Spectroscopy of Massive Protostars in Cygnus X

Joseph L. Hora SCTF Teletalk

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Cygnus-X SOFIA Project Team

- CfA:
 - Joseph Hora (P.I.)
 - Howard Smith
 - Giovanni Fazio
 - Eric Keto
- Xavier Koenig (Yale)
- Sylvain Bontemps (Obs. Bordeaux)
- Nicola Schneider (CEA/Saclay)
- Frédérique Motte (CEA/Saclay)

- Kathleen Kraemer (Boston Univ)
- Tom Megeath (Univ. of Toledo)
- Rob Gutermuth (Smith College)
- Joseph Adams (Cornell)
- Sean Carey (Spitzer SC)
- Robert Simon (Univ. Cologne)
- Lori Allen (NOAO)

What is Cygnus X?

Cygnus X

Planck all-sky image (350 µm - 10 mm)

- Cygnus X is one of the brightest regions of the sky at all wavelengths, prominent in early radio and IR surveys
- It is one of the richest known star formation regions in the Galaxy, and the closest one of this size (1.4 kpc)
- Cygnus X is a ~150pc diameter massive star-forming complex ($3 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$, 10x larger than Orion)

The Spitzer Cygnus X Survey

Large (~25 sq. deg) unbiased survey of massive star-forming region

We have discovered over 28000 new Young Stellar Object (YSO) candidates

Now using MMT, SMA, Herschel, SOFIA to investigate YSOs 6°

The Cygnus-X Legacy Survey

- Used Spitzer/IRAC and MIPS instruments to survey ~25 square degrees in the Cygnus-X region from 3 – 70 µm
- Survey is ~10x more sensitive than Spitzer observations in GLIMPSE survey (3x12s HDR coverage)
- ~4 million sources detected in the survey
- Mosaics and point source catalog are now on IRSA
- We have discovered many young stellar object candidates (YSOs)
 - 1200 deeply embedded objects,
 - 2600 Class I (YSOs with envelopes)
 - 24000 Class II (YSOs with disks)

Team web site: http://www.cfa.harvard.edu/cygnusX

Some Highlights in Cygnus X

AFGL 2636

DR 22



Lynds 896

DR 15







Multiple Generations of Star Formation in AFGL 2636

Class III

- B stars identified with FAST spectra
- Clusters of YSO candidates
- In cavity, Class II objects in central region, Class I objects in rim of compressed material
- Near IRDC, Class I objects forming in filaments, Class II YSOs in more dispersed cluster
- Now using MMT and IR spectroscopy to classify YSOs, determine ages and masses, cluster mass function



Infrared Dark Clouds in Cygnus-X

- 42 complexes contain most of the ~1200 cloud fragments
- 13 large cloud complexes
- Youngest YSOs are located in densest parts of IRDCs
- Star formation is possibly being triggered by effects of massive stars





Infrared Dark Clouds are sites of current star formation



Infrared Dark Clouds are sites of current star formation

1.2mm Continuum mapping of Cygnus-X (Motte et al. 2007)

- Found 129 cores, ~40 identified as high-mass stellar precursors
- About 2/3 are "IR-quiet" (MSX) cores; massive (≥40 M_☉), molecular outflows common
- Many sources located in dark clouds and filaments



1.2mm Continuum mapping of Cygnus-X (Motte et al. 2007)



α (2000)











1.2mm Continuum mapping of Cygnus-X (Motte et al. 2007)





Spitzer IRS Spectroscopy of Cygnus X Star Formation (Segura-Cox et al. 2013)

Features detected include PAHs, silicate and CO_2 absorption, and emission lines of H₂, [Ne II], [Ne III], [S III]





YSO SED Fitting



SOFIA/FORCAST CygX Program

- We proposed to use FORCAST to obtain 5-40 µm spectra of a sample of massive stars in the Cygnus-X region
 - Sample is selected from IR-bright and previously detected (Motte et al. 2007) mm continuum sources
 - Contain objects with a range of masses and at various stages of evolution
- These data along with Spitzer/IRS sample will enable us to determine how the properties of the massive stars change as they evolve towards the main sequence

SOFIA/FORCAST CygX Program

- YSO model fitting of SED
- Use emission lines if present, e.g. [Ne II], [S IV], to determine the exciting star's temperature
- PAH feature ratios will provide information on relative grain sizes and ionization fraction
- Continuum emission and silicate absorption depth can provide model constraints to estimate
 - masses of the gas and dust
 - the column densities of the absorbing material
 - luminosities of the objects



FORCAST Source List

			MSX	
			$21 \mu\mathrm{m} \mathrm{flux}^1$	
Object ¹	RA	Dec	(Jy)	Other name(s)
N46	20:39:01.25	+42:19:53.8	272	DR21
N58	20:39:25.88	+41:20:01.8	634	IRAS20375+4109
S28	20:29:36.70	+39:01:21.0	204	IRAS20277+3851
NW1	20:19:39.27	+40:56:36.4	401	IRAS20178+4046
S18	20:27:26.85	+37:22:52.9	414	S106-IR

¹Motte et al. 2007

SOFIA Project Status

- CYGXS18 scheduled for OC1-B Flight 5.
 Take off date June 27 (PDT) CANCELED (8)
- Can be scheduled for Sept. 2013 FORCAST flights

CYGXNW46 (DR 21)

Massive $(3 \cdot 10^4 M_{\odot})$ filament containing many HII regions, outflows, massive stars, masers, IRDC

DR21 source possibly cluster of O stars





CYGXNW58 (DR 22)

Bright protostar on edge of Bright-Rimmed Cloud, containing cluster of YSOs in the center





CYGXNW1

Protostar in filament in western part of Cygnus-X complex





CYGXS28

YSO at tip of feature extending into the center of the BRC containing cluster





Object on edge of region cleared by Cyg OB1/9

Bipolar nebula with dark central lane, powered by O7-O9 star

Simon et al. (2012) used GREAT to resolve complex kinematics of $158\mu m$ [C II] and CO 11 \rightarrow 10 lines



CYGXS18 (S106)



SOFIA Cygnus X Summary

- Our Previous Spitzer/IRS program observed a sample of massive YSOs
- The SOFIA observing program will obtain similar data on the brightest massive stars in Cygnus-X
- This will enable us to determine the properties of these massive stars and how they change as they evolve towards the main sequence
- We will also be able to examine their effects on their surroundings, including outflows into the nearby ISM and also in triggering further star formation.

Find images and links to the Spitzer CygnusX data: http://www.cfa.harvard.edu/cygnusX