

Chemistry: from dark clouds to disks







II- From cores to disks

- 1. The trail of volatile reservoirs from cores to disks
- 2. Disks irradiation
- 3. Surface reactions (2)
- 4. Astrochemical models
- 5. The interstellar heritage of planetary systems



The interstellar heritage of planetary systems



Interstellar phase

Primitive solar system

Molecular clouds: atomic-to-molecular



Prestellar phase: growing molecular diversity



Prestellar phase: growing molecular diversity

- high density: handful of species remain, which are difficult to observe (H_2D^+, D_2H^+, D_3^+) because at high frequency (THz)
- Complete depletion ? Walmsley et al. (2004); Friesen et al. (2014)

Protostellar phase: volatile outburst



Organics delivered to early solar system ?

see lecture by D. Bockelée-Morvan



P. Hily-Blant (Les Houches)





Spectra dominated by COMs



Spectra dominated by COMs



Spectra dominated by COMs





Crockett et al. (2014) Spectra dominated by COMs





Spectra dominated by COMs

< ≣ ▶75 / 130

Spectral surveys: TW Hya disk





- Transition disk, $\sim 8~{\rm Myr}$
- Nearest (59.5±0.9 pc, GAIA)
- Essentially: empty
- Wait for A. Dutrey's lecture to see (a little bit) more species and to learn (a lot) more on disks !

Kastner et al. (2014)

Punzi et al. (2015)

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< ≣ ▶76 / 130

- Elemental abundances from stellar nucleosynthesis
- Gas-phase chemistry in molecular clouds ($n_{
 m H} pprox 1000\,{
 m cm}^{-3})$
- During the next Myr, prestellar phase increases molecular diversity: gas-phase & gas-grain processes
- Depletion of gas-phase species into ices: icy mantles become important reservoirs of heavy elements
- Sublimation in the protostellar phase (hot corinos): T up to ≈ 100 K; part (up to 20%) of the ice mantles returns to the gas-phase;
- photodissociation takes place in the cavity
- Chemistry is likely only partially reprocessed during the protostellar phase
- Heavy depletion takes place in the cold/dense regions of protoplanetary disks

Goals and strategy

What are the questions ?

- How can we track the volatile reservoirs if most (if not all) species disappear from the gas phase ?
- Are cometary ices of interstellar origin ?

What are the goals ?

- Know the gas-phase reservoirs on an object-specific basis
- Identify if planetary systems inherited prestellar products

Strategy

- Rely on chemical models to infer the bulk from trace species
- Focus on small species (close to elements) and small networks



- Prestellar phase: see only the tip of the iceberg
- Rely on models to go from the infer the bulk
- Open astrochemical questions:
 - Reservoir of nitrogen: N, N₂, something else ?
 - Reservoir of oxygen: water ice, other ?
 - Reservoir of sulfur: unknown (sum of observable species $\lesssim 1\%$ elemental sulfur
- Known issues in dense clouds
 - nitrogen chemistry is not fully understood (HCN/HNC, isotopic ratios)
 - oxygen is not fully understood (predicted $O_2 \gg observed$)
 - sulfur: the mystery

But still: we can tell something !



Chemistry: from cores to disks

- All the processes discussed in the context of astrochemistry apply to protoplanetary disks
- The main features are:
 - gas-phase processes
 - surface processes (in water-dominated ices on dust)
 - photo-dissociation regions (PDR) (outskirts of clouds, upper layers of disks)
 - grain size distribution (coagulation in cores, disks)
- Three-body collisions may become efficient in disk midplanes
- To be coupled with dynamical evolution (timescale competition)

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Upper layers of disks



Disks are flared

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Chemistry: from dark clouds to disks



Upper layers of disks



Disks are flared: direct + scattered light

- PDR: photon-dominated region (or photo-dissociation regions)
- Word of caution: for historical reasons, PDRs refer to dense regions $(n_{\rm H} > 10^4 \, {\rm cm}^{-3})$; current view is that PDRs are places where UV photons drive the chemistry;
- XDR: X-ray from the central protostar are also important
- UV play a leading role: molecular clouds, upper layer of flared disks
- CN, HCN, HCO⁺: probes of the X-ray/UV relative importance (Kastner et al. 2008)
- Important effects in PDR: self-shielding (H $_2$, CO, N $_2$), extinction by the dust
- UV field is measured in units of the ISRF (Le Petit et al. 2006)

Irradiation of disks



Cosmic-rays dominate in the midplane regions

UV photodissociation processes



- ${\rm H}_2$ and CO photodissociation
- saturation of absorption line
- self-shielding
- mutual shielding (line coincidence)
- UV radiation field evolves when moving inward (PDR models compute this; tables are available)

- Consider two isotopologues, e.g. CO and $C^{18}O$
- Their abundance ratio is the elemental $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}{\approx}$ 500
- Indirect photodissociation favours the more abundant: absorption line of CO is 500 times more opaque than $\rm C^{18}O$
- Photodissociation of CO is 500 times less efficient than C¹⁸O

 $\mathrm{CO/C^{18}O} > 500$

• also applies to N₂ (Heays et al. 2014):

 $N_2/N^{15}N > (N/^{15}N)_{elemental}$

(keep this in mind)



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Surface chemistry

- gas-grain processes: accretion, desorption
- chemistry in ices: current view=diffusion limited
- icy grain = third-body in the collision



Ice formation



Whittet et al. (2013)

- H_2O ice form at $A_V \approx 3 \text{ mag}$
- species adsorb into ices
- few 10 of monolayers

Ice formation



Slide from Bergin

See lecture by E. Dartois (composition, observation, etc)

Molecular freeze-out



- Depletion is systematic (Tafalla et al. 2006)
- C-bearing species disappear from core center
- N-bearing species seem to remain at high densities (Hily-Blant et al. 2008)
- Complete depletion hypothesis: even light species may freeze out (Walmsley et al. 2004; Friesen et al. 2014)

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Usual view: diffusion limited process. Work in progress (you !)

- $k_{\rm hop} = \nu_0 \exp(-\eta E_b/kT_d)$
- ν_0 : vibrational freq. of adsorbed species on grain; varies with mass
- $\eta \approx 0.3 0.7$
- *E_b*: binding energy (or energy barrier to overcome for hopping to proceed)
- quantum tunneling: decreases with mass of the particle
- Warning: several caveats
- Surface inhomogeneity (E_b and η both likely to vary spatially)
- Competition between diffusion and reaction unclear

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95 / 130

Depletion is a competition between accretion and evaporation

- Accretion: $k_{\rm acc} = n_d \sigma_d v_{\rm th} S(T, T_d) \approx 10^{-17} (T/10)^{0.5} n_{\rm H} \, {\rm s}^{-1}$
- sticking coefficient $S \approx 1 \; (0.8 \; {
 m for} \; {
 m H})$
- depletion timescale: $\tau_{\rm acc} \approx \, 10^{10}/\textit{n}_{\rm H}$ yr
- evaporation timescale (see diffusion): $\tau_{\text{evap}} = \nu_0^{-1} \exp(E_b/kT_d)$
- freeze-out = accretion vs evaporation
- freeze-out: controlled by T, T_d, $\textit{n}_{\rm H}$
- $T_{\rm grain} > T_{\rm freezeout}$: little freeze-out
- $T_{\rm grain} < T_{\rm freezeout}$: massive freeze-out
- $T_{\rm grain} \sim 10$ K in cores: freeze-out
- Same caveats as before

Depletion in prestellar cores



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96 / 130

Ice chemistry: a minimalist astrochemical view

Primary reactions: hydrogenation of ice

- $H + H \longrightarrow H_2$
- 0, 0₂, 0₃ + H \rightarrow H₂0
- $N \rightarrow NH_3$
- CO \rightarrow CH₃OH (methanol)
- $C \rightarrow CH_4$
- and also reactions with other atoms: $\rm CO + O \longrightarrow \rm CO_2$

Other

- external source of energy: UV-induced reactions, cosmic rays (see E. Dartois)
- isotopic exchanges

Networks



Linnartz et al. (2015)

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Networks



Linnartz et al. (2015)

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Snow lines





- snow line: transition between freeze-out and desorption
- driven by the density and temperature radial and vertical profiles
- radial and vertical snow lines
- species disappear/appear at snow lines
- the CO snow-line: CO is destroyed by CO + $N_2H^+ \longrightarrow N_2 + HCO^+$; spatial anti-correlation between CO and N_2H^+
- Lecture by A. Dutrey

Chemistry in disks

- observations do not sample the disk midplane (yet ?)
- chemistry in disks is very active
- radial/vertical mixing is probably important
- dust settling and growth is essential (dust surface !): time-dependent chemistry and photodissociation
- feedback of chemistry on the turbulence (through ionization)
- chemical timescales can be short: big issue
- A very competitive and very active field of research
- A. Dutrey lecture

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The engine

- The network: typically 100-500 species and tenfold gas-phase reactions
- Philosophy: Small networks vs big networks
- Choice: w/ or w/o ice chemistry
- Important: secondary photons, grain charge

A model

- Boundary conditions (elemental abundances)
- Models: time-dependent (needs initial partitionning) / steady-state
- Physical conditions (0D to 3D); with feedback or not
- Solve a closed system of 1st order ODE (with time or zero-finding)

Timescales



Timescales



Models vs observations

Models in practice

- Public databases (KIDA, UMIST) and codes (astrochem, nahoon)
- Boundary conditions

Comparison with observations

- strategy: focus on species or overall agreement (different approach)
- comparison in terms of abundances (abundance ratios more robust)
- or in terms of spectra (line radiative transfer: means problems)
- minimization: figure of merit ? (χ^2 generally not a good one...)
- overall, this is a problem \rightarrow opportunities

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- How can we identify interstellar records in early solar system objects ?
- Are cometary ices (at least partially) of interstellar origin ?
- Strategy: match species at different phases / risky
- Another strategy: isotopic ratios / more robust
- See lecture by C. Burkhardt



The origin of water on Earth and the D/H ratio in water

- Molecular clouds form water
- Water ice during the cold prestellar phase (freeze-out + formation in ices by hydrogenation of O and/or O₂): H₂O/H up to 5×10⁻⁵, \sim bulk of volatile oxygen budget
- D/H in the PSN: 2.5×10^{-5}
- D/H in Earth oceans: 1.6×10^{-4}
- One explanation: record of prestellar stage. Why ?

Chemical mass fractionation

- $H_3^+ + HD \longrightarrow H_2D^+ + H_2 + 232 \text{ K}$
- Energy difference due to different mass: fundamental energy is $1/2\hbar\omega,$ where for a spring, $\omega=\sqrt{k/\mu}$
- Note: exothermicity indeed depends on ortho:para states of all species
- this is a thermoneutral reaction: need to consider the reverse reaction
- at steady-state $k_f/k_r = K(T) = [H_2D^+][H_2]/[H_3^+][HD] = \exp(-232/T)$
- ${\mathcal T}$ decreases \rightarrow equilibrium shifts to the right, favouring the heaviest species
- fractionation, i.e. deviation from the elemental isotopic ratio:

 $\rm H_2D^+/H_3^+ > (D/H)_{elemental}$

- this fractionation is transfered by chemistry to water (with $\rm H_2D+$ replacing $\rm H_3^+$ in the gas-phase)

The origin of water on Earth and the D/H ratio in water

The Cleeves et al. (2014) scenario:

- o:p ratios make $\Delta E \approx 124$ K: fractionation requires $T \leq 50$ K to be efficient: could be midplane, or prestellar phase
- Assume (there are models for this) that cosmic-rays are strongly repealed from disks by the heliosphere: CR flux is reduced by ≈ 100 ;
- then not enough H_3^+ in the disk (ionization is too low): deuterium fractionation is damped out, hence that of water: never reach the 50-fold enrichment of HDO/H₂O in Earth oceans
- Question: are CR expelled from pp disks ?

The origin of nitrogen in the solar system



Cometary ratio: 140; elemental (Sun, Jupiter): 441, Earth 272

Origin of the cometary ratio

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114 / 130

- comets did not sample the bulk ? spatial inhomogeneity in the PSN ?
- did not trap the bulk ?
- value on Earth ?
- what are the reservoirs of nitrogen in the PSN: N, N₂, other ? what are their isotopic ratios ?
- are the different isotopic ratios due to processes in the PSN ? interstellar (like for water) ?

The origin of nitrogen in the solar system



(indirect measurement) HCN in disks pprox 130; Guzman et al 2017

Origin of the cometary ratio

- matching isotopic ratio in disks and comets
- these authors argue towards local processes in the disks: selective photodissociation; no inheritance from prestellar phase
- caveat: indirect measurement (usual method however)
- $\mathrm{H^{13}CN/HC^{15}N} \times (\mathrm{N/^{15}N}) \rightarrow \mathrm{HCN/HC^{15}N}$

The $CN/C^{15}N$ ratio in TW Hya



Directly measure $CN/C^{15}N$ isotopic ratio

The $CN/C^{15}N$ ratio in TW Hya



₹ ≥ ► 118 / 130

The origin of nitrogen in the solar system



Direct measurement in CN in TW Hya 323 \pm 30; Hily-Blant et al 2017

So what ?



The nitrogen isotopic ratio in a galactic context

Two reservoirs of nitrogen in disks

- ISM is chemically homogeneous within 1.5 kpc
- HCN/HC¹⁵N=140 in 5 disks and CN/C¹⁵N=330 (in one disk)
- Hence, at least one disk carries two isotopic reservoirs

The present-day isotopic ratio in the local ISM

- CN ratio is 330; in very good agreement with direct measurements in local ISM dense cores
- proposal: this is the present-day isotopic ratio in the local ISM
- How to compare present-day isotopic ratios in the local ISM with the 441 ratio in the PSN at -4.6 Gyr at Sun's (unknown) birthplace ?
- answer: ask galactic chemical evolution models

Galactic chemical evolution of nitrogen



- GCE models: today's elemental can not be as low as 140
- \Rightarrow HCN traces a fractionated (hence secondary) reservoir
 - CN ring emission encompasses Kuiper-belt region: comets did sample the elemental ratio
 - evolution of the $N/^{15}N$ ratio in comets over last 4.6 Gyr not needed

- new scenario: N_2 is (and was) the main reservoir of nitrogen in disks \Rightarrow must have the elemental isotopic ratio, which was 441 in the PSN
- CN is simply a tracer of this reservoir (consistent with chemical models)
- but N₂ was not trapped into cometary ices (too volatile ???); consistent with Hale-Bopp and ROSETTA results (very low N₂/CO)
- instead, comets trapped a secondary, minor, reservoir (traced by HCN)
- N₂ would have been captured by the Sun and Jupiter (fast ???)
- Earth: mixing of these two volatile nitrogen reservoirs (441 and 140) ?

Nitrogen origin: open questions

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125 / 130

- selective photodissociation: radial variation of the isotopic ratio ?
- more CN observations
- origin of the fractionated reservoir: direct measurement of N-isotopic ratio in prestellar cores needed (indeed, done...)
- what could prevent comets from trapping N_2 ?

- prestellar phase builds molecular diversity and rich ices
- protostellar phase liberates $\approx 20\%$ of the products into the warm cavity: this is still debated
- if not all the ices are processed, interstellar ices may be partially preserved
- Are acometary ices of interstellar origin ? (the O₂ abundance in 67P/G-C: D. Bocklée-Morvan lecture)
- isotopic ratios can be used to establish the link between different evolutionary stages
- this however requires fractionation processes to be known (perhaps not entirely the case for nitrogen)

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- The interstellar-to-primitive solar system chemical heritage is an extremely active field of research
- Surface chemistry: from laboratory experiments to the astrophysical context
- Comparisons between astrochemical models and observations
- Towards accurate astrochemistry: improved networks (nuclear spin chemistry, isotopic fractionation)
- The initial and boundary conditions: towards astrochemistry clocks
- Overall volatile reservoirs of C, N, O, S, P, from cores to disks: towards the origin of life in planetary systems

Thank you !

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