# **Star Formation**



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# thanks to ...



... people in the group in Heidelberg:

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... many collaborators abroad!





- a simple cartoon picture of dynamic star formation theory
- some applications, open issues, and questions









decreasing spatial scales





# stellar mass fuction

stars seem to follow a universal mass function at birth --> IMF





Orion, NGC 3603, 30 Doradus (Zinnecker & Yorke 2007)



(from A. Goodman)

scales to same scale



(from A. Goodman)

scales to same scale





velocity distribution in Perseus



image from Alyssa Goodman: COMPLETE survey



(movie from Christoph Federrath)

## **Turbulent cascade**



## **Turbulent cascade**



### **Turbulent cascade in ISM**



energy source & scale *NOT known* (supernovae, winds, spiral density waves?)

 $\sigma_{\rm rms} << 1$  km/s M<sub>rms</sub>  $\leq 1$ L  $\approx 0.1$  pc dissipation scale not known (ambipolar diffusion, molecular diffusion?)





## dynamical SF in a nutshell

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







decreasing spatial scales





decreasing spatial scales

# what drives ISM turbulence?

- seems to be driven on large scales, and there is little difference between star-forming and non-SF clouds
  - rules out internal sources
- proposals in the literature
  - supernovae
  - spiral density waves
  - magneto-rotational instability
  - expanding HII regions / stellar winds / outflows
  - new idea: accretion onto disk



# accretion driven turbulence

#### • idea:

- astrophysical objects form by accretion of ambient material
- the kinetic energy associated with this process is a key agent driving internal turbulence.
- this works on ALL scales:
  - galaxies
  - molecular clouds
  - protostellar accretion disks

# gas depletion times

- additional thoughts
  - typical gas depletion times in large spirals are of order of 10<sup>9</sup> yr
  - gas needs to be replenished from somewhere: accretion of external gas?
  - note, there is an alternative: stellar mass loss



## concept

turbulence decays on a crossing time 
$$\tau_{\rm d} \approx \frac{L_{\rm d}}{\sigma}$$
  
energy decay rate  $\dot{E}_{\rm decay} \approx \frac{E}{\tau_{\rm d}} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{M \sigma^3}{L_{\rm d}}$   
kinetic energy of infalling material  $\dot{E}_{\rm in} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M}_{\rm in} v_{\rm in}^2$   
can both values match, modulo some efficiency?  
 $\epsilon = \left| \frac{\dot{E}_{\rm decay}}{\dot{E}_{\rm in}} \right|$ 

Klessen & Hennebelle (2010, A&A, 520, A17)





# application to galaxies

- underlying assumption
  - galaxy is in steady state
     ---> accretion rate equals star formation rate
  - we ask: what is the required efficiency for the method to work?
- study Milky Way and 11 THINGS
  - excellent observational data in HI: velocity dispersion, column density, rotation curve





## M83



Do we actually see the gas flow through the disk? ANSWER: Yes in M83!

#### M83 HI column

#### M83 HI velocity dispersion

#### M83





#### HI intensity



#### HI velocity dispersion





# THINGS

#### M83



Figure 3. (a) The Brandt-type flat rotation curves as described in Eq. (13). Due to the low inclination of M83, we bracket the real situation with a range of different rotation curves and corresponding fit parameters from the tilted ring model. We assume n = 0.8,  $R_{\text{max}} = 4.5'$ ,  $V_{\text{max}} = 160, 180, 200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . As suggested in HB81, we take the model with  $V_{\text{max}} = 180$  as our fiducial case, which will then be justified in § 5. (b) The averaged surface density of the THINGS map (blue curve) and of the Effelsberg map (red curve). They are extracted from the fiducial model. The black vertical lines situated at 6' and 12.75' define the region of ring structure, which is also shown as the area enclosed by the white ellipses in Fig. 1a and the black ellipses in Fig. 7. The green vertical line marks the location of the density peak and further divides the ring into an inner ring and an outer ring.

#### **M83**



Figure 5. (a) PA and (b) inclination models used to infer radial motion of the gas in the THINGS map. (c) The inferred radial velocity. (d) The inferred radial mass flow. PA and inclination inside the vertical line (R = 12.5') are extracted from the THINGS map, while in the other part we extrapolate these quantities from the Effelsberg map. The Fourier coefficients are fitted for the harmonics m = 0, 1, 2 for the radial regime to the left of the vertical line, while only m = 0, 1 for the outer parts of the map. In the outer disk, the radial shift is due the different inclinations corresponding to the different models. In all models, the common features are the prominent radial inflow in the outer disk, epicyclic motion in the transition zone (where the HI is organized into a ring like structure, see also Fig. 7 and an indication of moderate radial inflow in the inner disk.

# questions

- what is the expected accretion rate onto spiral galaxies?
- how is this mass accreted?
  - in big lumps (e.g. high-velocity clouds)?
  - rains down gently at interface halo / thick disk?
- can we see this mass transfer in other galaxies?




#### decreasing spatial scales

### We want to address the following questions:

- how do massive stars (and their associated clusters) form?
- what determines the upper stellar mass limit?
- what is the physics behind observed HII regions?



### (proto)stellar feedback processes

- radiation pressure on dust particles
- ionizing radiation
- stellar winds
- jets and outflows



- radiation pressure on dust particles
  - has gained most attention in the literature (see e.g. Krumholz et al. 2007, 2008, 2009)
- ionization
  - few numerical studies so far (e.g. Dale 2007, Gritschneder et al. 2009), detailed collapse calculations with ionizing and non-ionizing feedback still missing
  - HII regions around massive stars are directly observable
    --> direct comparison between theory and observations

our (numerical) approach

- focus on collapse of individual high-mass cores...
  - massive core with 1,000  $M_{\odot}$
  - Bonnor-Ebert type density profile (flat inner core with 0.5 pc and rho ~ r<sup>-3/2</sup> further out)
  - initial m=2 perturbation, rotation with  $\beta = 0.05$
  - sink particle with radius 600 AU and threshold density of 7 x  $10^{-16}$  g cm<sup>-3</sup>
  - cell size 100 AU

our (numerical) approach

• method:

- FLASH with ionizing and non-ionizing radiation using raytracing based on hybrid-characteristics
- protostellar model from Hosokawa & Omukai
- rate equation for ionization fraction
- relevant heating and cooling processes
- some models include magnetic fields
- first 3D MHD calculations that consistently treat both ionizing and non-ionizing radiation in the context of highmass star formation

## model with suppressed disk frag.



Disk edge on

Disk plane

### model with multiple protostars



Disk edge on

Disk plane





### mass load onto the disk exceeds inward transport --> becomes gravitationally

**unstable** (see also Kratter & Matzner 2006, Kratter et al. 2010)

fragments to form multiple stars --> explains why highmass stars are seen in clusters

Peters et al. (2010a,b,c)





### mass load onto the disk exceeds inward transport

--> becomes gravitationally unstable (see also Kratter & Matzner 2006, Kratter et al. 2010)

fragments to form multiple stars --> explains why highmass stars are seen in clusters



- compare with control run without radiation feedback
- total accretion rate does not change with accretion heating
- expansion of ionized bubble causes turn-off
- no triggered star formation by expanding bubble



- magnetic fields lead to weaker fragmentation
- central star becomes more massive (magnetic breaking

### numerical data can be used to generate continuum maps

- calculate free-free absorption coefficient for every cell
- integrate radiative transfer equation (neglecting scattering)
- convolve resulting image with beam width
- VLA parameters:
  - distance  $2.65 \, \mathrm{kpc}$
  - wavelength  $2\,\mathrm{cm}$
  - FWHM 0".14
  - noise  $10^{-3} \, \mathrm{Jy}$



Disk face on

Disk edge on



### Ultracompact HII Region Morphologies

- Wood & Churchwell 1989 classification of UC H II regions
- Question: What is the origin of these morphologies?
- UC H II lifetime problem: Too many UC H II regions observed!



- ${ullet}$  synthetic VLA observations at  $2\,cm$  of simulation data
- interaction of ionizing radiation with accretion flow creates high variability in time and shape
- Ilickering resolves the lifetime paradox!



# Morphology of HII region depends on viewing angle

Туре	WC89	K94	single	multiple
Spherical/Unresolved	43	55	19	60 ± 5
Cometary	20	16	7	$10~\pm~5$
Core-halo	16	9	15	$4\pm 2$
Shell-like	4	1	3	$5\pm 1$
Irregular	17	19	57	$21\pm5$

WC89: Wood & Churchwell 1989, K94: Kurtz et al. 1994

- statistics over 25 simulation snapshots and 20 viewing angles
- statistics can be used to distinguish between different models
- single sink simulation does not reproduce lifetime problem

### time variability



- correlation between accretion events and H II region changes
- time variations in size and flux have been observed
- changes of size and flux of  $5-7\% yr^{-1}$  match observations Franco-Hernández et al. 2004, Rodríguez et al. 2007, Galván-Madrid et al. 2008



- magnetic tower flow creates roundish bubble
- magnetic field does not change HII morphology

### Some results

- Ionization feedback cannot stop accretion
- Ionization drives bipolar outflow
- H II region shows high variability in time and shape
- All classified morphologies can be observed in one run
- Lifetime of H II region determined by accretion time scale
- Rapid accretion through dense, unstable flows
- Fragmentation-induced mass limits of massive stars



- what determines the upper mass limit of stars?
- can the models reproduce the SEDs of UC HII regions?
- is the predicted statistics of the time variability of UC HII regions correct?





#### decreasing spatial scales

### stellar masses

- 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



### stellar masses

ONC (HCOO)

standard

-1

0 log<sub>10</sub>m [M<sub>@</sub>]

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application to first star formation

### thermodynamics & fragmentation

degree of fragmentation depends on EOS!

polytropic EOS:  $\mathbf{p} \propto \rho^{\gamma}$  $\gamma < \mathbf{I}$ : dense cluster of low-mass stars  $\gamma > \mathbf{I}$ : isolated high-mass stars

(see Li et al. 2003; also Kawachi & Hanawa 1998, Larson 2003)

## dependency on EOS



for  $\gamma > 1$  it is suppressed  $\rightarrow$  formation of *isolated massive stars* 

how does that work? (I)  $\mathbf{p} \propto \rho^{\gamma} \rightarrow \rho \propto \mathbf{p}^{1/\gamma}$ (2)  $M_{jeans} \propto \gamma^{3/2} \rho^{(3\gamma-4)/2}$ •  $\gamma < I: \rightarrow$  large density excursion for given pressure  $\rightarrow \langle M_{jeans} \rangle$  becomes small  $\rightarrow$  number of fluctuations with M > M<sub>ieans</sub> 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<sub>ieans</sub>

## EOS as function of metallicity



## EOS as function of metallicity



## EOS as function of metallicity



## present-day star formation



<sup>(</sup>Omukai et al. 2005, Jappsen et al. 2005, Larson 2005)

## present-day star formation



## present-day star formation





logarithmic number density [cm<sup>-3</sup>]

(Jappsen et al. 2005)



(Jappsen et al. 2005)
# IMF in nearby molecular clouds



# transition: Pop III to Pop II.5

OMUKAI ET AL.



## dust induced fragmentation at Z=10<sup>-5</sup>

t = t<sub>SF</sub> - 67 yr



 $t = t_{SF} - 20 \text{ yr}$ 



 $t = t_{SF}$ 



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



t = t<sub>SF</sub> + 233 yr



t = t<sub>SF</sub> + 420 yr



(Clark et al. 2007)

# dust induced fragmentation at $Z=10^{-5}$



dense cluster of low-mass protostars builds up:

- mass spectrum peaks below 1 M<sub>sun</sub>
- cluster VERY dense  $n_{stars} = 2.5 \times 10^9 \,\text{pc}^{-3}$
- fragmentation at density  $n_{gas} = 10^{12} - 10^{13} \text{ cm}^{-3}$

(Clark et al. 2008, ApJ 672, 757)

## dust induced fragmentation at $Z=10^{-5}$



# dust induced fragmentation at $Z=10^{-5}$



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(plot from Salvadori et al. 2006, data from Frebel et al. 2005)

(Clark et al. 2008)

## metal-free star formation

#### OMUKAI ET AL.



## metal-free star formation

## metal-free star formation

 most current numerical simulations of Pop III star formation predict very massive objects

(e.g. Abel et al. 2002, Yoshida et al. 2008, Bromm et al. 2009)

- similar for theoretical models (e.g. Tan & McKee 2004)
- there are some first hints of fragmentation, however (Turk et al. 2009, Stacy et al. 2010)



**Figure 1** | **Projected gas distribution around a primordial protostar.** Shown is the gas density (colour-coded so that red denotes highest density) of a single object on different spatial scales. **a**, The large-scale gas distribution around the cosmological minihalo; **b**, a self-gravitating, star-forming cloud; **c**, the central part of the fully molecular core; and **d**, the final protostar. Reproduced by permission of the AAAS (from ref. 20).

(Yoshida et al. 2008, Science, 321, 669)

# turbulence in Pop III halos

- star formation will depend on degree of turbulence in protogalactic halo
- speculation: differences in stellar mass function, just like in present-day star formation



(Greif et al. 2008)

# turbulence in Pop III halos

- star formation will depend on degree of turbulence in protogalactic halo
- speculation: differences in stellar mass function, just like in present-day star formation

turbulence developing in an atomic cooling halo



# multiple Pop III stars in halo

- parameter study with different strength of turbulence using SPH: study Pop III.1 and Pop III.2 case (Clark et al., 2010a, submitted)
- 2 very high resolution studies of Pop III star formation in cosmological context
  - SPH: Clark et al. 2010b, submitted
  - Arepo: Greif et al. 2010, submitted
  - complementary approaches with interesting similarities and differences....





time after star formation [yr]





time after star formation [yr]



Figure 1: Density evolution in a 180 AU region around the first protostar, showing the build-up of the protostellar disk and its eventual fragmentation. The prominent two-arm spiral structure is caused by the gravitational instability in the disk, and the resulting gravitational torques provide the main source of angular momentum transport that allows disk material to accrete onto the protostar. Eventually, as mass continues to pour onto the disk from the in-falling envelope, the disk becomes so unstable that regions in the spiral arms become self-gravitating in their own right: the disk fragments and a multiple system is formed. The color table is stretched over number densities ranging from  $10^{11}$  (dark blue) to  $10^{16}$  cm<sup>-3</sup> (red).

SPH study: face on look at accretion disk



Figure 2: Radial profiles of the disk's physical properties, centered on the first protostellar core to form. The quantities are mass-weighted and taken from a slice through the midplane of the disk. In the lower right-hand plot we show the radial distribution of the disk's Toomre parameter,  $Q = c_s \kappa / \pi G \Sigma$ , where  $c_s$  is the sound speed and  $\kappa$  is the epicyclic frequency. Since our disk is Keplerian, we adopt the standard simplification, and replace  $\kappa$  with the orbital frequency.



Figure 3: Mass transfer through the disk and in-falling envelope as a function of radius from

the central protostar at the onset of disk fragmentation. In the case of the disk we have denoted annuli that are moving towards the protostar with blue dots, and those moving away in pink. The light blue dashed lines show the accretion rates expected from an 'alpha' (thin) disk model, where  $\dot{M}(r) = 3 \pi \alpha c_s(r) \Sigma(r) H(r)$ , with two global values of alpha and where  $c_s(r)$ ,  $\Sigma(r)$ , and H(r) are (respectively) the sound speed, surface density and disk thickness at radius r.

SPH study: mass accretion onto disk

and onto protostars

### Arepo study: surface density at different times



one out of five halos





# Arepo study: protostellar mass accretion rates



Arepo study: mass spectrum of fragments

# primordial star formation



- first star formation is not less complex than presentday star formation
- Solutions for the second stars for the systems for the systems in the systems is the systems in the systems in the systems in the systems is the systems in the systems is the systems in the systems in
- Seven braver claim: some Pop III stars fall in the mass range < 0.5 M<sub>☉</sub> ---> they should still be around!!!!

# questions

- is claim of Pop III stars with  $M \sim 0.5 M_{\odot}$  really justified?
  - stellar collisions
  - magnetic fields
  - radiative feedback
- how would we find them?
  - spectral features
- where should we look?
- what about magnetic fields?





decreasing spatial scales

# B fields in the early universe?

- we know the universe is magnetized (now)
- knowledge about B-fields in the high-redshift universe is extremely uncertain
  - inflation / QCD phase transition / Biermann battery / Weibel instability
- they are thought to be extremely small
- however, THIS MAY BE WRONG!

# small-scale turbulent dynamo

- *idea*: the small-scale turbulent dynamo can generate strong magnetic fields from very small seed fields
- approach: model collapse of primordial gas ---> formation of the first stars in low-mass halo at redshift z ~ 20
- method: solve ideal MHD equations with very high resolution
  - grid-based AMR code FLASH (effective resolution 65536<sup>3</sup>)



magnetic field structure

density structure





## Field amplification during first collapse seems unavoidable.

### QUESTIONS:

- Is it really the small scale dynamo?
- What is the saturation value? Can the field reach dynamically important strength?

### analysis of magnetic field spectra

P(B)



### analysis of magnetic field spectra



first attempts to calculate the saturation level.



### We seem to get a saturation level of $\sim 10\%$

- QUESTIONS: Is this true in a proper cosmological context?
  - What does it mean for the formation of the first stars

# questions

- small-scale turbulent dynamo is expected to operate during Pop III star formation
- simple models indicate saturation levels of ~10%
  --> larger values via αΩ dynamo?
- QUESTIONS:
  - does this hold for "proper" halo calculations (with chemistry and cosmological context)?
  - what is the strength of the seed magnetic field?



decreasing spatial scales



## summary

### decreasing spatial scales

Accretion onto disk galaxies: Can we see this accretion? Can we see the mass flow through the galaxy?

High-mass star formation: What set upper stellar mass limit? Can we see UC HII regions flicker?



First star formation: Are there still Pop III stars around? How can we see them? And where?

Magnetic fields in the primordial universe: Is there a minimum primordial field? What is the influence of B on Pop III star?



present days

early universe