Feeding the Central Molecular Zone

Andy Nilipour

Mentors: Juergen Ott, Brian Svoboda, David Meier







Outline



Background



Properties



Central Molecular Zone (CMZ)



Central Molecular Zone (CMZ)



Dense, warm, and turbulent

CMZ Inflows

Bar potential drives inflows towards the CMZ



CMZ Inflows

Overshooting gas and collision sites



Sormani et al. (2019)

Selected 25 warm, broad-lined clouds outside the CMZ



Atacama Compact Array



Shortest baselines of ALMA

ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO)

Data



50°09'	08'	07'	06'	05'	0-
		6	,		





Cloud 25 NH₃ (1,1)

04'

ALMA (30" beam) Band 6:

- SiO $J = 5 \rightarrow 4$
- $H_2COJ = 3_{21} \rightarrow 2_{20}, J = 3_{03} \rightarrow 2_{02}$
- $HC_3NJ = 24 \rightarrow 23$
- $CH_3OH J = 4_{22} \rightarrow 3_{12}$
- $C^{18}O, {}^{13}CO, {}^{12}CO J = 2 \rightarrow 1$
- H30α

Mopra (2' beam) HOPS (H_2O southern Galactic Plane Survey):

• NH₃ (1,1), (2,2), (3,3), (6,6)

Ammonia Temperature

Clouds closer to the Galactic center seem to be warmer



Formaldehyde Temperature

Presence of hot molecular cores not seen in ammonia



Temperature Comparisons

Ammonia and formaldehyde seem to trace different gas



Star Formation from *Spitzer*

Three-color *Spitzer* images (4.5, 8, and 24 micron) with H30*a* contours



Same clouds as with hot cores in H₂CO

VLASS cutouts with ¹³CO contours

17^h19^m36^s

24^s

l

18⁵

30^s

VLASS Detections

17^h26^m42^s

36^s

l

30^s

24^s



17^h19^m55^s

50^s

l

45^s

17^h25^m30^s 24^s

l

18^s

12^s

Star Formation Comparison

These conversions generally apply to larger spatial scales, so may not hold here





Turbulent Heating

Formaldehyde thermometer appears to be less sensitive to turbulent heating



Shock Heating

Formaldehyde thermometer appears to be more sensitive to shock heating. Or, SF enhances methanol more than turbulent shocks



Distribution of Cloud Properties



Distribution of Cloud Properties



Are our clouds on the Galactic bar?



Distribution of Cloud Properties



Conclusions

- Observed 20 clouds on the Galactic plane
- Measured various properties
 - Temperature, turbulence, star formation, and shocks
- Still more work needed to determine locations of clouds
 - Asymmetric bar
 - A few clouds are at collision sites between inflowing gas, overshooting gas, and the CMZ

Temperature Comparisons



 NH_3 (3,3)-(1,1) Temperature



351°38' 36'

34' 32'

351°52' 50'



Cloud 4

120

- 100

- 80

- 60

- 40

- 20

NH_3 (3,3)-(1,1) Temperature Error



350°16' 14'

12











- 12

- 10

- 8

- 6

- 4

- 2

(a)

(b)