

# Calculating the spectroscopic behaviour of hot molecules



Jonathan Tennyson  
Physics and Astronomy,  
University College London

Hitran meeting  
World Cup 2010

Artist's impression of HD189733b  
C. Carreau, ESA

# Spectroscopy at $T > 500$ K

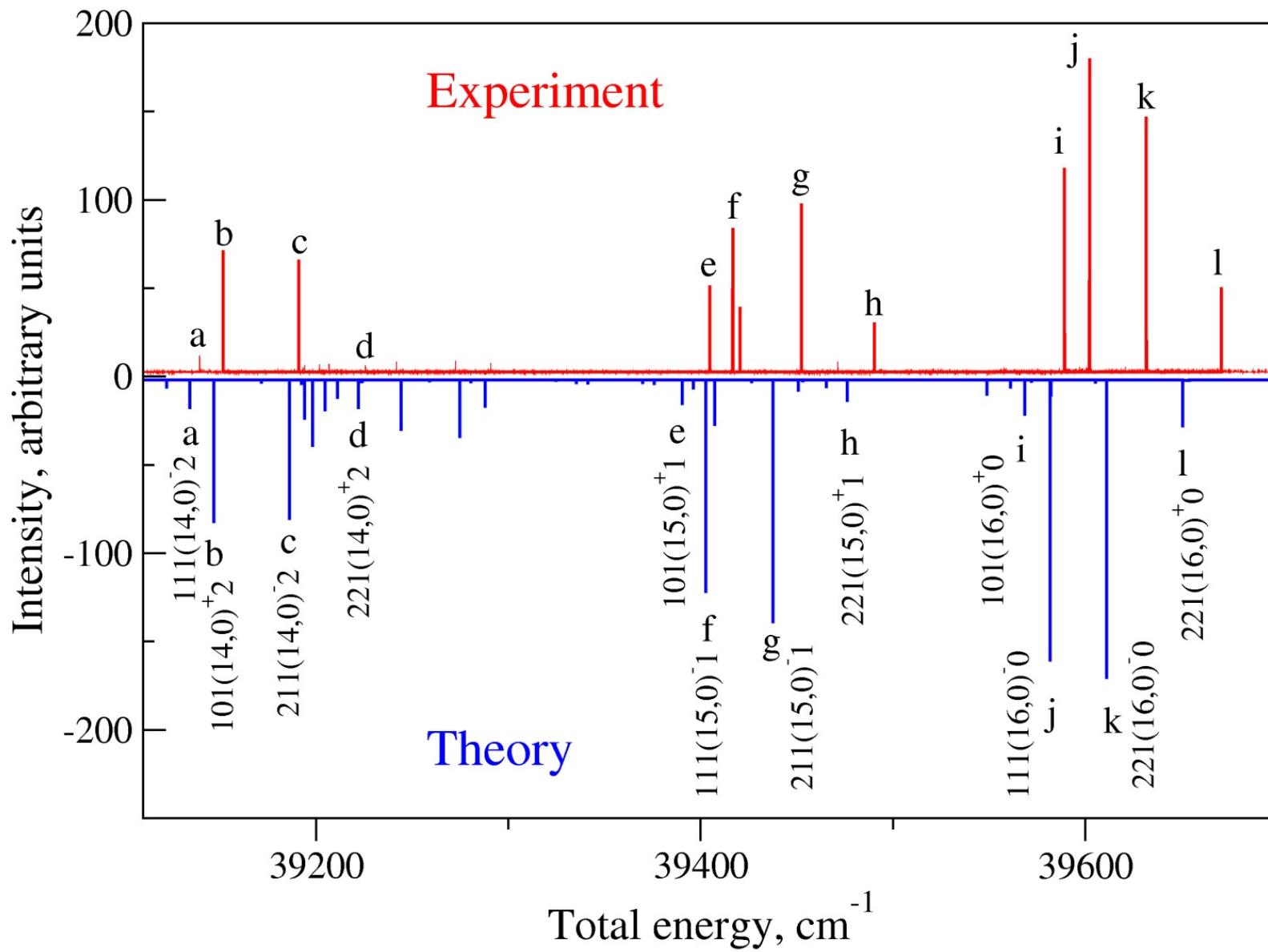
- Flames (+exhaust gases)
- Cool stars
- Brown dwarfs
- Extrasolar planets
- Non-LTE problems

## New edition of HITEMP:

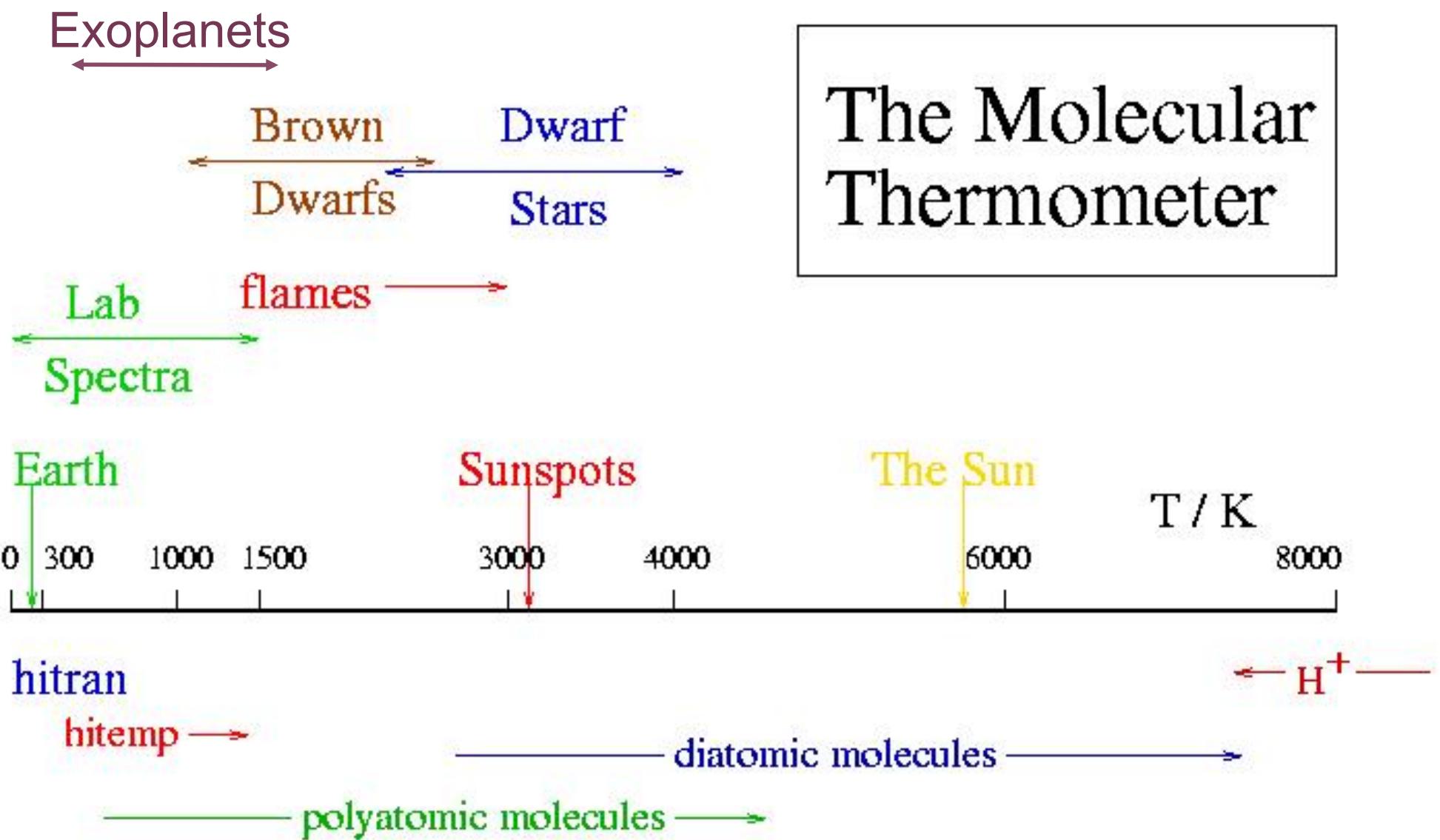
Molecules contained:  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2$ , NO, OH, CO

LS Rothman, IE Gordon, RJ Barber, H Dothe, RR Gamache, A Goldman,  
VI Perevalov, SA Tashkun + J Tennyson, JQSRT (in press)

# Water @ Dissociation: 3-photon spectroscopy



M. Grechko et al, State-selective spectroscopy of water up to its first dissociation limit,,  
J. Chem. Phys., 131, 221105 (2009).



# Opacity of cool stars, brown dwarfs & exoplanets

- Closed shell diatomics: H<sub>2</sub>, CO, etc
- Transition metal diatomics: TiO, FeH, etc
- Triatomic molecules: H<sub>2</sub>O, HCN, C<sub>3</sub> etc (CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>)
- Tetratomic molecule: NH<sub>3</sub>, HCCH
- Pentatomic: CH<sub>4</sub>
- Hydrocarbons: C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, others?
- Dust (other biomarkers eg HNO<sub>3</sub>?)

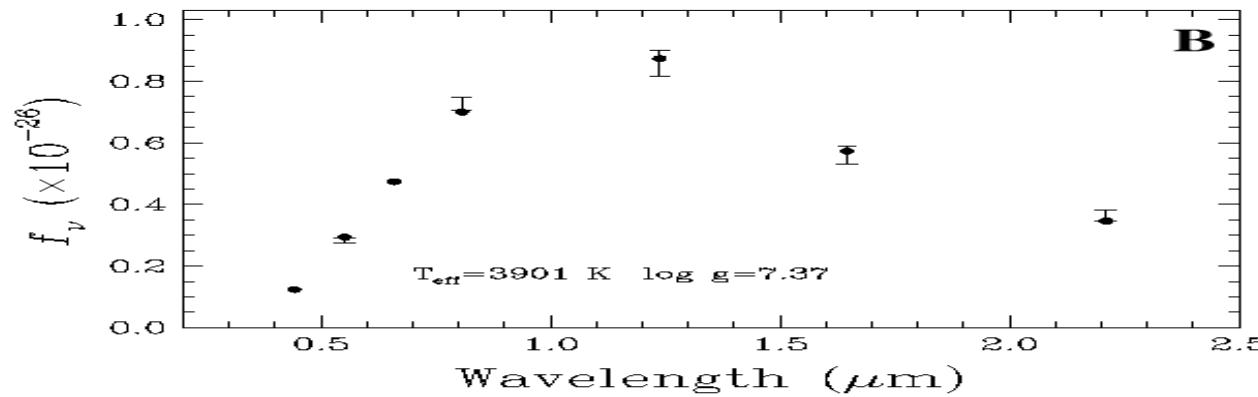
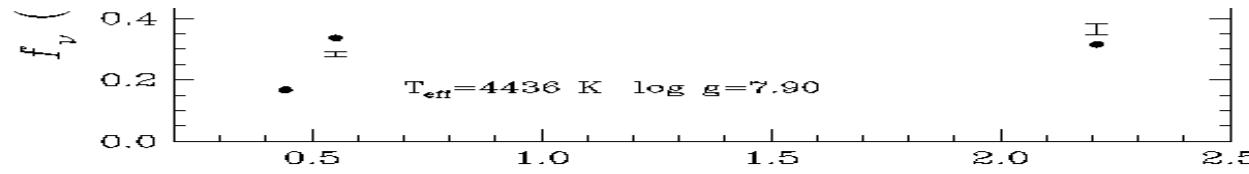
# Opacity of cool stars, brown dwarfs & exoplanets

- Closed shell diatomics: H<sub>2</sub>, CO, etc
- Transition metal diatomics: TiO, FeH, etc
- Triatomic molecules: H<sub>2</sub>O, HCN, C<sub>3</sub> etc (CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>)
- Tetratomic molecule: NH<sub>3</sub>, HCCH
- Pentatomic: CH<sub>4</sub>
- Hydrocarbons: C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, others?
- Dust (other biomarkers eg HNO<sub>3</sub>?)

# Modeling spectra @ 1000 -3000 K

- Spectra very dense – cannot get T from black-body fit.
- Synthetic spectra require huge databases  
 $> 10^6$  vibration-rotation transitions per triatomic molecule
- Sophisticated opacity sampling techniques.
- Partition functions also important

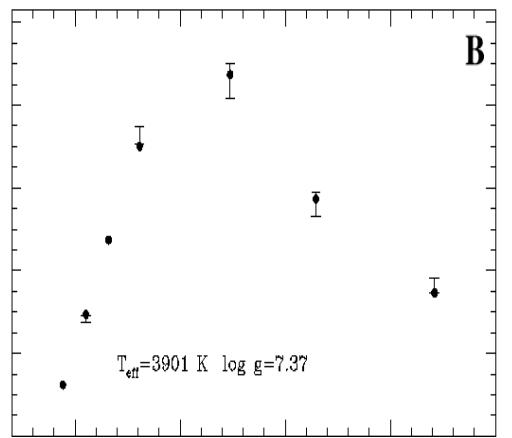
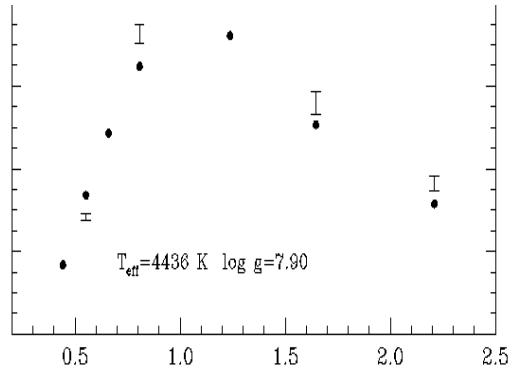
## Partition functions are important



Model of cool, metal-free magnetic white dwarf  
WD1247+550 by Pierre Bergeron (Montreal)

Is the partition function of  $\text{H}_3^+$  correct?

## Partition functions are important



Model of WD1247+550 using ab initio  $\text{H}_3^+$  partition function  
of Neale & Tennyson (1996)

# **Calculated $H_3^+$ linelist of Neale, Miller and Tennyson (1993) used extensively for astrophysics**

Vol 450 | 6 December 2007 | doi:10.1038/nature06378

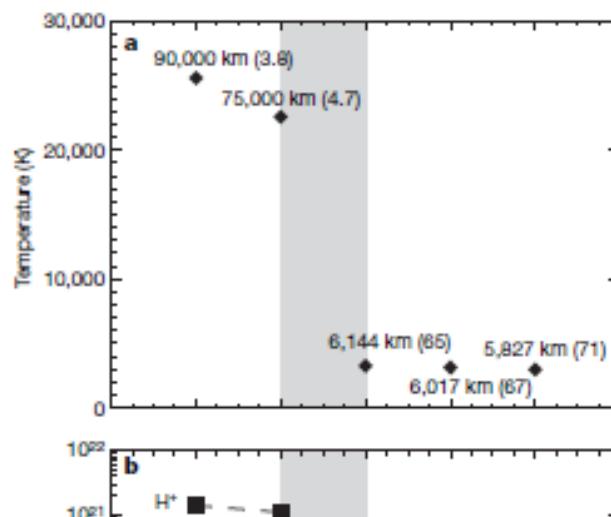
nature

LETTERS

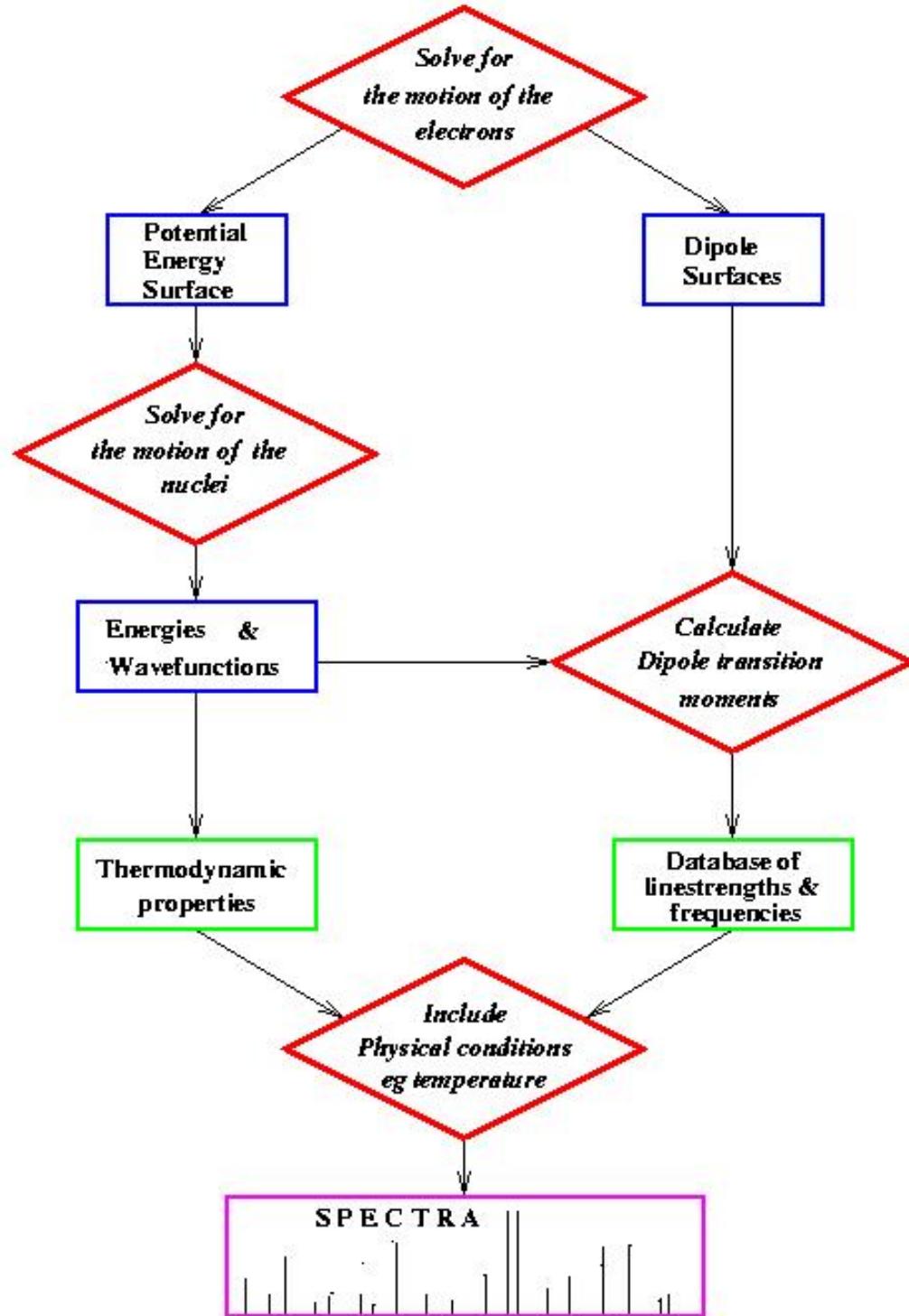
## **A stability limit for the atmospheres of giant extrasolar planets**

Tommi T. Koskinen<sup>1</sup>, Alan D. Aylward<sup>1</sup> & Steve Miller<sup>1</sup>

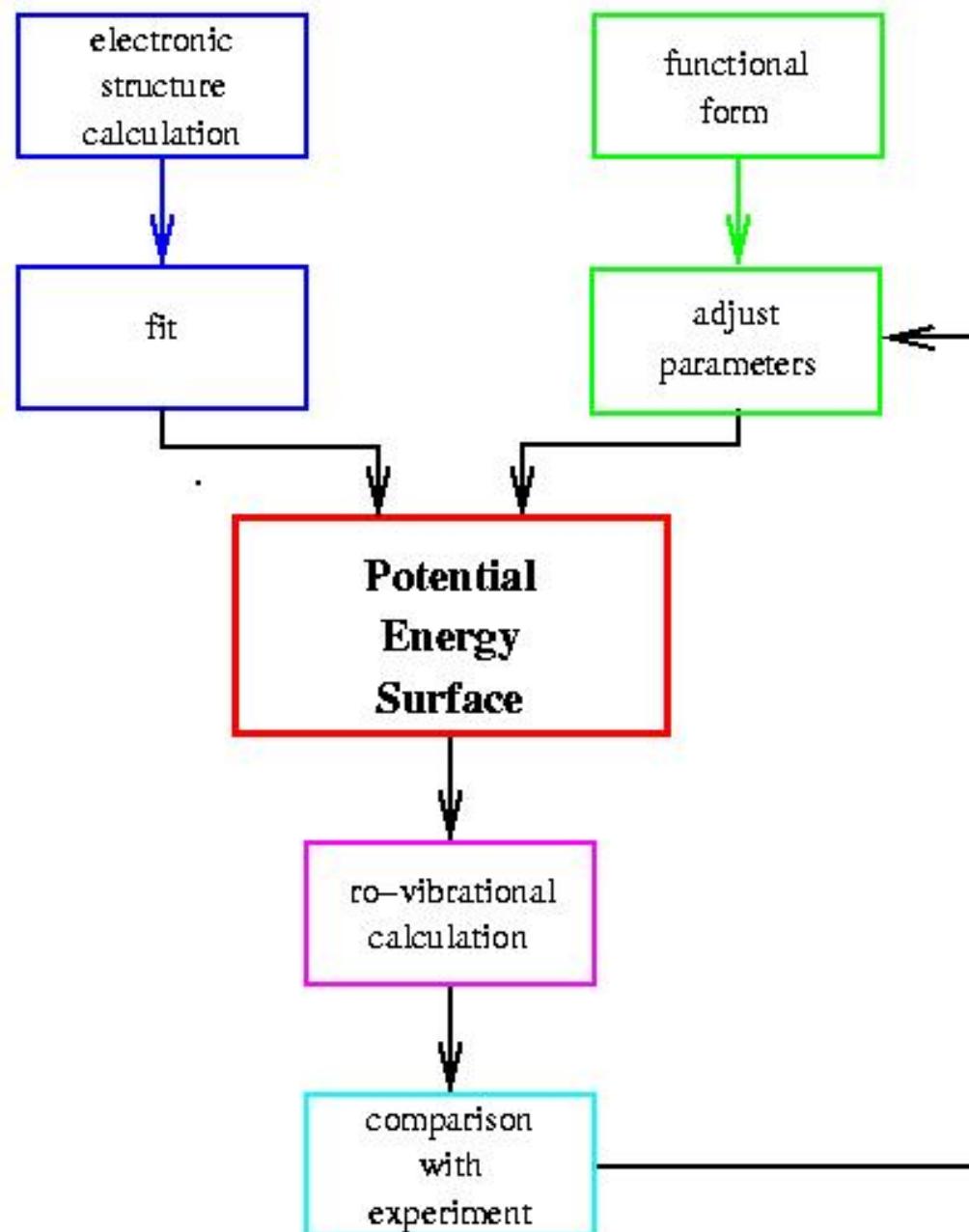
Recent observations of the planet HD209458b indicate that it is surrounded by an expanded atmosphere of atomic hydrogen that is escaping hydrodynamically<sup>1–3</sup>. Theoretically, it has been shown that such escape is possible at least inside an orbit of 0.1 AU (refs 4 and 5), and also that  $H_3^+$  ions play a crucial role in cooling the upper atmosphere<sup>5,6</sup>. Jupiter's atmosphere is stable<sup>7</sup>, so somewhere between 5 and 0.1 AU there must be a crossover between stability and instability. Here we show that there is a sharp breakdown in atmospheric stability between 0.14 and 0.16 AU for a Jupiter-like planet orbiting a solar-type star. These results are in contrast to earlier modelling<sup>4,8</sup> that implied much higher thermospheric temperatures and more significant evaporation farther from the star. (We use a three-dimensional, time-dependent coupled thermosphere-ionosphere model<sup>6</sup> and properly include cooling by  $H_3^+$  ions, allowing us to model globally the redistribution of heat and changes in molecular composition.) Between 0.2 and 0.16 AU cooling by  $H_3^+$  ions balances heating by the star, but inside 0.16 AU molecular hydrogen dissociates thermally, suppressing the formation of  $H_3^+$  and effectively shutting down that mode of cooling.



# Ab initio calculation of rotation-vibration spectra



Potentials: *Ab initio* or Spectroscopically determined



# The DVR3D program suite: triatomic vibration-rotation spectra

Potential energy  
Surface,  $V(r_1, r_2, \theta)$

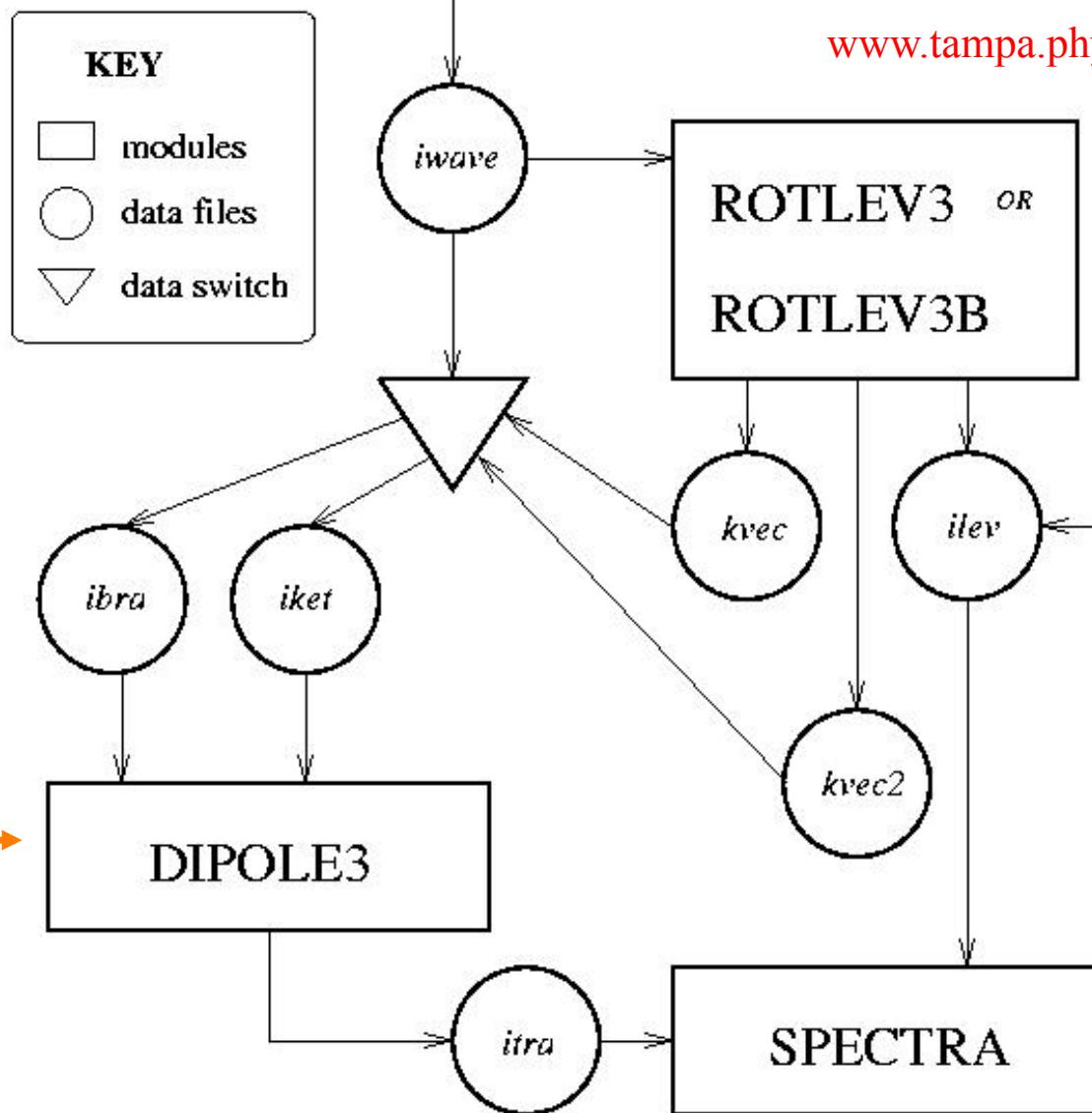


J Tennyson, MA Kostin, P Barletta, GJ Harris

OL Polyansky, J Ramanlal & NF Zobov

*Computer Phys. Comm.* **163**, 85 (2004).

[www.tampa.phys.ucl.ac.uk/ftp/vr/cpc03](http://www.tampa.phys.ucl.ac.uk/ftp/vr/cpc03)



# Computed Water opacity

- Variational nuclear motion calculations
- High accuracy potential energy surface
- *Ab initio* dipole surface

Viti & Tennyson computed **VT2** linelist  
Partridge & Schwenke (**PS**), NASA Ames  
**Barber & Tennyson (**BT2**)**  
Also Ludwig, SCAN, MT, HITEMP .....

# BT2 linelist

Barber et al, MNRAS 368, 1087 (2006).

<http://www.tampa.phys.ucl.ac.uk/ftp/astrodata/water/BT2/>

- 50,000 processor hours.
- Wavefunctions > 0.8 terabites
- 221,100 energy levels (all to  $J=50$ ,  $E = 30,000 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ )  
14,889 experimentally known
- 506 million transitions (PS list has 308m)  
>100,000 experimentally known with intensities

$\Delta \rightarrow$  Partition function 99.9915% of Vidler & Tennyson's value at 3,000K

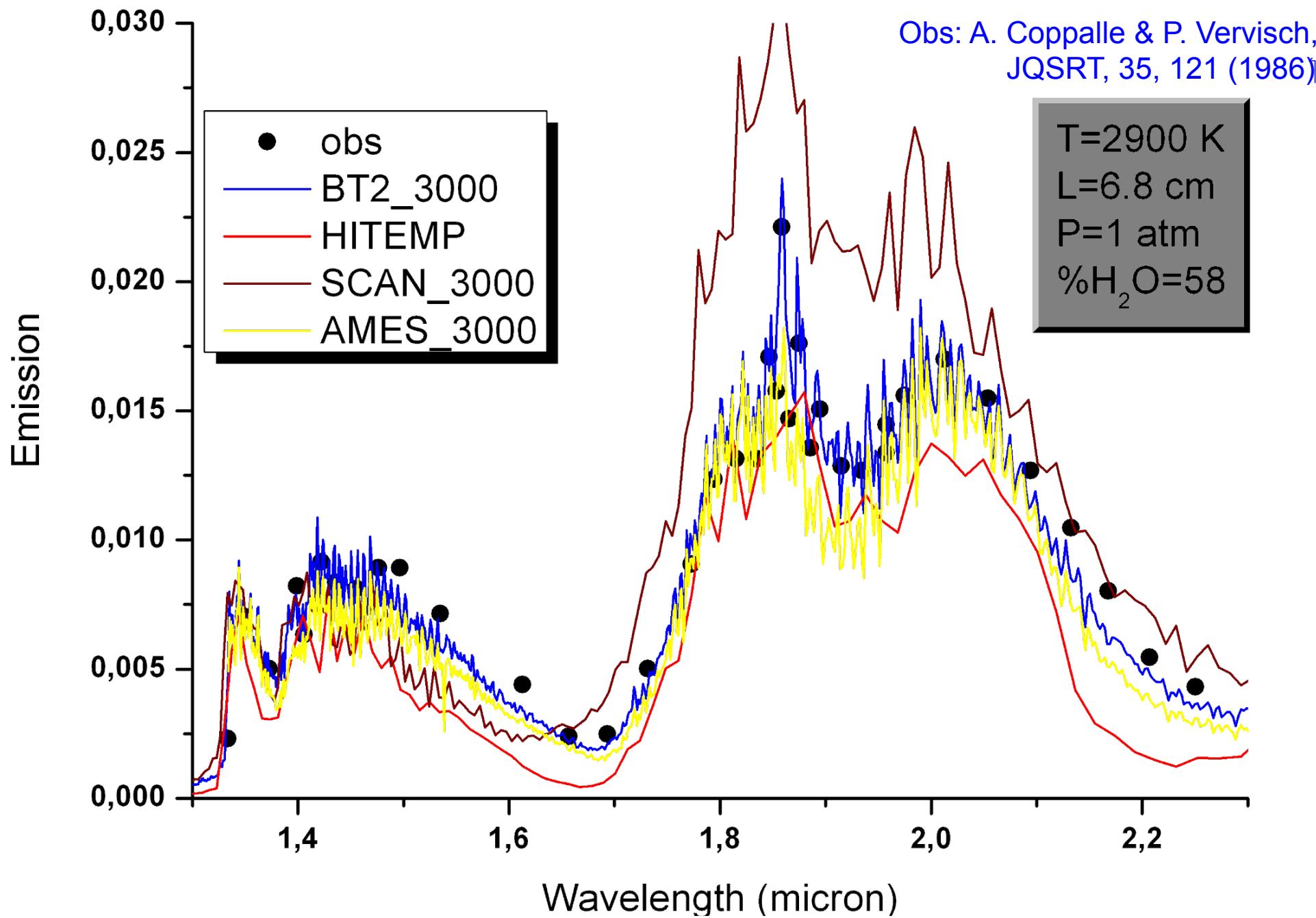
## Energy file: N J sym n E/cm<sup>-1</sup> v<sub>1</sub> v<sub>2</sub> v<sub>3</sub> J K<sub>a</sub> K<sub>c</sub>

N	J	sym	n	E/cm <sup>-1</sup>	v <sub>1</sub>	v <sub>2</sub>	v <sub>3</sub>	J	K <sub>a</sub>	K <sub>c</sub>
43432	11	1	50	<b>8730.136998</b>	0	2	1	11	3	8
43433	11	1	51	<b>8819.773962</b>	0	4	0	11	6	6
43434	11	1	52	<b>8918.536215</b>	0	0	2	11	2	10
43435	11	1	53	<b>8965.496130</b>	0	2	1	11	5	6
43436	11	1	54	<b>8975.145175</b>	2	0	0	11	4	8
43437	11	1	55	<b>9007.868894</b>	1	0	1	11	3	8
43438	11	1	56	<b>9082.413891</b>	1	2	0	11	6	6
43439	11	1	57	<b>9170.343871</b>	1	0	1	11	5	6
43440	11	1	58	<b>9223.444158</b>	0	0	2	11	4	8
43441	11	1	59	<b>9264.489815</b>	2	0	0	11	6	6
43442	11	1	60	<b>9267.088316</b>	0	5	0	11	2	10
43443	11	1	61	<b>9369.887722</b>	0	2	1	11	7	4
43444	11	1	62	<b>9434.002547</b>	0	4	0	11	8	4
43445	11	1	63	<b>9457.272655</b>	1	0	1	11	7	4
43446	11	1	64	<b>9498.012728</b>	0	0	2	11	6	6
43447	11	1	65	<b>9565.890023</b>	1	2	0	11	8	4

## Transitions file:

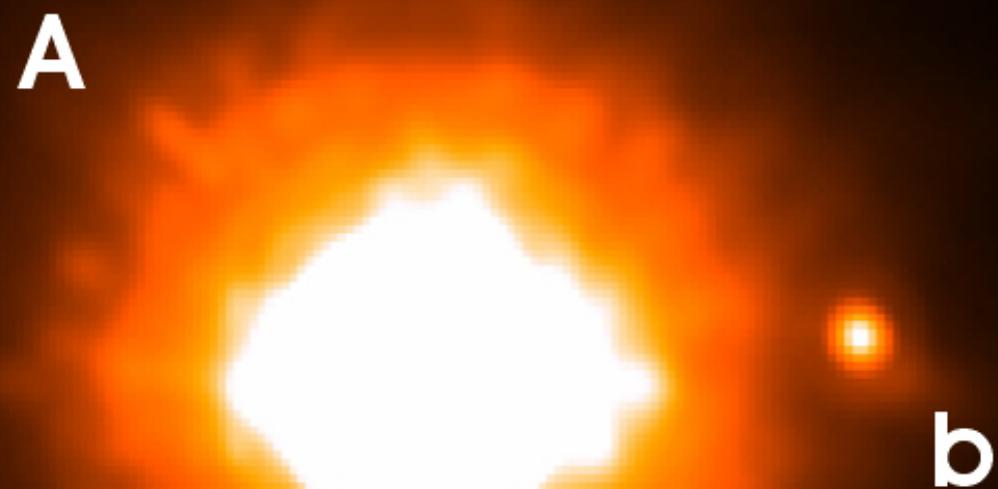
**12.8 Gb**  
Divided into  
16 files by frequency  
for downloading

$N_f$	$N_i$	$A_{if}$
144848	146183	3.46E-04
115309	108520	7.42E-04
196018	198413	1.95E-04
7031	7703	1.13E-02
149176	150123	1.69E-04
81528	78734	2.30E-01
80829	78237	8.83E-04
209672	210876	2.51E-01
207026	203241	2.72E-04
188972	184971	1.25E-01
152471	153399	1.12E-02
39749	37479	1.46E-07
10579	15882	6.90E-05
34458	35617	1.15E-03



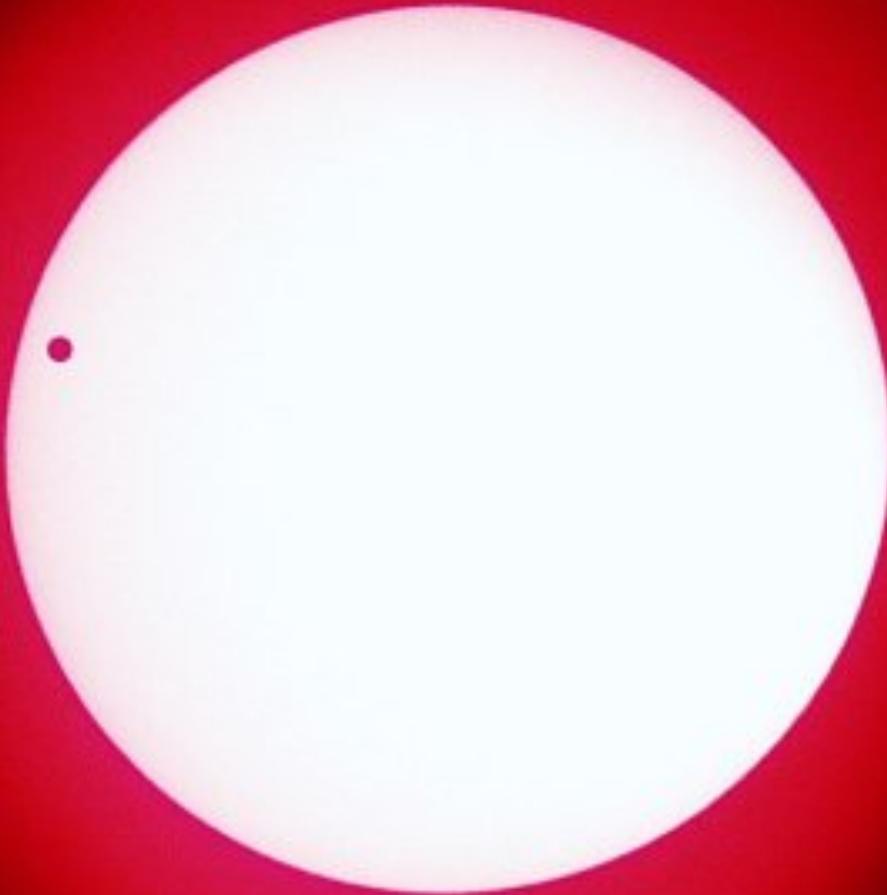
New edition of HITEMP: LS Rothman, IE Gordon, RJ Barber, H Dothe, RR  
Gamache, A Goldman, VI Perevalov, SA Tashkun + J Tennyson, JQSRT (in press)

Extra solar planets: 442 detected so far  
~ 65 “transiting”

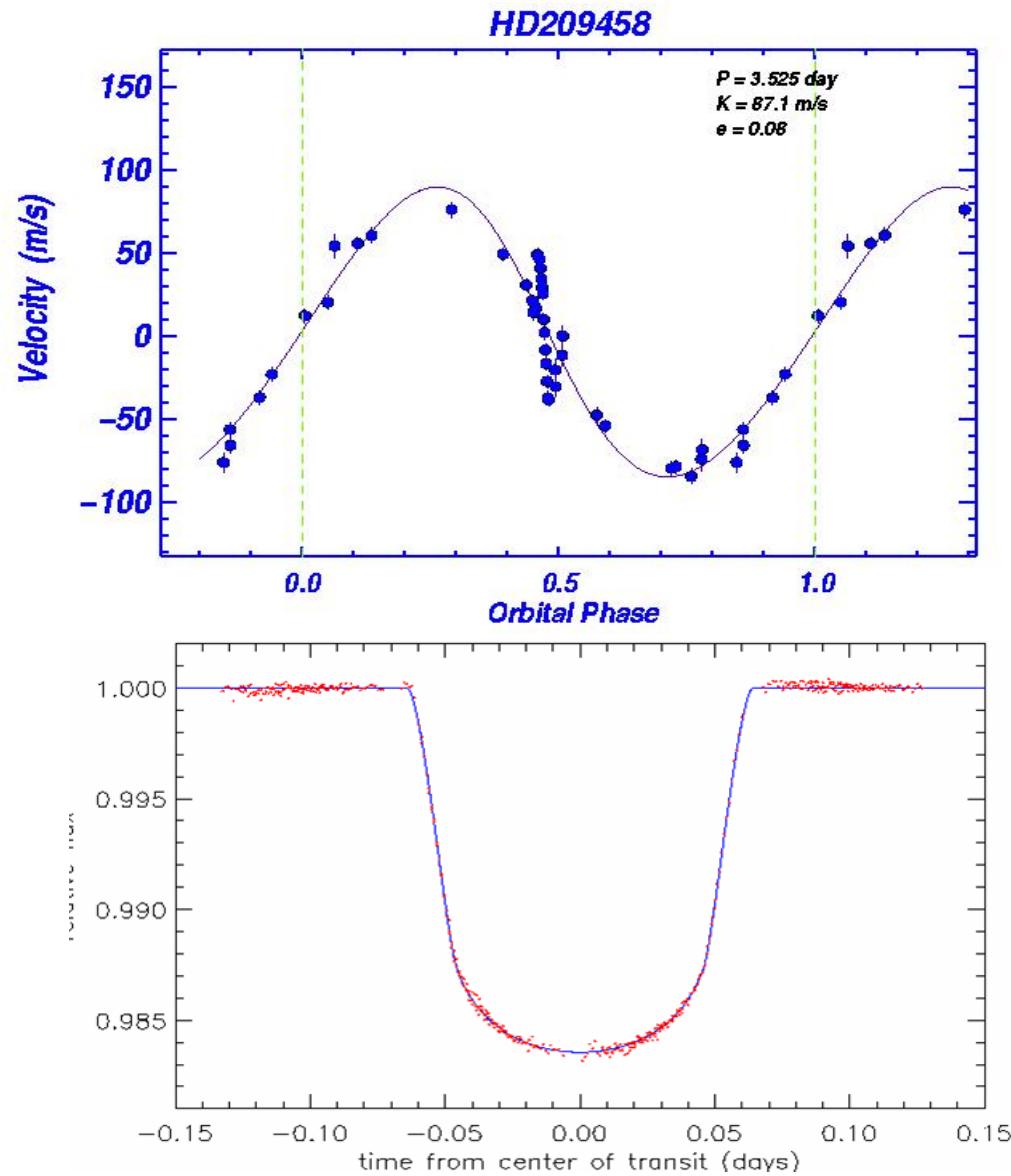


# Transit of Venus

June 8th 2004.



# HD 209458b



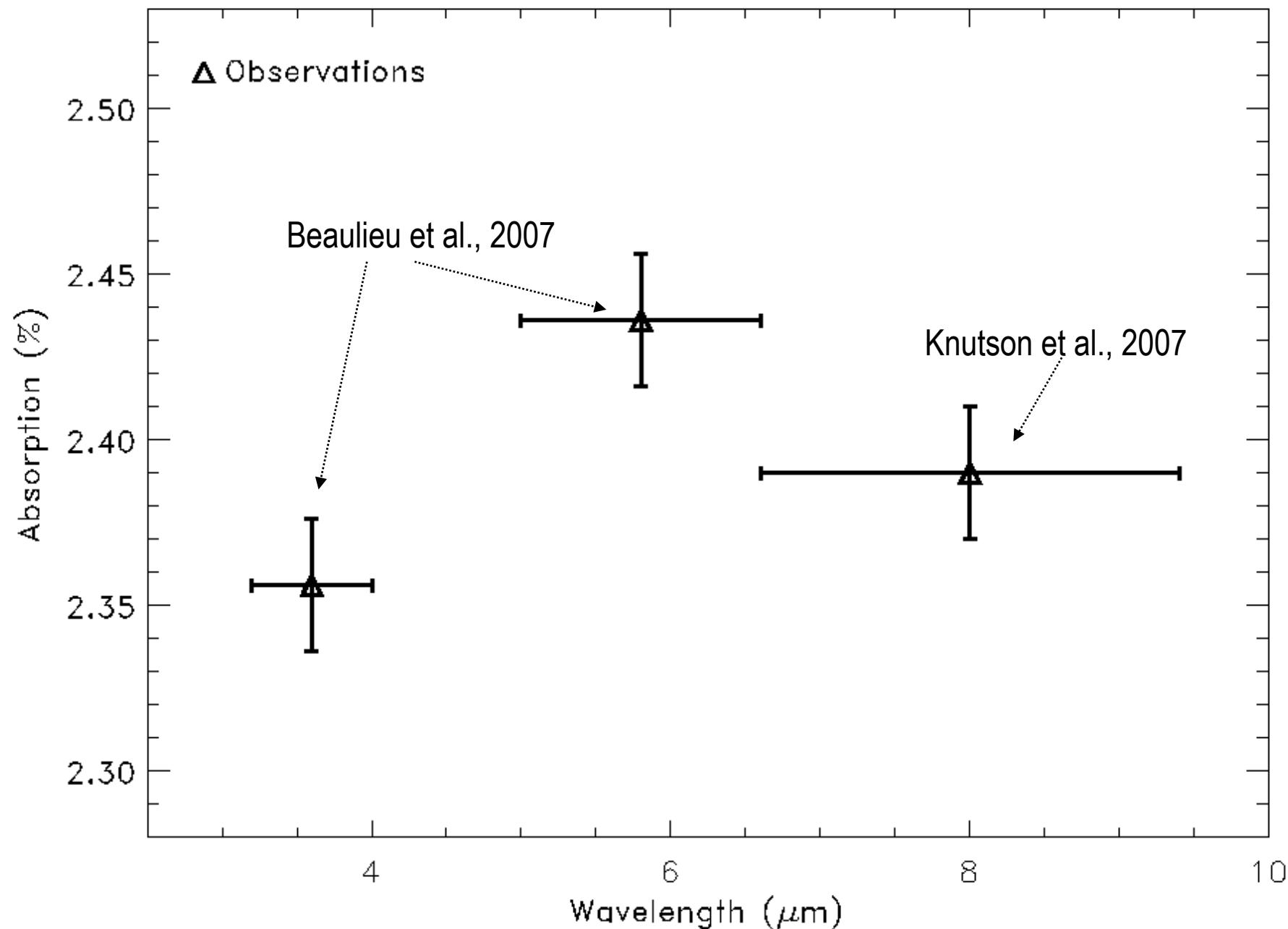
Period = 3.524738 days

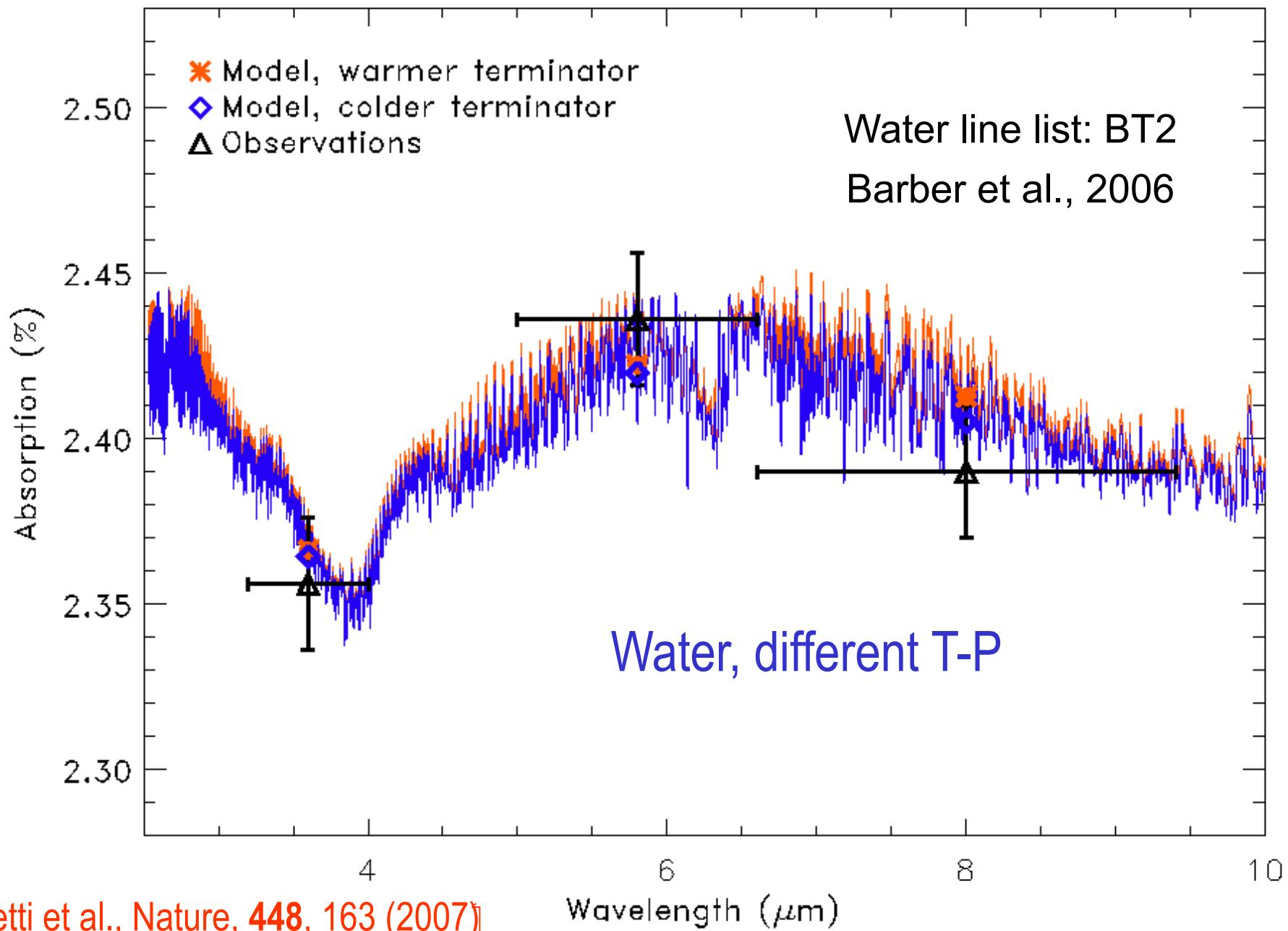
Mass =  $0.69 \pm 0.05 M_{\text{Jupiter}}$

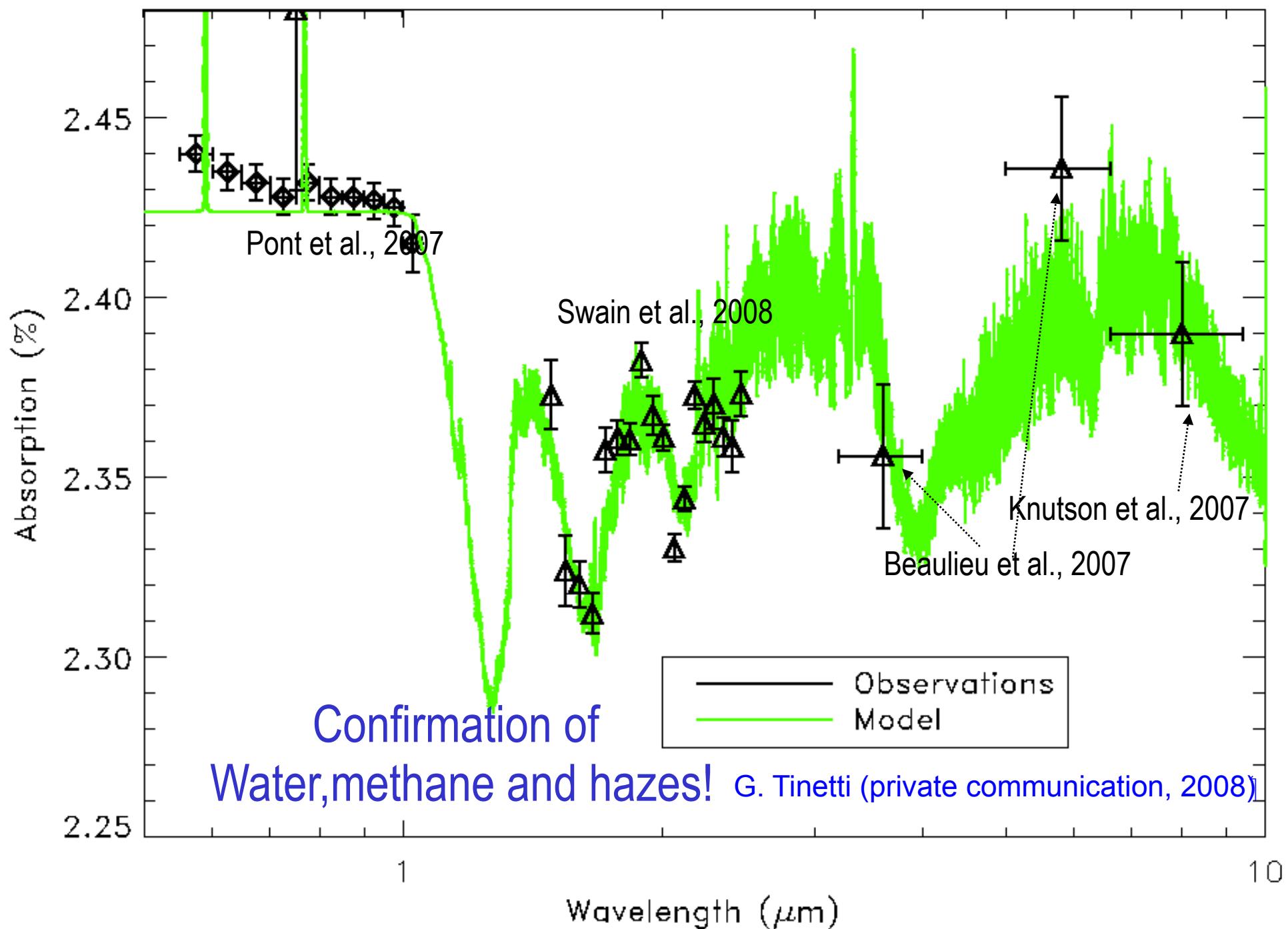
Radius =  $1.35 \pm 0.04 R_{\text{Jupiter}}$

Density =  $0.35 \pm 0.05 \text{ g/cm}^3$

# Primary transit + IR + Spitzer







# Why is ammonia of interest?

- Present in: ISM, molecular clouds, late-type dwarfs, gas giants, exoplanets, comets etc.
- $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  etc. in the spectra of exoplanets give additional information about P and T.  $\text{NH}_3$  also gives information about nitrogen chemistry.
- Accurate modelling of the atmospheres of late-type brown dwarfs.
- Y-dwarfs (search is on) are characterised by  $\text{NH}_3$

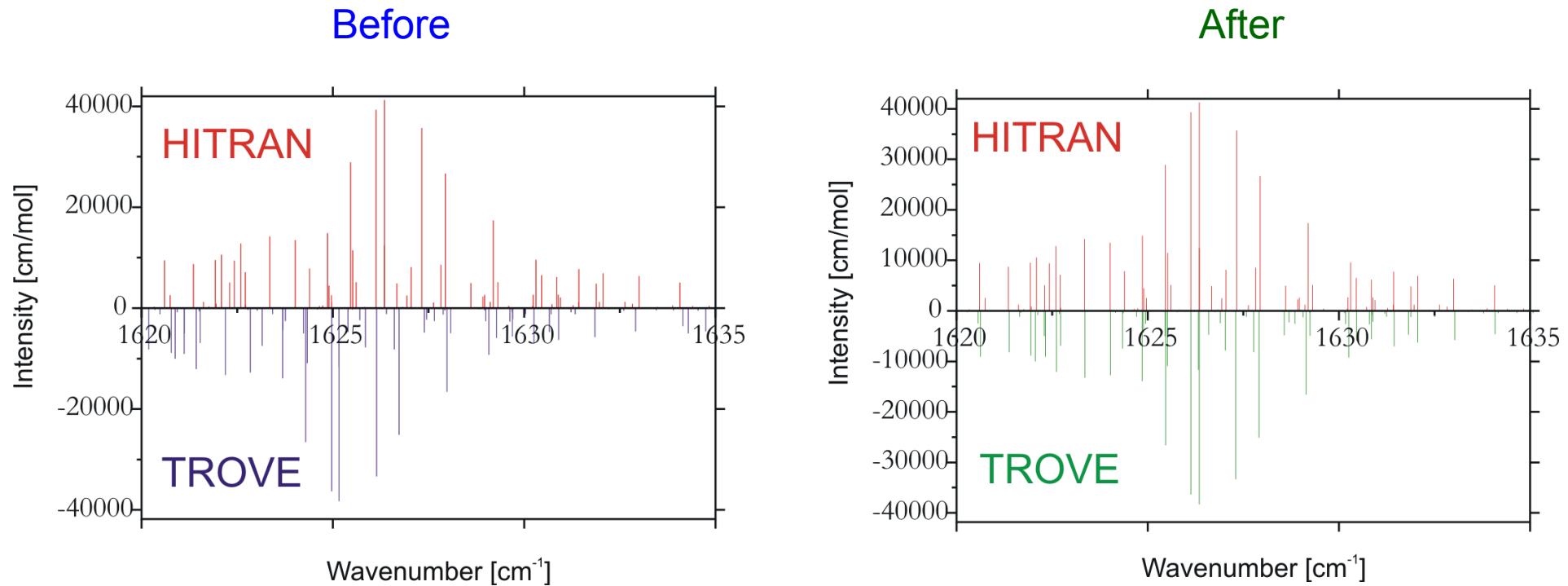
# Ammonia linelist

**Cold** (ie  $T < 300$  K). Levels up to  $J=12$ ,  $E < 12000$  cm $^{-1}$

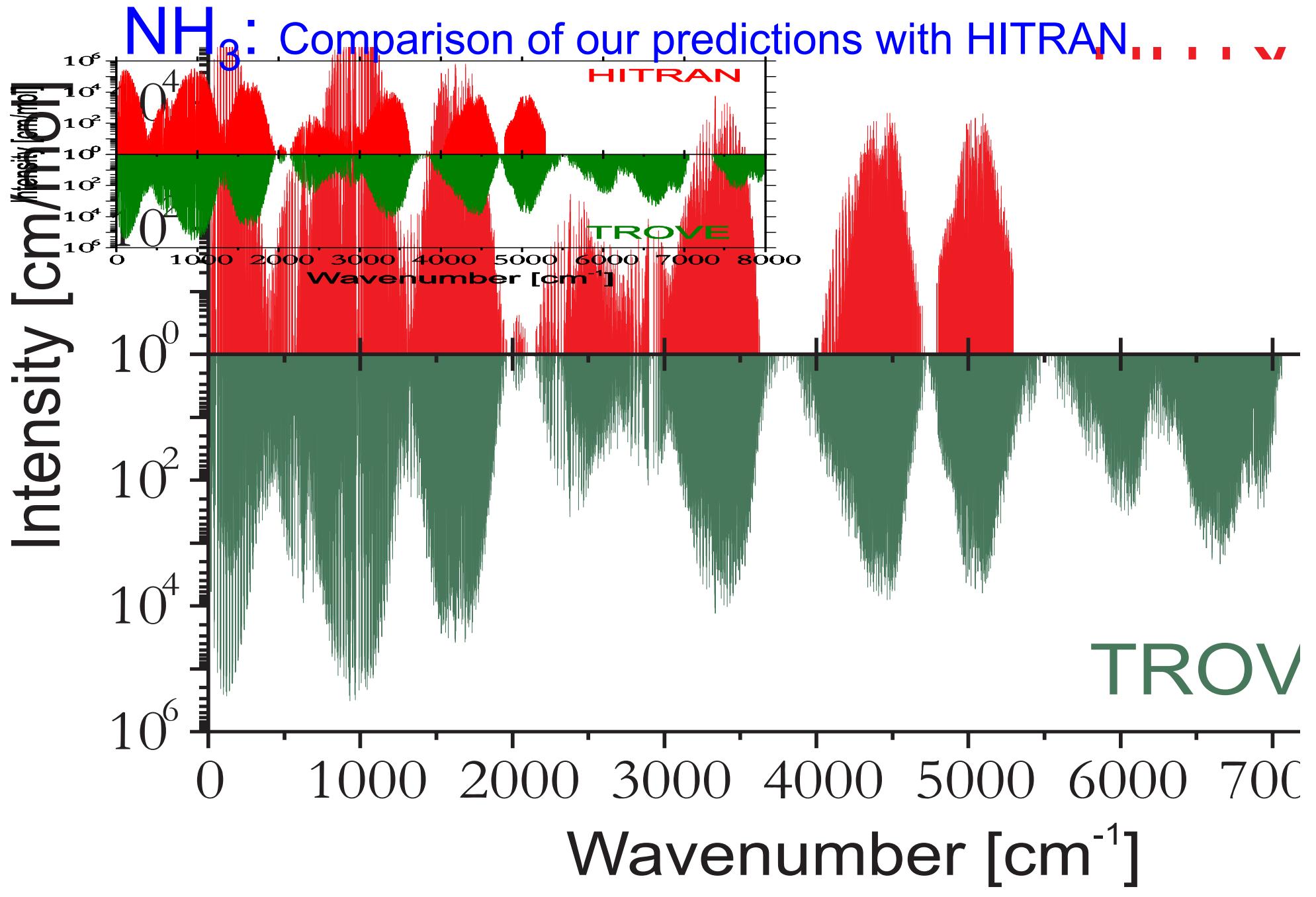
TROVE nuclear motion program, spectroscopic potential

S.N. Yurchenko, R.J. Barber, A. Yachmenev, W. Theil, P. Jensen & J. Tennyson,  
J. Phys. Chem. A, 113, 11845 (2009).

# Fine tuning potential



Refinement of the PES: Very elaborate

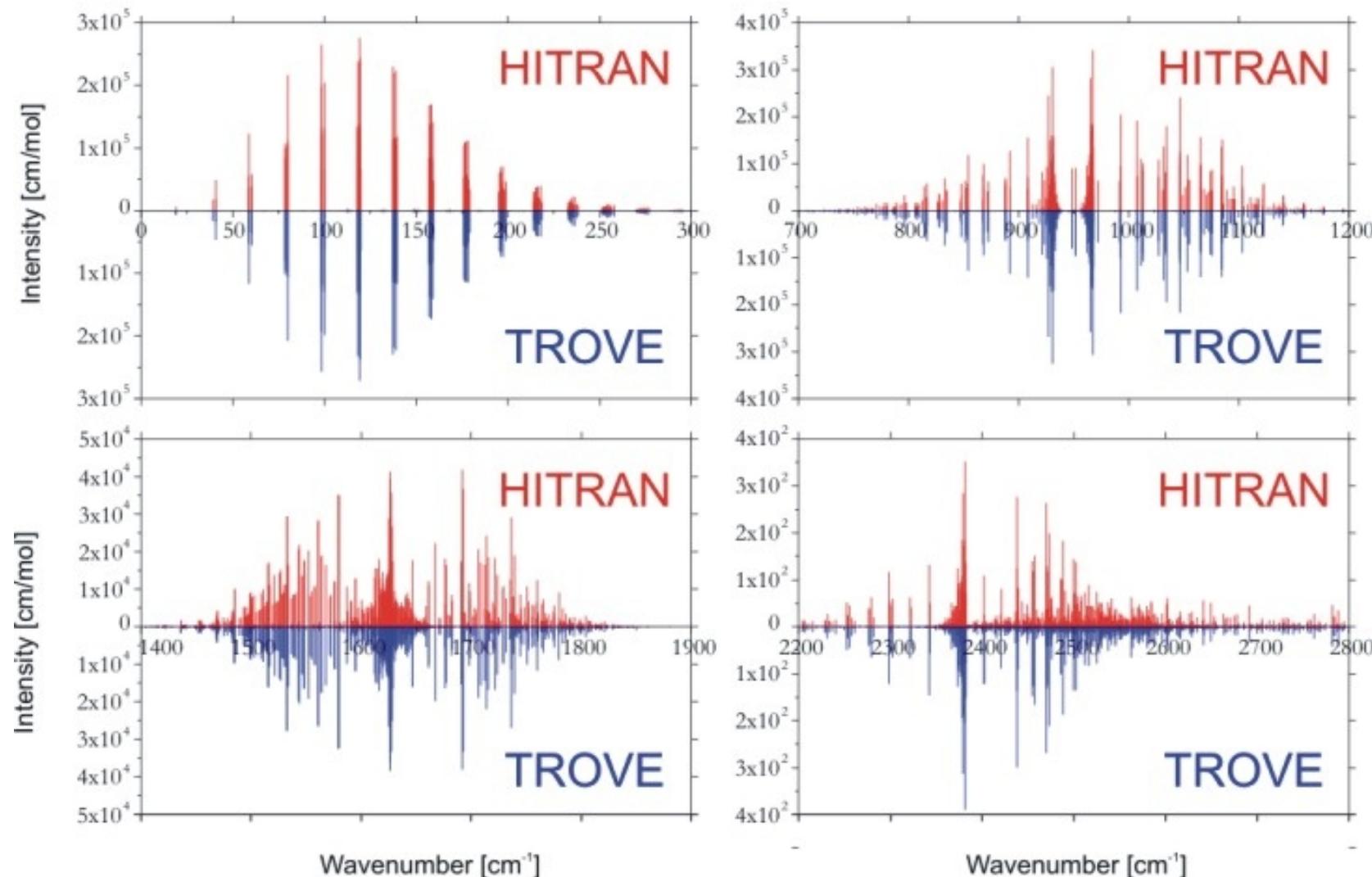


).

# Problems with ammonia in Hitran2000/2004/2008

Problem	No. Identified	No. Resolved
Symmetry labels wrong	933	929
Forbidden transitions	262	0
Lower state inconsistencies	250	248
Upper state inconsistencies	271	230
Remaining inconsistencies (all $2v_2$ )	41	41
Incompletely assigned	2684	0

# $\text{NH}_3$ : Comparison of our predictions with HITRAN



S.N. Yurchenko, R.J. Barber, A. Yachmenev, W. Theil, P. Jensen & J. Tennyson,  
J. Phys. Chem. A, 113, 11845 (2009).

# Ammonia linelists

**Cold** (ie  $T < 300$  K). Levels up to  $J=12$ ,  $E < 12000$  cm $^{-1}$

TROVE nuclear motion program, spectroscopic potential

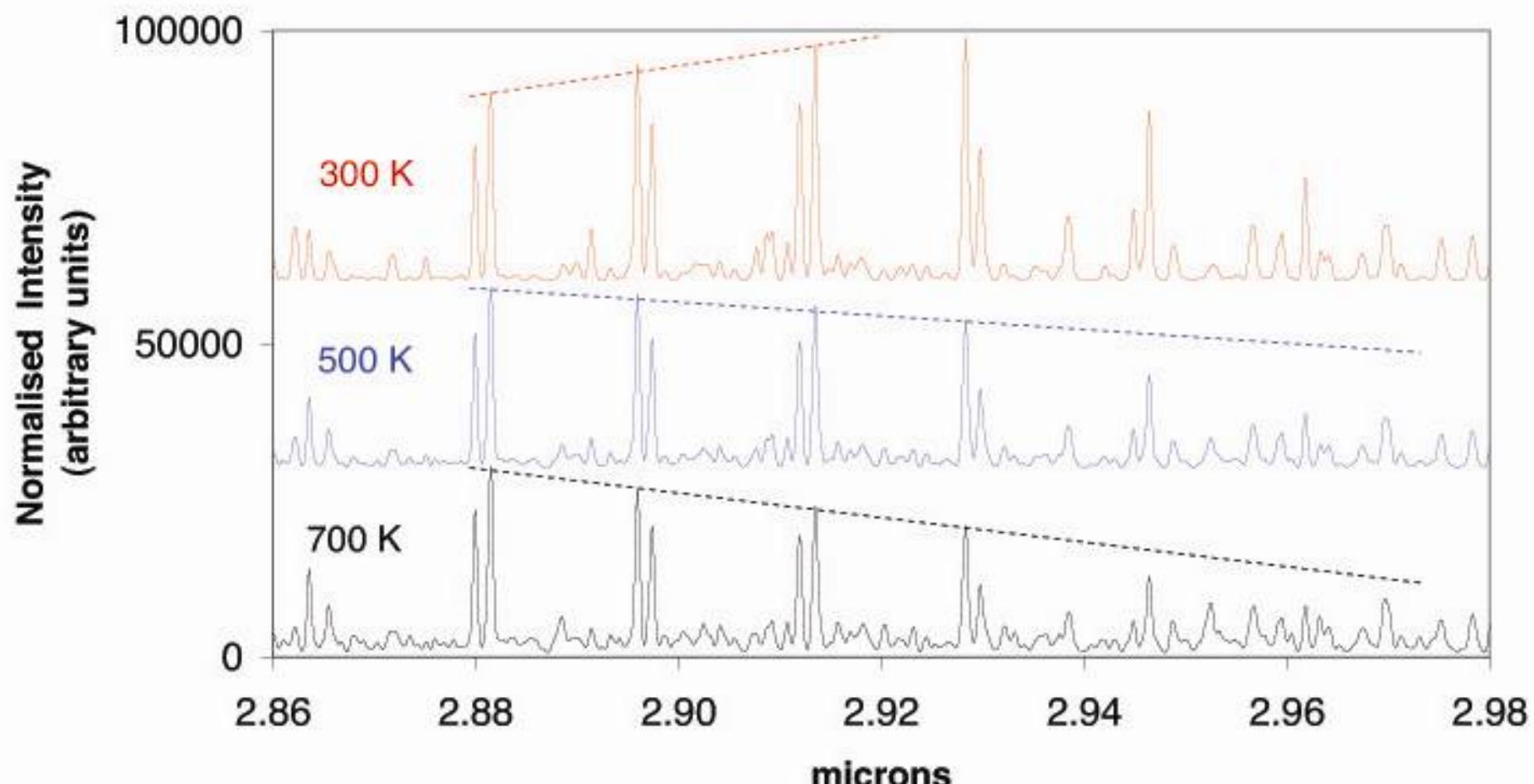
S.N. Yurchenko, R.J. Barber, A. Yachmenev, W. Theil, P. Jensen & J. Tennyson,  
J. Phys. Chem. A, 113, 11845 (2009).

**Hot** (ie  $T \sim 1500$  K). Levels up to  $J=30$ ,  $E < 12000$  cm $^{-1}$

Improved spectroscopic potential, 1 124 388 206 lines

S.N. Yurchenko, R.J. Barber & J. Tennyson , MNRAS (to be submitted)

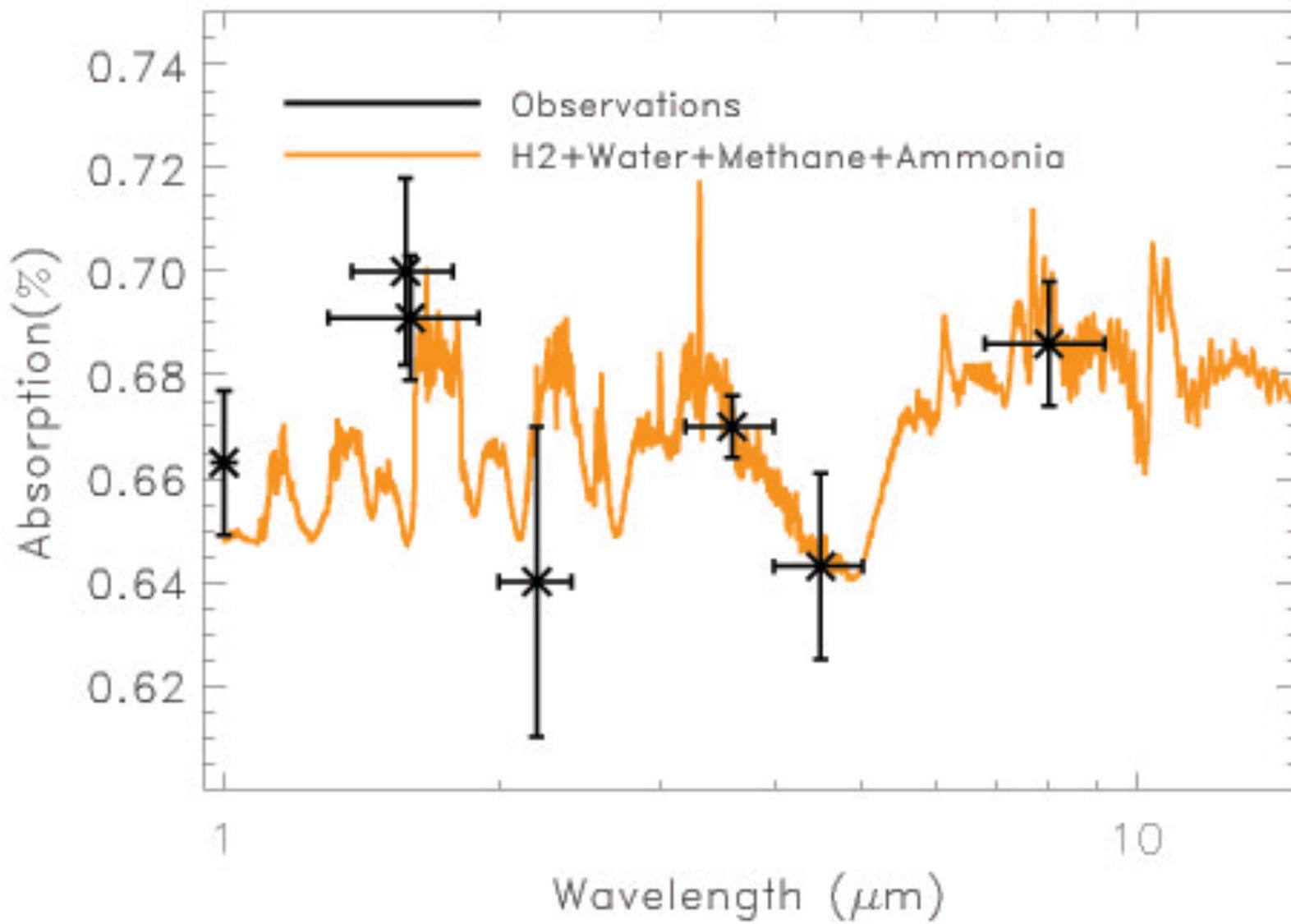
## Synthetic NH<sub>3</sub> Absorption Spectra (300, 500 700 K)



# Ammonia linelists: **hot** initial applications

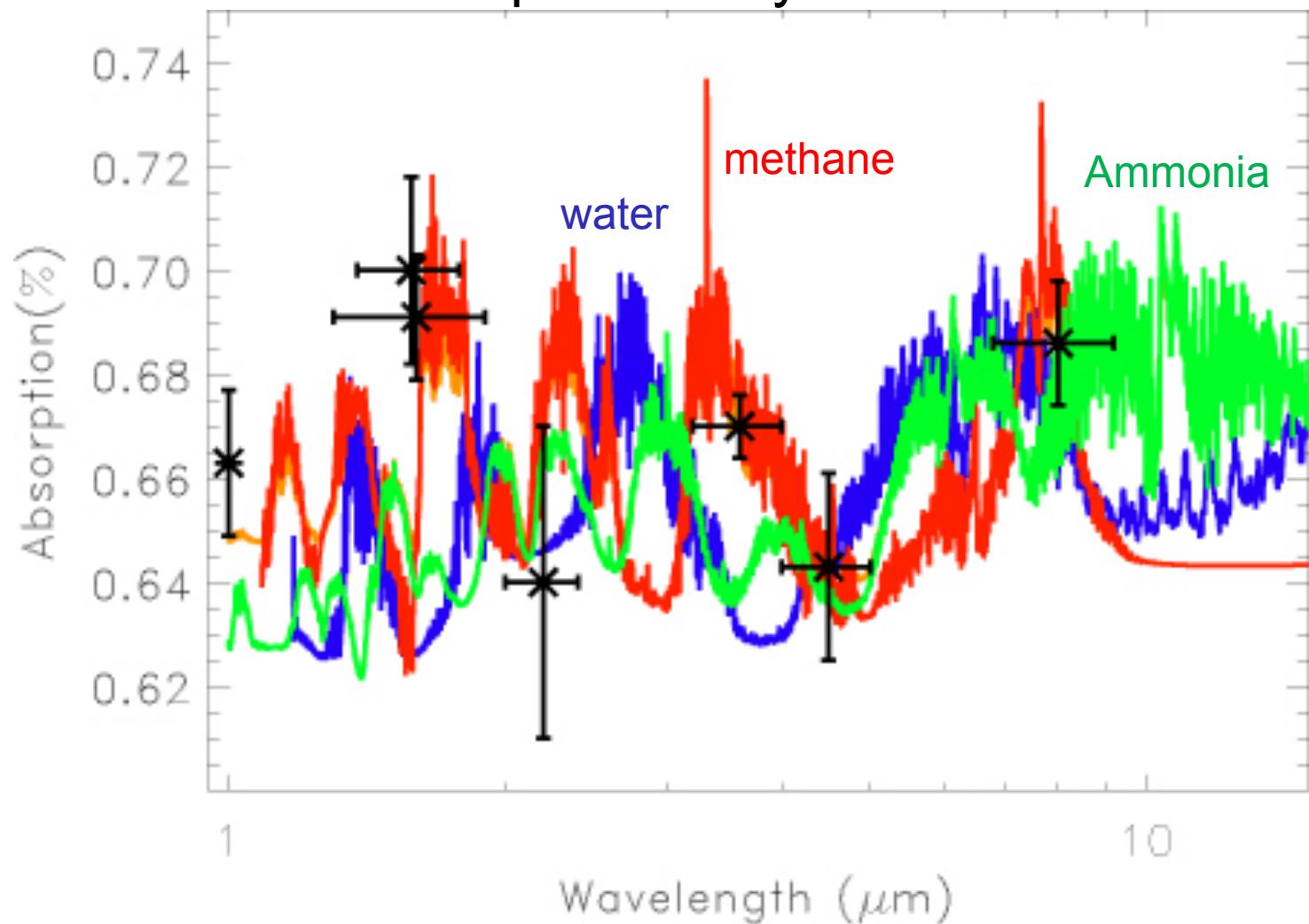
1. Ultra cool ( $T \sim 520 \pm 40$  K) brown dwarf, UGPSJ0722-0540  
T9 dwarf, no ammonia observed  
(Discovery of a very cool, very nearby brown dwarf in the Galactic plane  
P Lucas et al, arXiv:1004:0317 and MNRAS submitted)
2. Exoplanet GJ436b : a transiting “super Neptune”, also  $T \sim 500$  K
3. Analysis of hot Lab spectra from University of York:  $570 \text{ K} < T < 1500 \text{ K}$ .

# Spitzer observations of exoplanet GJ436b



J-P Beaulieu et al, *Astrophys. J.* (submitted)

## GJ436b spectrum by molecule



J-P Beaulieu et al, *Astrophys. J.* (submitted)

# Opacity of cool stars, brown dwarfs & exoplanets

- Closed shell diatomics: H<sub>2</sub>, CO, etc
- Transition metal diatomics: TiO, FeH, etc
- Triatomic molecules: H<sub>2</sub>O, HCN, C<sub>3</sub> etc (CO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub>)
- Tetratomic molecule: NH<sub>3</sub>, HCCH
- Pentatomic: CH<sub>4</sub>
- Hydrocarbons: C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>6</sub>, others?
- Dust (other biomarkers eg HNO<sub>3</sub>?)

# Linelists completed or under construction @ UCL by

$\text{H}_3^+$  Liesl Neale ( $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$  Taha Sochi)

$\text{H}_2\text{O}$  Bob Barber ( $\text{HDO}$  Boris Voronin)

$\text{HCN/HNC}$  ( $\text{H}^{13}\text{CN}/\text{H}^{13}\text{CN}$ ) Greg Harris

$\text{HeH}^+$  Elodie Engel

$\text{NH}_3$  Bob Barber and Sergei Yurchenko (Dresden)

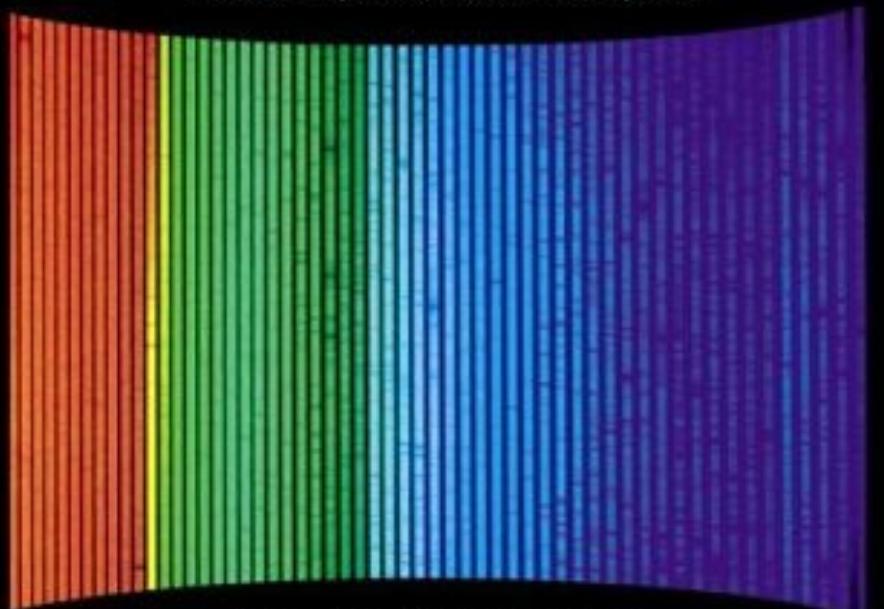
$\text{HCCCH}$  Andrea Urru

[www.exomol.com](http://www.exomol.com)

$\text{C}_3$  Santina La Delfa and Taha Sochi

# ASTRONOMICAL SPECTROSCOPY

An Introduction to the Atomic and  
Molecular Physics of Astronomical Spectra



JONATHAN TENNYSON

Imperial College Press

[www.worldscibooks.com/physics/p371.html](http://www.worldscibooks.com/physics/p371.html)

*"The best book for anyone who is  
embarking on research in  
astronomical spectroscopy"*  
Contemporary Physics (2006)