



# Atmospheres of Exoplanets

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# Today's Outline

- ❖ Compare with our planets
- ❖ H<sub>2</sub>O, CO, CO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>4</sub>
- ❖ Hydrocarbons?
- ❖ Sulfur, Nitrogen species?
- ❖ Lessons from solar system

**Table 1.3 List of three most abundant gases in planetary atmospheres. Mixing ratios are given in parenthesis. All compositions refer to the surface or 1 bar.**

Jupiter	H <sub>2</sub> (0.93)	He (0.07)	CH <sub>4</sub> ( $3 \times 10^{-3}$ )
Saturn	H <sub>2</sub> (0.96)	He (0.03)	CH <sub>4</sub> ( $4.5 \times 10^{-3}$ )
Uranus	H <sub>2</sub> (0.82)	He (0.15)	CH <sub>4</sub> ( $2.3 \times 10^{-2}$ )
Neptune	H <sub>2</sub> (0.80)	He (0.19)	CH <sub>4</sub> ( $1 - 2 \times 10^{-2}$ )
Titan	N <sub>2</sub> (0.95 – 0.97)	CH <sub>4</sub> ( $3.0 \times 10^{-2}$ )	H <sub>2</sub> ( $2 \times 10^{-3}$ )
Triton	N <sub>2</sub> (0.99)	CH <sub>4</sub> ( $2.0 \times 10^{-4}$ )	CO (< 0.01)
Pluto	N <sub>2</sub> (?)	CH <sub>4</sub> (?)	CO (?)
Io	SO <sub>2</sub> (0.98)	SO (0.05)	O (0.01)
Mars	CO <sub>2</sub> (0.95)	N <sub>2</sub> ( $2.7 \times 10^{-2}$ )	Ar ( $1.6 \times 10^{-2}$ )
Venus	CO <sub>2</sub> (0.96)	N <sub>2</sub> ( $3.5 \times 10^{-2}$ )	SO <sub>2</sub> ( $1.5 \times 10^{-4}$ )
Earth	N <sub>2</sub> (0.78)	O <sub>2</sub> (0.21)	Ar ( $9.3 \times 10^{-3}$ )

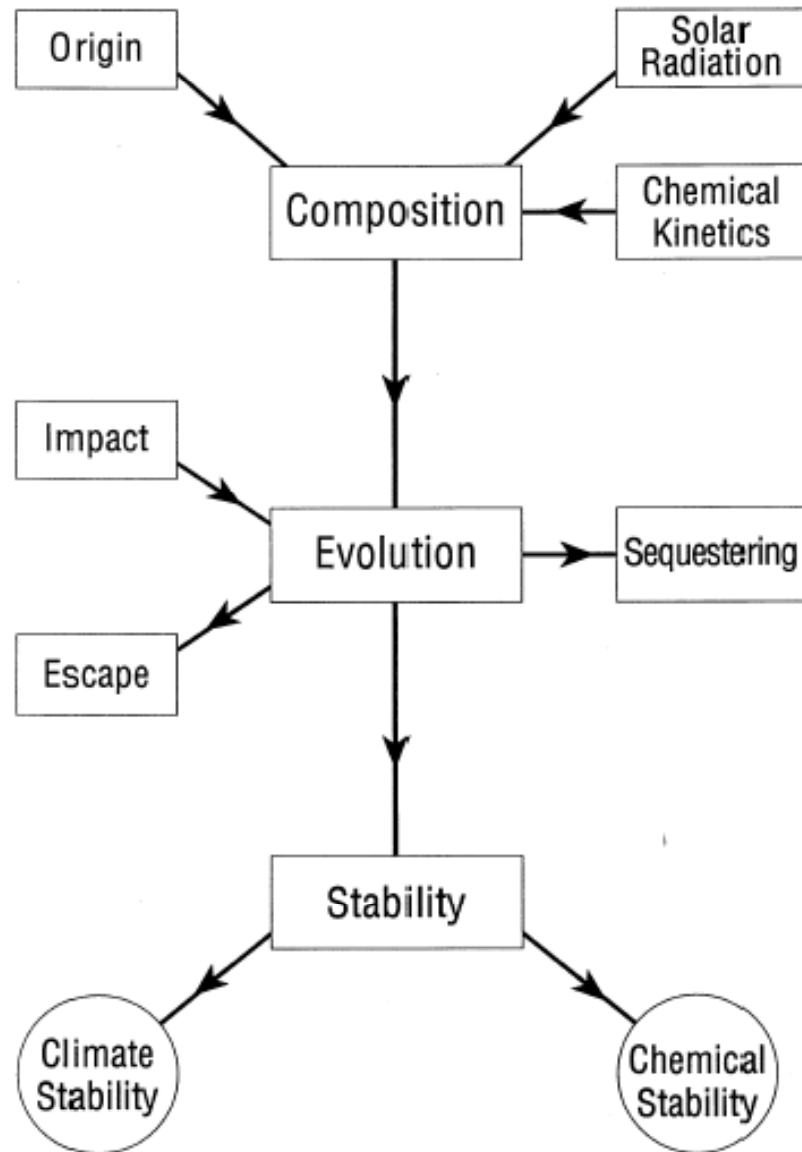
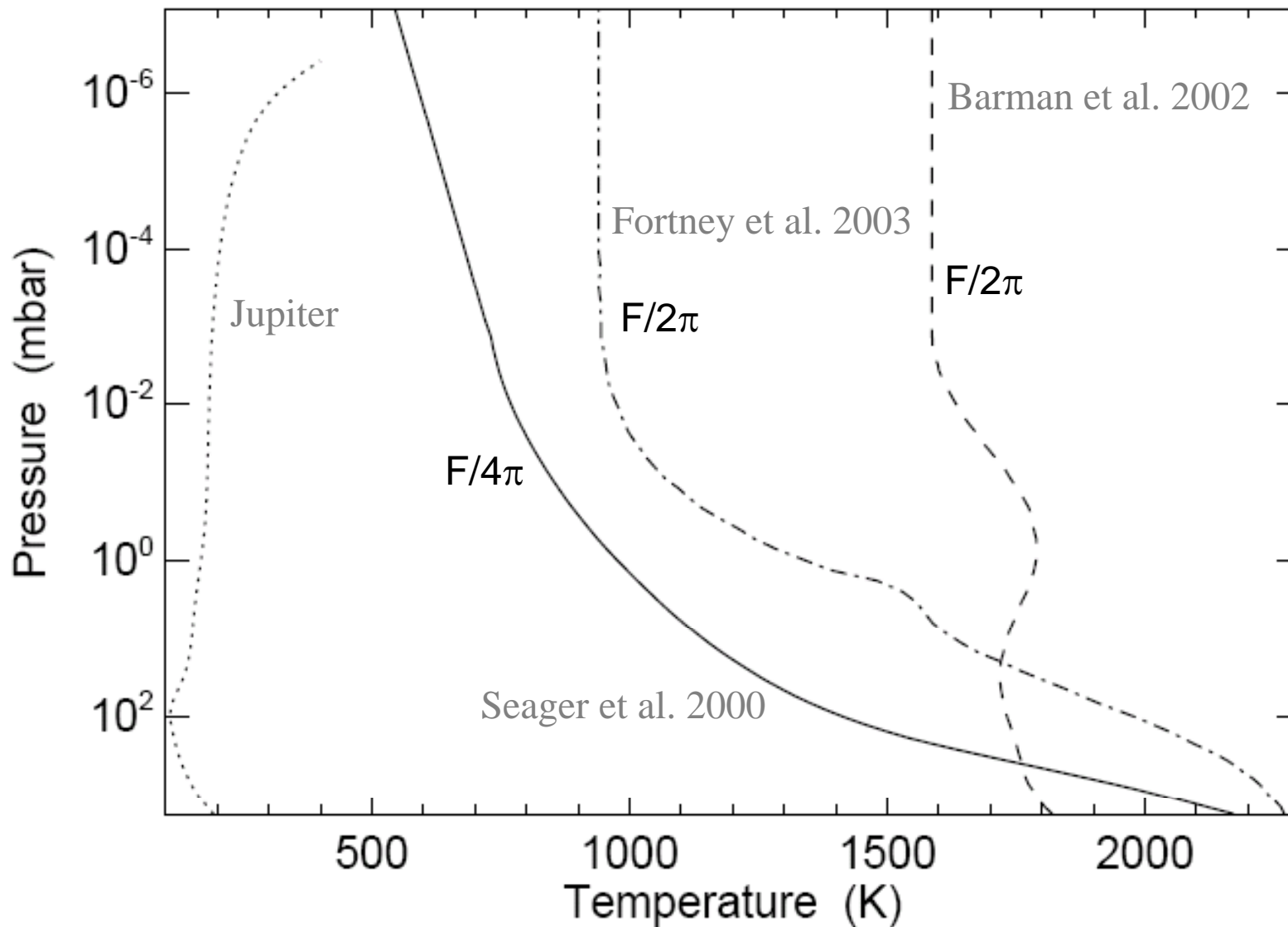
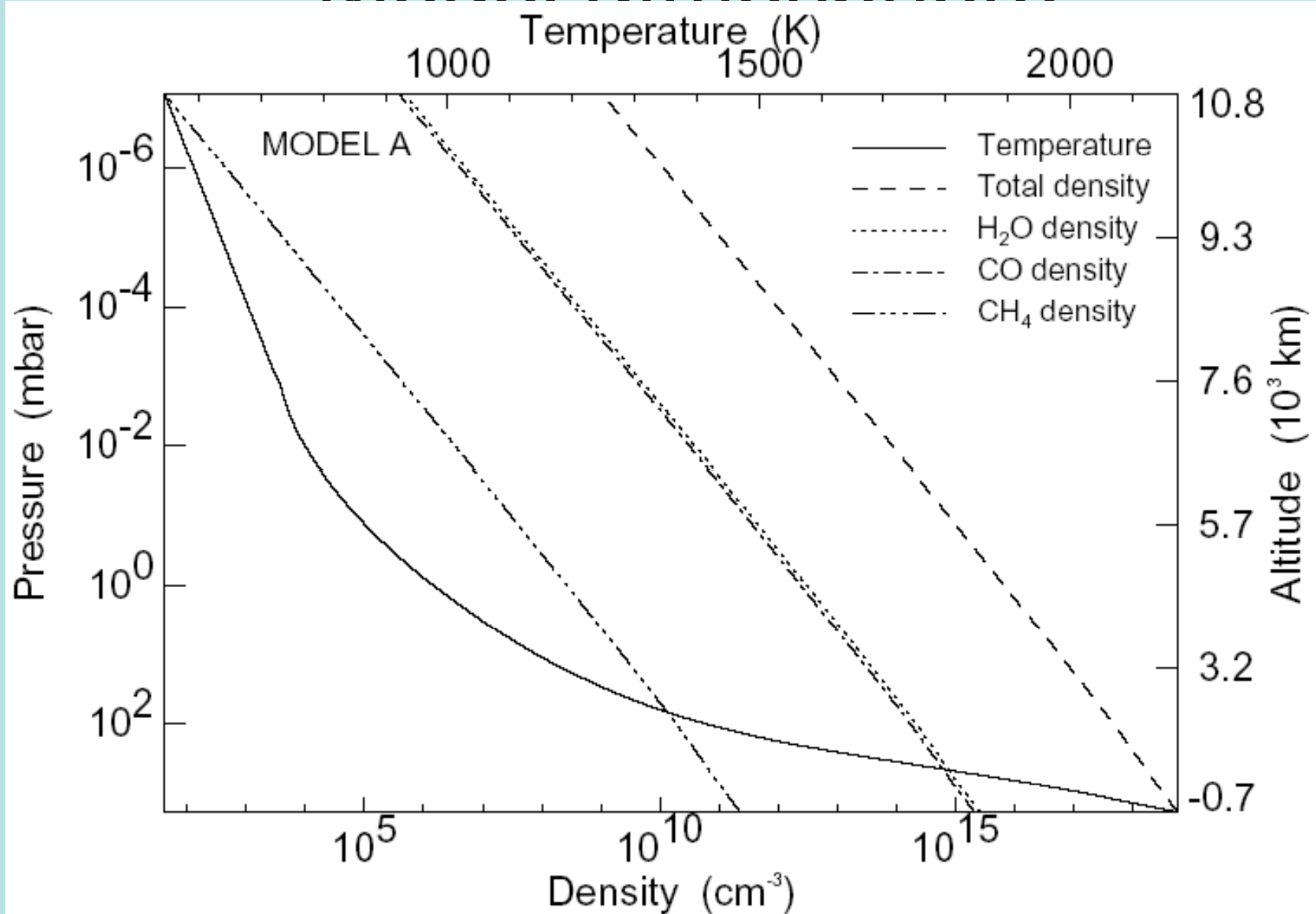


Figure 1.1

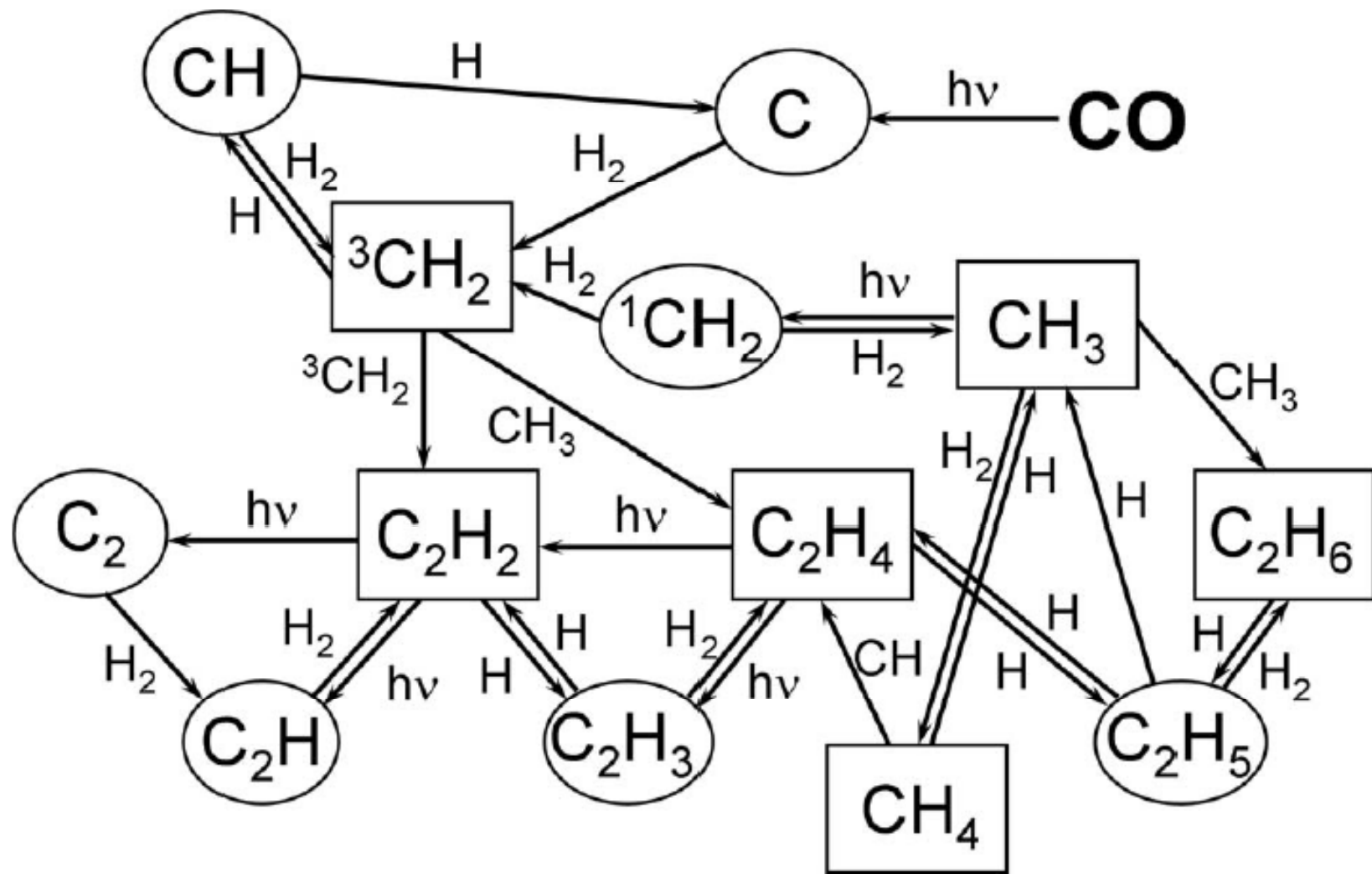
# Temperature profiles



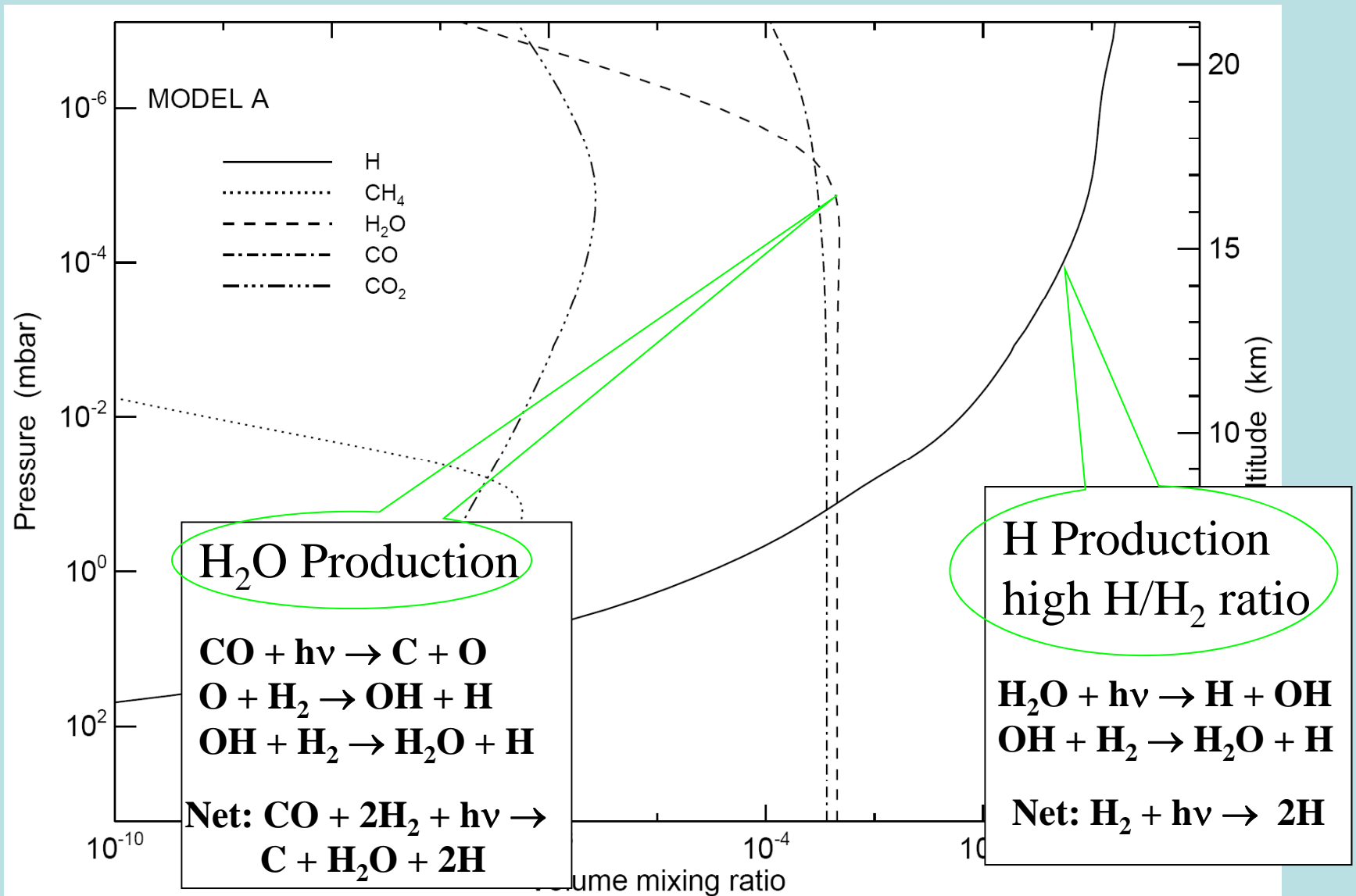
# Model atmosphere







# Atomic Hydrogen

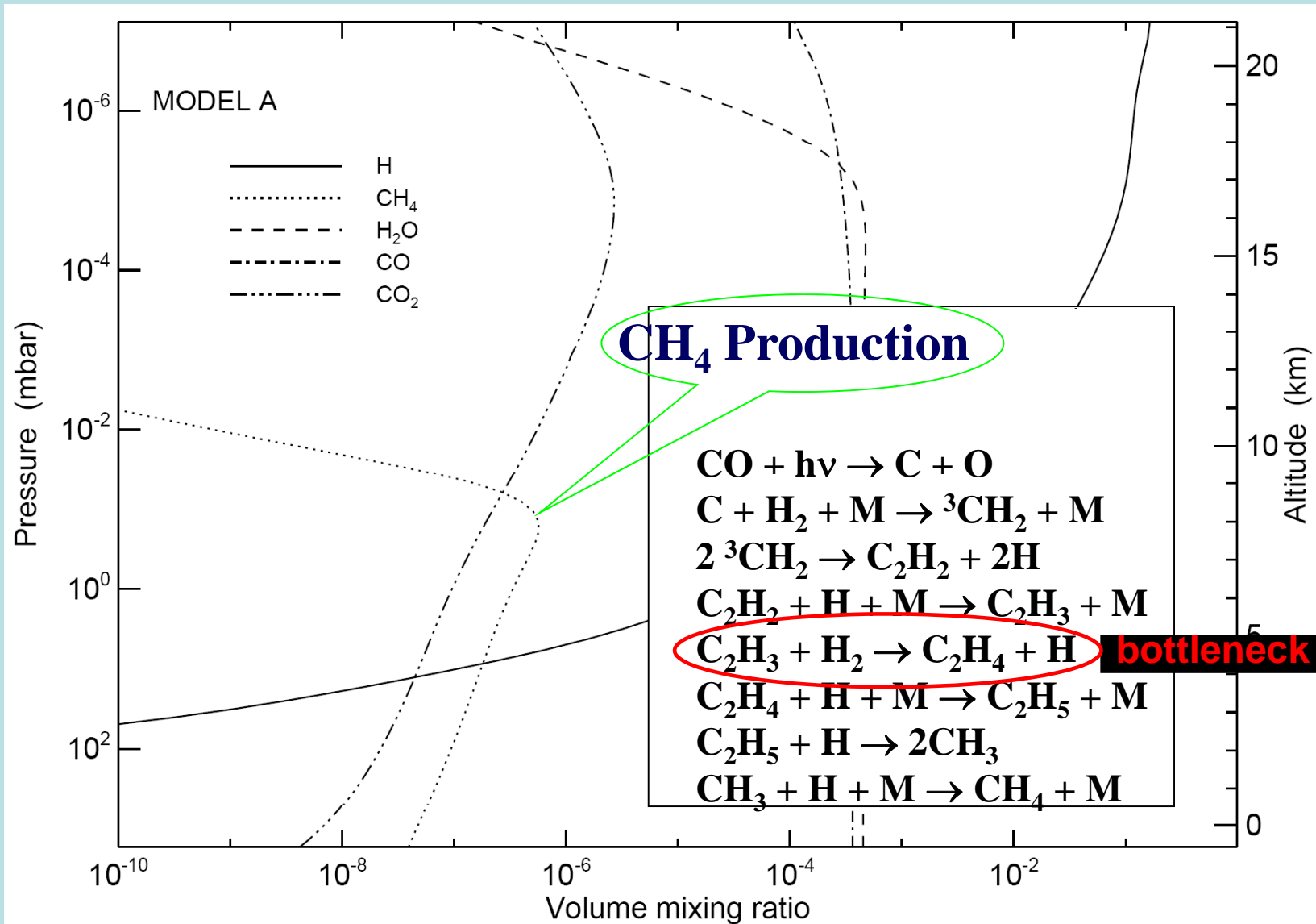


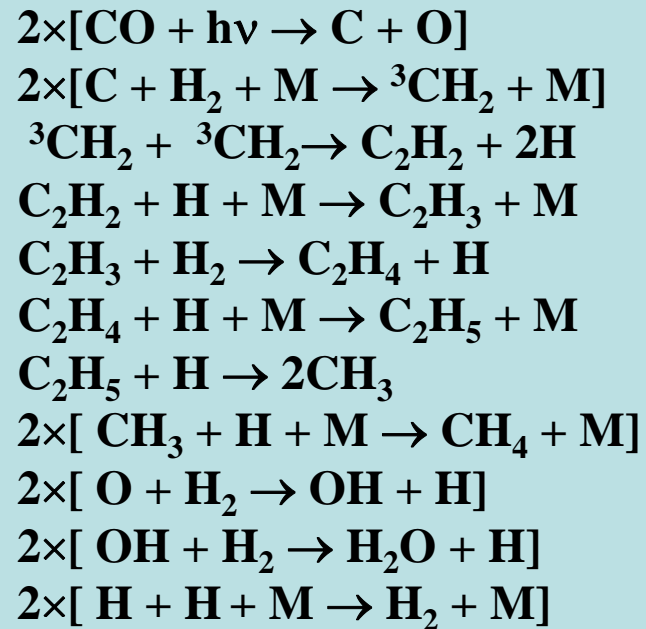


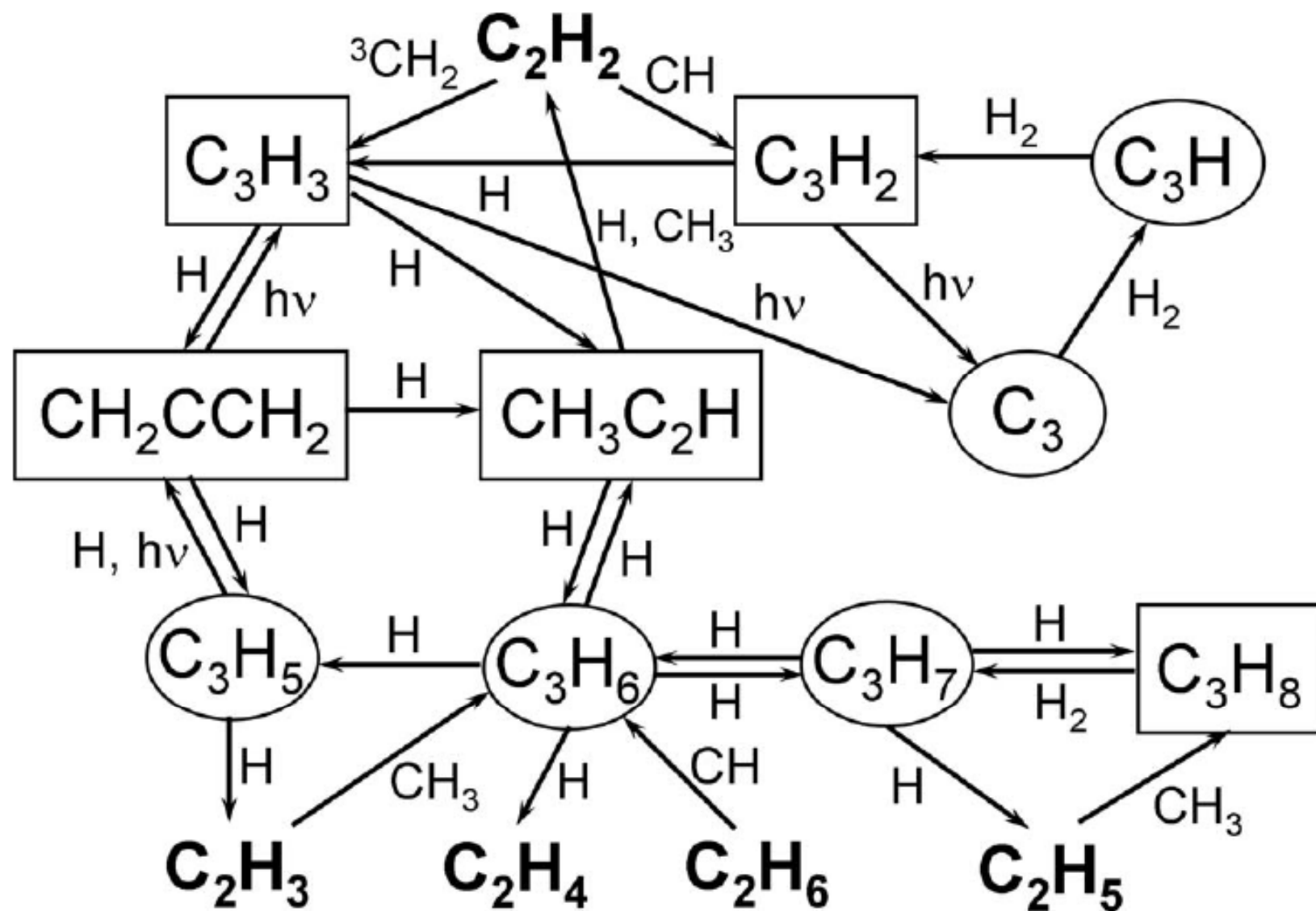
**HD209458b**



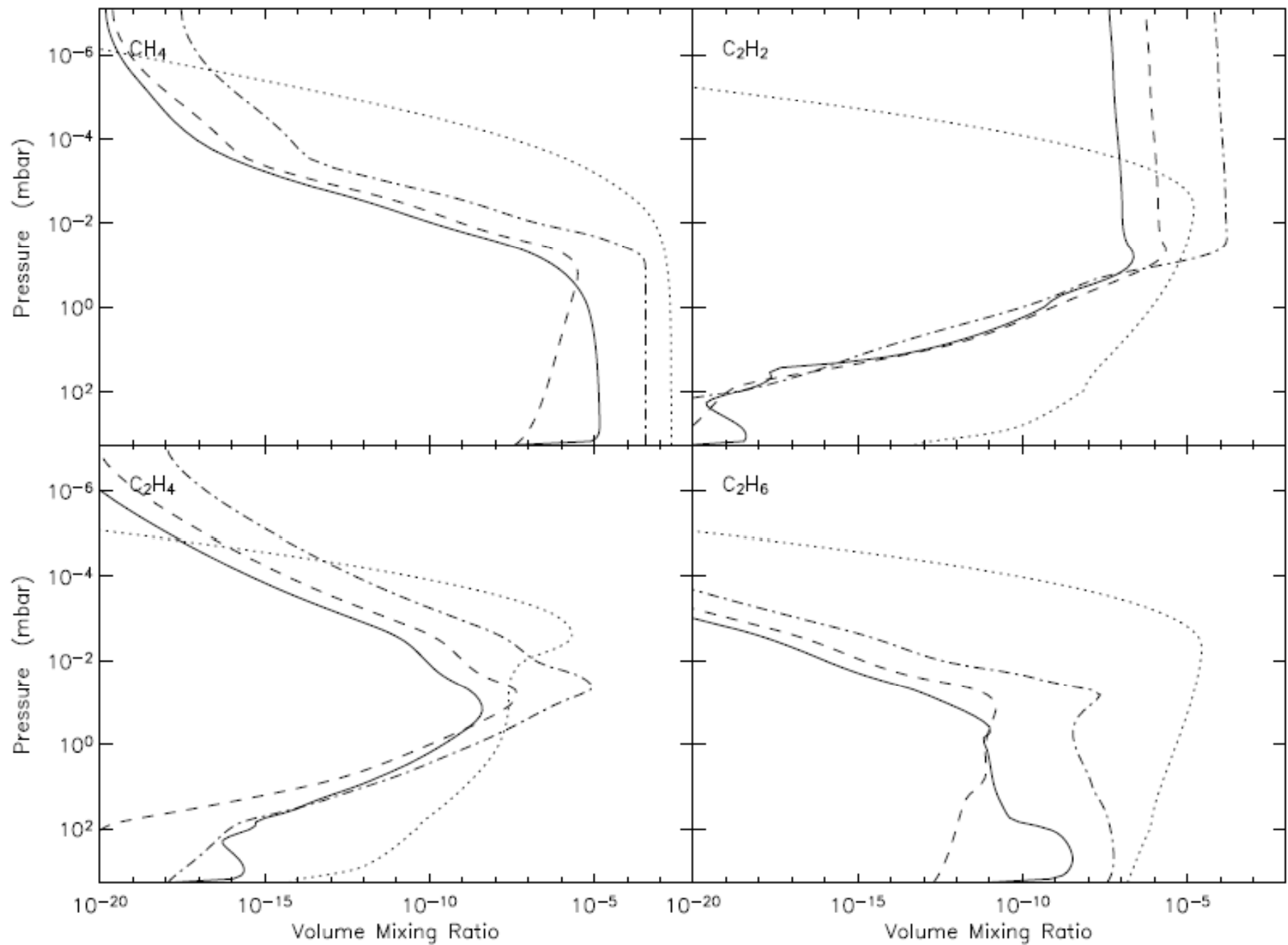
# Hydrocarbons

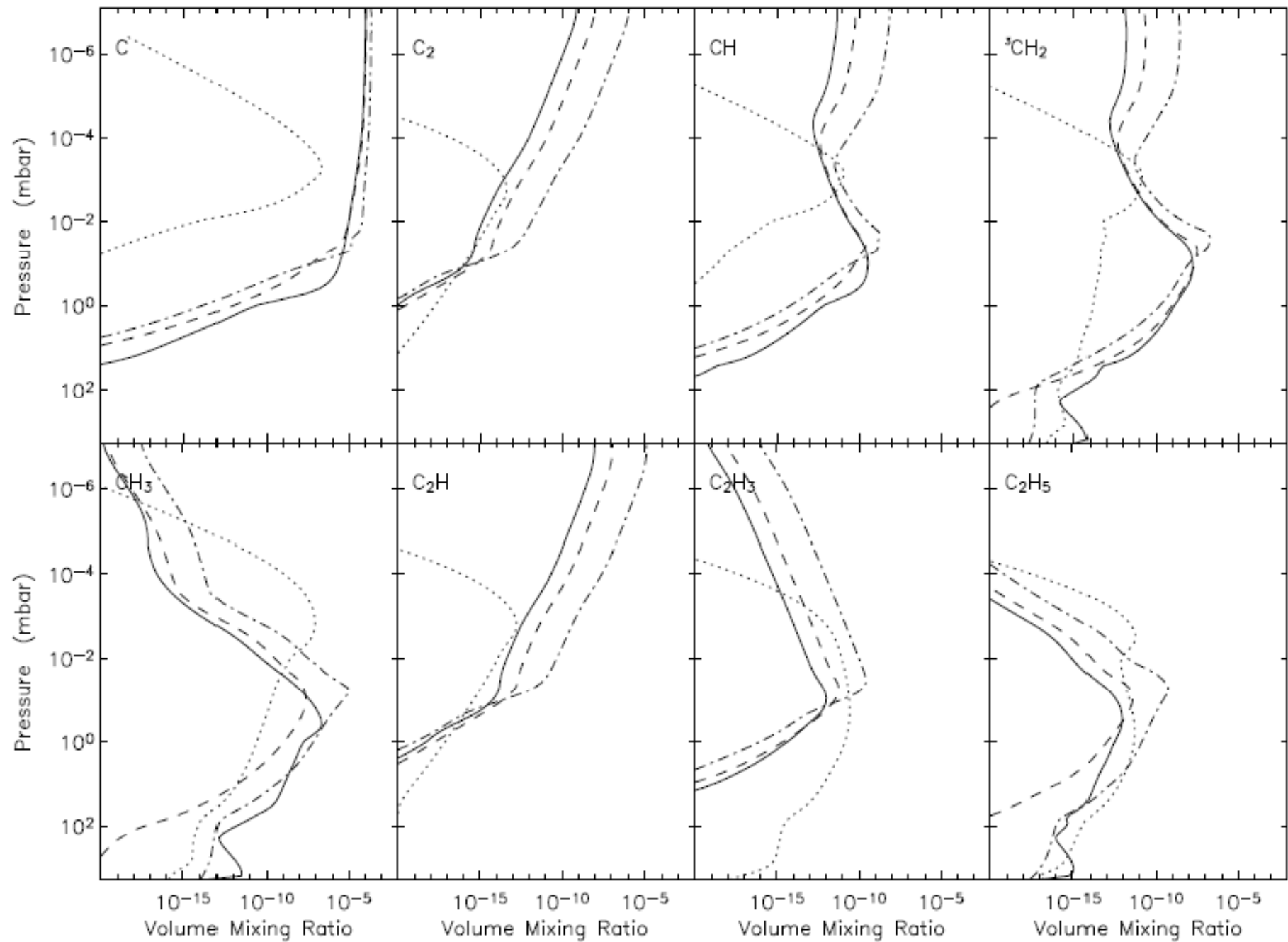




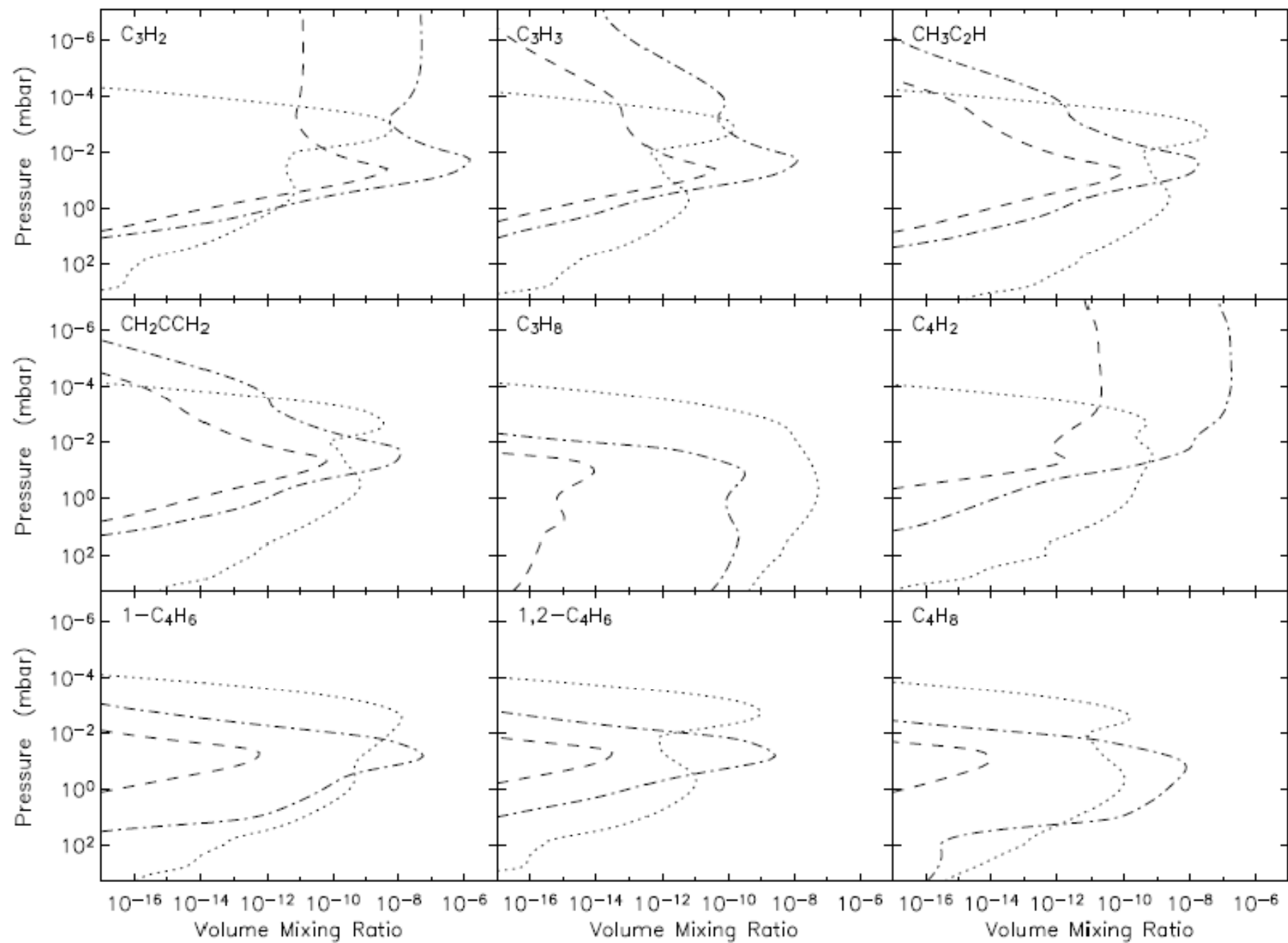


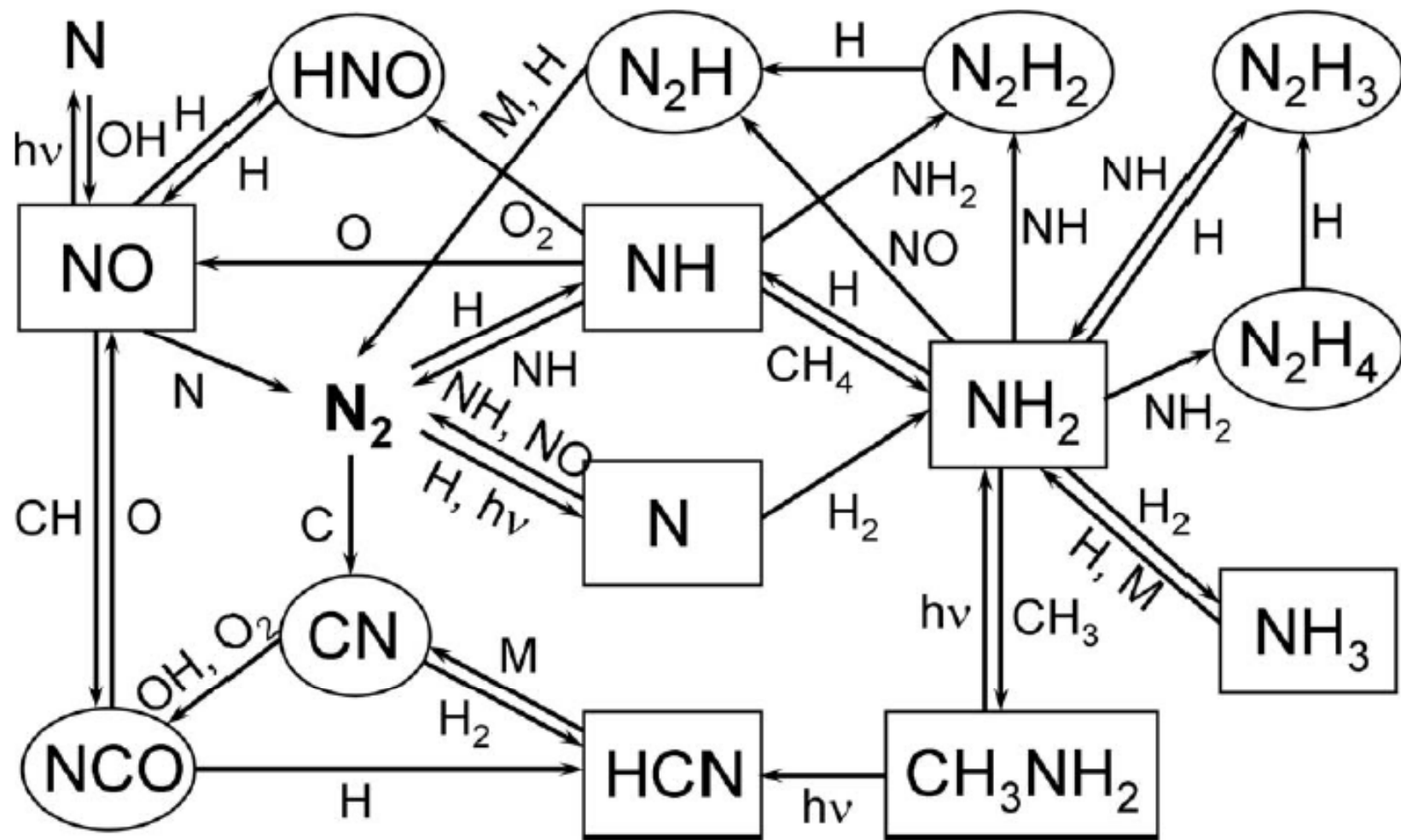


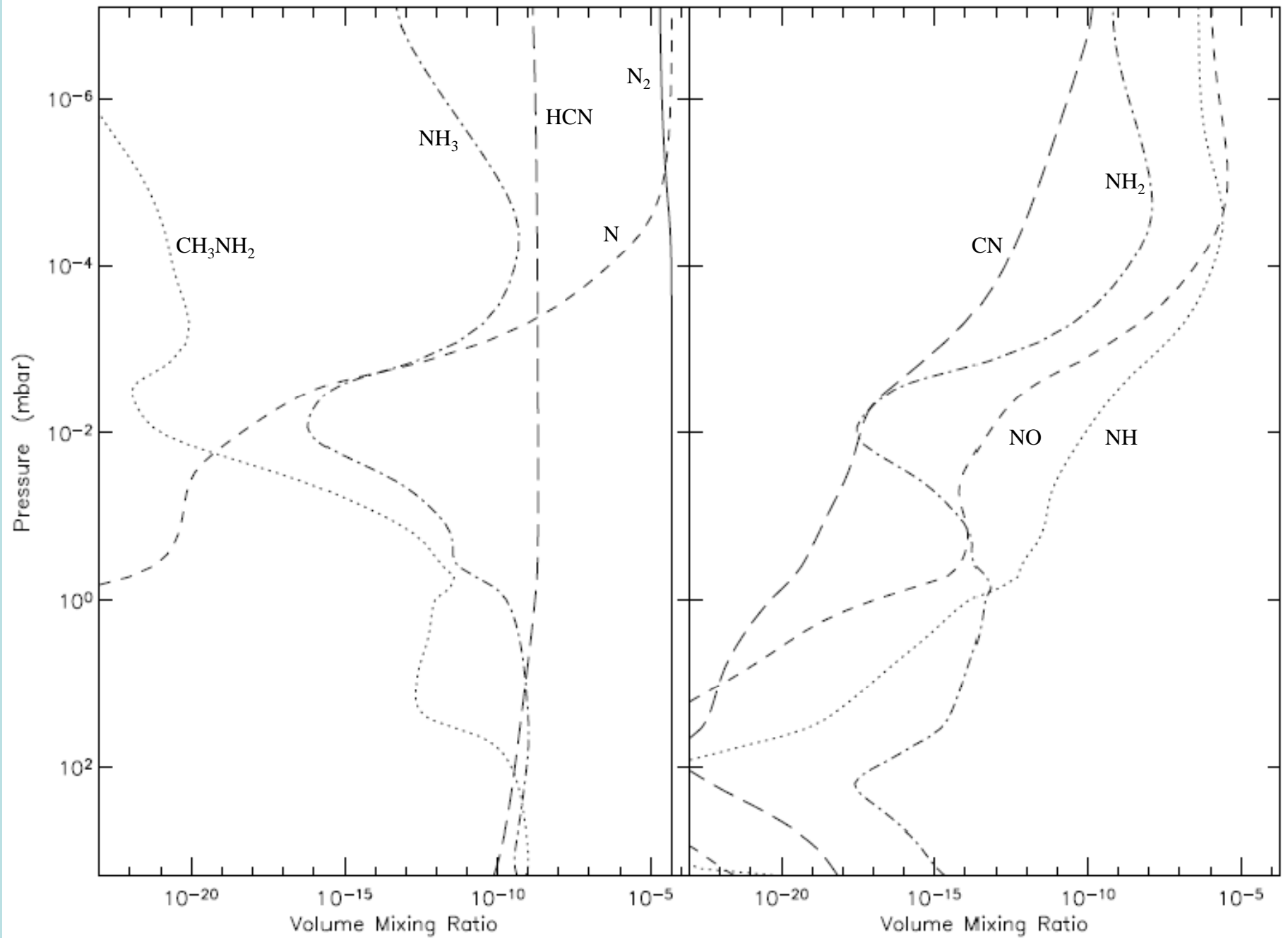


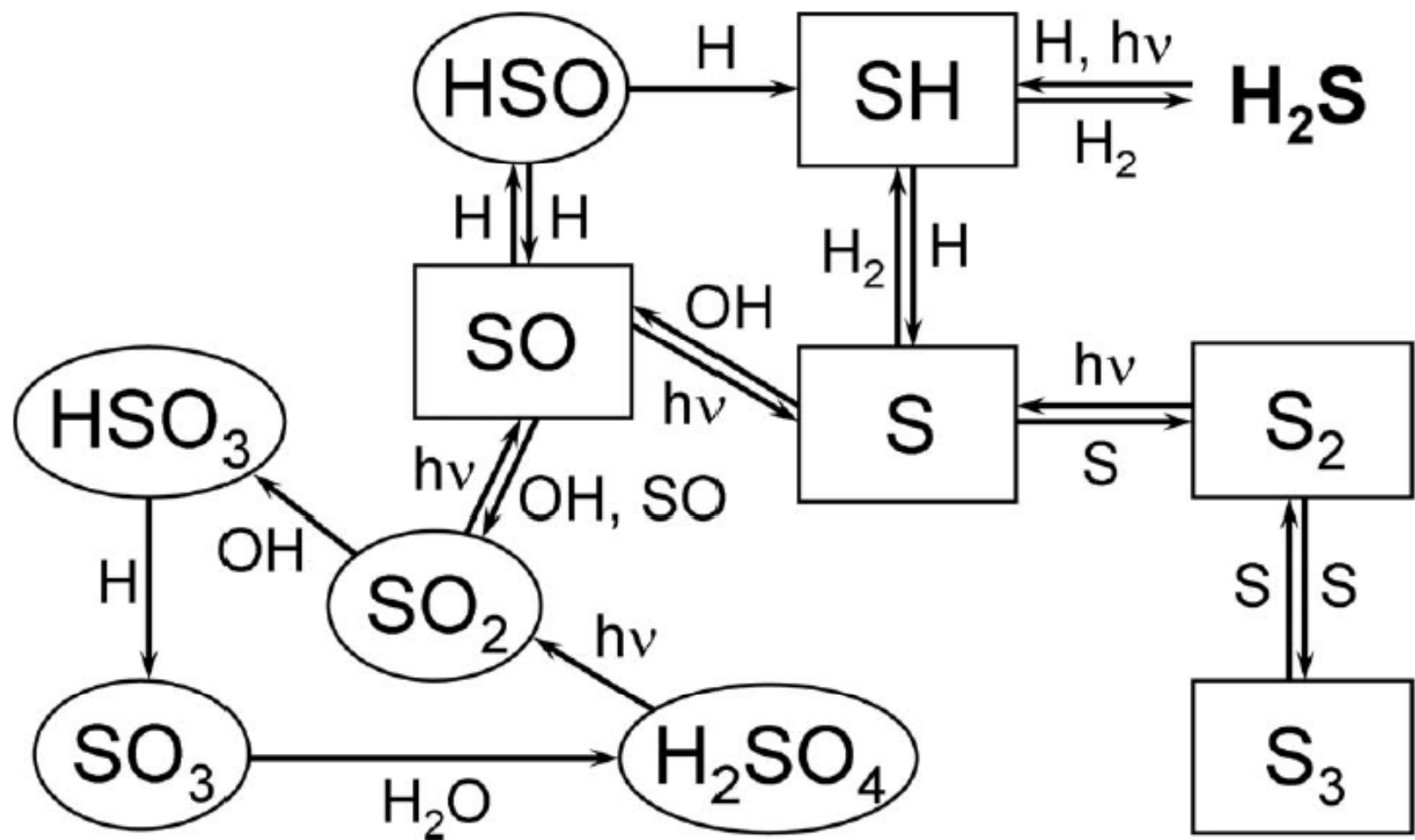


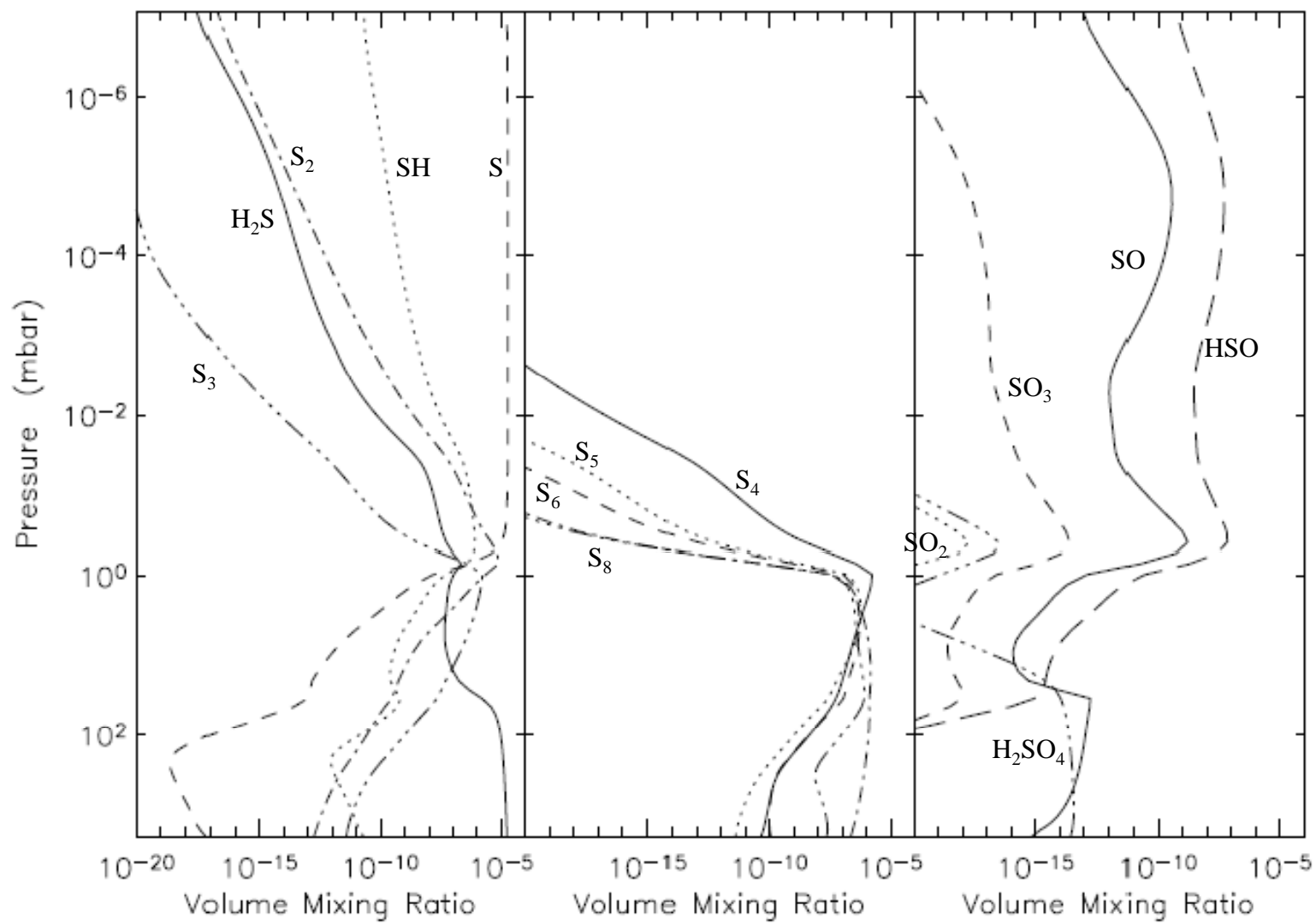








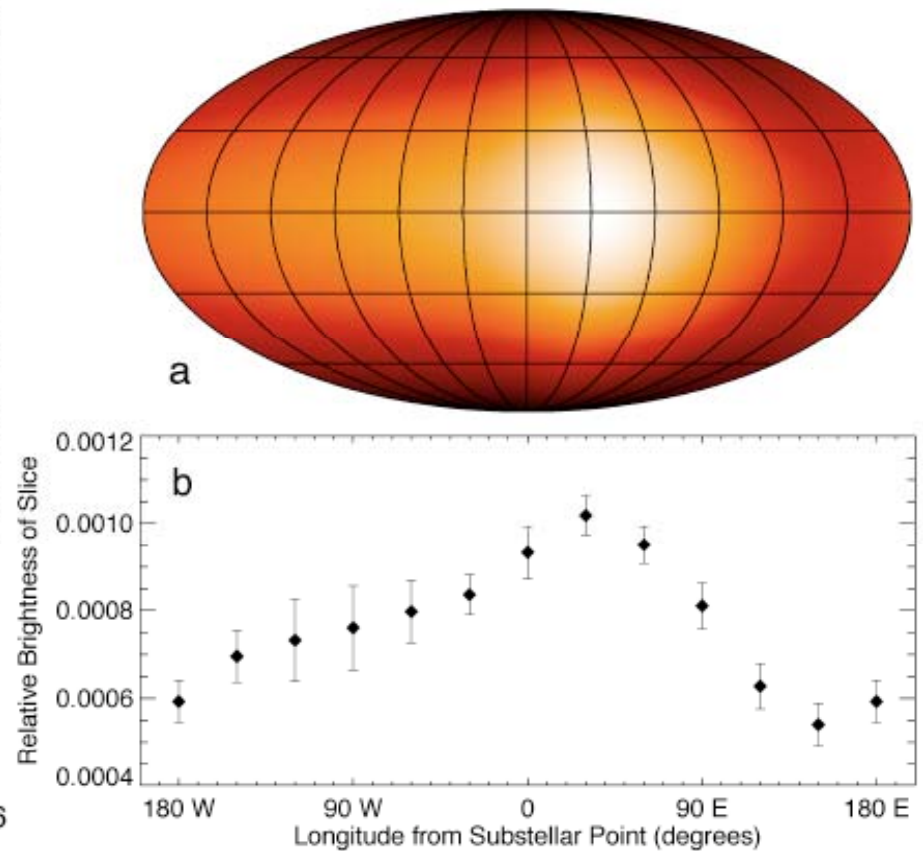
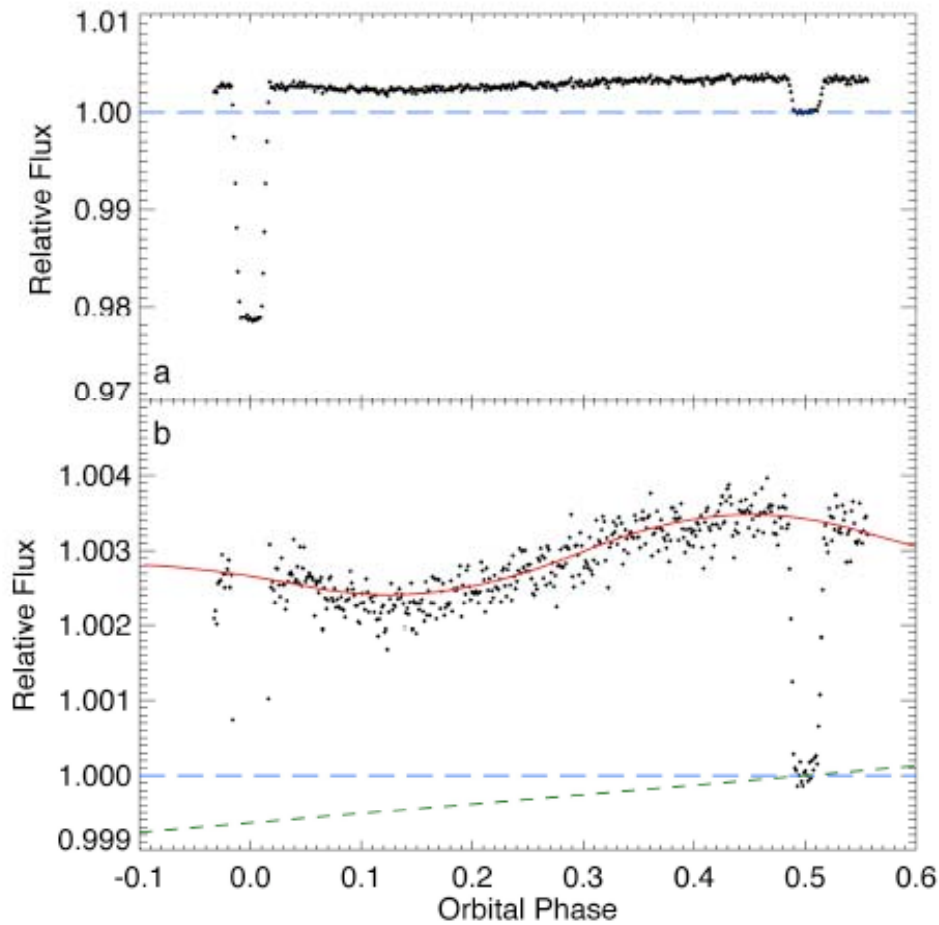




# Properties of hot planets

- Radiative lifetime varies as  $T^{-3}$
- Chemical lifetime could as  $\exp(-B/T)$
- Transport time varies as  $R/U$

# The Result: First Longitudinal Temperature Profile for an Extrasolar Planet



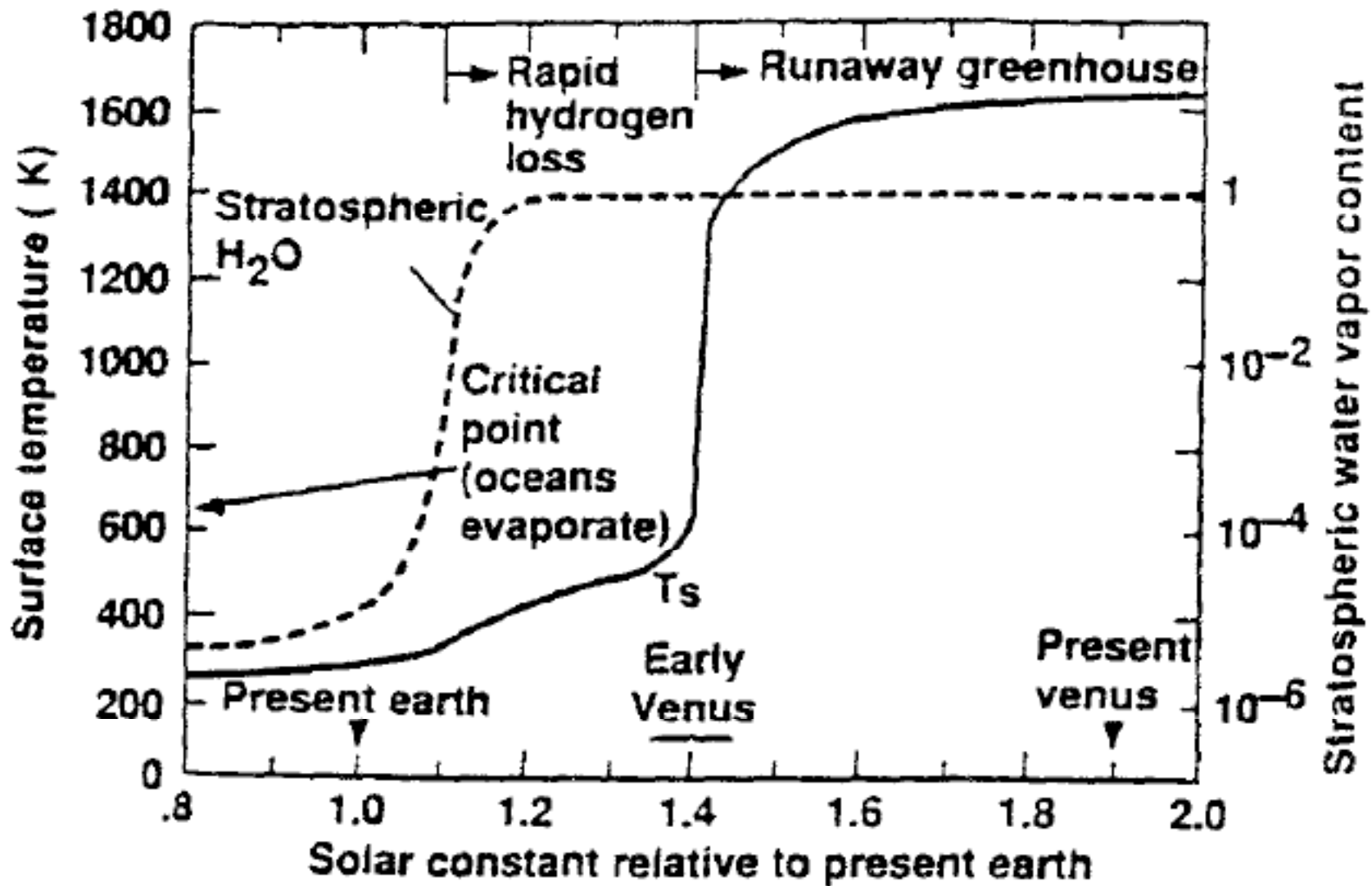
Figures from Knutson et al. 2007b, *Nature* 447, 183



# Superearths

- GL 581c
- GL 581d

Parameter	Circular case		
	Gl 581 b	Gl 581 c	Gl 581 d
$P$ [days]	$5.3687 \pm 0.0003$	$12.931 \pm 0.007$	$83.4 \pm 0.4$
$T$ [JD-2400000]	$52999.99 \pm 0.05$	$52996.74 \pm 0.45$	$52954.1 \pm 3.7$
$e$	0.0 (fixed)	0.0 (fixed)	0.0 (fixed)
$V$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]		$-9.2115 \pm 0.0001$	
$\omega$ [deg]	0.0 (fixed)	0.0 (fixed)	0.0 (fixed)
$K$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ]	$12.42 \pm 0.19$	$3.01 \pm 0.16$	$2.67 \pm 0.16$
$a_1 \sin i$ [ $10^{-6}$ AU]	6.129	3.575	20.47
$f(m)$ [ $10^{-13} M_\odot$ ]	10.66	0.365	1.644
$m_2 \sin i$ [ $M_{\text{Jup}}$ ]	0.0490	0.0159	0.0263
$m_2 \sin i$ [ $M_\oplus$ ]	15.6	5.06	8.3
$a$ [AU]	0.041	0.073	0.25



# Conclusions

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

**Similar Processes: Catalytic cycles, evolution,  
hydrodynamic escape, thermal inversion**

# Acknowledgements

- NASA and ESA
- Yung's Group at Caltech
- Liang Ph.D. Thesis 2005
- Yung and DeMore (1999) Book

**Back-up slides**

# Properties of HD 209458b

- “Best known” planet
  - First discovered transiting planet (Henry et al. 2000)
  - First atmosphere detection (Charbonneau et al. 2001)
  - First exosphere detection (Vidal-Madjar et al. 2003)
- Orbiting HD 209458 G0V-type star
  - $\sim 0.05$  AU or 3.5 days
- Inclination angle  $\sim 85^\circ$
- Radius  $1.54 R_J$  and mass  $0.68 M_J$





# Chemical processes

- Chemical composition different from that of Jupiter
  - CO and H<sub>2</sub>O are abundant; CH<sub>4</sub> not abundant
- UV radiation a lot more enhanced
  - Can break up more molecules
  - Boost subsequent chemical reactions
- Performing photochemical calculation for HD 209458b

# One-dimensional photochemical model

- Solving mass continuity equation

$$- \frac{\partial n_i}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial z} = P_i - L_i$$

$$- \phi_i = -\frac{\partial n_i}{\partial z} (D_i + K_{zz}) - n_i \left( \frac{D_i}{H_i} + \frac{K_{zz}}{H_{atm}} \right) - n_i \frac{\partial T}{\partial z} \left[ \frac{(1 + \alpha_i) D_i + K_{zz}}{T} \right] + n_i w_i$$

$$- K_{zz} = K_0 \times n^{-\gamma}, \quad \gamma \approx 0.5$$

- Temperature profile from thermochemical calculation
- Chemical reactions from, for example, Yung and DeMore (1999)