

Sternentstehung - Star Formation

Winter term 2020/2021

Henrik Beuther, Thomas Henning & Sümeyye Suri

03.11 Today: Introduction & Overview	(Beuther)
10.11 Physical processes I	(Beuther)
17.11 Physical processes II	(Beuther)
24.11 Molecular clouds as birth places of stars	(Suri)
01.12 Molecular clouds (cont.), Jeans Analysis	(Suri)
08.12 Collapse models I	(Henning)
15.12 Collapse models II	(Henning)
----- Christmas break -----	
12.01 Protostellar evolution	(Beuther)
19.01 Pre-main sequence evolution & outflows/jets	(Beuther)
26.01 Accretion disks I	(Henning)
02.02 Accretion disks II	(Henning)
09.02 High-mass star formation, clusters and the IMF	(Suri)
16.02 Extragalactic star formation	(Henning)
23.02 Examination week, no star formation lecture	

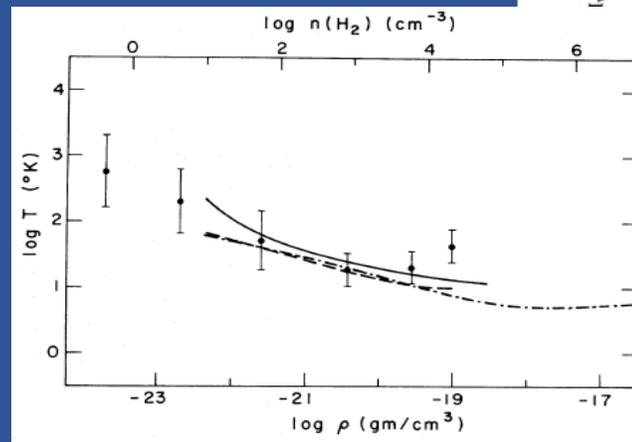
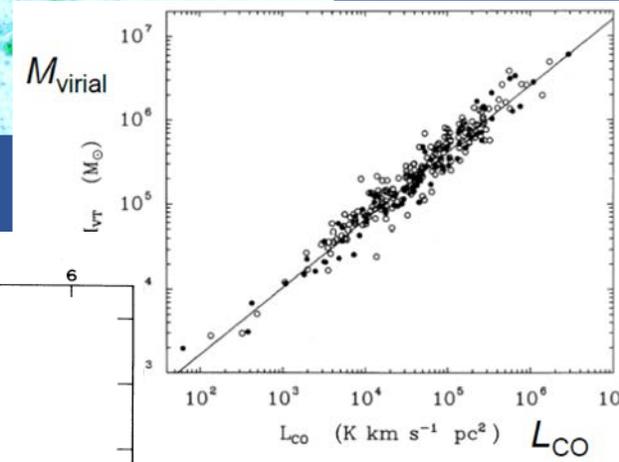
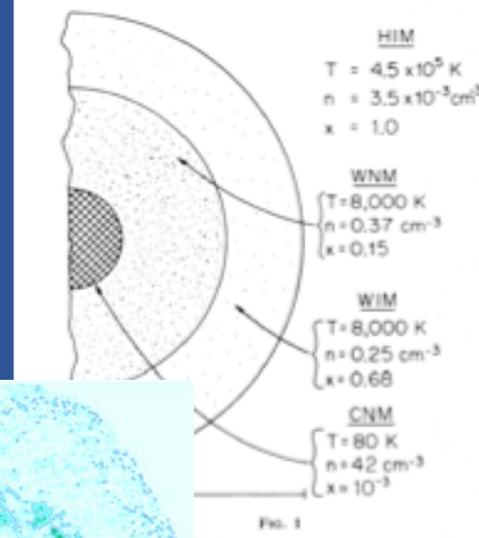
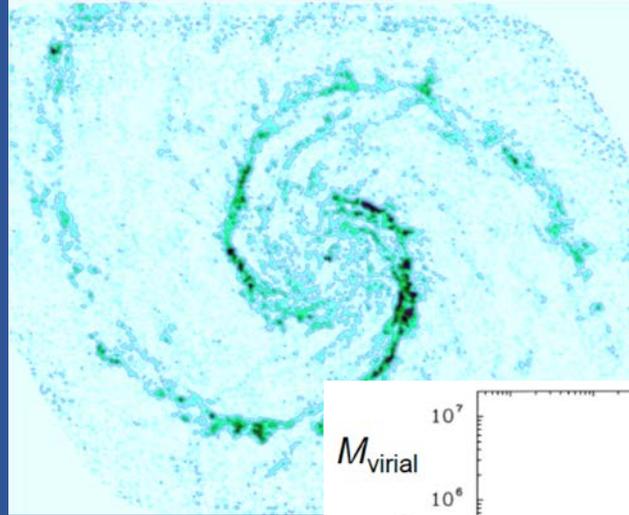
Book: Stahler & Palla: The Formation of Stars, Wileys

More Information and the current lecture files: http://www.mpia.de/homes/beuther/lecture_ws2021.html

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Last Week

- Different components of ISM
- Basic characteristics
- Important cloud relations
- Cloud fragmentation



Topics today

- Virial Theorem
- Jeans analysis for gravitational instability
- Magnetic Fields
- Cloud fragmentation and turbulence

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Additional read:

The Physics of Astrophysics: Gas dynamics
By Frank H. Shu

Physics of the interstellar and
intergalactic medium
By Bruce T. Draine

Virial Analysis

Virial Analysis

We are going to assess the balance of forces:

Starting with the equation of momentum conservation:

$$\rho D\mathbf{v}/Dt = -\nabla P - \rho \nabla\Phi_g + 1/c \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B}$$

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 \mathbf{v} the fluid velocity

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Magnetic force per unit volume
Acting on current density \mathbf{j}

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$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{v}}{Dt} = -\nabla P - \rho \nabla \Phi_g + \frac{1}{4\pi} (\mathbf{B} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{B} - \frac{1}{8\pi} \nabla |\mathbf{B}|^2$$

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Tension associated with
Curved magnetic field lines

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Poisson equation: $\Delta\Phi_g = 4\pi G\rho$

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$$1/2 (\delta^2 I / \delta t^2) = 2T + 2U + W + M$$

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The detailed derivation is in
the appendix of the book!

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$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$$

I: Moment of inertia
Decreases during core collapse
(m*r²)

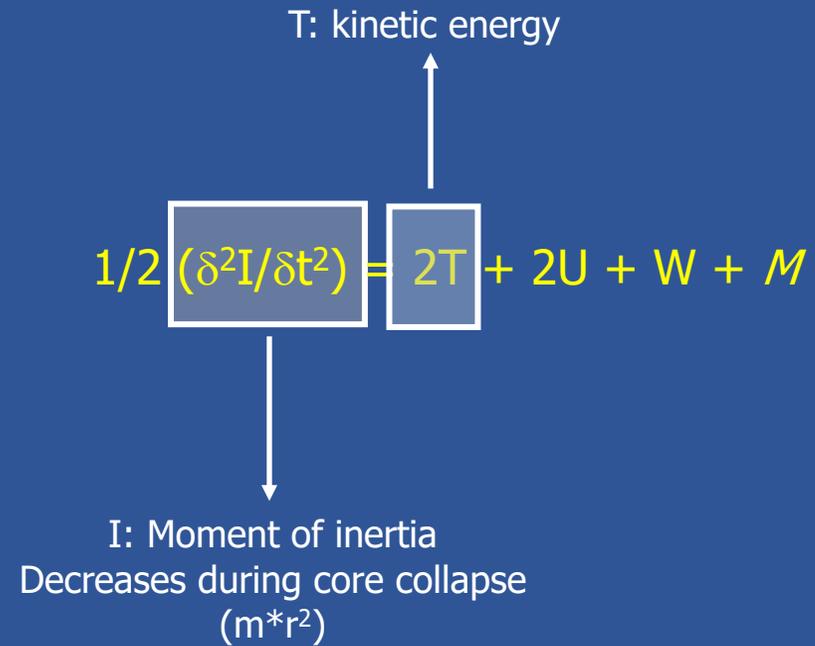
Virial Analysis

We are going to assess the balance of forces:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$$

T: kinetic energy

I: Moment of inertia
Decreases during core collapse
($m \cdot r^2$)

The diagram features the virial equation $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$ in yellow text. The term $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right)$ is enclosed in a white box with a black border, and a white arrow points downwards from it to the text 'I: Moment of inertia' and 'Decreases during core collapse (m*r^2)'. The term '2T' is also enclosed in a white box with a black border, and a white arrow points upwards from it to the text 'T: kinetic energy'.

Virial Analysis

We are going to assess the balance of forces:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$$

T: kinetic energy

I: Moment of inertia
Decreases during core collapse
($m \cdot r^2$)

U: thermal energy

The diagram shows the virial equation $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$. Three terms are highlighted with boxes: $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right)$, $2T$, and $2U$. An arrow points from the first box to the text 'I: Moment of inertia' and 'Decreases during core collapse (m*r^2)'. An arrow points from the second box to 'T: kinetic energy'. An arrow points from the third box to 'U: thermal energy'.

Virial Analysis

We are going to assess the balance of forces:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$$

T: kinetic energy
W: gravitational potential energy
I: Moment of inertia
Decreases during core collapse
($m \cdot r^2$)
U: thermal energy

The diagram shows the virial equation $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$. The terms are enclosed in boxes. Arrows point from the boxes to their definitions: $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right)$ points to 'I: Moment of inertia, Decreases during core collapse, ($m \cdot r^2$)'; $2T$ points to 'T: kinetic energy'; $2U$ points to 'U: thermal energy'; and W points to 'W: gravitational potential energy'. The term M is not defined.

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$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$$

T: kinetic energy

W: gravitational potential energy

I: Moment of inertia
Decreases during core collapse
($m \cdot r^2$)

U: thermal energy

M: magnetic energy

The diagram shows the virial equation $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right) = 2T + 2U + W + M$ with five terms in boxes. Arrows point from each term to its definition: $\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\delta^2 I}{\delta t^2} \right)$ points to 'I: Moment of inertia, Decreases during core collapse, (m*r^2)'; 2T points to 'T: kinetic energy'; 2U points to 'U: thermal energy'; W points to 'W: gravitational potential energy'; and M points to 'M: magnetic energy'.

Application of the Virial Theorem I

If all forces are too weak to match the gravitational energy, we get

$$1/2 (\delta^2 I / \delta t^2) = W \sim Gm^2/r$$

Approximating further $I=mr^2$, the free-fall time is approximately

$$t_{\text{ff}} \sim \text{sqrt}(r^3/Gm)$$

Since the density can be approximated by $\rho=m/r^3$, one can also write

$$t_{\text{ff}} \sim (G\rho)^{-1/2}$$

Or more exactly for a pressure-free 3D homogeneous sphere

$$t_{\text{ff}} = (3\pi/32G\rho)^{1/2}$$

For a giant molecular cloud, this corresponds to

$$t_{\text{ff}} \sim 7*10^6 \text{ yr } (m/10^5 M_{\text{sun}})^{-1/2} (R/25\text{pc})^{3/2}$$

For a dense core with $\rho \sim 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ the t_{ff} is approximately 10^5 yr.

However, no globally collapsing GMCs observed → add support!

Application of the Virial Theorem II

If the cloud complexes are in approximate force equilibrium, the moment of inertia actually does not change significantly and hence $1/2 (\delta^2 I / \delta t^2) = 0$

$$2T + 2U + W + M = 0$$

This state is called VIRIAL EQUILIBRIUM. What balances gravitation W best?

Thermal Energy: Approximating U by $U \sim 3/2 N k_B T \sim mRT/\mu$

$$\begin{aligned} U/|W| &\sim mRT/\mu (Gm^2/R)^{-1} \\ &= 3 \cdot 10^{-3} (m/10^5 M_{\text{sun}})^{-1} (R/25\text{pc}) (T/15\text{K}) \end{aligned}$$

--> Clouds cannot be supported by thermal pressure alone!

Magnetic energy: Approximating M by $M \sim B^2 r^3 / 6$ (cloud approximated as sphere)

$$\begin{aligned} M/|W| &\sim B^2 r^3 / 6 (Gm^2/R)^{-1} \\ &= 0.3 (B/20\mu\text{G})^2 (R/25\text{pc})^4 (m/10^5 M_{\text{sun}})^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

--> Magnetic force is important for large-scale cloud stability!

Application of the Virial Theorem III

The last term to consider in $2T + 2U + W + M = 0$ is the kinetic energy T

$$\begin{aligned} T/|W| &\sim 1/2m\Delta v^2 (Gm^2/R)^{-1} \\ &= 0.5 (\Delta v/4\text{km/s}) (M/10^5 M_{\text{sun}})^{-1} (R/25\text{pc}) \end{aligned}$$

Since the shortest form of the virial theorem is $2T = -W$, the above numbers imply that a typical cloud with linewidth of a few km/s is in approximate virial equilibrium.

The other way round, one can derive an approximate relation between the observed line-width and the mass of the cloud:

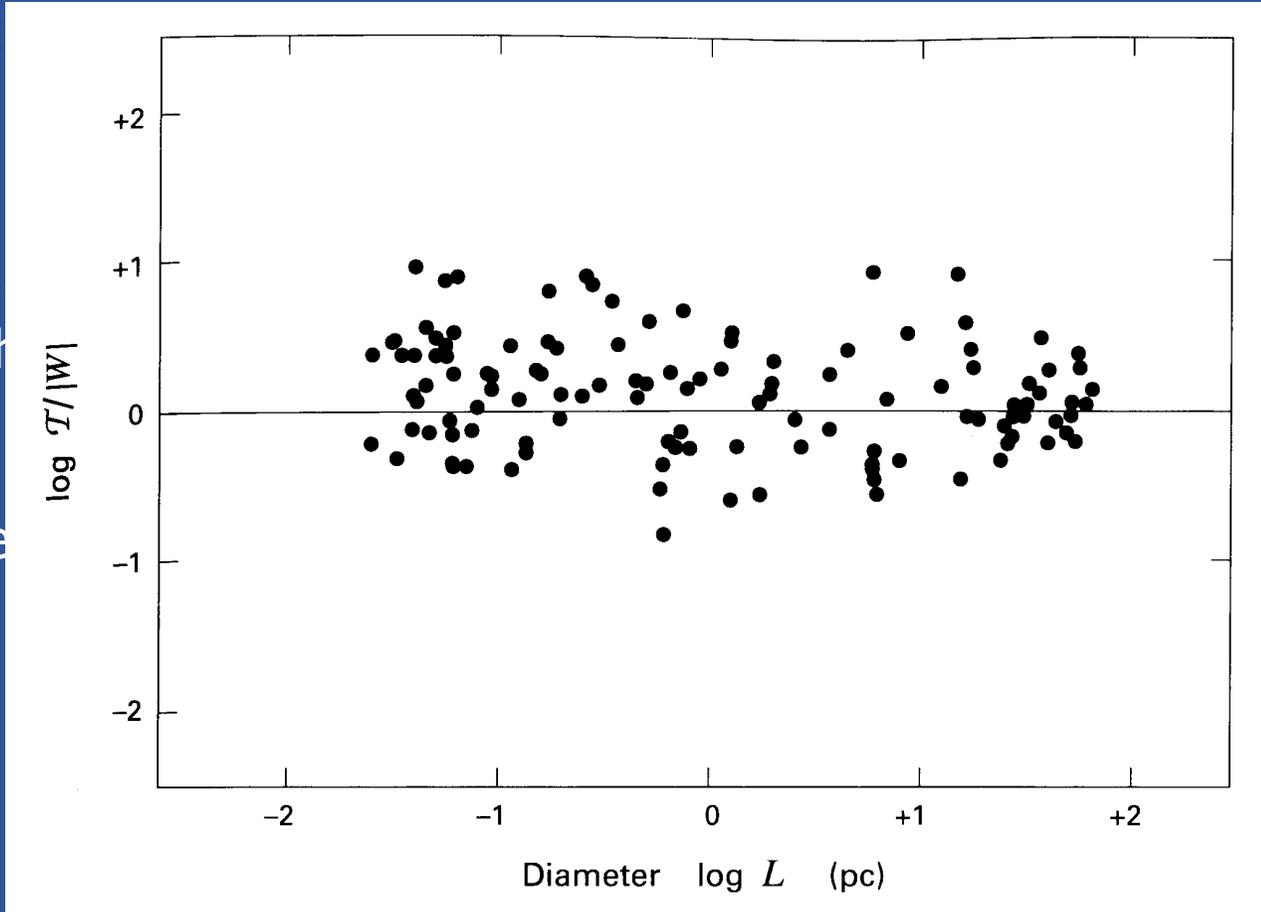
$$\begin{aligned} 2T &= 2 * (1/2m\Delta v^2) = -W = Gm^2/r \\ \rightarrow \text{virial velocity: } v_{\text{vir}} &= (Gm/r)^{1/2} \\ \rightarrow \text{or virial mass: } m_{\text{vir}} &= v^2 r / G \end{aligned}$$

Application of the Virial Theorem III

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Topics today

- Virial Theorem
- Jeans analysis for gravitational instability
- Magnetic Fields
- Cloud fragmentation and turbulence

Jeans analysis I

Start again with equation of hydrodynamic equilibrium (without magn. Field):

Conservation of momentum: $\rho D\mathbf{v}/Dt = -\nabla P - \rho \nabla\Phi_g$
 $\rho (\partial\mathbf{v}/\partial t) + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{v} = -\nabla P - \rho \nabla\Phi_g$

Continuity equation: $(\partial\rho/\partial t) = -\nabla(\rho\mathbf{v})$

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Static solution: $\rho = \rho_0 = \text{const}$; $P = P_0 = \text{const}$; $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_0 = \text{const}$; $\Phi_g = \Phi_0 = \text{const}$

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Little perturbation: linear stability analysis:

$\rho = \rho_0 + \rho_1$; $P = P_0 + P_1$; $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_1$; $\Phi_g = \Phi_0 + \Phi_1$
(with $|\rho_1| \ll \rho_0$ etc.)

Jeans analysis II

Considering only expressions of first order:

$$\partial \mathbf{v}_1 / \partial t = -1/\rho_0 \nabla(P_1) - \nabla(\Phi_1) \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

$$\partial \rho_1 / \partial t = -\rho_0 \nabla(\mathbf{v}_1) \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

$$\Delta \Phi_1 = 4\pi G \rho_1 \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$

Using furthermore: $P_1 = c_s^2 \rho_1$ and $c_s = kT/(\mu m_H)$
(c_s sound speed; μ mean mass of particle; m_H mass of hydrogen)

Apply grad to Eq. 1:

$$\nabla(\partial \mathbf{v}_1 / \partial t) = -\Delta (a_t^2 \rho_1 / \rho_0 + \Phi_1)$$

Time derivative for Eq. 2:

$$\partial^2 \rho_1 / \partial t^2 = -\rho_0 \nabla(\partial \mathbf{v}_1 / \partial t)$$

→ wave equation:

$$\partial^2 \rho_1 / \partial t^2 = c_s^2 \Delta \rho_1 + 4\pi G \rho_0 \rho_1$$

Jeans analysis III

$$\partial^2 \rho_1 / \partial t^2 = c_s^2 \Delta \rho_1 + 4\pi G \rho_0 \rho_1$$

A travelling wave in an isothermal gas can be described as:

Then $\rho_1 = \text{const exp}[i(kx - \omega t)]$ with wave number $k=2\pi/\lambda$ and frequency ω
 $\partial^2 \rho_1 / \partial t^2 = -\omega^2 \rho_1$ and $\Delta \rho_1 = -k^2 \rho_1$ (see equations 9.20a to 9.22 in the book)

Jeans analysis III

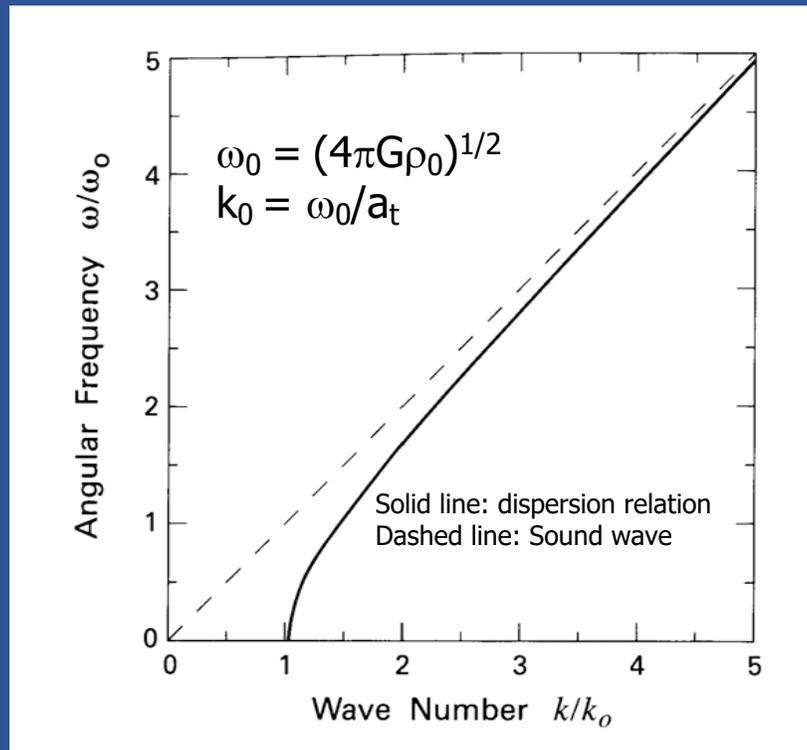
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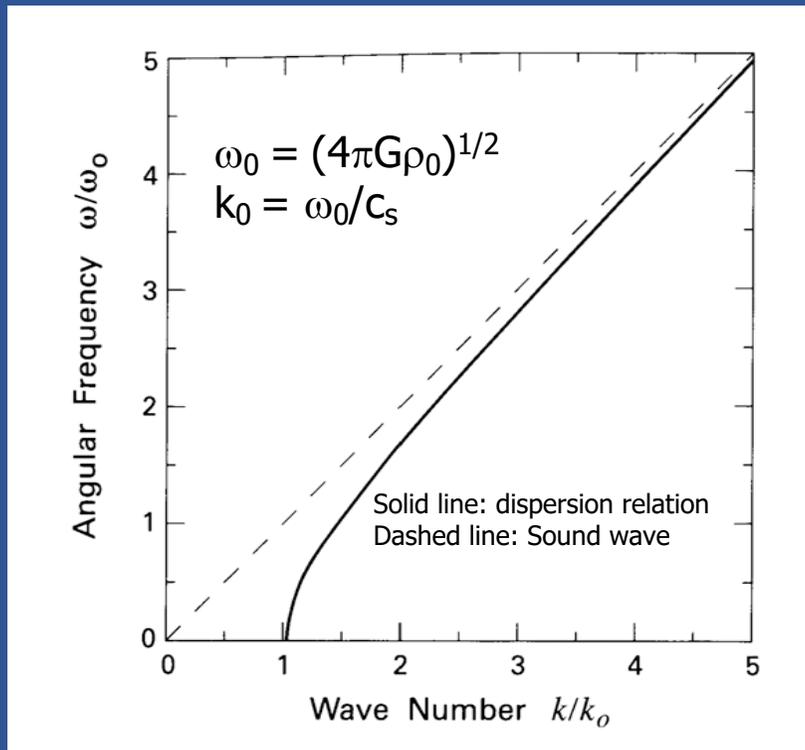
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Large k high-frequency disturbances

→ **sound wave** $\omega = kc_s$

→ isothermal sound speed of background

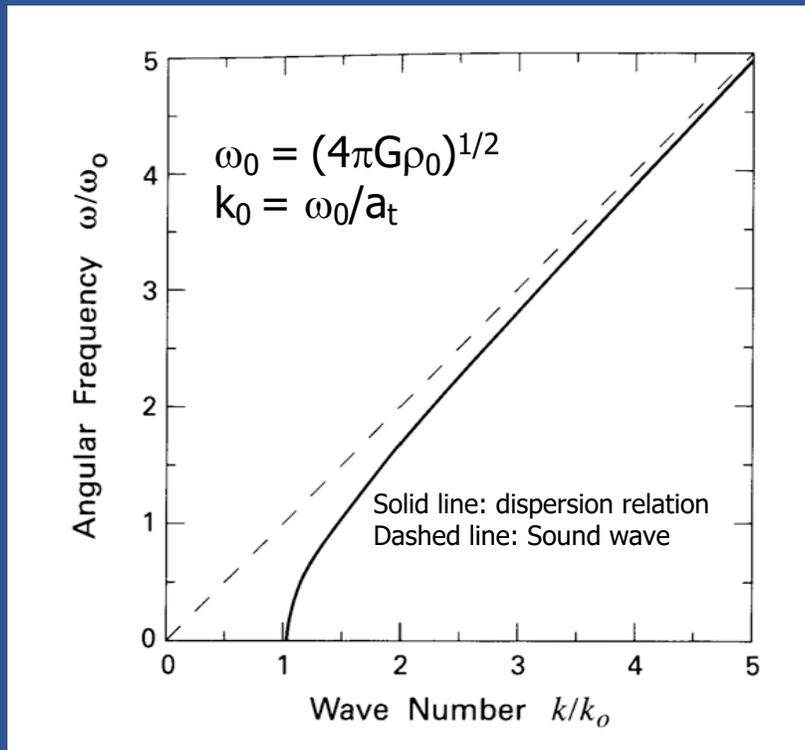
Jeans analysis III

- A travelling wave in an isothermal gas can be described as:

$$\rho(x,t) = \rho_1 \exp[i(kx - \omega t)] \quad \text{wave number } k=2\pi/\lambda \text{ and frequency } \omega$$

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Large k high-frequency disturbances

→ **sound wave** $\omega = kc_s$

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Low k ($k \leq k_0$) $\omega^2 \rightarrow 0$.

→ Jeans-length: $\lambda_j = 2\pi/k_0 = (\pi c_s^2 / G \rho_0)^{1/2}$

Perturbations larger λ_j have exponentially growing amplitudes → instable

Jeans analysis IV

This corresponds in physical units to Jeans-lengths of

$$\lambda_J = (\pi c_s^2 / G \rho_0)^{1/2} = 0.19 \text{pc} (T/(10\text{K}))^{1/2} (n_{\text{H}_2}/(10^4 \text{cm}^{-3}))^{-1/2}$$

and Jeans-mass

$$M_J = 4\pi/3 \rho_0 (\lambda_J/2)^3 = 0.32 M_{\text{sun}} (T/(10\text{K}))^{3/2} (m_{\text{H}}/\mu)^{3/2} (n_{\text{H}}/(10^6 \text{cm}^{-3}))^{-1/2}$$

- Clouds larger λ_J or more massive than M_J may be prone to fragmentation.
- Conversely, small or low-mass cloudlets could be stable if there is sufficient external pressure. Otherwise only transient objects.

Jeans analysis V

Examples:

Small HI cloud:

$$T \sim 100\text{K}; n_{\text{H}} \sim 20 \text{ cm}^{-3}; L \sim 5\text{pc}; M \sim 20M_{\text{sun}}$$
$$\rightarrow L_{\text{J}} \sim 13\text{pc}$$

→ Jeans stable

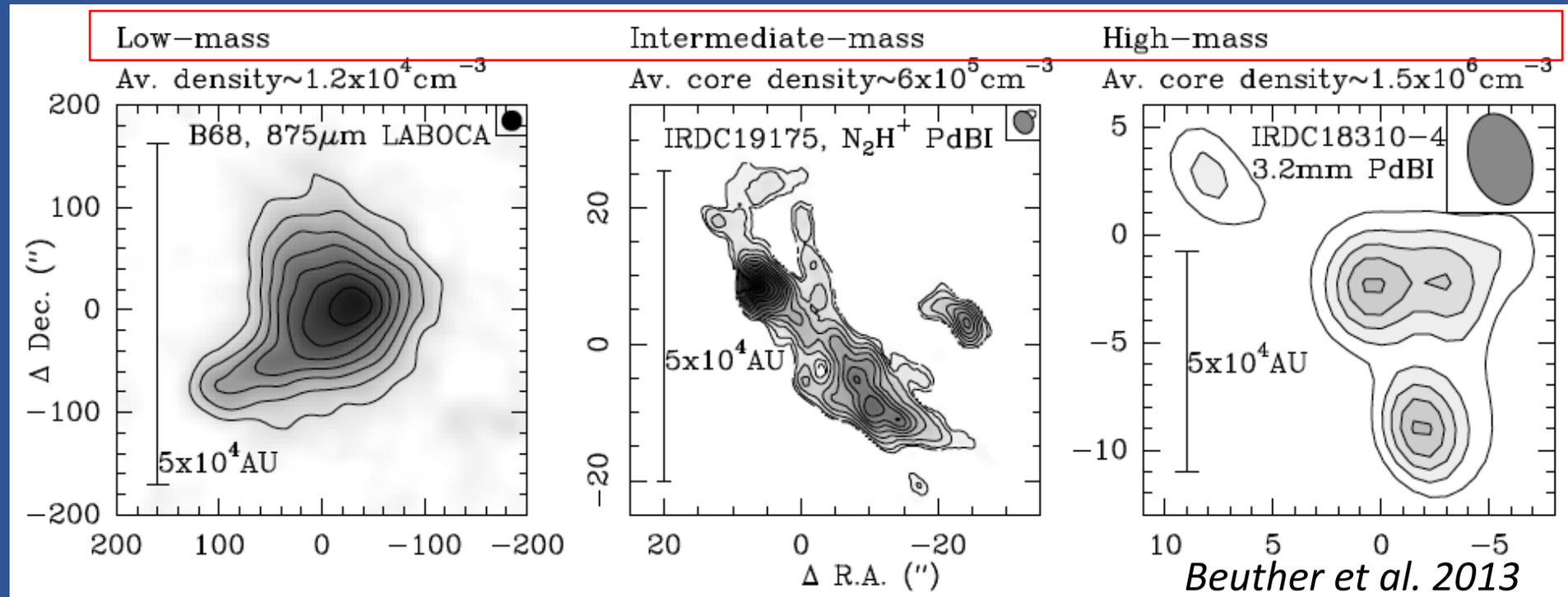
Giant Molecular Cloud (GMC)

$$T=10\text{K and } n_{\text{H}_2}=10^3\text{cm}^{-3}$$
$$\rightarrow M_{\text{J}} = 3.2 M_{\text{sun}}$$

Orders of magnitude too low → Jeans unstable

→ Additional support necessary, e.g., magnetic field, turbulence ...

Jeans fragmentation in star formation



Topics today

- Virial Theorem
- Jeans analysis for gravitational instability
- **Magnetic Fields**
- Cloud fragmentation and turbulence

Magnetic fields I

Object	Type	Diagnostic	$ B_{ } $ [μG]
Ursa Major	Diffuse cloud	HI	10
NGC2024	GMC clump	OH	87
S106	HII region	OH	200
W75N	Maser	OH	3000

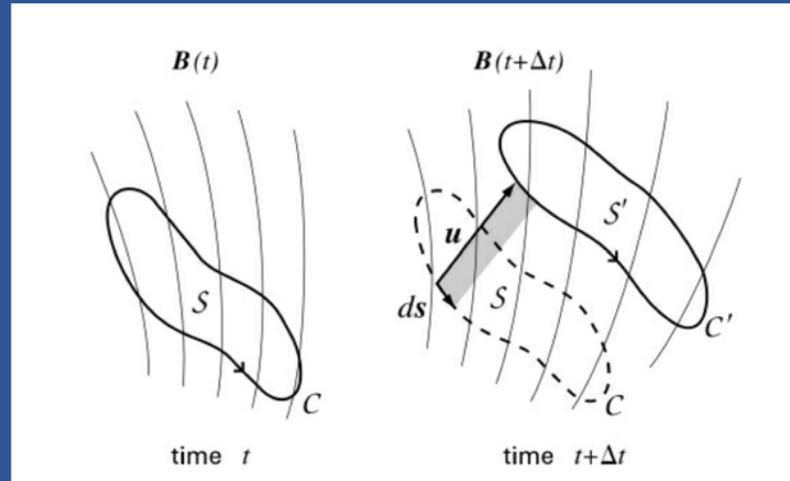
Increasing magnetic field strength with increasing density indicate “field-freezing” between B-field and gas

(B-field couples to ions and electrons, and these via collisions to neutral gas).

Magnetic fields II

This field freezing can be described by ideal MHD:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{B}}{dt} = \nabla \times (\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B}) \quad (\text{Eq. 9.45})$$



However, ideal MHD must break down at some point.

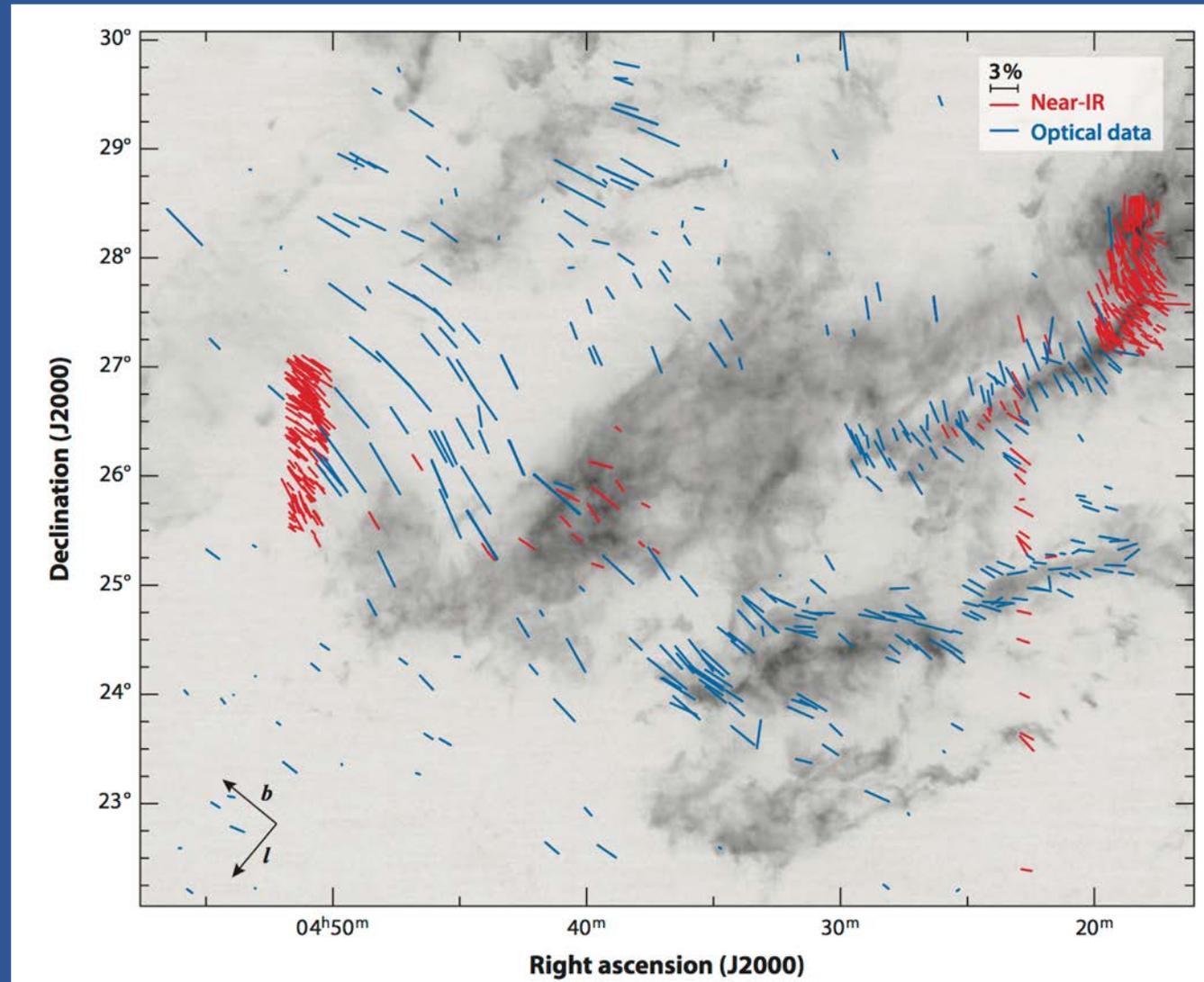
Dense core: $1M_{\text{sun}}$, $R_0=0.07\text{pc}$, $B_0=30\mu\text{G}$ versus T Tauri star: $R_1=5R_{\text{sun}}$

If flux-freezing \rightarrow magnetic flux $\Phi_M=\pi BR^2$ should remain constant:

$\rightarrow B_1=2 \times 10^7 \text{ G}$, which exceeds observed values by orders of magnitude

Ambipolar diffusion: neutral and ionized medium decouple, and neutral gas can sweep through during the gravitational collapse.

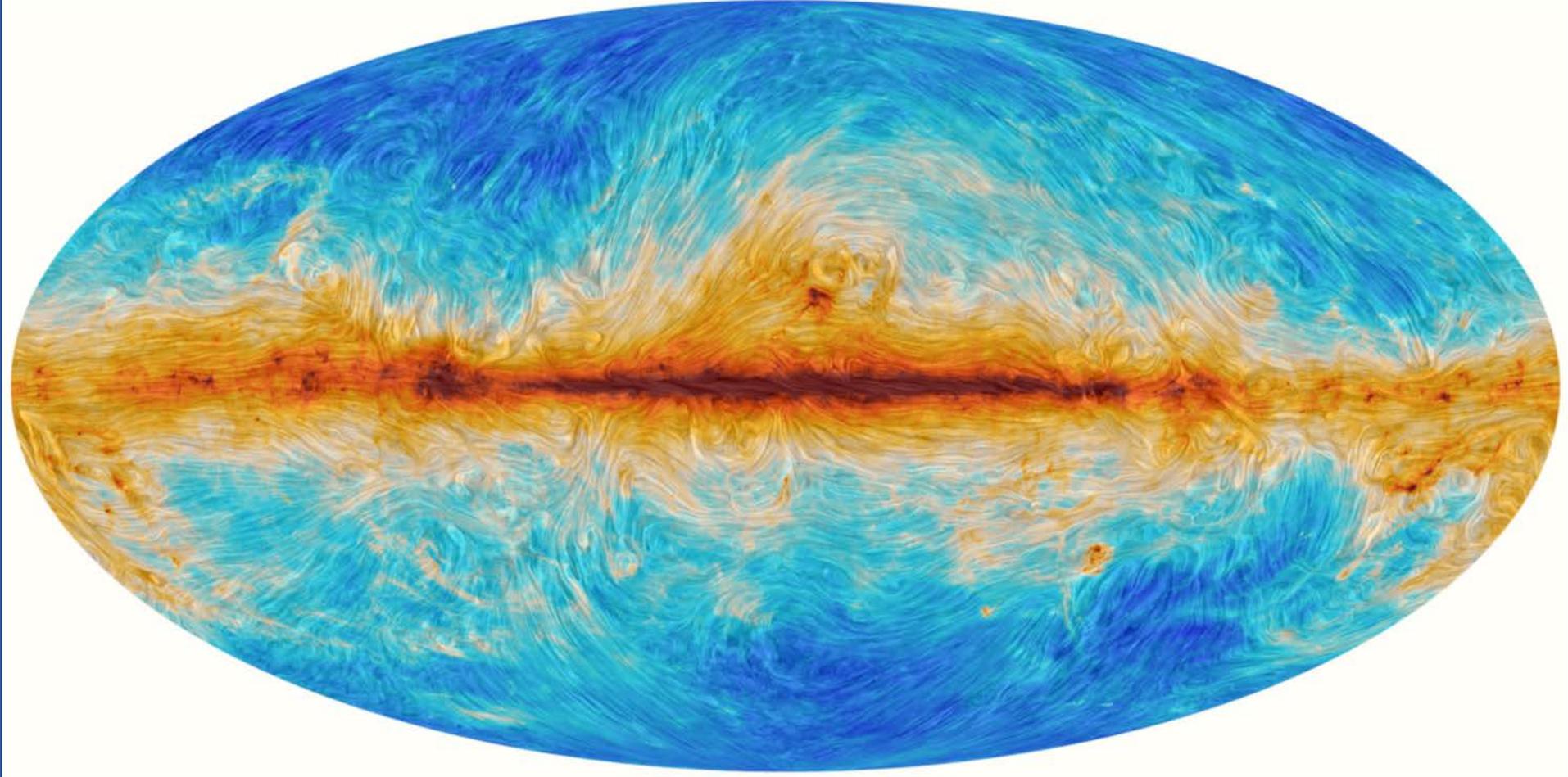
Magnetic fields morphology in Taurus



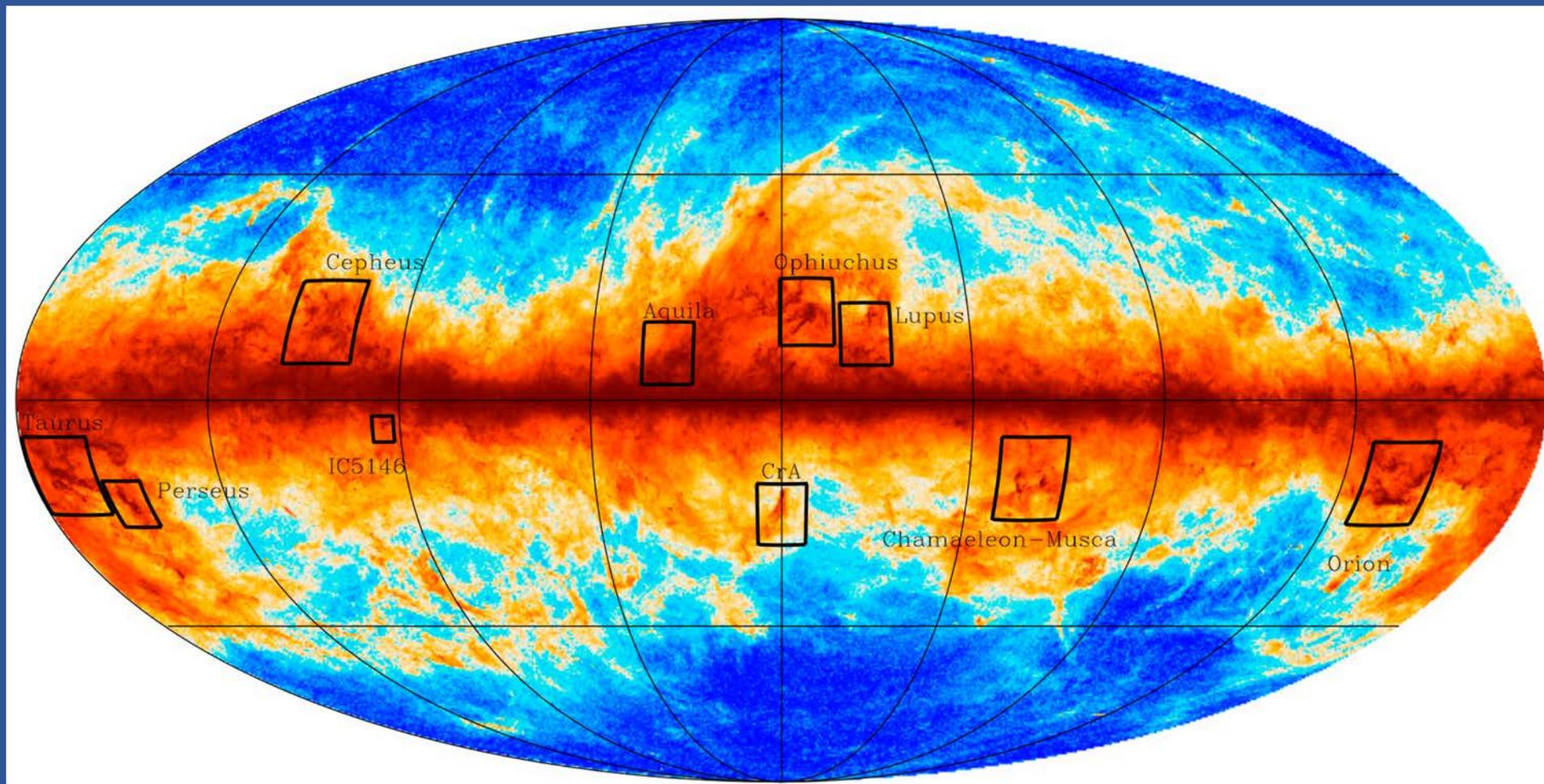
Grey: ¹³CO; line segments: optical polarization

Chapman et al. 2011

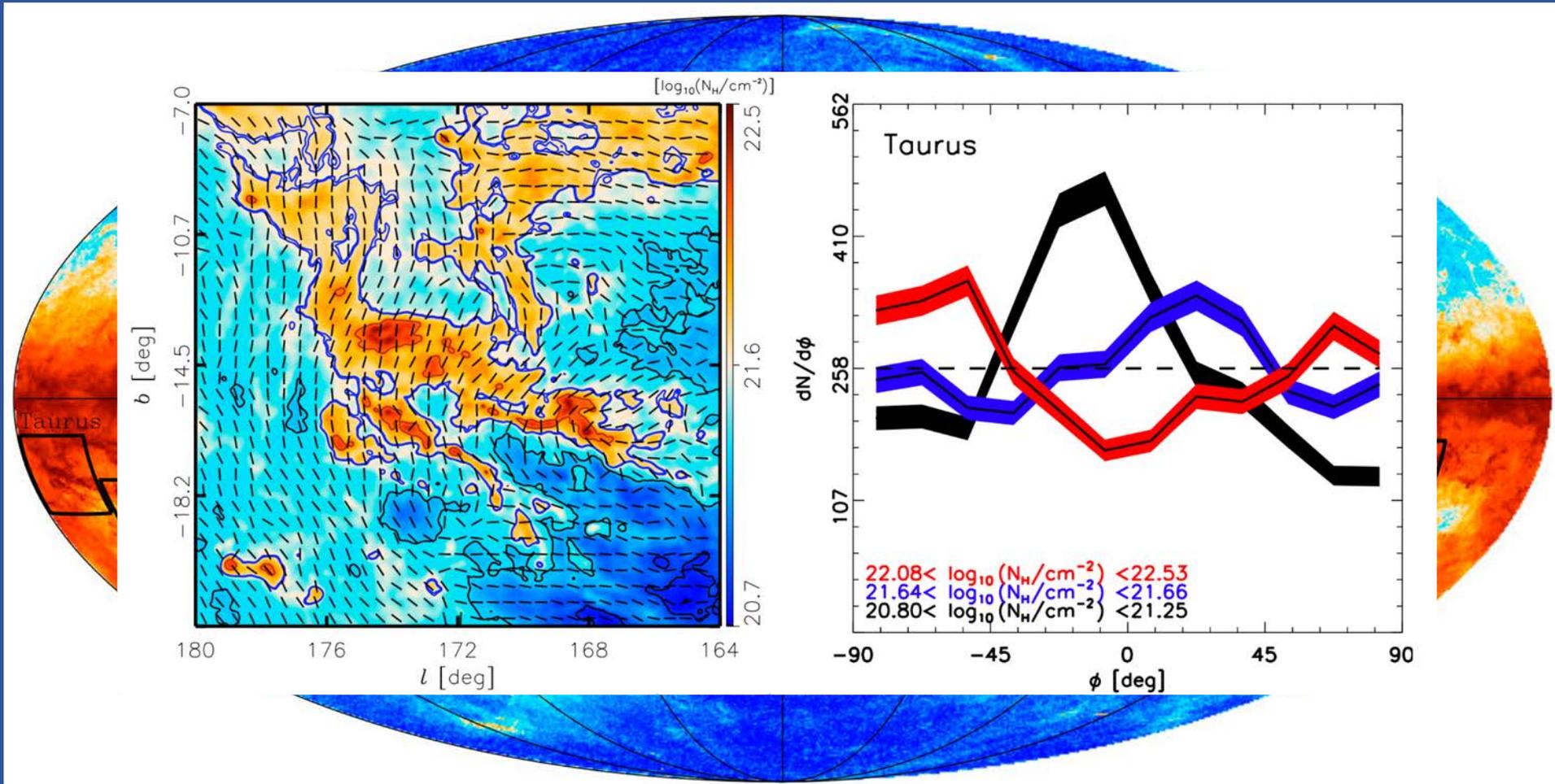
Planck and the magnetic field



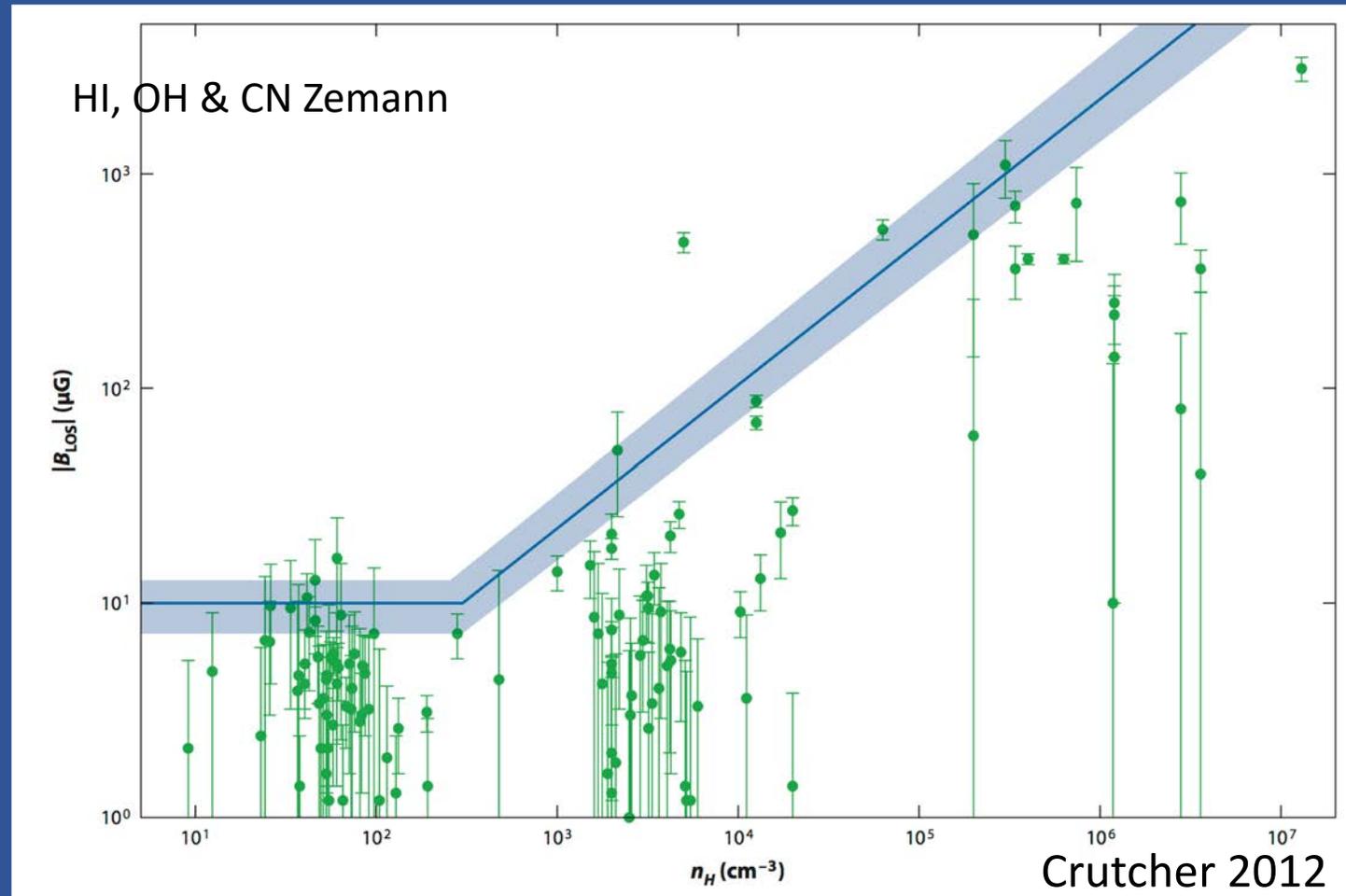
Planck and the magnetic field



Planck and the magnetic field



Magnetic fields strength



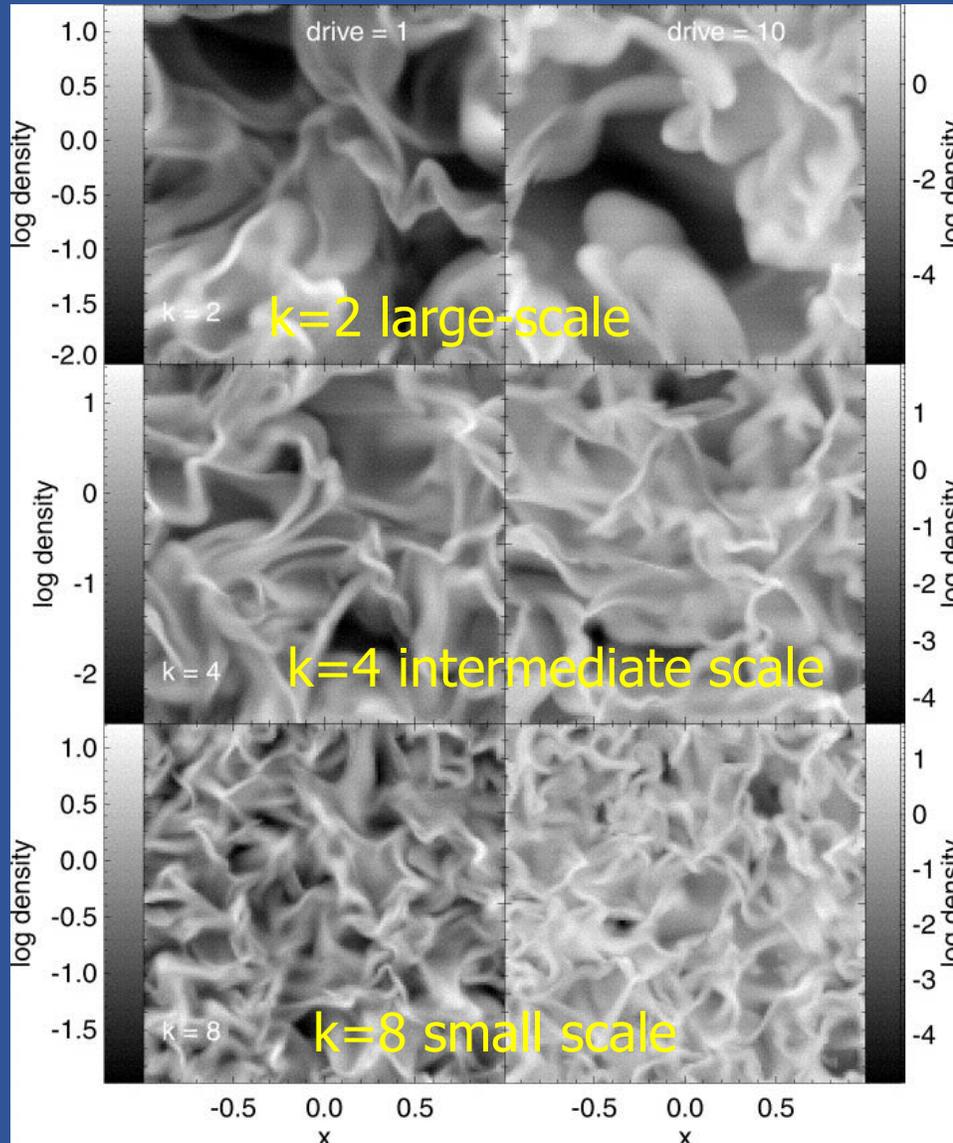
Jeans-like analysis: $M_{\text{cr}} = 1000M_{\text{sun}} (B/(30\mu\text{G})) (R/(2\text{pc}))^2$

$M < M_{\text{cr}}$ magnetically subcritical; $M > M_{\text{cr}}$ magnetically supercritical

Topics today

- Virial Theorem
- Jeans analysis for gravitational instability
- Magnetic Fields
- Cloud fragmentation and turbulence

Interstellar Turbulence



- Supersonic \rightarrow network of shocks

\rightarrow Density fluctuations $\delta\rho \propto M^2$

- Decays on time-scales of order the free-fall time-scale

\rightarrow Needs continuous driving

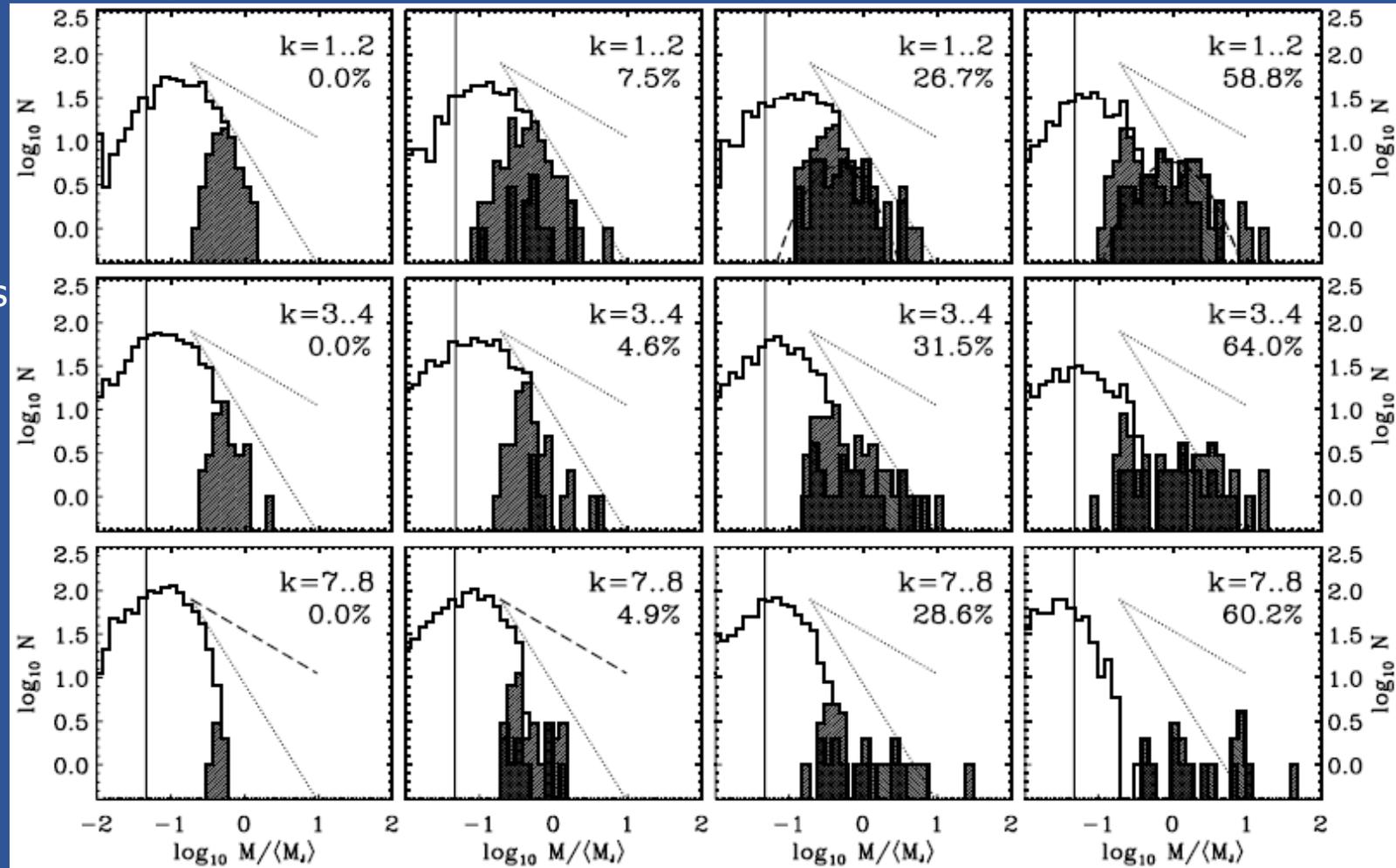
Candidates: Protostellar outflows,
radiation from massive stars,
supernovae explosions

(Gravo)-turbulent fragmentation

Histogram:
Gas clumps
Grey:
Jeans unstable clumps
Dark:
Collapsed core

Slopes: -1.5
& -2.3

Klessen 2001



2 steps: 1.) Turbulent fragmentation → 2.) Collapse of individual core

- Large-scale driving reproduces shape of IMF.
- Discussion whether largest fragments remain stable or fragment further ...

Simulations of colliding flows

Banerjee et al. 2009

0.00 Myr



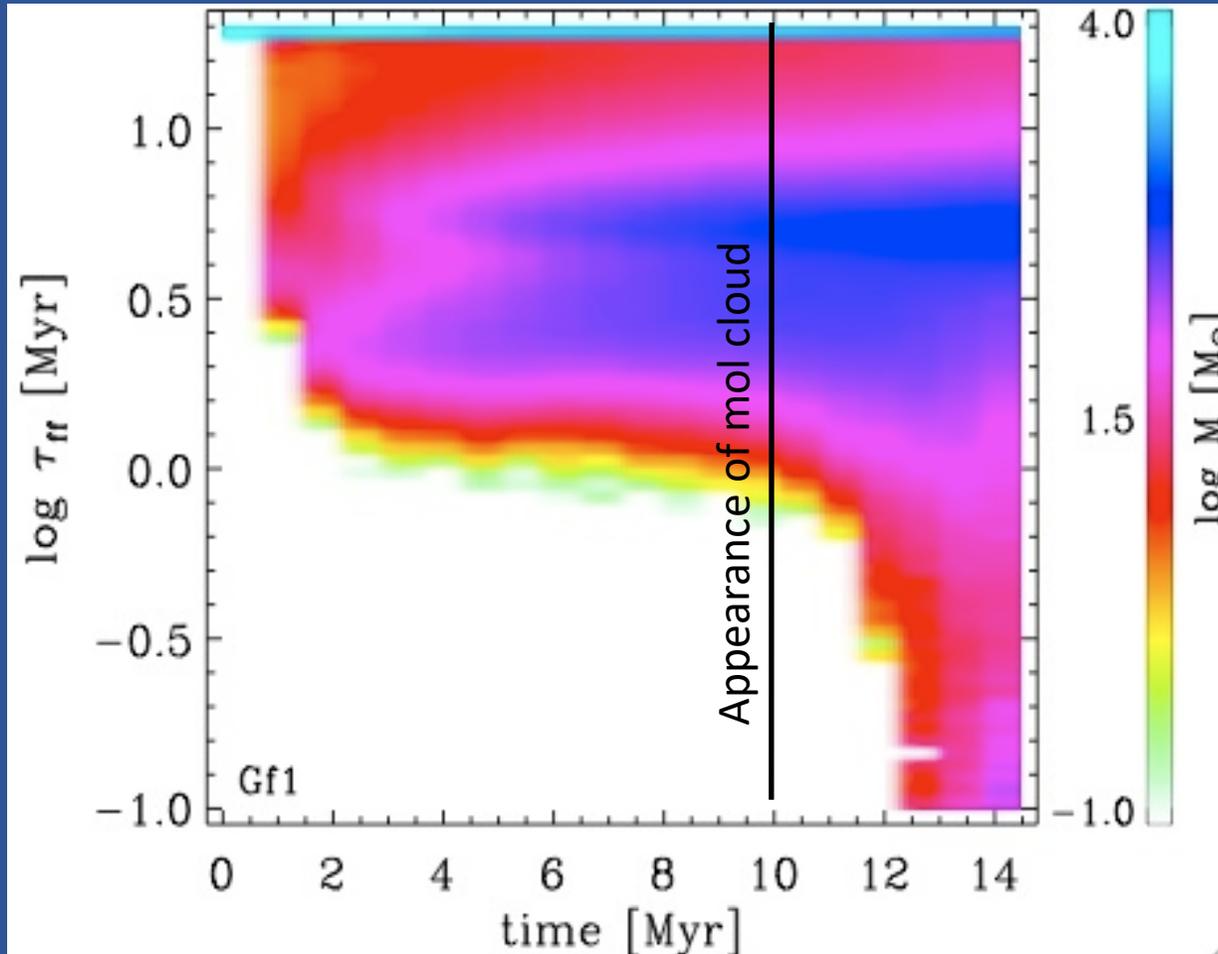
Boxsize 80.0 pc

0.00 Myr



Boxsize 80.0 pc

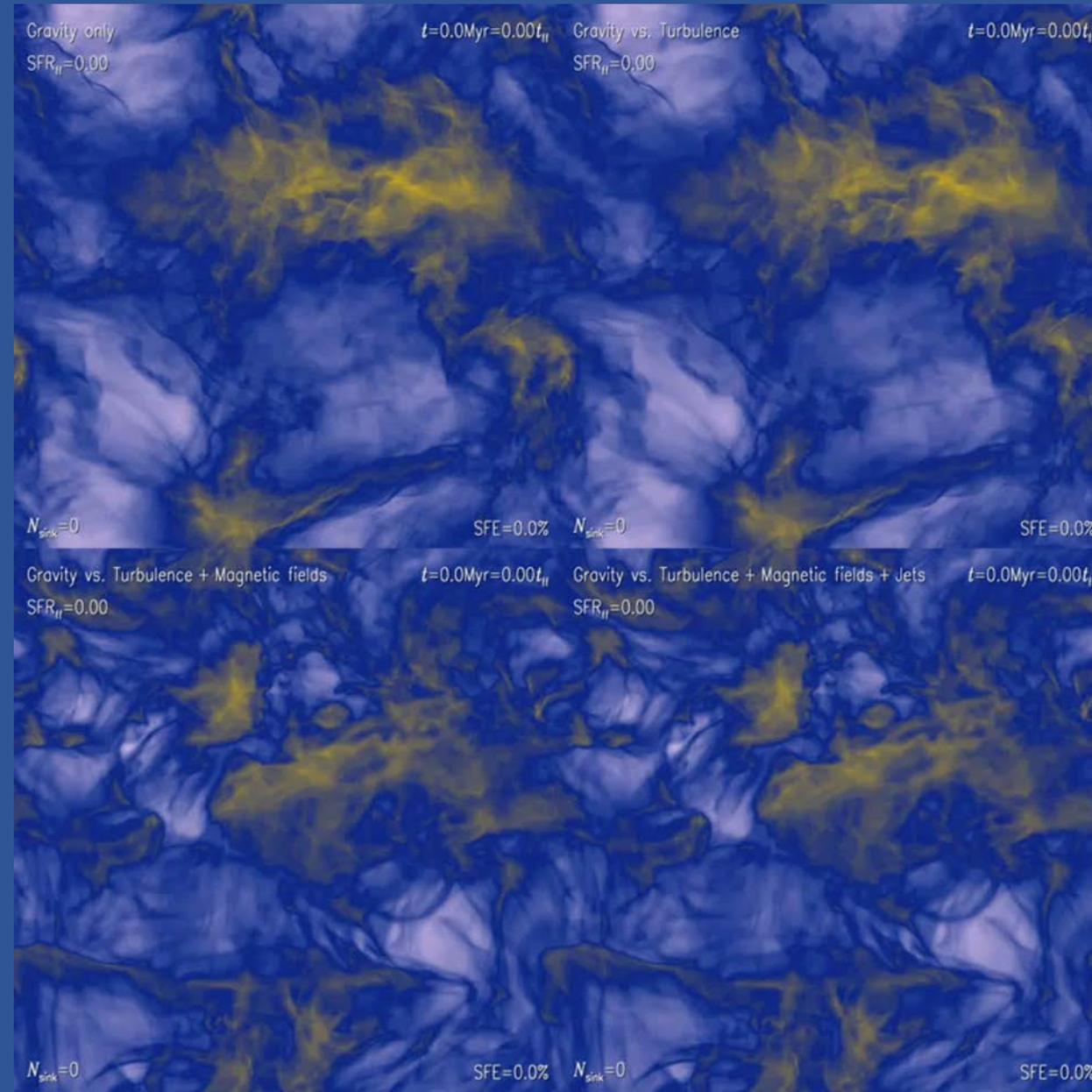
Time scales



$$\tau_{\text{ff}} = \sqrt{\frac{3\pi}{32G\rho}}$$

→ Densest region have shortest free-fall time.

Cloud and star formation with different physics



Summary

- Virial theorem and its application
- Jeans analysis and applications
- Magnetic fields in the interstellar medium
- Turbulence, cloud formation and time scales

Sternentstehung - Star Formation

Winter term 2020/2021

Henrik Beuther, Thomas Henning & Sümeyye Suri

03.11 Today: Introduction & Overview	(Beuther)
10.11 Physical processes I	(Beuther)
17.11 Physical processes II	(Beuther)
24.11 Molecular clouds as birth places of stars	(Suri)
01.12 Molecular clouds (cont.), Jeans Analysis	(Suri)
08.12 Collapse models I	(Henning)
15.12 Collapse models II	(Henning)
----- Christmas break -----	
12.01 Protostellar evolution	(Beuther)
19.01 Pre-main sequence evolution & outflows/jets	(Beuther)
26.01 Accretion disks I	(Henning)
02.02 Accretion disks II	(Henning)
09.02 High-mass star formation, clusters and the IMF	(Suri)
16.02 Extragalactic star formation	(Henning)
23.02 Examination week, no star formation lecture	

Book: Stahler & Palla: The Formation of Stars, Wileys

More Information and the current lecture files: http://www.mpia.de/homes/beuther/lecture_ws2021.html

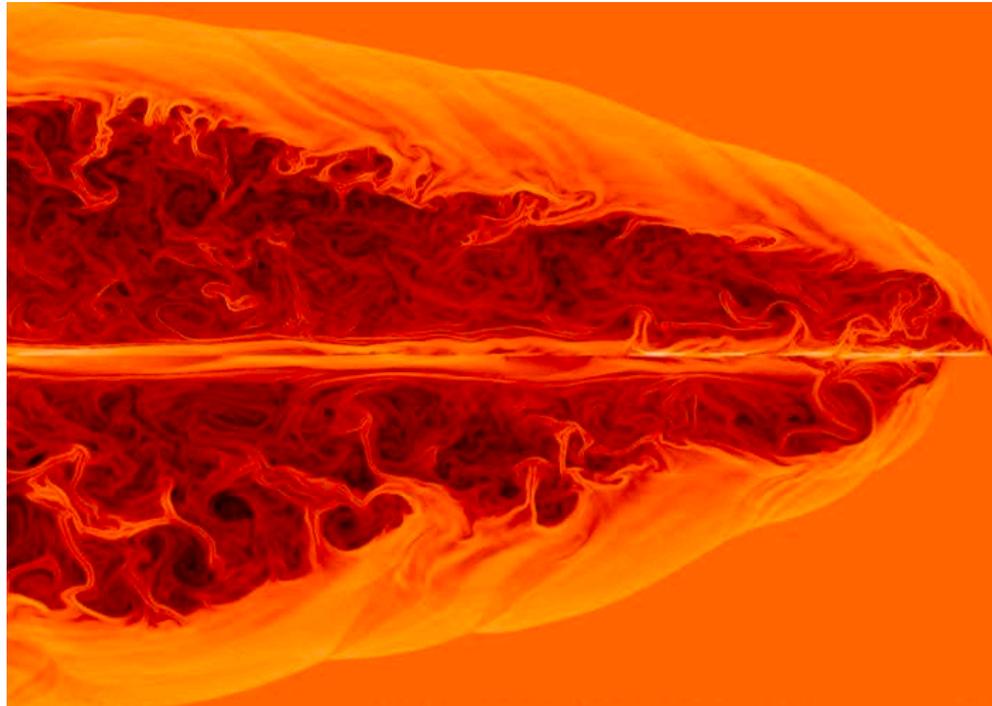
beuther@mpia.de, henning@mpia.de, suri@mpia.de

Heidelberg Joint Astronomy Colloquium

Winter Semester 2020/2021 — Tuesday, December 1, 16:00

Online through Zoom

Meeting ID: 971 4868 1900, passcode 69120



Magnetic field strength in a 2D axisymmetric relativistic magnetised jet
Credit: Mignone et al. 2009, MNRAS 393, 1141

Andrea Mignone
(University of Torino)

**Frontiers of high-energy computational astrophysics:
bridging gaps between large and small scales**

High-energy non-thermal astrophysical environments - such as Active Galactic Nuclei, Pulsar Wind Nebulae and Gamma Ray burst - involve magnetized relativistic flows, whose energy flux can be partly converted, at dissipation sites, into random relativistic motion of particles that lose their energy through a variety of non-thermal processes and give rise to the observed radiation. Understanding of these extreme environments requires a detailed description of the highly nonlinear interactions between plasmas, non-thermal relativistic particles and radiation taking place on a wide range of spatial and temporal scales. This has forced practitioners in the field to take a sectorial approach. On the one hand, models at the large scale can be obtained through relativistic magnetohydrodynamical (RMHD) numerical simulations using a fluid model, albeit neglecting the relativistic particle component. On the other, Particle In Cell (PIC) codes allow a deeper comprehension of kinetic phenomena taking place at much smaller scales. As a consequence, the resulting picture is incomplete and fragmentary. In this talk, I will discuss some of the present and future computational perspectives which intend to bridge this gap. This task requires the coupling between large scale dynamics with a detailed treatment of the microphysics at dissipation sites, an extremely challenging task that only now is becoming feasible thanks to the advancements of high performance computing.