

# Grain alignment and magnetic fields in star-forming regions

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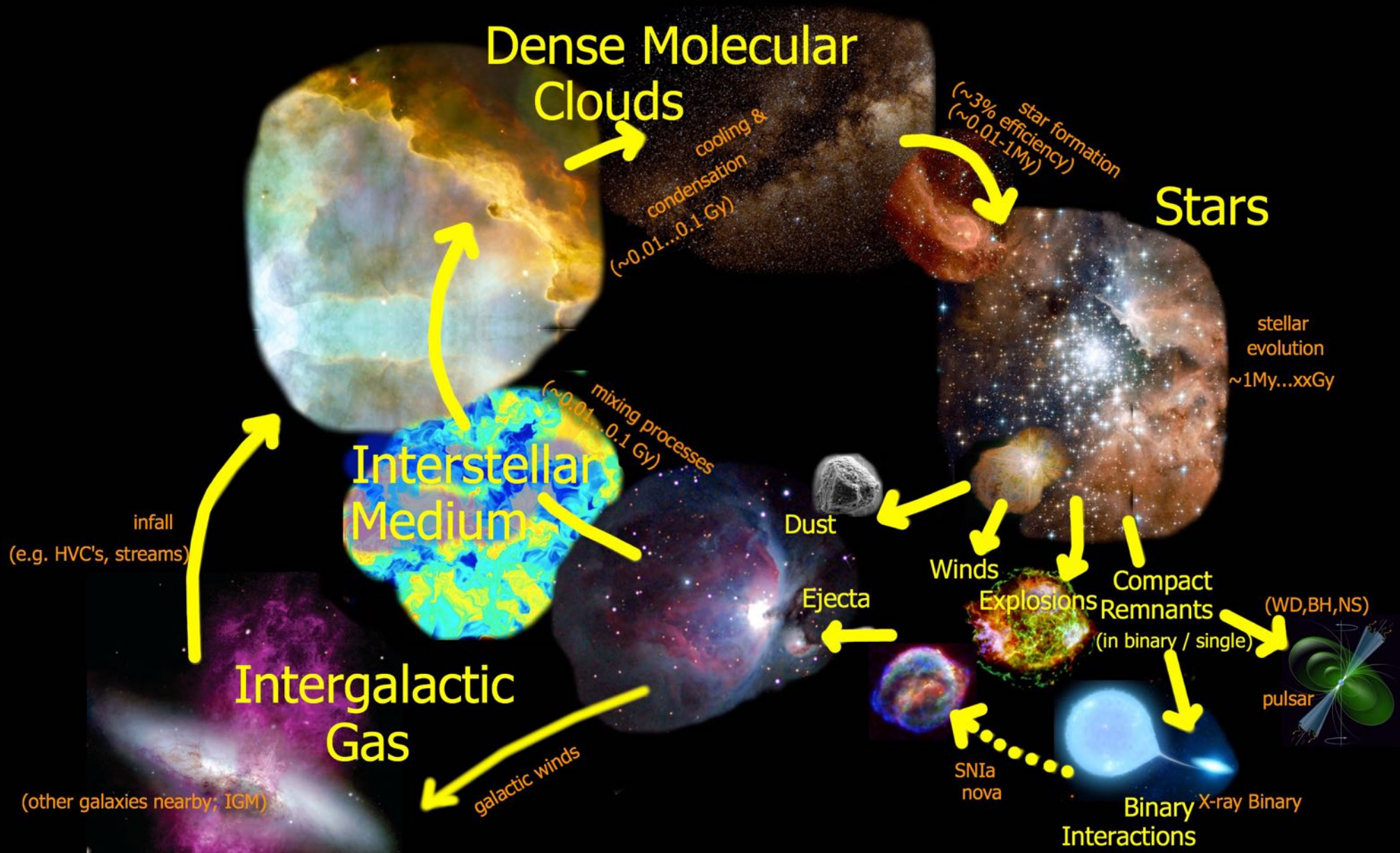
2022 SOFIA-teletalk

August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022

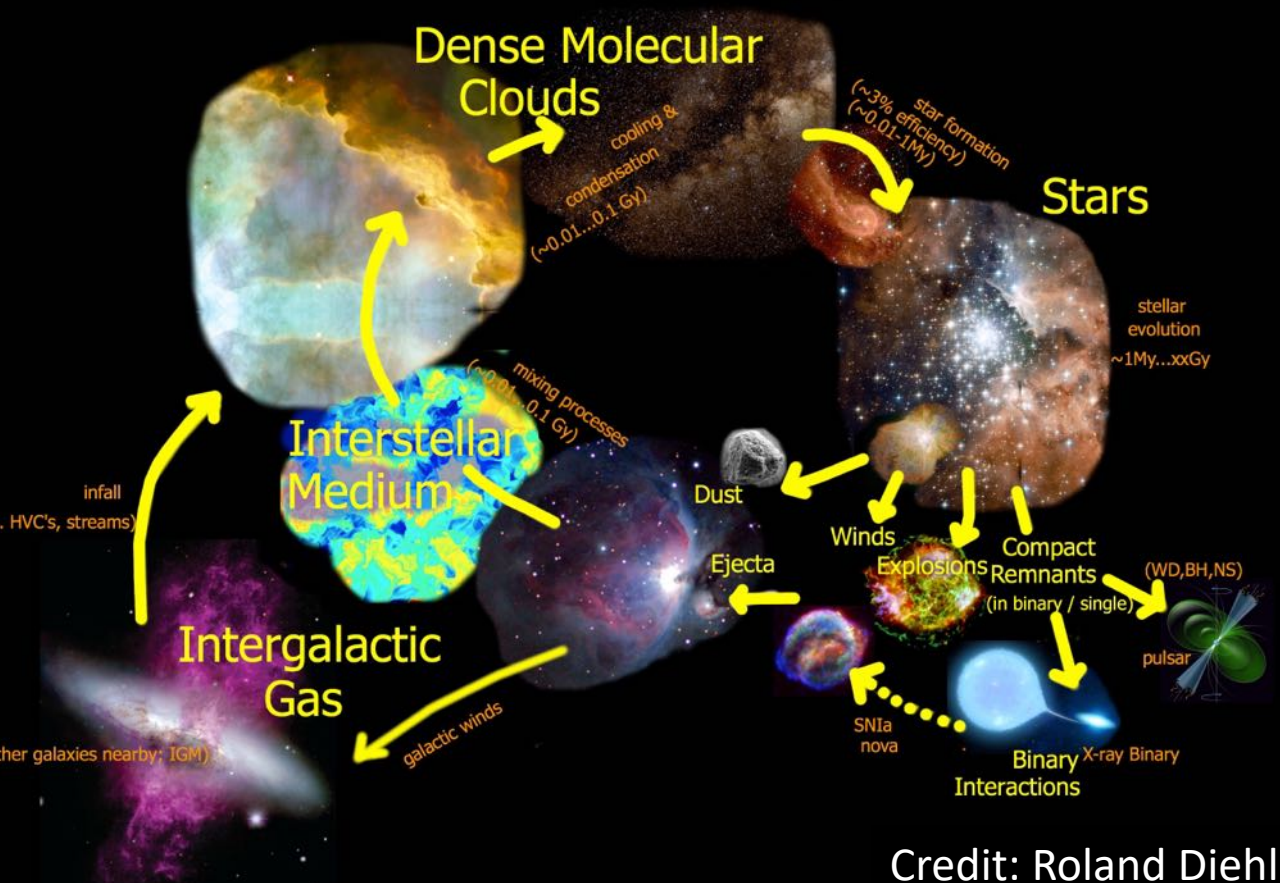




# Stellar evolution and Feedback



# Stellar evolution and Feedback



Star is a “bad neighbor”

## ❖ Positive feedback

- Alter physical-chemical stages of nearby/parents clouds
- Make their properties diversified
- Facilitate new gen. of stars to form
- etc ...

## ❖ Negative feedback

- Disturb/destroy nearby/parent clouds
- Halt or slow formation of new star gen.
- etc ...

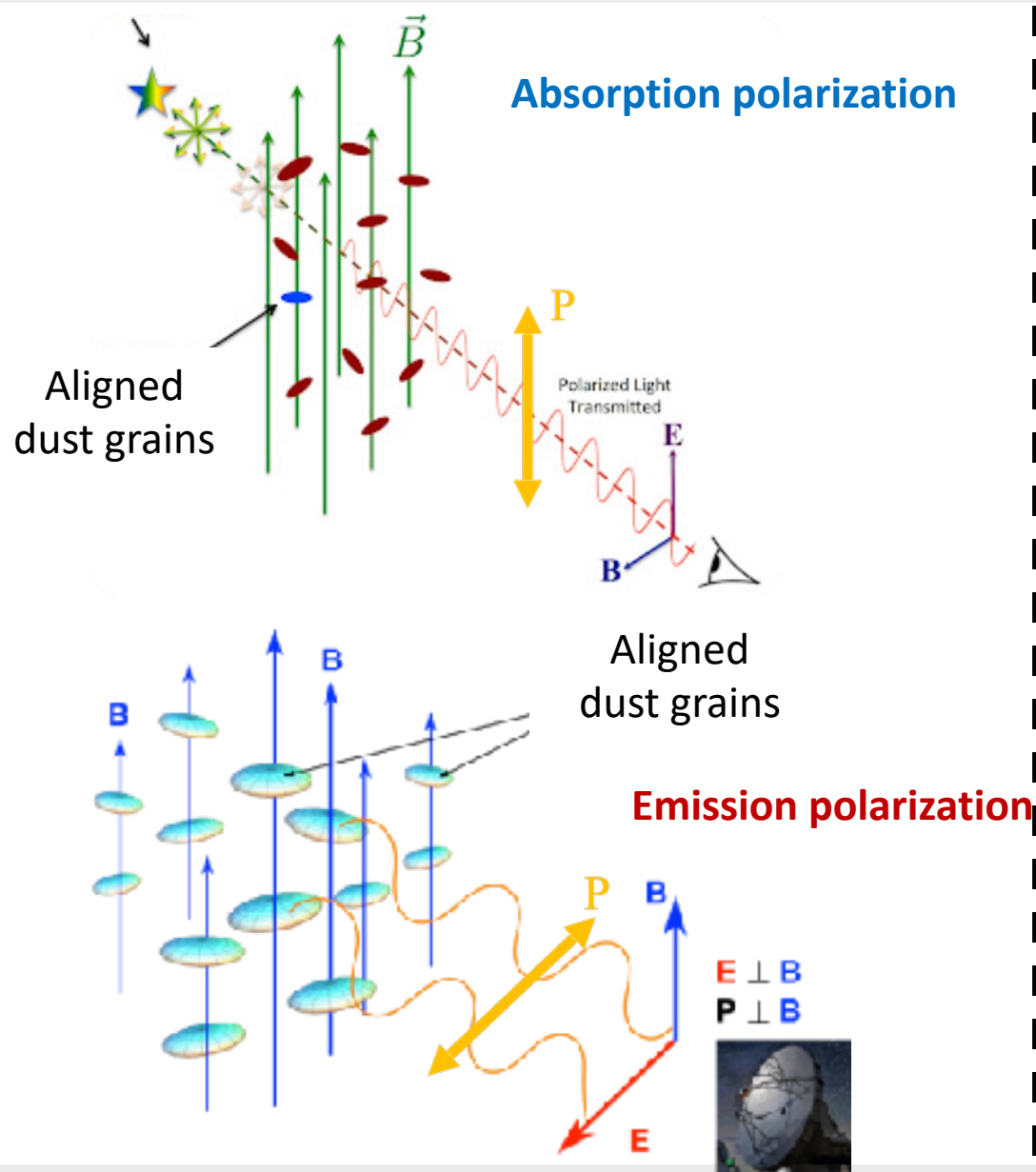




**Carina Nebula**  
Credit: *NASA, ESA, CSA, and STScI*



# Probing magnetic fields via dust polarization



- Absorption polarization is parallel to B-fields
- Observable at UV-optical-NIR wavelengths
- Pol. vectors  $\rightarrow$  POS morphology
- Emission polarization is perpendicular to B-fields
- Observable at FIR-Submm wavelengths
- Rotating the pol. vectors by  $90^\circ$   $\rightarrow$  POS morphology
- B-strength could be estimated by DCF method (Davis 1951; Chandrasekhar-Fermi 1953)
- Widely used to probe B-fields in various scales



# Probing magnetic fields via dust polarization



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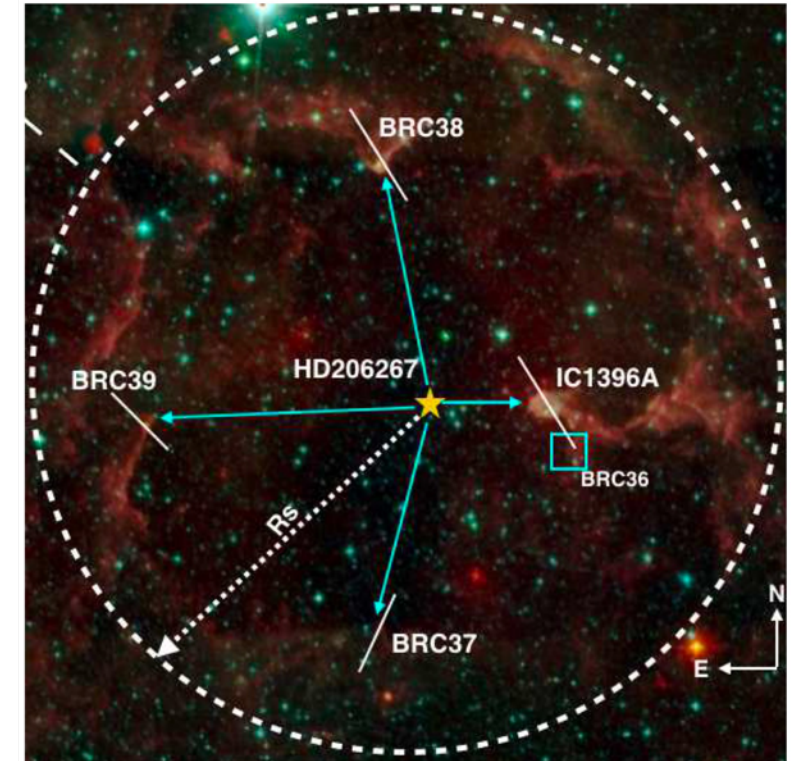
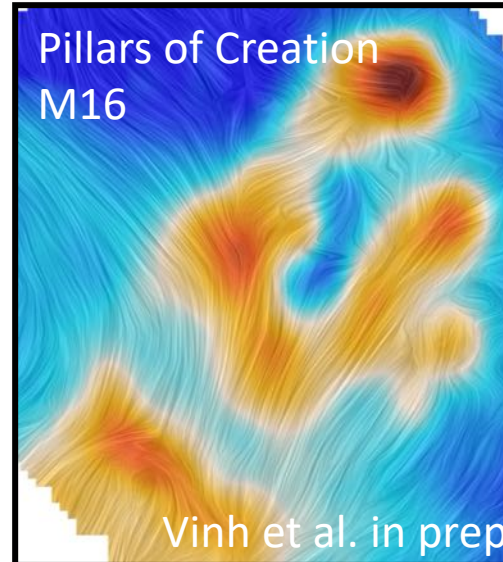
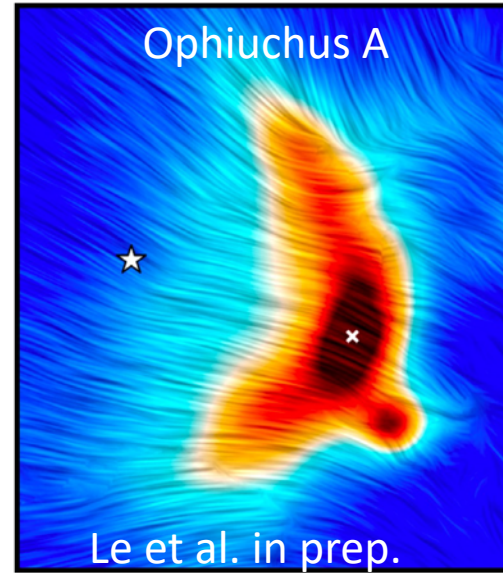
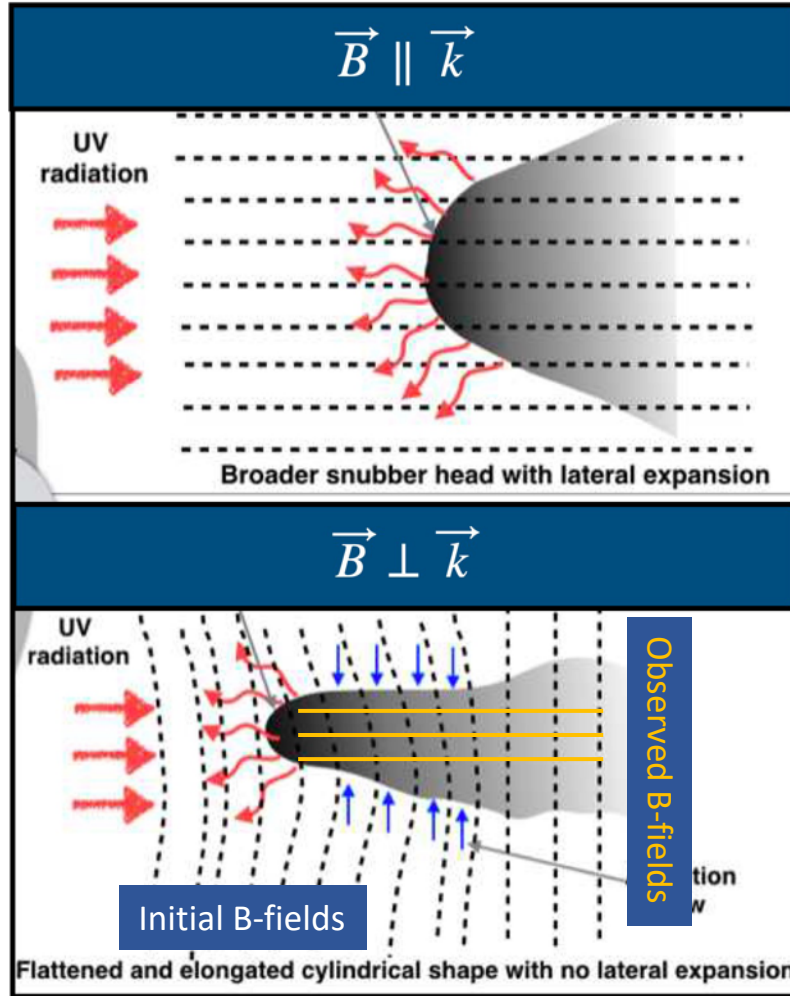
- ❑ Widely used to probe B-fields in various scales





# Role magnetic fields in regulating MC evolution

## Uniform Bfields



Henney et al. 2009; Mackey & Lim 2011



## Gravity, Bfields and turbulence

are keys to study star-formation

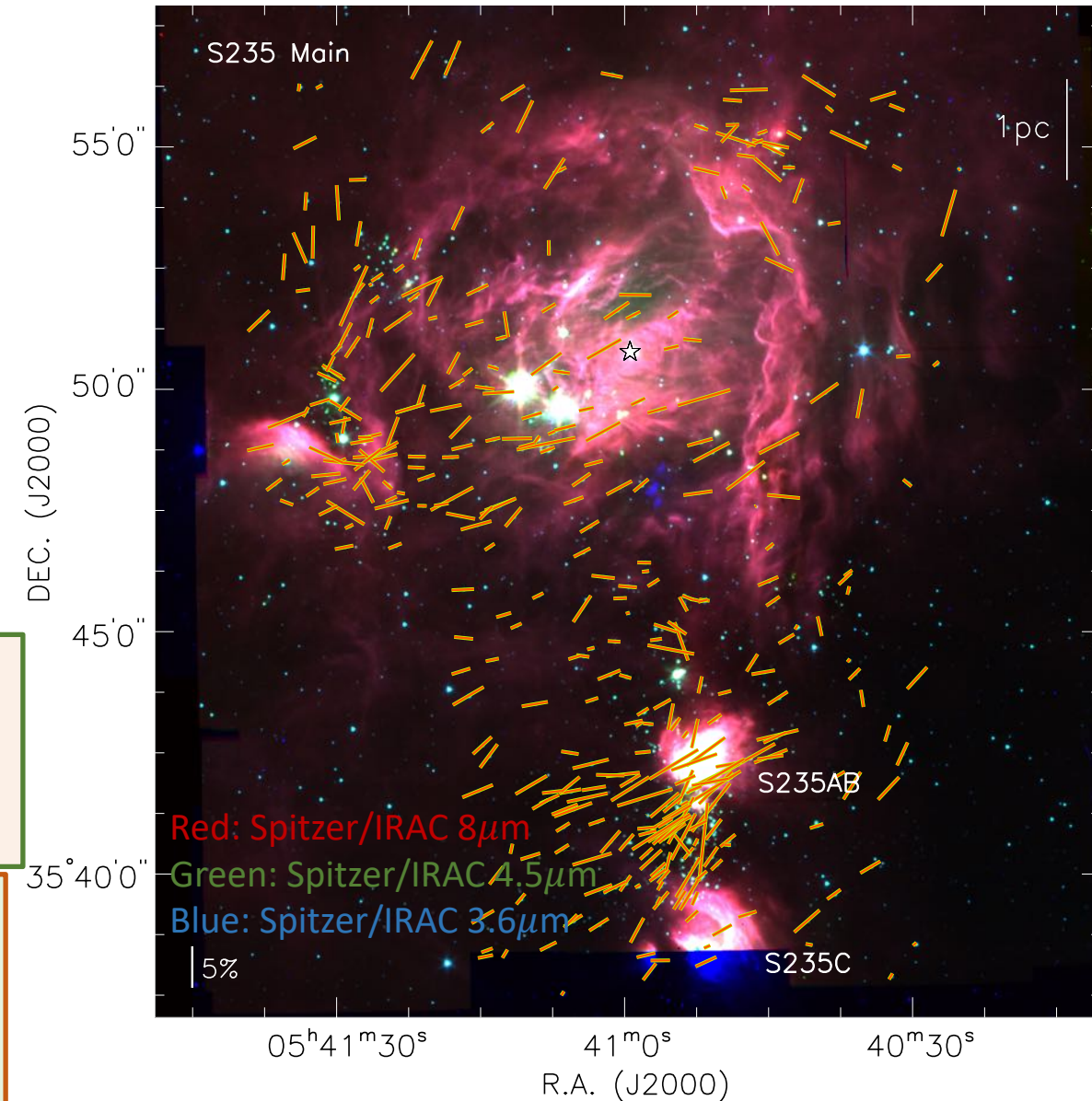
- ❑ Gravity leads to collapse
- ❑ B-field supports against that collapse
- ❑ Turbulences play "dual role"
  - Supports against gravitational collapse
  - Produces local compression

Alfvenic number ("turbulence-to-magnetic ratio")

- ❖  $M_A > 1$ : super-Alfvenic (strong turbulence)
- ❖  $M_A < 1$ : sub-Alfvenic (strong magnetic fields)

Mass-to-flux ratio ("gravity-to-magnetic ratio")

- ❖  $\lambda > 1$ : super-critical (gravity dominant over)
- ❖  $\lambda < 1$ : sub-critical (strong magnetic fields)

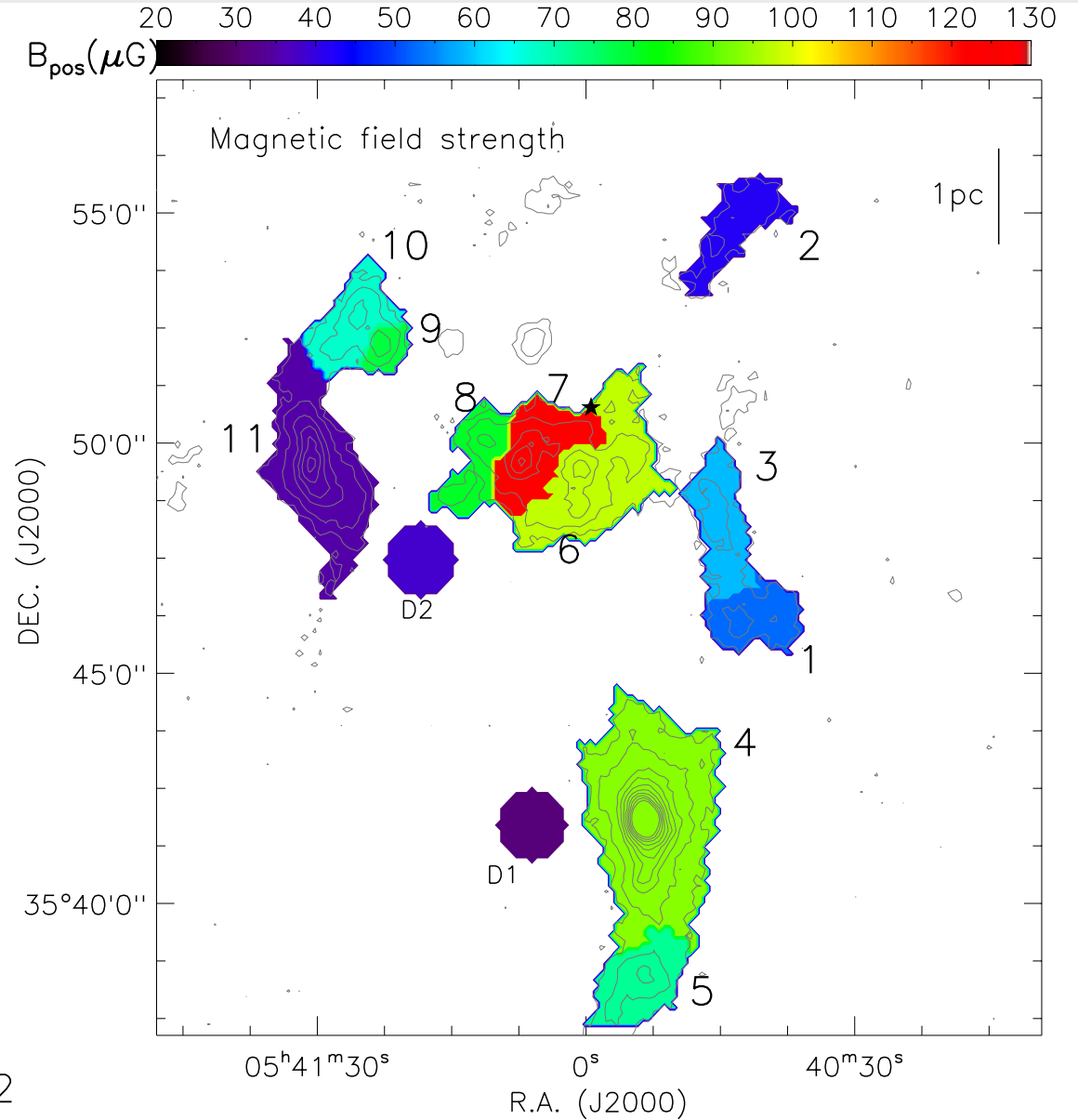
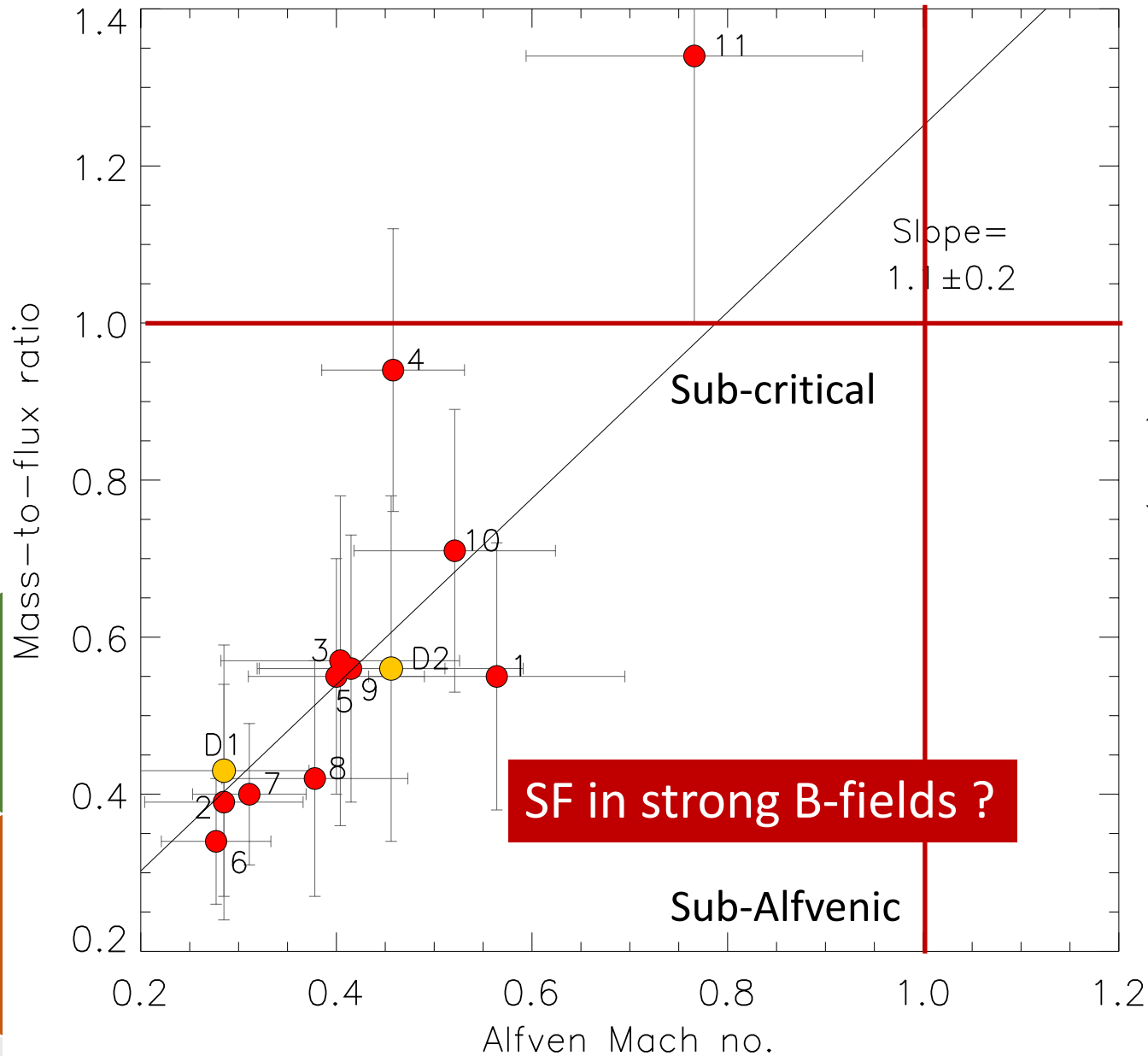




# Role of magnetic fields in star-formation

Starlight pol.

Devaraj et al. (2021)

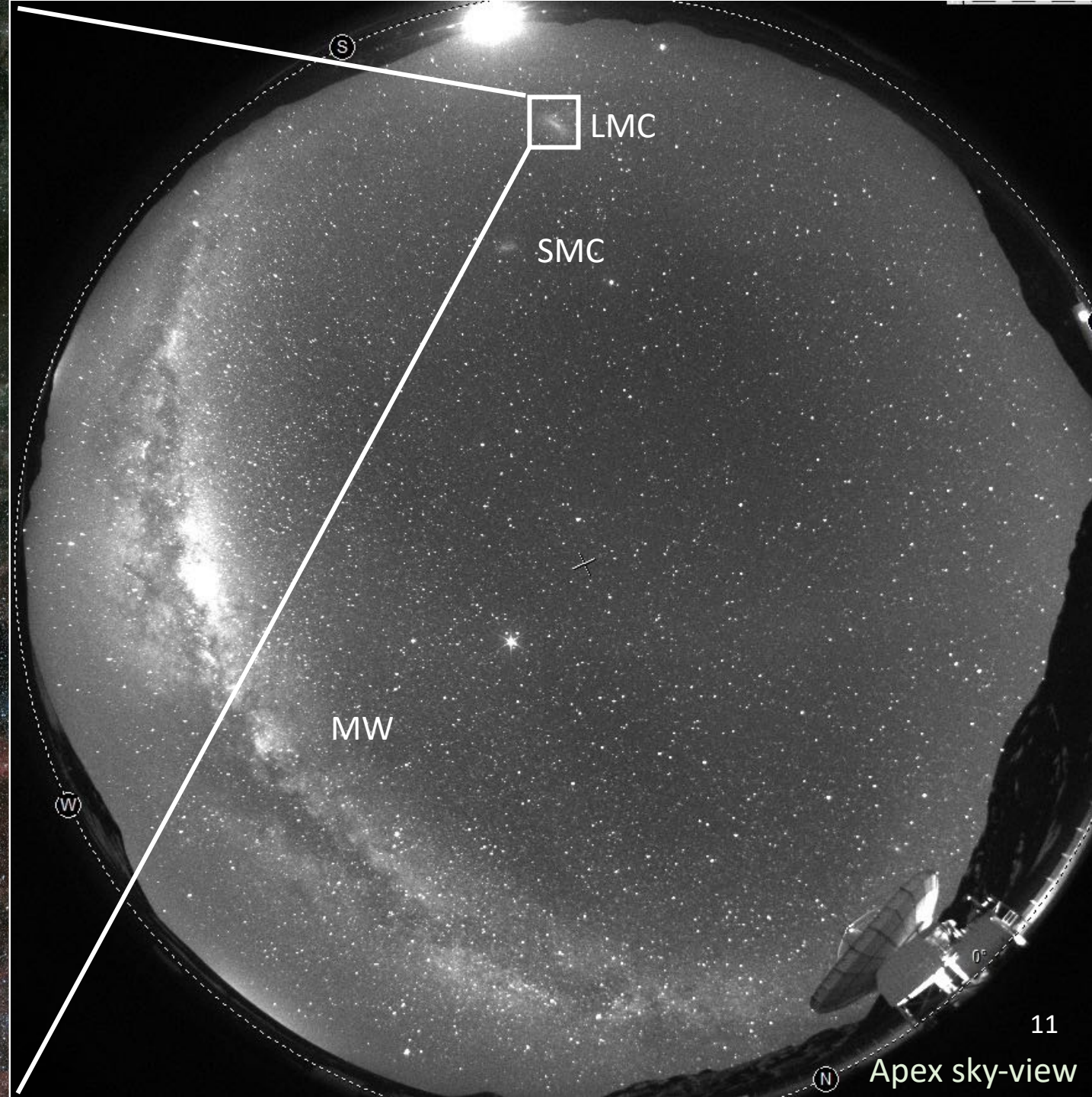
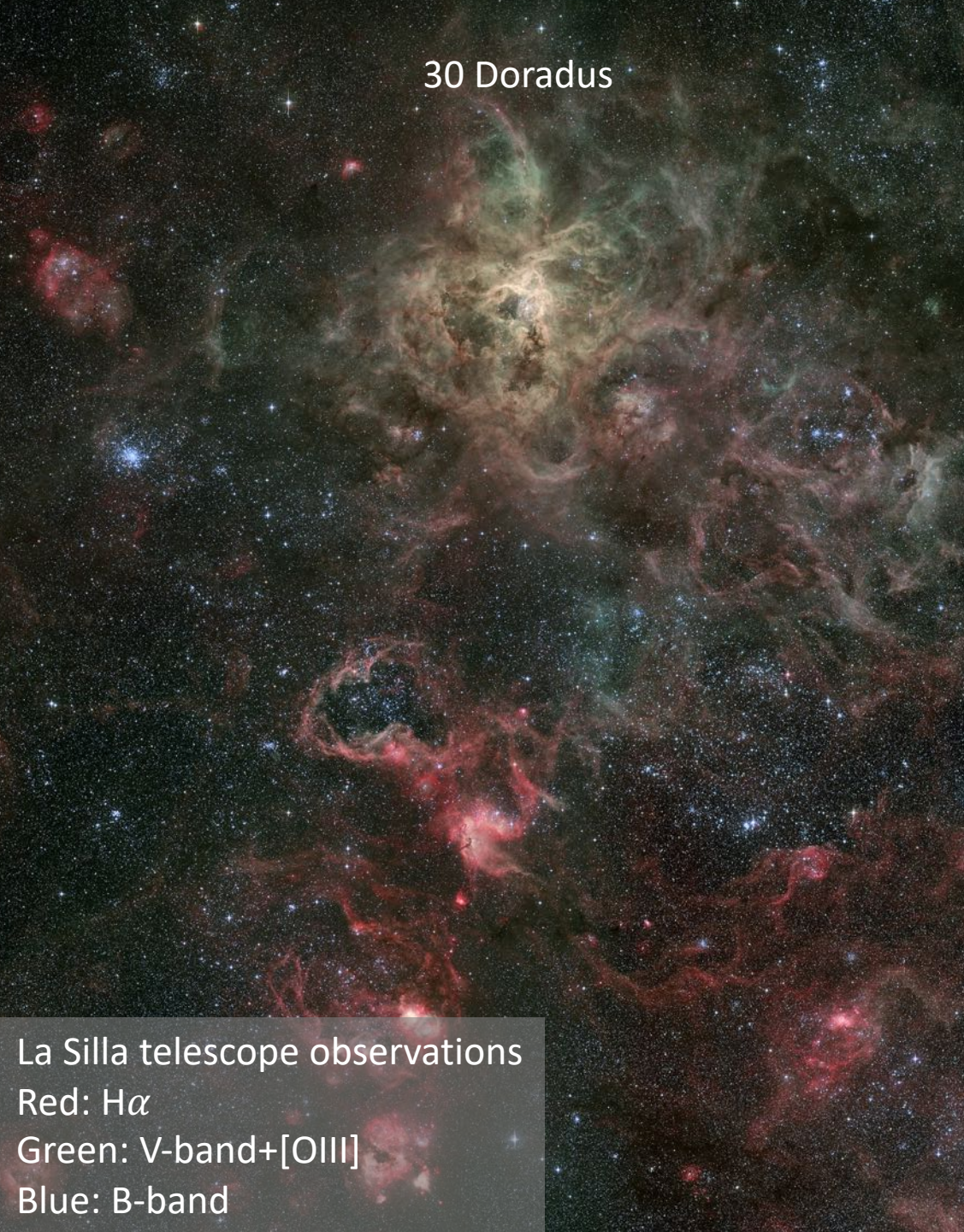




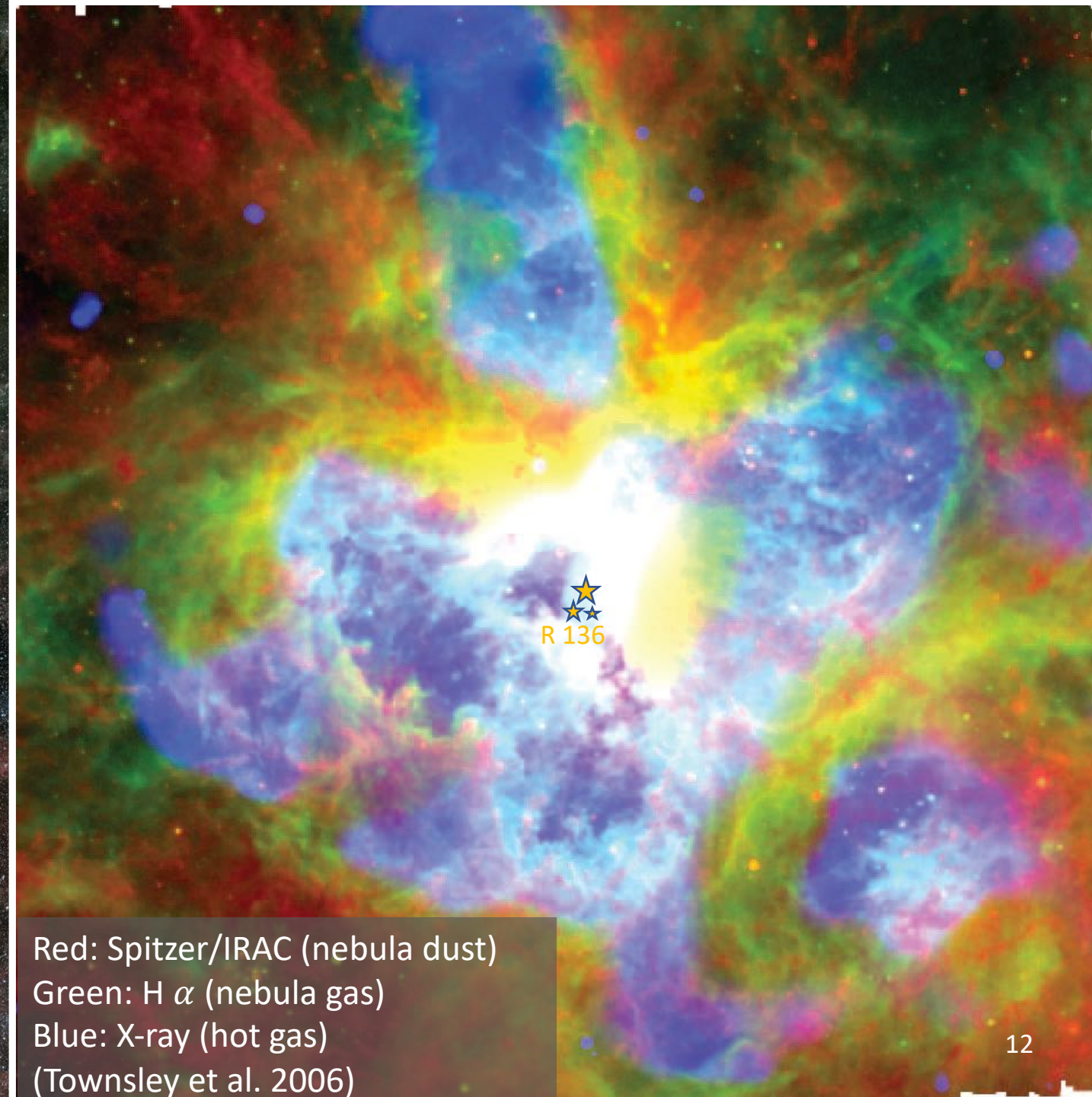


# Magnetic fields in 30 Doradus





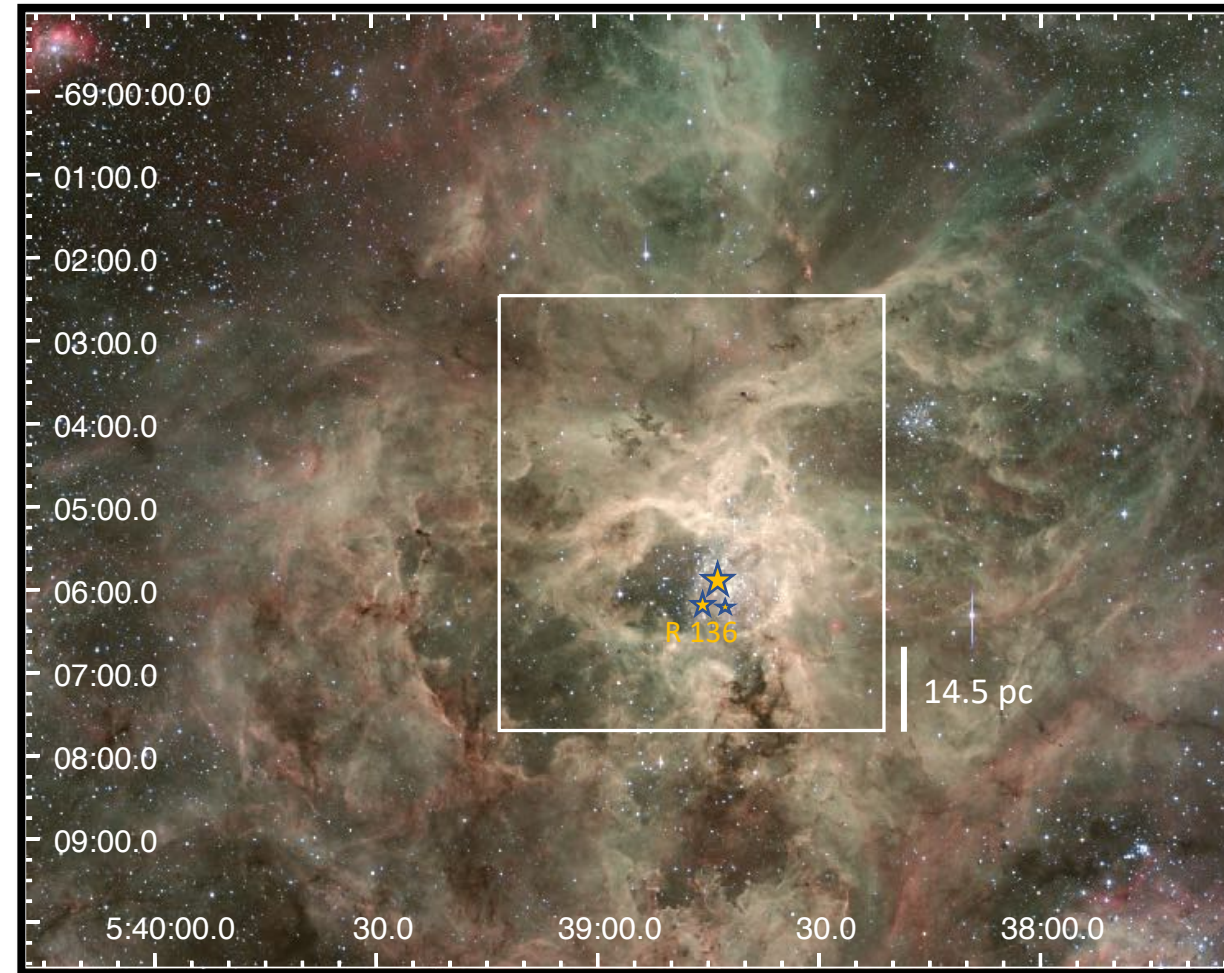






# 30 Doradus facts

- ❖ Distance: 50 kpc (Schaefer 2008)
- ❖ Power source: R 136 ( $L_* = 7.8 \times 10^7 L_\odot$ )
- ❖ Low shielding effect:
  - $Z = 0.5Z_\odot$  (e.g., Galliano et al. 2008)
  - $A_v$ : a few mag (e.g., Lee+2019; Chevance+2020)
- ❖ Complex kinematic core-halo structures
  - $R > 25$  pc: giant HII expanding-shells
    - ❑ Stellar winds or SNRs (Chu & Kennicutt 1994)
    - ❑ Cluster wind (not individual) (Melnick et al. 2021)
  - $R < 25$  pc: core-nebula
    - ❑  $P_{\text{rad}} > P_{\text{thermal}}$  (Pellegrini et al. 2011)
    - ❑  $M < M_{\text{virial}}$  (Melnick et al. 2021)



1-How could this "core-nebula" survive?

2-How could this "core-nebeula" host new star-formation?



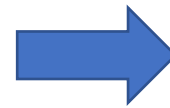
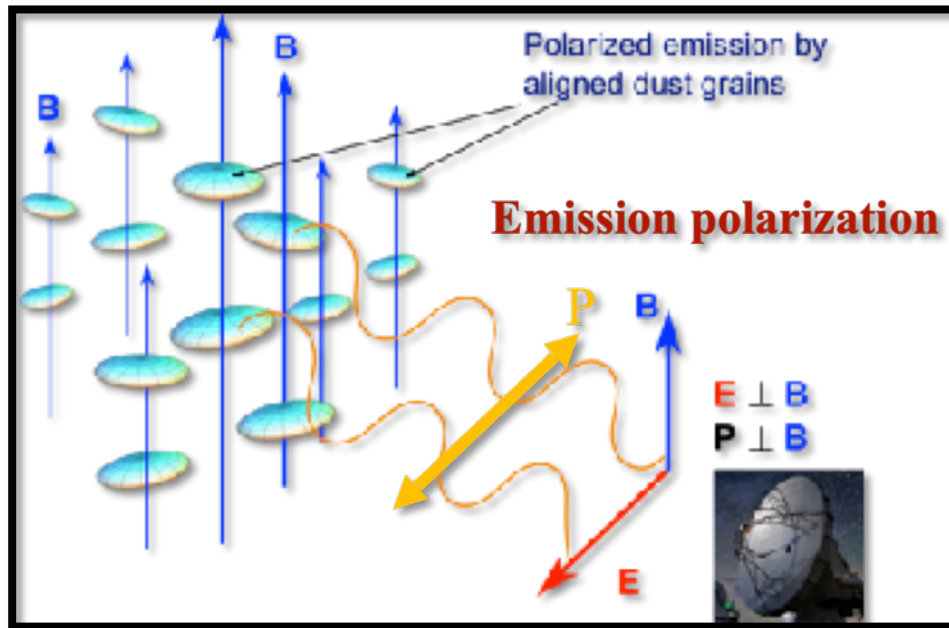
# Outline

1. SOFIA/HAWC+ observations: probing magnetic fields
  2. Role of magnetic fields
  3. Grain alignment mechanisms
  4. Conclusion



# SOFIA observations of 30 Doradus: Magnetic fields morphology

- ❖ Pol. Measurements: 89, 154 and 214  $\mu\text{m}$   
(DDT - PI: H. Yorke, New Zealand deployment in 2018)
- ❖ B-fields morphology are inferred from pol. vectors  
(rotating E-vectors by  $90^\circ$  -- verification is discussed later!)



Credit: SOFIA/NASA  
Tram et al. (2022)

- ❑ B-fields' morphology is complex but ordered.
- ❑ B-fields are bending at the peaked flux intensity.
- ❑ The "convex points" toward R 136.



# SOFIA observations of 30 Doradus: Magnetic fields strength

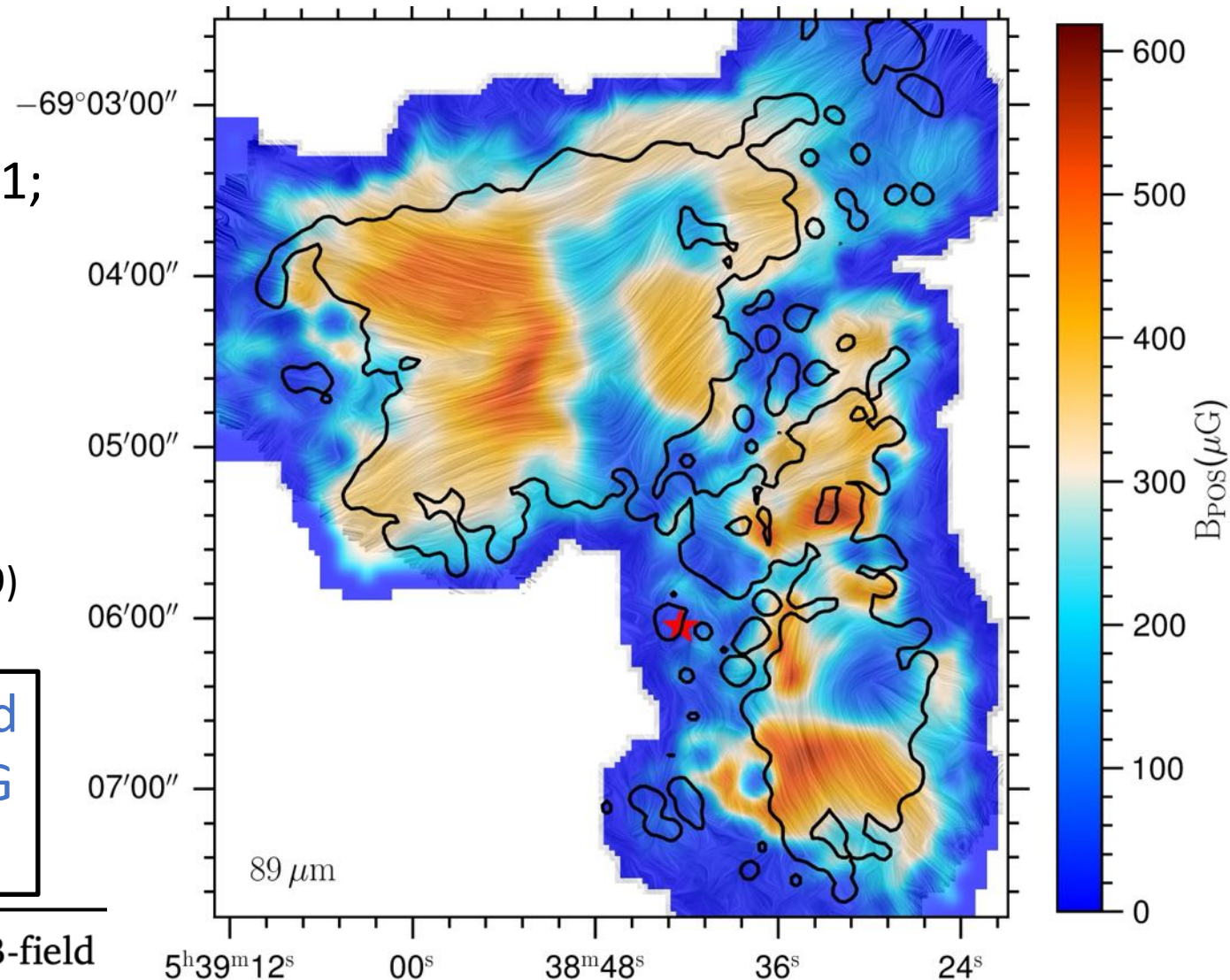
- ❖ Pol. Measurements: 89, 154 and 214  $\mu\text{m}$
- ❖ Position-of-sky (POS) component is estimated by the DCF method (Davis 1951; Chandrasekhar & Fermi 1953).

$$\frac{1}{2}\rho\sigma_v^2 = \frac{\delta B^2}{8\pi} \rightarrow B_{POS} = \sqrt{4\pi\rho\sigma_v} \left[ \frac{\delta B^2}{B_0^2} \right]^{-1/2}$$

Methodology: “modified DCF” (Houde et al. 2009)  
 Application: Guerra +2021

- B-fields’ strength varies across the cloud
- Relatively strong field: few hundreds  $\mu\text{G}$
- Minimal at the peak flux intensity

- $\rho$ : gas mass density
- $\sigma_v$ : turbulent velocity
- $\delta B$ : turbulent component of B-field
- $B_0$ : ordered component of B-field

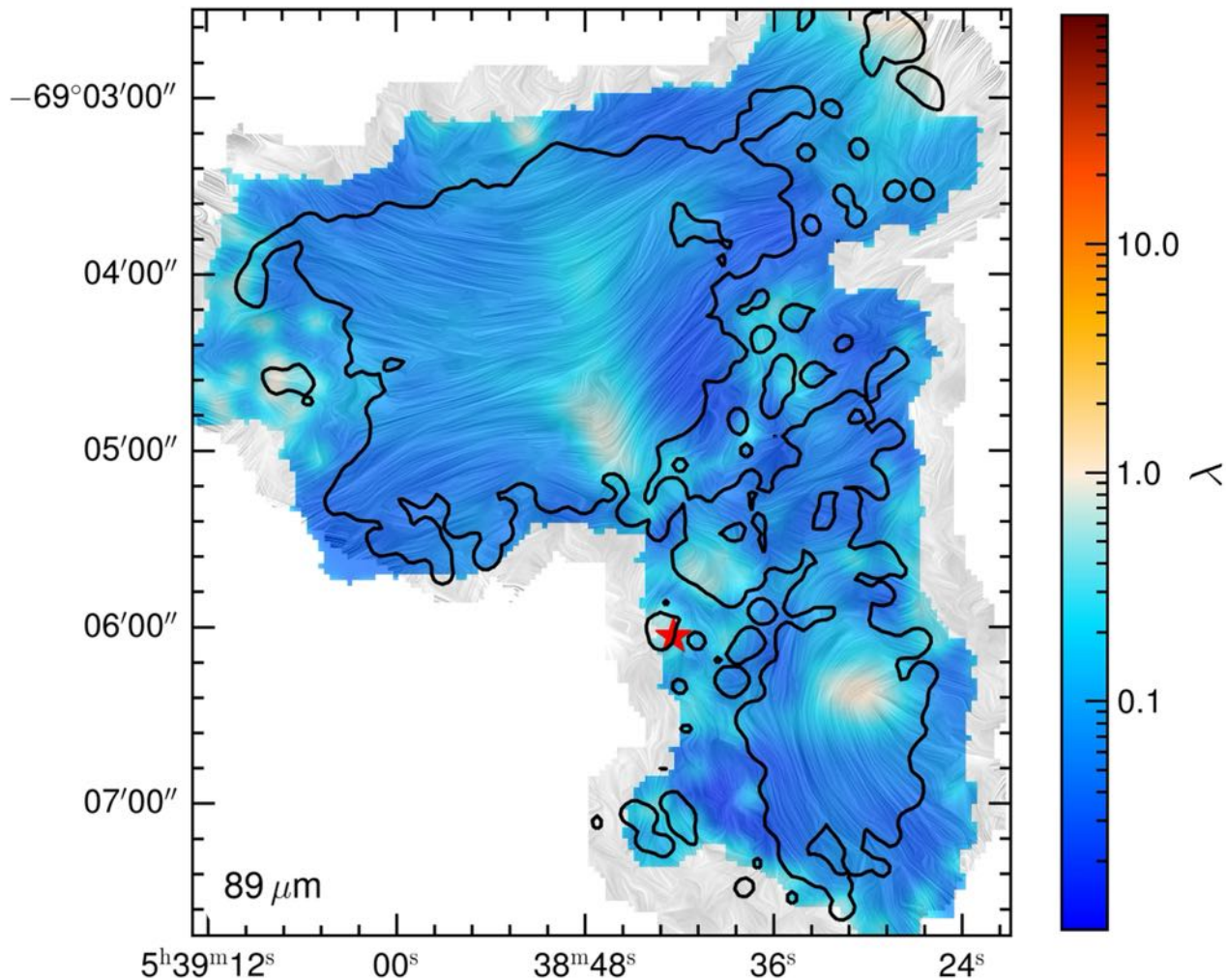


Tram et al. (2022)



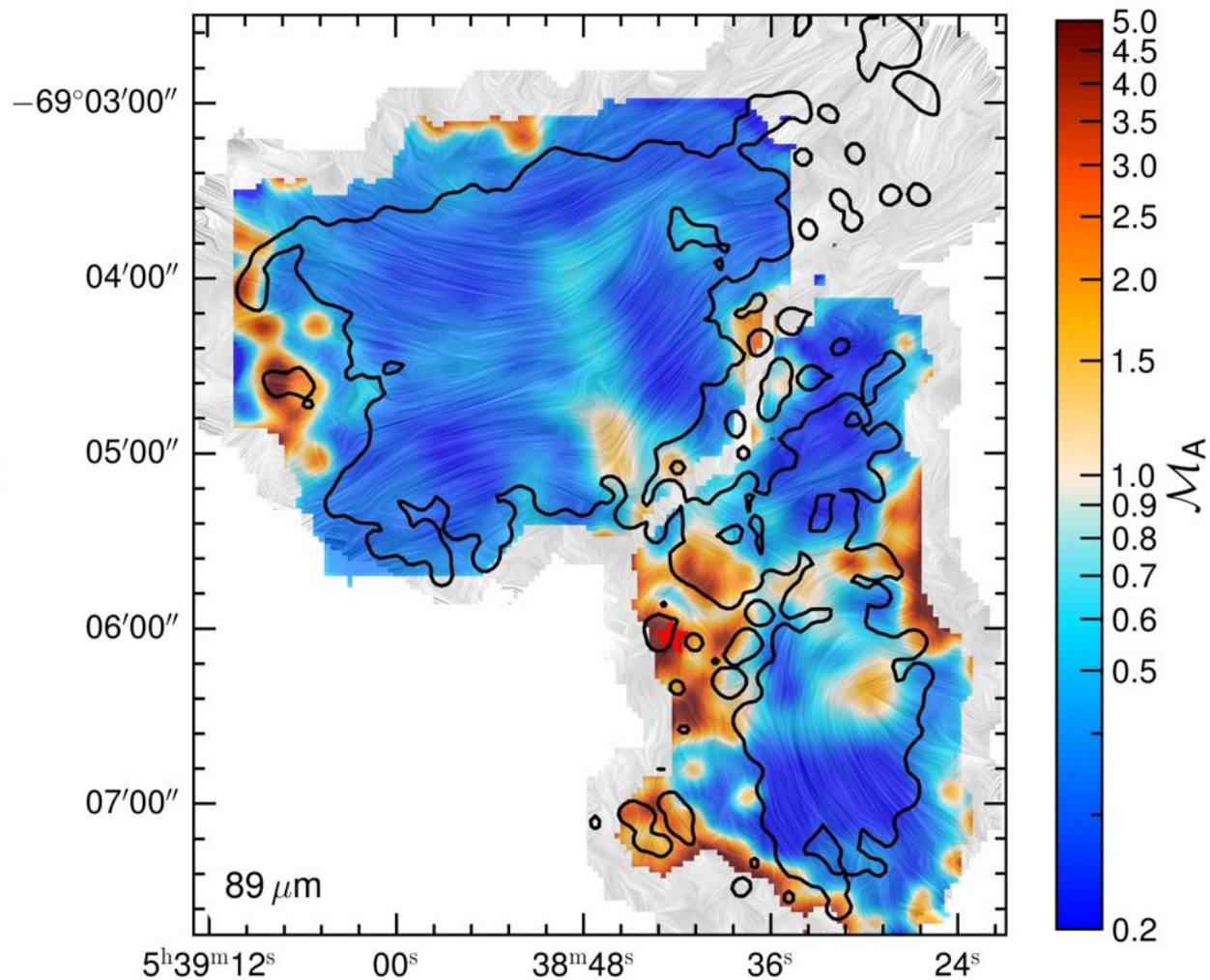
# Mass-to-flux ratio

□  $\lambda < 1$ : "sub-critical"



# Alfvenic Mach number

□  $\mathcal{M}_A < 1$ : "sub-Alfvenic"



Tram et al. (2022)

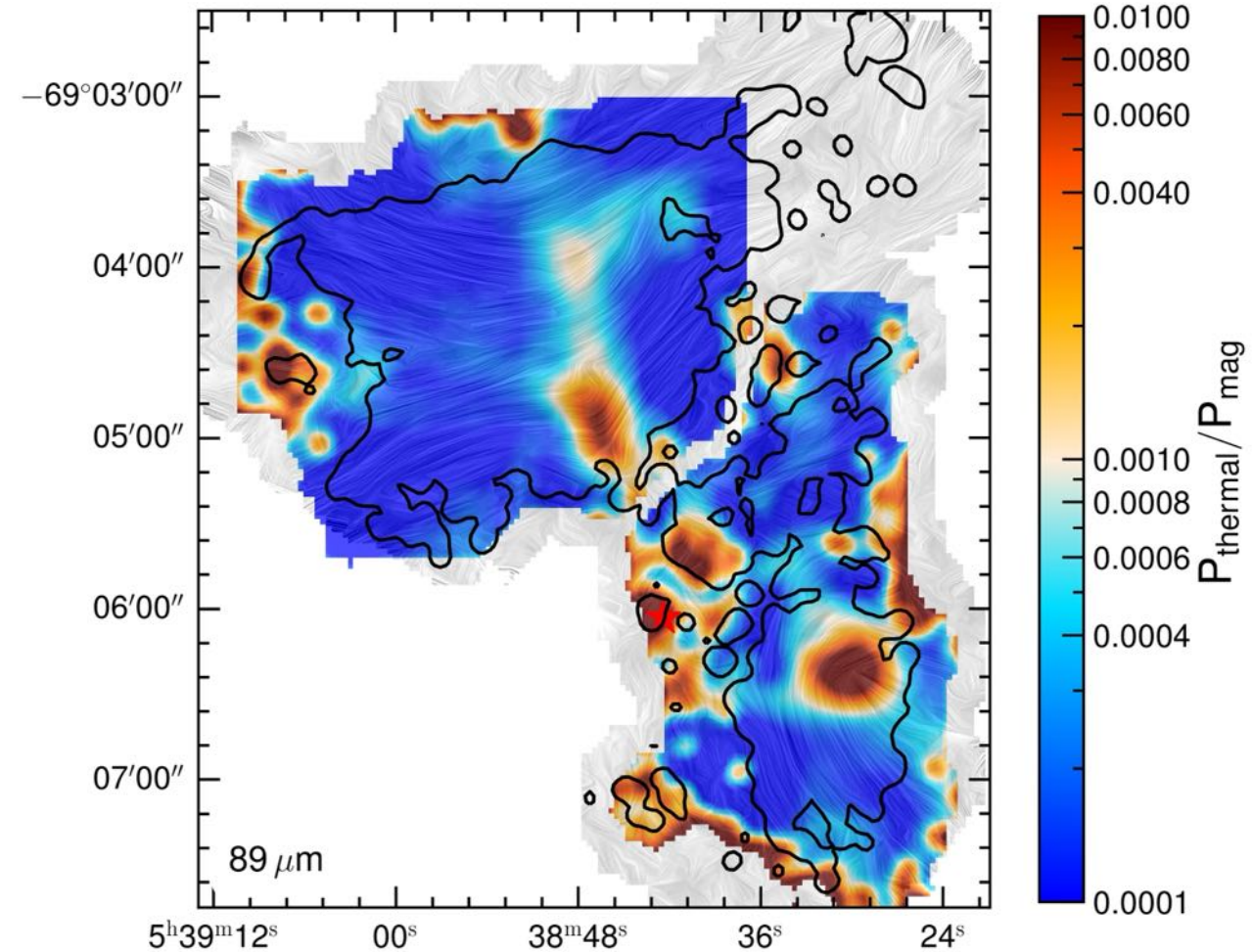
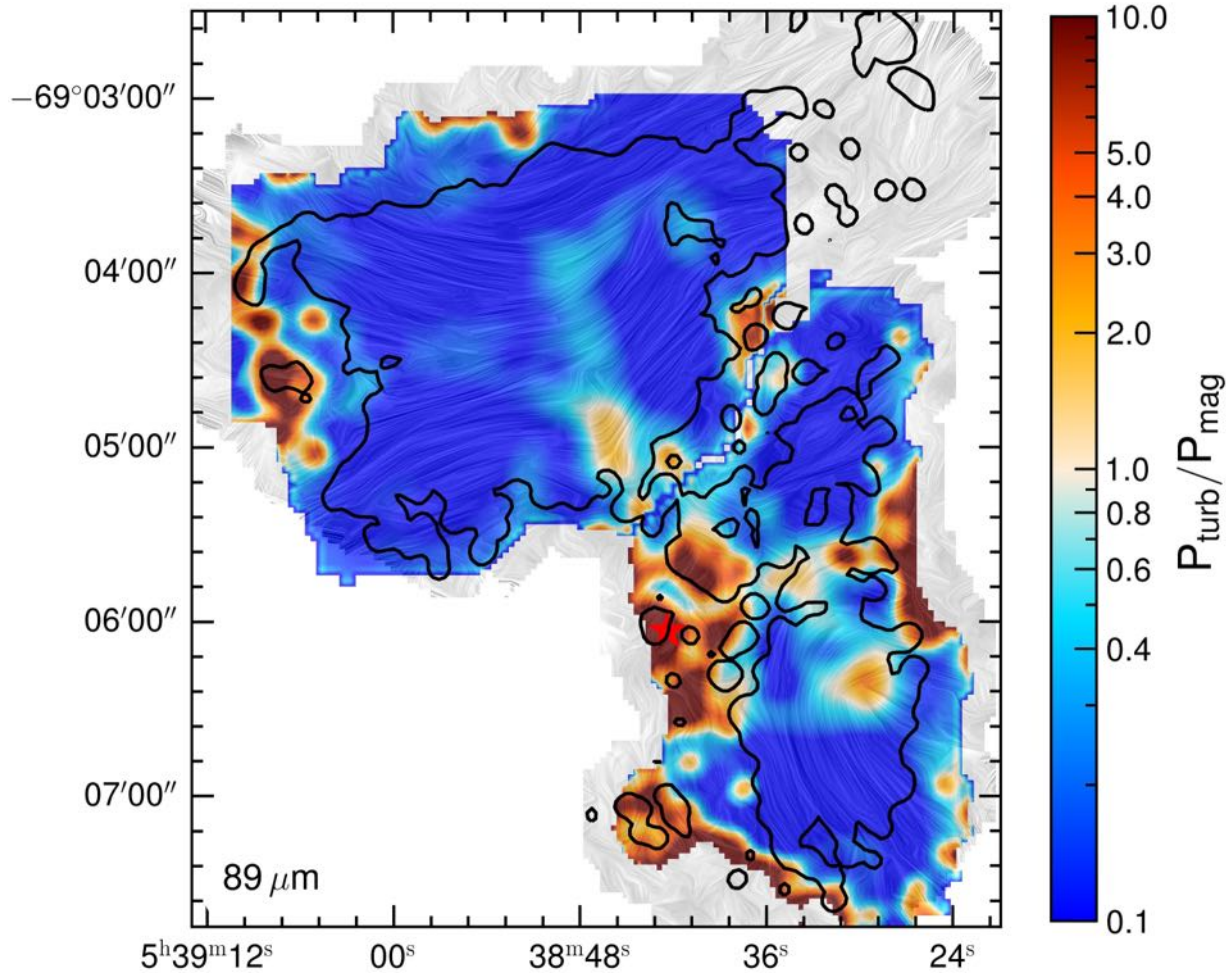


# Magnetic vs. turbulent vs. thermal pressures

$$\square P_{\text{mag}} > P_{\text{turb}}$$

Strong B-fields in 30 Doradus

$$\square P_{\text{mag}} \gg P_{\text{thermal}}$$



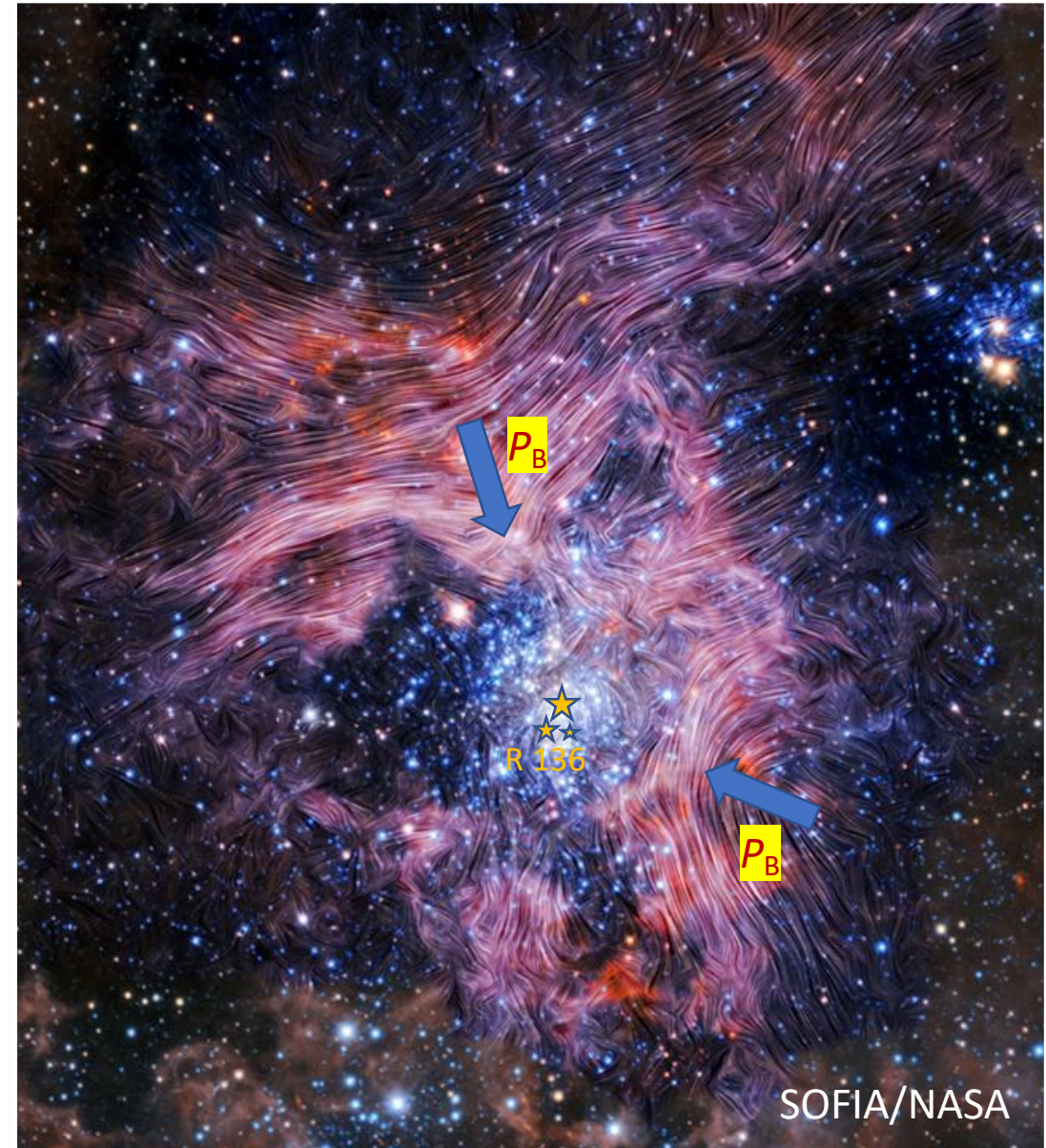
Tram et al. (2022)



# Magnetic fields are key to hold the 30 Doradus structure

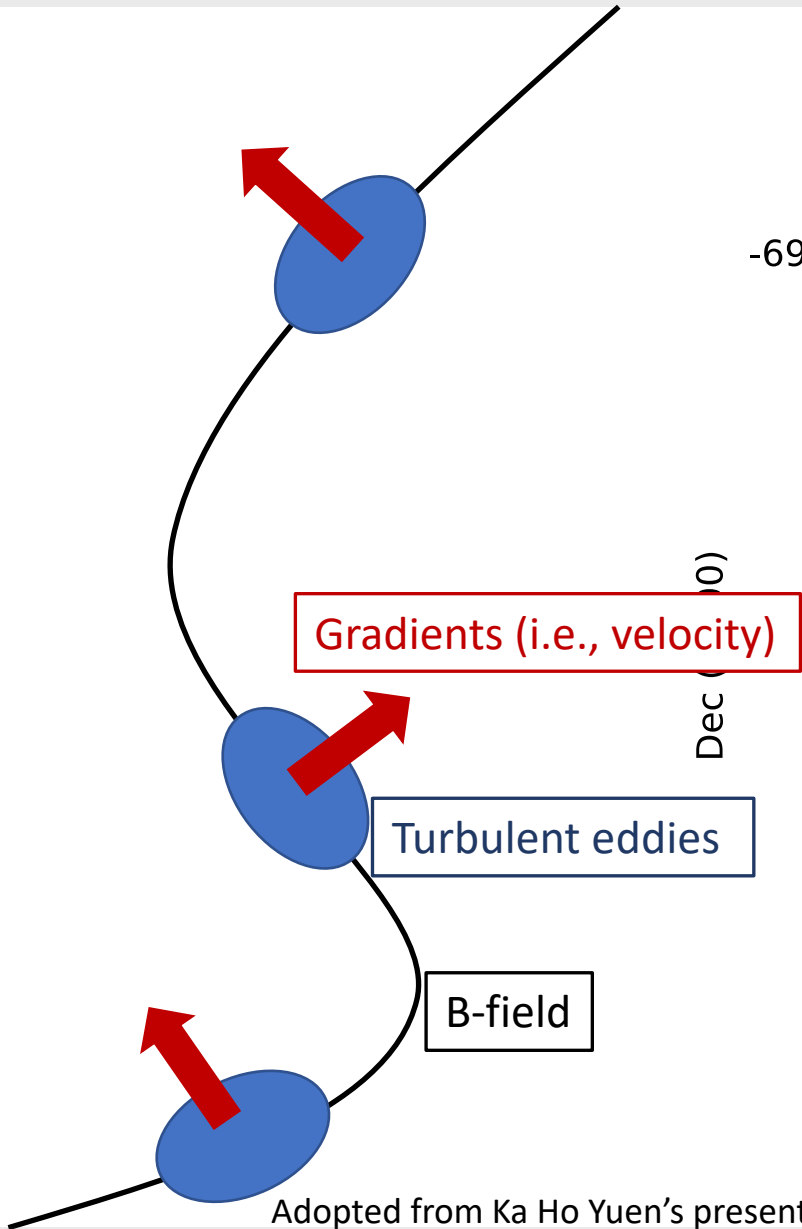
- ❑  $P_{\text{hot-gas}} < P_{\text{thermal}}$  (Pellegrini et al. 2011)
- ❑  $P_{\text{thermal}} < P_{\text{rad}}$  (Pellegrini et al. 2011)
- ❑  $P_{\text{rad}} \sim 10^{-9} \text{ dyn cm}^{-2}$  (Pellegrini et al. 2011)
- ❑  $P_{\text{B}} \sim 10^{-9} - 10^{-8} \text{ dyn cm}^{-2}$  for  $B=200-500 \mu\text{G}$ 
  - $\rightarrow P_{\text{B}} \geq P_{\text{rad}}$
- ❑  $P_{\text{B}} > P_{\text{turb.}}$

- ❑  $E_{\text{K}} \sim 5 \times 10^{50} \text{ ergs}$  (Melnick et al. 2021)
- ❑  $E_{\text{turb.}} \sim 10^{51} \text{ ergs}$  (Melnick et al. 2021)
- ❑  $E_{\text{B}} \sim 10^{51} - 10^{52} \text{ ergs}$  for  $B=200-500 \mu\text{G}$ 
  - $\rightarrow E_{\text{B}} > E_{\text{turb.}} \geq E_{\text{K}}$

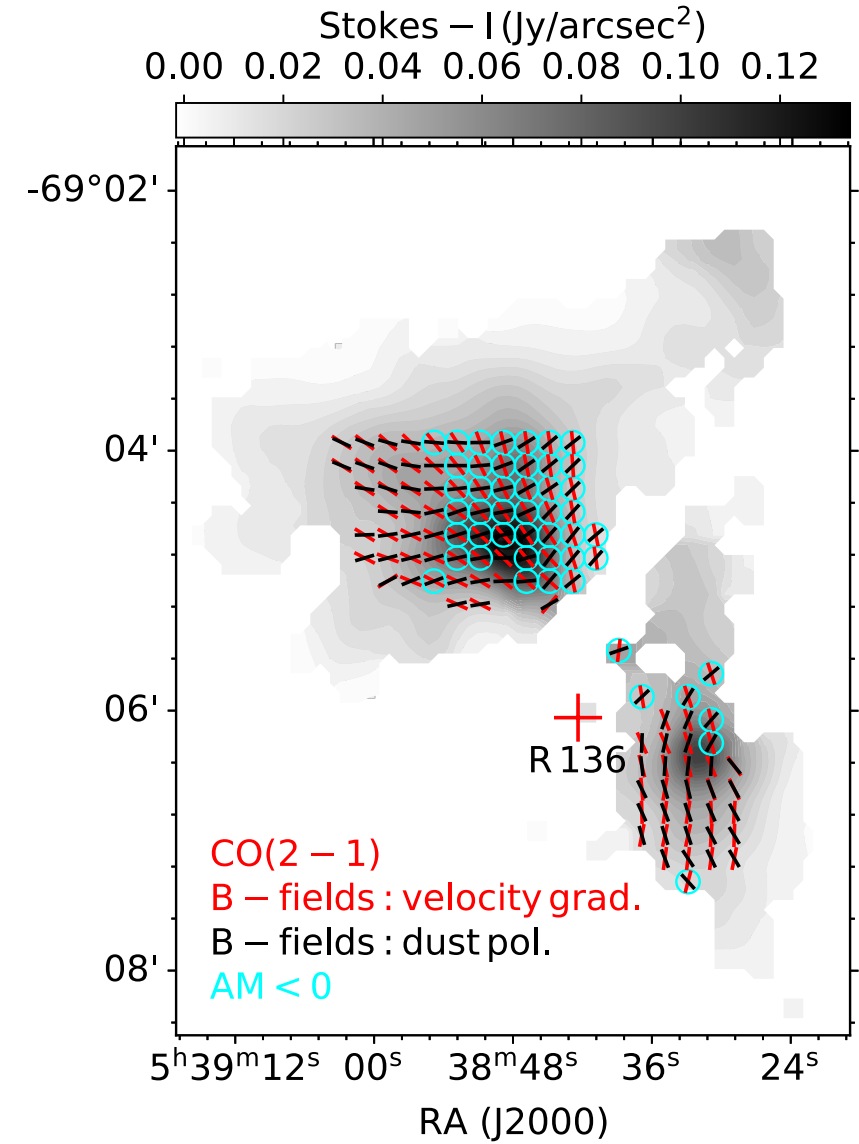
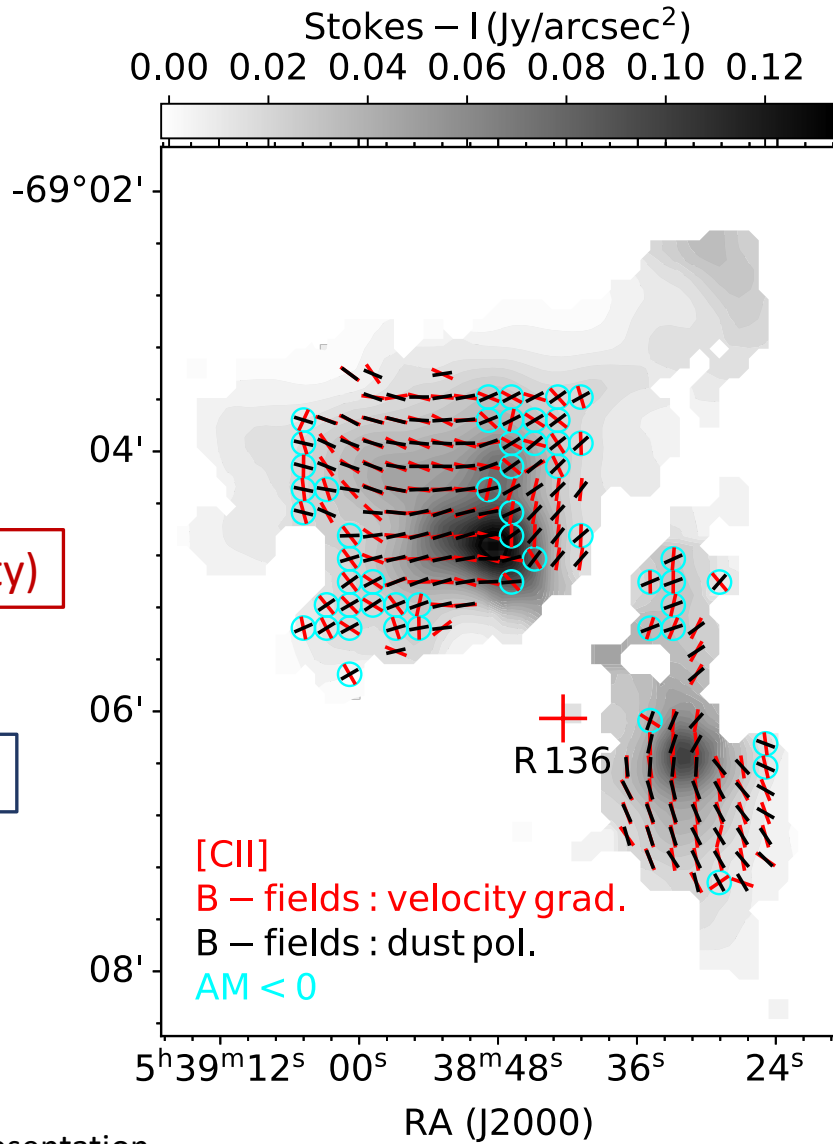




# Gas kinematics vs. magnetic fields

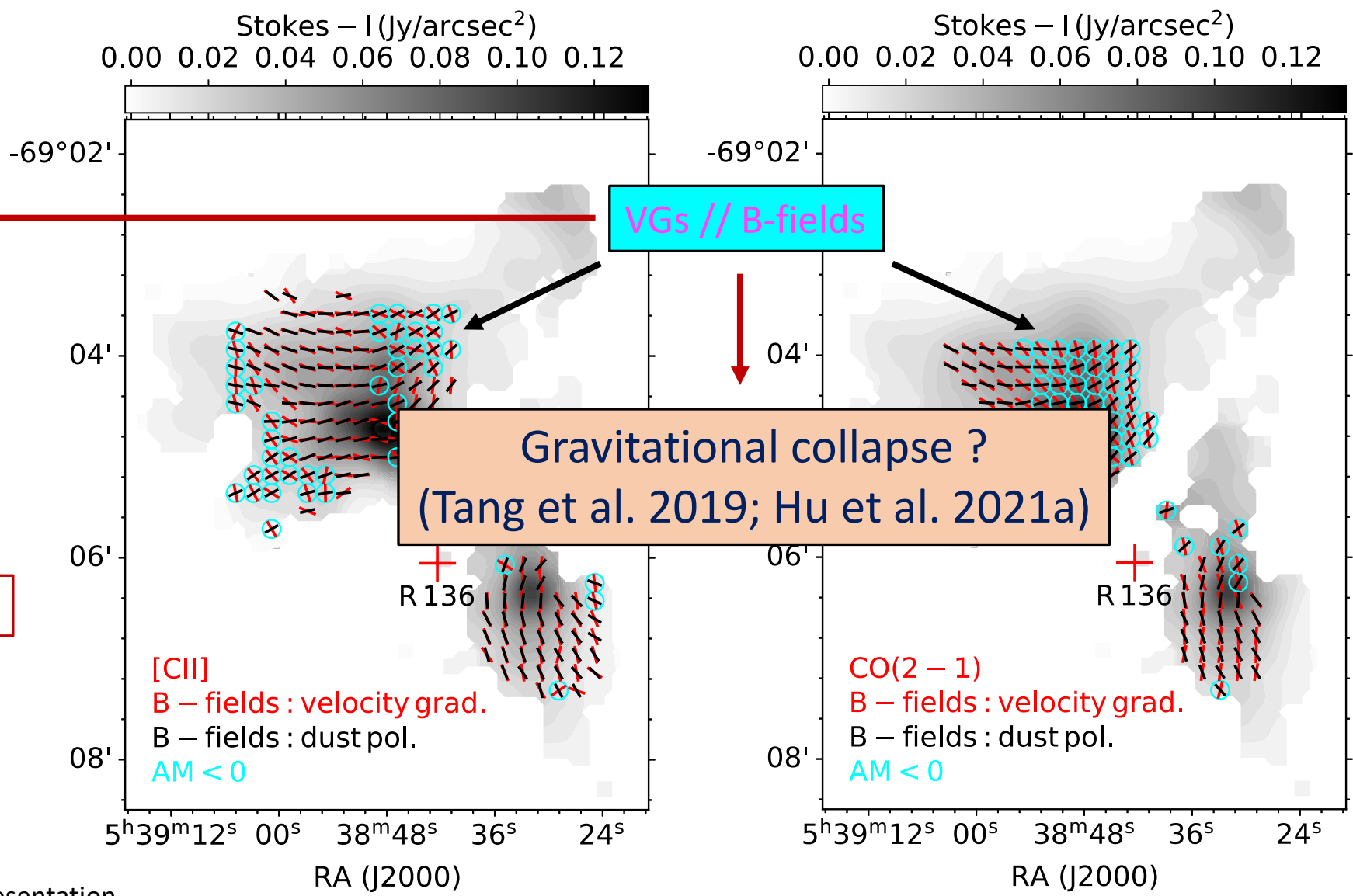
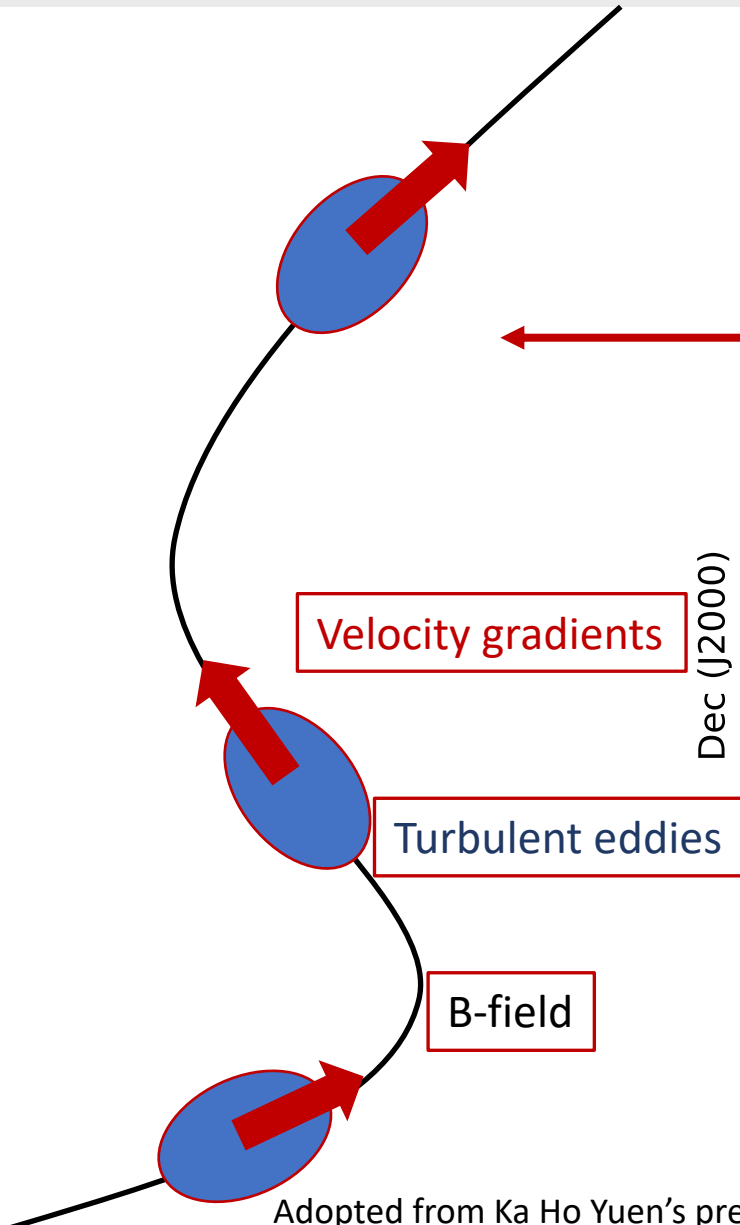


Adopted from Ka Ho Yuen's presentation





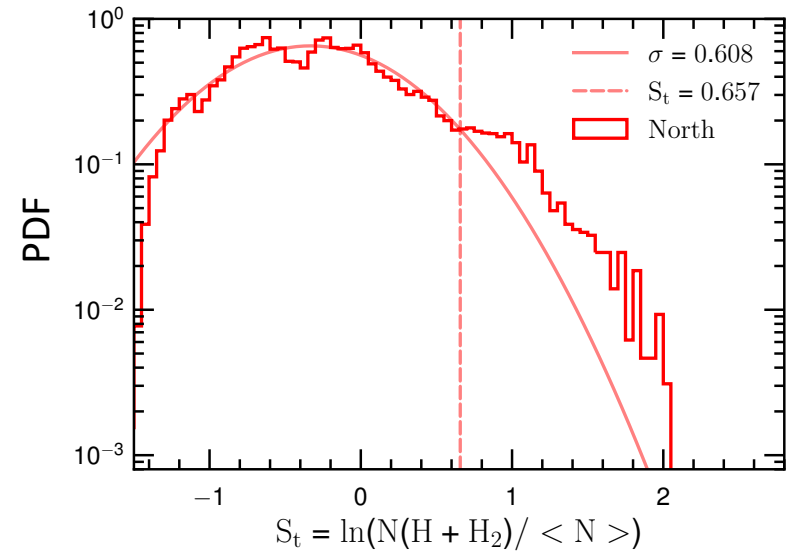
# Gas kinematics vs. magnetic fields



Adopted from Ka Ho Yuen's presentation



# Turbulence driving mode

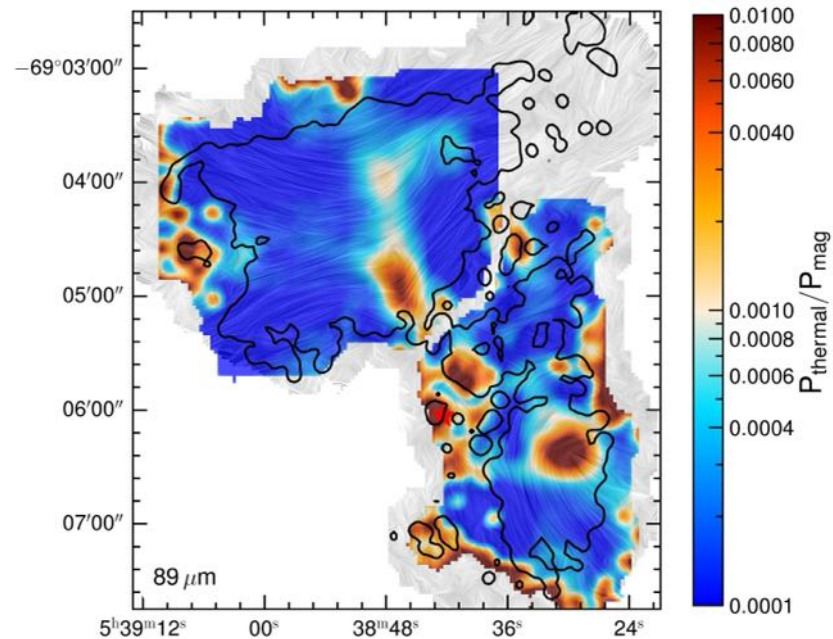


□ Power law-tail: gravitational collapse (as seen by VGTs)  
(e.g., Klessen 2000; Federrath & Klessen 2013; Kainulainen et al. 2014; Girichidis et al. 2014; Schneider et al. 2013, 2015).

□ Turbulence driving parameter:  **$b \sim 1$**

→ Compressive turbulence

(Federrath et al. 2010)



□  $P_{\text{mag}} \gg P_{\text{thermal}} \Rightarrow \mathcal{M}_S \gg 1$

→ Super-sonic turbulence

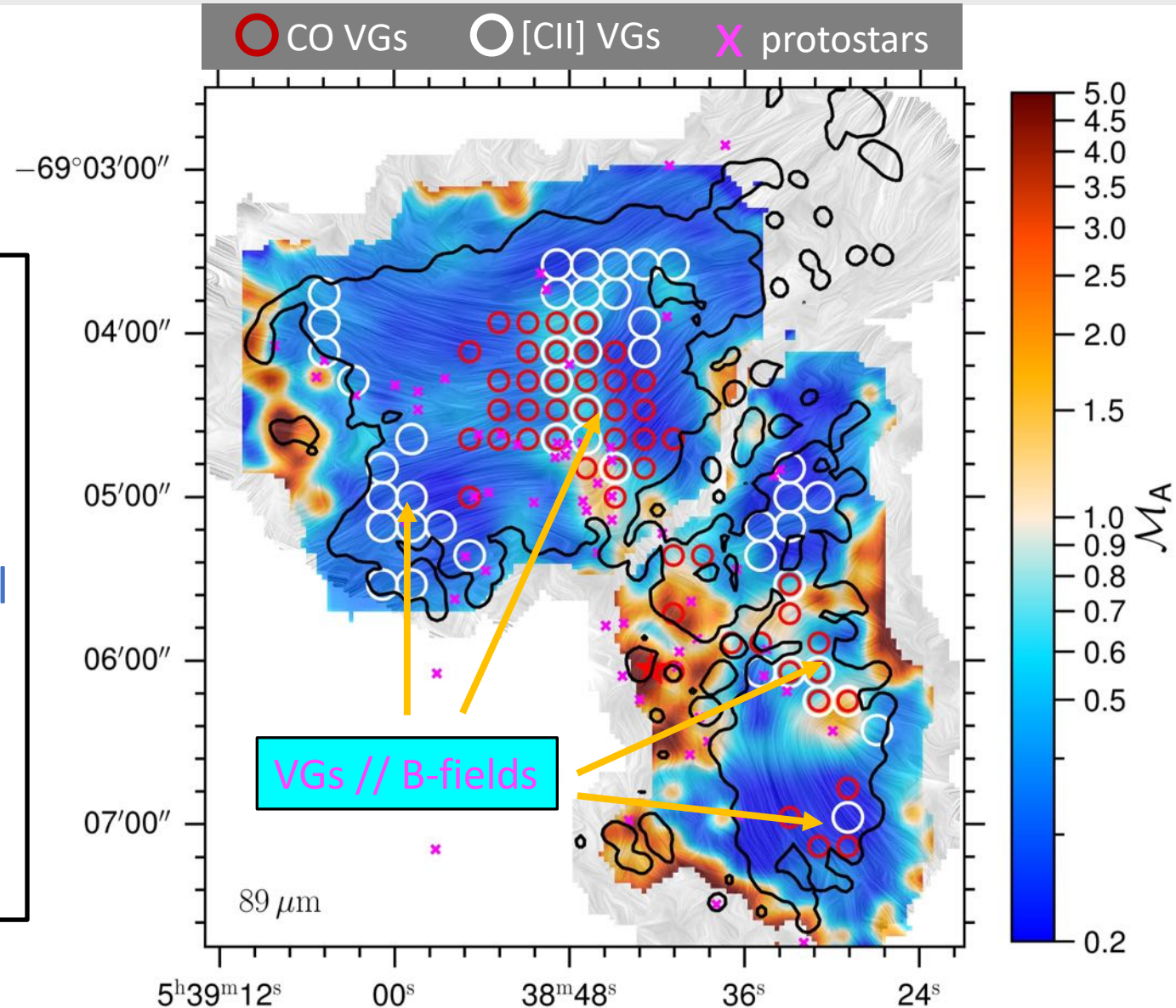
(in agreement with Chu & Kennicutt 1994 and Melnick et al. 2021)



# Turbulence and star-formation in 30 Doradus

We propose

- At certain locations in 30 Doradus (unfilled-circles), super-sonic compressive turbulence drives material parallel to B-field lines,
- This process could accumulate material that is sufficient to trigger new gen. of stars to form,
- This process is not affected by magnetic pressure.







Pol. Vectors  $\pm 90^\circ \rightarrow$  B-fields morphology

Is it true?!?

Grain alignment mechanisms



# Iron depletion vs. metallicity

Higher metallicity  $\rightarrow$  higher iron depletion factor

For Galactic HII region and PNe:

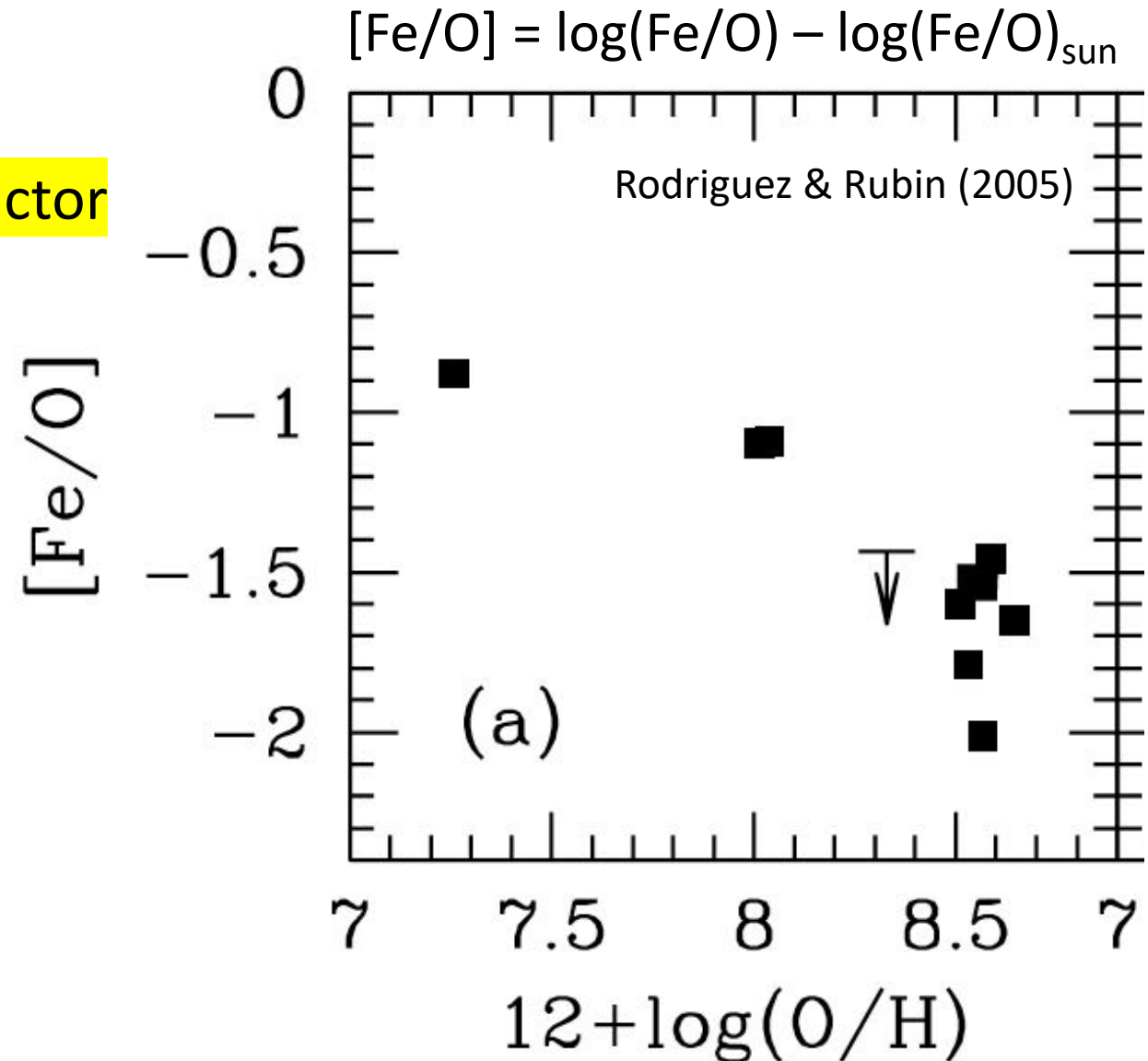
- Depletion factor = [-1.3, -2.0]
- Iron is mostly locked in dust grains!

For LMC:

- Depletion factor is  $\sim -1.4$

For SMC:

- Depletion factor is  $\sim [-0.5, -1.1]$

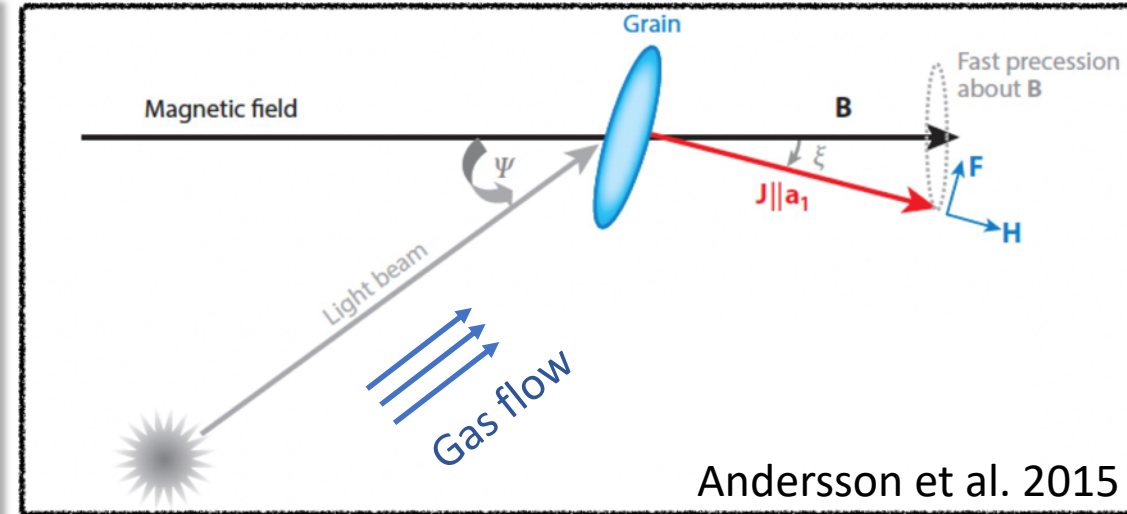
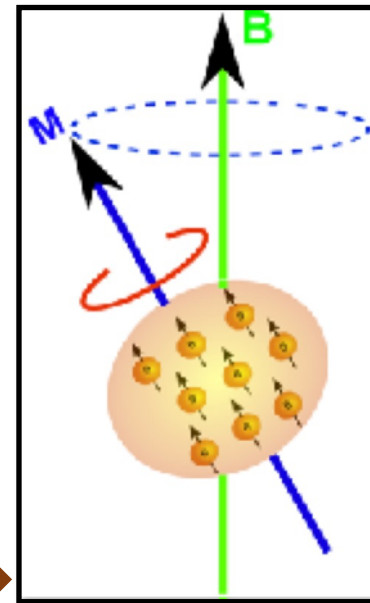
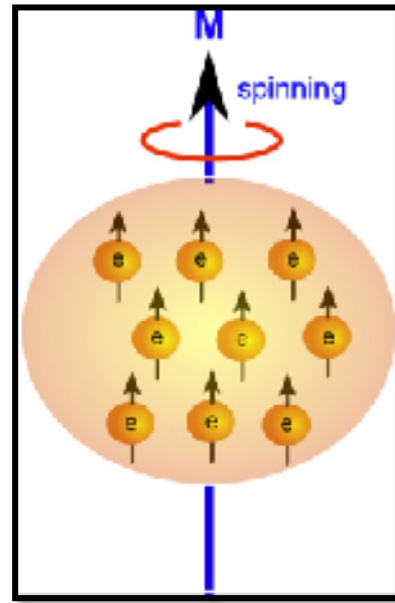
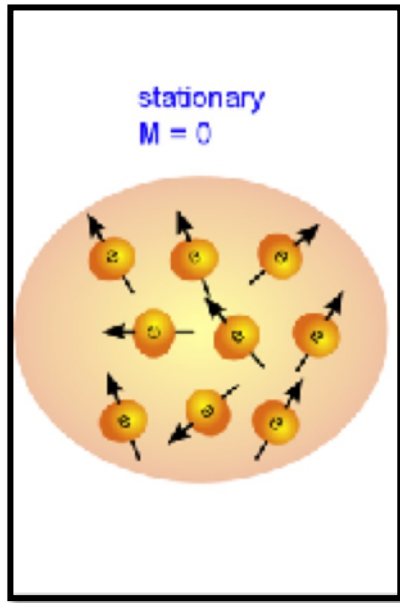




# Principle of grain alignment

Paramagnetic grains (pm; iron inclusion)

Super-paramagnetic grains (spm; iron formed in cluster)



Spin-up

Internal alignment

External alignment

- Internal align.:  $J$  vs. short-axis
- External align.:  $J$  vs. ambient B-fields

Dia-magnetic grains are not considered here



# Spin-up process

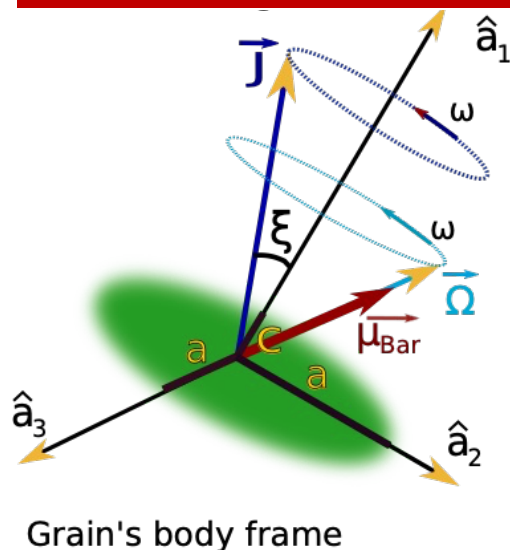
Randomization: Gas collision  
(reducing alignment efficiency)

Anisotropic radiation field

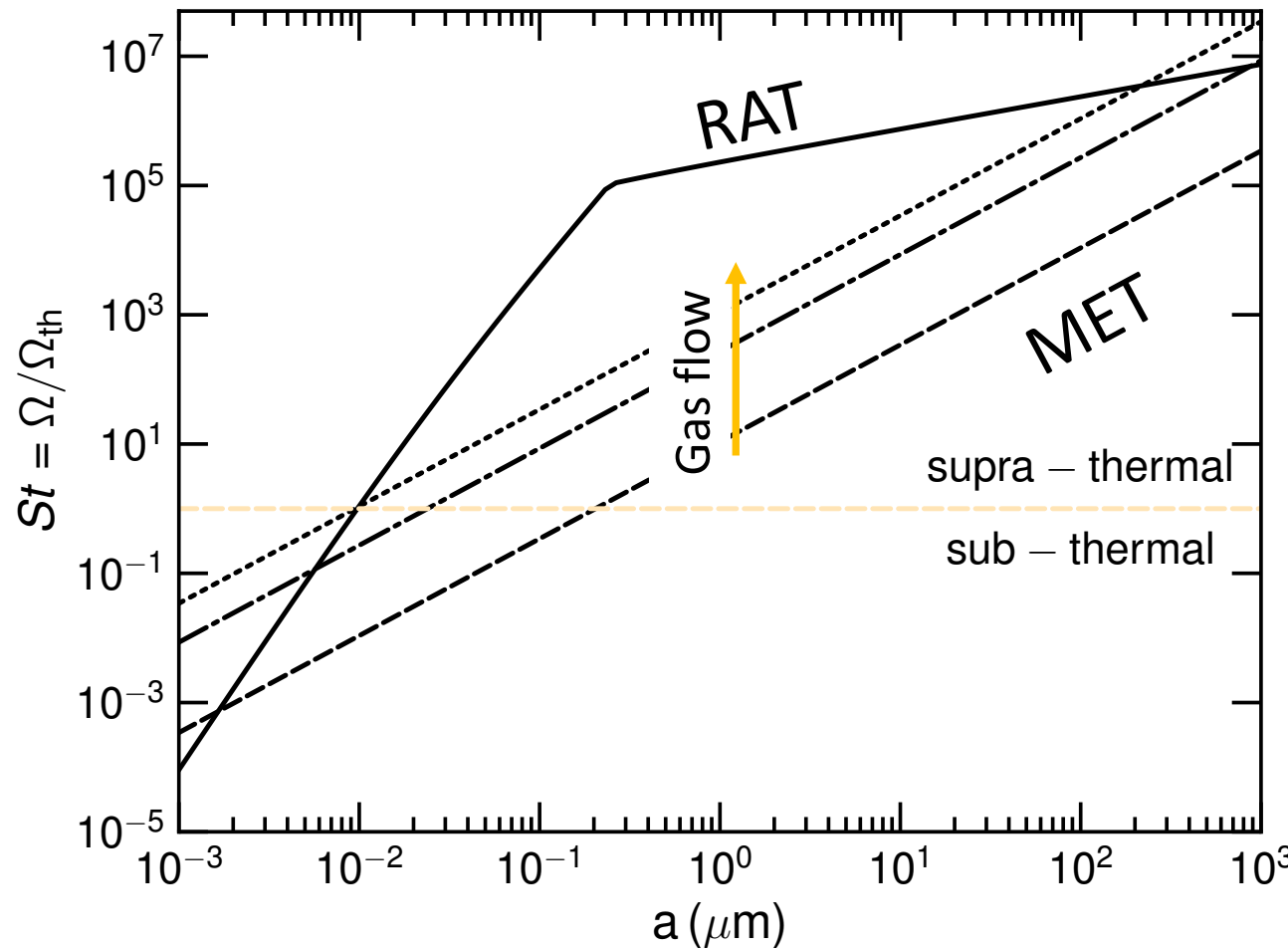
Radiative Torque  
(RAT)

Mechanical Torque  
(MET)

Gas flow



30 Doradus condition – MCs conditions



For MCs: (Tram & Hoang 2022; Tram et al. in prep.)

RAT is the main cause to spin-up grains

For protellar cores and disks:

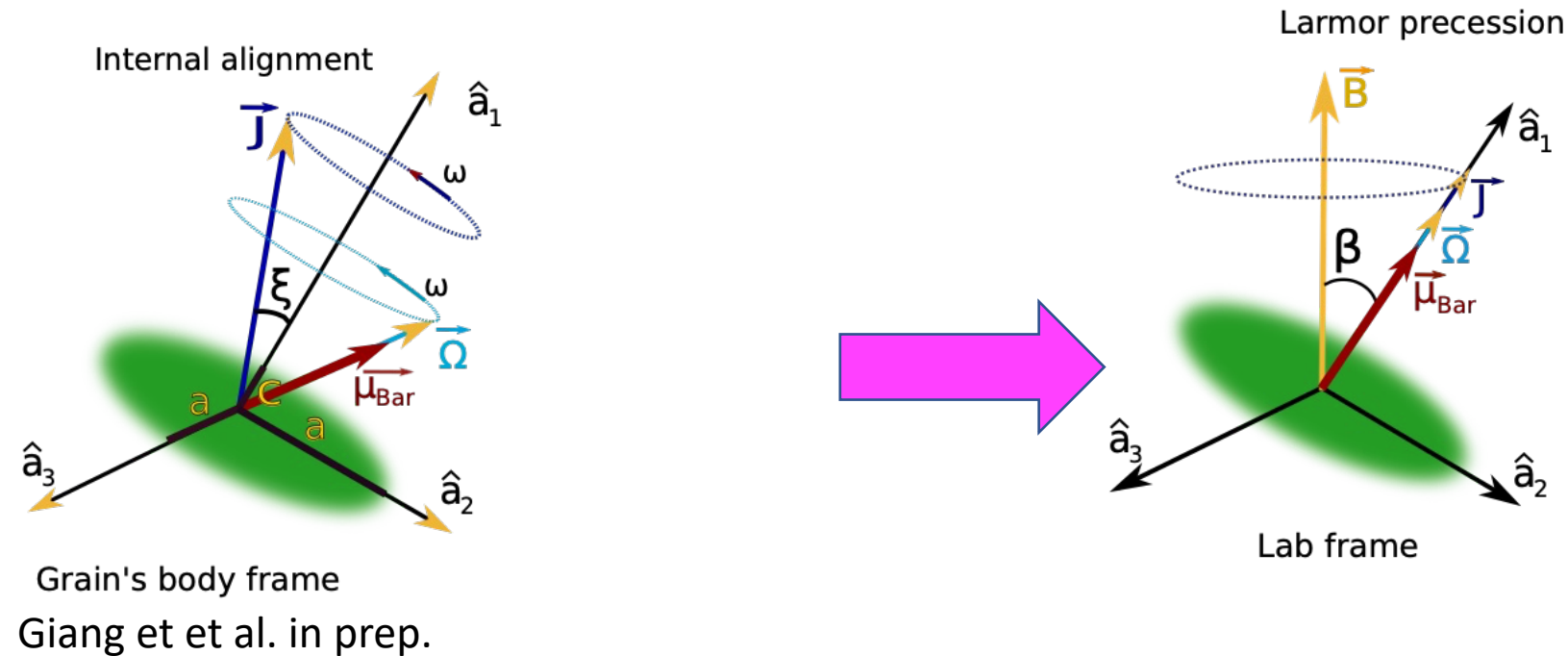
Complicated RAT vs. MET (not shown)

(Hoang et al. 2022; Giang et al. in prep.)



# Internal vs. External alignments

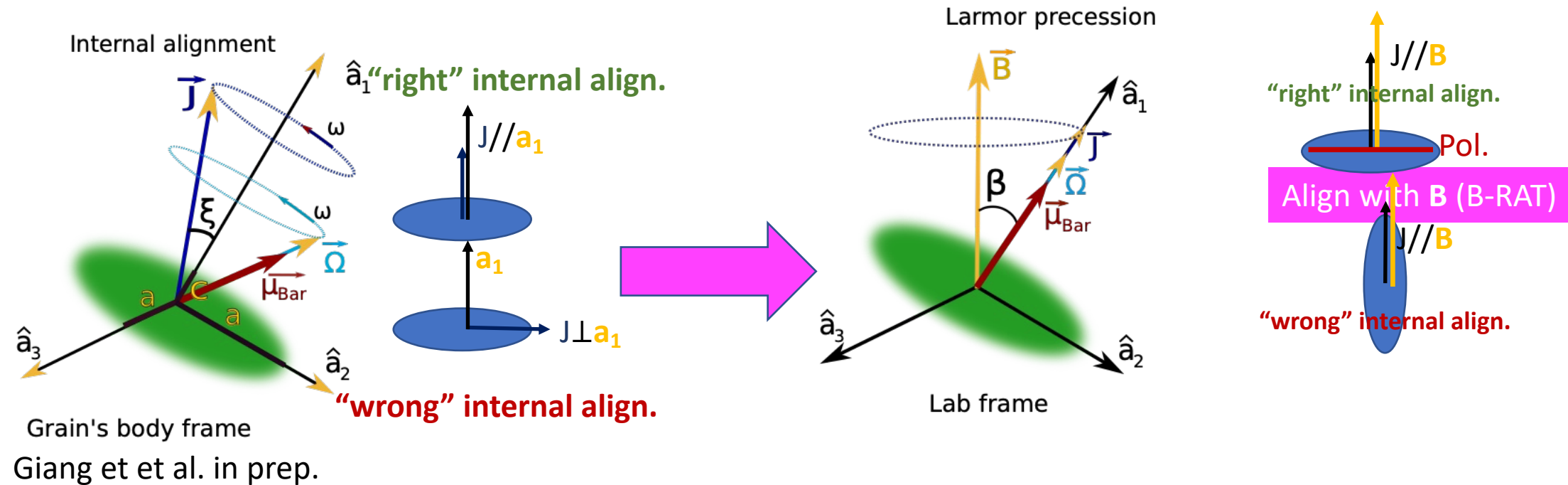
Radiative Torque alignment (RAT-A) is the leading theory describing grains alignment (reviewed in e.g., Lazarian & Hoang 2007a, 2021; Andersson et al. 2015)



Review in Tram & Hoang (2022)

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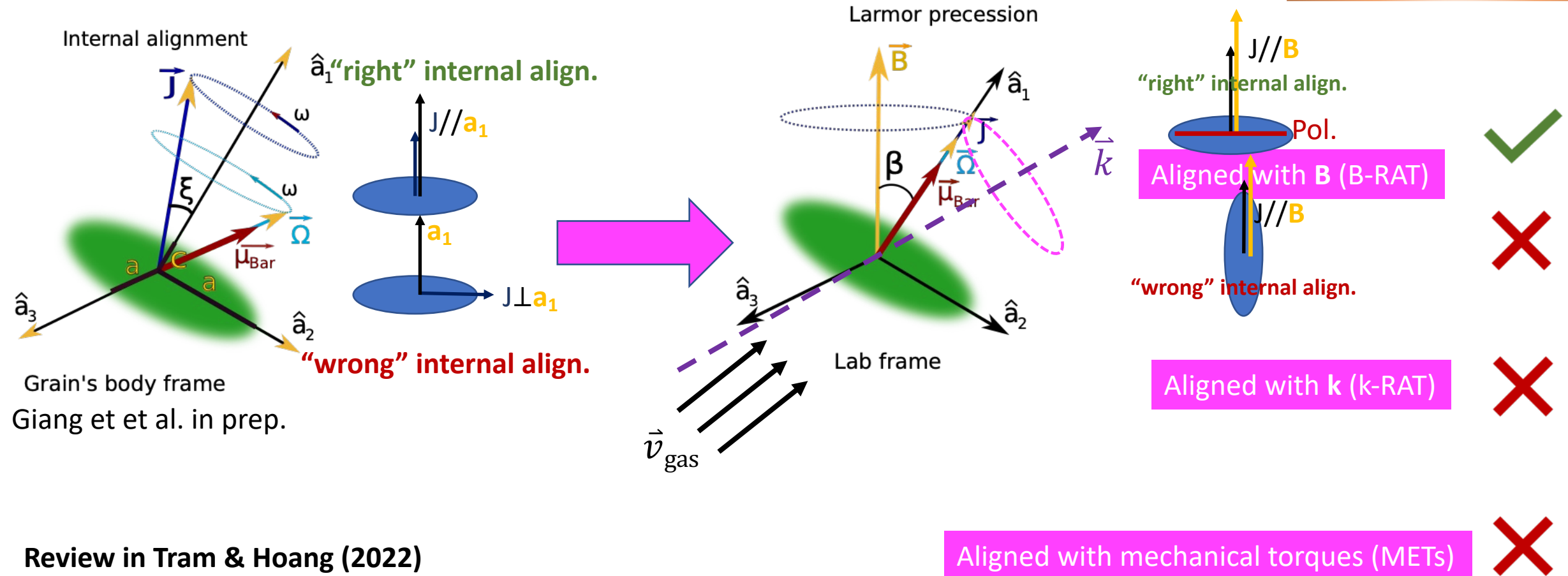
Review in Tram & Hoang (2022)



# Internal vs. External alignments

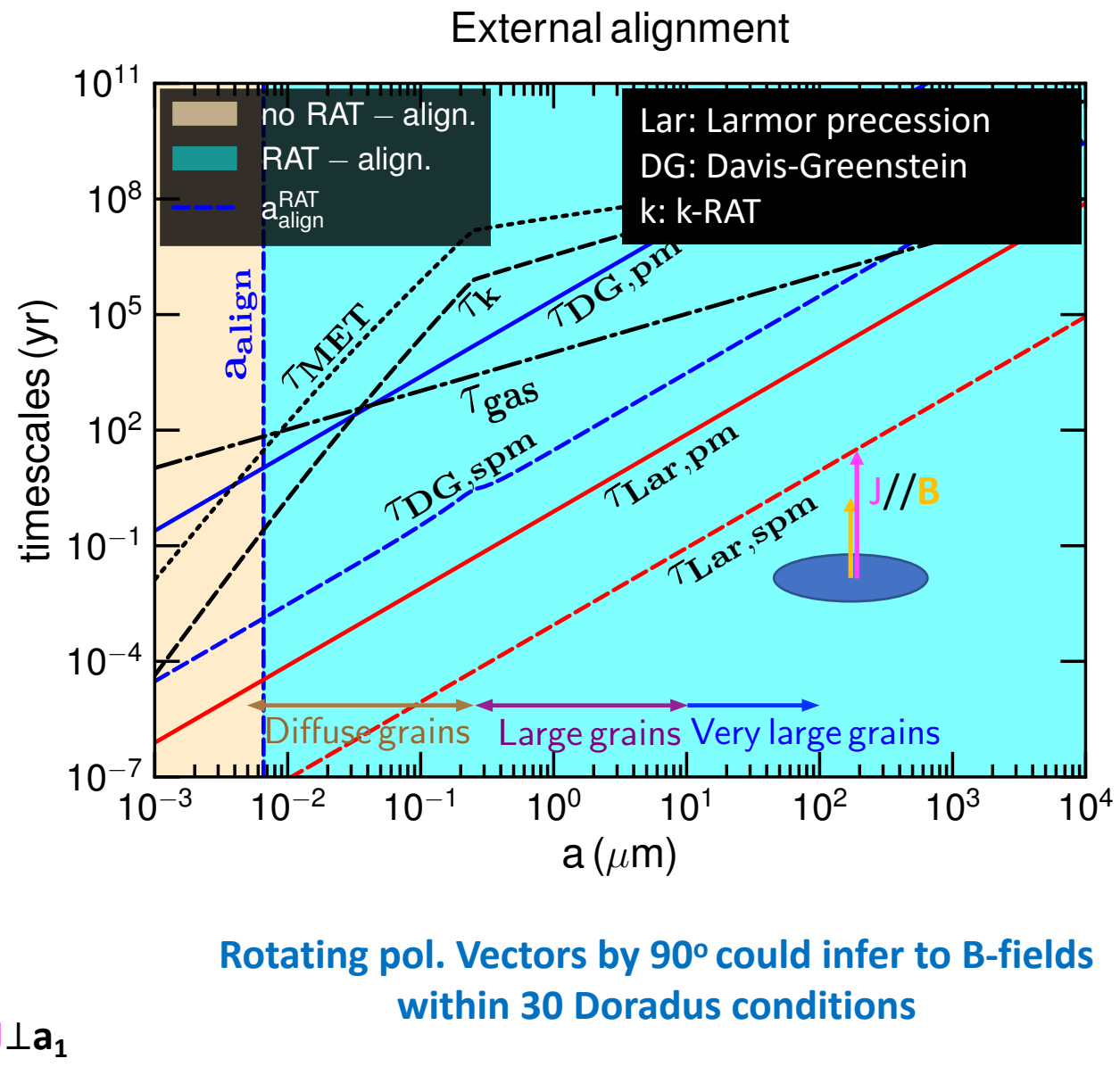
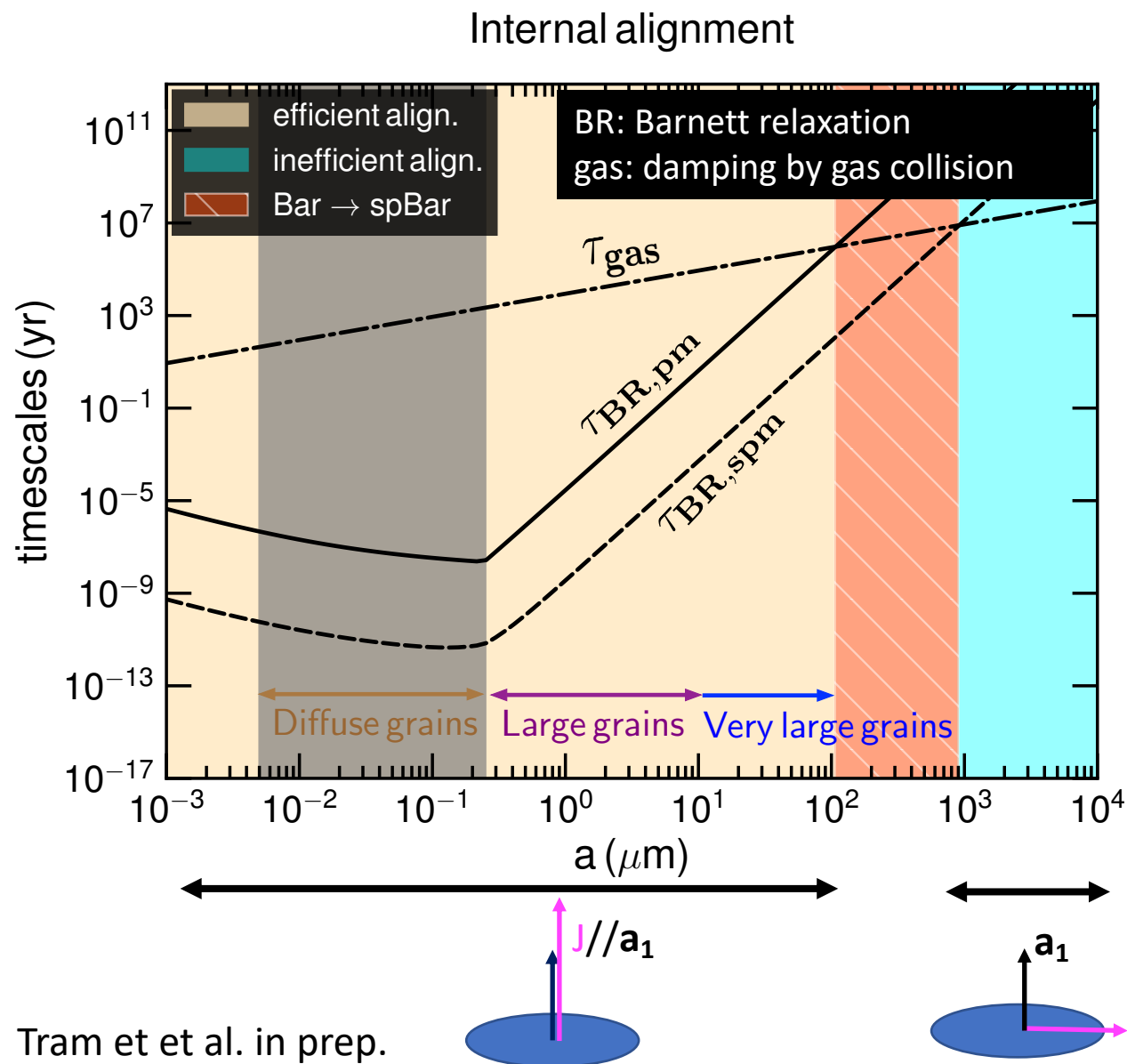
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B-fields by rotating pol. vectors by 90°



Review in Tram & Hoang (2022)

# Internal vs. External alignments for 30 Doradus

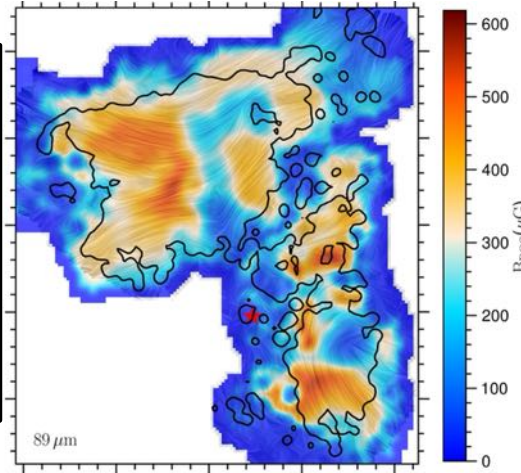


Tram et al. in prep.

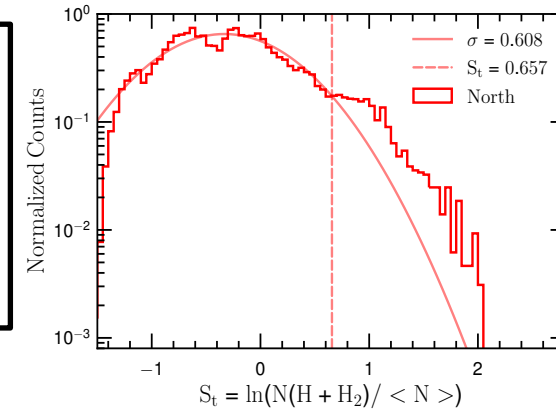


# Conclusion (1)

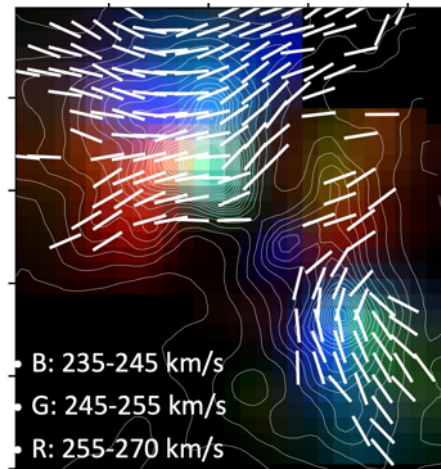
- ❑ B-field lines are complex but ordered,
- ❑ B-field is sufficient strong to hold the structure integrity of cloud.



- ❑ Compressive supersonic turbulence,
- ❑ Turb. helps stars to form in strong B-fields.

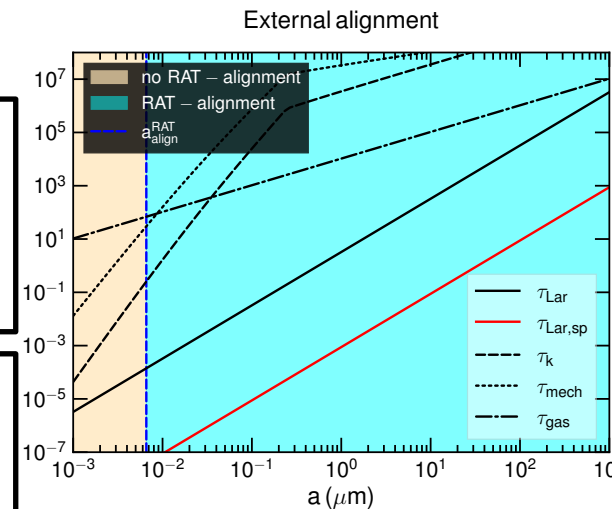


- ❑ Complex structure of gas kinematic,
- ❑ Multiple expanding-shells,
- ❑ Cloud structure has been suffered by R136 feedback.



- ❑ B-RAT is likely the main mechanism to align dust grains.

Note: It's not always true in protostellar cores or disks.



# Conclusion (2)

For a given polarimetry dataset, we suggest

1. We could study the basic physical properties of dust grains (e.g., shape, mineralogy, helicity, internal structure, size-distribution) (e.g., 30 Dor: Tram et al. 2021c),
2. We could investigate the role of magnetic fields (e.g., 30 Dor: Tram et al. 2022)
3. But, we must verify the B-RAT assumption (**pol. vectors  $\rightarrow$  B-vectors**)
  - In “cloud scale”, B-RAT is likely the case (e.g., 30 Dor: Tram et al. in prep.),
  - In “core” and “disk” scales, the picture is far more complicated. (Giang et al. in prep.; Hoang et al. 2022) – new version of POLARIS code

**Thank you very much for your attention!**