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## Vibrationally resolved B 1s photoionization cross section of BF<sub>3</sub>

D. Ayuso<sup>\*1</sup>, M. Kimura<sup>†</sup>, K. Kooser<sup>‡</sup>, M. Patanen<sup>¶</sup>, E. Plesiat<sup>\*1</sup>, L. Argenti<sup>\*</sup>, S. Mondal<sup>†</sup>, O. Travnikova<sup>§</sup>, K. Sakai<sup>†</sup>, A. Palacios<sup>\*</sup>, E. Kukuk<sup>‡</sup>, P. Decleva<sup>Δ</sup>, K. Ueda<sup>†</sup>, F. Martín<sup>\*□</sup>, C. Miron<sup>¶</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> Departamento de Química, Módulo 13, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, Cantoblanco 28049, Madrid, Spain

<sup>†</sup> Institute of Multidisciplinary Research for Advanced Materials, Tohoku University, Sendai 980-8577, Japan

<sup>‡</sup> Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Turku, 20014 Turku, Finland

<sup>¶</sup> Synchrotron SOLEIL, L'Orme des Merisiers, Saint-Aubin, BP 48, 91192 Gif-sur-Yvette Cedex, France

<sup>§</sup> CNRS, UMR 7614, UPMC Univ Paris 06, LCPMR, 75005 Paris, France

<sup>Δ</sup> Institut für Physik, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Newtonstrasse 15, 12489 Berlin, Germany

<sup>Δ</sup> Dipartimento di Scienze Chimiche e Farmaceutiche, Università di Trieste, 34127, and CNR-IOM, Trieste, Italy

<sup>□</sup> Instituto Madrileño de Estudios Avanzados en Nanociencia, Cantoblanco, 28049 Madrid, Spain

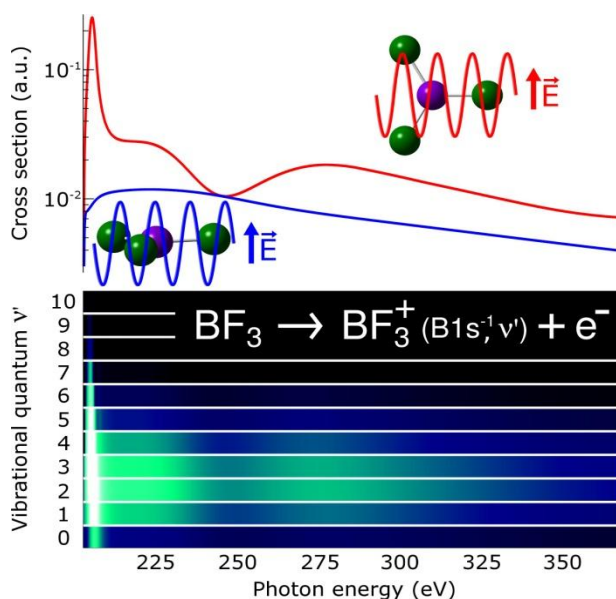
**Synopsis** We present a study of the vibrationally resolved B 1s photoionization cross section of the BF<sub>3</sub> molecule. A combination of high-resolution photoelectron spectroscopy measurements and of state-of-the-art calculations shows the evolution of the photon energy dependence of the cross section from a complete trapping of the photoelectron wave (low energies) to oscillations due to intramolecular scattering [1, 2]. These diffraction patterns allow to access structural information of both the neutral molecule and the core-hole species generated upon photoabsorption [3].

The advent of third-generation synchrotron radiation facilities, in combination with high energy-resolution detection techniques, has opened the way for the investigation of vibrationally-resolved inner-shell photoionization in small molecules, where an electron is emitted from a 1s orbital of a first-row atom. We present a study on B 1s photoionization of BF<sub>3</sub>, comparing experimental results with full first-principle calculations and showing that the most relevant features can be understood by means of simple models.

In order to calculate vibrationally-resolved cross sections, we have evaluated (bound and continuum) electronic wave functions using the static-exchange and the time-dependent DFT methods [4], developed by Decleva and collaborators, for different molecular geometries along the totally symmetric stretching mode. This mode is the most affected by the structural rearrangement accompanying core ionization [1, 2]. Our theoretical results are in good agreement with experimental measurements from SOLEIL synchrotron and, at high energies, qualitatively agree with a first-Born approximation model.

We have found that the relative cross sections show clear oscillations in the high-energy region as a function of photoelectron momentum which are due to an intramolecular scattering mechanism: in its way out of the molecule, the photoelectron is diffracted by the surrounding atomic centers, encoding the geometry of the molecule [1, 2, 3]. Very close to the photoionization threshold a complete trapping of the photoelectron is observed, manifesting itself

as an emission angle dependent shape resonance feature [1, 2].



**Figure 1.** Calculated cross section (upper panel) for different molecular orientations and vibrationally resolved cross section in the totally symmetric stretching mode (lower panel) for the case of randomly oriented molecules.

### References

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<sup>1</sup>E-mail: david.ayuso@uames