How cosmic rays shape a protostar: How cosmic rays effect the evolution of the magnetic field

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Cosmic rays: The salt of the star formation recipe Arcetri, Florence, Italy

May 2, 2018











Magnetic fields in molecular clouds

Strong field; large scale structure



Density (rendered) + Magnetic field lines Ideal MHD. Left: Typical initial conditions in numerical simulations. Right: at $\rho_{max} = 10^{-9} g^2 cm^{-3}$

Magnetic fields in molecular clouds

Strong field; small scale structure



Non-ideal MHD processes:

- Ohmic resistivity (diffusive)
- Ambipolar diffusion (diffusive)
- Hall effect (dispersive)

• Non-ideal magnetohydrodynamics

Simplistic view: assumes only ions and electrons (i.e. no dust grains):



Adapted from Wardle (2007)

Image credit: Tsukamoto et al (2017); see also: Braiding & Wardle (2012a,b)

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• Non-ideal magnetohydrodynamics



Wurster (2016):NICIL

Marchand+(2016)



For typical initial conditions in numerical simulations:



Wurster, Bate & Price (2018b)

Collapse to stellar densities: Evolution of the density



Wurster, Bate & Price (2018a). Video available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CgErHuWdcPw&t=8s

First hydrostatic core: Density



First hydrostatic core: Radial outflows



First hydrostatic core: Disc formation



≻For disc formation, a realistic cosmic ray ionisation rate is as important as the Hall effect (and initial magnetic field geometry)

Wurster, Bate & Price (2018a, in prep)

Stellar core: Density



Stellar core: Radial outflows



Core evolution





Conclusions

Modelled the collapse of a strongly magnetised molecular cloud core through the first core to stellar densities; included Ohmic resistivity, ambipolar diffusion, the Hall effect
Varied the cosmic ray ionisation rate, while keeping the chemistry the same

Decreasing the cosmic ionisation rate increases the lifetime of the first hydrostatic core
The first and second hydrostatic cores become thermally ionised, but the accreting material is still only ionised by cosmic rays

The first core outflows are suppressed for realistic cosmic ray ionisation rates and anti-aligned magnetic and rotation vectors

≻Large, gravitationally unstable discs form only for realistic cosmic ray ionisation rates and antialigned magnetic and rotation vectors

>The second core outflow is suppressed at low cosmic ray ionisation rates

