## Herschel Observations of Nearby Interstellar Filaments

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IC5146

#### **Outline:**

• « Universality » of the filamentary structure of the ISM

• The key **role of filaments** in the core/star formation process

• Implications for the IMF, open issues, and conclusions

With: D. Arzoumanian, V. Könyves, P. Palmeirim, A.
Menshchikov, N. Schneider, A. Roy, N. Peretto, P. Didelon,
J. Di Francesco, S. Bontemps, F. Motte, D. Ward-Thompson,
J. Kirk, M. Griffin, S. Pezzuto, S. Molinari, J.Ph. Bernard, Polaris
Y. Shimajiri, B. Merin, N. Cox, A. Zavagno, L. Testi & Herschel
the Herschel Gould Belt Survey KP Consortium 250/350/500 μm

*Herschel* has revealed a "universal" filamentary structure in nearby clouds



5 pc

Palmeirim + 2013 Kirk + 2013



Ward-Thompson + 2010 Miville-Deschênes + 2010





# The observed filaments are reminiscent of numerical simulations of cloud evolution with large-scale flows





Padoan et al. 2001



Heitsch et al. 2008

Gravity



Gomez & Vazquez-Semadeni 2014



**Z.Y. Li et al. 2010** 



Chen & Ostriker 2014



## Structure of the cold ISM prior to star formation



Herschel/SPIRE 250 µm image

Gould Belt Survey PACS/SPIRE // mode 70/160/250/350/500 µm

#### Polaris flare translucent cloud: non star forming

d ~ 150 pc ~ 2200 M $_{\odot}$  (CO+HI) unbound: M<sub>vir</sub>/M<sub>tot</sub> ~ 10 Heithausen & Thaddeus '90

### ~ $13 \text{ deg}^2$ field

Miville-Deschênes et al. 2010 Ward-Thompson et al. 2010 Men'shchikov et al. 2010 André et al. 2010

### **Tracing the underlying filamentary networks**

Different techniques: Projection on curvelets (Starck+2003), DisPerSE (Sousbie2011), *getfilaments* (Men'shchikov+2013) ...

#### 'Disorganized' network



**Turbulence-dominated ?** 

**Examples of** *getfilaments* **results** 

'Hub-filament' network - see Myers (2009)



**Gravity-dominated** ?

See also 'nests' vs. 'ridges' (Hill+2011 – Vela C)

### Evidence of much fainter filaments + high degree of universality with *Herschel*



Musca filament: M/L ~  $30 M_{\odot}/pc$ N. Cox et al in prep.







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Polarization vectors overlaid on *Herschel* images

Pereyra & Magelhaes 2004 Taurus B211 filament: M/L ~ 50 $M_{\odot}$ /pcP. Palmeirim et al. 2013





### **Resolving the structure of filaments with Herschel**

#### Taurus B211/3 filament SPIRE 250µm



**Plummer-like density profile (p = 2):** 

 $\rho(r) = \rho_c / [1 + (r/R_{flat})^2]$ 

**Diameter of flat inner plateau:** 

2R<sub>flat</sub> ~ 0.1 pc

Depth along los ~ 0.1 pc (D. Li & Goldsmith '12)



#### Filaments have a characteristic inner width ~ 0.1 pc

#### Network of filaments in IC5146





## Statistical distribution of widths for > 270 nearby filaments



Some variations along each filament: Ysard+2014]

#### Strong constraint on the formation and evolution of filaments

#### Column density profiles of low- vs. high-density filaments



## Variation of filament angular diameter with cloud distance



#### Filaments due to large-scale supersonic turbulence?

#### Filament width ~ 0.1 pc: ~ sonic scale of interstellar turbulence ?

Linewidth-Size relation in clouds (Larson 1981)

 $\sigma_V(L) \propto L^{0.5}$ R. B. Larspn

spersion) [km/s] ? km s<sup>-1</sup>, as appropriate for molecular gas at a temperature of nal velocity dispersions from the observed radial velocities a en assumed that the velocity distribution is isotropic. In n his tribution to g comes from the linewidth and thus from relat isotropic velocity distribution may sc.... of the largest clouds the dominant contribution to Veloci city variations across the cloud, and the assumption of an is in he volid only as oude The up Log (Size) [pc] **Sonic scale** 

#### **Simulations of turbulent fragmentation**



#### $\succ$ Corresponds to the typical thickness $\lambda$ of shock-compressed layers in HD

Padoan, Juvela et al. 2001

> Filaments from a combination of MHD turbulent compression *and* shear; width set by the dissipation scale of MHD waves ? (Hennebelle 2013)

#### Velocity dispersion of filaments vs. column density



Low-density filaments have subsonic levels of internal turbulence:  $\sigma_{turb} < c_s$  (Hacar & Tafalla 2011; Arzoumanian et al. 2013)



André et al. 2010, Könyves et al. 2010 + in prep

#### **Quantifying the connection between filaments & cores**



Könyves et al., in prep.

## Mass budget in the Aquila cloud complex



Below A<sub>V</sub> ~ 7: ~ 20 % of the mass in the form of filaments, < 1% in prestellar cores</li>
Above A<sub>V</sub> ~ 7: > 50 % of the mass in the form of filaments, ~ 15 % in prestellar cores

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



Distribution of mass in the parent cloud and background-dependent completeness imply that this threshold is very significant !



Könyves et al. in prep

(See also Lada+2010 for similar mass fraction plots based on extinction)

Completeness when  $A_V$  because "cirrus noise" fluctuations / (cf. Gautier et al. 1992)

# Real "threshold" or rising probability of core/star formation with increasing A<sub>v</sub>?

Probability of finding a prestellar core below a given extinction



# $\Sigma$ or M/L threshold above which interstellar filaments are gravitationally unstable



André et al. 2010

> The gravitational instability of filaments is controlled by the mass per unit length M<sub>line</sub> (Ostriker'64, Inutsuka & Miyama'97): • unstable if  $M_{line} > M_{line, crit}$ • unbound if M<sub>line</sub> < M<sub>line, crit</sub> •  $M_{\text{line, crit}} = 2 c_s^2/G \sim 16 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}$ for T ~ 10 K  $\Leftrightarrow$   $n_{\text{H2}}$  threshold  $\sim 2 \times 10^4 \, {\rm cm}^{-3}$ **Simple estimate:**  $M_{line} \propto$ **N<sub>H2</sub> x Width** (~ 0.1 pc) **Unstable filaments highlighted** 

in white in the N<sub>11</sub>, map

#### Toward a new paradigm for ~ $M_{\odot}$ star formation ?

See PPVI chapter (André, Di Francesco, Ward-Thompson, Inutsuka, Pudritz, Pineda 2014 - astro-ph/1312.6232)

#### 1) Large-scale MHD supersonic 'turbulence' generates filaments



Polaris – Herschel/SPIRE 250 µm

## 2) Gravity fragments the densest filaments into prestellar cores



#### Taurus B211/3 – Herschel 250 $\mu$ m

## Filament fragmentation may account for the peak of the prestellar CMF and the "base" of the IMF



 $\blacktriangleright$  CMF peaks at ~ 0.6 M<sub> $\odot$ </sub>  $\approx$  Jeans mass in marginally critical filaments

> Close link of the prestellar CMF with the stellar IMF:  $M_{\star} \sim 0.3 \times M_{core}$ 

Characteristic stellar mass may result from filament fragmentation

## Can filament fragmentation account for the Salpeter power-law of the IMF ?

Example of line mass fluctuations along the long axis of a marginally critical filament



Theoretical arguments (Inutsuka 2001) suggest that this is possible provided turbulence has generated the appropriate power spectrum of initial density fluctuations



## Statistical properties of line-mass fluctuations



## Summary: A filamentary paradigm for star formation in GMCs ?

Observational facts: Most SF occurs in dense gas above A<sub>V</sub> ~ 7;
 > 50% of this dense gas is in the form of filaments;
 > 75% of prestellar cores are within dense filaments.

Herschel results suggest star formation occurs in 2 main steps:

 1) ~ 0.1 pc-wide filaments form first in the cold ISM, probably as a result of the dissipation of large-scale MHD turbulence;
 2) The densest filaments grow and fragment into prestellar cores via gravitational instability above a critical (column) density threshold
  $\Sigma_{\text{th}} \sim 150 \text{ M}_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2} \Leftrightarrow A_{V} \sim 7 \Leftrightarrow n_{\text{H2}} \sim 2 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ 

Filament fragmentation appears to produce the peak of the prestellar CMF and may account for the « base » of the IMF, possibly more (?)

## **Origin of the characteristic width of filaments ?**



Paradox: Dense filaments should radially contract !

**D.** Arzoumanian et al. 2011 + PhD thesis

## Key: Evidence of accretion of background material (striations) onto self-gravitating filaments

**Example of the B211/3 filament in the Taurus cloud** ( $M_{line} \sim 54 M_{\odot}/pc$ ) Palmeirim et al. 2013 (see also H. Kirk, Myers ea 2013 for another example: Serpens-South)



## Accretion-driven MHD turbulence can prevent the radial contraction of dense filaments



# **'Fibers': A possible manifestation of accretion-driven turbulence ?**

Hacar et al. (2013)'s C<sup>18</sup>O « fibers » overlaid on *Herschel* 250 µm image (Palmeirim et al. 2013)

Filtered 250 µm image showing the fine structure of the Taurus B211/3 filament



<u>ArTéMiS : A powerful tool to study massive</u> <u>star-forming filaments ('ridges') beyond the Gould Belt</u>



× 3.4 higher resolution than SPIRE × 3-(10) faster than SABOCA



ArTéMiS : 2304 pixels @ 450 μm 2304 pixels @ 350 μm 1152 pixels @ 200 μm

> Irfu OSO œ First 350 µm observations with ArTéMiS at APEX in July/Sep 2013 : NGC 6334 (d ~ 1.7 kpc) 8" resol. ~ 0.06 pc **ESO Photo Release** ArTéMiS 350 µm + VISTA near-IR

### Resolving the NGC 6334 main filament (d ~1.7 kpc) with ArTéMiS + Herschel



See Russeil et al. 2013, A&A, for the *Herschel/*HOBYS view of NGC6334