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P. Didelon, P. Palmeirim, F. Motte,
A. Maury, and the SPIRE SAG3 cons.

**From interstellar filaments to prestellar
cores/protostars**

Selected results of the Herschel Gould Belt survey

YouResAstro, Budapest, Sept., 2012



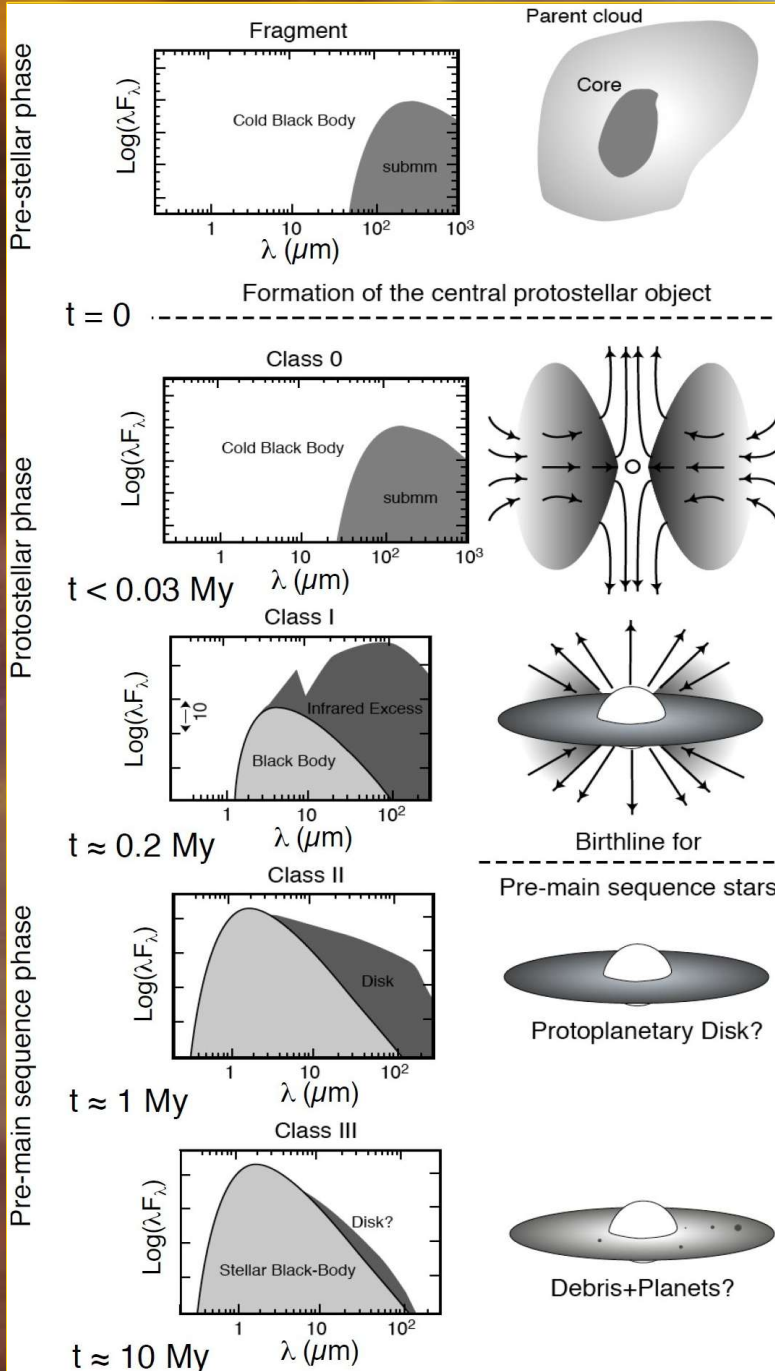
OUTLINE OF THE TALK

- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ The Herschel Gould Belt survey
 - ◆ Aquila
 - ◆ Orion B
 - ◆ IC5146
 - ◆ **A coherent star formation scenario**
- ◆ Other Herschel Galactic surveys

<http://oshi.esa.int>



HGBS: Aquila/W40



Evolutionary sequence of solar-type stars

Physics of early stages still unclear (cf. McKee & Ostriker 2007 vs. Shu et al. 1987)

Open questions:

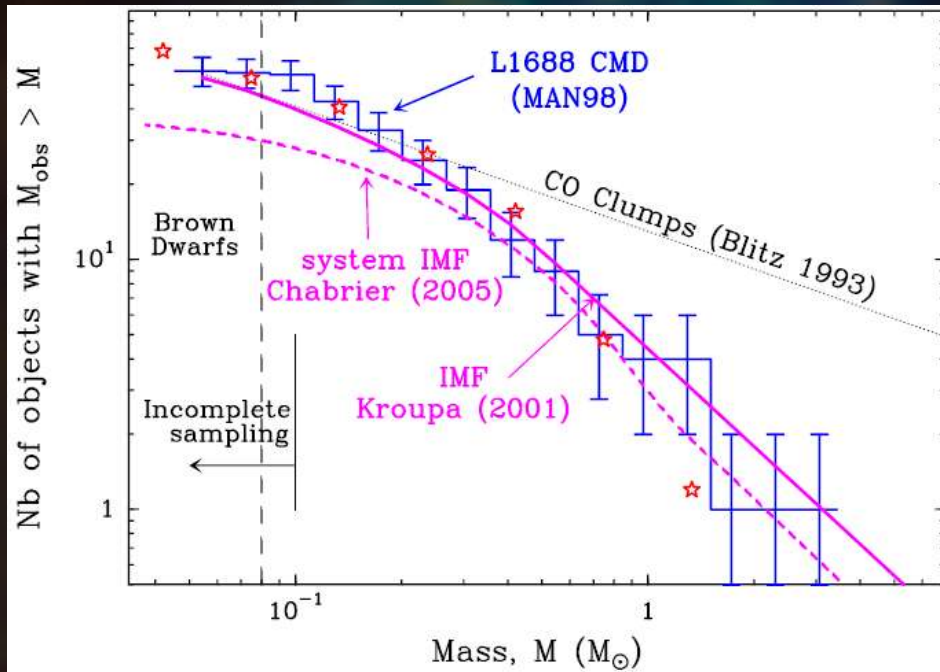
- What determines the distribution of stellar masses at birth (IMF)? Link between CMF and stellar IMF?
- What generates prestellar cores in molecular clouds and governs their evolution?
- Is core/star formation a slow, quasi-static, or a fast, dynamic process?

Lada (1987);
 André, Ward-Thompson, Barsony (2000)

Ground-based **(sub)-millimeter dust continuum surveys** of nearby, compact cluster-forming clouds (e.g. ρ Ophiuchi, Serpens, Orion B):

- Give 'complete' but small samples of prestellar cores
- Their associated **core mass functions (CMF) resemble the stellar IMF**

E.g.: Motte et al. 1998; Testi & Sargent 1998; Johnstone et al. 2000; Stanke et al. 2006; Enoch et al. 2006; Nutter & Ward-Thompson 2007; Alves et al. 2007; André et al. 2007.



⇒ **Scientific motivations of the *Herschel* Gould Belt survey** (André et al. 2010)

Cumulative mass distribution of 57 starless condensations in ρ Oph (André et al. 2007)

Favored theoretical scenario: **The IMF of solar-type stars is largely determined by pre-collapse cloud fragmentation** (Padoan & Nordlund 2002; Hennebelle & Chabrier 2008).

Herschel is ideally suited for **taking a census of resolved cores and protostars** in nearby molecular complexes ($d \leq 0.5$ kpc):

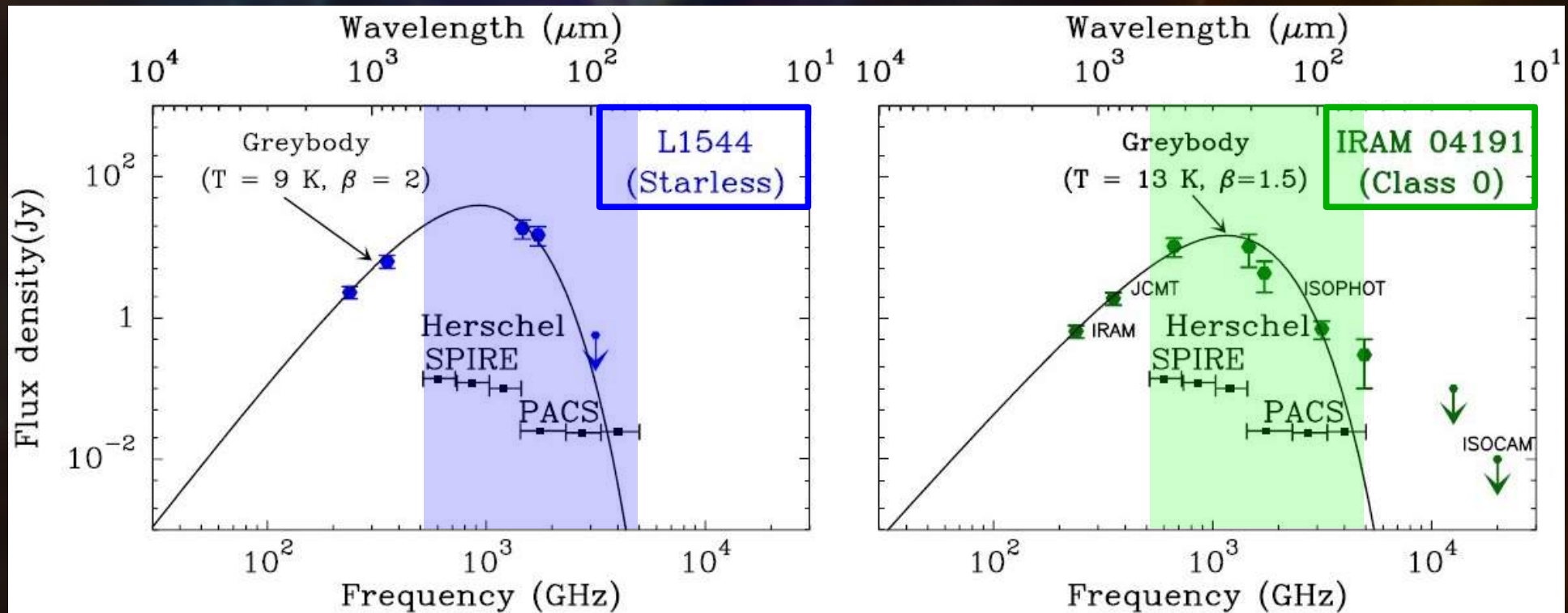
- ♦ in the 0.01–0.1 pc size range
- ♦ down to $M_{\text{proto}} \sim 0.01\text{--}0.1 M_{\odot}$

Herschel bands are **essential for luminosity and temperature determinations**

Spectral energy distributions (SEDs)

Ward-Thompson et al. 2002

André et al. 1999



ESA HERSCHEL SPACE OBSERVATORY



- ◆ Launch (*Herschel+Planck*): 14th May 2009
- ◆ ~3.8 year mission
- ◆ 3.5 m primary mirror

- ◆ Three on-board instruments

- ◆ **SPIRE** (Spectral and Photometric Imaging Receiver)
250, 350, 500 μm photometer
- ◆ **PACS** (Photoconductor Array Camera and Spectrometer)
70, 100, 160 μm array camera
- ◆ **HIFI** - Hetrodyne instrument



Pilbratt et al. (2010)

HERSCHEL Gould Belt survey (HGBS)

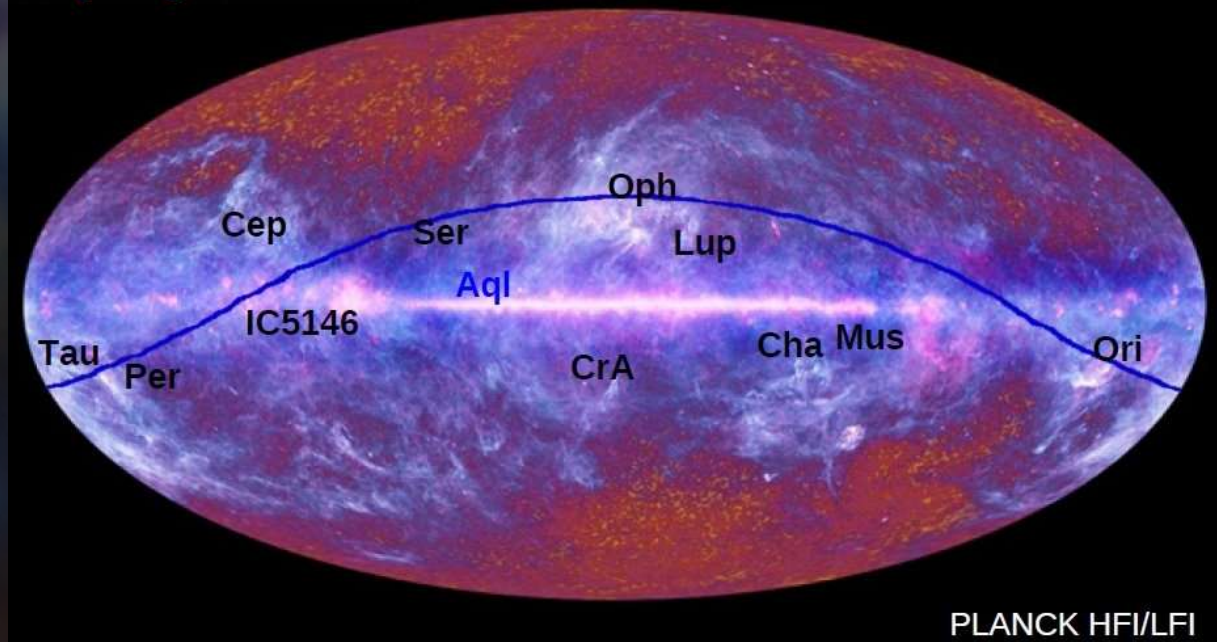
Herschel Gould Belt Key Program (André et al. 2010)

- ◆ wide-field submm continuum survey with SPIRE/PACS
- ◆ 461 hrs of GT (SPIRE+PACS Consortia)
- ◆ in nearby star-forming cloud complexes ($d \leq 500$ pc) of the Gould Belt
- ◆ probes **the origin of the stellar masses**

Scientific motivations, goals:

- ⇒ What is the link between the pre-stellar CMF and the stellar IMF
- ⇒ To provide a complete census of prestellar cores and protostars
- ⇒ To unravel the core formation mechanisms

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



Observations of Aquila, Orion B, IC5146, and Polaris Flare

- **With SPIRE/PACS parallel-mode of Herschel.**
- Large scan maps, taken with $60''\text{sec}^{-1}$ scanning speed

Data reduction

SPIRE 250/350/500 μm (reduced by N. Schneider):

- Using HIPE for data processing; map making with **HIPE 'naive' method.**

PACS 70/160 μm (reduced by V. Könyves):

- HIPE for data processing; map making with **Scanamorphos** (Roussel 2012, *subm.*).

Map-making benchmark

Joint efforts of PACS/SPIRE ICCs + Herschel parallel mode DPUG in **benchmarking the map maker tools** (photProject, madMap, SPIRE pipeline, scanamorphos, sanepic, tamasis, romagal). A workshop is planned to be held on the benchmark results.

HGBS: SOME „TECHNICAL” DETAILS

SOURCE DETECTION, IDENTIFICATION, PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Source extraction

Compact sources were extracted from the SPIRE/PACS images **using `getsources`**, a multi-scale, multi-wavelength source finding algorithm (Men'shchikov et al. 2012).

Distinction between starless cores and protostars/YSOs

- **YSOs:** Detected in emission above the 5σ level at $70\ \mu\text{m}$
- **Starless cores:** undetected in emission (or detected in absorption) at $70\ \mu\text{m}$.

Dust temperature (T_d) and column density (Σ) maps

- **Weighted SEDs** for all map pixels from the 5 SPIRE/PACS wavelengths.
- SEDs **fitted by a greybody**, $I_\nu = B_\nu(T_d)(1 - e^{-\tau_\nu})$
 I_ν : observed surface brightness at ν ; $\tau_\nu = \kappa_\nu \Sigma$: dust optical depth; κ_ν : dust opacity per unit (dust+gas) mass, $\beta = 2$ (e.g. Hildebrand 1983).
- **T_d and Σ were derived from the fit** to the 5 *Herschel* data points for all pixels.
- Similar SED fitting procedure was employed to estimate the core properties.

The background of the slide is a dark, star-filled astronomical image of the Aquila constellation. The stars are scattered across the field, with some appearing as bright points and others as fainter specks. The overall color palette is dark with some blue and cyan hues, suggesting a specific spectral filter or image processing. The word 'AQUILA' is centered in the upper half of the image in a bright cyan color.

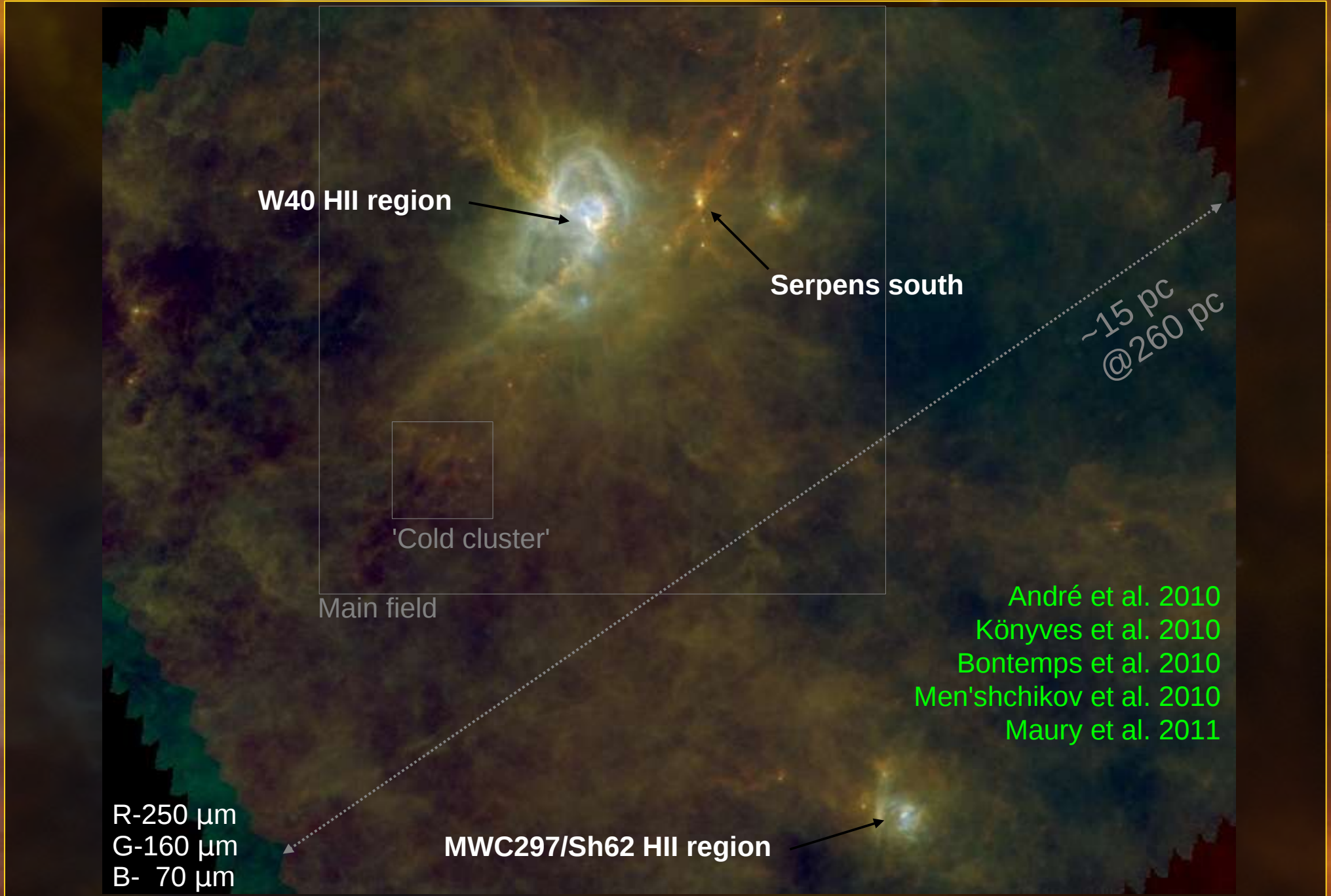
AQUILA

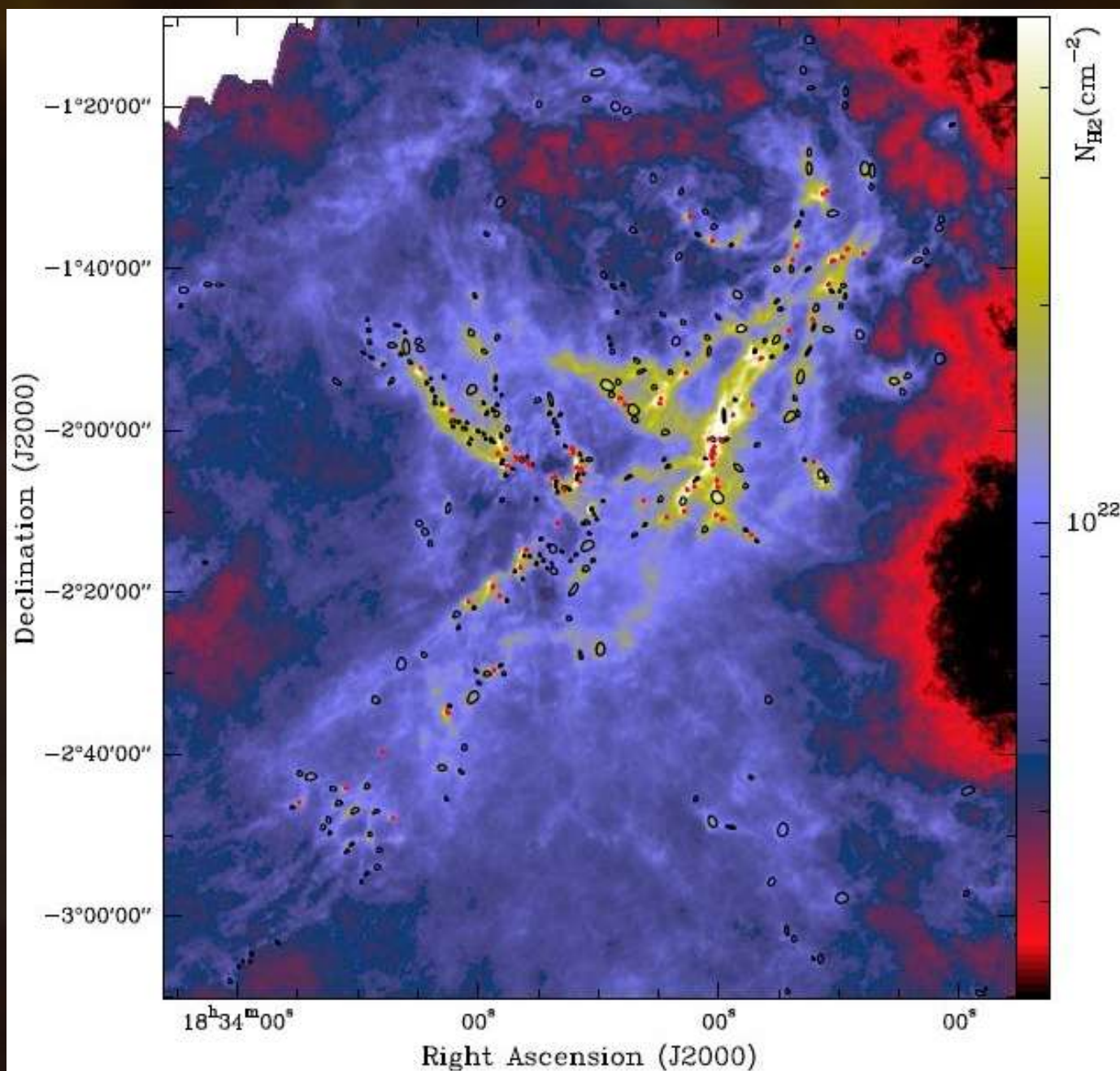
Highlights:

- Prestellar cores
- CMF
- Lifetimes
- Core formation “threshold”, PDF

HGBS: THE AQUILA FIELD

RGB COMPOSITE



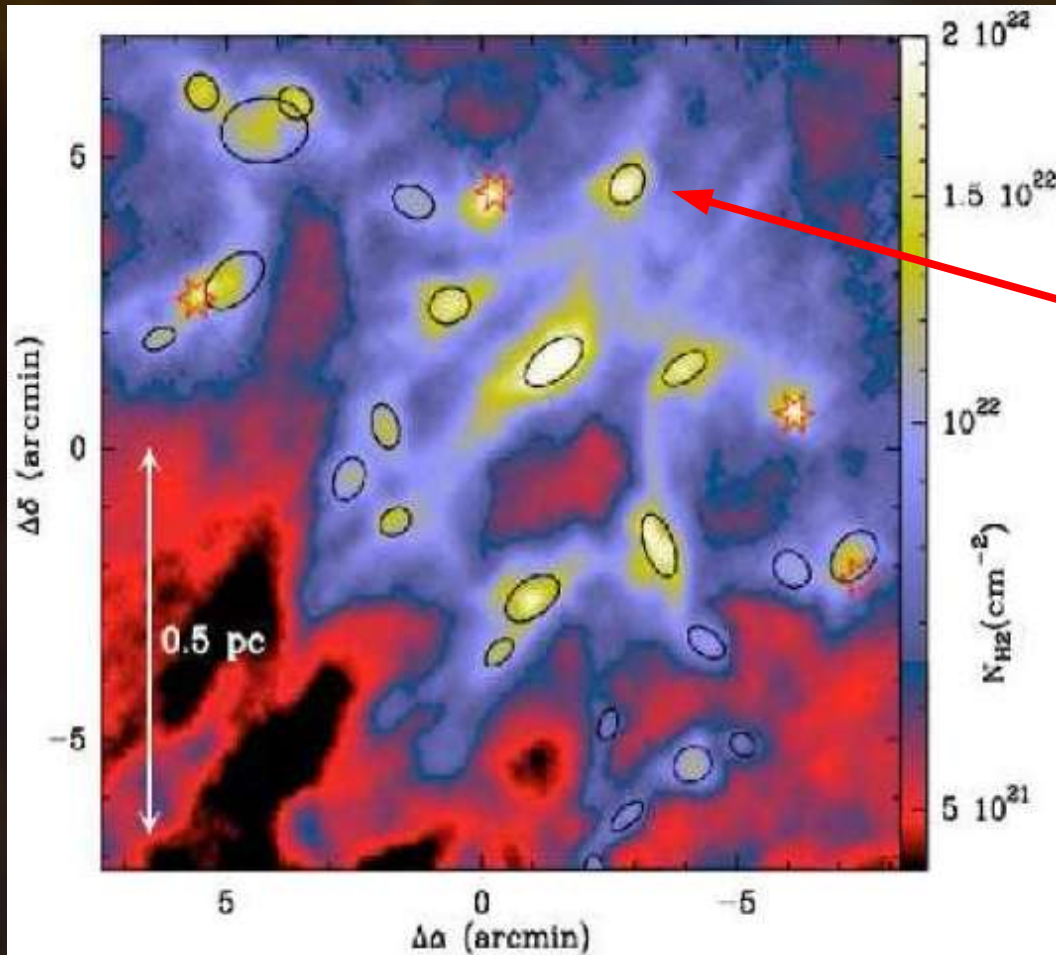


In Aquila -entire- field
($\sim 10 \text{ deg}^2$):

- ~ 500 starless cores (○)
- ~ 350 prestellar cores (60 %)
- ~ 200 protostars (●)
- (~ 35 class 0)

Background: **column density map** (Planck offsets added)

André et al. 2010
Könyves et al. 2010
Bontemps et al. 2010
Maury et al. 2011

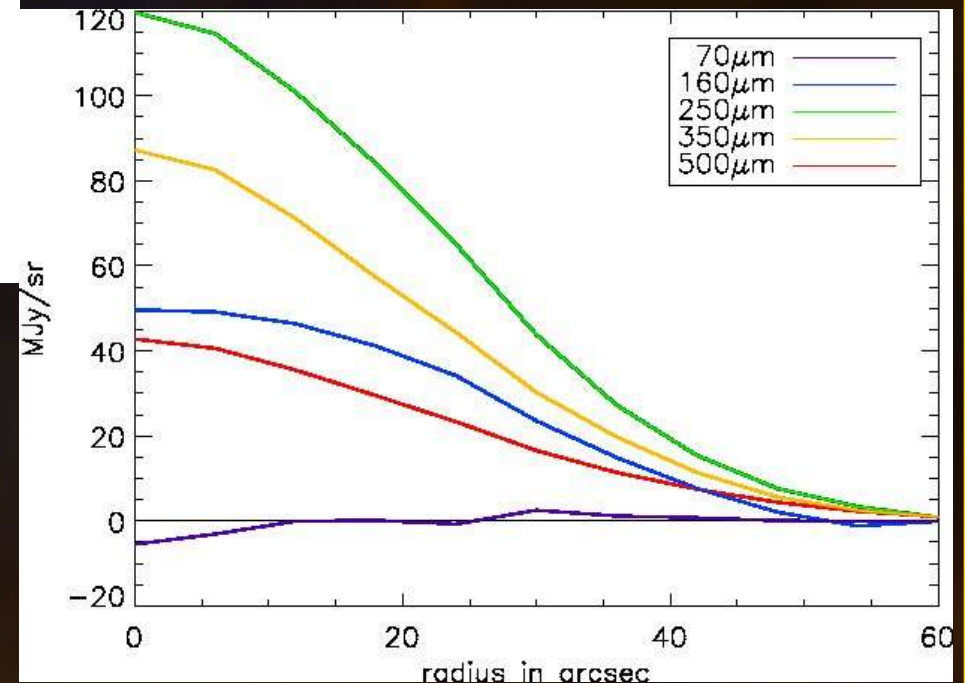


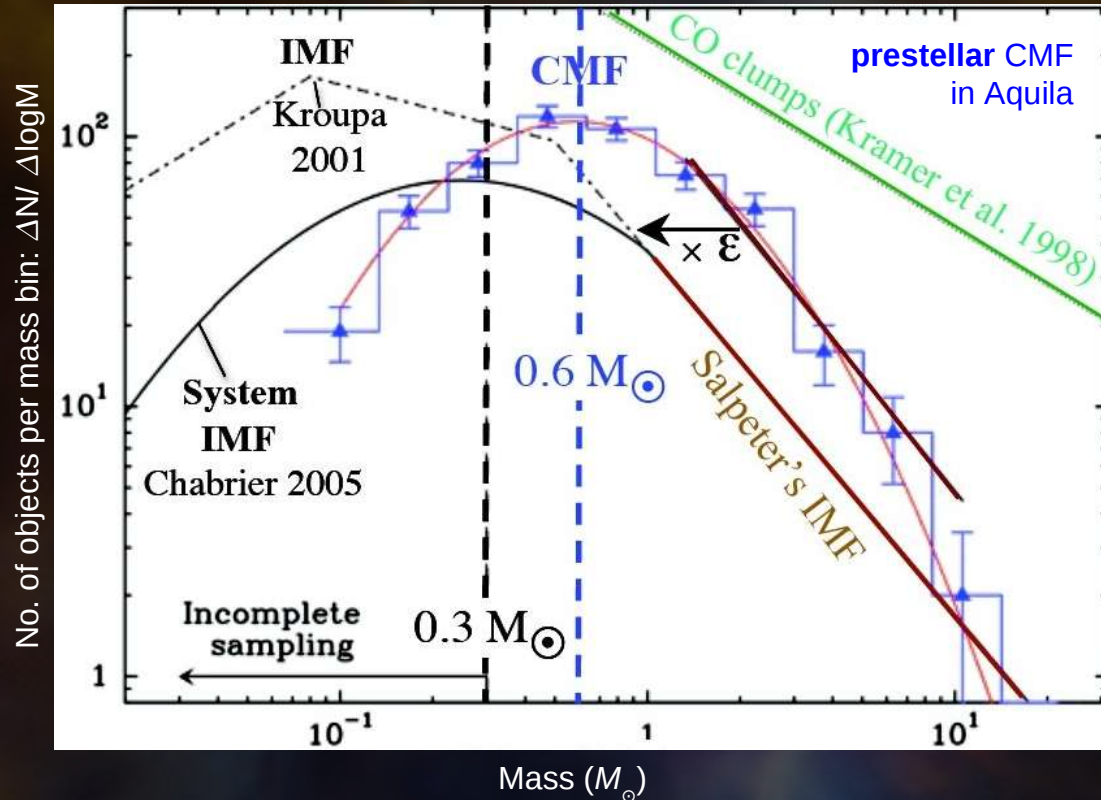
Close up column density image of starless cores and protostars ('Cold cluster').

A core:

- local column density peak
- simple (convex) shape
- no substructure at Herschel resol.
- potential single star-forming entity

Radial intensity profiles returned by `getsources` for the starless core marked by arrow.





André et al. 2010
Könyves et al. 2010

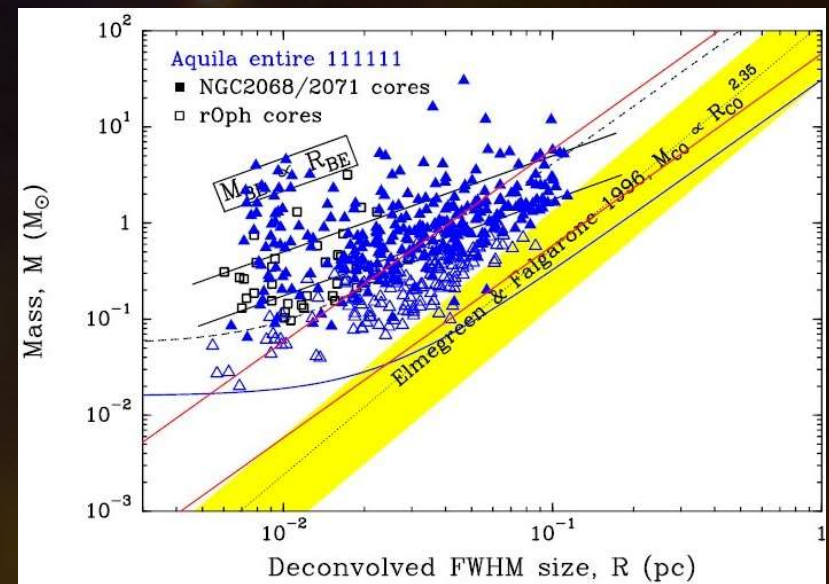
Mass vs. size diagram comparing the locations of ~ 300 candidate prestellar cores (\blacktriangle), and the rest starless cores (\triangle), to both models of critical isothermal BE spheres (at $T=7K$, $T=20K$) and observed prestellar cores (Motte et al. 1998, 2001).

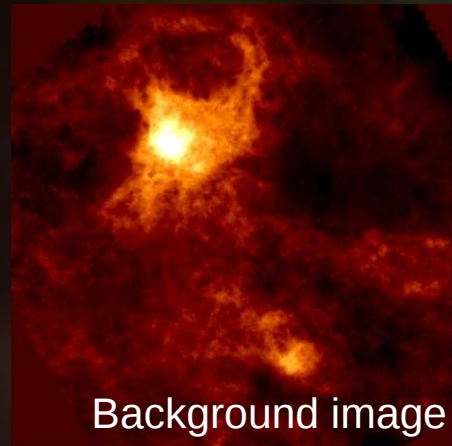
Differential mass function of >400 starless cores in the entire Aquila field. $\sim 60\%$ of them is bound, a.k.a., prestellar cores.

Lognormal fit peaks at $\sim 0.6 M_{\odot}$
fitted power-law: $dN/d\log M \propto M^{-1.5 \pm 0.2}$

The fitted properties are robust

In the end the whole survey will be used to fully characterize the nature of the CMF-IMF link

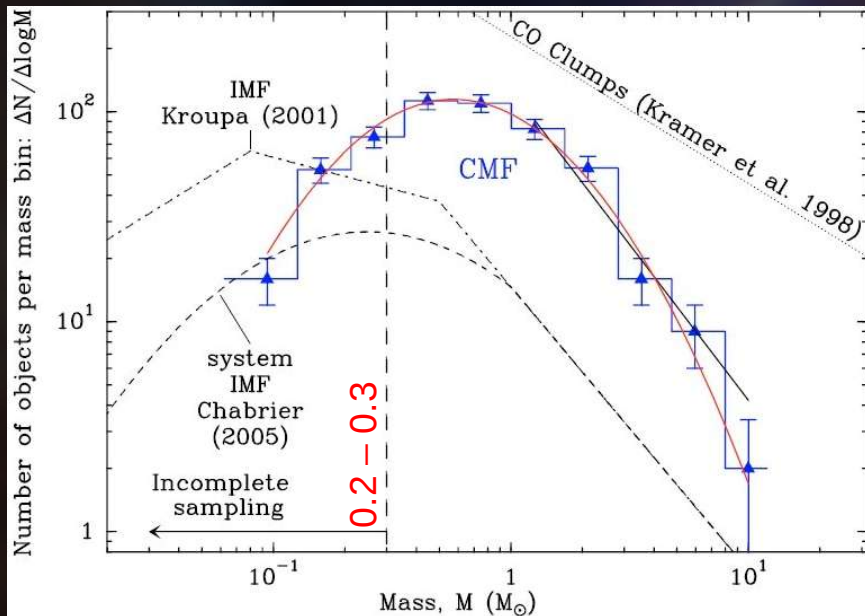
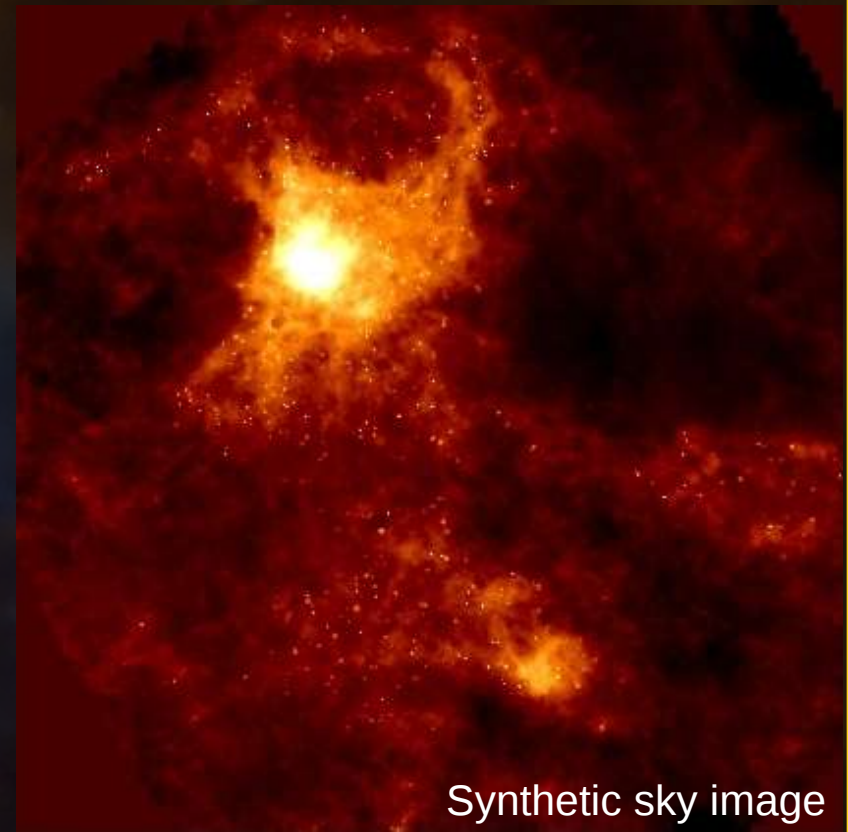




+



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- **prestellar cores:**
85 % above a core mass of $\sim 0.3 M_{\odot}$
- **embedded protostars:**
>90 % down to $L_{\text{bol}} \sim 0.2 L_{\odot}$

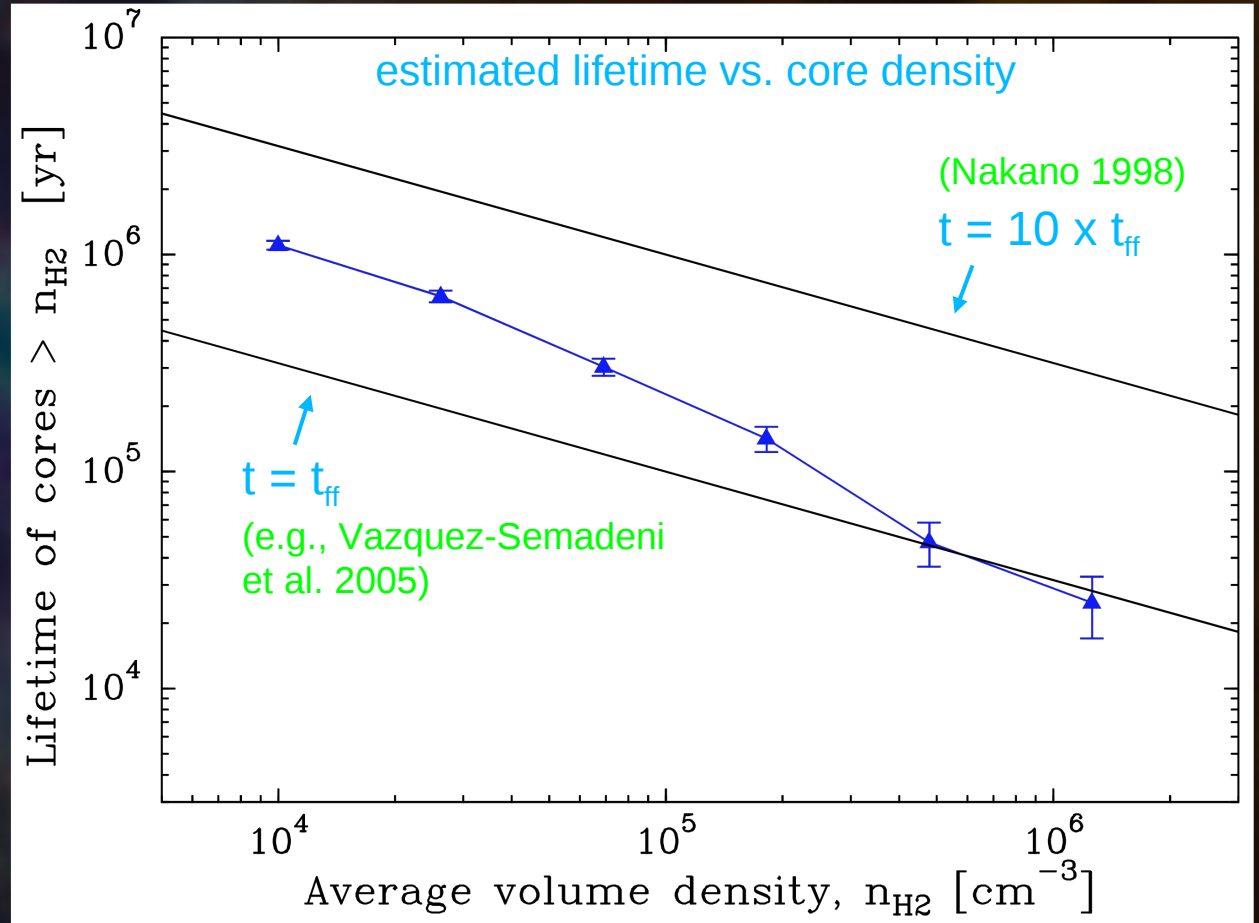
Könyves et al. 2010, André et al. 2010

Core lifetime estimates

(I.) Based on number ratios:

- ~500 *Herschel* starless cores
($t \sim 1$ Myr)
- ~200 *Herschel* Class0/ClassI protostars
($t \sim 0.5$ Myr)
- ~1000 *Spitzer* (Class II, YSOs)
($t \sim 2$ Myr, Evans et al. 2009)

Könyves et al. in prep.



(II.) Preliminary estimates of core lifetimes in Aquila lie between the two timescale models on the estimated lifetime versus core density plot.

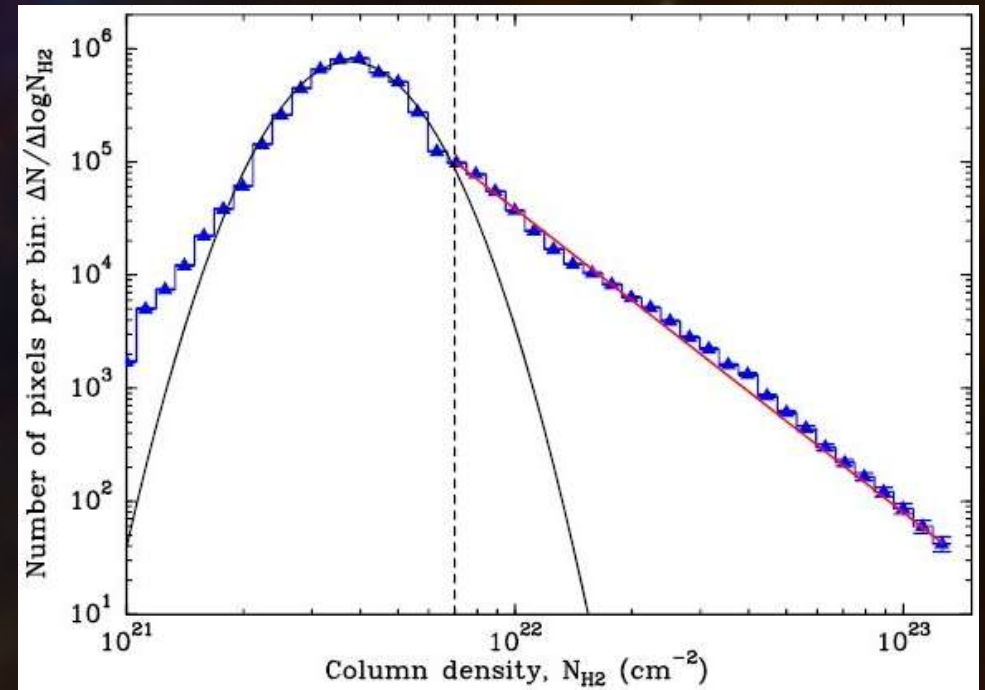
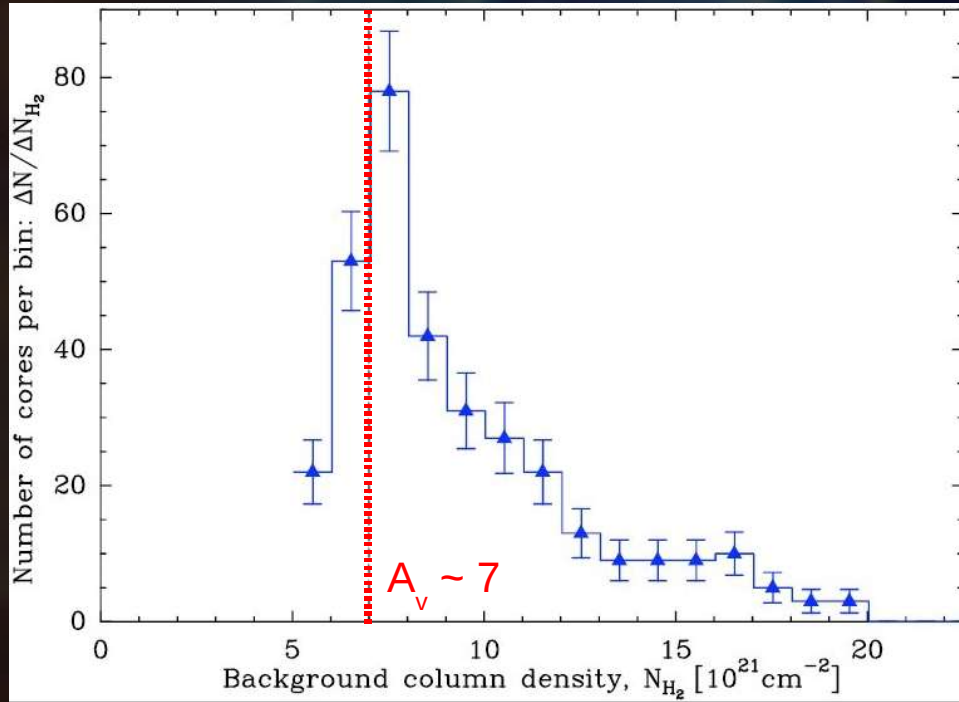
Literature estimates for observed core timescales of various data-sets gave similar constraints (Ward-Thompson et al. 2007).

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

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

Distribution of bg cloud column densities 'behind' the prestellar cores.

PDF of column densities in Aquila



André et al. IAU270
Könyves et al. in prep



ORION B

Highlights:

- Cores, protostars
- Core formation “threshold”
- PDFs

ORION B

Orion B south



Orion B center



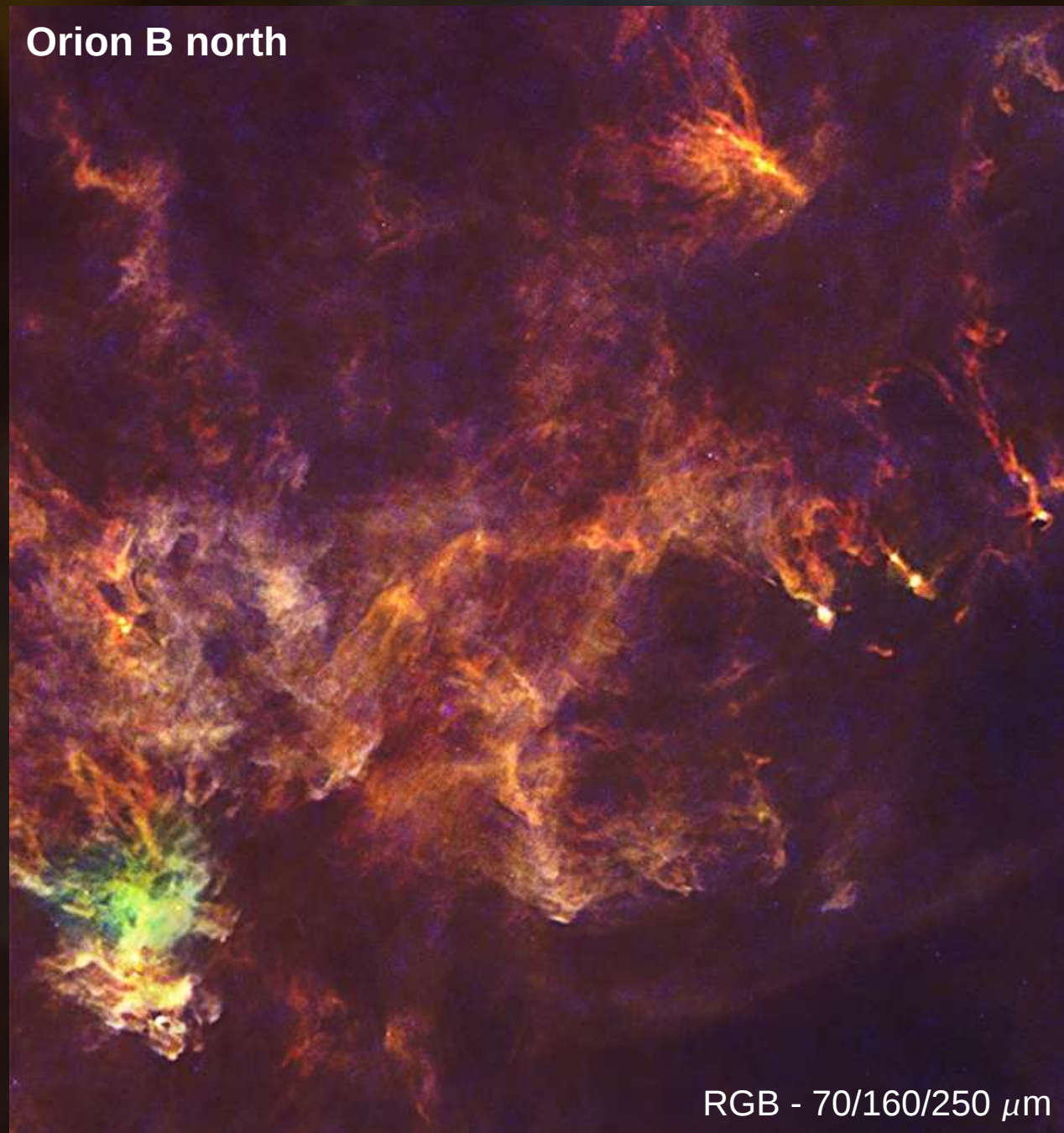
Herschel Gould Belt Survey

Könyves et al. in prep.
Schneider et al. in prep.

RGB - 70/160/250 μm

ORION B

Orion B north

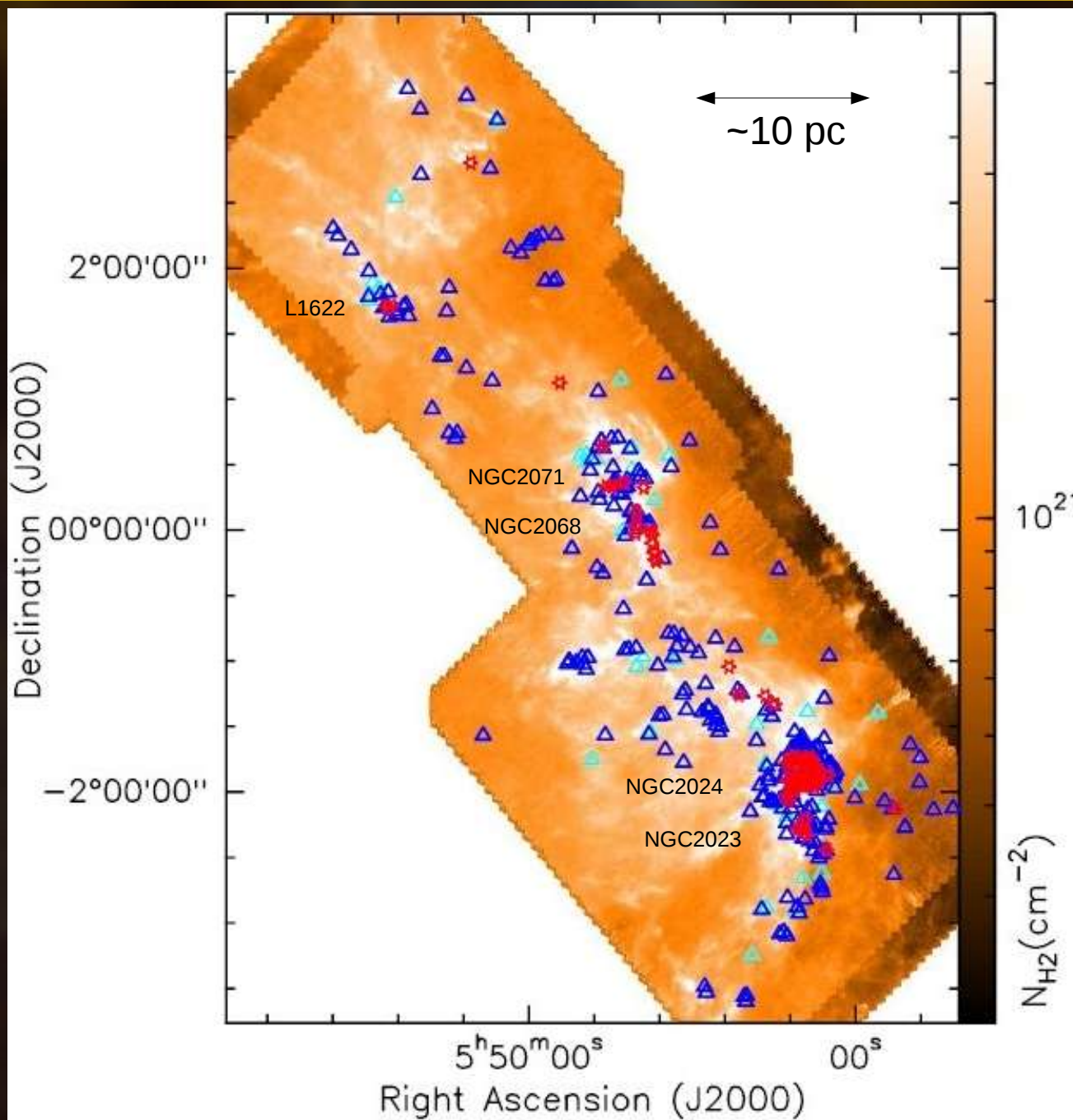


RGB - 70/160/250 μm

Herschel Gould Belt Survey

Könyves et al. in prep.

Schneider et al. in prep.



In Orion B, entire field

(~15 deg²):

~ 400 starless

~ 350 prestellar (> 80 %, \triangle)

~ 60 protostars (\star)

(~ 20 class 0)

Very preliminary numbers!

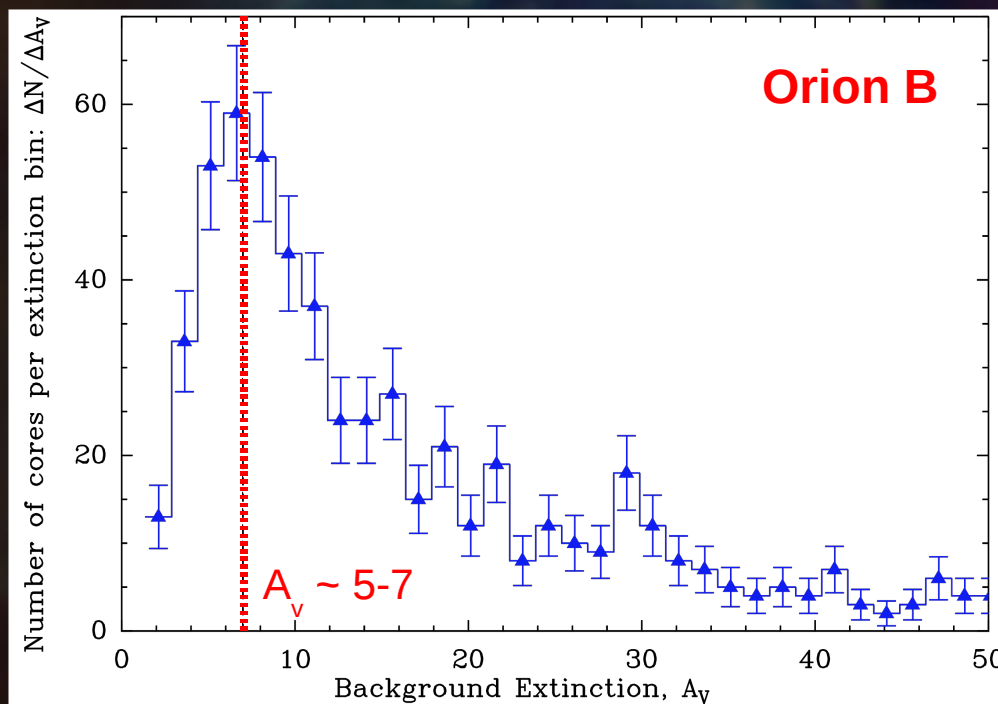
Background: column density map (Planck offsets added)

Könyves et al. in prep.

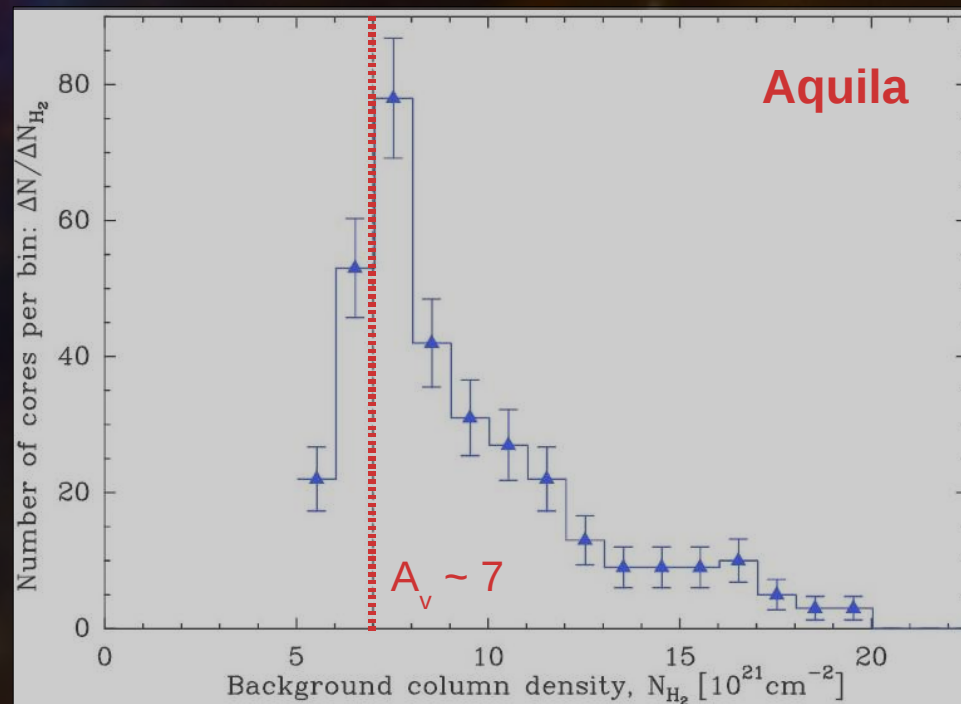
Strong evidence of a **background extinction / column density “threshold”** for the formation of prestellar cores in Orion B

In Orion B, > 75% of the Herschel prestellar cores are found above $A_V \sim 7 \Leftrightarrow \Sigma \sim 150 M_\odot \text{ pc}^{-2}$

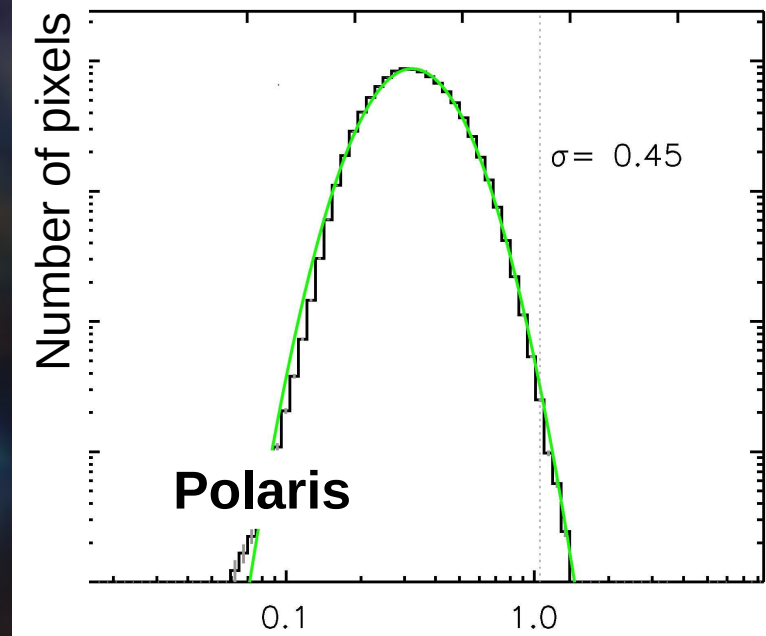
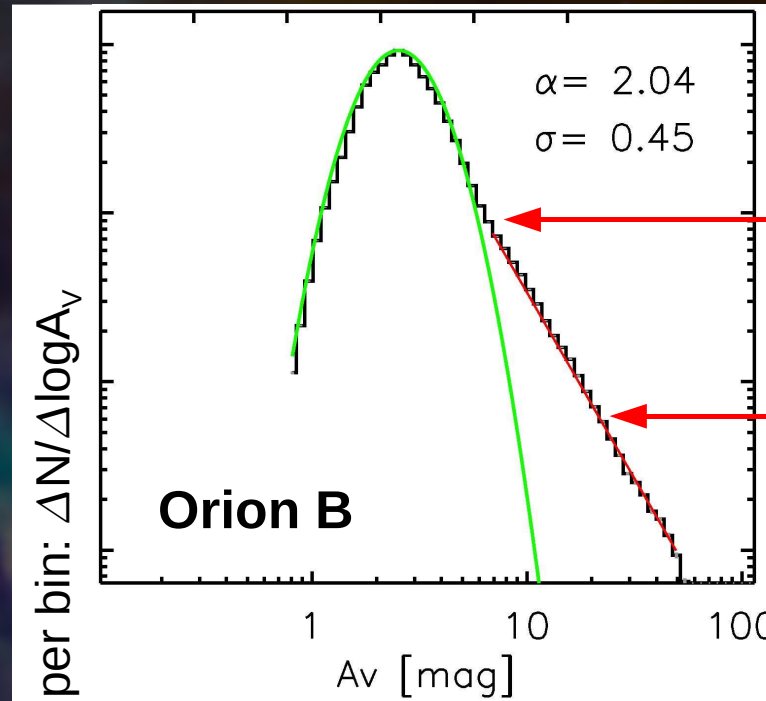
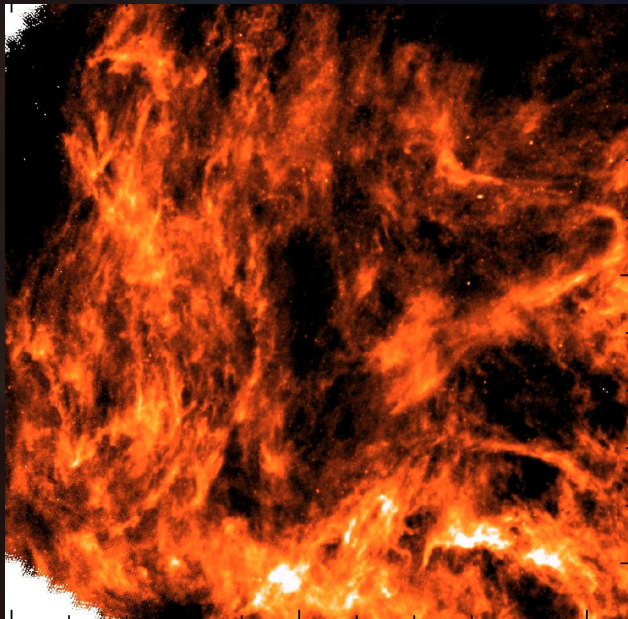
Distribution of background extinction 'behind' the prestellar cores.



Könyves et al. in prep.



André et al. IAU270
Könyves et al. in prep



Schneider et al.
in prep.



IC5146

Highlights:

- Filaments with uniform inner widths
- Connection of cores with filaments

„Filamentary” background and definitions

Interstellar filamentary structures:

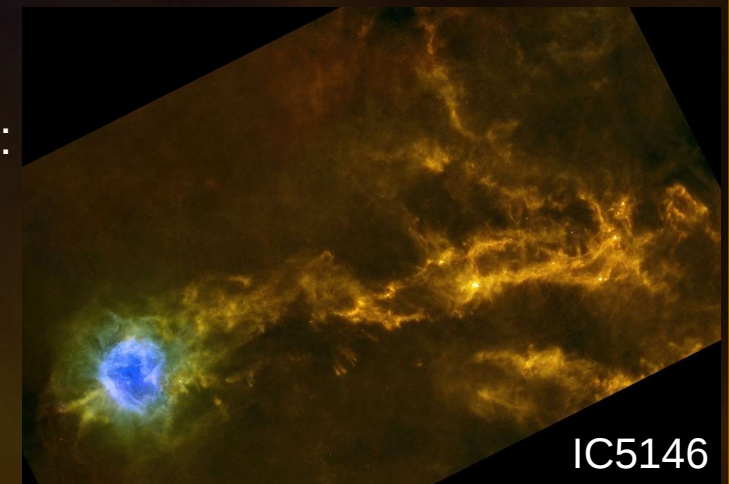
- ◆ Everything which is elongated (aspect ratio > 2) in column density maps
- ◆ exhibits a central ridge
- ◆ no characteristic mass, nor size

Hydrostatic equilibrium solutions of isothermal infinite cylinders are given by **Ostriker (1964)**:

- ◆ density profile $\rho \propto r^{-4}$, and
- ◆ critical mass per unit length $M_{\text{line,crit}} = 2c_s^2/G$

Criterion for fragmenting filaments (**Inutsuka & Miyama1997**):

- ◆ If $M_{\text{line}} > M_{\text{line,crit}}$, filaments fragment \Rightarrow **supercritical**
- ◆ If $M_{\text{line}} < M_{\text{line,crit}}$, filaments are unbound \Rightarrow **subcritical**

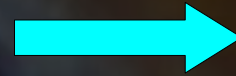


Shells, loops, bubbles

e.g., Large et al. 1962, 1966;
Könyves et al. 2007

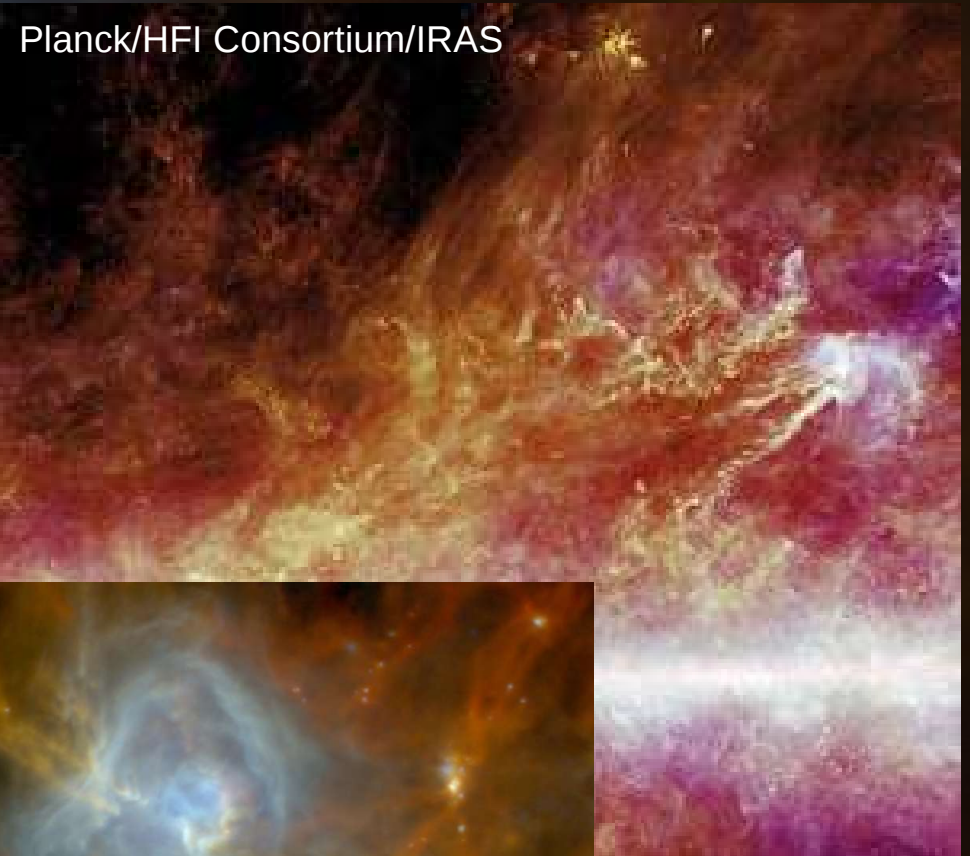


compressed shells (30-80 K)
bubble interiors ($\sim 10^6$ K)
surrounding medium (100 K)

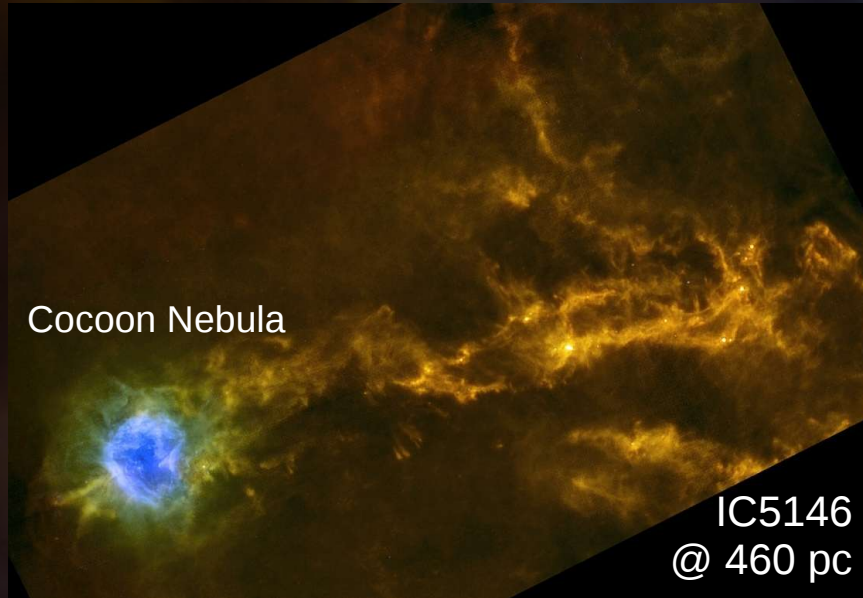


Filaments

e.g., Schneider & Elmegreen 1979;
HERSCHEL; *PLANCK*



Filament width as measured with Herschel

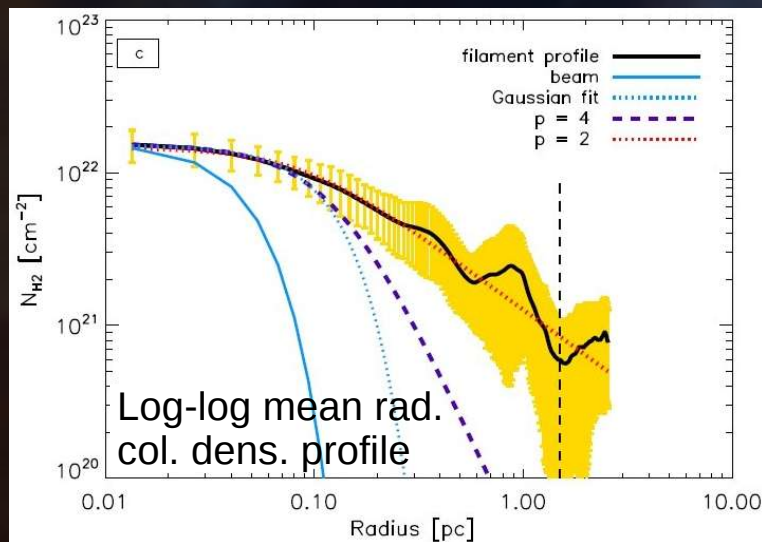


Skeleton of the filamentary network **traced** with **DisPerSE** algorithm (Sousbie 2011)

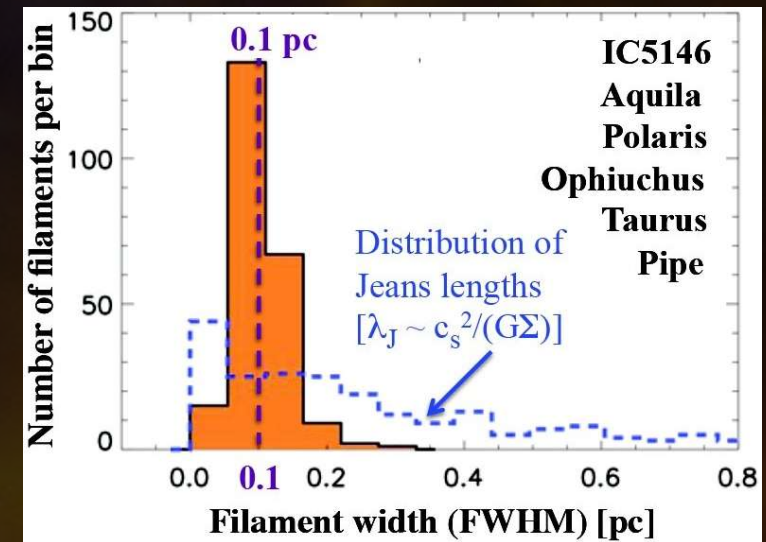
Filament width distribution peaks at **~ 0.1 pc** (independent of length or column density)

⇒ sonic scale below which interstellar **turbulence becomes subsonic** (Federrath et al. 2010)

⇒ filaments may form via the dissipation of large-scale turbulence (Padoan et al. 2001)



Arzoumanian et al. (2011)





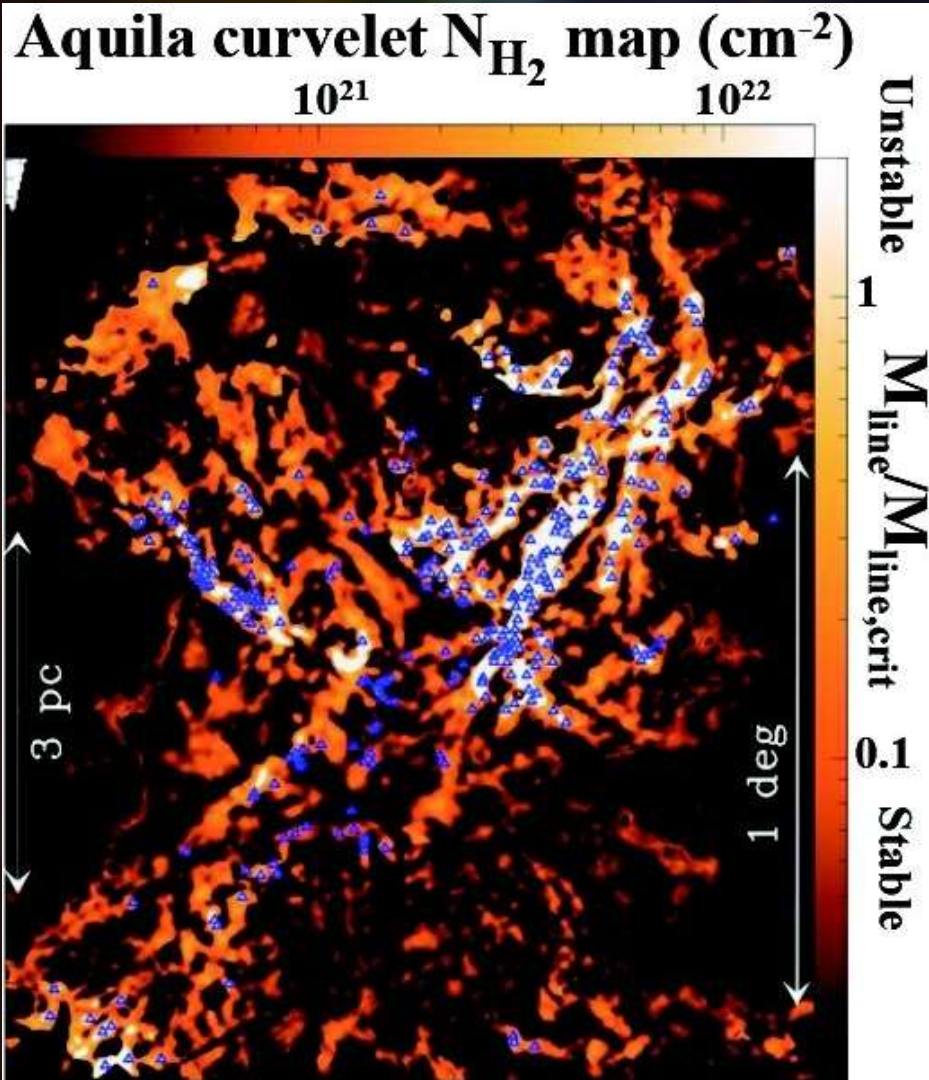
**Early results of the Herschel Gould Belt survey:
a coherent star formation scenario**

HGBS: SF SCENARIO FROM ORIONB, AQUILA, POLARIS DATA

CORES SITTING IN DENSE FILAMENTS

Prestellar cores are preferentially found within the densest filaments

90% of prestellar cores (\triangle) found
at $N_{\text{H}_2} > 7 \times 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-2} \Leftrightarrow A_{\text{v, bg}} > 7$



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

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

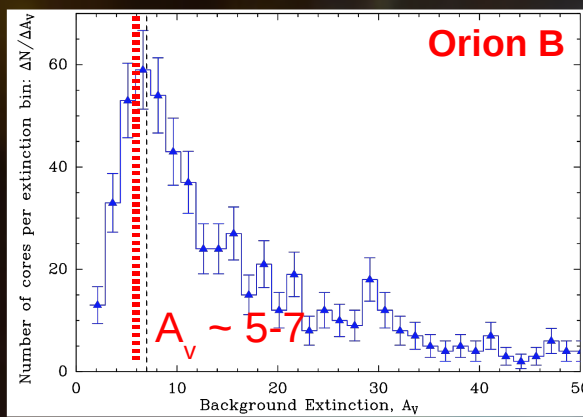
$M_{\text{line,crit}} = 2c_s^2/G \sim 15 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-1}$, with $c_s \sim 0.2 \text{ km/s}$
at $T \sim 10\text{K}$

$$\Leftrightarrow \Sigma_{\text{th}} \sim 150 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A_{\text{v}} \sim 7, \text{ given the filament width of } \sim 0.1 \text{ pc}$$

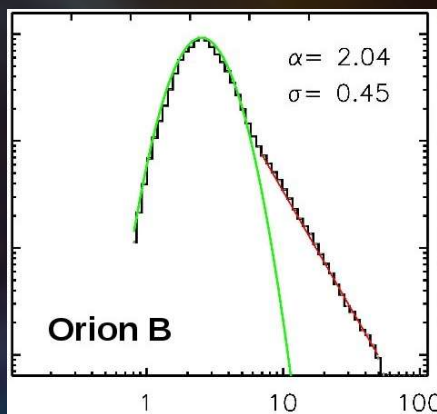
Unstable filaments highlighted in white
in the N_{H_2} map (André et al. 2010)

HGBS: SF SCENARIO FROM ORIONB, AQUILA, POLARIS DATA



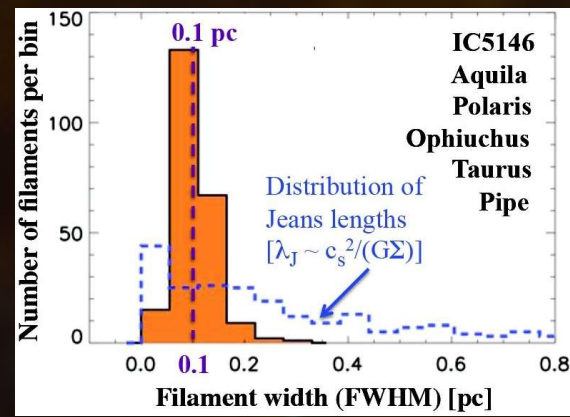
Bg extinction of cores
 André et al. 2011
 Könyves et al., in prep.

+



N_{H_2} PDF
 Schneider et al., in prep

+



Filament width (0.1pc)
 Arzoumanian et al. 2011

Suggested prestellar core formation scenario: in 2 main steps (André et al. 2010, 2011):

- 1) Filaments form first in the cold ISM, probably as a result of the dissipation of **MHD turbulence** (reflected in the 0.1 pc filament width)
- 2) The densest filaments then fragment into prestellar cores via **gravitational instability** above the approximately corresponding $A_{V,crit} \sim 5-7$ and $M_{line,crit} \sim 15 M_{\odot}/pc$ ($T \sim 10K$) thresholds.

Spectroscopic and polarimetric **follow-up observations** are planned to clarify the roles of **turbulence**, **magnetic fields**, **gravity** in forming the filaments.

HGBS: SF SCENARIO FROM ORIONB, AQUILA, POLARIS DATA

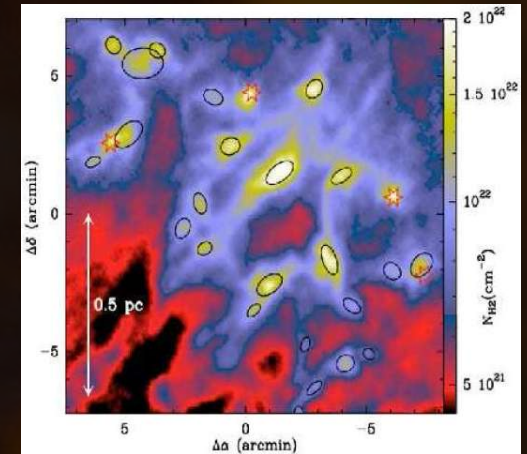
LINK BETWEEN CMF AND IMF - MORE FINDINGS

Filament fragmentation can produce the observed prestellar CMF

Median spacing between Aquila starless cores is ~ 0.08 pc

- ⇒ this roughly matches the thermal Jeans length in marginally critical filaments (at $T \sim 10$ K, and background $A_V \sim 7$)
- ⇒ Gravitational fragmentation is the dominant physical mechanism generating prestellar cores in filaments.

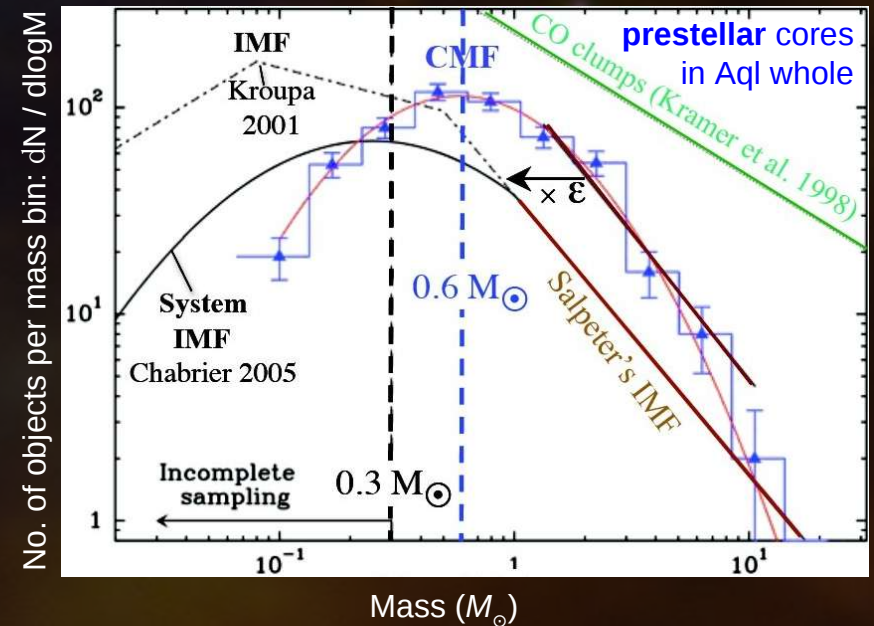
André et al. (2011)



Prestellar CMF: why not narrow, peaking at the median thermal Jeans mass ?

If turbulence generates the initial density fluctuations in the filaments

- ⇒ It can broaden the CMF (cf. Inutsuka 2001).



OTHER HERSCHEL GALACTIC SURVEYS

More Herschel Galactic surveys (filaments and -massive- star formation):

HOBYS (Motte et al. 2010): 70-500 μm S/P parallel-mode, slow scanning, survey of regions forming OB-type stars between 0.7-3 kpc from the Sun.

Rosette/HOBYS



Unbiased census of massive prestellar cores and massive class 0-like protostars

Hi-GAL (Molinari et al. 2010): 70-500 μm S/P parallel-mode survey of the Galactic Plane ($|l| < 60^\circ$, $|b| < 1^\circ$)

Eagle/Hi-GAL



Distribution of (massive) star formation in the Milky Way

Thank You!

