

# High-Mass Star-Forming Clumps with Unusual $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+/\text{HCO}^+$ Line Ratios

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- MALT90 overview (Two talks tomorrow!!)
  - ▶ **James Jackson** : The MALT90 Molecular Line Survey
  - ▶ **Yanett Contreras** : MALT90: Unveiling Its Treasures
- $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Anomalies
  - ▶  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Poor Sources (Low  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+/\text{HCO}^+$  ratios)
  - ▶  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Rich Sources (High  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+/\text{HCO}^+$  ratios)
- Source with two of the most massive protostellar sources: G333.234–00.061

**Come by and see my poster:  
Hubble Observations of Isolated YSOs in the  
Large Magellanic Cloud**

## MALT90 Collaborators (partial list)

James Jackson	Boston University
Scott Whitaker	Boston University
Patricio Sanhueza	Boston University/NAOJ
Sadia Hoq	Boston University
Jill Rathborne	CSIRO
Yanett Contreras	CSIRO
Jonathan Foster	Yale
Andres Guzman	CfA
Steve Longmore	Liverpool John Moores U.

Over 50 collaborators and in many more countries: Germany, France, Austria, Chile, and Japan

## The Millimetre Astronomy Legacy Team 90 GHz (MALT 90) Survey

**Observing Parameters:**

- 16 lines simultaneously
  - ▶ High critical densities
  - ▶ High-mass star formation tracers
- $3' \times 3'$  maps around  $\sim 2000$  high-mass sources
- $38''$  resolution
  - ▶ Clump scale ( $\sim 1$  pc)
- $0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  spectral resolution
- $0.25 \text{ K}$  typical noise ( $T_A^*$ ) per channel



ATNF Mopra 22 m

**Table 1** Spectral Lines in the MALT90 Survey

Transition	Frequency (MHz)	Tracer
$\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$ (1-0)	93173.772	Density, chemically robust
$^{13}\text{CS}$ (2-1)	92494.303	Optical depth, Column density, $V_{LSR}$
H41 $\alpha$	92034.475	Ionized gas
$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ 5(0)-4(0)	91987.086	Hot core
$\text{HC}_3\text{N}$ (10-9)	90978.989	Hot core
$^{13}\text{C}^{34}\text{S}$ (2-1)	90926.036	Optical depth, Column density, $V_{LSR}$
HNC (1-0)	90663.572	Density; Cold chemistry
$\text{HC}^{13}\text{CCN}$ (10-9)	90593.059	Hot core
$\text{HCO}^+$ (1-0)	89188.526	Density; Kinematics
$\text{HCN}$ (1-0)	88631.847	Density
$\text{HNCO}$ 4(1,3)-3(1,2)	88239.027	Hot core
$\text{HNCO}$ 4(0,4)-3(0,3)	87925.238	Hot core
$\text{C}_2\text{H}$ (1-0) 3/2-1/2	87316.925	Photodissociation region
$\text{HN}^{13}\text{C}$ (1-0)	87090.859	Optical depth, Column density, $V_{LSR}$
$\text{SiO}$ (1-0)	86847.010	Shock/outflow
$\text{H}^{13}\text{CO}^+$ (1-0)	86754.330	Optical depth, Column density, $V_{LSR}$

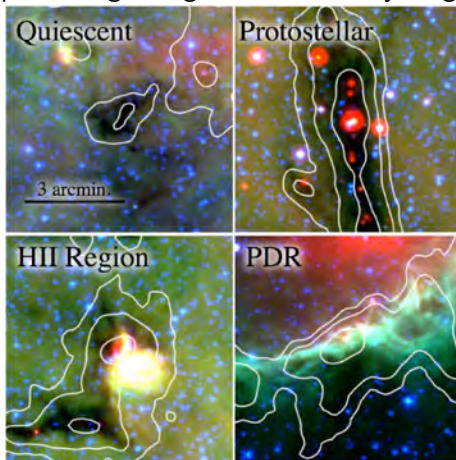
Jackson et al. (2013)

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Jackson et al. (2013)

Span a large range of evolutionary stages



*Spitzer* 3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  (blue), 8.0  $\mu\text{m}$  (green), and 24  $\mu\text{m}$  (red)  
Contours: ATLASGAL

Over 2000  $3' \times 3'$  maps toward high-mass ATLASGAL ( $870 \mu\text{m}$ ) sources

Multiple ATLASGAL sources and velocities per map: 3566 sources

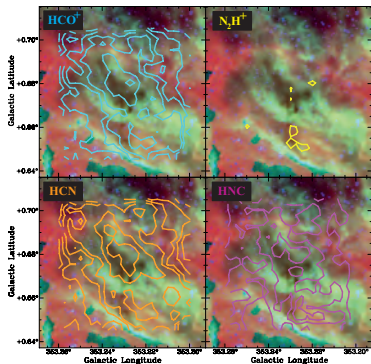
- PDR: 10%
- H II Region: 26%
- Protostellar: 22%
- Quisecent: 19%
- Unknown: 22%



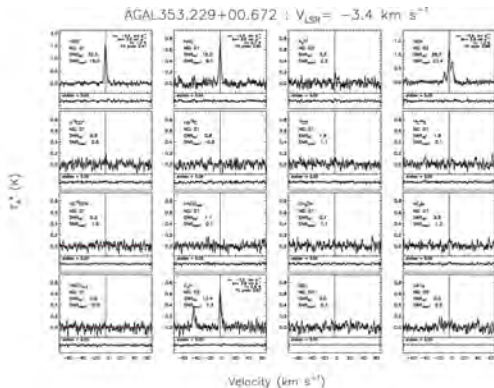
## Finding Chart for Interferometers

- The Atacama Large Millimeter Array (ALMA)
  - ▶ The Brick (Cycle 0 & 1) : Tuesday's talk, **Jill Rathborne**
  - ▶ Initial gas structure in a cold, massive clump (Cycle 2)
- The Australian Telescope Compact Array (ATCA)
  - ▶  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Anomalies (follow-up of Hoq et al. 2013)
    - $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Poor Sources
    - $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Rich Sources

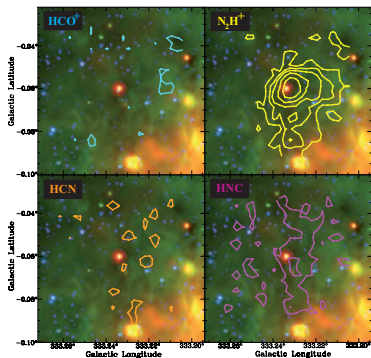
## N<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> Poor Source: G353.229+00.672



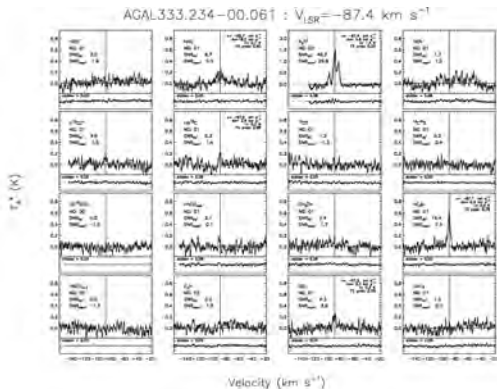
Spitzer 3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  (blue), 8.0  $\mu\text{m}$  (green), and 24  $\mu\text{m}$  (red)  
MALT90: Contours

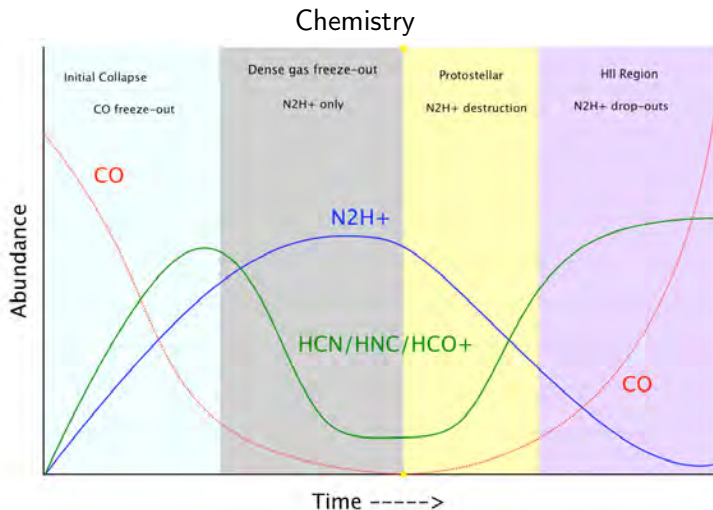


## N<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> Rich Source: G333.234-00.061



Spitzer 3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  (blue), 8.0  $\mu\text{m}$  (green), and 24  $\mu\text{m}$  (red)  
MALT90: Contours





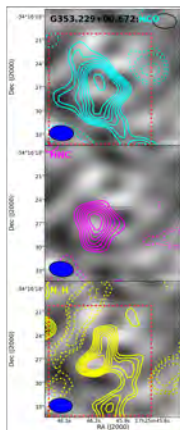
Based on chemical models of Lee et al. (2004); see also Bergin (2007)

## Follow-up ATCA 3 mm Observations, August 2013

- Four sources: two  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  poor, two  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  rich
- 2.2'' resolution
- Velocity resolution  $0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  over  $\sim 200 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- $\text{HCO}^+(1-0)$ ,  $\text{HNC}(1-0)$ ,  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+(1-0)$ ,  $^{13}\text{CS}(2-1)$
- 90 and 93 GHz continuum



## $N_2H^+$ Poor Source: G353.229+00.672



ATCA 3-mm observations

## $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$ Poor Sources

- Not anomalous on small scales
- Must use large-scale (MALT90) observations to assess this anomaly
  - ▶ Pick the most reliable  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  poor sources (e.g., significantly detected, strongly anomalous, no huge linewidths, not in CMZ, etc.)
  - ▶ Compare to large-scale *Spitzer* images to see global star formation properties

124 Extreme MALT90  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Poor Sources,  $I(\text{N}_2\text{H}^+)/I(\text{HCO}^+) < 0.2$

- 41 PDRs (11% of all MALT90 PDRs are  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Poor Sources)
- 36 H II regions (4%)
- 5 Protostellar (0.6%)
- 8 Quiescent (1%)
- 34 Unknown (4%)

**Generally associated with ionized regions**

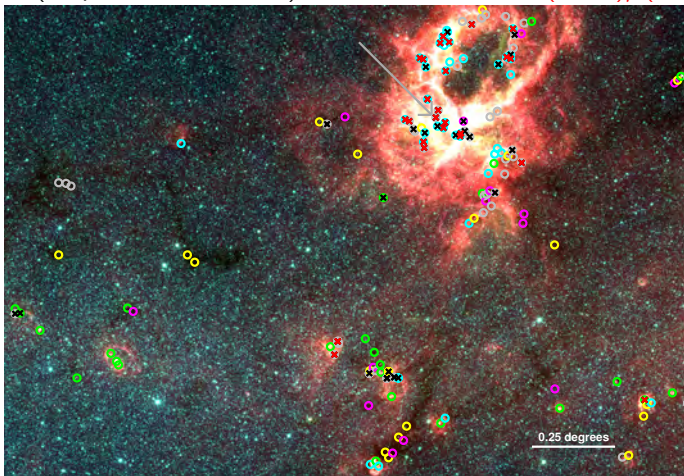


# $N_2H^+$ Anomalies

NGC 6357 star formation complex (1.9 kpc).

○ Quiescent ○ Protostellar ○ H II ○ PDR ○ Unknown

× Anomalies (Hoq et al. 2013 criteria) × Extreme Anomalies  $I(N_2H^+)/I(HCO^+) < 0.2$

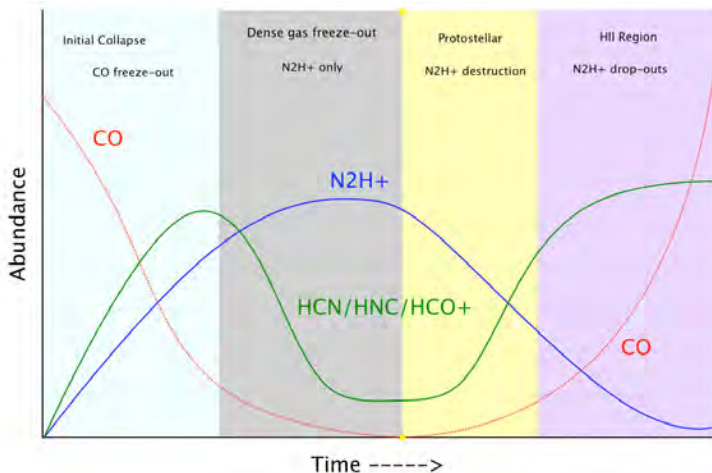


*Spitzer* 3.6  $\mu\text{m}$  (blue), 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  (green), and 8.0  $\mu\text{m}$  (red)

## $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$ Poor Sources

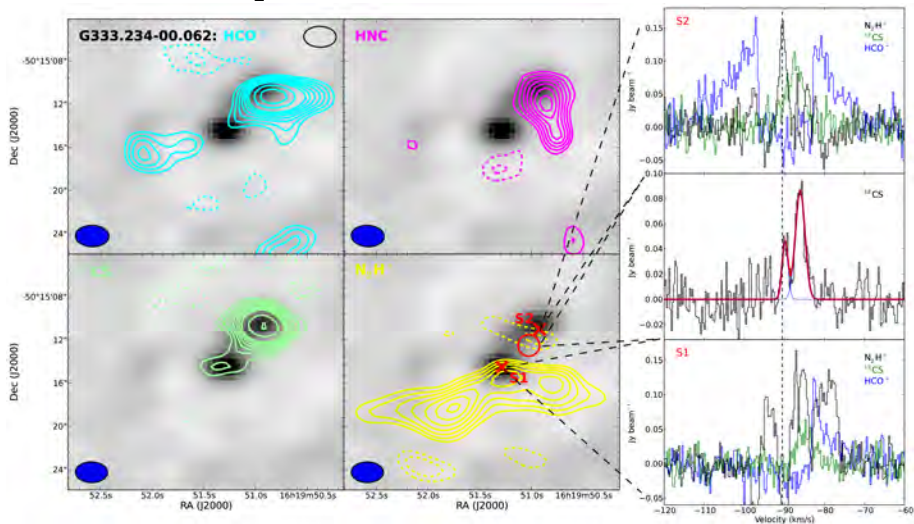
- Associated with PDRs and H II regions
- Particularly prevalent around shells, indicative of PDRs

## $N_2H^+$ Poor Sources



High-mass  $N_2H^+$  destruction confirmed with the largest dataset to date!

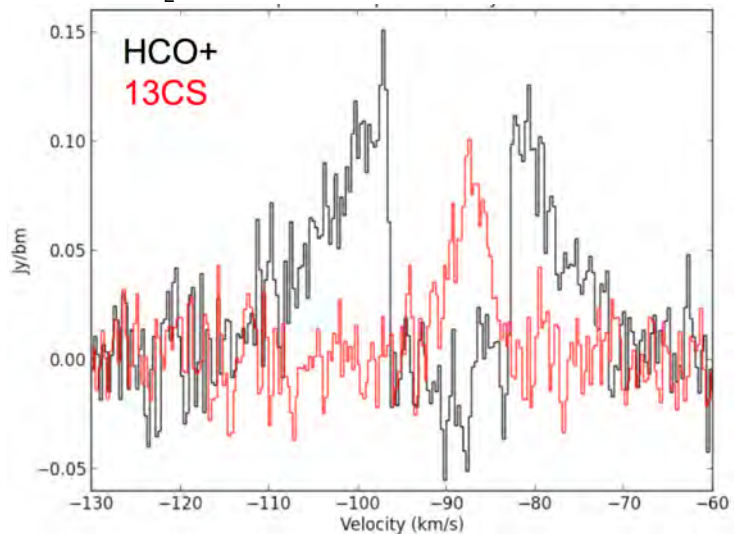
## $N_2H^+$ Rich Source: G333.234-00.061



ATCA 3-mm observations

# $N_2H^+$ Anomalies

$N_2H^+$  Rich Source: G333.234-00.061



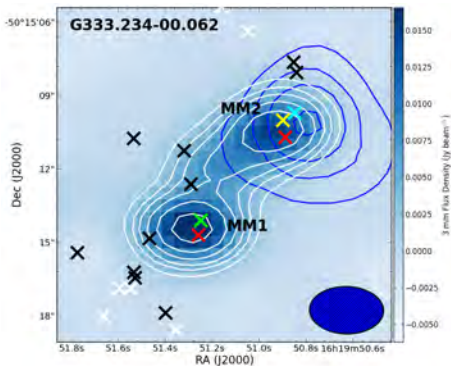
## $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$ Rich Sources

- These are sources with **extreme**  $\text{HCO}^+$  self-absorption at large-scales.

# G333.234-00.061 : Unique $N_2H^+$ “Rich” Source

Two protostellar sources located 4.7 kpc from the sun  
No obvious free-free emission

White contours: 3 mm continuum    Blue contours: 8  $\mu$ m IRAC



MM1 has  $\sim$ 25% more flux than MM2

# G333.234–00.061 : Unique $N_2H^+$ “Rich” Source

$$M = \frac{F_\nu^i D^2}{\kappa_\nu B_\nu(T_D)}$$

$F_\nu^i$  integrated flux,  $D$  distance,  $\kappa_\nu$  dust opacity,  $B_\nu(T_D)$  Planck function,  $T_D$  temperature

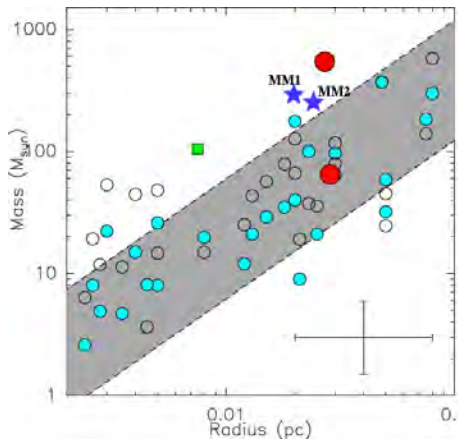
$T_D = 100$  K, GDR=100

$\kappa_{1.3\text{ mm}} = 0.90 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$  (Ossenkopf),  $\beta = 1.5$

$\rightarrow \kappa_{3.3\text{ mm}} = 0.22 \text{ cm}^2 \text{ g}^{-1}$

MM1:  $>36 M_\odot$  MM2:  $>29 M_\odot$

Adopting  $\kappa_\nu$  for all protostellar sources and using  $T_D = 50$  K (Peretto et al. 2013), two of some of the most massive *protostellar* cores known, separated by a projected distance of only 0.12 pc

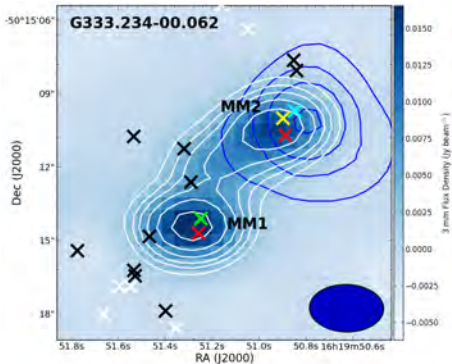


Peretto et al. (2013)



# G333.234-00.061 : Unique $N_2H^+$ “Rich” Source

MM2 has **IRAC** emission, and MM1 does not. MM2 is likely hotter.

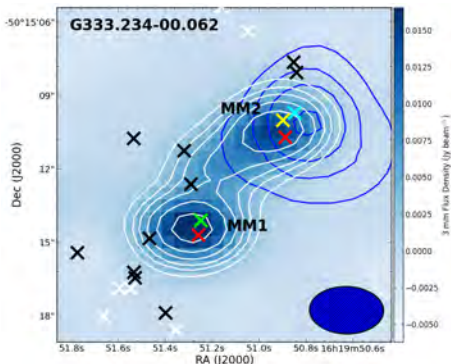


MM1 is at an earlier evolutionary stage than MM2

# G333.234-00.061 : Unique $N_2H^+$ “Rich” Source

Collisionally Pumped Masers: × 36 GHz class I methanol × 44 GHz class I methanol × 95.1 GHz class I methanol × 22 GHz water

Radiatively Pumped Masers: × 6.7 GHz class II methanol × 1.7 GHz OH



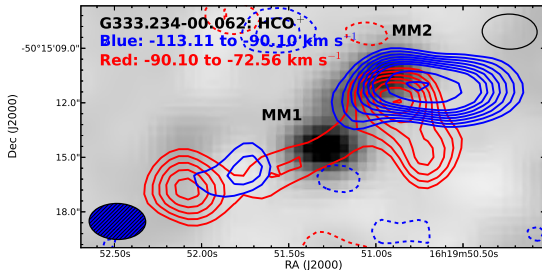
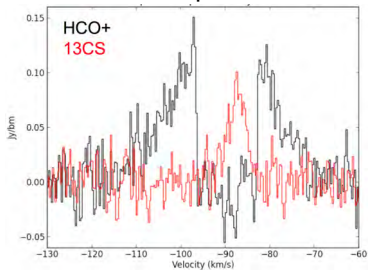
Evolutionary sequence (some overlap):

Class I Methanol → Class II Methanol → Water → OH (Forster & Caswell 1989, Ellingsen 2006, Breen et al. 2007):

**MM1 is at an earlier evolutionary stage than MM2**

# G333.234-00.061 : Unique $N_2H^+$ “Rich” Source

## MM2 Spectra



MM2 has a much more developed outflow  
MM1 is at an earlier evolutionary stage than MM2

MM1 is at an earlier evolutionary stage than MM2:

- (1) MM2 has *Spitzer* IRAC emission while MM1 does not, suggesting much warmer temperatures for MM2.
- (2) MM2 has a large outflow, while MM1 does not have a definitive outflow.
- (3)  $^{13}\text{CS}$  has a stronger peak on MM2 even though MM1 is brighter in the continuum, suggesting MM1 could be colder.
- (4) The detected maser species for MM1 and MM2 indicate that MM2 is likely at a later evolutionary stage.

**MM1 is at an earlier evolutionary stage than MM2 but is more massive.** This is **unexpected** for two sources at a projected distance of only 0.12 pc!!!

## Explanation?

- Multiple epochs of massive star formation
- Changes in accretion rates
- MM2 had faster free-fall time
- Unaccounted multiplicity
- Feedback: prestellar cores more massive than star's final mass (e.g., Tan et al. 2014)

Do  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  “rich” sources (i.e., sources with extreme  $\text{HCO}^+$  self-absorption) show the location of the most massive young stellar objects?

- Indicate locations of extremely high column density
- Line observations advantages over *Herschel* column density maps in finding the most massive sources
  - ▶ Separate multiple velocity components
  - ▶ Kinematic distances
  - ▶ Integrated intensity ratio of  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  and  $\text{HCO}^+$  is immune to the beam dilution
- A new method of finding the highest mass protostars?

- $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Anomalies
  - ▶  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Poor Anomalies arise in ionized regions
  - ▶  $\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$  Rich Anomalies arise from strong self-absorption in  $\text{HCO}^+$  lines
- G333.234–00.061
  - ▶ Two of some of some of the most massive cores forming in close proximity (projected distance  $\sim 0.12$  pc)
  - ▶ More massive core is at an earlier evolutionary state!
- Stephens et al. (2015), ApJ, 802, 6