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# Rate constants for the formation of CS by radiative association

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Rate constants for the formation of carbon monosulfide (CS) by radiative association are calculated using accurate molecular data. The rate constants include both direct and indirect formation processes. The indirect processes (inverse rotational and electronic predissociation) are evaluated for conditions of local thermodynamic equilibrium (LTE) and also in the non-LTE limit of zero radiation temperature and atomic density. Phenomenological rate constants for CS formation in realistic astrophysical environments are expected to lie in-between these limiting cases. An analytic formula is used to fit the rate constants for convenient use in astrophysical models. The impact of the results on various astrophysical environments is briefly discussed.

**Key words:** astrochemistry – molecular data – molecular processes – ISM: molecules – photodissociation region (PDR) – ISM: supernova remnants.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The carbon monosulfide (CS) molecule has been observed in star-forming regions (Walker et al. 1986), protostellar envelopes (Herpin et al. 2012), dense interstellar clouds (Hasegawa et al. 1984; Hayashi et al. 1985; Destree, Snow & Black 2009), carbon-rich stars (Bregman, Goebel & Strecker 1978; Ridgway, Hall & Carbon 1997; Tenenbaum et al. 2010), oxygen-rich stars (Ziurys et al. 2007; Tenenbaum et al. 2010), planetary nebulae (Edwards & Ziurys 2014), and comets (Smith, Stecher & Casswell 1980; Jackson et al. 1982; Canaves et al. 2007).

In interstellar clouds, the CS molecule is one of the most abundant sulfur-bearing compounds, and it is believed (Lucas & Liszt 2002; Neufeld et al. 2015) to be formed primarily by the dissociative recombination (DR) reaction

$$HCS^+ + e^- \rightarrow CS + H$$
. (1)

The branching ratio for process (1) has been measured to be relatively small (19 per cent) with the remaining 81 per cent leading to fracture of the C-S bond (Montaigne et al. 2005).

A spectral emission feature observed at 3.88 micron in the ejecta of supernova SN 1987A within the first year was identified as possibly due to the first overtone transition of CS (Meikle et al. 1989). The chemistry during this period was mainly dust-free, making gasphase chemical reactions dominant routes to molecule formation and models of molecule formation predicted significant abundances

of CS (Lepp, Dalgarno & McCray 1990). However, subsequent improved chemical models of the mass of CS formed in SN 1987A disagreed significantly with the inferred mass from observations (Liu 1998) and the identification of CS is not considered secure (Cherchneff & Sarangi 2011).

In the absence of hydrogen or dust grains, the CS formation process may be initiated by radiative association (RA) to form SO (Liu 1998)

$$S + O \rightarrow SO + h\nu$$
 (2)

followed by

$$SO + C \rightarrow CS + O, \tag{3}$$

or by the direct RA process

$$C + S \rightarrow CS + h\nu,$$
 (4)

where  $h\nu$  represents an emitted photon. Molecule formation can also occur through an indirect radiative process, e.g.

$$C \cdots S \to CS + h\nu$$
 (5)

where  $C \cdot \cdot \cdot S$  represents a metastable state. Semi-classical rate constants for the direct  $A^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$  process were reported by Andreazza, Singh & Sanzovo (1995). The indirect process (5) may include inverse predissociation and generally requires both a dynamical and kinetic formulation for calculating the rate constant. For the iso-electronic SiO molecule, we reported phenomenological RA rate constants (Forrey et al. 2016; Cairnie et al. 2017) for conditions of local thermodynamic equilibrium (LTE) and also for the non-LTE zero-density limit (NLTE-ZDL) which assumes formation

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occurs through two-body interactions at zero radiation temperature. In the latter case, the tunneling width of a resonant state must be greater than or comparable to the radiative width in order for the indirect process to contribute to the rate. Realistic astrophysical environments containing variable numbers of atoms and photons would be expected to have formation rate constants in-between the LTE and NLTE-ZDL values. In the present work, we report a similar set of rate constants for the formation of CS. The potential energy curves (PECs) and transition dipole moments (TDMs) reported previously (Pattillo et al. 2018) are utilized in the present calculations. The carbon and sulfur atoms are assumed to approach on the  $A^1\Pi$ ,  $2^1\Pi$ ,  $3^1\Pi$ ,  $4^1\Pi$ ,  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$ , and  $B^1\Sigma^+$  electronic states before forming  $X^1\Sigma^+$  bound states.

#### 2 THEORY

As described previously (Forrey 2013, 2015), we utilize a Sturmian representation to form a complete basis set for both the dynamics and kinetics. This allows the density of unbound states for direct and indirect processes to both be incorporated into a single phenomenological cross section. In this formulation, the RA cross-section is defined by

$$\sigma_{\Lambda \to \Lambda'}(E) = \frac{\pi^2 \hbar^3}{\mu E} P_{\Lambda} \sum_{b,u} g_u (1 + \delta_u) \Gamma_{u \to b}^{\text{rad}} \delta(E - E_u), \tag{6}$$

where  $b \equiv (v_b, j_b)$  and  $u \equiv (v_u, j_u)$  designate vibrational and rotational quantum numbers for the respective bound and unbound states of the molecule. A and  $\Lambda'$  are projection quantum numbers for the initial and final electronic orbital angular momentum on the internuclear axis,  $\mu$  is the reduced mass of the C+S system, and E is the translational energy.  $\Gamma^{\rm rad}_{u \to b}$  is the probability for a radiative transition between the unit-normalized states, and  $\delta_u$  is a dimensionless parameter which may be computed within a given kinetic model to obtain the density of states with degeneracy  $g_u = 2j_u + 1$ . The statistical factor

$$P_{\Lambda} = \frac{(2S_{\text{mol}} + 1)(2 - \delta_{0,\Lambda})}{(2L_C + 1)(2S_C + 1)(2L_S + 1)(2S_S + 1)} \tag{7}$$

is determined by  $L_C$ ,  $S_C$ ,  $L_S$ , and  $S_S$ , the electronic orbital and spin angular momenta of the carbon and sulfur atoms, and  $S_{mol}$  the total spin of the molecular electronic state.

The spectral properties of the Sturmian representation allow the thermally averaged rate constant

$$k_{\Lambda \to \Lambda'} = \frac{1}{2\pi \, O_T} \int_0^\infty E \, \sigma_{\Lambda \to \Lambda'}(E) \, e^{-E/k_B T} dE \tag{8}$$

to be integrated analytically by substituting (6) into (8). The result is

$$k_{\Lambda \to \Lambda'} = \sum_{h,u} K_u^{\text{eq}} (1 + \delta_u) \Gamma_{u \to b}^{\text{rad}}$$
(9)

where

$$K_u^{\text{eq}} = \frac{(2j_u + 1)P_{\Lambda} \exp(-E_u/k_B T)}{Q_T}$$
 (10)

is the equilibrium constant for the unbound state, and

$$Q_T = \left(\frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{\mu k_B T}\right)^{-3/2} \tag{11}$$

is the translational partition function for temperature T and Boltzmann's constant  $k_B$ . We note that the rate constant (9) includes both direct and indirect formation processes and does not require computation of the cross-section.

The radiative width generally includes spontaneous and stimulated emission and may be written

$$\Gamma_{u \to b}^{\text{rad}} = \frac{A_{u \to b}}{1 - e^{-(E_u - E_b)/k_B T_R}}$$
(12)

for a pure blackbody radiation field with temperature  $T_R$ . The Einstein A-coefficients are given by

$$A_{u_i \to b_j} = \frac{4}{3c^3} (E_{u_i} - E_{b_j})^3 S_{j_{u_i} j_{b_j}} |\langle u_i | D | b_j \rangle|^2$$
 (13)

and similarly for  $A_{u_i \to u_j}$ , where  $S_{j,j'}$  are the appropriate line strengths (Cowan 1981; Curtis 2003) or Hönl-London factors (Watson 2008), and c is the speed of light. The electronic dipole moment is defined by

$$D = \begin{cases} \langle \psi_e | p_z | \psi_e' \rangle & \Lambda = \Lambda' \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \langle \psi_e | p_x + i p_y | \psi_e' \rangle & \Lambda \neq \Lambda' \end{cases}$$
(14)

where  $(p_x, p_y, p_z)$  are the components of the dipole operator and  $\psi_e$  is the electronic wave function. The TDMs (14) have been calculated previously (Pattillo et al. 2018) for all of the CS electronic states considered in the present work.

The kinetic parameters control the peak heights of the unbound resonances and are determined by the conditions of the gas. For a gas in LTE, the full parameter set is defined by  $\delta_{u_i} = 0$ . For an NLTE gas, the parameters may be computed from the set of coupled equations (Forrey 2015)

$$1 + \delta_{u_i} = \frac{1 + \tau_{u_i} \sum_{j} (1 + \delta_{u_j}) \frac{g_{u_j}}{g_{u_i}} e^{-(E_{u_j} - E_{u_i})/k_B T} M_{u_j \to u_i}}{1 + \tau_{u_i} \left( \sum_{j} M_{u_i \to u_j} + \sum_{j} M_{u_i \to b_j} \right)}$$
(15)

where

$$\tau_{u_i}^{-1} = 2\pi \left| \langle u_i | V_\Lambda | f \rangle \right|^2 \tag{16}$$

is the elastic scattering width connecting unbound state  $u_i$  of the adiabatic potential  $V_{\Lambda}$  to an energy-normalized free eigenstate f with the same energy and angular momentum. The matrix elements  $M_{u_i \to u_j}$  and  $M_{u_i \to b_j}$  include radiative widths (12) and any other type of non-adiabatic coupling. Dissociative transitions, however, are not included in (15), so the formula does not reproduce the LTE limit at high gas densities or when  $T = T_R$ . For an NLTE-ZDL gas  $(T_R = 0)$ , it is straightforward to show that equation (15) reduces to the usual radiative broadening formula (Forrey 2015)

$$1 + \delta_{u_i} = \frac{1}{1 + \tau_{u_i} \left( \sum_{j < i} A_{u_i \to u_j} + \sum_j A_{u_i \to b_j} \right)}.$$
 (17)

Equation (17) applies to direct processes ( $\tau_{u_i} \approx 0$ ) and to indirect processes ( $\tau_{u_i} >> 0$ ) such as inverse predissociation via a shape resonance. For a Feshbach resonance ( $\tau_{u_i} = \infty$ ), all bound states of the electronically excited potentials are considered *u*-states due to their asymptotic energy shift. Therefore, equation (15) reduces to

$$1 + \delta_{u_i} = \frac{\sum_j \Gamma_{u_j \to u_i}^{\text{pre}}}{\sum_i M_{u_i \to u_j} + \sum_j M_{u_i \to b_j}}$$
(18)

where

$$\Gamma_{u_i \to u_i}^{\text{pre}} = 2\pi |\langle u_j | V_{\Lambda' \to \Lambda} | u_i \rangle|^2$$
 (19)

is the predissociation width due to non-adiabatic radial and rotational coupling  $V_{\Lambda'\to\Lambda}$ . Equation (18) assumes  $\delta_{u_j}=0$  and that  $E_{u_j}$  from  $V_{\Lambda}'$  equals  $E_{u_i}$  from  $V_{\Lambda}$ . The denominator in equation (18) includes both predissociation and radiative widths. If there is no

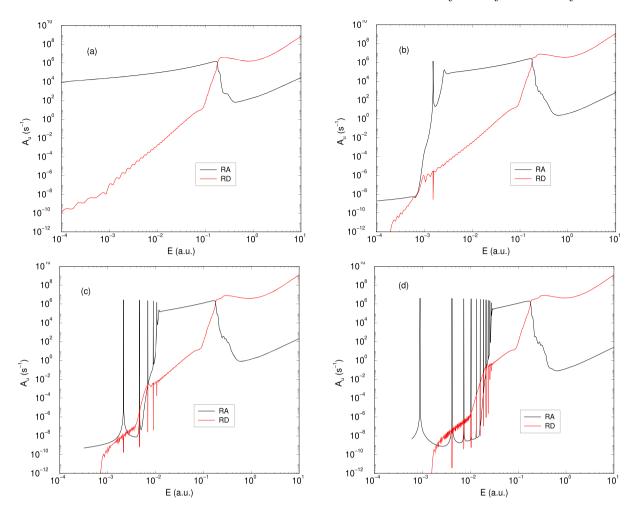


Figure 1. (Colour online) Einstein A-coefficients for initial unbound states in the  $A^1\Pi$  potential summed over final states in the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  potential. The curves correspond to RA and RD processes for (a)  $j_u = 0$ , (b)  $j_u = 50$ , (c)  $j_u = 100$ , and (d)  $j_u = 150$ .

asympototic energy shift between the electronic curves, the radiative broadening formula (17) may be improved using the formula

$$1 + \delta_{u_i} = \frac{1 + \tau_{u_i} \sum_{j} \Gamma_{u_j \to u_i}^{pre}}{1 + \tau_{u_i} \left( \sum_{j < i} A_{u_i \to u_j} + \sum_{j} A_{u_i \to b_j} \right)}$$
(20)

for an NLTE-ZDL gas. We note that all channel couplings in the above formulation are handled in the framework of time-dependent perturbation theory. Evaluating the density of states from equation (15) ensures that the perturbations are relatively small, even for very narrow resonances.

## 3 RESULTS

Radiative and tunneling widths were computed using the PECs and TDMs reported previously (Pattillo et al. 2018). Figs 1 and 2 show Einstein A-coefficients as a function of energy for the initial  $j_u = 0$ , 50, 100, and 150 levels of the  $A^1\Pi$  and  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  potentials as defined by equation (13). The A-coefficients are summed over final states of the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  potential. The RA curves sum over the final bound states, and the radiative de-activation (RD) curves sum over the final unbound states. The bound and unbound states are obtained by diagonalizing the adiabatic Hamiltonians in a Sturmian basis set of 500 Laguerre polynomial functions (Forrey 2013). The results show RD is negligible for energies less than  $\sim$  0.1 a.u. but abruptly

dominates RA for higher energies, consistent with previous results for SiO (Cairnie et al. 2017). The direct non-resonant contribution to RA is stronger for the  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  state than for the  $A^{1}\Pi$  state due to the larger TDM for  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  (Pattillo et al. 2018). However, the increase in the number of resonances with  $j_u$  is greater for  $A^{1}\Pi$  due to the deeper potential well (Pattillo et al. 2018). For example, the number of sharp peaks in Fig. 1 increases from 0 to 1 to 5 to 11 for  $j_u = 0$ , 50, 100, and 150. In Fig. 2, the number of sharp peaks changes from 0 to 2 to 3 to 0 for the same values of  $j_u$ . The competition between the number of resonances supported by the PEC and the strength of the TDM generally has a strong influence on the temperature dependence of the associated rate constants.

The NLTE-ZDL RA rate constant for  $A^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$  is shown in Fig. 3. Also shown is the semi-classical result of Andreazza et al. (1995). The semi-classical rate constant does not include resonances and falls off strongly at low temperatures. The NLTE-ZDL rate constant suppresses the contribution from narrow resonances in accordance with equation (17) but includes broad resonances. This provides a more gradual fall-off at low temperature. Both methods appear to reach a maximum around 10,000 K. We present two sets of calculations: the dashed curve includes spontaneous emission using  $\Gamma^{\rm rad}_{u\to b} = A_{u\to b}$ , and the solid curve includes stimulated emission for a blackbody radiation field using  $\Gamma^{\rm rad}_{u\to b}$  from equation (12) with  $T_R = T$ . The figure shows that stimulated RA is not significant for

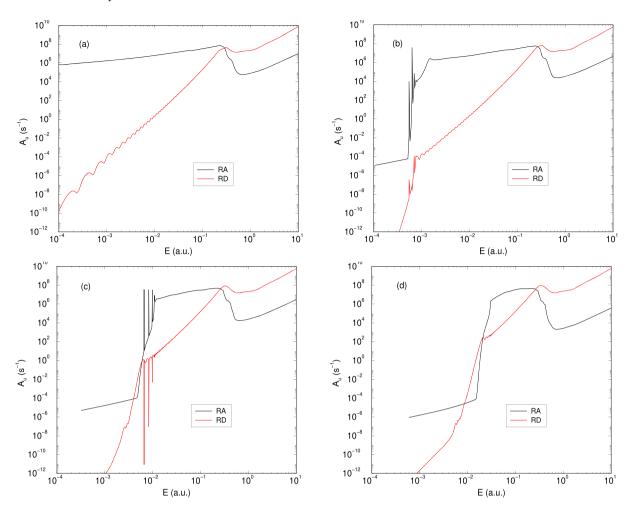


Figure 2. (Colour online) Same as Fig. 1 but for initial unbound states in the  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  potential. The RA curves in this case are generally larger than the corresponding curves for the  $A^{1}\Pi$  potential, but there are fewer sharp resonance peaks.

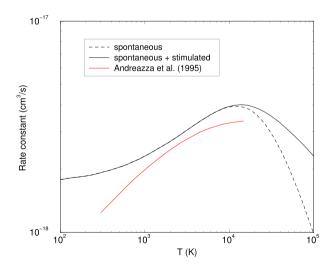


Figure 3. (Colour online) RA rate constants for the  $A^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$  transition. The dashed black curve corresponds to  $\Gamma^{\rm rad}_{u\to b}=A^{\rm rad}_{u\to b}$ . The solid black curve includes spontaneous and stimulated emission for a blackbody radiation field using  $\Gamma^{\rm rad}_{u\to b}$  from equation (12) with  $T_R=T$ . Both curves used equation (17) for the kinetic model. The red curve is the semi-classical calculation of Andreazza et al. (1995).

 $T < 10,\,000~\mathrm{K}$  but provides an enhanced rate constant at higher temperatures.

Rate constants for radiative association to the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state of CS are shown in Fig. 4. The  $C(^3P)$  and  $S(^3P)$  atoms approach on the  $A^{1}\Pi$ ,  $2^{1}\Pi$ , and  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  states as shown in the legend. Solid curves correspond to LTE and dashed curves to NLTE-ZDL kinetic models. The LTE and NLTE curves converge in the high temperature region where the importance of the resonant contribution is diminished. The  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  state provides the largest RA contribution over the entire temperature range due to the strong TDM between the  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  and  $X^{1}\Sigma^{+}$  states (Pattillo et al. 2018). The  $2^{1}\Pi$  state yields the second strongest contribution for  $T > 10^4$  K. The threshold at lower temperatures is due to a repulsive energy barrier in the  $2^1\Pi$ potential. The  $A^1\Pi$  rate constant is weakest at high temperature; however, the strong resonant contribution causes the LTE rate constant for this state to approach the  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  value near 10 K. The difference between the NLTE-ZDL and LTE rate constants is substantial at low temperatures. At 10 K, the LTE rate constants for  $A^{'1}\Sigma^{+}$  and  $A^{1}\Pi$  are larger than their NLTE-ZDL counterparts by a factor of about 13 and 150, respectively. The larger increase in the LTE rate constant for  $A^1\Pi$  is due to a deeper potential well which supports more quasibound states.

It is interesting to compare the  $A^1\Pi$  rate constants with those reported previously for SiO (Cairnie et al. 2017). The present

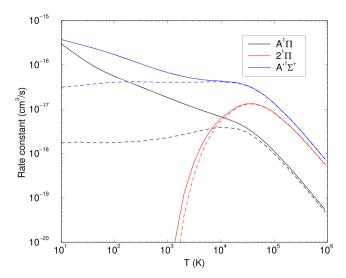


Figure 4. (Colour online) Rate constants for radiative association to the  $X^1 \Sigma^+$  state of CS. The initial C and S atoms approach on the electronic state given in the legend. Solid curves correspond to LTE and dashed curves to NLTE-ZDL kinetic models. The solid and dashed curves converge in the high-temperature region where the importance of the resonant contribution is diminished.

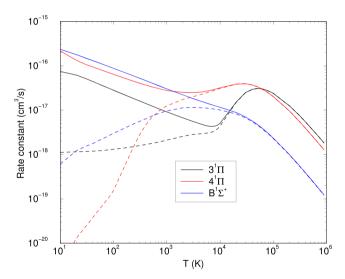
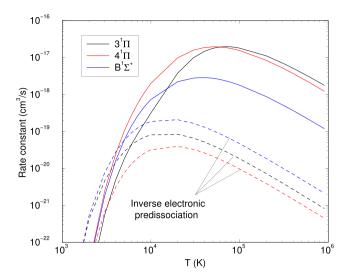


Figure 5. (Colour online) Rate constants for radiative association to the  $X^1 \Sigma^+$  state of CS. The initial C and S atoms approach on the electronic state given in the legend. Solid curves correspond to LTE and dashed curves to NLTE-ZDL kinetic models. The solid and dashed curves converge in the high-temperature region where the importance of the resonant contribution is diminished.

 $A^1\Pi \rightarrow X^1\Sigma^+$  results for CS formation are about an order of magnitude smaller than for SiO formation. This is due to the smaller TDM in the present case. In both cases, the difference between the LTE and NLTE-ZDL models is several orders of magnitude at low temperatures. It should be noted that equation (17) was used for the NLTE-ZDL model in both calculations. There are multiple electronic curves which separate to the  $^3P+^3P$  asymptote for both systems, so it is conceivable that the NLTE-ZDL results could be increased if the uncalculated predissociation widths in equation (20) were found to be significant.

Fig. 5 shows rate constants for RA to the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state of CS due to  $C(^1D)$  and  $S(^1D)$  atoms approaching on the  $3^1\Pi$ ,  $4^1\Pi$ , and  $B^1\Sigma^+$ 



**Figure 6.** (Colour online) RA and IEP rate constants for the formation of CS in the  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state. The solid RA curves are LTE rate constants from Fig. 5 multiplied by the atomic Boltzmann factors for the  $C(^1D)+S(^1D)$  asymptote. The dashed IEP curves correspond to a radiationless transition to an intermediate state (denoted by the colour given in the legend) followed by RA to the ground  $X^1\Sigma^+$  state.

states. The asymptotic energy for these states is about 2.38 eV larger than the states in Fig. 4 and the atomic part of the statistical factor  $P_{\Lambda}$  decreases from 81 to 25. The LTE and NLTE behaviour of the rate constants in Fig. 5 is qualitatively similar to those in Fig. 4. The NLTE-ZDL curve for the  $4^1\Pi$  state differs from the LTE curve by more than four orders of magnitude at 10 K. This enhanced sensitivity to the kinetic model is due to a very narrow well in the  $4^1\Pi$  potential (Pattillo et al. 2018) which supports a large number of quasibound states. The narrow well arises from an avoided crossing with the  $3^1\Pi$  potential. The uncalculated predissociation width in equation (20) may be significant in this case, which would increase the population of quasibound  $4^1\Pi$  states and the associated NLTE-ZDL rate constant. Figs 4 and 5 show that the rate constants for the  $3^1\Pi$ ,  $4^1\Pi$ , and  $8^1\Sigma^+$  states are comparable to those of the  $A^1\Pi$ ,  $2^1\Pi$ , and  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  states.

Molecule formation may also occur through the indirect process of inverse electronic predissociation (IEP). The rate constants for this process are shown in Fig. 6 as dashed curves. The colour indicates the intermediate electronic state given in the legend. For comparison, the LTE rate constants from Fig. 5, multiplied by the atomic Boltzmann factor for these states, are shown as solid curves. Due to approach on a potential with lower asymptotic energy, the thresholds for IEP are shifted slightly to lower temperatures compared to the solid curves. The maximum values of the IEP rate constants are substantially smaller than the corresponding RA curves, especially for the  $4^1\,\Pi$  state where the curves differ by about three orders of magnitude.

The IEP curves in Fig. 6 do not distinguish between LTE and NLTE because differences in the rate constants are assumed to be negligible. Avoided crossings between the  $2^1\Pi$  and  $3^1\Pi$  potentials and the  $3^1\Pi$  and  $4^1\Pi$  potentials (Pattillo et al. 2018) suggest there is significant non-adiabatic coupling between these electronic states. These couplings would presumably give rise to large predissociation widths in equations (18). If the predissociation widths are larger than the radiative widths, then the  $\delta_{u_i}$  will be close enough to zero that the results of the LTE and NLTE models will be nearly the same.

**Table 1.** Parameters for the analytic formula (21) used to fit the RA rate constants for approach on the  $A^1\Pi$ ,  $2^1\Pi$ , and  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  states over the temperature range 10 - 10,000 K.

Fitting parameter	$A^{'1}\Sigma^{+} \to X^{1}\Sigma^{+}$		$A^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$		$2^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$	
	LTE	NLTE-ZDL	LTE	NLTE-ZDL	LTE	NLTE-ZDL
а	0.955744	0.091797	0.153069	0.020087	0	0
b	0.400933	0.328056	0.787454	-0.063569	0	0
$c_1$	43.21563	4.636323	7.554797	2.141587	0.924243	1.318363
$c_2$	24.77612	3.189929	8.042786	1.862235	1.618295	1.029097
$c_3$	34.66025	15.11480	7.541511	1.649521	2.909239	3.998898
$d_1$	8684.089	483.6360	156.9699	3710.579	17583.64	10344.45
$d_2$	4842.372	50.86205	2213.844	12269.08	8942.581	13859.56
$d_3$	8874.313	4087.619	2403.755	12061.18	11767.33	33440.38
$e_1$	0.638449	0.401756	0.611547	0.563279	0.170245	0.522451
$e_2$	0.589669	0.442853	0.679699	0.538354	0.384268	0.186535
$e_3$	0.641479	0.431464	0.683191	0.572388	0.484086	0.376133

**Table 2.** Parameters for the analytic formula (21) used to fit the RA rate constants for approach on the  $3^1\Pi$ ,  $4^1\Pi$ , and  $B^1\Sigma^+$  states over the temperature range 10-10,000~K.

Fitting	$B^1 \Sigma^+ \to X^1 \Sigma^+$		$3^1\Pi \rightarrow X^1\Sigma^+$		$4^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$	
parameter	LTE	NLTE-ZDL	LTE	NLTE-ZDL	LTE	NLTE-ZDL
а	0.305523	0.001298	0.141944	0.017278	0.374976	0.001069
b	0.581708	0.392968	0.490422	-0.179136	0.395249	-0.698282
$c_1$	6.095590	2.281119	2.001352	1.683982	3.412438	2.963747
$c_2$	13.92909	4.609992	2.858530	1.904914	2.071203	2.642933
<i>c</i> <sub>3</sub>	10.52673	1.344122	2.322341	2.044345	2.596159	2.175024
$d_1$	67.29391	59.68620	4014.434	36269.18	13300.08	12116.77
$d_2$	4530.670	1442.135	9981.163	18405.18	10503.79	5816.140
$d_3$	956.0077	248.3015	35778.87	18688.71	4017.053	839.5973
$e_1$	0.601948	0.966942	0.627538	0.126588	0.290190	0.283340
$e_2$	0.641292	0.444759	1.113974	0.931110	0.711764	0.300441
$e_3$	0.703725	0.456567	0.145105	0.969716	0.275912	0.296462

We also note that the thresholds for the RA curves in Fig. 6 occur at relatively high energies where the influence of quasibound states is expected to be reduced. Therefore, the differences between LTE and NLTE are expected to be less important for these states.

It would be interesting to calculate the non-adiabatic predissociation widths for all of the states to see whether they have a significant influence on the NLTE rate constants. This will be considered in our future work on this system.

## 4 ASTROPHYSICAL APPLICATIONS

To allow for convenient use of the current results in astrophysical models, we adopt the analytic fitting formula

$$k_r = \left[ a(400/T)^b + \sum_{i=1}^3 c_i T^{-e_i} \exp(-d_i/T) \right] \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^3/\text{s}$$
 (21)

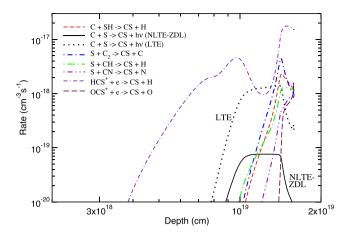
for both LTE and NLTE-ZDL rate constants. Fixing the temperature exponent  $e_i=1.5$  mimics the  $Q_T$  contribution in equation (10) and has yielded good fits in previous work (Novotný et al. 2013; Vissapragada et al. 2016; Cairnie et al. 2017). In the present work, we find better results by allowing these exponents to be unconstrained. The fitting parameters for the  $A^1\Pi$ ,  $2^1\Pi$ , and  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  states are given in Table 1. Additional parameters for the  $3^1\Pi$ ,  $4^1\Pi$ , and  $B^1\Sigma^+$  states are given in Table 2. The LTE results for IEP are given in Table 3. The analytic formula (21) provides a fit to the rate constants to better than 10 percent over the temperature range 10-10,000 K. The formula performs poorly outside this temperature range. The sup-

**Table 3.** Parameters for the analytic formula (21) used to fit the IEP rate constants for the intermediate  $3^1\Pi$ ,  $4^1\Pi$ , and  $B^1\Sigma^+$  states over the temperature range  $10-10{,}000$  K. Here, the LTE and NLTE rate constants are assumed to be identical (see text).

Fitting parameter	$B^1 \Sigma^+ \to X^1 \Sigma^+$	$3^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$	$4^1\Pi \to X^1\Sigma^+$
а	0	0	0
b	0	0	0
$c_1$	1.408350	6.571382	22.92551
$c_2$	22.48106	4.194277	33.07684
<i>c</i> <sub>3</sub>	25.51743	12.33085	27.11157
$d_1$	17204.09	16566.49	20861.47
$d_2$	17530.32	15117.88	22629.95
$d_3$	17544.67	17529.16	22228.48
$e_1$	0.900671	0.977559	1.087009
$e_2$	0.929925	0.896032	1.152190
$e_3$	0.930996	0.944455	1.136984

plementary material provides plots which compares equation (21) with exact numerical results.

As a test of the current RA rate constants, we consider the Leiden photodissociation region (PDR) benchmark models (Röllig et al. 2017) which are available as part of the test suite for the astrophysical simulation code Cloudy (Ferland et al. 2017). All of the eight models assume constant gas densities (10<sup>3</sup> or 10<sup>5.5</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>), an incident scaled UV radiation field (10 or 10<sup>5</sup> times the standard interstellar radiation field (ISRF)), and the standard set of UMIST



**Figure 7.** (Colour online) CS formation rates as a function of cloud depth for the dominant processes for the Leiden PDR benchmark model v2 as obtained with Cloudy c17 for a density of 10<sup>3</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup> and 10<sup>5</sup> times the ISRF. The CS RA formation rate for both the NLTE-ZDL and LTE limits are shown

chemical rate coefficients (McElroy et al. 2013). Four models assume a constant gas temperature of 50 K, while the other four self-consistently solve for the gas and grain temperature as a function of depth into the cloud (see Ferland et al. 2017, for details). In most models, the formation of CS is dominated by HCS<sup>+</sup> DR (process 1). However, in some cases, the reactive scattering process

$$S + C_2 \rightarrow CS + C \tag{22}$$

becomes the primary formation mechanism deep into the cloud, where the electron fraction is small. Unlike previous modelling, which considered only the NLTE-ZDL semi-classical CS RA rate constant from Andreazza et al. (1995) for the  $A^1\Pi$ -X $^1\Sigma^+$  transition (e.g. McElroy et al. 2013), we also include the CS RA rate for the  $A^{'1}\Sigma$ -X $^1\Sigma^+$  which Fig. 4 shows to be typically an order of magnitude larger than the former for both the NLTE-ZDL and LTE rates.

As an illustration, Fig. 7 gives the dominant CS formation rates as a function of depth into the PDR. HCS<sup>+</sup> dominates at all depths, but CS RA is the second most important process near 10<sup>19</sup> cm when the NLTE-ZDL rate constant is adopted. Conversely, if the CS LTE RA rate constant is applied, it becomes the dominant formation mechanism at this same depth.

The ejecta of a Type II supernova (SN) is deficient in H as most of the hydrogen was lost in outflows during the AGB phase of the progenitor. Further, while the ejecta is some-what stratified, there is significant mixing of C, O, Si, and S. As a consequence, Fig. 7 and the arguments in Liu (1998) suggest that radiative association of C and S may play an important role in CS formation since HCS<sup>+</sup> DR, and the other reactions involving H in Fig. 7, would be absent from the SN chemical network.

## 5 CONCLUSIONS

We have calculated rate constants for the formation of CS by radiative association using accurate molecular data. The rate constants are evaluated for kinetic conditions of LTE and NLTE-ZDL. Rate constants for realistic astrophysical environments generally fall inbetween these two limiting cases. For dark low-density environments, the NLTE-ZDL rate constant should be used. As the density of atoms and/or photons increases, the steady-state formation rate

constant increases towards the LTE value. The difference between these two limits is large at low temperatures, particularly for the  $A^1\Pi$  contribution. This is due to a deep potential well that supports many quasi-bound states. The relatively shallow  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  potential supports fewer quasi-bound states, so the difference between the LTE and NLTE-ZDL values for this state is substantially smaller than for the  $A^1\Pi$  state. The rate constant, however, is largest for the  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  state due to the strong TDM for the  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+ \to X^1\Sigma^+$  transition. Rate constants for molecule formation in the  $A^1\Pi$  and  $A^{'1}\Sigma^+$  potentials were found to be negligible and are not reported. Incorporation of the new CS radiative association rate constants, which are significantly larger than values found in the literature, may enhance the total CS abundance in interstellar environments, particularly those deficient in hydrogen and grains.

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## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Supplementary data are available at MNRAS online.

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Figure S1 IEP rate constants using parameters from Table 3.

Figure S2 RA rate constants using parameters from Table 1.

Figure S3 RA rate constants using parameters from Table 2.

**Figure S4** RA rate constants using parameters from Table 1 and Table 2.

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