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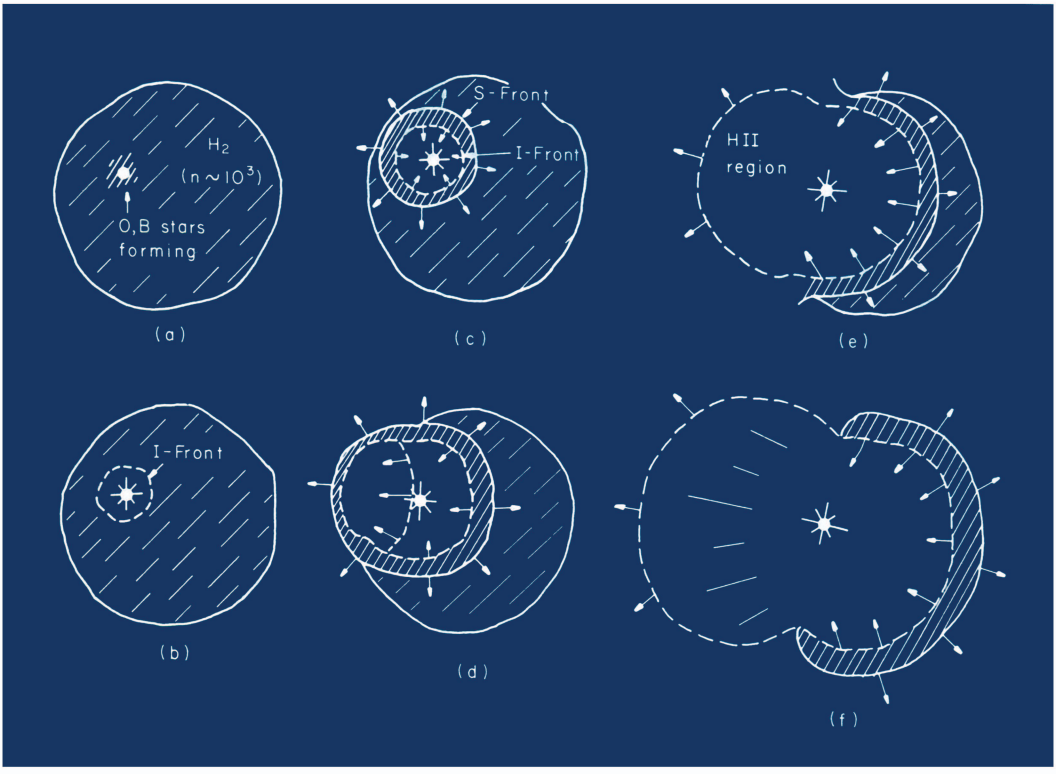
SYMPOSIUM No. 87

INTERSTELLAR MOLECULES

Edited by BRYAN H. ANDREW



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The study of interstellar molecules has become the most exciting and rapidly developing field in astronomy, attracting laboratory, theoretical, and observational scientists from many disciplines. In recent years astronomers have realised the importance of the role played by interstellar molecular clouds in the evolution of the galaxy and the birth and death of stars. An understanding of the behaviour of these clouds and of the physics and chemistry of their constituent molecular species is fundamental to an understanding of the galaxy itself. This book represents a unique and up-to-date compendium of knowledge in the field. It illustrates well both the successes and failures of current understanding; comprehensive review articles develop the background into which can be fitted the many reports of important new research. The book will be an invaluable asset for many years for all those with an interest in interstellar molecules.

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