B-BOP: The SPICA far-IR imaging polarimeter



On behalf of the B-BOP Consortium and the co-authors of the SPICA-B-BOP White Paper

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SPICA UK Meeting - RAS - 3 Dec 2018

B-BOP: An imaging polarimeter for SPICA



Polarization-sensitive bolometers at the heart of the B-BOP instrument



- Two orthogonal (V & H) branches of dipoles
- Double spiral architecture to retrieve V & H (Tot. flux + diff. V/H)

The "Stokes" pixels of B-BOP



Status of SPICA-POL (B-BOP) White Paper

- White Paper just submitted to PASA
- > Main science topics:
 - Magnetic fields and star formation in (Galactic) filamentary clouds (including protostars & high-mass star/cluster formation)
 - > Magnetic fields in nearby galaxies (A. Hughes, J.Ph. Bernard)
 - Dust physics (V. Guillet, I. Ristorcelli)
- > Additional science topics:
 - > Magnetized interstellar turbulence (F. Boulanger, E. Falgarone)
 - > Interaction of cosmic rays with molecular clouds (T. Montmerle)
 - Polarized emission from protoplanetary disks (E. Pantin)
 - > Variability of protostars in the far-IR (D. Johnstone)

Magnetic fields: A largely unexplored "dimension" of the cold Universe

A key 'dark' ingredient of the star formation process from galactic scales to protoplanetary disks



EA (2000



- On large scales (GMCs > 10-100 pc), regulate the formation of molecular clouds and filaments (Mouschovias & Ciolek 1991, McKee & Ostriker 2007...)
- On small scales (proto* cores < 0.1 pc), key role to generate protostellar outflows and control disk formation
- Very poorly constrained observationally (eg. Crutcher 2012 ARA&A)

 Wachida+2008

Polarized dust emission: A unique tool to trace B fields

- Non-spherical dust grains spin like tops about their axis of maximal inertia (= minor axis)
- Grains precess around B-field lines and tend to align their minor axis with \vec{B}



Figure Credit: Ponthieu & Lagache (2004)
 Interstellar dust grains behave like a compass and can be used to trace the plane-of-sky component of the B field (B_{POS})

SPICA: A future revolution in FIR polarimetric imaging

Thanks to a cooled telescope, SPICA-POL = B-BOP will be 2-3 orders of magnitude more sensitive (4-6 orders of magnitude faster) than other far-IR/submm imaging polarimeters



B-BOP will deliver wide-field 100-350 μm images of polarized emission (Stokes Q, U) with a resolution, S/N ratio, and intensity/spatial dynamic ranges comparable to *Herschel* images in total intensity (I).

Herschel has revealed the presence of a 'universal' filamentary structure in the cold ISM



Nearby filaments have a common inner width ~ 0.1 pc



Example of a filament radial profile



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HERSCHEL

Distribution of mean inner widths for ~ 600 nearby (d < 450pc) filaments



[see also Koch & Rosolowsky 2015]

Possibly linked to magneto-sonic scale of turbulence? (cf. Padoan+2001; Federrath 2016)

Challenging for numerical simulations

(cf. R. Smith+2014; Ntormousi+2016)



A filamentary paradigm for $\sim M_{\odot}$ star formation

Schneider & Elmegreen 1979; Larson 1985; Inutsuka & Miyama 1997...

cf. Protostars & Planets VI chapter

(André, DiFrancesco, Ward-Thompson, Inutsuka, Pudritz, Pineda 2014)



- Large-scale MHD compressive flows create
 ~ 0.1 pc-wide filaments
- 2) Gravity fragments the densest filaments into prestellar cores above $M_{line,crit} \sim 16 M_{\odot} pc^{-1}$
- 3) Prestellar cores collapse to protostars/YSOs



A major open issue: Role of magnetic fields?

Planck polarization data reveal a very organized B field on large ISM scales,
 ~ perpendicular to dense star-forming filaments, ~ parallel to low-density filaments

Suggests that the B field plays a key role in the physics of ISM filaments



SPICA-B-BOP can unveil the role of magnetic fields in filament evolution and core/star formation



Evidence of accretion of background material (striations) onto self-gravitating filaments?

> Striations and sub-filaments are suggestive of accretion flows into the star-forming filaments - Tend to be // to the large-scale B field



Probing the magnetic link between striations and fibers High resolution/dynamic range polarimetric imaging with B-BOP

Geometry of the B-field within the (~ 0.1 pc) system of intertwined « fibers » developing inside star-forming filaments and the connection with the striations seen on larger scales



Role of B fields in regulating filament fragmentation and protostellar collapse to stellar/solar systems?



Role of B fields in controling the sub-fragmentation of dense cores and the typical outcome of protostellar collapse?



Polarimetric imaging of nearby galaxies to understand the origin of magnetic fields in GMCs



SPICA-Pol (B-BOP) can uniquely probe the B field within the GMCs (cold ISM) of nearby disk galaxies where star formation occurs.

Synchrotron polarization observations (e.g. SKA) can only probe the warm ionized ISM over the full volume of galaxies (including their halo).

The power of sensitive polarimetric imaging with B-BOP



- \Rightarrow Magnetic structure of galaxies,
- \Rightarrow Galactic dynamo models for the origin of B,
- \Rightarrow Polarization of the CIB.



> B-BOP will map the whole LMC in ~50 hr and the galaxies of the **VNGS & KINGFISH** Herschel surveys in ~200 hr



Testing dust grain alignment models with SPICA/B-BOP



is // to the B field ($\Psi = 0$)

Leading grain alignment theory: Radiative Alignment Torques (RATs)

(Hoang & Lazarian 2014, Andersson+2015)

With B-BOP:

Observations of polarized dust emission around **thousands of individual stars dominating the radiation field locally**

Spectral dependence of polarization fraction





Prediction of RATs model

Stronger grain alignment/polarization

fraction when incident radiation field

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Conclusions

B-BOP sensitivity for imaging polarimetry Stokes Q, U at 5σ in 1 hr/deg² Surface Brightness, I_v [MJy/sr] H Key advantages of SPICA: 10⁴ H • High spatial dynamic range SOFIA (~10³) **•TNG** SCUBA2 10² LMC High angular resolution CCATP NIKA2 diffuse ISM (can resolve < 0.1 pc scale CSST⊢⊢I out to $d \sim 300 \text{ pc}$) SPIC 1 High surface brightness $T_d = 14K$ sensitivity To map 5% 10⁻² Τ_d=10K 1000× more sensitive than SOFIA > 1000× faster than BLAST-TNG 10^{2} 10³ Wavelength, λ [µm]

- Polarimetric imaging survey of ~ 500 deg² (Gould Belt clouds) in \leq 2 months
- Survey of nearby galaxies in ~ 200 hr
- A systematic polarimetric imaging survey of Galactic molecular clouds and nearby galaxies with SPICA-B-BOP will revolutionize our understanding of the origin and role of B-fields in the cold ISM of galaxies on scales from ~0.01 pc to a few kpc