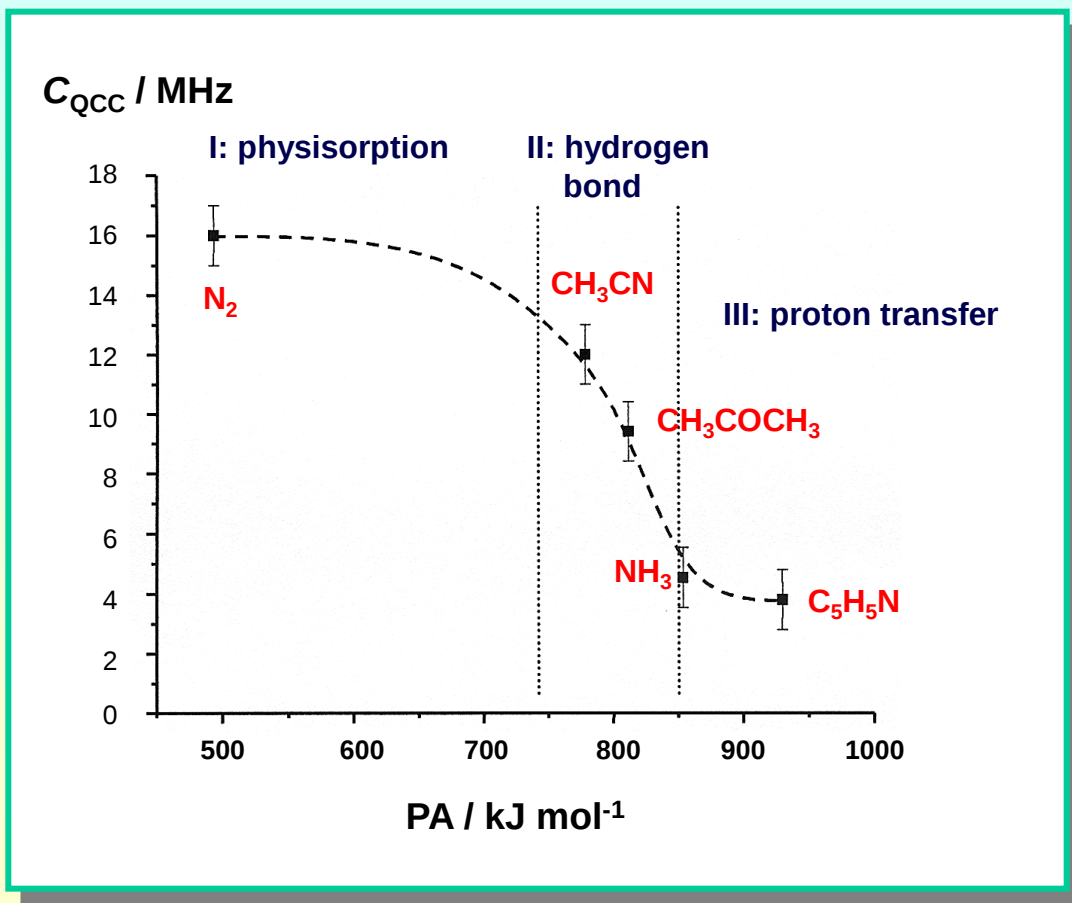
- effect of the rehydration and ammonia-loading of non-hydrated zeolites Y

samples	framework $n_{\text{Si}}/n_{\text{Al}}$ ratio, ^{27}Al MAS NMR	framework $n_{\text{Si}}/n_{\text{Al}}$ ratio, ^{29}Si MAS NMR
H,Na-Y, rehydrated	3.6	2.8
H,Na-Y, non-hydrated/ ammonia-loaded	2.6	2.7
deH-Y/31.1, rehydrated	3.5	4.0
deH-Y/31.1, non-hydrated/ ammonia-loaded	3.8	3.8
deH-Y/81.5, rehydrated	3.8	5.9
deH-Y/81.5, non-hydrated/ ammonia-loaded	6.1	5.8

- reasonable agreement of framework $n_{\text{Si}}/n_{\text{Al}}$ ratios obtained for non-hydrated/
ammonia-loaded samples
- slight hydrolysis of framework aluminum in rehydrated zeolites and overlap of signals

Effect of the base strength of adsorbates

- quadrupole coupling constant plotted as a function of the proton affinity PA



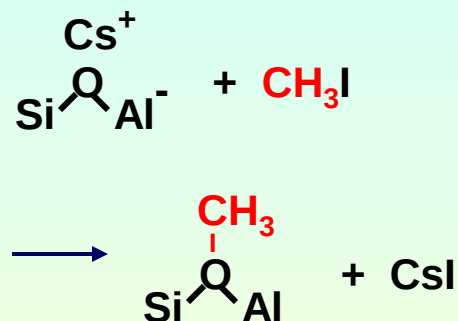
→ the C_{QCC} value of framework aluminum atoms in non-hydrated zeolite catalysts is sensitive to the adsorbate complexes formed at acid sites (SiOHAl)

→ proton transfer to adsorbate molecules occurs for proton affinities of $\text{PA} \geq 850 \text{ kJ/mol}$

***Investigation of base sites and of reactions
catalyzed by basic zeolites***

Characterization of basic zeolites under reaction conditions

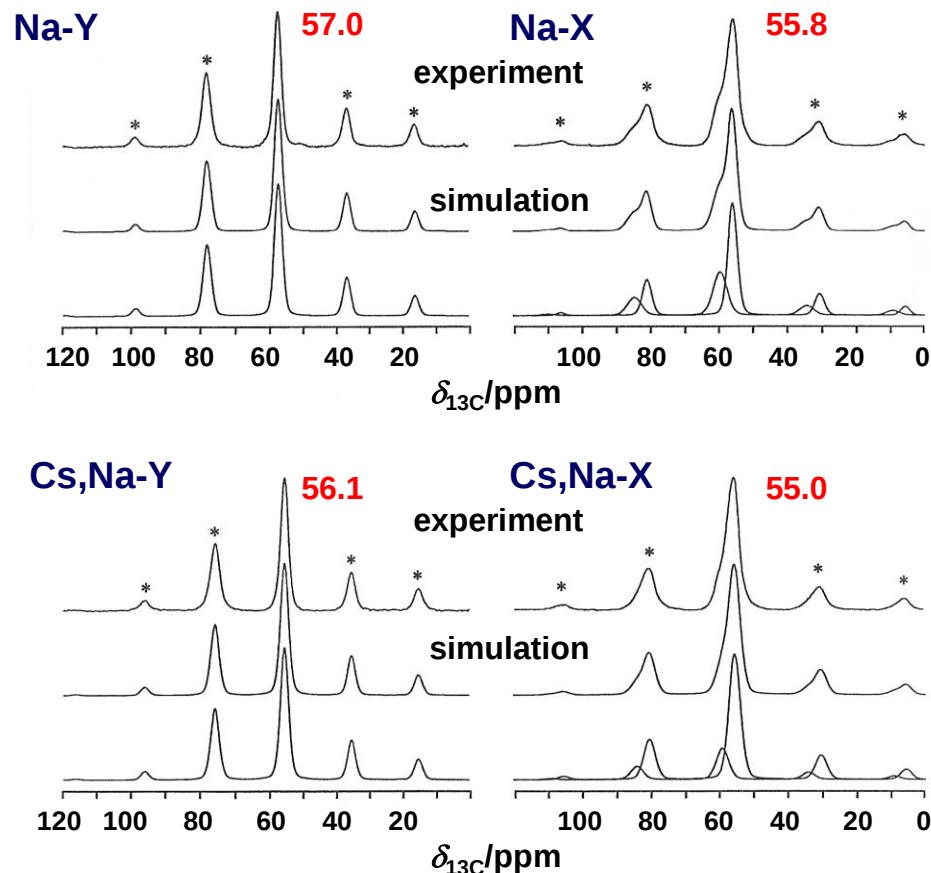
- conversion of CH_3I on basic zeolites:



- ^{13}C MAS NMR spectroscopy of the surface methoxy groups formed under batch conditions:

→ signals at 54.3 to 59.2 ppm with a chemical shift anisotropy of ca. $\Delta\sigma = -40$ ppm

^{13}C MAS NMR spectroscopy

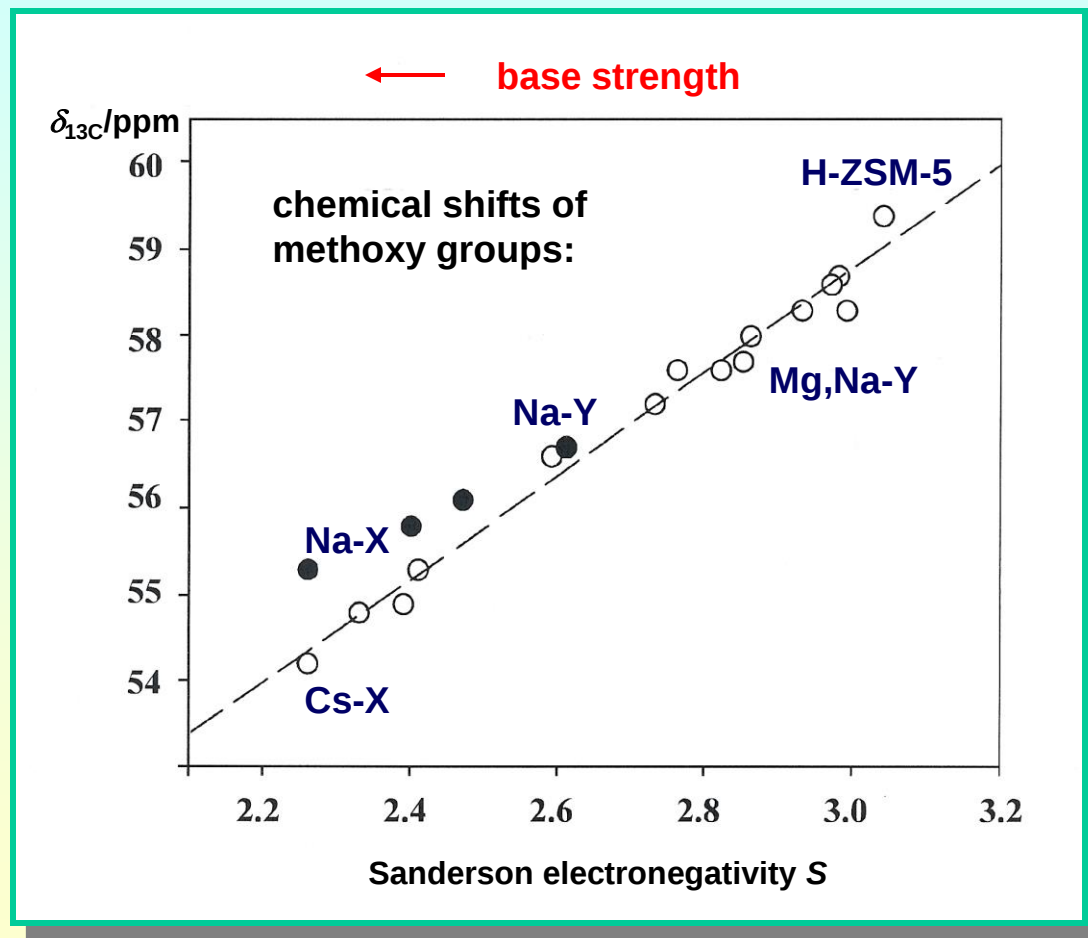


Characterization of basic zeolites under reaction conditions

- mean Sanderson electronegativity:

$$S = (S_{\text{Al}}^k S_{\text{Si}}^l S_{\text{O}}^m S_{\text{Me}}^n)^{1/(k+l+m+n)}$$

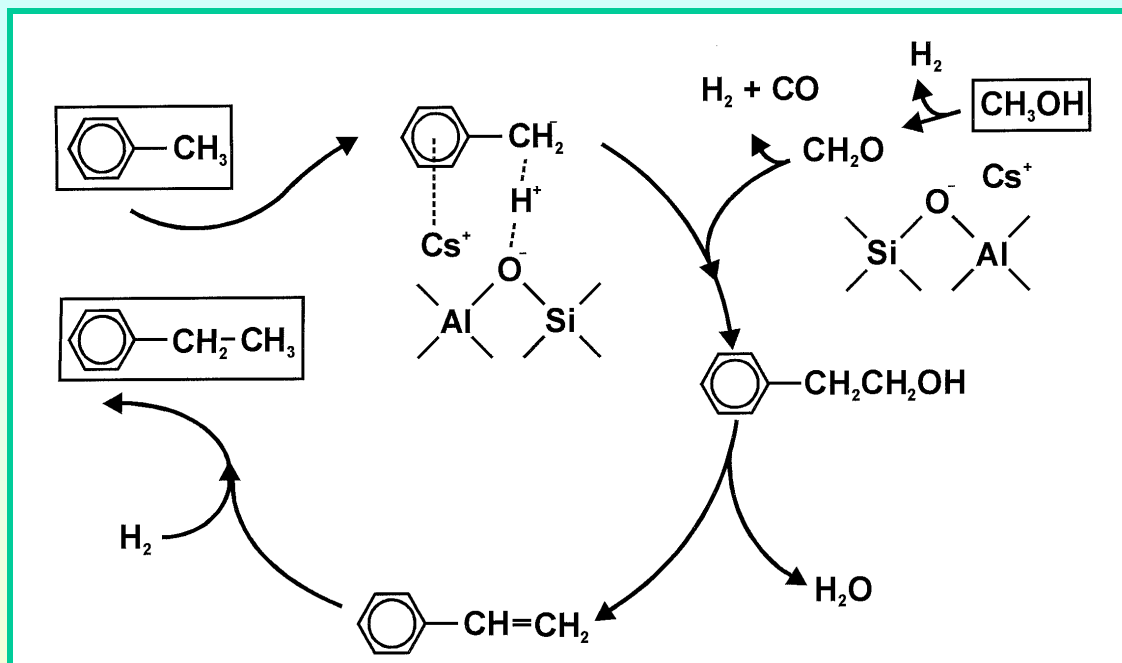
- decreasing ^{13}C NMR shift of surface methoxy groups with increasing base strength of the framework oxygen atoms



Side-chain alkylation of toluene with methanol on basic zeolites

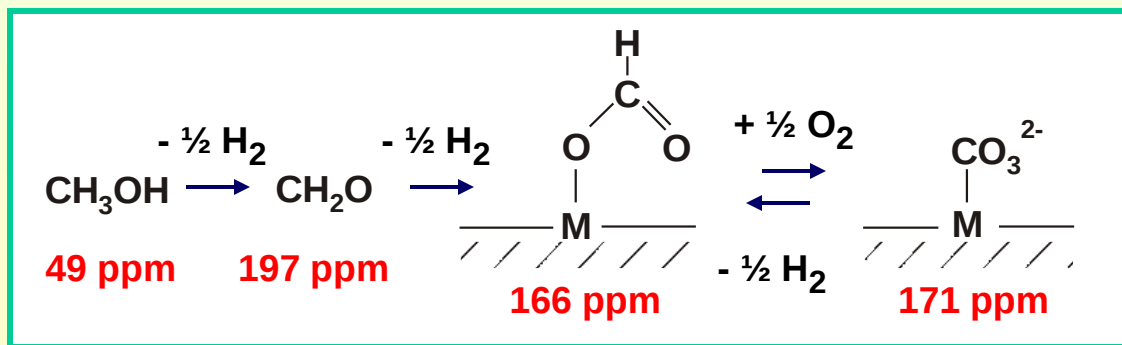
- reaction scheme proposed by Yashima et al. , J. Catal. 26 (1972) 303:

- activation of toluene by adsorption on the zeolite
- conversion of methanol to formaldehyde catalyzed by base sites



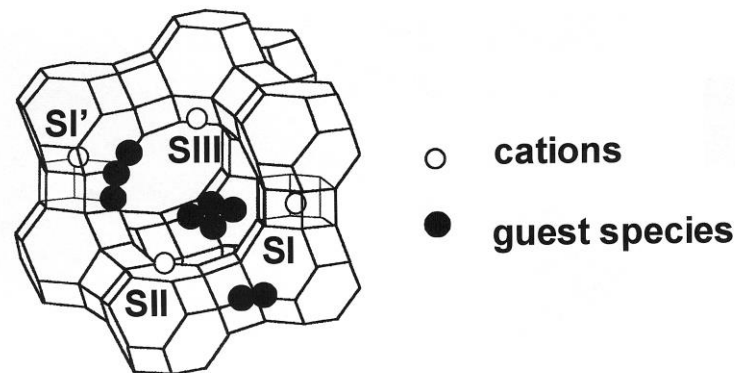
- proposed surface species:

- formate ($\delta_{13\text{C}} = 166 \text{ ppm}$)
- carbonate ($\delta_{13\text{C}} = 171 \text{ ppm}$)



NMR characterization of the calcined zeolite CsOH/Cs,Na-X

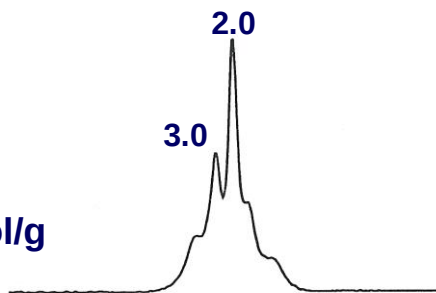
- zeolite Na-X ($n_{\text{Si}}/n_{\text{Al}} = 1.4$) exchanged with cesium cations (55 %) and impregnated with cesium hydroxide (24 CsOH/u.c.)



^1H MAS NMR

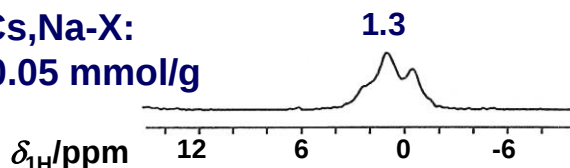
Cs,Na-X:

$c_{\text{OH}} = 0.3 \text{ mmol/g}$



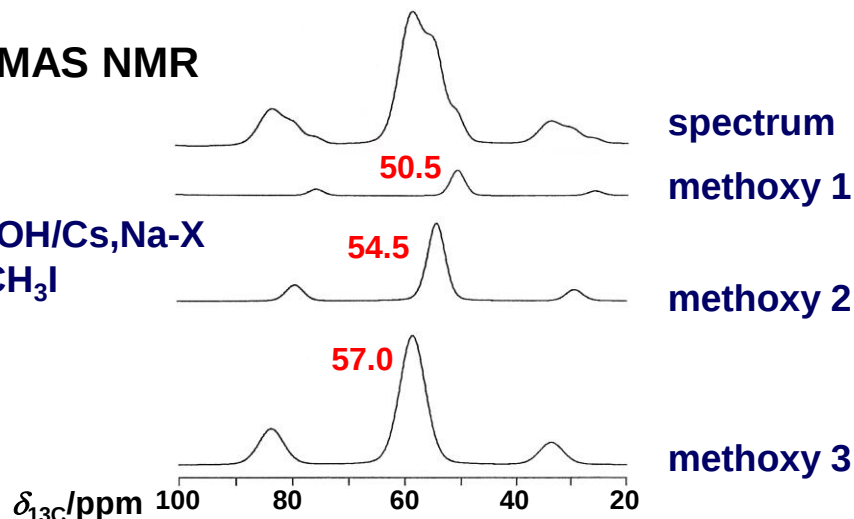
CsOH/Cs,Na-X:

$c_{\text{OH}} = 0.05 \text{ mmol/g}$



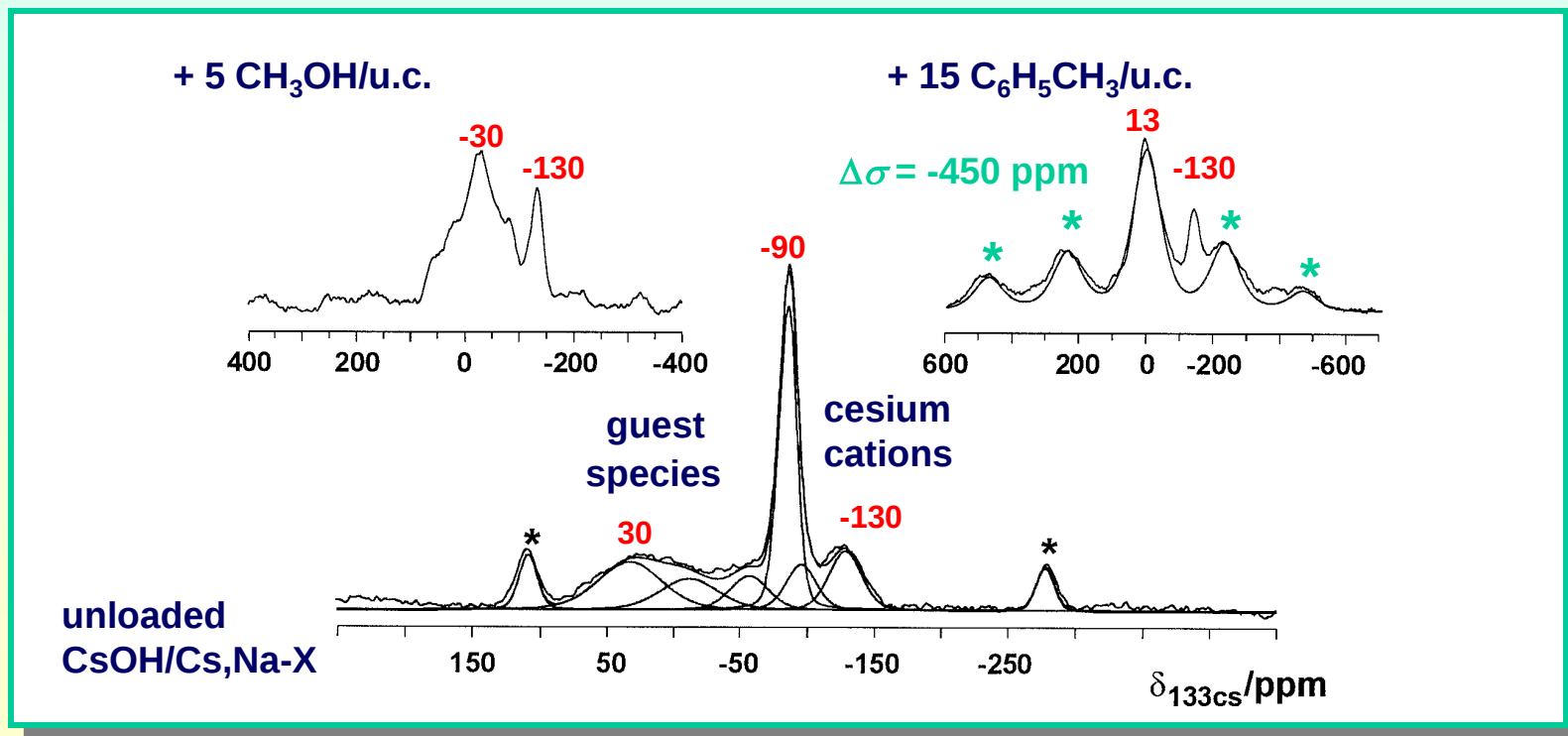
^{13}C MAS NMR

CsOH/Cs,Na-X
+ CH_3I



Adsorbate complexes formed by the reactants on zeolite CsOH/Cs,Na-X

- ^{133}Cs MAS NMR spectroscopy performed before and after adsorption of methanol and toluene

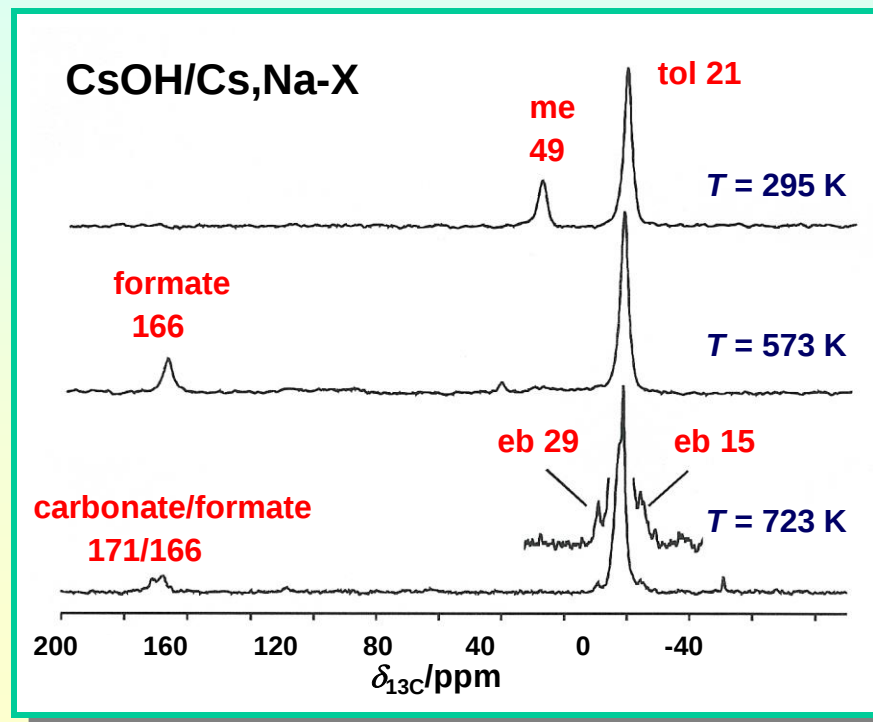
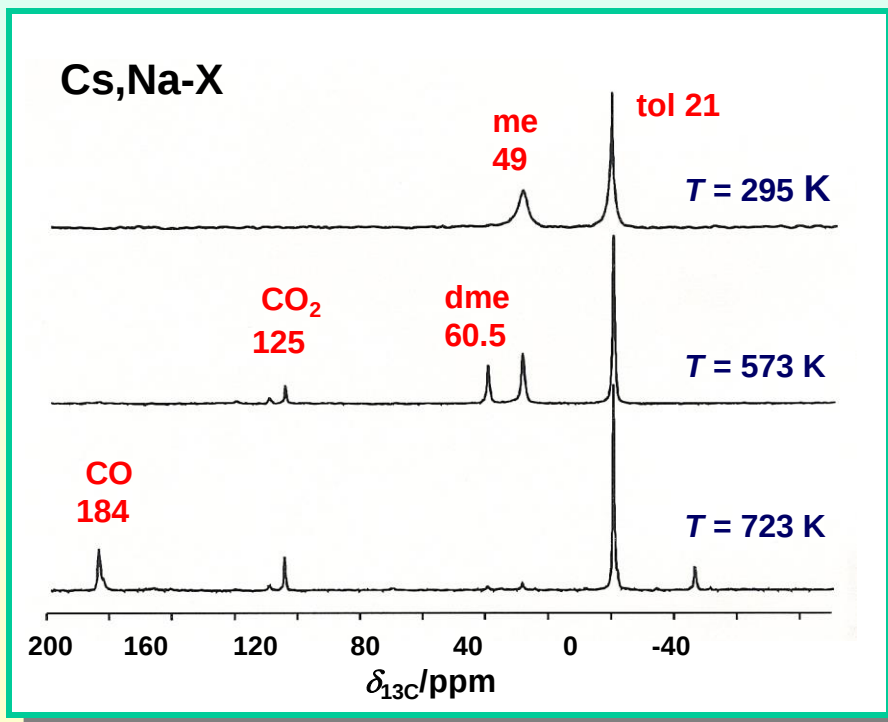


Side-chain alkylation of toluene on basic zeolites X under batch conditions

^{13}C MAS NMR spectroscopy:

15 $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5^{13}\text{CH}_3/\text{u.c.}$

5 $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}/\text{u.c.}$

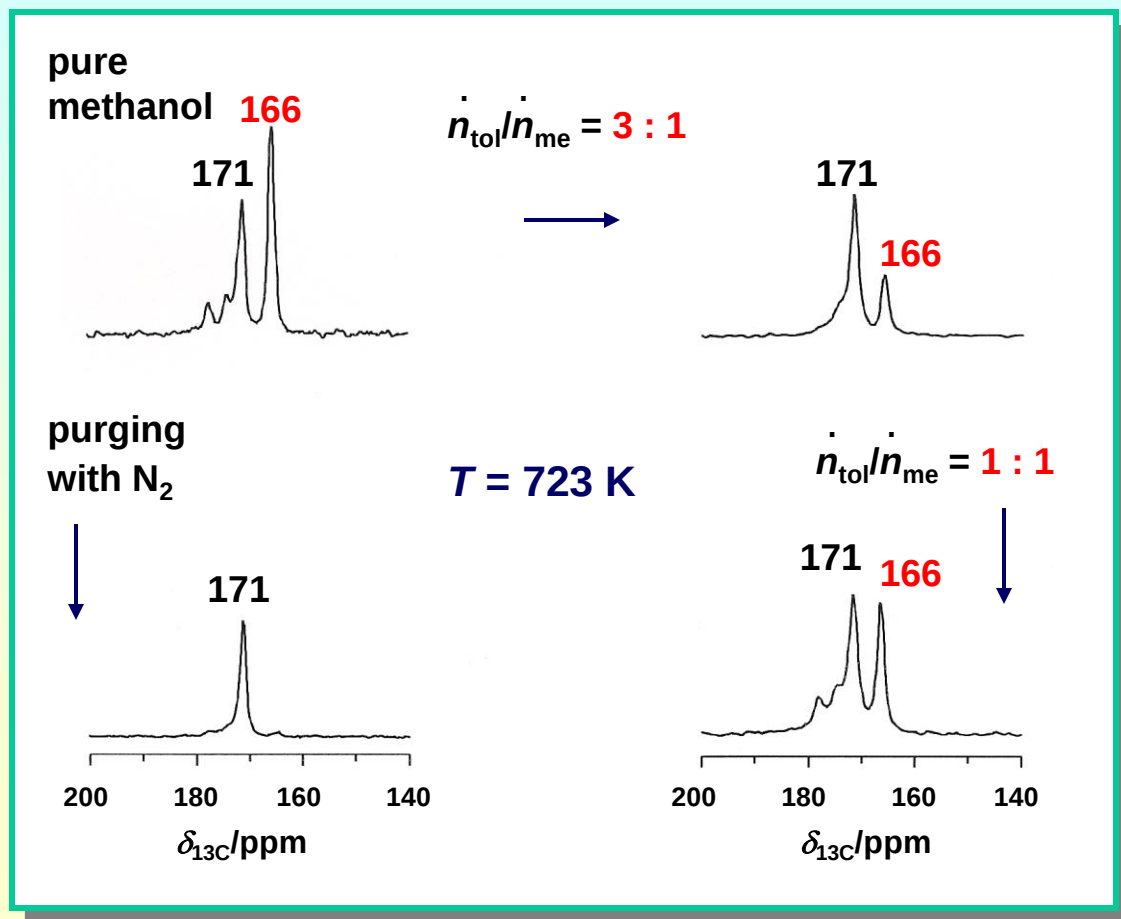


Reactivity of formate species on zeolite CsOH/Cs,Na-X under flow conditions

- *in situ* ^{13}C CF MAS NMR spectroscopy:

$$W_{\text{cat}}/F_{\text{me}} = 60 \text{ gh/mol}$$

- carbonate species are chemically stable
- formate species are consumed by toluene which indicates a high reactivity



***Investigation of reactions catalyzed
by acidic zeolites***

Investigation of reaction pathways by selectively labelled reactants

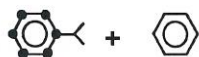
- isomerization of cumene to n-propylbenzene on zeolite H-ZSM-11 in the presence of benzene

experiment

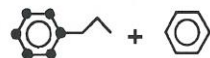
A:

B:

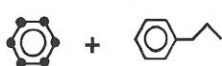
reactants



intramolecular mechanism

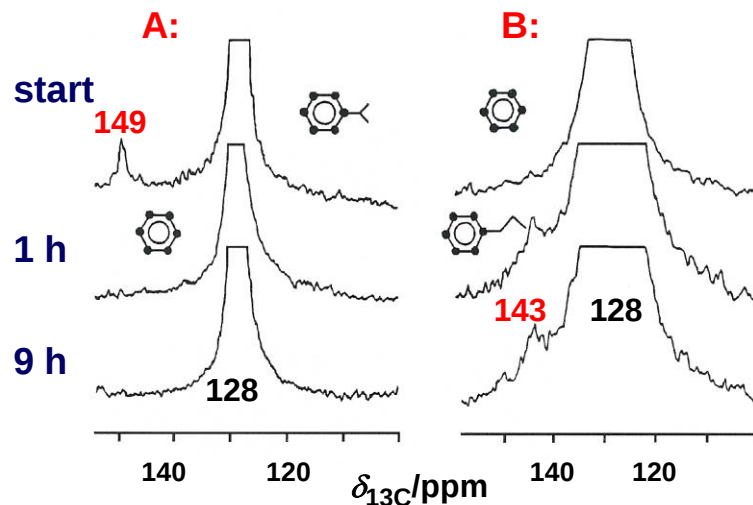


intermolecular mechanism



● : ^{13}C labelled carbon atoms

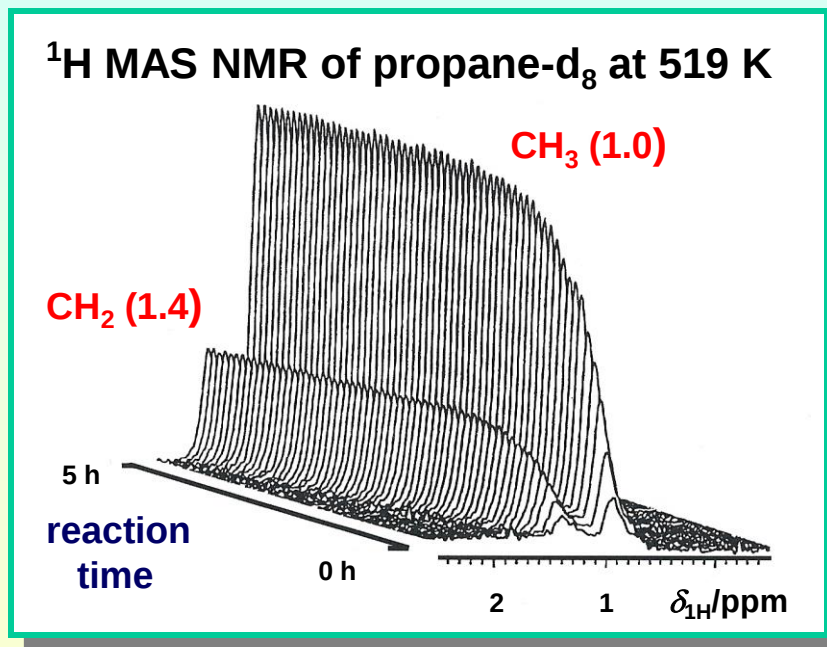
^{13}C MAS NMR at 473 K (batch)



→ experiments **A** and **B** indicate an intermolecular reaction mechanism

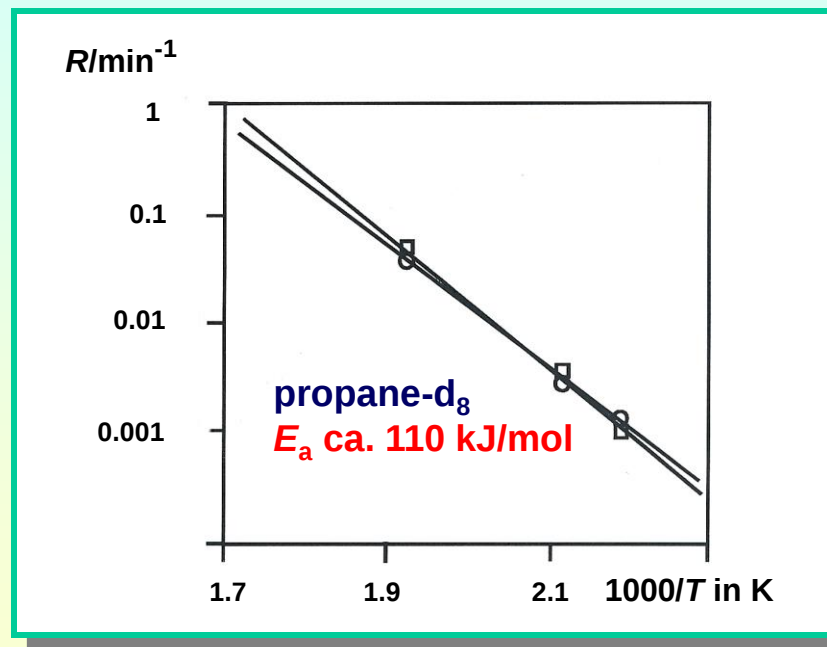
Evaluation of reaction mechanisms by H/D exchange on acidic zeolites

- H/D exchange of propane-d₈ (A) and isobutane-d₁₀ (B) with SiOHAl groups on H-ZSM-5



A:

- no regiospecific H/D exchange
 - E_a of ca. 110 kJ/mol
- no formation carbenium ions

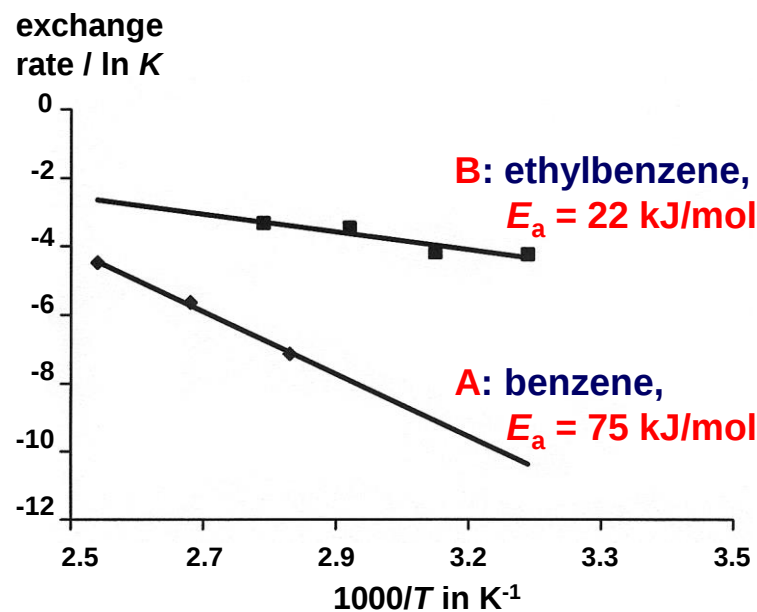
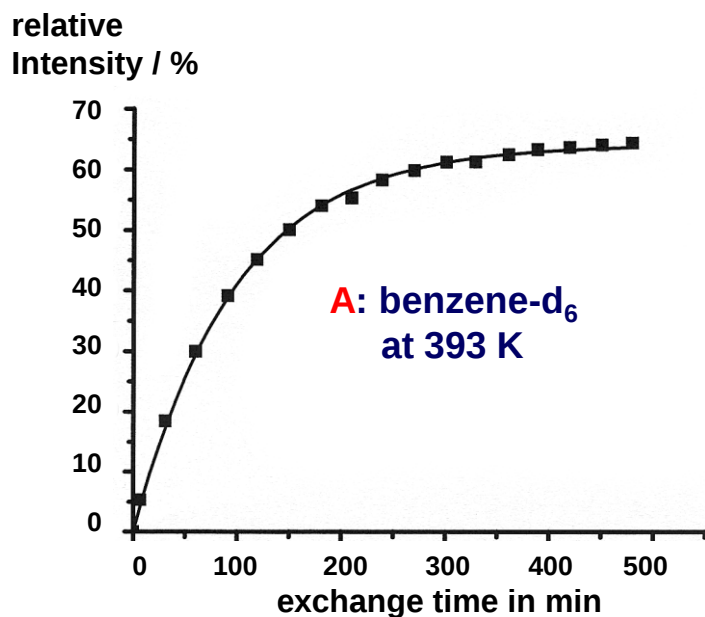


B:

- regiospecific H/D exchange
 - E_a of ca. 50 kJ/mol
- formation carbenium ions

H/D exchange of aromatic compounds on acidic zeolites

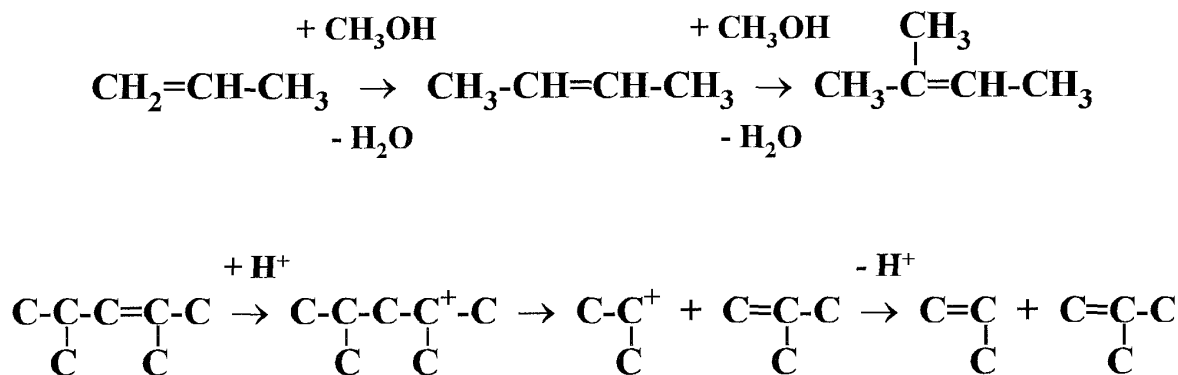
- H/D exchange of benzene-d₆ (A) and ethylbenzene-d₁₀ (B) with SiOHAl groups on H-Y



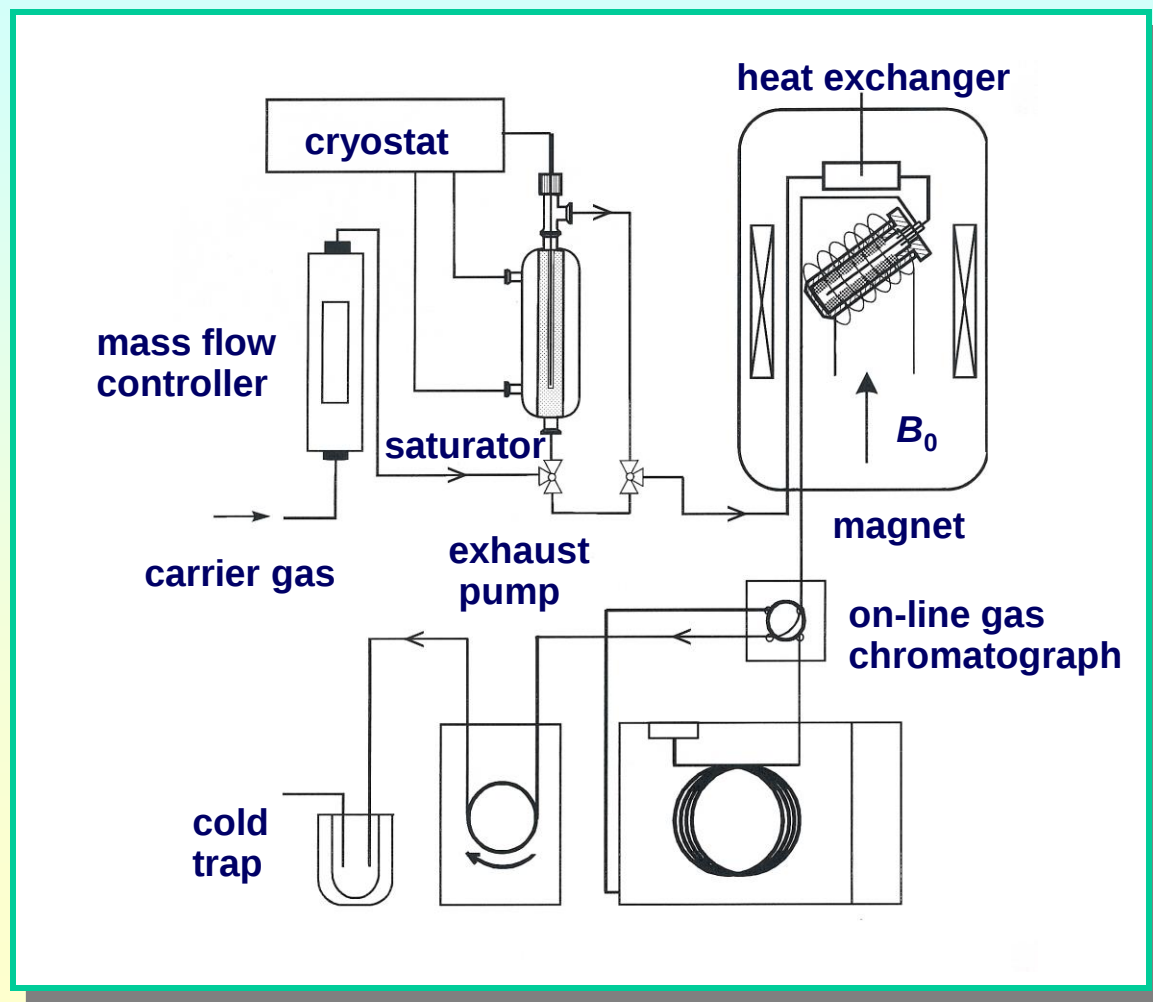
→ H/D exchange occurs selectively with H atoms at the aromatic ring and the activation energy decreases strongly for alkylated aromatics

reaction mechanisms proposed in the literature:

- carbene mechanism (Swabb and Gates)
- oxonium ylide mechanism (Berg and Olah)
- carbon-pool mechanism (Haag, Hoelderich)



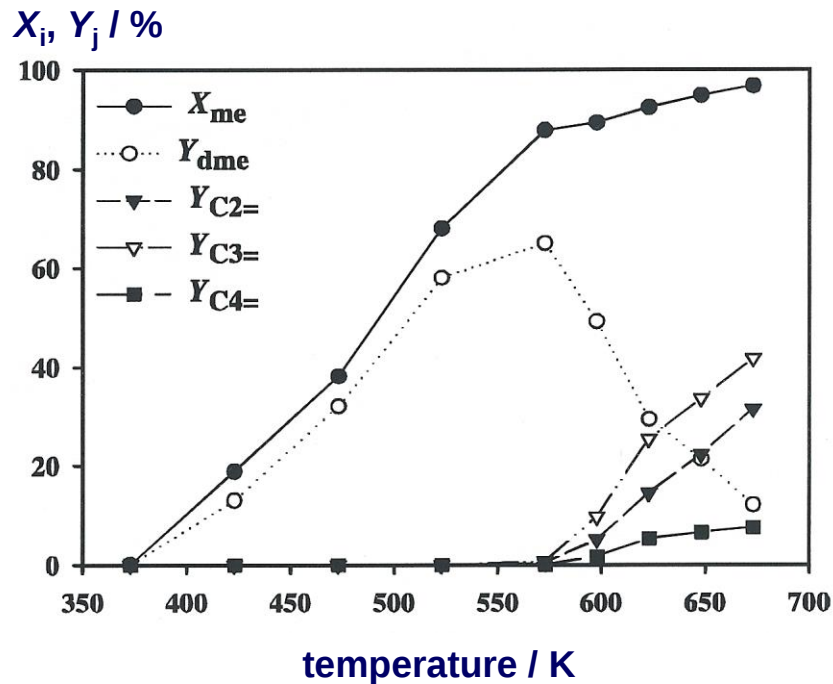
Coupling of in situ CF MAS NMR and on-line gas chromatography



Conversion of methanol on H-ZSM-5 in a fixed-bed and in an MAS NMR rotor reactor

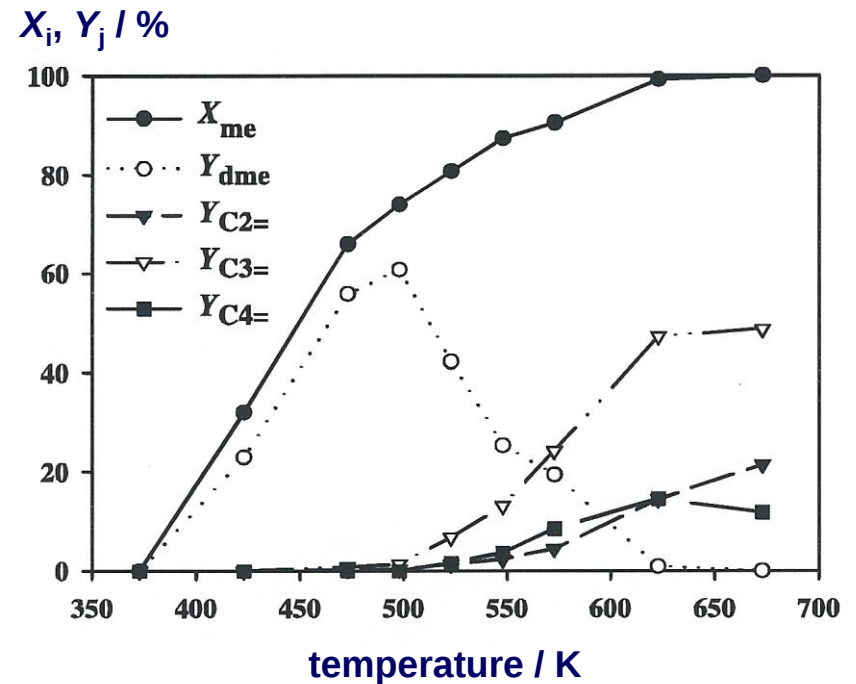
fixed-bed reactor

$W_{\text{cat}}/F_{\text{me}} = 25 \text{ gh/mol}$

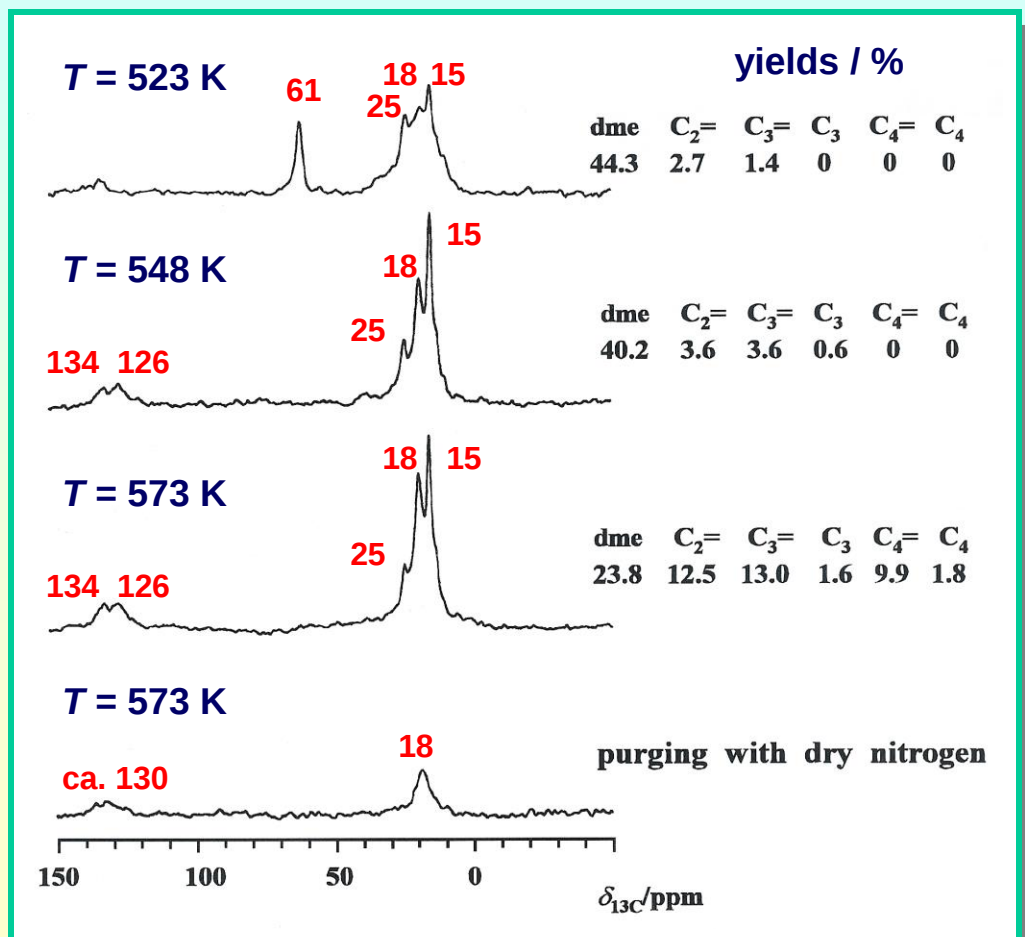


spinning (2 kHz) MAS NMR rotor reactor

$W_{\text{cat}}/F_{\text{me}} = 25 \text{ gh/mol}$



Conversion of methanol on H-ZSM-5 studied by in situ ^{13}C CP MAS NMR



→ aliphatic intermediates, e.g.:
3-hexene (14.4, 25.9, 131.2 ppm)
2,3-hexadiene (17.5, 126.2, 132.5 ppm)

....

→ olefin pool with carbon numbers of $n > 6$

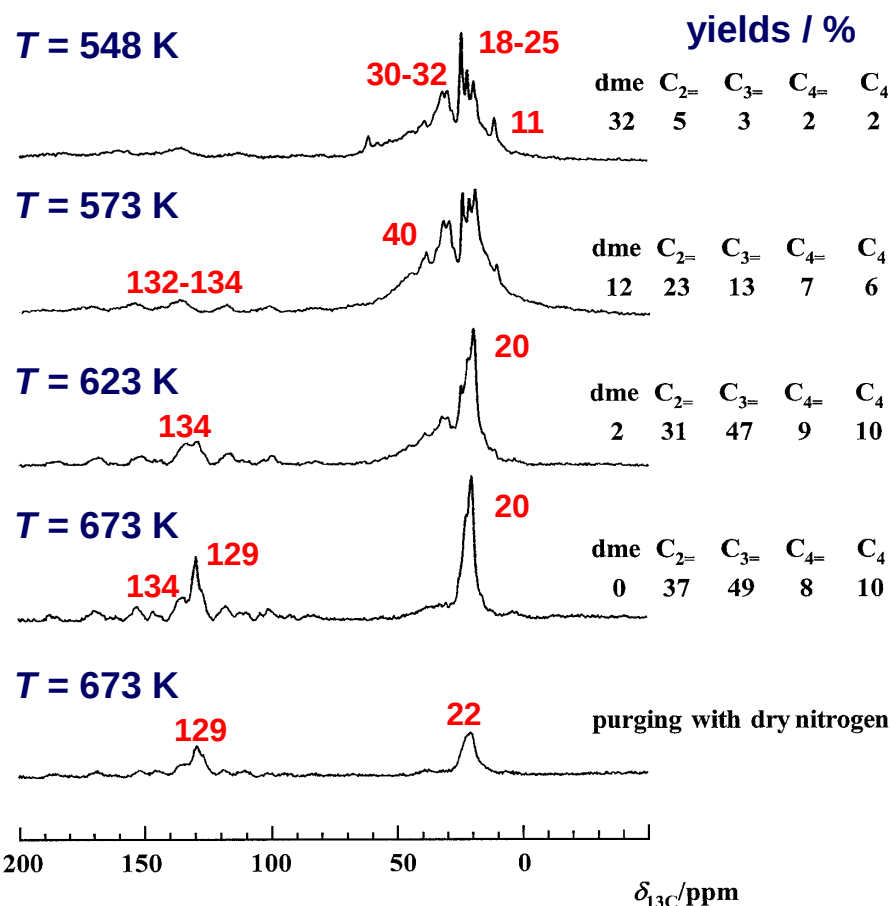
→ aromatic adsorbates remaining after purging:

benzene (128.6 ppm)

....

hexamethylbenzene (17.6, 132.1 ppm)

Conversion of methanol on H-SAPO-34 studied by in situ ^{13}C CF MAS NMR



$T < 623 \text{ K}$:

→ mixture of olefinic compounds:
 3-hexene (14.4, 25.9, 131.2 ppm)
 2,3-hexadiene (17.5, 126.2, 132.5 ppm)

....

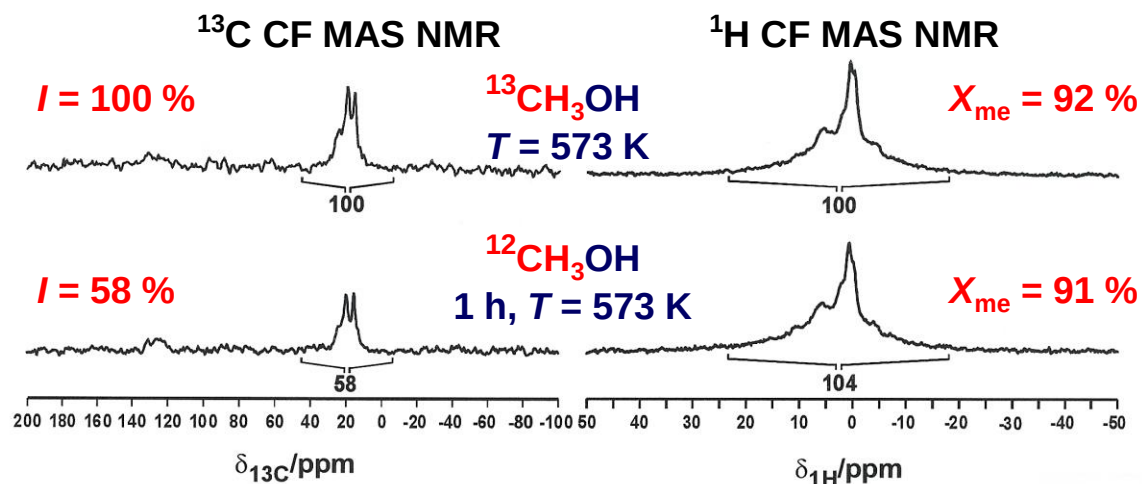
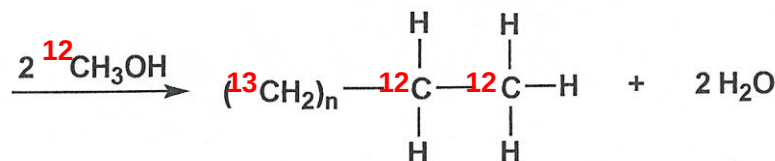
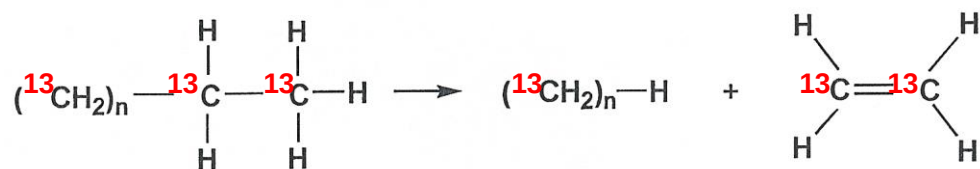
$T > 623 \text{ K}$:

→ domination of aromatic compounds:
 benzene (128.6 ppm)
 toluene (20.3, 128.5, 129.0 ppm)

....

tetramethylbenzene (18.9, 131.1, 134 ppm)
 hexamethylbenzene (17.6, 132.1 ppm)

Role of the carbon pool in the MTO process on H-ZSM-5



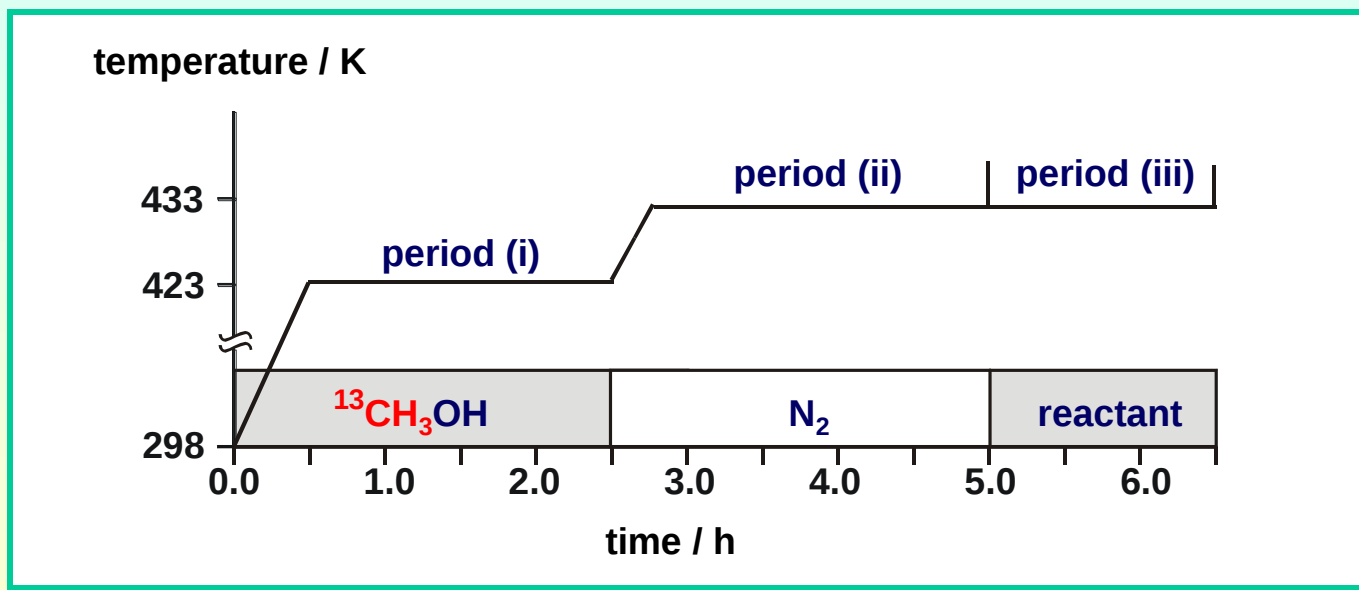
switching of the reactant flow induces a decrease of the ^{13}C -isotopes in the alkyl groups:

→ alkyl groups are involved in the formation of olefins

→ carbon pool plays an active role in the MTO process

Study of surface methoxy groups by in situ SF (stopped-flow) MAS NMR

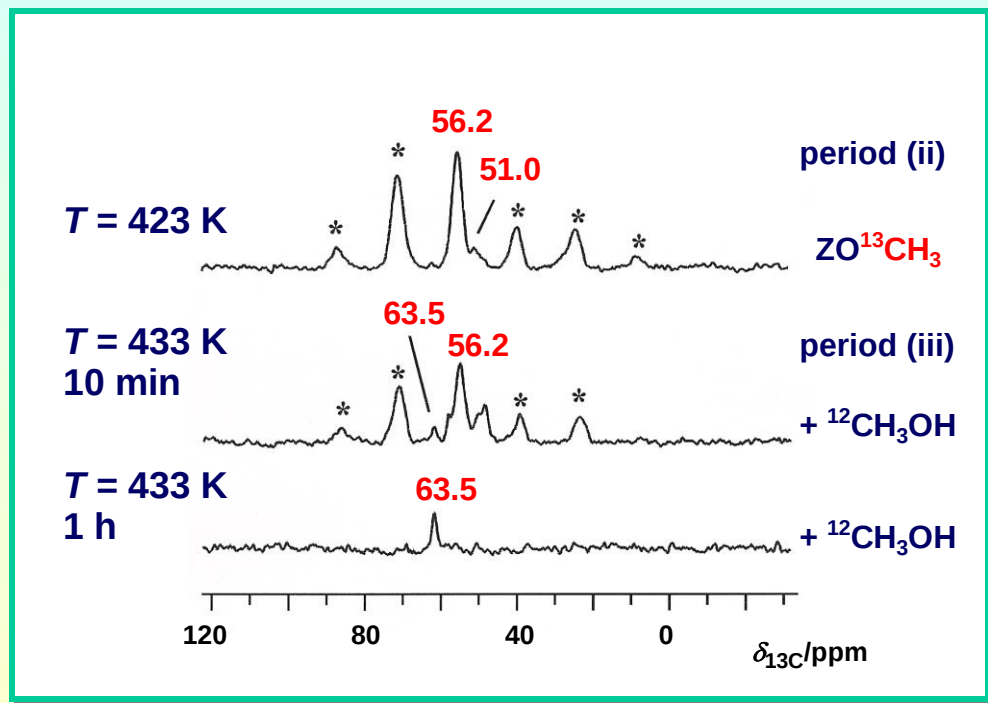
selective preparation of adsorbate complexes by purging the volatile reactants in period (ii) and study of their further reaction in period (iii)



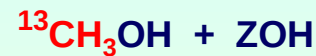
investigation of the reactivity of intermediates

Reaction of methoxy groups with methanol on acidic zeolites

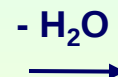
^{13}C SF MAS NMR investigation of methoxy groups on zeolite H-Y



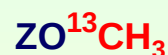
methanol



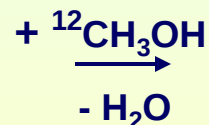
49.0 ppm



methoxy



56.2 ppm



dme

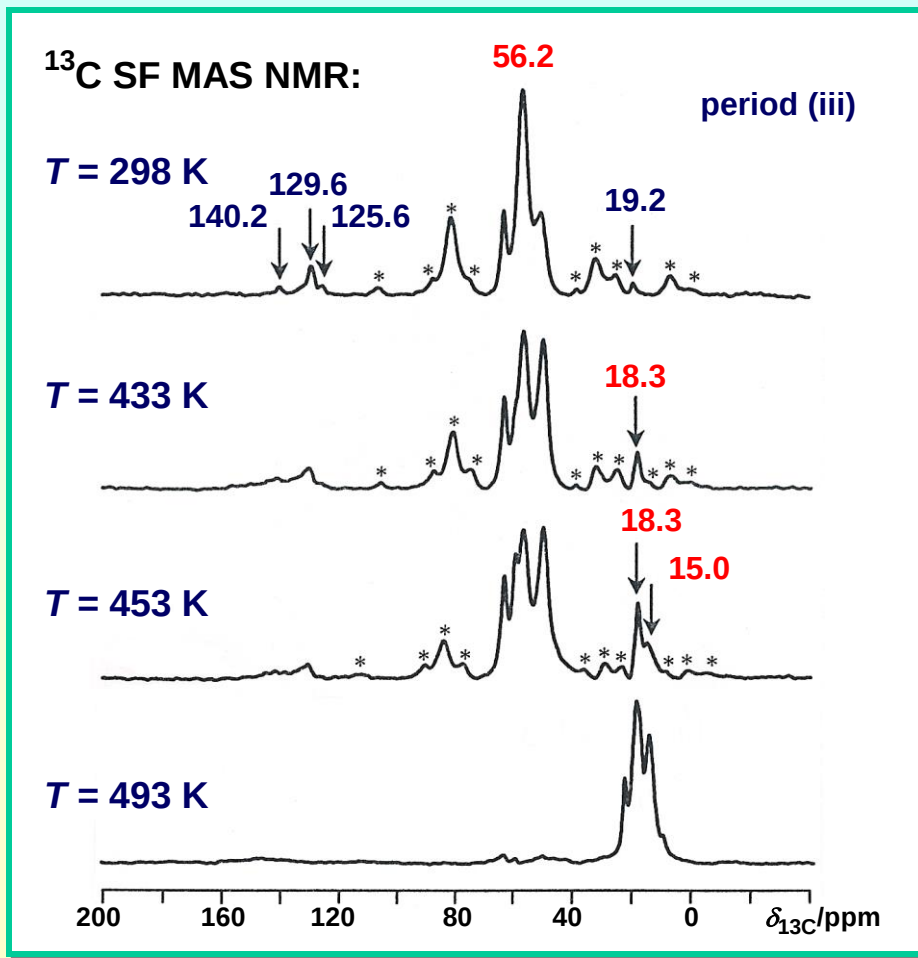


63.5 ppm

→ ^{13}C -labelled methoxy groups contribute to the formation of dimethyl ether

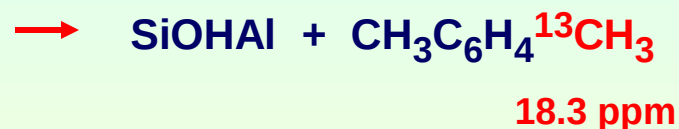
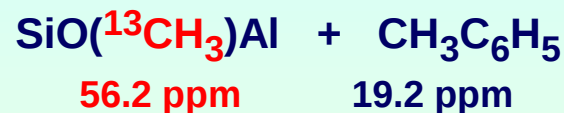
Methylation of aromatics by surface methoxy groups

reaction of methoxy groups with toluene on zeolite H-Y



methoxy

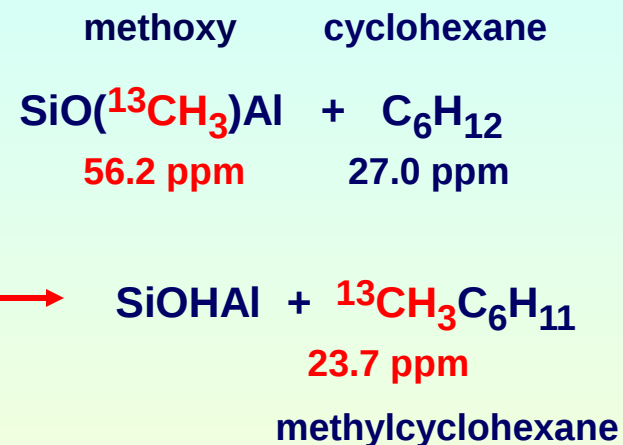
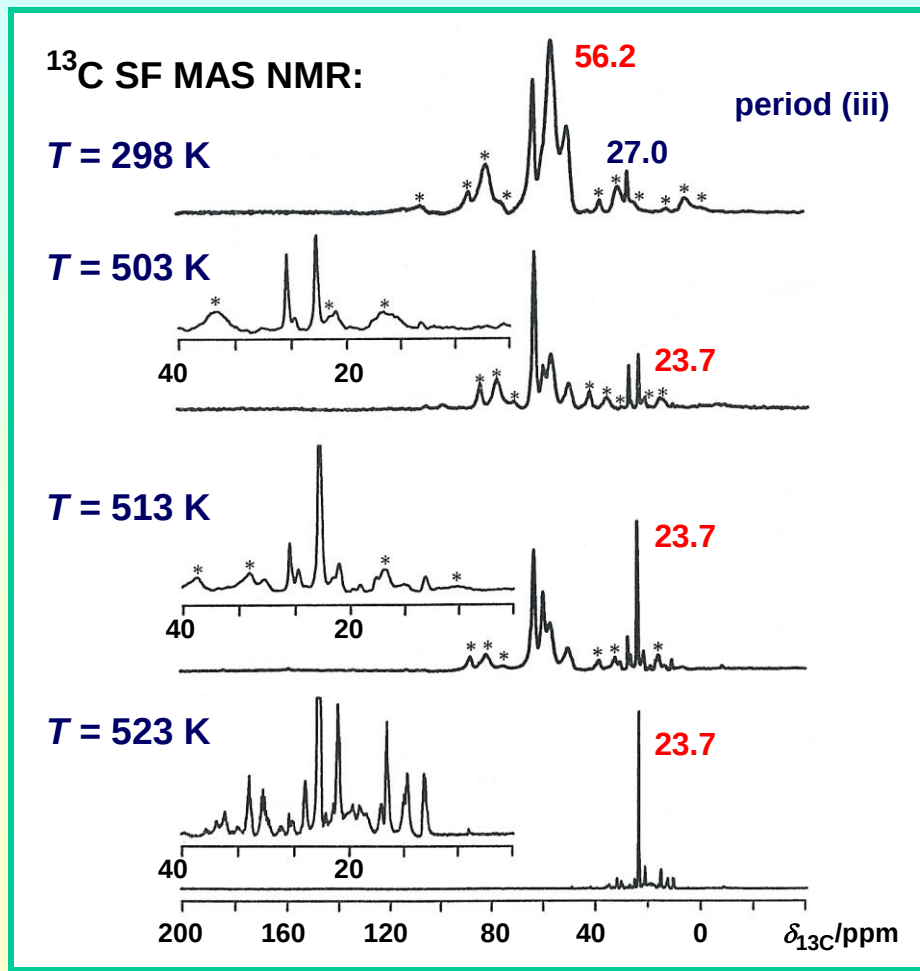
toluene



- methylation of aromatics by surface methoxy groups starts at $T = 433\text{ K}$

Methylation of alkanes by surface methoxy groups

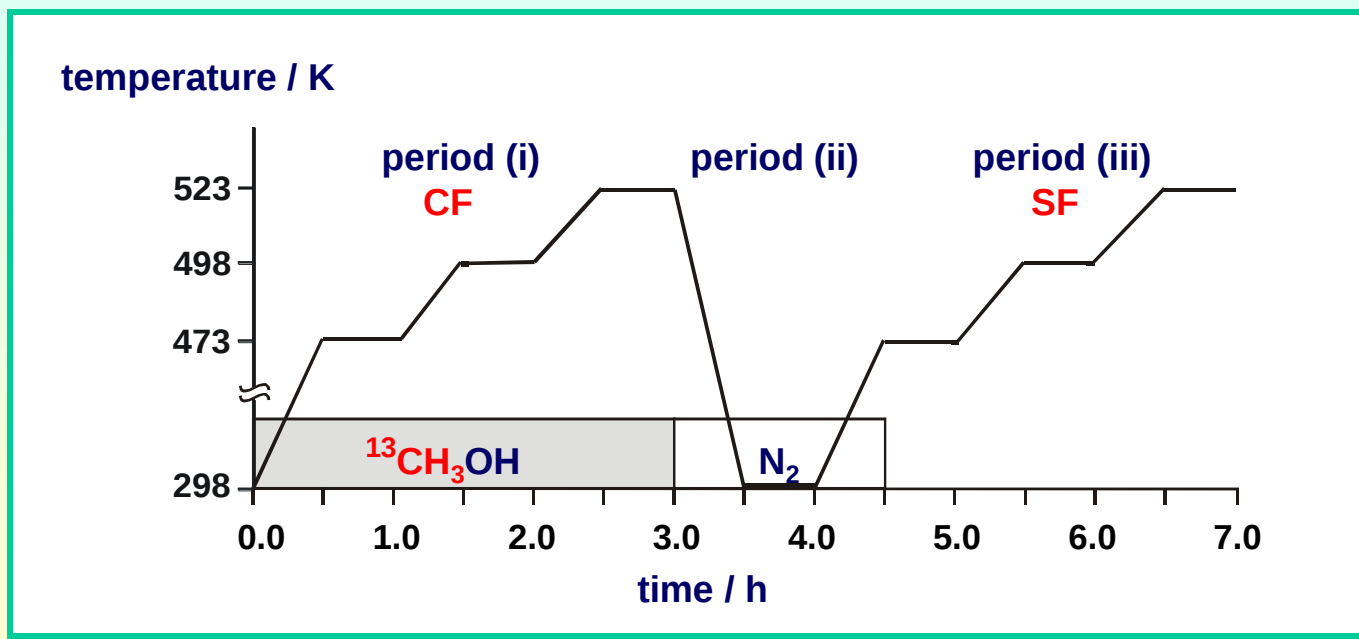
reaction of methoxy groups with cyclohexane on zeolite H-Y



- methylation of alkanes by surface methoxy groups starts at $T = 503 \text{ K}$
- intermediates of ylide or carbene nature

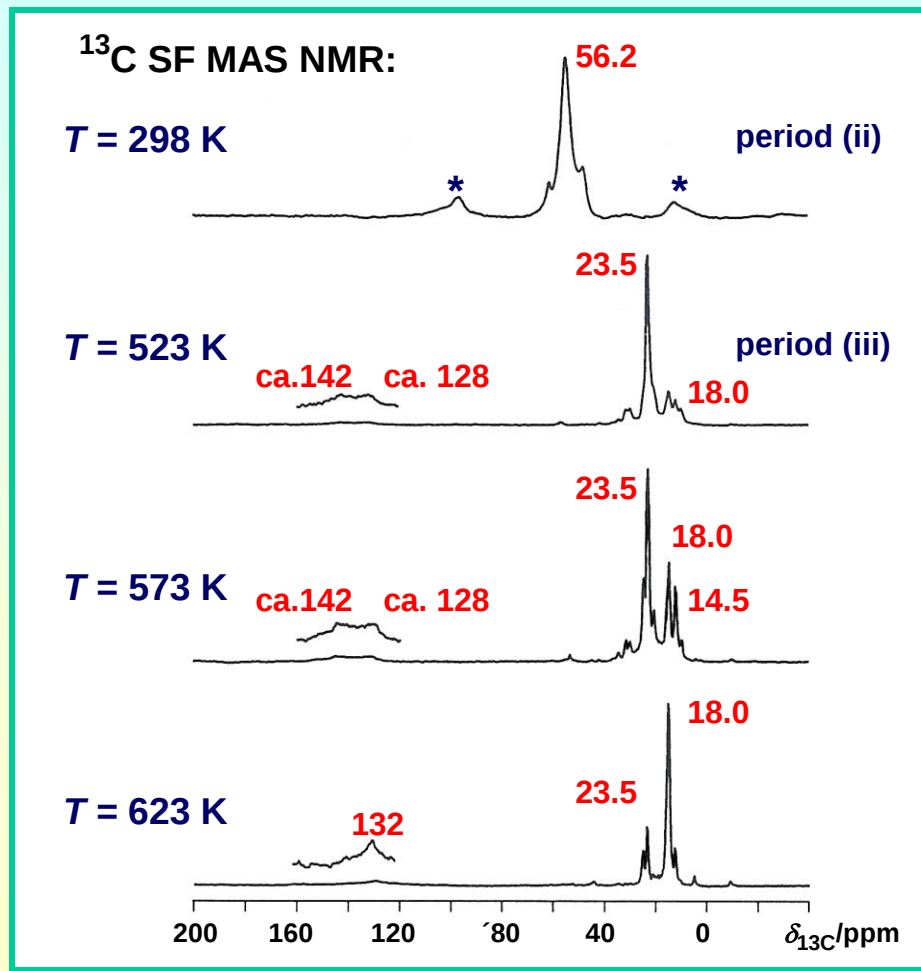
Initiation of the MTO process by surface methoxy groups on acidic zeolites

- reaction of pure methoxy groups on zeolite H-Y at elevated temperatures



Initiation of the MTO process by surface methoxy groups on acidic zeolites

- stopped-flow conversion of methoxy groups on zeolite H-Y



- initiation of the hydrocarbon formation at $T = 523\text{ K}$

- formation of aliphatics:

→ isobutane (23.3, 24.6 ppm)
isobutene (23.7, 119.5, 141.4 ppm)
dimethylbutadiene (20.1, 111.3, 142.1 ppm)

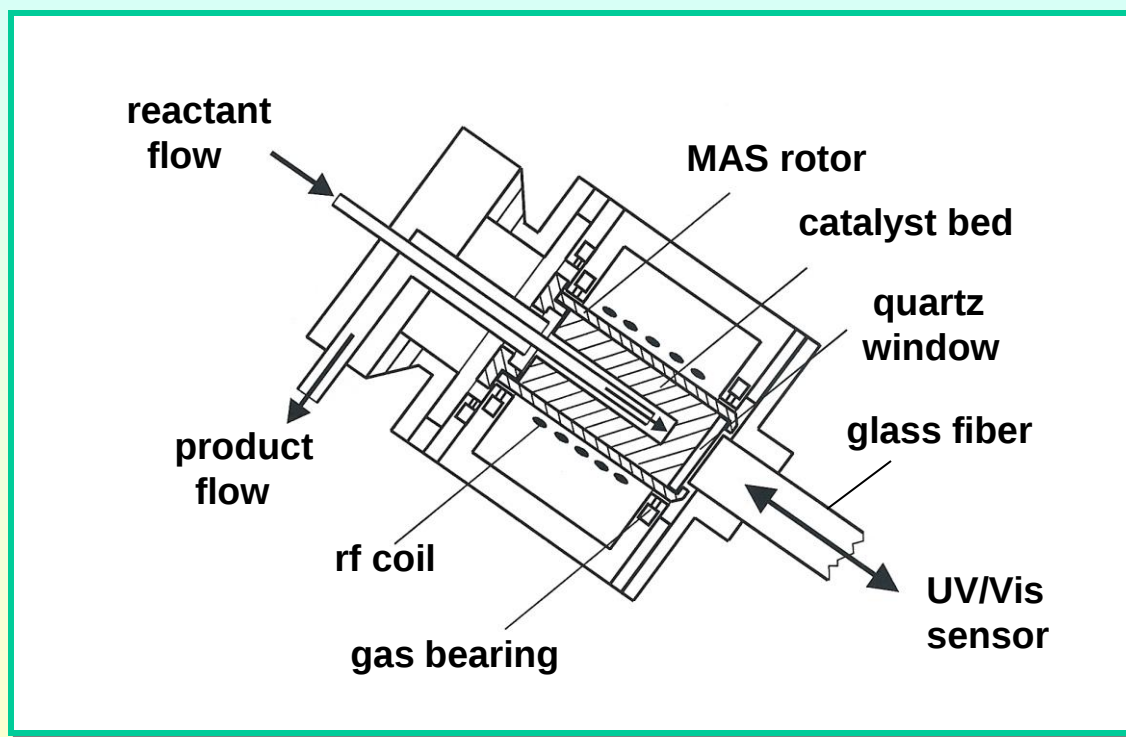
....

and aromatic compounds:

→ benzene (128.6 ppm)
....
hexamethylbenzene (17.6, 132.1 ppm)

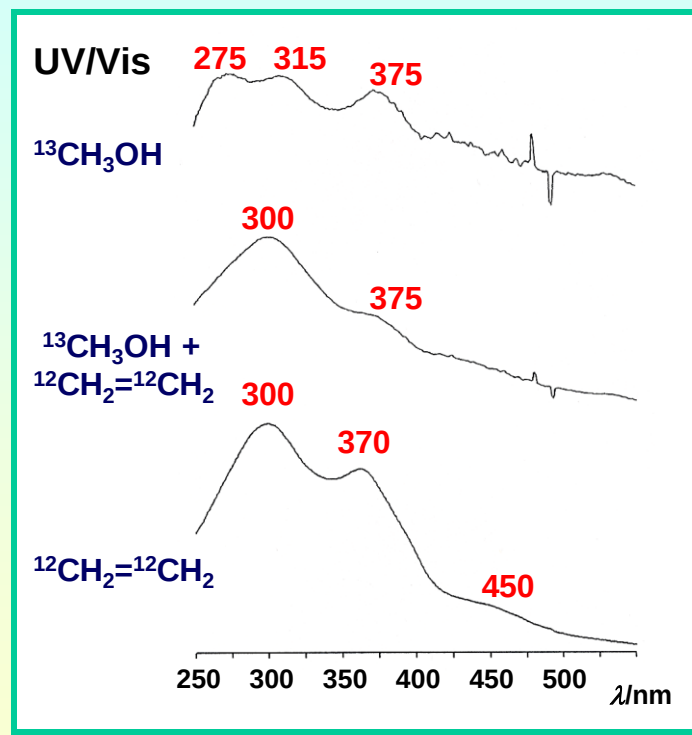
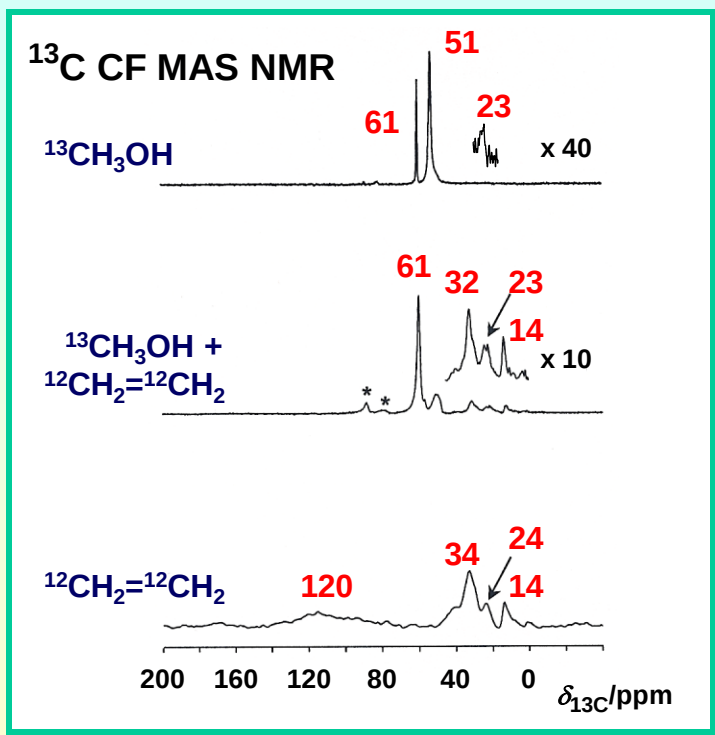
MAS NMR-UV/Vis coupling

installation of a quartz fiber optic at the bottom of the CF MAS NMR stator



MAS NMR-UV/Vis coupling

conversion of $^{13}\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ on dealuminated H-ZSM-5 at 423 K

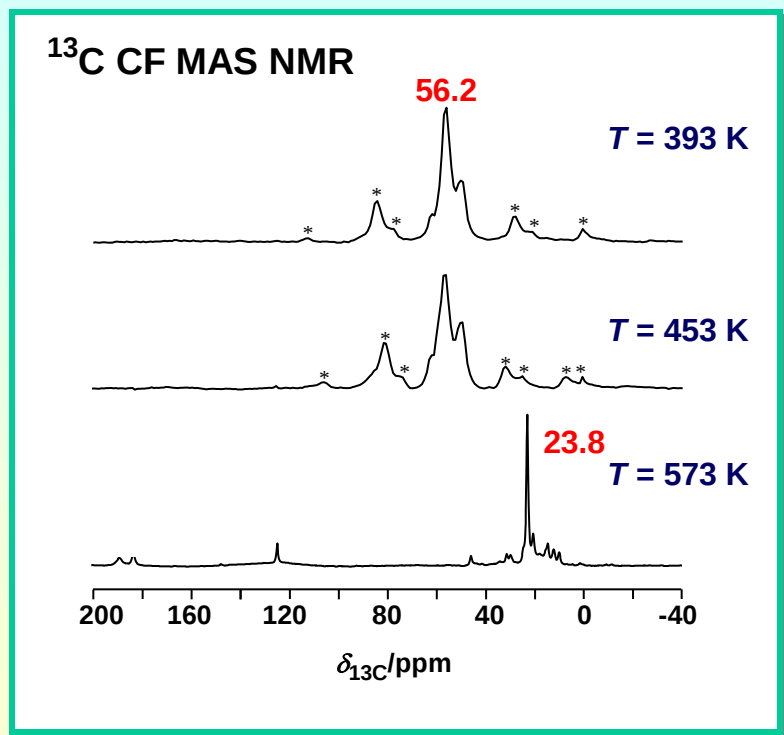


→ **275 nm:** neutral aromatics
315 nm: monoenyl carbenium ions

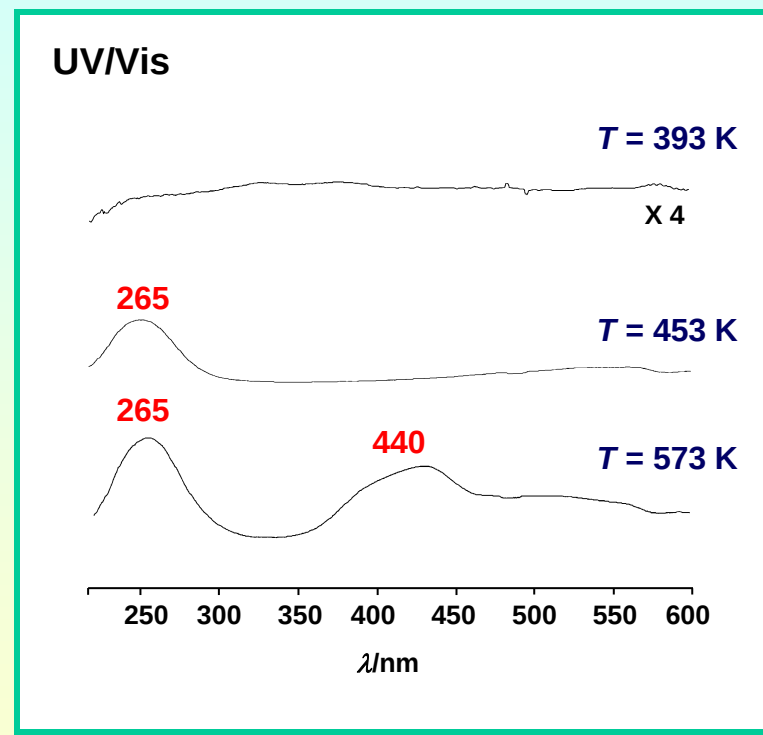
375 nm: dienyl carbenium ions
450 nm: polyaromatics

MAS NMR-UV/Vis coupling

conversion of surface methoxy groups on zeolite H-Y



→ **23.8 ppm:** isobutane
ca. 130 ppm: aromatics



265 nm: neutral aromatics
440 nm: polyaromatics,
trienylcarbenium ions

applications of *in situ* NMR spectroscopy in zeolite catalysis:

- **chemical behavior and local structure of active sites under reaction conditions**
- **origin of the catalyst deactivation under steady state conditions**
- **reaction pathways using labelled reactants**
- **activation energies of reaction steps**
- **reactivity of surface complexes and intermediates formed under reaction conditions**

Summary II

further developements in the field of *in situ* NMR spectroscopy:

- increase of the temperature range up to 1023 K
- application of modern solid-state NMR techniques such as MQMAS for the study of surface sites under reaction conditions
- significant enhancement of signal intensities by a continuous injection of Laser-polarized ^{129}Xe into CF MAS NMR probes
- improvement of the time-resolution of *in situ* NMR investigations by an introduction of pulsed-flow experiments
- combination of NMR spectroscopy with other spectroscopic techniques such as MS

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