

Magnetic fields in the ISM: from galaxies to stars Daniel Price (MoCA)

B_{pos}

Are magnetic fields important?

 $\left(\frac{M}{\Phi}\right) / \left(\frac{M}{\Phi}\right)_{crit}$

Magnetic fields vs. gravity

 $\beta = \frac{c_s^2 \rho}{\frac{1}{2} B^2 / \mu_0}$

Magnetic fields vs. pressure

 v_{turb} v_{Alfven}

Magnetic fields vs. turbulence

Are magnetic fields important in the ISM?

SUBCRITICAL

SUPERCRITICAL

	super- Alfvenic	sub- Alfvenic		super- Alfvenic	sub- Alfvenic
beta < 1	CNM, Warm ISM		beta < 1	cores GMCs?	
beta > 1			beta > 1		

refs: Crutcher (1999), Bourke et al. (2001), Heiles & Troland (2004)







Provided cold gas is present, get random field of similar magnitude to ordered component



Figure 6. The volume averaged random and ordered components of the magnetic field are plotted against azimuth for the models with cold gas for the strongest magnetic field ($\beta = 0.1$, top) and when the magnetic and thermal pressure are equal ($\beta = 1$, lower). The corresponding time is 200 Myr. The magnetic field has a comparatively more ordered field when the field is stronger.

SIMULATING MAGNETIC FIELDS IN THE ANTENNAE GALAXIES

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FIG. 1.— Total synchrotron emission (contours) and magnetic field vectors of polarized intensity at 4.86 GHz based on VLA data (yellow), overlaid on a DSS image (blue - white background) (Digitized Sky Survey, Palomar and UK Schmidt telescopes). The contour levels are 0.005, 0.12, 0.30, 0.53, 1.2, 2.1, 3.3, 5.3, 9.0, 17 and 24 mJy/beam-area. The resolution is $17" \times 14"$. Credit: Chyzy (2005)



FIG. 14.— Inner region (innermost 28 kpc) of the simulated Antennae system. Colors correspond to the stellar surface density (in units of $10^{-5} M_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2}$), overlaid with contours of total synchrotron power. The contour levels are 0.005, 0.12, 0.30, 0.53, 1.2, 2.1, 3.3, 5.3, 9.0, 17 and 24 mJy. Magnetic field lines derived from calculations of polarization are shown in black. The simulated systems compares very well to the observed system (Fig. 1).

Galactic ménage à trois: Simulating magnetic fields in colliding galaxies

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"The magnetic field in the system saturates rapidly after the mergers at ~ 10⁻⁶ G within the galaxies"



Figure 11. $B_{\rm rms} = \sqrt{\langle B^2 \rangle}$ as a function of time for the G6-IGM9 scenario (blue lines), the G9-IGM9 scenario (red lines), and the G9-IGM12 scenario (black lines). We separately show the IGM values (dotted lines) and the values inside the galaxies (solid lines). We distinguish between the IGM and the galaxies applying a density threshold of 10^{-29} g cm⁻³. The final values for the galactic and the IGM magnetic field, respectively, are the same within all scenarios.



Orion









what do magnetic fields change about the star formation process?

Magnetic fields in star cluster formation

Price & Bate (2008)



Magnetised version of Bate, Bonnell & Bromm (2003)

◆ 50 solar mass cloud
◆ diameter 0.375 pc, n_{H2} = 3.7 x 10⁴
◆ initial uniform B field
◆ T=10K
◆ turbulent velocity field P(k)∝k⁻⁴

- RMS Mach number 6.7
- barotropic equation of state

vary magnetic field strength...















Taurus

"Magnetically aligned velocity anisotropy" (Heyer et al. 2008)

Goldsmith, Heyer, Brunt et al. (2007)

Riegel-Crutcher Cloud (McClure-Griffiths et al. 2006)



FIG. 6.—H I image of the R-C cloud at v = 4.95 km s⁻¹ overlaid with vectors of stellar polarization from Heiles (2000). The measured polarization vectors are aligned with the magnetic field direction. The length of the vectors is proportional to the measured fractional polarized intensity, with the scale given by the 5% fractional polarized intensity vector shown by the scale of the vector in the bottom left corner.

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...seeing the first core a key target of ALMA

DETECTION OF A BIPOLAR MOLECULAR OUTFLOW DRIVEN BY A CANDIDATE FIRST HYDROSTATIC CORE

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~1 solar mass core

The outflow is slow (characteristic velocity of 2.9 km s–1), shows a jet-like morphology (opening semi-angles $\sim 8 \circ$ for both lobes), and extends to the edges of the primary beam.

 12 CO J = 2–1 emission integrated from 0.3 to 7.3 km s⁻¹, while the red contours show redshifted emission integrated from 7.3 to 14.3 km s⁻¹. The solid blue



Price, Tricco & Bate (2012)





Summary

- can perhaps explain magnetic fields in galaxies by purely dynamical effects
- magnetic fields important as a source of pressure in ISM
- magnetic fields affect molecular cloud structure and dynamics, perhaps controlling star formation rate/efficiency even in turbulent clouds
- magnetic fields produce some of the most beautiful phenomena in astrophysics!