LECTURE 6

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Dust



- We have talked about gas-radiation, all processes occurring at specific frequencies (absorption) or range of frequencies (ionization)
- Dust interact with light in a wide range of wavelengths

The role of dust in the ISM (3)

- Dust accounts for 1% of the total matter in the ISM
- Formed by micro-sized particles
- Extremely important for
 - Chemistry and physics of the ISM
 - Energy balance of Galaxy (heating/cooling/extinction)
 - Evolution of interstellar clouds and SF
 - Depletion and evaporation of heavy elements

Interaction matter-dust-radiation <

- Dust scatters, absorbs, and re-radiates starlight
 - Reflection nebula (blue scattered light)
 - Transmitted light (reddening)
- 1:10¹² photons reaches our telescope because of extinction
- Energy is absorbed and re-emitted in the IR (~20% of the total

luminosity of the Galaxy)

Interaction matter-dust-radiation <

- Photoelectric heating
- Surface mantle or ices (gas-grain interaction)
- Chemistry

How do we learn about dust

- Extinction: wavelength dependence of how dust attenuates (absorbs & scatters light)
- Polarization
- Thermal emission from grains
- Depletion of elements from the gas relative to expected abundance

Dark cloud (Extinction)

Reflection Nebulae (Scattering)

Image Credits: ESO/ S. Guisard



1784 - William Herschel "Hole in the sky"By eyes - Ophiuchus, Barnard 86: observed regions devoid of stars!



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1847 - Wilhelm Struve

- Star counts (distribution of stars with distance)
- Number of stars over volume declines with distance from the Sun
- Struve proposed:
 - The existence of some obscuring material
 - Uniformly distributed in space
 - That affects the intensity of starlight
- Stars less bright (because of dust) and apparently further away







William Herschel





1930s - Robert Trumpler

- He used two different methods to determine the distance to each cluster
 - one based on brightness
 - the other based on size

Diameter distance

- 1. First, he divided the clusters into groups, based on the number of stars in each and the degree of central concentration
- 2. He assumed that clusters in the same group had the same size
- 3. From the size he calculated the distance (small far / large near)

1930s - Robert Trumpler



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1930s - Robert Trumpler

1. He applied the inverse square law to individual star

- spectral class of a star yielded its absolute magnitude
- photographic plates provided each star's apparent magnitude

Photometric distance

 Assuming that light travelled freely through space, he calculated the distance to each star, and averaged them to find the distance to each cluster.





1930s - Robert Trumpler

- Followed Struve's hypothesis
- 2. Calculated the average amount of extinction per unit distance (incredibly close to what we know now)



FIG. 1.—Comparison of the distances of 100 open star clusters determined from apparent magnitudes and spectral types (abscissae) with those determined from angular diameters (ordinates). The large dots refer to clusters with well-determined photometric distances, the small dots to clusters with less certain data (half weight). The asterisks and crosses represent group means. If no general space absorption were present, the clusters should fall along the dotted straight line; the dotted curve gives the relation between the two distance measures for a general absorption of 0^m7 per 1000 parsecs.



1930s - Robert Trumpler: interstellar reddening



 $A_{\lambda} \propto \lambda^{-1}$

 Blue-light strongly absorbed and scattered by dust (size similar to blue wavelengths)

2 - Objects appears redder that they really are

Joel Stebbins 1939

 $A_{\lambda} \propto \lambda^{-1}$





What is made of the interstellar dust? <>

- Ideal approach: spectroscopic features
 - Would uniquely identify the material
 - Would allow to measure the amounts of each material
- For dust is difficult
 - Optical and UV absorption is continuum
 - Spectral features are broad, difficult to identify



What materials could plausibly be present in the ISM?

Abundances constraints





- Silicates, pyroxene, olivine
- Oxides of Si, Mg, Fe
- Carbon solids
- Hydrocarbons (PAH)
- Carbides
- Metallic Fe

What is made of the interstellar dust?







a

 MRN distribution (power-law, does not include PAH)

Silicates



- 9.7 μ m Si-O stretching mode
- 18 μ m O-Si-O bending mode
- Low crystallinity in the ISM, increasing in brown dwarf disks



Basic building block

Henning 2010





Pyroxene $Mg_x Fe_{1-x}SiO_3$





Carbonaceous

- Graphite (Stecher 1965, Draine&Lee1984, Li&Draine2001)
 - C atoms: three sp2 (sigma) + π orbitals
 - $\pi + 217.5 \text{ nm} \rightarrow \pi^*$
 - BUT: variations in the peak position!

• Hydrogenated amorphous carbon (HAC, a–C:H)

- Mennella et al. (1998) 217 nm bump due to UV processed HAC
- $3.4 \,\mu$ m feature aliphatic C-H stretch
- Jones et al. HAC is less resilient than graphite reproduces better variations of C gas phase abundances
- Jones PoS(LCDU2013)001: review of current knowledge about ISM dust

• Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH)

- Strong extinction in 200–250 nm region
- Solid state emission 3.3, 6.7, 7.6, 8.6, and 11.3 μ m





Each of these sheets is graphene



0

6

in-plane C-H bend

8

 $10 \lambda(\mu m)$

out-of-plane C-H bend

14

12

bands at 3.3, 6.2, 7.7,

8.6, 11.3 and 12.7

micron



How does the dust appear to us globally?

Cocoon Nebula and trail of dark interstellar dust clouds: (a) in the visible (credit and copyright: Tony Hallas); (b) in the infrared (credit: ESA, SPIRE & PACS Consortia, Doris Arzoumian [CEA, Saclay] et al.);



Infrared spectroscopy of dust

- Astronomical spectra:
 - ISO: 2 200 μm
 - **-** SOFIA: 60 200 μm
 - **–** Spitzer: 5 40 μm
 - Herschel: 40 260 μm
 - James Webb Space Telescope: 0.6 –28 µm
- Ground-based telescopes: ~1–3 μ m (VLT)
- Laboratory spectroscopy!







Summarising



- Up to mid-20th century: dust was an annoying "fog" that prevented clear view of stars and galaxies
- The main task was to disperse that fog (theoretically)
- Now: dust affects every aspects of the formation of stars, galaxies and planets

How and where dust form?

- Dust form mainly in AGB stars and SNe
- Once formed is injected in the ISM
- In the ISM can be re-processed via radiation and chemical reactions

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- This can change their chemical structure and nature
- Main formation process: nucleation (and condensation)
- Need to enter a zone with high pressure and high temperature

AGB stars



- Cool stars at the end of their lives
- Already burned most of H and He
- Their envelopes contain a richness of dust-related elements (C, Si, O) -> result of thermonuclear reactions
- The envelope eventually drifts away from the star by radiation pressure
- AGB stars: C-rich and O-rich

Lifecycle of dust grains



Table 5.1 A list of the main contributors to gas and dust in the Milky Way, with estimated injection rates^{*a*} (M_{\odot} pc⁻² Myr⁻¹).

| Source | Gas | Carbon dust | Silicate dust |
|-----------------|-----|-------------|---------------|
| AGB (C-rich) | 750 | 3 | |
| AGB (O-rich) | 750 | | 5 |
| OB stars | 30 | | |
| Wolf–Rayet | 100 | 0.1 | |
| Red supergiants | 20 | | 0.03 |
| Novae | 6 | 0.3 | 0.03 |
| SN type Ia | | 0.3 | 2 |
| SN type II | 100 | 2 | 10 |

^aData are taken from Tielens et al. (2005),⁴ Massey et al. (2005),⁵ and Ferrarotti & Gail (2006).⁶

If n(O)/n(C) > 1: oxygen atoms react in the stellar atmosphere with Si and any other metals to form amorphous and crystalline oxide and silicates

If n(O)/n(C) < 1 : carbon particles are into graphite or amorphous carbon grains

| Material | AGB | Post-AGB | PN | Nova | RSG | WR | LBV | SN |
|------------------------|-----|----------|----|------|-----|----|-----|----|
| Amorphous silicates | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X |
| Crystalline forsterite | Х | Х | Χ | | Х | | Х | |
| Crystalline enstatite | Х | Х | Χ | | Х | | Χ | |
| Chromite | Х | | | | | | | Х |
| Aluminium oxide | Х | | | Х | | | | Х |
| Spinel | Х | | | | | | | Χ |
| TiO ₂ | Х | | | | Х | | | |
| Hibonite | Х | | | | | | | |
| MgO | Х | | | | | | | |
| Fe | Х | | | | | | | Х |
| PAHs | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | Х | |
| a-C:H | Х | Х | Χ | Х | | Х | | |
| Graphite | Х | Х | | Х | | | | Х |
| Diamond | | Х | | | | | | Х |
| SiC | Х | Х | Х | Х | | | | Х |
| Other carbides | Х | | | | | | | Х |
| Si_3N_4 | | | | | | | | Х |
| MgS | Х | Х | Χ | | | | X | |

Table 5.5Chemical inventory in dust factories.

Dust formation in laboratory



Particles beam

STEP 1

Pulsed laser ablation of graphite, MgSi, FeSi or MgFeSi targets

STEP 2

condensation of the evaporated species in a quenching atmosphere of a few mbar

He/H₂ for carbon grains

He/O₂ for silicate grains

Dust formation in laboratory



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Dust formation in laboratory



Stardust machine aimed at mimicking the journey of dust grains from their formation @1000-1500 K to their structure modification in the ISM (exposed to UV, CRs) up to the formation of ices in cold and dense regions







Figure 8. Schematic illustration of the lifecycle of dust within a galaxy. Graphics depict stars (yellow), dust grains (red), and gas-phase metals (blue) in the ISM. Dust grains are produced through stellar evolution, interact with other dust grains and gas-phase metals through collisional processes, and can be destroyed near SNe. Collisional processes are divided into those that conserve grain number (top left) and those that conserve grain mass (top right). Accretion and sputtering change total dust mass by growing or shrinking individual grains, while shattering and coagulation preserve overall mass but affect the number of grains.

DUST PHYSICS: SHATTERING-SPUTTERING-GROWTH



SHATTERING

- Grain-Grain collisions
- Redistribute grain mass into units of smaller sizes
- Distribution favors small size grains
- Can also cause vaporization and remove smaller grains entirely





Grain j (projectile)

SPUTTERING

- Gas-Grain collisions
- Sufficiently high-energy needed
- Erosion
- Atoms and molecules can be ejected into the gas-phase
- Interstellar shocks





- Gas-phase chemistry
- Photochemistry
- Grain-surface chemistry (This Lecture)

- Gas-phase reactions cannot explain the whole range of molecular species and abundances observed
- Dust accounts for 1% of the total matter in the ISM
- Formed by micro-sized particles
- Dust scatters, absorbs, and re-radiates starlight

GRAINS PROPERTIES SUMMARY



- Microscopic particles: atoms < size < clusters of molecules
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs): ~0.5-3nm (5-30 Å)
- Macroscopic particles: size >> molecules
- Dust grains: > 3nm 1cm



- Carbonaceous/silicates
- Size distribution (usually a single size in chemical models)
- Fluffy, porous structure (usually
 - assumed spherical and compact)
- Molecules stick to dust surface:
- ~10⁶ binding sites on 1000Å grain
- a binding site has a size ~IÅ
- ~100–300 monolayers of ice



IMPORTANCE OF DUST

- Dust allows for the formation of more complex molecules compared to gas-phase reactions
- Dust grains tend to be negatively charged in molecular clouds (see later)

HOW DOES H₂ FORM?

COMPLEXITY

GAS-PHASE FORMATION PATHS

H₂ symmetric homonuclear molecule:

- no dipole moment
- strict selection rules for transitions
- difficult to observe in dense regions (even if most abundant molecule)
- $H + H \not\rightarrow H_2 \Rightarrow (^{3}\Sigma ^{1}\Sigma)$ transitions not allowed
- ► $H + H + H \not\rightarrow H_2 \Rightarrow$ only at high-densities
- $\blacktriangleright \ H^- + H \rightarrow H_2 + e^- \Rightarrow \text{yes but not so efficient}$
- ▶ $H_2^+ + H \rightarrow H_2 + H^+ \Rightarrow$ yes but not so efficient

Cool Stars-envelope

SNe ejecta

Early Universe

GAS-PHASE FORMATION PATHS (CONT'D)

 ${
m H} + {
m e}^-
ightarrow {
m H}^- + \gamma$ Radiative attachment

 $\mathrm{H} + \mathrm{H}^+
ightarrow \mathrm{H}_2^+ + \gamma$ Radiative association

Also easily destroyed by photodissociation and photodetachment
Band Formation Processes

| Bond Formation Processes | | Typical rate coefficient (cm ³ s ^{-1}) |
|---|--|---|
| Radiative association Grain surface formation Associative detachment | $X + Y \rightarrow XY + hv$ $X + Y:g \rightarrow XY + g$ $X^- + Y \rightarrow XY + e$ | $\begin{array}{l} 10^{-17} - 10^{-14} \\ \sim 10^{-17} \\ \sim 10^{-9} \end{array}$ |
| Bond Destruction Processes | | |
| Photodissociation Dissociative recombination Collisional dissociation | $\begin{array}{l} XY+h\nu \rightarrow X+Y\\ XY^{+}+e \rightarrow X+Y\\ XY+M \rightarrow X+Y+M \end{array}$ | $\begin{array}{l} 10^{-10}-10^{-8}\ {\rm s}^{-1} \\ 10^{-7}-10^{-6} \\ \sim 10^{-26}\ {\rm cm}^{6}\ {\rm s}^{-1} \end{array}$ |
| Bond Rearrangement Processes | | |
| Ion–molecule exchange Charge–transfer Neutral–neutral | $\begin{array}{l} X^+ + YZ \rightarrow XY^+ + Z \\ X^+ + YZ \rightarrow X + YZ^+ \\ X + YZ \rightarrow XY + Z \end{array}$ | $10^{-9} - 10^{-8}$ 10^{-9} 10^{-11} - 10^{-9} |

CHICKEN-EGG PROBLEM

Other channels can be considered (?)





DUST GRAINS THEN!

- Mid-20th laboratory and theoretical work done
- If H₂ forms on dust then also other molecules can do it?
- In particular the complexity in star-forming regions:

methanol (CH₃OH), ethanol (C₂H₅OH), dimethyl ether (CH₃OCH₃), methyl formate (HCOOCH₃), formic acid (HCOOH), acetic acid (CH₃COOH), propynal (HC₂CHO), propenal (CH₂CHCHO), propionaldehyde (CH₃CH₂CHO), glycolaldehyde (CH₂OHCHO), ethylene glycol (HOCH₂CH₂OH), ethylene oxide (c-C₂H₄O), acetaldehyde (CH₃CHO), and ketene (H₂CCO)

INTERACTION BETWEEN ATOMS AND THE SURFACE

- Physisorption: van der Waals interaction (most common)
 - Induced dipole moments in the electrons shells of the gas-phase species and the surface atoms
- Chemisorption: real chemical bond (e.g. H-bond)

- Regulated by the sticking coefficient S
- Represents the probability that an atom/molecule is adsorbed after collision
- S depends on temperature, binding energy, and grain composition

Chemisorption



Lennard-Jones 1930

• Chemical bonds

• Binding energies: ~ 0.5–5 eV or >20,000 K



• Weak electrostatic van der Waals force

• Binding energies: ~10–100 meV or ~100–10,000 K

FORMATION ON DUST: MECHANISMS



1. Adsorption

2. Collision

3. Formation



4. Desorption

ENERGY BALANCE

 $H + H + GR \rightarrow H_2 + GR + 4.48 \,eV$

energy distributed as following

- 0.2 eV as kinetic energy
- ▶ 4.2 eV in roto-vibrational states of H₂
- heating of grain negligible



 $H(g) \rightarrow H(s),$ $H(s) \rightarrow H(g),$ $H(s) + H(s) \rightarrow H_2(s),$ $H_2(s) \rightarrow H_2(g).$



$k_{\rm ads} = \sigma n_d \langle v_i \rangle S$ **ADSORPTION / FREEZE-OUT** $\sigma = \pi a^2$ Desorption Energy: Ed $\langle v_i \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{8k_BT}{\pi m_i}}$ Potential Energy Thermal Hopping Hopping Barrier Energy: Eb $R_{\rm ads}^i = \sigma n_d n_i \langle v_i \rangle S$ Tunneling Site 1 Site 2 Site 3 Site 4 Position Deep site 1. Adsorption

Shallow site

It is a collisional process (as usual)

REACTIONS: 2-BODY



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characteristic vibration frequency for the adsorbate species

$$k_{diff}^i = \nu_0^i \exp(-E_{diff}^i/T_d)$$

$$\nu_0^i = \sqrt{\frac{2n_S E_D^i}{\pi^2 m_i}}$$

Table 6.1 Desorption energies and various timescales for some atoms and molecules

| Species | E_d/K^a | 10 K | t _{hop} /s ^b 20 K | 40K | 10 K | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Н | 450 | 1.7×10^{-3} | 2.3×10^{-8} | 8.2×10^{-11} | 1.0×10^{7} | |
| H ₂ | 430 | 9.3×10^{-4} | 2.0×10^{-8} | 9.3×10^{-11} | 2.0×10^{6} | # of sites per unit area |
| OH | 2850 | 3.7×10^{49} | 4.3×10^{18} | 1.4 | 2.9×10^{111} | _ |
| H ₂ O | 5700 | 2.1×10^{111} | 2.7×10^{49} | 3.1×10^{18} | 1.2×10^{235} | _ |
| N ₂ | 1000 | 5.5×10^{9} | 7.6×10^{-2} | 2.8×10^{-7} | 2.8×10^{31} | _ |
| CO | 1150 | 9.2×10^{12} | 3.0 | 1.7×10^{-6} | 8.6×10^{37} | _ |
| CH ₄ | 1300 | 1.2×10^{16} | 9.1×10^{1} | 8.0×10^{-6} | 2.0×10^{44} | _ |
| H ₂ CO | 2050 | 2.5×10^{32} | 1.4×10^{10} | 1.0×10^{-1} | 8.2×10^{76} | _ |
| CH ₃ OH | 5530 | 5.8×10^{107} | 5.3×10^{47} | 5.0×10^{17} | 7.0×10^{227} | _ |
| HCOOCH ₃ | 6300 | 3.9×10^{124} | 1.5×10^{56} | 9.7×10^{21} | 2.5×10^{261} | _ |
| CH ₃ OCH ₃ | 3150 | 1.9×10^{56} | 1.2×10^{22} | 9.6×10^{4} | 4.8×10^{124} | _ |
| С | 800 | 1.8×10^5 | 3.7×10^{-4} | 1.7×10^{-6} | 4.3×10^{22} | |
| 0 | 800 | 2.1×10^{5} | 4.3×10^{-4} | 2.0×10^{-6} | 4.9×10^{22} | _ |

^aDesorption energy

^bHopping timescale from one site to another, assuming that $E_b = E_d/2$

^cEvaporation timescale

^dTimescale for quantum tunneling from one site to another

^eAccretion timescale of molecules onto a single grain. The gas-phase abundance is set to 1 cm

Normally taken to be 1 but if reactions involve a barrier we have to consider tunneling effects

DESORPTION PROCESSES: THERMAL + NON-THERMAL

HOW THE SYSTEM OF RATE EQUATIONS IS MODIFIED

Standard gas phase term

$$\frac{dn_i}{dt} = \sum_l \sum_j k_{lj}(T) n_l n_j - n_i \sum_j k_{ij}(T) n_j - k_{ads}^i n_i + k_{des}^i n_i^s$$

$$\mathbf{Gas-grain interaction term}$$

$$\frac{dn_i^s}{dt} = \sum_l \sum_j k_{lj}(T) n_l^s n_j^s - n_i^s \sum_j k_{ij}(T) n_j^s + k_{ads}^i n_i - k_{des}^i n_i^s$$

2-body reactions on dust grains





Figure 7: A deep optical image of the dark globule Barnard 68 (top left; Alves, Lada & Lada 2001) along with contour maps of integrated intensity from molecular emission lines of N₂H⁺ (contour levels: 0.3–1.8 by 0.3 K km s⁻¹), C¹⁸O (0.2–0.7 by 0.1 K km s⁻¹), and 850 μ m dust continuum emission (10–70 by 10 mJy beam⁻¹). Molecular data, with an angular resolution of ~ 25", are from Bergin et al. (2002) and dust emission (angular resolution of 14.5") from Bianchi et al. (2003).



G351 HIGH-MASS STAR-FORMING REGION (SABATINI, BOVINO+2019)









Simulations results @30 kyr (Bovino+2019)

