

Ionized carbon tracing the assembly of molecular clouds

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and the FEEDBACK consortium

Based on data taken within the SOFIA legacy program FEEDBACK



March 23, 2022



- **SOFIA legacy program** to map the CII 158 μm and OI 63 μm lines with upGREAT in **11 Galactic star-forming** regions.
- **96 h** observing time observing runs from Palmdale (California) and Christchurch (New Zealand) + Cologne, Tahiti, Santiago... Observations will be finished in 2022.
- **German PI:** N. Schneider, **American PI:** A.G.G.M. Tielens
- Maps of size **200 -700 arcmin²** with an angular resolution of **14'' (CII)** and **6'' (OI)** and a spectral resolution of <0.2 km/s.
- Objective is to study **stellar feedback from massive stars** on the interstellar medium: heating- and cooling processes, triggering of star-formation, and the **dynamic formation and evolution of molecular clouds**.



Quasi-static scenario

(e.g. Krumholz et al. 2005)

- **Equilibrium** between gravity, turbulence and magnetic fields.
- External increase of pressure or turbulence due to stellar feedback, spiral arm density waves leads to a **slow, quasi-static growth of density** randomly, leading to the formation of pockets of molecular gas.

Dynamic scenario

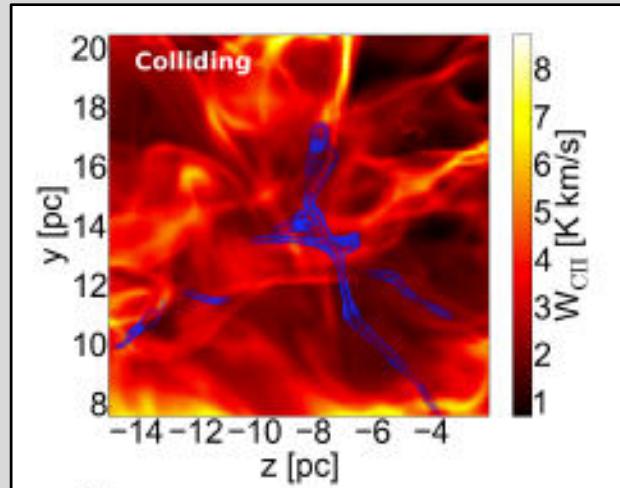
(e.g. Hartmann et al. 2001, Koyama & Inutsuka 2000, Vazquez-Semadeni et al. 2006)

- Large scale converging atomic/molecular flows, **no equilibrium**.
- Formation of molecular clouds by a **fast transition** from the warm ($T \sim 5000K$), neutral medium (WNM) to the cold ($T \sim 50-100K$) neutral medium (CNM) through thermal instability in the shocked layers of diffuse gas collisions.

Colliding flows of atomic (HI) gas

Vazquez-Semadeni et al. 2007, 2008, 2009; Dobbs et al. 2020
 Heitsch & Hartmann 2008; Clark et al. 2019,

$$\begin{array}{ll} n \simeq 1 \text{ cm}^{-3} & n \simeq 100 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\ T \simeq 30 - 100 \text{ K} & T \simeq 100 \text{ K} \\ v \lesssim 10 \text{ km/s} & v \simeq 20 \text{ km/s} \end{array}$$



'soft collision' of atomic/molecular flows

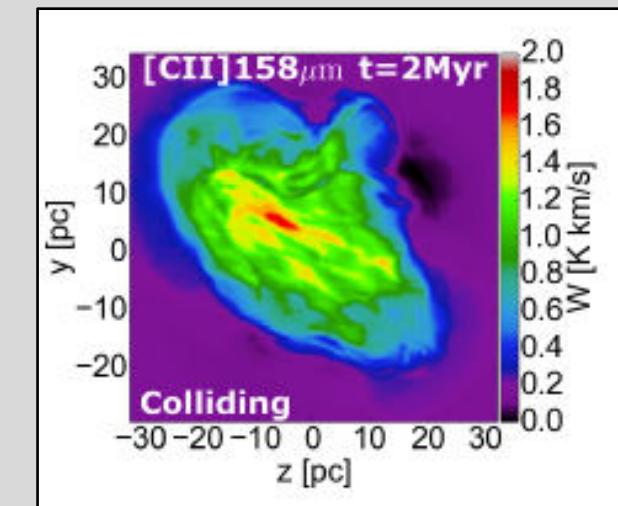
Schneider et al.,
 Bonne et al.

$$\begin{array}{l} n \simeq 100 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\ T \simeq 100 \text{ K} \\ v \lesssim 20 \text{ km/s} \end{array}$$

Cloud-cloud collisions (CCCs)

Fukui et al. 2014, 2015, 2016;
 Haworth et al. 2015a, 2015b;
 Bisbas et al. 2017, 2018;
 Wu et al., 2015, 2017

$$\begin{array}{l} n \gtrsim 100 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\ T \simeq 10 - 50 \text{ K} \\ v \gtrsim 10 \text{ km/s} \end{array}$$





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Tracing the formation of molecular clouds via [C II], [C I], and CO emission

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Model:

- MHD simulation with self-gravity
- Hydrogen, carbon, oxygen chemistry is treated. Post-processing with RADMC-3D
- $n=10 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $M=10^4 \text{ M}_{\text{sun}}$, $r=19 \text{ pc}$, $v_{\text{coll}}=3.75 \text{ km/s}$, turbulence 1 km/s
- $G_0 = 17$

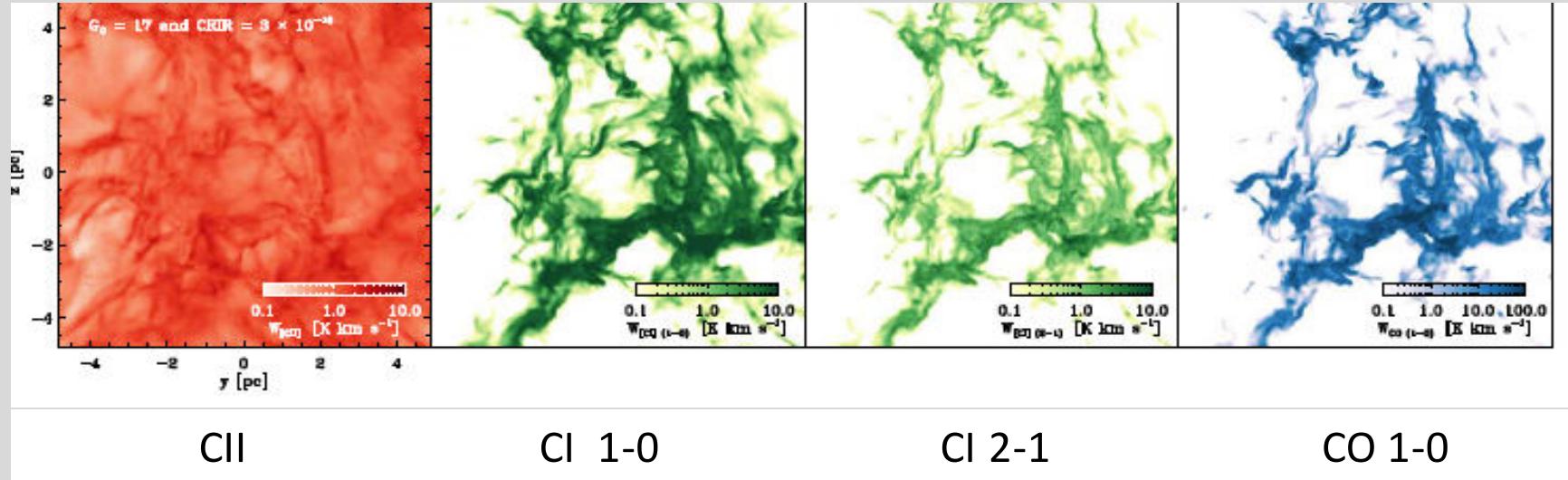
Predictions:

CII comes mostly from the diffuse ISM within a narrow range of density (10 to a few 10^3 cm^{-3}) and temperature (a few 10 to 100 K).

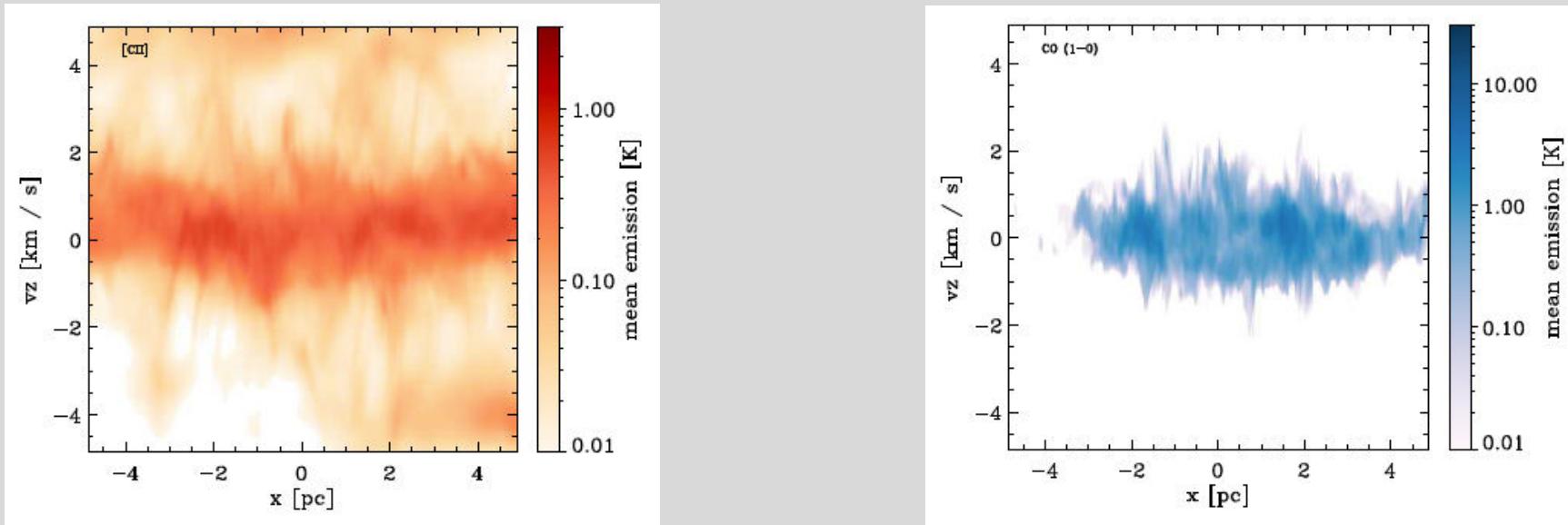
CII emission more extended spatially and in velocity than CO emission.

It can show emission that is not visible in CO ('CO-dark/poor') and CI.

$$G_0 = 17$$



Position-velocity cuts



$$G_o = 4$$

- MHD, self-gravity
- PDR post-processing
- $n=100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$, $M= 9 \cdot 10^4 M_{\text{sun}}$, $r=20 \text{ pc}$
- $v_{\text{coll}} = 10 \text{ km/s}$,
- $v_{\text{turbulence}} = 5.2 \text{ km/s}$

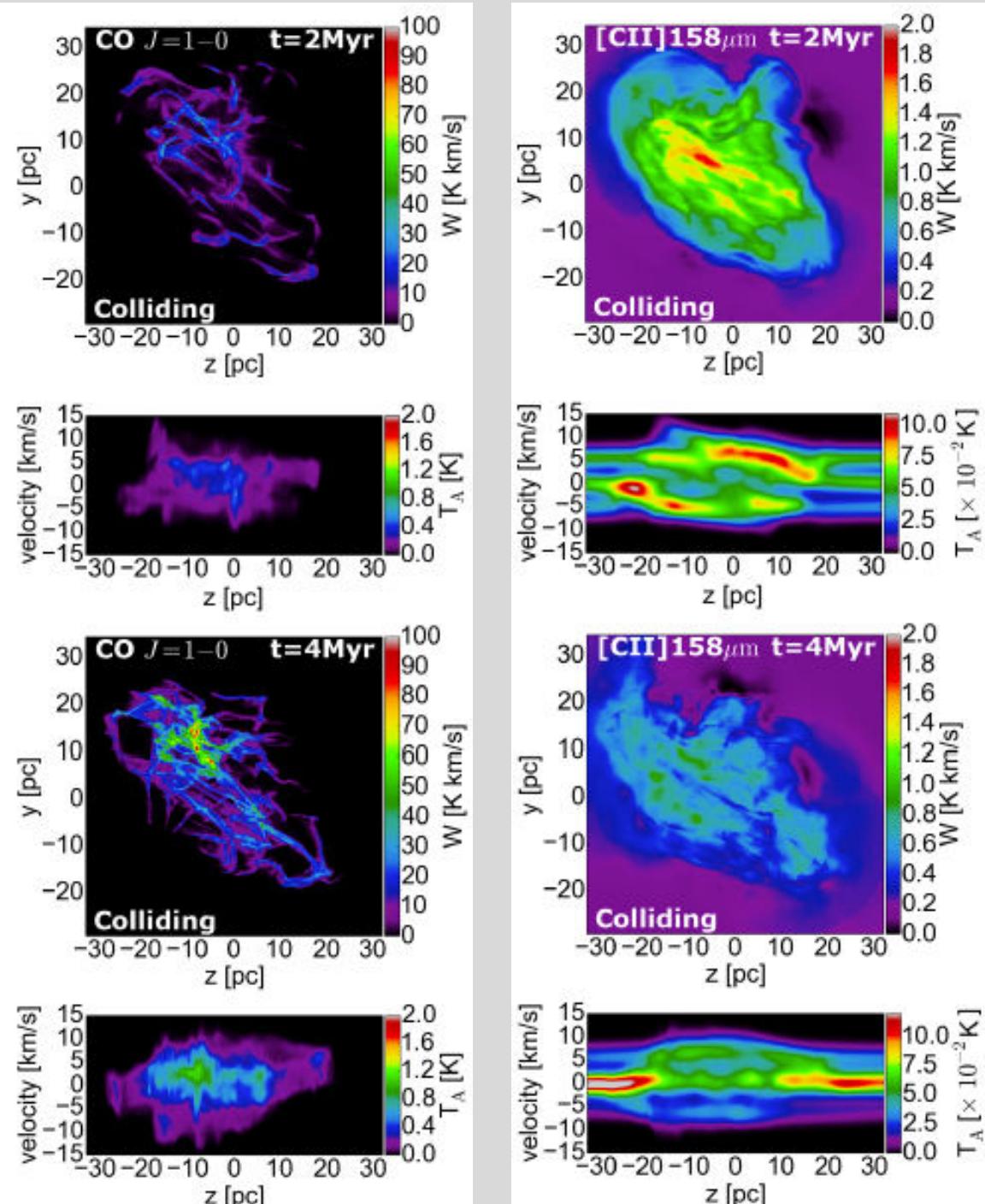
(Bisbas et al. 2017)

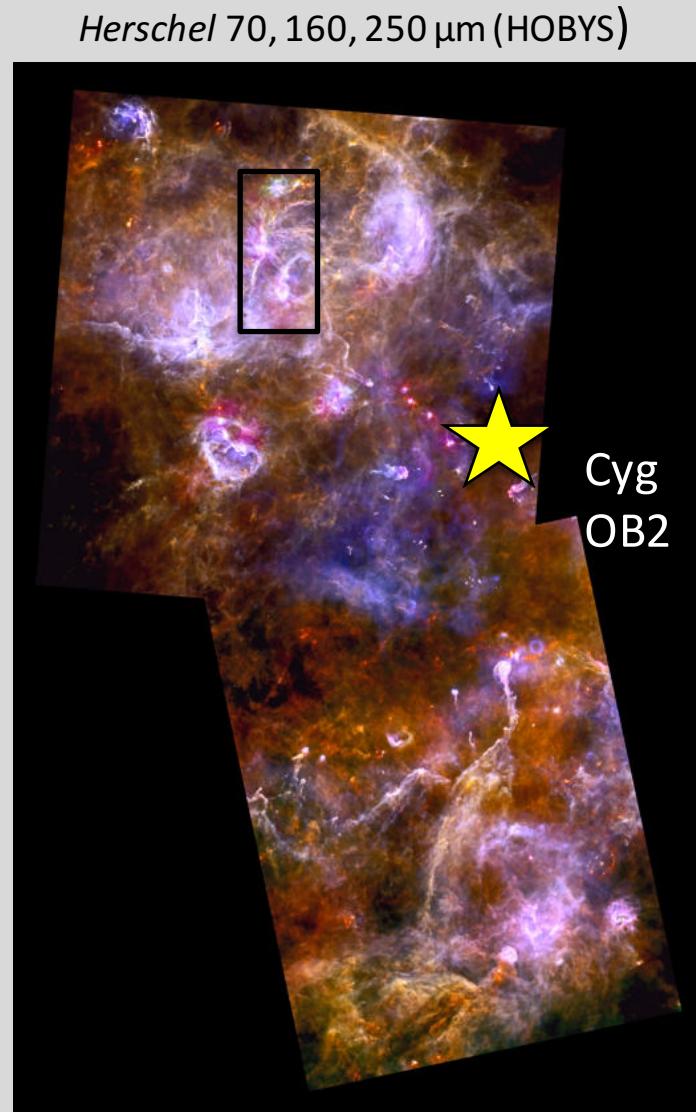
CII emission more extended spatially and in velocity than CO emission.

Two velocity components seen in CO and CII with a **bridge of emission** in between.

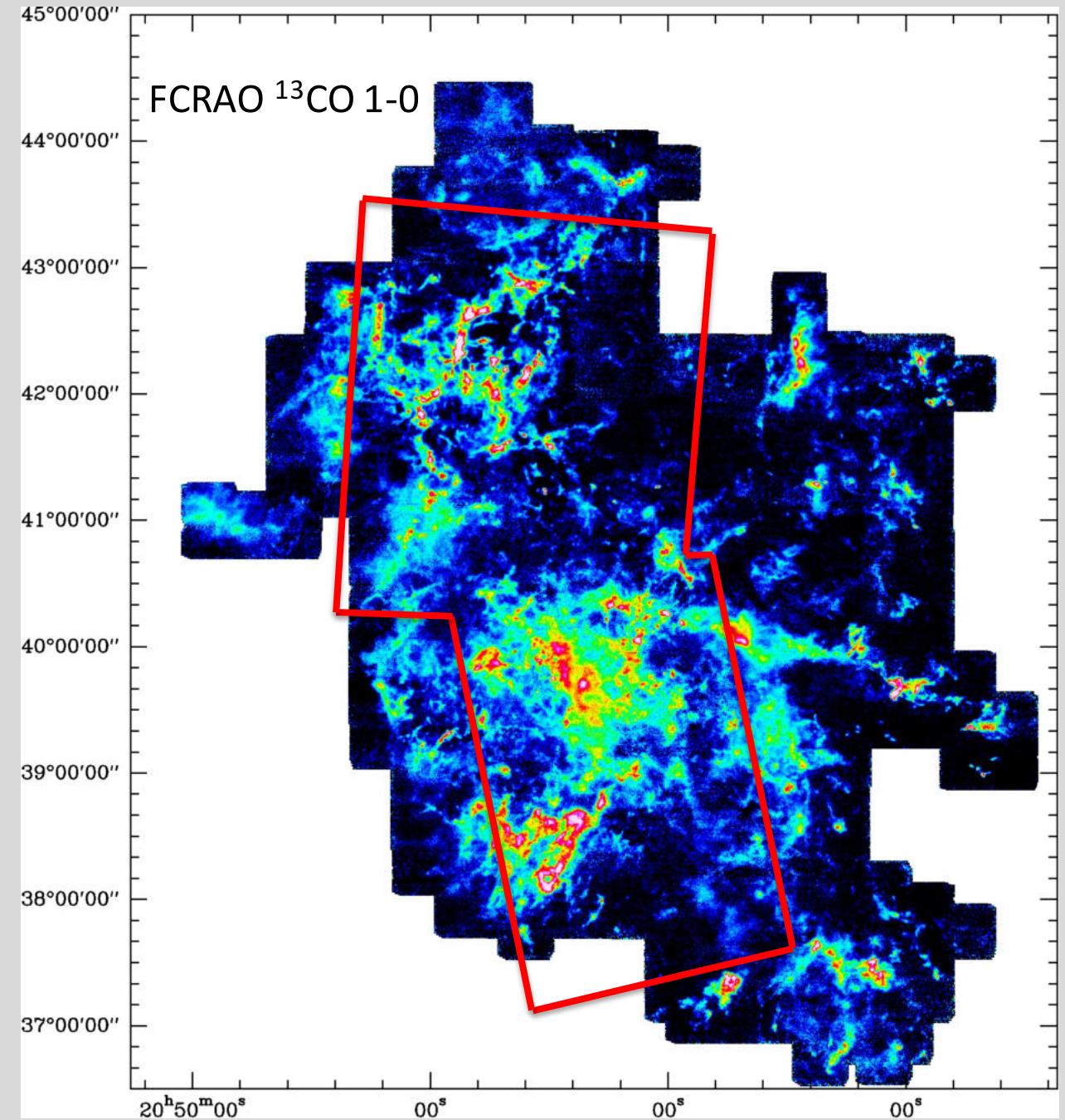
CCCs reported by Fukui et al., Dobashi et al. based on CO.

Position-velocity cuts





Hennemann et al. 2012; Schneider et al. 2016a



Schneider, Bontemps, Simon et al. 2011; Schneider et al. 2016b

A&A 458, 855–871 (2006)
 DOI: 10.1051/0004-6361:20065088
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Astronomy
 &
 Astrophysics

A new view of the Cygnus X region

KOSMA ^{13}CO 2 → 1, 3 → 2, and ^{12}CO 3 → 2 imaging*

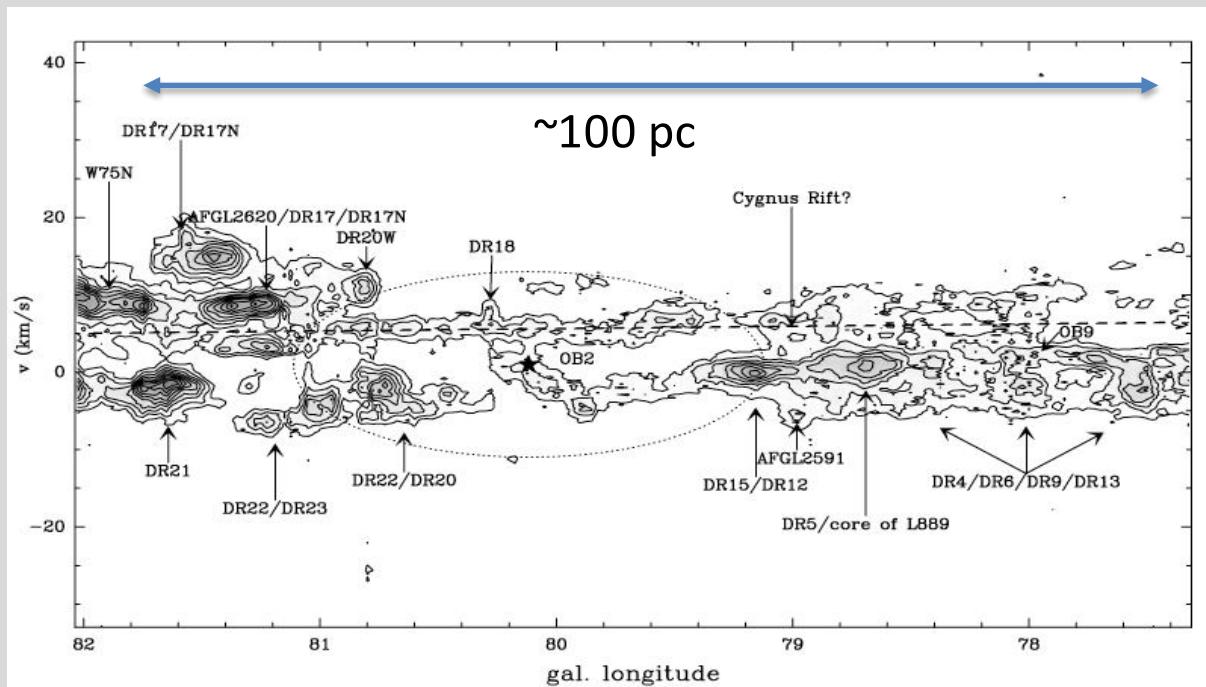
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- The Cygnus X molecular complex is not a line-of-sight effect (Wendker et al. 1984, 1991) but forms a **single star forming region** (despite the very large velocity differences of -5 to 18 km/s in CO).
- At that time, it was not clear how such large relative velocities could co-exist spatially inside a single event of star formation.



Herschel (70, 160, 250 μm)



Schneider et al. 2010, Bonne et al. 2022:

- DR21 ridge initially formed by colliding HI flows.
- Gravity then took over, mass accretion by filaments, moderated by magnetic fields.

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**Astronomy
&
Astrophysics**

Dynamic star formation in the massive DR21 filament

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*Dickel et al. 1978,
Dobashi et al. 2019*

- DR21 ridge and W75N are in collision (CCCs)

Dickel et al. 1978

UNCERTAIN LOCATION OF DR21 OH

S ← N
APPROXIMATE DIRECTIONS IN PLANE OF SKY

MODEL OF THE DR21-W75 REGION

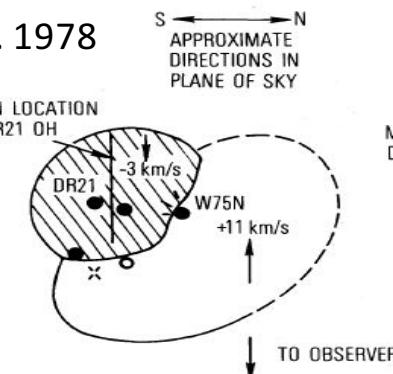
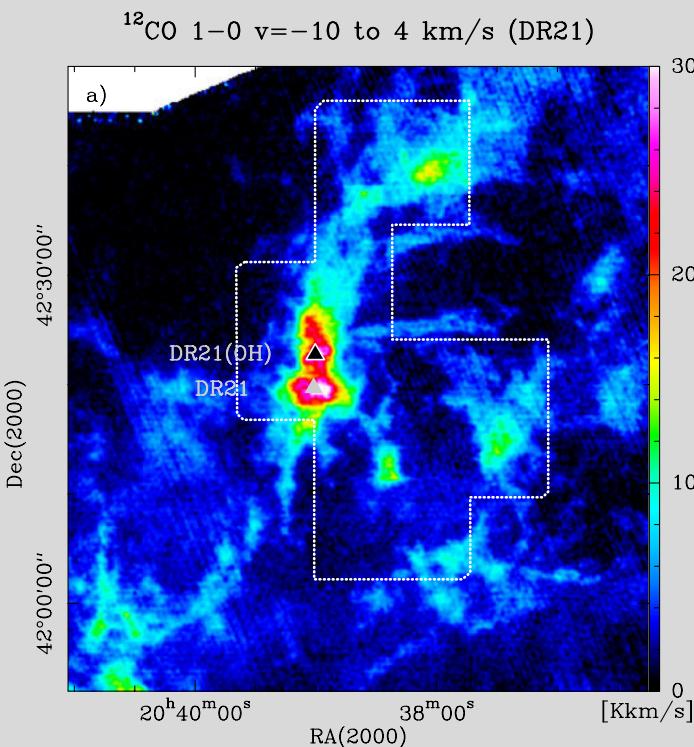


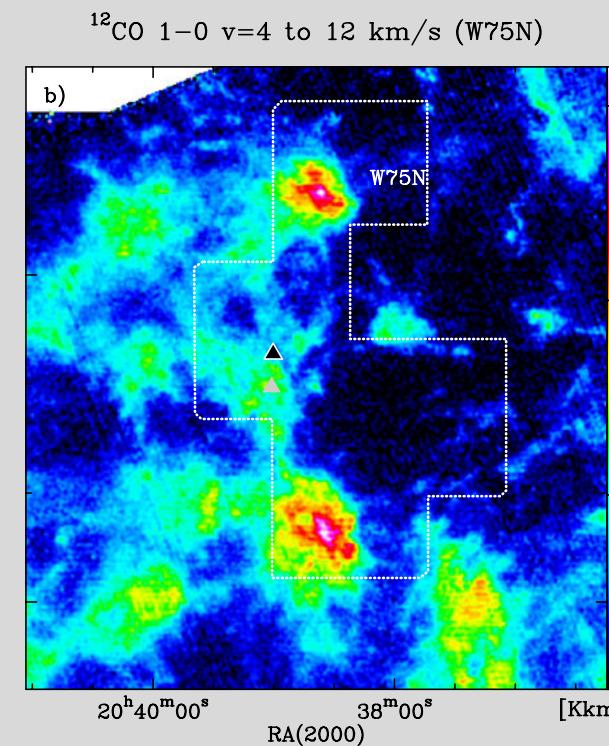
FIG. 8.—Schematic model of the DR 21–W75 region showing a possible configuration of the ~~two large colliding clouds~~ and the various condensations within them. The filled circles represent regions of enhanced temperature and density, the groups of short lines represent heating effects, and the open circle represents a region of increased line width.

- 3 km/s



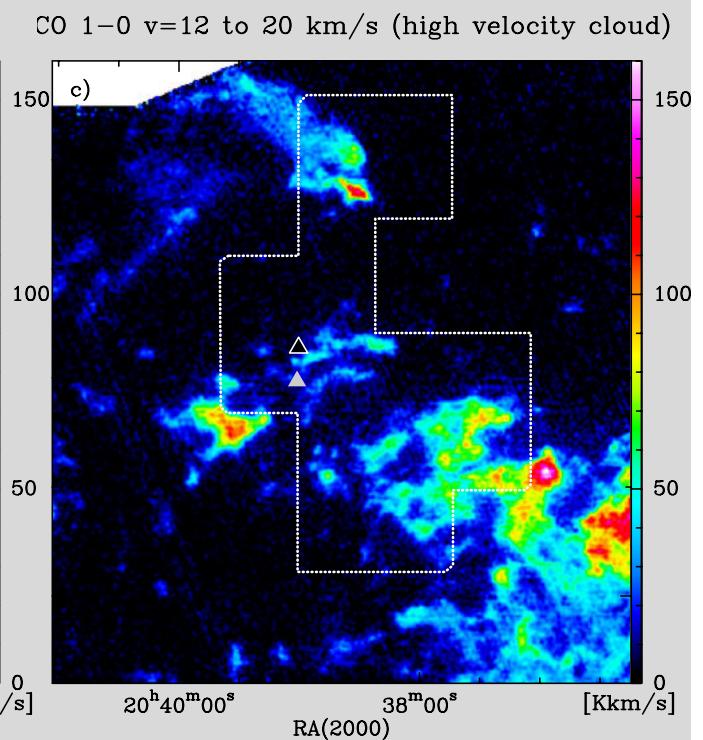
DR21-cloud 1.5+0.1 kpc

9 km/s



W75N-cloud 1.3+0.1 kpc

15 km/s

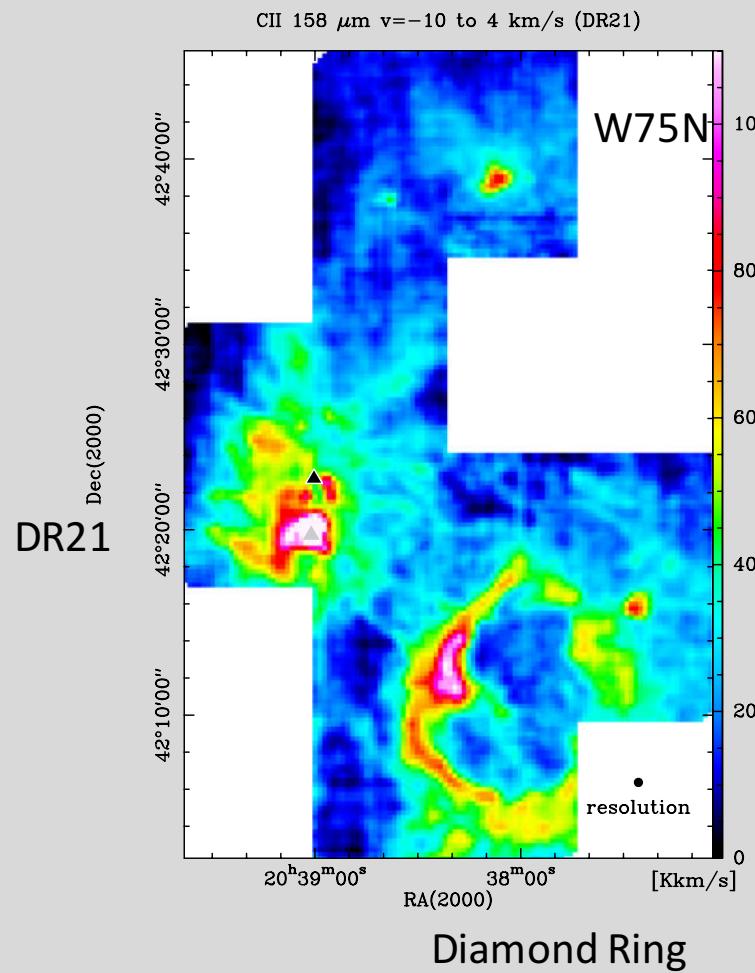


high-velocity clouds <1.5 kpc

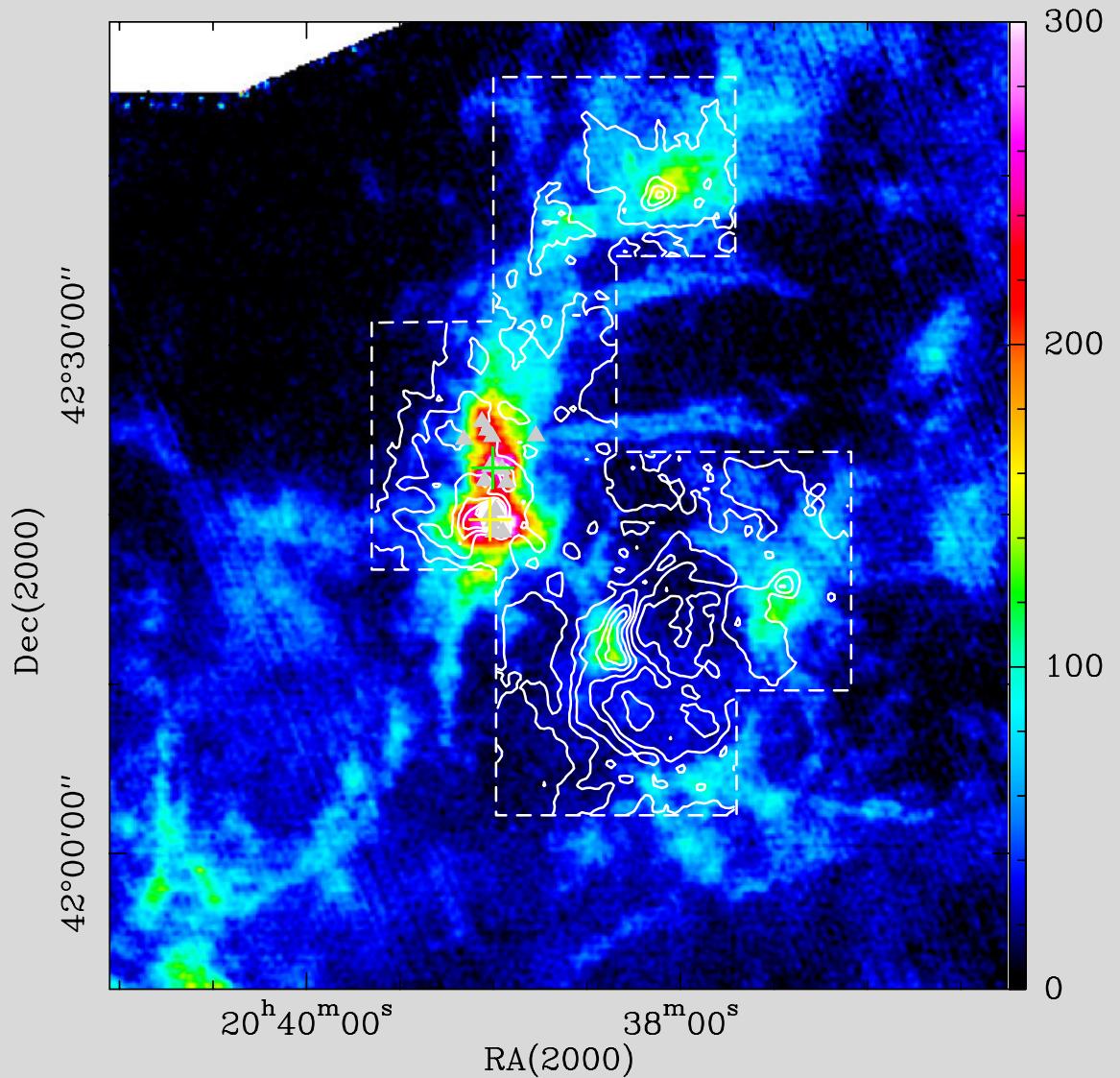


Distances from maser parallax (Rygl et al. 2012).

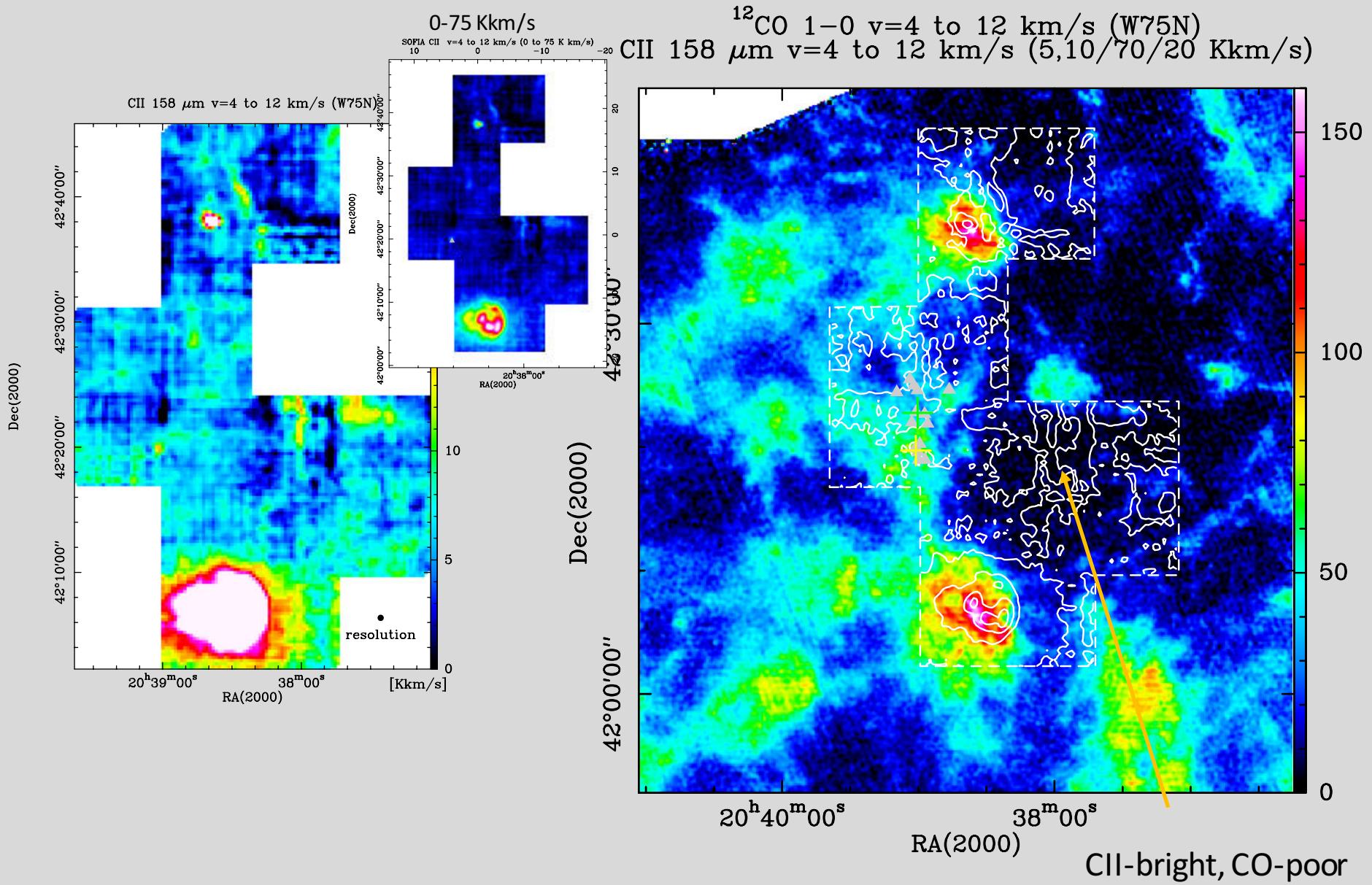
- Extended low-level CII correlating well with PAH (filaments).
- CII peaks (PDRs) due to local sources.



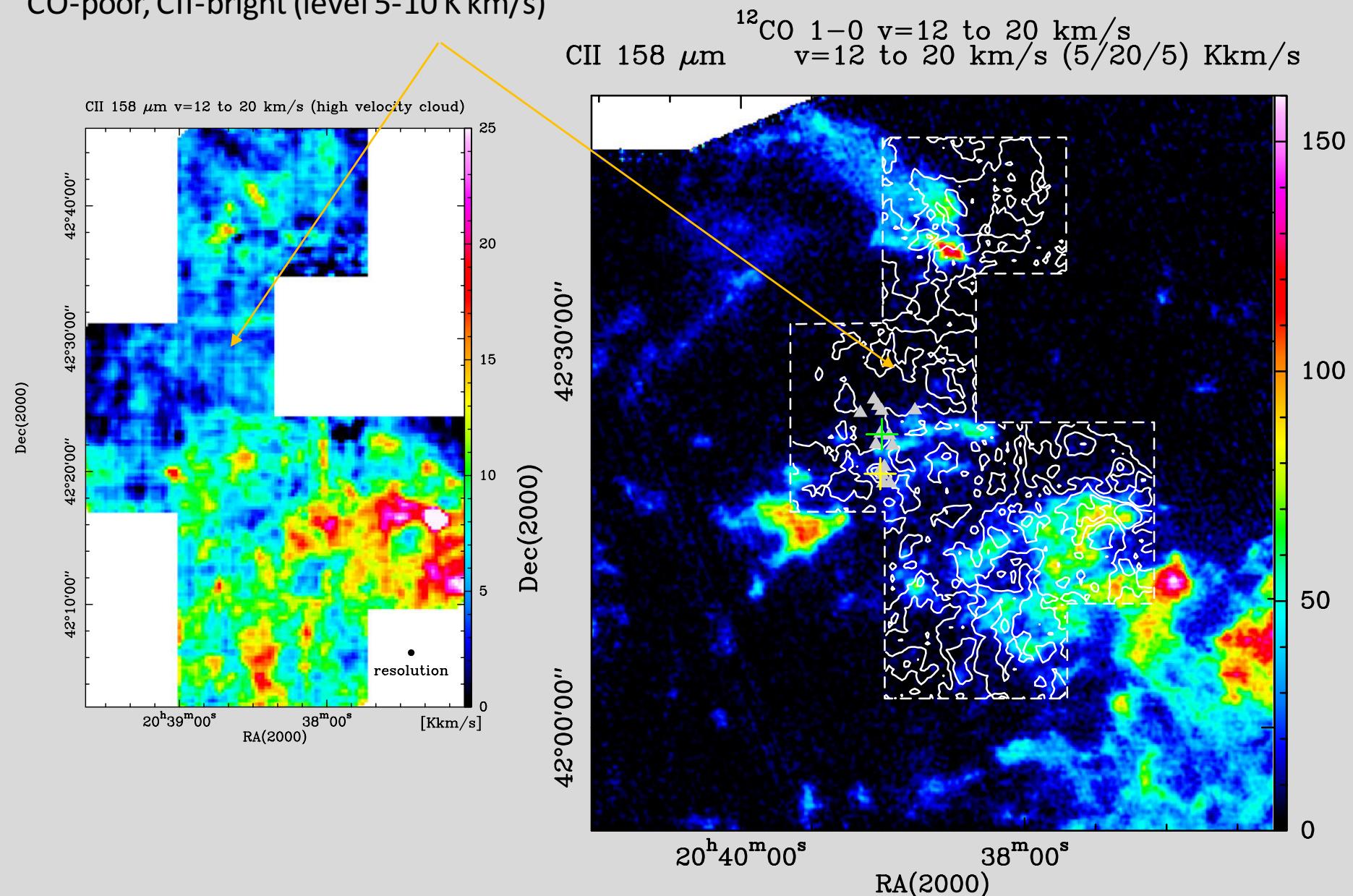
^{12}CO 1–0 v=-10 to 4 km/s (DR21)
CII 158 μm v=-10 to 4 km/s (20/270/20 Kkm/s)



- CO only bright in molecular clouds, dark otherwise (upper limit 4 K km/s @rms 3.5 K km/s).
- CII visible everywhere on a significant level (10 K km/s @rms 1 K km/s).



- CO-poor, CII-bright (level 5-10 K km/s)

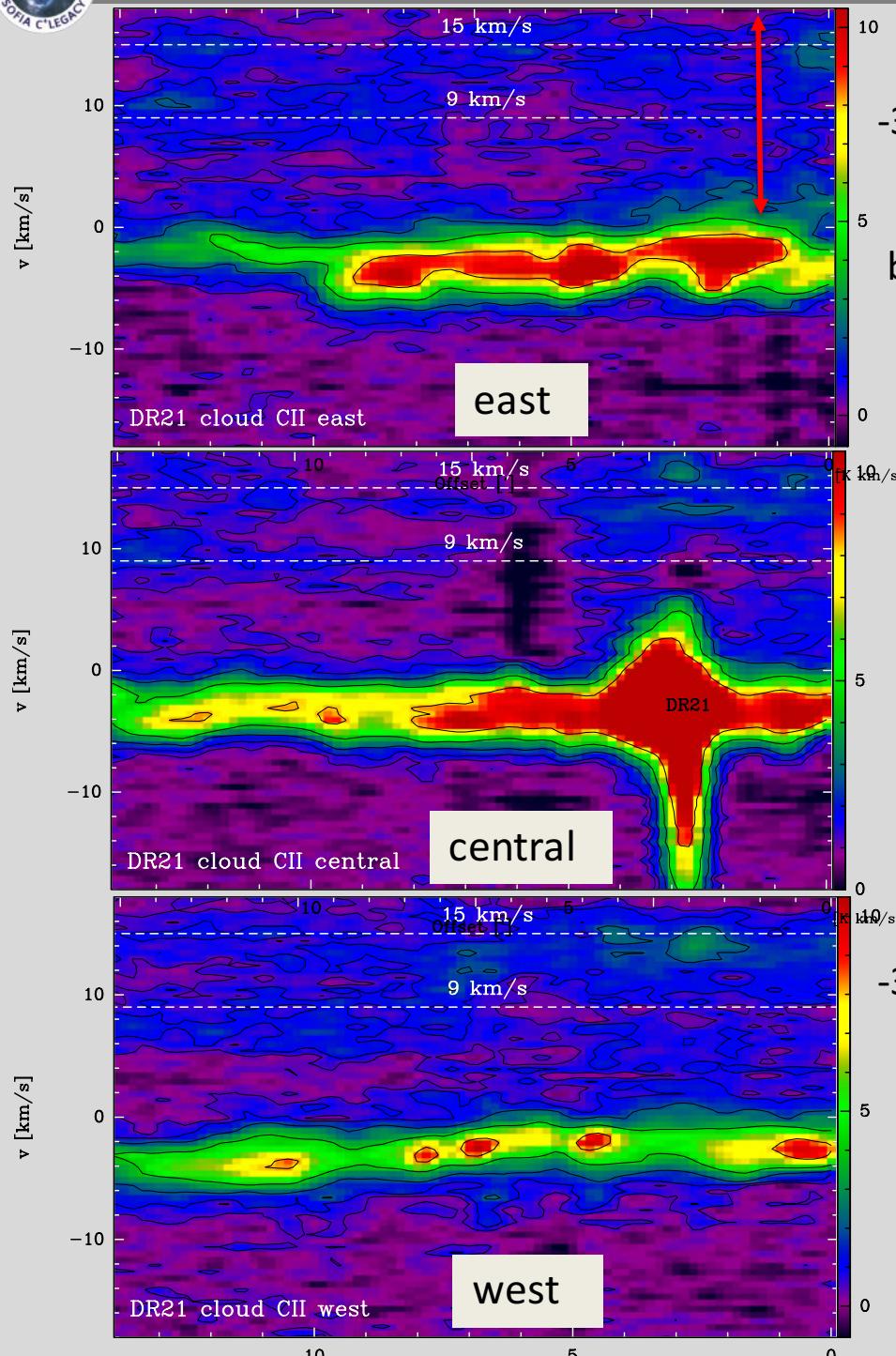




Observations

Position-velocity cuts

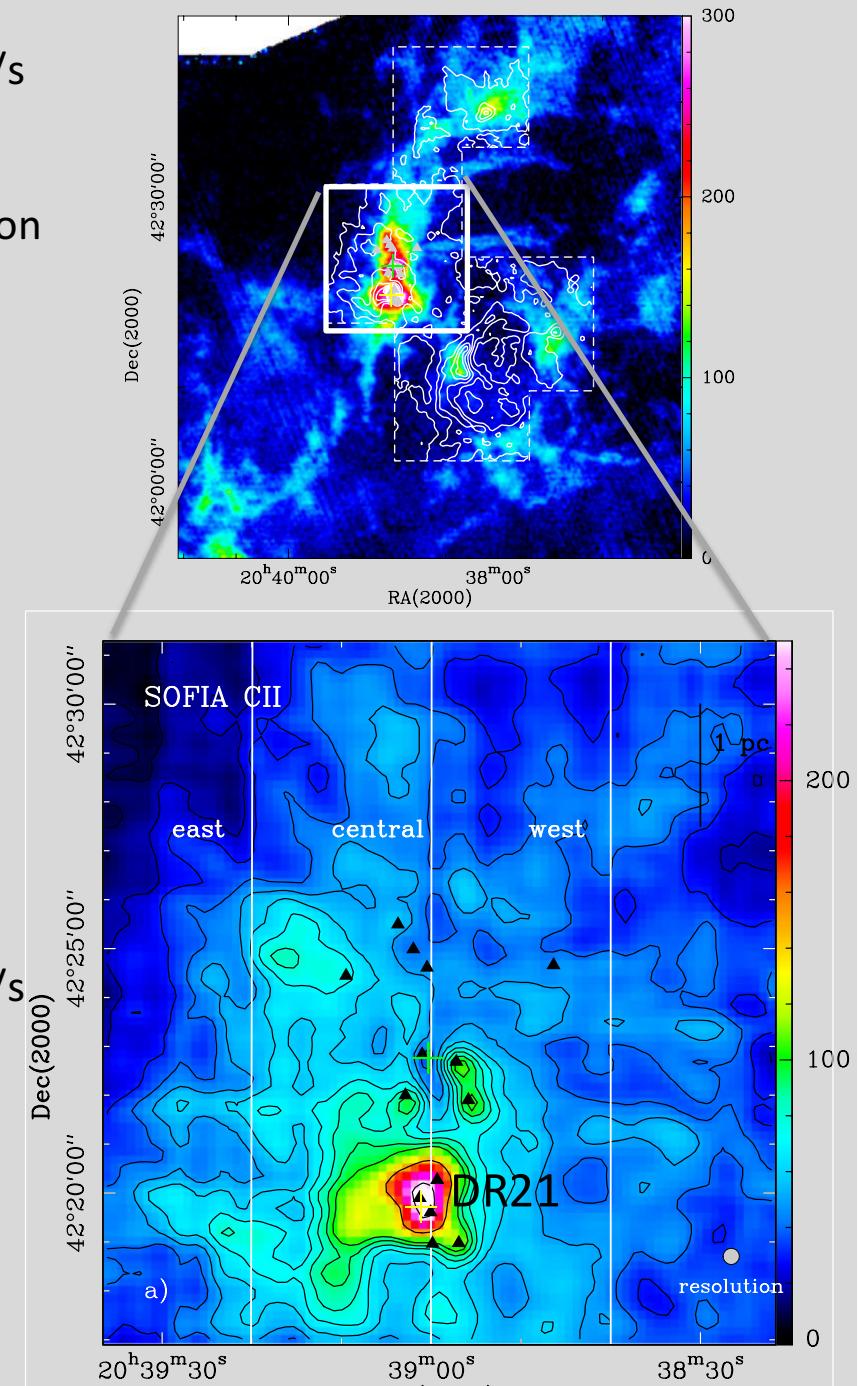
15



-3 to 18 km/s

bulk emission

-3 to 18 km/s

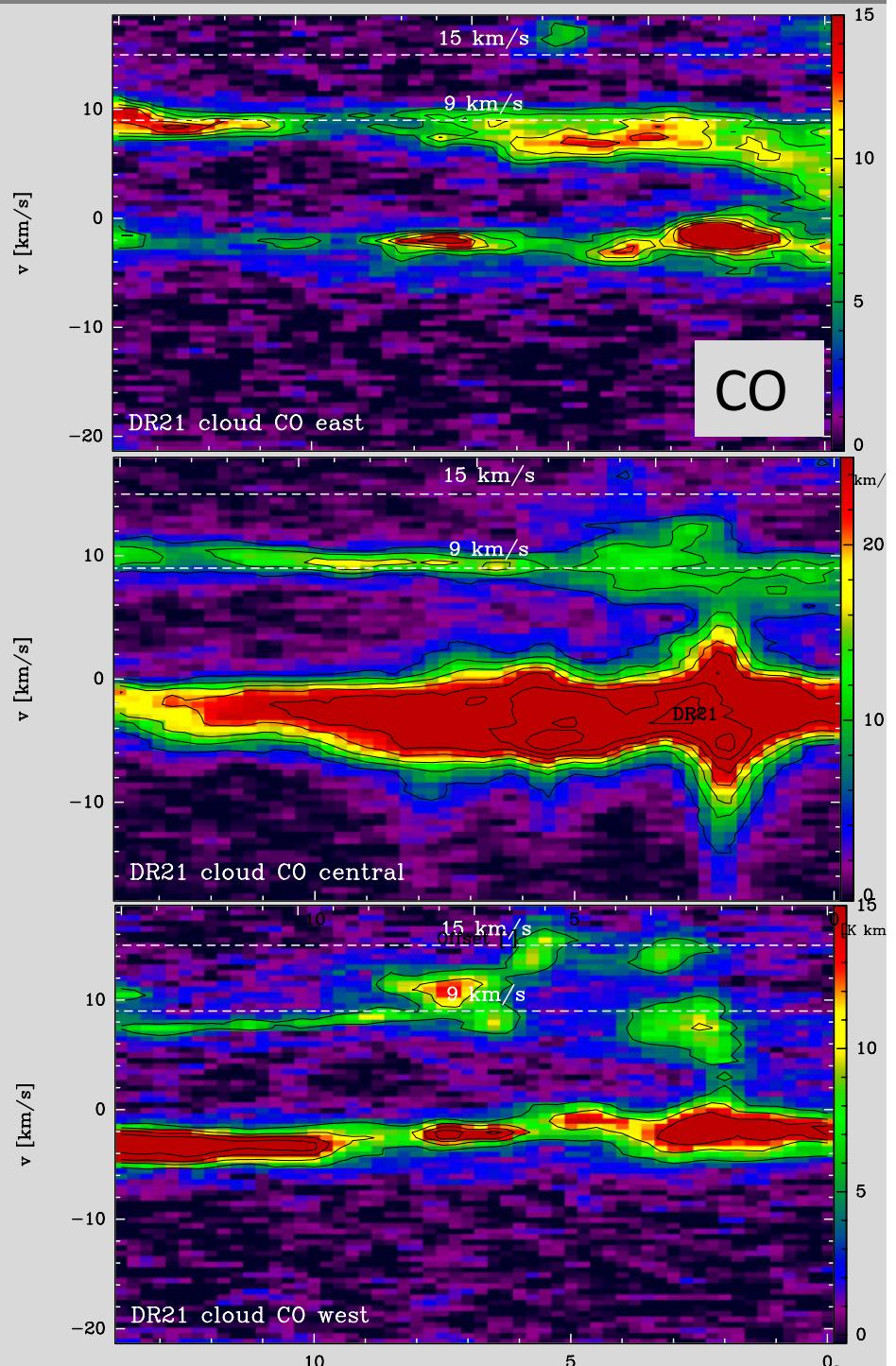
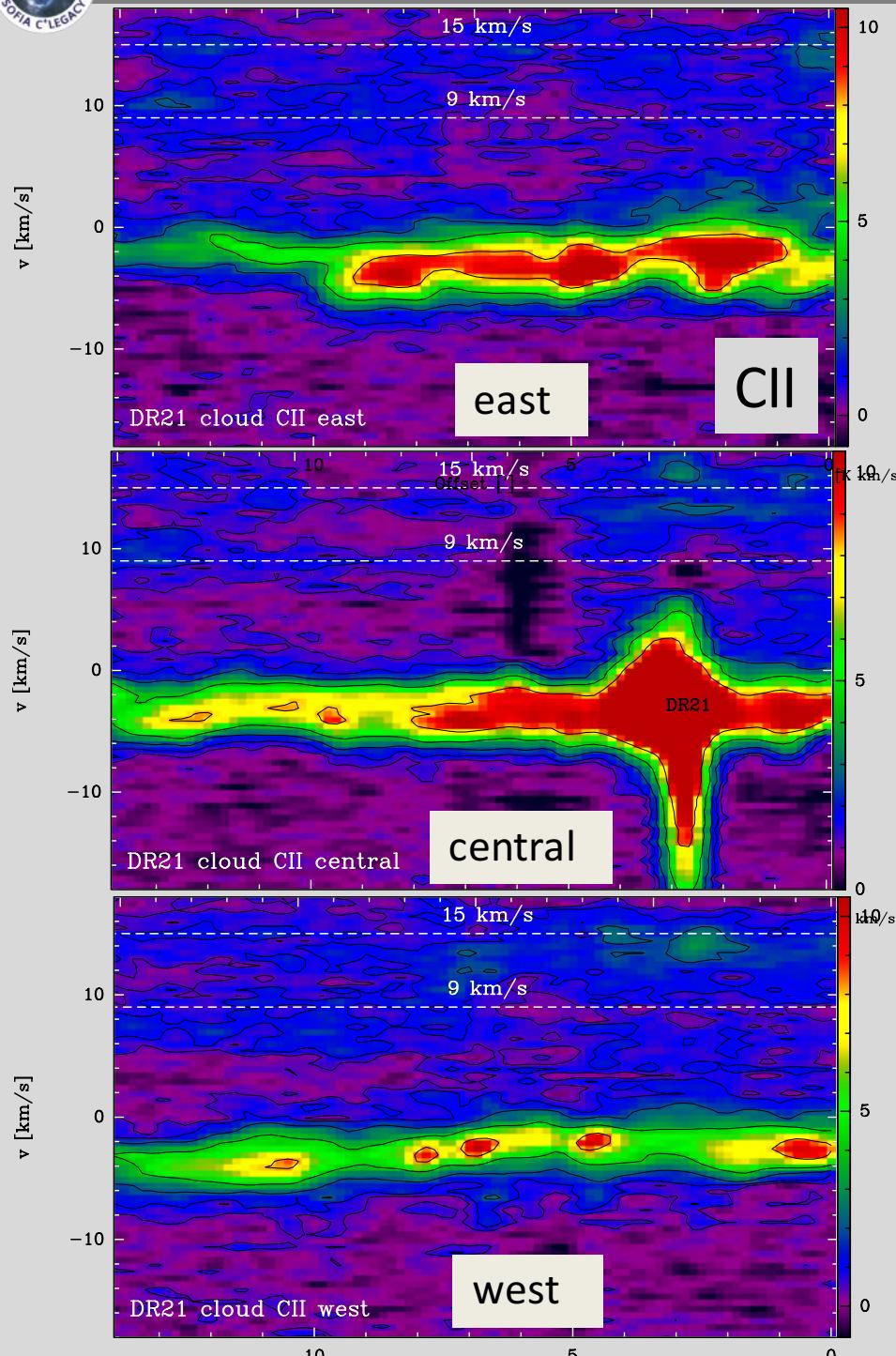
 ^{12}CO 1–0 $v = -10$ to 4 km/s (DR21)
CII 158 μm $v = -10$ to 4 km/s (20/270/20 Kkm/s)



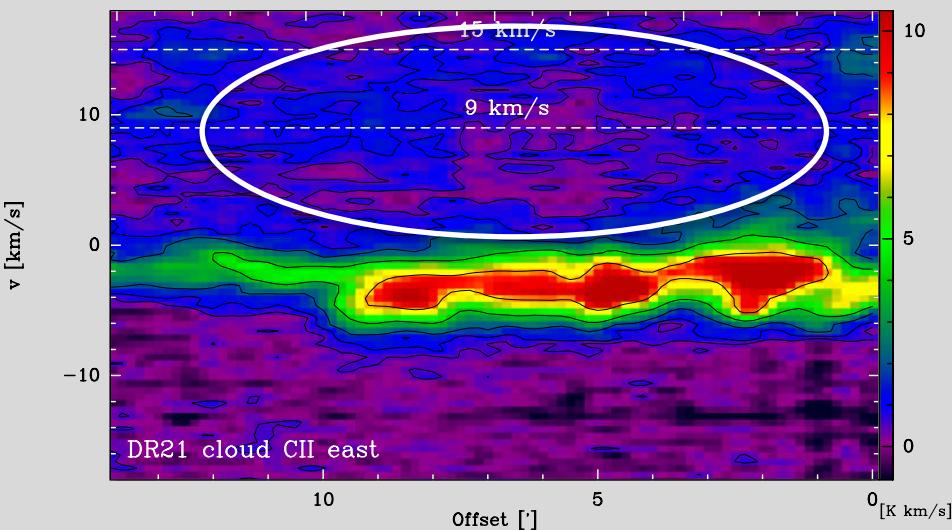
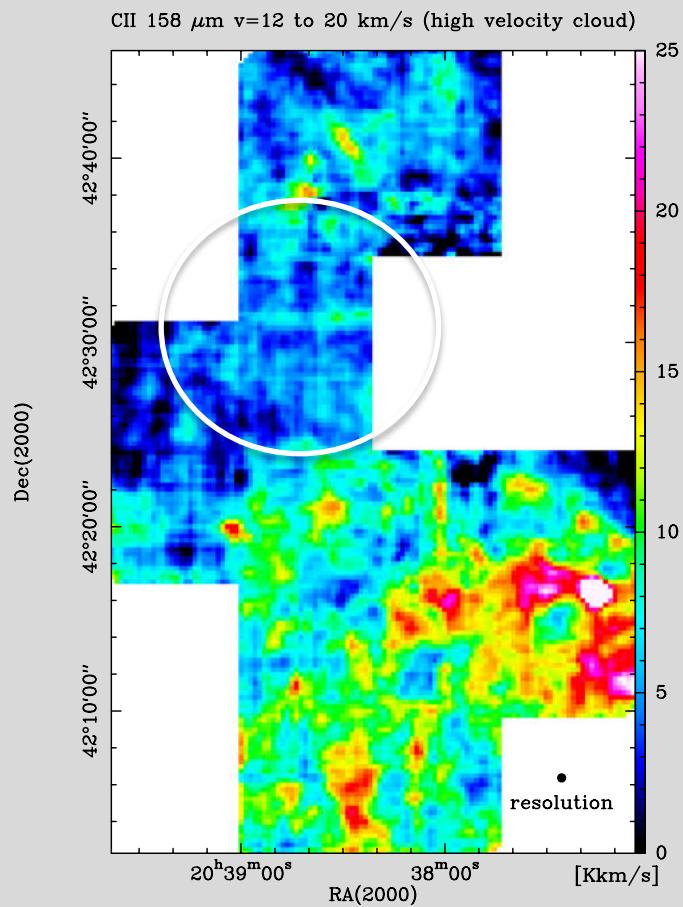
Observations

Position-velocity cuts

16



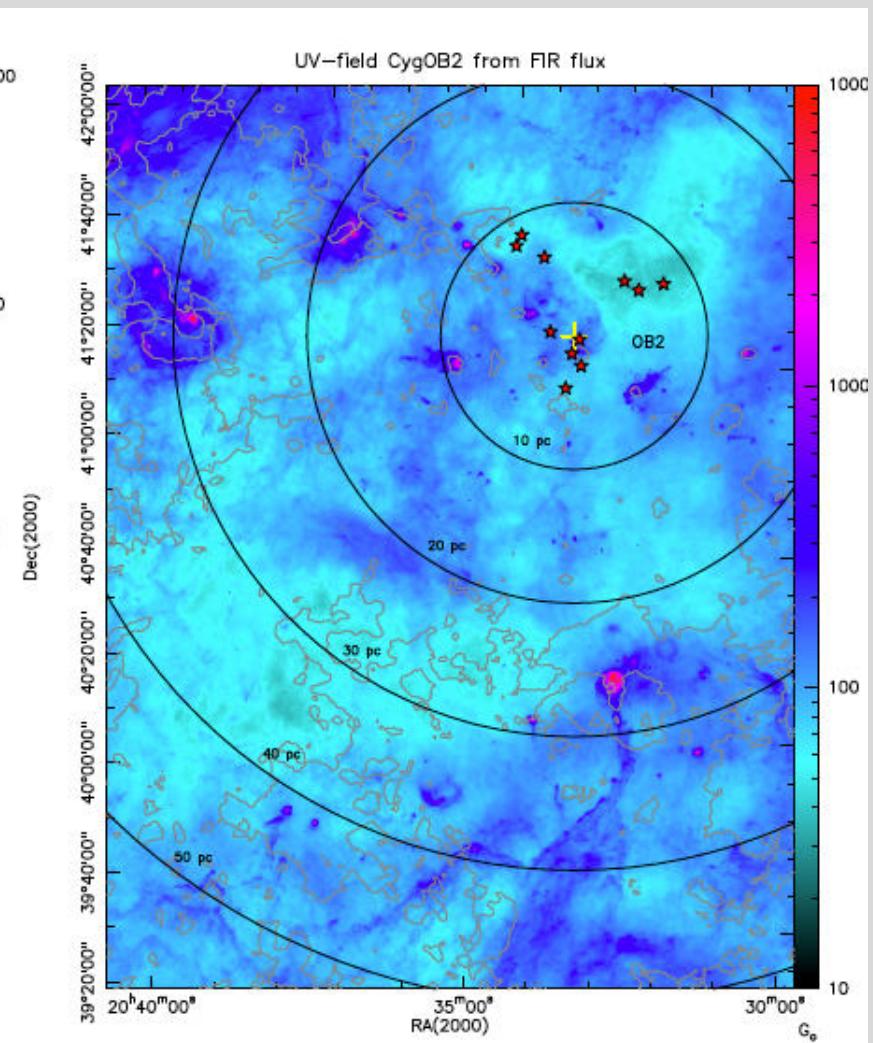
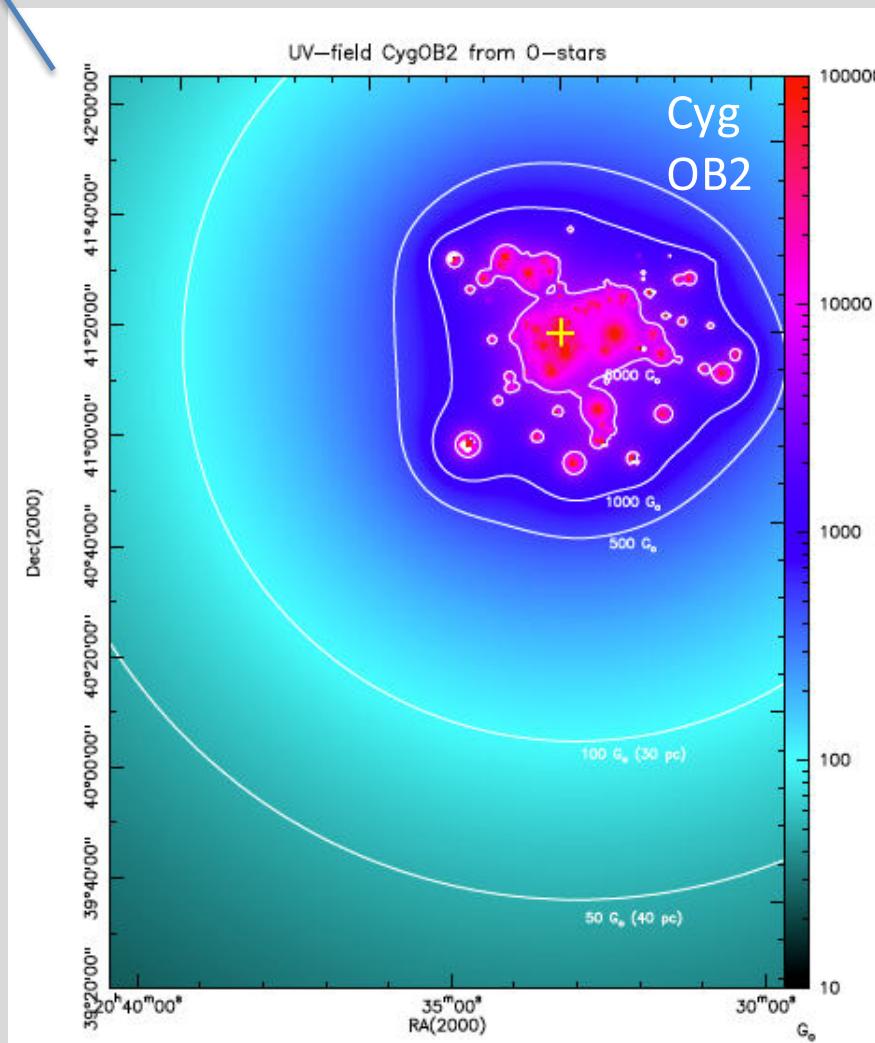
- CO-poor/dark
- CII-bright (5 – 10 K km/s)



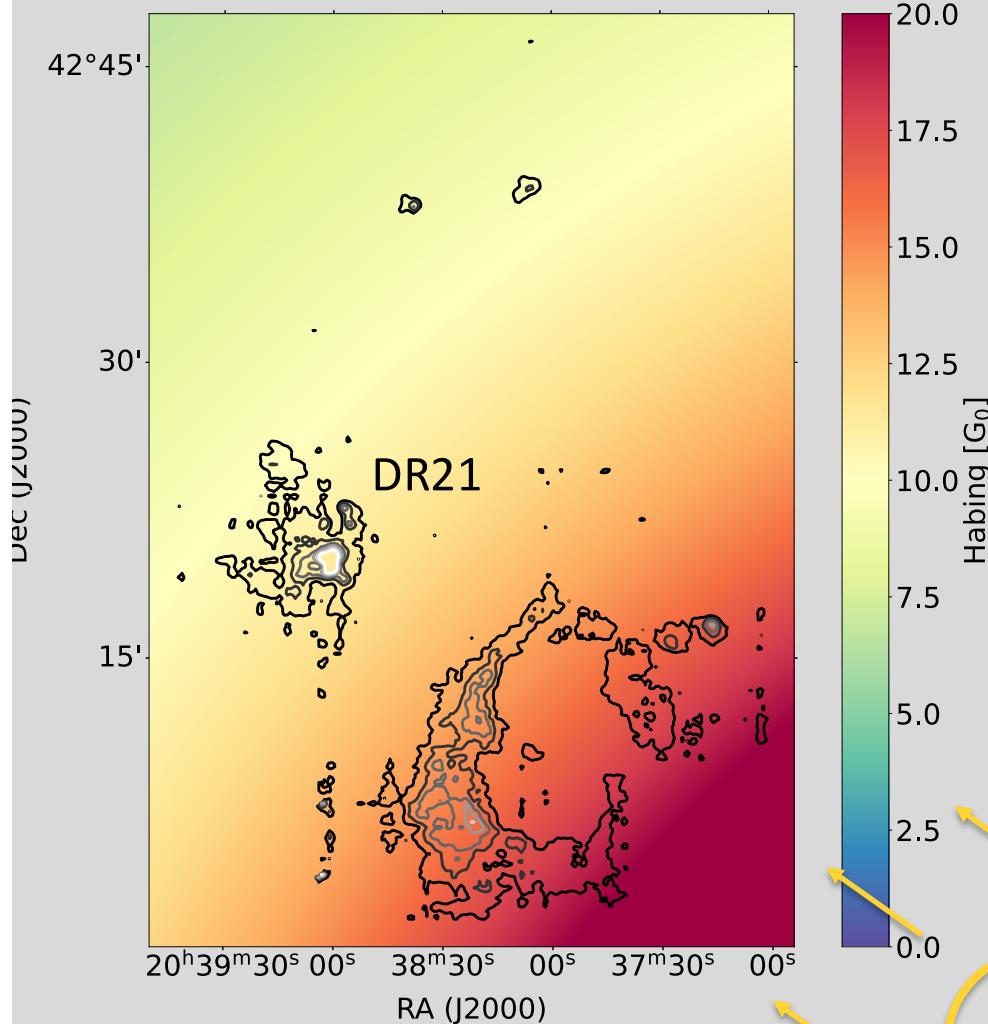
-> need PDR (Photodissociation region)
modelling using CII brightness

DR21 ridge

Census of Cyg OB2 stars: **10-30 Go** at the location of the DR21 ridge.



UV field with contours of CII emission :
~10 G₀ at the location of the DR21 ridge



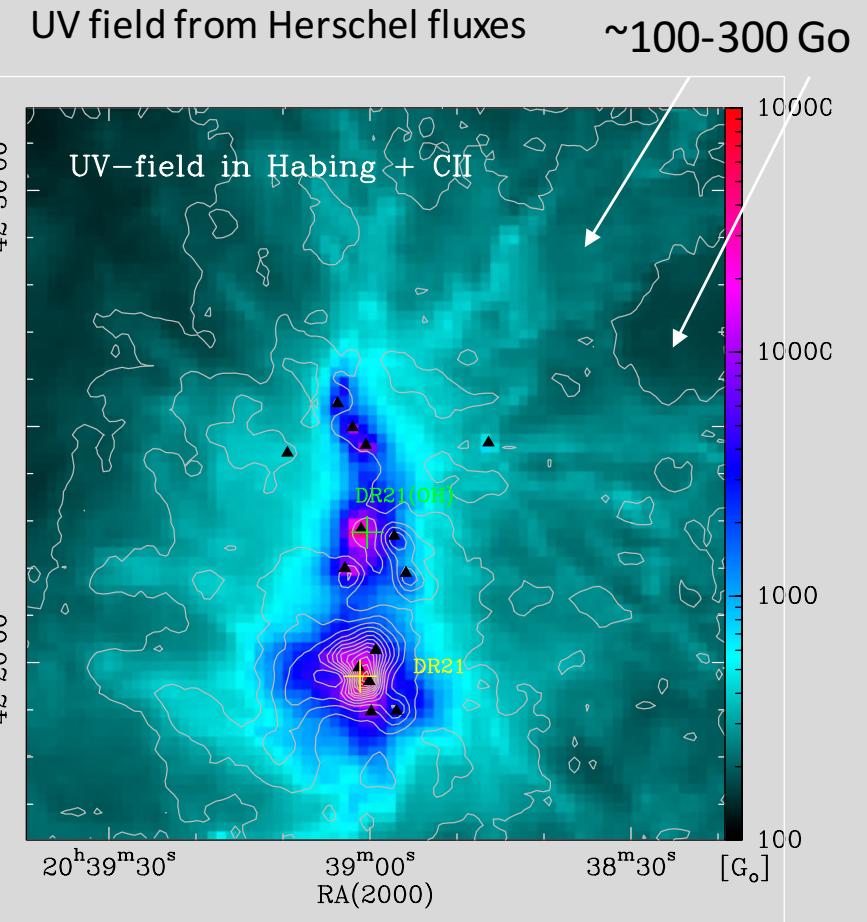
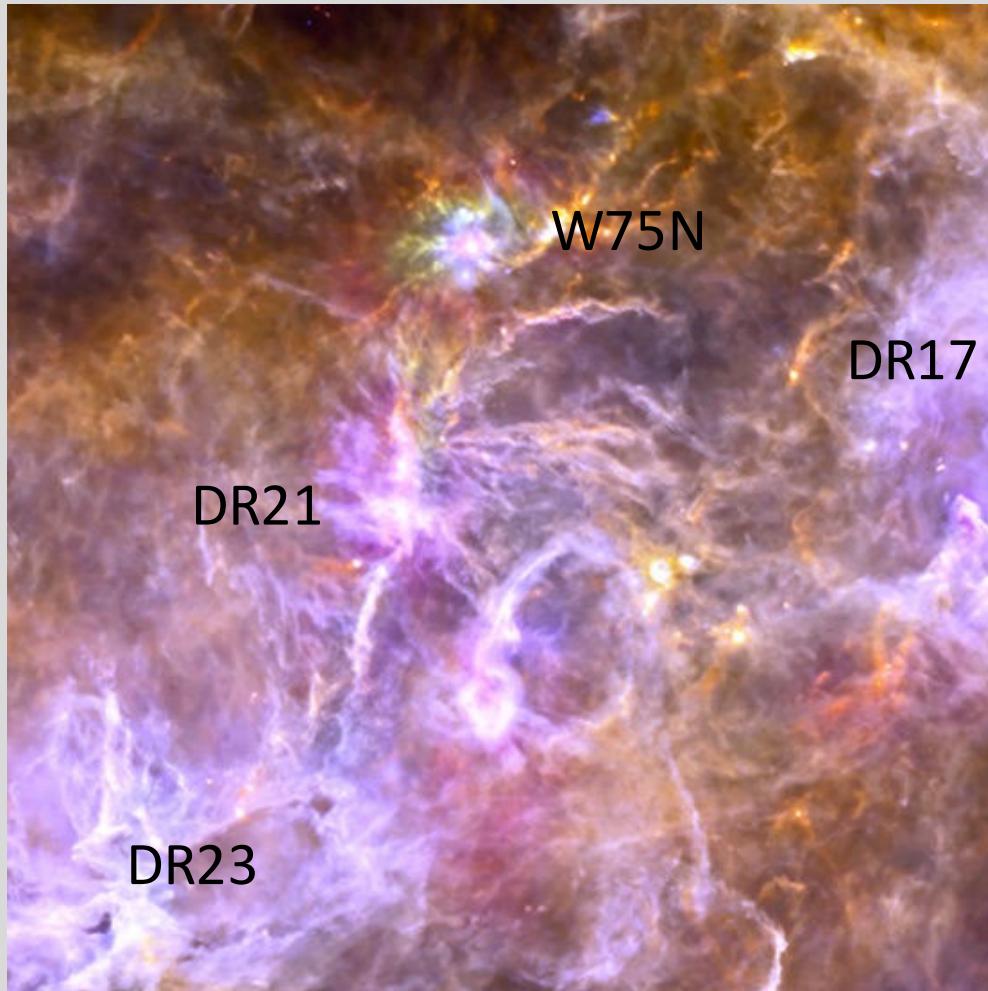
Census of stars in Cyg OB2 (Wright et al. 2015):
169 OB stars with 52 O-type and 3 Wolf-Rayet

From temperature and luminosity of all stars
black-body spectrum integrated between 910
and 2066 Å and $1/r^2$ decrease
(distance 1.45 kpc)

$$I_{\text{UV}}/I_{\text{total}} = L_{\text{UV}}/L_{\text{total}}$$

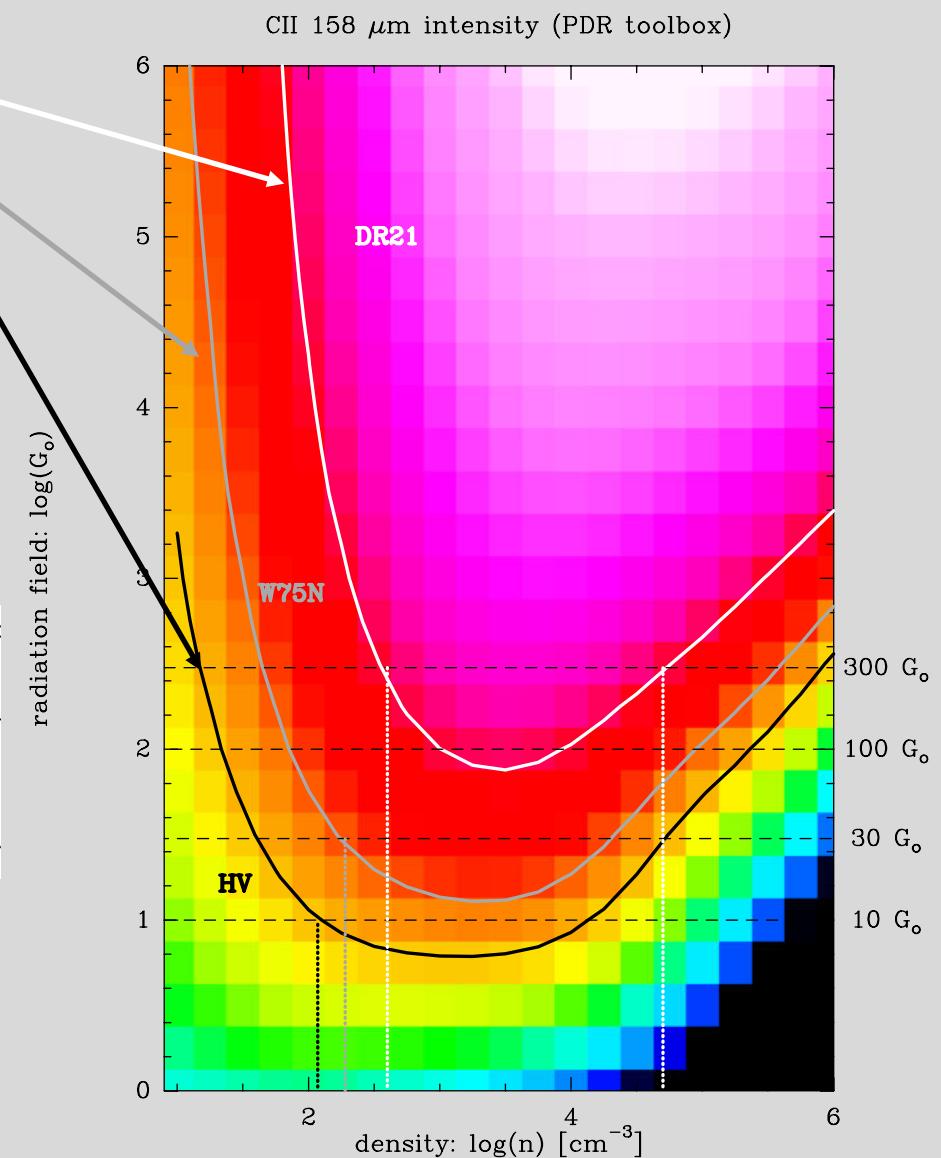
Cyg
OB2

Contribution from stars of DR21, DR23, DR17?
But no O-star identified.

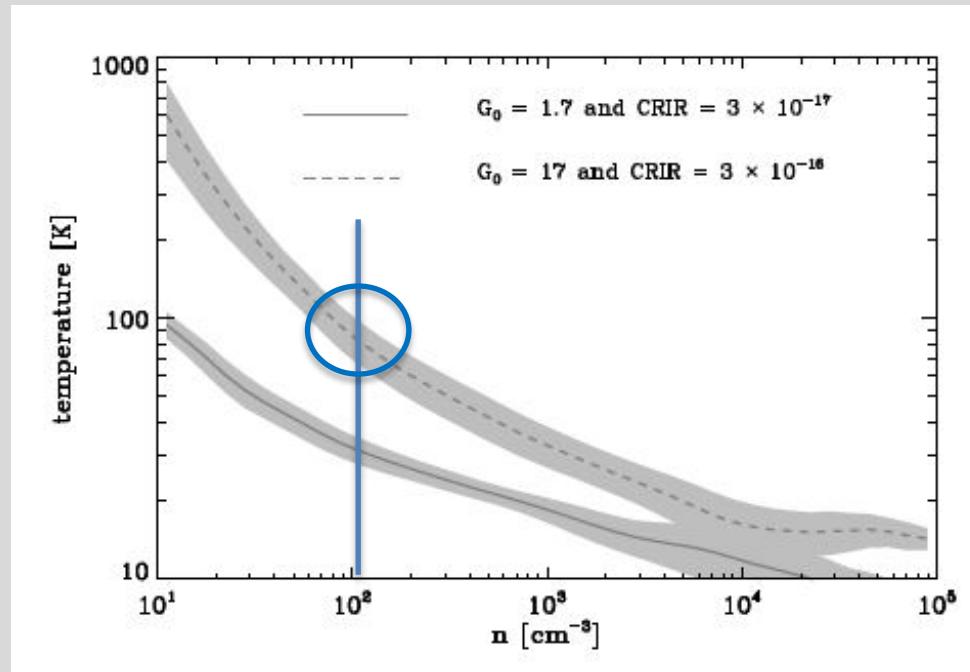


Filaments in DR21 velocity range
 (outside ridge) $I_{\text{CII}} \sim 30 \text{ K km/s}$
 W75 N velocity range $I_{\text{CII}} \sim 10 \text{ K km/s}$
 High-velocity emission $I_{\text{CII}} \sim 5 \text{ K km/s}$

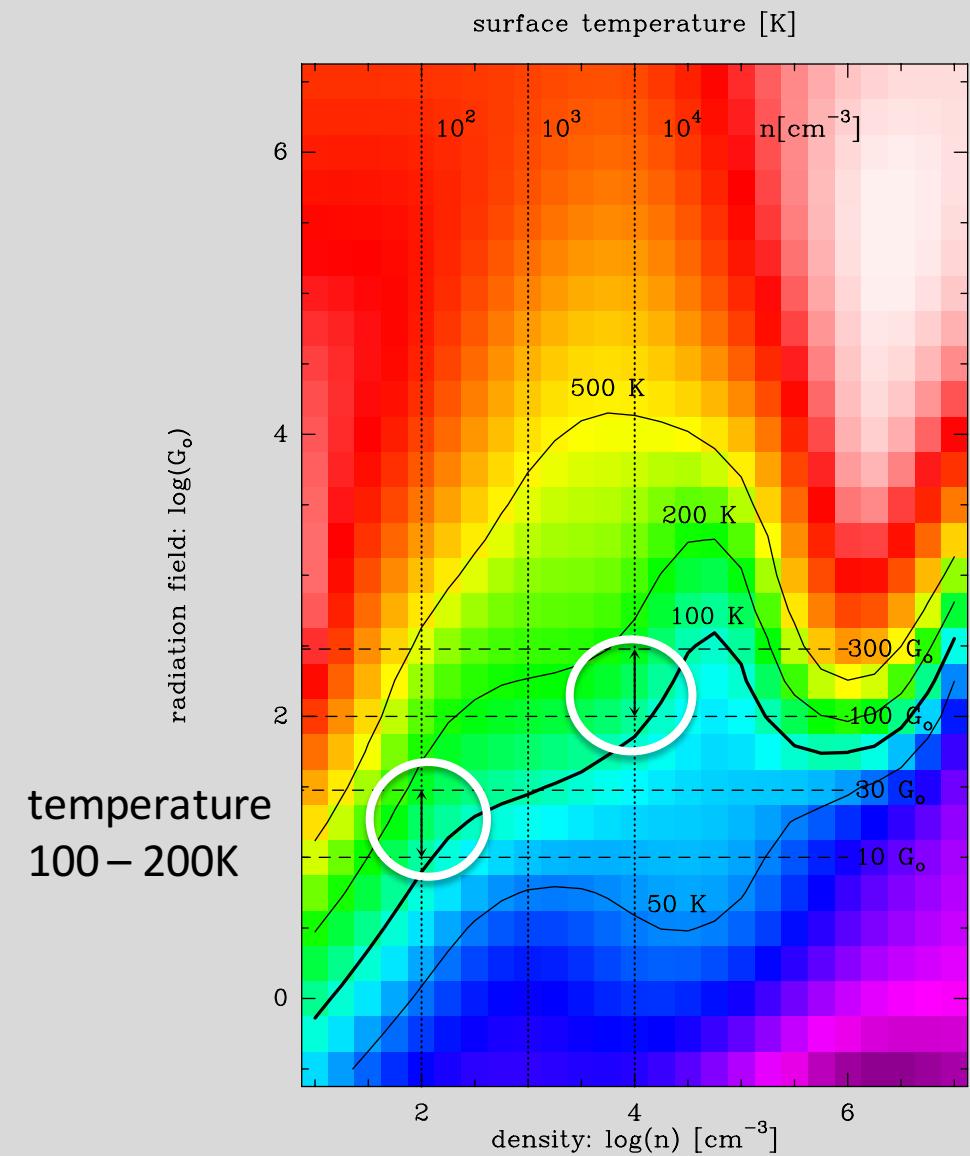
Velocity range	I_{CII} [K kms ⁻¹]	FUV field [G _o]	Density [cm ⁻³]
DR21 (-10 to 4 km s ⁻¹)	~30	100 - 300	400 - $5 \cdot 10^4$
W75N (4 to 12 km s ⁻¹)	~10	30	190
High-velocity (12 to 20 km s ⁻¹)	~5	10	110



9 km/s and 15 km/s components are consistent with gas at a **density of 100 – 200 cm⁻³** and a **temperature of 100 – 200K**



Clark et al. 2019



Goldsmith et al. (2012): CII optically thin, sub-thermal excitation

$$N_{\text{CII}} = I_{\text{CII}} 10^{16} / 3.43 \times (1 + 0.5 \times \exp(91.25/T_{\text{kin}})) (1 + 2.4 \times 10^{-6} / C_{\text{ul}})$$

$$C_{\text{ul}} = n \times R_{\text{ul}}$$

collisional de-excitation rate

$$R_{\text{ul}}(H^0) = 7.6 \times 10^{-10} (T^{\text{kin}}/100)^{0.14} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

collisional de-excitation rate coefficient

C/H = 1.6×10^{-4} (Sofia et al. 2004)

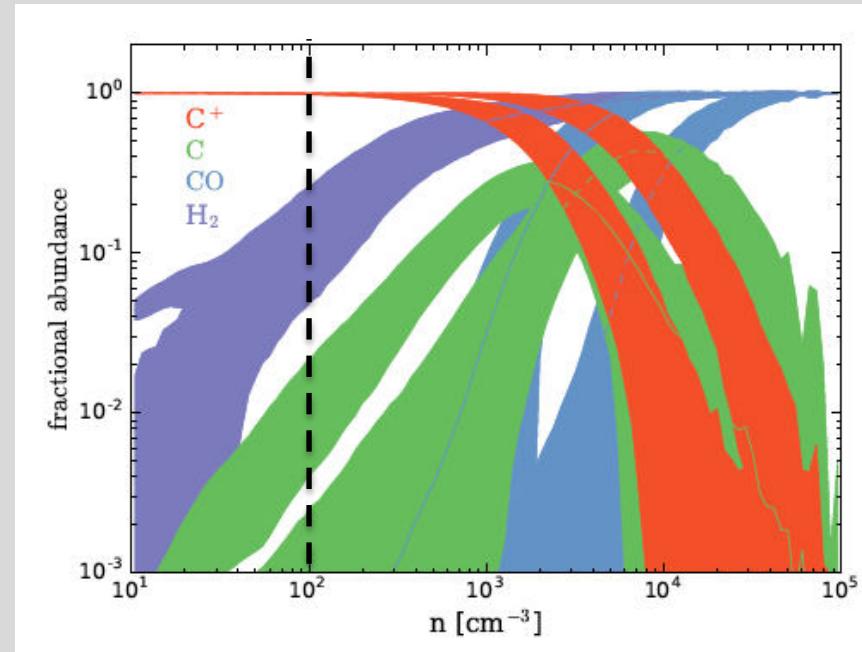
Velocity range	I_{CII} [K kms $^{-1}$]	FUV field [G $_{\odot}$]	Density [cm $^{-3}$]	Temperature [K]	N_{CII}^a 10 18 [cm $^{-2}$]	$N(H)^b$ 10 21 [cm $^{-2}$]	Mass c [M $_{\odot}$]
DR21 (-10 to 4 km s $^{-1}$)	~30	100 - 300	400 - 5 10 4	100-200	1.06 d , 0.54 e	6.60 d , 3.38 e	4550 e
W75N (4 to 12 km s $^{-1}$)	~10	30	190	200	0.40	2.49	3540
High-velocity (12 to 20 km s $^{-1}$)	~5	10	110	100	0.55	3.46	2440

$$A_v = N(H) \times 5.348 \times 10^{-22}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_{v,\text{obs}} \text{ (9km/s)} &\sim 1.33 \\ A_{v,\text{obs}} \text{ (15km/s)} &\sim 1.85 \end{aligned}$$

-> $A_{v,\text{eff}} < 1$ consistent with HI/H $_2$ transition

Observed A_v is a factor of a few **larger** than effective A_v used in modelling (Roellig et al. 2007, Seifried et al. 2021).



Clark et al. 2019

Velocity range	I _{CII} [K kms ⁻¹]	FUV field [G _o]	Density [cm ⁻³]	Temperature [K]	N _{CII} ^a 10 ¹⁸ [cm ⁻²]	N(H) ^b 10 ²¹ [cm ⁻²]	Mass ^c [M _⊙]
DR21 (-10 to 4 km s ⁻¹)	~30	100 - 300	400 - 5 10 ⁴	100-200	1.06 ^d , 0.54 ^e	6.60 ^d , 3.38 ^e	4550 ^e
W75N (4 to 12 km s ⁻¹)	~10	30	190	200	0.40	2.49	3540
High-velocity (12 to 20 km s ⁻¹)	~5	10	110	100	0.55	3.46	2440

- Diffuse gas is mostly atomic and contains a significant mass reservoir.
(Molecular DR21 ridge contains $\sim 12000 \text{ M}_{\odot}$ (*Schneider et al. 2010, Hennemann et al. 2012*)).



- We observe ***spatially*** and ***kinematically*** extended CII emission in the Cygnus X North region, in particular in **CO-poor regions**.
-> CII is a good tracer of **CO-dark/poor** gas, confirming findings of e.g. *Pineda et al. (2014)* from the GOTC+ survey: PDRs ~47%, CO-dark H₂ gas (~28%), cold atomic gas (~21%), ionized gas (~4%).
- The CII emitting gas extends over a velocity range of **~20 km/s**, the gas density is **100-200 cm⁻³** at a temperature of **~100 K**.
It is mostly atomic.
- The hydrogen column density (from CII) is low, $A_{\nu, \text{eff}} \lesssim 1$ (HI-H₂ transition).

- No **head-on collision** of individual molecular clouds and no gentle, **low-velocity merging** of only atomic flows.
- **High-velocity** interaction ('**soft collision**') of atomic flows.

Small inhomogeneities in the diffuse gas can be strongly enhanced and form filaments where CO traces only the **quiet, molecular** gas, not revealing the original kinematics in the diffuse gas.

Similar scenario as presented for the ***Musca/Chamaeleon region*** (Bonne et al. 2020):

Crossing HI clouds form molecular gas at the convergence of bended magnetic fields behind the shock front in HI.

- Unclear what drives the fast atomic flows.
 $v < 10$ km/s is approximately the sound speed in turbulent HI gas in the WNM,
 $v > 20$ km/s require dynamical processes on galactic scales, such as streaming motions due to spiral arm waves.
- These flows can build up ***OB clusters*** (Dobbs et al. 2020).

- A detailed study (CO, CII) of the DR21 ridge is in preparation (Lars Bonne et al.), including discussing the magnetic field which is important for the star-formation history of the region.
(Magnetic fields are measured with HAWK+ (Pillai et al.)).
- More **FEEDBACK** sources will be investigated in CII and CO (but need extended CII maps, not all is done yet).

