Aligned grains and inferred toroidal magnetic fields in the envelopes of massive young stellar objects

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ABSTRACT

Massive young stellar objects (YSOs), like low-mass YSOs, are thought to be surrounded by optically thick envelopes and/or discs and are observed to have associated regions that produce polarized light at near-infrared wavelengths. These polarized regions are thought to be lower-density outflows along the polar axes of the YSO envelopes. Using the 0.2-arcsec spatial resolution of the Near-Infrared Camera and Multi-Object Spectrometer on the Hubble Space Telescope we are examining the structure of the envelopes and outflow regions of massive YSOs in star-forming regions within a few kpc of the Sun. Here we report on 2-μm polarimetry of Mon R2-IRS3, S140-IRS1, and AFGL 2591.

All three sources contain YSOs with highly-polarized monopolar outflows, with Mon R2-IRS3 containing at least two YSOs in a small cluster. The central stars of all four YSOs are also polarized, with position angles perpendicular to the directions of the outflows. We infer that this polarization is due to scattering and absorption by aligned grains. We have modelled our observations of S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591 as light scattered and absorbed both by spherical grains and by elongated grains that are aligned by magnetic fields. Models that best reproduce the observations have a substantial toroidal component to the magnetic field in the equatorial plane. Moreover, the toroidal magnetic field in the model that best fits AFGL 2591 extends a large fraction of the height of the model cavity, which is 10^5 au. We conclude that the massive YSOs in this study all show evidence of the presence of a substantial toroidal magnetic field.

Key words: stars: massive – stars: protostars – ISM: magnetic fields – ISM: jets and outflows – infrared: ISM – infrared: stars

1 INTRODUCTION

Although there has been substantial progress in understanding massive star formation in recent years (see, e.g., Bonnell & Smith 2011 for a review), there remain many interesting questions. One such concern is the influence of magnetic fields, which are known to exist in molecular clouds where stars form. Shu, Adams, & Lizano (1987) first described how gravity could collapse a low-mass cloud along magnetic field lines to form a disc and then a star via ambipolar diffusion. Here a disc is defined as ‘a long-lived, flat, rotating structure in centrifugal equilibrium,’ (Cesaroni et al. 2007). However, for massive stars, Allen, Li, & Shu (2003), Hennebelle & Fromang (2008), and Mellon & Li (2008) have shown that
magnetic braking due to even a weak magnetic field inhibits the formation of a thin, rotationally supported `disc’, leaving only a non-Keplerian `pseudodisc’ (Galli & Shu 1993). On the other hand, Seifried et al. (2012) find that when turbulence is included in their simulations, Keplerian discs are formed in spite of magnetic braking.

Irrespective of the presence of a true disc, the effect on the magnetic field lines is that the poloidal component is pinched towards the centre in the equatorial plane. In addition, a toroidal component can appear in the disc, pseudodisc, or disc-like toroid, here described as a condensation in the equatorial plane that is not quite yet a `disc’ (e.g., Hennebelle & Fromang 2008; Seifried et al. 2011). Such pinches in the magnetic field lines have been found in the envelopes of both low and high mass young stellar objects (YSOs), for example, by Girart et al. (2006, 2009), who measured the sub-mm wavelength polarized emission from aligned grains in such objects.

On the other hand, evidence for a toroidal field in YSO discs or toroids is not so convincing. Since grain alignment by magnetic fields is thought to be generally true (see Lazarian 2007, 2009, for reviews of grain alignment physics), the presence of a toroidal field should also be discernible through polarization measurements of the position angle (PA) of the magnetic field in the plane of the sky.

For most stars and YSOs, the magnetic field causing grain alignment is the Galactic interstellar magnetic field. It has long been known that visible-wavelength stellar polarization is correlated with the features seen in the Galactic plane (see e.g., Heiles & Crutcher 2005 and references therein); currently Clemens et al. (2012) are extending these studies to much farther distances in the Galactic plane through near-infrared (NIR) observations of stellar polarization.

For visible to mid-infrared (MIR, \( \sim 8 \sim 25 \mu m \)) wavelengths, the polarization from non-spherical, aligned grains is a complicated function of scattering, absorption, and magnetic field direction (Whitney & Wolff 2002; Smith et al. 2000). Scattering by aligned grains produces polarization whose PA is a combination of the vectors perpendicular to the magnetic field direction and perpendicular to the `scattering plane’, defined by the photon source, the scattering particle, and the observer. On the other hand, absorption by aligned grains produces polarization vectors parallel to the magnetic field direction. Either effect (scattering or absorption) can dominate, depending on field direction and optical depths (see Whitney & Wolff 2002 for examples).

For MIR to sub-mm wavelengths, polarization perpendicular to the magnetic field in the plane of the sky is produced by emission from aligned grains (scattering is negligible). This polarization tracks the magnetic field in molecular clouds and YSO envelopes (e.g., Dotson et al. 2000; Girart et al. 2006, 2009; Curran & Chrysostomou 2007). Aitken et al. (1993) and Wright (2007) have plotted the orientation of YSO polarization versus the local Galactic magnetic field direction and YSO outflow direction, mostly using their MIR spectra from the atlas of Smith et al. (2000). There is no special correlation of source polarization PA with outflow direction. A significant problem could be that their aperture on the source includes both the YSO disc and the outflow, which may have perpendicular polarization orientations (Aitken et al. 1993; Wright 2007).

Magnetic field directions, however, cannot be estimated from the polarization of spherical grains. In this case, scattering tends to produce polarization vectors aligned perpendicular to the scattering plane. As a result, an optically thin nebula of non-aligned grains illuminated by a central source shows a circular pattern of polarization vectors.

Since it is essential to understand the relation between massive YSOs’ outflows and discs, we have undertaken a study of such systems with the Hubble Space Telescope (HST), using the NIR polarimetry capability of its Near-Infrared Camera and Multi-Object Spectrometer (NICMOS). For this study we chose the YSOs and candidate YSOs closest to the Earth whose luminosities indicate that their masses are \( > 8 M_\odot \) (\( \log L/L_\odot \gtrsim 3.5 \)). We have previously described three objects that are seen essentially edge-on: NGC 6334-V, and IRS1 and IRS3 in S255-IRS1 (Simpson et al. 2009). In this paper we report on three more sources containing massive YSOs: Mon R2-IRS3, S140-IRS1, and AFGL 2591. Our goals are to characterize the structure of any circumstellar discs and outflow regions and to determine the orientation of the local magnetic field in the plane of the sky.

Mon R2 is a cluster of H II regions and YSOs, where IRS2 is the illuminating star of the shell-like H II region IRS1 (e.g., Howard, Pipher, & Forrest 1994; Aspin & Walther 1990; Yao et al. 1997) and IRS3 is a luminous cluster of YSOs and other stars (Beckwith et al. 1976; Preibisch et al. 2002; Alvarez et al. 2004a). Although the components of IRS3 are not resolved at 24.5 \( \mu m \) when observed with a resolution of 0.6 arcsec (de Wit et al. 2009), recent interferometry at 10 \( \mu m \) indicates additional structures that may be due to the presence of a circumstellar disc (Linz et al. 2011). The distance is estimated to be 830 pc (Herbst & Racine 1976). The total luminosity of the compact group is \( \sim 1.4 \times 10^4 L_\odot \) (Henning, Chini, & Pfau 1992).

S140-IRS1 is the most luminous of a number of infrared sources located in the L1204 molecular cloud that provides a bright rim to the S140 H II region. We assume that the distance is that of the L1204 cloud source IRAS 22198+6336, which has a parallax distance of \( \sim 764 \) pc (Hirota et al. 2008). The morphology of the red-shifted and blue-shifted lines in the outflow are consistent with the pole of the outflow being close to the line of sight (Minchin, White, & Padman 1993). The centrosymmetric NIR polarization vectors also indicate that the outflow cavity is close to the line of sight (Joyce & Simon 1986). However, the positioning of the outflow components in the plane of the sky is sufficiently uncertain that Trinidad et al. (2007), Preibisch & Smith (2002), Weigelt et al. (2002), and Yao et al. (1998) suggested that there are multiple outflows in different directions perhaps caused by multiple YSOs. This may be possible, as the appearance at NIR, MIR (de Wit et al. 2009), and radio wavelengths is very clumpy.

AFGL 2591, at a distance of 3.33 kpc (Rygl et al. 2012), is the most massive and most luminous YSO in our current data set. Until Rygl et al.’s (2012) recent measurement, it was thought that the distance was much smaller, \( \sim 1 \) kpc; consequently many of the source parameters in the literature need revisiting. This source has an extended CO outflow (Lada et al. 1984; Hasegawa & Mitchell 1995), \( H_2 \) outflows (Poletz, Mundt, & Ray 1992; Tamura & Yamashita 1992), and numerous \( H_2O \) (Trinidad et al. 2003; Sanna et al. 2012) and OH masers (Hutewarakorn & Cohen 2005).
In fact, the numbers of masers and radio continuum sources in the vicinity indicate that AFGL 2591 is only the most massive of a cluster of young stars and YSOs (Trinidad et al. 2003; Sanna et al. 2012). A three-colour (JHKs) Gemini image by C. Aspin is published as fig. 16 in Zinnecker & Yorke (2007); this shows us that only the blue-shifted lobe of the outflow is visible at NIR wavelengths and that this outflow has intriguing loops or rings to the west of the YSO (e.g., Minchin et al. 1991; Freibisch et al. 2003).

All three sources include other stars in our fields of view. This almost certainly indicates that they are parts of clusters, as is predicted by theories of massive star formation (e.g., Zinnecker & Yorke 2007).

In this paper we describe our observations in Section 2 and the results in Section 3. We include polarimetry of the other stars in the field of view as well as the YSOs and their scattered light outflow regions. In Section 4 we present radiation transfer models and discuss how they compare to the observations. In Section 5 we compare our observations to other observations and describe some numerical simulations of massive star formation in the literature that include the presence of magnetic fields. Finally, in Section 6 we present our summary and conclusions.

2 OBSERVATIONS

2.1 NICMOS Polarization Data

We observed each source for two visits with NICMOS on HST with the Camera 2 POL0L, POL120L, and POL240L filters (hereafter the ‘POL filters’). These filters cover a 1.9 – 2.1 µm bandpass with 0.2-arcsec resolution. Table 1 contains a journal of the observations (there was originally a visit 4 but it failed and was replaced with visit 54). In addition, we observed the red standard star Oph-N9 (\(Ks = 9.620\), \(H-K = 2.862\), Persson et al. 1998). Oph-N9, also known as GY232 (Greene & Young 1992) and BKLT 162713–244133 (Barsony et al. 1997), is a highly extincted giant behind the \(\rho\) Oph cloud (Luhman & Rieke 1999).

The purpose for having two visits per source was so that the orientations of the Camera 2 array with respect to north could be substantially different, with the result that the effects of the systematic errors caused by the non-optimum NICMOS polarization filters are reduced when the visits are averaged. Unfortunately, in Cycle 14 HST had to be operated in ‘two-gyro’ mode, which limited the visit length for most orientations as a function of location on the sky (in particular, visit 8 was shorter than the other visits). Larger differences in orientation than were obtained (Table 1) are preferable, but they were not possible without reducing the visit length to very short, unusable times.

Because the YSOs observed in this paper are so bright, their point spread functions (PSFs) extend over most of the field of view. This is a particular problem when the YSO is polarized because its polarized PSF affects the measured polarization of the nebulosity of interest. Therefore, to improve PSF subtraction in each visit we measured each source in two separate sequences, once with a four-position spiral dither pattern with spacing 1.0213 arcsec and once with the YSO centred in the NICMOS Camera 2 coronagraph hole. For the spiral dither pattern, the detector array was read out in MULTIACCUM mode with sample sequence STEP8 to accumulate total times ranging from 32 to 56 s per dither position per filter. In the coronagraph mode the detector array was read out, also in MULTIACCUM mode, with sample sequence STEP2 for the YSOs and STEP8 for Oph-N9 to achieve total integration times of 207 s per POL filter for the YSOs and 280 s for Oph-N9.

The data were reduced using the procedure described by Simpson et al. (2009). This includes dark subtraction, flat fielding, correction for the electronic ghosts due to amplifier ringing (also known as the ‘Mr. Staypuft’ anomaly, Thatte et al. 2009), bad pixel correction, and correction for the ‘pedestal’ effect. For the coronagraph images, specialized bad pixel masks were used to compensate for the lack of dithering (G. Schneider, in preparation).
ages showed the noticeable jumps from quadrant to quadrant that are usually ascribed to the pedestal effect; however, when the minimum flux was computed for each image by measuring the median of ~800 pixels centred on exactly the same position on the sky, it was found that these minima are never the same. Consequently, small constants (≈0.01−0.11 counts s\(^{-1}\)) were subtracted from the dithered images with the larger minimum fluxes so that all images would have the same flux levels for later median combining. These variations could be due to pedestal effect contributions. Estimates of the HST thermal background were also subtracted. The result of this analysis is an uncertainty <0.03 counts s\(^{-1}\) in the continuum level for each image, but this corresponds to only 0.016 mJy arcsec\(^{-2}\), substantially fainter than any of the nebulosity that we are measuring (typically the minimum of the intensities that have adequate signal-to-noise ratios for polarization measurement is ~0.3 mJy arcsec\(^{-2}\)).

For each polarizing filter, we aligned and shifted the dither positions for the YSO-centred images by centroiding two bright stars using the Interactive Data Language (IDL) program, idp3 (Stobie & Ferro 2006). The shifted images (with the very small additions/subtractions to the flux described above) were then median-combined to remove the remaining bad pixels; the result is three images for the three POL filters in each visit, all aligned to the same position on the sky. The coronagraph images were treated similarly — median-combined and shifted to the same registration as the YSO-centred images by aligning the other stars in the field.

Even with the use of the coronagraph, there is a significant PSF due to the occulted YSO that must be removed before the images in a single POL filter can be combined. Since the NICMOS POL filters have a 10 percent bandwidth, the colour of the star has an important effect on the measured PSF. Because our YSOs are very red (\(H - K\) ranging from 2.9 to 4.2), it was necessary to find a very red PSF standard that does not have strong spectral features at 2 \(\mu\)m. Although Oph-N9 is close to being red enough (\(H - K = 2.86\)), it is not very bright, such that its PSF becomes quite noisy greater than about 2 arcsec from its centre. A less red but usable PSF can be found in the bright NIR standard GJ-784 (\(HD191849, K = 4.28, H - K = 0.24\)) (Programme 10847, PI: D. Hines; G. Schneider, in preparation). Because the red Oph-N9 PSF has distinct features in the region within 10 − 20 pixels from the coronagraph hole that we also see in the YSO data, we subtracted the Oph-N9 PSF from the coronagraph images from 0.5 to 1.5 arcsec and the GJ-784 PSF from all pixels at larger distances than 1.5 arcsec. Since Oph-N9 is polarized (Table 2), the PSFs were subtracted filter by filter with the normalization constants obtained by measuring the star fluxes in each POL filter. To enhance the appearance of the figures in this paper, the central 0.6 arcsec (radius 4 pixels) are replaced by the central image of the YSO; however, none of the results described hereafter depends on this composite image that includes the YSO. The shifted, PSF-subtracted coronagraph images were then augmented by adding the YSO-centred images for those parts of the sky that were not covered by the coronagraph images. These images were not averaged because the coronagraph images have more integration time and because they have the polarized PSF already removed.

For each visit, the Stokes \(I, Q,\) and \(U\) intensities were computed from the reduced data (Hines et al. 2000; Batcheldor et al. 2006, 2009), the pixels were rectified to the same plate-scale in both \(x\) and \(y\) (0.075948 arcsec per pixel), and rotated so that north is up. The resulting celestial-aligned Stokes \(I, Q,\) and \(U\) images from each pair of visits were then mosaicked together and the fractional polarization \(P\) and the PA \(\theta\) of the polarization vectors were computed from the combined \(I, Q,\) and \(U\) using the usual relationships

\[
P = (Q^2 + U^2)^{0.5}/I \quad \text{and} \quad \theta = 0.5 \arctan(U/Q),
\]

and the spatial resolution of 0.2 arcsec at 2.0 \(\mu\)m. Figs. 1 − 3 show these mosaics, with polarization vectors and fractional polarization. The intensity images plotted in this paper are not smoothed in order to preserve details such as the fine structure of the HST diffraction pattern; however, the plotted polarization images and the over-plotted polarization PA vectors are from the smoothed data.

### 2.2 Other NICMOS Data

In 1997 December the Mon R2 Cluster was imaged with NICMOS on HST (Programme 7417, PI: M. Meyer) at 1.10, 1.60, 1.65, and 2.07 \(\mu\)m. Andersen et al. (2006) describe their programme and show a colour image of their results. We downloaded these same Mon R2 data from the HST archive and reduced the frames containing IRS3 and environs in the same manner as described above for the NICMOS polarization filters. The results are plotted in Fig. 4 with a log stretch (blue is the F110W filter, green is F165M, and red is F207M). Unfortunately, these NICMOS images do not include the area of the sky at higher right ascension that is seen in the field of view shown in Fig. 1.

Preibisch et al. (2002) also reduced these same NICMOS

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**Table 1.** Journal of the observations.

| Visit | Date       | Target         | Center RA (J2000) | Center Dec (J2000) | Camera 2 Position Angle (degrees) |
|-------|------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1     | 2006 Aug 31| Mon R2-IRS3    | 06:07:47.84       | −06:22:56.29      | 32.66                            |
| 54    | 2006 Oct 8 | Mon R2-IRS3    | 06:07:47.84       | −06:22:56.29      | 59.57                            |
| 7     | 2006 May 17| AFGL 2591      | 20:29:24.89       | +40:11:19.60      | 14.57                            |
| 8     | 2006 Jul 1 | AFGL 2591      | 20:29:24.89       | +40:11:19.60      | −25.43                           |
| 9     | 2006 Apr 22| S140-IRS1      | 22:19:18.32       | +63:18:45.40      | 67.57                            |
| 10    | 2006 Mar 30| S140-IRS1      | 22:19:18.32       | +63:18:45.40      | 96.44                            |
| 11    | 2006 Apr 10| Oph-N9         | 16:27:13.31       | −24:41:32.40      | 68.88                            |
2.3 Stellar Fluxes and Polarization Measurements

The positions and fluxes were measured for each detected star in each of the three POL filters. The positions of the stars were measured by fitting Gaussian functions to the cores of the star images and the fluxes were measured by aperture photometry of each star on the median-combined but unrotated POL images. The polarization parameters $I$, $Q$, $U$, $P$, and $\theta$ were computed from the measured fluxes by multiplying the flux vector by the same matrix that was used to compute $I$, $Q$, and $U$ from the combined dithered images (Batcheldor et al. 2006, 2009). The star measurements used a circular aperture with a radius of 2.5 pixels (to the minimum of the first Airy dark ring) and the background was measured in a ring of radii 5 to 7 pixels (just outside the first Airy bright ring). This aperture is too small for accurate measurement of isolated polarization standard stars, as

data from the HST archive; their paper includes a table of the coordinates and $J$, $H$, and $K$ magnitudes of the stars in the IRS3 cluster, plus further discussion of the colour-colour diagram. Fig. 4 includes the star identification letters from Preibisch et al. (2002).
was noted by Batcheldor et al. (2006), who estimated the accuracy of measurements of $P$ and $\theta$ from simulated star images with sub-pixel misalignment. However, the large and polarized background in our images also introduces substantial uncertainty if larger apertures are used. Consequently, except for the very bright central stars of AFGL 2591 and S140-IRS1, we preferred the small aperture but estimate that there could be an additional systematic uncertainty of a few tenths of a percent to the measured percentage polarization.

In fact, the difference between the visits is sometimes larger than a percent, in which case the uncertainty in the tables is equal to 0.5 times the difference of the measured values with the minimum uncertainty given as 1 percent to account for systematic effects. Simpson et al. (2009) describe how the uncertainties in the polarization measurements were estimated from first principles.

Stellar magnitudes were estimated from the Stokes $I$ flux for each star for each visit. The NICMOS calibration assumes an aperture radius of 0.5 arcsec. However, we found that except for S140-IRS1, AFGL 2591 YSO, and six other

| Object    | RA offset (arcsec) | Dec. offset (arcsec) | RA (J2000) | Dec. (J2000) | $P$ (percent) | $\theta$ (degrees) | $\text{Mag}_{2.0 \mu m}$ 2006 Aug 31 | $\text{Mag}_{2.0 \mu m}$ 2006 Oct 8 |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Stars in Mon R2 |                    |                      |            |              |              |                     |                                 |                                 |
| Star O (IRS2) | -18.61            | 3.82                 | 06:07:46.59| -06:22:52.5  | 7 ± 1        | 167 ± 3           | -                 | 14.91                           |
| Star P (IRS2) | -17.21            | 1.36                 | 06:07:46.68| -06:22:54.9  | 5 ± 1        | 177 ± 3           | -                 | 14.62                           |
| Star Q (IRS2) | -16.71            | -1.30                | 06:07:46.71| -06:22:57.6  | 8 ± 1        | 171 ± 7           | -                 | 14.97                           |
| Star G      | -6.80             | 2.28                 | 06:07:47.38| -06:22:54.0  | 11 ± 1       | 173 ± 2           | 14.69              | 15.07                           |
| Star H      | -4.58             | -0.38                | 06:07:47.53| -06:22:56.7  | 3 ± 1        | 8 ± 6              | 14.41              | 14.44                           |
| Star I      | -2.60             | -4.95                | 06:07:47.66| -06:22:61.2  | -            | -                  | 16.39              | 16.35                           |
| Star N      | -2.56             | 3.11                 | 06:07:47.66| -06:22:53.2  | -            | -                  | 17.60              | 17.54                           |
| Star E      | -2.38             | 1.14                 | 06:07:47.68| -06:22:55.1  | 1 ± 1        | 20 ± 20            | 12.99              | 13.16                           |
| Star F      | -1.48             | 0.02                 | 06:07:47.74| -06:22:56.3  | -            | -                  | 14.47              | 14.20                           |
| Star J      | -0.08             | -7.53                | 06:07:47.83| -06:22:63.8  | 2 ± 1        | 15 ± 9             | 12.73              | 12.74                           |
| Star A      | 0.00              | 0.00                 | 06:07:47.84| -06:22:56.3  | 9 ± 1        | 112 ± 2            | 9.25               | 9.21                            |
| Star B      | 0.30              | 0.93                 | 06:07:47.86| -06:22:55.4  | 12 ± 1       | 166 ± 1            | 9.46               | 9.49                            |
| Star C      | 0.65              | 0.99                 | 06:07:47.88| -06:22:55.3  | 7 ± 1        | 174 ± 2            | 10.17              | 10.30                           |
| Star D      | 0.77              | 2.09                 | 06:07:47.89| -06:22:54.2  | 5 ± 1        | 147 ± 4            | 12.56              | 12.51                           |
| Star K      | 3.35              | -5.68                | 06:07:48.06| -06:22:62.0  | -            | -                  | 14.96              | 14.98                           |
| Star M      | 4.34              | 6.36                 | 06:07:48.13| -06:22:49.9  | 11 ± 3       | 121 ± 7            | 17.18              | 17.03                           |
| Star L      | 11.76             | 0.72                 | 06:07:48.62| -06:22:55.6  | -            | -                  | 15.16              | -                               |
| Oph-N9      | -                 | 2                   | 16:27:13.3  | -24:41:34    | 8.6 ± 1      | 32 ± 2             | 10.26              | -                               |

| Object    | RA offset (arcsec) | Dec. offset (arcsec) | RA (J2000) | Dec. (J2000) | $P$ (percent) | $\theta$ (degrees) | $\text{Mag}_{2.0 \mu m}$ 2006 Mar 30 | $\text{Mag}_{2.0 \mu m}$ 2006 Apr 22 |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------------|------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1          | -14.11             | 6.92                 | 22:19:16.18| 63:18:52.7   | -            | -                  | 16.21              | 16.30                           |
| 2          | -8.32              | 10.49                | 22:19:17.04| 63:18:56.3   | -            | -                  | 18.75              | 19.21                           |
| 3          | -8.12              | 10.86                | 22:19:17.07| 63:18:56.7   | -            | -                  | 18.02              | 18.82                           |
| 4          | -6.67              | 7.94                 | 22:19:17.29| 63:18:53.8   | 5 ± 1        | 13 ± 1             | 13.20              | 13.31                           |
| 5          | -5.17              | 11.35                | 22:19:17.51| 63:18:57.2   | -            | -                  | 15.70              | 15.70                           |
| 6          | -2.05              | -3.55                | 22:19:17.97| 63:18:42.3   | 3 ± 1        | 127 ± 5            | 12.21              | 12.35                           |
| 7          | -0.50              | 5.41                 | 22:19:18.20| 63:18:51.2   | -            | -                  | 15.40              | 15.50                           |
| S140-IRS1  | 0.00               | 0.00                 | 22:19:18.28| 63:18:45.8   | 4 ± 1        | 40 ± 3             | 7.72               | 7.67                            |
| 9          | 0.19               | 4.04                 | 22:19:18.70| 63:18:49.9   | -            | -                  | 15.78              | 15.76                           |
| 10         | 1.60               | 7.36                 | 22:19:18.31| 63:18:53.2   | 3 ± 1        | 45 ± 6             | 12.25              | 12.16                           |
| 11         | 6.32               | -3.20                | 22:19:19.21| 63:18:42.6   | 5 ± 1        | 94 ± 5             | 15.89              | 16.01                           |
| 12         | 6.82               | 8.48                 | 22:19:19.29| 63:18:54.3   | -            | -                  | 16.95              | 16.82                           |
| 13         | 7.71               | 0.78                 | 22:19:19.42| 63:18:46.6   | 16 ± 1       | 100 ± 4            | 15.03              | 15.17                           |

\[\text{http://www.stsci.edu/hst/nicmos/performance/photometry}\]
stars much brighter than the background, the background fluxes subtracted from the measured stars plus background are larger to much larger than the final star fluxes if an aperture radius as large as 0.5 arcsec is used. Consequently, for estimates of the magnitudes we used the larger 0.5 arcsec radius aperture for these brighter stars but for all other stars we used the smaller 0.19-arcsec radius aperture (2.5 pixels) that was used for measuring the polarization in order to minimize the uncertainty due to background subtraction. These measured fluxes were then increased to those expected for the 0.5 arcsec calibration radius by multiplying by the corresponding ratio of synthetic PSFs computed with Tiny Tim (Krist, Hook, & Stoehr 2011) for a colour temperature of 500 K, appropriate for YSOs.

Consequently, the sources of uncertainty in the photometry include, in addition to background subtraction and the usual photon noise for faint sources, uncertainties in the PSF computation, the fact that the coronagraph images were not dithered (as is assumed for the NICMOS flux calibration), and the fact that the coronagraph uses a slightly different focus position (not modelled by Tiny Tim) from that used by normal images. No attempt was made to quantify the uncertainties in the photometry; however, we estimate that they are of the order of 5 – 10 percent based on the reproducibility of the stellar magnitudes measured from images obtained in the different visits and the different types of observation (coronagraph and non-coronagraph). Although most stars appear to be ∼ constant from one visit to the next, a few have larger differences in the fluxes than would be expected from the errors. The two objects whose time variability was confirmed by blinking the images are Star G in Mon R2-IRS3 and Star 11 in AFGL 2591. There is an additional uncertainty in the flux of 5 - 10 percent due to the calibration uncertainty that does not affect any estimates of the variability. Additional discussion of stellar fluxes computed from NICMOS polarization observations is given by Simpson et al. (2006).

The polarizations and uncertainties are given in Table 4. Stellar polarization and photometry measurements of AFGL 2591. Polarization uncertainties are described in Table 4.
biles 2 – 4 and the locations of the stars are plotted in Figs. 1(c), 2(c), 3(c), and 4. With the exception of Star 32 in AFGL 2591, values for polarization are listed only for Figs. 1(c), 2(c), 3(c), and 4. With the exception of Star 32 from Preibisch et al. (2002). The letters identifying the stars are from Preibisch et al. (2002).

3 RESULTS

Our data show that all four YSOs (two YSOs in Mon R2-IRS3) appear as monopolar outflows with highly polarized diffuse emission (Figs. 1 – 3). The illuminating stars of all three sources are also visible; we infer that these are the YSOs that are the sources of the outflows. They are identified by the centrosymmetric polarization vectors in the diffuse emission. Moreover, the emission from the YSOs themselves is also significantly polarized with polarization PAs, θ, approximately perpendicular to the outflow directions. We will discuss each of the sources in turn, and then compare their polarized images to Monte Carlo scattering models.

3.1 Mon R2-IRS3

Figs. 1 and 4 show the HST images of Mon R2-IRS3 with Fig. 1 including the eastern edge of IRS2. We see that IRS3 consists of a compact cluster of YSOs. The two brightest YSOs, named Star A and Star B by Preibisch et al. (2002), show monopolar outflows at approximately orthogonal directions (Star A’s outflow extends to the south and Star B’s outflow extends to the east). In Fig. 5 we show an enlargement of these orthogonal outflows, where we have subtracted the polarized PSF (derived from measurements of Oph-N9 centred in the Camera 2 array) from Star B as well as Star A. From the alignment of the polarization vectors, we infer that the east outflow is illuminated by Star B and the south outflow by Star A.

Star B is significantly redder than the other stars in IRS3. This is seen in both the colour version of Fig. 4 and in the values of H – K measured by Preibisch et al. (2002), where H – K equals 4.4 for Star B and 2.9 (Star A) or bluer for the other five stars in their table of stellar magnitudes. We suggest that the red colour of Star B is due to extinction and that some of the extinction of Star B is due to it being located behind the YSO envelope of Star A.

At least some of the other stars in this grouping are probably members of the same cluster as Stars A and B. Preibisch et al. (2002) find that Stars E, C, and A are X-ray sources with typical YSO X-ray properties. Assuming that they are all at the same distance (830 pc) and using their NICMOS photometry, Preibisch et al. (2002) estimate that the masses of Stars A, B, C, D, and E are in the ranges 12 – 25, 8 – 12, 5 – 10, 2 – 5, and ∼ 1 M☉, respectively.
Alvarez, Hoare, & Lucas (2004b) modelled the south lobe of Star A with a Monte Carlo radiation transfer code. They assume for their models that the outflow axis is tipped towards the earth by $\sim 45^\circ$. With this inclination angle, at least part of the YSO envelope should be obscuring the star. In fact, Star A is present as a point source (i.e., exhibiting the first Airy bright ring of the HST PSF) only at 2.07 $\mu$m at shorter wavelengths the interstellar extinction would be expected for single scattering. However, at closer distances, especially in the central several arcsec, the polarization vectors in those positions along the limb of the scattered light region of the outflow mostly lie in a line perpendicular to the outflow direction. That is, their PAs are similar to that of the AFGL 2591 YSO itself: $172^\circ$. This is shown more clearly in Fig. 7, which is an enlargement of the central $\pm 10$ arcsec. Beyond $\sim 3$ arcsec from the YSO and continuing along the limb, the polarization vectors change their PAs to remain somewhat parallel to the limb with the perpendiculars to these vectors pointing into the centre of the outflow and not back to the bright YSO. This is especially apparent at the top of Fig. 7b (RA $\sim -4$ to $-8$ arcsec and Dec $\sim +7$ arcsec) and near the bottom of the figure (RA $\sim -4$ to $-8$ arcsec and Dec $\sim -9$ arcsec).

3.3 AFGL 2591

The image of AFGL 2591 in Fig. 3 shows a monopolar outflow with several loops of up to 40 percent polarized, scattered light about 10 arcsec to the west of the bright YSO. At distances larger than about 5 – 6 arcsec, the perpendiculars to the polarization vectors all point towards the YSO, as would be expected for single scattering. However, at closer distances, especially in the central several arcsec, the polarization vectors in those positions along the limb of the scattered light region of the outflow mostly lie in a line perpendicular to the outflow direction. That is, their PAs are similar to that of the AFGL 2591 YSO itself: $172^\circ$. This is also seen at this north–south orientation position by Preibisch & Smith (2002). If so, this shocked outflow must have broken through the S140-IRS1 envelope in the direction towards the earth because the nebulosity is clearly illuminated by IRS1. It must be located close to the plane of the sky that includes IRS1 because the polarization is so high, $\sim 83$ percent, in these features.

3.3 AFGL 2591

The image of AFGL 2591 in Fig. 3 shows a monopolar outflow with several loops of up to 40 percent polarized, scattered light about 10 arcsec to the west of the bright YSO. At distances larger than about 5 – 6 arcsec, the perpendiculars to the polarization vectors all point towards the YSO, as would be expected for single scattering. However, at closer distances, especially in the central several arcsec, the polarization vectors in those positions along the limb of the scattered light region of the outflow mostly lie in a line perpendicular to the outflow direction. That is, their PAs are similar to that of the AFGL 2591 YSO itself: $172^\circ$. This is shown more clearly in Fig. 7, which is an enlargement of the central $\pm 10$ arcsec. Beyond $\sim 3$ arcsec from the YSO and continuing along the limb, the polarization vectors change their PAs to remain somewhat parallel to the limb with the perpendiculars to these vectors pointing into the centre of the outflow and not back to the bright YSO. This is especially apparent at the top of Fig. 7b (RA $\sim -4$ to $-8$ arcsec and Dec $\sim +7$ arcsec) and near the bottom of the figure (RA $\sim -4$ to $-8$ arcsec and Dec $\sim -9$ arcsec).

The gray-scale of Fig. 7 is the polarized flux, $I_P = I \times P$. One of the most striking aspects of Fig. 7(a) is that $I_P$ is discordant with the contours representing the total intensity, $I$, which is all scattered light (see Fig. 3b). Those regions where the polarization vectors change directions emit very little polarized intensity (compare the polarization vectors and the gray-scale in Fig. 7b), even though their total intensity (Fig. 7a) is still substantial.

There are three possible reasons for having scattered light with little polarization: (1) The light is produced by forward or backward scattering by spherical particles. (2) The particles are elongated and are illuminated edge-on with scattering angles at intermediate angles such as $\sim 45^\circ$ or $135^\circ$ (Matsumura & Seki 1996; Whitney & Wolff 2002; Wolf, Voshchinnikov & Henning 2002). (3) The dust consists of aligned grains, which are partially optically thick and the polarization angle of the dust in the background is rotated by $90^\circ$ by the absorbing dust in the foreground (Whitney & Wolff 2002).

In the next section we compare the data to models using both spherical and elongated, aligned grains. We will show

![Figure 6. Enlargement of the central region of S140-IRS1.](image-url)
that the models with spherical grains produce too little polarization compared to the observations; the likely reason is that the scattering is mostly forward scattering at the low inclination angles of the best fitting models. Better agreement with the observations occurs for models with aligned grains. This is true for both the high polarization seen at the location of the illuminating star and at large distances along the outflow axis, and for the regions of low polarized intensity described above.

4 COMPARISON TO MODELS

To further analyse the polarization images of S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591, we have modelled the data using the Monte Carlo scattering routine TTSCAT of Whitney & Hartmann (1992, 1993). The models consist of an envelope, somewhat flattened by rotation, an outflow cavity, and an optional circumstellar disc. A cross-section through a model showing the direction of the line of sight is illustrated in Fig. 8. The mass of the envelope is determined by the accretion rate; for the massive YSOs in this study, the accretion rate is so high that the flattened part of the envelope near the equatorial plane can be thought of as a dense, optically thick toroid, such that any Keplerian disc is not significant. Additional details of the physics of these models can be found in the papers by Whitney & Hartmann (1993), Stark et al. (2006), and Robitaille et al. (2006). Stark et al. (2006) also give a number of examples of models computed with this program. As in that paper, we assume the same ‘curved’ cavity shape and that the dust grains are spherical with parameters for the dust size and composition given by Kim, Martin, & Hendry (1994). Other cavity shapes and dust parameters were tried but gave poorer matches to the observations. The models in this paper were all computed with grain scattering parameters for a wavelength of 2.2 µm, only slightly longer than the NICMOS POL filters’ 2.0 µm.

Our criteria for a good fit are that the model spectral en-
energy distribution (SED) is a good approximation to the observed SED, that the relative brightness of the illuminating star compared to the scattered light intensity approximates the data, and that the general shape of the model scattered intensity approximates the shape of the observed outflow. Fitting the first criterion requires that the model have approximately the correct luminosity, distance, and envelope mass. Fitting the second criterion requires an estimation of both the model inclination angle and the cavity opening angle in order to have a significant, but not too large, optical depth along the line of sight to the star due to the dust in the model’s extended envelope, where the envelope parameters are determined by the first criterion. The last criterion should be much more important; however, both S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591 appear very clumpy and possibly affected by secondary sources in their vicinities. These will be discussed along with the models of each source.

Table 5. Parameters of fitted models. For each YSO the two top models are tabulated because they demonstrate the parameter range of acceptable fits. The first group of parameters are copied from the input files that were used by Robitaille et al. (2006)3. Additional parameters not listed here are either irrelevant or are the same for all models (such as the envelope parameters CSHAPE = ‘POLYN’, EX1=1.5 for the cavity shape exponent, Z01=0, and EXF=0, which are cavity wall and cavity density parameters). All models in this paper were computed using 108 photons.

| Parameter name | S140-IRS1 | AFGL 2591 | Description |
|----------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
|                | Model 1   | Model 2   | Model 1     | Model 2     | |
| SED model ID   | 3000319   | 3004583   | 3007097     | 3018960     | Model number from Robitaille et al. (2006) |
| RSTAR          | 190.170   | 185.080   | 13.259      | 12.135      | Stellar radius in Solar radii |
| TSTAR          | 4189.7    | 4212.9    | 36299.0     | 36002.0     | Blackbody temperature of central star (K) |
| MASSC          | 19.470    | 19.242    | 37.568      | 34.012      | Mass of central star (in Solar masses) |
| MASSD          | 0.0       | 0.0       | 0.0         | 0.1068      | Disc mass in Solar masses |
| RMAX           | 2.793E+04 | 9.939E+04 | 1.00E+05    | 1.00E+05    | Maximum envelope radius in au |
| RMAXD          | 3.223     | 5.099     | 8.901       | 74.448      | Maximum disc radius in au |
| RMAX           | 2.349E−04 | 4.98E−03  | 1.34E−03    | 2.54E−20    | Envelope mass infall rate (solar masses year−1) |
| BC             | 5.03E     | 5.29E     | 7.91E       | 9.69E−03    | Envelope centrifugal radius (au) |
| THET1          | 5.03E     | 5.29E     | 7.91E       | 9.69E−03    | Envelope centrifugal radius (au) |
| RHOCONST1      | 4.43E−20  | 6.39E−20  | 4.36E−20    | 2.54E−20    | Coefficient for cavity density distribution |
| RHOAMB         | 3.76E−21  | 1.207E−20 | 1.670E−20   | 8.38E−21    | Ambient density (gm cm−3) |
| Output results |           |           |             |             | |
| L/L⊙          | 1.00E+04  | 9.69E+03  | 2.74E+05    | 2.24E+05    | Luminosity (in Solar luminosities) |
| Menv/M⊙       | 34.6      | 131       | 1720        | 543         | Envelope mass (in Solar masses) |
| Modified parameters from the TTSCAT and TTSCAT_AL models | | | | |
| THETE          | 12.0      | 20.0      | 15.0        | 15.0        | Inclination angle (degrees) |
| THET1          | 5.03E     | 5.29E     | 7.91E       | 9.69E−03    | Opening angle of cavity wall (degrees) |
| RHOCONST1      | 4.43E−20  | 6.39E−20  | 4.36E−22    | 2.54E−22    | Coefficient for cavity density distribution |
| RHOAMB         | 3.76E−21  | 1.207E−20 | 1.670E−22   | 8.38E−23    | Ambient density (gm cm−3) |
| Model magnetic field parameters (see text for descriptions) | | | | |
| HZ             | 208.6     | 115.9     | 8901        | 2481.6      | Scale height for decrease of Bφ with Z in au |
| Cφ             | 2.0E+06   | 1.0E+6    | 3.0E+10     | 6.2E+08     | Unitless constant in the equation for Bφ |
| POL-YSO        | 0.04      | 0.04      | 0.90        | 0.73        | Resulting polarization of the illuminating YSO |
| Z1             | 1800      | 1000      | ~1.0E+05    | ~34000      | Height in au from YSO to where Bφ/BZ = 1 |

3 http://caravan.astro.wisc.edu/protostars
is that both models of S140-IRS1 have much lower effective temperatures for the central star than would be expected for main sequence stars of 19 M\(_\odot\). This could be an indication of the very young age of the S140-IRS1 protostar. On the other hand, both models of AFGL 2591 have high-enough effective temperatures that they could be ionizing their own H\(_\text{II}\) regions; this is not in disagreement with the presence of ionized gas near AFGL 2591, which Johnston et al. (2013) suggest is a photoionized wind.

(2) We computed a series of scattering and polarization models with the inclination angle, THETE, varying from 10 to 40\(^\circ\) (the initial inclination angle estimated by the Robitaille et al. 2007 SED fitter was its minimum angle, 18.19\(^\circ\), for all four models). We estimate that the final inclination angle is uncertain by about 5\(^\circ\). For each inclination angle, models were computed with various cavity opening angles, THET1, and then convolved with a PSF representing the NICMOS 0.2 arcsec resolution. The best fit for THET1 was the value such that the ratio of the central pixels to the pixels 1 and 2 arcsec distant agreed with the data. Since both sources are very clumpy, the observed ratio is poorly determined, but it is surely large considering the observed magnitudes of the S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591 protostars (Tables 3 and 4). For the sake of this step in the modelling procedure, we estimated values of this ratio of \(\sim 50\) for S140-IRS1 and \(\sim 100\) for AFGL 2591 from the observed surface brightness in Figs. 2(b) and 3(b). The resulting optical depths through the envelope to the central point are \(\tau_{2\mu}\text{m} \sim 8.0\) for the models of S140-IRS1 and \(\sim 5.9\) for the models of AFGL 2591.

(3) Then, for each inclination angle we compared the shape of the resulting model to the observed source and selected the final inclination angle by the best shape. Because S140-IRS1, with its extensions to the north and southwest (Fig. 2b), almost certainly lacks the symmetry about the polar axes of the models, its two models were not extensively iterated for appearance. For Model 1 we kept the cavity opening angle of model 3000319 and only performed the
4.1 Models of S140-IRS1

Fig. 11 shows the ttscat Model 1 (model 3000319) for S140-IRS1 computed with the modified parameters of Table 5. The model is plotted with the axis of the outflow that is approaching the viewer at the bottom of the plot to approximate the S140-IRS1 outflow direction, which appears to have PA $\sim 150 - 160^\circ$ (see Fig. 6). We note that model 3000319 has no disc; adding a 0.5 $M_\odot$ disc to the ttscat model makes essentially no difference to the output contours and polarization vectors.

The 12$^\circ$ model inclination for model 3000319 (Table 5) is in reasonable agreement with that estimated from other observations. The radio observations of the CO outflow show both positive and negative velocity emission both north and south of IRS1 (e.g., Hayashi & Murata 1992; Minchin et al. 1993). Consequently, it is generally inferred that the outflow is close to the line of sight with the blue-shifted outflow to the southeast of IRS1 (Minchin et al. 1995; Schertl et al. 2000). A different indication that our line-of-sight is close to the outflow axis is the very bright appearance of the star at 2 $\mu$m, from which we infer that the line of sight does not pass through any optically thick disc.

Our image in Fig. 2b is very wide in the direction perpendicular to the outflow, where we assume that the outflow direction has PA $= 154^\circ$ (e.g., Schertl et al. 2000). The model in Fig. 11, however, is elongated in the direction of the outflow, a result of the small cavity opening angle of 5.0$^\circ$. A model that has wide contours in the direction perpendicular to the outflow could be produced with the use of a much larger cavity opening angle; however, then the optical depth to the YSO would be much smaller, making the YSO too bright. On the other hand, the narrow cavity opening angle may actually be appropriate because in both our data (Fig. 6) and the image of Schertl et al. (2000), there appears to be a narrow outflow in the first $\sim 3$ arcsec from the YSO ($\sim 2500$ au in the plane of the sky).

A different approach to modelling S140-IRS1 is that of Maud et al. (2013, who first found a good fitting model to the NIR scattered light (as measured by Schertl et al. 2000) and then used these parameters to investigate the thermal SED. Their resulting models are fairly similar to ours. However, they also point out the need for including sub-mm observations in the model SED fitting routines. We do not feel it necessary to go into such detail – the models are not unique and NIR images are clearly influenced by other sources such as IRS3 and SMM1 (see also the images of Weigelt et al. 2002).

These models of S140-IRS1 are for only the core of the outflow, within about 2 – 3 arcsec of IRS1 (e.g., Fig. 6). Even here the maximum polarization of the model ($\sim 10$ percent) is much smaller than the polarization observed in the data (Fig. 2a). This behaviour has been seen in other comparisons of models with polarization data (Simpson et al. 2009). For S140-IRS1, the very high polarization (maximum of $\sim 80$ percent) seen at great distances from IRS1 must indicate that shape of the cavity expands greatly to the south so that the light is scattered at close to right angles by the dust at $> 5$ arcsec from IRS1. We say this because scattered light from spheres is not polarized when scattered in the forward direction.

However, light scattered by elongated grains can be substantially polarized even when scattered in the forward direction (Matsumura & Seki 1996; Whitney & Wolff 2002). Moreover, IRS1 itself is polarized due to absorption by aligned grains (absorptive polarization). We suggest that the aligned elongated grains are in the vicinity of IRS1 because its polarization angle is so different from that of the other stars in the field of view. We discuss aligned grains in Section 4.3.

4.2 Models of AFGL 2591

As was done for S140-IRS1, we start with models that assume the dust grains are spherical, which means the scattering properties of the grains can be computed with Mie theory and the geometry does not need to take grain alignment into account (Whitney & Hartmann 1992, 1993; Stark et al. 2000). A different approach is to assume that the grains are not spherical but aligned, which means we can use the more complicated formulas of aligned grains (absorptive polarization). We suggest that the aligned elongated grains are in the vicinity of IRS1 because its polarization angle is so different from that of the other stars in the field of view. We discuss aligned grains in Section 4.3.
The SED model inclination of 18\(^\circ\) does not give a good fit to the observed NICMOS image - the Ttscat model for model 3007097 with no adjustments to inclination or cavity opening angles shows a monopolar scattering lobe but no illuminating star. This is because the optical depth through the YSO envelope is extremely large and the cavity opening angle is much smaller than the model inclination. Another indicator of a poor fit is that the total extent of the outflow as projected on the sky is much smaller than the observed extent of the outflow.

Keeping the accretion rate and stellar parameters constant (since these produce the luminosity and far-infrared SED), we find that changing the inclination angle and cavity opening angle produces models with 2 \(\mu\)m morphologies more similar to the appearance and polarization of AFGL 2591. The additional change from model 3007097 is that the cavity density is reduced by two orders of magnitude so that there is less scattered light in the outflow near the YSO. With these modifications, an obvious illuminating star is present, with surface brightness after smoothing to the 0.2 arcsec NICMOS resolution that is \(\sim\) 2 orders of magnitude brighter than the nearby scattered flux, in agreement with the data. The brightest scattered flux is located within 1 – 2 arcsec from the illuminating star (we assume that the loops of scattered light at \(\sim\) 10 arcsec are due to inhomogeneities in the outflow and cavity).

Typically these models for very young, massive YSOs have a dense envelope produced by a high accretion rate and an outflow cavity containing dust; some but not all models have dense discs. A few of the best fitting SED models for S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591 have discs, such as Model 2, 3018960, for AFGL 2591. Tests were made by adding discs to the preferred parameters (Table 5); the result is that there is no appreciable difference in the scattered light output, probably because the toroid optical depth is so high. We would not distinctly detect the small, sub-Keplerian rotating disc-like structure that has been seen in AFGL 2591 molecular lines by Wang, van der Tak, & Hogerheijde (2012).

The chief way in which the scattered light models do not reproduce the NICMOS polarization observations of AFGL 2591 seen in Fig. 7 is that the region within 5 arcsec north and south of the YSO is also polarized perpendicular to the outflow (parallel to the polarization of the YSO). This is not the same as a parallel polarization pattern, also known as a ‘polarization disc’. Polarization discs occur when photons scatter multiple times, from the polar region back down to the equatorial region and then from the outer parts of an optically thick toroid or disc in the equatorial plane towards the viewer (e.g., Whitney & Hartmann 1993; Simpson et al. 2009; Murakawa 2010). Since photons are polarized perpendicular to the scattering plane, such photons are polarized parallel to the equatorial plane, giving the appearance of parallel polarization pattern. This is the definition of a polarization disc. One can see this secondarily scattered light only when the light scattered directly from the illuminating star (which has a centrosymmetric polarization pattern around the illuminating star) is so extincted as to be unimportant. Here, the AFGL 2591 YSO is so bright that its directly scattered light dominates that of any light whose previous last point of scattering is in the outflow. Consequently, the polarized light seen north and south of the YSO must be that of the directly scattered light from the YSO, perhaps affected by extinction. A polarized PSF from the YSO could also contribute polarized light to the north and south of the AFGL 2591 YSO in some observing modes; however, it does not in this case because we viewed the source with the YSO in the coronagraph hole and further subtracted the coronagraph PSF. Additional discussion of parallel polarization patterns can be found in Whitney (1995) and Whitney, Kenyon, & Gómez (1997).

We will show in the next section that such polarization can occur from dichroic absorption by aligned grains.

4.3 Models with non-spherical grains

We observe substantial polarization in a large number of the stars and YSOs, as listed in Tables 2 – 4, and always in the brightest objects that are YSOs. It has long been known that stellar polarization can be caused by dichroic absorption by aligned grains (e.g., Martin 1974 and references therein). In the rest of this paper we will assume that the grains are aligned by the local magnetic field, since such alignment is inevitable, regardless of the actual physical alignment mechanism (Lazarian 2007, 2009). Here we demonstrate that the observed polarization patterns can in fact be caused by both dichroic absorption and scattering by magnetically aligned grains by computing models that have various magnetic field morphologies.

We use a radiation transfer code for scattering and extinction of aligned grains as described by Whitney & Wolff (2002), and modified for arbitrary field direction (same website as footnote 2). To compute the coefficients of the
scattering and absorption matrices, we use the codes of Mishchenko, Hovenier, & Travis (2000). For this work, we use dust grains that are prolate spheroids with a 2:1 axis ratio and a wobble of ±30° and compute the scattering and absorption coefficients for a wavelength of 2.2 μm.

Because the 3-D magnetic field geometries in collapsing protostars are not well known and still difficult to simulate in magnetohydrodynamical (MHD) models, we qualitatively describe them using toy analytic formulae. Starting with the analytic formula from Galli & Shu (1993) from a 1-D collapse model in which an initially polar magnetic field is pinched by the infalling gas along the equator, we then add in a toroidal component assuming the field is twisted by rotation. Thus, we write the three-dimensional r, θ, and φ components of the magnetic field B as

\[ B_r = \frac{(1 + x^2)^2}{4x^2} \cos \theta, \]

\[ B_\theta = -\frac{(1 + x^2)^3}{8x} \sin \theta, \]

where \( x \) is the radial distance from the YSO divided by two times the maximum envelope dimension, RMAX (see Table 5), and

\[ B_\phi = C_\phi \frac{e^{-\text{abs}(Z/H_\phi)}(B_\phi^2 + B_z^2)^{1/2}}{(R_{cyl}/R_C)^{1.5}} \]

where \( C_\phi \) is a dimensionless constant, and \( H_\phi \) is the vertical scale height for the \( \phi \) component of the magnetic field in au. \( Z \) and \( R_{cyl} \) are the vertical (polar) and cylindrical radius, respectively, in au for a cylindrical coordinate system.

Parameters for the examples in Figs. 13 and 14 are given in Table 5. Many models were run, and it is clear that the models are not unique, because the parameter that has the most effect on the appearance of the polarization vectors is the ratio of \( B_\phi/B_z \), where \( B_z \) is the component of the magnetic field in the polar direction, and various combinations of \( C_\phi \) and \( H_\phi \) can produce the same ratio at the same position in the model. In Table 5, \( Z_1 \) is the polar coordinate of the point on the cavity wall where \( B_\phi/B_z = 1 \). Example contours of this ratio are plotted in Fig. 8.

For comparison with the data, we especially note that it is not possible to include all important details that are seen in the observed images in the models. Certainly the models are incomplete because the absolute values of the model polarization critically depend on the input shape and wobble of the grains (e.g., Whitney & Wolff 2002), and that the configuration of the polarization vectors depend on the formulae in equations 1 – 3. Moreover, numerical simulations of collapsing clouds show that the gas becomes very turbulent, significantly affecting the computed magnetic field (e.g., Peters et al. 2011). We are only demonstrating here what effects magnetic fields can have on models predicting polarization; there is otherwise too much uncertainty in the models to tightly constrain the details of the magnetic fields.

4.3.1 S140-IRS1

Fig. 13 shows the results of the models of S140-IRS1 with parameters from Table 5. The overall shape of the scattered light in the outflow is very similar to that of the spherical-grain model in Fig. 11; however, the aligned grain models have significantly more polarization. In particular, the illuminating YSO has a polarization of 4 percent, whereas the model with spherical grains has essentially no polarization at the location of the illuminating star. Although the amount of the YSO polarization is similar to that seen in S140-IRS1, this is probably fortuitous because the grain axis ratio and wobble are quite arbitrary and could be significantly different. We do conclude, however, that the polarization of the illuminating YSO could be caused by a small toroidal magnetic field.

4.3.2 AFGL 2591

Fig. 14 shows the results of the models of AFGL 2591 with parameters from Table 5. In comparison to the spherical grain model (Fig. 12), this model shows substantial polarization at the YSO and all across the edge of the envelope that runs through the YSO. This aligned grain model provides a significantly improved match to the polarization pattern seen in the images in Fig. 7. Neither the inclination angle nor the cavity opening angle agree exactly with those of models 3007097 and 3018960; however, the shapes overall are in reasonable agreement with that of the data and the angles of the polarization vectors around the outflow edges also agree (the inclination and cavity opening angles were estimated by comparing the models with the data using least squares minimization). The two models are not identical, no doubt because of the differences in envelope mass and cavity opening angle.

Both models also show regions of low polarized flux on either side of the cavity edge, similar to the low polarized flux near the cavity edges that we see in Fig. 7. Such regions are due to the switch from polarization in one direction to polarization different by 90°, resulting in very low linear polarization but substantial predicted circular polarization (up to ±15 percent for model 3007097 and up to ±8 percent for model 3018960). Such circular polarization was predicted by Whitney & Wolff (2002) and Martin (1974).

We infer from this general agreement that the dust grains in AFGL 2591 are non-spherical and are aligned parallel to the cavity edges. A toroidal magnetic field is the likely cause of the alignment. If so, the toroidal magnetic field extends to a large fraction of the height of the envelope above the equatorial plane of the system. This is the first observational evidence that a toroidal magnetic field can extend high into the envelope of this young YSO.

However, there are some disagreements between the models and the observations. The most obvious is that the illuminating star of the model has a polarization of ~ 90 percent whereas the AFGL 2591 YSO has a polarization of 16 percent (Table 3). An easy explanation is that the actual grains are not as elongated or have more wobble than the model grains. Another possibility is that the magnetic field in AFGL 2591 is not as uniform as the toy magnetic field in our models. Both explanations are reasonable in view of the discordant appearance in the centres of the models and the observations, where the model cavity is well lit and scattered much light compared with the observed cavity, which is relatively dark but has rings of enhanced density that are probably located along the cavity outer rim (Fig. 3). This is
Figure 13. Monte Carlo scattering models for S140-IRS1, employing prolate, aligned grains. The parameters used in the models are given in Table 5. See also Fig. 11. Panel (a): model 1. Panel (b): model 2.

Figure 14. Monte Carlo scattering models for AFGL 2591, employing prolate, aligned grains. The gray-scale is the polarized intensity and the contours are total intensity. The parameters used in the models are given in Table 5. See also Fig. 12. Panel (a): model 1. Panel (b): model 2.
aligned with the YSO outflows; they conclude that it is is aligned with the YSO outflows; they conclude that it is is aligned with the YSO outflows; they conclude that it is is aligned with the YSO outflows; they conclude that it is mainly magnetic toroidal within the cavity. There are several nearby stars, however, whose polarization vectors are more or less parallel to the outflow direction (Stars 2, 9, 12, and 18; Fig. 3c), that is, in an east–west direction. This could be an indication that the magnetic field is affected by the outflow such that it becomes parallel to the cavity. In fact, Curran & Chrysostomou (2007) infer that the magnetic field is parallel to the western part of the AFGL 2591 outflow from sub-mm polarimetry made with ~ 14 arcsec beam. Testing this would require a more elaborate magnetic field geometry and cavity density distribution than is possible with our current models.

5 DISCUSSION

We have shown that all four of the massive YSOs in our study and the two massive YSOs in S255-IRS1 (Simpson et al. 2009) have polarization vectors perpendicular to their outflows, and for the two sources that we have modelled, the polarization is consistent with what would be caused by dichroic absorption by grains aligned by a toroidal magnetic field. The MIR polarization PAs, almost certainly due to dichroic absorption considering their deep 10 µm silicate absorption features, are ~ 10° and ~ 170° for S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591, respectively (Smith et al. 2000). Although the agreement of the NIR and MIR polarizations is excellent for AFGL 2591, the MIR polarization PA of S140-IRS1 differs from the NIR value by ~ 30°. It may be that the envelope dust model shown in Fig. 8 is not completely valid – the ~ 10° polarization PA at 10 µm could indicate that the magnetic field direction in the outer envelope of S140-IRS1 is not uniformly toroidal or the dust is not uniform, causing the apparent rotation of the PA.

We note that all the sources that we have studied are high-mass YSOs. Hull et al. (2013) have performed high-spatial-resolution (2 – 3 arcsec) mm wavelength interferometry of a number of low-mass YSOs within 415 pc of the Earth. Their goal was to determine if the mm polarization is aligned with the YSO outflows; they conclude that it is not and is consistent with being random. They also point out that if the magnetic field becomes wrapped around the outflow axis by rotation, such an intrinsic toroidal field could appear random as a result of averaging along the line of sight and averaging over their 2.5 arcsec beams. We notice that several of their sources with plotted polarization vectors have the polarization perpendicular to the outflow direction.

There are low-mass sources that reveal evidence of aligned grains through NIR polarimetry. For example, Lucas & Roche (1998) observed and modelled a number of low-mass YSOs; several of their sources require aligned grains for the models to agree with their observations. Rodgers et al. (E. Rodgers, in preparation) are also modelling the low-mass YSOs whose polarization was observed with HST NICMOS. Their models include either spherical grains with a wide variety of grain compositions or aligned elongated grains. As is the case with our data, they find that the observed YSOs have much higher polarization than can be produced with any models using spherical grains. However, they also find that models using aligned grains and also models where the dust is highly clumped give much better agreement with their observations.

Rotation of the polarization PA within a source produces not only regions of low polarization percentage, but also strong circular polarization (e.g., Martin 1974; Whitney & Wolff 2002). Lonsdale et al. (1980) measured statistically significant circular polarization in both AFGL 2591 (~ 0.85 ± 0.08 percent) and S140-IRS1 (~ 0.93 ± 0.12 percent) in a 10-arcsec beam. As expected from the models of Whitney & Wolff (2002), our models show negligible circular polarization at the position of the star (nor integrated circular polarization because the positive and negative components are almost equal). However, the models show substantial circular polarization 1 – 3 arcsec offset from the star.

As described previously, this is due to the rotation of the PA of the polarization vectors as one goes from the centrosymmetric polarization vectors of scattering to the absorptive polarization indicating the PA of the magnetic field (e.g., Martin 1974; Whitney & Wolff 2002). Clearly high spatial resolution mapping of the circular polarization would be desirable to test for these predicted effects of aligned grains. Moreover, the occurrence of statistically significant circular polarization in the 10-arcsec beam of Lonsdale et al. (1980) indicates that there are spatial asymmetries in the observed sources that are not included in the models. An example of an asymmetry that could be ascertained from high-resolution circular polarimetry is the helical magnetic field that has been inferred from the circular polarization observations of HH 135-136 by Chrysostomou, Lucas, & Hough (2007).

The recent incorporation of magnetic fields into numerical simulations of the formation of massive stars promises to significantly advance our understanding of these objects. Although it is generally thought that magnetic fields cannot prevent the formation of a massive star (e.g., McKee & Ostriker 2007), the presence of a magnetic field changes the details of the collapse (Klessen, Krumholz, & Heitsch 2011). One question is whether a disc can form if magnetic fields brake the regular flow of gas through the disc to the star – the results from various simulations differ in their conclusions depending on specific assumptions about both the microphysics and the strength and initial orientation of the magnetic fields (e.g., Mellon & Li 2008, 2009; Joos, Hennebelle, & Ciardi 2012; Seifried et al. 2012; Li, Krasnopolsky, & Shang 2013). We can not test this aspect of massive star formation because our models are not particularly sensitive to the disc parameters since the massive envelopes dominate the images and SEDs.

In all the recent MHD simulations, rotation causes the magnetic field lines to become wound around the central condensation, in effect, to become a toroidal magnetic field. Examples include the simulations of Hennebelle & Fromang (2008), Peters et al. (2011) and Seifried et al. (2011). These authors simulated the formation of a star from a rotating cloud that initially also contained a polar magnetic field. With time the gas in the centre becomes very turbulent causing the magnetic field lines to appear disorganized, but with a strong toroidal component. The toroidal component extends high along the rotation axis of the simulated model, similar to the ‘magnetic tower’ described by Lynden-Bell (1996). Our toy magnetic geometries have similarities to the
magnetic structures in these simulations; however, our geometries are much more uniform and regular. Almost certainly the grains in real YSO envelopes, if the gas and dust are as turbulent as these simulations, would not be as aligned as the grains in our models. This is a likely reason why our models of AFGL 2591 have so much more absorptive polarization than is observed.

6 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

We have measured the 2 μm polarization in three well-studied sources, Mon R2-IRS3, S140-IRS1, and AFGL 2591 with NICMOS on HST. Mon R2-IRS3 contains at least two YSOs with monopolar outflows and S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591 each have a single outflow; all of these outflows show substantial polarization. The illuminating stars of the outflows are also polarized in a direction perpendicular to the outflows; we attribute this polarization to absorption by aligned grains.

Numerous stars in the field of view of each YSO were also observed. The polarization was measured for the stars, and in most cases, the polarization vectors do not align with the polarization of the YSOs or their outflows. We suspect that most of the stars with very low polarization are foreground to the YSOs. On the other hand, most of the stars with significant polarization are probably members of the cluster of stars forming around each of the massive YSOs.

We have modelled the scattered light for S140-IRS1 and AFGL 2591 using both spherical grains and elongated grains that are aligned with proposed magnetic field orientations. Only the models with aligned grains can produce polarization at the position of the star that is illuminating the diffuse nebulosity. Our toy magnetic field geometry can be described as a polar field with an equatorial pinch with the addition of a possible or even substantial toroidal component. The models that produce polarization at the correct PAs (perpendicular to the outflow cavities) all have a substantial toroidal component to the magnetic field in the equatorial plane, perpendicular to the outflow. The toroidal magnetic field in the model that best fits AFGL 2591 extends to a substantial fraction of the height of the model cavity, which is 10^5 au. We conclude that the morphologies of all the massive YSOs in this study are consistent with the presence of a toroidal magnetic field and the toroidal component of the field in the most massive of the objects, AFGL 2591, extends high into the envelope.

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