

# Herschel Observations of Nearby Interstellar Filaments

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IC5146



Filaments2014 Workshop – Charlottesville – 10 Oct 2014

## Outline:

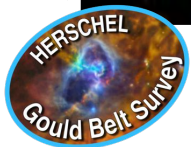
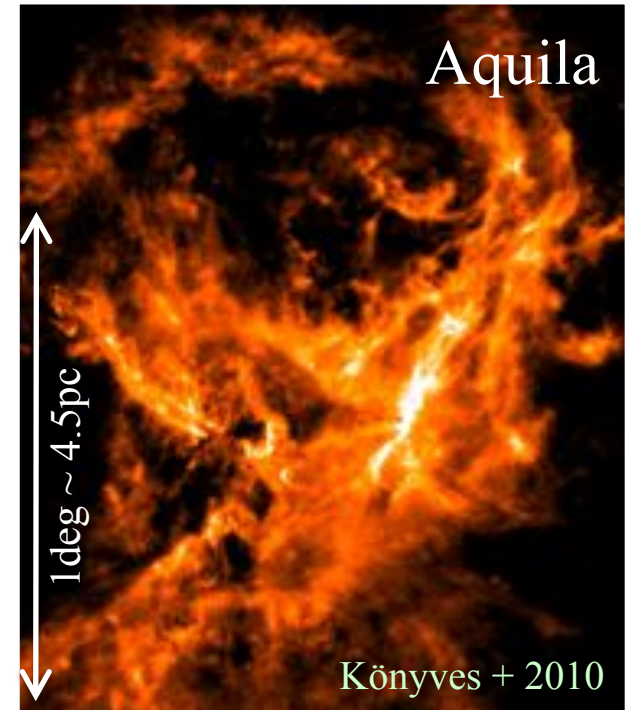
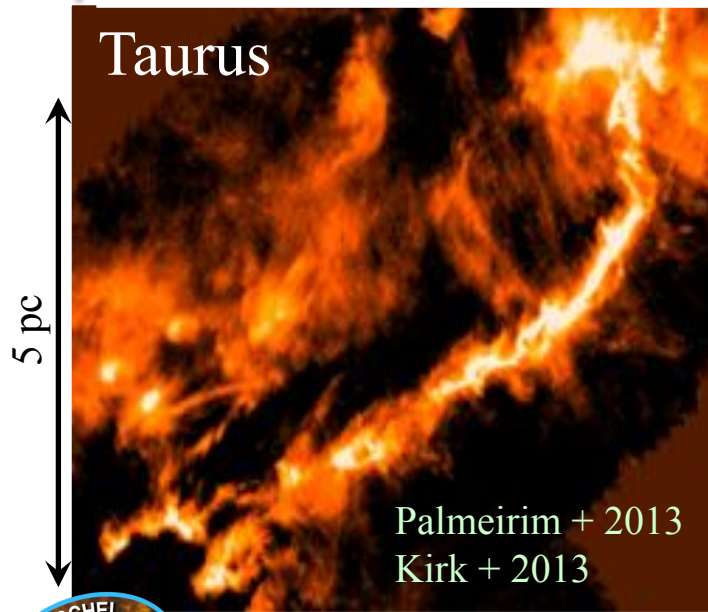
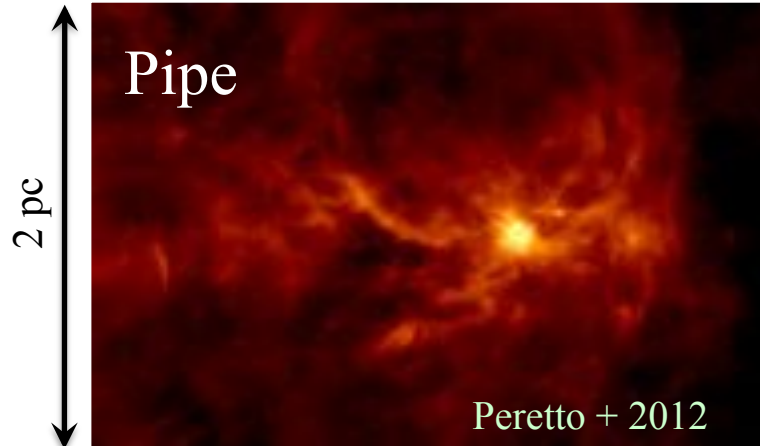
- « **Universality** » of the **filamentary structure** of the ISM
- The **key role of filaments** in the core/star formation process
- Implications for the IMF, open issues, and conclusions

**With: D. Arzoumanian, V. Könyves, P. Palmeirim, A. Mensechikov, N. Schneider, A. Roy, N. Peretto, P. Didelon, J. Di Francesco, S. Bontemps, F. Motte, D. Ward-Thompson, J. Kirk, M. Griffin, S. Pezzuto, S. Molinari, J.Ph. Bernard, Y. Shimajiri, B. Merin, N. Cox, A. Zavagno, L. Testi & the *Herschel* Gould Belt Survey KP Consortium**

Polaris  
*Herschel*  
250/350/500  $\mu\text{m}$



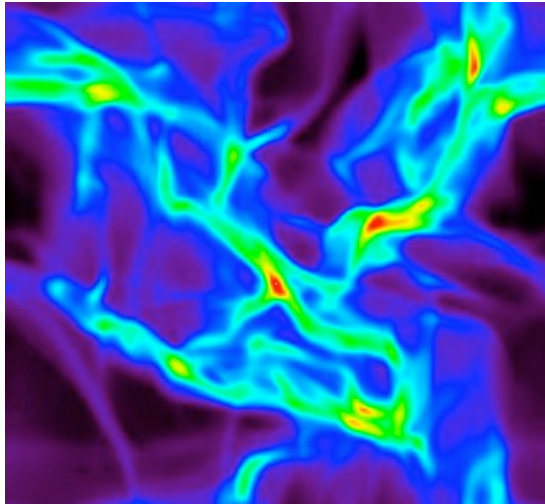
**Herschel has revealed a “universal” filamentary structure in nearby clouds**





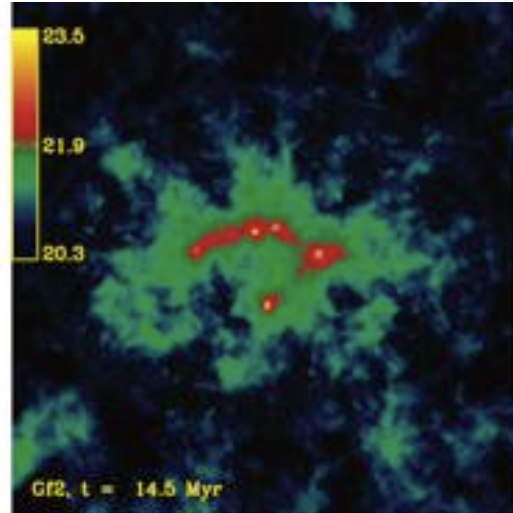
# The observed filaments are reminiscent of numerical simulations of cloud evolution with large-scale flows

Turbulence

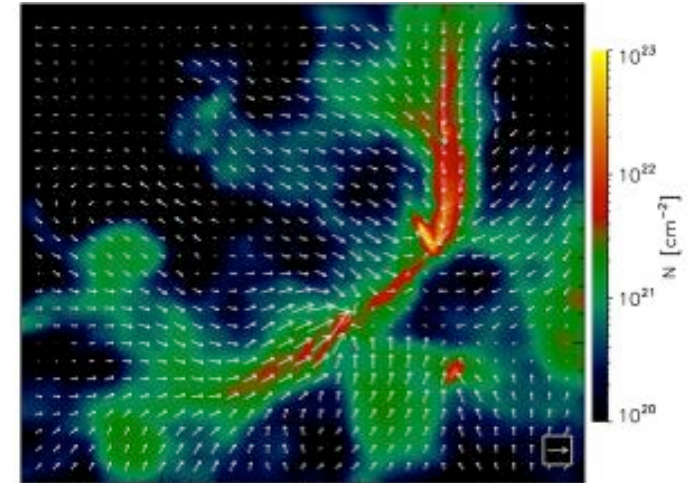


Padoan et al. 2001

Gravity

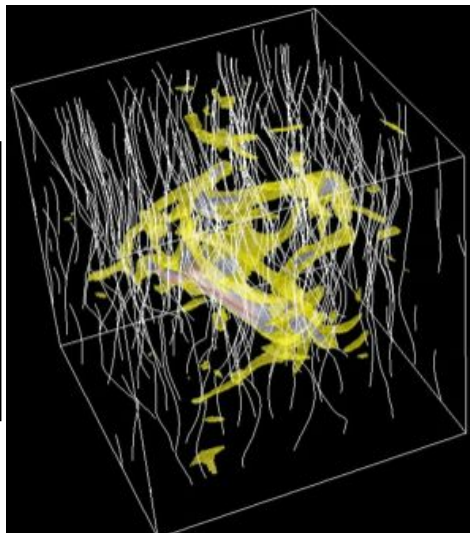


Heitsch et al. 2008

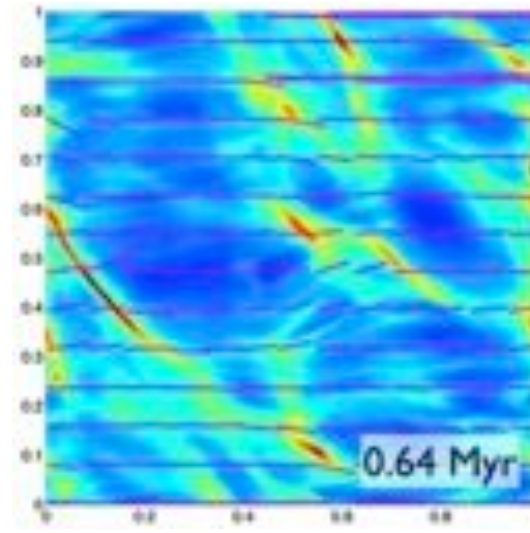


Gomez & Vazquez-Semadeni 2014

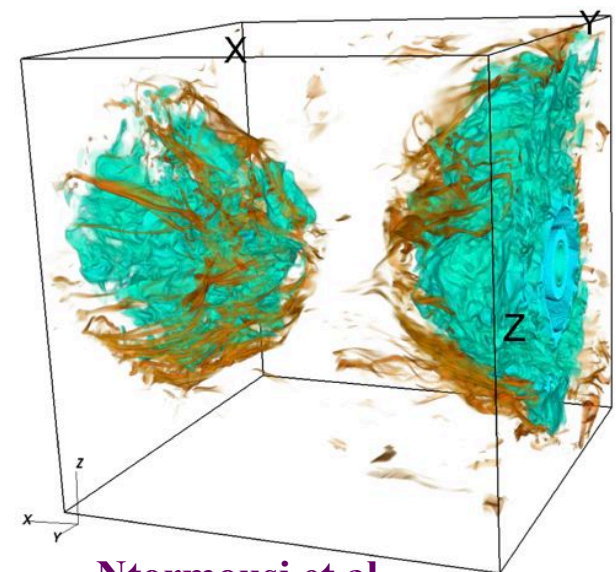
Turbulence  
+  
Gravity  
+  
B fields



Z.Y. Li et al. 2010

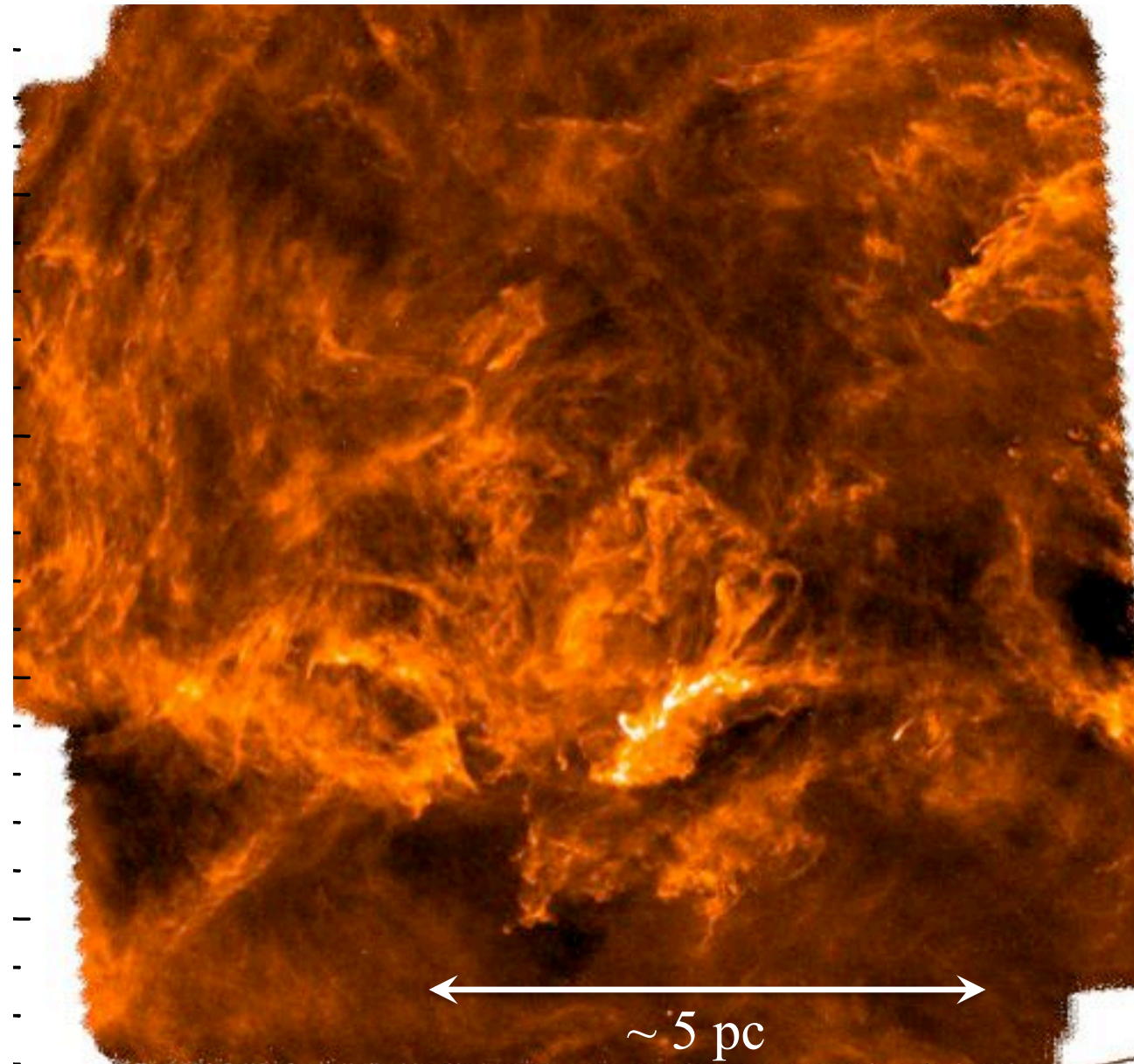


Chen & Ostriker 2014



Ntormousi et al.

# Structure of the cold ISM prior to star formation



Gould Belt Survey  
PACS/SPIRE // mode  
70/160/250/350/500  $\mu\text{m}$

**Polaris flare  
translucent cloud:  
non star forming**

$d \sim 150 \text{ pc}$   
 $\sim 2200 M_{\odot}$  (CO+HI)  
unbound:  $M_{\text{vir}}/M_{\text{tot}} \sim 10$   
Heithausen & Thaddeus '90

**$\sim 13 \text{ deg}^2$  field**

**Miville-Deschênes et al. 2010**

**Ward-Thompson et al. 2010**

**Men'shchikov et al. 2010**

**André et al. 2010**

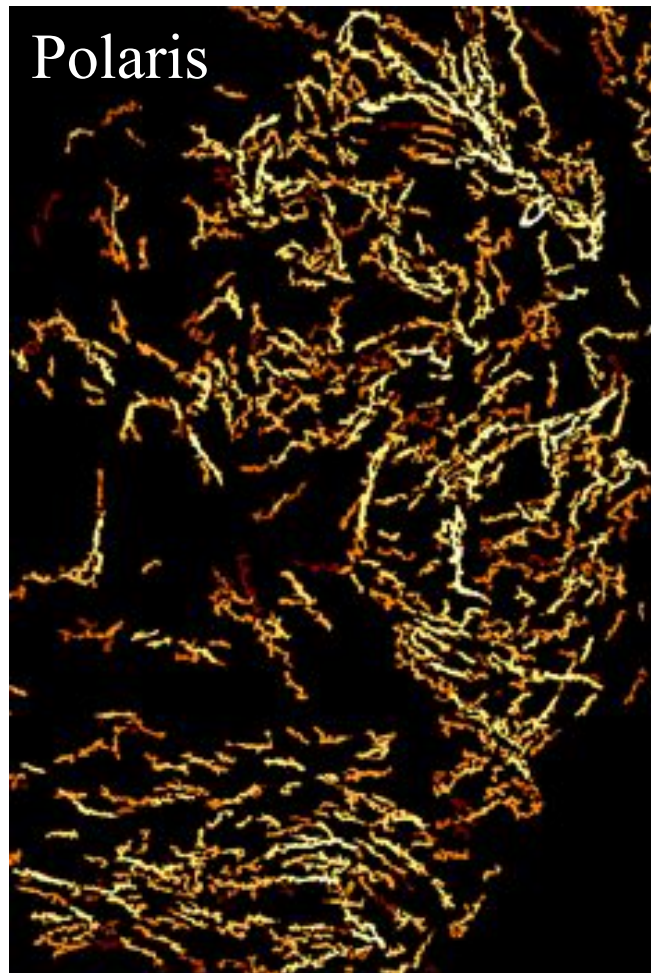
*Herschel/SPIRE 250  $\mu\text{m}$  image*



# Tracing the underlying filamentary networks

Different techniques: Projection on curvelets (Starck+2003), DisPerSE (Sousbie2011), *getfilaments* (Men'shchikov+2013) ...

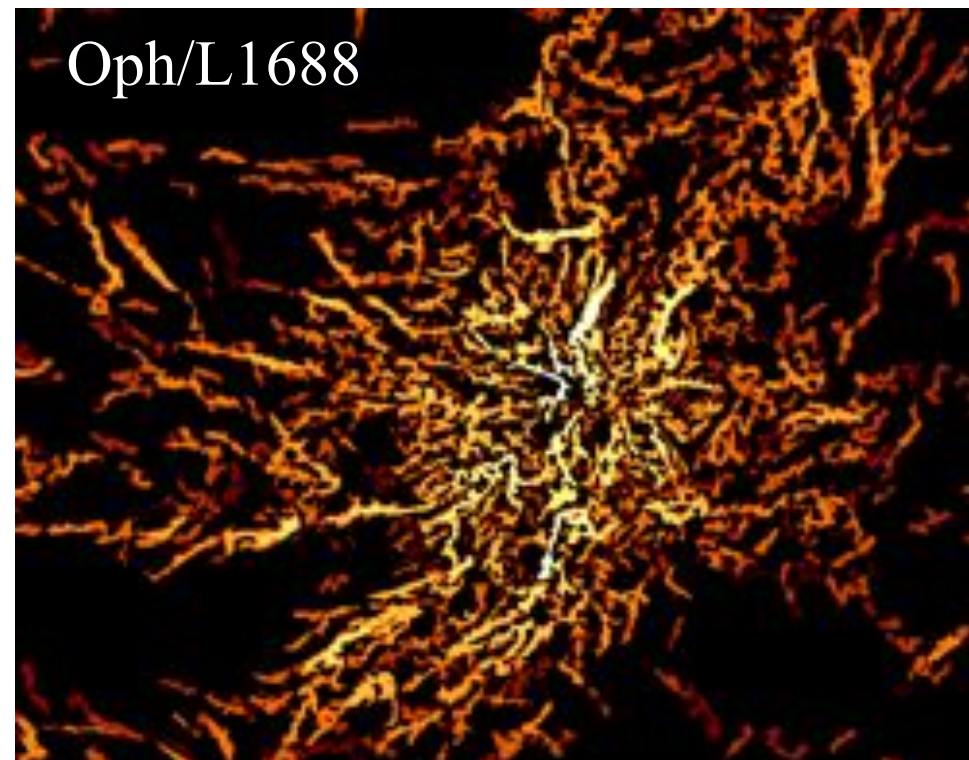
'Disorganized' network



Turbulence-dominated ?

Examples of *getfilaments* results

'Hub-filament' network - see Myers (2009)



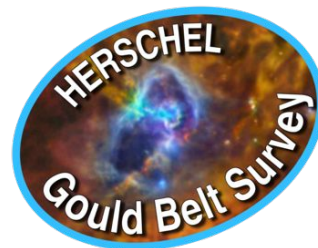
Gravity-dominated ?

See also 'nests' vs. 'ridges' (Hill+2011 – Vela C)

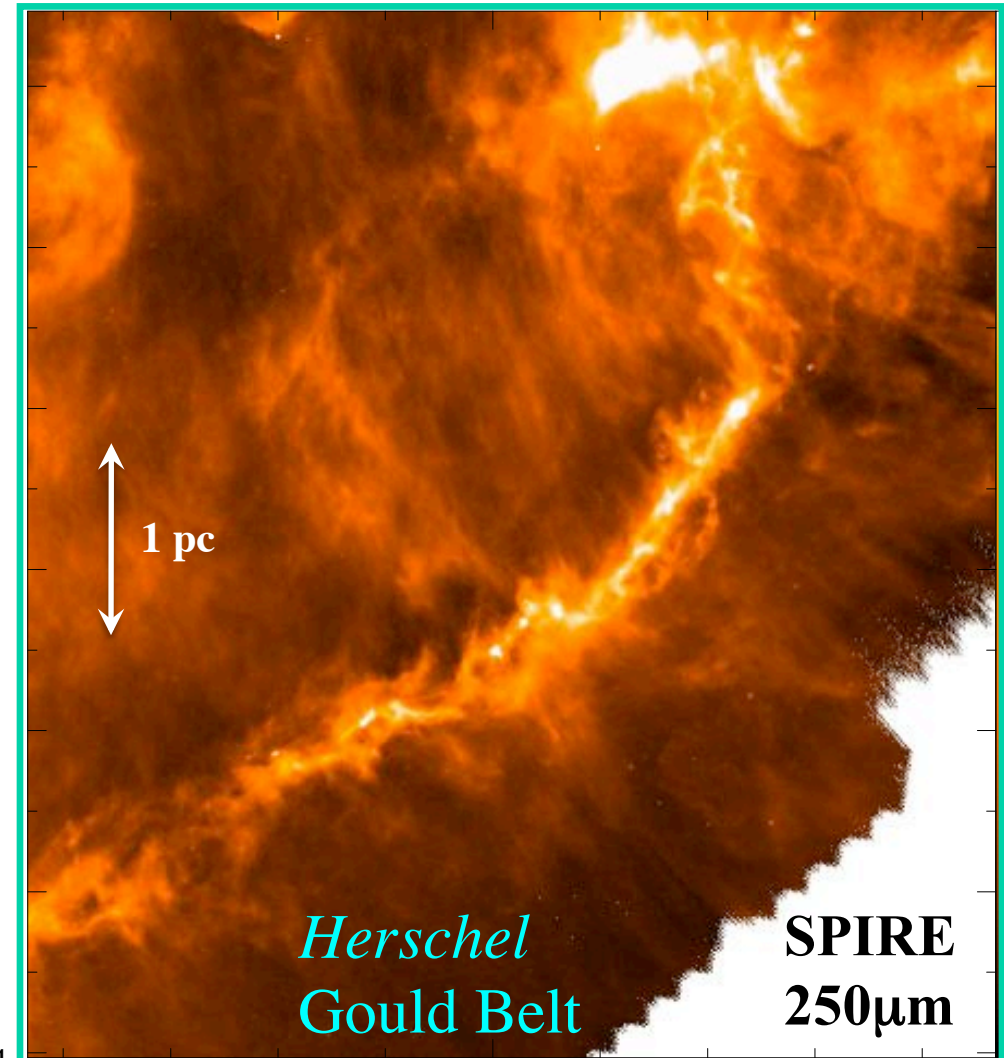
# Evidence of much fainter filaments + high degree of universality with *Herschel*



**Musca filament:**  
**M/L  $\sim 30 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}$**   
**N. Cox et al in prep.**

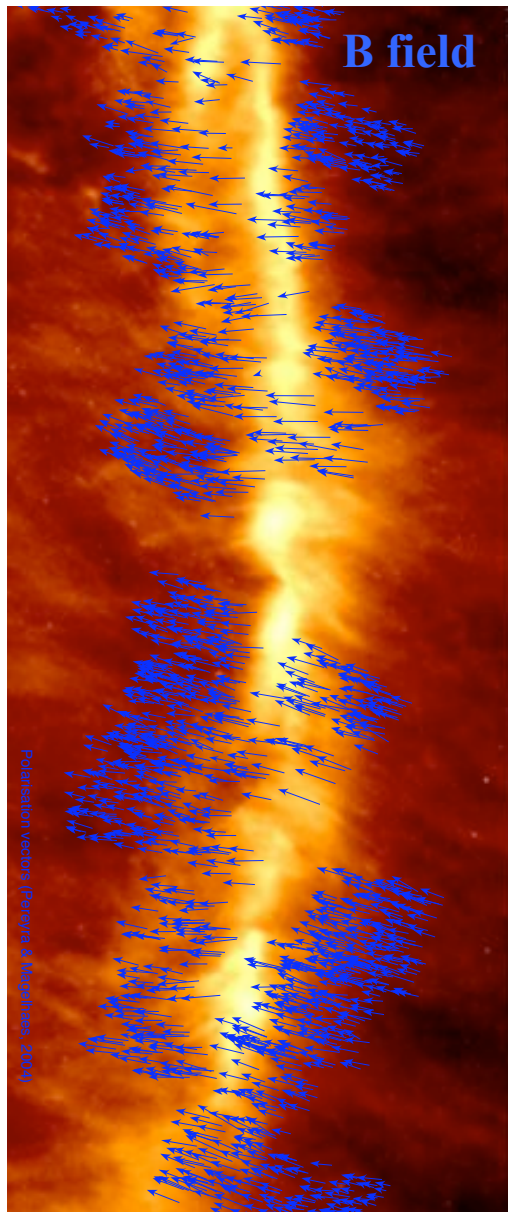


**Taurus B211 filament: M/L  $\sim 50 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}$**   
**P. Palmeirim et al. 2013**





# Evidence of much fainter filaments + high degree of universality with *Herschel*



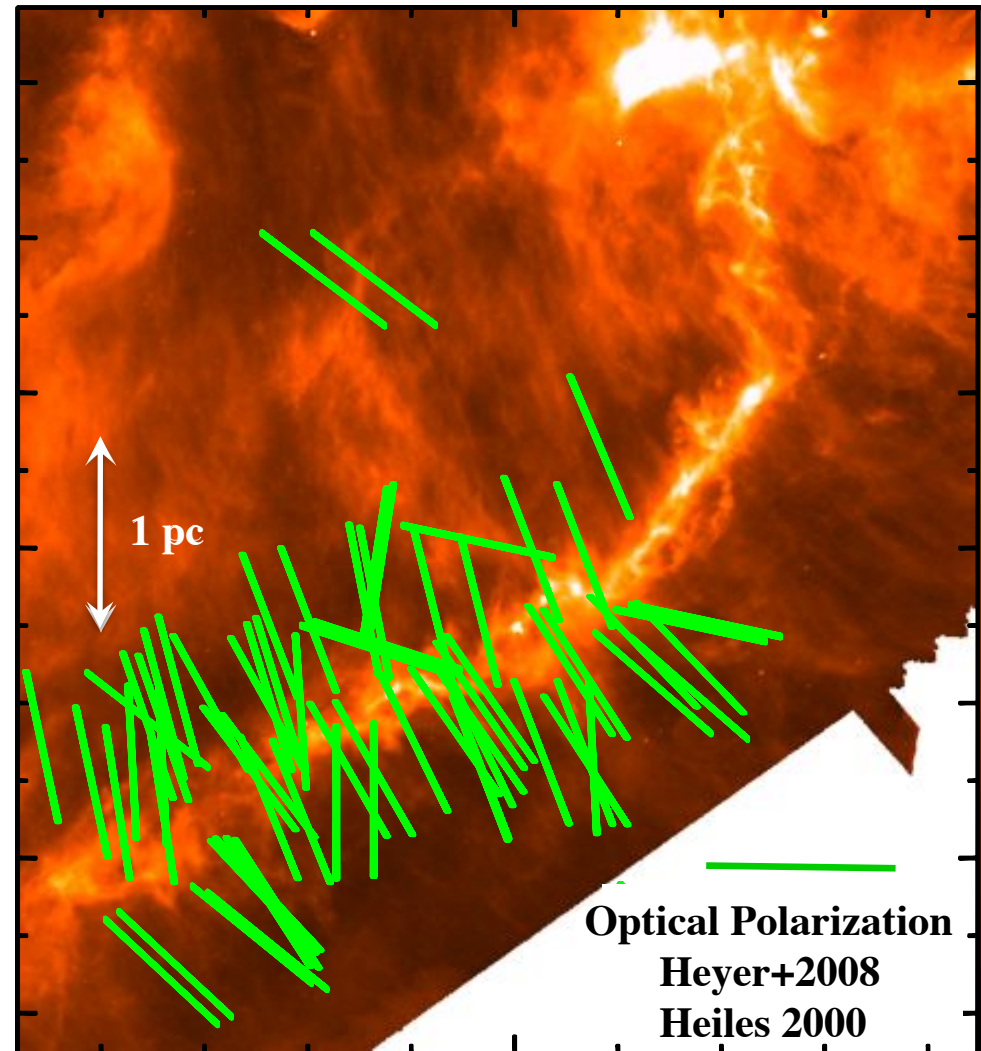
Musca filament:  
M/L  $\sim 30 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}$   
N. Cox et al in prep.



Polarization  
vectors overlaid  
on *Herschel* images

Pereyra &  
Magelhaes 2004

Taurus B211 filament: M/L  $\sim 50 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}$   
P. Palmeirim et al. 2013

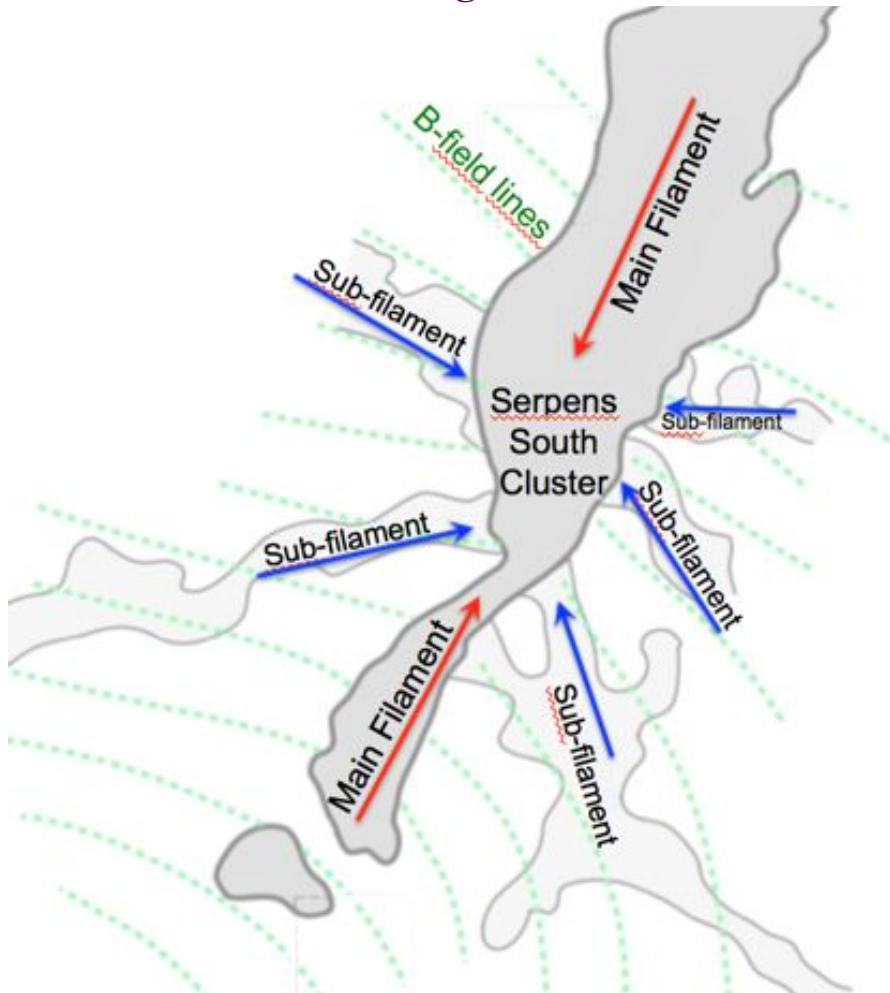




# Very common pattern: main filament or “ridge” + network of perpendicular striations or “sub-filaments”

Serpens-South filament: **➤ Suggestive of accretion flows into the main filaments**  
M/L ~ 250 M<sub>⊙</sub>/pc

Sugitani+2011, H. Kirk+2013

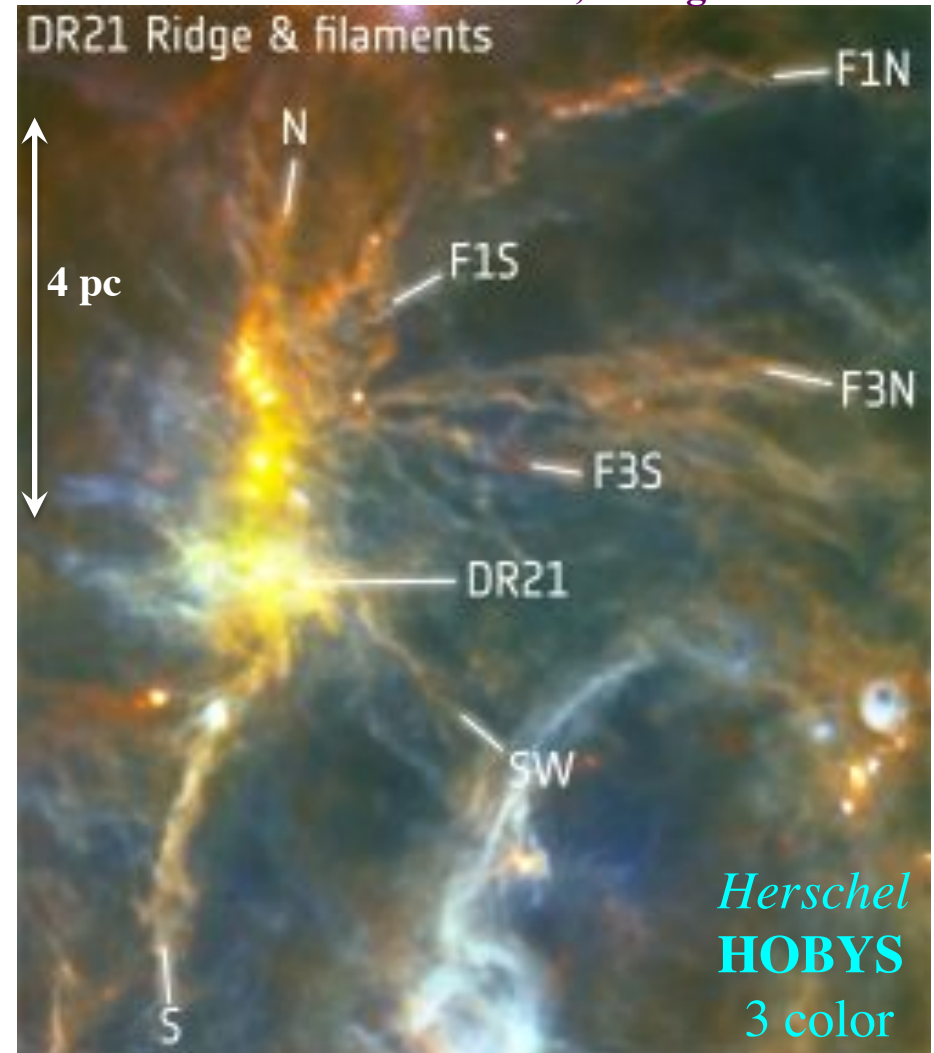


DR21 in Cygnus X:

M/L ~ 4000 M<sub>⊙</sub>/pc

Hennemann, Motte et al. 2012

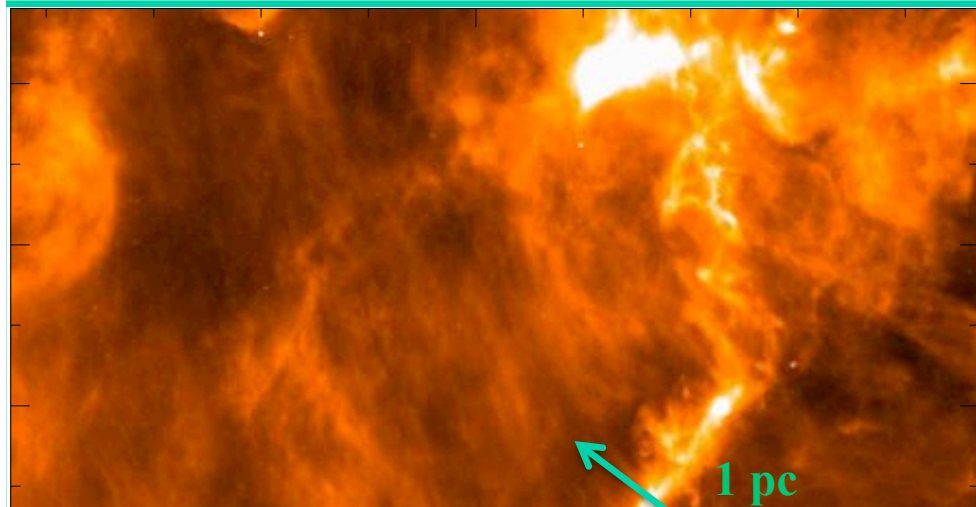
Also Schneider+2010, Csengeri+2011



# Resolving the structure of filaments with *Herschel*

Taurus B211/3 filament  
SPIRE 250 $\mu$ m

Arzoumanian+2011  
Palmeirim+2013



Plummer-like density profile ( $p = 2$ ):

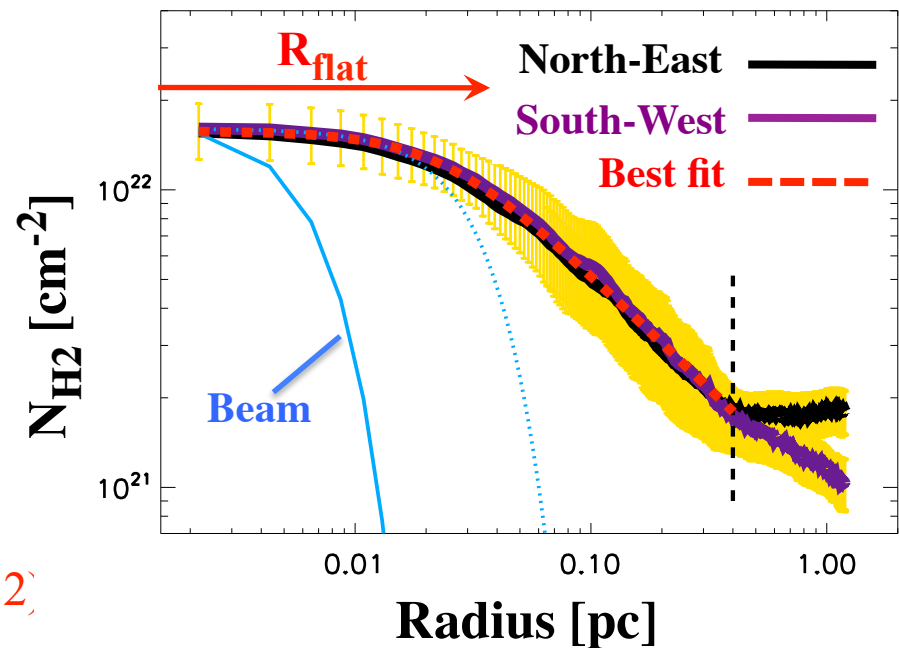
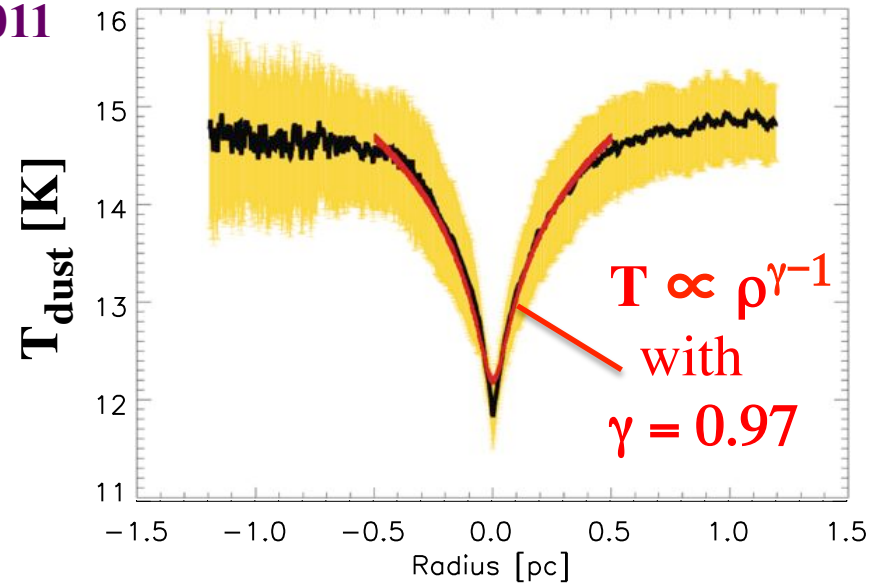
$$\rho(r) = \rho_c / [1 + (r/R_{\text{flat}})^2]$$

Diameter of flat inner plateau:

$$2R_{\text{flat}} \sim 0.1 \text{ pc}$$

Depth along  $l_{\text{os}} \sim 0.1 \text{ pc}$  (D. Li & Goldsmith '12)

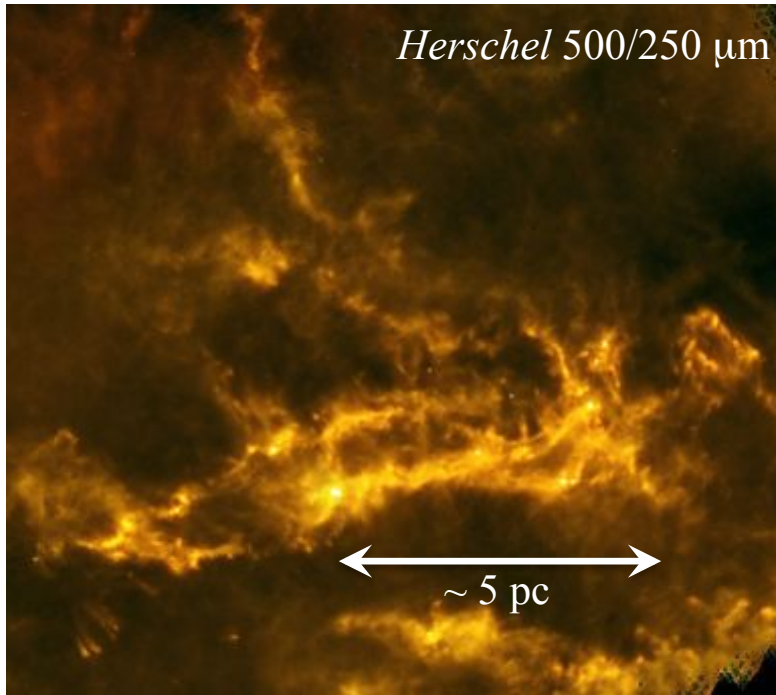
Ph. André – Filaments Workshop – Charlottesville – 10 Oct 2014



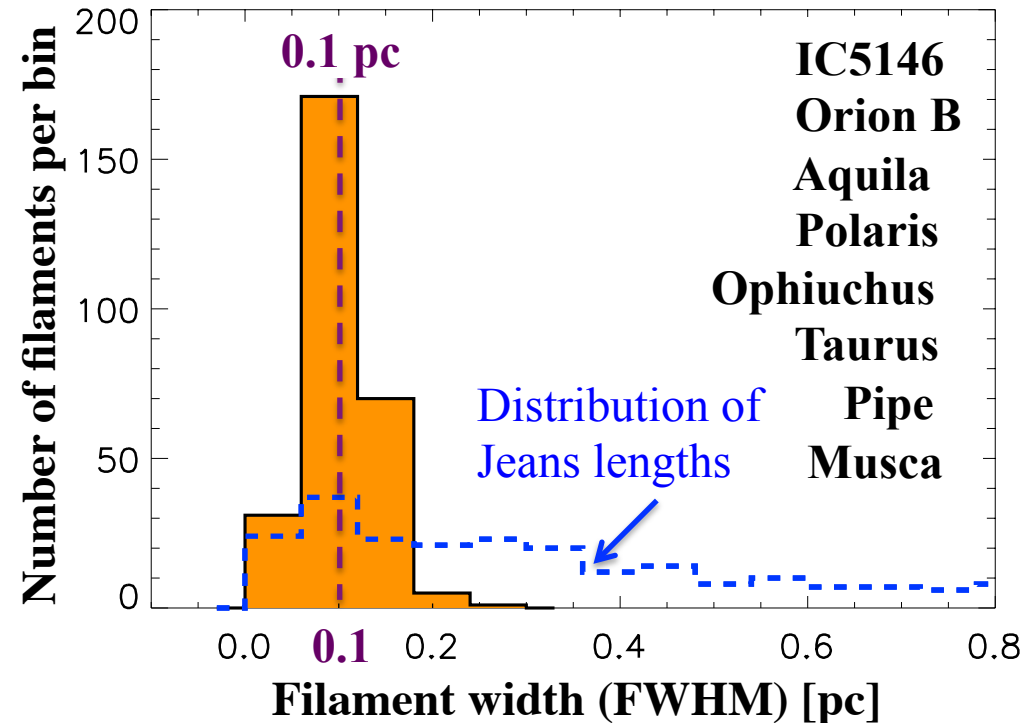


# Filaments have a characteristic inner width $\sim 0.1$ pc

## Network of filaments in IC5146



## Statistical distribution of widths for $> 270$ nearby filaments

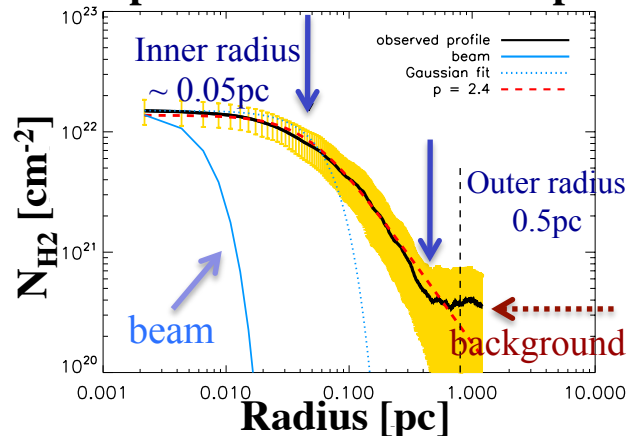


**D. Arzoumanian et al. 2011 + PhD thesis**

[see also Alves de Oliveira+2014 for Chamaeleon;  
Some variations along each filament: Ysard+2014]

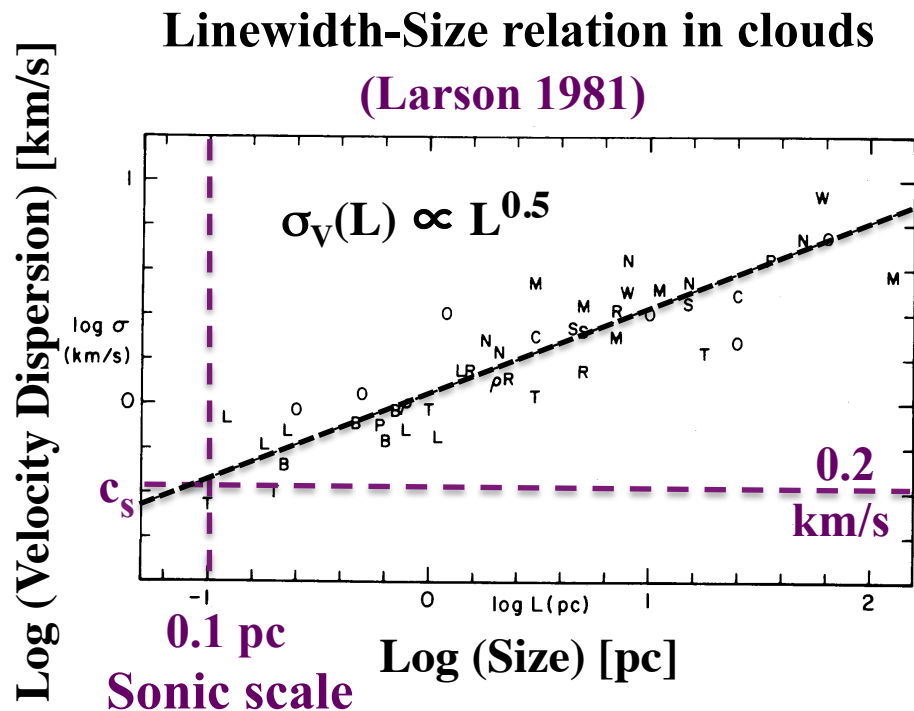
**➤ Strong constraint on the formation and evolution of filaments**

## Example of a filament radial profile

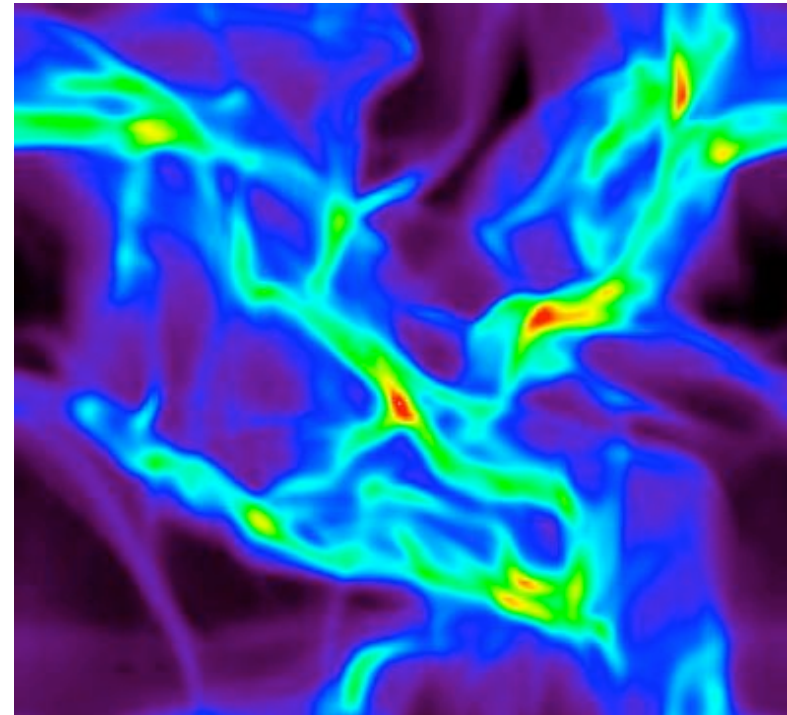


# Filaments due to large-scale supersonic turbulence ?

Filament width  $\sim 0.1$  pc:  $\sim$  sonic scale of interstellar turbulence ?



Simulations of turbulent fragmentation



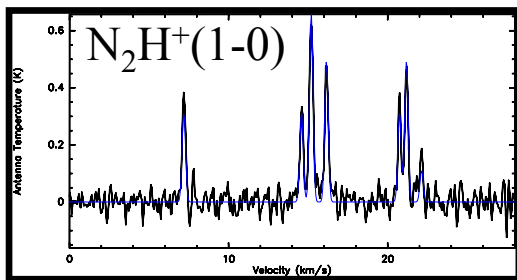
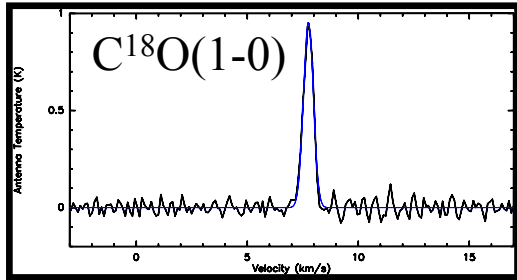
Padoan, Juvela et al. 2001

- Corresponds to the typical thickness  $\lambda$  of shock-compressed layers in HD
- Filaments from a combination of MHD turbulent compression *and* shear; width set by the dissipation scale of MHD waves ? (Hennebelle 2013)

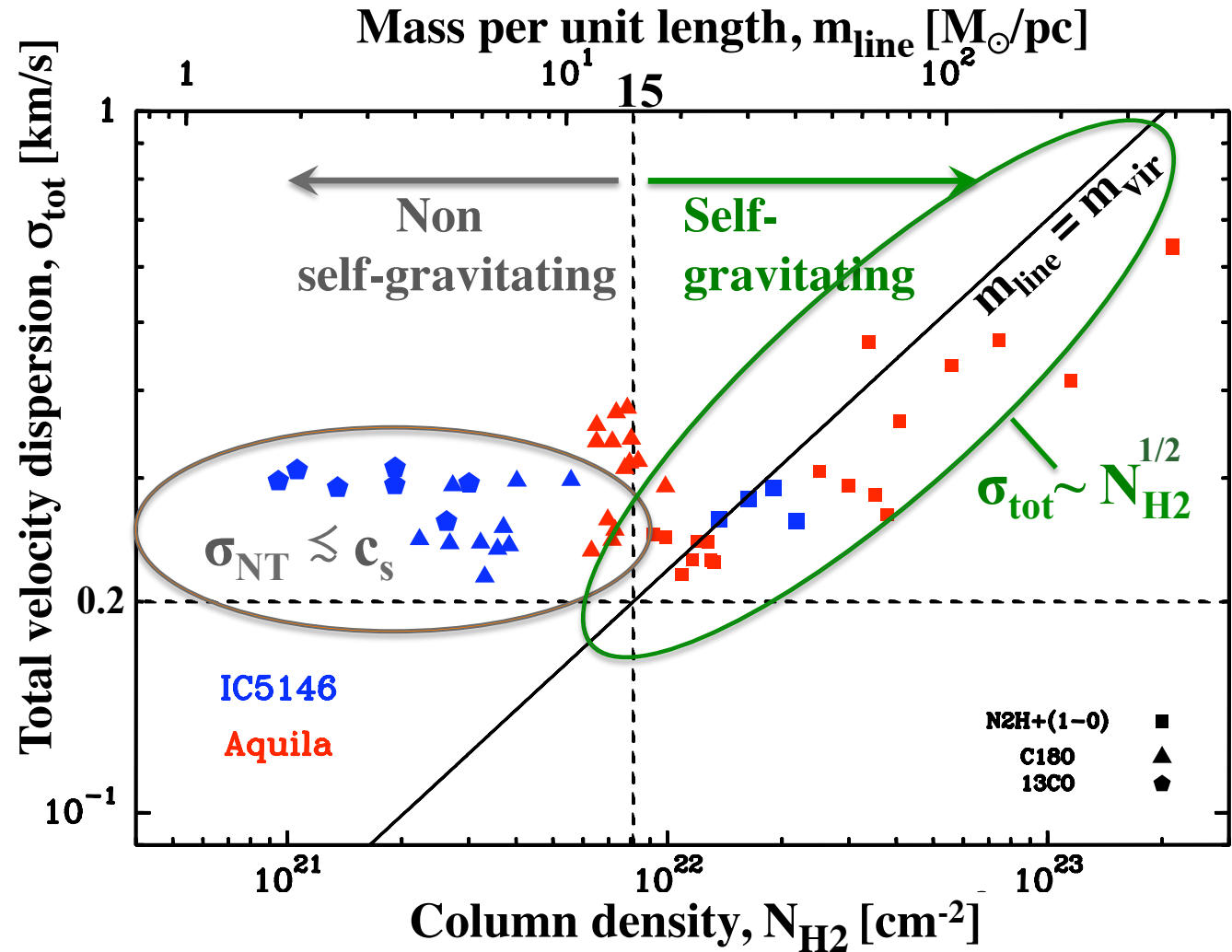


# Velocity dispersion of filaments vs. column density

IRAM 30m C<sup>18</sup>O,  
N<sub>2</sub>H<sup>+</sup> observations



Arzoumanian et al. 2013



Low-density filaments have subsonic levels of internal turbulence:  $\sigma_{\text{turb}} < c_s$  (Hacar & Tafalla 2011; Arzoumanian et al. 2013)

$\sim 75^{+15}_{-5}$  % of prestellar cores form in filaments,  
 above a column density threshold  $N_{\text{H}_2} \gtrsim 7 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

Aquila curvelet  $N_{\text{H}_2}$  map ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )

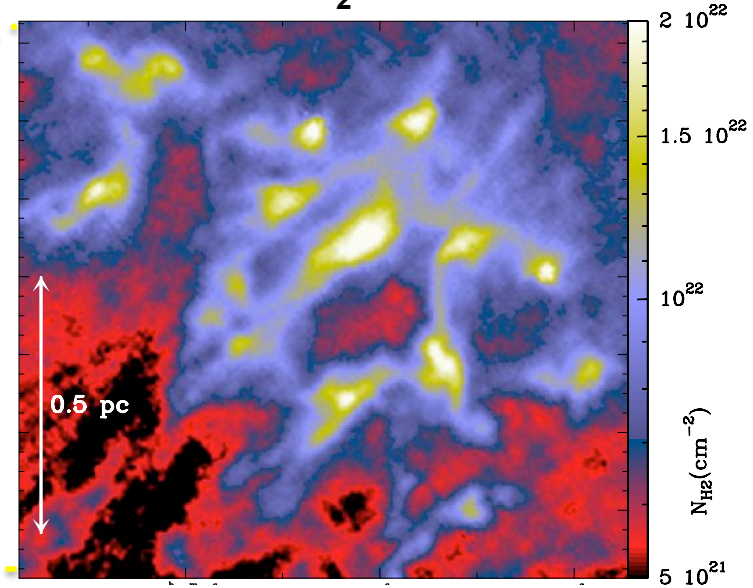
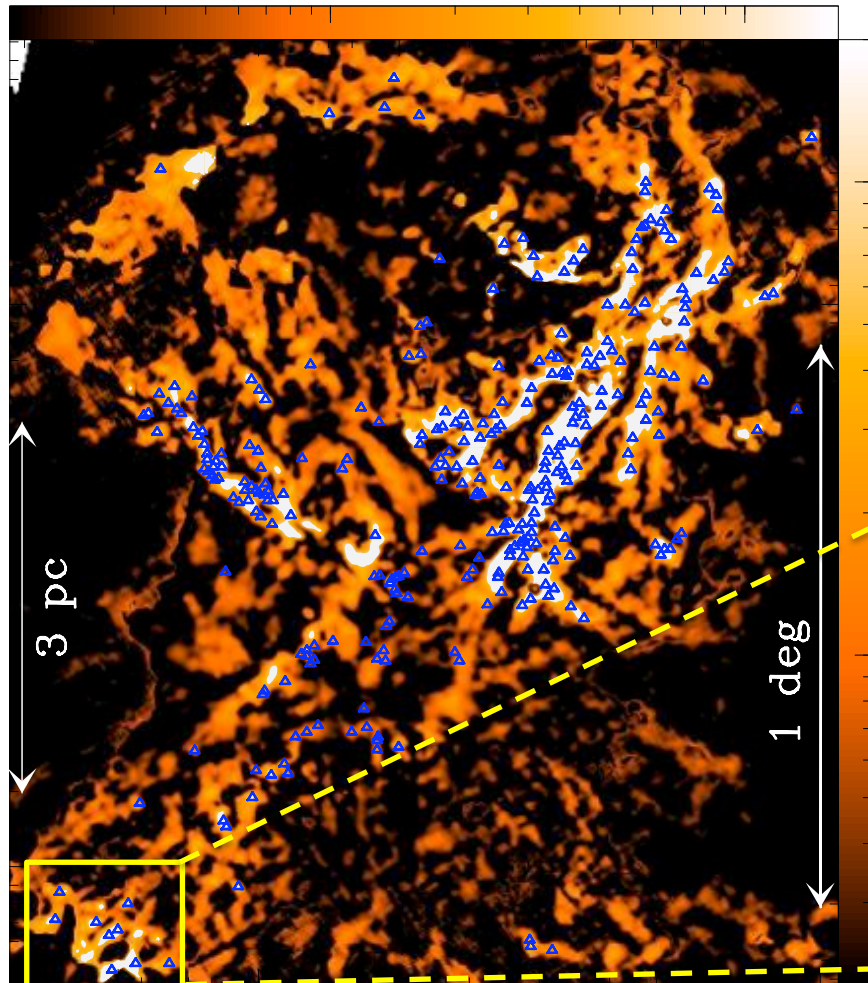
$\Leftrightarrow$

$A_V \gtrsim 7$

$\Sigma_{\text{threshold}} \sim 150 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}^2$

Examples of *Herschel* prestellar cores ( $\Delta$ )

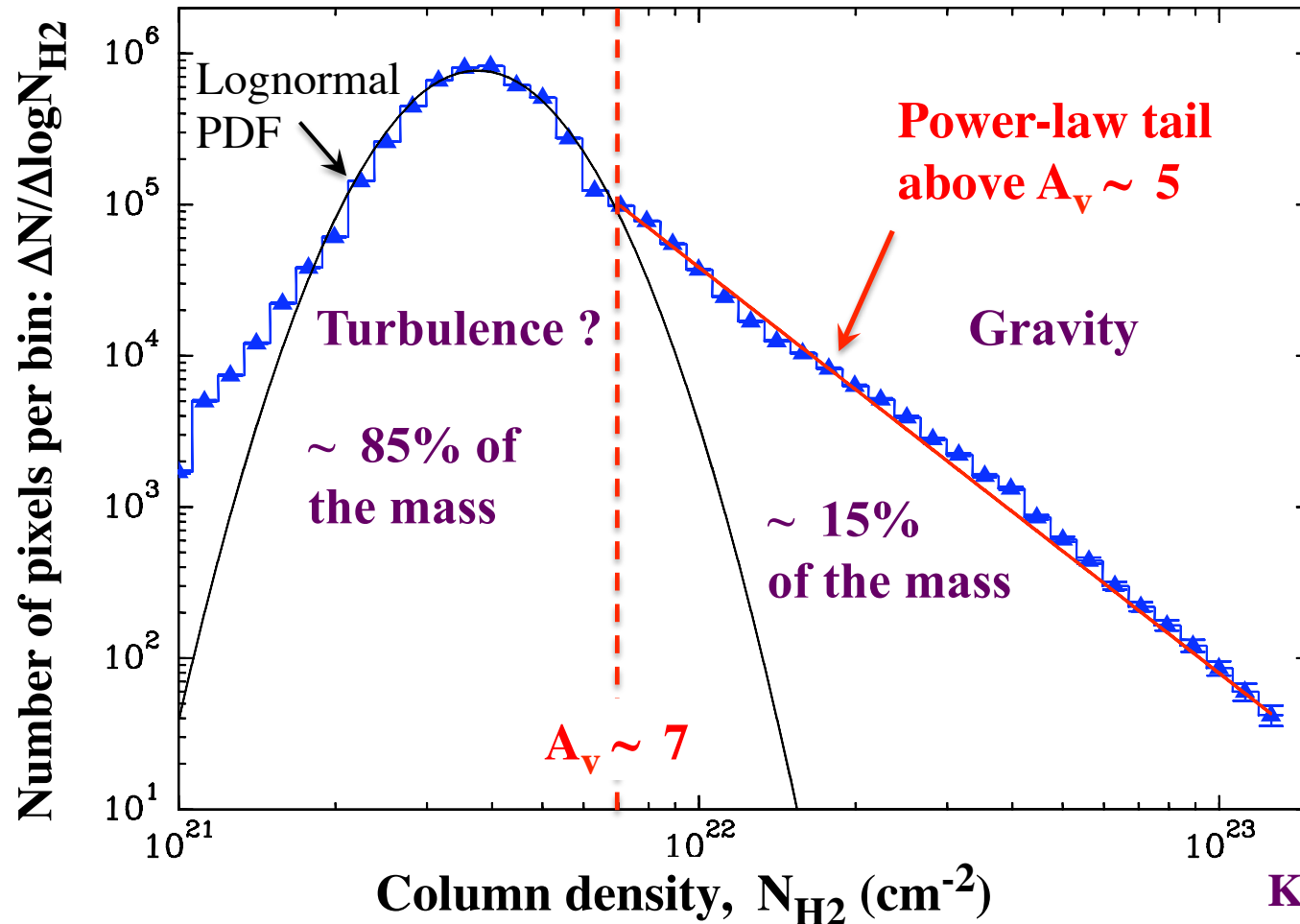
Blow-up  $N_{\text{H}_2}$  map ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )





# Mass budget in the Aquila cloud complex

## Column Density Probability Density Function for Aquila

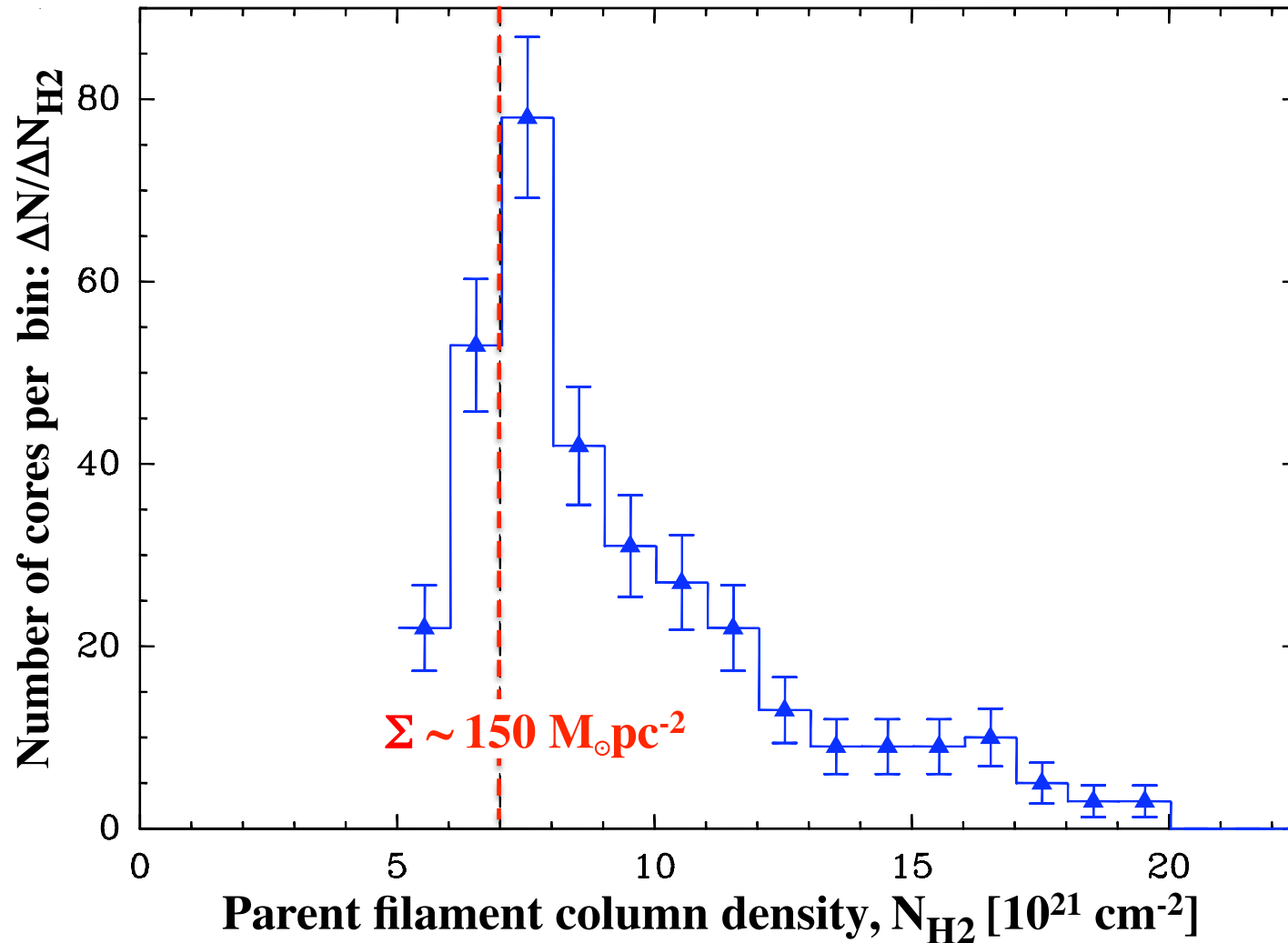


(See Schneider+2013 and Schneider+2014 for other, similar column density PDFs from *Herschel*)

- Below  $A_v \sim 7$ :  $\sim 20\%$  of the mass in the form of filaments,  $< 1\%$  in prestellar cores
- Above  $A_v \sim 7$ :  $> 50\%$  of the mass in the form of filaments,  $\sim 15\%$  in prestellar cores

# Strong evidence of a column density “threshold” for the formation of prestellar cores

Distribution of background column densities  
for the Aquila prestellar cores



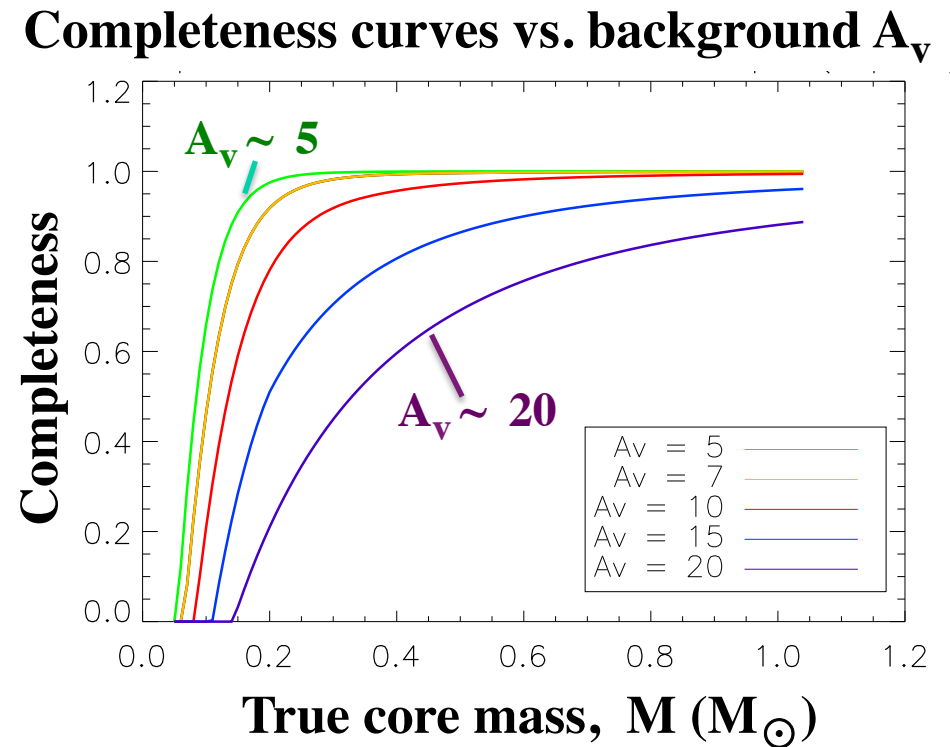
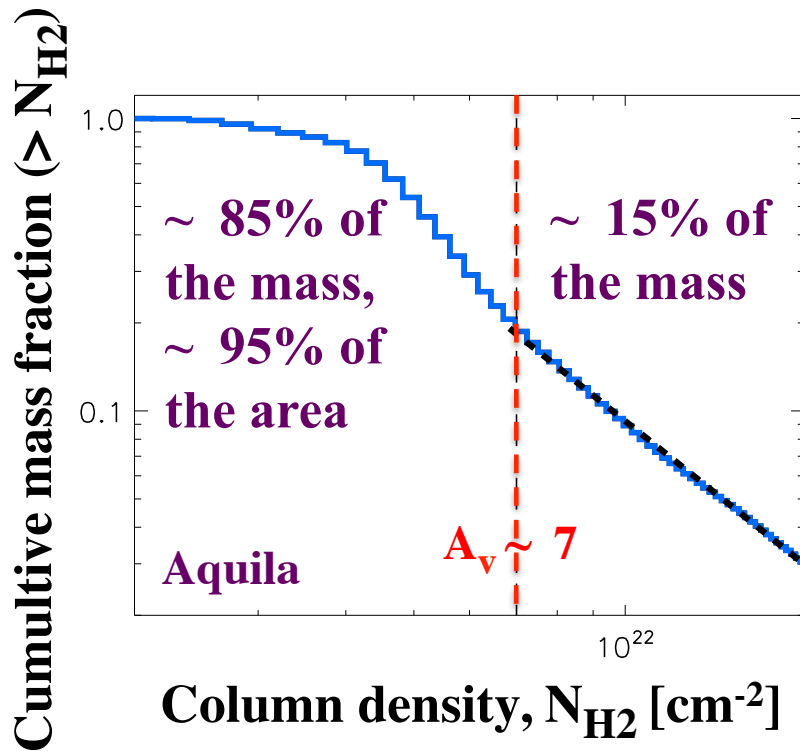
In Aquila,  $\sim 90\%$   
of the prestellar  
cores identified  
with *Herschel*  
are found above  
 $A_V \sim 7 \Leftrightarrow$   
 $\Sigma \sim 150 M_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2}$

Könyves et al. in prep  
André+2014 PPVI

See also:  
Onishi+1998  
Johnstone+2004



# Distribution of mass in the parent cloud and background-dependent completeness imply that this threshold is very significant !



Könyves et al. in prep

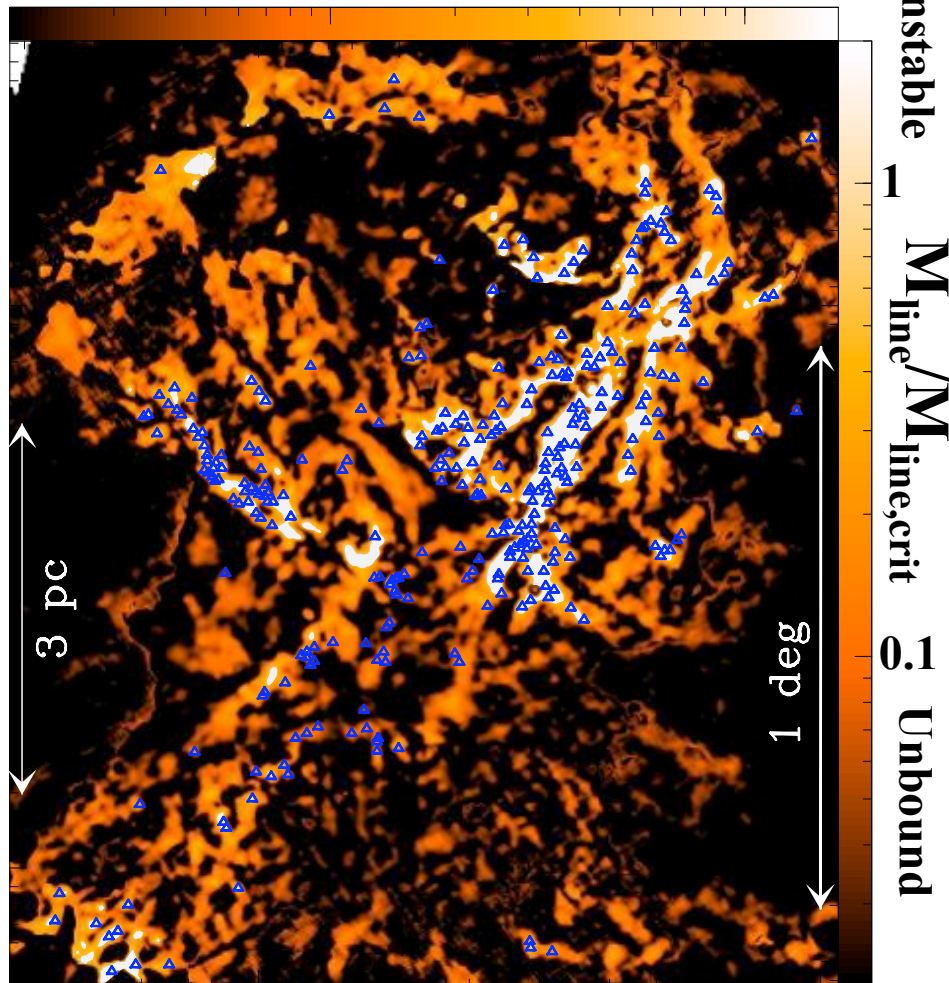
(See also Lada+2010 for similar mass fraction plots based on extinction)

Completeness ↓ when  $A_v$  ↑ because “cirrus noise” fluctuations ↑ (cf. Gautier et al. 1992)

# Interpretation of the threshold: $\Sigma$ or M/L above which interstellar filaments are gravitationally unstable

$\Delta$  : Prestellar cores

Aquila curvlet  $N_{H_2}$  map ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )



André et al. 2010

➤ Filaments are expected to be:

- gravitationally unstable if  $M_{\text{line}} > M_{\text{line, crit}}$

- **unbound** if  $M_{\text{line}} < M_{\text{line, crit}}$

- $M_{\text{line, crit}} = 2 c_s^2 / G \sim 16 M_{\odot} / \text{pc}$  for  $T \sim 10\text{K}$

⇔  $\Sigma$  threshold  $\sim 160 M_{\odot} / \text{pc}^2$

⇔  $\rho$  threshold  $\sim 1600 M_{\odot} / \text{pc}^3$

➤ **Simple estimate:**

$M_{\text{line}} \propto N_{H_2} \times \text{Width} (\sim 0.1 \text{ pc})$

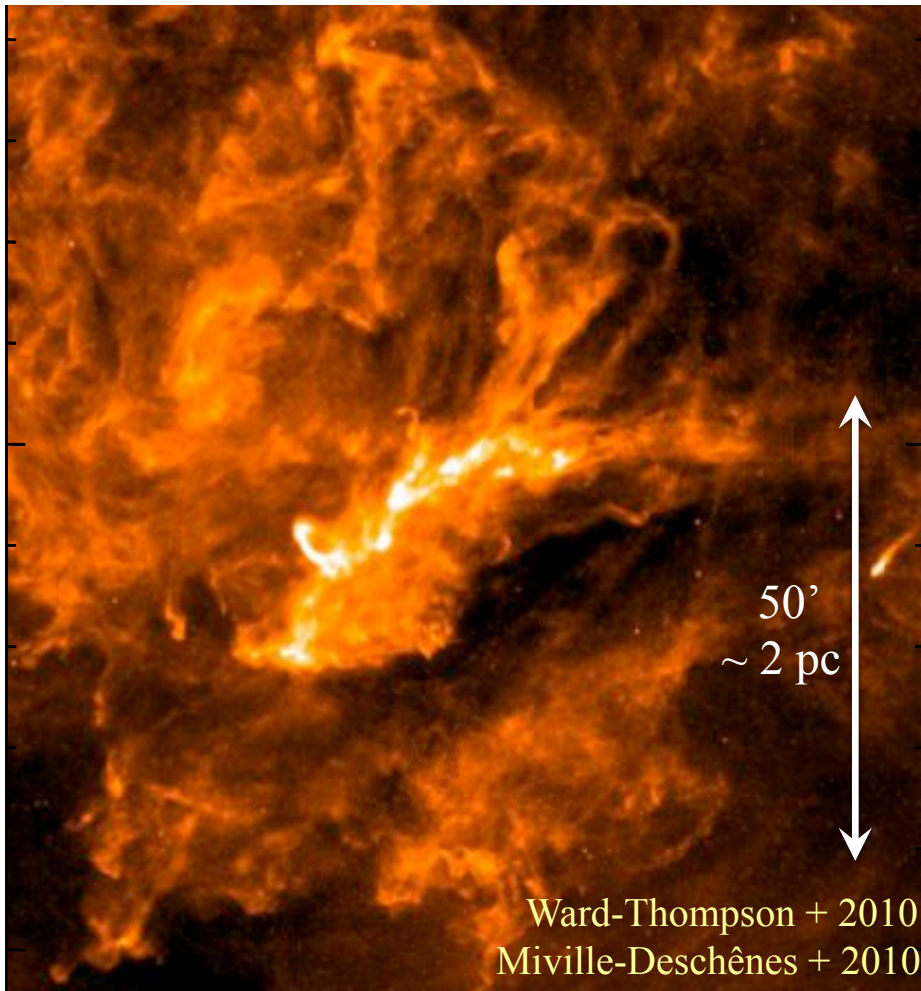
Unstable filaments highlighted in white in the  $N_{H_2}$  map of Aquila



# Toward a new paradigm for $\sim M_{\odot}$ star formation ?

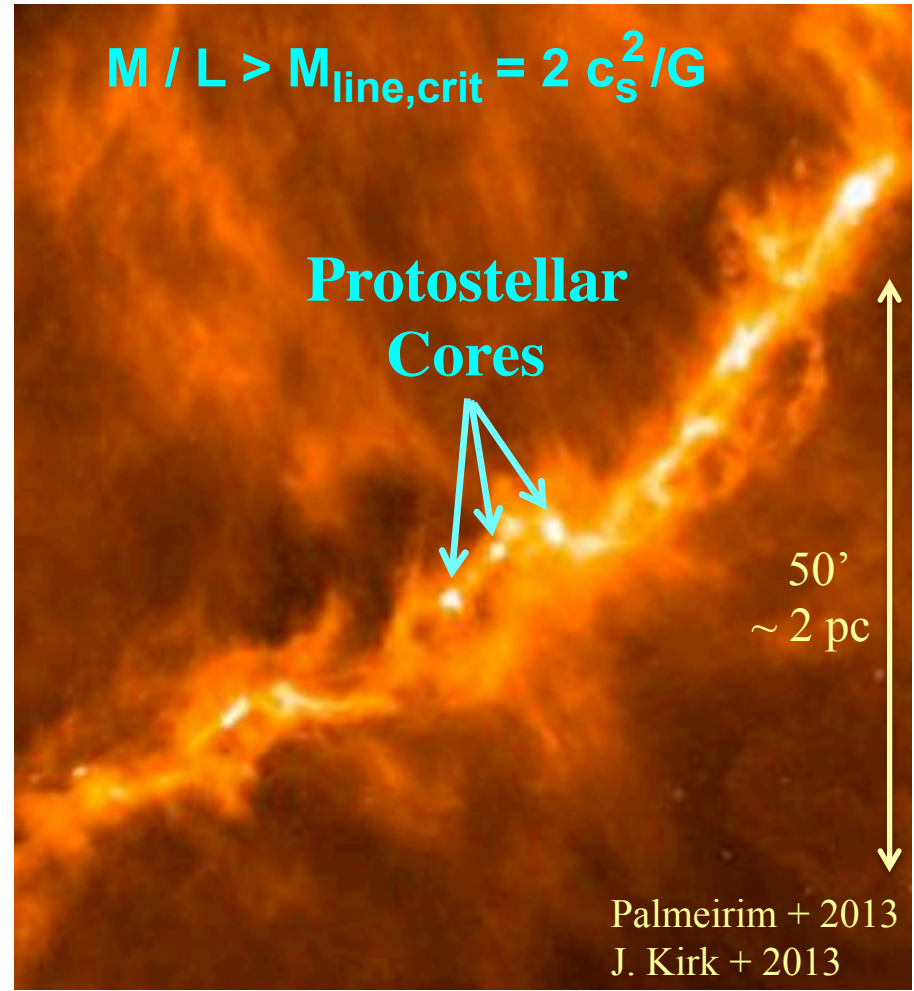
See PPVI chapter (André, Di Francesco, Ward-Thompson, Inutsuka, Pudritz, Pineda 2014 - astro-ph/1312.6232)

1) Large-scale MHD supersonic 'turbulence' generates filaments



**Polaris – *Herschel*/SPIRE 250  $\mu\text{m}$**

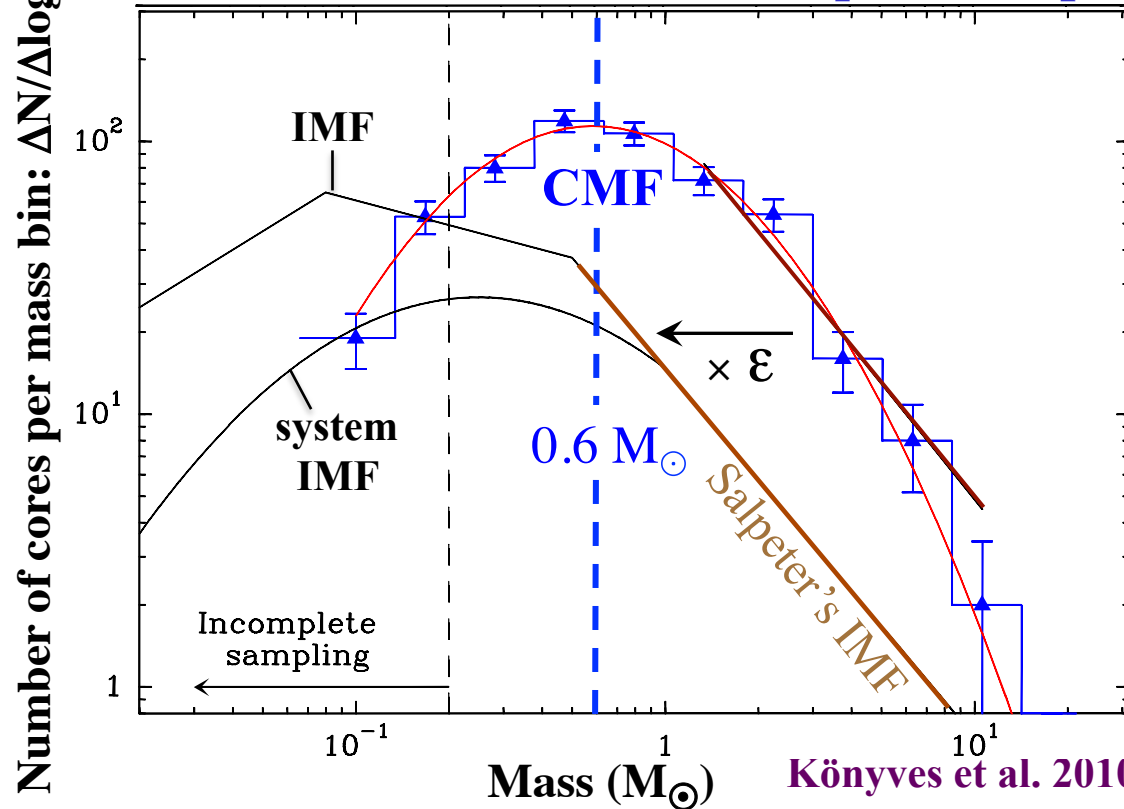
2) Gravity fragments the densest filaments into prestellar cores



**Taurus B211/3 – *Herschel* 250  $\mu\text{m}$**

# Filament fragmentation may account for the peak of the prestellar CMF and the “base” of the IMF

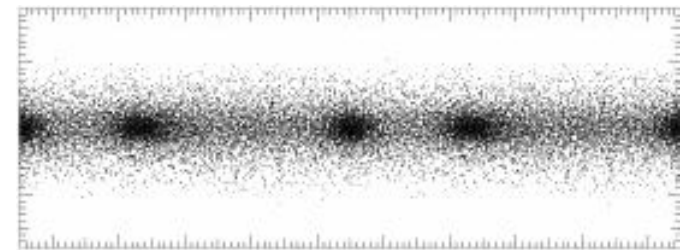
Core Mass Function (CMF) in Aquila Complex



Könyves et al. 2010 + in prep. ; André+2014 PPVI

**Jeans mass:**

$$M_{\text{Jeans}} \sim 0.5 M_{\odot} \times (T/10 \text{ K})^2 \times (\Sigma_{\text{crit}}/160 M_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2})^{-1}$$

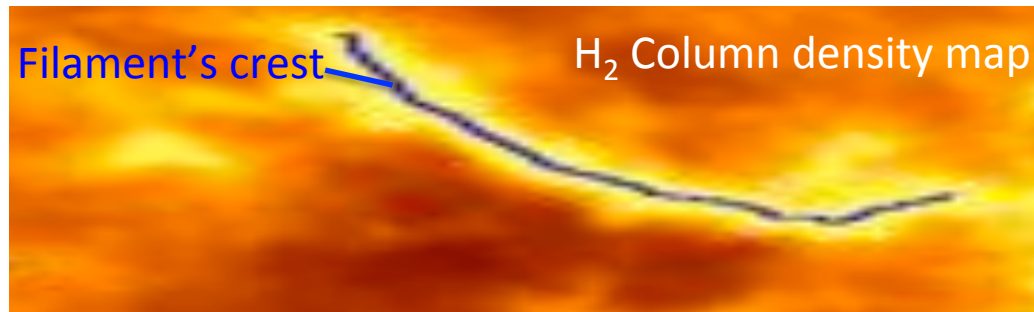


- **CMF peaks at  $\sim 0.6 M_{\odot} \approx$  Jeans mass in marginally critical filaments**
- **Close link of the prestellar CMF with the stellar IMF:  $M_{\star} \sim 0.3 \times M_{\text{core}}$**
- **Characteristic stellar mass may result from filament fragmentation**

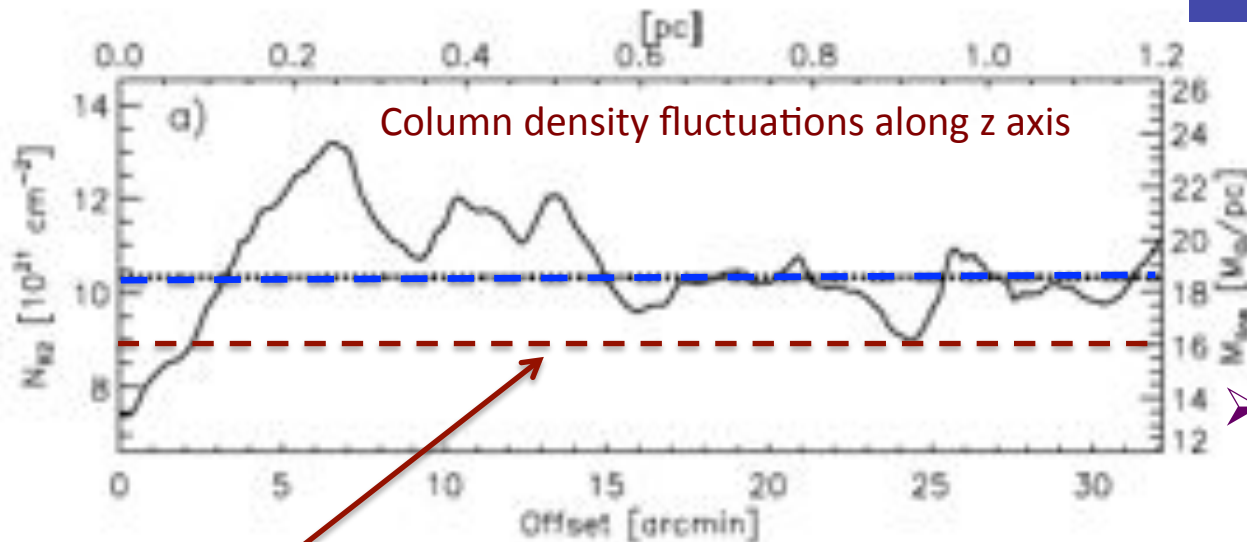


# Can filament fragmentation account for the Salpeter power-law of the IMF ?

Example of line mass fluctuations along the long axis of a marginally critical filament



Theoretical arguments (Inutsuka 2001) suggest that this is possible provided turbulence has generated the appropriate power spectrum of initial density fluctuations



Mean line mass  
≈ 18 M<sub>⊙</sub>/pc

➤ Statistical analysis of the line-mass fluctuations for a sample of 80 subcritical or marginally supercritical *Herschel* filaments

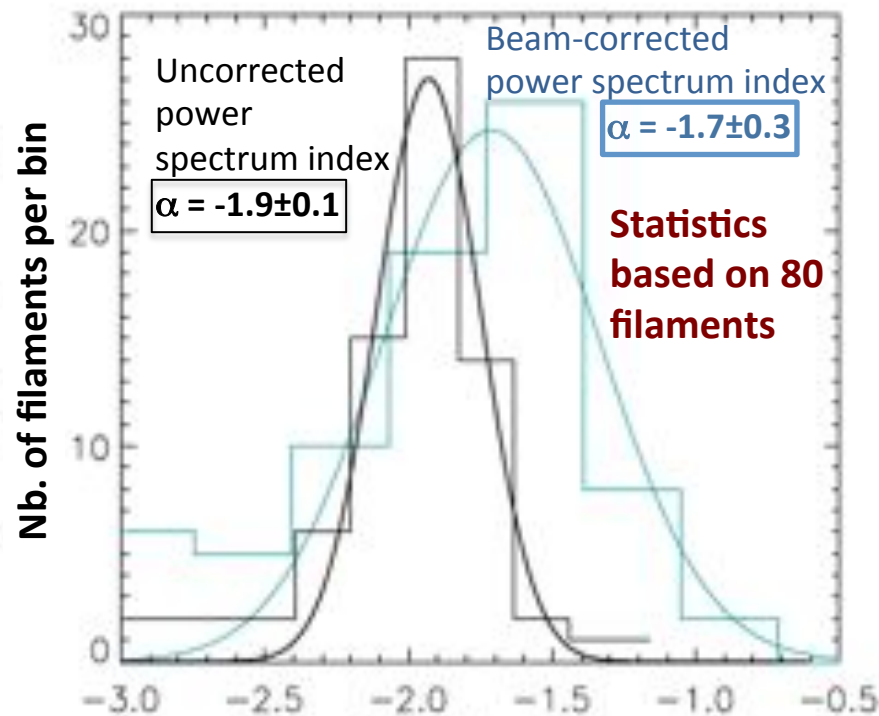
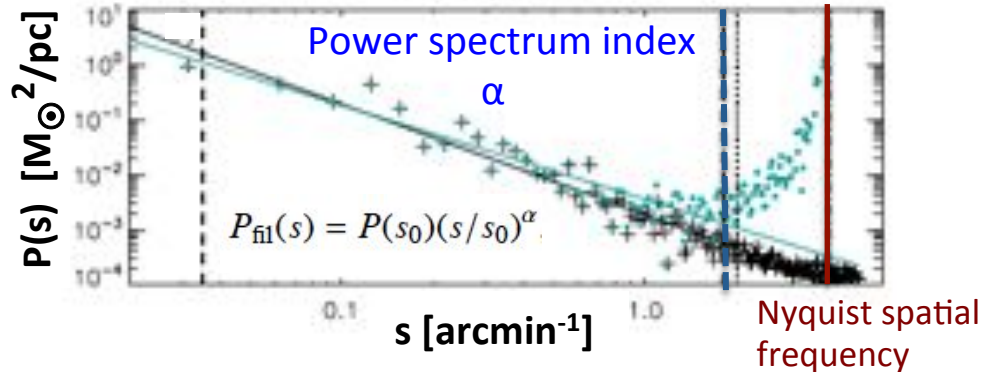
Critical line mass ~ 16 M<sub>⊙</sub>/pc for an isothermal cylinder at T = 10 K

Roy et al. 2014

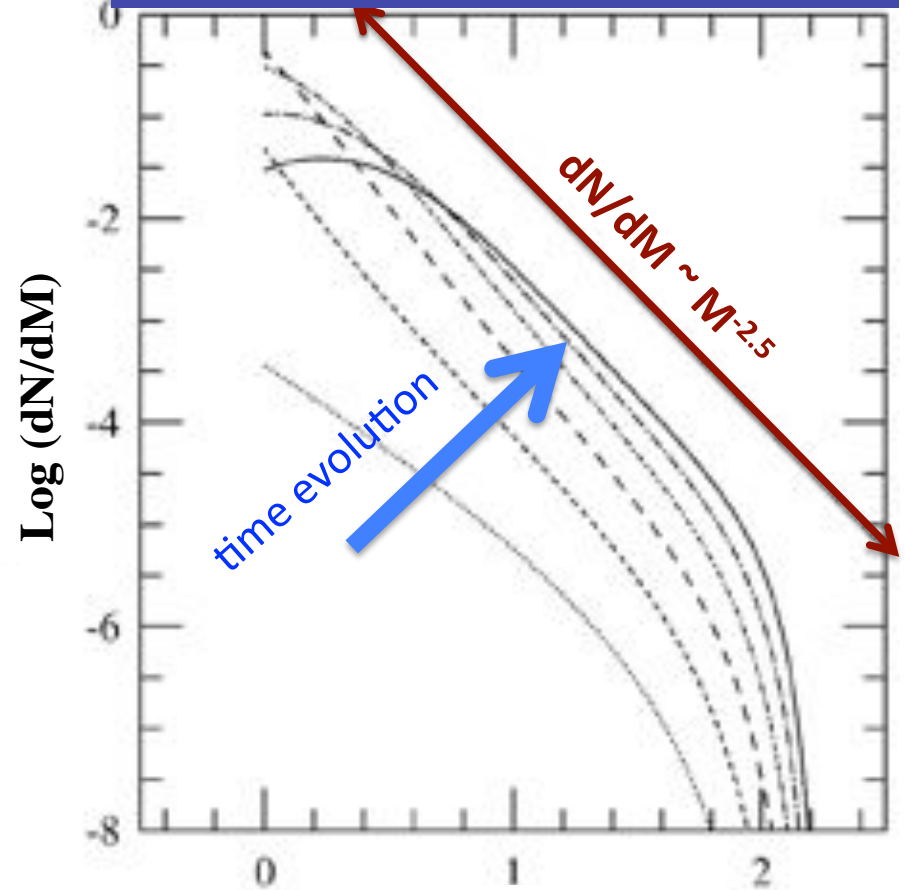
# Statistical properties of line-mass fluctuations

## Implication

### Power spectrum of line-mass fluctuations



Evolution toward a Salpeter-like core mass function when initial power spectrum index  $\alpha \sim -1.5$



**Log ( $M/M_{\text{min}}$ ) Inutsuka 2001**

Roy+2014

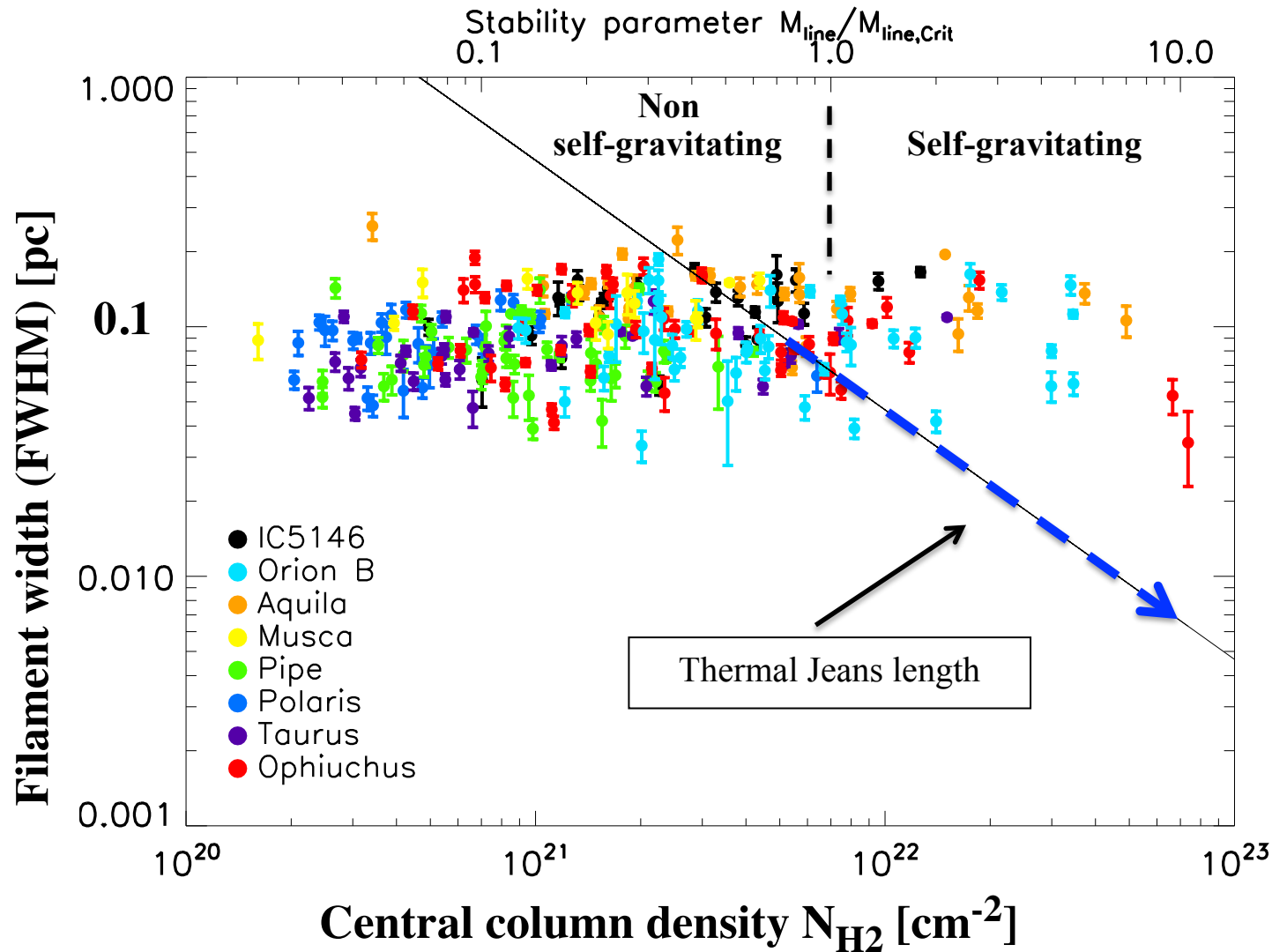
Power spectrum index,  $\alpha$



## Summary: A filamentary paradigm for star formation in GMCs ?

- Observational facts: Most SF occurs in dense gas above  $A_V \sim 7$ ;  
> 50% of this dense gas is in the form of filaments;  
> 75% of prestellar cores are within dense filaments.
- *Herschel* results suggest **star formation occurs in 2 main steps**:
  - 1)  $\sim 0.1$  pc-wide filaments form first in the cold ISM, probably as a result of the dissipation of large-scale **MHD turbulence**;
  - 2) The densest filaments grow and fragment into prestellar cores via **gravitational instability** above a critical (column) density threshold  
 $\Sigma_{\text{th}} \sim 150 M_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2} \Leftrightarrow A_V \sim 7 \Leftrightarrow n_{\text{H}_2} \sim 2 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Filament fragmentation appears to produce the peak of the prestellar CMF and may account for the « base » of the IMF, possibly more (?)

# Origin of the characteristic width of filaments ?

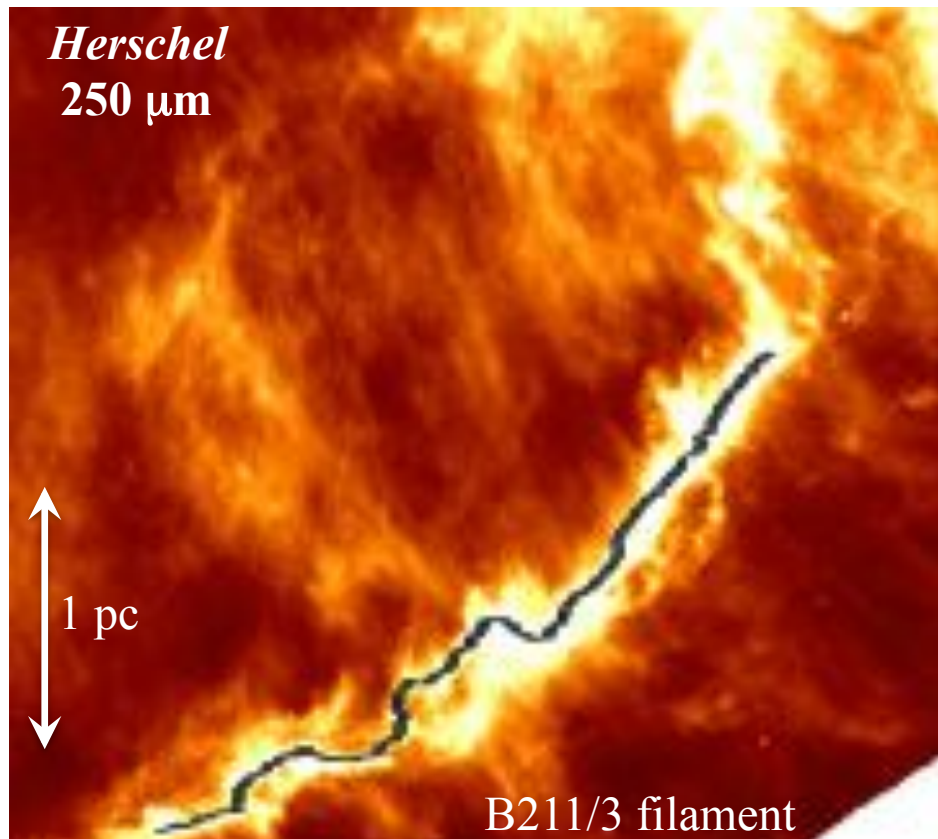


**Paradox:**  
Dense filaments  
should radially  
contract !

# Key: Evidence of accretion of background material (striations) onto self-gravitating filaments

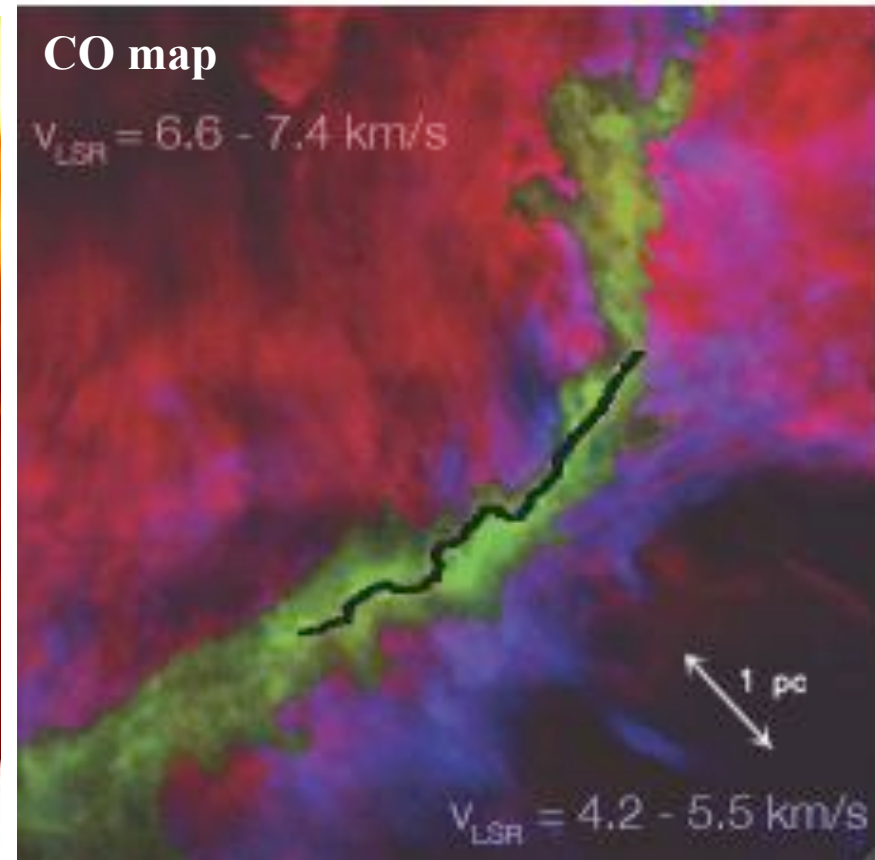
Example of the B211/3 filament in the Taurus cloud ( $M_{\text{line}} \sim 54 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}$ )

Palmeirim et al. 2013 (see also H. Kirk, Myers et al. 2013 for another example: Serpens-South)



Estimate of the mass accretion rate:

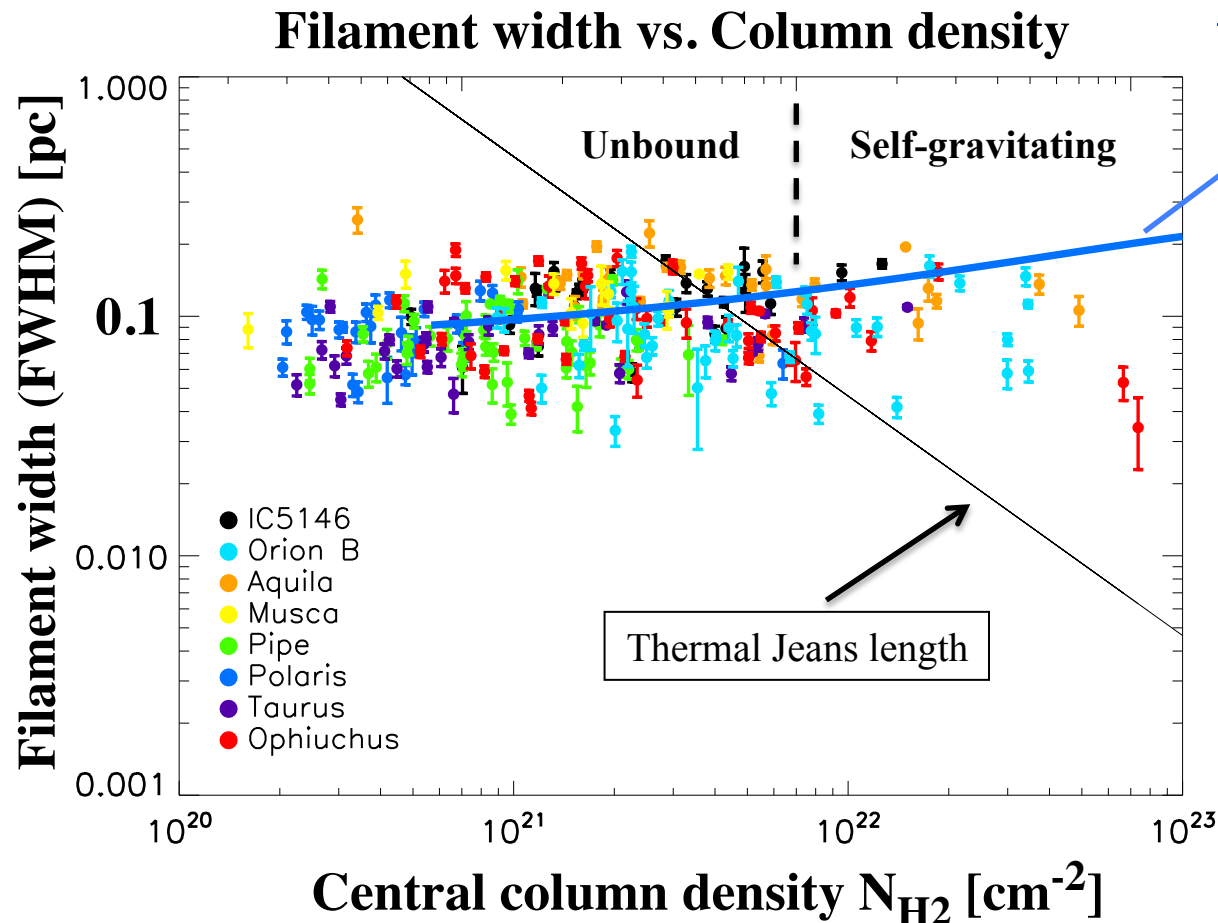
$$\dot{M}_{\text{line}} \sim 25\text{-}50 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}/\text{Myr}$$



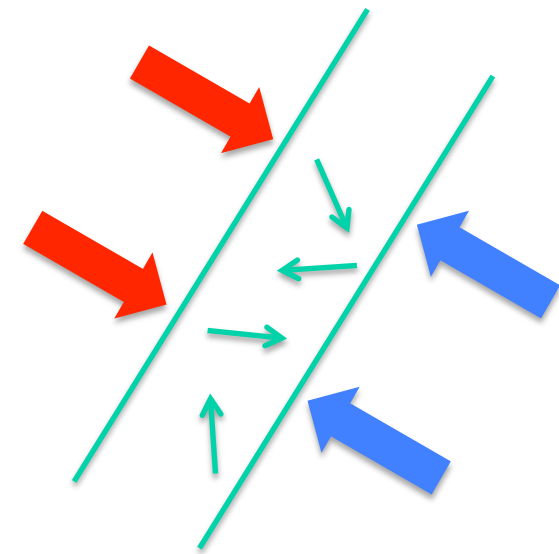
CO observations from Goldsmith et al. 2008



# Accretion-driven MHD turbulence can prevent the radial contraction of dense filaments



## Model of accreting filaments



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



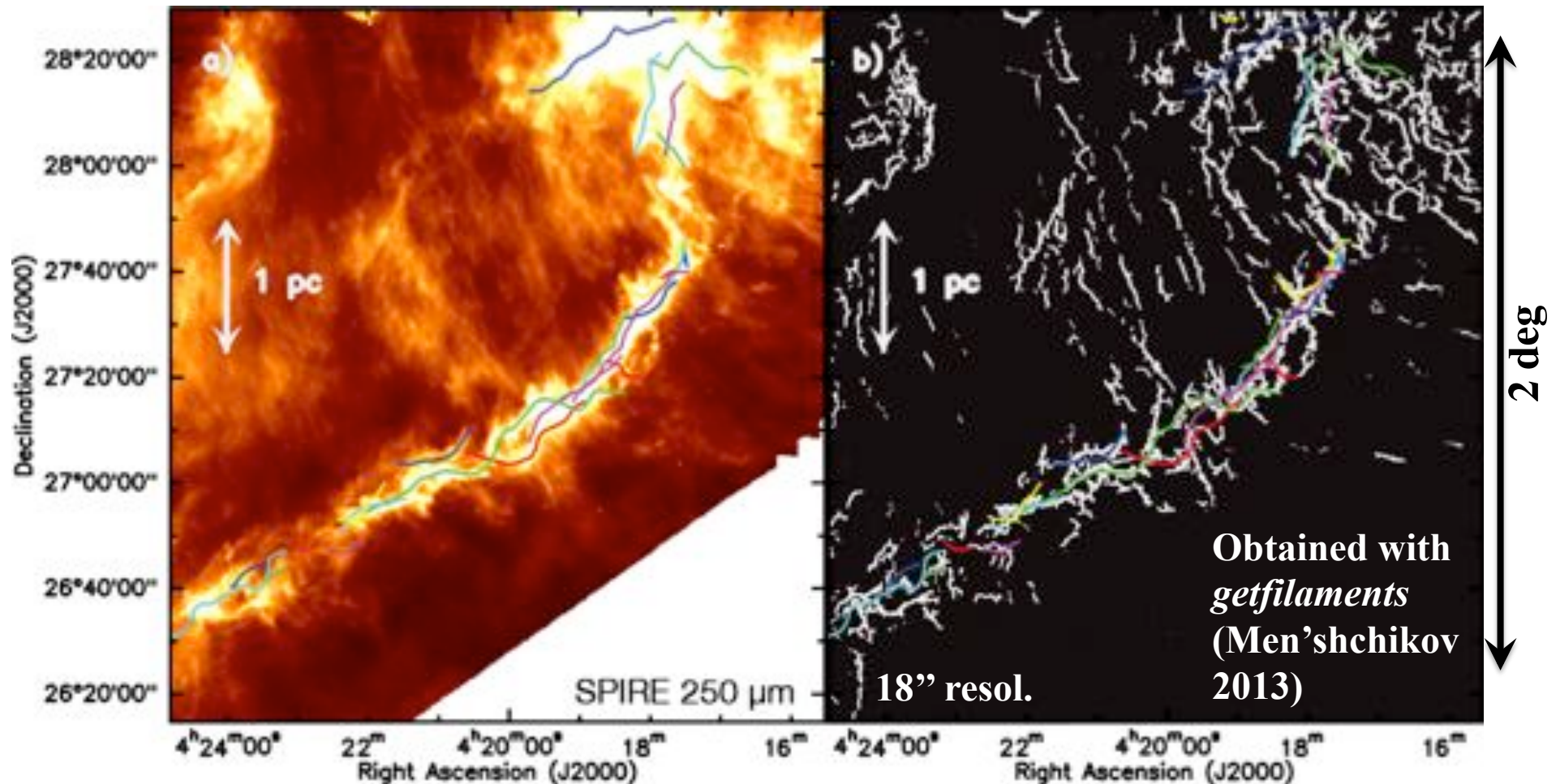
**« Dynamical » equilibrium with  $\langle \text{width} \rangle \sim 0.1 \text{ pc}$**

**D. Arzoumanian et al. 2011 + PhD thesis  
+ Hennebelle & André 2013 (see also Heitsch 2013)**

# 'Fibers': A possible manifestation of accretion-driven turbulence ?

Hacar et al. (2013)'s  $C^{18}O$  « fibers » overlaid on *Herschel* 250  $\mu m$  image (Palmeirim et al. 2013)

Filtered 250  $\mu m$  image showing the fine structure of the Taurus B211/3 filament





# ArTéMiS : A powerful tool to study massive star-forming filaments ('ridges') beyond the Gould Belt



**APEX**  
12m

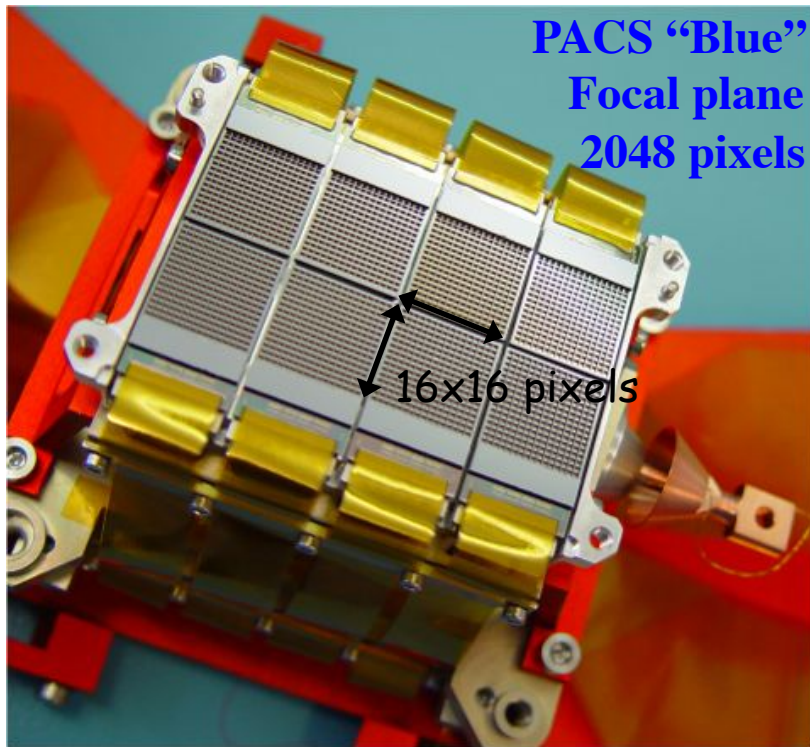
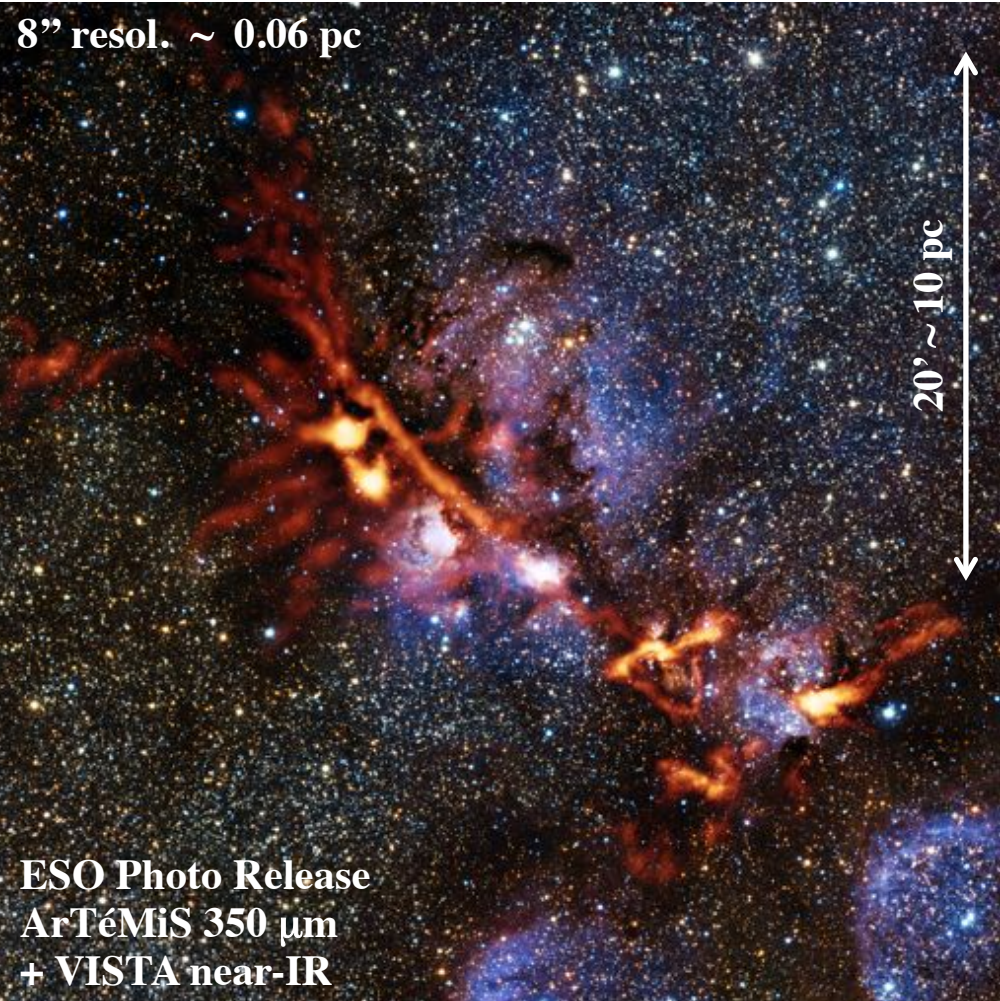
×3.4 higher resolution than SPIRE  
×3-(10) faster than SABOCA



OSO



First 350  $\mu\text{m}$  observations with ArTéMiS at APEX in July/Sep 2013 : NGC 6334 (d ~ 1.7 kpc)



**PACS "Blue"**  
Focal plane  
2048 pixels

16x16 pixels

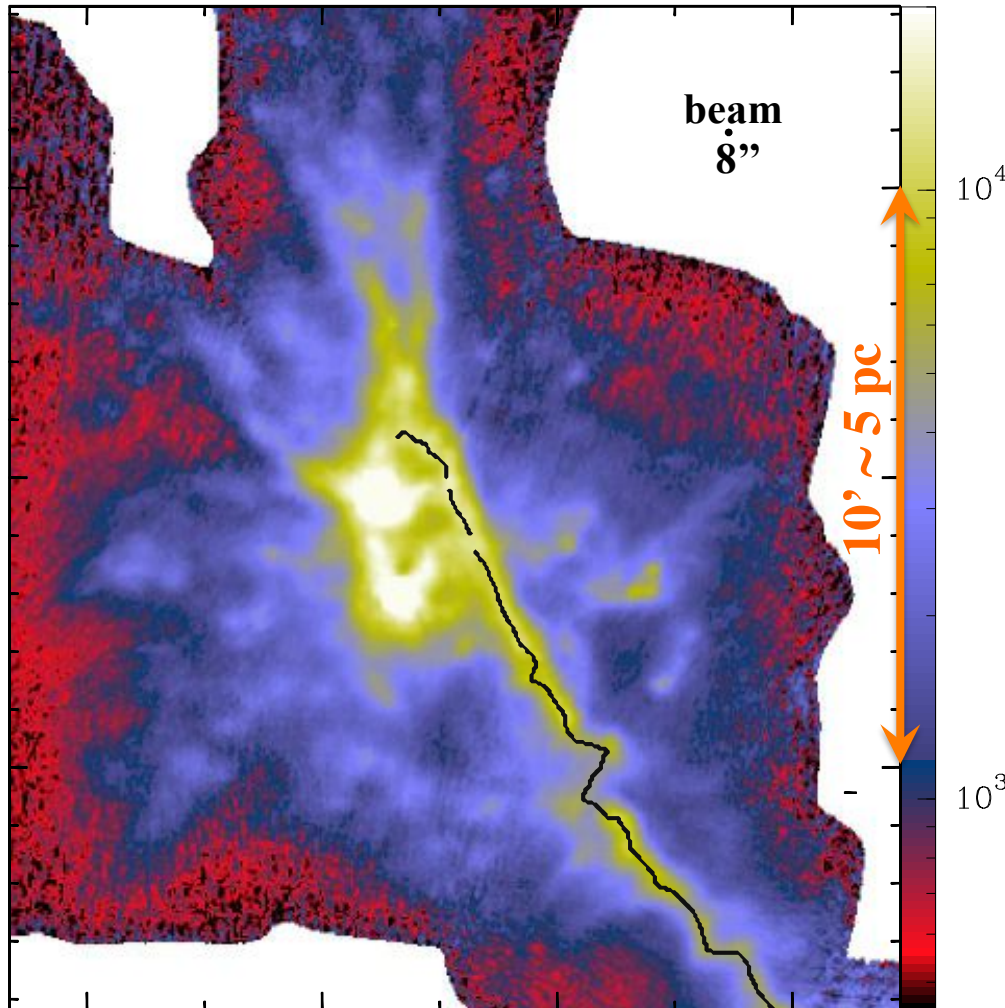
ArTéMiS : 2304 pixels @ 450  $\mu\text{m}$  }  
2304 pixels @ 350  $\mu\text{m}$  }

ESO Photo Release  
ArTéMiS 350  $\mu\text{m}$   
+ VISTA near-IR



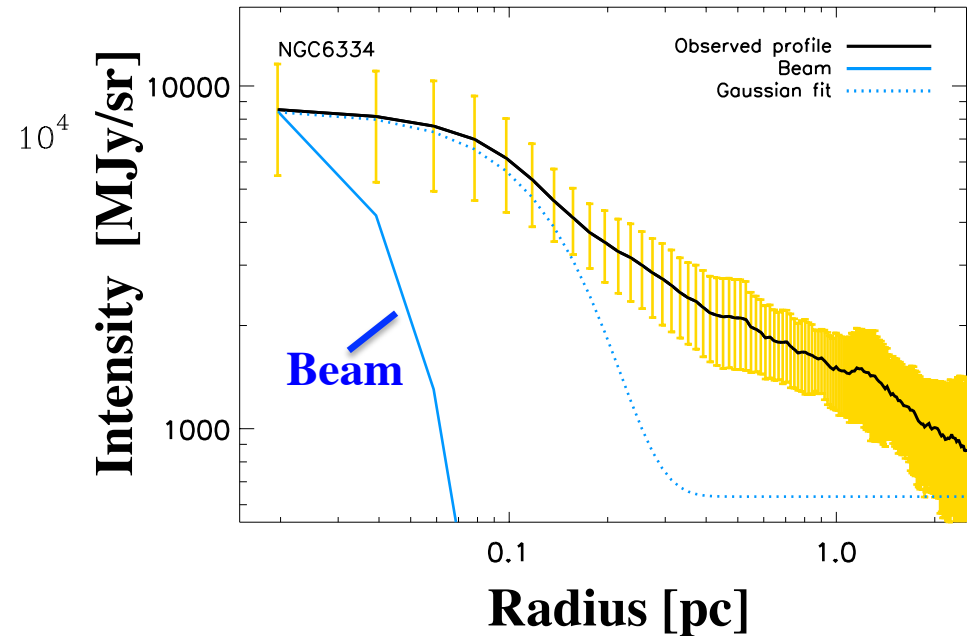
# Resolving the NGC 6334 main filament (d ~1.7 kpc) with ArTéMiS + *Herschel*

ArTéMiS + SPIRE (350  $\mu\text{m}$  res.: ~ 8'')



See Russeil et al. 2013, A&A, for the  
*Herschel*/HOBYS view of NGC6334

Radial intensity profile  
of NGC6334 filament



- Deconvolved FWHM width and diameter of flat inner plateau: ~ 0.1-0.2 pc
- Linear resolution: < 0.07 pc