



# Physics and Chemistry of the Interstellar Medium

Lecture 6

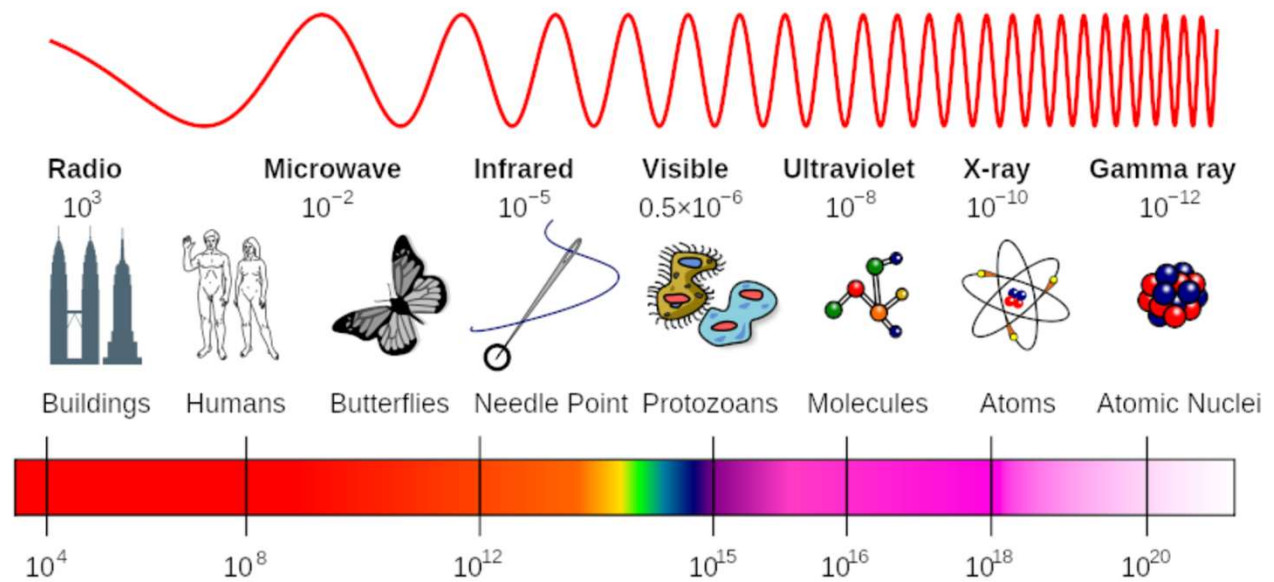
# Radiation

## Lecture V

### 3.1. Dirac perturbation theory

### 3.2. Discrete systems

- The hydrogen atom
- Fine structure
- Hyperfine structure
- Multiple electrons
- Molecules



# Molecules

## Combination of multiple atoms with their interaction

- Additional terms in Hamiltonian  $\hat{H}_I \sim - \sum_{i=nuclei} \sum_{l=electro} \frac{ze^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0|\vec{r}_i-\vec{r}_l|}$

$$\hat{H}_{at} = \sum_n \frac{\vec{p}_n^2}{2m_n} + \sum_e \frac{\vec{p}_e^2}{2m_e} - \sum_{i=n} \sum_{j=e} \frac{Z_i e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=e} \sum_{j=e \neq i} \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=n} \sum_{j=n \neq i} \frac{Z_i Z_j e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 |\vec{r}_i - \vec{r}_j|}$$

- Coulomb interaction between electrons and nuclei of different atoms, between electrons of different nuclei, between nuclei
- Total Hamiltonian expanded in series in terms of  $\kappa = \sqrt[4]{\frac{m_e}{m_n}}$
- Behavior of different terms: (electron/nucleus mass ratio)
- $\kappa^0 \rightarrow$  electronic states/transitions
  - Equivalent to behavior in atoms
- $\kappa^2 \rightarrow$  vibrational states/transitions
  - Described by excursion from rest position  $\xi$

# Molecules

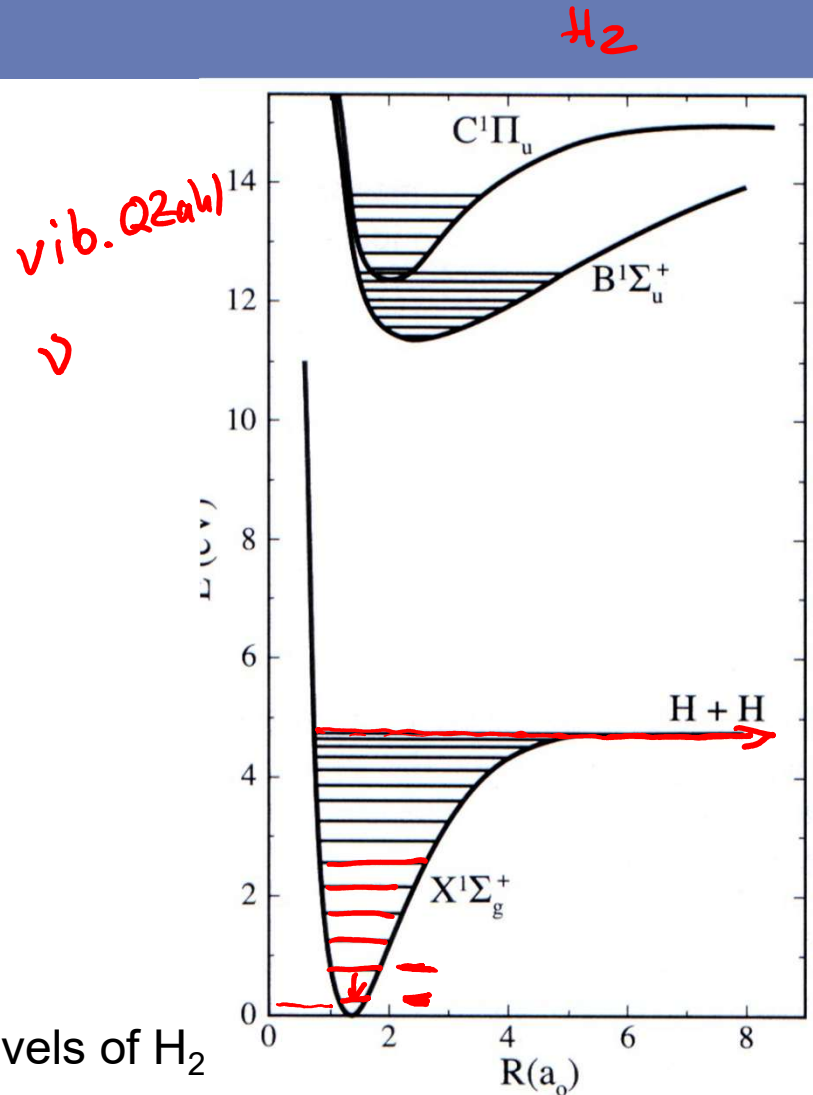
## Series expansion of eigenvalues

- Behavior of different terms:
  - $\kappa^0 \rightarrow$  electronic states/transitions (at UV/optical)
  - $\kappa^2 \rightarrow$  vibrational states/transitions
    - Described by excursion from rest position  $\xi$

$$E_{n,v} = T_{\text{kin,vib}} + \frac{1}{2}(\xi - \bar{\xi})^2 \frac{\partial^2 E_n(\xi)}{\partial \xi^2}$$

- = harmonic oscillator in potential given by electronic state
- Energies in NIR (2.1  $\mu\text{m}$  for  $\text{H}_2$ , 4.6  $\mu\text{m}$  for CO)

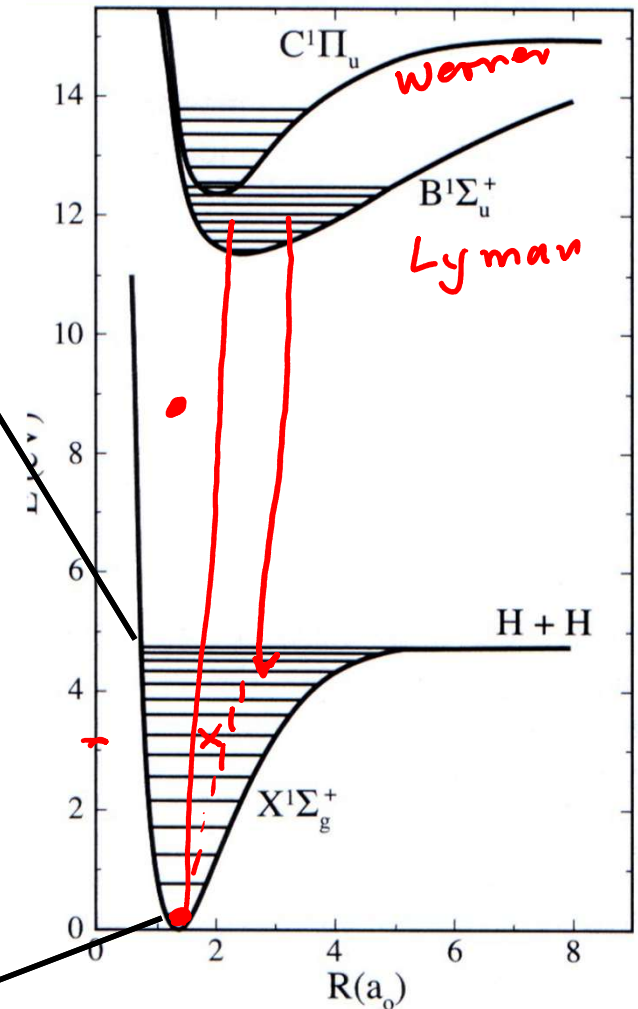
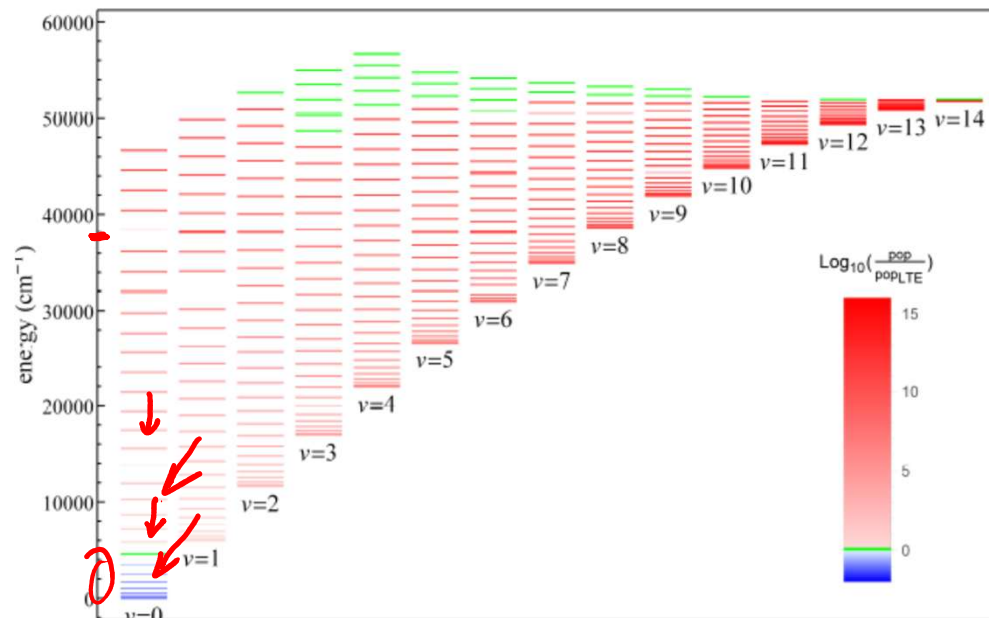
$$v=1 \rightarrow 0 \quad S(1) \quad 2.12 \mu\text{m}$$



# Molecules

## Series expansion of eigenvalues

- Behavior of different terms:
  - $\kappa^4 \rightarrow$  rotational states/transitions
  - Energies in FIR/radio
  - Ro-vib structure



# Molecules

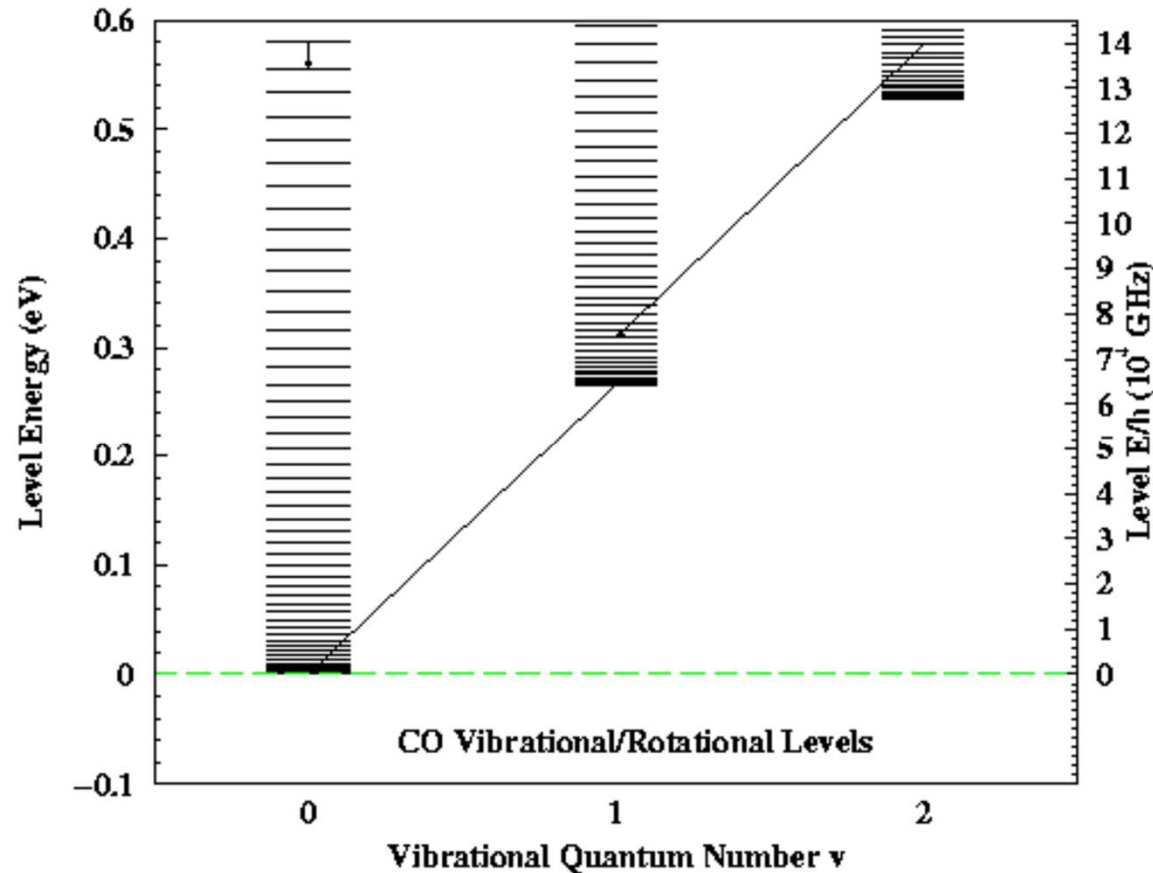
## Series expansion of eigenvalues

- Behavior of different terms:
- $\kappa^0 \rightarrow$  electronic states/transitions
- $\kappa^2 \rightarrow$  vibrational states/transitions
- $\kappa^4 \rightarrow$  rotational states/transitions
- Energies scale:

$$E_n : E_{n,v} : E_{n,v,j} = 1 : \partial e^2 : \partial e^4$$

- Electron/nucleus mass ratio guarantees separation in electromagnetic spectrum

optical/UV – NIR – FIR/radio



# Molecules

## Additional transition

(known from atomic transitions)

- Fine-structure splitting
- Hyperfine structure splitting
- $x$  axis given by symmetry of molecules here
  - FS and HFS depend on total combination of  $L, S, I$
- Chemical bonding tries to saturate subshells, so that  $L = 0, S = 0$ 
  - Fine structure rare in molecules, only for radicals
- Hund rules apply for open shells



# Molecules

## Nuclear spin

- Special case for systems with identical atoms and odd number of nucleons:
  - e.g.  $\text{H}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}^+$ , ...
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Pauli principle also holds for nucleons
    - Anti-symmetry of spin configuration against proton exchange
    - Not all values of  $J$  allowed
  - 2 configurations:
    - **Para:**
      - $J$  must be even
    - **Ortho:**
      - $J$  must be odd
  - Separate transition ladders
  - There are almost no interactions changing the nuclear spin

$$I_1 \uparrow \downarrow I_2 \rightarrow \bar{I} = 0$$

$$0:p \rightarrow 3:1$$

$$I_1 \uparrow \uparrow I_2 \rightarrow \bar{I} = 1$$

# Molecules

## Nuclear spin

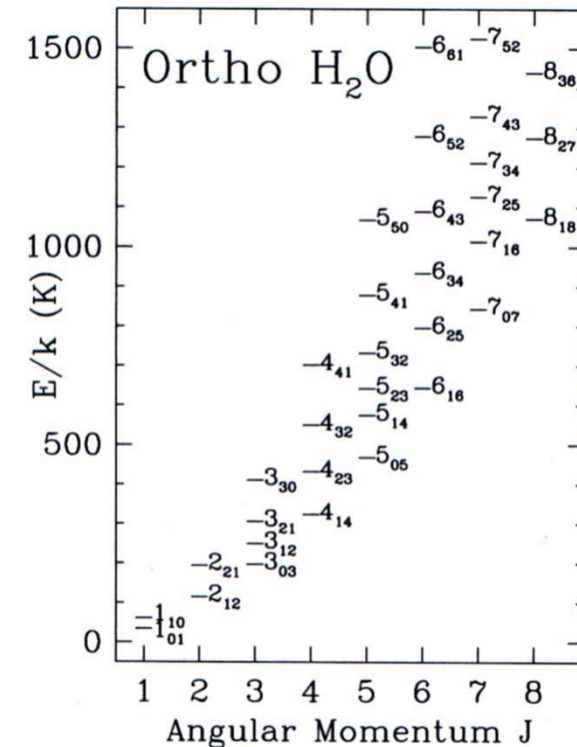
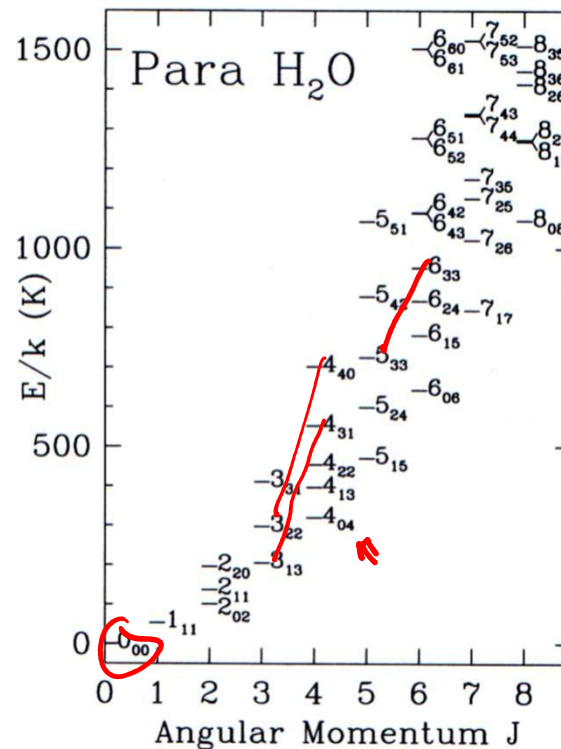
- 2 configurations:
  - Para- and ortho- species are basically separate species
- Relative abundance governed by (spin-)temperature at formation

asym. Kreisel



$k_a, k_c$

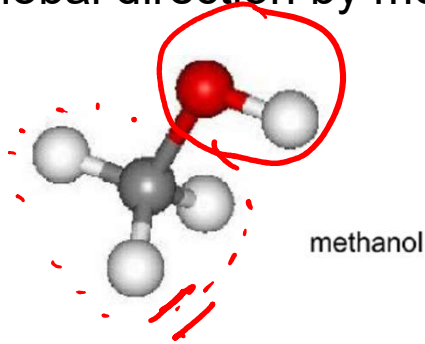
$J, k_a, k_c$



# Molecules

## Nuclear spin

- 2 configurations:
  - Equivalent case for methyl-group in many molecules: 3 protons
  - Global direction by molecule axis

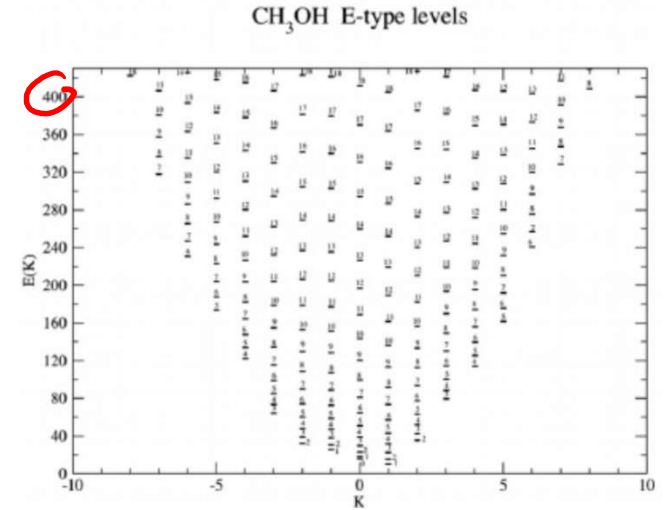
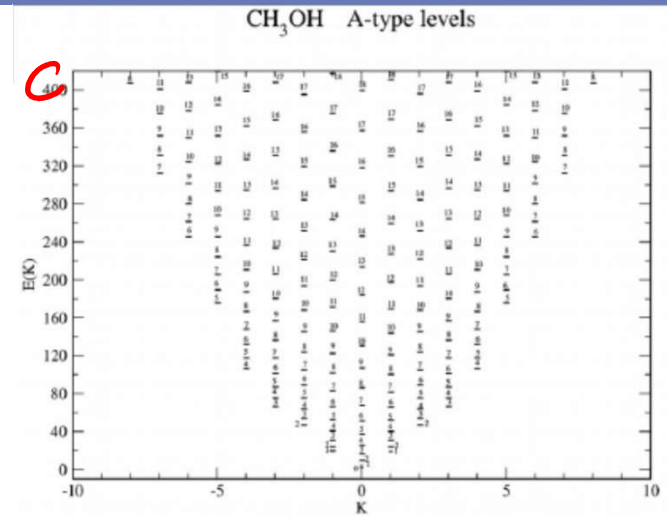


- A-symmetry:  $I = 3/2$
- E-symmetry:  $I = 1/2$

CH<sub>3</sub> - Gruppe  
Methyl

Maser  
6.7  
12.2 GHz

## Methanol



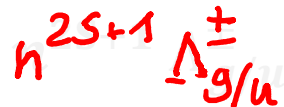
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# Molecules

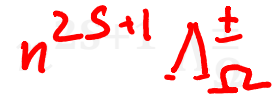
## Spectroscopic notation

- **Based on projection onto main symmetry axis of molecule**
  - Without main symmetry axis → no good quantum numbers anymore

- **Full notation:**



or  $o\tau$



homo-nuclear molecules ( $H_2, O_2, \dots$ )

all other molecules

$\Phi$

- $n$  = main quantum number

- Encoded in letters:

X = ground state,  
 A, B, C, ... = numbered states with same multiplicity as X  
 a, b, c, ... = numbered states with different multiplicity as X

- a - impossible
- A – hardly used, rather X

- Often omitted in notation

- $S$  = total electron spin

- Determined multiplicity of state:

$$2S + 1$$

- $\Sigma$  = projection of spin onto main axis:  $\Sigma = -S, -S + 1, \dots, S$

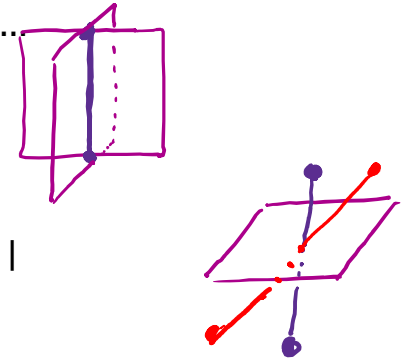
$\underline{\Lambda} = 0$	:	$\Sigma$
1	:	$\Pi$
2	:	$\Delta$
3	:	$\Phi$

# Spectroscopic notation

- Full notation:

$$n^{2S+1} \Lambda_{g/u}^{\pm} \quad \text{or} \quad n^{2S+1} \Lambda_{\Omega}^{\pm}$$

- $\Lambda$  = projection of orbital momentum onto main axis
  - Encoded in greek capital letters:  $\Sigma$  ( $\Lambda = 0$ ),  $\Pi$  ( $\Lambda = 1$ ),  $\Delta$  ( $\Lambda = 2$ ),  $\Phi$ , ( $\Lambda = 3$ ) ..
- $\pm$  = symmetry/anti-symmetry w.r.t. mirroring on planes containing molecule axis (only used for states)
- $g/u$  = symmetry/anti-symmetry w.r.t. mirroring on central plane (gerade/ungerade)
- $\Omega$  = projection of total electronic angular momentum onto main axis  $\Omega = | \Lambda + \Sigma |$



- Examples:

• Ground state of  $H_2$ :  $X^1\Sigma_g^+$   $\Lambda=0$  (most symmetric configuration)

• Ground state of CO:  $X^1\Sigma^+$

• Ground state of OH:  $X^2\Pi_{3/2}^+$

(non-zero electronic orbital momentum:  $\rightarrow$  FS  
 electronic configuration of  $1\sigma^2 2\sigma^2 3\sigma^2 1\pi^3$   
 OH  $\Lambda$  split of ground state:  $X^2\Pi_{1/2}^+$ ,  $\Delta E = 1.61$  GHz)

$\Lambda = 1$   
 $S = 1/2$

# Molecules

## Spectroscopic notation

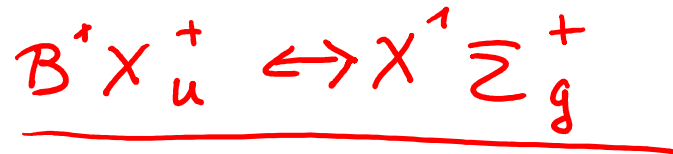
- Auxiliary quantum numbers explicitly given for more complex configurations:
  - $F$  = total angular momentum including nuclear spin
  - $L$  = total orbital momentum of electrons
    - Encoded in capital letters: S, P, D, F, ...
  - $N$  = total orbital momentum (without electron spin)
    - Includes rotation of the molecule
  - $K$  = projection of  $N$  onto molecule axis
  - $O$  or  $J$  = molecular rotational momentum
- Usually, the Hund rules also apply to the energy levels in molecules

# Molecules

## Spectroscopic notation

### • Transitions:

- Letter for electronic transition: B – X
- Number for vibrational level: 5 – 0
- Coding for rotational transition based on  $\Delta J$

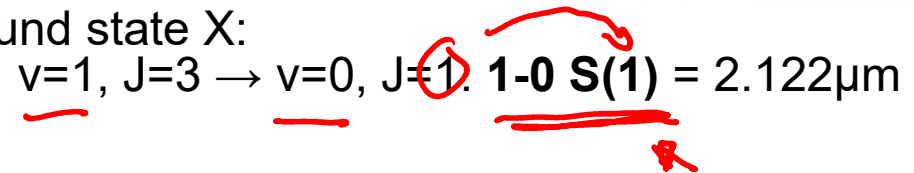
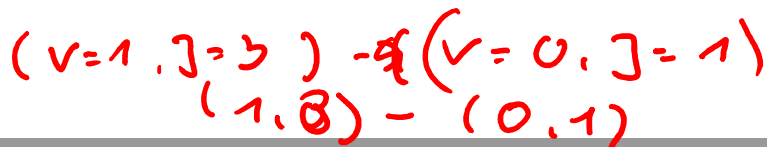


combined with lower level number:

Designation	$(J_u - J_l)$	Note
$O(J_l)$	-2	Electric quadrupole transition
$P(J_l)$	-1	Electric dipole transition
$Q(J_l)$	0	Electric dipole or electric quadrupole; $Q(0)$ is forbidden
$R(J_l)$	+1	Electric dipole transition
$S(J_l)$	+2	Electric quadrupole transition

### • Example:

- Ortho- $H_2$  ro-vib transition in electr. ground state X:



# Molecules

## Spectroscopic notation

### • Example:

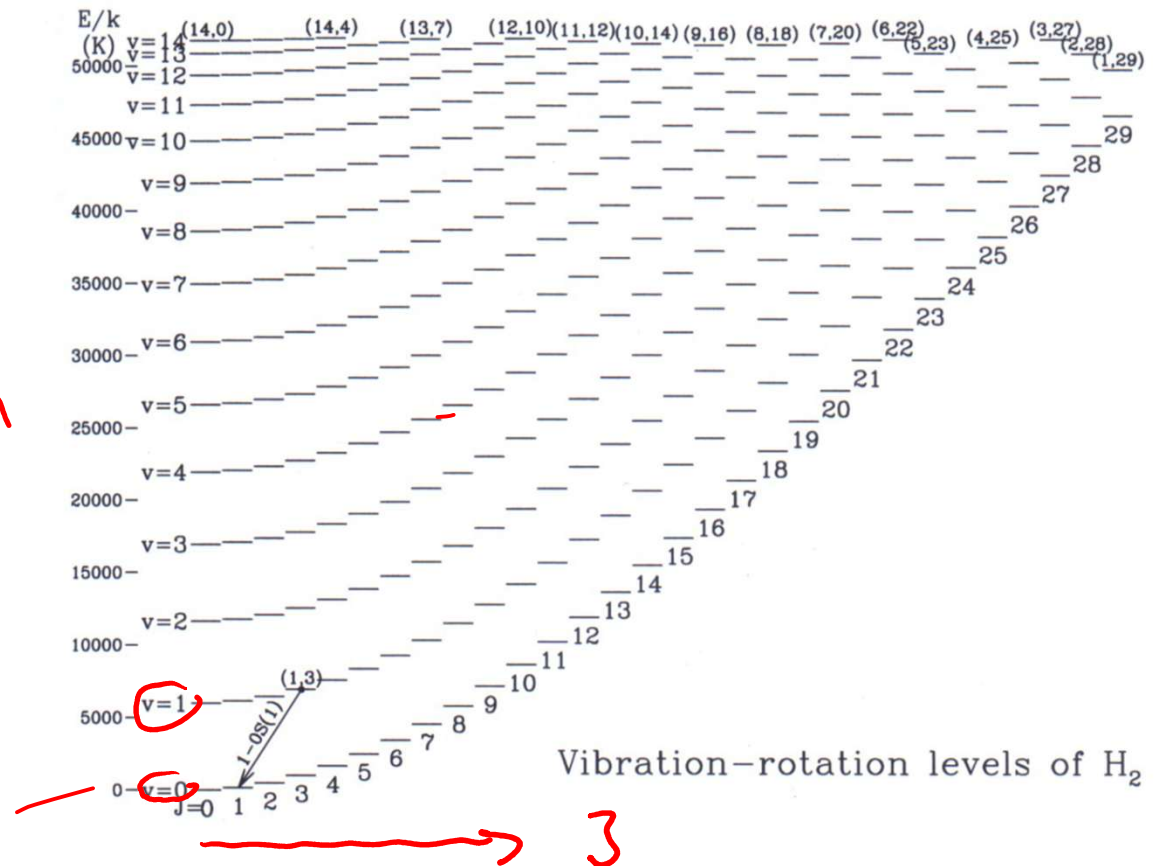
- H<sub>2</sub> ro-vib transition in electr. ground state  
X:  $v=1, J=3 \rightarrow v=0, J=1$ : 1-0 S(1)
- **Remember:** due to ortho/para-types only

$$\Delta J = 0, \pm 2$$

possible

$v=0: J=2 \rightarrow 0$   
510 K

CO: tracer for H<sub>2</sub>



# Molecules

## Rotational transitions

- **Classical approach**

- $E_{\text{rot}} = \frac{1}{2\theta} \vec{J}^2$

- $\theta$  = moment of inertia
  - $\vec{J}$  = molecular rotational momentum

- **Quantum-mechanics**

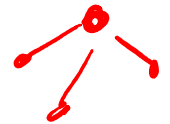
- $E_{\text{rot}} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\theta} J(J+1)$

- For good quantum numbers  $J$

- **Problem:**

- In general  $\theta$  is a **tensor!** → 3 components in its main axis system  $\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3$

- $\theta_1 = \theta_2 = \theta_3$  = spherical gyro  $\text{CH}_4$  ,  $\text{SF}_6$
    - $\theta_1 = \theta_2 \neq \theta_3$  = symmetric gyro  $\text{NH}_3$
    - $\theta_1 \neq \theta_2 \neq \theta_3$  = asymmetric gyro  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$



# Molecules

## Rotational transitions

- **Symmetric gyro**

- Clear main axis: good rotational quantum numbers can be defined

- 2 moments:  $\vec{J}$  = total angular momentum,  
 $\vec{K}$  = projection of  $\vec{J}$  onto symmetry axis with  $\theta_3$   
→  $\vec{J}^2 - \vec{K}^2$  = angular momentum in the direction of  $\theta_1, \theta_2$

- $$E_{rot} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2\theta_3} K^2 + \frac{\hbar^2}{2\theta_1} (\vec{J}^2 - \vec{K}^2) = A K^2 + B(\vec{J}^2 - K^2) = B J^2 + (A - B) K^2$$

- Quantum-mechanically:

- $E_{rot} = B J(J + 1) + (A - B) K^2$

- Momenta quantized with  $K = -J, \dots, 0, \dots, J$

$$E_{rot} = B J(J + 1) + (A - B) K^2$$

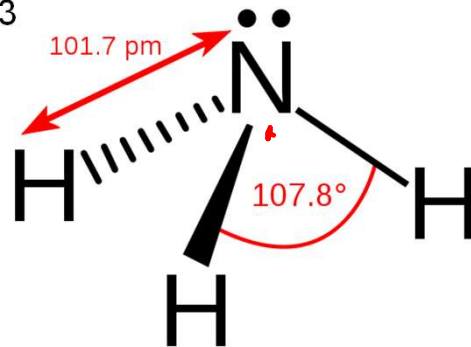
# Molecules

## Rotational transitions

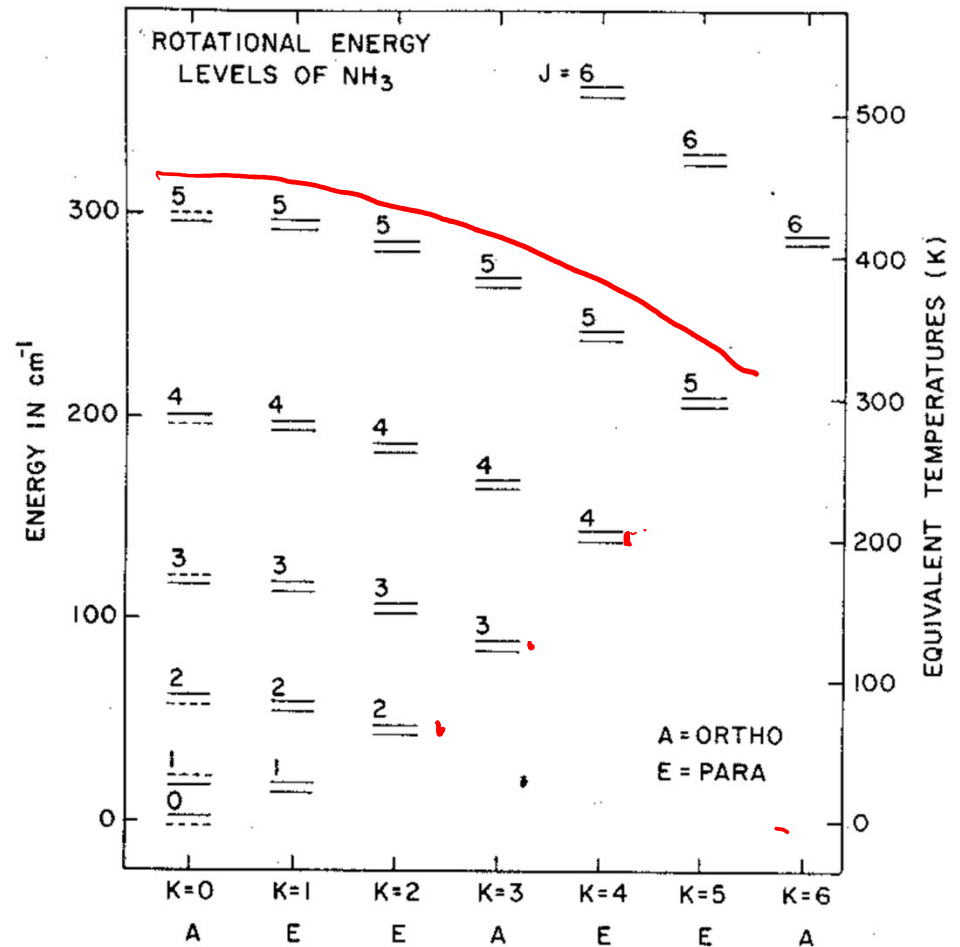
- **Symmetric gyro**

- $E_{rot} = B J(J + 1) + (A - B)K^2$

- Example:  $\text{NH}_3$



- $\theta_3 > \theta_1, \theta_2 \rightarrow A < B$
- Diagram is falling with  $K$
- Additional split by inversion transitions (23GHz)



# Molecules

## Rotational transitions

- *Symmetric gyro*

- $E_{rot} = B J(J + 1) + (A - B)K^2$

- **Special case: Spherical gyro**

- $A = B$

- $E_{rot} = B J(J + 1)$  |

- Degeneracy with respect to  $K = -J, \dots, 0, \dots, J$

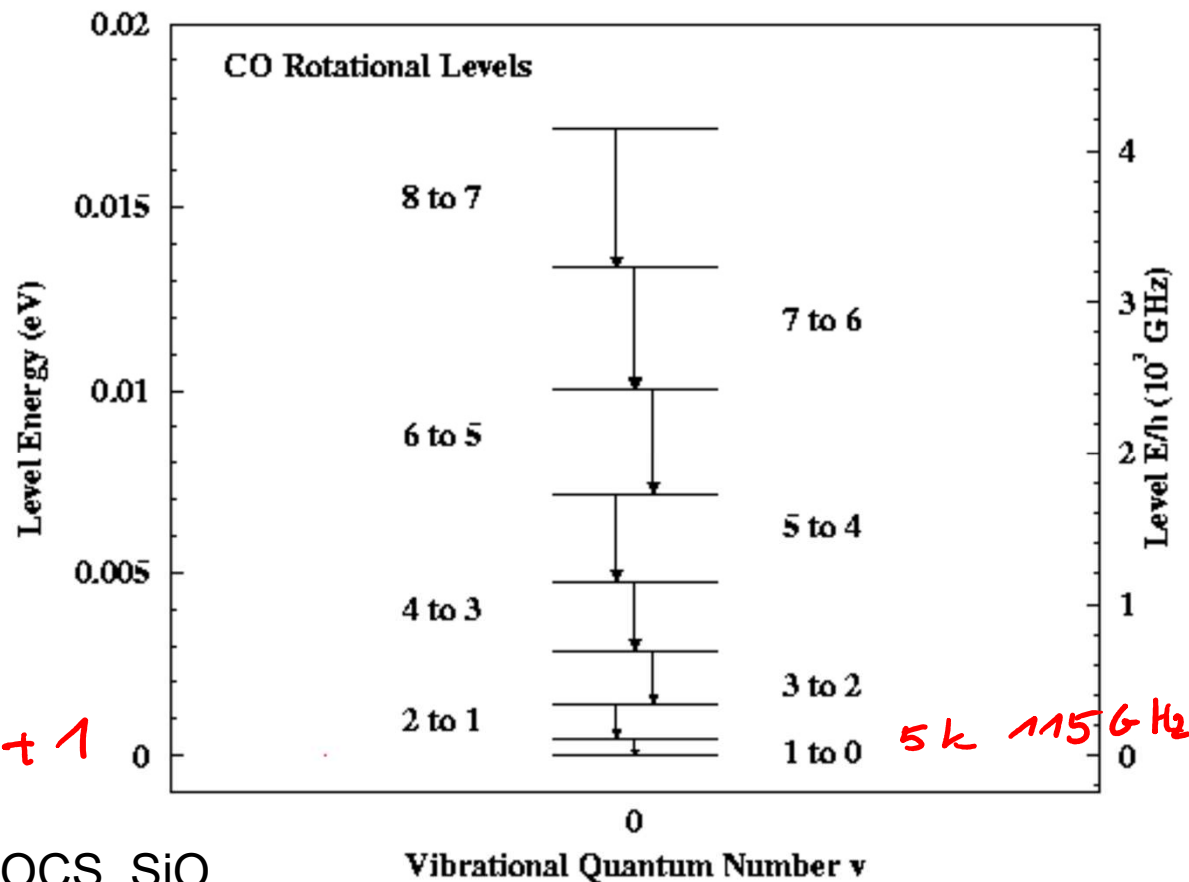
- Gives statistical weights

$$g_J = 2J + 1$$

$$g_3 = 2 \cdot 3 + 1$$

- Most important: CO

CH<sup>+</sup>, CS, CN, HCN, HCO<sup>+</sup>, HNC, OCS, SiO, ...



# Transition Strengths

## Remember: Dirac perturbation theory

- Transition from state  $|a\rangle$  to state  $|a'\rangle$  determined by Fermi's Golden rule:

$$W_{a,a'} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} |\langle a' | \hat{H}_i | a \rangle|^2 \delta(E_{a'} - E_a)$$

- So far discussed for discrete systems: 

- Energy conservation term  $\delta(E_{a'} - E_a)$
- Determines **line frequencies**

- Open:

- Transition strength = Harmonic variation of  $|d_{a,a'}|$ ,  $|M_{a,a'}|$ ,  $|Q_{a,a'}|$
- Determines **line intensities**

# Discrete systems:

## Transition strength:

- Compute for different orders of  $\vec{E}$  field interaction → **selection rules**
  - **“Allowed transitions”**: first order interaction  
= dipole transition *Elektrische Dipol - Ü.*
- $$\langle d_{a,a'} \rangle = \langle a'_{at} | e\vec{r} | a_{at} \rangle$$

- Einstein coefficient:  $A_{a,a'} \propto |\langle d_{a,a'} \rangle|^2$

- $|\langle d_{a,a'} \rangle|^2 > 0$  If
  - 1) *parity must change*
  - 2)  $\Delta L = 0, \pm 1$  *außer L=0 → L=0*
  - 3)  $\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$  *except for J=0 → J=0*
  - 4) *single electron must change*  $\Delta l = \pm 1$
  - 5)  $\Delta S = 0$  (no spin flip!)

$$\rightarrow A \sim 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

# Discrete Systems

## Selection rules:

- Example NII (or CI)

Allowed

(if depopulation by allowed transitions works, forbidden transitions can be ignored)

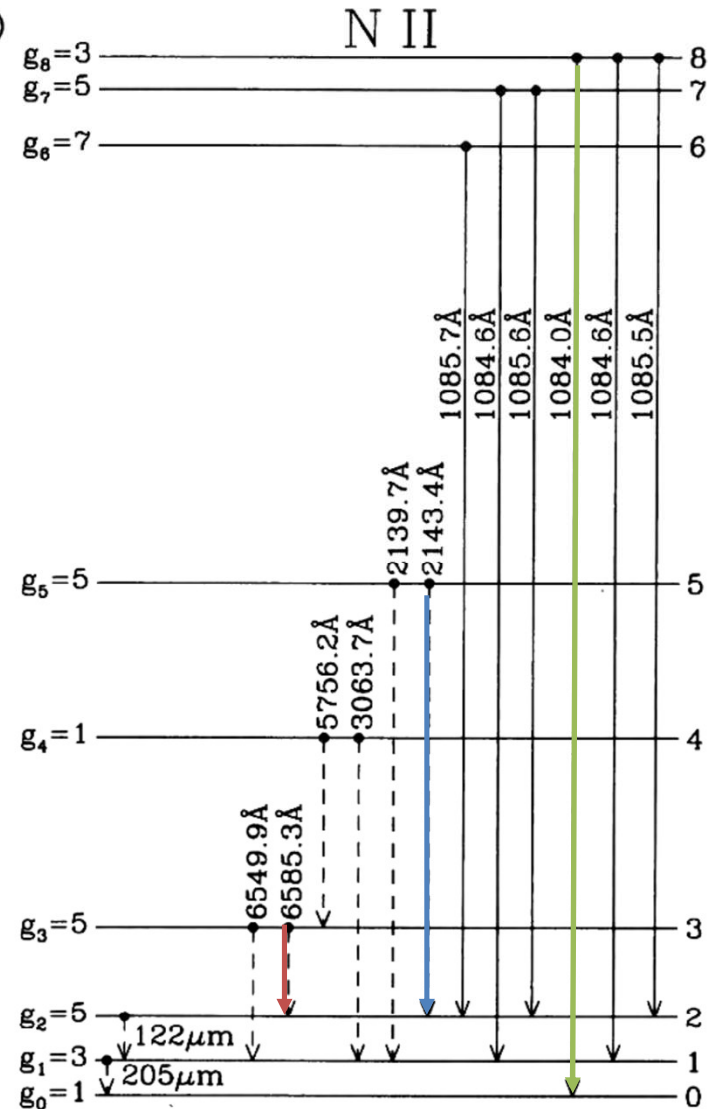
Forbidden by  $\Delta S = 0$

Forbidden by  $\Delta l = \pm 1$

*Handwritten notes:*  
 $3D^0 \rightarrow 3P^0$   
 $\Delta S = 0$   
 $\Delta L = 0$   
 $\Delta l = \pm 1$

config.	term	E/hc (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p3s	<u><sup>3</sup>D<sub>1</sub><sup>o</sup></u>	92252
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p3s	<u><sup>3</sup>D<sub>2</sub><sup>o</sup></u>	92250
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p3s	<u><sup>3</sup>D<sub>3</sub><sup>o</sup></u>	92237

1s <sup>2</sup> 2s2p <sup>3</sup>	<u><sup>3</sup>S<sub>2</sub><sup>o</sup></u>	46785
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>2</sup>	<sup>1</sup> S <sub>0</sub>	32689
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>2</sup>	<u><sup>1</sup>D<sub>2</sub></u>	15316
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>2</sup>	<u><sup>3</sup>P<sub>2</sub></u>	130.8
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>2</sup>	<sup>3</sup> P <sub>1</sub>	48.7
1s <sup>2</sup> 2s <sup>2</sup> 2p <sup>2</sup>	<u><sup>3</sup>P<sub>0</sub></u>	0



# Discrete Systems

## Selection rules:

- “**Allowed transitions**”:

- Example: NII or Cl:  $1s^2 2s^2 2p 3s \ ^3D_3^0 - 1s^2 2s^2 2p^2 \ ^3P_2$
- Notation: without brackets – Example: **CI 3255 Å**
- Typical Einstein coefficient:  $A \cong 10^8 s^{-1}$

- “**Spin-forbidden transitions**”:

- Electric dipole
- But requires spin flip:  $\Delta S \neq 0$
- Example NII or Cl:  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^3 \ ^5S_2^0 - 1s^2 2s^2 2p^2 \ ^3P_2$
- Notation: single bracket - Example: **CI] 6429 Å**
- Typical Einstein coefficient:  $A \cong 10^2 s^{-1}$  (<< than allowed transitions)

# Discrete Systems

## Selection rules:

- “**Forbidden transitions**”:  $|M_{a,a'}|, |Q_{a,a'}|$ 
  - Higher order interaction terms:
  - Example: NII or Cl:  $1s^2 2s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2 - 1s^2 2s^2 2p^2 \ ^2P_2$   
= magnetic dipole transition
- Notation: square brackets - Example: **[Cl] 9826 Å**
- Typical Einstein coefficient:  $A \approx 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- No clear hierarchy for magnetic dipole and electric quadrupole transitions
- Less constraints on change of quantum numbers.

# Discrete Systems

## Selection rules:

- **Hierarchy of transition strengths:**

- Allowed transitions: 1
- Semi-forbidden transitions:  $10^{-6}$
- Forbidden transitions:  $10^{-10}$

- **Forbidden lines irrelevant in the lab, but important in space**

- Every species has levels that have only forbidden radiative transitions
  - In the lab they are depopulated by collisions
  - No collisions in  $> 10^{10}$ s in space



# Discrete Systems

## Selection rules:

Table 13. Selection rules for atomic spectra (cf. PAULI, 1925; LAPORTE, 1924; SHORTLEY, 1940)

Electric dipole (allowed)	Magnetic dipole (forbidden)	Electric quadrupole (forbidden)
(1) $\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0$ )	$\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0$ )	$\Delta J = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0, \frac{1}{2} \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}, 0 \leftrightarrow 1$ )
(2) $\Delta M = 0, \pm 1$	$\Delta M = 0, \pm 1$	$\Delta M = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$
(3) Parity change	No parity change	No parity change
(4) One electron jump $\Delta l = \pm 1$ For $L-S$ coupling	No electron jump $\Delta l = 0$ $\Delta n = 0$	One or no electron jump $\Delta l = 0, \pm 2$
(5) $\Delta S = 0$	$\Delta S = 0$	$\Delta S = 0$
(6) $\Delta L = 0, \pm 1$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0$ )	$\Delta L = 0$	$\Delta L = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0, 0 \leftrightarrow 1$ )

# Molecules

## Selection rules for molecules:

- Same principle, more quantum numbers to be considered:

Table 18. Selection rules for diatomic molecular spectra<sup>1</sup>

Coupling	Electric dipole (allowed)	Magnetic dipole (forbidden)	Electric quadrupole (forbidden)
(1) General	$\Delta J=0, \pm 1$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0$ )	$\Delta J=0, \pm 1$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0$ )	$\Delta J=0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ ( $0 \leftrightarrow 0, 0 \leftrightarrow 1, \frac{1}{2} \leftrightarrow \frac{1}{2}$ )
(2) General	( $+\leftrightarrow -, +\leftrightarrow +, -\leftrightarrow -$ )	( $+\leftrightarrow +, -\leftrightarrow -, +\leftrightarrow -$ )	( $+\leftrightarrow +, -\leftrightarrow -, +\leftrightarrow -$ )
(3) General	( $s \leftrightarrow a, s \leftrightarrow s, a \leftrightarrow a$ )	( $s \leftrightarrow s, a \leftrightarrow a, s \leftrightarrow a$ )	( $s \leftrightarrow s, a \leftrightarrow a, s \leftrightarrow a$ )
(4) General	( $g \leftrightarrow u, g \leftrightarrow g, u \leftrightarrow u$ )	( $g \leftrightarrow g, u \leftrightarrow u, g \leftrightarrow u$ )	( $g \leftrightarrow g, u \leftrightarrow u, g \leftrightarrow u$ )
(5) (a) and (b)	$\Delta S=0$	$\Delta S=0$	$\Delta S=0$
(6) (a)	$\Delta L=0, \pm 1$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \Delta L=0 \text{ if } \Delta \Sigma = \pm 1 \\ \Delta L = \pm 1 \text{ if } \Delta \Sigma = 0 \end{array} \right\}$ $\Delta L=0, \pm 1$	$\Delta L=0, \pm 1, \pm 2$
(b)	$\Delta L=0, \pm 1$		
(7) (a)	$\Delta \Sigma=0$	see (6) (a)	$\Delta \Sigma=0$
(8) (a)	$\Delta \Omega=0, \pm 1$	$\Delta \Omega = \pm 1$	$\Delta \Omega=0, \pm 1, \pm 2$
(9) (a)	$\Delta J \neq 0$ for $\Omega=0 \leftrightarrow \Omega=0$	—	$\Delta J \neq 1$ for $\Omega=0 \leftrightarrow \Omega=0$
(10) (b)	$\Delta K=0, \pm 1$	$\Delta K=0, \pm 1$	$\Delta K=0, \pm 1, \pm 2$
(11) (b)	$\Delta K \neq 0$ for $\Sigma \leftrightarrow \Sigma$ transitions	$\Delta K=0$ for $\Sigma \leftrightarrow \Sigma$ transitions	$\Delta K=0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ for $\Sigma \leftrightarrow \Sigma$ transitions
(12) (b)	$\Sigma^+ \leftrightarrow \Sigma^-$	$\Sigma^+ \leftrightarrow \Sigma^-$	$\Sigma^+ \leftrightarrow \Sigma^-$

# Selection rules:

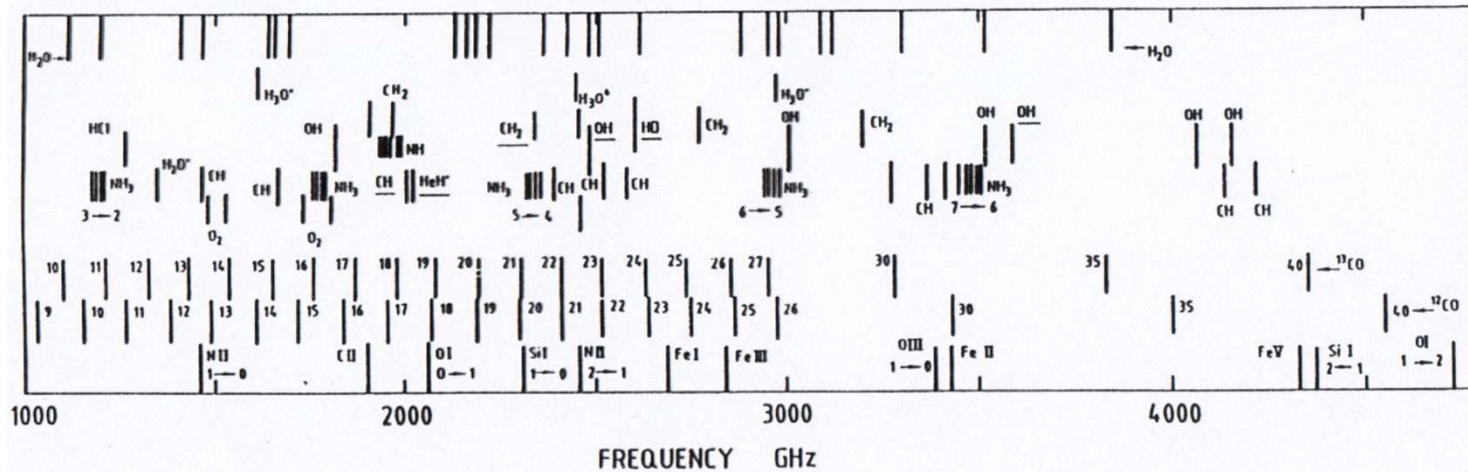
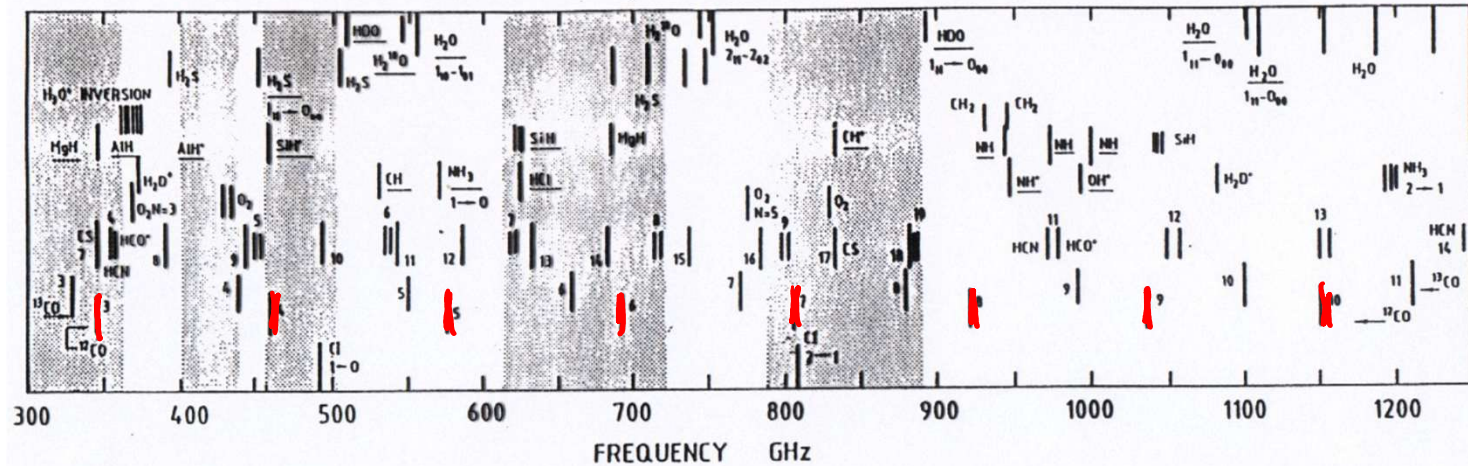
Resulting transitions

$$\Delta E = E_J - E_{J-1}$$

$$B(J(J+1)) - (J-1)J$$

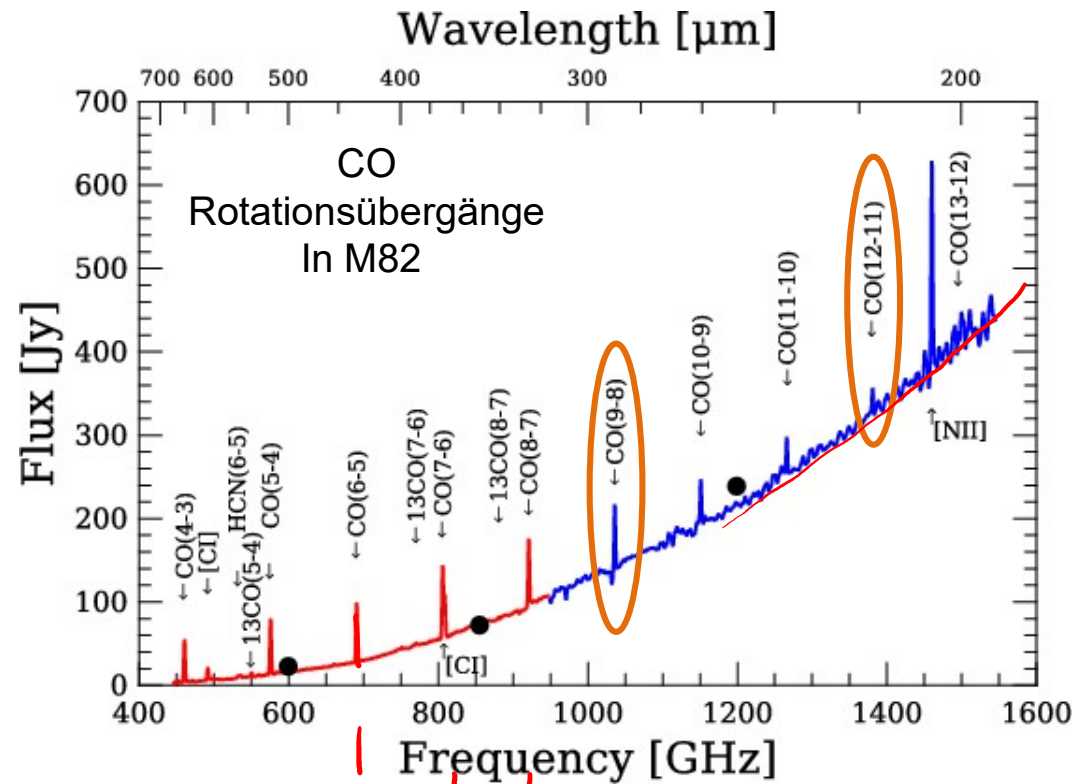
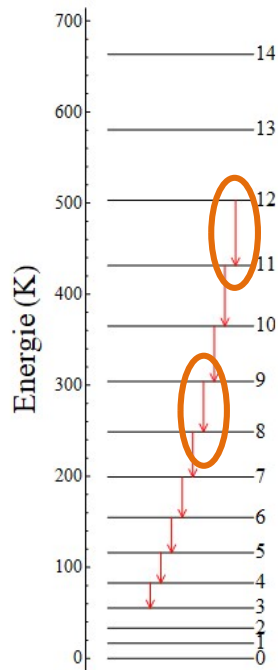
$$= 2 \cdot B \cdot J$$

ATOMIC AND MOLECULAR TRANSITIONS IN THE SUB-MM AND FAR-IR RANGE



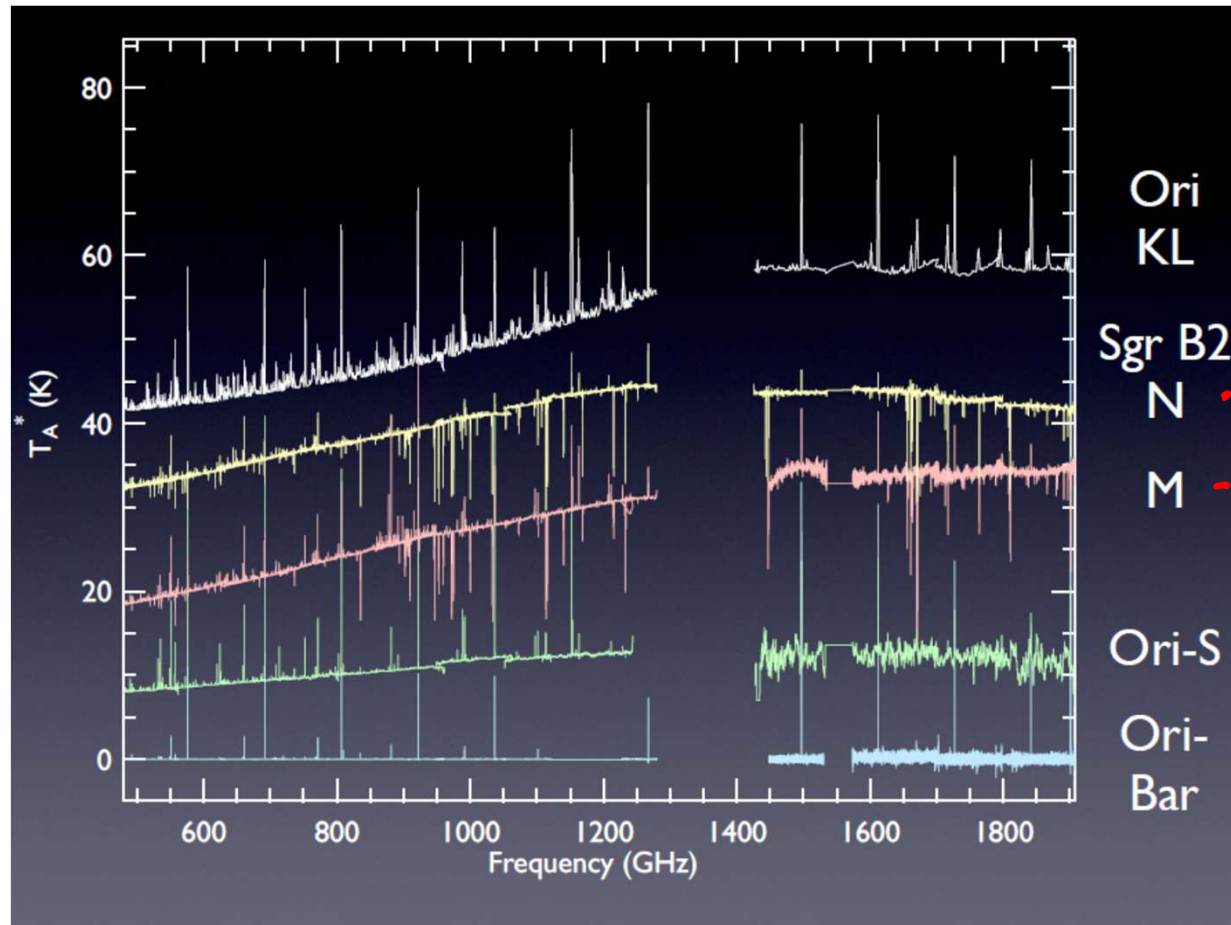
# Selection rules:

- Simple spectra



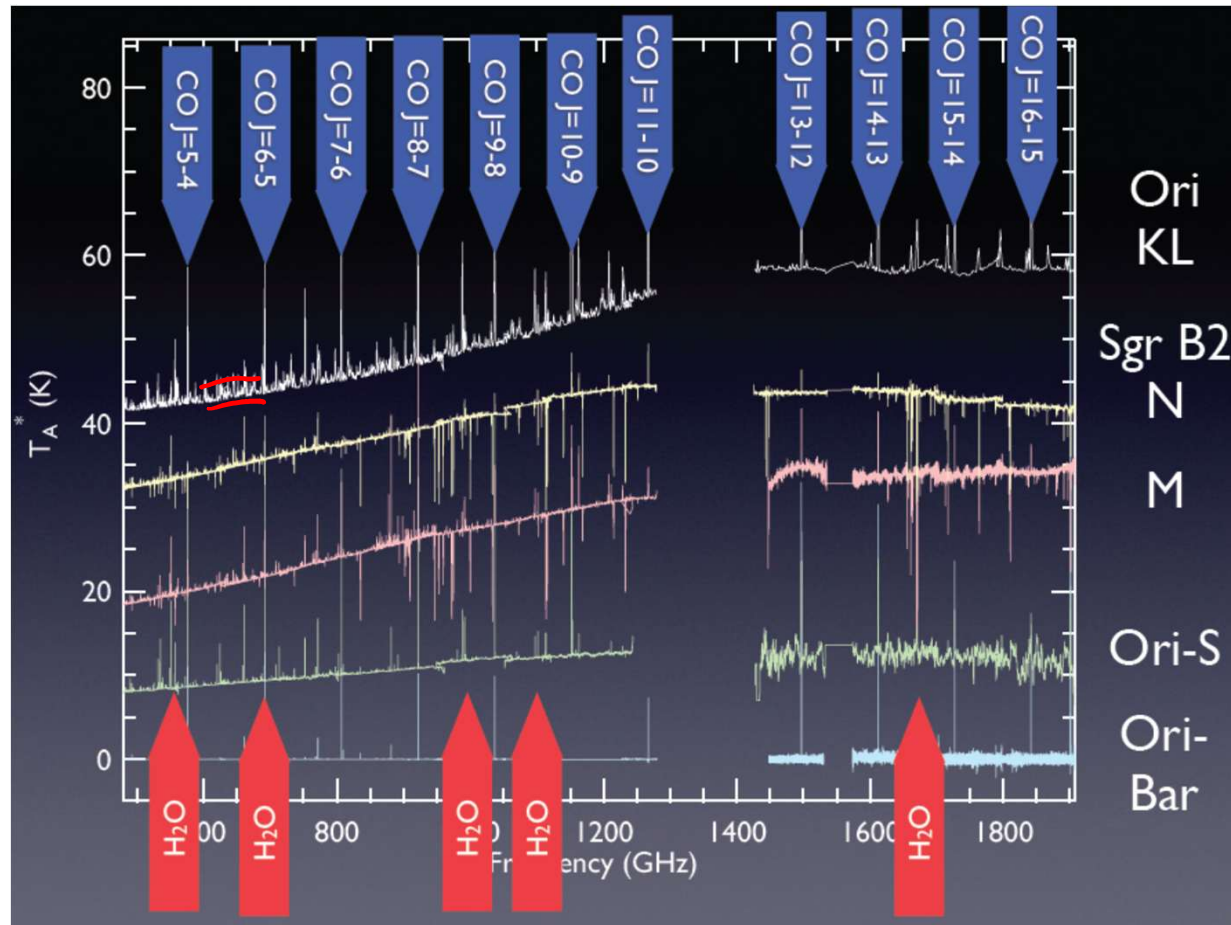
Panuzzo et al. 2010

# Selection rules:



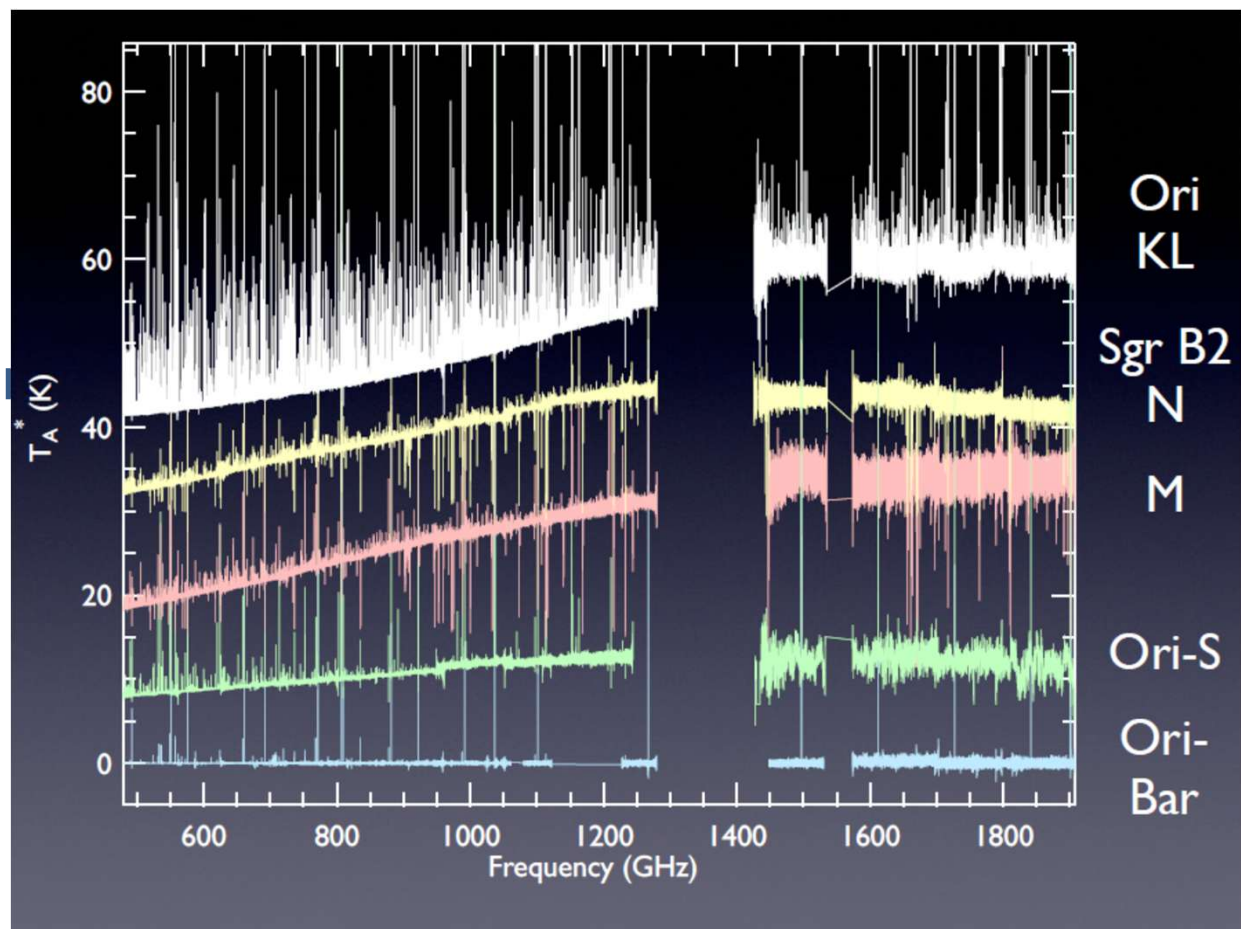
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



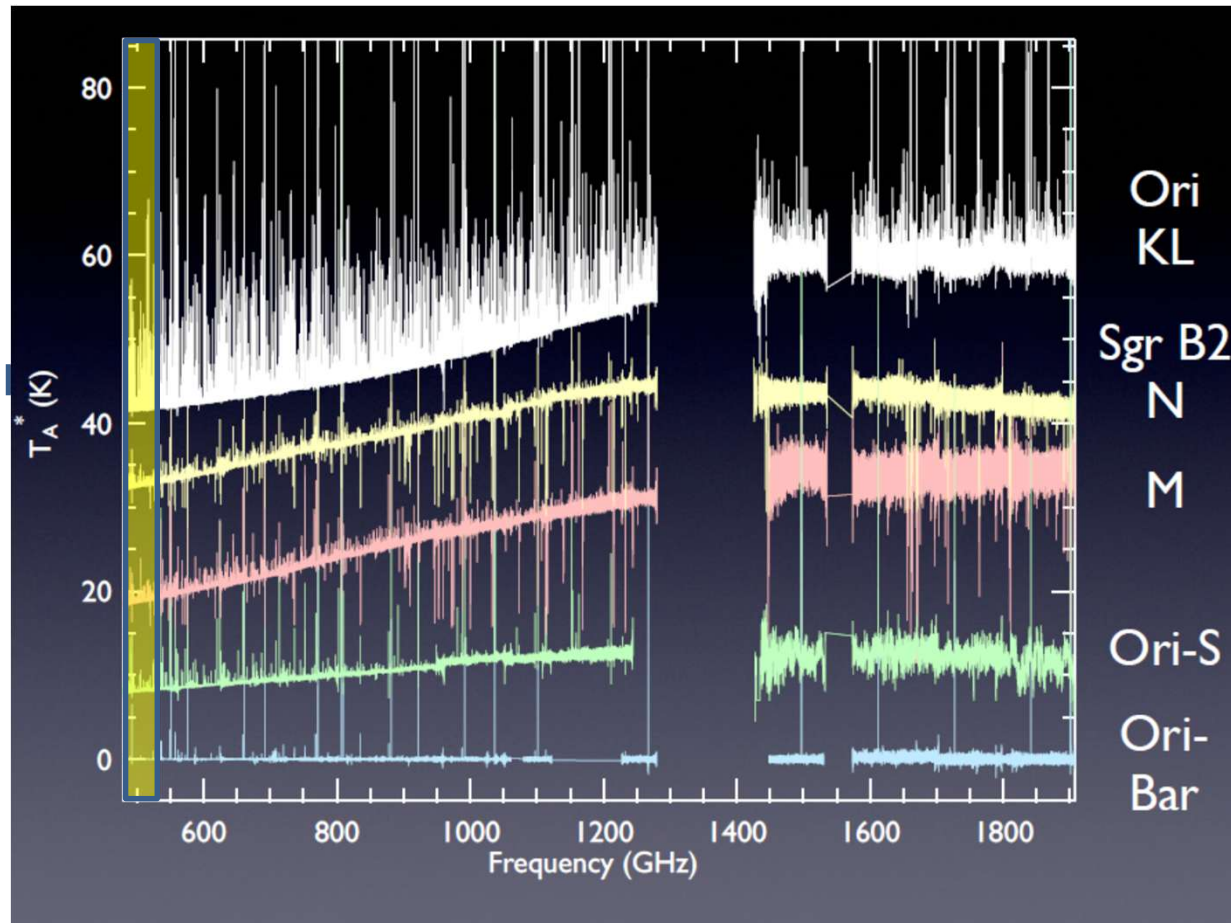
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



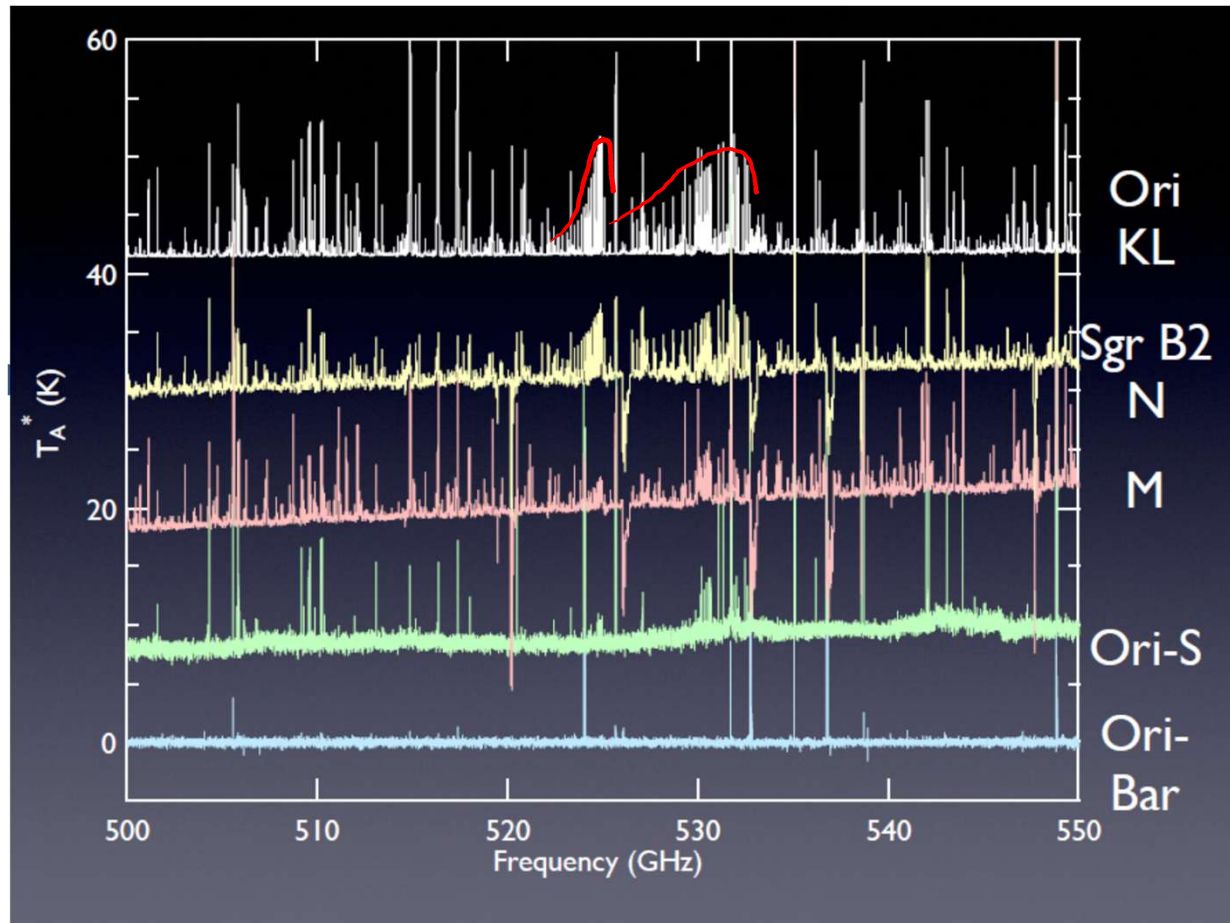
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



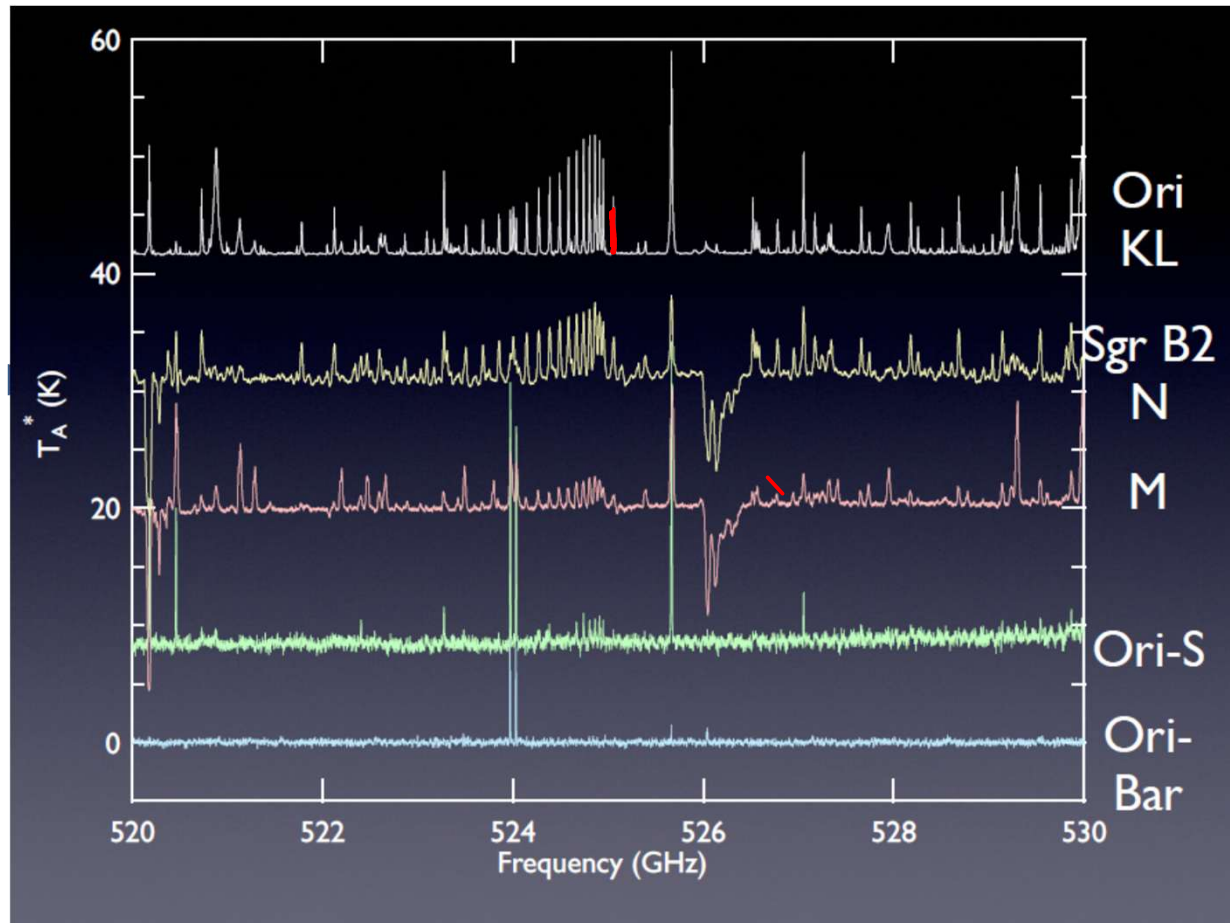
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



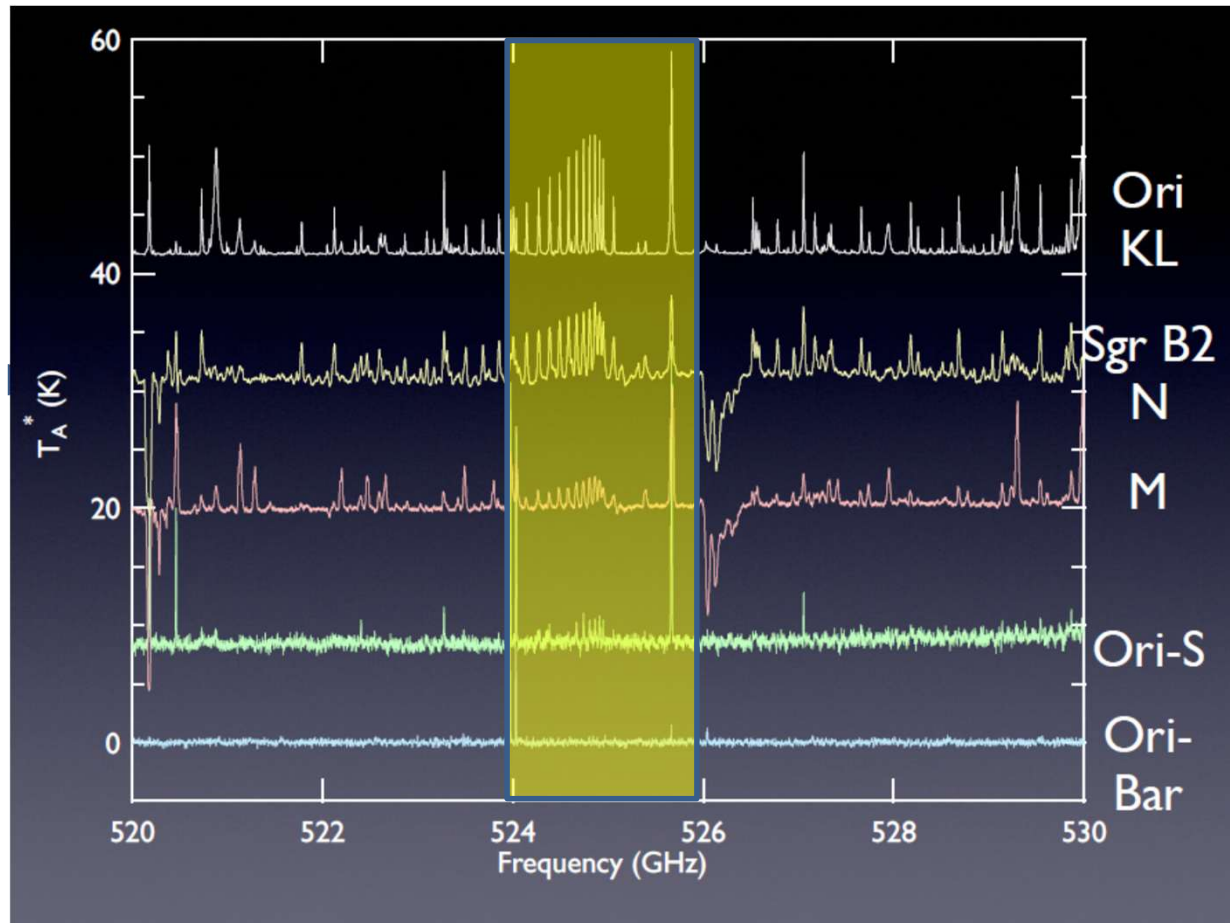
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



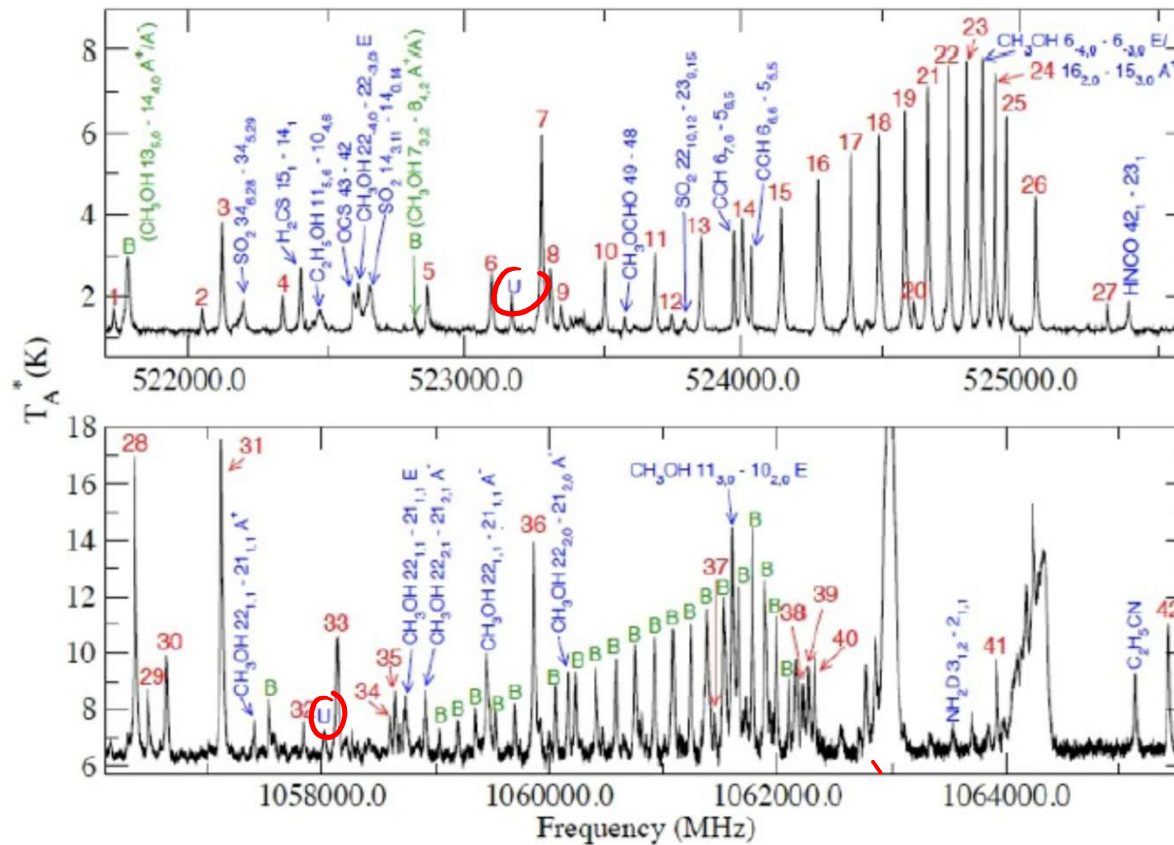
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



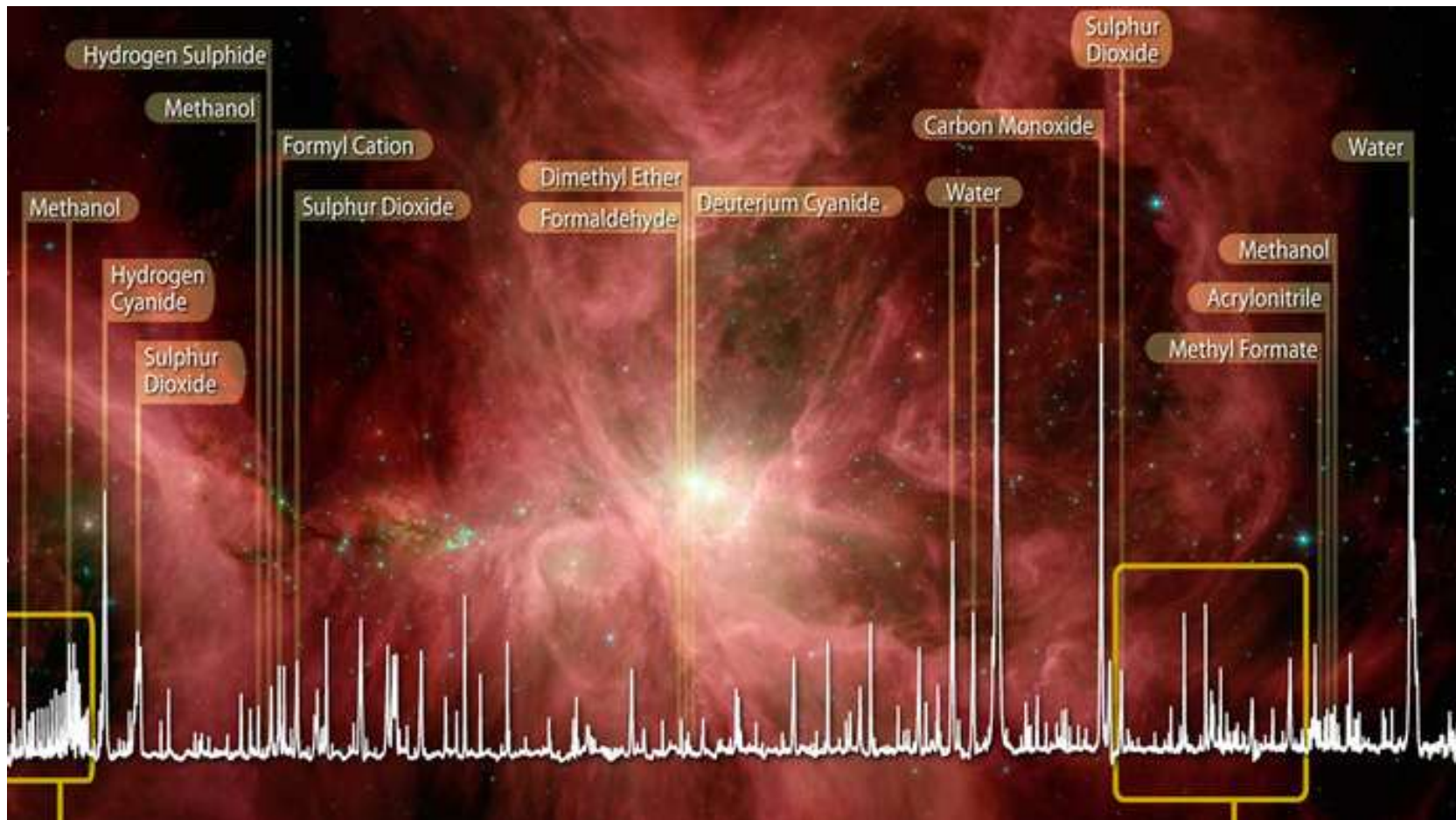
Source: E. Bergin  
(Univ. of Michigan)

# Selection rules:



Wang et al. 2011

# Star formation in Orion



Credits: ESA, HEXOS and the HIFI Consortium