

# Magnetic fields in the Galactic interstellar medium

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## Methods, results, and open questions

Niels Oppermann

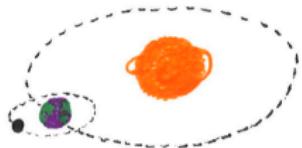


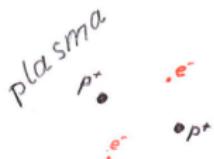
**CITA  
ICAT**

Canadian Institute for  
Theoretical Astrophysics

L'institut Canadien  
d'astrophysique théorique

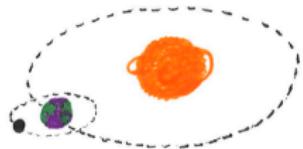
CHANG-ES meeting, Kingston, 2014-07-24





gas

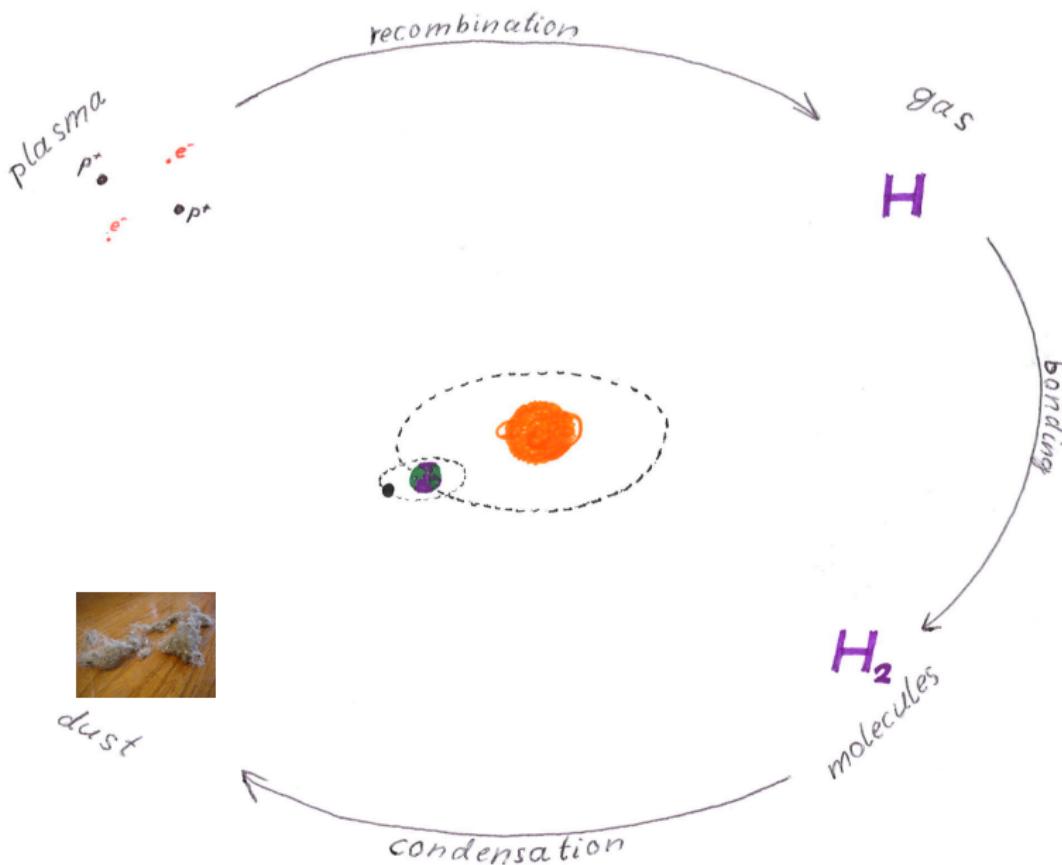
H

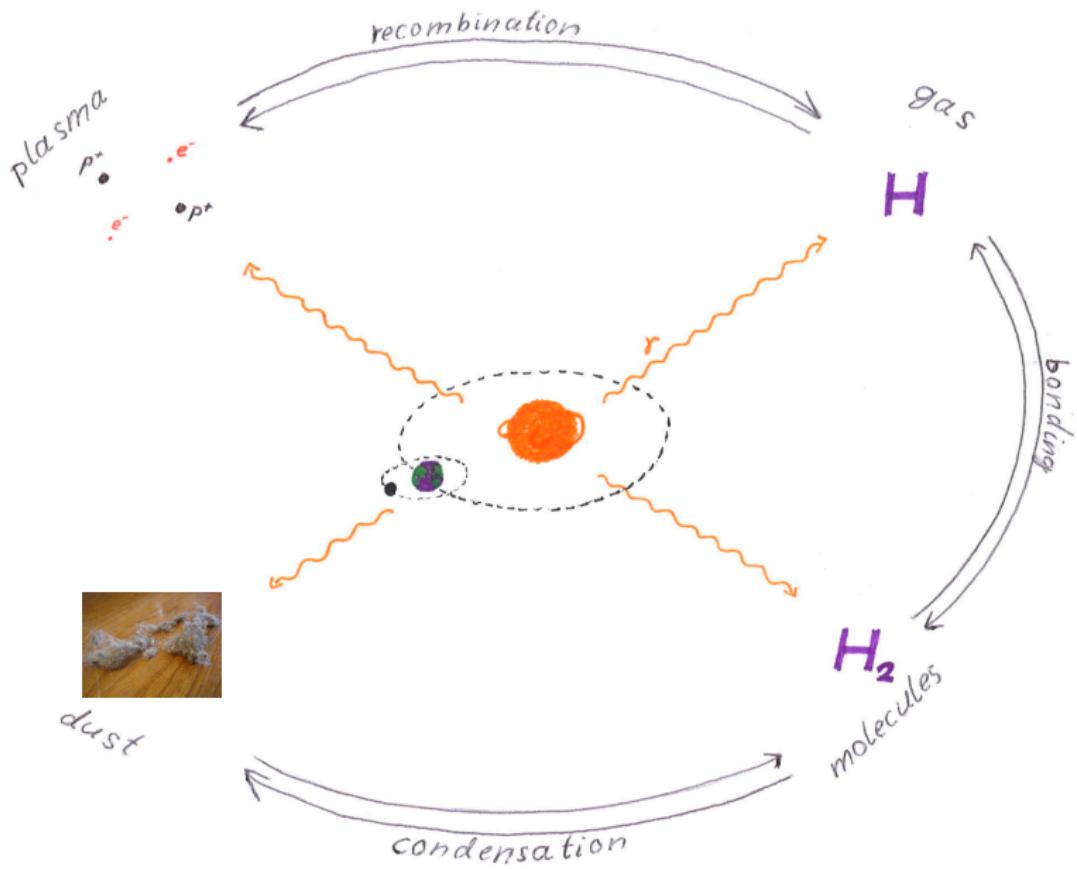


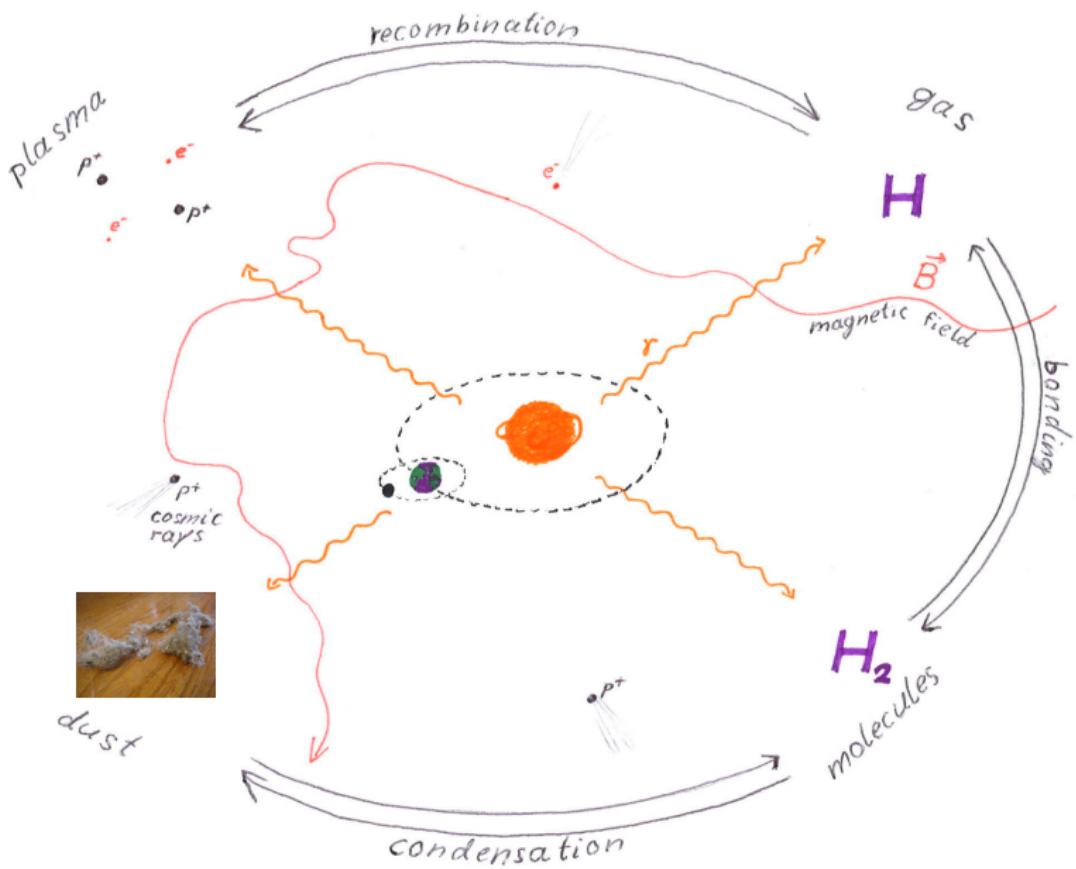
dust

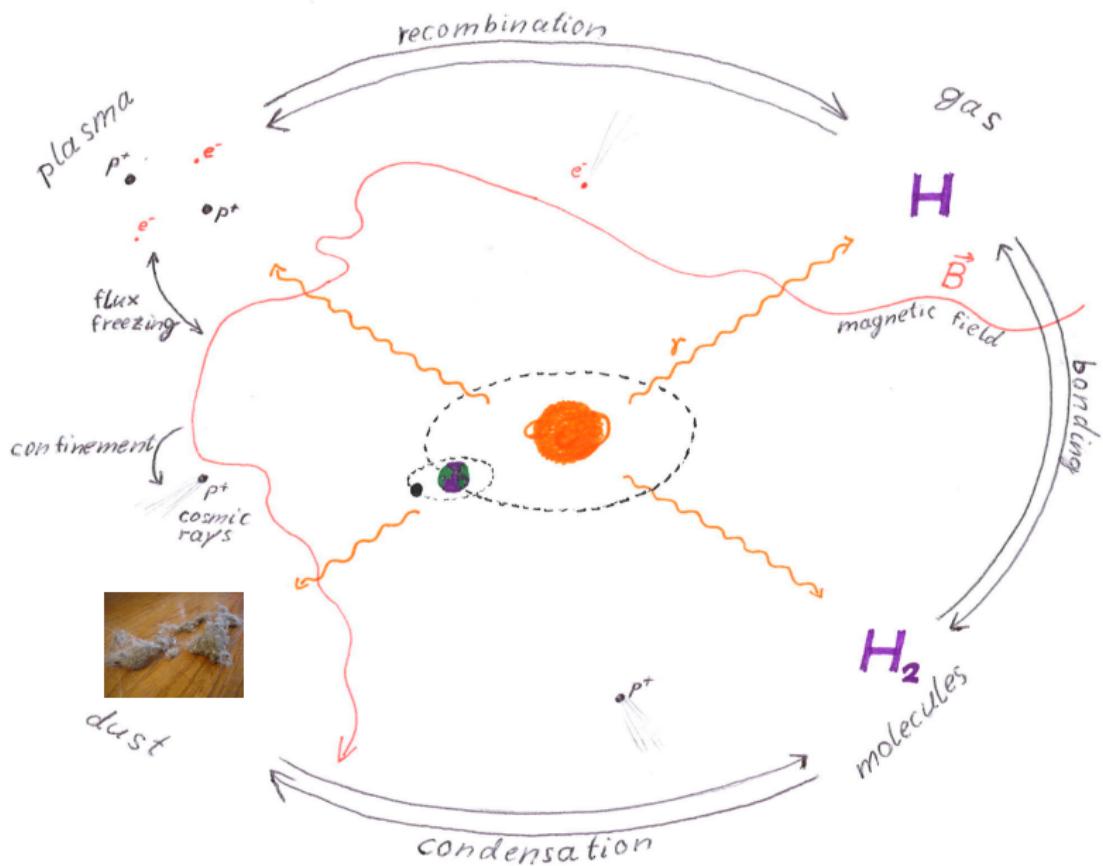
$H_2$

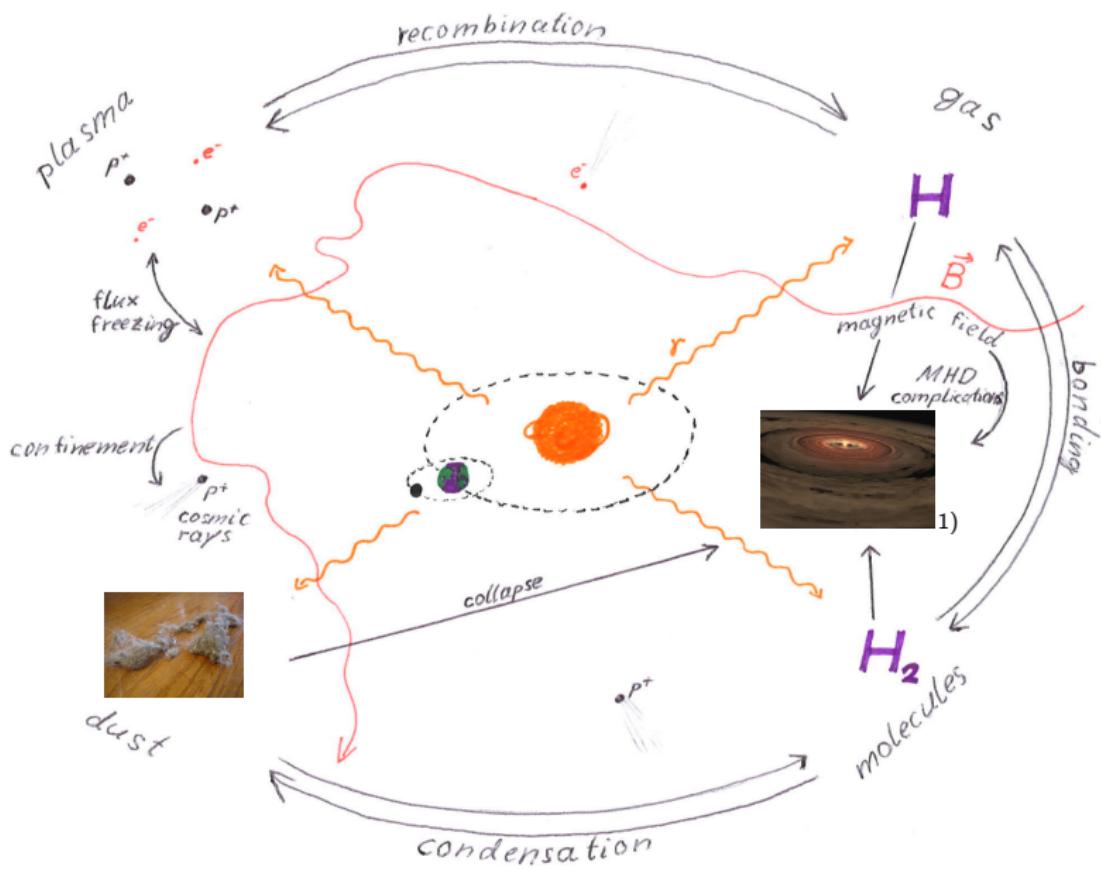
molecules

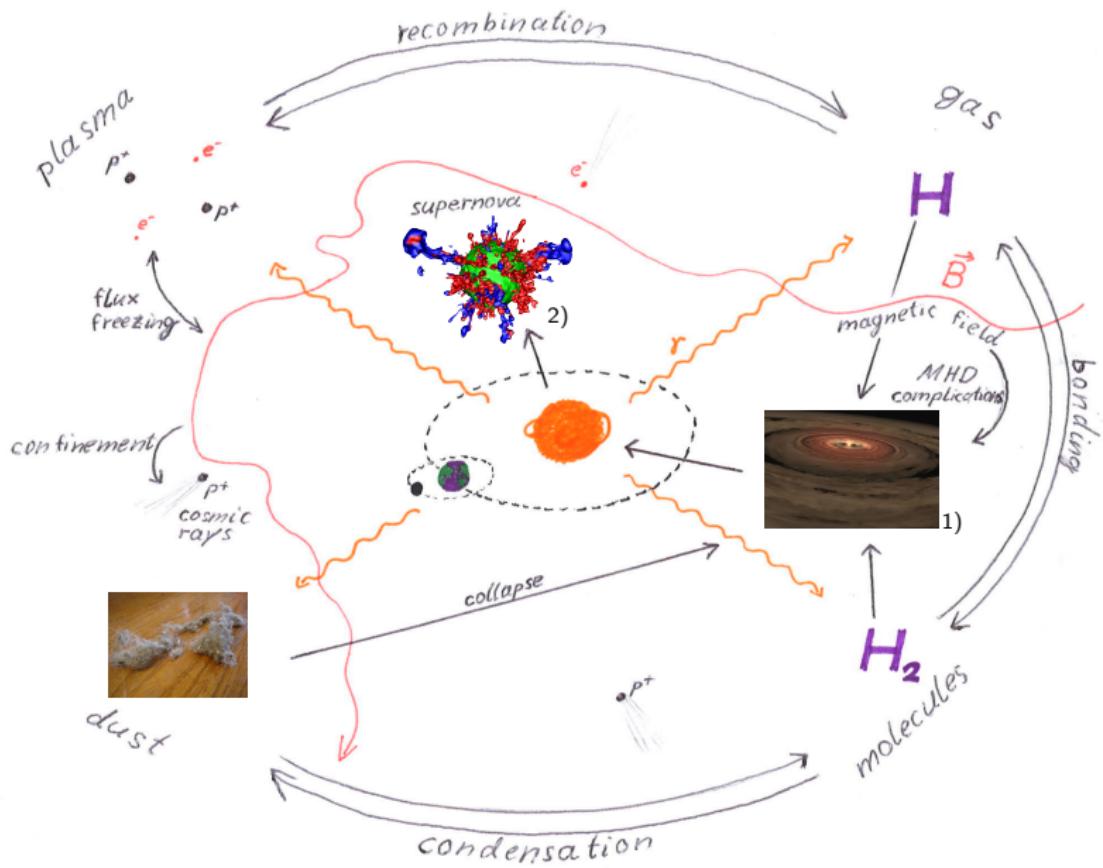


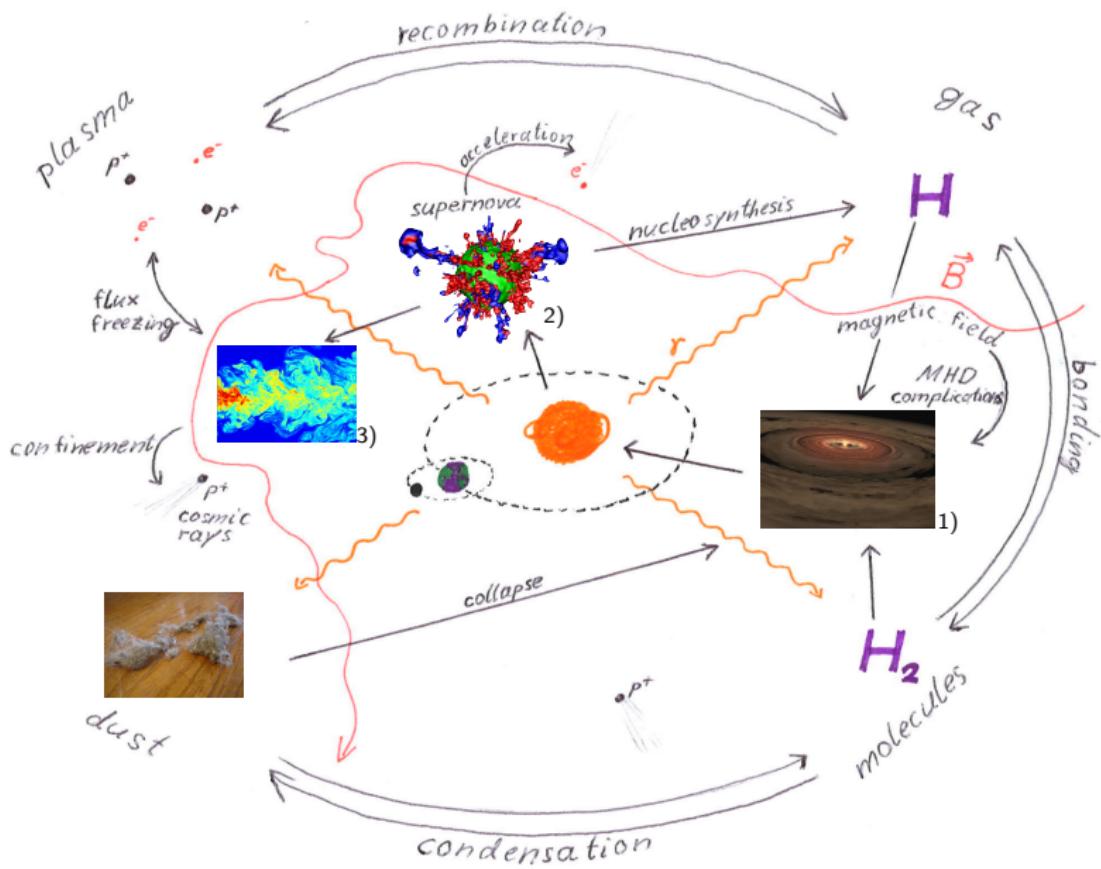


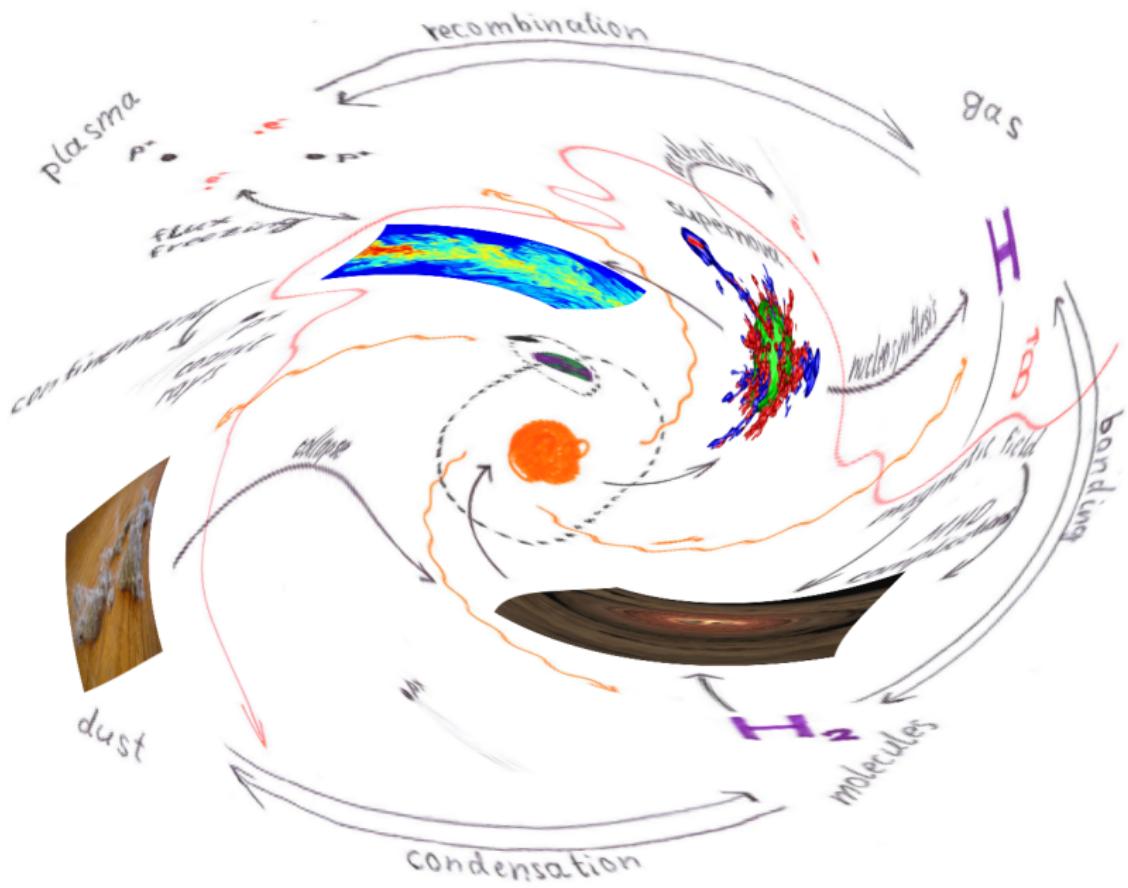








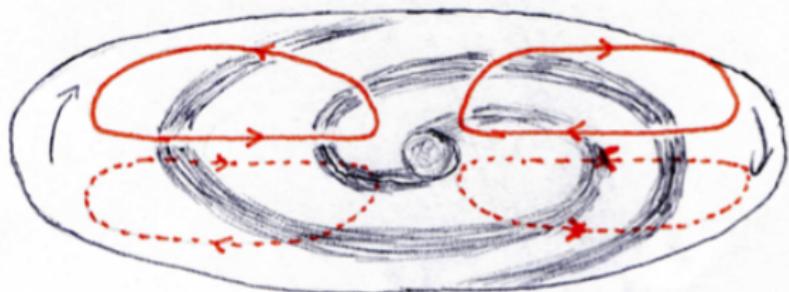




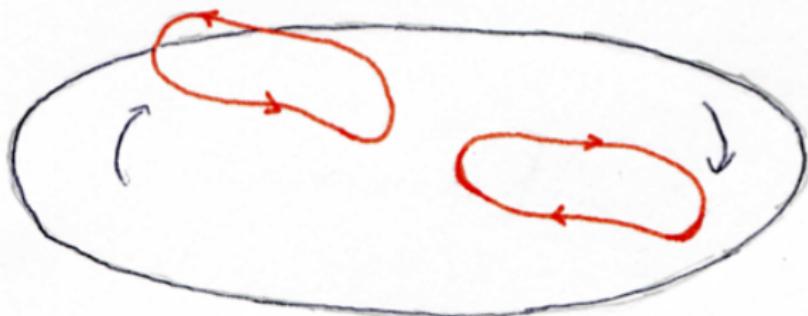
# Overview

- ▶ Theory
- ▶ Observation
  - ▶ Synchrotron
  - ▶ Dust
  - ▶ Faraday rotation
- ▶ Modeling
- ▶ Helicity

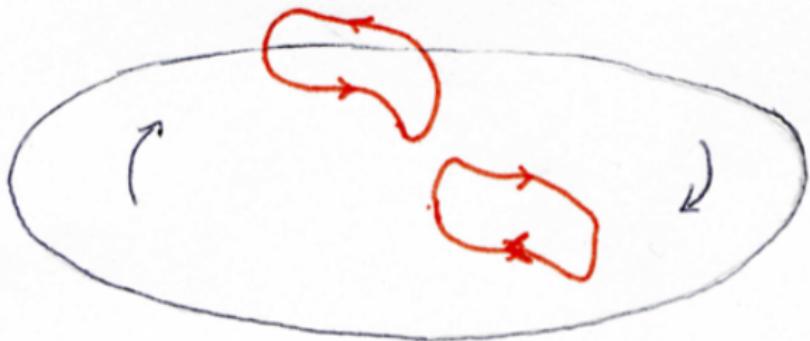
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



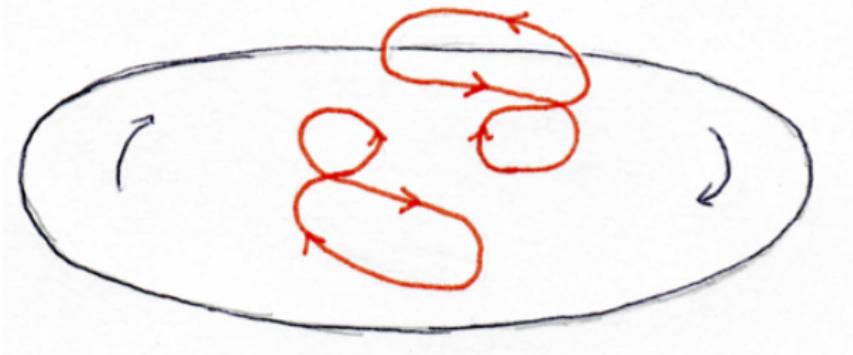
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



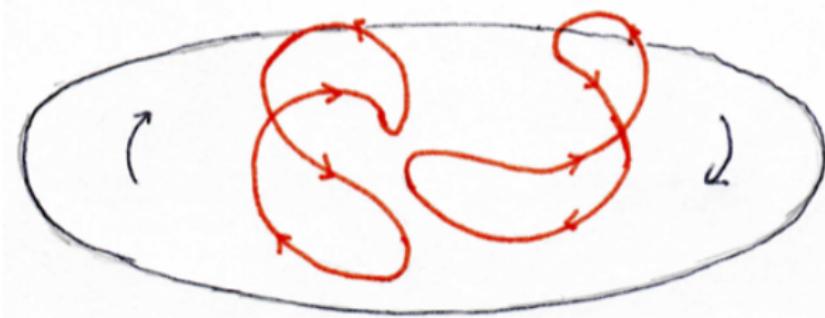
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



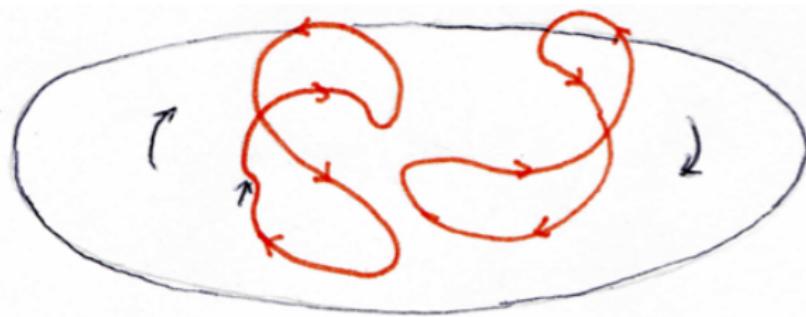
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



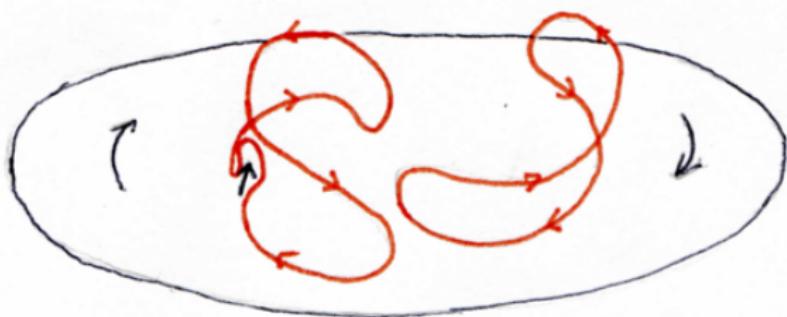
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



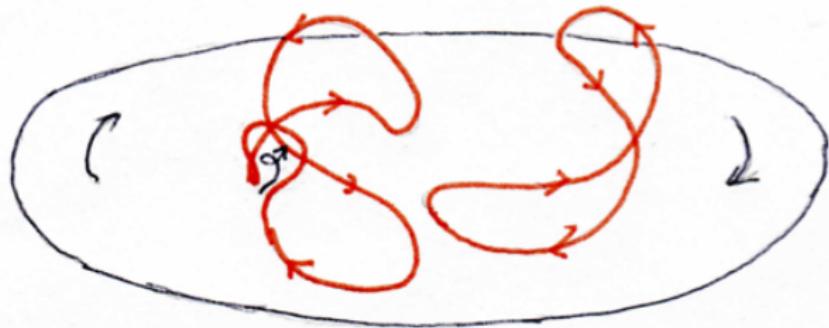
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



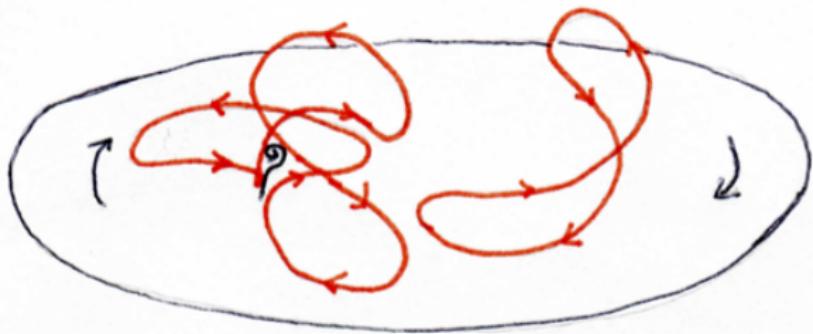
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



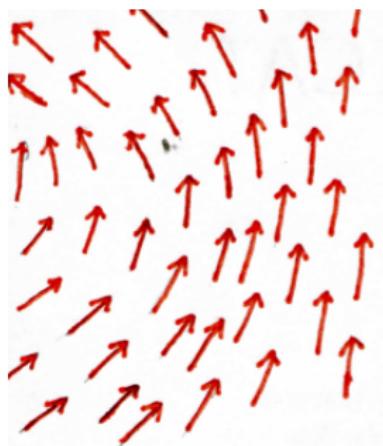
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



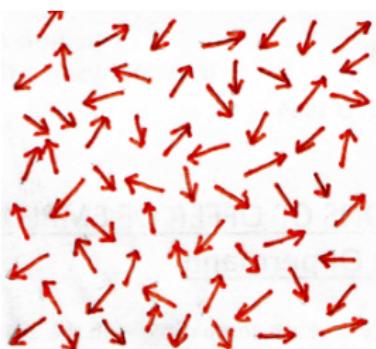
## Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



## Theory: Magnetic field components



coherent

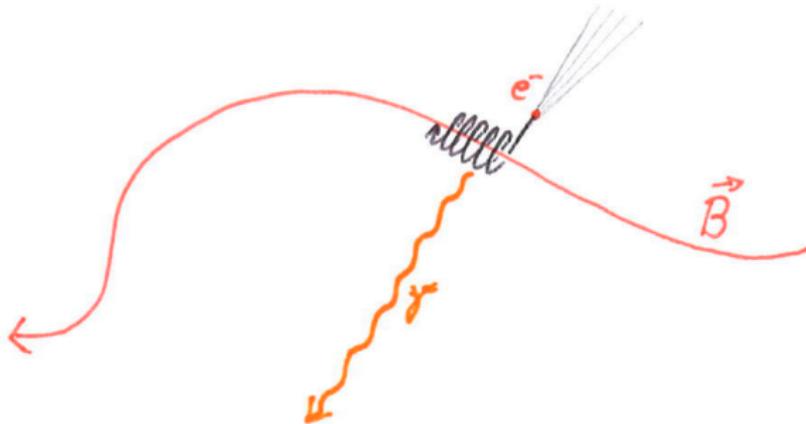


isotropic random



“ordered random”

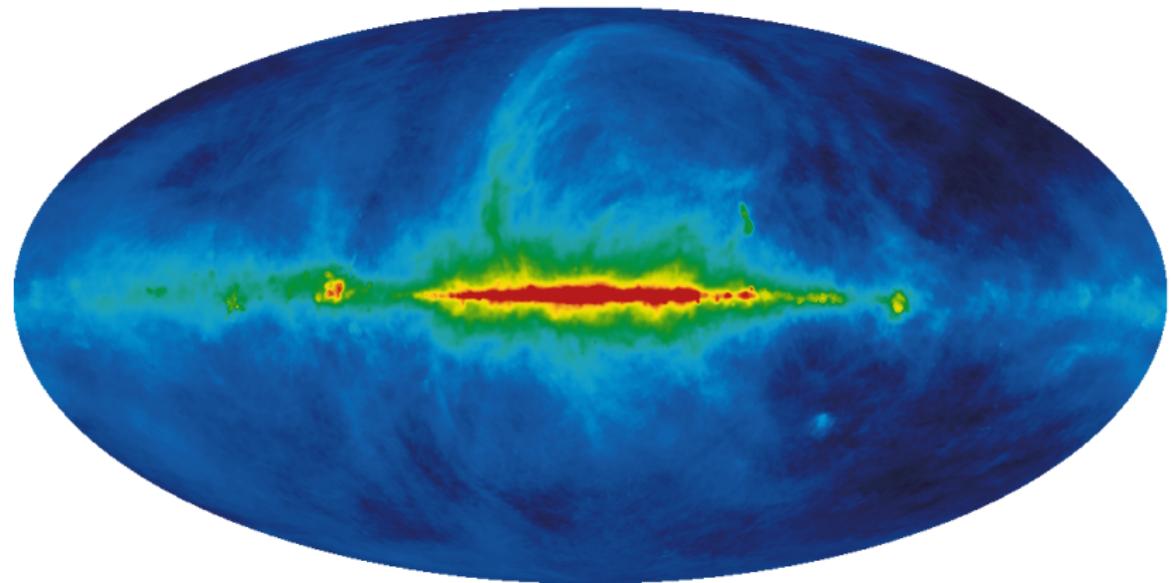
# Synchrotron



for  $n_{\text{CRE}}(E) \propto E^{-\gamma}$ :

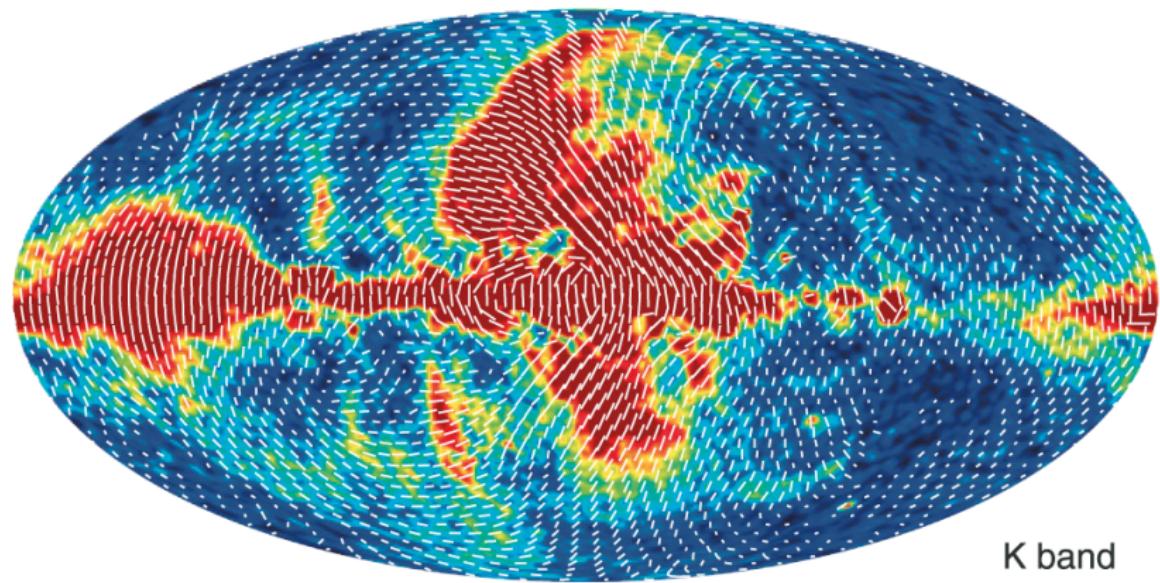
$$P(\lambda) = Q(\lambda) + iU(\lambda) \propto \lambda^{\frac{\gamma-1}{2}} \int dz n_{\text{CRE}} B_{\perp}^{\frac{\gamma+1}{2}} e^{2i\chi}$$

# Synchrotron



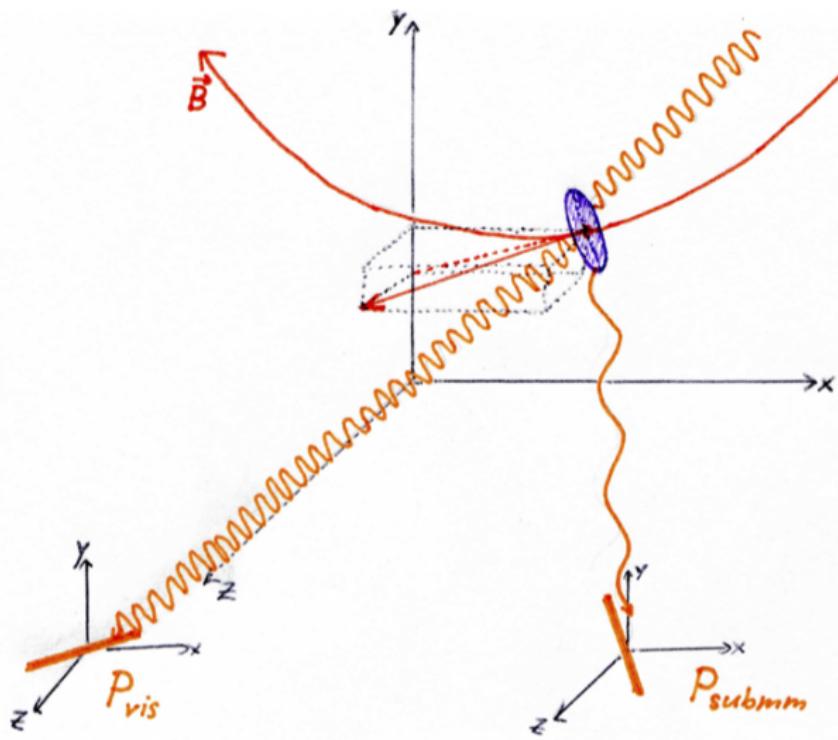
Haslam et al. (1981)

# Synchrotron

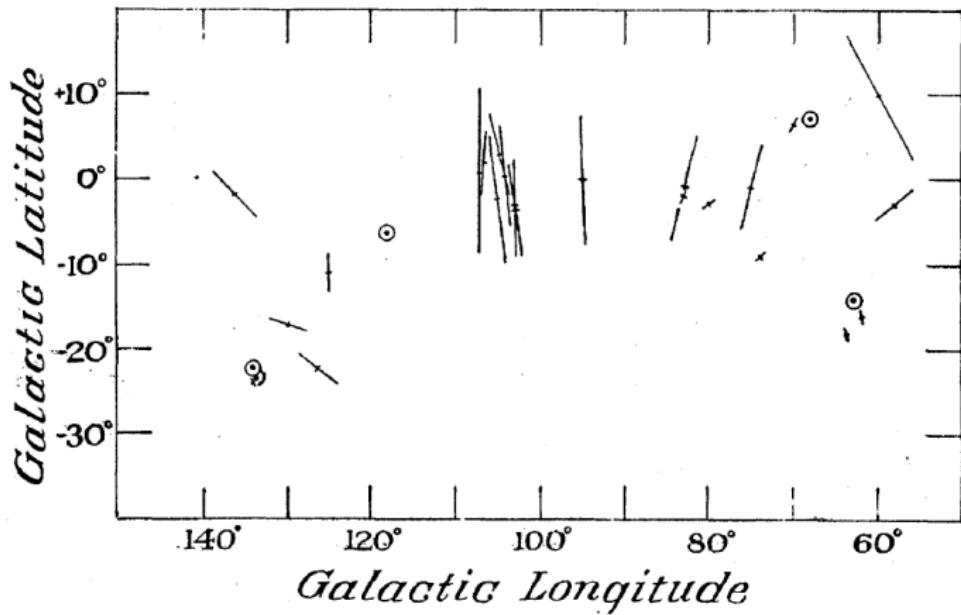


Hinshaw et al. (2009)

# Dust

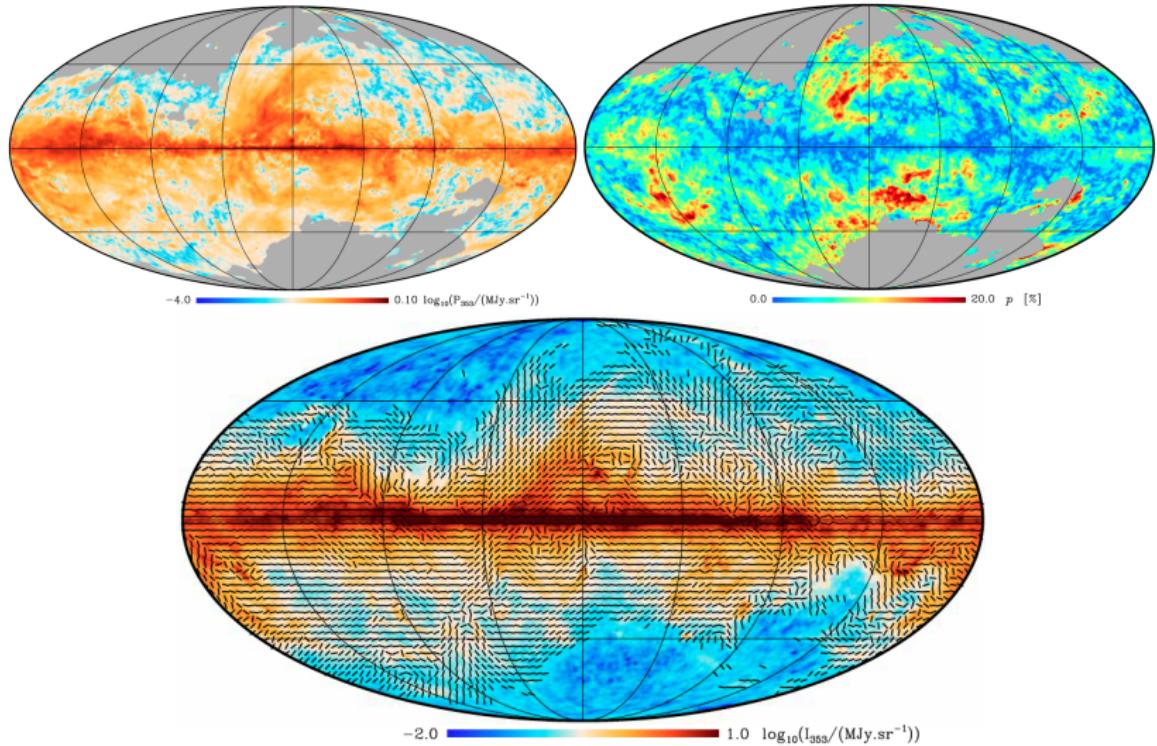


# Dust



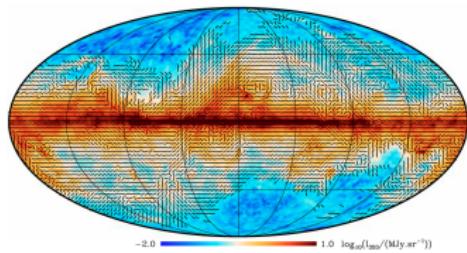
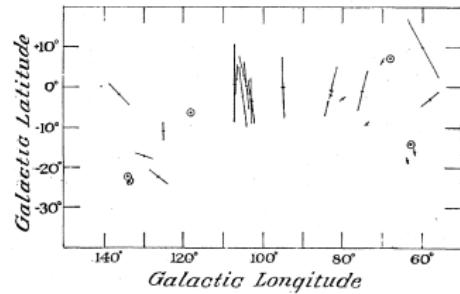
Hall (1949)

# Dust

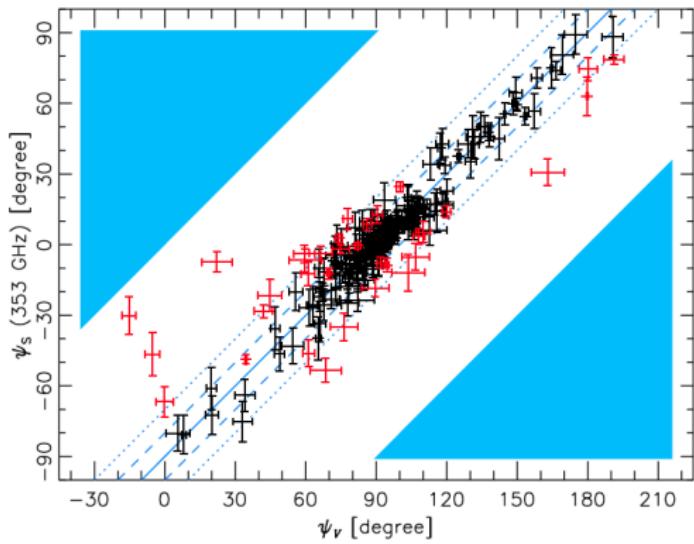
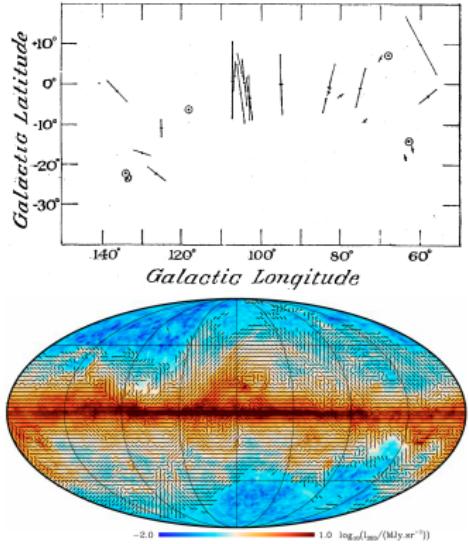


Planck Collaboration Int. XIX (2014)

# Dust

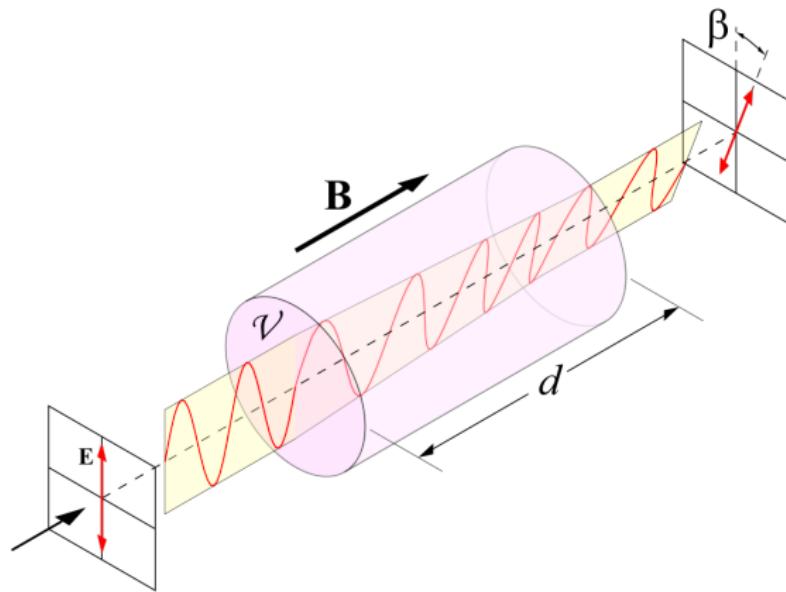


# Dust



Planck Collaboration Int. XXI (2014)

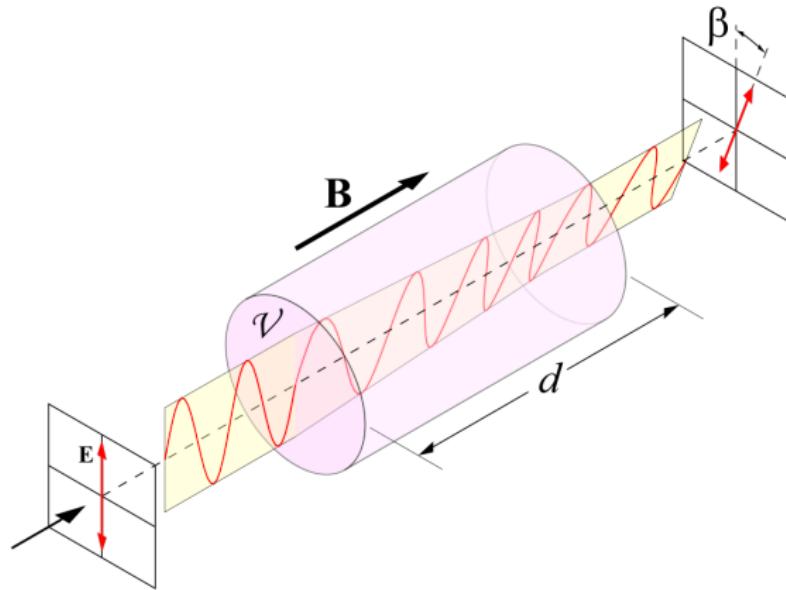
# Faraday rotation



$$d\beta \propto \lambda^2 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta \propto \lambda^2 \int_{r_{\text{source}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

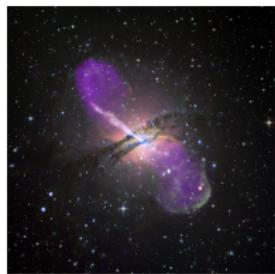
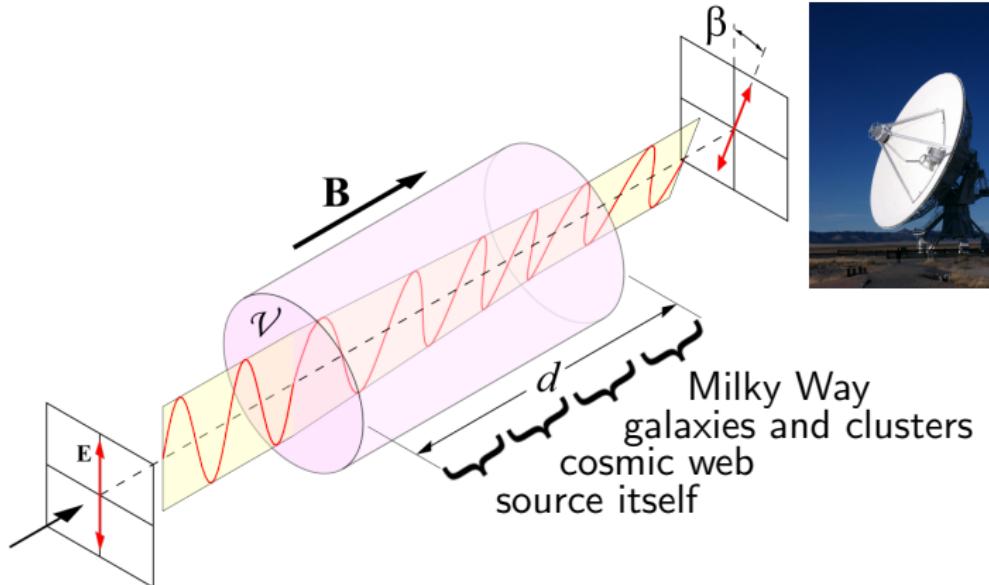
# Faraday rotation



Faraday depth:  $\phi \propto \int_{r_{\text{source}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$

$$\beta = \phi \lambda^2$$

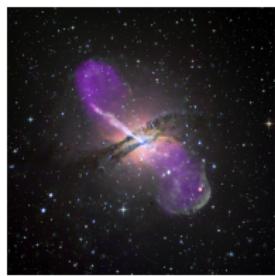
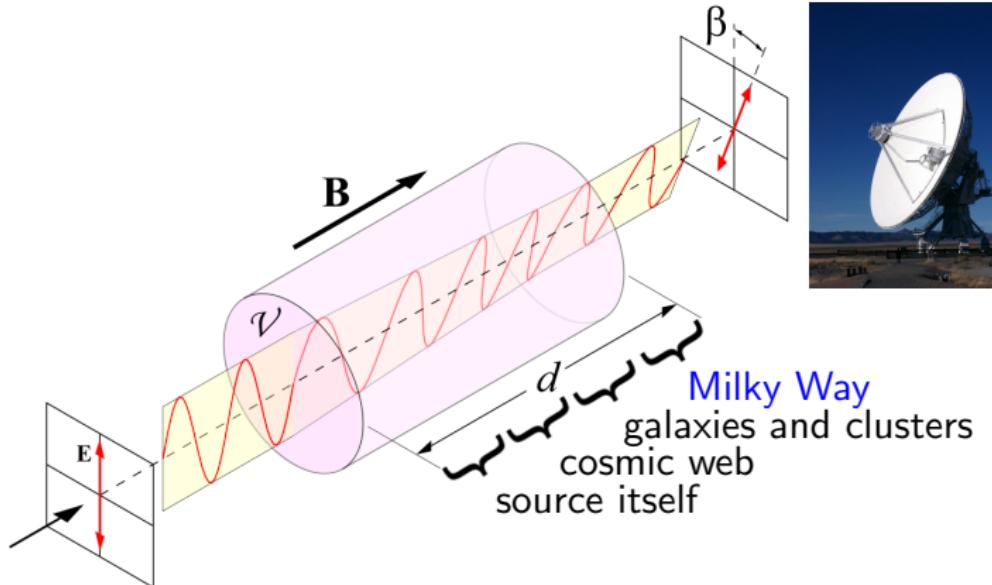
# Faraday rotation



$$\text{Faraday depth: } \phi \propto \int_{r_{\text{source}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

$$\beta = \phi \lambda^2$$

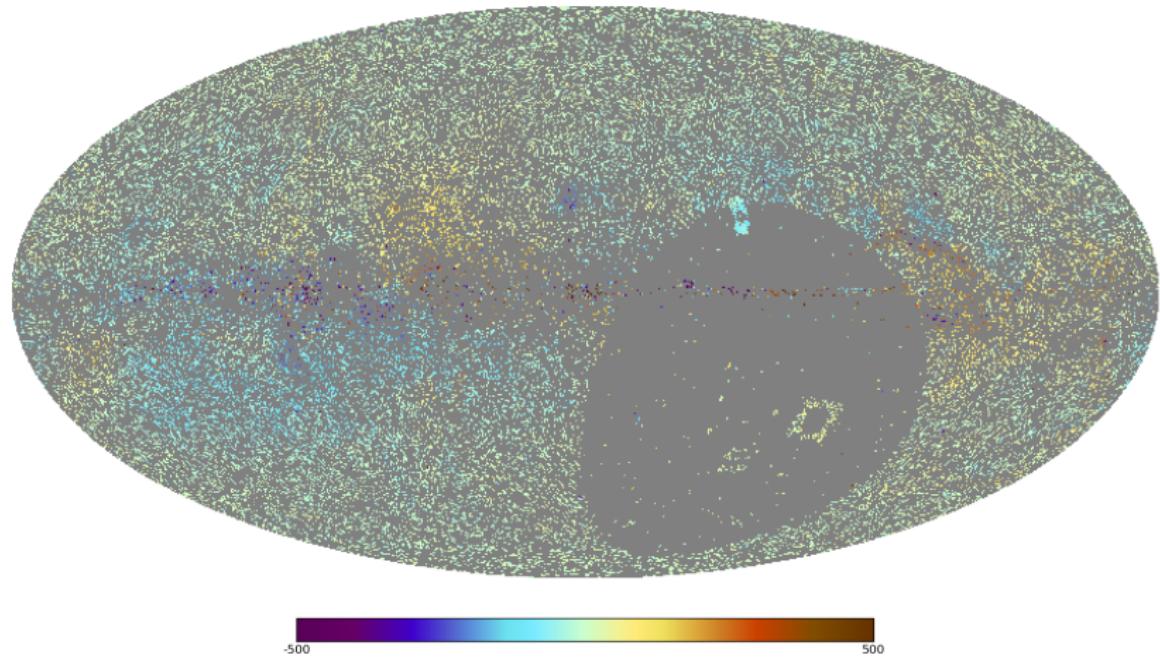
# Faraday rotation



Galactic Faraday depth:

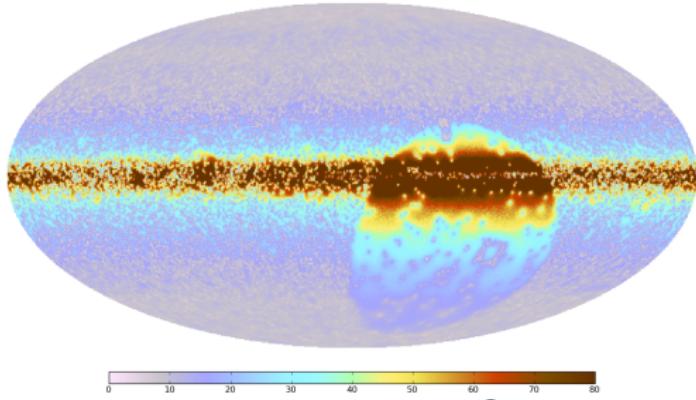
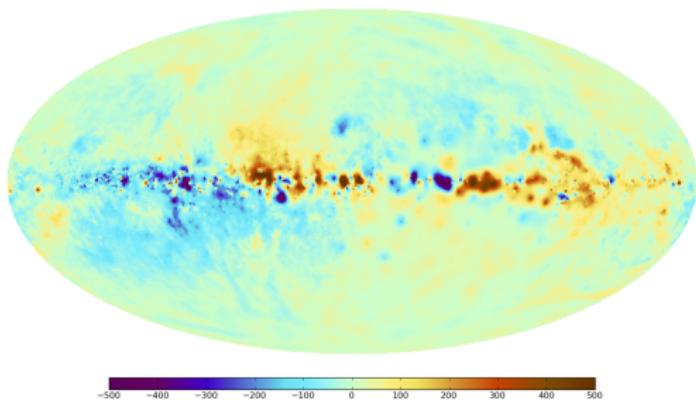
$$\phi_g \propto \int_{r_{\text{MilkyWay}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

# Faraday rotation



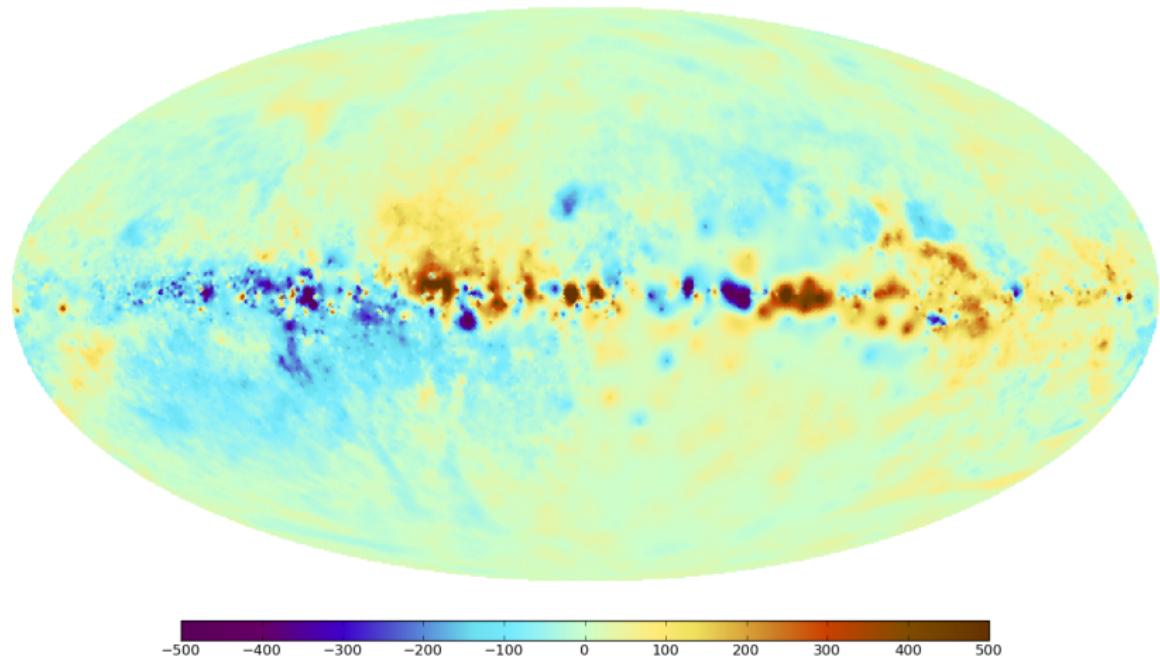
41 330 data points

# Faraday rotation



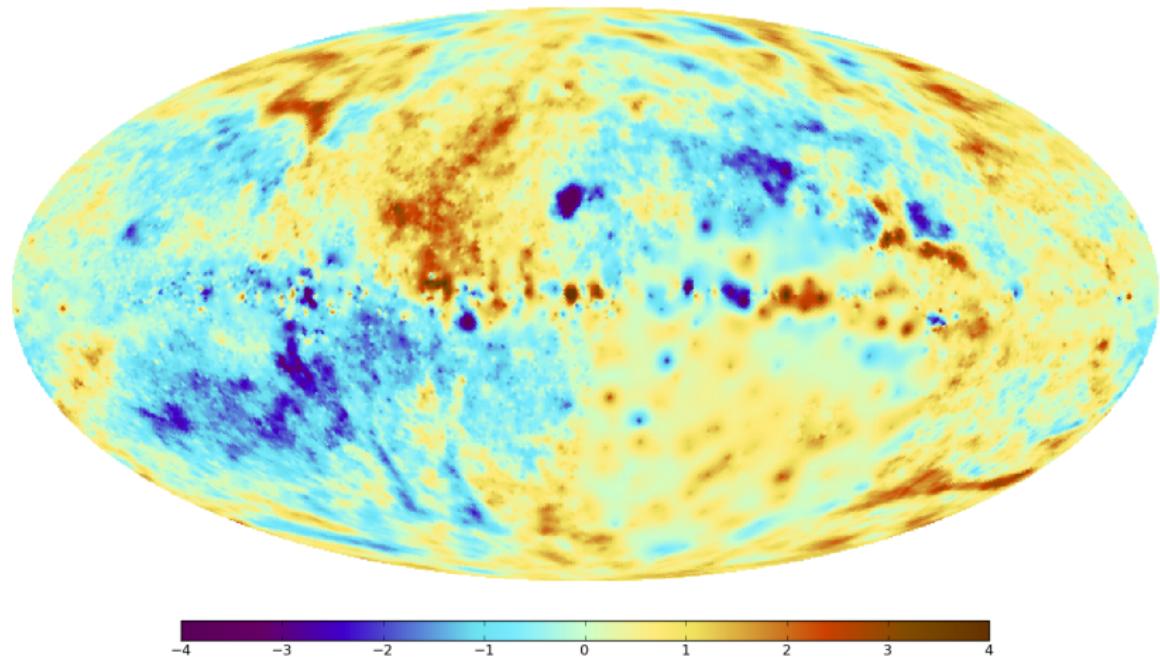
Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Faraday rotation



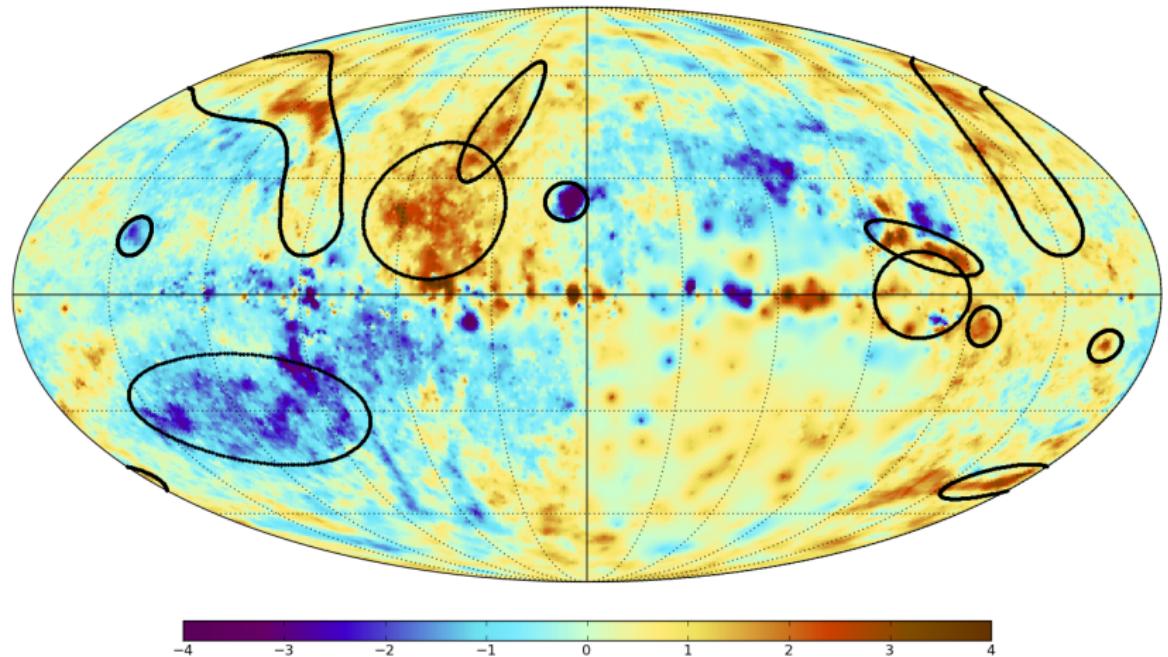
Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Faraday rotation



Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Faraday rotation



Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Rotation measure synthesis

Faraday rotated synchrotron radiation

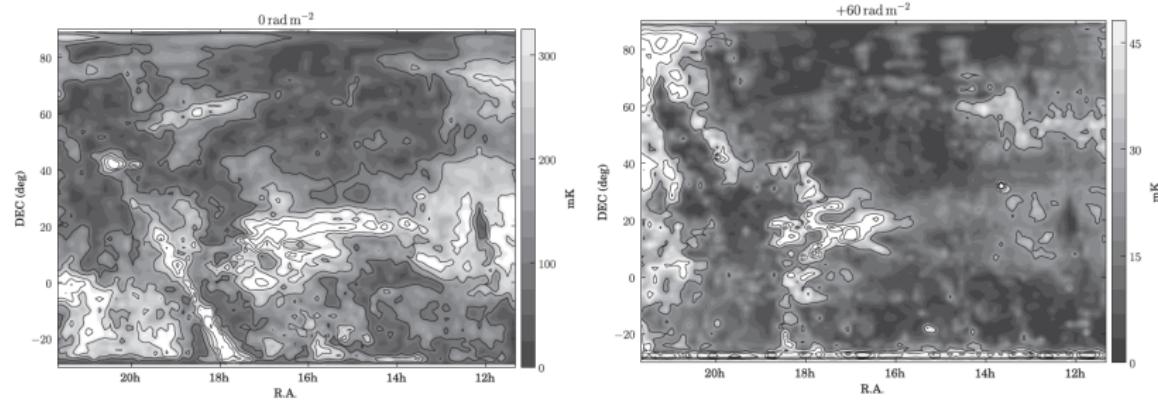
$$P(\lambda) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\phi \, p(\phi) e^{2i \lambda^2 \phi(z)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad p(\phi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\lambda^2 \, P(\lambda^2) e^{-2i \lambda^2 \phi}$$

Faraday dispersion function

# Rotation measure synthesis

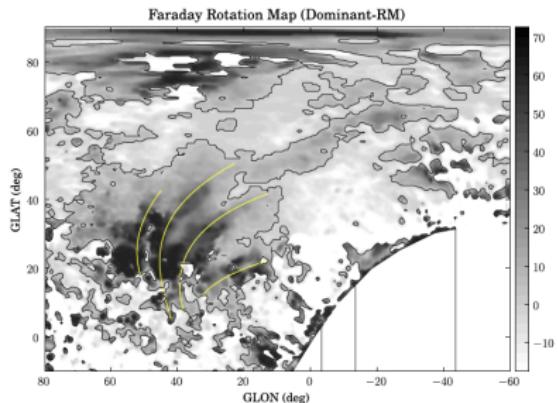
GMIMS (here: northern, ca. (1.3 - 1.8) GHz)



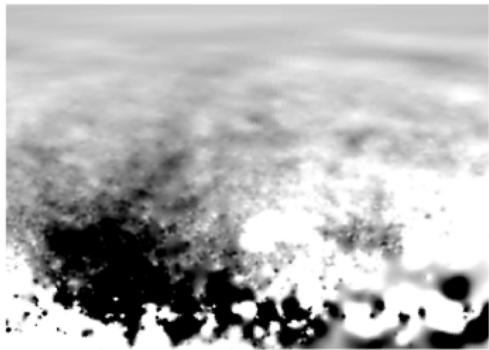
Wolleben et al. (2010)

# Rotation measure synthesis

GMIMS (here: northern, ca. (1.3 - 1.8) GHz)



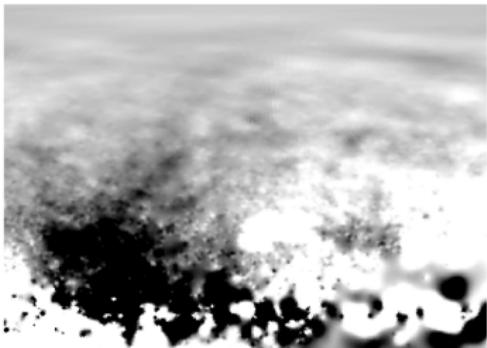
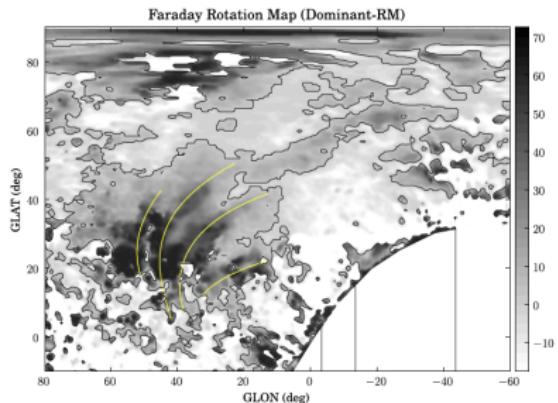
Wolleben et al. (2010)



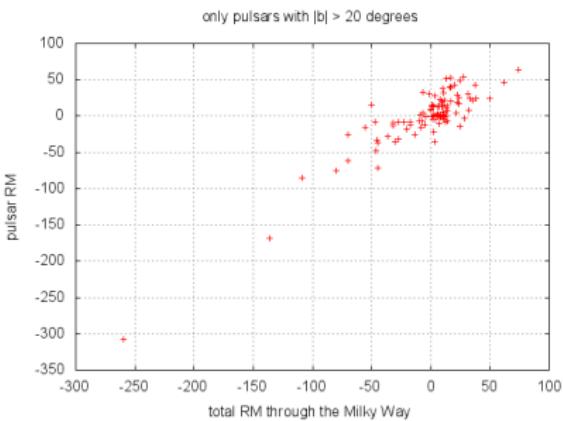
Oppermann et al. (2012)

# Rotation measure synthesis

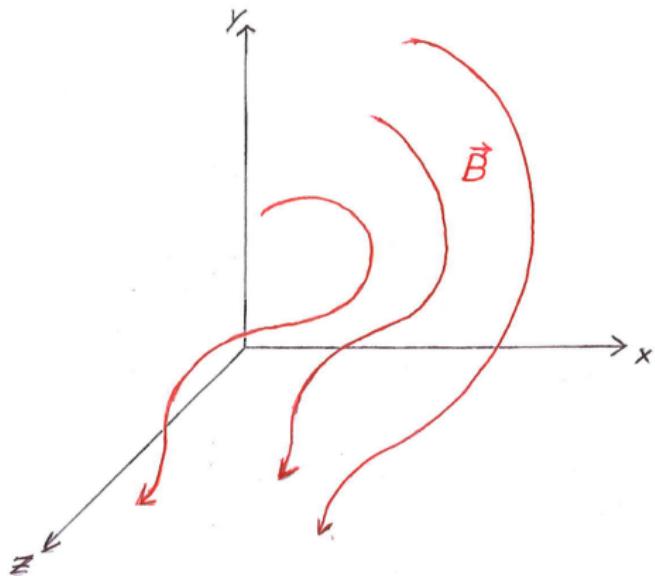
GMIMS (here: northern, ca. (1.3 - 1.8) GHz)



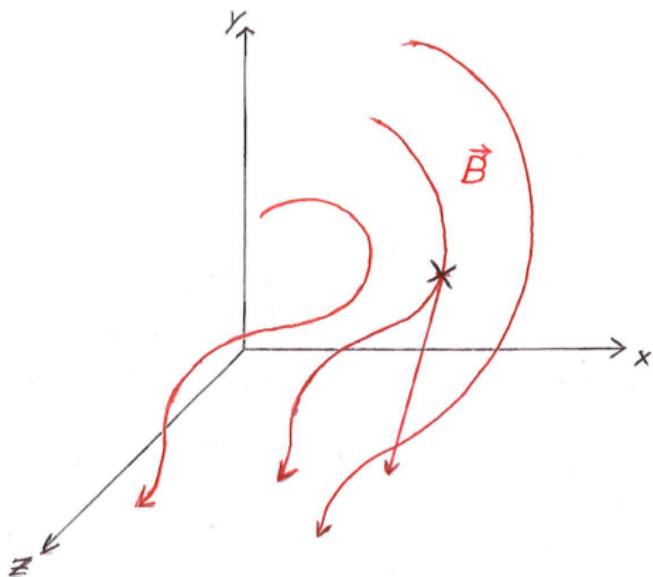
Wolleben et al. (2010)



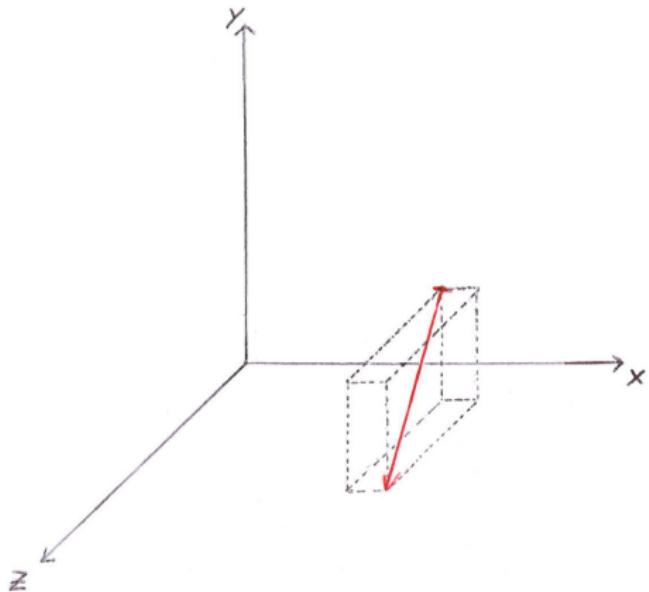
# Magnetic field modeling



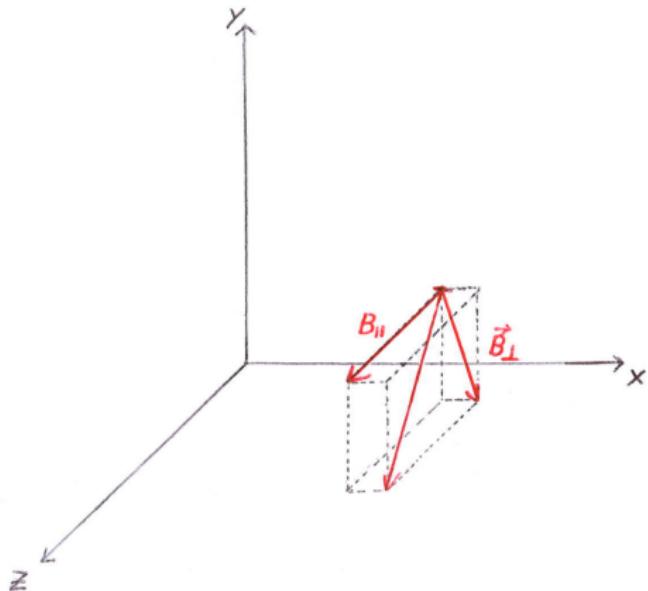
# Magnetic field modeling



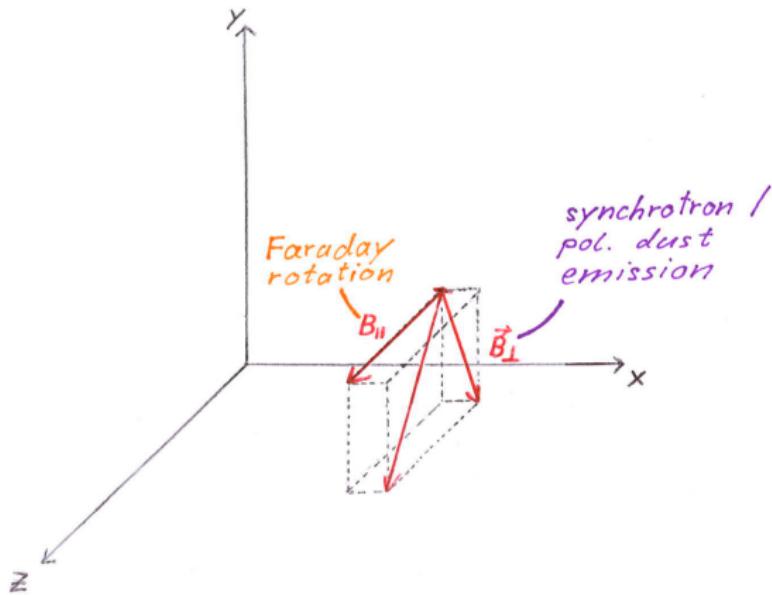
# Magnetic field modeling



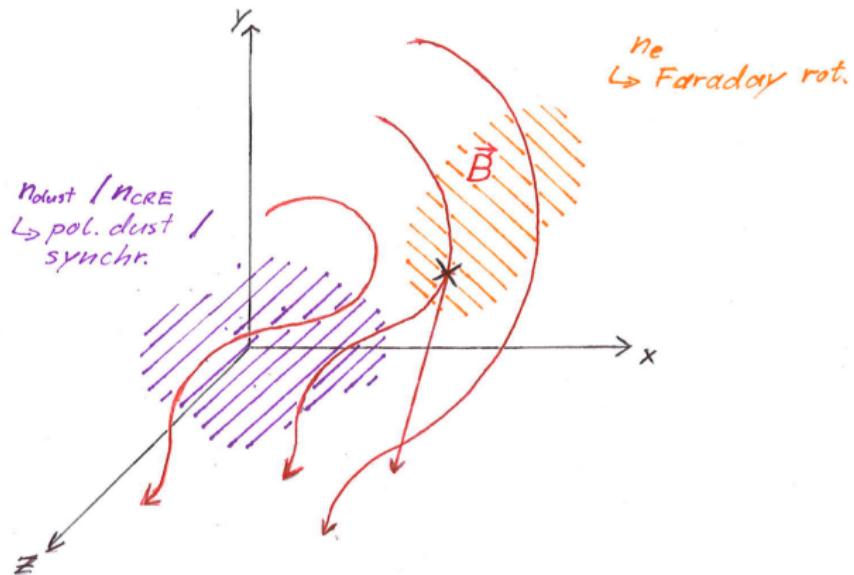
# Magnetic field modeling



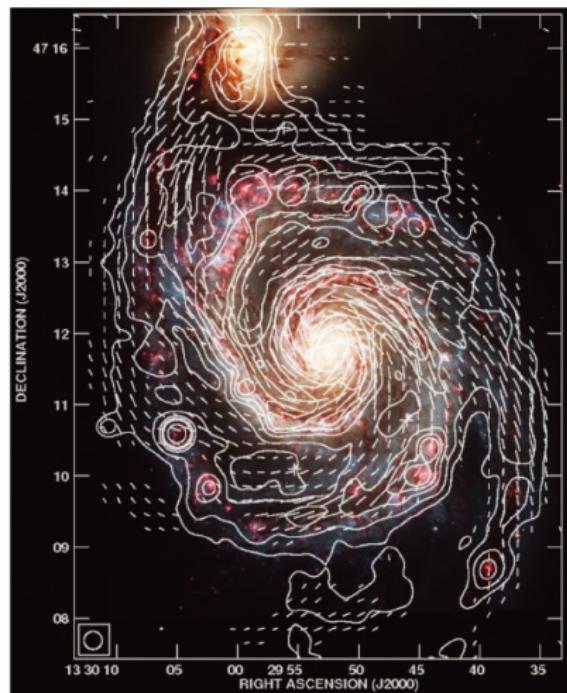
# Magnetic field modeling



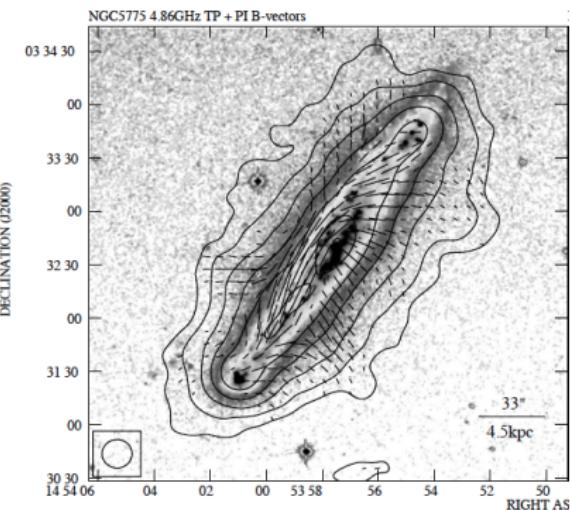
# Magnetic field modeling



# Magnetic field modeling



Fletcher et al. (2011)



Tüllmann et al. (2000)

# Magnetic field modeling

ref	TRACER <sup>a</sup>	D/H	MODELS <sup>b</sup>	MODEL RESULTS	<i>p</i>
[24]	149 EGS RM <sub>s</sub>	Q4 <sup>c</sup>	spiral disk	one reversal	-11.5°
	120 pulsar RM <sub>s</sub>				
[39]	WMAP5 <i>I</i> 23GHz; ARCHEOPS 353GHz <i>I</i> 408MHz	all	modified log spiral $B_z + B_{ran}$	$B_z = 0.4 \mu\text{G}$	-30°
[12]	<i>I</i> 408MHz WMAP <i>P</i> 23GHz 269 EGS RM <sub>s</sub>	disk	ASS, log spiral, $B_{ran}$ , compression	$B_{reg} : B_{ran} : B_{ani} = 1 : 5 : 4$ Field config as in model 1	-11.5° IN
[16]	WMAP5 <i>PI</i> 23GHz 1433 EGS RM <sub>s</sub>	disk	BSS/ASS -S/-A, ring, lit. models	no good models, disk and halo separate	+35°
[11]	WMAP7 <i>PI</i> 23GHz $\gtrsim 37000$ EGS RM <sub>s</sub>	all	spiral, $B_{ran}$ , $B_{ani}$ , $B_z$	one reversal $B_{ani} = 1.7B_{reg}$ , $B_z = 4.6 \mu\text{G}$ at GC <sup>d</sup>	-11.5° IN
[40]	482 pulsar RM <sub>s</sub>	disk	ASS, BSS, ring	no good models, slight preference for ASS	
[53]	<i>I</i> 408MHz WMAP <i>PI</i> 23GHz	halo	BSS, $B_{ran}$	$B_{ran} = 0.57B_{reg}$	-8.5°
[25]	133 pulsar RM <sub>s</sub> 107 EGS RM <sub>s</sub>	Q4 <sup>d</sup> disk	log spirals	QSS/many reversals preferred	
[15]	WMAP3 <i>PI</i> 23GHz	halo	log spirals, $B_z$	$B_z$ at 25° tilt	-55° <sup>d</sup>
[49]	$\gtrsim 37000$ EGS RM <sub>s</sub>	all	ASS, BSS, ring	ASS best in disk; odd in halo	-5°
[54]	WMAP5 <i>PI</i> 23GHz	halo	ASS, BSS, ring, bi-toroidal, $B_z$	ASS preferred, $B_z = 1 / \mu\text{G}$	-24° <sup>e</sup>
[38]	<i>I</i> 408MHz WMAP <i>PI</i> 23GHz <i>I</i> + <i>PI</i> 1.4GHz	all	ASS, BSS, ring	ASS best in disk, odd in halo	-12° IN
[55]	354 pulsar RM <sub>s</sub>	disk	rings with <i>p</i>	one reversal only	-12° IN
[41]	1373 EGS RM <sub>s</sub> 557 pulsar RM <sub>s</sub>	disk	ASS, BSS, ring combinations	no single model for complete Galaxy	0° or -11.5° IN

<sup>a</sup> *I* = total intensity; *PI* = polarized intensity; EGS = extragalactic sources; WMAP*i* = Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe data over *i* years.

<sup>b</sup> ASS = axisymmetric spiral; BSS = bisymmetric spiral; QSS = quadrисymmetric spiral; -A/-S = (anti-)symmetric with respect to Galactic plane.

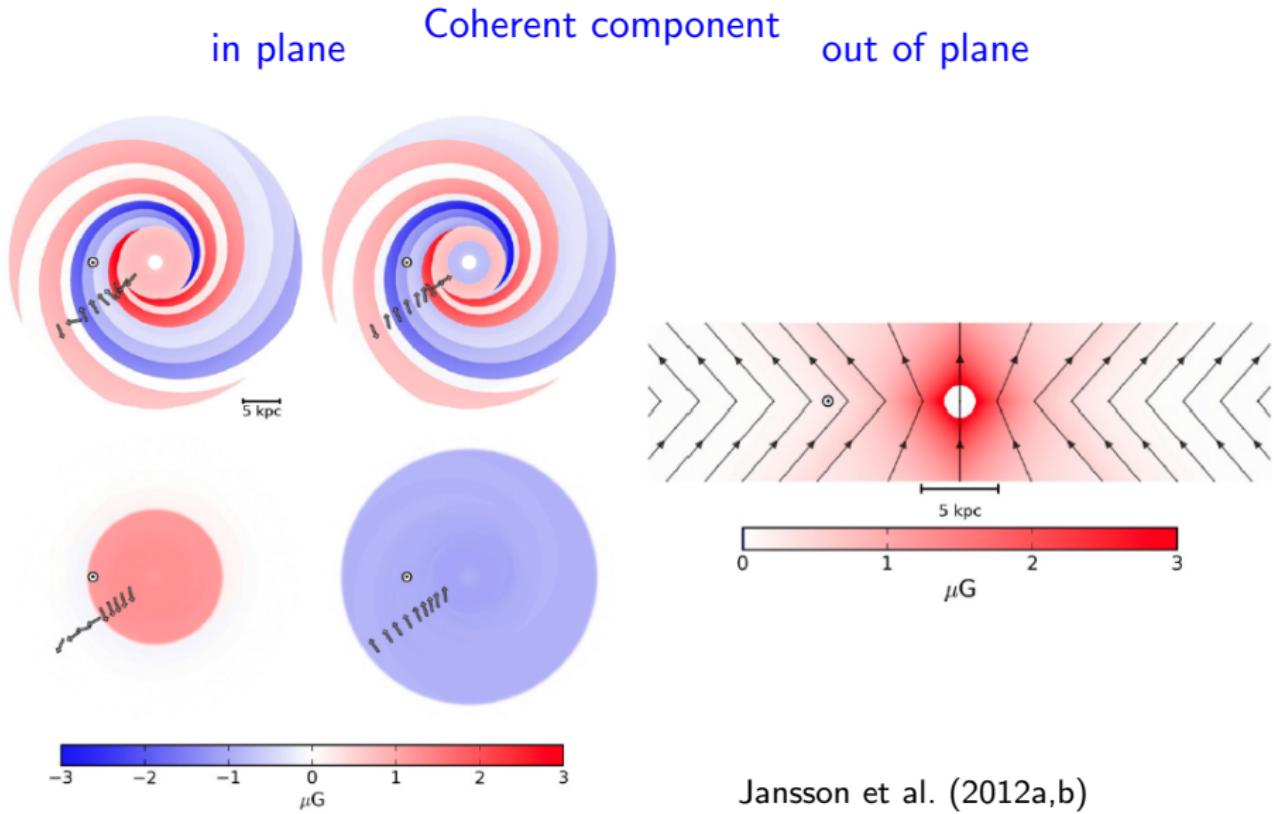
<sup>c</sup> *Qi* = *i*th quadrant of the Milky Way; GC = Galactic Center.

<sup>d</sup> taking into account their deviating definition of pitch angle, see Section 2.3

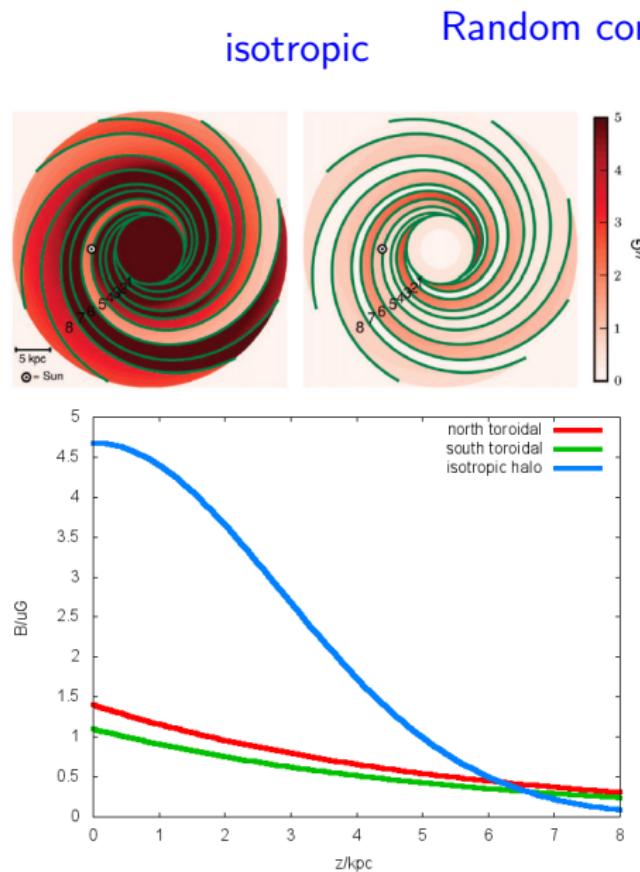
<sup>e</sup> actually given as *p* = +24° in the paper, but with the opposite definition of azimuth direction.

Haverkorn (2014)

# Magnetic field modeling



# Magnetic field modeling



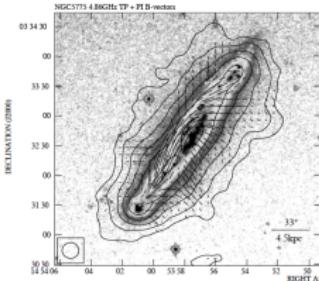
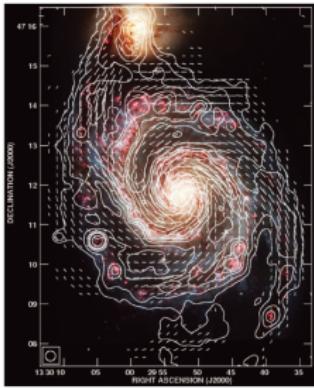
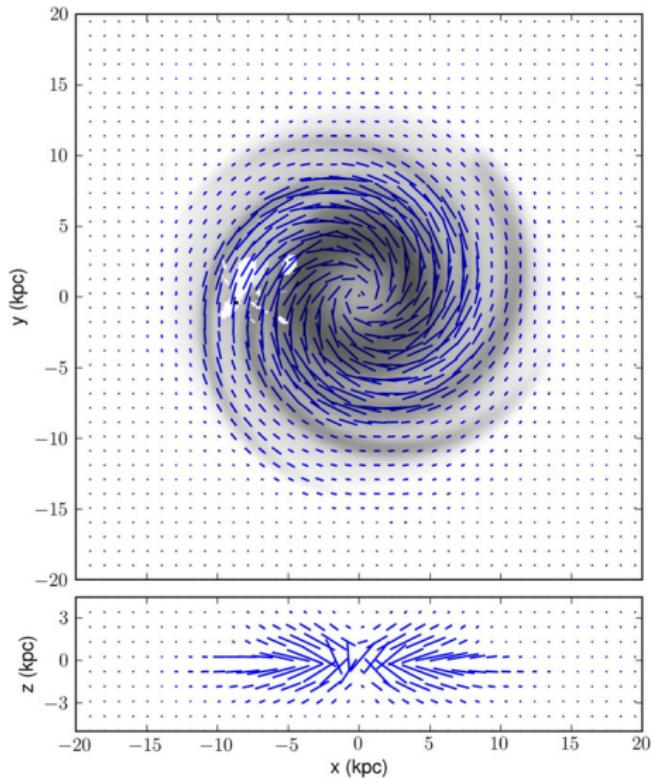
$$B_{\text{ordered}} \parallel B_{\text{coherent}}$$

$$B_{\text{ordered}}^2 \propto B_{\text{coherent}}^2$$

Jansson et al. (2012a,b)

# Magnetic field modeling

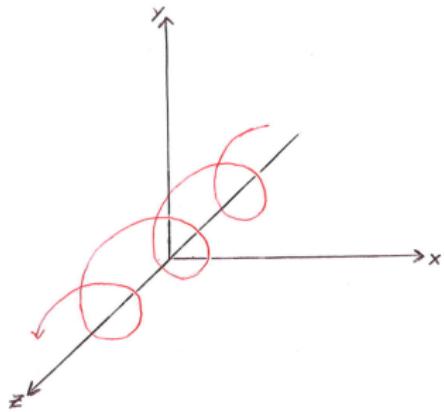
An outside observer



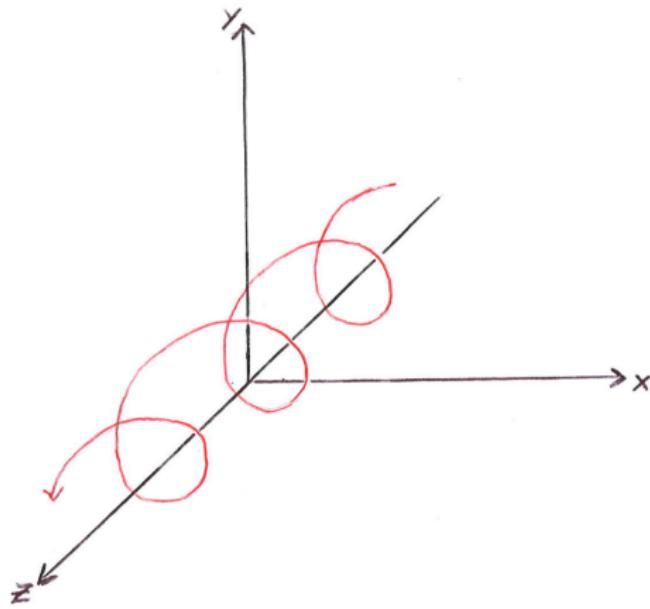
Jansson et al. (2012a)

# Helicity

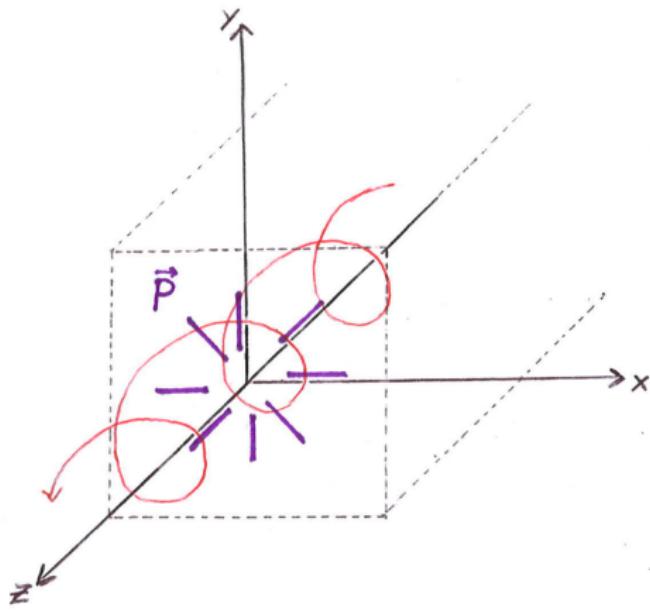
- ▶  $H = \int A \cdot B$
- ▶ produced in many dynamo scenarios
- ▶ observed (tentatively) on large scales
- ▶ present on small scales?



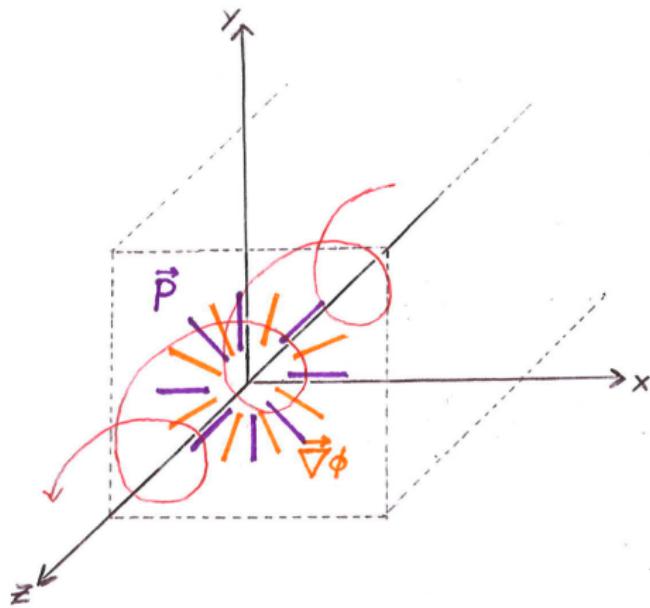
# Helicity



# Helicity

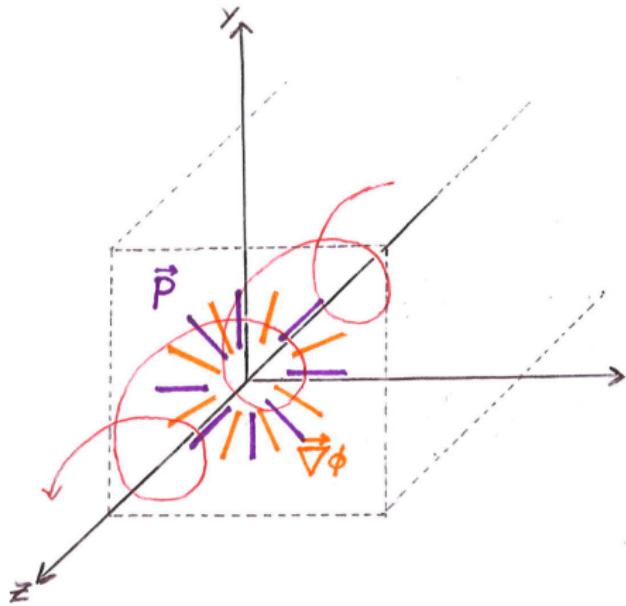


# Helicity

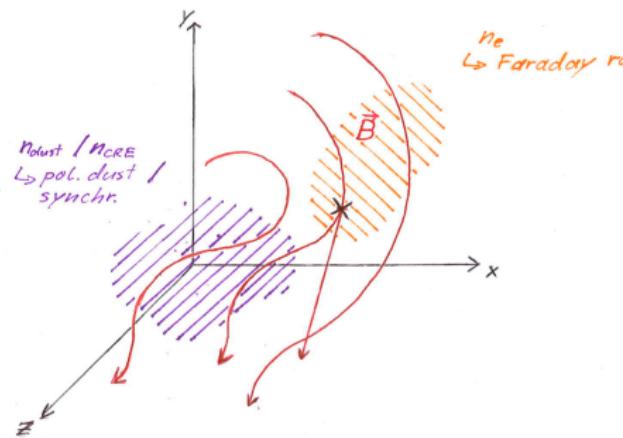


Junklewitz et al. (2011)  
Oppermann et al. (2011)

# Helicity

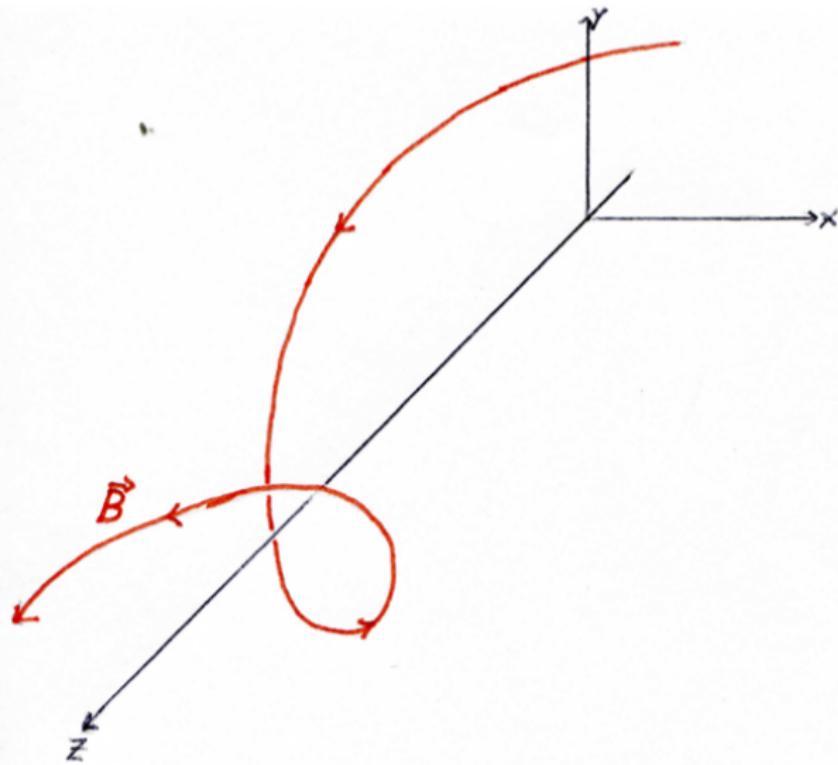


**but:**



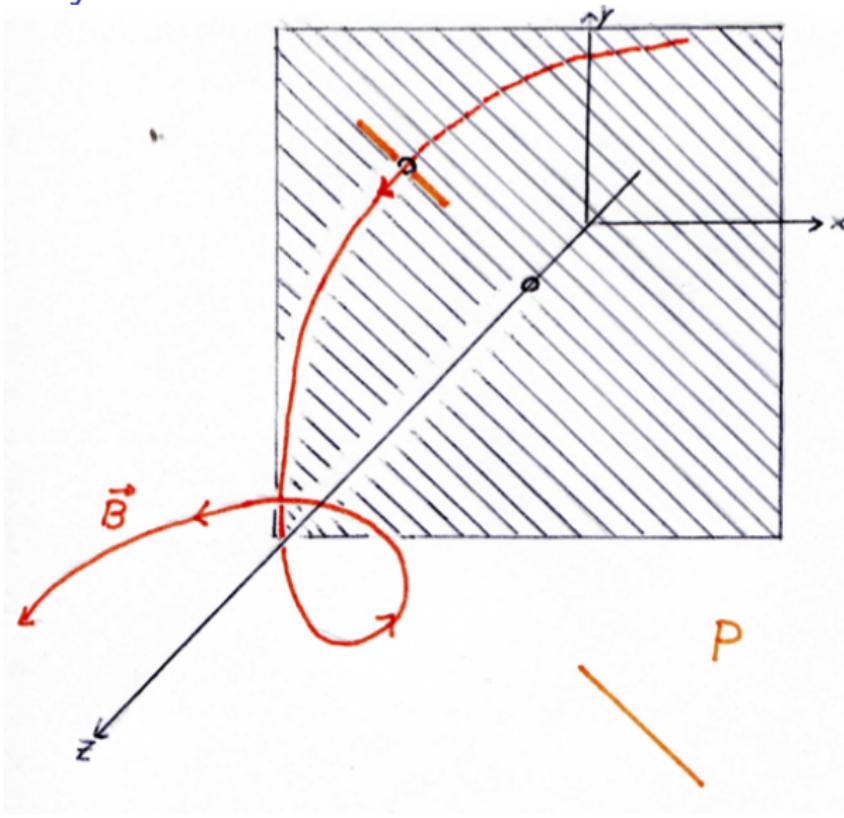
Junklewitz et al. (2011)  
Oppermann et al. (2011)

# Helicity



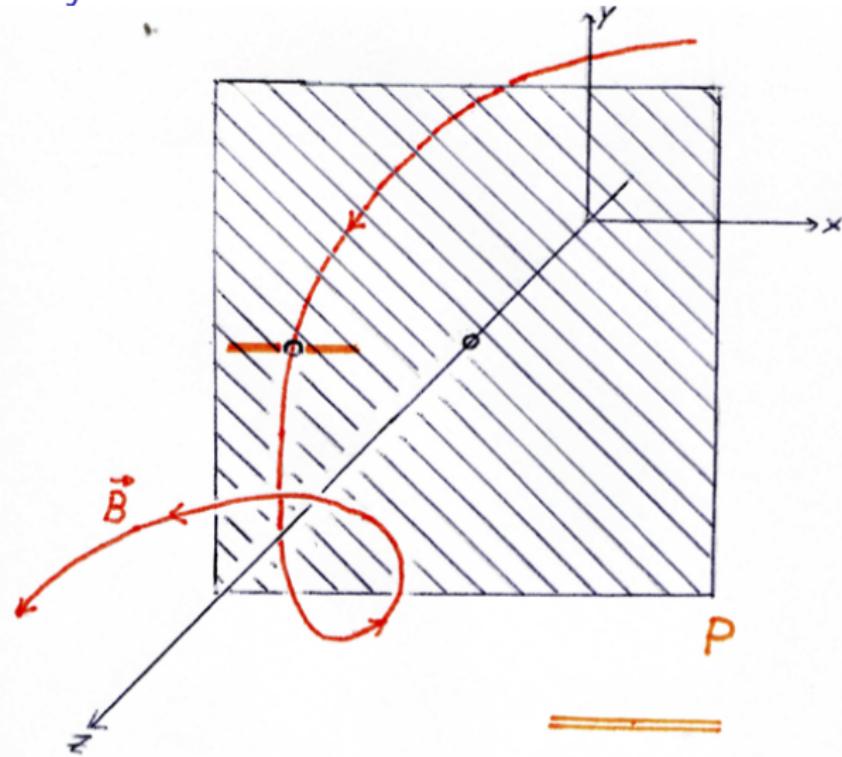
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity



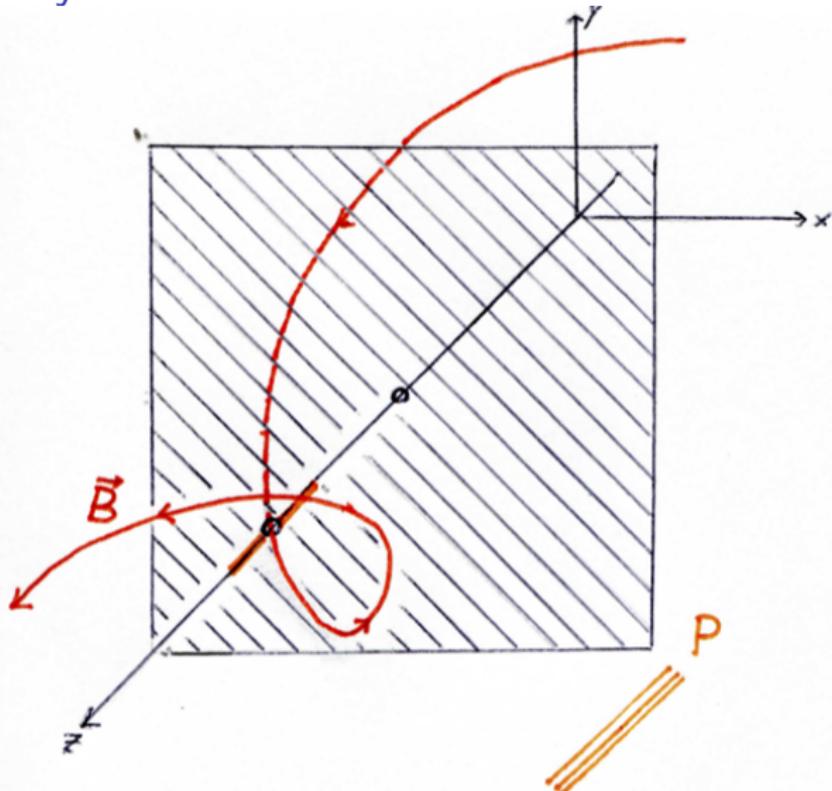
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity



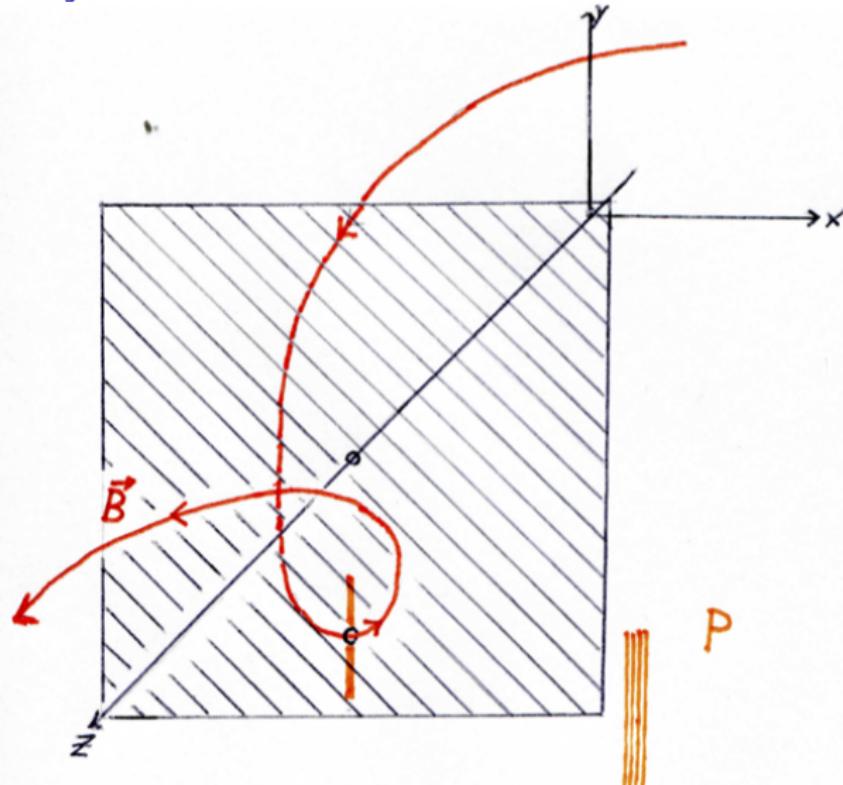
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

## Helicity

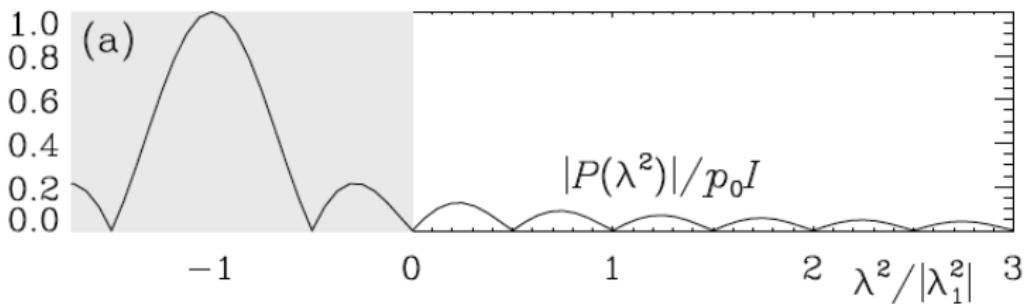
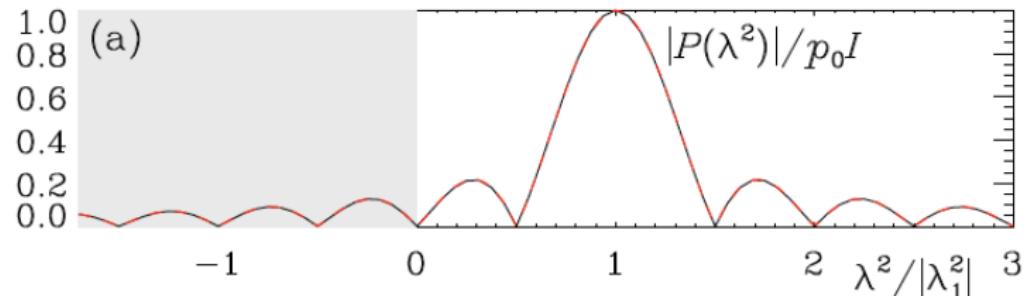


Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity

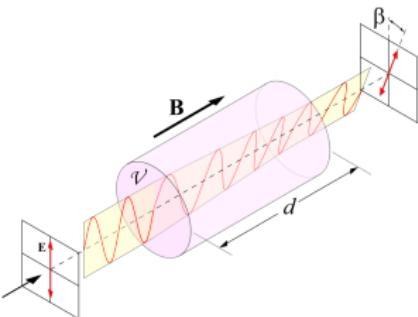
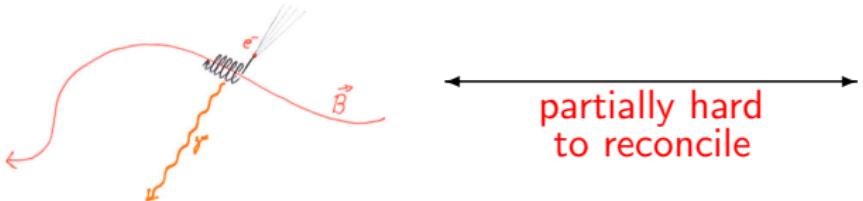


# Helicity



Brandenburg et al. (2014)

## Summary



isotropic random  
field dominant  
**small-scale  
ISM structures?**

azimuthal halo field

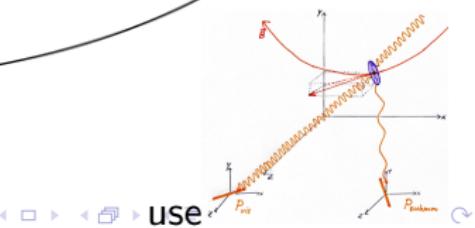
disk field spiral  
one reversal  
pitch angle ca. 12°

ordered random  
field present

helical?

## helical

## X-shaped out-of-plane component





Thanks.

See you at dinner.