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journal or publication title	Japanese Journal of Applied Physics
volume	58
number	6
page range	066003
year	2019-06-05
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/10258/00009977

doi: [info:doi/10.7567/1347-4065/ab215c](https://doi.org/10.7567/1347-4065/ab215c)

Dissociative reactions induced by electron impact and electron transport in TEOS vapour

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Reactions for dissociative ionization and neutral dissociation collisions between an electron and a tetraethoxysilane [$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4$, TEOS] molecule are reported, and neutral dissociation cross sections are calculated by applying the classical Rice-Ramsperger-Kassel (RRK) theory. Detailed electron collision cross section set of TEOS vapour, including 18 neutral dissociation cross sections and 20 ionization cross sections, is constructed. Electron transport coefficients, such as the mean-arrival-time drift velocity, bulk drift velocity, longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient, and ionization coefficient, and rate coefficients for both elastic and inelastic collisions in TEOS vapour are calculated from the present cross section set using a Monte Carlo method. The validity of the present cross section set is demonstrated by comparing the calculated electron transport coefficients with measured data. Furthermore, fragmentation of TEOS molecules by electron impact is simulated, and then the number of fragments produced in the simulation is compared with measured mass spectra.

1. Introduction

Plasma enhanced chemical vapour deposition using tetraethoxysilane [$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4$, TEOS] vapour is a key technology to deposit silicon dioxide (SiO_2) thin film [1], which works as a dielectric layer in semiconductor devices, such as dynamic random access memory (DRAM) and three-dimensional NAND flash memory [2]. Since the internal structure of the semiconductor devices is complicated, improving uniformity of the deposited film with high deposition rate is required. Therefore, the proper control of the spatial distribution of deposition precursors, which are generated in discharge plasma containing TEOS vapour and contribute to SiO_2 deposition, is needed.

Since electron collisions with gas molecules are known to be important processes to generate and maintain discharges, namely to produce species consisting of discharges, electron transport coefficients and rate coefficients for electron collision reactions are useful information on how to handle the discharge plasma so as to properly control the species generated in the discharge. Furthermore, those coefficients allow us to simulate the discharge plasma [3-5]; therefore, reliable and detailed coefficients are highly required. Electron transport coefficients and rate coefficients can be calculated from electron collision cross sections; consequently, reliable and detailed electron collision cross sections of TEOS vapour are needed.

Kawaguchi *et al.* [6] previously proposed detailed electron collision cross section set of TEOS vapour, which consists of one elastic momentum transfer, two vibrational excitation, one electronic excitation, and 20 ionization cross sections, based on measured ionization cross sections [7], theoretically calculated elastic momentum transfer cross section [8], and estimated cross sections [8, 9]. The validity of the proposed cross section set was demonstrated by comparing calculated electron transport coefficients with measured data in TEOS [10, 11] and TEOS/ O_2 mixtures [12] in a wide range of reduced electric field E/N . Here, E and N respectively denote an electric field and the number density of gas molecules. However, since dissociative reactions between an electron and a TEOS molecule are unclear and no neutral dissociation cross sections have been reported, information on neutral species generated by dissociative ionization and neutral dissociation collisions is not included in the proposed cross section set.

Maeda *et al.* [13] investigated the dissociation of TEOS molecules by electron impact. In their experiment, TEOS molecules were dissociated by an electron beam, and generated fragments were measured by quadrupole mass spectrometer (QMS). They reported measured mass spectra at the electron beam energy of 8, 9, 15, 40, and 70 eV. The mass spectrum of

TEOS was also reported by NIST Mass Spectrometry Data Center [14]. Holtgrave *et al.* [7] observed 20 kinds of positive ions generated by electron collisions with TEOS molecules by Fourier-transform mass spectrometry. They provided composition formulae of the observed ions, and this suggests 18 kinds of neutral dissociation reactions which produce neutral molecules with the same stoichiometry of the observed ion species.

Denpoh and Nanbu [15] proposed a method of calculating neutral dissociation cross sections by applying the classical Rice-Ramsperger-Kassel (RRK) theory [16]. They applied their method (hereafter referred to as DN method) to deduce cross sections for neutral dissociation collisions between ions [CF_x^+ ($x=0-3$), C^+ , F^+ , and CF_3^+] and a CF_4 molecule. They firstly calculated the probabilities of neutral dissociation collisions by using the classical RRK theory, and the calculated probabilities were multiplied by a total cross section deduced from the Langevin-Hassé model [17], deducing neutral dissociation cross sections. With such method, the cross sections for neutral dissociation reactions of a TEOS molecule induced by electron impact may also be estimated.

In this work, we report reactions for dissociative ionization and neutral dissociation collisions between an electron and a TEOS molecule deduced from first-principle quantum mechanical simulation based on the density function theory with Gaussian09 package [18,19], and then electron collision cross sections for neutral dissociations of a TEOS molecule are calculated by applying DN method. The information concerning the dissociative collisions is added to the cross section set reported by Kawaguchi *et al.* [6], constructing a detailed cross section set of TEOS vapour. The mean-arrival-time drift velocity, bulk drift velocity, longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient, and rate coefficients for both elastic and inelastic electron collisions in TEOS vapour are calculated from the present cross section set using the Monte Carlo method. The validity of the present cross section set is demonstrated by comparing calculated and measured electron transport coefficients. Furthermore, fragmentation of TEOS molecules by electron impact is simulated using the present cross section set, and then the number of fragments produced in the simulation is compared with the measured mass spectra reported by Maeda *et al.* [13]

2. Present cross section set of TEOS vapour

Table 1 shows the reactions between an electron and a TEOS molecule for elastic momentum transfer (mom), vibrational excitation (vib1, vib2), non-dissociative electronic excitation (non-diss-ex), neutral dissociation (nd1 – nd18), and ionization (i1 – i20) collisions considered in this work. Description of the dissociative reactions shown in table 1 is given

in Ref. 19. The threshold energies of ionization collisions are taken from ion appearance energies reported by Holtgrave *et al.* [7]. Figure 1 shows electron collision cross sections for the reactions shown in table 1 as a function of electron energy ε . Here, Σq_{nd} and Σq_i denote the sum of neutral dissociation and ionization cross sections, respectively, and the partial cross sections for neutral dissociation collisions are shown in Fig. 2. The elastic momentum transfer, vibrational excitation, and ionization cross sections previously proposed by Kawaguchi *et al.*[6] are used, but the shape of the vibrational excitation cross sections is slightly modified.

Neutral dissociation cross sections and non-dissociative electronic excitation cross sections are calculated by applying DN method, the details of which are described in Ref. 15. Briefly, the method assumes that a colliding pair called reactants, an electron and a TEOS molecule in this work, forms an activated complex, and then the autodecomposition of the complex generates products or reproduces reactants. Under such assumption, the rate of generating products k_{r-i} and reproducing the reactants k_{el} can be calculated by using the classical RRK theory as follows:

$$k_{r-i}(\varepsilon) = \bar{\nu} \left(\frac{\varepsilon - \Delta E_i}{V} \right)^{s-1}, \quad (1)$$

$$k_{\text{el}}(\varepsilon) = \bar{\nu} \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{V} \right)^{s-1}, \quad (2)$$

where $\bar{\nu}$ and s are respectively the mean frequency for vibration and the number of vibrational modes of the complex, ΔE_i is the differential energy between reactants and products in the ground state, and V is the total energy measured from the ground state of the complex. In general, $s = a(3N_a - 6)$, where N_a is the number of atoms in a TEOS molecule, and a is an adjustable factor of $1/4 - 2/3$. In this work, we assume $a = 1/4$. The molecular structures of the products generated in each reaction i are studied by Gaussian09 package using B3LYP/6-311+G(2d,p) [18-22], and then ΔE_i are calculated. Probabilities of generating products P_{r-i} and reproducing reactants P_{el} are defined as

$$P_{r-i}(\varepsilon) = \frac{k_{r-i}(\varepsilon)}{k_{\text{el}}(\varepsilon) + \sum_{i=1}^{18} k_{r-i}(\varepsilon)}, \quad (3)$$

$$P_{\text{el}}(\varepsilon) = \frac{k_{\text{el}}(\varepsilon)}{k_{\text{el}}(\varepsilon) + \sum_{i=1}^{18} k_{r-i}(\varepsilon)}. \quad (4)$$

Values of $\bar{\nu}$ and V are canceled in Eqs. (3) and (4). In this work, reproducing the reactants is specified as non-dissociative electronic excitation. Neutral dissociation cross sections $q_{\text{nd-}i}$, and non-dissociative electronic excitation cross section $q_{\text{non-diss-ex}}$ are calculated by dividing total excitation cross sections, namely the sum of vibrational excitation q_{vib} and the electronic excitation q_{ex} cross sections, using calculated probabilities as

$$q_{\text{nd-}i}(\varepsilon) = \left[\sum q_{\text{vib}}(\varepsilon) + q_{\text{ex}}(\varepsilon) \right] P_{r-i}(\varepsilon), \quad (5)$$

$$q_{\text{non-diss-ex}}(\varepsilon) = \left[\sum q_{\text{vib}}(\varepsilon) + q_{\text{ex}}(\varepsilon) \right] P_{el}(\varepsilon) - \sum q_{\text{vib}}(\varepsilon), \quad (6)$$

where $\sum q_{\text{vib}}$ denotes the sum of q_{vib} . Here, q_{ex} previously proposed by Kawaguchi *et al.* [6] is used, but its shape is slightly modified. Since P_{el} is almost equal to 1, the shape of $q_{\text{non-diss-ex}}$ is almost the same as that of q_{ex} below 30 eV.

3. Simulation method and conditions

3.1 Electron transport analysis in TEOS vapour

The behaviour of electrons in TEOS vapour under a uniform DC electric field is simulated by the Monte Carlo method. No boundary is considered in the simulation. The mean-arrival-time drift velocity W_m , bulk drift velocity W_r also referred to as the center-of-mass drift velocity, longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient ND_L , ionization coefficient α/N , and rate coefficients k for both elastic and inelastic collisions are deduced by sampling. The rate coefficients for l th reaction k_l are sampled as

$$k_l(t) = \frac{1}{N_e(t)} \sum_{i=1}^{N_e(t)} q_l(\varepsilon_i) \sqrt{2q\varepsilon_i/m_e}, \quad (7)$$

where q and m_e are the charge and mass of a electron, respectively, $N_e(t)$ is the number of electrons at time t , ε_i is the energy of i th electron, and $q_l(\varepsilon_i)$ is electron collision cross sections for l th reaction at ε_i . Sampling principles of the electron transport coefficients are described by Kawaguchi *et al.* [23, 24]. Collisions between an electron and a TEOS molecule are only considered, assuming typical condition of the electron swarm experiment. Thermal motion of TEOS molecules, which may affect the electron transport coefficients under low E/N , are considered by the same method described by Yousfi *et al.* [25], and electron scattering is assumed to be isotropic because of a lack of data on differential cross sections. The number density of gas molecules N is assumed to be $3.535 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (0°C, 133.32 Pa). Numerical techniques of the simulation are shown in Refs. [23, 24, 26] in detail.

3.2 Simulation for the fragmentation of TEOS molecules by electron impact

Fragmentation of TEOS molecules by electron impact in an ionization chamber of a mass spectrometer is simulated. The ionization chamber is known to comprise a filament at the center and a coaxial cylindrical electrode at the outside. In the ionization chamber, electrons emitted from the filament accelerate by an electric field, collide gas molecules, and then

reach to the cylindrical electrode. The strength of the electric field E generated between the filament and the cylindrical electrode is expressed as

$$E(r) = \frac{V_g}{\ln(R/r_0)} \frac{1}{r}, \quad (8)$$

where r_0 and R are respectively the radius of the filament and the cylindrical electrode, r is the distance from the filament, and V_g is the electric potential difference between the filament and the cylindrical electrode. Since the gas pressure in the ionization chamber is generally quite low, the emitted electrons are accelerated rapidly in the vicinity of the filament, and most of them become energetic before the collision; therefore, for the sake of simplicity, the ionization chamber is assumed to comprise two infinite parallel plates P_1 ($z = 0$) and P_2 ($z = d$), and initial electrons emitted from the plate P_1 having initial velocity $(0, 0, \sqrt{2q\epsilon_0/m_e})$ are traced under no electric field by using a Monte Carlo method until all initial electrons are reached at the plates. Here, ϵ_0 is initial energy of electrons, d is the gap length between the plates, and d is set to 30 mm. Reflection of the electrons on the plates is not considered. In the fragmentation simulation, N is set to $2.651 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ($0 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, 10^{-3} Pa), which is almost equivalent to the experimental condition reported by Maeda *et al.* [13]

The number of fragments produced by electron collisions with TEOS molecules is counted in the simulation. Since little information on electron collision cross sections of fragments is reported as of now, collisions between an electron and fragments are not considered, and all neutral fragments produced in the simulation are assumed to be fully ionized in the ionization chamber. Under such assumption, the number of fragments is proportional to their intensities measured by the mass spectrometer.

4. Results and discussion

4.1 Electron transport coefficients in TEOS vapour

Figures 3(a) and 3(b) show values of the ionization coefficient α/N and longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient ND_L in TEOS vapour calculated from the present cross section set as functions of E/N . Those measured by double-shutter drift tube method [10] and steady-state Townsend experiment [11] are also shown in Figs. 3(a) and 3(b). The calculated values of α/N and ND_L well reproduce the measured data in a wide range of E/N . Figure 4 shows electron energy distribution in TEOS vapour at 6,000 Td, which is the highest E/N value studied here. This indicates that most electrons are distributed below 30 eV, where the magnitude of $q_{\text{nd-}i}$ is too small to affect electron transport coefficients and cross sections, except for $q_{\text{nd-}i}$, are almost the same as those reported by Kawaguchi *et al.* [6]; therefore,

calculated electron transport coefficients are found to be almost the same as those previously reported [6].

Figure 3(c) shows values of the mean-arrival-time drift velocity W_m and bulk drift velocity W_r calculated from the present cross section set as a function of E/N . It is known that values of electron drift velocity may vary with its definition when ionization and/or electron attachment collisions occur [27-30], and the relation between W_r and W_m is described as [30]

$$W_r = W_m + 2(\alpha - \eta)D_L - 3(\alpha - \eta)^2D_3 + \dots, \quad (9)$$

where η is the electron attachment coefficient, which is nought in TEOS vapour, and D_3 is the longitudinal third-order transport coefficient; therefore, the values of W_r are equal to those of W_m below 450 Td, where the values of α are nought or quite small, and then tend to be higher than those of W_m with increasing values of E/N . One should heed that the continuity of the number density of electrons in plasmas is traditionally described by using the effective ionization collision frequency, W_r instead of W_m , and D_L [30, 31]. To compare the calculated values of the electron drift velocity with measured data, values of the electron drift velocity measured by double-shutter drift tube method [10], which are known to be equal to W_m [30], are also shown in Fig. 3(c). Good agreement between the calculated values of W_m and the measured data is found.

The calculated values of the ionization coefficient α/N , longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient ND_L , and mean-arrival-time drift velocity W_m in TEOS vapour are found to well reproduce the measured data in a wide range of E/N . This indicates the validity of the present cross section set.

4.2 Comparison between calculated number of fragments with measured mass spectra

Maeda *et al.* [13] mentioned that a TEOS molecule dissociates by electron impact at an electron energy below 7 eV, although in the fragmentation simulation fragments are generated at an initial electron energy above 10 eV. Figure 5 shows the number of fragments generated in the fragmentation simulation as functions of mass number of fragments m , together with measured mass spectra reported by Maeda *et al.* [13]. Here, the number of fragments is normalized such that the number of $\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{OCH}_3$ ($m = 149$) agrees with its measured intensity. The normalized number of CH_3 ($m = 15$), C_2H_4 ($m = 28$), OC_2H_4 ($m = 44$), $\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + \text{Si}(\text{OH}) + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5^+ + \text{SiOH}^+$ ($m = 45$) are outside of the range on the vertical axes, so that those numbers are written in the figure. It is found that the simulation results

broadly reproduce the measured mass spectra, indicating that the dissociative reactions and dissociative cross sections, neutral dissociation and dissociative ionization cross sections, used in the simulation are valid to a certain extent. Differences between the simulation results and measured mass spectra appear at $m = 15, 28, 44,$ and 45 . This may be caused by the dissociative reactions and/or the dissociative cross sections used in the simulation. In this work, the dissociative reactions are chosen such that the potentials of non-silicon containing neutral fragments are minimum; therefore, other dissociative reactions may be possible. Furthermore, considering that ionization cross sections of the neutral fragments depend on their chemical structure and electron energy, the assumption that the neutral fragments generated in the simulation are fully ionized may also lead to the differences; therefore, data on ionization cross sections of the neutral fragments are needed for further investigation of the validity of the dissociative reactions and cross sections. Thus, no attempt to modify the dissociative reactions and cross sections shown above has been done.

4.3 Rate coefficients for electron collisions with TEOS molecules

Figure 6 shows values of the rate coefficients for both elastic and inelastic electron collisions with TEOS molecules calculated from the present cross sections as a function of E/N . Here, Σk_{nd} and Σk_i denote the sum of the rate coefficients for neutral dissociation and ionization collisions, respectively, and those rate coefficients are shown in Figs. 7 and 8 in detail. This is the first report on the rate coefficients for reactions between an electron and a TEOS molecule, and the results in this report allow us to model the continuity of electrons, generation of fragments, and conservation of momentum of electrons in the plasma, which are generally considered in the plasma simulations.

5. Conclusions

Dissociative reactions between an electron and a TEOS molecule deduced from first-principle quantum mechanical simulation are reported, and neutral dissociation cross sections of TEOS vapour are calculated by applying DN method. After that, detailed electron collision cross section set of TEOS vapour are constructed. The present cross section set includes 18 kinds of neutral dissociation cross sections and 20 kinds of ionization cross sections. Values of the ionization coefficient α/N , longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient ND_L , mean-arrival-time drift velocity W_m , bulk drift velocity W_r , and rate coefficients for both elastic and inelastic collisions are calculated from the present cross section set up to 6,000 Td by Monte Carlo method. The validity of the present cross section set is demonstrated by

comparing between calculated and measured α/N , ND_L , and W_m . Furthermore, fragmentation of TEOS molecules by electron impact is simulated, and the number of fragments produced in the simulation is compared with the measured mass spectra reported by Maeda *et al.* The comparison shows the validity of the dissociative reactions and dissociative cross sections reported in this work to a certain extent.

Finally, the data reported in this paper enable us to simulate detailed gas phase reactions in TEOS based plasma, which contain generation reactions of TEOS fragments. The information concerning kinds of TEOS fragments and those amounts can be used for simulation of SiO₂ deposition, which includes both gas phase and surface reactions. Those computational studies will give us valuable information to reveal deposition precursors generated in TEOS based plasma and to understand SiO₂ deposition mechanism.

Acknowledgments

This work was supported by Tokyo Electron Ltd.

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Figure Captions

Fig. 1. (Color online) Electron collision cross section set of TEOS vapour.

Fig. 2. (Color online) Neutral dissociation cross sections of TEOS vapour as functions of electron energy ε . (a) nd1 – nd3, (b) nd4 – nd7, (c) nd8 – nd10, (d) nd11, nd12, (e) nd13 – nd16, and (f) nd17, nd18.

Fig. 3. (Color online) Electron transport coefficients in TEOS vapour as functions of reduced electric field E/N . (a) Ionization coefficient, (b) Longitudinal bulk diffusion coefficient, and (c) Electron drift velocity.

Fig. 4. (Color online) Electron energy distribution in TEOS vapour at 6,000 Td.

Fig. 5. (Color online) Comparison between calculated number of fragments and measured mass spectra. (a) $\varepsilon_0 = 15$ eV, (b) $\varepsilon_0 = 40$ eV, and (c) $\varepsilon_0 = 70$ eV.

Fig. 6. (Color online) Rate coefficients for elastic and inelastic collisions in TEOS vapour as a function of E/N .

Fig. 7. (Color online) Rate coefficients for neutral dissociation collisions in TEOS vapour as functions of E/N . (a) nd1 – nd3, (b) nd4 – nd7, (c) nd8 – nd10, (d) nd11, nd12, (e) nd13 – nd16, and (f) nd17, nd18.

Fig. 8. (Color online) Rate coefficients for ionization collisions in TEOS vapour as functions of E/N . (a) i1 – i5, (b) i6 – i10, (c) i11 – i15, and (d) i16 – i20

Table I. Reactions for collisions between an electron and a TEOS molecule and their threshold energies ΔE_i .

Label	Reaction	ΔE_i (eV)
mom	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e$	
vib1	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 (v') + e$	0.160
vib2	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 (v'') + e$	0.370
non-diss-ex	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4^* + e$	7.000
nd1	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OCH}_2)\text{H}_2 + 2\text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + e$	6.515
nd2	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{O} + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	3.726
nd3	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{H} + e$	4.242
nd4	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{OOH} + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	4.129
nd5	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	4.446
nd6	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{OCH}_2 + \text{CH}_3 + e$	3.430
nd7	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2(\text{OH}) + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	4.861
nd8	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{OCH}_3 + \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{CH}_2 + e$	4.670
nd9	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OCH}_2)(\text{OH})_2 + 2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + e$	4.262
nd10	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2(\text{OH})(\text{OCH}_2) + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + e$	3.844
nd11	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2(\text{OCH}_2)\text{H} + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + e$	4.983
nd12	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OCH}_2)(\text{OH})\text{H} + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + e$	5.343
nd13	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OH})_2 + 2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	5.241
nd14	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{H} + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	5.893
nd15	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{SiOH} + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + 2\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	10.776
nd16	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OH})_2\text{H} + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + 2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	6.679
nd17	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OH})\text{H} + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	6.280
nd18	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OH})_3 + 3\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + e$	5.591

Table I. (continued)

Label	Reaction	ΔE_i (eV)
i1	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OCH}_2)\text{H}_2^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + \text{CH}_2 + 2e$	10.6
i2	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{O}^+ + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	11.3
i3	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{OC}_2\text{H}_4^+ + \text{H} + 2e$	11.4
i4	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5^+ + \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3 + 2e$	11.6
i5	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4^+ + 2e$	11.6
i6	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{O}(\text{OH})^+ + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	11.6
i7	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	11.6
i8	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{OCH}_2^+ + \text{CH}_3 + 2e$	11.7
i9	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2(\text{OH})^+ + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	12.0
i10	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{OCH}_3^+ + \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{CH}_2 + 2e$	12.0
i11	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OCH}_2)(\text{OH})_2^+ + 2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + 2e$	12.2
i12	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2(\text{OCH}_2)(\text{OH})^+ + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + 2e$	12.2
i13	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2(\text{OCH}_2)\text{H}^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + 2e$	12.2
i14	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OCH}_2)(\text{OH})\text{H}^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{CH}_3 + 2e$	12.3
i15	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OH})_2^+ + 2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	12.7
i16	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_2\text{H}^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	13.4
i17	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{SiOH}^+ + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + 3\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	14.7
i18	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OH})_2\text{H}^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + 2\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	15.1
i19	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)(\text{OH})\text{H}^+ + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	15.4
i20	$\text{Si}(\text{OC}_2\text{H}_5)_4 + e \rightarrow \text{Si}(\text{OH})_3^+ + 3\text{C}_2\text{H}_4 + \text{OC}_2\text{H}_5 + 2e$	16.0

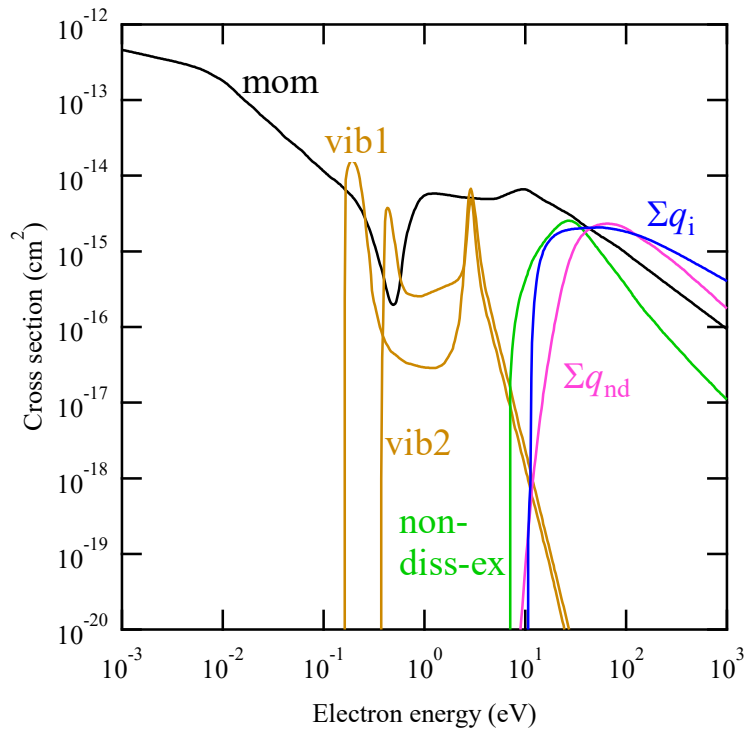


Fig. 1. (Color Online)

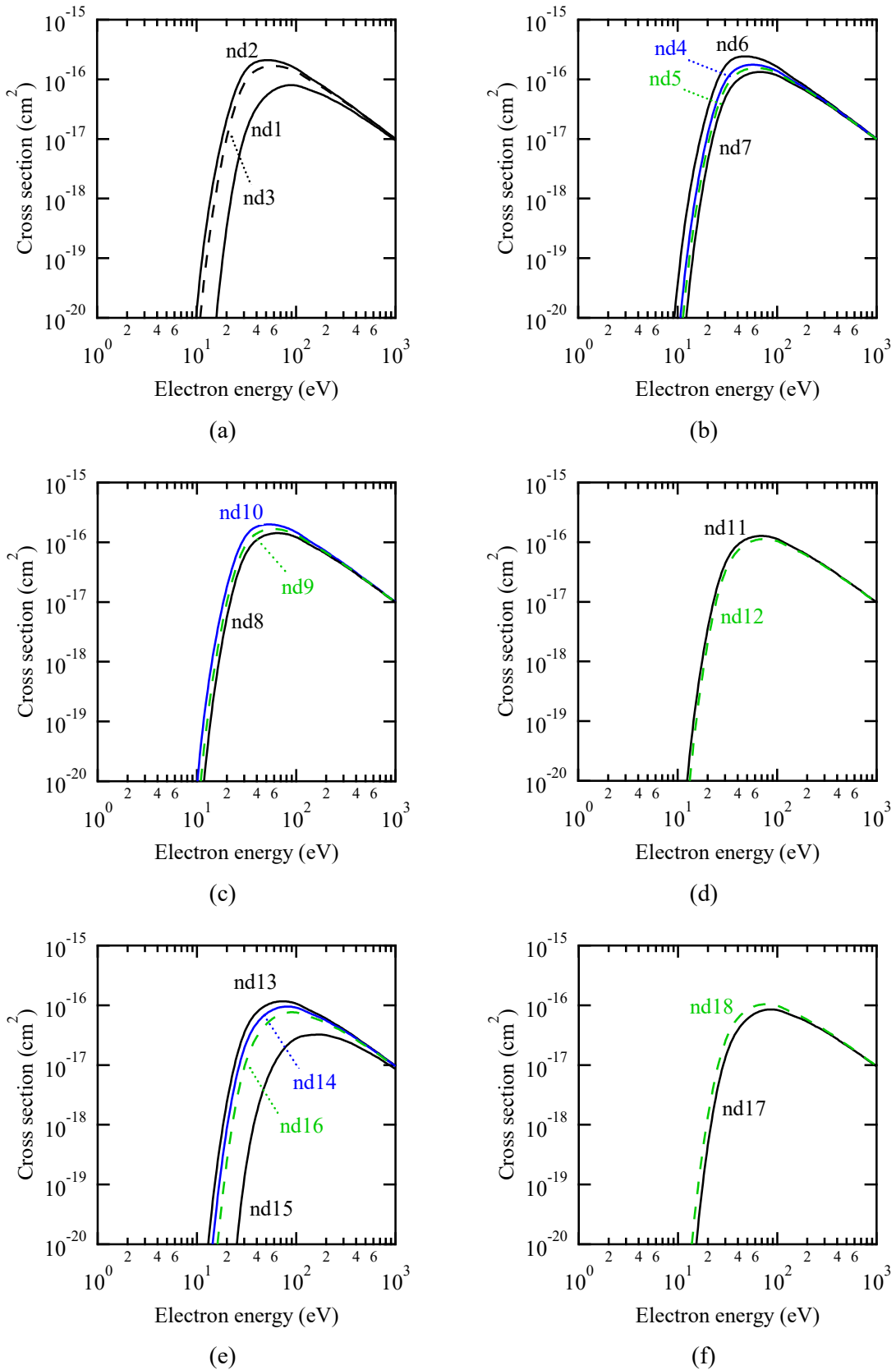


Fig. 2. (Color Online)

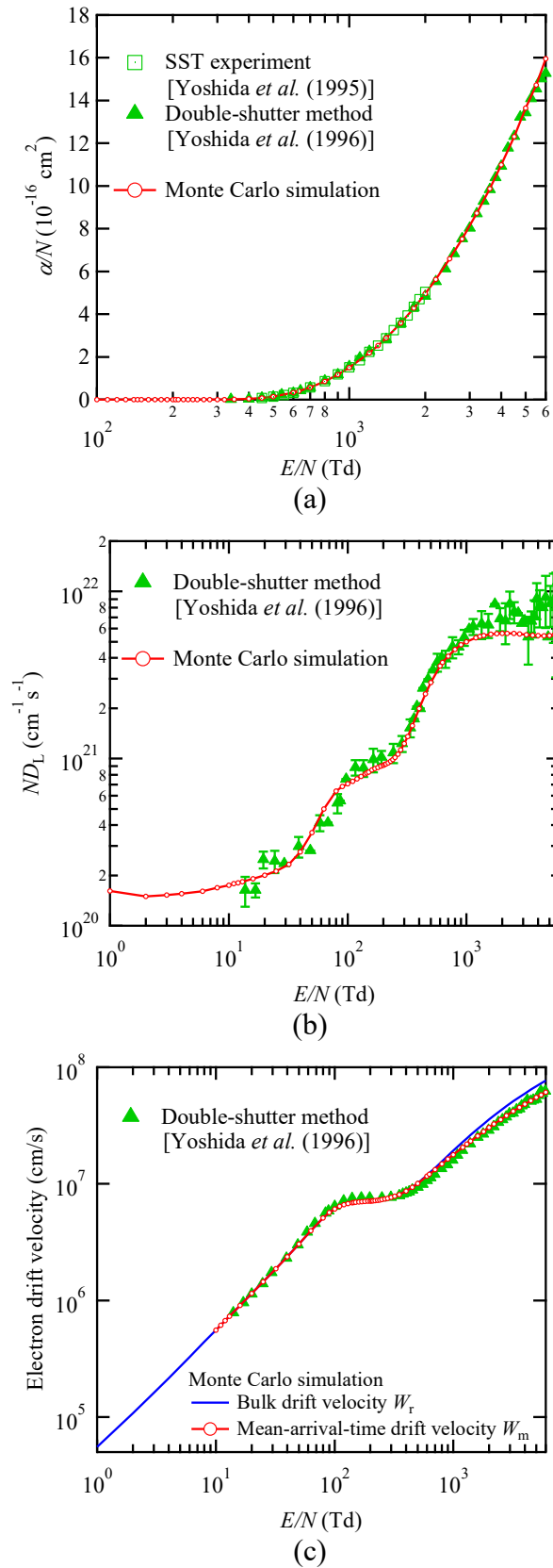


Fig. 3. (Color Online)

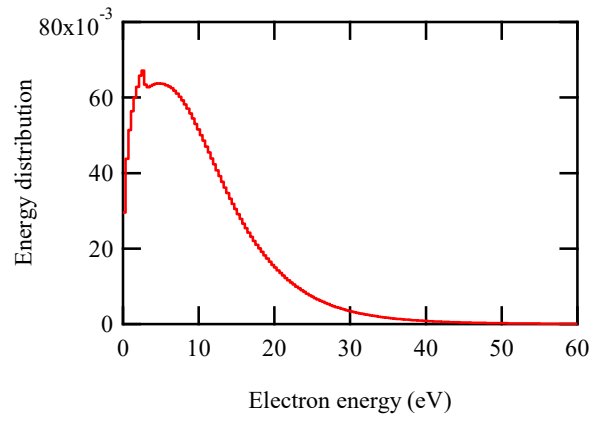
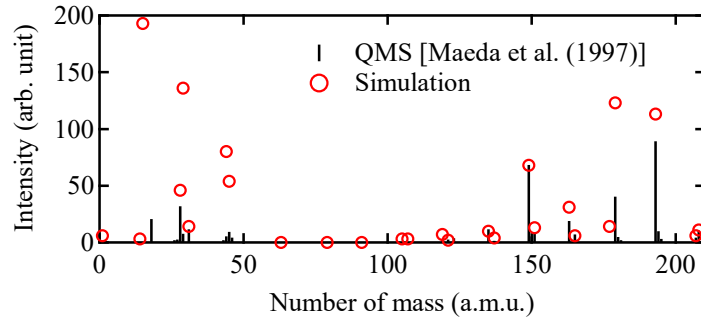
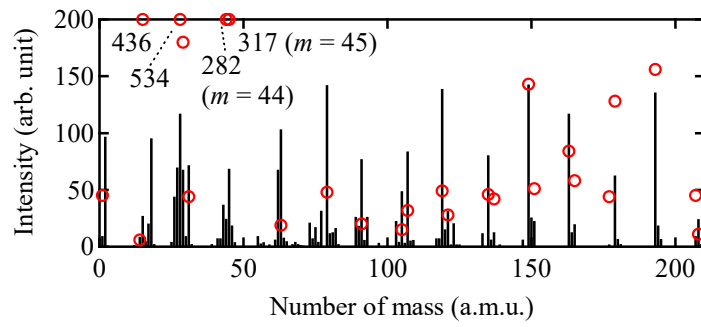


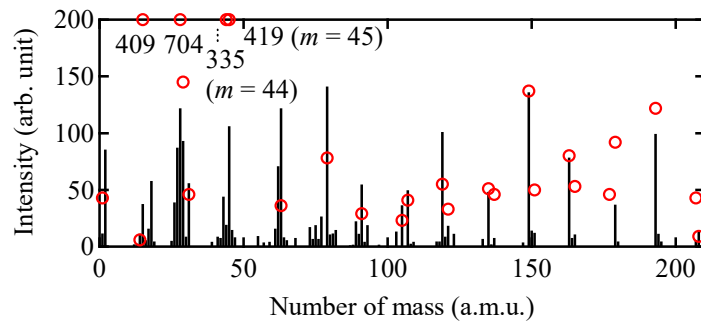
Fig. 4. (Color Online)



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 5. (Color Online)

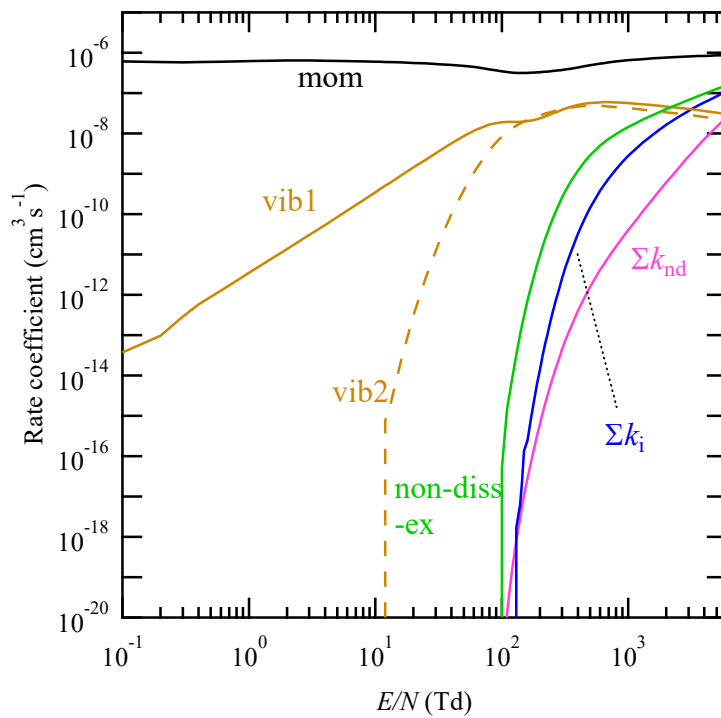


Fig. 6 (Color Online)

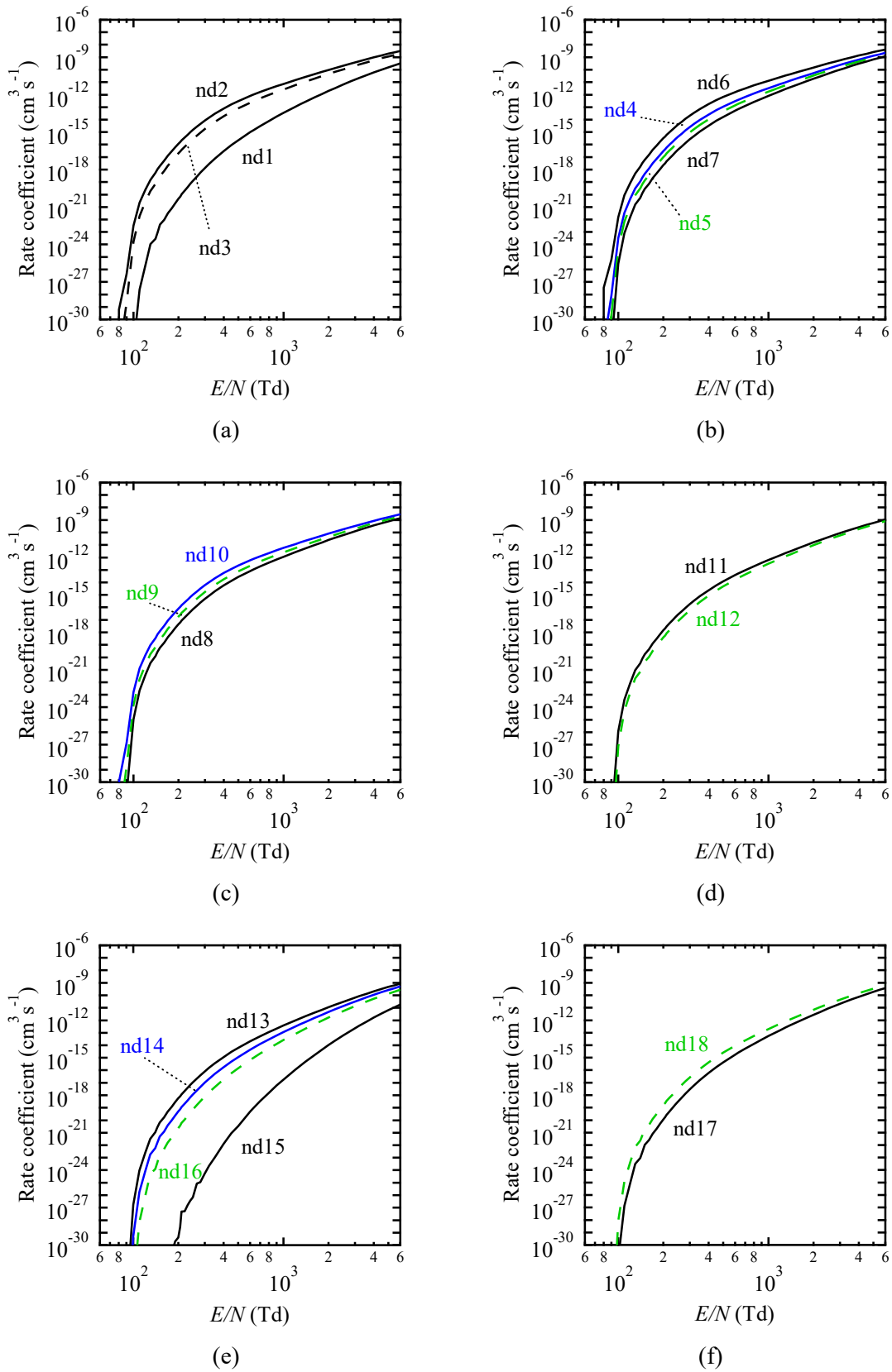


Fig. 7. (Color Online)

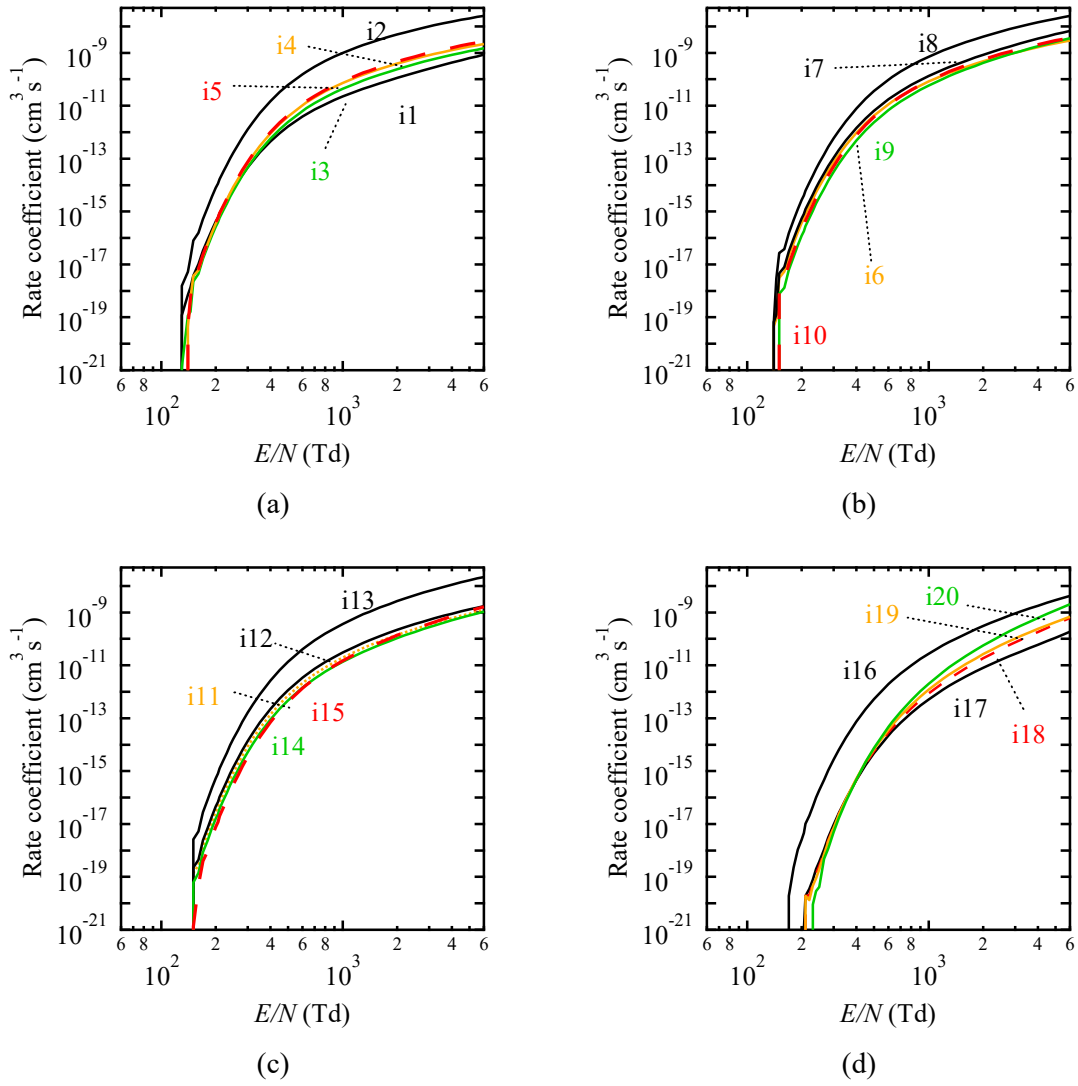


Fig. 8. (Color Online)