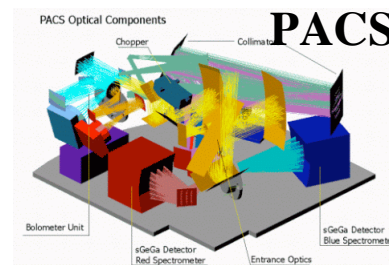


# Characterization of cloud structure: From *Herschel* to CCAT

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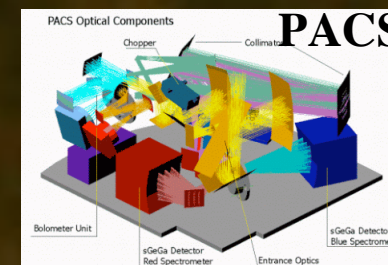


Formation and Development of Molecular Clouds  
CCAT Meeting – Cologne – 06/10/2011

## Outline:

<http://gouldbelt-herschel.cea.fr/>

- Results from the *Herschel* Gould Belt survey on the structure of molecular clouds
- The role of filaments in the core/star formation process
- Speculations: A universal scenario for star formation ?
- Areas where CCAT will contribute



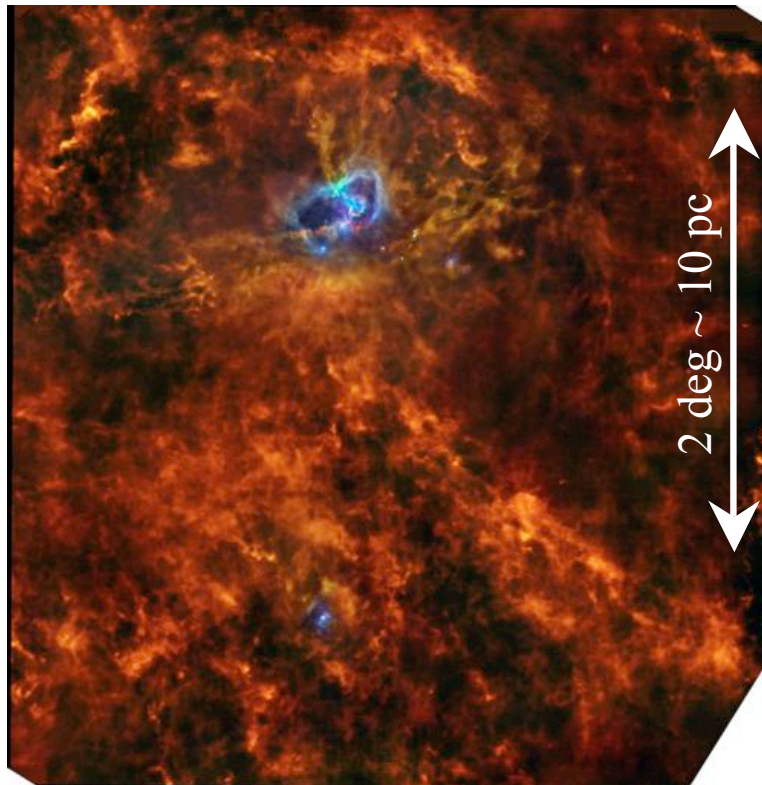
*Herschel*  
GB survey  
IC5146  
Arzoumanian  
et al. 2011

With: A. Menshchikov, V. Könyves, N. Schneider, D. Arzoumanian, S. Bontemps, F. Motte, P. Didelon, N. Peretto, D. Ward-Thompson, J. Kirk, M. Hennemann, J. Di Francesco, P. Martin, S. Molinari, P. Palmeirim, J.Ph. Bernard & the *Herschel* Gould Belt KP Consortium

# *Herschel* shows a wealth of filamentary structure in every interstellar cloud

**Aquila: Actively star forming**

$d \sim 260$  pc  
SPIRE 500  $\mu\text{m}$   
+  
PACS 160/70  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $\sim 15'' \sim 0.02$  pc @  $d = 300$  pc  
< Jeans length

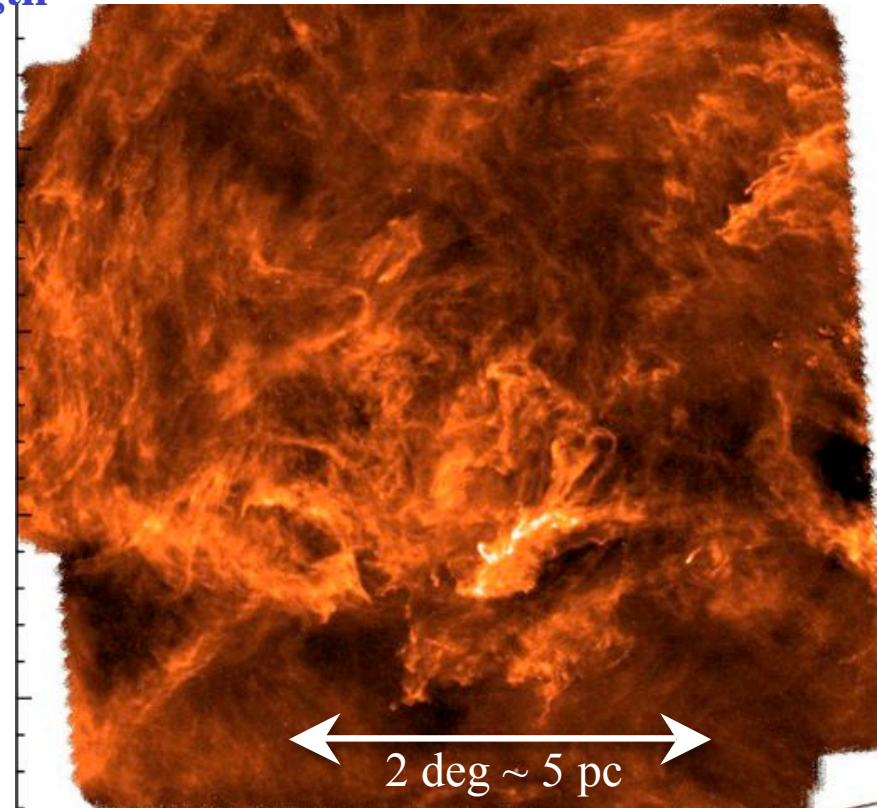


**Aquila Rift - *Herschel* Gould Belt survey**

André et al. 2010, Bontemps et al. 2010,  
Könyves et al. 2010

**Polaris: Non star forming**

SPIRE 250  $\mu\text{m}$   
 $d \sim 150$  pc



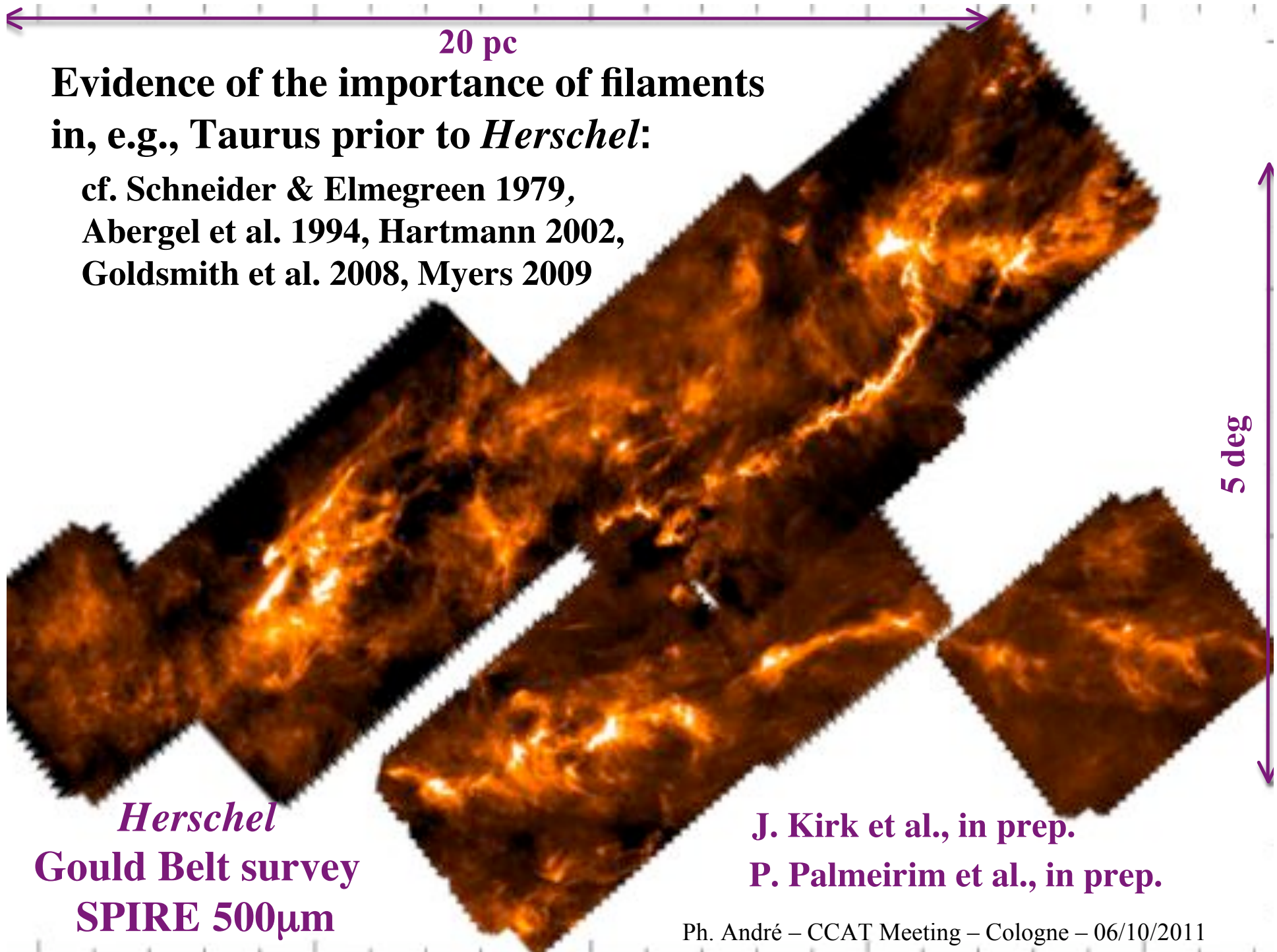
**Polaris Flare - Gould Belt survey**

Men'shchikov et al. 2010, Miville-Deschênes ea. 2010,  
Ward-Thompson et al. 2010

20 pc

Evidence of the importance of filaments  
in, e.g., Taurus prior to *Herschel*:

cf. Schneider & Elmegreen 1979,  
Abergel et al. 1994, Hartmann 2002,  
Goldsmith et al. 2008, Myers 2009



*Herschel*

Gould Belt survey  
SPIRE 500 $\mu$ m

J. Kirk et al., in prep.  
P. Palmeirim et al., in prep.

# Characterizing the structure of filaments with *Herschel*

Taurus B213 filament  
SPIRE 250 $\mu$ m

Arzoumanian et al.  
Palmeirim et al. 2011

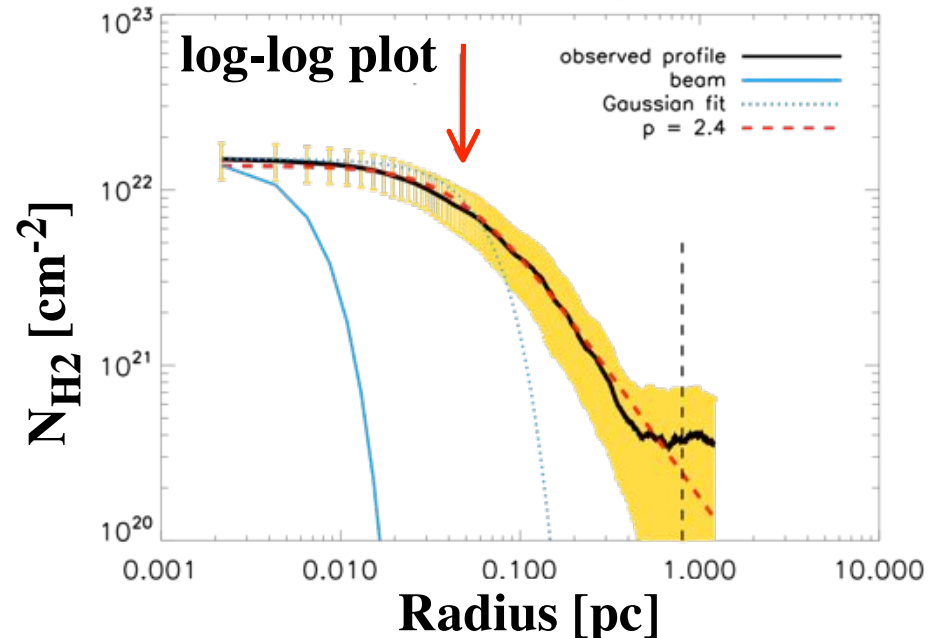
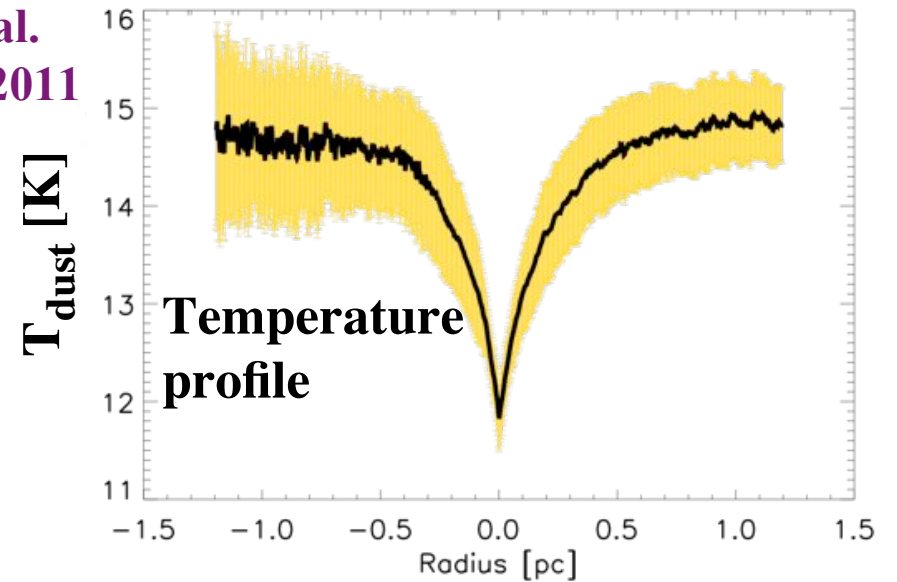


Plummer-like density profile:

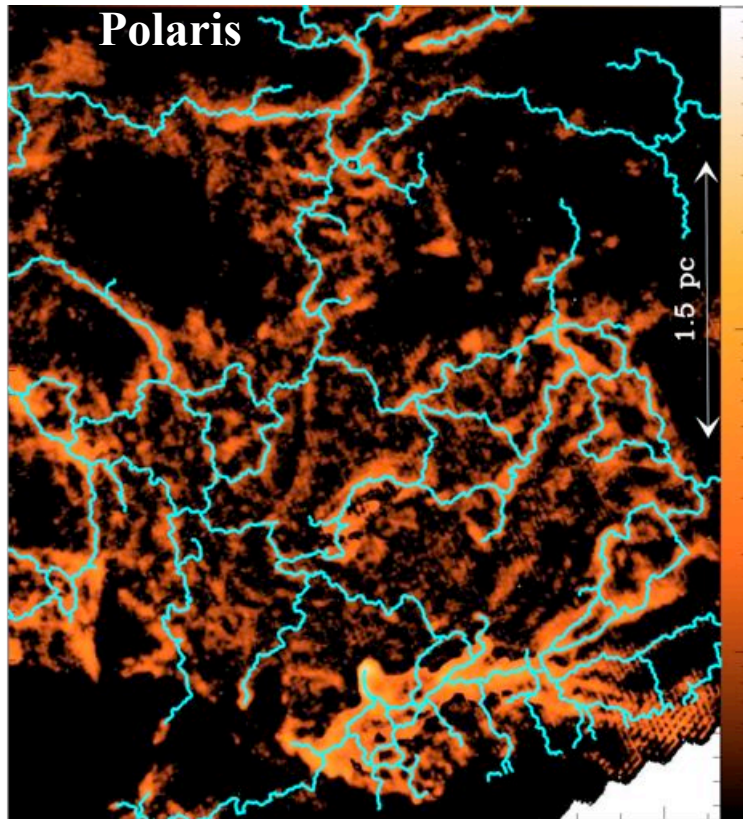
$$\rho(r) = \rho_c / [1 + (r/R_{\text{flat}})^2]$$

with  $R_{\text{flat}} \sim 0.05$  pc

Diameter of flat inner plateau  $\sim 0.1$  pc

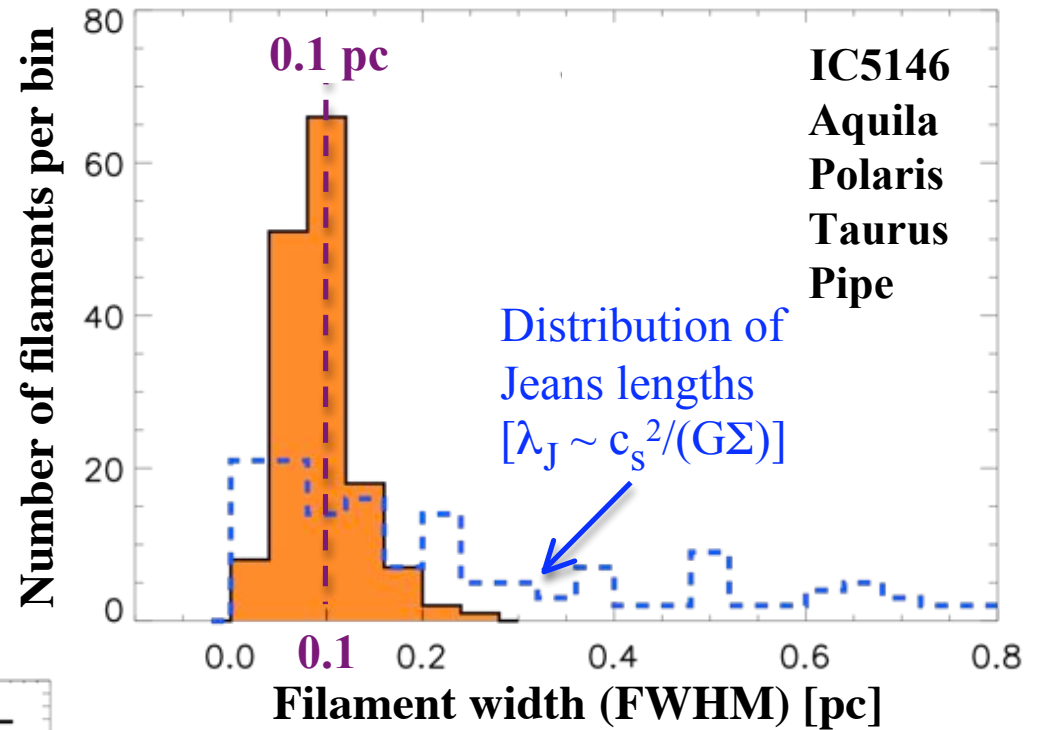


# Filaments have a characteristic width $\sim 0.1$ pc

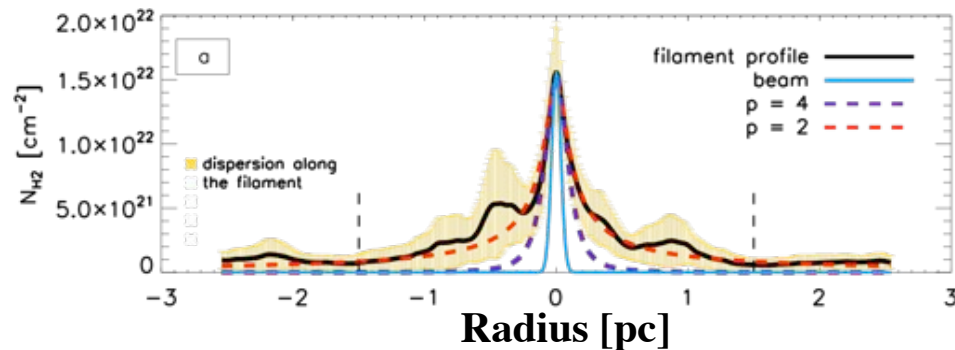


D. Arzoumanian et al. 2011, A&A, 529, L6

## Statistical distribution of widths for 150 filaments



Example of a filament radial profile



Using the ‘skeleton’ or DisPerSE algorithm  
 (Sousbie 2011)  
 to trace the crest of each filament

# Dense cores form primarily in filaments

Morphological Component Analysis:

*Herschel* Column density map

(P. Didelon based on  
Starck et al. 2003)

Cores

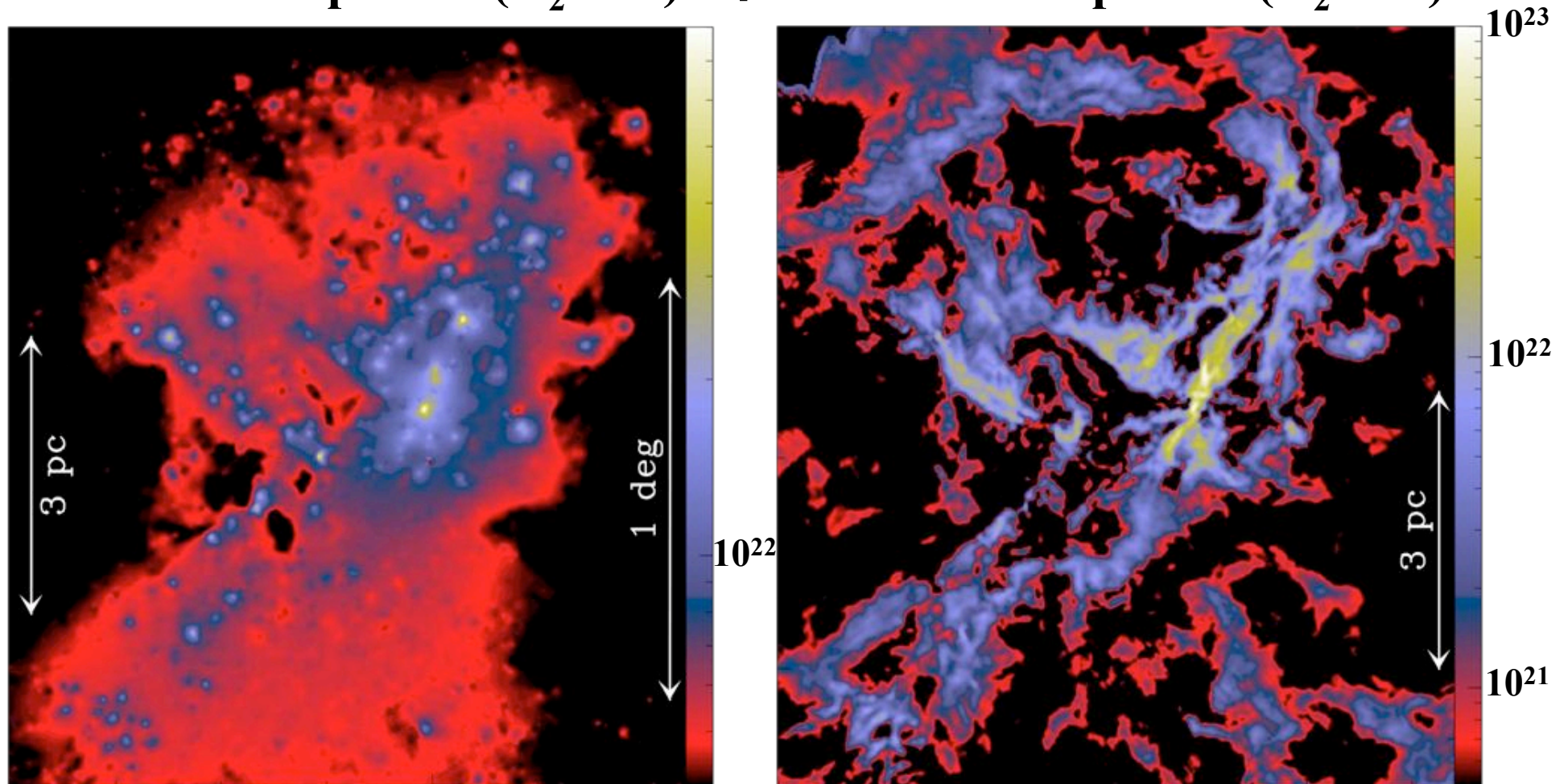
=

Filaments

Wavelet component ( $\text{H}_2/\text{cm}^2$ )

+

Curvelet component ( $\text{H}_2/\text{cm}^2$ )

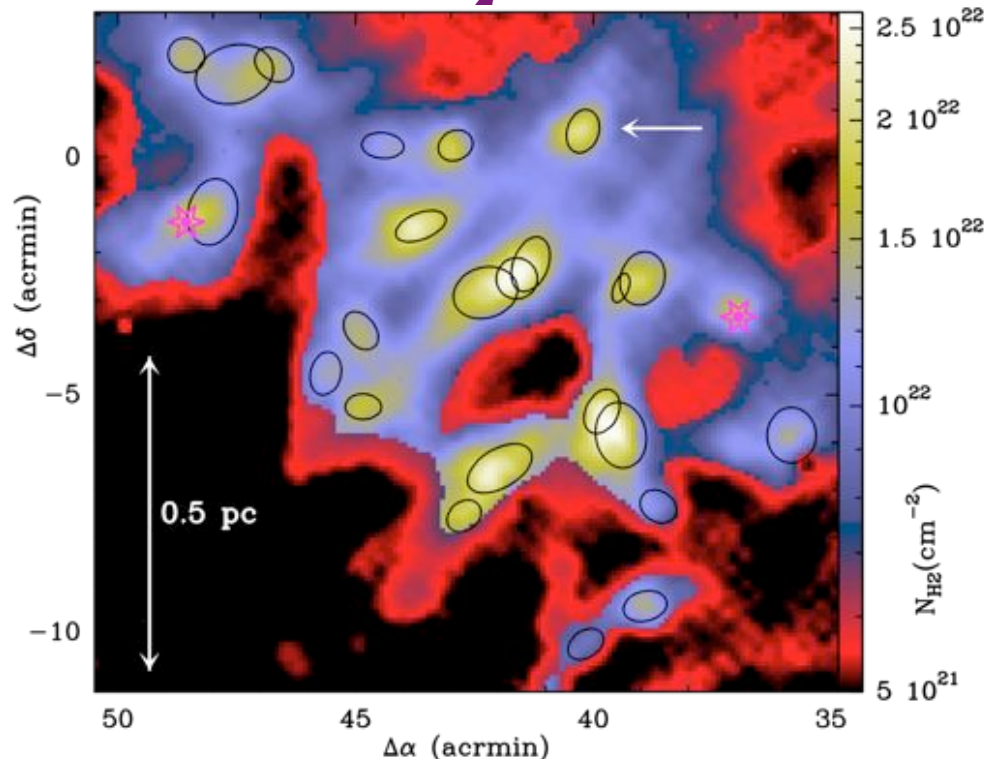


# Core extraction using “getsources”

(A. Men’shchikov et al. 2010, 2011)

- **Core = single star-forming entity**  
(Need to resolve  $\sim 0.01$ - $0.1$  pc)
- **Prestellar = bound & starless**

Examples of starless cores in Aquila  
*Herschel*  $N_{\text{H}_2}$  map ( $\text{cm}^{-2}$ )



Könyves et al. 2010, A&A special issue

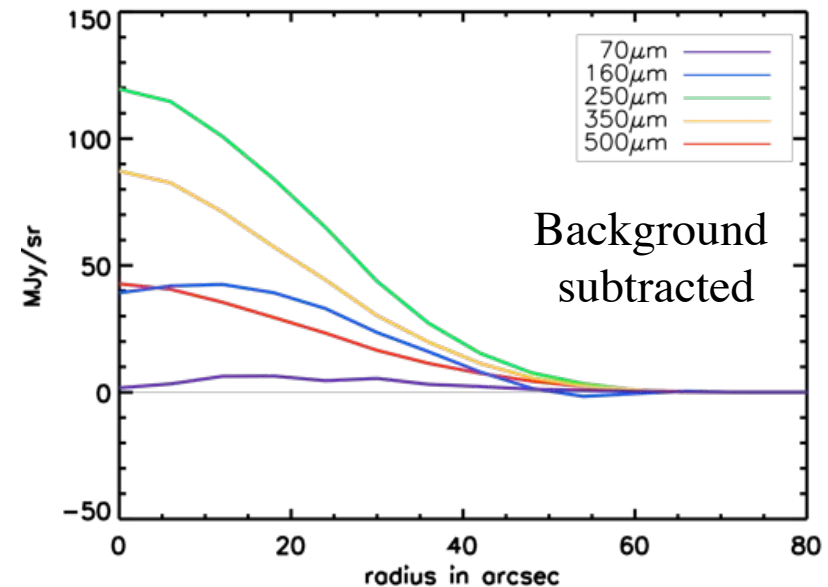
541 starless cores (no PACS  $70 \mu\text{m}$ ),  
including 341 prestellar cores

+

201 YSOs (with PACS  $70 \mu\text{m}$ )

identified with *getsources* in Aquila

## Radial intensity profiles



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# Prestellar cores are preferentially found within the densest filaments

$\Delta$  : Prestellar cores - 90% found at  $N_{\text{H}_2} > 7 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2} \Leftrightarrow A_{\text{V}}(\text{back}) > 8$

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

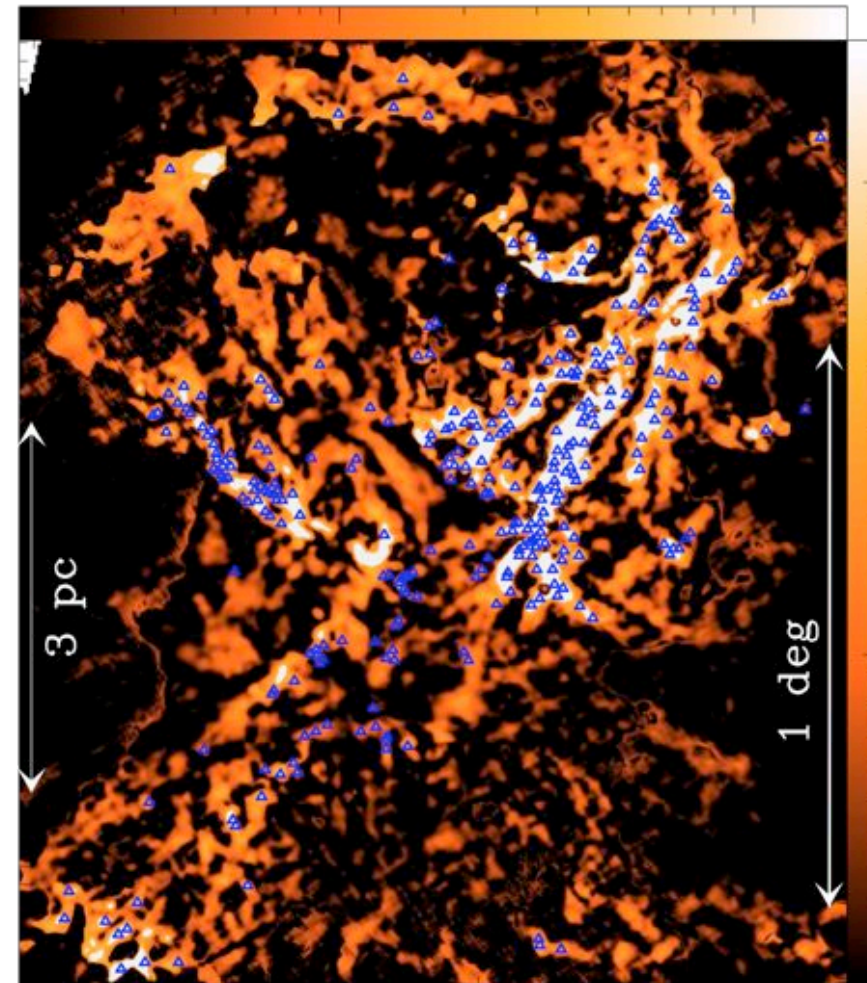
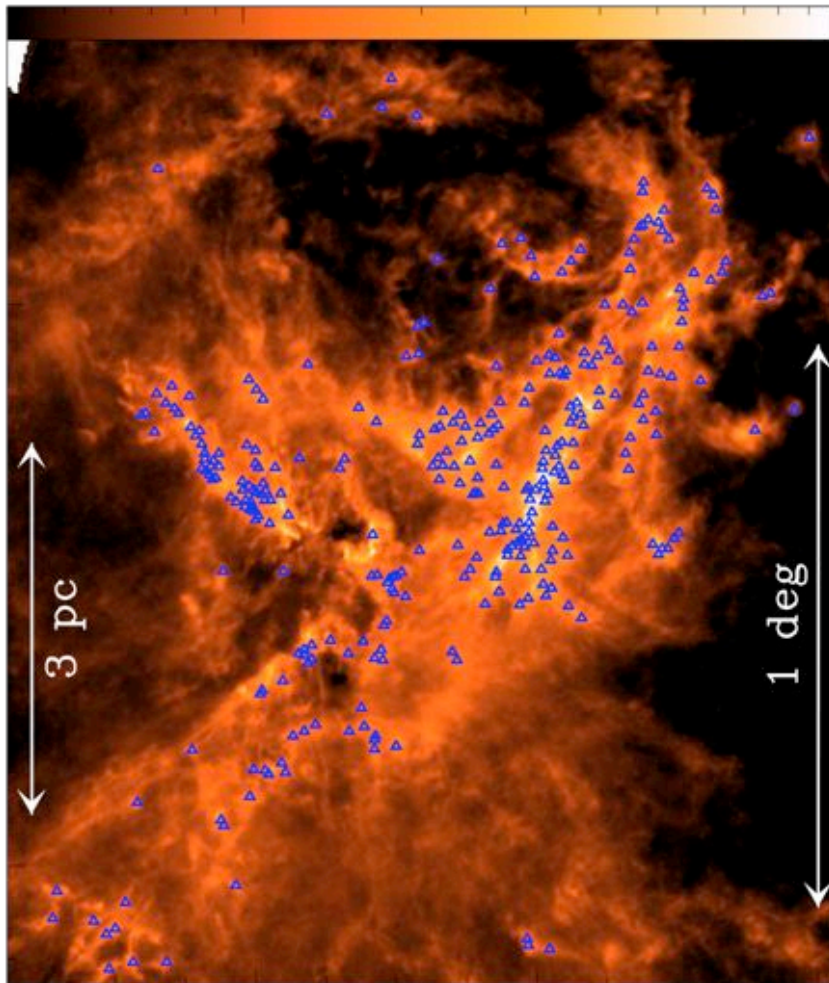
$10^{22}$

$10^{23}$

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

$10^{21}$

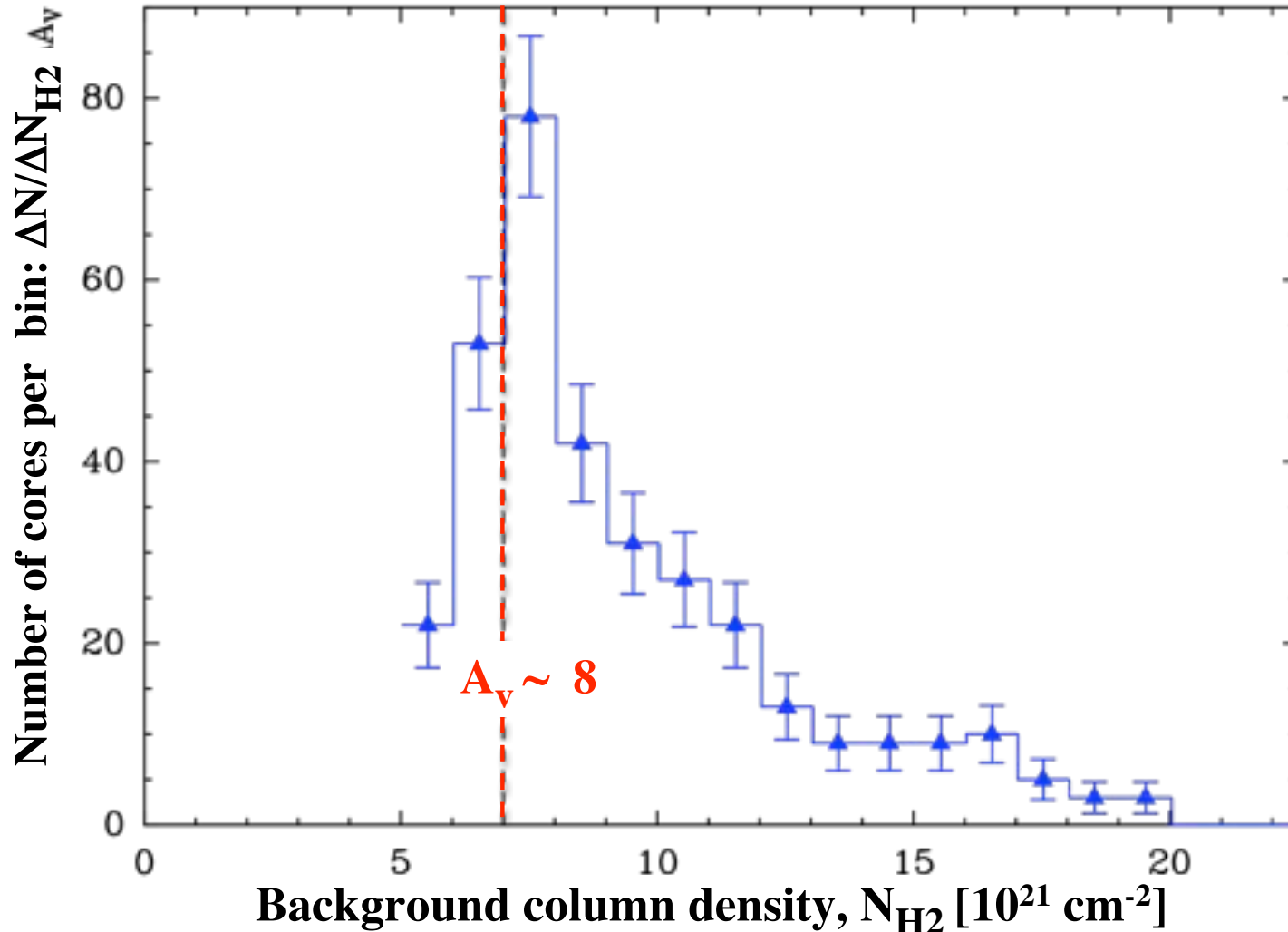
$10^{22}$



Unstable  $\frac{M_{\text{line}}}{M_{\text{line,crit}}}$  Stable

# 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, ~90%  
of the prestellar  
cores identified  
with *Herschel* are  
found above

$$A_V \sim 8 \Leftrightarrow \\ \Sigma \sim 130 M_{\odot} \text{ pc}^{-2}$$

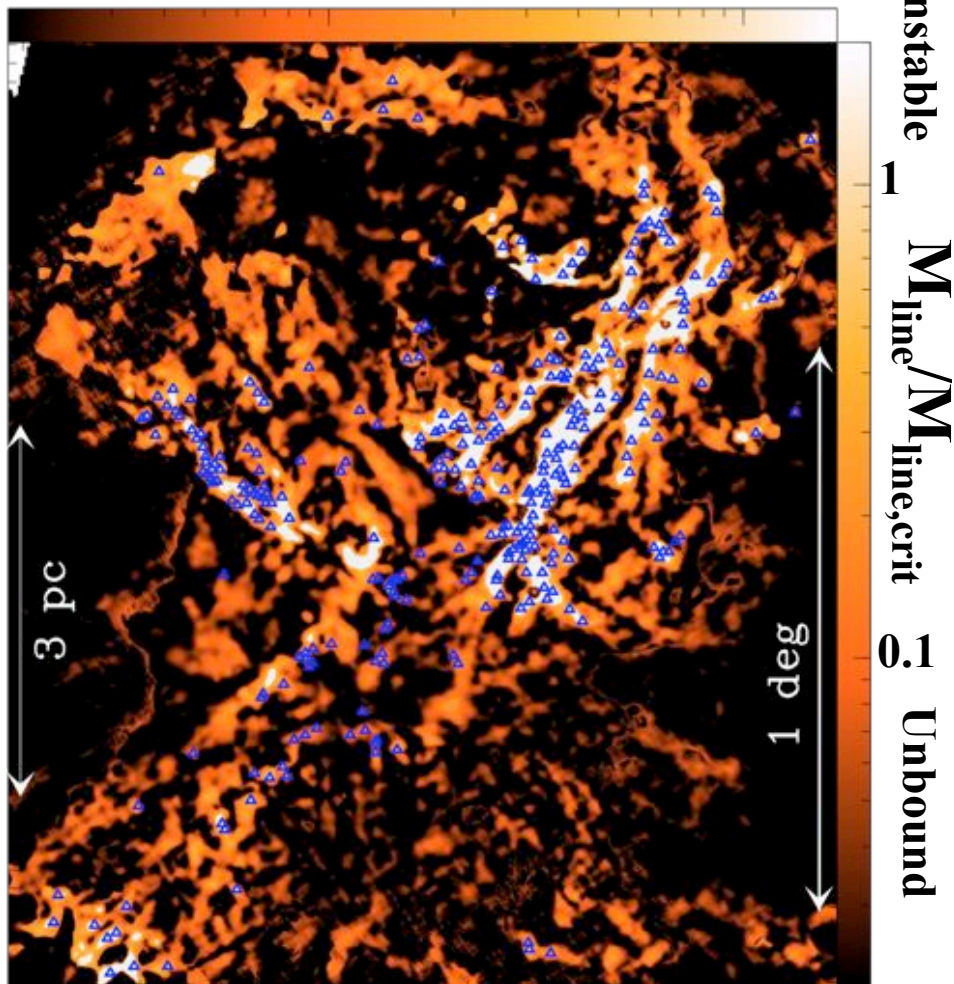
cf. Onishi et al. 1998  
Johnstone et al. 2004

See also (for YSOs):  
Goldsmith et al. 2008  
Heiderman, Evans  
et al. 2010  
Lada, Lombardi,  
Alves 2010

# Interpretation of the star formation threshold

$\Delta$  : Prestellar cores

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



André et al. 2010, A&A Vol. 518

➤ The gravitational instability of filaments is controlled by the mass per unit length  $M_{\text{line}}$  (cf. Ostriker 1964, Inutsuka & Miyama 1997):

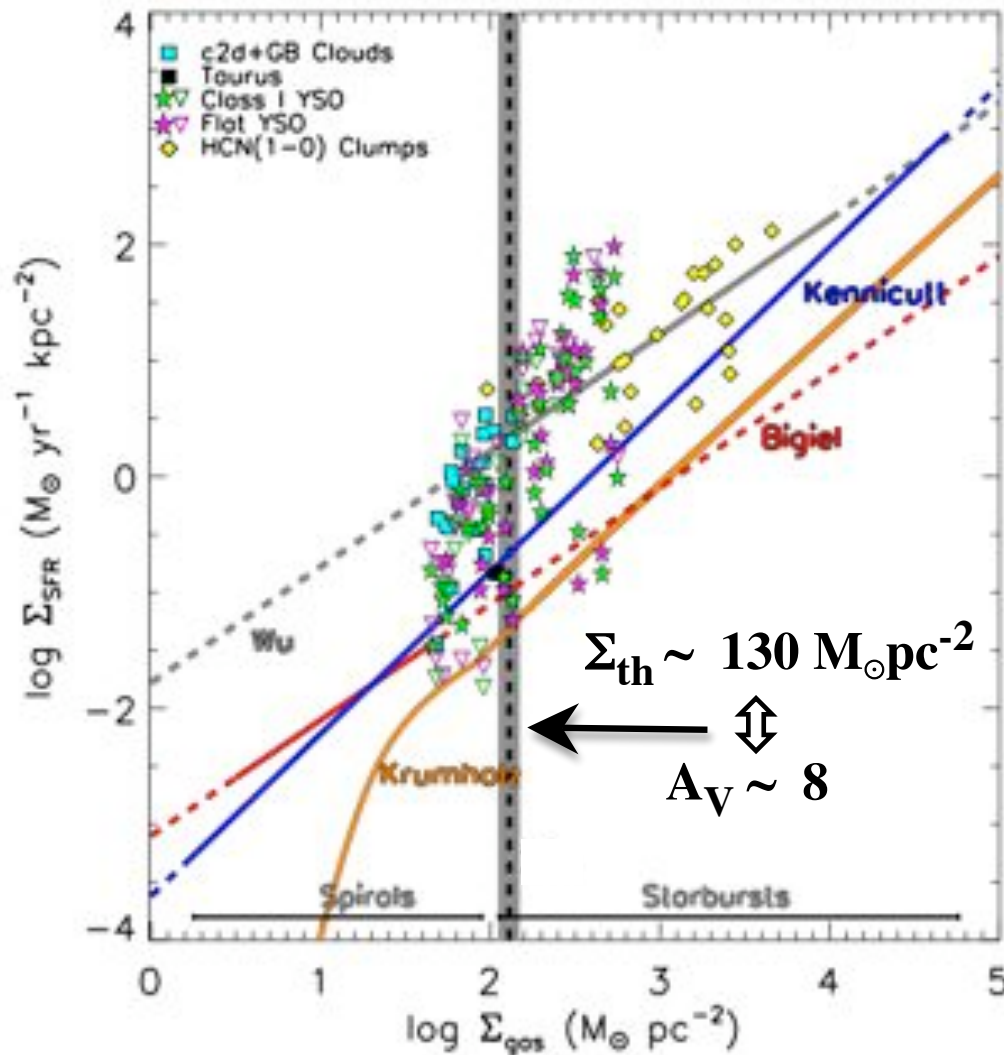
- unstable if  $M_{\text{line}} > M_{\text{line, crit}}$
  - unbound if  $M_{\text{line}} < M_{\text{line, crit}}$
  - $M_{\text{line, crit}} = 2 c_s^2 / G \sim 15 M_{\odot} / \text{pc}$  for  $T \sim 10\text{K} \Leftrightarrow \Sigma$  threshold  $\sim 150 M_{\odot} / \text{pc}^2$
- Simple estimate:

$$M_{\text{line}} \propto N_{\text{H}_2} \times \text{Width} (\sim 0.1 \text{ pc})$$

Unstable filaments highlighted in white in the  $N_{\text{H}_2}$  map

# Importance of the star formation threshold on (extra)galactic scales

## Star formation rate vs. Gas surface density



$$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} \propto \Sigma_{\text{gas}}$$

for

$$\Sigma_{\text{gas}} > \Sigma_{\text{threshold}}$$

Heiderman et al. 2010

Lada et al. 2010

See

Gao & Solomon 2004

for external galaxies

Heiderman, Evans et al. 2010

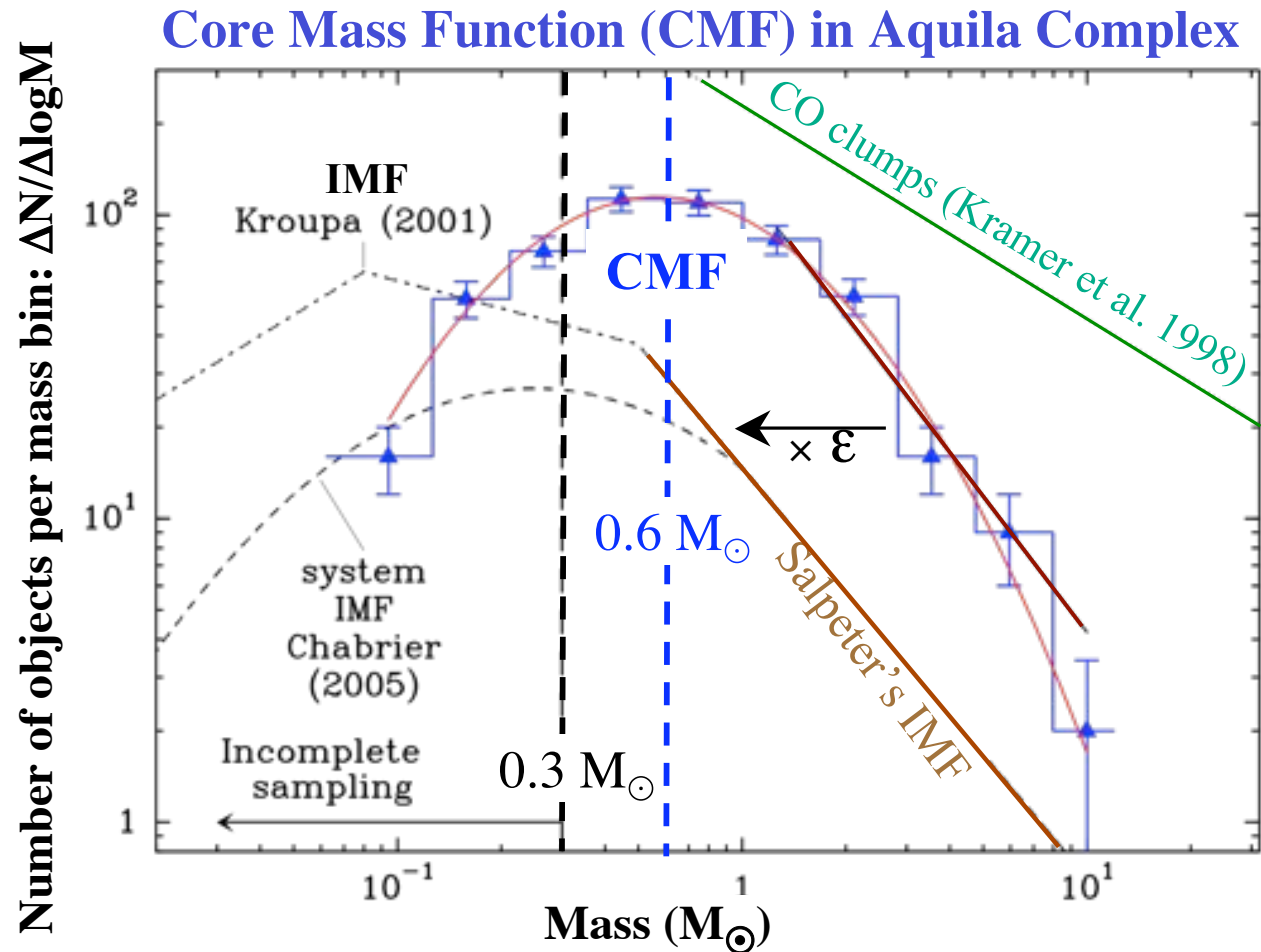
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# Confirming the link between the prestellar CMF & the IMF

André et al. 2010  
 Könyves et al. 2010  
 A&A vol. 518

341-541 prestellar  
 cores in Aquila

Factor ~ 2-9 better  
 statistics than earlier  
 CMF studies

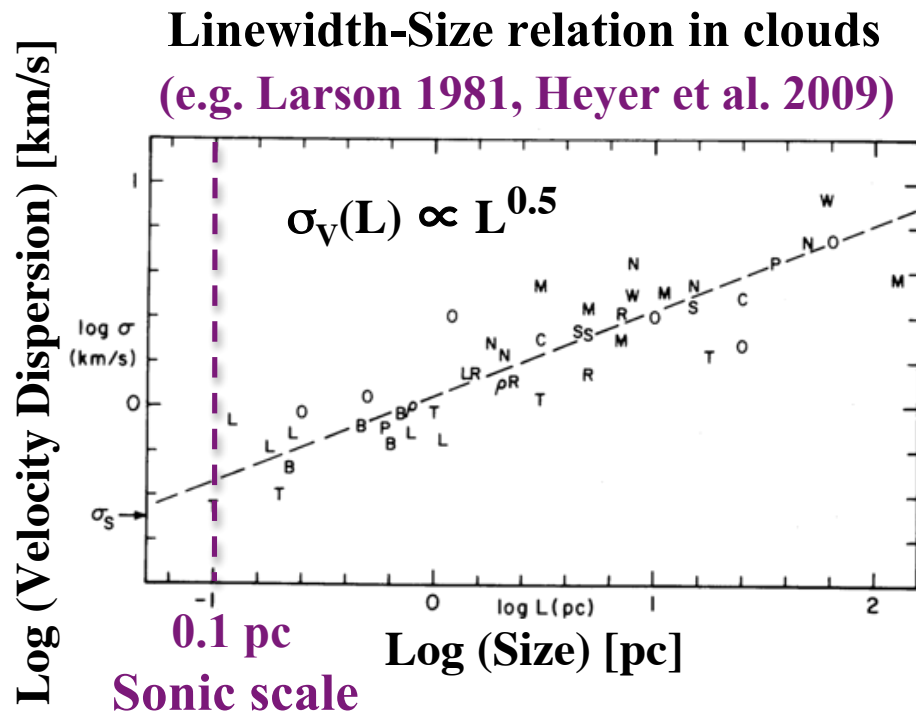


➤ Good (~ one-to-one) mapping between core mass and stellar system mass:  $M_* = \epsilon M_{\text{core}}$  with  $\epsilon \sim 0.2-0.4$  in Aquila

➤ CMF peaks at  $\sim 0.6 M_{\odot} \approx$  Jeans mass in marginally critical filaments

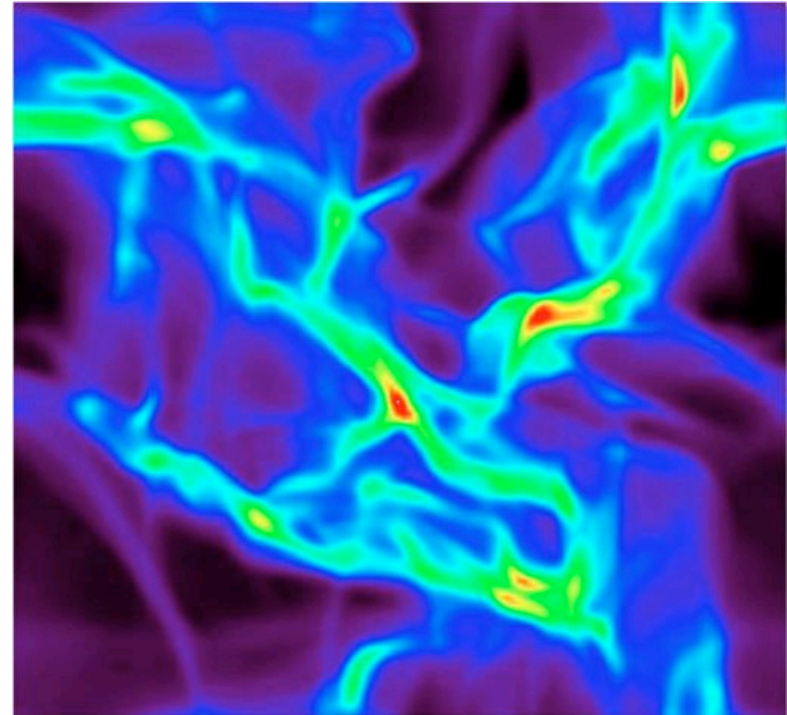
# Are interstellar filaments formed by large-scale turbulent compression ?

Filament width  $\sim 0.1$  pc  $\sim$  sonic scale of ISM turbulence



➤ Corresponds to the typical thickness  $\lambda$  of shock-compressed structures/filaments in the turbulent fragmentation scenario

Simulations of turbulent fragmentation



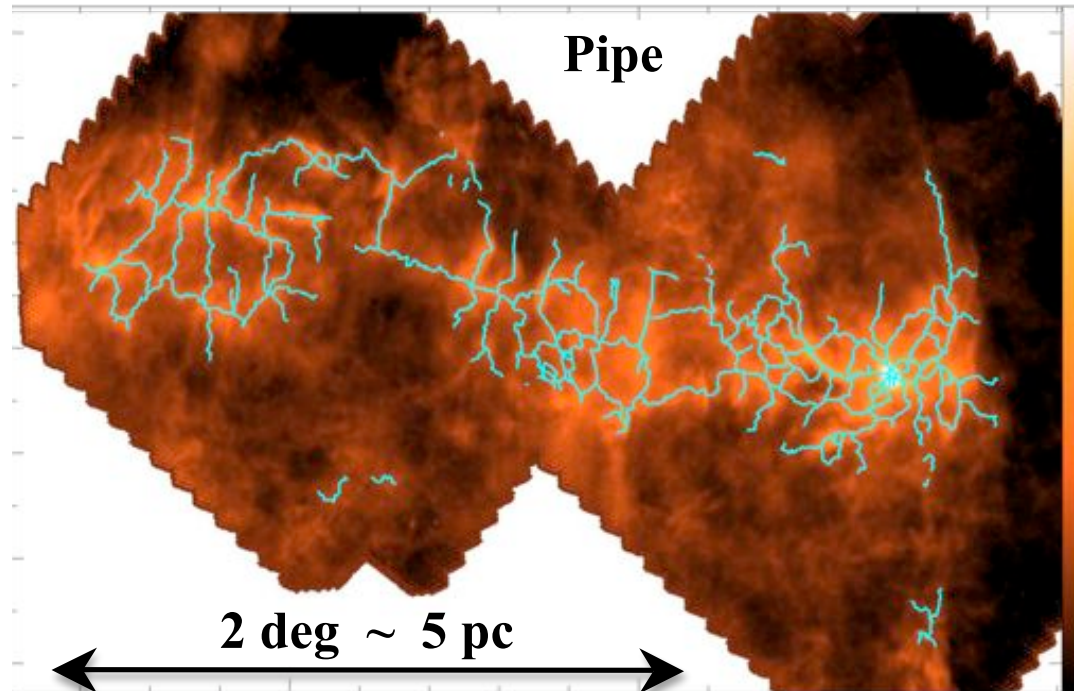
Padoan, Juvela et al. 2001

$$\lambda \sim L / \mathcal{M}(L)^2 \sim 0.1 \text{ pc}$$

compression ratio (HD shock)

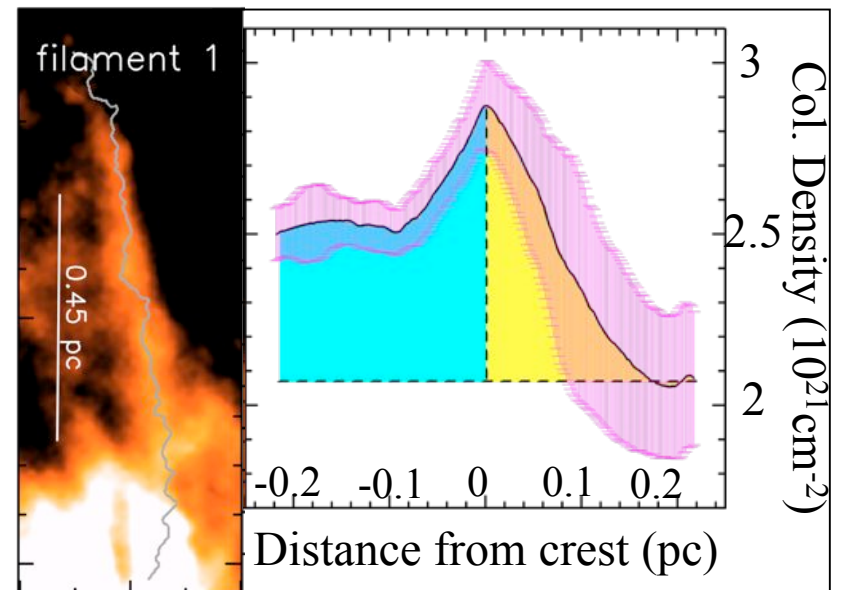
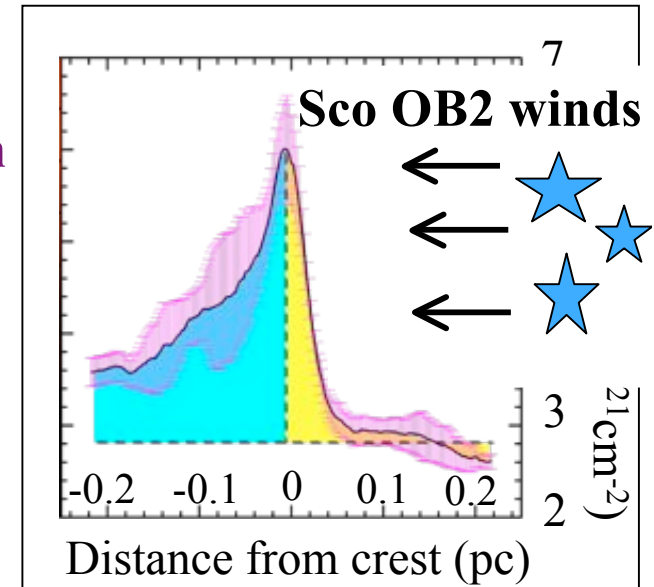
# Evidence of the formation of filamentary structures by large-scale compression in the Pipe Nebula

➤ In the Pipe several filaments have asymmetric column density profiles, most likely due to compression by the winds of Sco OB2 (Peretto et al., in prep)



Column density map (Peretto et al.)  
*Herschel* Gould Belt survey

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# Toward a universal scenario for star formation ?

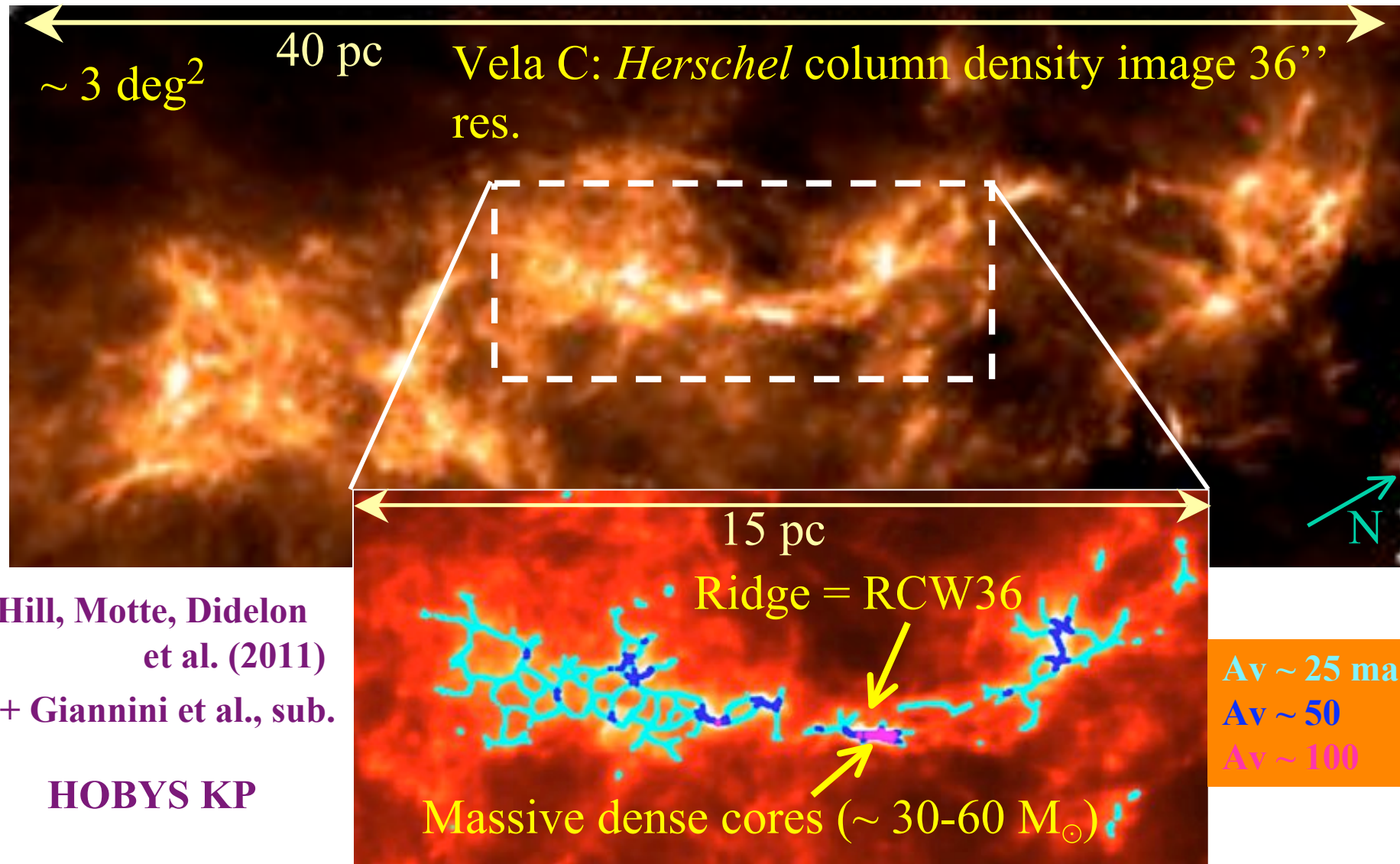
- *Herschel* results suggest **core formation occurs in 2 main steps**:
  - 1) Filaments form first in the cold ISM, probably as a result of the dissipation of **MHD turbulence** (cf. Padoan et al. 2001);
  - 2) The densest filaments then fragment into prestellar cores via **gravitational instability** (cf. Inutsuka & Miyama 1997) above a critical threshold  $\Sigma_{\text{th}} \sim 150 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-2} \Leftrightarrow A_V \sim 8$
- Filament fragmentation appears to produce the prestellar CMF and likely accounts for the « base » of the IMF
- This scenario may possibly also account for the global rate of star formation on galactic scales



# Many remaining open issues: Areas where CCAT will contribute

- Does the scenario emerging from *Herschel* observations of nearby (low-mass SF) regions also hold in high-mass SF regions ?
  - CCAT can resolve individual prestellar cores up to  $\sim 3$  kpc
- Signatures of the low-velocity interstellar shocks responsible for the formation of filaments in the turbulent picture ?
  - Good diagnostic with CCAT: [CI] (492 GHz) / CO ratio
- Evolution of filaments:
  - Do subcritical filaments disperse without gaining mass ?
  - Do supercritical filaments accrete mass while collapsing ?
  - Extensive high-resolution line mapping and comparison with numerical simulations + radiative transfer

# Massive star formation also occurs along filaments



Hill, Motte, Didelon  
et al. (2011)  
+ Giannini et al., sub.

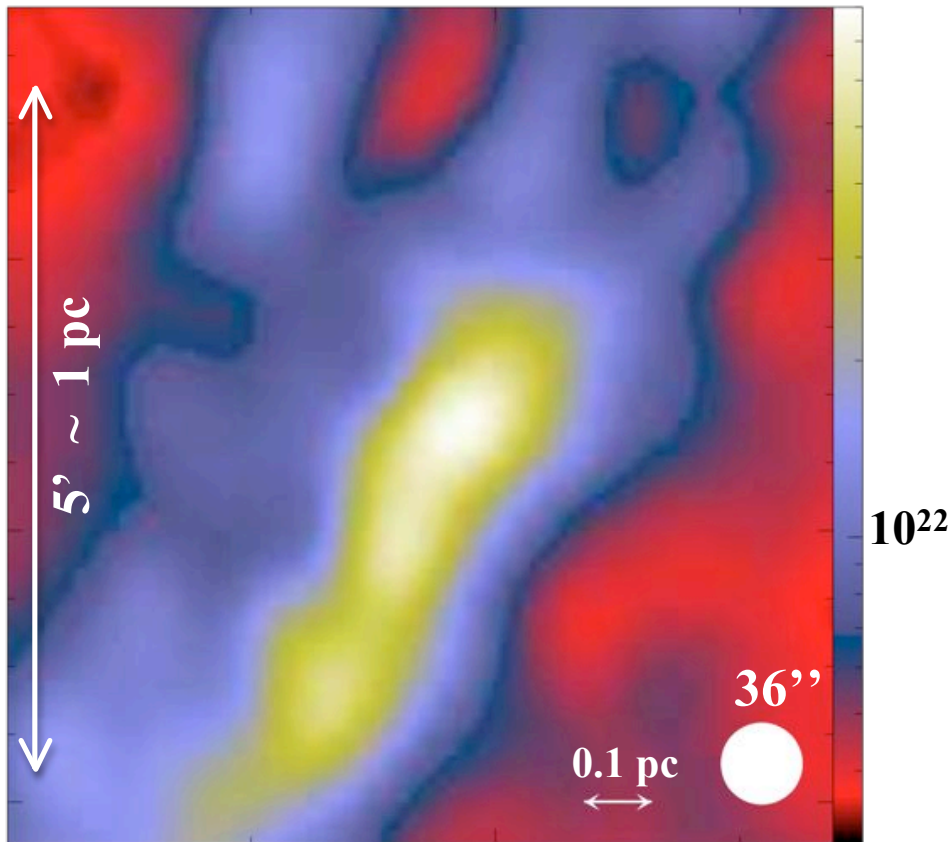
HOBYS KP

- The Vela C centre ridge is an extreme version of the supercritical filaments seen in the Gould Belt survey ( $\sim$  Serp-South in Aquila)

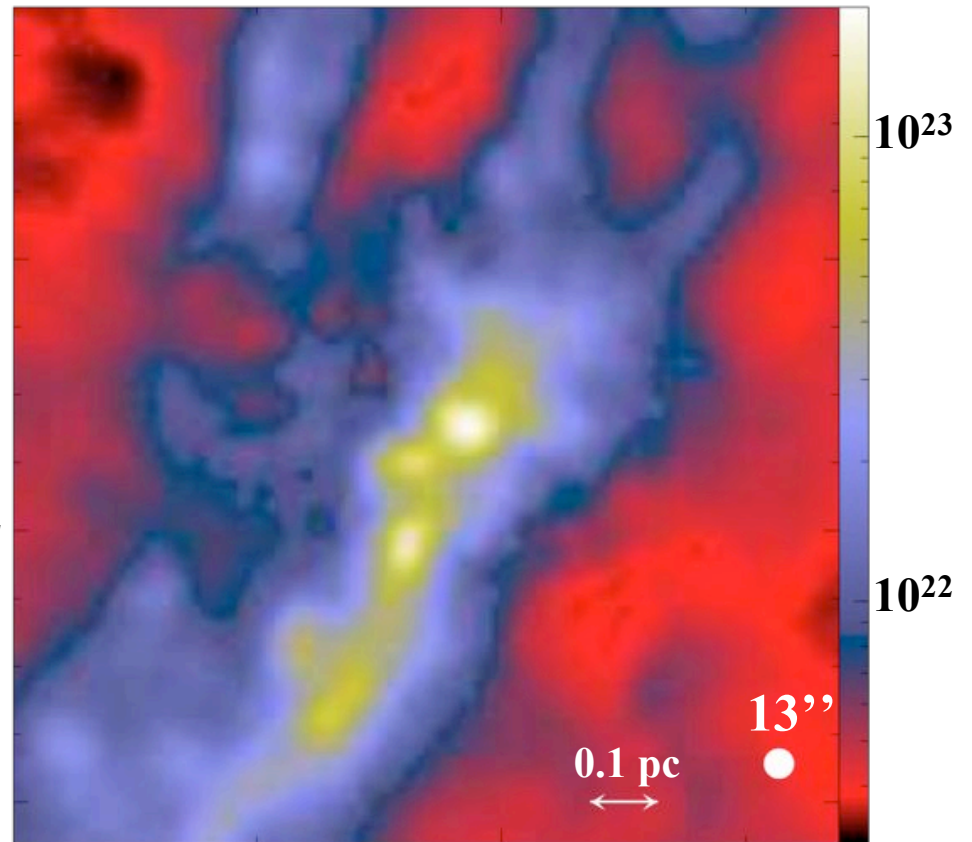
# Crucial need for high-resolution ground-based imaging when studying massive star formation

Example: RCW36 in Vela-C ( $d \sim 700$  pc)

*Herschel* ( $500 \mu\text{m}$  res.:  $\sim 36''$ )  
Column density map ( $\text{H}_2/\text{cm}^2$ )



*Herschel* + P-ArTéMiS ( $450 \mu\text{m}$  res.:  $\sim 10''$ )  
Column density map ( $\text{H}_2/\text{cm}^2$ )



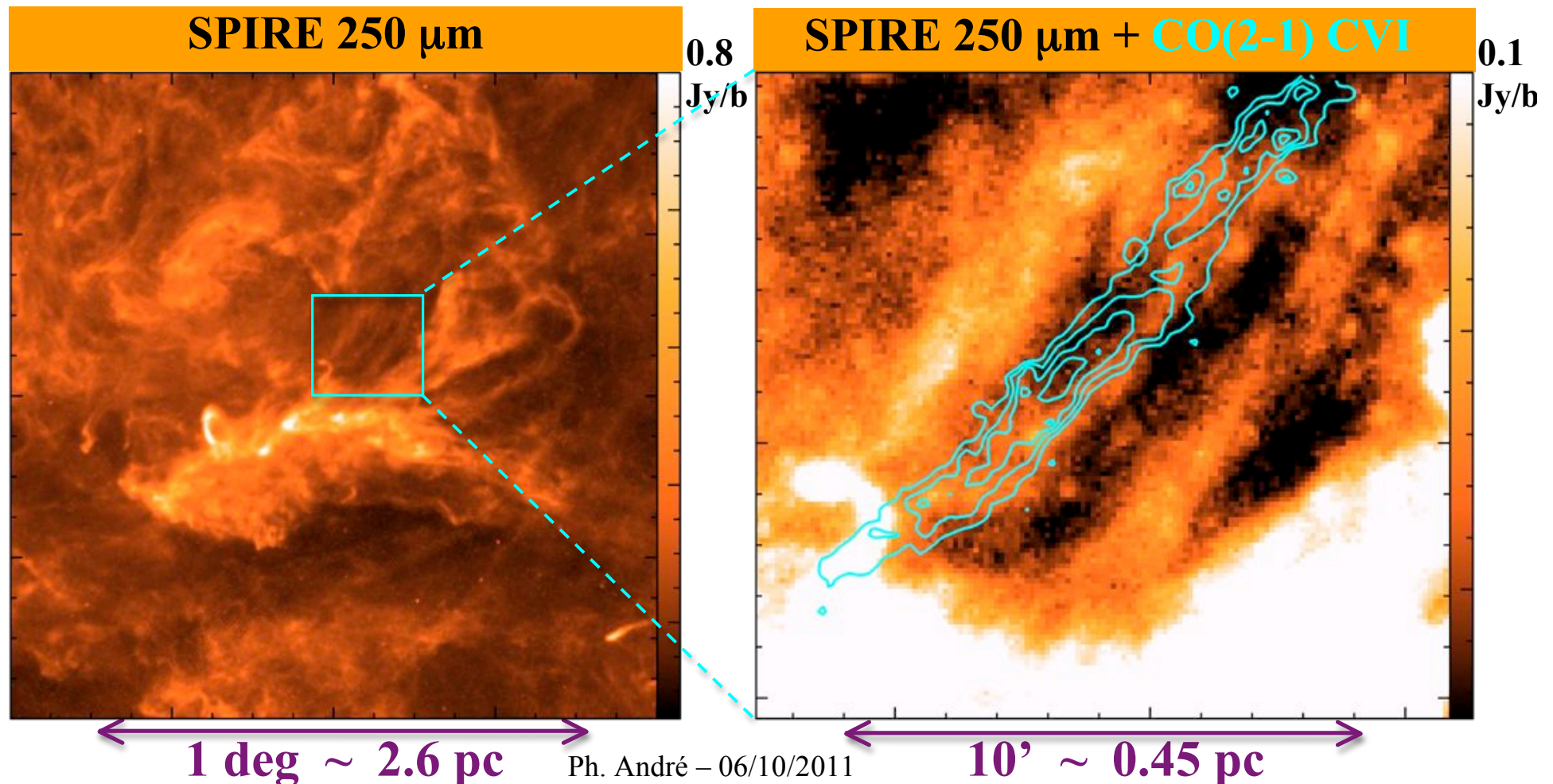
Minier et al., in prep.

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APEX/P-ArTéMiS obs. (see André et al. 2008)

# Signatures of filament formation by turbulence dissipation (e.g. low-velocity shocks)?

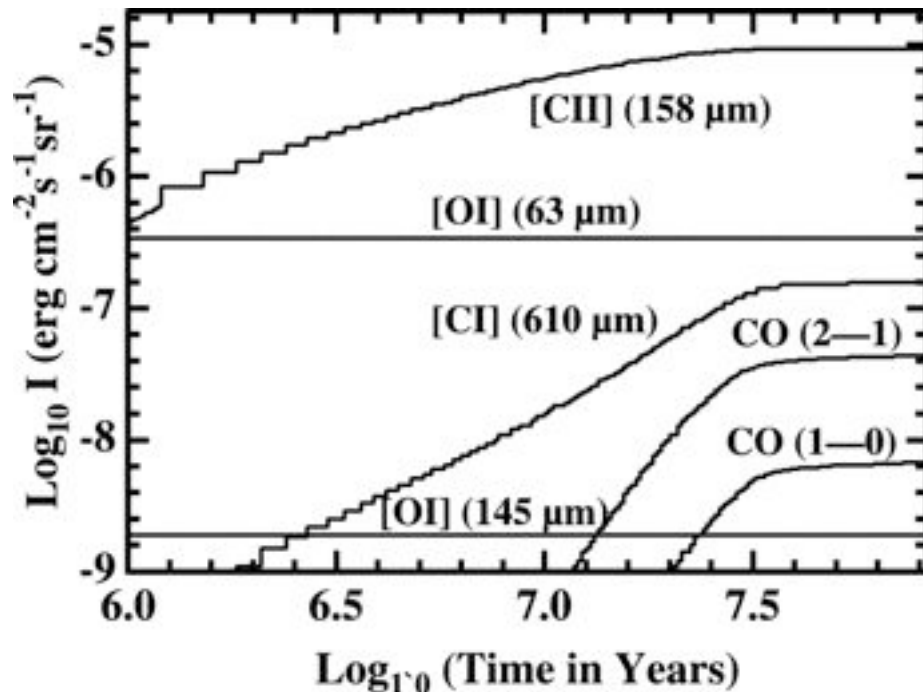
- In Polaris, one of the most tenuous filaments detected by SPIRE coincides with a CO(2-1) structure of intense velocity shear ( $\sim 40$  km/s/pc) found at IRAM 30m (Hily-Blant & Falgarone 2009)



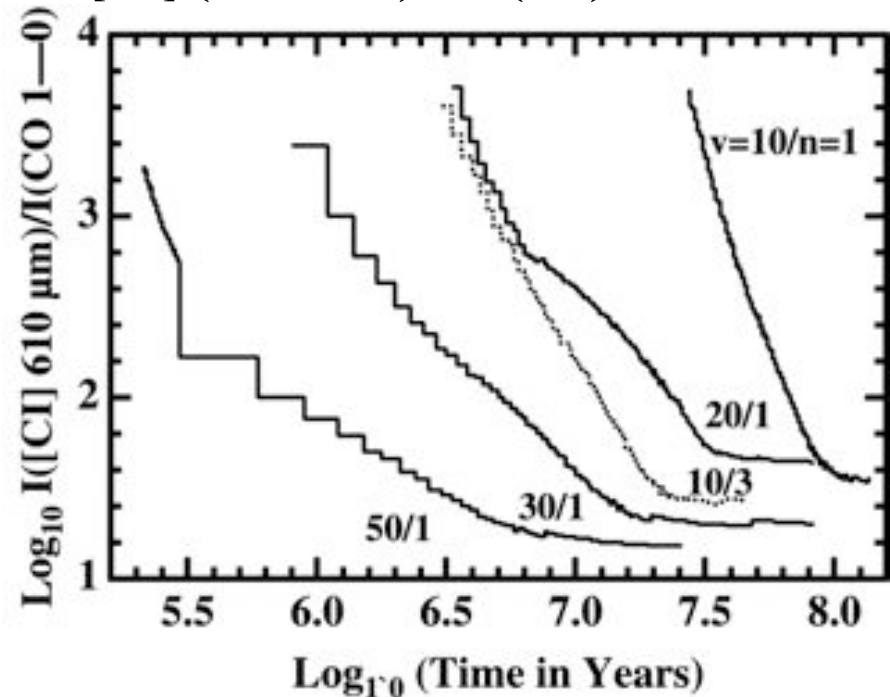
# A diagnostic of filament formation behind low-velocity interstellar shocks: the [CI]/CO ratio

Models of molecular cloud formation behind shocks in atomic gas  
(Bergin et al. 2004)

Predicted line intensities vs. time



[CI] (492 GHz)/CO(1-0) ratio vs. time



- Need to detect (and map) weak [CI] (492 GHz) emission  $\sim 0.1$  K km/s
- Need high spatial resolution to resolve filamentary structure

# Conclusions:

## Example areas where CCAT will contribute

- Does the scenario emerging from *Herschel* observations of nearby (low-mass SF) regions also hold in high-mass SF regions ?
  - CCAT can resolve individual prestellar cores up to  $\sim 3$  kpc
- Signatures of the low-velocity interstellar shocks responsible for the formation of filaments in the turbulent picture ?
  - Good diagnostic with CCAT: [CI] (492 GHz) / CO ratio
- Direct spectroscopic evidence that massive supercritical filaments accrete mass while collapsing/contracting ?
  - Extensive high-resolution line mapping and comparison with numerical simulations + radiative transfer