

Electron- and Photon-stimulated desorption from Model Interstellar Ices
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Abstract

Icy dust grains in dense interstellar clouds are the chemical nanofactories that produce the chemical potential for life in nascent stellar systems. However, this is only true if the rates of cosmic ray and light induced desorption are relatively low compared to the rates of chemical transformation. This presentation will describe experiments simulating the effects of cosmic rays and light on models on such icy grains and the likely impact this might have on the energetic processing of ices.