

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Discovery of interstellar ketenyl (HCCO), a surprisingly abundant radical^{★,★★}

Marcelino Agúndez¹, José Cernicharo¹, and Michel Guélin²

¹ Instituto de Ciencia de Materiales de Madrid, CSIC, C/ Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz 3, 28049 Cantoblanco, Spain
e-mail: marcelino.agundez@icmm.csic.es

² Institut de Radioastronomie Millimétrique, 300 rue de la Piscine, 38406 St.-Martin d'Hères, France

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ABSTRACT

We conducted radioastronomical observations of 9 dark clouds with the IRAM 30 m telescope. We present the first identification in space of the ketenyl radical (HCCO) toward the starless core Lupus-1A and the molecular cloud L483 and the detection of the related molecules ketene (H₂CCO) and acetaldehyde (CH₃CHO) in these two sources and 3 additional dark clouds. We also report the detection of the formyl radical (HCO) in the 9 targeted sources and of propylene (CH₂CHCH₃) in 4 of the observed sources, which significantly extends the number of dark clouds where these molecules are known to be present. We have derived a beam-averaged column density of HCCO of $\sim 5 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ in both Lupus-1A and L483, which means that the ketenyl radical is just ~ 10 times less abundant than ketene in these sources. The non-negligible abundance of HCCO found implies that there must be a powerful formation mechanism able to counterbalance the efficient destruction of this radical through reactions with neutral atoms. The column densities derived for HCO, $(0.5\text{--}2.7) \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, and CH₂CHCH₃, $(1.9\text{--}4\text{--}2) \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, are remarkably uniform across the sources where these species are detected, confirming their ubiquity in dark clouds. Gas phase chemical models of cold dark clouds can reproduce the observed abundances of HCO, but cannot explain the presence of HCCO in Lupus-1A and L483 and the high abundances derived for propylene. The chemistry of cold dark clouds needs to be revised in light of these new observational results.

Key words. astrochemistry – line: identification – ISM: clouds – ISM: molecules – radio lines: ISM

1. Introduction

Organic molecules are ubiquitous in interstellar clouds. The most complex and saturated ones are found in clouds around young stellar objects, where they are most likely formed on the surface of dust grains and released to the gas phase by thermal evaporation (Herbst & van Dishoeck 2009). In cold dark clouds, the chemical composition is characterized by highly unsaturated carbon chains of the families of polyynes and cyanopolyynes and relatively simple oxygen-bearing organic molecules, whose synthesis relies to a large extent on gas phase chemical processes (Agúndez & Wakelam 2013). However, the widespread occurrence of methanol (CH₃OH) in cold dark clouds and the more recent detections of other complex and saturated organic molecules such as propylene (CH₂CHCH₃), methyl formate (CH₃OCOH), dimethyl ether (CH₃OCH₃), methoxy (CH₃O), and formic acid (HCOOH) in some dark clouds (Marcelino et al. 2007; Öberg et al. 2010; Bacmann et al. 2012; Cernicharo et al. 2012) have put the role of grain surface reactions and non-thermal desorption processes in these cold and quiescent environments on the table.

Many of the oxygen-bearing organic molecules observed in dark clouds can be described by the general formula H_xC_nO, with $n = 1$ (CO, HCO, H₂CO, CH₃O, and CH₃OH), $n = 2$ (C₂O, H₂CCO, and CH₃CHO), and $n = 3$ (C₃O and HCCCHO). The formation of most of them is reasonably well explained

by gas phase chemical reactions, with notable exceptions such as CH₃OH (Agúndez & Wakelam 2013). A better understanding of the chemistry of dark clouds must necessarily entail deep observational studies able to enlarge both the number of sources chemically characterized and the inventory of molecules identified. The recent discovery of a starless core in the Lupus molecular cloud with a chemical richness comparable to what is found in the widely studied cloud TMC-1 (Sakai et al. 2009, 2010) provides an excellent opportunity to bring new observational constraints to the chemistry of dark clouds.

In this Letter we present the first detection in space of the ketenyl radical (HCCO), a missing link in the series H_xC₂O, in the starless core Lupus-1A and the molecular cloud L483. We also report observations of the more hydrogenated derivatives H₂CCO and CH₃CHO, the HCO radical, and the highly saturated hydrocarbon CH₂CHCH₃ in various molecular clouds.

2. Observations

The observations were carried out with the IRAM 30 m telescope from September to November 2014 during an observational campaign aimed at searching for negative ions in molecular sources. The observed sources are Lupus-1A (Sakai et al. 2010), L483 (Agúndez et al. 2008), L1521F (Crapsi et al. 2005), the Serpens South complex at the HC₇N emission peak 1a (Friesen et al. 2013), L1495B, L1389, L1172, L1251A, and L1512 (Cordiner et al. 2013). The coordinates of the sources were taken from the references quoted above. We used the EMIR receivers in single sideband mode with image rejections >10 dB to cover selected frequency ranges from 83 to 105 GHz (HPBW in the range 23–29"). System temperatures ranged from 80 to 150 K. The highest values were obtained for Lupus-1A

* Based on observations carried out with the IRAM 30 m Telescope. IRAM is supported by INSU/CNRS (France), MPG (Germany) and IGN (Spain).

** Tables 3–6 are available in electronic form at <http://www.aanda.org>

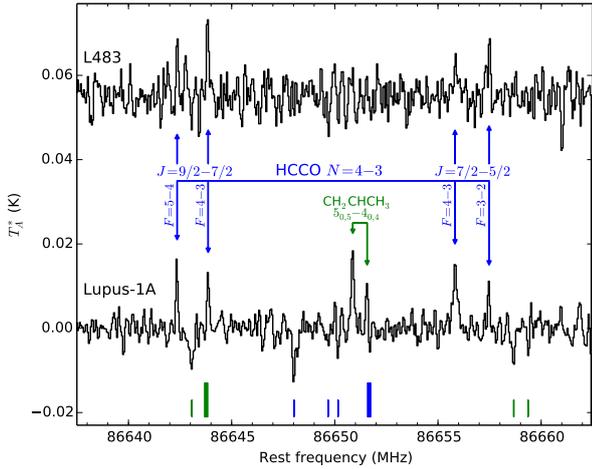


Fig. 1. Spectra of Lupus-1A and L483 around 86.65 GHz showing the quartet of emission lines assigned to HCCO and the doublet assigned to CH_2CHCH_3 in Lupus-1A. The rest frequency scale corresponds to a systemic velocity $V_{\text{LSR}} = +5.0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (Lupus-1A) and $+5.3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ (L483). The T_A^* rms is 0.0022 K (Lupus-1A) and 0.0034 K (L483) per 50 kHz channel. The bottom vertical marks indicate the position of the frequency switching negative artifacts, located at $\pm 7.8 \text{ MHz}$ from each line. Note that in the Lupus-1A spectrum, the intensity of the HCCO $J = 9/2-7/2 F = 4-3$ and the A CH_2CHCH_3 $5_{0,5}-4_{0,4}$ lines, whose frequencies differ by 7.7 MHz, is artificially reduced due to an overlap with frequency switching negative artifacts (thick bottom marks).

owing to the low elevation ($< 20^\circ$) reached by this source at the IRAM 30 m latitude. We used the FFTS backend in its narrow mode, providing a bandwidth of 1.8 GHz and a spectral resolution of 50 kHz, which translates to velocity resolutions of 0.14–0.18 km s^{-1} at the observed frequencies. We used the frequency-switching technique with a frequency throw of 7.8 MHz to minimize the effects of the standing waves between the secondary mirror and the receivers on the spectral baselines. Pointing and focus were regularly checked every one to two hours by observing nearby planets or quasars.

3. Results

The spectrum of Lupus-1A around 86.65 GHz shows a quartet of emission lines whose frequencies coincide precisely with the strongest fine and hyperfine components of the $N = 4-3$ rotational transition of the HCCO radical (see Fig. 1 and Table 1). The lines, with antenna temperatures of 0.010–0.015 K, are detected at $\sim 10\sigma$ confidence after 7 h of “on source” telescope time. The same quartet of lines is detected in L483 at a lower confidence level of $\sim 5\sigma$ (see Fig. 1 and Table 1).

The ketyl radical has a planar structure with a practically linear CCO backbone and the H atom lying out of the linear axis. The radical has a $^2A''$ ground electronic state and a complex rotational structure whose N_{K_a, K_c} levels split in a fine (electronic spin-rotation interaction) and hyperfine (H nuclear spin) structure described by the quantum numbers J and F , respectively (Endo & Hirota 1987; Ohshima & Endo 1993; Sattelmeyer et al. 2004). We obtained the line frequencies from the Cologne Database for Molecular Spectroscopy¹ (Müller et al. 2005), where only the levels $K_a = 0$ are considered, in which case the effective Hamiltonian is similar to that of a linear molecule with a $^2\Sigma$ state. The total dipole moment, which should only be marginally greater than the component along the

Table 1. Observed line parameters of the $N = 4-3$ transition of HCCO.

Transition $J' F' - J'' F''$	Frequency (MHz)	V_{LSR} (km s^{-1})	Δv (km s^{-1})	$\int T_A^* dv$ (K km s^{-1})
Lupus-1A				
9/2 5-7/2 4	86 642.357	+5.05(4)	0.36(8)	0.006(1)
9/2 4-7/2 3	86 643.862	+5.01(5)	0.42(10)	0.006(1) ^a
7/2 4-5/2 3	86 655.825	+4.96(5)	0.71(14)	0.011(2)
7/2 3-5/2 2	86 657.477	+5.05(5)	0.35(10)	0.004(1)
L483				
9/2 5-7/2 4	86 642.357	+5.27(4)	0.35(9)	0.006(1)
9/2 4-7/2 3	86 643.862	+5.39(4)	0.42(8)	0.009(1)
7/2 4-5/2 3	86 655.825	+5.20(5)	0.47(15)	0.005(1)
7/2 3-5/2 2	86 657.477	+5.22(4)	0.36(11)	0.006(1)

Notes. Numbers in parentheses are 1σ uncertainties in units of the last digits. Line parameters obtained by Gaussian fits to the line profiles. ^(a) Intensity is reduced due to overlap with frequency switching artifact.

a axis, has been calculated as 1.59 D by Szalay et al. (1996) and as 1.68 D by Jerosimić (2007). We adopt the latter value for μ_a .

In Lupus-1A, we derive a kinetic temperature of $14 \pm 2 \text{ K}$ from observations of $\text{CH}_3\text{CCH } J = 5-4$ ($K = 0, 1, 2$). At the position of IRAS 15398–3359, 2.8 away from Lupus-1A, Sakai et al. (2009) obtain $12.6 \pm 1.5 \text{ K}$. In the Lupus-1A core, Sakai et al. (2010) derive a rotational temperature of $7.3 \pm 1 \text{ K}$ for C_6H , while we derive $8.2 \pm 0.8 \text{ K}$ and $5.5 \pm 0.8 \text{ K}$ for C_4H and C_3N , respectively, from the observation of a couple of line doublets. Since the dipole moment of HCCO is in between those of C_4H and C_3N we expect a rotational temperature between 5.5 K and 8.2 K. Adopting a rotational temperature of 7 K, we find a beam-averaged column density of $5.4 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ for HCCO (only $K_a = 0$ levels) in Lupus-1A. In the dense core L483, adopting a rotational temperature of 10 K, close to the gas kinetic temperature (Fuller & Myers 1993; Anglada et al. 1997), we derived a beam-averaged column density of $4.3 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$. From a previous unsuccessful search for HCCO in interstellar clouds, Turner & Sears (1989) reported an upper limit to its column density of $2.9 \times 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ in TMC-1, although from their observational details we derive an upper limit of $5 \times 10^{11} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ in TMC-1, i.e., close to the values derived in Lupus-1A and L483. The difference may arise from the different dipole moment and spectroscopic parameters adopted by these authors and us. In the sources for which we obtained sensitive observations around 86.65 GHz (L1495B, L1521F, and Serpens South 1a) we derived 3σ upper limits to the column density of HCCO around 10^{11} cm^{-2} , for a rotational temperature of 10 K (see Table 2).

The column densities of H_2 in the observed sources, which are needed to convert molecular column densities into fractional abundances relative to H_2 , are compiled in Table 2. Sakai et al. (2009) estimate a column density of H_2 of $3 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ toward IRAS 15398–3359, located 2.8 away from Lupus-1A, based on the similar dust continuum flux at 850 and 450 μm of the IRAS source and L1527. In our observations we have detected the $J = 1-0$ line of $^{13}\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$ in Lupus-1A, with a velocity-integrated antenna temperature of $0.037 \pm 0.006 \text{ K km s}^{-1}$, which translates to a column density of $5.7 \times 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ assuming a rotational temperature of 10 K. Adopting the $^{16}\text{O}/^{18}\text{O}$ ratio of 500 within the local interstellar medium (Zinner 1996), the relationship between $N(^{13}\text{CO})$ and A_V recommended by Tothill et al. (2009) for the Lupus molecular cloud and the canonical relationship between A_V and $N(\text{H}_2)$ of Bohlin et al. (1978), we derived $N(\text{H}_2) = 1.5 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ in Lupus-1A. This value could

¹ See <http://www.astro.uni-koeln.de/cdms/>

Table 2. Column densities (in cm^{-2}) and column density ratios.

Source	$N(\text{H}_2)$	Ref	$N(\text{HCCO})$	$N(\text{HCCO})$		$N(\text{H}_2\text{CCO})$		$N(\text{HCO})$		$N(\text{CH}_2\text{CHCH}_3)$
				$N(\text{H}_2)$	$N(\text{H}_2\text{CCO})$	$N(\text{HCCO})$	$N(\text{CH}_3\text{CHO})$	$N(\text{HCO})$	$N(\text{H}_2)$	
Lupus-1A	1.5×10^{22}	(1)	5.4×10^{11}	3.6×10^{-11}	4.3×10^{12}	8	2.3×10^{12}	2.5×10^{12}	1.7×10^{-10}	2.6×10^{13}
L483	3.0×10^{22}	(2)	4.3×10^{11}	1.4×10^{-11}	4.4×10^{12}	10	3.2×10^{12}	2.7×10^{12}	9.0×10^{-11}	$<1.0 \times 10^{13}$
L1495B	1.2×10^{22}	(3)	$<1.3 \times 10^{11}$	$<1.1 \times 10^{-11}$	2.2×10^{12}	>17	5.8×10^{11}	6.7×10^{11}	5.6×10^{-11}	2.8×10^{13}
L1521F	1.35×10^{23}	(4)	$<1.0 \times 10^{11}$	$<7.4 \times 10^{-13}$	2.8×10^{12}	>28	7.9×10^{11}	1.7×10^{12}	1.3×10^{-11}	1.9×10^{13}
Serpens South 1a	2.0×10^{22}	(5)	$<1.7 \times 10^{11}$	$<8.5 \times 10^{-12}$	3.9×10^{12}	>23	1.0×10^{12}	1.6×10^{12}	8.0×10^{-11}	4.2×10^{13}
L1389	1.0×10^{23}	(6)	–	–	–	–	–	2.0×10^{12}	2.0×10^{-11}	–
L1172	6.0×10^{21}	(7)	–	–	–	–	–	6.3×10^{11}	1.1×10^{-10}	–
L1251A	5.1×10^{21}	(8)	–	–	–	–	–	6.0×10^{11}	1.2×10^{-10}	–
L1512	5.7×10^{21}	(3)	–	–	–	–	–	4.6×10^{11}	8.1×10^{-11}	–

Notes. Upper limits are given at 3σ confidence. A blank value indicates that observations were not sensitive enough.

References. (1) This study; (2) Tafalla et al. (2000); (3) Myers et al. (1983); (4) Crapsi et al. (2005); (5) Friesen et al. (2013); (6) Launhardt et al. (2010); (7) quoted by Cordiner et al. (2013); (8) Sato et al. (1994).

be somewhat higher if the densities were high enough to result in a significant depletion of CO. In the dense core L483, Anglada et al. (1997) derive $N(\text{H}_2) = 1.4 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ from NH_3 observations, while Tafalla et al. (2000) derive $N(\text{H}_2) = 3 \times 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ from C^{17}O observations. The much higher value of $9.3 \times 10^{23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ derived by Jørgensen et al. (2002) from dust continuum flux measurements may correspond to a more compact region of high column density than probed by molecular observations. The fractional abundance relative to H_2 of the HCCO radical is then a few 10^{-11} in both Lupus-1A and L483.

In Lupus-1A, L483, L1495B, L1521F, and Serpens South 1a, we observed a couple of additional members of the series $\text{H}_x\text{C}_2\text{O}$: ketene (H_2CCO) and the more saturated species acetaldehyde (CH_3CHO), two molecules that have been previously found in various cold dark clouds (Matthews et al. 1985; Irvine et al. 1989; Ohishi & Kaifu 1998; Öberg et al. 2010; Bacmann et al. 2012; Cernicharo et al. 2012). The line parameters are listed in Tables 3 and 4, and the column densities are given in Table 2. The column densities of ketene and acetaldehyde in the five sources where they have been detected are quite uniform, in the range $(0.6\text{--}4.4) \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}$, and similar to those found in TMC-1 (see, e.g., Table 4 of Agúndez & Wakelam 2013). We find that the ketenyl radical is 8–10 times less abundant than ketene in Lupus-1A and L483, while in L1495B, L1521F, and Serpens South 1a, as well as in TMC-1, HCCO is more than ten times less abundant than H_2CCO .

The formyl radical (HCO) has been detected in the nine targeted sources through the four strongest components of the $1_{0,1}\text{--}0_{0,0}$ transition, lying at 86 GHz. In four of the sources, only one component was detected because the other three were not covered by the observations (see Table 5). The HCO lines are relatively intense in all observed sources, with antenna temperatures in the range 0.03–0.2 K. The presence of the formyl radical in dark clouds was first reported by Jiménez-Serra et al. (2004) in L1448 and later on by Cernicharo et al. (2012) in B1 and TMC-1. We derive column densities of HCO that are remarkably uniform across the observed sources, with values in the range $(0.5\text{--}2.7) \times 10^{12} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ (see Table 2), which are similar to the value derived in B1 (Cernicharo et al. 2012) and slightly above what is found in L1448 (Jiménez-Serra et al. 2004). It is also worth noting that the fractional abundances of HCO relative to H_2 are quite uniform, in the range $10^{-11}\text{--}10^{-10}$, across all sources (see Table 2).

In the same spectrum of Lupus-1A that shows the quartet of lines of HCCO (see Fig. 1), there is a doublet of lines arising from propylene (CH_2CHCH_3), a highly saturated hydrocarbon

that has been previously found only in TMC-1 (Marcelino et al. 2007). Propylene has been detected in Lupus-1A and three additional dense clouds: L1495B, L1521F, and Serpens South 1a (see Table 6). In some of the sources, only the strongest transitions were clearly detected above the noise level. As in TMC-1, the column densities derived in the four sources are a few 10^{13} cm^{-2} (see Table 2) and are consistent with a A/E ratio of 1. The fractional abundances relative to H_2 are in the range $(0.14\text{--}2.3) \times 10^{-9}$.

4. Discussion

After the astronomical search by Turner & Sears (1989), the ketenyl radical has not attracted much attention in astrochemistry, although it has been of some interest in combustion chemistry (Baulch et al. 1992) and in the study of Titan's atmosphere (Dobrijevic et al. 2014). No reaction involving this species is included in any of the main chemical kinetics databases of use in interstellar chemistry, UMIST (McElroy et al. 2013) and KIDA (Wakelam et al. 2015). The detection of HCCO in Lupus-1A makes it worth discussing its chemistry in interstellar clouds.

By including various formation and destruction reactions of HCCO from combustion chemistry and the literature in chemical kinetics in a standard chemical model of a cold dark cloud (see, e.g., Agúndez & Wakelam 2013) we find that the main formation route to HCCO is the reaction between OH and C_2H . This reaction is exothermic and has an estimated rate constant of $3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Frenklach et al. 1992). The reaction between atomic O and C_2H_2 is also exothermic in the channel yielding HCCO, although its reaction barrier is too large to be relevant at low temperatures (Balucani et al. 2012). A possible precursor of HCCO is ketene. The reaction of ketene with OH is a potential source of HCCO radicals because this reaction is rapid (Brown et al. 1989), although it seems to have a low yield of HCCO (Grußdorf et al. 1994). The ketenyl radical does not react with stable hydrocarbons or H_2 but it does react fast with radicals and atoms (Dobrijevic et al. 2014). In dark clouds, the destruction of HCCO is dominated by the reactions with H, O, and N atoms, whose rate constants are on the order of $10^{-10} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Baulch et al. 1992; Dobrijevic et al. 2014). The abundance of HCCO calculated by the chemical model remains about six orders of magnitude below the abundance calculated for H_2CCO (see also Occhiogrosso et al. 2013), i.e., well below the values observed in Lupus-1A and L483. It is clear that some key formation mechanism is missing. In the chemical model, ketene, which is predicted with a much larger abundance than observed

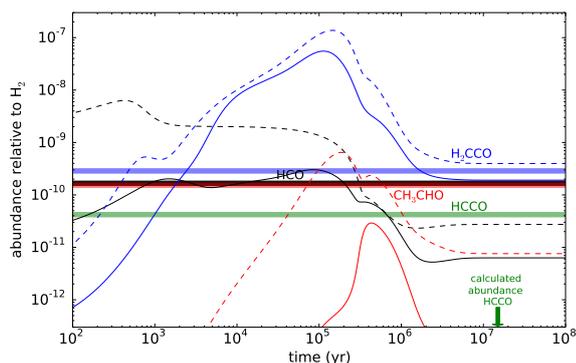


Fig. 2. Calculated abundances as a function of time for a standard dark cloud model (parameters from Agúndez & Wakelam 2013). Solid lines use the KIDA *ki da .uva .2014* ratefile (Wakelam et al. 2015) and dashed lines the UMIST RATE12 ratefile (McElroy et al. 2013). In both cases a subset of reactions involving HCCO is introduced, although its calculated abundance remains below the range plotted. The horizontal thick lines indicate the observed abundances in Lupus-1A.

at an early time of $\sim 10^5$ yr and in good agreement with the observed value at late times (see Fig. 2), is mainly formed by the reaction of atomic O and the C_2H_3 radical and by the dissociative recombination of the CH_3CO^+ ion with electrons. If we assume that these routes contribute also to the formation of HCCO, then its abundance increases significantly, but still remains three to four orders of magnitude below that of H_2CCO .

A powerful formation mechanism of HCCO is needed to counterbalance the efficient depletion of this radical by reactions with neutral atoms. An interesting possibility is the reactions of O atoms with C_nH radicals ($n \geq 3$), which are assumed to yield CO because this is the most exothermic channel (Smith et al. 2004), although the channel leading to HCCO is also exothermic. It is also worth noting that recent studies (Hudson & Loeffler 2013; Maity et al. 2014) find that ketene can be efficiently formed in various types of ices upon irradiation with energetic electrons and ultraviolet photons (both of which can be formed in dark clouds following cosmic-ray impacts), which opens the possibility to the formation of HCCO as an intermediate.

In the chemical model, the HCO radical is mainly formed through the reaction of O atoms and CH_2 radicals, together with the dissociative recombination of H_3CO^+ and H_2CO^+ with electrons, reaching an abundance in good agreement with the observed values (see Fig. 2). On the other hand, the detection of propylene in various dark clouds other than TMC-1 points to a widespread presence of this saturated hydrocarbon in cold dark clouds. This fact exacerbates the challenge to chemical models, which still lack an efficient gas phase formation mechanism for this molecule (Lin et al. 2013).

5. Summary

We have reported the first detection in space of the ketenyl radical (HCCO) in the starless core Lupus-1A and the molecular cloud L483, together with observations of the related molecules H_2CCO and CH_3CHO toward these two sources and some other dense clouds. Our observations also significantly extend the number of dark clouds in which the formyl radical (HCO), previously detected only in L1448, B1, and TMC-1, and propylene (CH_2CHCH_3), previously identified only in TMC-1, are observed. The radical HCCO is found to be just around ten times

less abundant than its closed shell counterpart H_2CCO , so more than three orders of magnitude more abundant than predicted by chemical models. A highly efficient formation mechanism of HCCO, still unidentified, is needed to counterbalance the rapid depletion of this radical in cold dark clouds by reactions with neutral atoms. The discovery of ketenyl in Lupus-1A and L483 and the widespread occurrence of propylene in dark clouds suggest that a revision of the gas phase and grain surface chemical processes at work in cold dark clouds is required.

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Table 3. Observed line parameters of H₂CCO.

Transition	$J_{K_a,K_c} = 5_{1,5}-4_{1,4}$			$J_{K_a,K_c} = 5_{0,5}-4_{0,4}$			$J_{K_a,K_c} = 5_{1,4}-4_{1,3}$		
	100 094.514			101 036.630			101 981.429		
Frequency (MHz)	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$
Source	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)
Lupus-1A	+5.06(2)	0.32(2)	0.043(2)	+5.06(3)	0.41(7)	0.036(5)	+5.04(3)	0.27(4)	0.037(5)
L483	+5.28(1)	0.46(2)	0.069(2)	–	–	–	–	–	–
L1495B	+7.62(1)	0.30(1)	0.035(1)	–	–	–	–	–	–
L1521F	+6.39(1)	0.39(1)	0.044(1)	–	–	–	–	–	–
Serpens South 1a	+7.58(1)	0.64(2)	0.062(2)	–	–	–	–	–	–

Notes. Numbers in parentheses are 1σ uncertainties in units of the last digits. Line parameters obtained by Gaussian fits to the line profiles.

Table 4. Observed line parameters of CH₃CHO.

Transition	$J_{K_a,K_c} = 2_{1,2}-1_{0,1} \text{ E}$			$J_{K_a,K_c} = 2_{1,2}-1_{0,1} \text{ A}$			$J_{K_a,K_c} = 5_{1,4}-4_{1,3} \text{ E}$			$J_{K_a,K_c} = 5_{1,4}-4_{1,3} \text{ A}$		
	83 584.279			84 219.748			98 863.313			98 900.944		
Frequency (MHz)	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$
Source	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)
Lupus-1A	+5.02(9)	0.76(19)	0.008(2)	+4.98(3)	0.30(6)	0.007(1)	+5.04(2)	0.33(4)	0.009(1)	+5.03(2)	0.30(4)	0.008(1)
L483	–	–	–	+5.15(6)	0.53(12)	0.012(2)	+5.27(2)	0.78(7)	0.037(2)	+5.30(2)	0.54(6)	0.027(2)
L1495B	–	–	–	–	–	–	+7.57(6)	0.56(14)	0.006(1)	+7.40(10)	0.77(19)	0.005(1)
L1521F	–	–	–	–	–	–	+6.46(4)	0.51(11)	0.007(1)	+6.47(4)	0.47(9)	0.008(1)
Serpens South 1a	–	–	–	–	–	–	+7.41(6)	0.62(11)	0.009(2)	+7.53(6)	0.66(15)	0.010(2)

Notes. Numbers in parentheses are 1σ uncertainties in units of the last digits. Line parameters obtained by Gaussian fits to the line profiles.

Table 5. Observed line parameters of HCO $N_{K_a,K_c} = 1_{0,1}-0_{0,0}$.

Transition	$J = 3/2-1/2 \quad F = 2-1$			$J = 3/2-1/2 \quad F = 1-0$			$J = 1/2-1/2 \quad F = 1-1$			$J = 1/2-1/2 \quad F = 0-1$		
	86 670.76			86 708.36			86 777.46			86 805.78		
Frequency (MHz)	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$	V_{LSR}	Δv	$\int T_A^* dv$
Source	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(km s ⁻¹)	(K km s ⁻¹)
Lupus-1A	+5.23(1)	0.38(2)	0.069(1)	+5.34(1)	0.44(2)	0.052(1) ^a	+5.22(1)	0.38(2)	0.047(1)	+5.27(3)	0.35(3)	0.017(1)
L483	+5.46(1)	0.45(2)	0.077(2)	+5.44(1)	0.68(2)	0.084(2) ^a	+5.42(2)	0.46(2)	0.047(2)	+5.50(3)	0.58(5)	0.021(2)
L1495B	+7.78(1)	0.42(3)	0.021(1)	+7.64(1)	0.46(2)	0.036(1) ^a	+7.76(2)	0.33(4)	0.010(1)	+7.74(3)	0.31(6)	0.005(1)
L1521F	+6.61(1)	0.43(2)	0.053(1)	+6.50(1)	0.68(2)	0.066(1) ^a	+6.58(1)	0.41(2)	0.032(1)	+6.63(2)	0.33(5)	0.007(1)
Serpens South 1a	+7.65(2)	0.66(4)	0.038(2)	+7.58(1)	0.63(1)	0.149(2) ^a	+7.62(2)	0.68(4)	0.030(1)	+7.50(8)	1.15(17)	0.015(2)
L1389	-4.53(1)	0.45(3)	0.060(3)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
L1172	+2.91(6)	0.61(11)	0.019(3)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
L1251A	-3.79(6)	0.47(11)	0.018(4)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
L1512	+7.26(2)	0.24(7)	0.014(2)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–

Notes. Numbers in parentheses are 1σ uncertainties in units of the last digits. Line parameters obtained by Gaussian fits to the line profiles.

^(a) Uncertain intensity due to severe overlap with the $J = 15-14$ transition of C₃S at 86 708.374 MHz.

Table 6. Observed line parameters of CH₂CHCH₃.

Transition	Frequency (MHz)	Lupus-1A			L1495B			L1521F			Serpens South 1a		
		V_{LSR} (km s ⁻¹)	Δv (km s ⁻¹)	$\int T_{\text{A}}^* dv$ (K km s ⁻¹)	V_{LSR} (km s ⁻¹)	Δv (km s ⁻¹)	$\int T_{\text{A}}^* dv$ (K km s ⁻¹)	V_{LSR} (km s ⁻¹)	Δv (km s ⁻¹)	$\int T_{\text{A}}^* dv$ (K km s ⁻¹)	V_{LSR} (km s ⁻¹)	Δv (km s ⁻¹)	$\int T_{\text{A}}^* dv$ (K km s ⁻¹)
5 _{1,5} -4 _{1,4} A	84 151.670	+5.00(4)	0.33(11)	0.005(1)	+7.55(2)	0.25(8)	0.006(1)	+6.33(4)	0.34(9)	0.006(1)	–	–	–
5 _{0,5} -4 _{0,4} A	86 651.566	+5.05(5)	0.36(9)	0.004(1) ^a	+7.50(2)	0.28(4)	0.009(1)	+6.28(2)	0.17(8)	0.005(1)	+7.46(6)	0.58(12)	0.011(2)
5 _{2,4} -4 _{2,3} A	87 134.576	–	–	–	+7.64(3)	0.26(7)	0.004(1)	–	–	–	–	–	–
6 _{0,6} -5 _{0,5} A	103 689.979	+4.99(7)	0.52(16)	0.006(2)	+7.55(3)	0.44(8)	0.008(1)	+6.25(4)	0.44(8)	0.006(1)	–	–	–
5 _{1,5} -4 _{1,4} E	84 151.52 ^b	–	–	–	+7.67 ^b	0.25(7)	0.006(1)	+6.40 ^b	0.44(20)	0.005(2) ^c	–	–	–
5 _{0,5} -4 _{0,4} E	86 650.873	+5.03(4)	0.56(10)	0.011(2)	+7.61(2)	0.33(6)	0.010(1)	+6.34(3)	0.28(5)	0.005(1)	+7.57(4)	0.68(10)	0.017(2)
5 _{2,4} -4 _{2,3} E	87 137.941	–	–	–	+7.70(4)	0.44(9)	0.006(1)	–	–	–	–	–	–
6 _{0,6} -5 _{0,5} E	103 689.117	+5.19(8)	0.77(16)	0.009(2)	+7.64(2)	0.27(4)	0.006(1)	+6.41(3)	0.30(5)	0.006(1)	–	–	–

Notes. Numbers in parentheses are 1σ uncertainties in units of the last digits. Line parameters obtained by Gaussian fits to the line profiles. ^(a) Intensity diminished due to overlap with frequency switching artifact. ^(b) Rest frequency of transition 5_{1,5}-4_{1,4} of E species constrained to 84 151.52 ± 0.03 MHz by fixing V_{LSR} . ^(c) Line blended.