Physics 224 The Interstellar Medium

Lecture #13

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Draine & Li 2007 dust model chastically Heated Du Intensity of radiation

Stochastically Heated Dust: Intensity of radiation field doesn't change shape of spectrum and j_v∝U

why:

 temp of small grains depends on average photon energy which isn't changing here (i.e. dP/dT doesn't depend on U) grains cool completely between photon absorptions

Almost all photons absorbed by dust go to heating the grain, but a small fraction go to:

Luminescence = radiative transition in grain (fluorescence - prompt, phosphorescence - delayed)

Photoelectric Effect = ejecting electron from grain





For small grains and – energetic photons, more than 1 electron can be ejected.

PE yield for uncharged carbonaceous grains of various sizes for different absorbed photon energies.

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Grains are charged in the ISM!

Competition between:

collisions & sticking of electrons

negatively charges grain depends on: electron density, temperature, grain size, charge, "sticking" coeff

&

photoelectric ejection of electrons cha

positively charges grain depends on: photon density, grain size, charge, PE yield



What is dust made of?

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- Spectroscopic features in absorption
- Spectroscopic features in emission
- Depletions of heavy elements from the gas

The problem with spectroscopic features:

for macroscopic particles: absorption & emission is mostly continuous and any features there are broad

Spectroscopic features in absorption





Spectroscopic features in absorption



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Silicate Absorption in a protostar in Orion



Spectroscopic features in absorption





Two bands identified with C₆₀+

Campbell et al. 2015

> 400 near-IR to near-UV absorption features Discovered in 1922, vast majority unidentified.

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Spectroscopic features in emission









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Depletions

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A UNIFIED REPRESENTATION OF GAS-PHASE ELEMENT DEPLETIONS IN THE INTERSTELLAR MEDIUM*

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ABSTRACT

A study of gas-phase element abundances reported in the literature for 17 different elements sampled over 243 sight lines in the local part of our Galaxy reveals that the depletions into solid form (dust grains) are extremely well characterized by trends that employ only three kinds of parameters. One is an index that describes the overall level of depletion applicable to the gas in any particular sight line, and the other two represent linear coefficients that describe how to derive each element's depletion from this sight-line parameter. The information from this study reveals the relative proportions of different elements that are incorporated into dust at different stages of grain growth. An extremely simple scheme is proposed for deriving the dust contents and metallicities of absorption-line systems that are seen in the spectra of distant quasars or the optical afterglows of gamma-ray bursts. Contrary to presently accepted thinking, the elements sulfur and krypton appear to show measurable changes in their depletions as the general levels of depletions of other elements increase, although more data are needed to ascertain whether or not these findings are truly compelling. Nitrogen appears to show no such increase. The incorporation of oxygen into solid form in the densest gas regions far exceeds the amounts that can take the form of silicates or metallic oxides; this conclusion is based on differential measurements of depletion and thus is unaffected by uncertainties in the solar abundance reference scale.

Key words: ISM: abundances – ISM: atoms – ultraviolet: ISM

Online-only material: machine-readable tables

Depletions



Jenkins 2009: compiled depletion measurements for 17 elements on ~250 lines-of-sight

Model for depletions includes: $F_* = parameterization of overall depletion$ $[X_{gas}/H]_0 =$ "baseline" or "initial" depetion $A_X =$ depletion rate for element X as a function of F*

$$[X_{\text{gas}}/\text{H}]_{\text{fit}} = [X_{\text{gas}}/\text{H}]_0 + A_X F_*$$

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Depletions





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The observation that F* depends on density and H₂ fraction shows us that grains evolve in the ISM.

Next Up: ISM Phases

- Part I: "ISM Phases"
- Part II: Neutral Gas Heating & Cooling
- Part III: Neutral Gas Observations

What are "ISM Phases"?

Characteristic states of gas in a galaxy: defined by ionization, chemical, density, temperature state

Possibly the result of some sort of equilibrium: pressure, chemical, thermal, etc

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Questions:

- What are the dominant processes that set these phases and how do they change from galaxy to galaxy?
- To what degree is the idea of "phases" an accurate representation of the ISM?

Phases in the Milky Way

Name	T (K)	lonization	frac of volume	density (cm ⁻³)	P ~ nT (cm ⁻³ K)
hot ionized medium	10 ⁶	H+	0.5(?)	0.004	4000
ionized gas (HII & WIM)	104	H+	0.1	0.2-104	2000 - 10 ⁸
warm neutral medium	5000	Ho	0.4	0.6	3000
cold neutral medium	100	H ⁰	0.01	30	3000
diffuse molecular	50	H_2	0.001	100	5000
dense molecular	10-50	H ₂	10-4	10 ³ -10 ⁶	10 ⁵ - 10 ⁷

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Pressure equilibrium

What we are going to do next:

Understand what sets the properties of various ISM phases:

Neutral gas Molecular gas Ionized gas

Neutral Gas

~60% of gas in MW is in "HI regions" where hydrogen is atomic (not ionized, not molecular)

Heating:

- Cosmic Ray Ionization
- Photoionization of H & He
- Photoionization of metals
- Photoelectric effect from dust
- Shocks, turbulent dissipation, MHD phenomena

- Collisionally excited fine structure lines
- Lyman α at T>10⁴ K
- recombination of eand grains

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Γ heating rate per volume ~ n_H

~ $n_H X_H n_{coll} v_{coll} \sigma Y(E)$

density of whatever is being ionized X_H = abundance relative to H

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* Integrate this over the distribution of collider energies

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- H & He
- H & He
- C, O, Ne, Mg, Si (IP < 13.6 eV)
- Dust

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energy yield per interaction

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- **ζ**_{CR}
- (u_v/hv) c $\sigma_{\rm H,He}(E)$
- $(u_v/hv) c \sigma_z(E)$
- $(u_v/hv) c < Q_{abs,*} > \pi a^2$ (integrate over a)

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per interaction

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 (integrate over a)

Depend on CR flux and radiation field strength.

heating rate per volume

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Common theme: interaction rate is set by external radiation field or cosmic ray flux so...

 $\Gamma \sim n_{\rm H}\,\zeta\,E$

In the case where $n_c >> n_{crit}$, i.e. every collision leads to radiative transition.

where $n_c = collider density$ $n_X = collisionally excited species density$ $k_{10} = collisional rate coefficient$ $E_{10} = energy difference of levels$

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Recall "collision strength"
$$\Omega_u$$

 $k_{u\ell} = rac{h^2}{\left(2\pi m_e\right)^{3/2}} rac{1}{(kT)^{3/2}} rac{\Omega_{u\ell}}{g_u},$

separates gas temperature from atomic properties

- Collisionally excited fine structure lines
- Lyman α at T>10⁴ K
- recombination of eand grains

$\Lambda \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{cooling rate} \\ \text{per volume} \end{array} \sim n_C n_X k_{10} E_{10} \end{array}$

In the case where $n_c >> n_{crit}$, i.e. every collision leads to radiative transition.

note that different colliders have different k values

Important point: cooling rate ~ n²

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- Lyman α at T>10⁴ K
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