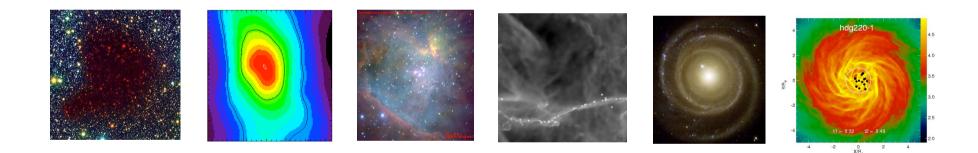
Modeling Star Cluster Formation



Ralf Klessen

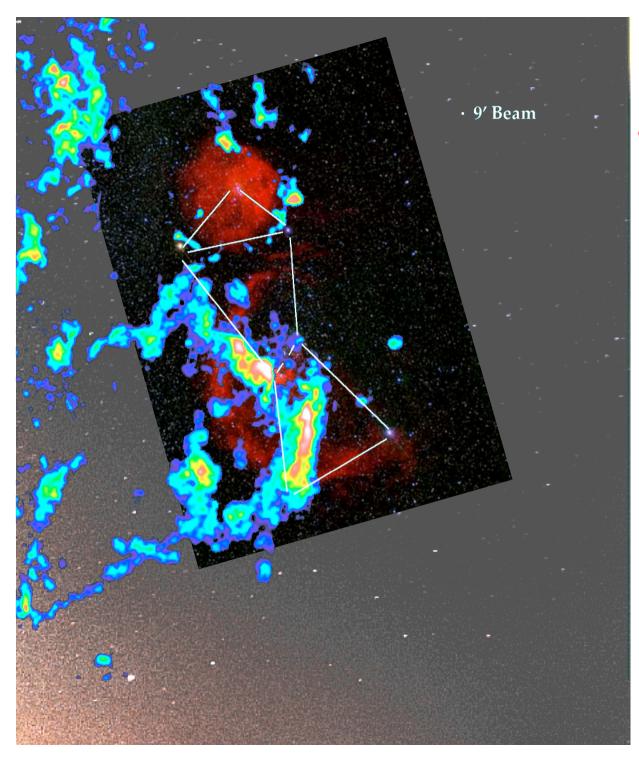


Zentrum für Astronomie der Universität Heidelberg Institut für Theoretische Astrophysik



Agenda

- phenomenology
 - Orion
 - Taurus
- Interplay between gravity and turbulence
- examples and predictions
 - star cluster formation: dynamics
 - star cluster formation: thermodynamics
 - --> stellar initial mass function

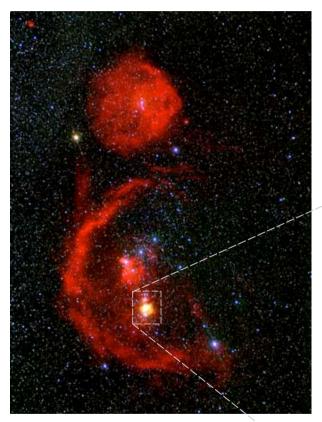


Star formation in Orion

We see

- *Stars* (in visible light)
- Atomic hydrogen (in Hα -- red)
- Molecular hydrogen H₂ (radio emission -color coded)

Local star forming region: The Trapezium Cluster in Orion



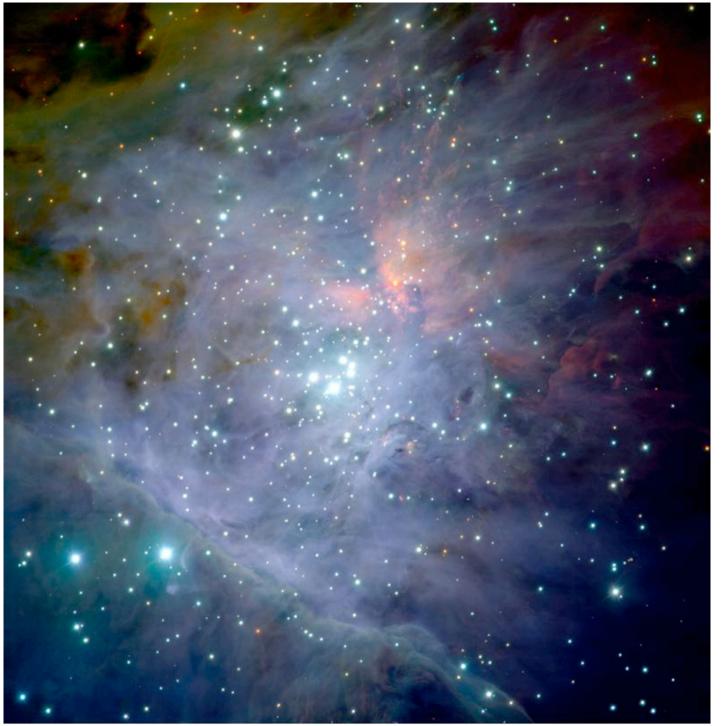
Orion molecular cloud

The Orion molecular cloud is the birth- place of several young embedded star clusters.

The Trapezium cluster is only visible in the IR and contains about 2000 newly born stars.



Trapezium cluster

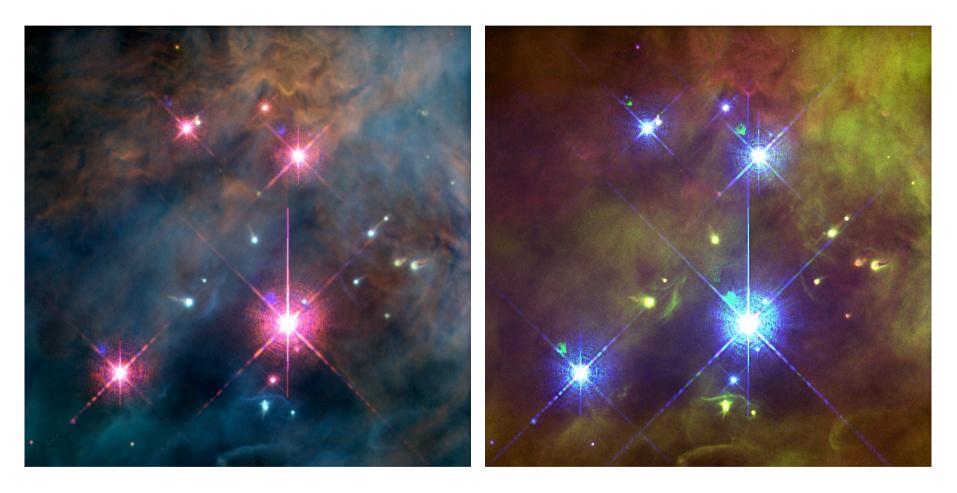


Trapezium Cluster (detail)

- stars form in clusters
- stars form
 in molecular
 clouds
- (proto)stellar
 feedback is
 important

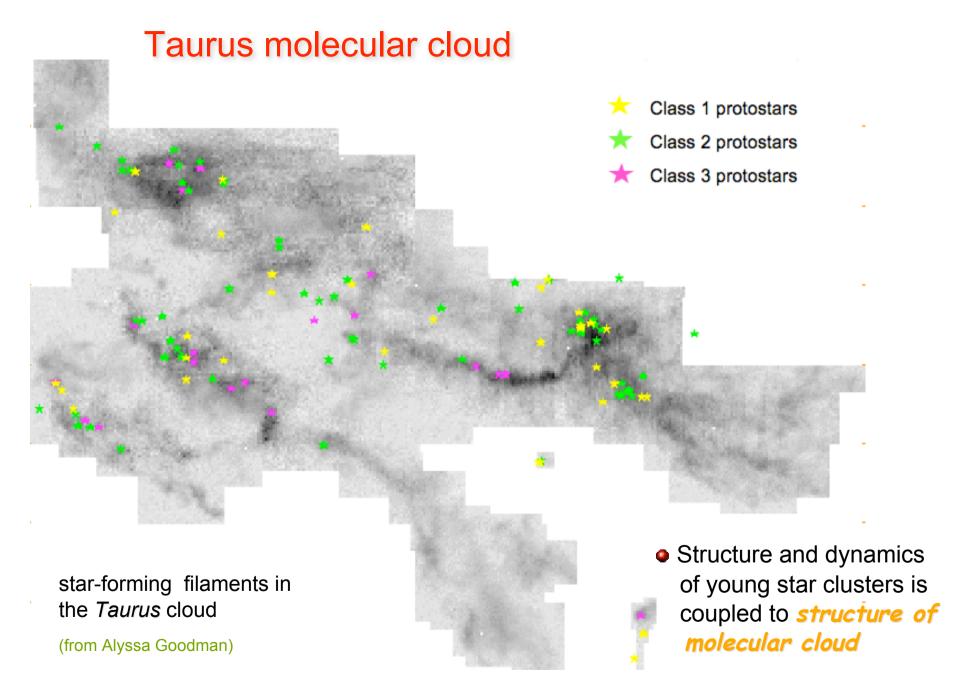
(color composite J,H,K by M. McCaughrean, VLT, Paranal, Chile)

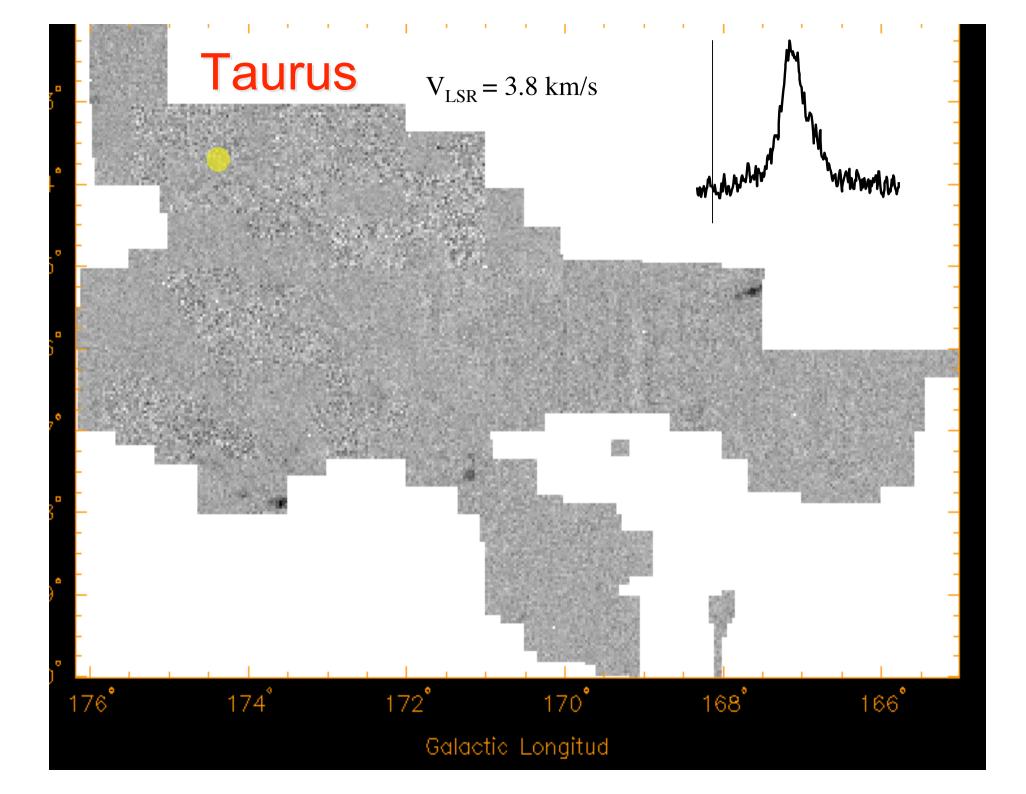
Trapezium Cluster: Central Region

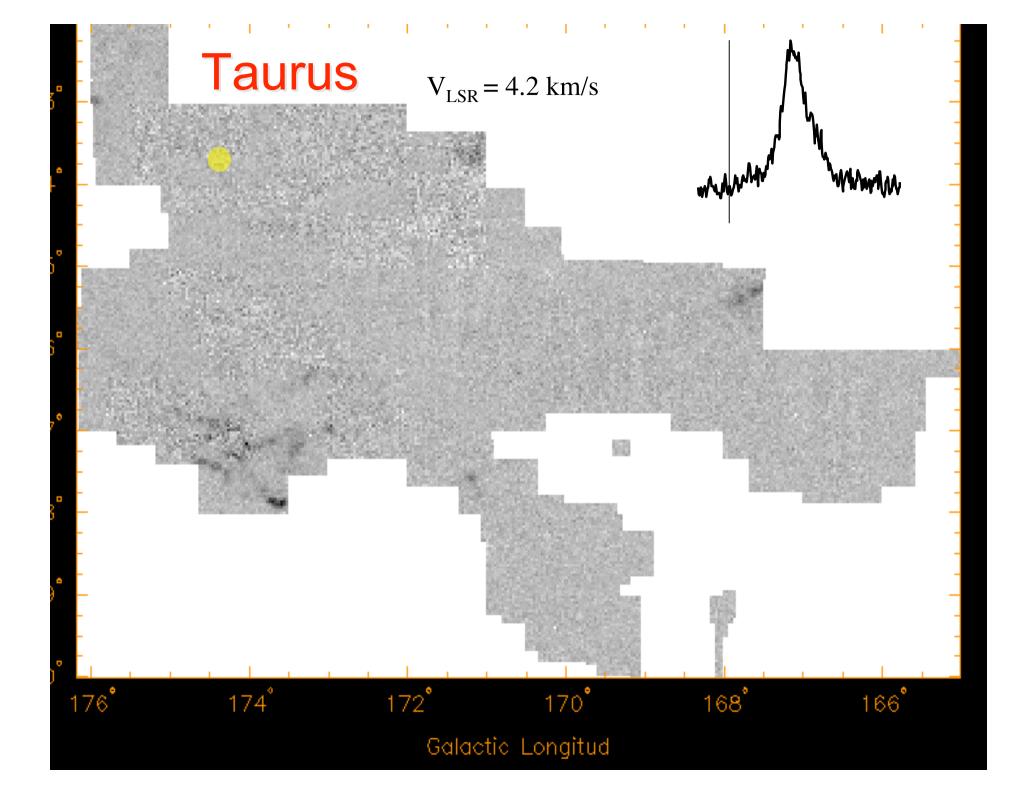


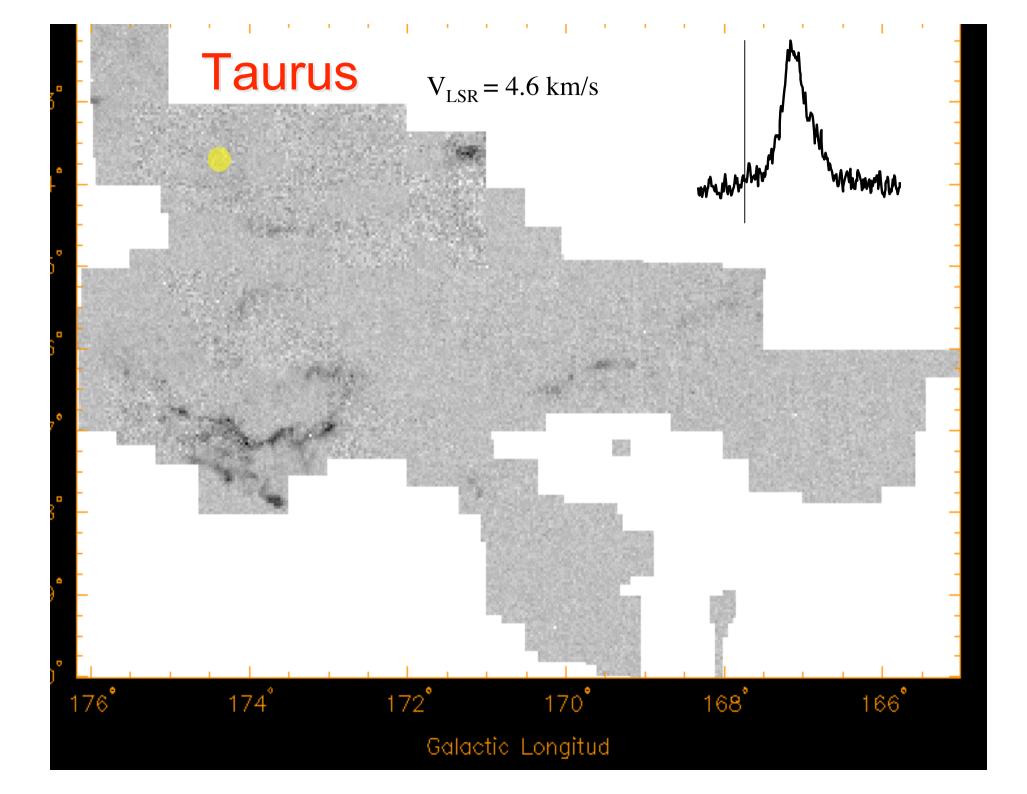
lonizing radiation from central star Θ 1C Orionis

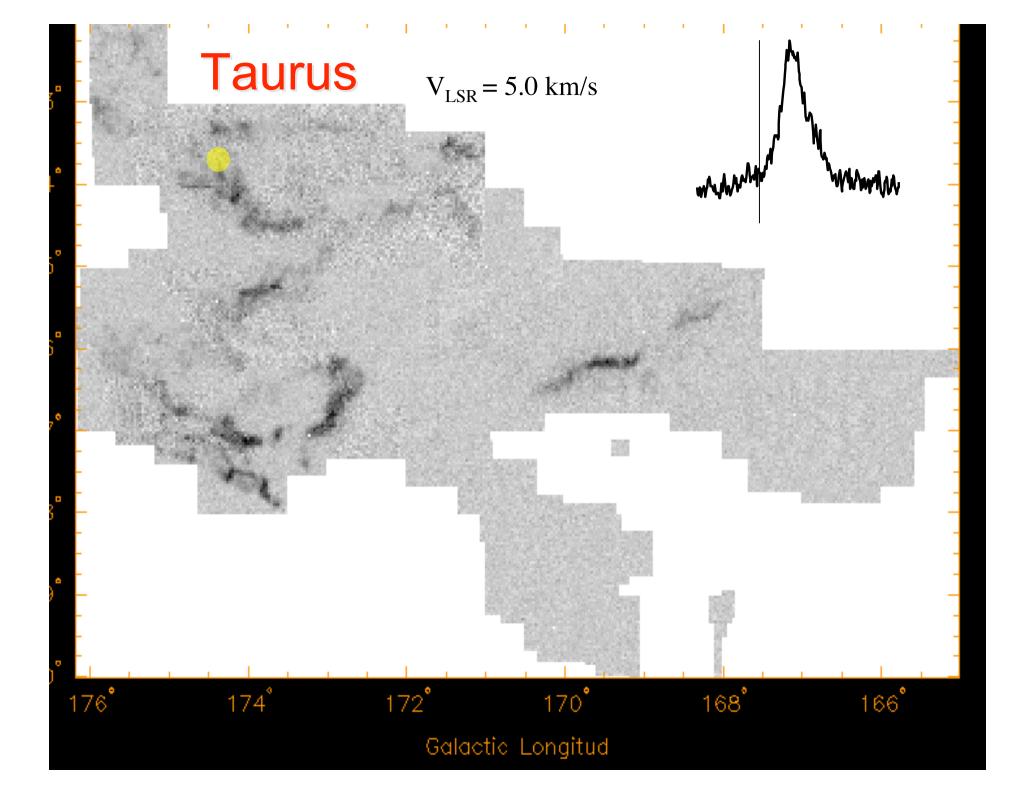
Proplyds: Evaporating ``protoplanetary´´ disks around young low-mass protostars

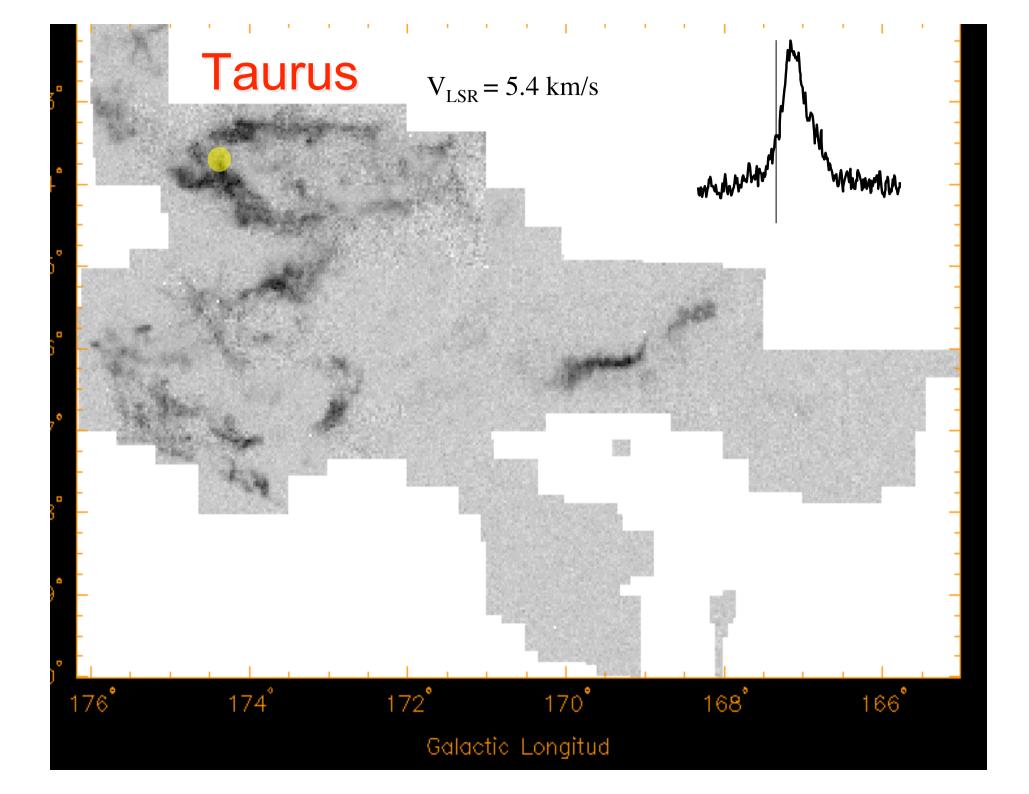


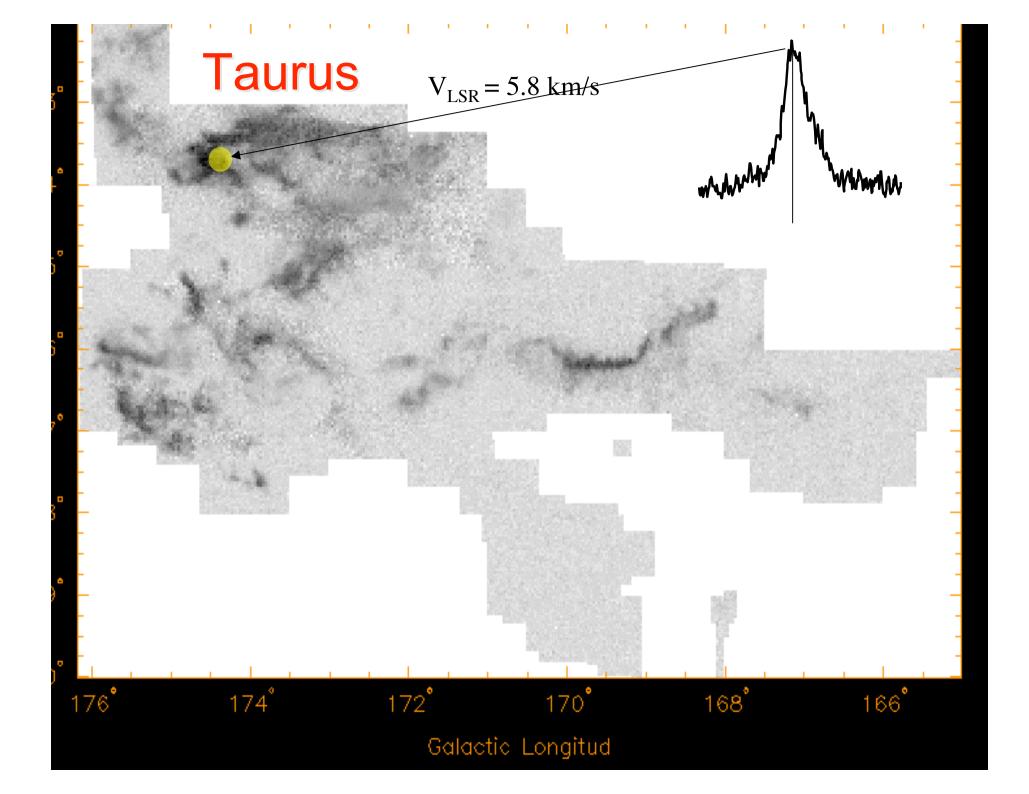


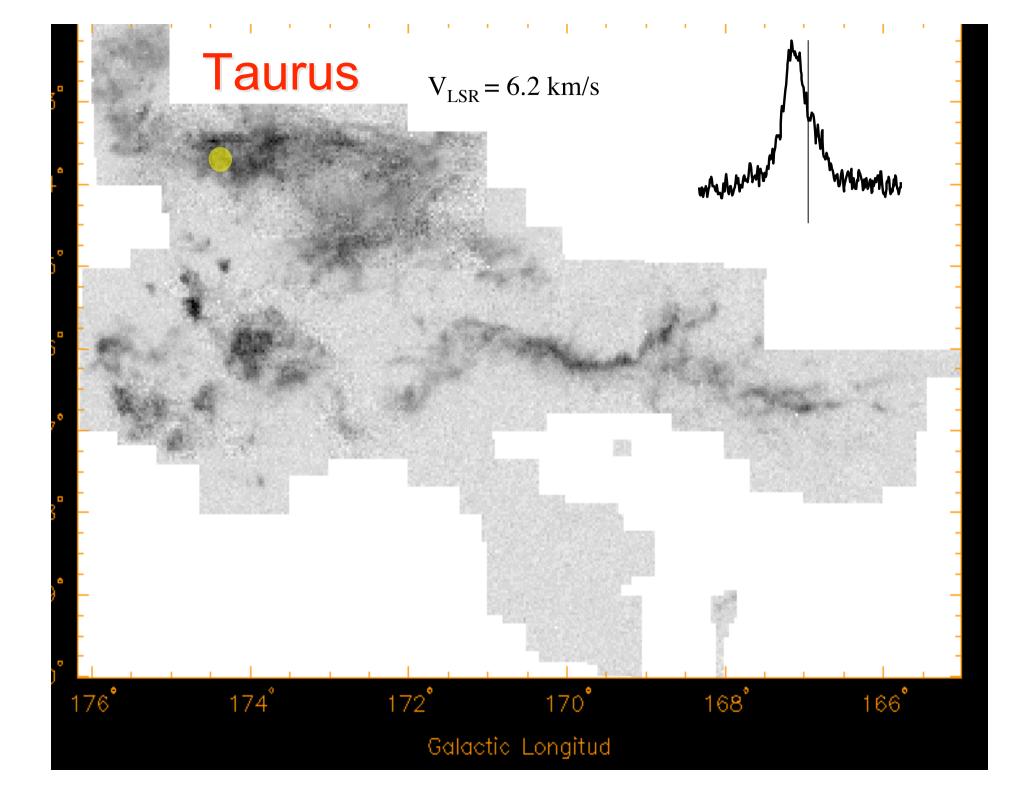


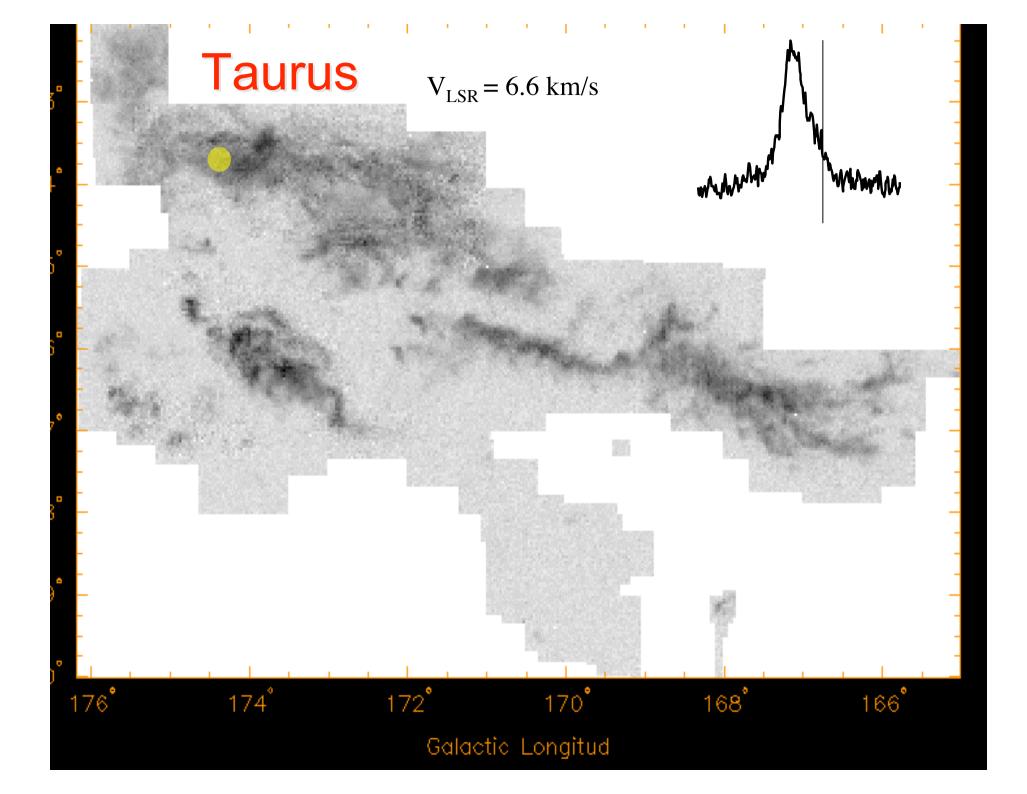


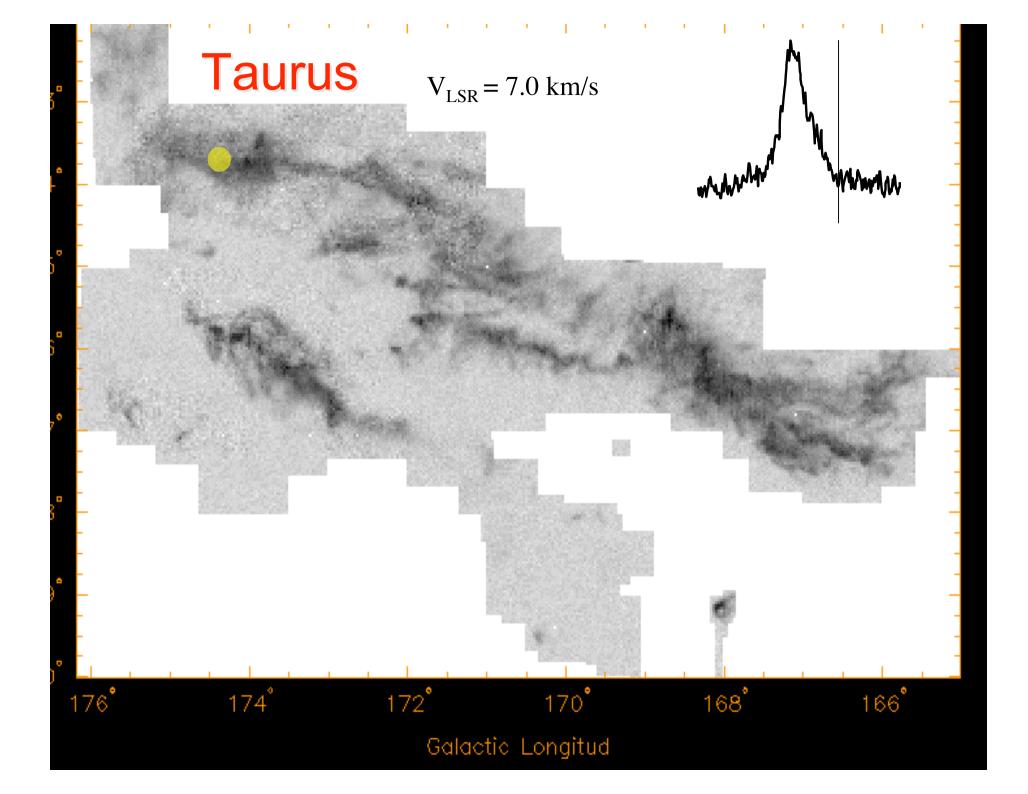


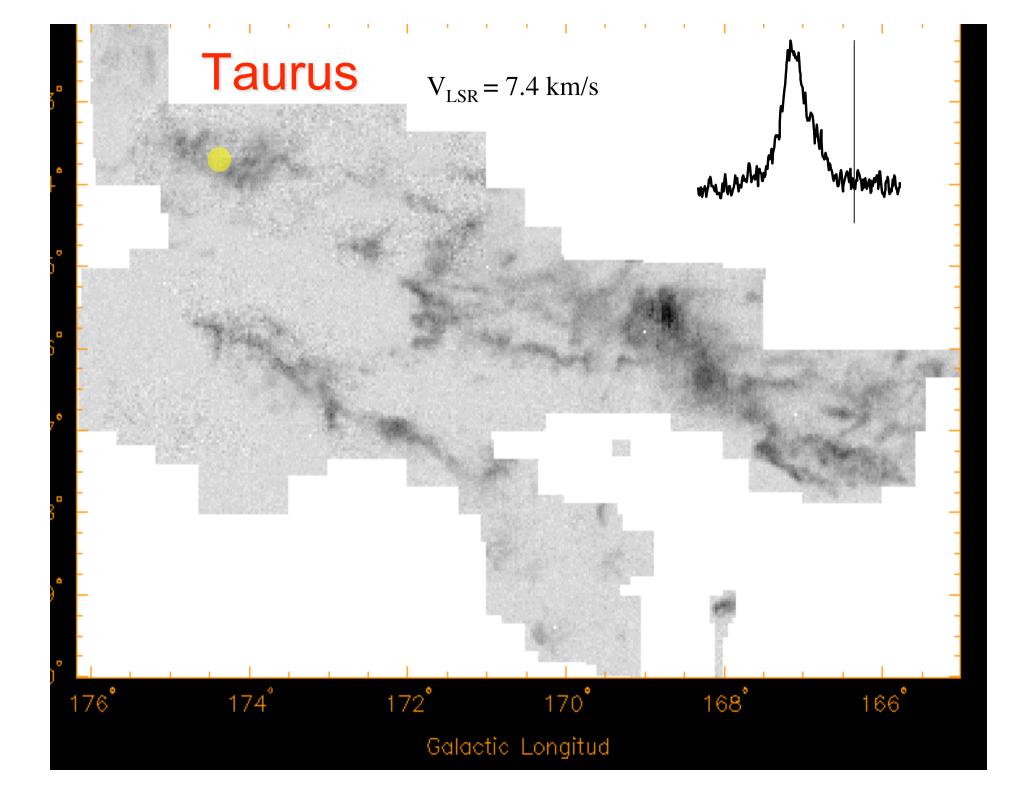


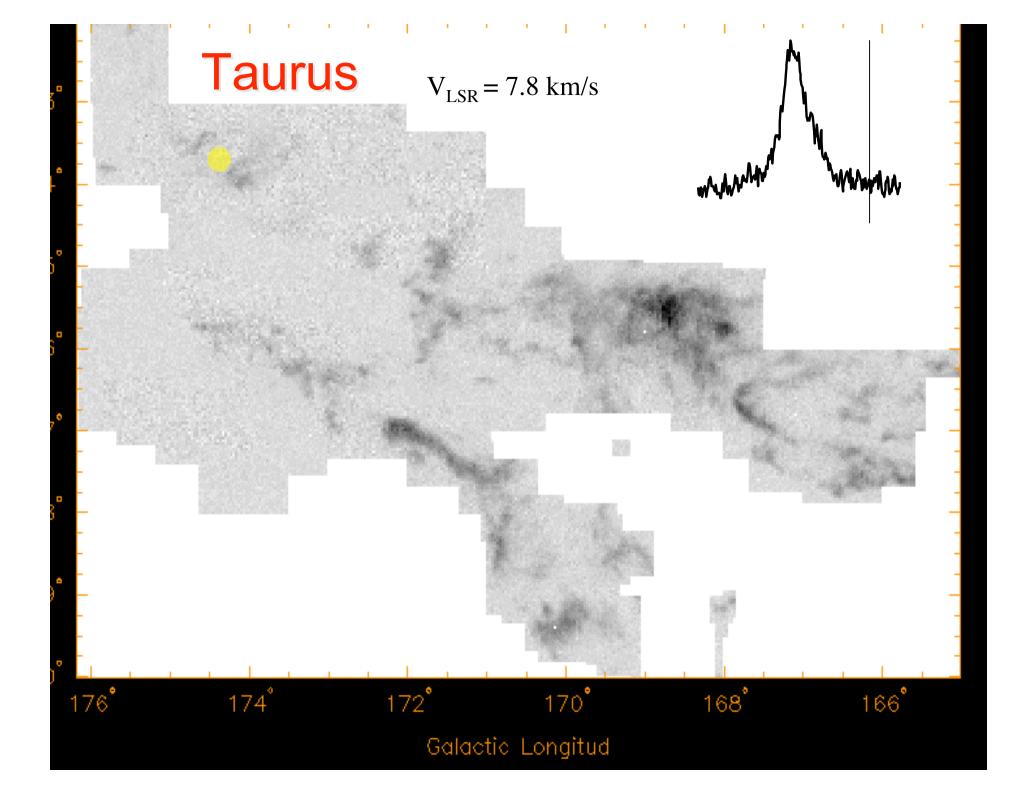


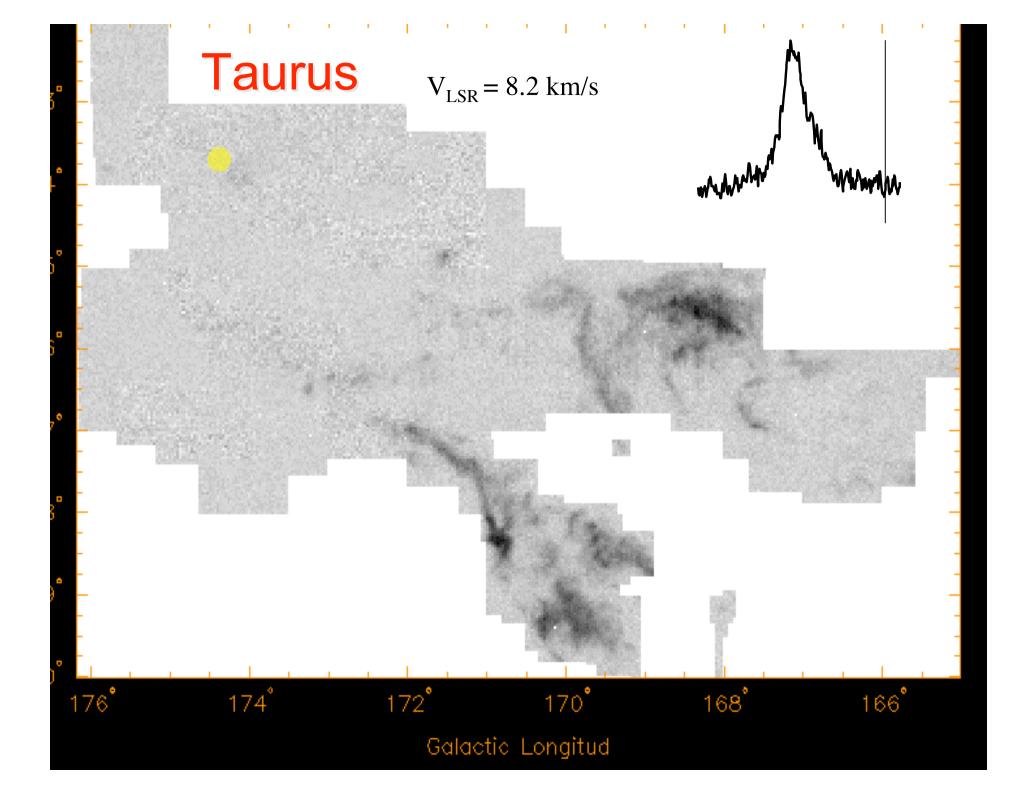


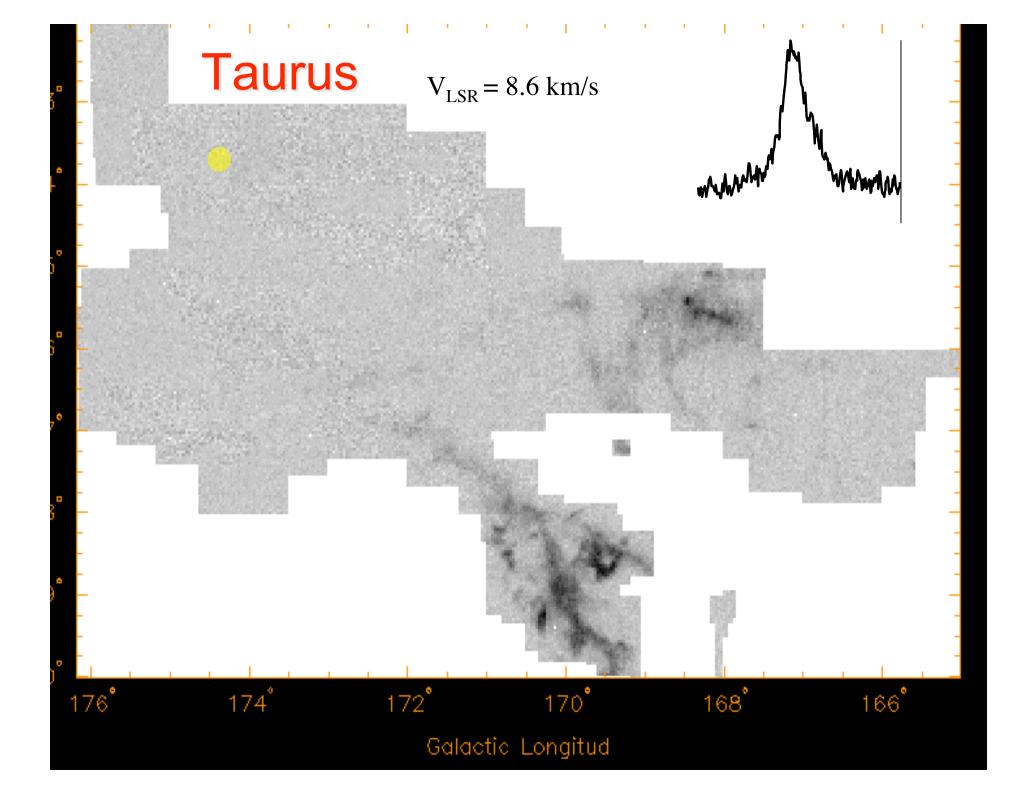


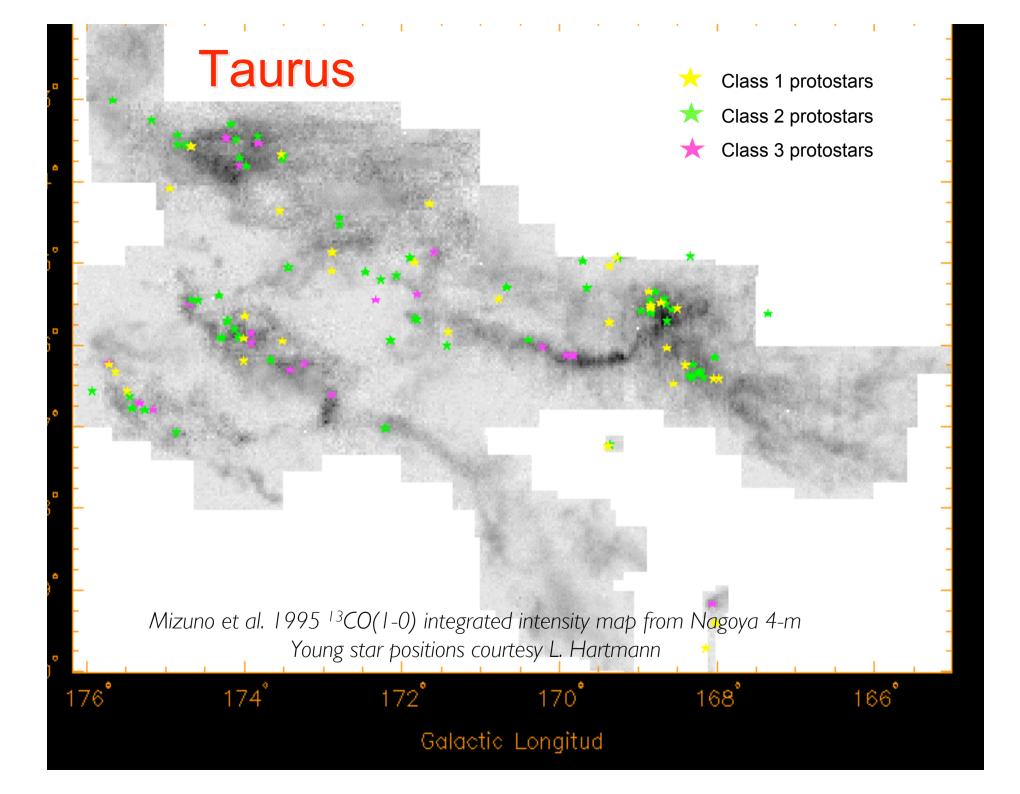






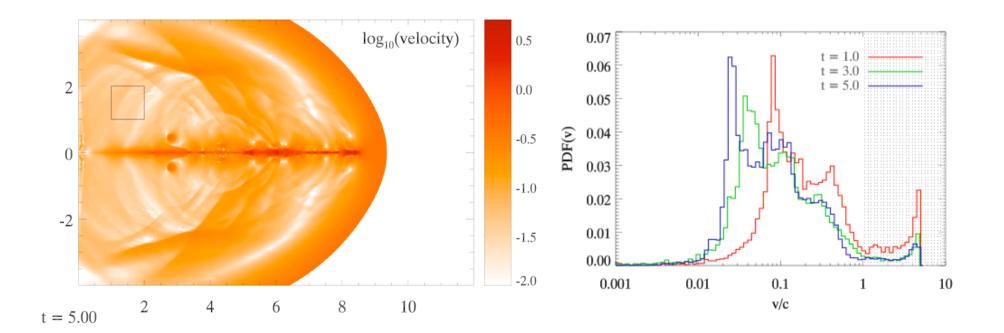






local feedback

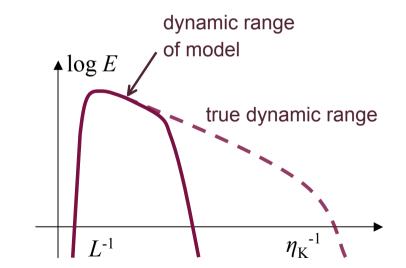
• can outflows drive turbulence locally?



Banerjee, Klessen, & Fendt (2007)

Large-eddy simulations

- We use *LES* to model the large-scale dynamics
- Principal problem: only large scale flow properties
 - Reynolds number: Re = LV/v (Re_{nature} >> Re_{model})
 - dynamic range much smaller than true physical one
 - need *subgrid model* (in our case simple: only dissipation)
 - but what to do for more complex when processes on subgrid scale determine large-scale dynamics (chemical reactions, nuclear burning, etc)
 - Turbulence is "space filling" --> difficulty for AMR (don't know what criterion to use for refinement)
- How *large* a Reynolds number do we need to catch basic dynamics right?



Gravoturbulent star formation

Idea:

Star formation is controlled by interplay between gravity and supersonic turbulence!

• Dual role of turbulence:

stability on large scales

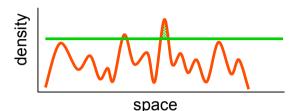
initiating collapse on small scales

(e.g., Larson, 2003, Rep. Prog. Phys, 66, 1651; or Mac Low & Klessen, 2004, Rev. Mod. Phys., 76, 125)

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Gravoturbulent star formation

- interstellar gas is highly inhomogeneous
 - thermal instability
 - gravitational instability



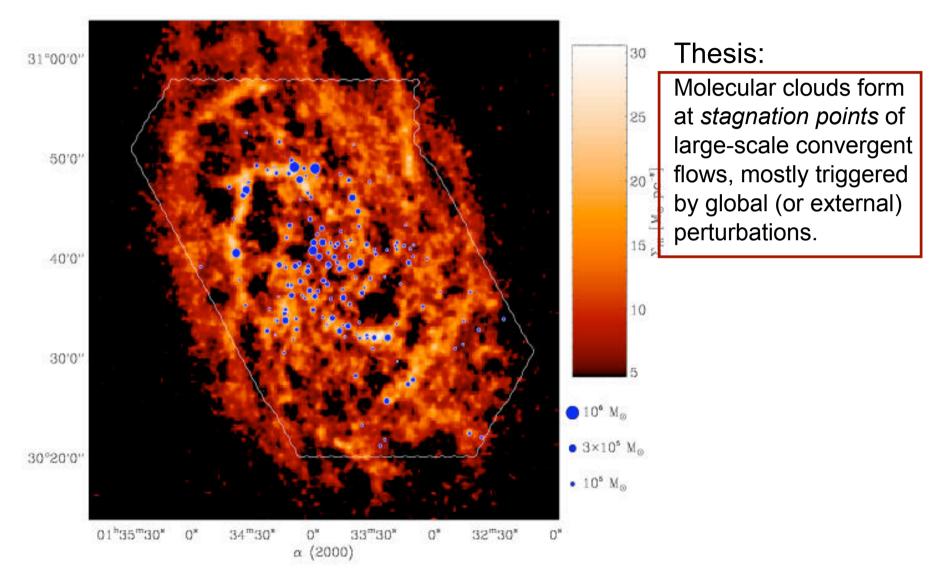
- *turbulent compression* (in shocks $\delta \rho / \rho \propto M^2$; in atomic gas: $M \approx 1...3$)
- cold molecular clouds can form rapidly in high-density regions at stagnation points of convergent large-scale flows
 - chemical phase transition: atomic → molecular
 - process is *modulated* by large-scale *dynamics* in the galaxy
- inside *cold clouds:* turbulence is highly supersonic ($M \approx 1...20$)
 - → *turbulence* creates large density contrast,
 - gravity selects for collapse

GRAVOTUBULENT FRAGMENTATION

turbulent cascade: local compression *within* a cloud provokes collapse
 → formation of individual *stars* and *star clusters*

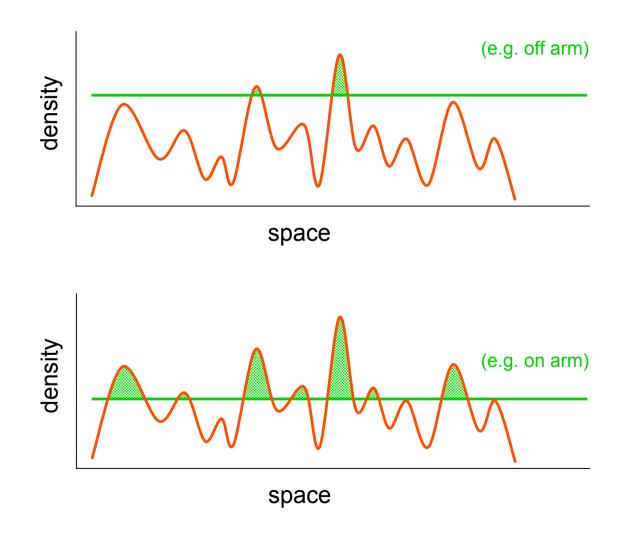
(e.g. Mac Low & Klessen, 2004, Rev. Mod. Phys., 76, 125-194)

molecular cloud formation



⁽Deul & van der Hulst 1987, Blitz et al. 2004)

correlation with large-scale perturbations

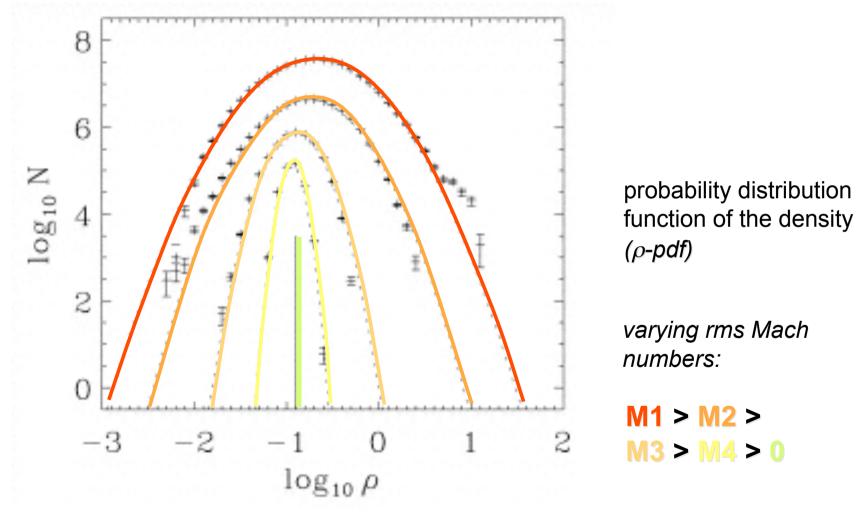


density/temperature fluctuations in warm atomar ISM are caused by thermal/gravitational instability and/or supersonic turbulence

some fluctuations are dense enough to form H₂ within "reasonable time" → molecular cloud (Glover & Mac Low 2007a,b)

external perturbuations (i.e. potential changes) increase likelihood (Dobbs & Bonnell 2006)

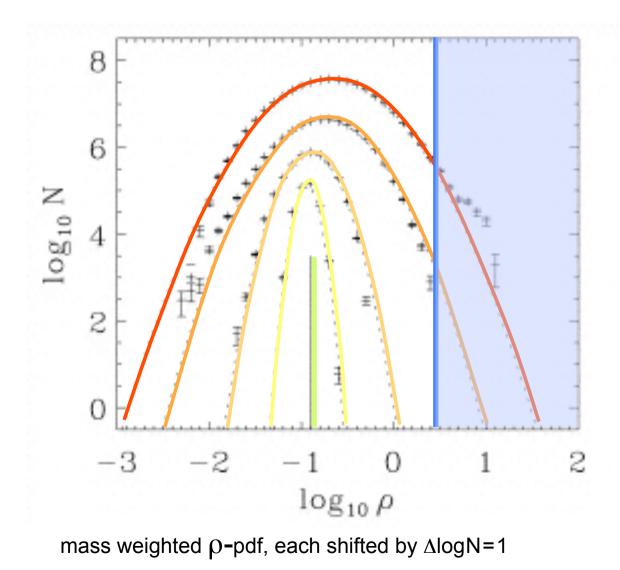
star formation on global scales



mass weighted ρ -pdf, each shifted by $\Delta logN=1$

(from Klessen, 2001; also Gazol et al. 2005, Mac Low et al. 2005)

star formation on global scales



(rate from Hollenback, Werner, & Salpeter 1971)

H₂ formation rate:

$$au_{\mathrm{H}_2} \approx \frac{1.5\,\mathrm{Gyr}}{n_{\mathrm{H}}\,/\,\mathrm{1cm}^{-3}}$$

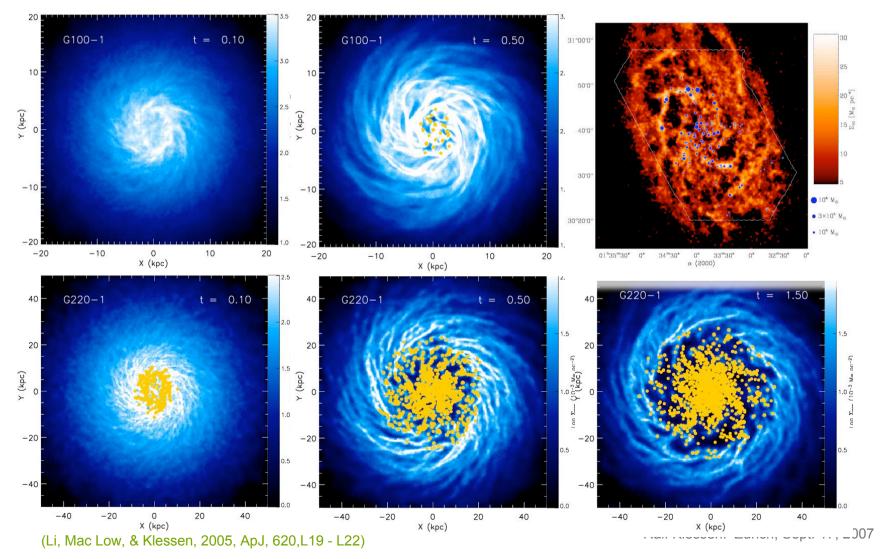
for $n_{\rm H} \ge 100 \, {\rm cm}^{-3}$, ${\rm H}_2$ forms within 10Myr, this is about the lifetime of typical MC's.

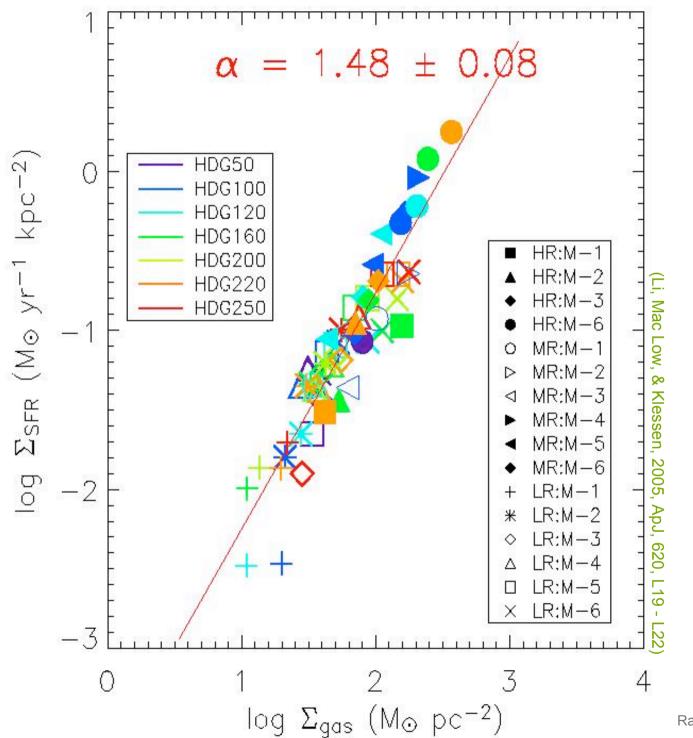
in turbulent gas, the H_2 fraction can become very high on short timescale

(for models with coupling between cloud dynamics and time-dependent chemistry, see Glover & Mac Low 2007a,b)

modeling galactic SF

SPH calculations of self-gravitating disks of stars and (isothermal) gas in dark-matter potential, sink particles measure local collapse --> star formation



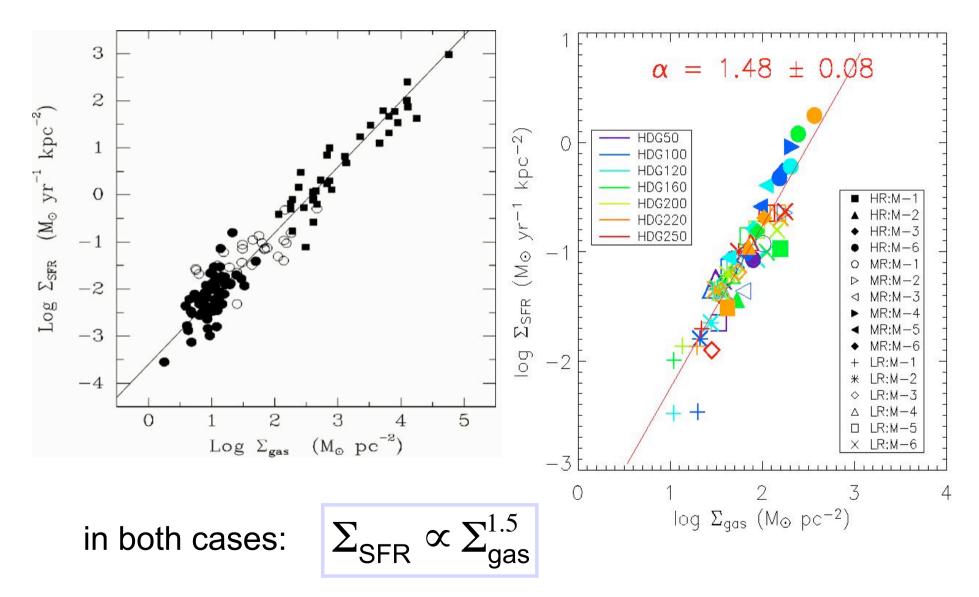


We find correlation between star formation rate and gas surface density:

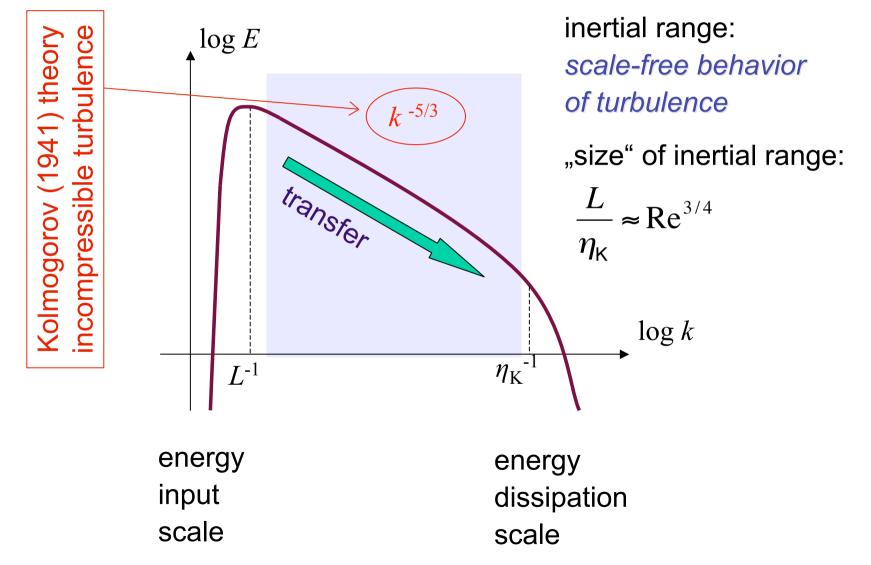


global Schmidt Iaw

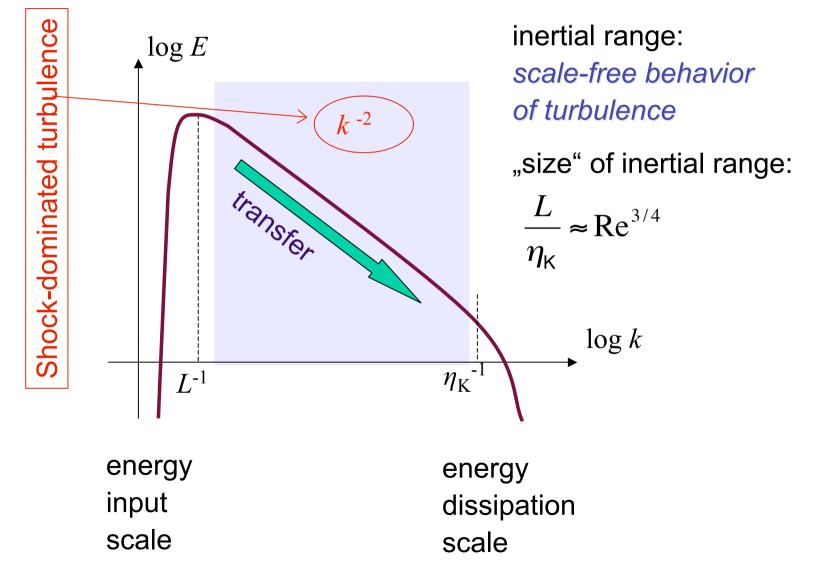
observed Schmidt law



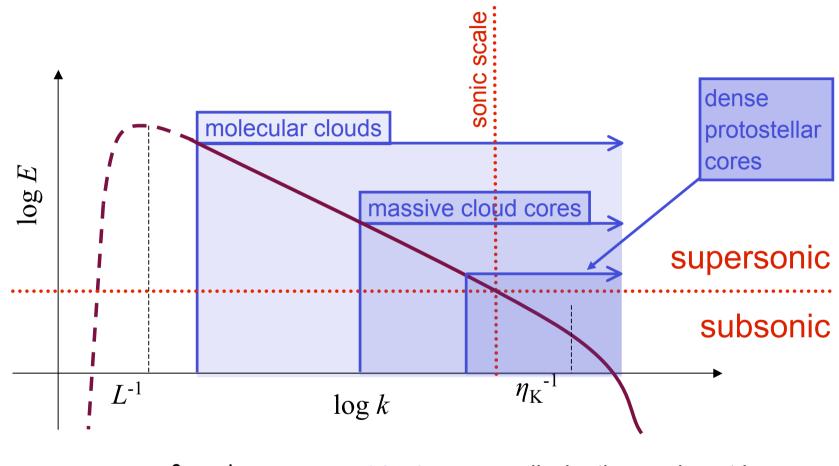
Turbulent cascade



Turbulent cascade

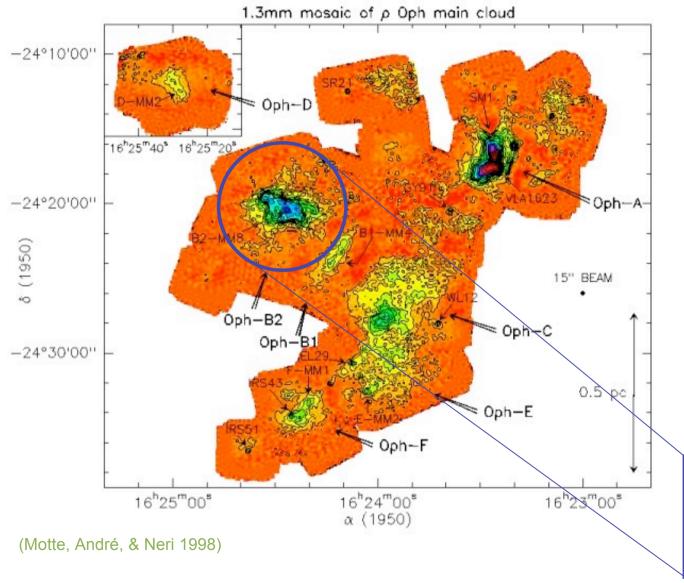


Turbulent cascade in ISM



energy source & scale NOT known (supernovae, winds, spiral density waves?) $\sigma_{\rm rms} \ll 1$ km/s $M_{\rm rms} \le 1$ $L \approx 0.1$ pc dissipation scale not known (ambipolar diffusion, molecular diffusion?)

Density structure of MC's



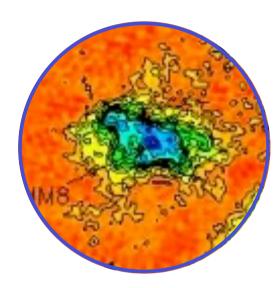
molecular clouds are highly inhomogeneous

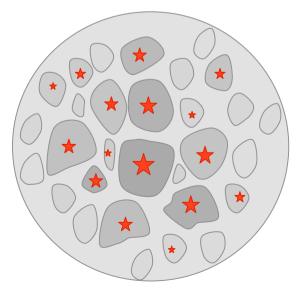
stars form in the densest and coldest parts of the cloud

 $\rho\text{-Ophiuchus}$ cloud seen in dust emission

let's focus on a cloud core like this one

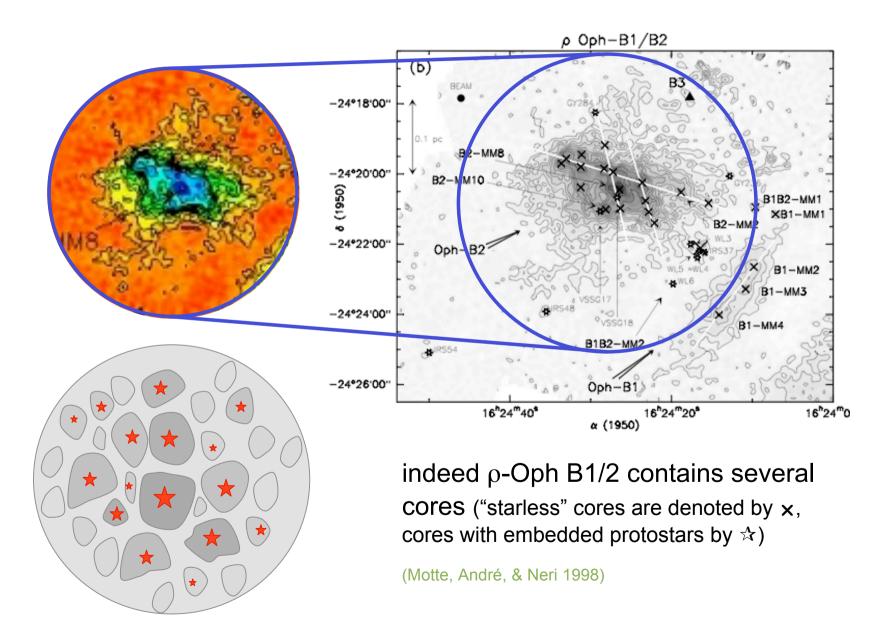
Evolution of cloud cores





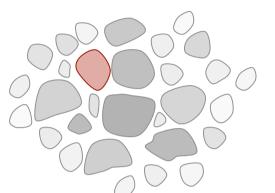
- How does this core evolve? Does it form one single massive star or cluster with mass distribution?
- Turbulent cascade "goes through" cloud core
 - --> NO scale separation possible
 - --> NO effective sound speed
- Turbulence is supersonic!
 - --> produces strong density contrasts: $\delta \rho / \rho \approx M^2$
 - --> with typical $M \approx 10 --> \delta \rho / \rho \approx 100!$
- many of the shock-generated fluctuations are Jeans unstable and go into collapse
- --> expectation: core breaks up and forms a cluster of stars

Evolution of cloud cores



Formation and evolution of cores

 protostellar cloud cores form at the stagnation points of convergent turbulent flows



- if M > M_{Jeans} $\propto \rho^{-1/2} T^{3/2}$: collapse and star formation
- if M < M_{Jeans} $\propto \rho^{-1/2} T^{3/2}$: reexpansion after external compression fades away

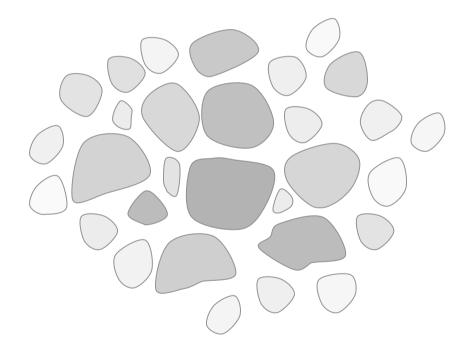
(e.g. Vazquez-Semadeni et al 2005)

- typical timescales: $t \approx 10^4 \dots 10^5$ yr
- because *turbulent* ambipolar diffusion time is *short*, this time estimate still holds for the presence of magnetic fields, in *magnetically critical cores*

(e.g. Fatuzzo & Adams 2002, Heitsch et al. 2004)

Formation and evolution of cores

What happens to distribution of cloud cores?

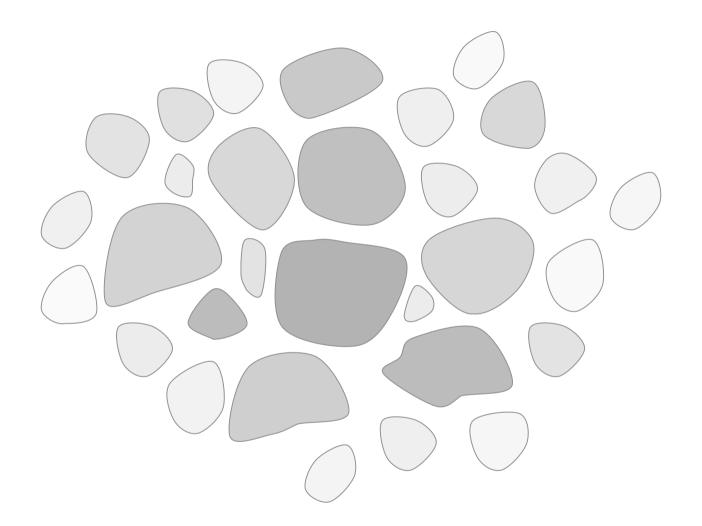


Two exteme cases:

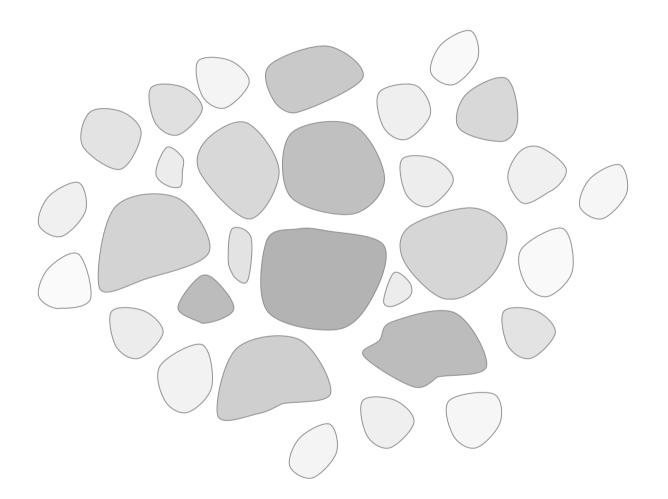
(1) turbulence dominates energy budget:

 $\alpha = E_{kin} / |E_{pot}| > 1$

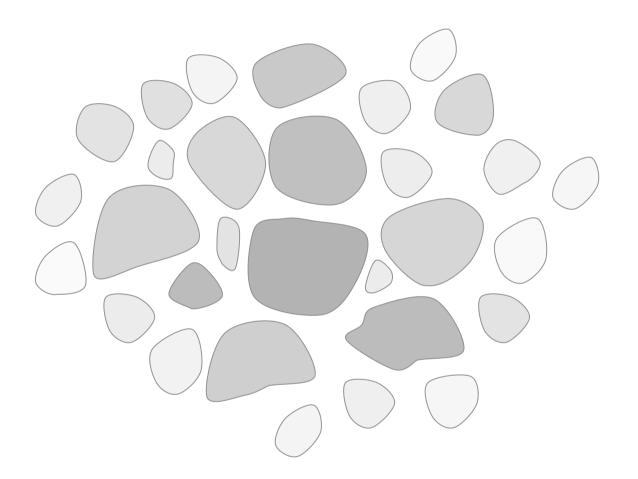
- --> individual cores do not interact
- --> collapse of individual cores dominates stellar mass growth
- --> loose cluster of low-mass stars
- (2) turbulence decays, i.e. gravity dominates: $\alpha = E_{kin} / |E_{pot}| < 1$
 - --> global contraction
 - --> core do interact while collapsing
 - --> competition influences mass growth
 - --> dense cluster with high-mass stars



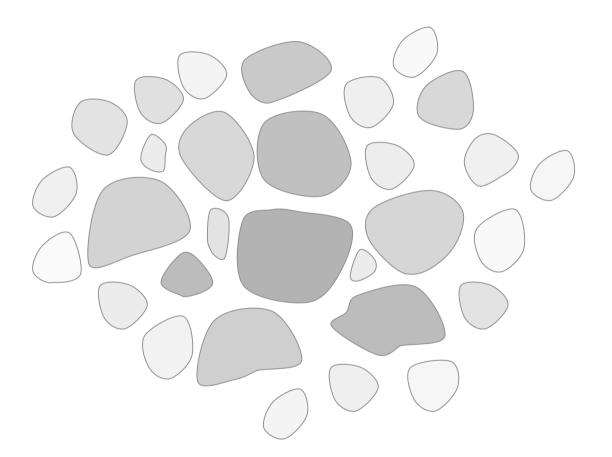
turbulence creates a hierarchy of clumps



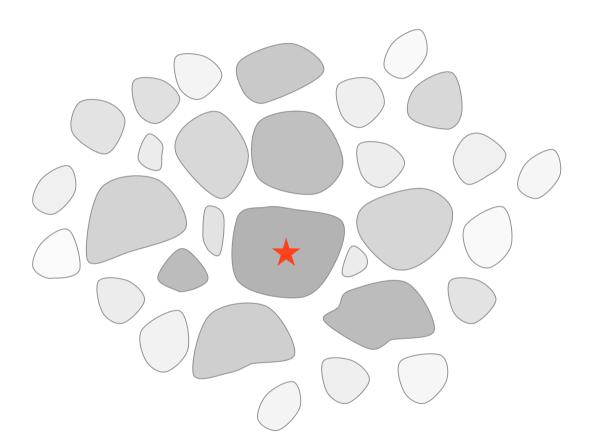
as turbulence decays locally, contraction sets in



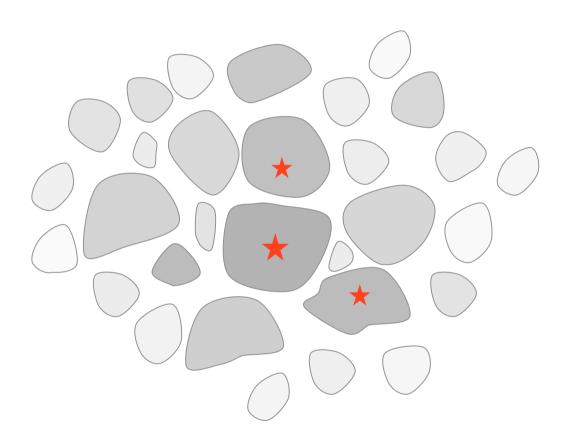
as turbulence decays locally, contraction sets in



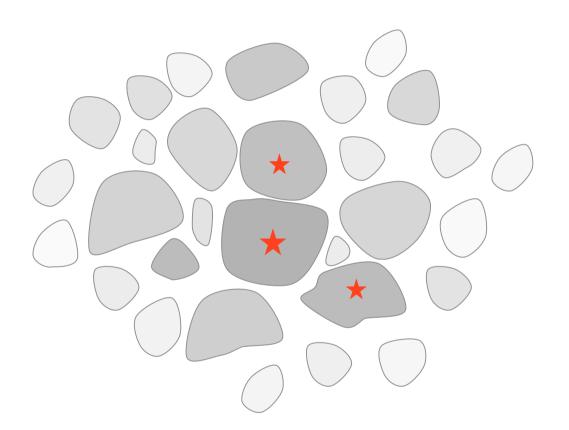
while region contracts, individual clumps collapse to form stars



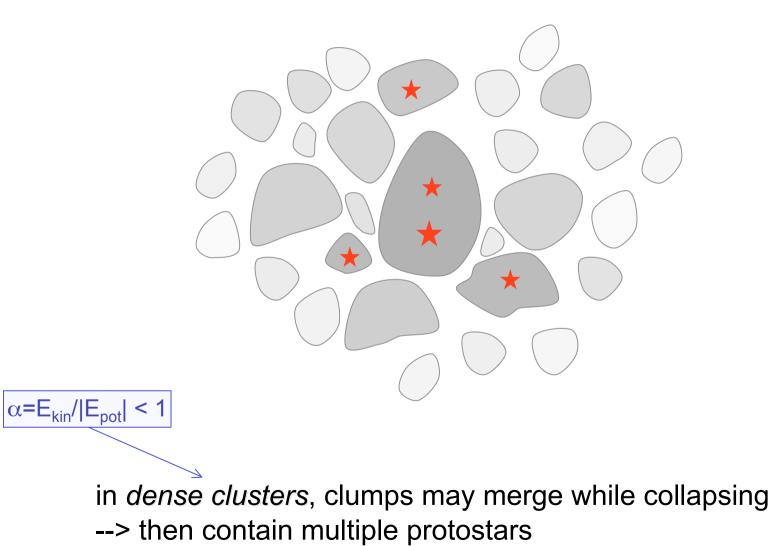
while region contracts, individual clumps collapse to form stars



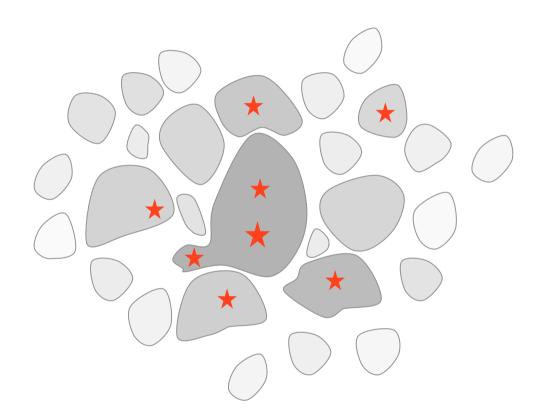
individual clumps collapse to form stars



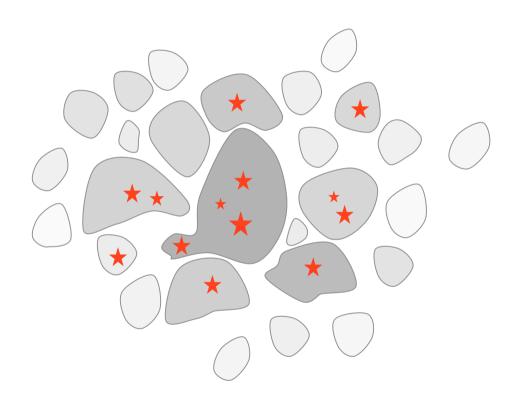
individual clumps collapse to form stars



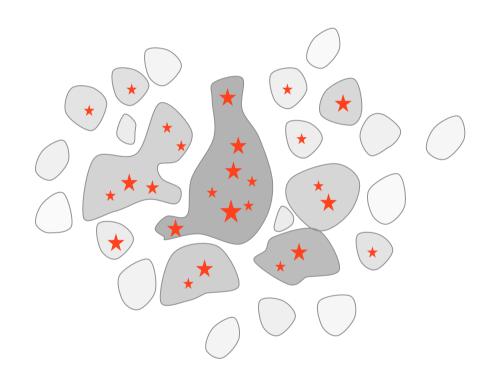
Ralf Klessen: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007



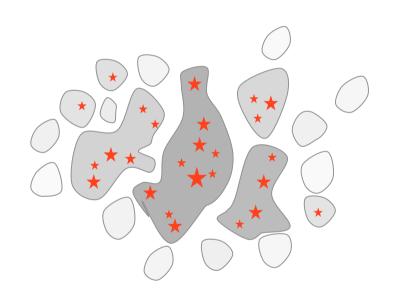
in *dense clusters*, clumps may merge while collapsing --> then contain multiple protostars



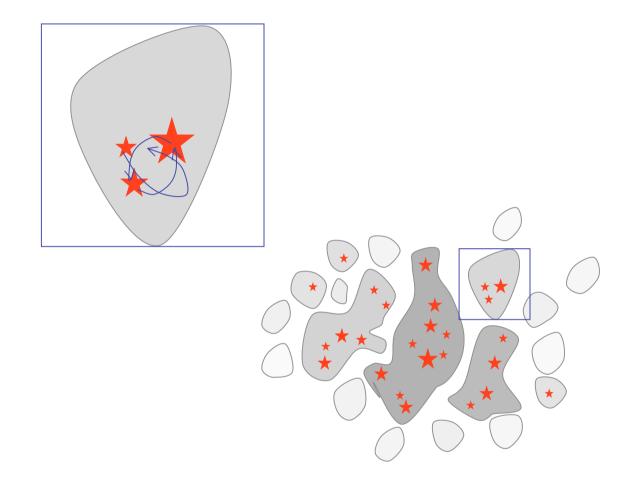
in *dense clusters*, clumps may merge while collapsing --> then contain multiple protostars



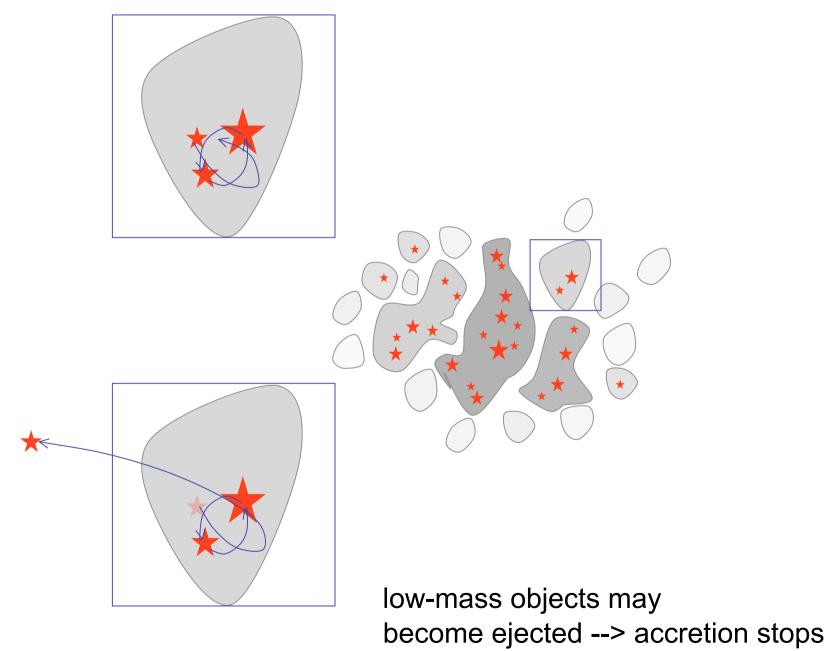
in *dense clusters*, competitive mass growth becomes important



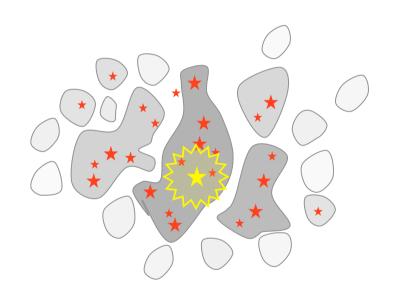
in *dense clusters*, competitive mass growth becomes important



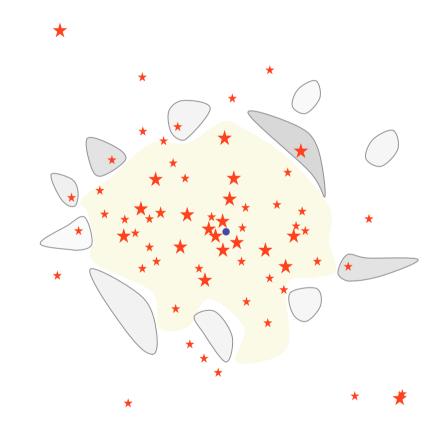
in dense clusters, N-body effects influence mass growth



Ralf Klessen: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007



feedback terminates star formation



result: star cluster, possibly with HII region

Predictions

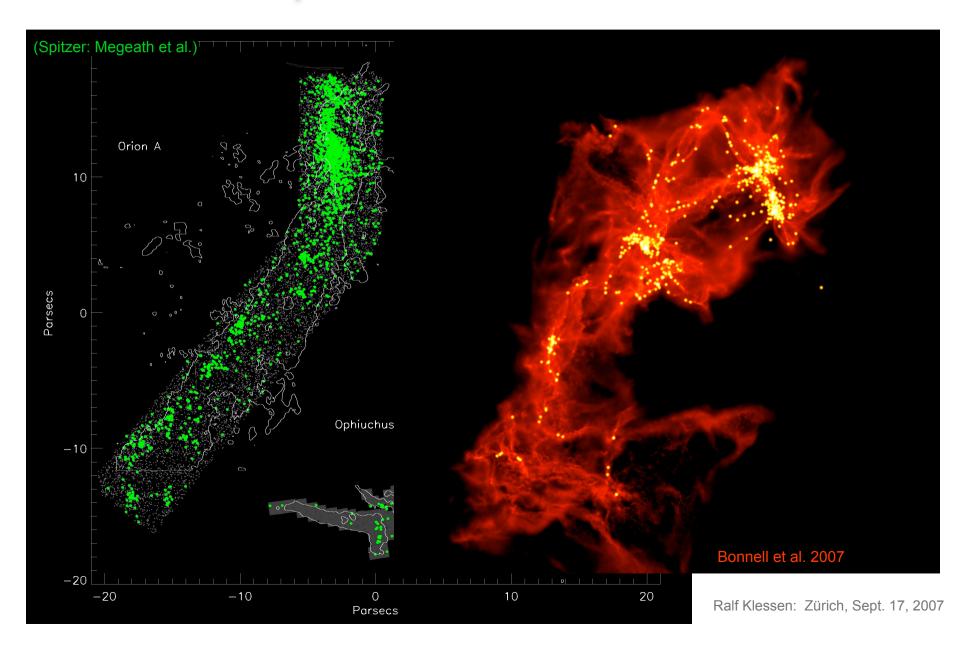
- global properties (statistical properties)
 - SF efficiency and timescale
 - stellar mass function -- IMF
 - dynamics of young star clusters
 - description of self-gravitating turbulent systems (pdf's, Δ-var.)
 - chemical mixing properties
- local properties (properties of individual objects)
 - properties of individual clumps (e.g. shape, radial profile, lifetimes)
 - accretion history of individual protostars (dM/dt vs. t, j vs. t)
 - binary (proto)stars (eccentricity, mass ratio, etc.)
 - SED's of individual protostars
 - dynamic PMS tracks: T_{bol}-L_{bol} evolution

Examples and predictions

example 1: star cluster formation: *dynamics*

example 2: star cluster formation: thermodynamics
 --> speculations on the origin of the stellar
 mass spectrum (IMF)

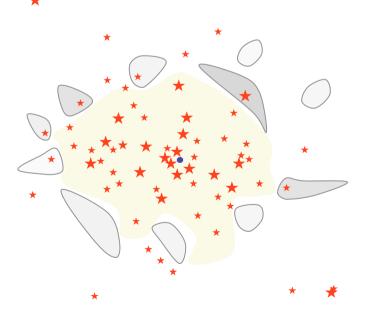
Example: model of Orion cloud



Models of star cluster formation

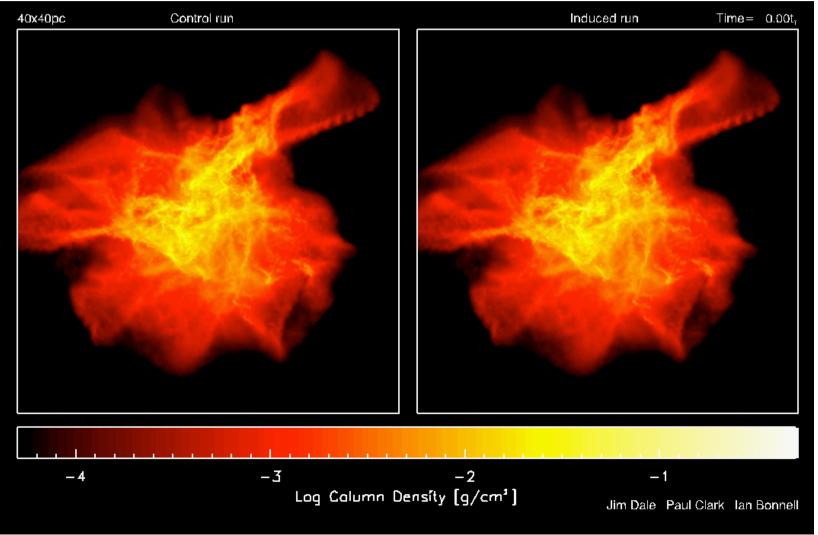
- dynamics:
 basic properties are probably okay
- BUT: no feedback (outflows, radiation, etc.)
- how much detail are we missing?
 - how does that change properties like *IMF*, boundedness, efficiency?





Model with ionizing feedback

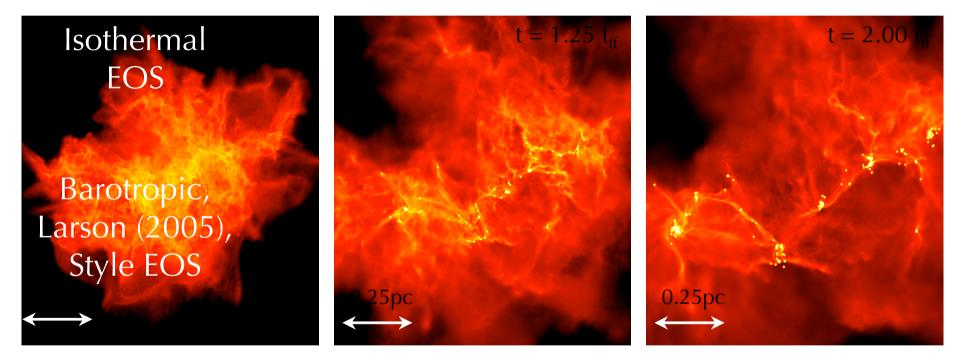
SPH with radiation feedback: first calculations of star-cluster formation with ionization



Ralf Klessen: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007

Unbound clouds

KE = 2 x PE (initially), 1000 solar masses, 0.5pc



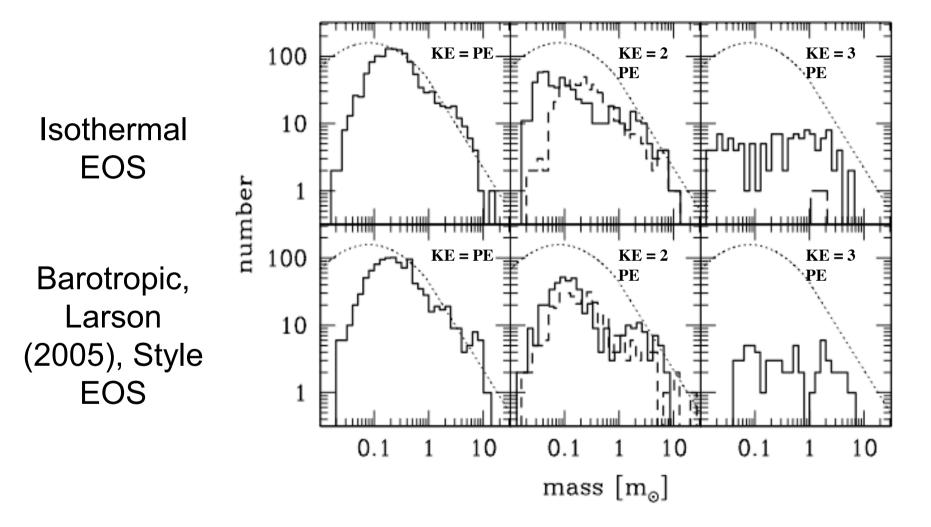
No global collapse:

local $t_{\rm ff}$ < global interaction time-scale

$$t_{\rm ff} \sim 2 \times 10^5$$
 years

Clark, Bonnell & Klessen (2007)

Mass functions



Clark, Bonnell & Klessen (2007)

IMF

distribution of stellar masses depends on

turbulent initial conditions

--> mass spectrum of prestellar cloud cores

collapse and interaction of prestellar cores --> competitive accretion and N-body effects

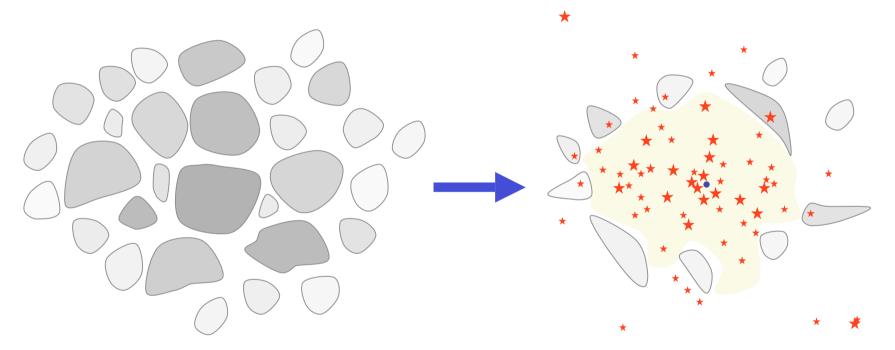
thermodynamic properties of gas

--> balance between heating and cooling

- --> EOS (determines which cores go into collapse)
- (proto) stellar feedback terminates star formation ionizing radiation, bipolar outflows, winds, SN

Star cluster formation

Most stars form in clusters \rightarrow star formation = cluster formation

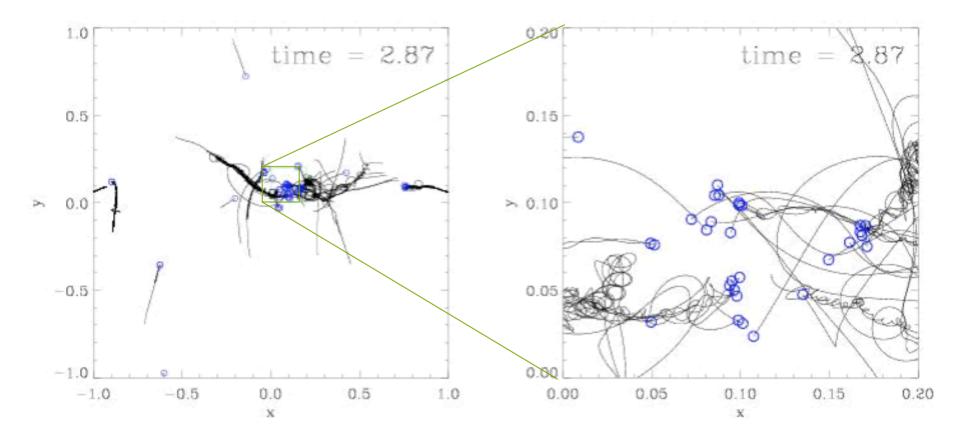


How to get from cloud cores to star clusters? How do the stars acquire mass?

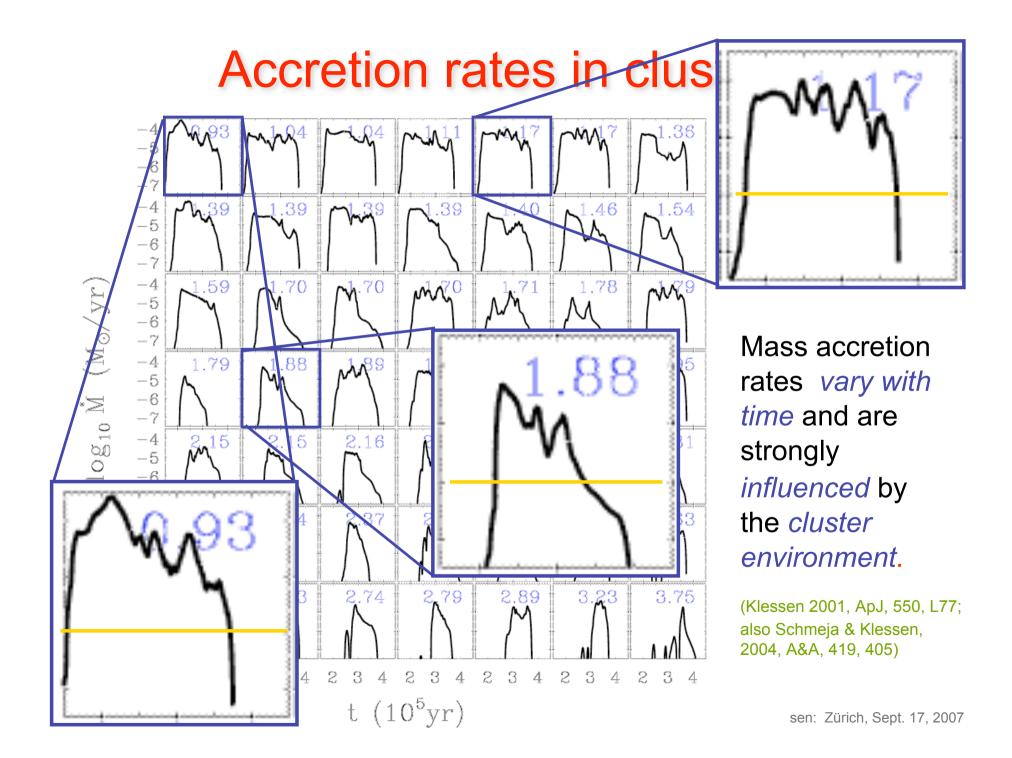
(e.g. Larson 2003, Prog. Rep. Phys.; Mac Low & Klessen, 2004, Rev. Mod. Phys, 76, 125 - 194)

Dynamics of nascent star cluster

in dense clusters protostellar interaction may be come important!



Trajectories of protostars in a nascent dense cluster created by gravoturbulent fragmentation (from Klessen & Burkert 2000, ApJS, 128, 287) Ralf Klessen: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007



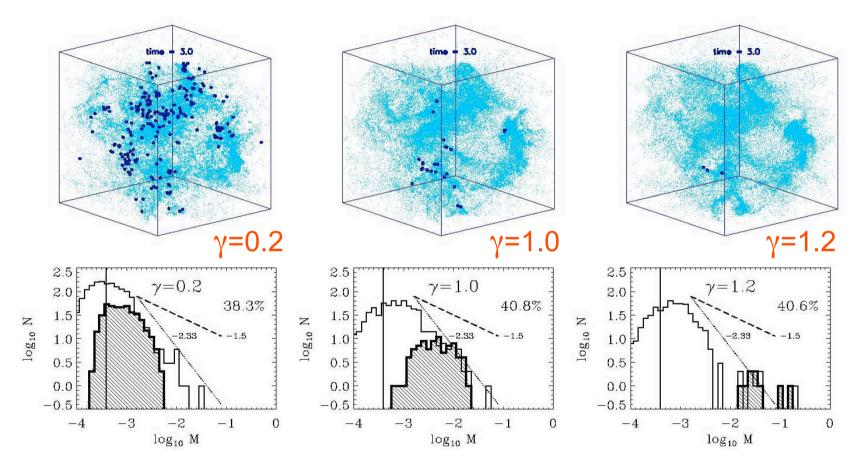
Dependency on EOS

• degree of fragmentation depends on EOS!

- polytropic EOS: p ∝ρ^γ
- γ <1: dense cluster of low-mass stars
- γ >1: isolated high-mass stars

(see Li, Klessen, & Mac Low 2003, ApJ, 592, 975; also Kawachi & Hanawa 1998, Larson 2003)

Dependency on EOS



for γ <1 fragmentation is enhanced \rightarrow *cluster of low-mass stars* for γ >1 it is suppressed \rightarrow formation of *isolated massive stars*

(from Li, Klessen, & Mac Low 2003, ApJ, 592, 975)

How does that work?

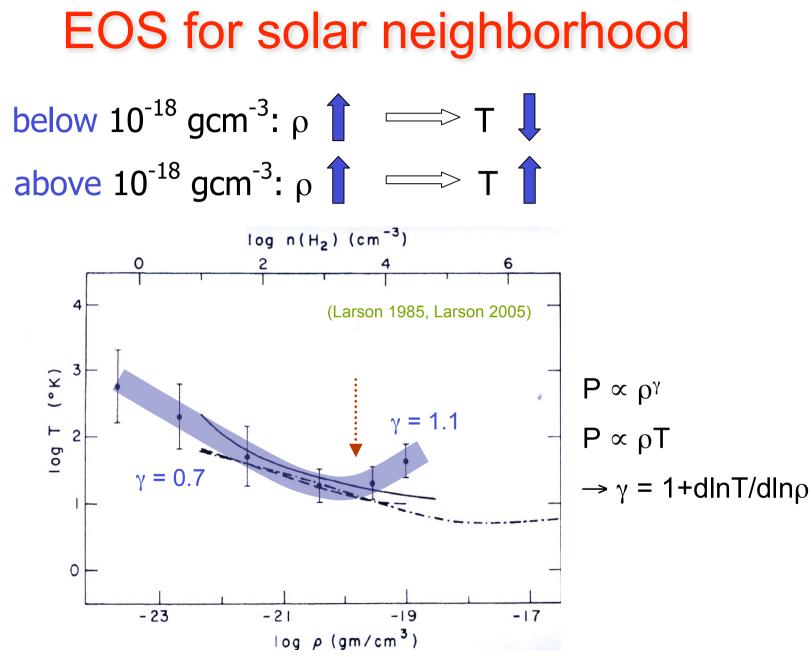
(1) $\mathbf{p} \propto \rho^{\gamma} \rightarrow \rho \propto p^{1/\gamma}$

(2) $M_{jeans} \propto \gamma^{3/2} \rho^{(3\gamma-4)/2}$

γ<1: → large density excursion for given pressure
 → ⟨M_{jeans}⟩ becomes small
 → number of fluctuations with M > M_{ieans} is large

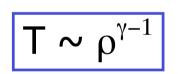
• $\gamma > 1: \rightarrow small$ density excursion for given pressure $\rightarrow \langle M_{ieans} \rangle$ is large

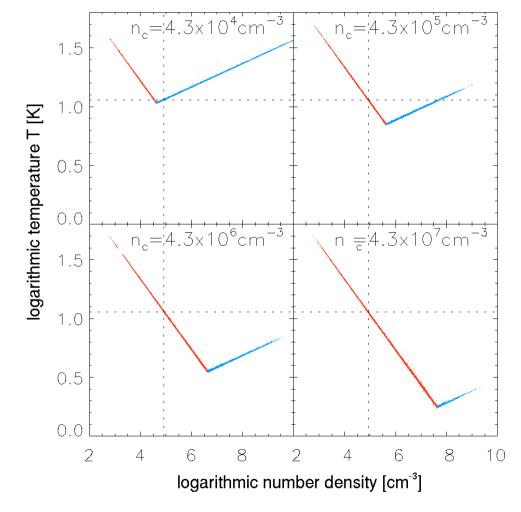
 \rightarrow only few and massive clumps exceed M_{ieans}



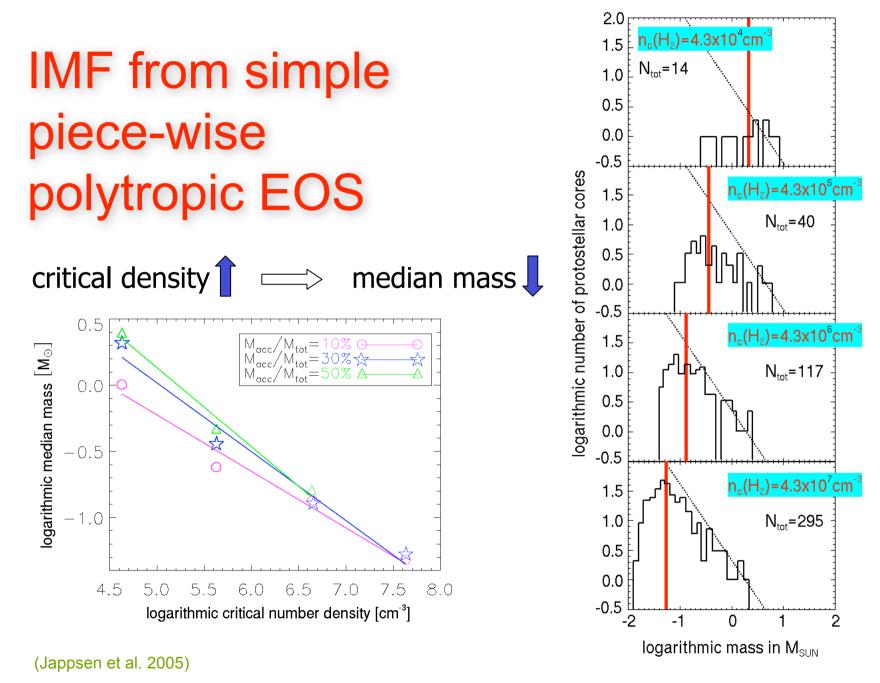
IMF from simple piece-wise polytropic EOS

 $\gamma_1 = 0.7$ $\gamma_2 = 1.1$



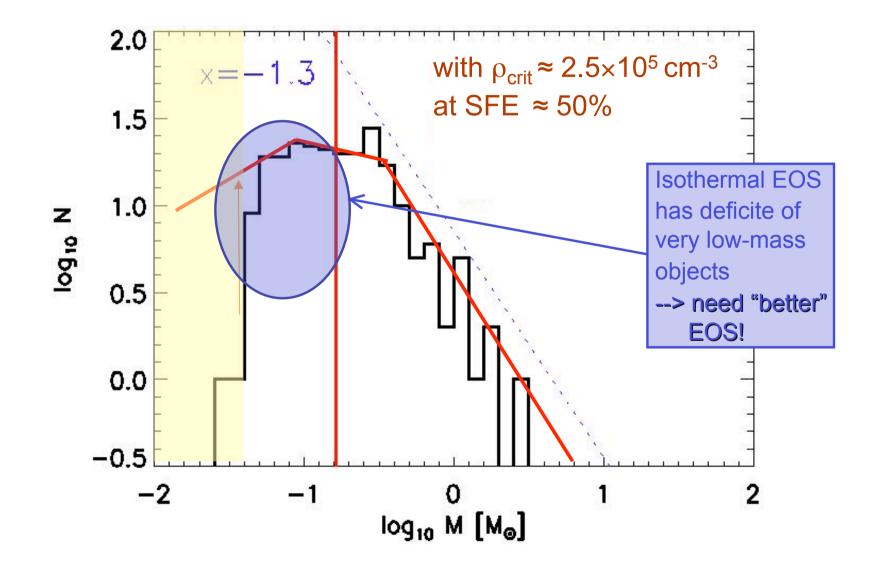


(Jappsen et al. 2005)



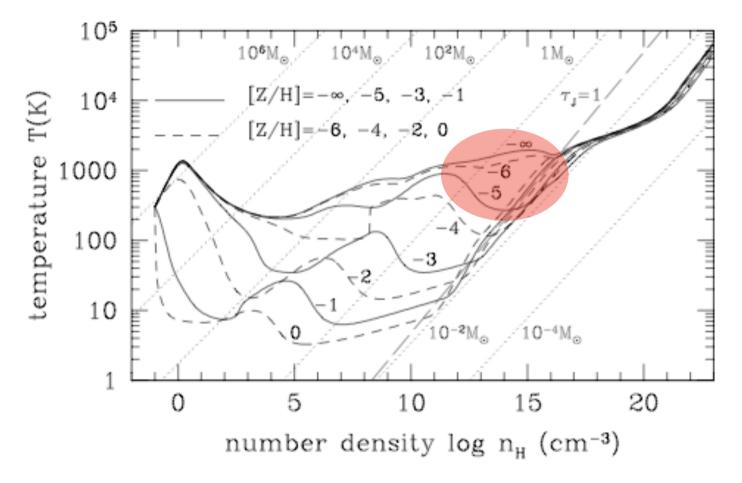
Ralf Klessen: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007

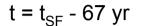
IMF in nearby molecular clouds

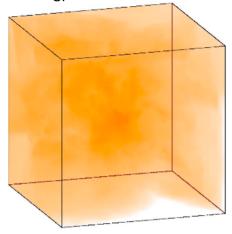


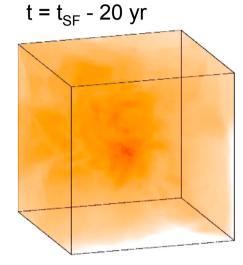
transition: Pop III to Pop II.5

OMUKAI ET AL.

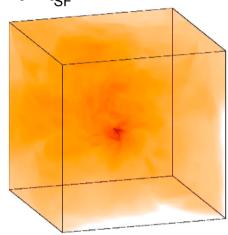




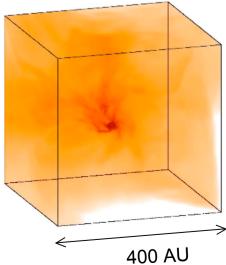




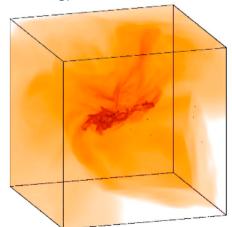
t = t_{SF}



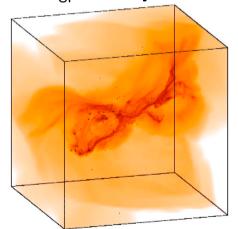
t = t_{SF} + 53 yr



 $t = t_{SF} + 233 \text{ yr}$

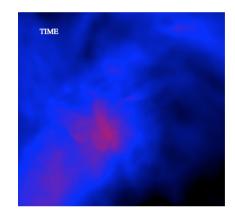


 $t = t_{SF} + 420 \text{ yr}$

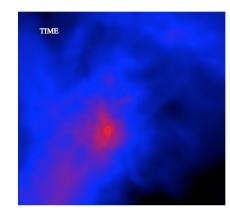


(Clark et al. 2007) Ralf Klessen: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007

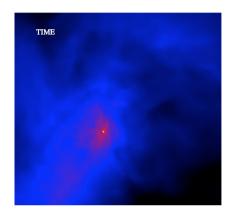
t = t_{SF} - 67 yr



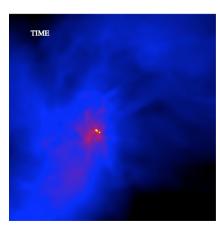
t = t_{SF} - 20 yr



t = t_{SF}

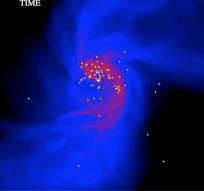


 $t = t_{SF} + 53 \text{ yr}$

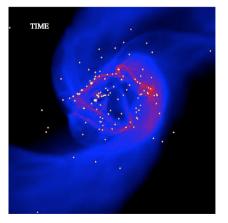


TIME

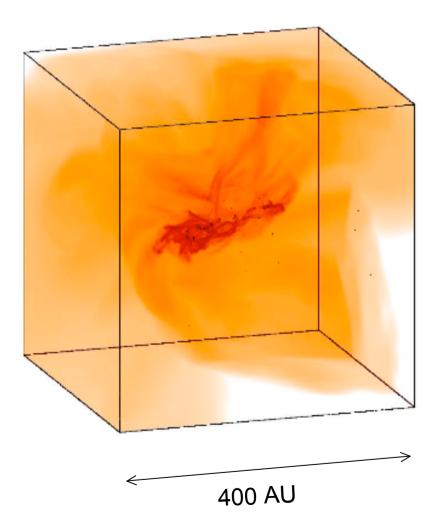
 $t = t_{SF} + 233 \text{ yr}$



 $t = t_{SF} + 420 \text{ yr}$



(Clark et al. 2007)



dense cluster of lowmass protostars builds up:

- mass spectrum peaks below 1 M_{sun}
- cluster VERY dense n_{stars} = 2.5 x 10⁹ pc⁻³
- fragmentation at density
 - $n_{gas} = 10^{12} 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

(Clark et al. 2007)

cluster build-up

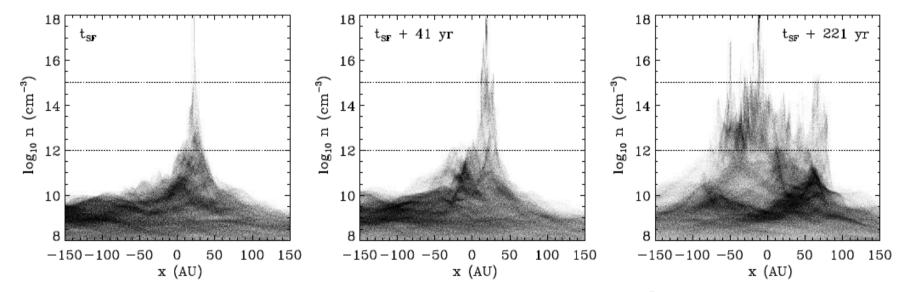
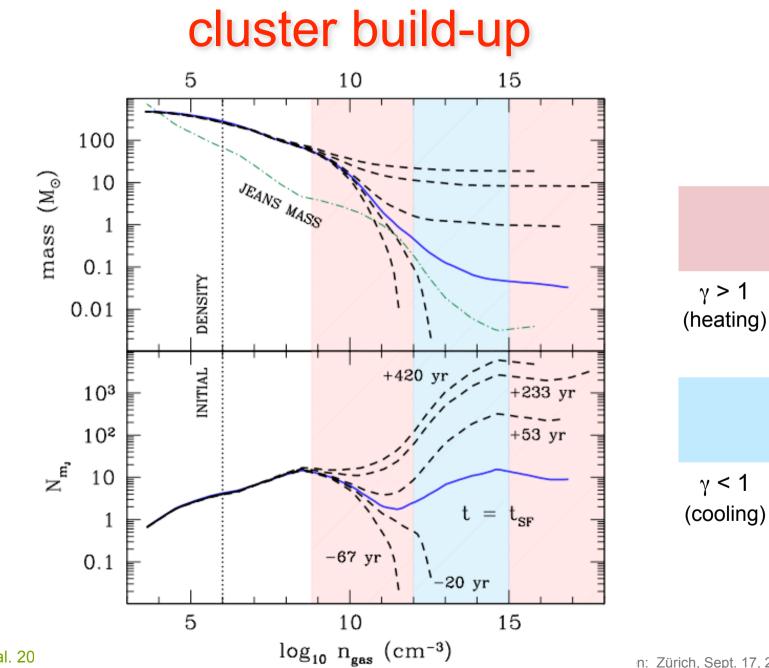
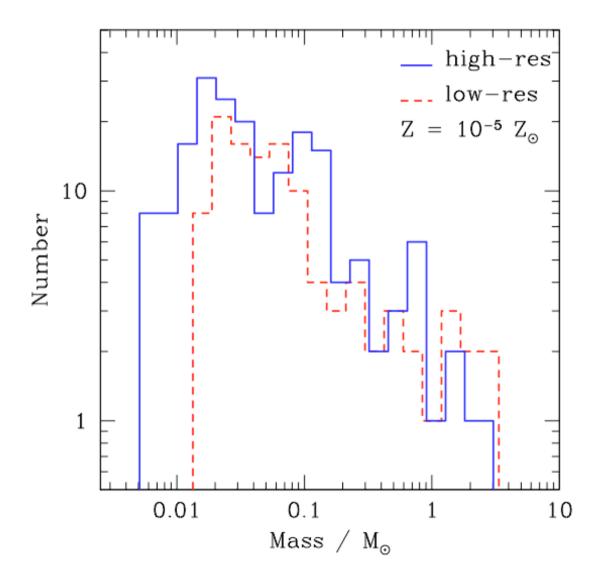


FIG. 3.— We illustrate the onset of the fragmentation process in the high resolution $Z = 10^{-5} Z_{\odot}$ simulation. The graphs show the densities of the particles, plotted as a function of their x-position. Note that for each plot, the particle data has been centered on the region of interest. We show here results at three different output times, ranging from the time that the first star forms (t_{sf}) to 221 years afterwards. The densities lying between the two horizontal dashed lines denote the range over which dust cooling lowers the gas temperature.



(Clark et al. 20

n: Zürich, Sept. 17, 2007



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(Clark et al. 2007)

comparison for different Z

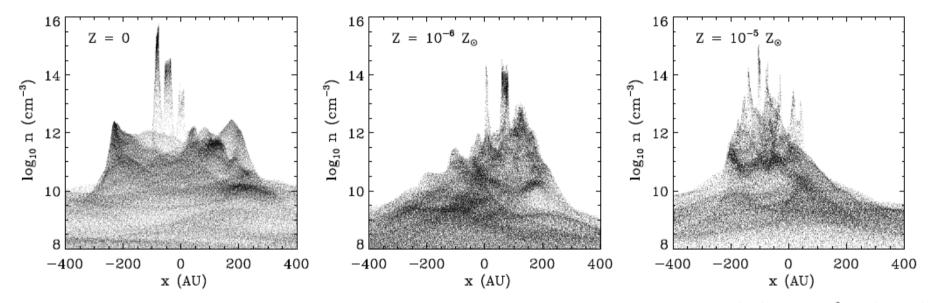


FIG. 6.— Particle densities as a function of position in the low-resolution simulations, for the primordial (left), $Z = 10^{-6} Z_{\odot}$ (middle) and $Z = 10^{-5} Z_{\odot}$ simulations (right). The particles are plotted once the protostars in each simulation have accreted 19 M_{\odot} of gas.

even zero-metallicity case fragments (although much more weakly)

comparison for different Z

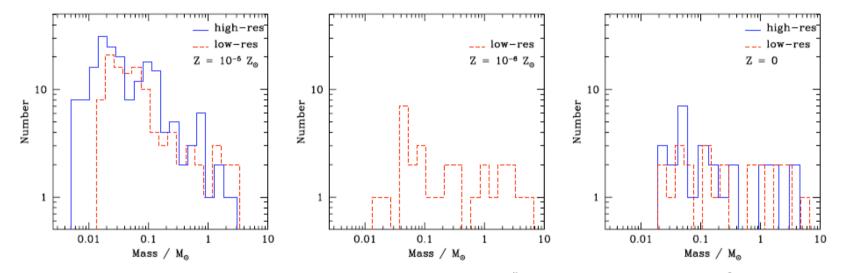


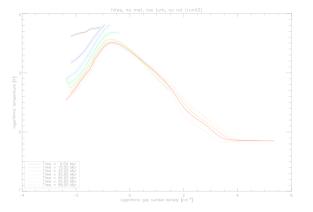
FIG. 4.— Mass functions resulting from simulations with metallicities $Z = 10^{-5} Z_{\odot}$ (left-hand panel), $Z = 10^{-6} Z_{\odot}$ (center panel), and Z = 0 (right-hand panel). The plots refer to the point in each simulation at which 19 M_☉ of material has been accreted (which occurs at a slightly different time in each simulation). The mass resolutions are 0.002 M_☉ and 0.025 M_☉ for the high and low resolution simulations, respectively. Note the similarity between the results of the low-resolution and high-resolution simulations. The onset of dust-cooling in the $Z = 10^{-5} Z_{\odot}$ cloud results in a stellar cluster which has a mass function similar to that for present day stars, in that the majority of the mass resides in the lower-mass objects. This contrasts with the $Z = 10^{-6} Z_{\odot}$ and primordial clouds, in which the bulk of the cluster mass is in high-mass stars.

even zero-metallicity case fragments (although much more weakly)

Simple EOS vs. radiation transfer

• how good is EOS approach?

- time to reach chemical and thermal equilibrium shorter than dynamical time?
- how does EOS depend on dynamics?
 (e.g. 1D collapse with large-gradient approx. versus complex 3D turbulent flows)



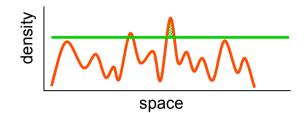
• how important is heating from stars?

- accretion luminosity may heat gas and reduce degree of cloud fragmentation (cluster formation vs. high-mass SF)
- how can we model that best?
 - full radiation transfer vs. approximate schemes

Summary I

interstellar gas is highly inhomogeneous

- thermal instability
- gravitational instability



- *turbulent compression* (in shocks $\delta \rho / \rho \propto M^2$; in atomic gas: $M \approx 1...3$)
- cold molecular clouds can form rapidly in high-density regions at stagnation points of convergent large-scale flows
 - chemical phase transition: atomic → molecular
 - process is modulated by large-scale dynamics in the galaxy
- inside *cold clouds:* turbulence is highly supersonic ($M \approx 1...20$)
 - → *turbulence* creates density contrast, *gravity* selects for collapse

GRAVOTUBULENT FRAGMENTATION

- turbulent cascade: local compression within a cloud provokes collapse → formation of individual stars and star clusters
- star cluster: gravity dominates in large region (--> competitive accretion)

Summary II

- thermodynamic response (EOS) determines fragmentation behavior
 - characteristic stellar mass from fundamental atomic and molecular parameters
 --> explanation for quasi-universal IMF?
- stellar feedback is important
 - accretion heating may reduce degree of fragmentation
 - ionizing radiation will set efficiency of star formation
- CAVEATS:
 - star formation is *multi-scale, multi-physics* problem --> VERY difficult to model
 - in simulations: very small turbulent inertial range (Re < 1000)
 - can we use EOS to describe thermodynamics of gas, or do we need timedependent chemical network and radiative transport?
 - stellar feedback requires (at least approximative) radiative transport, most numerical calculations so far have neglected that aspect

