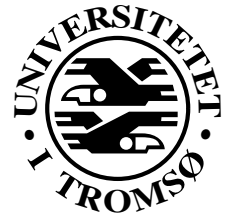


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New Journal of Physics  
Editorial Board

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**Manuscript AK11318**

Dear Editor,

I would kindly like you to reconsider your evaluation of my manuscript NJP-104327 submitted to New Journal of Physics.

There were two criticized aspects of my manuscript: 1. it being mostly directed towards the ICD community and 2. the topic to be subtle and not conceptually new. First, the manuscript is directed towards the ICD community but furthermore also to the cluster and condensed matter community and indirectly to the cancer research community. It generalizes earlier descriptions of non-nearest neighbour ICD which is not a subtle topic in itself which we shortly mentioned earlier (New Journal of Physics **16**, 103026 (2014).), since it explains peaks in the spectrum the large shoulders in the ICD spectra of clusters and intrinsically carries information about the cluster structure.

One of the big current topics is to describe the DNA damage following ICD in water molecules around it. Obviously, in this setting, several water molecules at different distances are involved. Understanding the effect of non-nearest neighbour ICD is crucial for the theoretical description of the process and the interpretation of experimental spectra. My manuscript provides the basis for this research.

I am convinced that my article is a valuable contribution for the readership of New Journal of Physics, highly appreciated by scientists considering Interatomic Coulombic Decay (ICD), causations of cancer as well as the transition from atomic and molecular clusters to the solid state and beyond.

I kindly ask you to forward my work to peer review.

Yours sincerely,

Elke Faßhauer – author of NJP-104327