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 13CO(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 13CO are spatially coincident with filaments and are close to a state of virial equilibrium. In contrast, 12CO structures vary greatly in virialization, with low CO surface brightness structures outside of the main filamentary being

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predominantly unbound. The low surface brightness structures constitute $\sim10\%$ 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 Dor, within a 150 pc radius (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 ($\sim1$–2 Myr; Crowther et al. 2016; Bestenlehner et al. 2020) compact ($r \sim 1$ pc) star cluster with extraordinarily high stellar densities of $> 1.5 \times 10^4 M_\odot$ 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 $\sim27\%$ of the ionizing flux and $\sim19\%$ 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 $\sim3$–9 $\times 10^6$ K plasma responsible for diffuse X-ray emission (Townesley 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; 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 $\times$ 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 $\sim20,000$ pre-main sequence (PMS) stars using HTTP photometry (Ksoll et al. 2018), together with the $\sim40$ 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 ($\geq 10$ 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 ($12 \times 12$ 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 (17.75 beam) map of the giant molecular cloud complex across an extent of $\sim100$ pc using the CO $J$=2–1 and $^{13}$CO $J$=2–1 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 $\sim0.1$ 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...
2. OBSERVATIONS AND DATA REDUCTION

The data presented in this paper were collected for ALMA Cycle 7 project 2019.1.00843.S in 2019 October to December. Since the field is larger than can be observed in a single ALMA scheduling block, it was split into five rectangular subfields that were observed and imaged separately. To recover flux across the widest possible range of spatial scales, each subfield was observed in the ALMA ACA (hereafter 7m) and Total Power (hereafter TP) arrays in addition to the compact (C43-1) configuration of the 12m array. Four of the subfields spanned 150” × 150” and consisted of 149 individual pointings of the 12m array, observed for about 20 sec per pointing, and 52 pointings of the 7m array, observed for about 7 min per pointing. The fifth subfield in the northeast was half the size of the others (150” × 75”). Nearly all data used J0601-7036 as the phase calibrator, which varied between 220 and 300 mJy during the span of observations. Absolute flux calibration was set using the observatory-monitored quasar grid, specifically one of the sources J0519-4546, J0538-4405, or J1107-5509 for each execution of the project. The correlator was set to cover the CO (J=2–1) and 13CO (J=2–1) lines at high (∼0.1 km s⁻¹) spectral resolution, the C₁⁸O (J=2–1) and H₂CO (3_2,1-2_2,0; 3_2,2-2_1,1, and 3_0,3-2_0,2) lines at moderate (∼0.4 km s⁻¹) spectral resolution, and the H30α and continuum across a 1.9 GHz window at low (∼1.5 km s⁻¹) spectral resolution. For the 12m data the time-varying gains were transferred from the wide to narrow spectral windows, and for the 7m data, all spectral windows were combined to solve for time-varying gain. In this paper we focus on the results of the CO and 13CO observations; a study of the H₂CO emission will appear separately (Indebetouw et al., in preparation).

Visibilities were calibrated by the observatory staff using Pipeline-CASA56-P1-B and CASA 5.6.1-8, with imaging then performed in CASA 5.6.1. For the TP data, the `edimaging` task was used to generate image cubes from the spectra. A residual sinusoidal baseline in the 13CO TP cube was removed from the gridded image cube: at each position, the line-free frequency ranges of a spectrum averaged over a 60” square region were fitted with two sinusoids of different period and amplitude, and the resulting baseline subtracted. The dominant effect on the image cube is to remove modest off-source negative bowls. For the 7m and 12m data, the `uvcontsub` task was first used to subtract the continuum using a 0-order fit to line-free channels (conservatively chosen based on previous imaging). The `tclean` task was then used to generate image cubes with a Briggs robustness parameter of 0.5, a threshold of 0.18 mJy, and a restoring beam of 1”75 FWHM for the 12m data (7” FWHM for the 7m data). After cleaning, the 7m and TP cubes were combined using the `feather` task, and the 12m and 7m+TP cubes were combined using a second run of `feather`. Since the sensitivity pattern for each subfield has a decreasing extent in going from TP to 7m to 12m, each feathering step was performed on images tapered by the narrower sensitivity pattern (7m in the first step, 12m in the second) and the final results are assumed to have the sensitivity pattern of the 12m images.

Figure 1 compares the integrated spectra derived from the 12m and 7m data alone with those derived from the TP data and from the feathering process. The velocity axis uses the radio definition of velocity, c(u₀−ν)/ν₀, and is referenced to the kinematic Local Standard of Rest (LSR). As expected, the TP flux (shown as the thick pink line) is recovered in the feathered cube (shown as the dashed black line). Flux recovery for the 7-meter (12-meter) array alone is 60% (33%) for 12CO and 55% (38%) for 13CO. The threshold mask used to construct the moment images (shown as the green line; see §3.1) recovers ~80% of the feathered 12CO flux and ~70% of the feathered 13CO flux; the remaining flux lies outside the mask boundary. The integrated 12CO TP flux is 22900 Jy km s⁻¹, which corresponds to a molecular gas mass (including helium) of 2.4×10⁵ M☉ for our adopted distance and CO-to-H₂ conversion factor (§3.1).

To generate the final maps, gain-corrected image cubes for each subfield were mosaiced by co-addition using inverse variance weighting based on the sensitivity pattern of each subfield. The mosaicing was performed using the Python `reproject` package¹ using bilinear interpolation. After mosaicing, the images were downsampled by a factor of two in RA and DEC to yield final images of 1000 × 800 pixels using 0.75 pixels; this is still more than adequate to oversample the 1”75 synthesized beam (corresponding to 0.4 pc at our adopted distance). In addition to cubes with 0.1 km s⁻¹ channels (spanning 200 to 289.9 km s⁻¹), we also generated cubes with 0.25 km s⁻¹ channels (spanning 208 to 282 km s⁻¹) to improve the brightness sensitivity per channel. 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 $^{13}$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.

≈0.26 K (35 mJy beam$^{-1}$), with somewhat lower noise ($\approx0.16$ K or 21 mJy beam$^{-1}$) in the smallest subfield. Most of the results in this paper are based on analysis of the 0.25 km s$^{-1}$ cubes, though comparisons with the 0.1 km s$^{-1}$ cubes are made as well.

3. DATA ANALYSIS METHODS

3.1. Intensities and Column Densities

Figure 2 shows images of peak signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) for the $^{12}$CO and $^{13}$CO data with 0.25 km s$^{-1}$ channels. Although insensitive to complex line profiles, such images effectively reveal the full dynamic range of detected emission without requiring subjective decisions about how to mask out noise. For this reason the peak SNR image for $^{12}$CO is used for filament identification in §3.3. The dashed circle is at a projected distance of $\theta_{\text{off}}=200''$ from the center of the R136 cluster at $\alpha_{2000}=5^h38^m42.3^s$, $\delta_{2000}=-69^\circ06'03.3''$ (Sabbi et al. 2016). The central position of the older Hodge 301 cluster ($\alpha_{2000}=5^h38^m17.0^s$, $\delta_{2000}=-69^\circ04'00.0''$; Sabbi et al. 2016) is indicated as well.

We have also generated intensity moment images from the cubes, using a signal masking procedure implemented in the Python maskmoment package. In brief, starting from a gain-corrected cube and an rms noise cube, a strict mask composed of pixels with brightness of 4$\sigma$ or greater in two consecutive channels is created and expanded to a looser mask defined by the surrounding 2$\sigma$ contour. Mask regions with projected sky area less than two synthesized beams are then eliminated. The resulting integrated flux spectrum within the mask is shown as the green line in Figure 1. The 0th, 1st, and 2nd intensity moments along the velocity axis are then computed with pixels outside the signal mask blanked. Images of the 0th and 1st moments of the $^{12}$CO cube are shown in Figure 3. A notable feature of the 1st moment map is the roughly orthogonal blueshifted and redshifted emission structures that are found crossing the center of the map. We provide an overview of the CO distribution and velocity structure in §4.1.

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

2 https://github.com/tonywong94/maskmoment
in the LTE approximation, $N^{(13)\text{CO}}$. The excitation temperature $T_{\text{ex}}$ is assumed constant along each line of sight and is derived from the $^{12}\text{CO}$ peak brightness temperature ($T_{12, pk}$) by assuming the $^{12}\text{CO}$ line is optically thick at the peak of the spectrum and is not subject to beam dilution:

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

where

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

For pixels with $^{13}\text{CO}$ peak SNR >5, the median and maximum values of $T_{\text{ex}}$ are found to be 20 K and 60 K respectively. The beam-averaged $^{13}\text{CO}$ optical depth, $\tau_{13}$, 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 $\tau_{13}$ and prevents noise in the $^{13}\text{CO}$ map from being assigned very large opacities. We adopt a minimum $T_{\text{ex}} = 8$ K under the assumption that lower inferred values of $T_{\text{ex}}$ result from beam dilution of $^{12}\text{CO}$. Since only 1.1% of highly significant ($^{13}\text{CO}$ 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 $T_{\text{ex}}$ and $\tau_{13}$ 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

$$Y_{13\text{CO}} = \frac{N(\text{H}_{2})}{N^{(13)\text{CO}}}, \quad (5)$$

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

We also compute a luminosity-based H$_{2}$ mass directly from the $^{12}\text{CO}$ integrated intensity by assuming a constant CO-to-H$_{2}$ conversion factor:

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

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 µm 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 $\sim 0.6$ for molecular clouds in the outskirts of the LMC (Wong et al. 2017) and rising to $\sim 1$ 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 $2\rightarrow 1$ line fills more of the telescope beam. Given the many uncertain assumptions in our analysis, and the likelihood that $X_{\text{CO}}$ 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 $\sigma_v$ (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) $\phi$, and the rms sizes along the major and minor axes, $\sigma_{\text{maj}}$ and $\sigma_{\text{min}}$. 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, $\sigma'_{\text{maj}}$ and $\sigma'_{\text{min}}$, approximating each structure as a 2-D Gaussian with major and minor axes of $\sigma_{\text{maj}}$ and $\sigma_{\text{min}}$ 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, $\sigma_r = \sqrt{\sigma_{\text{maj}}^2\sigma_{\text{min}}^2}$; 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 $M_{\text{vir}} = 5\sigma_r^2R/G$, derived from solving the equilibrium condition (for kinetic energy $T$ and potential energy $W$):

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

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

$$M_{\text{LTE}} = (2m_p)(1.36)N(13\text{CO})dA,$$

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 $N(13\text{CO})$ is given by Equation 5; and the luminosity-based mass (from $^{12}$CO):

$$\frac{M_{\text{num}}}{M_{\odot}} = 4.3X_2 \frac{L_{\text{CO}}}{K\text{ km s}^{-1}\text{ pc}^2},$$

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,

$$\alpha_{\text{vir}} = \begin{cases} M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\text{num}} & \text{for }^{12}\text{CO}, \\ M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\text{LTE}} & \text{for }^{13}\text{CO}. \end{cases}$$

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 filfinder is shown in black against the $^{13}$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.
We also post-process the dendrogram output using the SCIMES algorithm (Colombo et al. 2015), which utilizes spectral clustering (an unsupervised classification approach based on graph theory) to identify discrete structures with similar emission properties. The resulting clusters (hereafter referred to as clumps) are formed by pruning the dendrogram structures, with the properties of the CO and 13CO clumps re-spectively, ordered by right ascension. Images of the individual 12CO and 13CO 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 12CO (13CO) 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 12CO 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 12CO and 13CO data are conducted independently; we examine positional matches between the two sets of catalogs in §4.3.

3.3. Filament Identification

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 12CO(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 from the flattened image using adaptive thresholding with the following parameters: smooth.size of 5 pixels (corresponding to 20′′), adapt.thresh of 10 pixels (corresponding to 5′′), size.thresh of 80 pixels (corresponding to 20 arcsec²), 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 de-part 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

Figures 2 and 3 show that the overall morphology of the cloud is primarily oriented along a direction rotated ∼30° 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>R. A.</th>
<th>Decl.</th>
<th>$v_{\text{LSR}}$</th>
<th>CO Flux</th>
<th>$\sigma_{\text{maj}}$</th>
<th>$\sigma_{\text{min}}$</th>
<th>$\phi^a$</th>
<th>$A^b$</th>
<th>log $R$</th>
<th>log $\sigma_v$</th>
<th>log $M_{\text{hun}}$</th>
<th>log $M_{\text{vir}}$</th>
<th>log $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$</th>
<th>$\theta_{\text{eff}}$</th>
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<td>-69:03:23.0</td>
<td>250.31</td>
<td>15.73</td>
<td>3.22</td>
<td>0.98</td>
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<td>$-0.07\pm0.04$</td>
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<td>0.53$\pm0.09$</td>
<td>209</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>0.11$\pm0.04$</td>
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<td>1.63$\pm0.04$</td>
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<td>2.20</td>
<td>1.36</td>
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<td>$-0.12\pm0.04$</td>
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<td>2.68$\pm0.08$</td>
<td>0.83$\pm0.09$</td>
<td>233</td>
<td>T</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

$^b$Projected area of clump.

$^c$Type of structure: (T)runk, (B)ranch, or (L)eaf.

**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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>R. A. (J2000)</th>
<th>Decl. (J2000)</th>
<th>$v_{LSR}$ (km s$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>$^{13}$CO Flux (Jy km s$^{-1}$)</th>
<th>$\sigma_{maj}$</th>
<th>$\sigma_{min}$</th>
<th>$\phi^a$</th>
<th>$A^b$</th>
<th>$\log R$</th>
<th>$\log \sigma_v$</th>
<th>$\log M_{LTE}$</th>
<th>$\log M_{vir}$</th>
<th>$\log \alpha_{vir}$</th>
<th>$\theta_{off}$</th>
<th>Type$^c$</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>-69:06:41.5</td>
<td>255.44</td>
<td>7.58</td>
<td>1.35</td>
<td>0.96</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>1.97</td>
<td>-0.41±0.08</td>
<td>-0.14±0.06</td>
<td>2.74±0.04</td>
<td>2.38±0.12</td>
<td>-0.37±0.13</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
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<td>-69:03:51.5</td>
<td>253.36</td>
<td>10.88</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>-153</td>
<td>5.04</td>
<td>-0.12±0.05</td>
<td>0.14±0.04</td>
<td>2.85±0.04</td>
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<td>0.37±0.09</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>T</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-69:06:43.6</td>
<td>254.62</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>2.42</td>
<td>0.88</td>
<td>-157</td>
<td>2.14</td>
<td>-0.32±0.14</td>
<td>-0.51±0.07</td>
<td>2.52±0.04</td>
<td>1.72±0.17</td>
<td>-0.80±0.17</td>
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<td>254.62</td>
<td>6.98</td>
<td>3.47</td>
<td>1.09</td>
<td>-161</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>-0.12±0.04</td>
<td>-0.44±0.04</td>
<td>2.69±0.04</td>
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<td>-0.62±0.09</td>
<td>113</td>
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</tr>
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<td>2.12</td>
<td>0.78</td>
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<td>-69:03:26.4</td>
<td>252.46</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.14</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>1.32</td>
<td>-0.48±0.12</td>
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<td>2.01±0.04</td>
<td>2.40±0.14</td>
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<tr>
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<td>4.04</td>
<td>1.91</td>
<td>1.36</td>
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<td>0.26±0.04</td>
<td>2.41±0.04</td>
<td>3.39±0.08</td>
<td>0.98±0.09</td>
<td>187</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
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<td>-69:03:01.4</td>
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<td>2.08</td>
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</tr>
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<td>55.22</td>
<td>4.81</td>
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<td>0.18±0.04</td>
<td>3.59±0.04</td>
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<td>0.04±0.09</td>
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<td>93</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

$^b$Projected area of clump.

$^c$Type of structure: (T)runk, (B)ranh, or (L)eaf.

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

<table>
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<tr>
<th>No.</th>
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<th>Decl.</th>
<th>$v_{LSR}$</th>
<th>CO Flux</th>
<th>$\sigma_{maj}$</th>
<th>$\sigma_{min}$</th>
<th>$\phi^a$</th>
<th>$A^b$</th>
<th>log $R$</th>
<th>log $\sigma_v$</th>
<th>log $M_{\text{Lum}}$</th>
<th>log $M_{\text{vir}}$</th>
<th>log $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$</th>
<th>$\theta_{\text{off}}$</th>
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</thead>
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<td>250.03</td>
<td>30.07</td>
<td>4.77</td>
<td>1.39</td>
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<td>0.04±0.04</td>
<td>0.13±0.04</td>
<td>2.50±0.04</td>
<td>3.37±0.08</td>
<td>0.87±0.09</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>260.20</td>
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<td>1.36</td>
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<td>188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

$^b$Projected 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$^{-1}$) | $\sigma_{maj}$ (") | $\sigma_{min}$ (") | $\phi^a$ (°) | $A^b$ (pc$^2$) | $\log R$ (pc) | $\log \sigma_v$ (km s$^{-1}$) | $\log M_{LTE}$ ($M_\odot$) | $\log M_{vir}$ ($M_\odot$) | $\log \alpha_{vir}$ ($''$) | $\theta_{off}$ (") |
|-----|--------------|--------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|-------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 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              |

---

$a$Position angle is measured counterclockwise from +x direction (west).

$b$Projected 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.
In terms of velocity structure, the 30 Dor cloud spans a relatively large extent in velocity (approximately 40 km s$^{-1}$), compared to the typical velocity extent of $\sim$10 km s$^{-1}$ seen in other LMC molecular clouds (Saigo et al. 2017; Wong et al. 2019). Figure 3 shows that the bowtie-shaped structure is primarily blueshifted with respect to the mean cloud velocity ($\bar{v} \approx 255$ km s$^{-1}$ in the LSRK frame or $\bar{v}_\odot = 270$ km s$^{-1}$), with a relatively faint redshifted structure seen crossing perpendicular to it from the northwest to southeast. The clouds projected closest to R136 and studied by Kalari et al. (2018) are among the most highly blueshifted in the region and are observed in extinction against the H II region, indicating that they are situated in the foreground. The mean stellar velocity of the R136 cluster ($v_\odot = 271.6$ km s$^{-1}$; Evans et al. 2015) is consistent with the mean cloud velocity, while the ionized gas has a somewhat lower mean velocity ($v_\odot = 267.4$ km s$^{-1}$; Torres-Flores et al. 2013).

### 4.2. Size-linewidth relations

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

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$Y$</th>
<th>$X$</th>
<th>Data Set</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>$a_1$</th>
<th>$a_0$</th>
<th>$\chi^2_\nu$</th>
<th>$\varepsilon^a$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO dendros</td>
<td>1434</td>
<td>0.47 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.08 ± 0.01</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{12}$CO clumps</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>0.47 ± 0.06</td>
<td>0.13 ± 0.02</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO dendros</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>0.73 ± 0.06</td>
<td>0.06 ± 0.01</td>
<td>10.5</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO clumps</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>1.42 ± 0.37</td>
<td>0.06 ± 0.04</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{um}}$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO dendros</td>
<td>1434</td>
<td>0.51 ± 0.02</td>
<td>1.58 ± 0.04</td>
<td>13.7</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{um}}$</td>
<td>$^{12}$CO clumps</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>0.41 ± 0.07</td>
<td>1.93 ± 0.12</td>
<td>15.6</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO dendros</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>0.66 ± 0.06</td>
<td>0.90 ± 0.14</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>0.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO clumps</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>0.85 ± 0.14</td>
<td>0.55 ± 0.31</td>
<td>11.0</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$a_{\text{r.m.s. scatter in log } Y \text{ relative to the best-fit line. Units are dex.}}$

### Table 6. 0.1 km s$^{-1}$ Cubes — Power Law Fit Parameters: $\log Y = a_1 \log X + a_0$

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$Y$</th>
<th>$X$</th>
<th>Data Set</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>$a_1$</th>
<th>$a_0$</th>
<th>$\chi^2_\nu$</th>
<th>$\varepsilon^a$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{12}$CO dendros</td>
<td>2053</td>
<td>0.51 ± 0.01</td>
<td>0.04 ± 0.01</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>0.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{12}$CO clumps</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>0.76 ± 0.06</td>
<td>0.09 ± 0.02</td>
<td>13.6</td>
<td>0.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO dendros</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>0.74 ± 0.05</td>
<td>0.06 ± 0.01</td>
<td>13.2</td>
<td>0.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\sigma_v$</td>
<td>$R$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO clumps</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>0.91 ± 0.17</td>
<td>0.09 ± 0.03</td>
<td>13.5</td>
<td>0.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{um}}$</td>
<td>$^{12}$CO dendros</td>
<td>2053</td>
<td>0.57 ± 0.01</td>
<td>1.43 ± 0.03</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{um}}$</td>
<td>$^{12}$CO clumps</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>0.55 ± 0.04</td>
<td>1.64 ± 0.07</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO dendros</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>0.79 ± 0.05</td>
<td>0.56 ± 0.12</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$</td>
<td>$\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$</td>
<td>$^{13}$CO clumps</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>0.83 ± 0.12</td>
<td>0.58 ± 0.25</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>0.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$a_{\text{r.m.s. scatter in log } Y \text{ relative to the best-fit line. Units are dex.}}$
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.
sulting fits are consistent within about twice the quoted 1σ errors, as can be seen for example by comparing Tables 5 and Table 6 and panels (b) and (c) of Figures 5 and 6. We note, however, that the fitted slope is often quite uncertain due to the limited range in structure size probed by our analysis, especially for the $^{12}$CO data.

4.3. Virial relations

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

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

This motivates an examination of whether variations in the line width vs. size coefficient are consistent with virial equilibrium. For each structure whose deconvolved size and linewidth are measured, we normalize the virial and luminous mass by the projected area of the structure (determined by the pixel count) to calculate a mass surface density $\Sigma$. For the $^{12}$CO structures, we use the LTE-based mass in preference to a mass surface density $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$, as shown in Figure 8 (left panel). The mean of $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$ for clumps without $^{13}$CO counterparts, as determined by checking for direct spatial overlap, is $1.26$, compared to $0.80$ for clumps with $^{13}$CO counterparts (thus, the clumps detected in both lines have a factor of 3 lower $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$).

To better understand why the $^{12}$CO structures appear less likely than $^{13}$CO structures to be bound, we need to bear in mind the sensitivity limitations imposed by the data. Most (53%) CO clumps do not appear associated with $^{13}$CO, whereas all $^{13}$CO clumps overlap with a $^{12}$CO clump. This reflects the fact that structures with lower CO surface brightness are less likely to be detected in $^{13}$CO: $\langle \log \Sigma_{\text{lum}} \rangle = 1.8$ for structures with $^{13}$CO counterparts while $\langle \log \Sigma_{\text{lum}} \rangle = 1.2$ for those without $^{13}$CO counterparts. A typical clump with a 1 km s$^{-1}$ line width requires an integrated intensity of 0.55 K km s$^{-1}$ to be detected at the 4σ level. As indicated by vertical dashed lines in Figure 8, this intensity limit translates to minimum log $\Sigma_{\text{lum}} = 0.55$ for detection in $^{12}$CO but a minimum log $\Sigma_{\text{LTE}} = 1.5$ for detection in $^{13}$CO (for $T_{\text{ex}} = 8$ K). Thus, the majority of $^{12}$CO structures would not be expected to have $^{13}$CO counterparts because the weaker $^{13}$CO line was observed to the same brightness sensitivity as the stronger $^{12}$CO line. If lower surface density structures are preferentially unbound, then such structures will also tend to be detected only in $^{12}$CO.

We note that several caveats apply to the interpretation of the “boundedness” plots. As other authors have pointed out (e.g., Dib et al. 2007; Ballesteros-Paredes et al. 2011), objects that are far from equilibrium can still appear close to SVE as a result of approximate energy equipartition between kinetic and gravitational energies. Furthermore, there are systematic uncertainties in estimating the values in both axes that are not included in the formal uncertainties. For $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ these include the spherical approximation and the definitions employed for measuring size and line width. For $\Sigma_{\text{lum}}$, uncertainties arising from the adoption of a single $X_{\text{CO}}$ factor are ignored. In particular, in regions with strong photodissociating flux it is possible for low column density $^{12}$CO structures to be gravitationally bound by surrounding CO-dark gas (see §5 for further discussion). For $\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$, deviations from LTE conditions or errors in our assumed $T_{\text{ex}}$ may affect the reliability of $\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$, although from Equation 3 a shift in $T_{\text{ex}}$ tends to be partially compensated by the resulting shift in $\tau_{\lambda 3}$ and thus yield a similar value for $\Sigma_{\text{LTE}}$. An error in the assumed $^{13}$CO abundance would produce a more systematic shift, but would likely affect the cloud as a whole.

4.4. Position dependent properties

To assess position-dependent variations in the size-linewidth and boundedness relations, we examine these relations color-coded by projected angular distance from the R136 cluster ($\theta_{\text{off}}$ in Tables 1–4) in Figures 9 and 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 $X_{\text{CO}}$ 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 $X_{\text{CO}}$ 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 $T_{\text{ex}}=8$ K.
Figure 9. Correlations between size and linewidth (left), and $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ and $\Sigma_{\text{lum}}$ (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 $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ 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 $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ (top row) and virial parameter $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$ (bottom row) as a function of distance from R136 for $^{12}\text{CO}$ structures (left) and $^{13}\text{CO}$ structures (right). The colors of the plotted points represent mass surface density estimates, namely CO surface brightness for $^{12}\text{CO}$ and LTE column density for $^{13}\text{CO}$. 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 $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ with distance, especially for the highest surface density structures, but no clear trend in $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$. The median $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$ in Figures 9 and 10, as expected given that $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ scales with the size-linewidth coefficient $k$. However, they exhibit no tendency to be more or less bound: $^{12}\text{CO}$ structures with low $\Sigma_{\text{kin}}$ show excess kinetic energy relative to SVE at all distances from R136. Figure 11 provides a closer look at trends in $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ and $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$ with distance from R136. High surface density structures, represented by cyan circles, are close to virial equilibrium ($|\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}| \lesssim 0.5$) at all distances but tend to be concentrated towards R136, largely accounting for the higher $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ observed in the central regions. Beyond 200'' from R136 (to the right of the vertical dashed line), high surface density structures are largely absent. Meanwhile, the low surface density $^{12}\text{CO}$ structures, represented by red circles, are unbound ($\log \alpha_{\text{vir}} \gtrsim 1$) at all distances from R136. The median value of $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$ (represented by the gray steps) is largely unchanged with distance.

When it comes to gravitational boundedness, the picture is more complex. Structures close to R136 show higher $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ in Figures 9 and 10, as expected given that $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ scales with the size-linewidth coefficient $k$. However, they exhibit no tendency to be more or less bound: $^{12}\text{CO}$ structures with low $\Sigma_{\text{kin}}$ show excess kinetic energy relative to SVE at all distances from R136. Figure 11 provides a closer look at trends in $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ and $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$ with distance from R136. High surface density structures, represented by cyan circles, are close to virial equilibrium ($|\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}| \lesssim 0.5$) at all distances but tend to be concentrated towards R136, largely accounting for the higher $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ observed in the central regions. Beyond 200'' from R136 (to the right of the vertical dashed line), high surface density structures are largely absent. Meanwhile, the low surface density $^{12}\text{CO}$ structures, represented by red circles, are unbound ($\log \alpha_{\text{vir}} \gtrsim 1$) at all distances from R136. The median value of $\log \alpha_{\text{vir}}$ (represented by the gray steps) is largely unchanged with distance.

bottom quartiles of angular distance from R136. We note that projected angular distance is only a crude indication of environment as it neglects the full 3-D structure of the region. We find that regions at large angular distances are quite consistent with the Solomon et al. (1987) size-linewidth relation (except for the smallest structures, which have large uncertainties in the deconvolved scale), whereas regions at smaller distances lie offset above it, consistent with previous studies (Indebetouw et al. 2013; Nayak et al. 2016; Wong et al. 2019). The approximate offset between the lowest and highest quartile of distances, at a fiducial size of 1 pc, is 0.16 dex (factor of 1.4) for $^{12}\text{CO}$ and 0.22 dex (factor of 1.7) for $^{13}\text{CO}$. As noted in §4.2, an even larger (factor of ~2) offset is found if one restricts the analysis to the Cycle 0 field.
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 $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$ and its constituent quantities $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ and $\Sigma_{\text{lum}}$ 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 $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$, 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 $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$, $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$, and $\Sigma_{\text{lum}}$ (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 (~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 $\Sigma_{\text{lum}}$; in total they represent 93% of the total mass in leaves. However, their values of $\Sigma_{\text{vir}}$ are very similar to those of leaves which are not on filaments, and as a result the leaves on filaments tend to have lower $\alpha_{\text{vir}}$ (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
velocity (Figures 1 and 3). We find that structures at a given size show decreasing line width with increasing distance from the central R136 cluster (Figures 5 and 6), such that at the largest distances the normalization of the line width vs. size relation is consistent with the Galactic clouds studied by S87. However, we do not find that distance from R136 correlates with the gravitational boundedness of structures (Figure 11). Rather, low surface density 12CO structures tend to be unbound, whereas high surface density structures (which more closely follow the filamentary network, Figure 12, and comprise most of the structures observed in 13CO) tend to be bound. The higher line widths of clumps near R136 then largely reflects the higher surface density of clumps in this region.

While the unbound (high αvir) clumps are found throughout the cloud and are not limited to the smallest “leaves” in the dendrogram hierarchy, they tend not to overlap the filament skeletons, suggesting a more diffuse structure or distribution. In total, 12% of the total CO-based mass in SCIMES clumps is located in clumps with log αvir > 1, whereas 44% of the mass is in clumps with log αvir < 0.5. Here we briefly discuss three possible interpretations of the high αvir structures.

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

**Dispersing molecular structures**—The unbound, low-column density 12CO structures may represent molecular cloud material that exhibits excess kinetic energy as a result of being dispersed by energetic feedback. The unusual concentration of massive stars in 30 Dor would then could account for the high frequency of such clumps, as similar column density (1 < log Σ\(_{\text{lum}}\) < 2) structures in other LMC clouds tend to lie closer to simple virial equilibrium (Wong et al. 2019). A crude estimate of the total kinetic energy \( (T = 3M_{\text{lum}}\sigma^2) \) in 12CO clumps with log α > 1 is \( 7 \times 10^{48} \text{ erg} \). Using the estimate of mechanical stellar wind feedback from R136 of 1.2 \( \times 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \) from Bestenlehner et al. (2020), it would take only \( \sim 200 \text{ yr} \) for R136 to inject this amount of energy, which is likely insufficient to completely disrupt low column density structures.

Massive CO-dark envelopes—If there is a substantial amount of hidden molecular mass which is not traced by 12CO or 13CO emission; i.e. “CO-dark” gas, low CO intensities may disguise considerably larger column densities, and overall virial equilibrium may still hold even if the additional mass is accounted for. The basis of this scenario (see Chevance et al. 2020, and references therein) is efficient CO photodissociation relative to H\(_2\), since the latter is able to self-shield whereas CO is mainly shielded by dust. Since 30 Dor is both a metal poor and highly irradiated environment, the amount of CO-dark gas may be substantial, especially for clouds or clumps where the total gas column density is low. This effect is clearly illustrated in Jameson et al. (2018, Figure 20), where at low \( A_V \) the XCO factor is increased by approximately an order of magnitude compared to the Galactic value. In the 30 Dor region, based on PDR modeling of far-infrared emission lines, Chevance et al. (2020) conclude that the XCO factor is substantially enhanced by factors of 4–20 compared to the Galactic value. Correcting for this enhancement would increase log Σ\(_{\text{lum}}\) by 0.4–1.1 (given our adopted XCO) and bring the low column density structures shown in Figures 11 and 12 closer to virial equilibrium. We caution, however, that the virial surface density Σ\(_{\text{vir}}\) is also affected by the underestimate of \( R \) and \( \sigma_v \) resulting from CO-dark gas; the net effect on αvir depends sensitively on the adopted density and velocity dispersion profiles within the clumps (O’Neill et al. 2022). In addition, the CO-dark gas would need to be preferentially distributed in low column density clouds, since the high column density clouds do not show an excess of apparent kinetic energy.

Future studies are still needed to test these interpretations and to place 30 Dor in the context of its larger environment and the LMC as a whole. Wider-field imaging with ALMA should be able to incorporate regions
which are outside the reach of massive star feedback and examine the consequences for clump properties. In addition, detailing the extent and contribution of the CO-dark gas (e.g., using [C\text{I}] and [C\text{II}] mapping) over a sample of molecular clouds with matched CO mapping will clarify the effects that this component may have on the observed properties of CO clumps.

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Facilities: ALMA, HST