

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Molecular clouds	1
1.2	Physical properties of CO molecular clouds	2
1.2.1	Size	2
1.2.2	CO intensity and luminosity	3
1.2.3	Cloud mass	3
1.2.4	Surface and volume density	6
1.2.5	Correlations between physical properties	7
1.3	Dust continuum emission	7
1.3.1	Thermal dust emission	7
1.3.2	Thermal free-free emission	8
1.3.3	Synchrotron emission	10
1.4	Molecular clouds in low-metallicity environments	10
1.5	The Magellanic Bridge	12
1.6	R136 in 30 Doradus	13
1.7	Thesis goal and structure	14
2	Observations and Data Processing	16
2.1	Observations and data reduction for Magellanic Bridge A	16
2.1.1	ALMA observations	16
2.1.2	APEX observations	19
2.1.3	Combined ALMA & APEX CO(2-1) observations	22
2.1.4	Complementary data	23
2.2	Observations and data reduction for 30 Doradus	24
2.2.1	ALMA observarions	24
2.2.2	Complementary Data	26
3	Molecular clouds in Magellanic Bridge A	28
3.1	Millimeter and submillimeter emission from Magellanic Bridge A	28
3.1.1	Spectral energy distribution of Magellanic Bridge A	29
3.1.2	SED modeling	33
3.1.3	Submillimeter excess	34
3.1.4	Gas masses obtained from dust emission	36
3.2	Resolved CO(2-1) molecular clouds	37
3.2.1	CO(2-1) molecular clouds spectra	38
3.2.2	Physical properties	39

3.3	Discussion	40
3.3.1	CO(2-1) in comparison with previous studies	41
3.3.2	Gas and dust comparison	43
3.3.3	Gas and dust in the context of star formation	44
4	Molecular clouds near R136 in 30 Doradus	45
4.1	Molecular Clouds near R136	45
4.1.1	Cloud identification	45
4.1.2	Physical properties of molecular clouds near R136	50
4.2	Molecular Species in the Region	53
4.2.1	Identification of molecular emission	54
4.2.2	Integrated line intensities	57
4.2.3	Molecular cloud luminosities in different molecular species	58
4.2.4	Physical properties derived from ^{13}CO (3-2) molecular emission	60
4.3	Submillimeter Emission towards R136	61
4.3.1	Cloud identification	62
4.3.2	Flux measurements	64
4.3.3	Free-Free Emission near R136	64
4.3.4	Gas mass from dust emission	66
4.4	Comparison between molecular and continuum emission near R136	68
4.4.1	Extensions of CO and continuum emission	68
4.4.2	Gas masses obtained through CO and dust emission	70
4.5	Discussion	71
4.5.1	Spatial variation in properties of CO clouds	71
4.5.2	Comparison with CO emission in previous works	73
4.5.3	Comparison between molecular line emission in R136 and the LMC	75
4.5.4	Comparison between gas and dust emission	79
4.5.5	Gas and dust in the context of star formation	80
5	Conclusion	83
Bibliography		88
A CPROPS detections in ^{13}CO(3-2), CS(7-6), HCO^+(4-3) and HCN(4-3)		94
B Molecular line spectra for each CO cloud		97