

# THE INITIAL CONDITIONS OF STELLAR CLUSTER FORMATION: GAS OBSERVATIONS

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Sarah Ragan (Cardiff University)





# THE INITIAL CONDITIONS OF STAR CLUSTER FORMATION

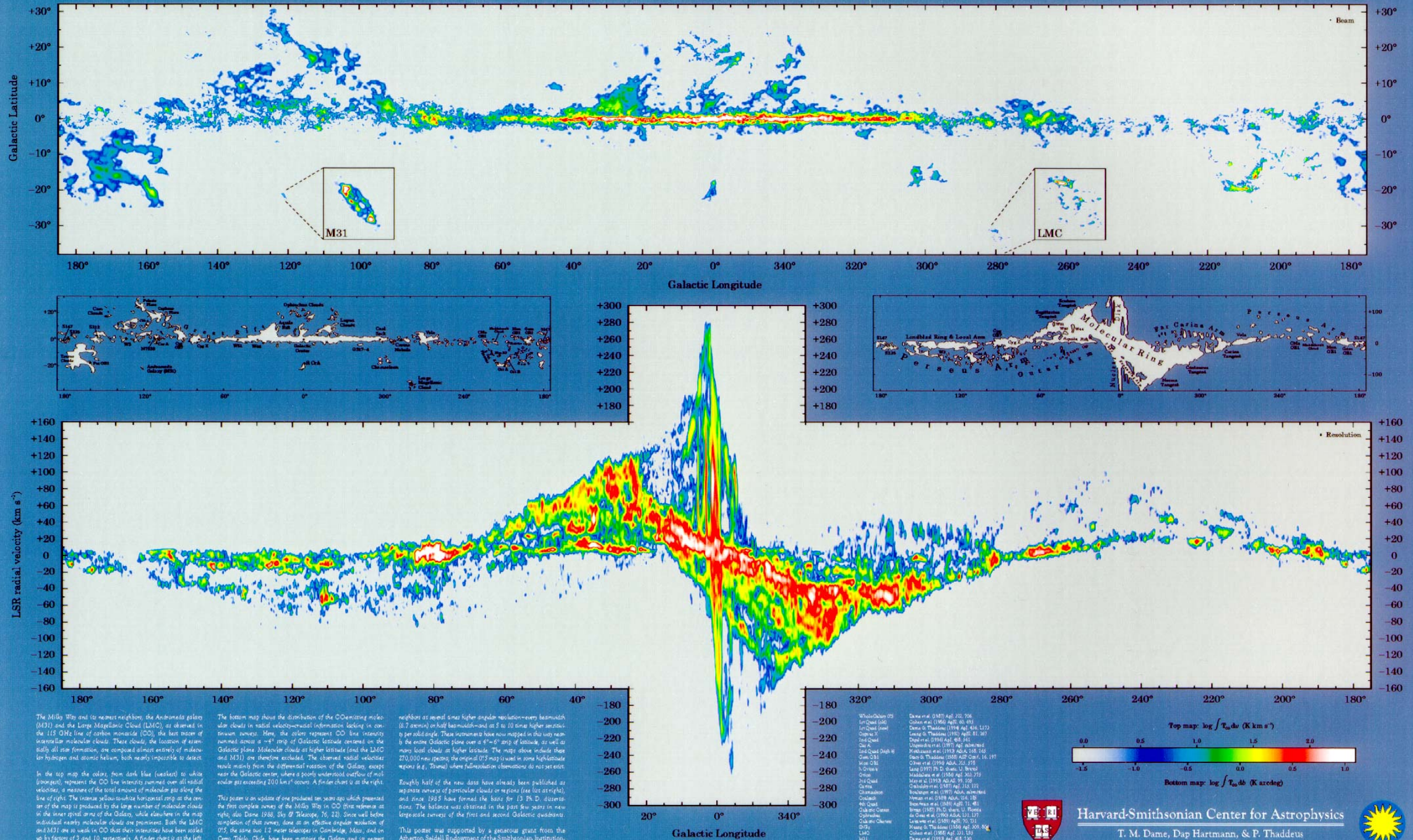


M51: Hubble + PdBI CO(1-0) emission (blue) PAWS: Schinnerer et al.



# GALACTIC PLANE SURVEYS: HOW WE FIND THE INTERESTING BITS OF ISM

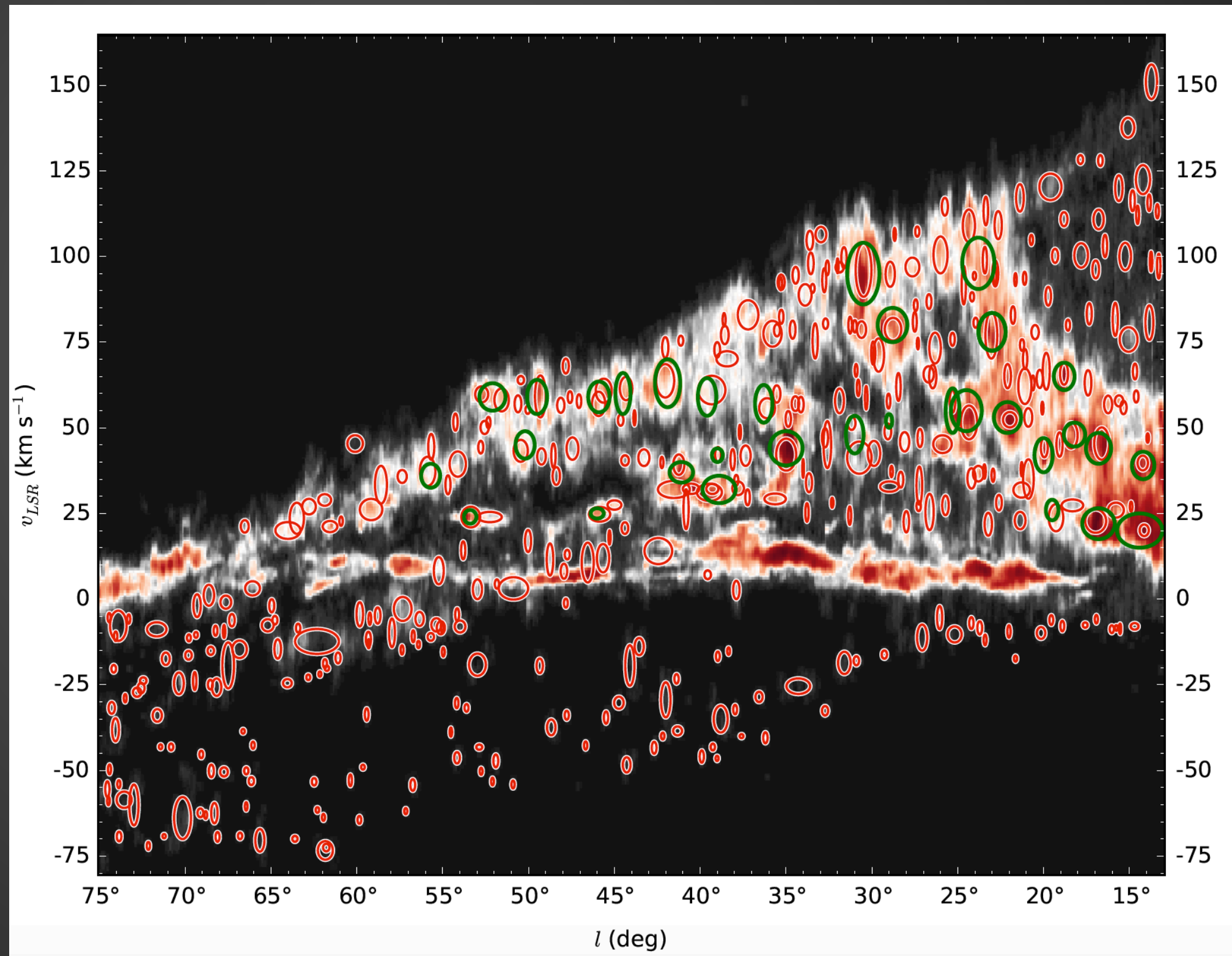
## $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$ The Milky Way in Molecular Clouds



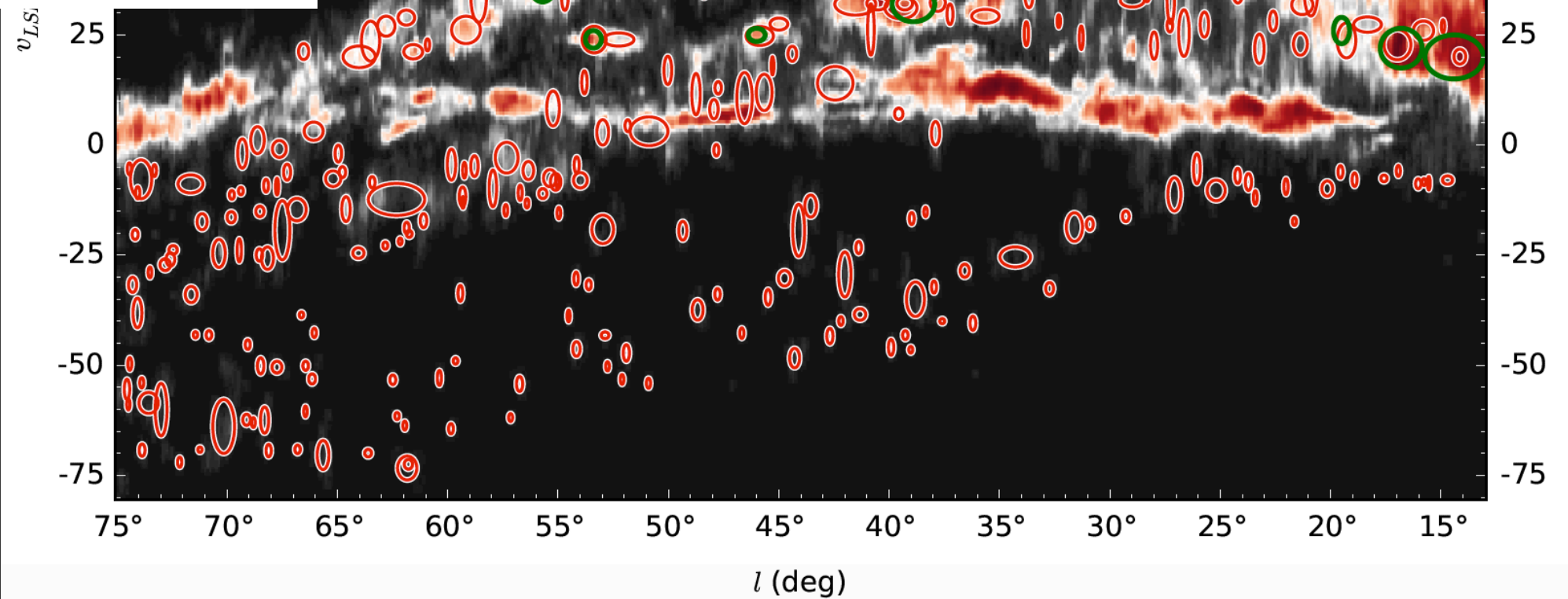
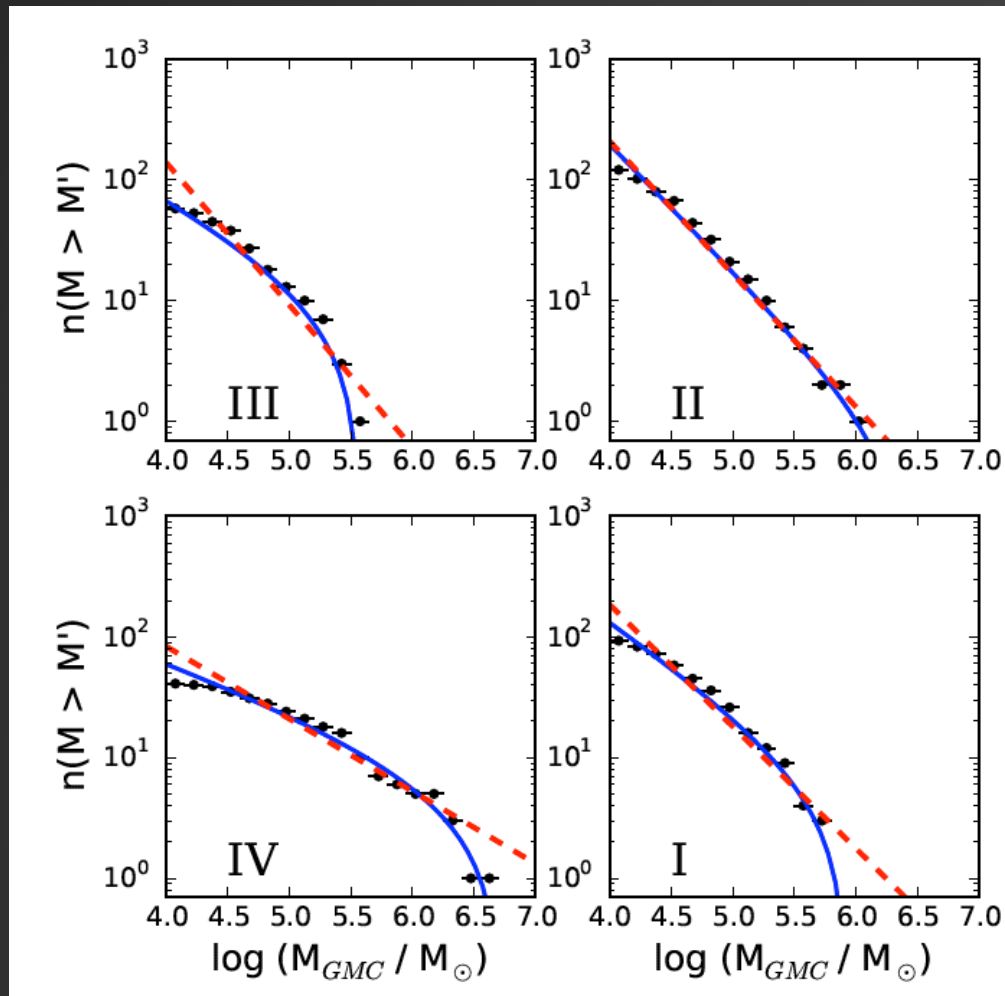
CHIMPS  $^{13}\text{CO}(3-2)$ ,  $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}(3-2)$ : Rigby et al (2016); COHRS  $^{12}\text{CO}(3-2)$ : Dempsey et al. (2013); GRS ( $^{13}\text{CO}(1-0)$ ; Jackson et al. (2006)

Dame et al. (2001)





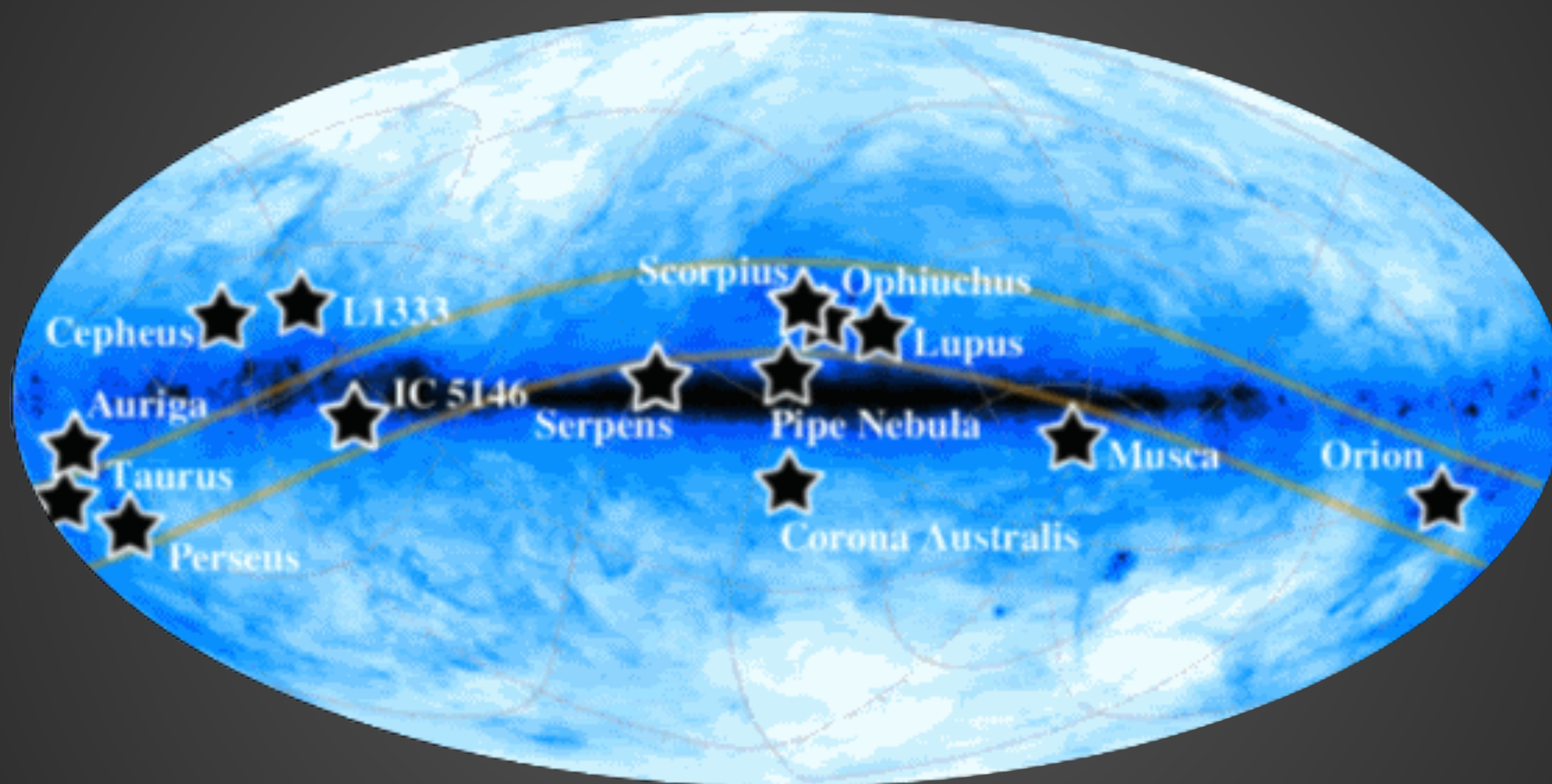
# MOLECULAR CLOUDS

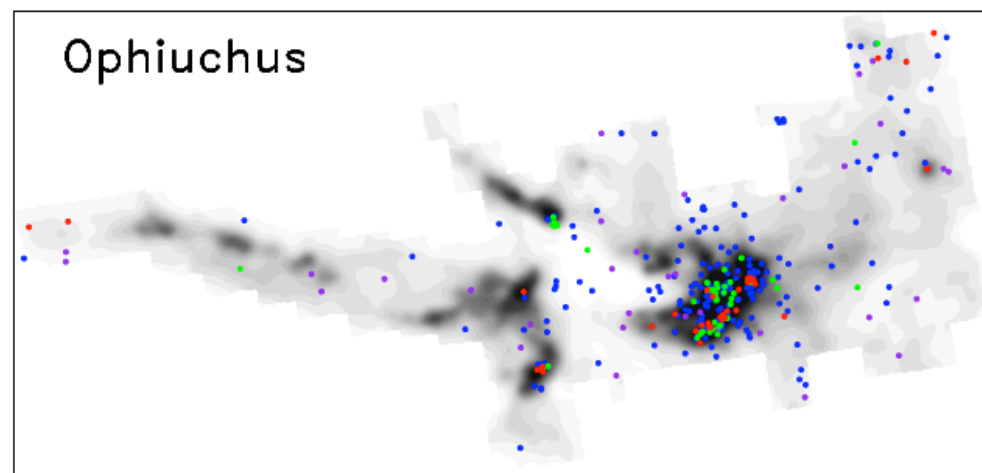


	Clouds <sup>a</sup>	Clumps <sup>b</sup>	Cores <sup>c</sup>
Mass ( $M_{\odot}$ )	$10^3 - 10^4$	50–500	0.5–5
Size (pc)	2–15	0.3–3	0.03–0.2
Mean density ( $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )	50–500	$10^3 - 10^4$	$10^4 - 10^5$
Velocity extent ( $\text{km s}^{-1}$ )	2–5	0.3–3	0.1–0.3
Crossing time (Myr)	2–4	$\approx 1$	0.5–1
Gas temperature (K)	$\approx 10$	10–20	8–12

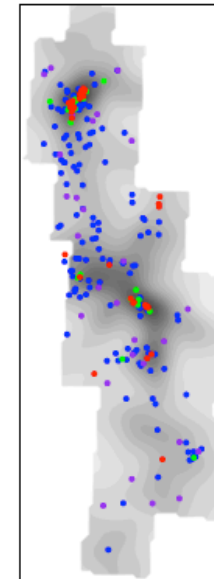
Bergin & Tafalla (2007)



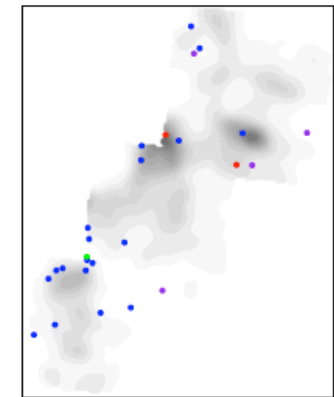




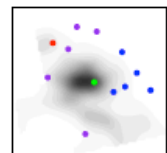
Serpens



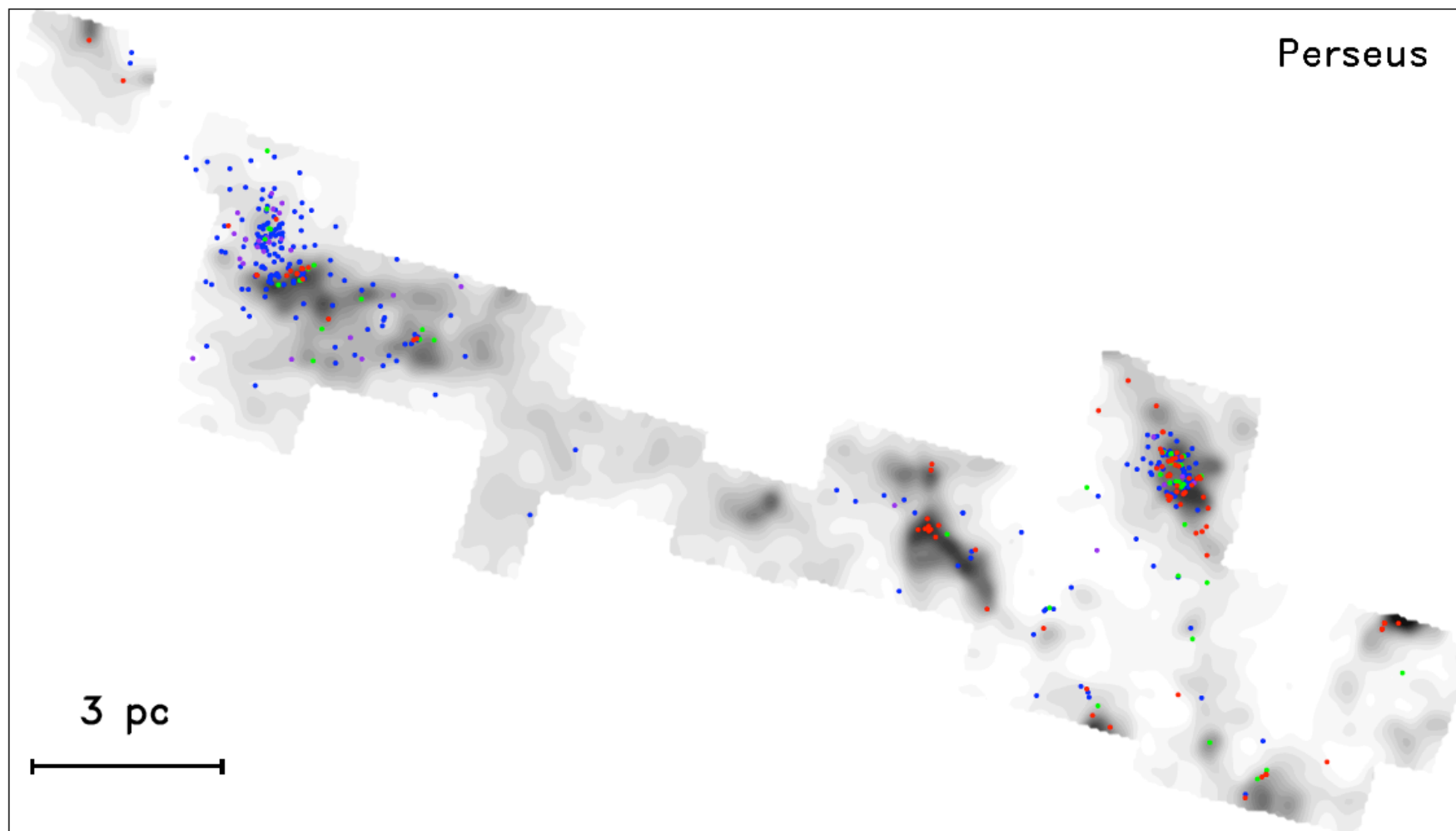
Cham. II



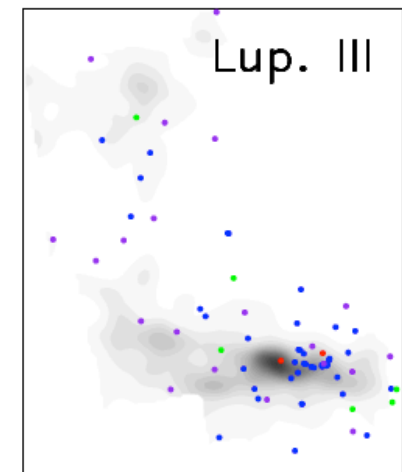
Lup. IV



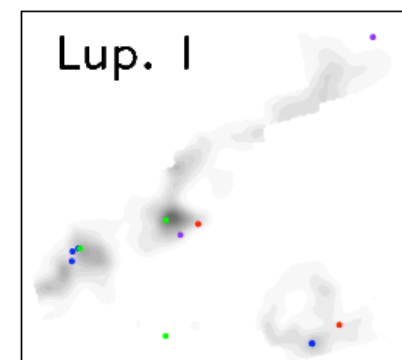
Perseus



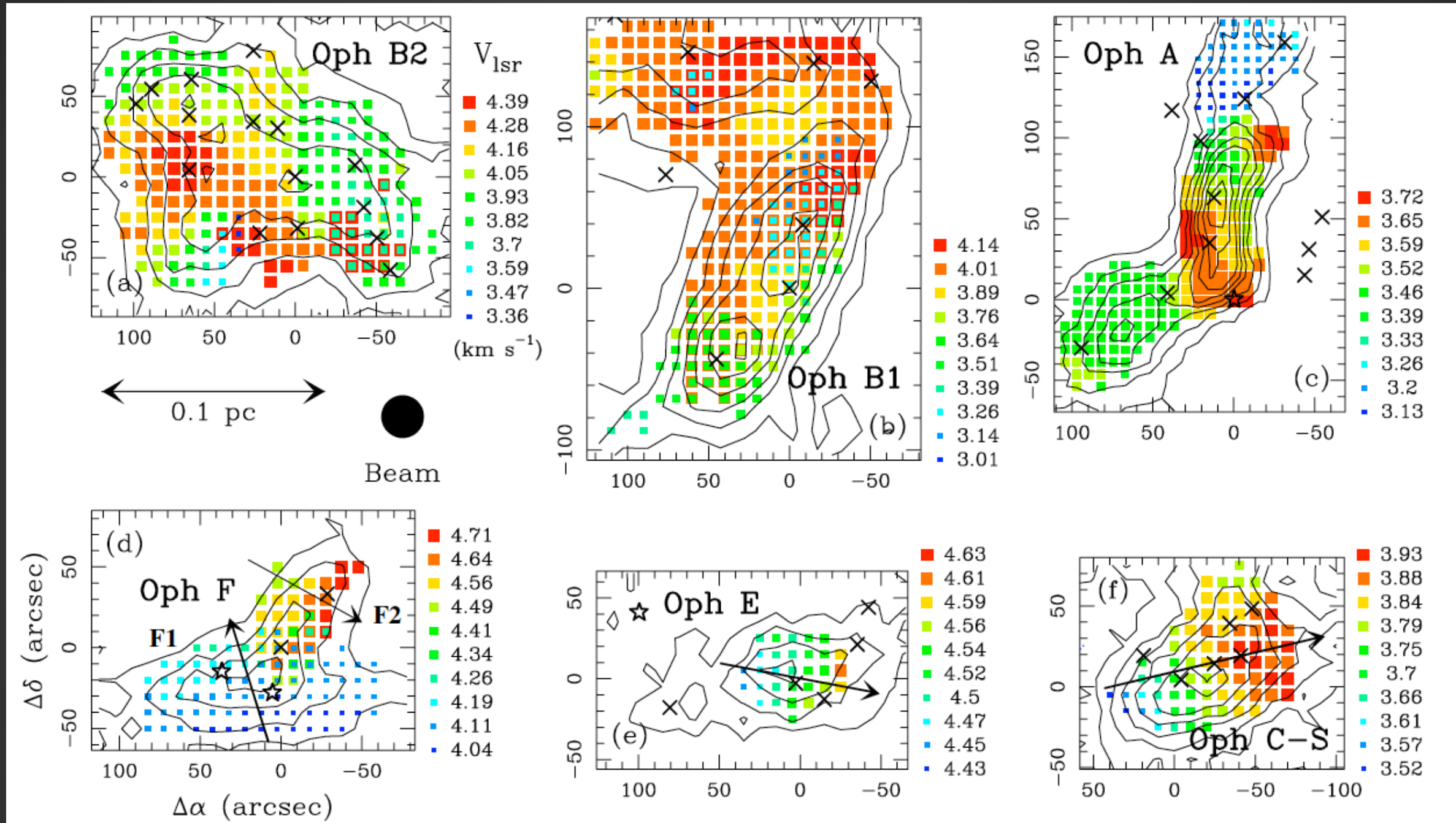
Lup. III



Lup. I





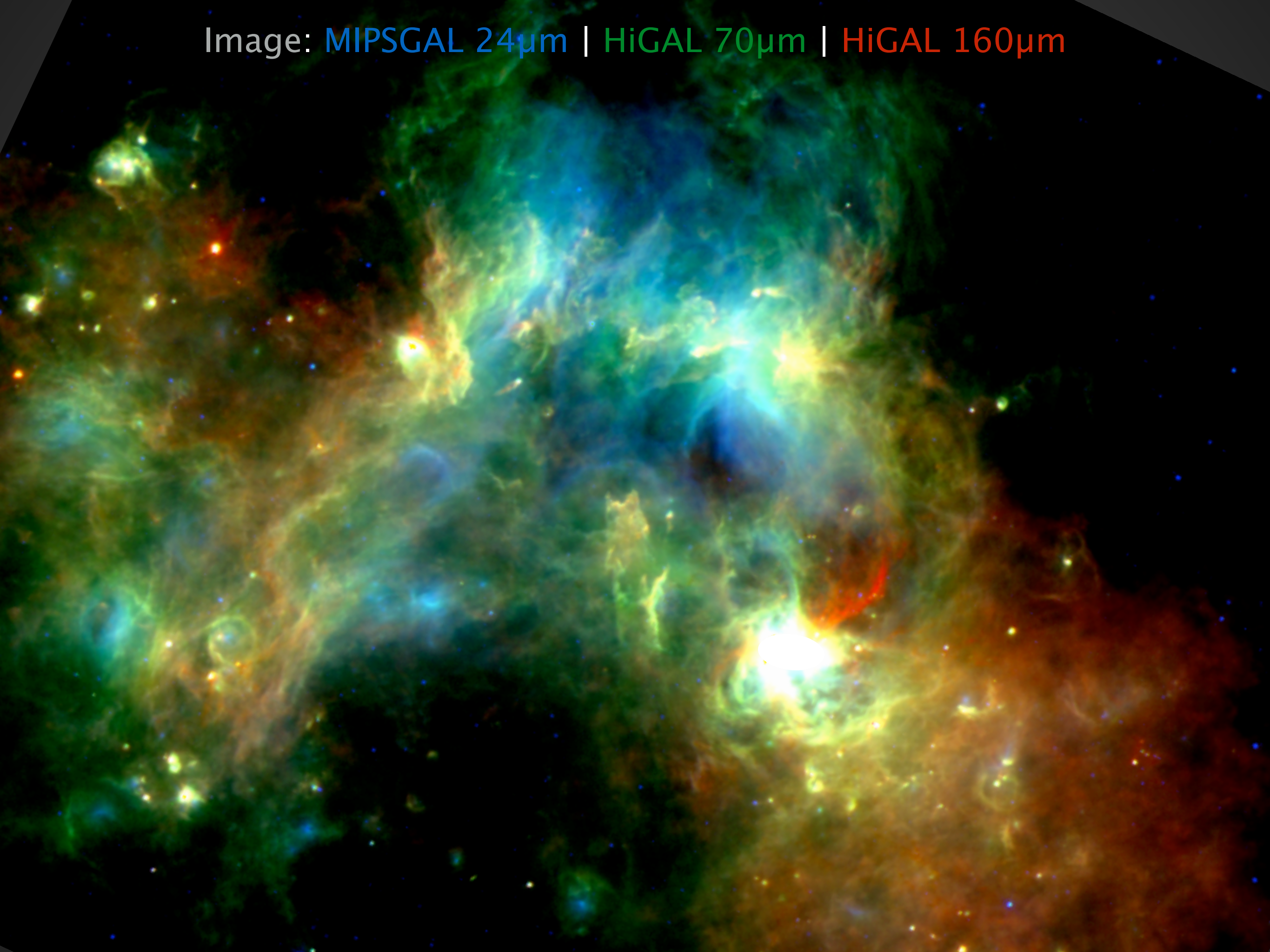


sub-/tran-sonic internal turbulence  $\Rightarrow$  cores are bound and pre-stellar (lifetime:  $2-5 \times 10^4$  yr)

coherent  $v_{cent}$  between condensations  $\Rightarrow$  interactions unlikely



Image: MIPS GAL 24 $\mu$ m | HiGAL 70 $\mu$ m | HiGAL 160 $\mu$ m





CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE

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Bergin & Tafalla (2007)

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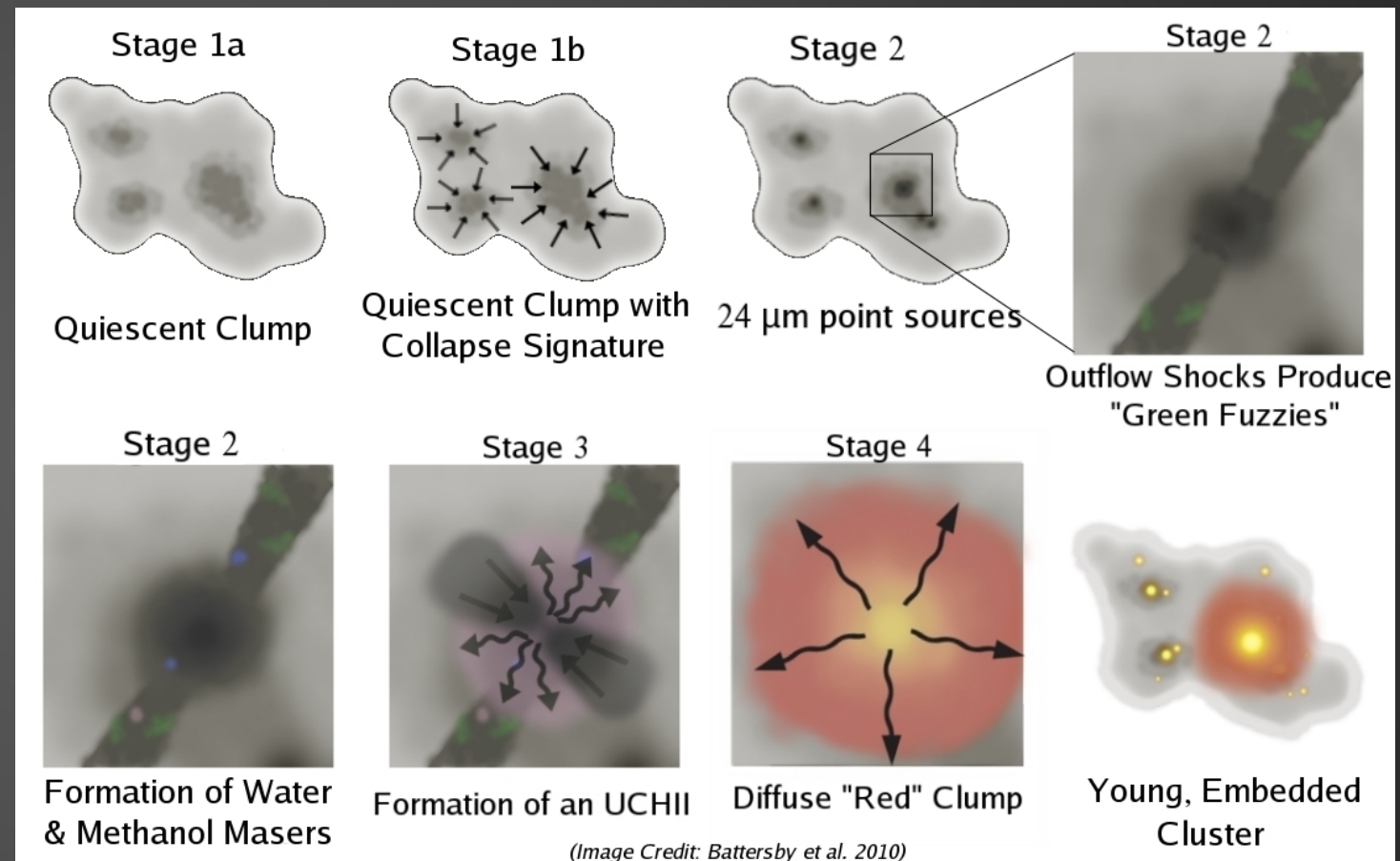
CLOUD ⇒ CLUMP ⇒ CORE

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- Infrared-dark “clouds” (IRDCs) represent earliest phase of cluster formation



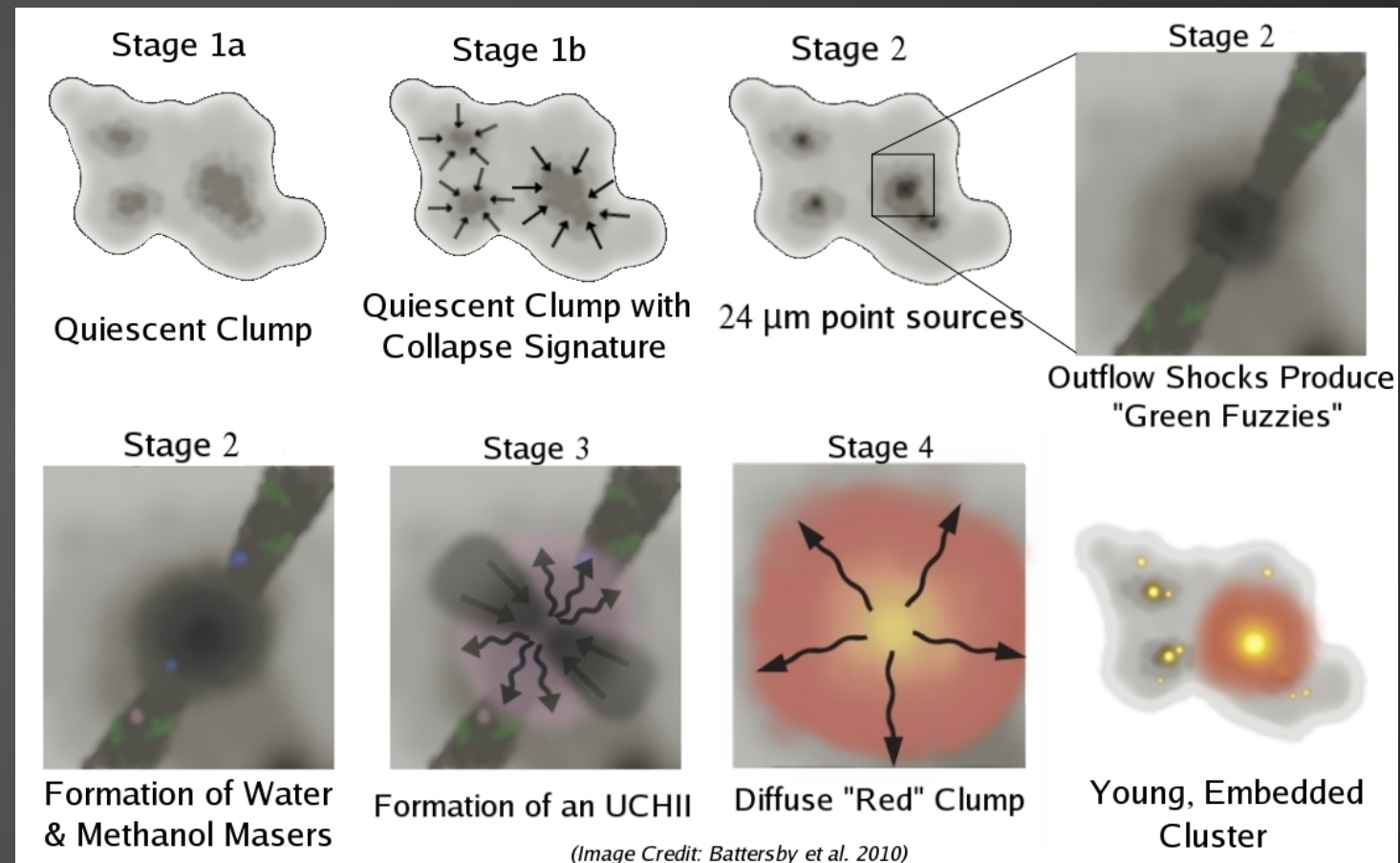
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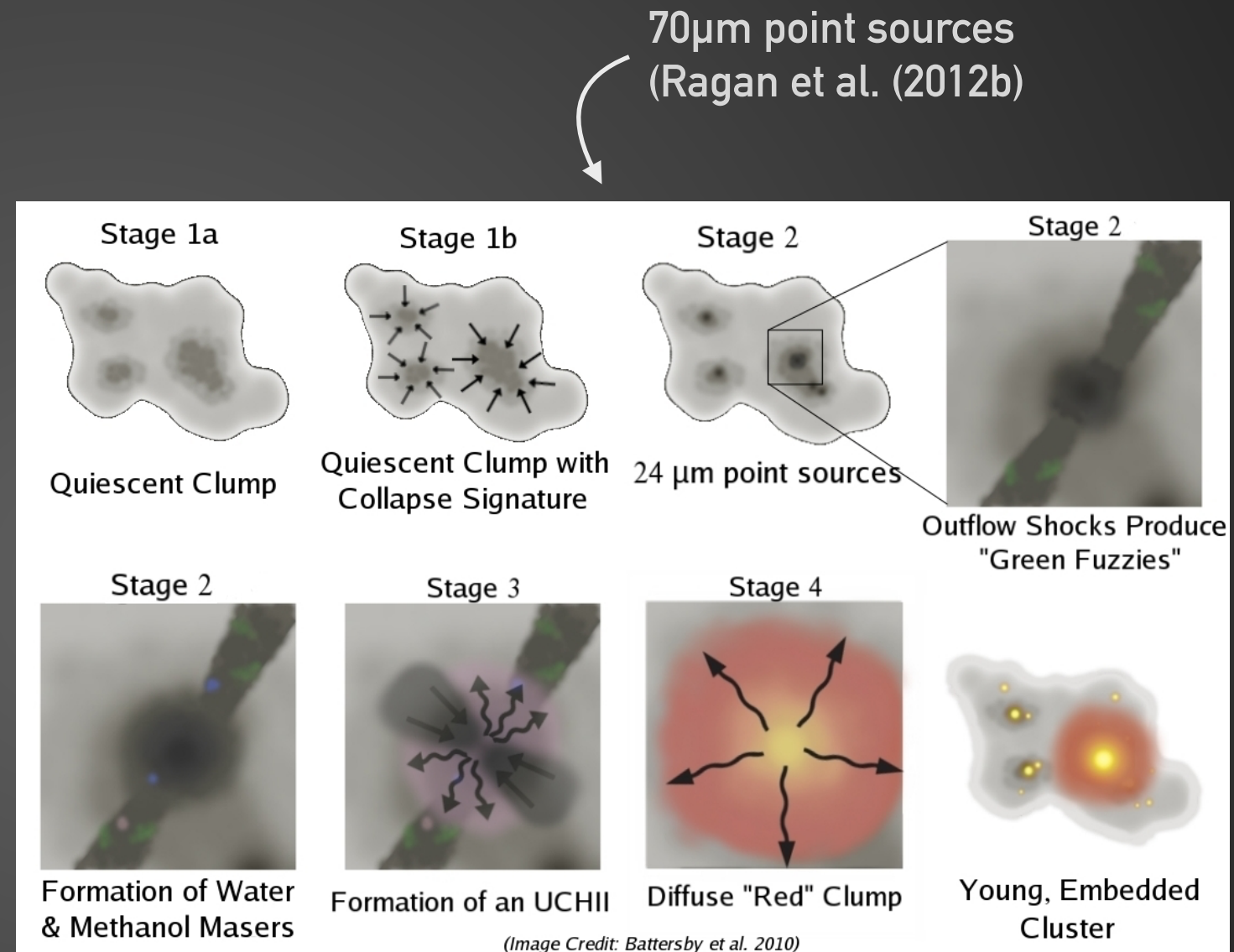
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70 $\mu$ m point sources  
(Ragan et al. (2012b))





- Infrared-dark “clouds” (IRDCs) represent earliest phase of cluster formation
- **Gas observations** helps us determine:
  - Physical properties
  - Gravitational stability
  - Gas flows (infall / outflow)

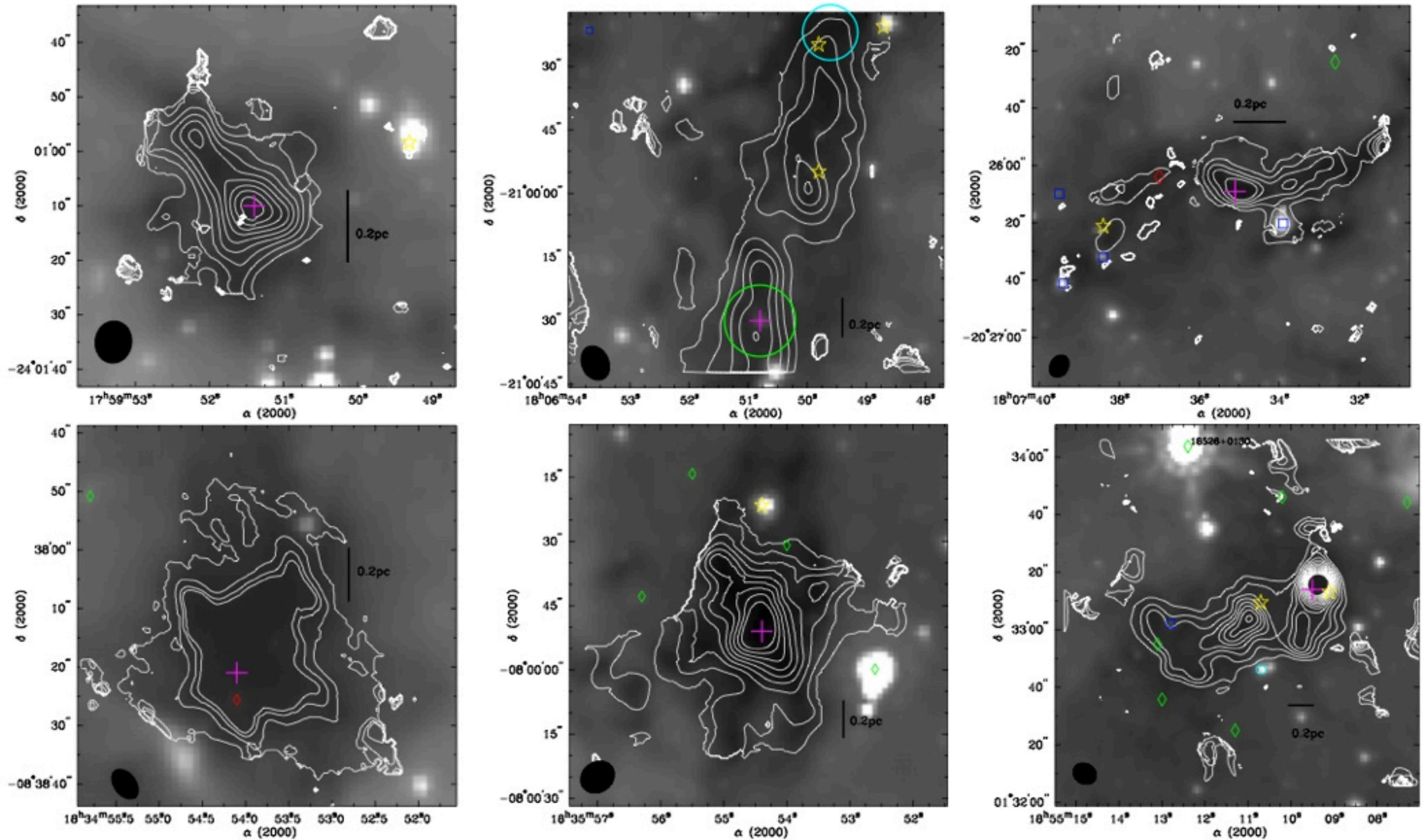


Ragan et al. (2006, 2009, 2011, 2012a, 2012b, 2013, 2015)

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THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 736:163 (10pp), 2011 August 1

RAGAN, BERGIN, & WILNER





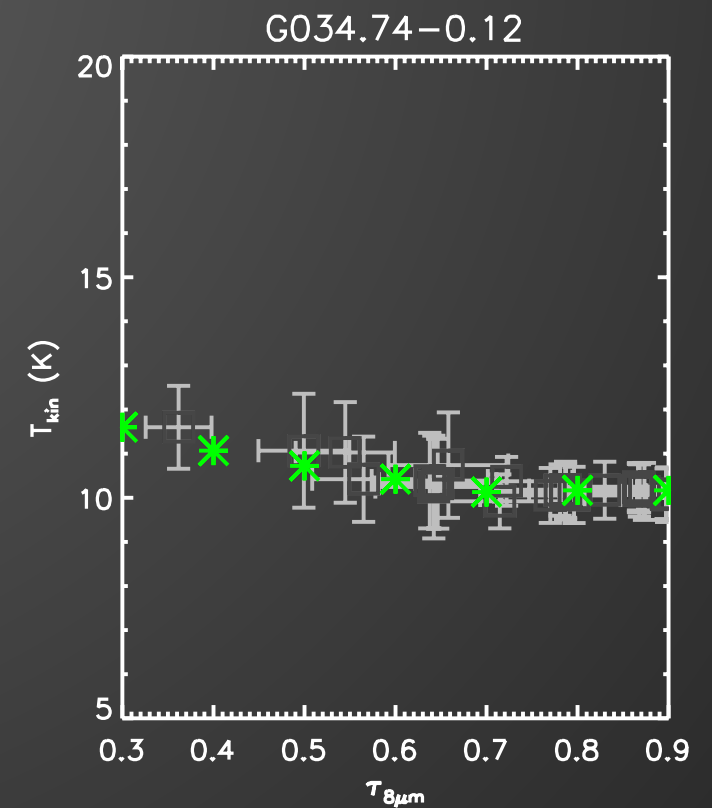
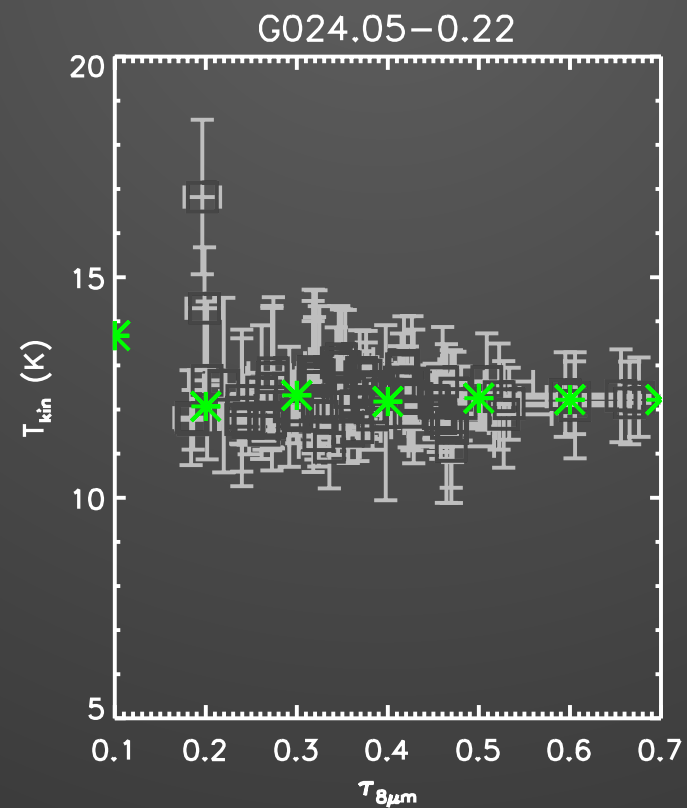
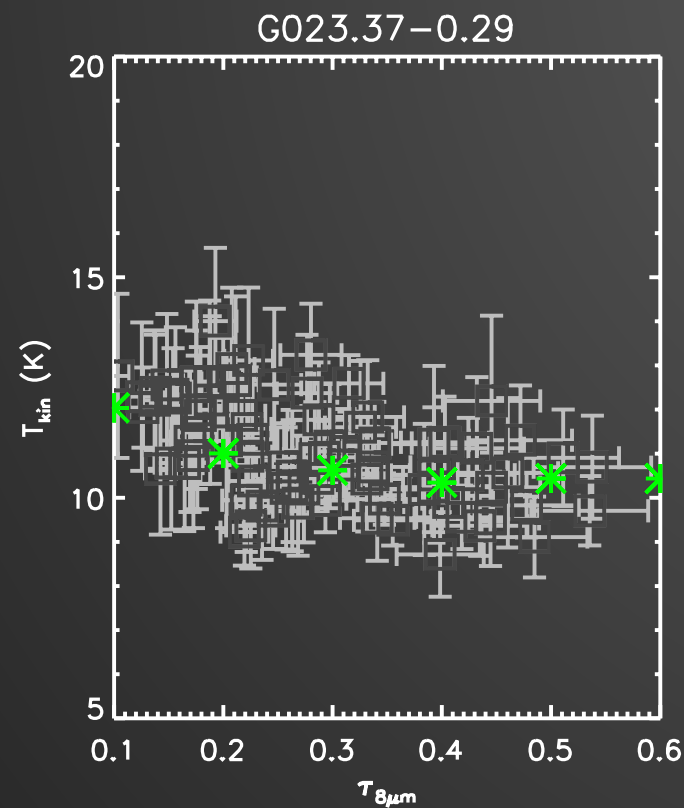
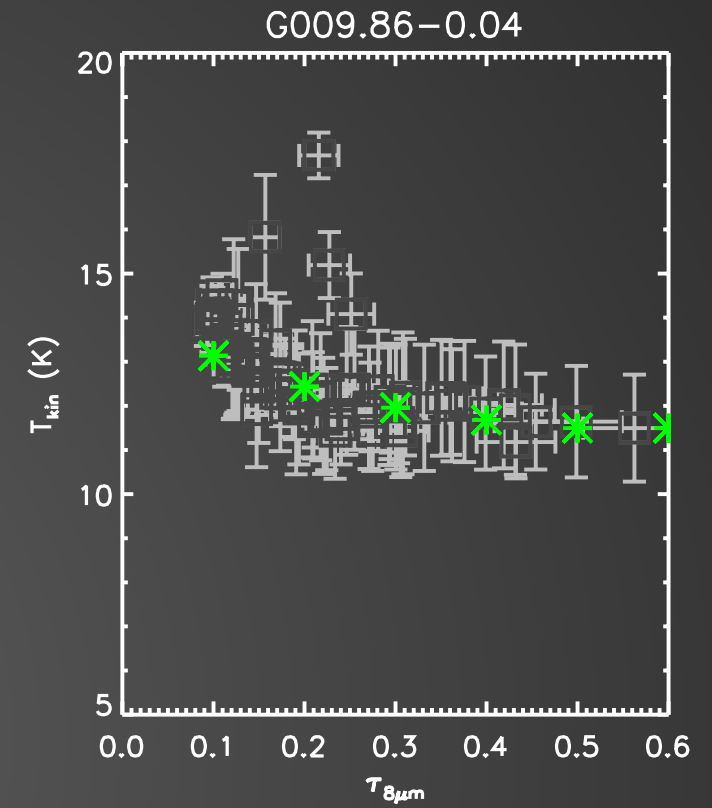
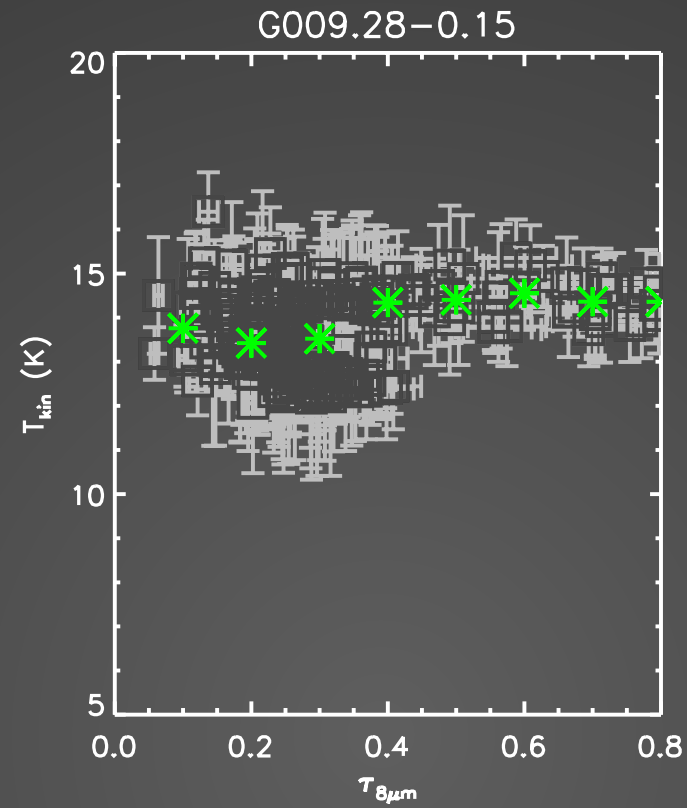
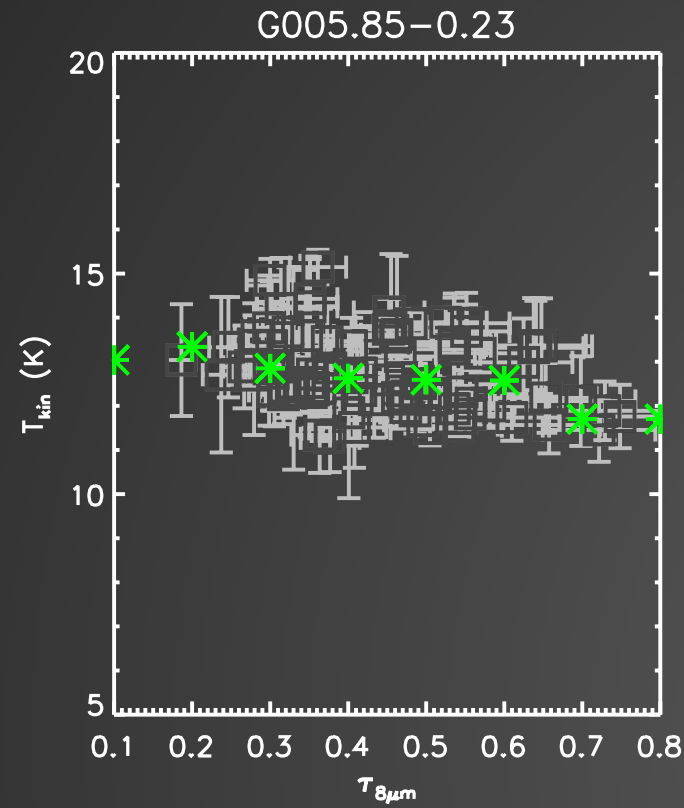
CLOUD



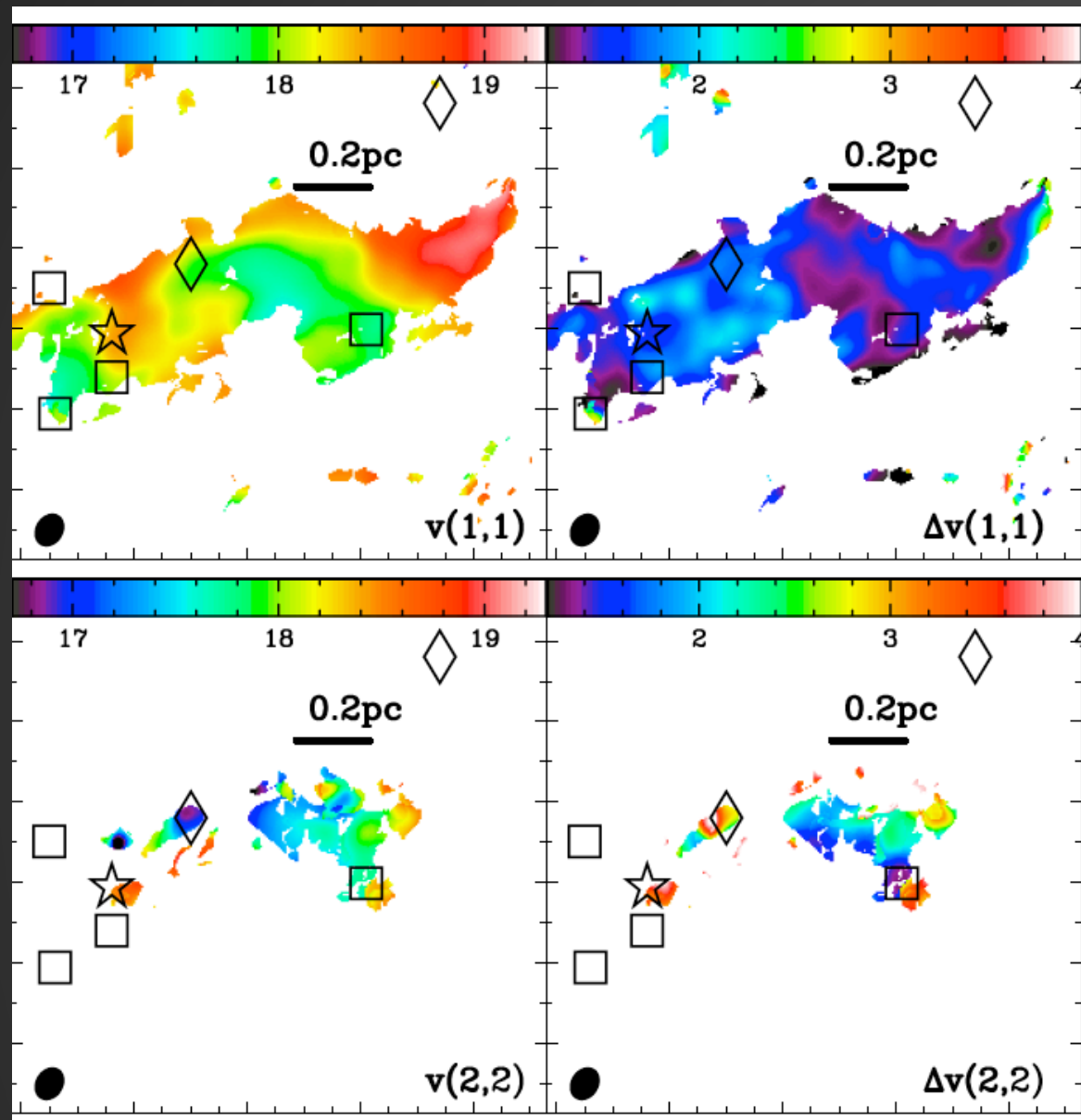
CLUMP



CORE



CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE

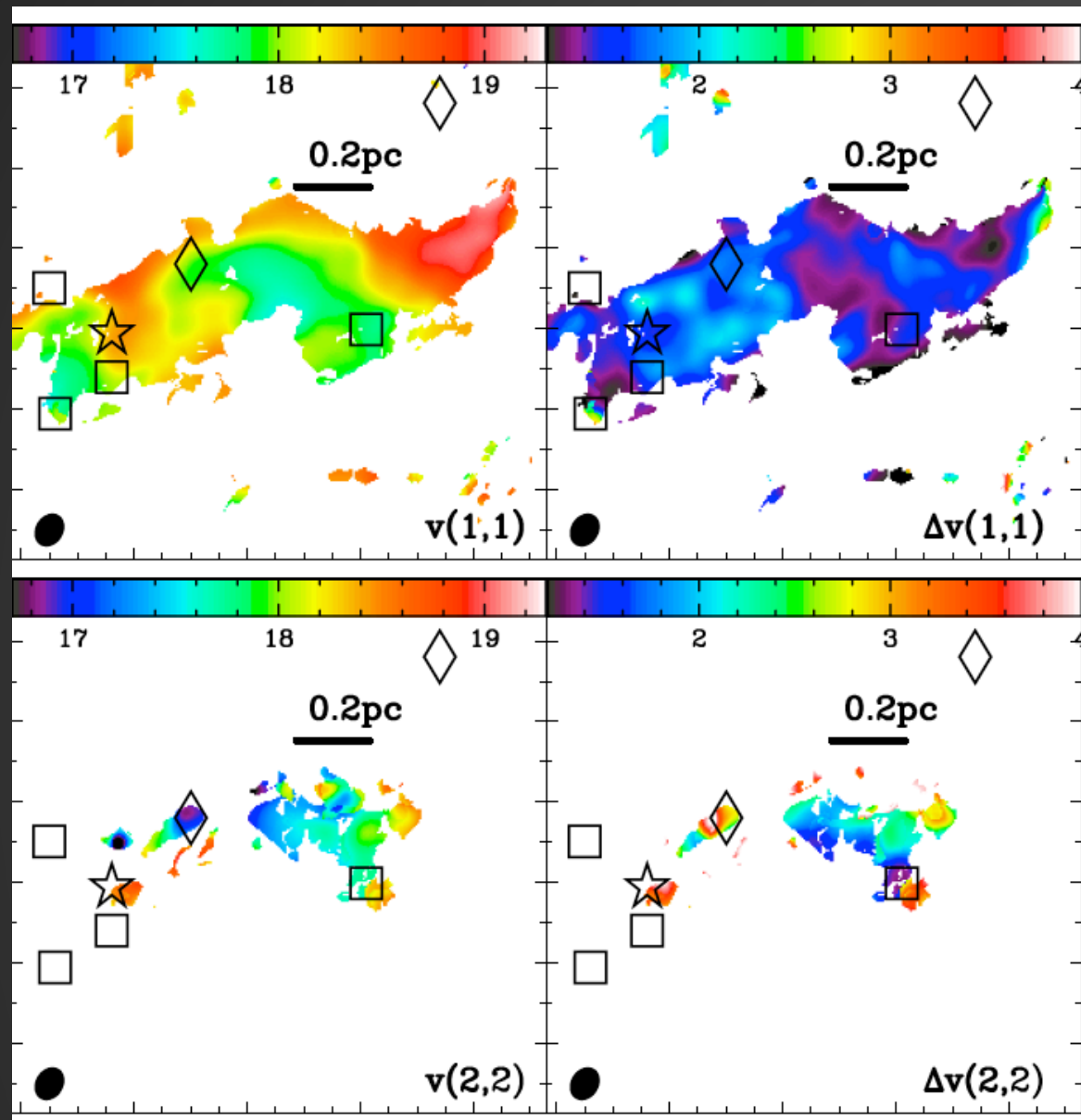


Ragan et al. (2012a)

see Ballesteros-Paredes (2006)



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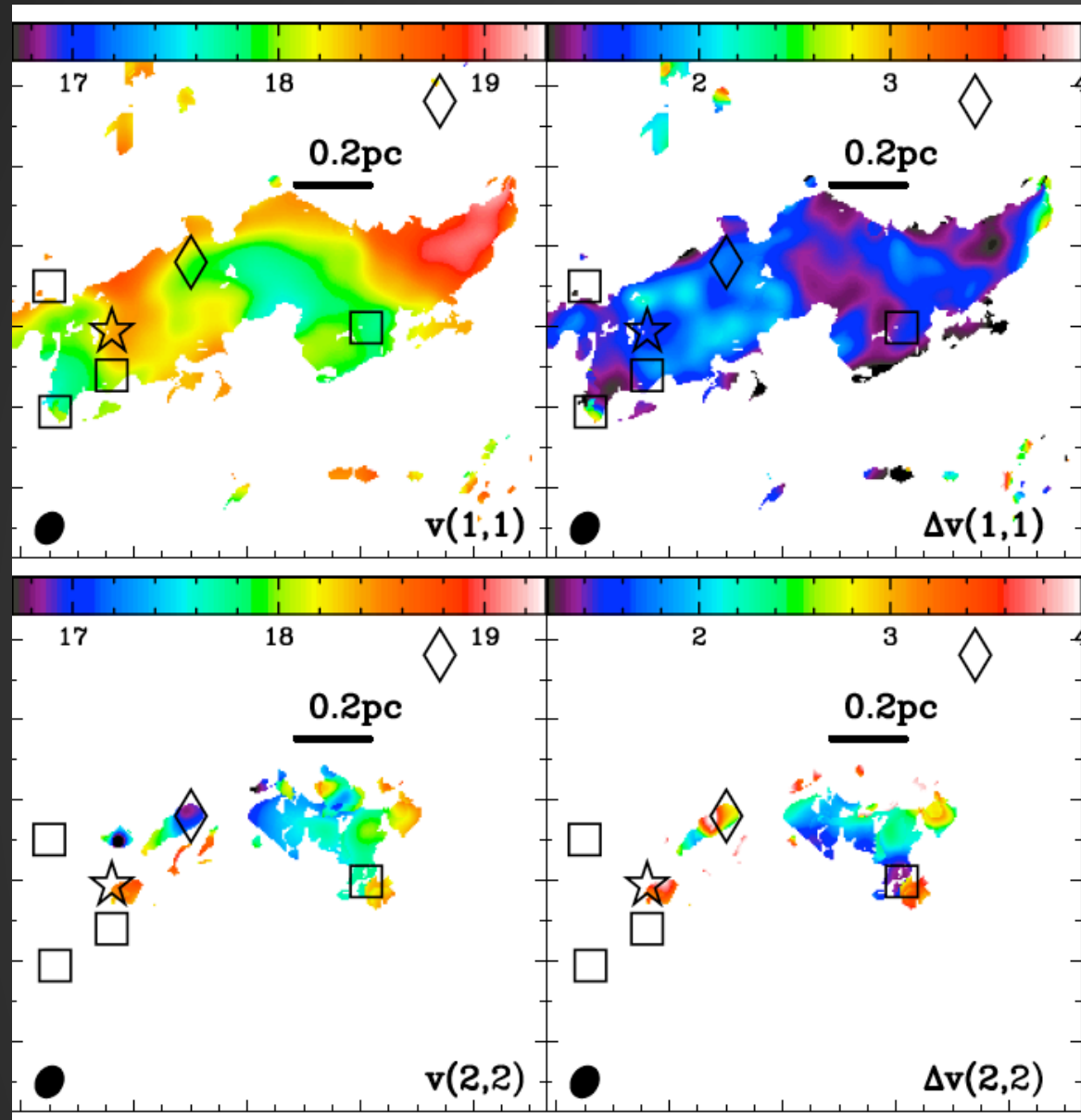


Ragan et al. (2012a)

$$M_{\text{vir}} \propto R\sigma^2 \sim 10^2 - 10^3 M_{\odot}$$

see Ballesteros-Paredes (2006)

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Ragan et al. (2012a)

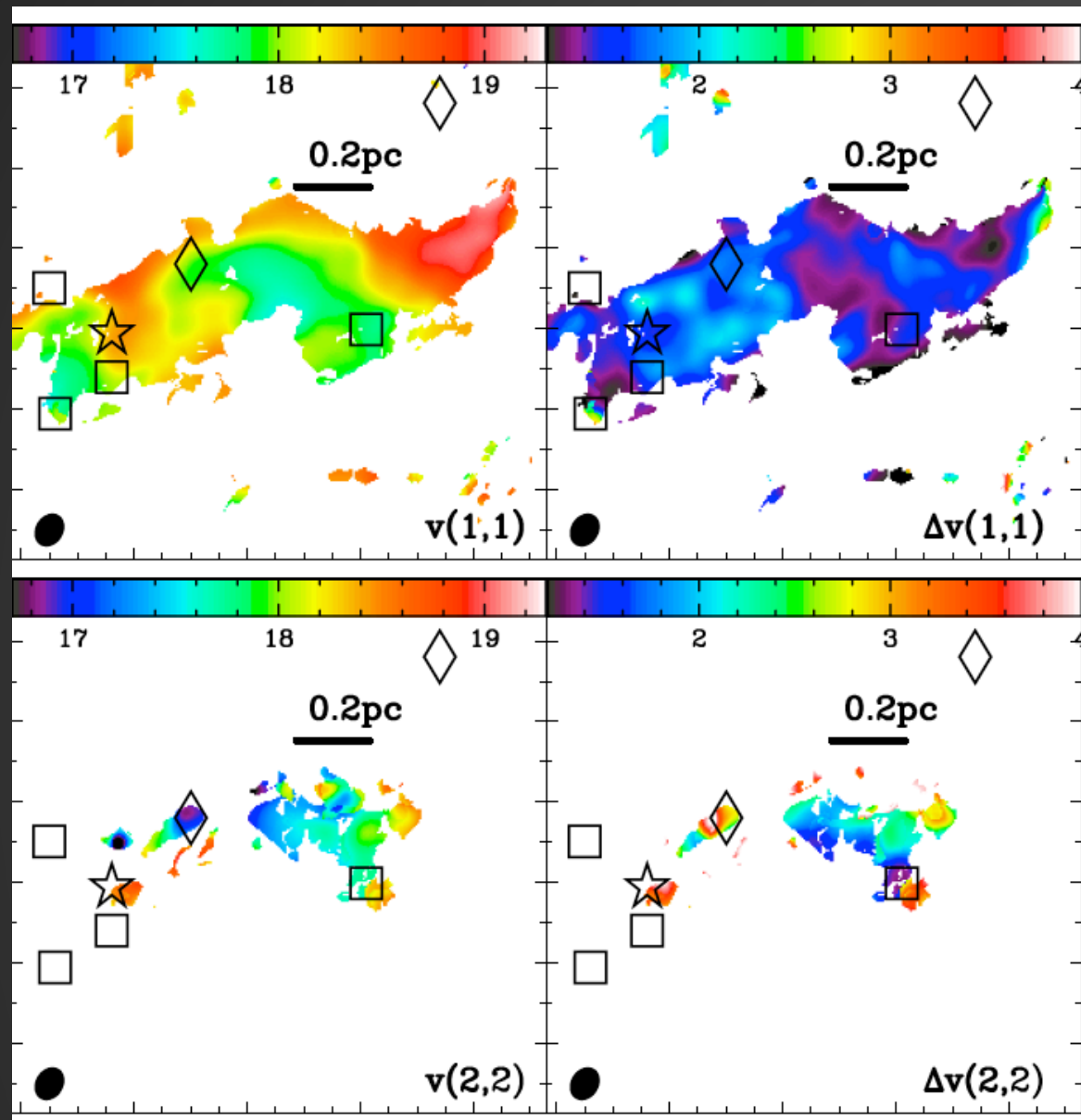
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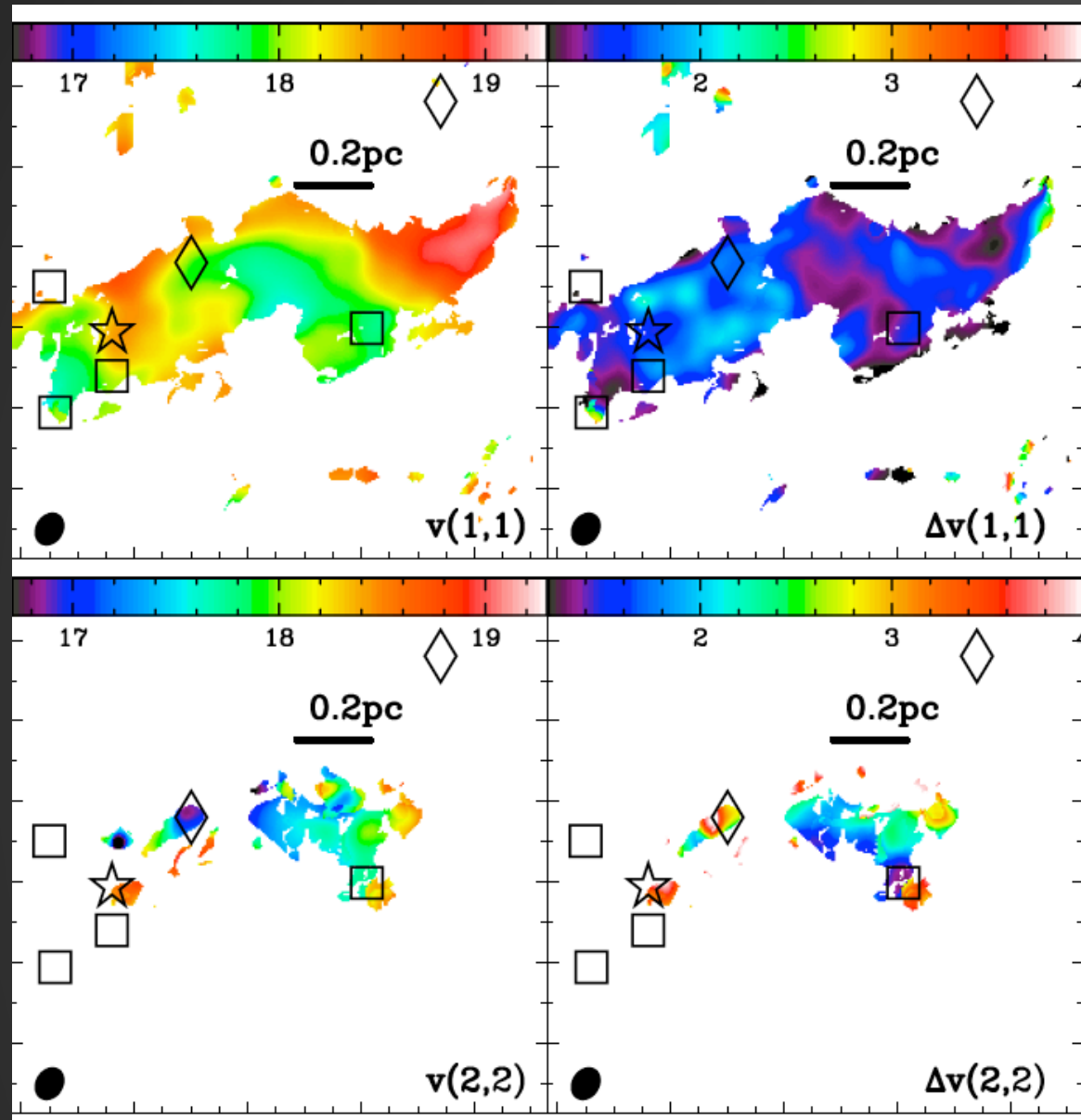
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IRDCs are unstable to gravitational collapse.

see Ballesteros-Paredes (2006)

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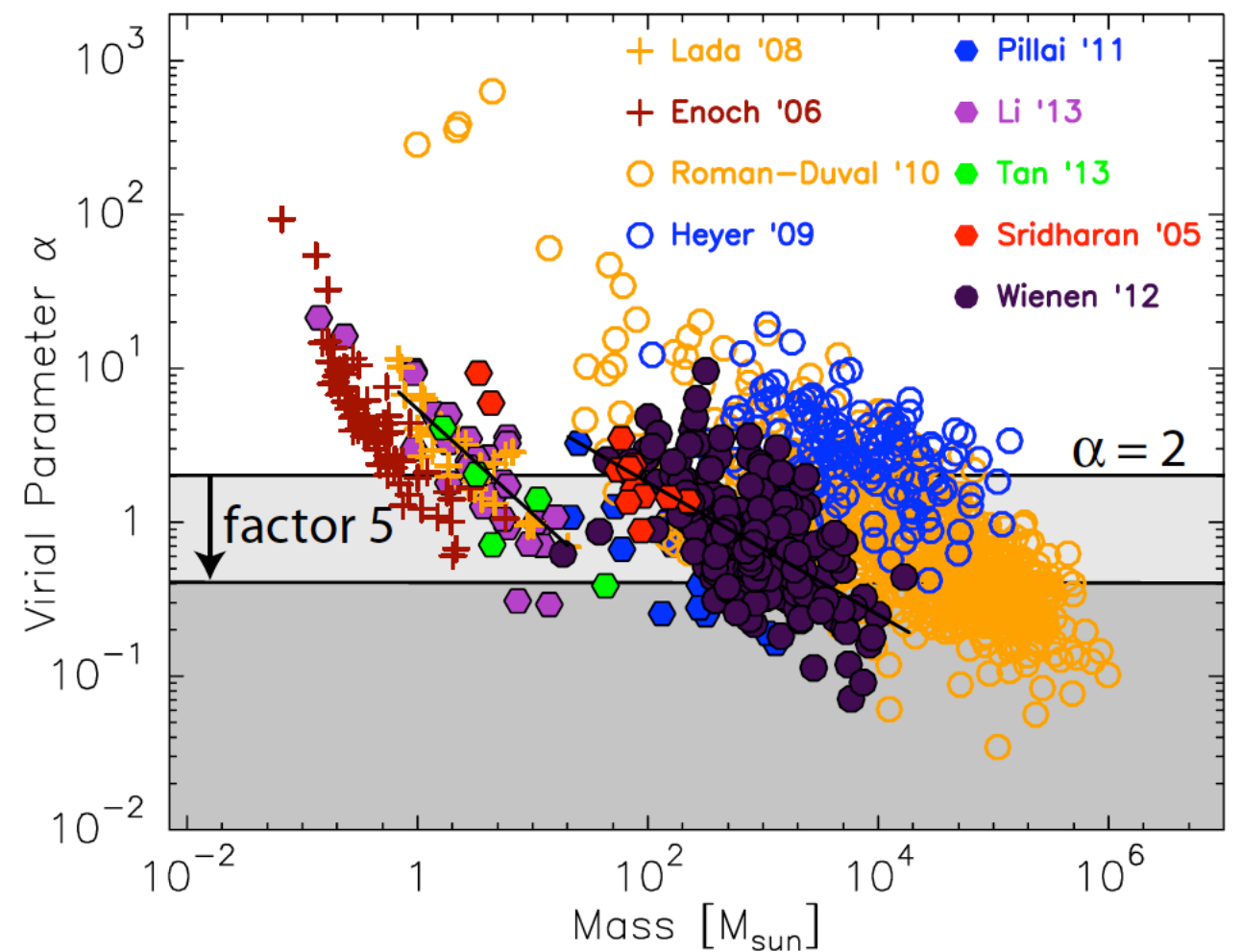


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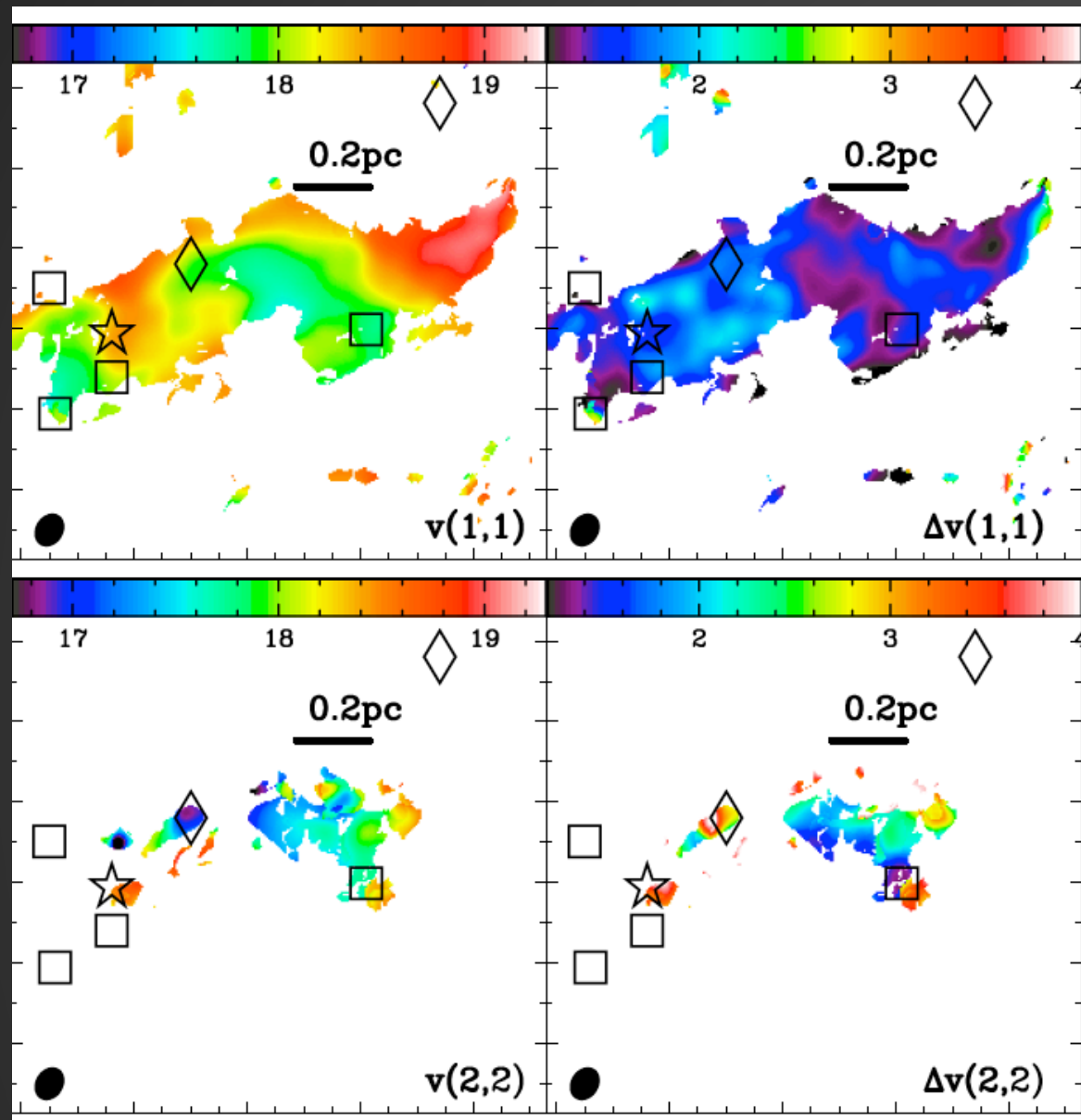


Kauffmann et al. (2013)

see Ballesteros-Paredes (2006)

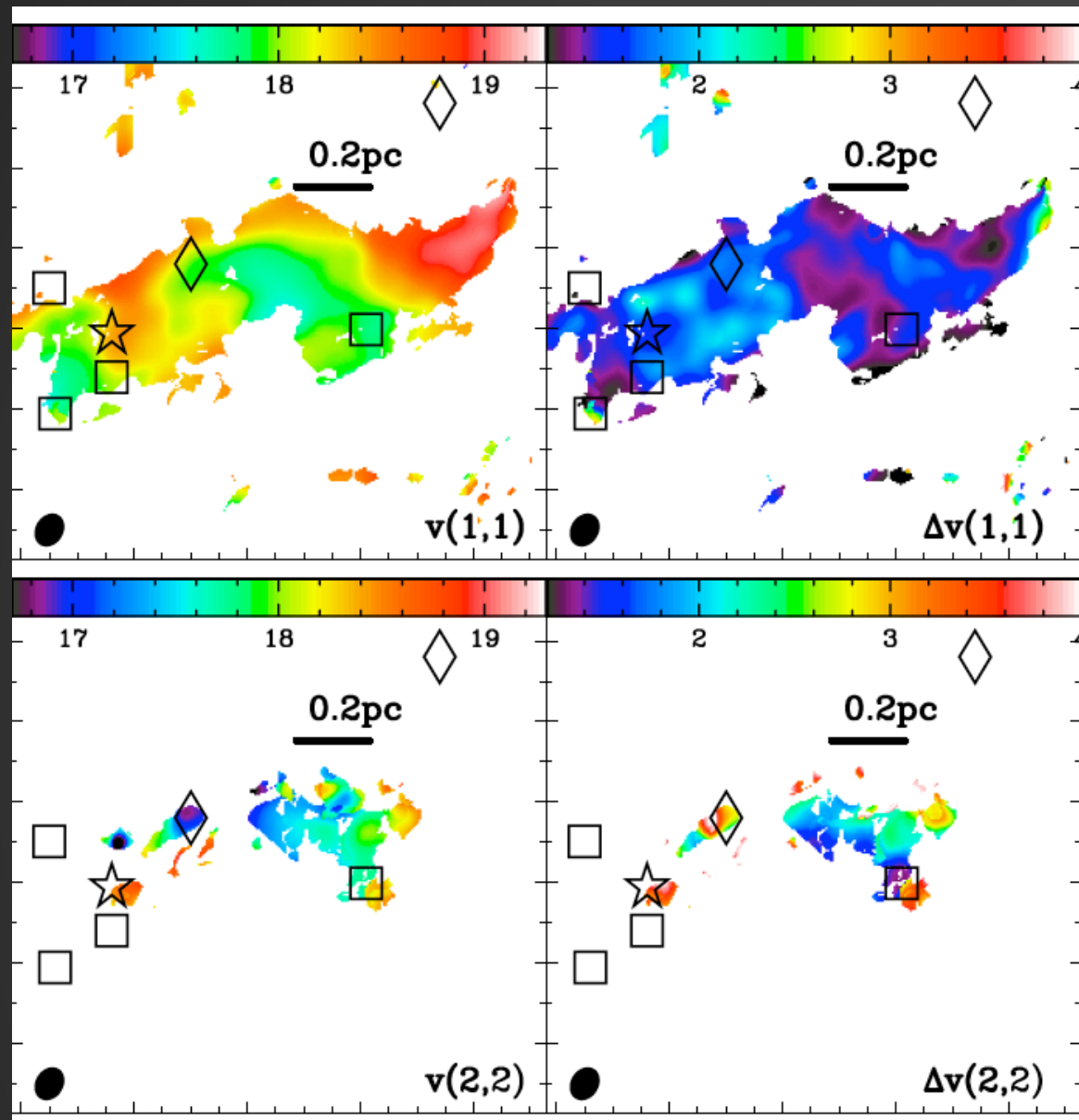


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Ragan et al. (2012a)

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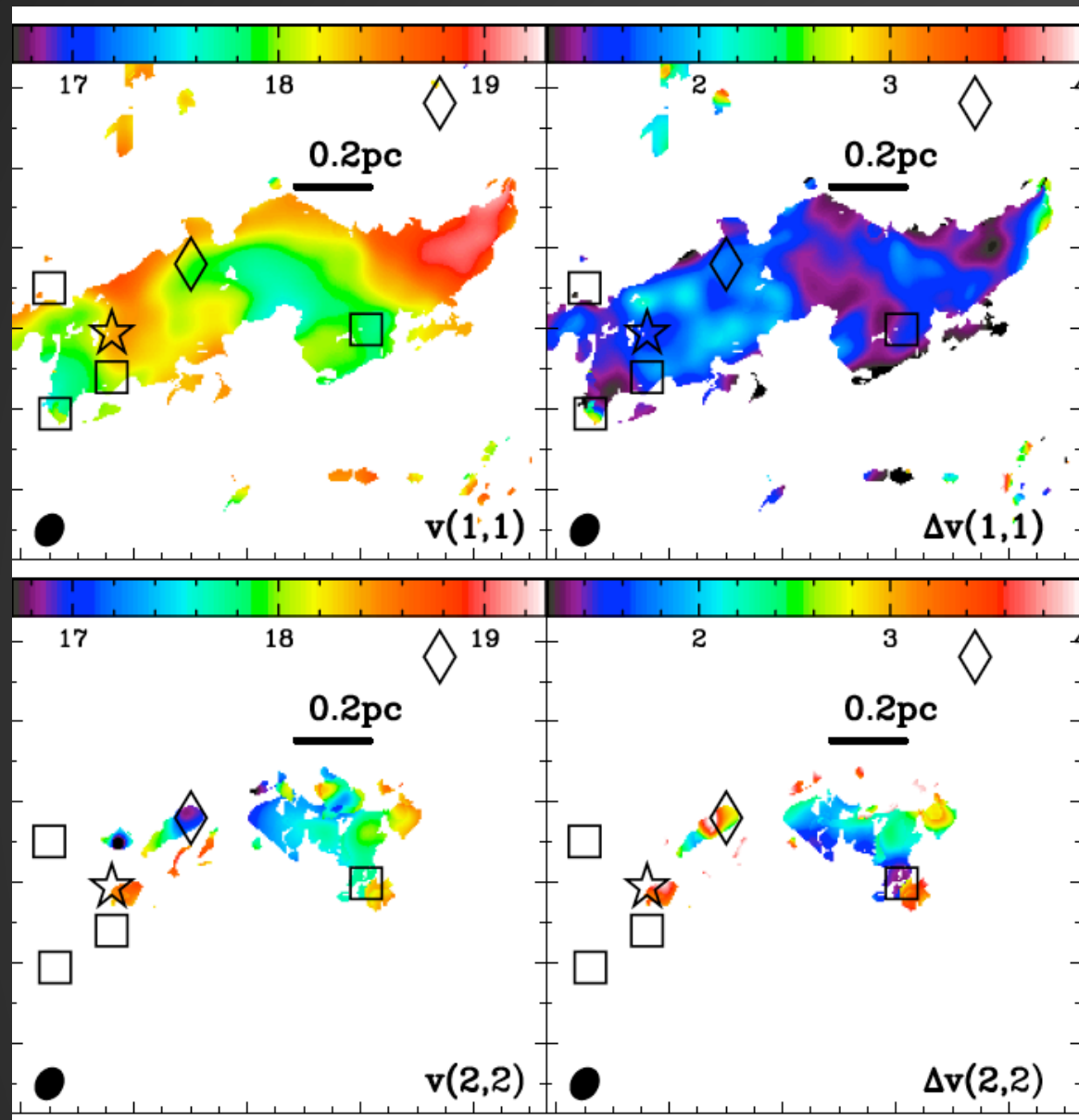
Ragan et al. (2012a)

Ratio of thermal to non-thermal pressure:

$$R_p = c_s^2 / \sigma_{\text{NT}}^2 \sim 0.05 - 0.1$$



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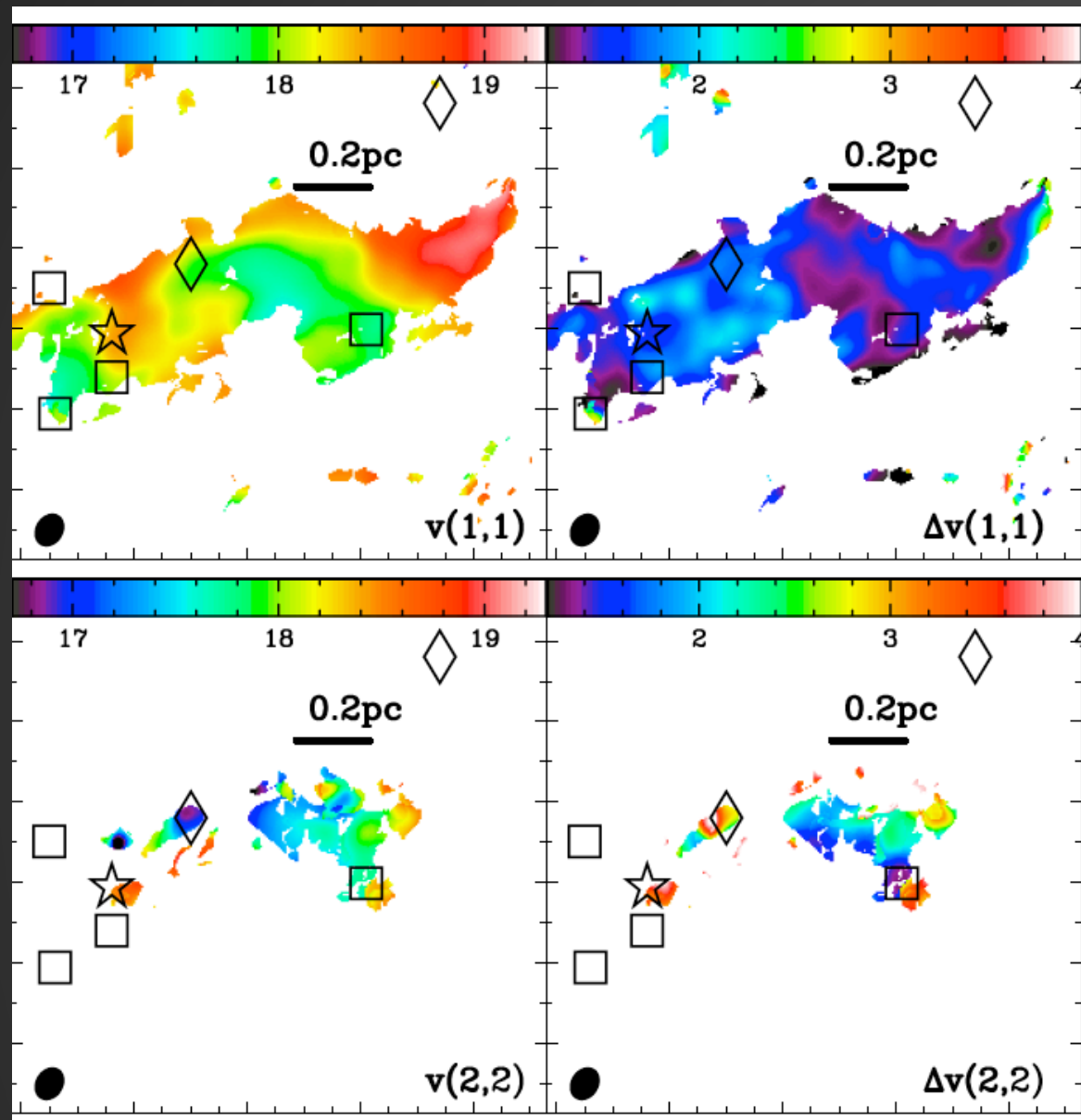
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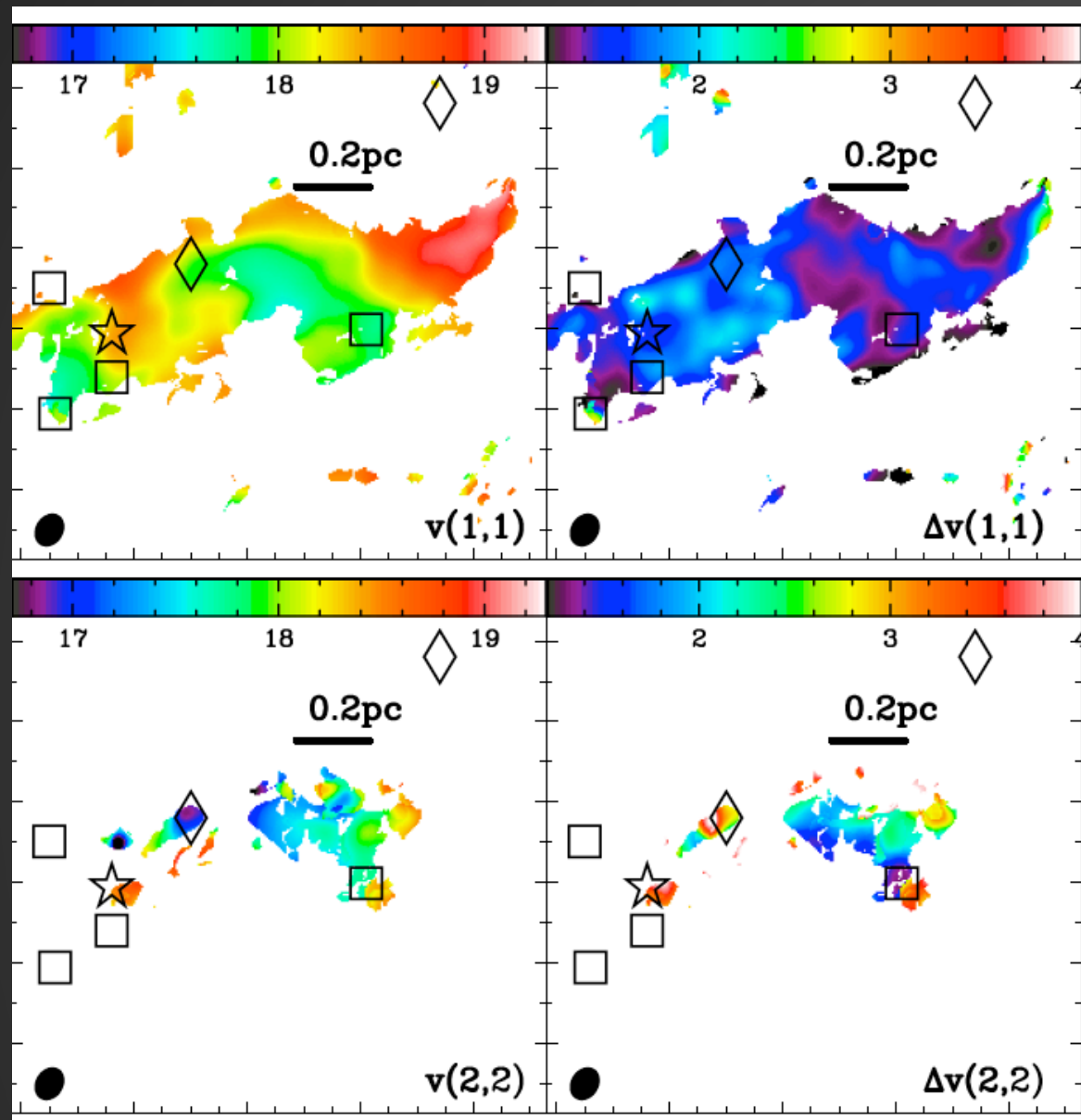
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Infall / outflow



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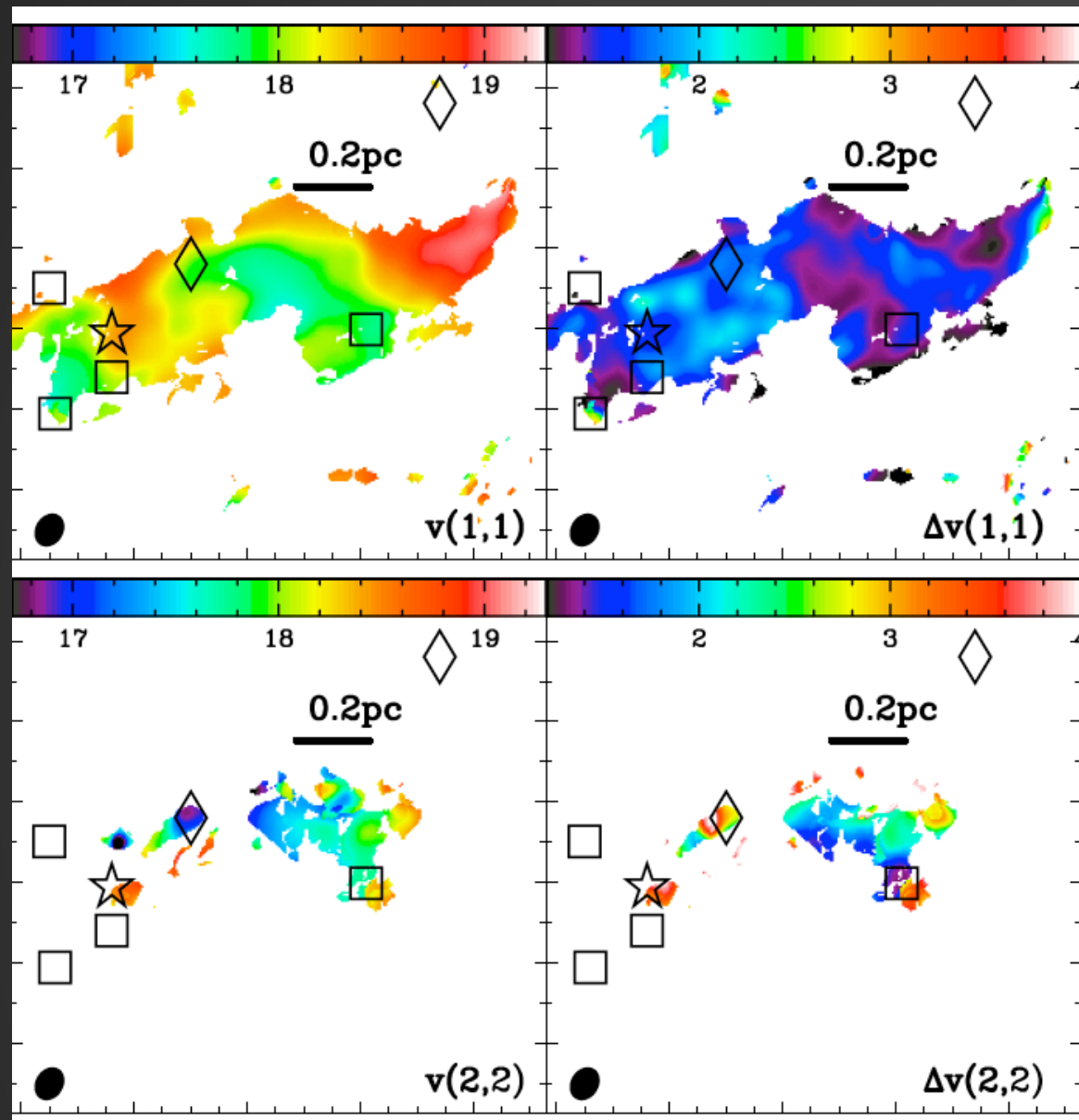
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Non-thermal effects dominate IRDC kinematics.

Infall / outflow

Rotation

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Ragan et al. (2012a)

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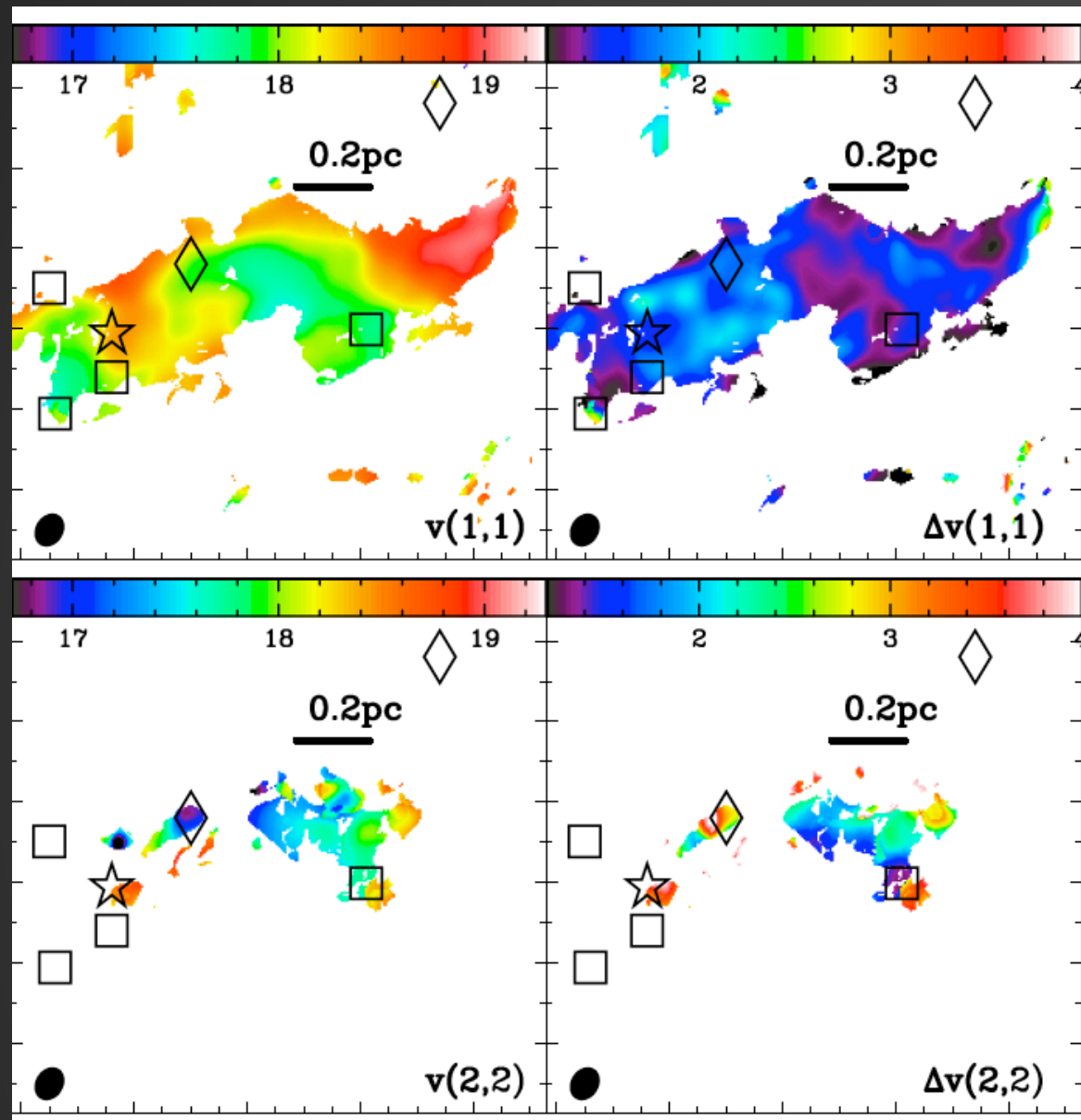
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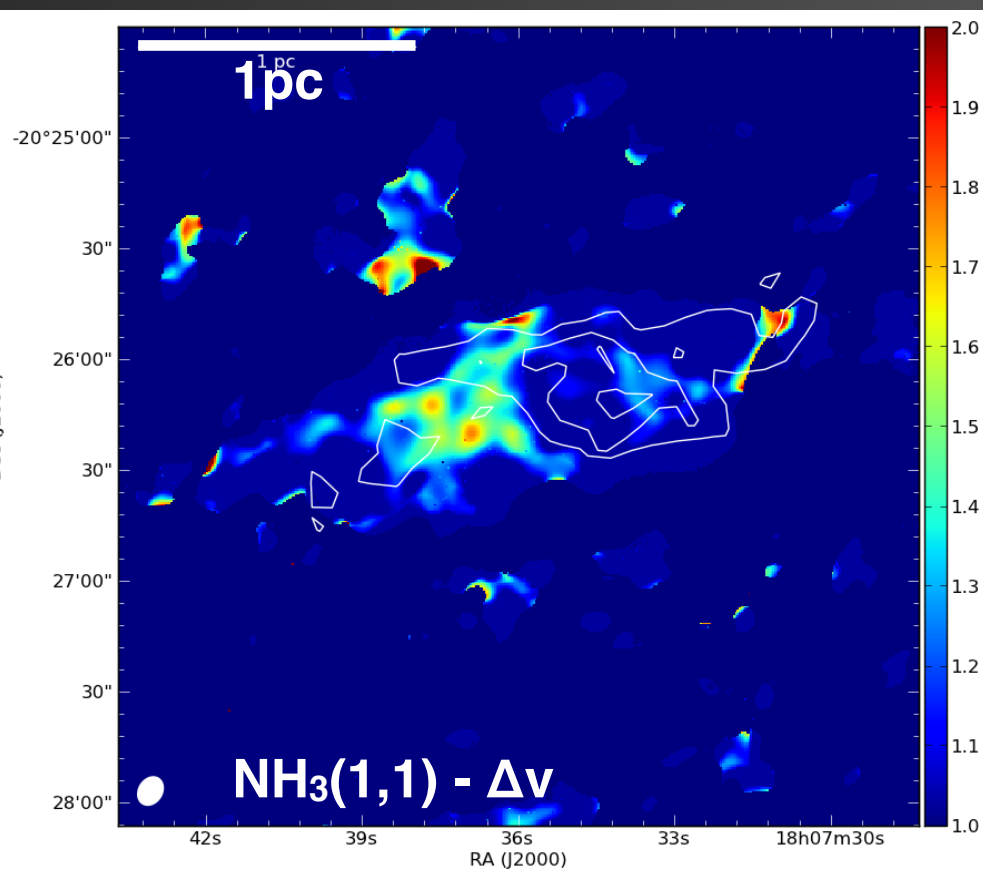
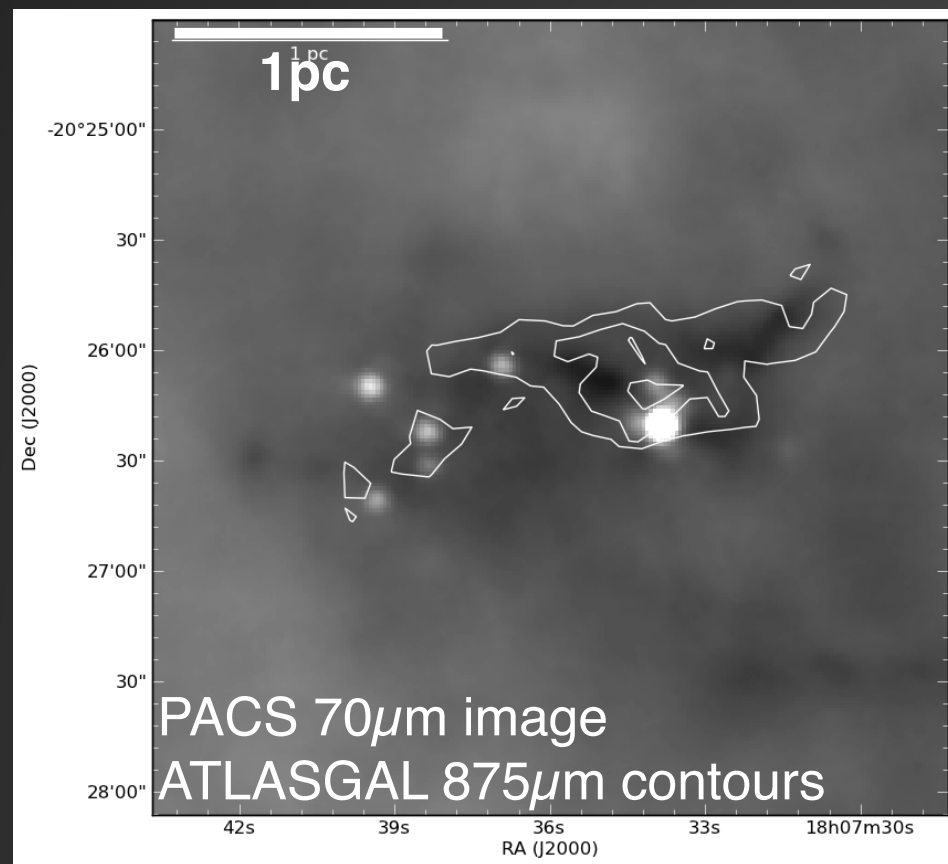
Rotation

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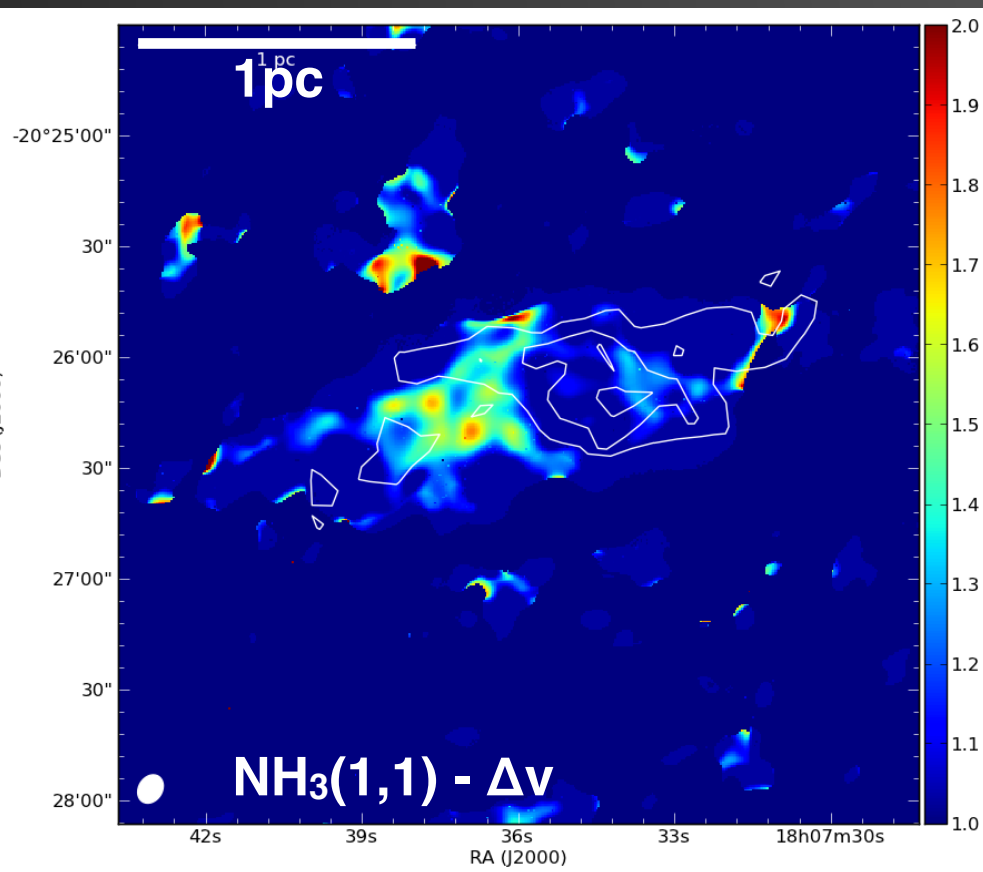
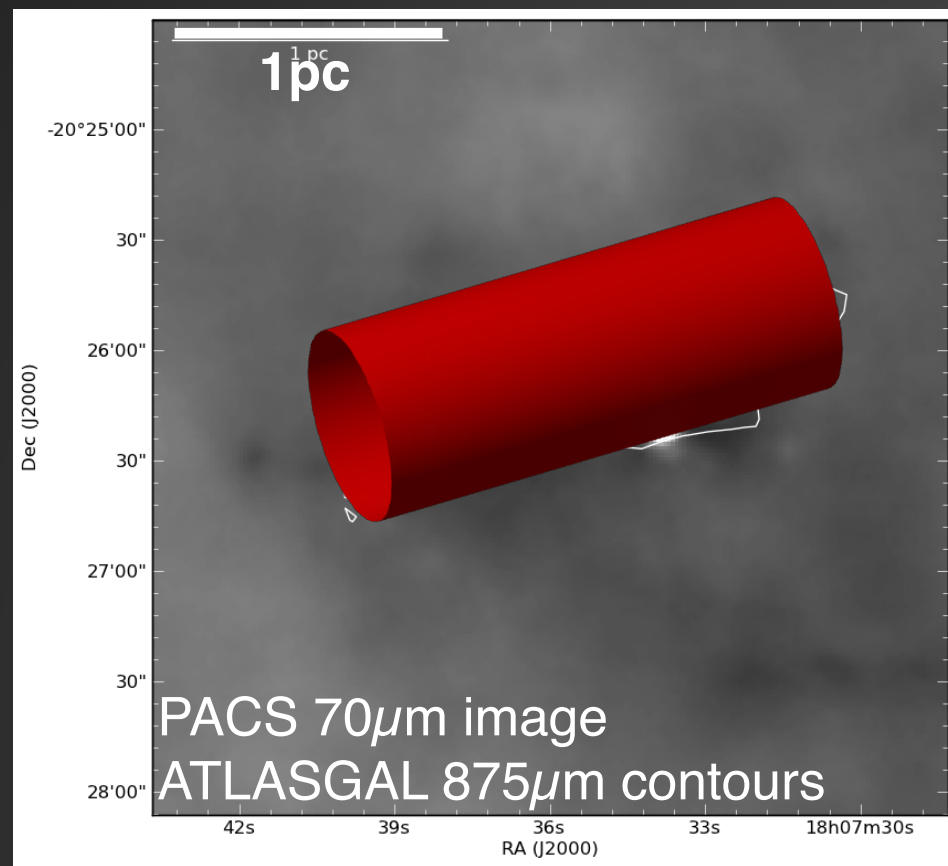
"Micro-turbulence"



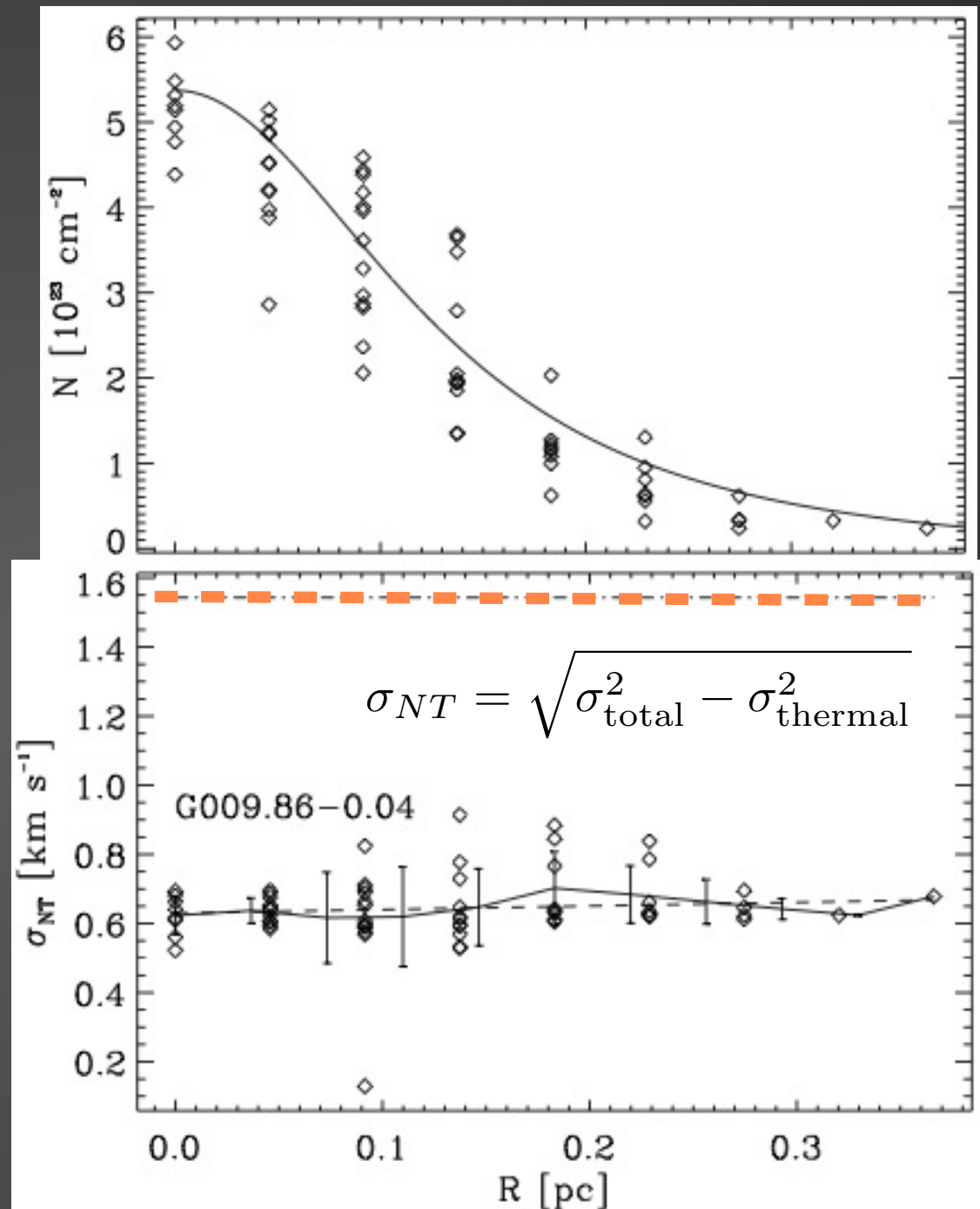
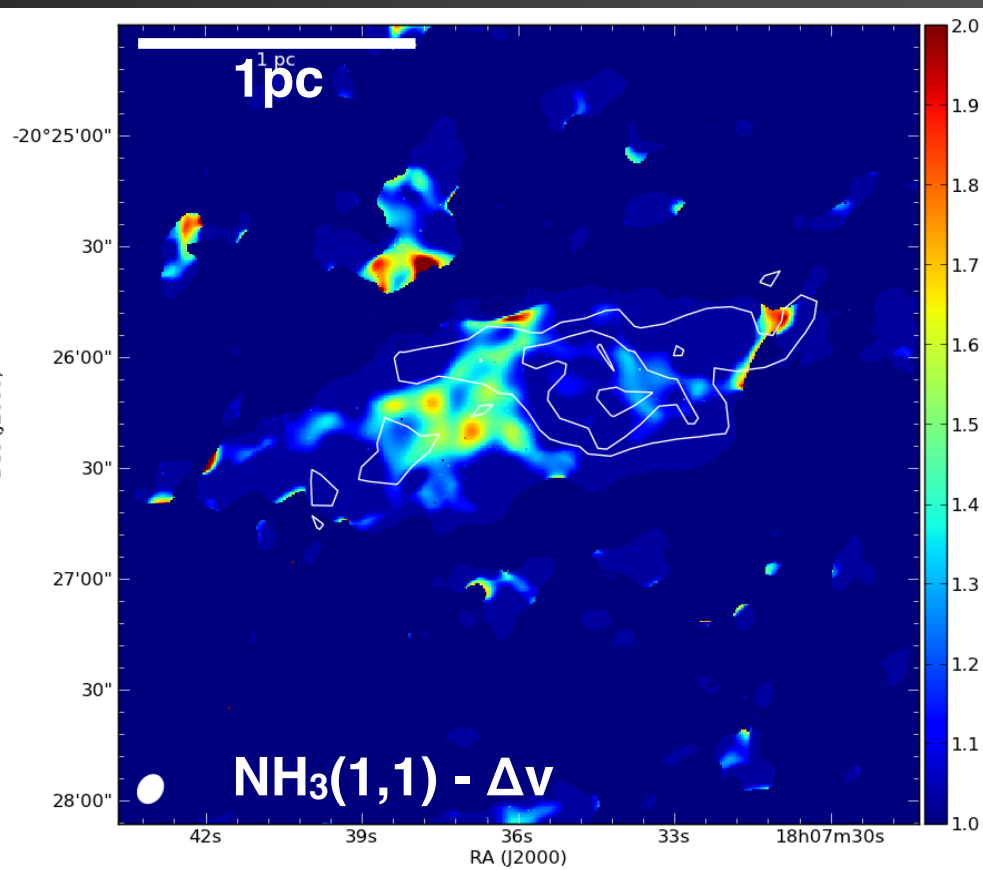
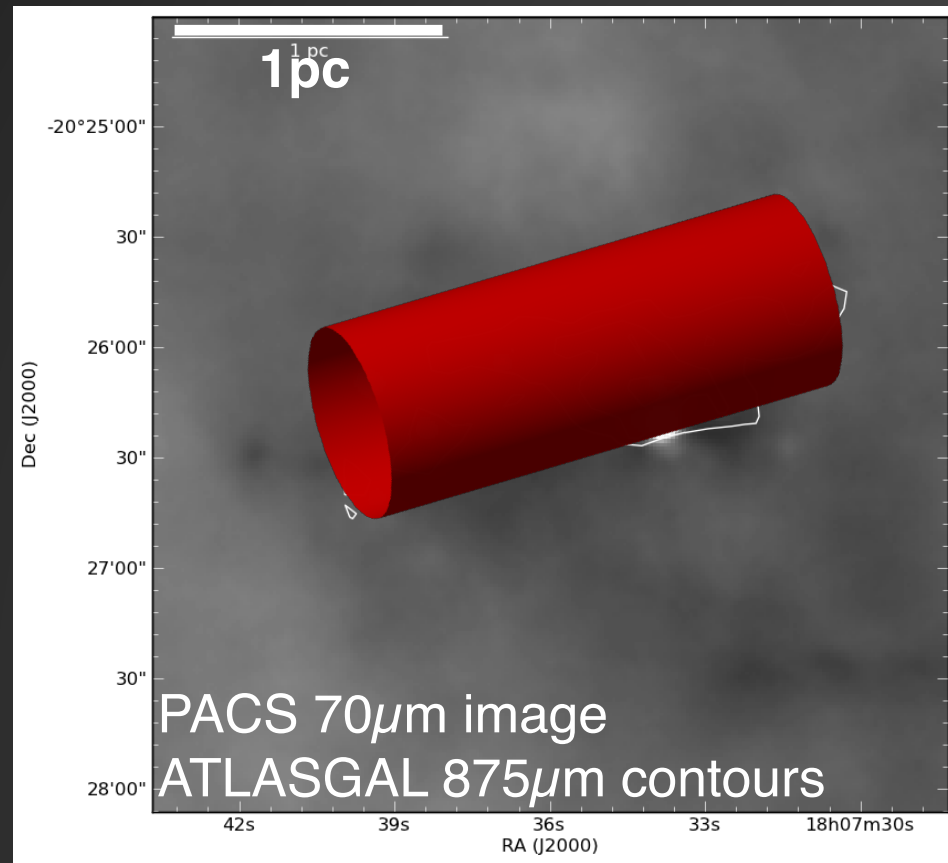
CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE



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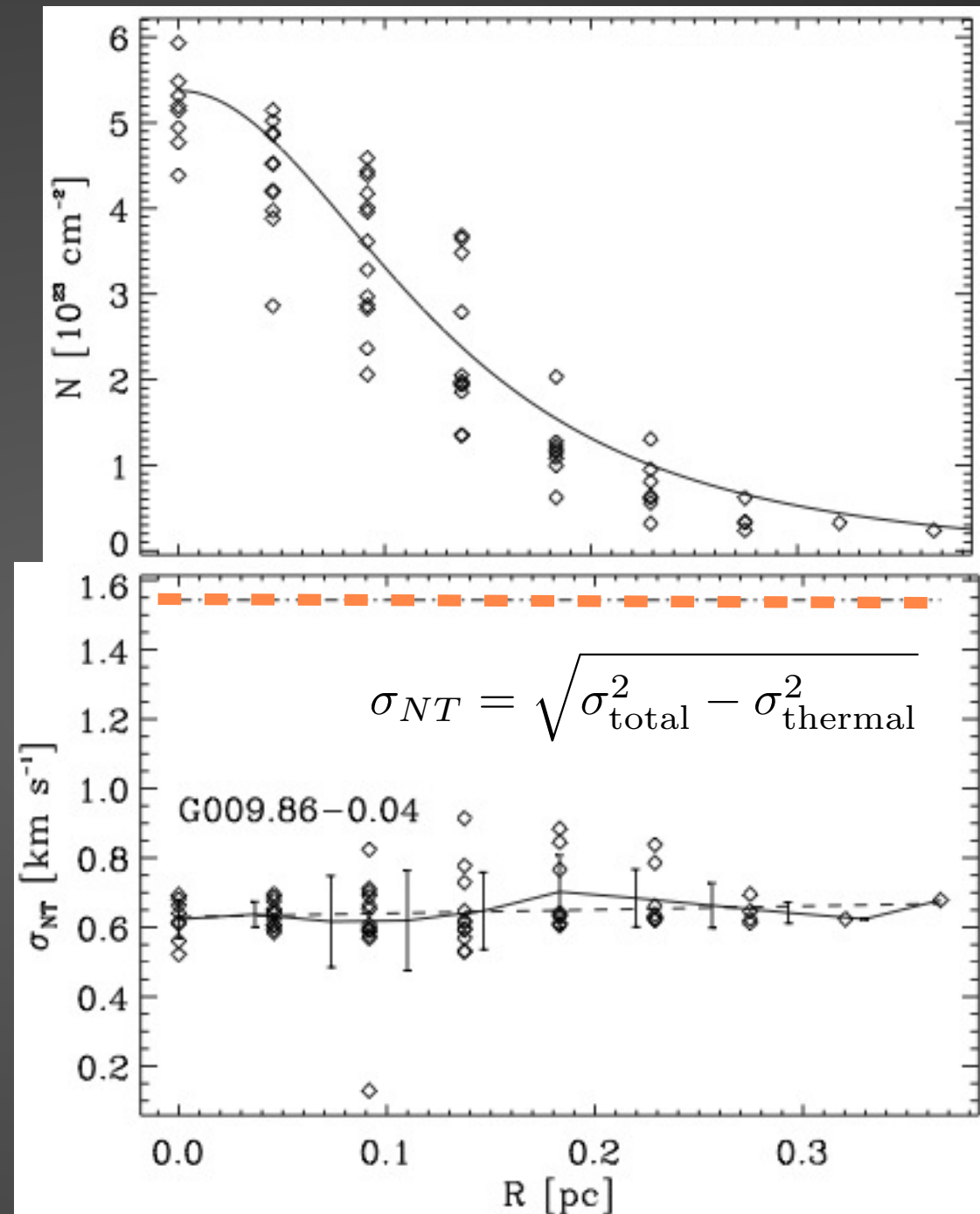
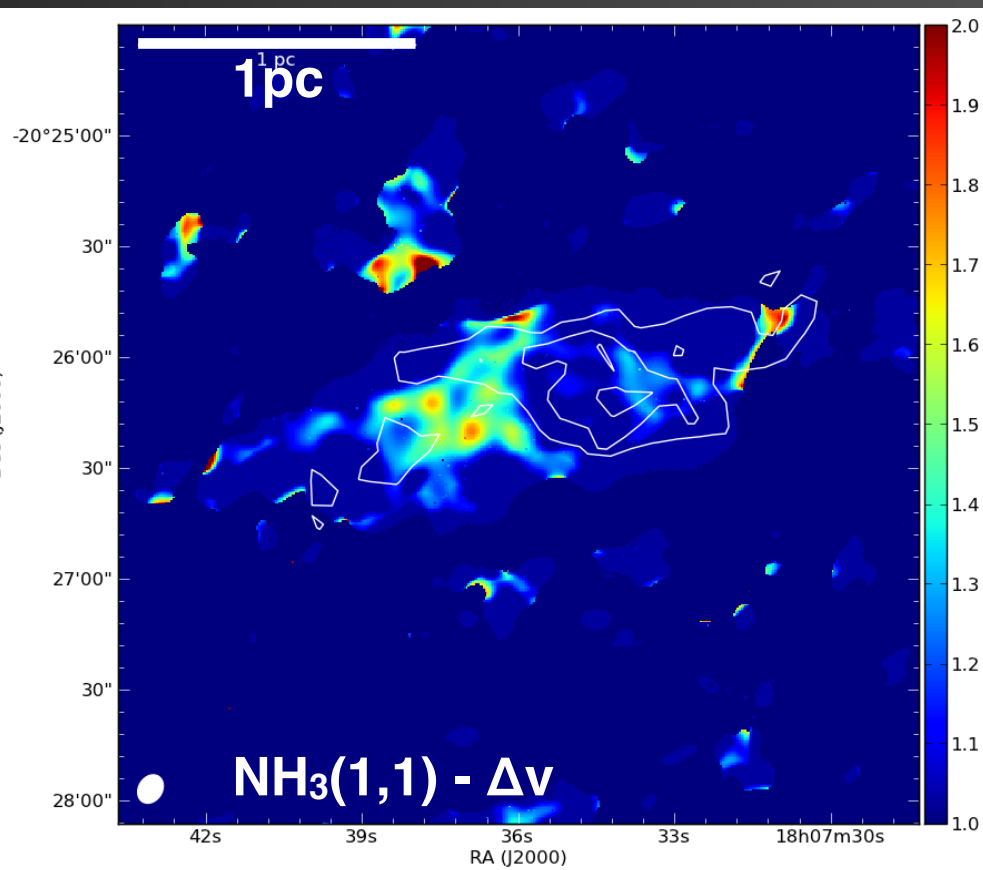
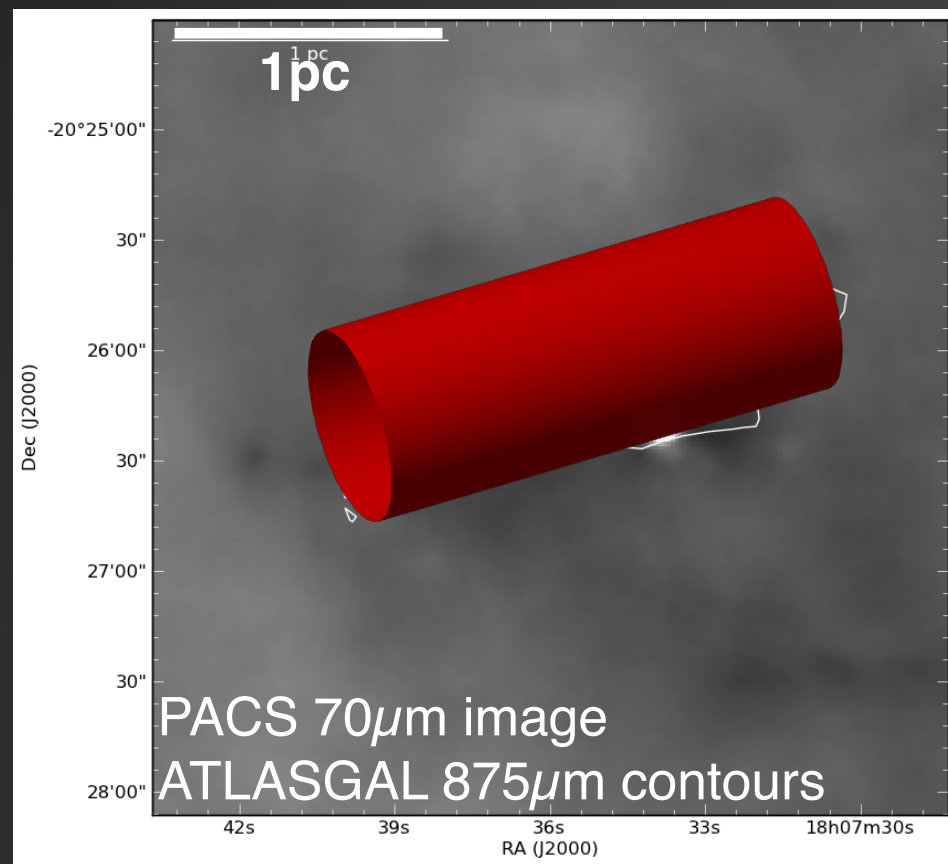


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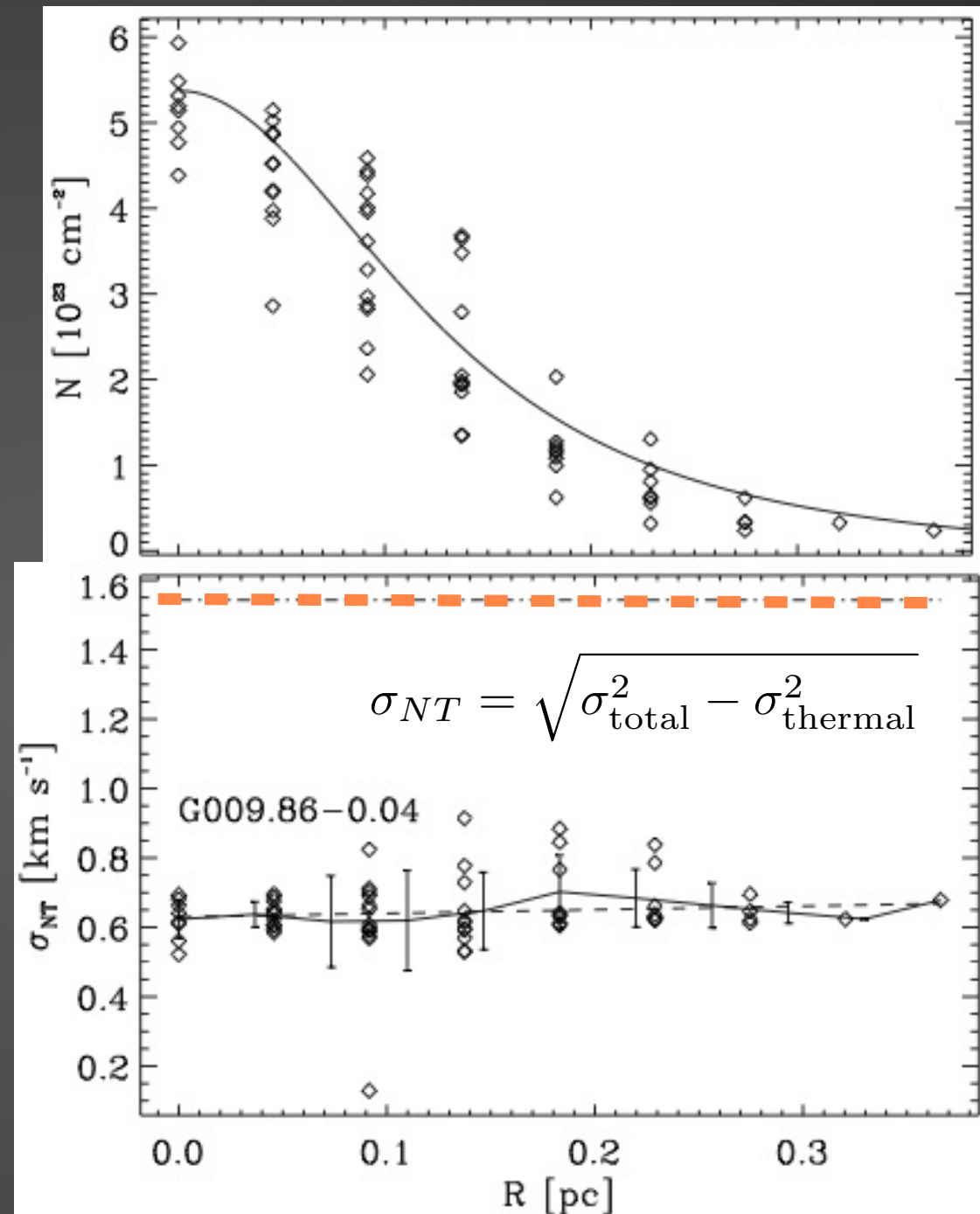
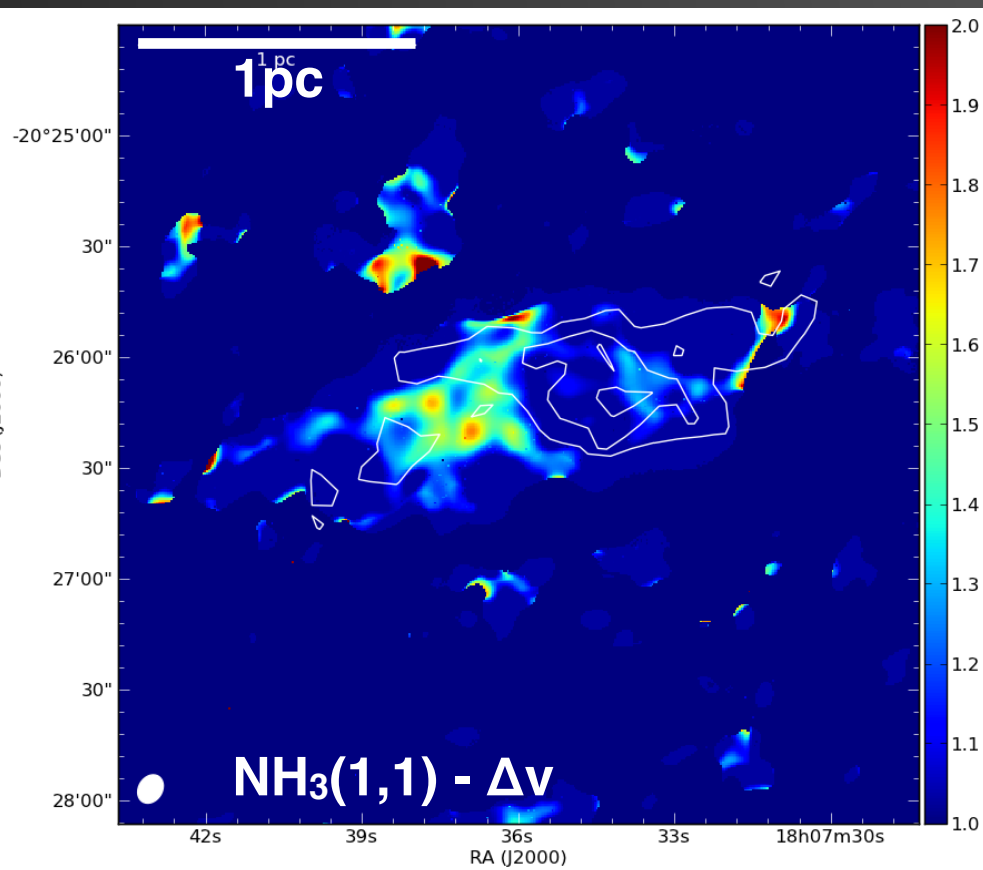
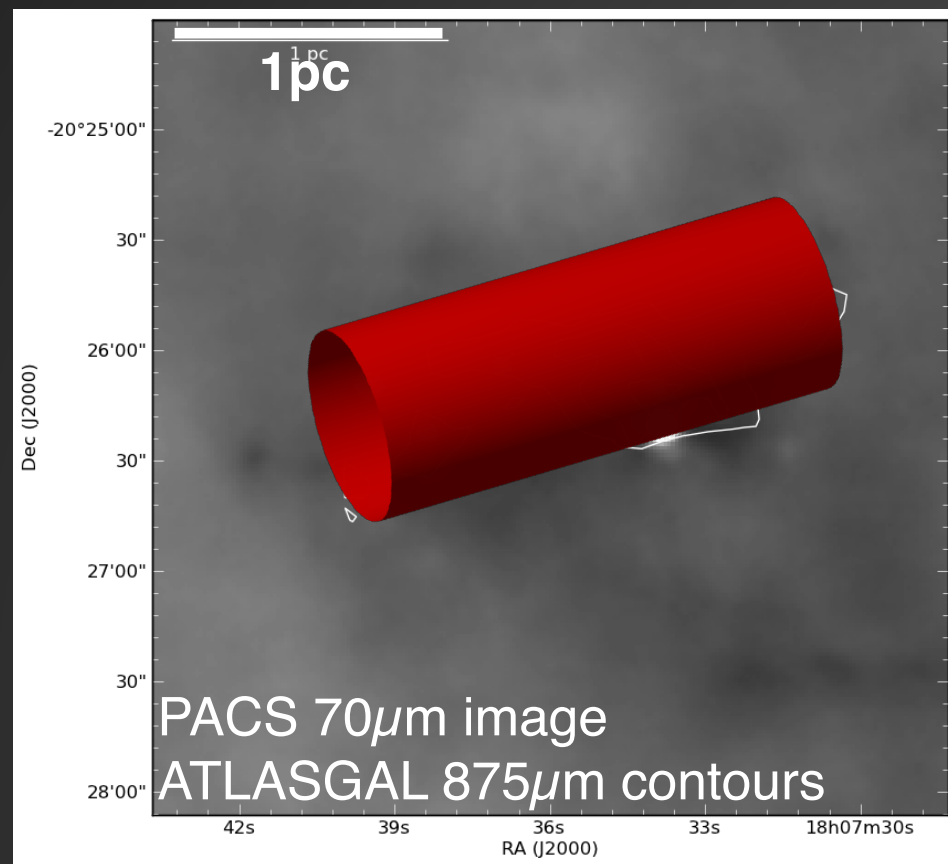


CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE



Non-thermal ("turbulent") pressure is insufficient to oppose global gravitational collapse (Ragan et al. 2012a).

CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE

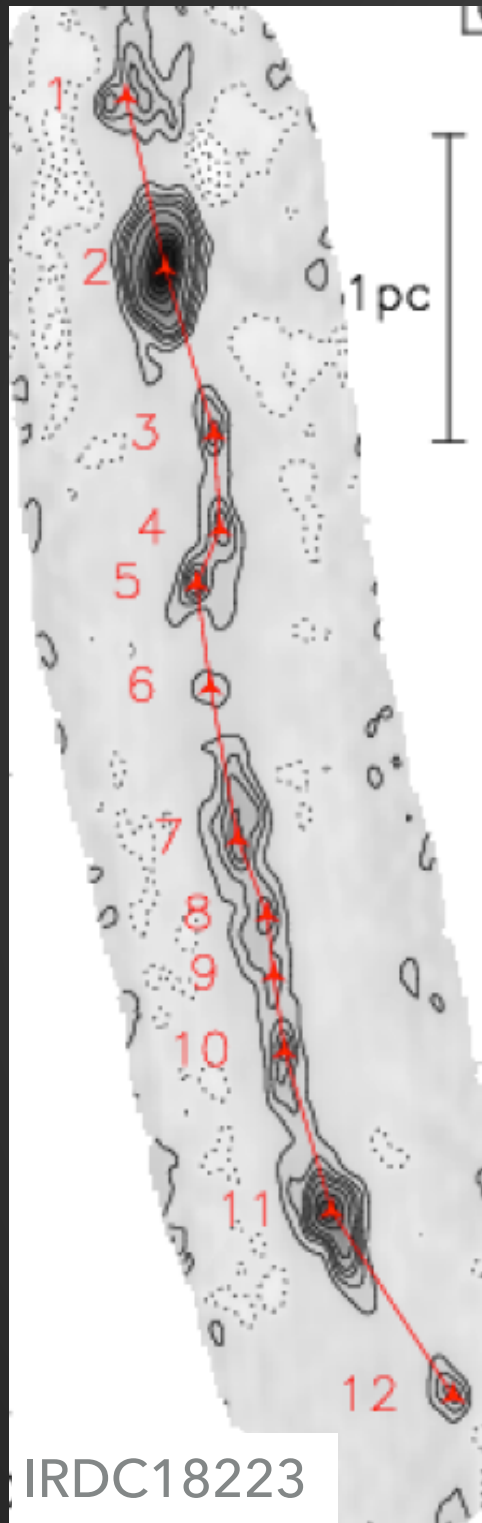


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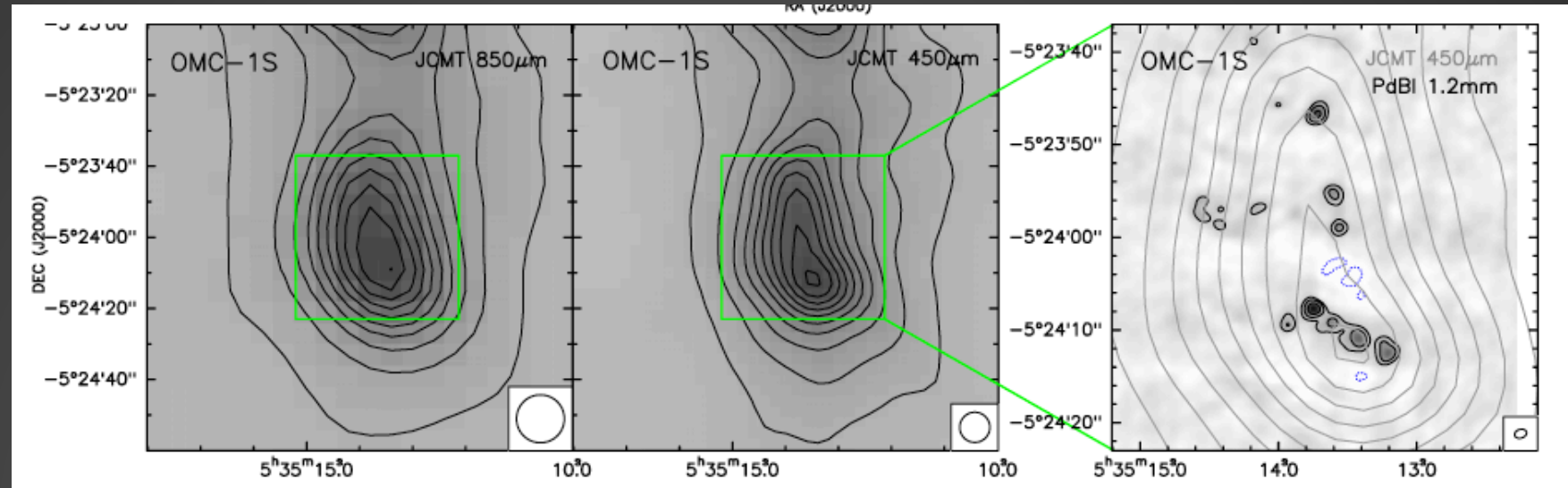
see also Beuther et al. (2013),  
Peretto et al. (2013), Ragan et al. (2015)

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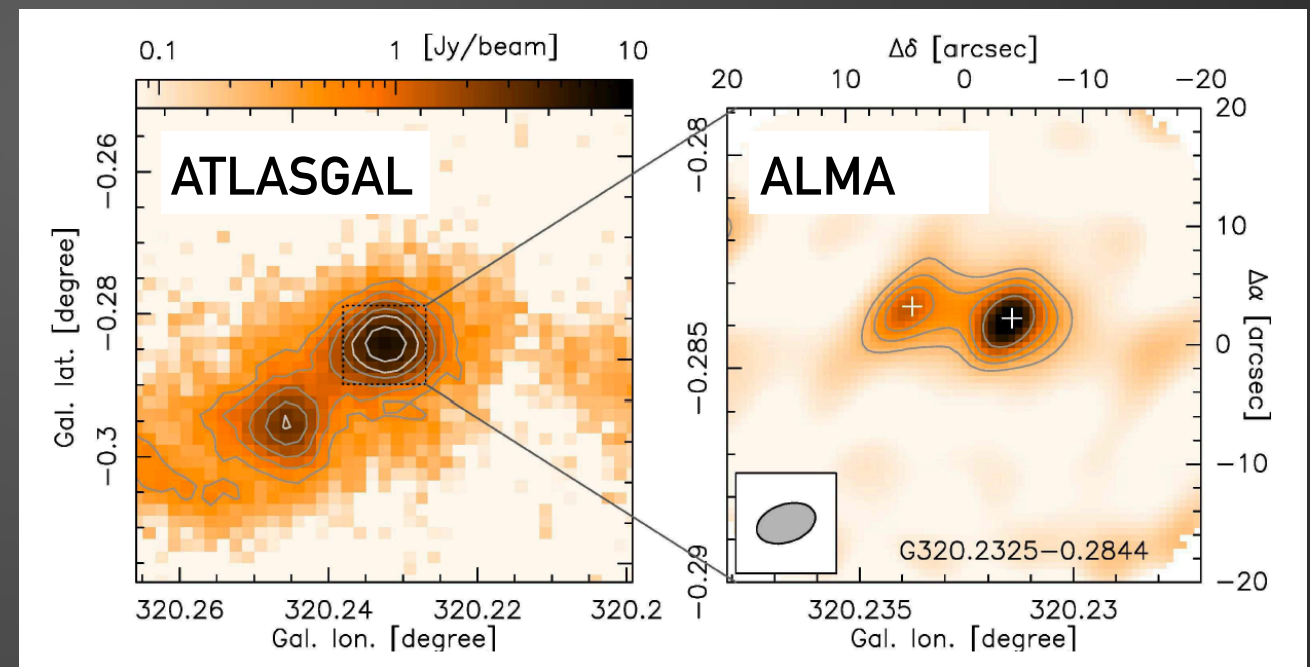
## Clump fragmentation: realm of interferometry



Beuther et al. (2015)



Palau et al. (2014)



Csengeri et al (2017)

Filaments / clumps fragment into cores.

Limited (2-3 fragments per parsec)

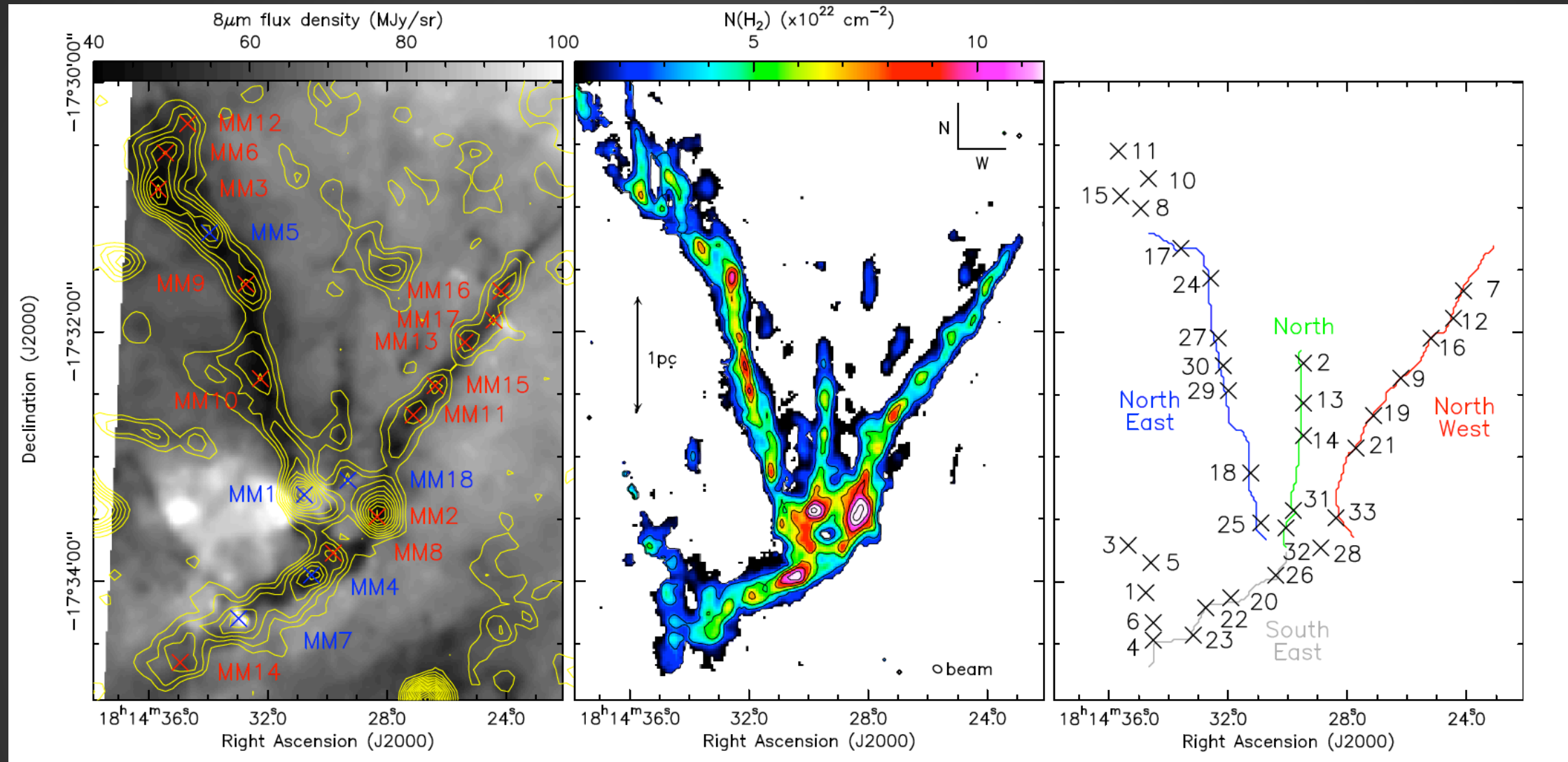
Spacing between tends to be regular (0.2 - 0.4 pc)

Bontemps et al. (2010), Palau et al. (2014), Ragan et al. (2015), Beuther et al. (2015), Csengeri et al (2017)

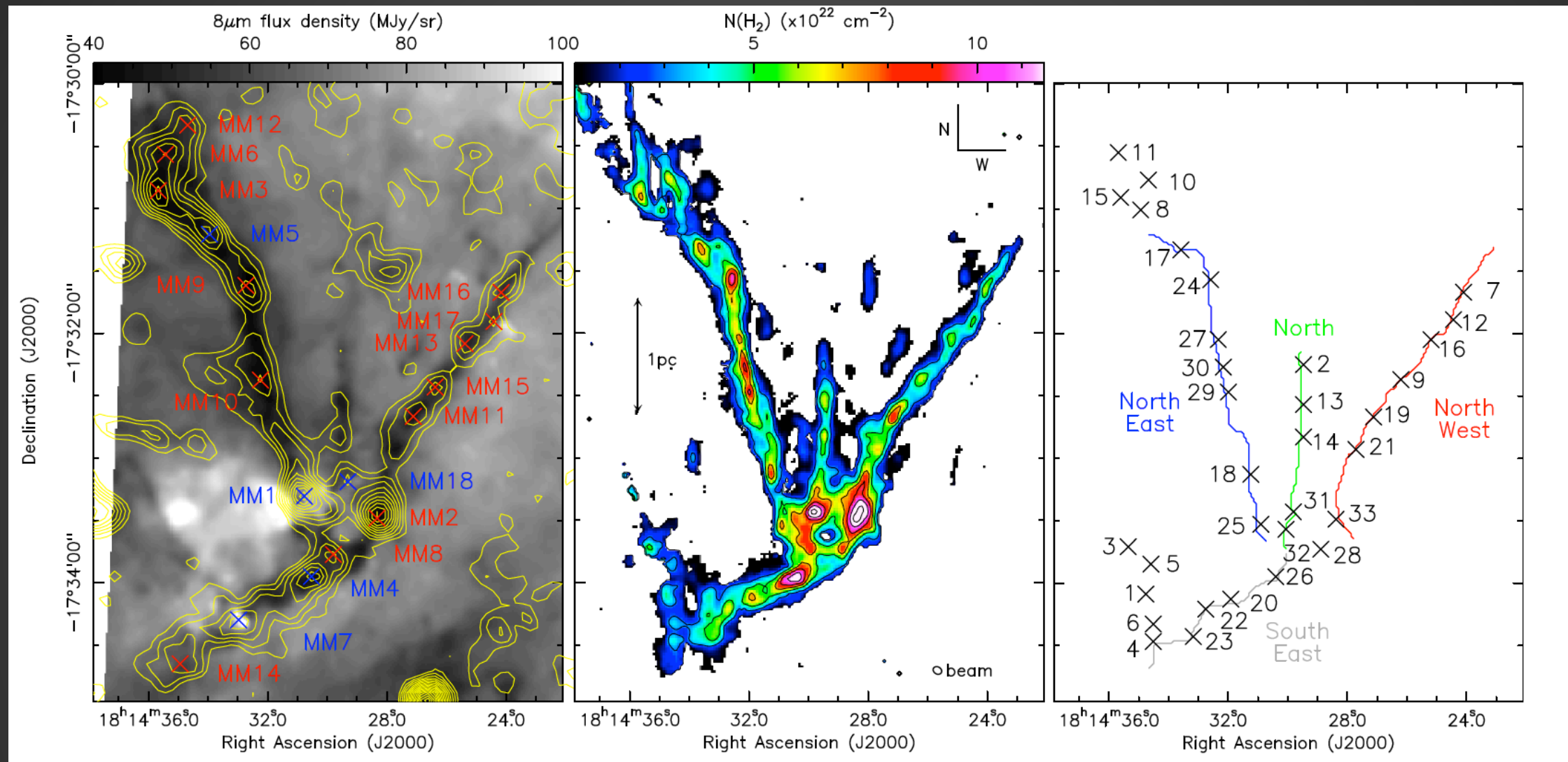


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# SDC 13: NH<sub>3</sub> @ JVLA + GBT



# SDC 13: NH<sub>3</sub> @ JVLA + GBT

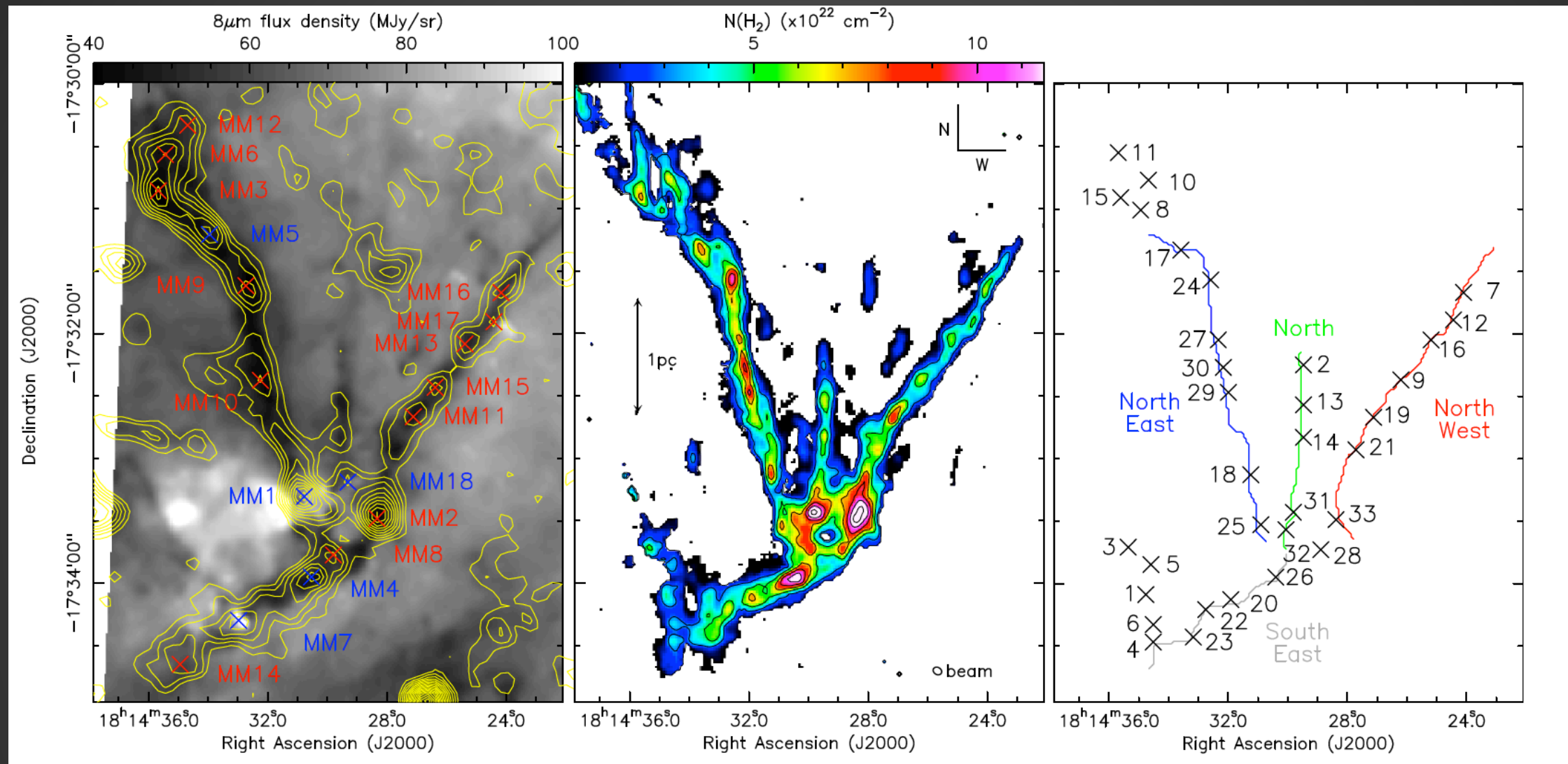


$$M_{\text{line,crit}} = 2c_s^2/G$$

$$= 23M_{\odot}\text{pc}^{-1}$$

Critical value for radial contraction and fragmentation. Ostriker (1964)

# SDC 13: NH<sub>3</sub> @ JVLA + GBT



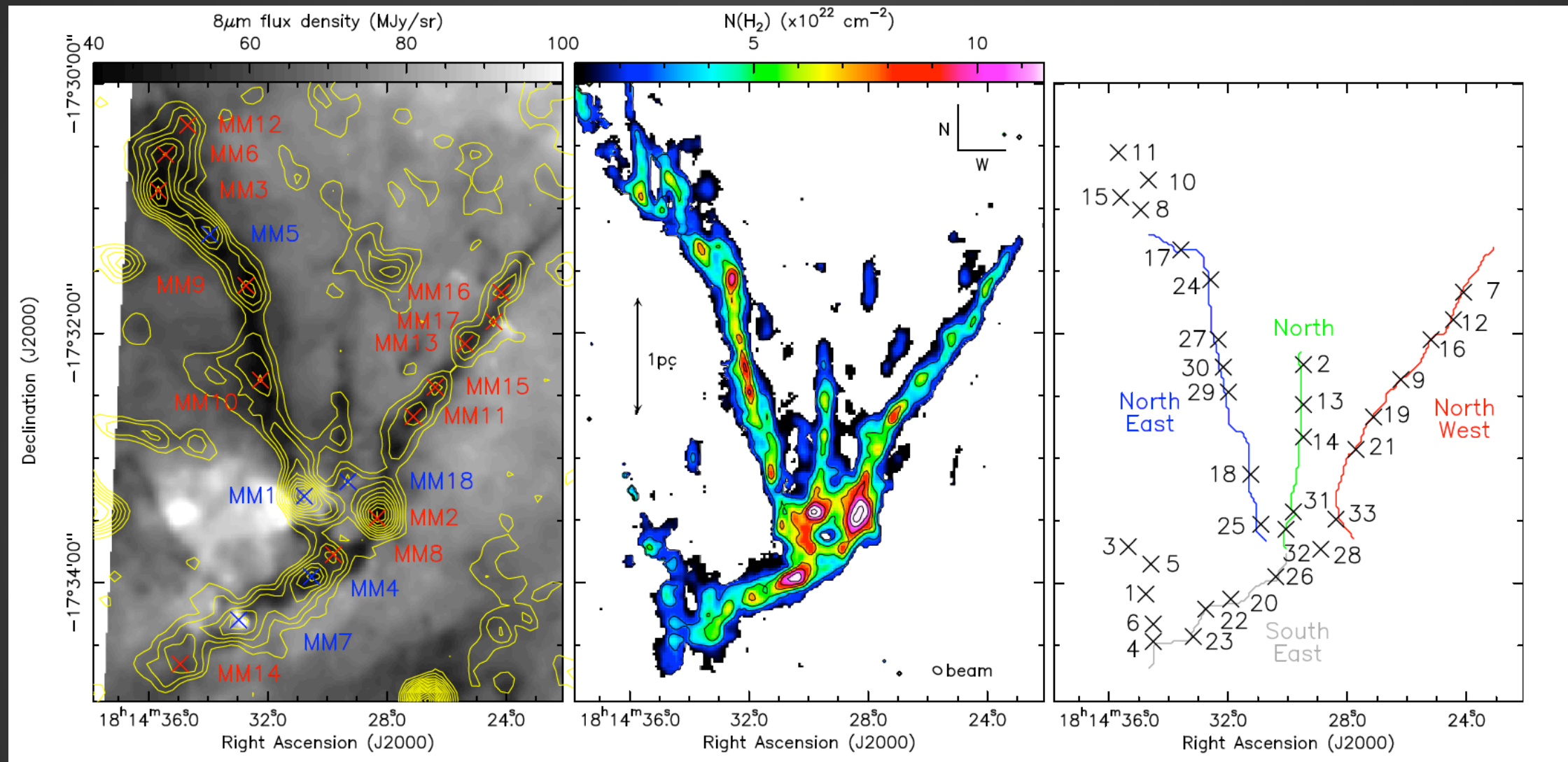
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Critical value for radial contraction and fragmentation. Ostriker (1964)



SDC 13:  $\text{NH}_3$  @ JVLA + GBT

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$$= 23M_{\odot}\text{pc}^{-1}$$

Critical value for radial contraction and fragmentation. Ostriker (1964)

$$M_{\text{line,SDC13}} = 100 - 200M_{\odot}\text{pc}^{-1}$$

SDC 13 filaments are thermally supercritical.

... and also turbulently supercritical.

Gwen Williams et al. (submitted)

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$$t_{\text{collapse}} = (0.49 + 0.26A_o)(G\rho)^{-1/2}$$

(Clarke & Whitworth 2015)

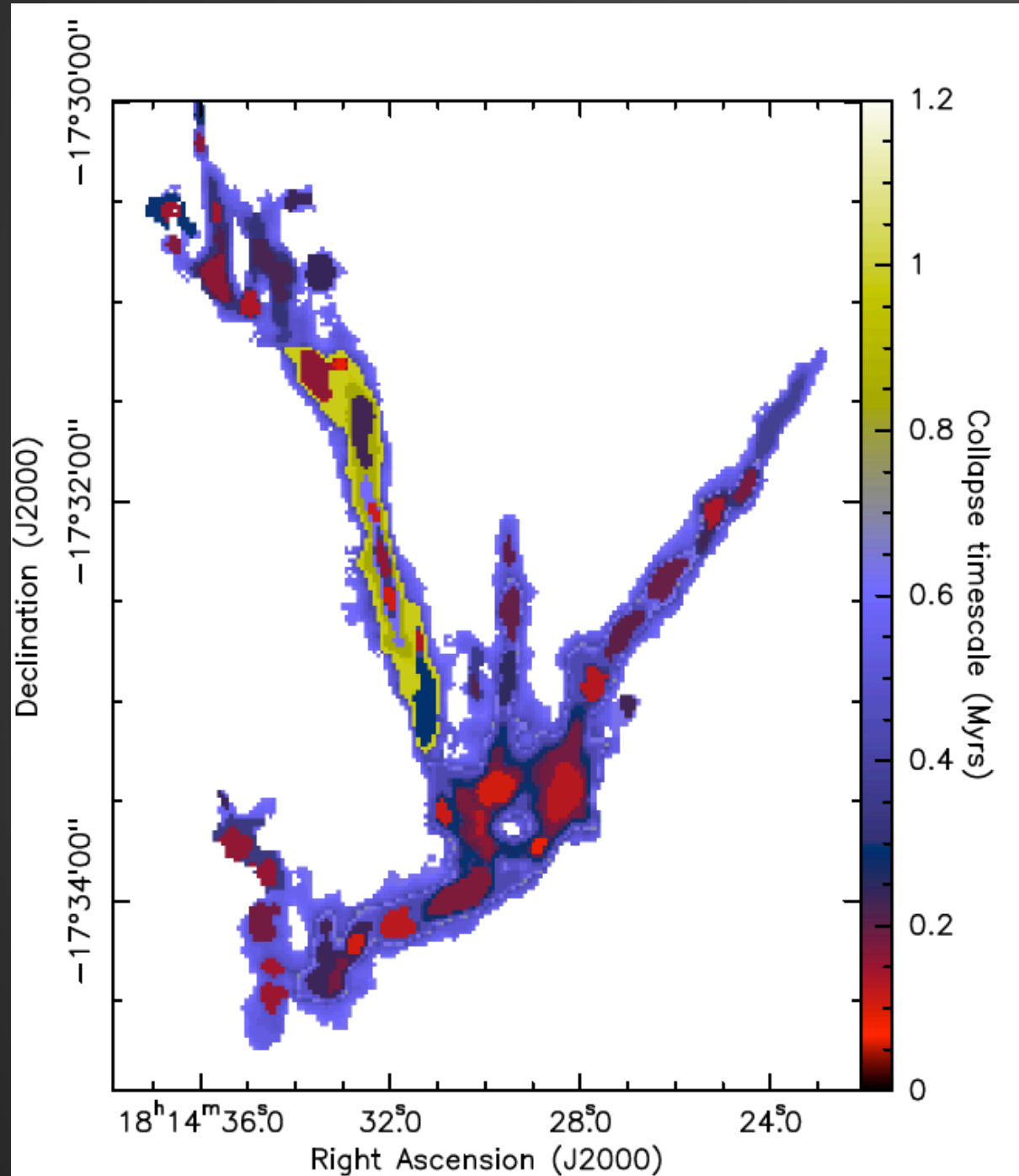
aspect ratio

CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE

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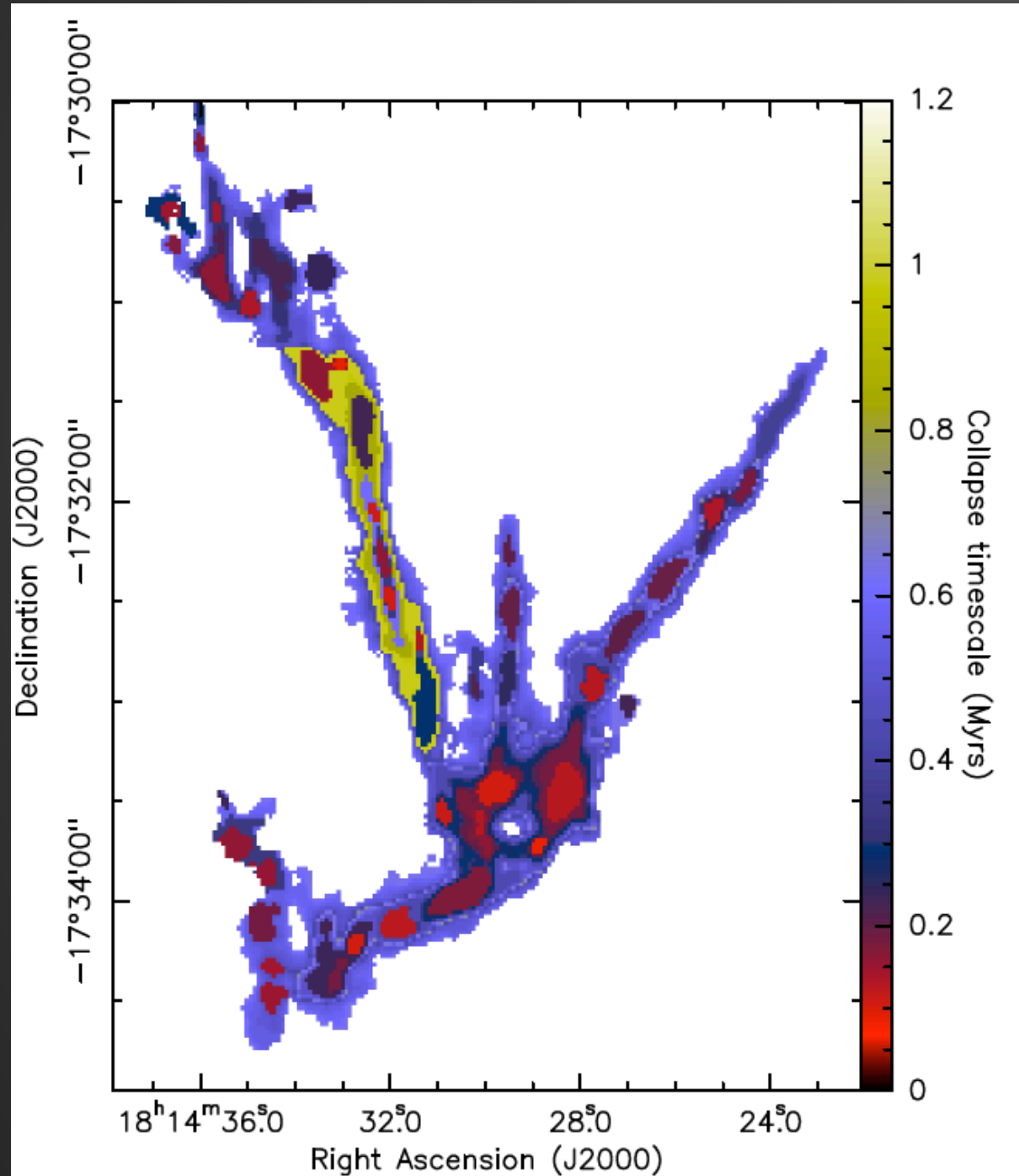


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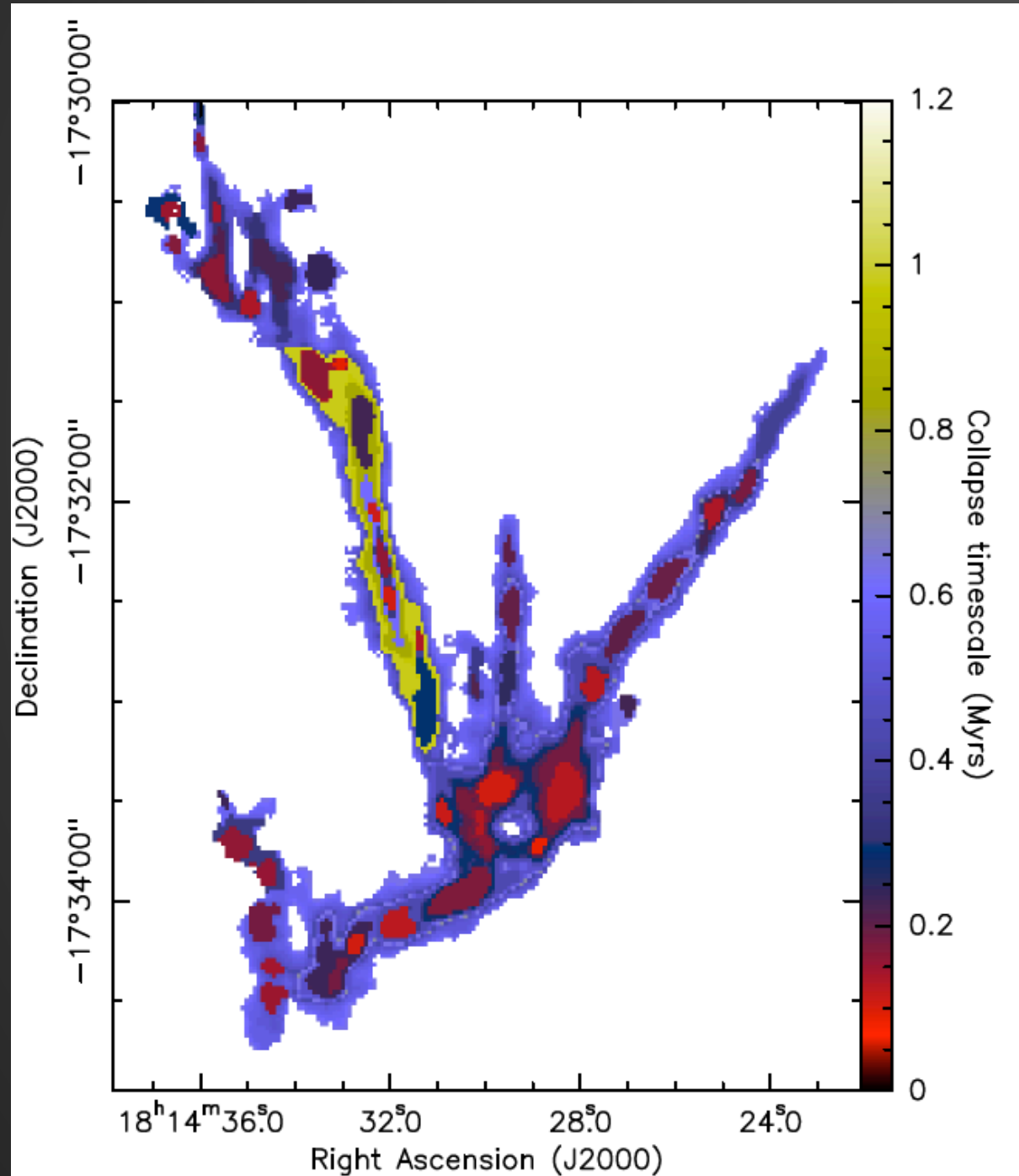
Decrease of collapse time from 0.6 to 0.1 Myr from largest to smallest structures.

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$$t_{\text{collapse}} = (0.49 + 0.26A_o)(G\rho)^{-1/2}$$

(Clarke & Whitworth 2015)

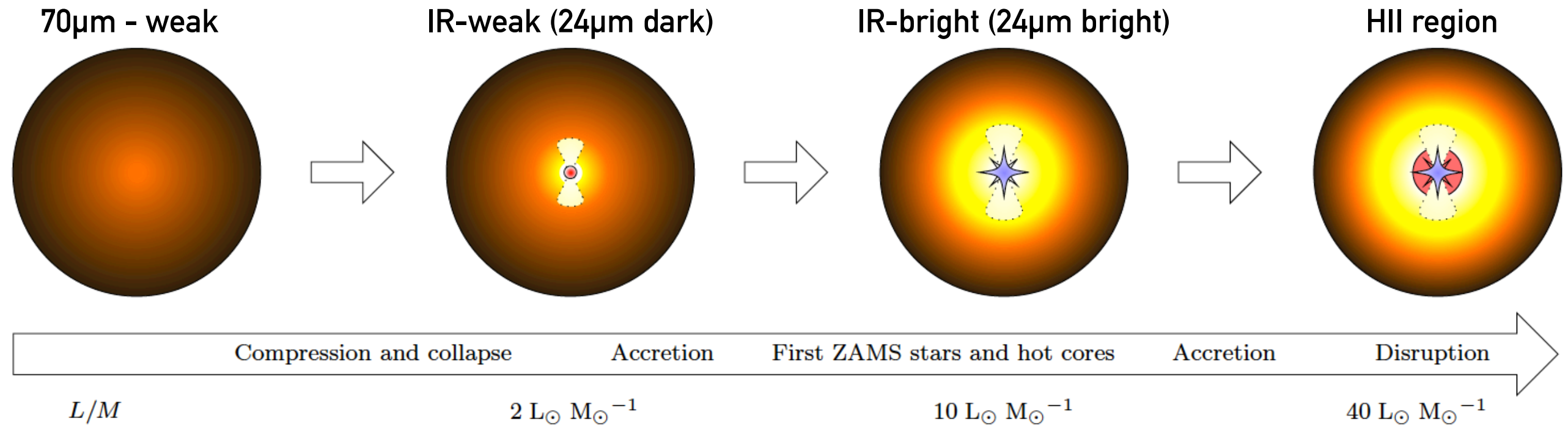
aspect ratio



Decrease of collapse time from 0.6 to 0.1 Myr from largest to smallest structures.

Cores collapse before the filaments.

CLOUD ⇒ CLUMP ⇒ CORE



Giannetti et al. (2017)

**Table 2** Characteristics and lifetime estimates of high-mass star precursors

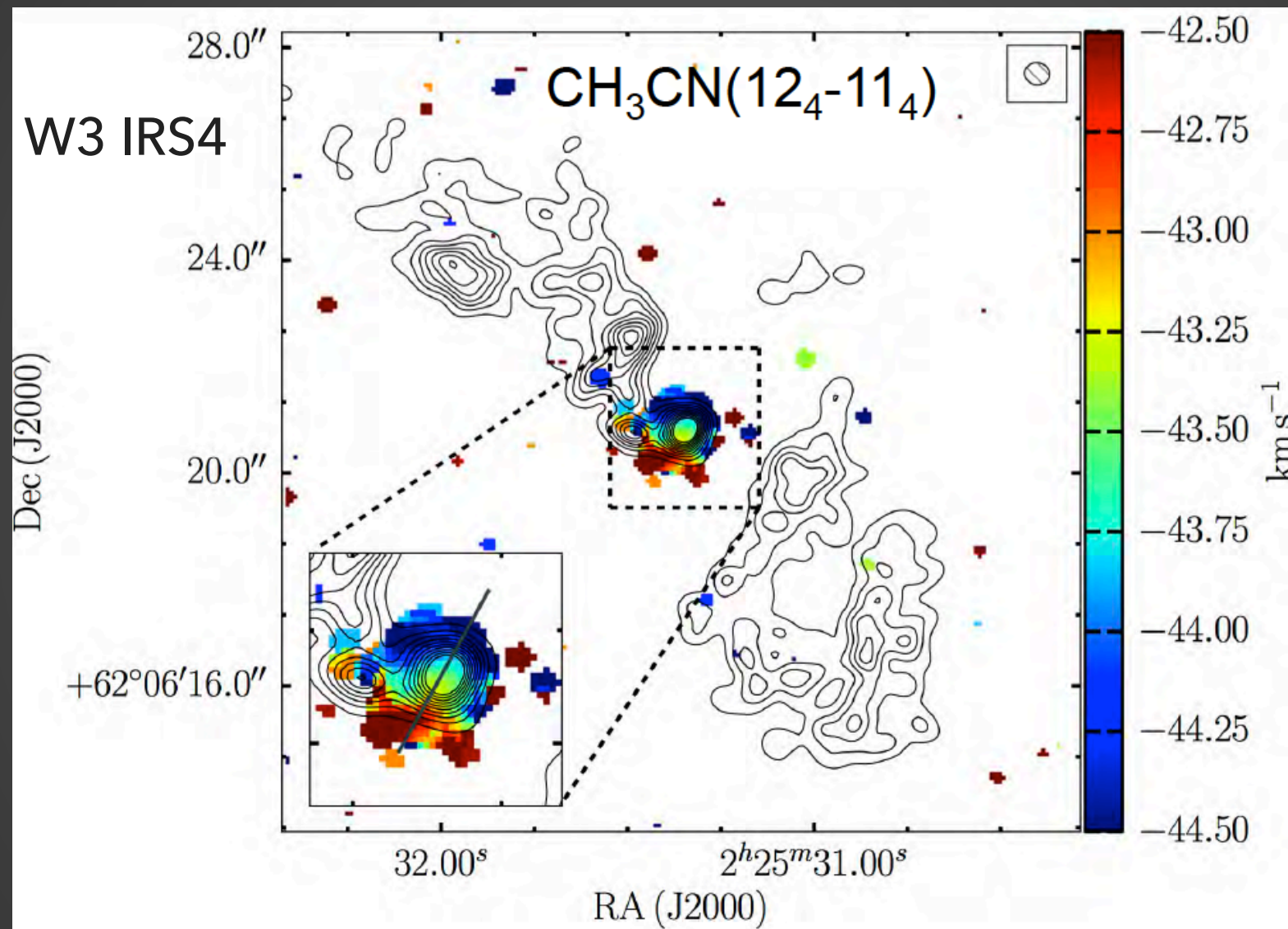
	Median FWHM [pc]	Envelope Mass [ $M_{\odot}$ ]	Density $\langle n_{H_2} \rangle^a$ [ $\text{cm}^{-3}$ ]	Statistical Lifetime <sup>b,c</sup> [yr]
Massive starless clumps	$\sim 0.5$	$100 - 10^4$	$10^3 - 10^5$	$< 1 - 3 \times 10^4$
UCHII regions	$\sim 0.1$	$1 - 10^3$	$10^3 - 10^5$	$\sim 3 \times 10^5$
IR-bright MDCs	$\sim 0.1$	$40 - 10^3$	$10^5 - 10^7$	$0.6 - 0.9 \times 10^5$
IR-quiet MDCs	$\sim 0.1$	$40 - 10^3$	$10^5 - 10^7$	$0.5 - 1 \times 10^5$
Starless MDCs	$\sim 0.1$	$30 - 80$	$\sim 10^6$	$< 1 \times 10^4$
IR-bright high-mass protostars	$\sim 0.02^d$			$\sim 1.2 \times 10^5$
IR-quiet high-mass protostars	$\sim 0.02$	$10 - 100$	$10^6 - 10^8$	$\sim 2 \times 10^5$
All high-mass protostars	$\sim 0.02$	$> 10$	$\sim 10^7$	$\sim 3 \times 10^5$
High-mass prestellar cores	$0.01 - 0.1^d$	$> 30^d$	$10^5 - 10^7$ d	$< 1 - 7 \times 10^4$

Motte et al. (2017)



CLOUD  $\Rightarrow$  CLUMP  $\Rightarrow$  CORE

## Core dynamics



Mottram et al. (in prep)  
CORE PdBI large program (PI: Beuther)

# SUMMARY

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### High-mass star and massive cluster formation in the Milky Way

Frédérique Motte,<sup>1,2</sup> Sylvain Bontemps,<sup>3</sup> and Fabien Louvet,<sup>4</sup>