



Collisions moléculaires: théorie, expérience et observation

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An aerial photograph of a coastal city, likely Monaco, featuring a large bay, a dense urban area with red-tiled roofs, and a prominent stadium complex on a peninsula. The sky is clear and blue.

Outline

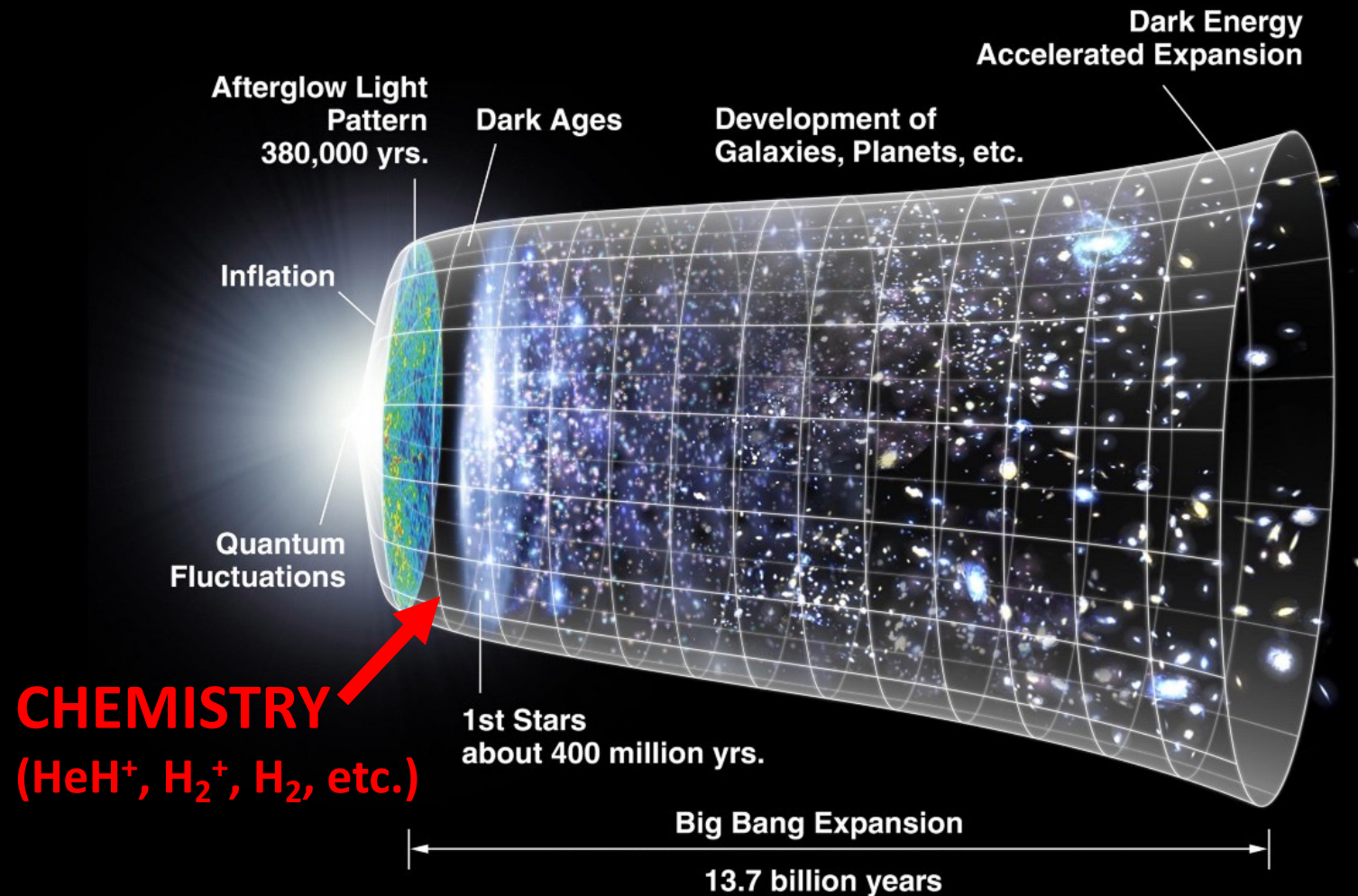
Introduction

I. Collisional excitation: theory vs experiment

II. Molecular diagnostics: CN, CH⁺, CH₂NH

Conclusion

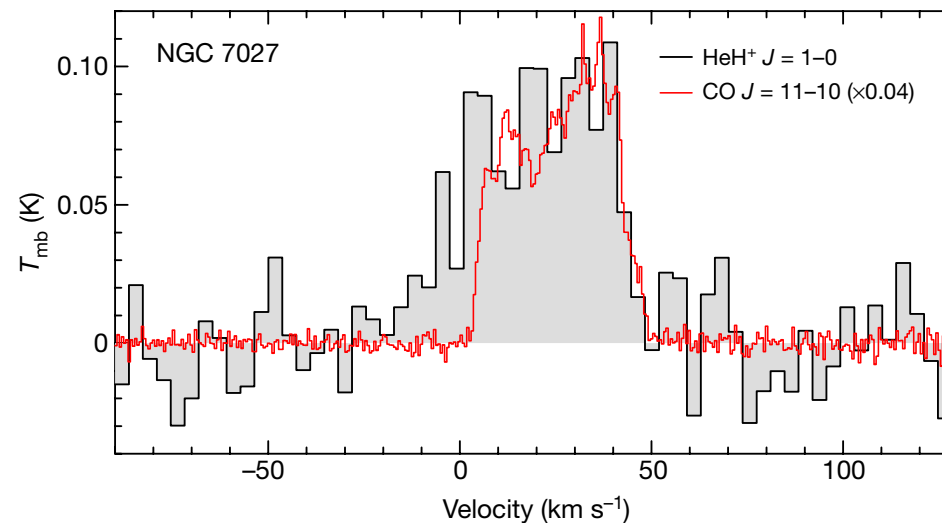
Chemistry starts at $z \simeq 1000$



Astrophysical detection of the helium hydride ion HeH^+

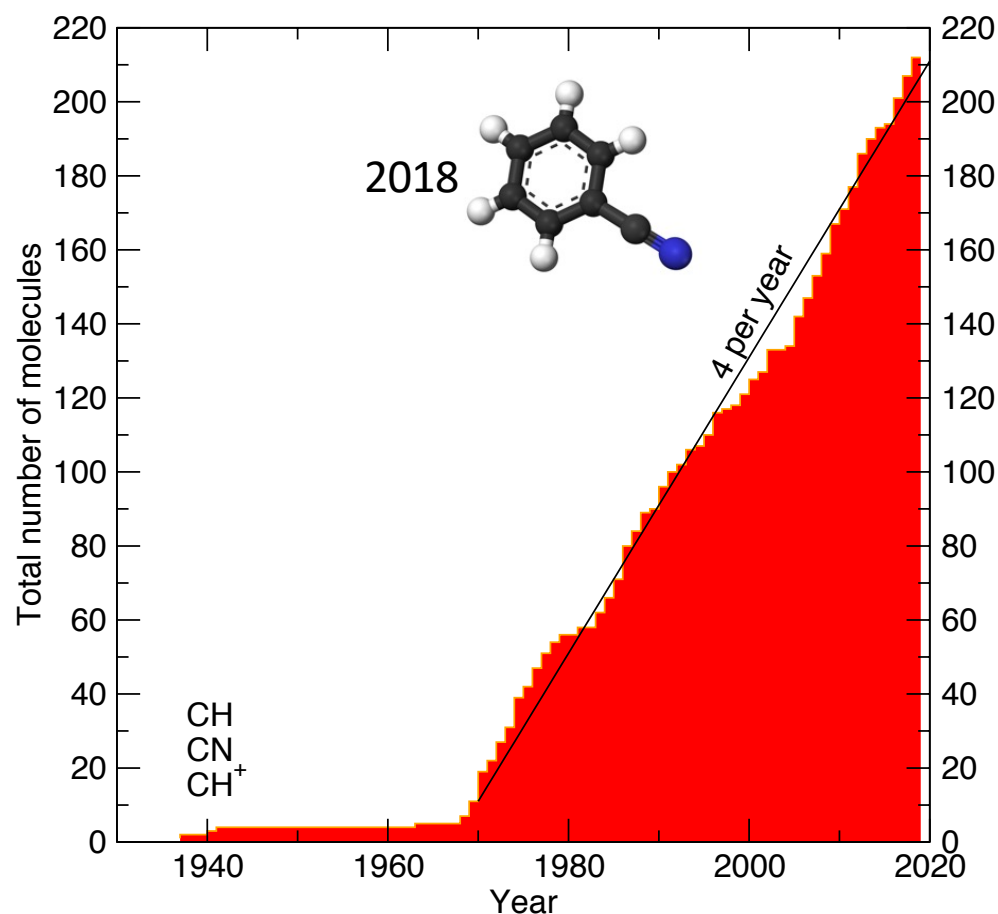
Rolf Güsten^{1*}, Helmut Wiesemeyer¹, David Neufeld², Karl M. Menten¹, Urs U. Graf³, Karl Jacobs³, Bernd Klein^{1,4}, Oliver Ricken¹, Christophe Risacher^{1,5} & Jürgen Stutzki³

HeH^+ @149.1 μm towards NGC 7027

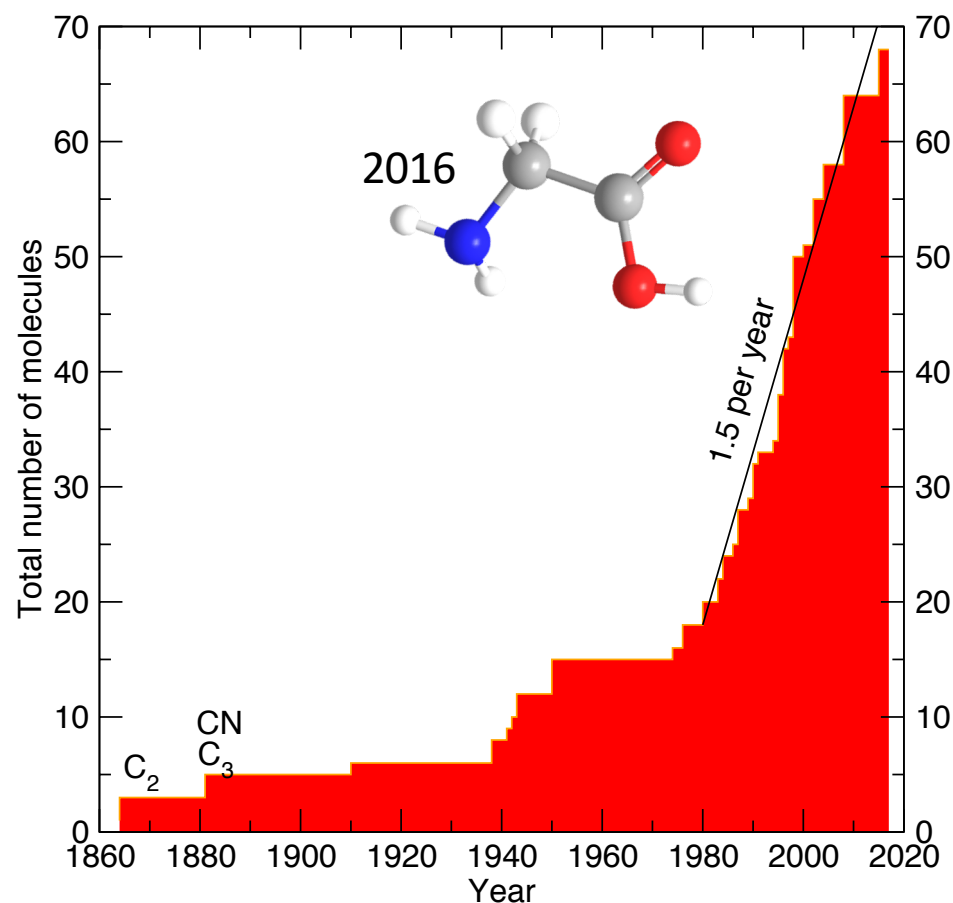


Astrochemistry: 50 years of discoveries

ISM



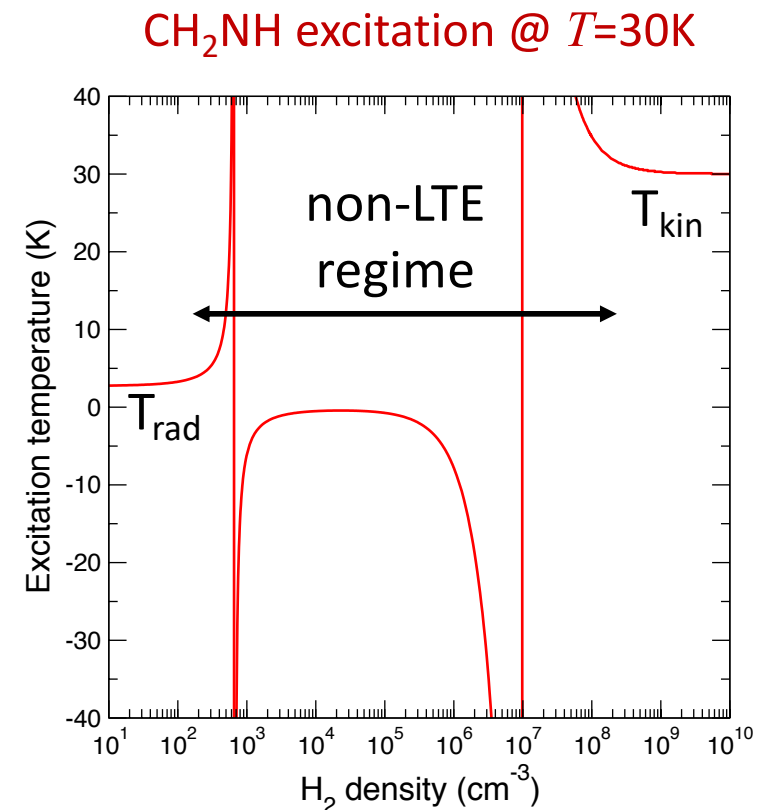
Comets



Source: <http://www.astrochymist.org/>

Non-local-thermodynamic-equilibrium (non-LTE)

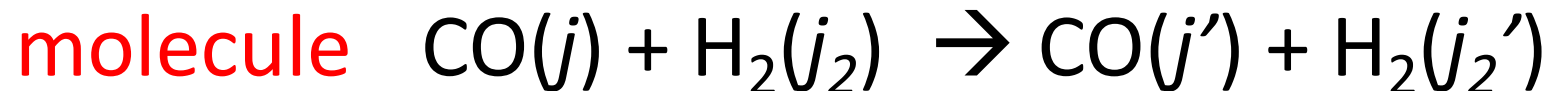
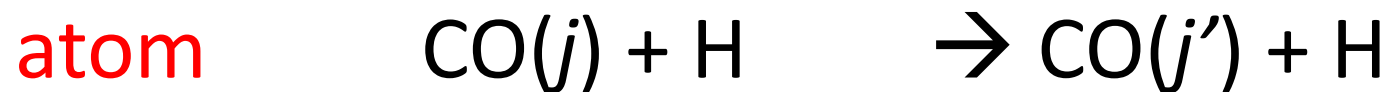
- Pressure in the ISM are very low ($< 10^{-10}$ mbar)
- Inelastic collisions are insufficient to maintain LTE
- Deviations from LTE, e.g. **masers**, are natural in space



Collisional data

- Interpreting a spectra requires to solve:
 - the radiative transfer
 - the statistical equilibrium
- Molecular data:
 - energies of levels
 - radiative rates (s^{-1})
 - collisional rate coefficients (cm^3s^{-1})

Colliding **partners** in the ISM



Rotational **energy transfer**

- Cross sections and rate coefficients
 - heavy particles $\sigma \sim 10 \text{ \AA}^2$ $k \sim 3 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 - electrons $\sigma \sim 3000 \text{ \AA}^2$ $k \sim 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$
- Collision timescales ($\ll$ chemistry in general)
 - heavy particles $t \sim 1 \text{ week}$ (dense ISM)
 - electrons $t \sim 1 \text{ year}$ (diffuse ISM)

I. COLLISIONAL EXCITATION

Methods

- **Scattering theory**
 - Electronic Schrödinger equation (CCSD(T)/CBS)
 - Nuclei dynamics
 - Quantum close-coupling method
 - Classical, mixed quantum/classical or statistical methods
 - Loreau, Lique, Faure *ApJL* (2018)
- **Experiment**
 - Crossed molecular beams (relative cross sections)
 - Double resonance (absolute rate coefficients)
 - Raman spectroscopy
 - Pressure broadening

Experimental breakthrough

PRL **109**, 023201 (2012)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending
13 JULY 2012

Appearance of Low Energy Resonances in CO–*Para*-H₂ Inelastic Collisions

Simon Chefdeville,^{1,2} Thierry Stoecklin,^{1,2} Astrid Bergeat,^{1,2} Kevin M. Hickson,^{1,2}
Christian Naulin,^{1,2} and Michel Costes^{1,2,*}

¹*Université de Bordeaux, Institut des Sciences Moléculaires, F-33400 Talence, France*

²*CNRS, UMR 5255, F-33400 Talence, France*

(Received 24 April 2012; published 11 July 2012)

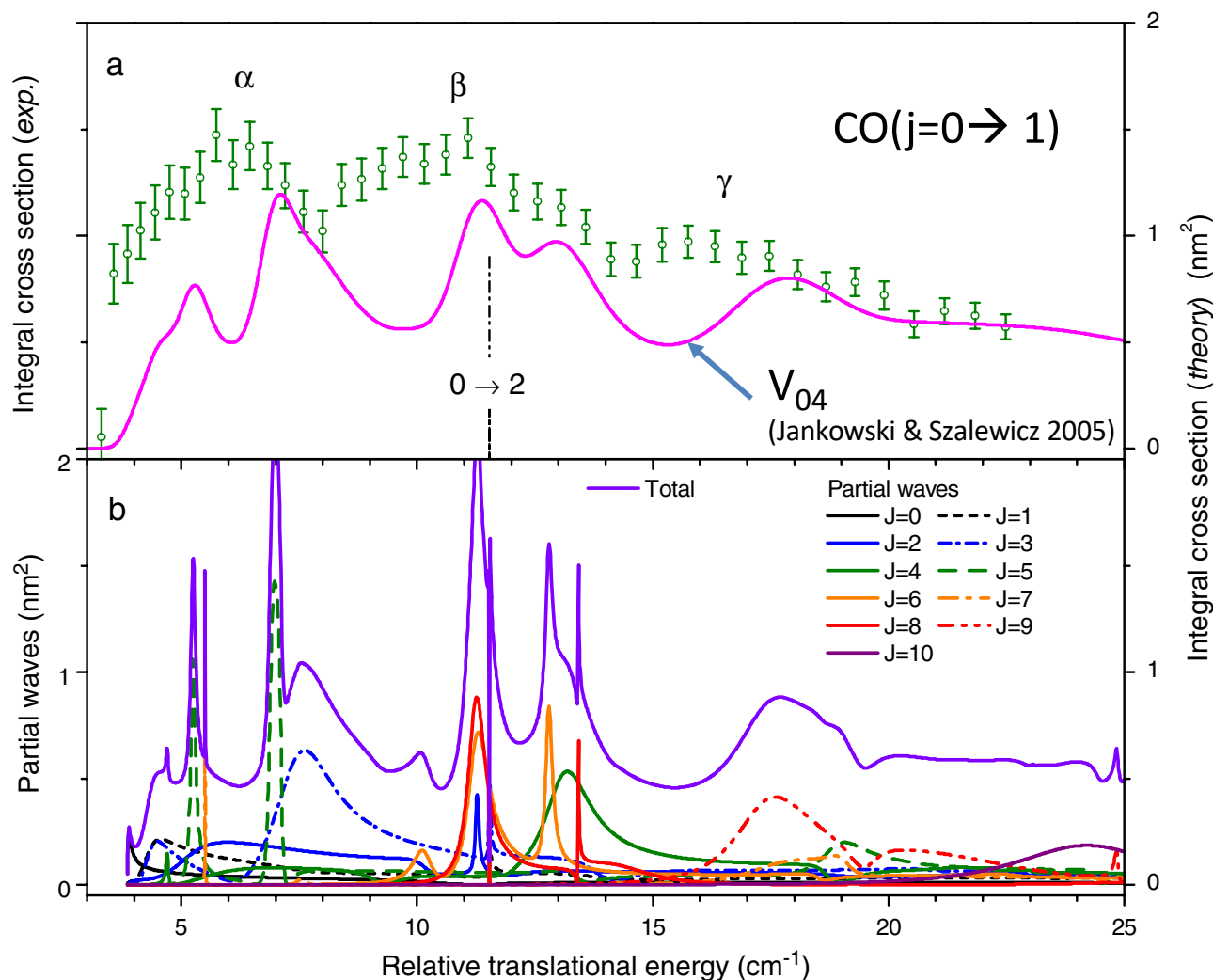
We report on crossed-beam experiments and quantum-mechanical calculations performed on the CO($j = 0$) + H₂($j = 0$) → CO($j = 1$) + H₂($j = 0$) system. The experimental cross sections determined in the threshold region of the CO($j = 0 \rightarrow j = 1$) transition at 3.85 cm^{−1} show resonance structures in good qualitative agreement with the theoretical ones. These results suggest that the potential energy surface which describes the CO-H₂ van der Waals interaction should be reinvestigated for good quantitative agreement.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.109.023201](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.109.023201)

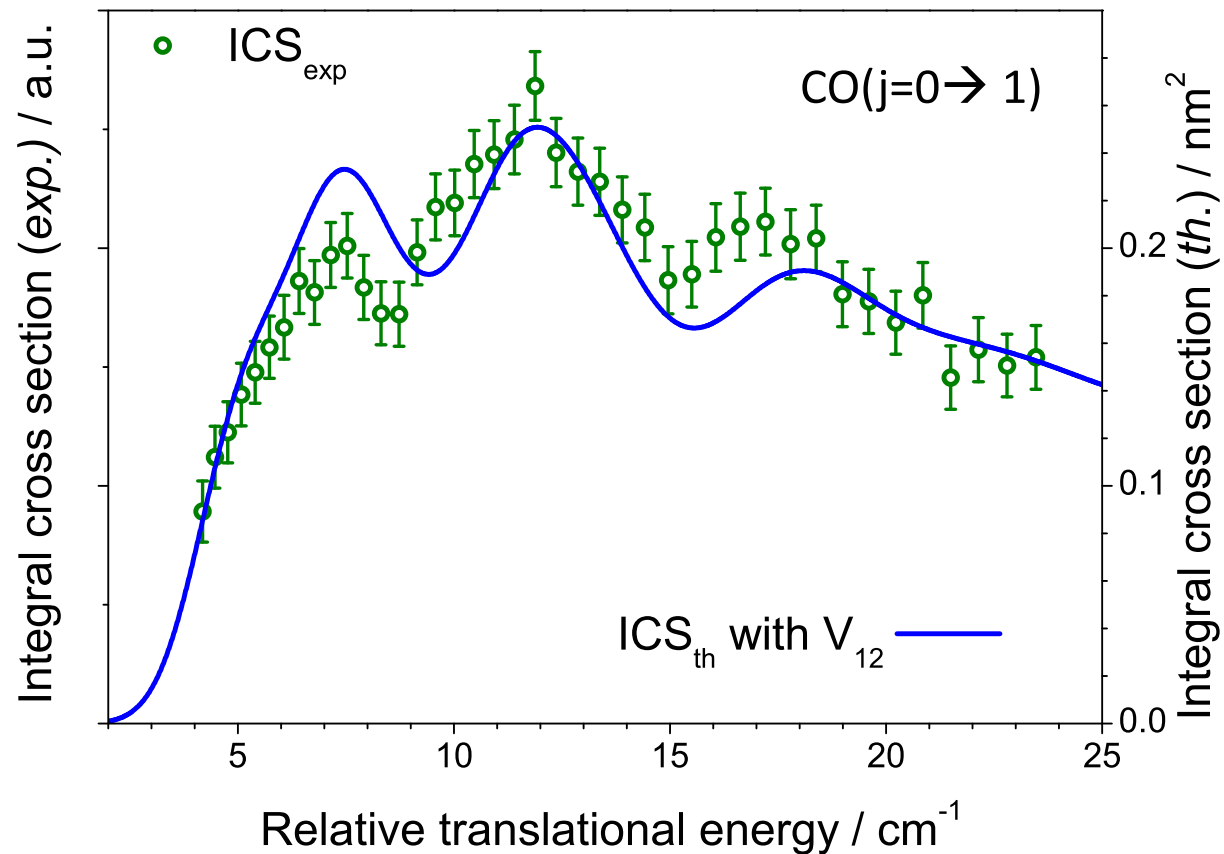
PACS numbers: 34.50.Ez, 34.10.+x, 37.20.+j

‘The PES [...] should be reinvestigated for good quantitative agreement’

Chefdeville et al. *PRL* (2012)



Revised results (2015)

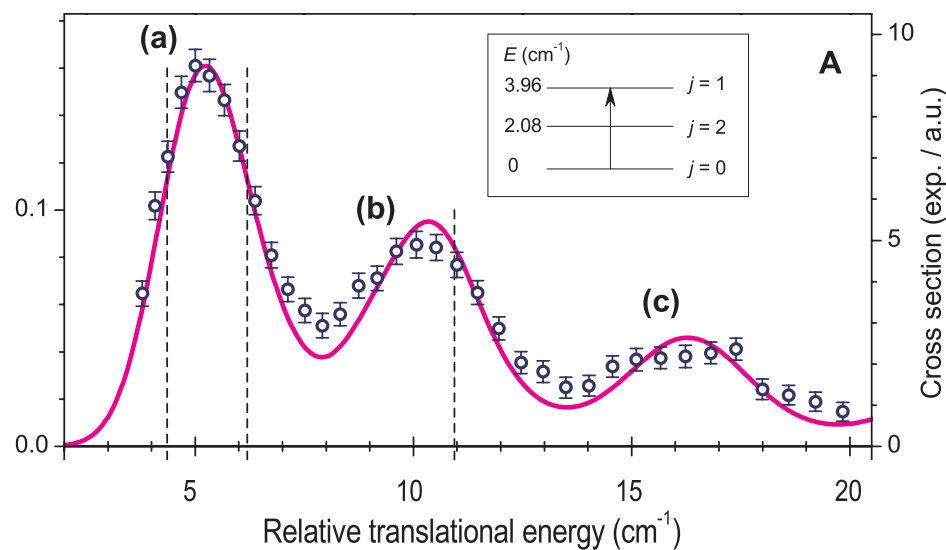


Chefdeville et al. *ApJL* (2015)

Other results: oxygen and water

$\text{O}_2 (1_0 \rightarrow 1_1)$ by pH_2

$\text{D}_2\text{O} (0_{00} \rightarrow 2_{02})$ by pH_2



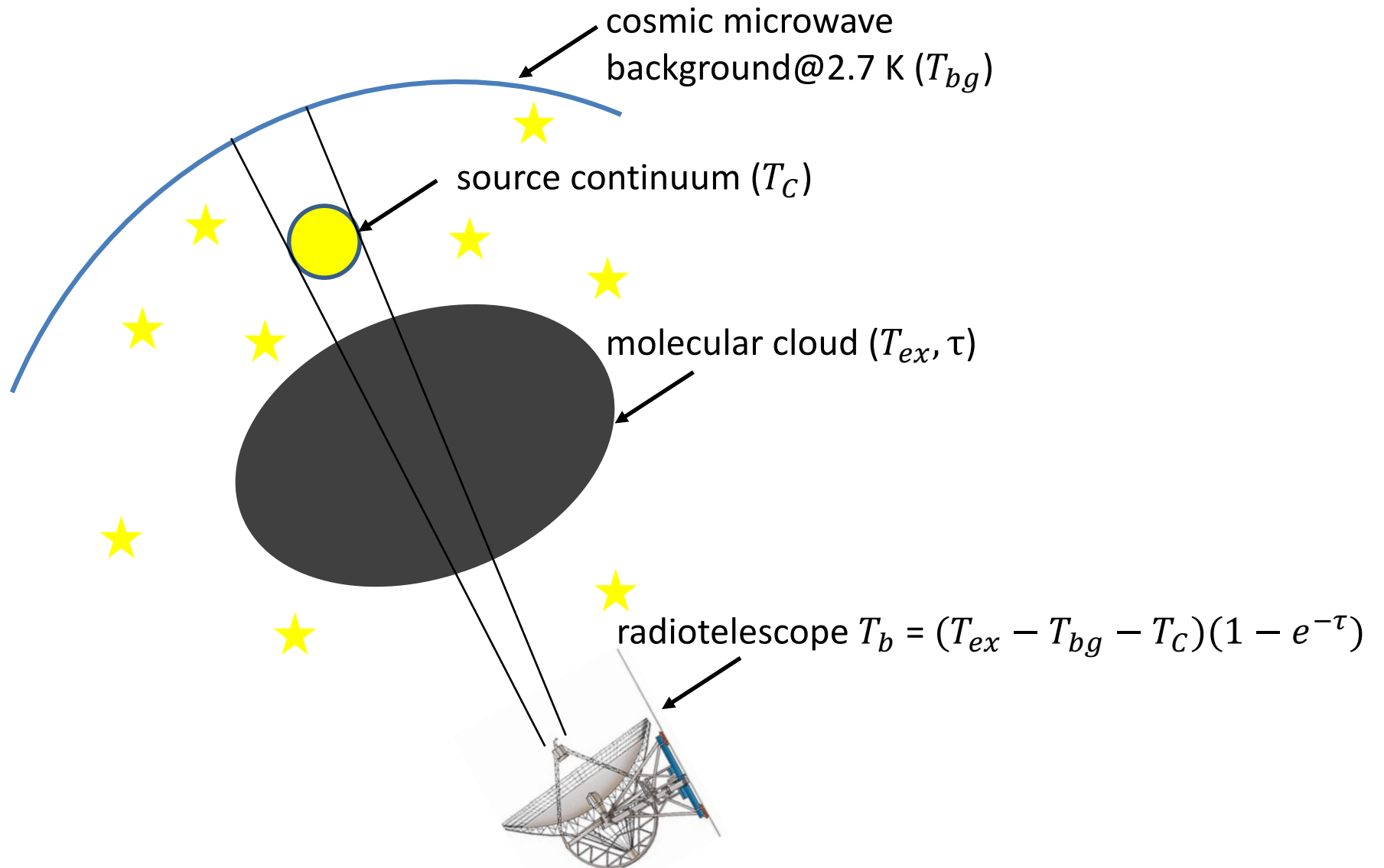
Chefdeville et al., *Science* (2013)

Bergeat et al., in prep.

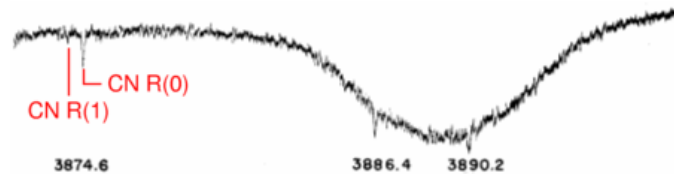
CO-H₂ @ CRESU (5-20 K)

II. MOLECULAR DIAGNOSTICS

Molecules as probes



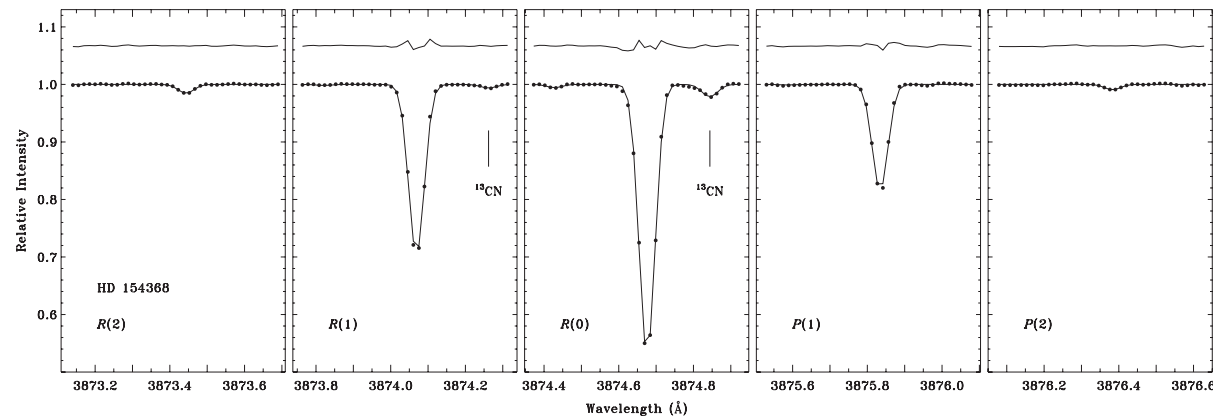
CN absorption in diffuse clouds



MWO, McKellar (1940)

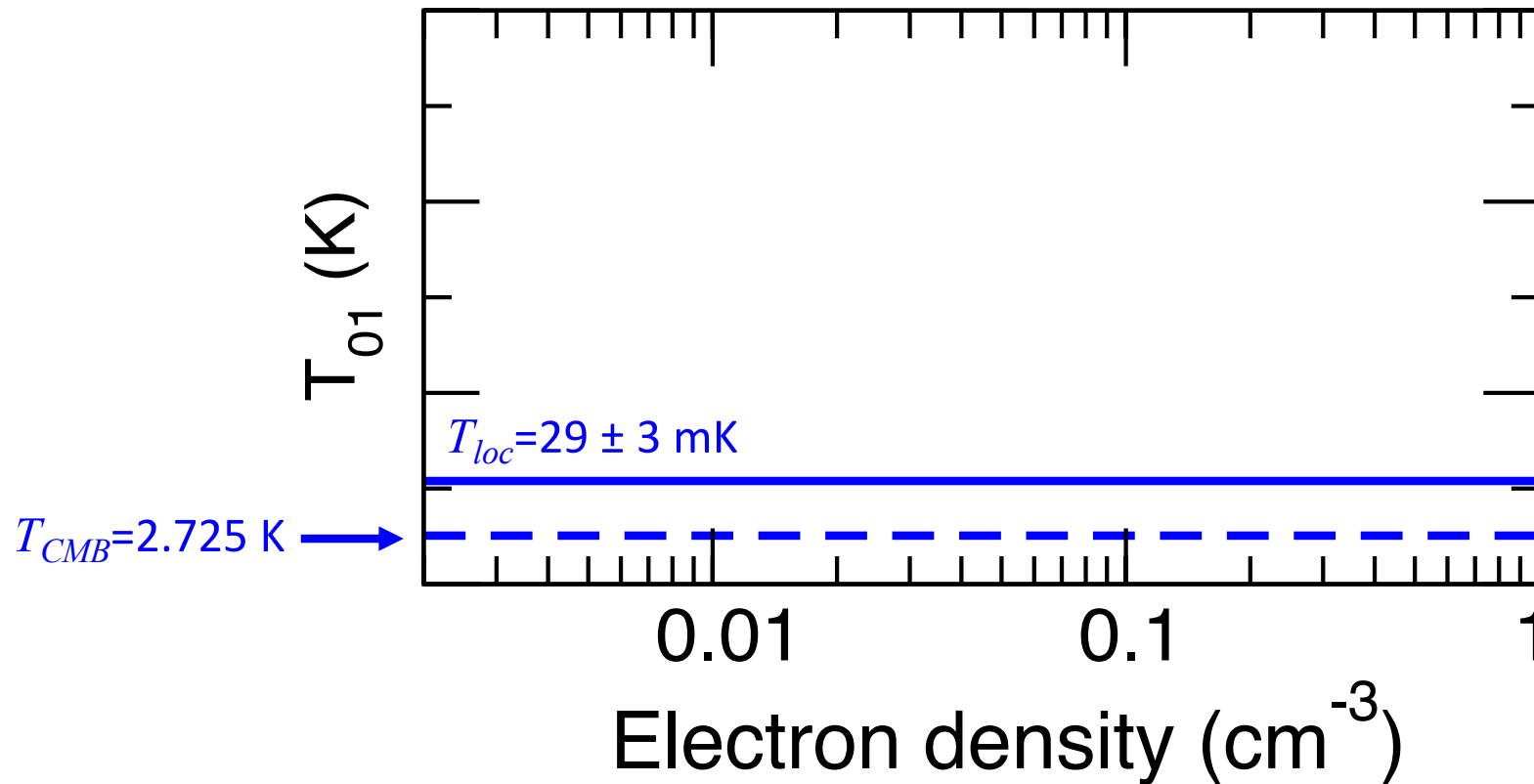
*'From the intensity of the lines [of CN] a rotational temperature of 2.3K follows, which has of course only a **restricted meaning**.'*

G. Herzberg (1950)

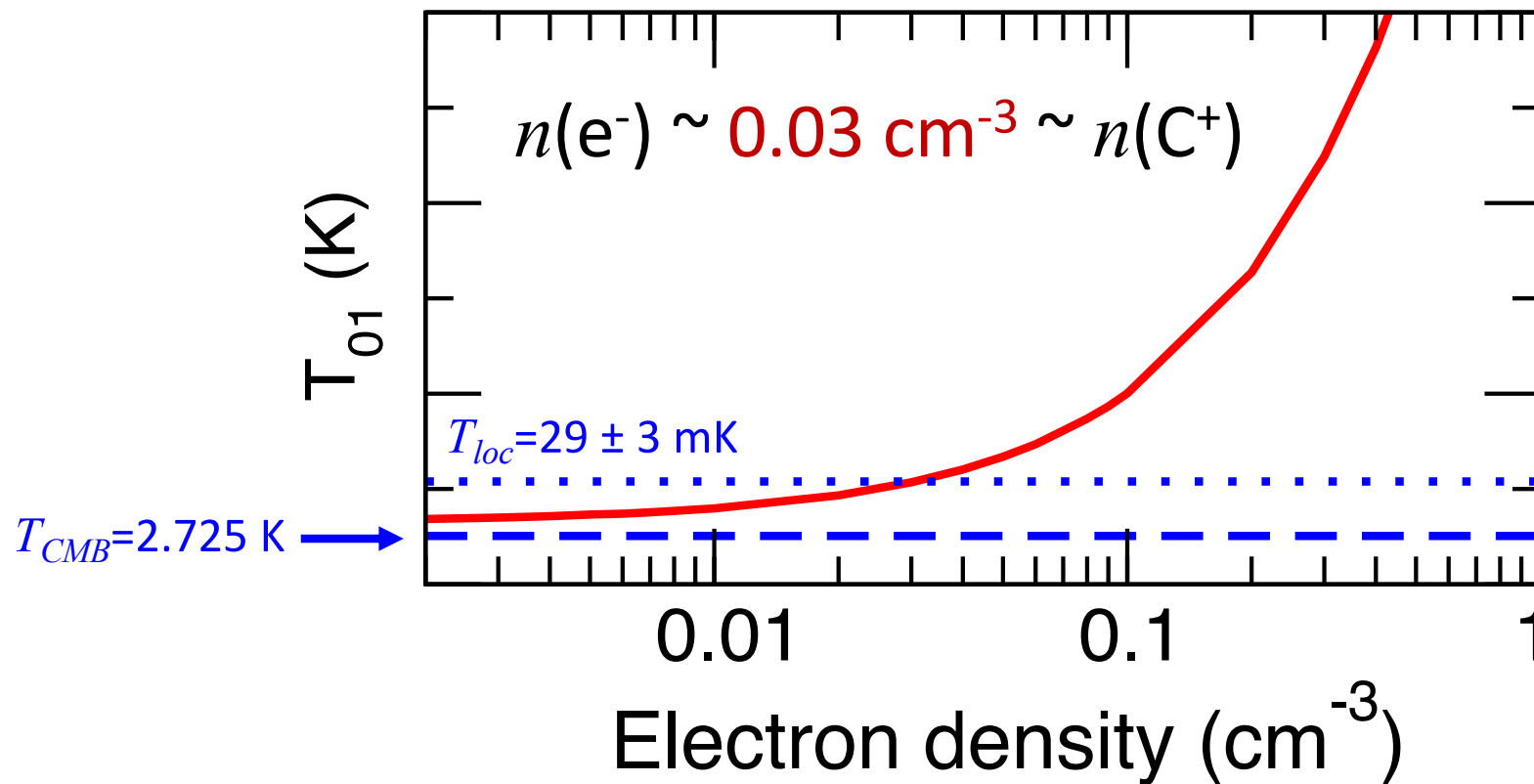


VLT, Ritchey et al. (2011)

CN as a probe of electron density

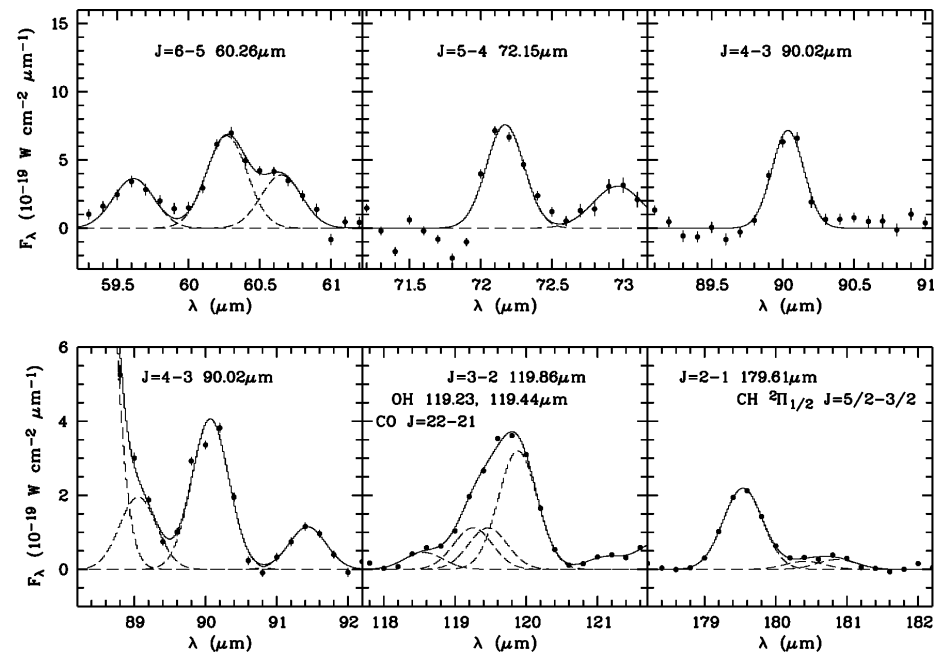


CN as a probe of electron density



CH⁺ emission in Photon Dominated Regions

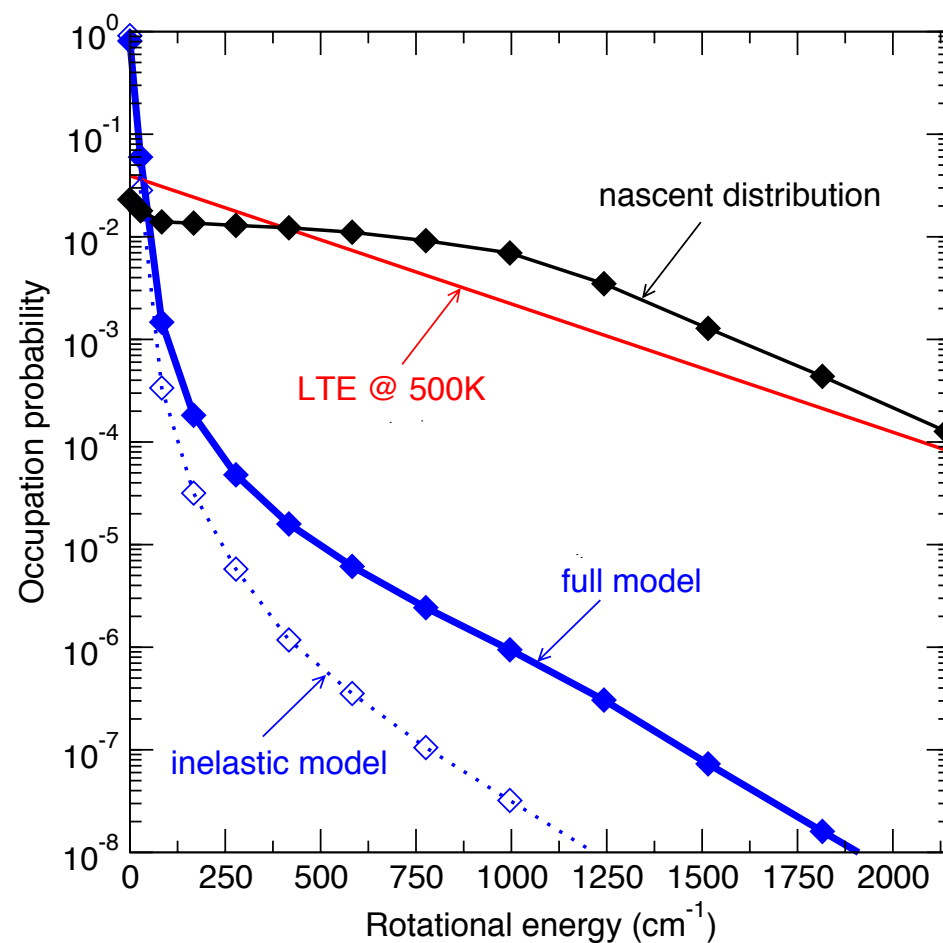
- CH⁺ ubiquity is an enigma:
 - C⁺ + H₂ endothermic (4620 K)
 - CH⁺ is destroyed by H, H₂, e⁻
- In PDR, the UV field can provide a reservoir of rovibrationally excited H₂



Cernicharo et al. *ApJ* (1997)
[here toward NGC 7027]

Need for **state-to-state** chemistry

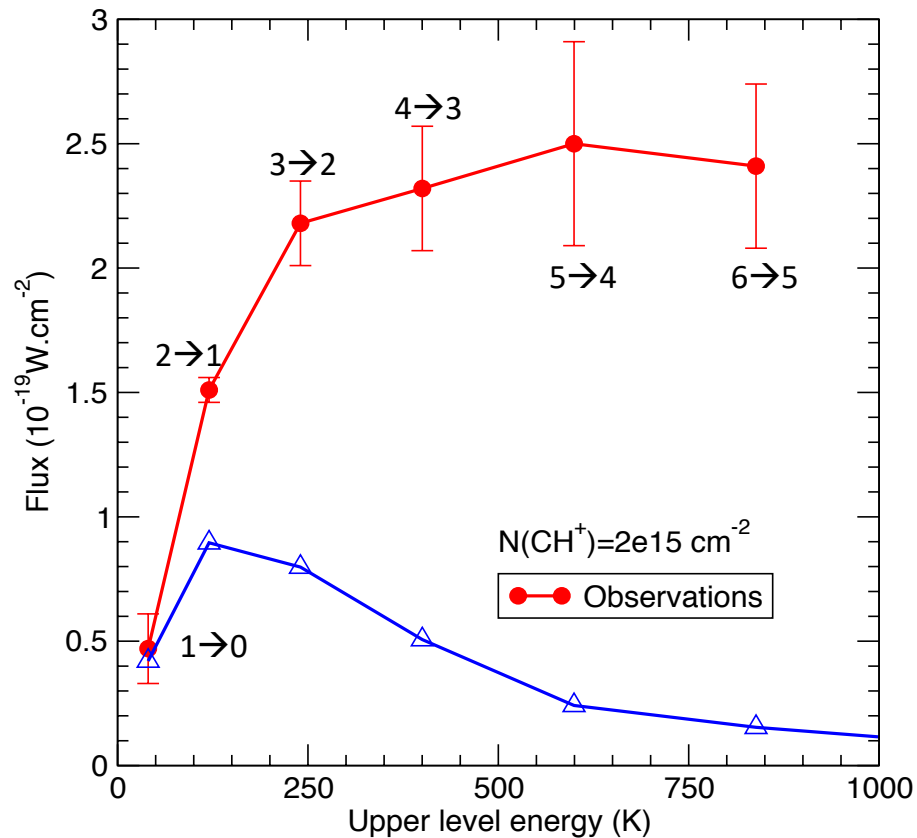
- « Chemical » pumping is crucial for **short-lived** i.e. reactive species
- State-resolved data from quantum and quasi-classical calculations



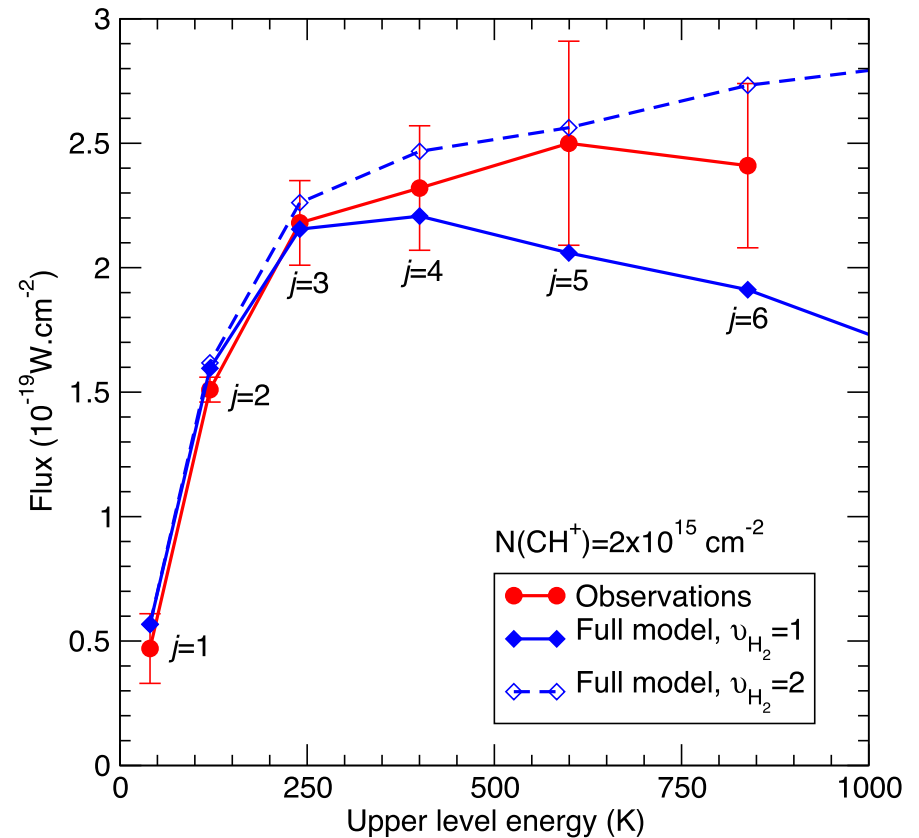
Faure et al. *MNRAS* (2017)

CH⁺ as a tracer of H₂($v>0$)

Inelastic model



Reactive model



Faure et al. *MNRAS* (2017)

Methanimine (CH_2NH) in the galactic center

Astrophysical Letters, 1973, Vol. 13, pp. 119–121

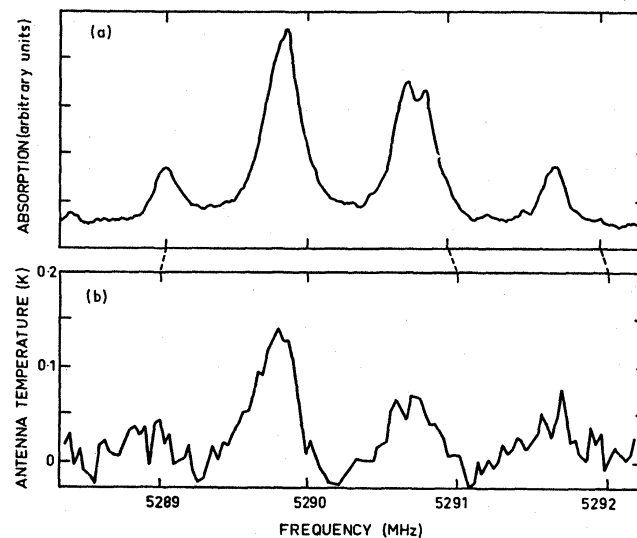
© Gordon and Breach, Science Publishers Ltd. Printed in Glasgow, Scotland

Discovery of Interstellar Methanimine (Formaldimine†)

P. D. GODFREY and R. D. BROWN *Department of Chemistry, Monash University, Melbourne, Australia*

B. J. ROBINSON and M. W. SINCLAIR *Division of Radiophysics, CSIRO, Sydney, Australia*

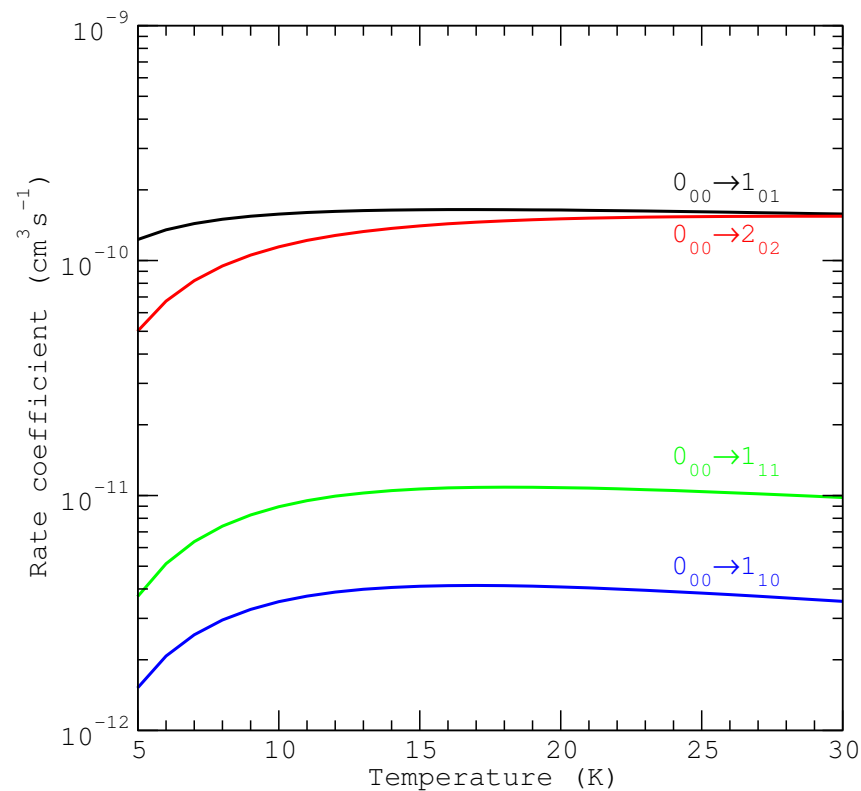
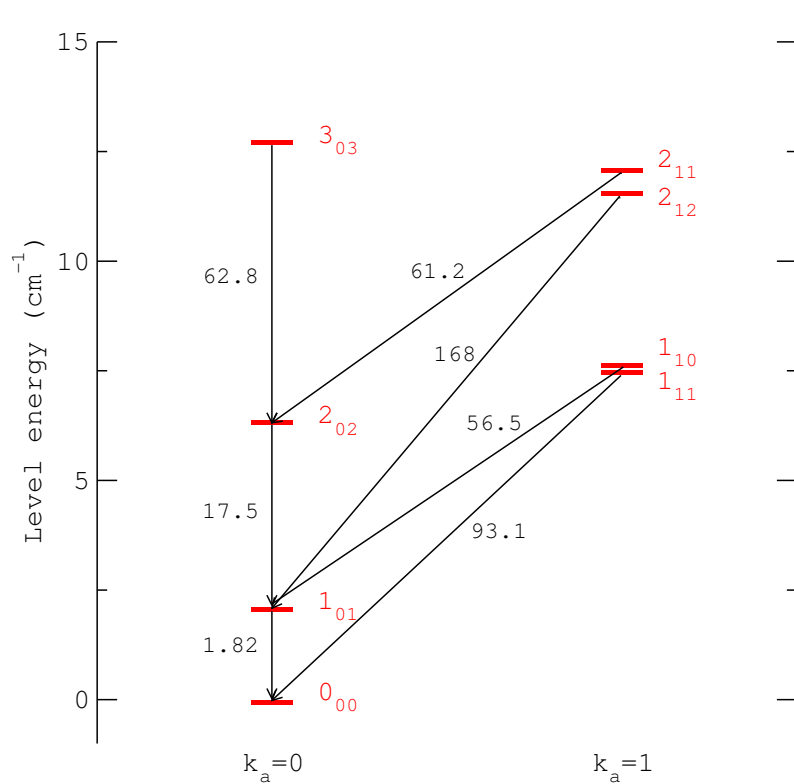
The $1_{10}-1_{11}$ transition of methanimine $\text{H}_2\text{C}=\text{NH}$ has been detected in emission in the spectrum of Sagittarius B2 with the Parkes 64-m telescope. The frequencies of the observed multiplet, near 5.290 GHz, agree well with the multiplet detected in the laboratory, if a radial velocity of $63 \pm 2 \text{ km sec}^{-1}$ is adopted for the Sgr B2 emission.



Laboratory

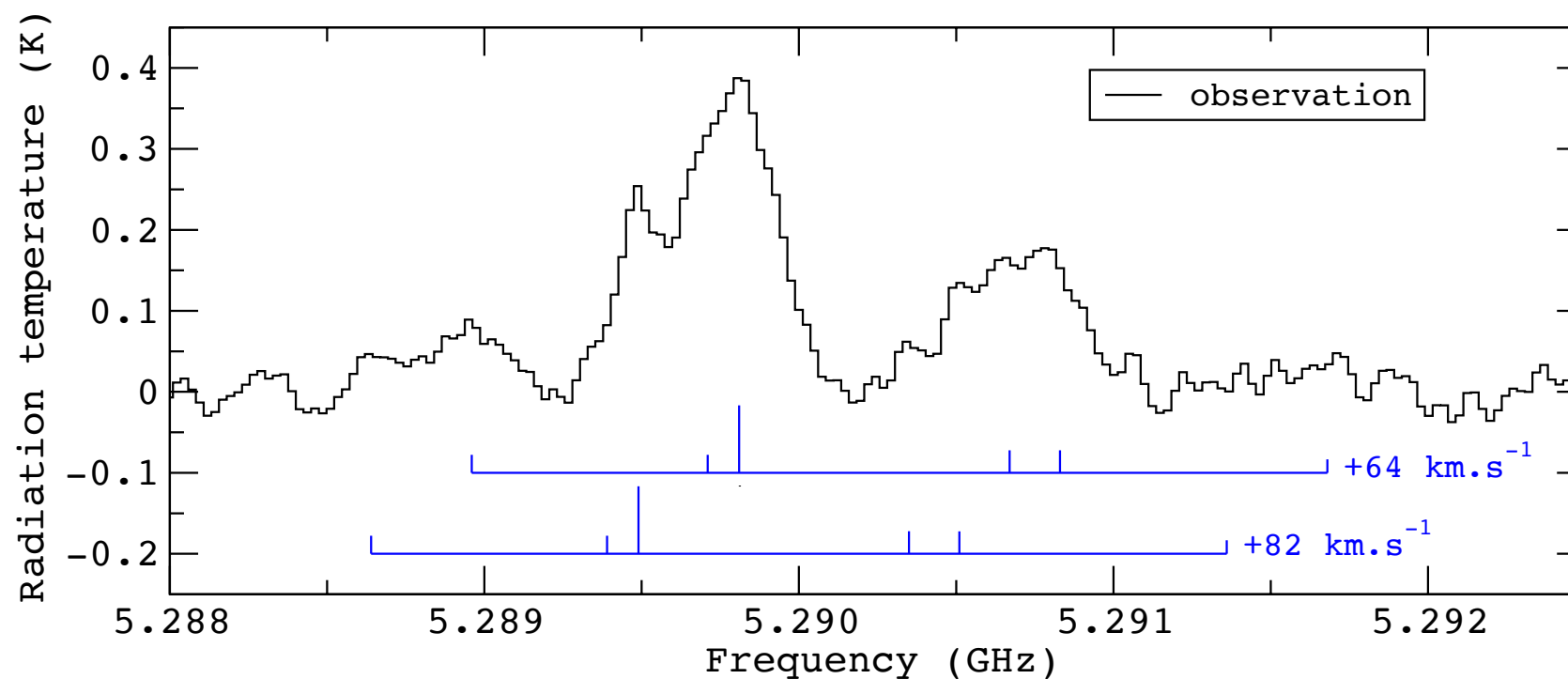
Observation

CH₂NH selection / propensity rules



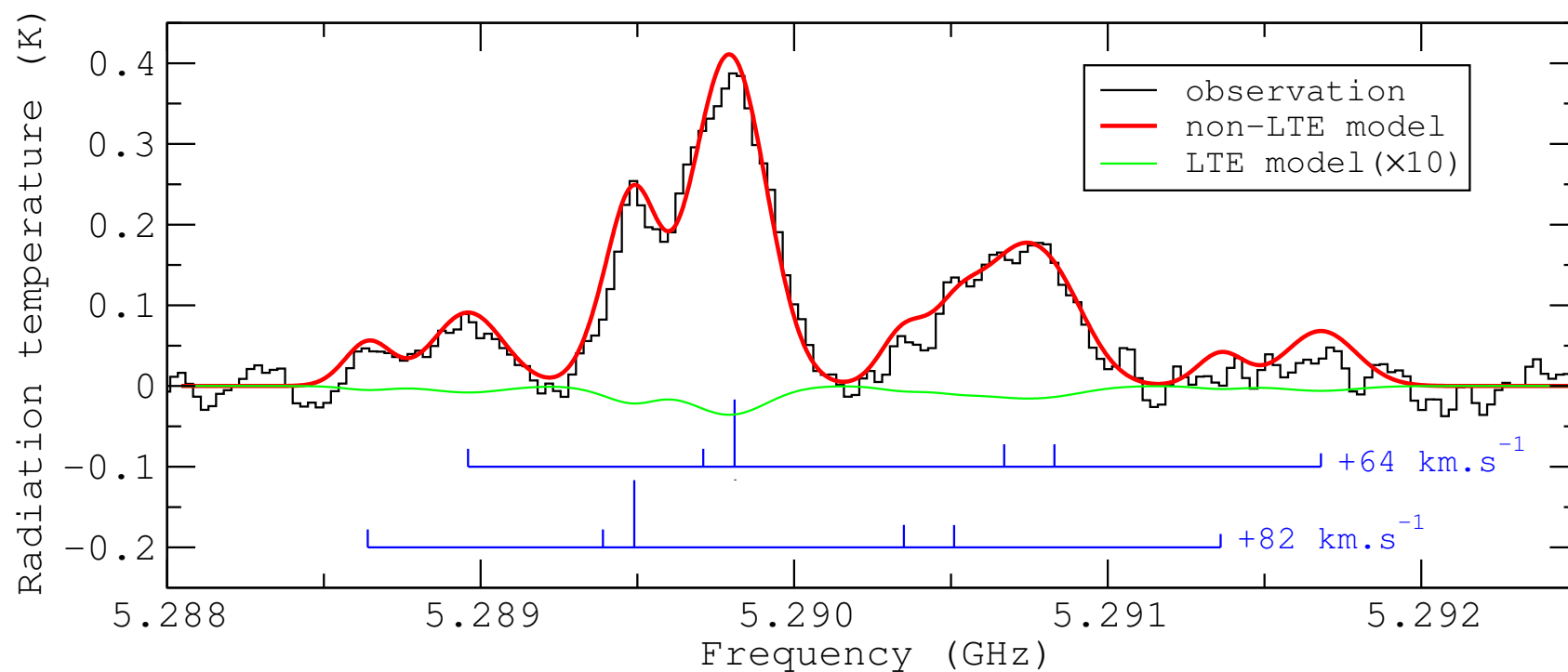
Faure et al. *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* (2018)

New GBT observations



Faure et al. *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* (2018)

CH₂NH probes a cold dilute gas ($T \sim 30\text{K}$, $n \sim 10^4\text{ cm}^{-3}$)



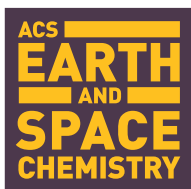
Faure et al. *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* (2018)

CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions

- Interaction potentials have now reached a high level of refinement
- Collision data are no longer a limiting factor in the modelling of non-LTE spectra
- Strongly non-LTE situations offer new diagnostics, e.g. masers → SKA

Current / future works



(April 2019)

Article

Cite This: *ACS Earth Space Chem.* XXXX, XXX, XXX–XXX

<http://pubs.acs.org/journal/aescq>

Interaction of Chiral Propylene Oxide ($\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_2\text{O}$) with Helium: Potential Energy Surface and Scattering Calculations

Alexandre Faure,^{*,†,‡} Paul J. Dagdigian,[‡] Claire Rist,[†] Richard Dawes,^{§,||} Ernesto Quintas-Sánchez,^{§,||} François Lique,^{||} and Majdi Hochlaf[⊥]

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[§]Department of Chemistry, Missouri University of Science and Technology, Rolla, Missouri 65409, United States

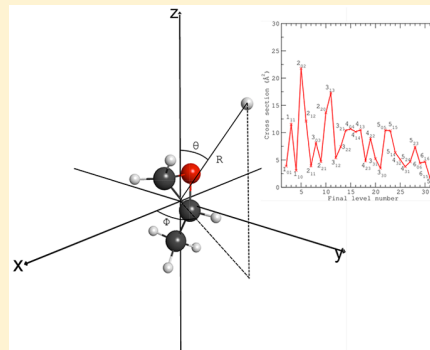
^{||}Laboratoire Ondes et Milieux Complexes (LOMC), UMR 6294, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)–Université du Havre, 25 Rue Philippe Lebon, BP 1123, 76 063 Le Havre Cedex, France

[⊥]Université Paris-Est, Laboratoire Modélisation et Simulation Multi Echelle (MSME), UMR 8208, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), 5 Boulevard Descartes, 77454 Marne-la-Vallée, France

Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The first chiral interstellar organic molecule, propylene oxide ($\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_2\text{O}$), was detected recently toward the galactic center. Accurate determination of its abundance relies on the knowledge of collisional cross sections. We investigate here the rotational excitation of propylene oxide induced by collisions with helium. The calculations are based on a three-dimensional $\text{CH}_3\text{CHCH}_2\text{O}\text{--He}$ potential energy surface computed using the explicitly correlated coupled-cluster theory extended to the complete basis set limit [CCSD(T)-F12b/CBS]. The interaction energies are fitted using an interpolating moving least squares method, and this potential is refitted using a partial wave expansion based on spherical harmonics. Rotational cross sections are obtained at the quantum close-coupling level for a collision energy of 10 cm^{-1} . Convergence issues and collisional propensity rules are discussed.

KEYWORDS: astrochemistry, organic molecules, chirality, energy transfer, quantum scattering



Current / future works

- Organics
 - Nitriles, HC_2NC , HC_5N , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{CN}$
 - Ro-vibration (HCN , HC_3N) → JWST
- Reactive ions
 - OH^+ , SH^+ , H_2O^+ (ERC COLLEXISM PI Lique)
- H_2O -molecule
 - H_2O -CO, see Loreau et al. *J Chem Phys* (2018)

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- A. Bacmann, P. Hily-Blant Grenoble
- F. Lique, I. Schneider Le Havre
- J. Tennyson London
- O. Roncero, A. Zanchet Madrid
- K. Szalewicz Newark
- L. Wiesenfeld Orsay
- H. Labiad, S. Le Picard, I. Sims Rennes
- P. Jankowski Torun

