ASTR/GEOL-2040: Search for life in the Universe: Lecture 33

ETHER

- Exoplanets
- Extraterr. Intellegence

PAHs

• Quiz questions etc

AMINO ACIDS

Axel Brandenburg (Office hours: Mondays 2:30 – 3:30 in X590 and Wednesdays 11-12 in D230)

The next two weeks

- Review Quiz #2 model solutions (D2L)
- HW7 on Wednesday, due Dec 8

 only the 5 best ones count
- How to find life on exoplanets
 Chapter 8, pp. 261 280
- How to find extraterrestrial intelligence
 Chapter 9, pp. 281 302
- Review of all material for the final

(a) Mark the points on the black line on the left plot where the temperature is 90 K (two points), 80 K (two points), and 70 K (only one point).
 See the blue points in the figure above. [2pts]



(b) Read off the corresponding pressures on each of the five points and write them in the empty fields in Table 1.
 See the blue numbers in the table below. [2pts]













(c) Mark all the five points in the phase diagram above with dots. See the blue points.



(d) Determine the phase for all five points. Write the corresponding answer in the five corresponding fields of Table 1. Use S for solid, L for liquid, and G for gas.
 See the blue and orange points.



 (e) Where in the atmosphere do you expect methane in the gas phase? In the upper layers which is denoted by "Tholin haze", see the organge dot in the figure below.
 [2pts]



Life elsewhere in the Universe?

- To many: most important question...
 - Profound religious & philosophical implications
 - Cannot answer (right now)
- But can pose & answer related questions
 What can science tell us?
- One of the early approaches:
 - Number N of civilizations in our galaxy broadcasting their existence into space

Life elsewhere in the Universe?

• Drake's equation: $N = R_{\rm b} t$

Rate (number per unit time) at which broadcasting civilizations appear in our galaxy

Time over which they broadcast

- N = ? (at least 1) = us on Earth
- t = ? > 50 yr ... 100 yr
- $R_{\rm b} > 0.02 \ {\rm yr}^{-1}$

the fraction that The fraction of can go on to support The number of Longth of time stars with intelligent life. civilisations in our planets such civilisations galaxy in which release detectable signs into space. communication N=R×f,×1 le×ti×ti×ti×L night be possible. The fraction of The fraction The average civilisatims that that can go on rate of star formation to support life. develop a technology per year in our detectable from space. the fer * galaxy ПП The average number of planets that can potentially The Prake Equation. support life (per star with planets.)

Drake (1960)

- $R^* = 1 \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- $f_{\rm p} = 0.2 \dots 0.5$
- $n_{\rm e} = 1 \dots 5$
- $f_1 = 1$
- $f_i = 1$
- $f_{\rm c} = 0.1 \dots 0.2$
- $L = 10^3 \dots 10^8$
- $N = 10^3 \dots 10^8$



Nowadays: more accuracy

- $R^* = 1 \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- $f_{\rm p} = 0.4$
- $n_{\rm e} = 0.005$
- $f_1 = 1$
- $f_i = 1$
- $f_{\rm c} = 0.1 \dots 0.2$
- $L = 10^3 \dots 10^8$
- $N = 10^3 \dots 10^8$

Psychology and sociology: choose not to broadcast...

Planets with biosignatures

- N* = number of M stars in sample = 30,000
- F_Q = fraction of quiet stars = 0.2
- $F_{\rm HZ}$ = rocky planets in HZ = 0.15
- $F_{\rm O}$ = observable = 0.001



Sara Seager

- $F_{\rm L}$ = fraction with life = 1
- $F_{\rm S}$ = fraction with spectroscopic signatures = 0.5
- *N* = 2

Back to exoplanets what can we observe?

- Potential for habitability
 Oceans, land/ocean ratio, clouds, seasons
- Surface/subsurface life?
- Eventually: atmospheric composition
 Abundance & combination of gases

How to find biospheres

- Galileo: find life on Earth
 - fly-by on Earth (\rightarrow Challenger disaster)
- Near infrared spectrometer (NIMS)
- Large amount of O₃
 - Hard to explain abiologically
 - Also CH₄: this, together with O₃, important
 - Readily oxidized to give...

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COMM. STEVE RADACK

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March 7th, 2010 Edmonton, Athena

Michael Howard (Trainer)

Odor of ozone?

A. Like benzeneB. Like chlorineC. Like fluorineD. No odor



A. Like benzeneB. Like chlorineC. Like fluorineD. No odour

Smell? ozein (ὄζειν), the Greek verb for smell

Source of ozone layer

- A. Xerox machines
- B. Lightning + oxygen
- C. UV radiation + oxygen
- D. Airplanes
- E. Forest fires

Ozone cycle

 $O_2 + hv \rightarrow 2O_{\checkmark}$ UV-B UV-C 100-315 nm photolysis

radical= unpaired valence electrons

 $O \cdot + O_2 \rightarrow O_3$

- autocatalysis
- cycle



Source of ozone on Earth

- A. Xerox machines
- B. Lightning + oxygen
- C. UV radiation + oxygen
- D. Airplanes
- E. Forest fires

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Methane + Oxygen = ?

- A. Water
- B. Carbon dioxide
- C. All of the above

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- A. Water
- B. Carbon dioxide
- C. All of the above

$CH_4 + 2O_2 \rightarrow CO_2 + 2H_2O$

Next time

- Planetary atmospheres
- Starshade

- Rothery et al. 262 280
- Longstaff: pp 366 375
- BS: 380 395