

From Simple to Complex Molecules in Interstellar Ices



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NASA IRTF

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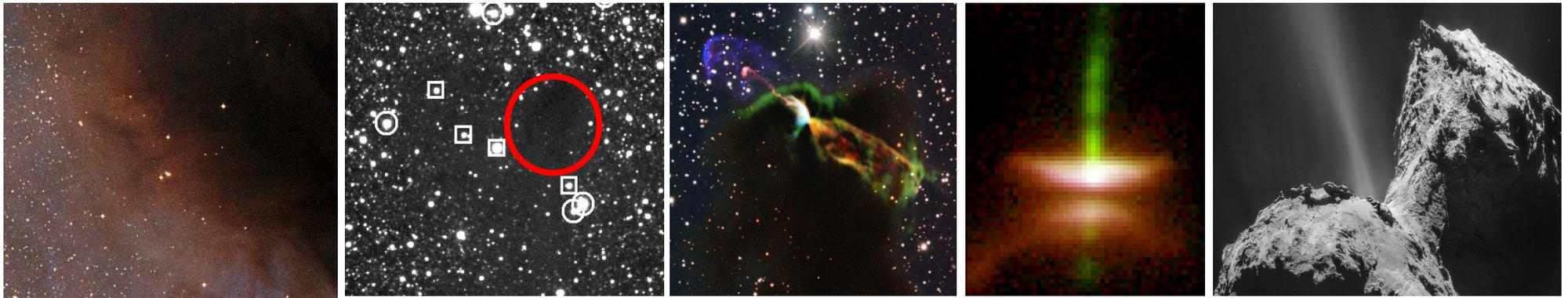
Topics

1. Introduction: Questions about Ice Formation Processes
2. H₂O-rich Ice Phase
3. CO-rich Ice Phase
4. Salts
5. Heated Ices
6. Ice Porosity
7. Back to the Gas Phase
8. Future Missions
9. Conclusions

1. A Key Question

Which processes and conditions lead from atoms to the complex molecules needed for life?

cloud → prestellar core → YSO env. → pp disk → comet



H, C, O, N,
S...



glycine,
ethylene glycol.
...

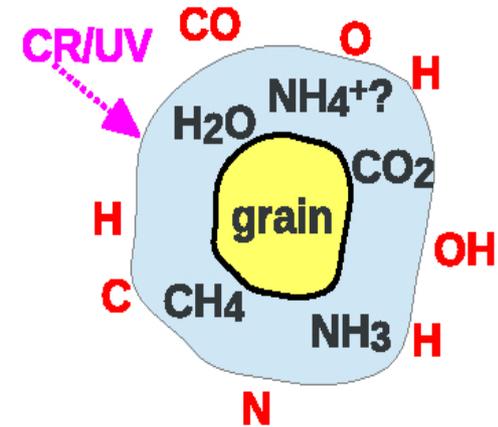
1. Molecule Formation

I. **Gas phase** chemistry (often involving ions, e.g. conversion C^+ to CO)

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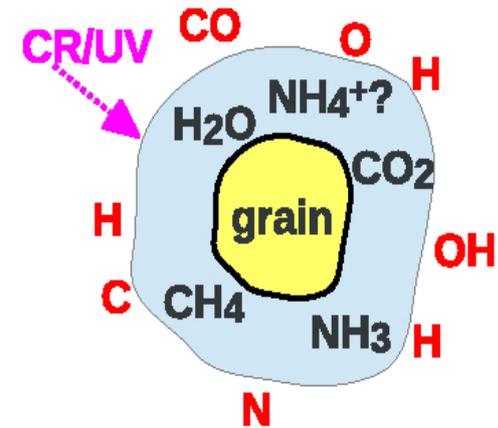
II. **Grain surface** chemistry (freeze out <100 K):
producing simple molecules. Efficient hydrogenation due to tunneling.



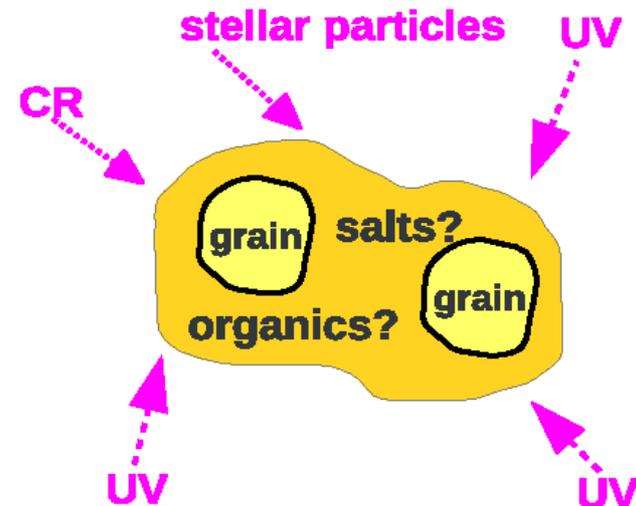
1. Molecule Formation

I. **Gas phase** chemistry (often involving ions, e.g. conversion C^+ to CO)

II. **Grain surface** chemistry (freeze out <100 K):
producing simple molecules. Efficient hydrogenation due to tunneling.



III. **Energetic and thermal processing** ices:
converting simple to complex molecules



1. Molecule Formation

In dense clouds, **grain surface** chemistry rules.

This was modeled **long ago**:

Astron. Astrophys. 114, 245–260 (1982)

ASTRONOMY
AND
ASTROPHYSICS

Model Calculations of the Molecular Composition of Interstellar Grain Mantles

A. G. G. M. Tielens* and W. Hagen**

Laboratory Astrophysics Group, Rijksuniversiteit, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

Received February 1, accepted May 19, 1982

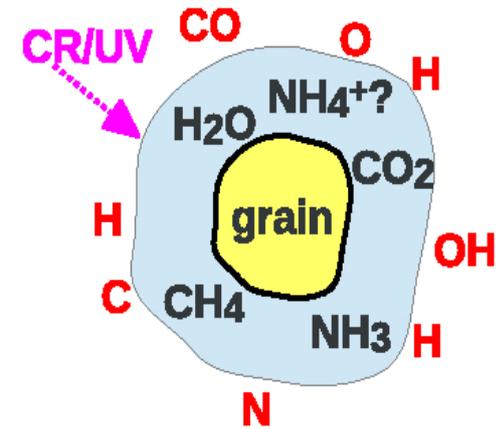
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 399:L71–L74, 1992 November 1

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ON THE MOLECULAR COMPLEXITY OF THE HOT CORES IN ORION A: GRAIN SURFACE CHEMISTRY AS “THE LAST REFUGE OF THE SCOUNDREL”

S. B. CHARNLEY,^{1,2} A. G. G. M. TIELENS,¹ AND T. J. MILLAR³

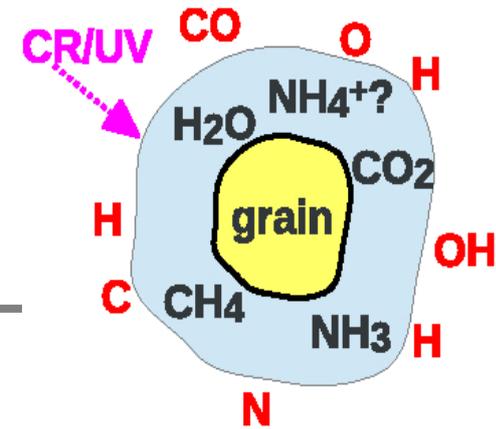
Received 1992 May 5; accepted 1992 August 19



1. Molecule Formation

In dense clouds, **grain surface** chemistry rules.

And “proven” in **laboratory** experiments:



THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 571:L173–L176, 2002 June 1
© 2002. The American Astronomical Society. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

EFFICIENT FORMATION OF FORMALDEHYDE AND METHANOL BY THE ADDITION
OF HYDROGEN ATOMS TO CO IN H₂O-CO ICE AT 10 K

NAOKI WATANABE AND AKIRA KOUCHI

Institute of Low Temperature Science, Hokkaido University, N19-W8, Kita-ku, Sapporo,

Hokkaido 060-0819, Japan; watanabe@lowtem.hokudai.ac.jp

Received 2002 April 2; accepted 2002 April 25; published 2002 May 9

And “proven” in **Monte Carlo** simulations:

A&A 508, 275–287 (2009)
DOI: [10.1051/0004-6361/200913119](https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/200913119)
© ESO 2009

**Astronomy
&
Astrophysics**

**Microscopic simulation of methanol and formaldehyde ice
formation in cold dense cores**

H. M. Cuppen¹, E. F. van Dishoeck^{1,2}, E. Herbst³, and A. G. G. M. Tielens¹

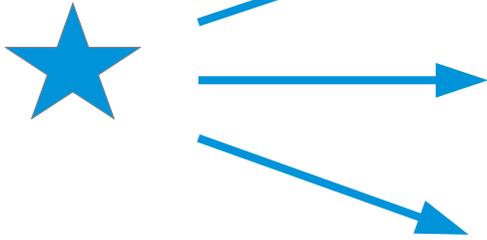
1. Molecule Formation

New questions:

- How complex do the molecules get via cold grain surface chemistry?
- Can we pinpoint and quantify the importance of gas phase and energetic processing?

1. Molecule Formation

O star



IC 1396, clustered
star formation near
massive star,
analogous to early
Earth (e.g., Adams
2010)

Reach+ 2009

2. H₂O-rich Ices

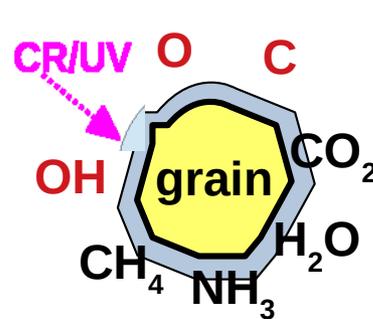


Diffuse
cloud

Dense
cloud

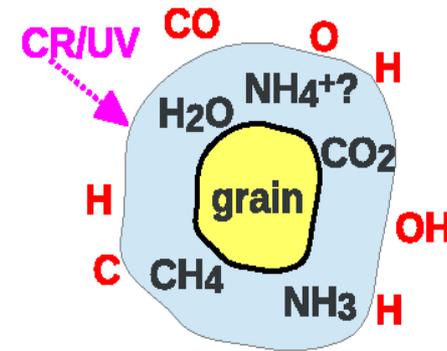


$A_V \sim 0$



$A_V < 1.6$

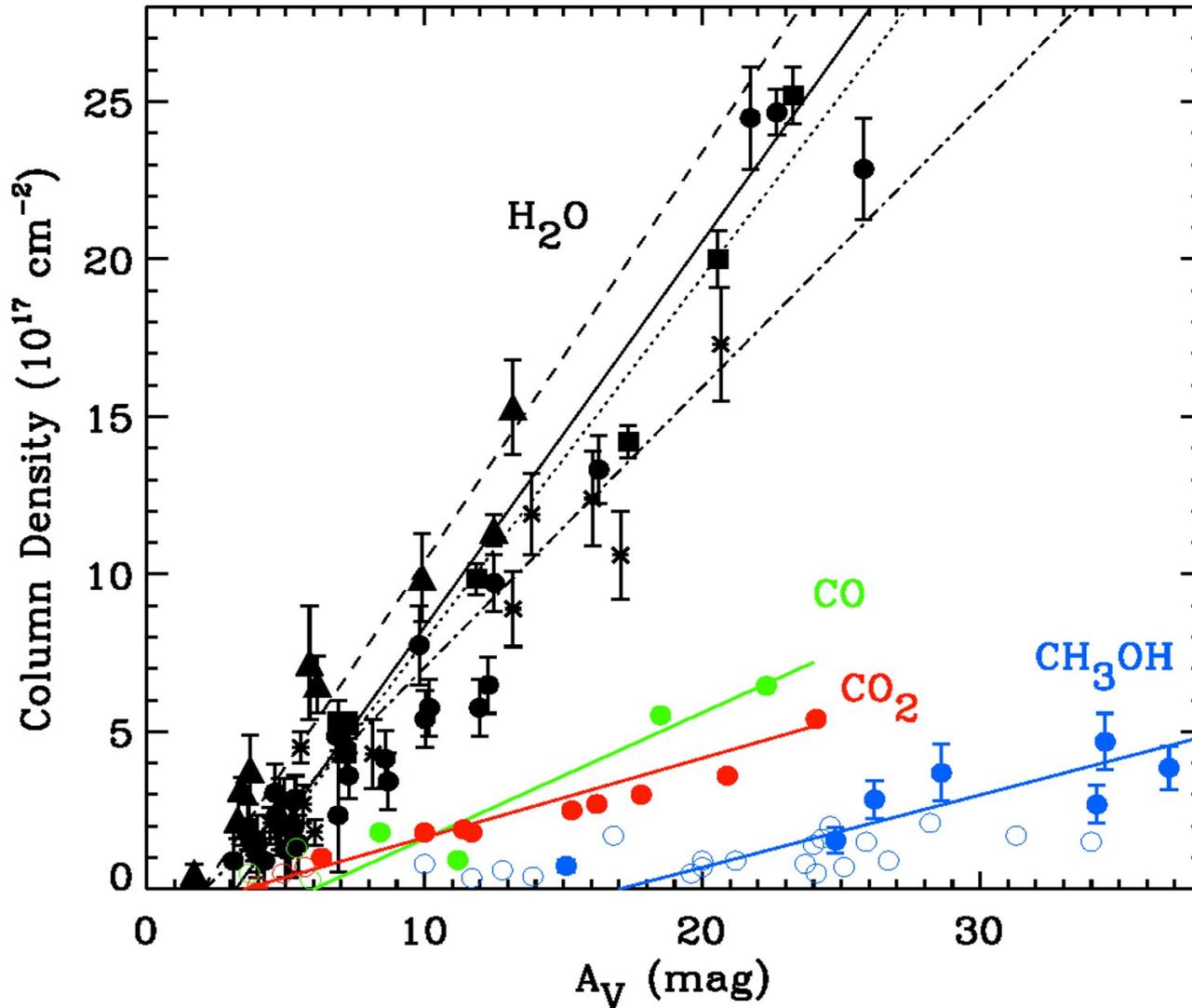
monomer, dimer



$A_V > 1.6$

bulk H₂O
mixed

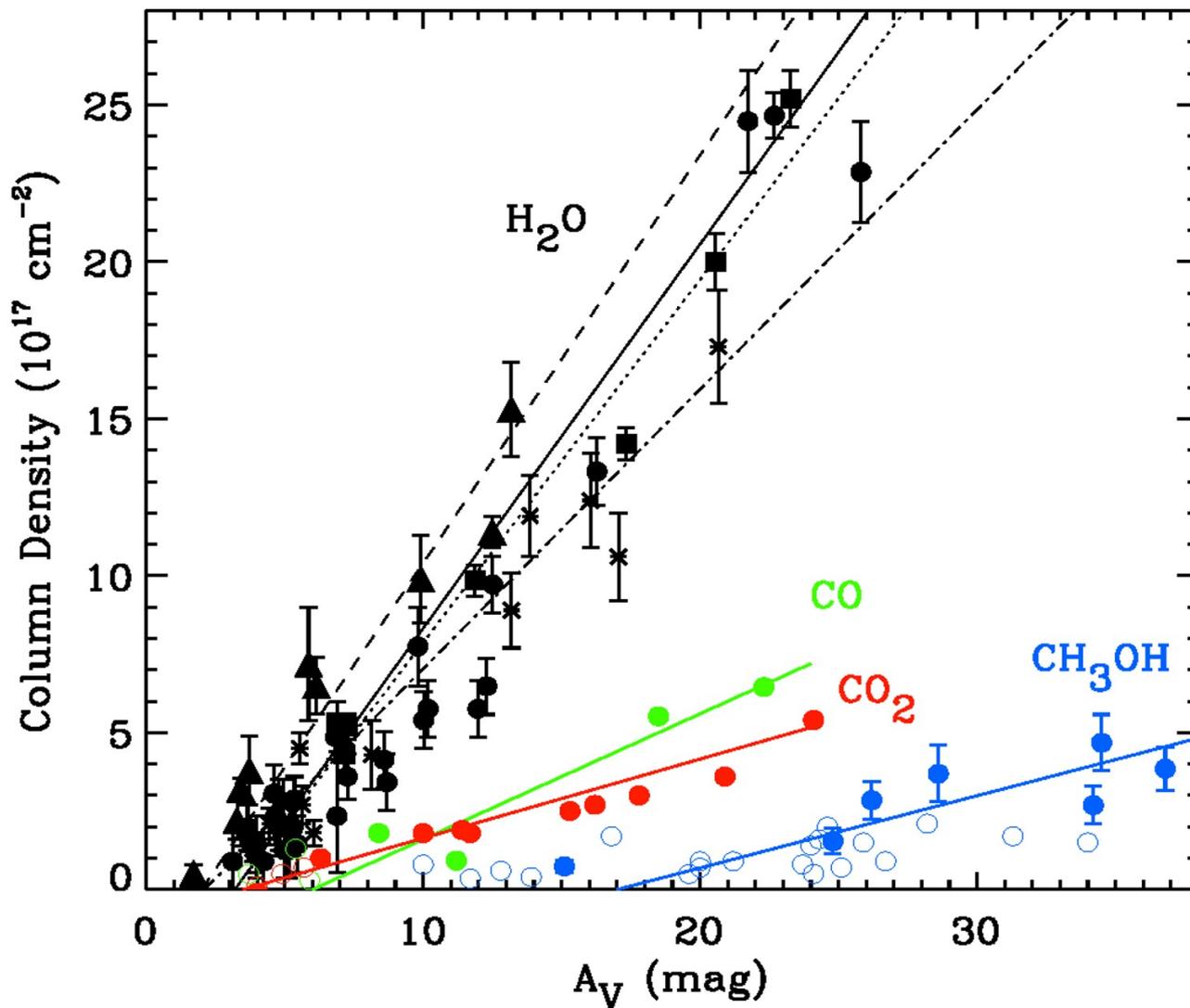
2. H₂O-rich Ices: H₂O:CO₂



H₂O and CO₂ have same formation threshold: mixed. CO+OH → CO₂ (e.g., Ioppolo+ 2011)

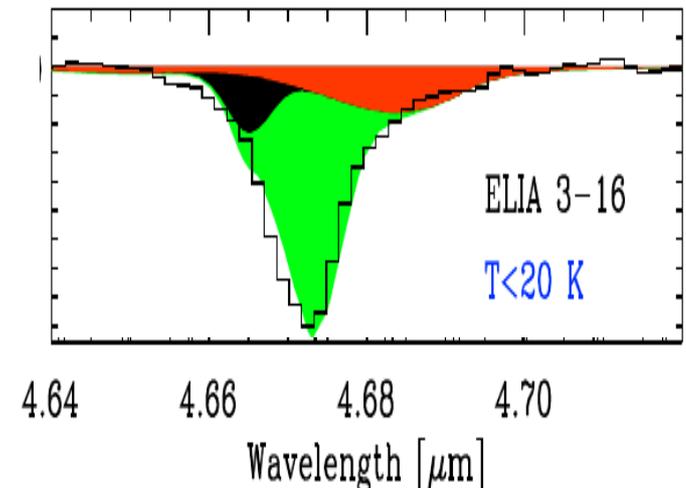
Boogert, Gerakines, & Whittet, 2015

2. H₂O-rich Ices: ~~H₂O:CO~~



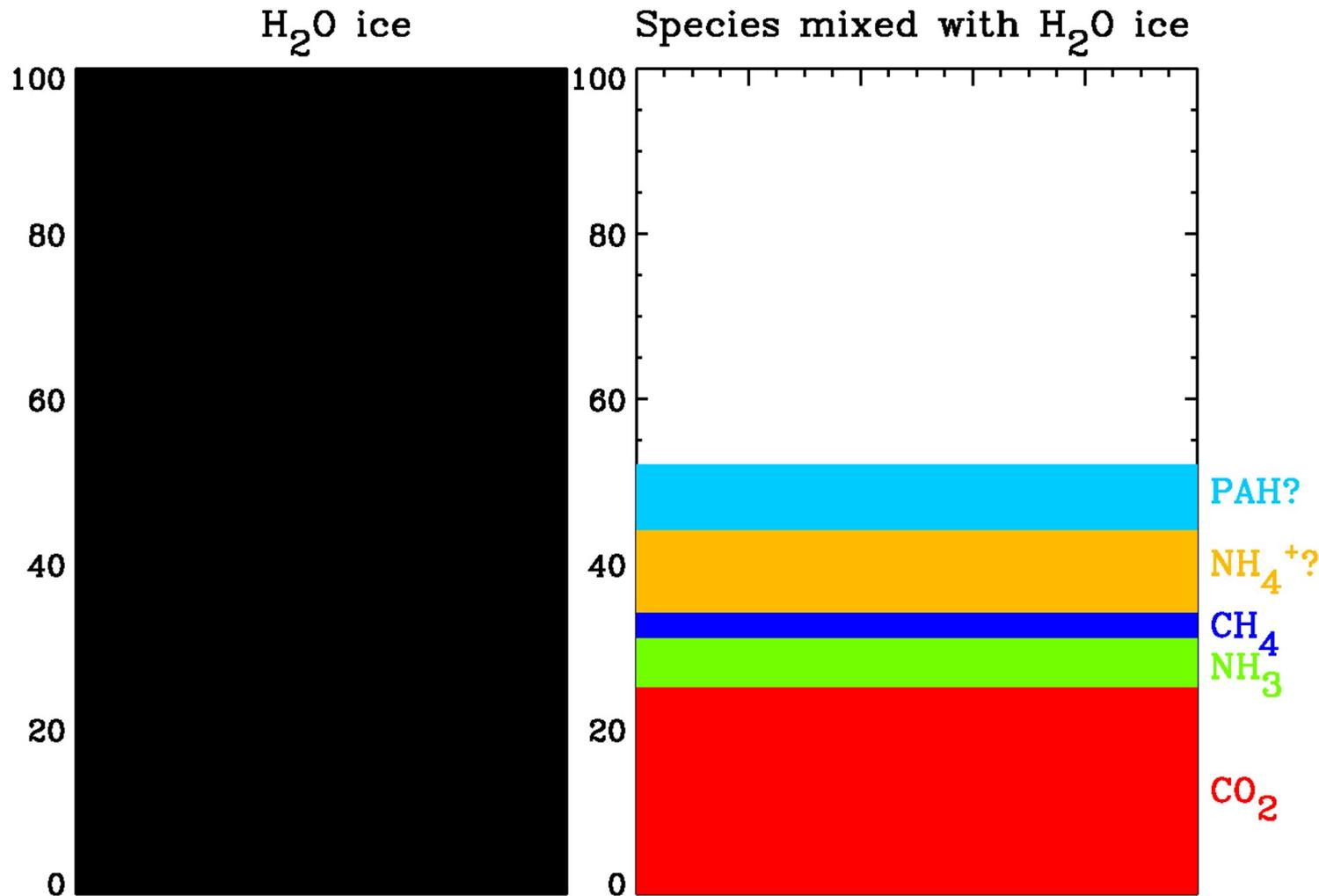
H₂O and CO₂ have same formation threshold: mixed CO+OH → CO₂

H₂O not mixed with CO and CH₃OH (<1%)



Boogert, Gerakines, & Whittet, 2015

2. H₂O-rich Ices: “Dirty Ice”



H₂O ice “dirty”:
mixed with >35%
other species

2. H₂O-rich Ices: Homogeneity

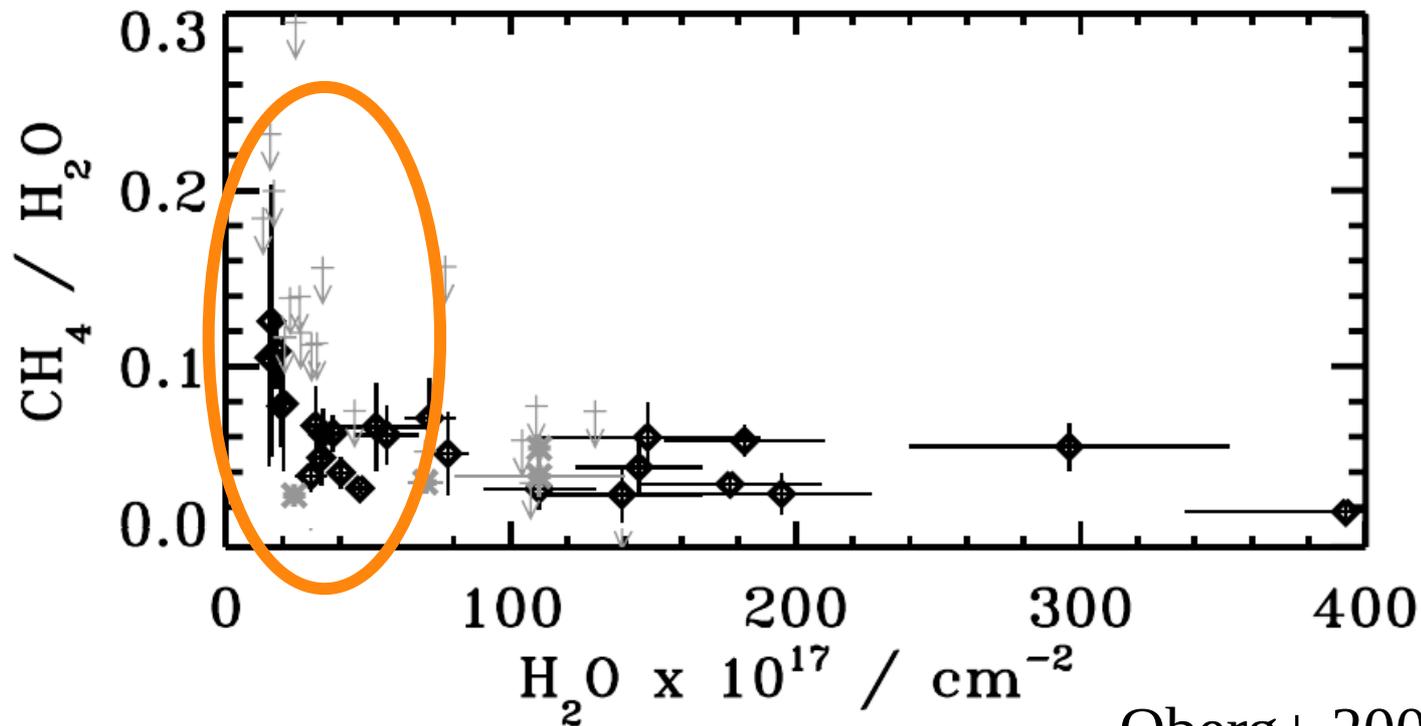
The H₂O-rich ice is probably **not homogeneously** mixed due to:

- gradient C/CO ratio at cloud edge
- mixing between layers
- ...

2. H₂O-rich Ices: H₂O:CH₄

CH₄ forms together with H₂O:

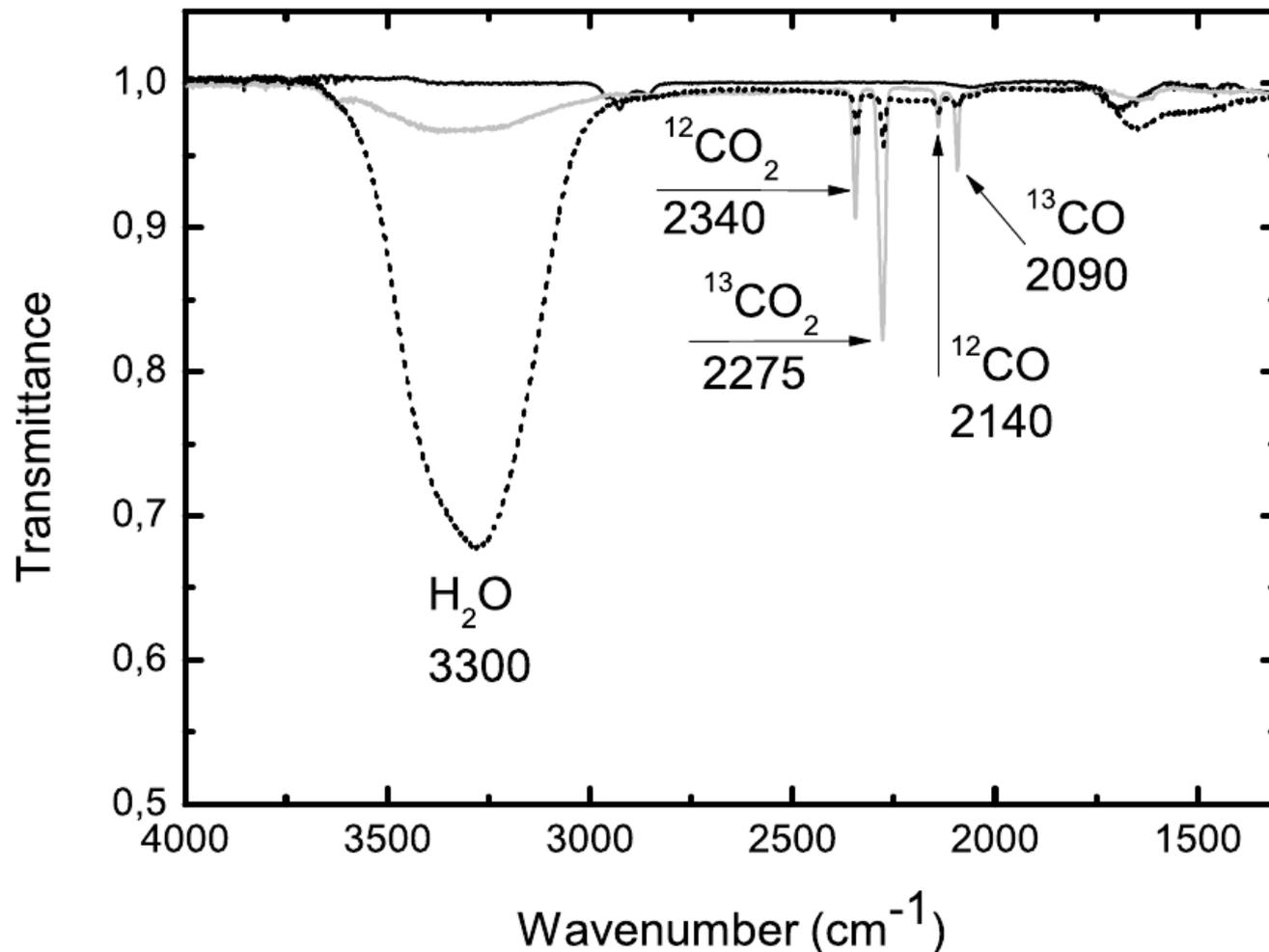
- CH₄ absorption profile
- CH₄/H₂O enhanced at cloud edge due to incomplete CO formation?
 - Could be source of C-chain COMs



Oberg+ 2008

2. H₂O-rich Ices: Carbon Dust

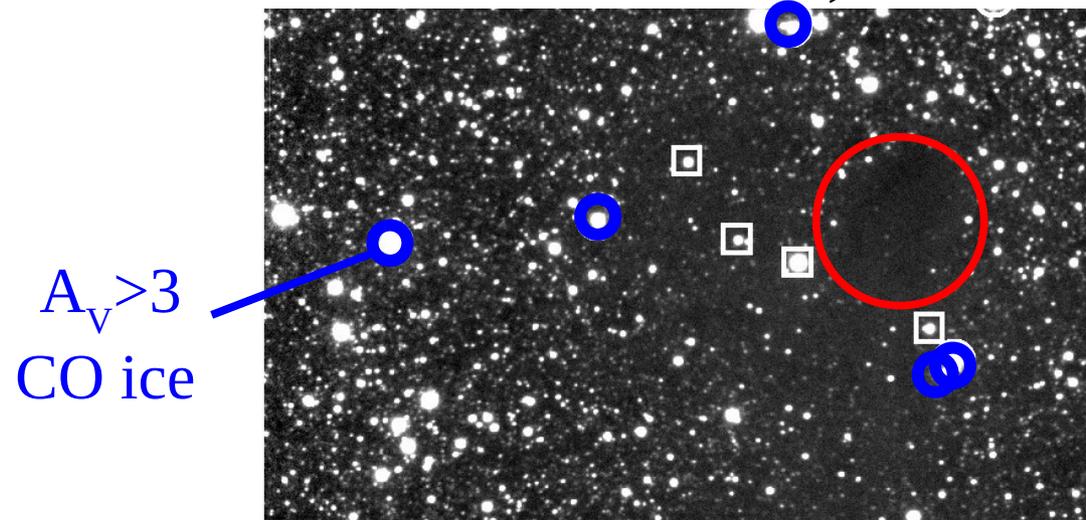
H₂O ice on top of or mixed with **carbonaceous dust** leads to **CO₂** by **energetic particle** radiation.



- Proposed as explanation carbon deficiency solar system objects (Sabri+ 2015)
- Observed CO₂ reproduced on time scale of 10⁷ yr (Ioppolo+ 2013), **much slower than grain surface route.**
- By-products?

3. CO-rich Ices

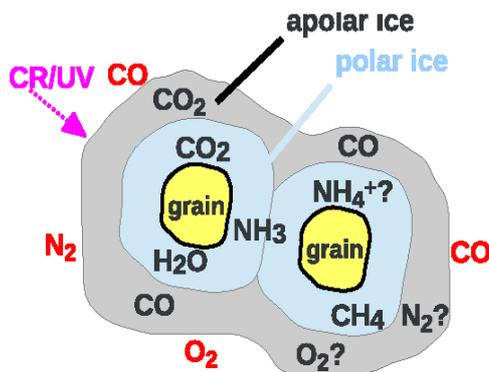
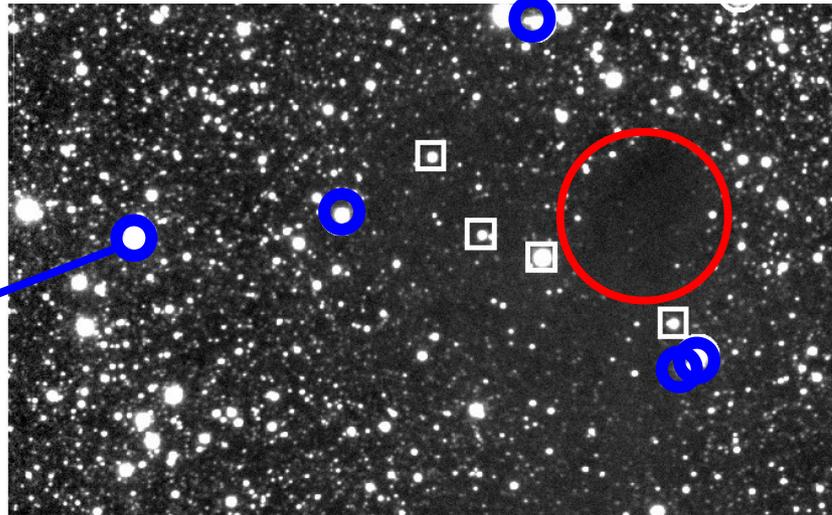
Starless core L 429-C, K-band



3. CO-rich Ices

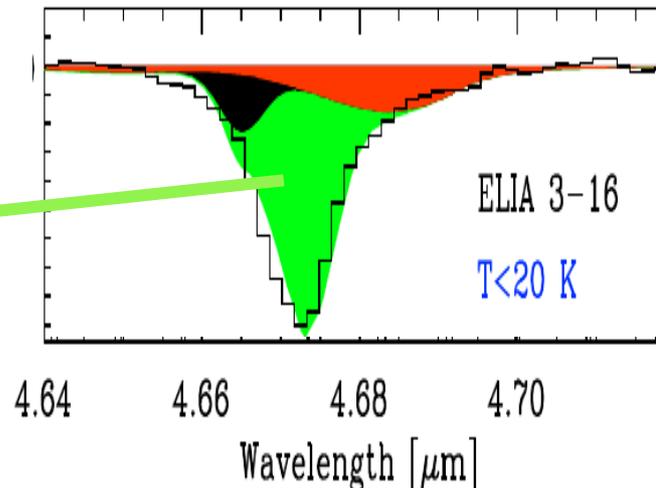
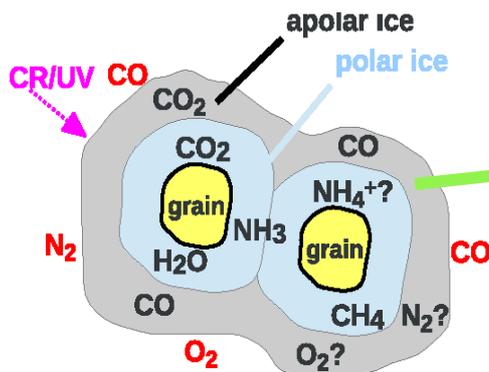
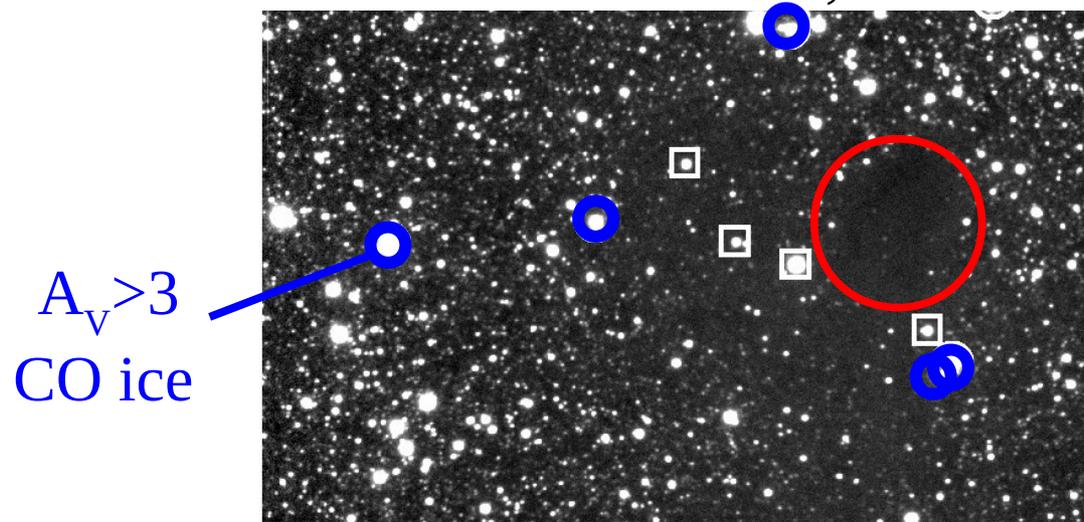
Starless core L 429-C, K-band

$A_V > 3$
CO ice



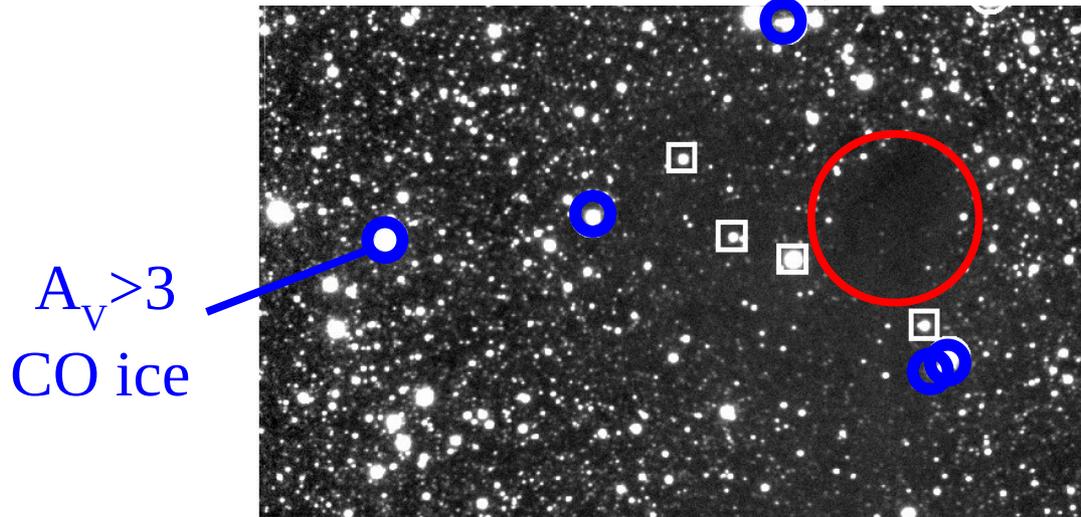
3. CO-rich Ices: Pure CO

Starless core L 429-C, K-band

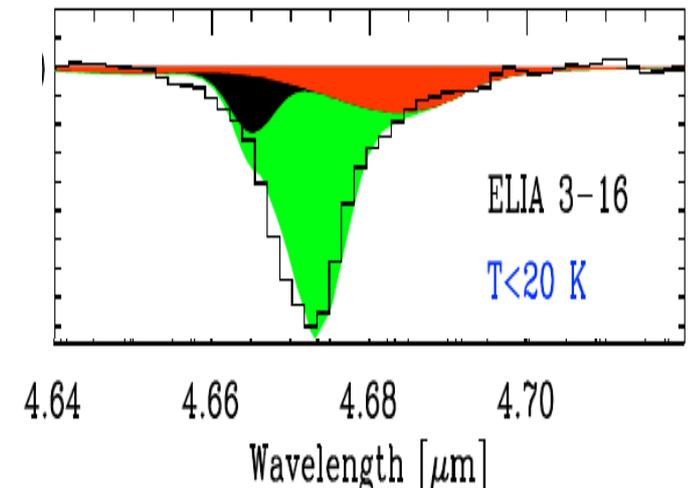
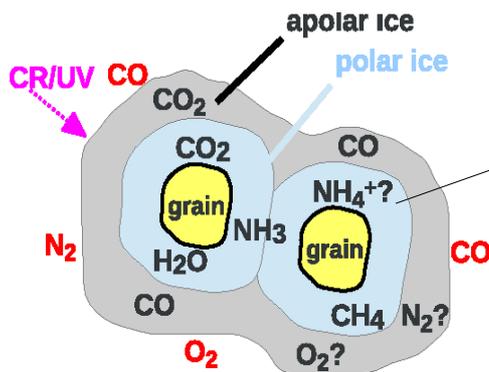


3. CO-rich Ices: “Polar” Wing

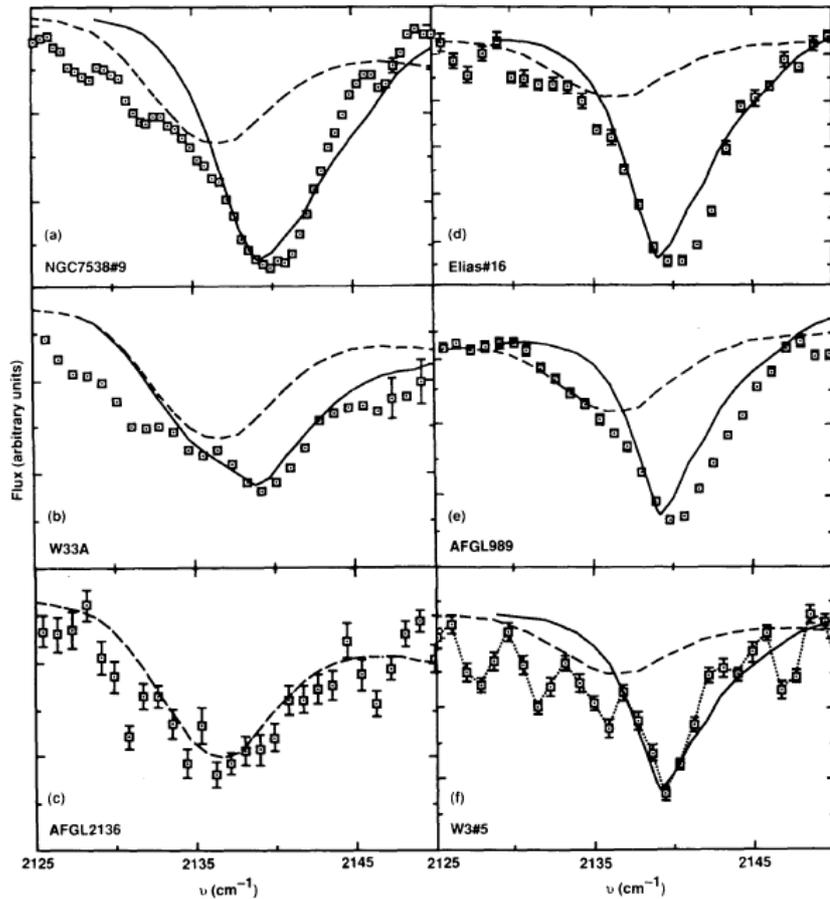
Starless core L 429-C, K-band



Migration of CO into H₂O-rich ice is feasible (Collings+ 2003, Lauck+ 2015)



Intermezzo: Ice Band Profiles

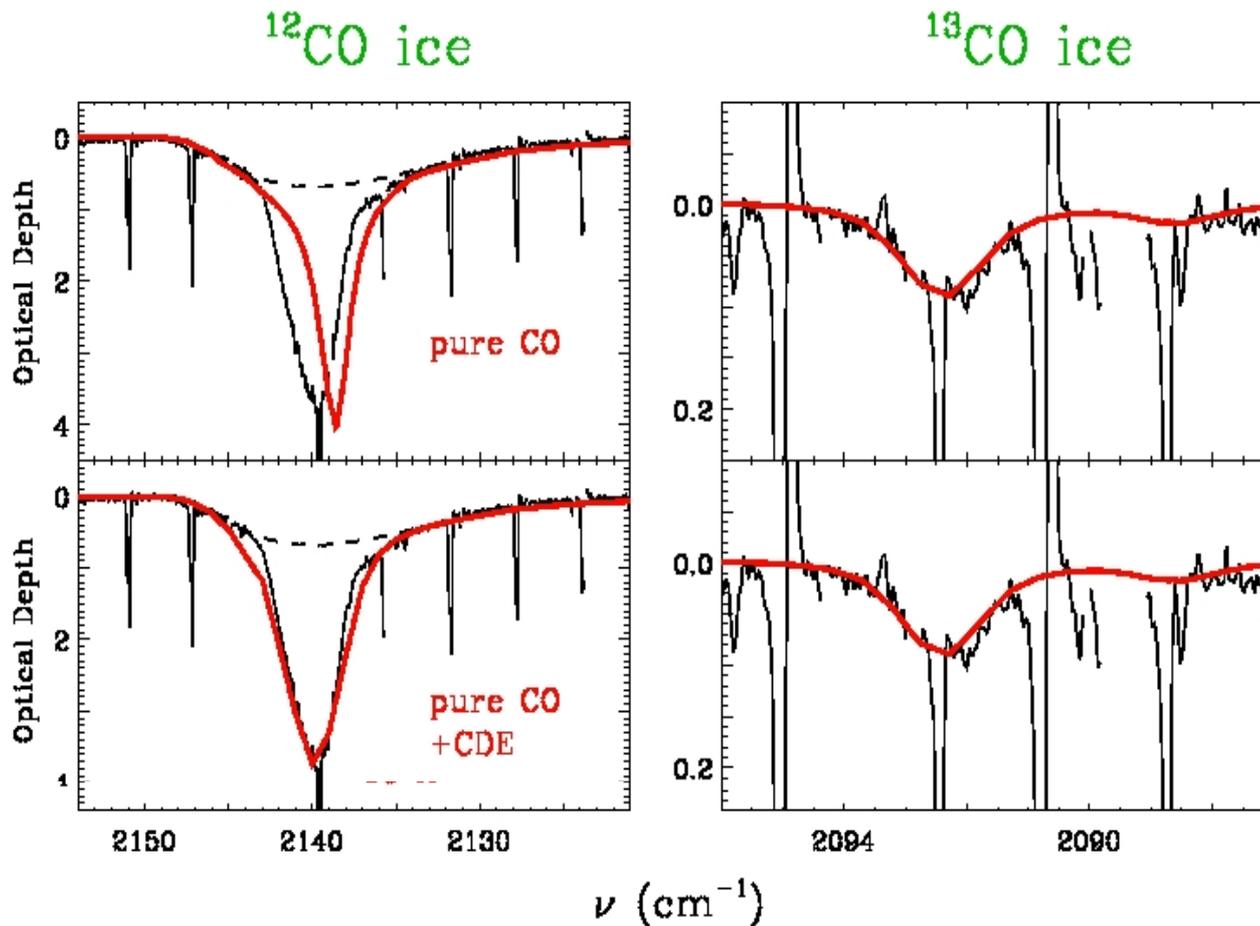


Tielens+ 1991

CO present in **apolar** and **polar** ices:

- Apolar: nearly pure CO.
- Polar: CO mixed with H₂O and/or CH₃OH
- Requires grain shape corrections for analysis.

Intermezzo: Ice Band Profiles

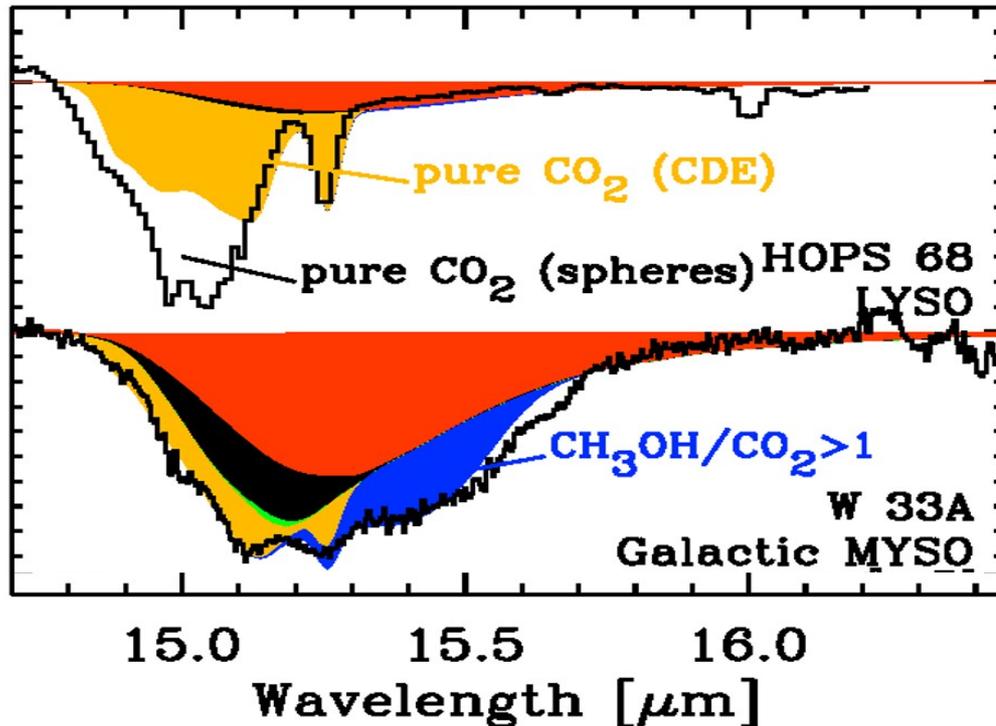


Better data:

- grain shape corrections crucial
- apolar CO is $\sim 90\%$ pure.

Boogert, Blake, & Tielens (2004)

Intermezzo: Ice Band Profiles

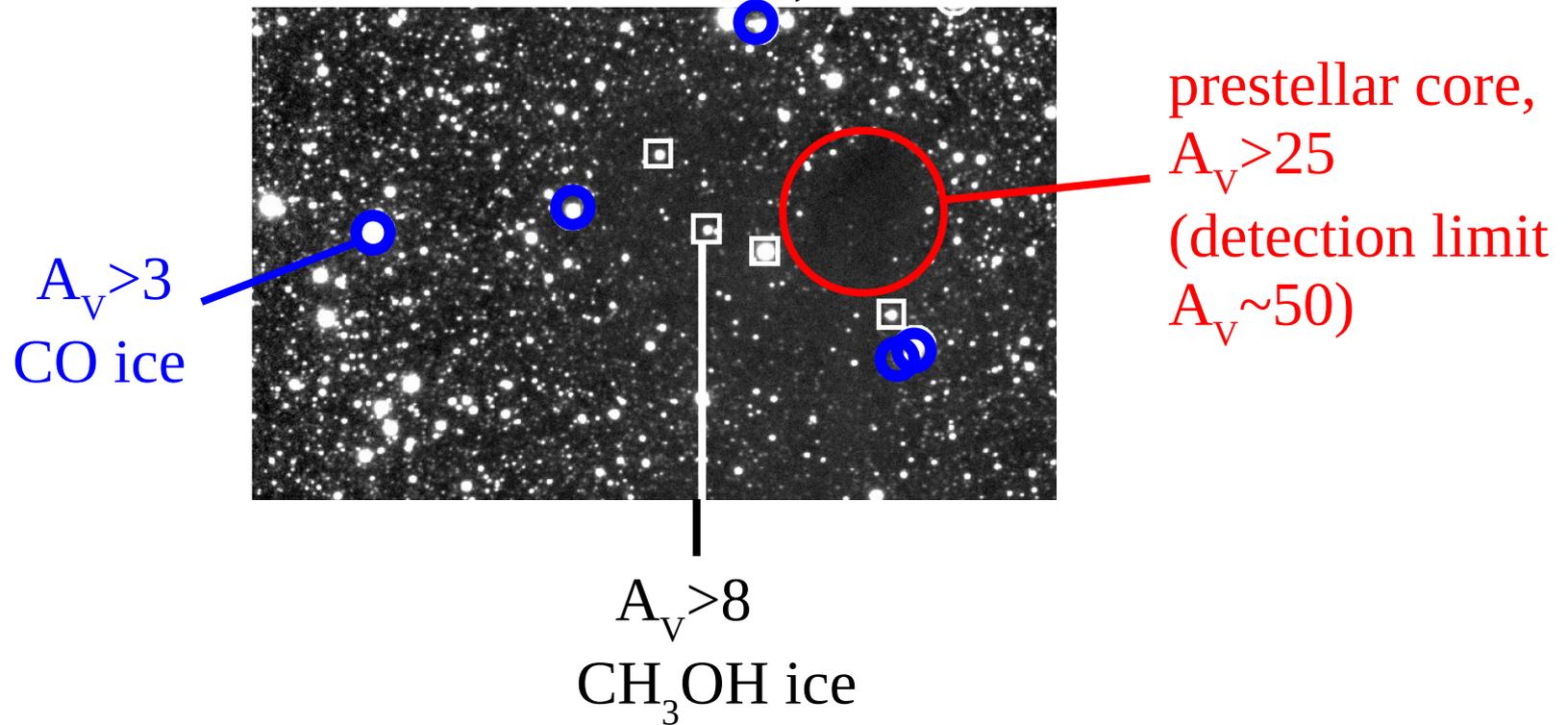


Application of grain shape corrections:

- Most ice bands fitted by “CDE” (irregular) grain shapes.
- One low mass YSO has **spheres** component (Poteet+ 2013):
 - likely due to eruption, sublimating ices and rapid recondensation at high temperature, in crystalline phase.

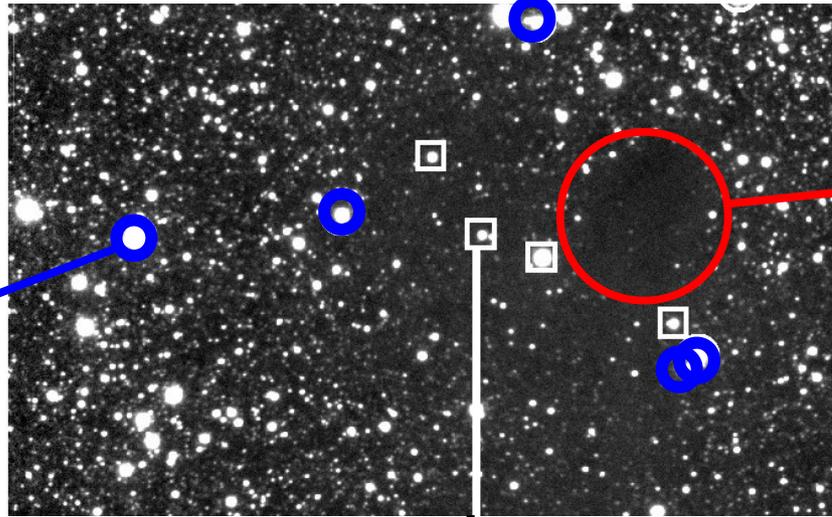
3. CO-rich Ices: CH₃OH

Starless core L 429-C, K-band



3. CO-rich Ices: CH₃OH

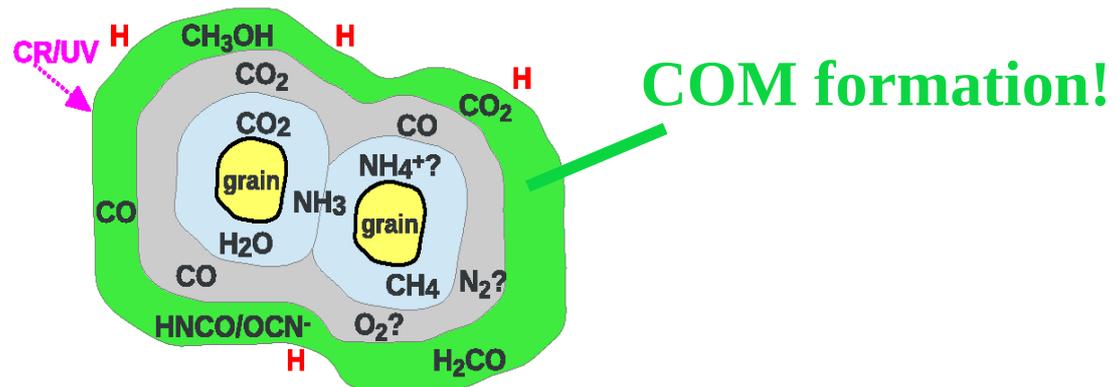
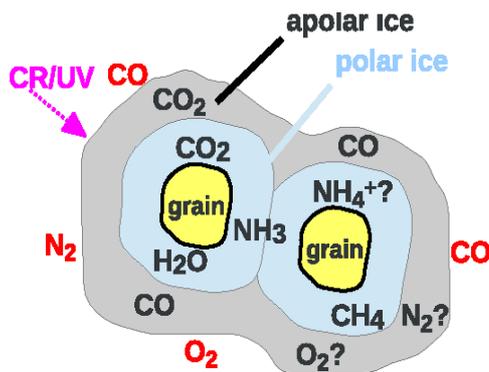
Starless core L 429-C, K-band



$A_V > 3$
CO ice

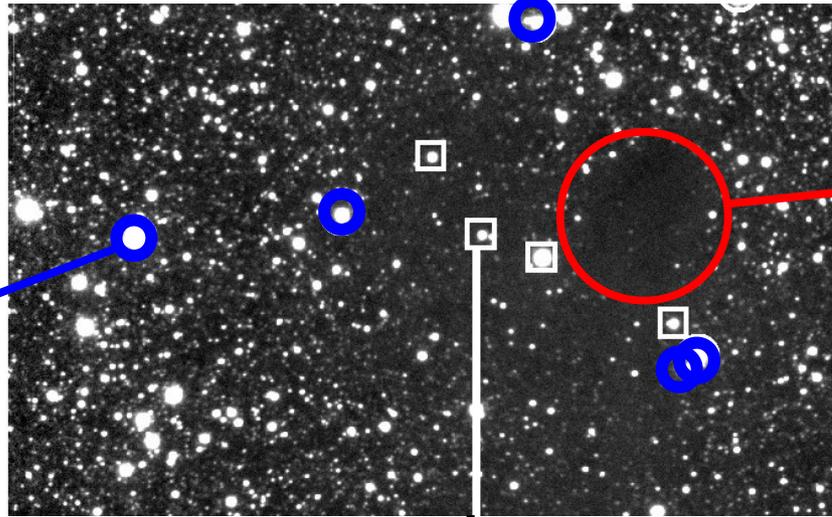
prestellar core,
 $A_V > 25$
(detection limit
 $A_V \sim 50$)

$A_V > 8$
CH₃OH ice



3. Maps Needed!

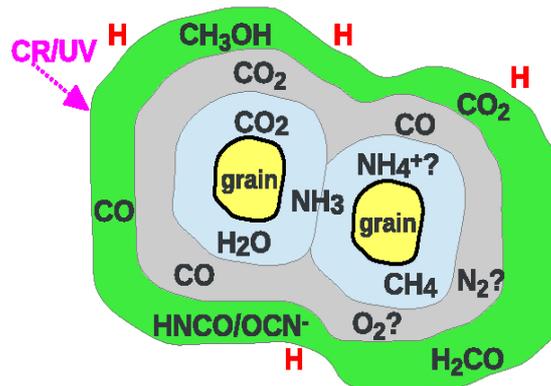
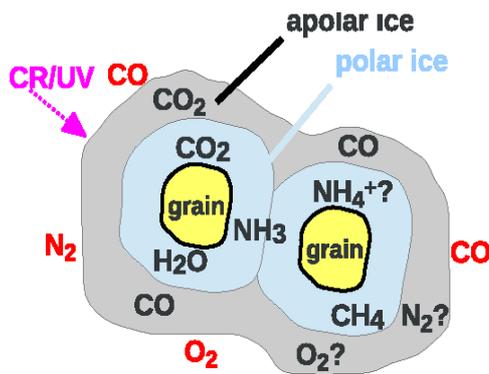
Starless core L 429-C, K-band



$A_V > 3$
CO ice

prestellar core,
 $A_V > 25$
(detection limit
 $A_V \sim 50$)

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CH₃OH ice

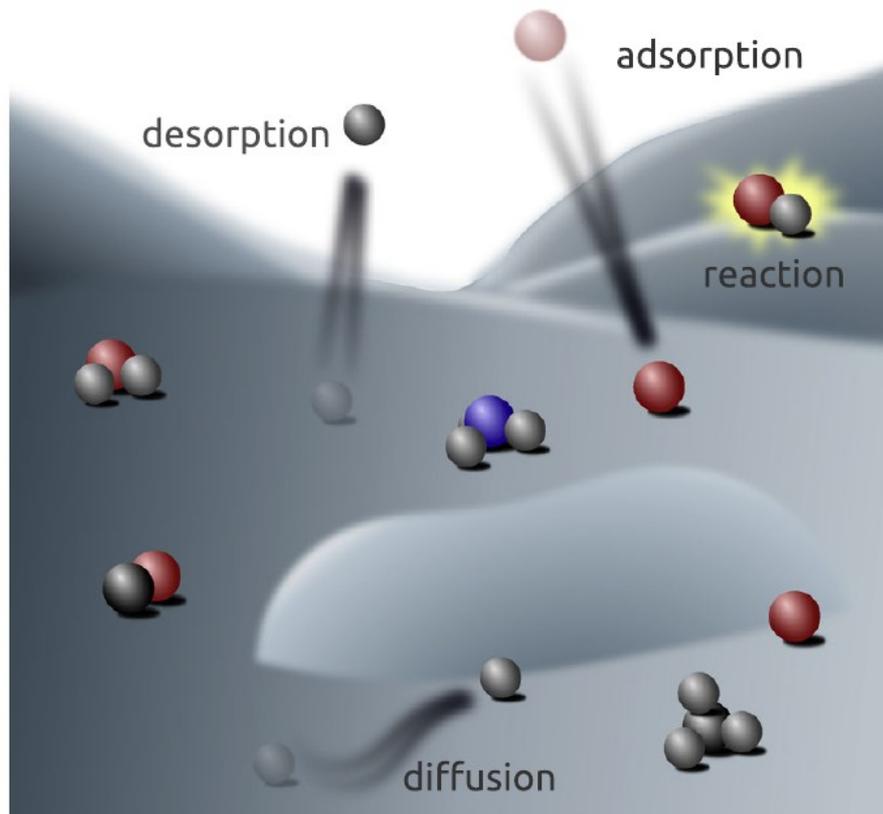


Ice mapping is important!

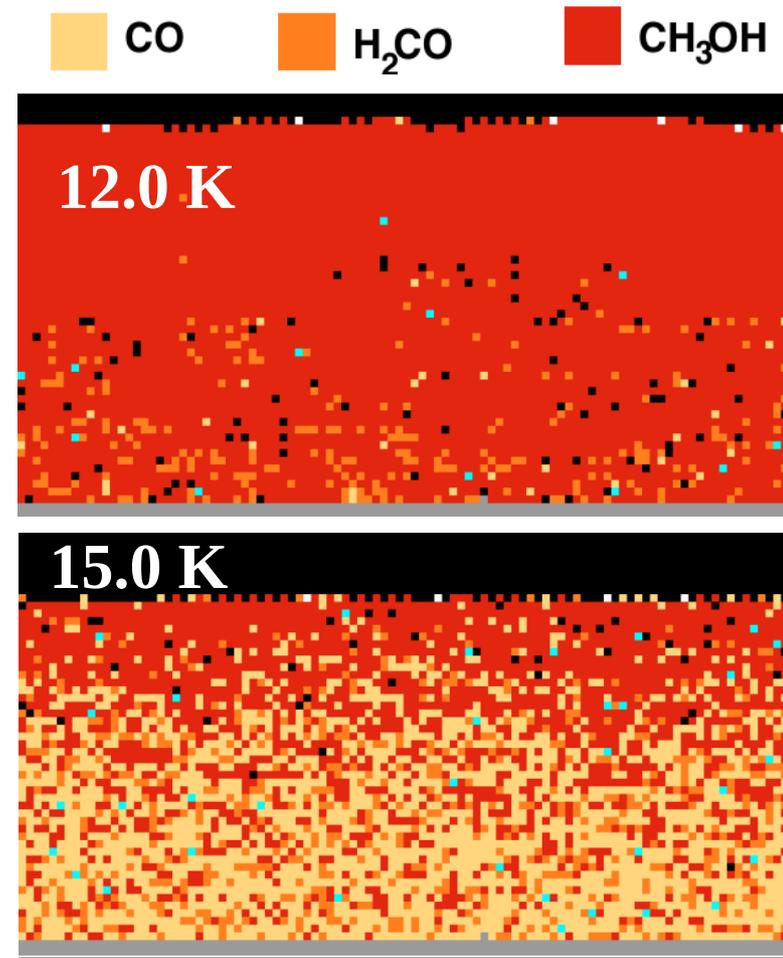
For recent results on CO and CH₃OH ice observations and JWST preparations see talk by [Laurie Chu](#) and poster by [Klaus Hodapp](#)

3. CO-rich Ices: CH₃OH

Molecular level (Monte Carlo) simulations of H reacting with frozen CO depend on ice structure, energy barriers, rates, binding energies, etc.

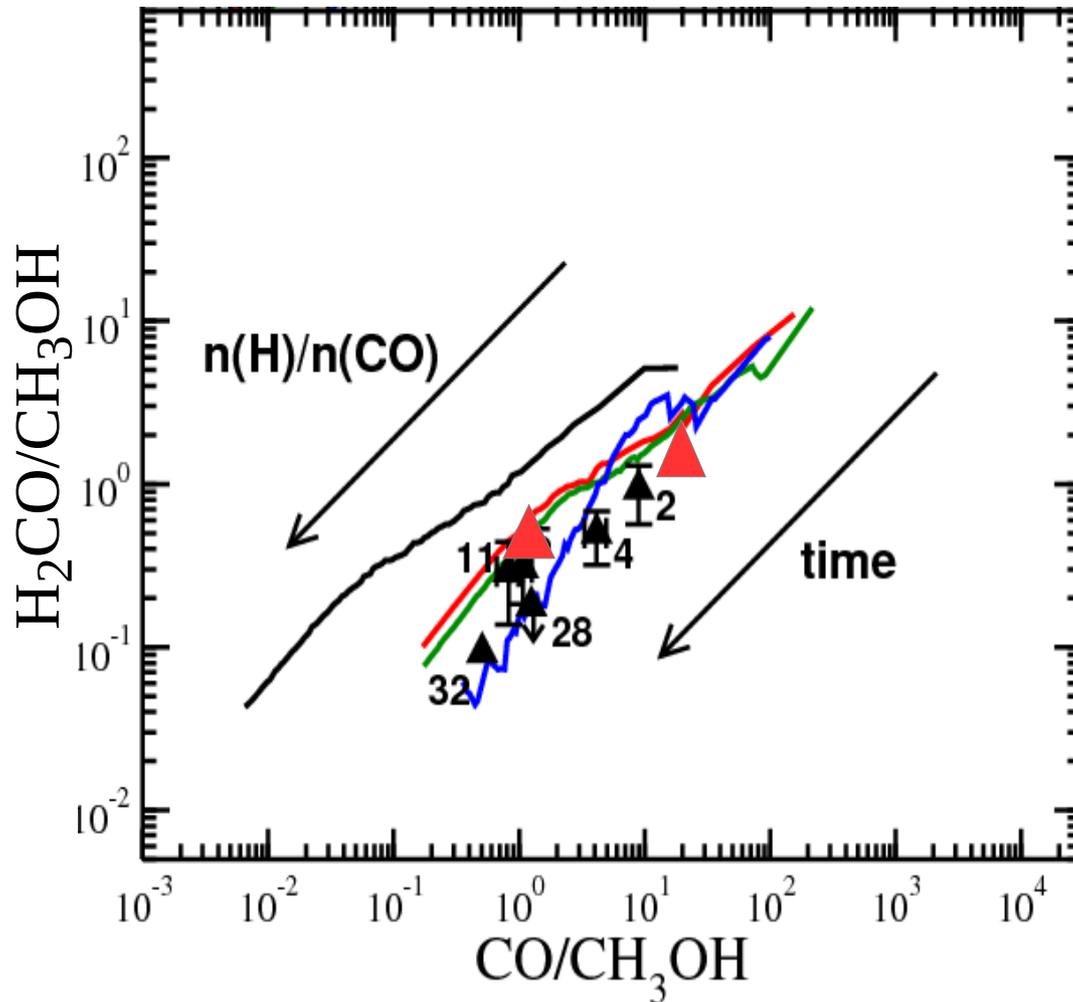


Cuppen+ 2017



Cuppen+ 2009

3. CO-rich Ices: CH₃OH



Cuppen+ 2009

- YSOs: increasing CH₃OH ice abundances could be time effect. But also:

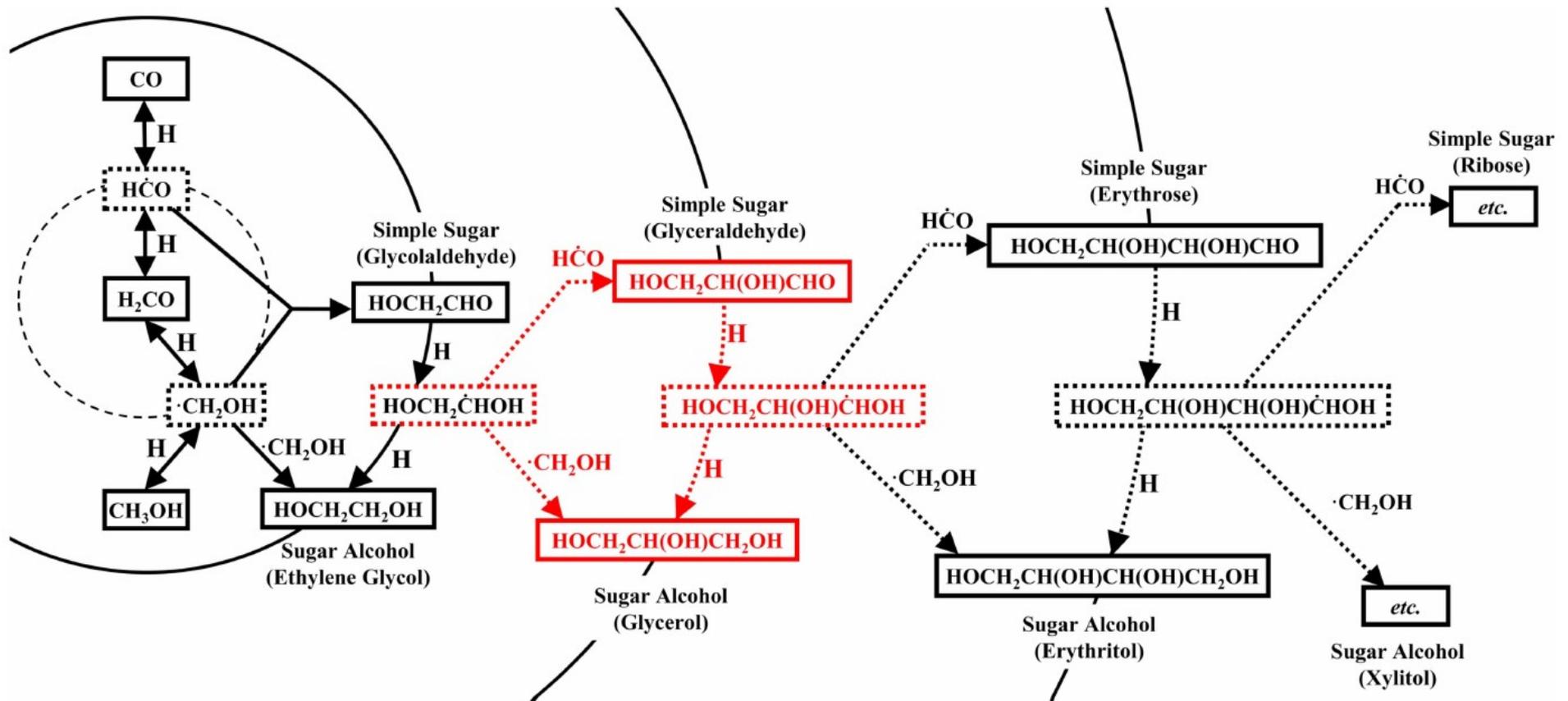
- dust temperature (freeze out, H residence time)
- density (freeze out, gas H/H₂)

▲ **Background stars:**
abundance varies by 1-12%:

- temperature, density or time effect?

3. CO-rich Ices: COMs

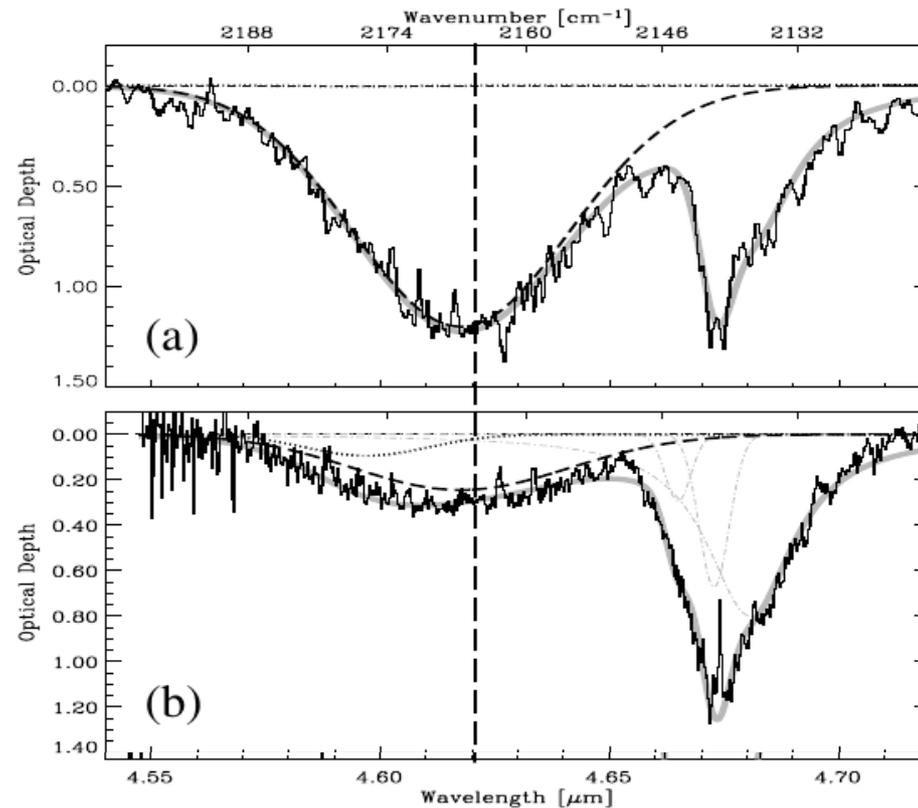
Laboratory experiments of **cold, grain surface formation of COMs** ongoing (Linnartz+ 2015, Fedoseev+ 2017). Microscopic Monte Carlo modeling too (Cuppen et al.).



4. Identification Challenges

Several ice absorption bands **hard to identify** and some still uncertain

4.62 μm “XCN” band



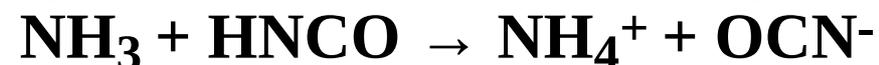
Van Broekhuizen+ 2005

4. Salts

“The OCN⁻ Wars of the 1990s” (Reggie Hudson)



Identification of the [4.62 μm band with OCN⁻](#) more or less settled.
Easily produced by [low-T acid-base chemistry](#) (Raunier+ 2004):



4. Salts

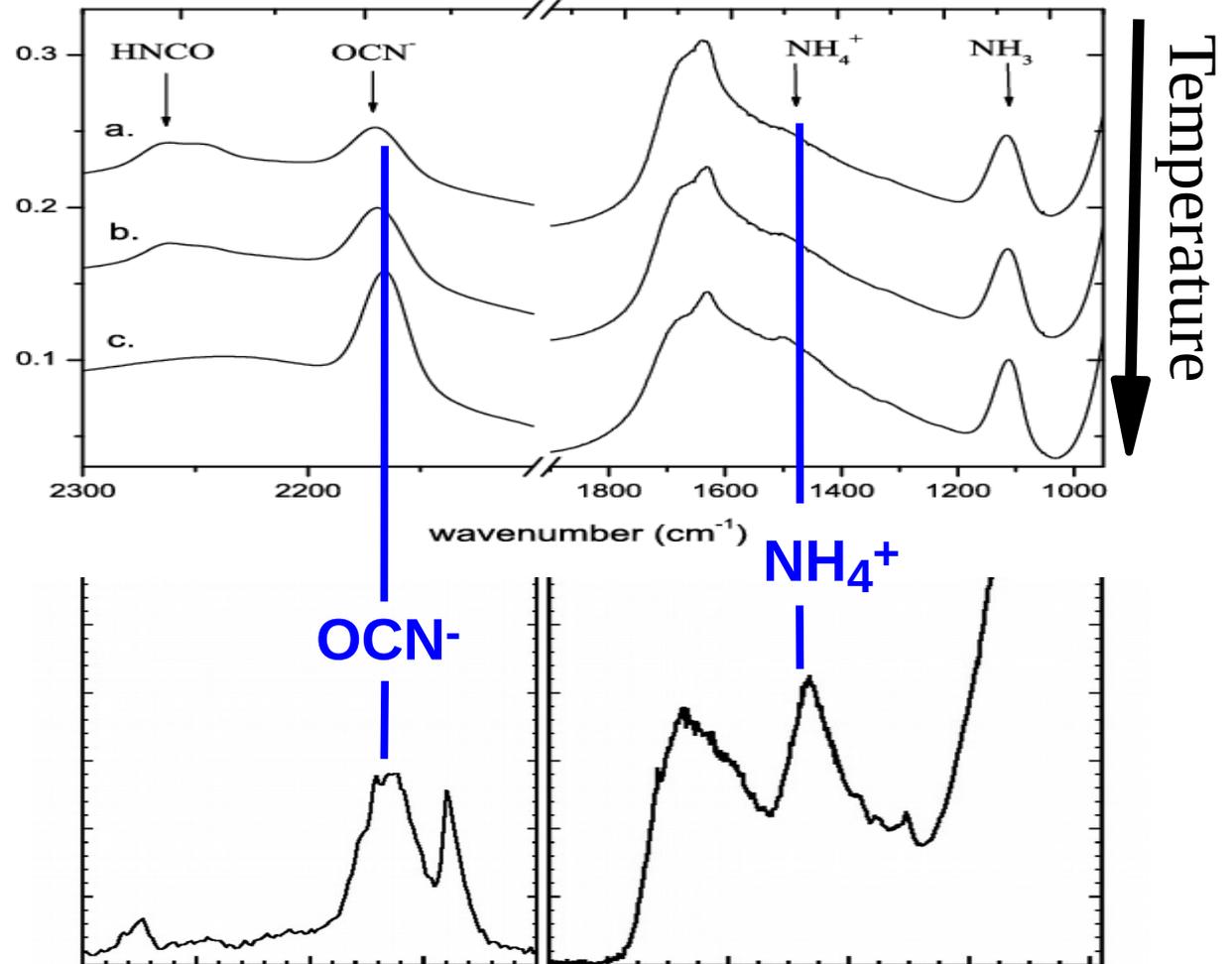
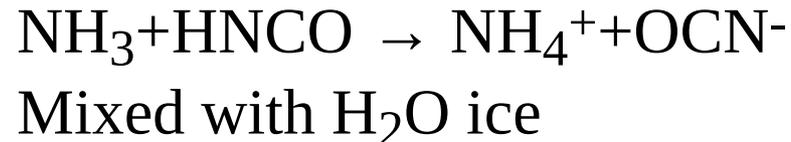
And how about NH_4^+ ?

✓ 6.85 μm band seen in ISM

✓ Band shifts at higher T.

✗ Band too broad and shallow in H_2O mixtures (Galvez+2010).

✗ “observed” $\text{OCN}^-/\text{NH}_4^+ \sim 0.1$
Need more counter-ions.

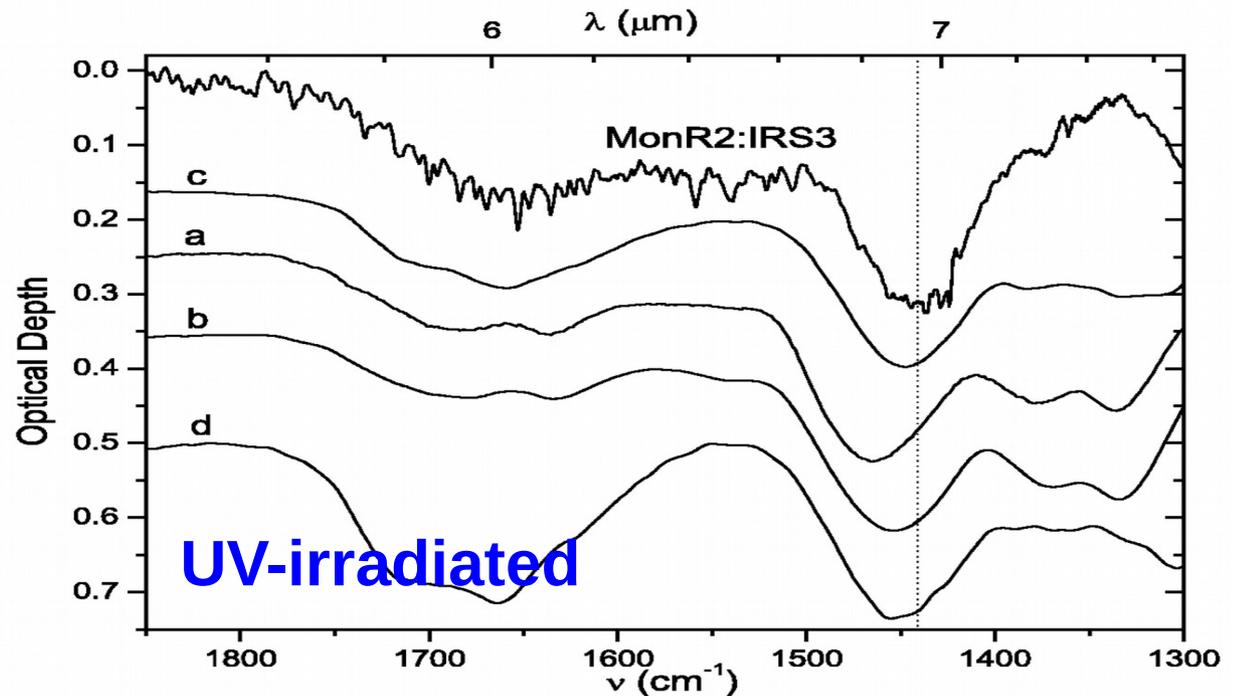


4. More Salts?

Where are the counter ions?

UV irradiation

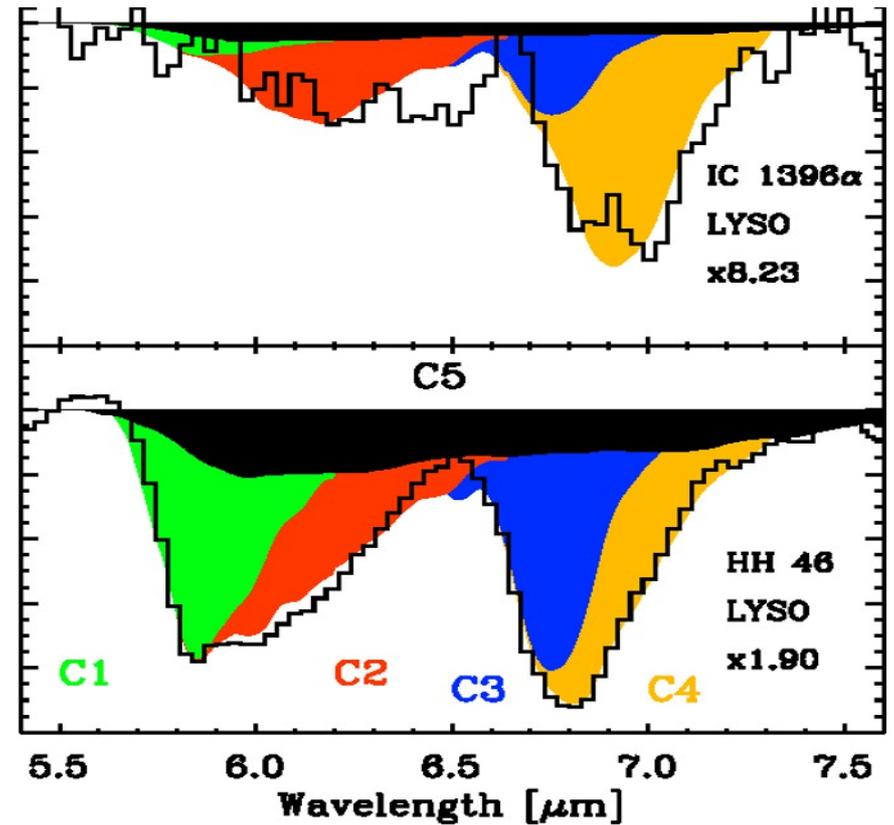
$\text{H}_2\text{O}:\text{CO}_2:\text{NH}_3:\text{O}_2$ produces NH_4^+ and many more ions, e.g., NO_2^- , NO_3^- and HCO_3^- (Schutte & Khanna 2003).



4. Salts: Observ. Constraints



IC 1396; Reach+ 2009



- 6.85 μm band has distinct temperature dependence
- Carrier sticks around longer than H_2O ice, but not as long as silicates: a salt (Boogert+ 2008)?

4. Salts: Comet 67P

Altwegg et al., ARAA 57 (2019), on in situ measurements with Rosetta/Rosina in comet 67P/Churyumov-Gerasimenko

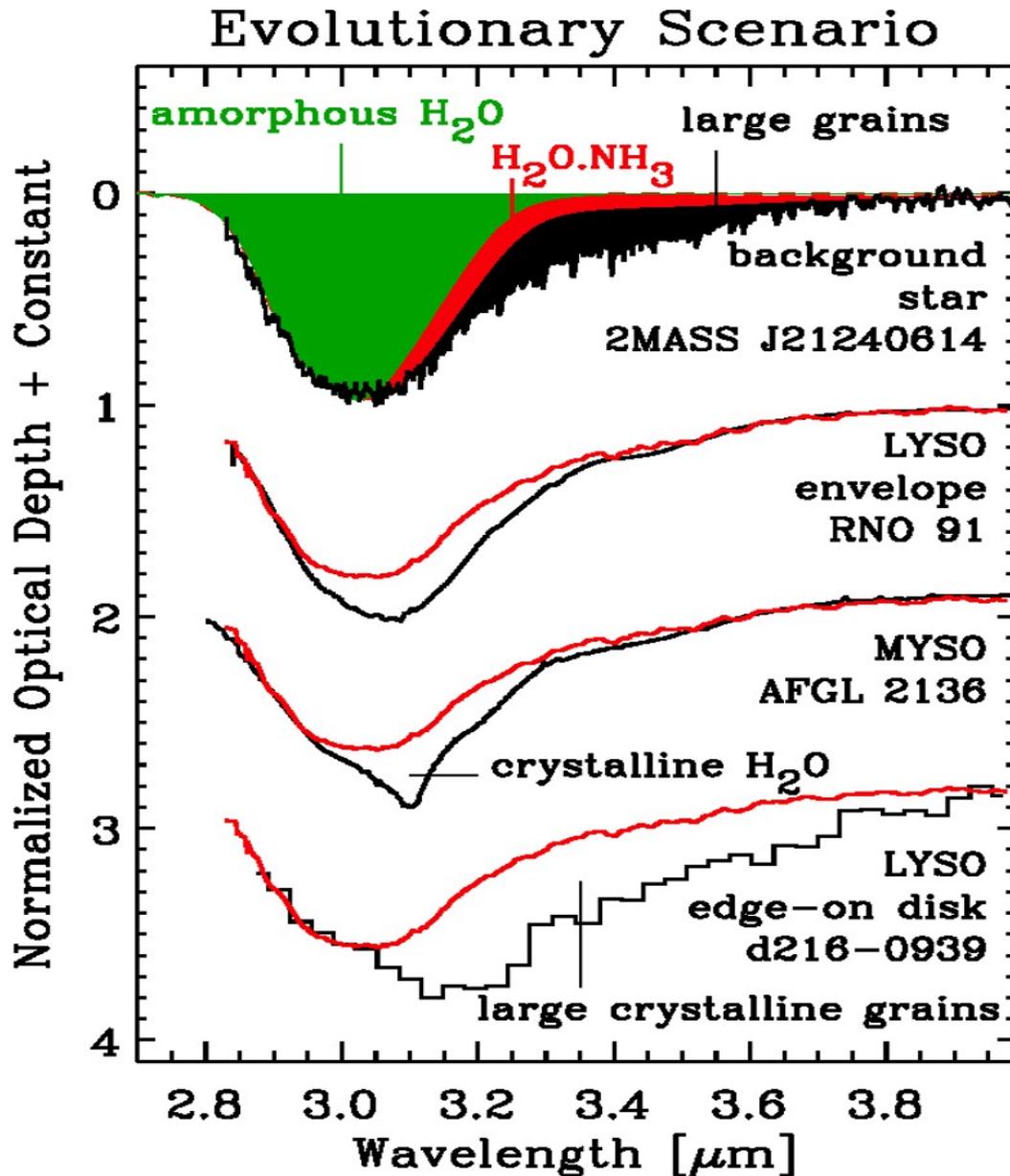
“...NH₃ seems to be, at least partly, in a more refractory phase, probably as ammonium salt (Altwegg et al., 2019) than as pure NH₃ in H₂O...”

<https://ui.adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2019arXiv190804046A/abstract>

K. Altwegg at IAUS 350, Cambridge, UK (April 2019):

Rosina detector was hit, but not permanently damaged, by a particle, likely containing NH₄⁺ salt.

5. Heated Ices



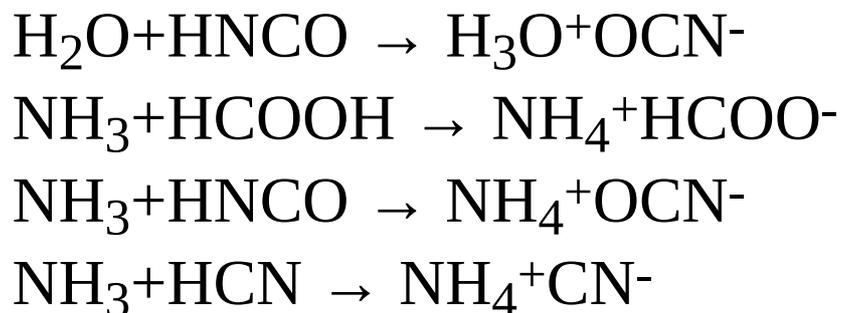
H_2O ice crystallization
“commonly” observed
($T \sim 70\text{--}90$ K).

CO sublimation ($T \sim 20$ K)
and CO_2 ice segregation
($T \sim 45$ K) often observed.

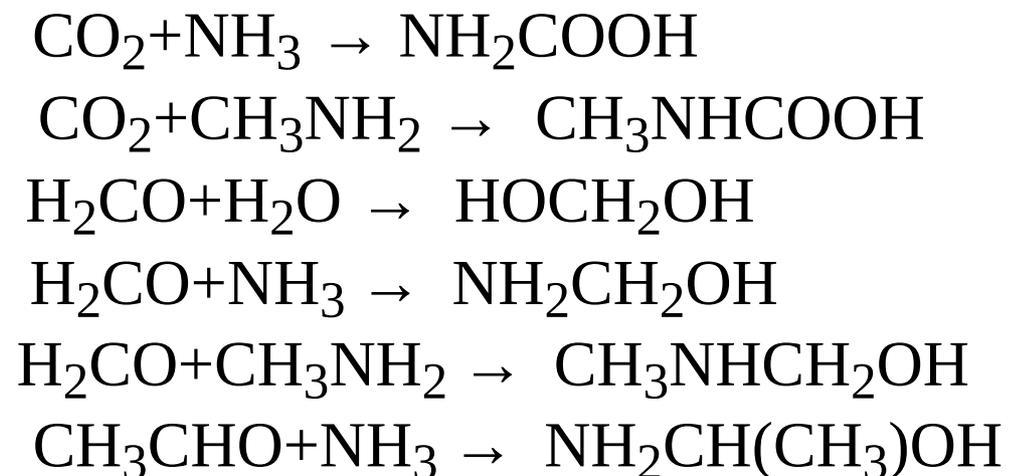
5. Heated Ices: Chemistry

- Diffusion **radicals** creates new, more complex species (Herbst & Van Dishoeck 2009)
- **Purely thermal reactions** among species formed by grain surface chemistry (Theule+ 2013). Comprehensive laboratory experiments:

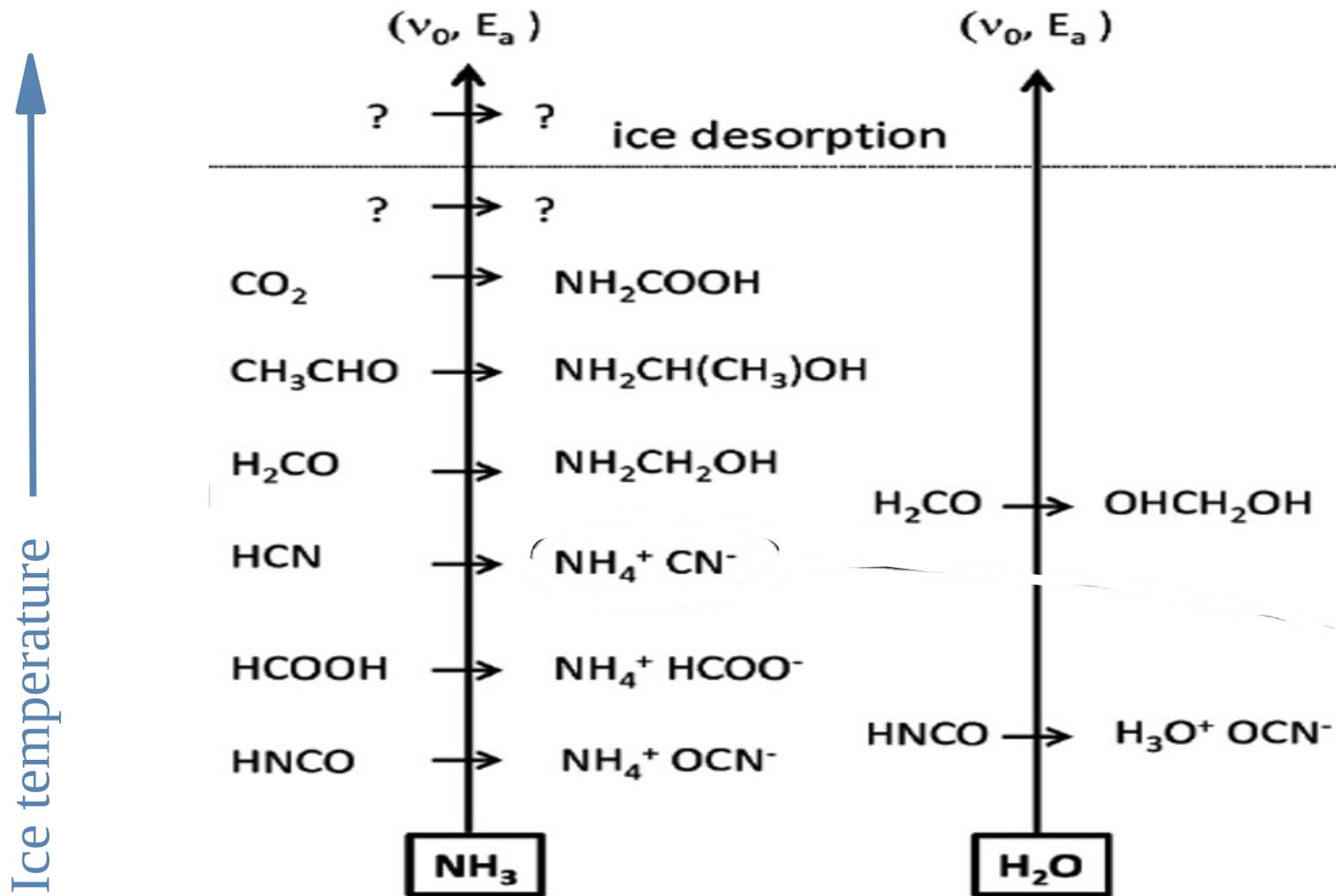
Acid-base reactions



Nucleophilic additions

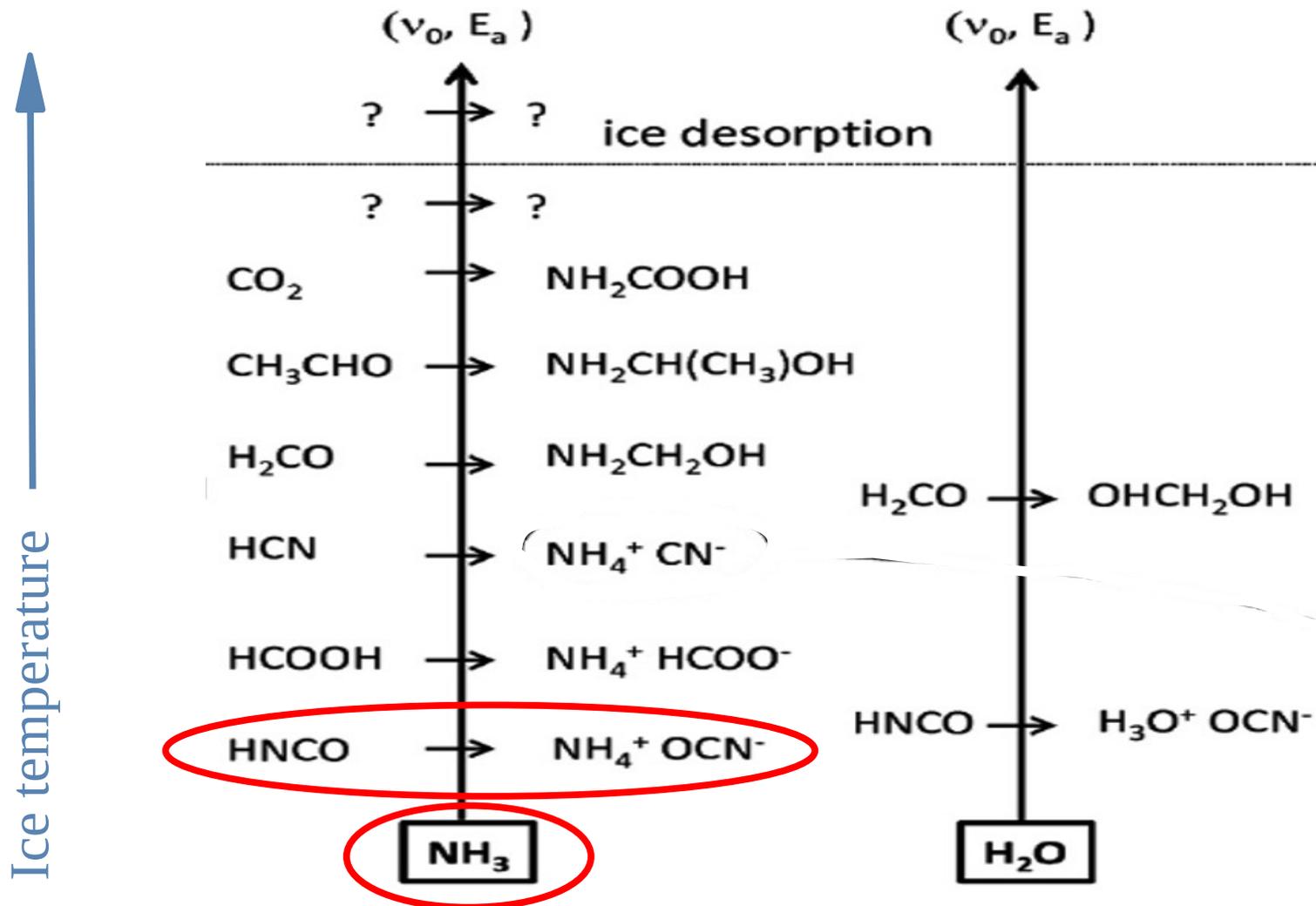


5. Heated Ices: Chemistry



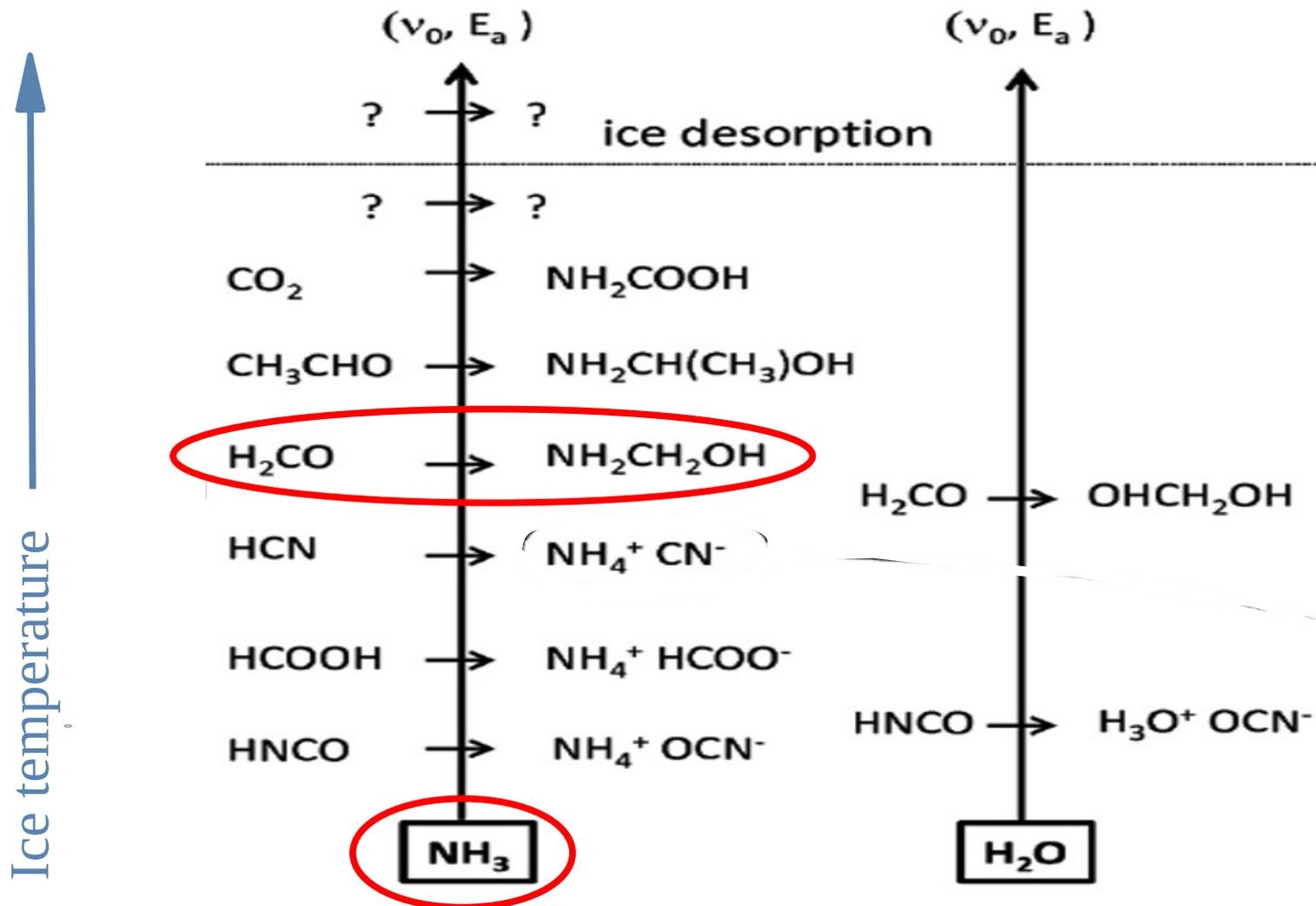
Theule+ 2013

5. Heated Ices: Chemistry



Theule+ 2013

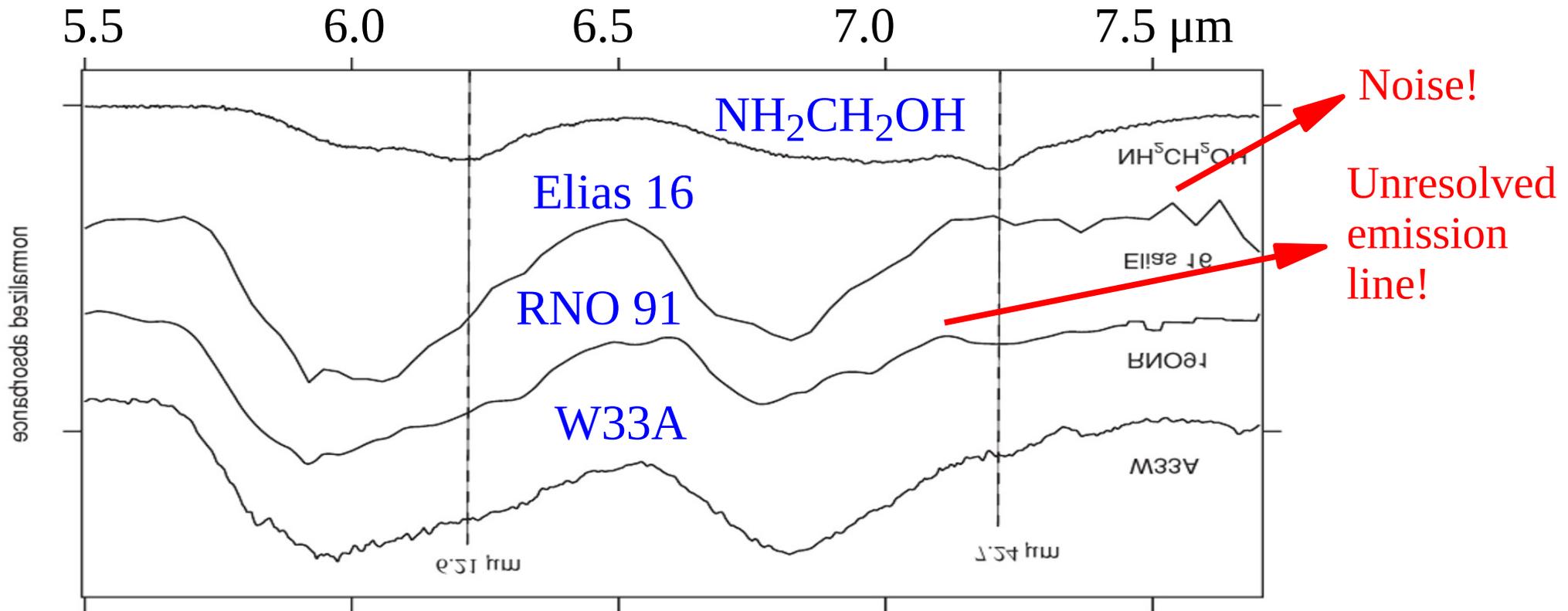
5. Heated Ices: Chemistry



Theule+ 2013

5. Heated Ices: Chemistry

Aminomethanol ($\text{NH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$) compared to observations (Bossa+ 2009):



For frozen COMs, running into **infrared confusion limit**.

But better observations will help (see also Terwisscha van Scheltinga+ 2018)

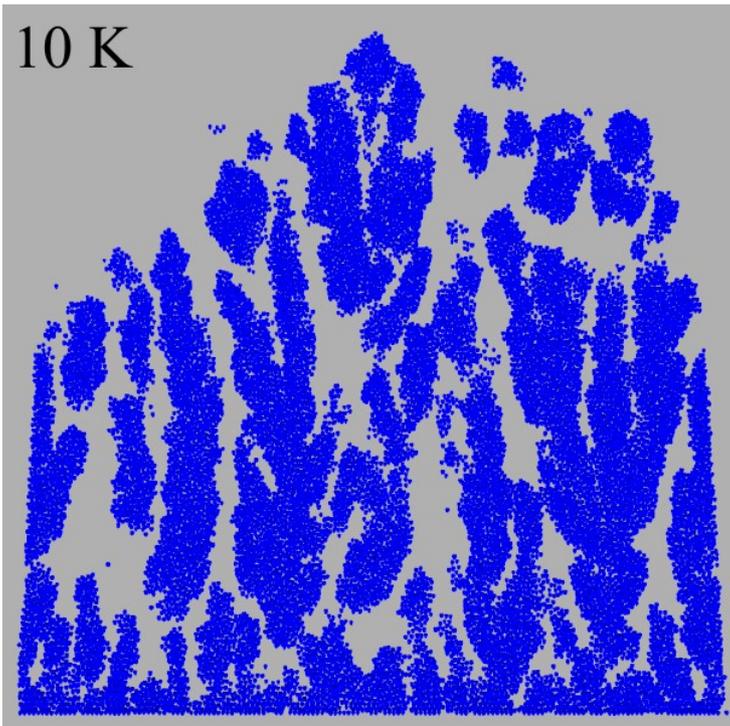
5: Heated Ices

Complication with these reactions is location of reaction partners:

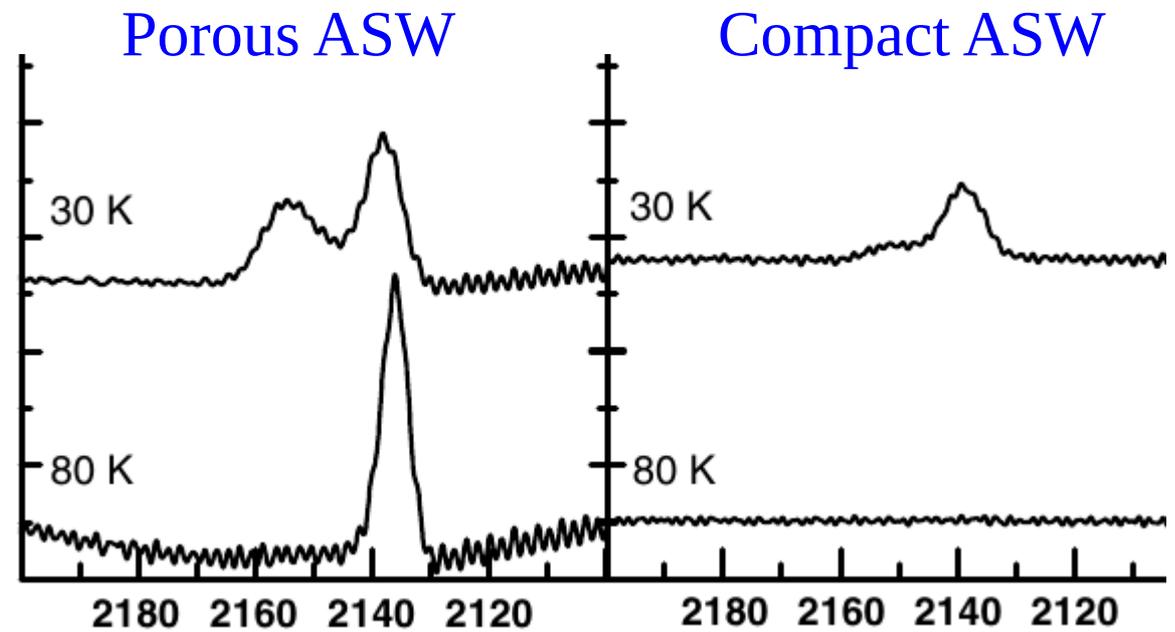
- Are reaction partners in **same ice phase** (CO versus H₂O-rich)?
- Diffusion in bulk ice much slower than on surface. **Pores and cracks will improve diffusion and thus COM formation.**

6. Porosity

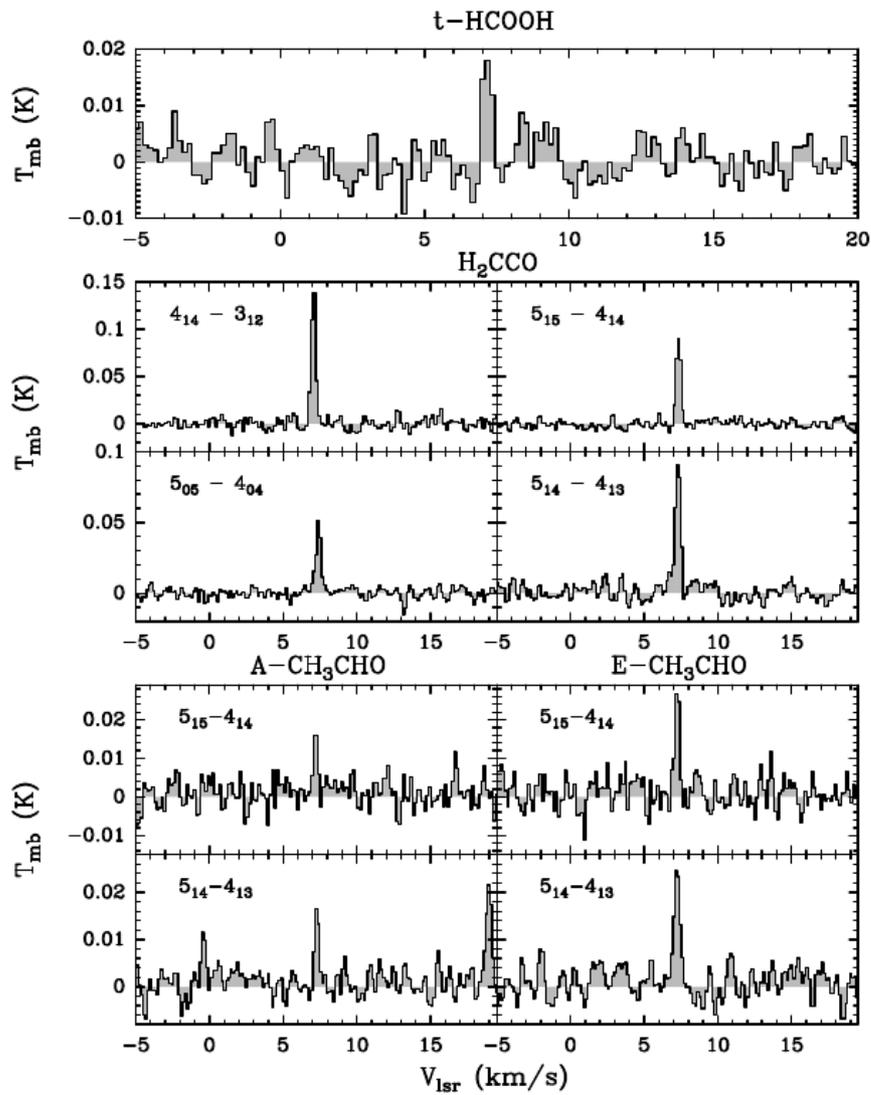
- Simulation by He+ 2019:



- Porosity hard to determine in ISM ice.
- **Absence CO-OH band** 2152 cm^{-1} at CO-H₂O interface likely due to mixed H₂O (NH₃, CH₄)
- Fraser+ 2004:



7. Back to Gas: Prestellar Core



Vastel+ 2014

Detection of COMs at ~ 8000 AU from center prestellar core (Vastel+ 2014):

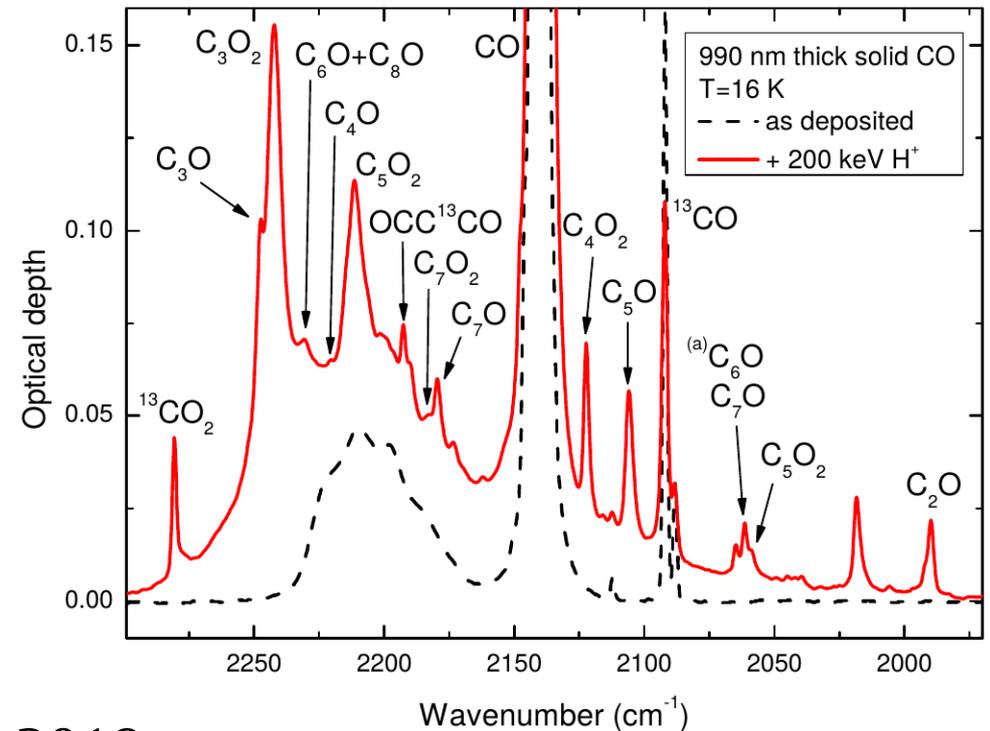
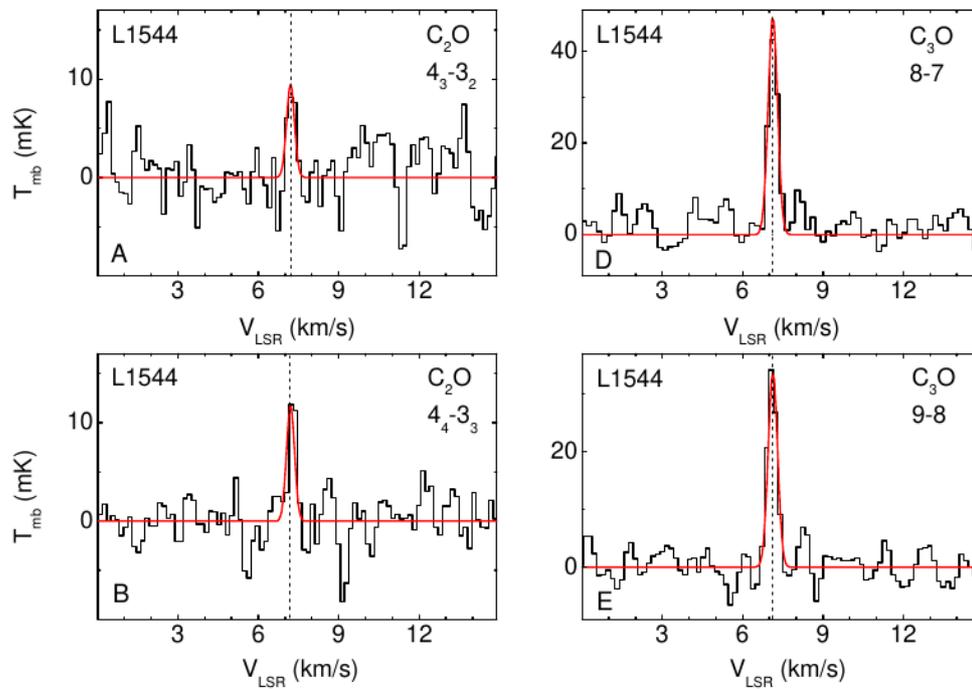
- non-thermal desorption mechanism, liberating H₂O and other simple species
- followed by a gas phase route to COMs.

Prime desorption mechanism is not ice mantle explosions (Holdship+ 2019).

7. Back to Gas: Cosmic Rays

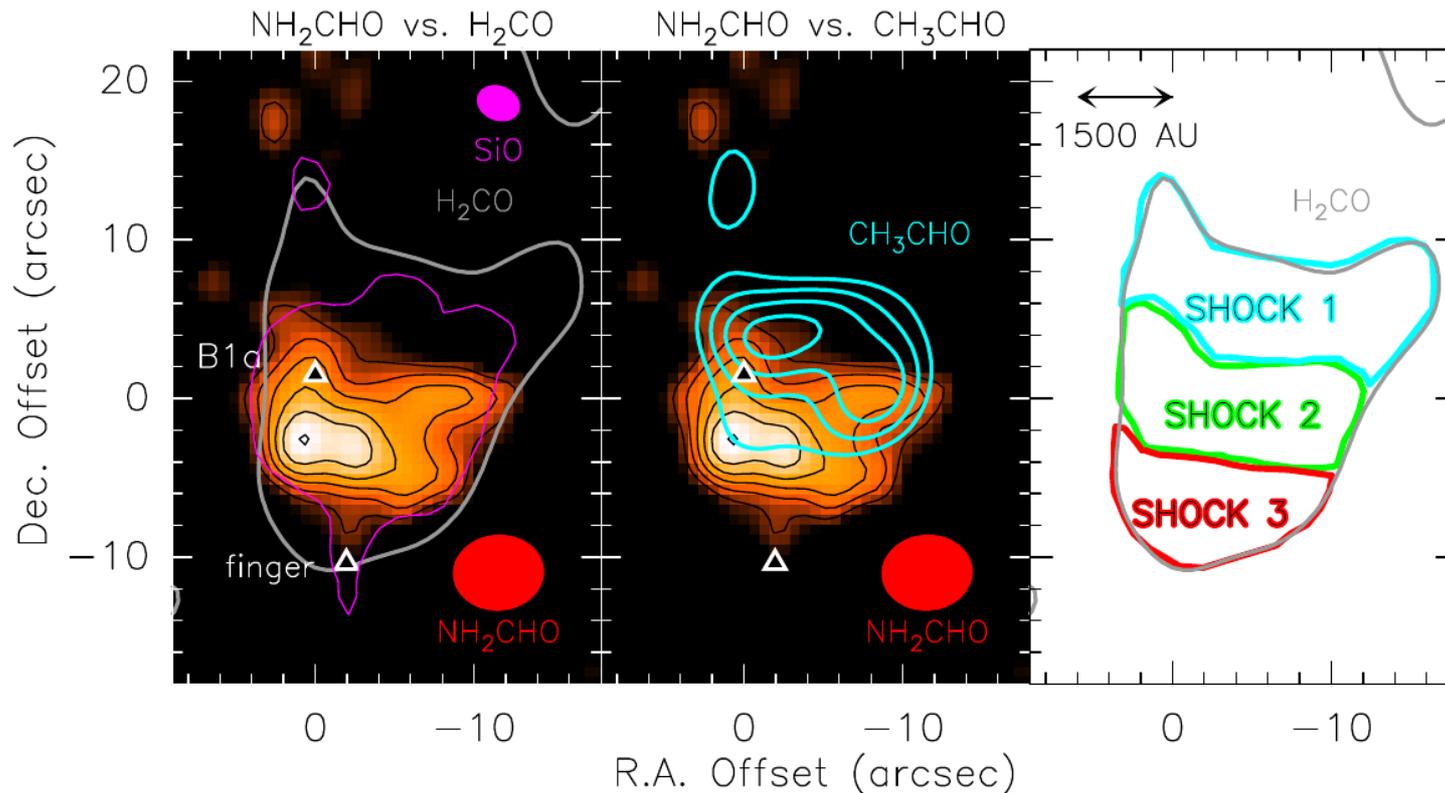
Gas phase C_2O and C_3O suggested to originate from CO ices after 1000 yr irradiation. Should be short-lived in the gas, confirmed by the observations.

- How about other species produced by irradiation?
- Desorption process?



Urso+ 2019

7. Back to Gas: Shocks



Codella+ 2017

Formamide (NH₂CHO) detected in L1157-B1 shock:

- different distribution than other organics, so formamide **does not come from ice**. Plus, formamide released from ice **destroyed in 2000 years**.
- **gas phase chemistry** simple ice sublimation species can reproduce it.

8. Future: Ice Maps



Limited new work on H₂O ices in past ~10 years.

Missing: **maps of ice abundance** and processing gradients on large scale (dense cores) and small scale (envelope, disk)

Upcoming missions will shake up this field:

JWST—map individual cores and YSOs, in all abundant ices

study weaker species in individual sight-lines

SPHEREx – map entire sky in H₂O, CO₂, CO ice

8. Future: Ice Maps with JWST

Interstellar ice knowledge jumps with each space mission:

- Sensitivity
- Spectral resolution
- Spectral coverage
- Mapping speed
- Large samples
- Availability



Infrared Space
Observatory
1995-1998

● ● ● ● ● ●

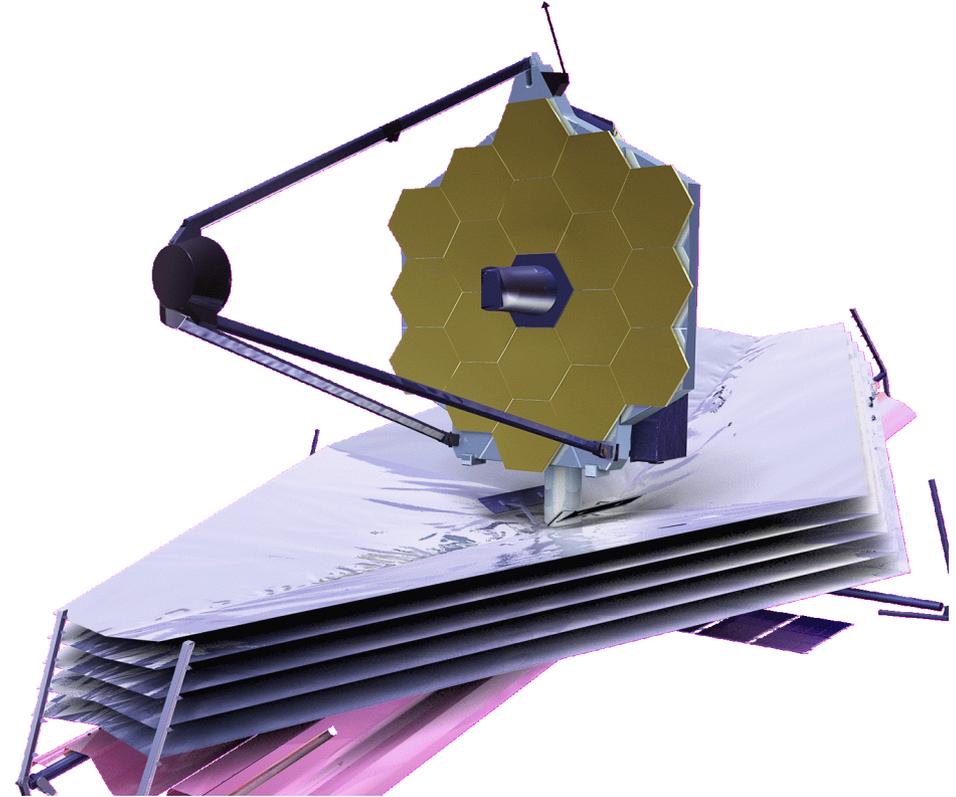
4 Sept 2019



Spitzer Space
Telescope
2003-2009

● ● ● ● ● ●

A. Boogert, ISM, Avignon



James Webb Space
Telescope (JWST)
2021-20??

● ● ● ● ● ●

8. Future: Ice Maps with JWST

Lorentz center

Ice Age

The Era of the James Webb Space Telescope

Workshop: 4 - 7 October 2016, Leiden, the Netherlands

Scientific Organizers

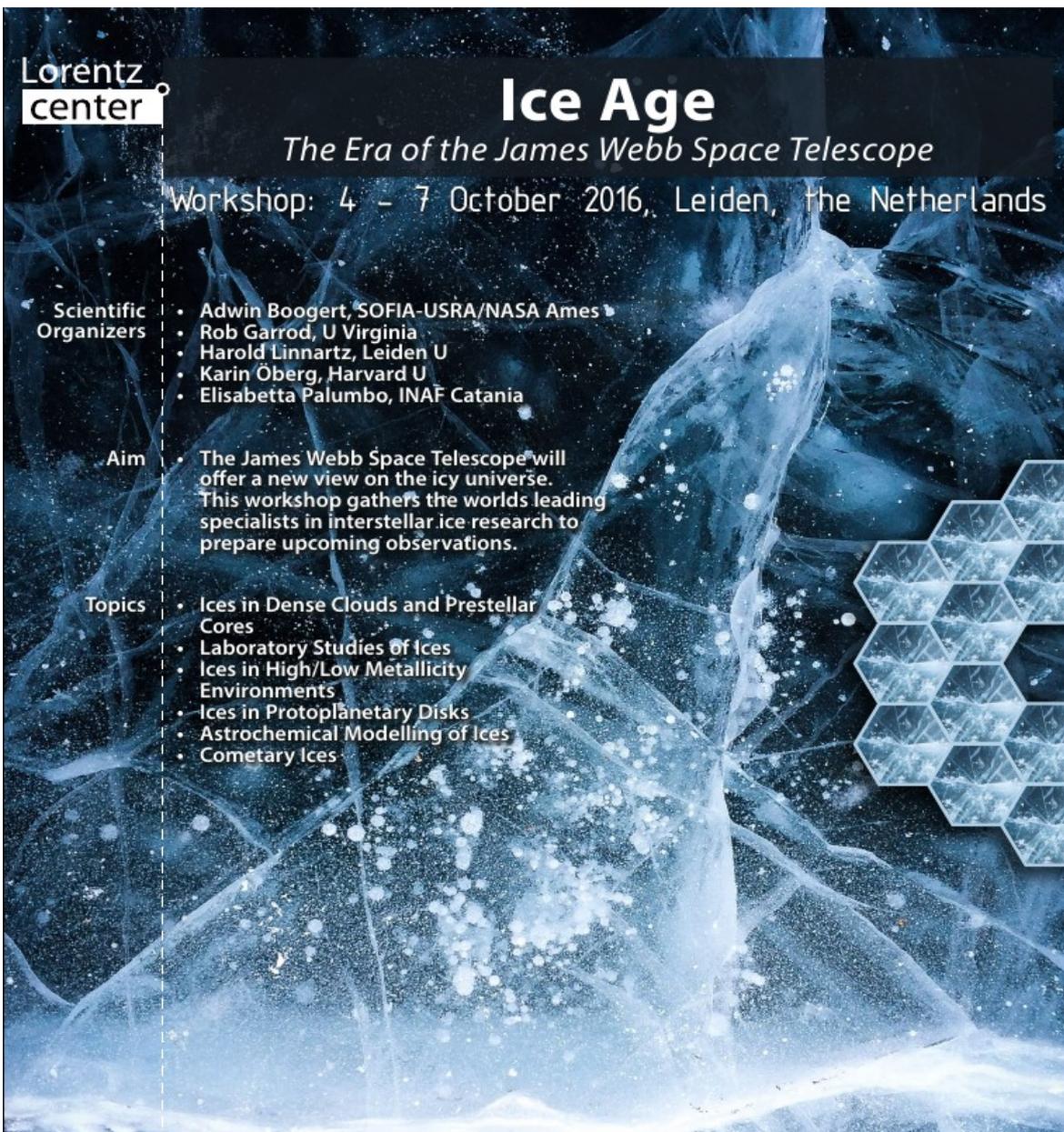
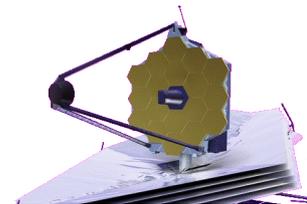
- Adwin Boogert, SOFIA-USRA/NASA Ames
- Rob Garröd, U Virginia
- Harold Linnartz, Leiden U
- Karin Öberg, Harvard U
- Elisabetta Palumbo, INAF Catania

Aim

- The James Webb Space Telescope will offer a new view on the icy universe. This workshop gathers the worlds leading specialists in interstellar ice research to prepare upcoming observations.

Topics

- Ices in Dense Clouds and Prestellar Cores
- Laboratory Studies of Ices
- Ices in High/Low Metallicity Environments
- Ices in Protoplanetary Disks
- Astrochemical Modelling of Ices
- Cometary Ices

Selections Made for the JWST Director's Discretionary Early Release Science Program

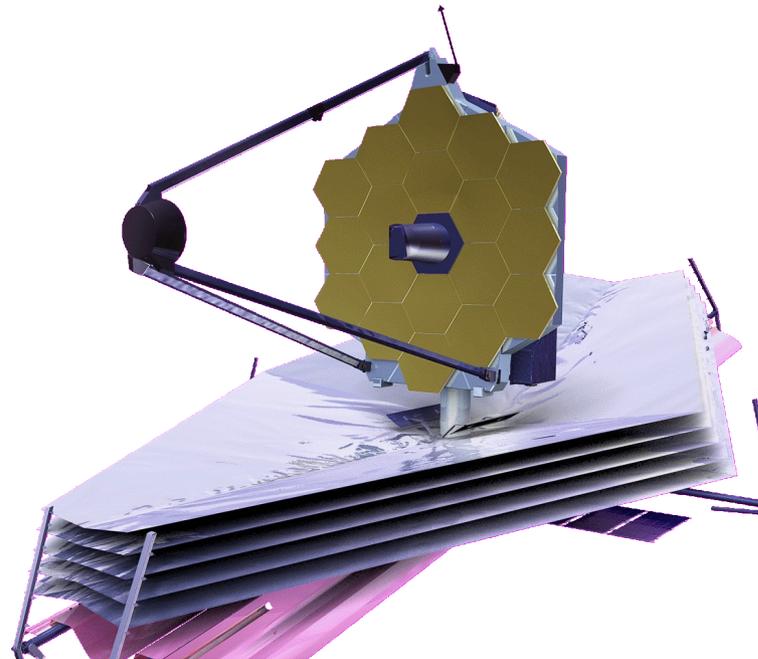
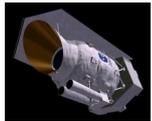
News Feature • November 13, 2017

ID	ERS Program	PI & Co-PIs
1288	Radiative Feedback from Massive Stars as Traced by Multiband Imaging and Spectroscopic Mosaics	PI: Olivier Berne (Universite Toulouse) CoPIs: Emilie Habart (Institut d'Astrophysique Spatiale) and Els Peeters (University of Western Ontario)
1309	IceAge: Chemical Evolution of Ices during Star Formation	PI: Melissa McClure (Universiteit van Amsterdam) CoPIs: Adwin Boogert (University of Hawaii) and Harold Linnartz (Universiteit Leiden)
1324	Through the Looking GLASS: A JWST Exploration of Galaxy Formation and Evolution from Cosmic Dawn to Present Day	PI: Tommaso Treu (University of California - Los Angeles)
1328	A JWST Study of the Starburst-AGN Connection in Merging LIRGs	PI: Lee Armus (California Institute of Technology)
1334	The Resolved Stellar Populations Early Release Science Program	PI: Daniel Weisz (University of California, Berkeley)

8. Future: Ice Maps SPHEREx

Interstellar ice knowledge jumps with each space mission:

- Sensitivity
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Infrared Space
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Spitzer Space
Telescope
2003-2009

James Webb Space
Telescope (JWST)
2021-20??

SPHEREx
2023-2026



4 Sept 2019

A. Boogert, ISM, Avignon

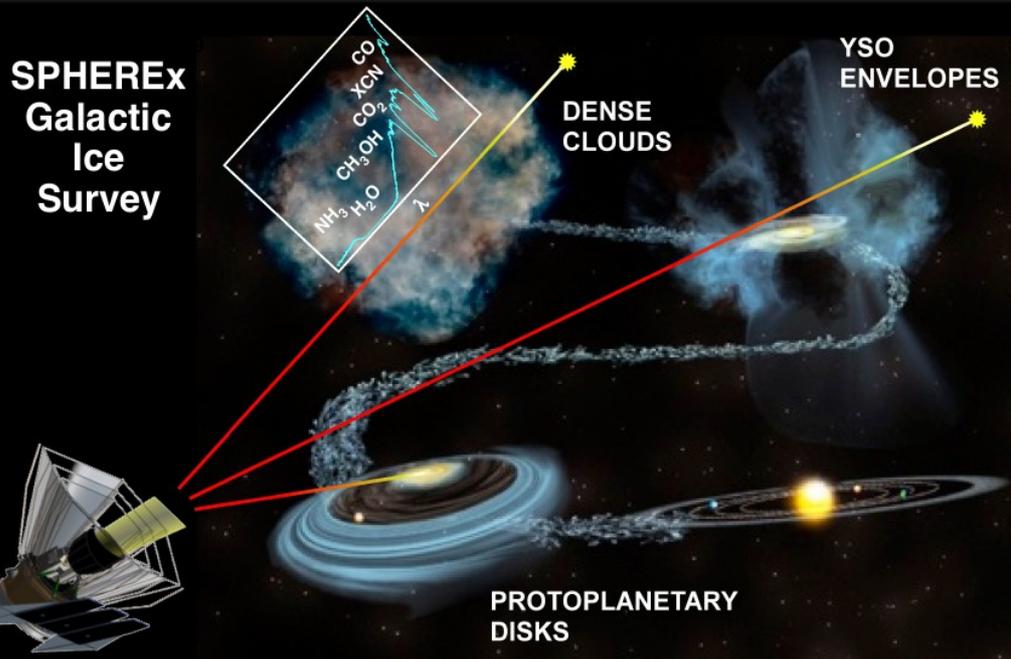
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8. Future: Ice Maps SPHEREx

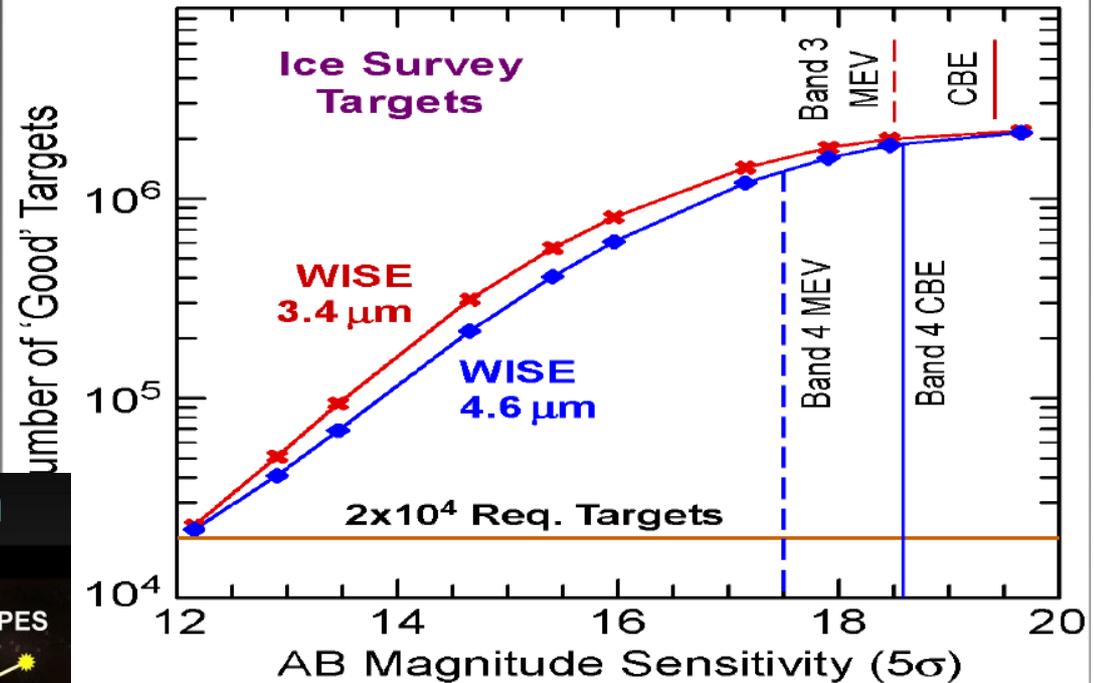
All sky spectra 0.7-5 μm at low spectral (40-150) and spatial (6 arcsec) resolution

SPHEREx ice catalog will increase number of ice targets from ~ 200 to $> 20,000$

Ices in each Phase of Star Formation



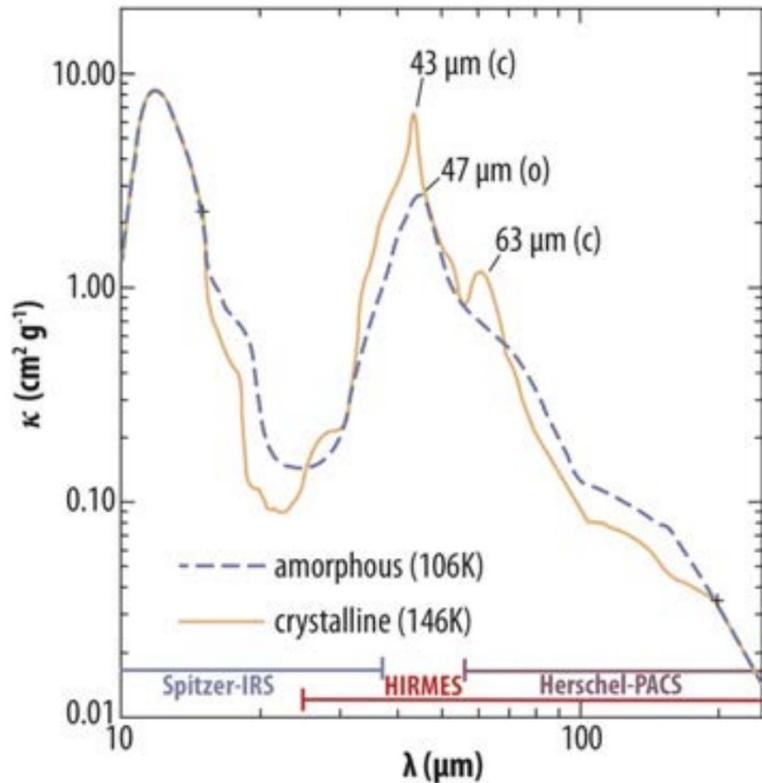
One Million Targets with $|b| < 1^\circ$



Well timed for follow up with JWST at higher spatial, spectral resolution and sensitivity.

See <http://spherex.caltech.edu/>
See talk by Gary Melnick tomorrow.

8. Future: Ice Maps with SOFIA



H_2O ice lattice modes observable in emission, enabling ice mapping.

Very limited instrumentation.

SOFIA/HIRMES to be commissioned in next year or two.

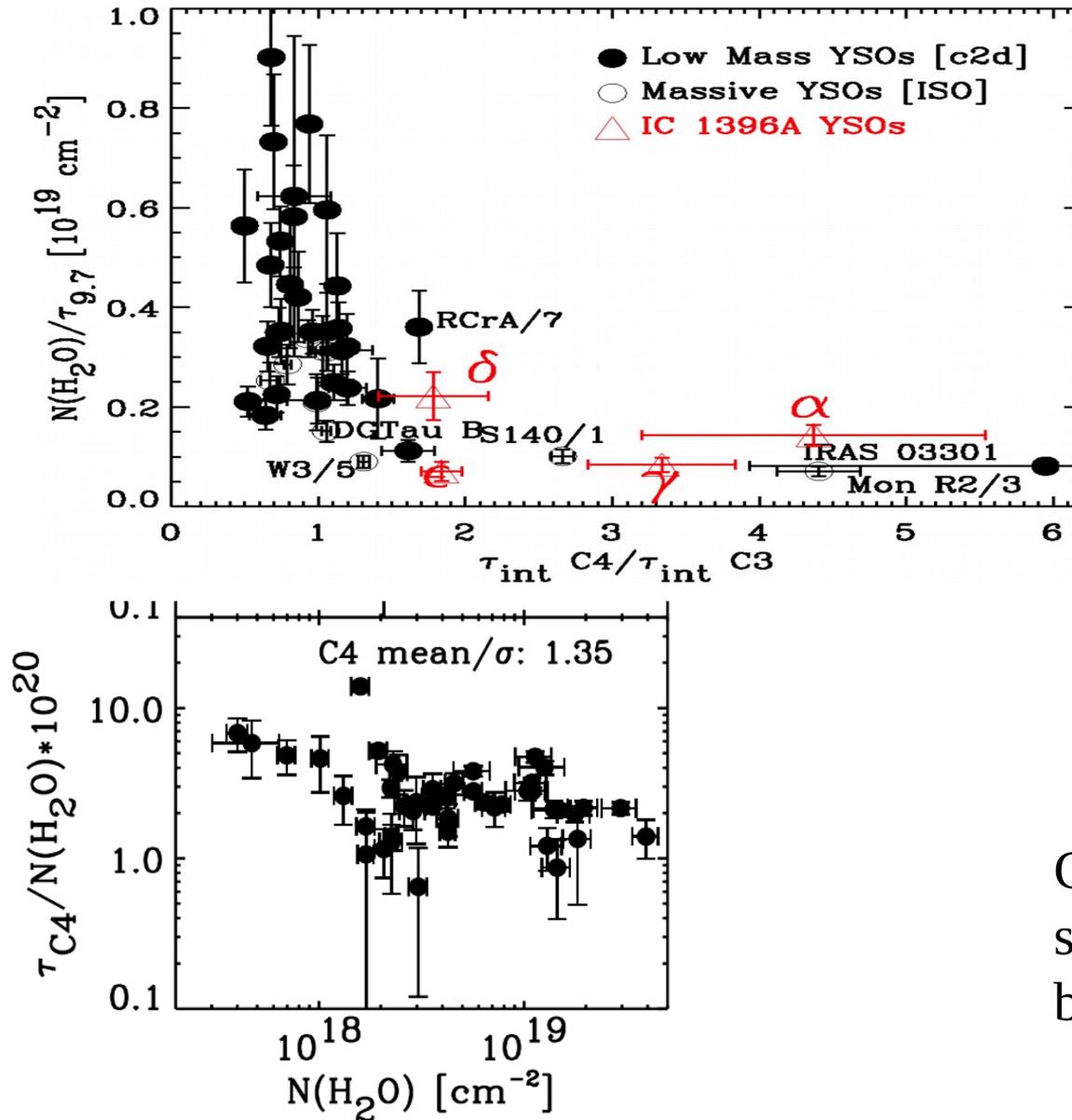


9. Conclusions

- Grain surface chemistry rules.
- COMs likely formed under cold, non-energetic conditions in CO-rich ices. CH_3OH best studied and observed.
- Energetic formation processes plausible but at low level in dense clouds.
- Ice heating often observed, and likely leading to COMs.
- Salts important component of grain mantles and comets.
- Degree of porosity amorphous H_2O observationally not constrained.
- Desorption of COMs and in dense cores not well understood.
- Much-needed ice maps for study ice evolution available within a few years with JWST and SPHEREx.

Extra Slides

Salts: Observ. Constraints

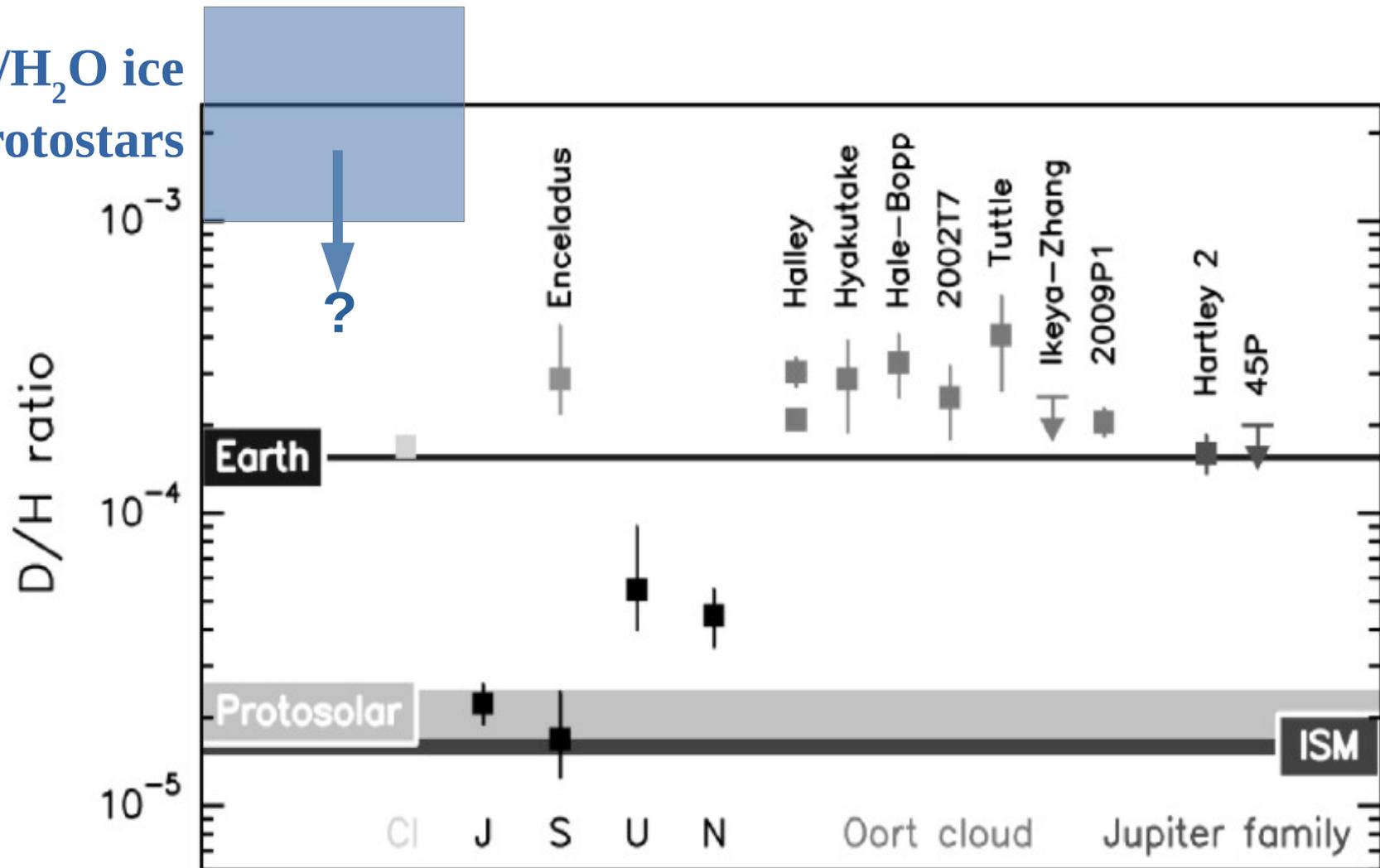


Carrier of 6.85 μm band seems sticks around longer than H_2O ice, but not as long as silicates: a salt?

HDO Ice: Link with Comets

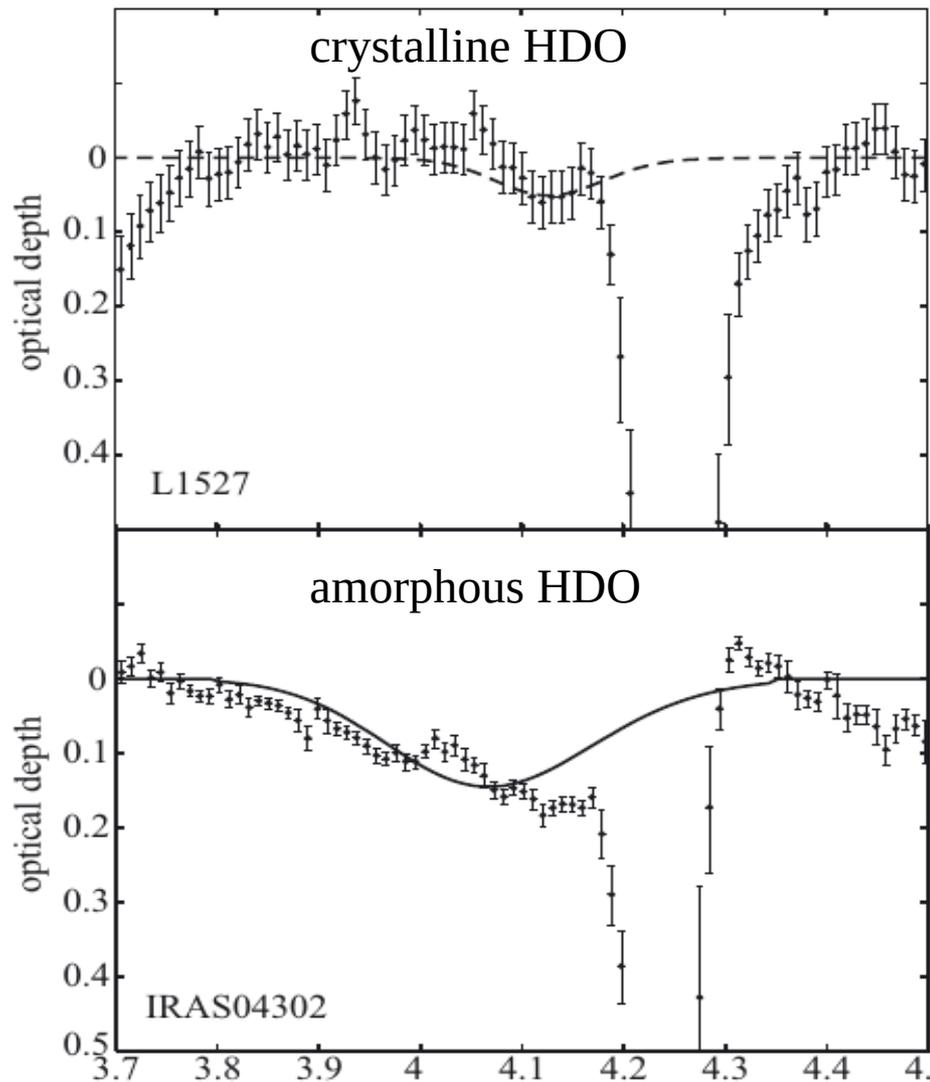
HDO/H₂O ice ratio measurements important:

HDO/H₂O ice
protostars



Lis et al. 2013, Ceccarelli et al. 2014

HDO Ice: Link with Comets



Aikawa et al. 2012

HDO/H₂O ice ratio measurements

- Difficult!
- <1% in YSO envelopes (Paris et al. 2003)
- 2-22% in disks (tentative; Aikawa et al. 2012)
- Deuteration H₂O lower than CH₃OH: formed at warmer, earlier conditions (Ceccarelli et al. 2014).

Envelopes+Disks: Heated Ices

