Filamentary star formation and the role of magnetic fields From *Herschel/Planck* to (SPICA &) Millimetron



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Filamentary star formation and the role of B fields

- <u>Fundamental Problem(s)</u>: Initial conditions of star (& planet) formation (What regulates the star formation efficiency? Origin of the IMF?)
- Outline: Motivation: Herschel and Planck results on ISM filaments
 A filament paradigm for star formation
 - Role of B fields in the formation/evolution of filaments?
 - Key advantages of Millimetron for this science topic



Herschel has revealed the presence of a 'universal' filamentary structure in the cold ISM



Nearby filaments have a common inner width ~ 0.1 pc

Network of filaments in IC5146

Herschel 500/250 μm

Example of a filament radial profile



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HERSCHEL

Distribution of mean inner widths for ~ 600 nearby (d < 450pc) filaments



(cf. R. Smith+2014; Ntormousi+2016)

~ 75^{+15}_{-5} % of prestellar cores form in filaments, above a typical column density N_{H₂} \gtrsim 7x10²¹ cm⁻²



See Könyves+2015 (Aquila), 2019 (Orion B); Marsh+2016 (Taurus/L1495); Bresnahan+2018 (CrA), Ladjelate+2019 (Oph); Pezzuto+2019 (Perseus); Firorellino+2019 (Serpens) + Protostars & Planets VI chapter (André+2014)





Strong evidence of a column density transition/ "threshold" for the formation of prestellar cores



Planck results suggest SF filaments are magnetized

- Highly organized B field on large scales, ~ perpendicular to dense star-forming filaments, ~ parallel to low-density filaments
- Suggests that the B field plays a key role in the formation process of filaments



Color: N(H) from Planck data @ 5' resol. (~ 0.2-0.3 pc) **Drapery:** B field lines from Q,U *Planck* 850 μm @ 10'

Planck 2015 intermediate results. XXXV. Soler 2019

Detection of transverse velocity gradients across filaments: Evidence of filament formation within sheet-like structures?



see also H. Kirk+2013 for Serp-S

Evidence of accretion of ambient material (striations) onto self-gravitating filaments?

> Striations and sub-filaments are suggestive of accretion flows into the star-forming filaments - Tend to be // to the large-scale B field



A filament paradigm for ~ M_{\odot} star formation?

Schneider & Elmegreen 1979; Larson 1985; Inutsuka & Miyama 1997; Myers 2009 ... Protostars & Planets VI chapter (André, Di Francesco, Ward-Thompson+2014)



- 1) Large-scale MHD compressive flows associated with multiple expanding shells create filamentary molecular clouds with ~ 0.1 pc-wide filaments
- 2) Gravity fragments the densest magnetized molecular filaments into prestellar cores close to or above M_{line,crit} ~ 16 M_o pc⁻¹
- 3) Prestellar cores collapse to protostars/YSOs

Importance of ISM filaments on galaxy-wide scales?



Filaments may help to regulate the star formation efficiency in the dense molecular gas of galaxies (e.g. Shimajiri+2017)

Filament fragmentation can account for the peak of the prestellar CMF and (possibly) the "base" of the IMF



Detailed fragmentation manner of filaments?

ALMA 3mm mosaic of the Orion A ISF



Some evidence of hierarchical fragmentation within filaments (e.g. Takahashi+2013; Kainulainen+2013; Teixeira+2016)

Two fragmentation modes:

- « Cylindrical » mode ← → groups of cores separated by ~ 0.3 pc
- « Spherical » Jeans-like mode ← →
 core spacing < 0.1 pc within groups

 Two-point correlation function

 of ALMA dense cores

 2.0
 40 dense cores

 1.5
 40 dense cores



Evidence of two fragmentation modes in filaments:

Recent identification of groups of compact (< 0.03pc) ALMA $3mm/N_2H^+$ cores associated with ArTéMiS clumps within the massive NGC6334 filament



Detailed fragmentation manner of filaments?

Denser (higher M_{line}) filaments may form more massive prestellar cores, possibly due to a stronger B-field?

Comparison of the core mass functions observed in

submitted

nearby clouds/filaments and the NGC6334 filament ΔN/ΔlogM **CMF** in **CMF** in **Aquila/Taurus** NGC6334 filament $(M_{line} \sim 20-50 M_{\odot}/pc)$ $(M_{line} \sim 1000 M_{\odot}/pc)$ 10^{1} **Full CMF/IMF from** bin: the superposition of mass the CMFs in individual filaments, per coupled with a \sim objects **Salpeter distribution** of filament M/L? of (André+2019, A&A) Number Incomplete sampling 10^{-1} 10^{1} Mass, M (M_{\odot}) Shimajiri+2019, A&A

Influence of B fields on filament fragmentation?

- Planck polarization data reveal a highly organized B field on large ISM scales, ~ perpendicular to dense star-forming filaments, ~ parallel to low-density filaments
- Suggests that the B field plays a key role in the physics of ISM filaments



SPICA and Millimetron can unveil the role of magnetic fields in filament evolution and core/star formation



Two simple magnetic field configurations

B-field perpendicular to long axis of filament



B-field parallel to long axis of filament



B-field cannot prevent radial contraction of filament, but can regulate/slow down fragmentation B-field can prevent indefinite radial contraction of filament, but cannot regulate fragmentation

Probing the magnetic link between striations and fibers High resolution/dynamic range polar. imaging with SPICA & Mmtron

Geometry of the B-field within the (~ 0.1 pc) system of intertwined « fibers » developing inside star-forming filaments and the connection with the striations seen on larger scales SPICA-POL White Paper (arXiv:1905.03520)



Recent FIR and submm imaging polarimetry results for Orion A SOFIA - HAWC+





Sketch of possible origin of hourglass B-field pattern in Orion A

Pattle, Ward-Thompson et al. 2017

- > Curvature of hourglass pattern is more pronounced at longer λ (e.g. 850 μ m)
- Suggests different λs probe different depths into the cloud

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With SACS/LACS on Mmtron (8 bands), tomographic studies of the B-field will become possible for complete samples of filaments

Key advantages of a large, cooled space telescope such as Millimetron for this science

- High spatial dynamic range (~10³), which cannot be achieved from the ground
- High angular resolution (Mmtron can resolve critical 0.1 pc scale out to ~1.5 kpc, SPICA out to ~0.4 kpc)
- High sensitivity to low surface brightness structures (in contrast to interferometers e.g. ALMA)
- ➤ Unique multi-wavelength polarimetric coverage of SACS/LACS in the far-IR/submm → tomography of the B-field + unique constraints on dust models
- Wide-field polarimetric imaging survey of nearby molecular clouds at λ ~ 50-1000 μm with SACS and LACS on Mmtron would revolutionize our understanding of the origin and role of B-fields in filament formation/fragmentation