

# CHaMPs of Star Formation: A Galactic Census of High- and Medium-Mass Protostars

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**Abstract.** We report preliminary results of an unbiased survey for higher-mass protostellar or protocluster dense molecular cores. In a  $20^\circ \times 3^\circ$  swath of the Galactic Plane, the NANTEN surveys have revealed 90 cores detectable in  $C^{18}O$ , covering only  $\sim 1\%$  of the projected area of the Plane. We have now examined over half of these cores in a variety of traditional dense gas tracers, and have found only  $\sim 25\%$  contain dense gas. This alone suggests that the dense phase of a molecular core is relatively short-lived. We present an initial demographic analysis of this sample, and provide statistics of some physical parameters.

**Keywords.** prestellar cores, protostellar cores, stars: formation, ISM: clouds, ISM: molecules, surveys