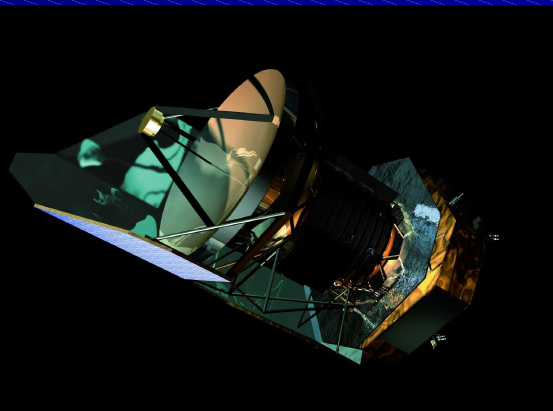


# Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, evaporating very small grains and H<sub>2</sub> in photodissociation regions

Christine Joblin

*Centre d'Etude Spatiale des Rayonnements*

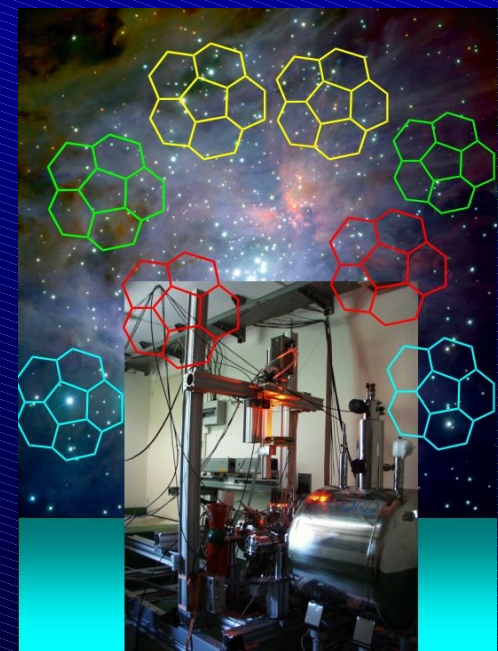
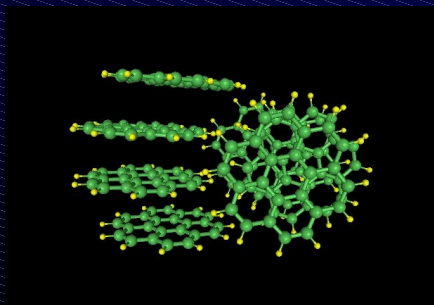
*Université de Toulouse – CNRS*



*"Elementary mechanisms of hydrogen /  
carbon-surface interactions"*

ARCHES workshop

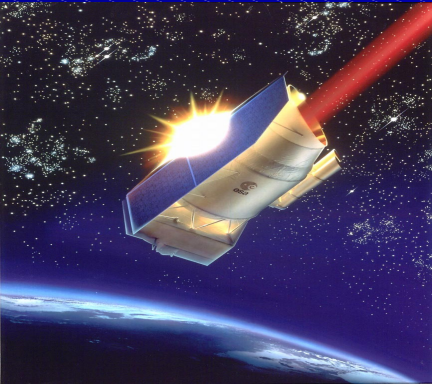
Marseille , 27-28 October 2008



# Outline

- The Aromatic Infrared Bands (AIBs) – which carriers (PAHs, C-VSGs)?
- Role of the PAHs / C-VSGs in H<sub>2</sub> formation in photodissociation regions
- The laboratory approach

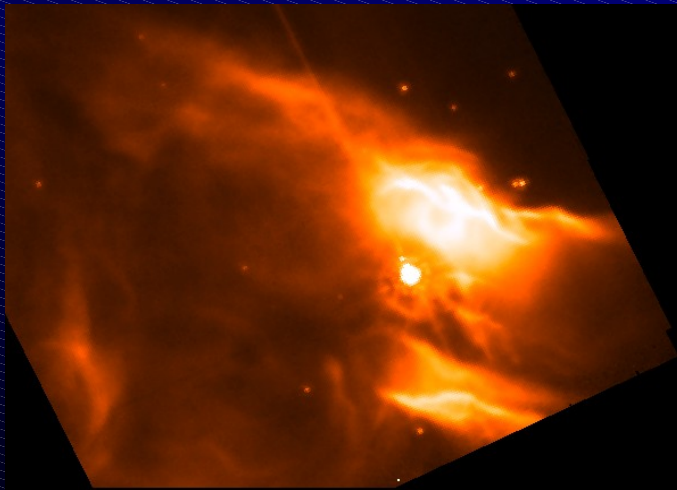
# PAHs revealed through the mid-IR emission of PhotoDissociation (UV-irradiated) Regions



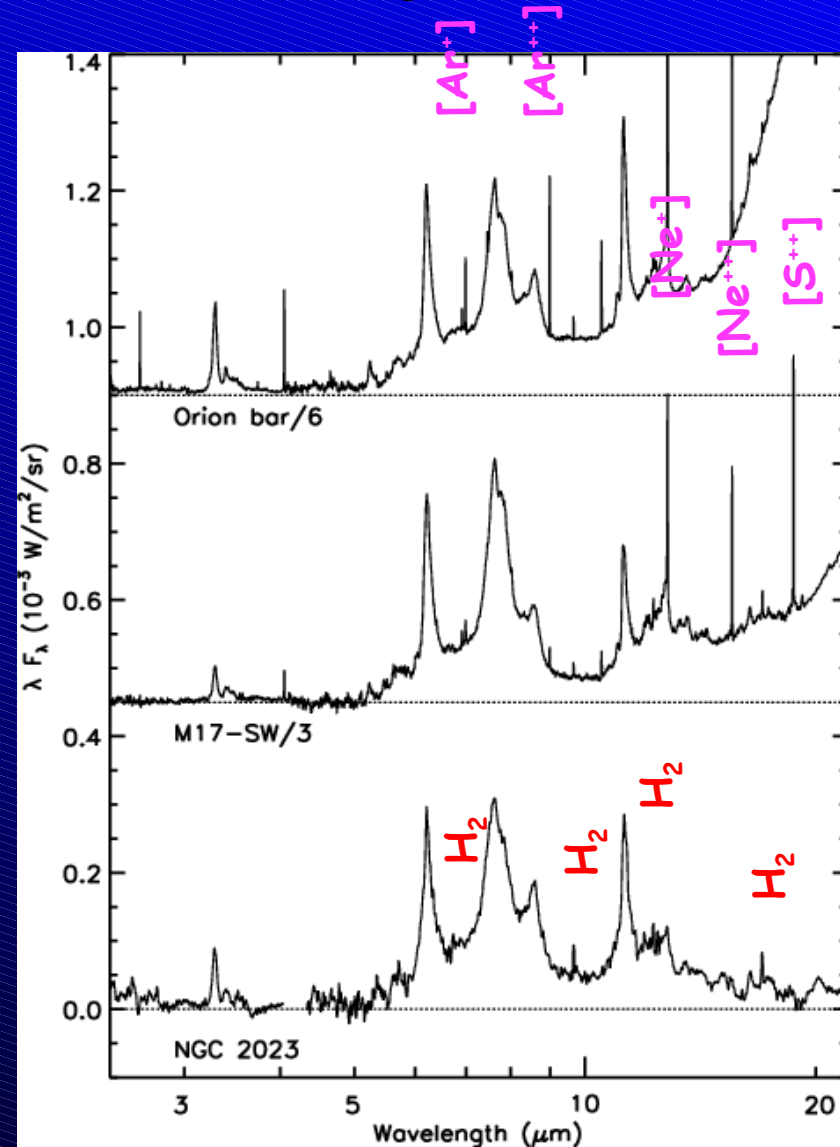
« Infrared Space Observatory »  
ESA; 1995-1998



« Spitzer Space Telescope »  
NASA; 2003-2009



SST IRAC 8  $\mu\text{m}$  image – NGC 7023  
*Werner et al. 2004, ApJ Supp 154, 309*

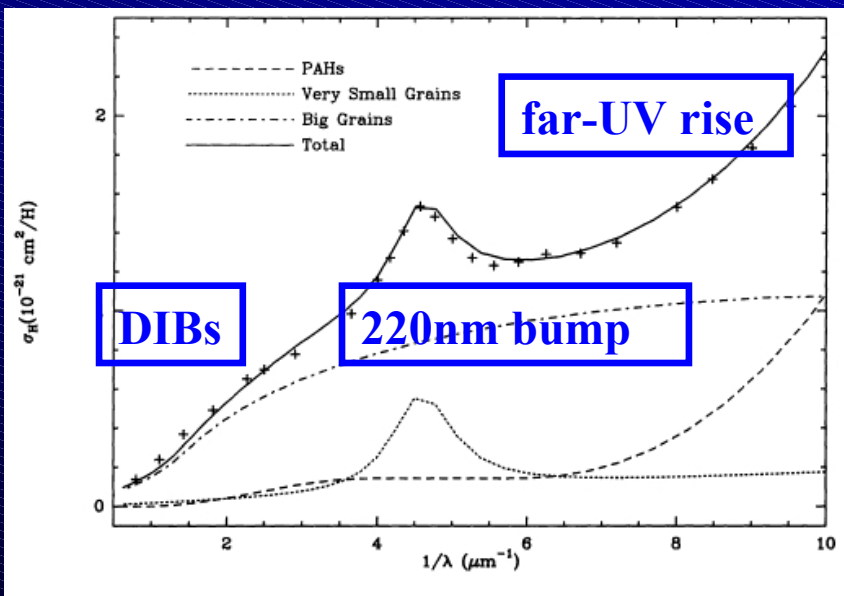


ISO SWS spectra  
*Vertratete et al. 2001, A&A 372, 981*

# Interstellar dust : from grains to aromatic molecules

*From Désert et al. 1990, A&A 237, 215*

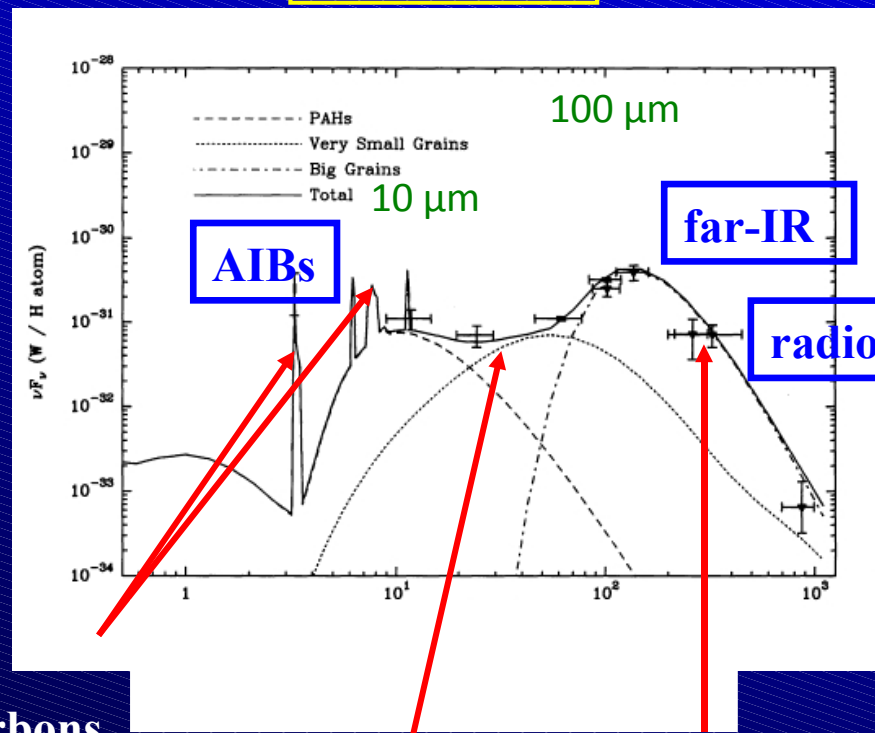
## UV-visible extinction



Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons

**PAH**

## IR emission



Very Small Grains

**VSG**

Big Grains

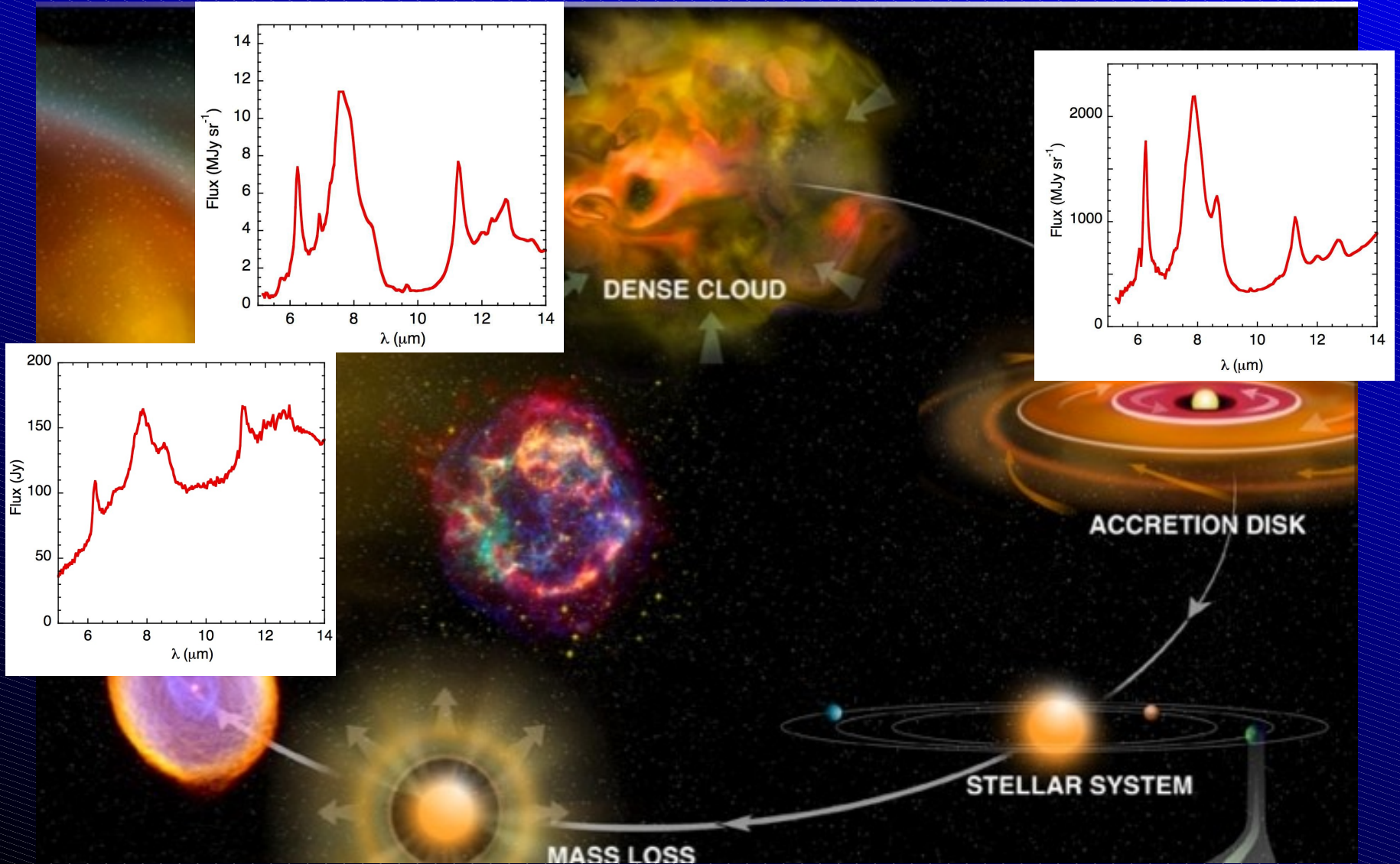
0.1  $\mu\text{m}$  - **BG**

Nano-objects (1-20 nm)  
composition?  
C, Si, Fe,....

silicates

# PAHs in the dust cycle

What can we learn on PAHs from the analysis of the AIB spectrum?



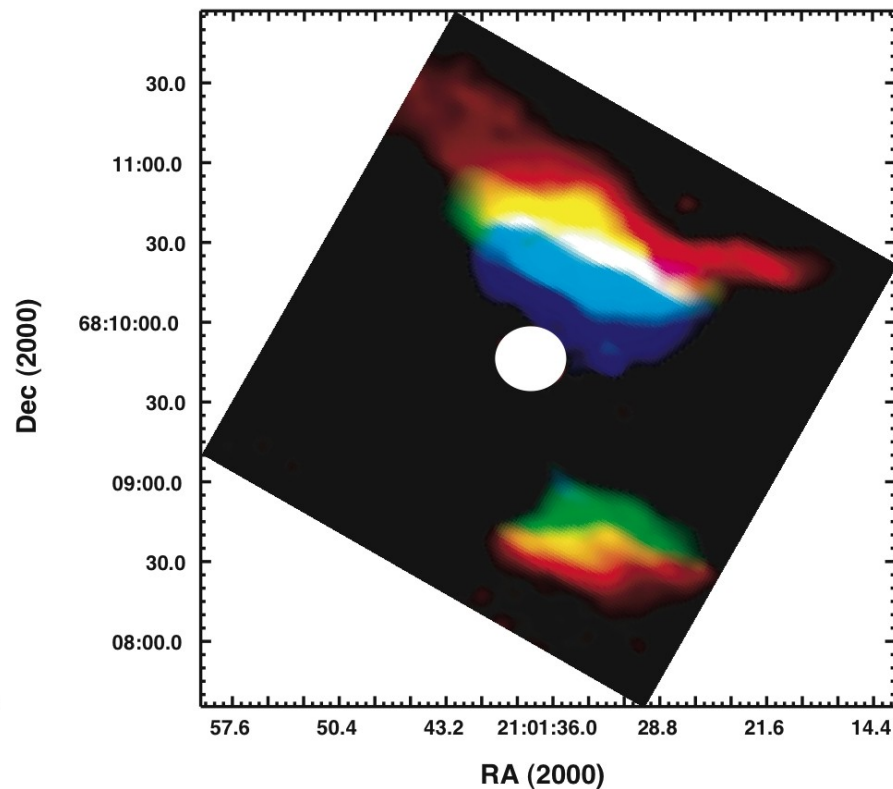
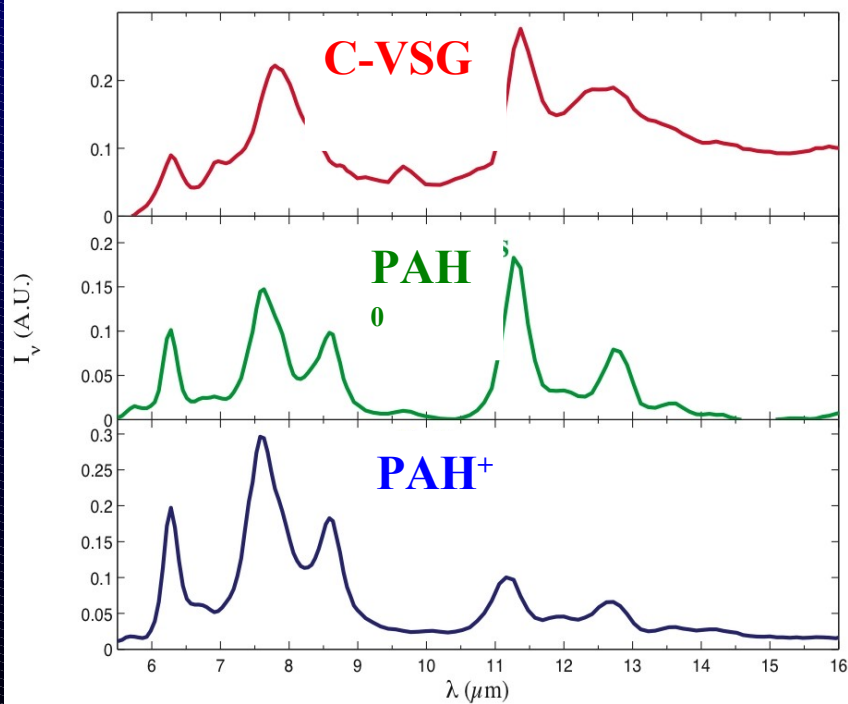
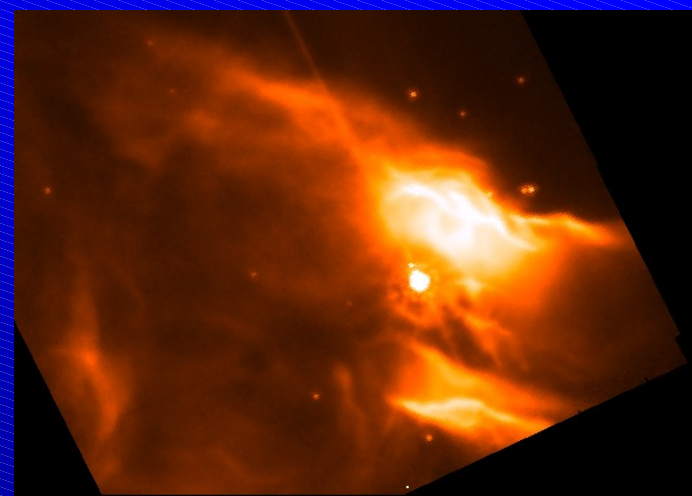
# Photoprocessing of AIB carriers

Mild excitation conditions

Ex: NGC 7023 PDR

*Rapacioli, Joblin, Boissel, 2005, A&A 429, 193*

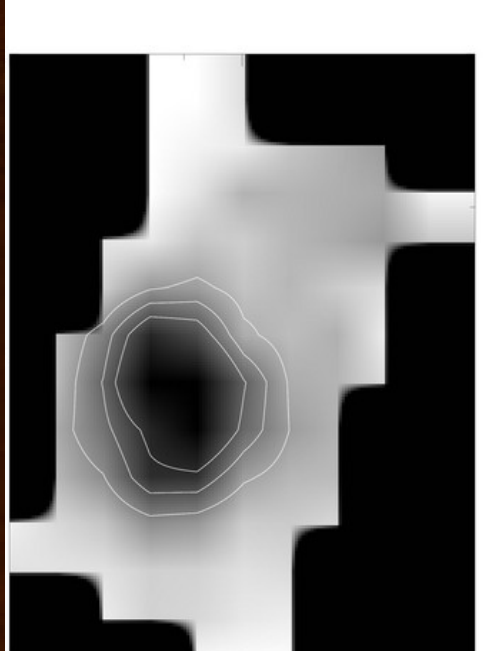
*Tielens 2008, ARA&A, in press*



# Programme SPECPR on Spitzer

*Berne, Joblin et al. 2007, A&A 469, 575*

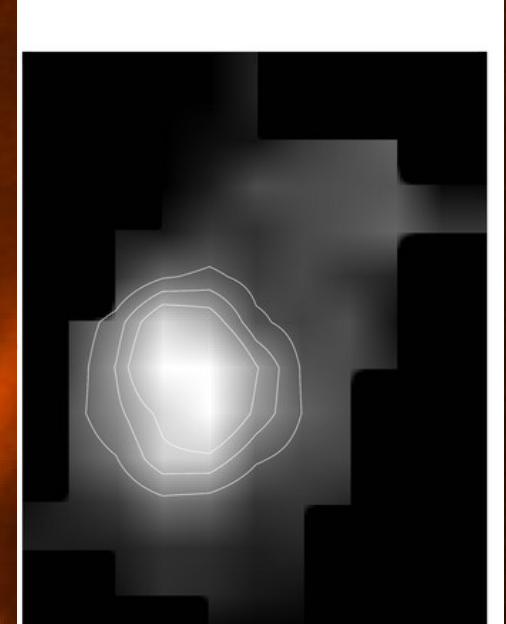
VSG Map



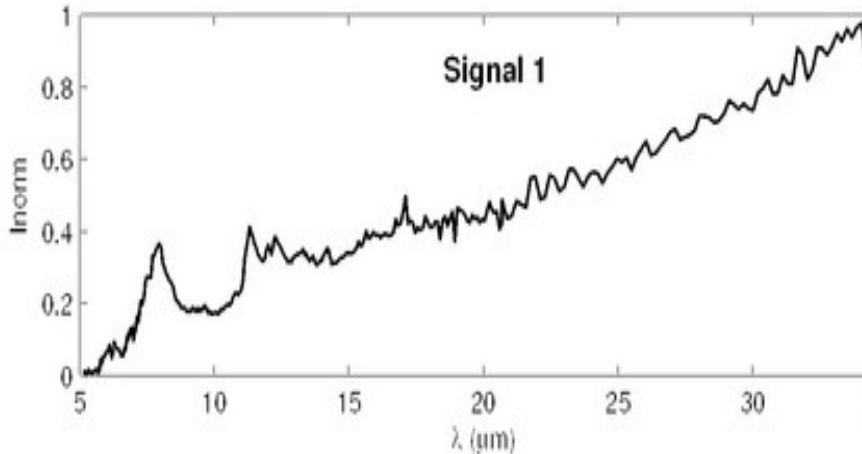
*Ced 201*

*B9.5 V star*

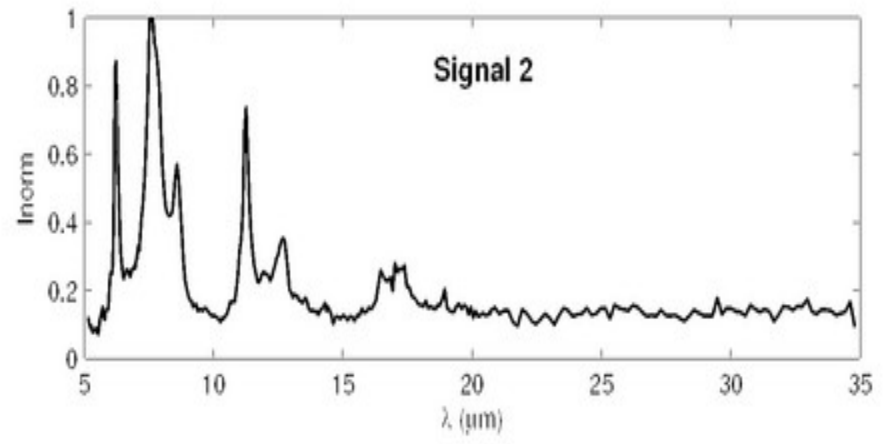
PAH Map



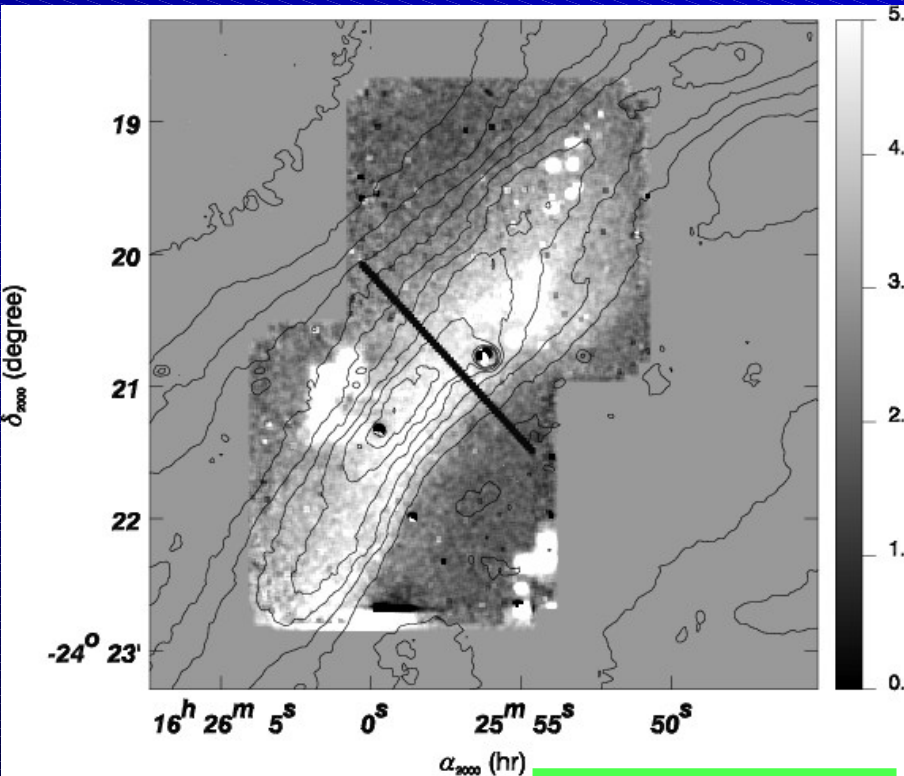
VSG spectrum



PAH spectrum

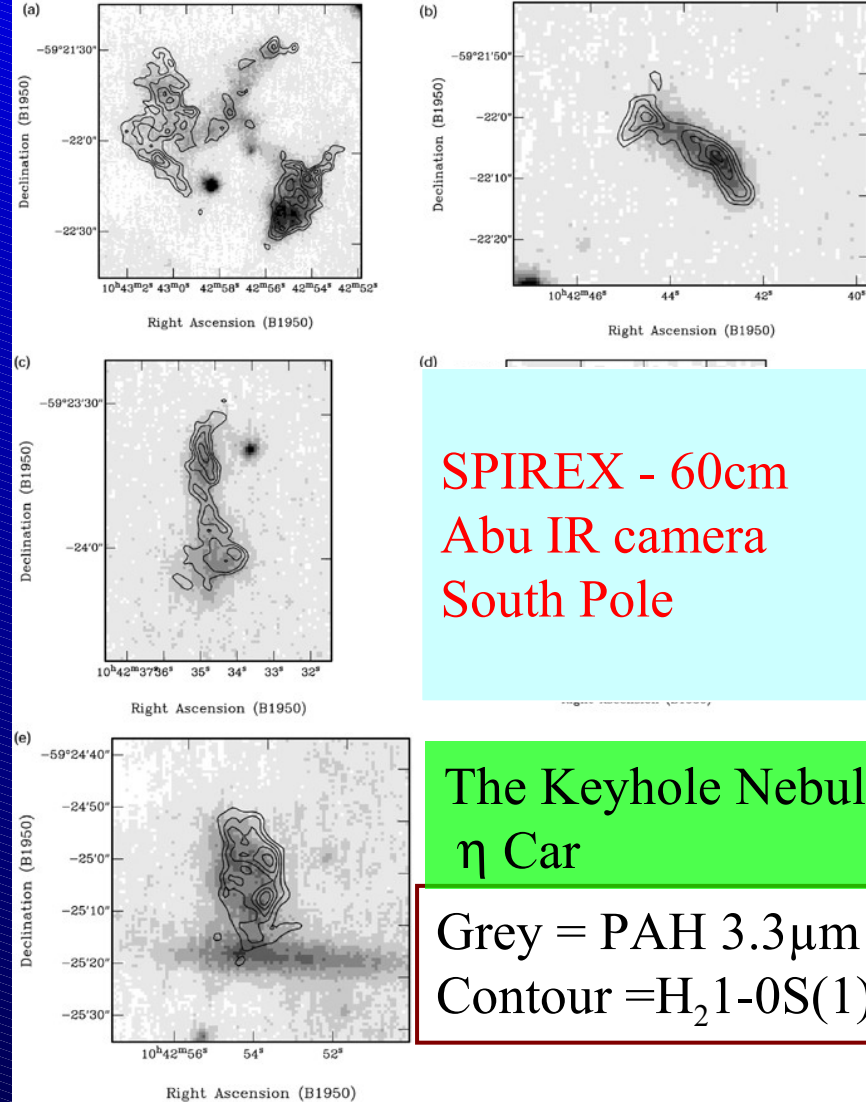


# AIB and H<sub>2</sub> emissions



**ρ Oph filament**

*Habart et al., 2003, A&A 397, 623*



**SPIREX - 60cm  
Abu IR camera  
South Pole**

**The Keyhole Nebula  
η Car**

**Grey = PAH 3.3 μm  
Contour = H<sub>2</sub> 1-0S(1)**

*Brooks et al. 2000, MNRAS 319, 95*

Abundance of H<sub>2</sub> in PDRs + spatial coincidence with the Aromatic Ir Bands

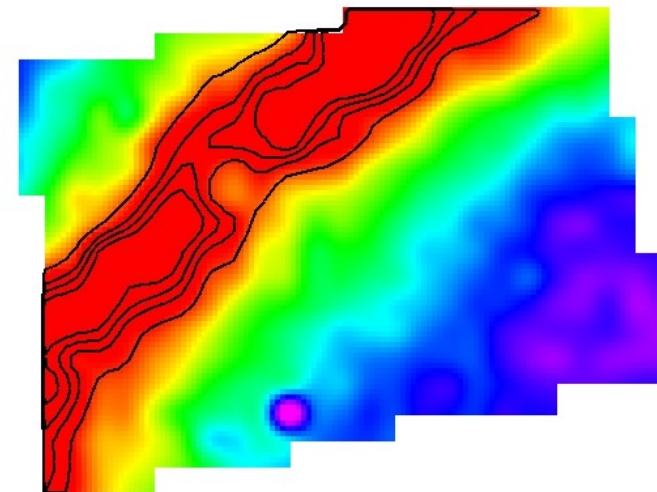
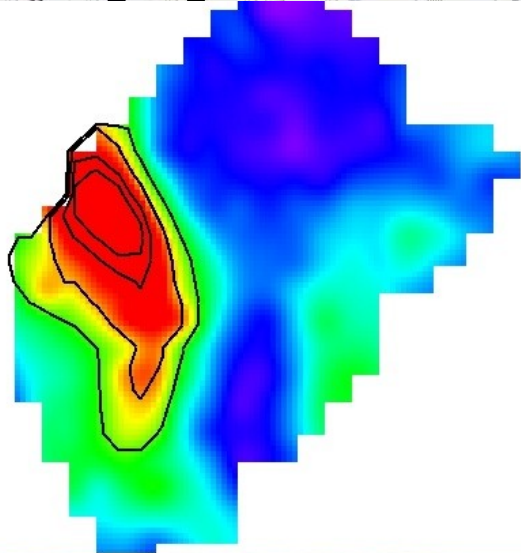
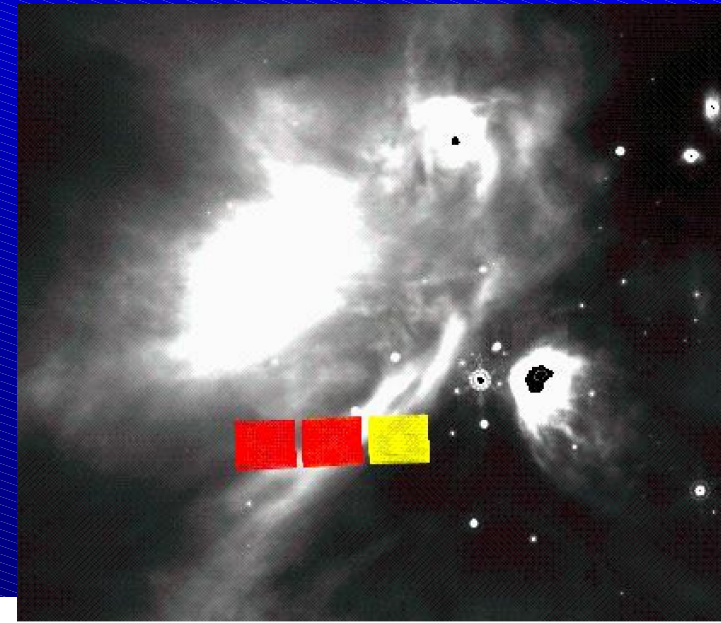
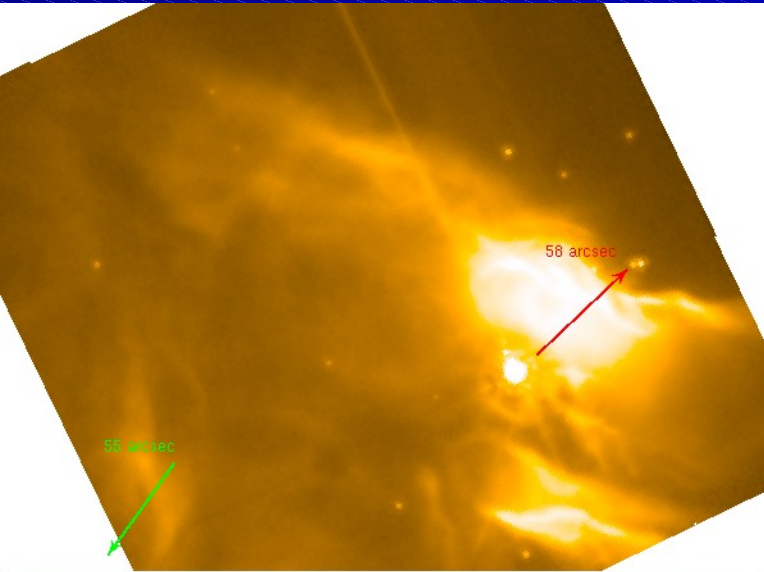
Formation of H<sub>2</sub> in PDRs related to the photophysics/chemistry of PAHs/C-VSGs



# C-VSGs and H<sub>2</sub> emission in PDRs - SPEC-PDR on Spitzer

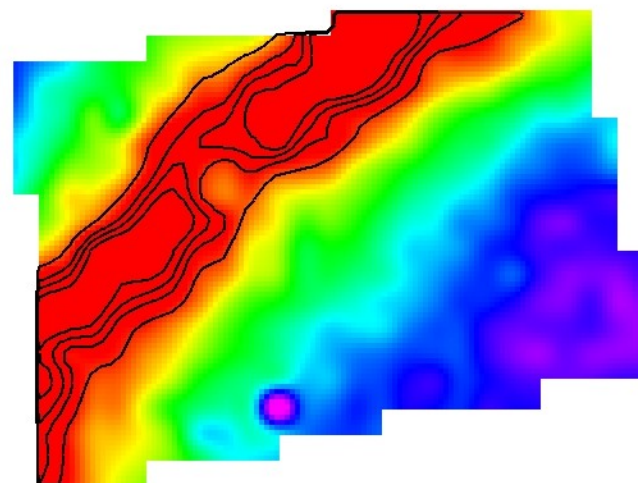
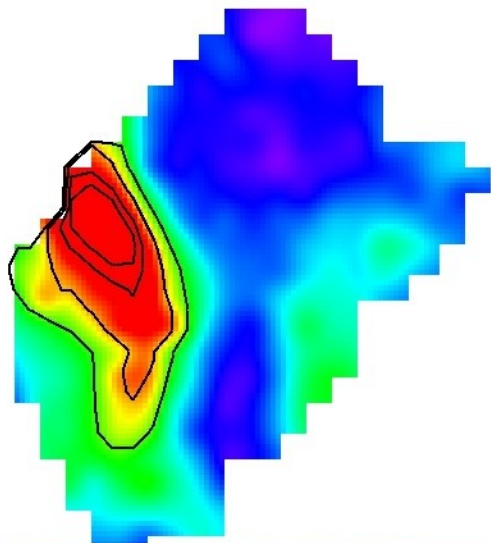
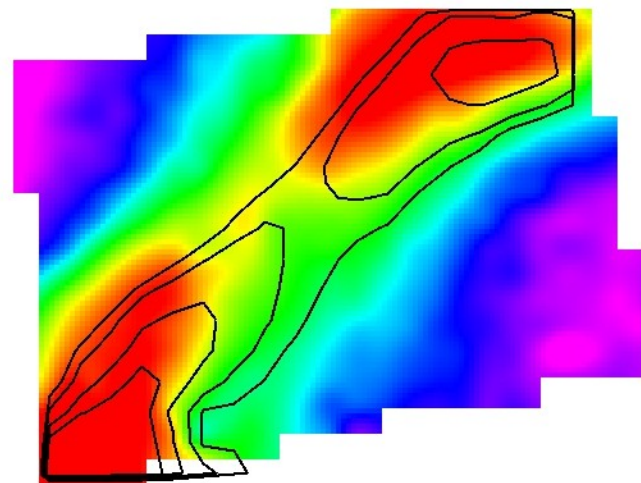
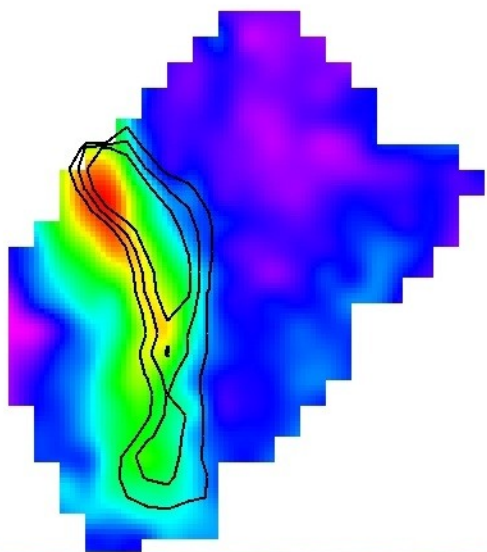
H<sub>2</sub> 0-0S(0) @ 28 μm / C-VSGs (contours)

*Joblin et al. 2008*



# C-VSGs and H<sub>2</sub> emission in PDRs - SPEC-PDR on Spitzer

H<sub>2</sub> 0-0S(3) @ 9.7 μm / PAH emission (contours)



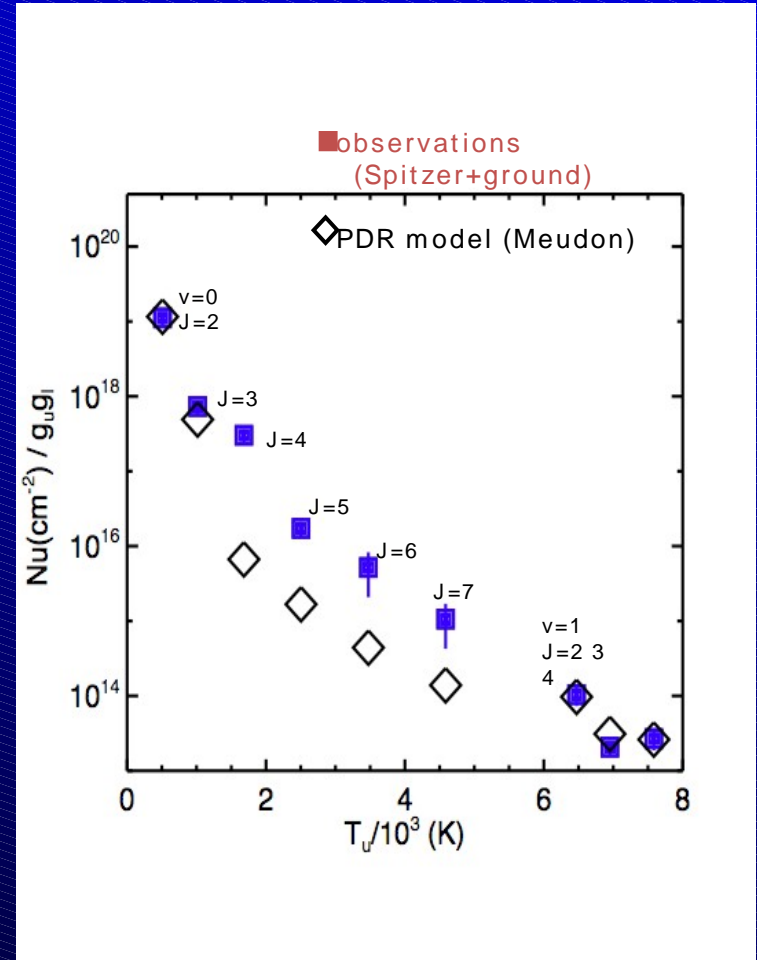
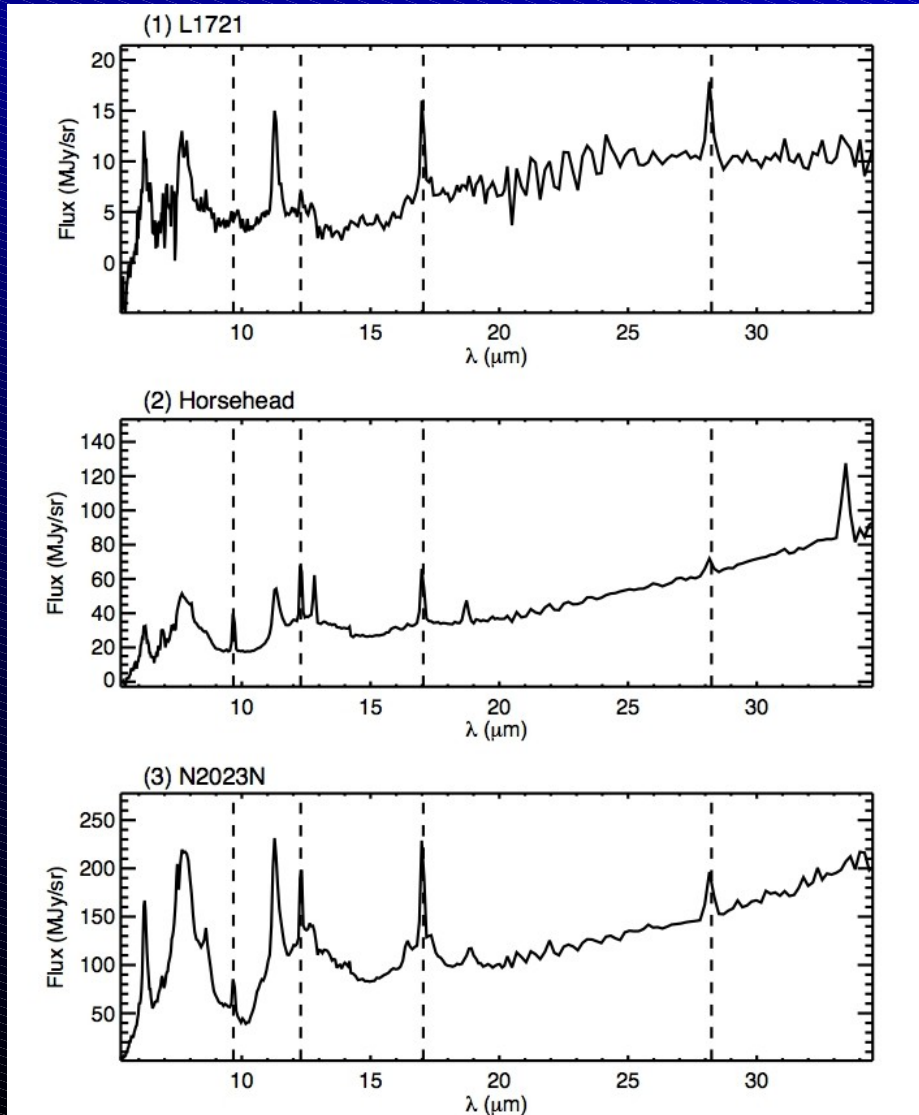
H<sub>2</sub> 28 μm

C-VSG emission

# H<sub>2</sub> emission in PDRs

S(3) S(2) 0-0 S(1) 0-0 S(0)  
 J=5 J=4 v=0 J=3 v=0 J=2

*Habart et al. 2007, A&A, subm.*



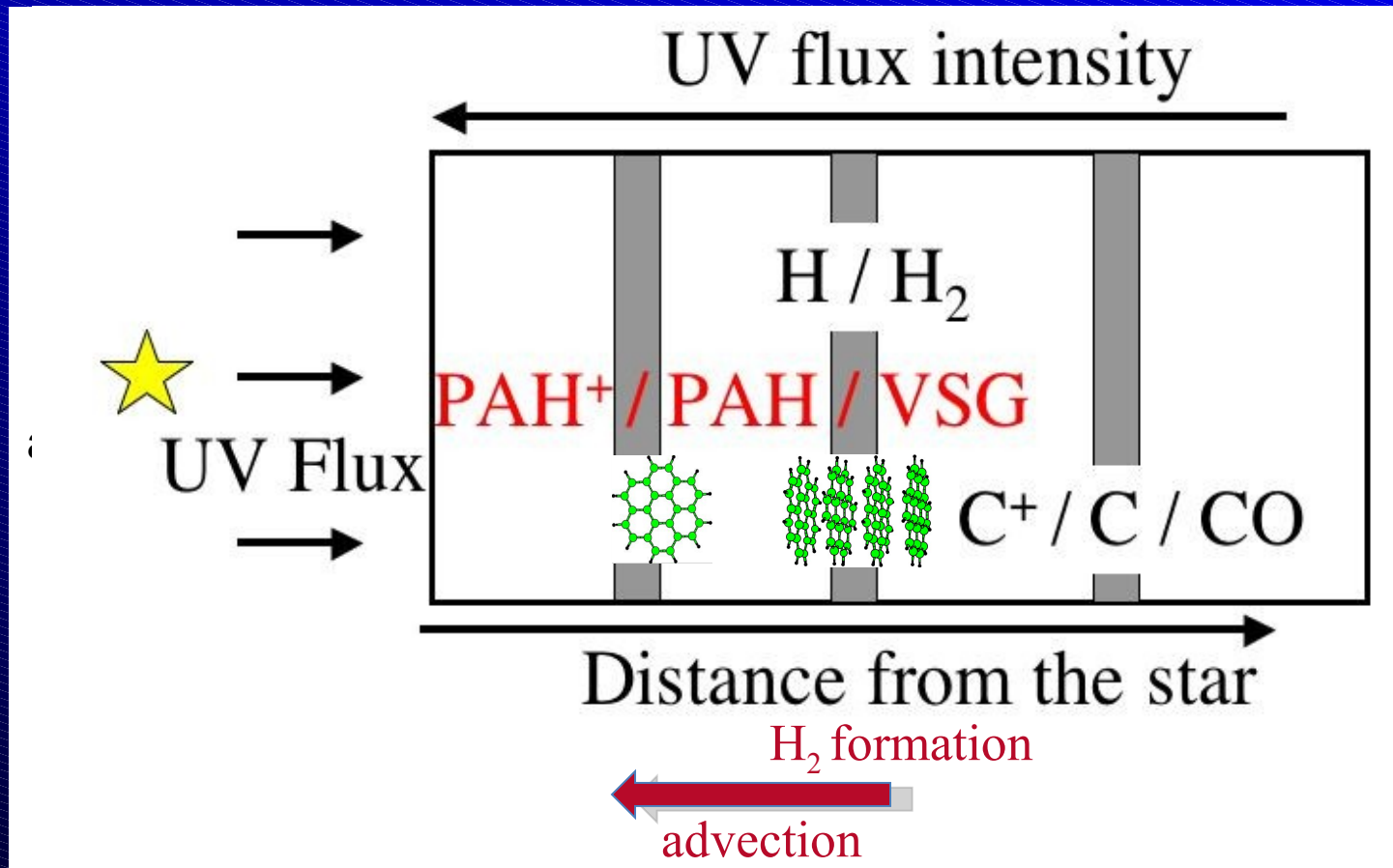
Unexpected rotationally excited H<sub>2</sub> in low/moderate excited PDRs.

# Observations of H<sub>2</sub> in PDRs

- PDRs are regions rich in UV photons, where the gas temperature is high and the dust temperature is higher ( $T_g \sim 50\text{K}$ ).
- Need for a high formation rate of H<sub>2</sub> in PDRs - *Habart et al. (2004, A&A)*
- Role of chemisorbed H (reactivity of physisorbed H atoms not efficient enough) – *Cazaux & Tielens (2004, A&A)*
- Excitation : collisions, UV pumping, formation process. Unexpected rotationally excited H<sub>2</sub> concerns a small fraction of excited H<sub>2</sub> (few percents). Role of advection? Formation process?

*Habart et al. (2007, A&A, subm.) – Joblin et al. (2008)*

# Proposed candidates for "evaporating" VSGs



**PAH clusters  $[\text{PAH}_n]^{+0}$**

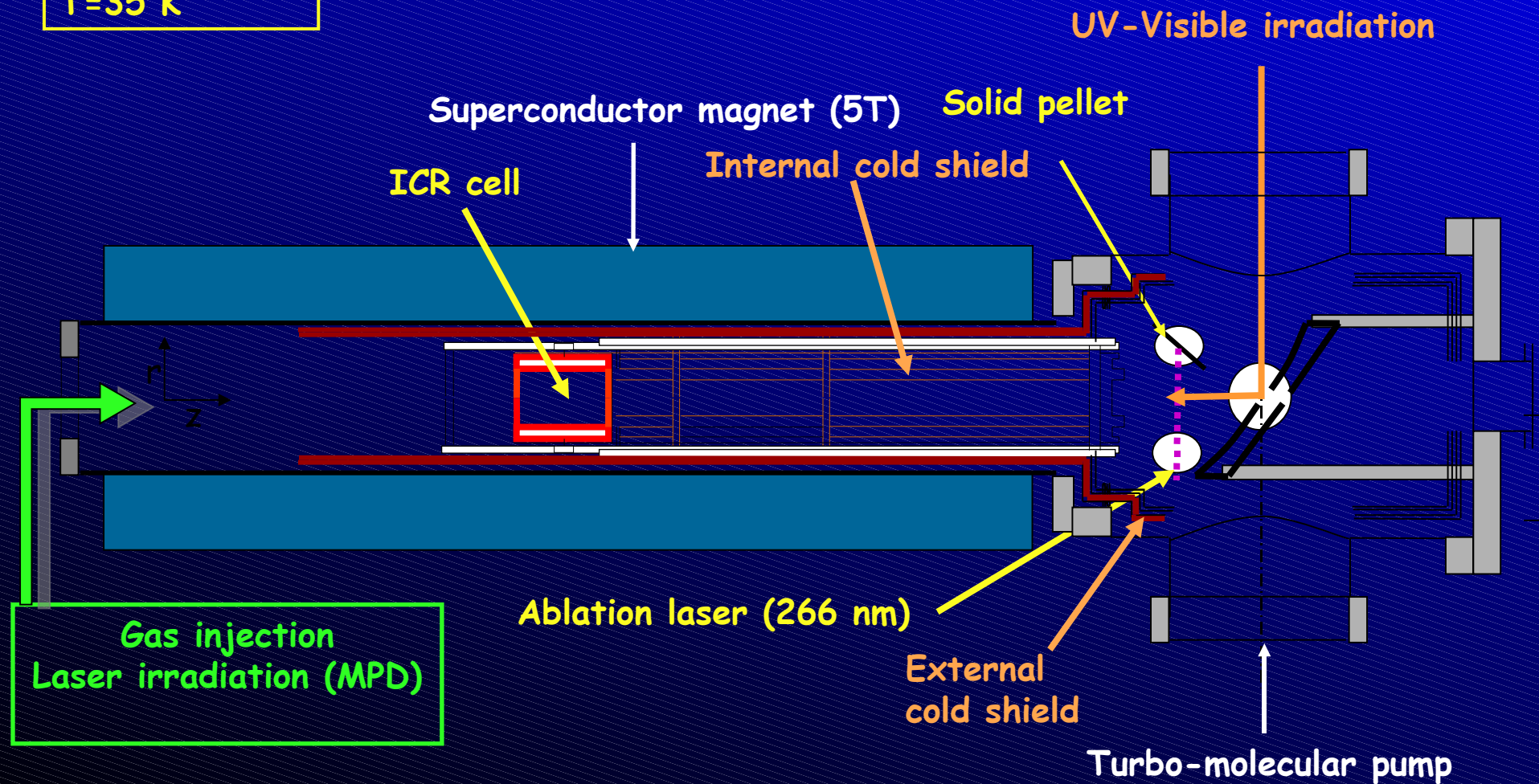
ISOCAM up to  $16 \mu\text{m}$ :  $N_C \sim 400$  atoms *Rapacioli et al. 2005, A&A 429, 193*

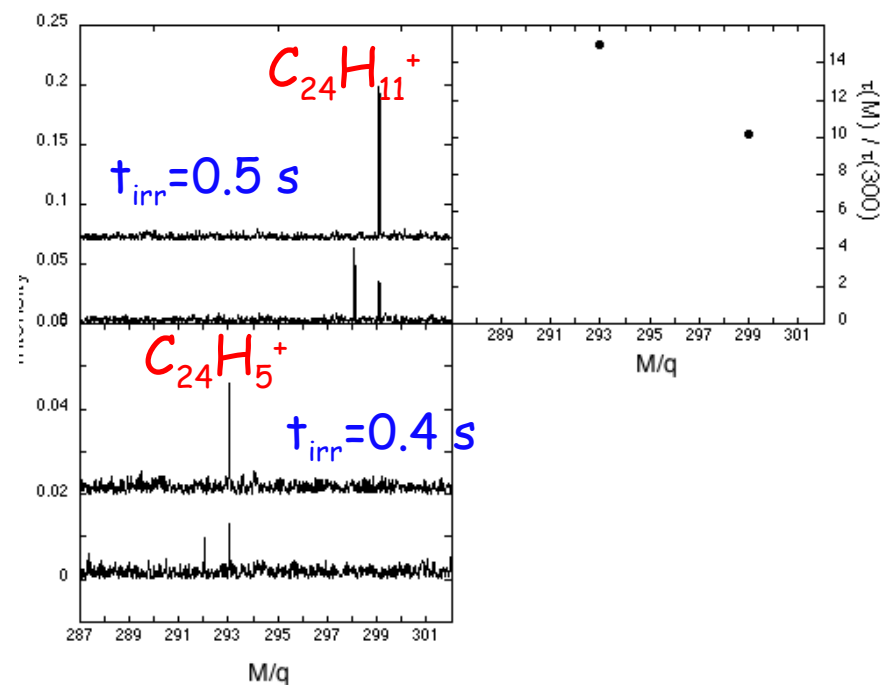
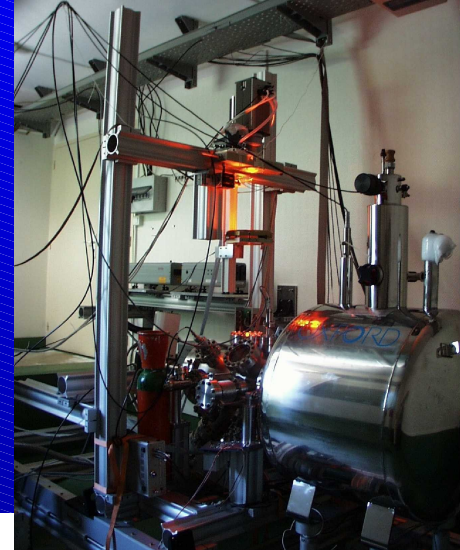
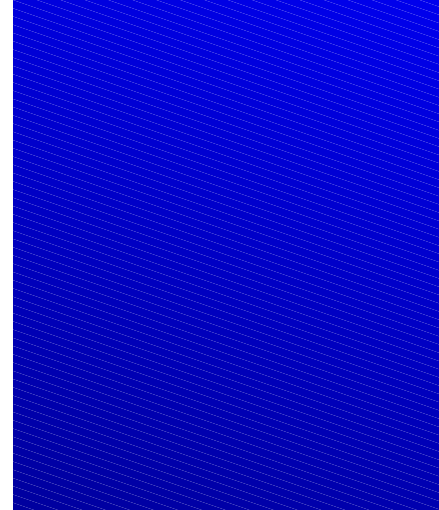
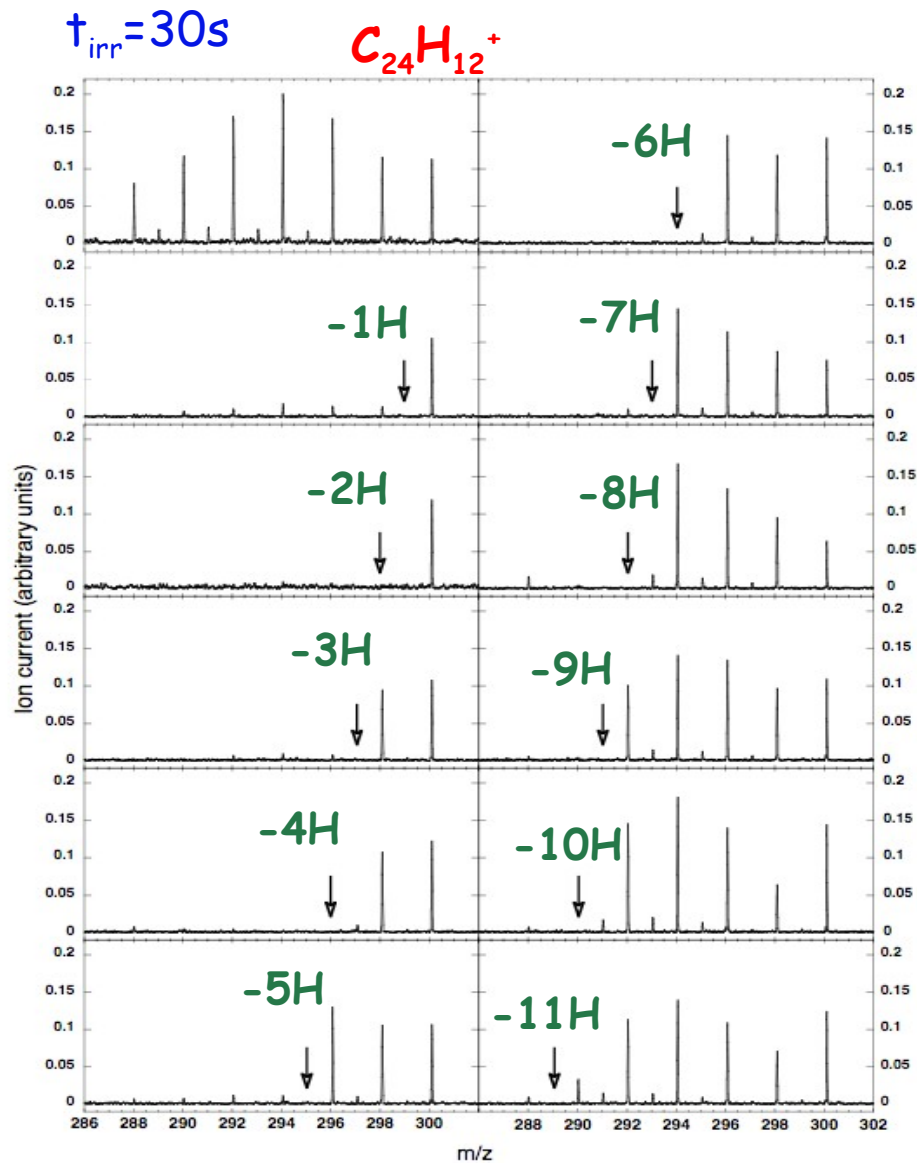
Spitzer up to  $35 \mu\text{m}$ :  $N_C$  few 1000 atoms *Berne et al. 2007, A&A 469, 575*

# The PIRENEA set-up for astrochemistry FTICR-MS with cold cell

*C. Joblin, M. Armengaud, P. Frabel, C. Pech, P. Boissel*

$P \sim 10^{-11}$  mbar  
T=35 K

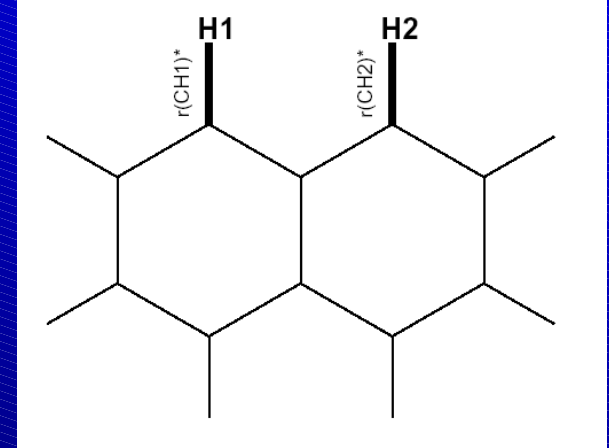
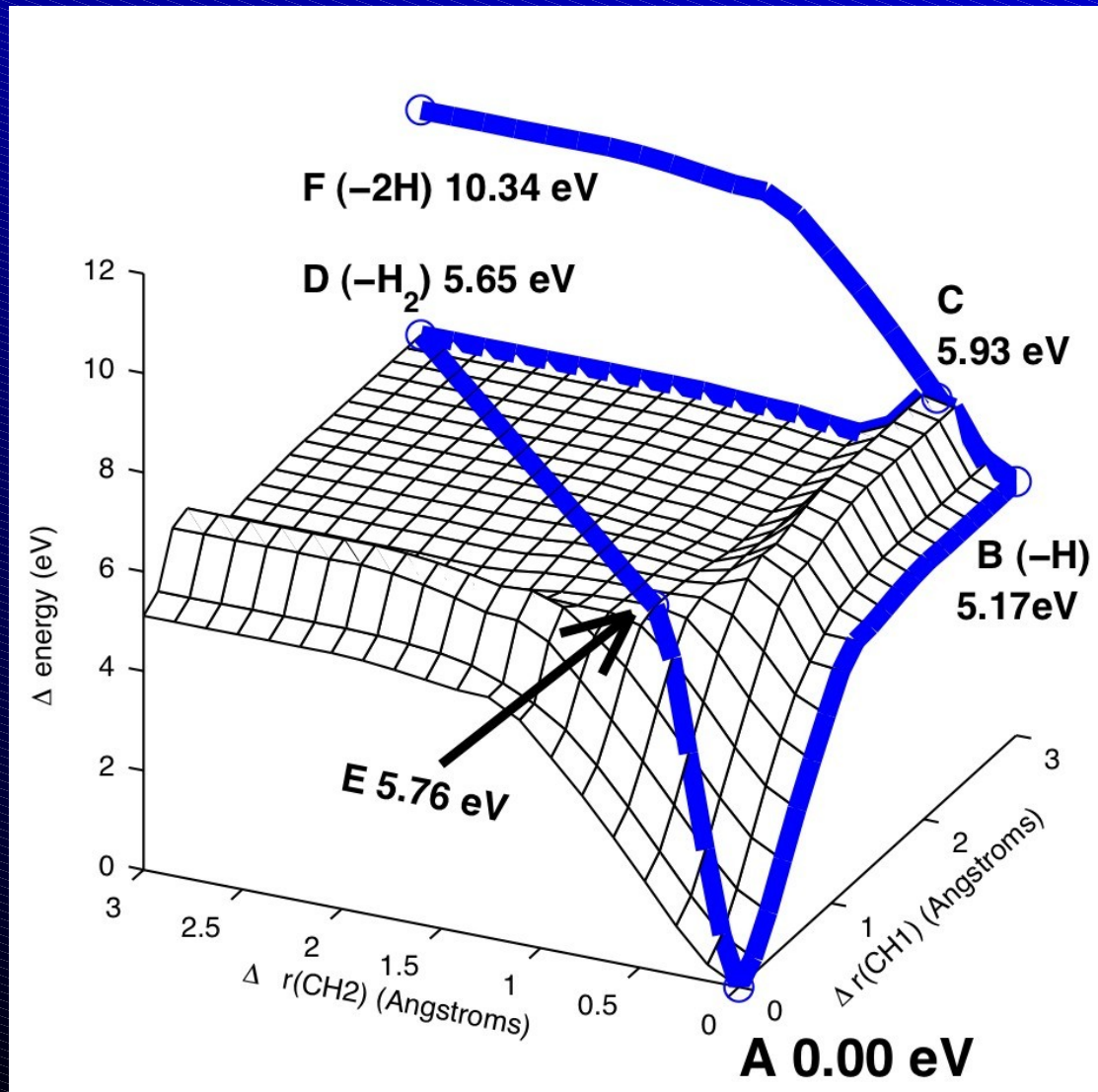




$\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{12}^+ \rightarrow \text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{11}^+ \rightarrow \dots \text{C}_{24}^+$   
by successive H losses

Dissociation kinetics of  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{2p+1}^+$   
 $\sim 10$  times faster than  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{2p}^+$

# Photodissociation of PAHs / theory



DFT calculations  
/ B3LYP/6-31G\*\*

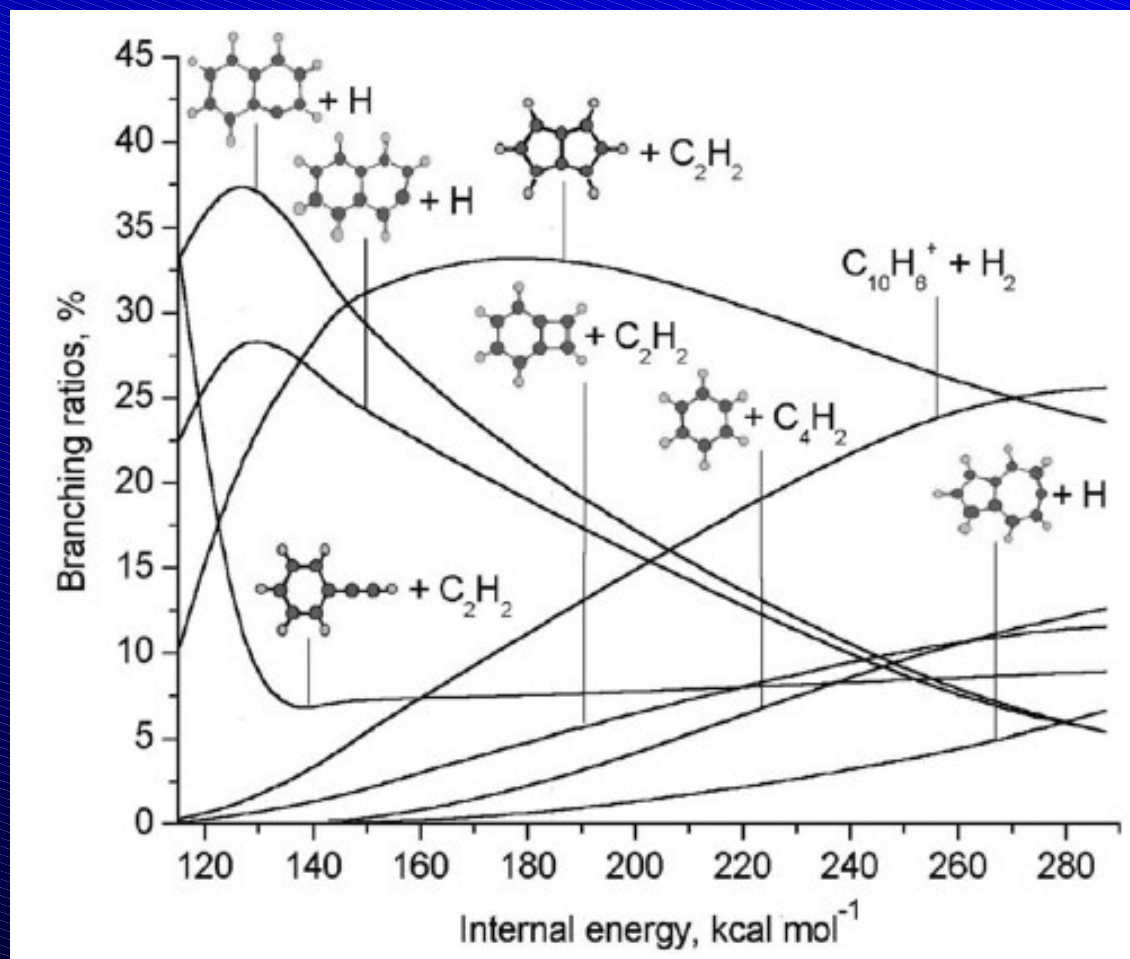
*Jolibois et al. 2005, A&A,  
444, 629*

PST model + DFT  
Dissociation rate -  $E_d=4.8$  eV

*Pino et al., 2007, J. Phys.  
Chem. A*



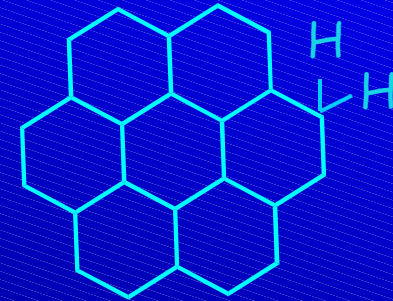
# Theoretical study - dissociation of $C_{10}H_8^+$



*Dyakov et al. 2006, PCCP 8, 1404*

In PDRs ( $h\nu \leq 13.6$  eV), higher-energy dissociation channels are efficient only for small PAHs

# Low-energy dissociation channel of PAHs : -H

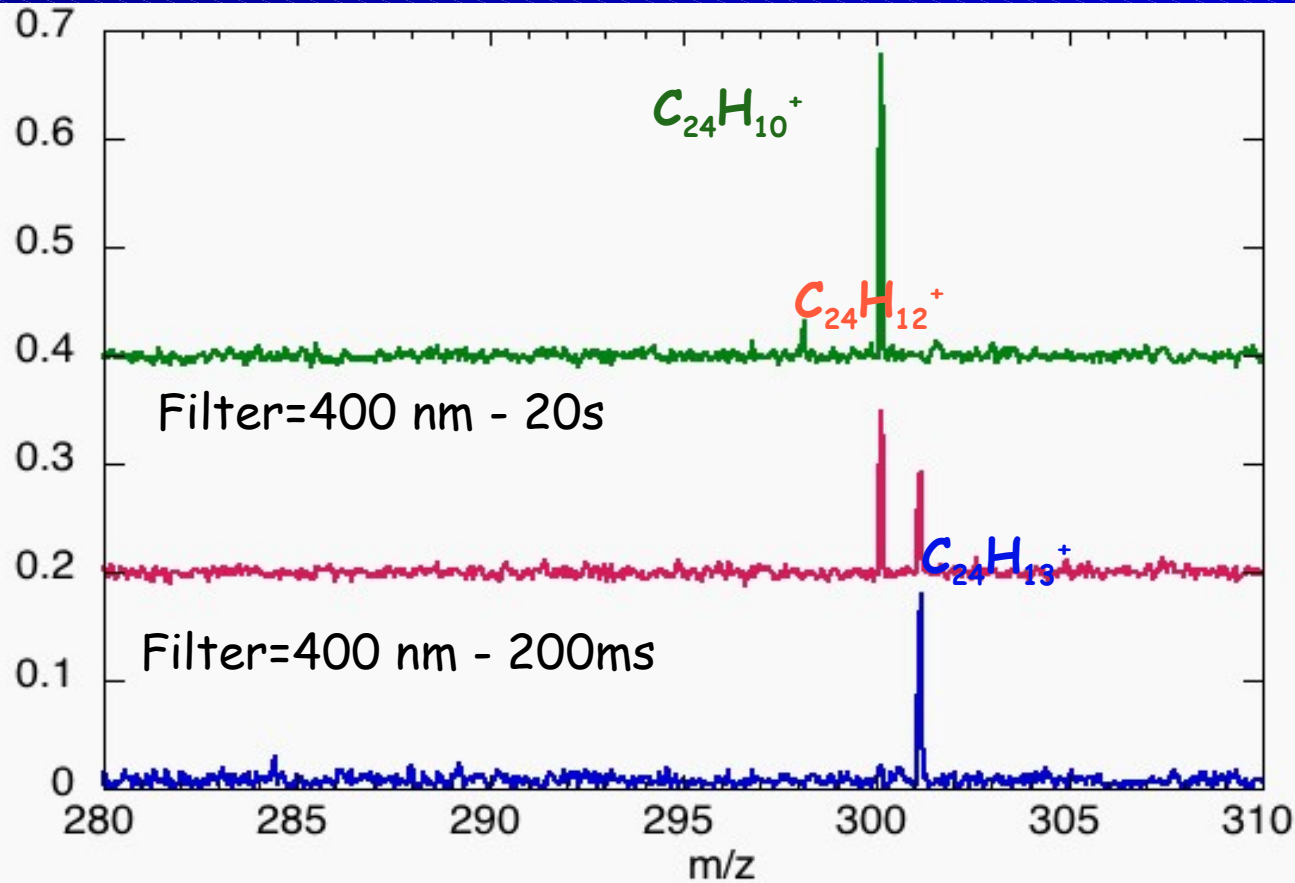


$$E_d=4.5 \text{ eV}$$



$$E_d=1.5 \text{ eV}$$

*May et al. 2000,  
PCCP 2, 5089*

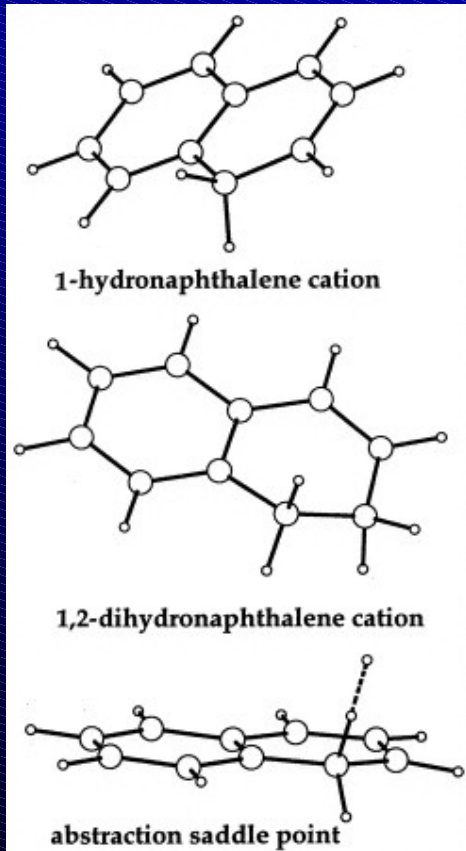


Still to be studied, irradiation of  $[PAH-H]^+$  with H atoms

*Bauschlicher 1998, ApJ 509,L125*

# Formation of H<sub>2</sub> mediated by PAHs

*Bauschlicher 1998, ApJ 509, L125*



Eley-Rideal abstraction  
DFT calculations

New results on C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>12</sub>  
*Rauls & Hornekaer 2008, ApJ 679, 531*

+ preliminary lab. results  
*talk L. Hornekaer*

Need for molecular dynamics simulations

Experimental studies *\*\*\*soon : installation of an H source on PIRENEA\*\*\**

TABLE 1  
SUMMARY OF THE B3LYP/4-31G RESULTS  
(IN UNITS OF kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>)

Reaction	Value
Bond Energies	
(a) C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> → C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> + H .....	110.3 <sup>a</sup>
(b) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>7</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H .....	111.93
(c) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>7</sub> D <sup>+</sup> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>7</sub> <sup>+</sup> + D .....	113.93
(d) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> <sup>+</sup> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H .....	62.09
(e) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> D <sup>+</sup> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup> + D .....	64.00
(f) C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> <sup>+</sup> → C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H .....	75.88
(g) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> <sup>+</sup> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H .....	45.81
(h) H <sub>2</sub> → H + H .....	103.67 <sup>b</sup>
(i) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> + H .....	29.45
(j) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>10</sub> → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> + H .....	73.96
Barrier Heights <sup>c</sup>	
(1) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> .....	-0.25
(2) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> D <sup>+</sup> + H → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup> + HD .....	-0.66
(3) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> D <sup>+</sup> + H → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>7</sub> D <sup>+</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> .....	-0.20
(4) C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>9</sub> <sup>+</sup> + D → C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>8</sub> <sup>+</sup> + HD .....	-0.002
(5) C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H → C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> <sup>+</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> .....	0.52
(6) C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> D <sup>+</sup> + H → C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> <sup>+</sup> + HD .....	-0.11
(7) C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> D <sup>+</sup> + H → C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> D <sup>+</sup> + H <sub>2</sub> .....	0.35
(8) C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>7</sub> <sup>+</sup> + D → C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> <sup>+</sup> + HD .....	0.73

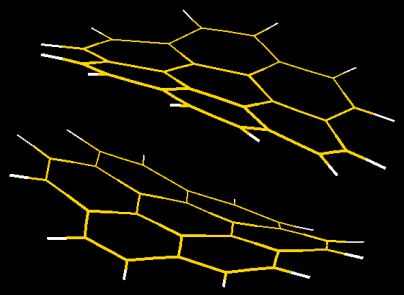
<sup>a</sup> The experimental values are 109.8 (Lias et al. 1988) and 109.4 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> (McMillen & Golden 1982).

<sup>b</sup> The experimental value is 103.268 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> (Huber & Herzberg 1979).

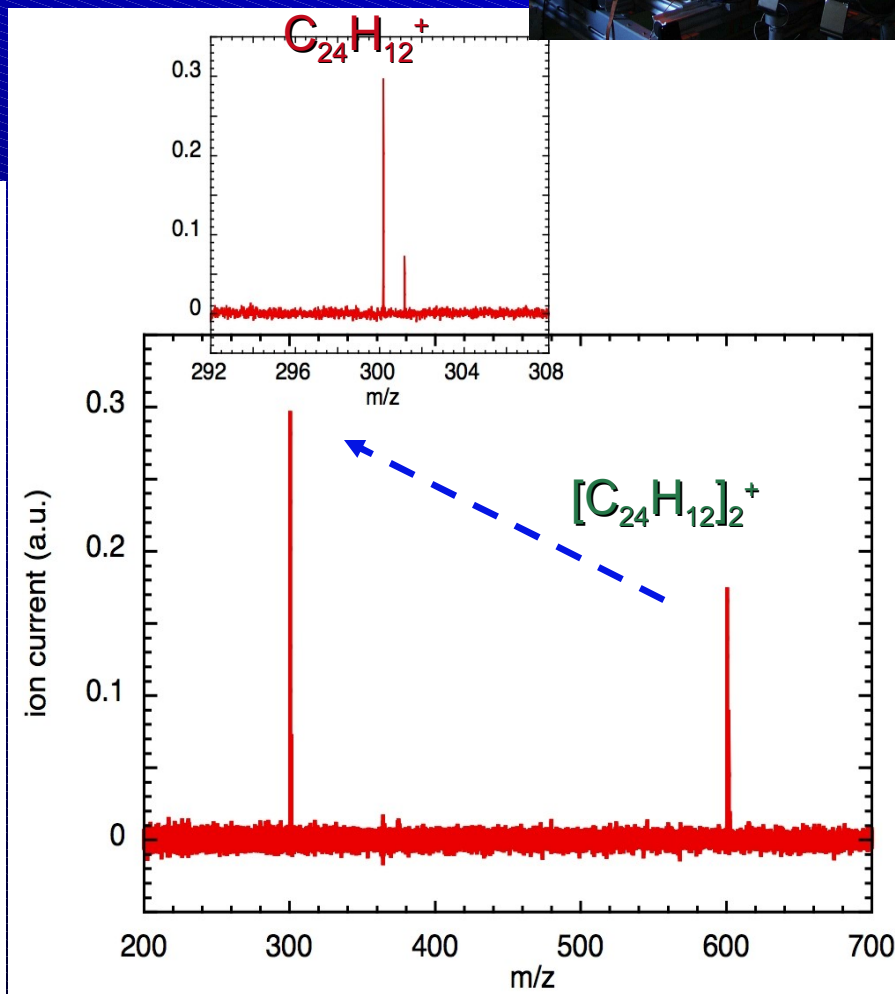
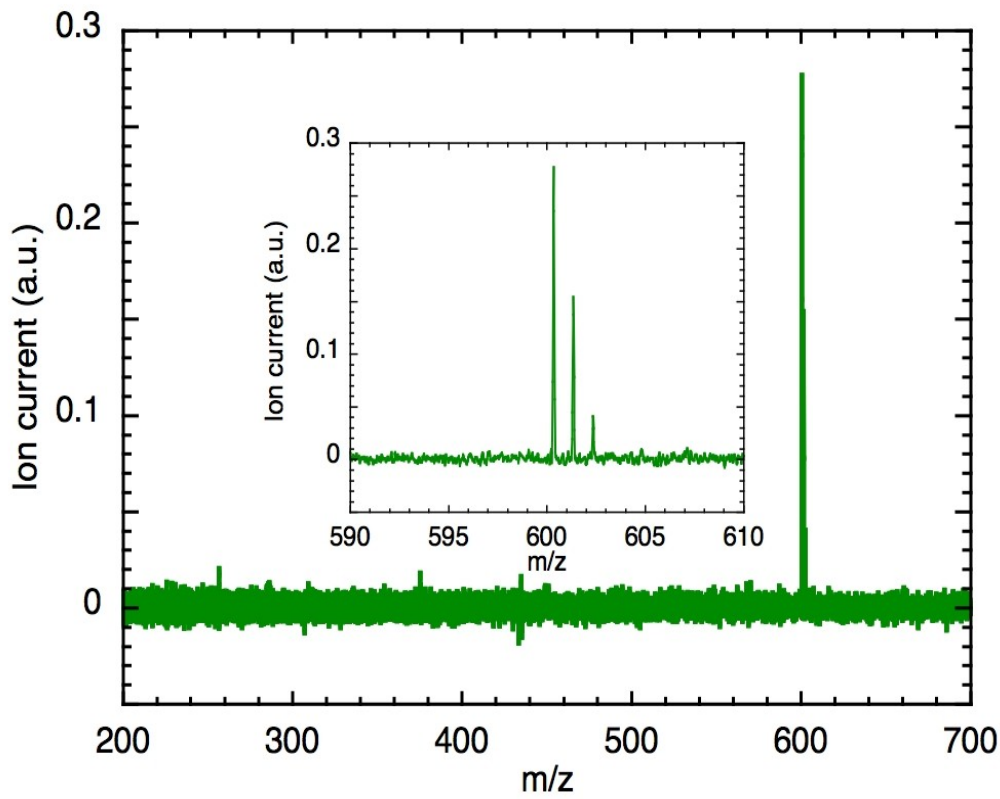
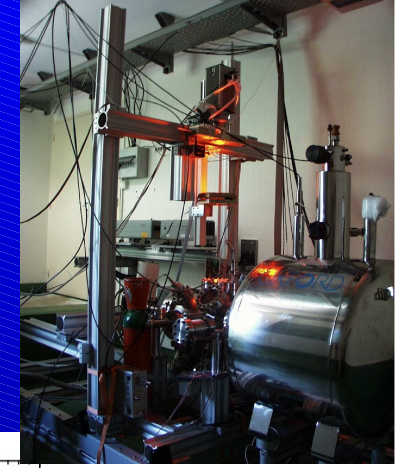
<sup>c</sup> A negative barrier height indicates that the barrier is below the energy of the reactants.

# Photodissociation of $[\text{PAH}]_n^+$ in PIRENEA

MOLDEN



Heating by UV-visible radiation  
(multiple photons)



# Candidates for evaporating VSGs

## Pure $[\text{PAH}]_n^+$ vs the depletion of (heavy) elements

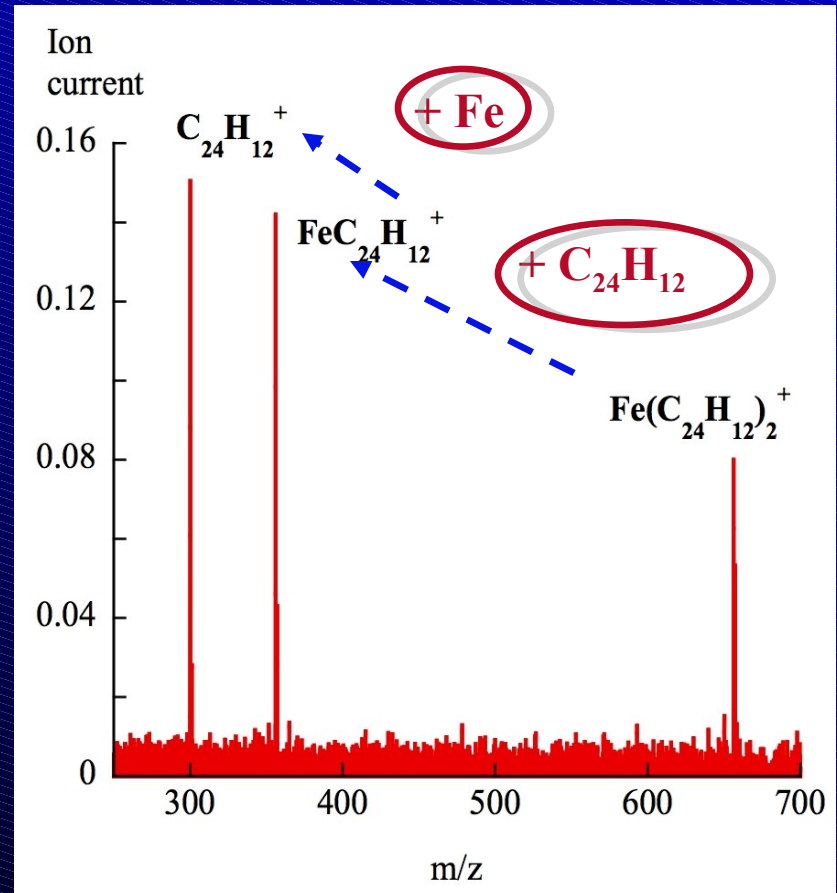
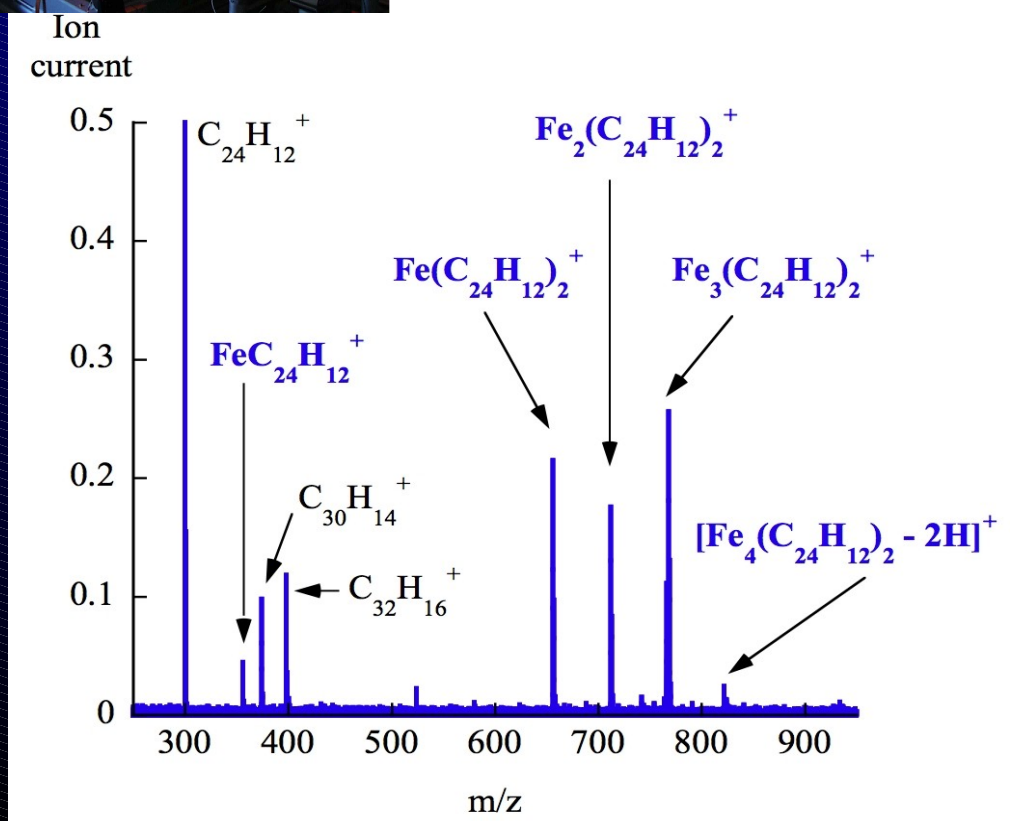
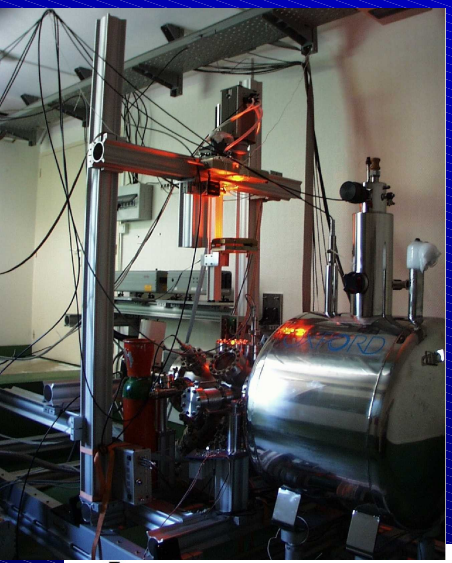
- proposal that Fe can easily form complexes with PAH in the 1990s  
*Serra et al. 1992, A&A 260, 489*
- other "metals" such as Si can be involved *Klotz et al. 1995, A&A 304, 520*
- easy formation of  $[\text{SiPAH}]^+$ ,  $[\text{FePAH}]^+$ ,  $[\text{FePAH}_2]^+$  by radiative association  
*Dunbar et al, 1994, JACS 116, 2466 ; Pozniak & Dunbar 1997, JACS 119, 10439*
- signatures of  $[\text{SiPAH}]^+$   $\pi$  complexes in astronomical spectra  
*Joalland et al. 2008, A&A*
- $[\text{Fe}_x\text{PAH}_y]^+$  candidates for evaporating VSGs  
*Simon & Ioblin 2008, subm*

# Photodissociation of $[\text{Fe}_m\text{PAH}_n]^+$

## New analogues for evaporating VSGs

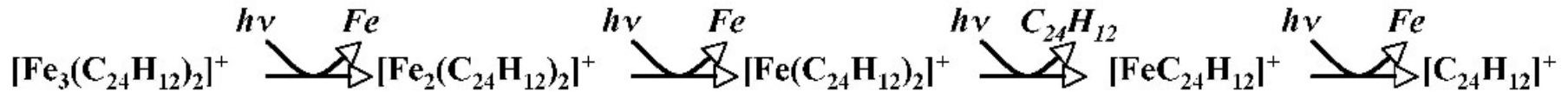
*Simon & Joblin, 2008, subm.*

- Contrary to Si, Fe can form  $[\text{FePAH}_2]^+$  complexes  
*Dunbar et al, 1994, JACS 116, 2466*
- Formation of  $[\text{Fe}_x\text{PAH}_2]^+$ . Heating by UV-visible radiation



# Photodissociation of $[\text{Fe}_m\text{PAH}_n]^+$

*Simon & Joblin, 2008, subm.*



➤  $[\text{Fe}_x(\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{12})_2]^+$  (x=1-3) dissociate by sequential loss of Fe and  $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{12}$  units

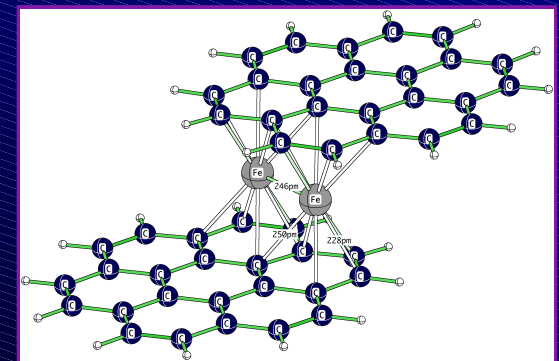
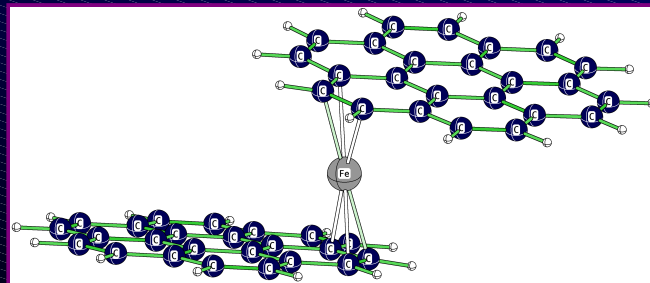
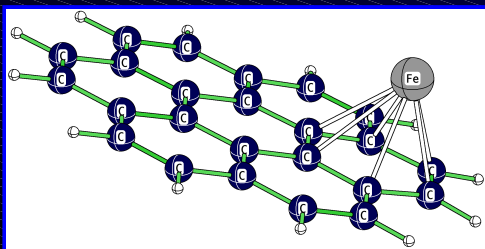
➤ Gas-phase Fe more tightly bound than Si :

$$E_b(\text{Fe-PAH})=2.6 \text{ eV vs } E_b(\text{Si-PAH})=1.5 \text{ eV}$$

➔ could contribute to the highest depletion of Fe relative to Si in the diffuse ISM

➤ How much Fe could be included in such grains?

Some destruction in PDRs, more in HII regions. Abundance of Fe released from grain destruction  $\sim 5\%$  . Would imply 2 Fe per PAH assuming  $[\text{PAH}]/[\text{H}]=7 \cdot 10^{-7}$



# Current status: PAHs, VSGs and H<sub>2</sub> formation

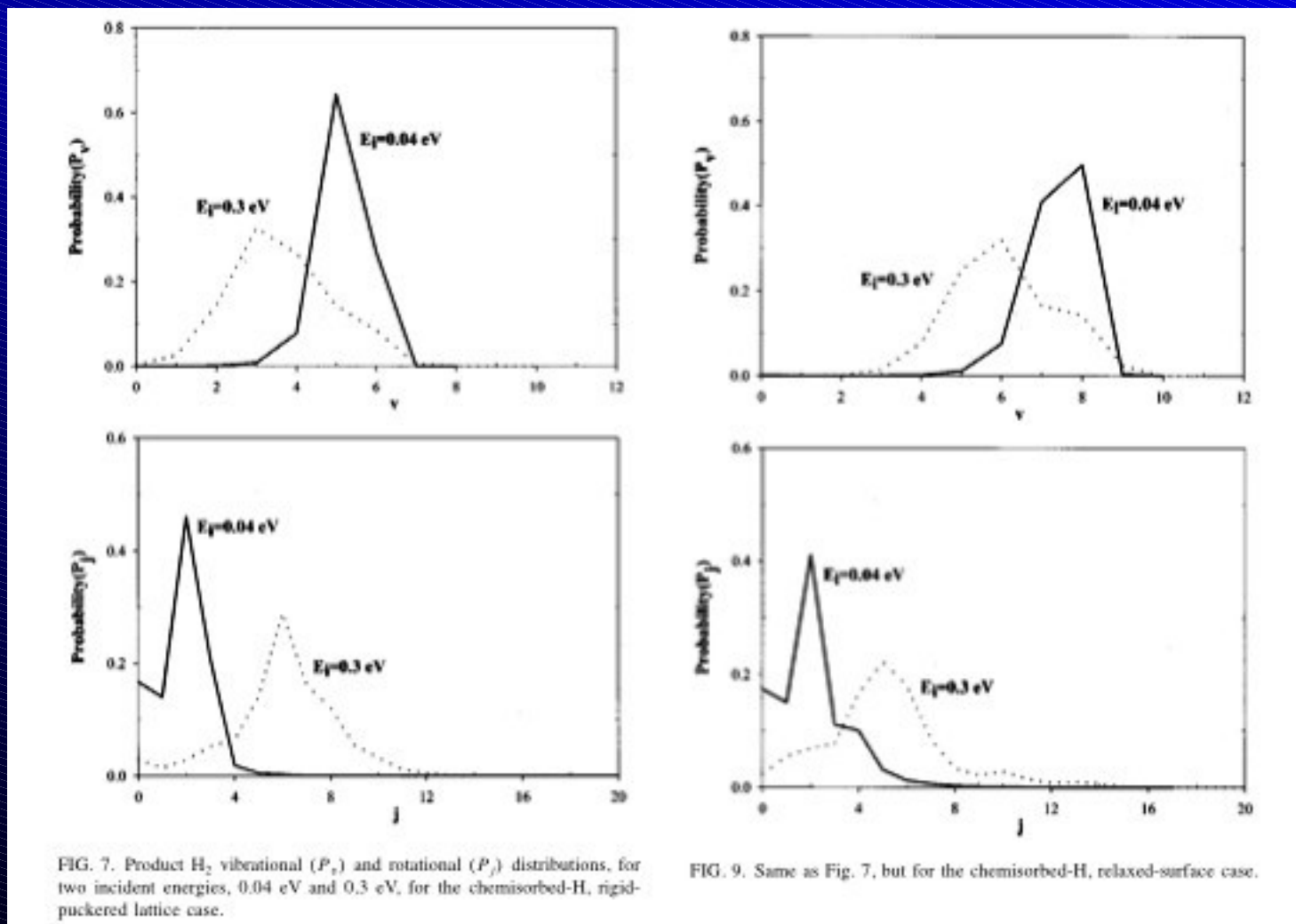
- Based on observational and laboratory results, free PAHs are not attractive candidates to account for the formation of H<sub>2</sub> in PDRs
  - ✓ *Still some work to do to study if H<sub>2</sub> could be formed by irradiation of hydrogenated PAHs with H atoms (Eley-Rideal abstraction mechanism)*
  - ✓ *Physisorption of H<sub>2</sub> on PAHs*
    - E<sub>phys</sub> of H<sub>2</sub> on PAHs 5.2 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> (0.05 eV) – Trans et al. 2002, J. Phys. Chem. B 106, 8689 - This workshop : Ellinger & Pauzat*
    - 3.5 and 7.2 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> (0.035-0.07 eV) – Heine et al. 2004, PCCP 6, 980*
- Search for candidates for evaporating C-VSGs
  - ✓ *Clusters containing PAH, Si and Fe are candidates for evaporating VSGs*
  - ✓ *New catalytic chemistry (H<sub>2</sub> formation,...)?*
  - ✓ *Trapping possibilities: porosities, active site (Fe) → higher binding energies*
    - Ex : organometallic complexes made of fullerenes and transition metals are good candidates for H<sub>2</sub> trapping (max H<sub>2</sub> storage up to 9 wt %)*
    - Zhao et al. 2005, PRL 94, 155504*



# Thanks

- A. Simon (CESR), B. Joalland (CESR)
- O. Berne (CESR)
- Technical team of PIRENEA : M. Armengaud, A. Bonnamy, P. Frabel, L. Nogues
  
- CNRS / Programme National Physique et Chimie du Milieu Interstellaire

# Formation $H_2$ /excitation (Théorie - D. Lemoine- LCAR)



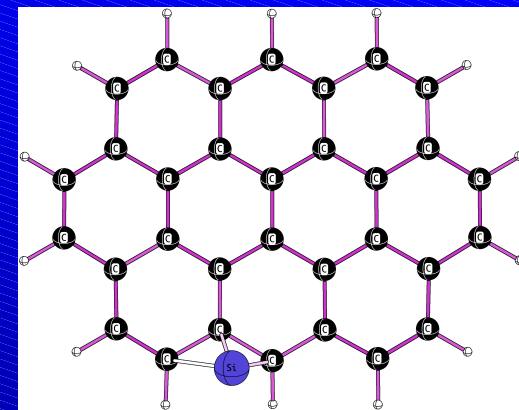
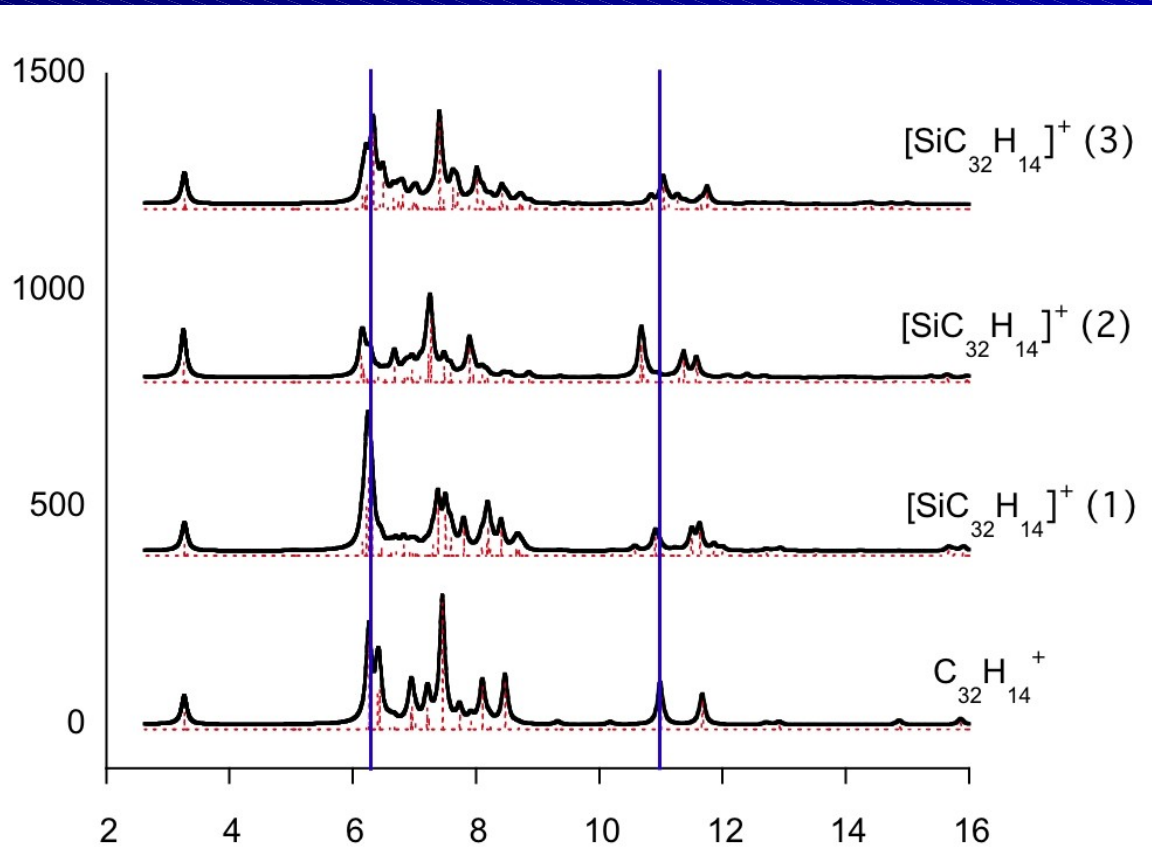
# New analogues for interstellar PAHs

## Signatures of $[\text{SiPAH}]^+$ $\pi$ -complexes

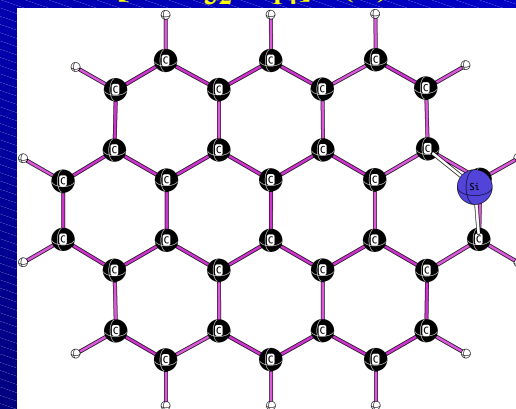
### DFT calculations

*Joalland et al. 2008, A&A, subm.*

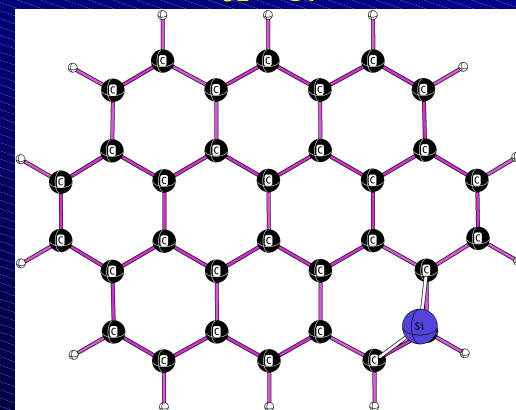
→ Fingerprints: expected blueshift for the 6.2 and 11.2  $\mu\text{m}$  bands ( $\Delta\lambda \sim 0.2 \mu\text{m}$ )



$[\text{SiC}_{32}\text{H}_{14}]^+ (1)$



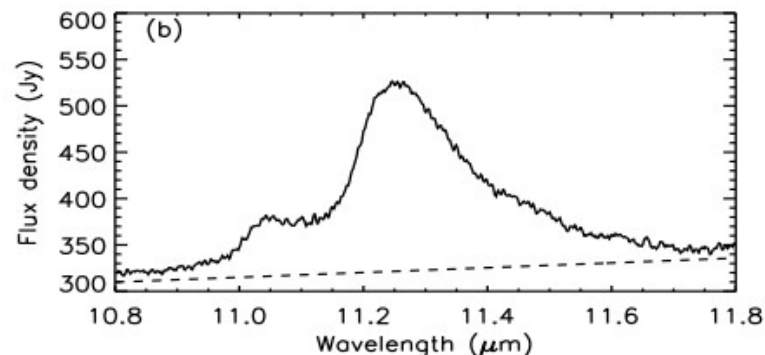
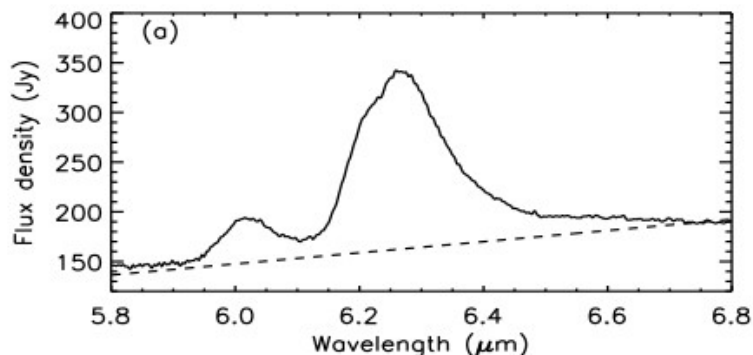
$[\text{SiC}_{32}\text{H}_{14}]^+ (2)$



$[\text{SiC}_{32}\text{H}_{14}]^+ (3)$

# Signatures of $[\text{SiPAH}]^+$ $\pi$ -complexes

*Joalland et al. 2008, A&A, subm.*

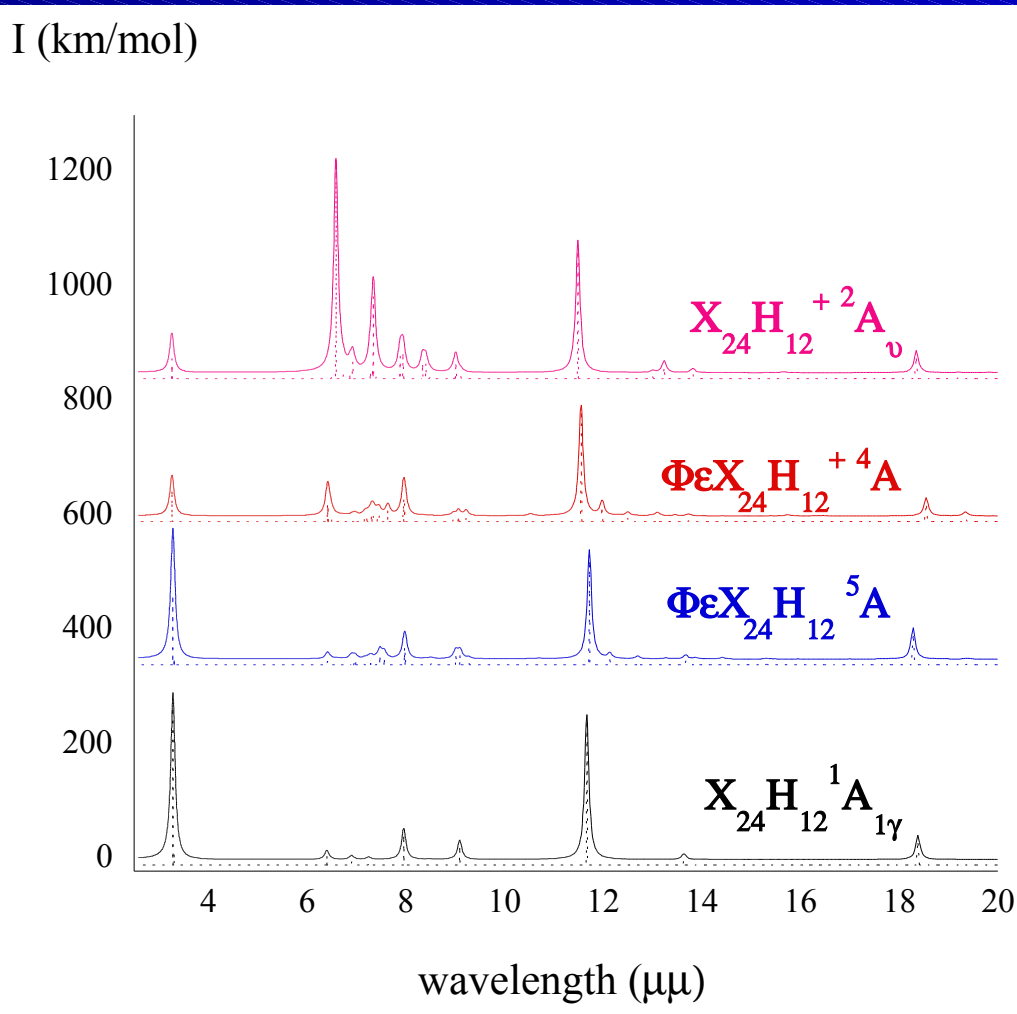


- Proposed signatures for  $[\text{SiPAH}]^+$  : - the 11.0  $\mu\text{m}$  sideband
  - blue wing of the 6.2  $\mu\text{m}$  and/or the 6.0  $\mu\text{m}$  sideband
- >10% of the PAH population (based on the IR band ratios at 11  $\mu\text{m}$ )
  - ➔ >4% of gas-phase Si in the Red Rectangle  $[\text{PAH}]/[\text{H}] = 7 \cdot 10^{-7}$

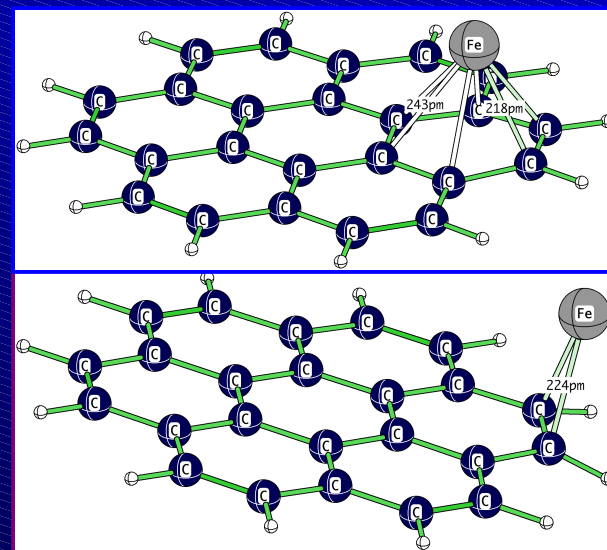
What about Fe ?

# Signatures of $[\text{FePAH}]^+$ complexes

*Simon & Joblin, 2007, JPCA 111, 9745. Simon et al. 2008, JPCA*



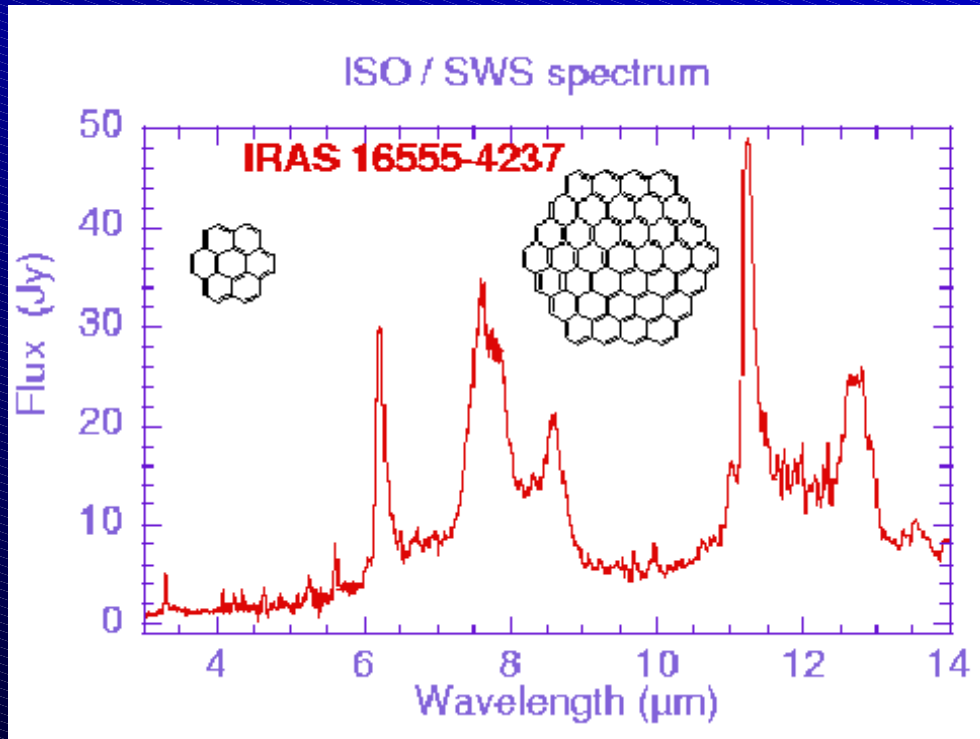
**Main effect on  $\text{PAH}^+$  spectrum:**  
decrease of the intensities in the  
[6-10]  $\mu\text{m}$  range



**BUT: no obvious signatures  
to identify  $[\text{FePAH}]^+$  species**

*IR absorption spectra calculated with DFT at  
the MPW1PW91/6-31+G(d,p) level of theory*

# Aromatic IR bands / polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH)



## ➤ Stochastic heating

$N \sim 50$  ;  $T \sim 1000$  K

*Sellgren (1984), ApJ 277, 623*

## ➤ Candidates: PAH molecules

*Léger & Puget 1984, A&A 137, L5*

*Allamandola, Tielens & Barker 1985, ApJ 290, L25*

## ➤ 10 to 20% of total carbon

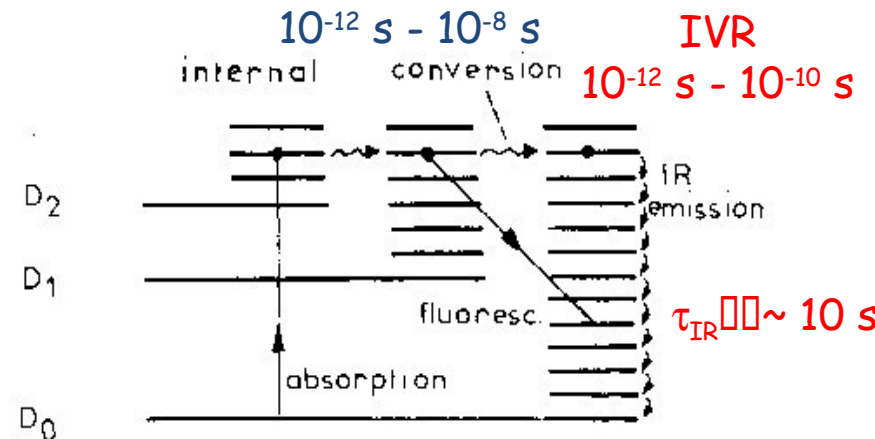
$X_{\text{PAH}} \sim 10^{-7}$  ( $N_{\text{C}} \sim 50$ )

3.3  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $3050 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ); 6.2  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $1610 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ );

“ 7.7 “  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $1300 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ); 8.6  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $1160 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ );

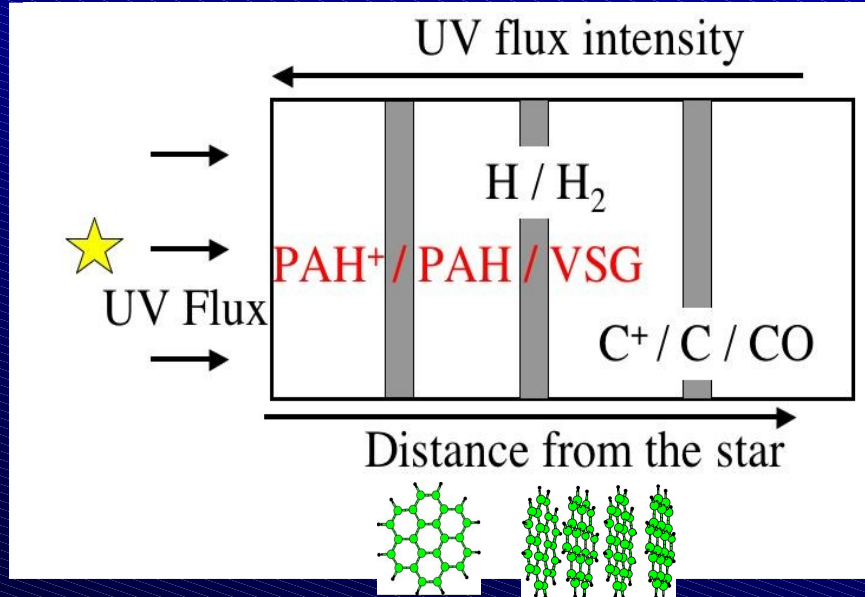
11.3  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $890 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ); 12.7  $\mu\text{m}$  ( $785 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )

CH and CC aromatic modes

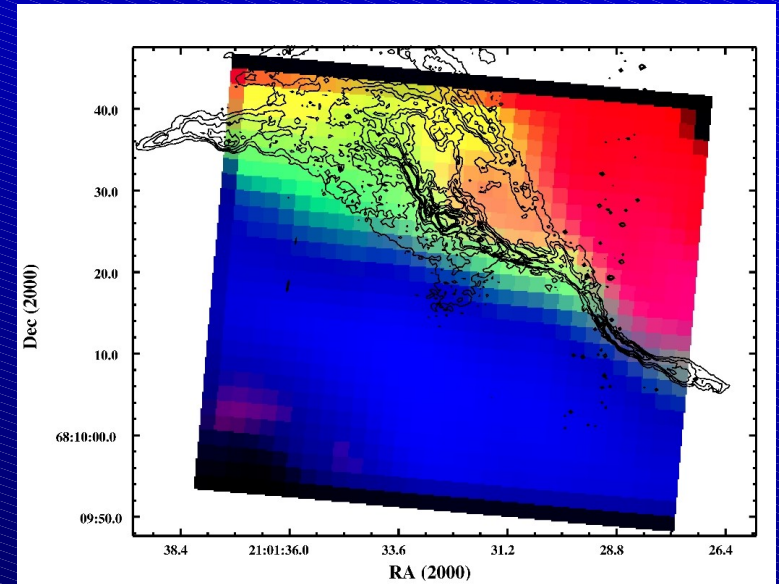


# [PAH<sub>n</sub>] a model for VSGs

*Rapacioli, Joblin, Boissel, 2005, A&A 429, 193*



*Berné et al., 2008, A&A 479, L41*



- Spatial correlation between Extended Red Emission (600-800 nm) and the transition VSG/PAH or PAH/VSG
- Spectroscopy : PAH dimers (closed-shell cation dimers) as good candidates for ERE

*Rhee et al., 2007, PNAS 104, 5274*

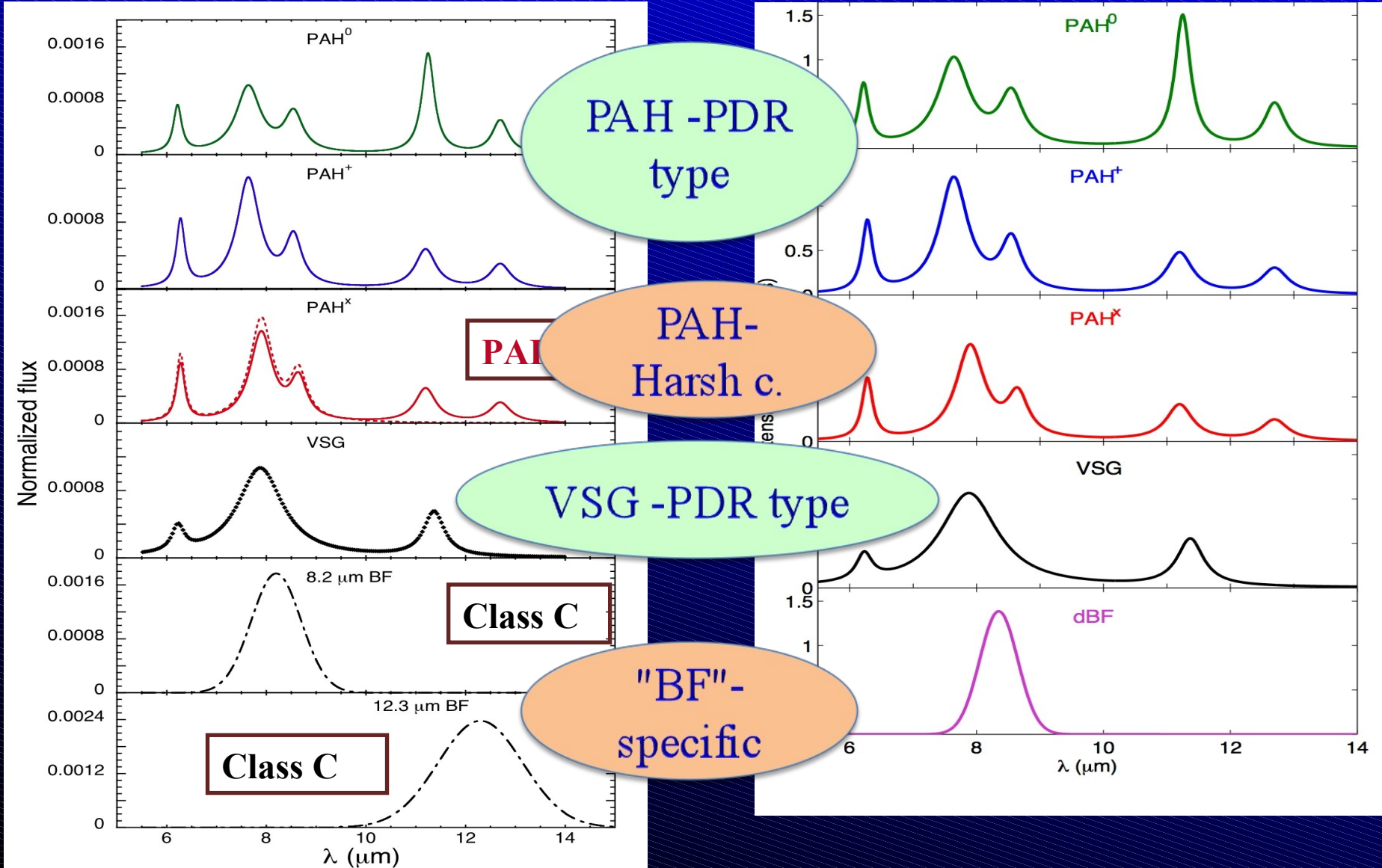
# Photoprocessing of AIB carriers – high excitation conditions

## Planetary nebulae / Protoplanetary disks

Joblin, Szerba, Berne, Szyszka, 2008, *A&A*

<http://arxiv.org/abs/0809.1532>

Berne et al. 2008, submitted



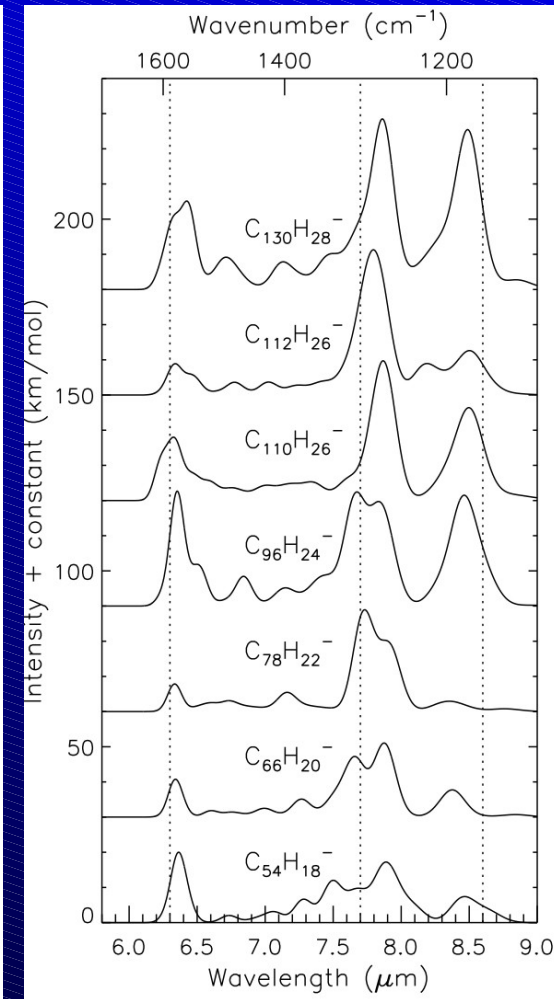
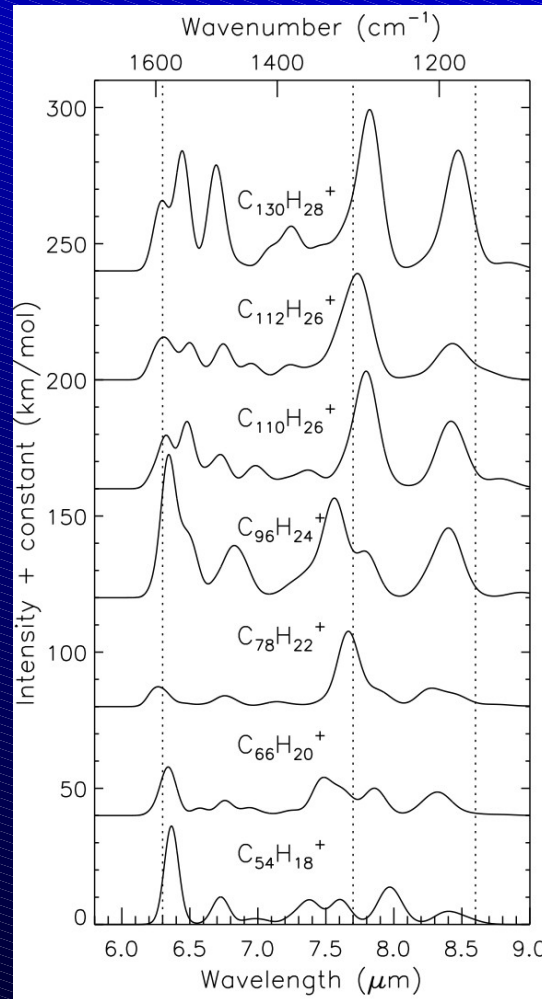
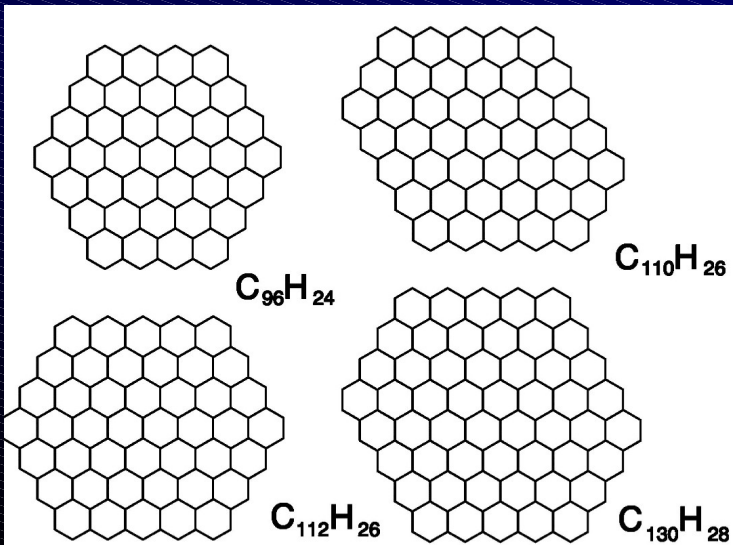


# Proposed candidates for PAH<sup>x</sup>

➤ Main spectral feature: 7.6  $\mu\text{m}$   
band of PAHs redshifted to 7.9  $\mu\text{m}$

➤ IR spectroscopy / DFT  
calculations  $\rightarrow$  large charged  
PAHs (cations and anions)

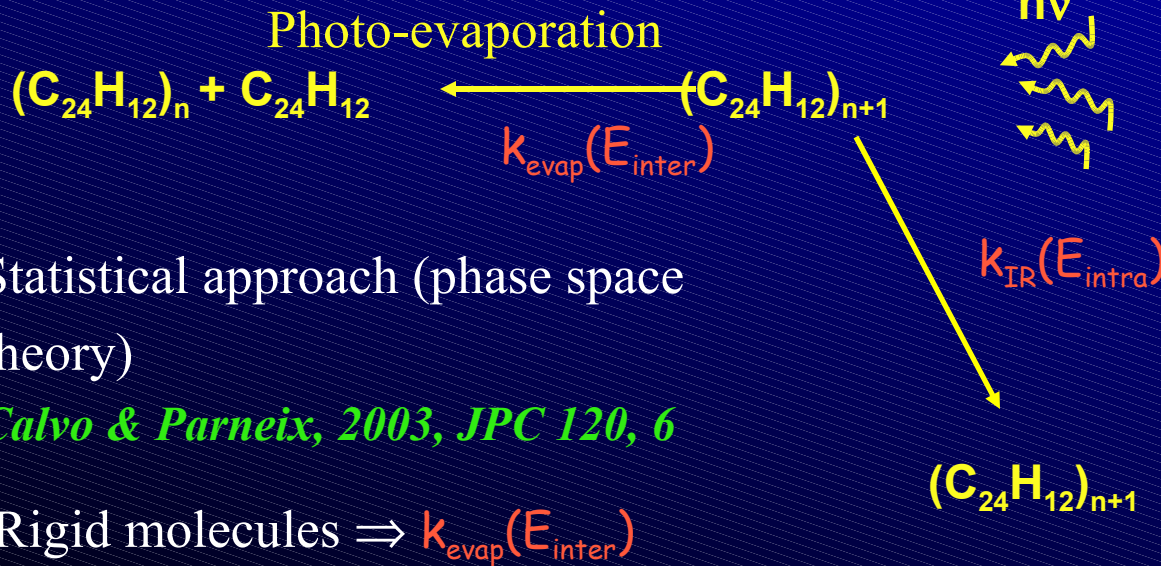
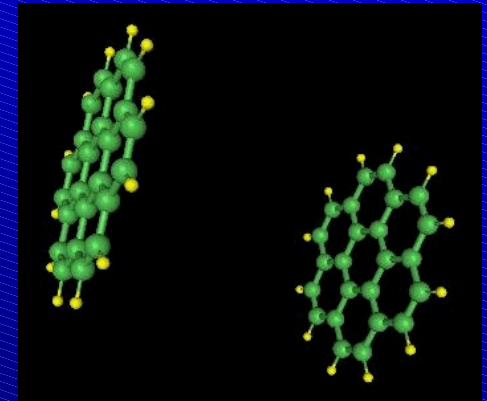
*Bauschlicher, Peeters, Allamandola, 2008,  
ApJ 678, 316*



# Formation/ destruction of $[\text{PAH}]_n$ clusters in PDRs

*Rapacioli, Calvo, Joblin et al. 2006, A&A 460, 519*

Molecular dynamics simulations



Statistical approach (phase space theory)

*Calvo & Parneix, 2003, JPC 120, 6*

Rigid molecules  $\Rightarrow k_{\text{evap}}(E_{\text{inter}})$

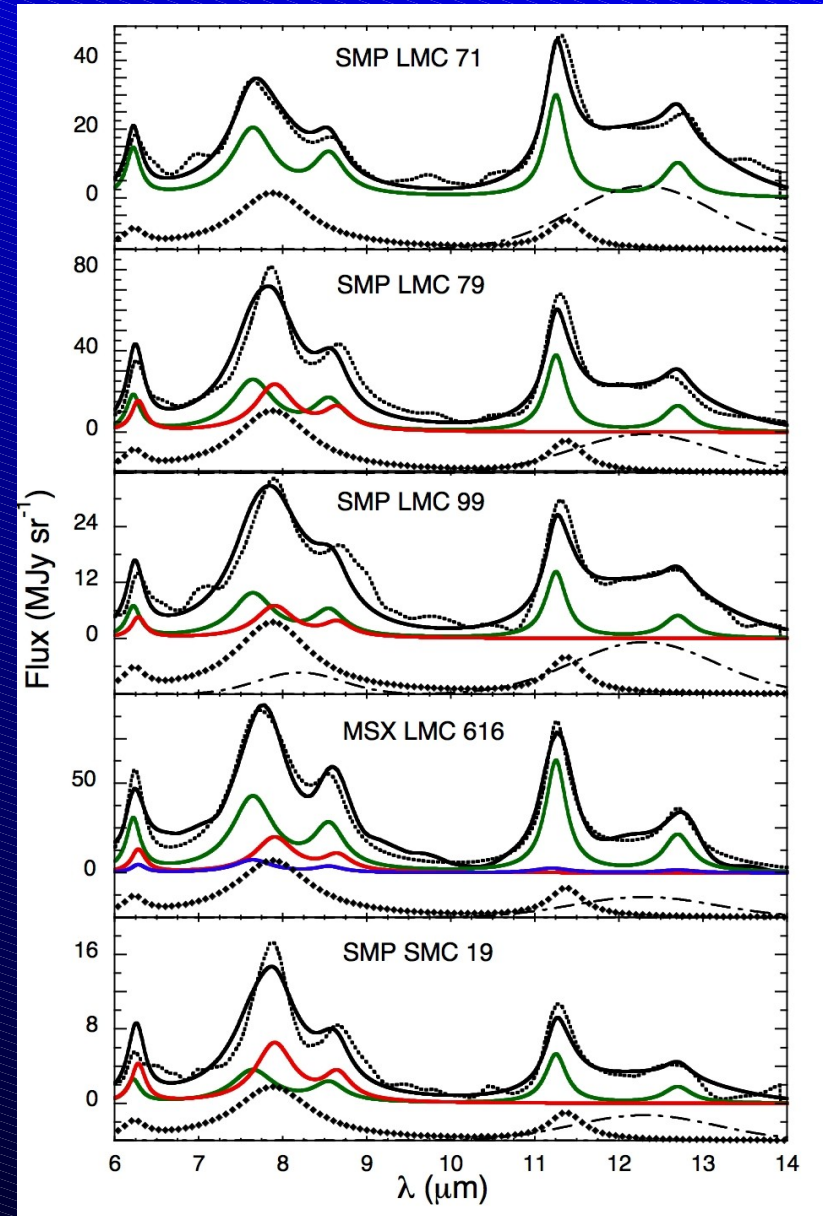
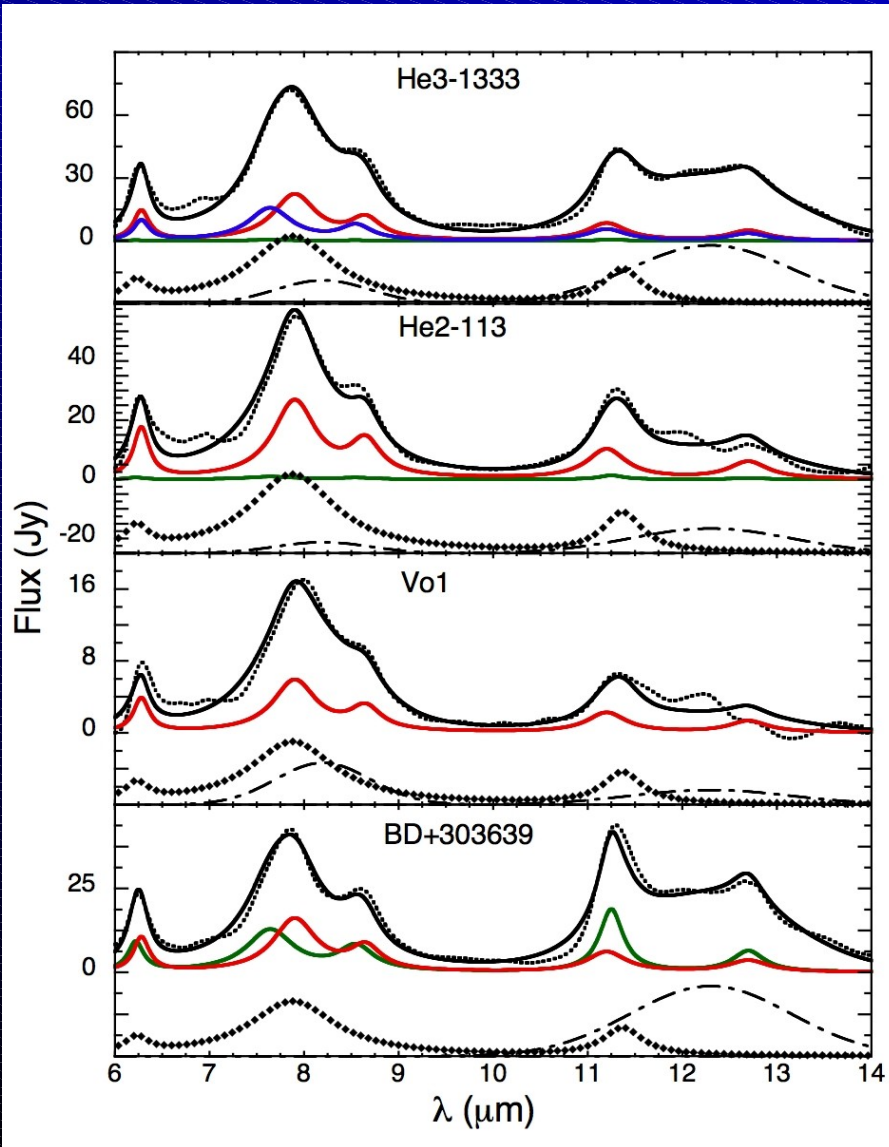
Microcanonical approach  
*Joblin et al., 2002, Mol. Phys. 100 (22), 3595*

$k_{\text{IR}}(E_{\text{intra}})$  of isolated molecules

**Need for fundamental data**

# Analysis of the mid-IR spectrum in planetary nebulae

Joblin, Szerba, Berne, Szyszka, 2008,  
*A&A*, in press



# Formation/ destruction of $[PAH]_n$ clusters in PDRs

*Rapacioli, Calvo, Joblin et al. 2006, A&A, 460, 519*

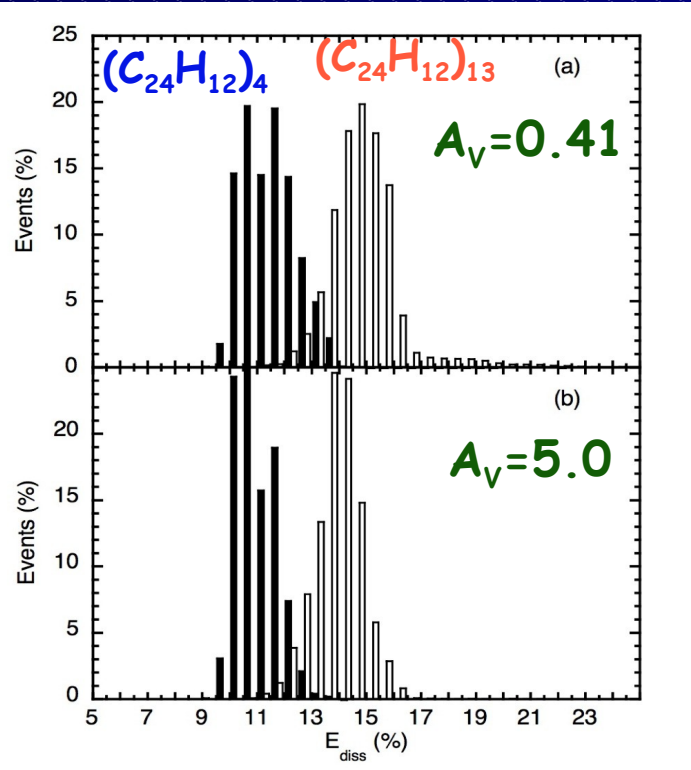
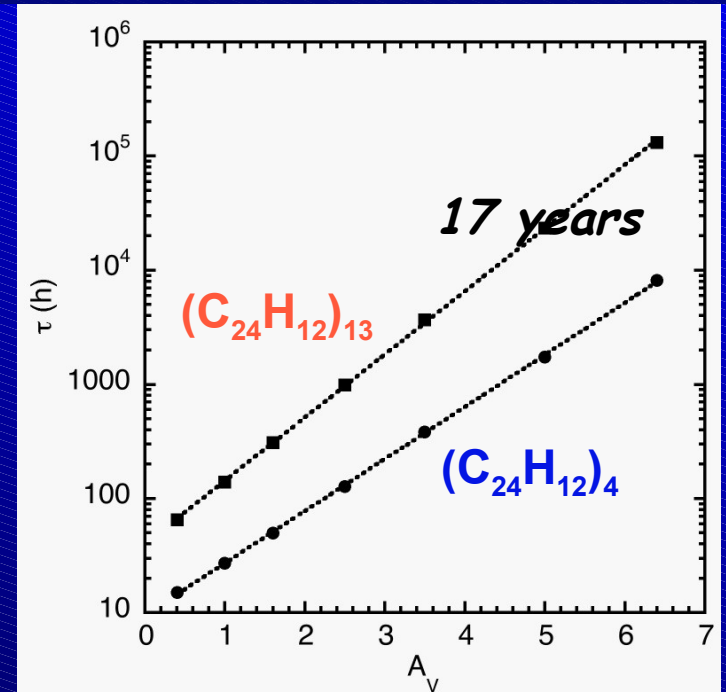
NGC7023 NW (1300  $G_0$ )

$$n_H \sim 7 \cdot 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3} \Rightarrow \tau_{\text{form.}} \sim 10^5 \text{ years}$$

$$\tau_{\text{evap}} \sim \text{few years for } (C_{24}H_{12})_{13}$$

Multiple photon absorption

$\Rightarrow$  Medium-sized PAH clusters cannot survive



$\Rightarrow$  surdensity (clumps)  $n_H \sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$\Rightarrow$  larger clusters (larger units, increased stability by charge effect, Fe,...)

$$E_{C_{24}H_{12}-(C_{24}H_{12})_{n-1}} \sim 1 \text{ eV}$$

$\Rightarrow$  dynamical process : continuous photo-evaporation of preformed clusters

$\Rightarrow$  NEED for FUNDAMENTAL DATA