

Net torque on star

- Field drives strong inflow inside R_m .
- Accretion torque equals angular momentum flux through R_m :

$$T_{\text{acc}} = \dot{M} R_m^2 \Omega_K(R_m)$$

- Hence net torque on star is:

$$T_{\text{mag}} + T_{\text{acc}} = \frac{4\pi B_0^2 R_*^6}{3\mu_0} (R_m^{-3} - 2R_c^{-3/2} R_m^{-3/2}) + \dot{M} R_m^2 \Omega_* \left(\frac{R_m}{R_c}\right)^{-3/2}$$

Net torque must be zero in spin equilibrium

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Spin-equilibrium conditions

- Rearrange expression for zero net torque :

$$\left(\frac{R_m}{R_c}\right)^{-7/2} - 2\left(\frac{R_m}{R_c}\right)^{-2} = -\frac{3\mu_0 \dot{M} (GM_*)^{1/2}}{4\pi B_0^2 R_*^6} R_c^{7/2}$$

- ...to match form used to define R_m :

$$\left(\frac{R_m}{R_c}\right)^{-7/2} - \left(\frac{R_m}{R_c}\right)^{-2} = \frac{1\mu_0 \dot{M} (GM_*)^{1/2}}{8\pi B_0^2 R_*^6} R_c^{7/2}$$

- Subtract 1st equation from twice 2nd equation:

$$R_m^{-7/2} = \frac{\mu_0 \dot{M} (GM_*)^{1/2}}{\pi B_0^2 R_*^6}$$

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Spin-equilibrium values of R_m and R_c

- Subtract and substitute R_m :

$$R_m^{-2} = \frac{7\mu_0 \dot{M} (GM_*)^{1/2}}{8\pi B_0^2 R_*^6} R_c^{3/2} = \frac{7}{8} R_m^{-7/2} R_c^{3/2}$$

$$\Rightarrow R_c^{3/2} = \frac{8}{7} R_m^{3/2}, \text{ i.e. } R_c = \left(\frac{8}{7}\right)^{2/3} R_m$$

$$\text{i.e. } R_c = \left(\frac{8}{7}\right)^{2/3} R_m \approx 1.093 R_m$$

$$\text{where } R_m = \left[\frac{\pi B_0^2 R_*^6}{\mu_0 \dot{M} (GM_*)^{1/2}} \right]^{2/7}$$

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Stability of spin equilibrium

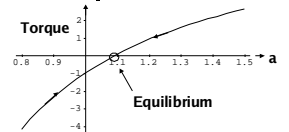
- If star spins slower than equilibrium, then:

$$\frac{R_c}{R_m} \equiv a > \left(\frac{8}{7}\right)^{2/3}$$

- Substitute into expression for net torque on star:

$$3(T_{\text{mag}} + T_{\text{acc}}) \left[\frac{\mu_0}{\pi B_0^2 R_*^6 \dot{M}^6 (GM_*)^3} \right]^{1/7} = 7 - 8a^{-3/2}$$

Torque is positive when star is spinning slower than equilibrium, and vice versa => system is driven toward equilibrium.



AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Typical spin-equilibrium values

$$R_c = 1.076 \times 10^{10} (b_0)^{4/7} (r_*)^{12/7} (m_*)^{-1/7} (\dot{m})^{-2/7} m$$

$$\frac{R_c}{R_*} = 6.19 (b_0)^{4/7} (r_*)^{5/7} (m_*)^{-1/7} (\dot{m})^{-2/7}$$

$$P_{\text{rot}} = 7.031 (b_0)^{6/7} (r_*)^{18/7} (m_*)^{-5/7} (\dot{m})^{-3/7} \text{ day}$$

$$\text{where } b_0 \equiv \left(\frac{B_0}{0.1 T}\right), r_* \equiv \left(\frac{R_*}{2.5 R_{\text{Sun}}}\right), \leftarrow 1 M_{\text{Sun}} \text{ TTS at age} = 1 \text{ Myr}$$

$$m_* \equiv \left(\frac{M_*}{M_{\text{Sun}}}\right), \dot{m} \equiv \left(\frac{\dot{M}}{10^{-8} M_{\text{Sun}} \text{ y}^{-1}}\right)$$

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

The boundary layer

- In non-magnetic systems, accretion occurs directly on to central object.
- Just above surface, material orbits at Keplerian rate.
- Half the available gravitational potential energy is radiated by the disc.
- What about the other half?
 - Rotational energy of star
 - Internal energy of star
 - Re-radiated in boundary layer

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Energetics of the impact region

- Material from disrupted inner disc will be channelled along field lines to impact zones on stellar surface.
- Less near-IR emission (2 - 10 μm) from inner disc.
- More energy to dissipate than in non-magnetic case:
 - Work done by magnetic torque -- dissipated in inner disc?
 - Re-radiation from stellar impact zones (hot spots).
 - Increase in stellar internal energy.
- Stellar magnetic field geometry controls:
 - Location of impact zones
 - Braking efficiency
 - Nature and direction of outflows

AS 5002

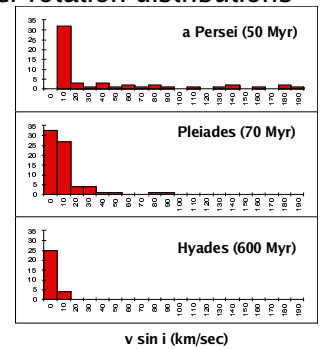
Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Open cluster rotation distributions

Colour range:
0.55 < B-V < 0.85.

Mass range:
1.0 > M / M_{sun} > 0.8

Data taken from
Soderblom et al (1993)



Cluster rotation distributions

- α Persei (50 Myr), Pleiades (70 Myr):
 - Narrow low- Ω peak at P_{rot} ~ 7-10 days
 - Extended high- Ω tail of ultra-fast rotators (UFRs)
 - No UFRs among Pleiades G stars
- Hyades (600 Myr):
 - no high- Ω tail among G or K stars
 - some residual rapid rotation among M dwarfs
- Field stars (up to 10 Gyr):
 - Wide range of rotation rates
 - P_{rot} increases with age.
- Present “best-buy” explanation:
 - Pre-main sequence evolution determines initial distribution.
 - Subsequent spindown via magnetically-channelled wind.

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Protostellar spin evolution

Dynamo field: $B_z = \frac{B_{0*}}{2} \left(\frac{R}{\bar{a}} \right)^3$, $B_{0*} = B_{0, \text{Sun}} \frac{t_{\text{conv}, *}}{t_{\text{conv}, \text{Sun}}} \frac{\Omega_*}{\Omega_{\text{Sun}}}$

Magnetic torque: $T_m = -\frac{4\pi}{\mu_0} \int_{\bar{a}_m}^{\bar{a}_p} \bar{\omega}^2 B_\phi^+ B_z^- d\bar{a}$

Accretion torque: $T_a = \dot{M} \bar{a}_m^2 \Omega_K(\bar{a}_m)$

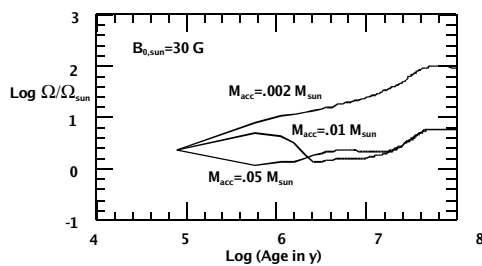
Equation of motion: $T = \frac{d}{dt} (I \Omega_*) \Rightarrow \dot{\Omega}_* = \frac{T - I \dot{\Omega}_*}{k^2 M R^2}$

- Solve equation of motion numerically
- Use a stellar evolution code (Eggleton 1992) to compute the moment of inertia and convective turnover time at each timestep.

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Stellar spin evolution: results



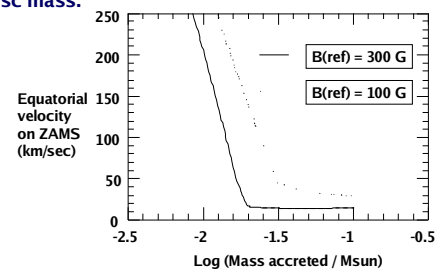
Cameron, Campbell & Quaintrell, 1995 A&A, 298, 133

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Disc mass and ZAMS rotation rate

- Models which accrete more than 0.01 M_{sun} arrive on the ZAMS with a low rotation rate that is almost independent of disc mass.

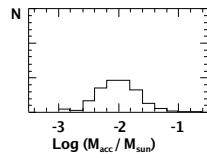


AS 5002

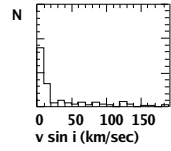
Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

The ZAMS rotation distribution

The distribution of disc masses inferred for CTTS from 1.3 mm continuum fluxes can be approximated by a log-normal distribution:



The resulting distribution of projected equatorial rotation speeds resembles the peak-and-tail distribution found in the α Per (50 Myr) and Pleiades (70 Myr) clusters.



AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics

Spin-down on the main sequence

- **Stars continue to spin down throughout MS evolution:**
 - Rapid spindown of fast rotators in young clusters
 - Asymptotic phase (Skumanich 1972): $\Omega \sim t^{-1/2}$.
- **Angular momentum loss via hot winds:**
 - low mass-loss rates
 - thermally driven at low Ω
 - centrifugally driven at high Ω
 - magnetically channelled
 - high specific angular momentum

AS 5002

Star Formation & Plasma Astrophysics