



Radiative transfer and molecular data for astrochemistry (Review)

[Floris van der Tak](#) (SRON Groningen, The Netherlands)

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The estimation of molecular abundances in interstellar clouds from spectroscopic observations requires radiative transfer calculations, which depend on basic molecular input data. This paper reviews recent developments in the fields of molecular data and radiative transfer. The first part is an overview of radiative transfer techniques, along with a "road map" showing which technique should be used in which situation. The second part is a review of measurements and calculations of molecular spectroscopic and collisional data, with a summary of recent collisional calculations and suggested modeling strategies if collision data are unavailable. The paper concludes with an overview of future developments and needs in the areas of radiative transfer and molecular data.

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