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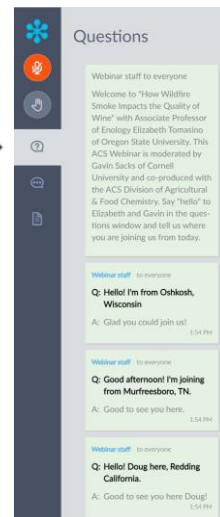


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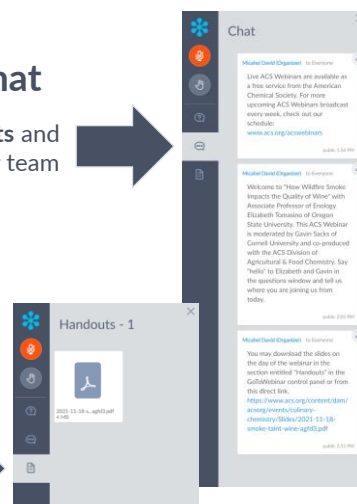
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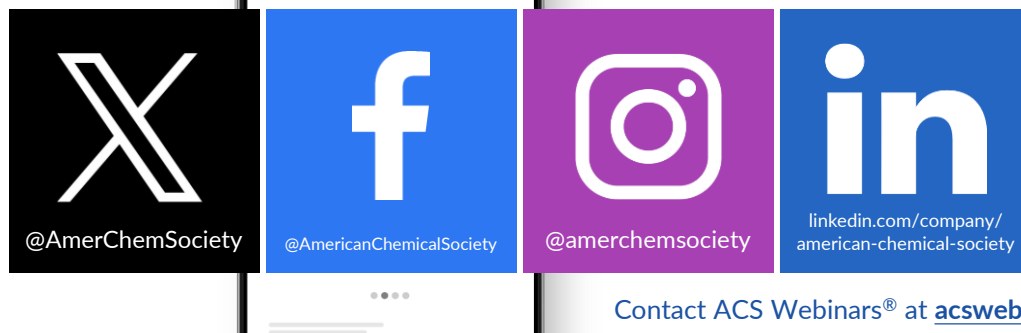


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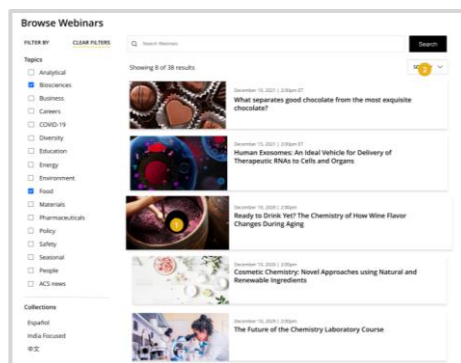
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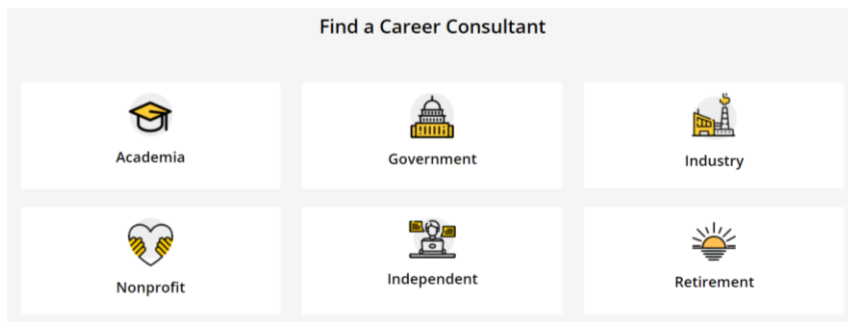


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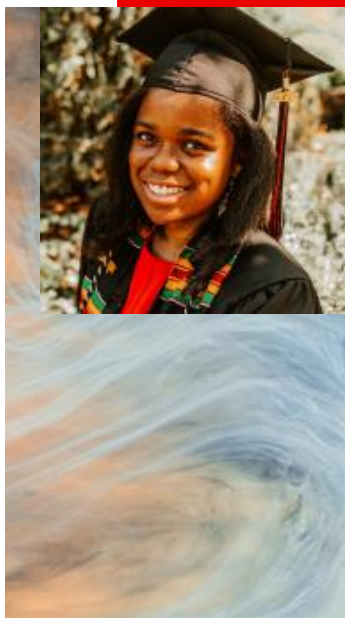
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ACS Scholar Adunoluwa Obisesan

BS, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, June 2021
(Chemical-biological Engineering, Computer Science & Molecular Biology)



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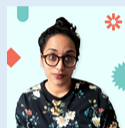
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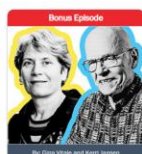
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Bonus Episode
Carolyn Bertozzi and K. Barry Sharpless chat about sharing the 2022 Nobel Prize in Chemistry
December 6, 2022



Bonus Episode
Bioorthogonal, click chemistry clinch the Nobel Prize
October 5, 2022



Episode #46
Lithium mining's water use sparks bitter conflicts and novel chemistry
September 13, 2022



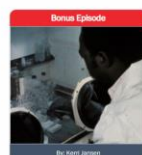
Bonus Episode
Happy 100th birthday, John Goodenough!
For John Goodenough's 100th birthday, Stereo Chemistry revisits a fan-favorite interview with the renowned scientist
July 25, 2022



Bonus Episode
Jesse Wade on Wikipedia and work-life balance
June 21, 2022



Bonus Episode
The sticky science of why we eat so much sugar
May 31, 2022



Bonus Episode
There's more to James Harris's story
April 27, 2022



Bonus Episode
The helium shortage that wasn't supposed to be
March 24, 2022

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ACS Career Resources



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Personal Career Consultations

Jim Tung

Assistant
Lacamas Laboratories

S.S., Biochemistry, University of Oregon
Ph.D., Organic Chemistry, University of Notre Dame

Jim Tung works at Lacamas Laboratories in Portland, OR, currently as a business development manager. He has been with Lacamas for 10 years, working on developing new chemical manufacturing projects. Before that, he was a senior research chemist at Orlite Research in Champaign, IL, performing kilo-scale organic chemistry.

An Oregon native, Jim got his B.S. in biochemistry from the University of Oregon, his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the University of Notre Dame, with postdoctoral experience at Pfizer's laboratories in La Jolla, CA. He is past chair of the Portland Section of the American Chemical Society and was 2019 general co-chair of NORM 2019. He has interests in process chemistry, labor economics, social media outreach and encouraging career exploration and development for younger chemists.

Ask me about:

- Working in industry
- Applying for academic jobs
- Getting your first job

Contact With Jim

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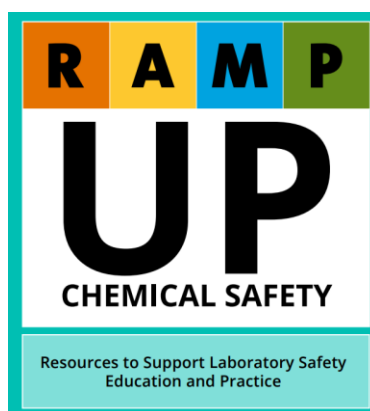
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A complete listing of ACS Safety Programs and Resources



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Advancing ACS' Core Value of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Respect



Resources

<p>Inclusivity Style Guide Designed to help staff and members use language and images that respect diversity in all its forms.</p> <p>→</p>	<p>ACS Webinars on Diversity Covering diversity and inclusion at the workplace</p> <p>→</p>
<p>ACS Publications DEIR Hub See what ACS Publications is doing for fostering inclusivity in scholarly publishing</p> <p>→</p>	<p>ACS Volunteer and ACS Meetings Code of Conduct Fostering a positive and welcoming environment for attendees, volunteers and staff.</p> <p>→</p>
<p>C&EN Trailblazers C&EN highlights scientists from different backgrounds who are making an impact in chemistry.</p> <p>→</p>	<p>NEW! Download DEIR Educational Resources Download this educational guide for additional recommendations on videos, articles, books, podcasts, and more on diversity, inclusion, and related topics.</p> <p>→</p>
<p>Quick Guide: Inclusion Moments Learn more about what Inclusion Moments are and see ideas to host them during your meetings.</p> <p>→</p>	<p>Quick Guide: How to host inclusive in-person events Recommendations and best practices to ensure that your events can accommodate everyone.</p> <p>→</p>

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**Adapted from definitions from the Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice:

<p>Equity** Seeks to ensure fair treatment, equality of opportunity, and fairness in access to information and resources for all. We believe this is only possible in an environment built on respect and dignity. Equity requires the identification and elimination of barriers that have prevented the full participation of some groups.</p>	<p>Diversity** The representation of varied identities and differences (race, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, tribe, caste, socio-economic status, thinking and communication styles, etc.) collectively and as individuals. ACS seeks to proactively engage, understand, and draw on a variety of perspectives.</p>	<p>Inclusion** Builds a culture of belonging by actively inviting the contribution and participation of all people. Every person's voice adds value, and ACS strives to create balance in the face of power differences. In addition, no one person can or should be called upon to represent an entire community.</p>
<p>Respect Ensures that each person is treated with professionalism, integrity, and ethics underpinning all interpersonal interactions.</p>		

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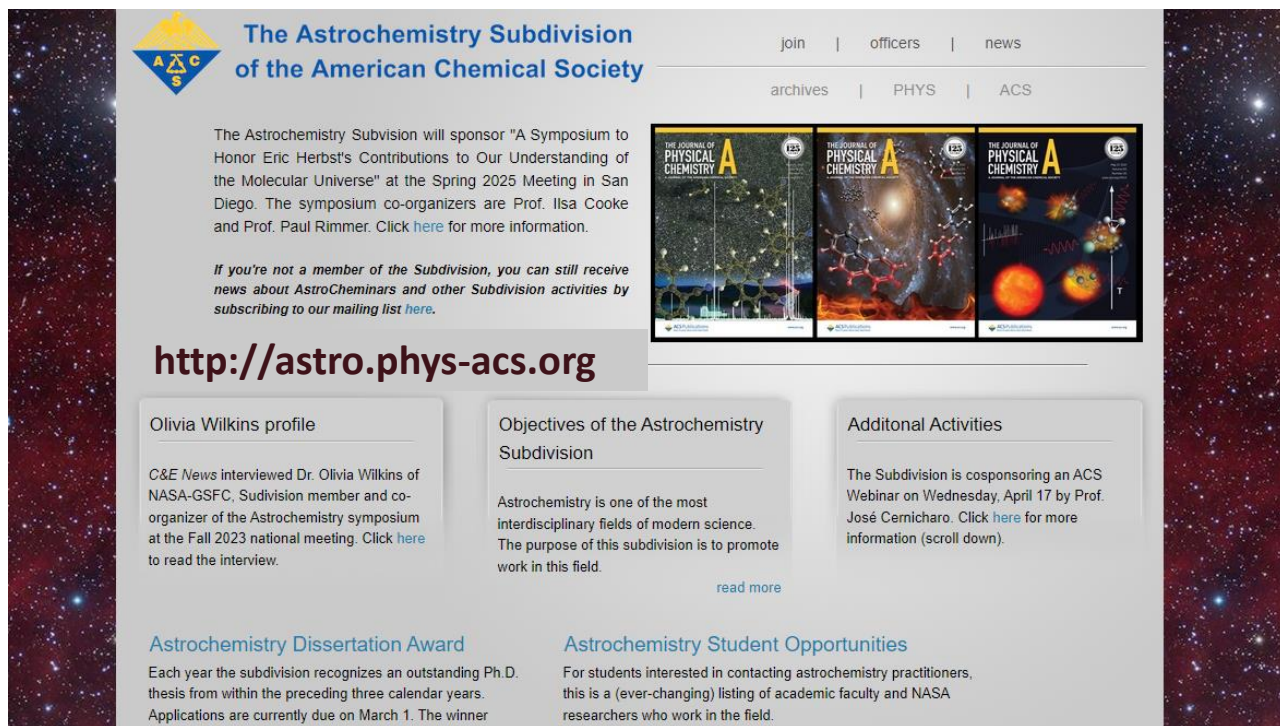
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The Astrochemistry Subdivision of the American Chemical Society

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The Astrochemistry Subdivision will sponsor "A Symposium to Honor Eric Herbst's Contributions to Our Understanding of the Molecular Universe" at the Spring 2025 Meeting in San Diego. The symposium co-organizers are Prof. Ilsa Cooke and Prof. Paul Rimmer. Click [here](#) for more information.

If you're not a member of the Subdivision, you can still receive news about AstroChemins and other Subdivision activities by subscribing to our mailing list [here](#).

<http://astro.phys-acs.org>

Olivia Wilkins profile

C&E News interviewed Dr. Olivia Wilkins of NASA-GSFC, Subdivision member and co-organizer of the Astrochemistry symposium at the Fall 2023 national meeting. Click [here](#) to read the interview.

Objectives of the Astrochemistry Subdivision

Astrochemistry is one of the most interdisciplinary fields of modern science. The purpose of this subdivision is to promote work in this field.

Additional Activities

The Subdivision is cosponsoring an ACS Webinar on Wednesday, April 17 by Prof. José Cernicharo. Click [here](#) for more information (scroll down).

Astrochemistry Dissertation Award

Each year the subdivision recognizes an outstanding Ph.D. thesis from within the preceding three calendar years. Applications are currently due on March 1. The winner

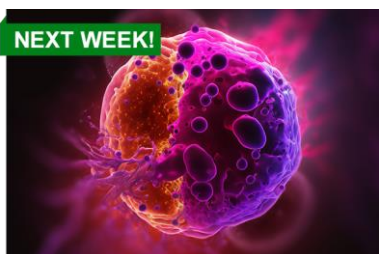
Astrochemistry Student Opportunities

For students interested in contacting astrochemistry practitioners, this is a (ever-changing) listing of academic faculty and NASA researchers who work in the field.

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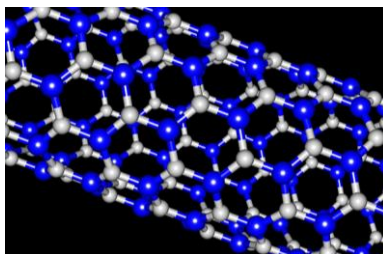
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Thursday, April 25, 2024 | 11am-12:30pm ET

Eliminating Malaria: Unraveling the Mysteries of Parasitic Transmission and Metamorphosis

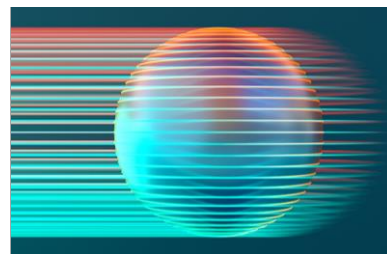
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Wednesday, May 1, 2024 | 3pm-4pm ET

La Creación de Materiales Macroscópicos a Través del Ensamblaje de Nanotubos de Boro Nítruro

Co-produced with the Sociedad Química de Mexico



Thursday, May 2, 2024 | 2pm-3:30pm ET

Better Biodegradable Vinyl Polymer Materials by Improving Radical Ring-Opening Polymerization (rROP)

Co-produced with ACS Division of Polymer Chemistry

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**Astrochemistry's New Golden Age: Finding New Molecules
In Space With Ultrasensitive Molecular Line Surveys**



JOSÉ CERNICHARO, PhD

Professor of Investigación,
Instituto de Física Fundamental (CSIC)



ANTHONY REMIJAN, PhD

Assistant Director, Science Support and
Research, National Radio Astronomy Observatory

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Astrochemistry's New Golden Age: Finding New Molecules In Space With Ultrasensitive Molecular Line Surveys

J.Cernicharo

Department of Molecular Astrophysics

IFF-CSIC (Madrid, Spain)

iose.cernicharo@csic.es



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- What are the physical conditions of interstellar molecular clouds? Where stars and planets are formed ? How molecules are formed in space?
- Molecular Astrophysics and Astrochemistry
- Molecules as tracers of the physical conditions of molecular clouds
- Line surveys (all wavelengths)
- Molecular spectroscopy in space (QUIJOTE line survey). The **NEW** golden age of astrochemistry. The formation of PAHs in cold environments (GOTHAM and QUIJOTE)

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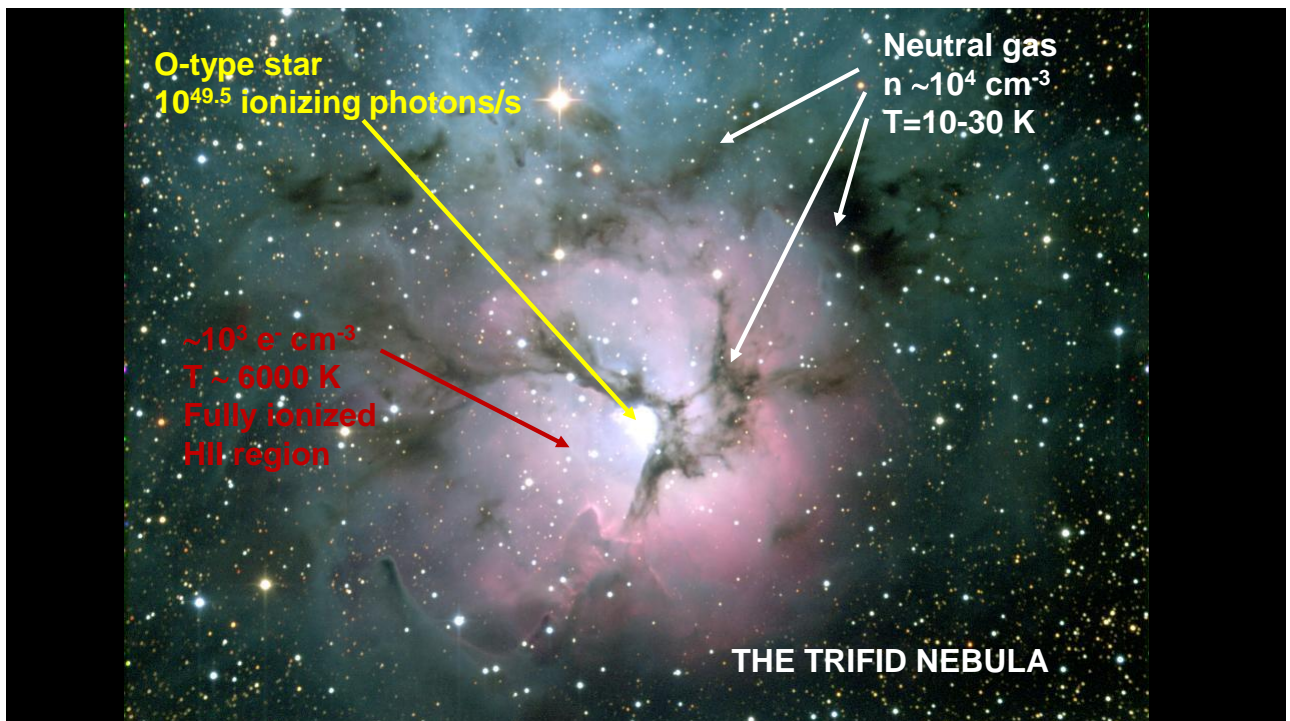
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List of acronyms and symbols used in the presentation

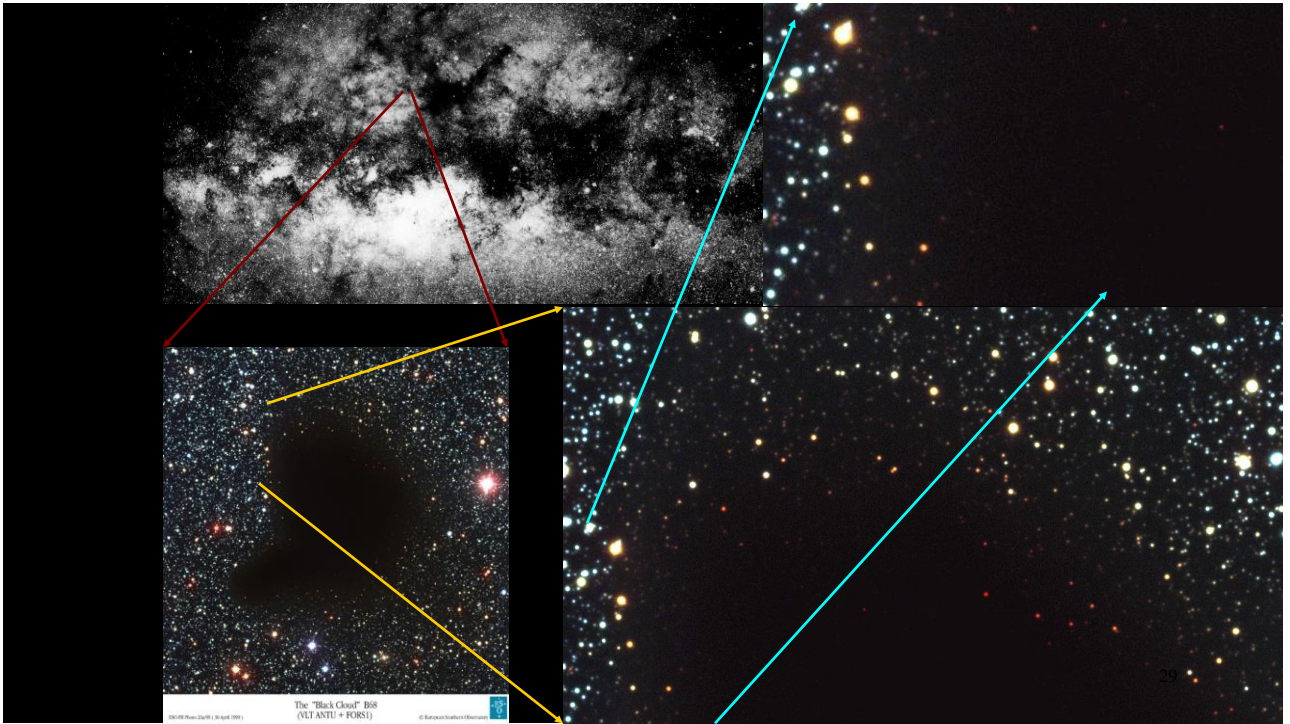
- **ISM:** Interstellar Medium
- **CSM:** Circumstellar Medium
- **n:** volume density of H_2 (cm^{-3})
- **T_k :** Kinetic temperature (K)
- **N:** column density (cm^{-2})
- **NRAO:** National Radioastronomy Observatory (USA)
- **IRAM:** Institute de Radioastronomie millimétrique (France, Germany, Spain)
- **Yebes:** National Astronomical Observatory (Yebes, Guadalajara; Spain)
- **TMC-1:** Taurus Molecular Cloud 1 ($T_k=10$ K, $n\sim 10^4$ cm^{-3})
- **IRC+10216:** Carbon-rich red giant star (CW Leo)
- **LTE:** Local Thermodynamical equilibrium
- **LVG:** Large velocity gradient radiative transfer method
- **GOTHAM: GBT Observations of TMC-1: Hunting Aromatic Molecules**
- **QUIJOTE: Q-band Ultrasensitive Inspection Journey to the Obscure TMC-1 Environment**
- **CRESU: Cinétique de Réaction en Ecoulement Supersonique Uniforme** = Reaction kinetics in uniform supersonic flow
- **SANCHO: Surveying the Area of the Neighbour TMC-1 Cloud through Heterodyne Observations**
- **NANOCOSMOS: European Research Council Synergy project (funding for QUIJOTE and SANCHO)**

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Clouds are composed of dust and gas.

Dust grains have a typical size of $0.5 \mu\text{m}$ and represent $\sim 1\%$ of the mass

$\sim 99\%$ is neutral gas

H_2 , CO, HCN, HNC, HCO^+ , CN, CH_3CCH , HC_3N , ...

H_2 is formed at the surface of dust grains

H_2^+ is produced from H_2 and CR
 $\text{H}_2 + \text{H}_2^+ \Rightarrow \text{H}_3^+$

0.44 μm 0.55 μm 0.90 μm

2.16 μm 1.65 μm 1.25 μm

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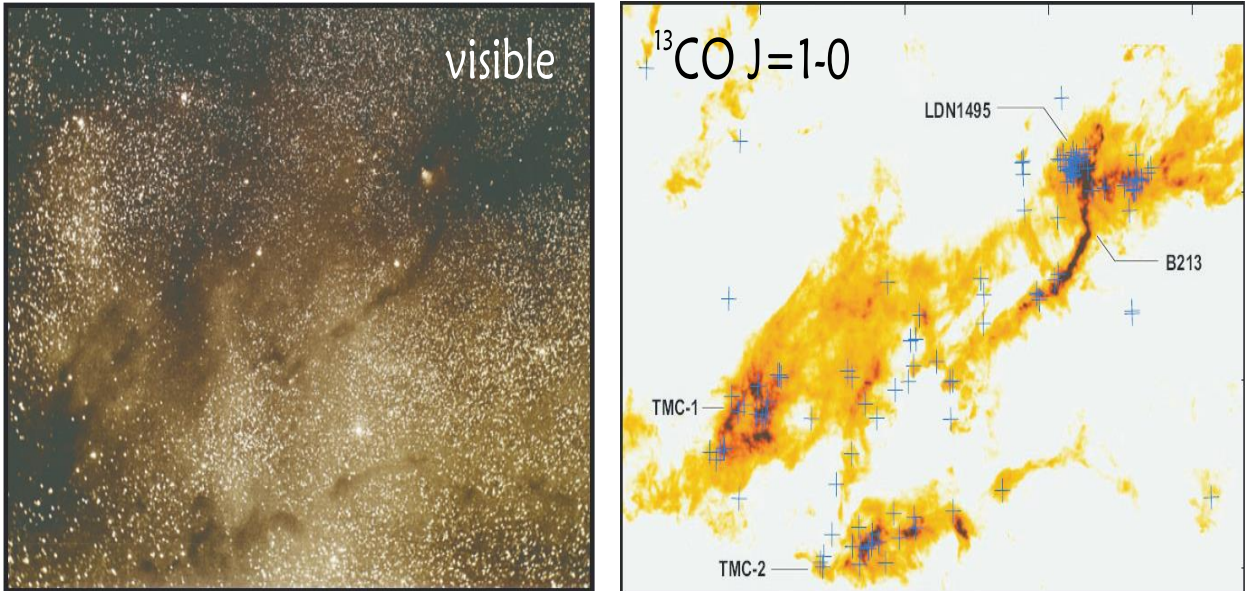
Interstellar dark clouds

Astrochemistry: The Quest for Chemical Complexity in Space
50 years ago very little was known about the physical and chemical conditions of interstellar clouds (and circumstellar clouds around AGBs)

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Dark clouds in the Taurus complex at visible wavelength (left; Barnard 1919) and in the emission of ^{13}CO J=1-0 (pictures from Bergin and Tafalla 2007, ARAA, 45 339; ^{13}CO data from Goldsmith et al. 2008, ApJ, 680, 428).

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First detailed proposal to search for atoms and molecules in space

PAPER 16

MICROWAVE AND RADIO-FREQUENCY
RESONANCE LINES OF INTEREST TO
RADIO ASTRONOMY

C.H. Townes, 1957, IAU Symposium, Vol 4, pages 92-103
(67 years ago)

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Table 3

Some microwave transitions between molecular rotational levels of interest to radio astronomy. The inversion spectrum of NH_3 is also listed.

Molecule	Electronic state	Transition	Frequency (Mc./s.)	Matrix element in Debye units	Comments
CaH	$^2\Sigma$	$J = 3/2-1/2$	254,080	Electric dipole unknown	
		$J = 1/2-1/2$	252,650		
CO	$^1\Sigma$	$J = 1-0$	115,270.6	0.10	
CO ⁺	$^2\Sigma$	$J = 3/2-1/2$ $1/2-1/2$	117,980	Electric dipole unknown	
CS	$^1\Sigma$	$J = 1-0$	48,991.0	2.0	
NO	$^2\Pi_{1,2}$	$J = 3/1-1/2$	150,176.3	0.07	Also other nearby lines due to h.f.s.
H ₂ O	$^1\Sigma$	6 _{1,6} -5 _{2,3}	22,235.22	0.16	
N ₂ O	$^1\Sigma$	$J = 1-0$	25,123.28	0.17	Other lines at multiples of the frequency given. Very small h.f.s. present
HCN	$^1\Sigma$	$J = 1-0, F = 1-1$	88,600.1	1.72	Also <i>l</i> -doublet transitions may occur
		$F = 2-1$	88,601.5	2.22	
		$F = 0-1$	88,603.6	0.99	
CH ₃					Structure and spectrum unknown, but may produce some microwave lines
NH ₃					Structure and spectrum not well known, but probably produces some microwave lines
NH ₃	$^1\Sigma$	Inversion, $J = 1, K = 1$	23,694.48	1.0	Also other inversion transitions at nearby frequencies
O ₃	$^1\Sigma$	1 ₁₁ -2 ₀₂	42,832.62	0.17	Also other rotational transitions
		1 ₁₁ -0 ₀₀	118,364.3	0.53	

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First molecules detected in space

optical and centimeter wavelengths

- CN, CH and CH⁺ detected between 1930-1940 through optical observations
- In 1957 C. Townes proposed that some molecules could be present in the ISM
- **NH₃ detected in 1968** using a Dicke radiometer (T_{sys}=2000 K) mounted on the 20ft diameter dish of Hat Creek (U. California) by Cheung, Rank, Townes, Thornton and Welch (PRL, 21, 1701)
- **H₂O detected in 1969** towards W49 with the Hat Creek radio telescope by Cheung, Rank, Townes, Thornton & Welch (Nature, 221, 626)
- **H₂CO detected in 1969** by Snyder, Buhl, Zuckerman and Palmer (PRL, 22, 679) using the 140ft Green Bank telescope

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The discovery of CO and Millimeter Radio Astronomy. The birth of Astrochemistry

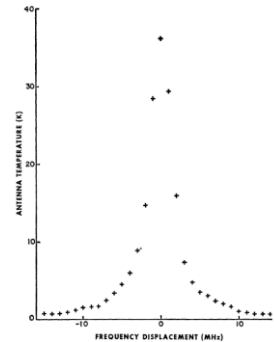
THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 161:L43-L44, July 1970
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CARBON MONOXIDE IN THE ORION NEBULA

R. W. WILSON, K. B. JEFFERTS, AND A. A. PENZIAS
Bell Telephone Laboratories, Inc., Holmdel, New Jersey, and
Crawford Hill Laboratory, Murray Hill, New Jersey
Received 1970 June 5

ABSTRACT

We have found intense 2.6-mm line radiation from nine galactic sources which we attribute to carbon monoxide.



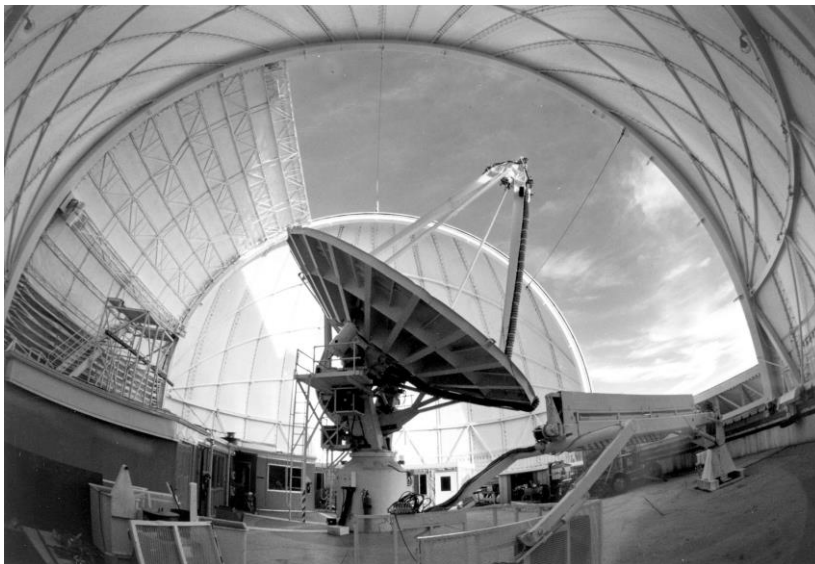
This work was done with a specially constructed line receiver mounted on the NRAO 36' paraboloid. Schottky barrier diodes developed by C. A. Burrus of Bell Laboratories were used in Sharpless wafer units both in the signal mixer and in a harmonic mixer used to control the frequency of the local oscillator klystron.

Seven molecules discovered between 1936-1970 : CN, CH, CH⁺, NH₃, H₂O, H₂CO, CO

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Kitt Peak 12m radio telescope (NRAO) Millimeter Radio Astronomy (around 30 molecules detected)



Before CO detection only six molecules were known in space (1936-1970)

By 1980 around 50 molecules (around 30 of them with the Kitt Peak radio telescope)

Between 1980 and Sep 2020 around 200 molecules (mainly with the IRAM 30m, Nobeyama 45 m, and Green Bank 100m telescopes)

By April 2024 around 310 molecules found in space (mainly through GOTHAM and QUIJOTE line surveys). In four years the number of detected molecular species in space has increased by a factor 1.5

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2 atoms	3 atoms	4 atoms	5 atoms	6 atoms	7 atoms	8 atoms	9 atoms	10 atoms
CH SO ⁺	H ₂ O MgCN	NH ₃ CH ₃	HC ₃ N HNCNH	CH ₃ OH C ₃ N-	CH ₃ CHO	HC ₂ CO	CH ₃ OCH ₃	CH ₃ COCH ₃
CN CO ⁺	HCO ⁺ H ₃ ⁺	H ₂ CO C ₃ N-	HCOOH CH ₃ O	CH ₃ CN H ₂ NCN	CH ₃ CN	CH ₃ C ₂ H	CH ₃ CH ₂ OH	HOCH ₂ CH ₂ OH
CH ⁺ HF	HCN SiCN	HNCO PH ₃	CH ₂ NH NH ₄ ⁺	NH ₂ CHO SiH ₃ CN	CH ₃ NH ₂	C ₇ H	CH ₃ CH ₂ CN	CH ₃ CH ₂ CHO
OH N ₂	OCs AlNC	H ₂ CS HCNO	NH ₂ CN H ₂ NCO ⁺	CH ₃ SH MgC ₄ H	CH ₂ CHCN	CH ₂ COOH	HC ₇ N	CH ₃ C ₃ N
CO CF ⁺	HNC SiNC	C ₂ H ₂ HOCN	H ₂ CCO NCCNH ⁺	C ₂ H ₄ CH ₃ CO ⁺	HC ₃ N	H ₂ C ₆	CH ₃ C ₄ H	CH ₃ CHCH ₂ O
H ₂ PO	H ₂ S HCP	C ₃ N HSCN	C ₄ H CH ₃ Cl	C ₅ H H ₂ CCCS	C ₆ H	CH ₂ OHCHO	C ₈ H	CH ₃ OCH ₂ OH
SiO O ₂	N ₂ H ⁺ CCP	HNCS HOOH	SiH ₄ MgC ₃ N	CH ₃ NC CH ₂ CCH	c-C ₂ H ₄ O	HC ₆ H	CH ₃ CONH ₂	c-C ₆ H ₄
CS AlO	C ₂ H AlOH	HOCO ⁺ I-C ₃ H ⁺	c-C ₃ H ₂ HC ₃ O ⁺	HC ₂ CHO HCSCCH	CH ₂ CHOH	CH ₂ CHCHO	C ₆ H-	CH ₂ CCH ₃ N
SO CN-	SO ₂ H ₂ O ⁺	C ₃ O HMgNC	CH ₂ CN NH ₂ OH	H ₂ C ₄ C ₅ O	C ₆ H-	CH ₂ CCHCN	CH ₂ CHCH ₃	C ₂ H ₅ NC
Sis OH ⁺	HCO H ₂ Cl ⁺	I-C ₃ H HCCO	C ₅ HC ₃ S ⁺	C ₅ S C ₅ H ⁺	CH ₃ NCO	NH ₂ CH ₂ CN	CH ₃ CH ₂ SH	C ₂ H ₃ NH ₂
NS SH ⁺	HNO KCN	HCNH ⁺ CNCN	SiC ₄ H ₂ CCS	HC ₃ NH ⁺ HCCNCH ⁺	HC ₃ O	CH ₃ CHNH	HC ₇ O	HC ₇ NH ⁺
C ₂ HCl ⁺	HCS ⁺ FeCN	H ₃ O ⁺ HONO	H ₂ CCC C ₄ S	C ₅ N c-C ₅ H	HOCH ₂ CN	CH ₃ SiH ₃	CH ₃ NHCHO	CH ₃ CHCHCN
NO SH	HOc ⁺ HO ₂	C ₃ S MgCCH	CH ₄ CHOSH	HC ₄ H HC ₄ S	HC ₄ NC	NH ₂ CONH ₂	H ₂ CCCHCCH	CH ₃ CCNCH ₂
HCl TiO	SiC ₂ TiO ₂	c-C ₃ H HCCS	HCCNC CHSCN	HC ₄ N HMgC ₃ N	HC ₃ HNH	HCCCH ₂ CN	HCCCHCHCN	CH ₂ CHCH ₂ CN
NaCl ArH ⁺	C ₂ S CCN	HC ₂ N HNCN	HNCCC HC ₃ O	c-H ₂ C ₃ O MgC ₄ H ⁺	c-C ₃ HCC	CH ₂ CHCCH	H ₂ CCHC ₃ N	14
AlCl NS ⁺	C ₃ SiCSi	H ₂ CN H ₂ NC	H ₂ COH ⁺ NaC ₃ N	CH ₂ CNH	H ₂ C ₅	HC ₅ NH ⁺	HOCHCHOH	
KCl HeH ⁺	CO ₂ S ₂ H	SiC ₃ HC ₂ S ⁺	C ₄ H- MgC ₃ N ⁺	31	MgC ₅ N	MgC ₆ H	CH ₂ CHCHNH	
AlF VO	CH ₂ HCS	34	CNCHO 35		CH ₂ C ₃ N	C ₂ H ₃ NH ₂	17	
PN FeO	C ₂ O HSC	11 atoms			NC ₄ NH ⁺	(CHOH) ₂		
SiC SiH	MgNC NCO	HC ₃ N	12 atoms		MgC ₅ N+	HCCCHCCC		
CP NO ⁺	NH ₂ CaNC	CH ₃ C ₆ H	c-C ₆ H ₆	9	20	C ₇ N-		
NH PO ⁺	NaCN NCS	C ₂ H ₅ OCHO	n-C ₃ H ₇ CN			CH ₃ CHCO		
SIN SIP	N ₂ O MgC ₂	CH ₃ COOCH ₃	i-C ₃ H ₇ CN			MgC ₆ H ⁺	23	
46	46	CH ₃ COCH ₂ OH	1-C ₃ H ₅ CN					
		c-C ₅ H ₆	2-C ₃ H ₅ CN					
		HOCH ₂ CH ₂ NH ₂	C ₂ H ₅ OCH ₃					
		CH ₂ CCHC ₄ H 10	CH ₃ C ₇ N	13 atoms	PAHs			
		C ₁₀ H-	n-C ₃ H ₇ OH	c-C ₆ H ₅ CN	1-C ₁₀ H ₇ CN	C ₆₀		
		1-C ₄ H ₅ CN	i-C ₃ H ₇ OH	HC ₁₁ N 2	2-C ₁₀ H ₇ CN	C ₆₀ ⁺ 3		
					C ₉ H ₈ 3++	C ₇₀		

Blue molecules = at least one carbon atom

Source: CDMS (April 2023)

Molecules as tracers of the physical conditions of molecular clouds

Rotational levels are out of equilibrium. Hence, the observation of several rotational lines of a molecule permits to derive volume densities, kinetic temperatures and molecular abundances.

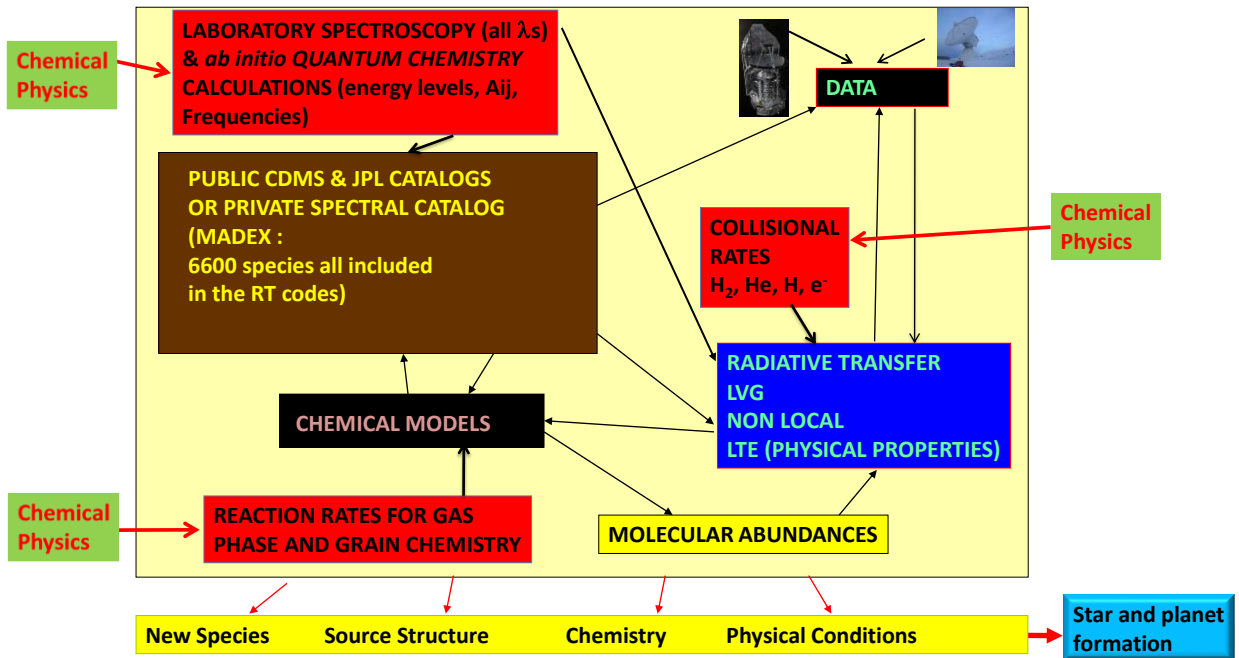
The high spectral resolution (cm/s) achieved in radio astronomy allows the study of the kinematics and the dynamical state of interstellar clouds

The high angular resolution provided by interferometers such as VLA, ALMA, and NOEMA permits to study protoplanetary discs around newly formed stars and the dust formation zone around evolved stars.

Infrared observations with ISO, Spitzer, Herschel and now JWST, permit the observation and study of light species (OH, CH, CH⁺, H₂O, NH₃, H₂O⁺, H₃O⁺,...) and of species without permanent dipole moment (H₂, CH₄, C₂H₂, C₂H₄, C₄H₂, C₆H₂, C₆H₆,...).

See, e.g., the recent detection with the JWST of CH₃⁺ towards a proplyde in Orion (Berné et al., 2023, Nature)

ASTROCHEMISTRY AS A MULTISCIPLINARY FIELD



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Laboratory Astrophysics has played a key role in the last 50 years in the development of astrochemistry:

- **Low temperature measurements of reaction rates** (CRESU machines)
Cinétique de Réaction en Ecoulement Supersonique Uniforme = Reaction kinetics in uniform supersonic flow also ion traps for cations and anions
- **Rotational and infrared spectroscopy of unstable species** (radicals, cations, and anions)
- **Studies of ices : chemical reactivity, spectroscopy, studies of the formation of molecules**
- **State-to-state collisional rates of molecules with H_2, He, e^- and other species**
- **Quantum chemical structural calculations of a large sample of possible candidates for a pattern of lines with unknown carrier in a given line survey**
- **Very precise quantum chemical ab initio calculations when exotic molecules can not be produced in the laboratory**
- **PAH studies** (reactivity, spectroscopy, ionization, photodissociation...)

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LINE SURVEYS

THE QUEST FOR MOLECULAR COMPLEXITY

THE NEED OF SENSITIVITY, INSTANTANEOUS BANDWIDTH

FREQUENCY COVERAGE

AND ANGULAR RESOLUTION

IMPRESSIVE IMPROVEMENTS IN RECEIVER TECHNOLOGIES, SENSITIVITY, INSTANTANEOUS BANDWIDTH
AND BACKEND FREQUENCY COVERAGE IN THE LAST 50 years

***What is done nowadays in 24 hours would require
several years of observing time 50 years ago***

factor >100 in frequency coverage (number of frequency setups)

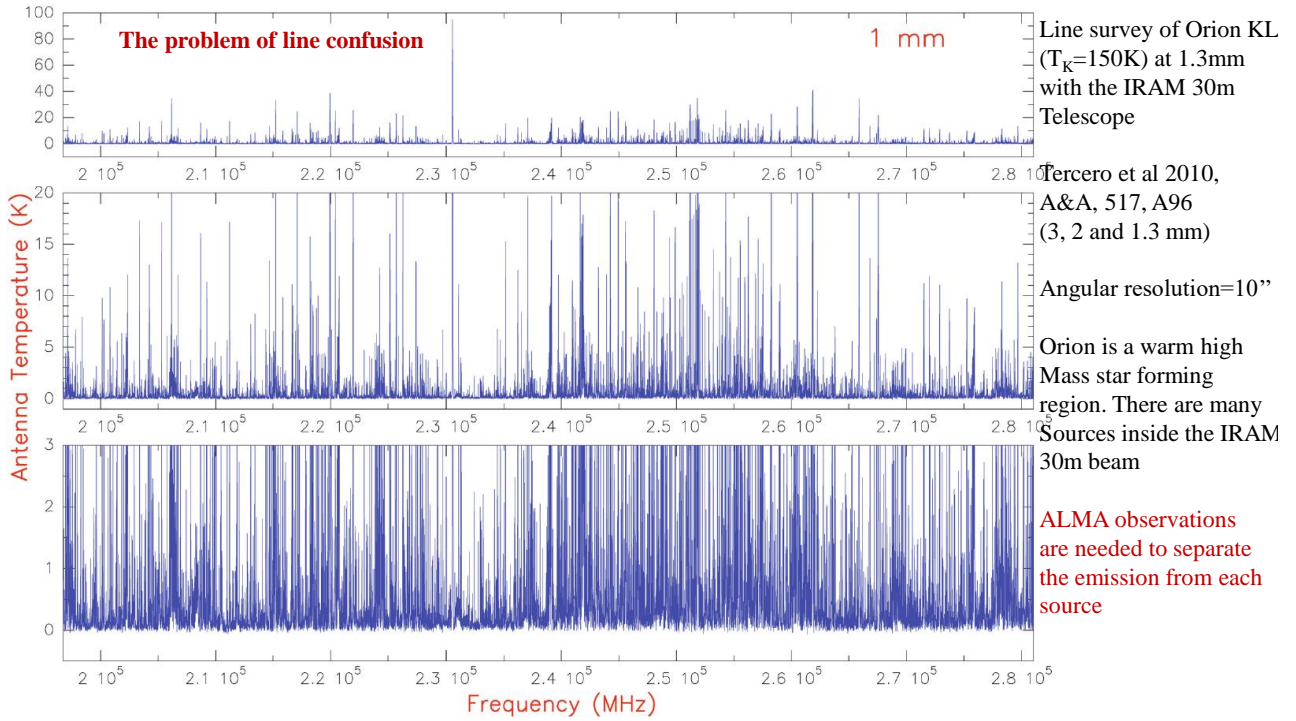
factor > 1000 in time due to $t \propto T_{\text{sys}}^2$

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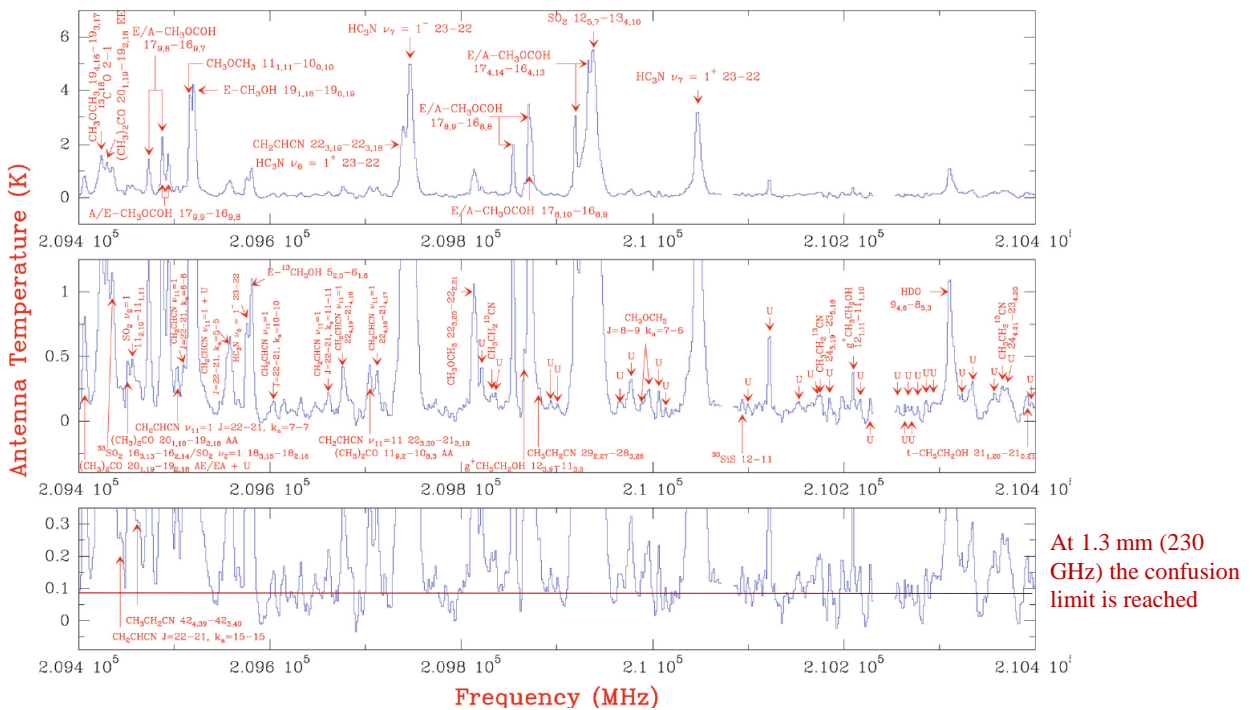
Some **sensitive** line surveys achieved with high spectral resolution

- Sgr B2 (Belloche et al. 2008, A&A, 482, 179) 3mm and 2mm
- Sgr B2 –PRIMOS- (Neill et al. 2012, ApJ, 755, 153) up to 50 GHz
- IRC+10216 (2mm, Cernicharo et al. 2000, A&A SS, 142, 181)
- Orion Bar (mm; Cuadrado et al. 2015, A&A, 575,A82)
- IRAS16923-2422 ALMA-PILS (Jorgensen et al. 2016, A&A, 595, A117) 0.8 mm
- Orion KL (Tercero et al. 2010, A&A, 517, A96) 3, 2 and 1mm (spectral confusion limited)
- G+0.693-0.027 (Rivilla et al. 2022, ApJ, 929, L11; Jiménez-Serra et al. 2022, A&A, 663, A181)
- HEXOS (Herschel/HIFI), several sources, Bergin et al. 2010, A&A, 521, L20 (0.5-2 THz)
- CHESS (Herschel/HIFI), several sources, Ceccarelli et al. 2010, A&A, 521, L22 (0.5-2 THz)
- IRC+10216 in the infrared (Fonfría et al. 2008, ApJ. 673, 445) 11-14 μm
- TEXES and EXES/SOFIA instruments ($\lambda/\Delta\lambda \approx 75000$)
- TMC-1 (GOTHAM & QUIJOTE)
- G+0693-0.027 (V. Rivilla, I. Jiménez, et al., 2023, ApJ, 953, L20)

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Spectroscopy in space and in the laboratory:
 searching for new molecules
 in the interstellar and circumstellar media.

CHEMICAL COMPLEXITY IN COLD DARK CLOUDS

**GOTHAM
 &
 QUIJOTE**

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GOTHAM line survey of TMC-1 (a cold dark cloud in Taurus)

- Green Bank 100 m telescope observations 1-50 GHz (cm wavelengths)
- Most molecules detected through statistical analysis of the noise trough spectral stacking. Very powerful technique !!!
- Discovery of CN derivatives of PAHs in a cold dark cloud
- C_6H_5CN (benzonitrile) and $C_{10}H_7CN$ (cyano-naphthalene, 2 isomers)
- Several cyanide derivatives of hydrocarbons; indene
- McGuire et al. 2018, Science, 359, 202
- McGuire et al. 2021, Science, 371, 1265
- **How, and where, these PAHs are formed?**

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J.F. Quijotes
PHOTOGRAPHY

Dark cloud such as TMC-1
But at 10 K and $N \sim 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

QUIJOTE

Q-band **U**ltrasensitive **I**nspection **J**ourney to the **O**bscure **T**MC-1 **E**nvironment
Chemical complexity in TMC-1

A line survey with an unprecedented sensitivity ($\approx 0.06 \text{ mK}$; 1200 hours)

GOTHAM
McGuire et al.

Windmills in La Mancha. The land of Don QUIXOTE

nanocosmos

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QUIJOTE: The limits of sensitivity

- Building new and novel ultrasensitive broadband receivers for the Yebes 40m radio telescope (NANOCOSMOS)
- Exploring the sub milli Kelvin chemical work
- Reaching unexplored limits of sensitivity
- To see what radio astronomers have never seen before !
- To identify molecules through classical techniques of line by line detection
- **SANCHO**: Fidel companion of QUIJOTE. High sensitivity maps of the molecular emission at the milli Kelvin level.



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The Yebes observatory is located in the region of La Mancha, the land of Don Quixote, at 950 m of altitude. It is around 60 km away from Madrid
The radio telescope was built and equipped for VLBI observations

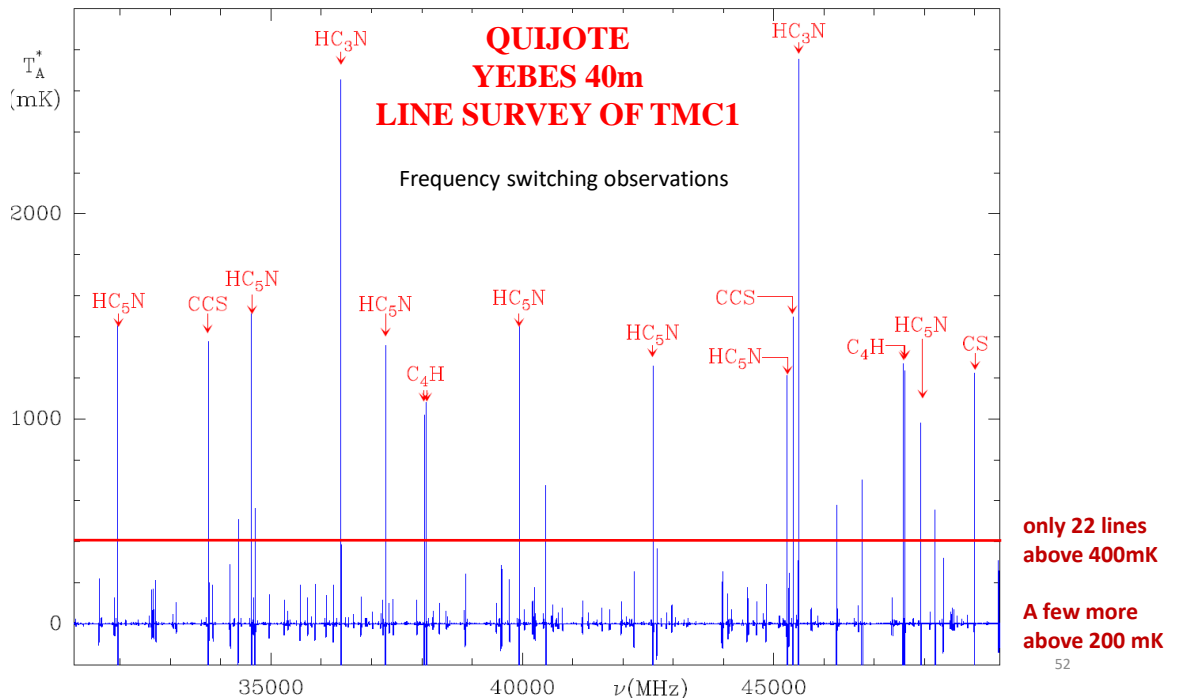


Table 4. Estimated efficiencies for Yebes 40 m telescope from different contributions at four observing frequencies.

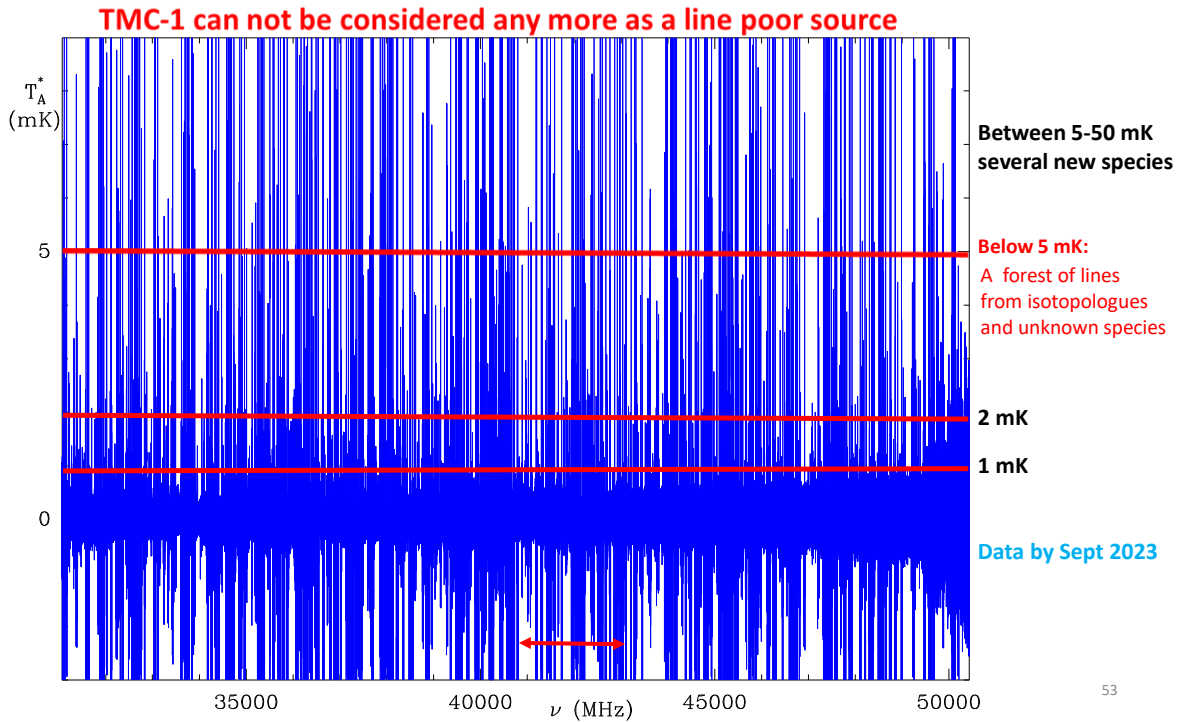
Component	32 GHz	50 GHz	72 GHz	90 GHz
η_{m1}	0.95	0.87	0.75	0.65
η_{m2}	0.99	0.97	0.94	0.91
η_{mn}	1.00	0.97	0.97	0.95
η_{ohm}	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
η_{block}	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92
η_{mbr}	0.98	0.98	0.97	0.97
η_l	0.80	0.80	0.82	0.82
Total $\eta_A^{(a)}$	0.67	0.59	0.50	0.41

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QUIJOTE : Q-band Ultrasensitive Inspection Journey to the Obscure Tmc-1 Environment

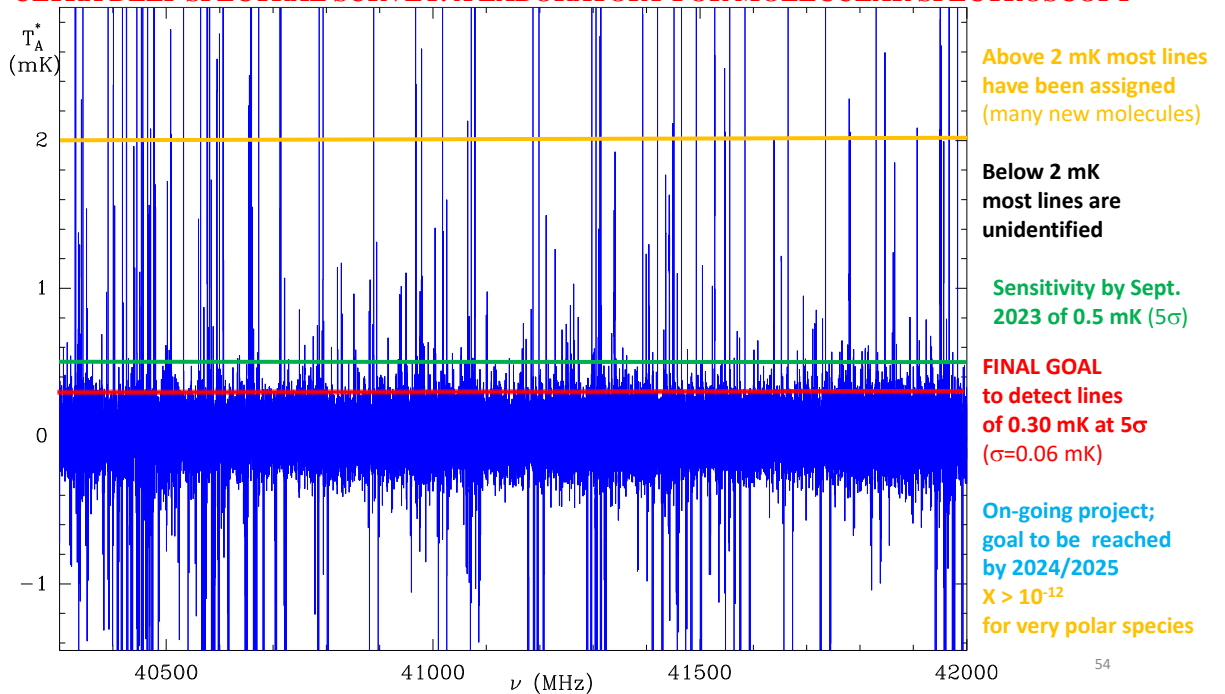


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ULTRA DEEP SPECTRAL SURVEY: A LABORATORY FOR MOLECULAR SPECTROSCOPY



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Data analysis and data interpretation

- **Data analysis:** very tedious data analysis procedure with 2560 spectral windows per run (x 19 runs x 2 polarizations). Always performed by JC to keep homogeneity of the data products. Each run takes near one month of work.
- **Data interpretation:** Use of the best spectral catalogues (CDMS and JPL) is not enough to interpret the data and to get the molecular content included in QUIJOTE.
- **MADEX Catalogue:** 6600 spectral entries with laboratory information. Maintained by JC since 1985. Automatic identification of the molecules in QUIJOTE using a simple assignment code and automatic identification of unknown spectral features (U-lines).
- **Elaborated analysis of spectral patterns within the U-features. TMC-1 as a laboratory for molecular spectroscopy.**

55

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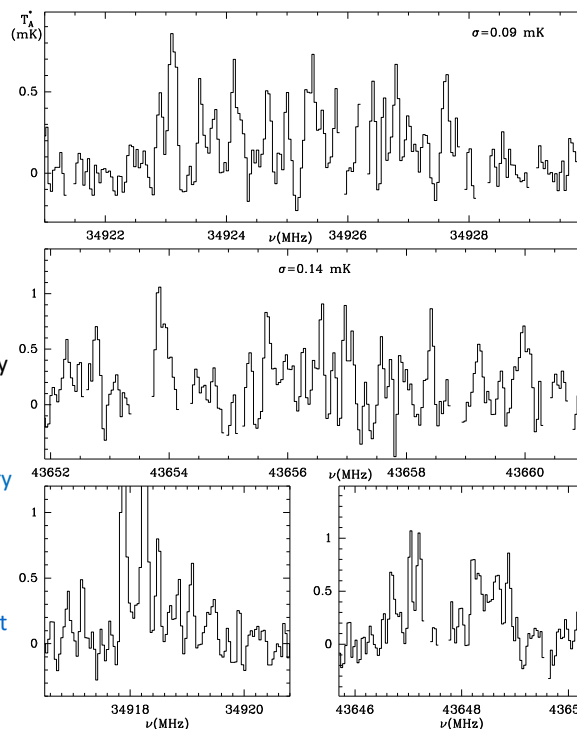
SPECTRAL PURITY

TMC-1 can not be considered as a poor line source at the QUIJOTE's sub mK level

Looking for specific spectroscopic patterns it is possible to discover new molecular species without any previous information on the frequencies.

TMC-1 is a chemical laboratory for molecular spectroscopy thanks to QUIJOTE and NANOCOSMOS.

QUIJOTE can now fight against the giant windmills of the forest of U-lines of TMC-1



$$\nu_2/\nu_1 = 1.249993 \approx 5/4$$

Transitions $J=5-4$ and $J=4-3$ of a new radical ???

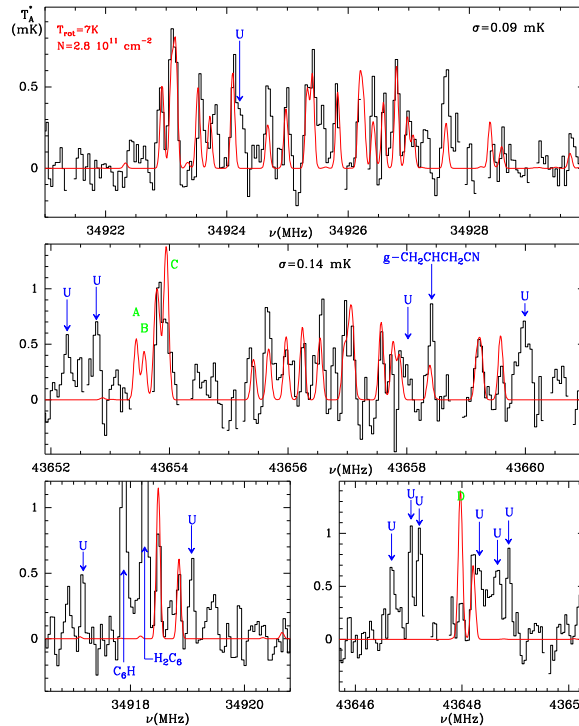
B or $(B+C)/2 \approx 4365$ MHz

HCCN has $B=4549.1$ MHz

H₂CCCN ???

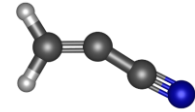
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Excellent data quality
All features are real.
Sensitivity continues
to increase with time.

Systematic instrumental
effects removed and
understood



H₂CCCN radical
Cabezas et al. 2023,
A&A, 676, L5

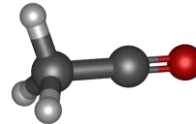
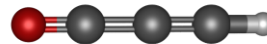
Laboratory data from
Endo's team

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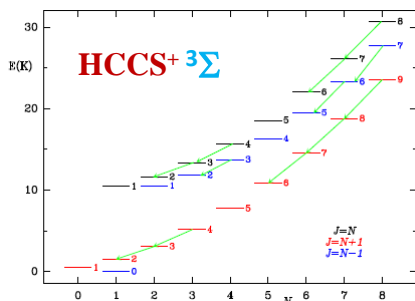
57

TMC-1 as a spectroscopic laboratory

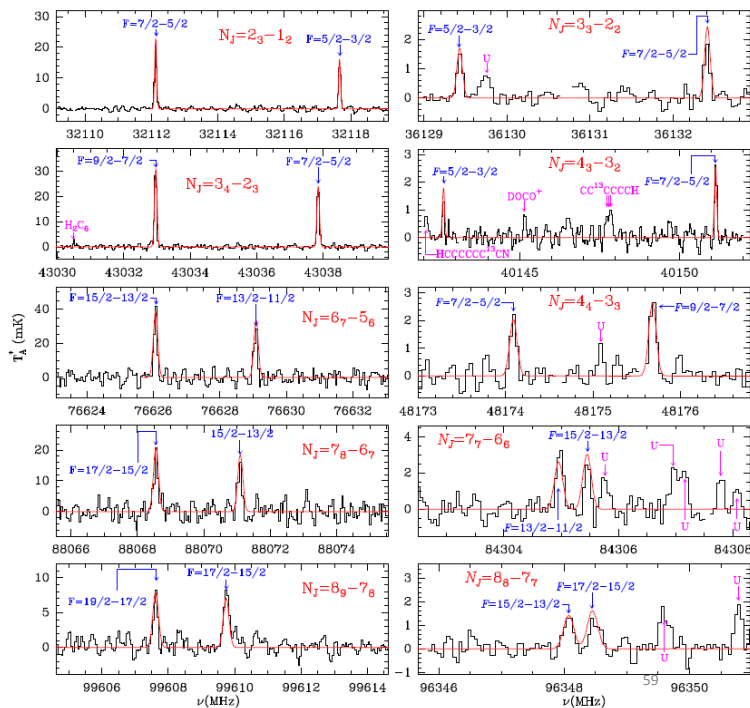
- **Detection of species WITHOUT previous laboratory data.** Searching for systematic spectral patterns in the data. Confirming assignments in the laboratory when possible and through ab initio calculations
- **HC₅NH⁺** Marcelino et al., 2020, A&A, 643, L6
- **HC₃O⁺ *** Cernicharo et al., 2020, A&A, 642, L17
- **HC₃S⁺ *** Cernicharo et al., 2021, A&A, 646, L3
- **CH₃CO⁺ *** Cernicharo et al., 2021, A&A, 646, L7
- **C₅H⁺** Cernicharo et al., 2022, A&A, 657, L16
- **HC₇NH⁺** Cabezas et al., 2022, A&A, 659, L8
- **HCCNCH⁺** Agúndez et al., 2022, A&A, 659, L9
- **HCCS⁺** Cabezas et al., 2022, A&A, 657, L4
- **C₇N⁻** Cernicharo et al. 2023, A&A, 670, L19
- **NC₄NH⁺** Agúndez et al. 2023, A&A, 669, L1
- **C₁₀H⁻** GOTHAM, Remijan et al. 2023, ApJ, 944, L45 (also in IRC+10216; Pardo et al. 2023, A&A, 677, A55)
- **And isotopologues such as HDCCN, Cabezas et al., 2021, A&A, 646, L1; CH₂DC₃N, Cabezas et al, 2021**
- Additionally, QUIJOTE has confirmed the previous detection of **C₅N⁻** in IRC+10216 by detection of six narrow lines of this species in TMC-1 (**together with C₃N⁻**). Rotational constants for these species have been improved.⁵⁸



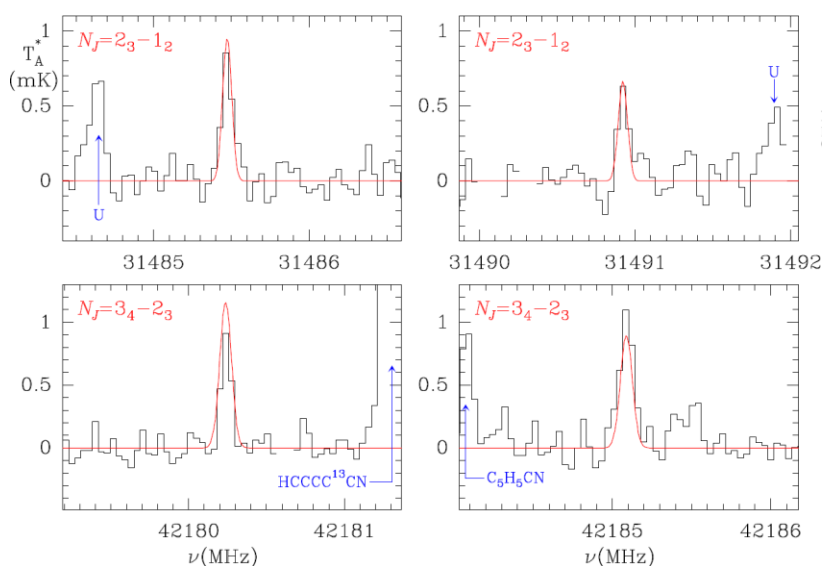
58

Discovery of the elusive thioketenylum, HCCS⁺, in TMC-1C. Cabezas¹, M. Agúndez², N. Marcelino^{2,3}, B. Tercero^{2,3}, Y. Enda⁴, R. Fuentetaja⁵, J. R. Pa
P. de Vicente², and J. Cornicharo⁶Table 1. Spectroscopic parameters of HCCS⁺, in MHz.

Parameter	TMC-1 fit	Theoretical	CCS ^(a)
B	6021.89878(55) ^(b)	6021.2 ^{(c),(d)}	6477.75036(71)
D	0.0012543(72)	0.00120 ^(e)	0.00172796(95)
λ	108970.78(83)	–	97196.07(77)
λ_D	0.04060(65)	–	0.02700(67)
γ	–41.776(46)	–18.4 ^(e)	–14.737(49)
$b_F^{(H)}$	–44.961(23)	–47.6 ^(f)	–
$c^{(H)}$	31.663(70)	71.6 ^(f)	–
$\sigma^{(g)}$	26.1	–	18
N	26	–	31



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HCC³⁴S⁺Table A.8. Spectroscopic parameters of HCC³⁴S⁺

Parameter	HCC ³⁴ S ⁺
B (MHz)	5889.02214(82) ^a
D (KHz)	[1.2543] ^b
λ (MHz)	[108970.78] ^b
λ_D (kHz)	[40.60] ^b
γ (MHz)	[–41.776] ^b
$b_F^{(H)}$ (MHz)	–45.024(99)
$c^{(H)}$ (MHz)	[31.663] ^b
σ (kHz)	8.0
N_{lines}	4

Notes. ^(a) Numbers in parentheses are 1 σ uncertainties in units of the last digits.^(b) Fixed to the value reported by Cabezas et al. (2022a) for HCCS⁺.

Fuentetaja et al. 2024, in prep.

HCCS⁺ fully confirmed
from space data

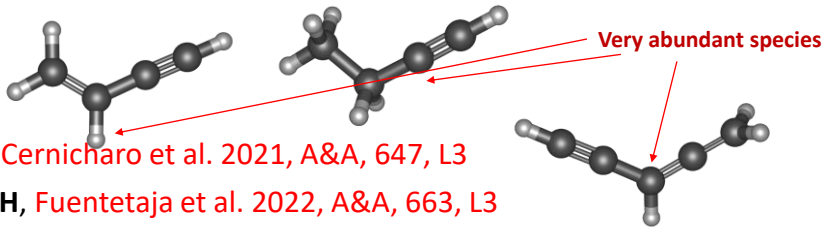
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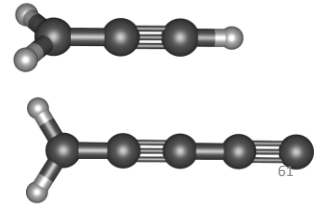
Pure hydrocarbons in TMC-1

[arXiv:2106.00635](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.00635)

- Discovery of several high abundant pure hydrocarbons, including three cycles (species with low dipole moment)
- CH_2CHCCH , Cernicharo et al. 2021, A&A, 647, L2 (together with HCCN, HC_4N , $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CN}$ and tentatively $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}$)



- $\text{H}_2\text{CCCHCCH}$, Cernicharo et al. 2021, A&A, 647, L3
- $\text{H}_2\text{CCCHCCCCH}$, Fuentetaja et al. 2022, A&A, 663, L3
- HCCCHCCC , Fuentetaja et al., 2022, 667, L4
- H_2CCCH , Agúndez et al., 2021, 647, L10 (**extremely abundant !!!**)
- $\text{c-C}_5\text{H}$, Cabezas et al. 2022, A&A, 663, L2
- H_2C_5 , Cabezas et al., 2021, A&A, 650, L9



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A&A 649, L15 (2021)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202141156>
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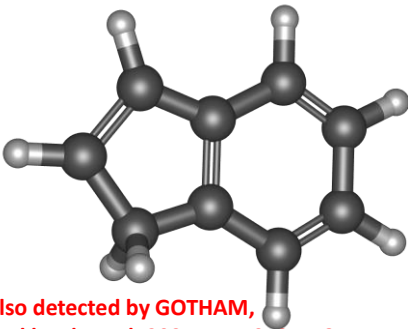
Astronomy
&
Astrophysics

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Pure hydrocarbon cycles in TMC-1: Discovery of ethynyl cyclopropenylidene, cyclopentadiene, and indene*

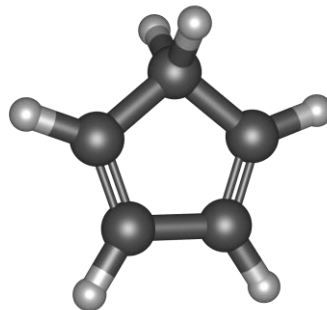
J. Cernicharo¹, M. Agúndez¹, C. Cabezas¹, B. Tercero^{2,3}, N. Marcelino¹, J. R. Pardo¹, and P. de Vicente²

Indene $\text{c-C}_9\text{H}_8$

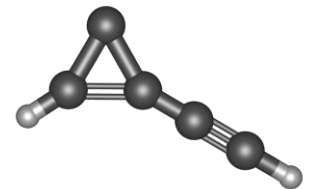


Also detected by GOTHAM,
Burkhardt et al. 2021, ApJ, 913, L18

Cyclopentadiene $\text{c-C}_5\text{H}_6$



CN derivatives of cyclopentadiene detected
by GOTHAM



Ethynyl cyclopropenylidene
 $\text{c-C}_5\text{H}_2$

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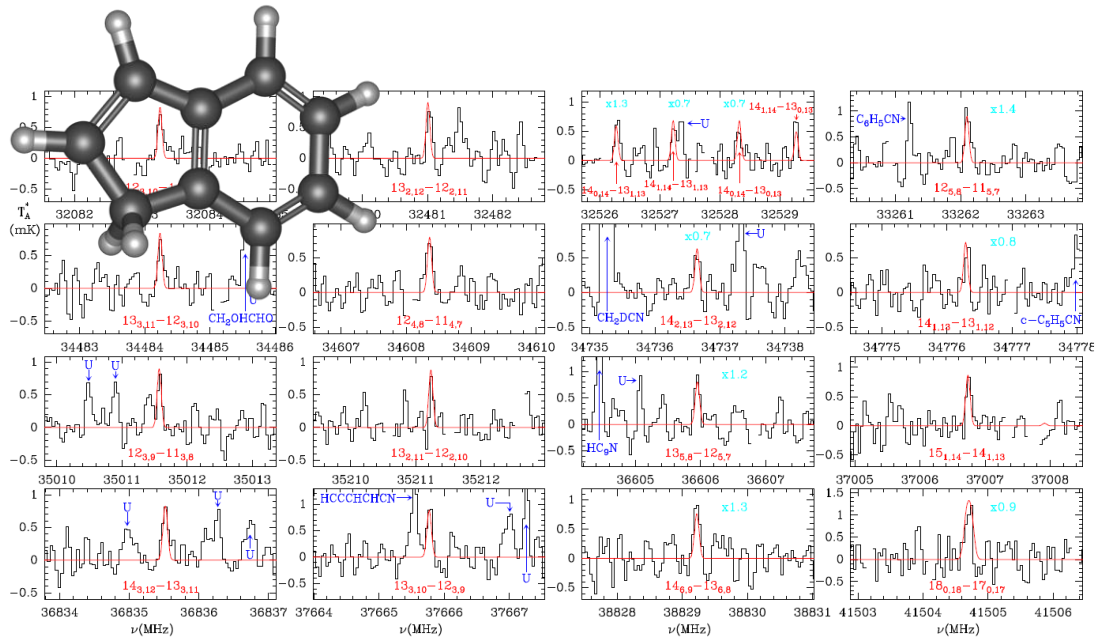


Fig. 4. Same as Fig. 2 but for the selected transitions of $c\text{-C}_9\text{H}_8$ observed towards TMC-1. The red line shows the computed synthetic spectrum for indene assuming $T_r = 10$ K and $N(c\text{-C}_9\text{H}_8) = 1.6 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. Cyan labels, when present, indicate the multiplicative factor applied to the best fit model to match the observations.





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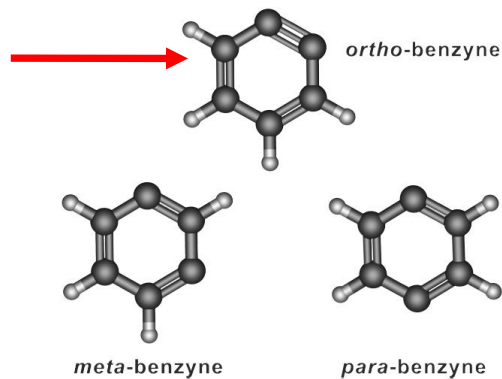
A&A 652, L9 (2021)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202141660>
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**Astronomy
& Astrophysics**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Discovery of benzyne, $o\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4$, in TMC-1 with the QUIJOTE line survey[★]

J. Cernicharo¹, M. Agúndez¹ , R. I. Kaiser², C. Cabezas¹ , B. Tercero^{3,4} , N. Marcelino¹,
 J. R. Pardo¹ , and P. de Vicente³



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A&A 655, L1 (2021)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202142226>

Discovery of two isomers of ethynyl cyclopentadiene in TMC-1: Abundances of CCH and CN derivatives of hydrocarbon cycles^{*}

J. Cernicharo¹, M. Agúndez¹, R. I. Kaiser², C. Cabezas¹, B. Tercero^{3,4}, N. Marcelino⁴, J. R. Pardo¹, and P. de Vicente³

Table 1. Abundances of ethynyl and cyano species in TMC-1.

Molecule	N (cm ⁻²)	Abundance ^a	Comments
<i>c</i> -C ₅ H ₆	1.3×10 ¹³	1.3×10 ⁻⁰⁹	1
1- <i>c</i> -C ₅ H ₅ CCH	1.4×10 ¹²	1.4×10 ⁻¹⁰	2
2- <i>c</i> -C ₅ H ₅ CCH	2.0×10 ¹²	2.0×10 ⁻¹⁰	2
1- <i>c</i> -C ₅ H ₅ CN	3.1×10 ¹¹	3.1×10 ⁻¹¹	2,A
2- <i>c</i> -C ₅ H ₅ CN	1.3×10 ¹¹	1.3×10 ⁻¹¹	2,B
C ₆ H ₅ CCH	~2.5×10 ¹²	2.5×10 ⁻¹⁰	2,C
C ₆ H ₅ CN	1.2×10 ¹²	1.2×10 ⁻¹⁰	2,D
<i>c</i> -C ₉ H ₈	1.6×10 ¹³	1.6×10 ⁻⁰⁹	1,E

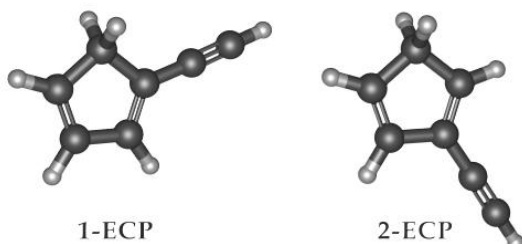


Fig. 1. Scheme of the two lowest energy isomers of ethynyl cyclopentadiene.

Cyano derivatives of cyclopentadiene detected by GOTHAM team by stacking techniques.

Notes.

^(a) Assuming a column density of molecular hydrogen of 10²² cm⁻² (Cernicharo & Guélin 1987). ⁽¹⁾ Cernicharo et al. (2021c). ⁽²⁾ This work. ^(A) A value of 1.44×10¹² cm⁻², has been reported by McCarthy et al. (2021) and of 8.3×10¹¹ cm⁻² by Lee et al. (2021). ^(B) A value of 1.9×10¹¹ cm⁻² has been derived by Lee et al. (2021). ^(C) Tentative detection. ^(D) A value of 4.0×10¹¹ cm⁻² has been derived by McGuire et al. (2018). This value has been revised to 1.6×10¹¹ cm⁻² by Burkhardt et al. (2021b). ^(E) A value of 9.6×10¹² cm⁻² has been reported by Burkhardt et al. (2021b). 65

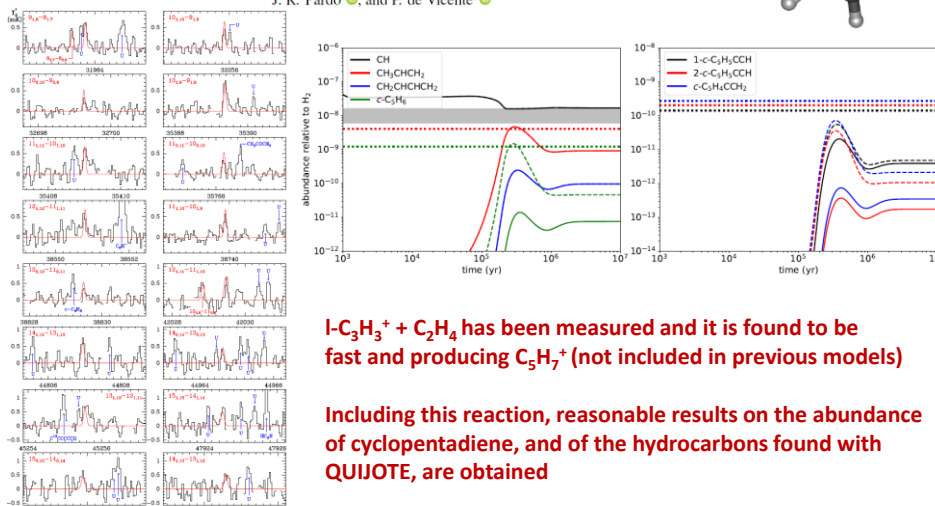
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A&A 663, L9 (2022)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202244399>
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Discovery of fulvenallene in TMC-1 with the QUIJOTE line survey^{*}

J. Cernicharo¹, R. Fuentetaja¹, M. Agúndez¹, R. I. Kaiser², C. Cabezas¹, N. Marcelino^{3,4}, B. Tercero^{3,4}, J. R. Pardo¹, and P. de Vicente³

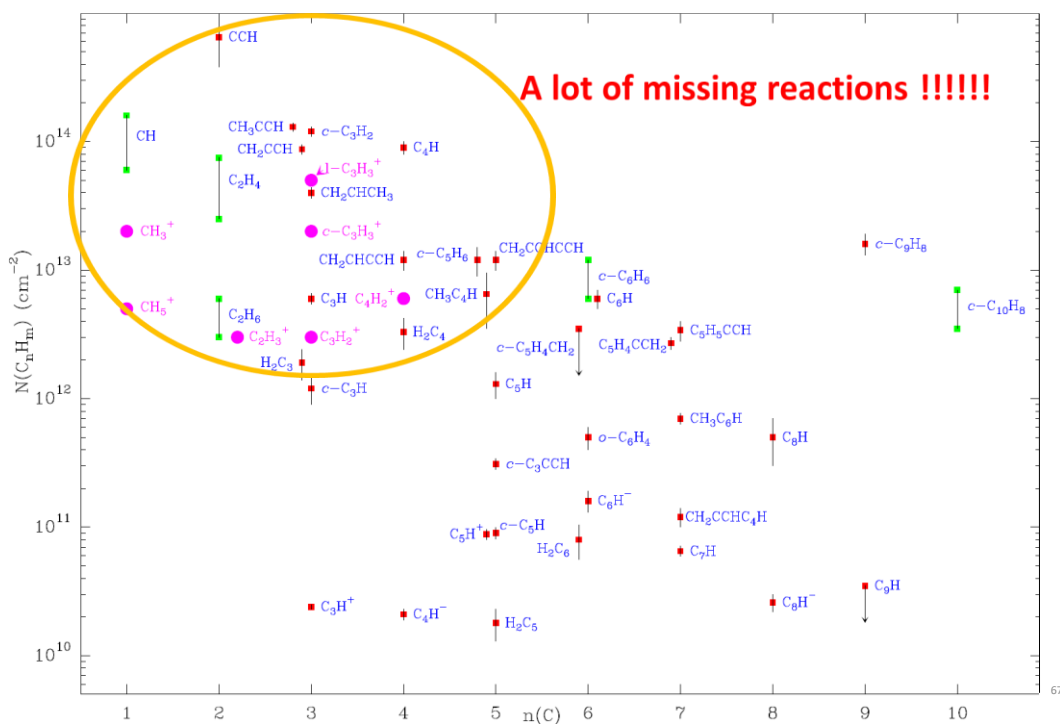


I-C₃H₃⁺ + C₂H₄ has been measured and it is found to be fast and producing C₅H₇⁺ (not included in previous models)

Including this reaction, reasonable results on the abundance of cyclopentadiene, and of the hydrocarbons found with QUIJOTE, are obtained

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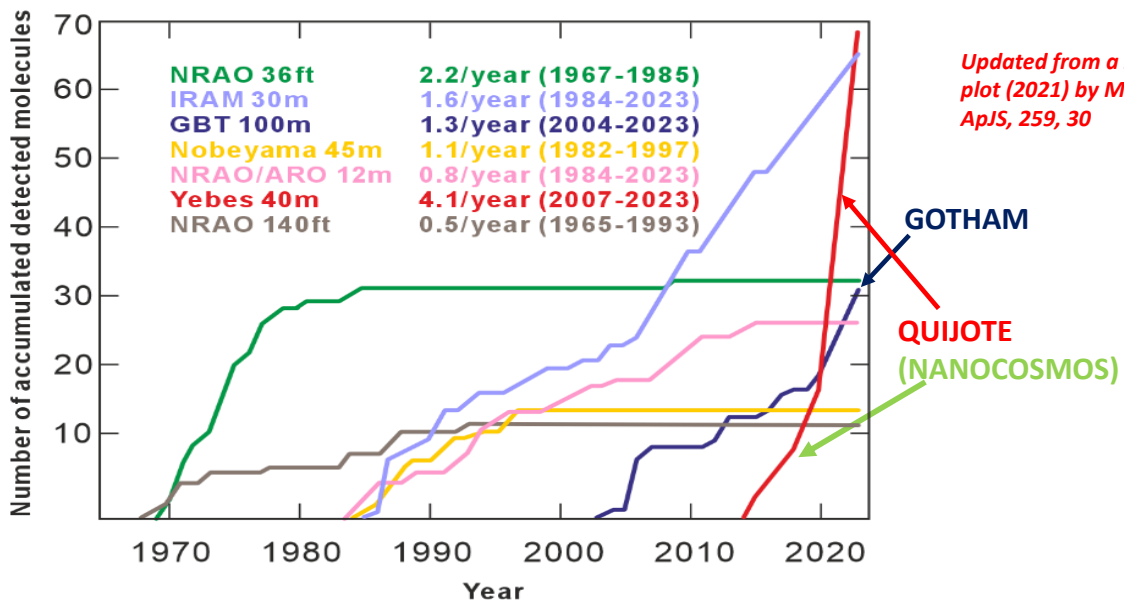
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Summary of QUIJOTE's results in the last four years

- First data (50 hours) arrived in July 2020. By May 2021 the total on-source time was 238 hours; 420 hours by Jan 2022; 540 hours by May 2022; 850 by Feb 2023; 1208 hours Jan 2024
- Since September 2020 we have reported the detection of ~50 new molecular species in TMC-1:
 - Ten cations (HC_5NH^+ , HC_3S^+ , HC_3O^+ , CH_3CO^+ , C_5H^+ , HCCS^+ , HC_7NH^+ , NC_4NH^+ , HCCNCH^+ , C_3H_3^+)
 - One anion (C_7N^-) and confirmation of C_5N^- (C_{10}H^- discovered by GOTHAM; Remijan + 2023)
 - Nine neutral sulfur-bearing species (NCS , HCCS , H_2CCS , $\text{H}_2\text{C}_3\text{S}$, C_4S , HCSCN , HCSCCH , HCCCCS , HSO)
 - Eight pure hydrocarbons (CH_2CHCCH , H_2CCHCCH , $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2\text{CCH}$, HCCCHCCC , C_3H_3 , H_2C_5 , $\text{CH}_2\text{CCHC}_4\text{H}$, $\text{c-C}_5\text{H}$)
 - Nine new cycles (including indene, cyclopentadiene, ortho-benzyne, two isomers of ethylyn cyclopentadiene, ethynyl cyclopropenyldiene, fulvanallene, ethylynbenzene)
 - Three O-rich neutral species (CH_3CHCO , HCCCO , C_5O)
 - Eight cyanides and isocyanides (closed shell: HCCCCNC , five isomers of cyano-propene, and open shell species: H_2CCCN , H_2CCCCN , ...)
 - Still >2500 unidentified lines (below 1mK at 4σ level)!!!!

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The Yebes 40m telescope (Spain) is the instrument with the largest number of molecular discoveries in space !!!!

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Line surveys are powerful methods to reveal the molecular complexity of a molecular cloud. However...

- Determination of the column density and abundance of a molecule requires to know the spatial size of its emission in each of its lines.
- A single position line survey does not provided enough information to derive spatial information.
- QUIJOTE and GOTHAM beams change by a factor of two within their frequency ranges.
 - QUIJOTE assumes a source size.
 - GOTHAM fits four velocity components with a size for each of them extracting information from stacking. In most cases individual lines are not detected.
- SANCHO: Surveying the Area of the Neighbour TMC-1 Cloud through Heterodyne Observations

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SANCHO complement to the QUIJOTE line survey
Fully sampled maps covering a region of 240"×240"
2-4 mK/pixel for Yebes 40m telescope and 10-15 mK for the IRAM 30m telescope



A&A 674, L4 (2023)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202346722>
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Astronomy
Astrophysics

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The spatial distribution of an aromatic molecule, C₆H₅CN, in the cold dark cloud TMC-1*

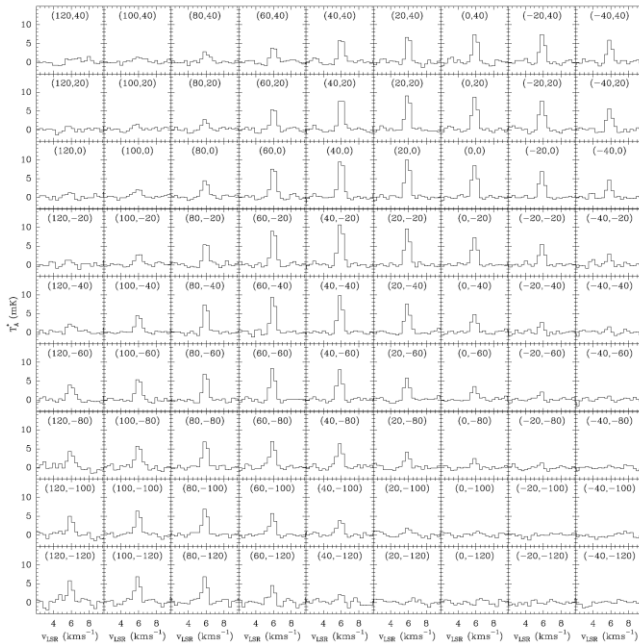
J. Cernicharo¹, B. Tercero^{2,3}, N. Marcelino^{2,3}, M. Agúndez¹, and P. de Vicente²

ABSTRACT

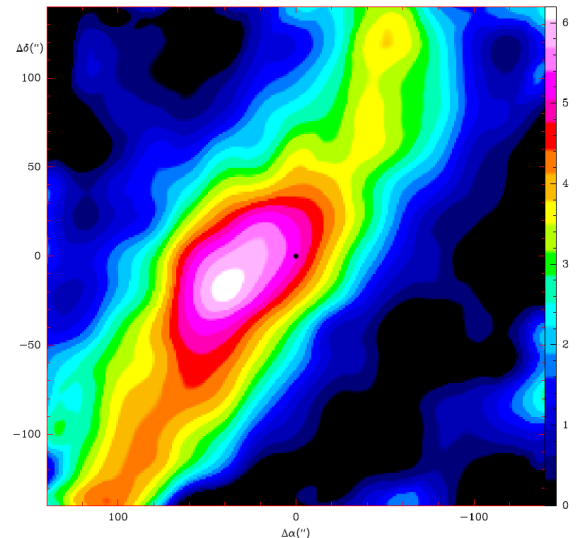
We present a highly sensitive 2D line survey of TMC-1 obtained with the Yebes 40 m radio telescope in the *Q*-band (31.13–49.53 GHz). These maps cover a region of 320"×320" centred on the position of the QUIJOTE line survey with a spatial sampling of 20". The region covering 240"×240", where a longer integration time was used, shows a homogenous sensitivity of 2–4 mK across the band. We present in this work the first determination of the spatial extent of benzonitrile (C₆H₅CN), which follows that of cyanopolynes rather well, but differs significantly from that of the radicals C_{*n*}H and C_{*n*}N. We definitively conclude that aromatic species in TMC-1 are formed from chemical reactions involving smaller species in the densest zones of the cloud.

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The spatial distribution of benzonitrile in TMC-1

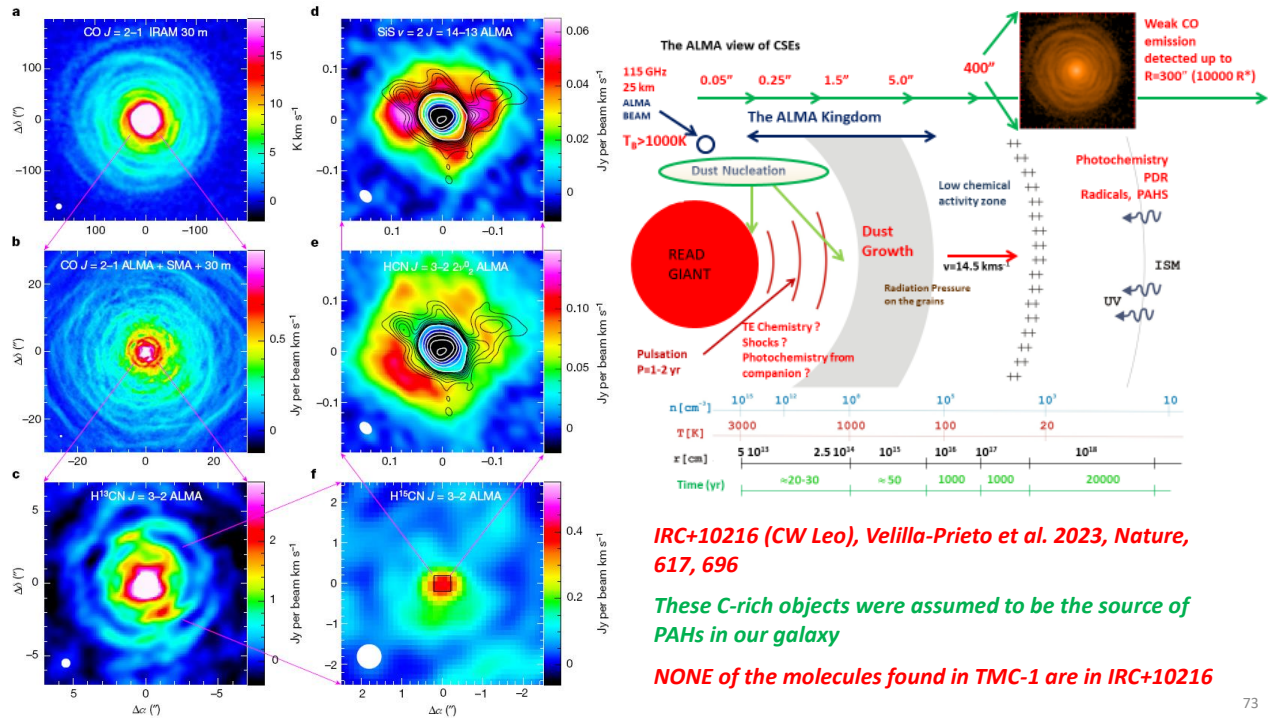


C₆H₅CN as a proxy of C₆H₆ and PAHs in TMC-1.

Bottom-up processes to form PAHs in cold dark clouds

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Line surveys of a carbon-rich star (IRC+10216; prototype of C-rich AGB star; assumed to be the objects where PAHs could be formed).

Around 30% of the molecules found in space have been detected towards this source

Polyatomic metal-bearing species are only detected towards the CSE of AGB stars (Mg-bearing)

NaCl, KCl, AlCl, AlF in IRC+10216 (Cernicharo & Guélin 1987, A&A, 183, L10)

NaCN, MgNC, MgCN, AlCN, AlNC, KCN (see Cernicharo et al. 2023 and references therein)

HMgNC, HMgCCCN (Cabezas et al. 2013, A&A, 775, A133, Cabezas et al. 2023, 672, L12)

CaNC, NaCCCN (Cernicharo et al. 2019, A&A, 627, L4; Cabezas et al. 2023, A&A, 672, L12)

MgC₂ (Changala et al. 2022, ApJ, 940, L42)

MgC₃N, MgC₄H (Cernicharo et al. 2019, A&A, 630, L2)

MgC₅N, MgC₆H (Pardo et al. 2021, A&A, 652, L13)

MgC₃N⁺, MgC₅N⁺, MgC₄H⁺, MgC₆H⁺ (Cernicharo et al. 2023, A&A, 672, L13)

BUT NONE OF THE HYDROCARBONS FOUND IN TMC-1 WITH QUIJOTE or GOTHAM!!!!

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Special Thanks to the engineers and technicians of the Yebes Observatory for building the receivers and spectrometers for the NANOCOSMOS project of the European Research Council



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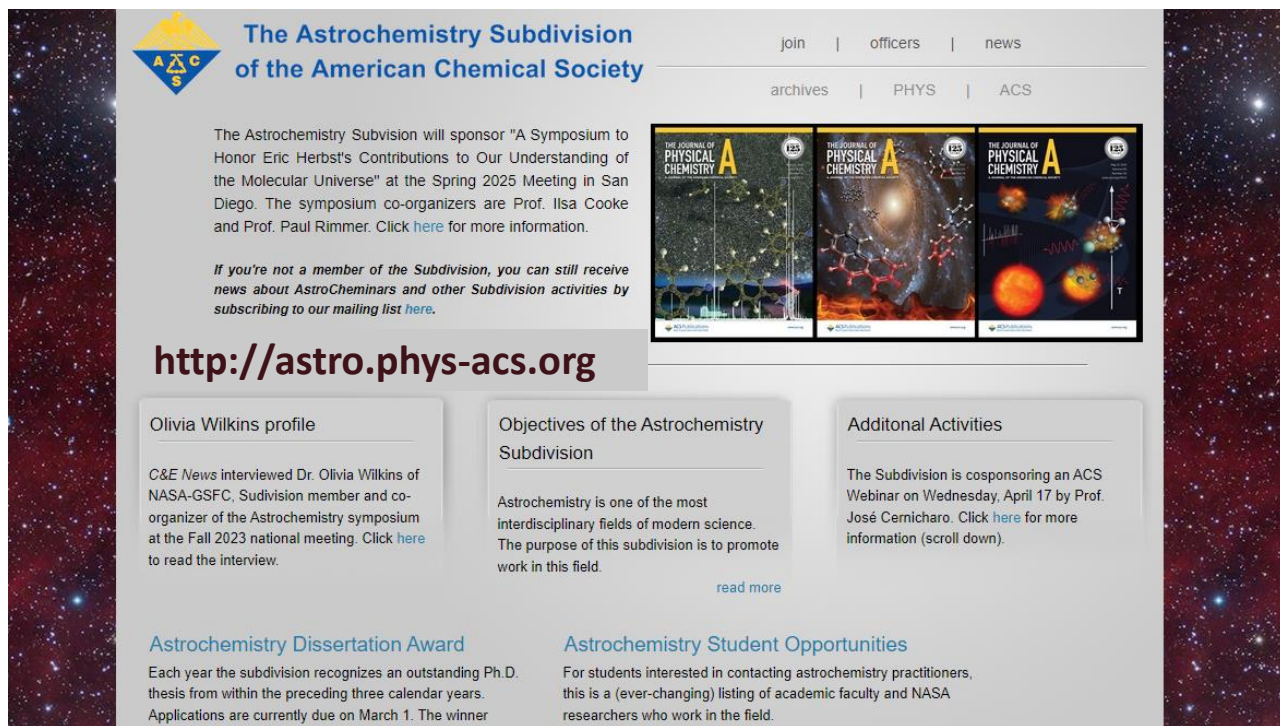
**THE LIVE Q&A IS
ABOUT TO BEGIN!**

Keep submitting your questions
in the questions window!



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The Astrochemistry Subdivision of the American Chemical Society

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The Astrochemistry Subdivision will sponsor "A Symposium to Honor Eric Herbst's Contributions to Our Understanding of the Molecular Universe" at the Spring 2025 Meeting in San Diego. The symposium co-organizers are Prof. Ilsa Cooke and Prof. Paul Rimmer. Click [here](#) for more information.

If you're not a member of the Subdivision, you can still receive news about AstroCheminars and other Subdivision activities by subscribing to our mailing list [here](#).

<http://astro.phys-acs.org>

Olivia Wilkins profile

C&E News interviewed Dr. Olivia Wilkins of NASA-GSFC, Subdivision member and co-organizer of the Astrochemistry symposium at the Fall 2023 national meeting. Click [here](#) to read the interview.

Objectives of the Astrochemistry Subdivision

Astrochemistry is one of the most interdisciplinary fields of modern science. The purpose of this subdivision is to promote work in this field.

[read more](#)

Additional Activities

The Subdivision is cosponsoring an ACS Webinar on Wednesday, April 17 by Prof. José Cernicharo. Click [here](#) for more information (scroll down).

[Astrochemistry Dissertation Award](#)

Each year the subdivision recognizes an outstanding Ph.D. thesis from within the preceding three calendar years. Applications are currently due on March 1. The winner

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For students interested in contacting astrochemistry practitioners, this is a (ever-changing) listing of academic faculty and NASA researchers who work in the field.

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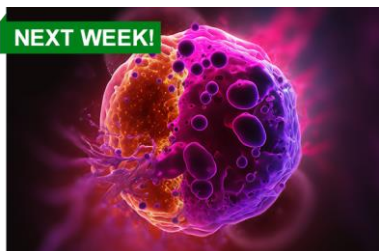
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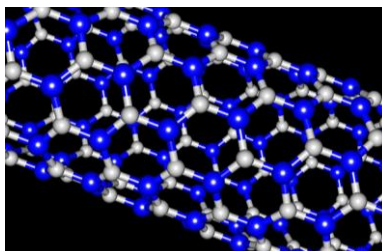
NEXT WEEK!



Thursday, April 25, 2024 | 11am-12:30pm ET

Eliminating Malaria: Unraveling the Mysteries of Parasitic Transmission and Metamorphosis

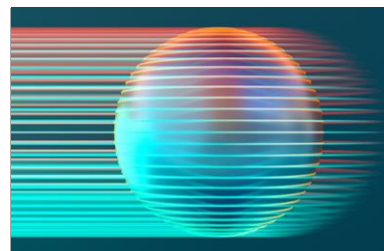
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Wednesday, May 1, 2024 | 3pm-4pm ET

La Creación de Materiales Macroscópicos a Través del Ensamblaje de Nanotubos de Boro Nitruro

Co-produced with the Sociedad Química de México



Thursday, May 2, 2024 | 2pm-3:30pm ET

Better Biodegradable Vinyl Polymer Materials by Improving Radical Ring-Opening Polymerization (rROP)

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