

# Understanding the observed properties of interstellar filaments

Insights on the initial conditions of star formation

Doris Arzoumanian (Nagoya University)

Galactic dust emission at 353 GHz,  
with plane-of-the-sky magnetic field  
( $B_{\text{POS}}$ ) orientation observed by *Planck*





# Understanding the observed properties of interstellar filaments

Insights on the initial conditions of star formation

*Herschel* observations of submm dust emission  
IC5146 molecular cloud

Star forming  
cores



Arzoumanian et al. 2011

Galactic dust emission at 353 GHz,  
with plane-of-the-sky magnetic field  
( $B_{\text{POS}}$ ) orientation observed by *Planck*



## Outline

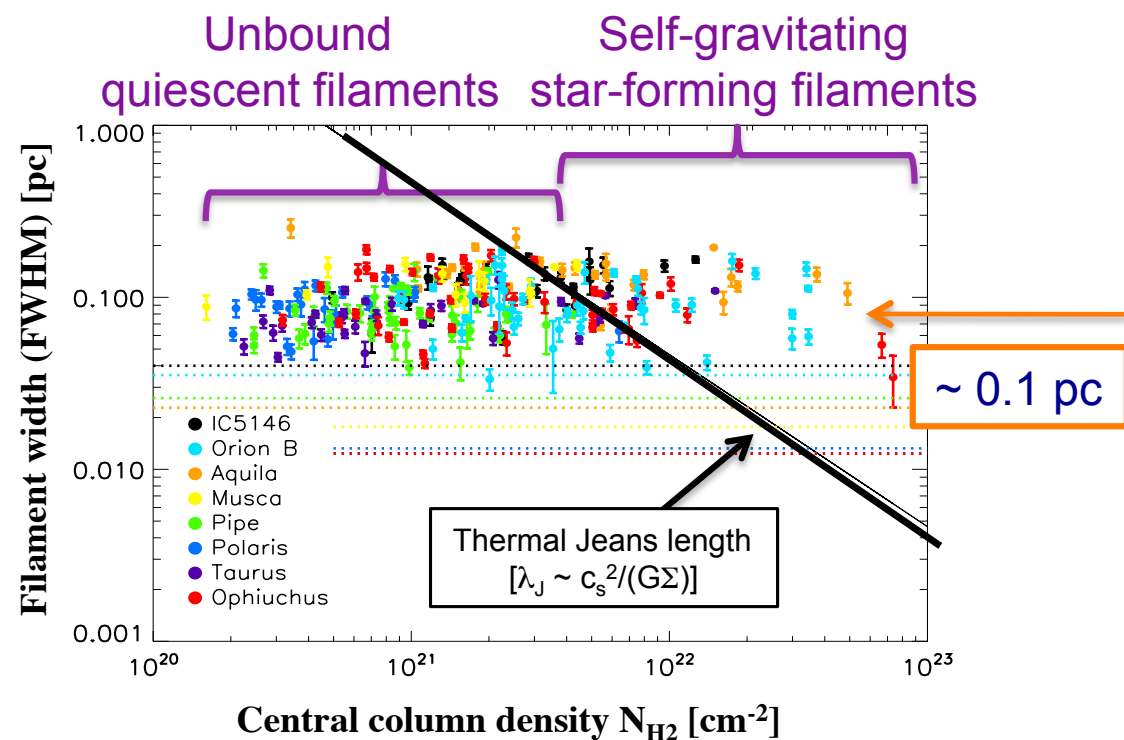
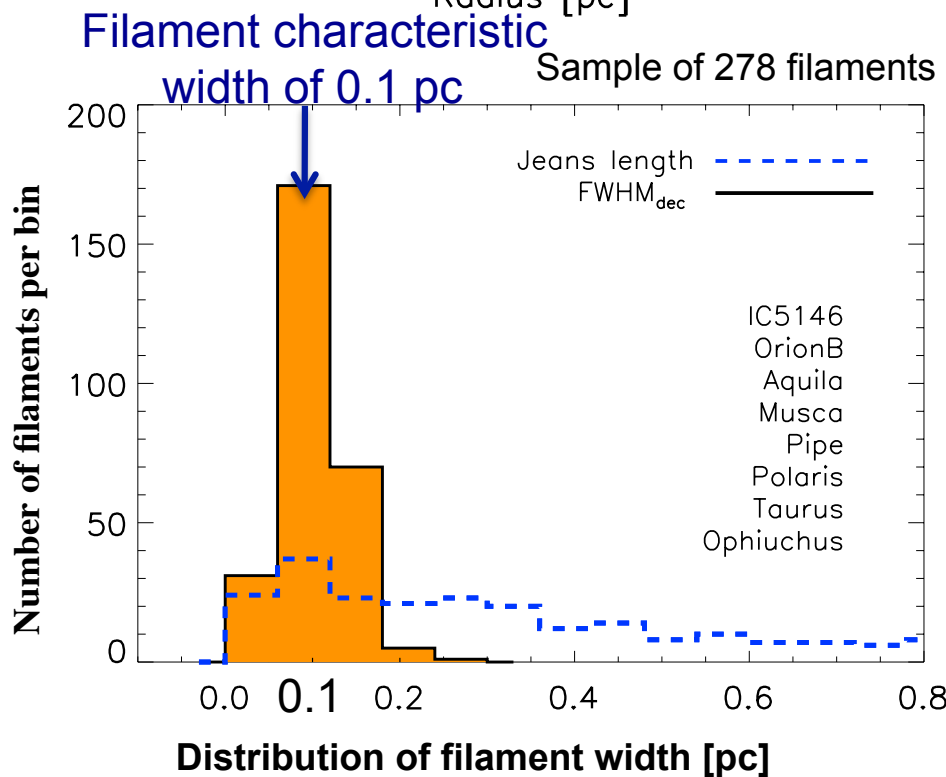
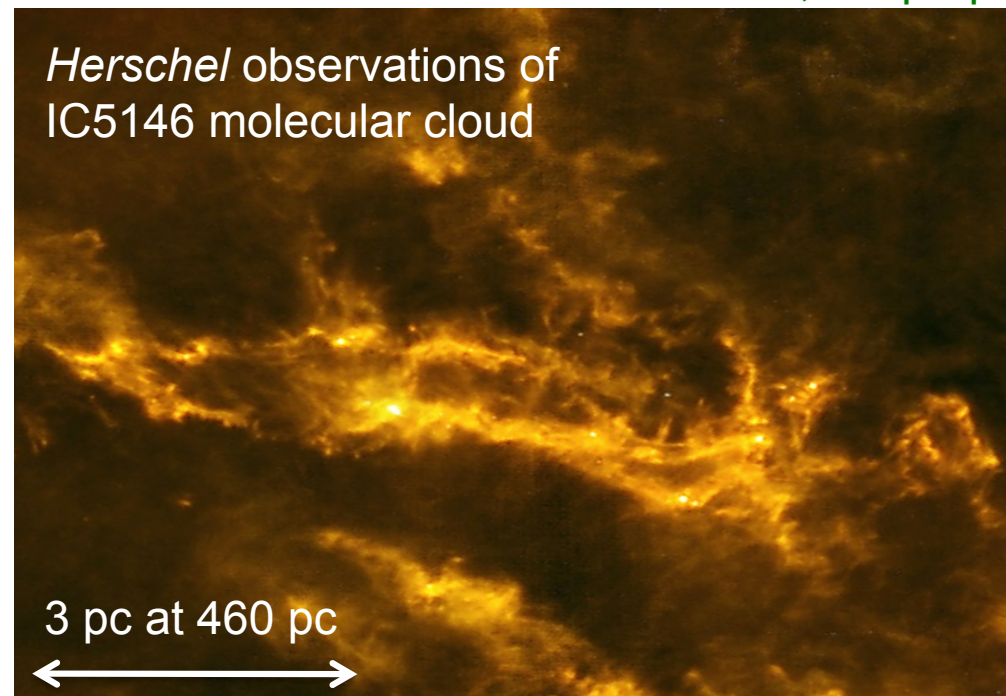
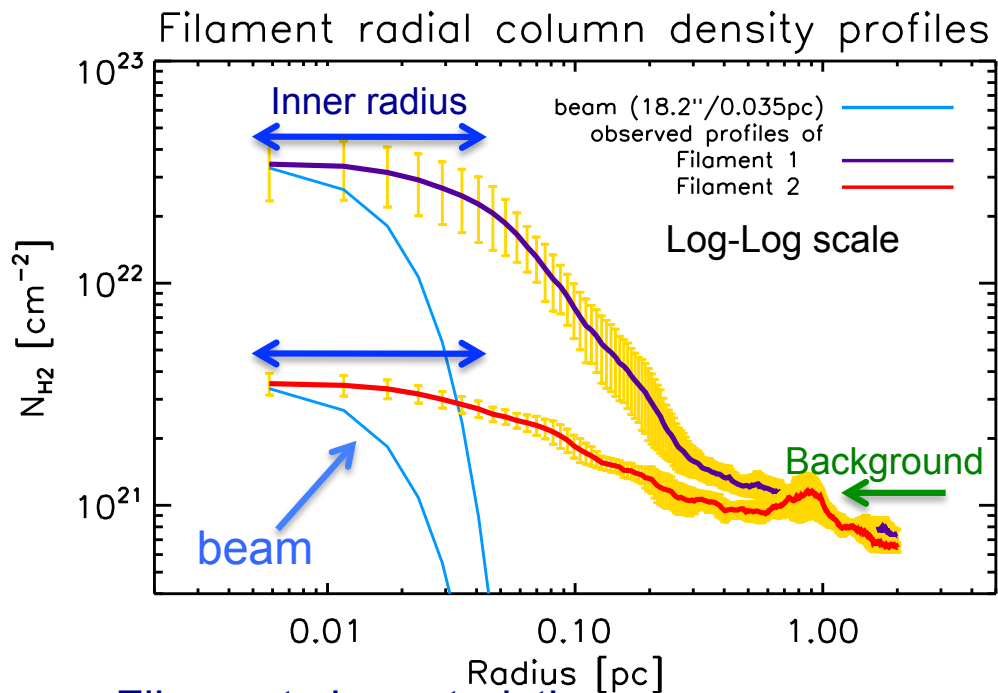
- Filament properties derived from dust continuum observations
- Kinematics of clouds and filaments from molecular line observations
- Insight on the magnetic field structure from dust polarization observations

Special thanks to  
Shu-ichiro Inutsuka  
Tsuyoshi Inoue  
Yoshito Shimajiri  
Philippe André



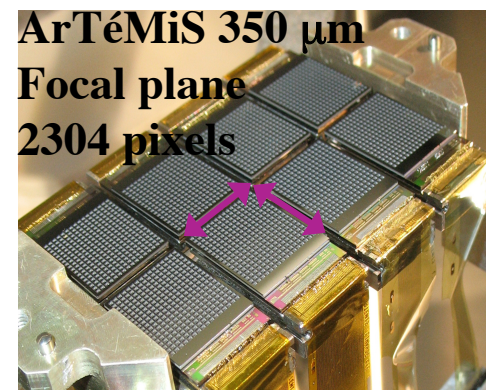
# Interstellar filaments share a common inner width of 0.1 pc while they span a wide range in column density

Arzoumanian et al. 2011, + in prep.



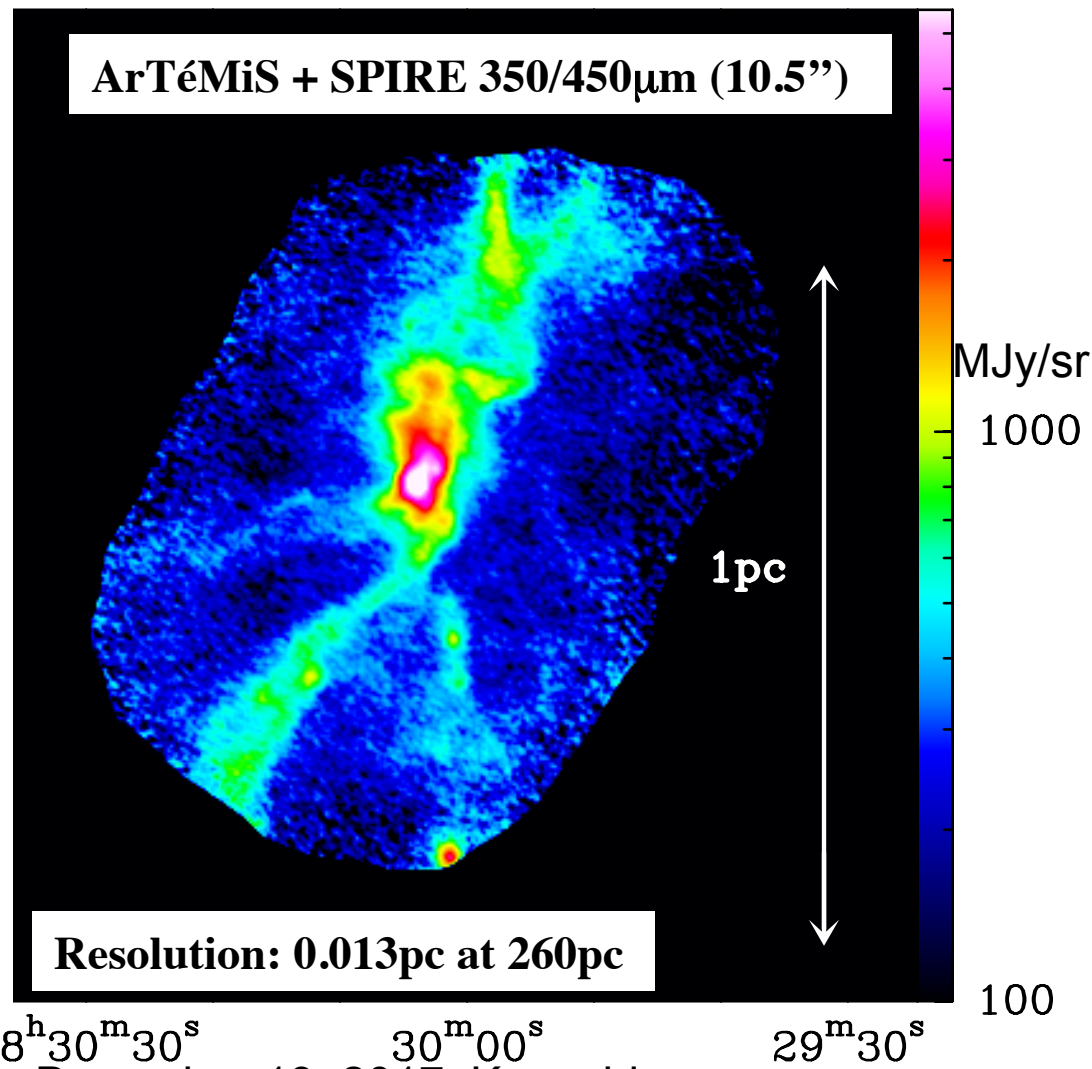
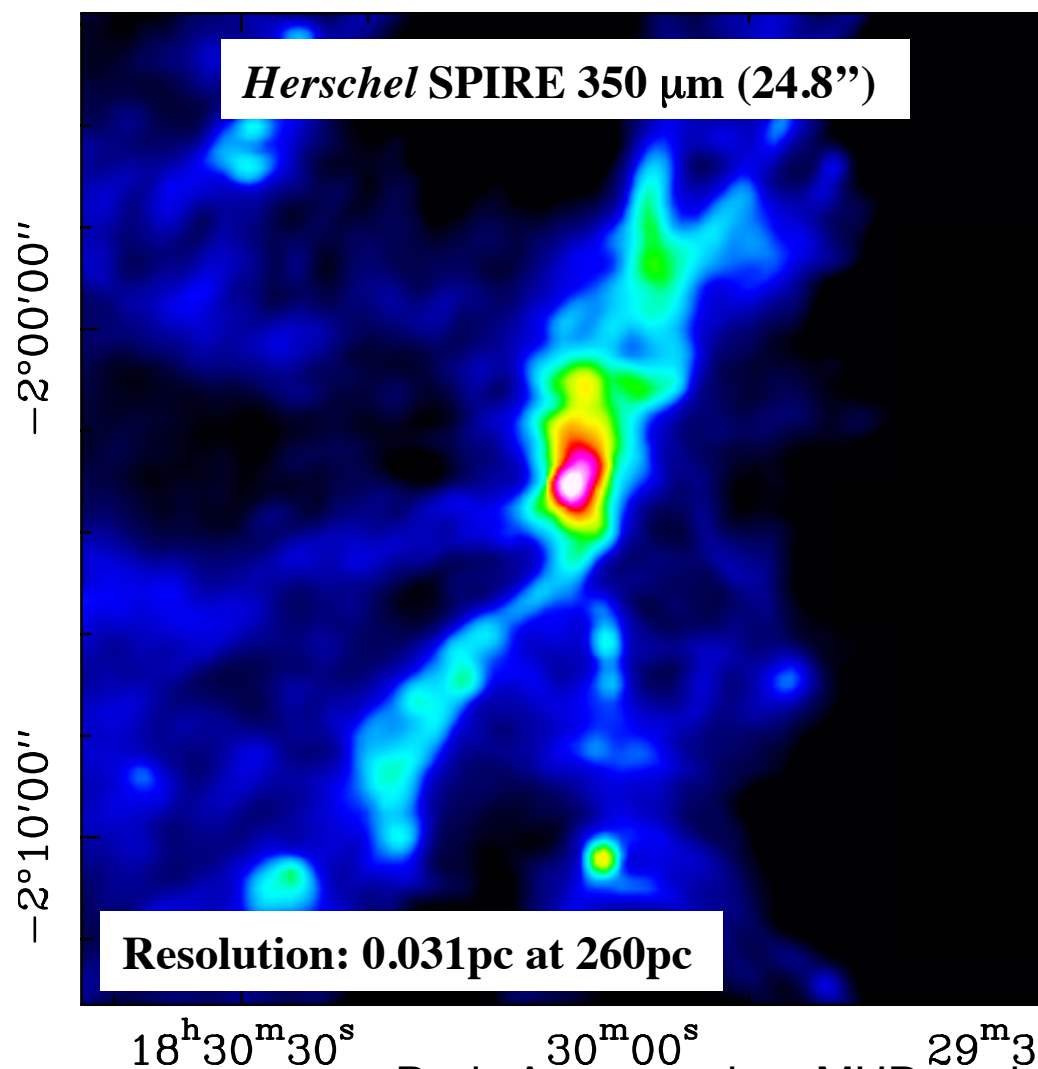
# Combining *Herschel* data with high resolution observations of ArTéMiS/APEX

×3.4 higher resolution than *Herschel* SPIRE  
Open to ESO/OSO community since 2014



Observations (June 2016) of Serpens South in the Aquila rift

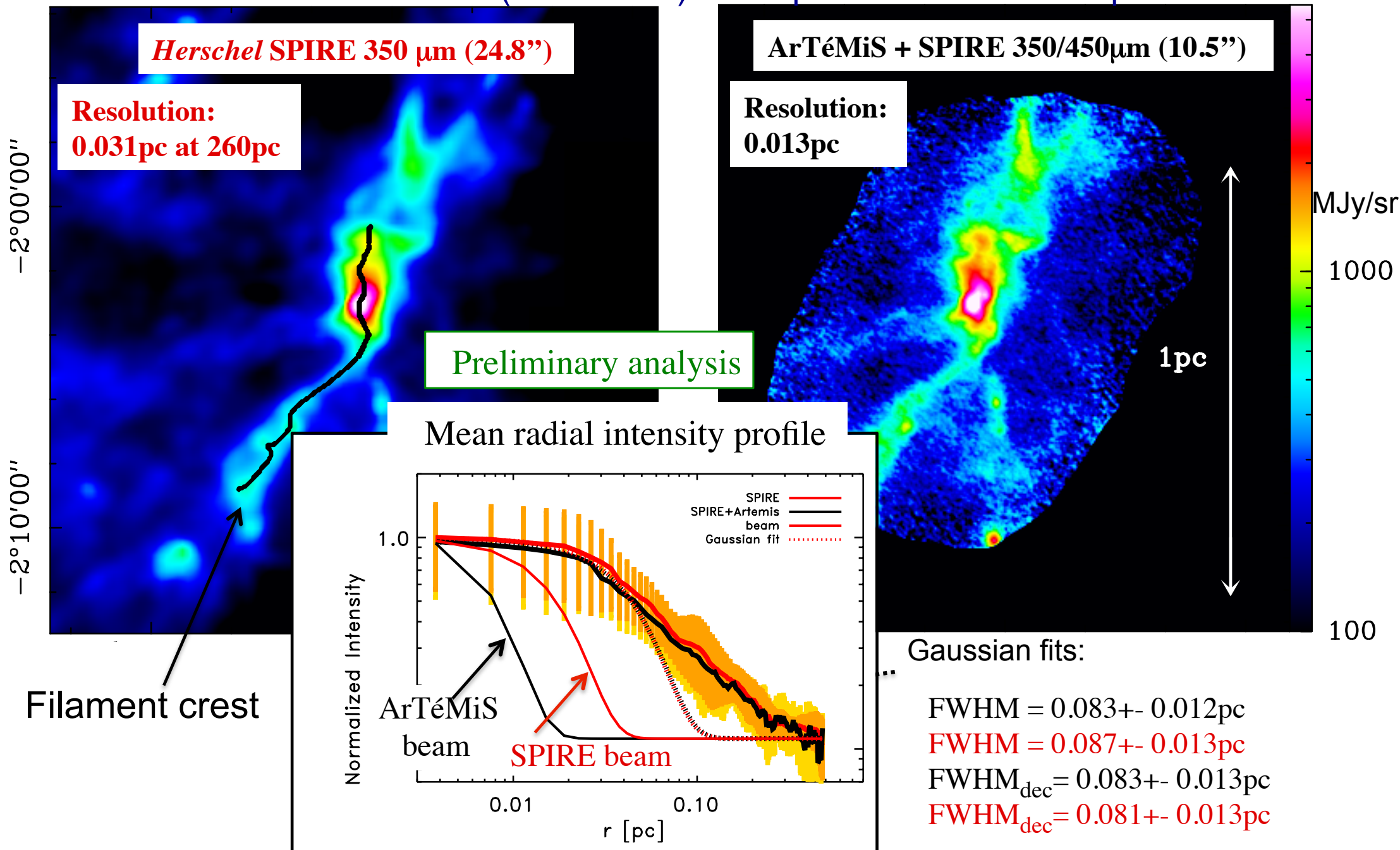
André, Revéret, Könyves, Shimajiri et al.





# Combining *Herschel* data with high resolution observations of ArTéMiS/APEX

Recent observations (June 2016) of Serpens South in the Aquila rift



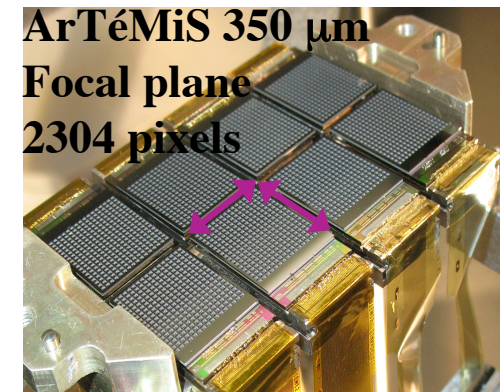
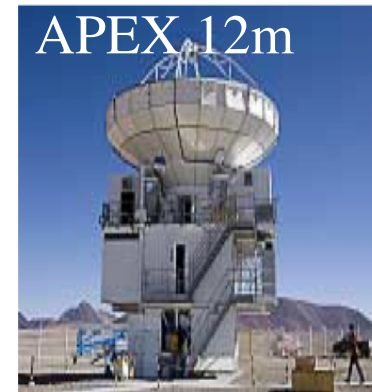
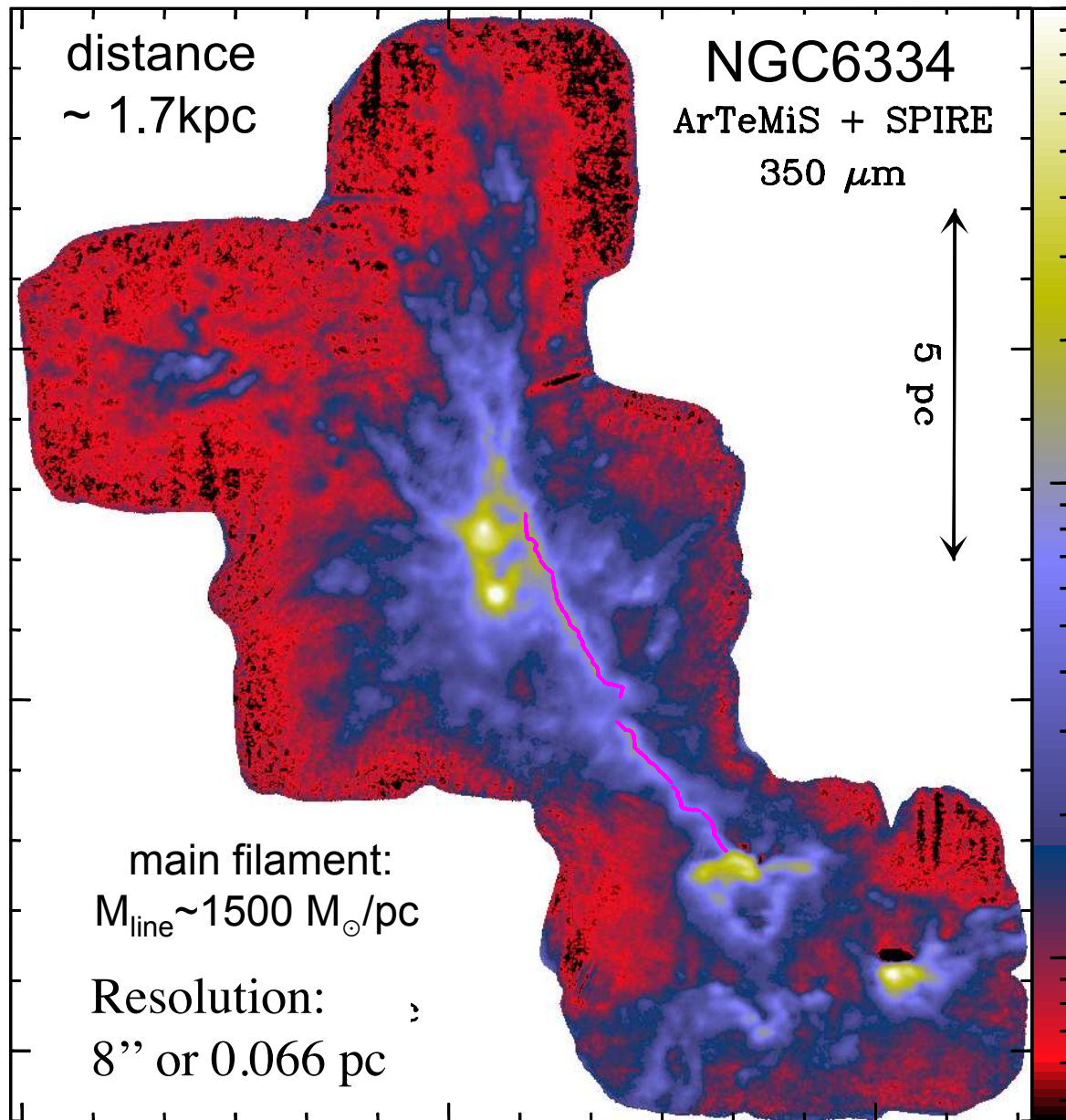


# Resolving the inner structure of filaments at distances further than the Gould Belt clouds

Combining *Herschel* data with high resolution observations with ArTéMiS/APEX 12m

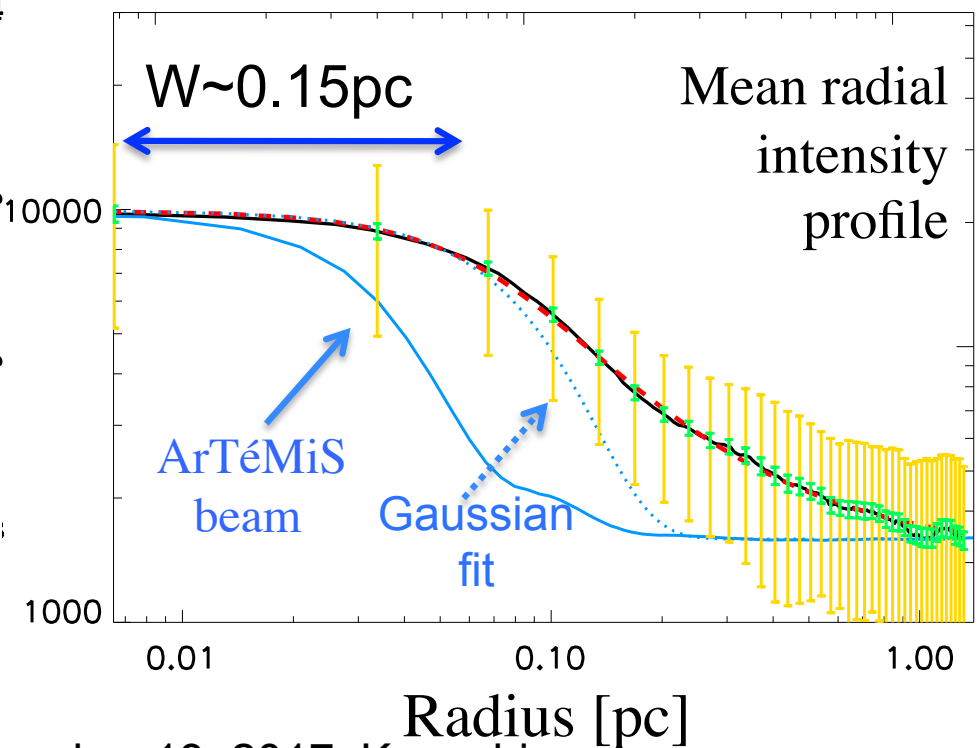
André, Revéret, Könyves, Arzoumanian et al. 2016

×3.4 higher resolution than *Herschel* SPIRE



10<sup>5</sup>  
MJy/sr  
10<sup>4</sup>  
Intensity [MJy/sr]

Angular offset to the west of the crest (arcsec)  
1 10 100

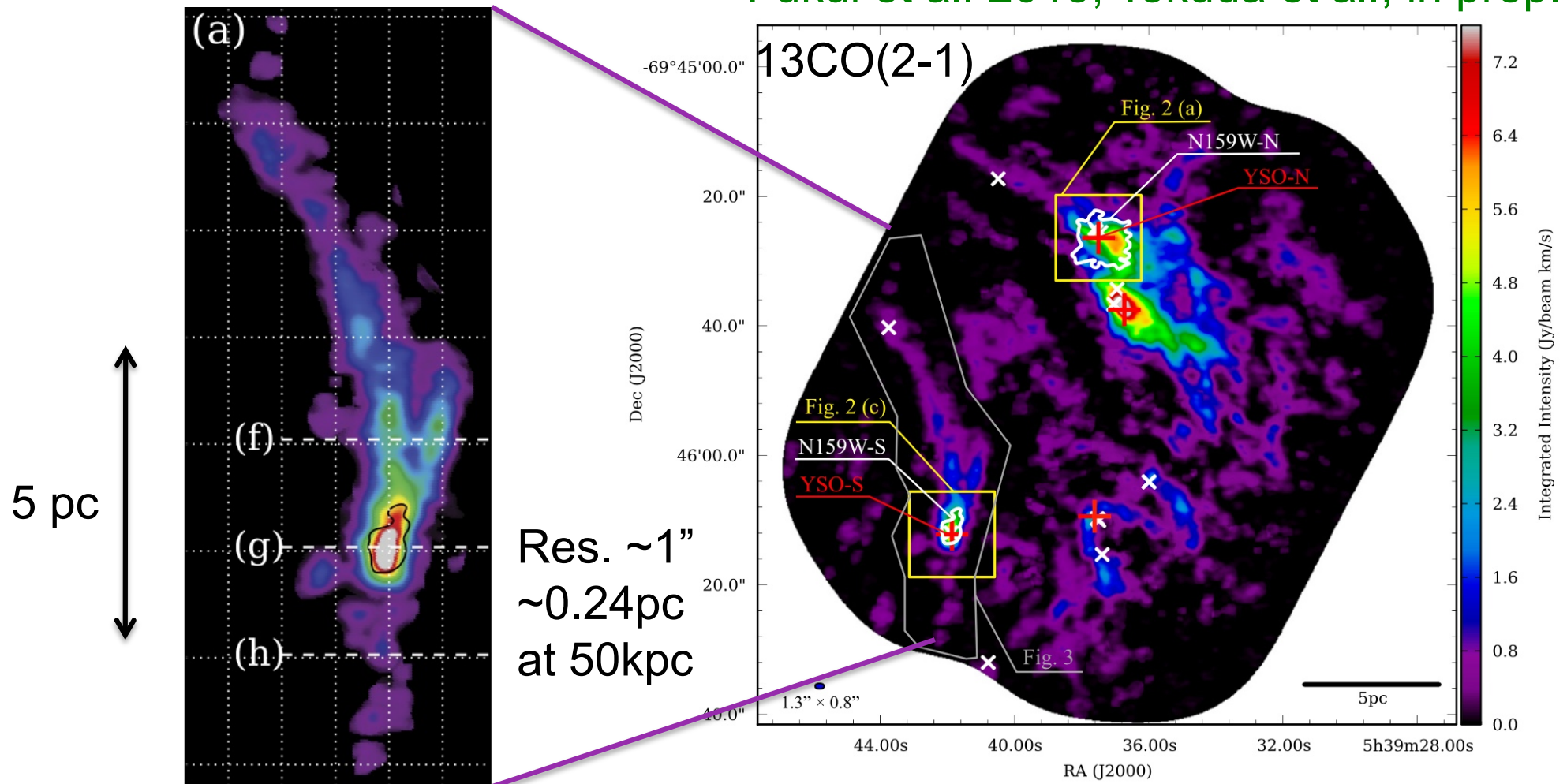




# Filaments are also observed to be main structures of the interstellar medium of other galaxies

ALMA observations of pc-scale filaments in the LMC

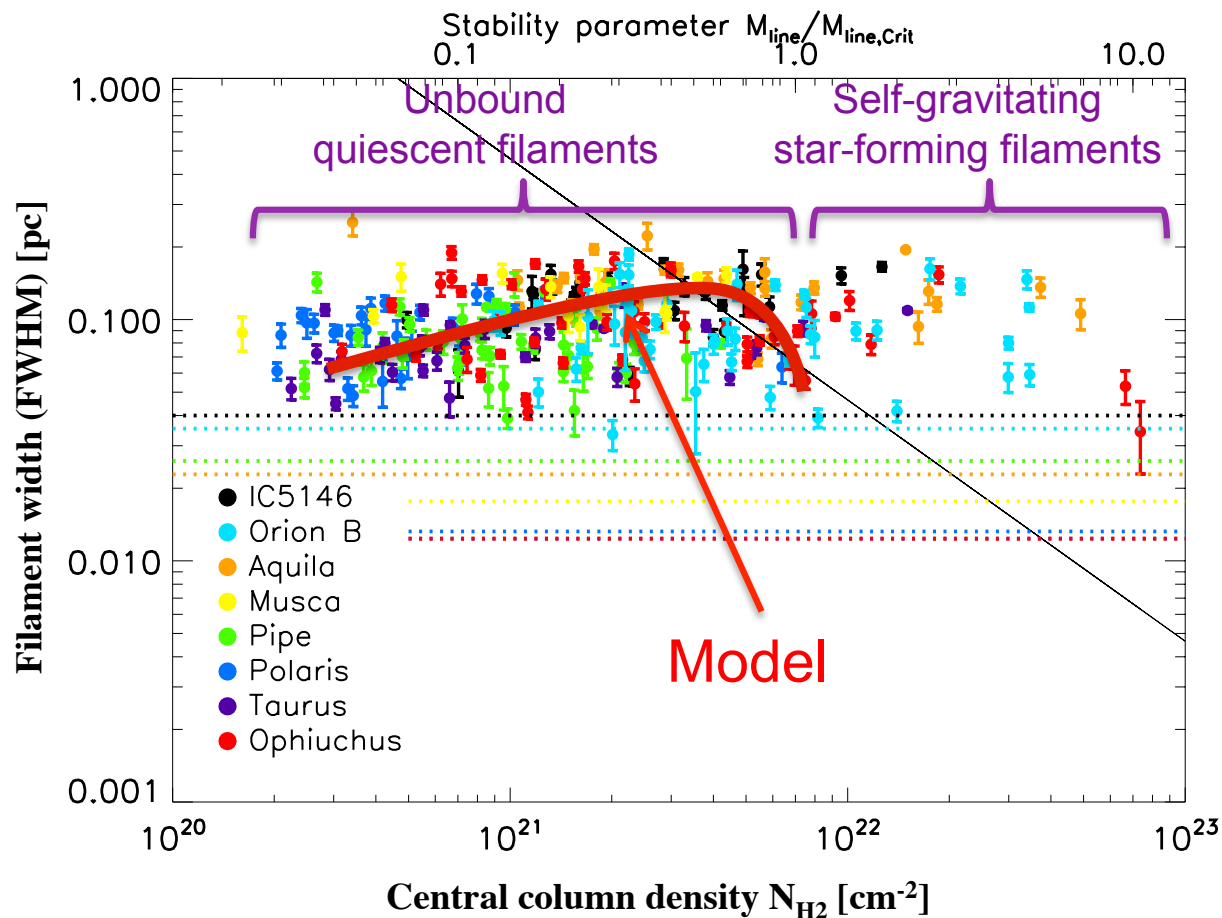
Fukui et al. 2015, Tokuda et al., in prep.



Filaments may help understanding the initial conditions of star formation in galaxies (cf. Lada et al. 2012)



# Understanding the observed properties: Model of non isothermal filaments in pressure equilibrium with the ambient medium



Model of polytropic filaments

$$P \sim \rho^\gamma$$

with

$$\gamma = 0.8 \text{ and}$$

$$P_{\text{ex}} / k_B \sim 5 \times 10^4 \text{ K cm}^{-3}$$

**Reasonable agreement  
with  
the observations  
for subcritical filaments**

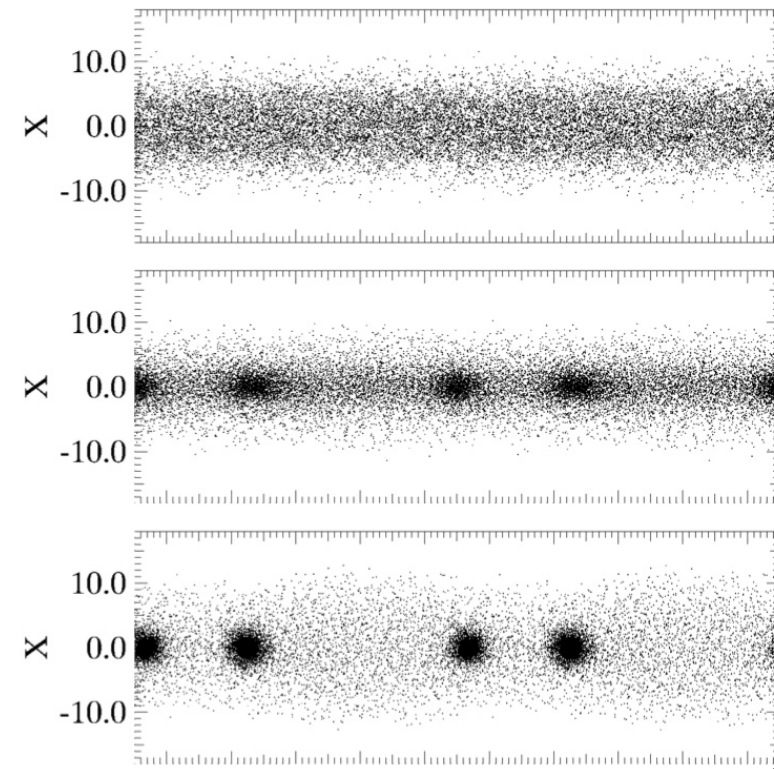
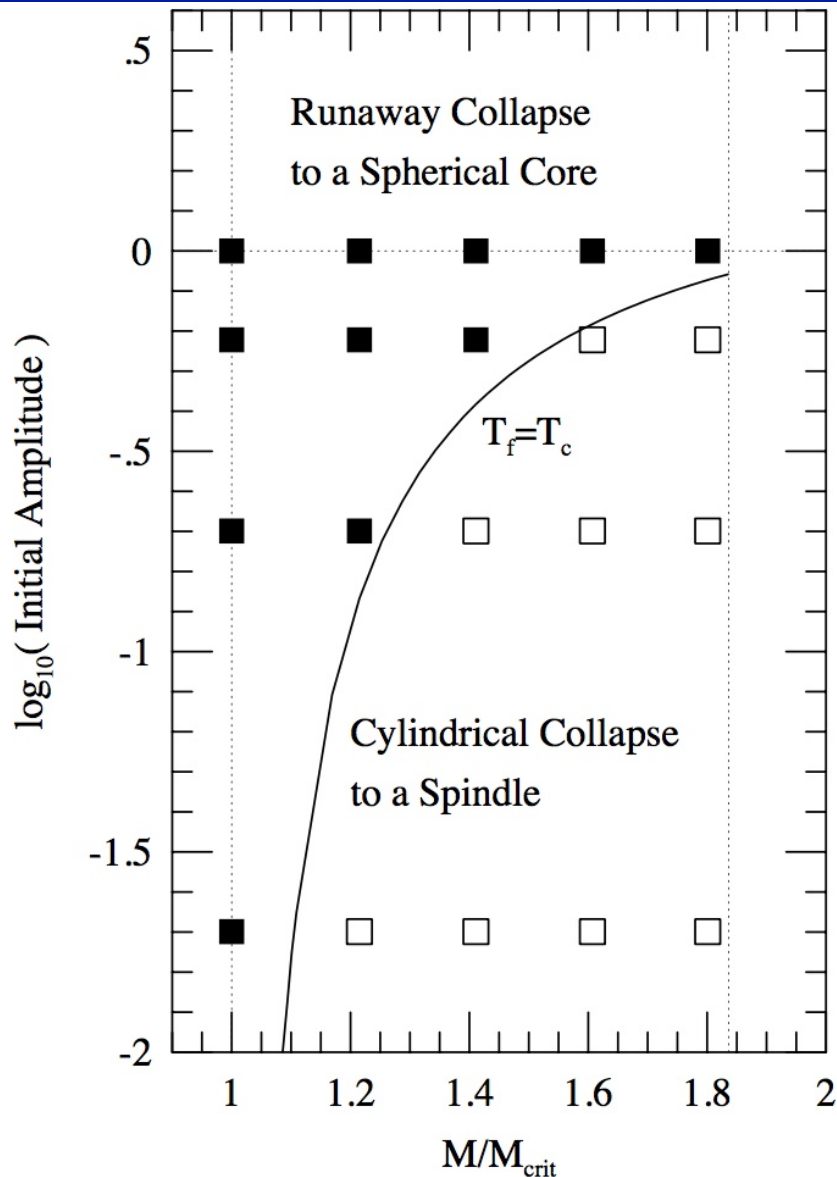
(Inutsuka et al. in prep.)

Cf. Fischera & Martin 2012 for a model of isothermal filaments

# Tension between filament models and observations

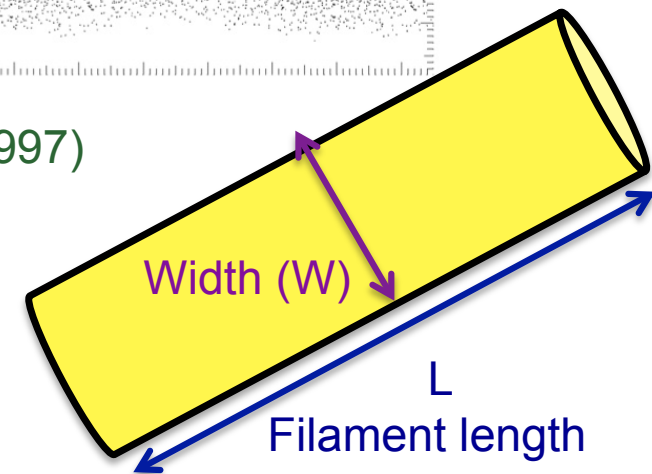
- Thermally supercritical filament with  $M_{\text{line}} > M_{\text{line,crit}}$  are unstable for radial collapse and gravitational fragmentation (Inutsuka & Miyama 1992, 1997)
- Runaway collapse of thermally supercritical filaments with  $M_{\text{line}} > 2M_{\text{line,crit}}$

Star forming supercritical filaments with  $M_{\text{line}} \gg 2M_{\text{line,crit}}$  are observed



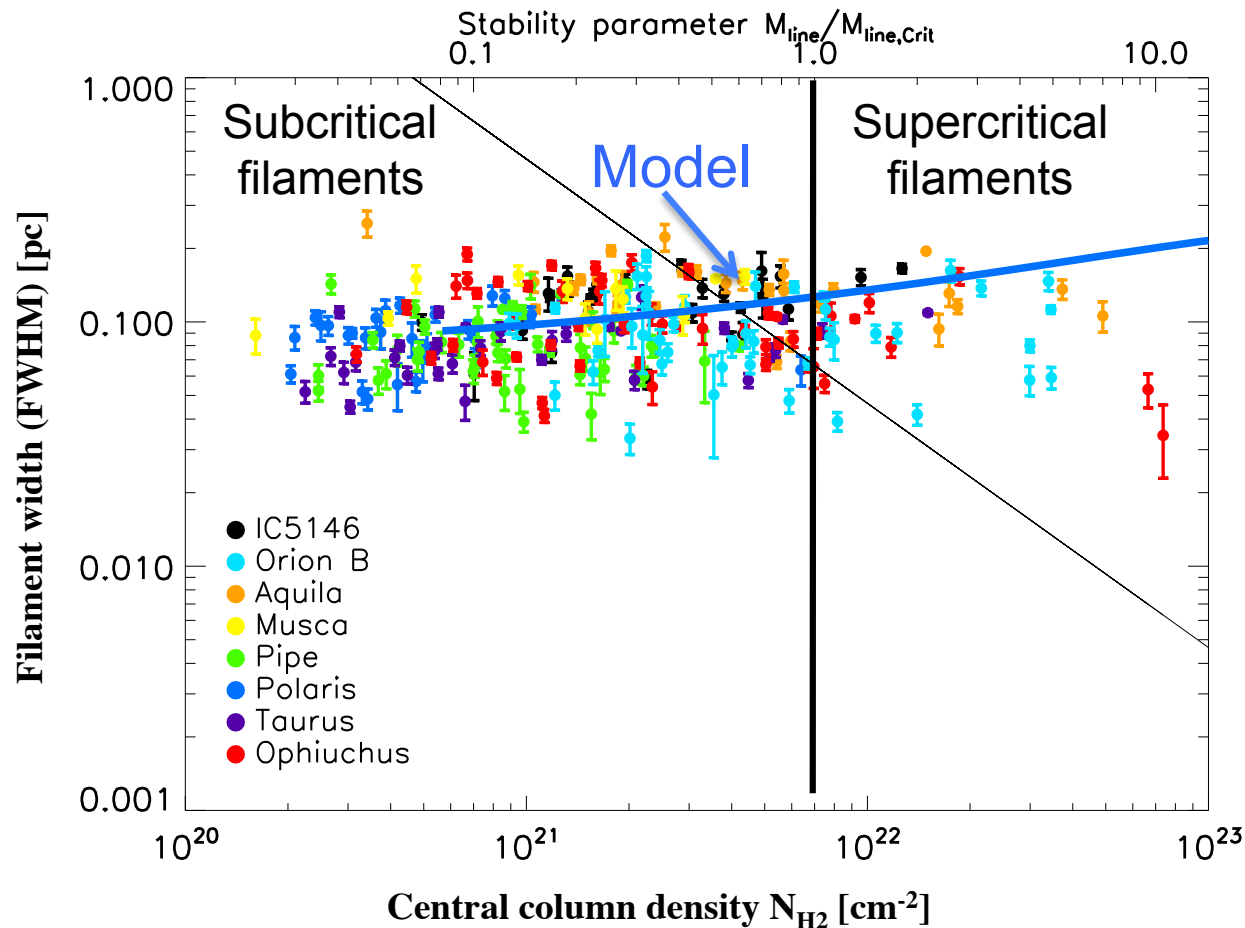
(Inutsuka & Miyama 1997)

$M_{\text{line}} = M/L$





# Understanding the observed properties: Model of accreting dense/self-gravitating filaments

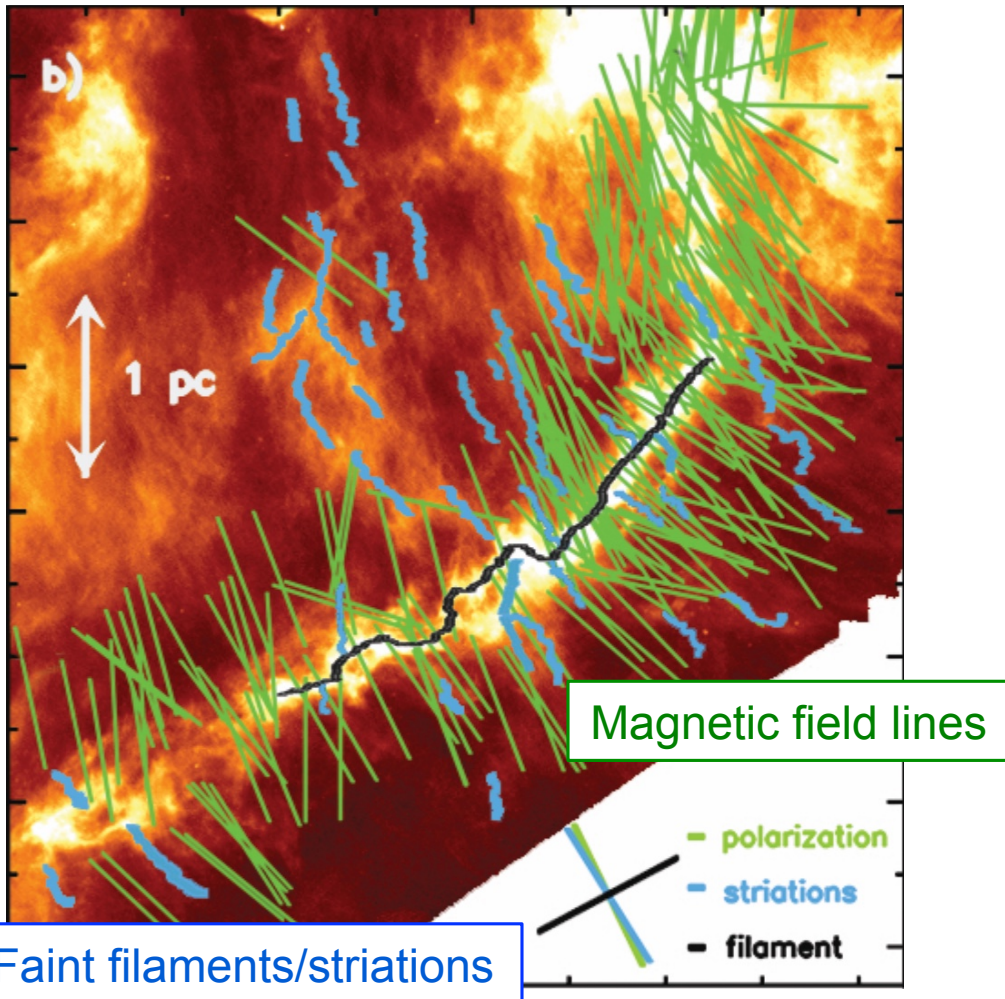


Balance between accretion-driven turbulence  
(Klessen & Hennebelle 2010)  
and dissipation of turbulence  
due to ion-neutral friction  
(Hennebelle & André 2013)

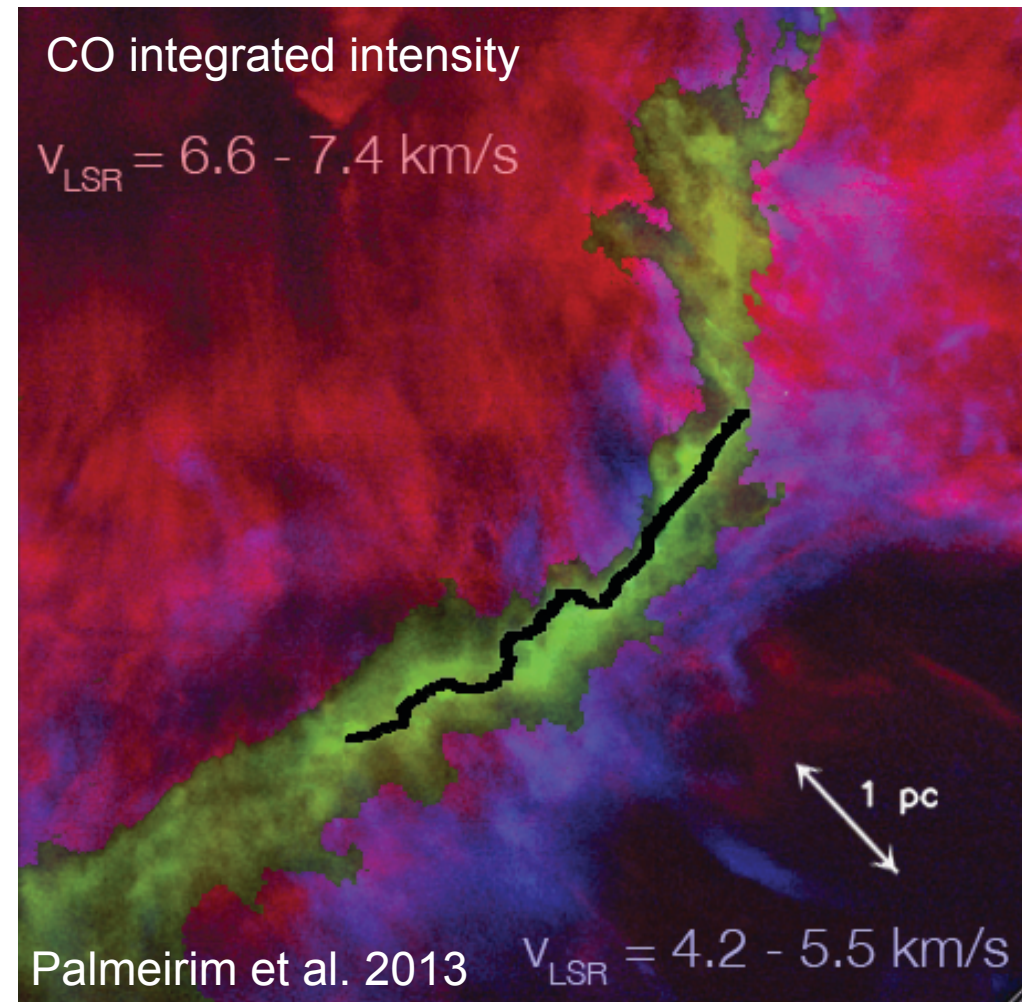
See also numerical simulations of gravitational infall onto molecular filaments (Heitsch 2013)

# Hint of the evolution of supercritical filaments from Accretion of surrounding material channeled by the magnetic field?

Low column density filaments/striations aligned with the magnetic field seem to be feeding the dense filament



Red-shifted and blue-shifted velocity gradients on both sides of the filament trace flows of surrounding matter being accreted onto the filament?



*Herschel* column density map (Palmeirim et al. 2013) CO observations from Goldsmith et al. 2008  
Magnetic field orientation from Optical/IR polarization (Heyer et al. 2008, Heils 2000, Chapman et al. 2011)

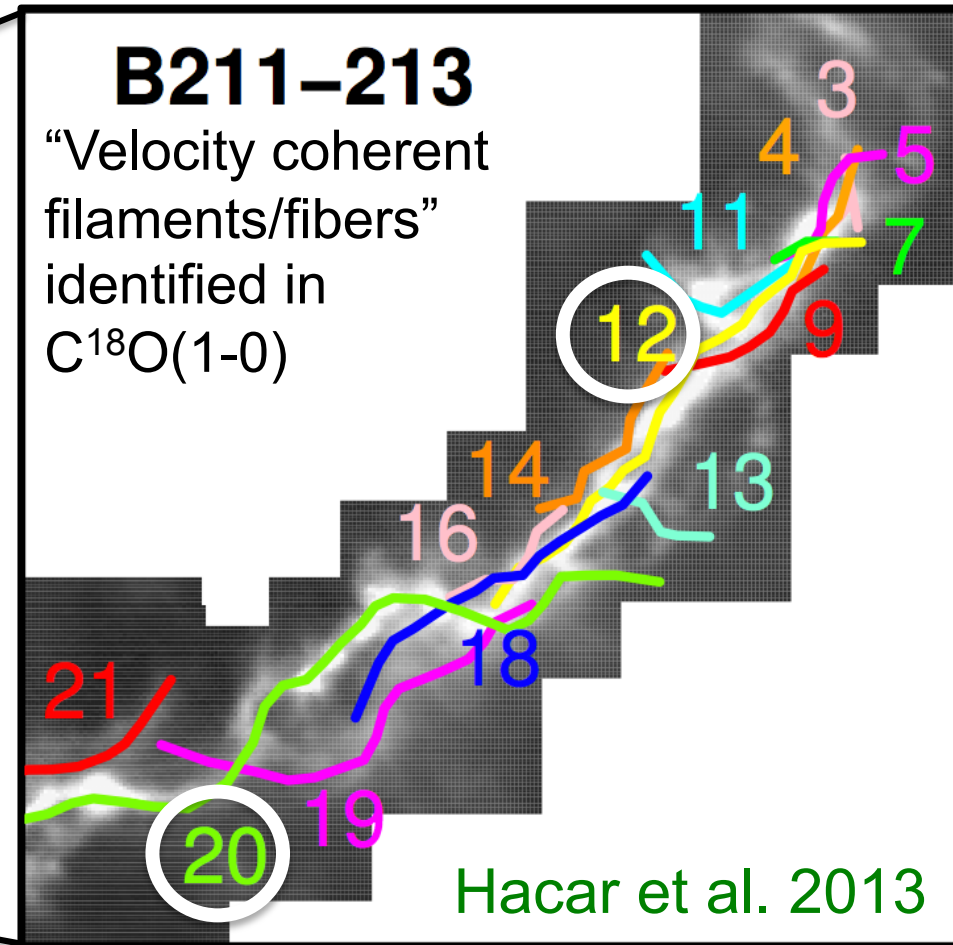
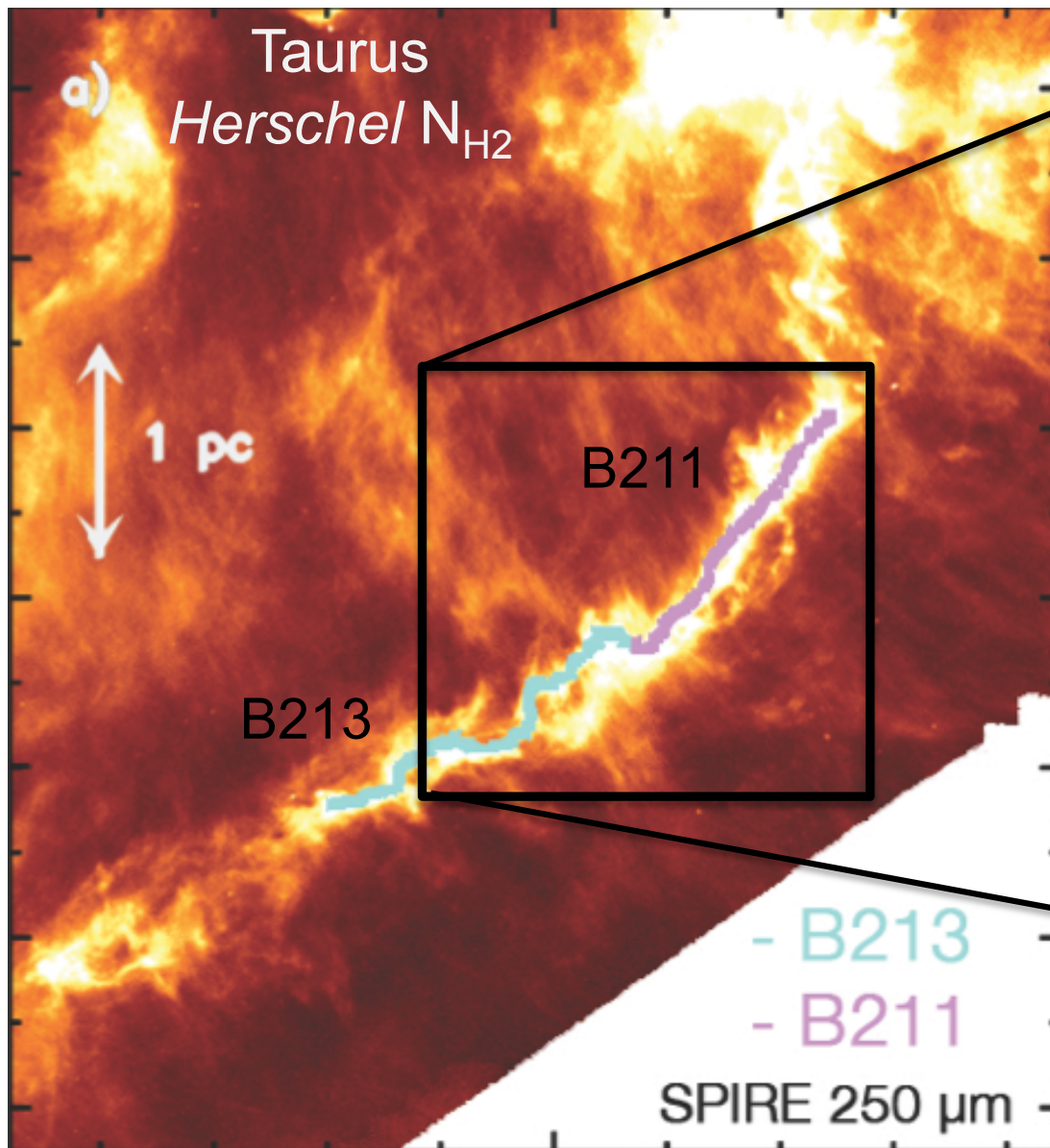
Doris Arzoumanian, MHD workshop, December 13, 2017, Kagoshima



# Internal velocity structure of the B211/3 filament

“Velocity coherent filaments/fibers” observed along the B211/13 filament

Palmeirim et al. 2013

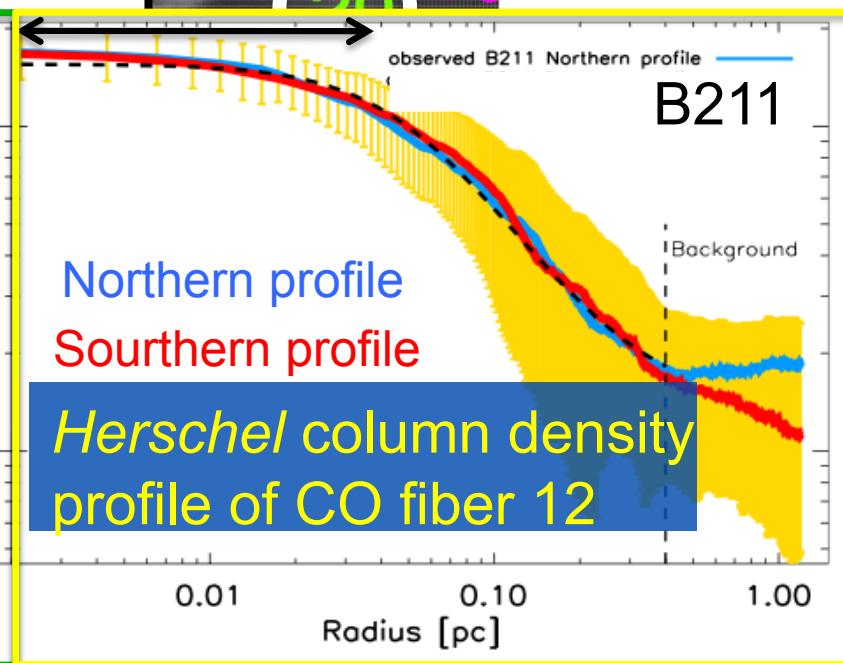
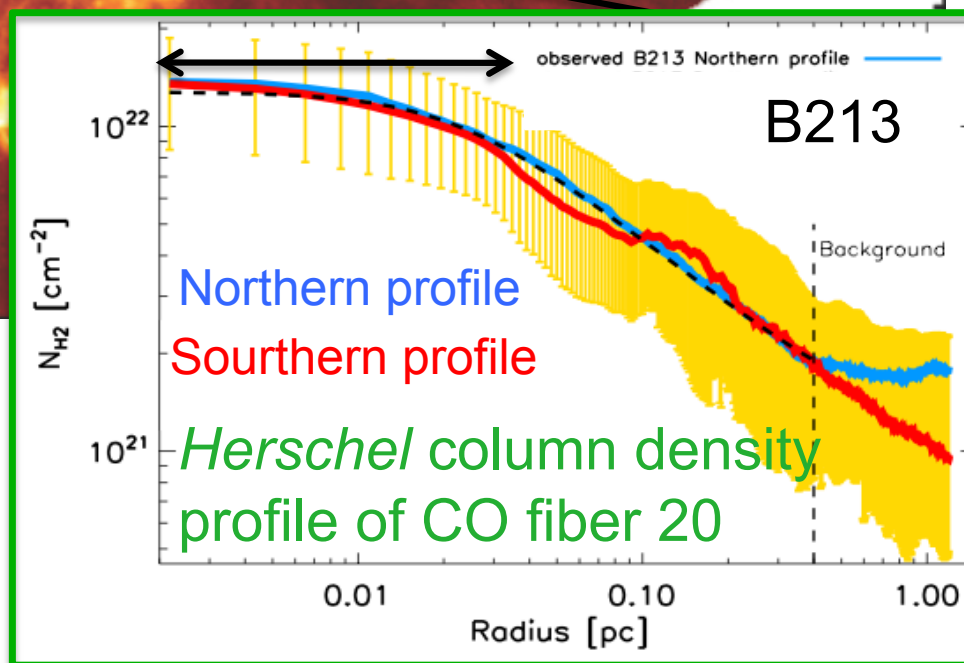
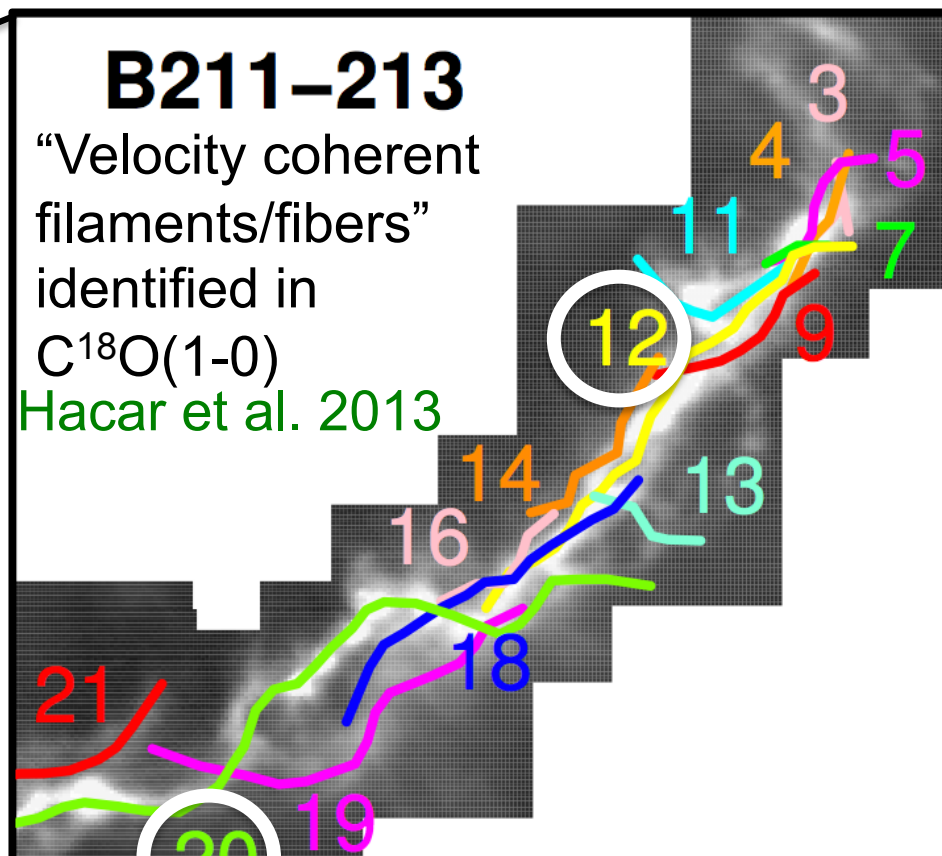
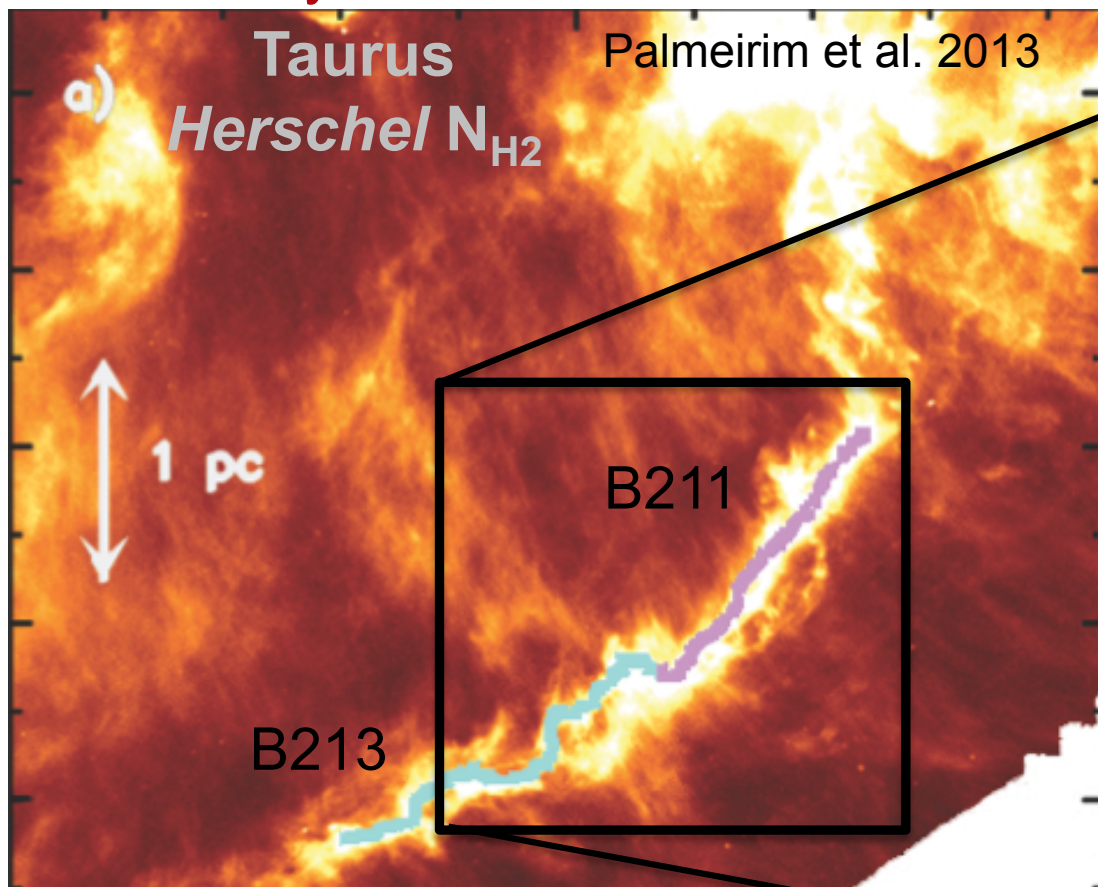


Fiber 12 traces the crest of B211  
Fiber 20 traces the crest of B213

Possible scenario: Matter accretion in a turbulent flow can produce fiber-like structures and delay the global radial collapse of the supercritical filament (Clarke, Whitworth et al. 2017)

Doris Arzoumanian, MHD workshop, December 13, 2017, Kagoshima

# “Velocity coherent filaments/fibers” observed along the B211/13 filament?



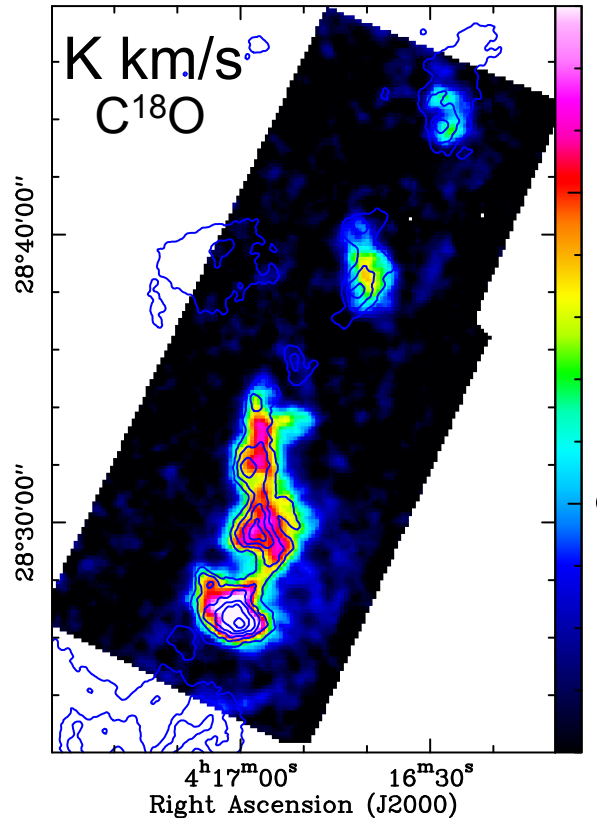
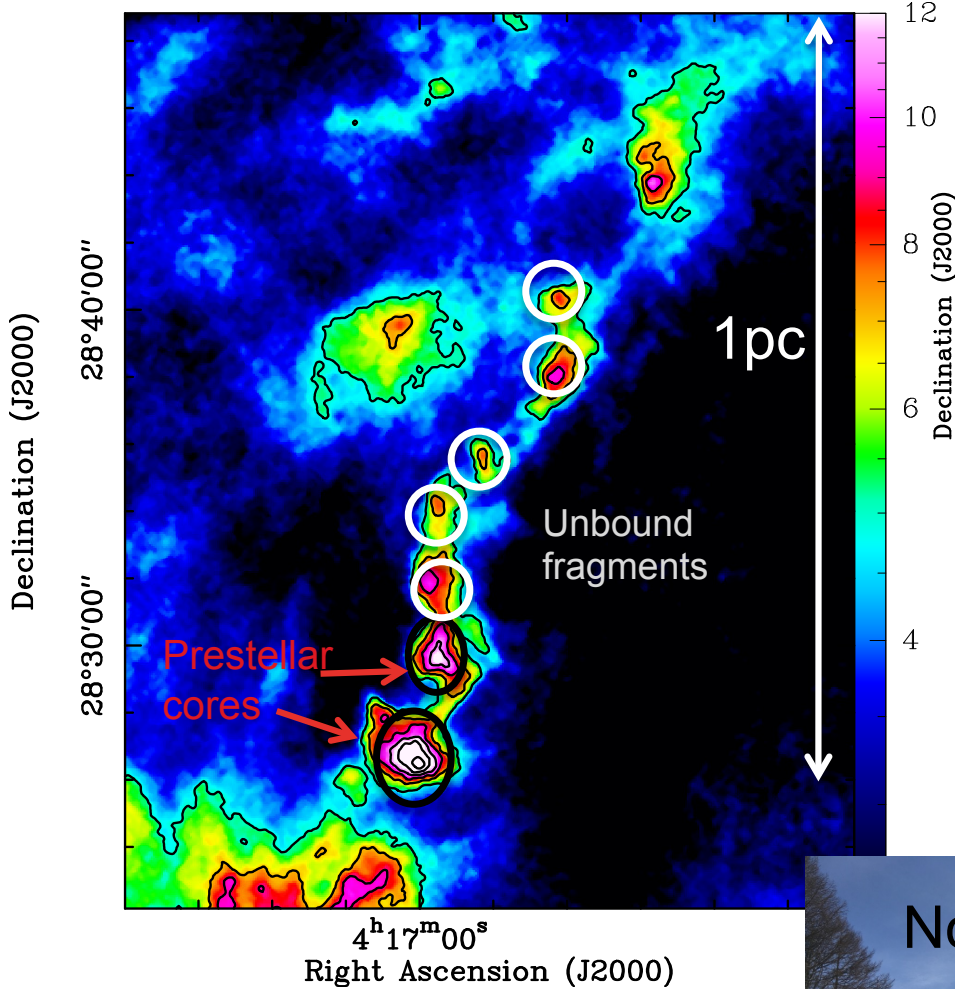


# Nobeyama 45m observations of a filament on the verge of gravitational fragmentation in the Taurus molecular cloud

Investigating the interaction between the filament and its surroundings

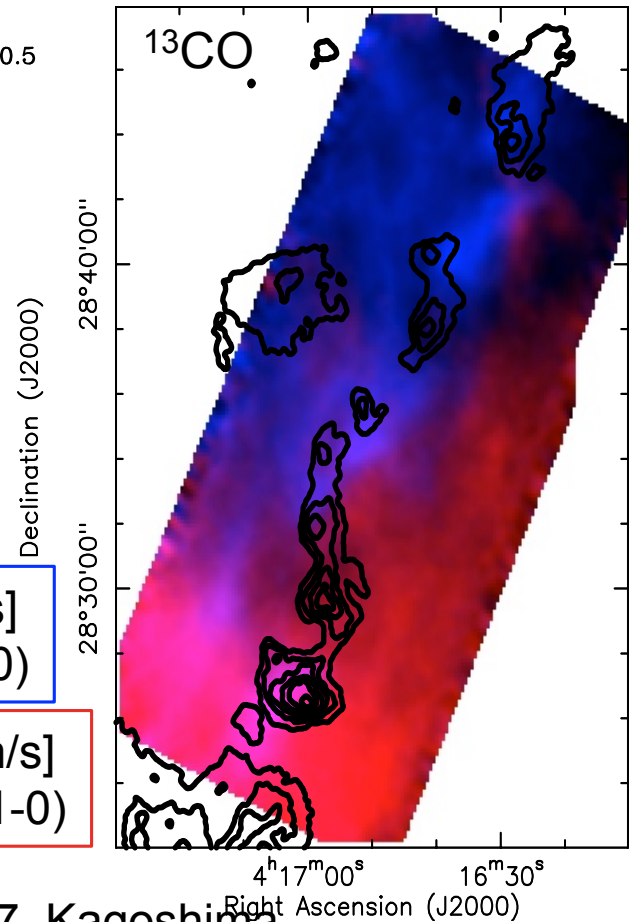
Arzoumanian et al., in prep.

Herschel column density map



Map: Velocity [5-6km/s]  
integrated intensity of  
 $C^{18}O(1-0)$

Contours:  
Herschel  $N_{H_2}$   
(5, 7, 9, 11, 13 x  $10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ )



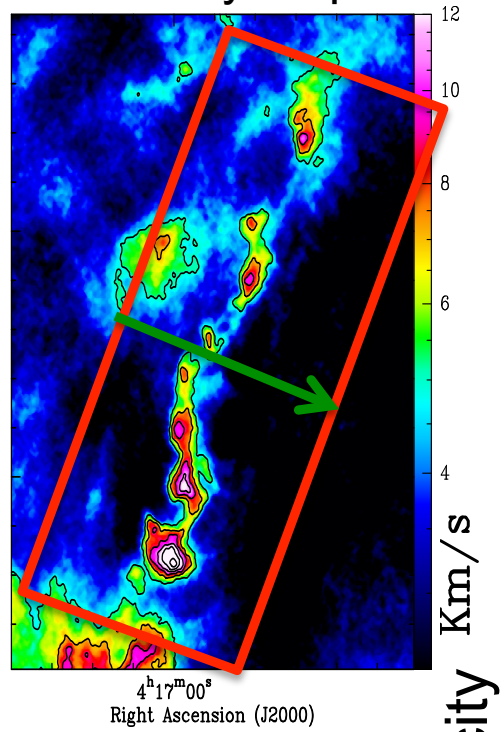
[4-5km/s]  
 $^{13}CO(1-0)$

[6-7km/s]  
 $^{13}CO(1-0)$

# Multiple velocity components are observed towards the filament

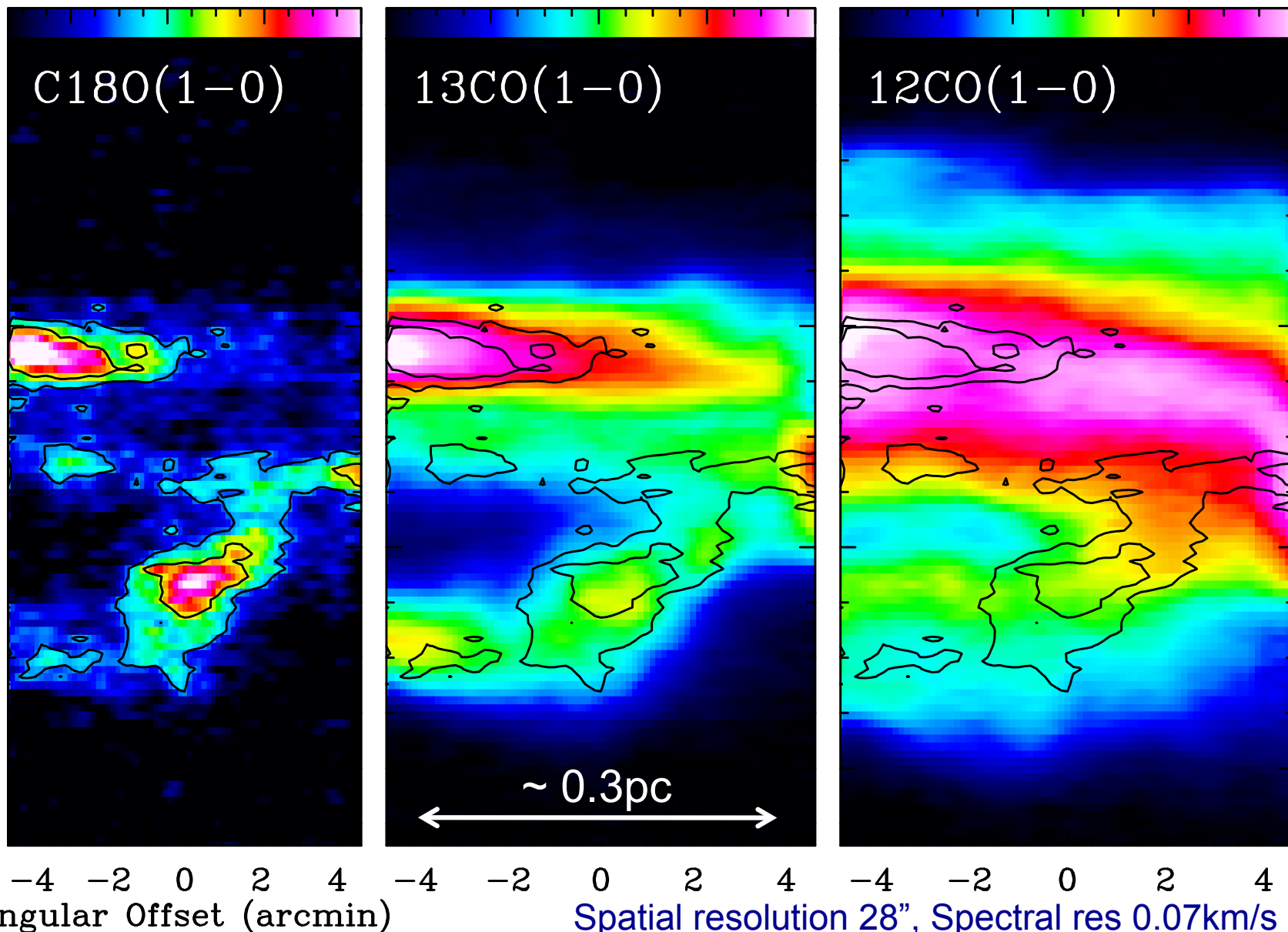
Arzoumanian et al., in prep.

Herschel column density map



PV cuts perpendicular to the filament and averaged along the crest

0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 2 4 6 8 T<sub>mb</sub> (K) 5 10

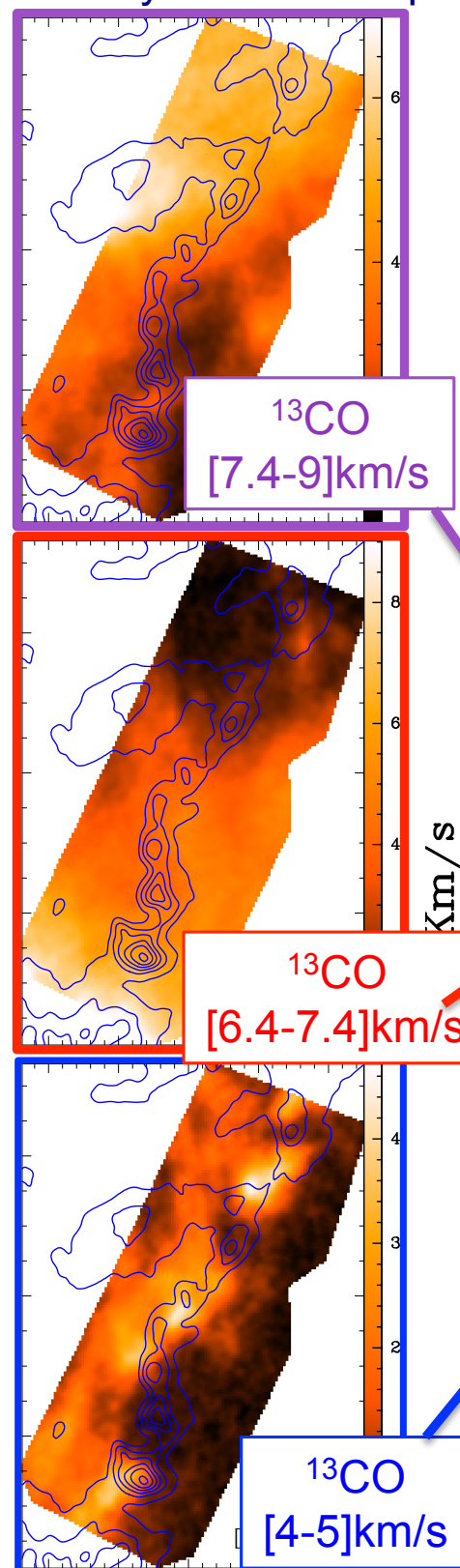


Black contours:  
C<sup>18</sup>O emission  
for reference

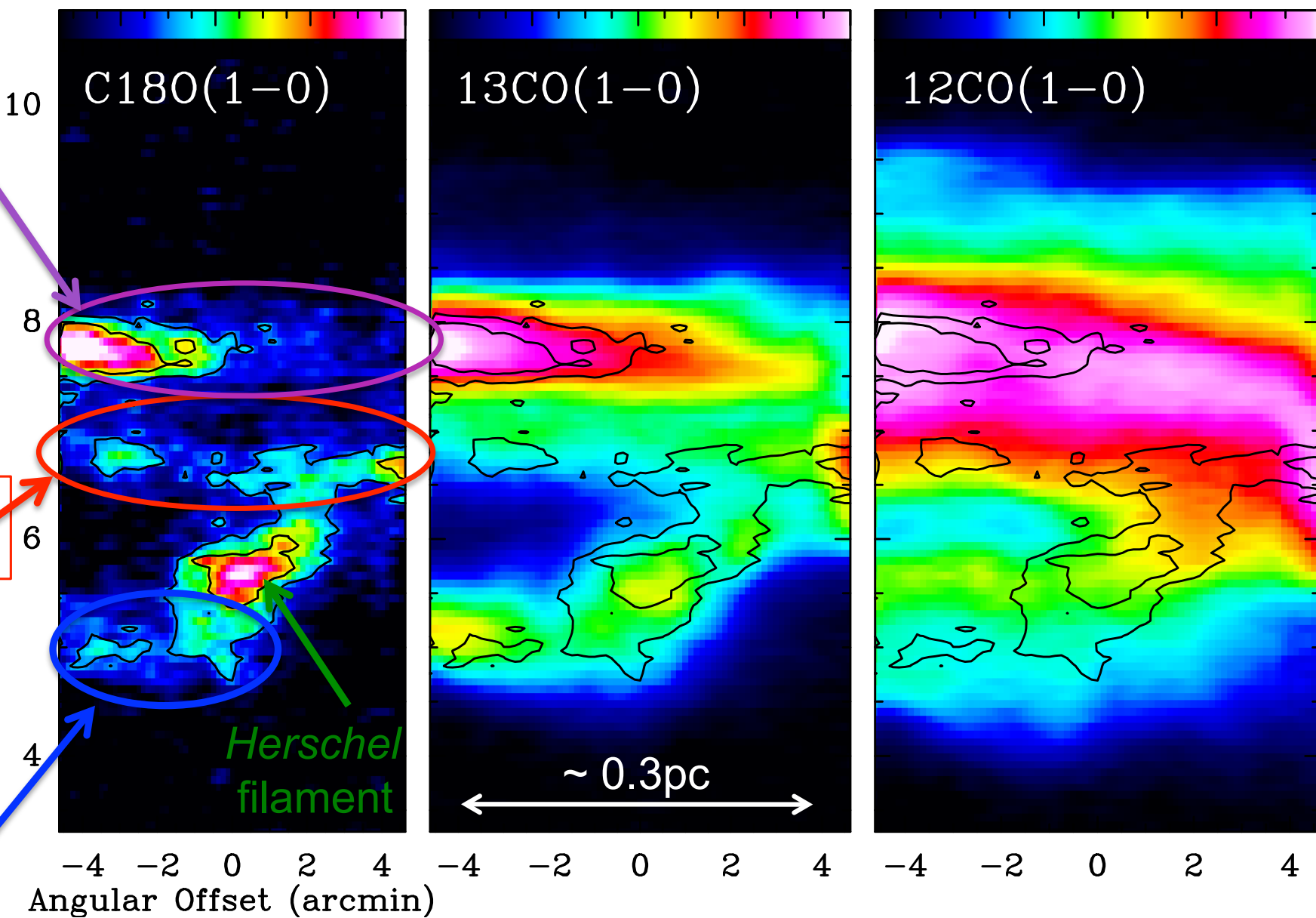


# Velocity channel maps

Multiple velocity components are observed towards the filament, but they may correspond to extended structures surrounding the filament

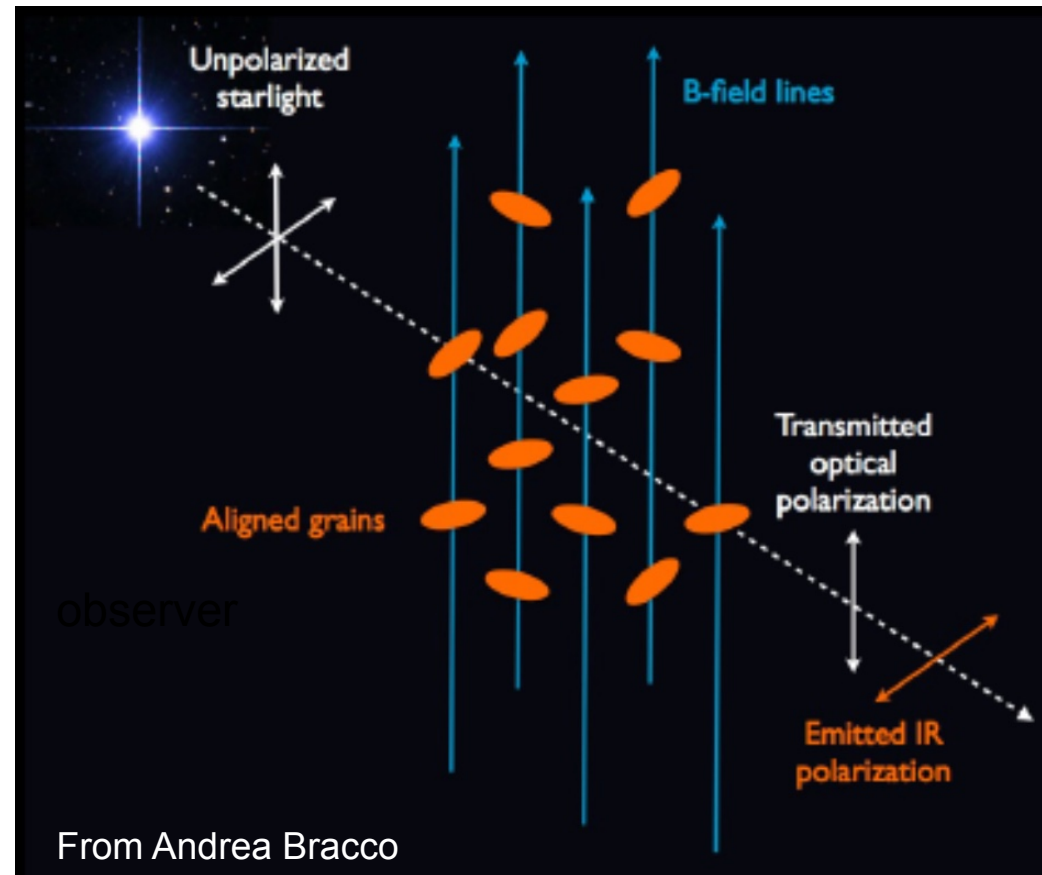
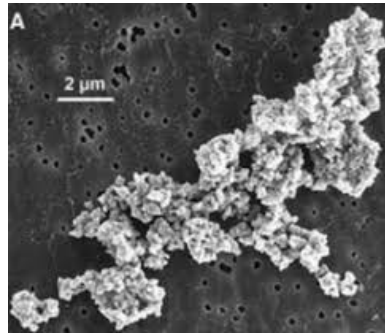
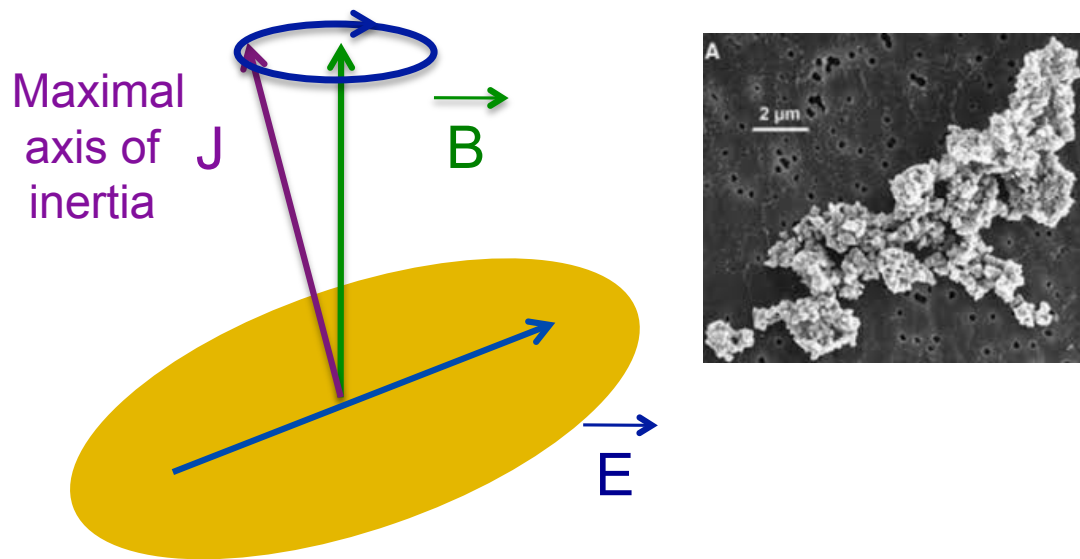


0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 2 4 6 8  $T_{\text{mb}}$  (K) 5 10



# Why thermal dust grain emission is linearly polarized and traces the ambient B field structure?

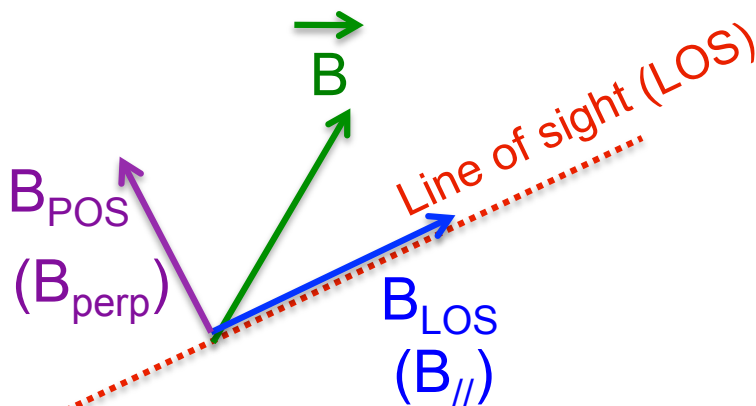
- Linear polarization results from non-spherical dust grains
- Dust grains have paramagnetic property and are fast spinning, so they precess around the ambient magnetic field
  - These two properties make the dust polarized emission trace B field orientation (e.g., Davis & Greenstein 1951, Vaillancourt 2007, Hoang, Lazarian, Andersson et al. 2014)



From Andrea Bracco

$B$  orientation = pol. direction +  $90^\circ$

• Aspherical dust grains align their axis of maximal inertia with the local B-field orientation



Doris Arzoumanian, MHD workshop, December 13, 2017, Kagoshima



# The observed polarized emission depends on the structure of the magnetic field and the polarization efficiency of dust grains

## Observed Stokes parameters

The imprint of the mean field geometry is present in  $Q$  and  $U$ , which are integrated quantities along the line of sight (LOS)

$$Q = \int p_0 \cos(2\psi) \cos^2(\gamma) dI$$

$$U = \int p_0 \sin(2\psi) \cos^2(\gamma) dI$$

( $I$ : total intensity  
~ column density)

Polarization properties of dust grains

Polarization angle,  
 $\psi = 0.5 \arctan(-U, Q)$   
+ 90° orientation of  $B_{\text{POS}}$

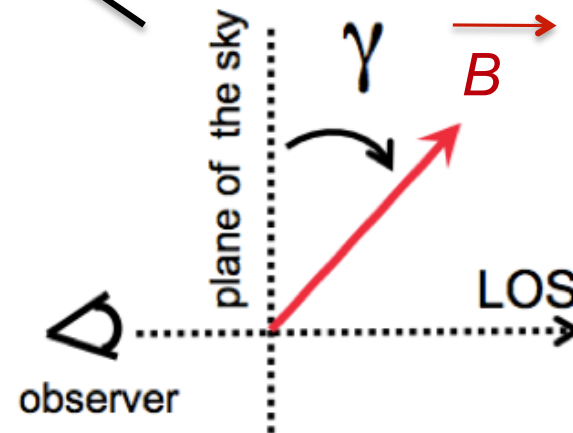
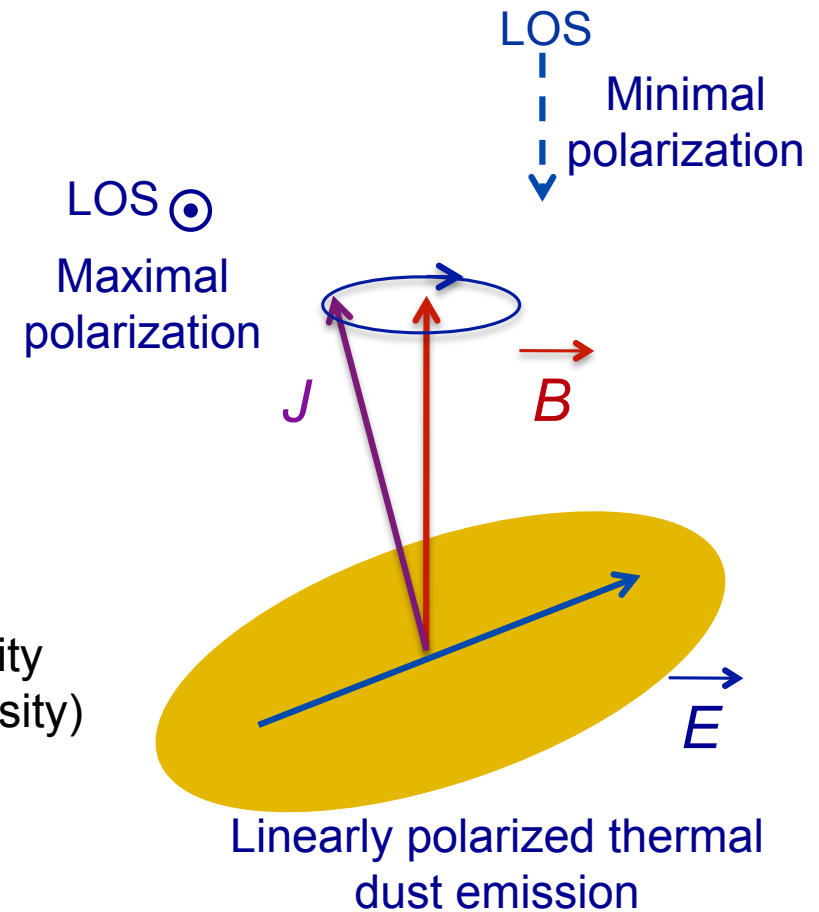
## Polarization properties derived from the Stokes parameters

Polarized intensity

Polarization fraction

$$P = \sqrt{Q^2 + U^2} \quad p = P/I$$

Doris Arzoumanian, MHD workshop, December 13, 2017, Kagoshima



# The observed polarized emission depends on the structure of the magnetic field and the polarization efficiency of dust grains

$$p = p_{\text{dust}} R F \cos^2 \gamma$$

Empirical parametrization of the observed polarization fraction

1) Dust properties: size, shape, composition (Voshchinnikov & Hirashita 2014)

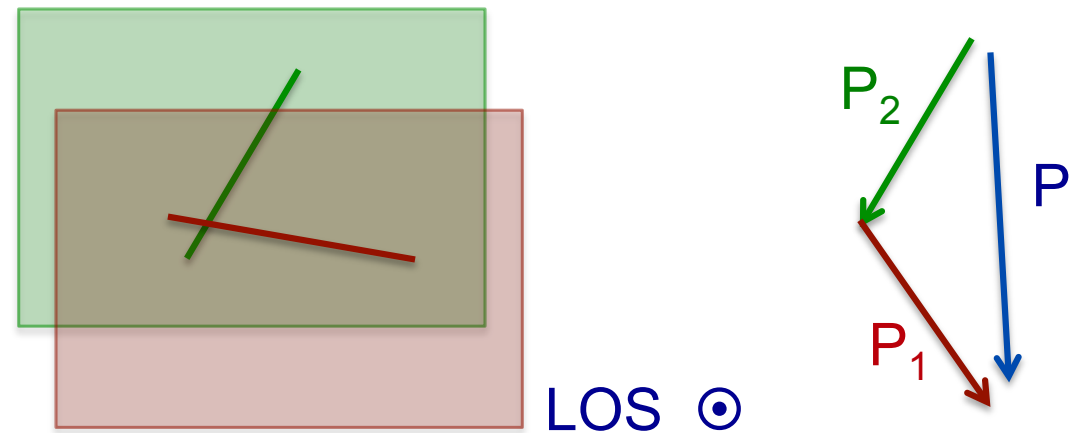
2) Grain alignment efficiency with the local magnetic field (Goodman 1992, Whittet et al 2008, Hoang & Lazarian 2014)

3) Depolarization from 2 (or more) layers along the LOS

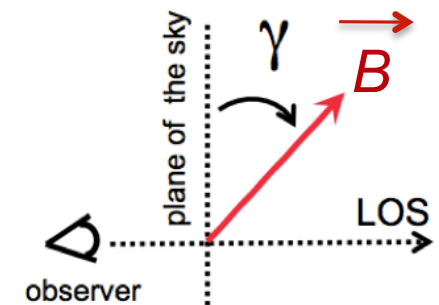
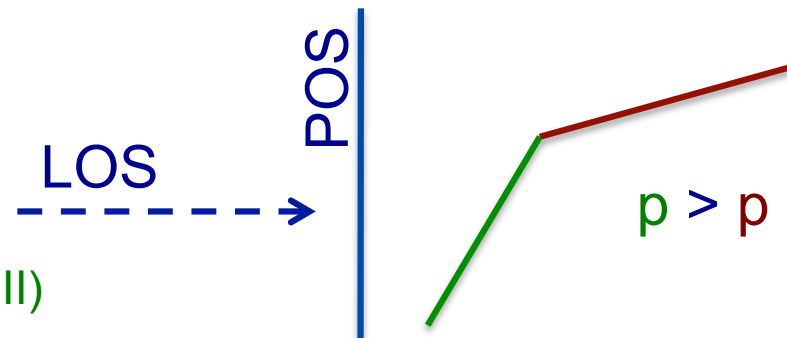
$$F = P / (P_1 + P_2)$$

$$P^2 = P_1^2 + P_2^2 + 2P_1P_2 \cos 2\Delta\psi$$

(Jones et al. 1992, 2015, Myers & Goodman 1991, *Planck* 2015 XX, 2016 XXXIII)



4) Field geometry  $\cos^2 \gamma$



(*Planck* 2015 XX, 2016 XXXIII)



# What are the limitations in using thermal dust polarized emission to trace the magnetic field structure in the ISM?

$$p = p_{\text{dust}} R F \cos^2 \gamma$$

Dust grain properties

Magnetic field structure

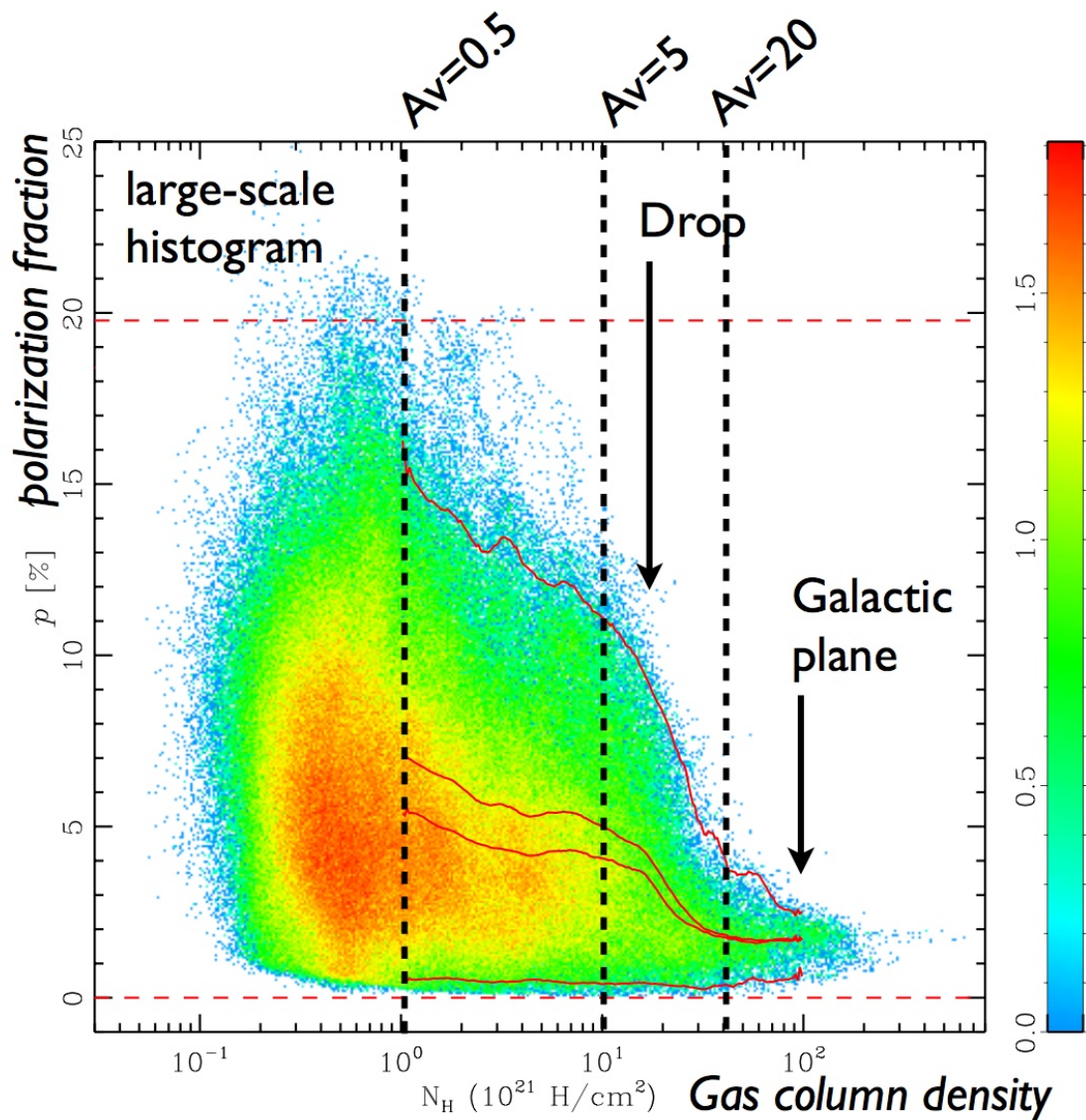
Empirical parametrization of the observed polarization fraction

Degeneracy between all these factors: Details modelling of **grain properties** and understanding of the **B field structure** is important

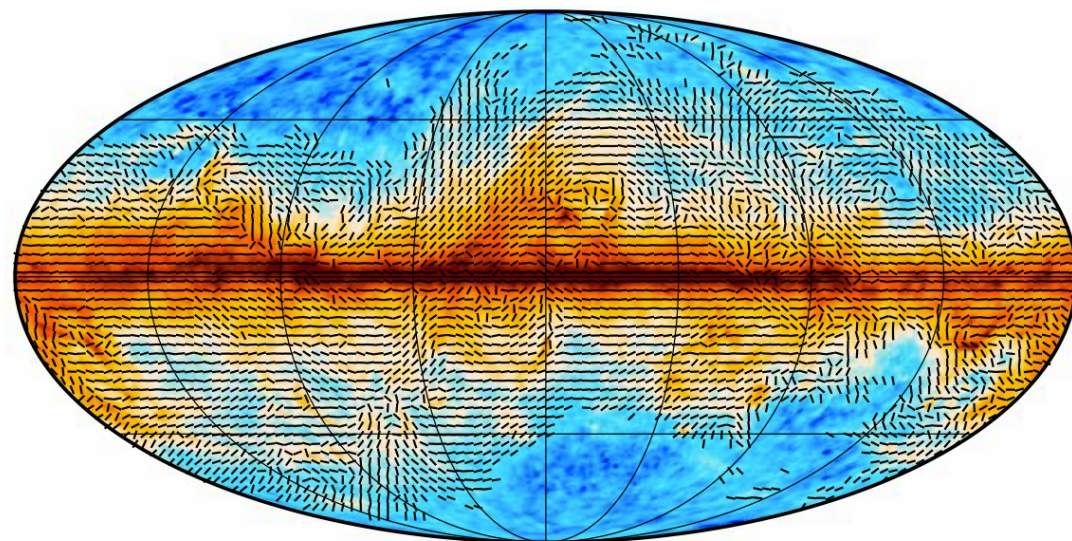
# Whole sky *Planck* dust polarization results on the dispersion of polarization fraction

Polarization fraction vs. gas column density

*Planck* 2015 XIX

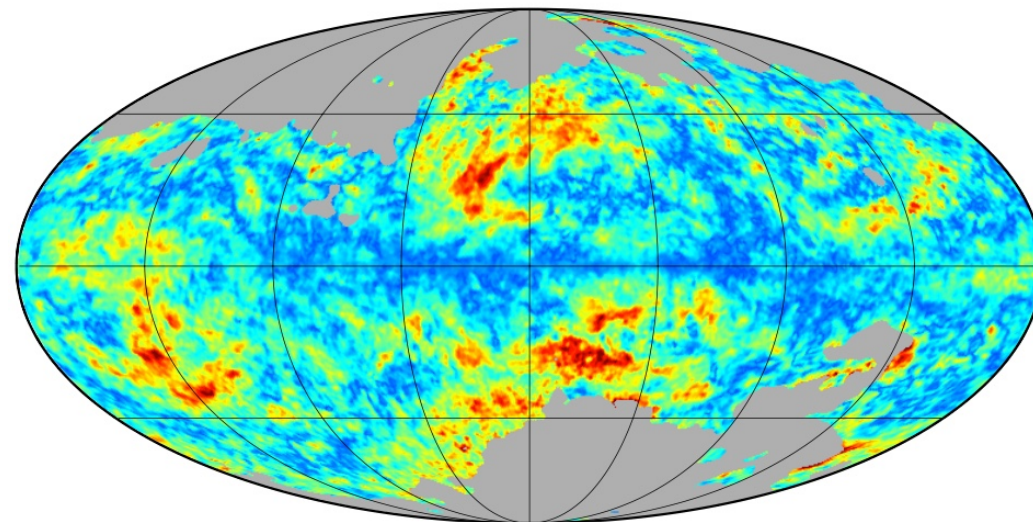


Total intensity +  $B_{POS}$  orientation



-2.0 1.0  $\log_{10}(I_{353}/(\text{MJy}\cdot\text{sr}^{-1}))$

Polarization fraction



0.0 20.0  $p$  [%]

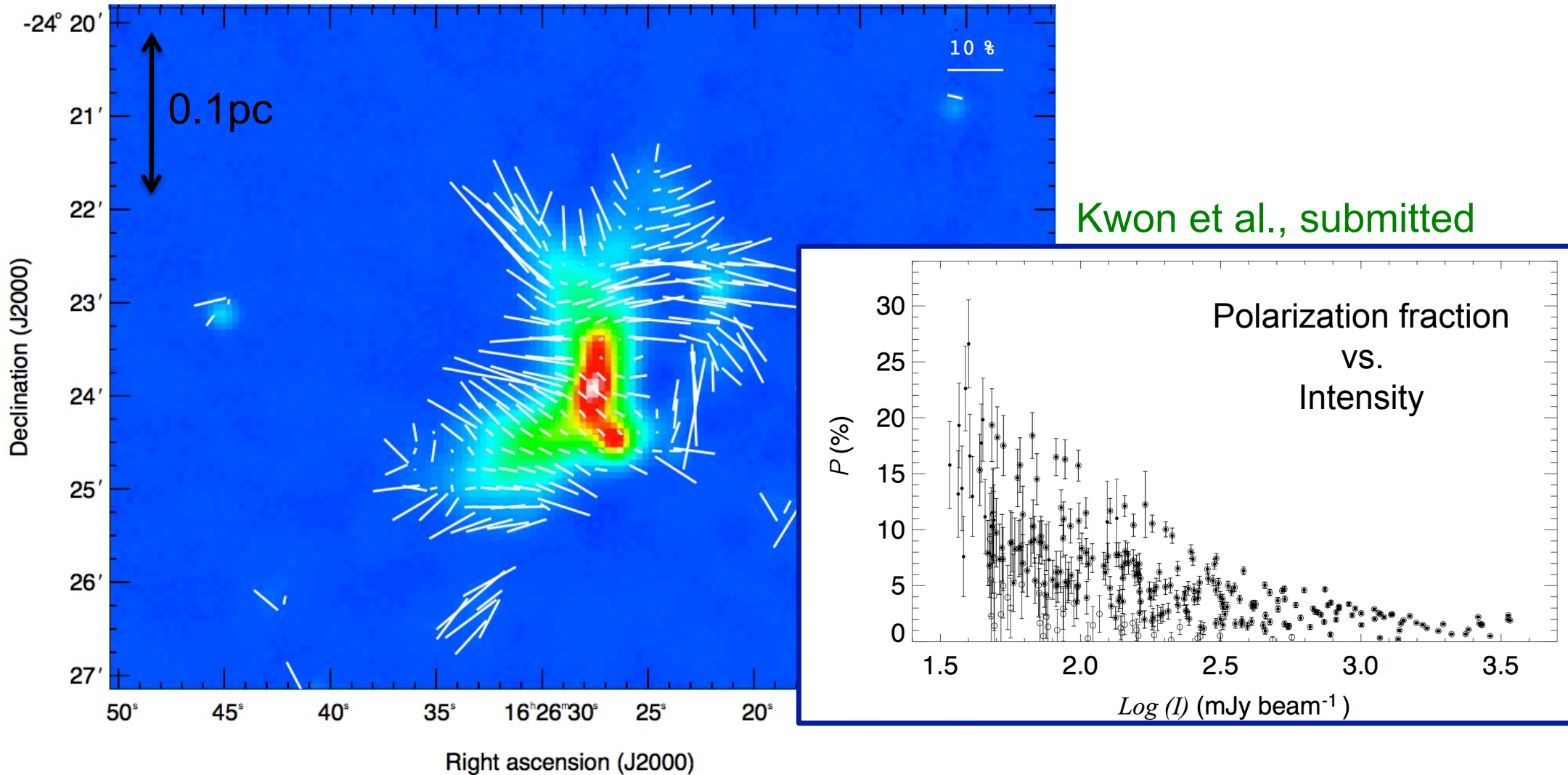
- Large scatter in  $p$  for each  $N_H$  bin
- Drop of  $p$  at large  $N_H$  values



# Dust polarization observations with JCMT/SCUBA2-POL2

## Variations of the polarization angle and the polarization fraction for high column density regions ( $> 10A_v$ )

### BISTRO observations towards Oph-A



Kwon et al., submitted

Image: SCUBA2 at  $850\mu\text{m}$  ( $14.1''$ )

Segments: POS B-field from POL2 at  $850\mu\text{m}$  ( $14.1''$ )

# Understanding the observed polarization properties: Hint from numerical simulations of MHD turbulence

## Philosophy:

- Producing I, Q, U maps from MHD simulation
- Computing the observable quantities, e.g.,  $p$
- Assuming uniform grain alignment and dust grain properties
- Varying the line of sight integration to mimic variation of orientation of the magnetic field with respect to the line of sight

$$p = p_{\text{dust}} R F \cos^2 \gamma$$

↗ ↗ ↖ ↖

Uniform Dust properties Magnetic field structure

Colliding flow turbulent MHD simulation of molecular cloud formation

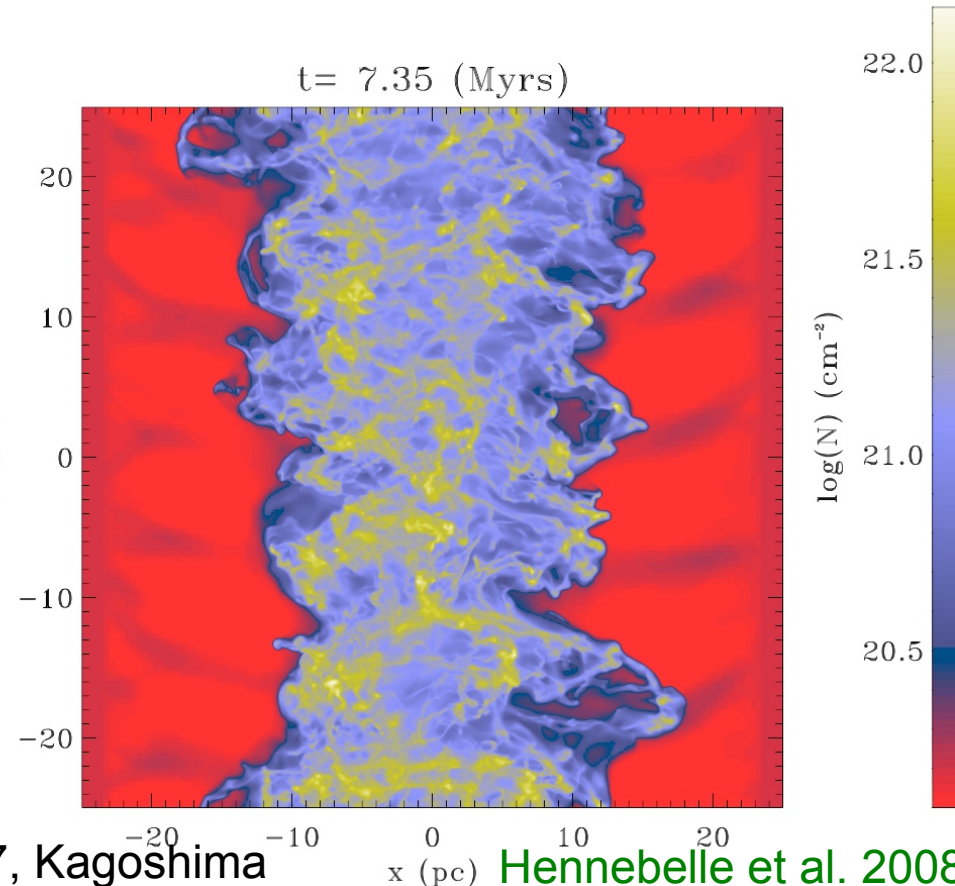
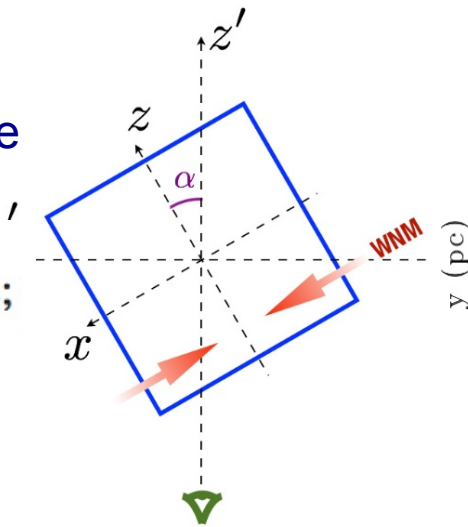
Reprojecting  $B_x, B_y, B_z$  of the simulation into  $\psi$  and  $\gamma$

Computing I, Q, and U maps from the simulation cube

$$I = \int S_v e^{-\tau_v} \left[ 1 - p_0 \left( \cos^2 \gamma - \frac{2}{3} \right) \right] d\tau_v;$$

$$Q = \int p_0 S_v e^{-\tau_v} \cos(2\phi) \cos^2 \gamma d\tau_v;$$

$$U = \int p_0 S_v e^{-\tau_v} \sin(2\phi) \cos^2 \gamma d\tau_v.$$





# Understanding the observed polarization properties: Hint from numerical simulations of MHD turbulence

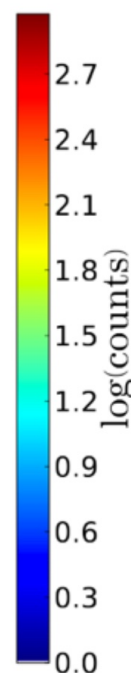
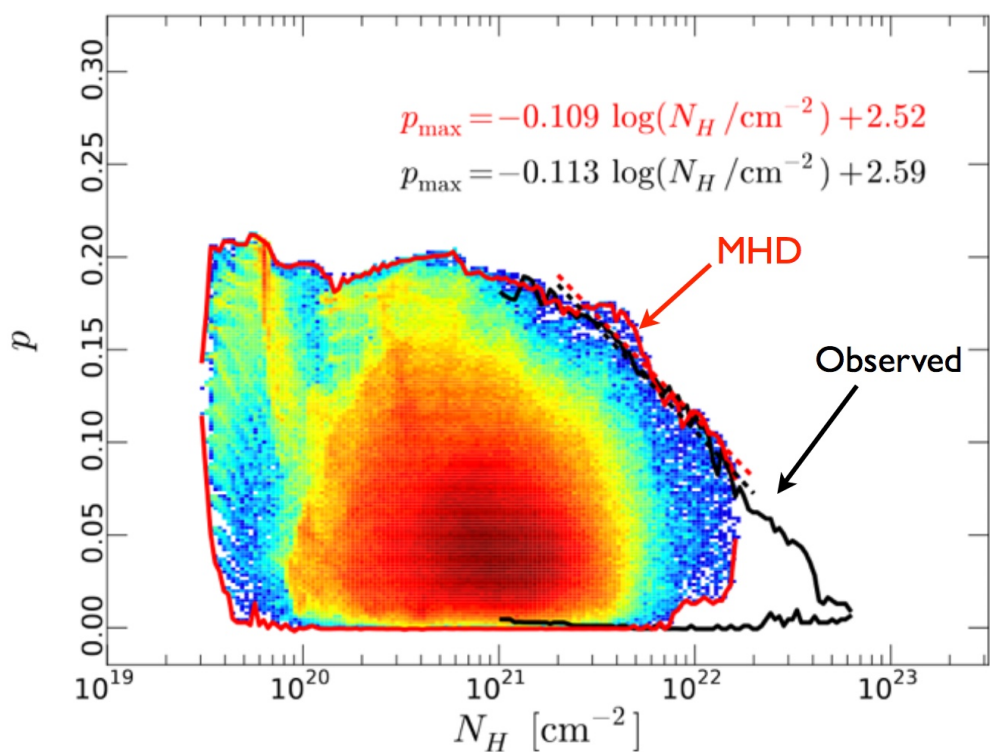
## Results:

- Observations are well produced by numerical simulations up to a  $\sim 10A_v$ , with non variation of dust grain properties
- Depolarization along the LOS and the orientation of the mean magnetic field with respect to the LOS play a role in reproducing the observations

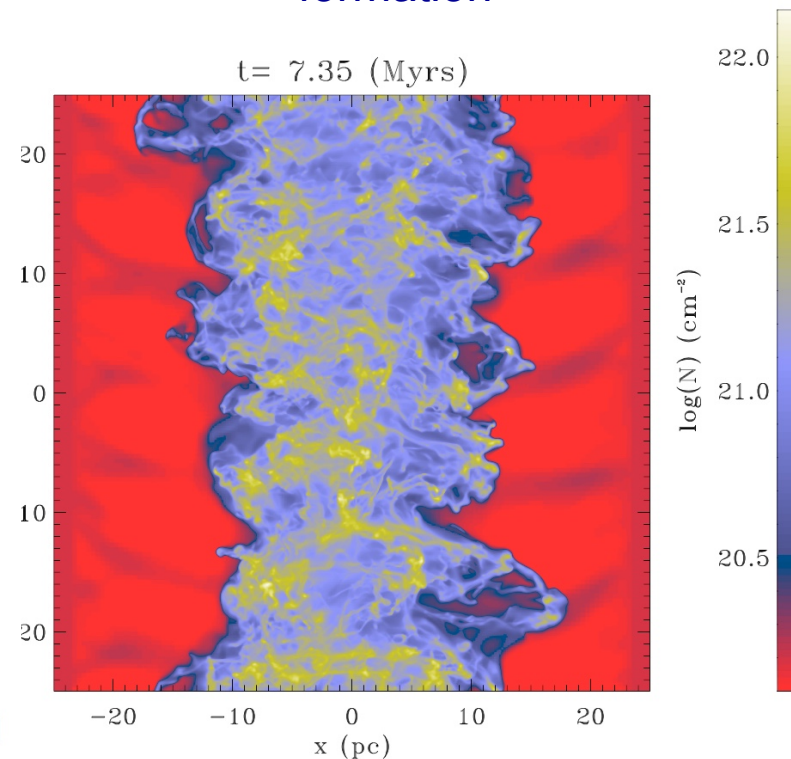
$$p = p_{\text{dust}} R F \cos^2 \gamma$$

↑ Uniform Dust properties     
 ↑ Magnetic field structure

## Polarization fraction vs column density



## Colliding flow turbulent MHD simulation of molecular cloud formation



Simulations reproduce well the decrease of  $p_{\max}$  with  $N_H$  in the range  $10^{21}$  to  $2 \times 10^{22}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>

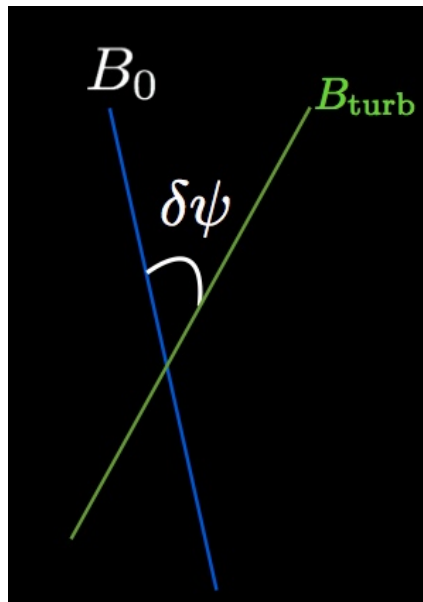
# Understanding the observed polarization properties: modelling the distribution of $p$ and $\psi$ of the Galactic pole

## Phenomenological model:

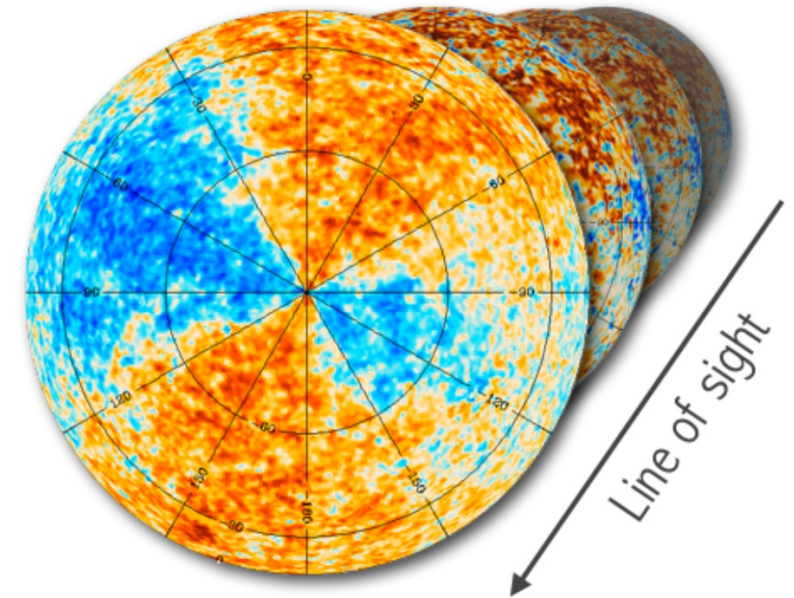
*Planck XLIV 2016, Andrea Bracco*

- Modeling the dust polarization observations towards the Galactic pole
- Characterizing the ordered ( $Lon^0$  and  $Lat^0$ ) and turbulent (random) components of the Galactic magnetic field in the solar neighbourhood
- The line of sight depolarization is modeled by summing the emission over a number of layers with independent realizations of turbulence ( $B_{turb}$ )
- Assuming uniform grain alignment and dust grain properties

$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}_0 + \vec{B}_{turb} \quad (\langle \vec{B}_{turb} \rangle = 0)$$



Layers with independent turbulence along the line of sight





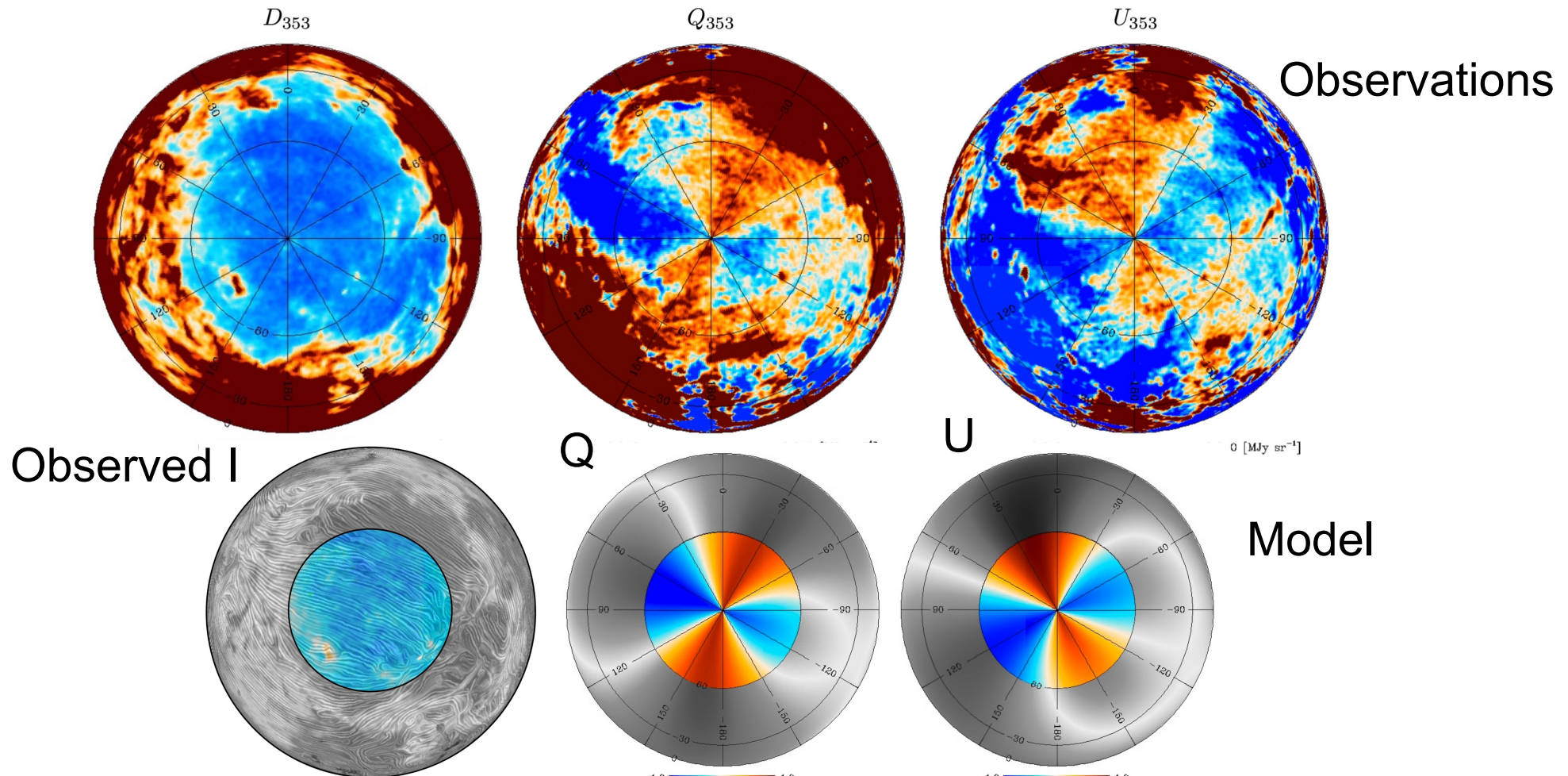
# Understanding the observed polarization properties: modelling the distribution of $p$ and $\psi$ of the Galactic pole

## Results: The Galactic mean field

-The observations can be modeled with  $(\text{Lon}^0, \text{Lat}^0) = (80^\circ, 0^\circ)$ , a uniform direction of the Galactic magnetic field.

same values are also inferred from starlight polarization (Heiles 1996)

## Stokes parameters centered on the south Galactic pole



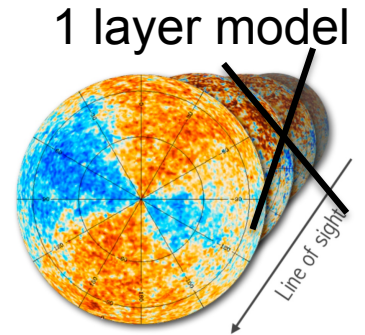
# Understanding the observed polarization properties: modelling the distribution of $p$ and $\psi$ of the Galactic pole

**Results:** Distributions of polarization angle and fraction with one layer model

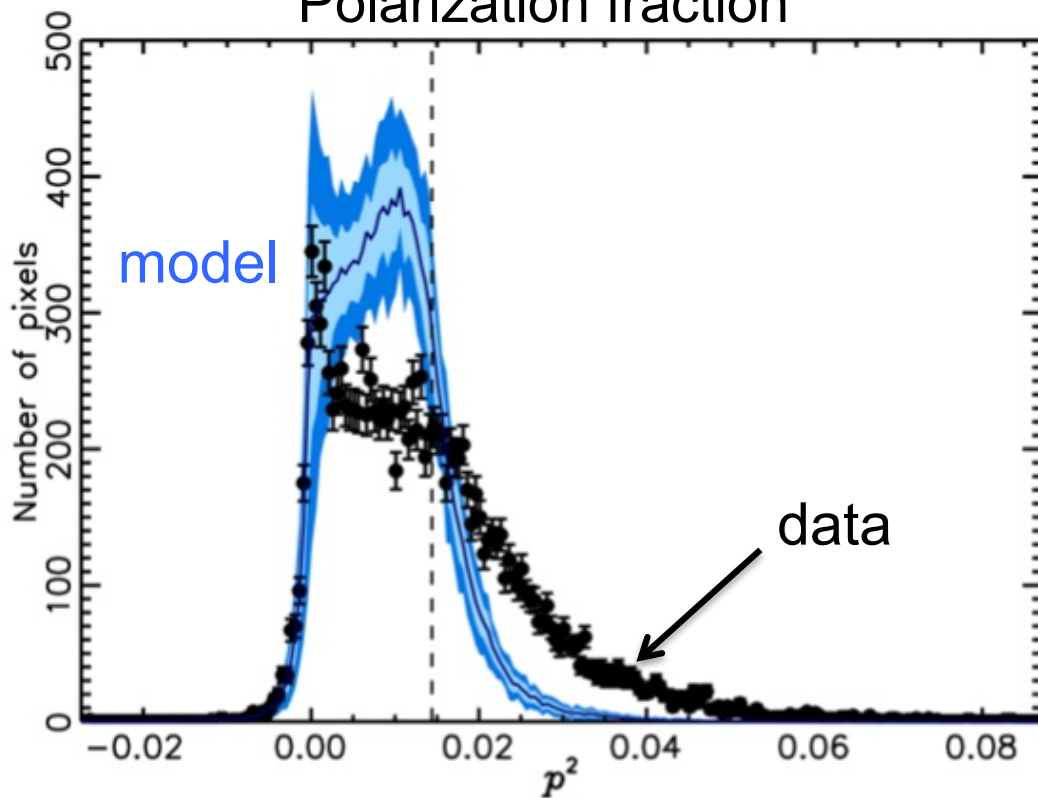
- One layer with an ordered field  $B_0$  and a turbulent component  $B_{\text{turb}}$
- Uniform dust grain intrinsic polarization

$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}_0 + \vec{B}_{\text{turb}} \quad (\langle \vec{B}_{\text{turb}} \rangle = 0)$$

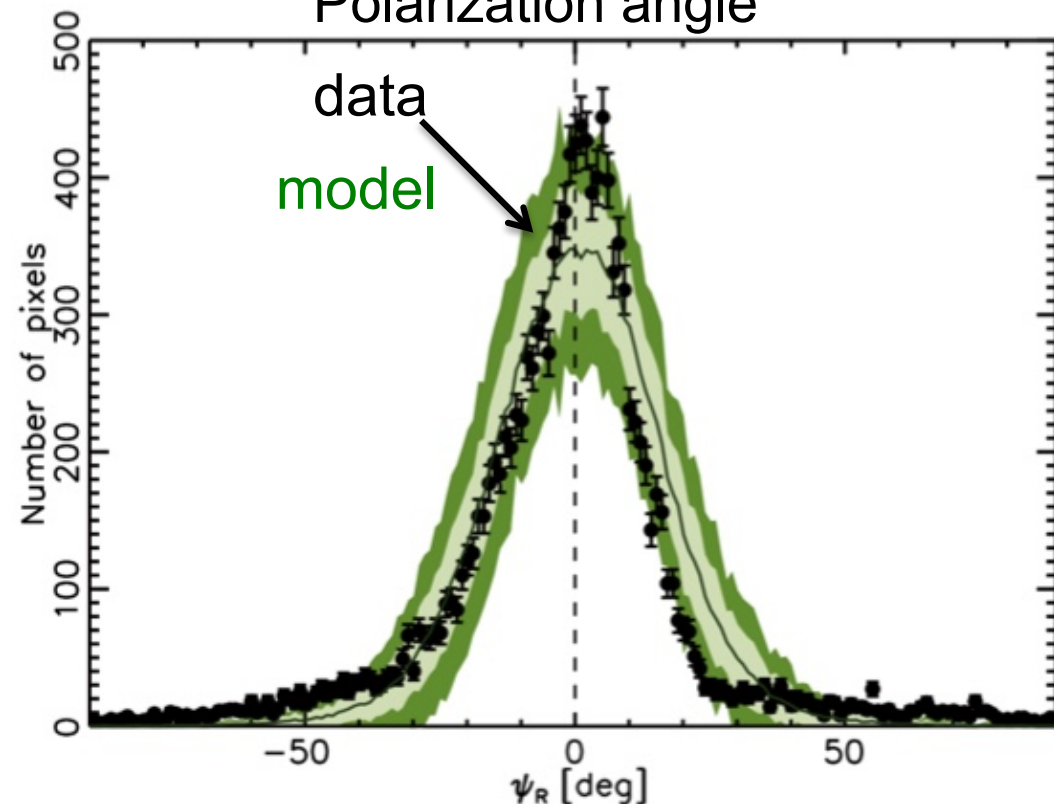
→ The wide distribution of the polarization fraction cannot be reproduced with a single layer model



Polarization fraction



Polarization angle





# Understanding the observed polarization properties: modelling the distribution of $p$ and $\psi$ of the Galactic pole

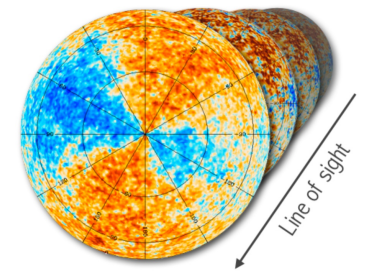
**Results:** Distributions of polarization angle and fraction with multiple layer model

→ The observations are well reproduced with

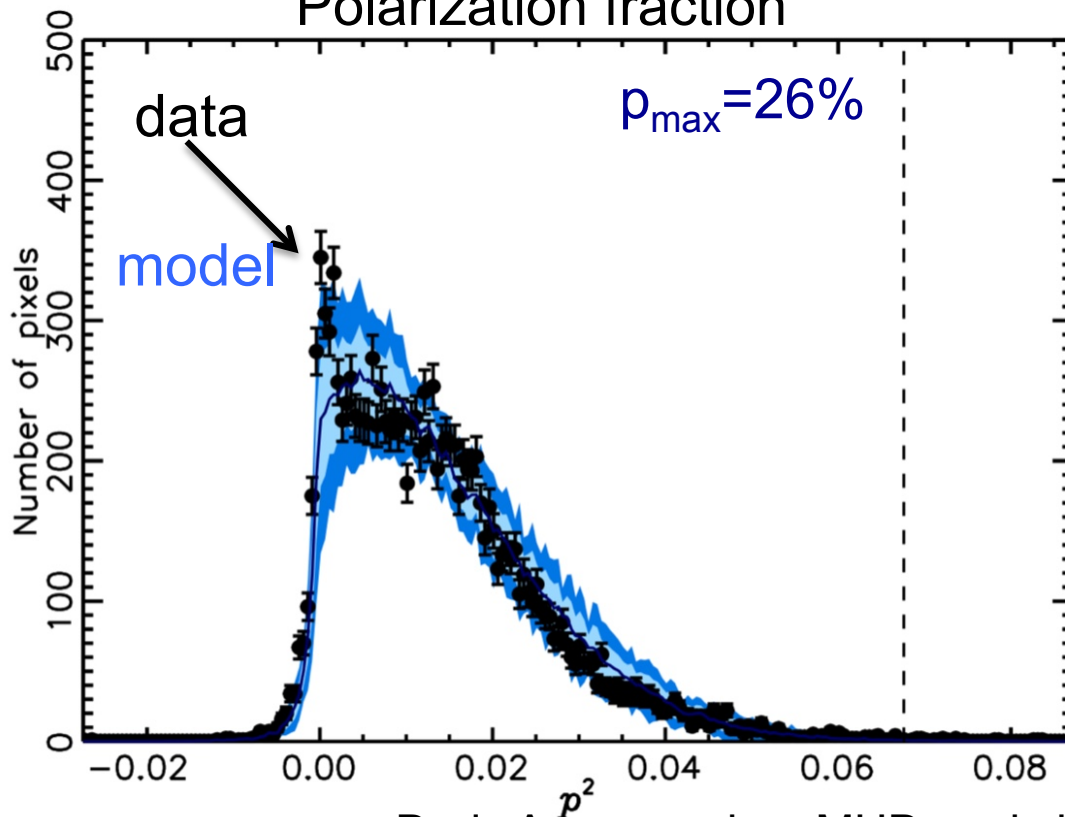
- Ratio of  $B_{\text{turb}}/B_0 \sim 0.8$
- Uniforme dust grain intrinsic polarization  $p_{\text{max}} = 26\%$
- When integrating over 7 layers along the line of sight

(The number of layers along the line of sight can also be understood in terms of the exponent of the power spectrum of  $B_{\text{turb}}$  along the line of sight)

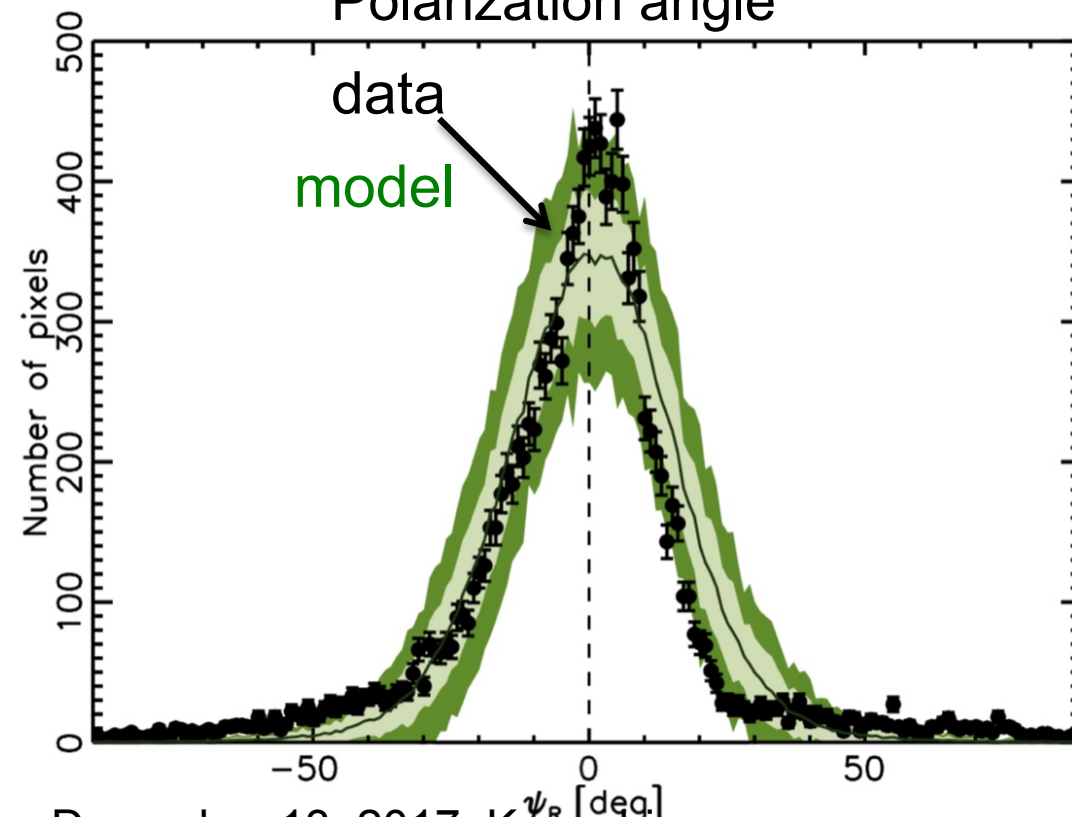
Model with multiple layers along the line of sight



Polarization fraction

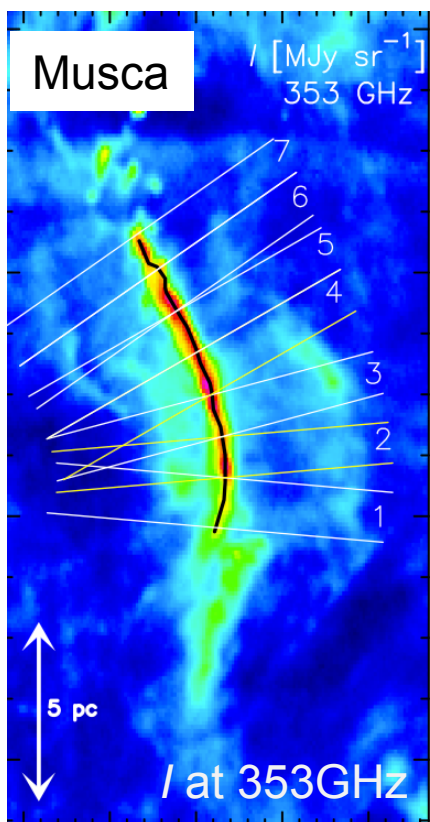
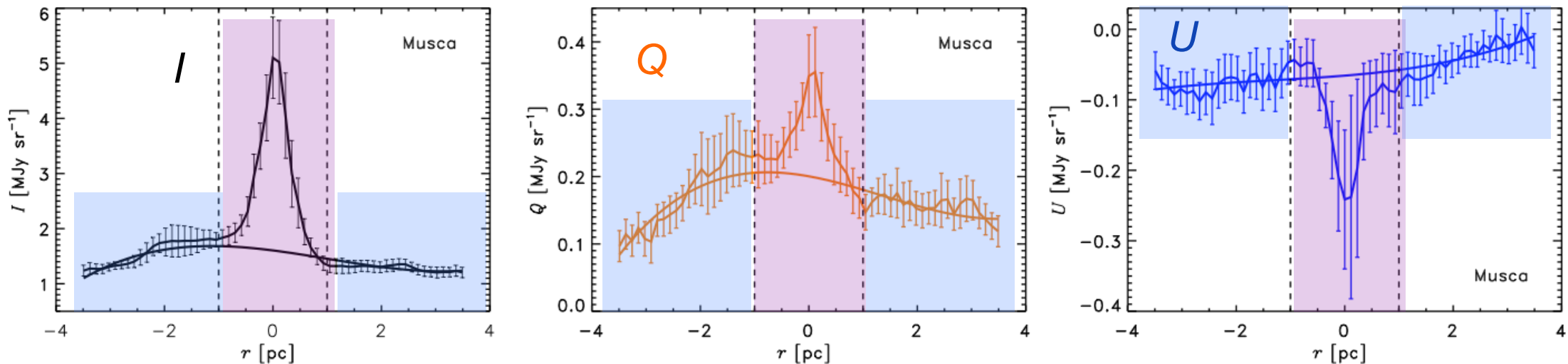


Polarization angle



# Tow layers along the line of sight: the filament and its background

Mean radial profiles of the Stokes parameters and fit of the background



Two layer model to estimate the contribution of the filament to the total observed emission

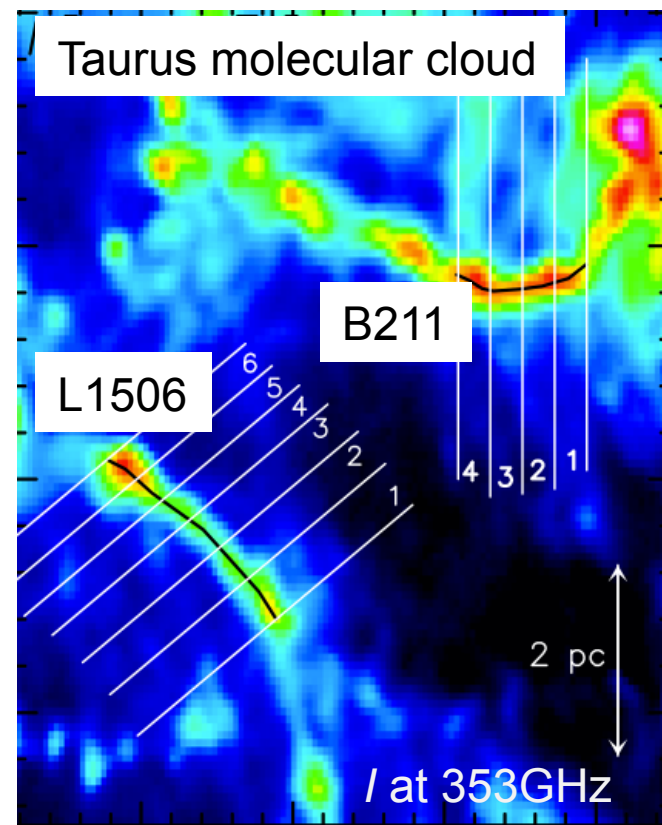
$$I_{\text{tot}} = I_{\text{bg}} + I_{\text{fil}}$$

$$U_{\text{tot}} = U_{\text{bg}} + U_{\text{fil}}$$

$$Q_{\text{tot}} = Q_{\text{bg}} + Q_{\text{fil}}$$

$$P = \sqrt{Q^2 + U^2} \quad p = P/I$$

$$\psi = 0.5 \arctan(-U, Q) + 90^\circ = \mathbf{B}_{\text{POS}} \text{ angle}$$

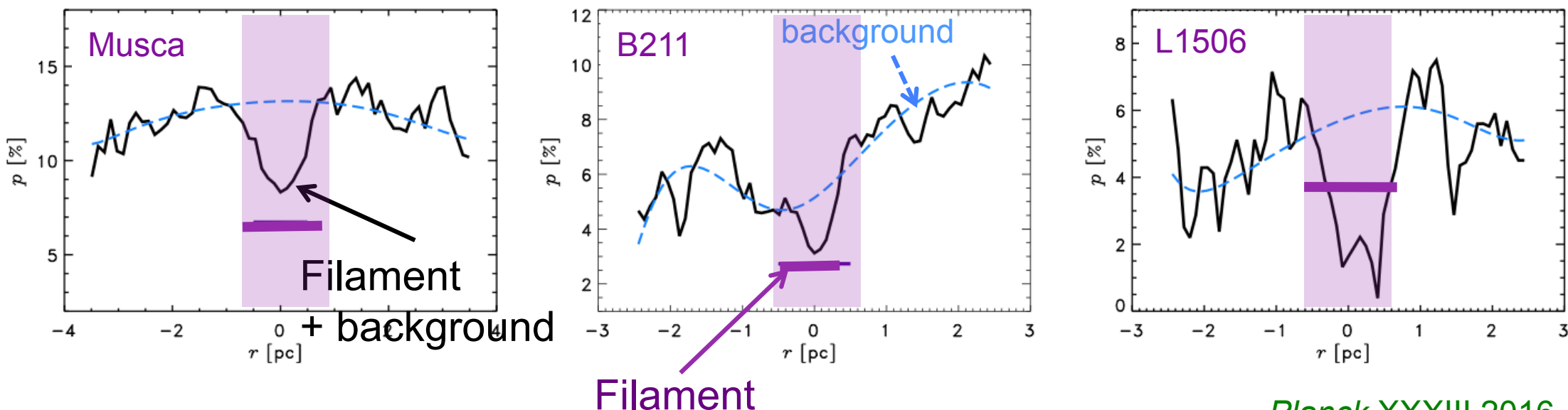




## Variation of the polarization fraction ( $p$ ) from the parent cloud to the filament

- The observed polarization fraction ( $p$ ) towards the filaments show a decrease with respect to  $p$  in the background.
- For Musca and B211 the intrinsic  $p$  in the filaments is smaller than what is observed without component separation, for L1506  $p$  in the filament is larger than the observed value (filament + background)

Polarization fraction (%) across the filaments (at 5')



Planck XXXIII 2016

Polarization fraction      Polarized intensity

$$p = P/I$$

$$P = \sqrt{Q^2 + U^2}$$

$I$ : total intensity

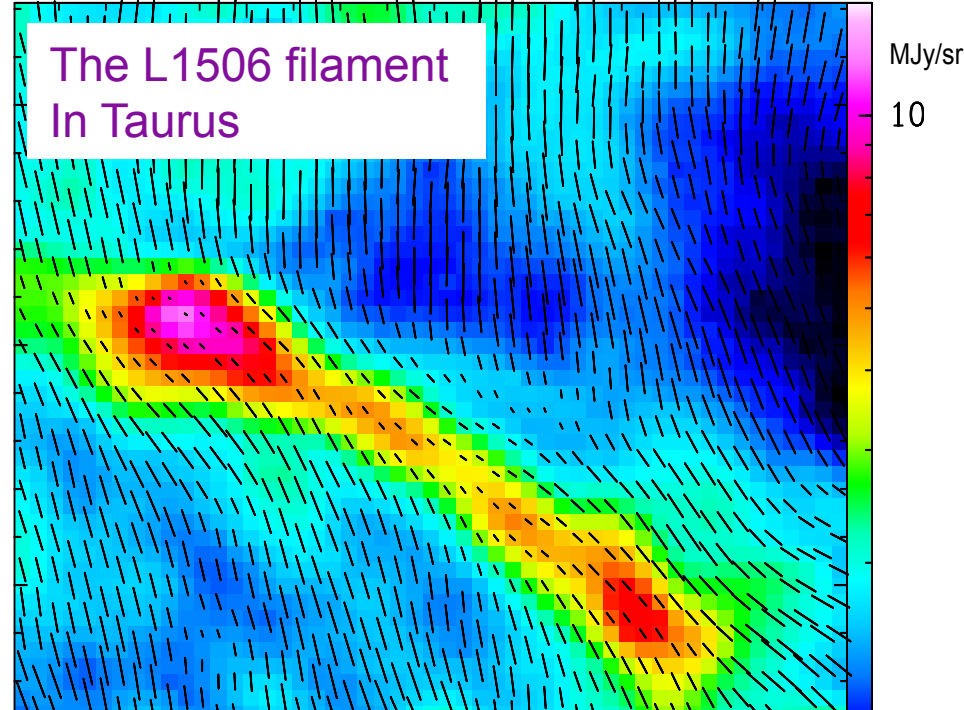
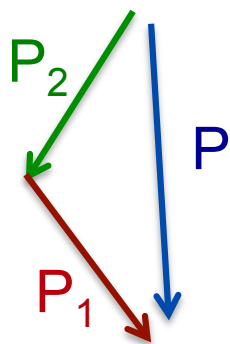
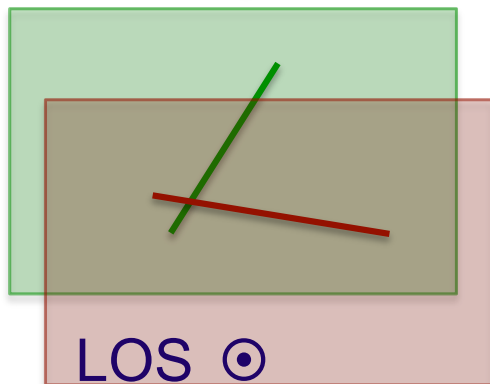
# Depolarization from LOS integration

Superposition, along the LOS, of 2 layers with different  $B_{\text{POS}}$  angles (filament + background)

$$p = p_{\text{dust}} R(F) \cos^2 \gamma$$

$$F = \frac{P}{P_{\text{fil}} + P_{\text{bg}}}$$

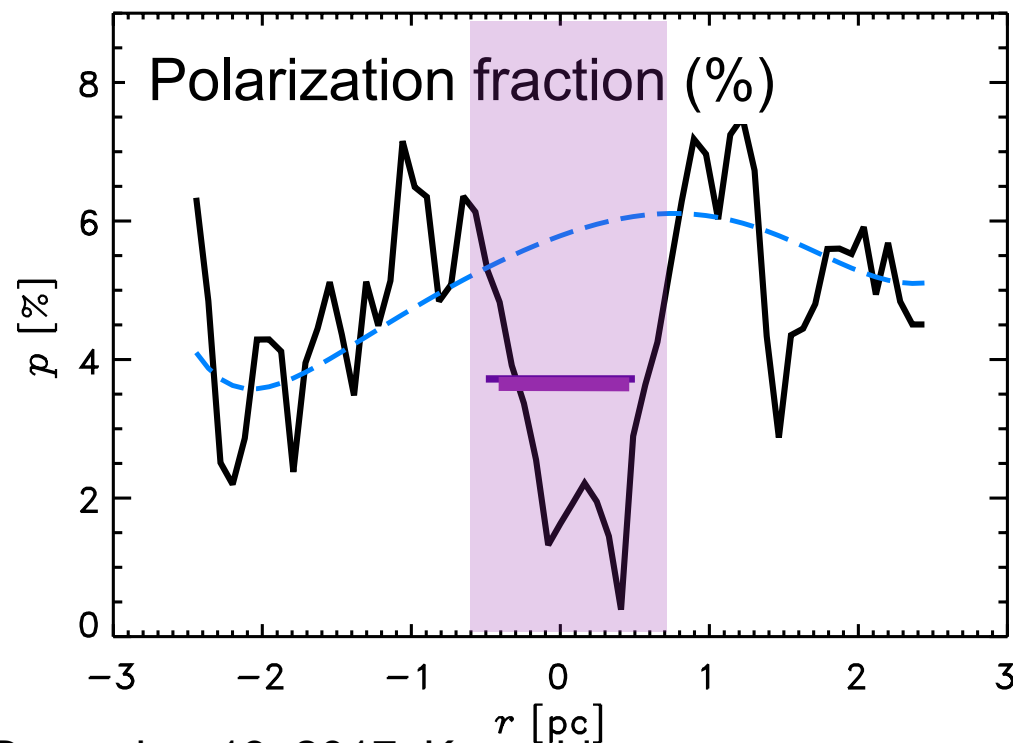
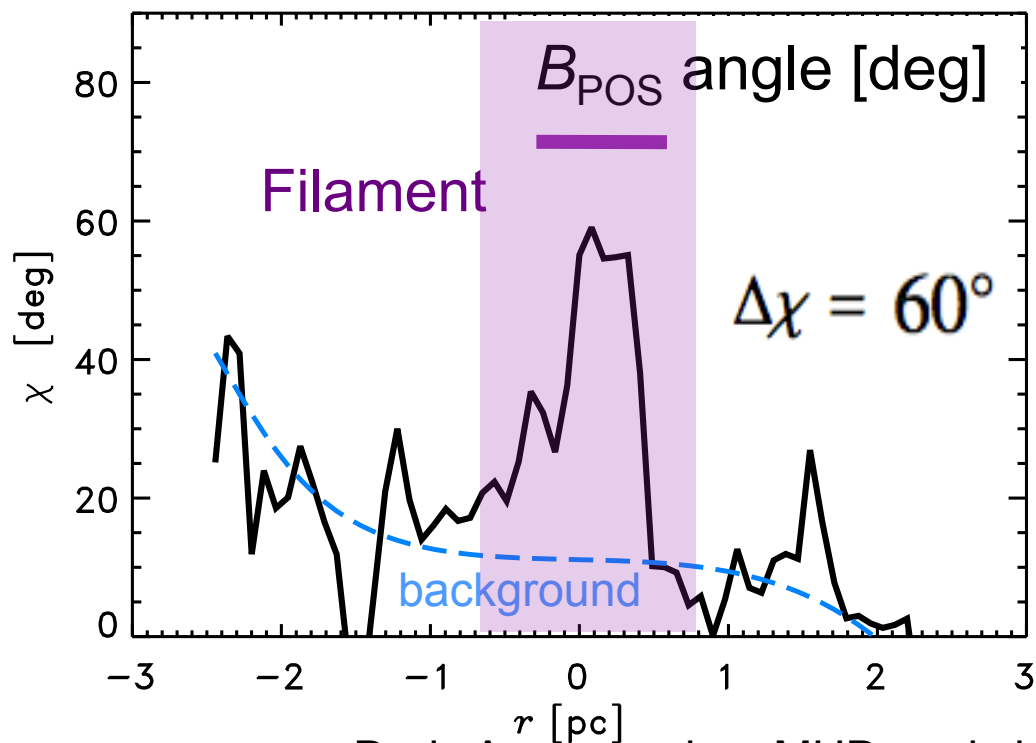
$$P^2 = P_1^2 + P_2^2 + 2P_1P_2 \cos 2\Delta\psi$$



The L1506 filament  
In Taurus

Planck total intensity at 353GHz (850 $\mu$ m) in MJy/sr  
Segments:  $B_{\text{POS}}$  length  $\sim$  polarization fraction  
(10' resolution)

Planck XXXIII 2016

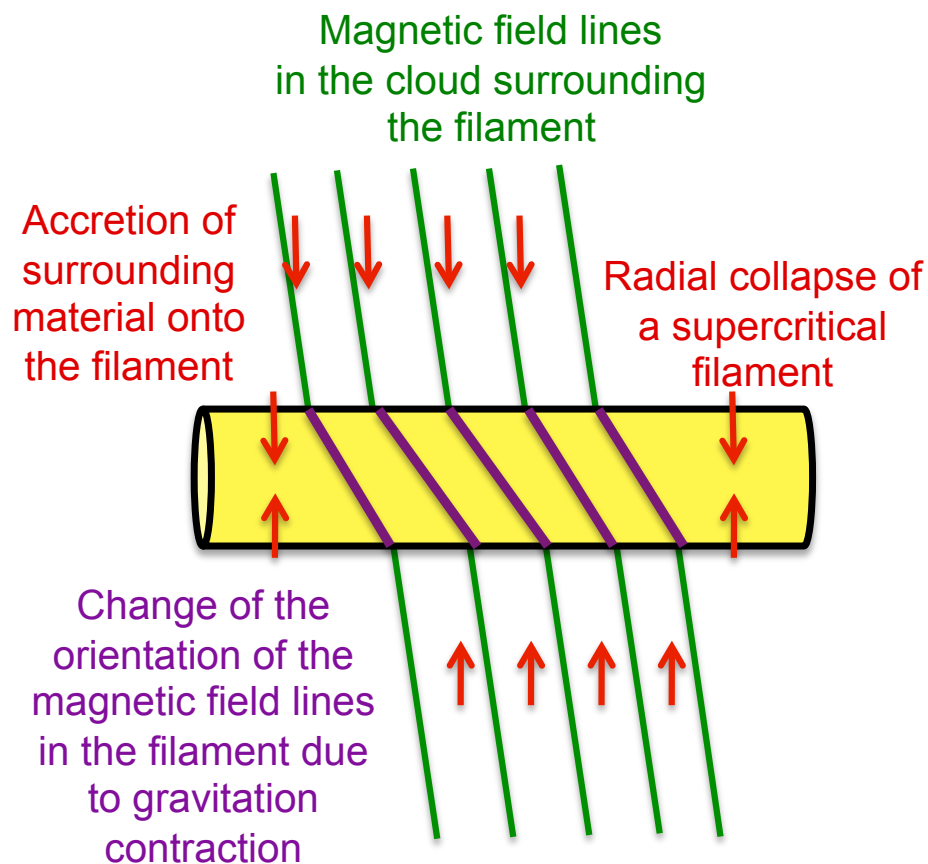




# Variations of the polarization angle and the polarization fraction: Insight on the 3D magnetic field structure in the filaments?

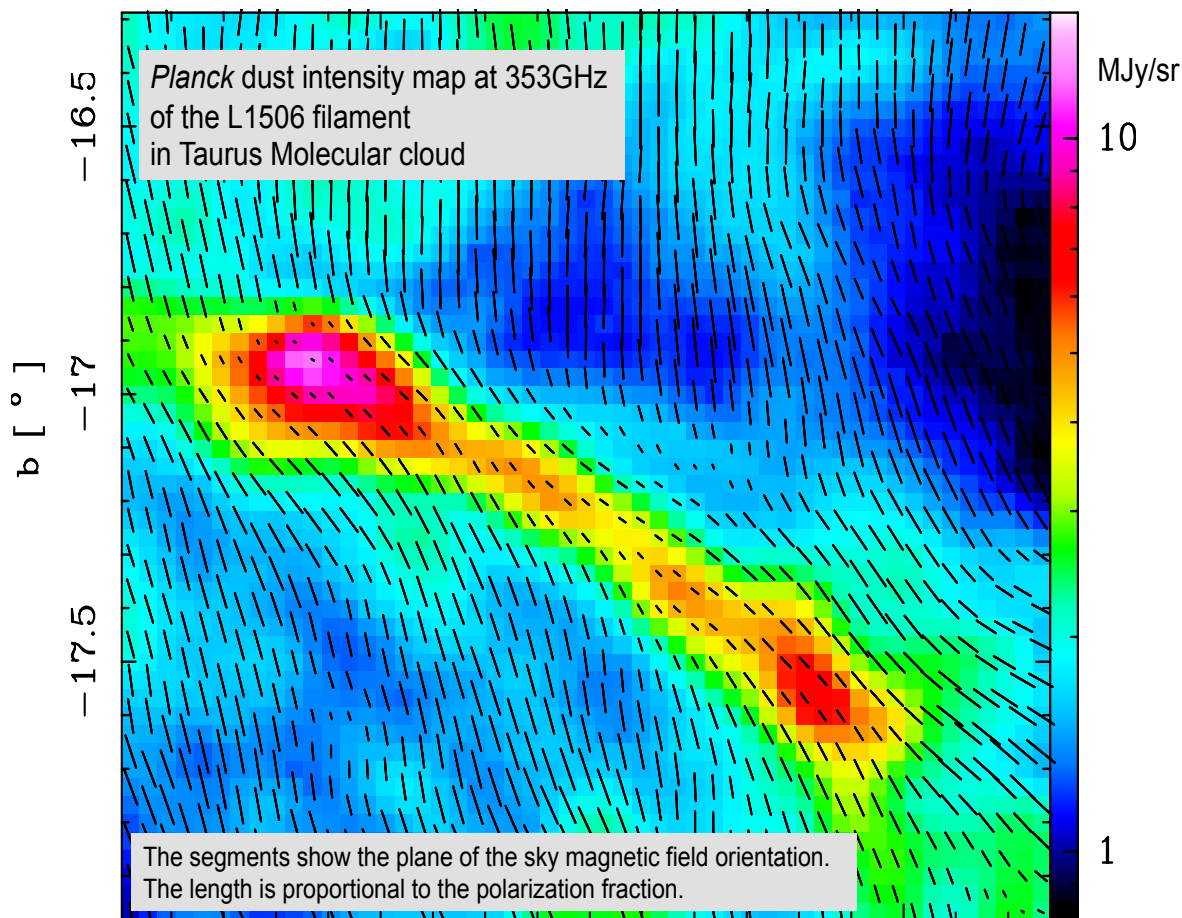
## Role of the geometry of the magnetic field in the observed 0.1 pc width of filaments?

Increase of the magnetic pressure due to the compression of the magnetic field lines: may prevent the further collapse of the filament?



Planck XXXIII 2016 (arXiv:1411.2271)

The L1506 filament in the Taurus molecular cloud



Planck total intensity at 353GHz (850 $\mu$ m) in MJy/sr  
Segments:  $\mathbf{B}_{POS}$  length  $\sim$  polarization fraction  
(10' resolution)

# Modelling the magnetic field structure of a filament

Arzoumanian et al., in prep.

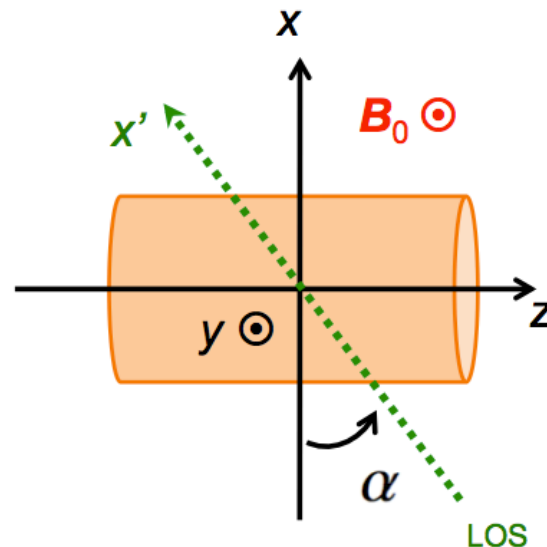
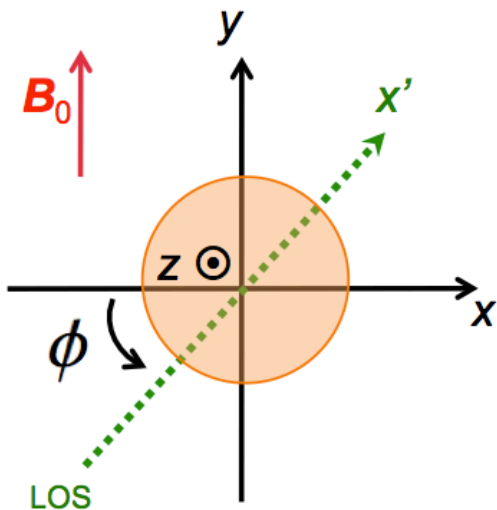
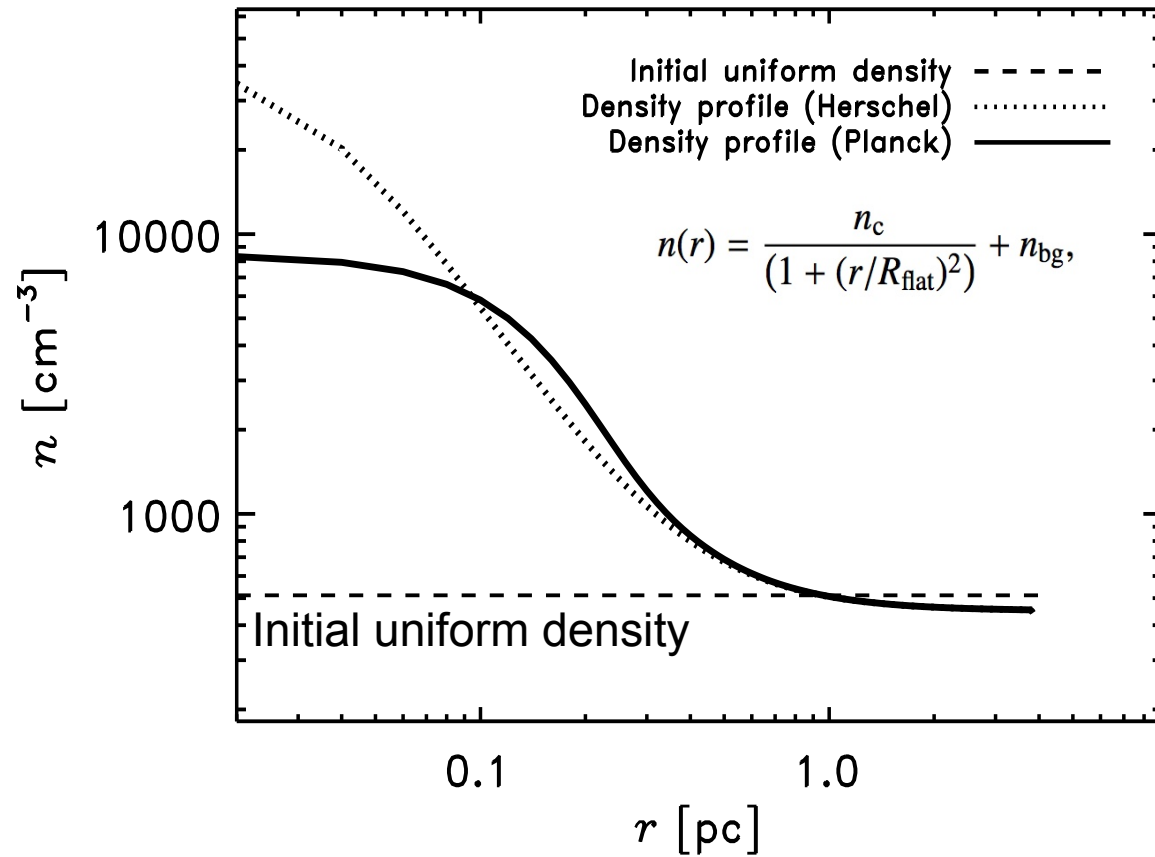
## Philosophy of the modelling:

- Initial gas density and magnetic field uniform
- Frozen-in conditions: magnetic field lines are dragged with the collapsing gas and concentrate towards the central part of the filament
- We consider a radially symmetric configuration
- The “displacement law” satisfy the conservation of mass

$$\pi r_0^2 n_0 = 2\pi \int_0^r n(r') r' dr'$$

Initial condition Present state

Present day (observed) radial density profile



Initial magnetic field  
 $\mathbf{B}_0 = B_{0x} \mathbf{e}_x + B_{0y} \mathbf{e}_y$

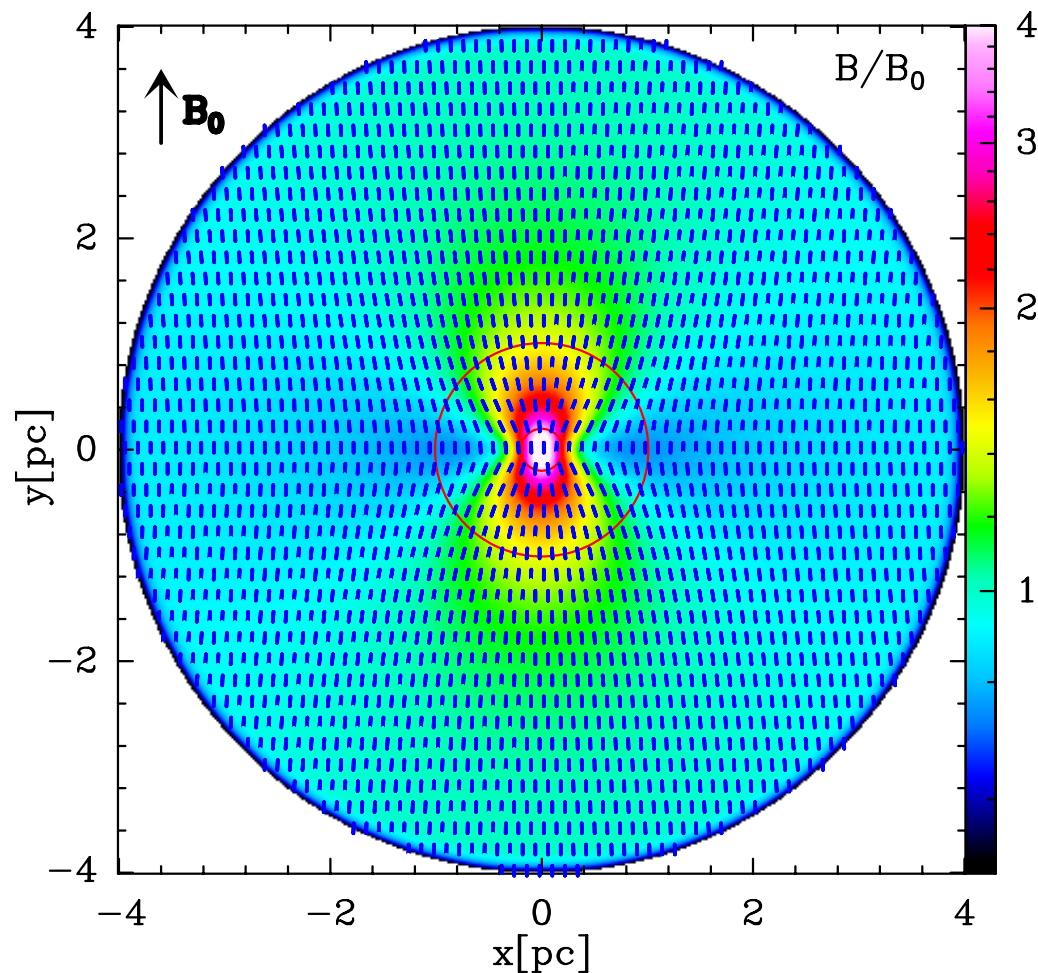
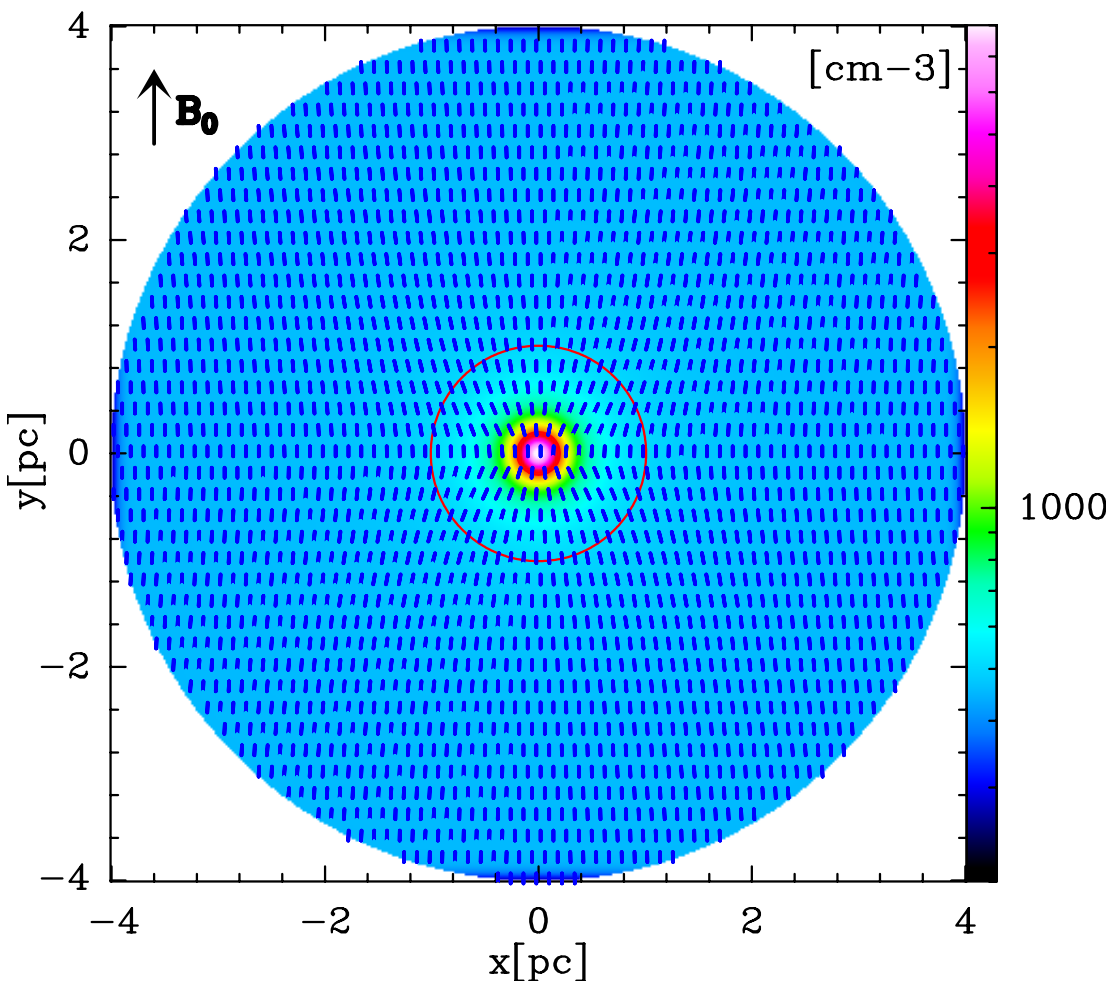
Present magnetic field  
 $\mathbf{B} = \nabla \times \mathbf{A}$  ← Vector potential



# Modelling the magnetic field structure of a filament

Density map and  $\mathbf{B}_{\text{POS}}$  orientation

B field intensity and  $\mathbf{B}_{\text{POS}}$  orientation



Face on view maps of the model filament + cloud

See also [Tomisaka 2015](#),  
[Auddy et al. 2017](#)

I, Q, U from the modeled cube

$$I = \int S_\nu e^{-\tau_\nu} \left[ 1 - p_0 \left( \cos^2 \gamma - \frac{2}{3} \right) \right] d\tau_\nu;$$

$$Q = \int p_0 S_\nu e^{-\tau_\nu} \cos(2\phi) \cos^2 \gamma d\tau_\nu;$$

$$U = \int p_0 S_\nu e^{-\tau_\nu} \sin(2\phi) \cos^2 \gamma d\tau_\nu.$$

Polarization properties

$$P = \sqrt{Q^2 + U^2}$$

$$p = P/I$$

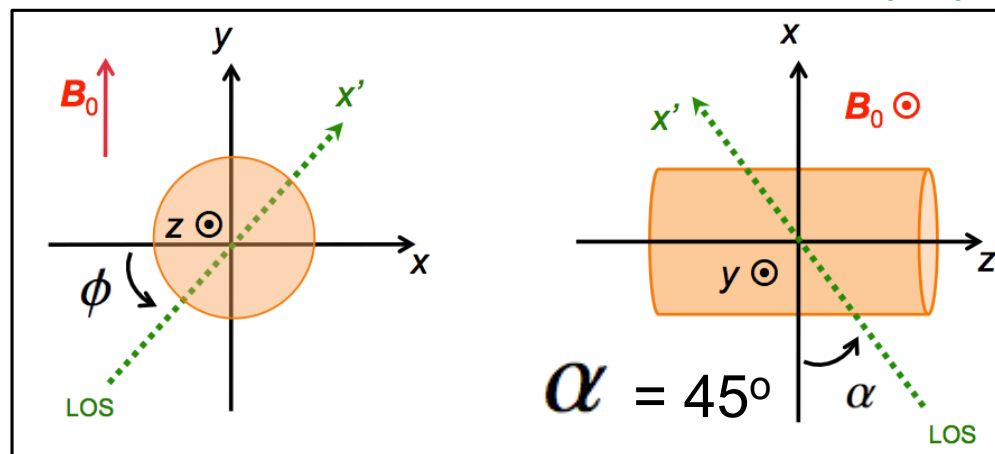
$$\psi = 0.5 \times \arctan(-U, Q).$$

# Modelling the magnetic field structure of a filament

## Polarization angle and fraction across the filament

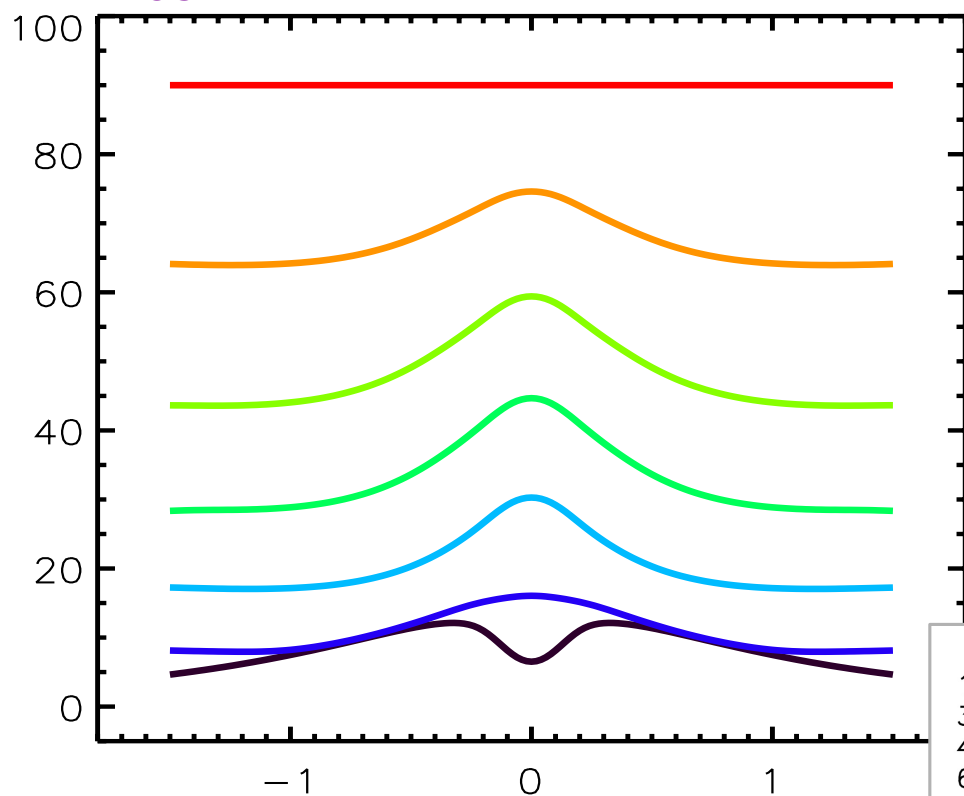
Arzoumanian et al., in prep.

-We see both variation of the polarization angle and the decrease of the polarization fraction from the background to the filament as in observations



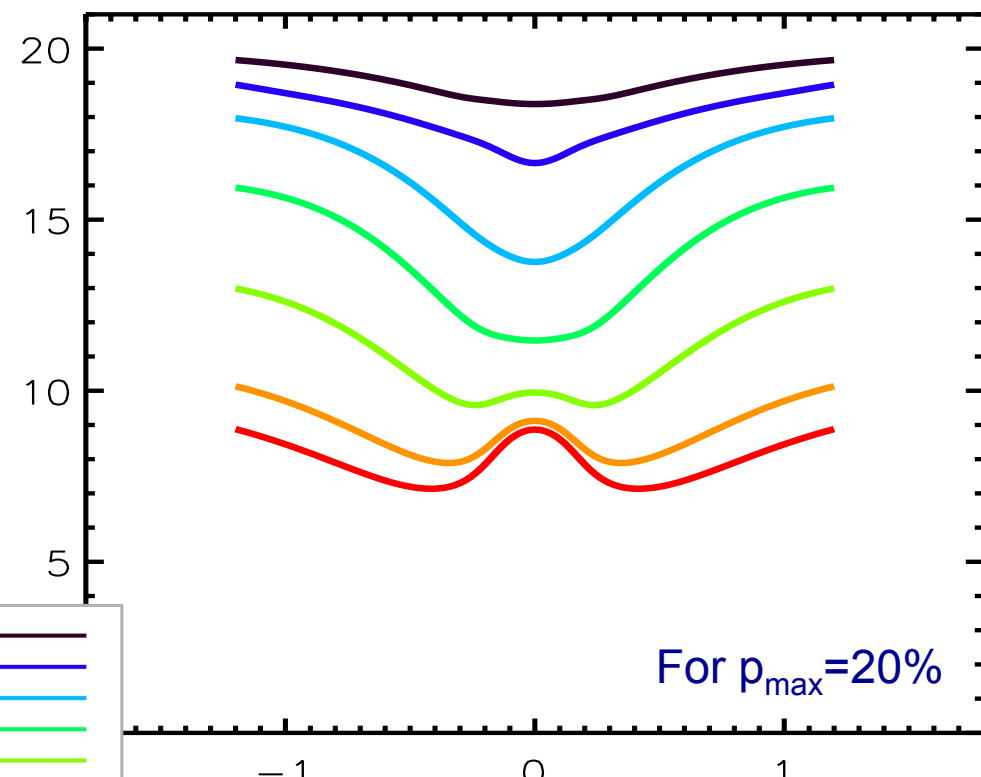
→ The “hour glass” magnetic field configuration may be responsible, at least partly, for the observed decrease of the polarization fraction in “dense” filaments

## $B_{\text{POS}}$ orientation across the filament

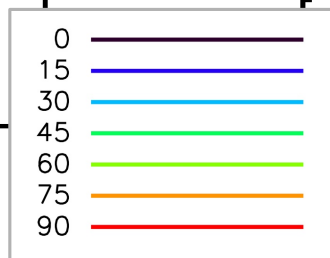


Radial profile across the filament [pc]

## Polarization fraction across the filament



Radial profile across the filament [pc]



# Summary and conclusions

- The *Herschel* results support a “filamentary paradigm” for star formation, where 0.1pc-wide supercritical filaments are the main sites of star formation, and they may govern the star formation process.
- Multiple velocity components observed towards filaments may be linked to large scale structures/sheets interacting with the filament.
- The analyses of *Planck* dust polarization data (in the regime of optically thin dust emission) indicate that the observed scatter in polarization fraction and angle can be understood as a result of depolarization due to LOS integration and orientation of the mean B field with respect to the LOS.
- It is important to analyse simultaneously polarization angles and fractions: Both give us a hint on the magnetic field structure along the LOS.
- Modeling dust polarization towards supercritical filaments may give insights on their B-field, which is important to constrain their formation, evolution, and fragmentation into star forming cores.

Taurus (star forming cloud)

