

# Script for ESOcast Light 253: Largest Molecule yet Spotted in a Planet-forming Disc

ESOcast Light 253	
[Visual starts]	
New ESOcast intro	New ESOcast introduction
<b>Title: Largest Molecule yet Spotted in a Planet-Forming Disc</b>	
1. Using ALMA, astronomers have <b>detected dimethyl ether</b> in a planet-forming disc around the star IRS 48.  With nine atoms, it is the <b>largest molecule ever discovered</b> in such an environment.	
2. The disc contains a “dust trap”...  ...that is also an <b>ice reservoir</b> , in which large molecules can be frozen.	
3. Heating from IRS 48 turns this ice into gas, freeing the trapped molecules and <b>making them detectable</b> by ALMA.	
4. Such large molecules are the <b>precursors</b> of <b>prebiotic molecules</b> like amino acids and sugars, the <b>ingredients for life</b> .	
5. The finding helps us better understand how prebiotic molecules <b>end up on planets</b> , including our own.	
[Outro]	<i>Produced by ESO, the European Southern Observatory. Reaching new heights in Astronomy.</i>
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