



D and ^{15}N fractionation in pre-stellar cores

Paola Caselli

Center for Astrochemical Studies

Max-Planck-Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics

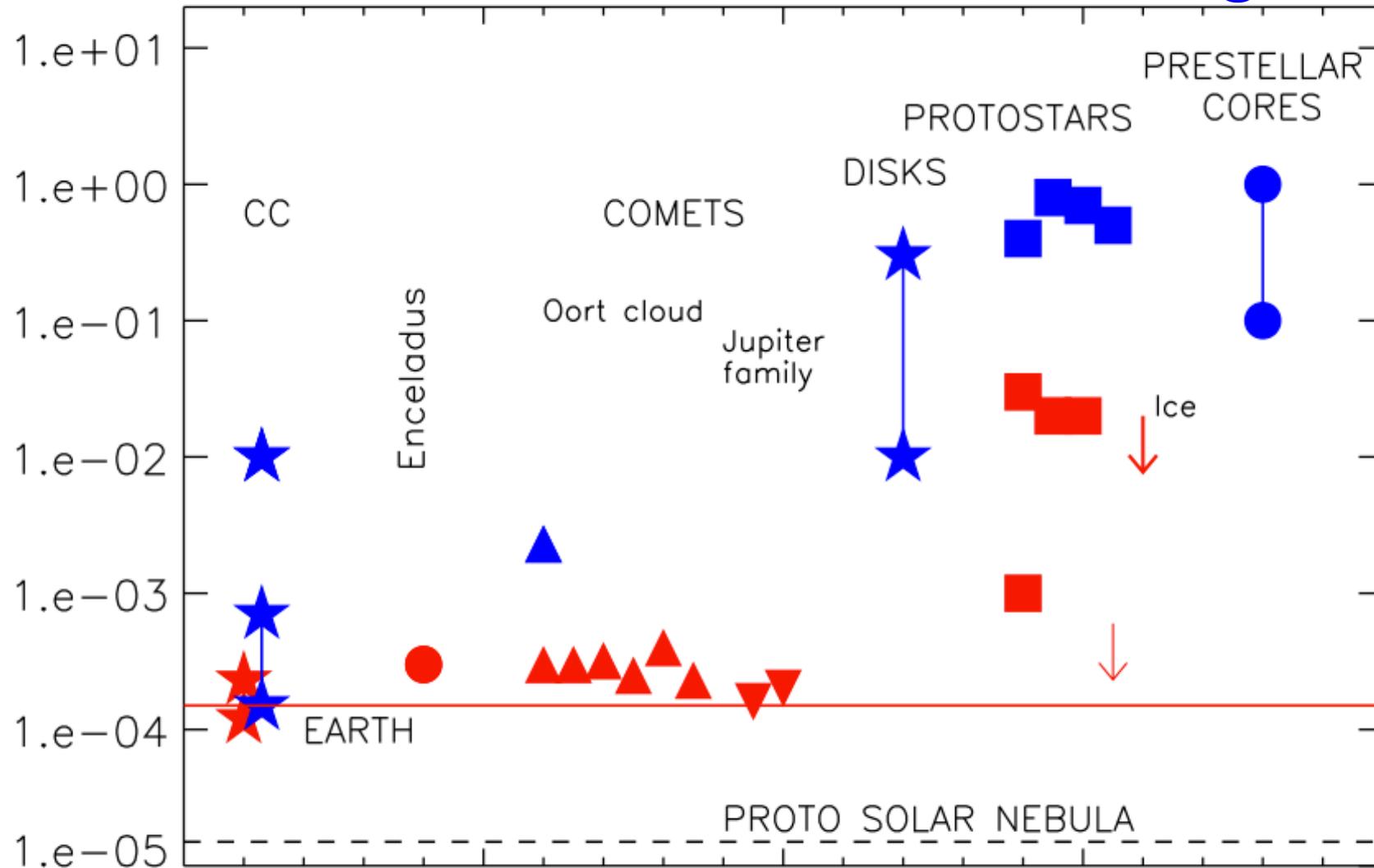


An aerial photograph of the ocean's surface, showing a dense field of small, choppy waves. The water is a deep, vibrant blue, with lighter blue highlights where the waves catch the light. The overall texture is highly detailed and rhythmic. A semi-transparent blue rectangular box is centered horizontally and vertically, containing the text "Deuterium fractionation" in white, sans-serif font.

Deuterium fractionation

D/H in water

D/H in organics

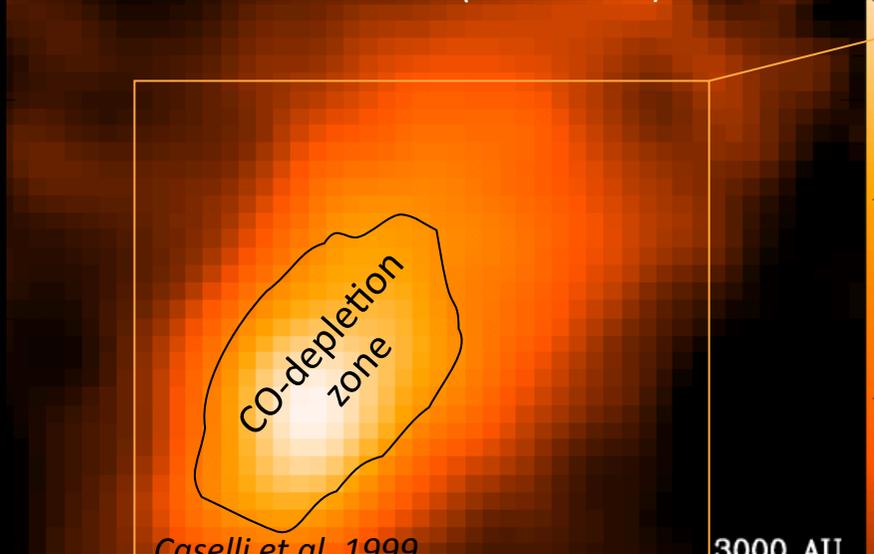


Ceccarelli, Caselli, Bockelè-Morvan, Mousis, Pizzarello, Robert, Semenov 2014, PPVI

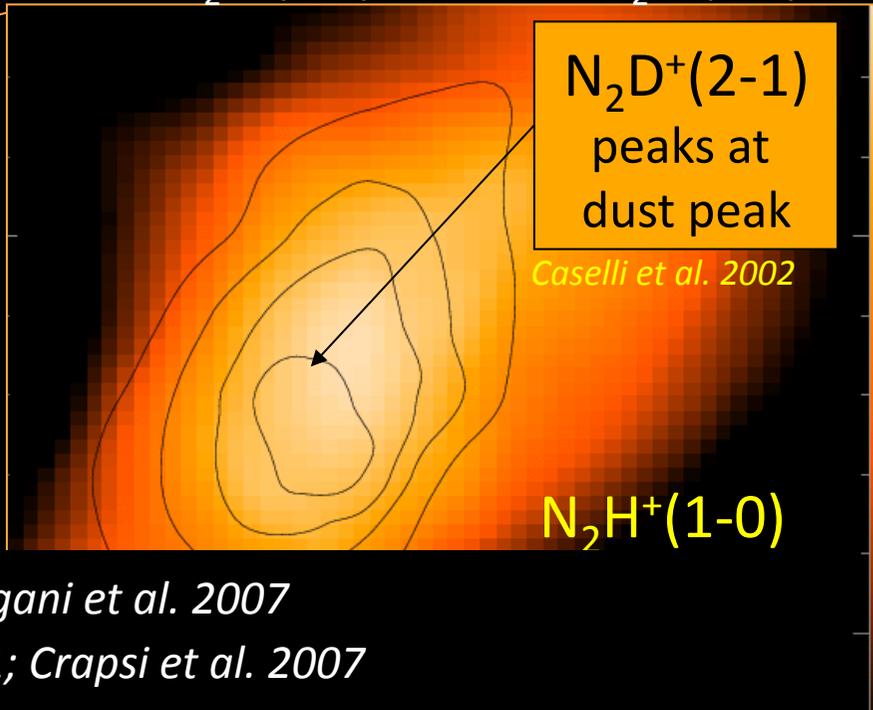
HDO/H₂O in our Solar System requires ice production during the cold phase (Cleeves et al. 2014) → pre-stellar phase is important !

Pre-stellar cores: freeze-out & deuterium fractionation

Color: dust emission (*Ward-Thompson et al. 1999*)



Color: $N_2H^+(1-0)$; contour: $N_2D^+(2-1)$

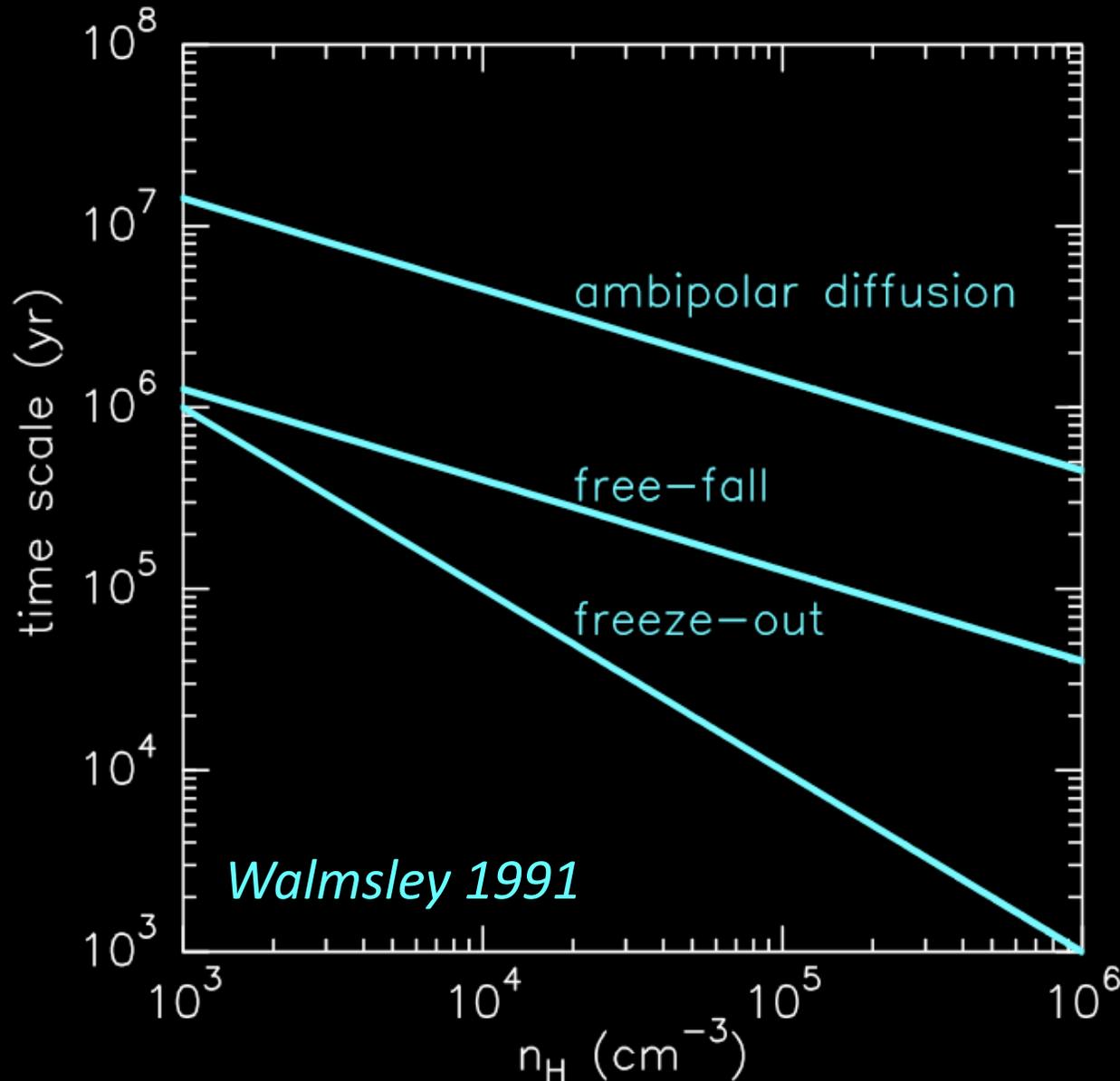


- $N_2D^+/N_2H^+ \sim 0.03-0.7$
- $NH_2D/NH_3 \sim 0.06-0.4$
- $D_2CO/H_2CO \sim 0.01-0.1$
- $CH_2DOH/CH_3OH \sim 0.1$
- $DCN/HCN \sim 0.01-0.04$
- $DNC/HNC \sim 0.02-0.09$
- $DCO^+/HCO^+ \sim 0.04$
- $c-C_3D_2/c-C_3H_2 \sim 0.01-0.02$

- Crapsi et al. 2005; Pagani et al. 2007*
- Shah & Wootten 2001; Crapsi et al. 2007*
- Bacmann et al. 2003*
- Bizzocchi et al. 2014*
- Turner 2001*
- Hirota et al. 2003*
- Butner et al. 1995; Caselli et al. 2002*
- Spezzano et al. 2013*

+ see talk of Anna Punanova

Dynamical & Chemical Timescales

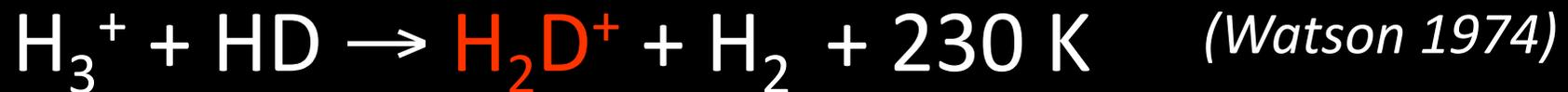


$$t_{\text{ambipolar}} \approx 2.5 \times 10^{13} x(e) \text{ yr}$$
$$\approx 4.5 \times 10^8 / \sqrt{n_H} \text{ yr}$$

$$t_{\text{free-fall}} = \sqrt{\frac{3\pi}{32G\rho}}$$
$$\approx 4 \times 10^7 / \sqrt{n_H} \text{ yr}$$

$$t_{\text{freeze-out}} = \frac{1}{\alpha n_d \pi a_d^2 v_t}$$
$$\approx 10^9 / n_H \text{ yr}$$

Deuterium Fractionation at $T < 20$ K



$\text{H}_2\text{D}^+ / \text{H}_3^+$ increases if the abundance of gas phase neutral species decreases (*Dalgarno & Lepp 1984*):

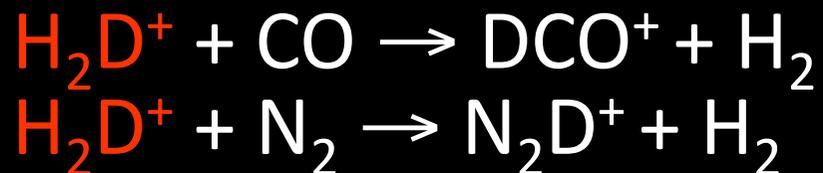
LOWER
 H_2D^+ and H_3^+
destruction
rates

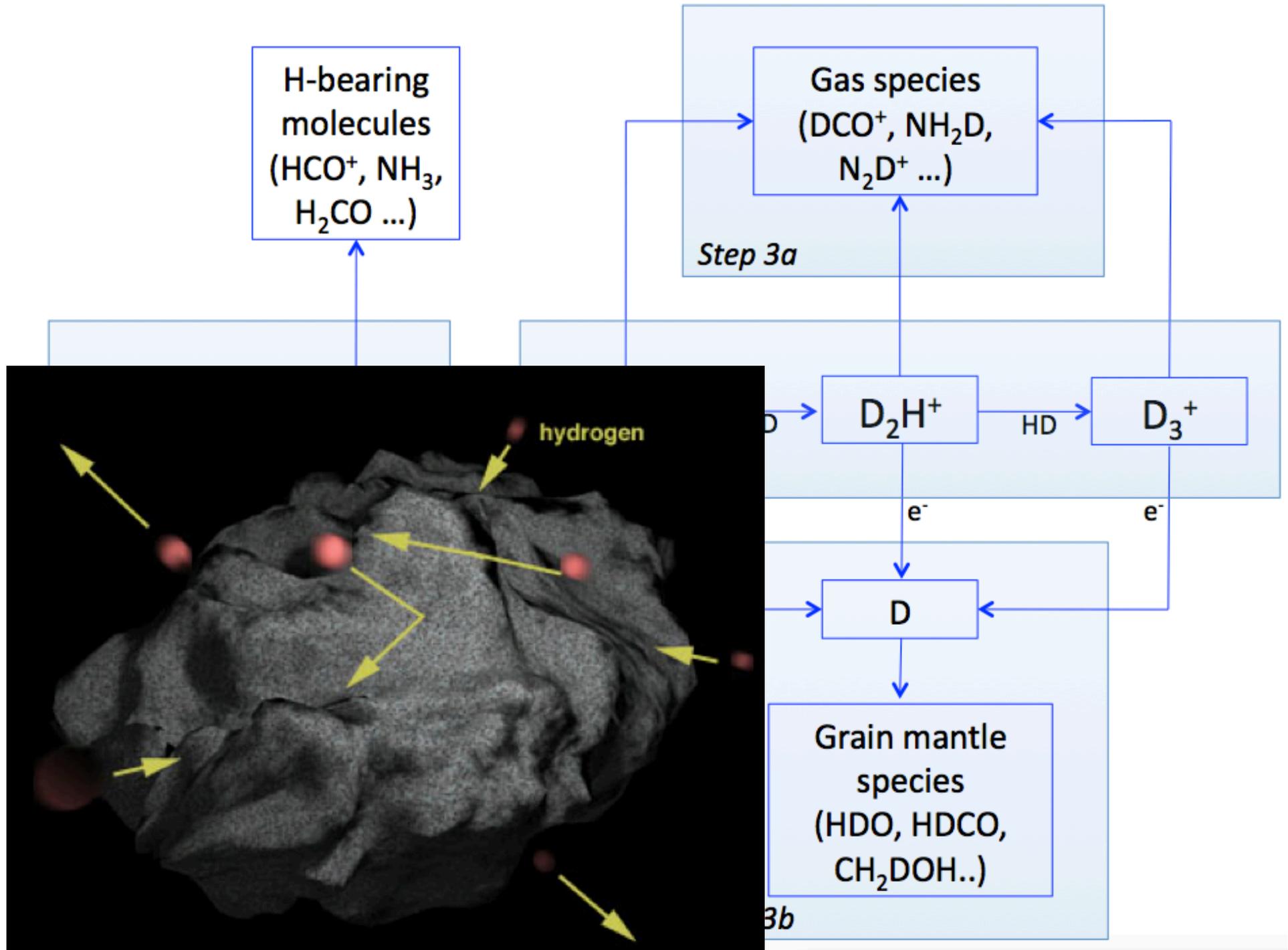
+

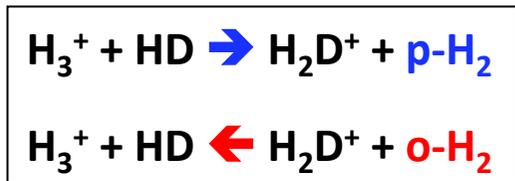
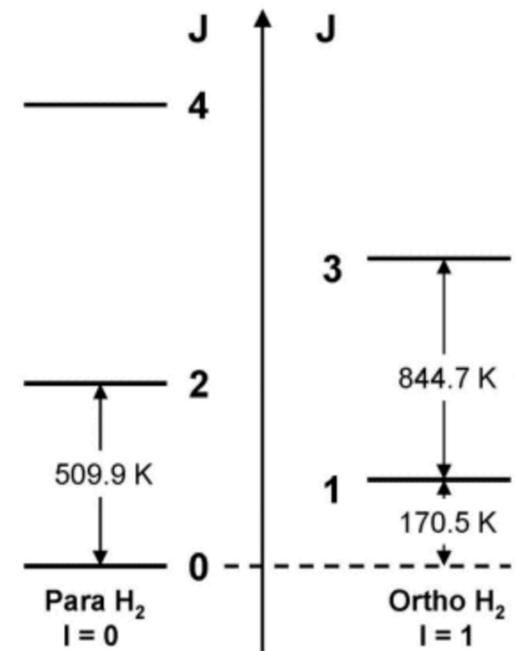
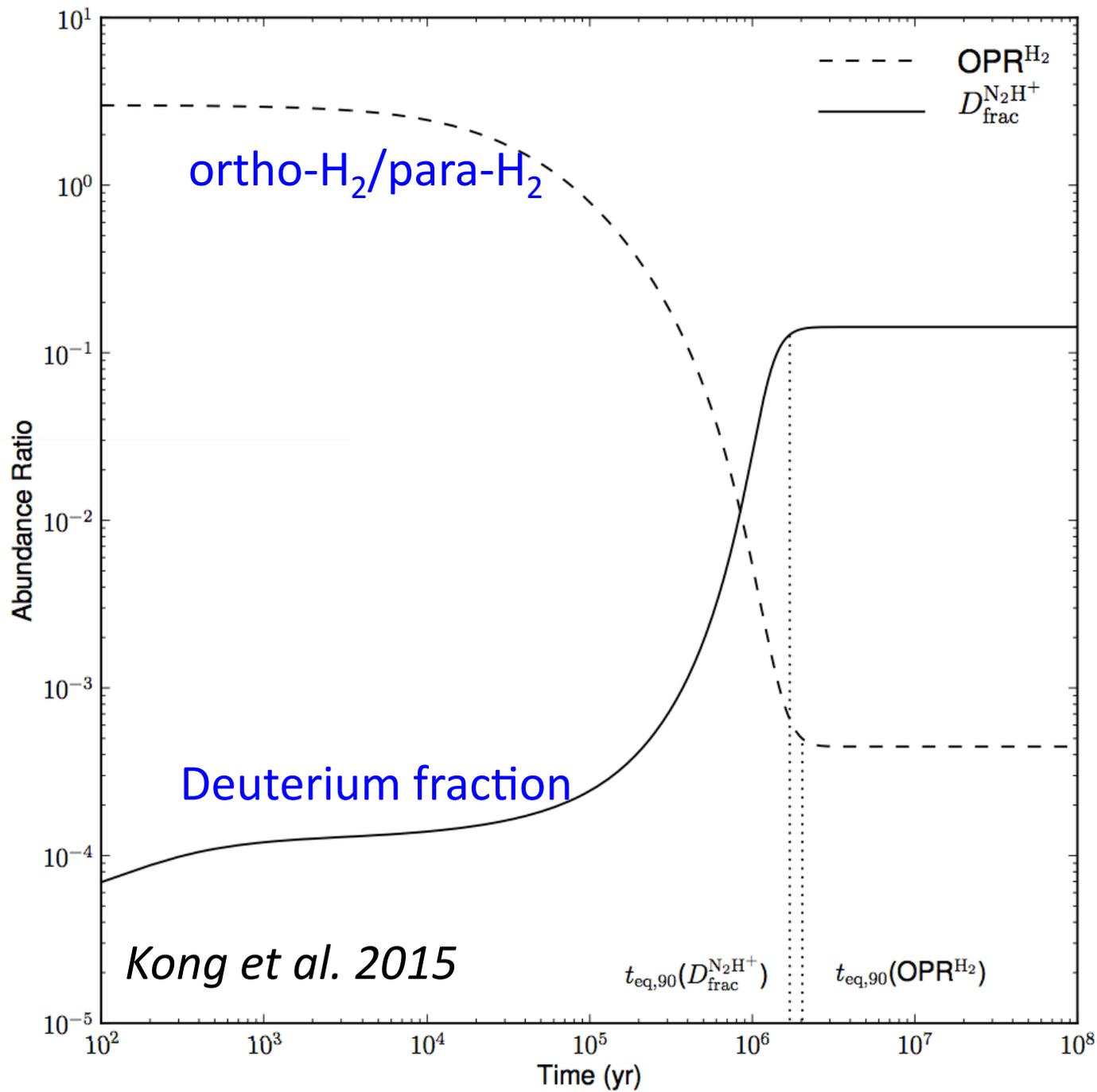
HIGHER
 H_2D^+
formation
rate

=

LARGER
 $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+ / \text{H}_3^+$ abundance ratio
and deuterium fractionation





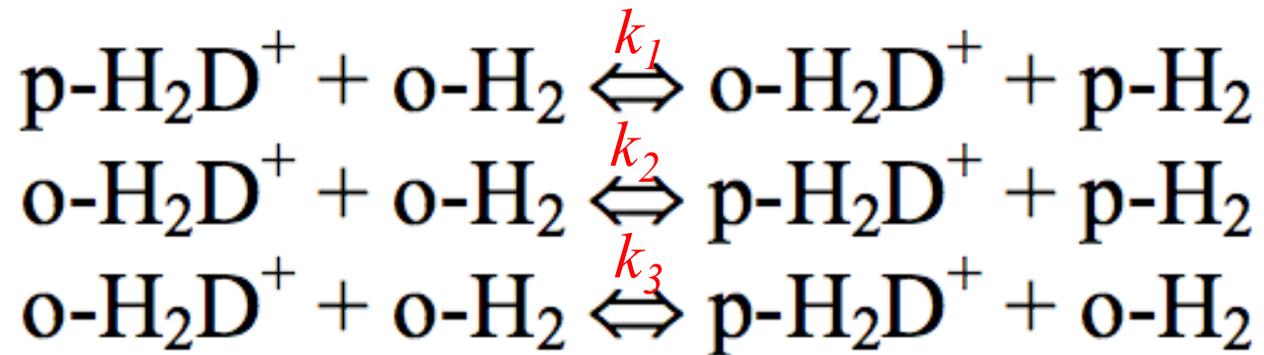


Pagani et al. 1992

Gerlich et al. 2002

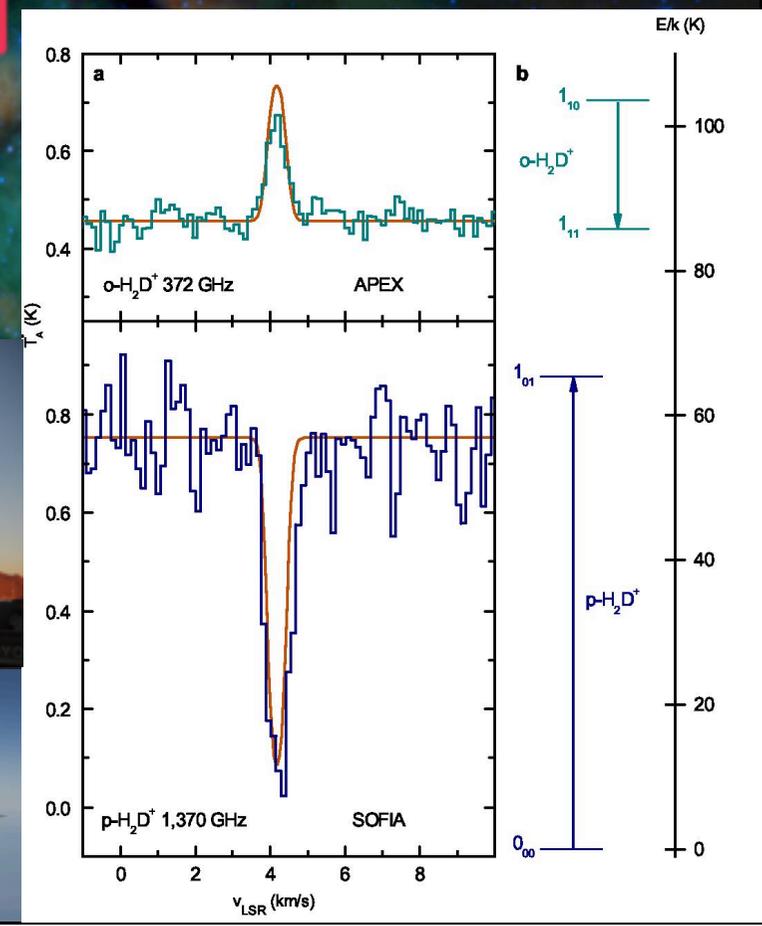
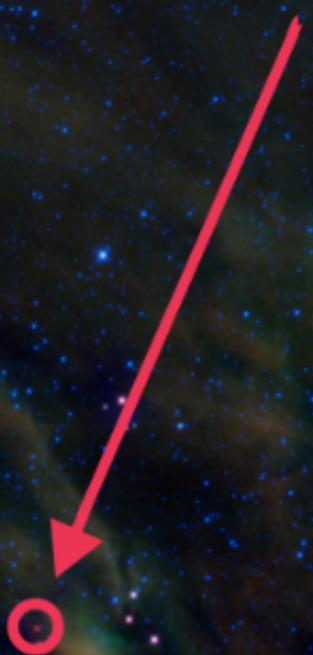
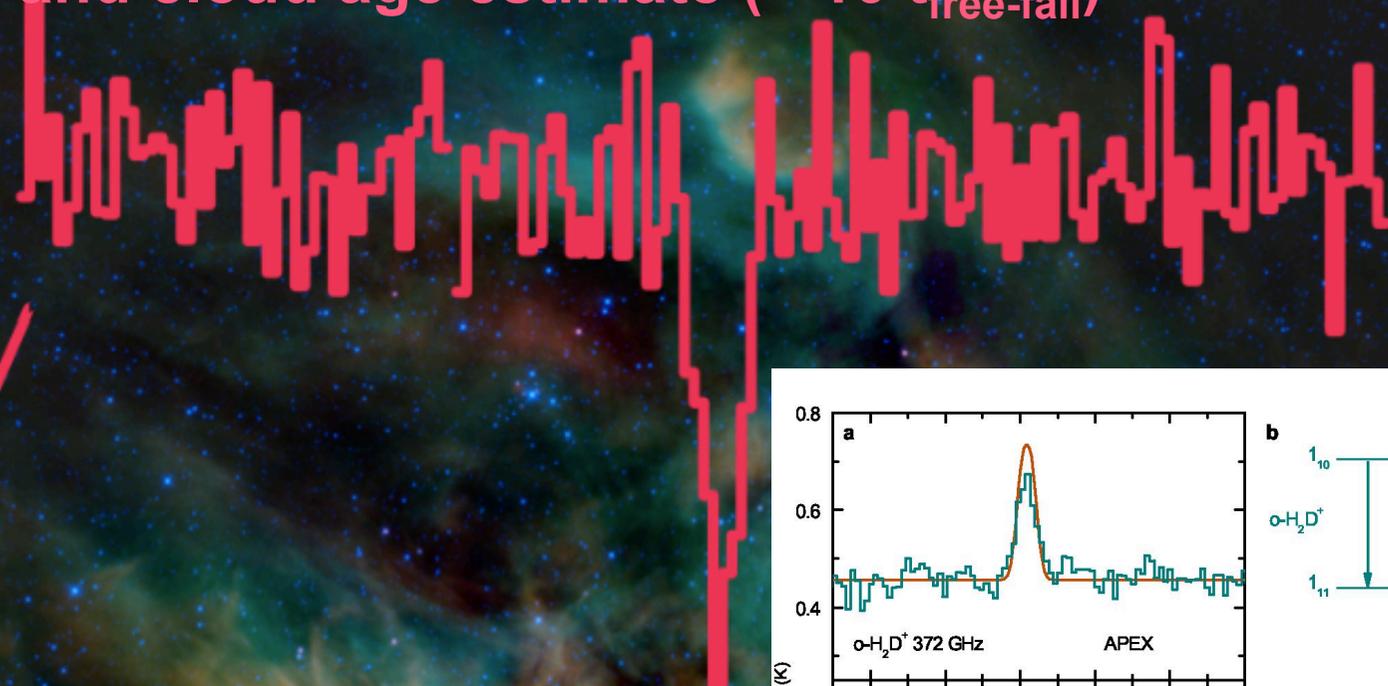
Walmsley et al. 2004

Analytical relation between the H₂ and H₂D⁺ ortho-to-para ratios



$$\frac{[\text{o-H}_2\text{D}^+]}{[\text{p-H}_2\text{D}^+]} = \frac{(k_1^+ + k_3^-) \times [\text{o-H}_2] / [\text{p-H}_2] + k_2^-}{(k_2^+ + k_3^+) \times [\text{o-H}_2] / [\text{p-H}_2] + k_1^-}$$

FIRST DETECTION OF para-H₂D⁺ TOWARD IRAS16293-2422 and cloud age estimate ($\sim 10 t_{\text{free-fall}}$)



Brünken et al. 2014, Nature SOFIA

ALMA is unveiling the central 1000 AU of prestellar cores: fragmentation and large CO freeze out.

Caselli et al., submitted – Pineda et al., in prep.

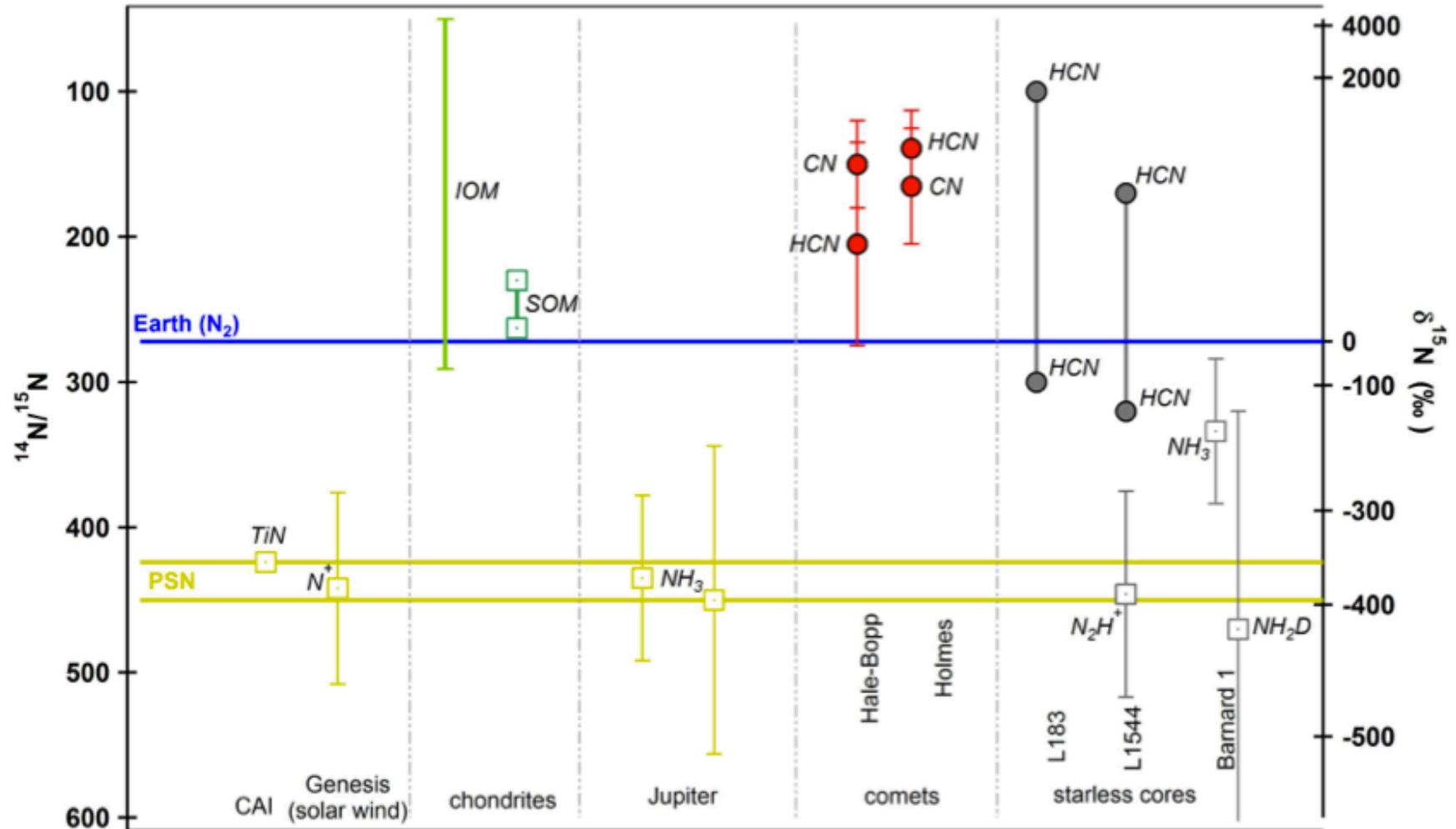
(see also H_2D^+ detection by Friesen et al. 2014)

For D-fractionation in massive cores: see Jonathan Tan's talk

A photograph of a clear blue sky with scattered white, fluffy clouds. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

^{15}N fractionation

Differential ^{15}N enhancement between nitrile- and amine-bearing interstellar molecules. No correlation with D-fraction.



Hily-Blant et al. 2013; Bizzocchi et al. 2013; Wampfler et al. 2014; Fontani et al. 2015

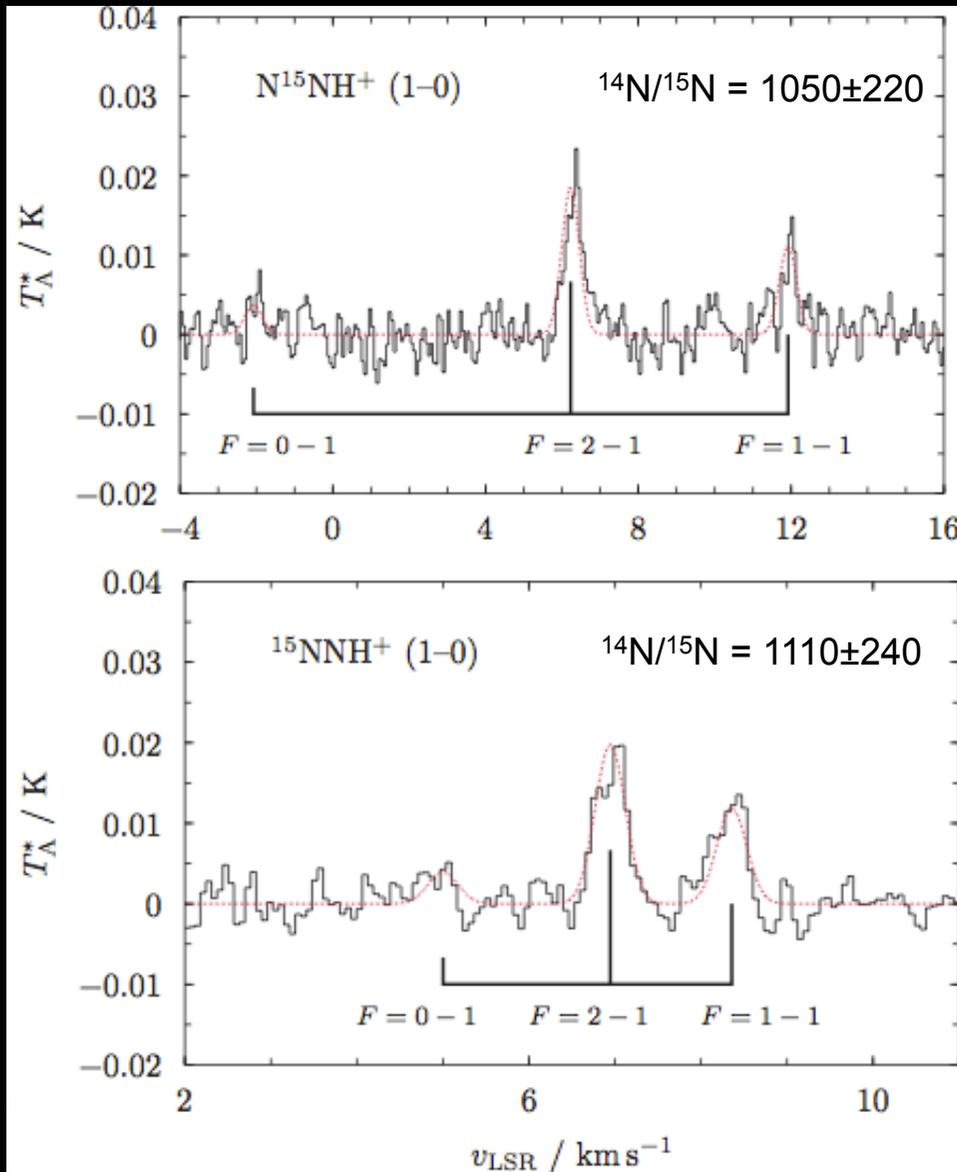
The $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ ratio



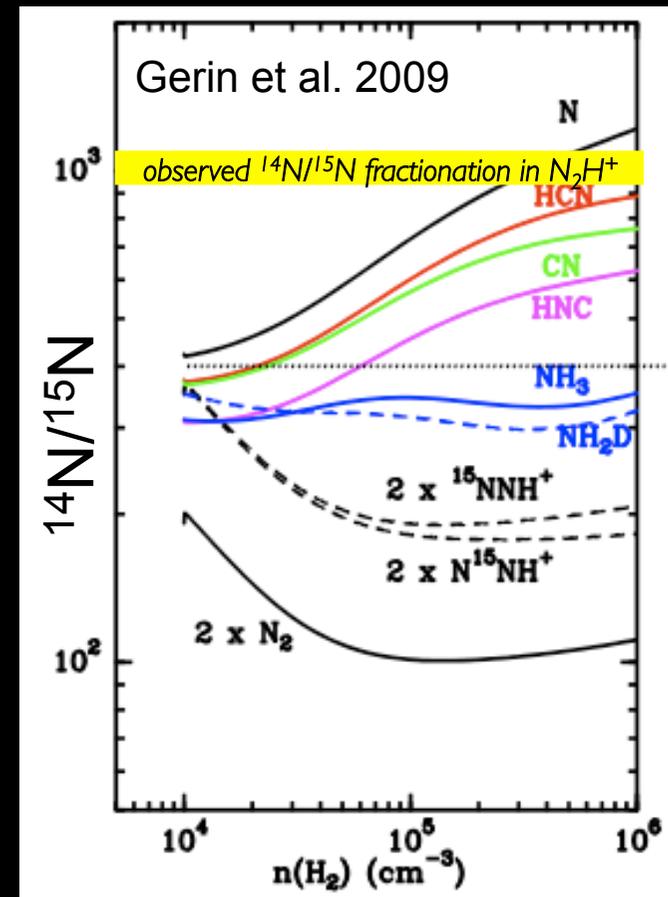
Large ^{15}N excess is found in primitive material (meteorites, IDPs, cometary dust particles returned by *Stardust*): e.g. $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N} \sim 65$ found in the “hot spots” of the meteorite Bells (*Buseman et al. 2006*).

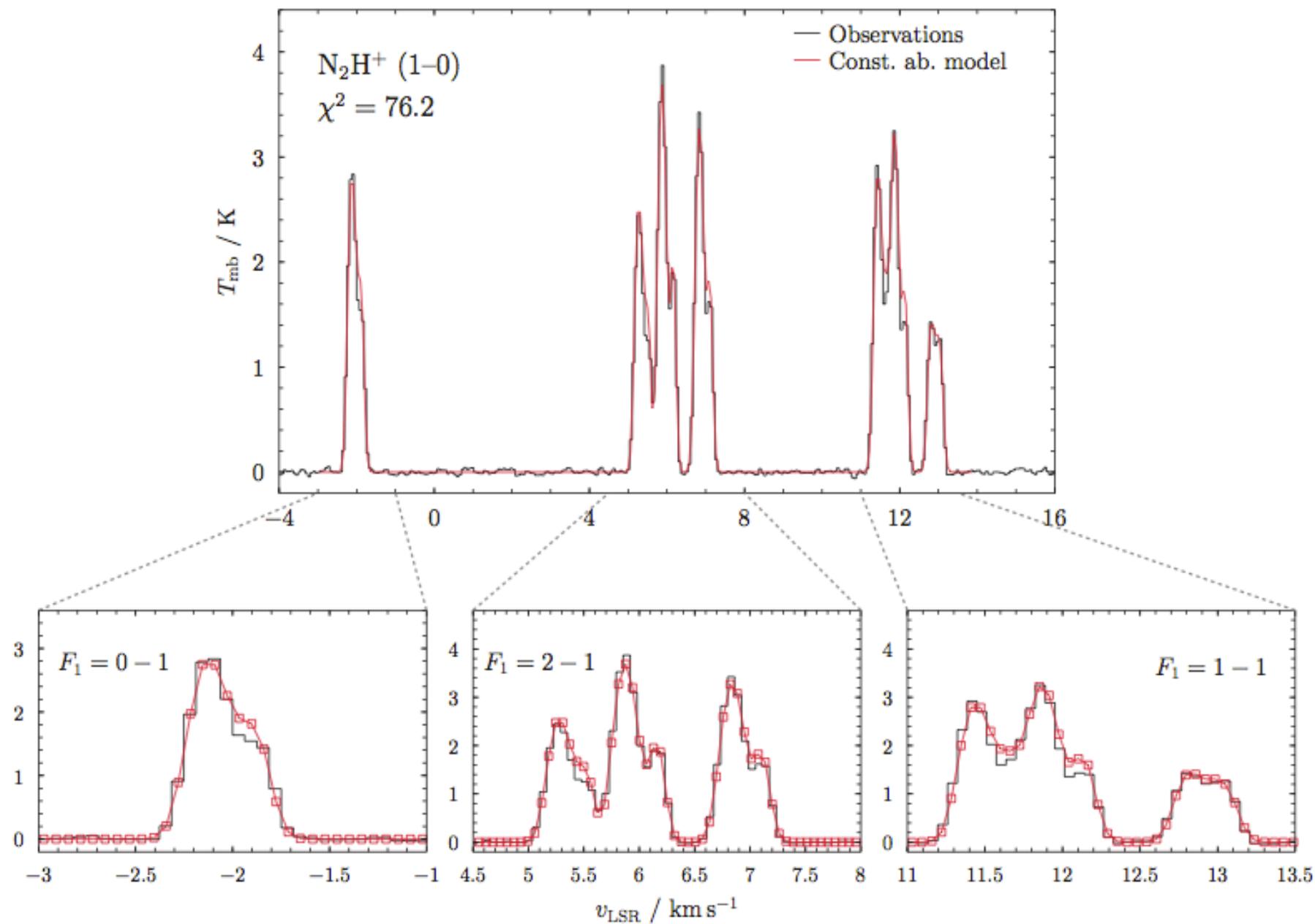
D-enriched spots do not always coincide with ^{15}N -enriched ones (*e.g. Buseman et al. 2010; Robert et al. 2006*).

^{15}N -fractionation in N_2H^+ (Bizzocchi et al. 2010, 2013)



$^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ in pre-stellar core higher than protosolar value! – disagreement with chemical models.

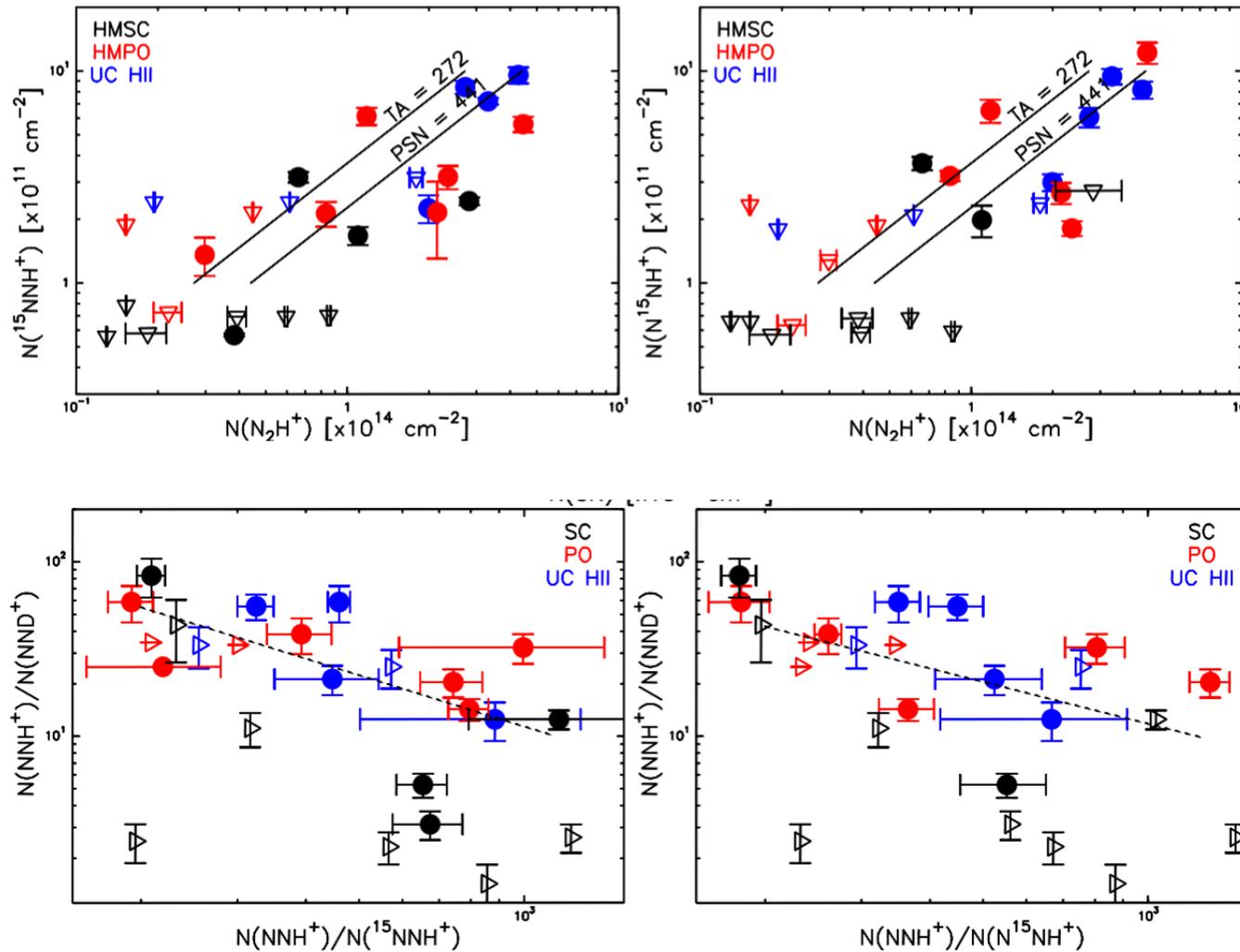




Bizzocchi et al. 2013

$^{15}\text{NNH}^+$ and N^{15}NH^+ in high-mass star forming regions

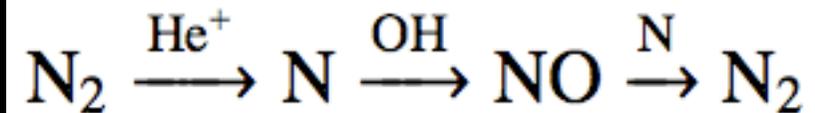
Fontani et al. 2015 (+ see poster by Laura Colzi !)



$180 < ^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N} < 1300$ with N_2H^+ -- $270 < ^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N} < 440$ with CN

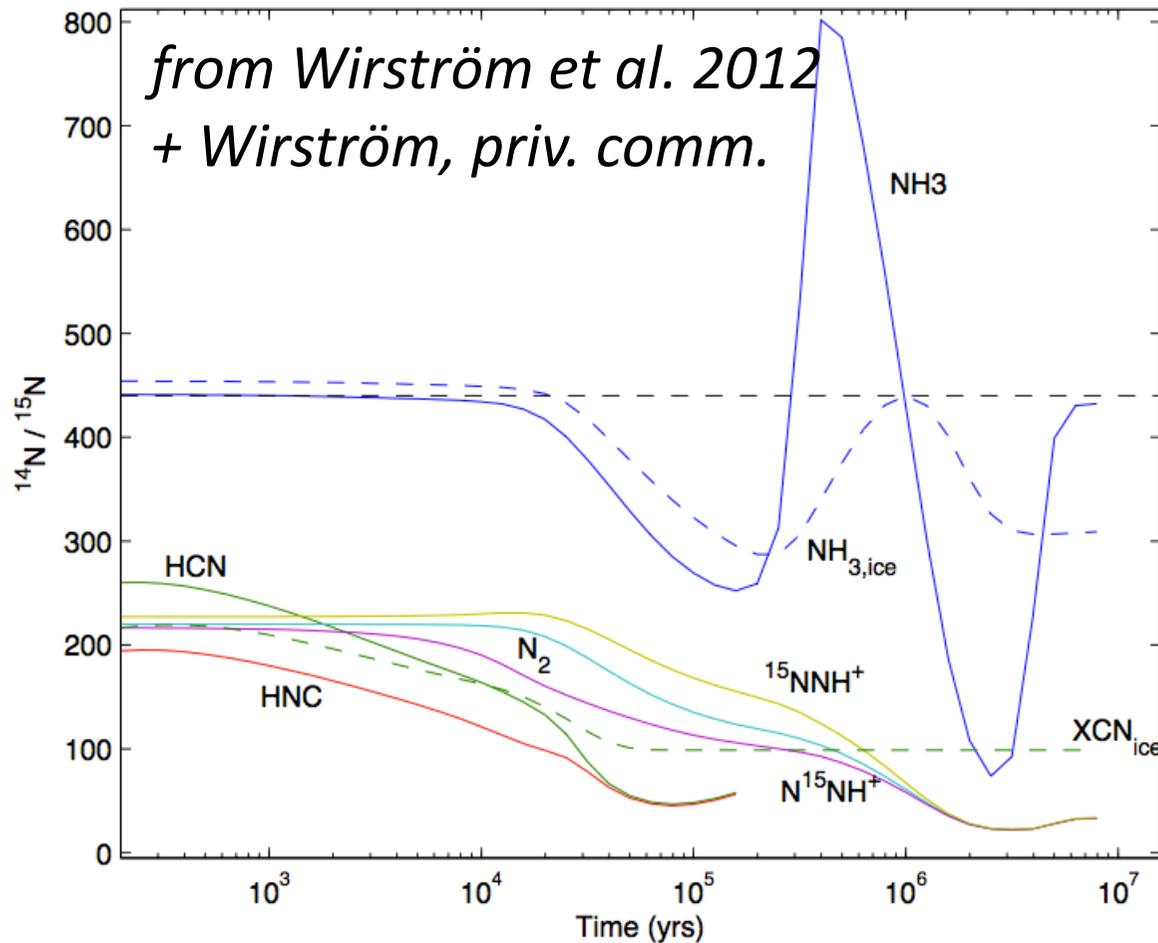
Freeze-out effect on ^{15}N fractionation

Under normal interstellar conditions, ^{14}N and ^{15}N are continuously exchanged within N_2 through the sequence:



But if freeze-out is large, there is insufficient OH to drive the above sequence and ^{15}N is preferentially incorporated into gas phase N_2 as well as into NH_3 → significant fractionation is expected.

Rodgers & Charnley 2008a,b



- (i) No correlation with D-fractionation;
- (ii) Fractionation in HCN and CN is *faster* (10⁵ yr) than in NH₃ (~10⁶ yr);

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Is ¹⁵N¹⁴N preferentially frozen onto dust grains ?

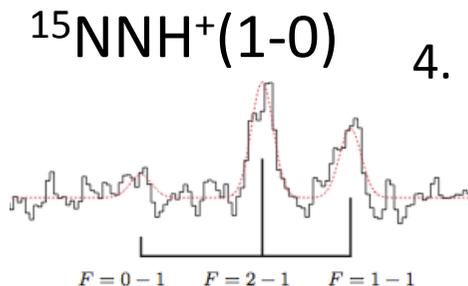
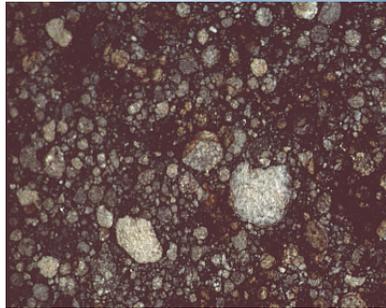
Is ¹⁵N chemically depleted before N₂ and N₂H⁺ formation?

Uncertain rate coefficients ?

Overestimated molecular freeze-out ?

Ortho-to-para H₂...

CONCLUSIONS



1. Pre-stellar cores are deuteration factories because of the low temperatures and high levels of molecular freeze-out (H_2D^+ , D_2H^+ , D_3^+ , D).
2. Differential ^{15}N enhancement between nitrile- and amine-bearing interstellar molecules. Large ^{15}N fractionation in nitriles also found in comets.
3. No correlation of ^{15}N and D fractionation measured in pre-stellar cores and in meteoritic hot spots.
4. ^{15}N – fraction in N_2H^+ is about two times less than the protosolar value ('anti-fractionation'): disagreement with chemical model prediction.