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### Formation of Star-Planet Systems

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## Molecular Clouds: Cradles of Stars



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#### Molecular Clouds: M~10<sup>3</sup>-10<sup>6</sup> M<sub>sun</sub> ; n ~100cm<sup>-3</sup>; T~10K

#### **Molecular Cloud Cores**



Taurus molecular cloud (<sup>13</sup>CO observation)

Mizuno+ (1995)

- molecular cloud  $(10^{4-6}M_{sun}; >10^{2}cm^{-3})$
- molecular cloud core (1-10M<sub>sun</sub>; >10<sup>4</sup>cm<sup>-3</sup>) =direct progenitor of a single /binary star(s).

# Standard scenario of low-mass star formation

#### Established in 1980's

Shu, Adams & Lizano (1987)



A. Dense cores form within molecular clouds.



C. A stellar wind breaks out, creating a bipolar flow



B. A protostar forms at the center of a core, growing in mass by accretion of ambient matter.



D. The infall terminates, revealing a newly formed star with a disk.



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## Molecular clouds in galaxies



- Molecular clouds (MCs) are distributed mainly along the spiral arms.
- MCs are presumably formed by gravitational instability due to compression by the spiral wave.

#### **Basics of Gravitational Instability**

## Gravitational instability



Unstable if

Jeans criterion

$$k < k_J = \sqrt{4\pi G\rho} / c_s$$
  

$$\lambda > \lambda_J = 2\pi / k_J = c_s \sqrt{\pi/G\rho}$$
  

$$M > M_J = \rho \lambda_J^3 = \pi^{3/2} G^{-3/2} \rho^{-1/2} c_s^3$$

Linear perturbation of homogeneous gas



## Problem of Jeans' analysis

max. growing mode k=0
 Global contraction of the cloud

$$(gravity) \sim \frac{GM}{L^2} \sim G\rho L$$
  
 $(pressure) \sim \frac{P}{\rho L} \sim \frac{cs^2}{L}$ 

 In larger scale, gravity becomes more and more important and so the collapse is faster.

#### This does not lead to fragmentation



#### Gravitational instability of sheets and filaments



- Perturbation with wavelength ~H grows fastest k<sub>max</sub>~1/H~k<sub>J</sub>
- •Fragmentation into Jeans scale pieces



#### From a molecular cloud to stars

#### **Omnipresence of Filaments in MC**



 Gravitationally bound cores form only in unstable filaments.

Andre et al. 2011

## core mass function (CMF) and stellar initial mass function (IMF)



Mass distribution of dense cores resembles that of stars at their birth.

Fragmentation appears to set both CMF and IMF.

Andre et al. 2011

## Gravitational collapse of dense cores and birth of protostars



• Molecular cloud core

=self-similar dynamical collapse $\Rightarrow$ 

• Formation of the first core @10<sup>11</sup>cm<sup>-3</sup>

=dynamical collapse by  $H_2$  dissociation  $\Rightarrow$ 

Formation of the second core (=protostar)@10<sup>22</sup>cm<sup>-3</sup>

## Accretion evolution of a protostar



B. A protostar forms at the center of a core, growing in mass by accretion of ambient matter.



C. A stellar wind breaks out, creating a bipolar flow



D. The infall terminates, revealing a newly formed star with a disk.



- •The protostar grows in mass by accretion.
- •The mass of the star is fixed when the accretion terminates.
- •A circumstellar disk remains for a while → the formation site of planets.

Inutsuka + 2010

#### Standard scenario of Solar system formation : Kyoto Model



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#### Summary Big picture for the birth of star-planet systems

- Molecular clouds have filamentary structures.
- Filamentary clouds fragment to produce dense cores.
- A dense core collapses gravitationally to form a single/binary star system.
- The disks surrounding the stars eventually evolve to planetary systems.

Ward-Thompson & Whitworth 2011