

# *Hunting for Molecules*



The IRAM telescopes



# *First spectral features in the interstellar medium*

- ◆ 1904 Hartmann “fixed line” Ca K interstellar line
- ◆ 1910s Barnard dark clouds → extinction and scattering from dust grains
- ◆ 1920s Statistics on atomic spectral lines (Na, Ca,...)
- ◆ Eddington (1937) What about molecules ?
- ◆ Merrill (1936) New bands : $\lambda$ 5780,  $\lambda$ 5797,  $\lambda$ 6278,  $\lambda$ 6284  
**The Diffuse Interstellar Bands**, attributed to molecules by Russel (1935) **Carrier still unknown !!**
- ◆ Dunham (1937) weak feature  $\lambda$ 4300
- ◆ CH Identification (Swings & Rosenfeld, 1937)
- ◆ CN (Mc Kellar 1940, Adams 1941), CH<sup>+</sup> (Douglas and Herzberg 1941)

## *First explanations, predictions*

1950s Kramers & ter Haar, Bates & Spitzer

- ◆ Formation and destruction processes (low density, two body reactions, radiative association)
- ◆ First estimate of gas density ( $10^3 \text{cm}^{-3}$ )
- ◆ Suggestion of grain evaporation ( $\text{CH}_4$ )

Predictions that solely diatomic molecule will be found

CN excitation temperature 2.3K (Mc Kellar 41)

→ Estimate of the CMB temperature

- ◆ 1950s new field of Radioastronomy → new possibilities for molecules

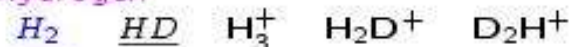
## *First explanations, predictions*

1955 Townes lists possible interstellar molecules

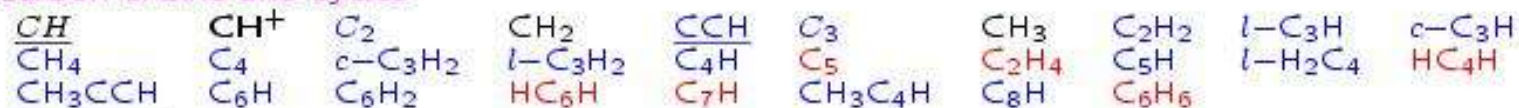
<u>Molecule</u>	<u>Found or not</u>	<u>Comment</u>
CaH	No	Ca depleted
CO	Yes	1970
CO <sup>+</sup>	Yes	1993
CS	Yes	1971
NO	Yes	1978
H <sub>2</sub> O	Yes	1969(maser), space
N <sub>2</sub> O	No	Earth Atmosphere
HCN	Yes	1971
CH <sub>2</sub>	Yes	1989, space 2005
NH <sub>2</sub>	Yes	1992
NH <sub>3</sub>	Yes	1968
O <sub>3</sub>	No	Earth Atmosphere

# Interstellar and Circumstellar molecules today

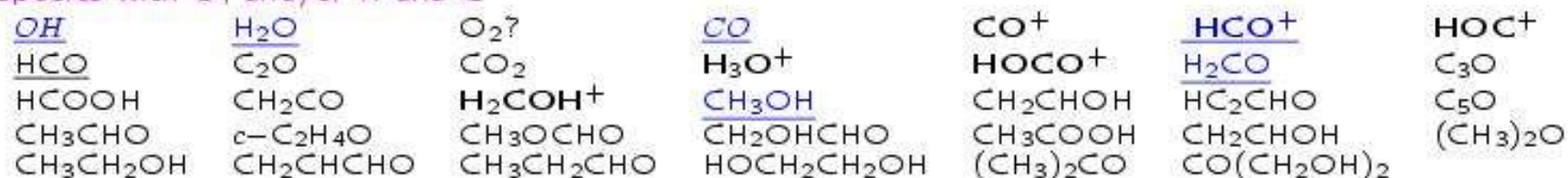
## Hydrogen



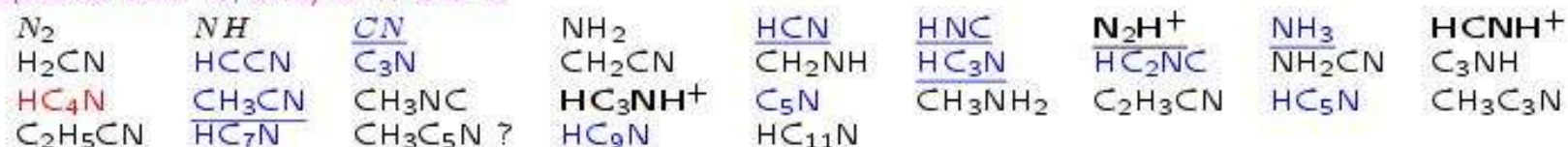
## Carbon chains and cycles



## Species with O, and/or H and C



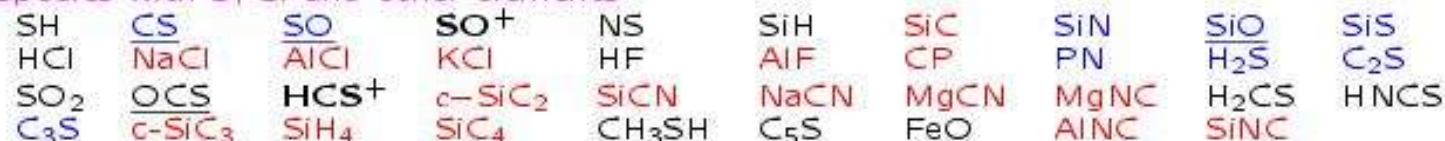
## Species with N, and/or H and C



## Species with N, O and/or H and C



## Species with S, Si and other elements



## Deuterated species



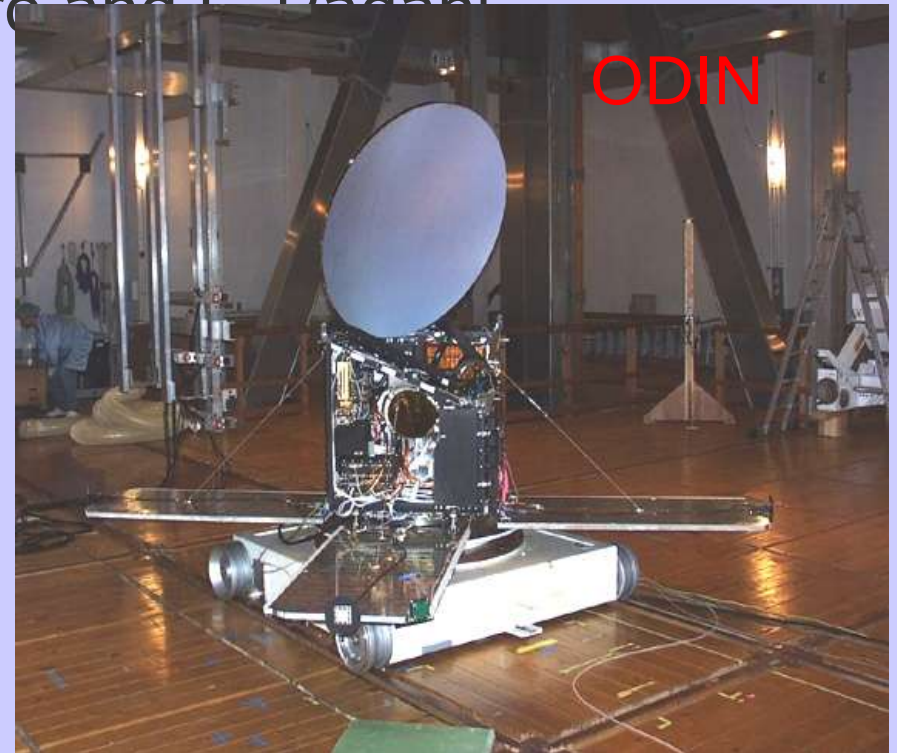
Molecular ions, CSE, ISM & CSE, galaxies

## *Lessons from the first years*

- ◆ Advanced instrumentation → high resolution & high sensitivity spectrometers, large telescopes
- ◆ Deep search , no a priori against new ideas
- ◆ Tight coupling with physics → line identification, chemistry, ...
  
- ◆ 3 types of “hunt for molecules” :
  - ◆ Deep search, no a priori → “line survey”
  - ◆ Dedicated search based on chemical reasoning (families e.g. cyanopolyynes)
  - ◆ Dedicated search, based on chemical model + spectroscopy (e.g;  $C_2$ ,  $H_2D^+$ ,  $CF^+$ )

# *Water and the Oxygen chemistry*

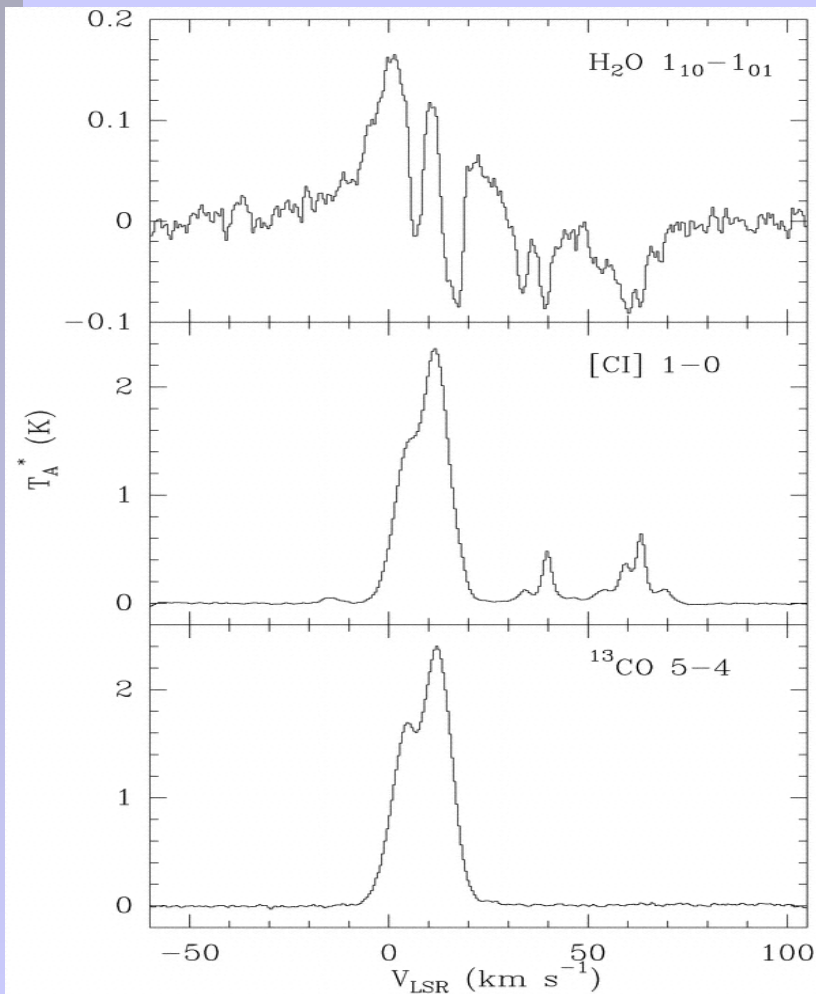
- ◆ O chemistry, difficult to study from ground, dedicated space missions for H<sub>2</sub>O, O<sub>2</sub>. H<sub>2</sub>O main grain mantle constituent.
- ◆ See talks by J. Cernicharo and L. Dagnani



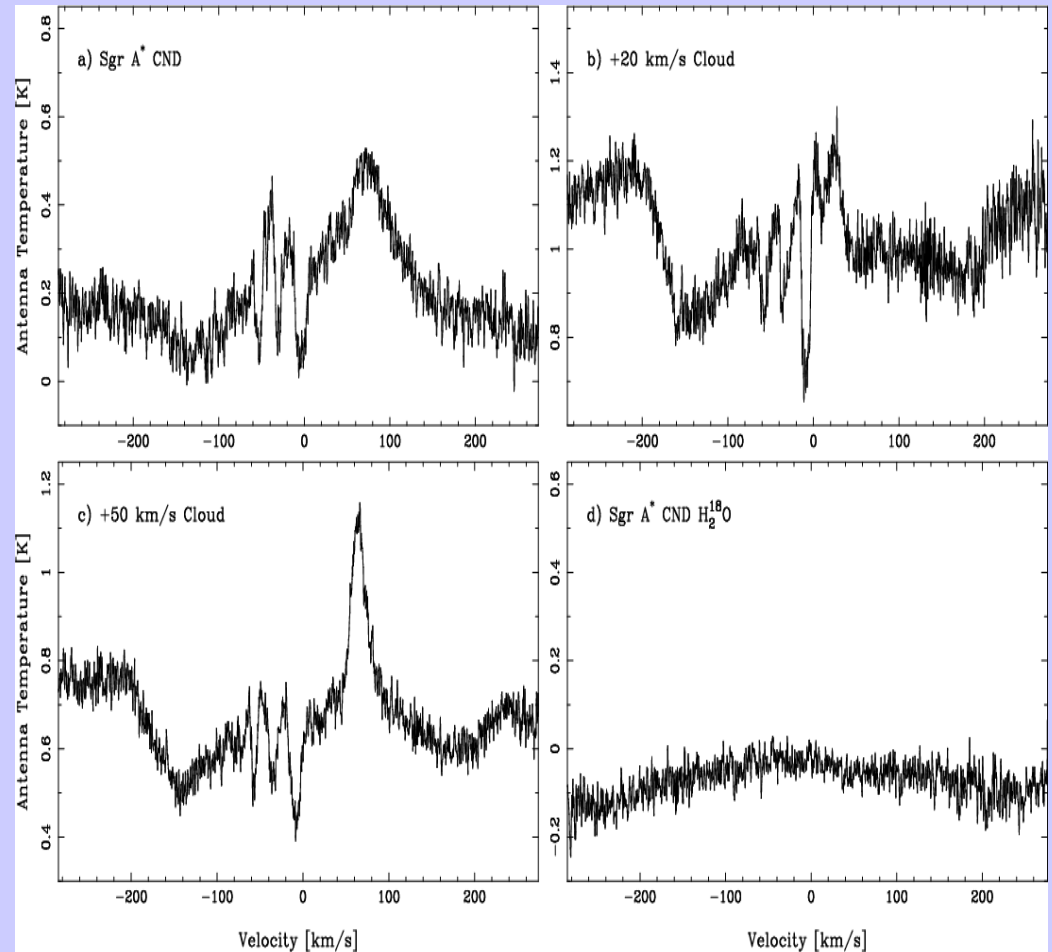
# Water and the Oxygen chemistry

Prominent absorption for the H<sub>2</sub>O submillimeter ground state lines

SWAS W49



ODIN  
Galactic Center

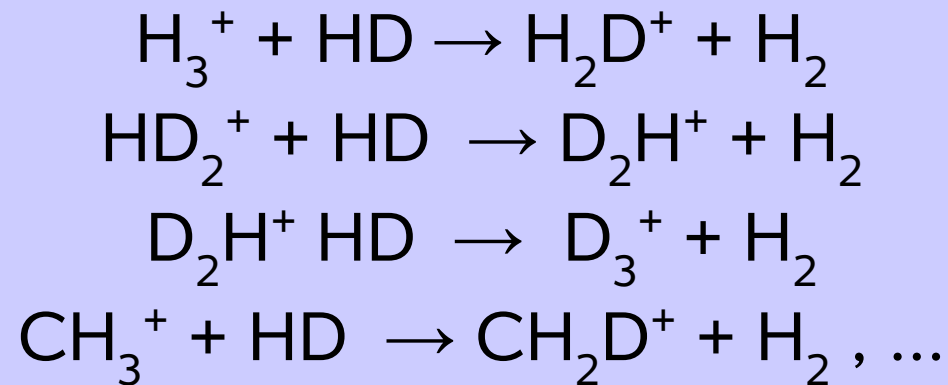




# *Deuterium chemistry*

- ◆ 1970s Molecular ions are recognized as key species for ISM chemistry
- ◆ Detection of  $\text{DCO}^+$ ,  $\text{DCN}$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{D}^+$ , ..

Main D fractionation reactions :

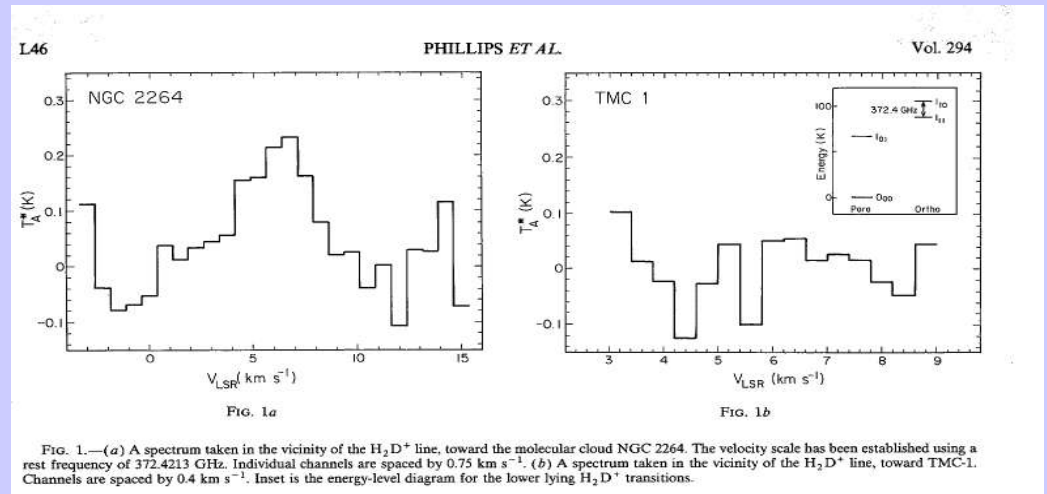


→ Search for  $\text{H}_3^+$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$

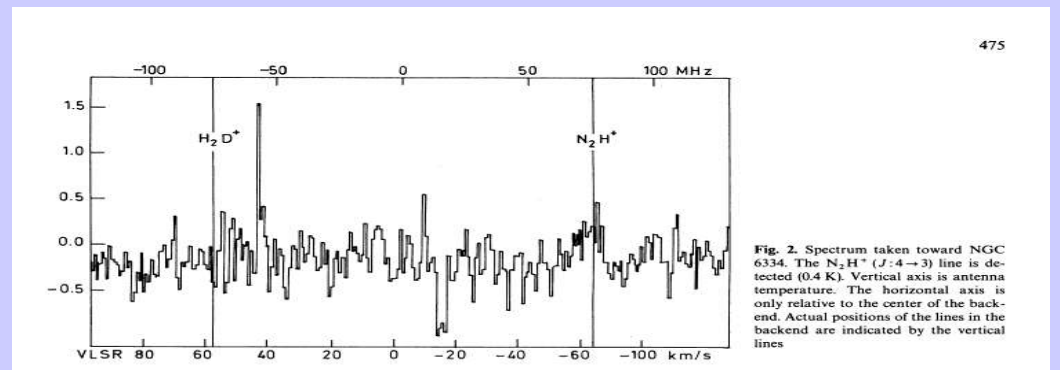


# Looking for $H_2D^+$

Phillips et al. 1985  
Yes ?



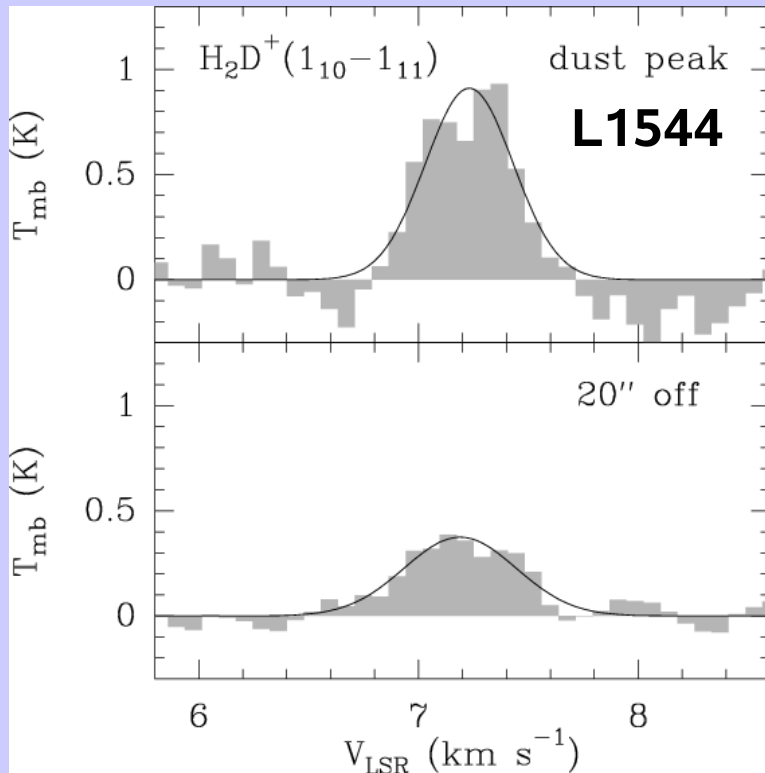
Pagani et al. 1992  
No  
also Boreiko et al. 1993



# Looking for $H_2D^+$ - 2 - from the ground

Van Dishoeck et al., 1992

No



L14

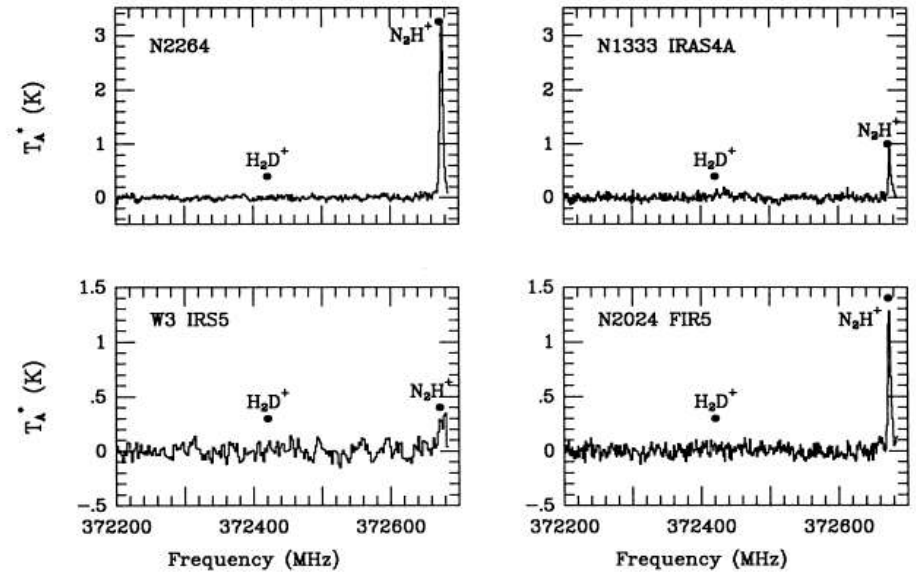


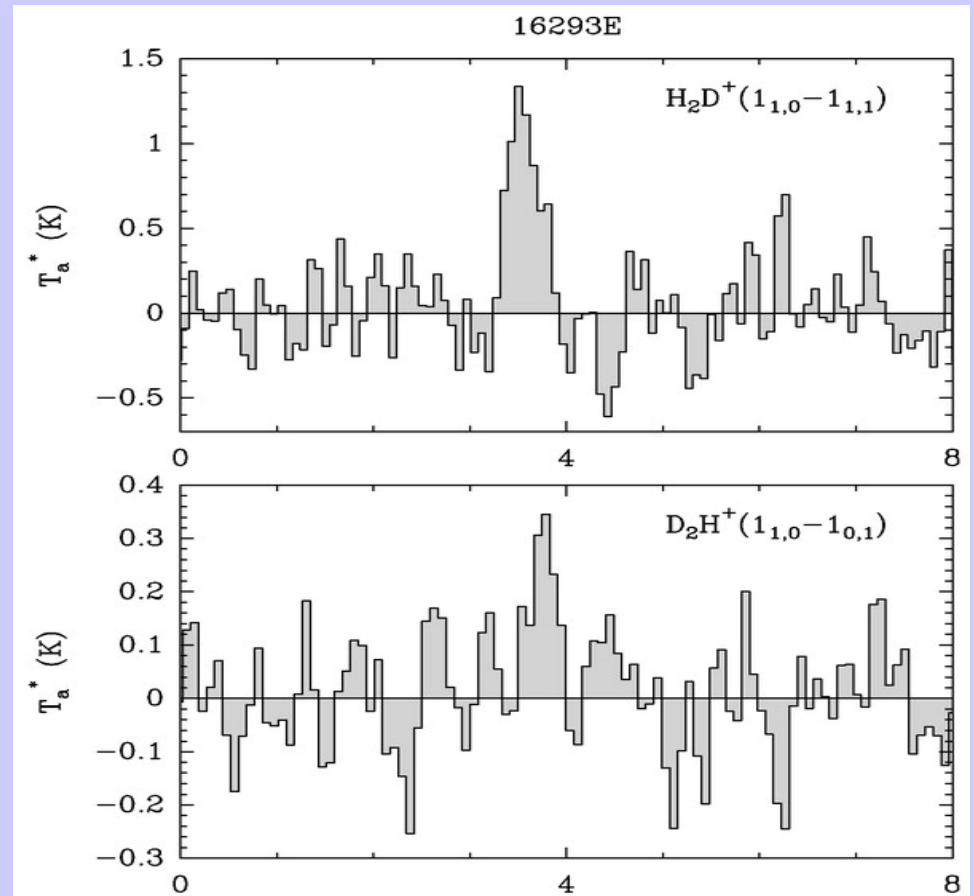
Fig. 1. Observed spectra at 372 GHz toward four of the five sources. The spectra toward NGC 2264, NGC 1333 IRAS 4A and NGC 2024 FIR5 have been smoothed to 1 MHz resolution, and that toward W3 IRS5 to 2 MHz resolution.

Stark et al., 1999  
Caselli et al. 1999

Yes !!

# Looking for $D_2H^+$ - from the ground

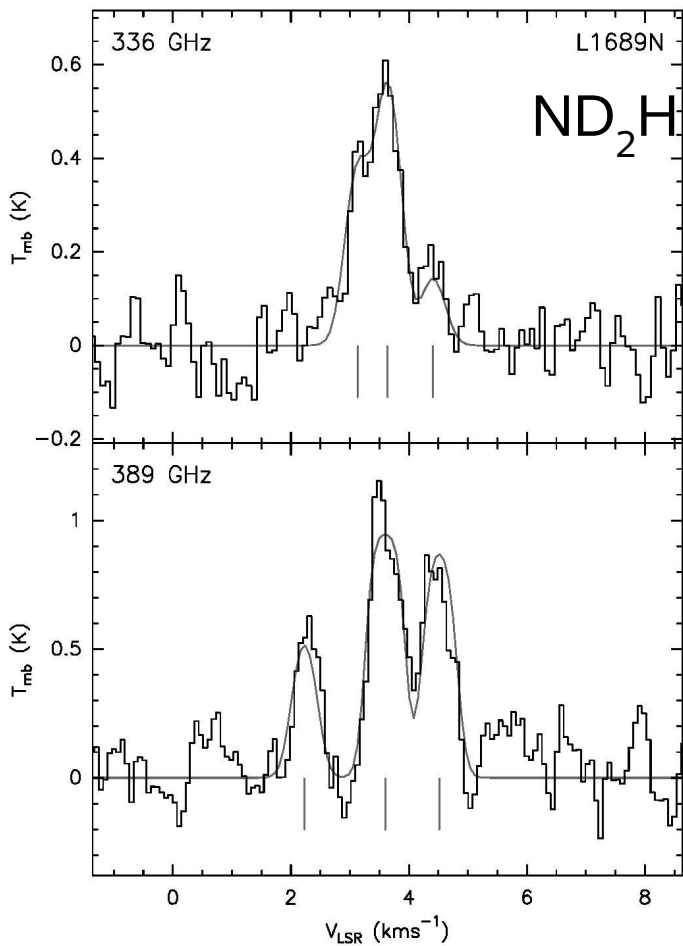
- ◆ D ions are the main positive ions
- ◆ Large depletions (CO freeze out) & high densities, low  $x(e)$
- ◆ → very large fractionation (D/H > 10% vs  $10^{-5}$ )



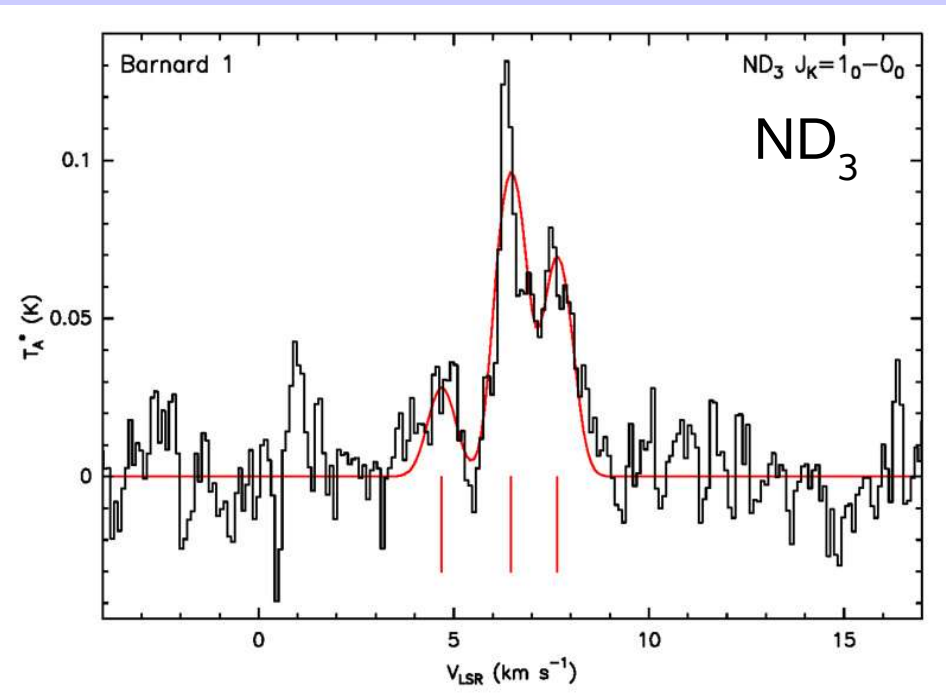
Vastel et al. 2004

Yes

# Multiply deuterated molecules



Lis et al. 2003, 2005



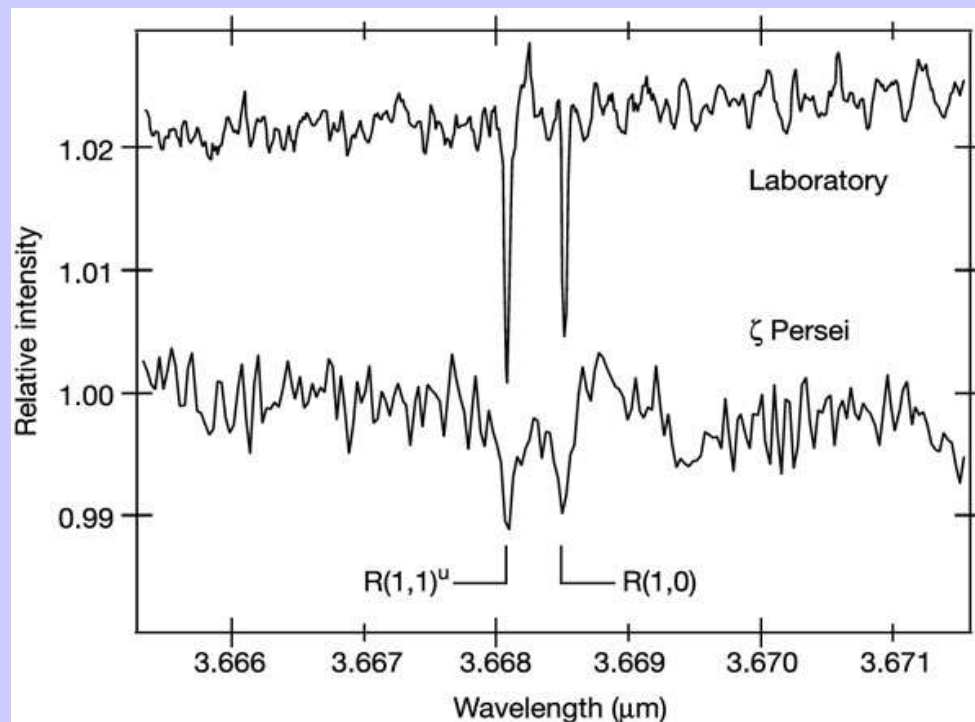
- ◆ 2000s, detection of several multiply deuterated species
- ◆ Formation ? Gas phase (assisted by depletions)
- ◆ Dust phase (D – H substitution on grain mantles)

# *Reactive species*

- ◆  $\text{H}_3^+$  key species for initiating the ion – molecule chemistry

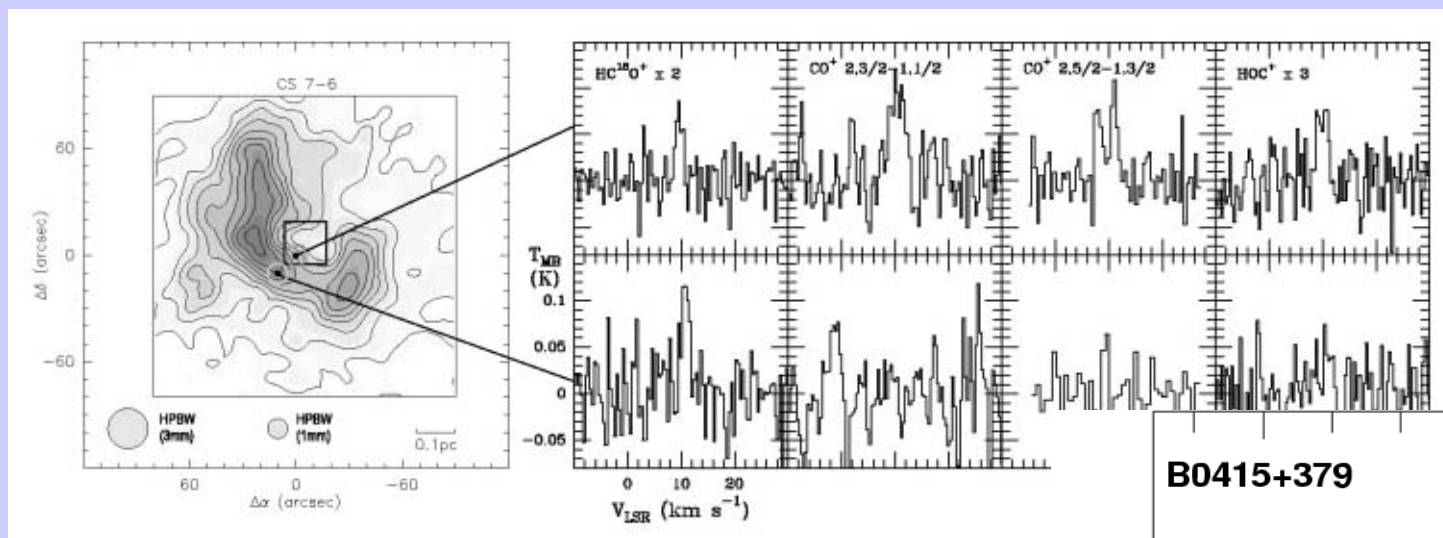
Vibration lines near  $3.67 \mu\text{m}$

Rate of Dissociative recombination , key parameter for IS chemistry.



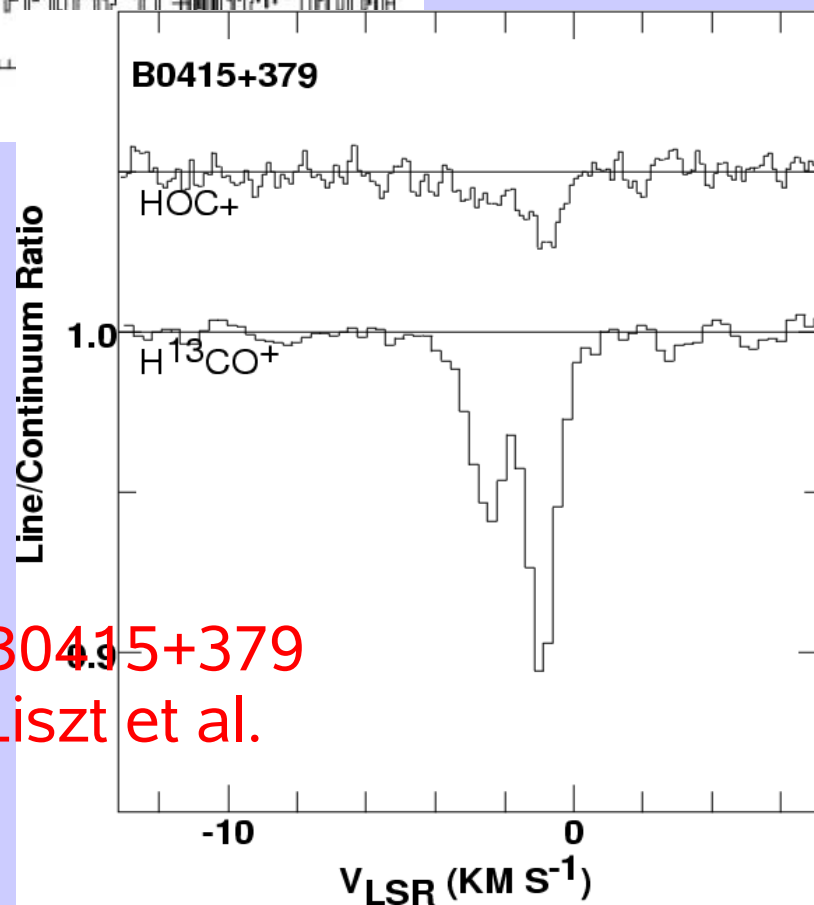
ζ Per  
Mc Call et al. 2003

# Reactive species, $\text{CO}^+$ and $\text{HOC}^+$



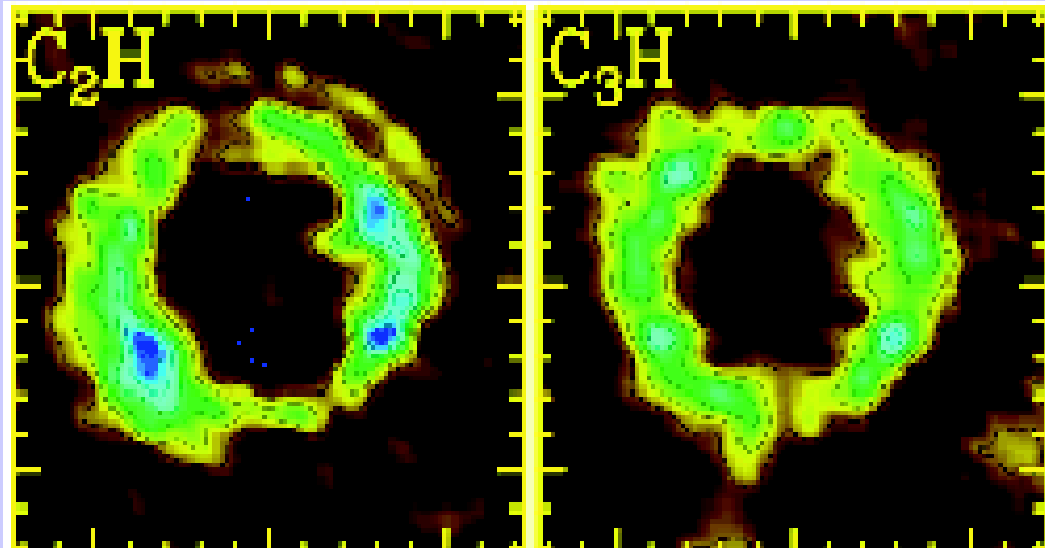
MonR2  
Rizzo et al.  
2003

- ◆ Prediction of  $\text{CO}^+$  from chemical models, detection in PDRs and star forming regions, energetic interfaces
- ◆ Other reactive species,  $\text{HOC}^+$ ,  $\text{SO}^+$  etc.

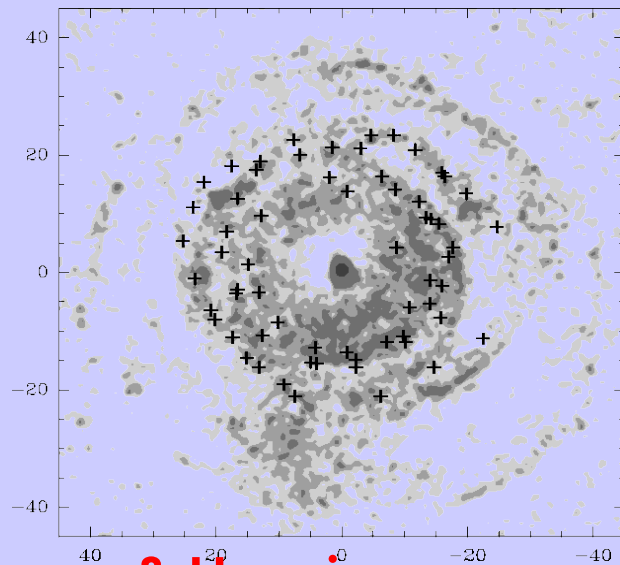


B0415+379  
Liszt et al.

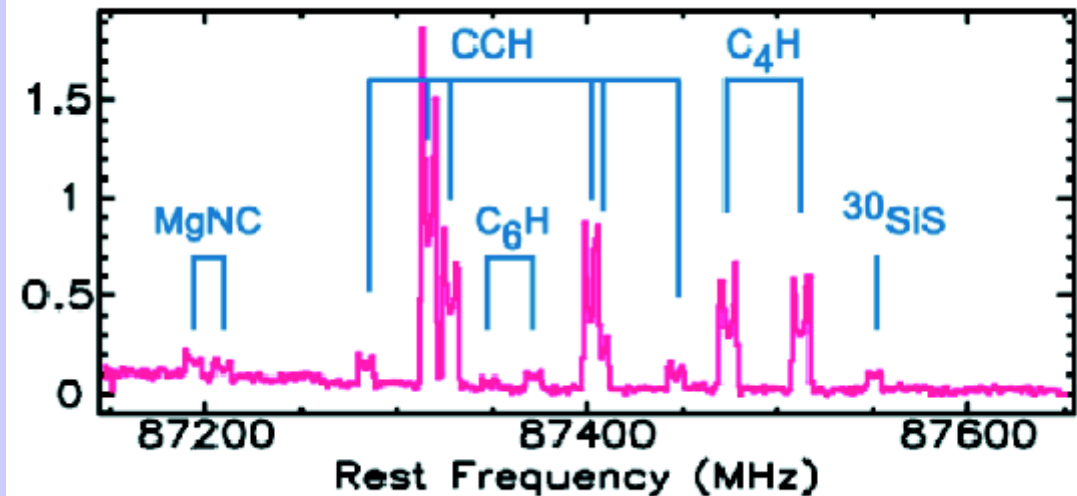
# Carbon chains : carbon stars as molecule factories



IRC+10216 very close carbon star . Envelope and atmosphere rich in exotic molecules, cyanopolyynes, chains, rings ...



Mauron & Huggins .

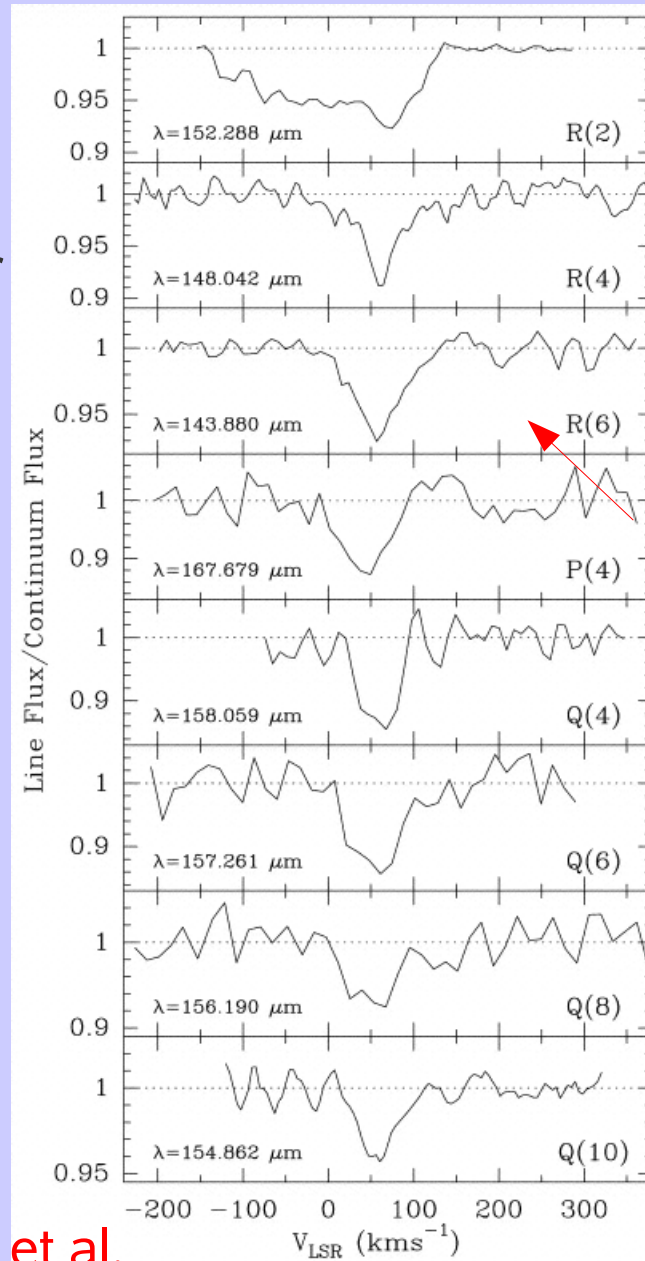


Guélin et al.

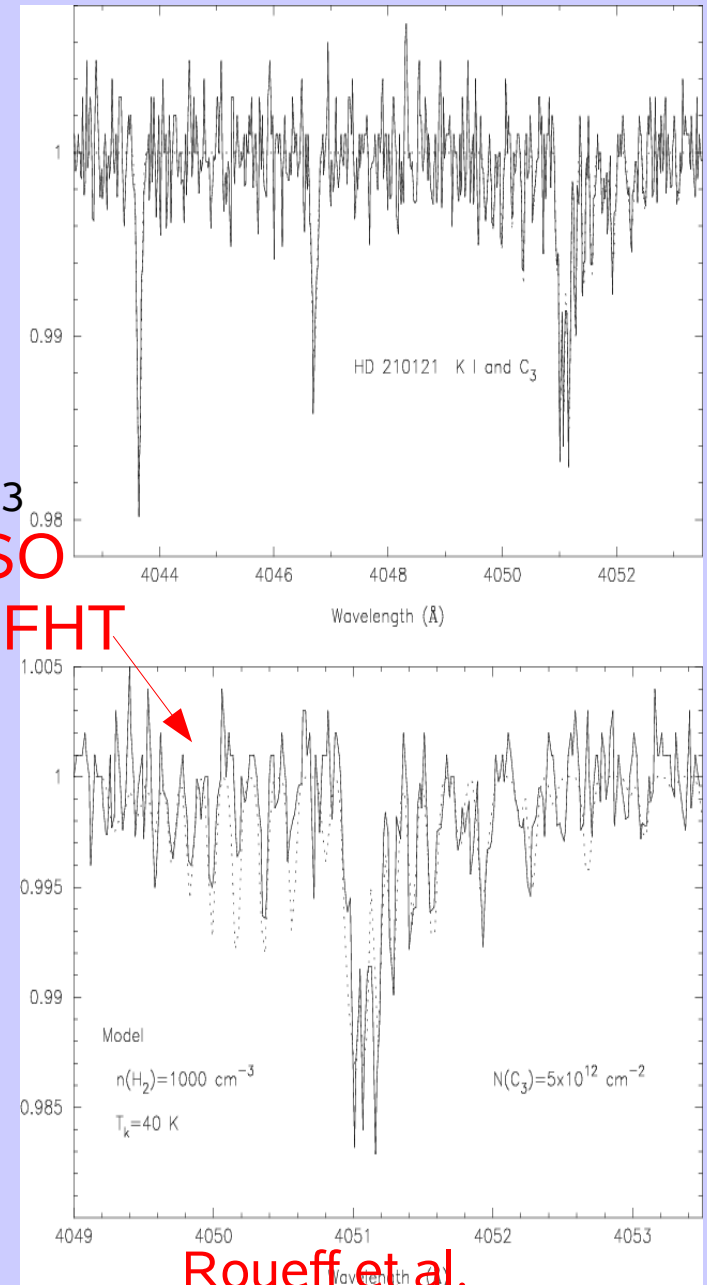


# Carbon chains, carbon clusters

- ◆ Radio telescopes → Polar molecules
- ◆ Symmetric molecules ?  
Electronic transitions ( $C_2$ ,  $C_3$ )  
or vibration transitions ( $C_2H_2$ , ...)



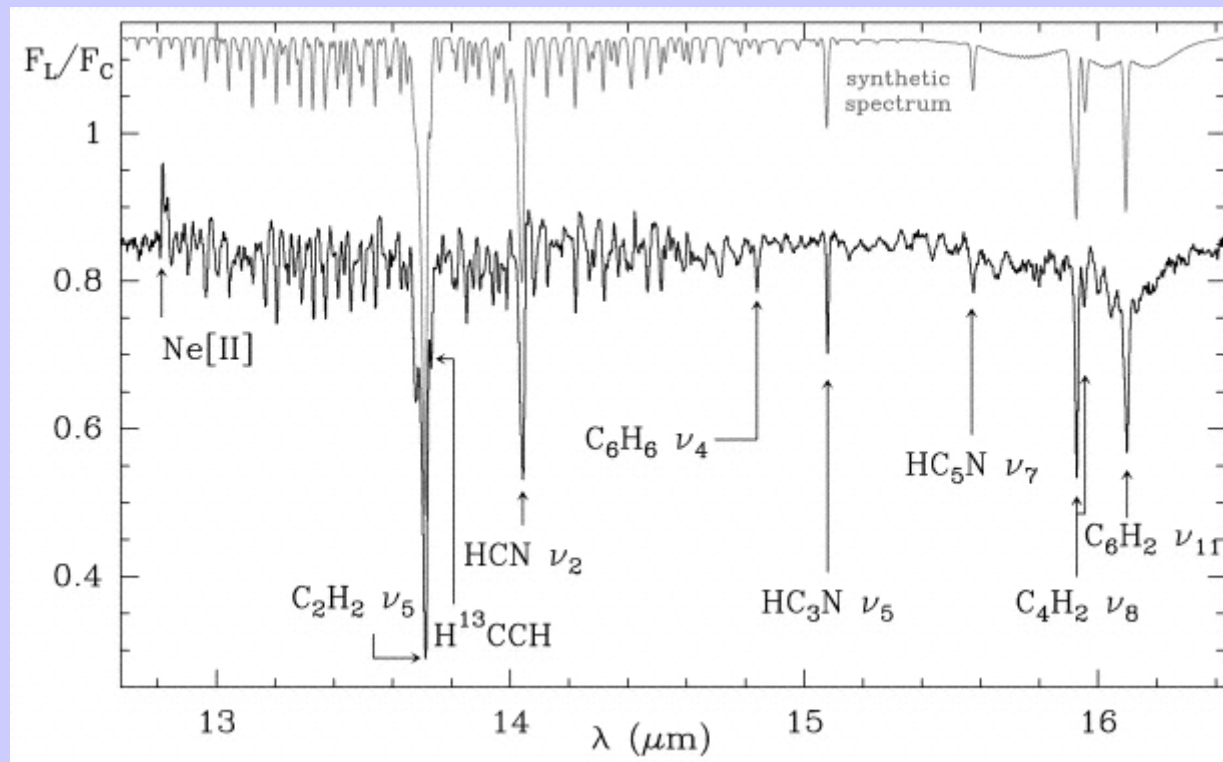
Cernicharo et al.



Roueff et al.

# Carbon chains

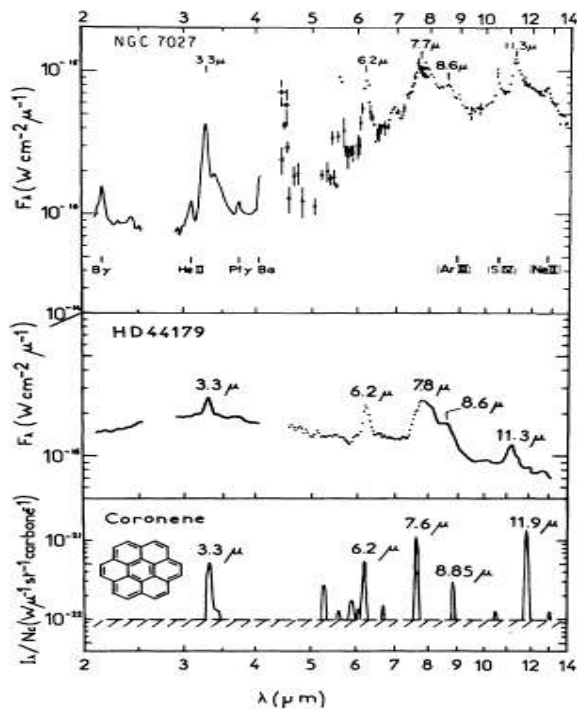
IR & Radio spectroscopy, 2 complementary way for studying interstellar chemistry



CRL 618,  
polymerization ?  
Cernicharo et al.

# PAHs

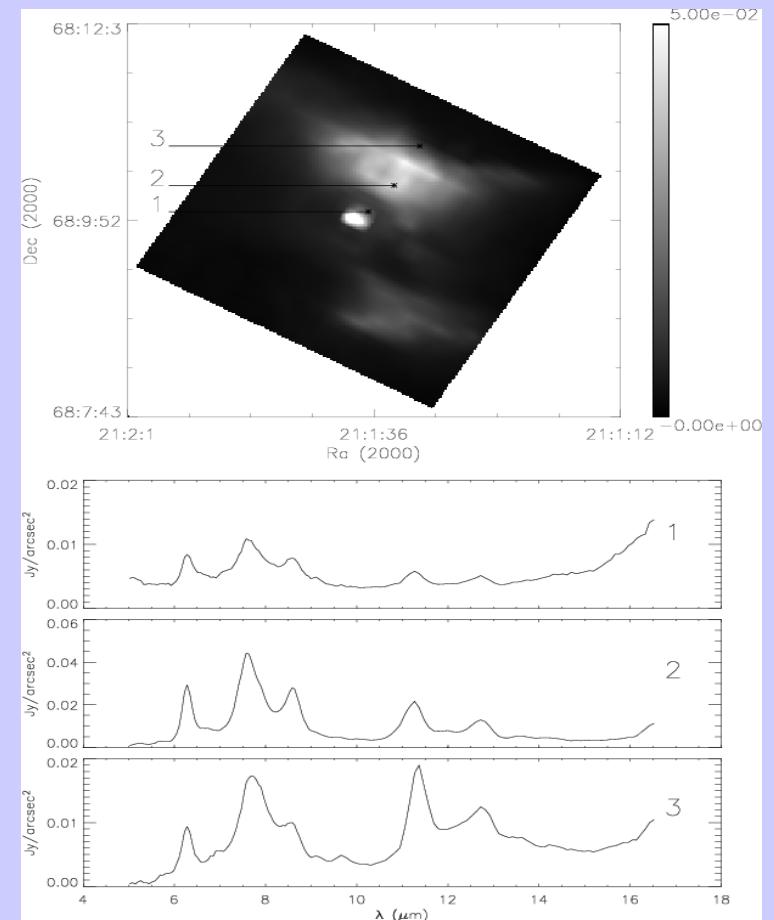
- ◆ Macro molecules , proposed as carriers of IR emission bands. Play an important role for gas heating (Photo-electric effect), ionisation balance, chemistry ?
- ◆ No spectroscopic identification yet.



Léger & Puget,  
1984

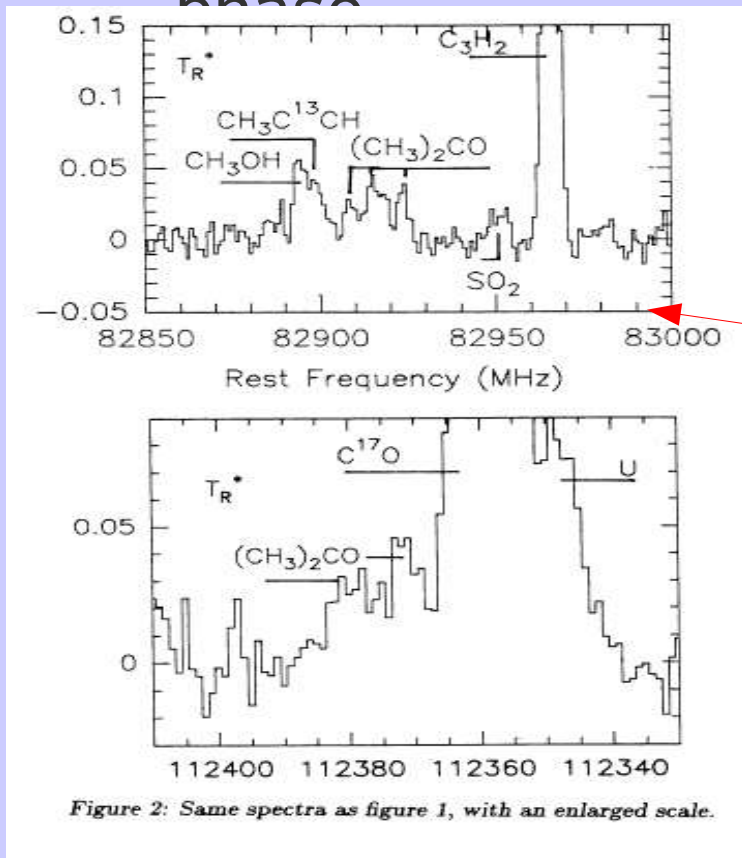
Rapacioli et al.  
2005

FIG. 2 : Observed "unidentified" IR emission bands in NGC 2027 and HD 44179, the Red Rectangle, (adapted from Russell et al, 1977 and 1978). Atomic fine structure lines are also present in the first spectrum. Calculated emission of coronene heated to 600 K (absorption spectrum of coronene from Sadtler Standard Spectra, 1959). The



# Complex organic molecules

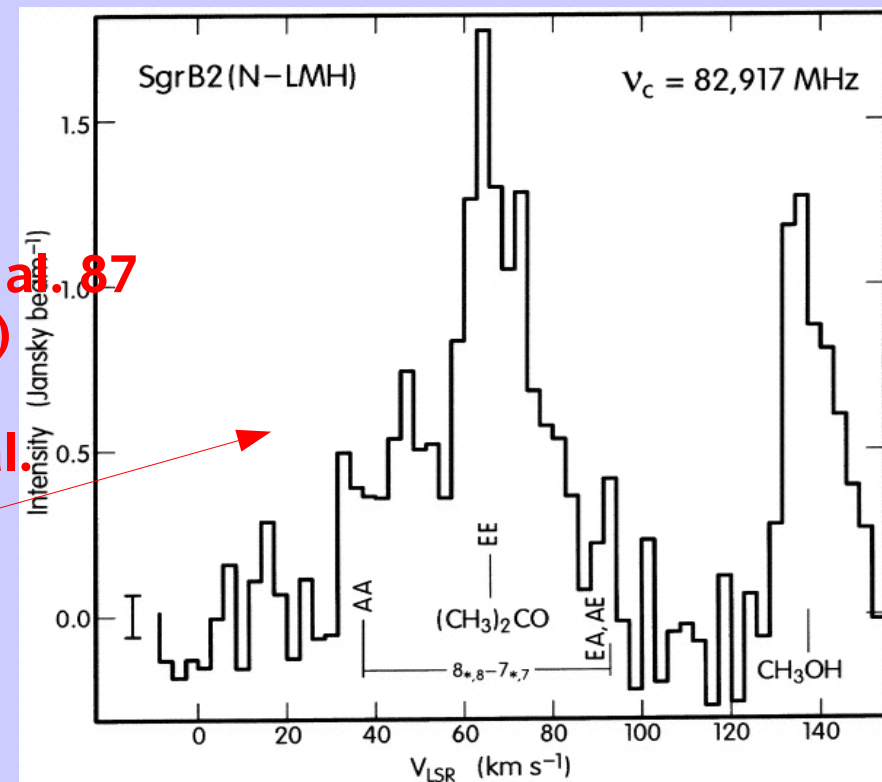
- ◆ Many organic molecules detected in hot cores → “line forest”, line blending and confusion. Identification ?
- ◆ High spatial resolution helps → interferometer
- ◆ Formation = Grain mantle ice processing + warm gas phase



Acetone

Combes et al. 87  
(IRAM 30m)

Snyder et al. 2003  
BIMA

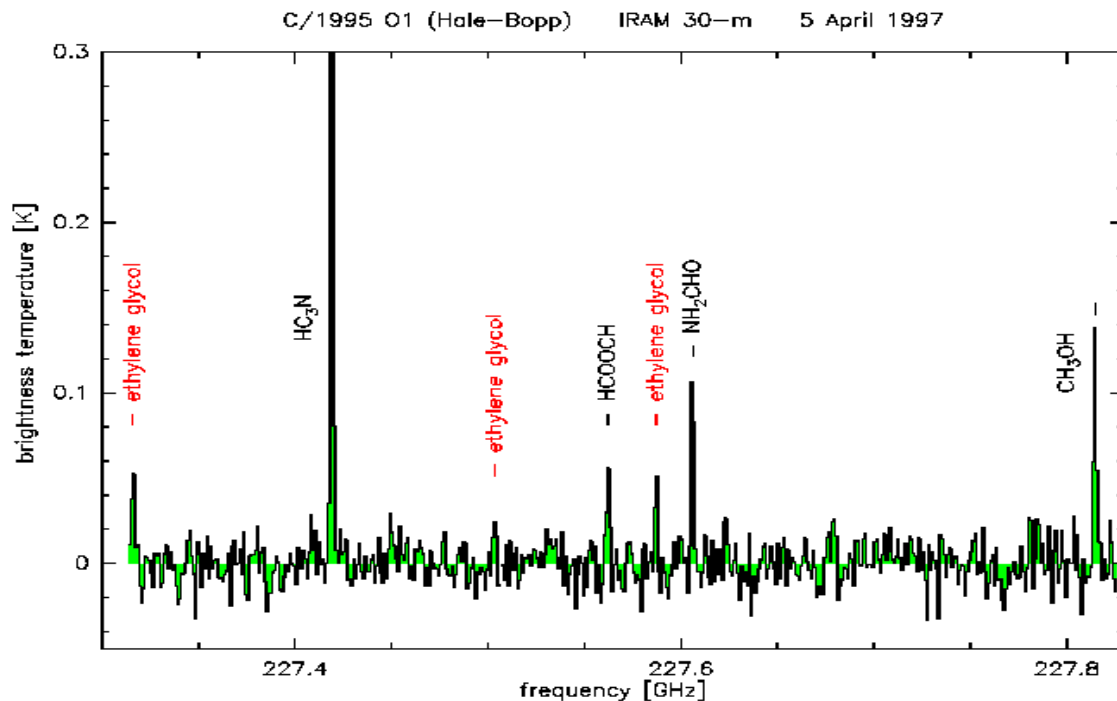


# *Molecular ices*

- ◆ In dense, dark clouds, condensation of atoms and molecules
- ◆ Hydrogenation,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CO}$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ , ..
- ◆ Processing due to cosmic rays, UV photons
- ◆ Formation of more complex species ( $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ )
- ◆
- ◆ Ice evaporation / sublimation in hot cores , release of processed material in the gas phase (eg  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$ ) and formation of other species
- ◆ Connection to primordial solar system matter ? (cf comet studies)

# Comets and Planets

- ◆ Radio sounding of cometary comae : same species as in the ISM (see talk by D. Bockelée)
- ◆ Radio sounding in planetary atmosphere (see talks afternoon session)



Ethylene Glycol,  
Hale Bopp

Crovisier et al.

# Molecules everywhere

1970s CO detected in external galaxies soon after detection in the ISM.

M31 (1977) and IRAM map

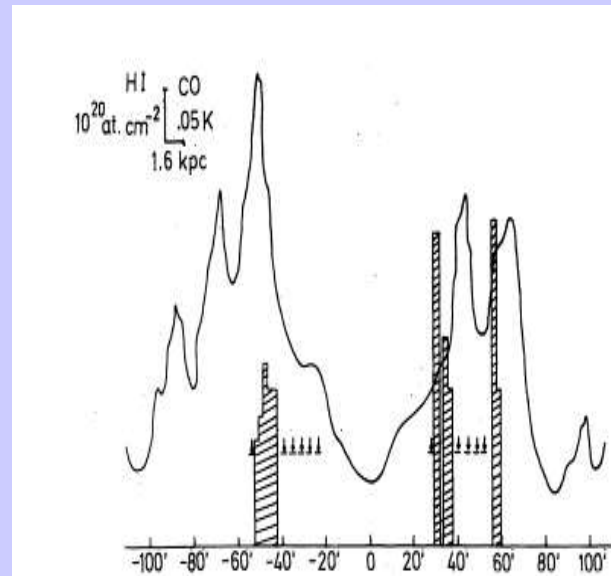
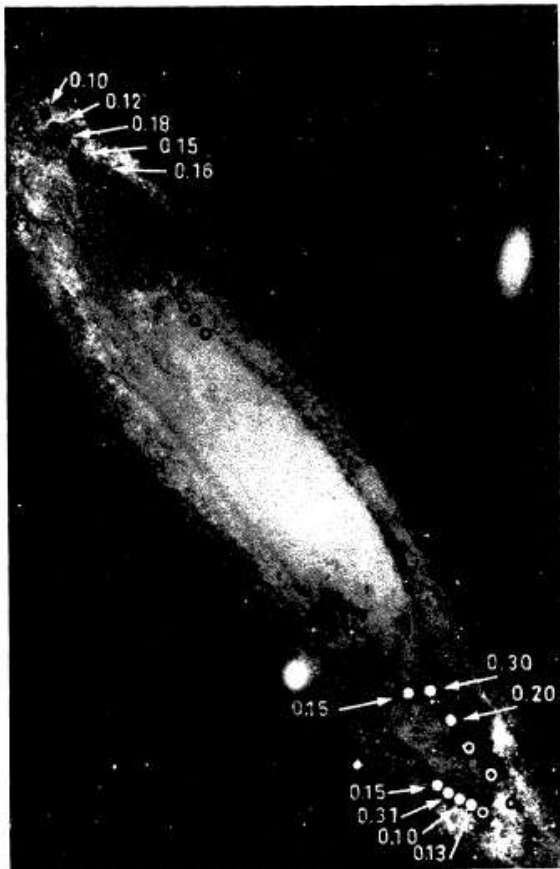
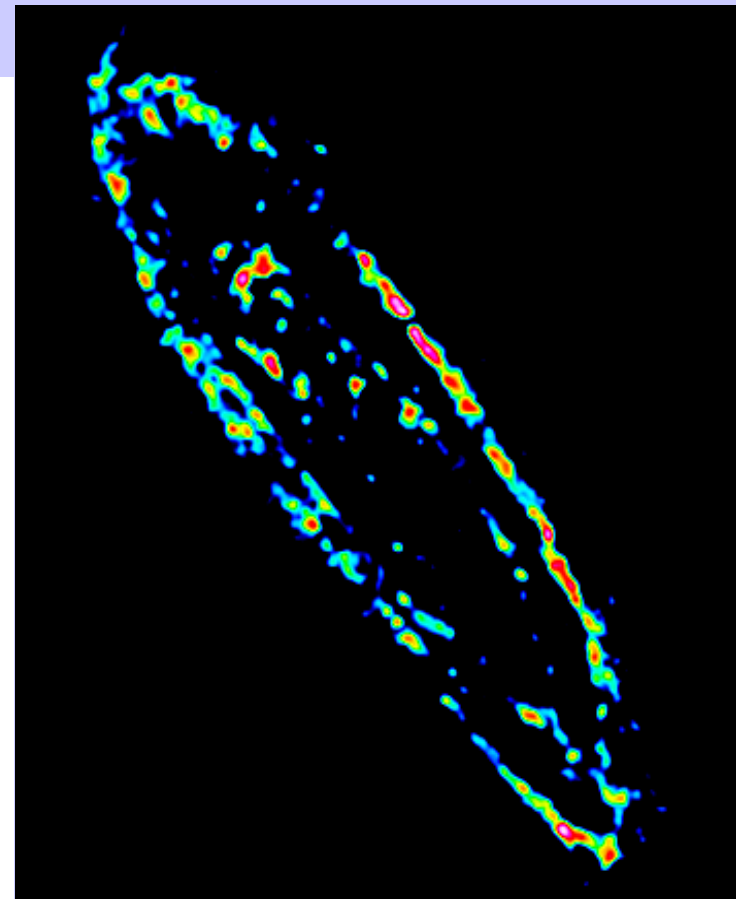
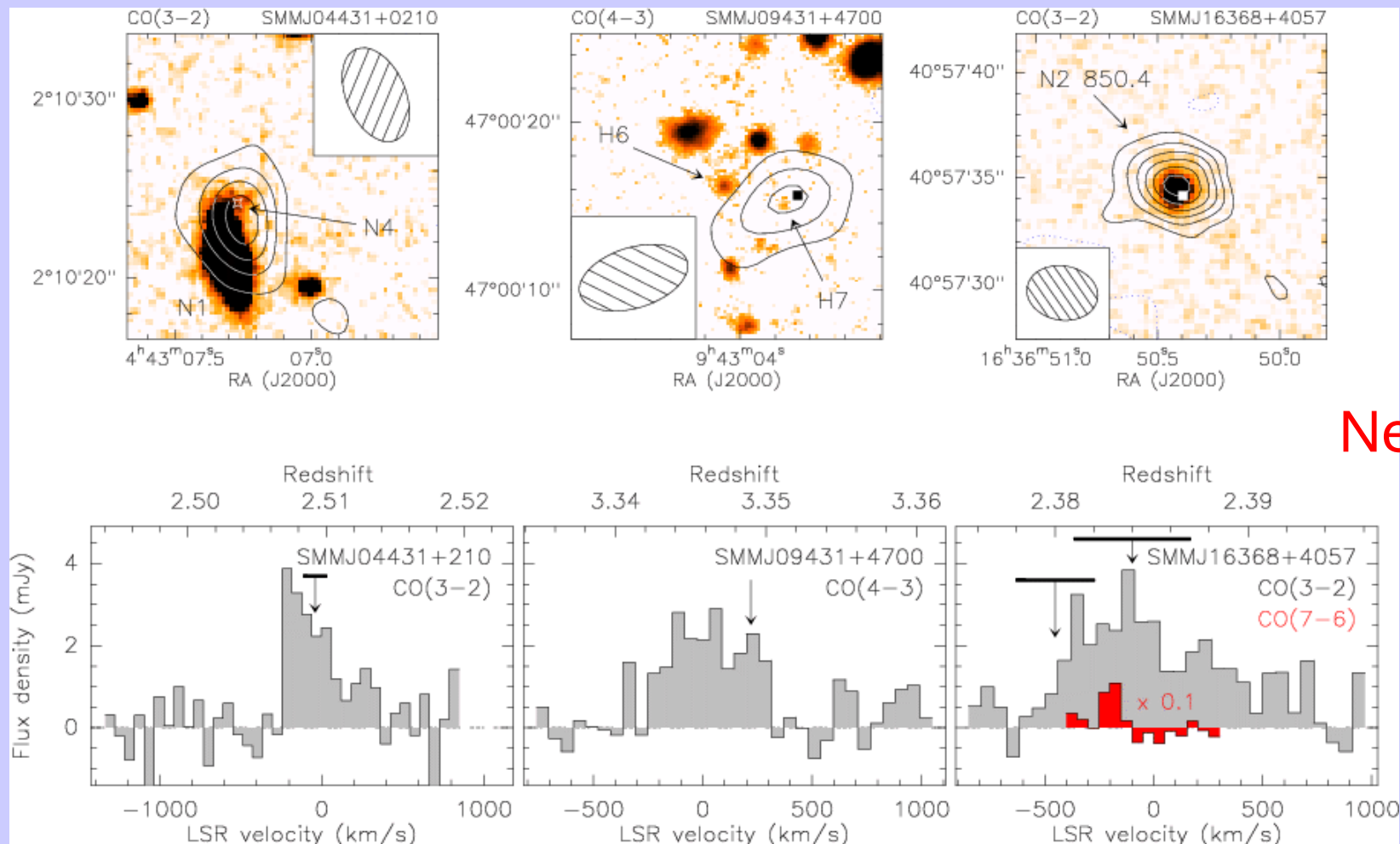


Figure 2. : Radial distribution of CO and HI in M31. The hydrogen distribution is the surface density along the major axis from Guibert (1975), the hatched histograms represent antenna temperatures obtained in CO. The arrows represent  $3\sigma$  limits.



# Molecules everywhere

- ◆ IRAM PdBI detections of high  $z$  galaxies (see talk by P. Cox)



Neri et al.



# *A promising future !*

- ◆ Powerful generation of instruments in operation
- ◆ Even more powerful in construction Herschel, ALMA, SOFIA, JWST ...

