

Entry Systems and Technology Division
Ames Research Center

National Aeronautics and
Space Administration



Analysis of Shockwave Radiation Data in Nitrogen

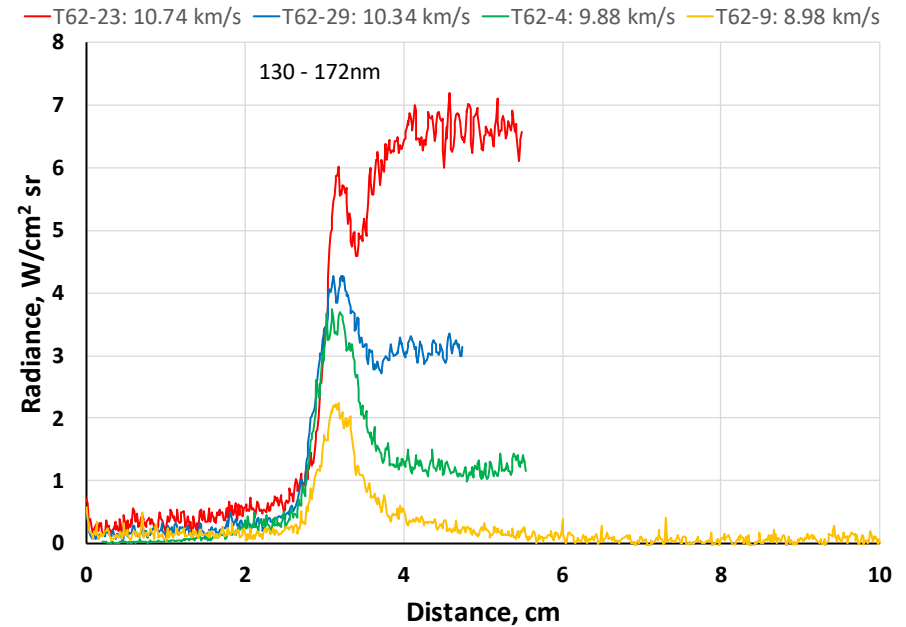
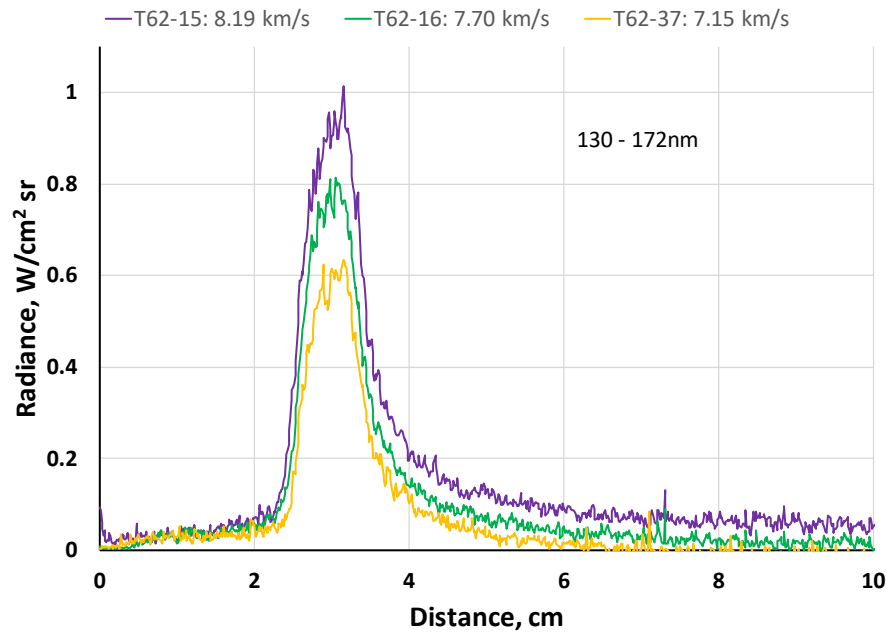
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AMA Inc

AIAA AVIATION 2019

Background



- In AIAA-2018-3437 we reported a test series performed in pure N_2



- N_2 shocks presents a simplified reaction set. Useful for model testing
- This paper presents a deeper dive into some of this data

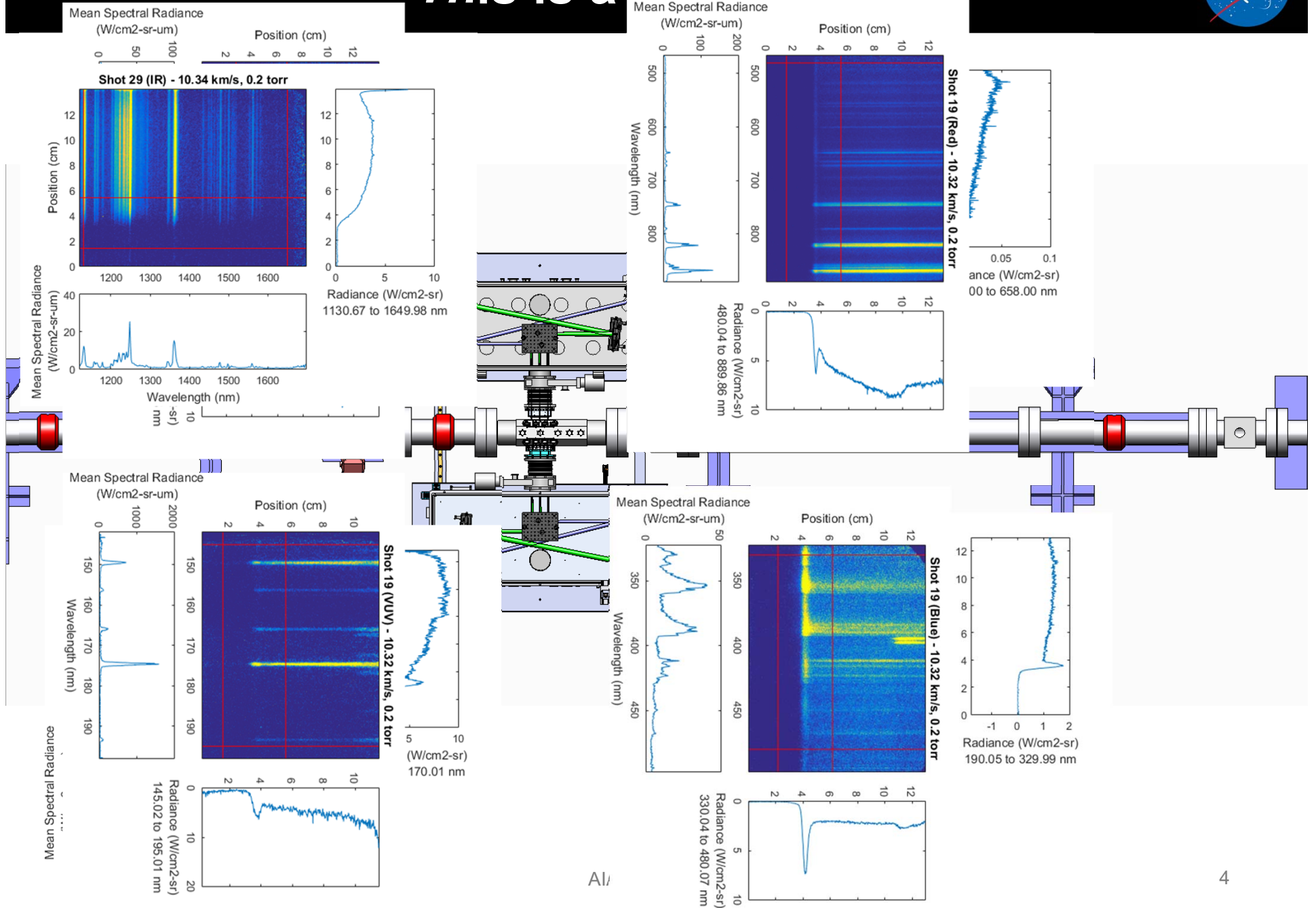
Outline



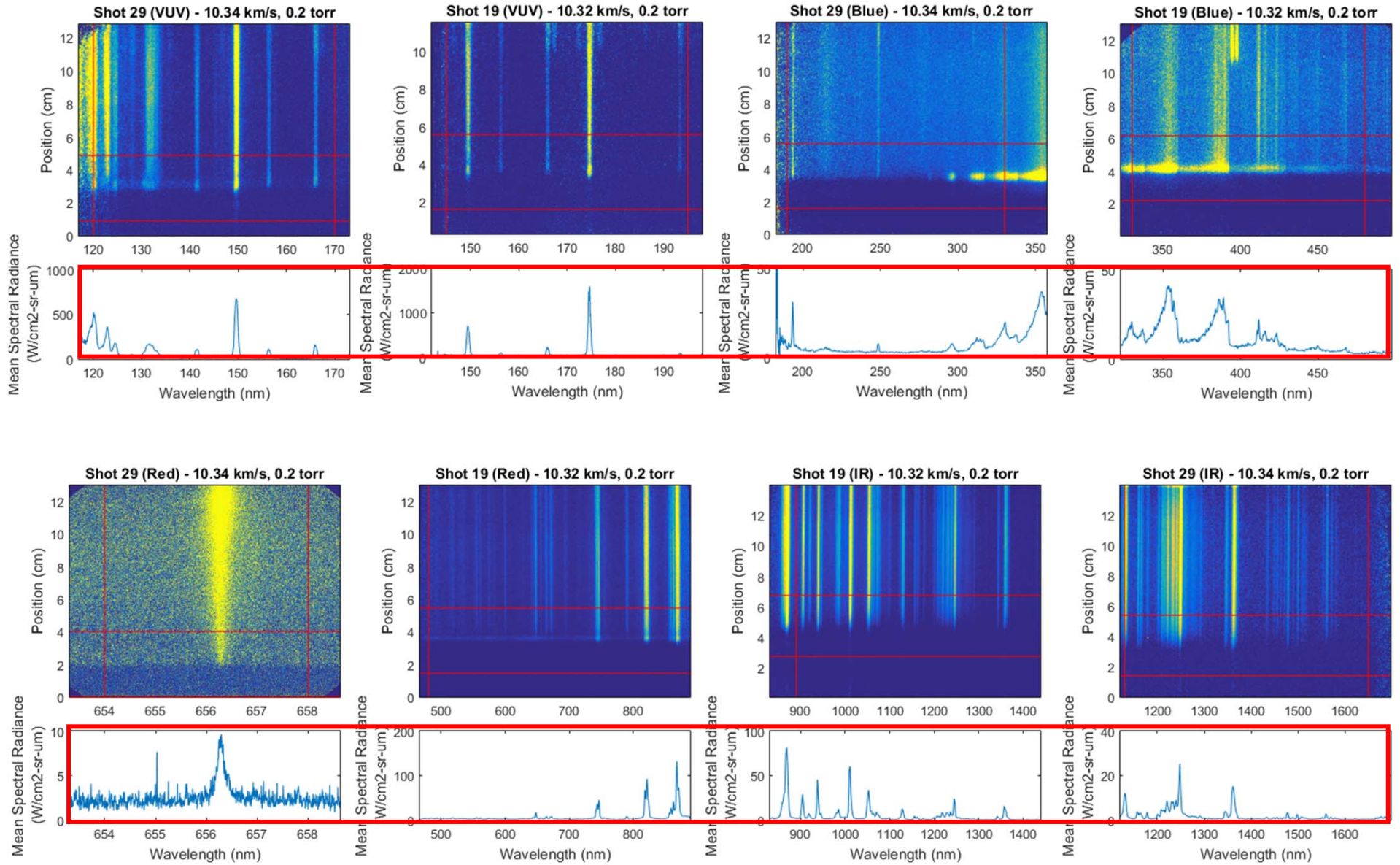
- Experimental Details
- Spectra in “Equilibrium”
 - Line identification
 - Fitting of Spectra
 - Extracting excited state data
- Spatially dependent data
- Ionization predictions



This is a shock tube



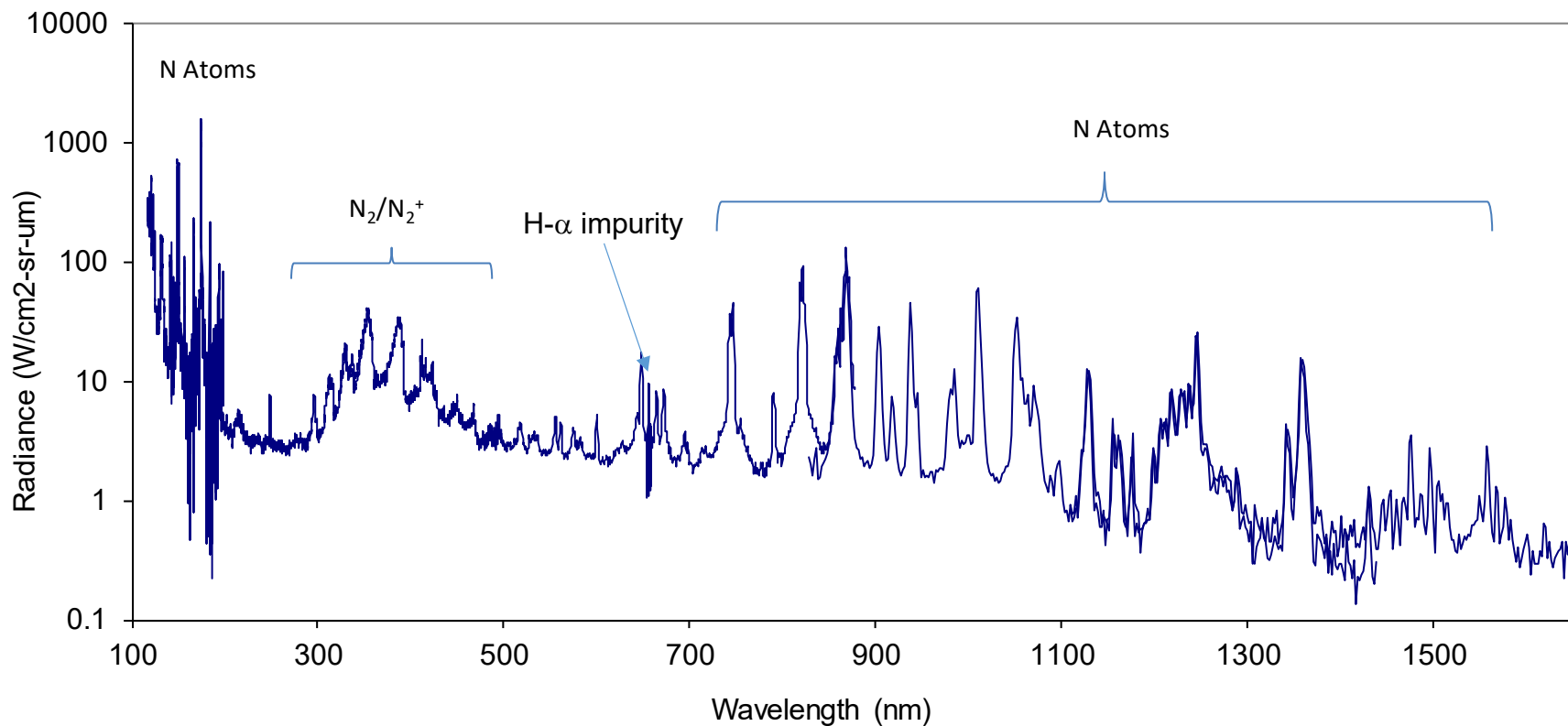
Composite Spectra



Composite non-equilibrium spectrum



- Composite spectrum generated from the 8 images
- Will look at four of the regions individually



Notes on Spectral Analysis

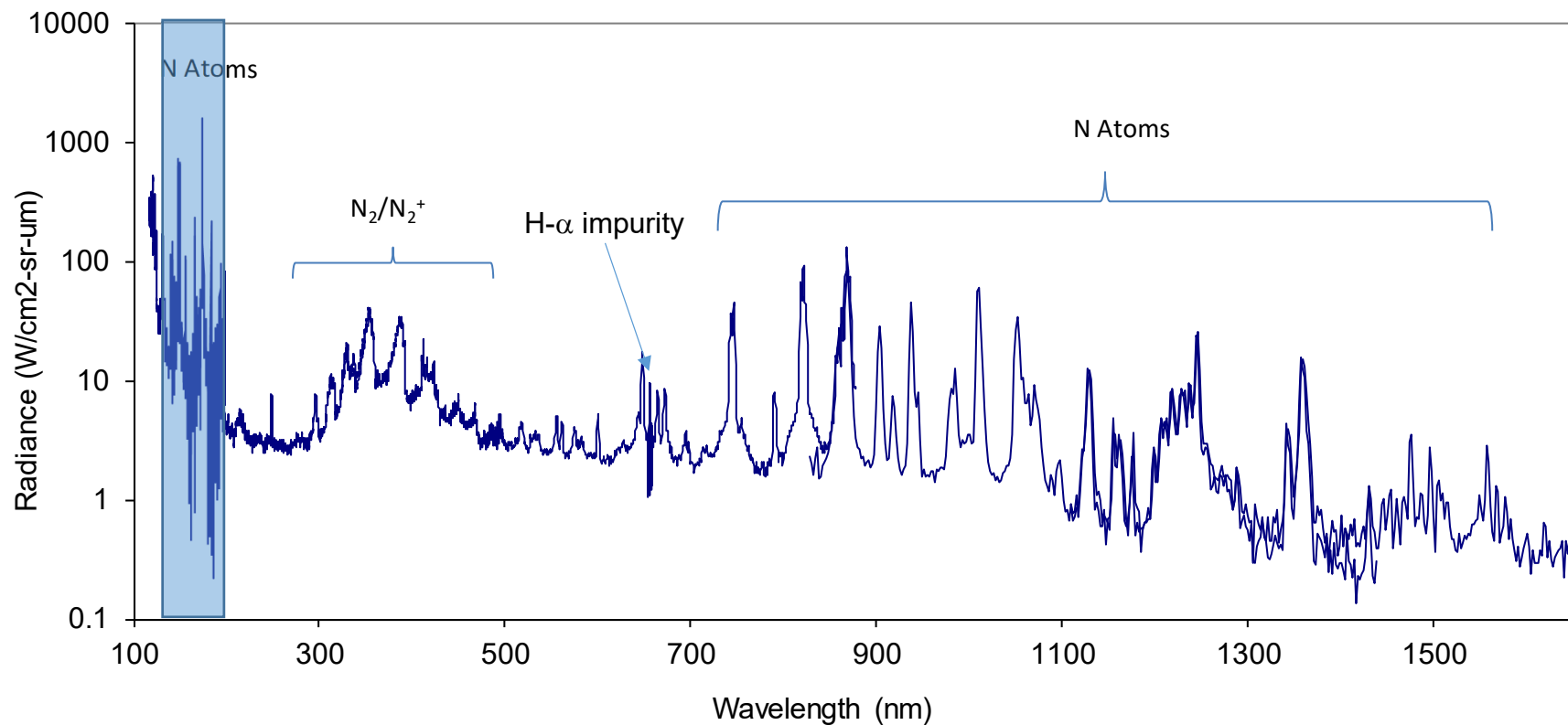


- We will use NEQAIR v15.1 β to fit the spectra
- Fit parameters will include temperatures, species number densities
- Excited state densities may be:
 - Assumed Boltzmann distributed
 - Solved using NEQAIR's non-Boltzmann (QSS) Model
 - Fit individually
- The resultant analysis would represent the state of the flow *assuming the model to be correct*
- Error-bars reported:
 - Are the error in the fit parameters (e.g. aleatory)
 - Does not account for error/bias in experimental data
 - Does not include the error in the model construction (i.e. epistemic)
 - This might be the most important source of error in this analysis

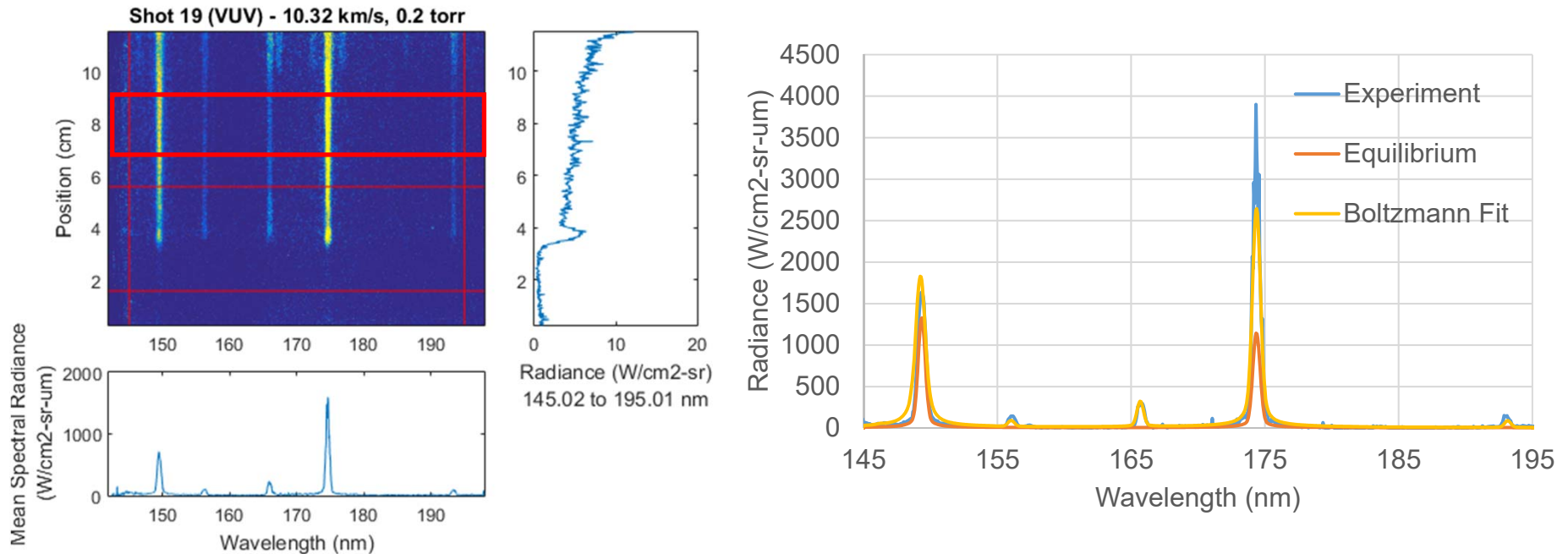
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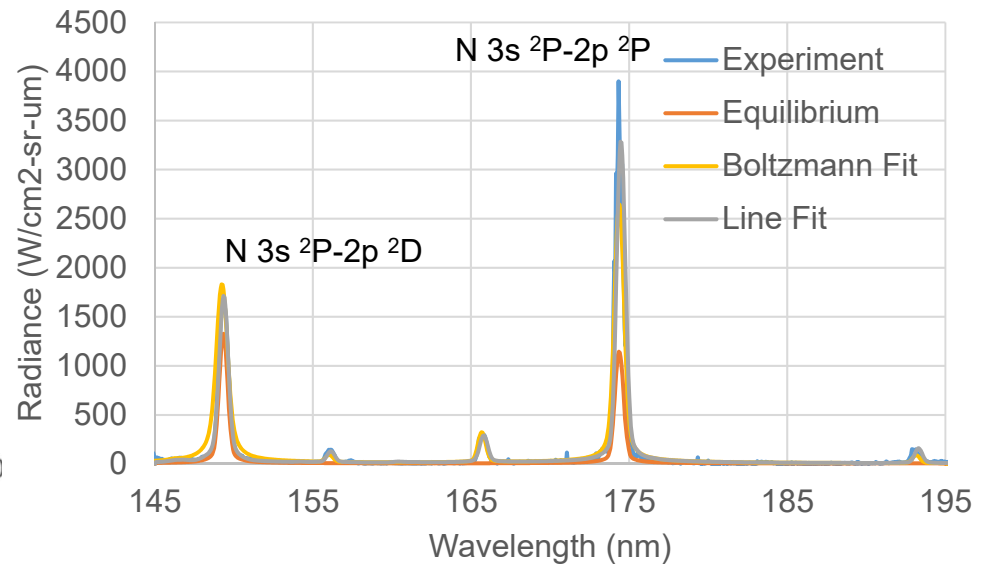
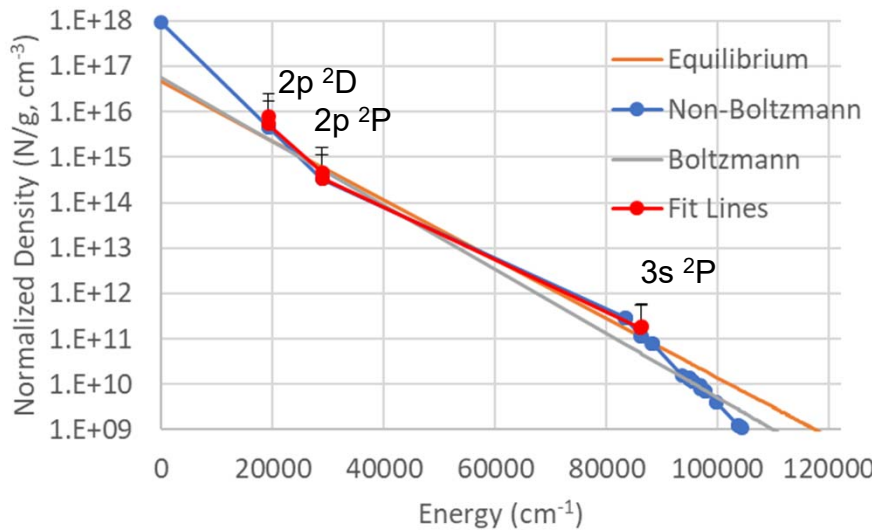


VUV Spectrum



- Intensity of N 174 nm line exceeds equilibrium prediction
- Can perform a “best fit” of the spectrum
 - Obtains 8850K, $2 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ N}$, $3 \times 10^{17} \text{ e-}$, 40 ppm C
 - Equilibrium : 9570K, $2 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ N}$, $7 \times 10^{15} \text{ e-}$
 - Not a great agreement spectrally

Fitting Individual Lines

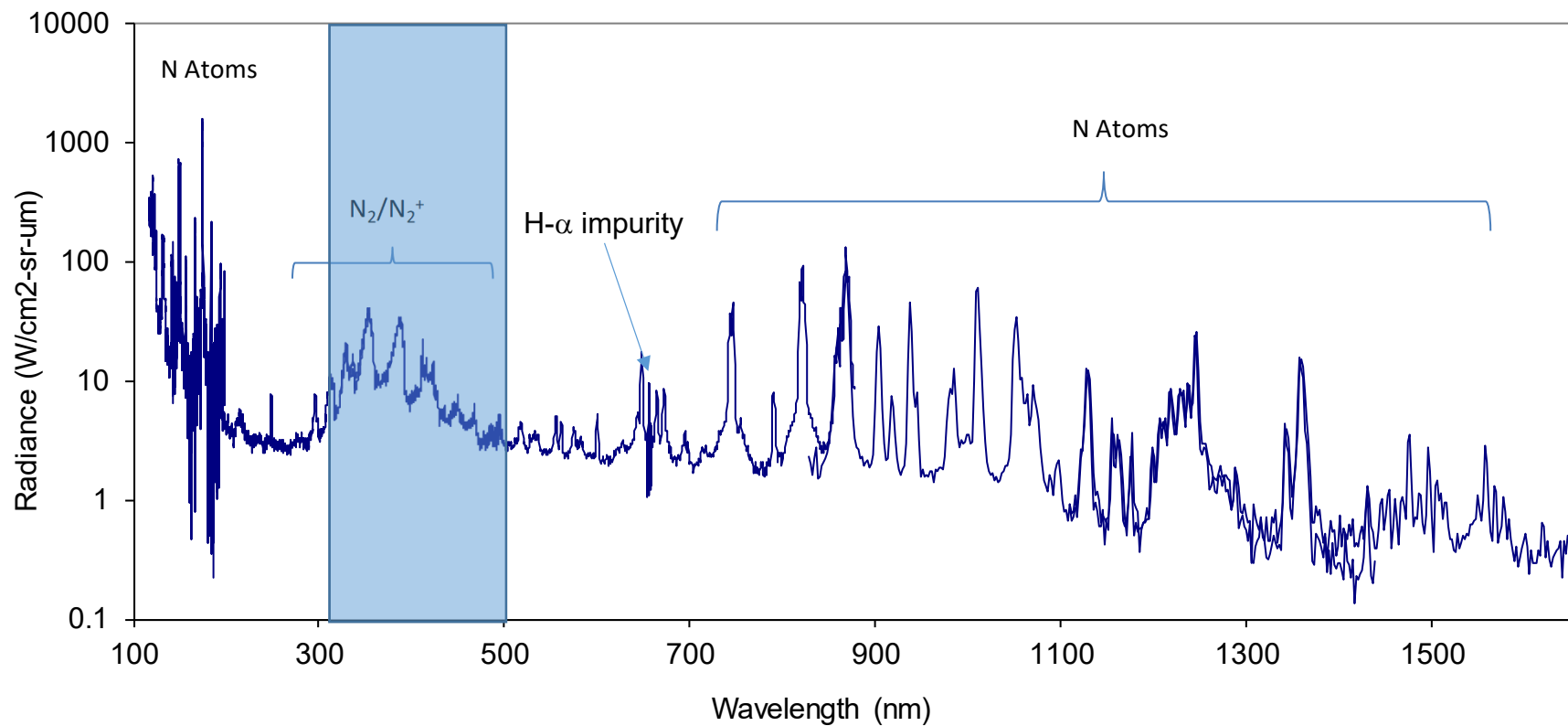


- A better fit is obtained by adjusting density of individual levels
- Result shows a deviation from equilibrium, with 2P states being overpopulated
- Best non-Boltzmann fit obtains unrealistic ground state and ion densities
- Note that optically thick line intensity strongly sensitive to broadening mechanism
 - Stark broadening coefficient or electron density plays a role

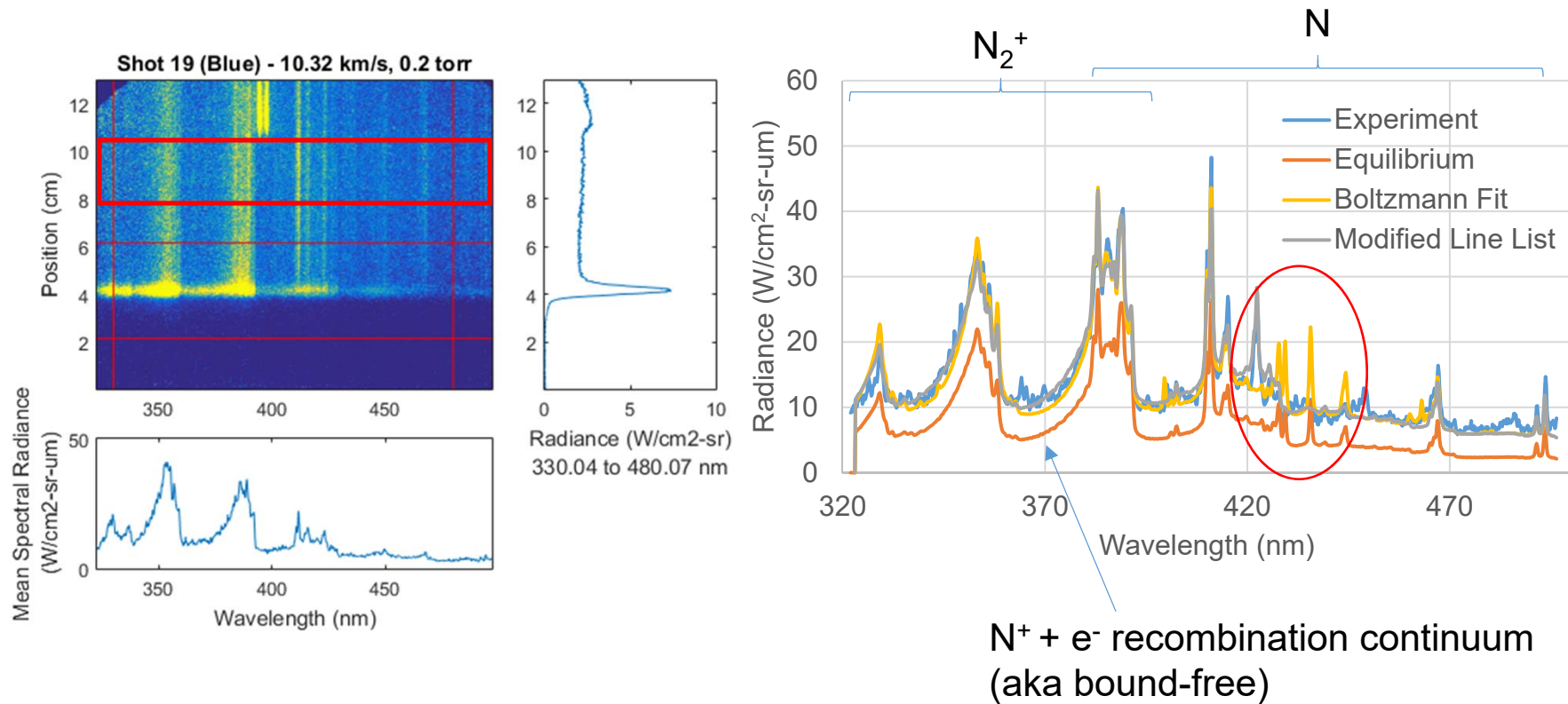
Next Region



- Next, examine UV region (330-500 nm)

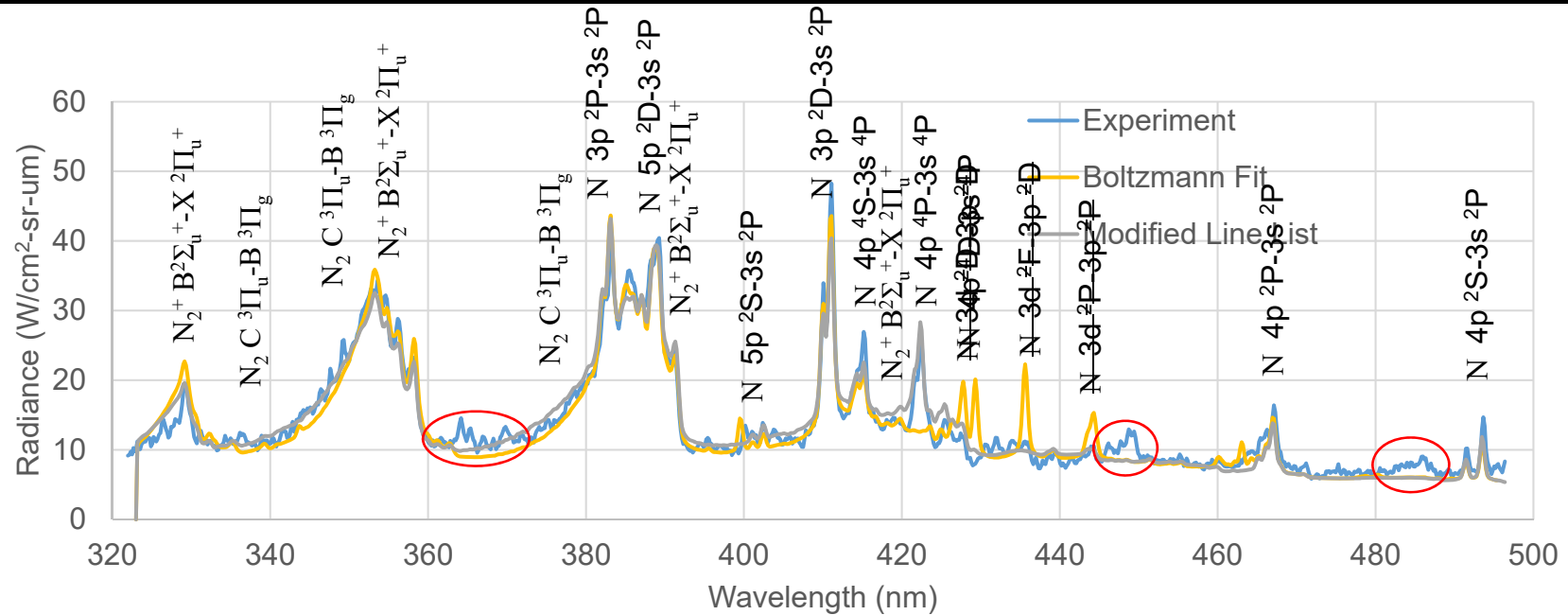


UV Spectrum



- Equilibrium prediction does not match continuum
- Best Boltzmann fit of the spectrum
 - Requires 2x the N^+ (e^-) density, 10 ppm of CN
- Errors in atomic line prediction
- Improve the atomic line list

Feature Identification



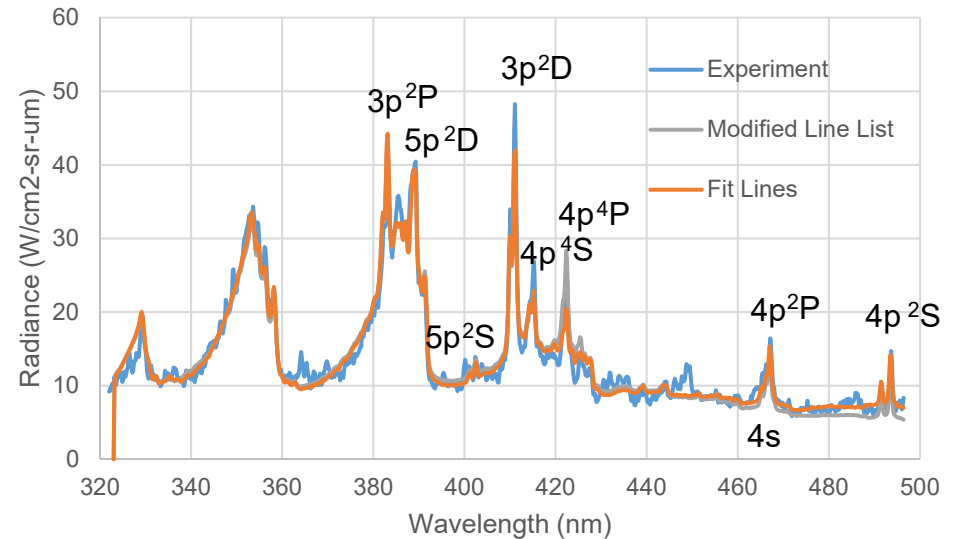
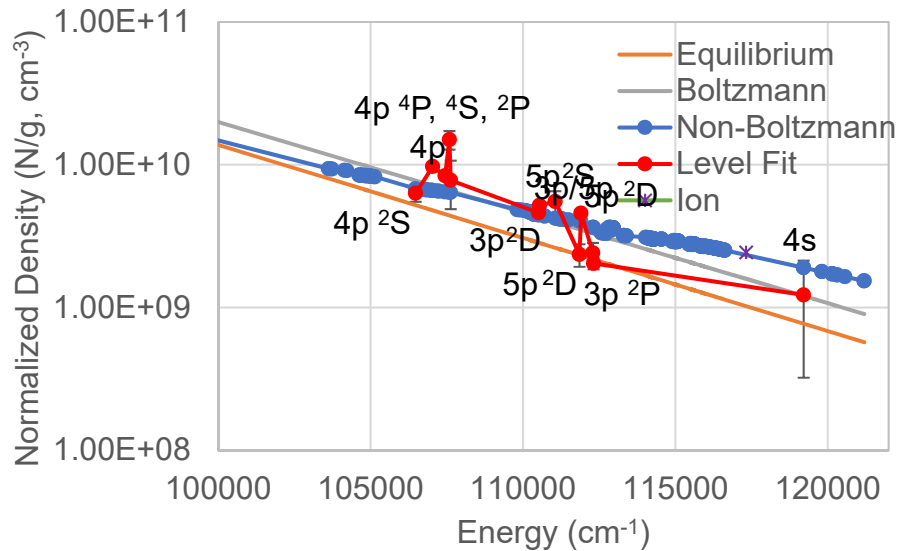
- **Molecular Contributions:**

- N_2^+ 1st Negative
- N_2 2nd Positive obscured by N_2^+ in “equilibrium”

- **Atomic N Lines**

- Transitions from 3p, 4p, 5p to 3s positively Identified from NIST
- Transitions from 3d to 3p predicted incorrectly
 - These states have energy above the ionization limit
- Some 4p-3s transitions missing from NIST, identified through other databases
- Still additional missing features. Many states of N in this range with transitions not evaluated

UV Spectrum Level Fit

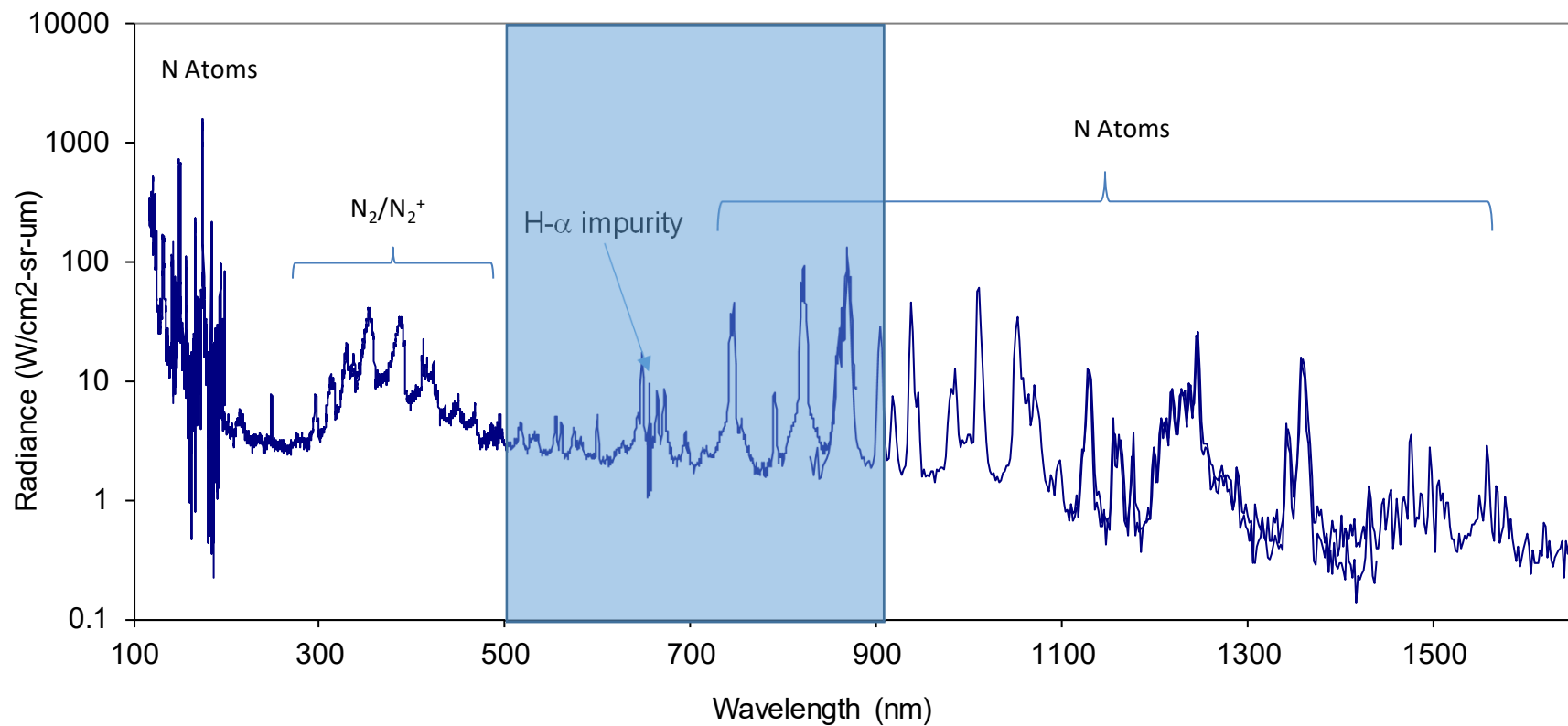


- Boltzmann fit requires elevated T , n_e
- Non-Boltzmann – slope differs
 - Similar populations in 3p,4p,5p range
- Level Fit
 - Some states agree with Equilibrium distribution
 - Some states overpopulated

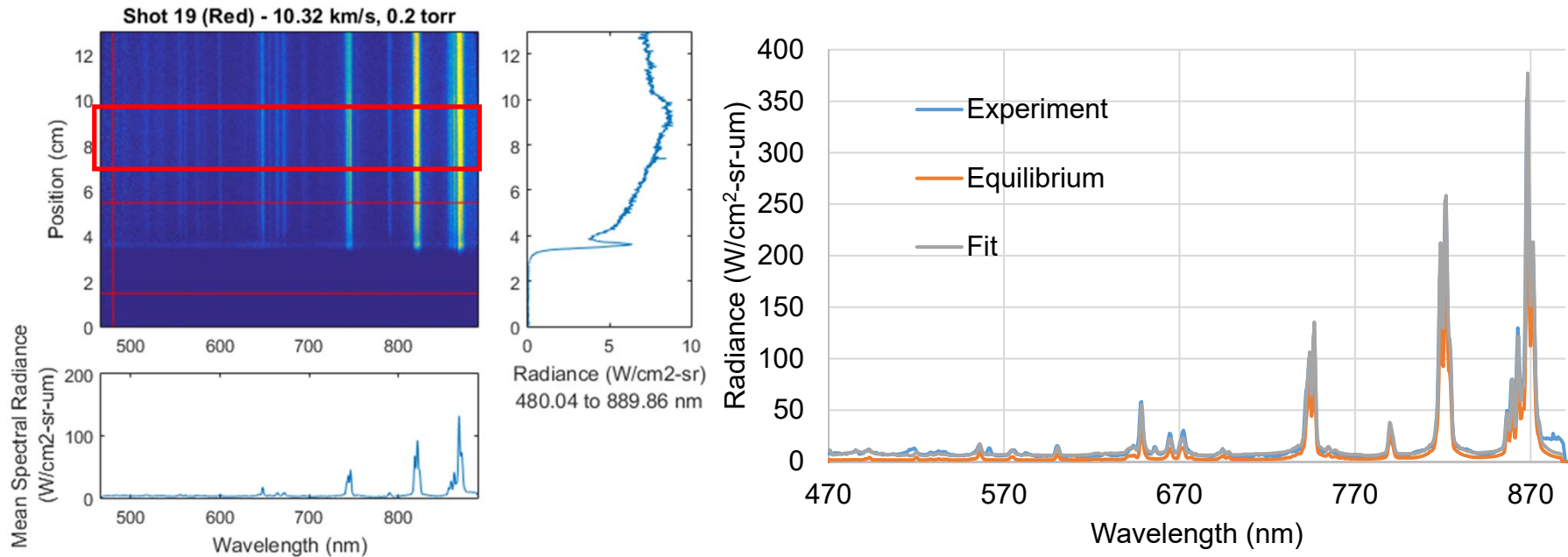
Next Region



- Next, examine Visible region (500-890 nm)

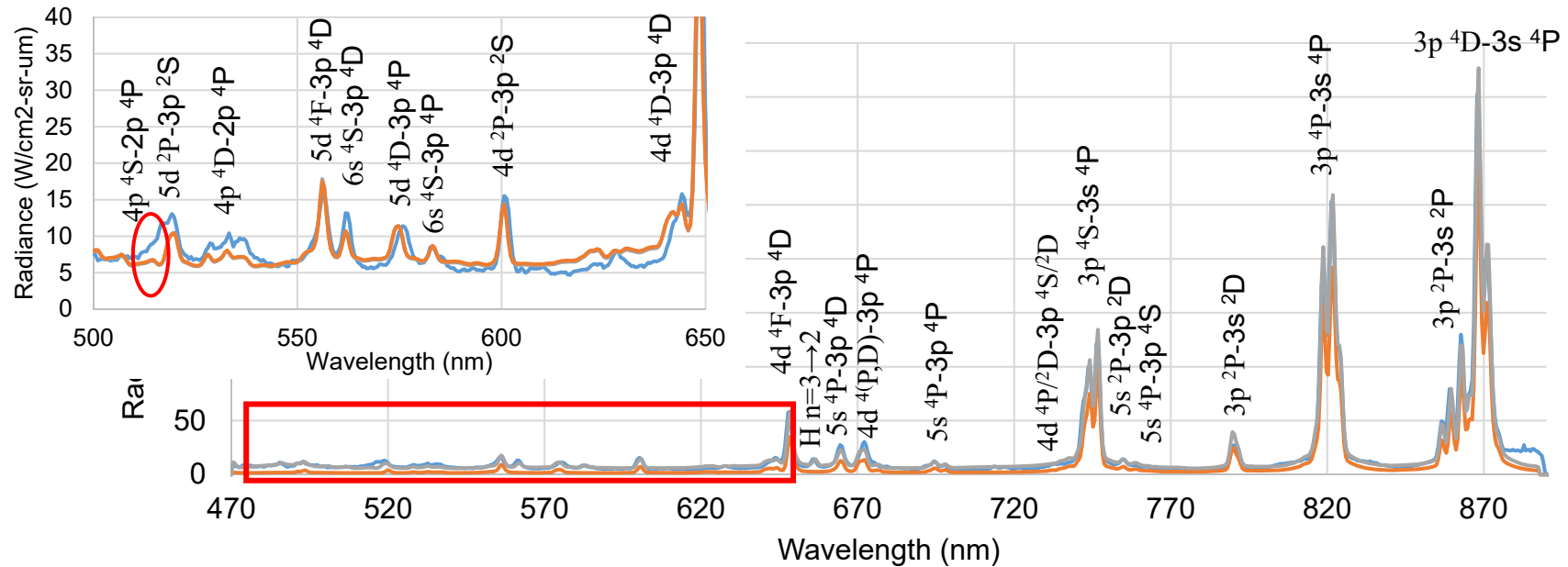


Vis Spectrum



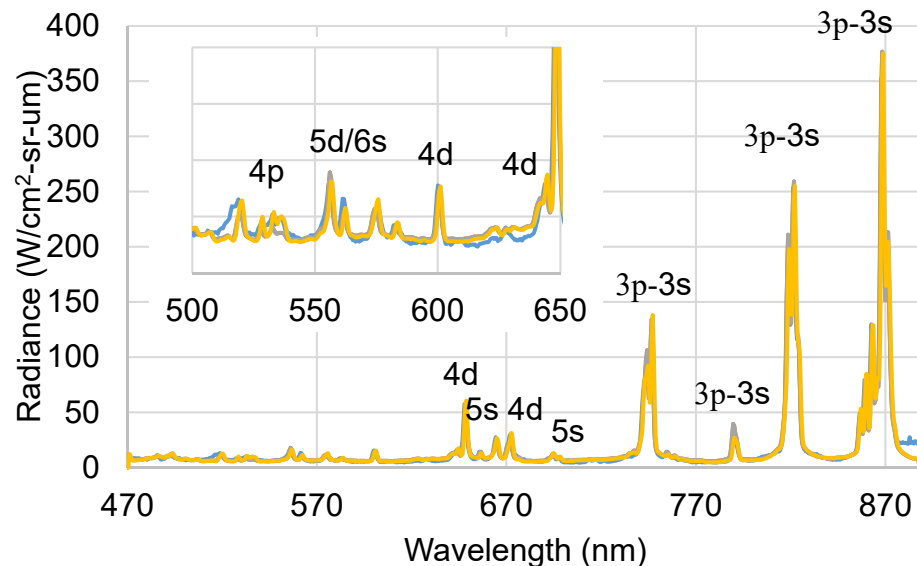
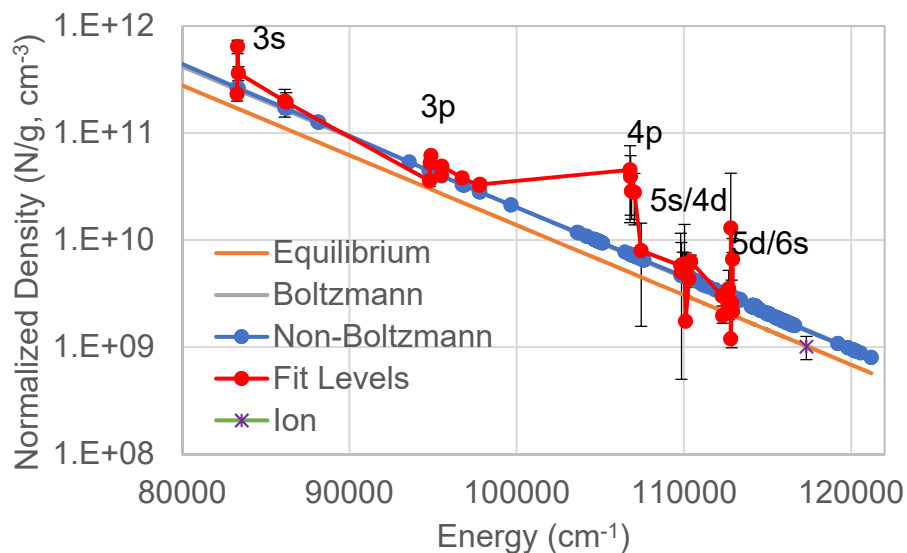
- Equilibrium prediction does not match continuum
- Best Boltzmann fit of the spectrum
 - Requires 50x the N₂ density, 2x the N density, 0.1% of H

Feature Identification



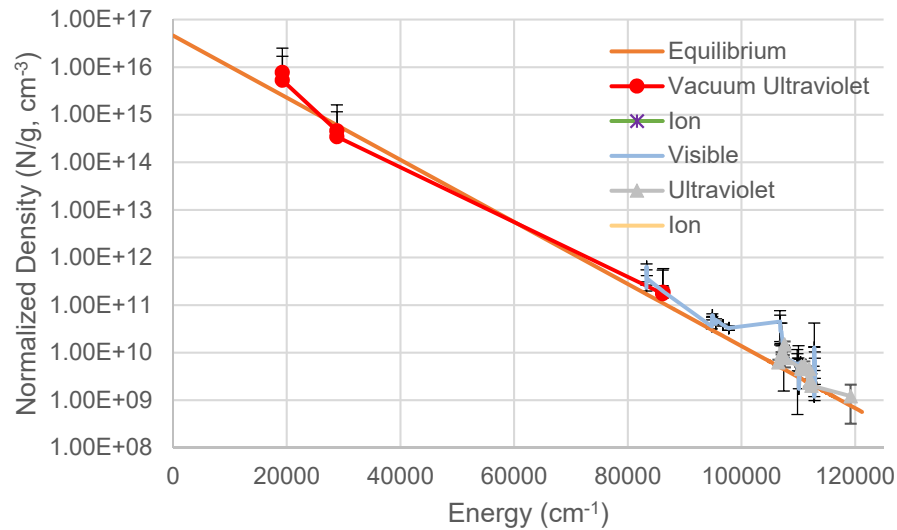
- Strong (optically thick) lines from 3p state of N
- Several weaker lines from 4d and 5s states
- Hydrogen as impurity
- Weaker lines still from 4p, 4d, 5d
- Missing lines from 6s, 4p identified
- Additional missing features not identified

Level Fit



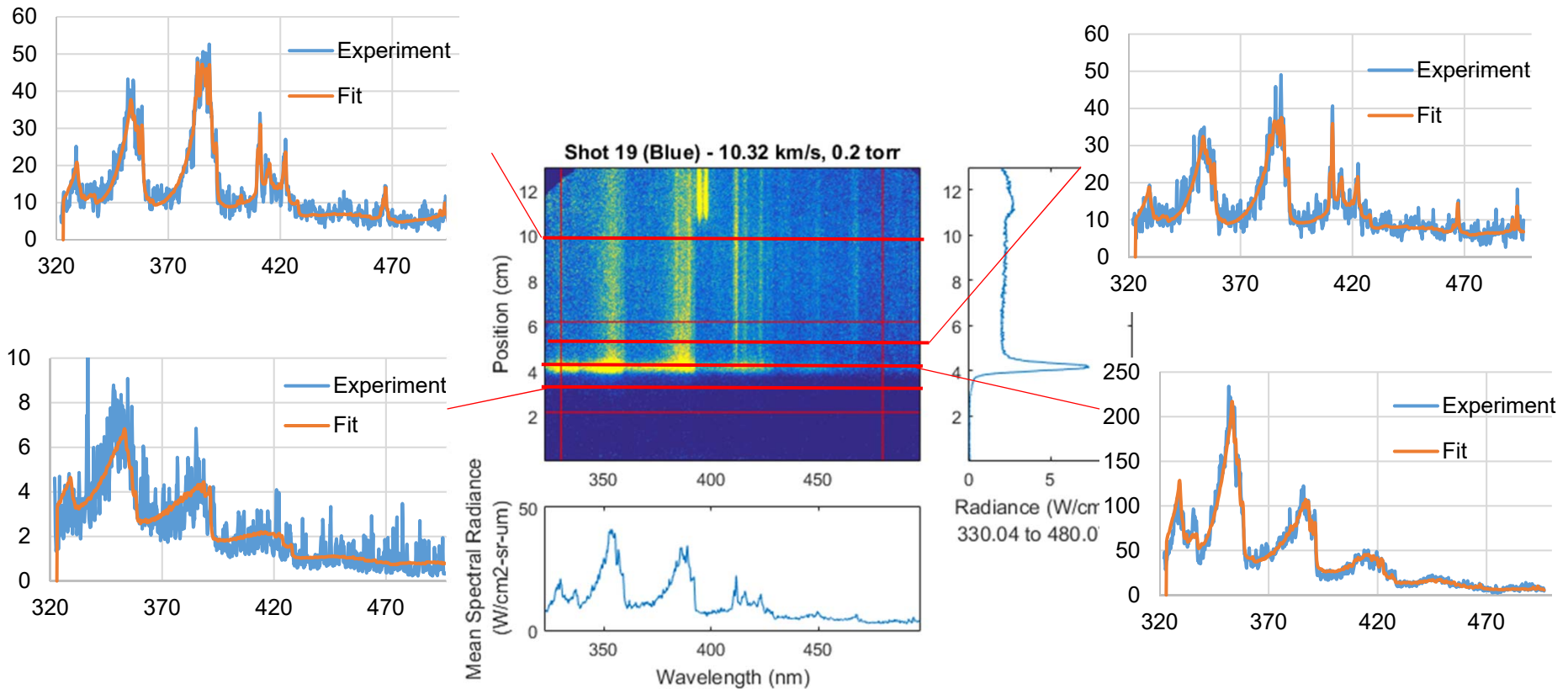
- Boltzmann Fit – elevated n_e , N. Slope (T) is same
- Non-Boltzmann Fit – Mirrors Boltzmann Fit
- Level Fit – Relatively consistent with Non-Boltzmann fit
 - 4p Levels significant overpopulation – probably issue with linelist

Combined Boltzmann Plot



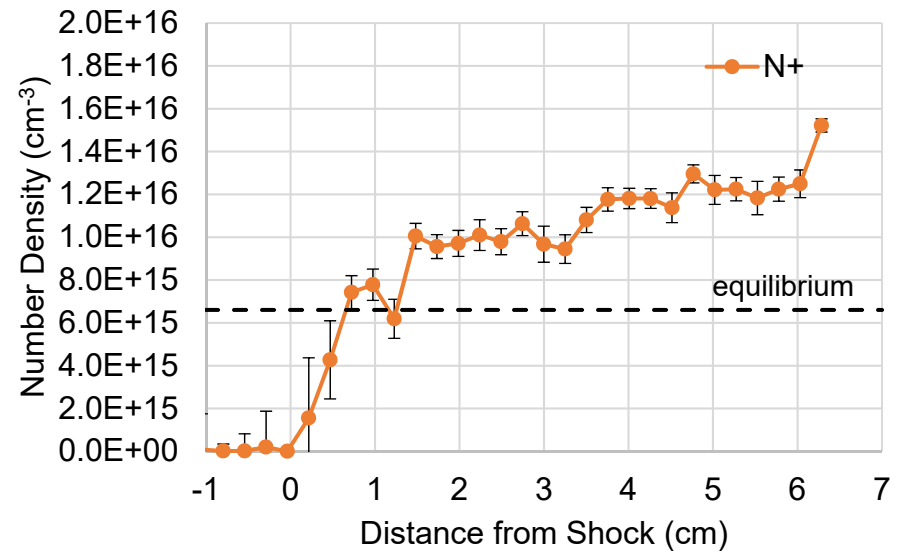
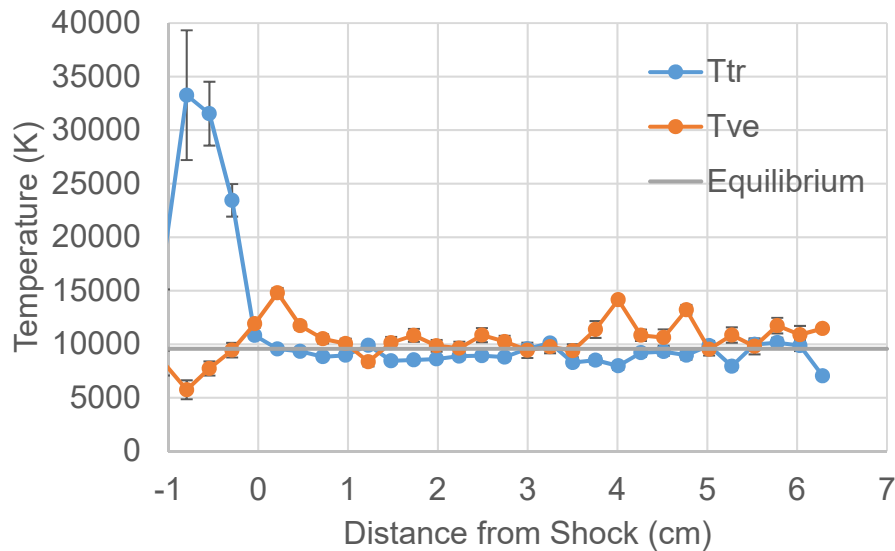
- Taking level populations from all three spectra, Boltzmann plot is relatively consistent

Transient Data Fits - Ultraviolet



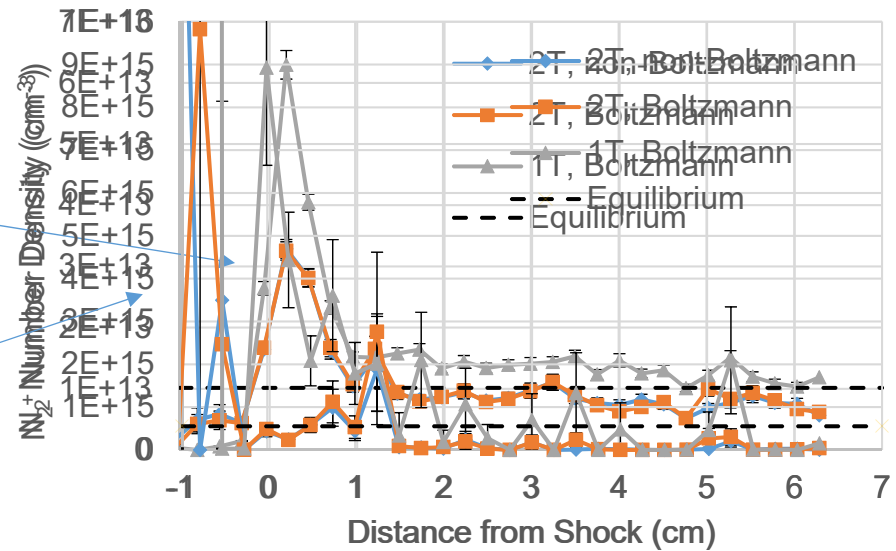
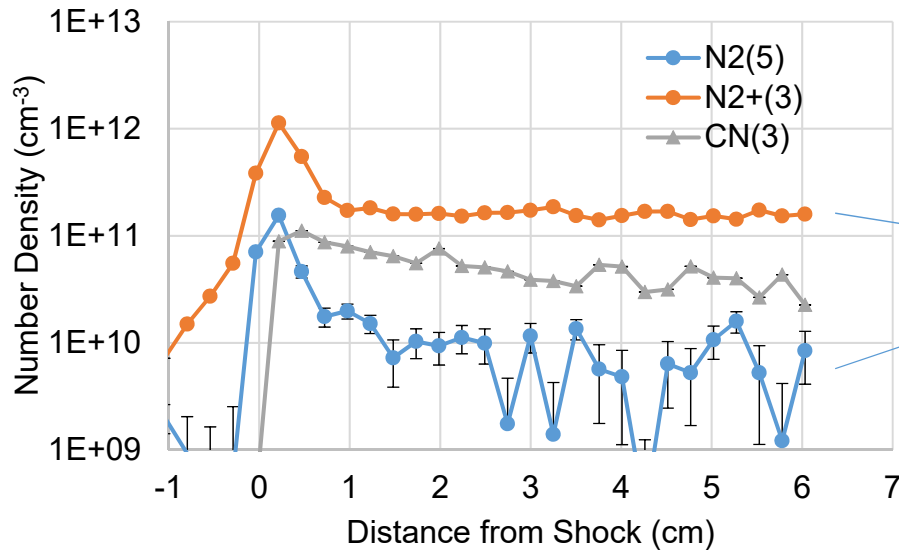
- From spectrum, grab different spatial regions
 - Early/pre-shock: Weak radiance from N_2^+
 - Just post-shock: Strong N_2^+ radiance, some N_2 , no atoms
 - Behind shock: N_2^+ decreases, atomics apparent
 - Much further behind shock: radiance is steady

Temperature, Electron Density Trend



- From fit, obtain temperature trend
 - Translational temperature peaks before shock front determined by pressure sensors
 - Note: accuracy of shock front determination ~0.5 cm
 - Some overshoot of Tv from Tt observed at shock front
 - Temperature relatively constant following
- N⁺ (electron) density trend
 - Rises to slightly above equilibrium level within 1 cm
 - Continues rising further away from shock front

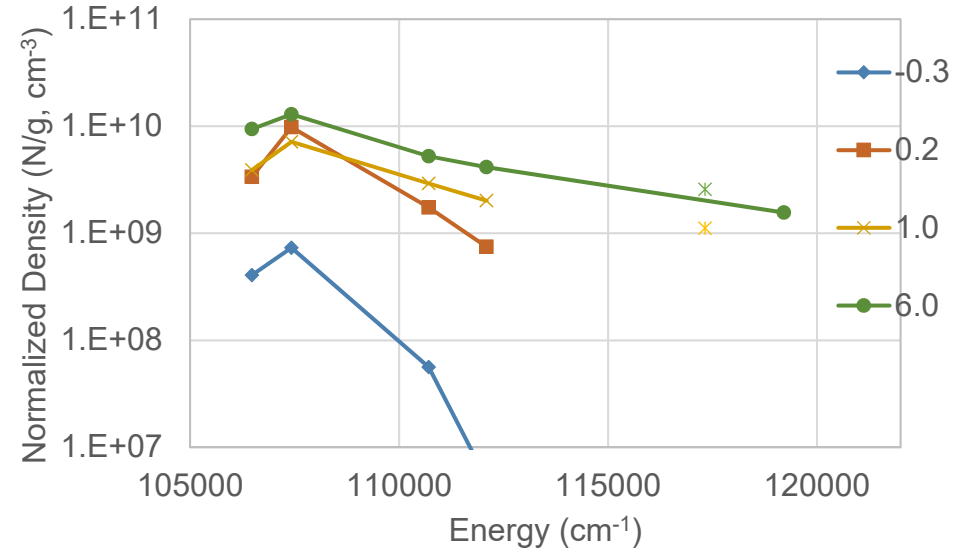
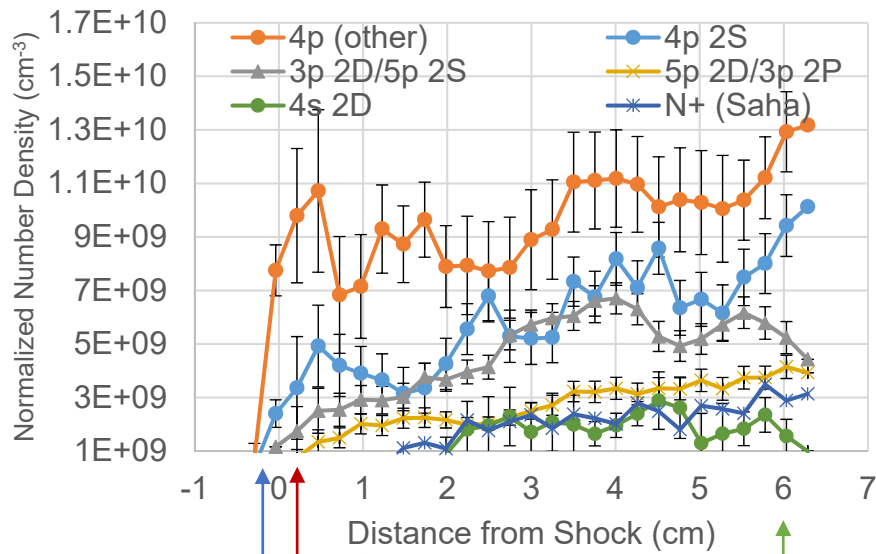
Transient behavior of Molecular Features



- Fit density of excited levels:

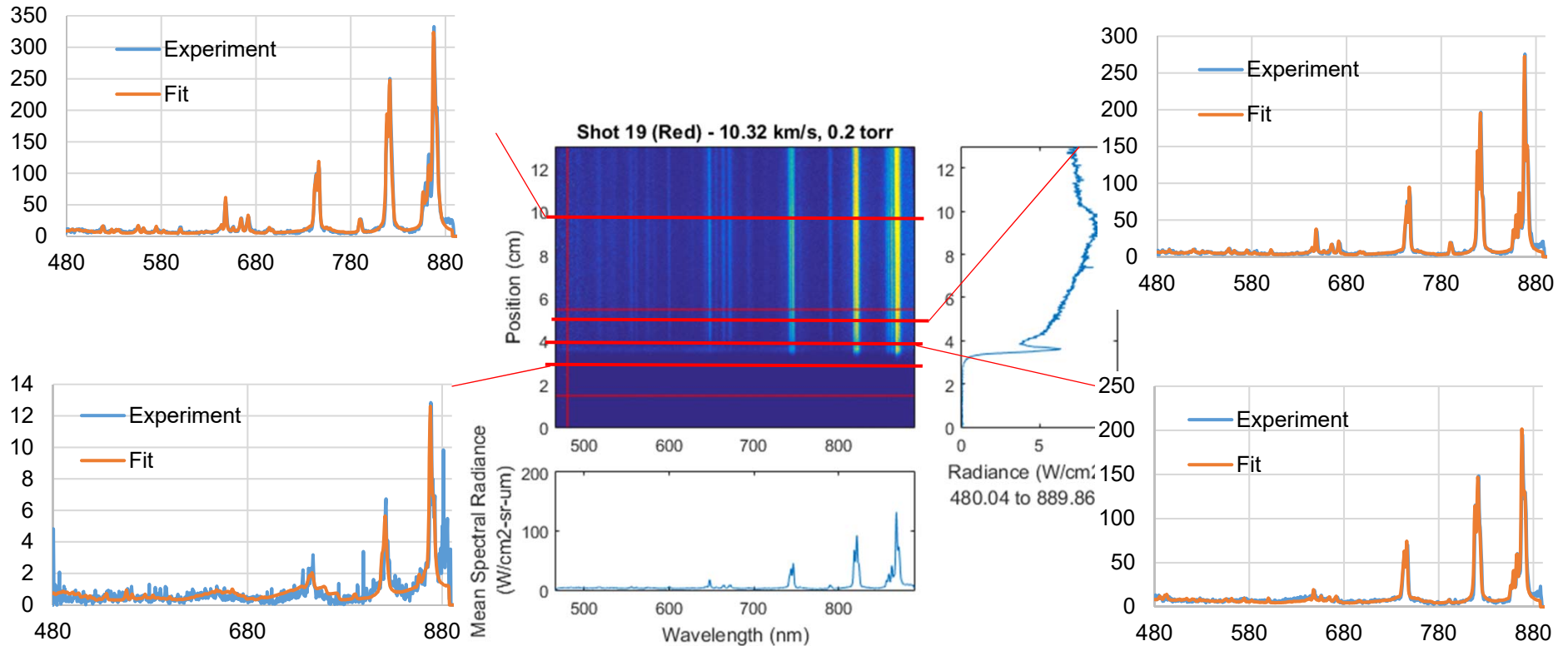
- N₂ (C ³Π_u) state peaks just after shock front, drops near detection limit at ~1 cm
 - Density at single temperature is inferred to drop from 10^{16} cm⁻³ (lower than frozen concentration) to detection limit
 - Difficult to infer density with multi-temperature model
- N₂⁺ (B ²Π_u⁺) state peak similarly, relaxes to steady levels in 1 cm
 - Inferred N₂⁺ density, assuming 2-T, peaks at 3×10^{13} cm⁻³, drops to equilibrium
 - Single temperature inference more sharply peaked, remains above equilibrium

Atomic Feature Transient



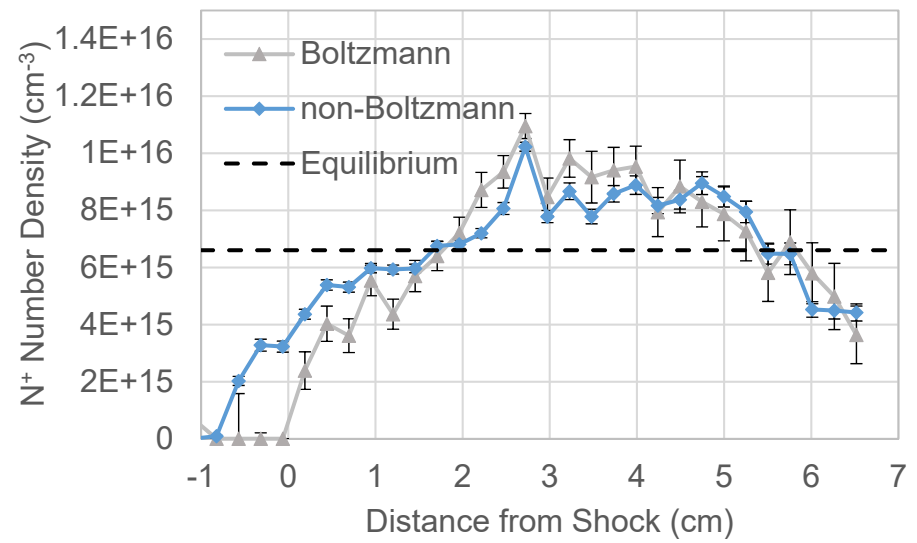
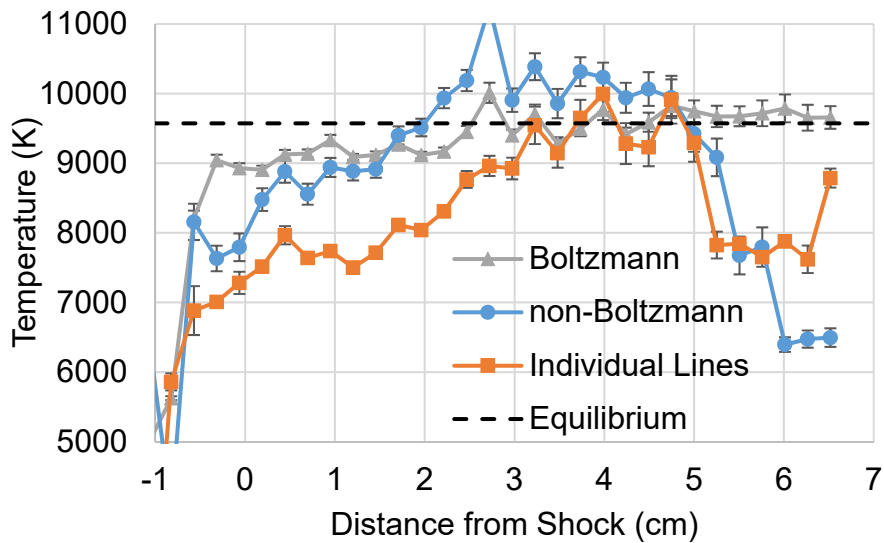
- Atomic state populations noisy, needed averaging and grouping
- Observe near steady behavior of most 4p states
- Gradual rise in higher energy states
- N⁺ density (Saha normalized) tracks the 4s ²D state
- Boltzmann plot shows
 - Rising slope (T) in 1 cm
 - Increasing density at later distances

Transient Data Fits - Visible



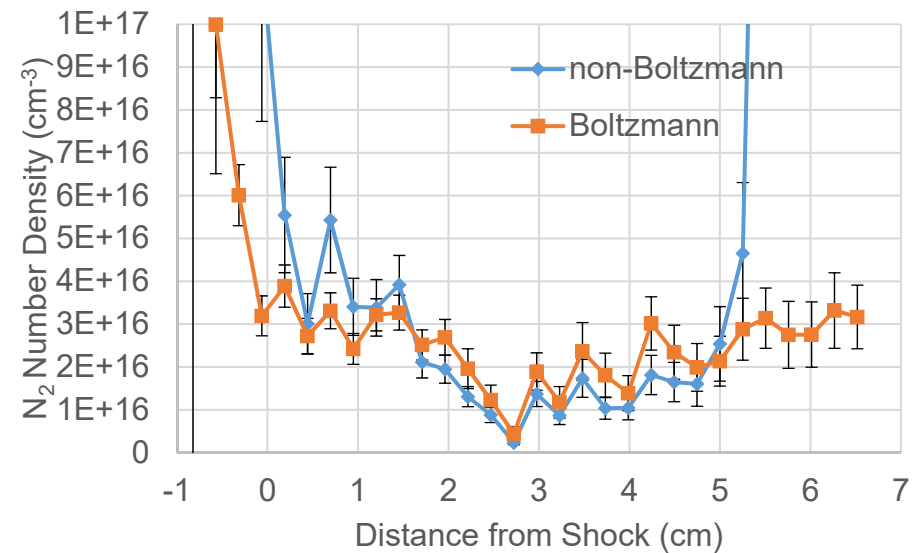
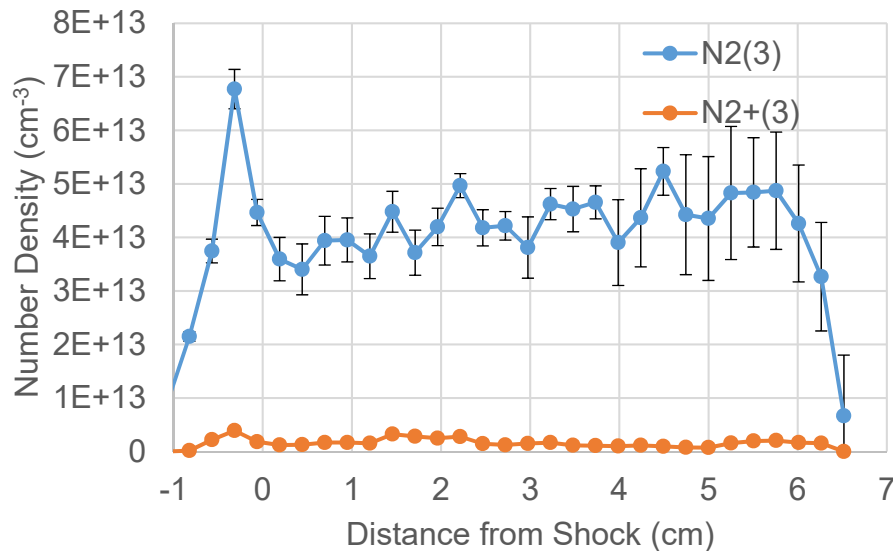
- From spectrum, grab different spatial regions
 - Early/pre-shock: Weak molecular radiance from N₂ and N
 - Still(?) pre-shock: Still N₂ radiation, peak in atomic radiation
 - Behind shock: N₂ hard to distinguish, strong atomic radiation
 - Much further behind shock: atomic radiation continues to increase

Temperature and Ionization Trend



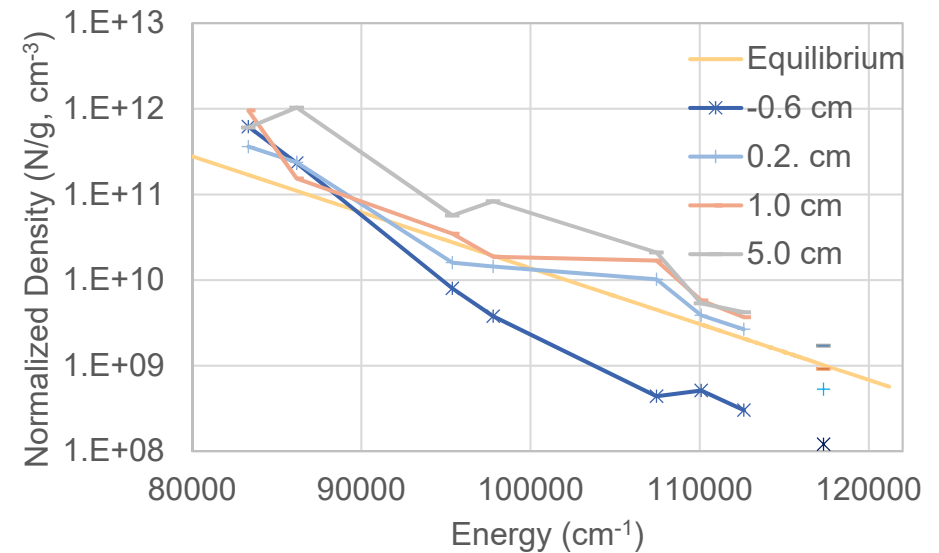
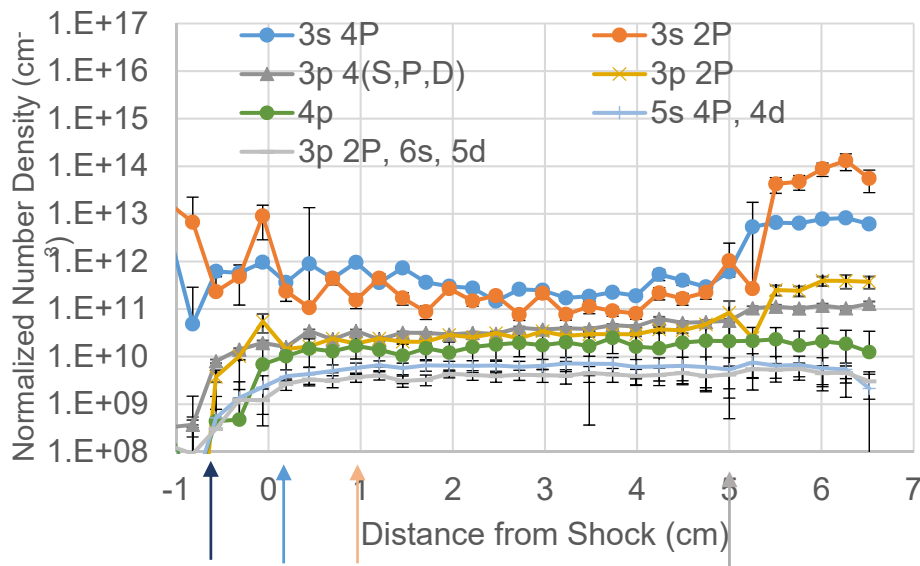
- Temperature trend inferred from infrared data
 - Multi-temperature fits give non-sensible results
 - Fit is dominated by electron(ic) temperature
 - Takes several cm to reach equilibrium
 - Temperature is lower when lines are fit independently
- Electron number density
 - Could not be inferred from independent line fit
 - Non-Boltzmann infers earlier rise time than Boltzmann
 - Trend overshoots equilibrium

Molecular State Density



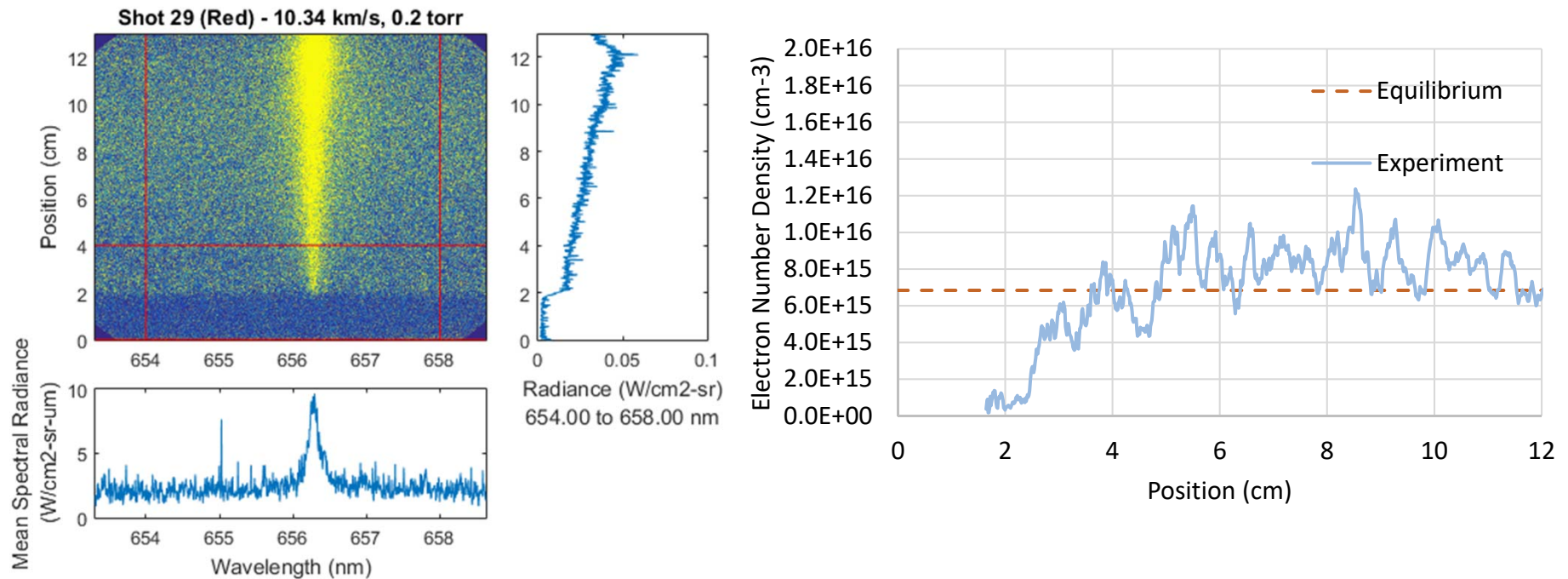
- Fit density of excited levels:
 - N₂ (B ³Π_g) displays sharp peak, then is steady at 4x10¹³ cm⁻³
- N₂ density inferred by Boltzmann or non-Boltzmann model
 - Shows decay from large values (greater than frozen density)
 - Settles at 10¹⁶ cm⁻³ (50x higher than equilibrium)

Atomic Feature Transient



- Atomic states grouped by configuration, term for plotting purposes
- 3s states are at fairly steady concentration throughout
- Other states rise to steady level over ~ 1 cm
- Boltzmann plot shows
 - Rising slope (T) in 1 cm
 - Increasing density at later distances

Electron Number Density

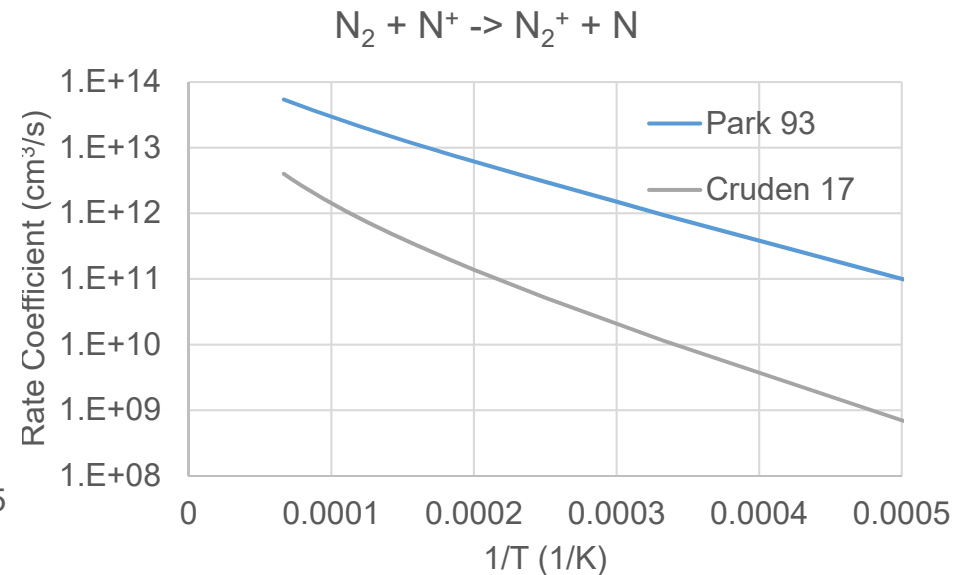
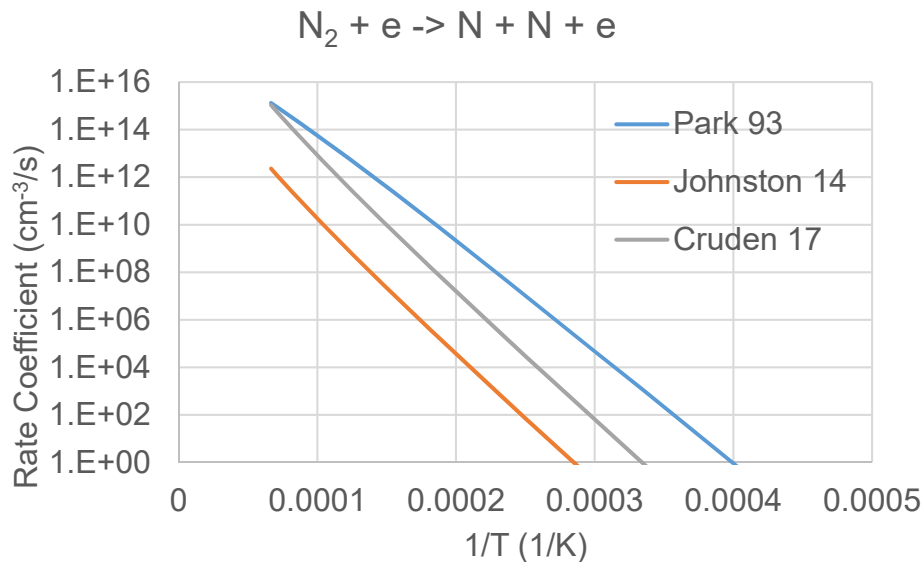
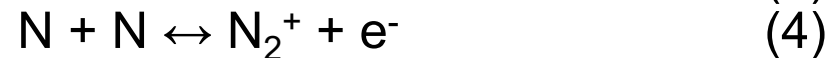


- From Stark Broadening of the Hydrogen- α line, electron number density trend was obtained
- Different shock from previous analysis, but similar velocity

Ionization Models



- There are only 5 reactions:



- Multiple order of magnitude variation has been reported for reactions (2) and (5)

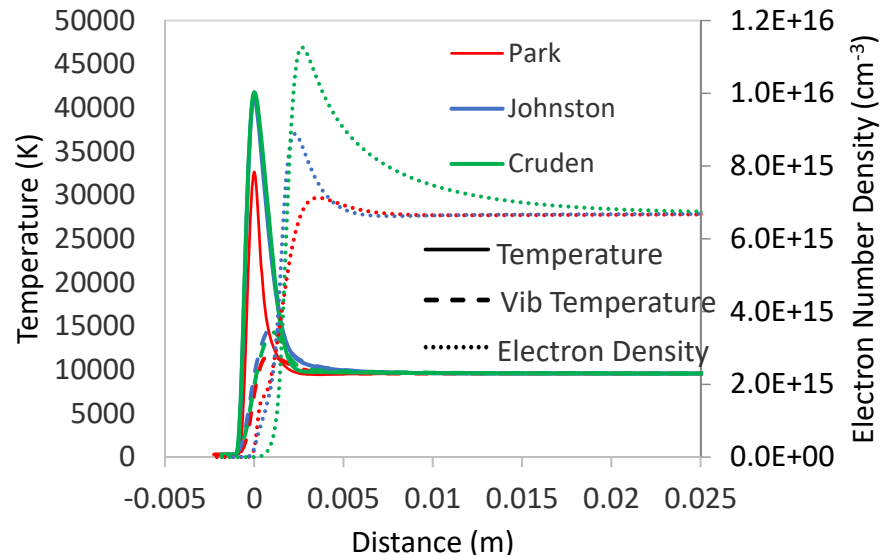
Comparison of Ionization Models



- All 3 models predict an overshoot in ionization

- Mechanism:

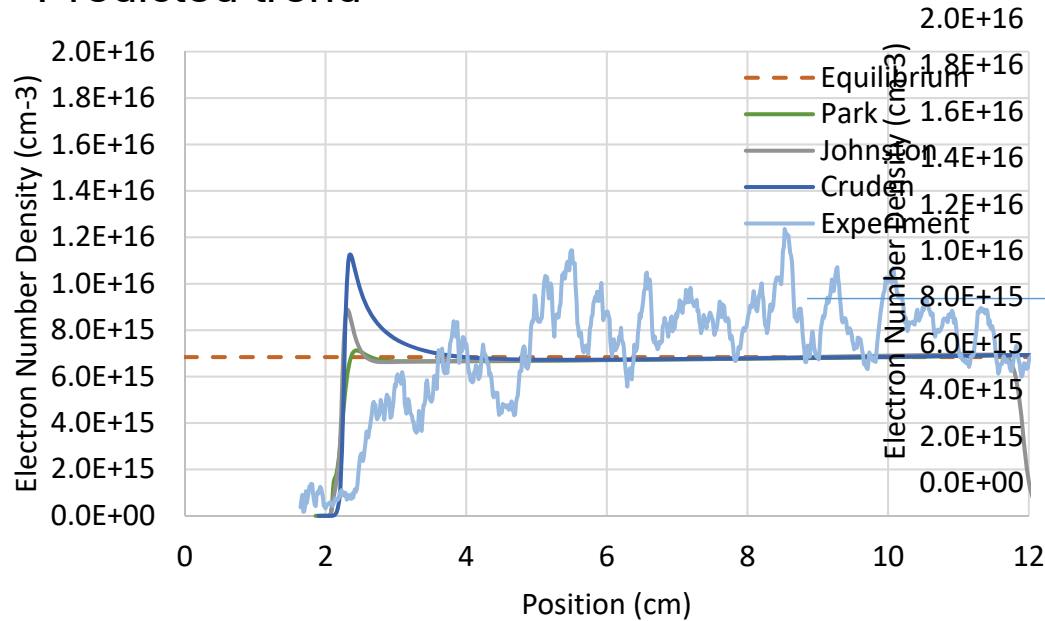
- $N + N \rightarrow N_2^+ + e^-$
produces first electrons
- $N_2 + e^- \rightarrow N + N + e^-$
Exothermic, temperature falls
Fast in Park Model
→ Reduces temperature
- $N + e^- \rightarrow N^+ + e^- + e^-$
proceeds at T_e
Ionization overshoot follows temperature overshoot
- Relaxation of Ionization overshoot proceeds through
 - $N^+ + N_2 \leftrightarrow N_2^+ + N$ slow in Cruden 17
 - $N_2^+ + e^- \rightarrow N + N$ fast



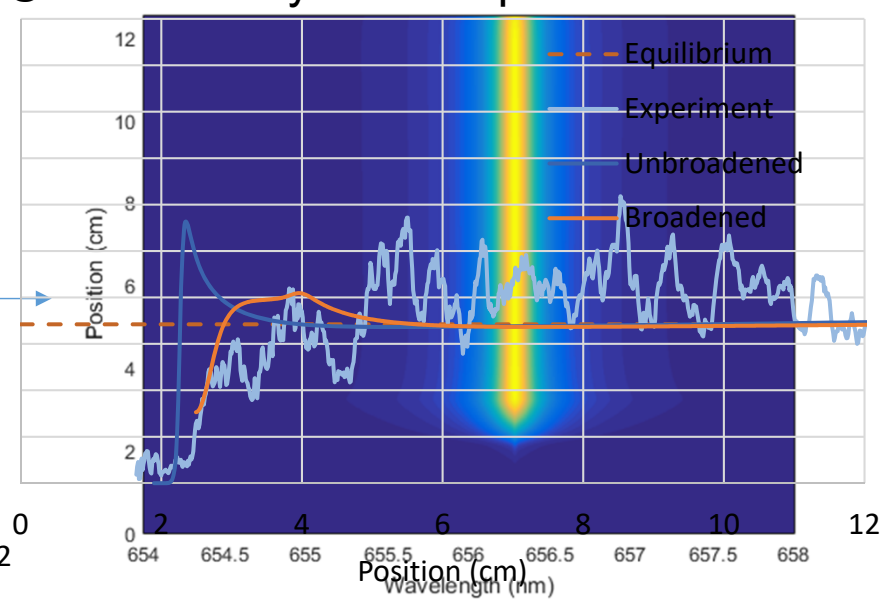
Account for Experimental Resolution



Predicted trend

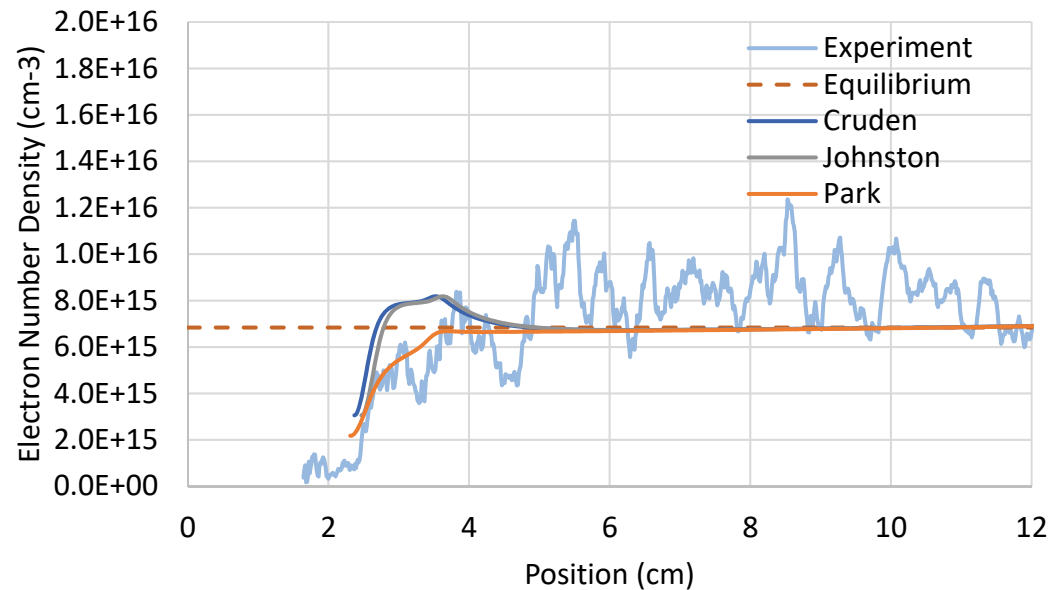


Broadened Synthetic Spectrum



- 1D Profiles used as input to radiation code
- Synthetic Spectrum Broadened with experimental functions
- Synthetic Broadened Spectrum fit with voigt function
 - Electron density extracted
 - Overshoot greatly reduced due to experimental resolution

Comparison of Ionization Models



- Park Model Follows data closely
- Based on traditional energy transfer mechanism
 - 28% of ionization energy comes electro-vibrational modes
 - Ions and electrons created/destroyed at energy of mixture

Conclusions



- Analysis of N₂ shock wave at 10.3 km/s (Nominal)
- Concentration and temperature profiles extracted from spectral data
- Equilibrium Analyses
 - Temperatures generally from 1-3% of equilibrium
 - Some concentrations inferred to exceed equilibrium
 - Electron density must be 2x higher than equilibrium to explain continuum
 - Visible region infers 2x the N atom density, 50x the N₂ density
- Review of Atomic N Lines
 - Some high energy lines (3d) above ionization threshold not observed
 - Other lines (4p, 6s) missing from NIST database
 - Still additional features not predicted – likely additional lines
- Transient Analysis
 - Obtained transient concentrations of excited species
- Ionization – Park93 still the best
- Quality of fit dependent upon models assumed