

INTERSTELLAR MATTER IN THE LABORATORY - PAHS FROM A BURNER

DAMIAN L. KOKKIN and TIMOTHY W. SCHMIDT, *School of Chemistry, University of Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia*; YVAIN CARPENTIER, ANH-TUAN CAO, PHILIPPE BRECHIGNAC and THOMAS PINO, *Laboratoire de Photophysique Moléculaire, Bâtiment 210, Université Paris-Sud, F-91405 Orsay, France*.

In order to produce laboratory analogues of the carbonaceous cosmic dust, a new chemical reactor has been built at the Laboratoire de Photophysique Moléculaire in Orsay, France. A low pressure flat burner provides flames of premixed hydrocarbon/oxygen gas mixtures, closely following the model system used by the combustion community. The flame is a one-dimensional chemical reactor offering a broad range of combustion conditions and sampling, allowing production of many and various reaction products. A description of the apparatus will be given, followed by preliminary results on the REMPI-TOFMS spectroscopy of various polycyclic aromatic species formed in the reactor.