PRISMAS PRobing InterStellar Molecules with Absorption line Studies



Sounding the diffuse ISM with Herschel/HIFI

Maryvonne Gerin on behalf of the PRISMAS team











PRobing InterStellar Molecules with Absorption line Studies

- Absorption spectroscopy : Direct probe of line opacity. easier analysis of molecule column density
- Excellent sensitivity : reach the same range of column density as visible spectroscopy for molecules accessible both ways (eg CH and CH⁺) => probe diffuse and translucent gas with Av few mag in the FIR spectral range.
- 11 background sources (massive star forming regions) Targeted species for absorption
- •C CH, ¹³CH, CH⁺, ¹³CH⁺, CH₂, C₃
- •N NH, NH₂, NH₃ (o & p), ¹⁵NH₃, ND, NH₂D, NH⁺
- **O O H**⁺, **H**₂ \overline{O}^+ (**o** & **p**)[,], **H**₃O⁺, **H**₂ $\overset{\circ}{O}$ (**o** & **p**), H_{2}^{18} O, HDO, D_{2} O
- •F HF, DF
- CI HCI, HCI⁺, H_2CI^+
- •S SH⁺

& one U line !



An example : the line of sight towards W49N

New Diagnostics





Molecules in (nearly) atomic gas



 $O^{+} + H_{2} \rightarrow OH^{+} + H$ $OH^{+} + H_{2} \rightarrow H_{2}O^{+} + H$ $H_{2}O^{+} + H_{2} \rightarrow H_{3}O^{+} + H$

High OH^+/H_2O^+ ratio \rightarrow low fraction of H_2 (< 10%) See talk by Indriolo (Neufeld et al 2010, Indriolo et al 2012)

 $C^+ + H_2 \rightarrow CH^+ + H$ (endothermicity ~ 4000K) Also true for SH⁺ See talk by Falgarone & Godard (Falgarone et al 2010, Godard et al 2012)



Molecules as tracers of H₂

Molecular species with nearly constant abundance relative to H₂.

CH (Sheffer et al) HF (Neufeld et al, Sonnentrucker et al, Monje et al)

H₂O (Lis et al, Flagey et al)

What about other species like HCO^+ , CCH ?

Comparison of H₂ tracers



CH & HF are good tracers of molecular hydrogen in diffuse interstellar gas.

Mean HF/CH $\sim 0.4 \rightarrow$ F/H $\sim 10-8$ rather than 1.8 10-8 ? (see also Indriolo et al 2013 for a direct measurement)

CH is well correlated with CCH and $c-C_{3}H_{2} \rightarrow \text{possible tracers of H}_{3}$ accessible from the ground. CH is correlated with HCO⁺ and H₂O but with a slope > 1

H₂ tracers vs CO along the W49N line of sight



Spin symmetry states



Many species with different spin symmetry states accessible for the first time. Ortho to para ratio (OPR) H₂O $H_{2}O^{+}$ H_3O^+ NH NH₂ $H_{2}Cl^{+}$, Clues to formation pathway?

See talk on H_3O^+ (D. Lis)

A revised view of the Chlorine chemistry in the ISM



HCI in the ISM discovered in 1985 (Blake et al 1985) New Herschel/HIFI data (Monje et al 2012) Herschel/HIFI discovery of H₂Cl⁺ (Lis et al. 2010,

Neufeld et al 2012) and HCl⁺ (De Luca et al. 2012)







(De Luca et al 2012)



The building blocks of N-chemistry

- Full chain of neutral species in the NH3 network.
- Numerous hyperfine components for NH & $NH_2 = >$ Complex line

profiles

- No NH⁺ detection
- Restricted number of velocity components compared to CH or HF
 Close similarity with nitriles (CN, HCN, HNC).
 See talk by C. Persson (Persson et al)

(Flux/Continuum Flux) + Offset



The special case of C₃ DR21(OH) Mookerjea et al 2010, 2012) + talk on W51 sight-line

Table 2. Spectroscopic parameters for the C3 and CCH transitions observed with Herschel/HIFI.

Species	Transition	Frequency (MHz)	A-coeff (s ⁻¹)	E1 (cm ⁻¹)	Beam size
$C_3, (J, v)$	(9, 1)-(10, 0) P(10)	1 654 081.66	2.38×10^{-3}	47.3	13"
	(3, 1)-(4, 0) P(4)	1 787 890.57	2.72×10^{-3}	8.6	12"
	(2, 1)-(2, 0) Q(2)	1 890 558.06	7.51×10^{-3}	2.6	11"
	(4, 1)-(4, 0) Q(4)	1 896 706.56	7.58×10^{-3}	8.6	11"

FIR Vibrational bands → Frequencies ~ OK.
Could be improved with Herschel data.
2 dense cores MM1 & MM2 with different abundances.
Qualitatively consistent with scenario with ice warm up.
Ongoing search for ¹³CCC and C¹³CC (T. Giesen)

Fine structure line : [CII], [OI], [CI], [NII]

Some Previous studies :

- OI in DR21(Poglitsch et al)
- Sgrb2, W49 with ISO high spectral resolution (FP) : Absorption in CII and OI-63, limited velocity resolution. Difficulty in accounting the absorption by HI/CNM + H2/CO. Contribution from warm phases ? (Baluteau, Vastel, Keene ...)



[CII] (1.9 THz – HIFI/PACS)



- Strong absorption from foreground gas
- Complex profiles towards the star forming regions (outflows, self-absorption)
- Interpretation of the PACS spectral map difficult when foreground gas
- •Low Line/continuum for bright continuum sources → CII deficit ?

Strong absorption from foreground gas Complex profiles towards the star forming regions (outflows, self-absorption)



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[CII] absorption – structure



Comparison with PACS continuum "map" : Extended absorption from the foreground gas. The depth of the absorption scales with the continuum $\rightarrow \sim$ constant opacity. **Nearly uniform foreground**



[CII] Excitation

• Typical level of the diffuse CII emission ~ 0.5K & opacity from absorption : $\tau \sim 1 \rightarrow Tex \sim 20.5K$

• Most of the C⁺ ions are in the ground state (~ 98%) \rightarrow Absorption

Excitation conditions consistent with diffuse gas T ~ 100 K (from HI), n ~ 40 - 80 cm⁻³ and p ~ 6500 Kcm⁻³

• Same conclusions from the diffuse [CI] emission

The gas detected in absorption is the CNM with $f(H_2) \sim 0.5$ The filling factor of CNM along the line of sight is 2 - 10%



CII emission from the WIM (Velusamy et al) \rightarrow CII absorption from WIM / WNM ? •Excess absorption in high Tspin regions (JVLA data Winkel & Menten in prep) •Excess C⁺ column density from the combination of HI (CNM) and H₂ (from CH)

• Consistent with ~10% of the total C⁺ and a filling factor of the warm phases ~ 1

Tomography along the line of sight to W49N

Thanks to Herschel, we have good tracers of the total gas column density : HI abs \rightarrow CNM; CH & HF \rightarrow H₂, CII \rightarrow H_tot We can determine the fraction of H in H₂ the gas density & pressure (using T from HI) & connect CNM and molecular gas.



- CNM contribution to the column density > 85%
- CNM pressure ~ 6500 Kcm⁻³
- CNM Filling factor along the line of sight ~ 10%
- Higher density regions from NH_3 , CN , (300 1000cm⁻³)
- OH⁺ trace the CNM interfaces with low H_2 fraction
- Most of the volume is filled by the warm phases (> 50%)

Conclusions

The diffuse ISM is present everywhere in the Galaxy and is an important segment of the ISM life cycle

Absorption spectroscopy is the most sensitive method to detect species in the diffuse ISM

Big improvement thanks to Herschel/HIFI spectroscopy :
Fine structure lines & Hydride lines are excellent &
complementary diagnostics of physical and chemical processes.
Confirmation of the phase structure, Fraction of gas in H2, cosmic ray ionization rate, role of turbulence ...

Key information is still lacking for modeling (reaction rates, collisional rates, branching rations, spectroscopy)

- dissociative recombination of ionized hydrides incl H3+
- charge exchange reaction with H+ (Cl, O, ...)
- reactions with H
- state to state chemistry can be important