The puzzle of the edge effect – a tale with two ends



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Central question:

Why don't we observe strong core/star formation at the ends of all filaments?

How do isolated filaments evolve?



The filament ends sweep up material



T=3.0E13 CYCLE 59 MIN=1.8E-21 MAX=1.0E-20 DQ=1.18



T=4.0E13 CYCLE 81 MIN=1.6E-21 MAX=8.7E-21 DQ=1.18



T=6.0E13 CYCLE138 MIN=1.0E-21 MAX=1.4E-20 DQ=1.29

Bastien 1983

The filament ends sweep up material



Acceleration shows sharp increase at ends



Edge effect results in fast end core growth



Clarke and Whitworth 2015, see also Bastien et al. 1991



Seifried and Walch 2015

Line-mass influences where cores form first

Large line-mass, $M/L \gtrsim 1 M/L_{crit}$



Line-mass influences where cores form first

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Low line-mass, $M/L \lesssim 1 M/L_{crit}$

bert Cedae



Line-mass influences where cores form first

Large line-mass, $M/L \gtrsim 1 M/L_{crit}$

Low line-mass, $M/L \lesssim 1 M/L_{crit}$



Not many filaments show edge effect



Herschel shows distributed core formation



Aquila in dust emission, Könyves et al. 2015 and André et al. 2010

Central collapse common for large line-mass



G035.39–00.33 with N_2H^+ contours, Henshaw et al. 2014

SDC13 with dust continuum contours, Peretto et al. 2014

Observational evidence of end cores is rare



Cheng et al. 2021

Open Questions

- Why don't we observe strong core/star formation at the ends of all filaments?
- How do we get from low to high line-mass filaments without forming end cores?
- How important are tidal forces, magnetic fields and other dynamical processes?

