

# **NRAO/Socorro Special Colloquium**

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*MPE*

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## **Astrochemistry and the first steps toward star and planet formation**

### **Abstract**

Stars and planetary systems form within dense ( $\sim 10^5$  H<sub>2</sub> molecules per cc) and cold ( $\sim 10$  K) fragments of interstellar molecular clouds. Molecules are unique tracers of the physical/chemical conditions and dynamical evolution of these regions. Thus, astrochemistry is crucial to identify the ideal molecule and transition to observe. In this talk I will review results from astrochemical studies of star and planet forming regions in their earliest evolutionary phases. Links to our Solar System will also be presented. Finally, a glimpse to the current and future activities of the Center for Astrochemical Studies at MPE will be given.

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**November 5, 2015**

**\*2:00 pm\***

**Array Operations Center Auditorium**

**All NRAO employees are invited to attend via video, available in Charlottesville Auditorium, Green Bank Auditorium, and VLA Video Conference Room.**

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