Unstuck in the middle with you: intermediate-mass stars are the missing link in star formation

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Image courtesy: Baytop Observatory

Herbig Ae/Be stars (~2-10 M<sub>sun</sub>) sample conditions intermediate between low- and high-mass stars.

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Hogerheijde 1998, after Shu et al. 1987 Herbig Ae/Be stars (~2-10 M<sub>sun</sub>) sample conditions intermediate between low- and high-mass stars.



#### Transition?

Disk geometry – Vink et al. 2002, 2005 Magnetic fields – Wade et al. 2007, Alecian et al. 2013 Accretion physics - Donehew & Brittain 2011, Cauley & Johns-Krull 2014 Necessary elements of magnetospheric accretion may not exist in higher-mass stars.





Hartmann, Herczeg, & Calvet (2016)

# Necessary elements of magnetospheric accretion may not exist in higher-mass stars.



# Few Herbig Ae/Be stars have detectable magnetic fields.



Alecian et al. (2013b)



## Magnetic Herbig Ae/Be stars show a mix of line profile morphologies.



Magnetic Herbig Ae/Bes are slow rotators – do line profiles provide indirect evidence of B-field?



Alecian et al. (2013a)

#### Slow rotators **not** more likely to show redshifted absorption...



Reiter et al., ApJ, submitted

#### Slow rotators **not** more likely to show redshifted absorption... even when corrected for inclination.



Reiter et al., ApJ, submitted

#### Line profile morphology does not correlate with any stellar parameter.



#### For magnetospheric accretion, redshifted absorption is only visible from some inclinations.



#### No clear dependence of line profile morphology on inclination (although small numbers).



Reiter et al., ApJ, submitted

## Magnetic fields preferentially detected in sources seen closer to pole-on.



Reiter et al., ApJ, submitted

# Magnetic fields only detected from some viewing angles.



dominant dipole

higher-order field

#### Circular polarization $\rightarrow$ indicates ordered field



Zeeman broadening → field strength

BP Tau from Gregory et al. (2008)

Alecian et al. (2013b)

# Magnetic fields only detected from some viewing angles.



Alecian et al. (2013b)

### Magnetic field strength and topology evolve as star moves in HR diagram.



#### Models needed to test magnetospheric accretion via weaker, higher-order field components.



1.4 V1578 Cyg 1.4 BD+41 373 B5 A1 1.2 1.2 1 ( 0.8 0.8 0 O 0.6 -200 200 400 -400 -200 200 -400 0 0 400 MWC 480 1.6 Α4 1.4 HD 34282 A3 1.4 1.2 1.2 1.0 0.8 0.8 0.6 PC IPC 0.4 0.6 -200 -400 -200 -400 0 200 400 0 200 400 HD 36917 B9 HD 37258 A1 1.2 1.2 1.1 1.0 100.9 0.8 0.8 IPC О 07 -200 200 400 -200 200 -400 0 -400 0 400 1.4 HD 50083 1.2 HD 38238 A6 B4 1.1 1.2 1.0 0.9 0.8 O 08 IPC -200 0 200 400 -200 200 400 -400 -400 0

BP Tau from Gregory et al. (2008) cartoon from Hartmann et al. (2016)

Reiter et al., ApJ, submitted

# Line profiles unaffected by the magnetic field.

- Line profiles not different between magnetic and nonmagnetic Herbig Ae/Be stars.
- No correlation between stellar parameters and line profiles.
- Possible selection bias magnetic fields only detected in sources view pole-on?

