# Astrochemistry with SOFIA



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Paola Caselli Center for Astrochemical Studies Max-Planck-Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics









# Interstellar molecules and the seeds of life

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KCN?

#### Known Interstellar Molecules (Total ~200)

Number of Atoms											
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9				
H <sub>2</sub>	H <sub>2</sub> O	NH <sub>3</sub>	SiH <sub>4</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	CH3COH	CH <sub>3</sub> CO <sub>2</sub> H	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> OH				
OH	H <sub>2</sub> S	H <sub>3</sub> O <sup>+</sup>	CH <sub>4</sub>	NH <sub>2</sub> CHO	CH <sub>3</sub> NH <sub>2</sub>	HCO <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>	(CH3)20				
SO	SO2	H <sub>2</sub> CO	CHOOH	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	CH3CCH	CH3C2CN	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CN				
SO+	HN2 <sup>+</sup>	H <sub>2</sub> CS	HCCCN	CH3NC	CH <sub>2</sub> CHCN	C <sub>7</sub> H	H(CC) <sub>3</sub> CN				
SiO	HNO	HNCO	CH <sub>2</sub> NH	CH <sub>3</sub> SH	HC4CN	H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub>	H(CC) <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub>				
SIS	SiH <sub>2</sub> ?	HNCS	NH <sub>2</sub> CN	C <sub>5</sub> H	C <sub>6</sub> H	CB-?	C <sub>8</sub> H				
FeO?	H <sub>2</sub> D <sup>+</sup>	CH <sub>2</sub> D <sup>+</sup> ?	CH <sub>2</sub> CN	C 5S?	I-H <sub>2</sub> C <sub>2</sub> HOH	CH2OHCHO	C .??				
NO	NH <sub>2</sub>	CCCN	H2CCO	HC <sub>2</sub> CHO	c-CH <sub>2</sub> OCH <sub>2</sub>	I-HC <sub>6</sub> H	- 5				
NS	Ha <sup>+</sup>	HCO <sub>2</sub> <sup>+</sup>	C4H	CH2=CH2	C7						
HCI	NNO	I-CCCH	c-C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	H2CCCC	-1		10				
NaCl	HCO	c-CCCH	I-H2CCC	HC <sub>3</sub> NH <sup>+</sup>							
KCI	HCO+	CCCO	C <sub>5</sub>	C <sub>5</sub> N			CH3COCH3				
AICI	OCS	CCCS	SiC <sub>4</sub>	C6"?			CH3(CC)2CN?				
AIF	CCH	нссн	H 2CO+	-0			(CH <sub>2</sub> OH) <sub>2</sub> ?				
PN	HCS+	HONH+	HCCNC				1 2 12				
SIN	C-SICC	HCCN	HNCCC				11				
SIL	0.000	IL ON	TINCOO				1/(00) 011				
NH	000	H <sub>2</sub> CN		Ormania	ale autors in arrean		H(CC)4CN				
UD	AINC	0-5103		Organic m	12						
	SICN			• morganic i	noiecules in plink		Calla				
CH	CCS						06116				
CH <sup>+</sup>	C <sub>3</sub>						13				
CN	MgNC										
CO	NaCN						H(CC)5CN				
CS	CH <sub>2</sub>										
C <sub>2</sub>	MgCN						Total: 136				
SiC	HOC+										
CP	HCN										
COT	HNC										

http://www.astrochymist.org/astrochymist\_ism.html

# Interstellar molecules and the seeds of life

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#### Known Interstellar Molecules (Total ~200) Number of Atoms 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 H2O NH<sub>3</sub> SiH₄ CH<sub>3</sub>OH CH<sub>3</sub>COH CH3CO2H CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH H2 H2S NH<sub>2</sub>CHO CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> HCO<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> (CH3)20 OH H30+ CH4 SO2 H2CO CH<sub>3</sub>CN CH3CCH CH3C2CN CH3CH2CN SO CHOOH H2CS HCCCN CH<sub>3</sub>NC CH<sub>2</sub>CHCN C7H H(CC)<sub>3</sub>CN SO+ HN2+ SiO HNO HNCO CH<sub>2</sub>NH CH<sub>3</sub>SH HC4CN H<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub> H(CC)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> SiHo? HNCS NH2CN C<sub>5</sub>H CH SiS Amino acetonitrile in SgrB2(N) H (Belloche et al. 2008) $\mathbf{O}$ C H С H C Ν N 0 н H Η Glycine - the simplest amino acid

# **Pre-biotic molecules in meteorites**



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Photo & Collec ALLENDE, CV3, MEXICO Harald Stehlik

#### ~70 amino acids have been identified in meteorites; 21 of these are used in life.



L-Alanine







L-Aspartic Acid

L-Glutamine

Glycine

# <sup>7</sup> Interstellar molecules and the seeds of life





# Outline

- Formation of H<sub>2</sub>
- Formation of  $H_3^+$
- Deuterium fractionation
- The ortho-to-para H<sub>2</sub> ratio
- SOFIA discovery of para-H<sub>2</sub>D<sup>+</sup>
- SOFIA and oxygen chemistry
- SOFIA and sulfur chemistry

# The formation of H<sub>2</sub>

The reaction that starts the chemistry in the interstellar medium is the one between two hydrogen atoms to form molecular hydrogen:

$$H + H \rightarrow H_2$$

This reaction happens on the surface of dust grains.



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The H<sub>2</sub> formation rate (cm<sup>-3</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>) is given by (e.g. Gould & Salpeter 1963; Hollenbach & Salpeter 1970; Jura 1974; Pirronello et al. 1999; Cazaux & Tielens 2002; Bergin et al. 2004; Cuppen & Herbst 2005; Cazaux et al. 2008):

$$R_{H_2} = \frac{1}{2} n_H v_H A n_g S_H \gamma$$
  
= 10<sup>-17</sup> - 10<sup>-16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>s<sup>-1</sup>



 $n_{H} \equiv$  gas number density  $v_{H} \equiv$  H atoms speed in gas-phase  $A \equiv$  grain cross sectional area  $n_{g} \equiv$  dust grain number density  $S_{H} \equiv$  sticking probability  $\gamma \equiv$  surface reaction probability 12

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# The formation of $H_3^+$

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After the formation of molecular hydrogen, cosmic rays ionize  $H_2$  initiating fast routes towards the formation of complex molecules in dark clouds:

# $H_2 + c.r. \rightarrow H_2^+ + e^- + c.r.$

Once  $H_2^+$  is formed (in small percentages), it very quickly reacts with the abundant  $H_2$  molecules to form  $H_3^+$ , the most important molecular ion in interstellar chemistry:

# $H_2^+ + H_2^- \rightarrow H_3^+ + H_3^-$



# <sup>14</sup> Deuterium Fractionation at T < 20 K

 $H_3^+ + HD \rightarrow H_2^-D^+ + H_2^- + 230 \text{ K}$  (Watson 1974)

 $H_2D^+/H_3^+$  increases if the abundance of gas phase neutral species decreases (Dalgarno & Lepp 1984):







Guelin et al. 1977 Wootten et al. 1979 Guelin et al. 1982 Bergin et al. 1998 Caselli et al. 1998 Dalgarno 2006

### Deuterated molecules are the best tracers of pre-stellar cores



Caselli 2011, IAU 280

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Pagani et al. 1992 Gerlich et al. 2002 Hugo et al. 2009 Kong et al. 2015

ortho-H<sub>2</sub> can slow down / suppress the deuterium fractionation







The conversion from ortho to para H<sub>2</sub> is a slow process and it is required to explain the observed large deuterium fractions.

D<sub>frac</sub> > 0.1, requires collapse to be proceeding at rates about 10 times slower than that of free-fall collapse.

*Kong et al. 2015* 

# <sup>21</sup> Large (variations of) deuterium fractions



See also Friesen et al. 2010; Friesen, Kirk & Shirley 2013; Schnee et al. 2013

#### 22 ortho- $H_2D^+$ The 372 GHz o-H<sub>2</sub>D<sup>+</sup> line is strong; its emission is extended ~5000 AU Only models including Vastel et al. 2006 100 all multiply deuterated forms of $H_3^+$ can reproduce these data (Roberts et al. 2003; 50 Walmsley et al. 2004; csec] Aikawa et al. 2005) $O-H_2D^+$ Caselli et al. 2003 CSO 0.8 $H_2D^+$ (1<sub>10</sub>-1<sub>11</sub>) $N_2H^+(1-0)$ 0.4 IRAM $N_2D^+(2-1)$ IRAM 0 -50-100-1500 6.5 7 7.5 8

 $\Delta \alpha$  [arcsec]

 $V_{lsr} (km s^{-1})$ 





# <sup>25</sup> How much ortho-H<sub>2</sub> is in molecular clouds?



Upon formation:  $oH_2/pH_2 = 3$ 

In diffuse clouds:  $oH_2/pH_2 \sim 0.3-0.8$ (Crabtree et al. 2011)

In the pre-stellar core L183:  $oH_2/pH_2 \sim 0.1$  (Pagani et al. 2009)

In the starless core B68:  $oH_2/pH_2 \sim$  0.015 (Maret & Bergin 2007)

In the pre-stellar core L1544:  $oH_2/$  pH<sub>2</sub> ~0.003 (Kong et al. 2015)

Analytical relation between the  $H_2$  and  $H_2D^+$  ortho-to-para ratios

 $p-H_2D^+ + o-H_2 \Leftrightarrow o-H_2D^+ + p-H_2$  $o-H_2D^+ + o-H_2 \Leftrightarrow p-H_2D^+ + p-H_2$  $o-H_2D^+ + o-H_2 \Leftrightarrow p-H_2D^+ + o-H_2$ 

 $\frac{[o-H_2D^+]}{[p-H_2D^+]} = \frac{(k_1^+ + k_3^-) \times [o-H_2]/[p-H_2] + k_2^-}{(k_2^+ + k_3^+) \times [o-H_2]/[p-H_2] + k_1^-}$ 

Hugo et al. 2009; Brünken et al. 2014

### FIRST DETECTION OF para-H<sub>2</sub>D<sup>+</sup> TOWARD IRAS16293-2422

## para-H<sub>2</sub>D<sup>+</sup>

Brünken, Sipilä, Chambers, Harju, Caselli, Asvany, Honingh, Kamiński, Menten, Stutzki, Schlemmer 2014, Nature

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Brünken et al. 2014



The molecular gas in the cool envelope has been subject to chemical processing for at least one million years.

Brünken et al. 2014



from Vastel et al. 2004

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### $para-D_2H^+$

Extended para-D<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> emission (~40" ~5000 AU) toward L1688/H-MM1 (692 GHz; APEX-CHAMP+)



See Vastel et al. (2004) for first detection of para- $D_2H^+$ 

## ortho-D<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> with SOFIA



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**Table 3.** Requisite column densities for unit optical depth in the absorption line centre for the deuterated forms of  $H_3^+$ . Spectroscopic data from Ramanlal & Tennyson (2004).

Species	Upper level	Lower level	$E_l$	Wavelength	$N_{\tau=1}$
			$(cm^{-1})$	(µm)	$(cm^{-2})$
$H_2D^+$ (para)	$(1, 1, 1)^a$	(0, 0, 0)	0.0	4.162	$1.9 \times 10^{14}$
$H_2D^+$ (ortho)	(0, 0, 0)	(1, 1, 1)	60.0	4.395	$6.1 \times 10^{14}$
$H_2D^+$ (ortho)	(2, 0, 2)	(1, 1, 1)	60.0	4.136	$7.1 \times 10^{14}$
$H_2D^+$ (ortho)	(2, 2, 0)	(1, 1, 1)	60.0	3.985	$4.9 \times 10^{14}$
D <sub>2</sub> H <sup>+</sup> (ortho)	(1, 1, 1)	(0, 0, 0)	0.0	4.965	$4.7 \times 10^{14}$
$D_2H^+$ (ortho)	(1, 0, 1)	(0, 0, 0)	0.0	4.72	$5.5 \times 10^{14}$
$D_2H^+$ (para)	(1, 1, 0)	(1, 0, 1)	34.9	5.02	$6.9 \times 10^{14}$
$D_2H^+$ (para)	(2, 0, 2)	(1, 0, 1)	34.9	4.63	$7.6 \times 10^{14}$
$D_3^+$ (ortho)	$(0, 1, 1, 0, 1)^b$	(0, 0, 0, 0, 0)	0.0	5.296	$2.2 \times 10^{13}$
$D_3^+$ (meta)	(0, 1, 0, 1, 1)	(0, 0, 1, 1, 0)	32.3	5.548	$1.6 \times 10^{14}$
$D_3^+$ (meta)	(0, 1, 2, 1, -1)	(0, 0, 1, 1, 0)	32.3	5.198	$9.9 \times 10^{13}$
$D_3^+$ (meta)	(0, 1, 2, 1, 1)	(0, 0, 1, 1, 0)	32.3	5.166	9.1 × 10 <sup>13</sup>
$D_3^+$ (para)	(0, 1, 1, 0, -1)	(0, 0, 1, 0, 0)	43.6	5.433	$4.5 \times 10^{14}$

<sup>a</sup>  $(J, K_{\rm a}, K_{\rm c})$ .

<sup>b</sup>  $(\nu_1, \nu_2, J, G, U).$ 

### **Ro-vibrational lines**



From SOFIA/EXES proposal of Goto et al.







Tielens & Hagen 1982; Cuppen & Herbst 2007; Miyauchi et al. 2008; Ioppolo et al. 2008, 2010; Cazaux et al. 2010, 2011; Taquet et al. 2013; Dulieu et al. 2013





van Dishoeck et al. 2011, 2014





It will be important in the future to obtain spectra of the highest quality for stars in lines of sight that sample diffuse-ISM dust over a range of visual extinctions, especially in the waveband containing the 5.85µm carbonyl feature as it should provide the most sensitive quantitative test for oxygenated organics. Both the Stratospheric Observatory for Infrared Astronomy and the James Webb Space Telescope will have instruments well matched to this task. – Whittet 2009



Tielens & Hagen 1982; Cuppen & Herbst 2007; Miyauchi et al. 2008; loppolo et al. 2008, 2010; Cazaux et al. 2010, 2011; Taquet et al. 2013; Dulieu et al. 2013



<sup>38</sup> First detection of OD outside the Solar System



OD/HDO between 17 and 90 (high compared to model predictions  $\rightarrow$  gas phase reprocessing through dissociative recombination of H<sub>2</sub>DO<sup>+</sup>?) *Parallel observations of OD and OH could provide valuable constraints on the formation and fractionation of water.* 

# The mercapto radical

Cold SH is unobservable from the ground

The "ground state" rotational transition

 $^{2}\Pi_{3/2}$  J= 5/2  $\rightarrow$  3/2 at 1.383 THz

falls right in the gap between Bands 5 and 6 of *Herschel*'s HIFI spectrometer

# The mercapto radical

 The GREAT (<u>German</u> <u>RE</u>ceiver for <u>A</u>stronomy at <u>T</u>erahertz frequencies) spectrometer on SOFIA has a receiver designed to cover this gap in <u>Herschel/HIFI</u> coverage (1250 – 1410 GHz)



### Cycle 0: SH clearly detected in absorption toward W49N

8.0  $\Lambda$  doubling **SEFIA** T<sub>A</sub>\* (K) Neufeld et al. 2012, A&A antenna temperature, 7.5 h, 7.0 6.5 DSB 6.0 1382.6 1382.8 1383.0 1383.2 Frequency (GHz) See also Neufeld et al. 2015

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Courtesy of David Neufeld

# Underlying thermochemistry

OH and H<sub>2</sub>O can be produced via two pathways:

Low temperature: ion-molecule reactions, then dissociative recombination of  $H_3O^+$  High temperature: neutral-neutral reactions

SH and H<sub>2</sub>S are only produced at elevated temperatures:

Their presence is evidence for shocks or turbulent dissipation regions

Courtesy of David Neufeld

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With **SOFIA** we can explore the foundations of astrochemistry:

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• the deuteration of  $H_3^+$  via HD – the starting point of D fractionation

• the ortho-to-para  $H_2$ , via observations of para- $H_2D^+$  (and ortho- $H_2D^+$  with APEX) – important for D fractionation and cloud ages

- OH, OD (, carbonyl?) oxygen chemistry and water fractionation
  synergy with Herschel and APEX
- SH unveils the presence of shocks in diffuse clouds