

# Turbulent energy dissipation in the interstellar medium, near and far

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«The local truth: star formation and feedback in the SOFIA era »,  
October 17-20, 2016, Asilomar, USA



Mid-IR *Spitzer* image of the bow shock in front of the run-away star  $\zeta$  Oph

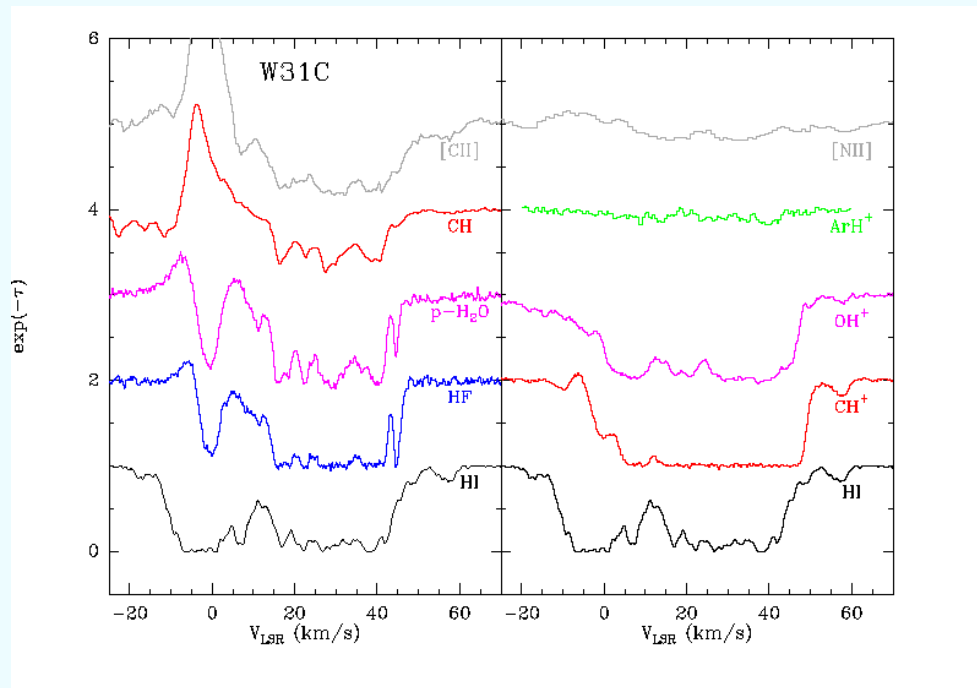
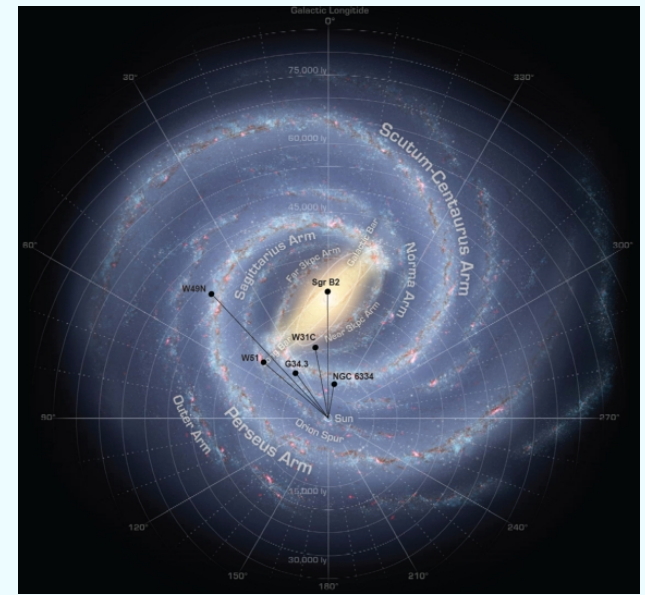
« A central issue in theories of galaxy formation is the relative importance of purely gravitational effects and gas dynamical effects involving dissipation and radiative cooling. » [White & Rees 1998](#)

## Outline

- The unexpected molecular richness of the diffuse ISM
- A missing energy source in the diffuse ISM: dissipation of MHD turbulence
- Dissipation of non-ideal MHD turbulence : dedicated numerical simulations
- Confrontation to observables
- Challenges for SOFIA

# The unexpected molecular richness of the diffuse ISM

# Herschel/HIFI absorption spectroscopy



HF : tracer of  $H_2$ , exothermic  $F + H_2$   
 CH : tracer of  $H_2$  (density larger than  $100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ )

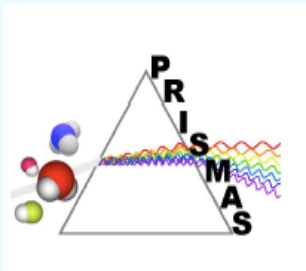
$OH^+$  : tracer of CR, destroyed by collisions with H and  $H_2$

$CH^+$  : tracer of energy dissipation, destroyed by collisions H and  $H_2$

$ArH^+$  : tracer of HI,  $f_{H_2} < 10^{-3}$  and CR

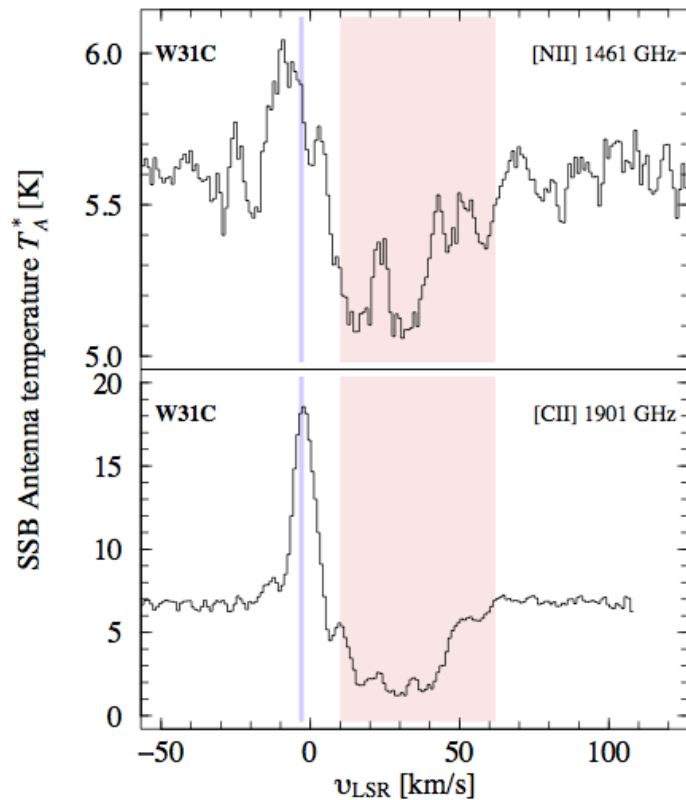
➡ different families: PCA analysis  
 Neufeld + 2015

- HI : EVLA, Brunthaler + in prep
- CII : Gerin + 2015
- NII : Persson + 2014
- CH : Gerin + 2010a
- HF and  $H_2O$  : Neufeld + 2010
- $ArH^+$  : Schilke + 2014
- $OH^+$  : Gerin + 2010b
- $CH^+$  : Falgarone + 2010, Godard + 2012



PI: M. Gerin

# [NII] and [CII] absorption in diffuse gas



[CII] and [NII] have similar critical densities

**[NII] emission line** : HII regions  
in star forming regions

**[NII] absorption line** : WIM

Mean  $n_e \sim 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

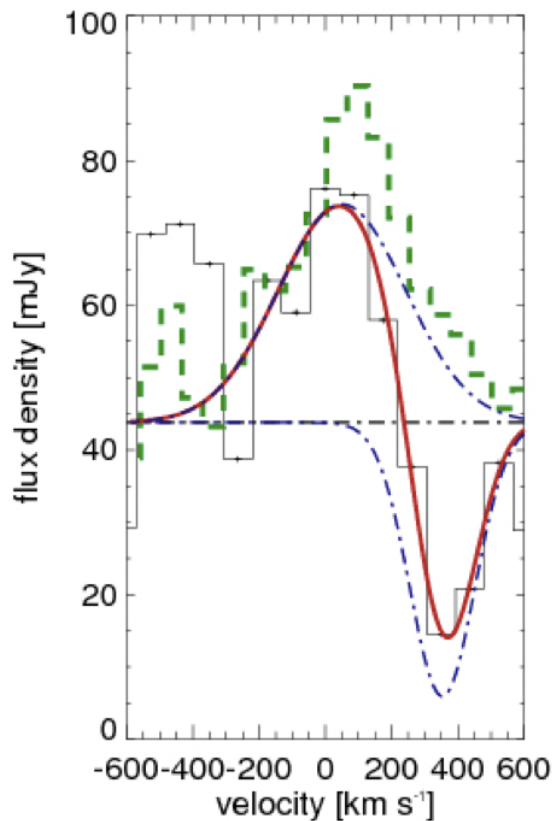
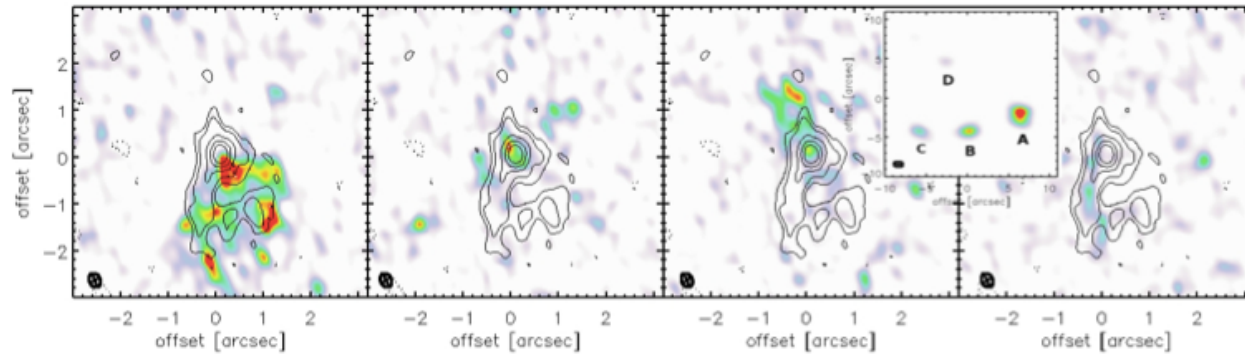
for LOS filling factor 0.5 to 0.7

$N(\text{N}^+) \sim 1.5 \times 10^{17} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

⇒ 7 – 10 % of all  $\text{C}^+$  in the WIM

⇒ **Absorption by intervening CNM**  
**severely affects [CII] and [NII] emission**

# First detection of [CII] absorption at high redshift



CI dashed green  
[CII] black

*Planck* dusty GEMS

Canameras + 2015

Flux 400 mJy at 350  $\mu\text{m}$

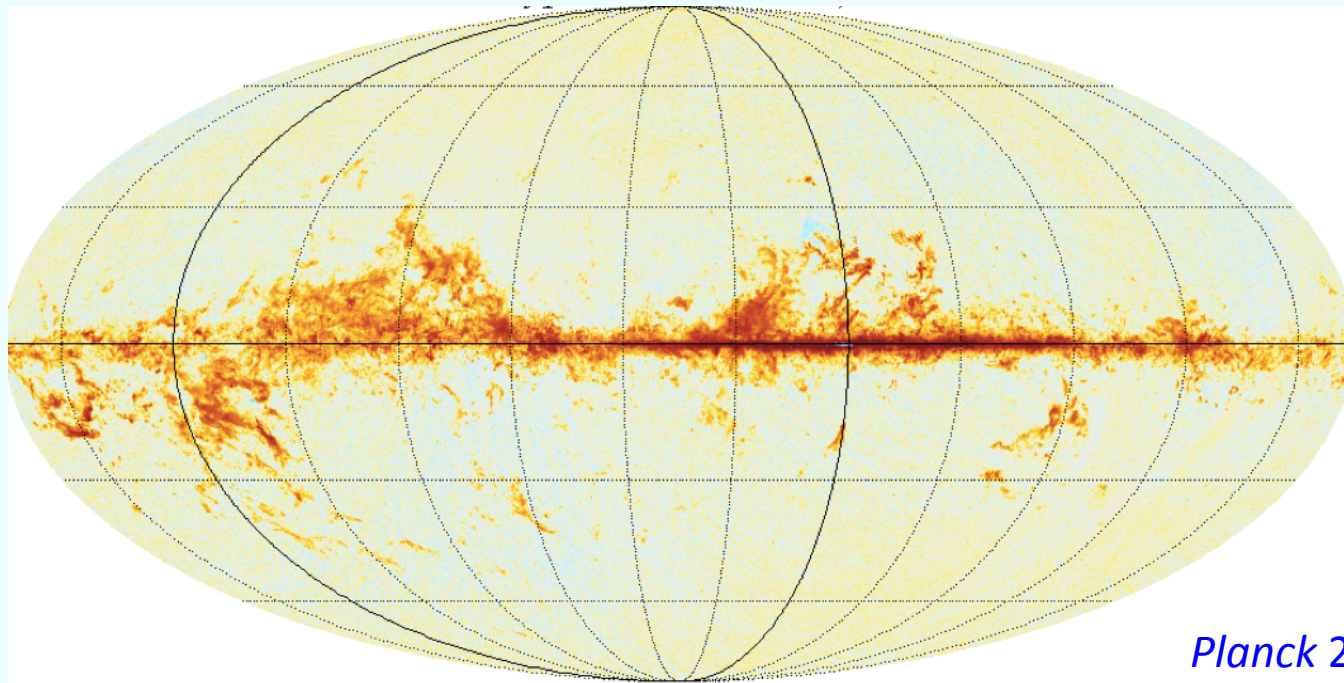
$z=3.4$

ALMA [CII] observations

⇒ [CII] absorption from  
inflowing diffuse gas

Nesvadba et al. 2016

# *Planck* : all-sky CO



*Planck* 2013 Results XIII (2014)

## **Properties of the all-sky CO emission:**

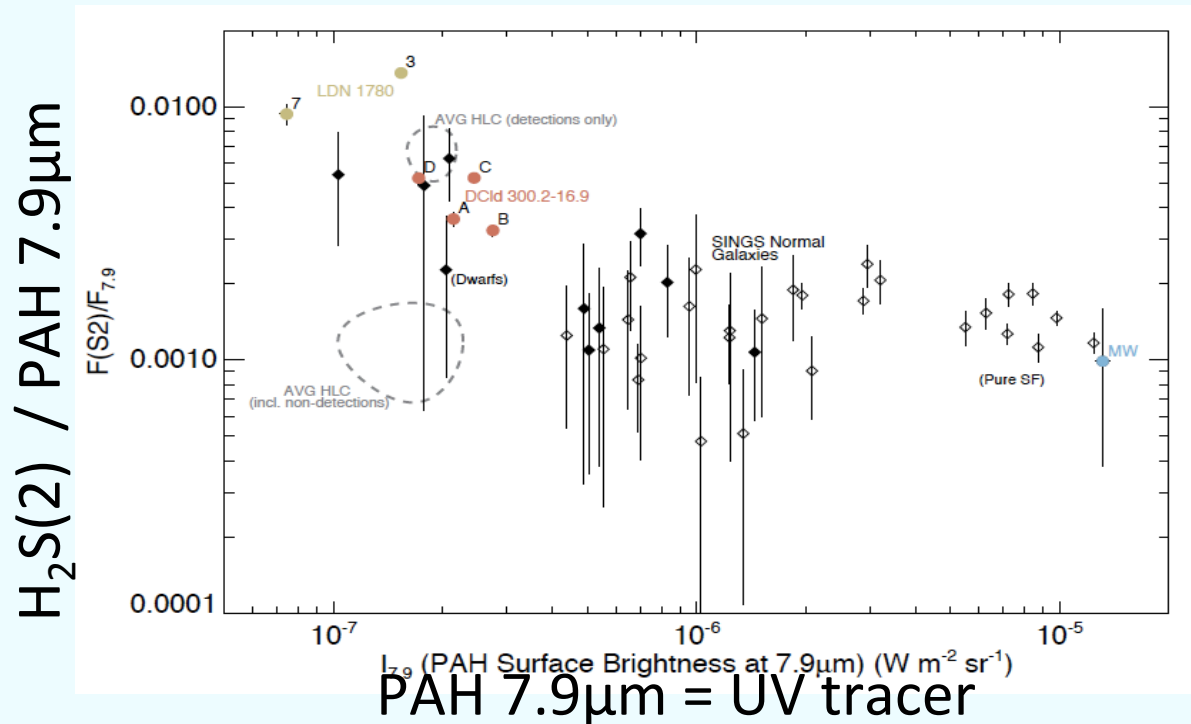
- ❑ at high latitude, power law distributions of size and flux of hundreds of « patches »
- ❑ CO is a reliable molecular gas mass tracer within a factor of a few over 3 orders of magnitude of gas column densities (see [Bolatto + 2013](#))
- ❑ From 3-2/2-1 and 2-1/1-0 ratios, the bulk of the mass of molecular gas in the Inner Galaxy lies in gas at density  $< 600 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and temperature  $> 20\text{K}$
- ❑ CO emission of the CO-dark gas

*Planck* Collaboration (in prep.)

A missing energy source for the diffuse  
ISM



# H<sub>2</sub> pure rotational emission in galactic cirrus

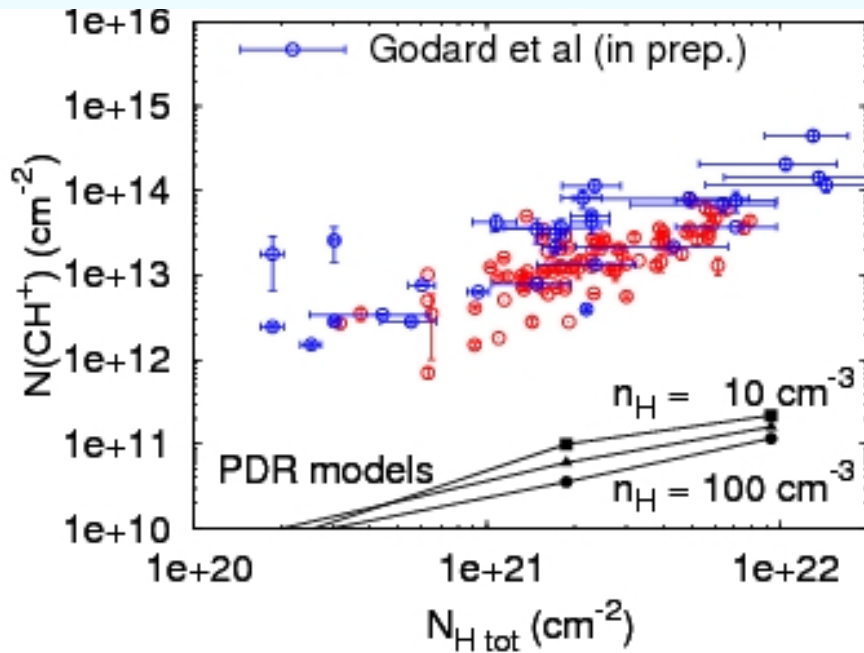


*Spitzer/IRS*  
 Ingalls et al.  
 2011

- ⇒ UV pumping not sole source of excitation
- ⇒ H<sub>2</sub> brightness per H ~ constant (*Spitzer/IRS*)

At the galactic scale, ISO-SWS spectra [Falgarone et al. 2005](#)

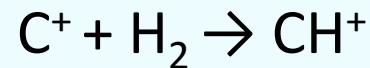
# Large CH<sup>+</sup> abundances in diffuse gas



Extremely short lifetime  
(destroyed by collisions  $\text{H} - \text{H}_2$ )

$$t = 1 \text{ yr} / f_{\text{H}_2} (n_{\text{H}} / 50 \text{ cm}^{-3})^{-1}$$

Formation energy:



$$E_{\text{form}} = 0.4 \text{ eV}$$

Red: visible absorption lines

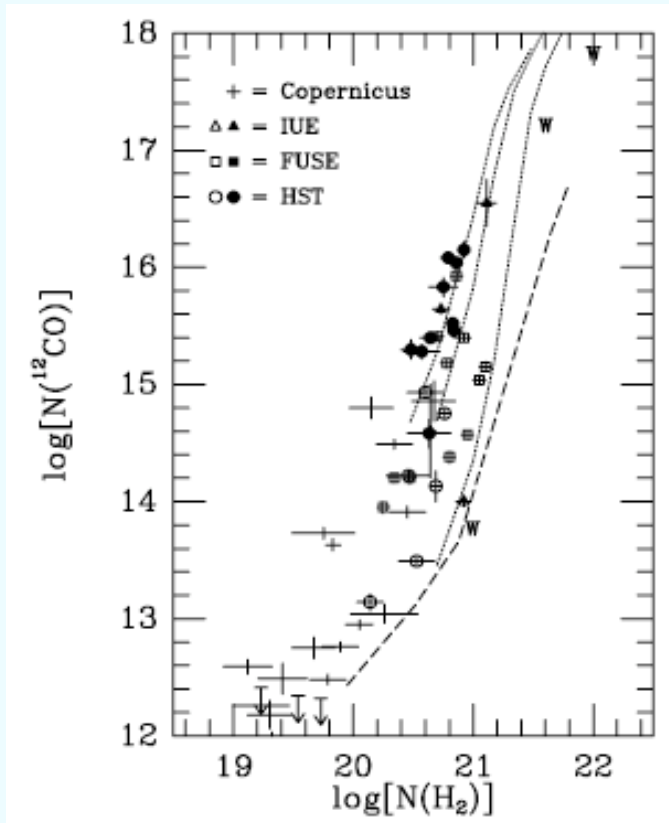
Crane + 95, Gredel 97, Weselak + 08

Blue: Submm lines

Godard et al. 2014

⇒ **Need for a supra-thermal energy source**

# Unexplained CO at low $N_{\text{H}_2}$



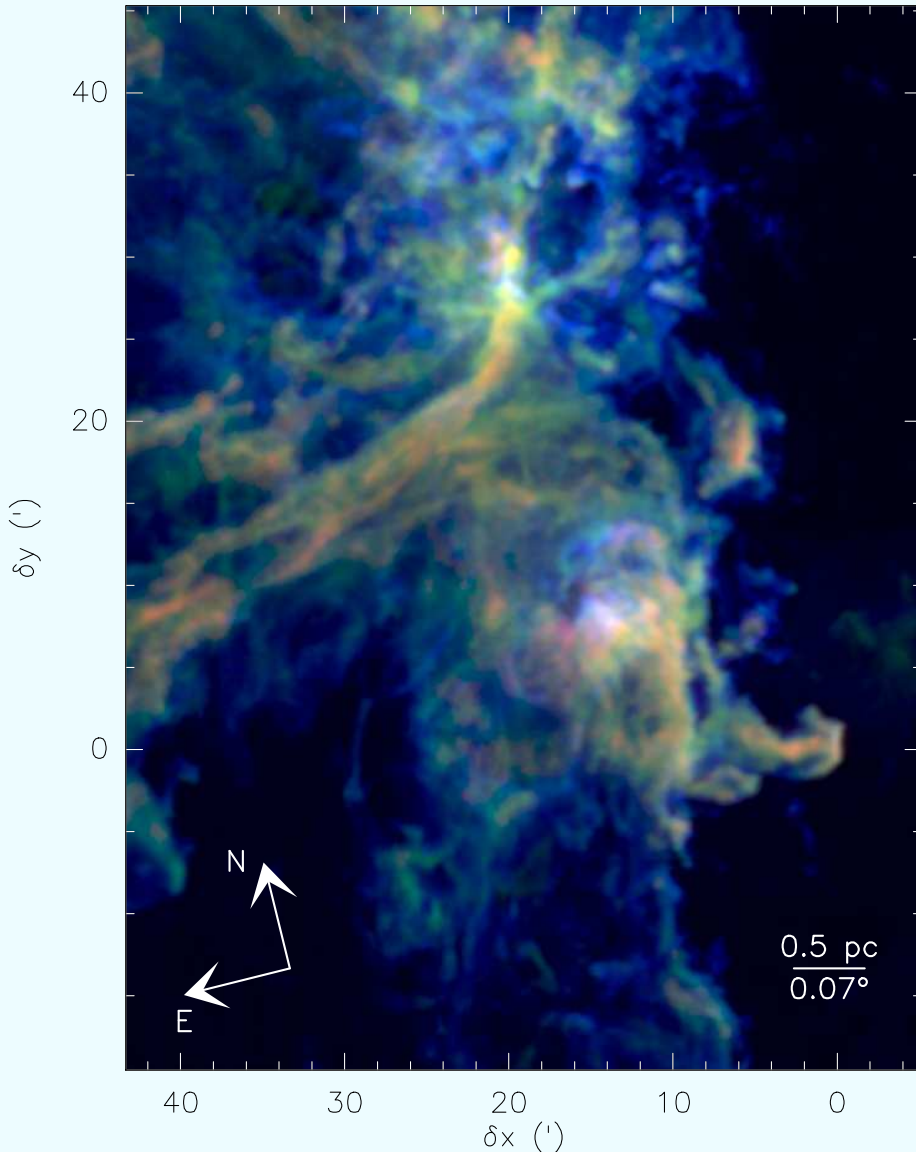
CO abundances in diffuse gas cannot be reproduced with UV-driven chemistry

Sonnentrucker + 07

- **PDR models :  $\text{C}^+$**   
 $\text{C}^+ + \text{OH}$  and  $\text{H}_2\text{O} \rightarrow \text{CO}$
- **Alternative:  $\text{CH}_3^+$**   
if highly endothermic  
route  $\text{C}^+ + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}^+$  opened  
 $\text{CH}^+ + \text{H}_2 \rightarrow \text{CH}_2^+ \rightarrow \text{CH}_3^+$   
⇒ **only  $\text{H}_2$  and  $\text{C}^+$  needed**

# $^{13}\text{CO}(1-0)$ unbiased spectral survey of the Orion B Complex

(C) 2016 IRAM 30 meter / J.Pety



IRAM-30m

Cube:  $370 \times 650$  pixel

Resolution:  $9'' \times 9'' \times 0.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

$1.5 \text{ degree}^2$

NGC 2024: HII region (O stars)

NGC 2023: reflection nebula (B stars)

IC 434: PDR ( $\sigma\text{Ori}$ ), H $\alpha$  emission, Horsehead

⇨ Which turbulence modes prevail in different regions of the molecular cloud?

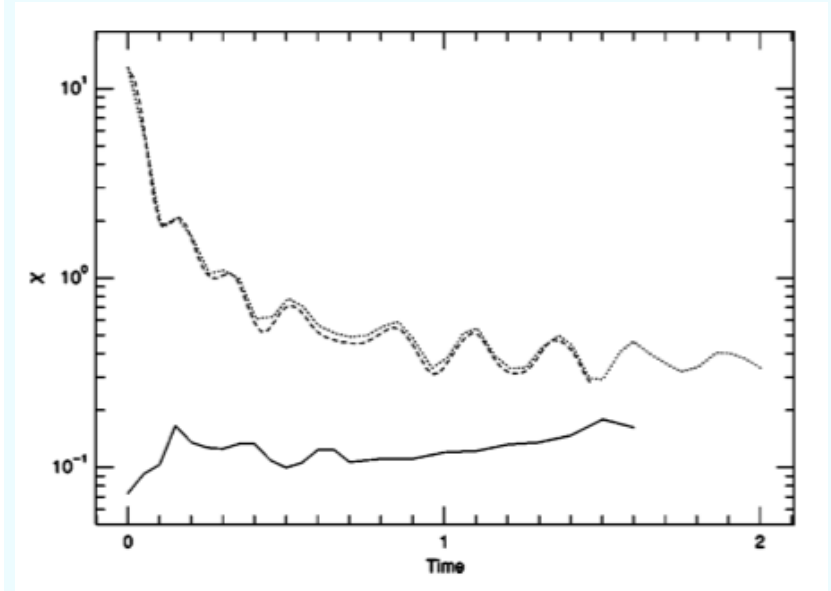
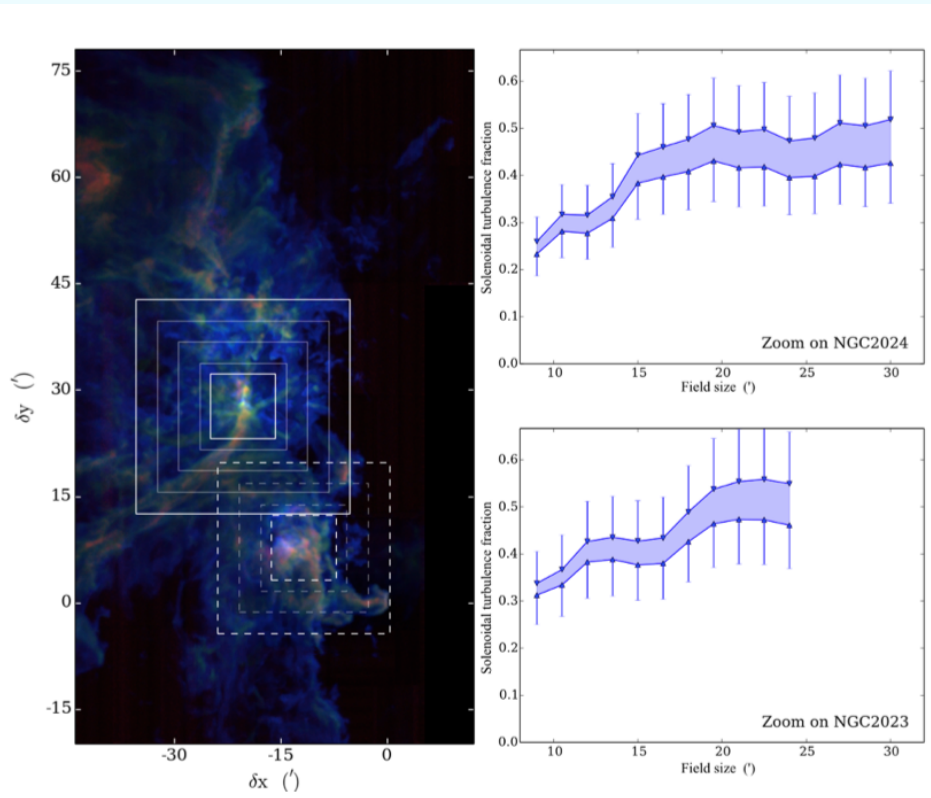
**Solenoidal flow** : dominated by rotation motions (vortices and eddies)

**Compressive flow** : creation of overdensities  $\Rightarrow$  self-gravity  $\Rightarrow$  star

formation  $\Rightarrow$  expansion of HII regions

Pety et al. In prep.

# Solenoidal fraction vs. compressive fraction



Method: [Brunt & Federrath 2014](#)

Solenoidal fraction for the full field:

$$0.72 < R_{13\text{CO}} < 1$$

⇒ less than 28% of compressive motions ?

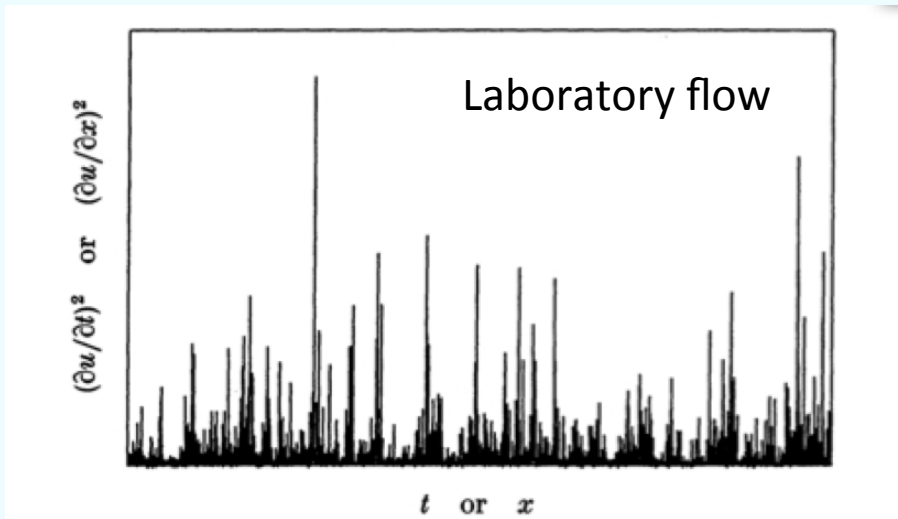
$R'$  = fraction of compressive/solenoidal energy versus time in NS of compressible turbulence

Different initial conditions

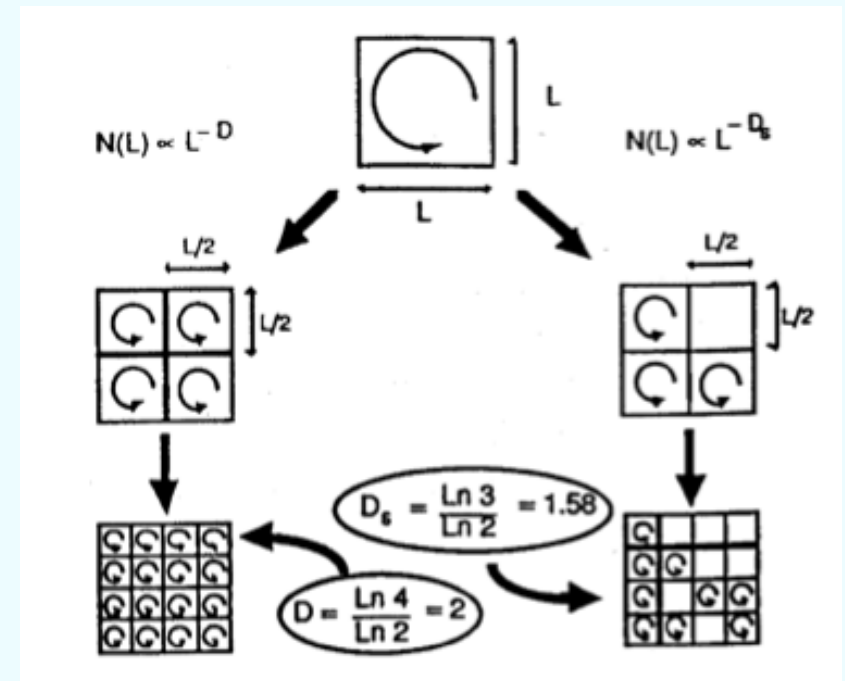
⇒ convergence at  $R'=1/3$

[Porter Pouquet Woodward 2002](#)

# Energy transfer from scale to scale in turbulence is strongly intermittent in space and time

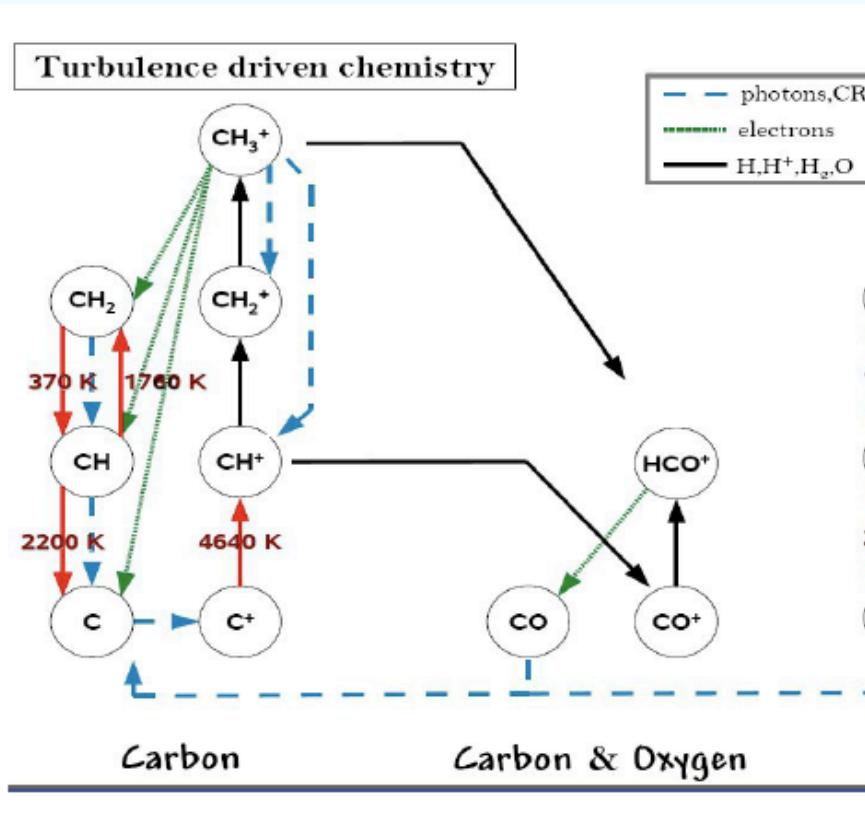


Méneveau & Sreenivasan (1991)



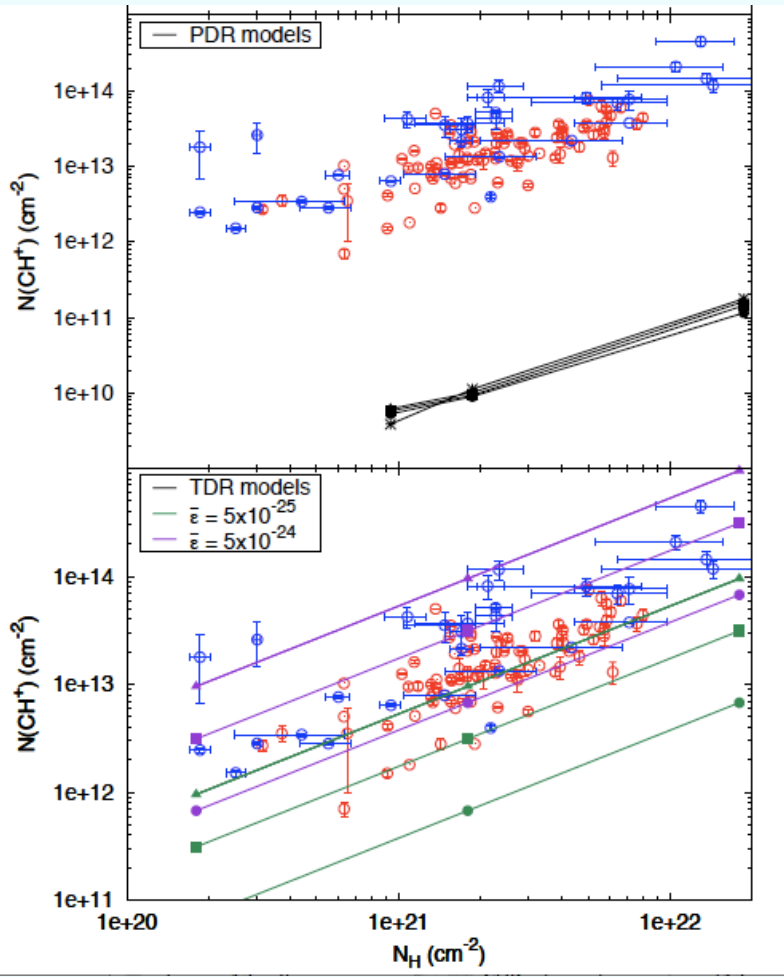
Anselmet et al. 2001

# Turbulent dissipation : the promises of warm chemistry



- **PDR models : C<sup>+</sup>**  
C<sup>+</sup> + OH and H<sub>2</sub>O → CO
  - **Alternative: CH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>**  
if highly endothermic  
route C<sup>+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub> → CH<sup>+</sup> opened  
CH<sup>+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub> → CH<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup> → CH<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>
- ⇒ **warm chemistry fed by intermittent turbulent dissipation**

# Models of Turbulent Dissipation Regions in diffuse gas



TDR models for  $n_{\text{H}} = 30, 50, 100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

- ⇒  $N(\text{CH}^+)$  increases with UV-field
- ⇒  $N(\text{CH}^+)$  proportional to **turbulent injection rate**

⇒ **Direct measure of the energy flux:**

$$\dot{E} = \mathcal{N}(\text{CH}^+) E_{\text{form}} / t$$

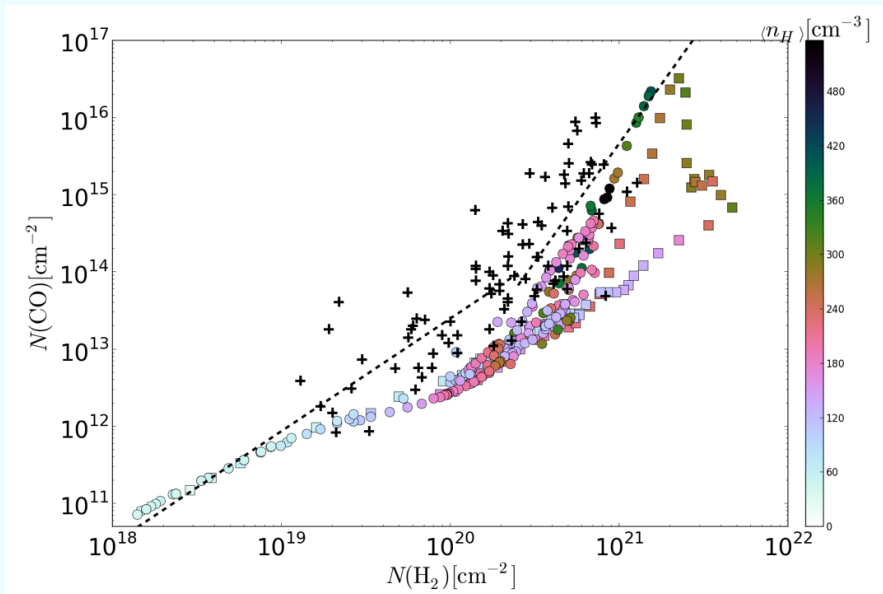
Warm chemistry driven by ion-neutral friction



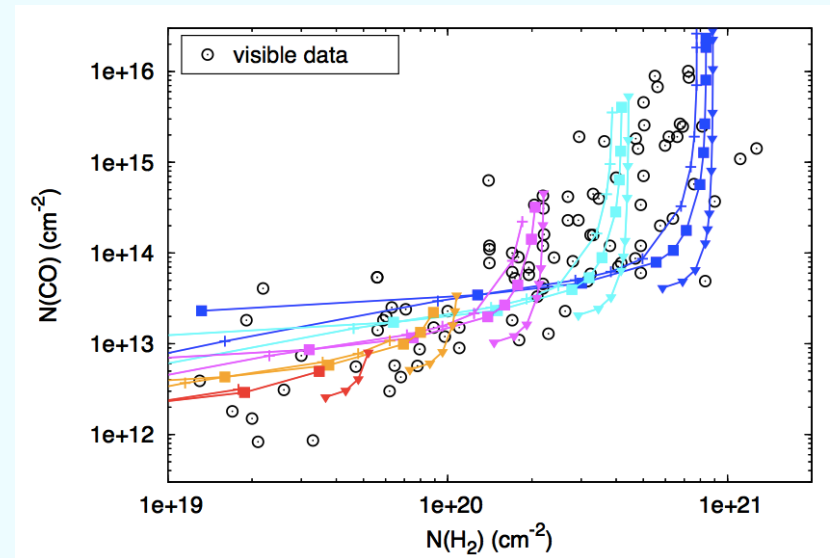
# Turbulent dissipation in diffuse gas: CO formation

CO : visible data (absorption lines against nearby stars)

Sheffer + 08, Pan + 05, Rachford + 09, Snow + 08



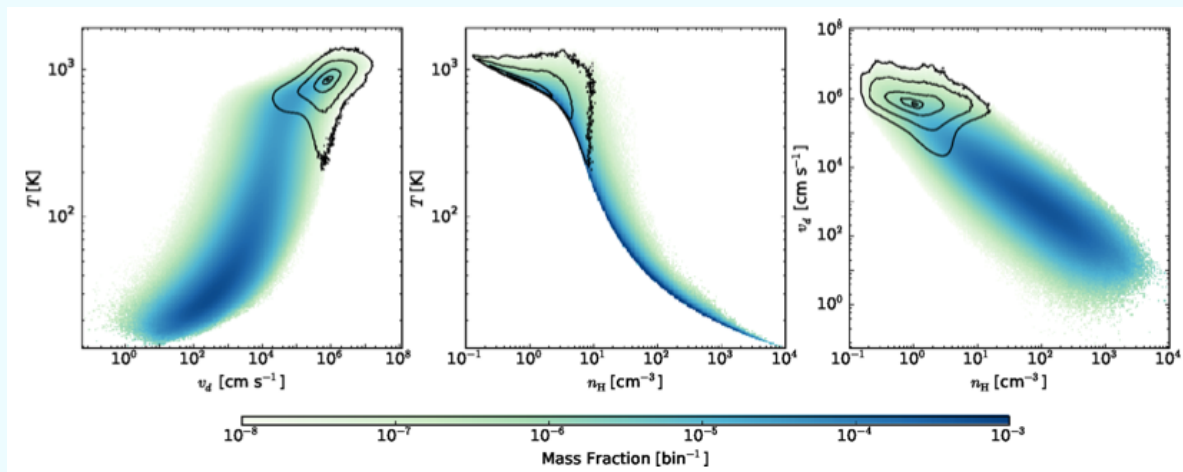
*Post-treatment:  
PDR models in MHD colliding  
flow simulations  
Levrier + 2012*



*Turbulent dissipation regions:  
model predictions for low densities  
Godard + 2014*

# Alternative approaches

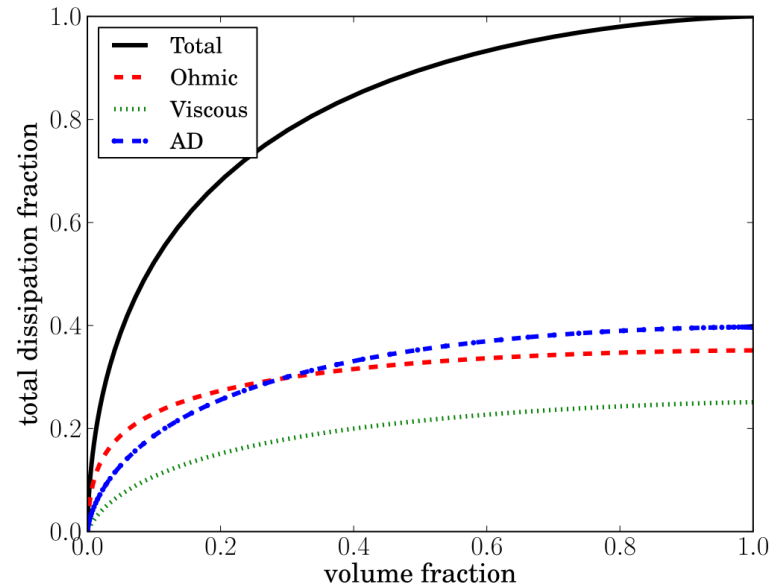
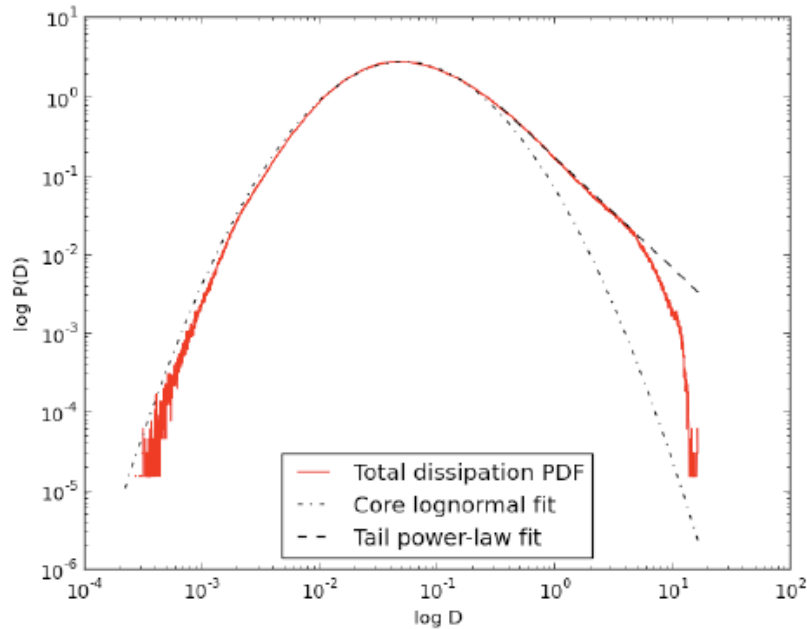
- Low velocity C-shocks [Draine & Katz 1986](#)
- Irradiated low-velocity C-shocks [Lesaffre + 2013](#)
- Alfvén waves [Federman + 1996](#)
- Turbulent mixing CNM /WNM, non-steady state H<sub>2</sub> abundances [Valdivia + 2016, in prep.](#)
- MHD turbulence in diffuse gas [Myers + 2015](#)



MHD simulations, post-treatment of chemistry,  
steady-state H<sub>2</sub> abundances

Dissipation of non-ideal MHD  
turbulence : dedicated numerical  
simulations

# Non-ideal incompressible MHD turbulence



Ohmic dissipation:  $D_{\text{ohm}} = \eta j^2$ ,  $j = \text{curl } B$

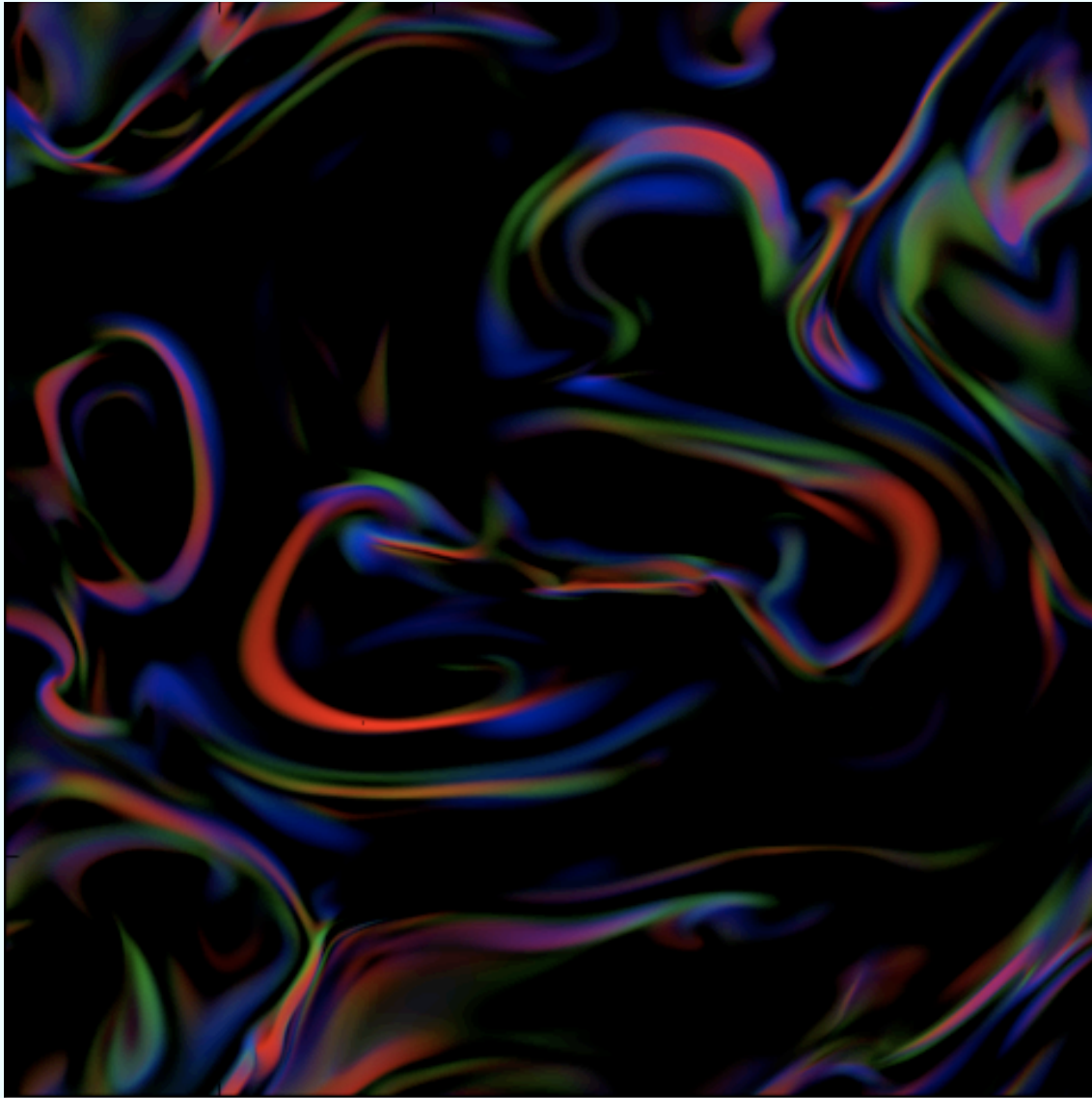
Viscous dissipation:  $D_{\text{visc}} = \nu \omega^2$

Dissipation by ion-neutral friction:

$$D_{\text{AD}} = \alpha (j \times B)^2$$

⇒ Half of the total dissipation is concentrated in 10% of the volume

⇒ Ohmic, AD and viscous have comparable contributions to total dissipation



Slice

# Extrema of dissipation

Ohmic dissipation:

$$D_{\text{ohm}} = \eta j^2$$

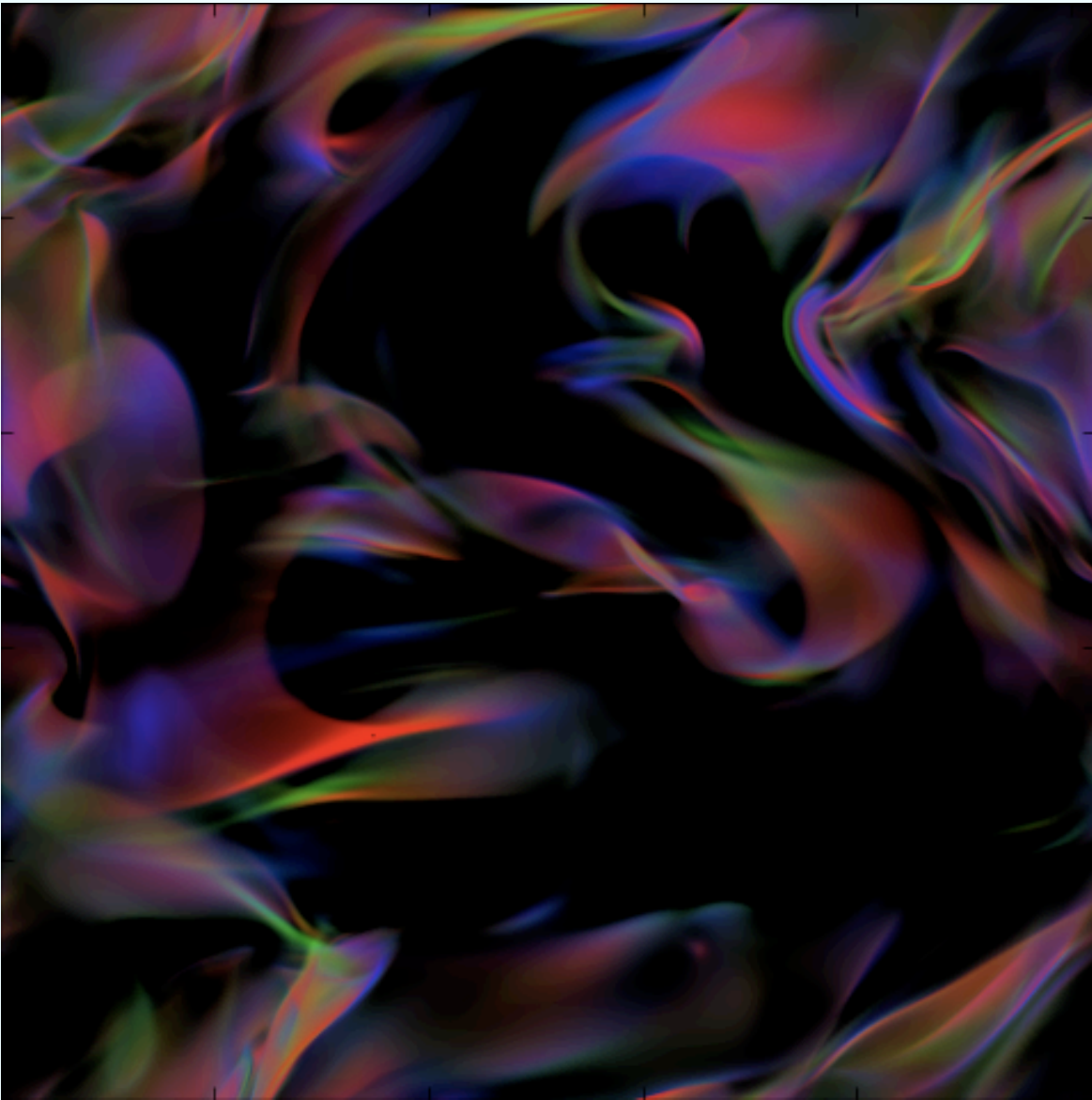
Viscous dissipation:

$$D_{\text{visc}} = \nu \omega^2$$

Dissipation by  
ion-neutral friction:

$$D_{\text{AD}} = \alpha (j \times B)^2$$

- ⇒ AD produces force-free field at small scales
- ⇒ AD dissipation regions larger



# Extrema of dissipation

Ohmic dissipation:

$$D_{\text{ohm}} = \eta j^2$$

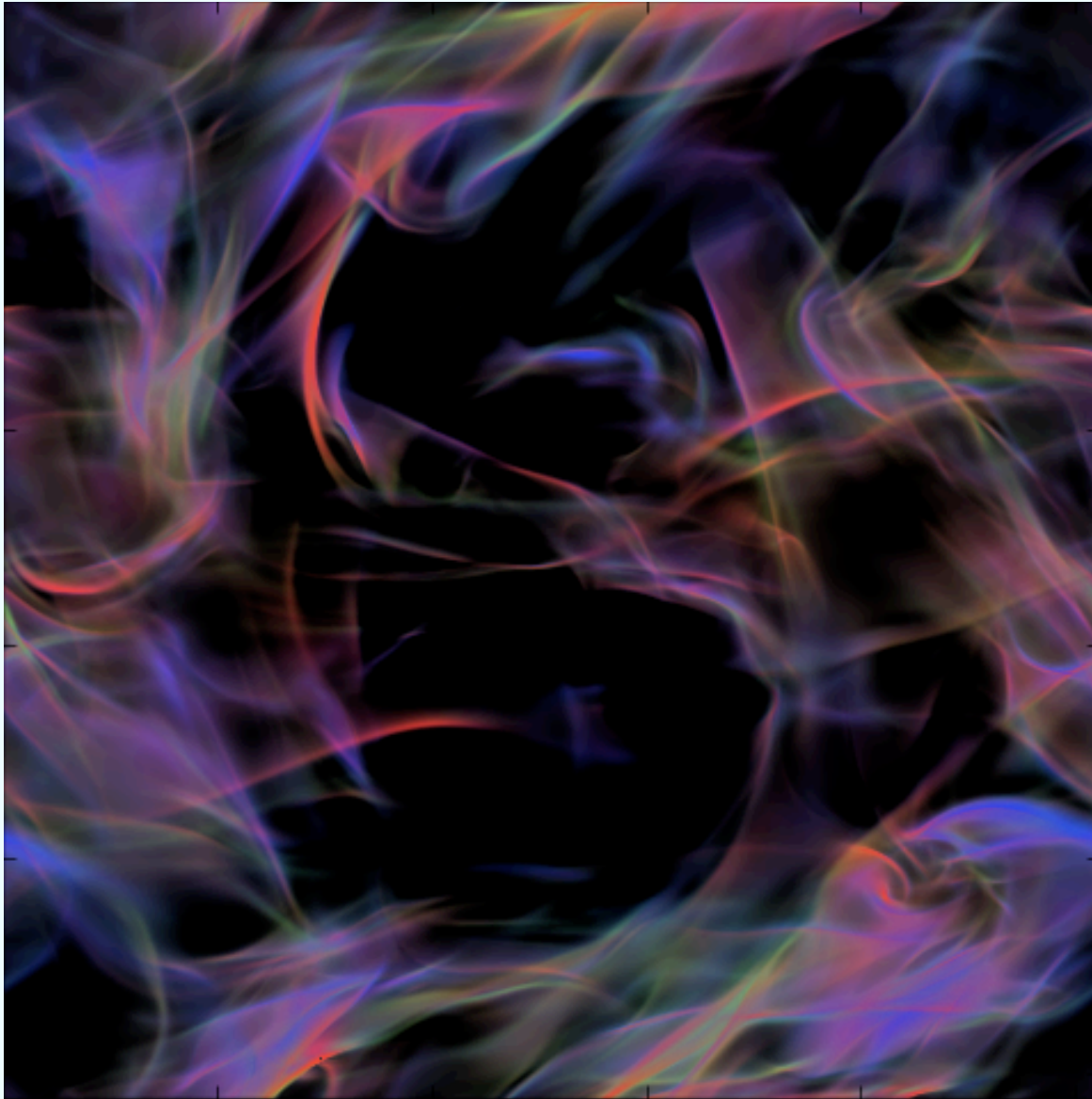
Viscous dissipation:

$$D_{\text{visc}} = \nu \omega^2$$

Dissipation by  
ion-neutral friction:

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$L_{\text{box}}/8$



# Extrema of dissipation

Ohmic dissipation:

$$D_{\text{ohm}} = \eta j^2$$

Viscous dissipation:

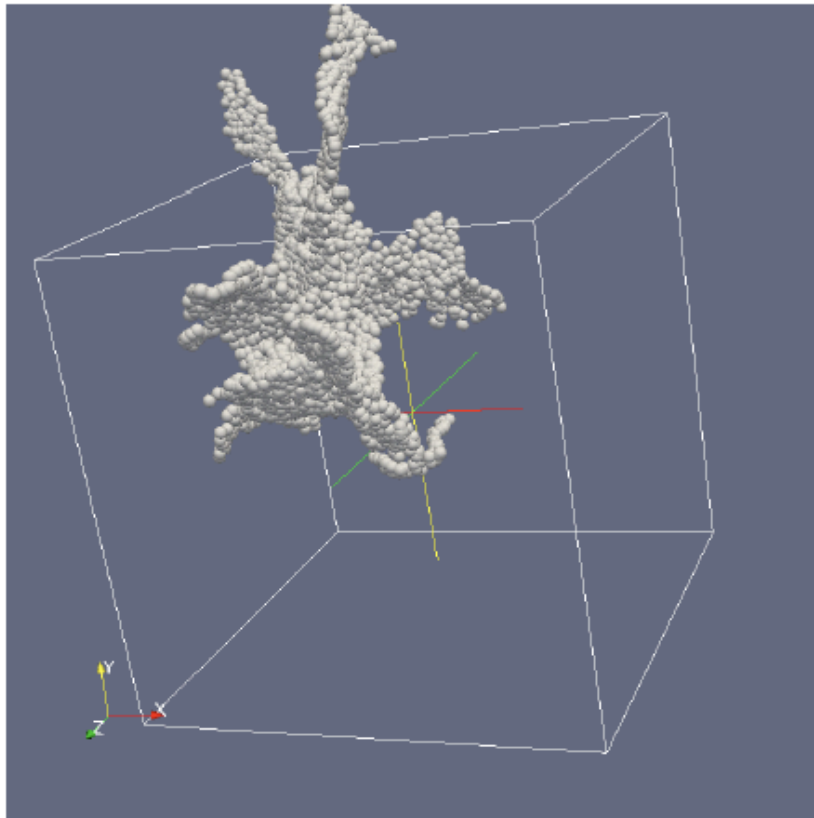
$$D_{\text{visc}} = \nu \omega^2$$

Dissipation by  
ion-neutral friction:

$$D_{\text{AD}} = \alpha (j \times B)^2$$

Full box

# Extraction of structures of dissipation rate extremum



Momferratos et al. 2014

Connected sets of points  
with total dissipation rate  
 $3\sigma$  above mean value

Fractal dimension  $X_i \propto L_i^{D_X}$

Scaling of the probability  
distribution functions

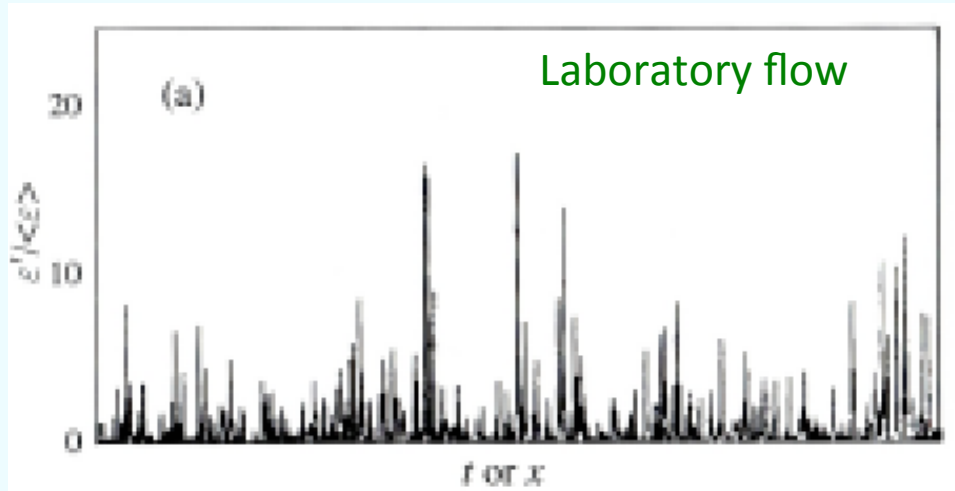
$$\mathcal{P}(X_i) \propto X_i^{-\tau_X}$$

⇒ sheet like geometry



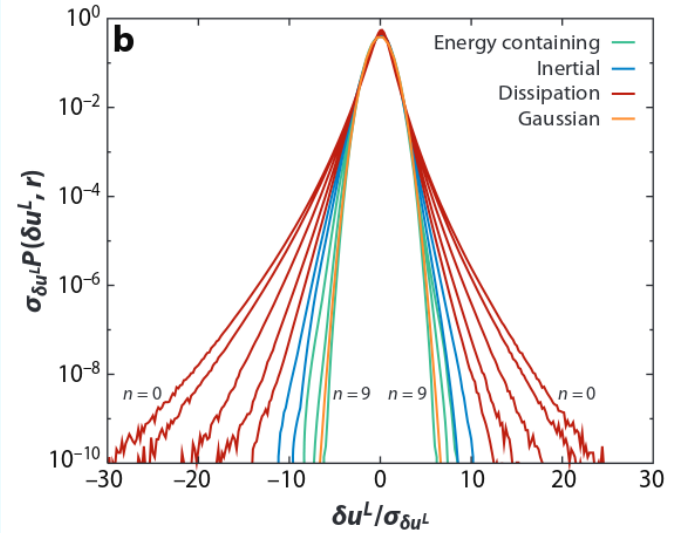
Confrontation to observables

# Signatures of turbulent intermittency



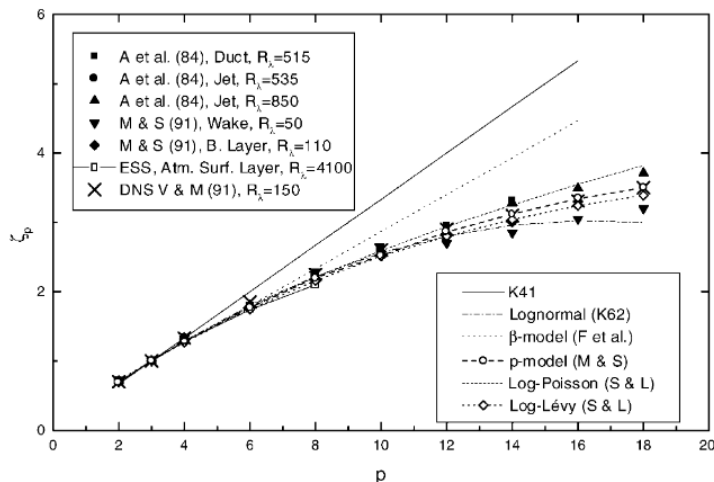
Méneveau & Sreenivasan (1991)

- Dissipation bursts



- Non-Gaussian PDF of velocity increments

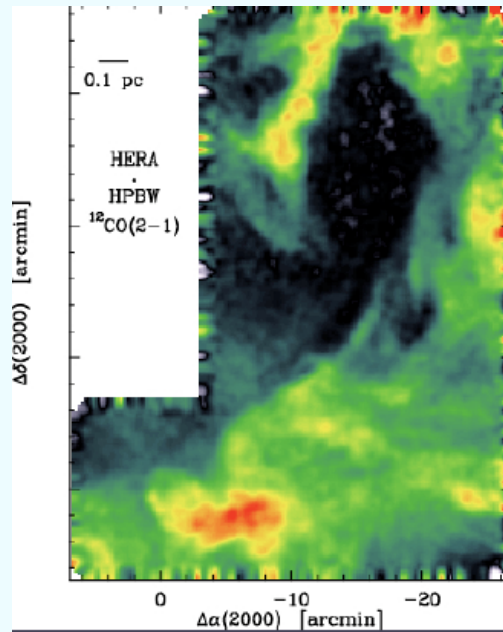
She 1991, Ishihara + 09



- Anomalous scaling of high order structure functions



100 pc to 0.2 pc  
IRAS 100 $\mu$ m



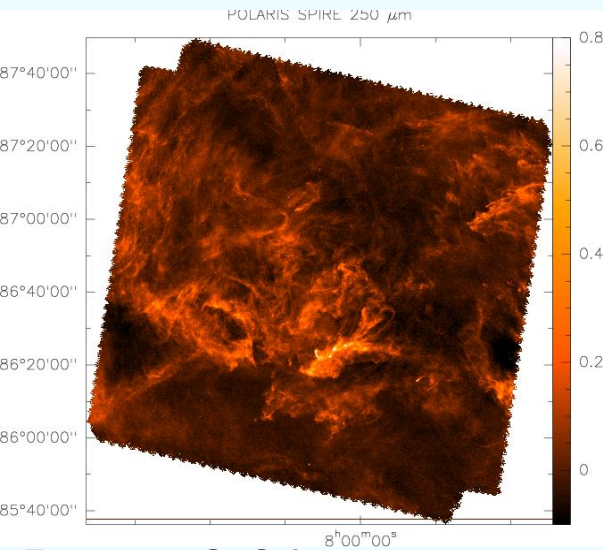
2 pc to 7 mpc,  
IRAM  $^{12}\text{CO}(2-1)$  Hily-Blant et al. 2008

# Polaris Flare

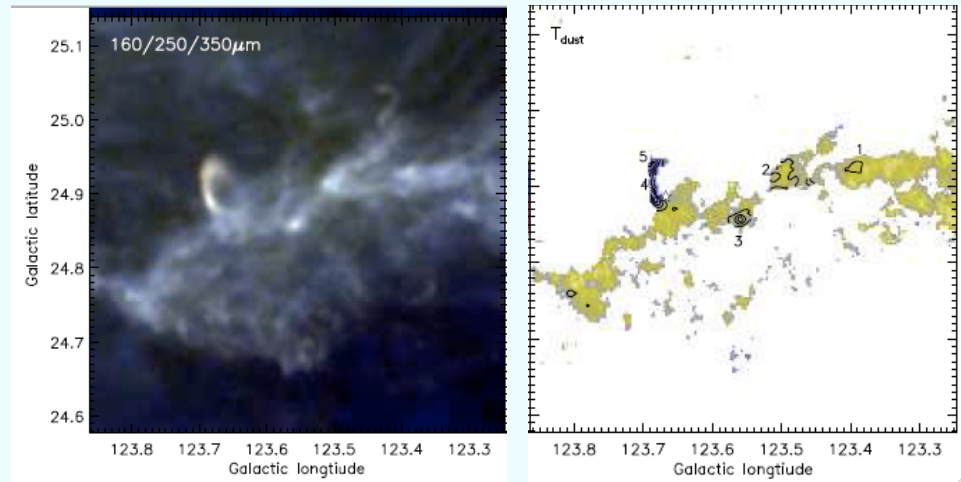
- highly turbulent,
- only two (prestellar?) dense cores

Heithausen et al. 2002

Ideal template to study early phases of star formation

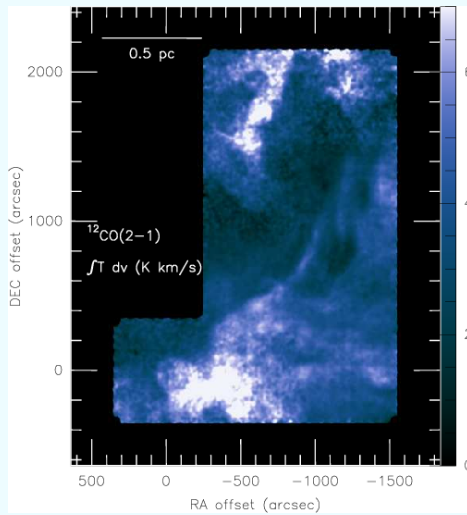


5pc to 0.01 pc  
Herschel/SPIRE 250  $\mu$ m  
Men'shchikov et al 2010

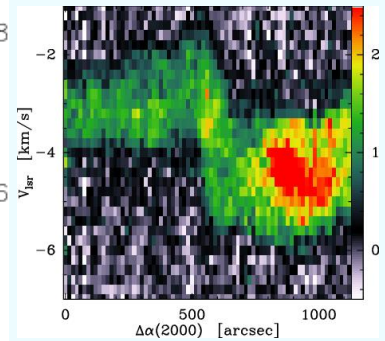
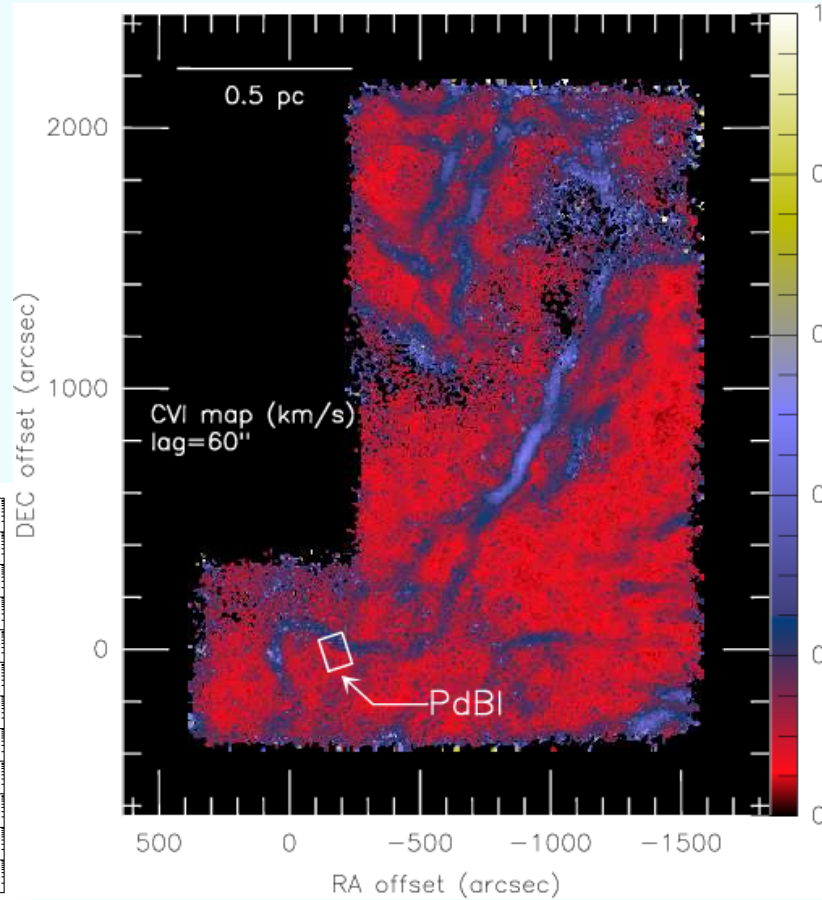


Ward-Thomson et al. 2010

# Non-Gaussian statistics of velocity increments

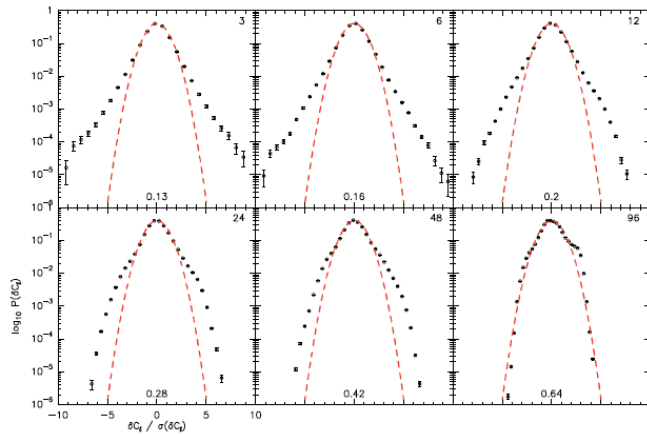


IRAM-30m  $^{12}\text{CO}(2-1)$   
A few  $10^5$  independent spectra



Velocity-shear  
 $40 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ pc}^{-1}$

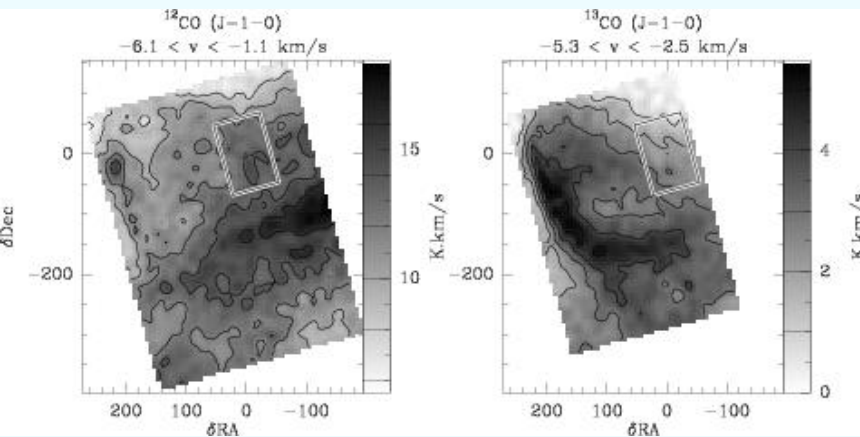
smallest lags ...



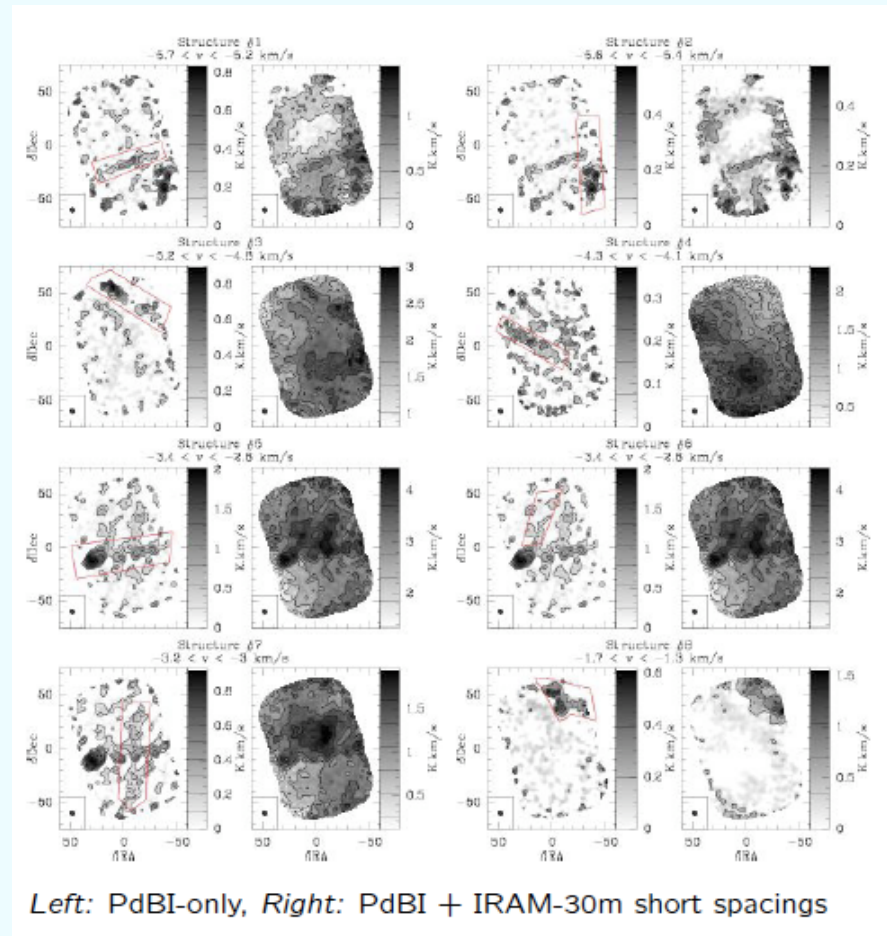
... largest lags

⇒ pc-scale coherent structures of velocity-shear

# $^{12}\text{CO}$ emission structures $\sim 10$ mpc thin



Polaris Flare  
IRAM-PdBI mosaic print  
(13 fields)  
See field location in previous slide



Left: PdBI-only, Right: PdBI + IRAM-30m short spacings

no cut-off in dust power spectrum down to 0.01 pc

Falgarone + 2009

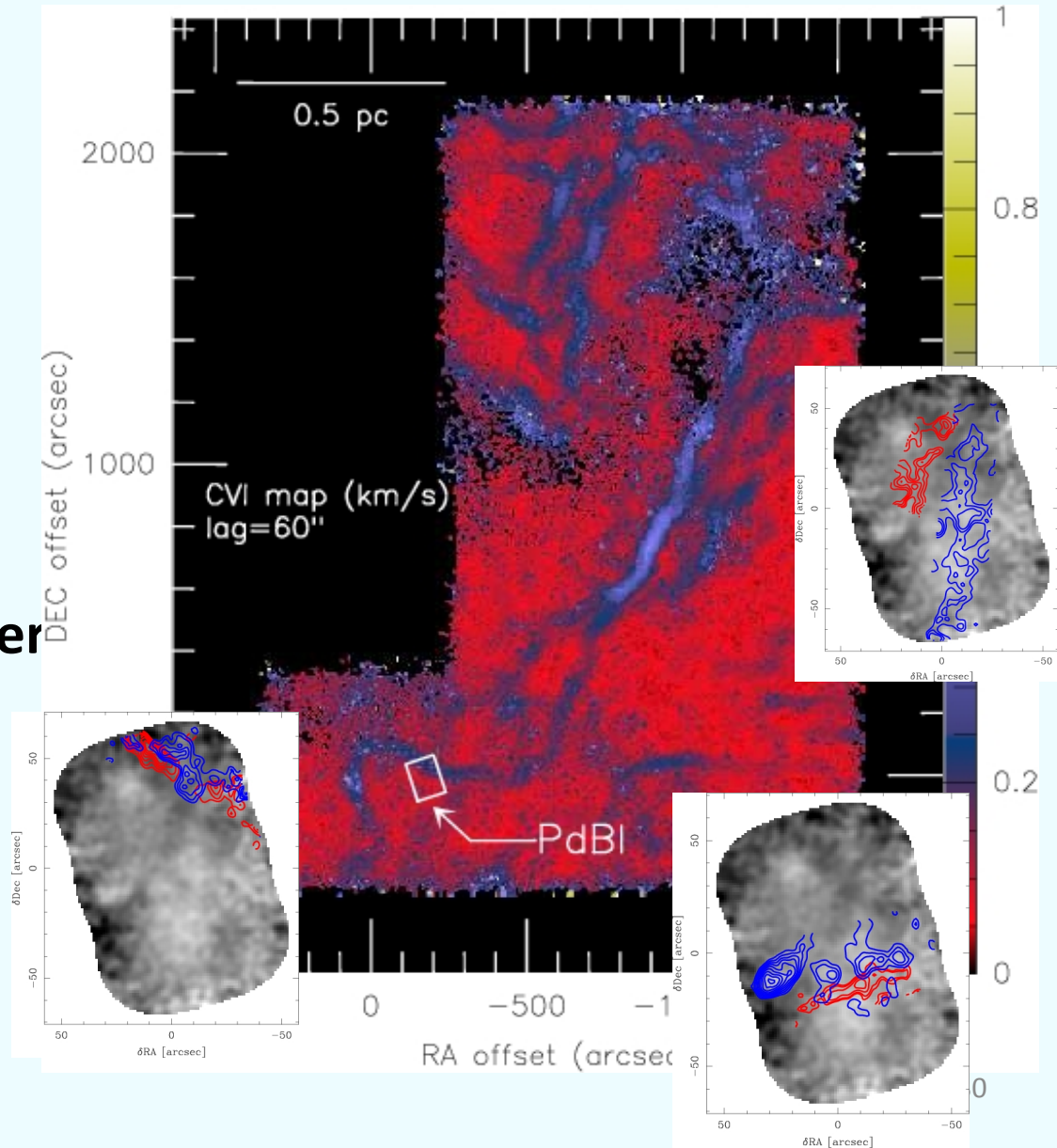
See also Miville-Deschênes + 2016

# Velocity-shears at pc- and mpc-scale

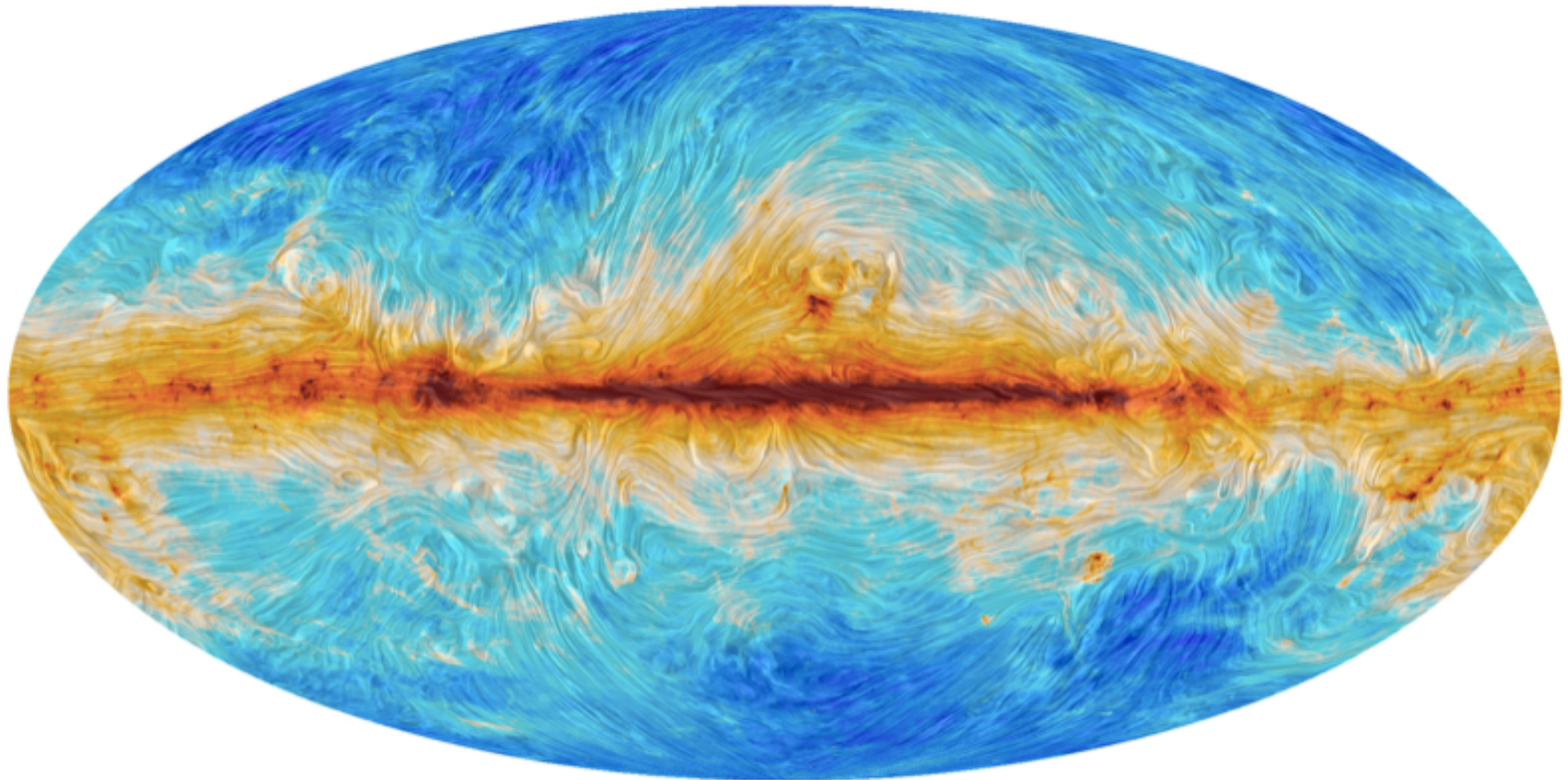
- ⇒ 8 **straight** CO structures  
3 to 10 mpc thick
- ⇒ **sharp edges of layers**
- ⇒ 6 are parallel pairs at different velocities  
= **velocity-shears**  
up to  $700 \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ pc}^{-1}$
- ⇒ **large (and similar) scatter**  
**of orientations found for**  
**mpc- and pc-scale shears**

Complex topology

IRAM-PdBI, Falgarone et al. 2009



# Planck all sky 353 GHz

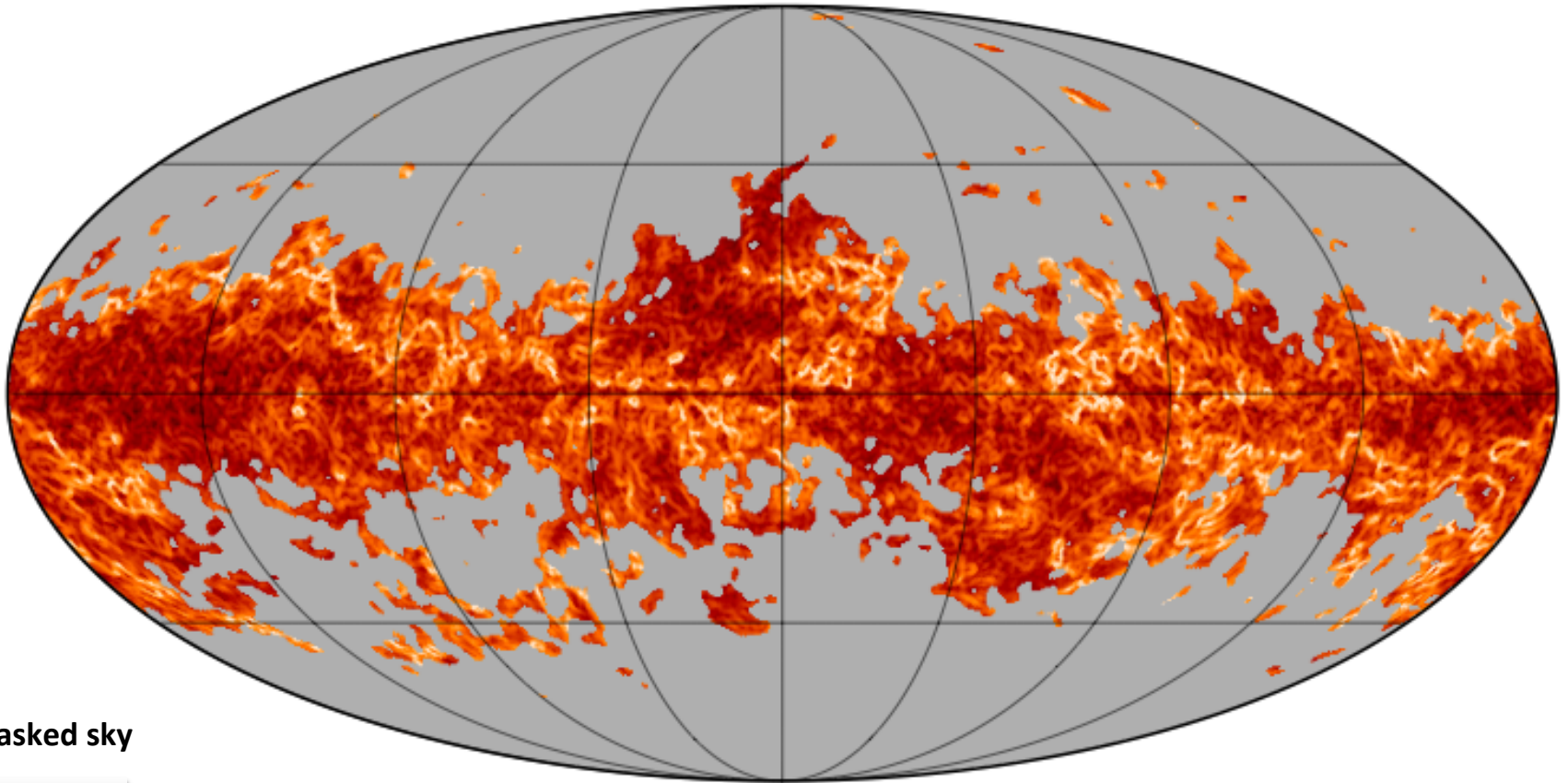


Color scale : 353 GHz intensity  
Drapery : B-field POS projection

**Copyright** ESA and the *Planck* Collaboration


Planck intermediate results XIX, 2014

# Polarization angle dispersion

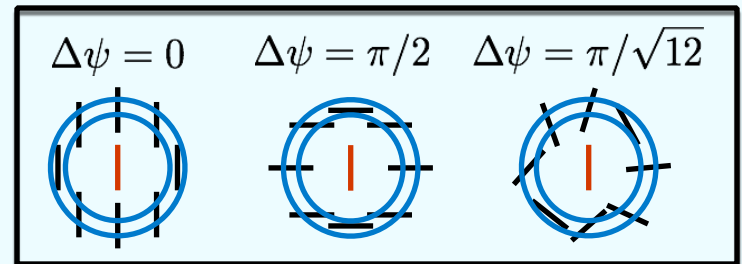


Whole masked sky

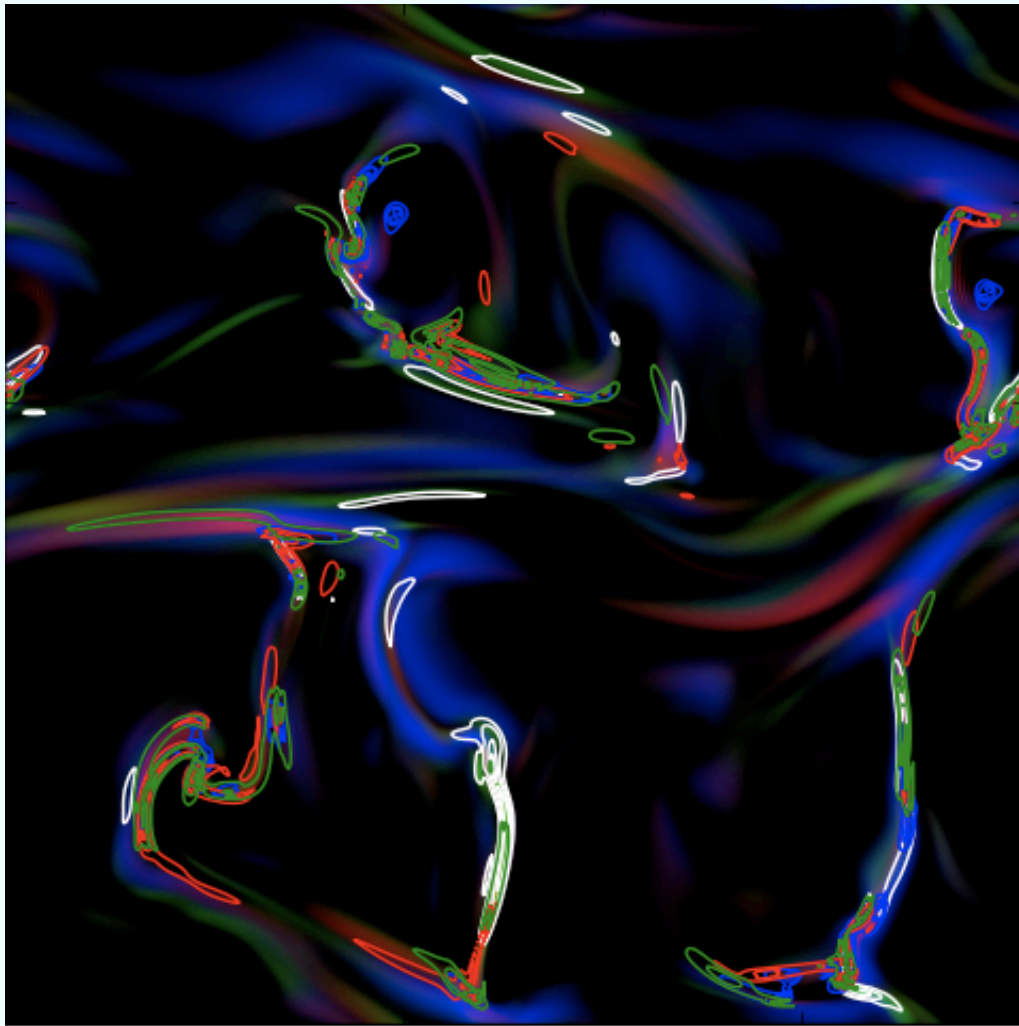
1° resolution  
30' lag

-1.0  1.8 log<sub>10</sub>(Δψ/deg)

$$\Delta\psi^2(l) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [\psi(\mathbf{r}) - \psi(\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{l}_i)]^2$$



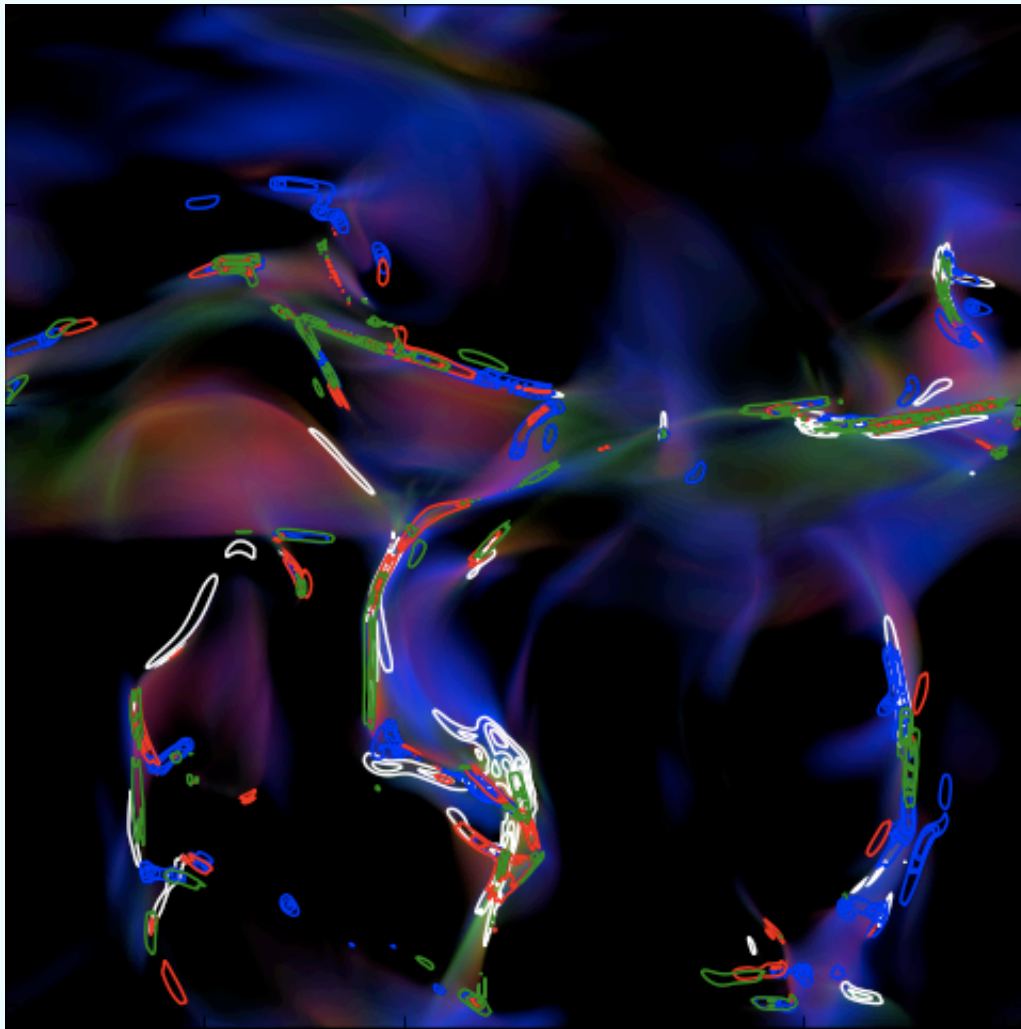




$L_{\text{box}}/64$

## Comparison to observables

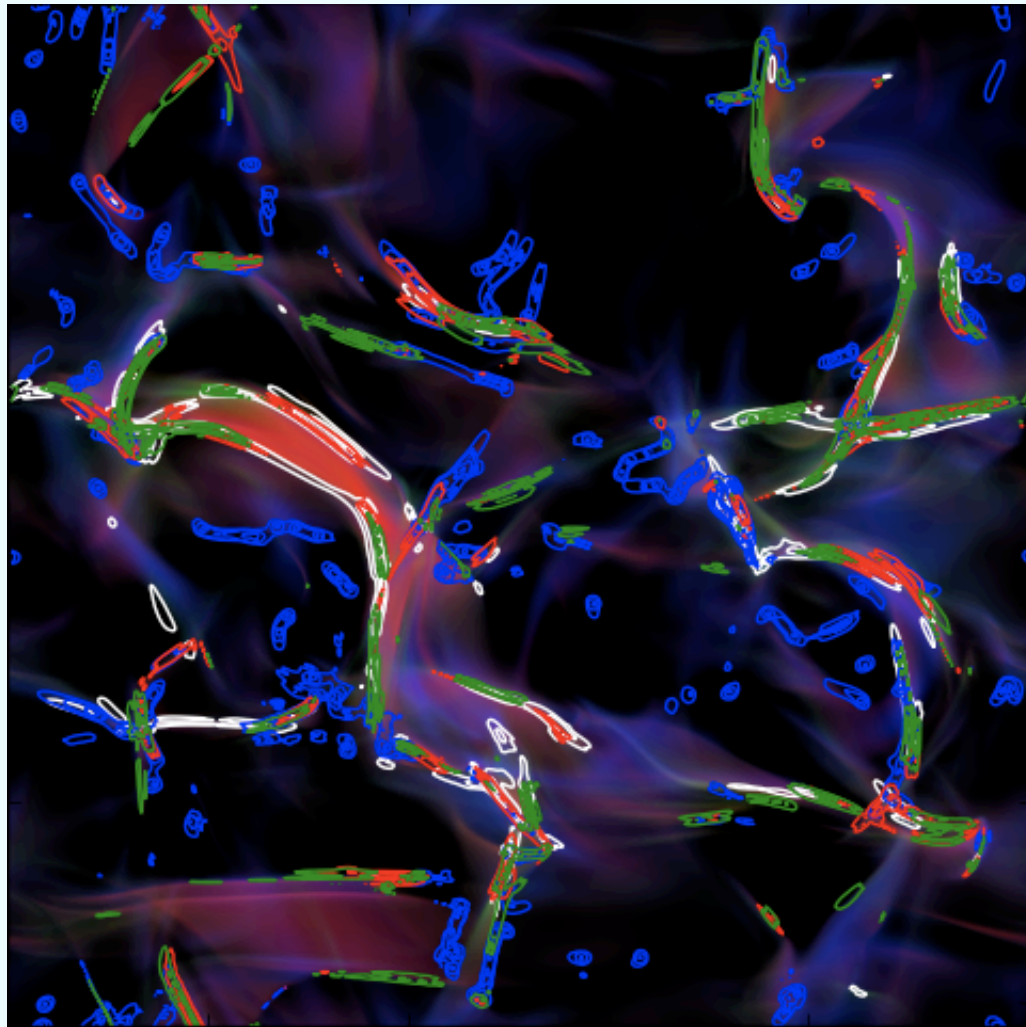
- Dissipation rates  
Ohmique Viscous AD
- Observables  
= Increments of integrated:
  - LOS velocity (white)
  - Stokes Q (green)
  - Stokes U (red)
  - POS magnetic field direction (blue)



$$L_{\text{box}}/8$$

# Comparison to observables

- Dissipation rates  
Ohmique Viscous AD
- Observables  
= Increments of integrated :
  - LOS velocity (white)
  - Stokes Q (green)
  - Stokes U (red)
  - POS magnetic field direction (blue)



$$L_{\text{box}}/2$$

# Comparison to observables

- Dissipation rates

Ohmic Viscous AD

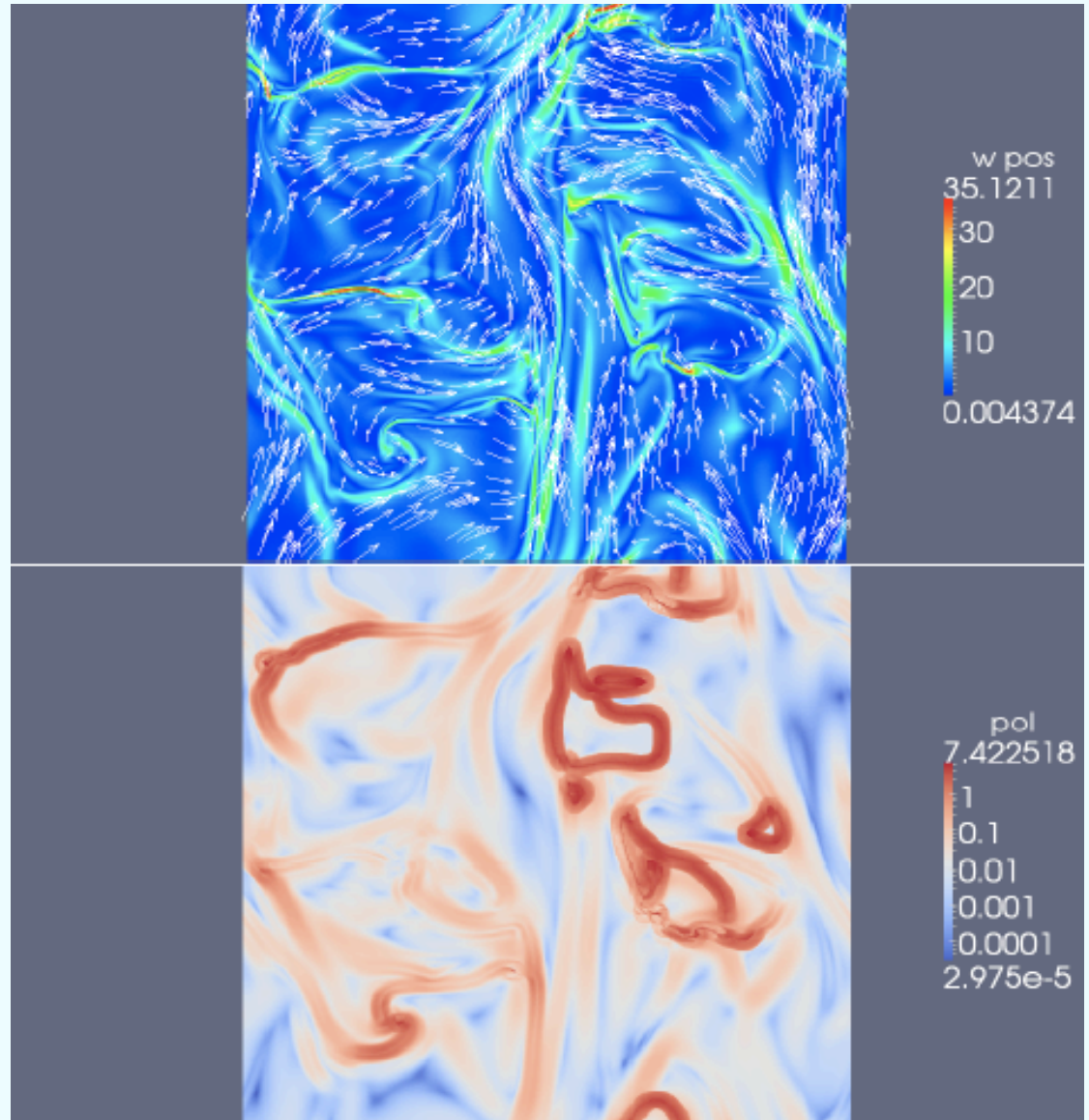
- Observables

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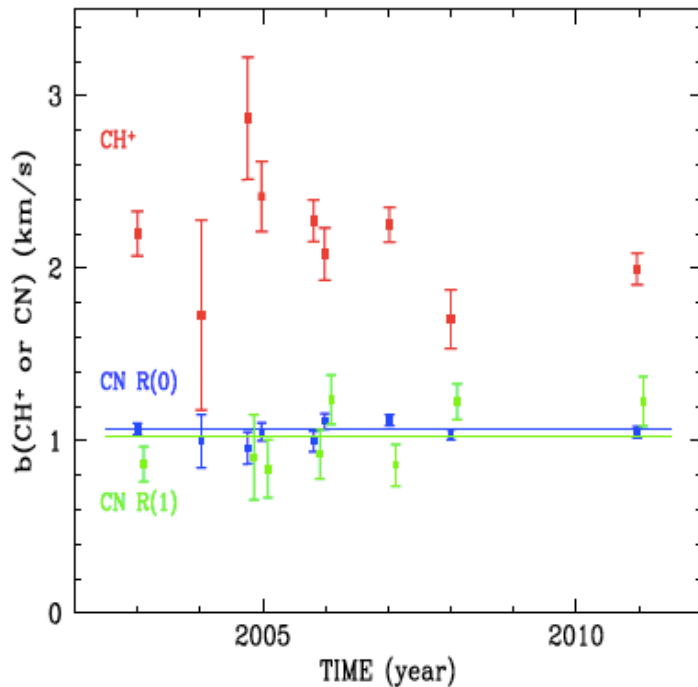
# Comparisons with $B_{\text{POS}}$

Plane-of-the-sky projections  
of vorticity  
and magnetic field



Increments of  
polarization orientation

# Tiny Scale Atomic Structure



Boissé + 2014

Time variations of molecular absorption lines towards Zeta Per using proper motion

⇒ 1 -20 AU scales sampled

11% variations of CH<sup>+</sup> due to variations in linewidth

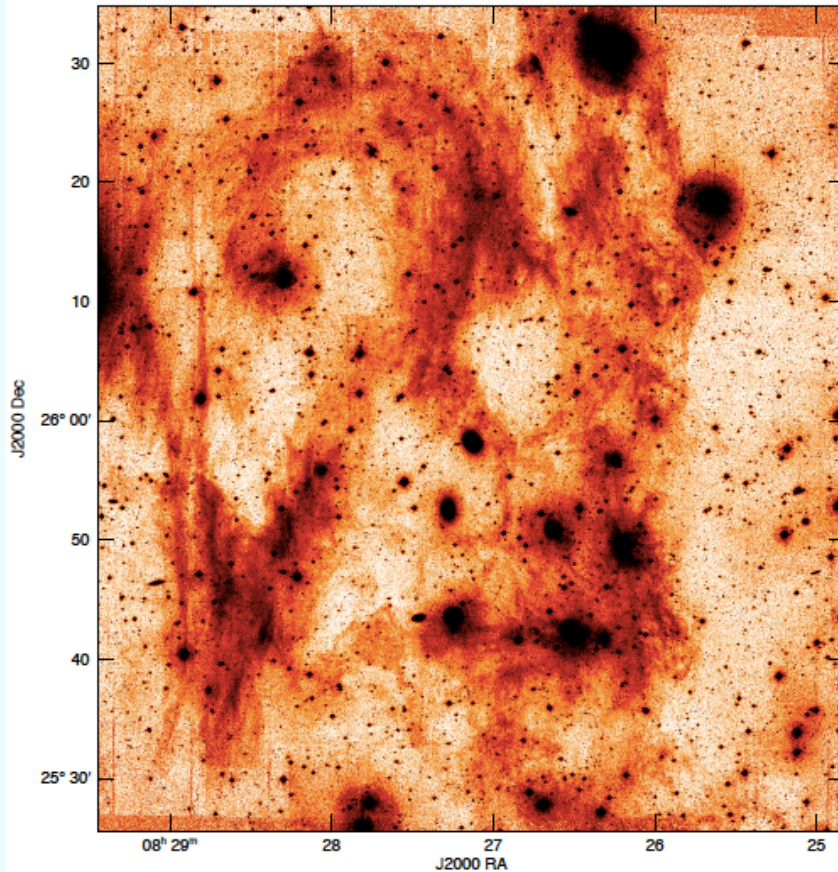
<6% variations for CH and CN

## Validity of the fluid approximation ?

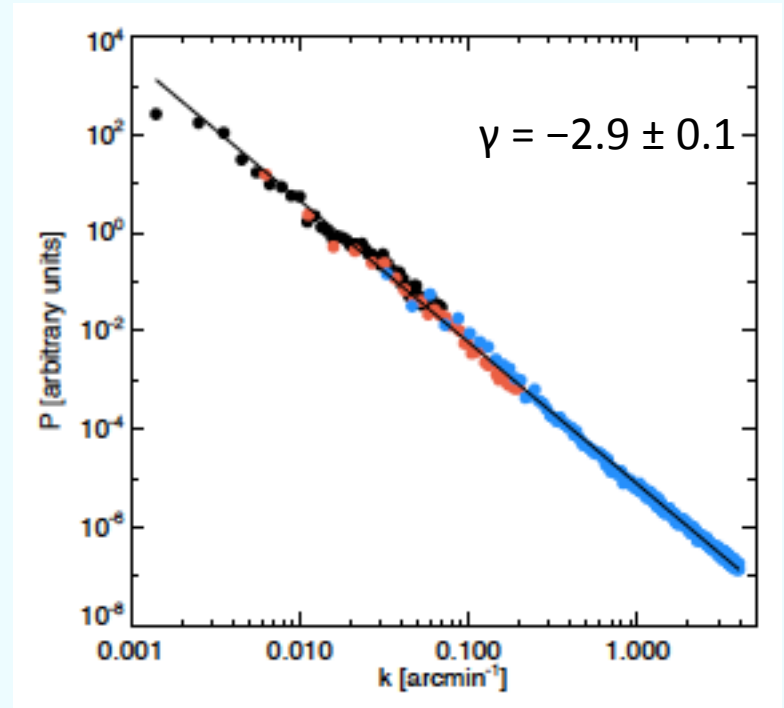
Hall MHD: kinetic effects, ion-electron decoupling, different coherent structures of current and vorticity

Stawarz and Pouquet 2015

# Probing interstellar turbulence in cirrus with deep optical imaging: no sign of energy dissipation at 0.01 pc scale



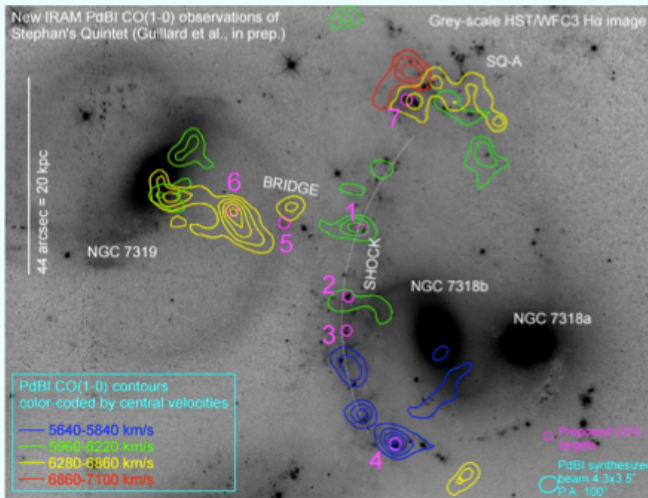
Dust scattered visible light (CFHT)



Density power spectrum:  
Combination of visible, Planck and  
WISE 12  $\mu\text{m}$  data

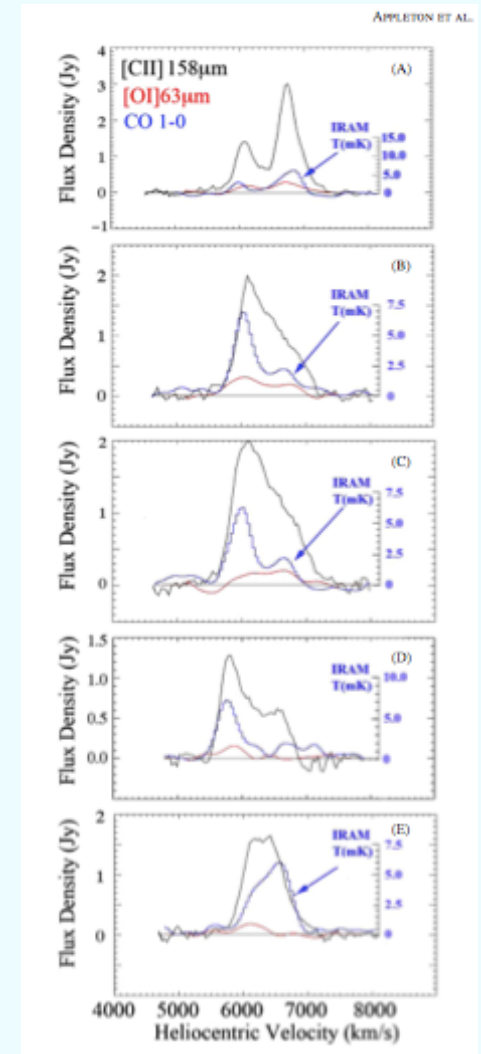
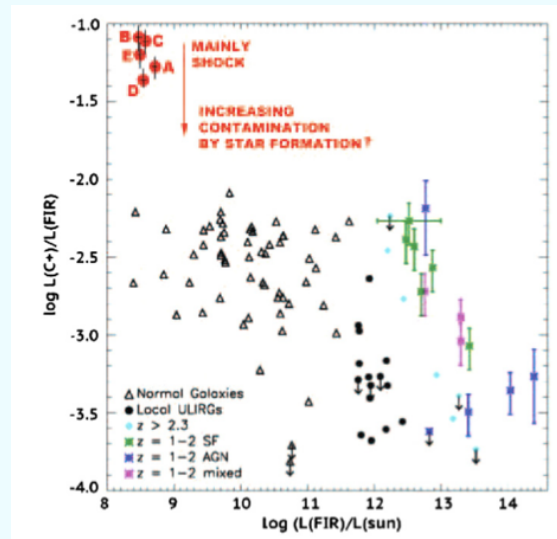
Miville-Deschênes et al. 2016

# Energy cascade in multiphase medium



30 kpc-long shock in  
Stephan's Quintet  
Collision velocity  
500-700 km/s

$$L_X < L_{H2, \text{ rotation}}$$



Appleton + 2013

Cluver + 2010, Guillard + 2012

# In summary, challenges for SOFIA

Let's learn how to follow the supra-thermal energy trail through all the ISM phases down to dissipation, with:

- Specific molecules ( $\text{SH}^+$ , redshifted  $\text{CH}^+$  ...)
- [CII] (and high-J CO) excitation, line profiles, absorption
- Pure rotational lines of  $\text{H}_2$



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