

AU Semaniak, J, Larson, A, Le Padellec, A, Stromholm, C, Larsson, M, Rosen, S, Peverall, R, Danared, H, Djuric, N, Dunn, GH, Datz, S

TI Dissociative recombination and excitation of CH₅⁺: Absolute cross sections and branching fractions

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LA English

DT Article

DE ISM, clouds; ISM, molecules; methods, laboratory; molecular processes

ID HIGH-RESOLUTION MEASUREMENT; POLYATOMIC IONS; DIELECTRONIC RECOMBINATION; IONOSPHERE; ELECTRONS; MOLECULES; PRODUCTS; H-3(+); H-3+; BEAM

AB The heavy-ion storage ring CRYRING was used to measure the absolute dissociative recombination and dissociative excitation cross sections for collision energies below 50 eV. Deduced thermal rates coefficients are consistent with previous beams data but are lower by a factor of 3 than the rates measured by means of the flowing afterglow Langmuir probe technique. A resonant structure in dissociative recombination cross section was found at 9 eV. We have determined the branching fractions in DR of CH₅⁺ below 0.2 eV. The branching is dominated by three-body CH₃ + H + H and CH₂ + H-2 + H dissociation channels, which occur with branching ratios of approximate to 0.7 and approximate to 0.2, respectively; thus methane is a minor species among dissociation products. Both the measured absolute cross sections and branching in dissociative recombination of CH₅⁺ can have important implications for the models of dense interstellar clouds and abundance of CH₂, CH₃ and CH₄ in these media.

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