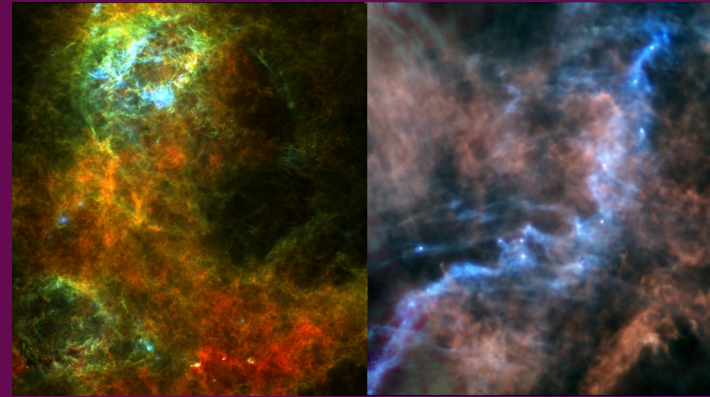


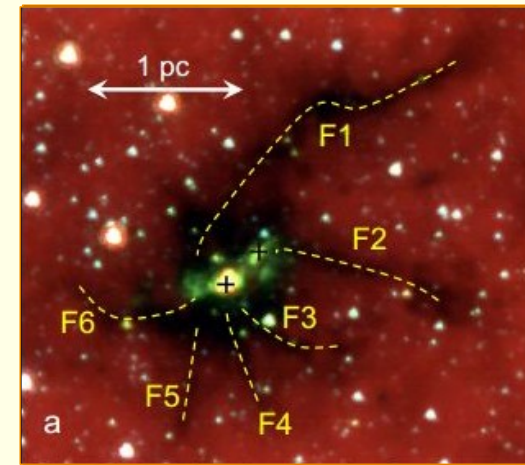
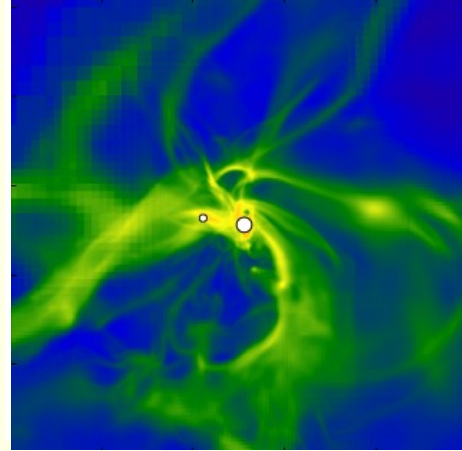
# Molecular Cloud Cores

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# Contents

- What is a core?
- Where do cores come from?
- How do cores grow?
- How do cores fragment and contract?
- Connections
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- Open questions

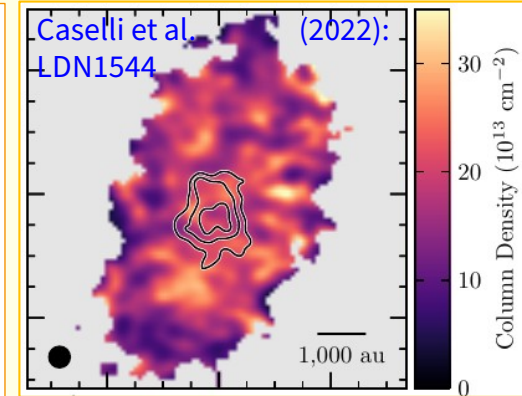
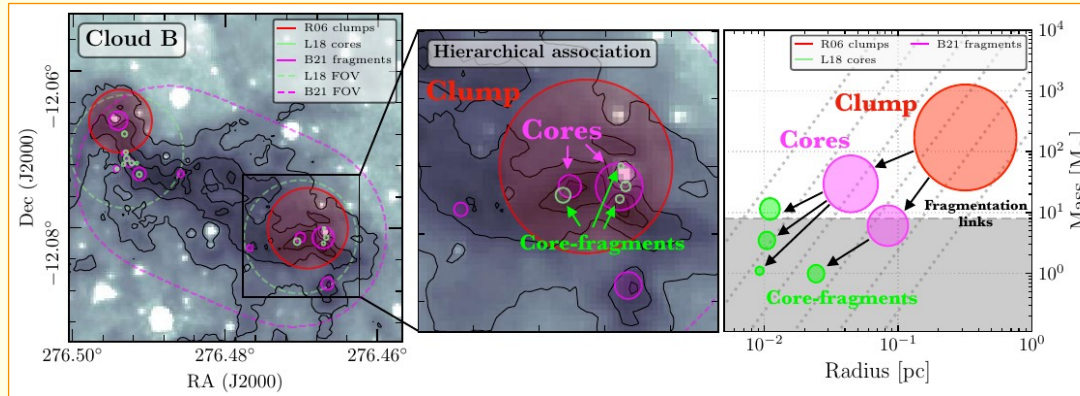


# What is a core

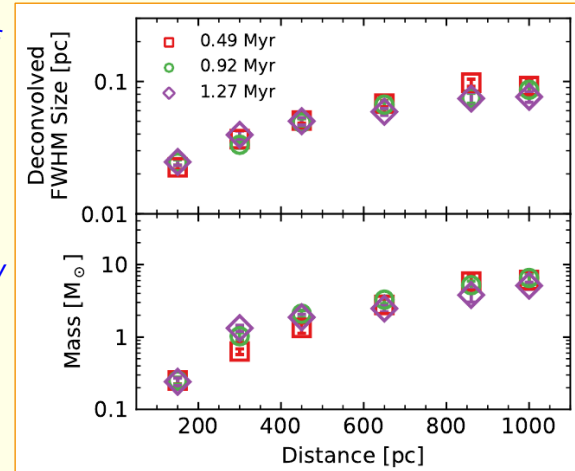
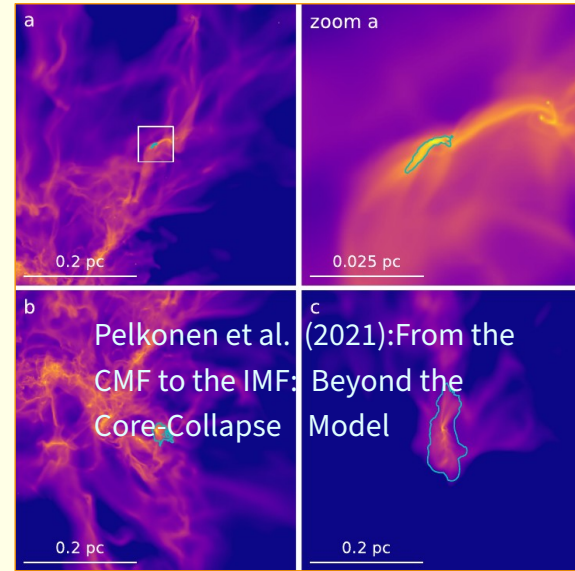
- **Physical:** dense gas, (almost) gravitationally bound; roundish, static or dynamic; collapsing or accreting... or not, something of the order of  $\sim 0.1$  pc in size
  - smaller than *clumps* but larger than *substructures* (*kernels, condensations, fragments*)
- **Technical:** clumpfind, gaussclumps, fellwalker, getsources, CSAR, CuTEx, dendrograms

Bergin & Tafalla (2007)	Cores <sup>c</sup>
Mass ( $M_{\odot}$ )	0.5–5
Size (pc)	0.03–0.2
Mean density ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )	$10^4$ – $10^5$
Velocity extent ( $\text{km s}^{-1}$ )	0.1–0.3
Crossing time (Myr)	0.5–1
Gas temperature (K)	8–12
Examples	L1544, L1498, B68

Barnes et al. (2021): ALMA-IRDC: Dense gas mass distribution from cloud to core scales

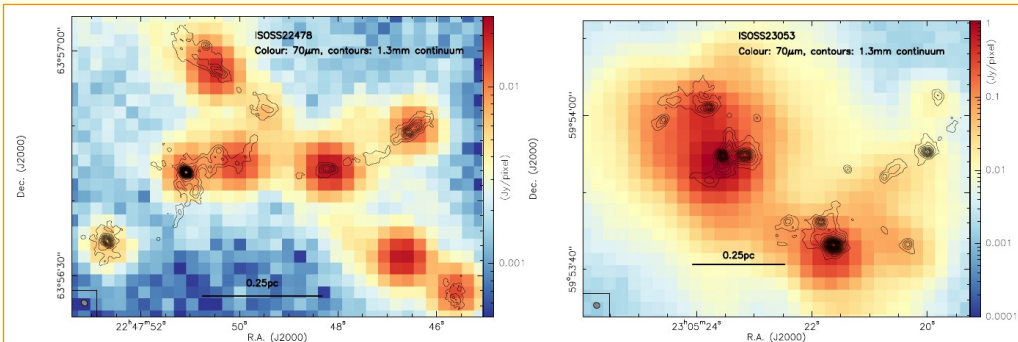


- cores are physical objects residing between clumps ( $\sim 1$  pc) and substructures ( $\sim 0.01$  pc), at densities  $10^4 - 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- or just leaves of the dendrogram
  - dependent on the target selection, detection method, thresholds, noise, tracer, distance and angular resolution, velocity resolution, LOS confusion
    - Betti+ (2021), Lu Z.+ (2022a)
- all potentially changing between regions, between different evolutionary stages



Betti et al. (2021): *Robustness of Synthetic Observations in Producing Observed Core Properties: Predictions for the TolTEC Clouds to Cores Legacy Survey*

Beuther et al. (2021): *Fragmentation and kinematics in high-mass star formation CORE-extension...*



- cores in relation to **star formation**

- starless cores
- prestellar cores

- virial mass (50) 
$$M_{\text{vir}} = \frac{5 - 2n}{3 - n} \frac{R \sigma_{3D}^2}{G}, \quad \rho(r) \propto r^{-n}$$
- $$M_{\text{vir}} = 210 \left( \frac{r}{\text{pc}} \right) \left( \frac{\Delta v}{\text{km s}^{-1}} \right)^2 M_{\odot}$$

or Bonnor-Ebert mass (42)

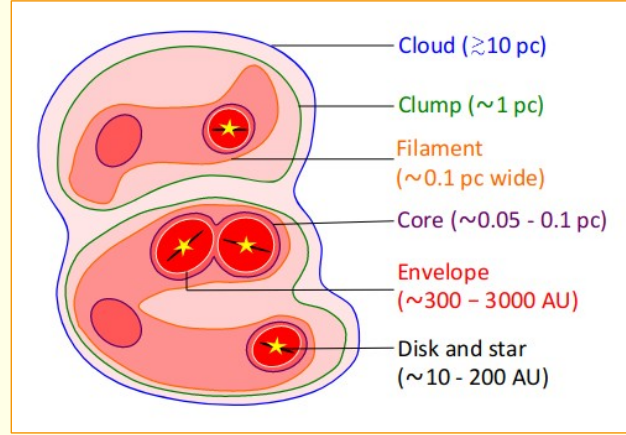
$$M_{\text{BE}} \approx 1.182 \frac{\sigma^4}{\sqrt{G^3 P}} = 1.182 \frac{\sigma^3}{\sqrt{G^3 \rho}} \quad M_{\text{BE,crit}} \approx 2.4 R_{\text{BE}} c_s^2 / G$$

$$M_{\text{BE}} \approx 0.66 \left( \frac{T [\text{K}]}{10} \right)^2 \left( \frac{P [\text{K cm}^{-3}]}{3 \cdot 10^5 k_B} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

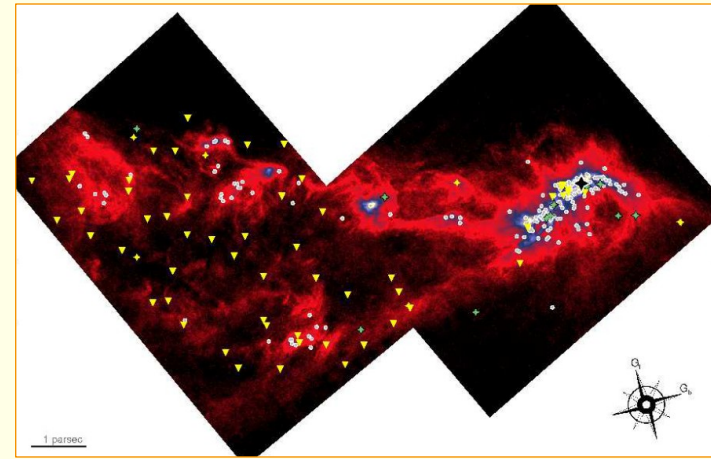
vs real mass

$$M_{\text{obs}} = \frac{F d^2}{\kappa B_{\nu}(T_d)} \quad (\text{OH94: } 57)$$

- external pressure?
- velocity
  - blue asymmetry, continuum absorption, inflow, infall, accretion



Pokhrel et al. (2018): Hierarchical fragmentation in the Perseus Molecular Cloud



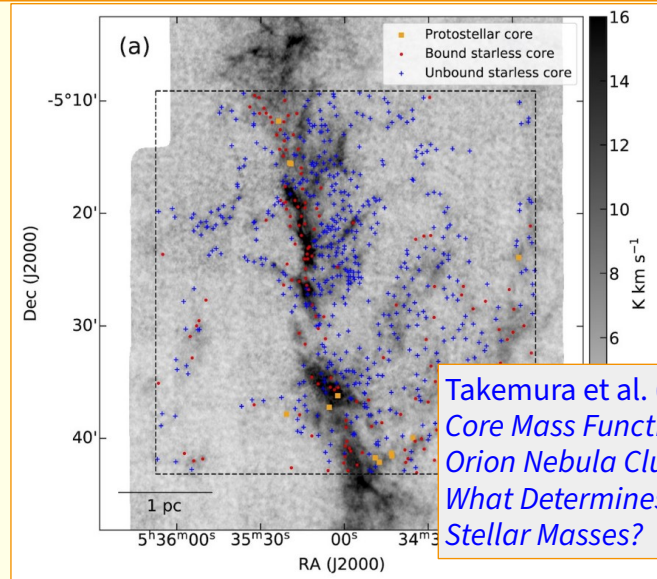
Bresnahan et al. (2018): Dense cores and filaments in CrA

## – protostellar cores

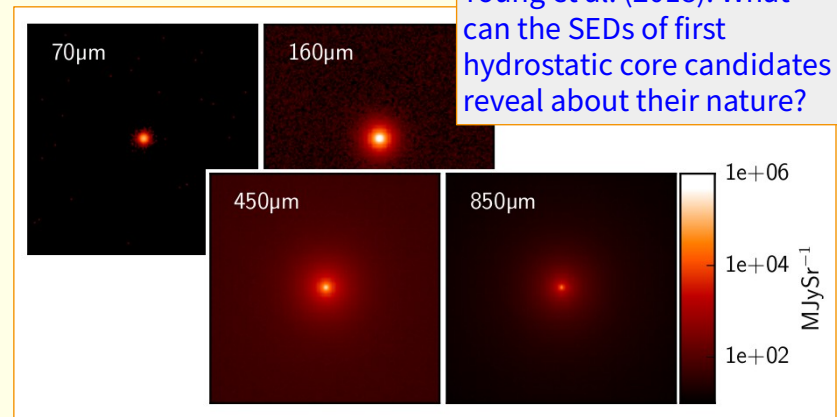
- infrared (NIR, MIR,  $70\mu\text{m}$ ) sources: sensitivity, resolution, extinction (colours), chance alignments
- outflows, masers, variability, kinematics, X-ray, etc.

## – special-interest cores

- first hydrostatic core (FHSC)
  - a few au in size,  $< 0.1 M_{\odot}$ , with slow  $< 2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  outflows
  - FHSC lifetime  $\sim 10^4$ , a few years for FHSC candidates
  - B1-bN, Aqu-MM1, Serp K242, SerpS-MM22, Per-Bolo 58, Cham-MMS1 (Young+2018), HOPS 404 (Karnath+2020), MC35 (Tokuda+2020), CB17-MMS (Spear+2021)
- massive pre-stellar cores
  - $\sim 10\,000 \text{ au}$ ,  $\gg 10 M_{\odot}$  (Tan 2018),  $< 3 \times 10^4 \text{ yr}$  (Motte 2017)
  - CygX-N40 (Motte+2007), CygXN53-MM2 (Duarte-Cabral+2013), W43-N\* (Louvet+2016); Svoboda+2016, Tigé+2017, TUKH122 (Ohashi+2018), C1-S (Kong+2017)



Takekura et al. (2021): *The Core Mass Function in the Orion Nebula Cluster Region: What Determines the Final Stellar Masses?*

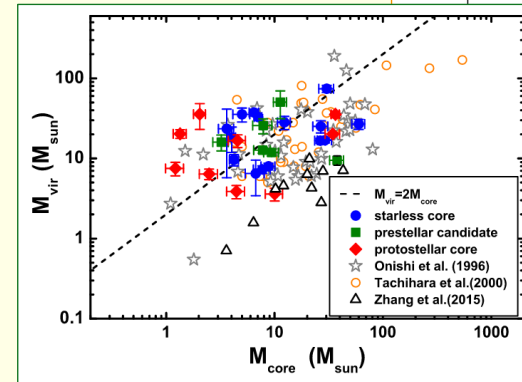
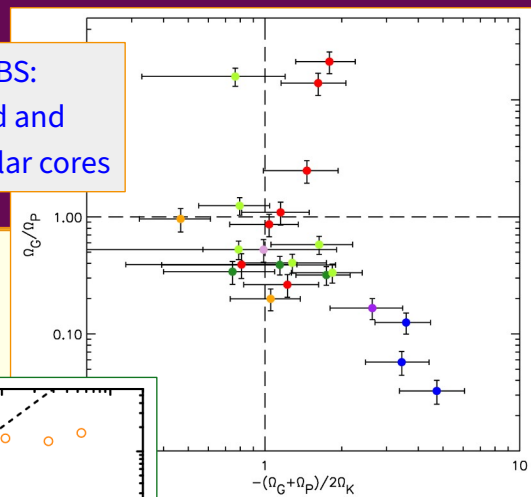


Young et al. (2018): *What can the SEDs of first hydrostatic core candidates reveal about their nature?*

# Stability of cores

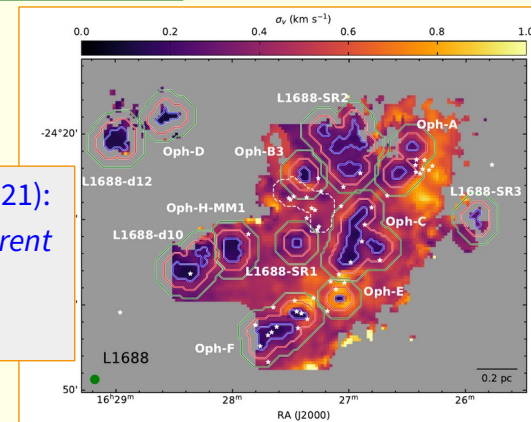
- straightforward: estimate  $\alpha = \frac{5\sigma^2 R}{GM} < 2$  or measure and compare some of  $E_G, E_T, E_{NT}, E_B, E_R, E_{CR} \dots$ 
  - Pattle+ (2015), Kirk+ (2017), Lu Z.+ (2022b)
- turbulence...
  - turbulence, if and where (core vs. envelope)
  - transition to **coherence** (Pineda+ 2010; Chen+ 2019; Choudhury+ 2021):  $\sim 0.1-0.2$  pc
- magnetic fields...
  - DSF, ADF, SF, VGT, HRO, RAT, IGT, GK, Zeeman, **morphology**

Pattle et al. (2015): JCMT-GBS: Ophiuchus molecular cloud and virial analysis of its prestellar cores

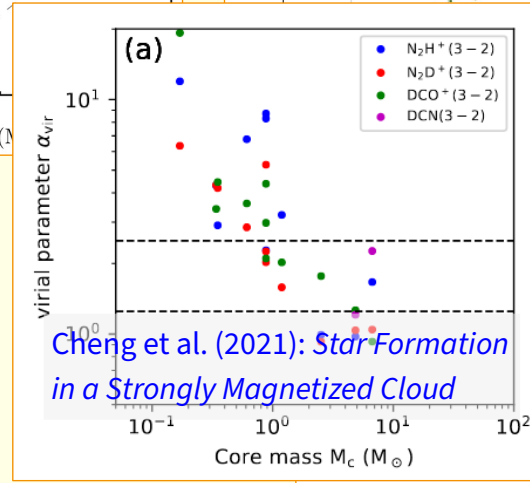
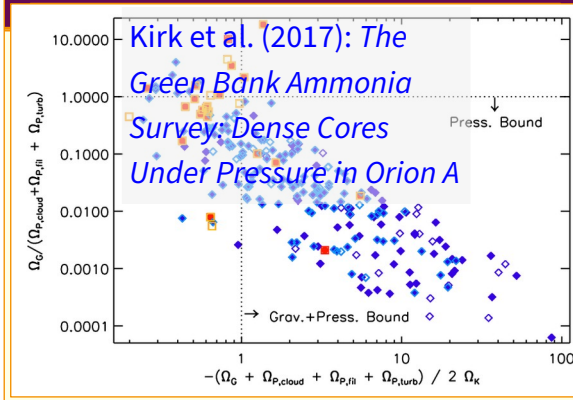
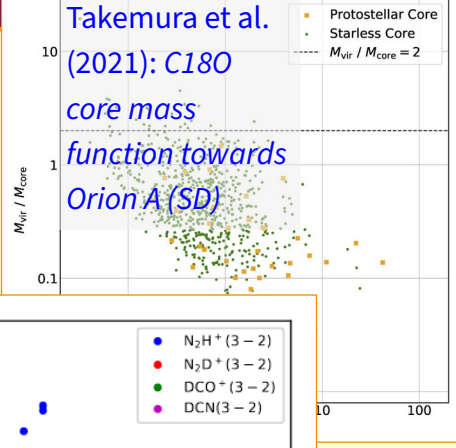
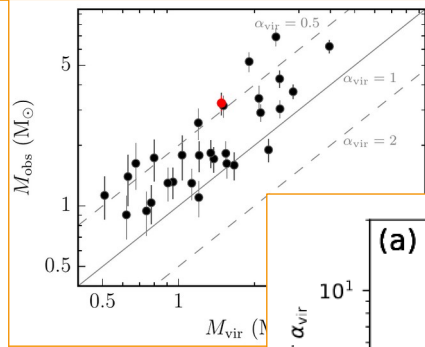
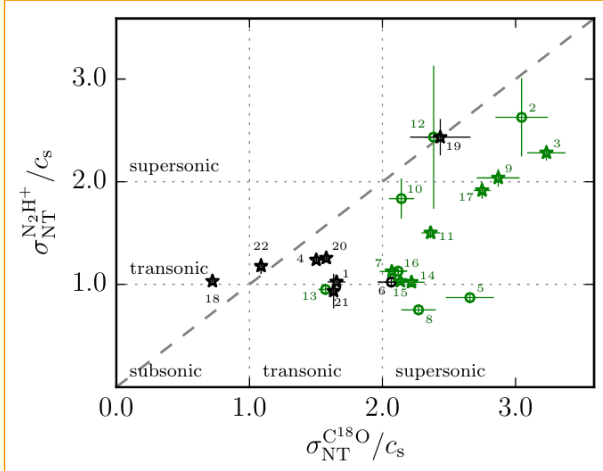


Tang et al. (2018): Properties of Planck Galactic cold clumps in the L1495 dark cloud

Choudhury et al. (2021): Transition from coherent cores to surrounding cloud in L1688

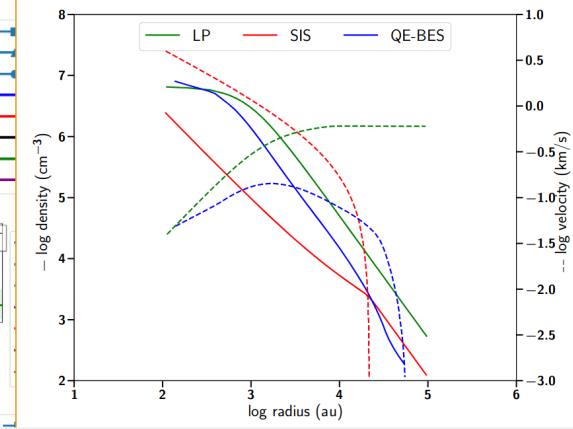
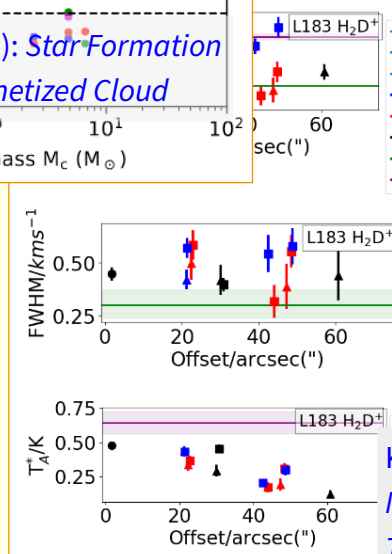
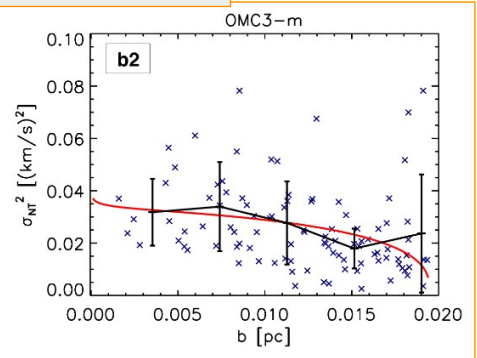
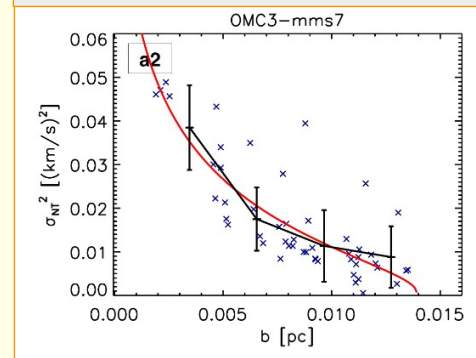


Chung et al. (2021): TRAO Survey of Nearby Filamentary Molecular Clouds, Universal Nursery of Stars (FUNS). II. Filaments and Dense Cores in IC 5146



Cheng et al. (2021): Star Formation in a Strongly Magnetized Cloud

Yue et al. (2020): Collapsing Index: A New Method to Identify Star-forming Cores Based on ALMA Images

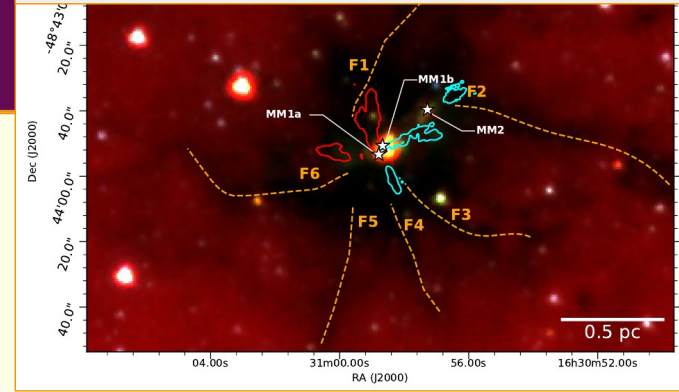


Koumpia et al. (2021): Mapping H2D+ and N2H+ emission towards prestellar cores Testing dynamical models of the collapse



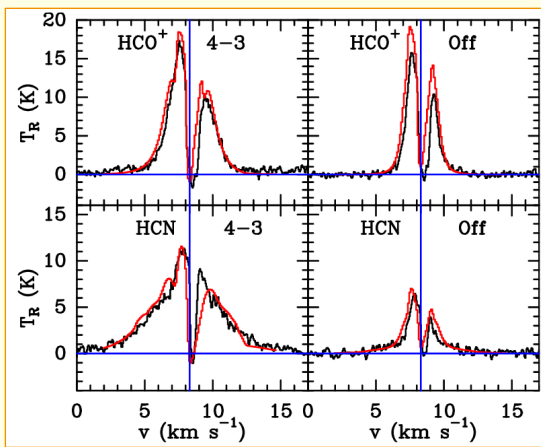
# Growth of cores

Avison et al. (2021): Continuity of accretion from clumps to Class 0 high-mass protostars in SDC335



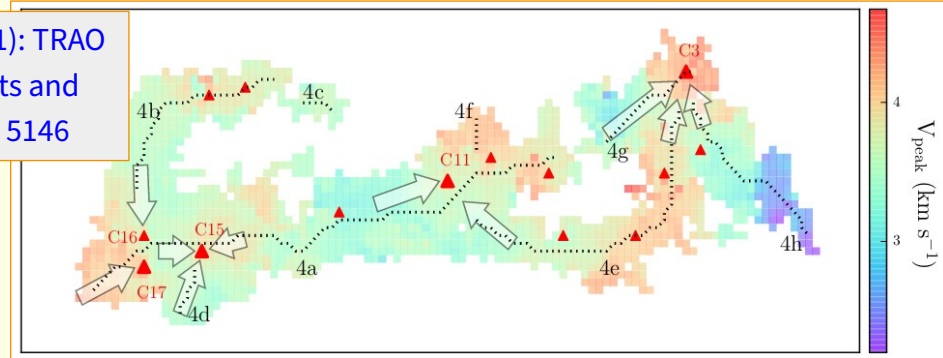
- Andrea Socci: Characterisation of filament hubs in Orion (P15)
- Molly Wells: Dynamical Accretion Flows (P19)
- Asmita Bhandare: Interplay of gas and dust dynamics during star and disc formation

- **accretion:** infall, inflow... via filaments, fibers, streamers, up to large hub-filament systems ( $10^{-7}$ - $10^{-3} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ )
  - Juárez+ (2019), Izquierdo+ (2020), Avison+ (2021), etc.
- **collapse:** *inverse P-Cygni*, blue asymmetry, infall index, absorption against continuum, ...
  - Yue et al. (2020), Liu S.-Y. (2021), Gomez+ (2021)

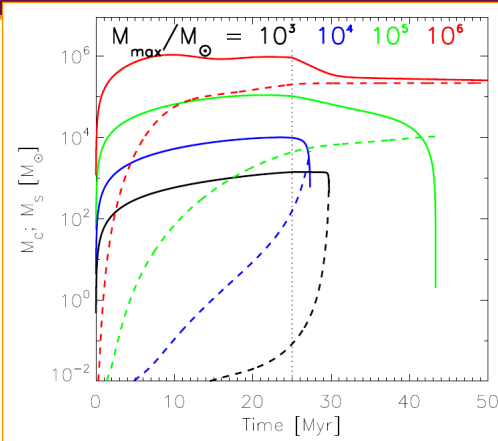
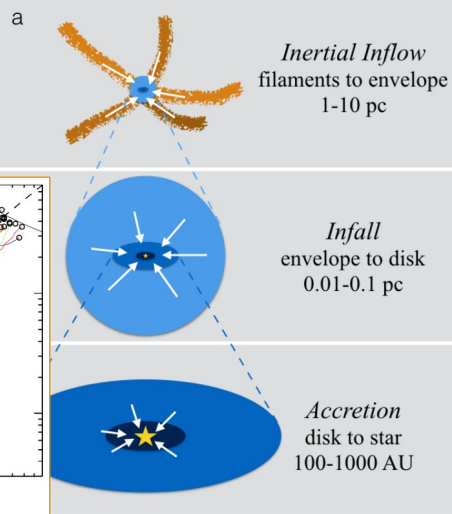
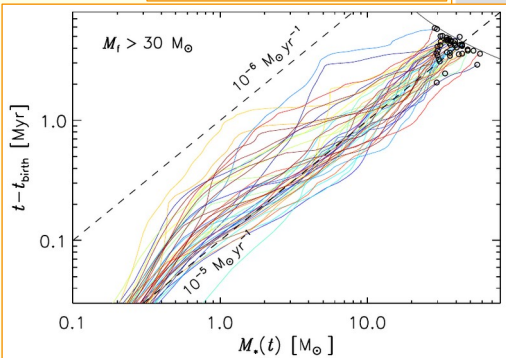


Evans et al. (2015): Detection of infall in the protostar B335 with ALMA

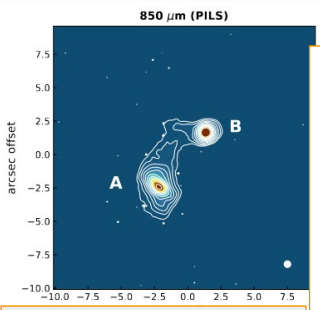
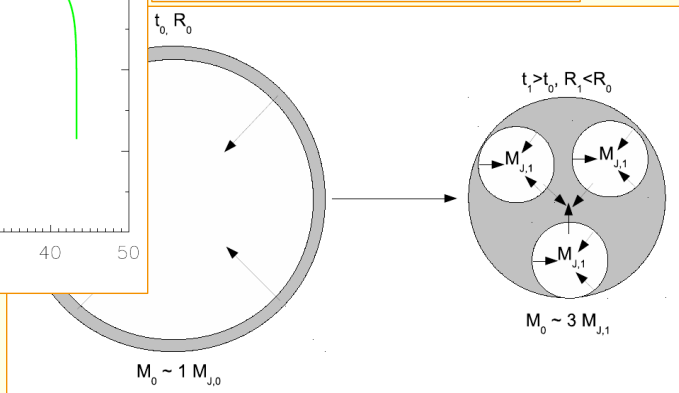
Chung et al. (2021): TRAO FUNS. II. Filaments and Dense Cores in IC 5146



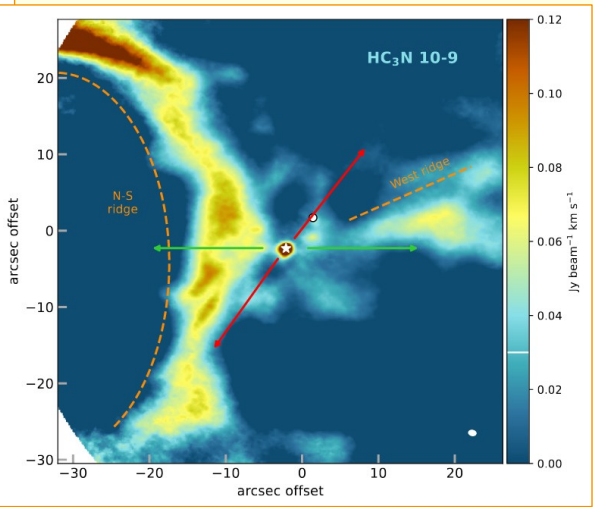
Inertial inflow  
 Padoan et al. (2020)  
 Pelkonen et al. (2021)



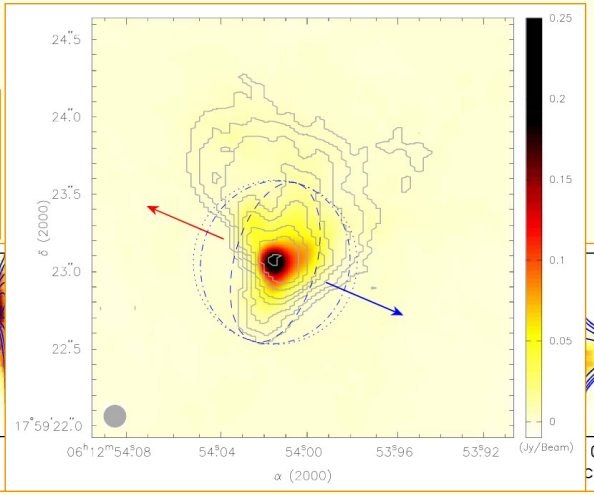
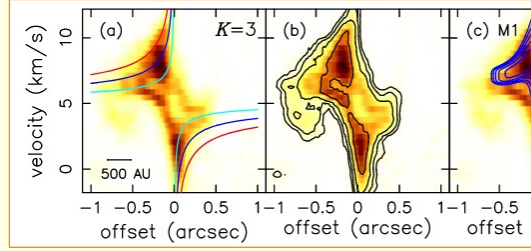
Global Hierarchical Collapse  
 Vázquez-Semadeni et al. (2019)



Murillo et al. (2022): A cold accretion flow onto one component of a multiple protostellar system

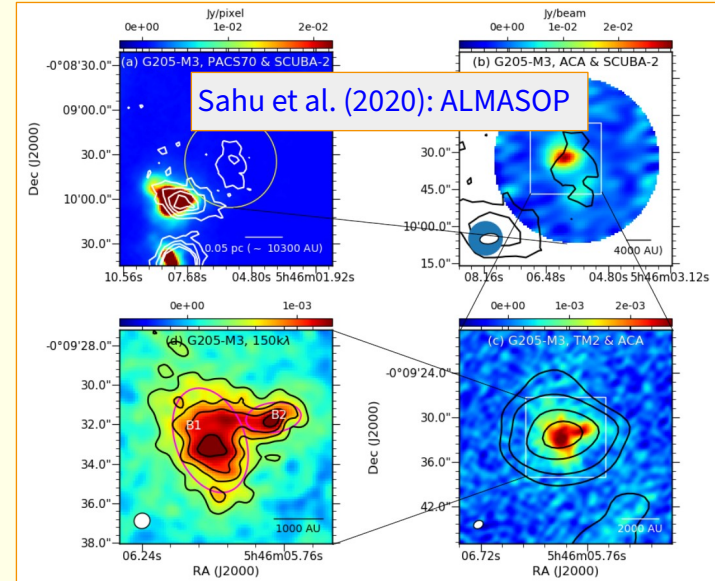
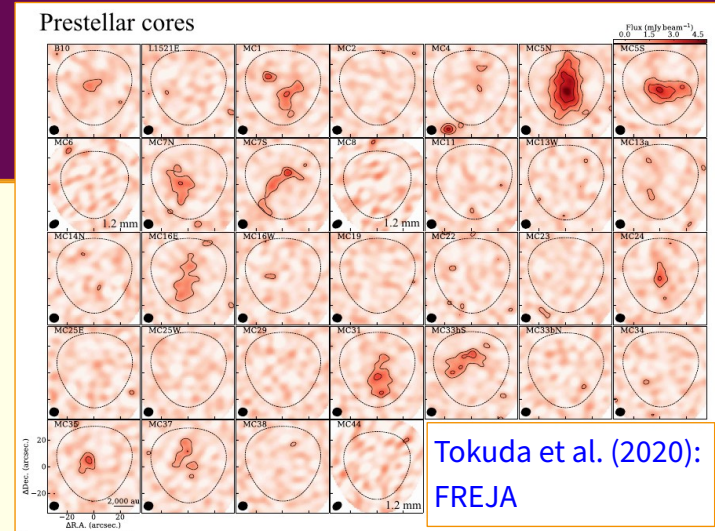


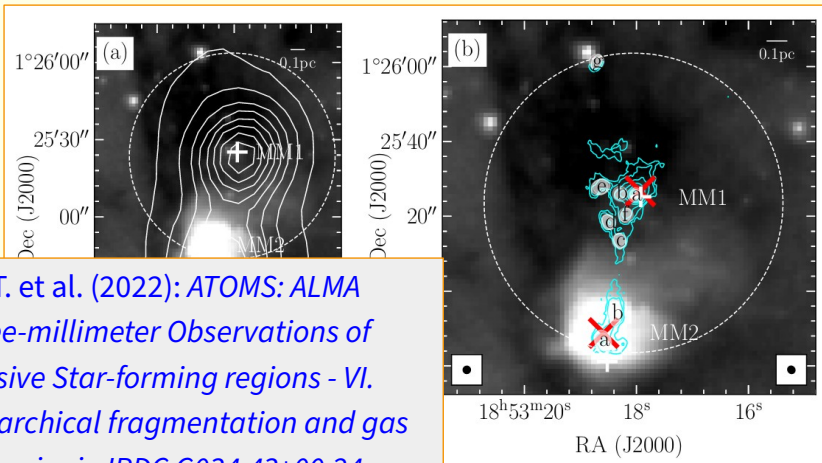
Liu, S.-Y. (2020): ALMA View of the Infalling Envelope around a Massive Protostar in S255IR SMA1



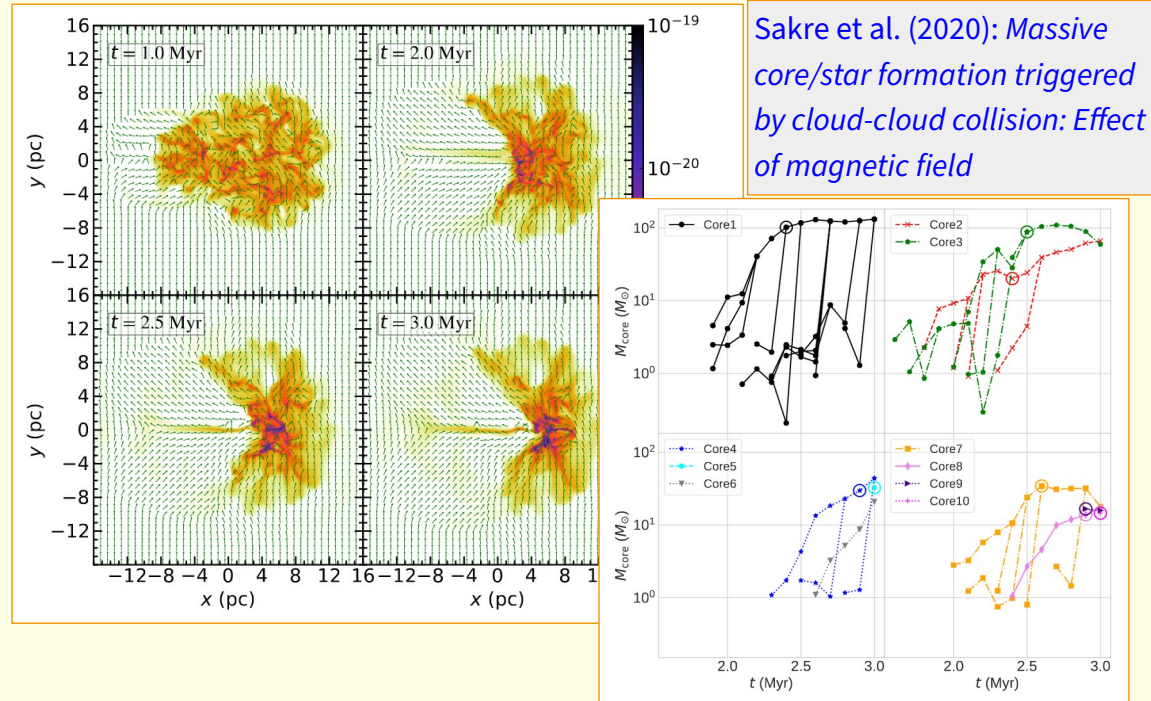
# Fragmentation of cores

- something ( $f$ ?) fragment to cores, further fragmentation (turbulent-, disk-?) leads to the final stellar multiplicity
- fragmentation length, thermal vs. total Jeans?
  - Henshaw+ (2017), Cyganowski+ (2017), Juárez+ (2019), Palau+ (2015/18/21), Beuther+ (2018, 2021), Sahu+ (2022)
  - Wang+ (2014), Barnes+ (2021), Liu H.-L. (2022)
  - feedback: Luo Q.-Y.+ (2022), Liu T.+ (2022), etc.
- **fragmentation of pre-stellar cores** difficult to find
  - Tokuda+ (2020):  $\sim 10^{-2} M_{\odot}$  at 1000 au scale
  - Sahu+ (2020): potential SF fragments in one target
  - Dunham+ (2016), Kirk+ (2017): question of phase?
- high-mass cores/clumps with opposite problems...



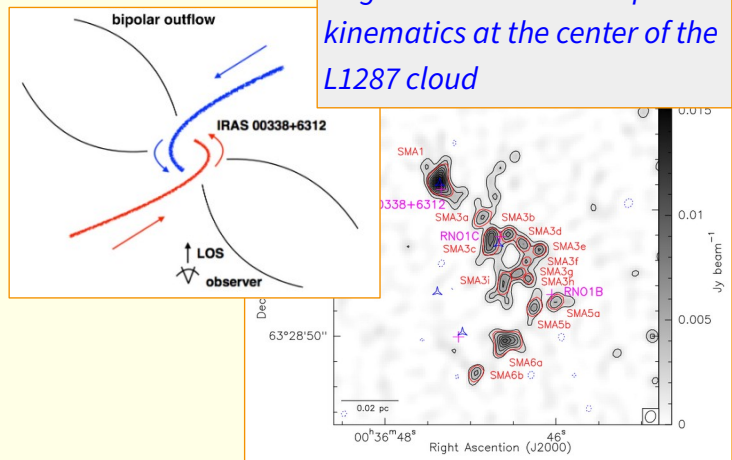


Liu T. et al. (2022): *ATOMS: ALMA Three-millimeter Observations of Massive Star-forming regions - VI. Hierarchical fragmentation and gas dynamics in IRDC G034.43+00.24*



Sakre et al. (2020): *Massive core/star formation triggered by cloud-cloud collision: Effect of magnetic field*

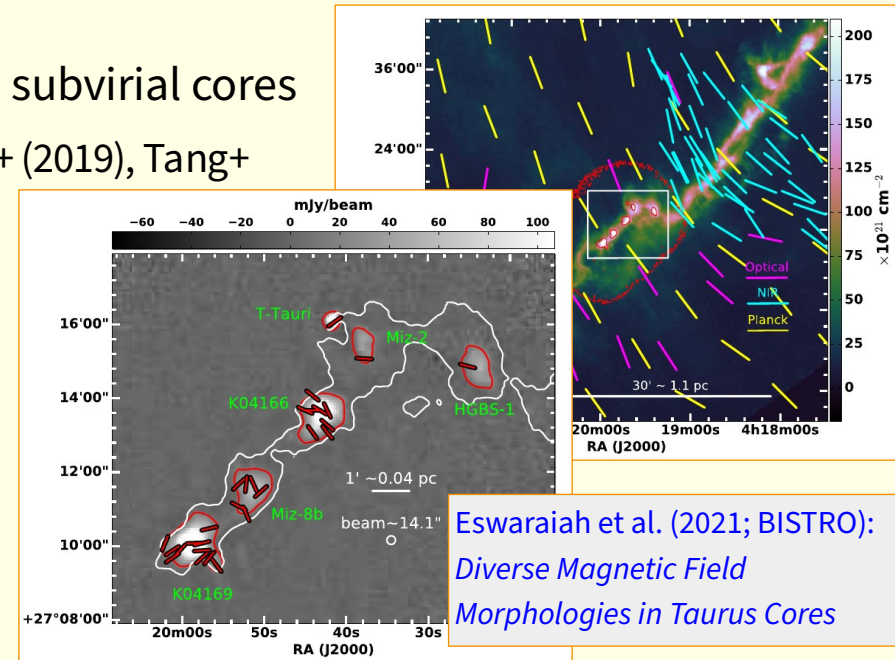
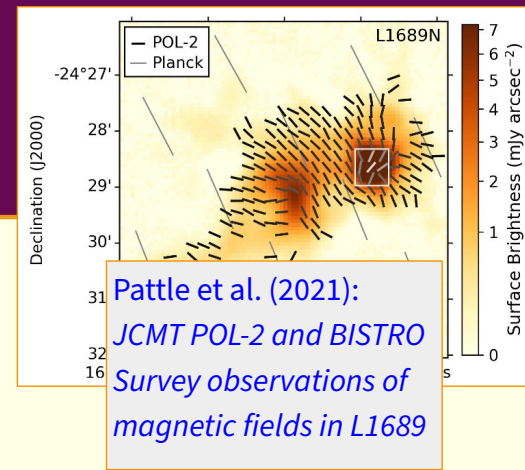
Juarez et al. (2019): *Extreme fragmentation and complex kinematics at the center of the L1287 cloud*

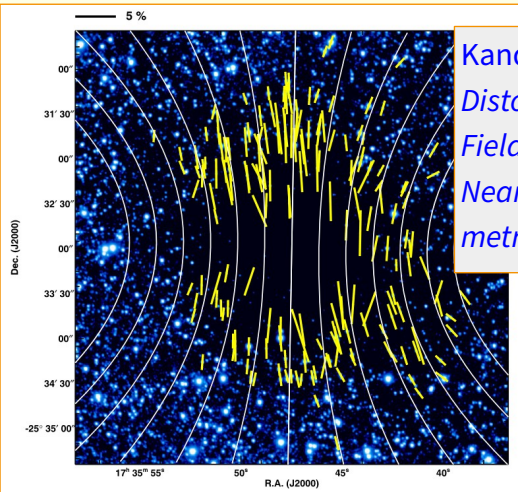


- Caroline Gieser: Physical and chemical properties during high-mass star formation (P04)
- Rajika Kuruwita: Star forming environment on multiple star formation pathways (P08)
- Alexandr Volvach: Flare phenomena in protostellar system IRAS 16293-2422 (P18)

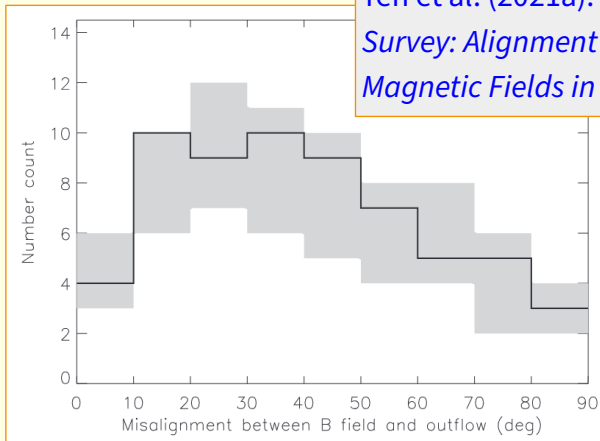
# Magnetic fields of cores

- $B$  morphology (linear/U/hour-glass/pinched) → **formation**
  - $B$  vs. velocity and density gradients, core elongation
    - Ward-Thompson+ (2018), Fissel+ (2019), Pattle+ (2021), Eswaraiah+ (2021), ...
- $B$  strength → **fragmentation** and **stability**
  - $B \sim$  turbulence;  $\sim 0.1-1$  mG in HMSF regions stabilise subvirial cores
    - Kong+ (2017), Liu T.+ (2018), Soam+ (2019), Nakamura+ (2019), Tang+ (2019), Barnes+ (2021); Liu J. (2021), Pattle+ (2021), ...
- $B$  orientation → **protostars**, orientation
  - → disks and outflows
    - Stephans+ (2017), Gómez+ (2018), Vaytet+ (2018), Wurster+ (2018), Beuther+ (2020), Galametz+ (2020), Rosen & Krumholz (2020), Yen+ (2021a,b), Gupta+ (-22)

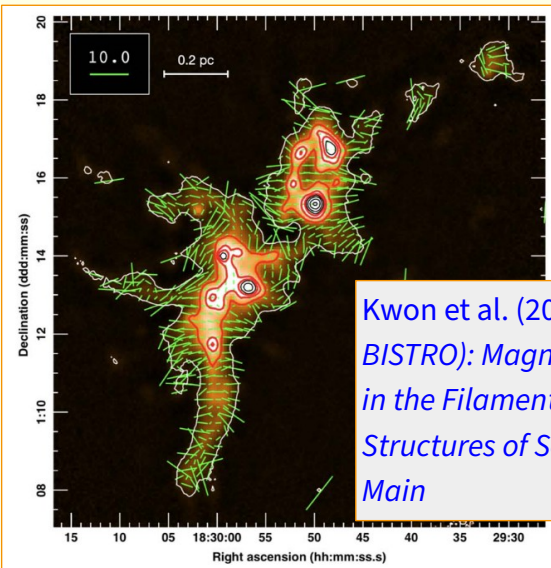
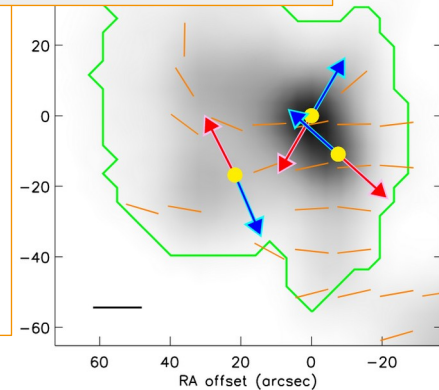




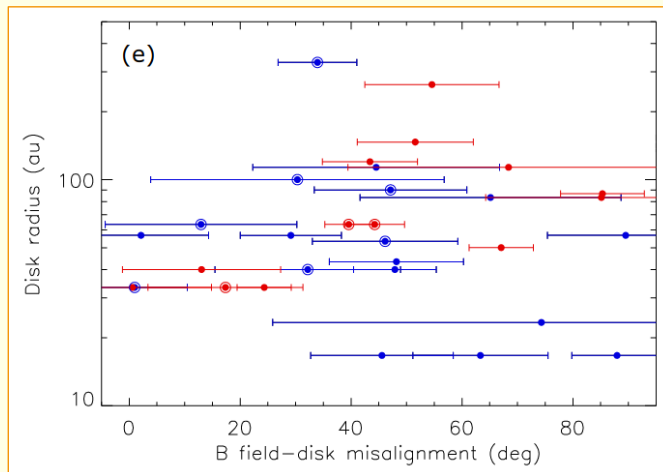
Kandori et al. (2017):  
Distortion of Magnetic  
Fields in Starless Core:  
Near-infrared Polari-  
metry of FeSt 1-457



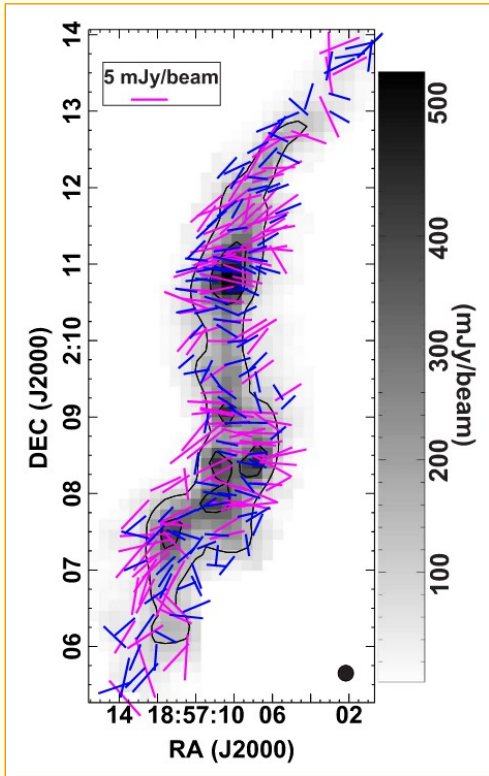
Yen et al. (2021a): *The JCMT BISTRO  
Survey: Alignment between Outflows and  
Magnetic Fields in Dense Cores/Clumps*



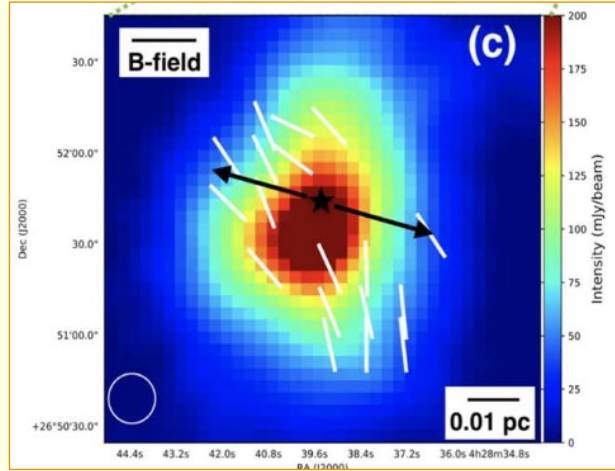
Kwon et al. (2022,  
*BISTRO*): *Magnetic Fields  
in the Filamentary  
Structures of Serpens  
Main*



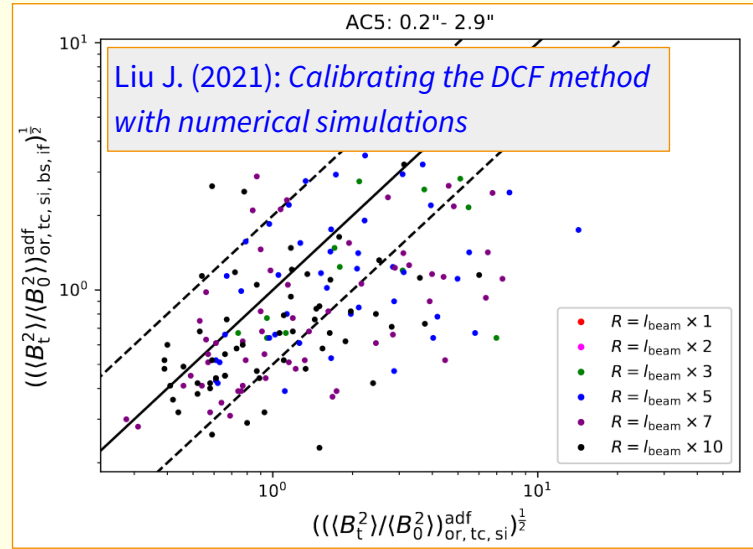
Yen et al. (2021b): No impact  
of core-scale magnetic field,  
turbulence, or velocity  
gradient on sizes of  
protostellar disks in Orion A



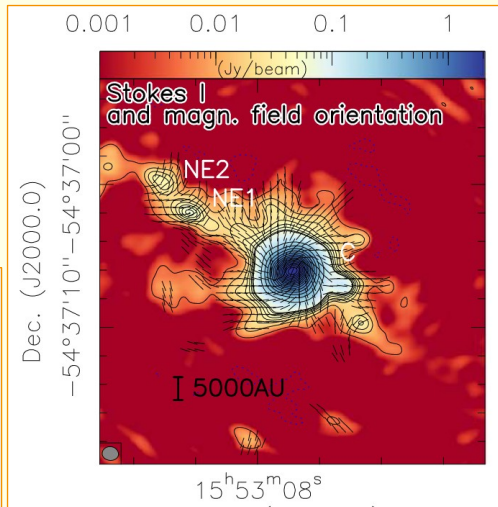
Liu T. et al. (2018): *A Holistic Perspective on the Dynamics of G035.39-00.33: The Interplay between Gas and Magnetic Fields*



Soam et al. (2019): *First Sub-parsec-scale Mapping of Magnetic Fields in the Vicinity of a VeLLO, L1521F-IRS*



Liu J. (2021): *Calibrating the DCF method with numerical simulations*



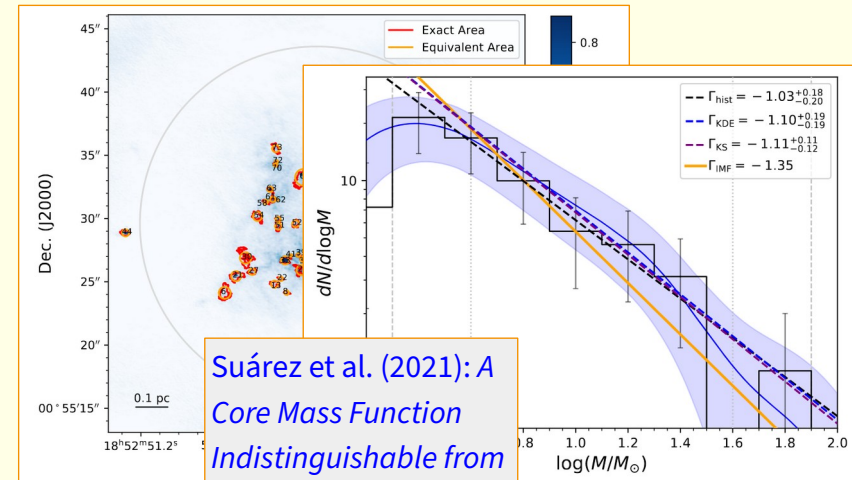
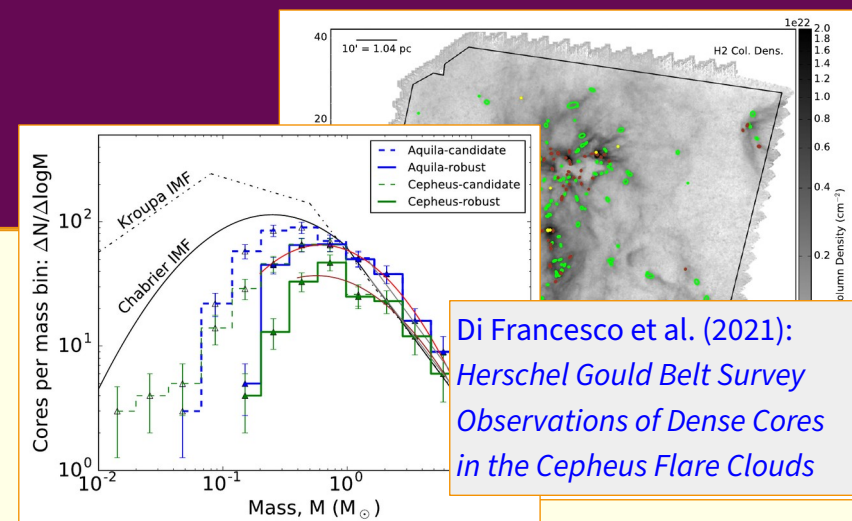
- Raphael Skalidis: Precision Galactic magnetometry from dust polarization (P14)

Beuther et al. (2020): *Gravity and Rotation Drag the Magnetic Field in High-mass Star Formation*

# Statistics of cores

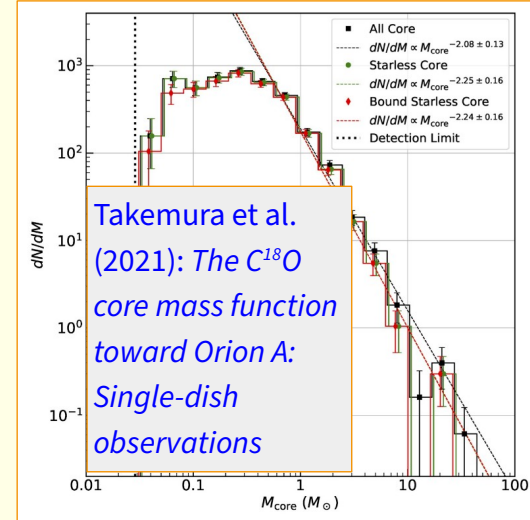
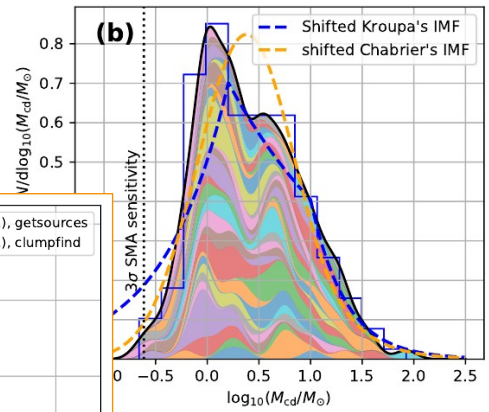
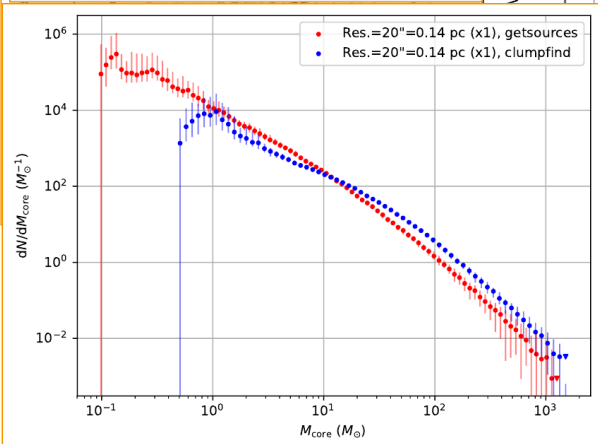
- fragmentation, density profile, size, mass, velocity dispersion, rotation... and core mass function!
  - Di Francesco+ (21), Cao+ (2021), Fiorellino+ (21), Motte+ (21), O'Neil+ (21), Pezzuto+ (21), Suárez+ (21), Takemura+ (21), Baug+ (21)
- SF thresholds; IMF  $\sim \epsilon \times \text{CMF}$  ( $\epsilon \sim 0.3$  if and why); SFE  $\sim \text{N-PDF}$
- variations of CMF with stage, environment
  - Hopkins+ (2013), Roy+ (2015), Zhang+ (2015), Lee & Hennebelle (18a,b;19;20), Motte+ (18), Pouteau+ (22)

• Yohan Pouteau: ALMA-IMF, a Large Program investigating the origin of stellar masses (P13)

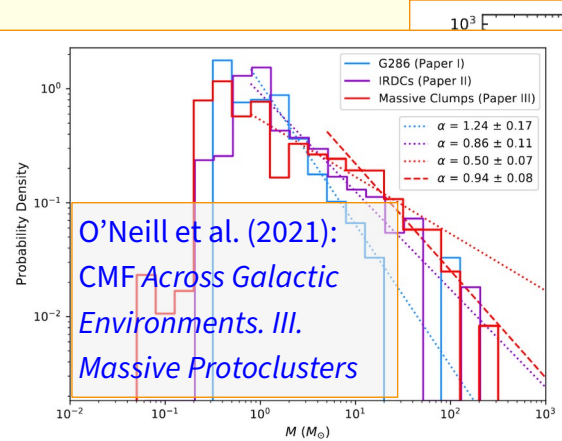




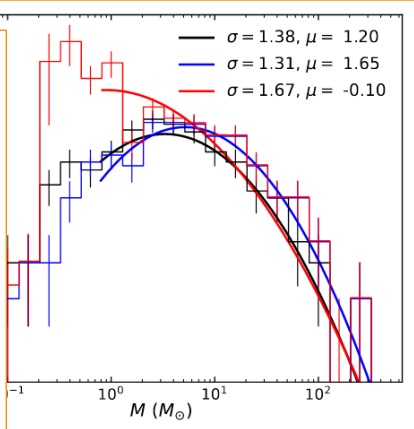
Cao et al. (2021): Core mass function of a single giant molecular cloud complex with  $\sim 10^4$  cores (Cygnus X)



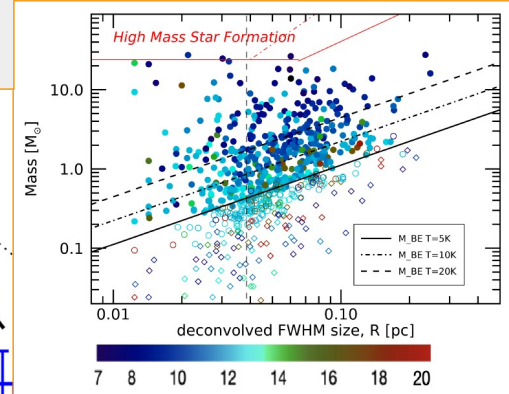
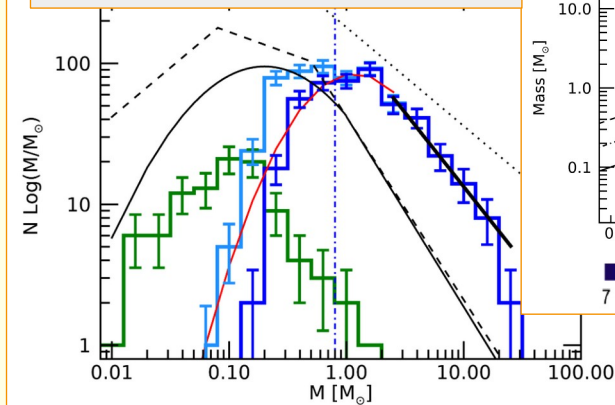
Takemura et al. (2021): The  $C^{18}O$  core mass function toward Orion A: Single-dish observations



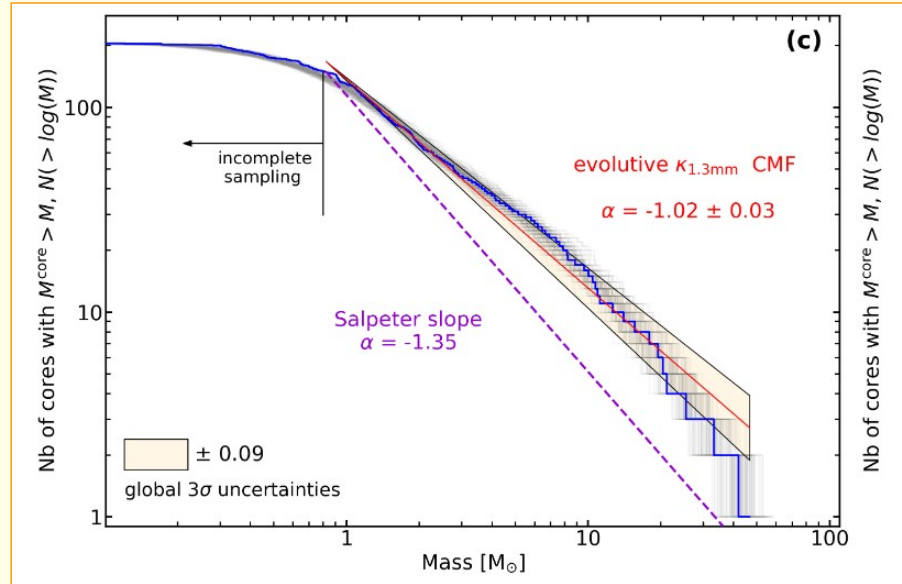
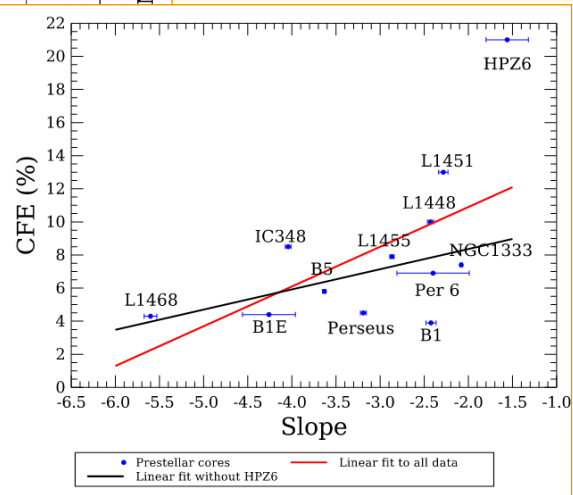
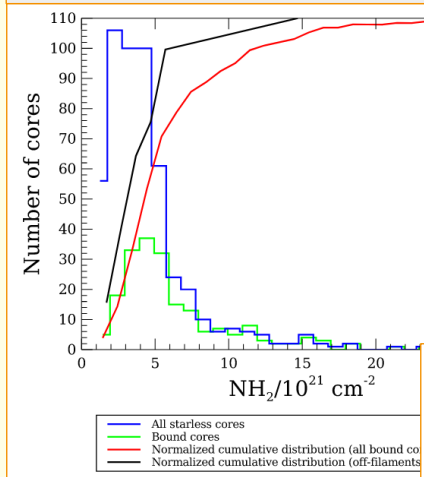
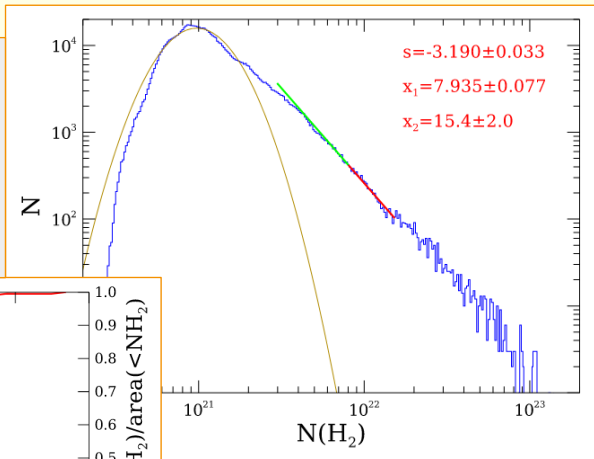
O'Neill et al. (2021): CMF Across Galactic Environments. III. Massive Protoclusters



Fiorellino et al. 2021: The census of dense cores in the Serpens region from the Herschel Gould Belt Survey



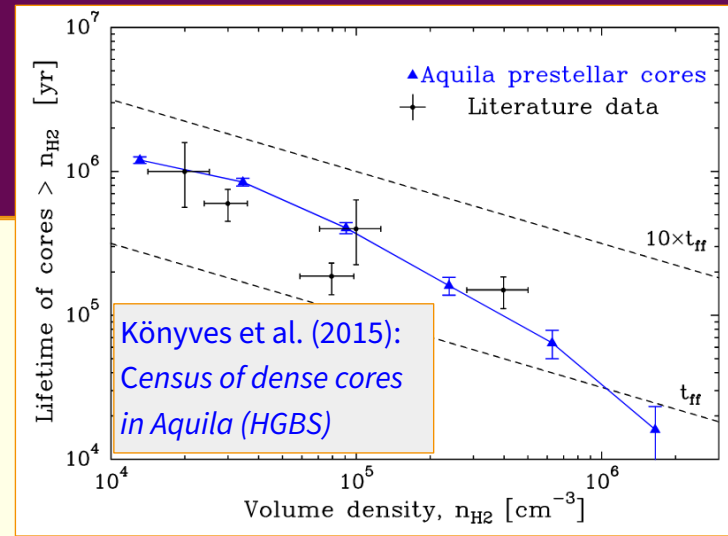
Pezzuto et al. (2021): Physical properties of ambient medium and of dense cores in Perseus star-forming region derived from Herschel GBS observations



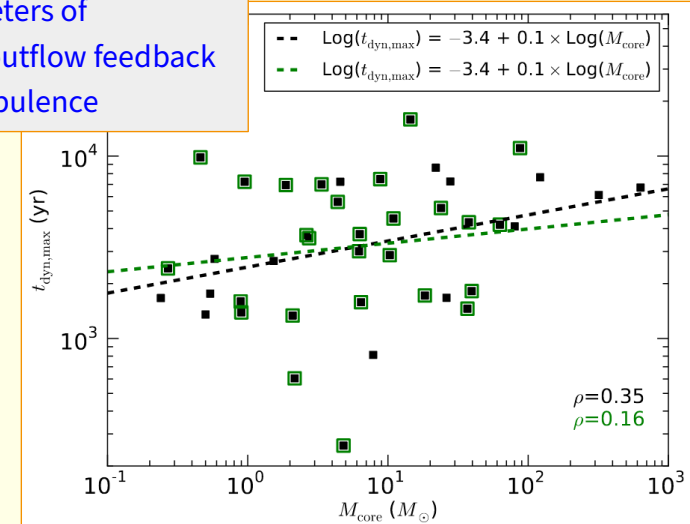
Pouteau et al. (2022): ALMA-IMF III – Investigating the origin of stellar masses: Top-heavy core mass function in the W43-MM2&MM3 mini-starburst

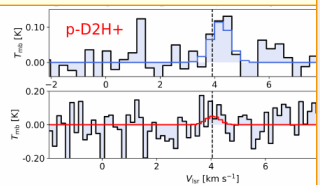
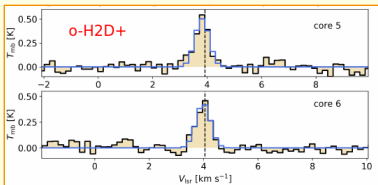
# Timescales of cores

- timescale  $\sim 10^6$  yr,  $(1-10) \times t_{\text{ff}}$ ,  $t_{\text{ff}} = \sqrt{\frac{3\pi}{32G\rho_0}}$   
...  $< 10^5$  yr at the high-mass end
- statistics: counting sources... at a specific time
  - with lifetime of embedded Class II sources “**1-2 Myr**”
- dynamical times: outflow ages, accretion times
  - $> 50 M_{\odot}$ , Class 0  $< 10^4$  yr ...  $t_{\text{ff}} = 4 \times 10^4$  yr (Avison+21)
  - Li+ (20), Baug+ (2021);  $< 10^4$  yr,  $10^{-7}-10^{-4} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  ☞
  - Karnath+ (2020), Chung+ (2021)
- chemistry
  - Pagani+ (2013), Brünken+ (2014), Harju+ (2017)... o/p- $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+ \sim \mathbf{1 \rightarrow 0.5}$  Myr
  - Bovino+ (2021) o- $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$ /p- $\text{D}_2\text{H}^+$ , Oph  $< 2 \times 10^5$  yr  $\sim t_{\text{ff}} \ll t_{\text{AD}}$  ( $\rightarrow \sim \mathbf{10^5}$  yr)
  - Koumpia+ (2020), Redaelli+ (2020, -21), Hily-Blant+ (2020), Tatematsu+ (2021), Kalvans+ (2021)

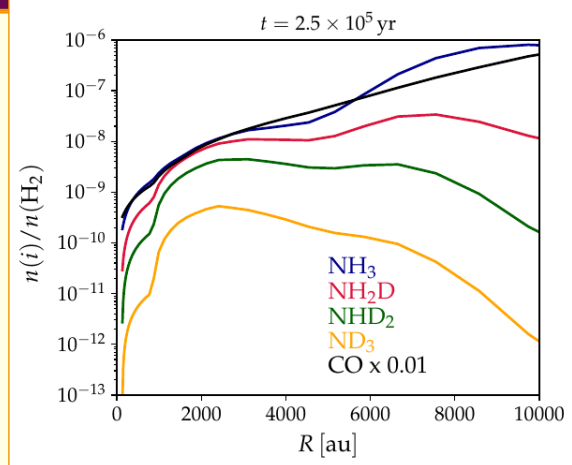
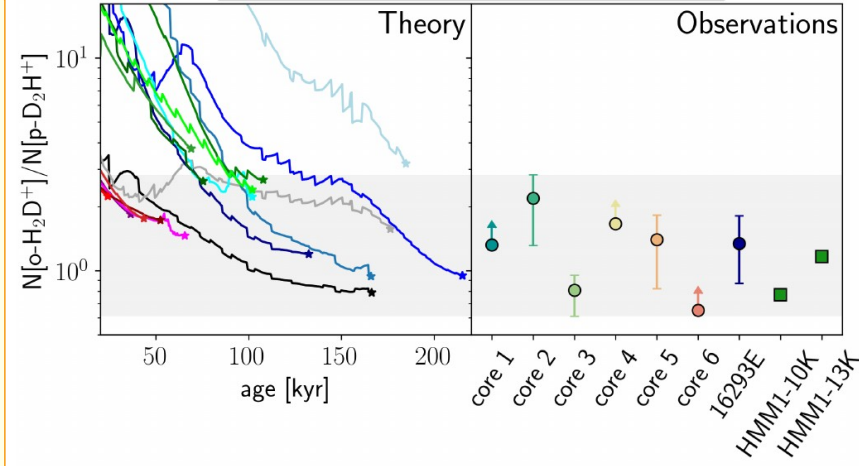


Baug et al. (2021): ALMA study of outflow parameters of protoclusters: outflow feedback to maintain turbulence

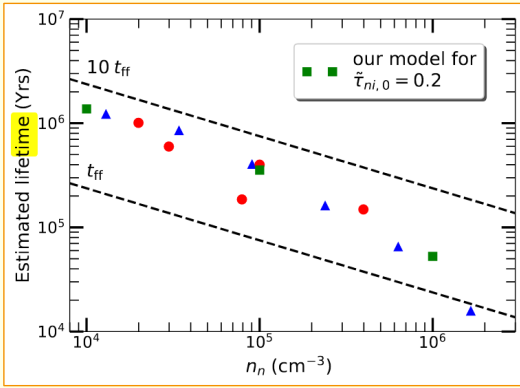
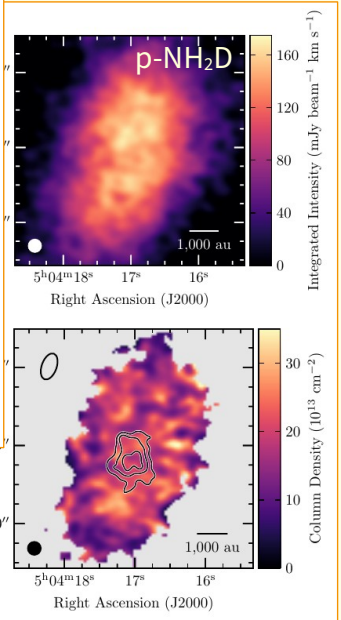




**Bovino (2021): Chemical analysis of prestellar cores in Ophiuchus yields short timescales and rapid collapse**



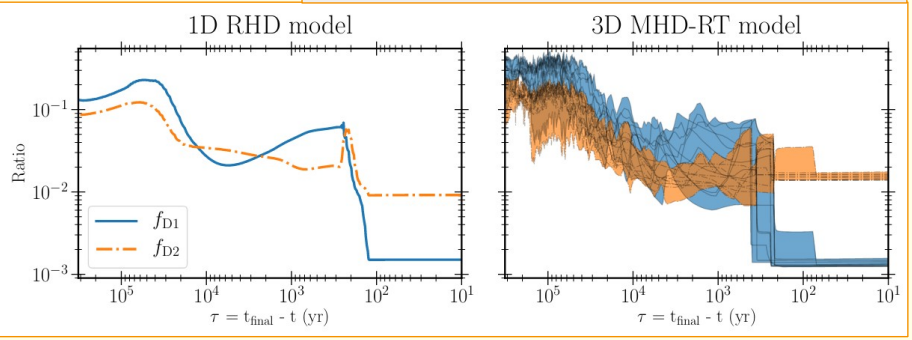
**Caselli et al. (2022): Central 1000 au of Pre-stellar Core Revealed with ALMA. II. Almost Complete Freeze-out**



$\sigma_n$ ( $0^{-2} \text{ g cm}^{-2}$ )	$B_{\text{ref}}$ ( $\mu\text{G}$ )	Estimated lifetime of prestellar cores (Myr)
1.094	16.45	1.371 ( $\sim 5.777 t_{\text{ff}}$ )
3.461	49.94	0.355 ( $\sim 4.728 t_{\text{ff}}$ )
10.944	119.57	0.053 ( $\sim 2.220 t_{\text{ff}}$ )

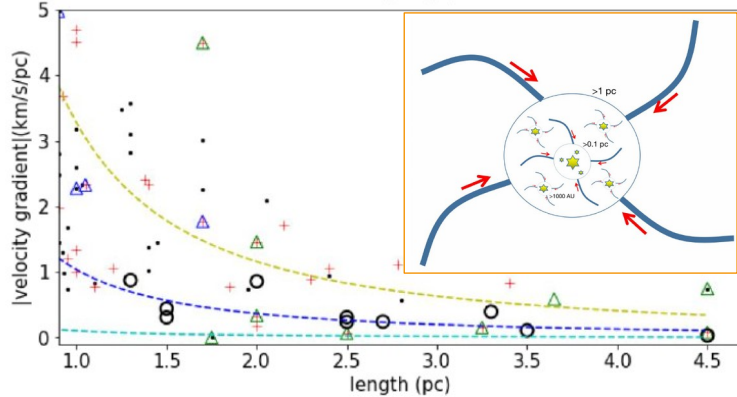
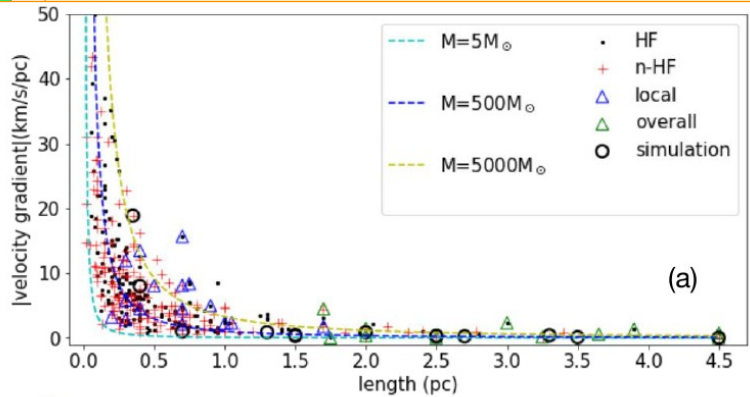
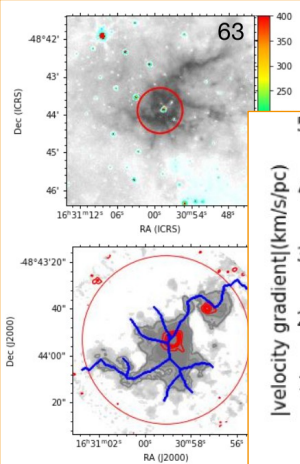
**Das et al. (2021): Variation of the core lifetime and fragmentation scale in molecular clouds as an indication of ambipolar diffusion**

**Jensen (2021): Modeling chemistry during SF: Water deuteration in dynamic SF regions**

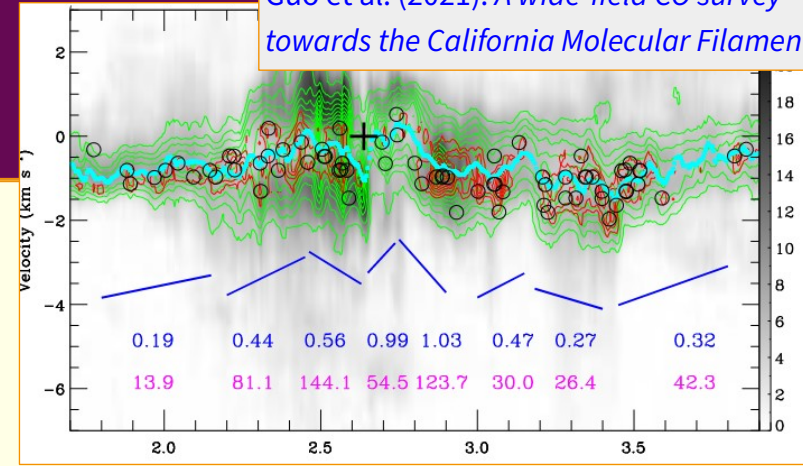


# Large scales and cores

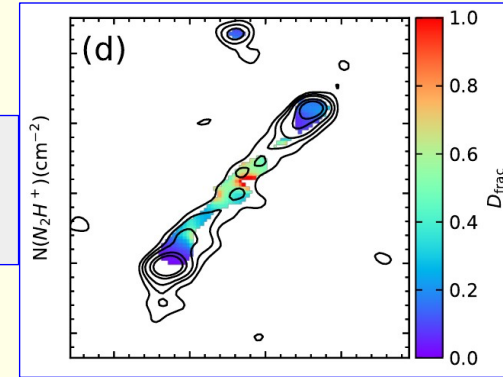
Zhou et al. (2022)  
ATOMS hub-filament systems



Guo et al. (2021): A wide-field CO survey towards the California Molecular Filament



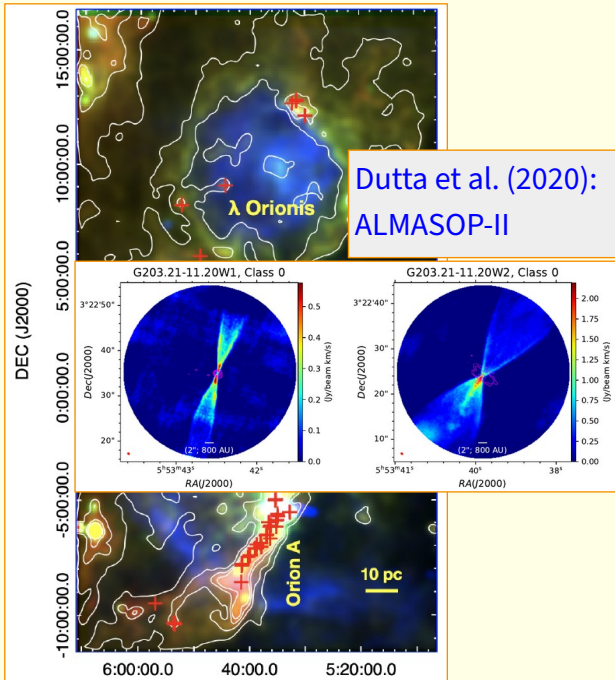
Cheng et al. (2021):  
Star Formation in a Strongly Magnetized Cloud (Vela C Ridge)



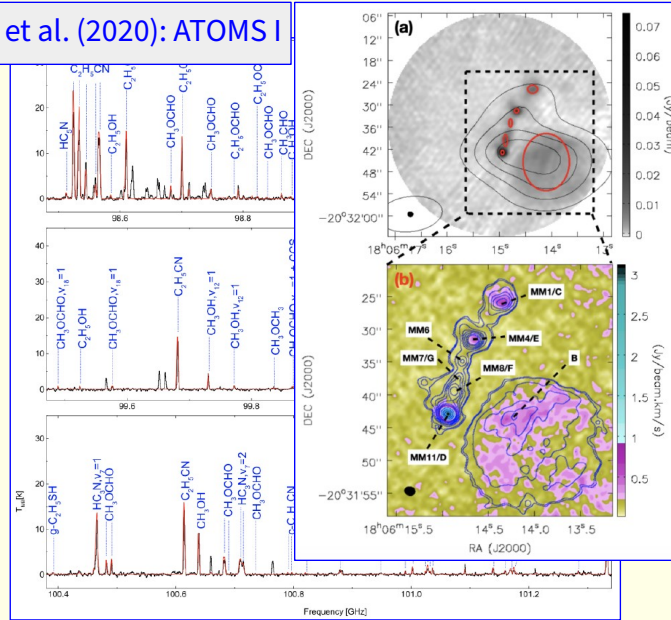
- Stefan Heigl: Turbulent origin of streamers onto protostellar disks (P05)
- Elena Hoemann: Filament collapse: A two phase process (P06)

# Small scales and cores

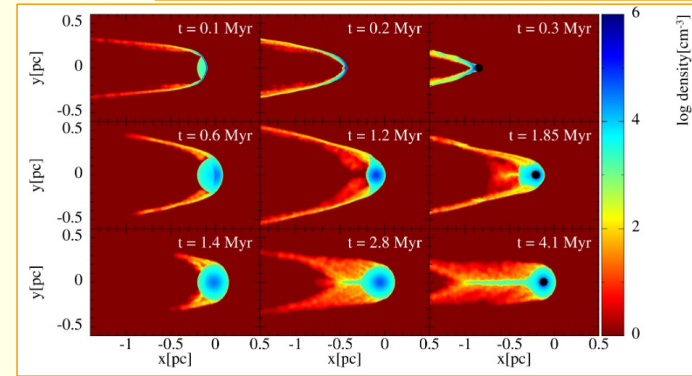
Dutta et al. (2020):  
ALMASOP-II



Tie et al. (2020): ATOMS I



Zier et al. (2021): *On the interaction of a Bonnor-Ebert sphere with a stellar wind*



- Mike Grudich: The dynamics of star formation with all feedback in concert (P00)
- Jan Orkisz: Tracing turbulence properties, volume densities and star formation (P11)

# Open questions for cores 2022

- definition and classification of cores ... ..
  - FHSC... massive pre-stellar cores ... ..
  - origin of turbulence, turbulent support ...
  - fragmentation: to and of cores ... ..
  - stability, transition to coherence ... ..
  - chemical and dust evolution ... ..
  - inflow, infall, hub-filaments, streamers ...
  - magnetic fields ... ..
  - timescale of core evolution ... ..
  - SFE, SFR, CMS ... → ... IMF ... ..
- 
- cloud formation, origin of turbulence
  - cloud fragmentation, description of cloud structure
  - transition from turbulent cloud to quiescent core; improved understanding of chemistry
  - changes in dust properties
  - chemical evolution / clocks to track core evolution
  - complete depletion
  - emerging field of IRDCs

