Zooming in: Magnetized Disk in the High-Mass System W51 e2

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Zooming in on Star Formation: Nafplio; June 13, 2019

B-field Measurements in W51

- W51 high-mass SF site at $d_{\sim}5.4$ kpc
- several UCHII regions and infalling signatures detected (e.g. Zhang+98)
- chemically rich (Ginsburg+2017)
- elongated structure, with B-field mostly perpendicular (BIMA, $\theta \sim 3''$, Lai+2001)
- SMA observations: resolved B-field in cores with $\theta \sim 0.7''$ (Tang+2009)





Lai+2001

W51 e2/e8 with BIMA and SMA

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W51 North with CSO and SMA



(Tang+2013)

- clearly varying B-field structure as a function of scale
- channeling from North and South towards mid-plane
- denser cores in mid-plane along east-west direction

First ALMA Polarization Observations towards W51



ALMA cycle 2/3 (230 GHz (B6), θ ~ 0.26"~ 5 mpc; Koch+2018)

ol. percentages ~ 0.1 - 10%; sensitivities 1mJy/b in Stokes I, 0.1 mJy/b in Q,U

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Magnetic Field Convergence Zones



Gravity vs Magnetic Field

- *How important is the magnetic field in e2-E, e2-W and e2-NW ?*
- In which cores can it still slow down gravitational infall ?
- Where is the field already overwhelmed by gravity, and might there be even local differences within the same core?



sin ω quantifies B-field effectiveness to oppose gravity

(Koch+2018)

Magnetic Convergence Zones and Star Formation Efficiency



 sinw, in the range between 0 and 1, measures how effectively the B-field can oppose gravity.

sinw~0: gravity/collapse proceeds freely

sinω~1: B-field works maximally against gravity, holding back material

 W51 e2: network of narrow magnetic convergence zones (blue / black) with sinω~0

- <u>consequence for star formation efficiency?</u>

- \cdot assume ~ 2" diameter sphere
- \cdot ~0.15" converging channel, ~10 channels
- 1 channel ~ 0.4% of entire mass (volume); if only mass within channels takes part in star-formation process: star-formation efficiency reduced to ~ 4% for W51 e2

Convergence Zones, Magnetic Channelling and Star Formation Efficiency



Magnetic Field Structures over 3 Relevant Scales



Magnetic Field Structures over 3 Relevant Scales



location+initial scale of

forming core

gravitational drag towards

global collapsing core



- competition gravity vs
 B-field in global collapse
- map of local field strength

local collapse convergence in core

0.3

0.2

0.1

-2

Dec. offset [arcsec]

0

2

1

-0.5

$\sin \omega$ measure

-0

R.A. offset [arcsec]

 identification of local collapse feature

Koch+2018

-1

 diversified role of gravity and B-field within core

more on Local Collapse within Larger Global Collapse





- compressed morphology
- straightened, opened field lines towards more massive neighbor
- gravitational bending
- dragged-in morphology

*local collapse vs pull to next bigger grav. center: reflected in sin*ω

What is happening on even smaller scales ?



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B-field (0.26")



– B-field mapping convergence zones

B-field (0.26") + continuum (0.1")



– B-field mapping convergence zones

 accretion network in higher resolution continuum falling onto convergence zones

B-field (0.26") + continuum (0.1")

0

continuum (0.1")



- B-field mapping convergence zones

 accretion network in higher resolution continuum falling onto convergence zones

emerging network of accreting fibers

B-field (0.26") + continuum (0.1")

continuum (0.1") + B-field (0.1")



emerging network of accreting fibers
B-field at higher resolution aligned with accreting fibers

B-field mapping convergence zones

 accretion network in higher resolution continuum falling onto convergence zones

Center of e2: an Emerging Magnetized Pseudo-Disk ?

<u>2 striking features:</u>

 outer straight field lines, rotated by 90 degrees in adjacent quadrants

– *B-field "disk morphology" in center*

(Koch+2019)

Center of e2: an Emerging Magnetized Pseudo-Disk



rotation in ionized accretion flow traced in H53a recombination line

(Keto & Klaassen 2008)

(Koch+2019)







W51 e2 High-Mass

L1448 IRS2 Protostellar System



W51 e2 from pc-scale envelope to 1000 AU-scale pseudo-disk



Conclusions

- role of the magnetic field is variable: over scale AND in location; i.e., assessing based on small, limited area (detection) is incomplete
- role of the magnetic field is variable, hence analysis tools need to be adjusted, optimized and developed accordingly
- 3 specific, clearly different, physically relevant scales in W51: envelope to core — global collapsing core — local collapse and convergence
- ALMA 0.1" scale (physical resolution: a few mpc) in W51: straightened field structures, rapid change on most inner few mpc, magnetized pseudo-disk structure (self-) similar to smaller protostellar system, B-field aligned with fibres providing stability against radial collapse