# Magnetic fields in Intermediate Mass T-Tauri Stars

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# → Stellar magnetic fields

cool stars against hot stars



For cool stars such as the Sun, the magnetic field is:

> rapidly evolving> complex> weak



Hot stars tend to present magnetic fields which are:

very strongorganizedroughly dipolar

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# → Stellar magnetic fields

dynamo against fossil fields



Uncertain origin of fossil field ..

> galactic magnetic field captured by the star ?

> leftovers from dynamo processes ?

in stellar evolution context



### T-Tauri stars:

> roughly between 0.5 and 3.5 solar masses

> accreting material from surrounding protoplanetary disc

> fueled by gravitational energy from star's contraction

#### Intermediate Mass T-Tauri Stars:

> around 2 solar masses

> progenitors of Herbig Ae/Be stars and ultimately A/B type stars









and their magnetic field



### Observing stellar magnetic field

### Zeeman effect in stellar spectra



### Zeeman effect

First observed by Zeeman in 1896

### First observable

> Spectral lines split into several components when a magnetic field is present

 $\Delta\lambda=0.00467\;g\;\lambda^2\,|\mathbf{B}|$ 

 $\Delta \lambda$  is the component shift in nm  $\lambda$  is the wavelength in  $\mu m$ g is the Landé factor of the component B is the m.f. strength in kG

>> the component shift is proportional to the **magnetic field strength**, **wavelength**, and **Landé factor** 

### Observing stellar magnetic field

Zeeman effect in stellar spectra

#### Second observable

> The  $\pi$  and  $\sigma$  components exhibit **linear** or/and **circular polarization** according to the magnetic field orientation w.r.t. the line of sight.



Image from "Observations of Cool-Star Magnetic Fields" by Ansgar Reiners

http://solarphysics.livingreviews.org/Articles/lrsp-2012-1/

# > Detection method

spectral synthesis with no magnetic field



### > Detection method

Comparison between synthetic and observed spectra



# → Detection method

spectral synthesis with magnetic field



Improving atomic data



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→ Improving atomic data



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### → Observations

### Spectra in H and K band



Our spectra are acquired:

 with the CRIRES instrument sitting at the VLT

 ▶ for ~10 stars with effective temperature roughly
 between 4000 K and 6000 K

in 2 infrared spectral bands:
 H-band (around 1.56 μm) and
 K-band (around 2.31 μm)

→ Real data

ylw19





Now what?

- Work on all the spectra and try to get upper limit on magnetic field strength
- Involvement in the upgrade of the CRIRES instrument

# Thanks for listening

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