



SWAG Water Masers in the Galactic Center Jürgen Ott (NRAO)



The Galactic Center

Inner 500 pc: Central Molecular Zone

- Contains about 10% of all molecular gas (10^{7-8} M_o in 0.1% of the volume)
- gas density is 100 times that of the disk
- Star formation rate $\sim 0.1 \text{ M}_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- Some of the strongest large scale magnetic fields (filaments)
- Stellar clusters with $10^4 M_o$, one in the making
- supernova rate 1/2500 yr¹
- high cosmic ray flux (mainly from SNe)
- high UV and X-ray flux: PDR, XDR (and X-ray echoes)
- large influence of shocks
- origin of outflows vertical to disk (Fermi Bubbles)
- Contains SMBH (Sgr A*) with $4 \times 10^6 M_{o}$
- Shows 511 keV p-e annihilation radiation
- Good target for DM studies (annihilation signatures)
- extreme, complex, and rich region to study



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The Galactic Center Gas in the GC

- Globally: SF suppressed in the GC (Longmore+ 2013; Kruijssen+2014)
- High turbulence most likely reason. Could have implications for KS laws.
- Gas dynamics may raise pressure eq portions (Meidt), t_{ff} correction may explain deviation







The Galactic Center Gas in the GC

- 10% of all molecular gas in about 0.1% of the volume
- Gas funneled through bar into the GC, streamers



Galactic longitude [deg]

Stream 2

Stream 3

Stream 4

0.5

100

50

0

y [pc]

Kruijssen+ (2015



The Galactic Center Gas in the GC

- Possibility of a SF sequence (Longmore+ 2013; Kruijssen+ 2015)
- Brick: very dense, massive, compact (10⁵ Mo), but hardly any SF, many substructure and internal shocks (Rathborne+ 2015)
- Some SF, masers, evolved stars in clumplets
- Extreme SF in Sgr B2
- Fading toward B1?
- 24µm sources (YSOs?) excess toward negative Glon







SWAG: Survey of Water and Ammonia in the

Galactic Center

- ATCA (H75 config, 64M-32k mode)
- 525 hours
- $-1^{\circ} \leq | \leq +2^{\circ}$, $|b| \leq 0.4^{\circ}$, central 400 pc (CMZ)
- > 6500 pointings
- 21.2 25.4 GHz
- 42 lines + 4 GHz continuum
 NH₃ (1,1) (6,6), H₂O, radio recombination lines, ... temperature, maser, shock, photon-dominated region, ...
- resolution: ~20" or ~0.8 pc, 0.4 km/s
- rms: ~8mJy/beam in a 2km/s channel (~18mJy/beam Glon<Sgr C)





Survey of Water and Ammonia in the Galactic Center



Mopra NH₃ map (Ott +14)



Krieger et al. (2017)









Close to each pericenter passage, the gas temperature appears to rise, possibly due to compression of gas clouds

Krieger et al. (2017)



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2/3 of molecular gas mass resides here



Rickert et al. (2017) PhD thesis

Asymmetry in YSO sources, based on FIR emission. Excess at negative Glon. (Yusef-Zadeh et al. 2009)

Gas has asymmetry with bulk at positive Glon.

 H_2O maser distribution peaks at Glon=0

Methanol masers appear to follow the gas (VLA survey)

YSO candidates (Yusef-Zadeh et al. 2009)







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Summary

- We detect o(600) water masers in the CMZ (5σ=50mJy) > 1 order of magnitude more masers than previously known
- The low luminosity population is likely dominated by AGB stars
- Unlike the IR 24 μ m sources, water and methanol masers do not show an excess for negative Glon (CH₃OH follows gas, H₂O centered on Glon=0)
- Some YSO/SF masers (H₂O and methanol) can be identified along the streamers (higher luminosities)
- The SF sequence is not contradicted with weak masers near the brick, strong masers near cloud c, very strong masers in Sgr B2, other ~10⁻⁶ L_o H₂O masers along the gas streamers
- The number of SF related tracers is low enough to be in agreement with other SF tracers which show a low SFR/gas mass ratio

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