

Podcast: Organic molecules in space and the Pluto fly-by

Nature's weekly audio round-up.

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Scientists finally get to the bottom of an interstellar mystery this week: strange bands seen in the spectra of light from distant stars turn out to match perfectly with 'buckyball' ions made of carbon¹. The test confirms a suspicion that scientists have had for decades. But what these [space-travelling buckyballs](#) are doing there is still up for debate. Also on the show, the [schoolchildren who think like scientists](#), dreaming up experiments to test their theories; treating traumatic brain injury²; and reporter Alexandra Witze describes the atmosphere at New Horizons mission control as the spacecraft completed its Pluto fly-by (more coverage [here](#)).

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References

1. Campbell, E. K., Holz, M., Gerlich, D. & Maier, J. P. *Nature* **523**, 322–323 (2015).
2. Kondo, A., *et al.* *Nature* <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/nature14658> (2015).