



The role of radiative triggering for star-formation

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Page 1

Is star-formation significantly triggered?

- dynamic impact from winds and outflows
- → dispersion → prevents SF
- → compression → triggers SF
- UV radiation heats the gas
- → temperature/pressure increase
 → prevents SF
- UV radiation dissociates the gas
- change of chemical structure
- → remove cooling agents → prevents SF
- → create cooling agents → triggers SF



Pillars in Rosette (HOBYS team: Motte et al. 2010)

Total net effect ?



Observational evidence

Clear indication of sequential star formation:

- Example: Cep B
- Age gradient of b [°] stars towards Cep B 2.







Observational evidence

Sequential star-formation in Cep B:



Cep B structure (Moreno-Corral et al. 1993)

2 embedded HII regions (Testi et al. 1995)



Radiative impact: what do we expect?

Theory:

- Radiation pressure
- Thermal pressure of heated gas →
 - Ionization and photo-chemistry
 - → Photon-dominated regions (PDRs)
 - Compression of clouds
 - Dispersion





Radiative impact: what do we expect?

Dynamics:

- Photo-evaporation of PDRs \rightarrow flow of ionized material
- High pressure zone at PDR surface \rightarrow cloud compression
 - \rightarrow shock fronts
- Ionization front "eats" into molecular cloud
- \rightarrow pillar formation

Unknowns:

- Advection flows
- Impact of turbulence

3-D MHD model by Henney et al. (2009)



Observational verification

Look for characteristic velocity flow patterns of triggered collapse

Chemical structure has to be taken into account, but can be exploited







Example 1: Rosette



PACS/SPIRE map of Rosette (Motte et al. 2010, Schneider et al. 2010)

Investigation of individual pillars: Region 1+2



Page 8

Rosette



Region 1 - high resolution:

- High density pillars
 - Temperature low from better cooling, heating only at surface
 - No SF in pillars
- (Schneider et al. 2010)







Rosette

Region 1+2 - cuts through pillars to trace velocity structure:

Position-velocity diagrams

2 interfaces:



[CII] (contour) on CO 9-8 (color)



2 separate velocity components, i.e. 4 instead of 2 surfaces

- CO only from dense gas
- No detection of a systematic flow





(Moreno-Corral et al. 1993)

CO 11-10 (black contours) over ¹³CO 1-0 (colors) (Mookerjea et al. 2012)

50

0

-50

100

CO 11-10 (black contours) over [CII] (colors)

10^s α (J2000) /"

22^h57^m20^s

Embedded UC-HII-region • heats surrounding gas

-120

induces photon-dominated chemistry → trigger of SF?

-100

62°35'00'

00^s

Example: Cep B

Does the embedded HII-region compress/disperse the surrounding gas?



- Global velocity gradient changed around HII region
- No large-scale impact



Velocity structure:



Ablating wind from S155 external HII region

150

100

50

Dense gas not affected by radiation

Volker Ossenkopf Heidelberg, Dec 4, 2013



Page 13

Example: Cep B

Is there more star-formation at high radiation fields?

- → How to trace the spatial distribution of star-formation?
 - Look for high densities
 - → Column density PDFs
 - → Look for small structures
 - → Δ-variance
 - Infall/outflow signatures
 - Velocity structure analysis

Rosette:

Extinction map from Herschel observations (Motte et al. 2010, Schneider et al. 2011)

Statistical approach





Column density PDFs



High column density excess from gravitational collapse

- strongest in center region (3),
- weaker in PDR regions (1) and (2)



Analysis of significant scales

Column densities in Rosette:



• Main ridge in center forms dominant structure

• No small-scale enhancement at PDR interfaces

Δ-variance spectra:

 Gravitational collapse enhances small-scale structures





Mach number derived from loc velocity dispersion (Csengeri et al. 2013)

The velocity structure



- Very localized line broadening at PDR surface
 - Affects little gas volume
- Main line broadening from ongoing SF activity in center region



Summary

- The layering of species in PDRs is quantitatively understood
- Pressure jump at the surface confirmed
 - But no detection of radiative core compression
- UV creates local heating and streams
 - Low-density gas is dynamically affected by UV radiation
 - But no large-scale collapse
 - Significant dispersion of gas
- Triggered SF around HII regions only in favourable conditions
 - Pillar formation rarely means star-formation triggering
- Statistically, we find no significant radiative triggering of star-formation on global scales.
- In contrast, sequential star formation is common.
 - Natural outcome of filament formation in titled colliding flows

