Abstracts of recently accepted papers

The formation of close binary systems
Ian A. Bonnell and Matthew R. Bate
Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge, CB3 0HA UK

A viable solution to the origin of close binary systems, unaccounted for in recent theories, is presented. Fragmentation, occurring at the end of the secondary collapse phase (during which molecular hydrogen is dissociating), can form binary systems with separations less than 1 au.

Two fragmentation modes are found to occur after the collapse is halted. The first consists of the fragmentation of a protostellar disc due to rotational instabilities in a protostellar core, involving both an $m = 1$ and an $m = 2$ mode. This fragmentation mechanism is found to be insensitive to the initial density distribution: it can occur in both centrally condensed and uniform initial conditions. The second fragmentation mode involves the formation of a rapidly rotating core at the end of the collapse phase which is unstable to the axisymmetric perturbations. This core bounces into a ring which quickly fragments into several components.

The binary systems thus formed contain less than 1 per cent of a solar mass and therefore will need to accrete most of their final mass if they are to form a binary star system. Their orbital properties will thus be determined by the properties of the accreted matter.

Accepted by MNRAS

Deep VLA search for the youngest protostars: A Class 0 source in the HH24–26 region
S. Bontemps$^1$, P. André$^1$ and D. Ward-Thompson$^2$

$^1$ CEA, Service d’Astrophysique, Centre d’Etudes de Saclay, F-91191 Gif-sur-Yvette Cedex, France
internet: bonte@ariane.saclay.cea.fr, andre@sapvxg.saclay.cea.fr

$^2$ Royal Observatory, Blackford Hill, Edinburgh EH9 3HJ, UK
internet: dwt@roe.ac.uk

As part of a comprehensive centimeter radio continuum survey of molecular cloud cores for deeply embedded young stellar objects, we present deep 3.6 cm VLA observations of the HH24-26 region in the L1630 Orion molecular complex. Above a $5\sigma$ sensitivity threshold of 0.1 mJy, six radio sources are detected whose spatial distribution closely follows that of the dense molecular gas in the region. In addition to the previously known infrared objects SSV61 and SSV63, our observations reveal two new, weak VLA sources which coincide with strong HCO$^+$ and dust continuum peaks. One of them is the protostellar cold cloud fragment HH24MMS recently discovered at 1.3 mm by Chini et al. Based on the detection of this object with the VLA, we argue that HH24MMS is a Class 0 young protostar rather similar to, but probably more massive than, the $\rho$ Ophiuchi Class 0 source VLA 1623.

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The Growth of Solids and Radiation Shielding in the Young Stellar Disk of HD 45677

Thomas M. Brown, Richard Buss, Jr.,1 Carol Grady2 and Karen Bjorkman3

1 Department of Physics and Astronomy, The Johns Hopkins University, Charles and 34th Sts., Baltimore, MD 21218, USA. internet: tbrown@hut4.pha.jhu.edu
2 Applied Research Corp., 8201 Corporate Dr. Suite 1120, Landover, MD 20785 USA. internet: grady@fosvax.arcch.com
3 Space Astronomy Lab, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706 USA internet: karen@jerry.sal.wisc.edu

Ultraviolet spectra (912-3300 Å) from the ASTRO-1 and IUE space missions of two Herbig Be stars, HD 45677 and HD 200775, show that the HD 200775 intrinsic continuum matches a T=20,000 K Kurucz model and that the HD 45677 continuum exhibits additional line-blanketing, extinction, and emission from gas and dust in its disk and bipolar wind. With log N(H I)=21.4±0.1 cm−2, our measured upper limit on the fraction of HD 45677 disk H-atoms in molecules (f¡1.5x10−2) is much less than that seen in molecular clouds (f≈0.5). The HD 45677 dust absorption for λ>1400 Å(AV≈0.7 mag) is produced by larger grains (inferred RV≈6.2) than those in molecular clouds (RV≈5.6). A steep FUV absorption (1300–1000 Å) toward HD 45677 is partly due to an excess of hydrocarbon molecules that barely shield (τ≈1-2.5) the outer disk from FUV radiation. Both the disk gas and dust have evolved greatly since the formation of the mid-mass star HD 45677 from molecular clouds: the disk grains grew to micron sizes suitable for the formation of planetesimals, the molecular hydrocarbons photoevaporated off grains in the gaseous disk, and the ISM H2 photodissociated into HI in the disk. Thus, because of radiation from HD 45677, the disk gas differs dramatically from the condensate-rich, molecular gas around low-mass stars and would seem to lead to a different chemical and physical evolution toward planets than around low-mass stars such as our Sun.

A Search for Pre-Main Sequence Stars in High-Latitude Molecular Clouds. III. A Survey of the Einstein Database

Jean-Pierre Caillault1, Loris Magnani1 and Chris Fryer2

1 Department of Physics & Astronomy, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2451, USA
2 Department of Astronomy, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85726, USA

In order to discern whether the high-latitude molecular clouds are regions of ongoing star formation, we have used X-ray emission as a tracer of youthful stars. The entire Einstein database yields 18 images which overlap 10 of the clouds mapped partially or completely in the CO (1-0) transition, providing a total of ∼ 6 sq. deg. of overlap. Five previously unidentified X-ray sources were detected: one has an optical counterpart which is a pre-main-sequence star and two have normal main sequence stellar counterparts, while the other two are probably extragalactic sources. The PMS star is located in a high Galactic latitude Lynds dark cloud, so this result is not too surprising. The translucent clouds, though, have yet to reveal any evidence of star formation.

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A massive young embedded object associated with the UC HII region G31.41+0.31

R. Cesaroni1, L. Olmi2, C.M. Walmsley3, E. Churchwell4 and P. Hofner4

1 Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri, L.go Enrico Fermi 5, I-50125 Firenze, Italy
2 Arecibo Observatory, P.O. Box 995, Arecibo, Puerto Rico 00613
3 Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie, Auf dem Hügel 69, 53121 Bonn, Germany
4 Washburn Observatory, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 475 North Charter Street, Madison, WI 53706, USA

We have used the IRAM Plateau de Bure Interferometer to make high angular resolution observations of the star-forming region surrounding the ultracompact HII region G31.41+0.31. We have produced maps in the ground state CH3CN(6–5), CH313CN(6–5) and vibrationally excited CH3CN(6–5) transitions, and in the 3 mm continuum emission. From these, we derive estimates of the size and mass of the hot molecular core known from earlier ammonia observations. The core angular diameter as measured in both methyl cyanide and the 3 mm continuum is ∼1 arcsec corresponding to ~0.04 pc. If the continuum emission is due to heated dust, we derive a mass of ~1000 M⊙, but with large uncertainties. A remarkable velocity gradient (~400 km s−1 pc−1) in the SW–NE direction is observed in CH3CN implying an equilibrium mass ~1000 M⊙, consistent with the value quoted above. We discuss two possible scenarios (disk or outflow) for explaining this gradient and conclude that the molecular core must be dynamically unstable.

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Near-infrared imaging of the jets and flows associated with the Herbig-Haro objects 91, 110 and 111.

Christopher J. Davis¹ Reinhard Mundt¹ & Jochen Eislöffel²

¹Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie, Königstuhl 17, D-69117 Heidelberg, Federal Republic of Germany
internet: davis@mpia-hd.mpg.de, mundt@mpia-hd.mpg.de
² Laboratoire d’Astrophysique, Observatoire de Grenoble, Université Joseph Fourier, B.P. 53X, F-38041 Grenoble Cedex, France.
internet: eisloff@gag.observ-gr.fr

We present near-infrared imaging of the jets and outflows associated with the Herbig-Haro (HH) objects HH 91, HH 110 and HH 111. We compare our narrow-band H₂ v=1-0 S(1) (2.121 μm) and broad band K images with optical [SII] and Hα images of the same regions. We find that many of the brightest knots in [SII] and Hα have counterparts in H₂, though there are some marked differences in morphology. In HH 91, the H₂ emission is highly clumpy, like the [SII] emission, though the H₂ is mostly confined to the low-excitation regions of the flow. H₂ emission also coincides with and outlines the northern edge of a filamentary, optical, “jet-like” feature in HH 91. We interpret this as possible evidence for entrainment of ambient gas along the northern boundary of this flow. More striking differences between the H₂ and optical data are seen in the HH 110 outflow. The “wiggling” Hα jet appears much straighter in H₂. We suggest that close to the source the H₂ traces a laminar, mostly molecular jet, while the Hα traces a more extensive turbulent “mixing layer” that separates the jet from the ambient medium. Also, near to HH 110 we have found a second and probable third collimated H₂ jet. Neither jet is visible in optical images of the region. Finally, in HH 111 we see the brightest optical features also in H₂, including the bow shock at the westerly head of the jet, knot V. Along the jet, the H₂ peaks coincide closely with the [SII] knots (after taking into account proper motions), though in knot V, the H₂ is shifted upstream of the [SII] peak by ~ 1 arcsec (400 AU): the H₂ therefore probably derives from the bow shock wings in knot V.

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Modeling Radiative Transfer in Molecular Clouds I. HCO⁺ in the Star-Forming Region W49 A North.

Hélène R. Dickel¹ and Lawrence H. Auer²

¹Astronomy Dept., U. Illinois, 103 Astron. Bldg., 1002 W. Green St., Urbana, IL 61801, USA
E-mail: lanie@sirius.astro.uiuc.edu (internet)
²Earth and Environmental Sciences 5, Los Alamos National Laboratory MS-F665, Los Alamos, NM 87545, USA

A new general multi-level, non-LTE radiative transfer code, valid for any velocity field, is applied to HCO⁺ observations of W49 A north. Three classes of collapse models are considered: free-fall collapse (v ∝ r⁻⁰.⁵), homologous collapse (v ∝ r), and "inside-out" collapse (Shu 1977). A simple free-fall collapse model, with ρ ∝ r⁻¹.⁵ throughout the molecular cloud, successfully reproduces the features of the observations and gives the best fit to the J=1-0 and J=3-2 profiles both toward the prominent HII component G of W49 A north and off the center. In addition to a slow radial fall-off of density, the theoretical modeling implies for the molecular cloud: the large line widths result from motions occurring within the inner 1 pc and there are probably one or more fragments with peculiar velocities within this same region.

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On the Current Status of Maser Polarization Theory

Moshe Elitzur

Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506, USA
e-mail: moshe@pa.uky.edu

Despite recent criticism, past conflicts among theoretical studies of maser polarization are by now resolved and clarified. All analytical methods proposed thus far produce the same polarization solutions, solutions that agree with observations. Current numerical studies do not reproduce these solutions. Instead, for any pumping employed, their results are in direct conflict with both analytical theory and observations. These problems reflect the fact that the
When Star Formation Stops: Galaxy Edges and Low Surface Brightness Disks
B.G. Elmegreen¹ and A. Parravano²

¹ IBM Research Division, T.J. Watson Research Center, P.O. Box 218, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598 USA
(bge@watson.ibm.com)
² Universidad de Los Andes, Postgrado en Astronomía y Astrofísica, Merida Venezuela
(parravan@ciens.ula.ve)

The star formation rate per unit gas mass should be low wherever the average gas pressure is low because most compressions in these regions, whether from old supernova shocks, gravitational instabilities, cloud collisions, supersonic turbulence, or spiral waves, cannot produce gas that is dense enough to cool to low thermal temperatures. All of the normal routes to star formation shut off when the average pressure is much less than the minimum critical pressure for the co-existence of two thermal phases. We calculate this minimum critical pressure $P_{\text{min}}$ and the corresponding densities for gas in thermal equilibrium for a variety of radiation fields, metallicities, and cosmic ray fluxes. Low total pressure usually correlates with low gas surface density in a galaxy, so if the thermal pressure, which is only part of this total, decreases as the total pressure decreases, then the low surface density regions that are at large radii in normal galaxies or in low surface brightness galaxies should have sufficiently low thermal pressures to prevent star formation in all but the highest-pressure fluctuations. Star formation stops because without the possibility of low equilibrium temperatures, no amount of cooling, and no likely amount compression subsequent to cloud formation (as in turbulence) can produce clump masses that exceed the thermal Jeans mass. We predict that HI in the outer parts of galaxies and in regions with low ratios of pressure to radiation field should have most of their mass at temperatures in excess of several thousand Kelvin, and very little of their mass in a dense form appropriate for star formation.

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Millimeter and submillimeter observations of the Orion Bar. I–Physical structure
Michiel R. Hogerheijde, David J. Jansen, Ewine F. van Dishoeck
Sterrewacht Leiden, P.O. Box 9513, NL–2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands
e-mail: michiel@strw.LeidenUniv.nl

Millimeter and submillimeter observations of 53 rotational transitions of 18 different molecules and their isotopic varieties are presented at five positions on a strip crossing the Orion Bar. These data are used to study the physical and chemical conditions with increasing depth into this photon–dominated region (PDR). It is found that all molecules show about the same intensity distribution across the Bar. They peak ~30'' outside the ionization front, and fall off to about 10–20% of their peak values on either side. An excitation analysis of C¹⁸O, H₂CO, CS and HCO⁺ shows that the Orion Bar is best described by an inhomogeneous density distribution where ~10% of the molecular material is comprised in clumps of hydrogen number density $n_{\text{H}_2} \approx 1.0^{+3.0}_{-0.7} \times 10^{6}$ cm$^{-3}$ and ~90% in a homogeneous interclump medium of $n_{\text{H}_2} \approx 3.0^{+2.0}_{-2.2} \times 10^{4}$ cm$^{-3}$. The kinetic temperature is found to be 85 ± 30 K. No significant variations in these physical parameters occur across the Bar. It is therefore concluded that the observed peak in the molecular rotational emission corresponds to a peak in molecular column densities. A geometric model for the Orion Bar is proposed in which with increasing distance from the ionizing stars, the PDR changes from a face–on to an edge–on geometry and back. The increased emission is then caused by the increased length of the line–of–sight through the PDR. This model is found to correspond well with other observations.

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X-ray-selected T Tauri stars in the Chamaeleon I cloud
D.P. Huenemoerder\textsuperscript{1}, W.A. Lawson\textsuperscript{2} and E.D. Feigelson\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{1} Center for Space Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA
\textsuperscript{2} Department of Physics, University College UNSW, Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra, ACT 2600, Australia
\textsuperscript{3} Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA 16802, USA

We report spectroscopy of 26 stars associated with 23 fields containing proposed new X-ray-selected cloud members of Chamaeleon I. At least 13, and possibly as many as 19, of the stars are confirmed to be new ‘weak-lined’ T Tauri (WTT) stars due to the presence of H\textalpha emission and strong \(\lambda 6707\) Li \textit{i} absorption. Of the remainder, we suspect that five of the observed stars are not the X-ray emitters. Only two X-ray-emitting stars are found to be unrelated to the cloud. The available evidence suggests that the WTT stars are not systematically older than ‘classical’ T Tauri (CTT) stars in Chamaeleon. The transition between CTT and WTT stages for individual stars must range over most of the Hayashi track.

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Theoretical Position-Velocity Diagrams of Flux, Electron Density, and Electron Temperature in Herbig-Haro Objects
R. Indebetouw\textsuperscript{1} \& A. Noriega-Crespo\textsuperscript{1,2}

\textsuperscript{1} Maria Mitchell Observatory, Nantucket, MA, 02554, USA
\textsuperscript{2} Infrared Processing and Analysis Center, California Institute of Technology, JPL, Pasadena, CA 91125, USA

Many features of Herbig-Haro objects can be reproduced using a kinematical bow shock model. We use the model to generate position-velocity (PV) diagrams of flux in H\textalpha, \([\text{O I}]\lambda\lambda 6300+63\), \([\text{S II}]\lambda\lambda 6716+31\), \([\text{O III}]\lambda\lambda 4959+5007\), and \([\text{C I}]\lambda\lambda 9823+50\), line ratios of \([\text{O I}]/\text{H}\alpha\), \([\text{O I}]/[\text{S II}]\), \([\text{S II}]/\text{H}\alpha\), \([\text{H}\alpha]/[\text{S II}]\), and \([\text{O III}]/\text{H}\alpha\), electron density \(N_e\), and temperature \(T_e\). We show how PV diagrams of \(N_e\) and flux vary with shock velocity. By matching the diagrams from single lines, line ratios and \(N_e\) with observations, we determined a narrow range of shock parameters for HH 1F, 2(A'\textsuperscript{+}+H), and 43(B+C). We model the \(N_e\) features of HH 2(A'\textsuperscript{+}+H) as a superposition of 2 bowshocks. We also show that the effects of slight misalignments of the two diagrams to be divided can produce artifacts in line ratios and \(N_e\), which obliterate the physical features. We show that \(N_e\) in HH 1 can only be explained using the kinematical model by taking these misalignments in to account.

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Composite Spectra in Young Stars: Accretion or Close Companions?
Chris D. Koresko\textsuperscript{1}

\textsuperscript{1} Department of Astronomy, The University of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX 78712, USA

Three young low-mass stars which exhibit composite optical spectra were imaged at high angular resolution in the near-infrared to determine whether their spectral peculiarities are due to the presence of close binary companions. Companions to two of the three stars were found to be capable of producing the observed spectra, but only if they are much younger than their primaries. If the inferred age differences are real, they suggest that a mechanism must exist which can perturb the evolution of a young star in a binary system from its Hayashi track.

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Protostellar Accretion Disks Resolved with the JCMT–CSO Interferometer
O. P. Lay\textsuperscript{1}, J. E. Carlstrom\textsuperscript{2}, R. E. Hills\textsuperscript{1} \& T. G. Phillips\textsuperscript{2}

\textsuperscript{1} Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HE, UK
internet: richard@mrao

\textsuperscript{2} Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA 91125
internet: jc@astro.caltech.edu
The JCMT–CSO submillimeter interferometer was used to measure the size and orientation of the compact dust continuum emission at 870 µm from the protostellar sources HL Tau and L1551–IRS 5. Assuming an elliptical Gaussian for the brightness distribution and distances of 140 pc, the data are well fit by semi-major radii to half maximum brightness and position angles of 60 AU at 126 degrees for HL Tau and 80 AU at 162 degrees for L1551. An upper limit of 50 AU (0.′′4) is set for the radii along the minor axes, leading to minimum brightness temperatures of 36 K and 28 K, respectively. The elongation in the continuum emission is perpendicular to the outflow axes, as expected for accretion disks. The high brightness indicates substantial column density and mass, further strengthening the accretion disk interpretation. Our observations do not strongly constrain the disk mass; applying an accretion disk model to our data gives a lower limit of ∼0.02 M⊙ for both sources.

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The CI/CO ratio in the molecular cloud G34.3+0.2

L.T.Little1,2, A.G.Gibb1,2, B.D.Heaton1, B.N.Ellison3 and S.M.X Claude3

1 Electronic Engineering Laboratories, University of Kent, Canterbury, Kent, UK, CT2 7NT.
2 Email addresses: ltl@star.ukc.ac.uk, agg@star.ukc.ac.uk 3 Rutherford-Appleton Laboratory, Chilton, Didcot, Oxon, UK, OX1 0QX.

A model for the structure of the massive molecular cloud G34.3+0.2 is derived from extensive observations of carbon monoxide lines including J=1–0, 2–1, 3–2 and 6–5 13CO and J=2–1 C18O. The model consists of a slowly collapsing turbulent cloud with density constant out to a radius of 0.15pc, but falling off as ∼ R−2 out to 3.25pc. The CO abundance is constant. Within the framework of the basic cloud structure it is possible to predict line shapes for the 492GHz 3P1–3P0 CI line, for different assumed radial behaviour of the CI abundance. These are compared with observations. The best fit is found with CI ∝ R0.9 from the perimeter of the cloud into r =0.24pc where A_V =55. The column density averaged [CI]/[CO] ratio for G34.3+0.2 is very similar to that for the ρ Ophiuchus molecular cloud notwithstanding the very different structures of the two clouds. Models for producing high carbon abundances deep in clouds which may have difficulty in explaining the results include those with external UV penetration round clumps, dynamic mixing or in which the initial [C]/[O] ratio is greater than unity.

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Millimeter-wave Continuum Measurements of Young Stars

M. Osterloh & S. V. W. Beckwith

Max-Planck-Institut für Astronomie, Königstuhl 17, 69117 Heidelberg, FRG.
(Send preprint requests to osterloh@mpia-hd.mpg.de)

New continuum observations at 1.3 mm of 121 young stars are presented; the majority of these objects have not been previously observed. The stars which are detected are interpreted assuming that the emission is thermal radiation from small particles entrained in circumstellar disks. Several new conclusions are drawn:

1. The presence of a companion star clearly affects the millimeter-wave continuum emission and, by implication, the disks. Companions closer than about 100 AU inhibit disk formation.
2. Weak-line and naked T Tauri stars do, in fact, have less millimeter-wave emission than classical T Tauri stars. It appears that the reason is an absence of even cold particles, not simply lower luminosities for an otherwise large reservoir of particles. An equivalent width for Hα of 0.4 nm appears to be a natural dividing line between detected and non-detected sources.
3. Within the uncertainties, there is no difference between the distribution of disk masses in the Cepheus IV association and Taurus-Auriga.
4. With better sensitivity, the distribution of disk masses can be seen to extend down below the approximate limit of 0.01 solar masses determined in the survey of Beckwith et al. (1990).

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H^{13}CN, H^{13}CO^+, HCN and HCO^+ observations of dense gas in galactic molecular clouds

L. Pirogov^1, I. Zhenchenko^1,2, A. Lapinov^1, V. Myshenko^3, V. Shulg^a^3

1 Institute of Applied Physics of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Uljanov st. 46, 603600 Nizhny Novgorod, Russia
2 Helsinki University Observatory, Tähtitorninmäki, P.O. Box 14, FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland
3 Radio Astronomical Institute of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Chervonoprapornaya st. 4, Khar'kov 310002, Ukraine

The results of the observations of several galactic dense molecular cloud cores in the J = 1 − 0 H^{13}CN, H^{13}CO^+, HCN and HCO^+ lines along with the J = 1 − 0 HCN observations of some high-latitude clouds are presented. In the optically thin approximation the H^{13}CN and H^{13}CO^+ column densities (N) are evaluated. HCN and HCO^+ column densities are derived from N(H^{13}CN) and N(H^{13}CO^+) using the [^{12}C]/[^{13}C] ratios for each cloud calculated from its galactocentric dependence. HCN abundances are found for two objects. The H^{13}CO^+, HCO^+ and HCN emission region sizes are estimated for some cores. HCO^+ and H^{13}CO^+ model calculations for S140 show that either the [HCO^+]/[H^{13}CO^+] abundance ratio is rather low, ∼30, or the object has inhomogeneous structure. The J = 1 − 0 HCN line was detected towards MBM 55B high-latitude cloud. HCN column density in this source is N(HCN) ≥ 9 · 10^{11} cm^{-2}, the HCN abundance is X(HCN) > 10^{-10}.

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Proto–Brown Dwarfs II. Results in the Ophiuchus and Taurus Molecular Clouds

Marc W. Pound^1,2 and Leo Blitz^1

1 Dept. of Astronomy, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20740, USA
2 now at Dept. of Astronomy, Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

We expand our proto–brown dwarf search to include two nearby star-forming regions in the Ophiuchus and Taurus molecular clouds. In both molecular line and continuum searches in the Ophiuchus B and Barnard 18 (in Taurus) star-forming regions, we find no clear-cut evidence of any proto–brown dwarfs. This lack of proto–brown dwarfs is surprising; even if the IMF (given by dN/dM ∝ M^{−α}) were flat (α = 1), we would expect to have found ∼10 objects.

We do find, however, a few candidate objects near our detection limit (∼0.02 M_{⊙}) which deserve further scrutiny.

We find 21 gravitationally bound clumps distributed in mass with a spectral index α = 1.1 ± 0.2. However, there are fewer low-mass clumps (< 0.1 M_{⊙}) than would be expected from extrapolation of any reasonable mass function, including the well-known giant molecular cloud clump mass spectrum. If the IMF follows the clump mass spectrum below 0.08 M_{⊙}, as it does at higher masses, our results in Oph B imply that, unless some undetermined process causes the production of many more low-mass clumps, the IMF is falling at masses below 0.08 M_{⊙}, even if all our candidate objects turn out to be true proto–brown dwarfs.

We therefore predict that future searches for brown dwarfs will find very few, regardless of the depth of the searches.

The measured clump spectrum is evidence that there is a mass range (0.1 to 0.25 M_{⊙}) where the molecular cloud clump mass spectrum has the same slope stellar initial mass function (α ∼ 1). This is an indication that there is indeed a direct relationship between clump mass and subsequent stellar mass at the scale of a few tenths of a solar mass.

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Dense Gas in High-Latitude Molecular Clouds

W. T. Reach^1, M. W. Pound^2, D. J. Wilner^3, and Y. Lee^4

1 Universities Space Research Corporation, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 685, Greenbelt, MD 20771, USA Internet: reach@stars.gsfc.nasa.gov
2 University of Maryland, Astronomy Department, College Park, MD 20742, USA
3 University of California, Astronomy Department, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA
4 Korea Astronomy Observatory, Taejon, 305-348, Korea

The nearby molecular clouds MBM 7, 12, 30, 32, 40, 41, and 55 were surveyed for tracers of dense gas, including the (1−0), (2−1), and (3−2) rotational lines of CS and the (1−0) lines of HCO^+ and HCN. MBM 7 and MBM 12 contain
dense cores, while the other clouds contain little or no traces of dense gas. Comparison of the emission from dense gas tracers to that of $^{13}$CO reveals that the former are more compact in angular size as well as linewidth. An extensive CS(2–1) survey of part of MBM 12 reveals that the emission is characterized by clumps on $\sim 3'$ scales as well as extended emission. Observations of the CS(1–0) and (3–2) lines using telescopes with matched beamsizes reveal that the volume density must be at least $\sim 10^{4.5}$ cm$^{-3}$ within the (3–2) emitting regions, which are $\sim 0.03$ pc in radius. Electron-excitation of the CS rotational levels is ruled out (in the cores) by comparing the (3–2)/(1–0) line ratios with models including H$_2$ and electron collisions. The volume density in the cores is substantially larger than in the portions of the cloud traced by CO emission. The density increases into the cores as $r^{-2}$, suggesting dynamical collapse. The masses of the cores are close to the virial mass, suggesting they are dynamically bound. The cores in MBM 7 and MBM 12 are thus likely to form stars, and represent the nearest sites of star formation.

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The Distribution of Molecular and Neutral Gas and Magnetic Fields Near the Bipolar HII Region S106

D.A. Roberts$^1$, R.M. Crutcher$^1$, T.H. Troland$^2$

$^1$Astronomy Dept., U. Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801, USA
$^2$U. Kentucky, Dept. of Physics & Astron., Lexington, KY 40506, USA

VLA Zeeman observations of absorption lines of neutral hydrogen (HI) and the hydroxyl radical (OH) have been carried out toward the bipolar outflow HII region S106 at a resolution of $\sim 20''$ with an rms noise of $\sim 3$ mJy beam$^{-1}$. The results of the observations are interpreted in terms of a model for the absorption line gas in which some of the OH and HI gas has been accelerated by the passage of a shock front and some of the gas lies outside the shock front at the undisturbed velocity of the molecular cloud.

Two distinct OH absorption features are due to gas associated with S106. One component, which is identified with the unshocked gas, is narrow ($\Delta v_{\text{FWHM}} = 1.2$ to 2.9 km s$^{-1}$) and is observed at small negative velocities ($v_{\text{LSR}} = -2.4$ to $-1.0$ km s$^{-1}$). This component shows a large peak in opacity at the eastern edge of the HII region near a previously observed molecular cloud core; the H$_2$ mass of this component is estimated to be $\sim 13$ $M_\odot$. Additionally, there is a wide ($\Delta v_{\text{FWHM}} = 3.7$ to 8.2 km s$^{-1}$) OH velocity component at a higher negative velocity ($v_{\text{LSR}} = -4.8$ to $-3.3$ km s$^{-1}$) that is identified as shocked gas; the H$_2$ mass in front of S106 from this component is $\sim 4$ $M_\odot$. Our observations suggest an enhancement of the OH abundance in both velocity components by a factor of $\sim 5$ relative to dark clouds; the ratio $N_{\text{OH}}/N_{\text{H}_2} \approx 4 \times 10^{-7}$ and $N_{\text{OH}}/A_v \approx 5 \times 10^{14}$. This increased abundance is likely due to the penetration of UV photons into the molecular cloud resulting in enhanced OH formation. A line-of-sight magnetic field ($B_{\text{los}}$) has been determined for the two OH velocity components between +150 and +400 km s$^{-1}$ with an rms noise of $\sim 3$ mJy beam$^{-1}$. The small value of $B_{\text{los}}$ near the ionization front on scales smaller than our synthesized beamsize. A weak, narrow component with a velocity $\sim 2$ km s$^{-1}$ is observed in the eastern portion of the source; this is probably unshocked HI in the molecular cloud. $B_{\text{los}}$ in this unshocked component is estimated to be between $+200$ and $+300$ $\mu$G. The ratio of $N_{\text{HI}}/N_{\text{H}_2} \approx 2 \times 10^{-2}$ and $4 \times 10^{-2}$ for the unshocked and shocked components, respectively. The increased strength of the shocked HI component is probably due to an increased relative abundance of HI from the photodissociation of H$_2$.

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The companion of HR 5999 in the near infrared

B. Stecklum¹, A. Eckart², Th. Henning¹ and M. Löwe¹²

¹ MPG Research Group “Dust in Star-forming Regions”, Schillergäßchen 3
D–07745 Jena, Federal Republic of Germany
internet: pbs@physik.uni-jena.de

² MPE Garching, Giessenbachstraße
D–85748 Garching, Federal Republic of Germany

The Herbig Ae/Be star HR 5999 has been observed by high-angular resolution techniques in the near infrared. The companion to HR 5999, Rossiter 3930, is clearly resolved. Several independent observations point to the possibility that this star is a T Tauri star. A motion of Rossiter 3930 in respect to HR 5999 was not detected. Both stars may form a common proper motion pair since their constellation did not change within about 60 years. We did not find evidence for disk-like or shell structures around HR 5999.

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Ginga Observation of the Orion B Cloud Region

Shigeo Yamauchi¹, Katsuji Koyama², and Mika Inda-Koide³

¹ College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Iwate University, 3-18-34, Ueda, Morioka, Iwate 020, Japan
² Department of Physics, Faculty of Science, Kyoto University, Sakyo-ku, Kyoto 606-01, Japan
³ Laboratory for Plasma Astrophysics and Fusion Science, Department of Electronics and Information, Faculty of Engineering, Toyama University, 3190, Gofuku, Toyama 930, Japan

The Orion B cloud was observed with the Large Area Counter (LAC) onboard the X-ray satellite Ginga. Although the field of view of LAC included O-type stars, ζ Ori (O9.5 Ib) and σ Ori (O9.5 V), as well as the Orion B cloud, the contributions of ζ Ori and σ Ori were estimated to be less than ~34% of the observed count rate by both extrapolating the result of the Einstein Observatory of ζ Ori and assuming that both ζ Ori and σ Ori have the same spectrum as that of δ Ori with a similar spectral type of O9.5 II. The X-ray spectrum after subtracting the contributions was well represented by a thin thermal plasma model with a temperature of 4.7±0.6 keV. The best-fit abundance of iron was 0.25±0.13 cosmic. Since many pre–main-sequence stars have been discovered in the Orion B cloud region, the origin of the thermal emission is considered to be the integrated emission from X-ray emitting pre–main-sequence stars embedded in the Orion B cloud. It follows from the results obtained in wide energy band observations that thermal emission with a temperature of several keV is a common characteristic of active star-forming regions.

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Line Formation in Collapsing Cloud Cores with Rotation and Applications to B335 and IRAS 16293-2422

Shudong Zhou

Department of Astronomy, University of Illinois, Urbana, IL 61801

We present radiative transfer models of collapsing clouds with rotation and apply them to B335 and IRAS 16293−2422, the two best candidates of protostellar collapse known to date. By including rotation in the manner of Terebey, Shu, & Cassen (1984), we can reproduce the profiles of several molecular lines not only toward the center position, but also toward a grid of positions near the center. We find that the model of B335 by Zhou et al. (1993) is not affected significantly by the presence of rotation. By including rotation, we can reproduce the observations of IRAS 16293−2422 by Menten et al. (1987); hence, we support the infall interpretation of spectral lines from IRAS 16293−2422 proposed by Walker et al. (1986). We also observed the large-scale rotation of IRAS 16293−2422 in the C^{18}O J = 2→1 line. The observed rotation rate is a factor of 6 smaller than that required to explain the small-scale CS data of Menten et al. (1987). This probably means that the pre-collapse cloud has differential rotation, possibly due to more efficient magnetic braking on large scales.

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Spectral line observations of two contrasting molecular clouds: Lynds 1630 and G34.3+0.2

A.G.Gibb

This thesis presents observations of two contrasting star forming molecular clouds, L1630 and G34.3+0.2, at millimetre and submillimetre wavelengths. L1630 is highly clumped and the regions studied are probably forming stars of low- to intermediate-mass. G34.3+0.2 is a group of at least four HII regions indicating that stars of predominantly high-mass are forming in this molecular cloud.

Six of 42 clumps identified in the CS survey of L1630 by Lada, Bally & Stark (1991 – LBS) have been observed in J=1–0, 3–2, 4–3 HCO+ and 5–4 CS. From the 3–2 and 4–3 HCO+ data, 22 maxima have been detected, 14 of which are associated with just two of the LBS ‘clumps’. Most of these maxima are unresolved with 14–20″ resolution, and some are associated with known infrared sources. LBS23 (incorporating HH24–26) has been studied in more detail with complete maps made in CS and 4–3 HCO+ and while the CS and HCO+ have similar distributions, both exhibit significant spatial anti-correlation with NH3. Three molecular outflows have been mapped in HH24–26 and LBS17 using 2–1 CO and 3–2 HCO+.

The molecular cloud associated with the HII region G34.3+0.2 has been observed in 13CO J=2–1, 3–2, 6–5, C18O 2–1 and CI 3P1–3P0. In contrast to L1630, G34.3+0.2 appears as a single central maximum, with little evidence of small-scale clumping. Most of the lines show evidence of absorption, which is strongest at the centre of the HII regions. The emission also peaks at this position, but at least two other centres of activity are present within the cloud, not seen in previous maps. The emission of the CO and CI lines has been modelled using a spherically symmetric, non-LTE radiative transfer program. This model successfully reproduces the observed line intensities and shapes and predicts angular diameters which are in reasonable agreement with those observed.
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