A NIKA study of two high-mass IRDCs: β variations and mass concentration

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Rigby et al. (2017, in prep)



- Operational: 2014 2015 at IRAM 30-m in Spain.
- Dual band for simultaneous observing at 1.2 mm (260 GHz) and 2.0 mm (150 GHz) observing
- High angular resolution: 12.0" @ 1.2 mm, 18.2" @ 2.0 mm
- 1.8' field of view
- Pathfinder for...





IRAM 30-m telescope, Pico Veleta, Spain



- Installed September 2015, commissioned 2017
- Now open to the community.
- 2 x 1 mm (260 GHz) and 1 x 2 mm (150 GHz) arrays.
- Polarisation at 1 mm (see Alessia Ritacco's talk)
- 6.5' field of view

Background

 Thermal dust continuum emission is often described using a modified black body model where the dust emissivity spectral index, β, is an indirect probe of the dust grain population:

$$I_{\nu} = N_{\mathrm{H}_2} \mu_{\mathrm{H}_2} m_{\mathrm{H}} \kappa_0 \left(\frac{\nu}{\nu_0}\right)^{\beta} B_{\nu}(T_\mathrm{d})$$

- Its value depends on dust grain **size** distribution (and therefore the formation of ice mantles and subsequent coagulation), **composition** and **structure**...
- ...and is expected to change as a function of temperature (e.g. Agladze+96, Mennella +98, Boudet+05) or in shocked regions (e.g. Gueth+03) and therefore environment.
- Often **assumed** to have a **single value** across whole populations of dust clumps.
- A well-documented degeneracy exists between T_d and β when fitting *Herschel* data with moderate amounts of noise: **long-wavelength data** is **key** to constraining β e.g. Sadavoy et al. (2013) →



Recent results with NIKA:

[MJy/sr]



- Bracco et al. (2017) study low-mass cores in the Taurus B213 filament (d ~ 140 pc).
- Abel-inversion technique to simultaneously determine column density and T_d profiles from *Herschel* 160, 250 & 350 μ m data.
- Constrain β using the ratio of 1.2 mm to 2.0 mm intensity with NIKA
 - Decreasing β profiles found towards the centre of two protostellar cores, reaching ~1.0 & 1.5.
 - β 2.4 and constant in the pre-stellar core.
 - T_d β anti-correlation found: decreasing β due to grain growth & dust temperature effects.



NIKA observations



SDC18 (I=18.888°, b=-0.476°): d = 4.4 kpc, field size = 8.6 pc



SDC24 (I=24.489°, b=-0.689°): d = 3.3 kpc, field size = 6.4 pc

Creating maps of β

Method:

1. Convolve 1.2 mm and 2.0 mm images to a common resolution of 20".

2. Create map of their intensity ratios

3. Convert β using some model for the dust temperature

$$\beta = \ln \left(\frac{I_1}{I_2} \frac{B_2(T_d)}{B_1(T_d)} \right) \times \left[\ln \left(\frac{\nu_1}{\nu_2} \right) \right]^{-1}$$

Note: take care with artificial features...



A significant fraction of the power in the NIKA beam is contained in non-Gaussian sidelobes.



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Generate average PSFs from three Uranus beam maps at 1 mm & 2 mm.

 \Rightarrow Create (circularly-averaged) convolution

kernel to account for sidelobes using Python photutils/psf.

(e.g. Gordon+08, Aniano+11, Pattle+15, http://dirty.as.arizona.edu/~kgordon/mips/ conv_psfs/conv_psfs.html)



β Maps



Assuming a global temperature for each cloud, derived by SED fitting. Black contours: SNR 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, ...

Green contours: SNR > 25 corresponding to $\Delta\beta$ <0.1 resulting from noise

Radial variations in $\boldsymbol{\beta}$



SDC18

SDC24

Profiles:

Measure mean β in annulae centred on 1 mm emission peaks.

Shaded regions: σ in each annulus

Error bars: Including systematics (calibration errors, ΔT_d , ...)

SDC18: $\beta = 2.08 \pm 0.09$ (random) ± 0.25 (systematic) **SDC24**: $\beta = 1.70 \pm 0.09$ (random) ± 0.25 (systematic) \Rightarrow No significant radial trend, but significant differences between IRDCs

Radial variations in β



To what extent is the profile governed by the assumption of a single dust temperature?

- Single temperature derived from aperture photometry and SED fits
- Temperature map derived from 160/250 μ m ratio, requires β = 1.8), 20" res.
- \star 4-point SED fit with Herschel 160, 250, 350 & 500 µm, fixed β = 1.8, 40" res.
- × 4-point SED fit, free β , 40" res.

SDC24

Mass concentration

We create column density maps at different resolutions (assuming fixed β we have determined):

- 40": 4-point SED fit (2 d.o.f.)
- 27": 3-point SED fit (1 d.o.f.)
- 20": 250 μm intensity, T from 160/250 μm ratio.
- 13": 1 mm intensity, & previous T map (at 20").

and combine following Hill et al. (2012) and Palmerim et al. (2013) to maintain information at different spatial scales:

$$\begin{split} f_{H_2}^{l-s} &= \widetilde{N}_{H_2}^s - \widetilde{N}_{H_2}^s * G_l, \\ N_{H_2}^{13^{\prime\prime}} &= N_{H_2}^{40^{\prime\prime}} + f_{H_2}^{40^{\prime\prime}-27^{\prime\prime}} + f_{H_2}^{27^{\prime\prime}-20^{\prime\prime}} + f_{H_2}^{20^{\prime\prime}-13^{\prime\prime}} \end{split}$$

e.g. at 27" we add the 27" column density map to that at 40" and subtract a residual 27" smoothed to 40" map.



Mass concentration

SDC18 has a mass of 6620 \pm 820 Mo within R_{eff} = 1.54 pc

SDC24 has a mass of 590 \pm 120 Mo within R_{eff} = 0.85 pc





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 \Rightarrow Dendrogram analysis





Although SDC18 is more massive, mass in SDC24 is *more concentrated*:

Initial conditions or evolution?

70 micron luminosity may reveal clues. L₇₀/M similar in both, indicating no significant difference in evolutionary state.

No evidence of a rich stellar cluster yet in SDC24.

Caveat: a change in SFE?

Probably relating to initial conditions.

GASTON: Galactic Star Formation with NIKA2



Summary & conclusions

- We have created maps of β , the dust emissivity spectral index, from the ratio of 1.2/2.0 mm emission (assuming a single dust temperature).
- No significant systematic radial variations detected in our data, though we are only able to probe to 2 beam radii before noise dominates.
- Different β values in SDC18 and SDC24 arising from different environments.
- Absolute values uncertain: $\Delta\beta \sim 0.25$, limited by the calibration uncertainties
- Mass concentration greater in SDC24 than SDC18, possibly as a result of the more spherical initial state. Global collapse is more rapid than fragmentation in SDC24.

Perspectives for GASTON:

- Absolute β values limited as discussed above, use *Planck* to calibrate?
- GASTON will be more sensitive than these NIKA observations, expecting to reach ~1.2 & 1.5 mJy/beam at 1 & 2mm, in its HMSF field, though a separate field in Taurus and Ophiuchus is planned. A larger statistical sample to follow.
- Expansion of the mass concentration study.

Rigby et al. (2017, in prep)