

The 30 Doradus Molecular Cloud at 0.4 Parsec Resolution with ALMA: Physical Properties and the Boundedness of CO Emitting Structures

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ABSTRACT

We present results of a wide-field (approximately 60×90 pc) ALMA mosaic of CO(2–1) and ^{13}CO (2–1) emission from the molecular cloud associated with the 30 Doradus star-forming region. Three main emission complexes, including two forming a bowtie-shaped structure extending northeast and southwest from the central R136 cluster, are resolved into complex filamentary networks. Consistent with previous studies, we find that the central region of the cloud has higher line widths at fixed size relative to the rest of the molecular cloud and to other LMC clouds, indicating an enhanced level of turbulent motions. However, there is no clear trend in gravitational boundedness (as measured by the virial parameter) with distance from R136. Structures observed in ^{13}CO are spatially coincident with filaments and are close to a state of virial equilibrium. In contrast, ^{12}CO structures vary greatly in virialization, with low CO surface brightness structures outside of the main filamentary network being

predominantly unbound. The low surface brightness structures constitute $\sim 10\%$ of the measured CO luminosity; they may be shredded remnants of previously star-forming gas clumps, or alternatively the CO-emitting parts of more massive, CO-dark structures.

Keywords: galaxies: ISM — radio lines: ISM — ISM: molecules — Magellanic Clouds

1. INTRODUCTION

As the most luminous star forming region in the Local Group, the supergiant H II region of the Large Magellanic Cloud known as the Tarantula Nebula or 30 Doradus (hereafter 30 Dor) provides a unique opportunity to study massive star formation and how it drives and responds to stellar feedback. At the heart of 30 Dor lies R136, a young ($\sim 1\text{--}2$ Myr; Crowther et al. 2016; Bestenlehner et al. 2020) compact ($r \sim 1$ pc) star cluster with extraordinarily high stellar densities of $> 1.5 \times 10^4 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-3}$ (Selman & Melnick 2013) and containing several stars with initial masses exceeding the canonical stellar mass upper limit of $150 M_{\odot}$ (Crowther et al. 2010). Bestenlehner et al. (2020) find that R136 alone contributes $\sim 27\%$ of the ionizing flux and $\sim 19\%$ of the overall mechanical feedback in 30 Dor (as measured within a 150 pc radius by Doran et al. 2013). On larger scales, the cumulative impact of stellar winds and supernova explosions is apparent in the $\sim 3\text{--}9 \times 10^6$ K plasma responsible for diffuse X-ray emission (Townsend et al. 2006). The rich observational data for 30 Dor have been complemented by extensive theoretical modeling of the associated H II and photon dominated regions (e.g., Lopez et al. 2011; Pellegrini et al. 2011; Chevance et al. 2016, 2020; Rahner et al. 2018). As a result, 30 Dor is a promising local analogue for the extreme conditions that were common during the peak epoch of star formation in the Universe.

R136 and its immediate surroundings have traditionally received the most attention, however it has become clear that star formation is on-going in the giant molecular cloud beyond the central cluster (e.g., Walborn et al. 2013). A spatially extended distribution of upper main sequence stars was found by the *Hubble* Tarantula Treasury Program (HTTP) survey, which imaged a $14' \times 12'$ (200×175 pc) region of 30 Dor to characterize the stellar populations and to derive a dust extinction map using stellar photometry (Sabbi et al. 2013, 2016; De Marchi et al. 2016). The distribution and ages of O and B stars, as determined by the VLT-FLAMES Tarantula Survey, also indicate that massive star formation has been widely distributed throughout 30 Dor (Schneider et al. 2018). The discovery of $\sim 20\,000$ pre-main sequence (PMS) stars using HTTP photometry (Ksoll et al. 2018), together with the ~ 40 embedded massive

young stellar objects (YSOs) previously discovered by the *Spitzer* SAGE (Whitney et al. 2008; Gruendl & Chu 2009) and *Herschel* HERITAGE (Seale et al. 2014) programs, have made 30 Dor one of the best studied regions of current star formation activity in any galaxy.

In contrast to the stellar population and PMS/YSO studies, available molecular gas maps of the 30 Dor region have much poorer angular resolution ($\gtrsim 10$ pc; Johansson et al. 1998; Minamidani et al. 2008; Wong et al. 2011; Kalari et al. 2018; Okada et al. 2019), aside from previously published data from the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) covering a relatively small (12×12 pc) area (Indebetouw et al. 2013, 2020). To address these limitations, we have conducted new observations with ALMA, exploiting the array's unique capability to obtain a sensitive, high-resolution ($1''75$ beam) map of the giant molecular cloud complex across an extent of ~ 100 pc using the CO $J=2\text{--}1$ and ^{13}CO $J=2\text{--}1$ transitions. These low- J CO transitions can be used to probe the molecular gas column density and turbulent properties down to sub-parsec scales at a spectral resolution of $\sim 0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, with the important caveat that the ability of CO to trace H_2 may be affected by the low metallicity and strong radiation field in this region (Israel 1997; Bolatto et al. 2013; Jameson et al. 2016; Chevance et al. 2020).

In this paper we present the basic ALMA data products (§2, §3.1) and characterize the CO and ^{13}CO emission structures using dendrogram (§3.2) and filament finding (§3.3) approaches. Our immediate goal is to revisit, over a much larger region, results from previous ALMA studies (Indebetouw et al. 2013; Nayak et al. 2016; Wong et al. 2017, 2019) which have found that the CO line width is enhanced in the 30 Dor region relative to molecular clouds in the Milky Way or elsewhere in the LMC. In §4 we examine whether this enhancement is found throughout the 30 Dor region and how it relates to the gravitational boundedness of molecular gas structures. We briefly summarize and discuss our results in §5. In related works, we will present a greatly expanded catalog of YSOs across the ALMA field and examine the relationship between CO emission and YSOs (O. Nayak et al., in preparation), and we will conduct a comparative study to examine the effect of local star formation activity (as probed by mid-infrared brightness) on

138 molecular cloud properties across the LMC (A. Green et
 139 al., in preparation). We adopt an LMC distance of 50
 140 kpc (Pietrzyński et al. 2019) throughout this paper, for
 141 which 1' is equivalent to 14.5 pc and 1'' is equivalent to
 142 0.24 pc.

143 2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

144 The data presented in this paper were collected for
 145 ALMA Cycle 7 project 2019.1.00843.S in 2019 October
 146 to December. Since the field is larger than can be ob-
 147 served in a single ALMA scheduling block, it was split
 148 into five rectangular subfields that were observed and
 149 imaged separately. To recover flux across the widest
 150 possible range of spatial scales, each subfield was ob-
 151 served in the ALMA ACA (hereafter 7m) and Total
 152 Power (hereafter TP) arrays in addition to the com-
 153 pact (C43-1) configuration of the 12m array. Four of
 154 the subfields spanned $150'' \times 150''$ and consisted of 149
 155 individual pointings of the 12m array, observed for about
 156 20 sec per pointing, and 52 pointings of the 7m array,
 157 observed for about 7 min per pointing. The fifth sub-
 158 field in the northeast was half the size of the others ($150''$
 159 $\times 75''$). Nearly all data used J0601-7036 as the phase
 160 calibrator, which varied between 220 and 300 mJy dur-
 161 ing the span of observations. Absolute flux calibration
 162 was set using the observatory-monitored quasar grid,
 163 specifically one of the sources J0519-4546, J0538-4405,
 164 or J1107-5509 for each execution of the project. The
 165 correlator was set to cover the CO ($J=2-1$) and ^{13}CO
 166 ($J=2-1$) lines at high ($\sim 0.1 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) spectral resolution,
 167 the C^{18}O ($J=2-1$) and H_2CO ($3_{2,1}-2_{2,0}$, $3_{2,2}-2_{2,1}$, and
 168 $3_{0,3}-2_{0,2}$) lines at moderate ($\sim 0.4 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) spectral res-
 169 olution, and the $\text{H}30\alpha$ and continuum across a 1.9 GHz
 170 window at low ($\sim 1.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$) spectral resolution. For
 171 the 12m data the time-varying gains were transferred
 172 from the wide to narrow spectral windows, and for the
 173 7m data, all spectral windows were combined to solve
 174 for time-varying gain. In this paper we focus on the re-
 175 sults of the CO and ^{13}CO observations; a study of the
 176 H_2CO emission will appear separately (Indebetouw et
 177 al., in preparation).

178 Visibilities were calibrated by the observatory staff
 179 using Pipeline-CASA56-P1-B and CASA 5.6.1-8, with
 180 imaging then performed in CASA 5.6.1. For the TP
 181 data, the `sdimaging` task was used to generate image
 182 cubes from the spectra. A residual sinusoidal baseline
 183 in the ^{13}CO TP cube was removed from the gridded
 184 image cube: at each position, the line-free frequency
 185 ranges of a spectrum averaged over a $60''$ square region
 186 were fitted with two sinusoids of different period and
 187 amplitude, and the resulting baseline subtracted. The
 188 dominant effect on the image cube is to remove modest

189 off-source negative bowls. For the 7m and 12m data, the
 190 `uvcontsub` task was first used to subtract the continuum
 191 using a 0-order fit to line-free channels (conservatively
 192 chosen based on previous imaging). The `tclean` task
 193 was then used to generate image cubes with a Briggs
 194 robustness parameter of 0.5, a threshold of 0.18 mJy,
 195 and a restoring beam of $1''.75$ FWHM for the 12m data
 196 ($7''$ FWHM for the 7m data). After cleaning, the 7m
 197 and TP cubes were combined using the `feather` task,
 198 and the 12m and 7m+TP cubes were combined using a
 199 second run of `feather`. Since the sensitivity pattern for
 200 each subfield has a decreasing extent in going from TP
 201 to 7m to 12m, each feathering step was performed on
 202 images tapered by the narrower sensitivity pattern (7m
 203 in the first step, 12m in the second) and the final results
 204 are assumed to have the sensitivity pattern of the 12m
 205 images.

206 Figure 1 compares the integrated spectra derived from
 207 the 12m and 7m data alone with those derived from the
 208 TP data and from the feathering process. The velocity
 209 axis uses the radio definition of velocity, $c(\nu_0 - \nu)/\nu_0$, and
 210 is referenced to the kinematic Local Standard of Rest
 211 (LSR). As expected, the TP flux (shown as the thick
 212 pink line) is recovered in the feathered cube (shown as
 213 the dashed black line). Flux recovery for the 7-meter
 214 (12-meter) array alone is 60% (33%) for ^{12}CO and 55%
 215 (38%) for ^{13}CO . The threshold mask used to construct
 216 the moment images (shown as the green line; see §3.1)
 217 recovers $\sim 80\%$ of the feathered ^{12}CO flux and $\sim 70\%$ of
 218 the feathered ^{13}CO flux; the remaining flux lies outside
 219 the mask boundary. The integrated ^{12}CO TP flux is
 220 $22900 \text{ Jy km s}^{-1}$, which corresponds to a molecular gas
 221 mass (including helium) of $2.4 \times 10^5 M_\odot$ for our adopted
 222 distance and CO-to- H_2 conversion factor (§3.1).

223 To generate the final maps, gain-corrected image
 224 cubes for each subfield were mosaiced by co-addition us-
 225 ing inverse variance weighting based on the sensitivity
 226 pattern of each subfield. The mosaicing was performed
 227 using the Python `REPROJECT` package¹ using bilinear
 228 interpolation. After mosaicing, the images were down-
 229 sampled by a factor of two in RA and DEC to yield
 230 final images of 1000×800 pixels using $0''.5$ pixels; this
 231 is still more than adequate to oversample the $1''.75$ syn-
 232 thesized beam (corresponding to 0.4 pc at our adopted
 233 distance). In addition to cubes with 0.1 km s^{-1} chan-
 234 nels (spanning 200 to 289.9 km s^{-1}), we also generated
 235 cubes with 0.25 km s^{-1} channels (spanning 208 to 282
 236 km s^{-1}) to improve the brightness sensitivity per chan-
 237 nel. The resulting rms noise per 0.25 km s^{-1} channel is

¹ <https://reproject.readthedocs.io/>

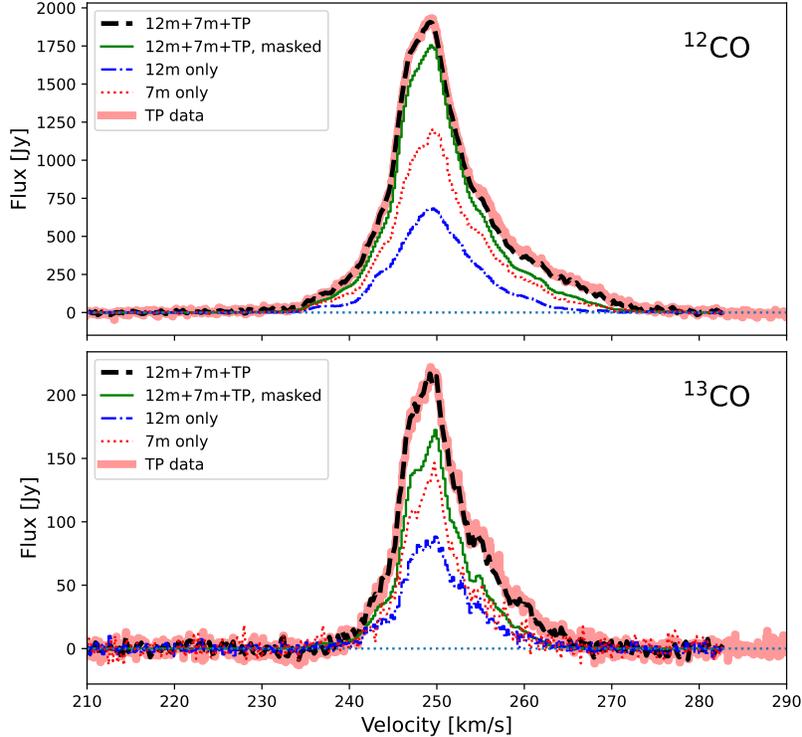


Figure 1. Integrated flux spectra for the CO(2–1) (top) and $^{13}\text{CO}(2-1)$ (bottom) cubes at 0.25 km s^{-1} resolution. The cubes compared are the feathered cube (*black dashed line*), the **TP array data only** (*thick pink line*), the 7m array data only (*red dotted line*), and the 12m array data only (*blue dot-dashed line*). A solid green line shows the flux in the feathered cubes after applying the dilated mask described in §3.1.

238 $\approx 0.26 \text{ K}$ (35 mJy beam^{-1}), with somewhat lower noise
 239 ($\approx 0.16 \text{ K}$ or 21 mJy beam^{-1}) in the smallest subfield.
 240 Most of the results in this paper are based on analysis
 241 of the 0.25 km s^{-1} cubes, though comparisons with the
 242 0.1 km s^{-1} cubes are made as well.

243 3. DATA ANALYSIS METHODS

244 3.1. Intensities and Column Densities

245 Figure 2 shows images of peak signal-to-noise ratio
 246 (SNR) for the ^{12}CO and ^{13}CO data with 0.25 km s^{-1}
 247 channels. Although insensitive to complex line profiles,
 248 such images effectively reveal the full dynamic range
 249 of detected emission without requiring subjective deci-
 250 sions about how to mask out noise. For this reason the
 251 peak SNR image for ^{12}CO is used for filament identi-
 252 fication in §3.3. The dashed circle is at a projected dis-
 253 tance of $\theta_{\text{off}}=200''$ from the center of the R136 cluster
 254 at $\alpha_{2000}=5^{\text{h}}38^{\text{m}}42^{\text{s}}.3$, $\delta_{2000}=-69^{\circ}06'03''.3$ (Sabbi et al.
 255 2016). The central position of the older Hodge 301 clus-
 256 ter ($\alpha_{2000}=5^{\text{h}}38^{\text{m}}17^{\text{s}}$, $\delta_{2000}=-69^{\circ}04'00''$; Sabbi et al.
 257 2016) is indicated as well.

258 We have also generated intensity moment images from
 259 the cubes, using a signal masking procedure imple-

260 mented in the Python `maskmoment` package.² In brief,
 261 starting from a gain-corrected cube and an rms noise
 262 cube, a strict mask composed of pixels with brightness
 263 of 4σ or greater in two consecutive channels is created
 264 and expanded to a looser mask defined by the surround-
 265 ing 2σ contour. Mask regions with projected sky area
 266 less than two synthesized beams are then eliminated.
 267 The resulting integrated flux spectrum within the mask
 268 is shown as the green line in Figure 1. The 0th, 1st, and
 269 2nd intensity moments along the velocity axis are then
 270 computed with pixels outside the signal mask blanked.
 271 Images of the 0th and 1st moments of the ^{12}CO cube
 272 are shown in Figure 3. A notable feature of the 1st
 273 moment map is the roughly orthogonal blueshifted and
 274 redshifted emission structures that are found crossing
 275 the center of the map. We provide an overview of the
 276 CO distribution and velocity structure in §4.1.

277 Derivation of molecular gas mass from the cubes fol-
 278 lows the basic procedures presented in Wong et al.
 279 (2017) and Wong et al. (2019). Where ^{13}CO emission
 280 is detected, we can determine the ^{13}CO column density

² <https://github.com/tonywong94/maskmoment>

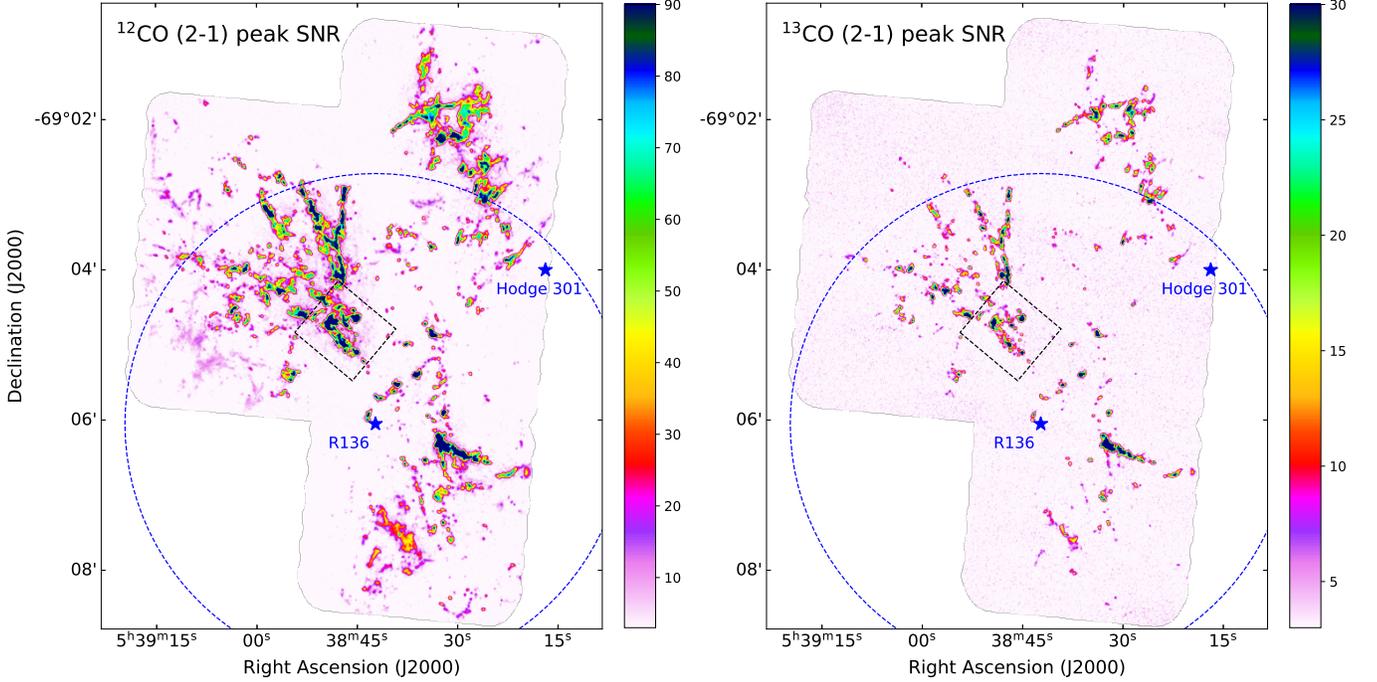


Figure 2. Peak SNR images for the CO (left) and ^{13}CO (right) cubes. The dashed circle represents a projected distance of $200''$ (48 pc) from the center of the R136 cluster, for ease of comparison with Fig. 11. The dashed rectangle has a linear dimension of ~ 12 pc and denotes the region mapped in ALMA Cycle 0 (Indebetouw et al. 2013). The central position of the more evolved Hodge 301 cluster is also indicated.

in the LTE approximation, $N(^{13}\text{CO})$. The excitation temperature T_{ex} is assumed constant along each line of sight and is derived from the ^{12}CO peak brightness temperature ($T_{12,\text{pk}}$) by assuming the ^{12}CO line is optically thick at the peak of the spectrum and is not subject to beam dilution:

$$T_{12,\text{pk}} = J(T_{\text{ex}}) - J(T_{\text{cmb}}), \quad (1)$$

where

$$J(T) \equiv \frac{h\nu/k}{\exp(h\nu/kT) - 1}. \quad (2)$$

For pixels with ^{13}CO peak SNR > 5 , the median and maximum values of T_{ex} are found to be 20 K and 60 K respectively. The beam-averaged ^{13}CO optical depth, τ_{13} , is then calculated from the brightness temperature, T_{13} , at each position and velocity in the cube by solving

$$T_{13} = [J(T_{\text{ex}}) - J(T_{\text{cmb}})][1 - \exp(-\tau_{13})]. \quad (3)$$

As noted in Wong et al. (2017) and Wong et al. (2019), T_{13} cannot exceed $J(T_{\text{ex}}) - J(T_{\text{cmb}}) \approx T_{\text{ex}} - 4.5$ (approximation good to 0.8 K for $5 < T_{\text{ex}} < 60$). Adopting a minimum value for the excitation temperature serves to reduce the number of undefined values of τ_{13} and prevents noise in the ^{13}CO map from being assigned very large opacities. We adopt a minimum $T_{\text{ex}} = 8$ K under the assumption that lower inferred values of T_{ex} result

from beam dilution of ^{12}CO . Since only 1.1% of highly significant (^{13}CO peak SNR > 5) pixels fall below this limit, our results are not sensitive to this choice. The inferred column density $N(^{13}\text{CO})$ in cm^{-2} , summed over all rotational levels, is determined from T_{ex} and τ_{13} using the equation (e.g., Garden et al. 1991, Appendix A):

$$N(^{13}\text{CO}) = 1.2 \times 10^{14} \left[\frac{(T_{\text{ex}} + 0.88)e^{5.3/T_{\text{ex}}}}{1 - e^{-10.6/T_{\text{ex}}}} \right] \int \tau_{13} dv. \quad (4)$$

A corresponding H_2 column density is derived using an abundance ratio of

$$\Upsilon_{13\text{CO}} \equiv \frac{N(\text{H}_2)}{N(^{13}\text{CO})} = 3 \times 10^6, \quad (5)$$

for consistency with the values inferred or adopted by previous analyses (Heikkilä et al. 1999; Mizuno et al. 2010; Fujii et al. 2014).

We also compute a luminosity-based H_2 mass directly from the ^{12}CO integrated intensity by assuming a constant CO-to- H_2 conversion factor:

$$X_{\text{CO}} \equiv \frac{N(\text{H}_2)}{I(\text{CO})} = 2 \times 10^{20} X_2 \frac{\text{cm}^{-2}}{\text{K km s}^{-1}}. \quad (6)$$

Here $X_2 = 1$ for a standard (Galactic) CO to H_2 conversion factor (Bolatto et al. 2013). In our analysis we assume $X_2 = 2.4$ for the CO(1-0) line (based on the

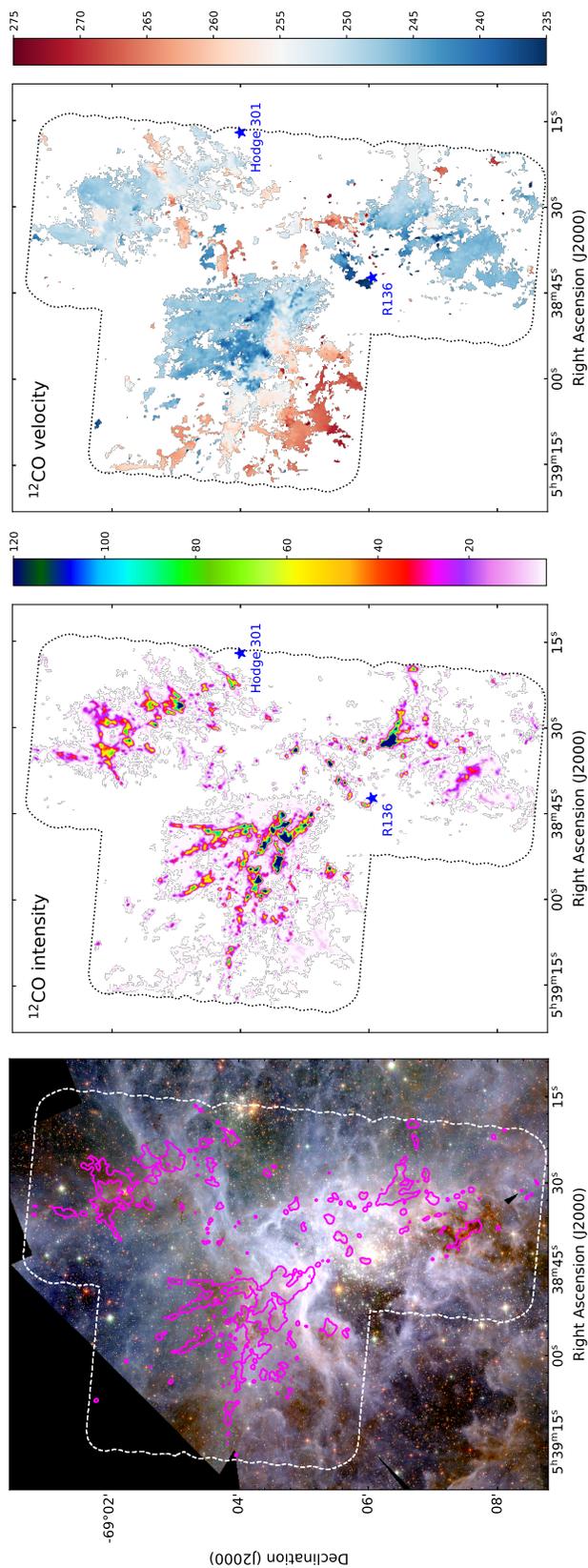


Figure 3. 0th moment (integrated intensity in K km s⁻¹, middle) and 1st moment (intensity-weighted mean velocity in km s⁻¹, right) images for the CO cube, after applying the dilated mask. The outline of the ALMA footprint is indicated by a dotted contour. **In the left panel, the 0th moment contours are overlaid on a *Hubble Space Telescope* RGB image from the HTTP survey (Sabbi et al. 2013) with 1.6 μ m in red, 775 nm in green, and 555 nm in blue.**

virial analysis of the MAGMA GMC catalog by Hughes et al. 2010) which translates to $X_2 = 1.6$ for the CO(2–1) line, adopting a CO(2–1)/CO(1–0) brightness temperature ratio of $R_{21} = 1.5$. We adopt this value of R_{21} based on a comparison of the ALMA TP spectra with resolution-matched MAGMA CO(1–0) spectra from Wong et al. (2011). Previous work has shown the line ratio to vary with cloud conditions, with values ~ 0.6 for molecular clouds in the outskirts of the LMC (Wong et al. 2017) and rising to ~ 1 near 30 Dor (at 9' resolution, Sorai et al. 2001), so a fixed value is only roughly appropriate. While values of $R_{21} \gtrsim 1$ are not expected for optically thick, thermalized emission, they have been reported in other actively star-forming regions, in both Galactic (Orion KL, Nishimura et al. 2015) and Magellanic (e.g. N83 in SMC, Bolatto et al. 2003; N11 in LMC, Israel et al. 2003) environments. As discussed by Bolatto et al. (2003), high R_{21} can arise from a molecular medium that is both warm and clumpy (as is clearly the case for 30 Dor), since the larger photosphere ($\tau \sim 1$ surface) for the 2→1 line fills more of the telescope beam. Given the many uncertain assumptions in our analysis, and the likelihood that X_{CO} varies on scales comparable to or smaller than our map (see further discussion in §5), our luminosity-based masses should be considered uncertain by a factor of 2, and possibly more if substantial CO-dark gas is present.

3.2. Structural Decomposition

We use the Python program `astrodendro`³ to identify and segment the line emission regions in the cubes (Rosolowsky et al. 2008). Parameters for the algorithm are chosen to identify local maxima in the cube above the $3\sigma_{\text{rms}}$ level that are also at least $2.5\sigma_{\text{rms}}$ above the merge level with adjacent structures. Each local maximum is required to span at least two synthesized beams in area and is bounded by an isosurface at either the minimum ($3\sigma_{\text{rms}}$) level or at the merge level with an adjoining structure. Bounding isosurfaces surrounding the local maxima are categorized as *trunks*, *branches*, or *leaves* according to whether they are the largest contiguous structures (trunks), are intermediate in scale (branches), or have no resolved substructure (leaves). Although the dendrogram structures are not all independent, trunks do not overlap other trunks **in the cube** and leaves do not overlap other leaves **in the cube**. Since an object with no detected substructure is classified as a leaf, every trunk will contain leaf (and usually

branch) substructures, which are collectively termed its *descendants*.

The basic properties of the identified structures are also determined by `astrodendro`, including their spatial and velocity centroids ($\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{v}$), the integrated flux S , rms line width σ_v (defined as the intensity-weighted second moment of the structure along the velocity axis), the position angle of the major axis (as determined by principal component analysis) ϕ , and the rms sizes along the major and minor axes, σ_{maj} and σ_{min} . All properties are determined using the “bijection” approach discussed by Rosolowsky et al. (2008), which associates all emission bounded by an isosurface with the identified structure. **We then calculate deconvolved values for the major and minor axes, σ'_{maj} and σ'_{min} , approximating each structure as a 2-D Gaussian with major and minor axes of σ_{maj} and σ_{min} before deconvolving the telescope beam. Structures which cannot be deconvolved are excluded from further analysis.** From these basic properties we have calculated additional properties, including **the effective rms spatial size, $\sigma_r = \sqrt{\sigma'_{\text{maj}}\sigma'_{\text{min}}}$; the effective radius $R = 1.91\sigma_r$, following Solomon et al. (1987); the luminosity $L = Sd^2$, adopting $d = 50$ kpc (Pietrzyński et al. 2019); the virial mass $M_{\text{vir}} = 5\sigma_v^2 R/G$, derived from solving the equilibrium condition (for kinetic energy \mathcal{T} and potential energy \mathcal{W}):**

$$2\mathcal{T} + \mathcal{W} = 2 \left(\frac{3}{2} M_{\text{vir}} \sigma_v^2 \right) - \frac{3}{5} \frac{GM_{\text{vir}}^2}{R} = 0; \quad (7)$$

the LTE-based mass (from ^{13}CO):

$$M_{\text{LTE}} = (2m_p)(1.36)\Upsilon_{^{13}\text{CO}} \int N(^{13}\text{CO}) dA, \quad (8)$$

where the integration is over the projected area of the structure A , 1.36 is a correction factor for associated helium, and the abundance ratio $\Upsilon_{^{13}\text{CO}}$ is given by Equation 5; and the luminosity-based mass (from ^{12}CO):

$$\frac{M_{\text{lum}}}{M_{\odot}} = 4.3X_2 \frac{L_{\text{CO}}}{\text{K km s}^{-1} \text{pc}^2}, \quad (9)$$

where X_2 is defined in Equation 6 and the factor of 4.3 includes associated helium (Bolatto et al. 2013). **By taking ratios of these mass estimates we then calculate the so-called virial parameter,**

$$\alpha_{\text{vir}} = \begin{cases} M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\text{lum}} & \text{for } ^{12}\text{CO}, \\ M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\text{LTE}} & \text{for } ^{13}\text{CO}. \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

Tables 1 and 2 present the measured and derived properties of the resolved CO and ^{13}CO dendrogram structures, including their classification as trunks, branches, or leaves.

³ <http://www.dendrograms.org>

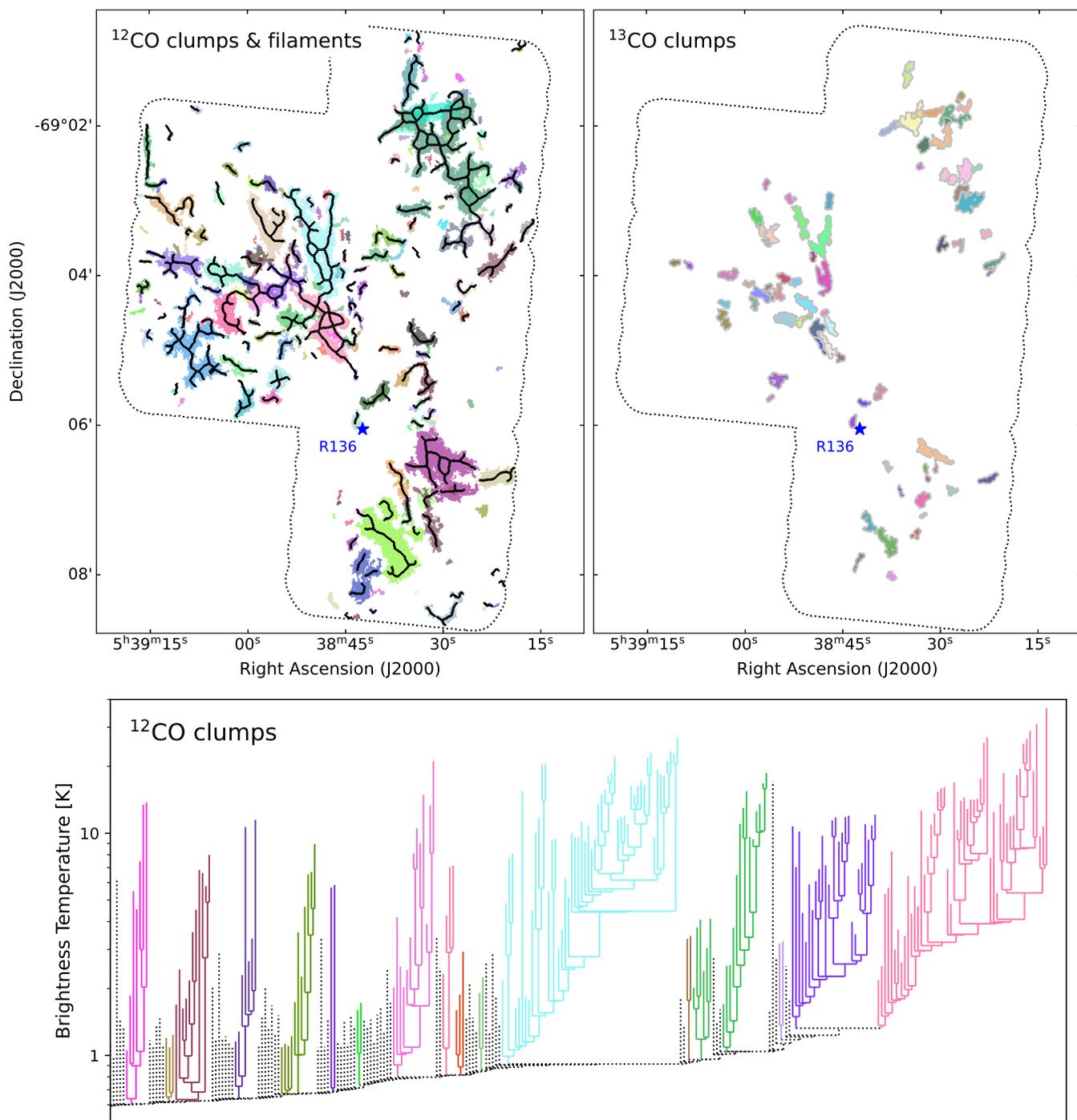


Figure 4. Projected maps of the ^{12}CO (top left) and ^{13}CO (top right) clumps identified by the SCIMES segmentation algorithm. Each clump is shaded with a different color. The filament skeleton identified by `fil_finder` is shown in black against the ^{12}CO clumps, but note that the filaments are identified in the CO peak SNR image whereas the clumps are identified in the cubes. The bottom panel shows a zoomed view of part of the dendrogram tree diagram for ^{12}CO emission, with clumps identified using the same colors as in the top left panel. Dotted lines indicate dendrogram structures that are not identified as clumps by SCIMES.

415 We also post-process the dendrogram output using
 416 the SCIMES algorithm (Colombo et al. 2015), which
 417 utilizes spectral clustering (**an unsupervised classification approach based on graph theory**) to identify discrete structures with similar emission properties.
 418
 419 The resulting clusters (hereafter referred to as *clumps*
 420 to avoid confusion with star clusters) form a set of independent objects, **avoiding the problem that the complete set of dendrogram structures constitute a nested rather than independent set. At the same time, the SCIMES clumps span** a wider range of size, line width, and luminosity in comparison to the leaves, and because they are required to contain substructure, they are less likely to be influenced by fluctuations in the map noise. In particular, we run the algorithm with the `save_branches` setting active, which retains isolated branches as clumps but not isolated leaves.
 421
 422 We use the “volume” criterion for defining similarity, which calculates volume as $V = \pi R^2 \sigma_v$ for each structure. Comparison runs using both “volume” and “luminosity” criteria, and without the `save_branches` setting, produce almost identical results for our data. Note that because the clumps are a subset of the cataloged dendrogram structures, their properties have already been calculated as described above. **Tables 3 and 4 present the properties of the CO and ^{13}CO clumps respectively, ordered by right ascension.** Images of the individual ^{12}CO and ^{13}CO clumps are shown in the **upper panels of Figure 4**; since the clumps are identified in the cube, they are sometimes found projected against one another. **The number of clumps found in ^{12}CO (^{13}CO) are 198 (71), of which 142 (61) have sizes which can be deconvolved. The lower panel of Figure 4 shows a zoomed view of part of the ^{12}CO dendrogram tree, with the SCIMES clumps identified as distinctly colored sub-trees (the colors are chosen to match the upper left panel).** We stress that the analyses of the ^{12}CO and ^{13}CO data are conducted independently; we examine positional matches between the two sets of catalogs in §4.3.

3.3. Filament Identification

457 We also employed an alternative structure-finding package, FilFinder, to highlight the filamentary nature of the emission. We apply the FilFinder2D algorithm, described in Koch & Rosolowsky (2015), to the peak SNR image of $^{12}\text{CO}(2-1)$ emission. To suppress bright regions, the image is first flattened with an arctan transform, $I' = I_0 \arctan(I/I_0)$, where I_0 is chosen as the 80th percentile of the image brightness distribution (for this image $I_0 = 5.3\sigma_{\text{rms}}$). A mask is then created

466 from the flattened image using adaptive thresholding
 467 with the following parameters: `smooth_size` of 5 pixels (corresponding to $2''.5$), `adapt_thresh` of 10 pixels (corresponding to $5''$), `size_thresh` of 80 pixels (corresponding to 20 arcsec^2), and `glob_thresh` of 4σ . We experimented with a variety of parameter sets but found that these parameters produced a signal mask that was most consistent with the emission regions identified with SCIMES. Each mask region is reduced to a one-pixel wide “skeleton” using the Medial Axis Transform, and small structures are removed by imposing a minimum length (pixel count) of 4 beam widths for the skeleton as a whole and 2 beam widths for branches that depart from the longest path through the skeleton. The resulting skeletonization of the emission, after pruning of small structures, is visualized in black **in the upper left panel of Figure 4**. The skeletonization is effective at identifying and connecting large, coherent emission structures, but “breaks” in the filamentary structure may still arise from sensitivity limitations that prevent the algorithm from connecting neighboring skeletons. **While it is possible that velocity discontinuities across filaments could be missed by identifying filaments only in 2-D, we generally observe that spatially coherent filaments are also coherent in velocity.**

4. RESULTS

4.1. Overall cloud structure

494 Figures 2 and 3 show that the overall morphology of the cloud is primarily oriented along a direction rotated $\sim 30^\circ$ counterclockwise from north. **The left panel of Figure 3 shows an overlay of the integrated CO intensity as magenta contours over a 3-color image (using the F555W, F775W, and F160W filters) from HTTP (Sabbi et al. 2013), revealing that in some instances the CO is associated with extincted regions situated in the foreground of the Tarantula Nebula.** As apparent from earlier single-dish mapping (Johansson et al. 1998; Mi-

Table 1. All Resolved Structures in the Default ^{12}CO ALMA 30 Dor Cube

No.	R. A. (J2000)	Decl. (J2000)	v_{LSR} (km s^{-1})	CO Flux (Jy km s^{-1})	σ_{maj} (")	σ_{min} (")	ϕ^a ($^\circ$)	A^b (pc^2)	$\log R$ (pc)	$\log \sigma_v$ (km s^{-1})	$\log M_{\text{lum}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log M_{\text{vir}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$	θ_{off} (")	Type ^c
1	05:38:17.24	-69:03:23.0	250.31	15.73	3.22	0.98	48	2.48	-0.18±0.05	-0.07±0.04	2.22±0.04	2.75±0.08	0.53±0.09	209	B
2	05:38:17.36	-69:03:24.1	249.98	29.62	4.78	1.33	58	6.26	0.02±0.04	0.11±0.04	2.49±0.04	3.31±0.08	0.82±0.09	208	B
3	05:38:17.37	-69:03:24.1	250.03	30.07	4.77	1.39	58	6.54	0.04±0.04	0.13±0.04	2.50±0.04	3.37±0.08	0.87±0.09	208	T
4	05:38:17.45	-69:03:24.3	250.40	8.56	1.37	1.01	64	1.25	-0.38±0.06	-0.15±0.05	1.95±0.04	2.38±0.09	0.43±0.10	207	L
5	05:38:17.92	-69:02:32.8	260.89	3.94	1.89	1.10	92	2.35	-0.26±0.06	0.03±0.05	1.62±0.04	2.87±0.09	1.25±0.10	248	B
6	05:38:17.93	-69:02:32.3	260.80	3.06	1.36	1.00	86	1.45	-0.39±0.07	0.03±0.05	1.51±0.04	2.73±0.11	1.22±0.12	248	L
7	05:38:18.24	-69:00:58.0	260.20	5.55	2.03	0.95	46	1.87	-0.31±0.08	-0.32±0.06	1.77±0.04	2.11±0.12	0.34±0.12	331	T
8	05:38:18.32	-69:00:58.4	260.15	4.05	1.11	0.94	53	1.20	-0.49±0.10	-0.38±0.07	1.63±0.04	1.82±0.14	0.19±0.15	331	L
9	05:38:18.48	-69:02:47.7	253.97	5.14	1.92	1.01	144	1.95	-0.29±0.05	-0.19±0.05	1.73±0.04	2.39±0.09	0.65±0.10	234	B
10	05:38:18.49	-69:02:48.1	253.94	6.80	2.20	1.36	127	3.29	-0.15±0.04	-0.12±0.04	1.86±0.04	2.68±0.08	0.83±0.09	233	T

^aPosition angle is measured counterclockwise from $+x$ direction (west).

^bProjected area of clump.

^cType of structure: (T)runk, (B)ranch, or (L)leaf.

NOTE—Table 1 is published in its entirety in machine-readable format. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content.

Table 2. All Resolved Structures in the Default ^{13}CO ALMA 30 Dor Cube

No.	R. A. (J2000)	Decl. (J2000)	v_{LSR} (km s^{-1})	^{13}CO Flux (Jy km s^{-1})	σ_{maj} (")	σ_{min} (")	ϕ^a ($^\circ$)	A^b (pc^2)	$\log R$ (pc)	$\log \sigma_v$ (km s^{-1})	$\log M_{\text{LTE}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log M_{\text{vir}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$	θ_{off} (")	Type ^c
1	05:38:19.81	-69:06:41.5	255.44	7.58	1.35	0.96	94	1.97	-0.41±0.08	-0.14±0.06	2.74±0.04	2.38±0.12	-0.37±0.13	126	L
2	05:38:22.44	-69:03:51.5	253.36	10.88	3.78	1.04	-153	5.04	-0.12±0.05	0.14±0.04	2.85±0.04	3.23±0.08	0.37±0.09	169	T
3	05:38:22.49	-69:06:43.6	254.62	4.56	2.42	0.88	-157	2.14	-0.32±0.14	-0.51±0.07	2.52±0.04	1.72±0.17	-0.80±0.17	113	L
4	05:38:22.60	-69:06:43.6	254.62	6.98	3.47	1.09	-161	4.07	-0.12±0.04	-0.44±0.04	2.69±0.04	2.06±0.08	-0.62±0.09	113	T
5	05:38:22.68	-69:03:52.1	253.26	7.07	2.12	0.78	-160	2.00	-0.49±0.23	0.11±0.04	2.67±0.04	2.80±0.24	0.13±0.24	168	B
6	05:38:22.80	-69:03:26.4	252.46	1.60	1.14	0.95	68	1.32	-0.48±0.12	-0.09±0.06	2.01±0.04	2.40±0.14	0.39±0.15	189	L
7	05:38:23.16	-69:03:26.8	250.56	4.04	1.91	1.36	-171	2.57	-0.18±0.04	0.26±0.04	2.41±0.04	3.39±0.08	0.98±0.09	187	T
8	05:38:24.56	-69:03:01.4	251.14	7.08	2.08	0.94	-140	1.88	-0.31±0.06	-0.03±0.04	2.69±0.04	2.69±0.09	-0.00±0.10	205	L
9	05:38:25.81	-69:03:02.5	252.03	55.22	4.81	2.61	-157	13.94	0.20±0.04	0.18±0.04	3.59±0.04	3.63±0.08	0.04±0.09	201	B
10	05:38:25.83	-69:06:33.9	249.77	1.74	1.80	0.95	157	1.94	-0.34±0.11	-0.35±0.09	2.07±0.04	2.02±0.17	-0.05±0.18	93	L

^aPosition angle is measured counterclockwise from $+x$ direction (west).

^bProjected area of clump.

^cType of structure: (T)runk, (B)ranch, or (L)leaf.

NOTE—Table 2 is published in its entirety in machine-readable format. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content.

Table 3. SCIMES Clumps in the Default ^{12}CO ALMA 30 Dor Cube

No.	R. A. (J2000)	Decl. (J2000)	v_{LSR} (km s^{-1})	CO Flux (Jy km s^{-1})	σ_{maj} ($''$)	σ_{min} ($''$)	ϕ^a ($^\circ$)	A^b (pc^2)	$\log R$ (pc)	$\log \sigma_v$ (km s^{-1})	$\log M_{\text{lum}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log M_{\text{vir}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$	θ_{off} ($''$)
1	05:38:17.37	-69:03:24.1	250.03	30.07	4.77	1.39	58	6.54	0.04 \pm 0.04	0.13 \pm 0.04	2.50 \pm 0.04	3.37 \pm 0.08	0.87 \pm 0.09	208
2	05:38:18.24	-69:00:58.0	260.20	5.55	2.03	0.95	46	1.87	-0.31 \pm 0.08	-0.32 \pm 0.06	1.77 \pm 0.04	2.11 \pm 0.12	0.34 \pm 0.12	331
3	05:38:18.49	-69:02:48.1	253.94	6.80	2.20	1.36	127	3.29	-0.15 \pm 0.04	-0.12 \pm 0.04	1.86 \pm 0.04	2.68 \pm 0.08	0.83 \pm 0.09	233
4	05:38:19.41	-69:02:39.6	260.03	18.58	6.60	1.85	-140	10.36	0.19 \pm 0.04	0.19 \pm 0.04	2.29 \pm 0.04	3.64 \pm 0.08	1.35 \pm 0.09	238
5	05:38:20.12	-69:03:05.4	258.60	3.83	1.47	0.89	45	1.67	-0.44 \pm 0.08	0.19 \pm 0.05	1.61 \pm 0.04	3.00 \pm 0.11	1.39 \pm 0.12	214
6	05:38:21.56	-69:06:42.4	254.71	160.67	8.18	2.36	-170	22.34	0.30 \pm 0.04	-0.03 \pm 0.04	3.23 \pm 0.04	3.30 \pm 0.08	0.07 \pm 0.09	118
7	05:38:22.07	-69:03:51.4	252.69	245.96	6.85	2.65	-139	22.99	0.28 \pm 0.04	0.39 \pm 0.04	3.41 \pm 0.04	4.12 \pm 0.08	0.71 \pm 0.09	171
8	05:38:22.41	-69:08:24.6	247.02	2.49	3.11	0.77	-179	1.53	-0.45 \pm 0.46	-0.10 \pm 0.08	1.42 \pm 0.04	2.43 \pm 0.48	1.01 \pm 0.48	177
9	05:38:22.54	-69:03:10.0	252.45	0.54	1.24	0.77	62	0.90	-0.70 \pm 0.47	-0.06 \pm 0.09	0.75 \pm 0.04	2.24 \pm 0.49	1.49 \pm 0.49	203
10	05:38:23.48	-69:03:25.2	251.12	116.85	6.80	2.46	127	11.68	0.27 \pm 0.04	0.30 \pm 0.04	3.09 \pm 0.04	3.93 \pm 0.08	0.84 \pm 0.09	188

^aPosition angle is measured counterclockwise from $+x$ direction (west).^bProjected area of clump.

NOTE—Table 3 is published in its entirety in machine-readable format. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content.

Table 4. SCIMES Clumps in the Default ^{13}CO ALMA 30 Dor Cube

No.	R. A. (J2000)	Decl. (J2000)	v_{LSR} (km s^{-1})	^{13}CO Flux (Jy km s^{-1})	σ_{maj} (")	σ_{min} (")	ϕ^a ($^\circ$)	A^b (pc^2)	$\log R$ (pc)	$\log \sigma_v$ (km s^{-1})	$\log M_{\text{LTE}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log M_{\text{vir}}$ (M_\odot)	$\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$	θ_{off} (")
1	05:38:22.44	-69:03:51.5	253.36	10.88	3.78	1.04	-153	5.04	-0.12±0.05	0.14±0.04	2.85±0.04	3.23±0.08	0.37±0.09	169
2	05:38:22.60	-69:06:43.6	254.62	6.98	3.47	1.09	-161	4.07	-0.12±0.04	-0.44±0.04	2.69±0.04	2.06±0.08	-0.62±0.09	113
3	05:38:23.16	-69:03:26.8	250.56	4.04	1.91	1.36	-171	2.57	-0.18±0.04	0.26±0.04	2.41±0.04	3.39±0.08	0.98±0.09	187
4	05:38:25.81	-69:03:02.5	252.03	55.22	4.81	2.61	-157	13.94	0.20±0.04	0.18±0.04	3.59±0.04	3.63±0.08	0.04±0.09	201
5	05:38:26.30	-69:01:45.6	247.89	3.65	3.16	1.57	-154	3.13	-0.02±0.04	-0.10±0.04	2.37±0.04	2.84±0.08	0.47±0.09	272
6	05:38:26.90	-69:01:36.3	246.08	2.51	1.94	1.11	55	2.12	-0.25±0.06	-0.32±0.05	2.23±0.04	2.18±0.10	-0.04±0.10	279
7	05:38:27.11	-69:02:38.5	250.61	31.76	7.85	3.31	-164	14.23	0.37±0.04	0.08±0.04	3.33±0.04	3.59±0.08	0.26±0.09	220
8	05:38:27.18	-69:02:53.8	253.33	12.55	3.89	1.74	-137	4.79	0.06±0.04	0.02±0.04	2.93±0.04	3.16±0.08	0.23±0.09	206
9	05:38:27.27	-69:03:34.9	253.35	3.02	2.32	1.80	155	2.95	-0.06±0.04	-0.08±0.04	2.29±0.04	2.85±0.08	0.56±0.09	169
10	05:38:28.25	-69:06:52.5	249.67	3.11	1.57	1.17	166	2.23	-0.29±0.06	-0.11±0.05	2.31±0.04	2.56±0.09	0.25±0.10	90

^aPosition angle is measured counterclockwise from $+x$ direction (west).^bProjected area of clump.

NOTE—Table 4 is published in its entirety in machine-readable format. A portion is shown here for guidance regarding its form and content.

Table 5. Default Cubes — Power Law Fit Parameters: $\log Y = a_1 \log X + a_0$

Y	X	Data Set	Number	a_1	a_0	χ^2_ν	ϵ^a
σ_v	R	^{12}CO dendros	1434	0.47 ± 0.01	0.08 ± 0.01	14.3	0.21
σ_v	R	^{12}CO clumps	142	0.47 ± 0.06	0.13 ± 0.02	14.3	0.21
σ_v	R	^{13}CO dendros	254	0.73 ± 0.06	0.06 ± 0.01	10.5	0.22
σ_v	R	^{13}CO clumps	61	1.42 ± 0.37	0.06 ± 0.04	14.3	0.35
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{lum}	^{12}CO dendros	1434	0.51 ± 0.02	1.58 ± 0.04	13.7	0.35
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{lum}	^{12}CO clumps	142	0.41 ± 0.07	1.93 ± 0.12	15.6	0.35
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{LTE}	^{13}CO dendros	254	0.66 ± 0.06	0.90 ± 0.14	11.0	0.36
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{LTE}	^{13}CO clumps	61	0.85 ± 0.14	0.55 ± 0.31	11.0	0.30

^ar.m.s. scatter in $\log Y$ relative to the best-fit line. Units are dex.

Table 6. 0.1 km s⁻¹ Cubes — Power Law Fit Parameters: $\log Y = a_1 \log X + a_0$

Y	X	Data Set	Number	a_1	a_0	χ^2_ν	ϵ^a
σ_v	R	^{12}CO dendros	2053	0.51 ± 0.01	0.04 ± 0.01	15.1	0.24
σ_v	R	^{12}CO clumps	221	0.76 ± 0.06	0.09 ± 0.02	13.6	0.28
σ_v	R	^{13}CO dendros	310	0.74 ± 0.05	0.06 ± 0.01	13.2	0.24
σ_v	R	^{13}CO clumps	72	0.91 ± 0.17	0.09 ± 0.03	13.5	0.28
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{lum}	^{12}CO dendros	2053	0.57 ± 0.01	1.43 ± 0.03	12.9	0.34
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{lum}	^{12}CO clumps	221	0.55 ± 0.04	1.64 ± 0.07	11.8	0.33
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{LTE}	^{13}CO dendros	310	0.79 ± 0.05	0.56 ± 0.12	11.8	0.34
Σ_{vir}	Σ_{LTE}	^{13}CO clumps	72	0.83 ± 0.12	0.58 ± 0.25	11.1	0.32

^ar.m.s. scatter in $\log Y$ relative to the best-fit line. Units are dex.

505 namidani et al. 2008; Pineda et al. 2009), the brightest
 506 CO emission is distributed in two triangular lobes that
 507 fan out from the approximate position of R136, giving
 508 the cloud its characteristic “bowtie-shaped” appearance.
 509 ALMA resolves these triangular lobes into radially ori-
 510 ented filaments (Figure 4), providing another example of
 511 the “hub-filament” structure previously reported in the
 512 N159 H II region that lies just south of 30 Dor (Fukui
 513 et al. 2019; Tokuda et al. 2019). A third large CO-
 514 emitting region to the northwest, closer to Hodge 301,
 515 is also highly filamentary but with more randomly ori-
 516 ented filaments.

517 In terms of velocity structure, the 30 Dor cloud spans
 518 a relatively large extent in velocity (approximately 40
 519 km s⁻¹), compared to the typical velocity extent of ~10
 520 km s⁻¹ seen in other LMC molecular clouds (Saigo et al.
 521 2017; Wong et al. 2019). Figure 3 shows that the bowtie-
 522 shaped structure is primarily blueshifted with respect
 523 to the mean cloud velocity ($\bar{v} \approx 255 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ in the
 524 LSRK frame or $\bar{v}_\odot = 270 \text{ km s}^{-1}$), with a relatively

525 faint redshifted structure seen crossing perpendicular to
 526 it from the northwest to southeast. The clouds projected
 527 closest to R136 and studied by Kalari et al. (2018) are
 528 among the most highly blueshifted in the region and are
 529 observed in extinction against the H II region, indicating
 530 that they are situated in the foreground. The mean
 531 stellar velocity of the R136 cluster ($v_\odot = 271.6 \text{ km s}^{-1}$;
 532 Evans et al. 2015) is consistent with the mean cloud
 533 velocity, while the ionized gas has a somewhat lower
 534 mean velocity ($v_\odot = 267.4 \text{ km s}^{-1}$; Torres-Flores et al.
 535 2013).

4.2. Size-linewidth relations

536
 537 A correlation between size and line width, of the form
 538 $\sigma_v \propto R^\gamma$ with $\gamma \approx 0.5$, has long been observed among
 539 molecular clouds as well as their substructures (Larson
 540 1981; Solomon et al. 1987, hereafter S87). It is usually
 541 interpreted in the context of a supersonic turbulent cas-
 542 cade spanning a wide range of spatial scales (Mac Low
 543 & Klessen 2004; Falgarone et al. 2009). The line width

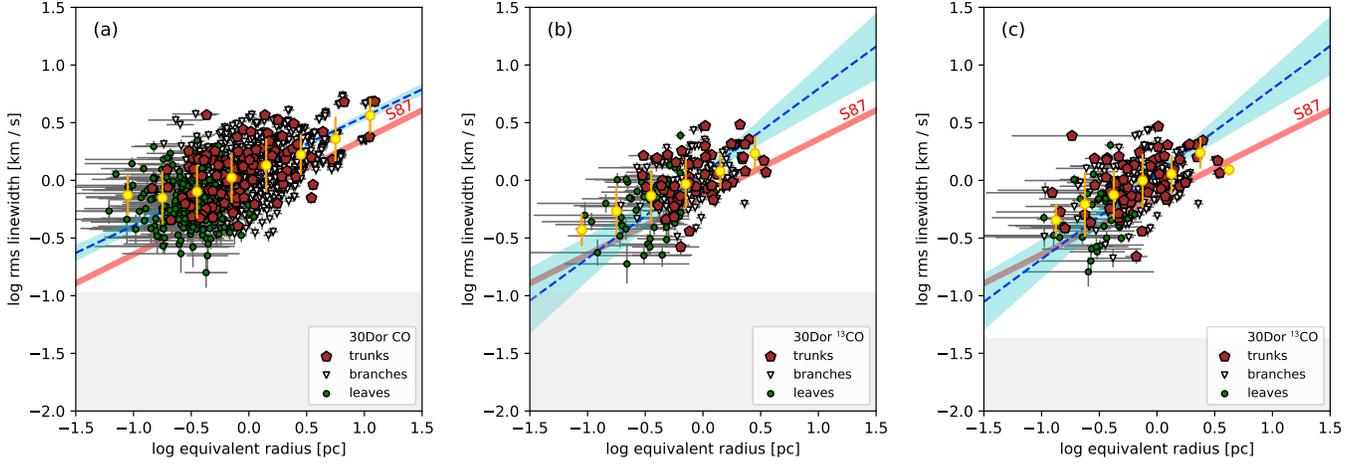


Figure 5. Size-linewidth relations for dendrogram structures identified in the feathered data: (a) ^{12}CO structures; (b) ^{13}CO structures; (c) ^{13}CO structures at 0.1 km s^{-1} velocity resolution. Different plot symbols distinguish the trunks, branches, and leaves of the dendrogram. The power law fit and 3σ uncertainty are shown in blue; **the gray shaded region indicates the limiting spectral resolution**. Fit parameters are tabulated in Tables 5 and 6. Yellow circles are binned averages of all points.

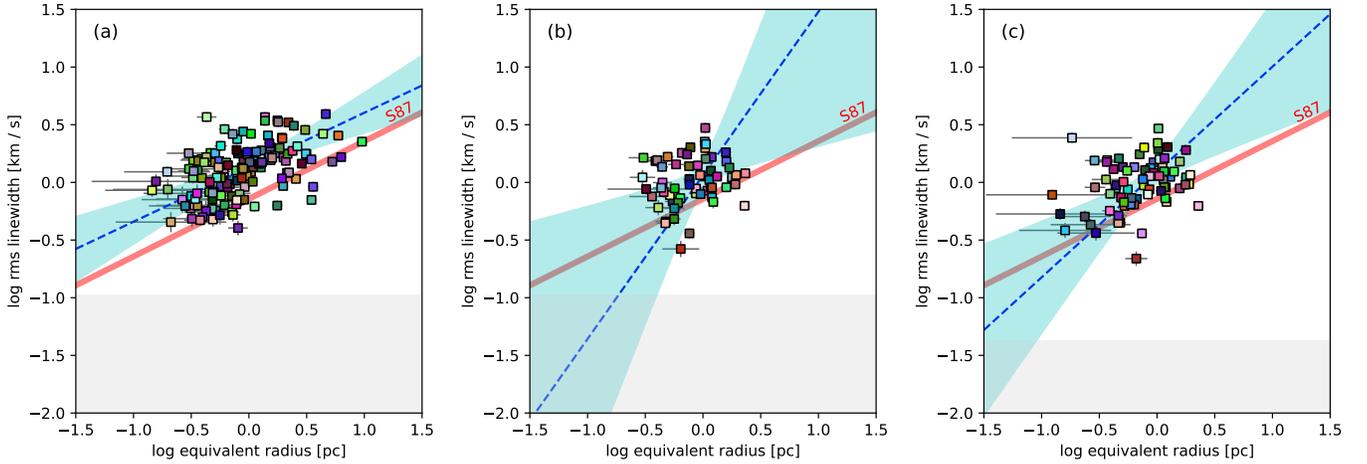


Figure 6. Size-linewidth relations for SCIMES clumps identified in the feathered data: (a) ^{12}CO clumps; (b) ^{13}CO clumps; (c) ^{13}CO clumps at 0.1 km s^{-1} velocity resolution. The power law fit and 3σ uncertainty are shown in blue; **the gray shaded region indicates the limiting spectral resolution**. Fit parameters are tabulated in Tables 5 and 6.

544 vs. size relations for the dendrogram structures in 30
 545 Dor are summarized in Figures 5 and 6 for all struc-
 546 tures and for the SCIMES clumps respectively. **Gray**
 547 **shading indicates line widths which would be un-**
 548 **resolved at the spectral resolution of the corre-**
 549 **sponding cube; nearly all of the significant struc-**
 550 **tures are well-resolved in velocity.** The standard
 551 relation of S87 (with a slope and intercept of $a_1 = 0.5$
 552 and $a_0 = -0.14$ respectively) is shown as a thick red line
 553 for reference. The best-fitting slopes and intercepts,
 554 derived using the `kmpfit` module of the Python package
 555 Kapteyn, are tabulated in Table 5, **along with the re-**
 556 **duced χ^2 of the fit and the residual scatter along**
 557 **the y -axis.** Consistent with previous studies (see §1),

558 the relation in the 30 Dor cloud is offset to larger line
 559 widths compared to S87, by a factor of 1.5–1.8. The
 560 enhancement in line width we find is somewhat smaller
 561 than the factor of ~ 2.3 previously derived for the ALMA
 562 Cycle 0 data (Nayak et al. 2016; Wong et al. 2017), indi-
 563 cating that the **central** region observed in Cycle 0 has
 564 a larger enhancement in line width than the cloud as a
 565 whole. We revisit the positional dependence of the line
 566 width vs. size relation in §4.4.

567 To evaluate the robustness of the fitted relations to
 568 the data handling procedures, we fit the relations sepa-
 569 rately for cubes derived from the 12m-only data and the
 570 feathered data, and for cubes with 0.1 km s^{-1} velocity
 571 channels and 0.25 km s^{-1} velocity channels. **The re-**

572 **sulting fits are consistent within about twice the**
 573 **quoted 1σ errors, as can be seen for example by**
 574 **comparing Tables 5 and Table 6 and panels (b)**
 575 **and (c) of Figures 5 and 6. We note, however,**
 576 **that the fitted slope is often quite uncertain due**
 577 **to the limited range in structure size probed by**
 578 **our analysis, especially for the ^{13}CO data.**

579 4.3. Virial relations

580 If the line width vs. size relation has a power-law slope
 581 of ≈ 0.5 , then variations in the normalization coefficient
 582 k are expected if structures lie close to virial equilibrium
 583 but span a range in mass surface density (Heyer et al.
 584 2009):

$$585 \sigma_v = kR^{1/2} = \left(\frac{\pi G}{5}\right)^{1/2} \Sigma_{\text{vir}}^{1/2} R^{1/2} \Rightarrow k = \sqrt{\frac{\pi G \Sigma_{\text{vir}}}{5}}. \quad (11)$$

586 This motivates an examination of whether variations in
 587 the line width vs. size coefficient are consistent with
 588 virial equilibrium. For each structure whose **decon-**
 589 **volved** size and linewidth are **measured**, we normalize
 590 the virial and luminous mass by the projected area of
 591 the structure (determined by the pixel count) to calcu-
 592 late a mass surface density Σ . For the ^{13}CO structures,
 593 we use the LTE-based mass in preference to a ^{13}CO
 594 luminosity-based mass, though the results tend to be
 595 similar. The virial surface density, Σ_{vir} , is directly re-
 596 lated to the normalization of the size-linewidth relation,
 597 since $\Sigma_{\text{vir}} = 5k^2/(\pi G)$ from Equation 11. We show the
 598 relations between Σ_{vir} and the luminous or LTE surface
 599 density in Figure 7. In these “boundedness” plots, the
 600 $y = x$ line represents simple virial equilibrium (SVE),
 601 with points above the line having excess kinetic energy
 602 (often interpreted as requiring confinement by external
 603 pressure to be stable) and points below the line having
 604 excess gravitational energy (often interpreted as requir-
 605 ing support from magnetic fields to be stable).

606 Overall, we find that ^{13}CO structures are close to
 607 a state of SVE, with higher surface density structures
 608 tending to be more bound ($\alpha_{\text{vir}} = \Sigma_{\text{vir}}/\Sigma_{\text{lum}} \lesssim 1$). On
 609 the other hand, ^{12}CO structures exhibit a shallower re-
 610 lation, with lower Σ_{lum} structures found to lie system-
 611 atically above the SVE line. The “unbound” CO struc-
 612 tures exist across the dendrogram hierarchy (**spanning**
 613 leaves, branches, and trunks) and are found to domi-
 614 nate even the population of (typically larger) SCIMES
 615 clumps, as shown in Figure 8 (left panel). The mean
 616 value of $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$ for clumps without ^{13}CO counterparts,
 617 as determined by checking for direct spatial overlap, is
 618 **1.26**, compared to **0.80** for clumps with ^{13}CO counter-
 619 parts (thus, the clumps detected in both lines have a
 620 factor of **3 lower** α_{vir}).

621 To better understand why the ^{12}CO structures appear
 622 less likely than ^{13}CO structures to be bound, we need
 623 to bear in mind the sensitivity limitations imposed by
 624 the data. Most (**53%**) CO clumps do not appear as-
 625 sociated with ^{13}CO , whereas all ^{13}CO clumps overlap
 626 with a ^{12}CO clump. This reflects the fact that struc-
 627 tures with lower CO surface brightness are less likely
 628 to be detected in ^{13}CO : $\langle \log \Sigma_{\text{lum}} \rangle = 1.8$ for struc-
 629 tures with ^{13}CO counterparts while $\langle \log \Sigma_{\text{lum}} \rangle = \mathbf{1.2}$
 630 for those without ^{13}CO counterparts. A typical clump
 631 with a 1 km s^{-1} line width requires an integrated inten-
 632 sity of 0.55 K km s^{-1} to be detected at the 4σ level. As
 633 indicated by vertical dashed lines in Figure 8, this in-
 634 tensity limit translates to minimum $\log \Sigma_{\text{lum}} = 0.55$ for
 635 detection in ^{12}CO but a minimum $\log \Sigma_{\text{LTE}} = 1.5$ for
 636 detection in ^{13}CO (for $T_{\text{ex}} = 8 \text{ K}$). Thus, the majority
 637 of ^{12}CO structures would not be expected to have ^{13}CO
 638 counterparts because the weaker ^{13}CO line was observed
 639 to the same brightness sensitivity as the stronger ^{12}CO
 640 line. If lower surface density structures are preferen-
 641 tially unbound, then such structures will also tend to be
 642 detected only in ^{12}CO .

643 We note that several caveats apply to the interpreta-
 644 tion of the “boundedness” plots. As other authors have
 645 pointed out (e.g., Dib et al. 2007; Ballesteros-Paredes
 646 et al. 2011), objects that are far from equilibrium can
 647 still appear close to SVE as a result of approximate en-
 648 ergy equipartition between kinetic and gravitational en-
 649 ergies. Furthermore, there are systematic uncertainties
 650 in estimating the values in both axes that are not in-
 651 cluded in the formal uncertainties. For Σ_{vir} these in-
 652 clude the spherical approximation and the definitions
 653 employed for measuring size and line width. For Σ_{lum} ,
 654 uncertainties arising from the adoption of a single X_{CO}
 655 factor are ignored. In particular, in regions with strong
 656 photodissociating flux it is possible for low column den-
 657 sity ^{12}CO structures to be gravitationally bound by sur-
 658 rounding CO-dark gas (see §5 for further discussion).
 659 For Σ_{LTE} , deviations from LTE conditions or errors in
 660 our assumed T_{ex} may affect the reliability of Σ_{LTE} , al-
 661 though **from Equation 3** a shift in T_{ex} tends to be par-
 662 tially compensated by the resulting shift in τ_{13} and thus
 663 yield a similar value for Σ_{LTE} . An error in the assumed
 664 ^{13}CO abundance would produce a more systematic shift,
 665 but would likely affect the cloud as a whole.

666 4.4. Position dependent properties

667 To assess position-dependent variations in the size-
 668 linewidth and boundedness relations, we examine these
 669 relations color-coded by projected angular distance from
 670 the R136 cluster (θ_{off} in Tables 1–4) in Figures 9 and
 671 10. We also plot the binned correlations for the top and

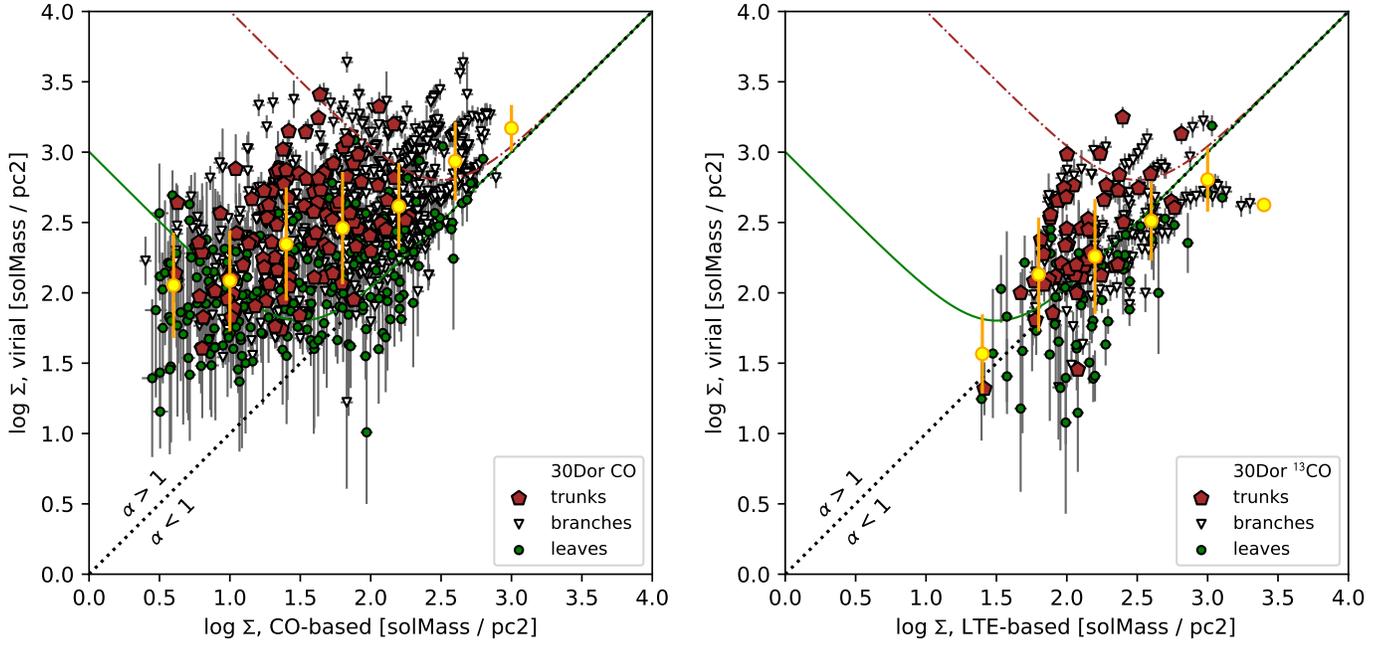


Figure 7. Boundedness diagram for dendrogram structures identified in the feathered data. *Left:* ^{12}CO structures, with surface density based on a constant X_{CO} factor. *Right:* ^{13}CO structures, with surface density based on the LTE approximation. Plot symbols indicate the type of dendrogram structure (trunks, branches, or leaves), with binned averages shown in yellow. The diagonal 1:1 line represents simple virial equilibrium, while the falling and rising solid green (dot-dashed red) curve represents pressure-bounded equilibrium with an external pressure of 10^4 (10^6) cm^{-3} K.

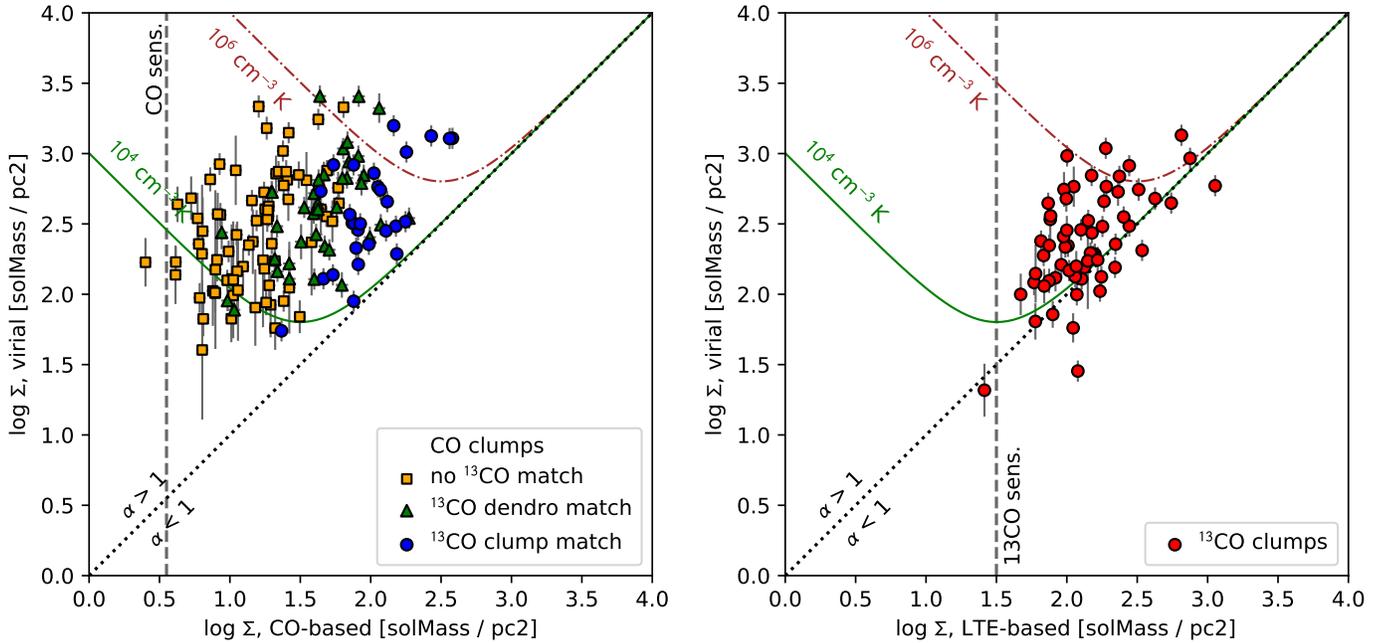


Figure 8. Boundedness diagrams for SCIMES clumps identified in the feathered data. Virial and pressure-bounded equilibrium curves are the same as in Figure 7. *Left:* ^{12}CO clumps, with surface density based on a constant X_{CO} factor. Points are distinguished according to spatial overlap with any ^{13}CO dendrogram structure (triangles) or ^{13}CO clumps (circles). *Right:* ^{13}CO clumps, with surface density based on the LTE approximation. Vertical lines denote approximate 4σ sensitivity limits for a 1 km s^{-1} line width; the ^{13}CO sensitivity assumes $T_{\text{ex}}=8 \text{ K}$.

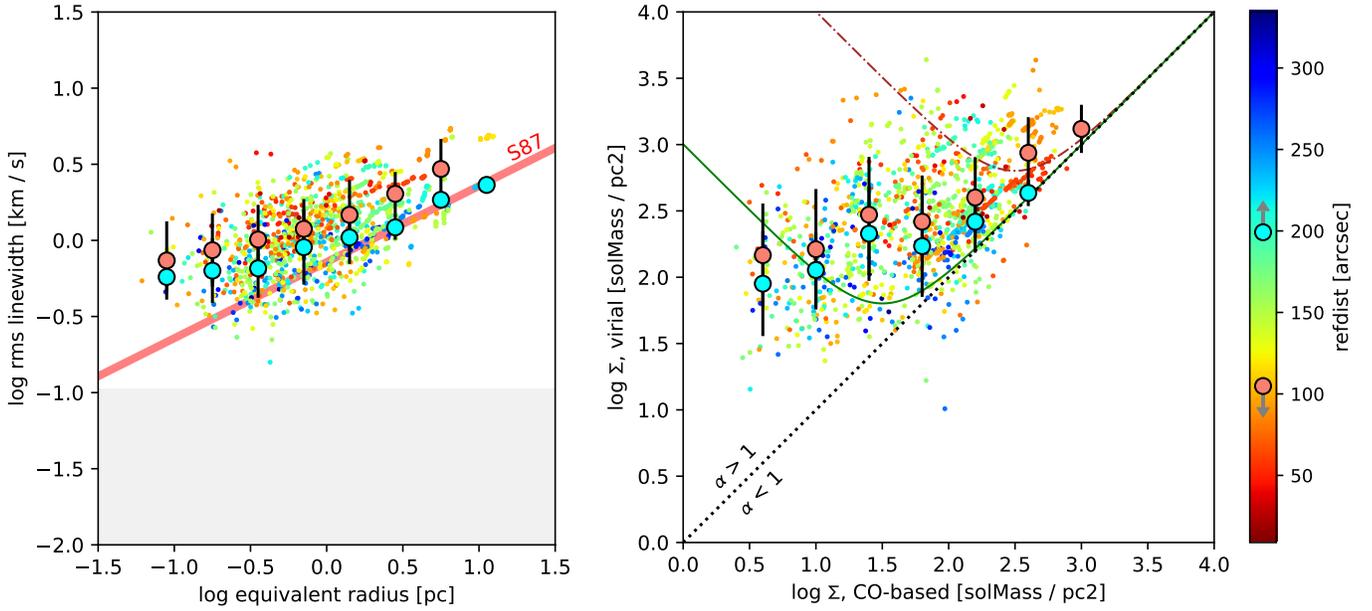


Figure 9. Correlations between size and linewidth (*left*), and Σ_{vir} and Σ_{lum} (*right*), for the same ^{12}CO dendrogram structures plotted in Figures 5 and 7. Distance from R136 is indicated by point colors and binned values (bins shown are averages of the top and bottom quartiles). Since $\Sigma_{\text{vir}} \propto \sigma_v^2/R$, higher line width at a given size results in higher Σ_{vir} for structures closer to R136.

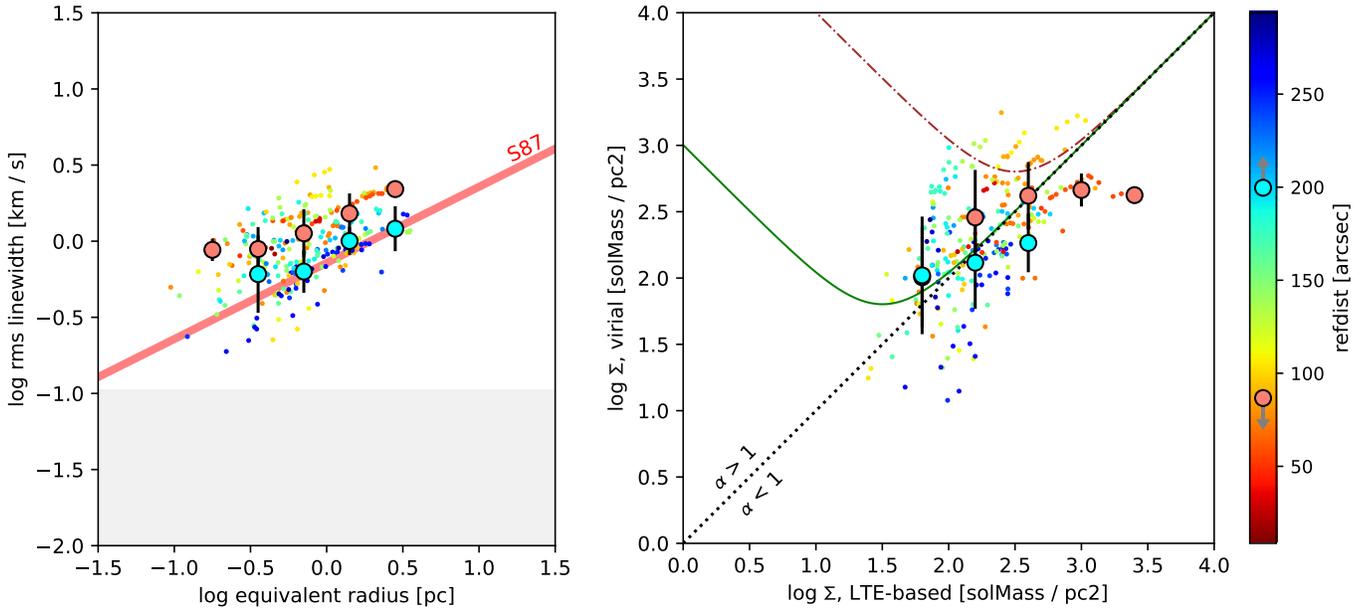


Figure 10. Same as Figure 9, but for ^{13}CO dendrogram structures and with mass surface density based on the LTE approximation.

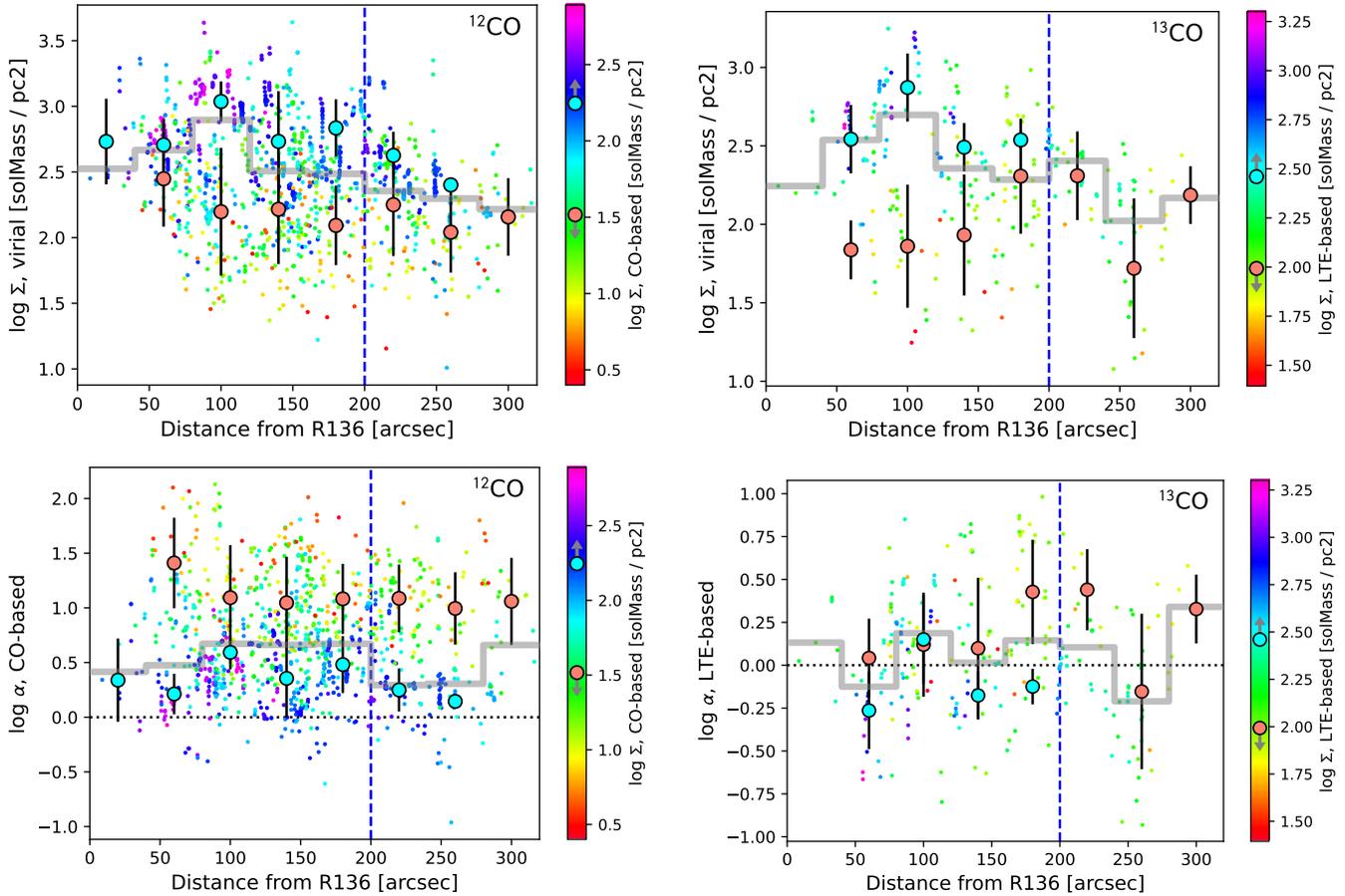


Figure 11. Virial surface density Σ_{vir} (*top row*) and virial parameter α_{vir} (*bottom row*) as a function of distance from R136 for ^{12}CO structures (*left*) and ^{13}CO structures (*right*). The colors of the plotted points represent mass surface density estimates, namely CO surface brightness for ^{12}CO and LTE column density for ^{13}CO . Binned values represent the highest and lowest 25% of the **overall mass surface density and are plotted when two or more such points fall within a bin**. Gray steps indicate the median value in each bin. There is a decreasing trend in Σ_{vir} with distance, especially for the highest surface density structures, but no clear trend in α_{vir} .

672 bottom quartiles of angular distance from R136. We
 673 note that projected angular distance is only a crude in-
 674 dication of environment as it neglects the full 3-D struc-
 675 ture of the region. We find that regions at large angular
 676 distances are quite consistent with the Solomon et al.
 677 (1987) size-linewidth relation (**except for the small-
 678 est structures, which have large uncertainties in
 679 the deconvolved size**), whereas regions at smaller dis-
 680 tances lie offset above it, consistent with previous studies
 681 (Indebetouw et al. 2013; Nayak et al. 2016; Wong et al.
 682 2019). The approximate offset between the lowest and
 683 highest quartile of distances, at a fiducial size of 1 pc, is
 684 0.16 dex (factor of 1.4) for ^{12}CO and **0.22 dex** (factor of
 685 **1.7**) for ^{13}CO . As noted in §4.2, an even larger (factor
 686 of ~ 2) offset is found if one restricts the analysis to the
 687 Cycle 0 field.

688 When it comes to gravitational boundedness, the pic-
 689 ture is more complex. Structures close to R136 show

690 higher Σ_{vir} in Figures 9 and 10, as expected given that
 691 Σ_{vir} scales with the size-linewidth coefficient k . How-
 692 ever, they exhibit no tendency to be more or less bound:
 693 ^{12}CO structures with low Σ_{lum} show excess kinetic en-
 694 ergy relative to SVE at *all* distances from R136. Figure
 695 11 provides a closer look at trends in Σ_{vir} and α_{vir}
 696 with distance from R136. High surface density struc-
 697 tures, represented by cyan circles, are close to virial
 698 equilibrium ($|\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}| \lesssim 0.5$) at all distances but tend
 699 to be concentrated towards R136, largely accounting for
 700 the higher Σ_{vir} observed in the central regions. Be-
 701 yond 200'' from R136 (**to the right of the vertical
 702 dashed line**), **high surface density structures are
 703 largely absent**. Meanwhile, the low surface density
 704 ^{12}CO structures, represented by red circles, are unbound
 705 ($\log \alpha_{\text{vir}} \gtrsim 1$) at all distances from R136. **The median
 706 value of $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$ (represented by the gray steps) is
 707 largely unchanged with distance.**

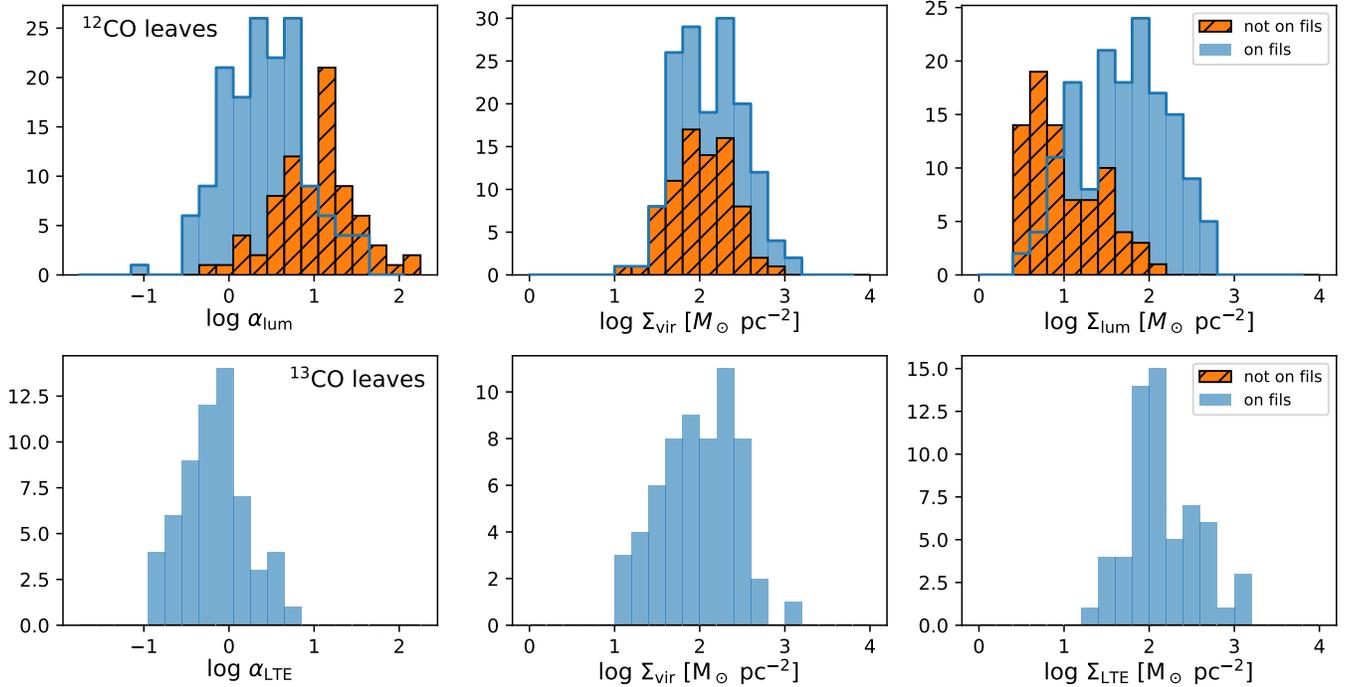


Figure 12. Properties of leaf dendrogram structures distinguished by positional coincidence with ^{12}CO -identified filaments. Note that histogram bars are superposed (rather than stacked) and unresolved structures have been excluded. The top row shows the virial parameter α_{vir} and its constituent quantities Σ_{vir} and Σ_{lum} for the ^{12}CO leaves, whereas the bottom row shows the same for the ^{13}CO leaves. The ^{12}CO structures on filaments tend to have lower α_{vir} driven by higher surface density, whereas ^{13}CO structures are exclusively found on filaments.

4.5. Association with filaments

Galactic studies that have surveyed dense prestellar cores at far-infrared or submillimeter wavelengths (e.g., [Fiorellino et al. 2021](#)) have demonstrated a strong positional association of dense cores with filaments. Here we conduct a preliminary assessment of this association in 30 Dor by comparing the dendrogram leaf structures to the filament skeleton derived by FilFinder. We present histograms of α_{vir} , Σ_{vir} , and Σ_{lum} (and their analogues in ^{13}CO) for the leaf structures in Figure 12, distinguishing leaves by whether or not their actual structure boundaries (not their fitted Gaussians) overlap with the FilFinder skeleton. Such overlaps must be viewed cautiously as both the structures and the filaments are identified using the same data set. Indeed, the SCIMES clumps are largely coincident with the FilFinder skeleton (Figure 4). In contrast, the ^{12}CO leaves constitute a large set of independent structures, and given their small typical sizes, a substantial fraction ($\sim 1/3$) are not coincident with the skeleton, allowing us to compare the properties of leaves located on and off of filaments. Not surprisingly, the filament-associated

leaves tend to have higher Σ_{lum} ; in total they represent 93% of the total mass in leaves. However, their values of Σ_{vir} are very similar to those of leaves which are not on filaments, and as a result the leaves on filaments tend to have lower α_{vir} (stronger gravitational binding). The formation of filaments is therefore plausibly related to gravity, a hypothesis supported by the fact that ^{13}CO leaves—which trace higher density material—are exclusively associated with the ^{12}CO filaments.

Further analysis of the FilFinder outputs will be deferred to a future paper where we will collectively examine the properties and positional associations of YSOs, dense clumps, and filaments.

5. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

We have presented initial results from an ALMA mosaic of CO(2–1) and ^{13}CO (2–1) emission from the molecular cloud associated with the 30 Dor H II region in the LMC, expanding upon the Cycle 0 map areal coverage by a factor of ~ 40 . The emission exhibits a highly filamentary structure (Figures 2 and 4) with many of the longest filaments oriented radially with respect to “hub” regions nearer the cloud center. The cloud’s relatively large velocity width is resolved into several distinct components, with the bulk of the emission at lower radial

758 velocity (Figures 1 and 3). We find that structures at
 759 a given size show decreasing line width with increasing
 760 distance from the central R136 cluster (Figures 5 and
 761 6), such that at the largest distances the normalization
 762 of the line width vs. size relation is consistent with the
 763 Galactic clouds studied by S87. However, we do not
 764 find that distance from R136 correlates with the gravi-
 765 tational boundedness of structures (Figure 11). Rather,
 766 low surface density ^{12}CO structures tend to be unbound,
 767 whereas high surface density structures (which more
 768 closely follow the filamentary network, Figure 12, and
 769 comprise most of the structures observed in ^{13}CO) tend
 770 to be bound. The higher line widths of clumps near
 771 R136 then largely reflects the higher surface density of
 772 clumps in this region.

773 While the unbound (high α_{vir}) clumps are found
 774 throughout the cloud and are not limited to the smallest
 775 “leaves” in the dendrogram hierarchy, they tend not to
 776 overlap the filament skeletons, suggesting a more diffuse
 777 structure or distribution. In total, 12% of the total CO-
 778 based mass in SCIMES clumps is located in clumps with
 779 $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}} > 1$, whereas 44% of the mass is in clumps with
 780 $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}} < 0.5$. Here we briefly discuss three possible
 781 interpretations of the high α_{vir} structures.

782 *Pressure-bounded structures*—In super star cluster-
 783 forming environments such as the Antennae galaxy
 784 merger (Johnson et al. 2015; Finn et al. 2019), massive
 785 molecular clouds are observed with virial masses well
 786 above the SVE line, implying large external pressures
 787 ($P/k_B \sim 10^8\text{--}10^9 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ K}$) in order to be in equilibrium.
 788 Although the estimated H II region pressure of $\sim 10^{-9}$
 789 dyn cm^{-2} or $P/k_B \sim 7 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ K}$ in the 30 Dor
 790 region (Lopez et al. 2011) would be sufficient to confine
 791 the observed $\alpha_{\text{vir}} > 1$ clumps (Figure 8), the distribu-
 792 tion of points in the Figures 7 and 8 is not consistent
 793 with a constant external pressure, but rather suggest
 794 a smoothly increasing virial parameter with decreasing
 795 surface density. If instead there were large variations in
 796 external pressure, these would be expected to correlate
 797 with distance from R136 (Lopez et al. 2011), but we
 798 do not find that the offset distance significantly affects
 799 boundedness (Figure 9). We therefore view a pressure-
 800 bound equilibrium state to be a less likely scenario.

801 *Dispersing molecular structures*—The unbound, low-
 802 column density ^{12}CO structures may represent molec-
 803 ular cloud material that exhibits excess kinetic energy
 804 as a result of being dispersed by energetic feedback.
 805 The unusual concentration of massive stars in 30 Dor
 806 would then could account for the high frequency of such
 807 clumps, as similar column density ($1 < \log \Sigma_{\text{lum}} < 2$)
 808 structures in other LMC clouds tend to lie closer to

809 simple virial equilibrium (Wong et al. 2019). A crude
 810 estimate of the total kinetic energy ($\mathcal{T} = 3M_{\text{lum}}\sigma_v^2$) in
 811 ^{12}CO clumps with $\log \alpha > 1$ is 7×10^{48} erg. Using the
 812 estimate of mechanical stellar wind feedback from R136
 813 of $1.2 \times 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ from Bestenlehner et al. (2020), it
 814 would take only ~ 200 yr for R136 to inject this amount
 815 of energy. (For comparison, the total kinetic energy in
 816 all clumps is 7×10^{49} erg, with a corresponding time
 817 scale of ~ 2000 yr.) This suggests that stellar feedback
 818 could easily account for the excess line widths seen in the
 819 unbound structures, even if the coupling of the feedback
 820 energy into the molecular cloud motions is relatively in-
 821 efficient. The energetic feedback should preferentially
 822 and effectively disrupt low column density structures,
 823 as few such structures lie near the SVE line.

824 *Massive CO-dark envelopes*—If there is a substantial
 825 amount of hidden molecular mass which is not traced
 826 by ^{12}CO or ^{13}CO emission; i.e. “CO-dark” gas, low
 827 CO intensities may disguise considerably larger column
 828 densities, and overall virial equilibrium may still hold
 829 once the additional mass is accounted for. The basis
 830 of this scenario (see Chevance et al. 2020, and refer-
 831 ences therein) is efficient CO photodissociation relative
 832 to H_2 , since the latter is able to self-shield whereas CO
 833 is mainly shielded by dust. Since 30 Dor is both a metal
 834 poor *and* highly irradiated environment, the amount of
 835 CO-dark gas may be substantial, especially for clouds or
 836 clumps where the total gas column density is low. This
 837 effect is clearly illustrated in Jameson et al. (2018, Fig-
 838 ure 20), where at low A_V the X_{CO} factor is increased
 839 by approximately an order of magnitude compared to
 840 the Galactic value. In the 30 Dor region, based on PDR
 841 modeling of far-infrared emission lines, Chevance et al.
 842 (2020) conclude that the X_{CO} factor is enhanced by fac-
 843 tors of 4–20 compared to the Galactic value. Correcting
 844 for this enhancement would increase $\log \Sigma_{\text{lum}}$ by 0.4–
 845 1.1 (given our adopted X_{CO}) and bring the low column
 846 density structures shown in Figures 11 and 12 closer to
 847 virial equilibrium. We caution, however, that the virial
 848 surface density Σ_{vir} is also affected by the underestimate
 849 of R and σ_v resulting from CO-dark gas; **the net effect**
 850 **on α_{vir} depends sensitively on the adopted den-**
 851 **sity and velocity dispersion profiles within the**
 852 **clumps (O’Neill et al. 2022).** In addition, the CO-
 853 dark gas would need to be preferentially distributed in
 854 low column density clouds, since the high column den-
 855 sity clouds do not show an excess of apparent kinetic
 856 energy.

857 Future studies are still needed to test these interpre-
 858 tations and to place 30 Dor in the context of its larger
 859 environment and the LMC as a whole. Wider-field imag-
 860 ing with ALMA should be able to incorporate regions

861 which are outside the reach of massive star feedback
 862 and examine the consequences for clump properties. In
 863 addition, detailing the extent and contribution of the
 864 CO-dark gas (e.g., using [C I] and [C II] mapping) over a
 865 sample of molecular clouds with matched CO mapping
 866 will clarify the effects that this component may have on
 867 the observed properties of CO clumps.

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 899 *astrodendro* (<http://www.dendrograms.org>), Kapteyn
 900 (<https://kapteyn.readthedocs.io>), FilFinder (Koch &
 901 Rosolowsky 2015), SCIMES (Colombo et al. 2015), As-
 902 trophy (Astropy Collaboration et al. 2013, 2018), APLpy
 903 (Robitaille & Bressert 2012).

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