

# Surface Chemistry

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Tielens, 2005, Physics and chemistry of the interstellar medium, (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK)

Tielens, 2021, Molecular Astrophysics, (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge UK)



# Building the Solar System's Organic Inventory

**CO reservoir**

gas:  
ion-molecule reactions  
cosmic-ray photolysis

**PAH reservoir**

stars:  
soot chemistry  
shock chemistry

ices:  
hydrogenation  
photolysis  
thermal polymerization  
ice-ion-molecule  
ice segregation

comets:  
energetic processing

asteroids:  
aqueous alteration

nebula :  
UV & X ray photolysis  
radical reactions  
hydrocarbon chemistry  
Fischer-Tropsch  
shocks, intermittent  
accretion, diffusion

hot core:  
ice evaporation  
ion-molecule reactions

*Tielens 2011*



# Building the Solar System's Organic Inventory

## Take Home Message

**Gas-grain interaction is at the core of  
molecular cloud chemistry**

CO reservoir

PAH reservoir

gas:  
ion-molecule reactions  
cosmic-ray photolysis

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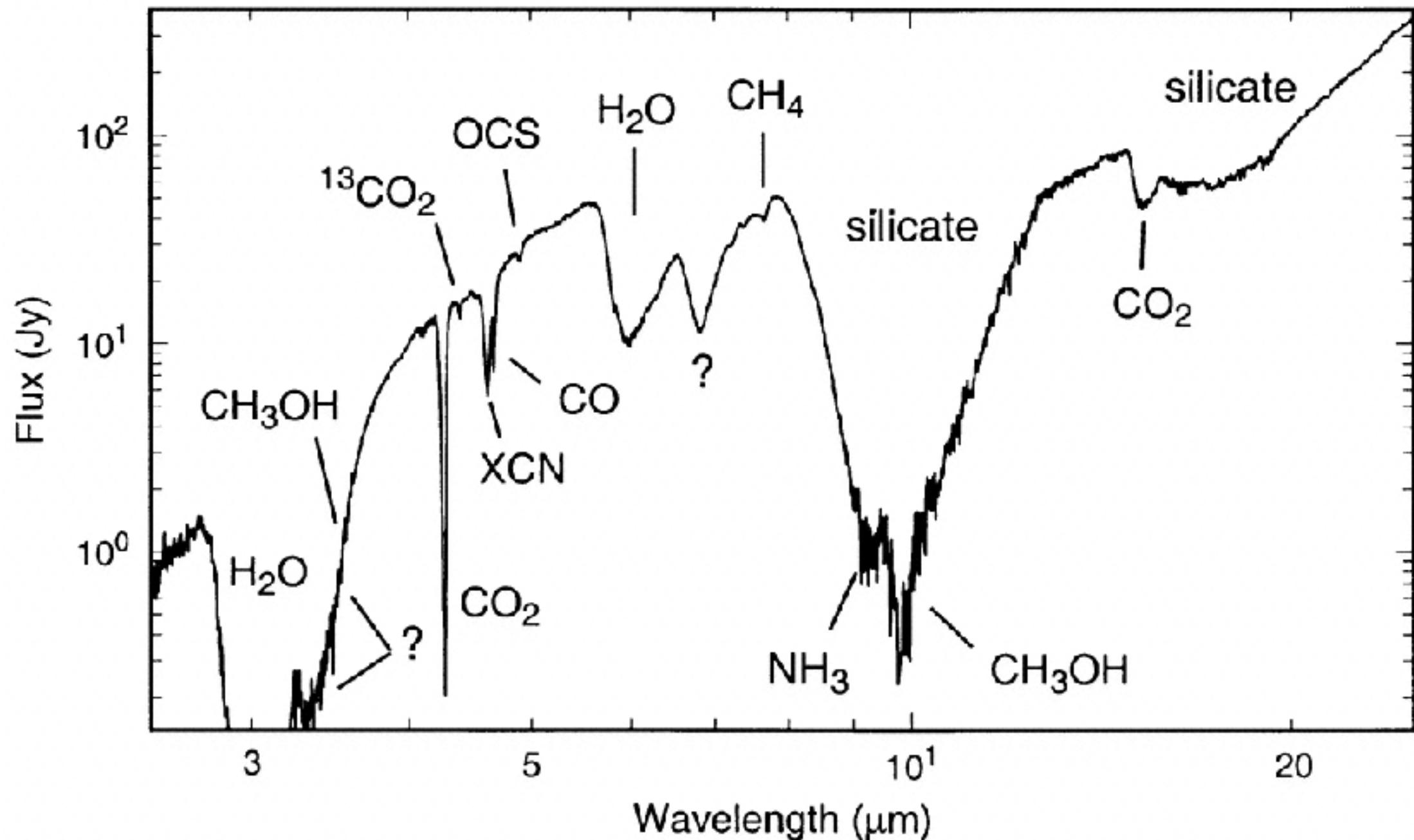
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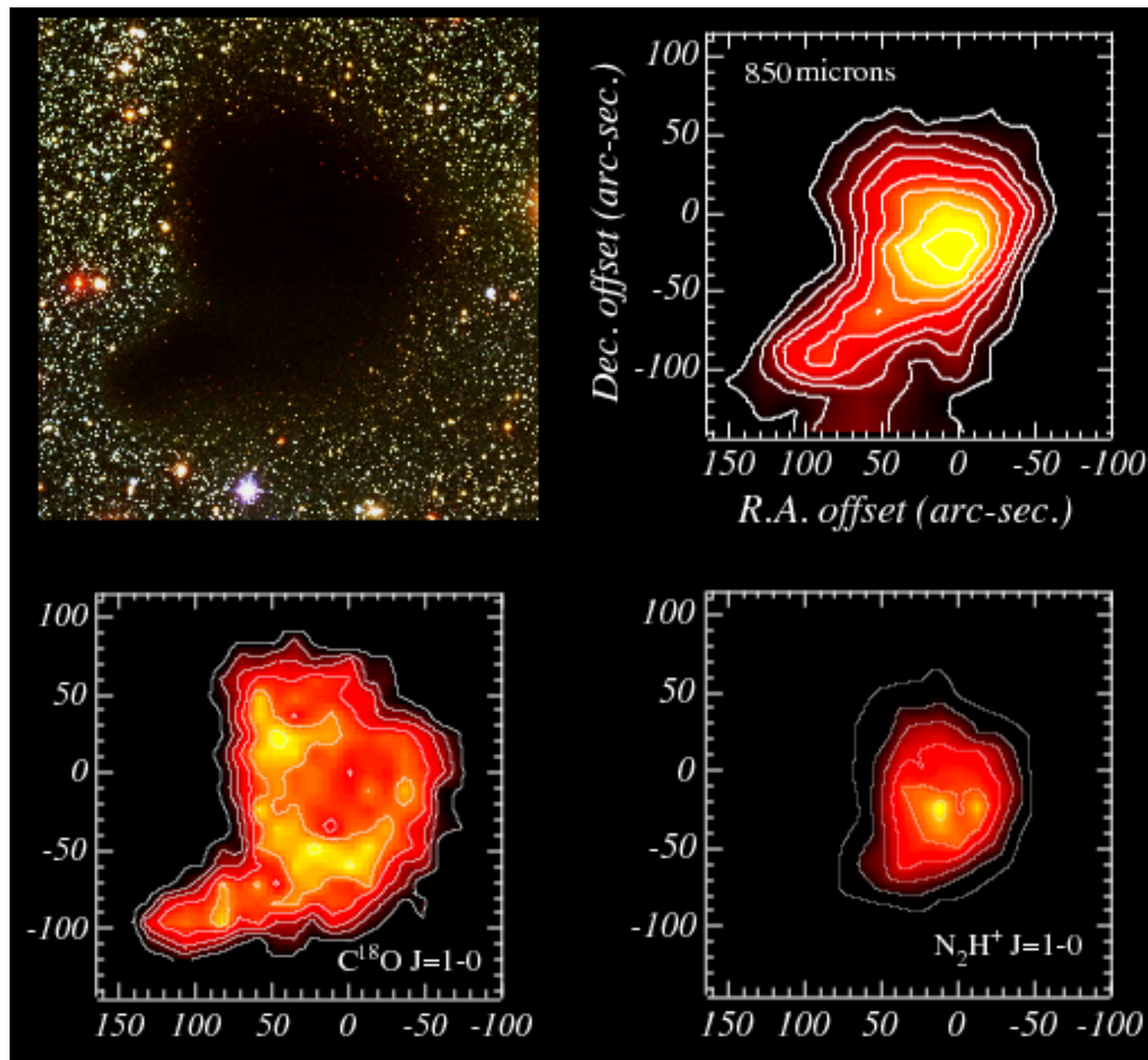
# The Role of Dust



Ice as (cold) repository of material



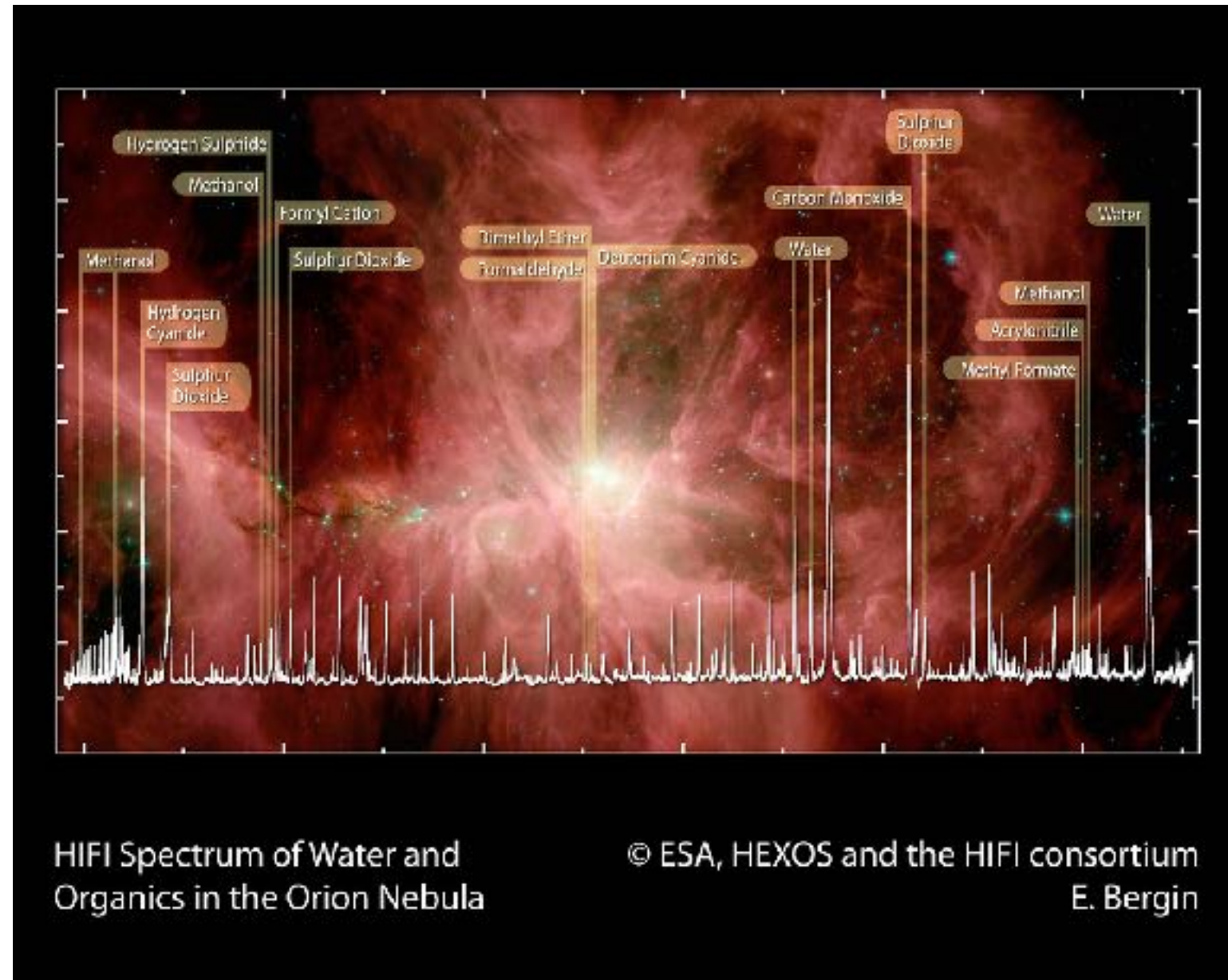
# Gas Phase Depletion



Depletion of many species in the densest cores

# Simple Organic Molecules (“SOM”)

- Warm dense gas with rich organic inventory of relatively simple organic molecules
  - $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OCH}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ ,  $\text{HCOOH}$ ,  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHO}$ , ...
  - $\text{HCN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CN}$ , ...
- **Large deuterium fractionations**
- Driven by evaporation of ice mantles formed in cold phase



Blake et al, 1987,ApJ, 315, 621  
Ceccarelli et al, 2007, PPV, 47  
Bergin et al 2010,A&A, 521, L20

Species	NGC 7538 IRS 9	W33A	Hale–Bopp comet
H <sub>2</sub> O	100	100	100
CO (total)	10	1	23
CO (polar)	3	0.7	
CO (apolar)	7	0.3	
CO <sub>2</sub>	16	3	6
CO <sub>2</sub> (polar)	9	1	
CO <sub>2</sub> (annealed)	7	2	
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	9	10	2
H <sub>2</sub> CO	3	2	1
HCOOH	2	0.5	0.1
NH <sub>3</sub>	10	4	0.7
CH <sub>4</sub>	1	0.4	0.6
OCS	0.1	0.05	0.4
OCN <sup>-</sup>	0.8	1	

<sup>a</sup> Relative to H<sub>2</sub>O = 100. Adopted H<sub>2</sub>O column densities are 10<sup>19</sup> and 4 × 10<sup>19</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup> for the massive protostars, NGC 7538 IRS 9 and W33A.

Composition of interstellar ices  
Very different from the gas phase !



# Grain Surface Chemistry: In a Nutshell

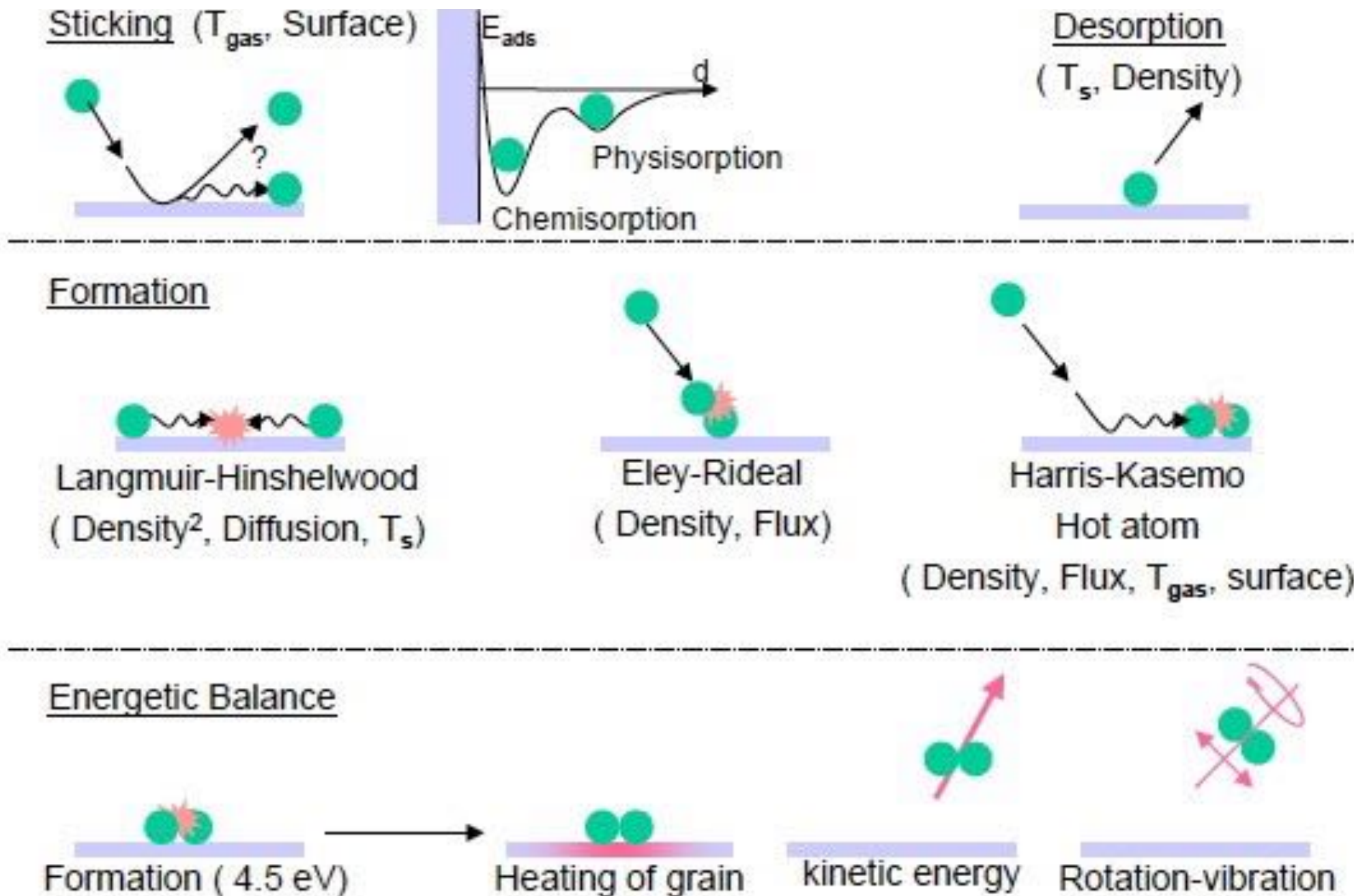
- Dust grains are the “watering holes” of astrochemistry where species come to meet and mate.
- In a way, collisions on a grain surface can take very long (up to hours or days)
- Tunneling is key to hydrogenation (and deuteration)
- Initial conditions play a key role
  - O goes to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  through e.g.,  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{O}_3$
  - C (e.g.,  $\text{CO}$ ) goes to  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$
  - N goes to  $\text{NH}_3$  while  $\text{N}_2$  is inert
  - S goes to  $\text{SO}/\text{SO}_2$  and CS goes to  $\text{OCS}$  (?)
  - D enrichment is driven by high D/H (gas) and high  $\text{HD}/\text{H}_2$  on the grain



# Characteristics of Interstellar Surface Chemistry

- Low pressures:  $10^{-17} - 10^{-13}$  mbar (UHV=  $10^{-9}$  mbar)
- Low temperatures: 10–100 K
- Low densities:  $10 - 10^4$  cm<sup>-3</sup>
- Silicate grains + graphitic grains (diffuse clouds)
- Ice grains (molecular clouds)
  - Sizes: 5-1000 Angstrom & surface areas:  $3 \times 10^2 - 10^8$  Å<sup>2</sup>
  - Limited # sites:  $10^2 - 10^7$

# Processes involved in Surface Chemistry





# Sticking & Binding

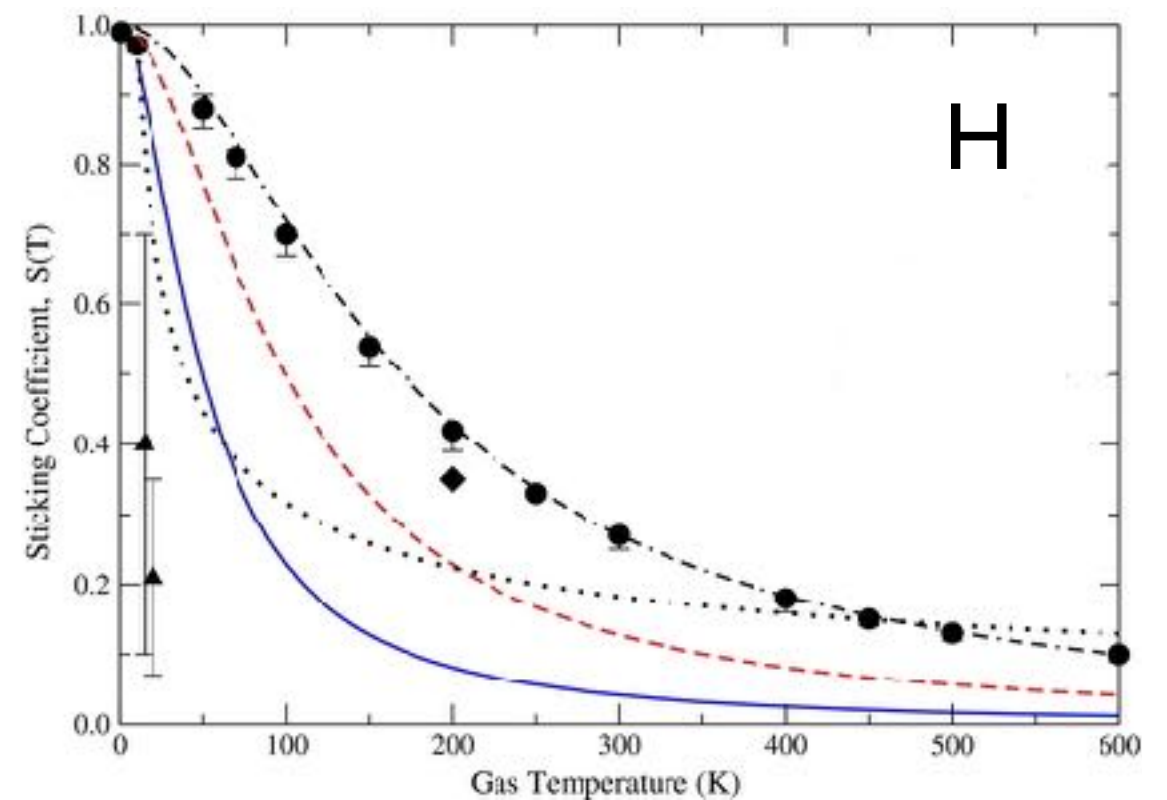
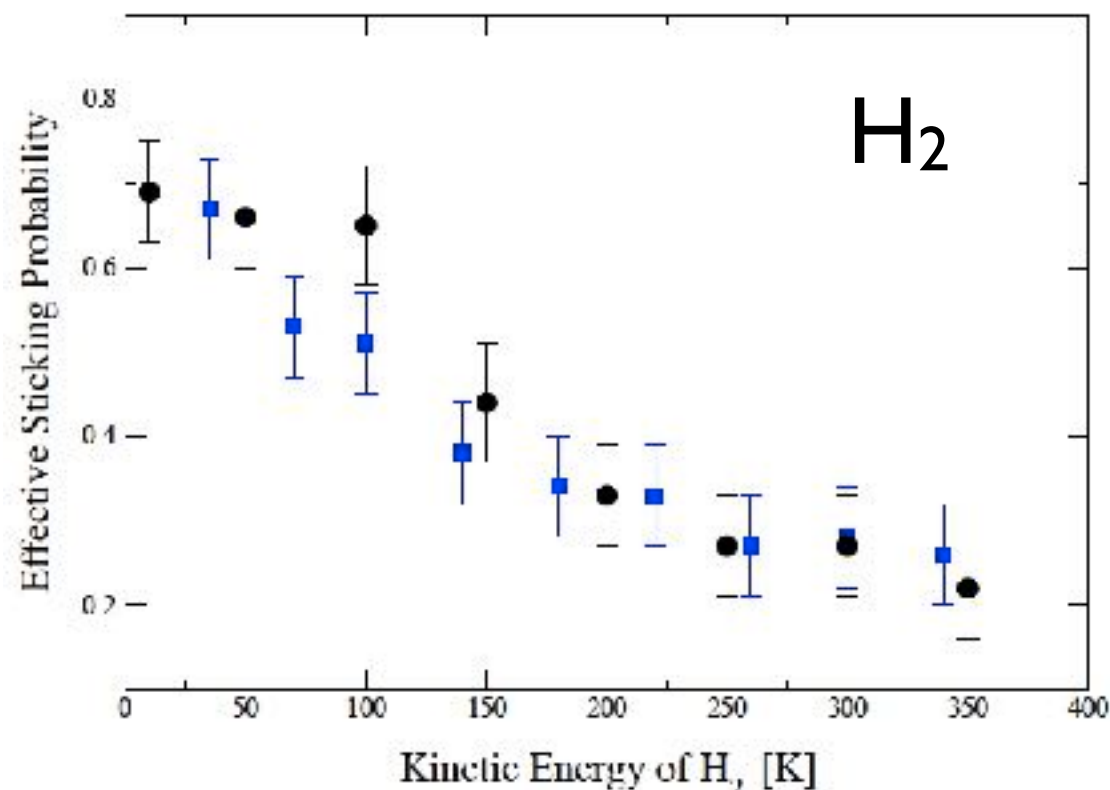
# Timescales

**Accretion timescale:** grain size,  $a$ , abundance  $X_i$ , and mass  $m_i$

$$\tau_{ac} = (\pi a^2 v_i n_i)^{-1} = 7 \left( \frac{300 \text{ \AA}}{a} \right) \left( \frac{10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n} \right) \left( \frac{10^{-4}}{X_i} \right) \left( \frac{m_i}{1 \text{ amu}} \right) \text{ days}$$



# Sticking



Have to transfer the kinetic energy,  $E_{kin}$ , to the surface atom in the collisions (hopping process). Energy transferred,  $\Delta E$ , is related to:

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E_{kin} + E_b} = \frac{4\mu}{M} \quad \text{where } \mu \text{ and } M \text{ are the reduced and total mass}$$

At 10K, sticking coefficient  $\sim 1$ , even for H/H<sub>2</sub>

# Timescales

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**Evaporation timescale:** binding energy,  $E_b$

$$\tau_{ev} = \nu_0^{-1} \exp [E_b/kT] \quad \nu_0 = 1 - 4 \times 10^{12} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

**Thermal/tunneling migration timescale:** barrier width,  $d$

$$\tau_m \simeq \nu_0^{-1} \exp [0.3E_b/kT] \quad \tau_m = \nu_0^{-1} \exp \left[ \frac{2d}{\hbar} \sqrt{E_b m_i} \right]$$



Table 7.2: Binding energies of astrophysically relevant species and surfaces<sup>a</sup>

species	$\alpha$ $10^{-24} \text{ cm}^3$	ASW <sup>b</sup> [K]	graphite [K]	silicate [K]
H	0.67	450 – 850 <sup>c</sup>	480 <sup>h</sup>	470 <sup>g</sup>
D	0.63	545 – 980	530 <sup>h</sup>	520 <sup>g</sup>
C	1.8	720 <sup>d</sup>		
N	1.1	720		
O	0.8	1300 <sup>e</sup>	1400	
H <sub>2</sub>	0.79	500 – 900 <sup>c</sup>	530 <sup>h</sup>	520 <sup>g</sup>
HD	0.79	350 – 660 <sup>c</sup>	550 <sup>h</sup>	540 <sup>g</sup>
D <sub>2</sub>	0.78	350 – 660 <sup>c</sup>	560 <sup>h</sup>	550 <sup>g</sup>
N <sub>2</sub>	1.7	1435 <sup>f</sup>		
O <sub>2</sub>	1.6	1200	1300	
O <sub>3</sub>	3.1	1800	2100	
CO	1.95	1575 <sup>f</sup>		
CO <sub>2</sub>	2.5	2500		
CH <sub>4</sub>	2.45	1480 <sup>i</sup>		
NH <sub>3</sub>	2.1	5530		
H <sub>2</sub> O	1.5	5700		
H <sub>2</sub> CO	2.8	3260		
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	3.2	5400		
HCOOH	3.3	5600		

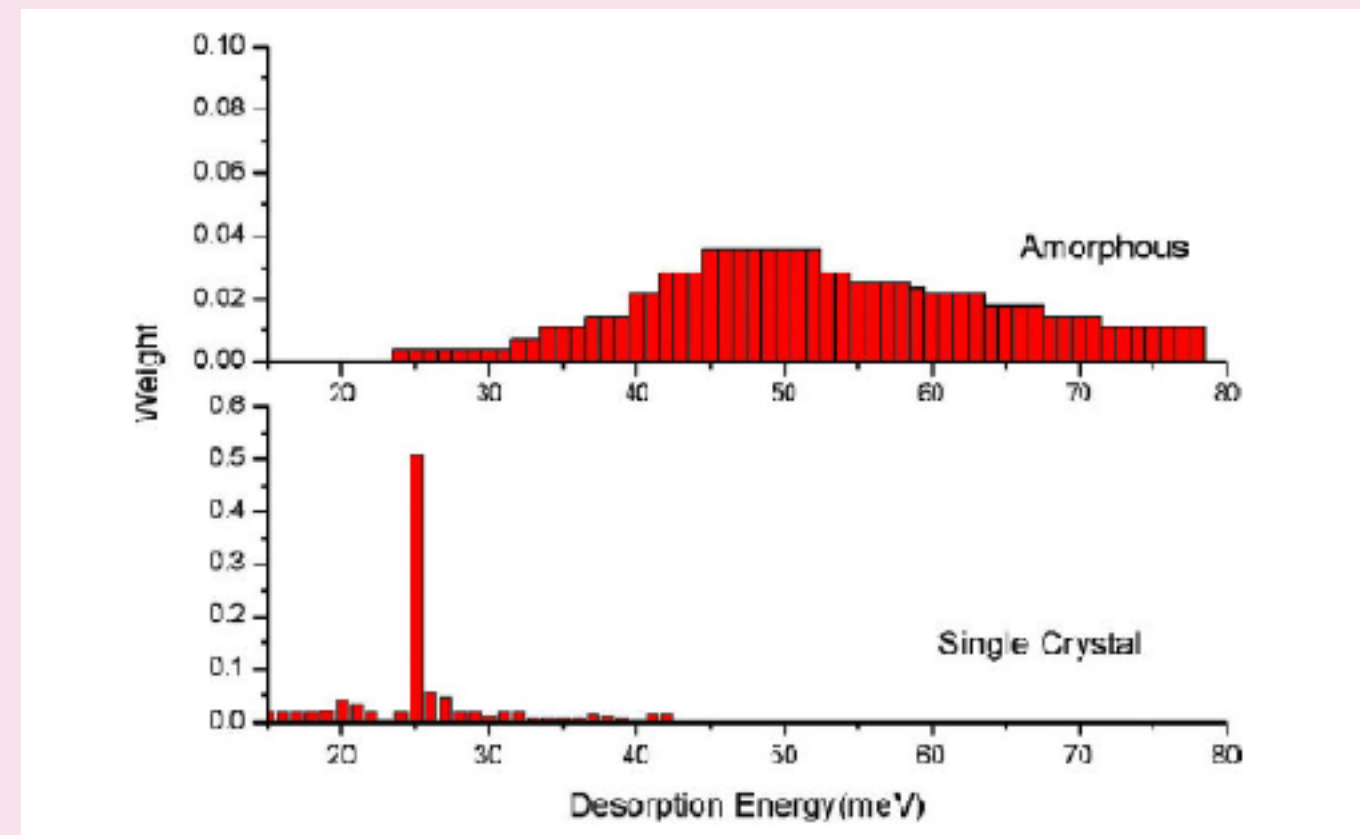
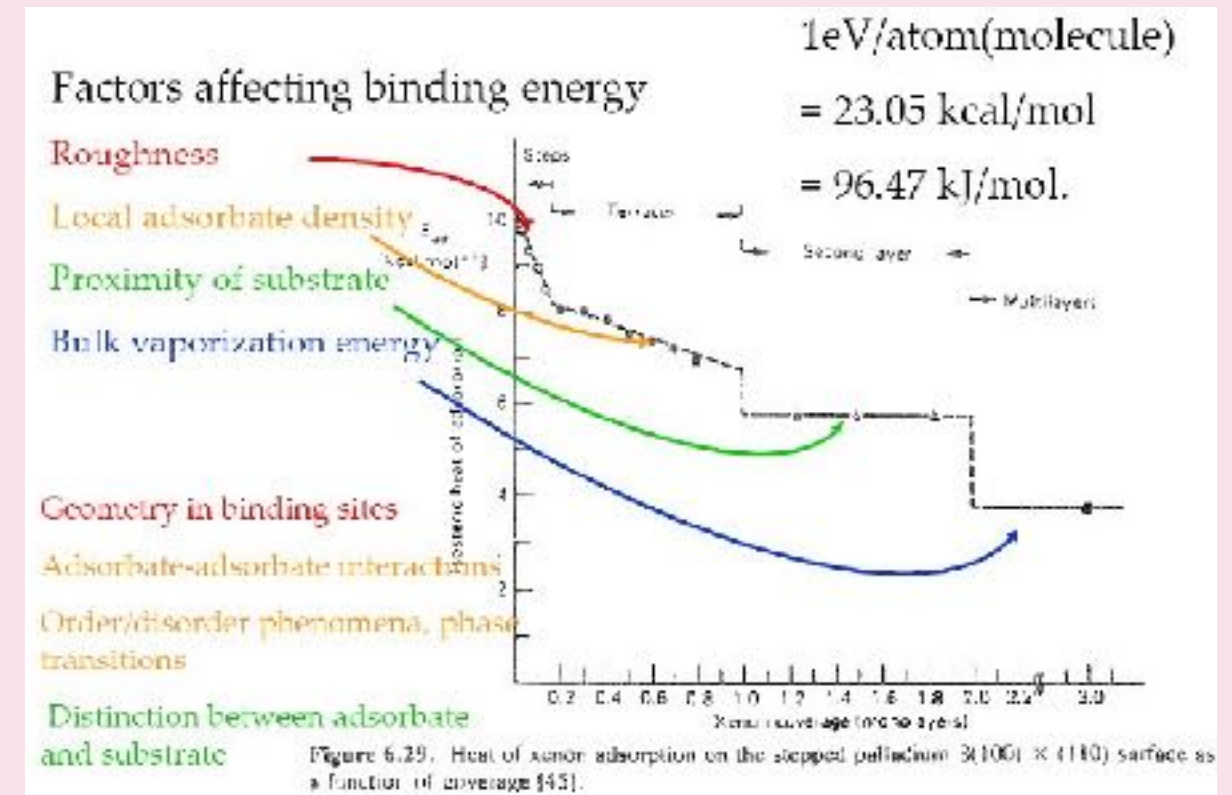
species	evaporation $\tau_{\text{ev}}$ [s]	migration $\tau_{\text{m}}$ [s]
H <sub>2</sub>	9 (6)	3 (-6)
H	4 (2)	2 (-8)
D	1 (4)	3 (-8)
O	–	2 (-1)
C	–	2 (-3)
CO	–	–

Some species are highly mobile (H, D, H<sub>2</sub>), some are sort of mobile (C, N, (O)), most are immobile (CO, OH, H<sub>2</sub>O, ... ) at low T

# Binding energy

## Factors influencing binding energy

- Disorder (distribution of binding sites)
- Steps/kinks
- Interaction with adsorbates

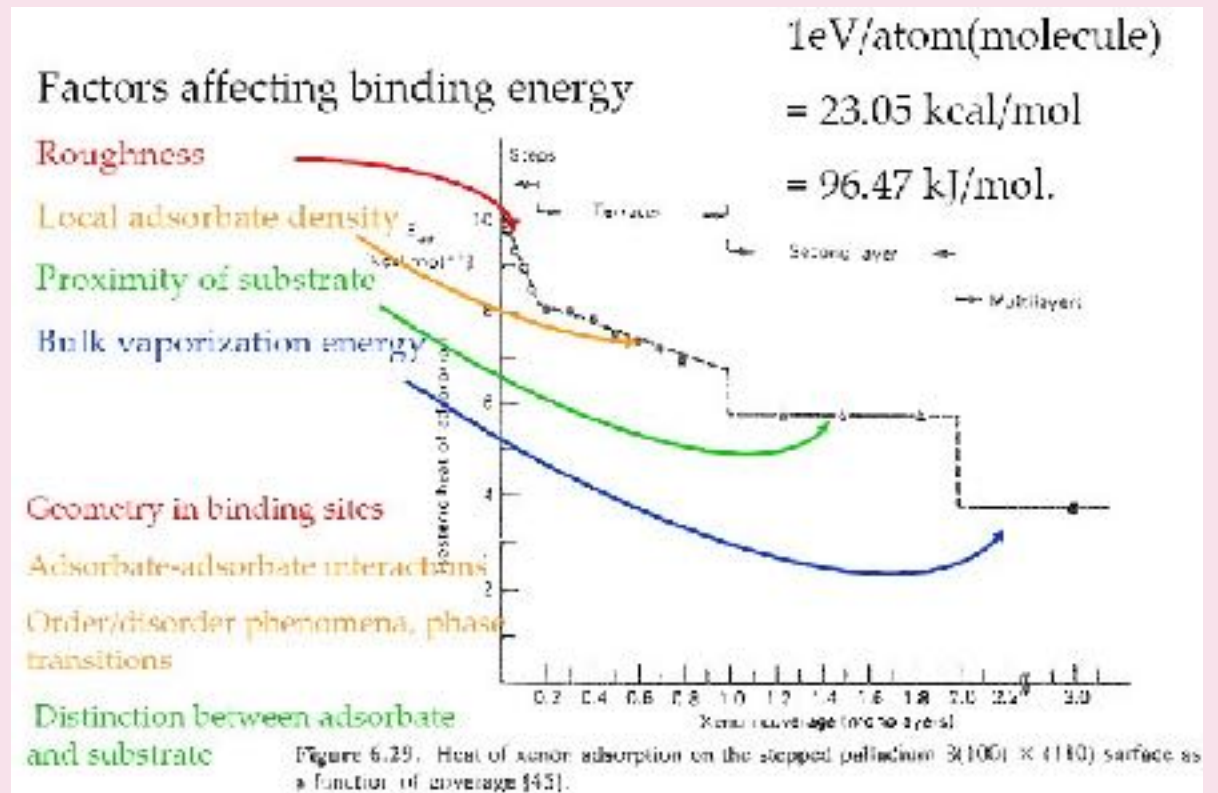




# Binding energy

## Factors influencing binding energy

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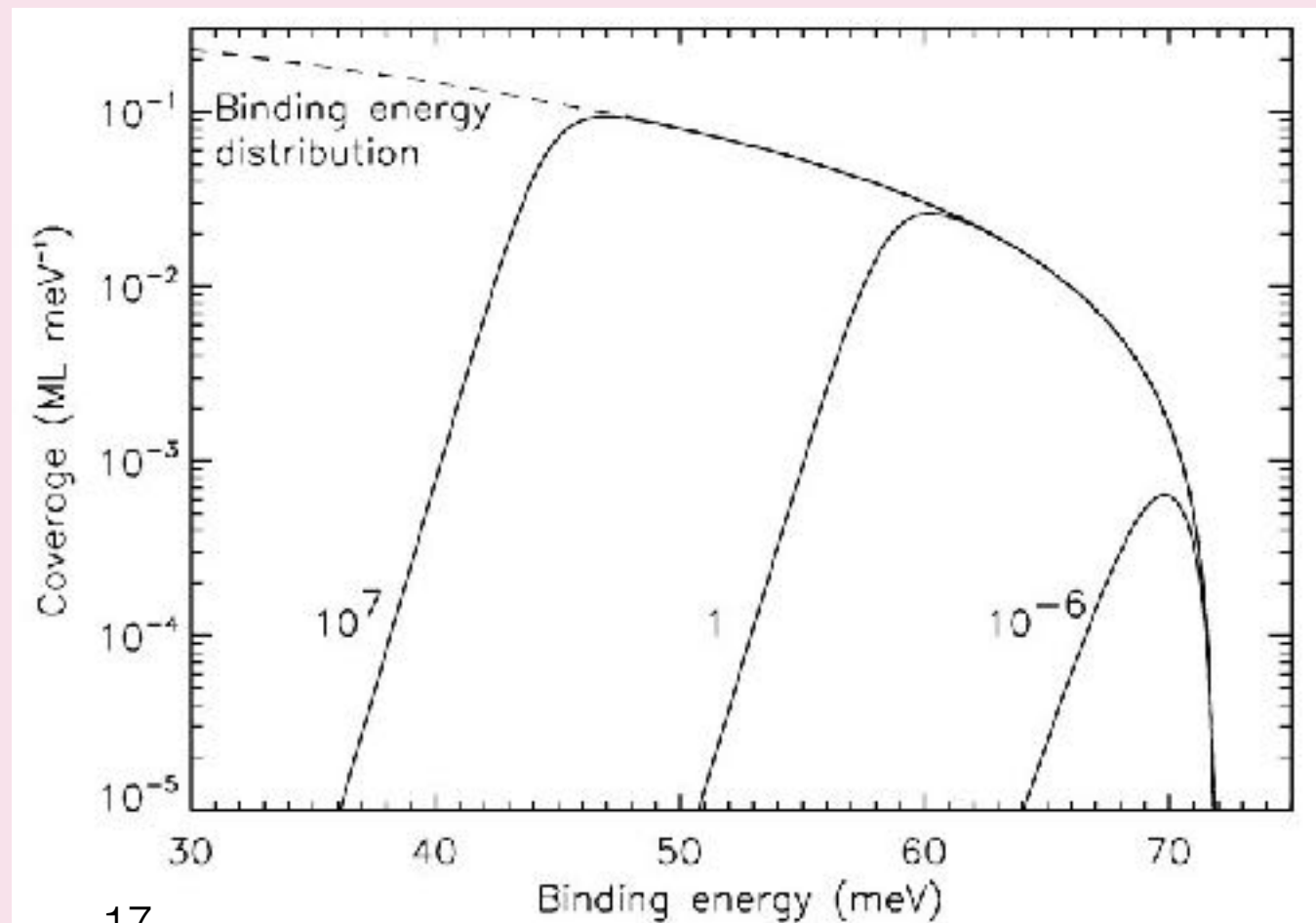


Set by H<sub>2</sub> coverage:

$$\pi a^2 v_{\text{H}_2} n_{\text{H}_2} = v \exp \left[ -E_b(\theta(\text{H}_2)) / kT \right]$$

$$E_b(\text{H}) = \frac{\alpha(\text{H})}{\alpha(\text{H}_2)} E_b(\theta(\text{H}_2))$$

At  $n = 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  $E_b(\theta(\text{H}_2)) = 450 \text{ K}$   
 $(\theta(\text{H}_2) \approx 0.2)$  and  $E_b(\text{H}) = 350 \text{ K}$ .



# Surface Migration

Surface diffusion is a random walk:

Timescale to visit each site (at least) once:

$$\tau_{scan} = N^2 \ln[N] \tau_m \ll \tau_{ev} \text{ at } 10 \text{ K.}$$

with  $N$  the number of sites.

If there is a coreactant radical, reaction will occur.

Note that low- $T$  ice is highly porous and  $N$  may be as large as  $10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ .

# Formation

Langmuir-Hinshelwood Reaction



# Radical-radical reactions

reactants				products	reactants				products
H	+	H	→	H <sub>2</sub>	O	+	O	→	O <sub>2</sub>
H	+	O	→	OH	O	+	N	→	NO
H	+	OH	→	H <sub>2</sub> O	O	+	C	→	CO
H	+	C	→	CH	O	+	CN	→	OCN
H	+	CH	→	CH <sub>2</sub>	O	+	HCO	→	HCOO
H	+	CH	→	CH <sub>3</sub>	C	+	N	→	CN
H	+	CH <sub>3</sub>	→	CH <sub>4</sub>	C	+	HCO	→	CCHO
H	+	N	→	NH	N	+	N	→	N <sub>2</sub>
H	+	NH	→	NH <sub>2</sub>	N	+	NH	→	N <sub>2</sub> H
H	+	NH <sub>2</sub>	→	NH <sub>3</sub>	N	+	HCO	→	HNCO
H	+	O <sub>2</sub> H	→	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>					
H	+	NO	→	HNO					
H	+	CN	→	HCN					
H	+	CN	→	HNC					
H	+	CNO	→	HNCO					
H	+	HCO	→	H <sub>2</sub> CO					
H	+	HCOO	→	HCOOH					
H	+	CH <sub>3</sub> O	→	CH <sub>3</sub> OH					
H	+	NCHO	→	NHCHO					
H	+	NHCHO	→	NH <sub>2</sub> CHO					
H	+	CCHO	→	CHCHO					
H	+	CHCHO	→	CH <sub>2</sub> CHO					
H	+	CH <sub>2</sub> CHO	→	CH <sub>3</sub> CHO					
H	+	N <sub>2</sub> H	→	N <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub>					

reactions betw  
with unpaired  
occur on “coll

reactions between radicals with unpaired electrons will occur on “collision”

# Radical-Molecule Reactions

Some radical-molecule reactions can occur as they have no or submerged barriers:

- $\text{H} + \text{O}_2 \longrightarrow \text{HO}_2$
- $\text{H} + \text{O}_3 \longrightarrow \text{OH} + \text{O}_2$

# Reactions with Activation Barriers

Competition between reaction and diffusion:

$p, p_0, p_m$  is reaction, barrier penetration, migration probability

$$p = \frac{p_0}{p_0 + p_m}, \text{ with } p_0 \ll p_m$$

$$p_0 = v_0 \exp\left[-\frac{2a}{\hbar} \sqrt{2mE_a}\right]$$

Number of times a site is visited that can lead to a reaction is:  $n_r = \frac{\tau_{ev}}{\tau_m} \theta_i$

Probability for reaction in the  $k^{th}$  visit,

$p_k = (1 - p)^{k-1} p$  and probability for reaction before evaporation:

$$p_r = \sum_{k=1}^{n_r} p_k = 1 - (1 - p)^{n_r} \approx n_r p = \tau_{ev} \theta_i p_0$$

With more than 1 possible coreactant, this probability becomes

$$\varphi_i = \frac{\theta_i p_0(i)}{\sum_j \theta_j p_0(i)}$$



# Reactions with Activation Barriers

$\theta_r$	$E_a$ [K]
$10^{-6}$	3400
$10^{-1}$	7500

Activation barrier for a H reaction probability  
of  $p_r=0.5$  and surface coverage,  $\theta_r$

# H Reactions with Activation Barriers

Table 7.4: Reactions with activation barriers<sup>a</sup>

reactants			products		$E_a$ [K]	$a$ [Å]	$k$ s <sup>-1</sup>	refs
H	CO	→	HCO		2740	0.65	$6 \times 10^6$	[114, 56]
D	CO	→	DCO		2580	0.65	$4 \times 10^4$	[114, 56]
H	H <sub>2</sub> CO	→	CH <sub>3</sub> O		2104	0.77	$3.7 \times 10^6$	[57, 45]
H	D <sub>2</sub> CO	→	CHD <sub>2</sub> O		2063	0.77	$4.2 \times 10^6$	[57, 45]
H	H <sub>2</sub> CO	→	HCO	H <sub>2</sub>	2959	0.51	$7.6 \times 10^7$	[57, 45]
H	D <sub>2</sub> CO	→	DCO	HD	3520	0.51	$2.3 \times 10^{6b}$	[57, 45]
H	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	→	CH <sub>2</sub> OH	H <sub>2</sub>	3224	0.66	$1.4 \times 10^6$	[77, 46, 47]
H	CD <sub>3</sub> OH	→	CH <sub>2</sub> OH	H <sub>2</sub>	4219	0.66	$2 \times 10^3$	[77, 46, 47]
D	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	→	CH <sub>2</sub> OH	HD	3253	0.66	$8.1 \times 10^5$	[77, 46, 47]
D	CH <sub>2</sub> DOH	→	CHDOH	HD	3330	0.66	$6.7 \times 10^5$	[77, 46, 47]
D	CHD <sub>2</sub> OH	→	CD <sub>2</sub> OH	HD	3430	0.66	$4.2 \times 10^5$	[77, 46, 47]
H	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	→	OH	H <sub>2</sub> O	2508	0.45	$7 \times 10^{8c}$	[81, 97]
D	H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	→	OH	H <sub>2</sub> O	2355	0.45	$3 \times 10^{7c}$	[81, 97]

# Reactions with H<sub>2</sub>

At low T, surface coverage of H<sub>2</sub> is high. H<sub>2</sub> can also readily tunnel through activation barriers. Reaction has to occur before a mobile coreactant (H or O) accretes and finds and reacts with the species. Probability is:

$$p_r = \tau_{ac} \theta(\text{H}_2) p_0$$

with  $\tau_{ac} = 10^5$  s and  $\theta(\text{H}_2) = 0.2$ , the limiting  $E_a \simeq 4700$  K.

This includes  $\text{OH} + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{H}$  (note possible cascade).

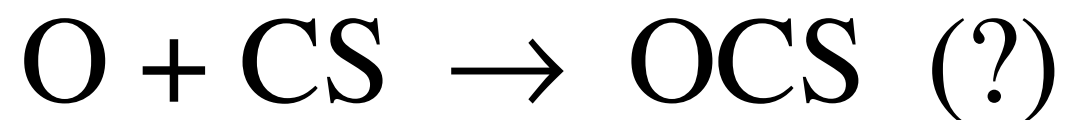
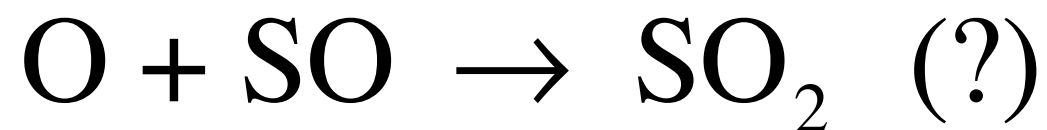
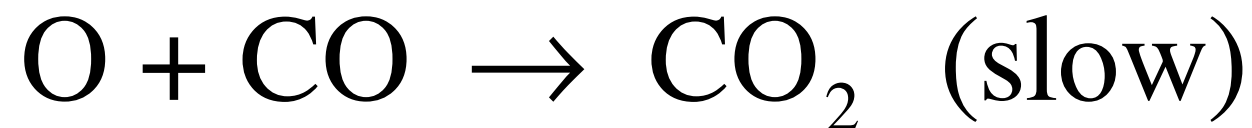
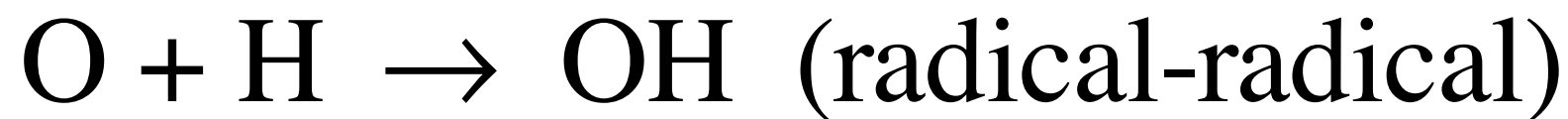
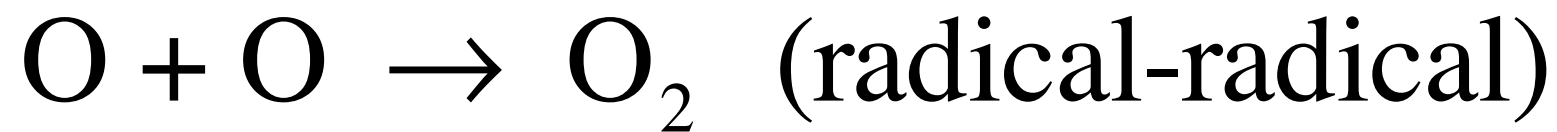
# Reactions with H<sub>2</sub>

Table 7.5: Reactions of H<sub>2</sub>

coreactant		products	$E_a^a$ [K]
NH <sub>2</sub>	→	NH <sub>3</sub> H	3600
CH	→	CH <sub>2</sub> H	840
CH <sub>2</sub>	→	CH <sub>3</sub> H	3600
CH <sub>3</sub>	→	CH <sub>4</sub> H	4750
OH	→	H <sub>2</sub> O H	2959
CN	→	HCN H	820
NCO	→	HNCO H	2800
CH <sub>3</sub> O	→	CH <sub>3</sub> OH H	2500



# Reactions involving atomic O



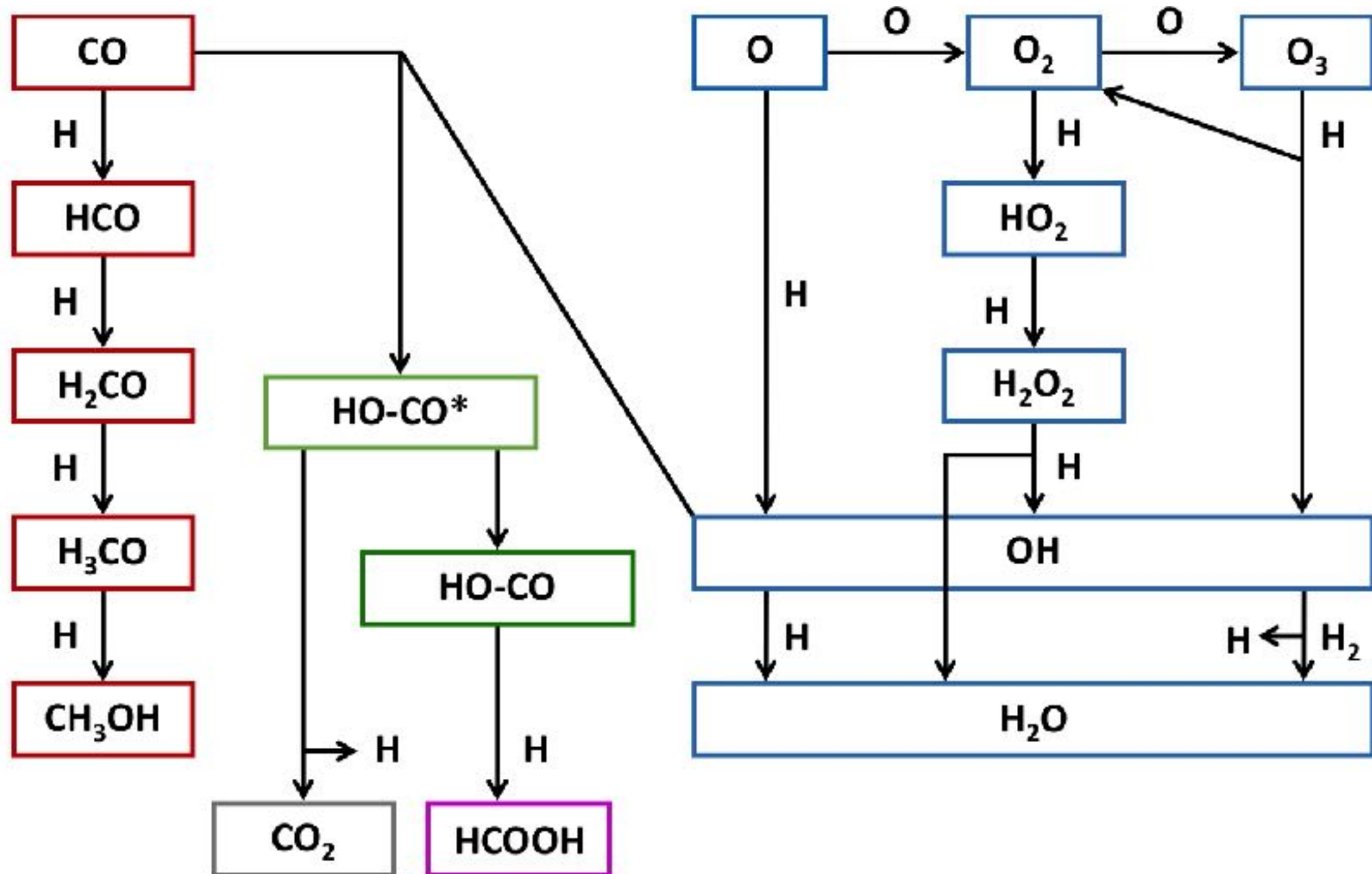
# Composition of Gas Phase

Species	Gas phase abundance <sup>a</sup>	ice abundance <sup>g</sup>
H <sub>2</sub>	0.5	—
He <sup>b</sup>	0.2	—
H <sup>c</sup>	$2/n^{-1}$	—
CO	8 (-5)	$2.5 \times 10^{-5}$
O <sup>d</sup>	2.4 (-4)	—
C <sup>e</sup>	8 (-7)	—
N <sub>2</sub> <sup>f</sup>	8 (-5)	?
H <sub>2</sub> CO	2 (-8)	—
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	2 (-9)	$2 \times 10^{-6}$
OH	3 (-7)	—
H <sub>2</sub> O	<7 (-9)	$10^{-4}$
NH <sub>3</sub>	2 (-8)	$8 \times 10^{-4}$
HCN	2 (-8)	?

# Rules of Engagement

- Diffusion limit (limited by the rate at which species can be brought to the surface)
- At most 1 highly mobile species (H, D) present on any grain surface but lots of H<sub>2</sub>.
- Hydrogenation reactions are highly favored. If no coreactant, H/D will evaporate (unlikely as H/D can react with CO, H<sub>2</sub>CO, ...).
- C, N & O can scan part of the surface and react with radicals and potentially abundant species (e.g., CO)
- atomic C and N are not very abundant and formation of large molecules is inhibited.
- Immobile species (e.g., CO) will have to wait for roaming atoms and if that takes too long, they will get buried ( $\tau_{\text{bur}} = 10^4$  yr)
- Newly formed radicals may “hop” around (Harris-Kasemo) and find a coreactant (OH + CO → CO<sub>2</sub> + H)

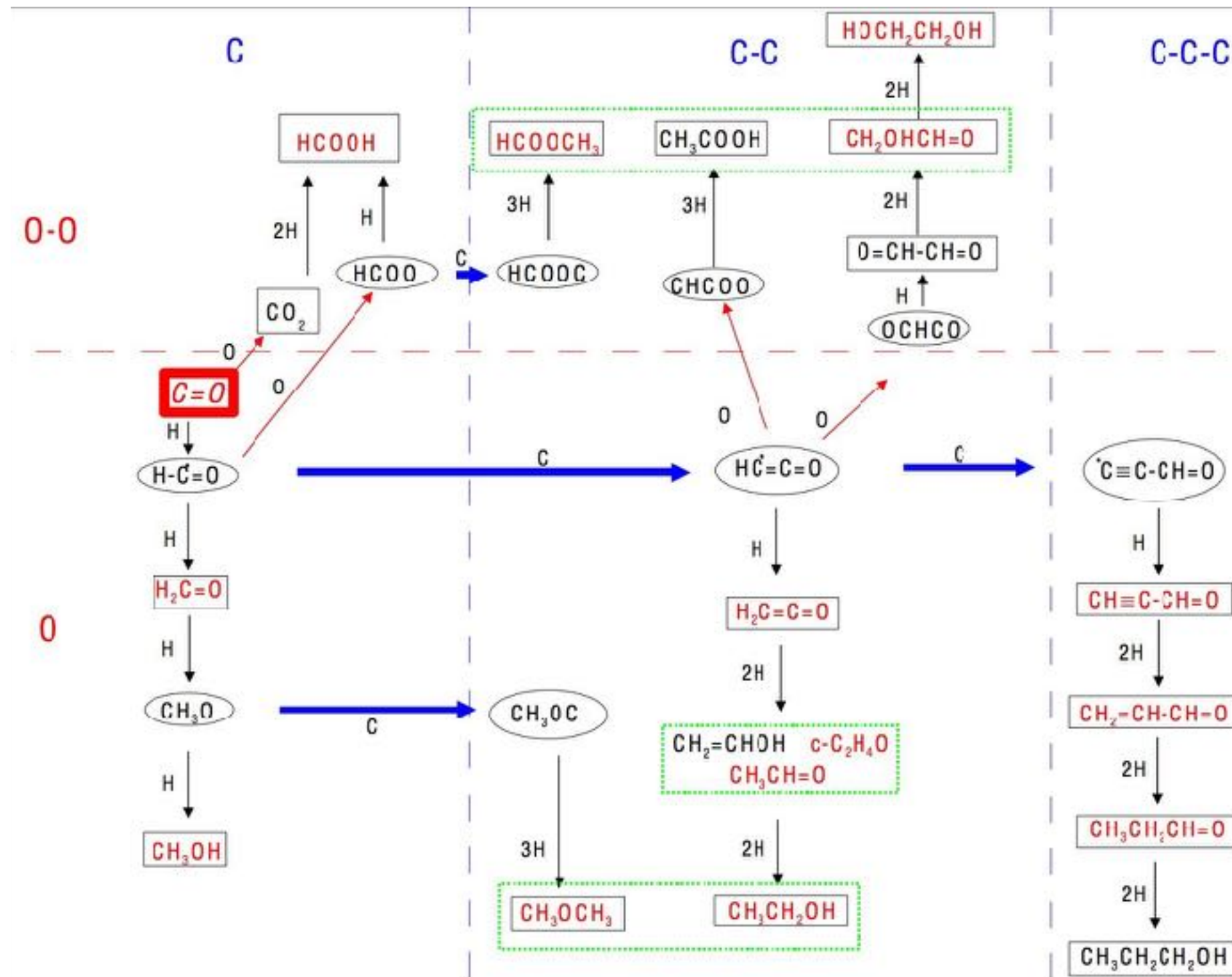
# Surface Reaction Network



Tielens & Hagen 1982, A&A, 114, 245  
Ioppolo et al, 2008, ApJ, 686, 1474



# Building up complex species

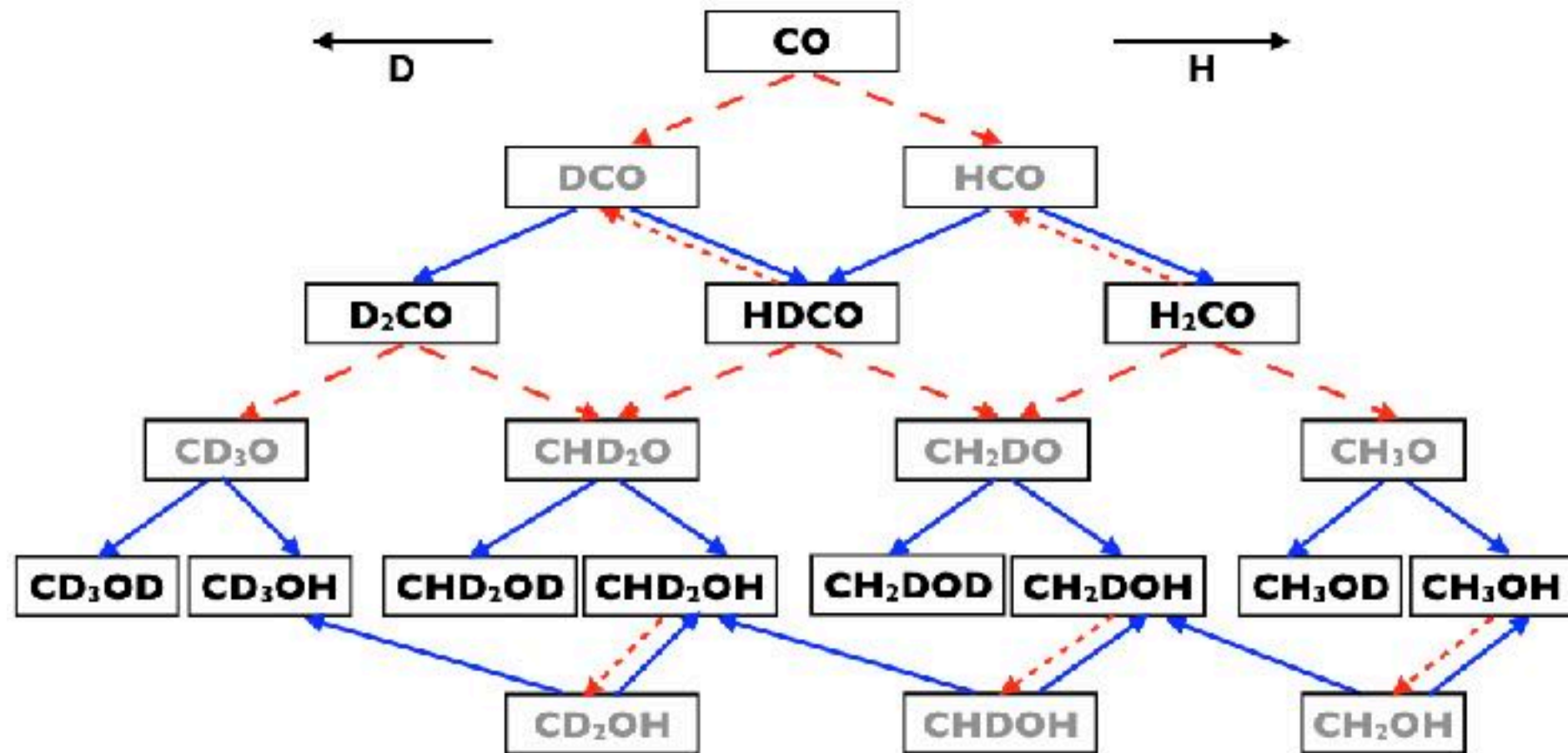


CO is “inert” in the gas phase but readily “activated on a grain surface. Can we build more complex species ? Accretion of C is slow

# Deuterium Fractionation

	“N” Hot Core <sup>a</sup>	“O” Hot Core <sup>b</sup>	Hot Corino <sup>c</sup>
HDO/H <sub>2</sub> O	3.0 (-3)	3.8 (-3)	3.4 (-2)
D <sub>2</sub> O/H <sub>2</sub> O			7.0 (-5)
NH <sub>2</sub> D/NH <sub>3</sub>	6.8 (-3)	≤1.0 (-2)	
HDCO/H <sub>2</sub> CO	≤ 5.0 (-3)	6.6 (-3)	3.3 (-2)
D <sub>2</sub> CO/H <sub>2</sub> CO			9.2 (-2)
CH <sub>2</sub> DOH/CH <sub>3</sub> OH	≤4.2 (-3)	5.8 (-3)	3.7 (-1)
CH <sub>3</sub> OD/CH <sub>3</sub> OH	≤1.8 (-3)	5.0 (-3)	1.8 (-2)
CHD <sub>2</sub> OH/CH <sub>3</sub> OH			7.4 (-2)
CD <sub>3</sub> OH/CH <sub>3</sub> OH			1.4 (-2)
DCOOCH <sub>3</sub> /HCOOCH <sub>3</sub>		3.9(-2)	1.5 (-1)
HCOOCH <sub>2</sub> D/HCOOCH <sub>3</sub>		2.5(-2)	
CH <sub>2</sub> DOCHO/CH <sub>3</sub> OCHO			6.1 (-2)
CH <sub>3</sub> OCDO/CH <sub>3</sub> OCHO			5.9 (-2)
CHD <sub>2</sub> OCHO/CH <sub>3</sub> OCHO			12 (-2)
NH <sub>2</sub> CDO/NH <sub>2</sub> CHO			2.0 (-2) <sup>d</sup>
NHDCHO/NH <sub>2</sub> CHO			2.0 (-2) <sup>d</sup>
DNCO/HNCO			2.0 (-2) <sup>d</sup>
CH <sub>2</sub> DCN	0.01		
HDS/H <sub>2</sub> S	<4.9 (-3)		

# Deuterium Chemistry



- High deuteration:
- atomic D/H in accreted gas is high (e.g.,  $\text{DCO}^+/\text{HCO}^+ \gg A_D$ )
- HD/H<sub>2</sub> ratio on grains is high
- H-abstraction, D-addition (only on CH<sub>n</sub> not with OH)
- HDO/CH<sub>3</sub>OD controlled by HD/H<sub>2</sub>
- H-D exchange on OH group in H-bonded system (at “high” temperatures)

Tielens 1983, A&A, 119, 177  
 Charnley et al, 1997, ApJ, 482, L203  
 Watanabe & Kouchi 2008, Prog Surf Sci, 83, 439  
 Hidaka et al 2009, ApJ, 702, 291  
 Nagaoka et al 2007, J Phys Chem A, 111, 3016  
 Souda et al 2003, J Chem Phys, 119, 6194  
 Souda et al 2004, Phys Rev Lett, 93, 235502  
 Ratajczak et al 2009, A&A, 496, L21

# Ejection



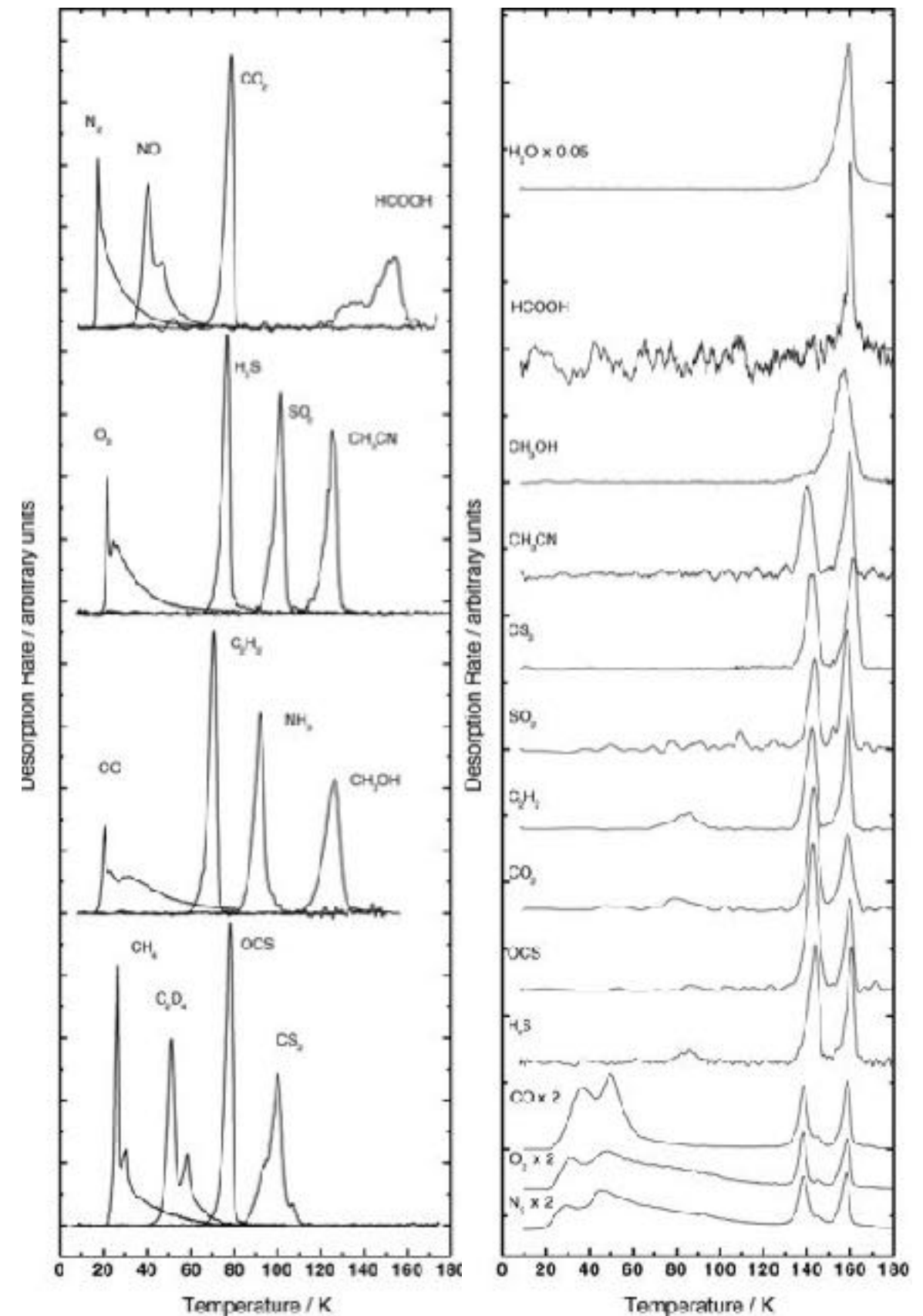
# Thermal Desorption

Sublimation set by binding energy but remember long timescales in space

Sublimation temperature pure ices.  
 $T_{\text{sub}}: \text{CO}/\text{N}_2/\text{O}_2 < \text{CO}_2 < \text{NH}_3 < \text{H}_2\text{O} / \text{CH}_3\text{OH}$

Mixed ices: multiple peaks as trace species can be encapsulated

- 1) Pure ice temperature
- 2) Volcano desorption when amorphous  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ice crystallizes
- 3) At  $T_{\text{sub}}(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ : clathrate species



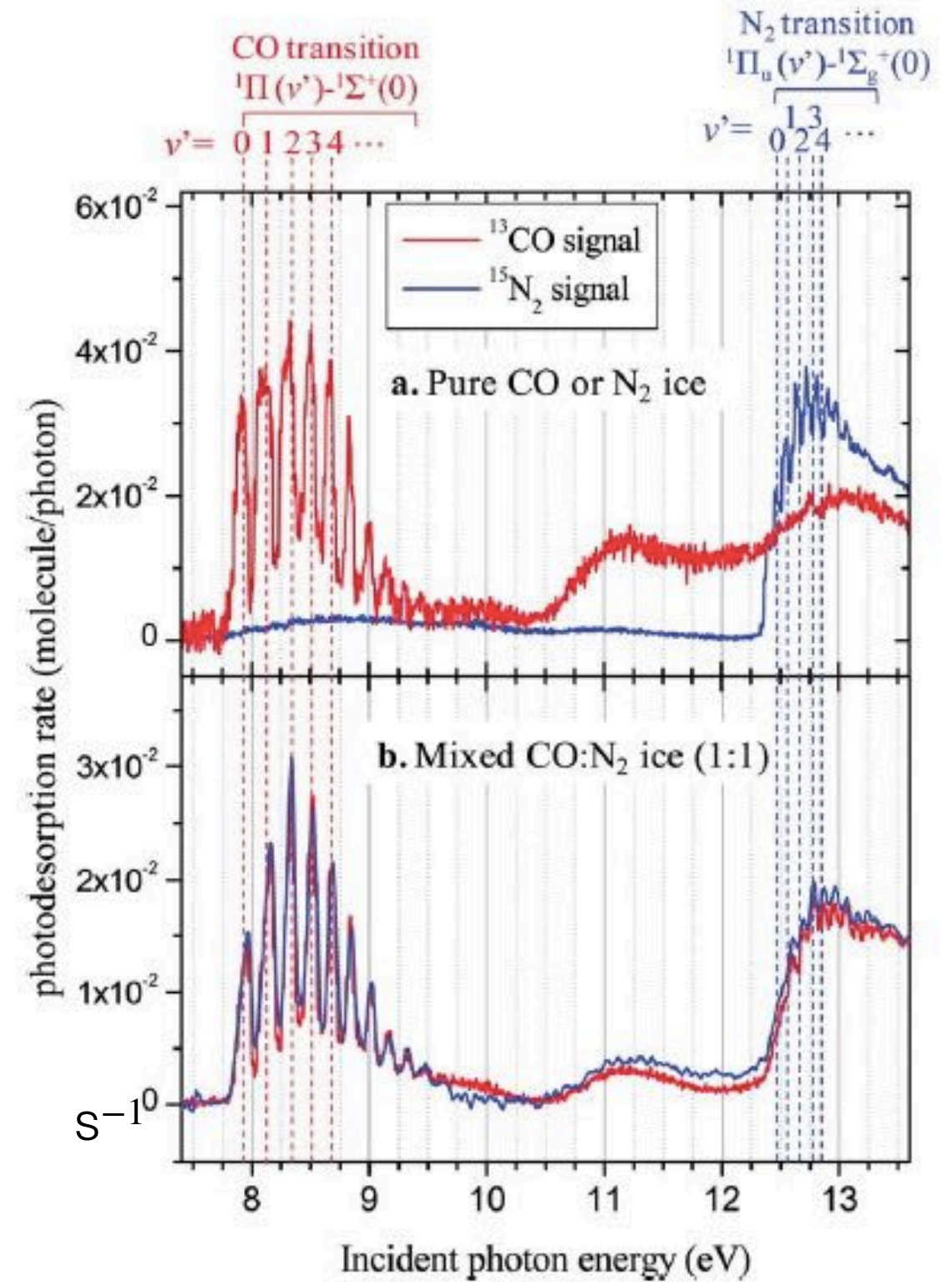
# Photodesorption

Table 7.7: Photodesorption yields

Species	Yield <sup>a</sup>	$E_{th}^b$ [eV]	Reference
H <sub>2</sub> O	$3 \times 10^{-3}$	—	[5, 83, 113]
CO	$1 - 2 \times 10^{-2}$	8	[34, 84]
CO <sub>2</sub>	$10^{-3}$	10.8	[37]
CH <sub>4</sub>	$2 - 5 \times 10^{-3}$	9.5	[32]
NH <sub>3</sub>	$2 \times 10^{-3}$	—	[68]
CH <sub>3</sub> OH	$< 3 \times 10^{-5c}$	—	[25]
N <sub>2</sub>	0.025	12.4	[35]

$$k_{pd} = \mathcal{N}_{uv} \pi a^2 Y_i \theta_i \simeq 3 \times 10^{-11} \left( \frac{Y_i}{10^{-3}} \right) \left( \frac{\theta_i}{10^{-1}} \right)$$

$$X(\text{H}_2\text{O}) = 10^{-7} \left( \frac{10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n} \right) \left( \frac{\zeta_{CR}}{3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}} \right) \left( \frac{Y}{10^{-3}} \right)$$



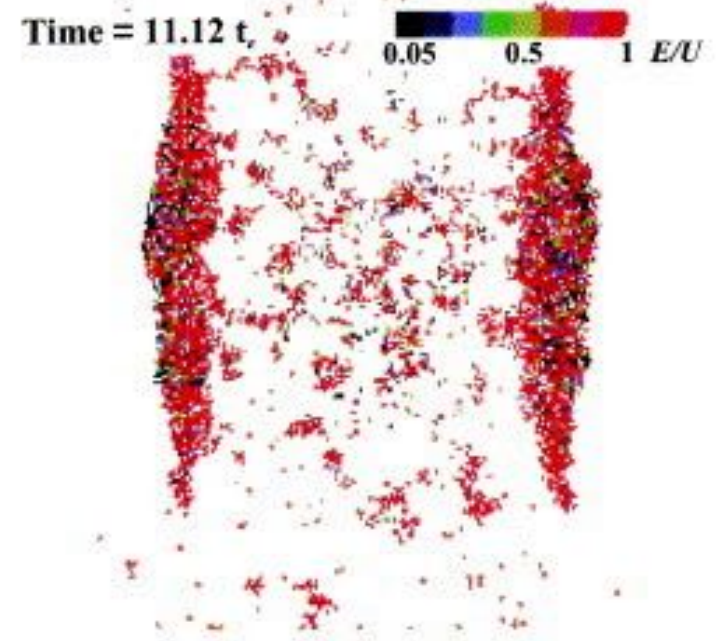
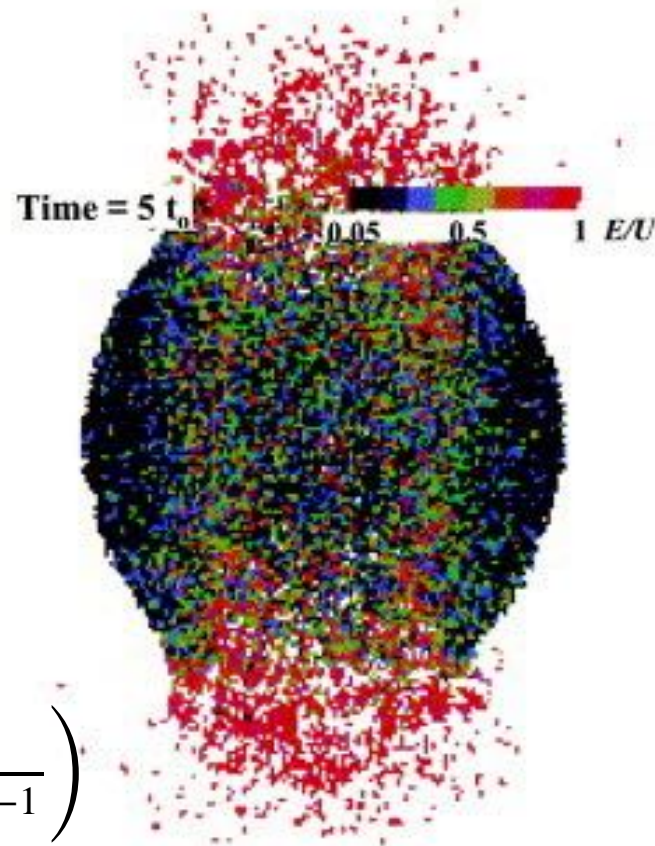
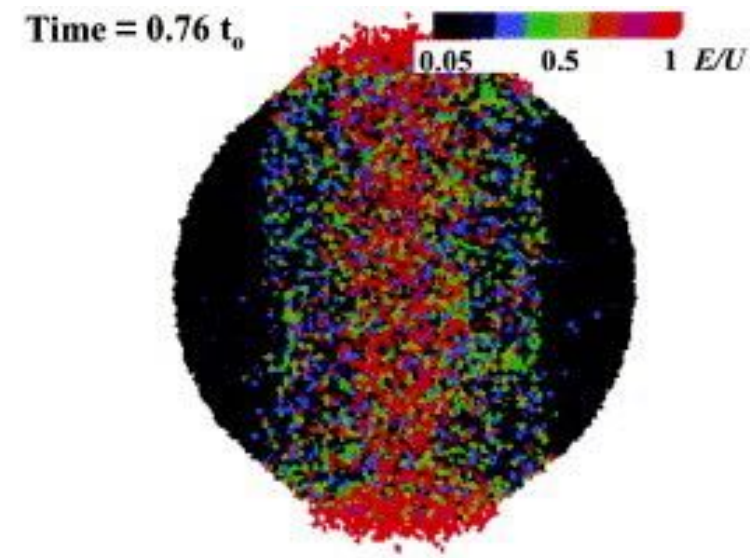
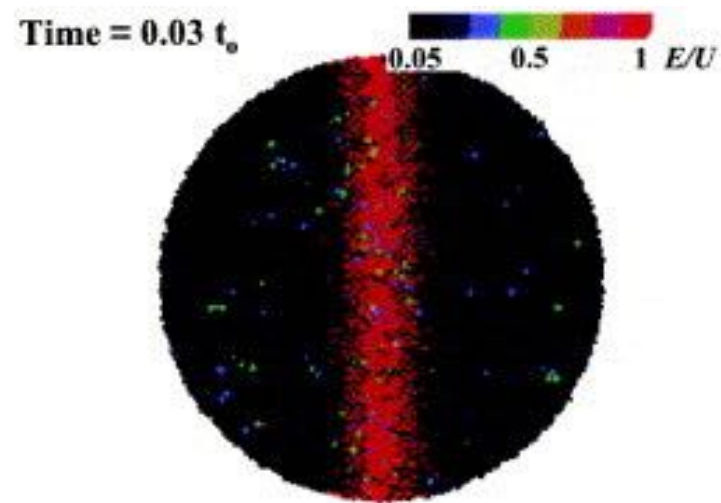


# Cosmic Rays

$$k_{cr} = 4\pi \mathcal{N}_{cr} \pi a^2 \simeq 10^{-5} \left( \frac{a}{1000 \text{ \AA}} \right) \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

$$X(\text{H}_2\text{O}) = 6 \times 10^{-9} \left( \frac{10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n} \right) \left( \frac{\zeta_{CR}}{3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}} \right)$$

$$X(\text{CO}) = 3 \times 10^{-6} \left( \frac{10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n} \right) \left( \frac{\zeta_{CR}}{3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}} \right)$$



# Ejection upon Formation

Reaction heat may be transferred to surface bond and cause ejection

$$X(\text{H}_2\text{O}) = 10^{-6} \left( \frac{10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}}{n} \right) \left( \frac{\zeta_{CR}}{3 \times 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}} \right) \left( \frac{f_{ej}}{10^{-3}} \right)$$

$f_{ej}$  is not well known:

Theory ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ):  $f_{ej} = 10^{-3}$

Experiments ( $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ):  $f_{ej} > 10^{-3}$

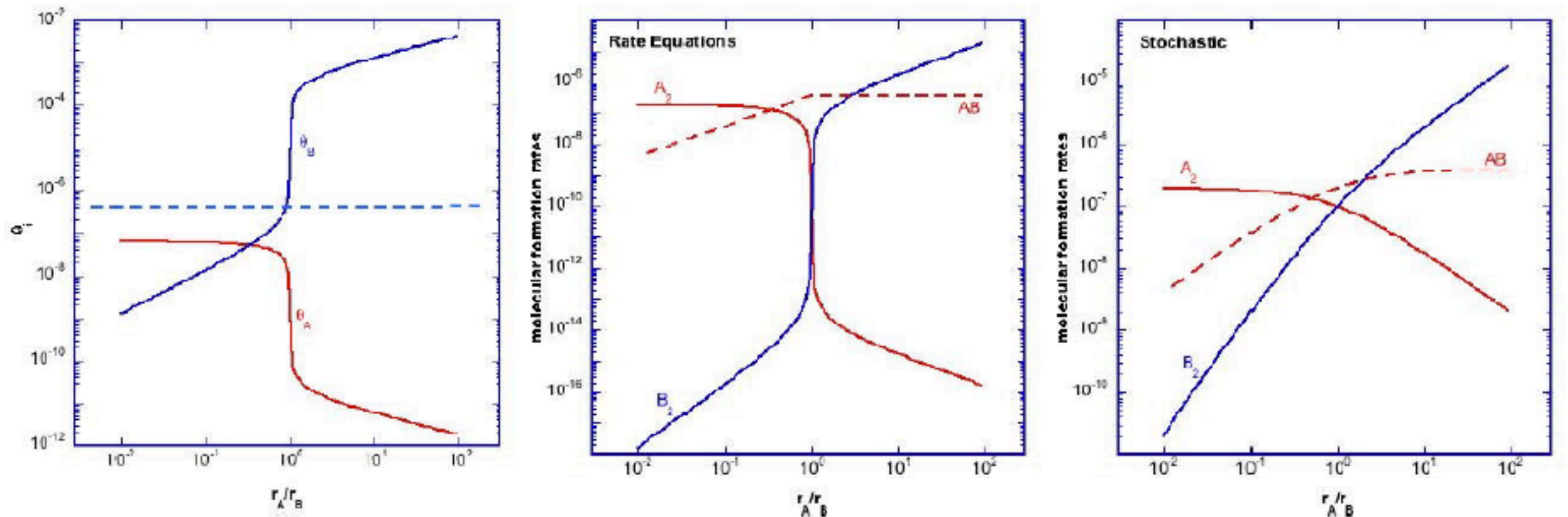




# Thermal Processing

- Diffusion of stored radicals (produced by UV photolysis), followed by reaction
- Segregation of ice components
- Polymerization reactions: formation of polyoxymethylene and related compounds

# Solution methods: need for stochastic approach



Cannot blindly use rate equation approaches:  
Concentration of mobile species is either 0 or 1, never 2.

Consider system consisting of A & B that accrete and can form  $A_2$ ,  $B_2$ , and  $AB$ .

# Stochastic Nature of Surface Chemistry

Rate Equations:  $\frac{dn_i}{dt} = -n_i \sum_j n_j k_{ij} + \sum_{j,l} n_{jl} k_{jl} - n_i k_{ev} n_i + k_{ac} n_i^{gas}$

For simplicity, consider only reactions without activation barriers (e.g.,  $k$ 's are migration rates). Say,  $H_2$  formation:

$$R(H_2) = \frac{1}{2} k_m n_H^2$$

In reality, we have to evaluate the probability to have  $m$  species H present

$$\frac{dP_m(H)}{dt} = k_{ac}(H) [P_{m-1}(H) - P_m(H)] - k_{ev}(H) [mP_m(H) - (m+1)P_{m+1}(H)]$$

$$\frac{1}{2} k_H [(m+2)(m+1)P_{m+2}(H) - m(m-1)P_m(H)]$$

$$\langle n_H \rangle = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} m P_m(H), \quad \langle n_H^2 \rangle = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} m^2 P_m(H), \quad \sigma_H^2 = \langle n_H^2 \rangle - \langle n_H \rangle^2$$

$$R(H_2) = \frac{dN(H_2)}{dt} = k_H \langle n_H (n_H - 1) \rangle \approx k_H \langle n_H^2 \rangle \approx k_H \langle n_H \rangle^2, \text{ only if } n_H \gg 1$$

# Surface Chemistry Methods

method	advantage	disadvantage
Rate Equations	Easy to integrate with gas phase chemistry	Incorrect when fluctuations are large Semi-empirical correction factors have to be validated every time
Monte Carlo	Correct in stochastic limit Versatile: can include many characteristics of the surface	Difficult to combine with gas phase chemistry Time-consuming
Master equation	Correct in stochastic limit Can evolve grains surface chemistry and gas phase chemistry simultaneously	Very time consuming for all but the simplest systems
Moments equation	Correct in stochastic limit	Need to truncate the moments Very time consuming
Hybrid approaches	Master equation approach for mobile species Rate equations for immobile species	



# Grain Surface Chemistry: In a Nutshell

- Dust grains are the “watering holes” of astrochemistry where species come to meet and mate.
- In a way, collisions on a grain surface can take very long (up to hours or days)
- Tunneling is key to hydrogenation (and deuteration)
- Initial conditions play a key role
  - O goes to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  through e.g.,  $\text{O}_2$  and  $\text{O}_3$
  - C (e.g.,  $\text{CO}$ ) goes to  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$  and  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$
  - N goes to  $\text{NH}_3$  while  $\text{N}_2$  is inert
  - S goes to  $\text{SO}/\text{SO}_2$  and CS goes to  $\text{OCS}$  (?)
  - D enrichment is driven by high D/H (gas) and high  $\text{HD}/\text{H}_2$  on the grain

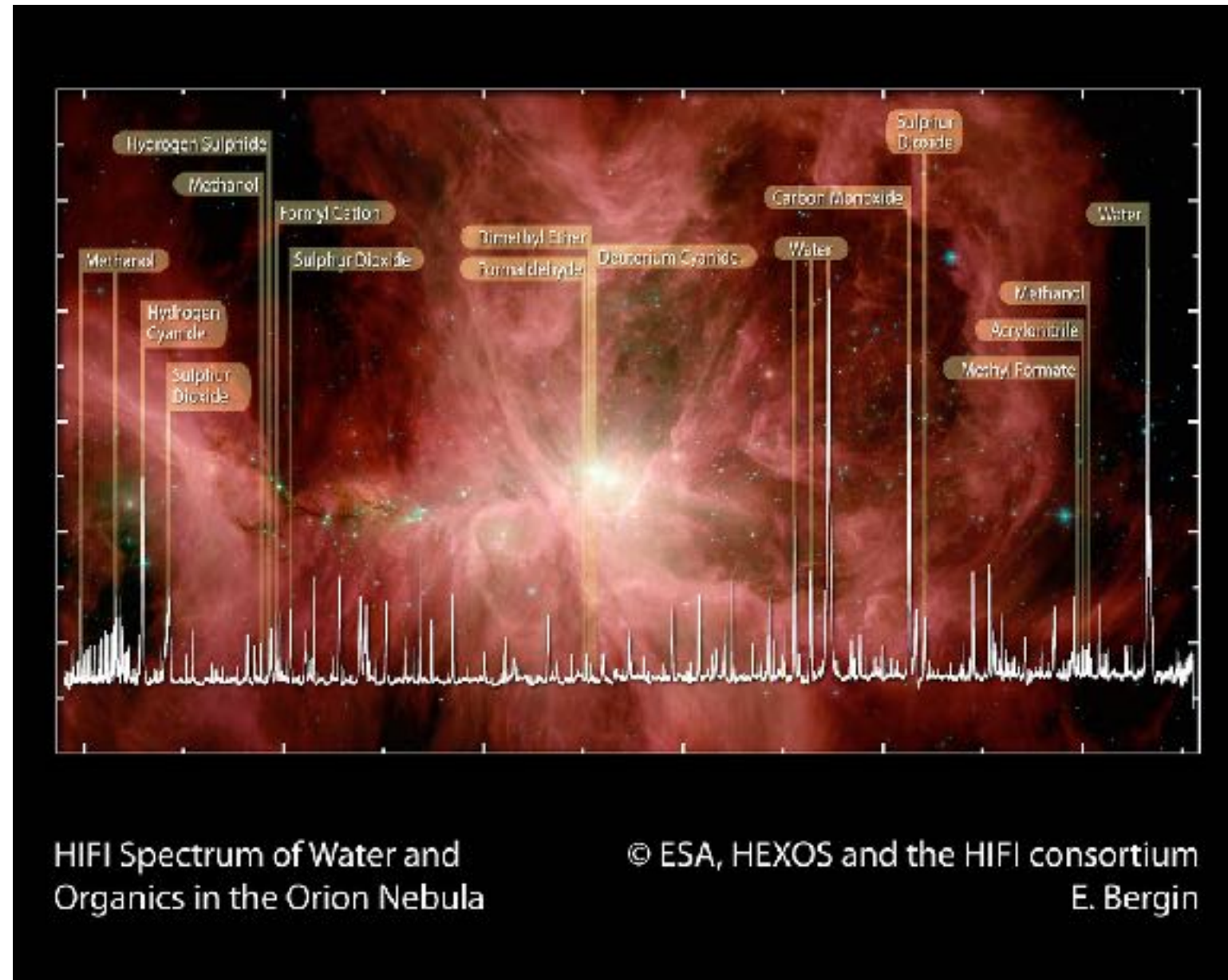
# Exercises

- Calculate the  $\text{H}_2$  binding energy and surface coverage at 20 K (see slide 7).
- If the diffusion barrier is 30% of the binding energy, calculate the timescale to scan the whole surface for H at 10K and compare graphically with the accretion time and evaporation timescale as a function of grain size. Do the same for atomic O.
- If the reaction barrier for H with CO is 1000 K and for H with  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$  is 1200 K, calculate the relative probabilities for CO and  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$  to react with H. Why could  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  still be the dominant reservoir of carbon in interstellar ice ?

# **SOM in Hot Cores/Corinos**

# Simple Organic Molecules (“SOM”)

- Warm dense gas with rich organic inventory: of relatively simple organic molecules
  - $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OCH}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}$ ,  $\text{HCOOH}$ ,  $\text{NH}_2\text{CHO}$ , ...
  - $\text{HCN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CN}$ , ...
- Large deuterium fractionations
- Driven by evaporation of ice mantles formed in cold phase



Blake et al, 1987,ApJ, 315, 621  
Ceccarelli et al, 2007, PPV, 47  
Bergin et al 2010,A&A, 521, L20

# Origin of “SOM”

Deuterium fractionation implies formed from cold-reservoir-progenitors

- Surface chemistry in cold regions
- Photolysis of ices
- Evaporation followed by gas phase reactions
- Ion molecule chemistry in ices

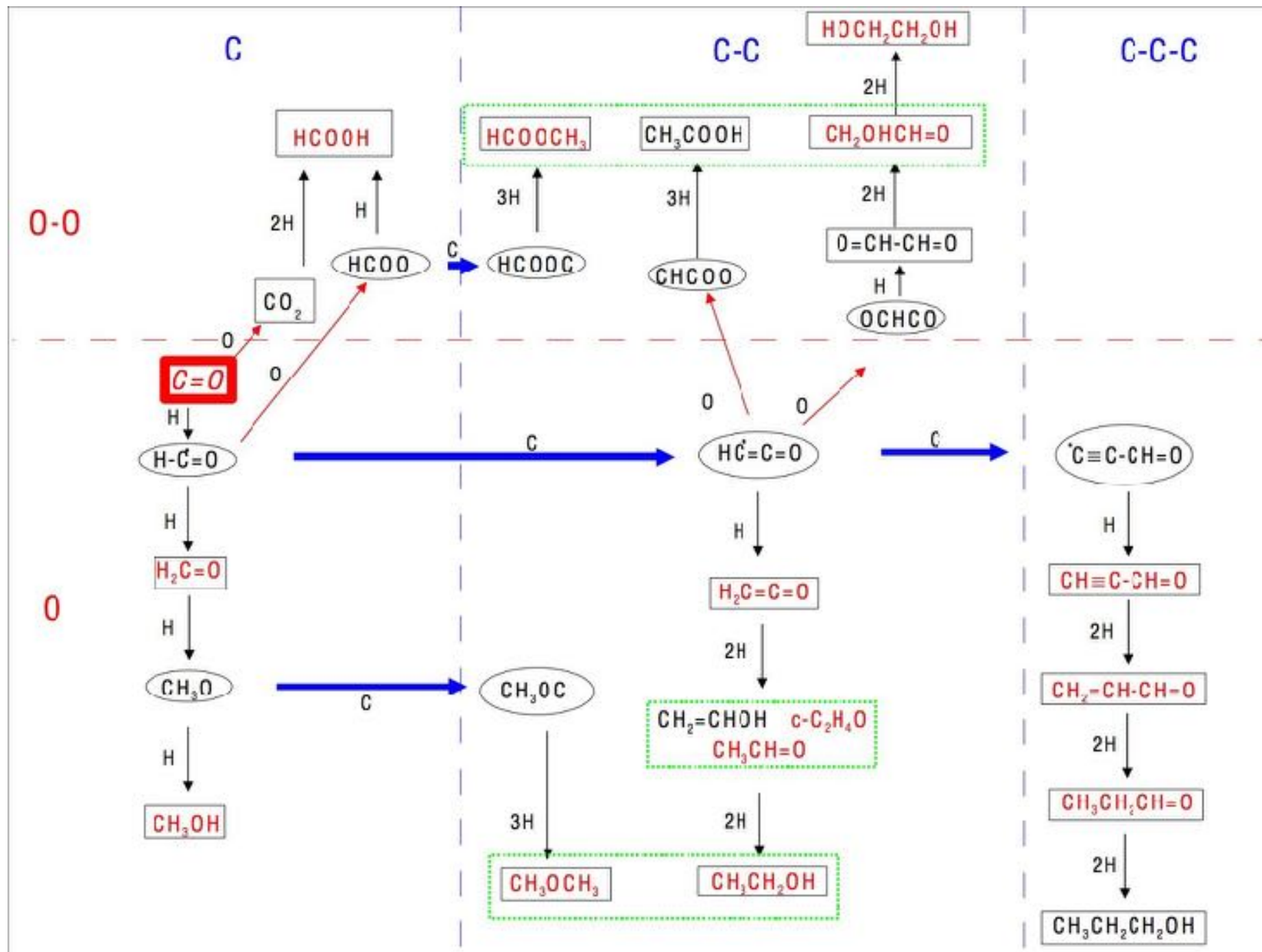
Gas phase chemistry: Charnley et al 1992, ApJ, 399, L71, Caselli et al, 1993, ApJ, 408, 538; Geppert et al, Faraday discussions, 133, 177, Horn et al, 2004, ApJ, 611, 605

Charged ices: Bouwman et al, 2011, A&A, 529, 46; Schutte et al, 2003, 398, 1049; Demyk et al, 1998, A&A, 339, 553, Balog et al 2009, Phys Rev Lett, 201, 73003

Grain surface chemistry: Charnley & Rodgers 2007 Bioastronomy

Photolyzed ices: Garrod et al, 2008, ApJ, 682, 283; Oberg et al, 2010, ApJ, 718, 832



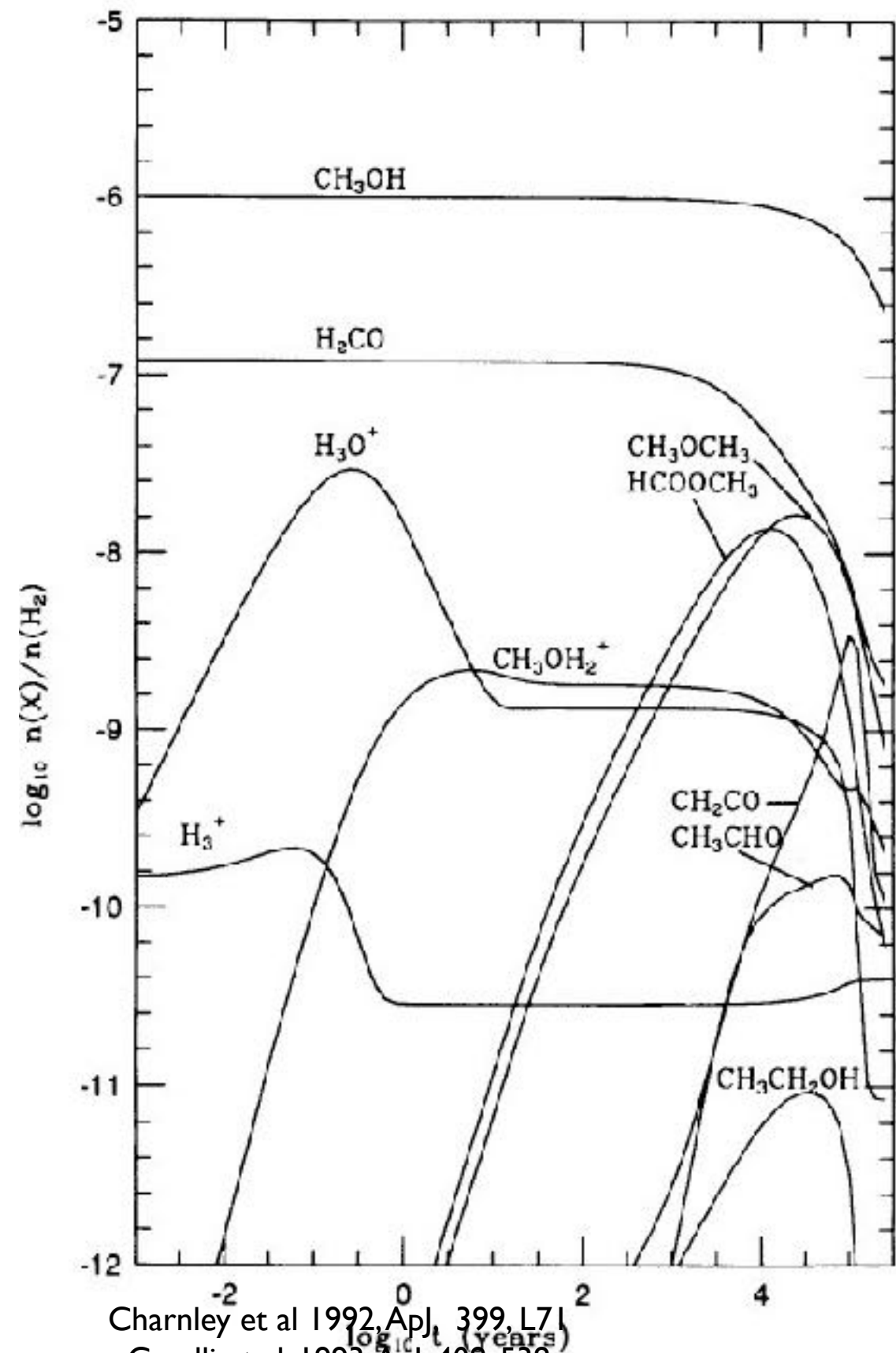


# Building up complex species

But  $\text{C}/\text{CO}=10^{-2}$  (CR-induced photon field dissociates CO)

# Evaporating Ices

- Evaporating ice molecules drive rich chemistry
- Protonated methanol & methyl transfer
- Issues:
  - Experimental studies disagree
    - formation of intermediaries inhibited
    - Recombination leads to fragmentation
    - Ammonia may “save” the day as a proton scavenger
  - Chemical clock  $\sim 3 \times 10^4$  yr incompatible with hot corinos

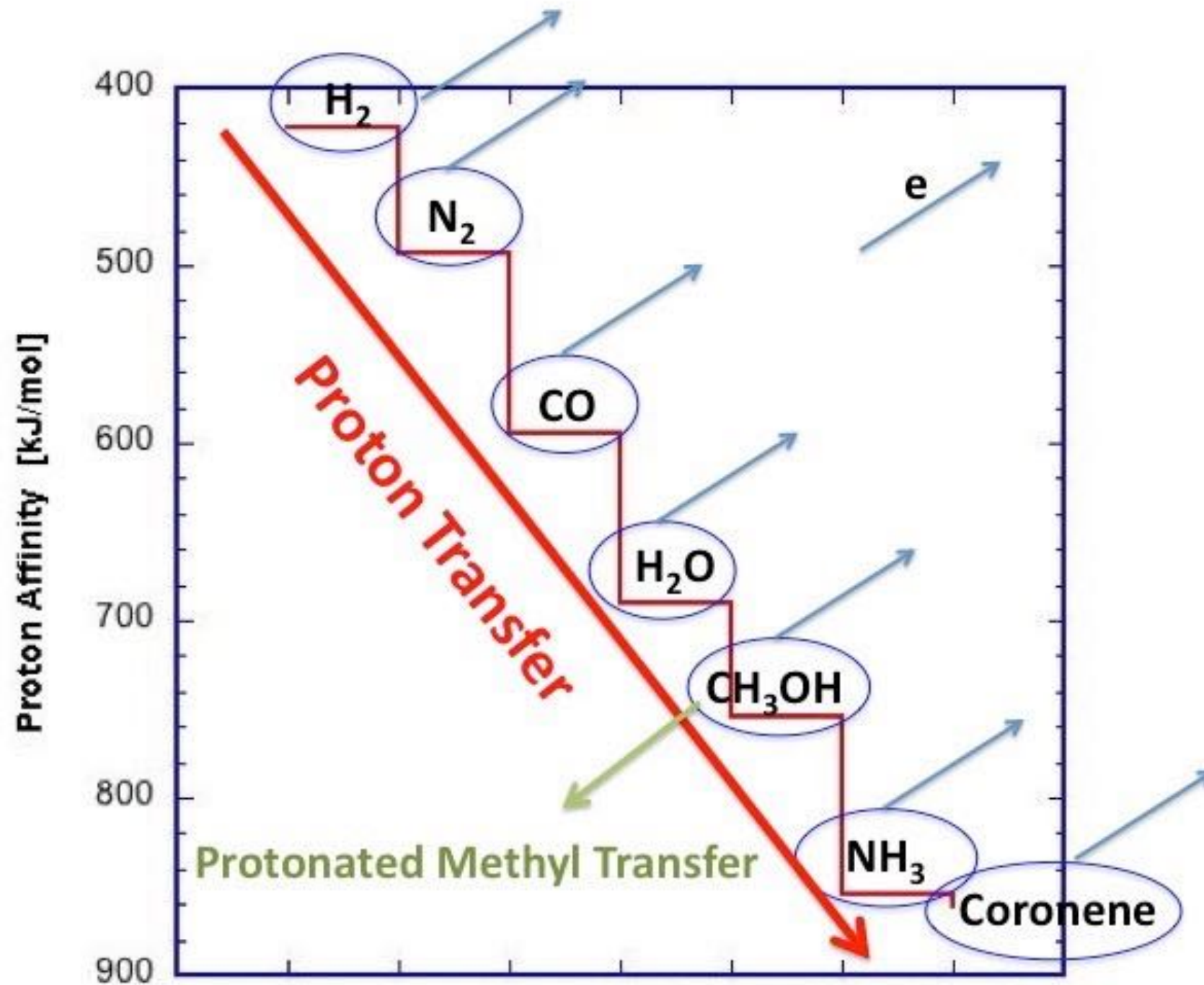


Charnley et al 1992, ApJ, 399, L71

Caselli et al, 1993, ApJ, 408, 538

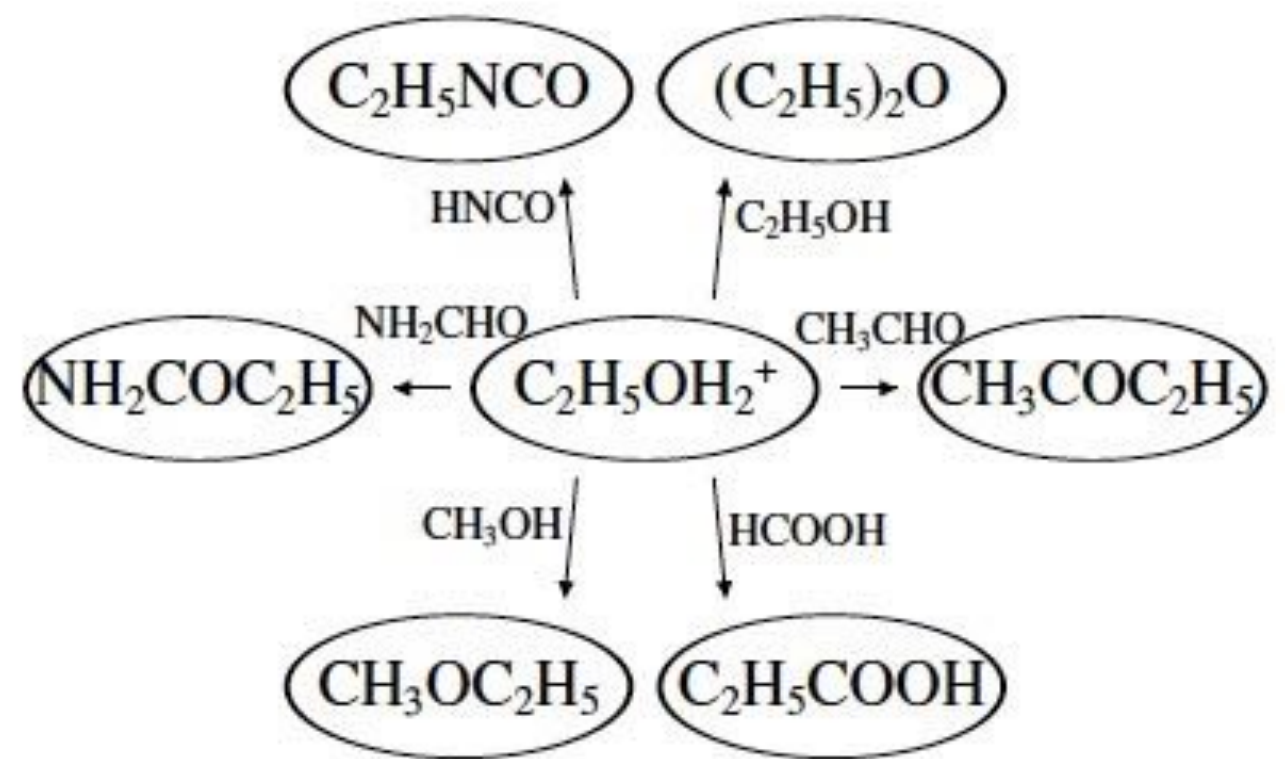
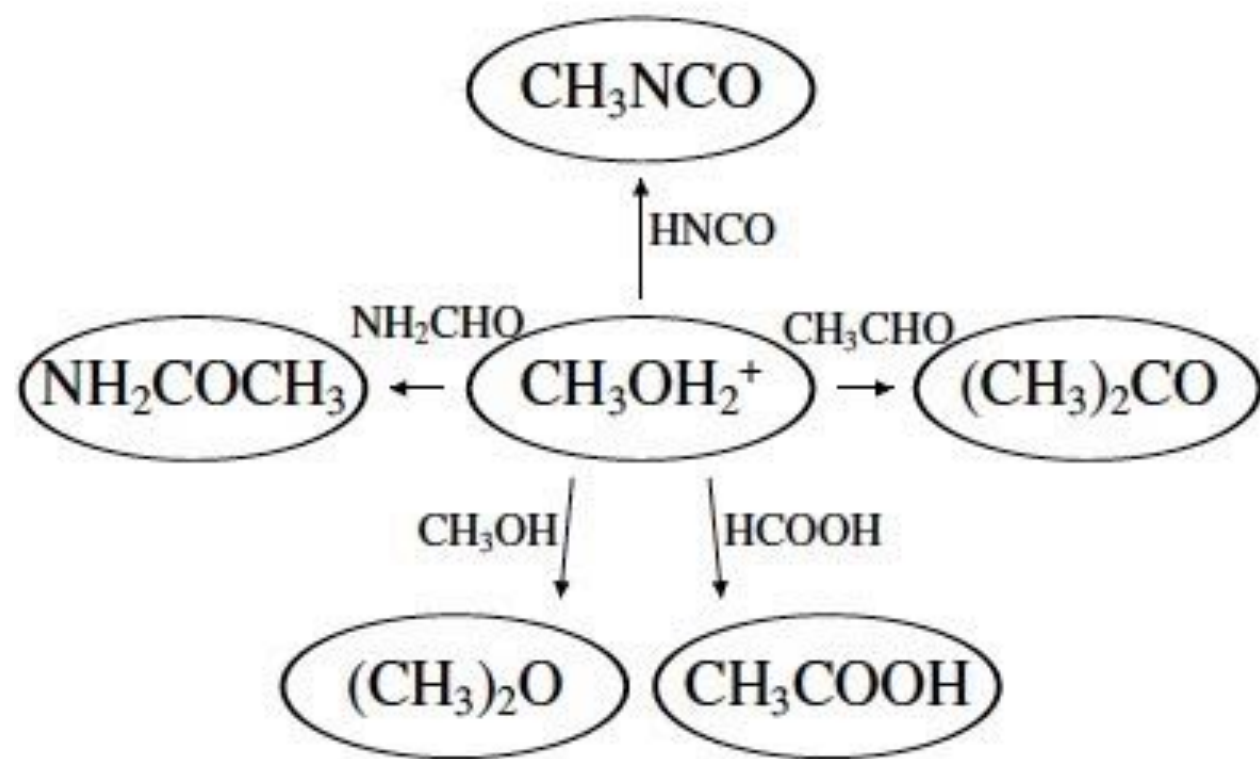
Geppert et al, Faraday discussions, 133, 177

Horn et al, 2004, ApJ, 611, 605



# Proton Transfer

$$X_i = \frac{k_e X_e}{k_i} \simeq 10^{-5} \left( \frac{X_e}{10^{-8}} \right)$$



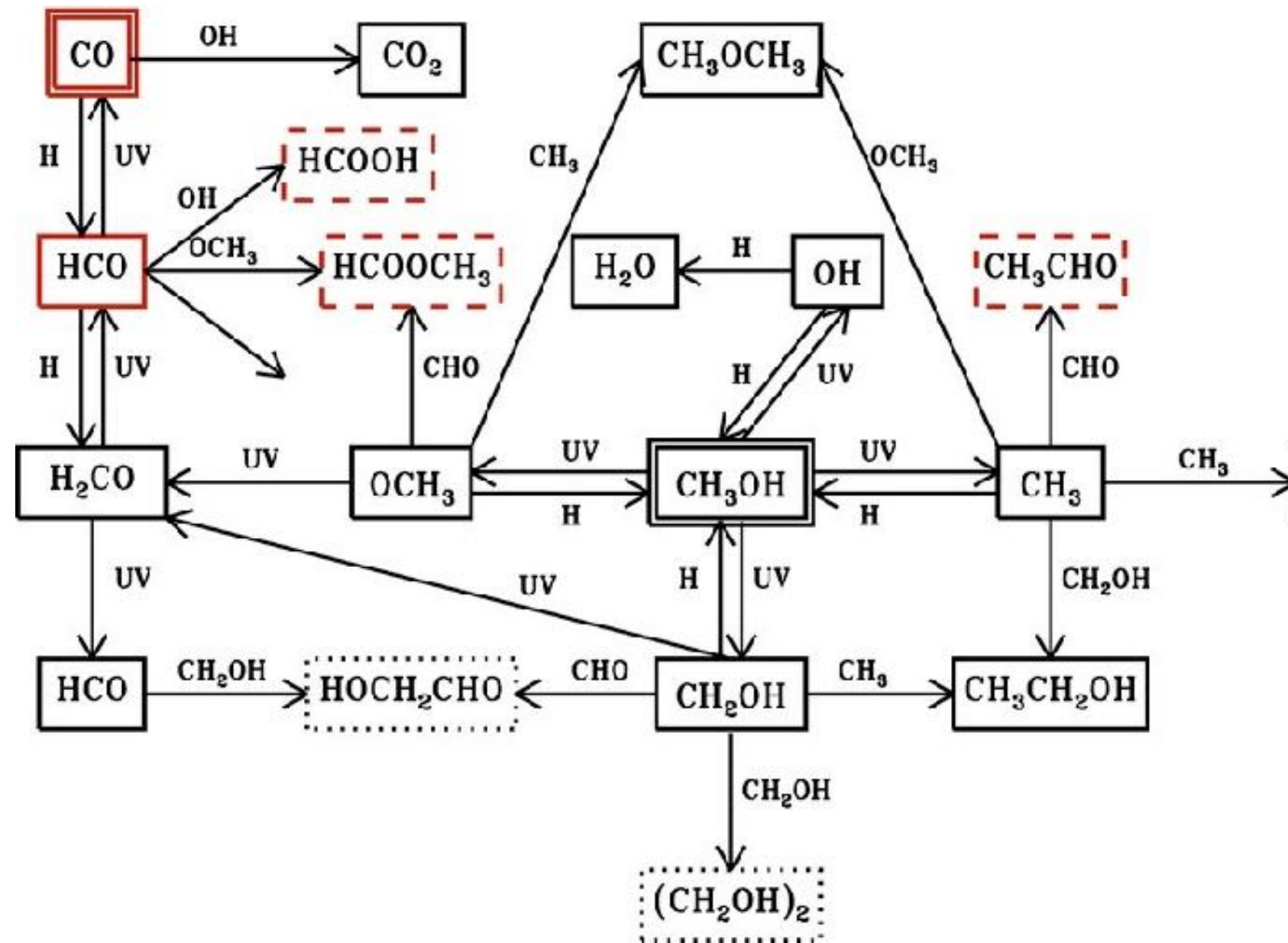
# Alkyl Transfer from Alcohols



# Photolyzed Ices

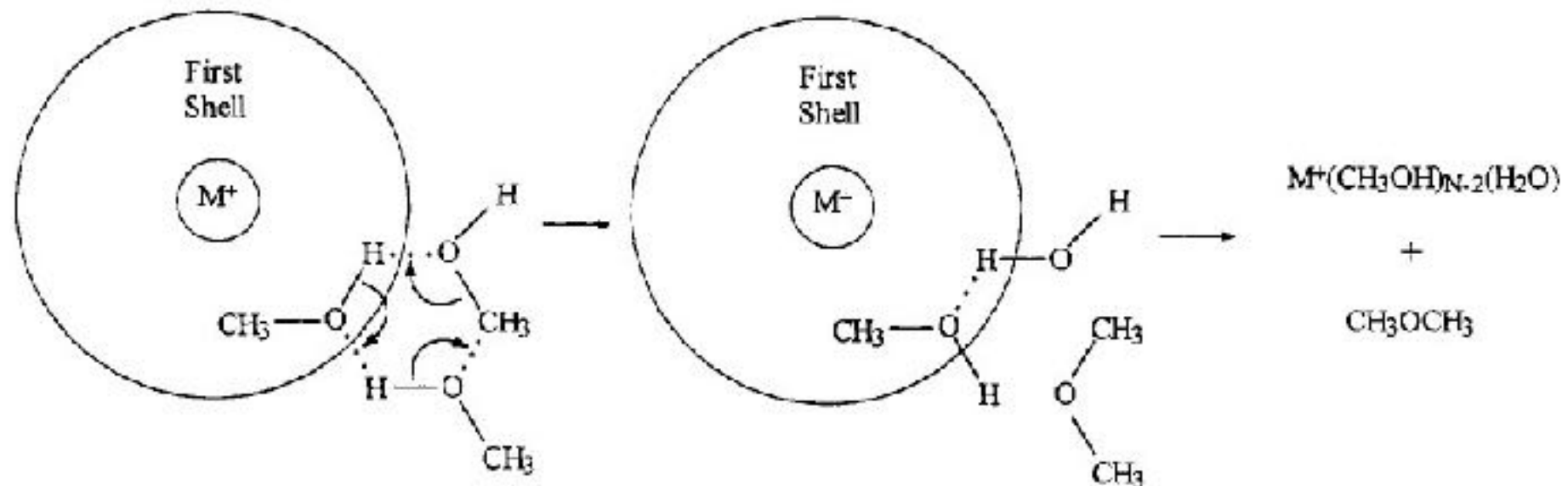
# UV photolysis/ion bombardment & warm up

- Radical production ( $\text{CH}_3$  & others)
- Recombination
- Issues:
  - Chemical specificity
  - Polymerization





# Charged Ices



## Ion-molecule Chemistry in Ices

- Ices are charged & charges are localized:
  - Na, PAHs
  - $OCN^-$
  - Polarization charge
- Warm-up leads to segregation
- H-bonding
- Stereochemistry
- Methanol drives chemistry
- Near evaporation, “droplets” may conduce methyl transfer without fragmentation

charged ices: Bouwman et al, 2011, A&A, 529, 46; Schutte et al, 2003, 398, 1049; Demyk et al, 1998, A&A, 339, 553, Balog et al 2009, Phys Rev Lett, 201, 73003

# The Organic Inventory of Comets

Comets, and hence the Earth, sampled many reservoirs with a diverse chemical history

**ice chemistry**

**Hot Core chemistry**

**Warm gas**

**photochemistry**

