

Image Credit: *Spitzer* GLIMPSE+MIPGSAL

FIELDMAPS

Filaments Extremely Long and Dark: a Magnetic Polarization Survey: A SOFIA Legacy Program



Ian Stephens
Worcester State University

6/1/2022

Collaborators

IAN W. STEPHENS,^{1,2} PHILIP C. MYERS,² CATHERINE ZUCKER,^{3,2,*} JAMES M. JACKSON,⁴ B-G ANDERSSON,⁴
ROWAN SMITH,⁵ ARCHANA SOAM,⁴ CARA BATTERSBY,⁶ PATRICIO SANHUEZA,^{7,8} TAYLOR HOGGE,⁹ HOWARD A. SMITH,²
GILES NOVAK,¹⁰ SARAH SADAVOY,¹¹ THUSHARA PILLAI,⁹ ZHI-YUN LI,¹² LESLIE W. LOONEY,¹³ KOJI SUGITANI,¹⁴
SIMON COUDÉ,⁴ ANDRÉS GUZMÁN,⁷ ALYSSA GOODMAN,² TAKAYOSHI KUSUNE,¹⁵ FÁBIO P. SANTOS,¹⁶ LEAH ZUCKERMAN,²
AND FRANKIE ENCALADA¹³

¹*Department of Earth, Environment, and Physics, Worcester State University, Worcester, MA 01602, USA istephens@worcester.edu*

²*Center for Astrophysics | Harvard & Smithsonian, 60 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138, USA*

³*Space Telescope Science Institute, 3700 San Martin Drive, Baltimore, MD 21218, USA*

⁴*SOFIA Science Center, USRA, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field CA 94045, USA*

⁵*Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, UK*

⁶*University of Connecticut, Department of Physics, 196A Auditorium Road, Unit 3046, Storrs, CT 06269, USA*

⁷*National Astronomical Observatory of Japan, National Institute of Natural Sciences, 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka, Tokyo 181-8588, Japan*

⁸*Department of Astronomical Science, SOKENDAI (The Graduate University for Advanced Studies), 2-21-1 Osawa, Mitaka, Tokyo 181-8588, Japan*

⁹*Institute for Astrophysical Research, Boston University, 725 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston MA 02215, USA*

¹⁰*Center for Interdisciplinary Exploration and Research in Astrophysics (CIERA), and Department of Physics & Astronomy, Northwestern University, 2145 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60208, USA*

¹¹*Department of Physics, Engineering and Astronomy, Queen's University, 64 Bader Lane, Kingston, ON, K7L 3N6, Canada*

¹²*Astronomy Department, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA*

¹³*Department of Astronomy, University of Illinois, 1002 West Green Street, Urbana, IL 61801, USA*

¹⁴*Graduate School of Science, Nagoya City University, Mizuho-ku, Nagoya, Aichi 467-8501, Japan*

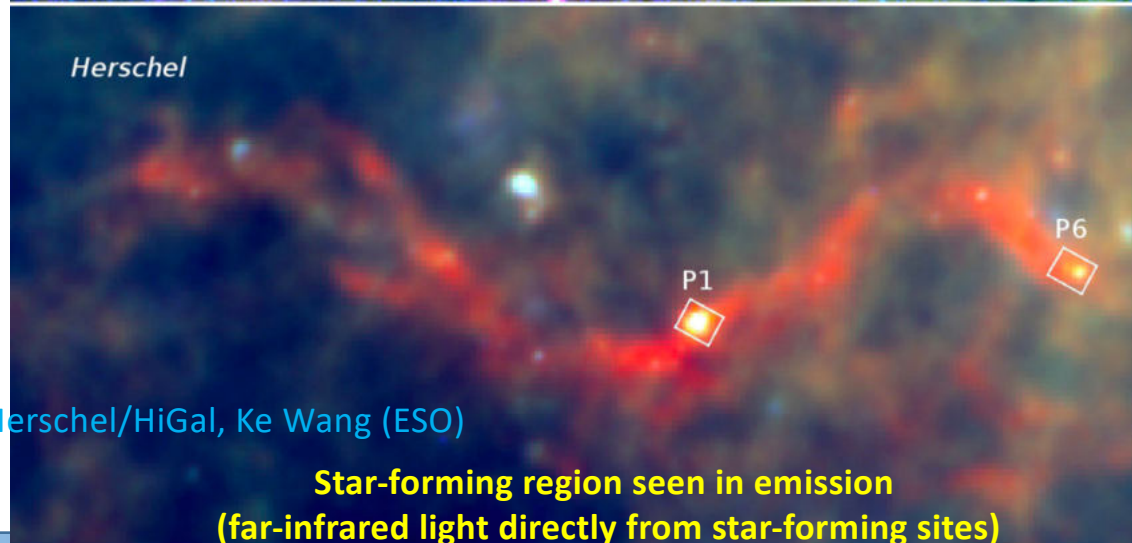
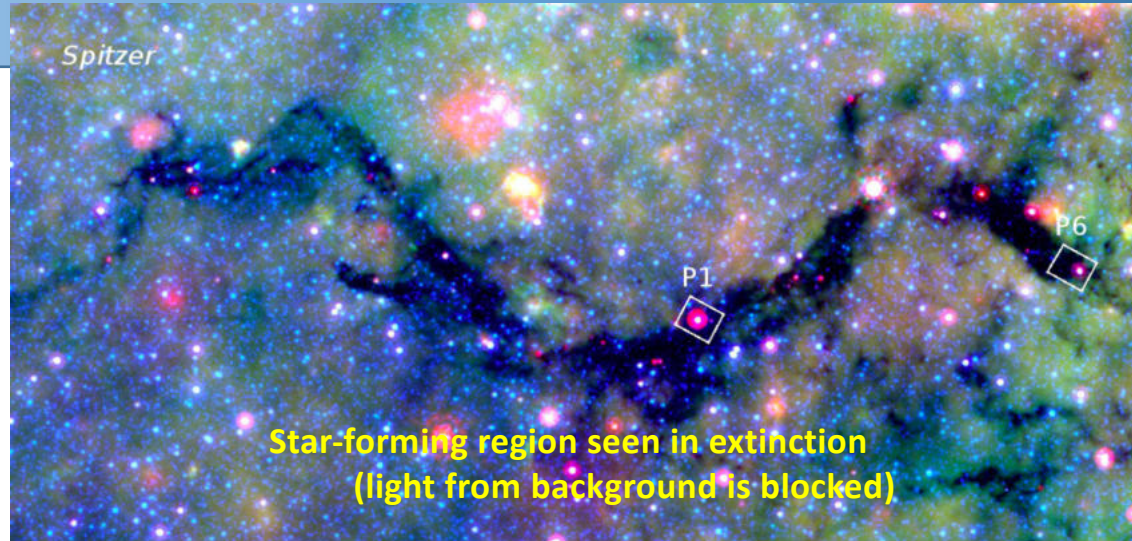
¹⁵*Graduate School of Science, Nagoya University, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464-8602, Japan*

¹⁶*Max-Planck-Institute for Astronomy, Königstuhl 17, D-69117 Heidelberg, Germany*

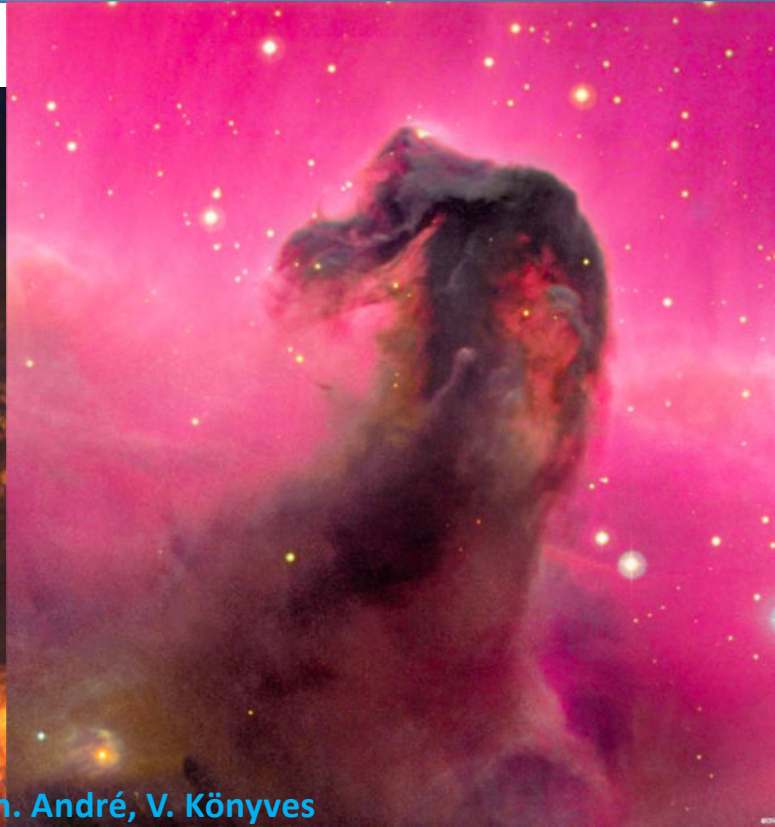


Spitzer Observations
(GLIMPSE+MIPSGAL)

Stars Form in Filaments

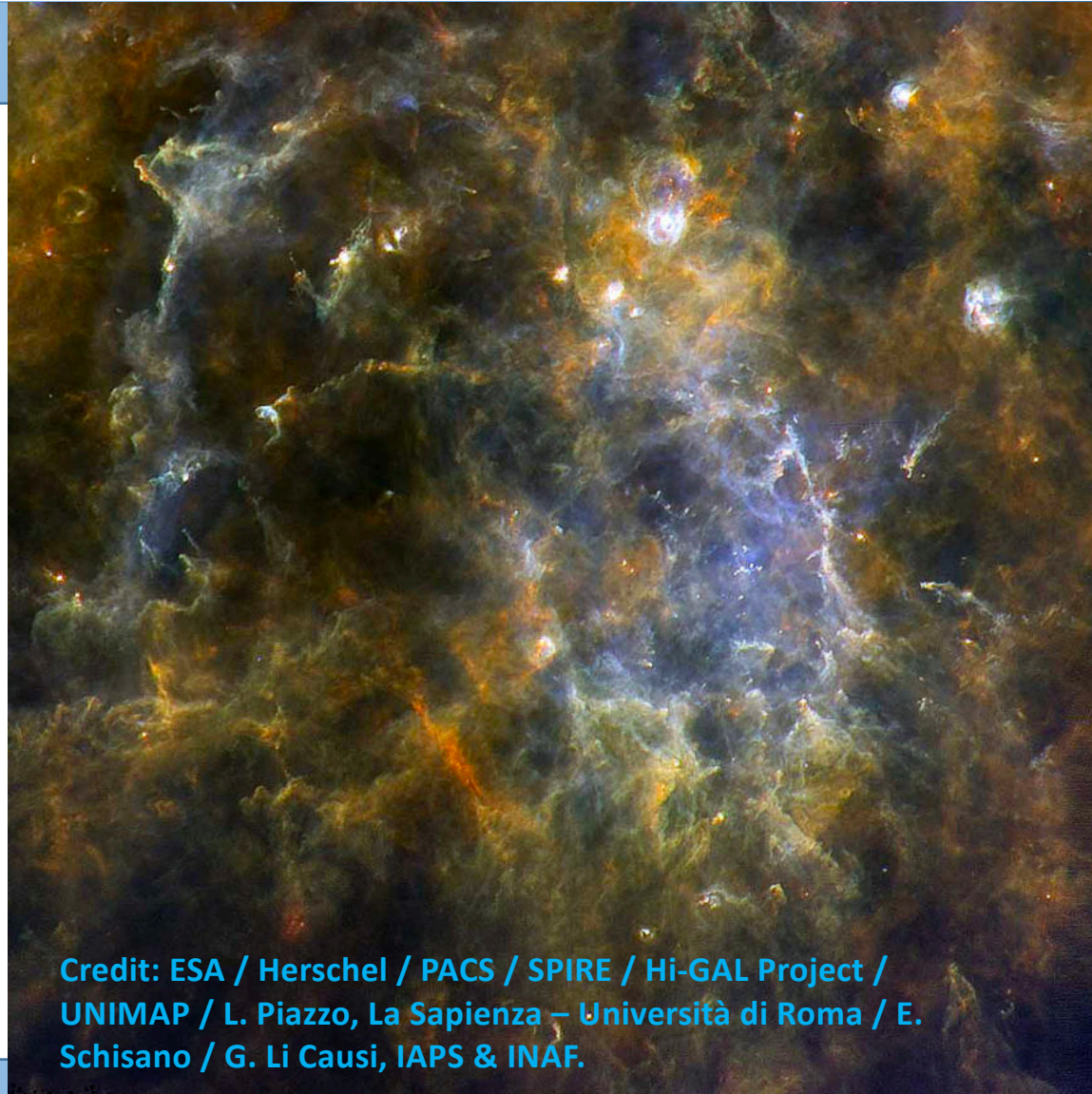


Spitzer/GLIMPSE/MIPSGAL, Herschel/HiGal, Ke Wang (ESO)



Credit: ESA/Herschel/PACS, SPIRE/N. Schneider, Ph. André, V. Könyves
(CEA Saclay, France) for the 'Gould Belt survey' Key Programme

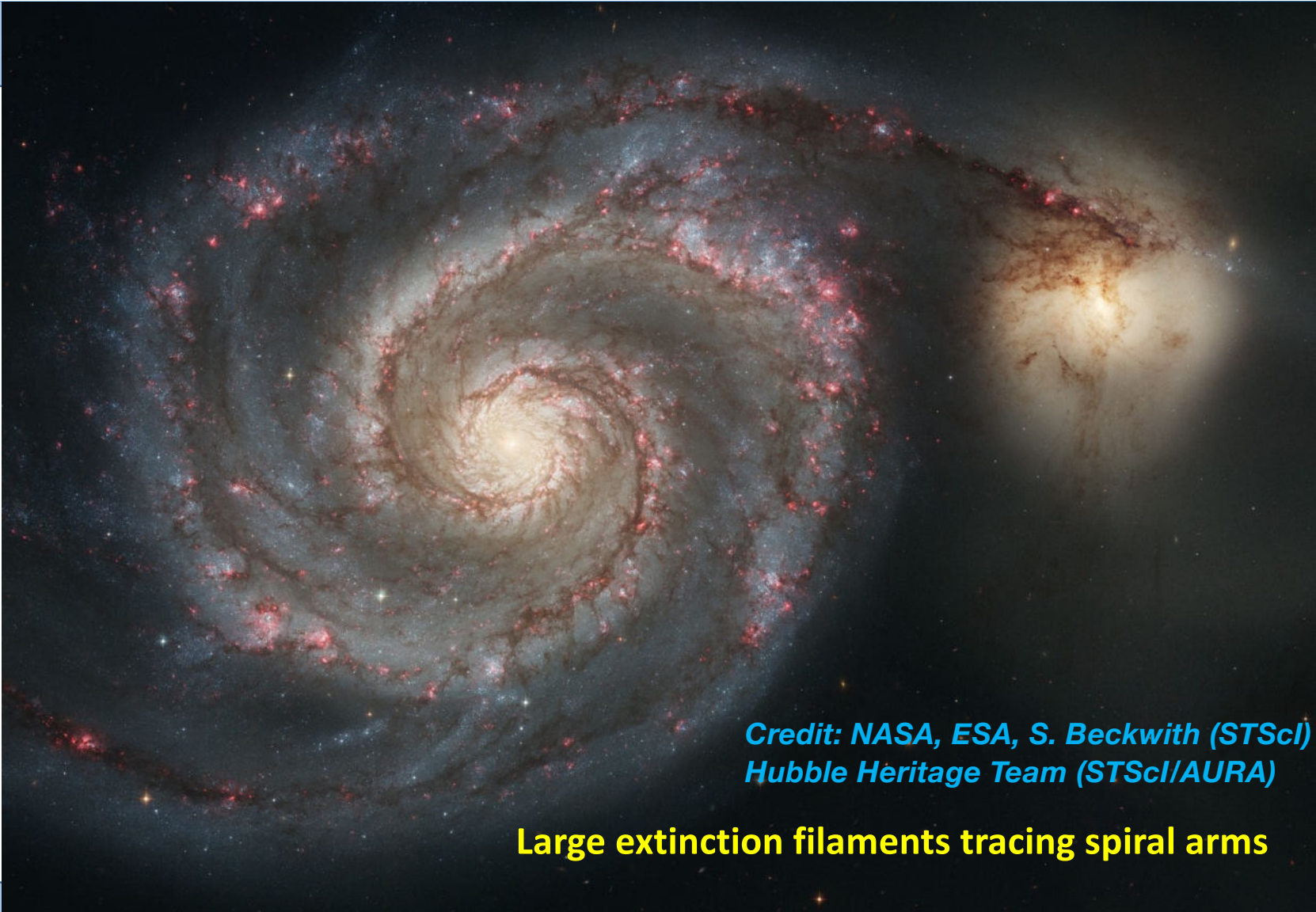
Herschel Observations of Orion



Credit: ESA / Herschel / PACS / SPIRE / Hi-GAL Project / UNIMAP / L. Piazzi, La Sapienza – Università di Roma / E. Schisano / G. Li Causi, IAPS & INAF.



Credit: ESO/APEX (MPIfR/ESO/OSO)/A. Hacar et al./Digitized Sky Survey 2. Acknowledgment: Davide De Martin.



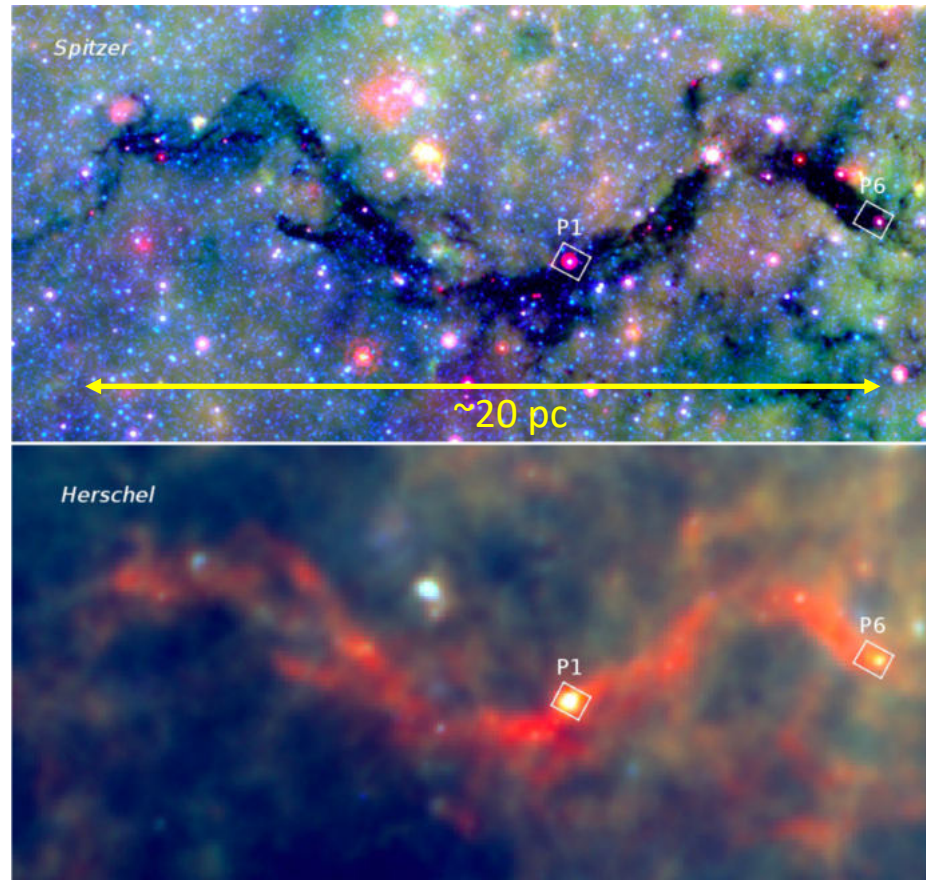
Credit: NASA, ESA, S. Beckwith (STScI) and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

Large extinction filaments tracing spiral arms

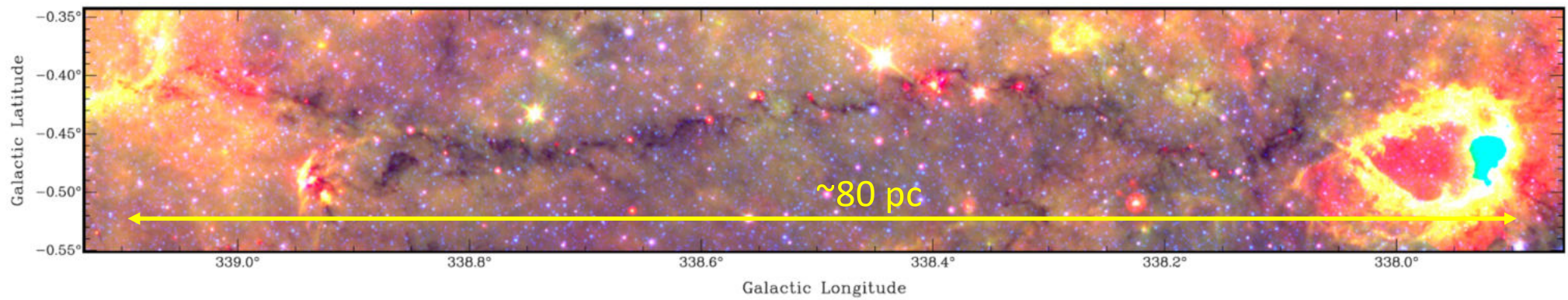
The Snake

Features also found in Milky Way

“The Snake”



Spitzer/GLIMPSE/MIPSGAL, Herschel/HiGal, Ke Wang (ESO)



“Nessie” Jackson et al. (2010)



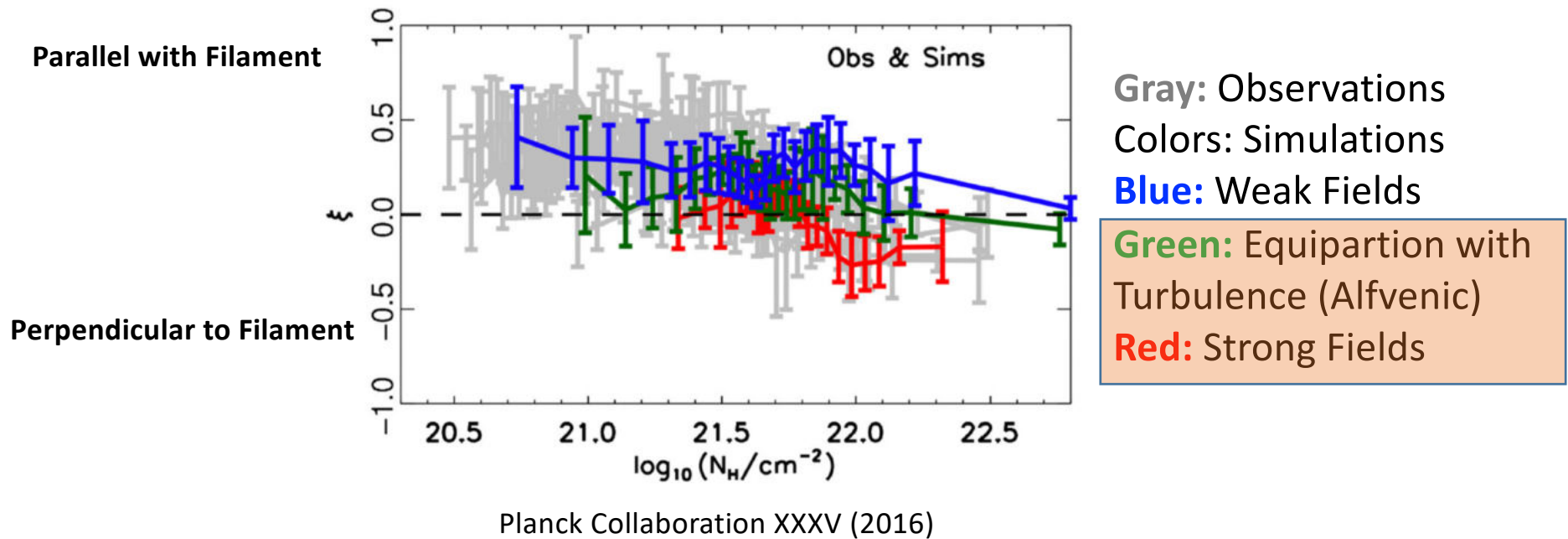
GLIMPSE+MIPSGAL

(e.g., Goodman et al. 2014; Zucker et al. 2015, 2018)

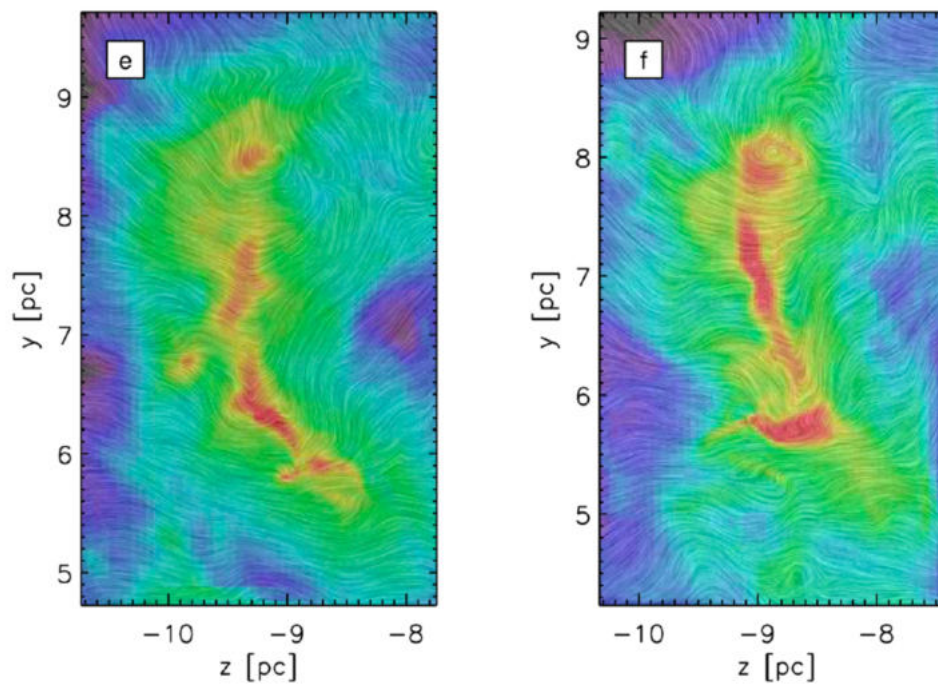
- “Bones of the Milky Way”
- Bones well observed
 - Dust continuum (Herschel, ground-based)
 - Molecular Lines
- Most parameters well constrained:
 - lengths, widths, aspect ratios, **velocity information**, **masses**, **column densities**, **dust temperatures**, Galactic altitudes, kinematic separation from arms in $l - v$ space, and distances (e.g., Zucker et al. 2018)
 - notably not the **magnetic field**
 - star formation rate, flow direction, shape
 - collapse time-scale, fragmentation



- Original expectation: Fields will be perpendicular to the bones!
- Planck XXXV (didn't resolve filaments!)

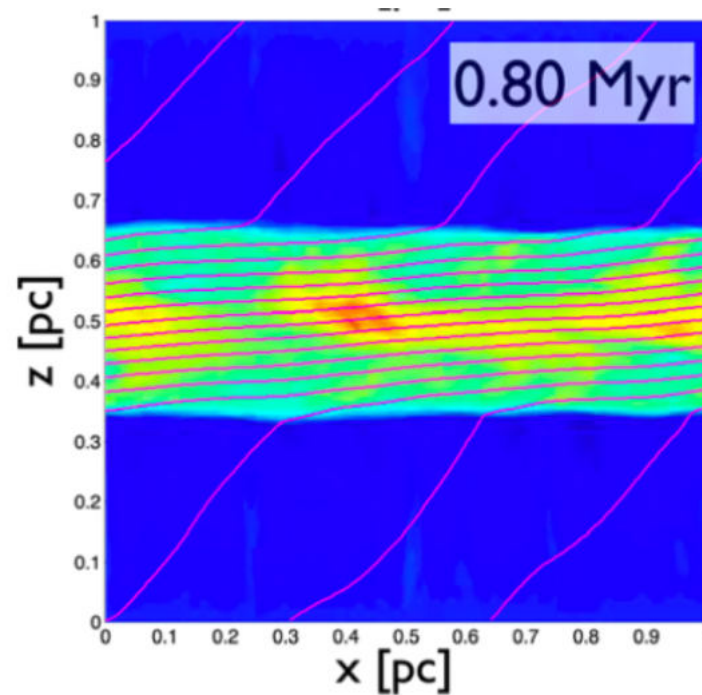


- Original expectation: Fields will be perpendicular to the bones!
- Gravitational accretion flow of bones perpendicular to bones



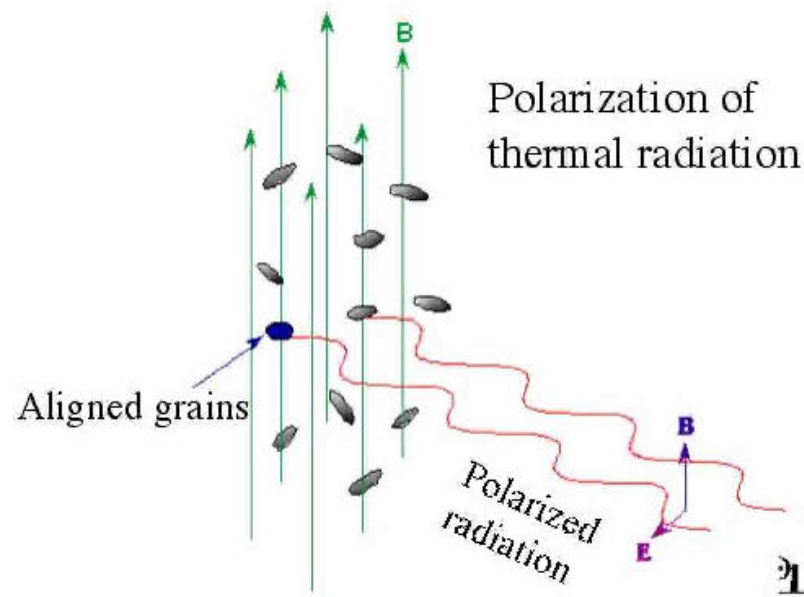
Gomez et al. (2018)

- Nevertheless, since we are resolving bones, we may see something else!
- Flows through the bones



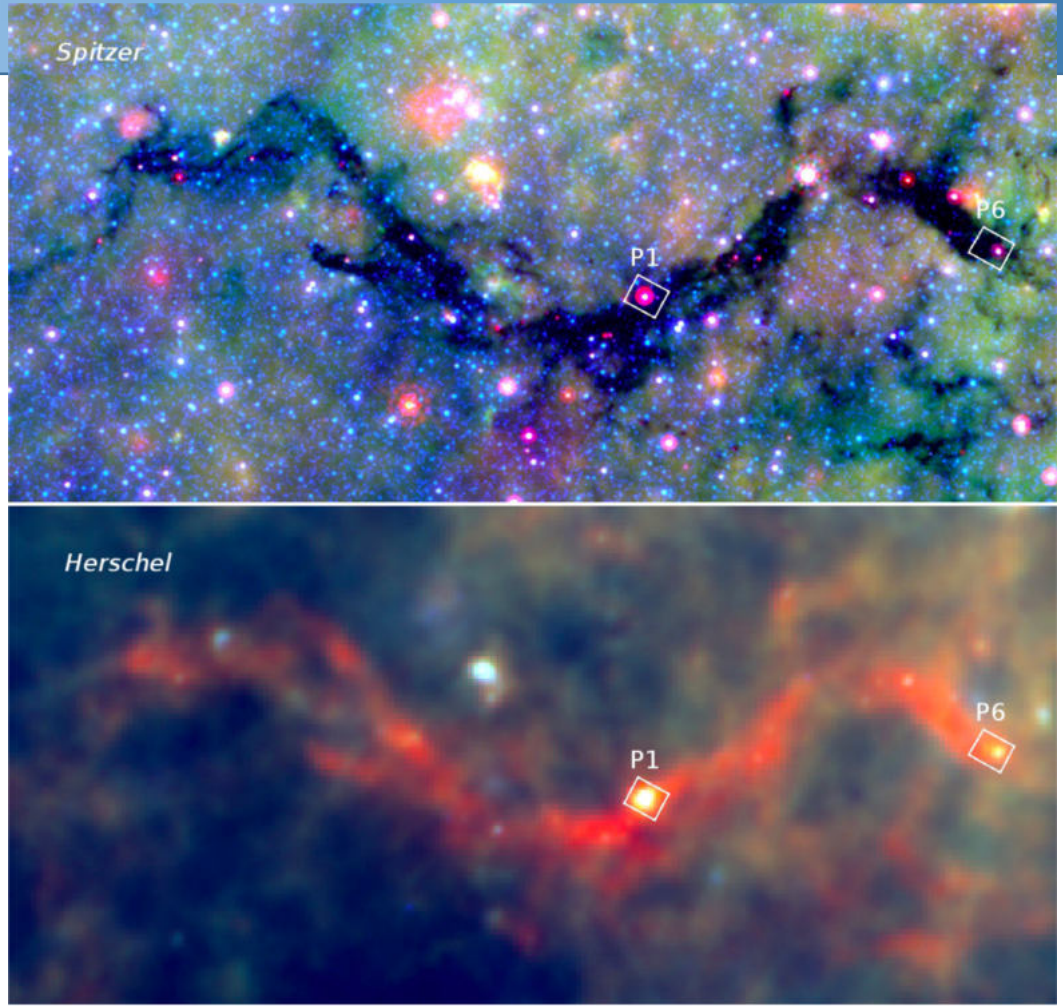
Chen & Ostriker et al. (2014)

Spheroidal grains align with short axis perpendicular to B-field.

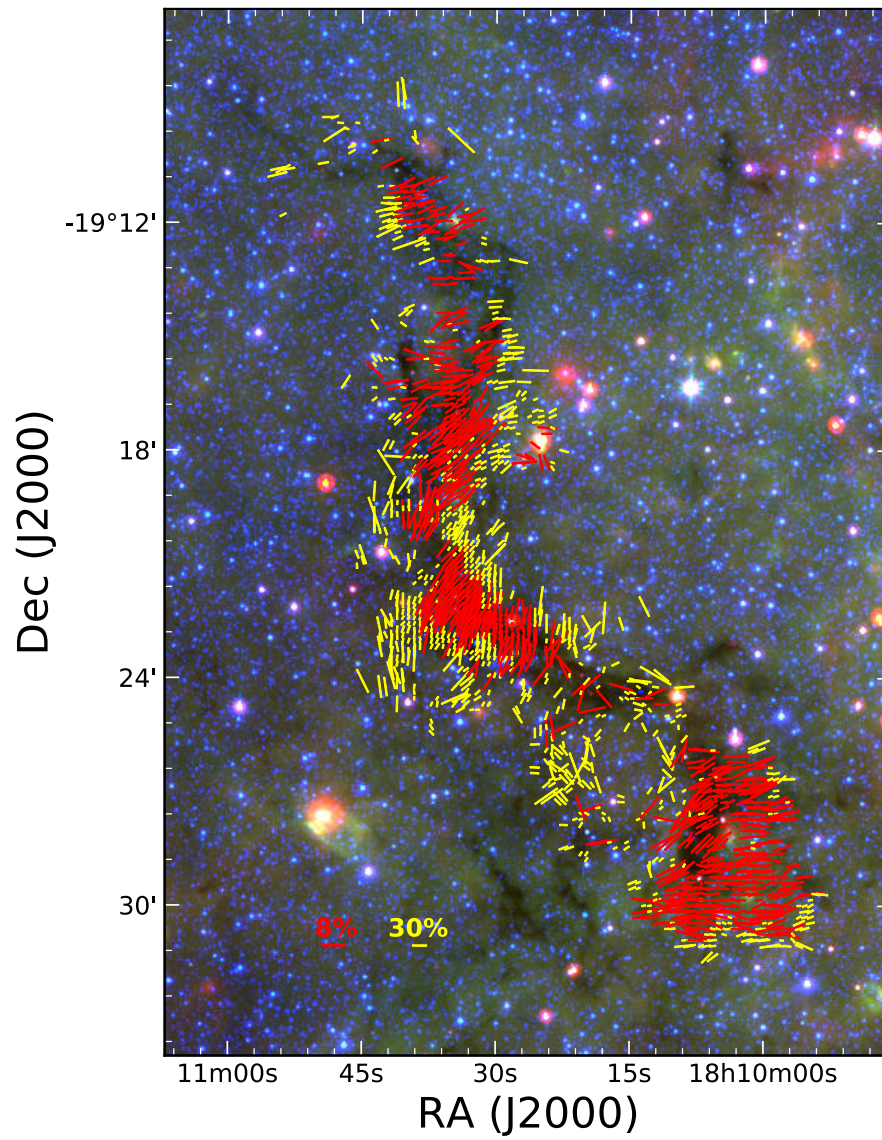


$$E \perp B$$

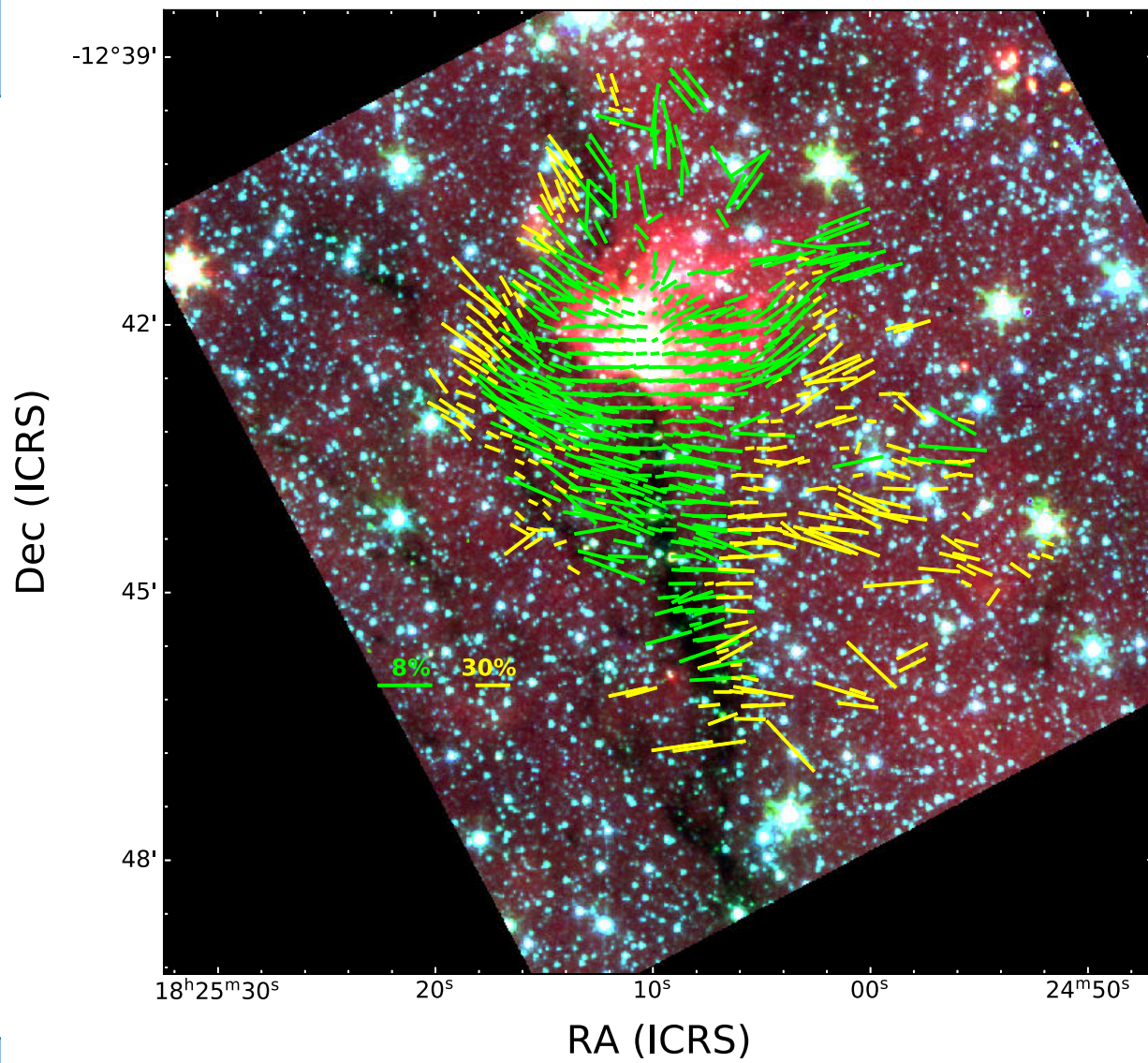
Lazarian (2007)



Spitzer/GLIMPSE/MIPSGAL, Herschel/HiGal, Ke Wang, European Southern Observatory



First Try!



First Try!

First Try

- Quite perpendicular
- Is this a ubiquitous feature?

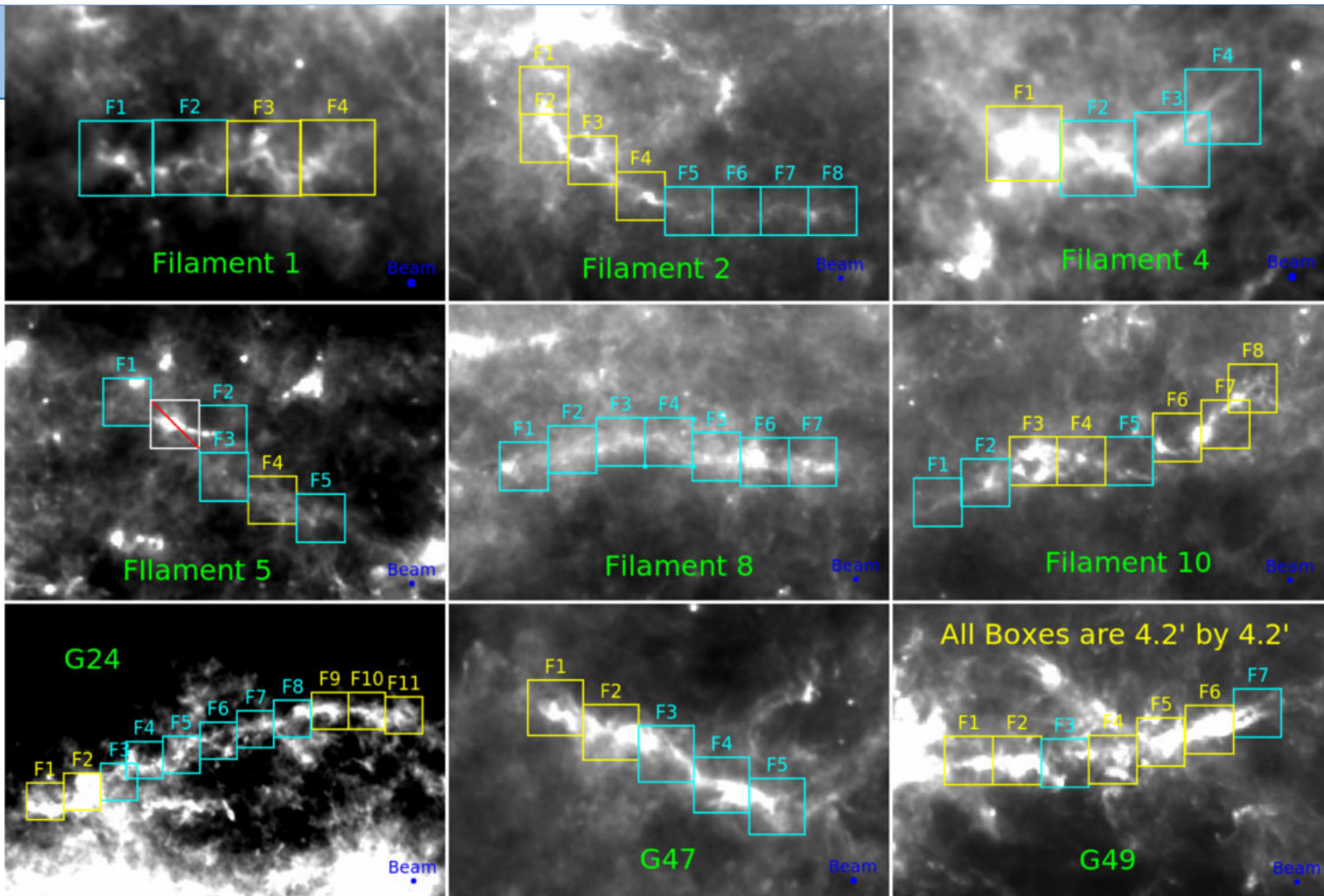
- We teach our Astronomy 101 students that most stars form due to the compression in the spiral potential. Fields likely play a role.

- It would be beneficial to survey the entirety of many bones

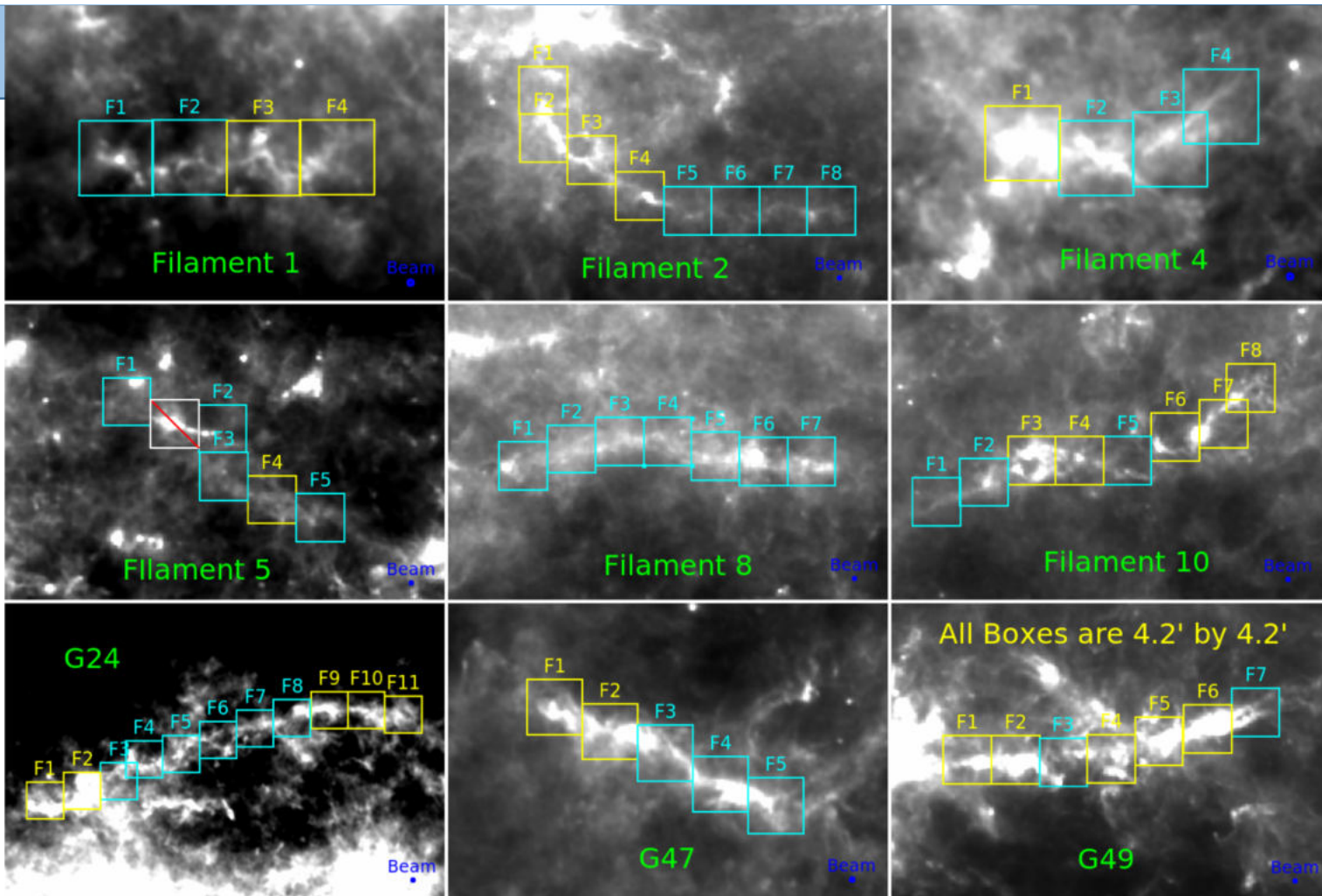
FIELDMAPS

Major Goals:

- **Role of magnetic fields in Bones**
 - Critical for collapse?
- **Whether magnetic fields vary for bones in the arm vs interarm regions**
 - Compression in spiral potential vs sheared and stretched
- **Overall morphology**
 - (e.g., perpendicular fields vs fields guiding flow through the bones)
- **Setup a Legacy data product** that can be used for studying how star-forming gas collects in the magnetized spiral potential



Above shows NMC. OTF actual



FIELDMAPS: Filaments Extremely Long and Dark: a MAgnetic Polarization Survey

FIELDMAPS

Novel:

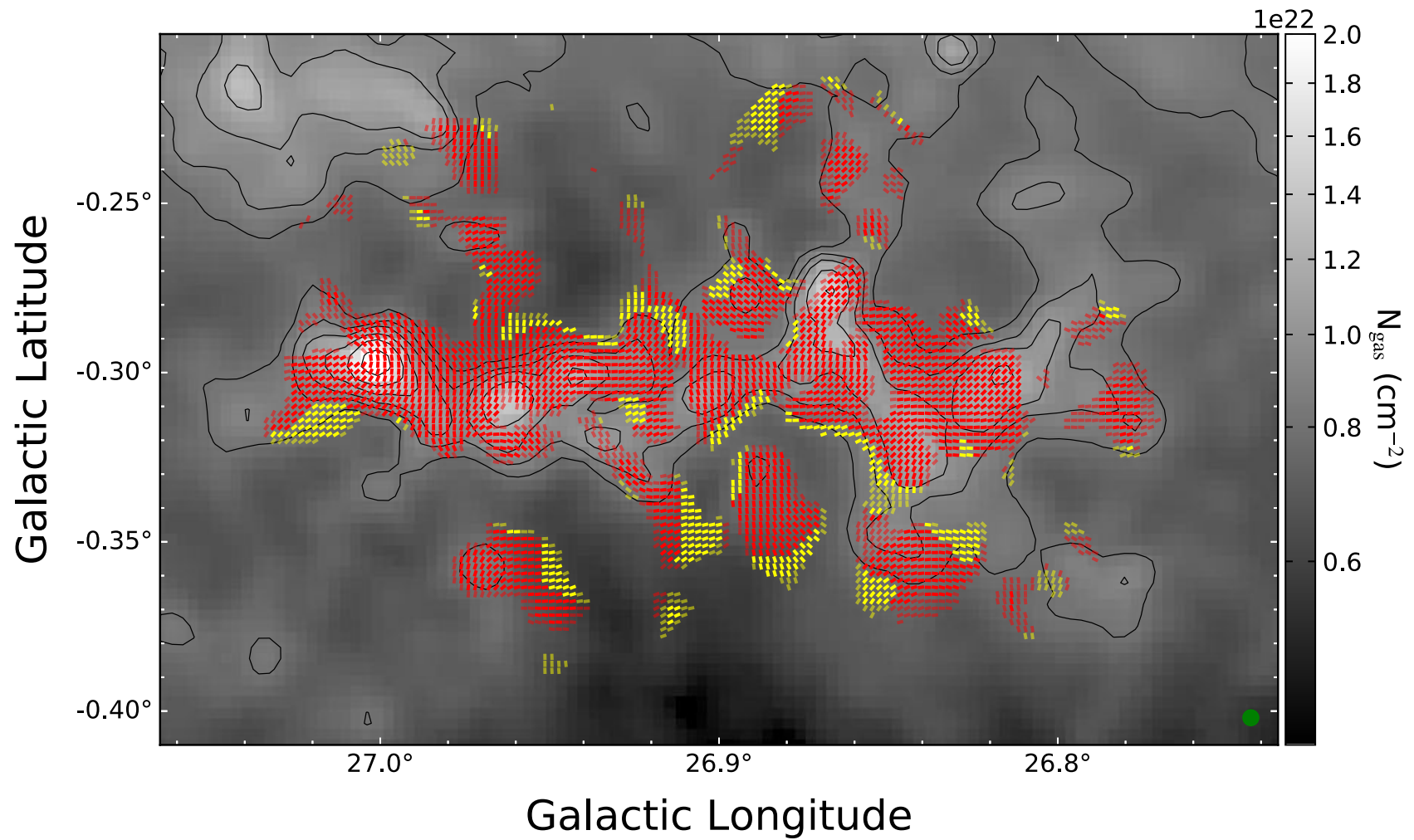
Magnetic fields of bones have not been significantly studied, but are the largest, dense filamentary structures in the Galaxy.

The bones are potentially the best way to study how star-forming gas collapses in the magnetized Spiral potential for all galaxies. The key missing component of the bone analysis is the **magnetic field**.

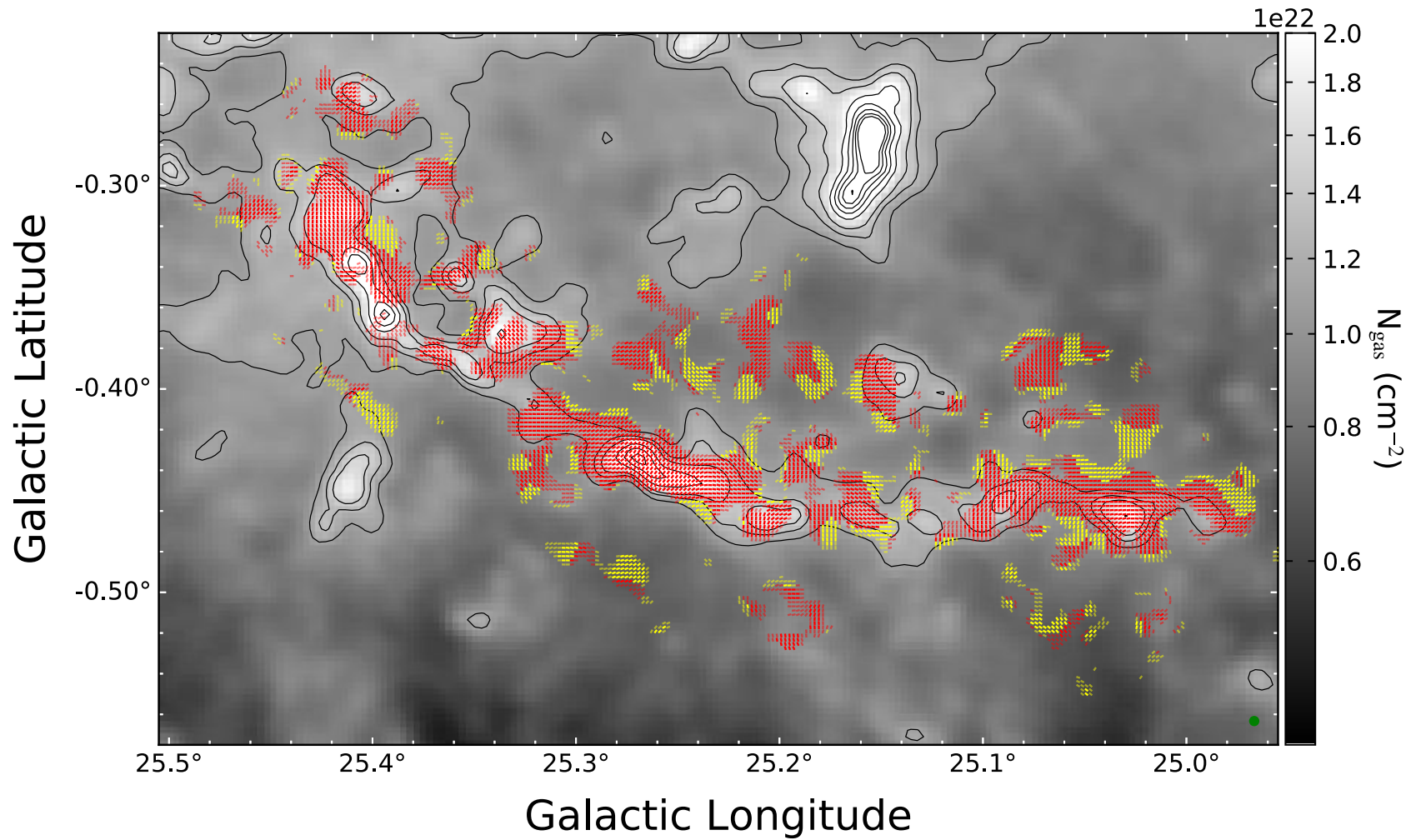
This is a pioneering phase.

We expected all perpendicular

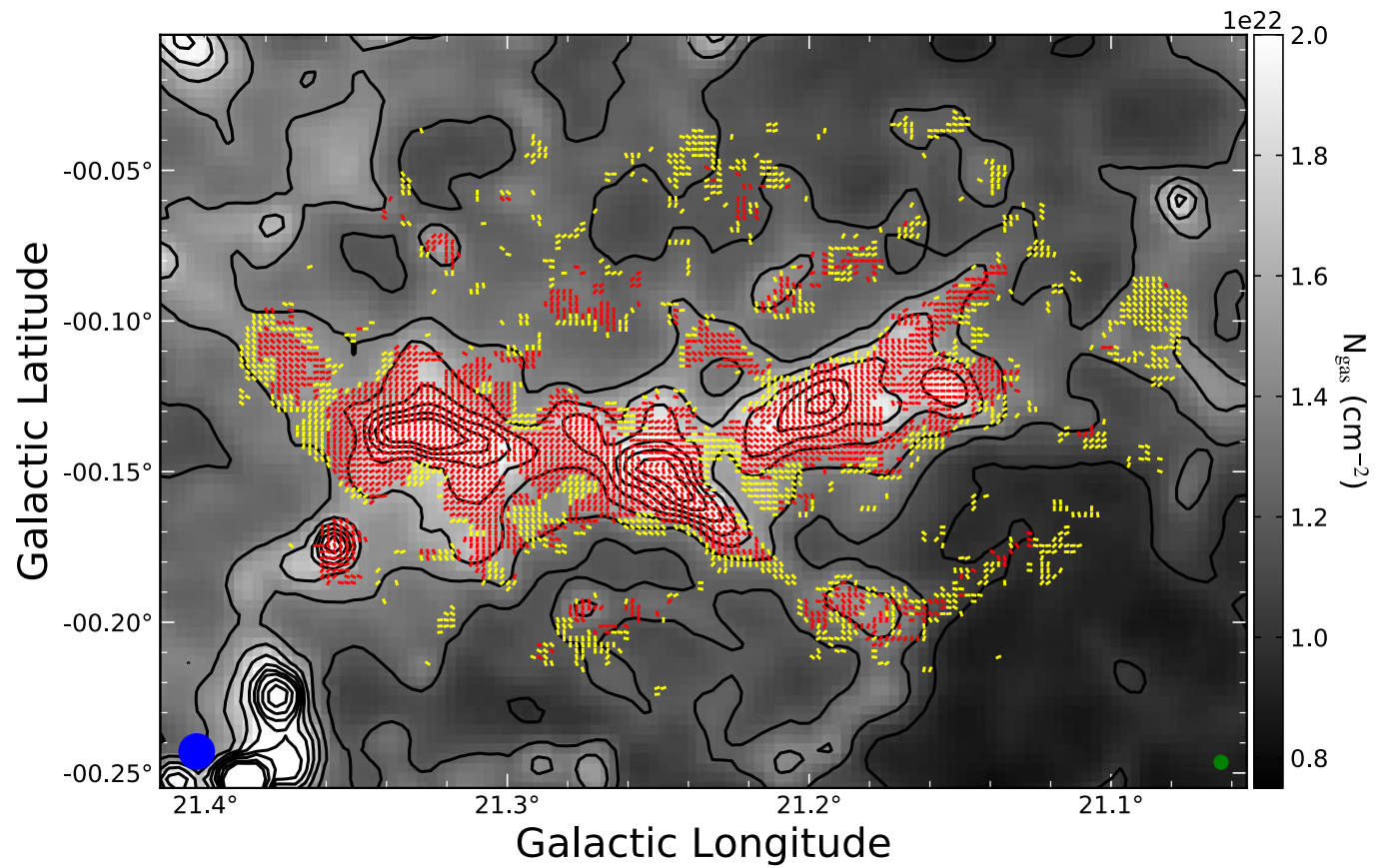
Filament 1



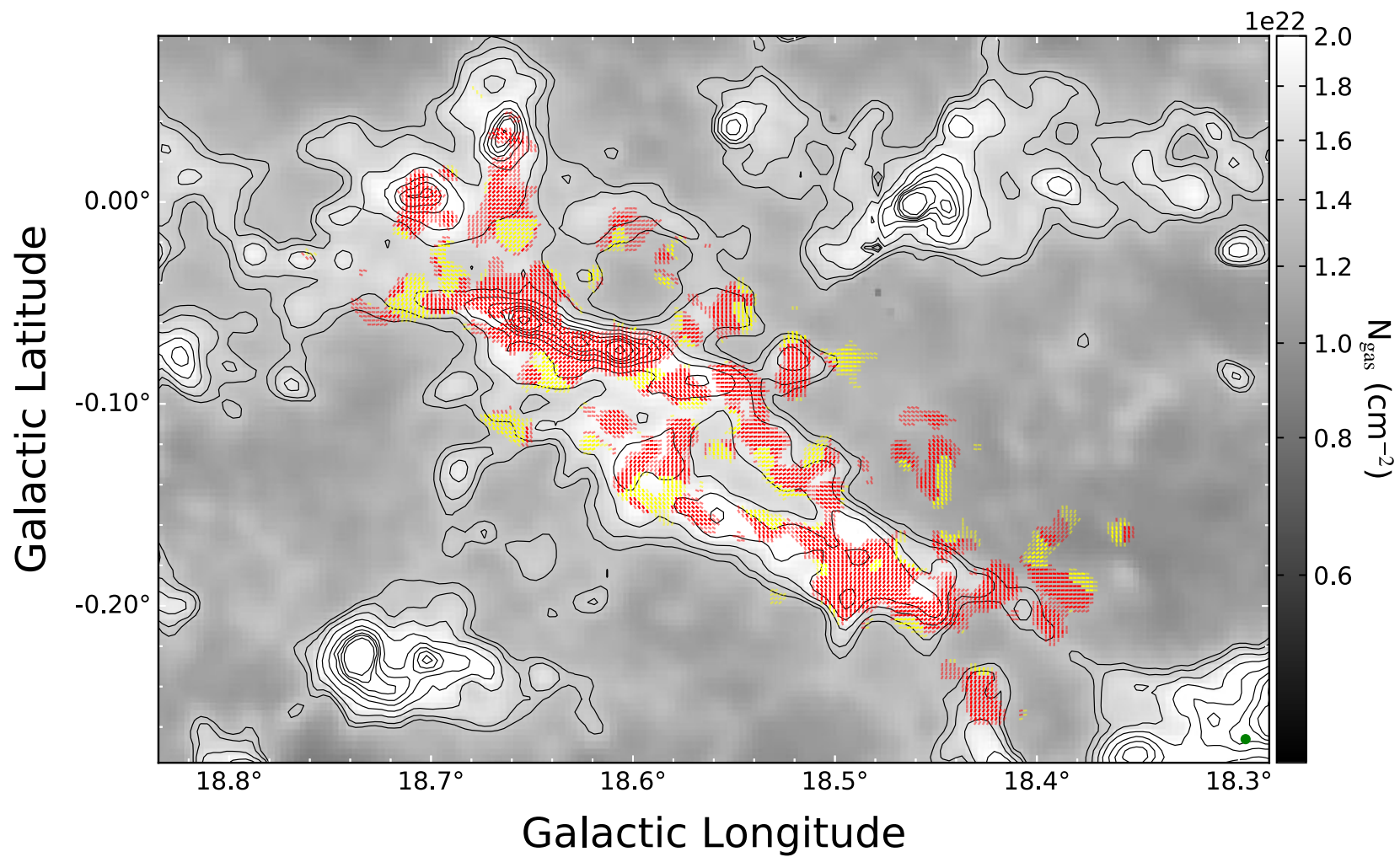
Filament 2



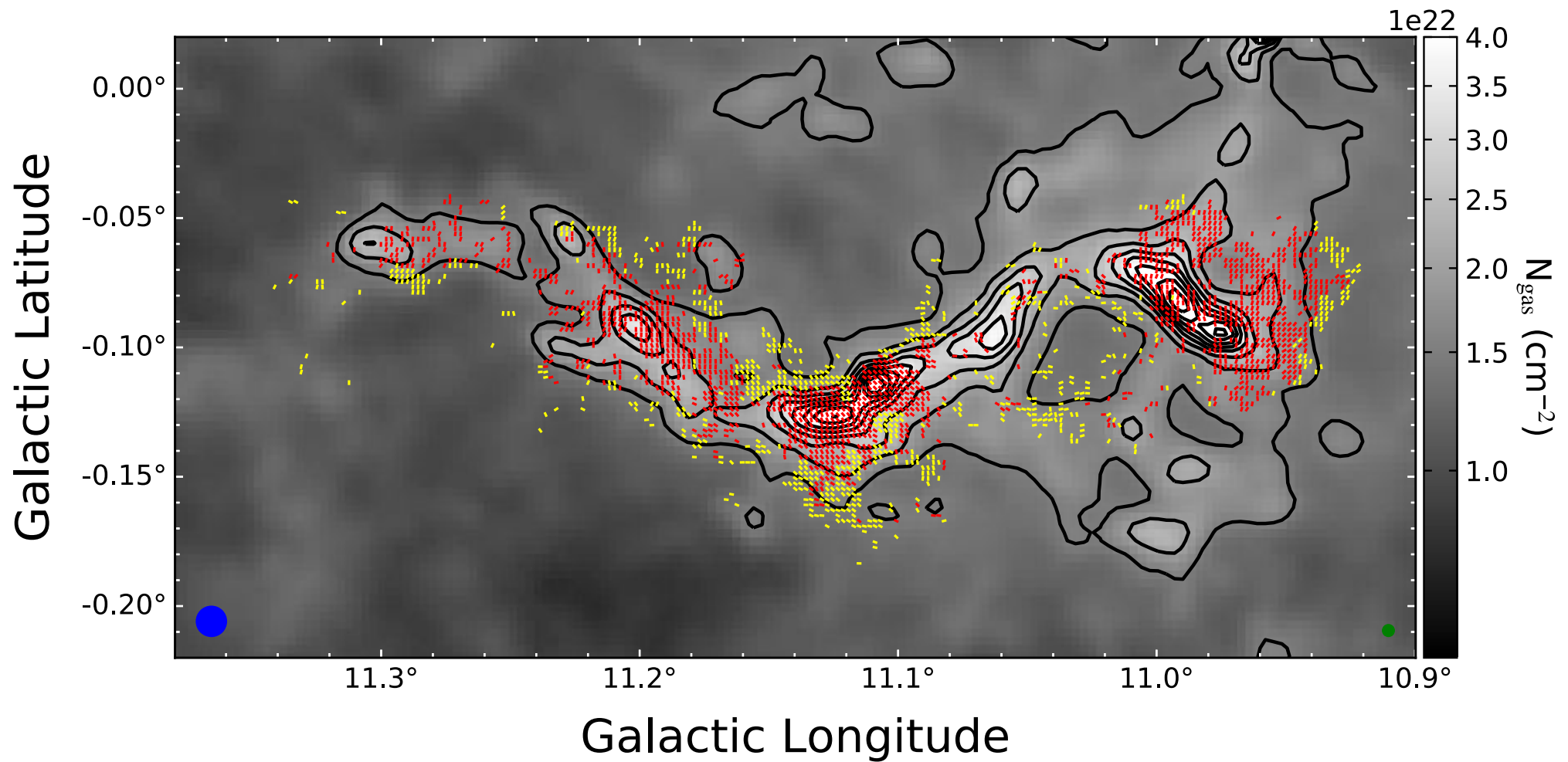
Filament 4



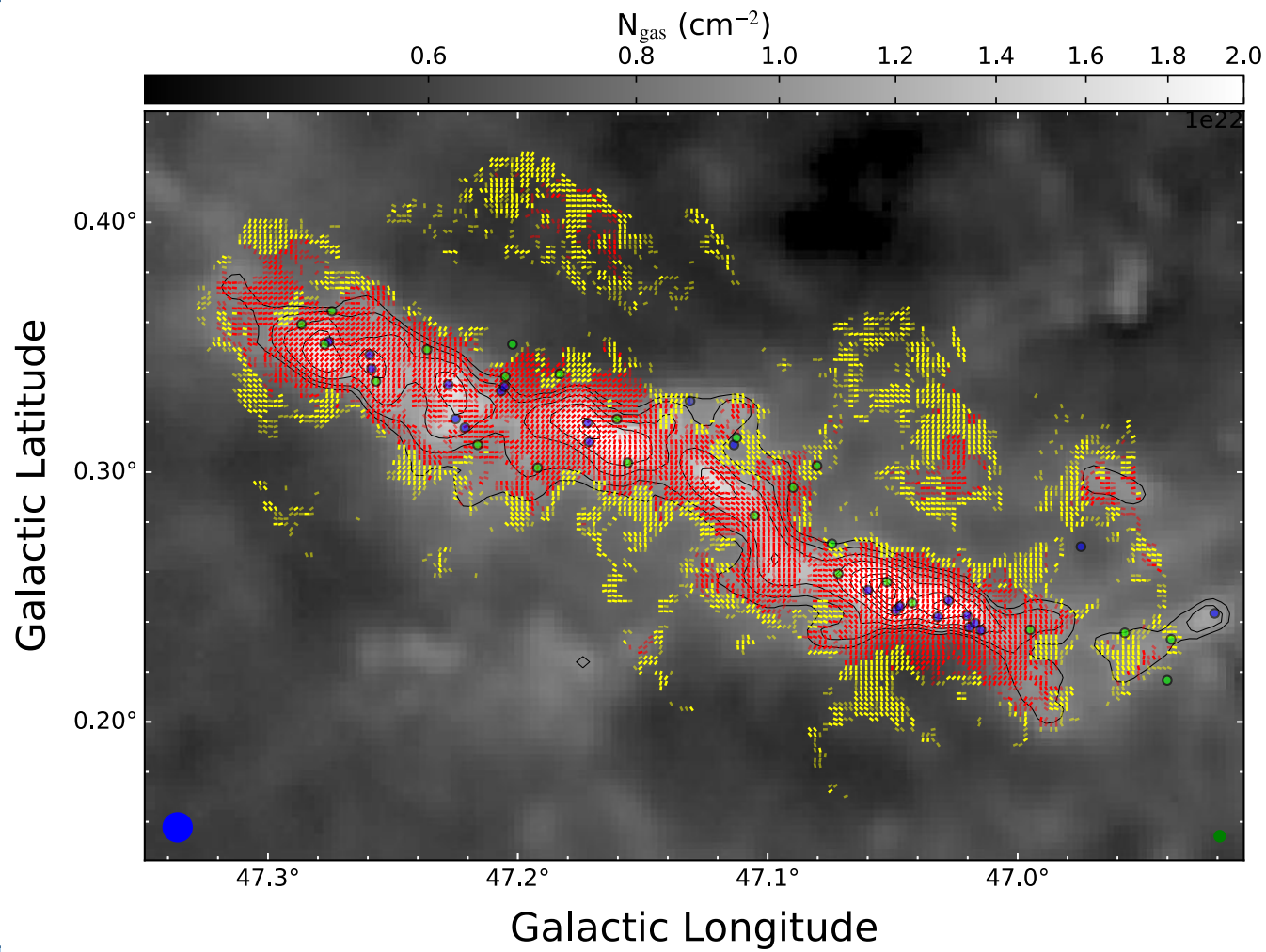
Filament 5



Snake (Filament 6)

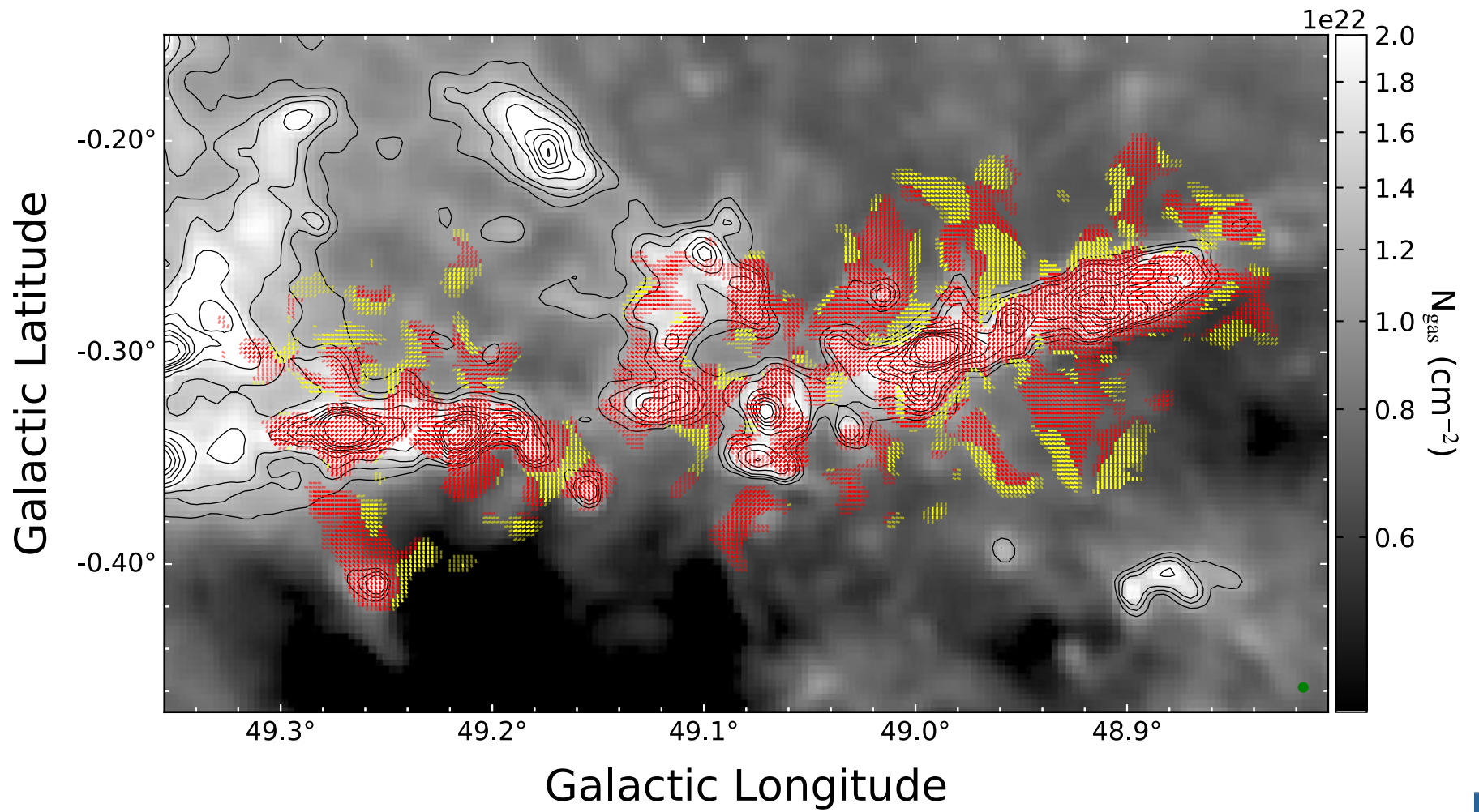


G47



Stephens et al. (2022)

G49

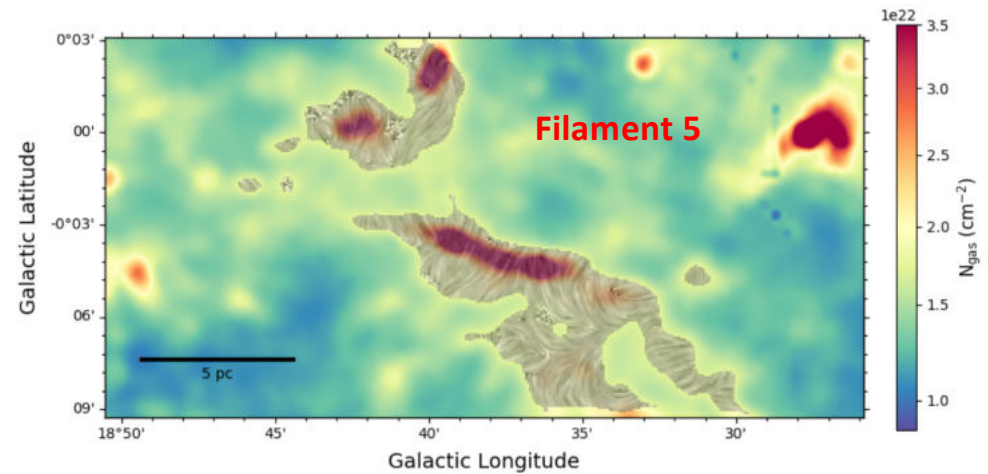
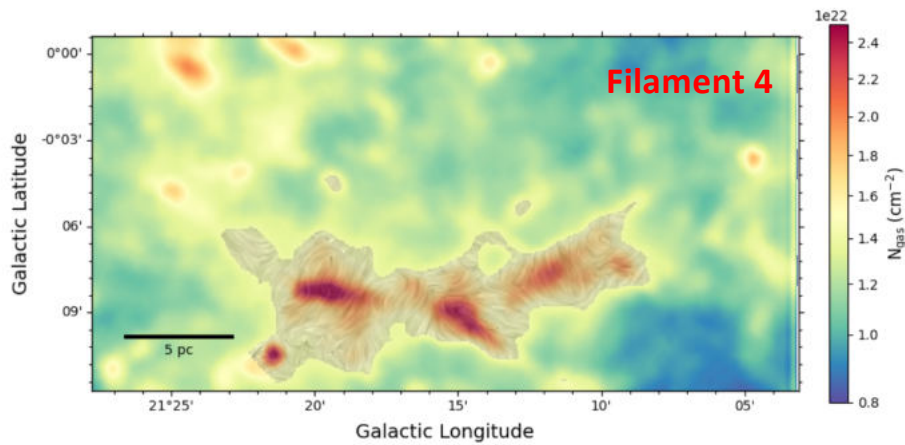
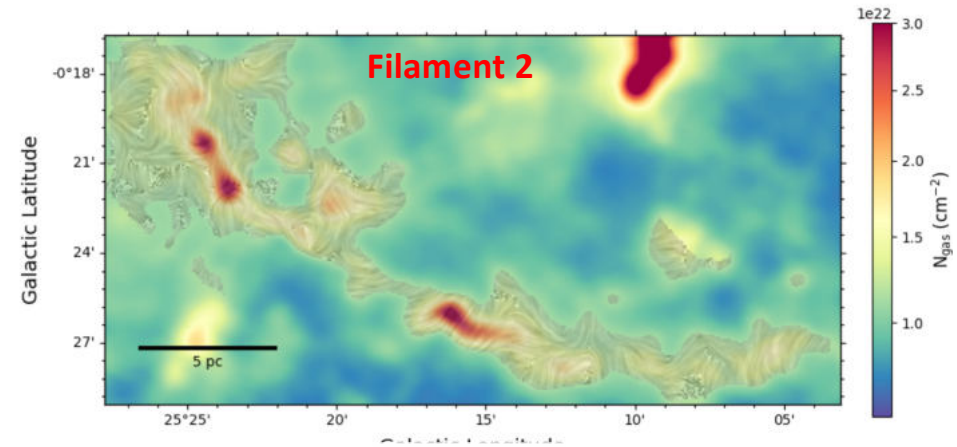
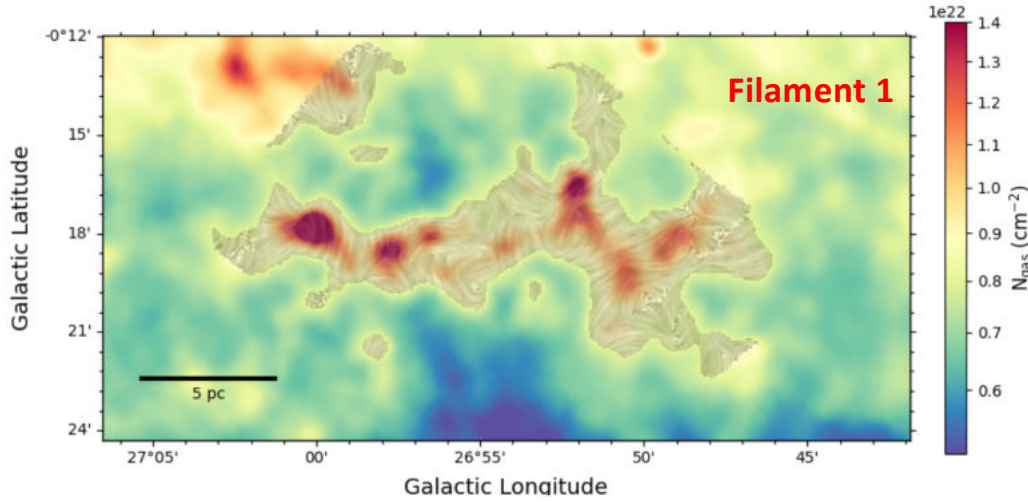


First Try

- Quite perpendicular
- Is this a ubiquitous feature?
 - **Additional tries say “Nope!”**
 - **But maybe at the highest densities**

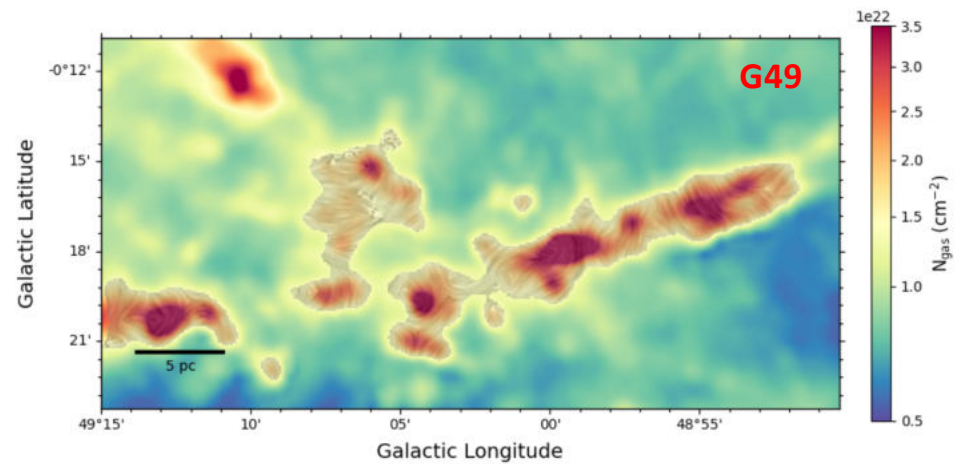
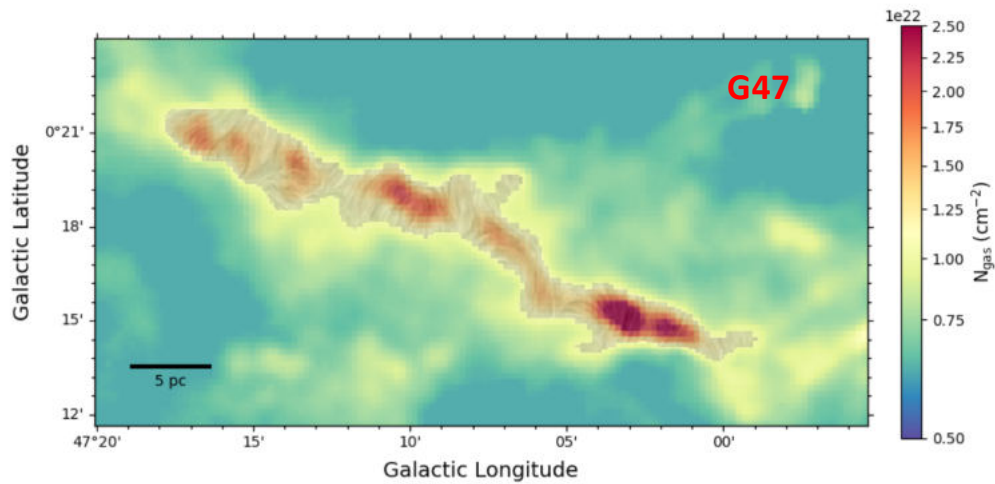
Line Interval Convolutions (LICs)

Credit: Leah Zuckerman

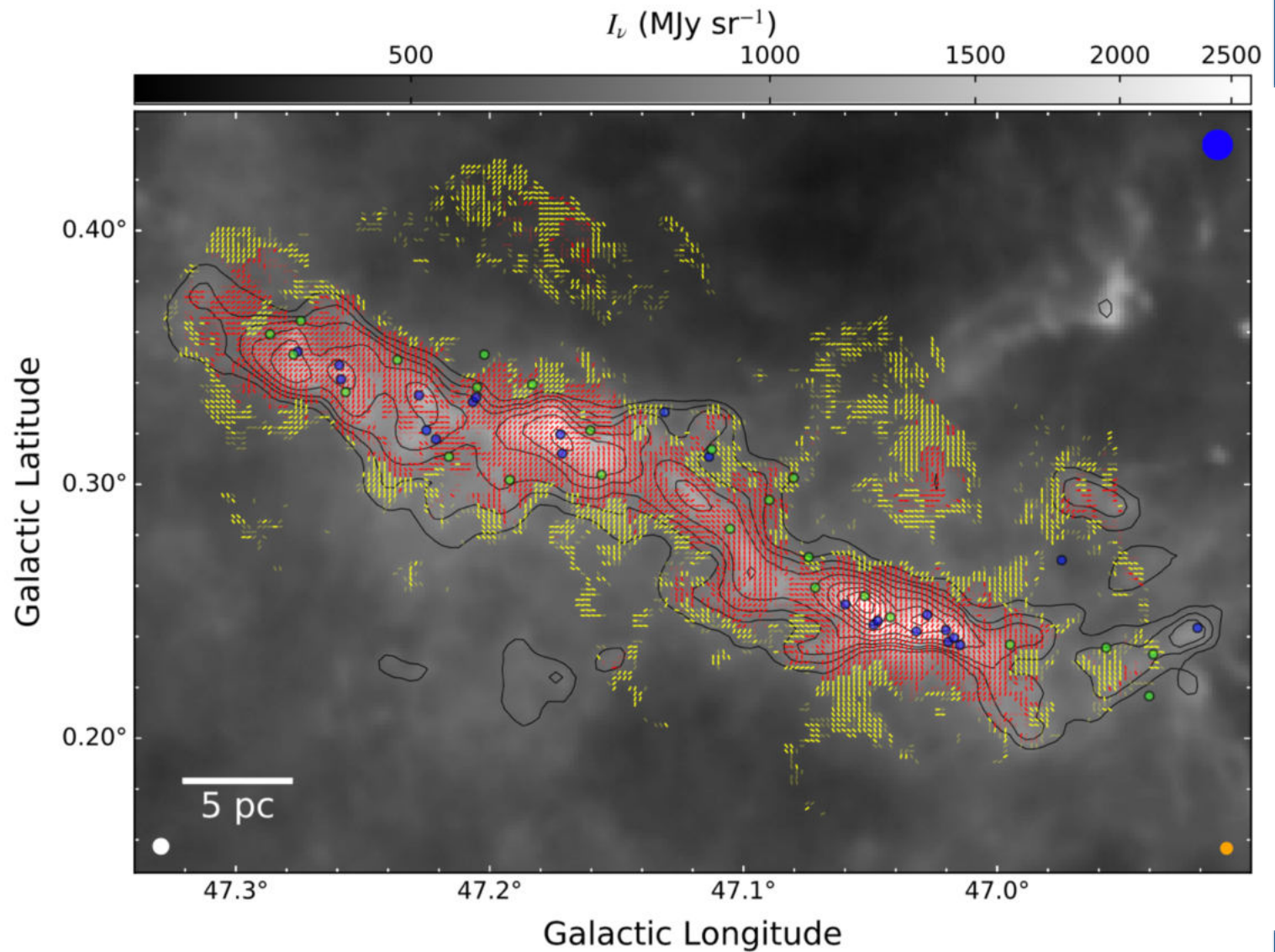


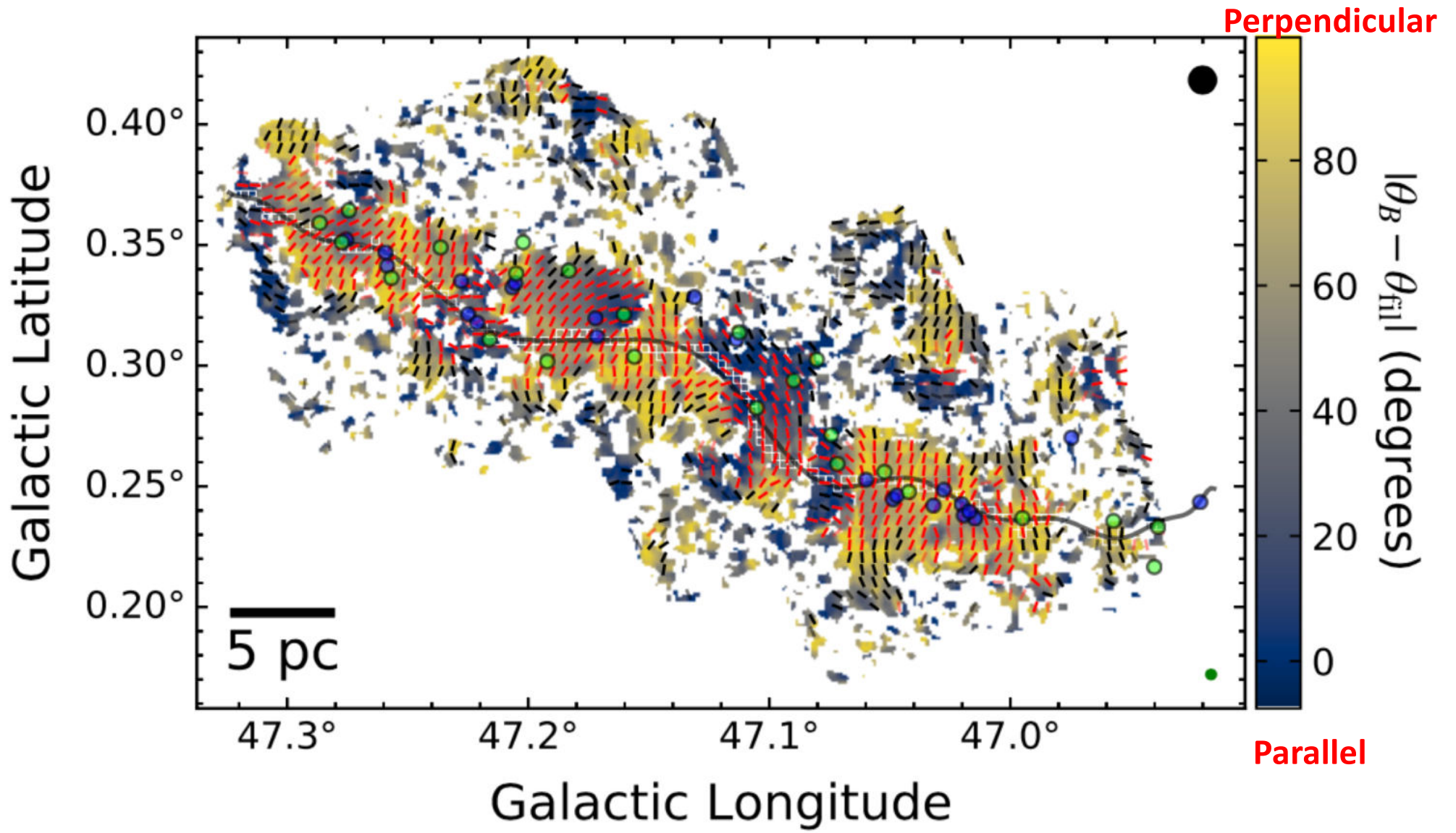
Line Interval Convolutions (LICs)

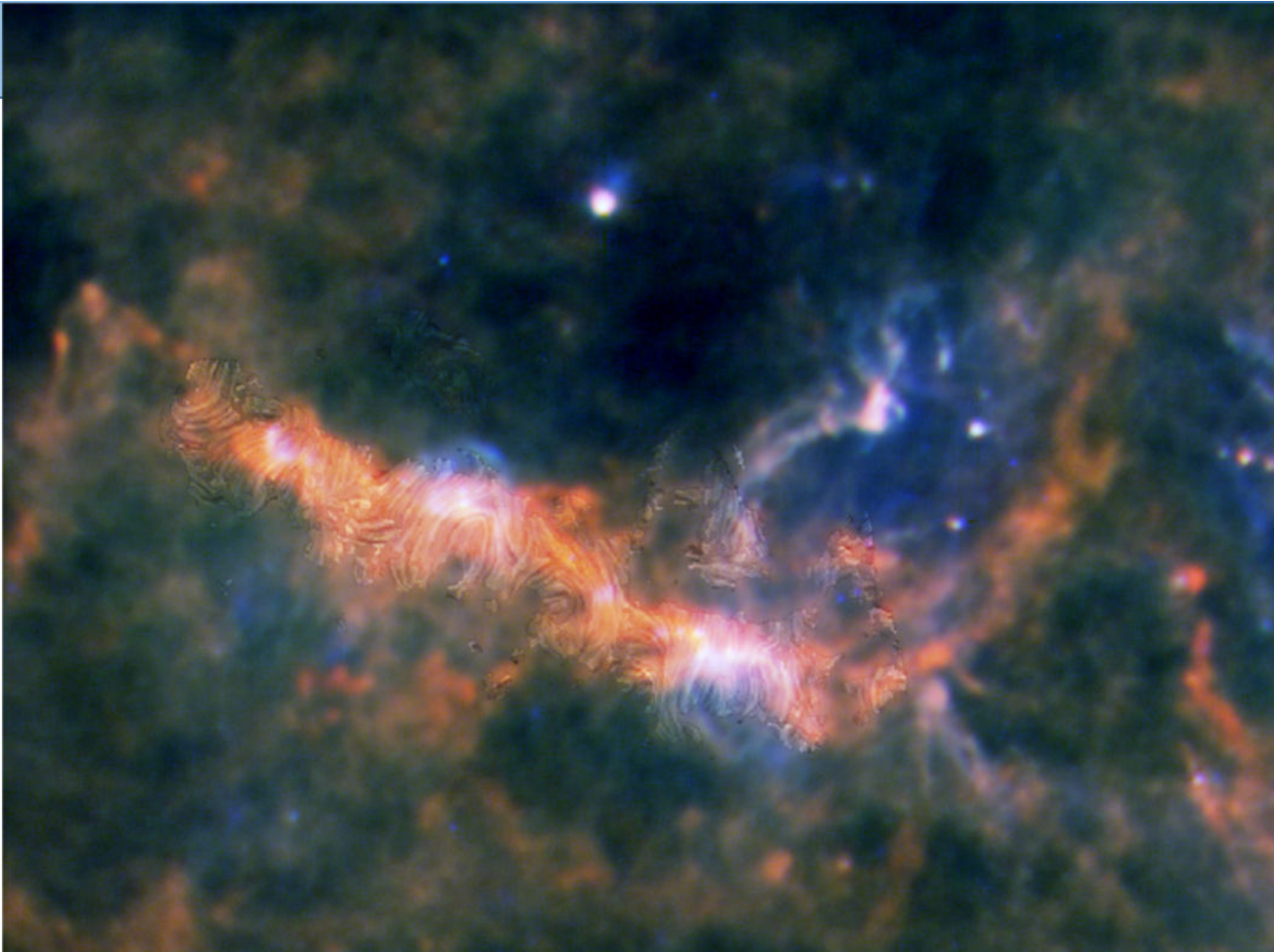
Credit: Leah Zuckerman



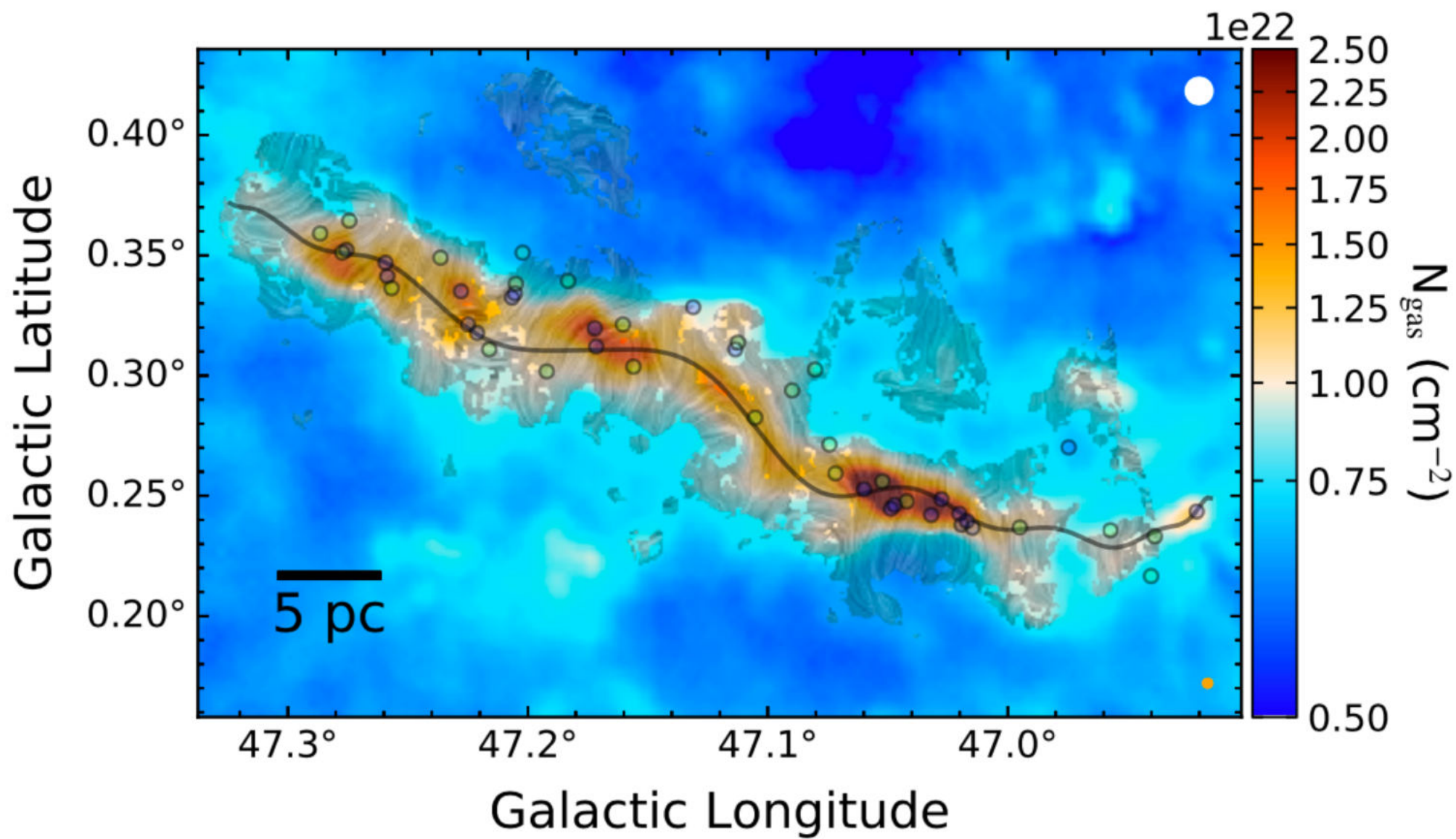
- G47 in ApJL
- Stephens et al. (2022)
- **Green** and **Blue** circles: Locations of Young Stellar Objects (Zhang et al. 2019)





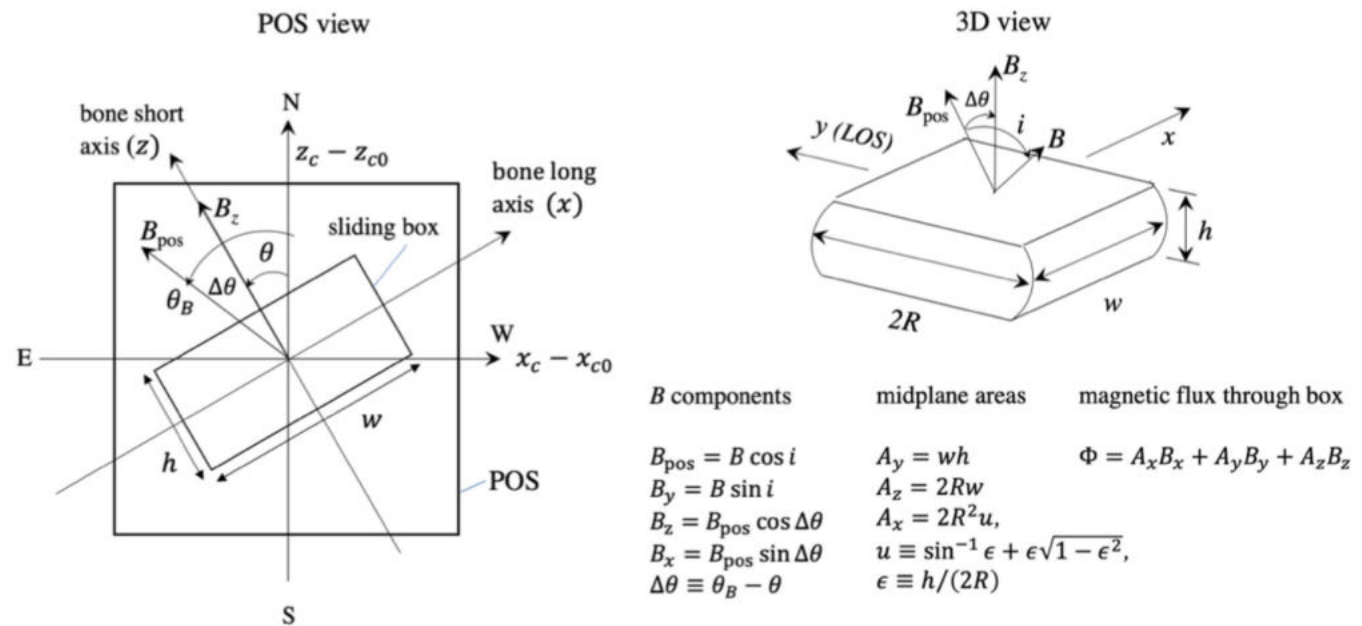


Credit: G47: ESA/Herschel/PACS/SPIRE/Ke Wang et al. 2015; Polarization map: Stephens et al., 2022



Moving Box Analysis

- Slide a moving box down the spine of G47 (can change angle)
- Use the DCF technique to estimate B-field and mass-to-magnetic flux ratio in each box



Stephens et al. (2022)

Moving Box Analysis

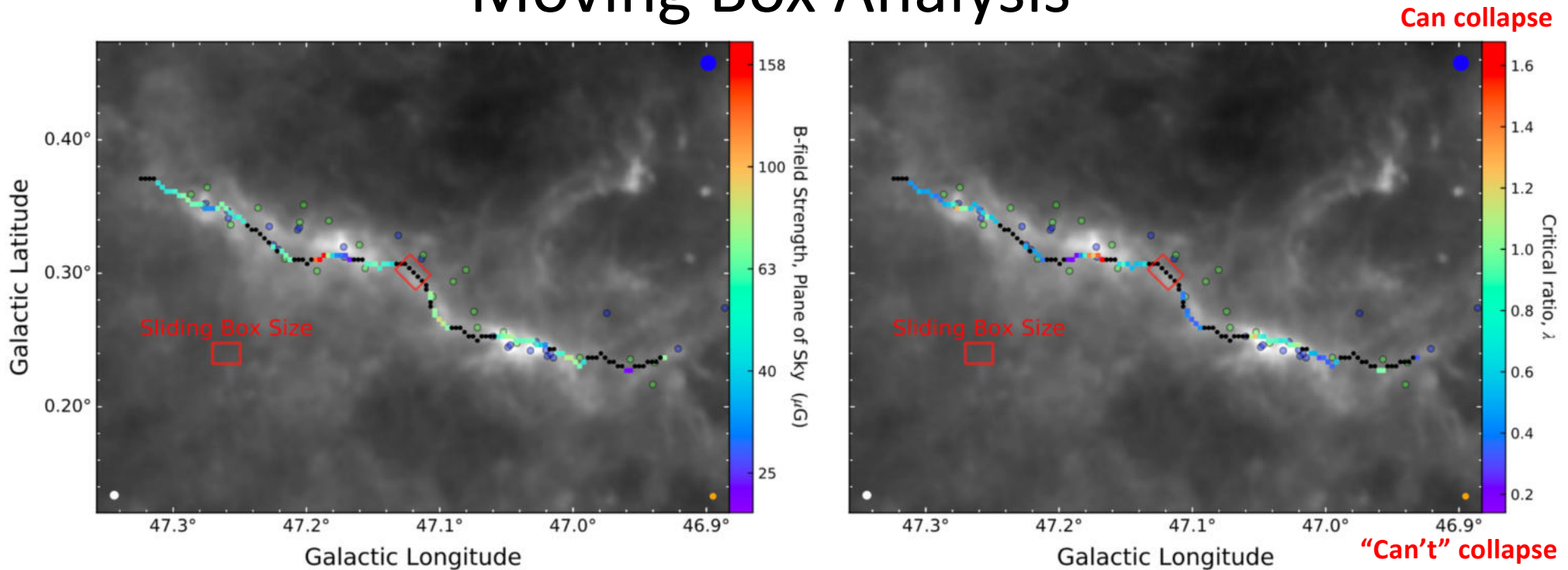
- Critical Ratio

$$\lambda = \frac{(M/\Phi)_{\text{observed}}}{(M/\Phi)_{\text{crit}}}$$

(Crutcher et al. 2004)

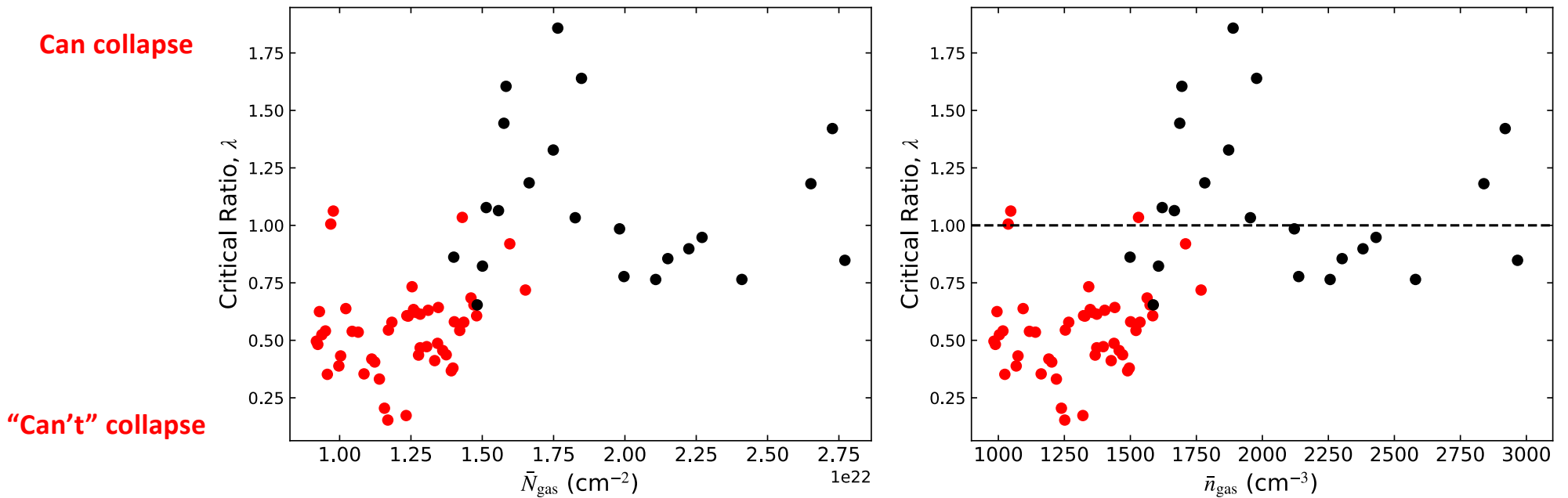
- $\lambda < 1$: Magnetic fields can support against gravitational collapse
- $\lambda > 1$: Magnetic fields cannot support against collapse

Moving Box Analysis



Fields strong enough to support against collapse along a lot of the bone. However, not necessarily toward areas with recent star formation

- Higher densities are more likely to collapse
- Correlated with locations of known YSOs



Spherical Flux Freezing (SFF) model

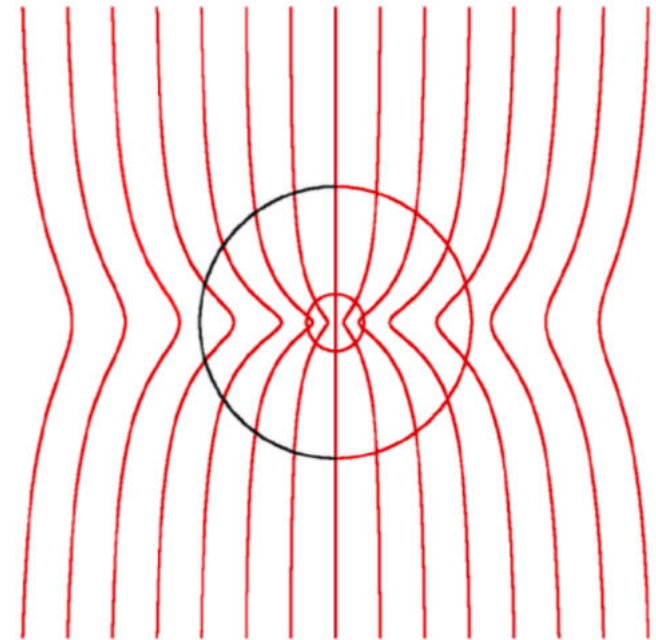
Four reasonable assumptions:

- Background density
- Background B-field
- Collapse to a Plummer spheroid
- Flux-freezing

Straightforward to calculate the magnetic field throughout entire spheroid

Myers et al. (2018, 2020)

Also can do forward-modeling



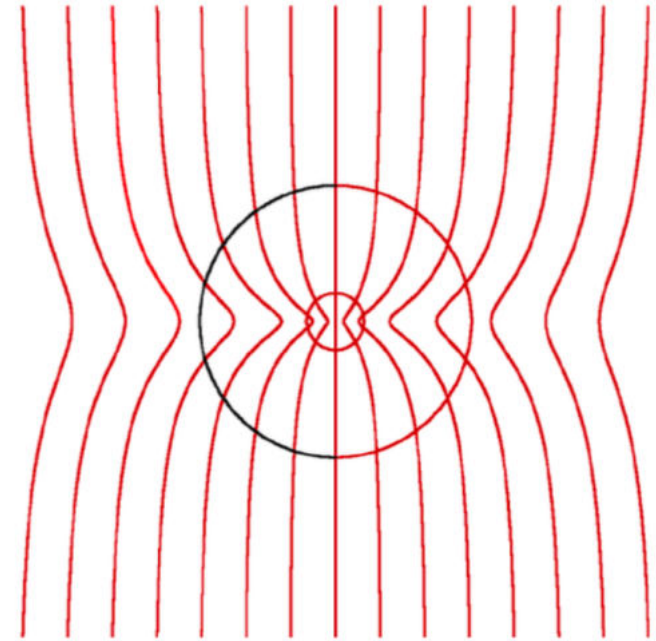
Example of sphere above. Can be applied to any spheroid (including inclined) as well as multiple combined

Spherical Flux Freezing (SFF) model

Also can do forward-modeling

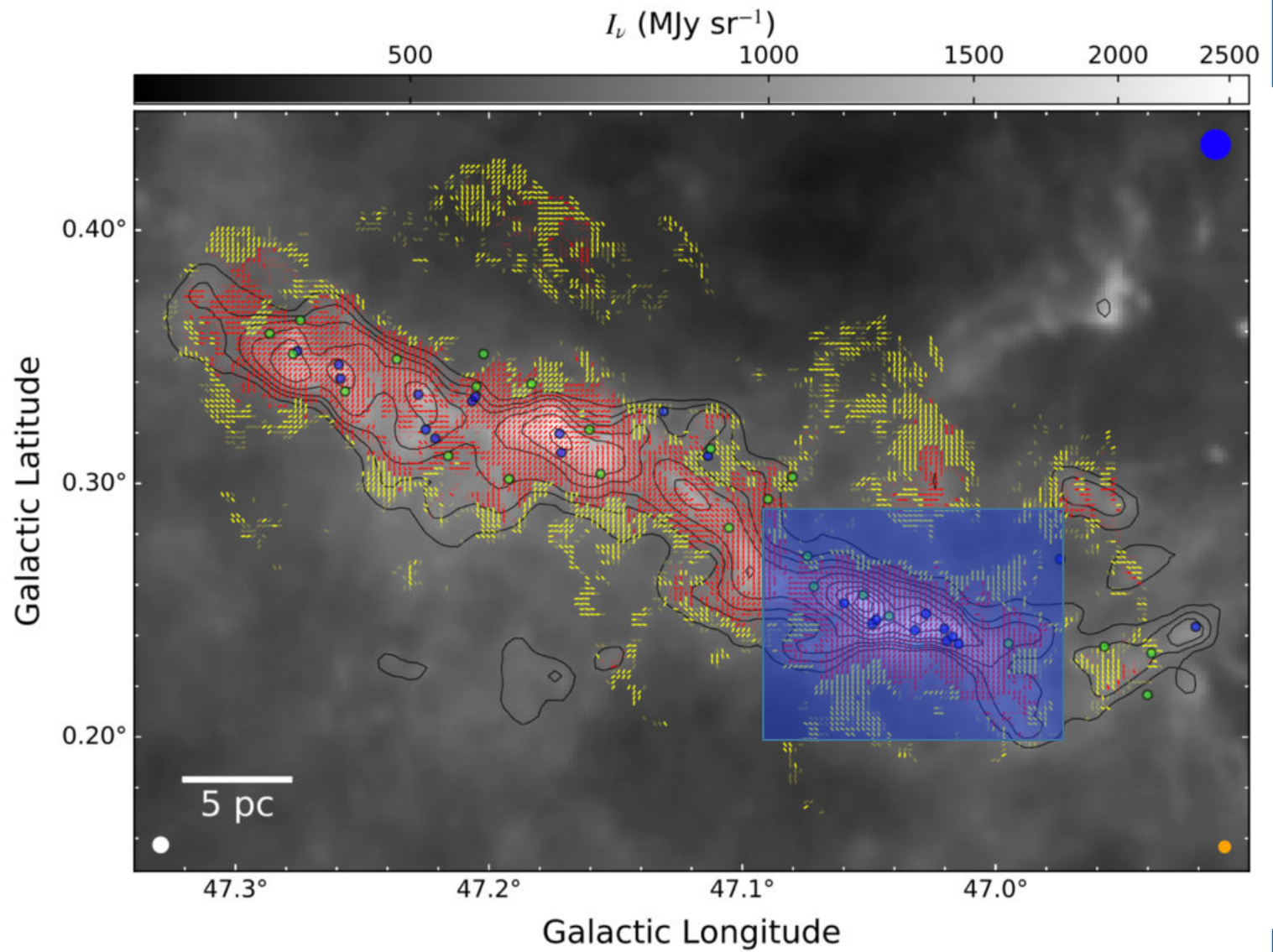
- Fit the spheroids column density maps with Plummer spheroids to determine field morphology
- Use DCF technique to calculate the field strength in area
- This gives you the magnetic field strength everywhere

Myers et al. (2020)



Example of sphere above. Can be applied to any spheroid (including inclined) as well as multiple combined

- G47 in ApJL
- Stephens et al. (2022)



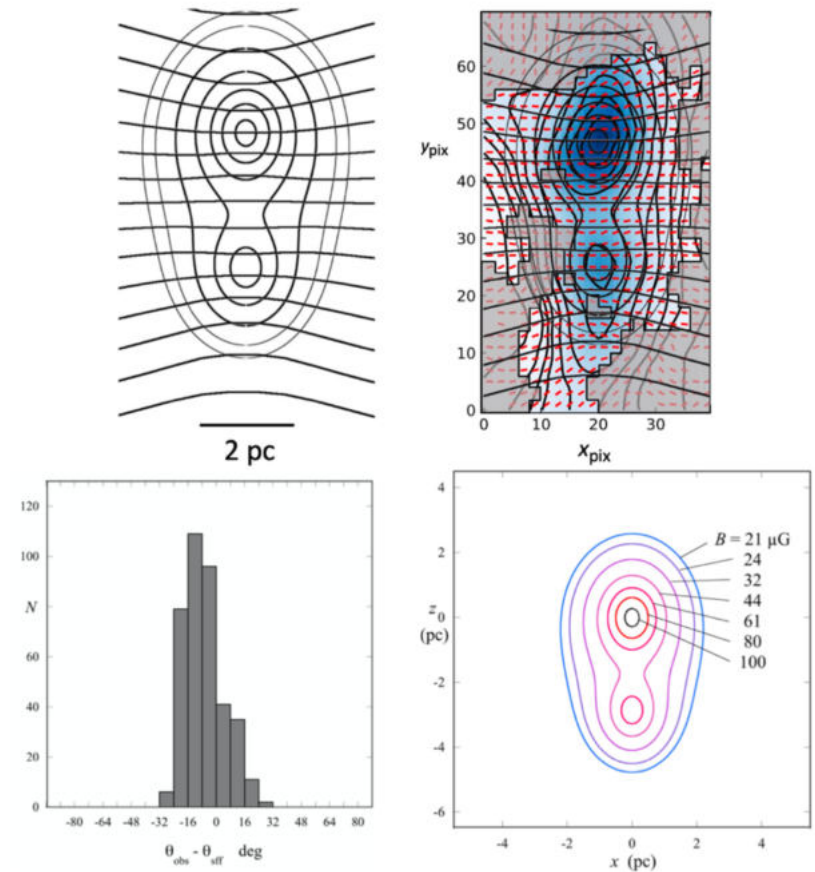
Spherical Flux Freezing (SFF) model

Applied to G47 using two spheroids

Peak field strength: $108 \mu\text{G}$

Average field strength: $56 \mu\text{G}$

Mass-to-magnetic flux parameter: 1.7
(critical for collapse)



Stephens et al. (2022)

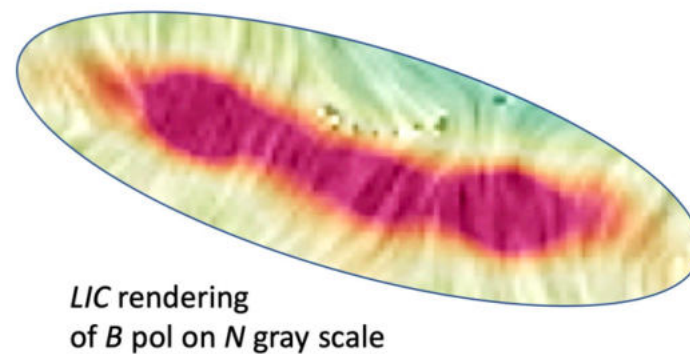
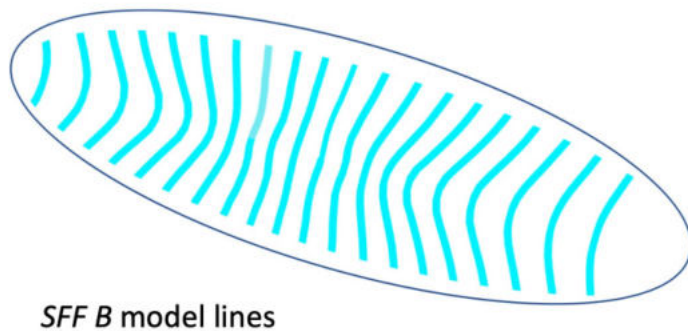
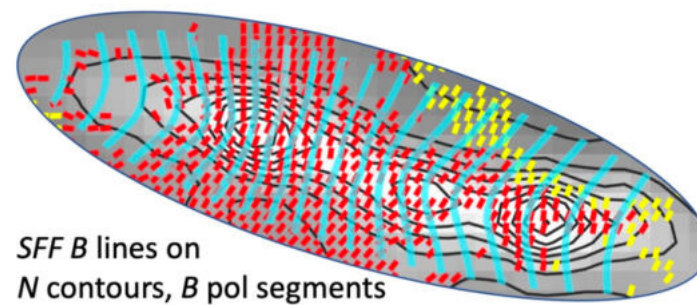
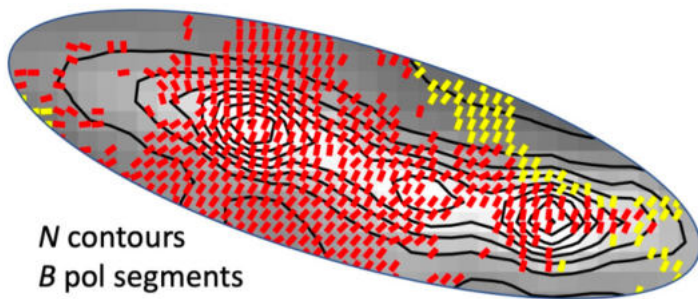
Quick summary of G47 Results

- Magnetic fields are structured but not ubiquitously perpendicular
- Field strengths of $\sim 20 \mu\text{G}$ to $100 \mu\text{G}$
- Fields are strong enough to support bone, except in locations of active star formation (highest column densities)
 - Potentially unstable to gravitational collapse at smaller scales

Spherical Flux Freezing (SFF) model

Proof of Concept: Filament 5

FIELDMAPS project: Filament 5 *SOFIA* polarization, N column density, B field lines

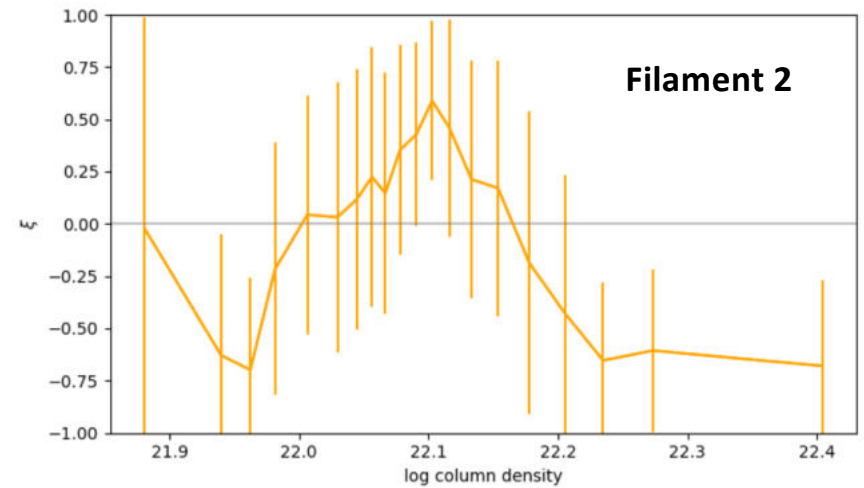
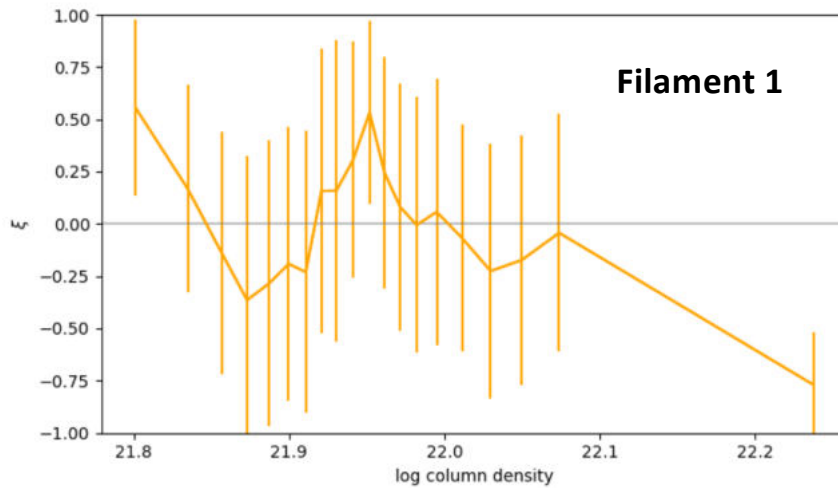


PCM 19Oct21

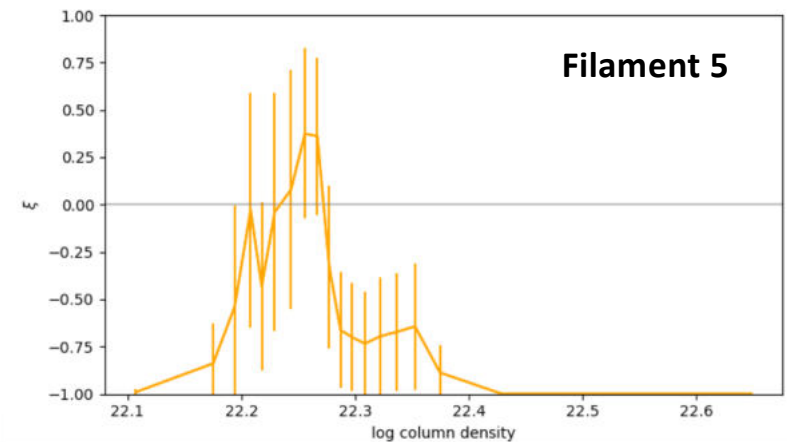
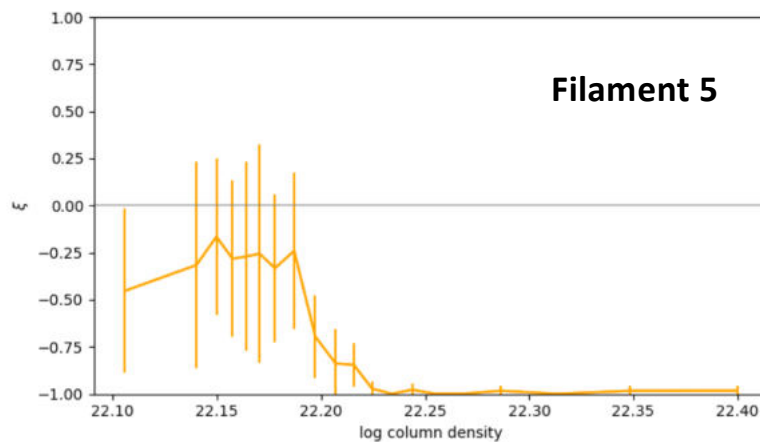
Histograms of Relative Orientations (HROs)

Fields Parallel
w/ Bone

Fields
Perpendicular
w/ Bone



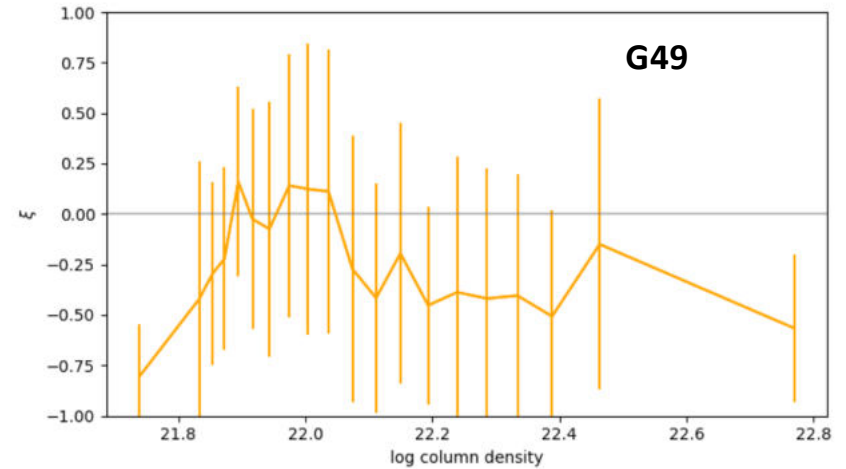
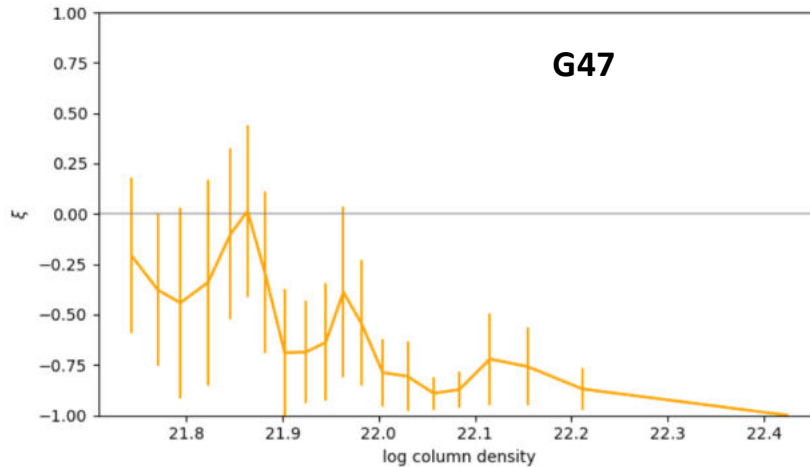
Credit:
Leah Zuckerman



Histograms of Relative Orientations (HROs)

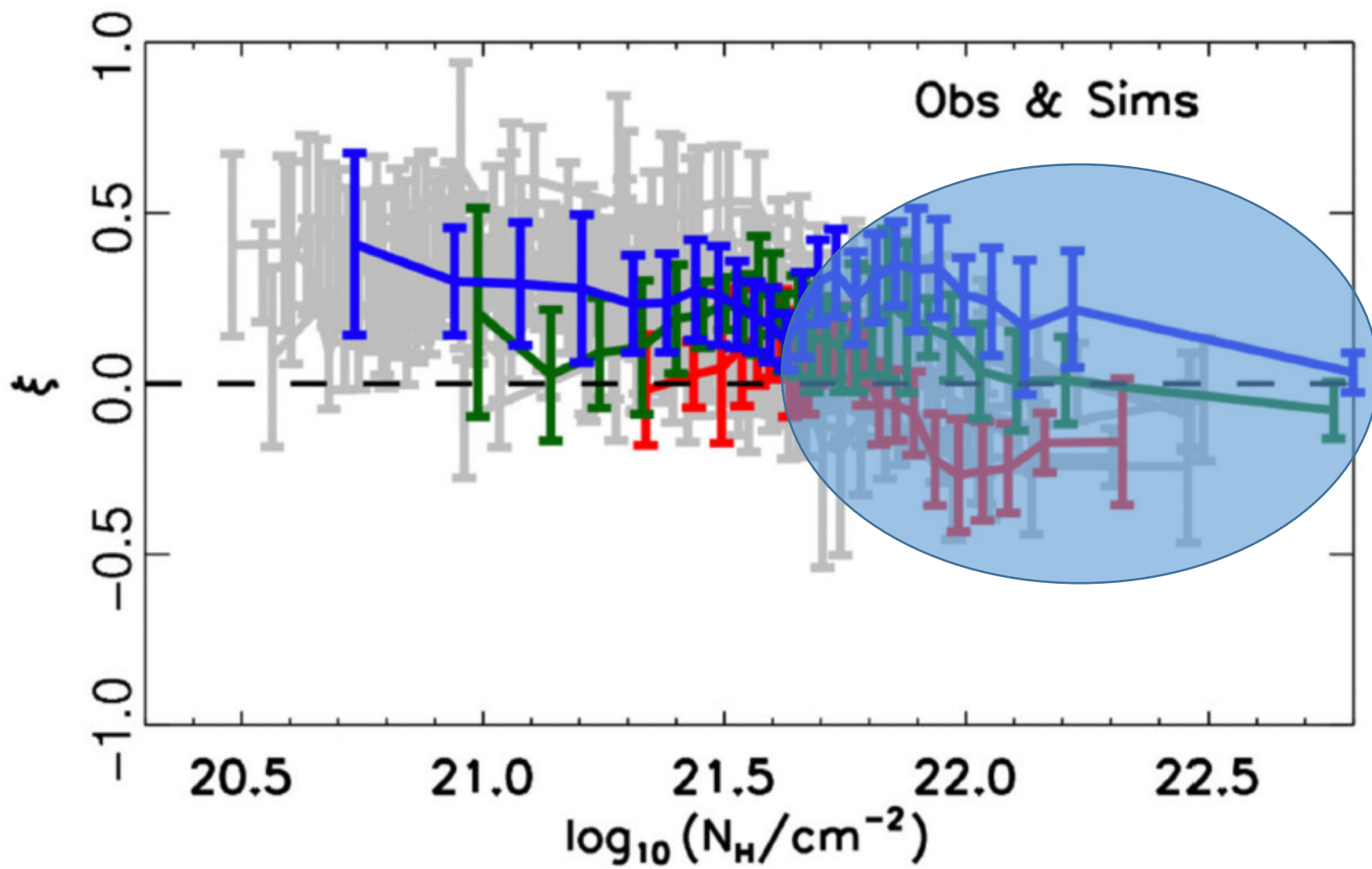
Fields Parallel
w/ Bone

Fields
Perpendicular
w/ Bone



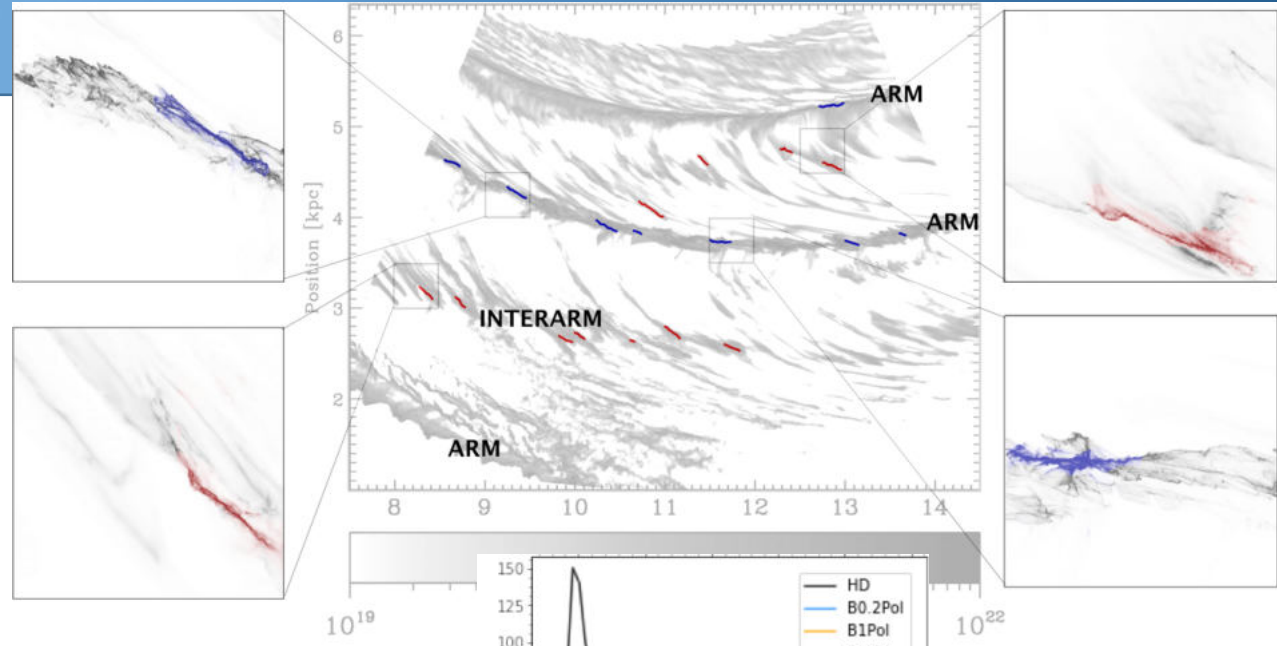
Credit:
Leah Zuckerman

High columns: Perpendicular with Bones. Otherwise, more random

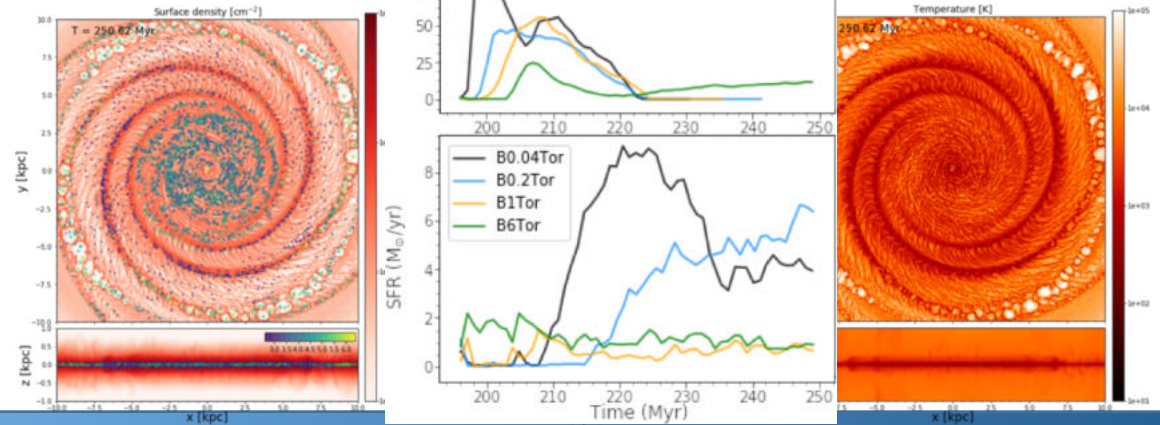


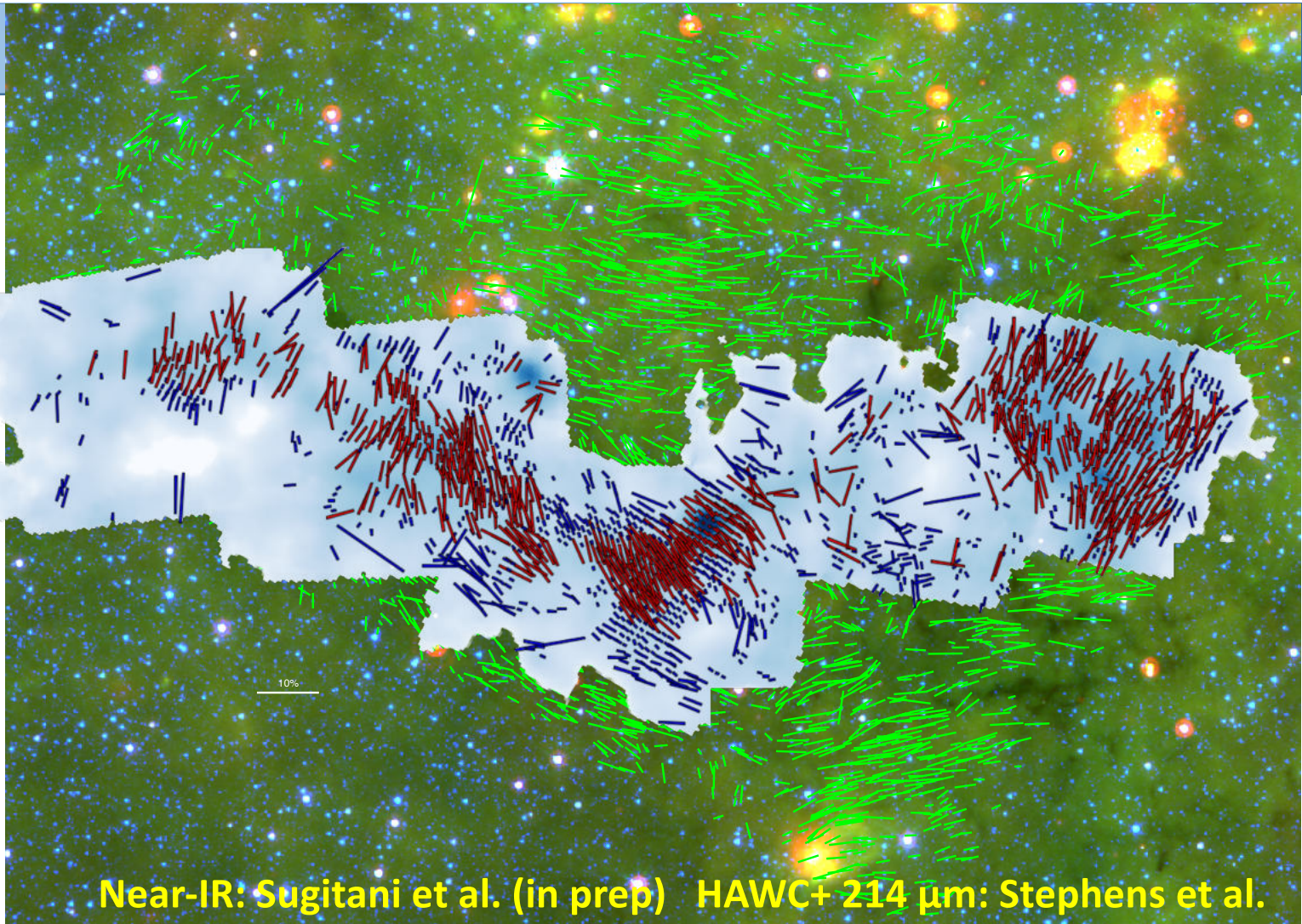
Simulations by team members
Rowan Smith et al. (2014, 2020)

Observational comparisons
Zucker et al. (2019)

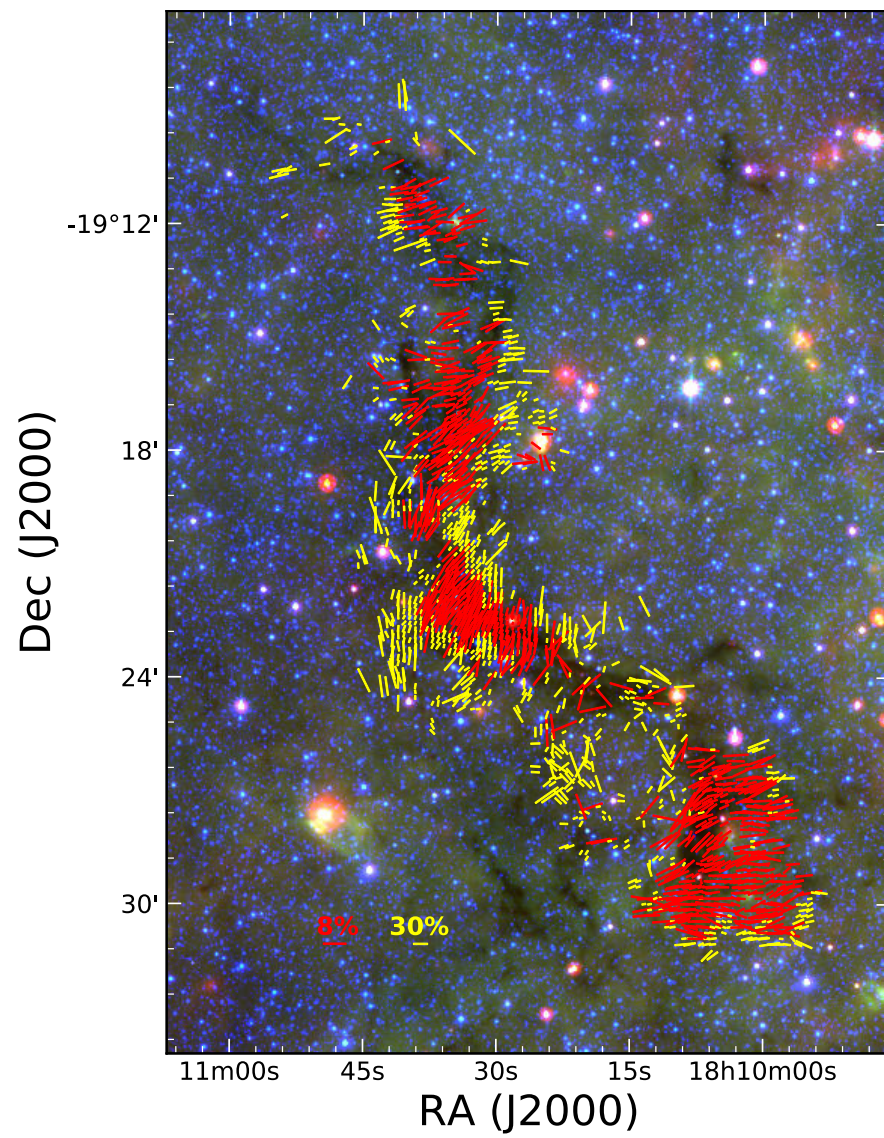


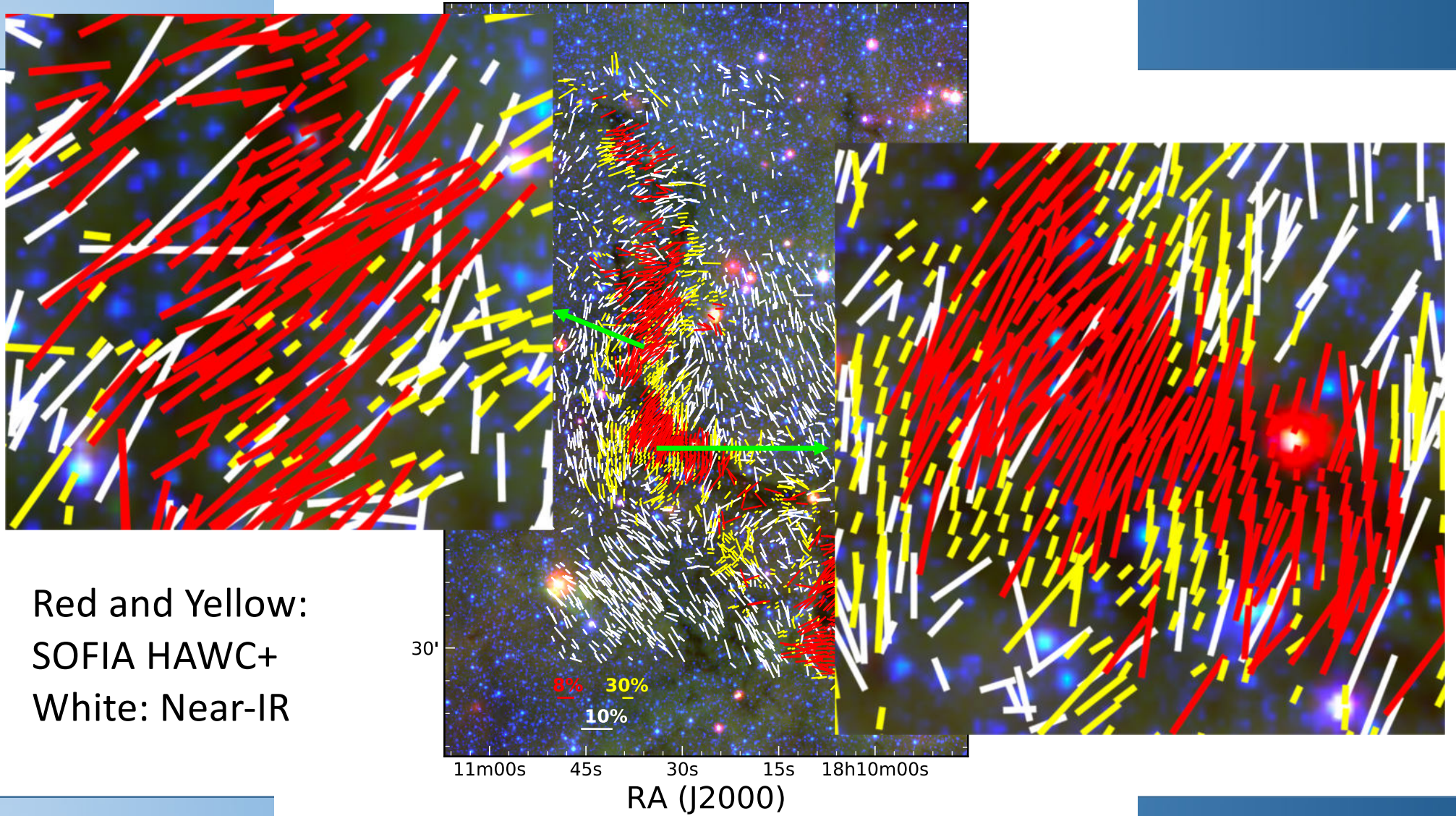
Initial simulations adding magnetic fields
Will compare using POLARIS code

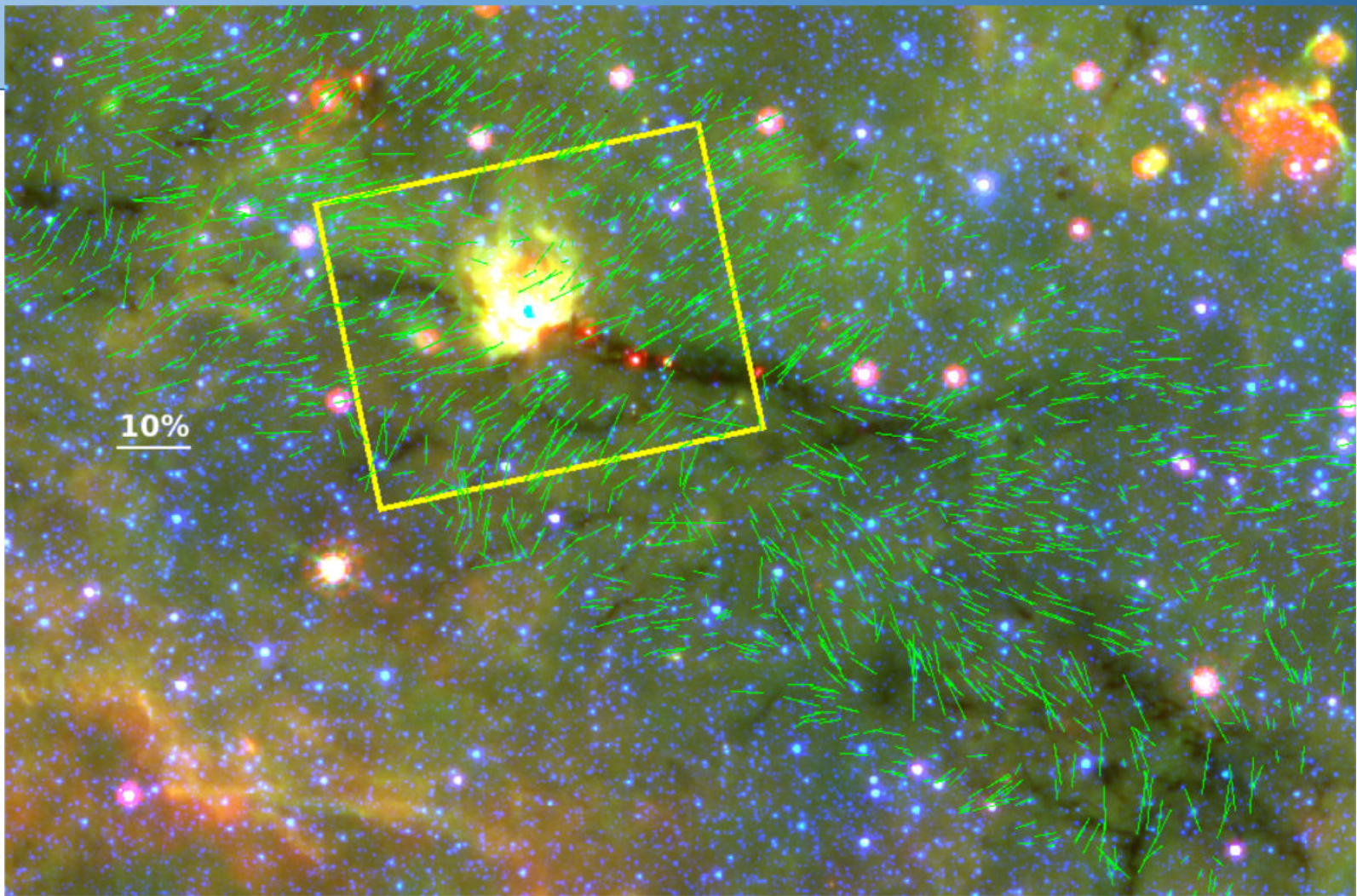




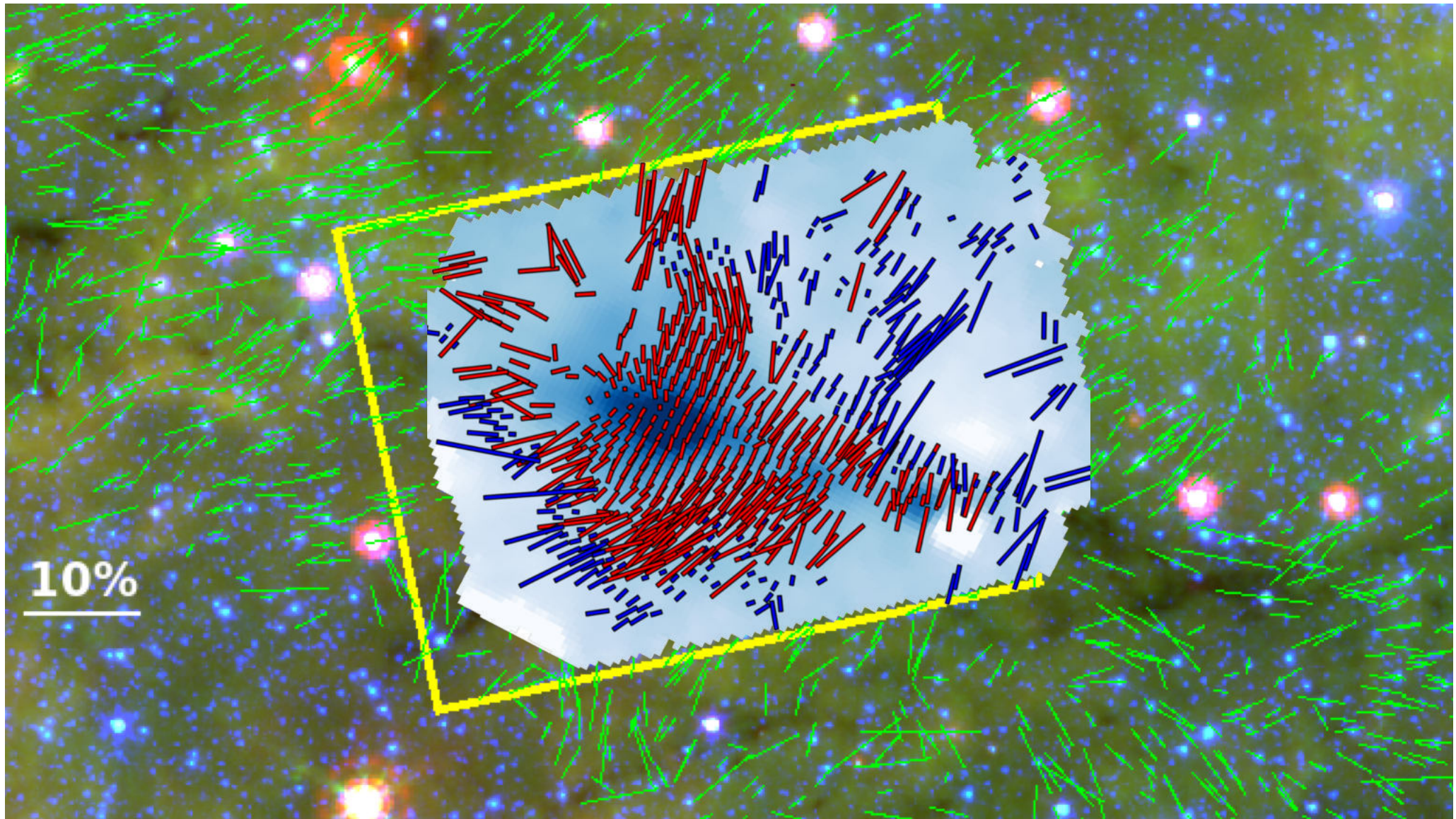
Near-IR: Sugitani et al. (in prep) HAWC+ 214 μm : Stephens et al.

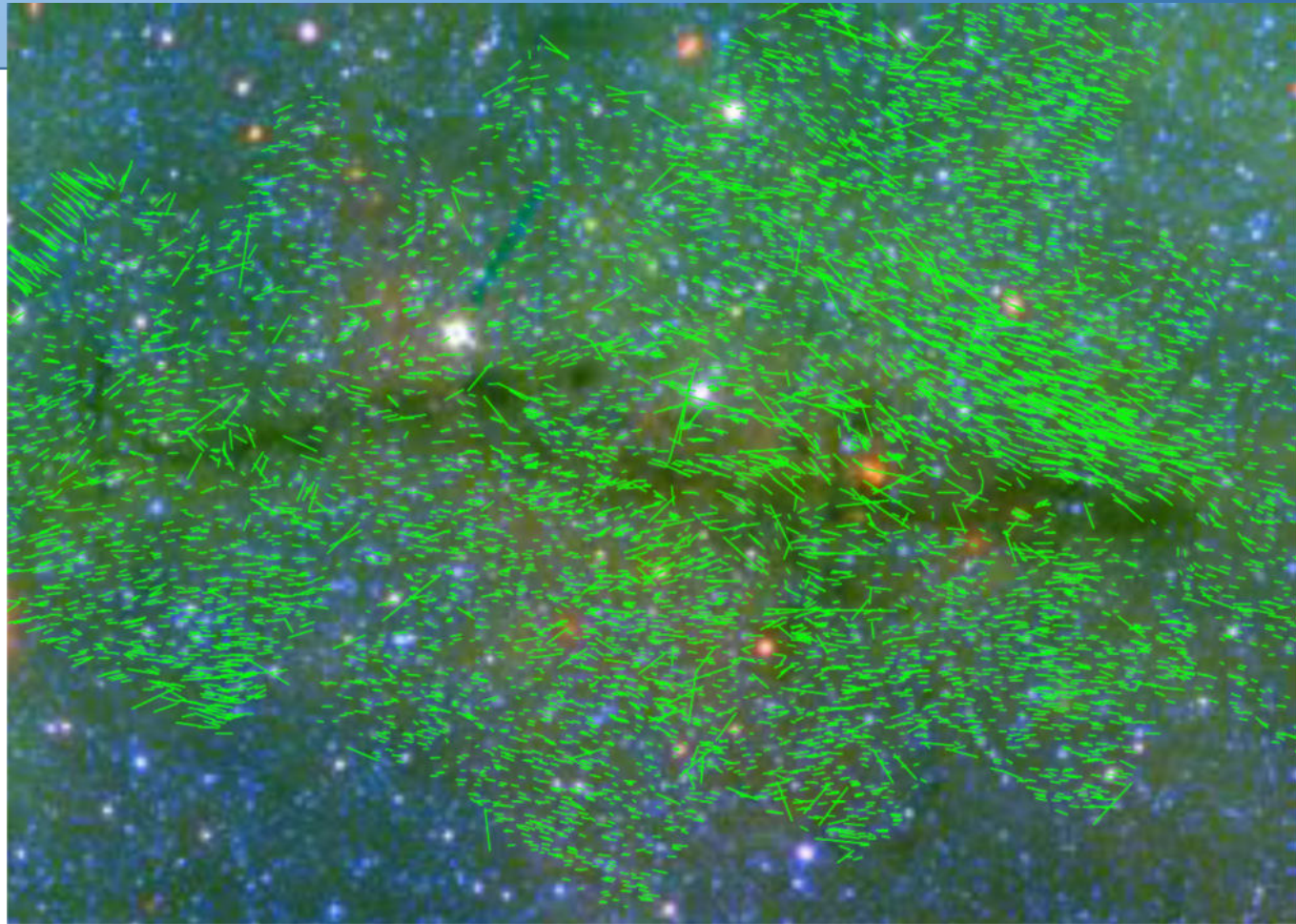






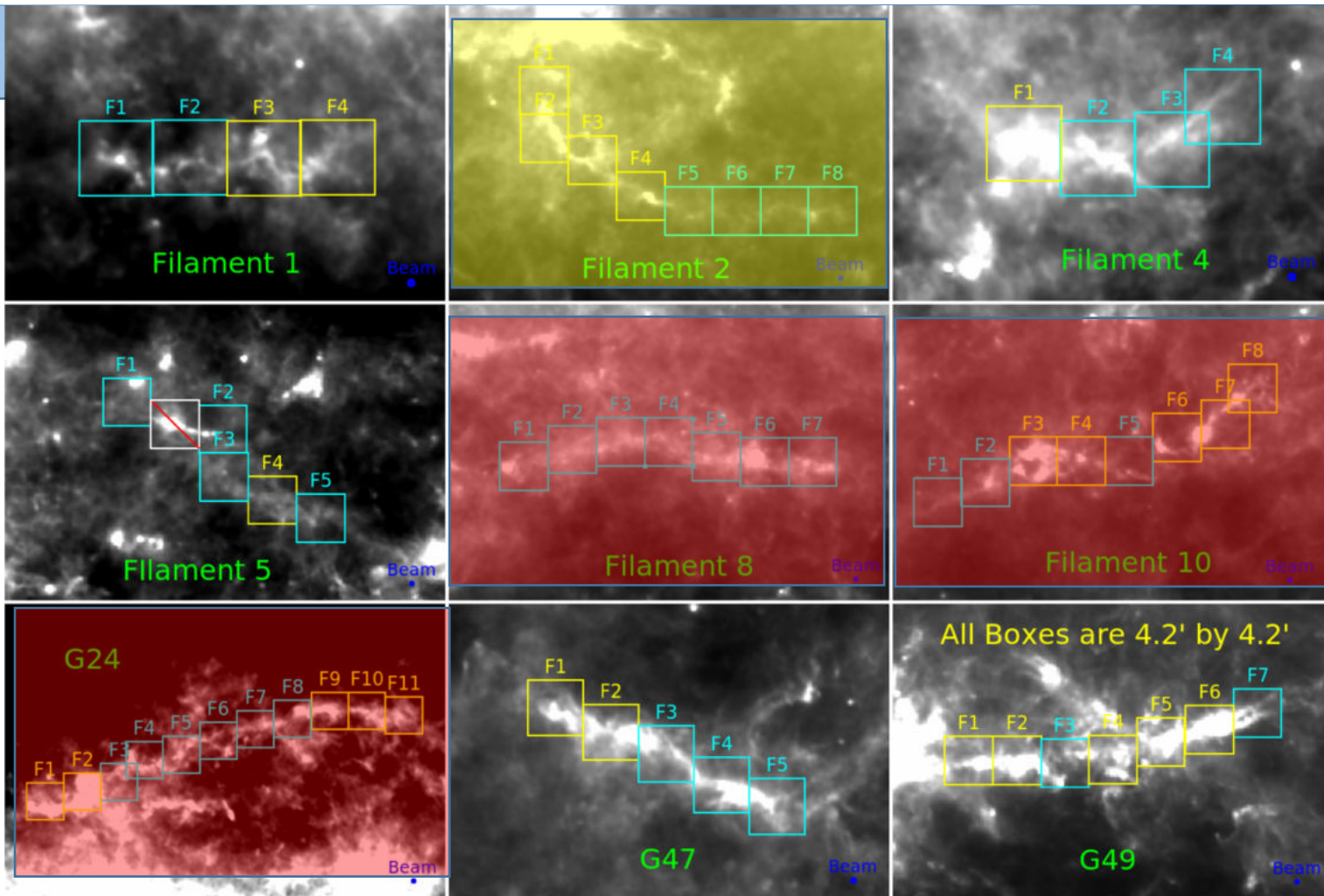
Sugitani et al. (in prep)





Sugitani et al. (in prep)

Perhaps the best map: Filament 8. Not yet observed



FIELDMAPS: Filaments Extremely Long and Dark: a MAgnetic Polarization Survey

FIELDMAPS' Legacy

- Galaxy MHD Simulations have just reached the point where they achieve resolutions of SOFIA (e.g., Dobbs et al. 2016)
- Will be the best high-resolution data for understanding the role of magnetic fields in collecting star-forming gas in the spiral potential
- Ancillary data to be published with program:
 - Bone parameters from Zucker et al. (2015, 2018)
 - Near-IR polarization observations of all bones lead by Koji Sugitani
 - Molecular line data, e.g., NH₃ from the RAMPS survey (Hogge et al. 2018; in prep)
 - *Spitzer* and *Herschel* data (including column density and temperature maps)
 - YSO locations

Summary

- FIELDMAPS is probing how star-forming gas collapses into the magnetized spiral potential via observing the bones. We are look at the largest known filaments in the Galaxy. The key missing component is the B-field.
- Contrary to expectations, fields are not always perpendicular
- Fields appear to be significantly strong enough to provide support against collapse
- We have shown capability of measuring magnetic field strengths across the Bones and whether they are unstable to collapse
- We have upcoming simulations to compare with