

# *Chemistry Models*

*Yuk Yung*

*GPS Caltech*

*Sagan Exoplanet Summer  
Workshop*

*Jul 20 2009*



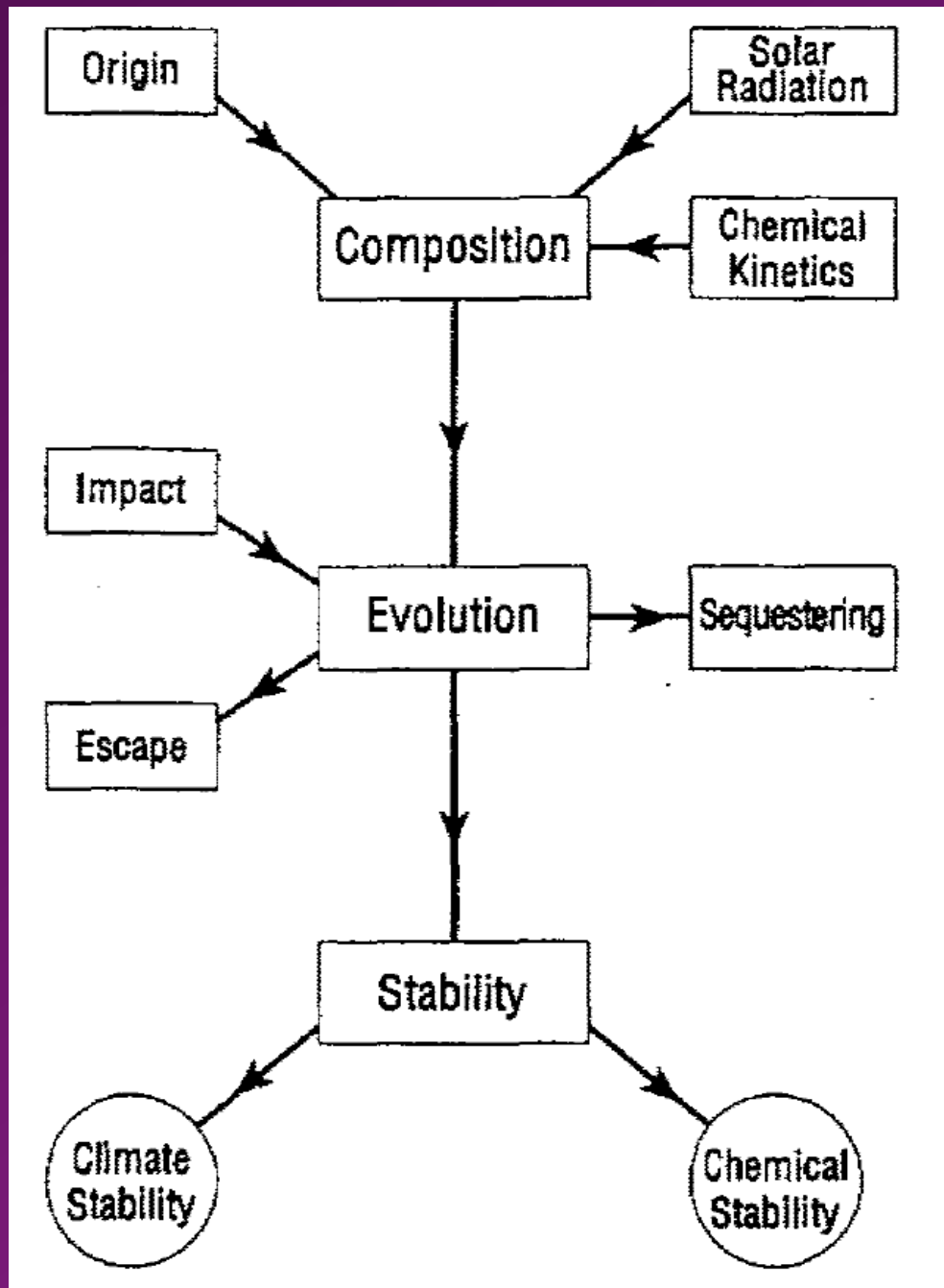
# Models

**Common photochemistry: hundreds of molecules,  
thousands of reactions**

**Transport: 1-D diffusion vertical**

**2-D advection**

**3-D general circulation model**



Yung and DeMore, 1999

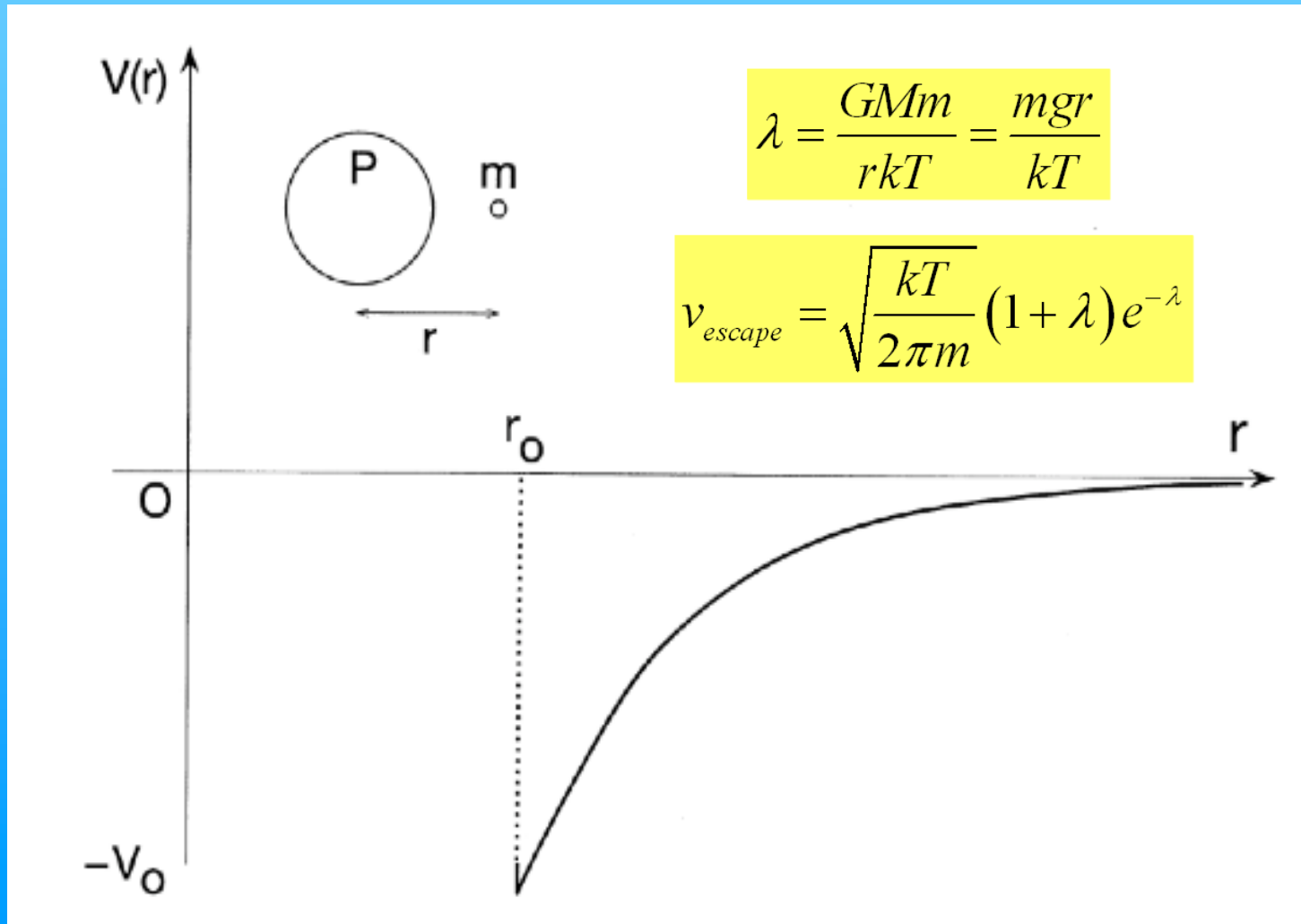


# Today's Outline

- ❖ **Jupiter: The cosmic reference point**
- ❖ **Titan: Nature's Laboratory of Organic Synthesis**
- ❖ **Mars: Is Methane biologically produced?**
- ❖ **Earth: The cosmic end member**
- ❖ **Conclusions**



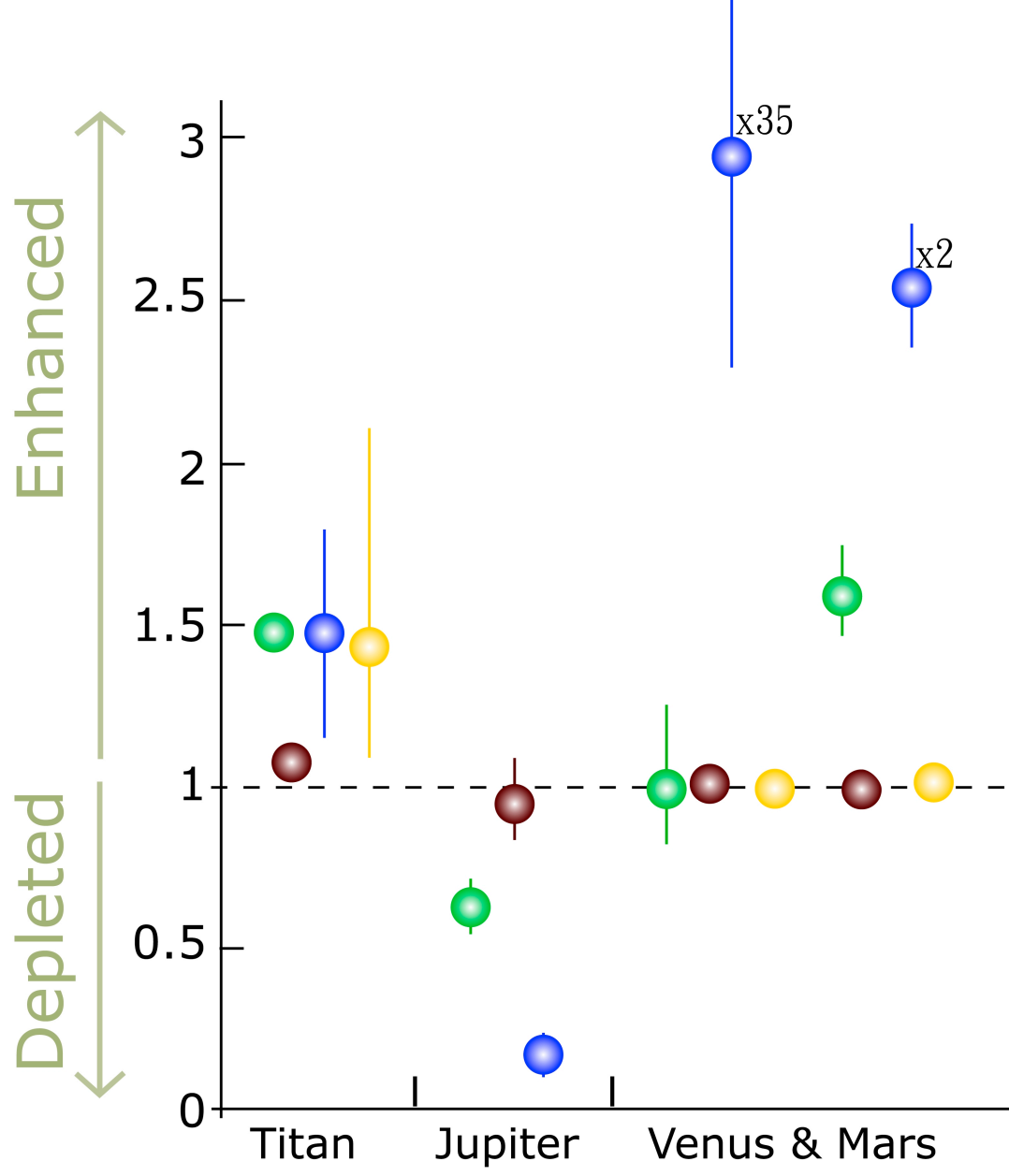
# Gravity and Escape

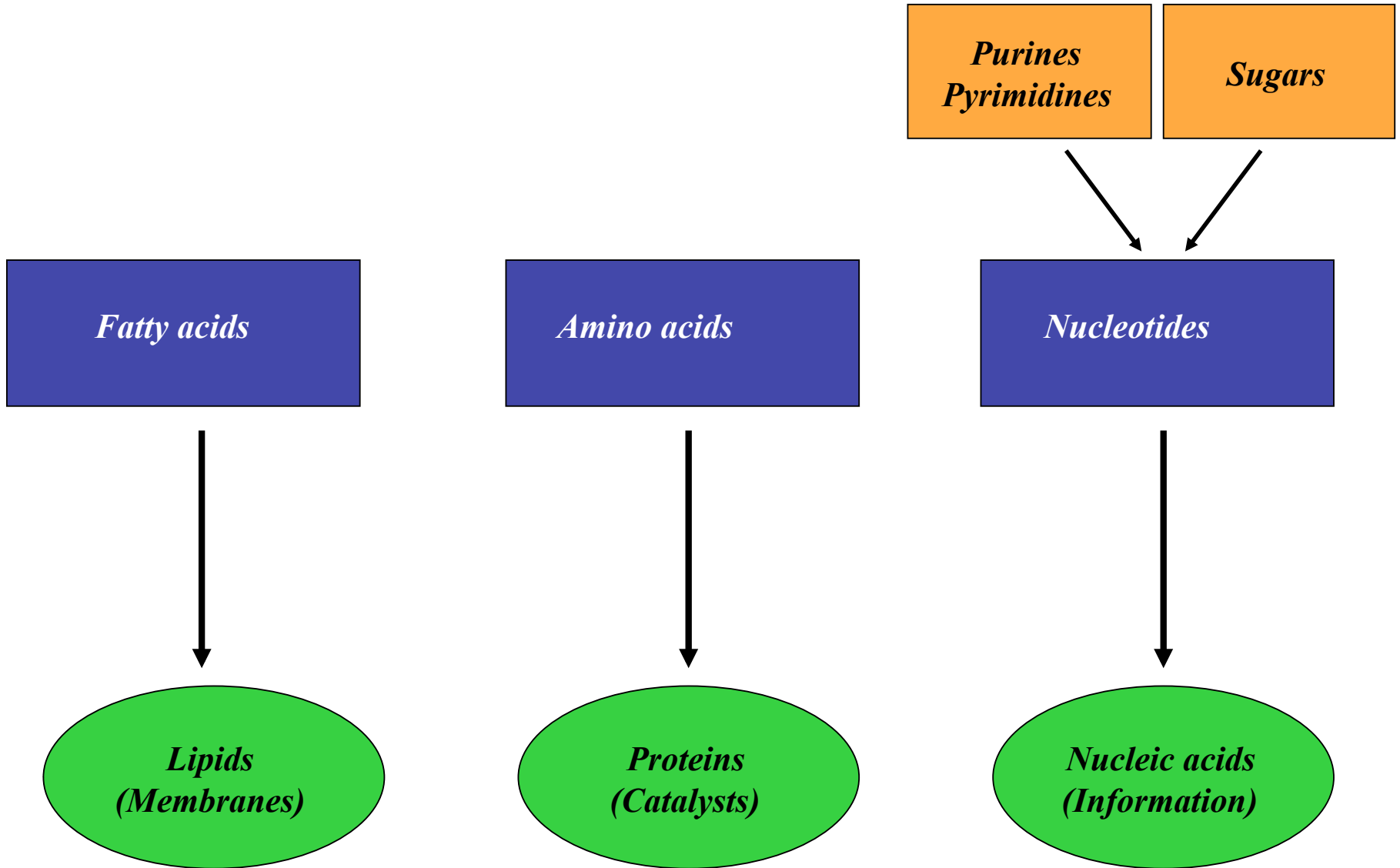


# I Determines Evolution

Table 1.6 Jeans escape parameters for hydrogen and oxygen atoms

Planetary body	Temperature <sup>a</sup> (K)	$\lambda_H^b$	$\lambda_O^b$	$V_H^c$ (cm s <sup>-1</sup> )	$V_O^c$ (cm s <sup>-1</sup> )
Jupiter	1200	165	2665	0	0
Saturn	400	162	2614	0	0
Uranus	810	33	531	$1.6 \times 10^{-8}$	0
Neptune	540	61	977	$1.7 \times 10^{-20}$	0
Titan	185	2.3	36	$1.6 \times 10^4$	$1.1 \times 10^{-10}$
Triton	95	1.3	22	$2.2 \times 10^4$	$5.7 \times 10^{-5}$
Pluto	100	0.9	14	$2.8 \times 10^4$	0.11
Io	500	0.8	13	$6.6 \times 10^4$	0.64
Mars	365	4.1	67	$5.9 \times 10^3$	0
Venus	400	16.2	260	0.11	0
Earth	1200	6.3	100	$1.7 \times 10^3$	0
Moon	390	0.9	14	$5.5 \times 10^4$	0.22
Mercury	700	1.6	25	$5.0 \times 10^4$	$2.4 \times 10^{-5}$



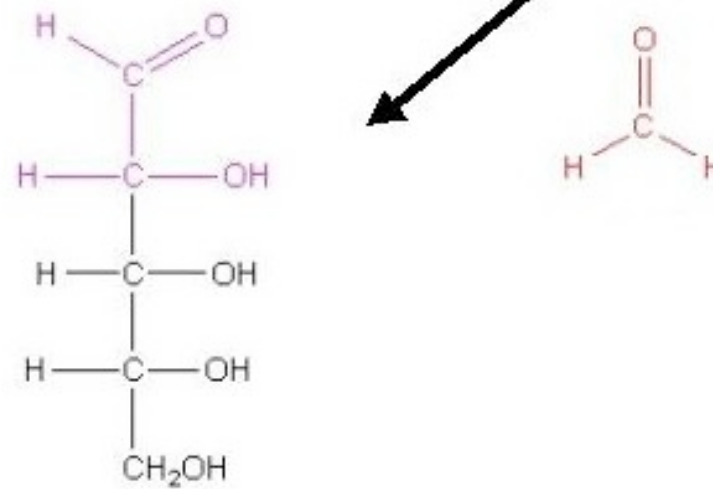






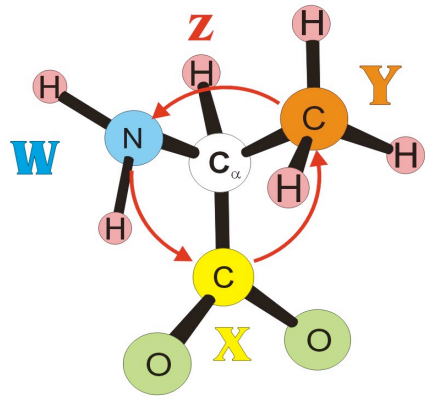
Formaldehyde

Glycoaldehyde

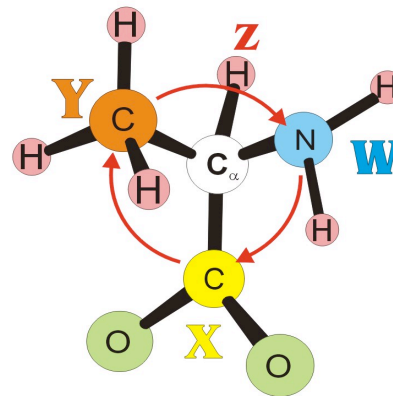


Ribose (D-enantiomer)

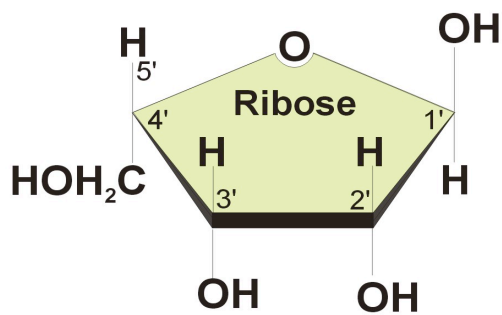
# *The chiral Molecules of Life*



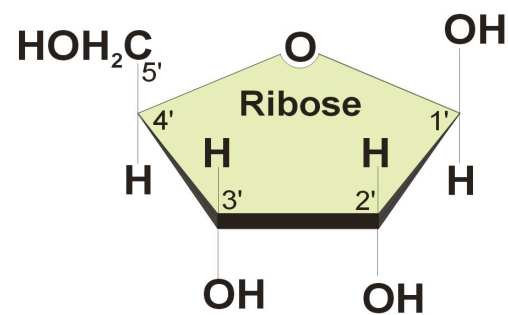
L-Alanine



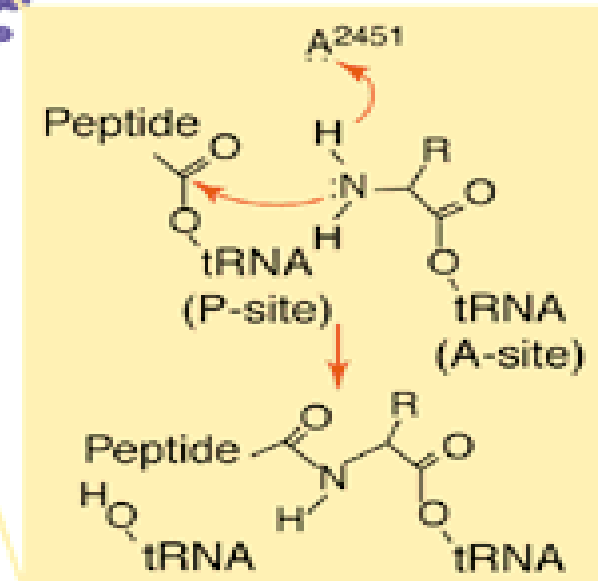
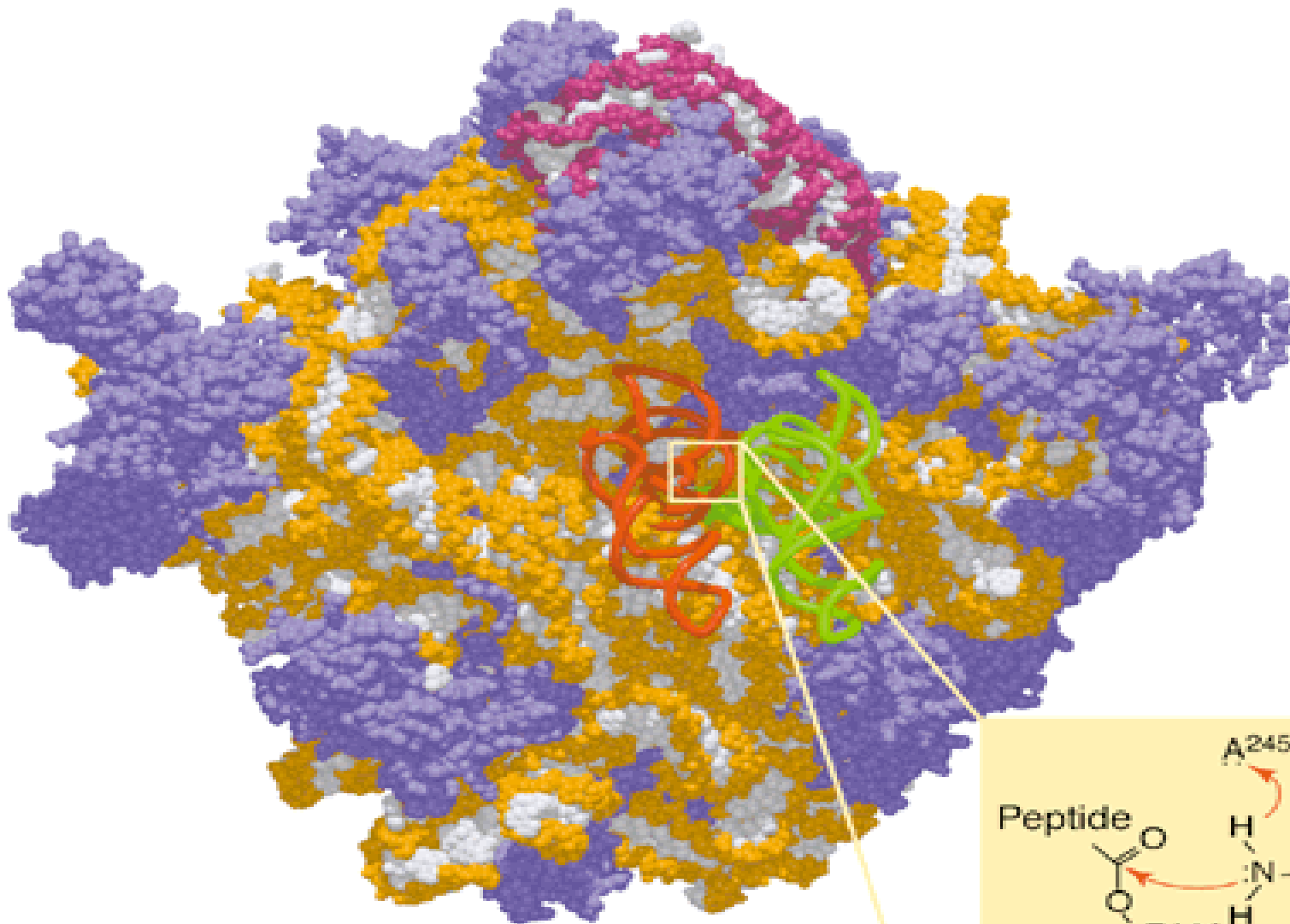
D-Alanine

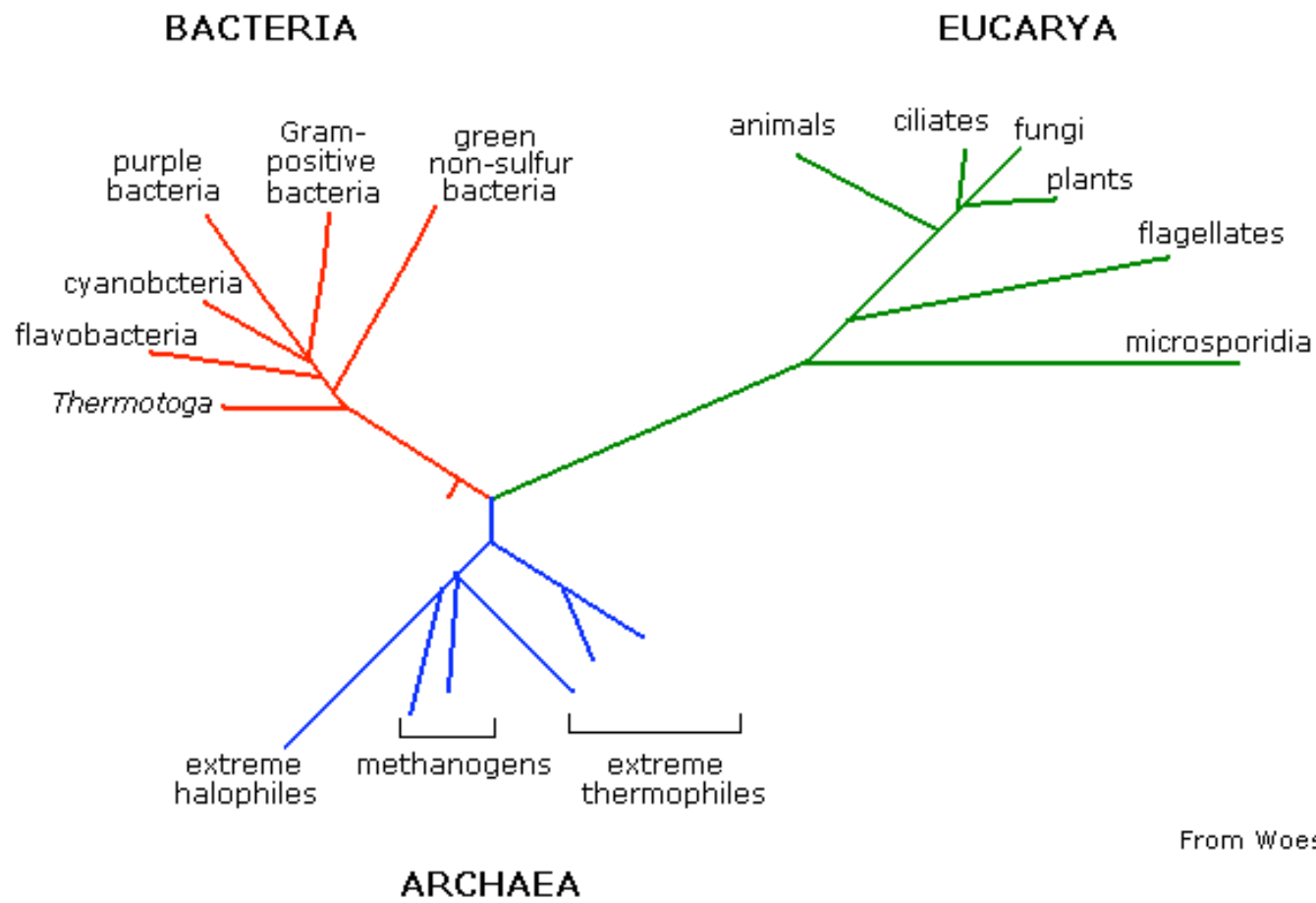


L-Ribose



D-Ribose





From Woese, 1987



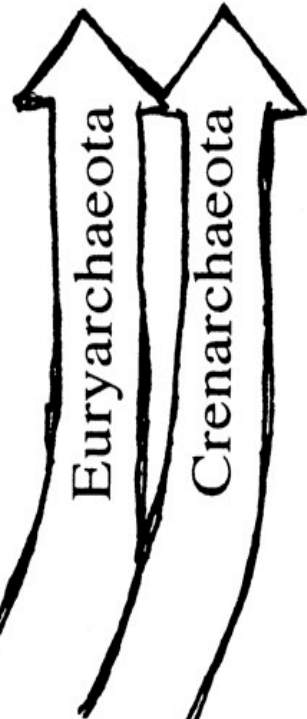
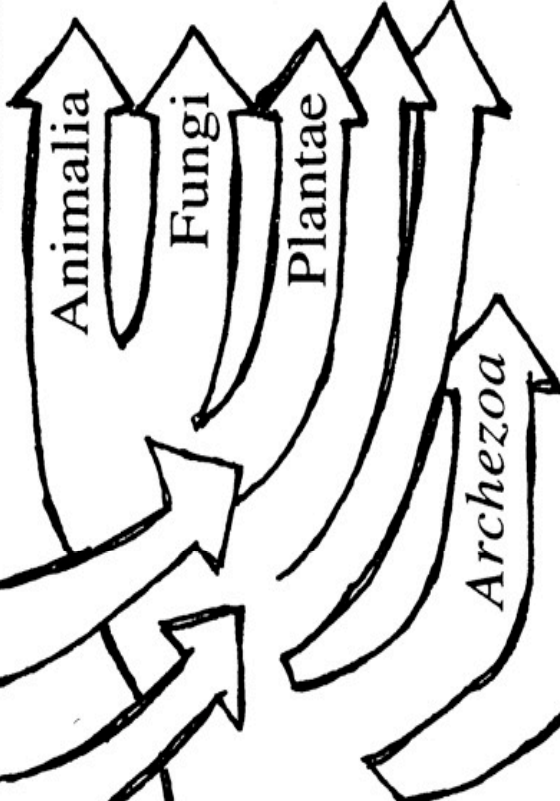
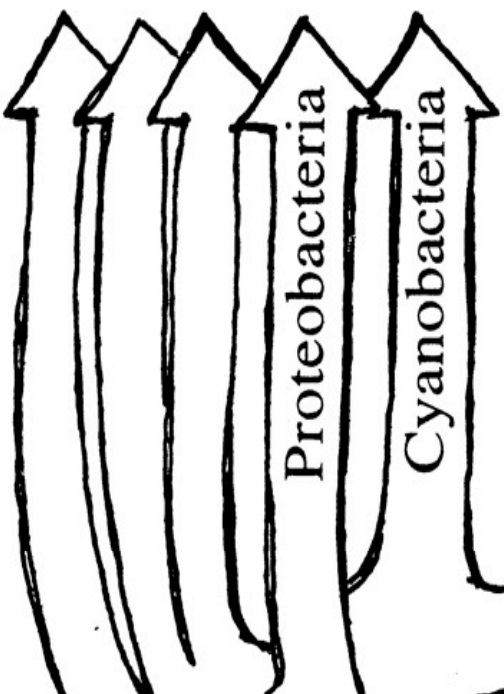
**Domain**

*Bacteria*

*Eukarya*

*Archaea*

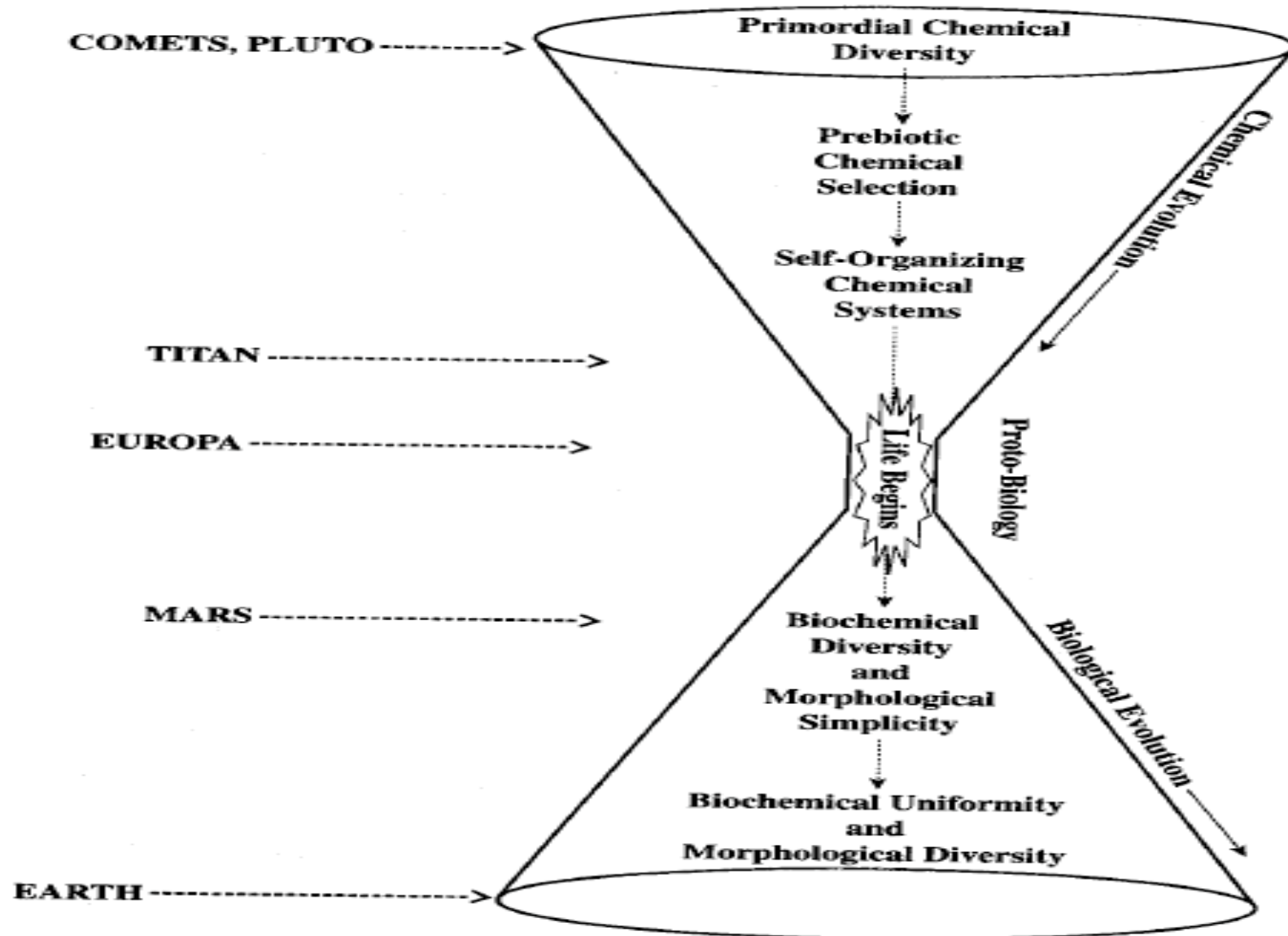
**Kingdom**







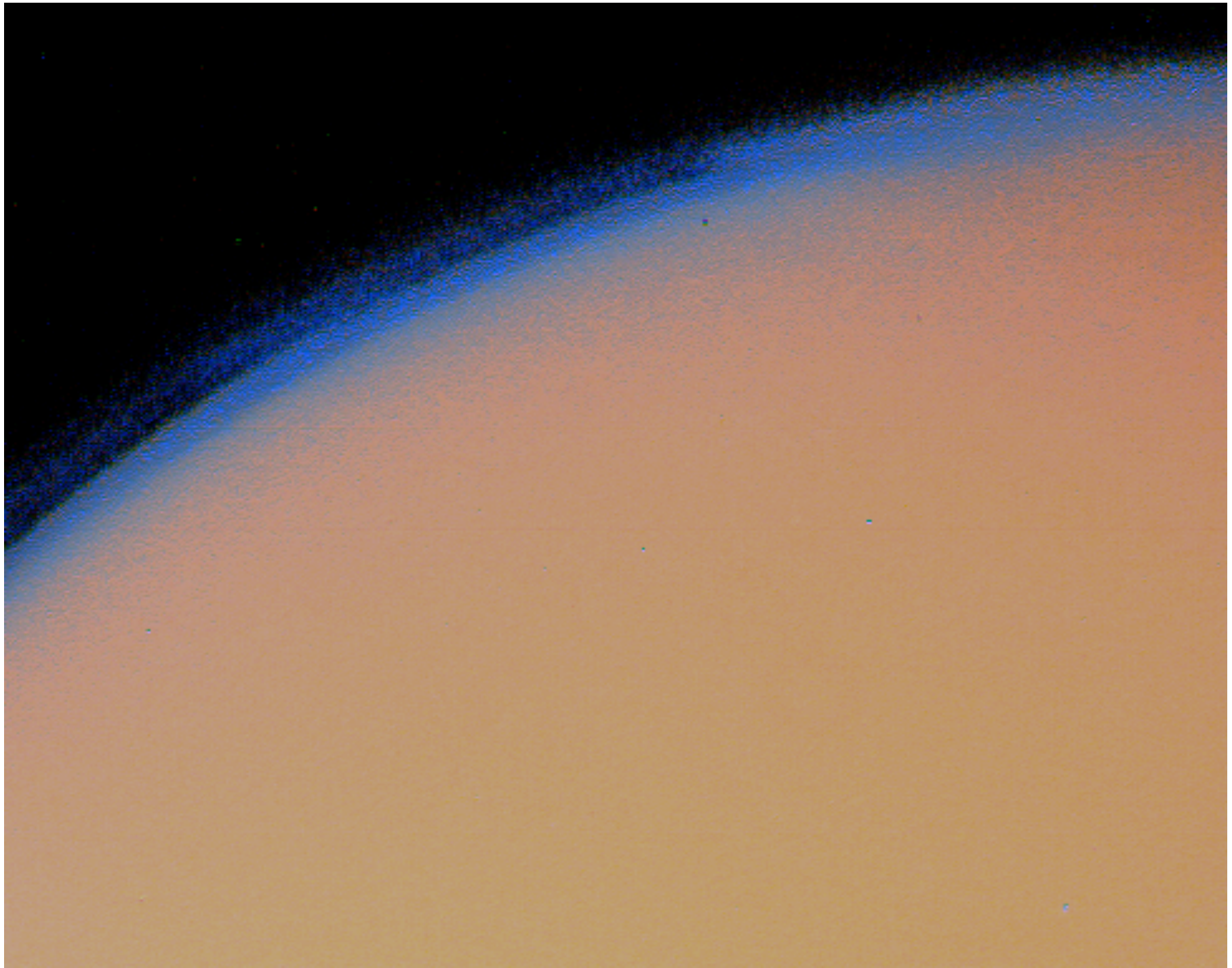




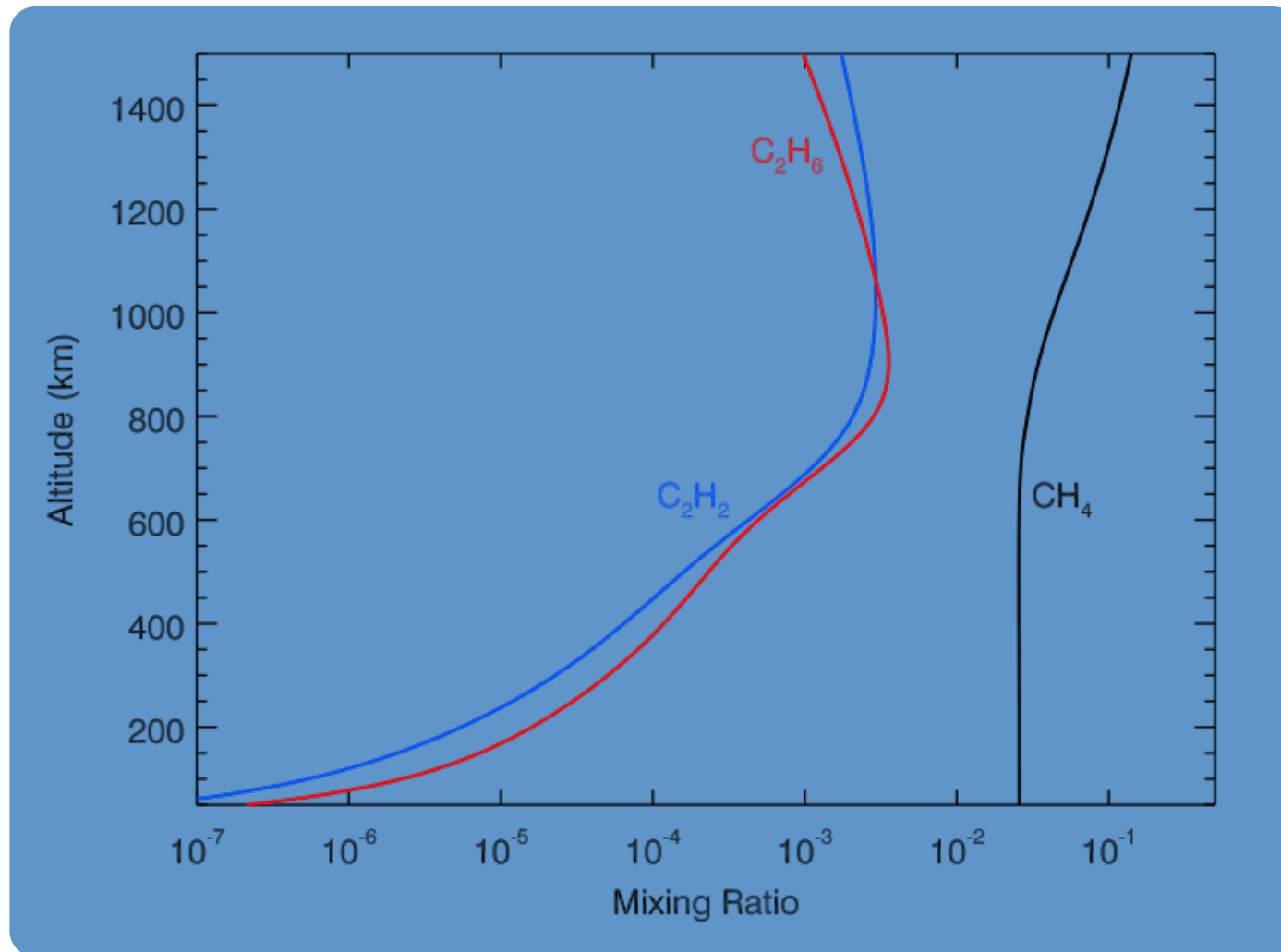
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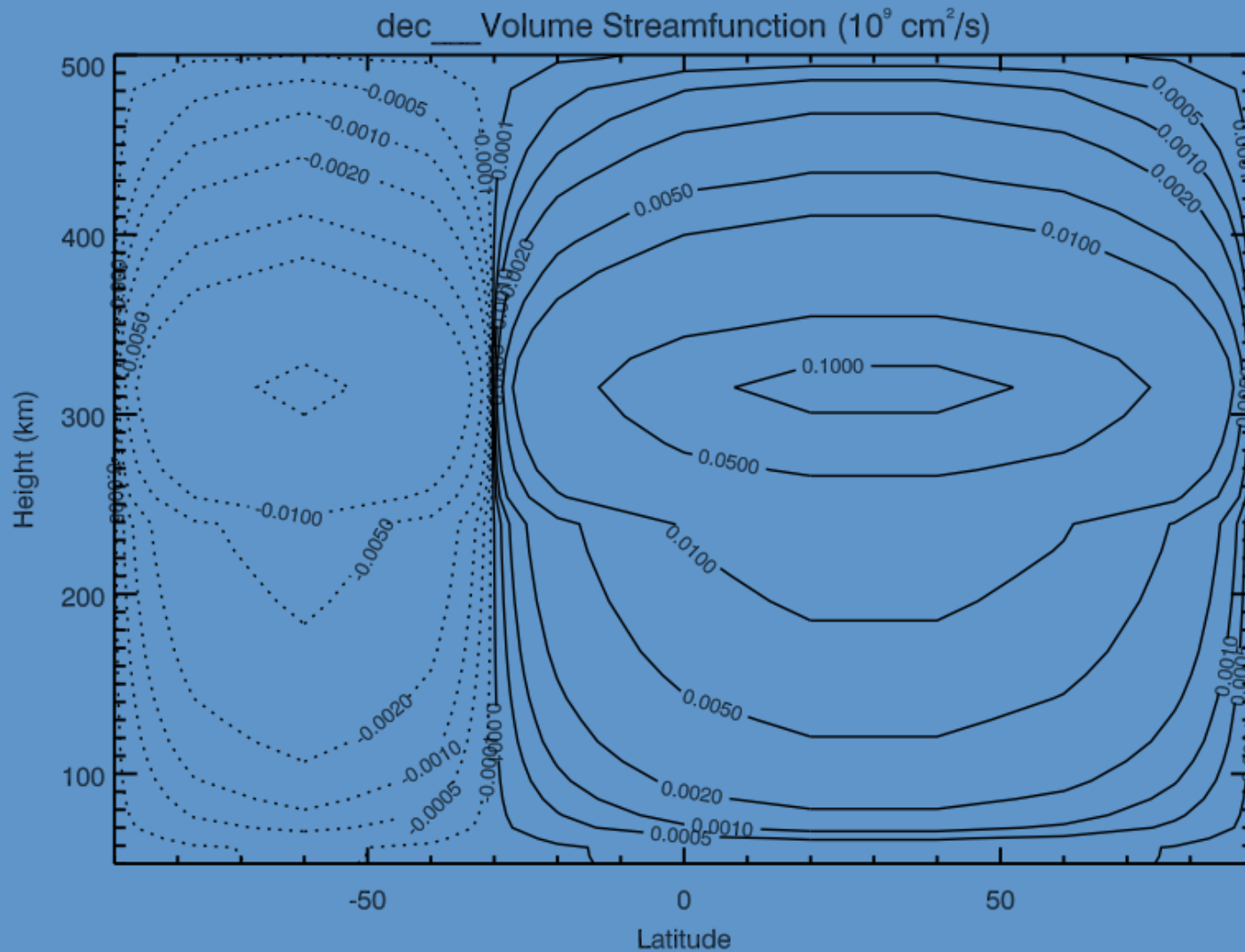




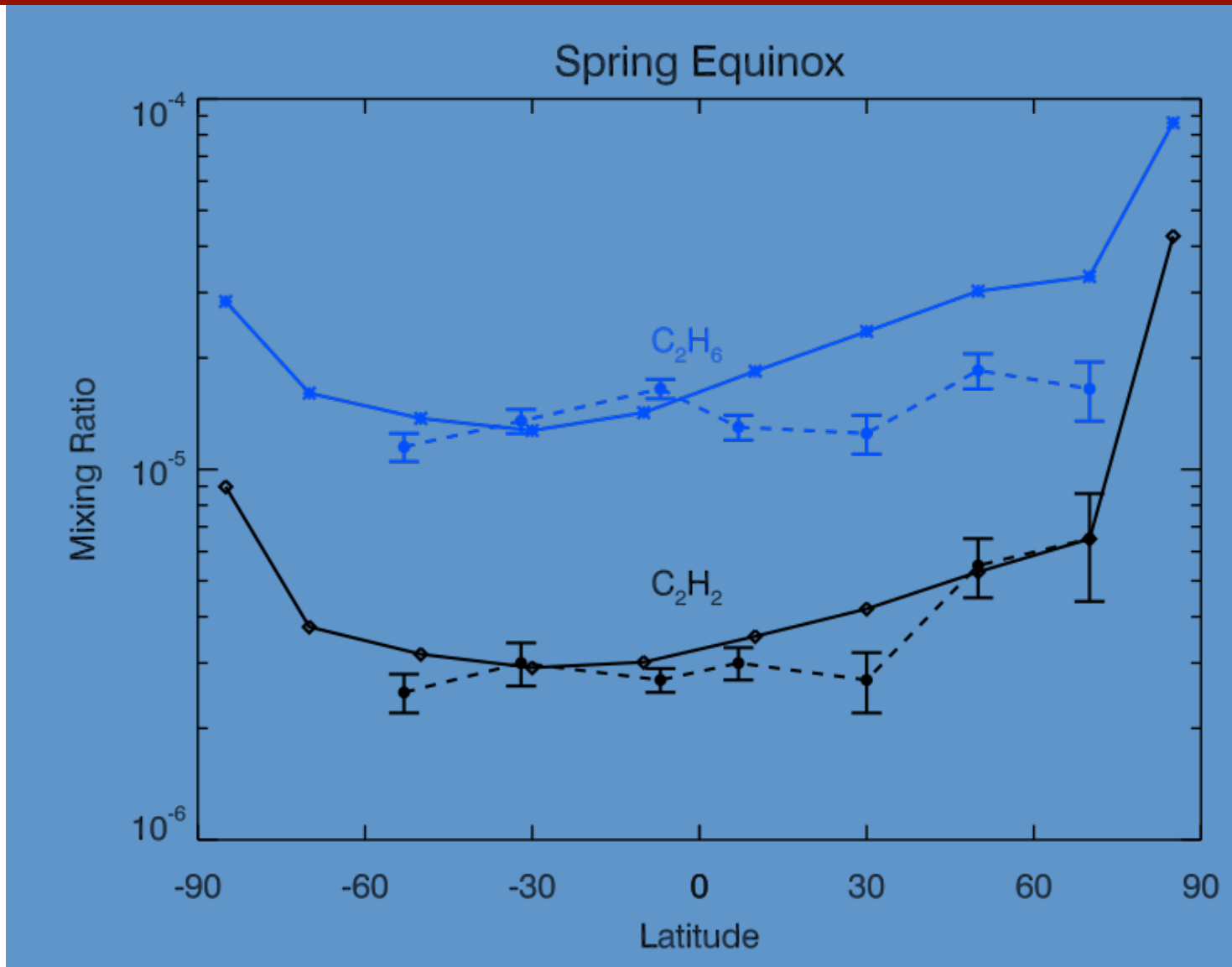
# Hydrocarbons



# Winter Circulation

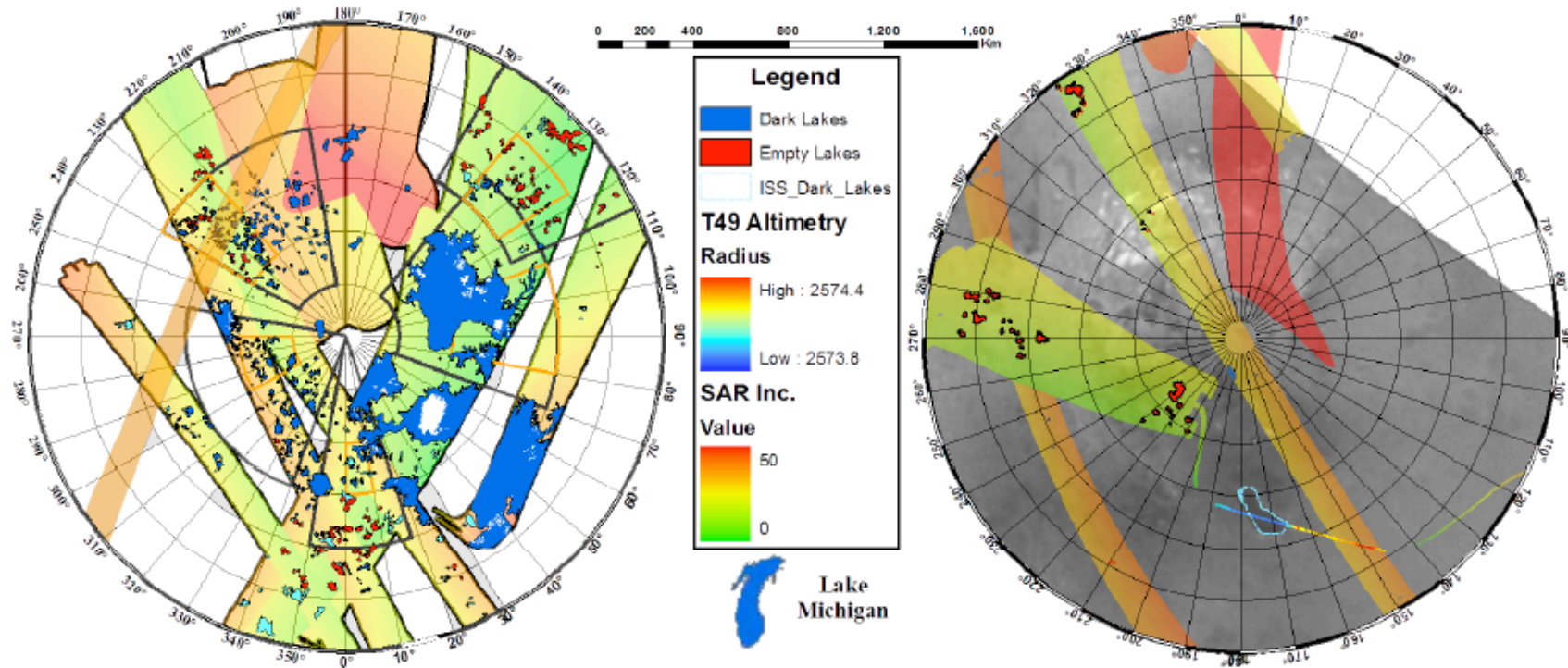


# Hydrocarbon Gradients



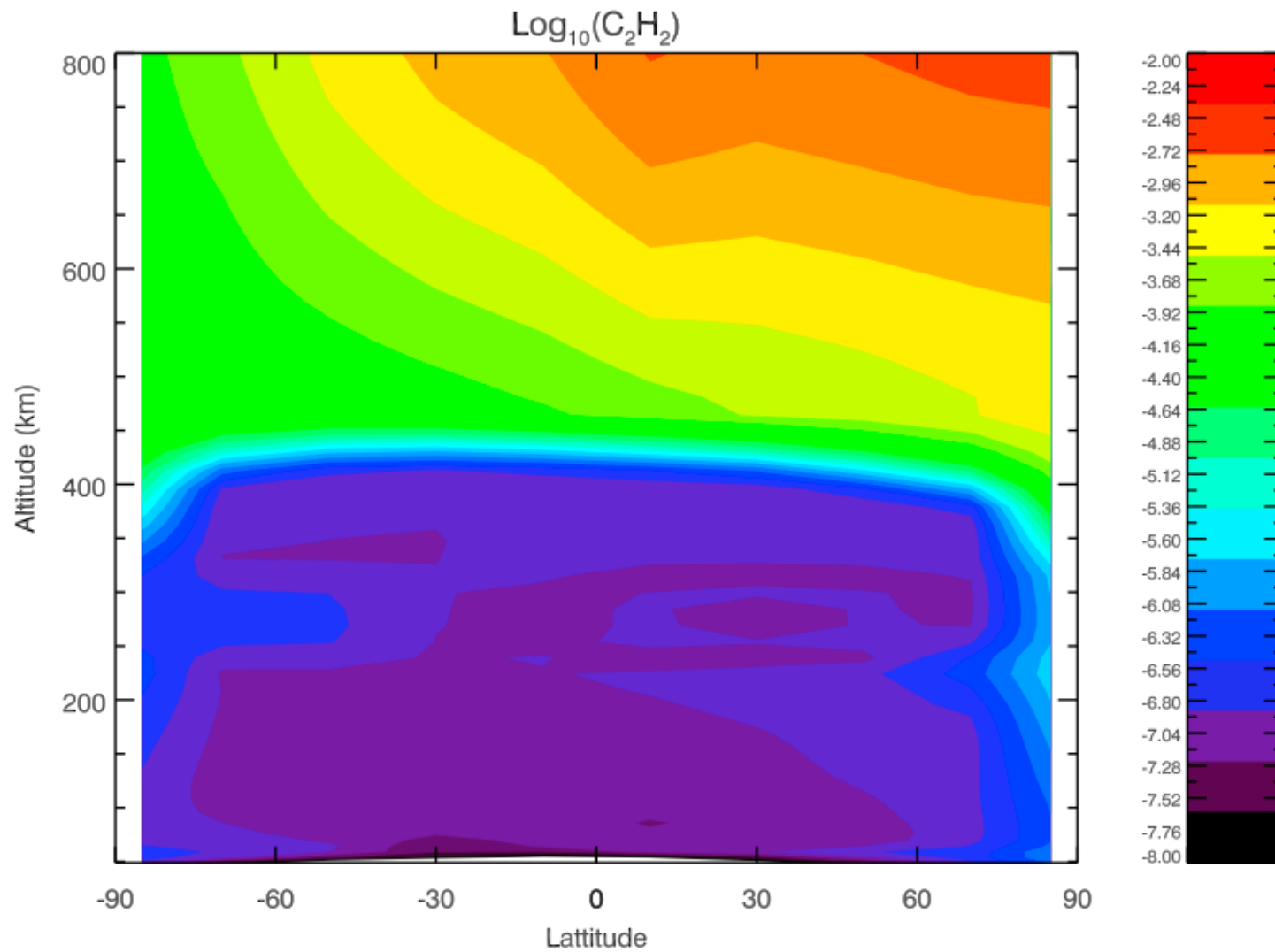


# Images of Hydrocarbon Hydrology in Titan's Polar Regions

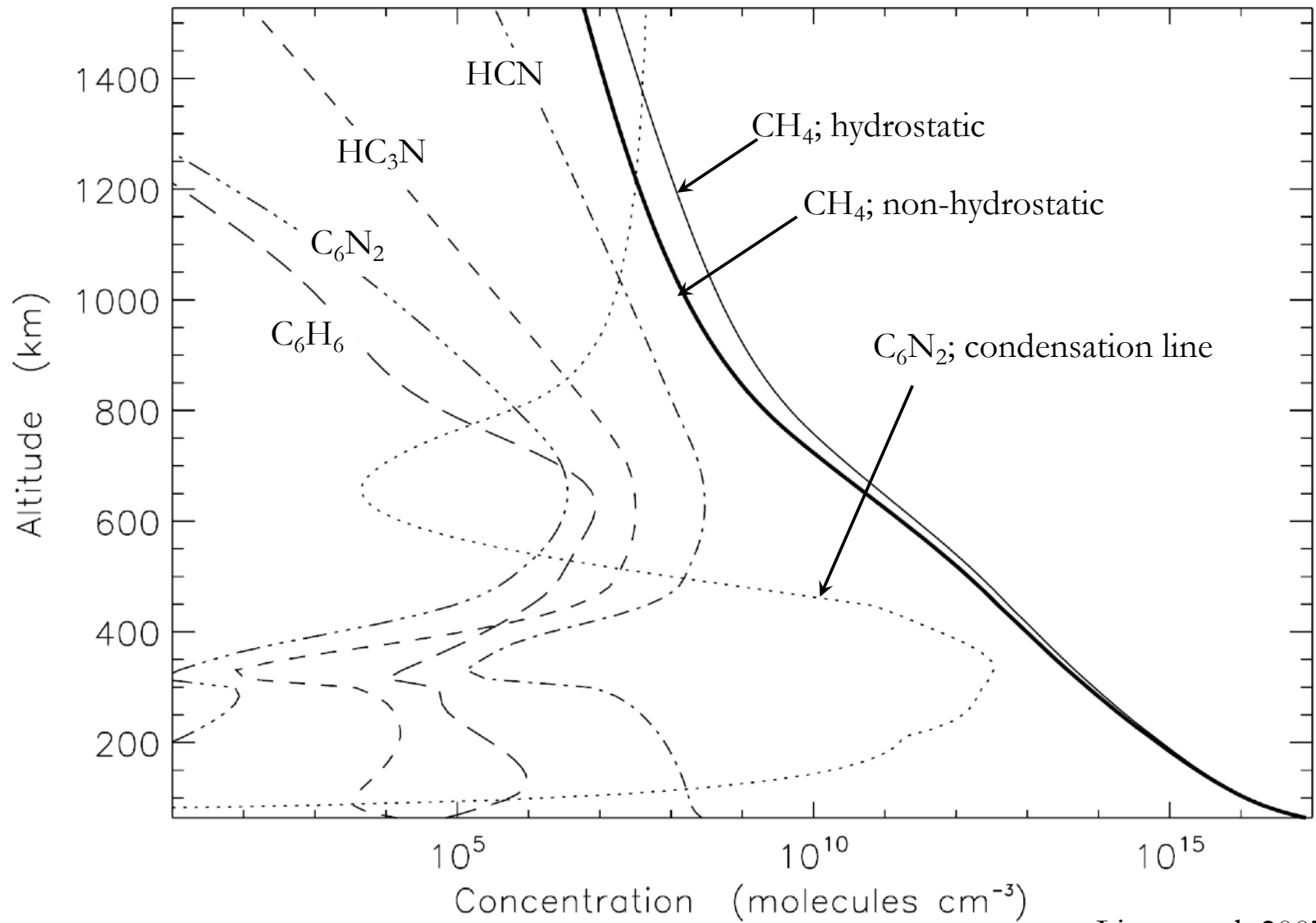


**Alexander G. Hayes**  
Oded Aharonson, Charles Elachi, and the CRST

# C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub> Abundance



# Photochemical results



Liang et al. 2007



❖ **Mars: Gone with the (Solar) Wind**

❖ **Isotopic Fractionation**

**Kass and Yung Science 1995**

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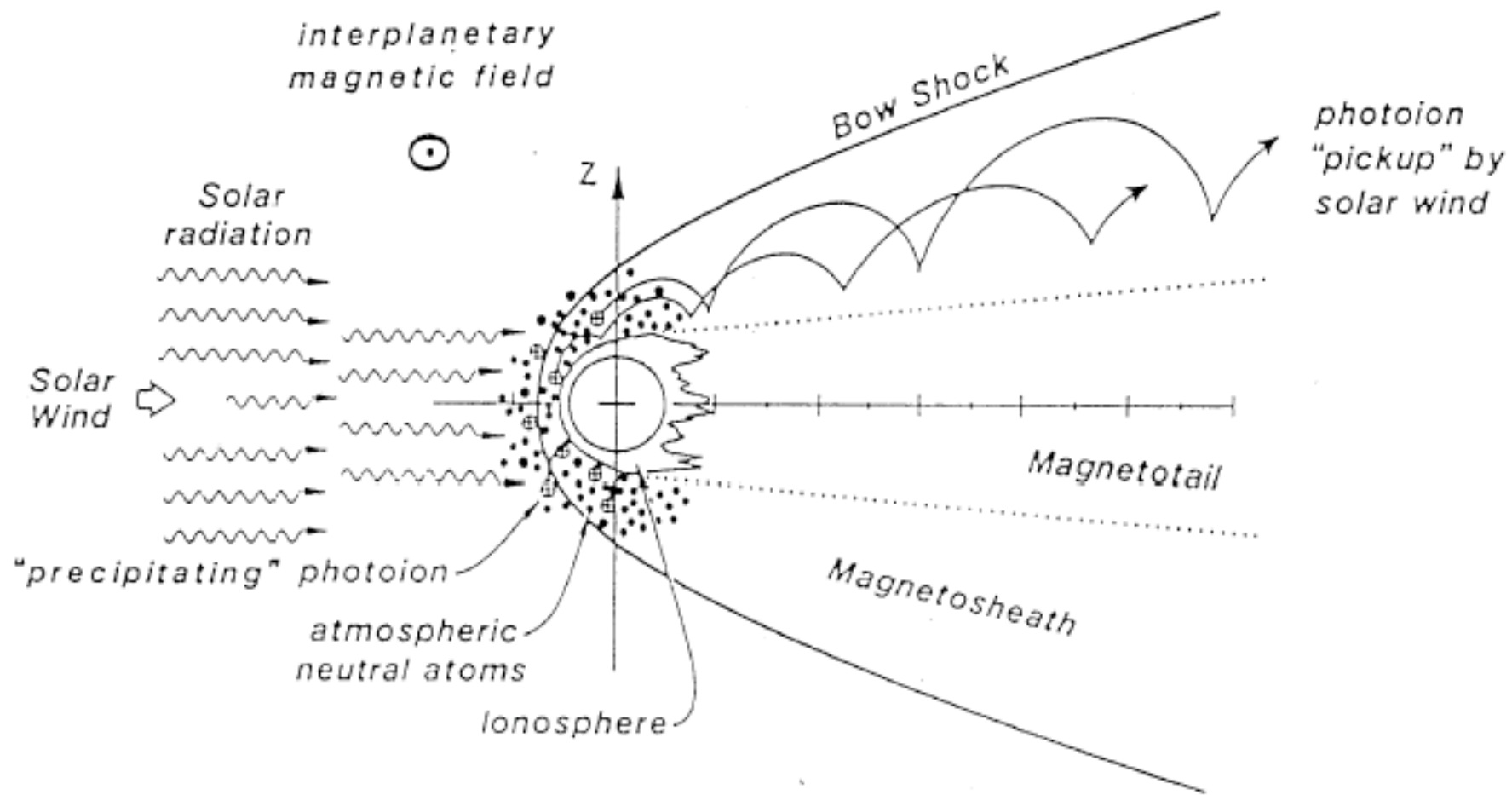
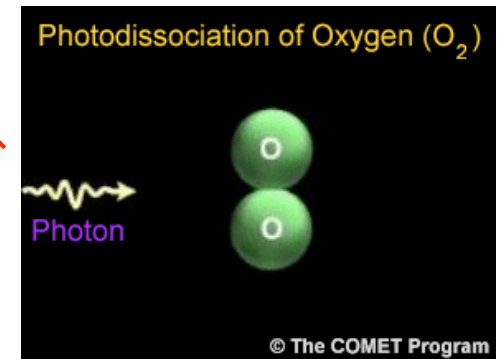
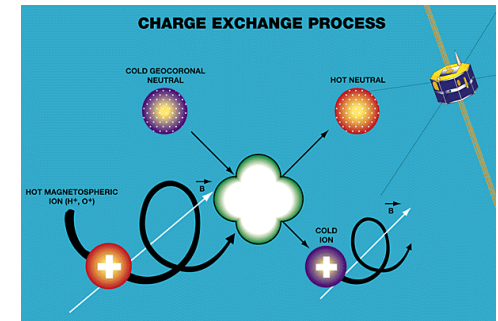


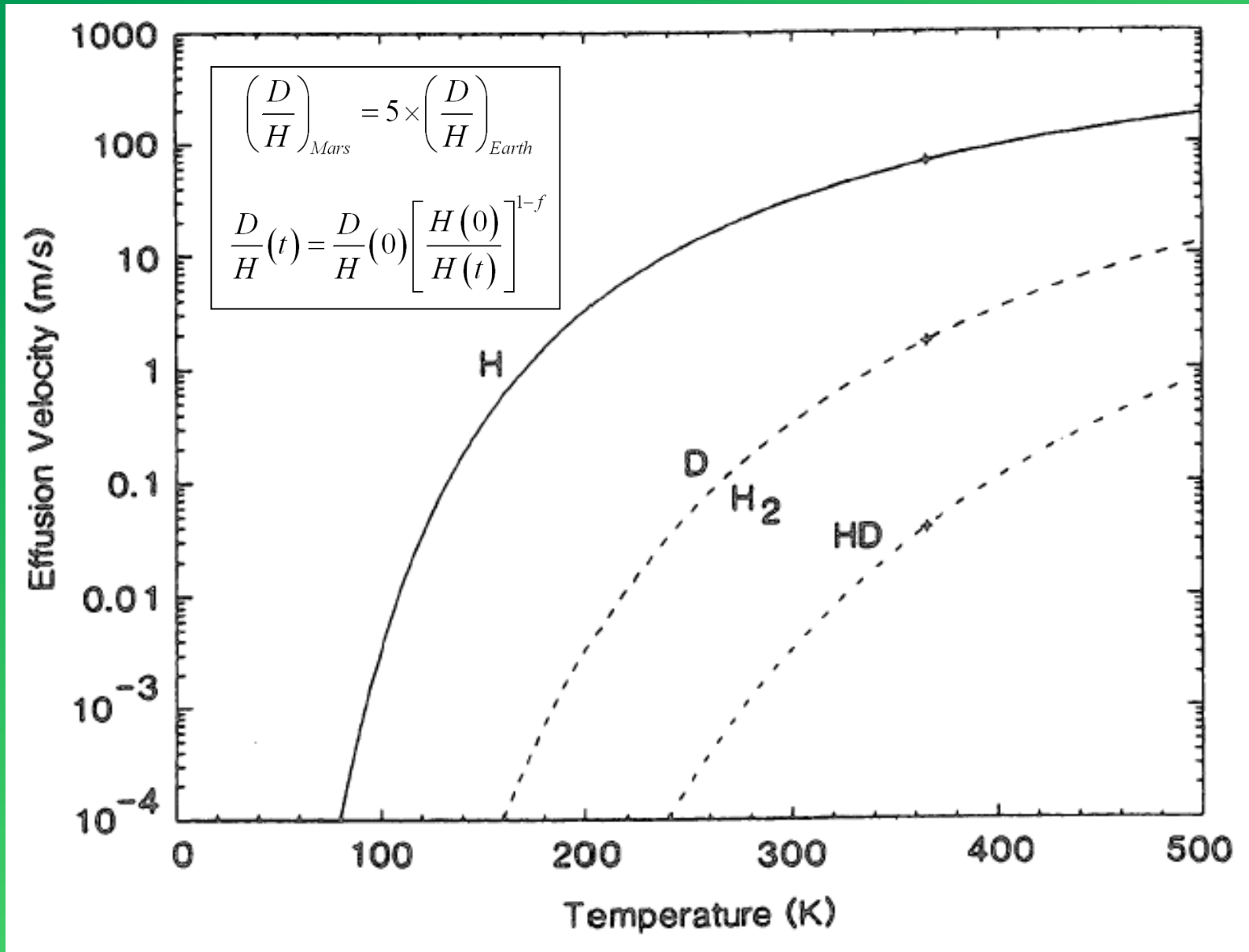


TABLE 1. Nonthermal Processes Leading to Escape\*

PROCESS	EXAMPLES	PRODUCT <sup>†</sup>
1. Charge exchange	$H + H^+ * \rightarrow H^+ + H^*$ $O + H^+ * \rightarrow O^+ + H^*$	N N
2. Dissociative recombination	$O_2^+ + e \rightarrow O^* + O^*$ $OH^+ + e \rightarrow O + H^*$	N N
3. Impact dissociation Photodissociation	$N_2 + e^* \rightarrow N^* + N^*$ $O_2 + h\nu \rightarrow O^* + O^*$	N N
4. Ion-neutral reaction	$O^* + H_2 \rightarrow OH^+ + H^*$	N
5. Sputtering or Knock-on	$O + O^{+*} \rightarrow O^* + O^+ *$ $O^* + H \rightarrow O^* + H^*$	N N
6. Solar-wind pickup	$O + h\nu \rightarrow O^+ + e$ $O^+$ picked up	I I
7. Ion escape	$H + ^* \text{ escapes}$	I
8. Electric field	$X^+ + eV \rightarrow X^+ *$	I



# Escape and Rayleigh Distillation



$$\left(\frac{D}{H}\right)_{Mars} = 5 \times \left(\frac{D}{H}\right)_{Earth}$$

$$\frac{D}{H}(t) = \frac{D}{H}(0) \left[ \frac{H(0)}{H(t)} \right]^{1-f}$$

# Methane on Mars

- \* Spectroscopic detection
- \* Biological Production ?
- \* Geochemical Sources ?

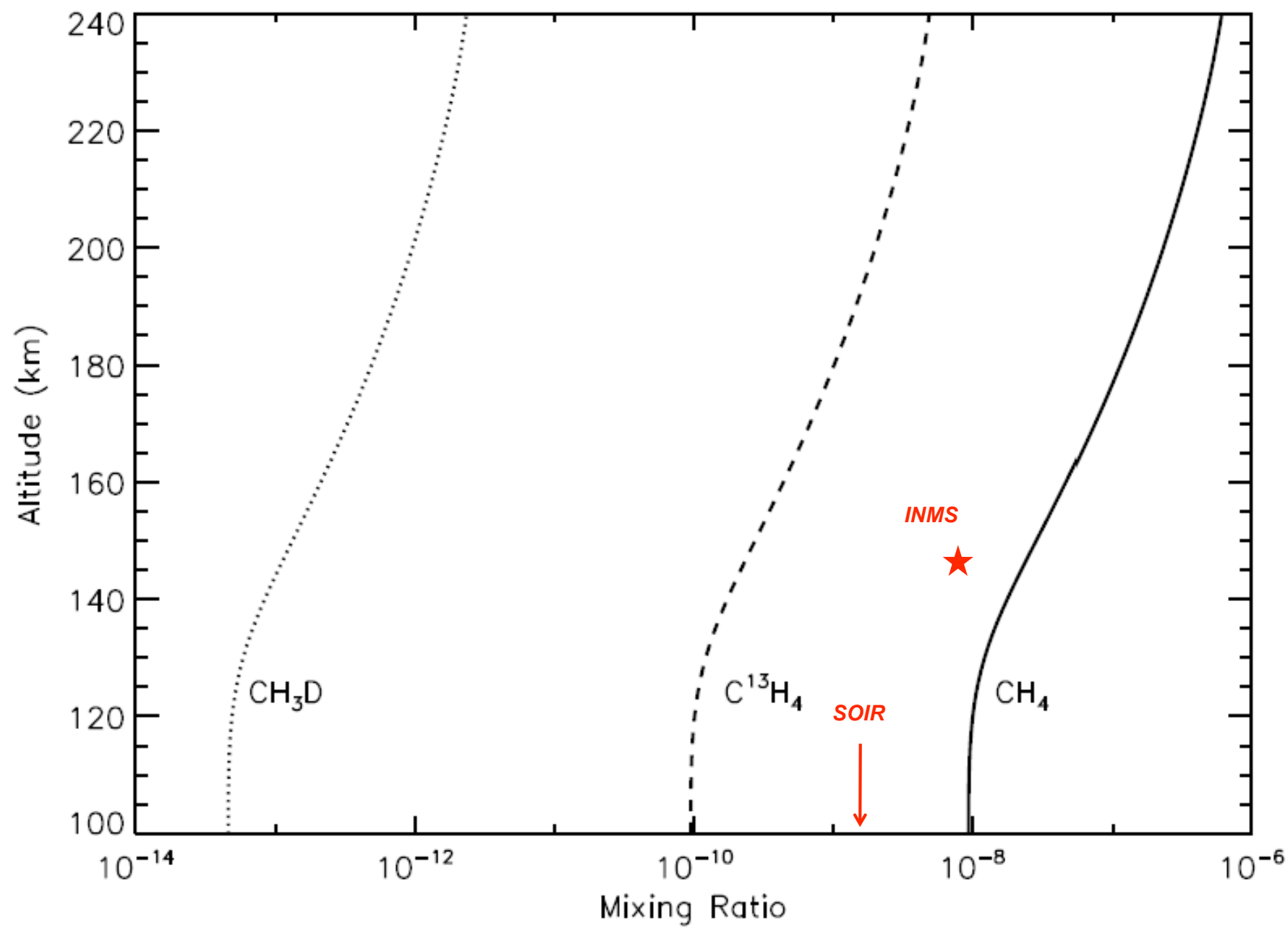
Mumma et al. 2009

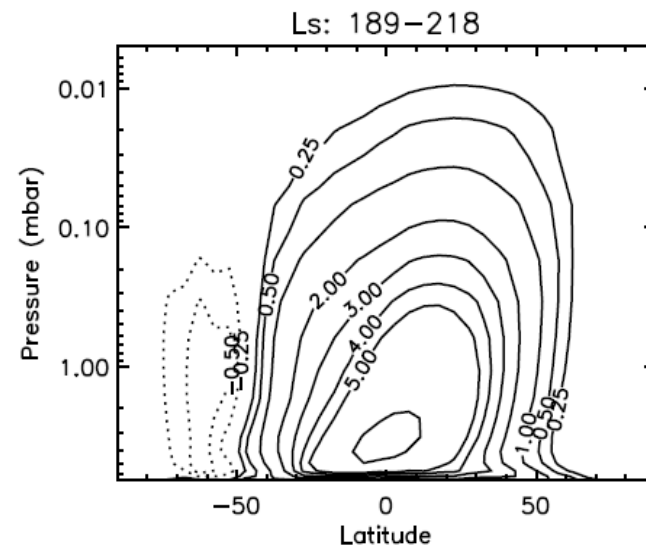
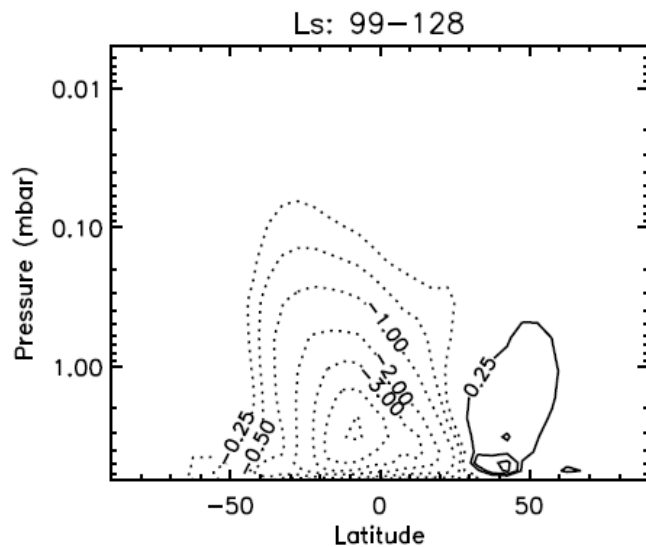
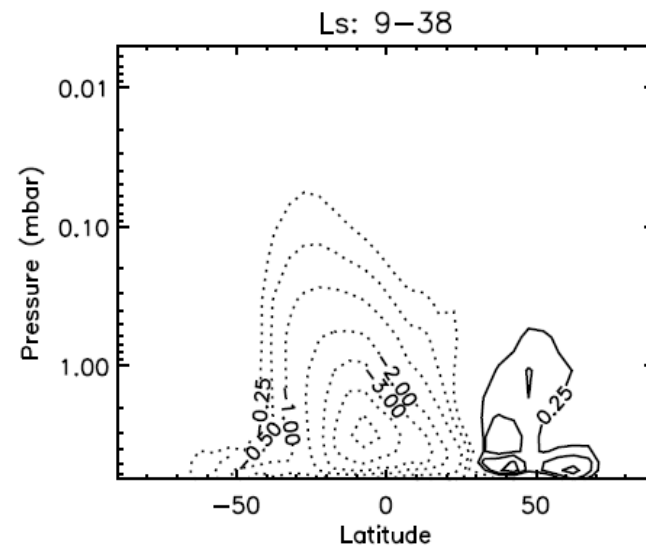
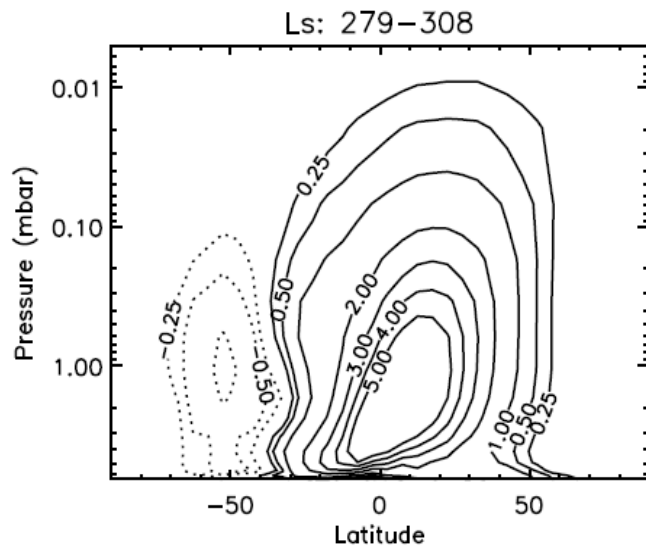
Table 4

Column integrated loss rates and timescales for methane isotopologues

	$h\nu$ column rate ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\tau$ (years)	OH column rate ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\tau$ (years)	O( $^1\text{D}$ ) column rate ( $\text{cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$ )	$\tau$ (years)
CH <sub>4</sub>	$1.700 \times 10^5$	430	$1.098 \times 10^5$	665	$6.702 \times 10^4$	1090
CH <sub>3</sub> D	$4.347 \times 10^2$	431	$2.010 \times 10^2$	931	$1.620 \times 10^2$	1155
<sup>13</sup> CH <sub>4</sub>	$1.808 \times 10^3$	430	$1.165 \times 10^3$	668	$7.048 \times 10^2$	1104

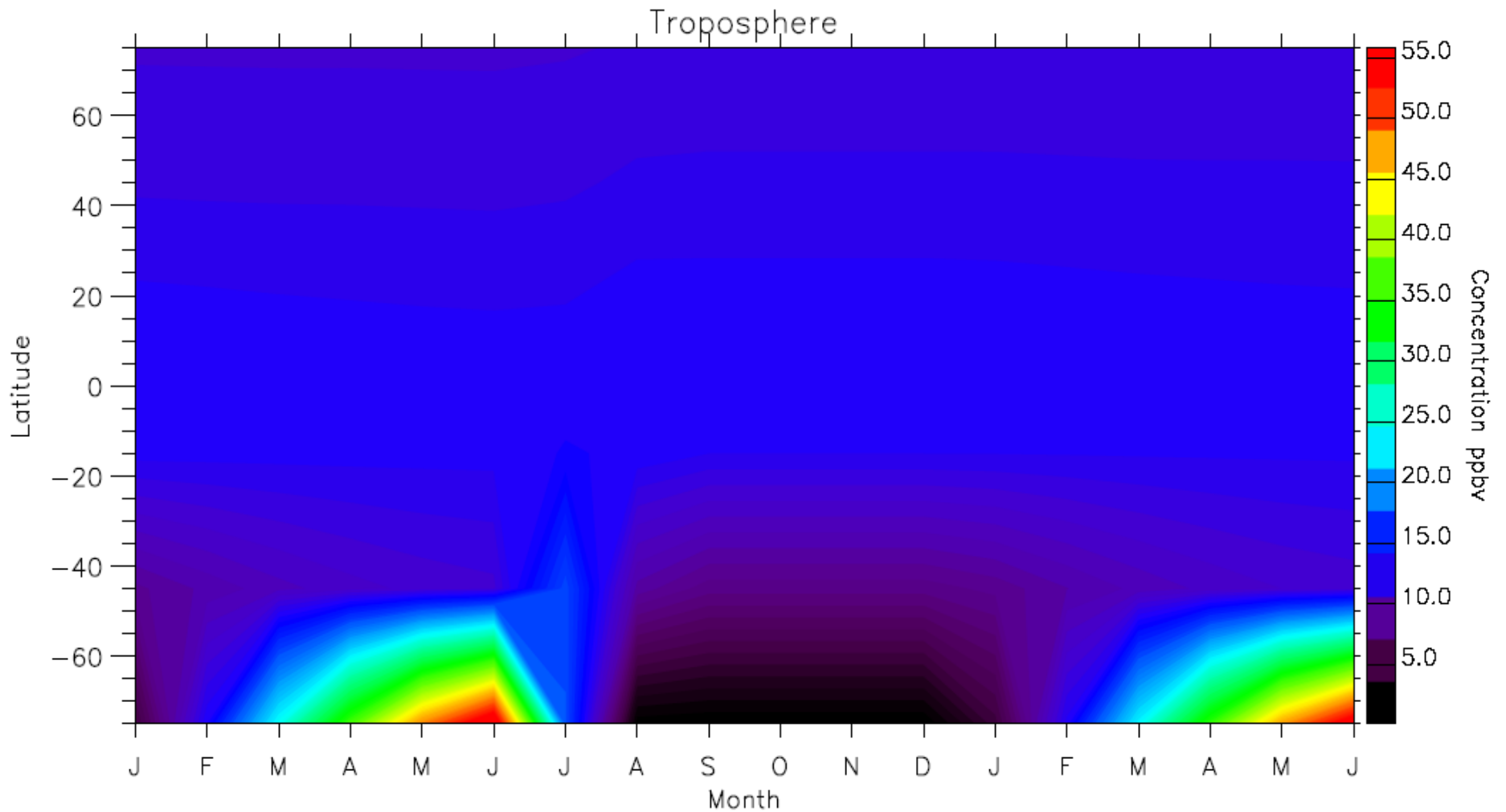
*(Nair, Summers, Miller, and Yung, ICARUS, 2005)*



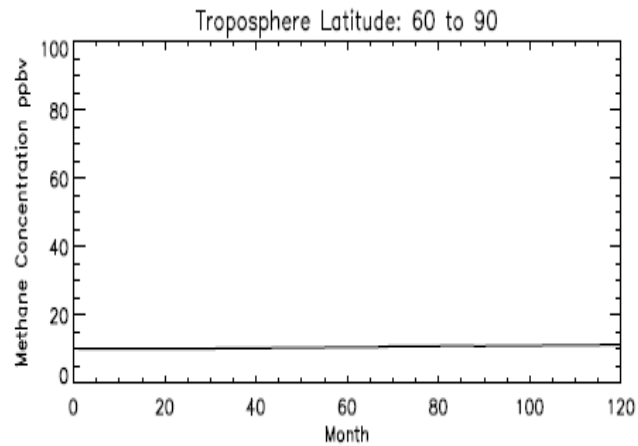
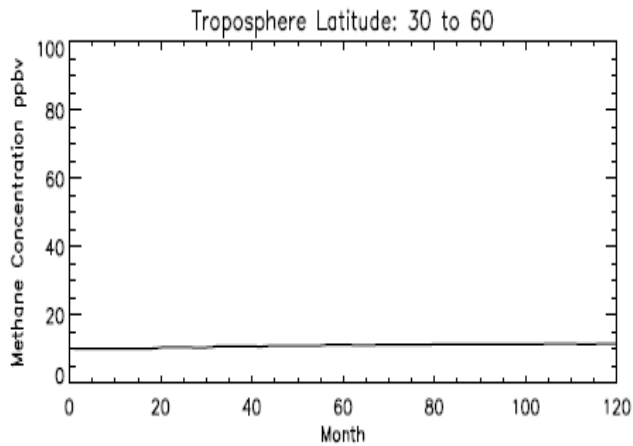
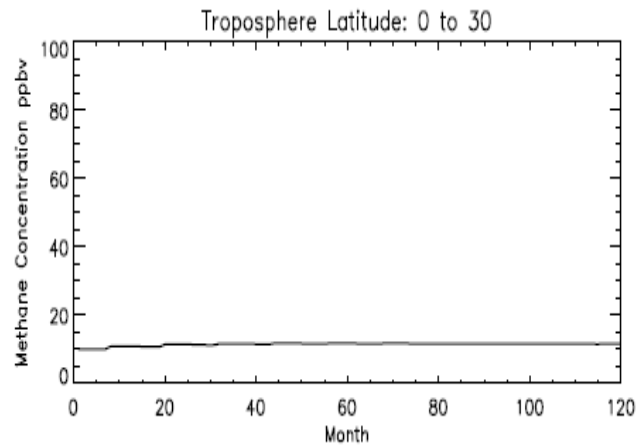
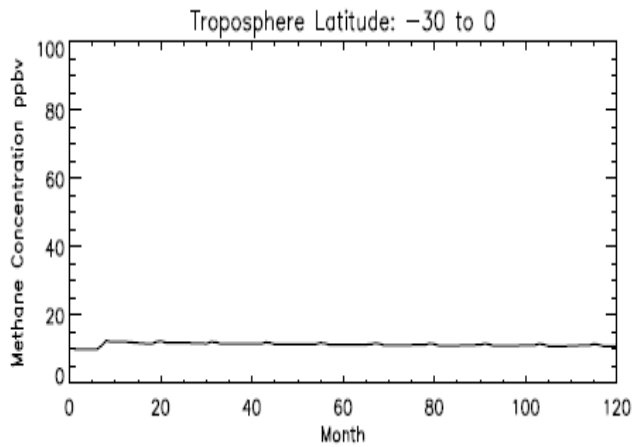
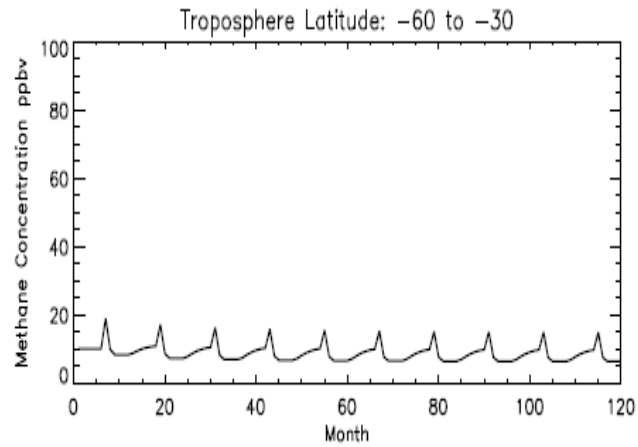
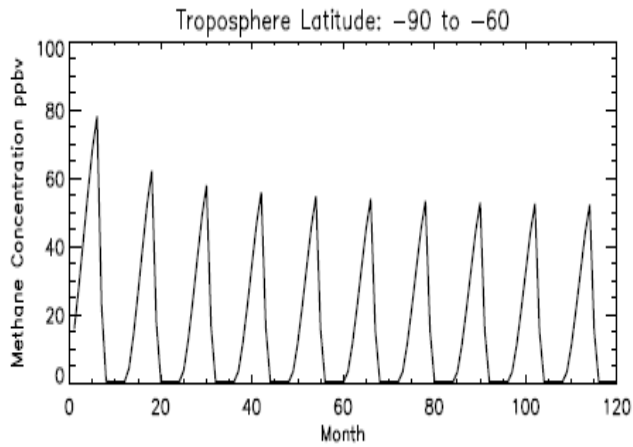


**This shows the residual circulation of the stream function. The solid lines represent a clockwise flow and the dotted a counterclockwise flow. The top left graph is for January, the top right for April, the bottom left for July, and the bottom right for October.**

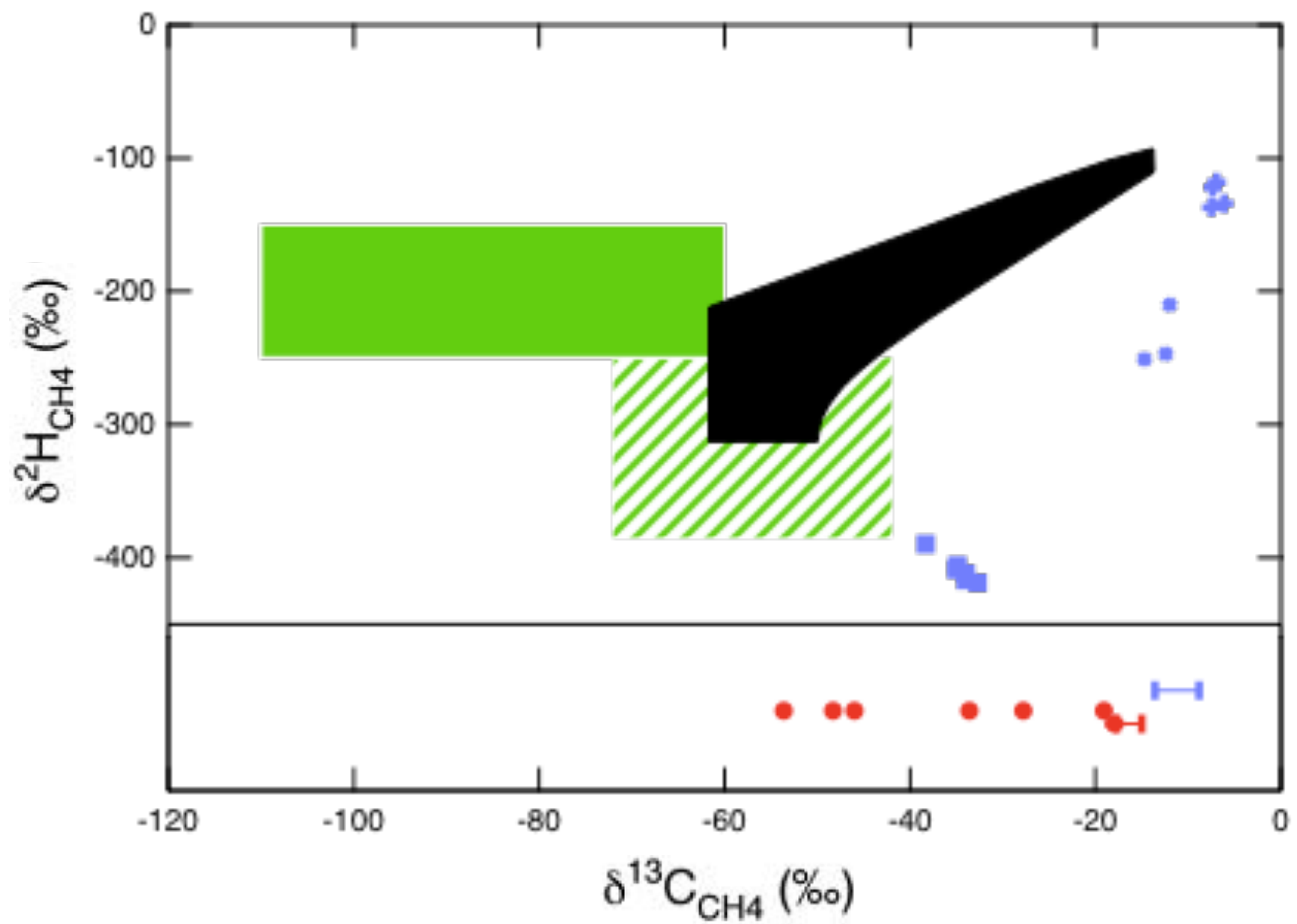




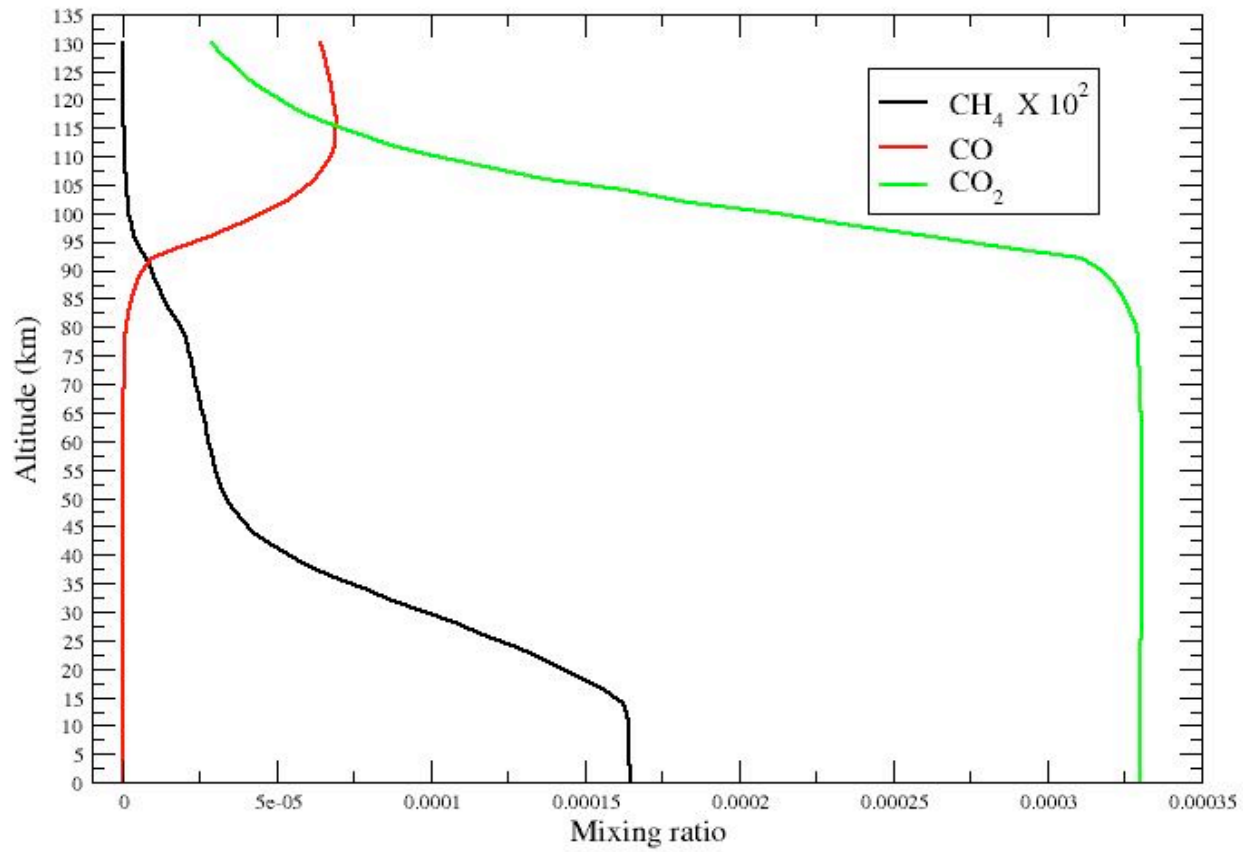
**This is a 3D representation of the methane concentration on Mars for the BASE model simulation for months 36 to 54. It is evident that the most change occurs in the southern polar regions.**

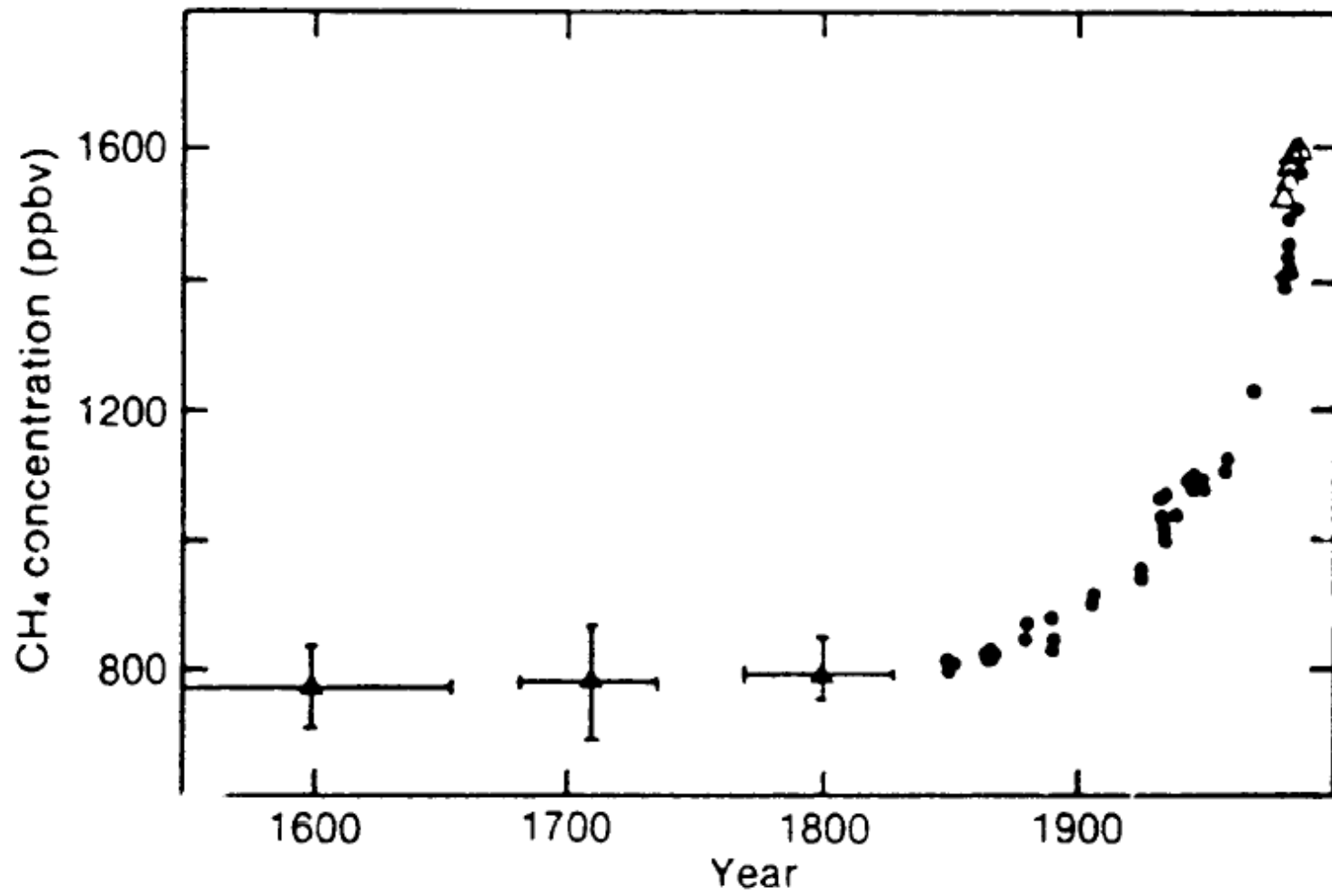


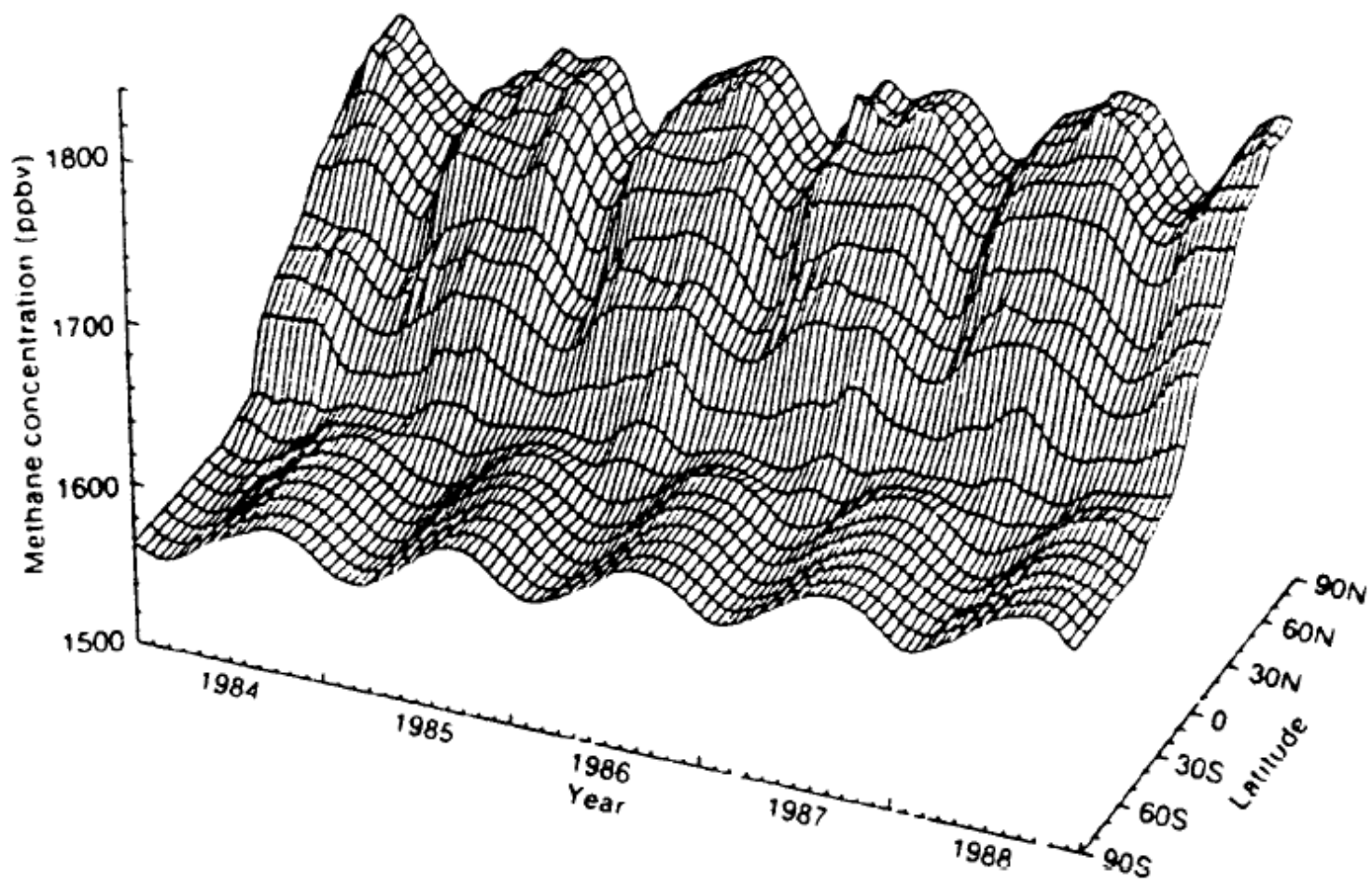
**This shows the Methane concentration for 6 boxes in the troposphere. Of particular interest is the top left graph, which represents the Southern pole where the concentration changes dramatically as a result of condensation and evaporation of Carbon Dioxide.**



## Carbon compounds earth







4400 Million years ago



*The Earth produced hydrogen  
from some of this water*



Oceans on Earth



Carbon dioxide exhaled from volcanoes in single-pass magma-transfer to produce the early atmosphere

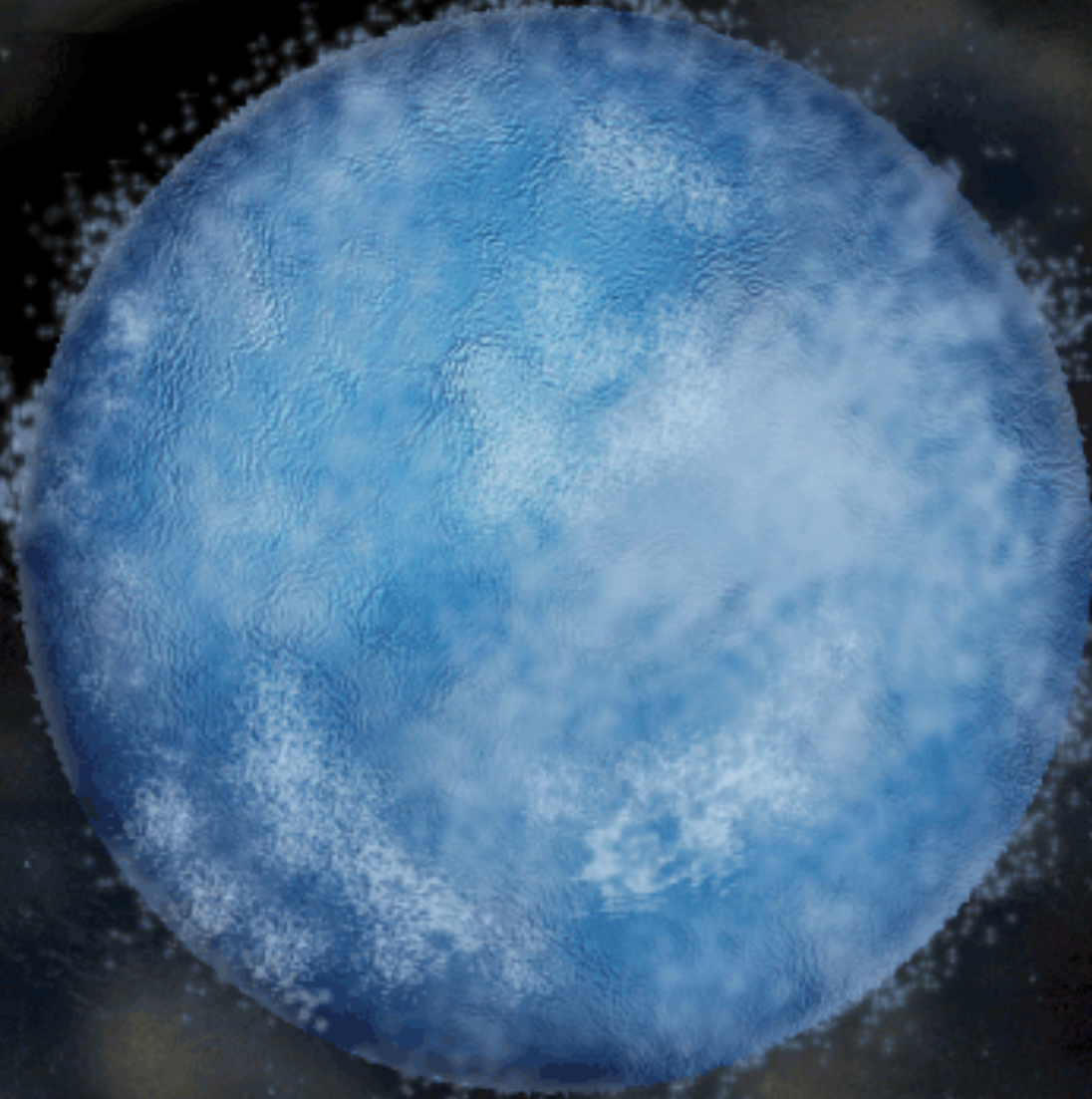
$\text{CO}_2 \gg \text{S}_8, \text{NO}$



*Cf. Anatahan, N Marianas (Credit: A. Sauter)*

4400 Million years ago

So the atmosphere was carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ )



Oceans on Earth

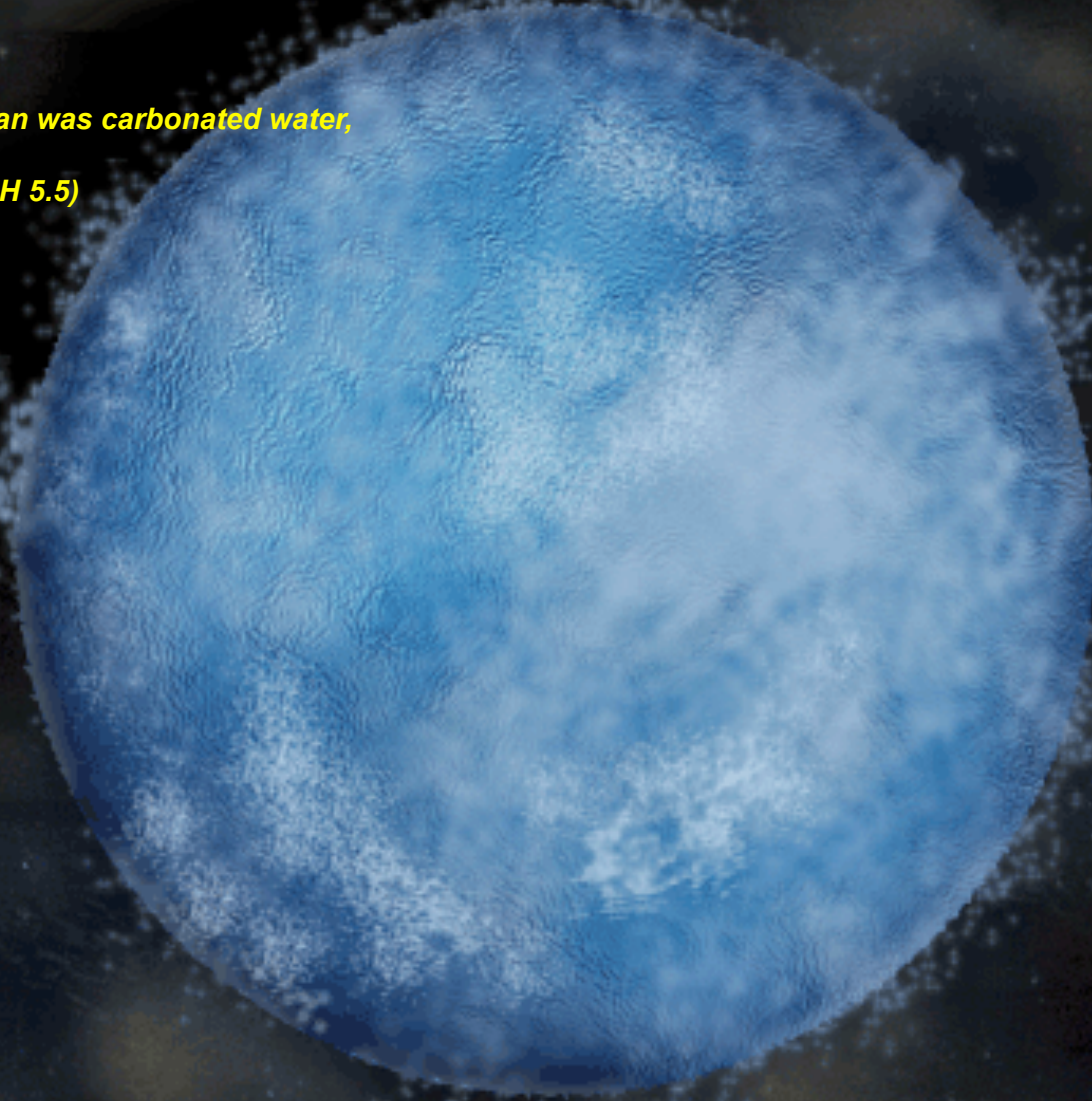


# 4400 Million years ago

*The atmosphere was carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>)*

*and the ocean was carbonated water,*

*i.e. acidic (pH 5.5)*



# Oceans on Earth



4400 Million years ago



*Hydrogen plus carbon dioxide  
react slowly to produce  
methane or acetate*



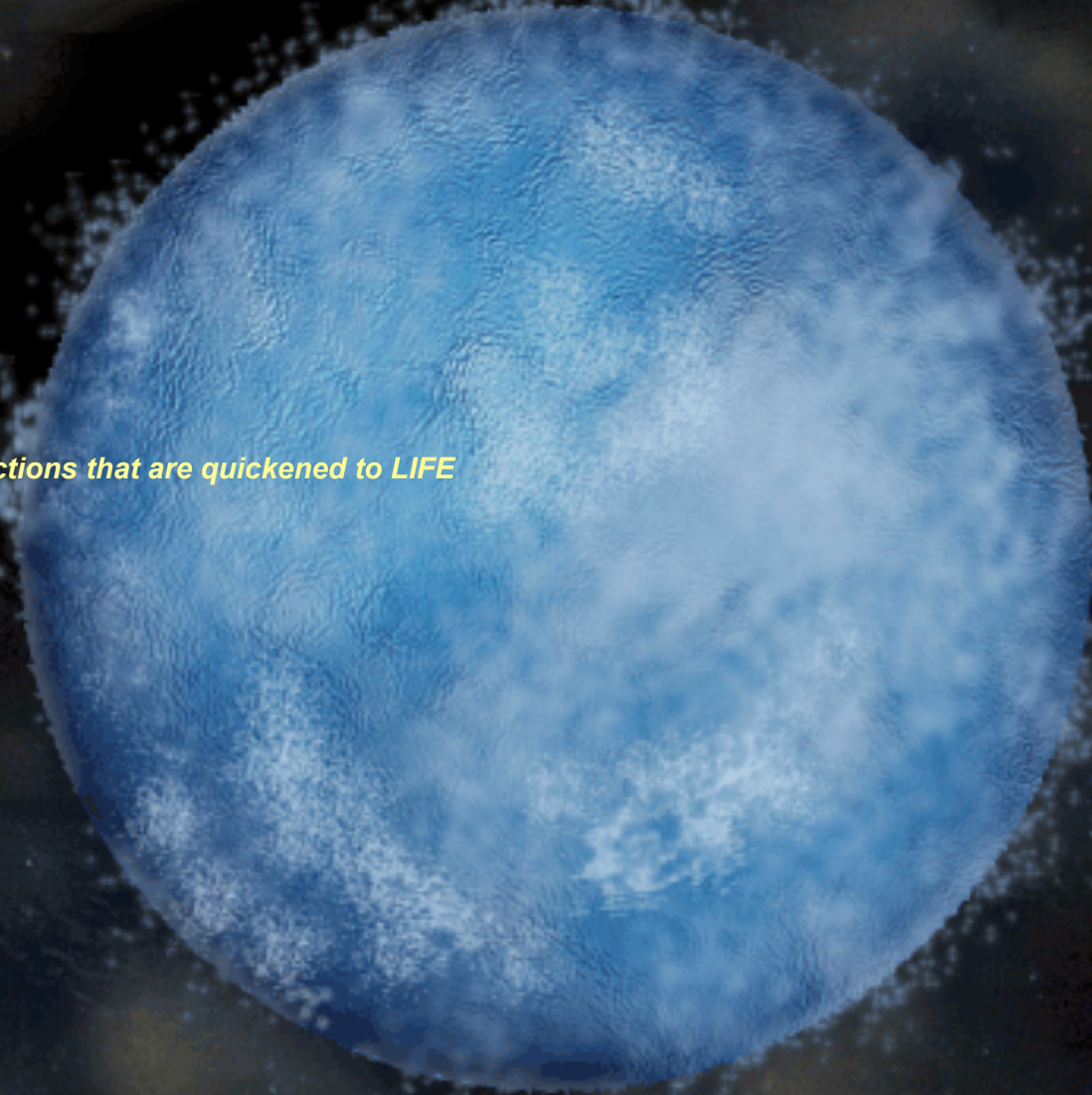
Oceans on Earth



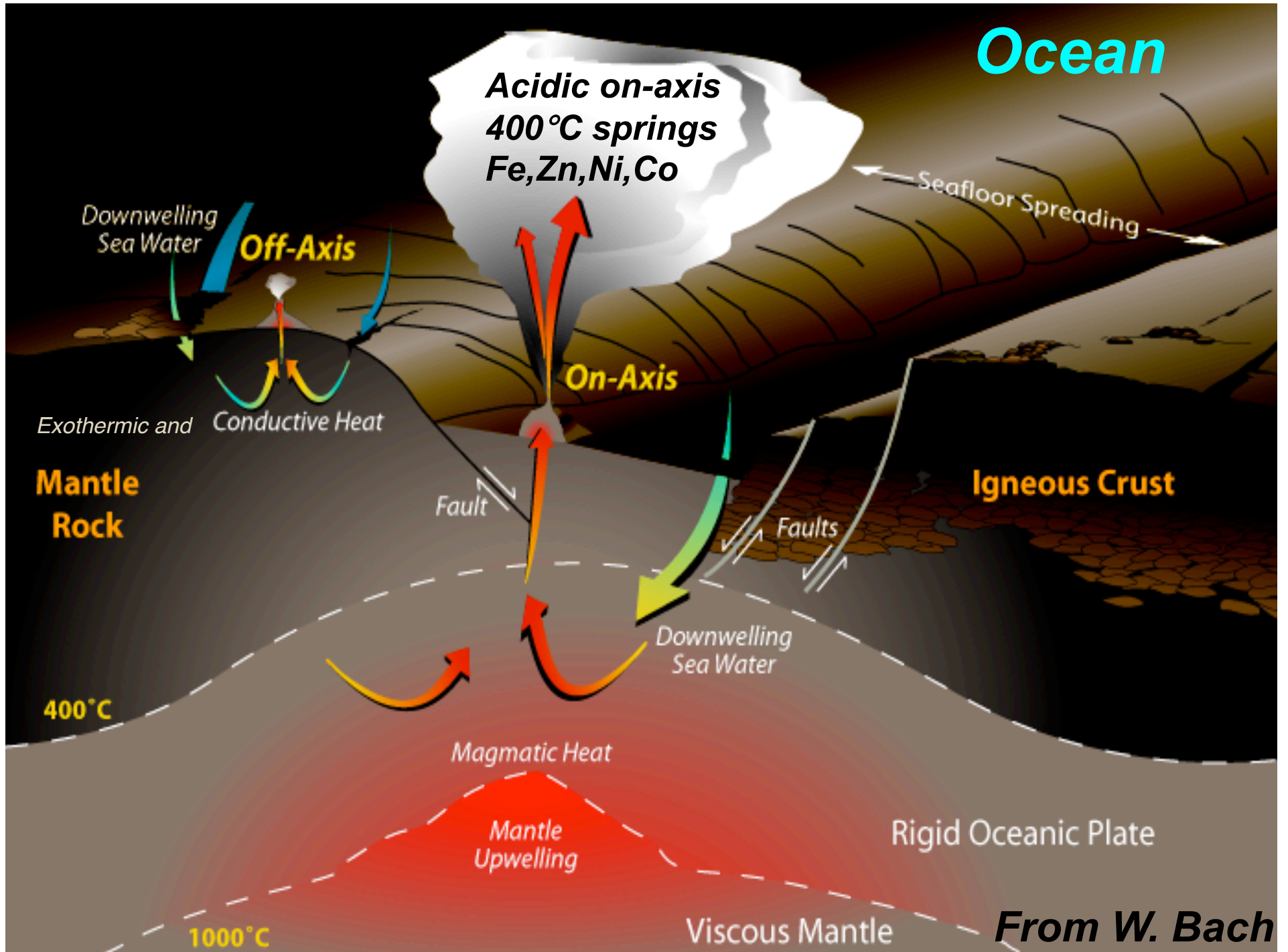
4400 Million years ago

*Reactions that are quickened to LIFE*

Oceans on Earth

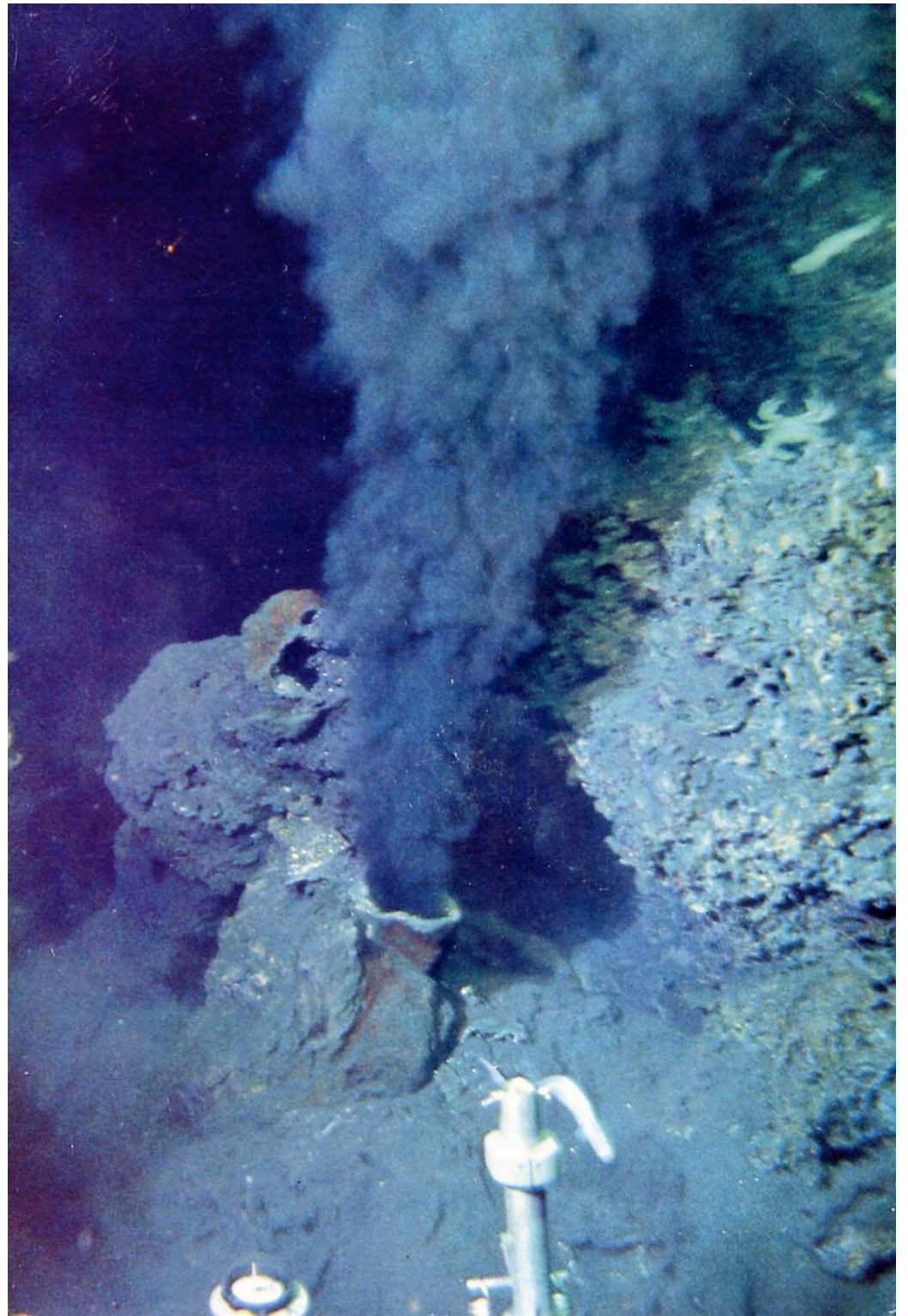






# *Black Smoker at 360 C, pH ~3.4 East Pacific Rise*

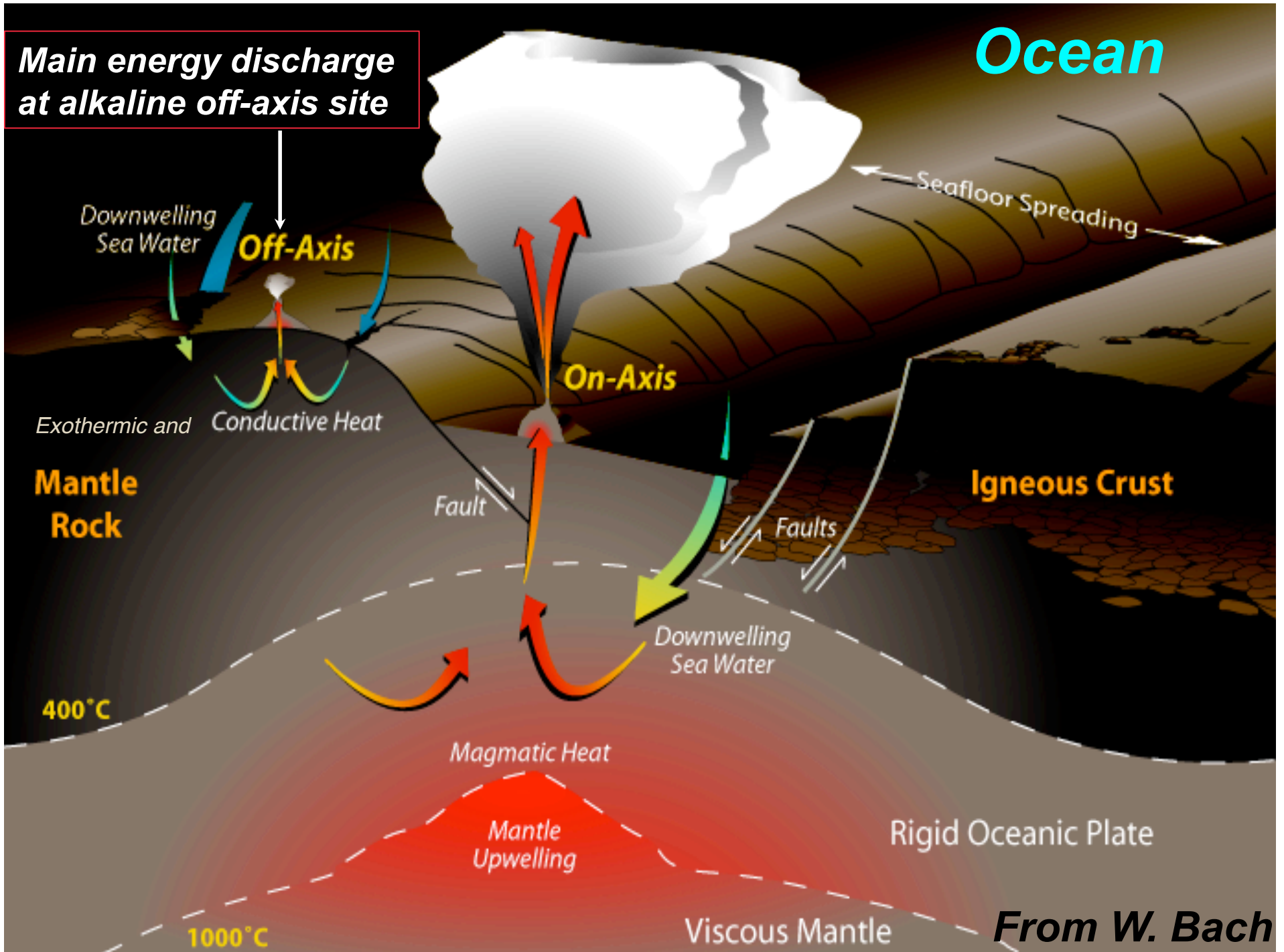
*Too hot,  
too acidic,  
too oxidized &  
too spasmodic*





**Main energy discharge at alkaline off-axis site**

**Ocean**



**From W. Bach**

12 July 2001

International weekly journal of science

# nature

ISSN 0028-0836

www.nature.com



Mars  
Nature Insight

compartments



## Hydrothermal vents in the 'Lost City'

**ALKALINE SUBMARINE  
SPRING**

$\text{CaCO}_3$

$\text{Mg(OH)}_2$

$\text{pH} \leq 11$

$T \leq 91^\circ\text{C}$

$\text{H}_2 \leq 15\text{mmol}$

$\sim 100,000$  years

*Kelley et al. 2001,  
Nature 412, 145  
Science 2005, 307  
Früh-Green + 2003,  
Science 301, 495  
Ludwig et al. 2005  
EOS, 86,V51B-1487*



# Lost City

7-20°C  
pH 9-11, CH<sub>4</sub>: 1-2 mM, H<sub>2</sub> = 10-15 mM

**Poseidon**  
60-91°C  
pH 10-11, CH<sub>4</sub>: 1-2 mM, H<sub>2</sub> = 10-15 mM

Caprock  
Breccia

Fissures

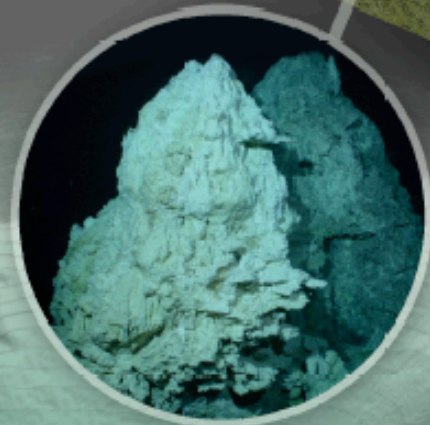
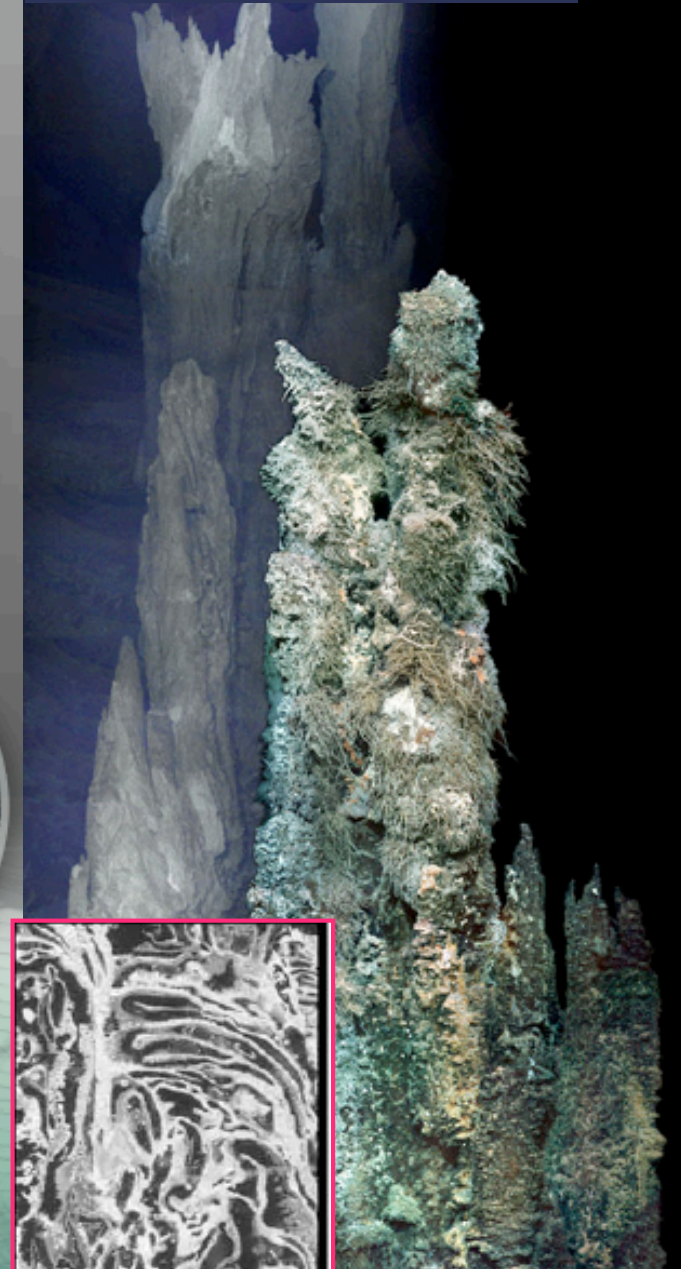
Seeps

conductive  
cooling

Serpentinization  
110-150°C



Abiotic H<sub>2</sub> >  
CH<sub>4</sub> > HCOO<sup>-</sup> > CH<sub>3</sub>COO<sup>-</sup>



**POSEIDON**  
Anaerobic methane-oxidizing archaea



SEEPS

*Martin et al. Nature Microbiol Rev 6, 805*  
credit: Deb Kelley



# Serpentinization Reactions

SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>

40°C

90°C

120°C

*Boetius, 2005 Science, 307, 1420*

**A**

$$\begin{aligned} &(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4 + \text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{C} = \\ &\text{Mg}_3\text{SiO}_5(\text{OH})_4 + \text{Mg}(\text{OH})_2 + \\ &\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 + \text{H}_2 + \text{CH}_4 + \text{C}_2 - \text{C}_5 \\ &+ \text{CHOO}^- \end{aligned}$$

Olivine + water + carbon = serpentine + brucite + magnetite + hydrogen + methane + hydrocarbons + *formate*



# Lost City Vent Field MAR 30°N

N

chalk beds

unconformity

S

active & inactive  
spires with flanges

S-facing  
cliff face

pelagic ooze &  
basaltic rubble

foliated serpentinite  
& metagabbro



Ophicalcite:  
Carbonate net veins  
in serpentinite

~ 50 m

no vertical exaggeration

N-dipping  
normal faults

flanges and  
veins in  
cliff face

Früh-Green et al., 2003 Science 301, 495

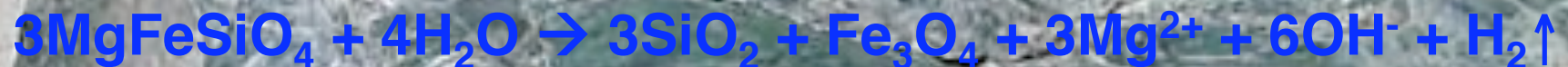


# Serpentinite



*overall reaction:*

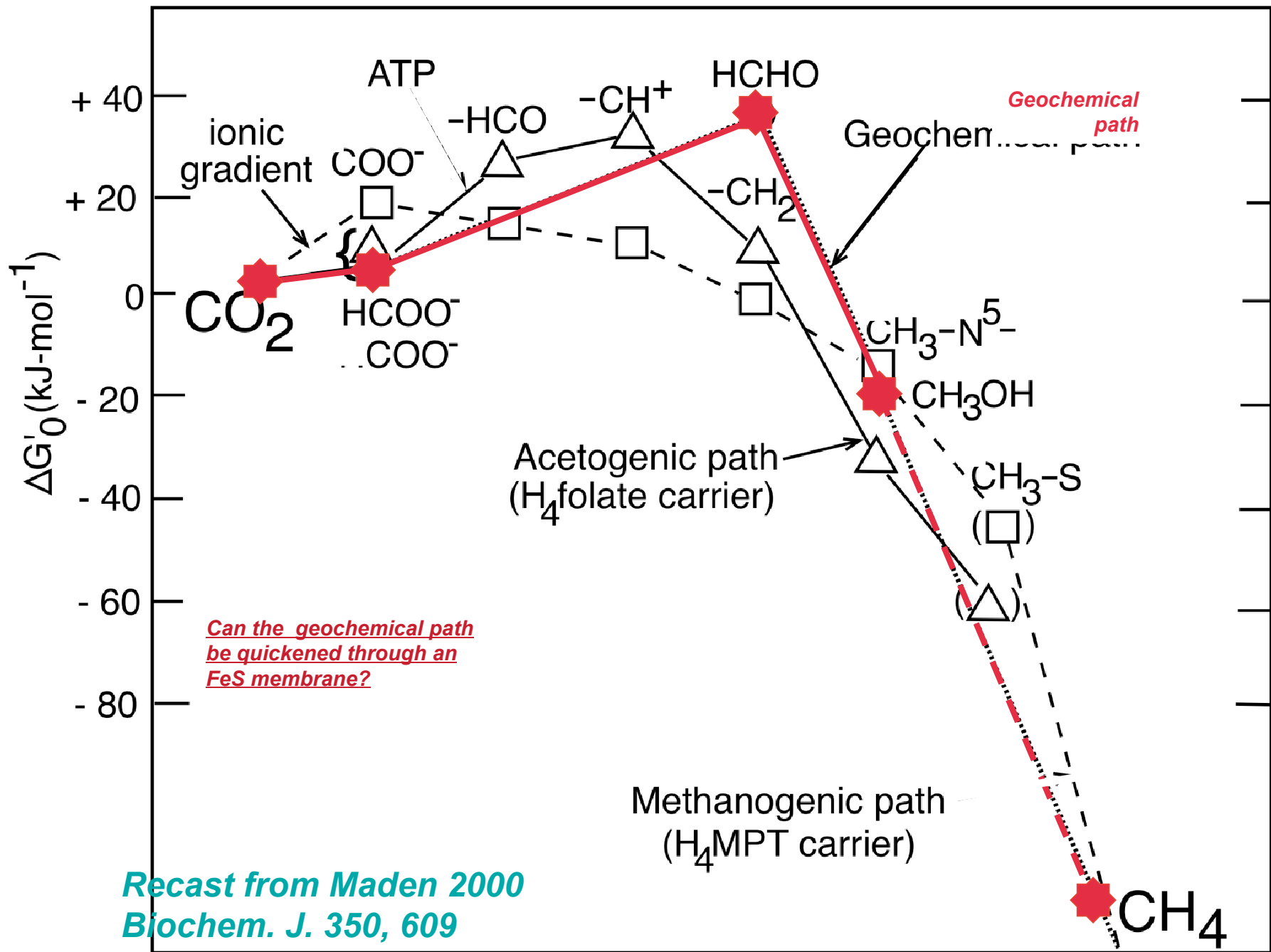
*olivine + water  $\rightarrow$  magnetite + serpentine + alkali +  $\text{H}_2\uparrow$*

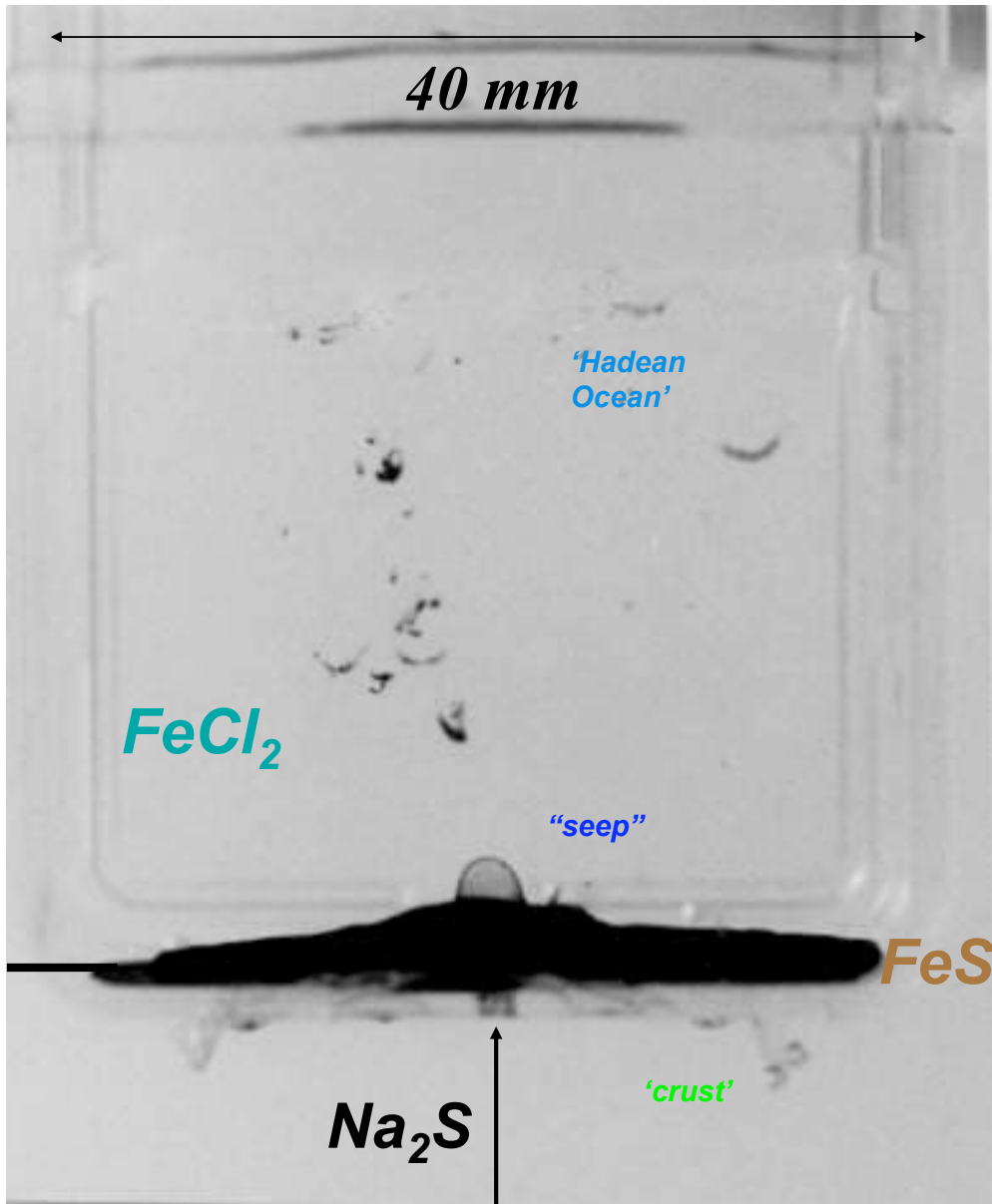


*and  $\text{CH}_4 > \text{HCOO}^- > \text{CH}_3\text{COO}^-$*

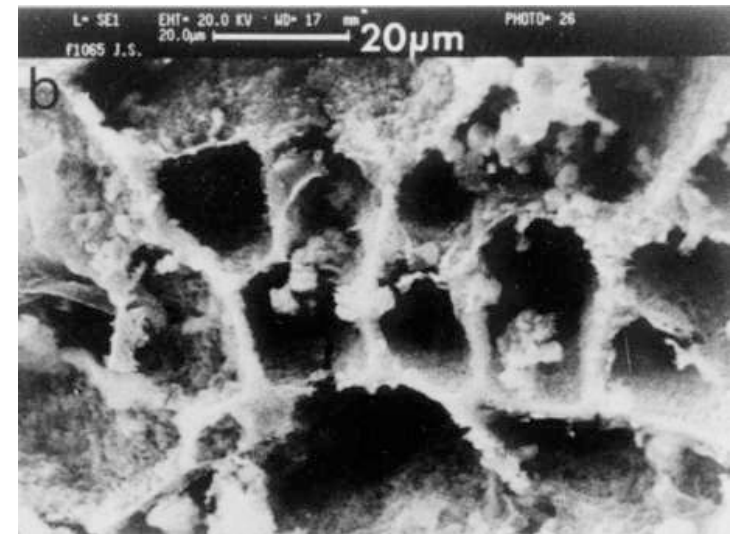
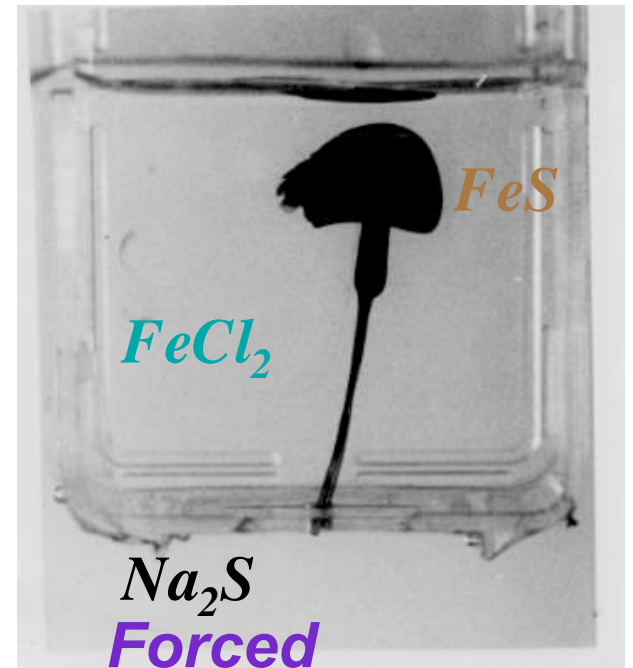
*Bach et al. 2006 Geophys. Res. Lett, 33, L1330*

**State rock of California**





Simulation of an **alkaline** seepage into **acidulous** ocean

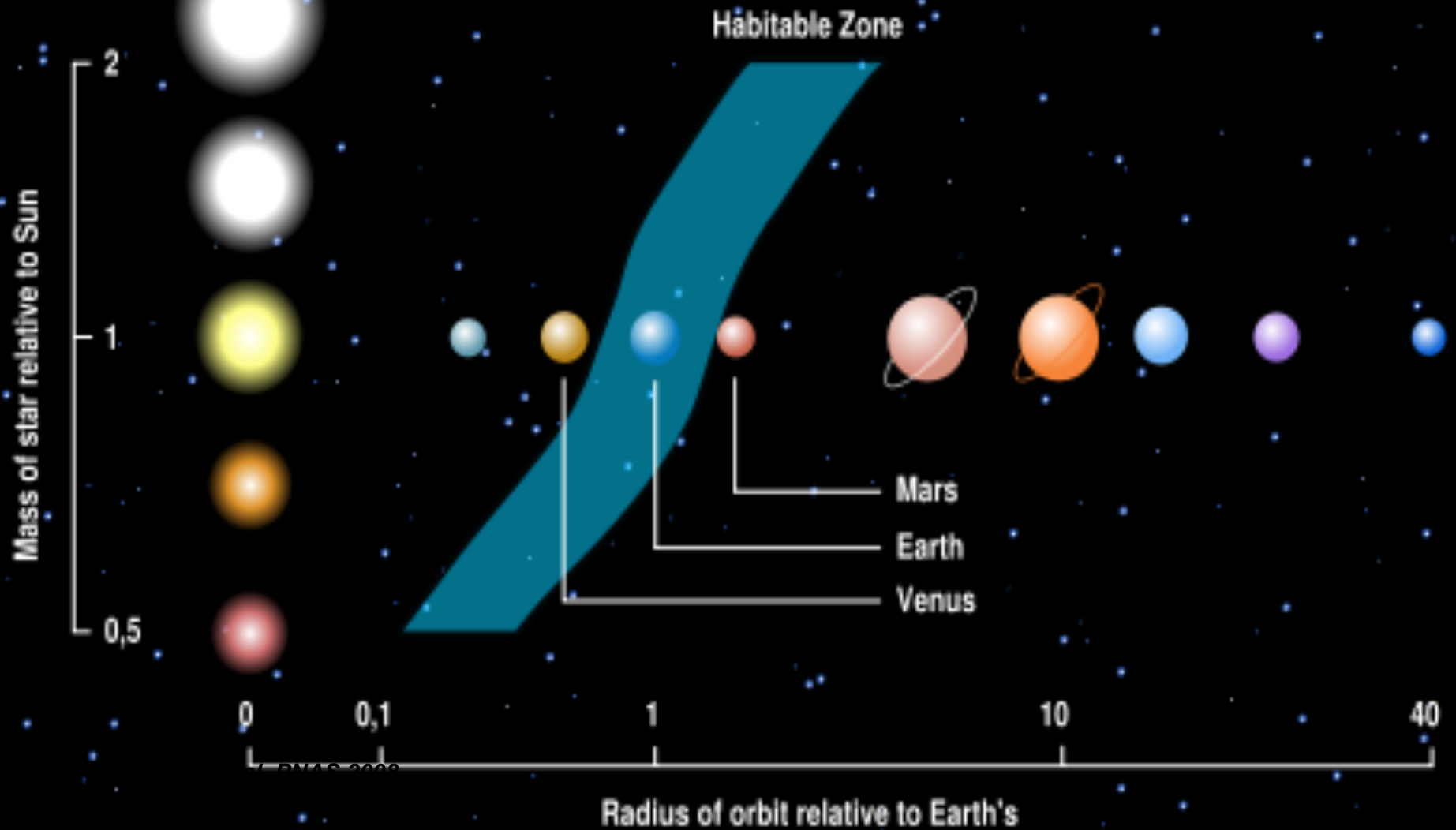


**FeS compartments**

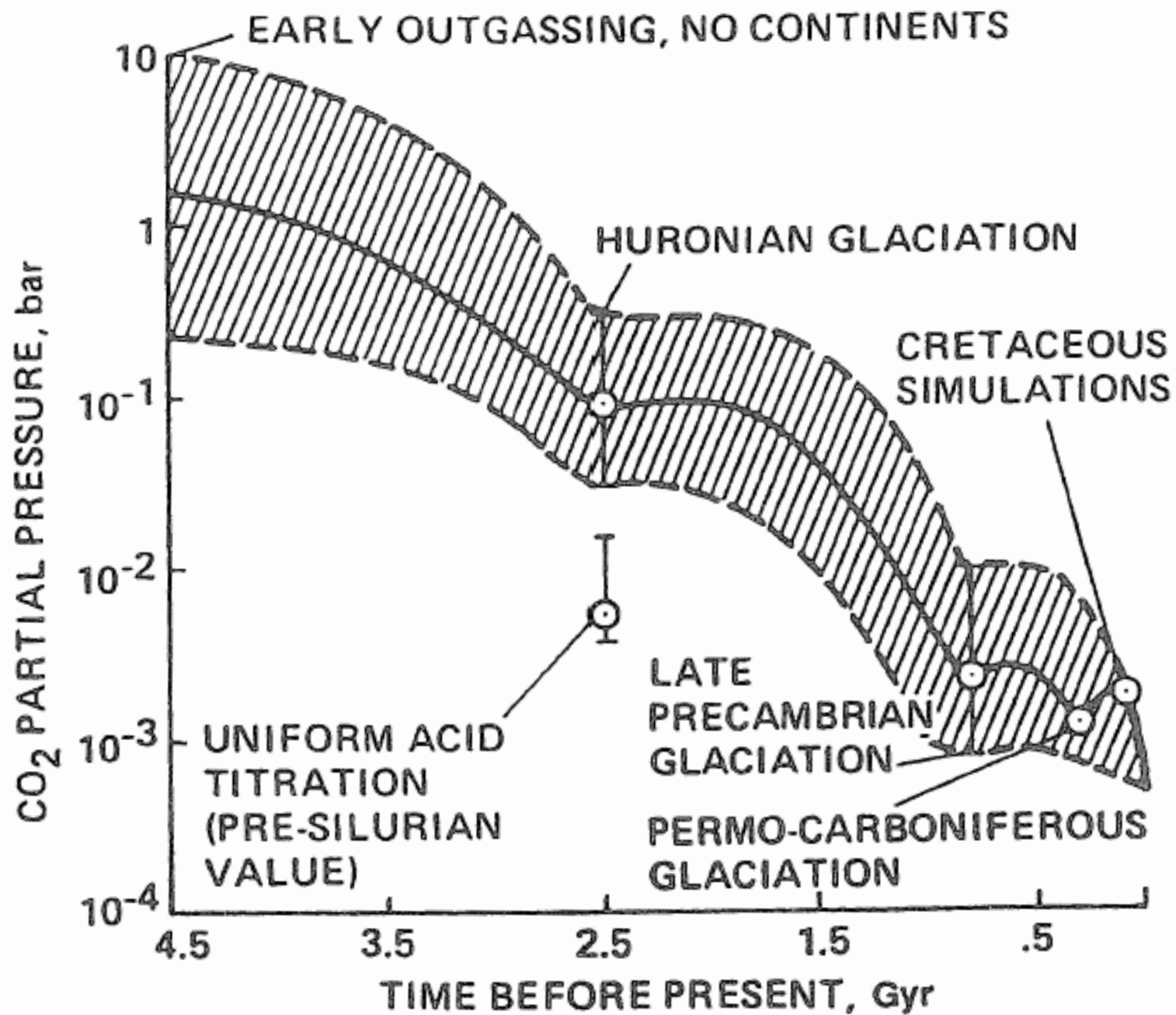
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# Habitable Zone







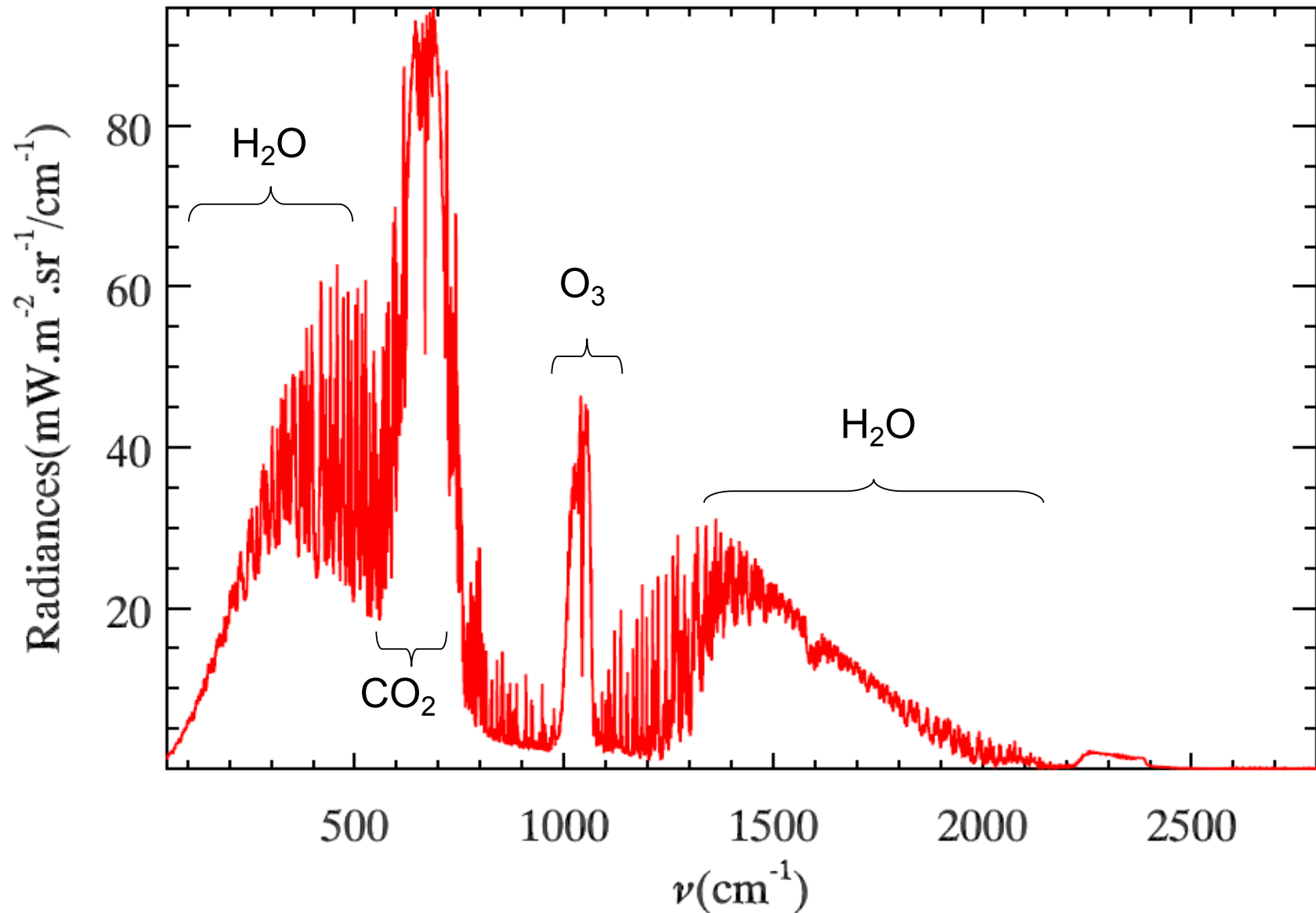
# ❖ Earth (Snowball, Gaia Lifeboat)

*Liang et al. PNAS 2007*

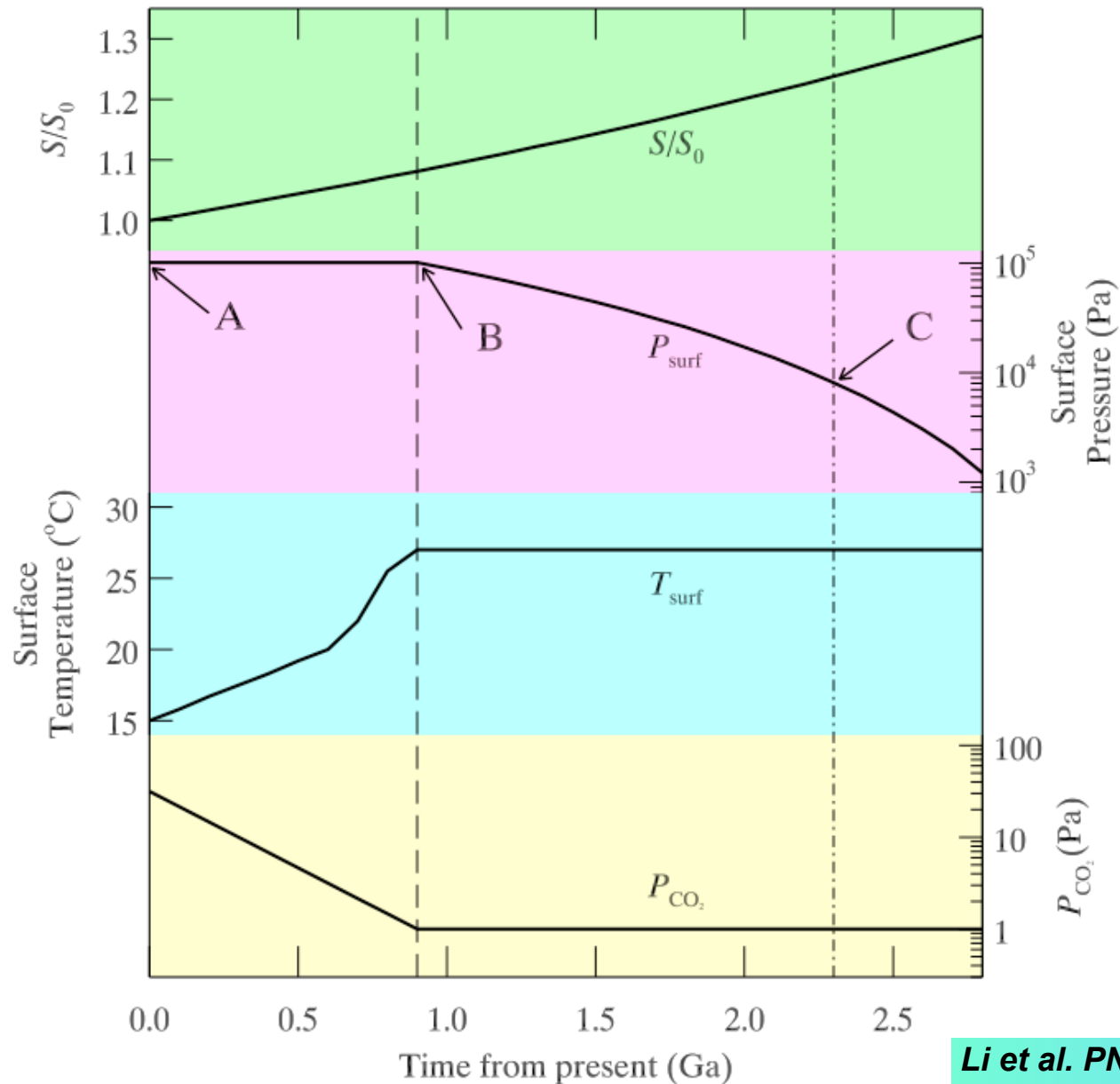
*Li et al. PNAS 2009 (in press)*



# Absorption in Earth's Atmosphere

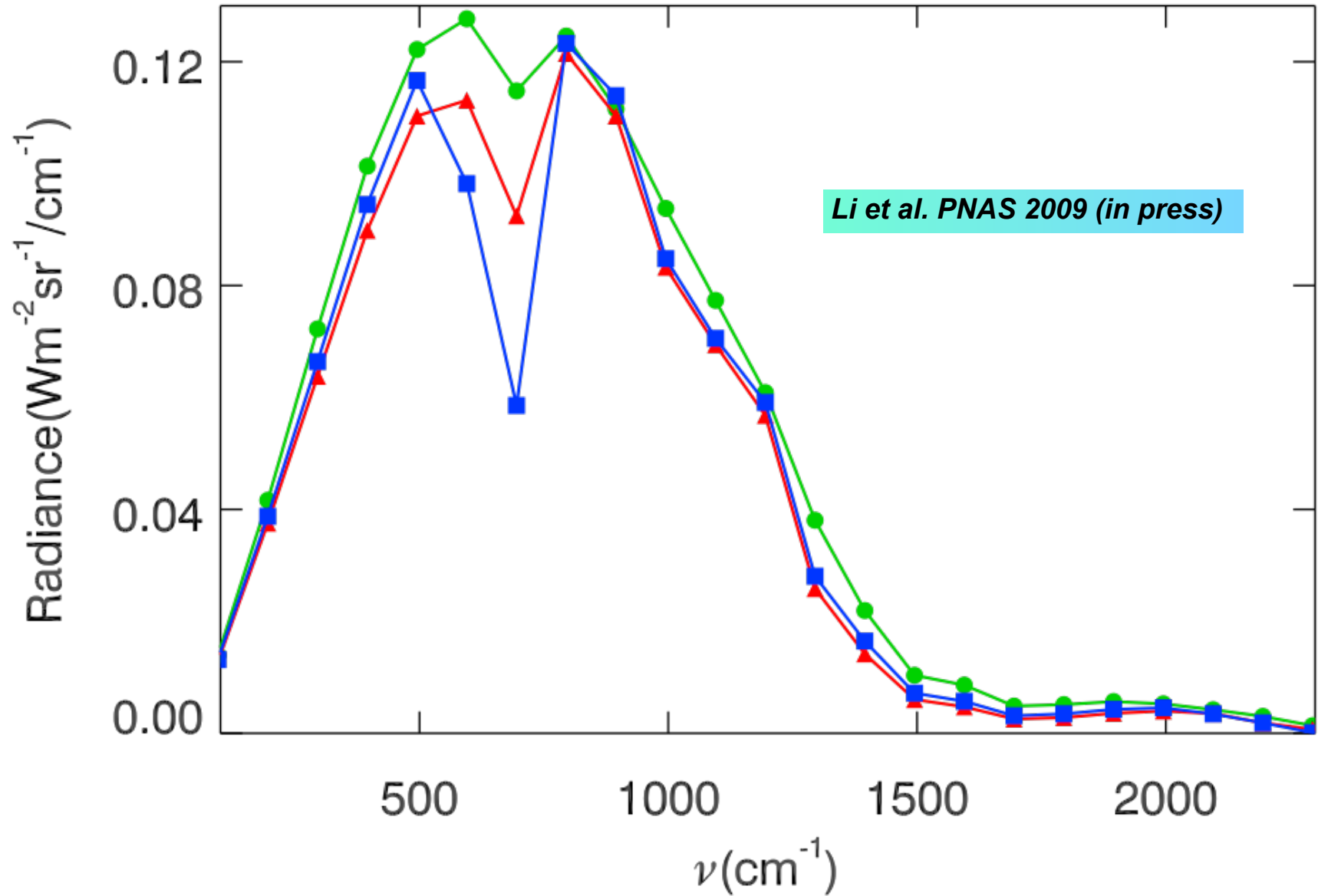


# Extending the Lifespan by Regulating Pressure



Li et al. PNAS 2009 (in press)

# Testable Hypothesis



# *Conclusions: Chemistry*

*Planets have evolved*

*Isotopic composition provides clues*

*Look of life supporting chemistry*



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