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Radiative association cross sections¹ J.F. BABB, ITAMP, Harvard-Smithsonian, B. ZYGELMAN, UNLV — Radiative association is a binary collisional process where atomic, molecular, or ionic species collide and form a molecular complex through emission of a photon. We survey some of the advantages and disadvantages of existing theoretical methodologies and explore procedures for rapid evaluation of cross sections. Applications to ultra-cold atoms and ions and to astrophysics are described.

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