

Dear Peter:

I remember fondly my first visit to your lab in 1983 when I came to Göttingen for the Gas Kinetics Conference. Although I had not met you earlier, you acceded readily to my request to visit you. That led to my spending a sabbatical year (1986-87) subsequently with you, thanks to the Fellowship from the Humboldt Foundation. What a great time it was, personally as well as professionally. My wife Suguna and our daughters also remember fondly our stay in Göttingen.

As soon as I entered the Gästezimmer in the Max-Planck-Institute in 1986, I met Michael Baer, Franco Gianturco, K T Tang and others, who were only names from the literature for me until then. During the sabbatical, I could also meet Dick Martin, Elden Knuth, and others. From each one of them, I learned something or the other new. Discussions with Michael led to our first joint paper in *Chem. Phys. Interaction* with Franco initiated collaboration that continues till this date. He invited me to contribute to *Computer Physics Reports* for which he was the Editor. He also initiated an Indo-European collaboration that included Lutz Zuelicke from Potsdam, whom I met in your institute in 1983. I did not know at that time that the wall between the two parts of Germany would come down in a few years and lead to our collaboration.

Thanks to your involving me in a project with Rubahn, a graduate student at that time, we wrote a few papers on Li_2 -Na and Li_2 -rare gas interactions. I coauthored a paper with you on the effect of reagent rotation on the reaction $\text{D} + \text{H}_2(v=1) \rightarrow \text{DH} + \text{H}$ in *Chem. Phys. Letters*.

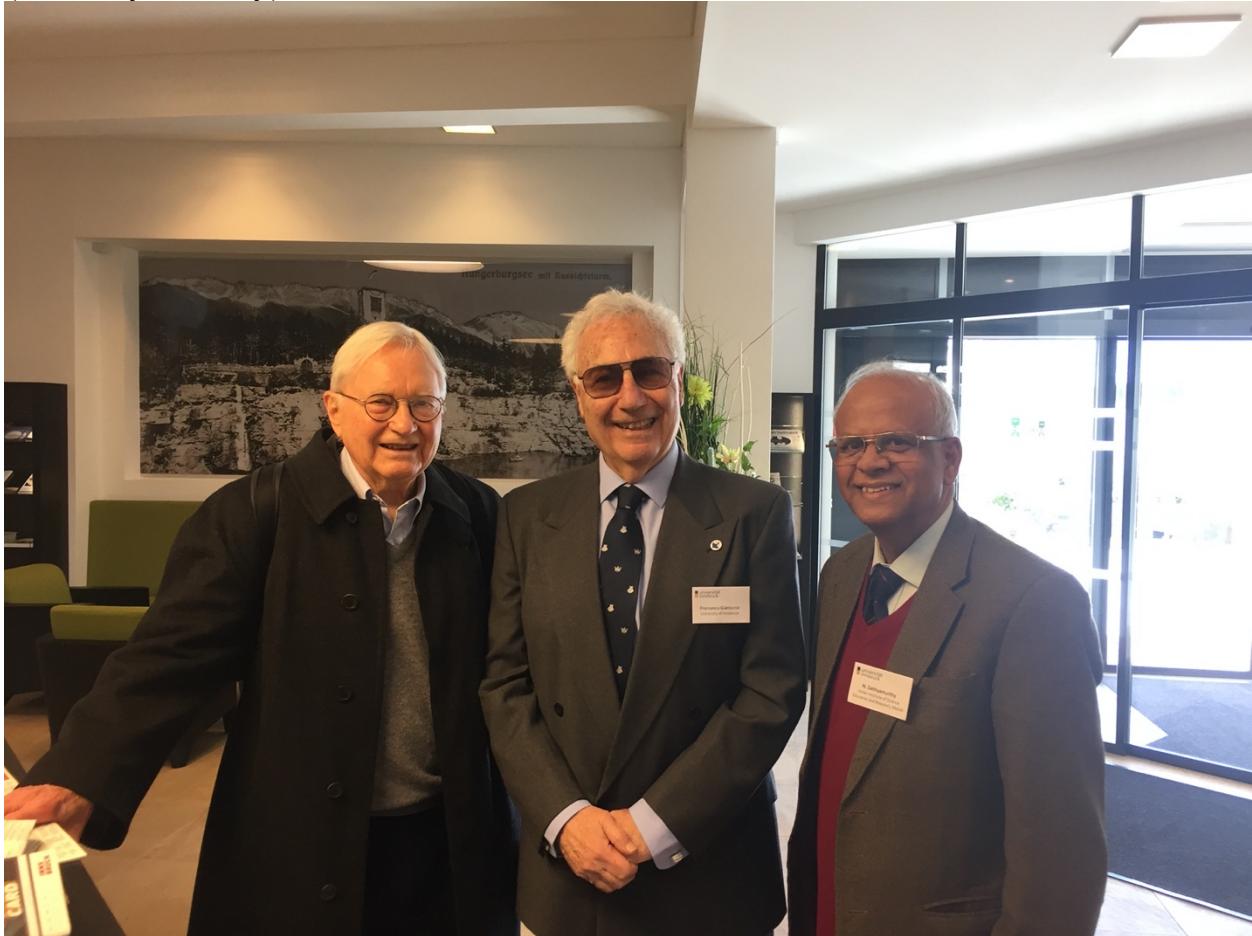
Thanks to your generous hospitality and the financial support of the Humboldt Foundation, I made several visits to your lab during subsequent summers. That led to my collaboration with Bratislav Friedrich and Hörst-Gunther Rubahn and we published (my only) *Phys. Rev. Letters* paper on the state-resolved scattering of pendular states of ICl with Ar . I also collaborated with your graduate student Thomas Ruhaltinger and collaborator R G Wang, and we wrote two papers on small angle scattering of He^+ due to collision with HF and HCl . I interacted with so many of your students and collaborators at Göttingen that it is difficult to list them all here.

Your infectious enthusiasm to come up with new ideas accompanied by hard work has been a source of inspiration for me to continue to work. I enjoyed attending your 65th birthday. I enjoyed contributing an article to the *Festschrift* for your 90th birthday and attending the party online. I am sorry I will miss attending your 95th

birthday. I include here the last picture I took with you and Franco in Innsbruck in March 2019, celebrating 80 years of Franco.

I take this opportunity to wish you and Mrs. Toennies continued good health for years to come.

Best regards,
Sathy
(N. Sathyamurthy)



Peter Toennies, Franco Gianturco and N. Sathyamurthy, Innsbruck, March 2019