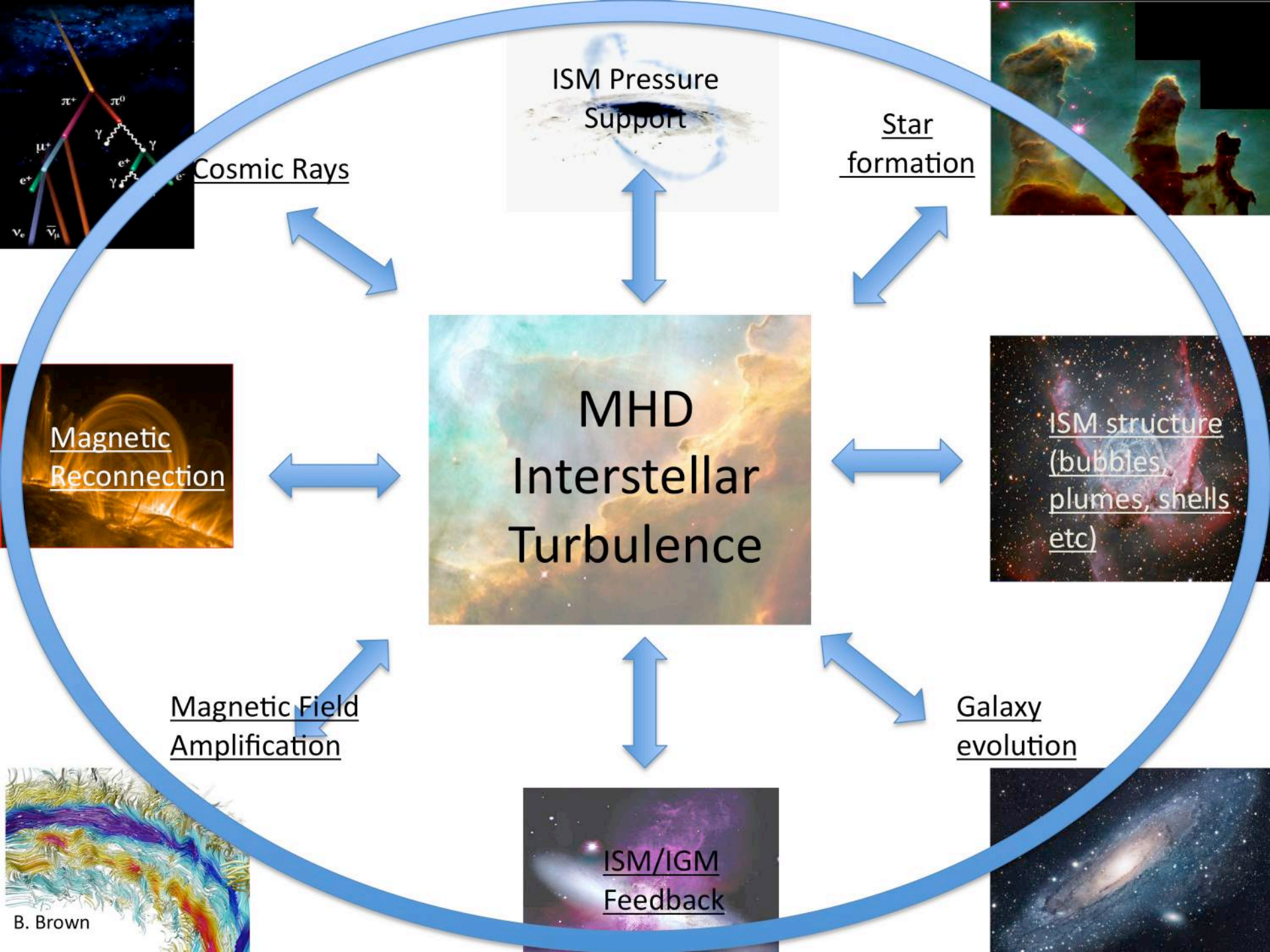


# The Origins and Implications of MHD Turbulence

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Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

With Alex Lazarian, Bryan Gaensler, Jungyeon Cho, Greg Kowal, Lars Hernquist,  
Annalisa Pillepich, Shy Genel, Snezana Stanimirovic, Alexey Chepurnov

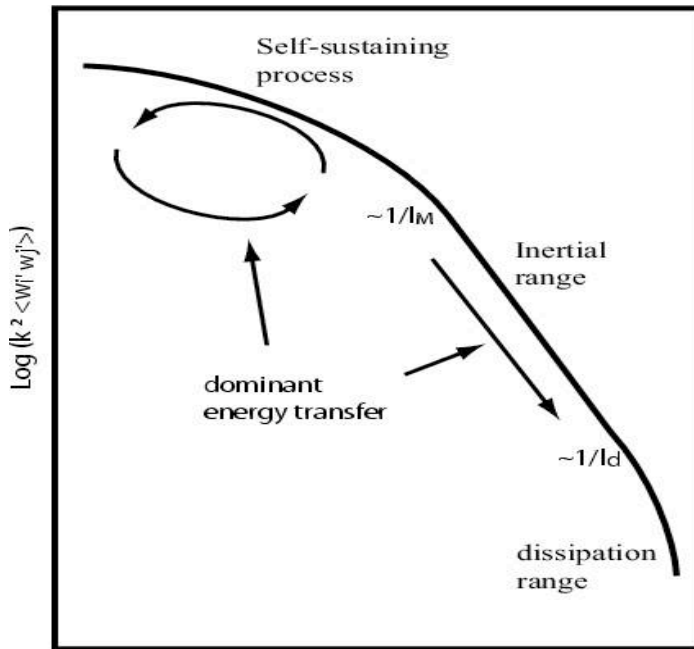


# Outline

- What is turbulence and how to study it in the ISM.
- Origins of Turbulence:
  - The large scale injection of turbulence energy in galaxies (kpc driving scales): Simulations (Illustris) and observations ( velocity power spectrum of the SMC in 21cm).
  - Measuring Turbulence using Synchrotron

# What is turbulence?

Inertial range provides: compressibility of the media, dynamic range of the cascade, and comparison with analytical predictions.

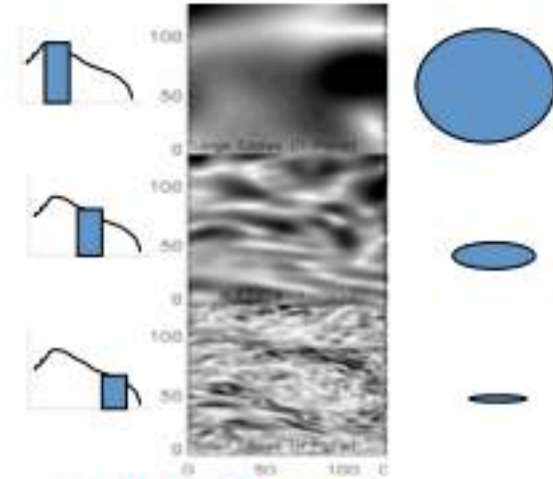


Kolmogorov 1941 scaling:

$$E/t \sim C, t \sim L/v \rightarrow v \sim L^{1/3}$$

$$E(k) \cdot k \sim E \sim v^2, k \sim 1/L \rightarrow$$

$$\underline{E(k) \sim k^{-5/3}}$$



Magnetic field  $B_0$

$$M_A = V/V_A$$

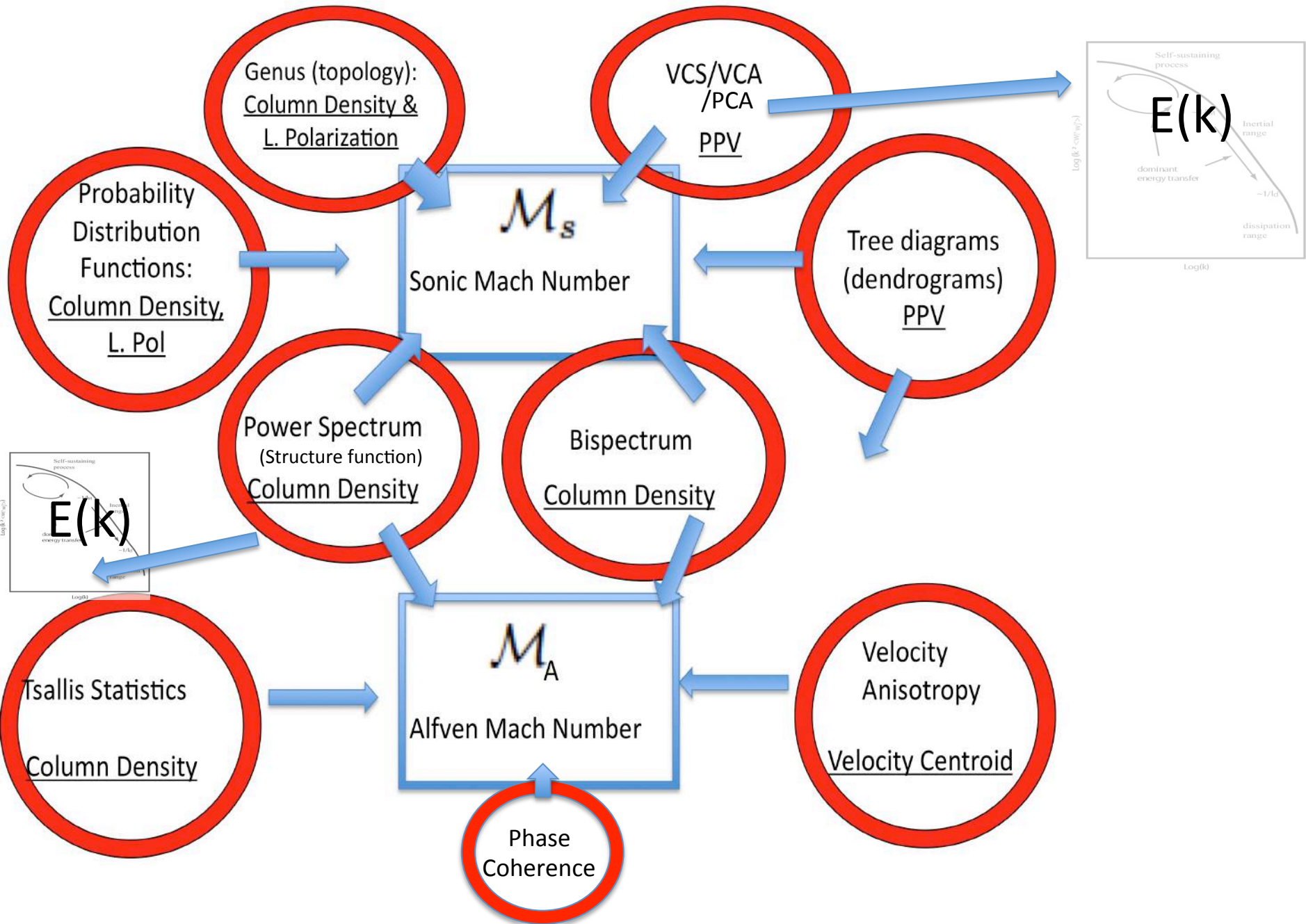
$$M_s = V/c_s$$

$$c_s = \sqrt{\gamma \cdot \frac{p}{\rho}} \quad V_A = \frac{B}{\sqrt{4\pi\rho}}$$

- Eddies becoming increasingly anisotropic along B with  $k_{para.} \sim k_{perp.}^{2/3}$  (scale dependent anisotropy; Goldreich & Sridhar 1995, Cho Lazarian 2003)

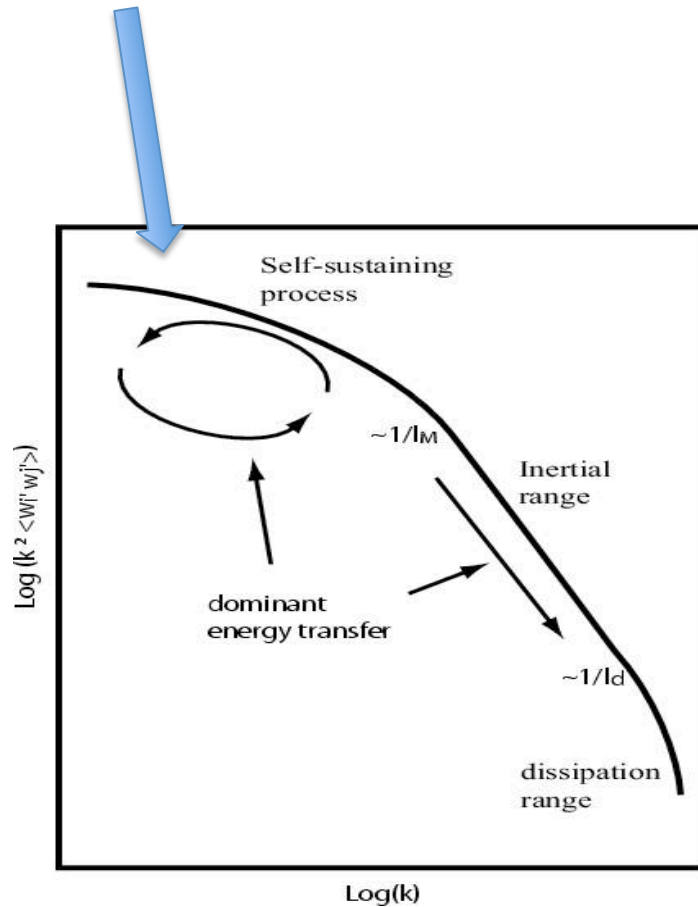


# Turbulence Statistics and their Dependencies



# The Power Spectrum and Driving of Turbulence

Where does turbulence come from?



Inertial range provides: compressibility of the media, dynamic range of the cascade, and comparison with analytical predictions.

# Velocity/density power spectrum reveal multiphase ISM spectra in agreement with expectations for supersonic turbulence

For Supersonic Turbulence: density spectrum become shallower and velocity spectrum becomes steeper (relative to Kolmogorov)

Compare to  $-5/3 = -1.66$

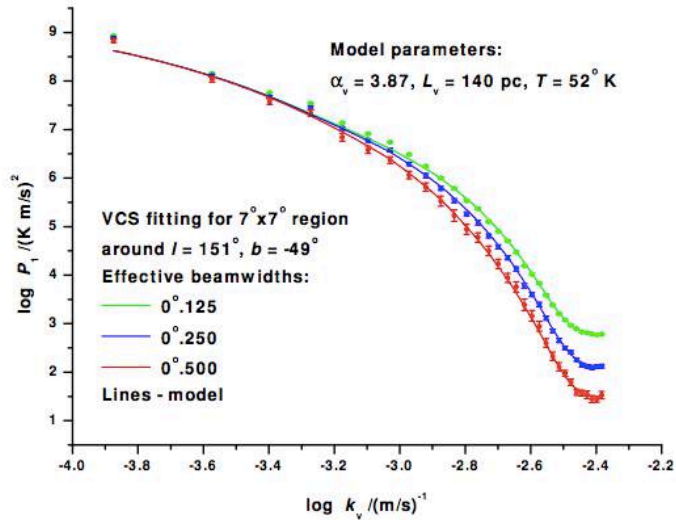
N	data	Object	$P_{PPV}^{thin}$	$P_{PPV}^{thick}$	depth	$E_v$	$E_\rho$	
1	HI	Anticenter <sup>g</sup>	$K^{-2.7}$	N/A	Thin	$k^{-1.7}$	N/A	Green (1993); Lazarian & Pogosyan (2006)
2	HI	→CygA	$K^{-(2.7)}$	$K^{-(2.8)}$	Thin	N/A	$k^{-(0.8)}$	Deshpande et al. (2000)
3	HI	SMC <sup>e</sup>	$K^{-2.7}$	$K^{-3.4}$	Thin	$k^{-1.7}$	$k^{-1.4}$	Stanimirović & Lazarian (2001); Burkhart et al. 2010
4	HI	Center <sup>g</sup>	$K^{-3}$	$K^{-3}$	Thick	N/A	N/A	Dickey et al. (2001); Lazarian & Pogosyan (2004)
5	HI	B. Mag. <sup>g</sup>	$K^{-2.6}$	$K^{3.4}$	Thin	$k^{-1.8}$	$k^{-1.2}$	Muller et al. (2004)
6	HI	Arm <sup>g</sup>	$K^{-3}$	$K^{-3}$	Thick	N/A	N/A	Khalil et al. (2006); Lazarian (2006)
7	HI	DDO 210 <sup>e</sup>	$K^{-3}$	$K^{-3}$	Thick	N/A	N/A	Lazarian (2006); Begum et al. (2006)
8	<sup>12</sup> CO	L1512	N/A	$K^{-2.8}$	Thick	N/A	$k^{-0.8}$	Stutzki et al. (1998); Dickey et al. (2001)
9	<sup>13</sup> CO	L1512	N/A	$K^{-2.8}$	Thick	N/A	$k^{-0.8}$	Stutzki et al. (1998); Begum et al. (2006)
10	<sup>13</sup> CO	Perseus	$K^{-(2.7)}$	$K^{-3}$	Thick	$k^{-(1.7)}$	N/A	Sun et al. (2006)
11	<sup>13</sup> CO	Perseus	$K^{-2.6}$	$K^{-3}$	Thick	$k^{-1.8}$	N/A	Padoan et al. (2006)
12	C <sup>18</sup> O	L1551	$K^{-2.7}$	$K^{-2.8}$	Thin	$k^{-1.7}$	$k^{-0.8}$	Swift (2006)

From Burkhart et al. 2013

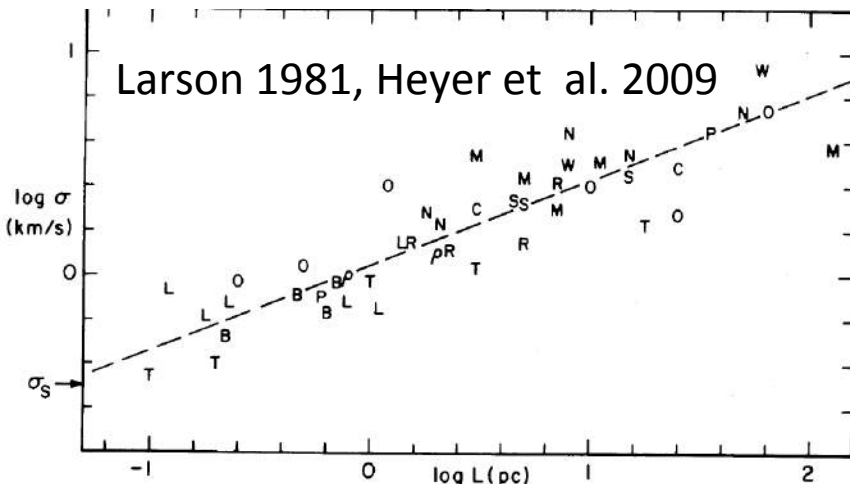
Density and velocity power spectrum from Lazarian & Pogosyan (2000, 2004) Velocity Coordinate Analysis (VCA) method.

Observations of driving scale in multiphase ISM suggest driving on scales larger than clouds ( $L > 1\text{pc}-10\text{pc}$ ).

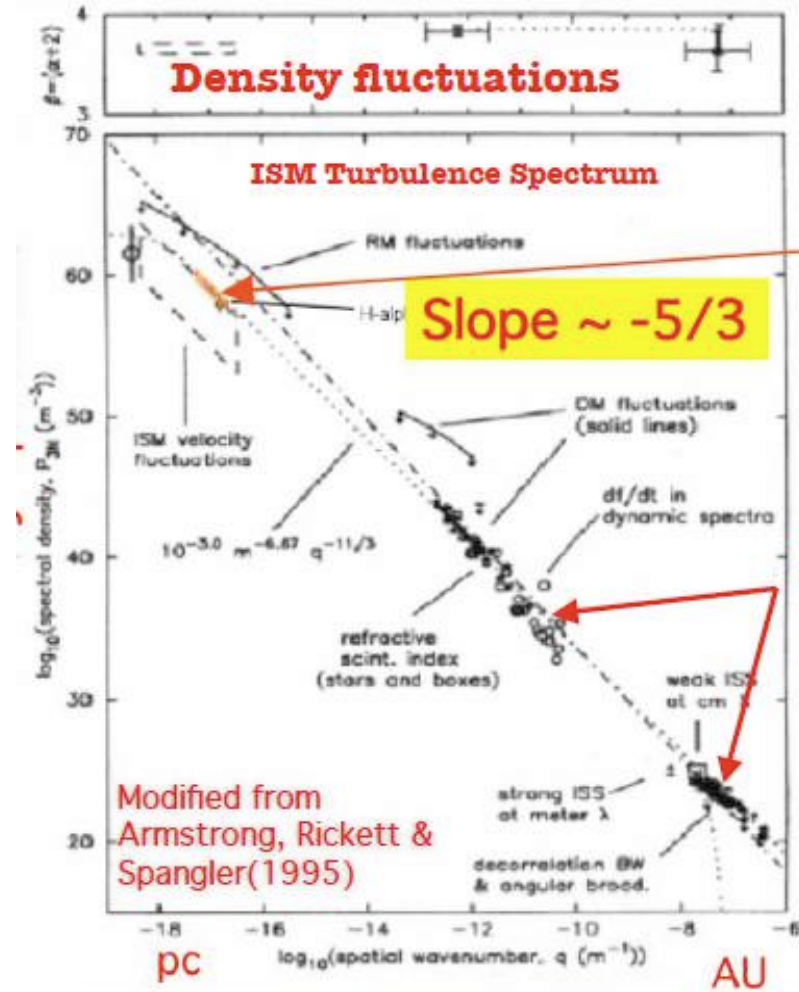
WNM/CNM High Lat. Clouds (Chepurnov et al. 2010), VCS



Molecular medium (line width-size)

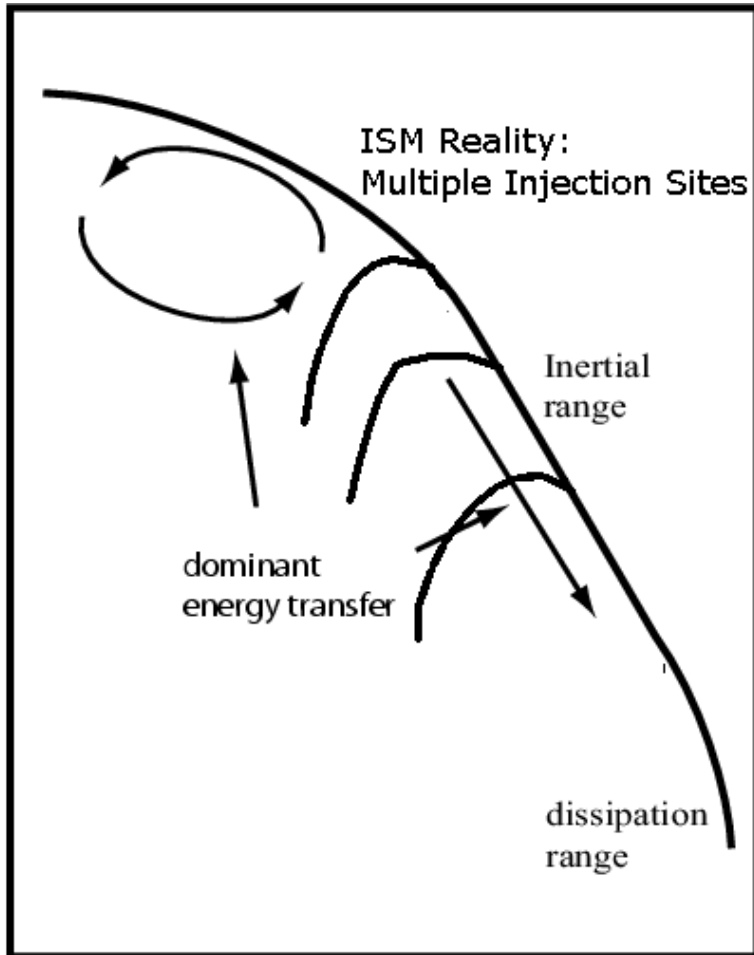


Electron density (WIM) power spectrum:





# Origins of Turbulence: Multiple Drivers



1000 Pc scales:

Galaxy mergers (major/minor),  
Expanding shells, Gravitational instability

100 Pc scales:

supernova, expanding shells,  
MRI, cloud collisions

10 pc-sub-pc scales:

Winds, outflows, stellar feedback,  
stellar wakes

# Supernova as Driver of Turbulence

Energy dissipation rate per unit volume:  $\varepsilon_V \simeq \rho \frac{v_0^3}{l_0} \simeq 5 \times 10^{-27} \text{ erg cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

- Energy sources of the interstellar turbulence

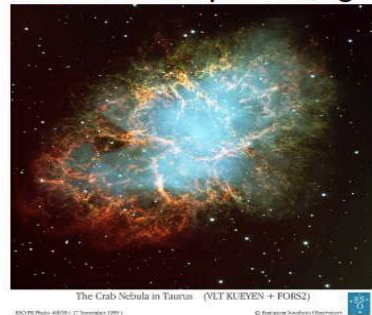
Driving mechanism	$\varepsilon_V, \text{ erg cm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$
Supernova explosions	$3 \times 10^{-26}$
Stellar winds	$3 \times 10^{-27}$
Protostellar outflows	$2 \times 10^{-28}$
Stellar ionizing radiation	$5 \times 10^{-29}$
Galactic spiral shocks	$4 \times 10^{-29}$
Magneto-rotational instability	$3 \times 10^{-29}$
H II regions	$3 \times 10^{-30}$

## Turbulence driven by supernovae

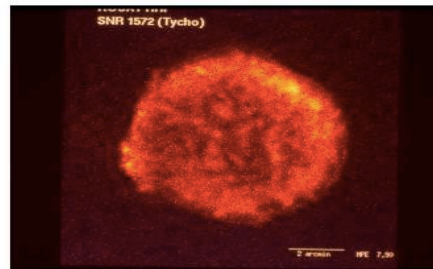
Mac Low & Klessen 2004; Elmegreen & Scalo 2004

Supernova remnants: expanding bubbles of hot gas, magnetic fields & relativistic particles

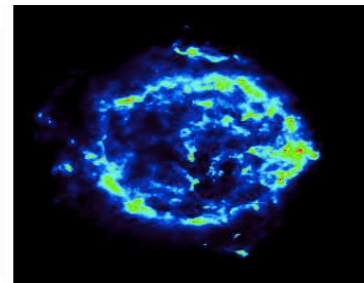
Crab nebula: optical image



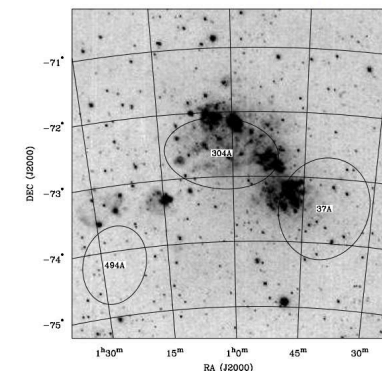
Tycho supernova: X-rays



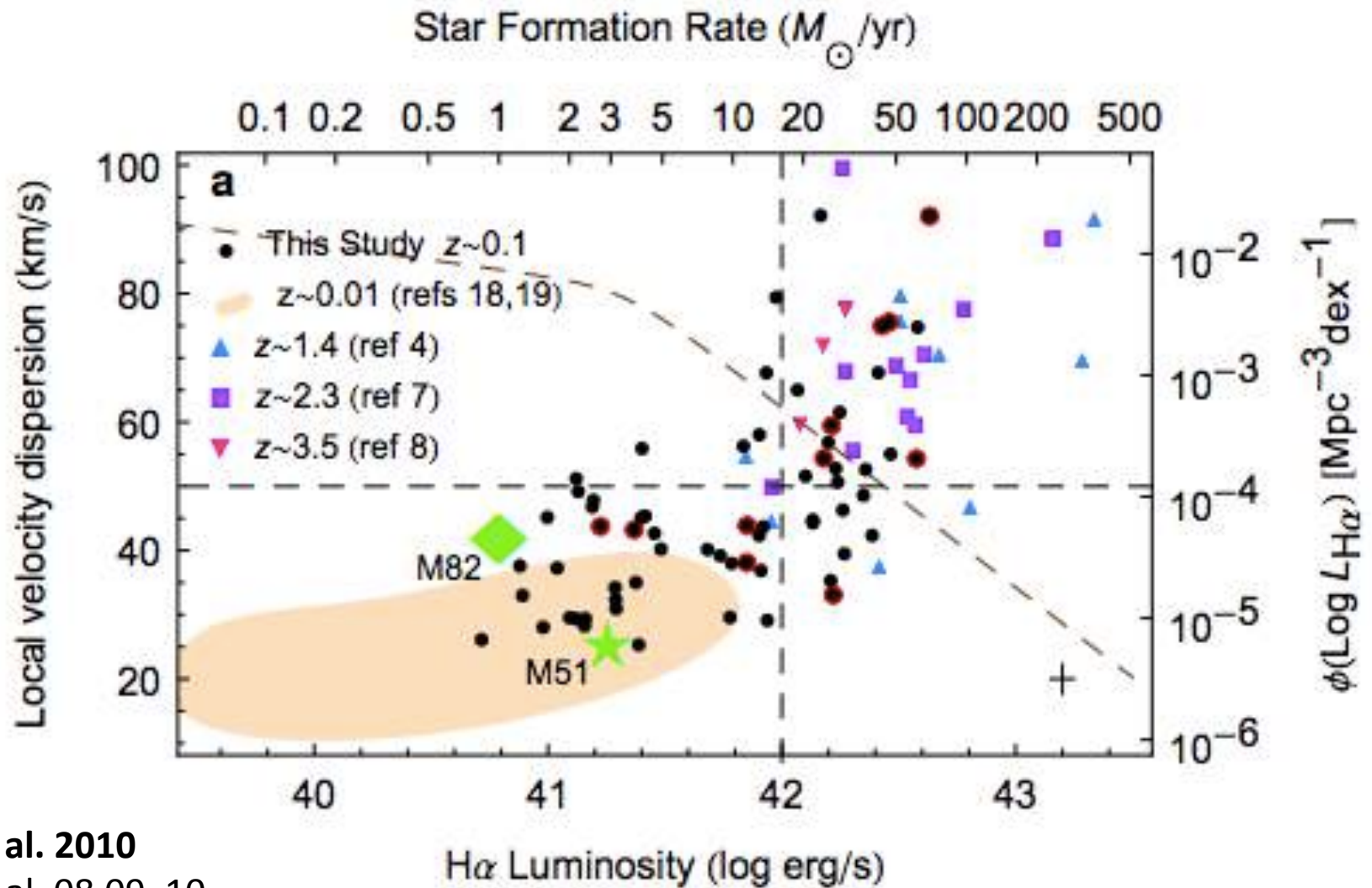
Cas A: radio image ( $\lambda 6 \text{ cm}$ )



HI shells (Stanimirovic et al. 1999)



Wright et al., *Astrophys. J.* **518**, 284, 1



**Green et al. 2010**

Epinat et al. 08,09, 10

Law et al. 2009

Lemoine-Busserolee et al. 2010

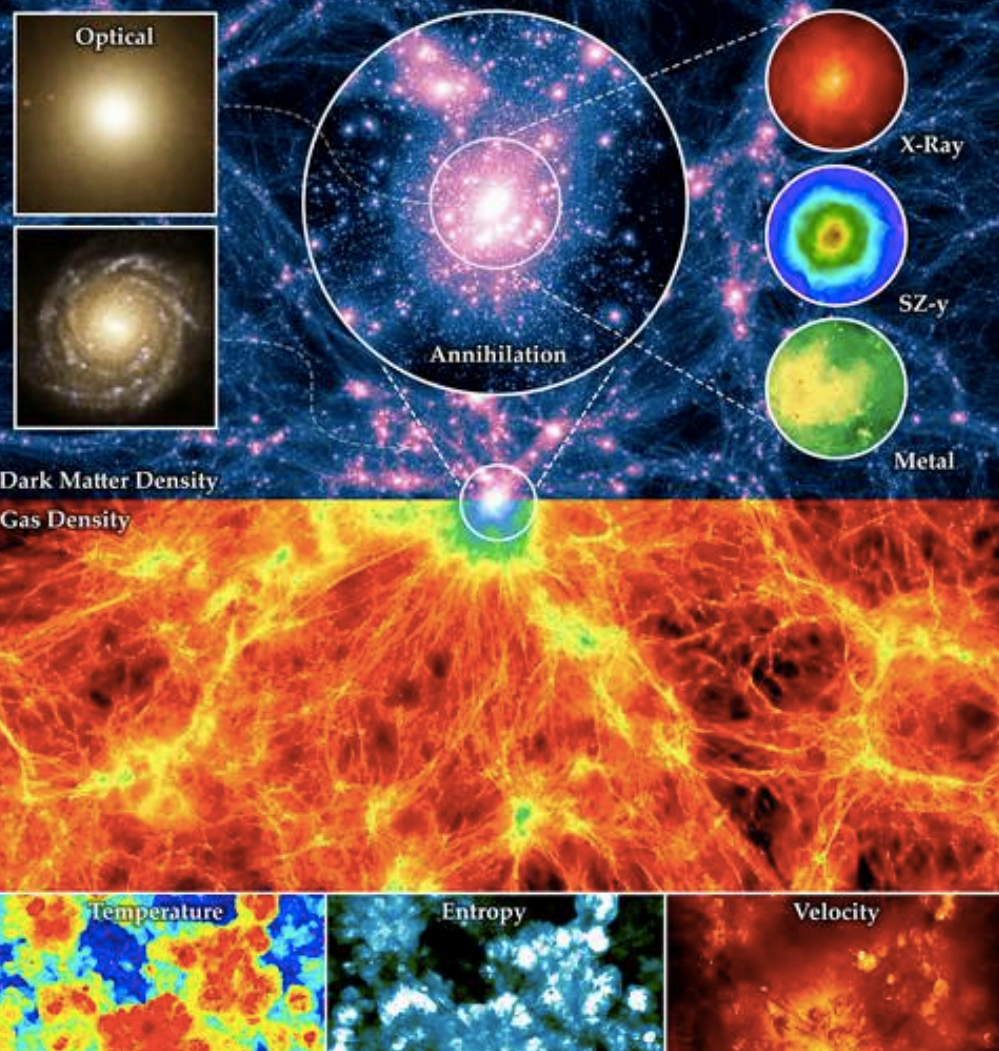
~2.3 kpc resolution

What sets this correlation on kpc scales? GMC physics?



# The Illustris Simulation

M. Vogelsberger · S. Genel · V. Springel · P. Torrey · D. Sijacki · D. Xu · G. Snyder · S. Bird · D. Nelson · L. Hernquist



Do cosmological simulations reproduce the observations of the SFR- velocity dispersion relation?

~1kpc resolution  
No GMC physics is resolved!

$$\rho_{\text{th}} = 0.13 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$$t_*(\rho) = t_0^* \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho_{\text{th}}} \right)^{-1/2} ; t_0^* = 2.2 \text{ Gyr.}$$

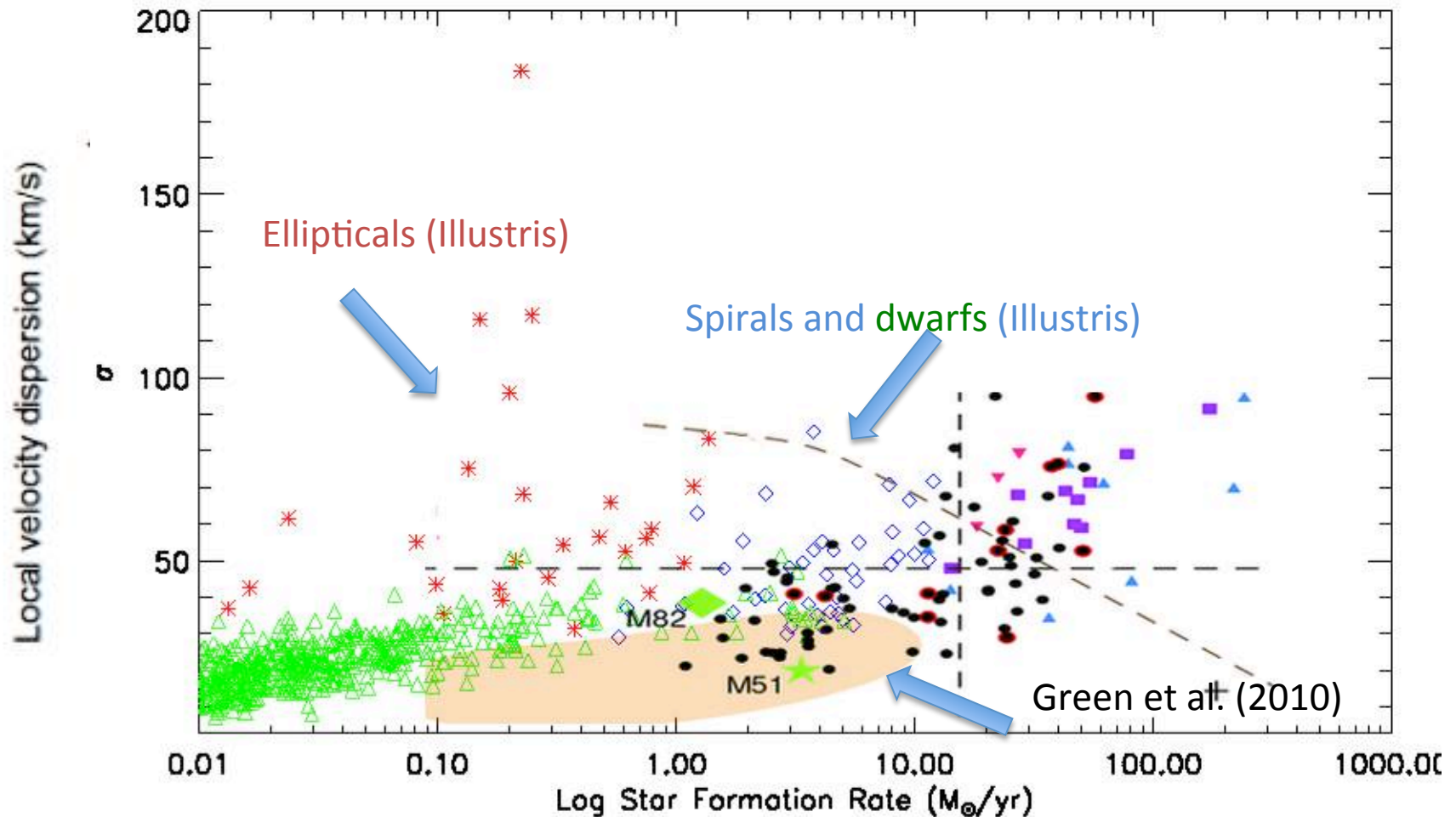
Image Credit: Illustris Collaboration

name	volume [(Mpc) <sup>3</sup> ]	DM particles / hydro cells / MC tracers	$\epsilon_{\text{baryon}}/\epsilon_{\text{DM}}$ [pc]	$m_{\text{baryon}}/m_{\text{DM}}$ [10 <sup>5</sup> M <sub>⊙</sub> ]	$r_{\text{cell}}^{\text{min}}$ [pc]
Illustris-1	106.5 <sup>3</sup>	$3 \times 1,820^3 \cong 18.1 \times 10^9$	710/1,420	12.6/62.6	48



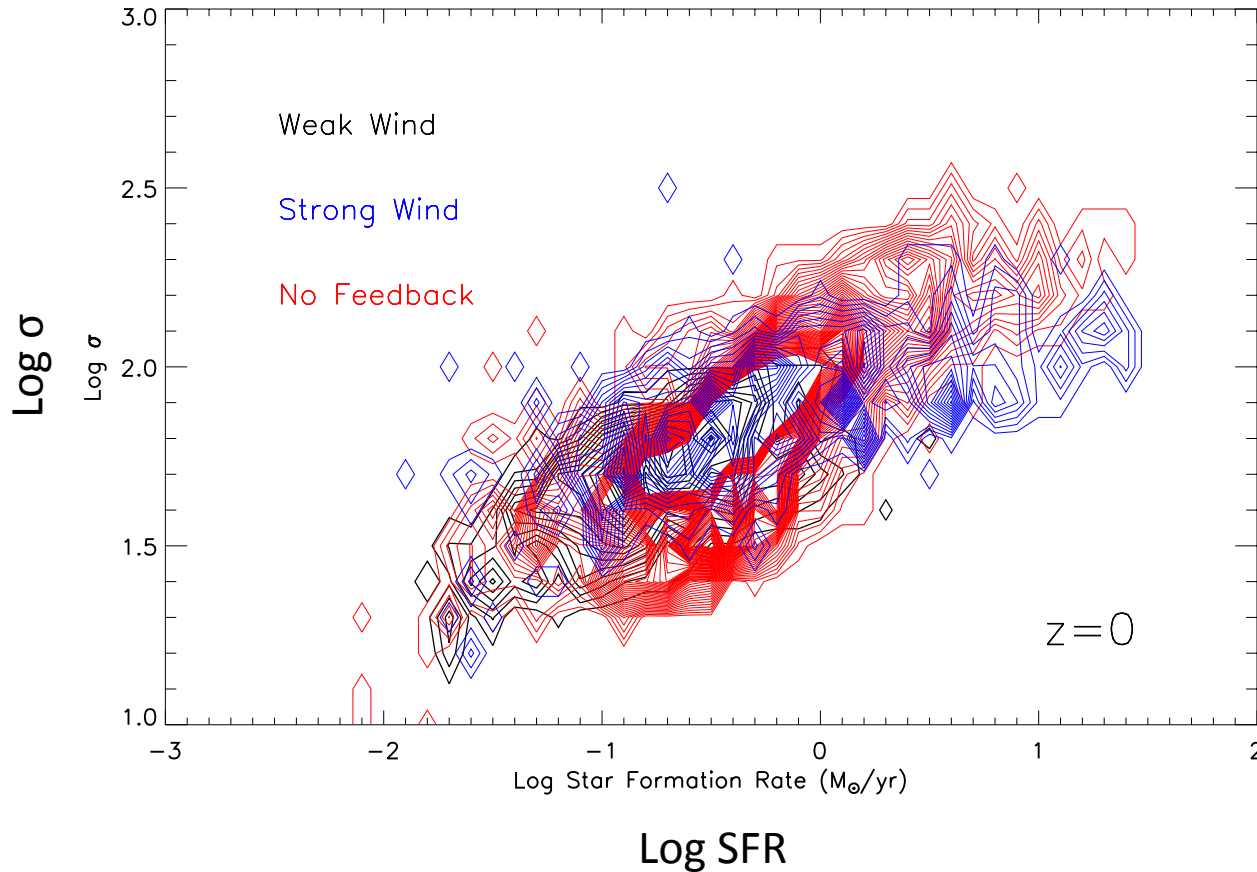
# Star formation rate vs. velocity dispersion

GMC/cloud scale physics not required to set this relationship!



Burkhart, Genel, Pillepich, Hernquist, 2015, in prep.

# SFR- $\sigma$ relation is not caused by sub-grid feedback model



Alternative explanation!

High velocity dispersions set by mergers and gravitational instability (i.e. see Forbes et al. 2013)

$$Q_{\text{Toomre}} = \frac{\kappa \sigma_d}{\pi G \Sigma_{\text{gas}}}$$

$$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} \propto (\Sigma_{\text{gas}})^n$$

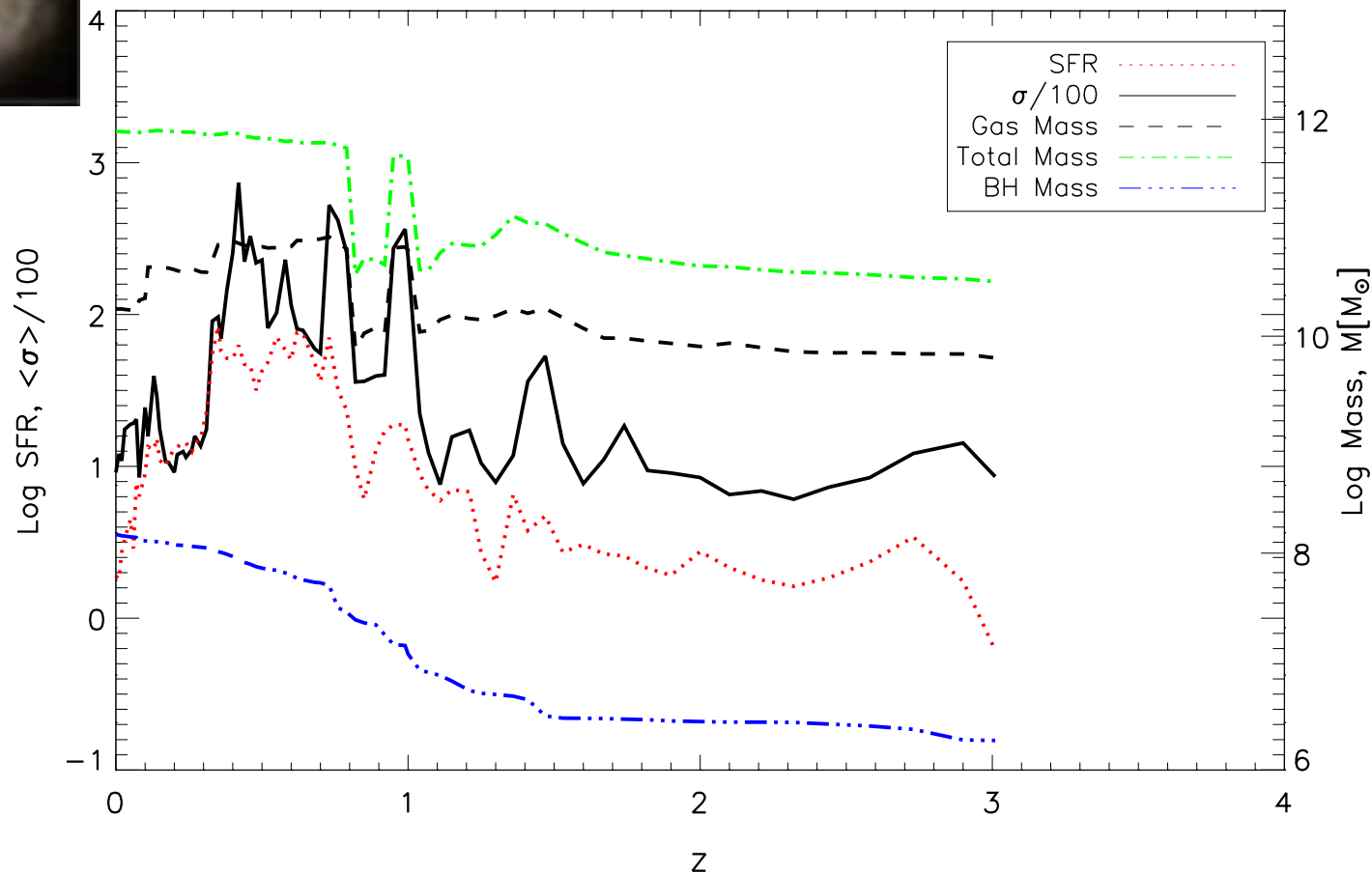
Burkhart, Genel, Pillepich, Hernquist, 2015, in prep.

# Mergers can also inject turbulence at kpc scales

Is there observational evidence for merger induced driving of turbulence?

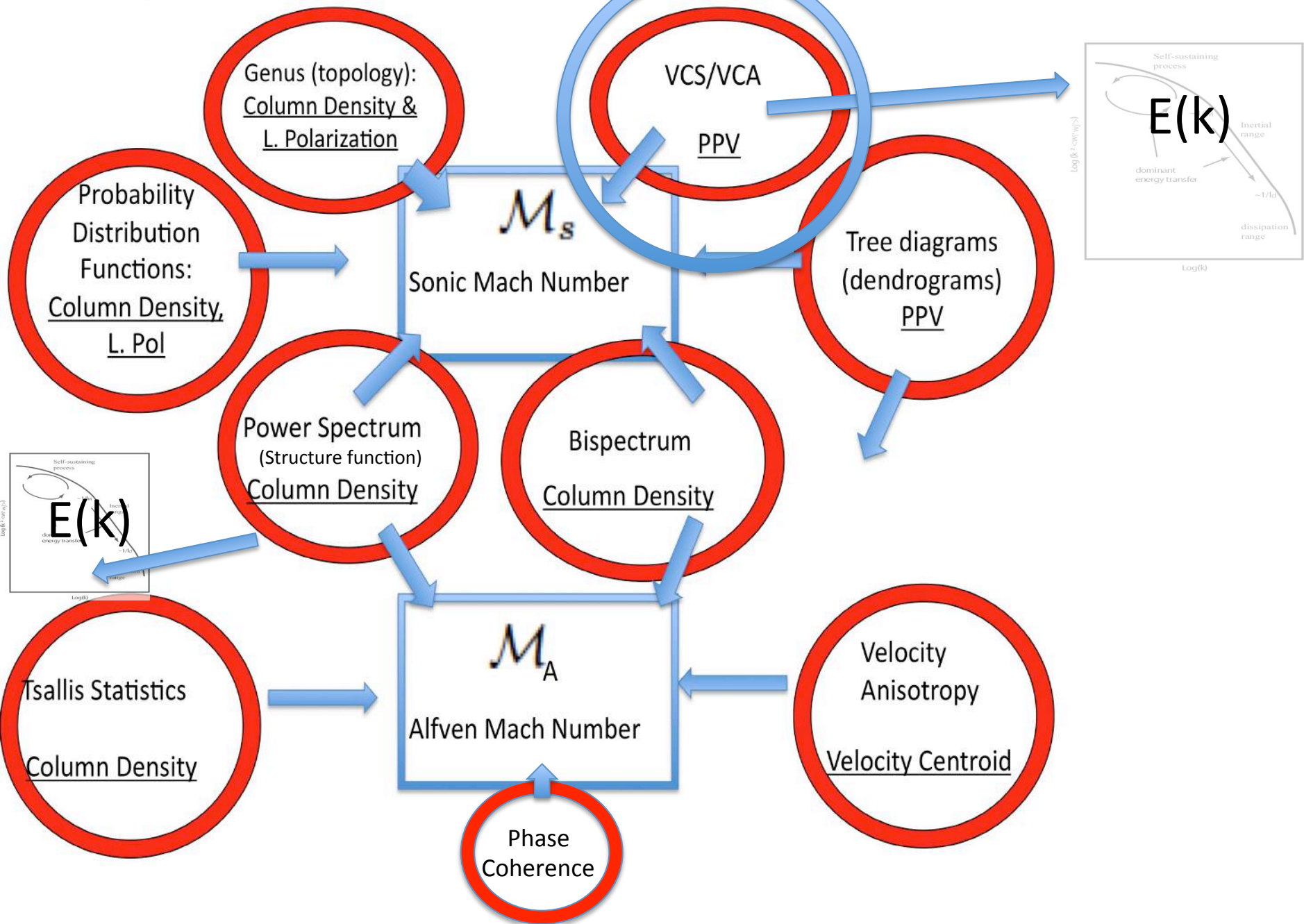


Illustris Simulation



Burkhart, Genel, Pillepich, Hernquist, 2015, in prep.

# Turbulence Statistics and their Dependencies

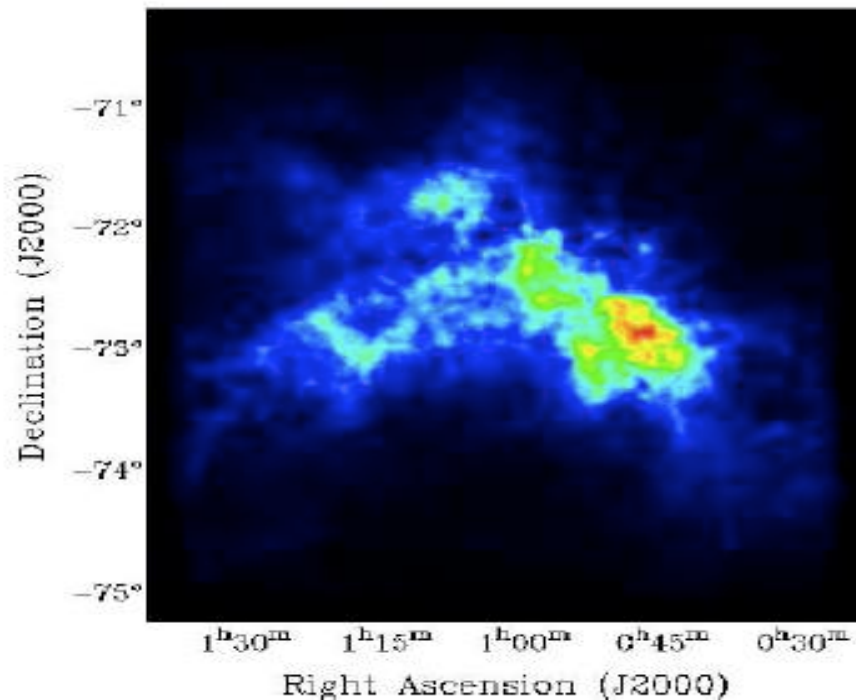




# Observational test case: SMC in 21 cm emission

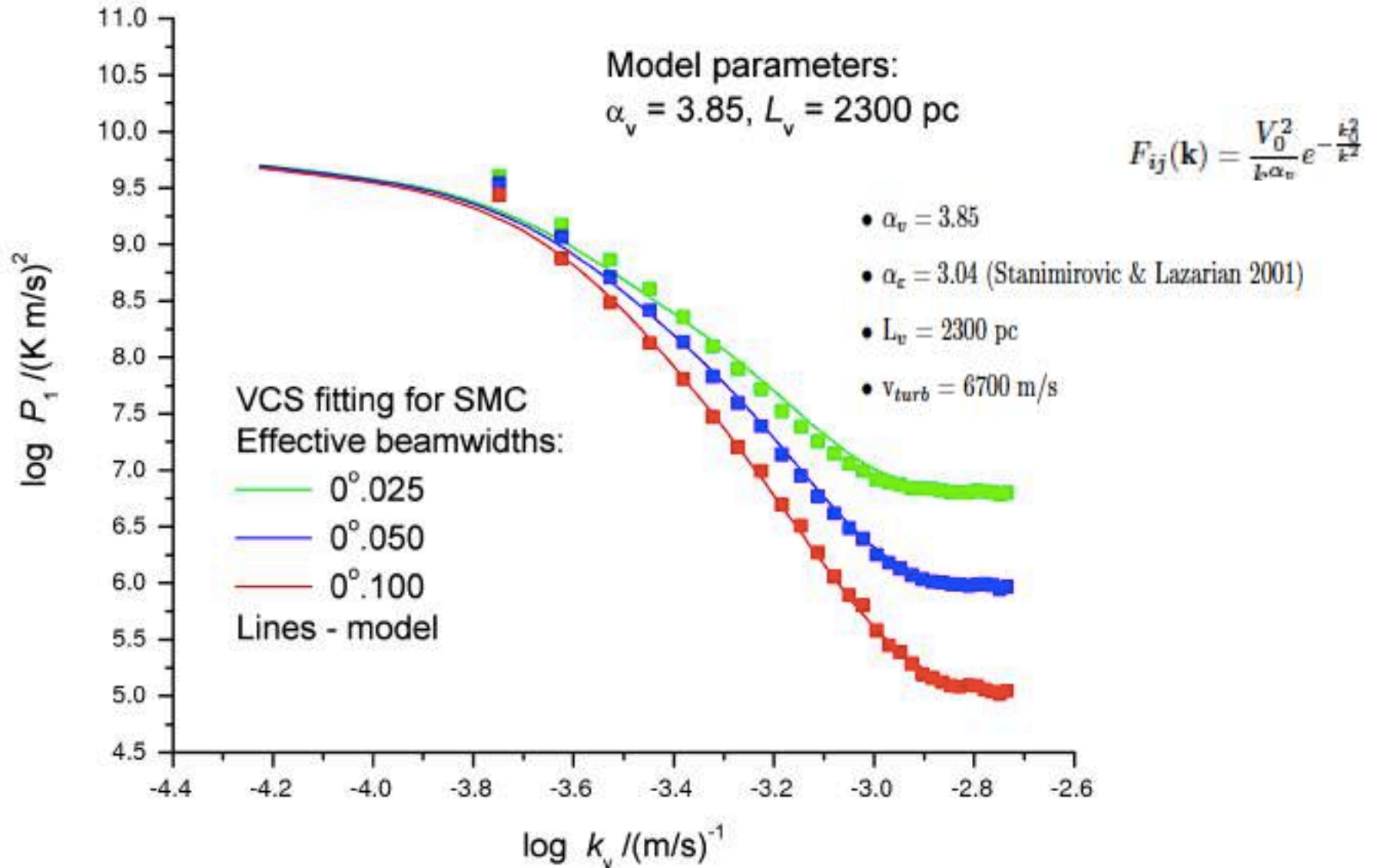
Radio data is ideal for studies of turbulence because it contains information about turbulence velocity along the LOS

Stanimirovic et al. 1999 data set has good spatial (98") and spectral resolution ( $1.65\text{kms}^{-1}$ ) and contains both single dish (Parkes Telescope) and interferometer (ATCA telescope) data (30pc-4kpc).



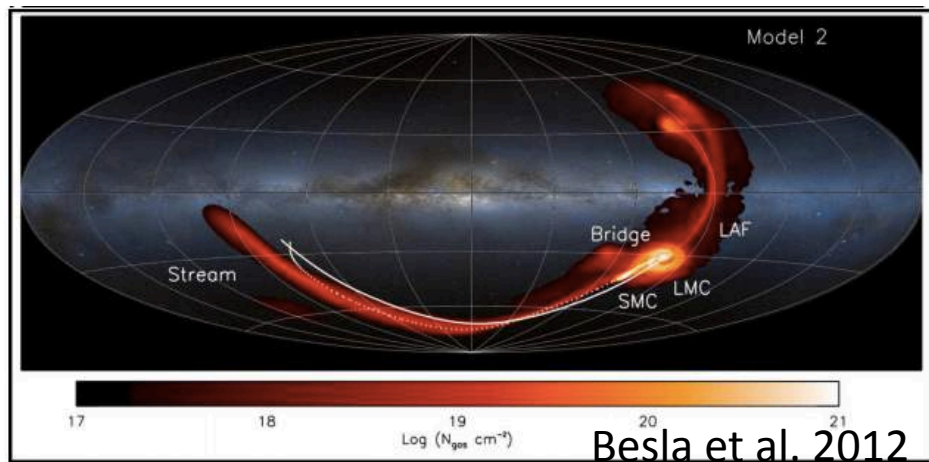
# VCS of SMC (21cm)

Chepurnov, Burkhart, Lazarian & Stanimirovic 2015

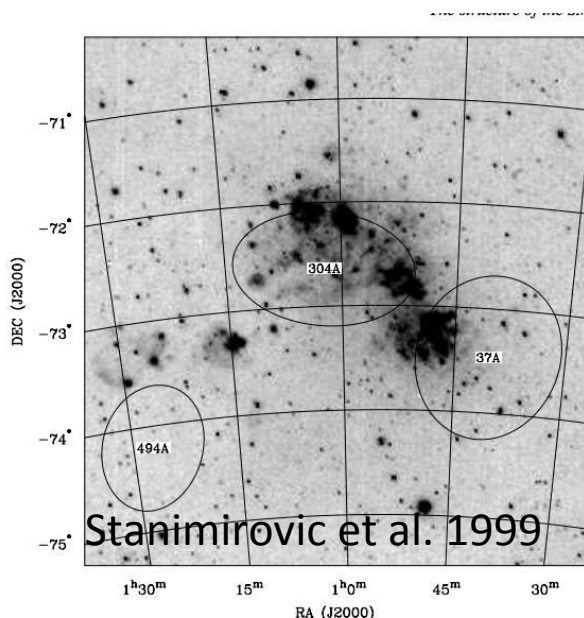


# Q: What drives turbulence in the SMC?

A: Combination of both SF and Mergers!



LMC/SMC most likely have already interacted: Tidal stripping of SMC



HI Supershells seen on kpc sizes!

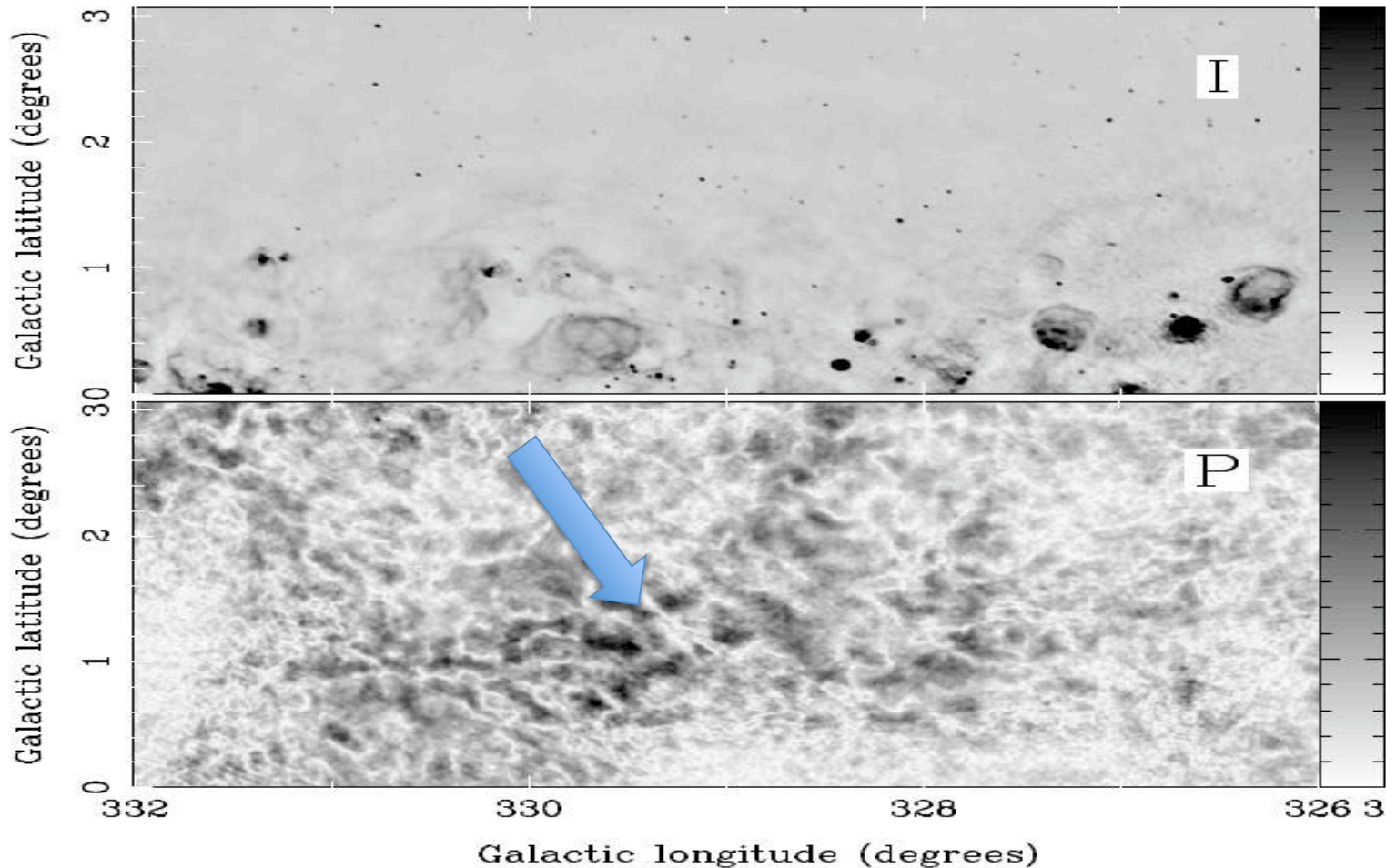
Chepurnov, Burkhart, Lazarian & Stanimirovic 2015

# Turbulence & Polarization Maps:

## 1.4 Ghz Southern Galactic Plane Survey (SGPS)

Gaensler et al. 2001

ATCA interferometer



Question: What are these filamentary structures seen in Stokes P but not total intensity?



# Linear polarization gradients

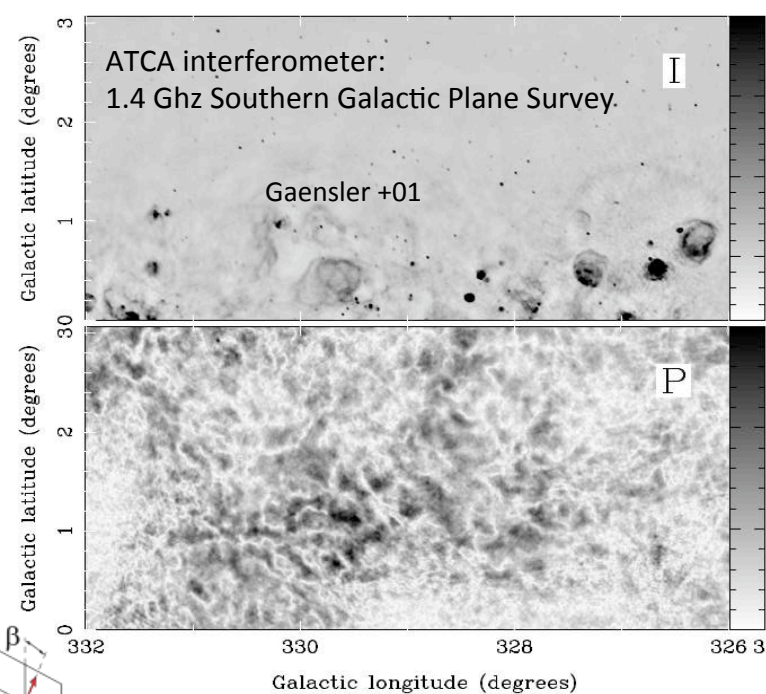
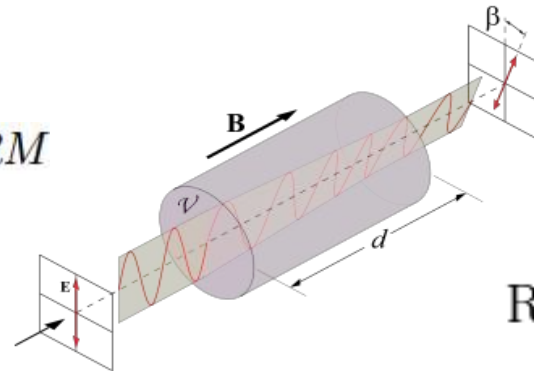
## → Turbulence

Structures are due to Faraday Rotation along LOS...

Sharp changes in  $n_e$  or  $B$  along the LOS can be due to random (subsonic) fluctuations and/or shocks propagating through the ISM

Characterize sharp changes with polarization gradients.

$\nabla \mathbf{P}$  can be related to more theoretically motivated  $\nabla RM$



$$\Theta = \Theta_0 + RM\lambda^2$$

$$RM = \frac{e^3}{2\pi m^2 c^4} \int_0^d n_e(s) B_{\parallel}(s) ds$$

$$|\nabla \mathbf{P}| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = |P| e^{2iRM\lambda^2}$$

$$|\nabla RM| = |\nabla \mathbf{P}| \lambda^2 / 2 |\mathbf{P}|$$

# Gradients of Polarization Data: Simulations and Statistics

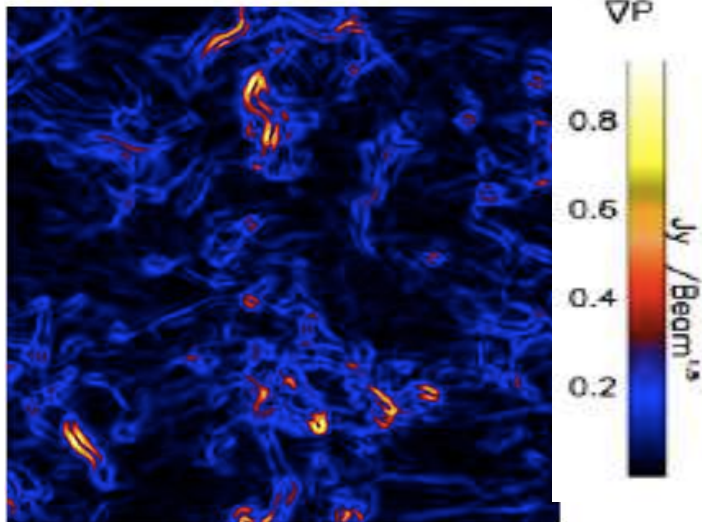
Post process simulations to linear polarization with external Faraday rotation

$$RM = \frac{e^3}{2\pi m^2 c^4} \int_0^d n_e(s) B_{\parallel}(s) ds$$

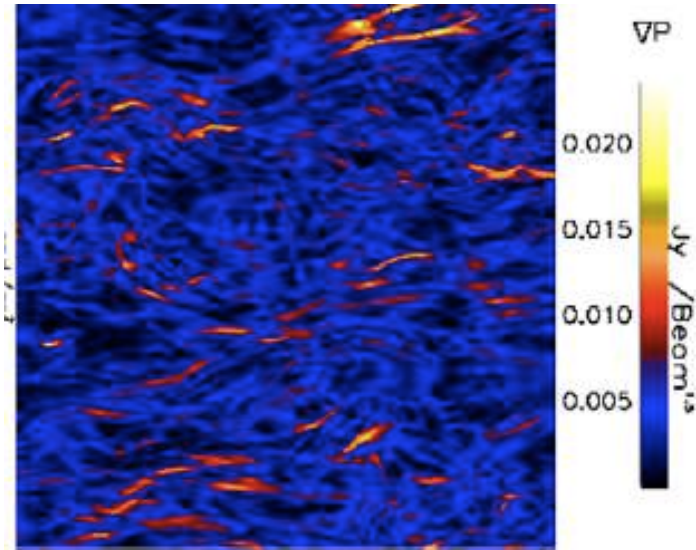
$$|\nabla RM| = |\nabla \mathbf{P}| \lambda^2 / 2 |\mathbf{P}|$$

(Gaensler et al. 2011 Nature and [Burkhart, Lazarian & Gaensler 2012 ApJ](#))

Supersonic  $\nabla P$



Subsonic  $\nabla P$

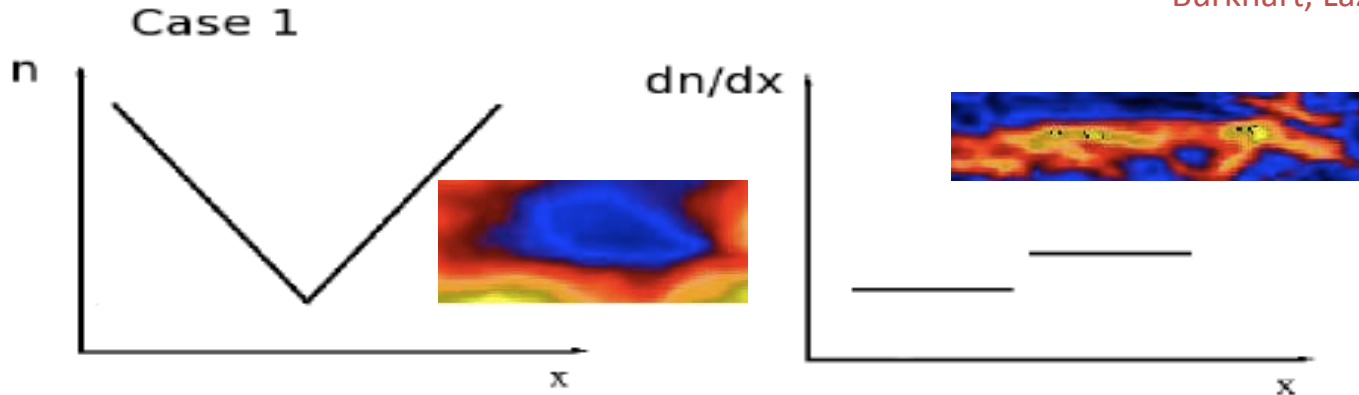


Filaments due to supersonic and subsonic turbulence are different in:

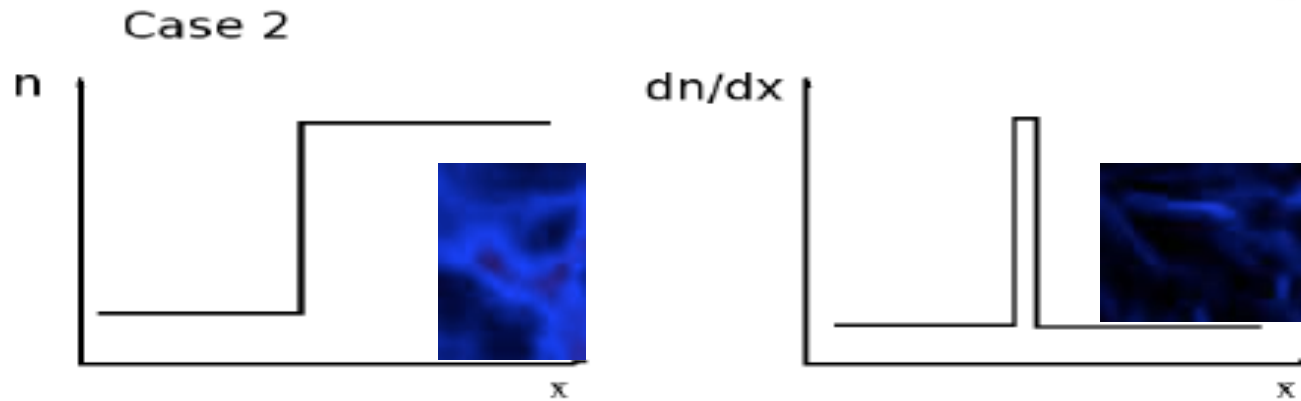
- 1) Topology
- 2) PDFs

# Gradients of Turbulent Fields: Topology

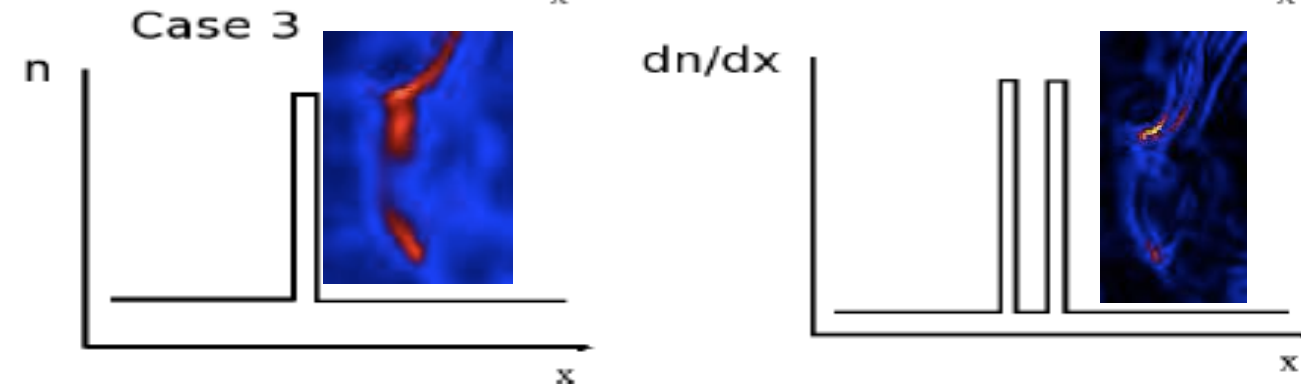
Burkhart, Lazarian & Gaensler 2012



Example:  
Any fractal function..  
All turbulence!

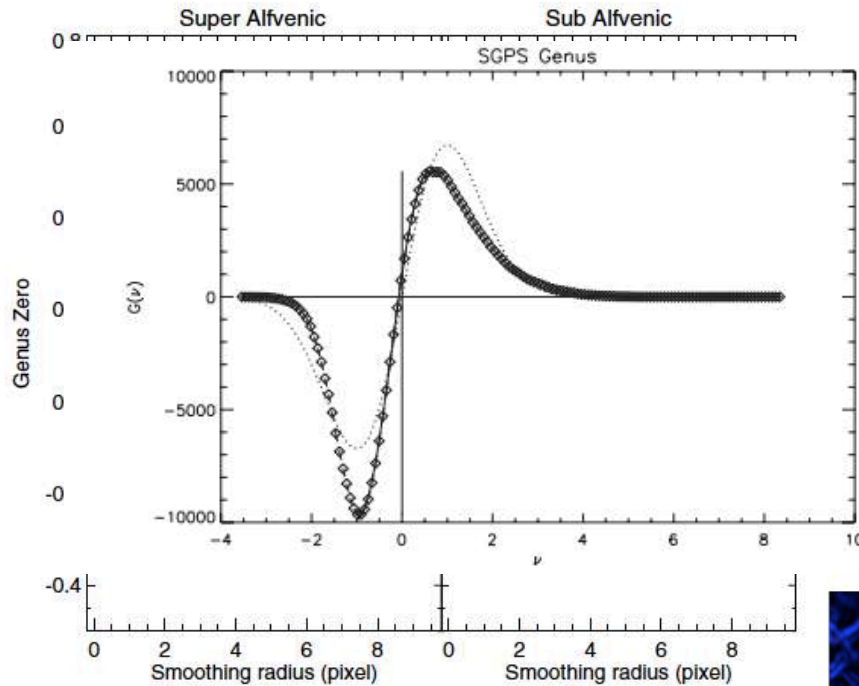


Example:  
Strong fluctuations,  
weak shocks...  
transsonic turbulence



Example:  
Strong interacting  
Shocks...high Mach  
number!

# Topology: Genus statistic

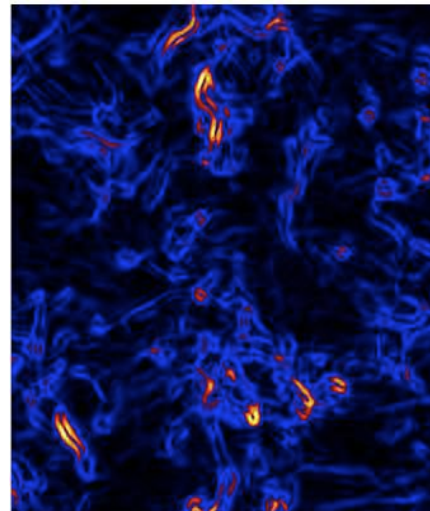


$G = (\text{isolated high-density regions}) - (\text{isolated low-density regions})$ . Relative to a set threshold value

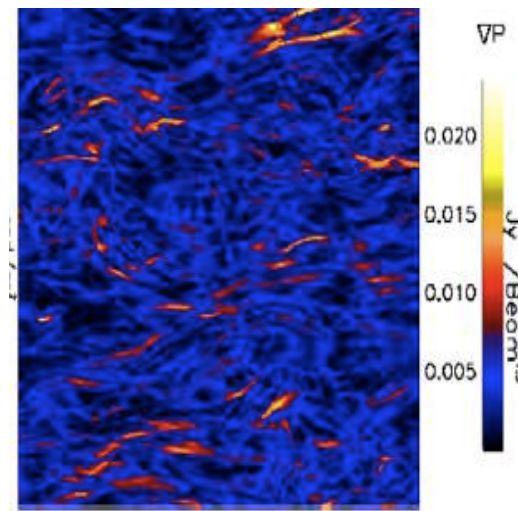
This is able to distinguish between a Swiss-cheese and Clump topology for a given threshold value.

Positive Genus zero implies hole topology.

Negative genus zero implies clump topology.



supersonic

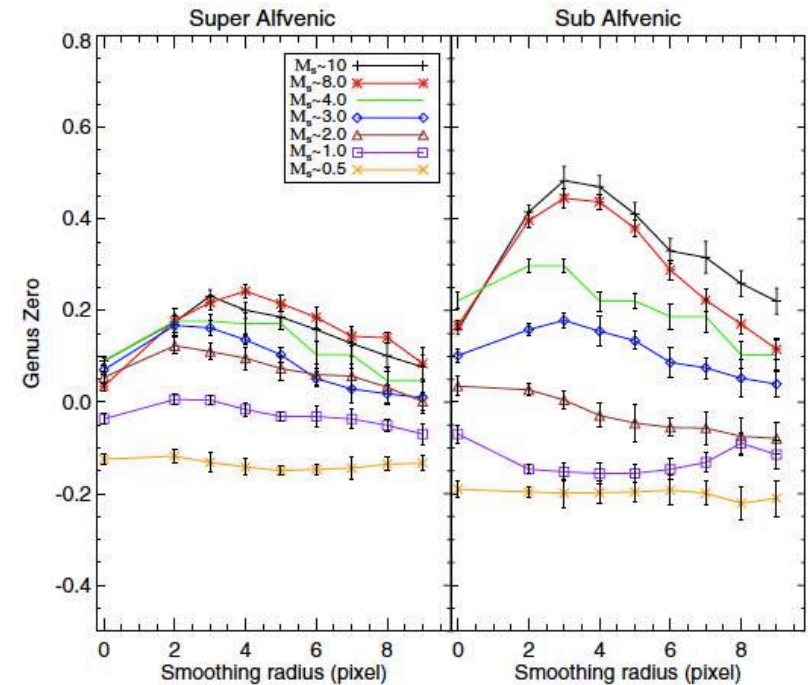
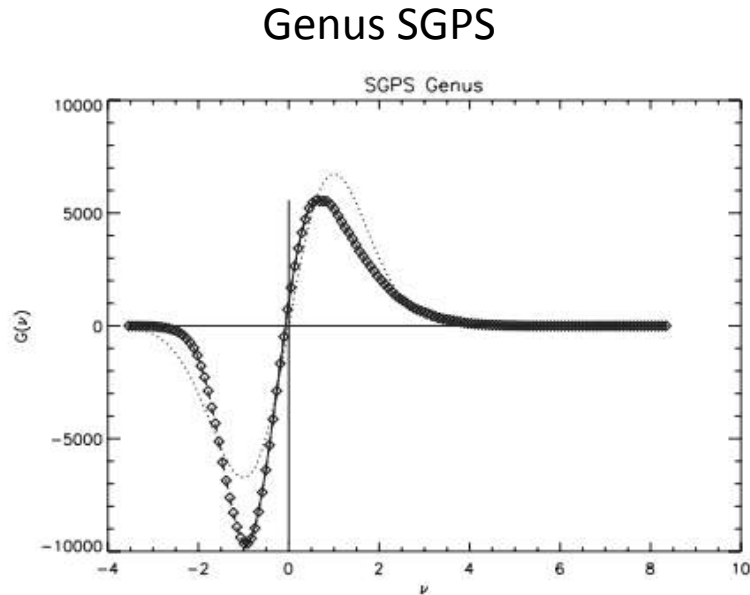


subsonic



# Application: SGPS test region

Burkhart, Lazarian & Gaensler 2012

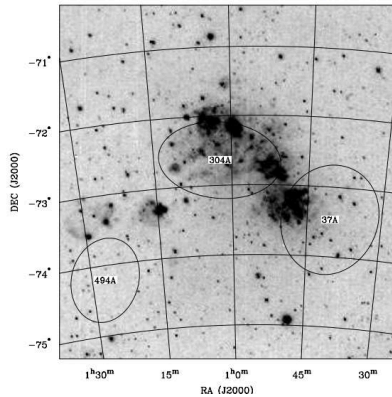


Genus zero of SGPS test region for different smoothing degree is: -0.09 to -0.03; Indicating  $M_s=1-2$

WIM in the SGPS test region is subsonic to transonic which agrees with Hill et al. 2008 dispersion measure analysis

# Summary

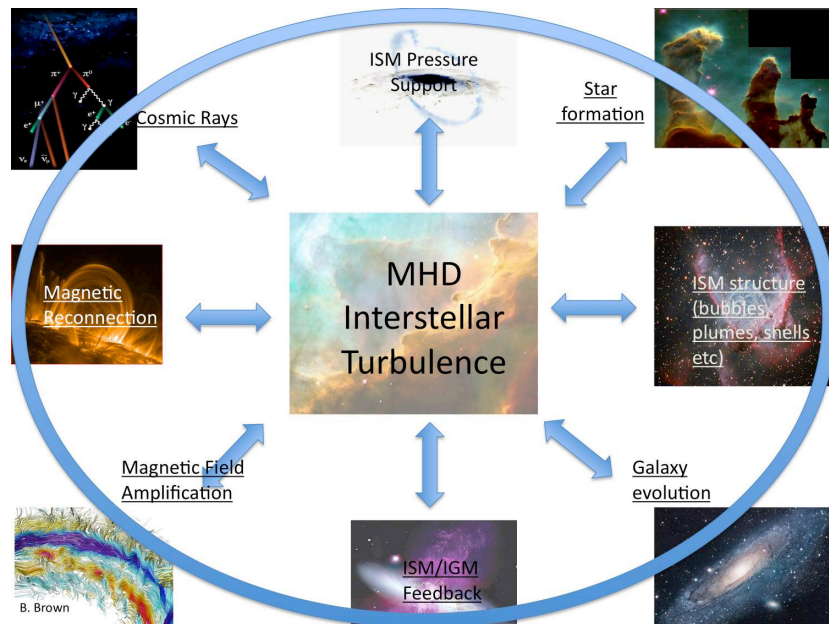
## Origins of Turbulence



1) Diagnostics for studies of turbulence are able to obtain the sonic and Alfvén Mach number and power spectrum!

2) Turbulence in the ISM is generally supersonic across a large range of phases/tracers.

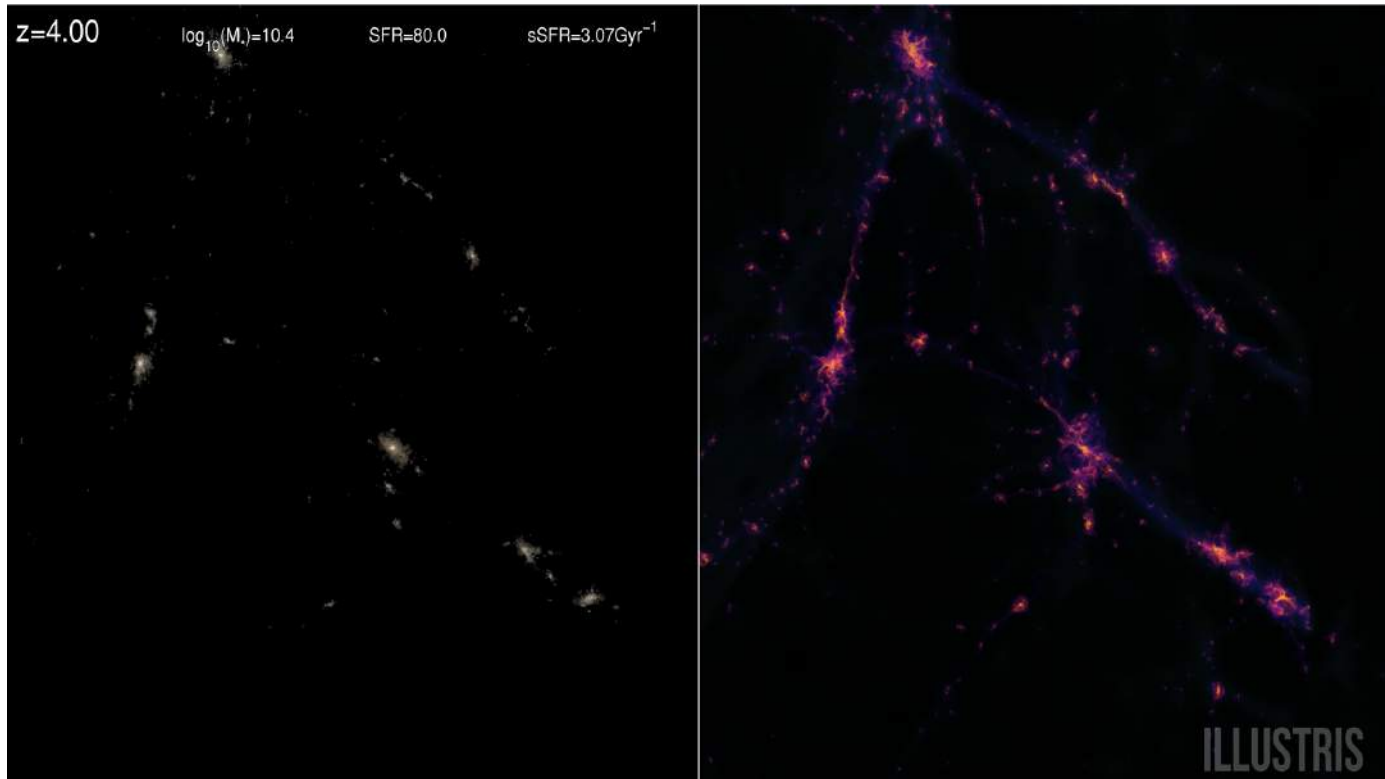
## Implications of Turbulence



3) Turbulence can be driving on kpc scales by expanding shells, gravitational instabilities, and galaxy-galaxy interactions (e. g. SMC).

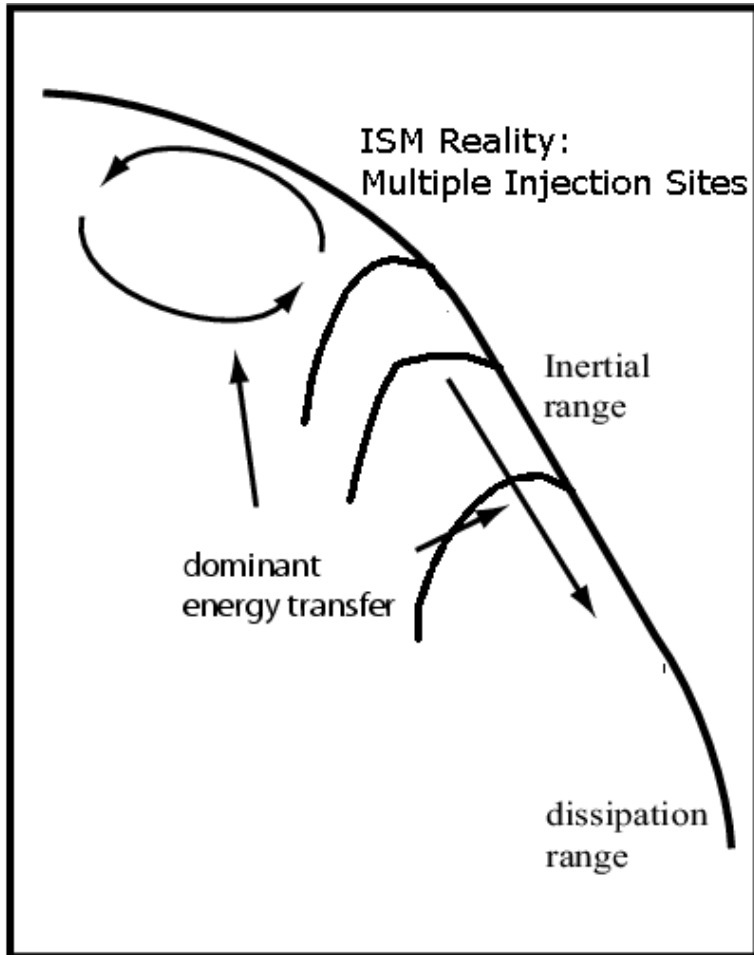
4) Topology of linear polarization gradients can trace the sonic and Alfvénic Mach number.

# Can Mergers Drive Turbulence?



Panels show stellar light (left) and gas density (right) in a region of 1 Mpc on a side.

# Origins of Turbulence: Multiple Drivers



1000 Pc scales:

Galaxy mergers (major/minor),  
Expanding shells, Gravitational instability

100 Pc scales:

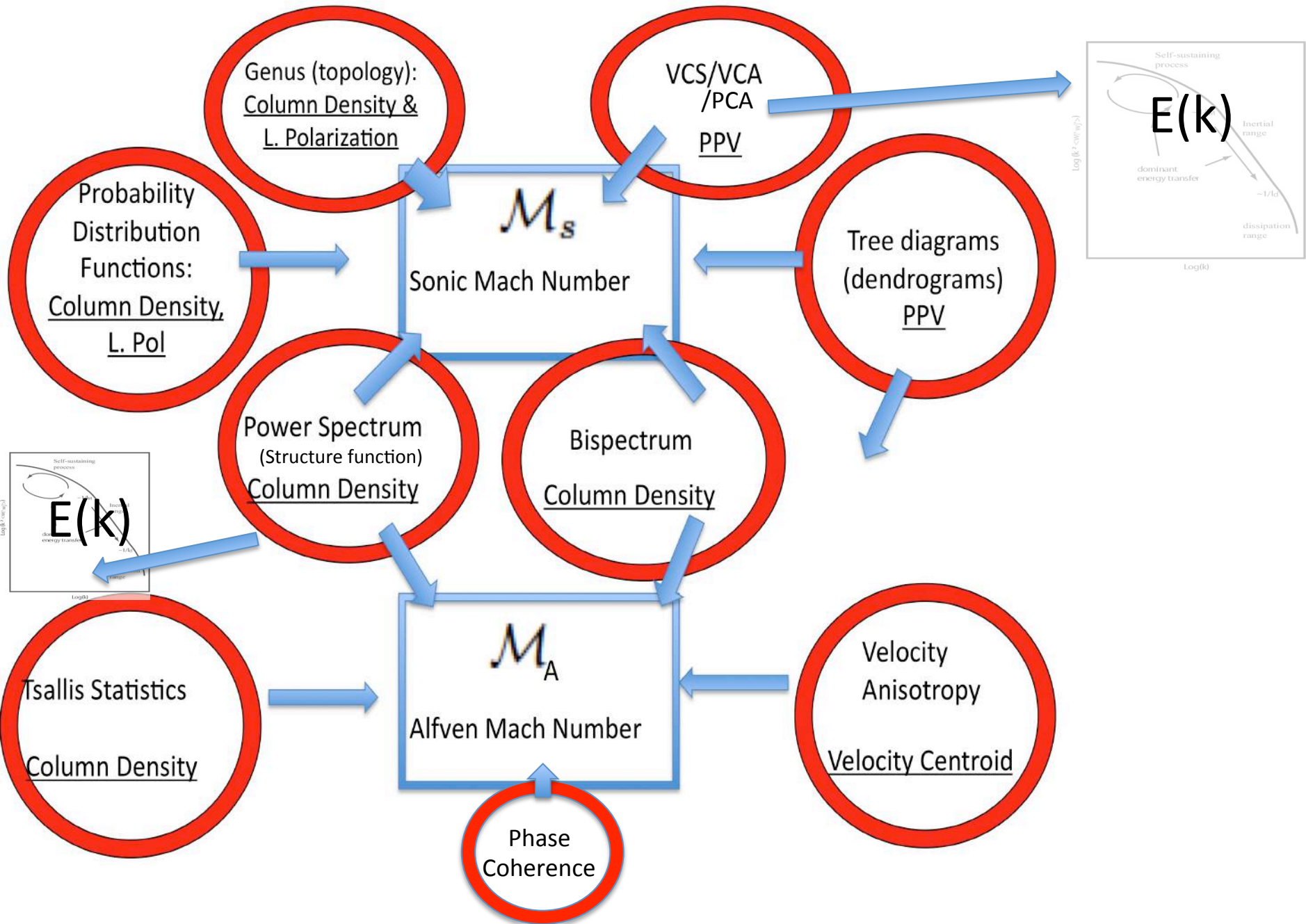
supernova, expanding shells,  
MRI, cloud collisions

10 pc-sub-pc scales:

Winds, outflows, stellar feedback,  
stellar wakes



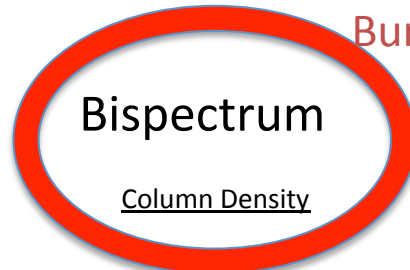
# Turbulence Statistics and their Dependencies



Burkhardt & Lazarian 2015

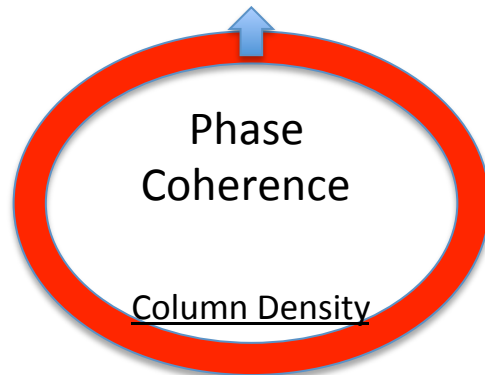
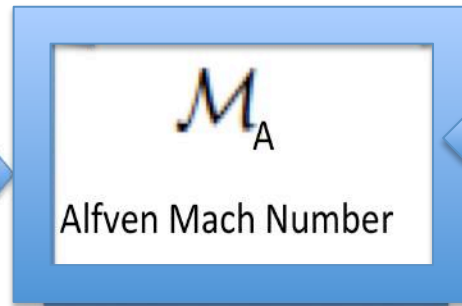
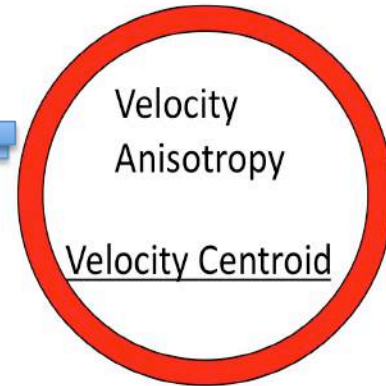
Burkhardt et al. 2010

Burkhardt et al. 2009



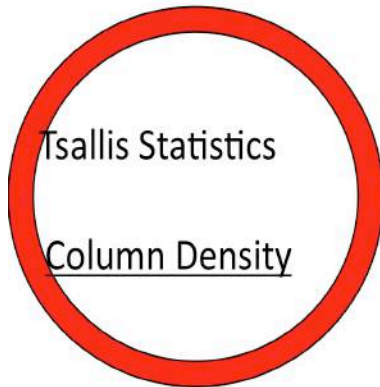
Esquivel & Lazarian 2011

Burkhardt et al. 2014



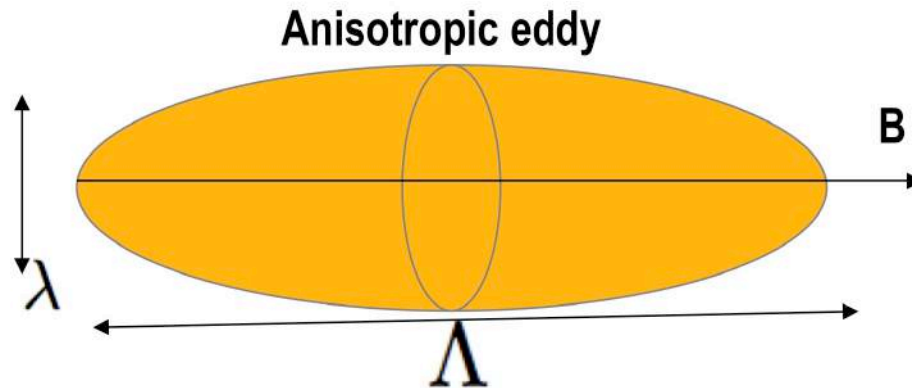
Burkhardt & Lazarian 2015

Tofflemire Burkhardt Lazarian 2012



# Velocity Anisotropy

1) Eddies are elongated along the mean magnetic field creating anisotropy in Turbulent flows



2) Anisotropy is reflected in the line of sight velocity field and in velocity centroids

$$C_x(y, z) \equiv \int_{(y,z)} V_z \rho_s dV_z / \int_{(y,z)} \rho_s dV_z,$$

3) Quantify level of observed anisotropy in 2<sup>nd</sup> order structure functions of velocity centroid maps

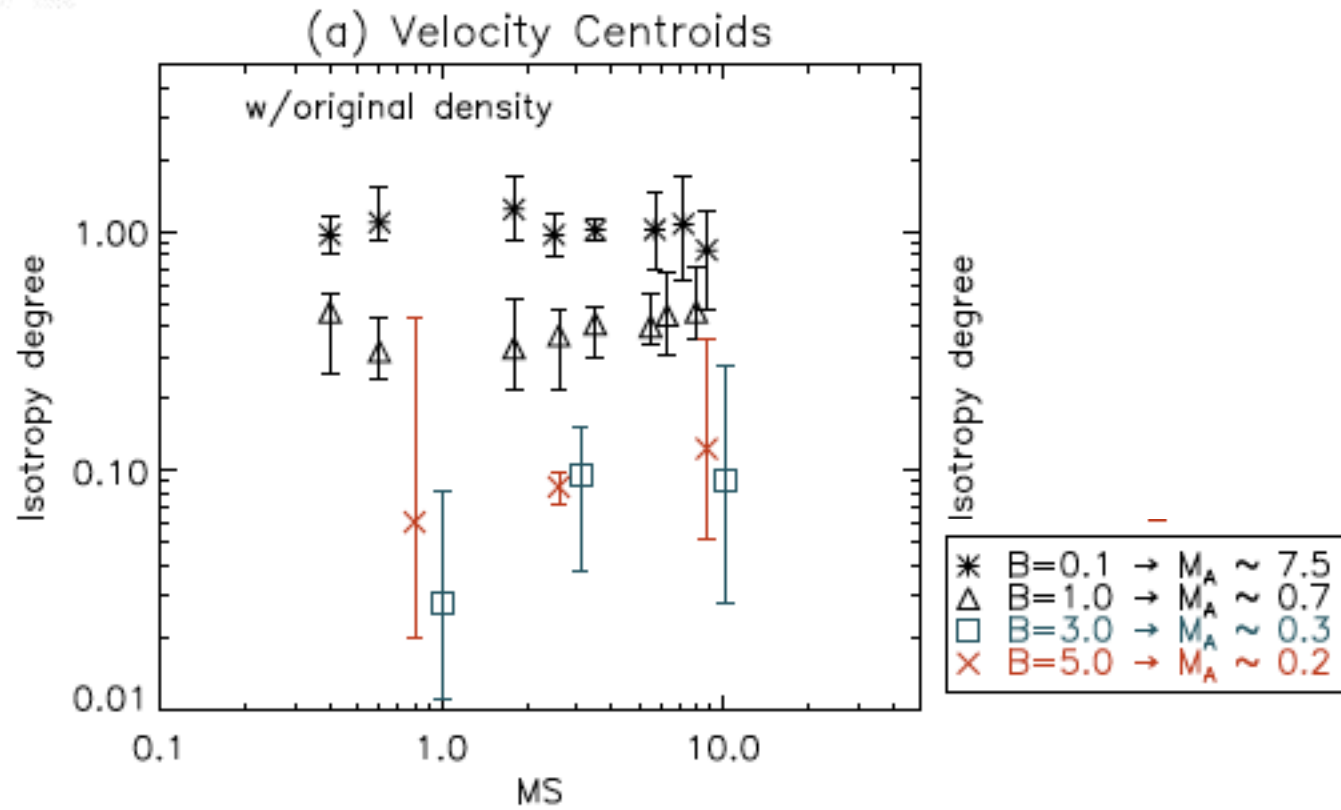
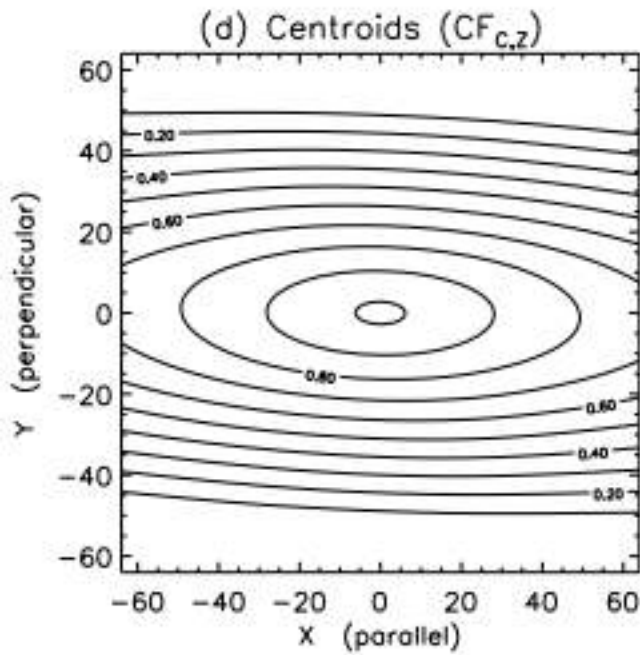
$$SF(\mathbf{r}) = \langle [f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{r})]^2 \rangle,$$

Gives perpendicular component of B field!

# Velocity Centroids

Esquivel & Lazarian11  
Burkhart et al. 2014

- 1) Implies B-perp can be obtained via statistics
- 2) Little dependency on sonic Mach number
- 3) Complimentary to PCA anisotropy methods (Heyer et al 2008)





# PDFs of Column Density- $M_s$

2<sup>nd</sup> moment: Variance ( $\sigma^2$  linear and log PDF) vs.  $M_s$

3<sup>rd</sup> moment: Skewness(linear PDF) vs.  $M_s$

4<sup>th</sup> moment: Kurtosis(linear PDF) vs.  $M_s$

$$\sigma_{\rho/\rho_0}^2 = b^2 \mathcal{M}_s^2$$

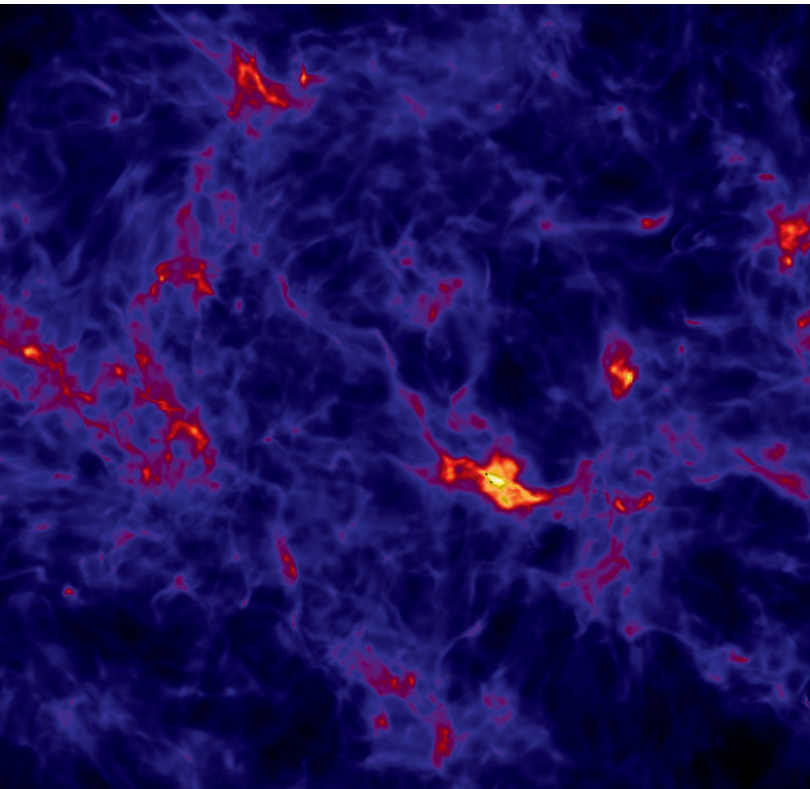
$$\sigma_s^2 = \ln(1 + b^2 \mathcal{M}_s^2)$$

$$\text{Skewness} = A * M_s + b$$

$$\text{Kurtosis} = A * M_s + b$$

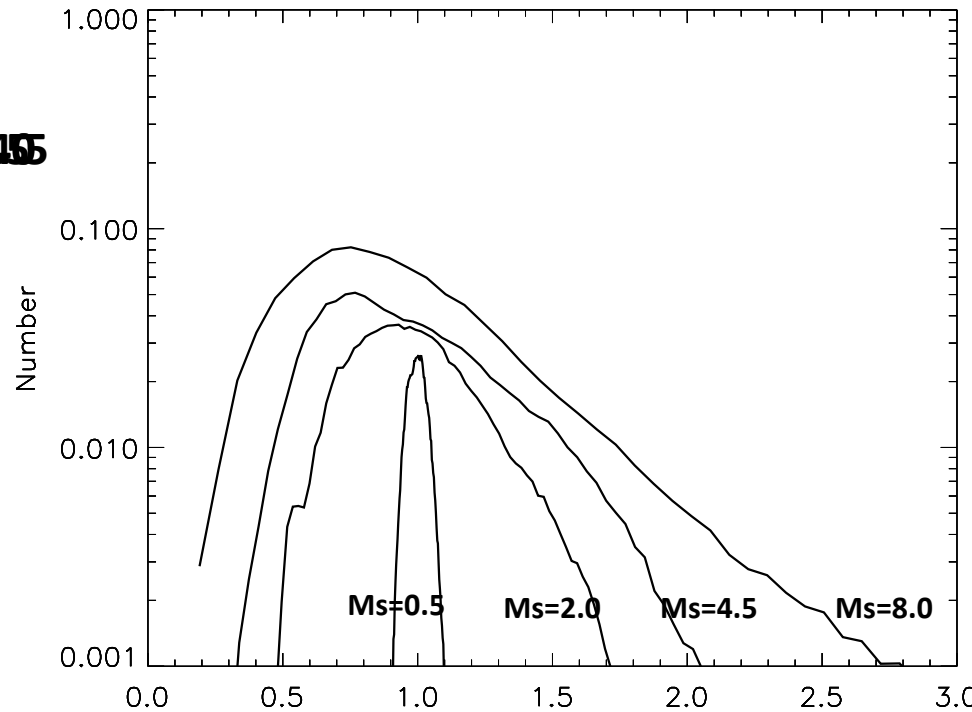
Column density PDFs:

Kowal et al. 07; Burkhart et al. 09,10; Burkhart & Lazarian 12; Kainulainen & Tan 13



$N_{SS} = 815$

Linear Column Density PDF



# MHD Simulations (no gravity)

-Cho et al. 2003, ENZO (Collins et al.) codes

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} + \rho^{-1} \nabla (a^2 \rho) - (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} / 4\pi \rho = \mathbf{f},$$

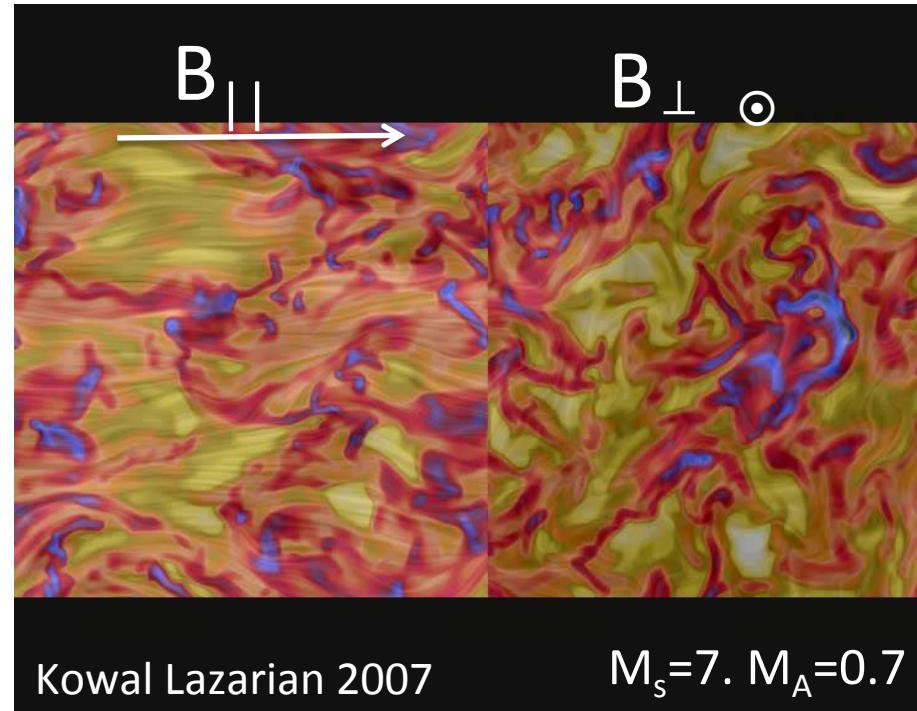
-Solve the ideal MHD equations in a periodic box and assume an isothermal equation of state  $P = c_s^2 \rho$ .

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} - \nabla \times (\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}) = 0,$$

-Generate 3D simulation with resolution  $512^3$   
 $M_s = v/c_s = 0.7, 2.0, 4.5, 7.0, 8.0, 10$   
 $M_A = v/v_A = 0.7, 2.0$

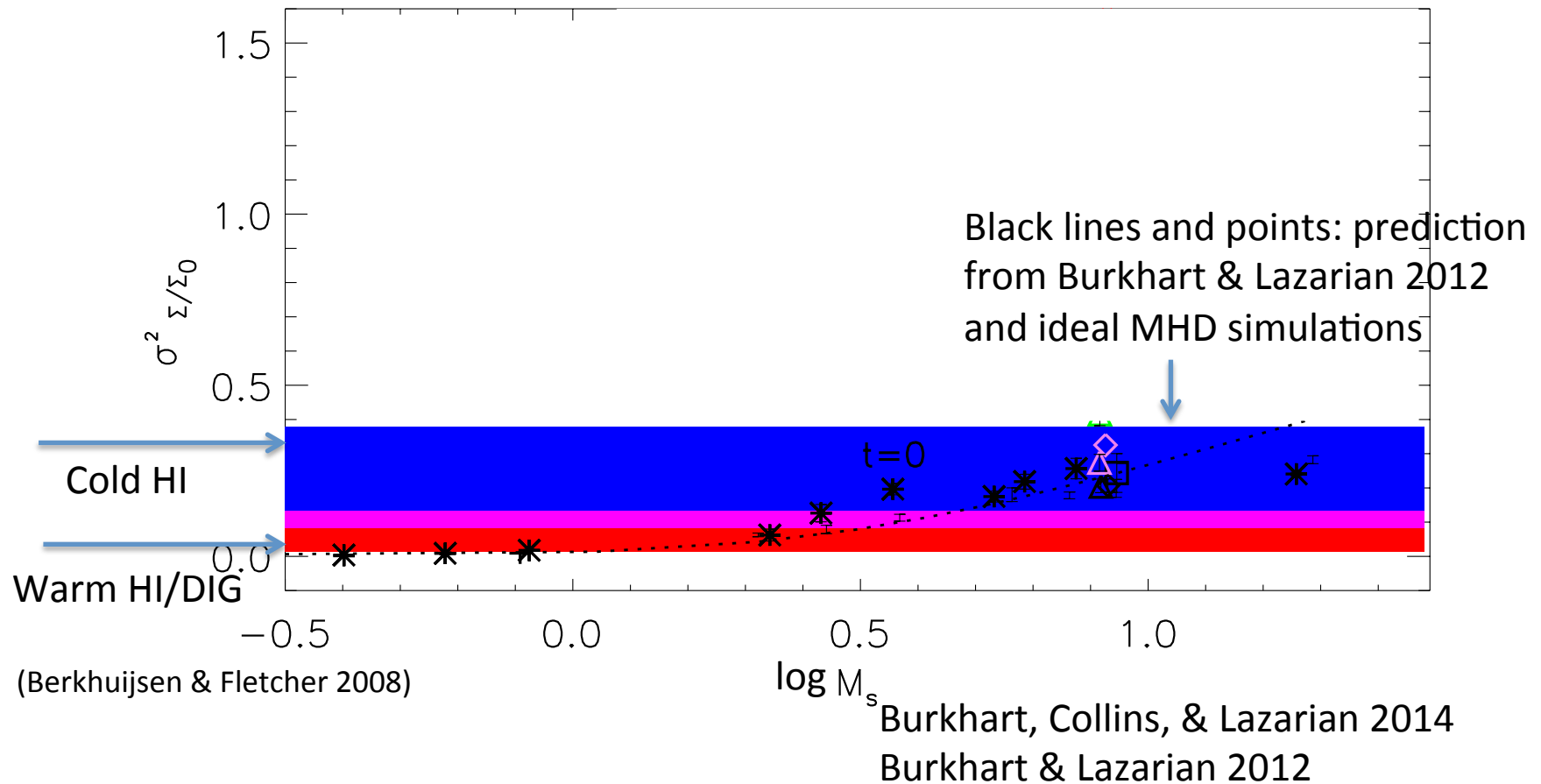
$$c_s = \sqrt{\gamma \cdot \frac{P}{\rho}} \quad V_A = \frac{B}{\sqrt{4\pi\rho}}$$

Similar to many other MHD 'turbulence in box' simulations



e.g., Vazquez 1994, Padoan+1997, Passot+1998, Stone+1998, Mac Low 1999, Klessen+2000, Ostriker+2001, Heitsch+2001, Cho+2002, Boldyrev+2002, Li+2003, Haugen+2004, Padoan+2004, Jappsen+2005, Ballesteros+2006, Mee+Brandenburg 2006, Kritsuk+2007, Dib+2008, Offner+2008, Kowal+2008, Schmidt+2009, Cho+2009, Lemaster+2009, Glover+2010, Burkhardt+2010, Price+2011, DelSordo+2011, Collins +2012, Walch+2012, Scannapieco+2012, Pan+2012, Robertson+2012, +++

# The WNM/CNM ISM PDF: Sonic Mach Number vs. Variance



# PDFs of Collapsing GMCs are Different than WNM/CNM....

t=0 supersonic turbulence

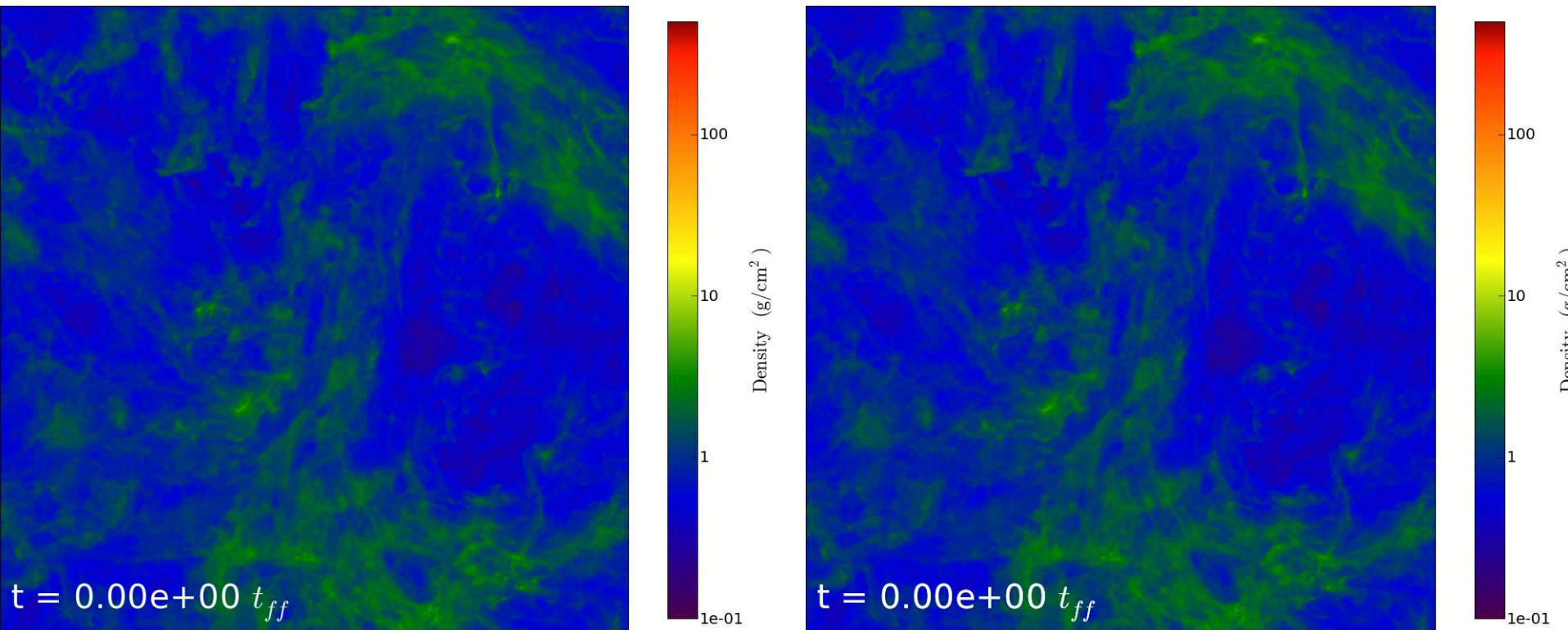
t>0 re-run with ENZO AMR self-gravity

$$\mathcal{M} = \frac{v_{\text{rms}}}{c_s} = 9$$

$$\alpha_{\text{vir}} = \frac{5v_{\text{rms}}^2}{3G\rho_0 L_0^2} = 1$$

$$\beta_0 = \frac{8\pi c_s^2 \rho_0}{B_0^2} = 0.2, 2, 20,$$

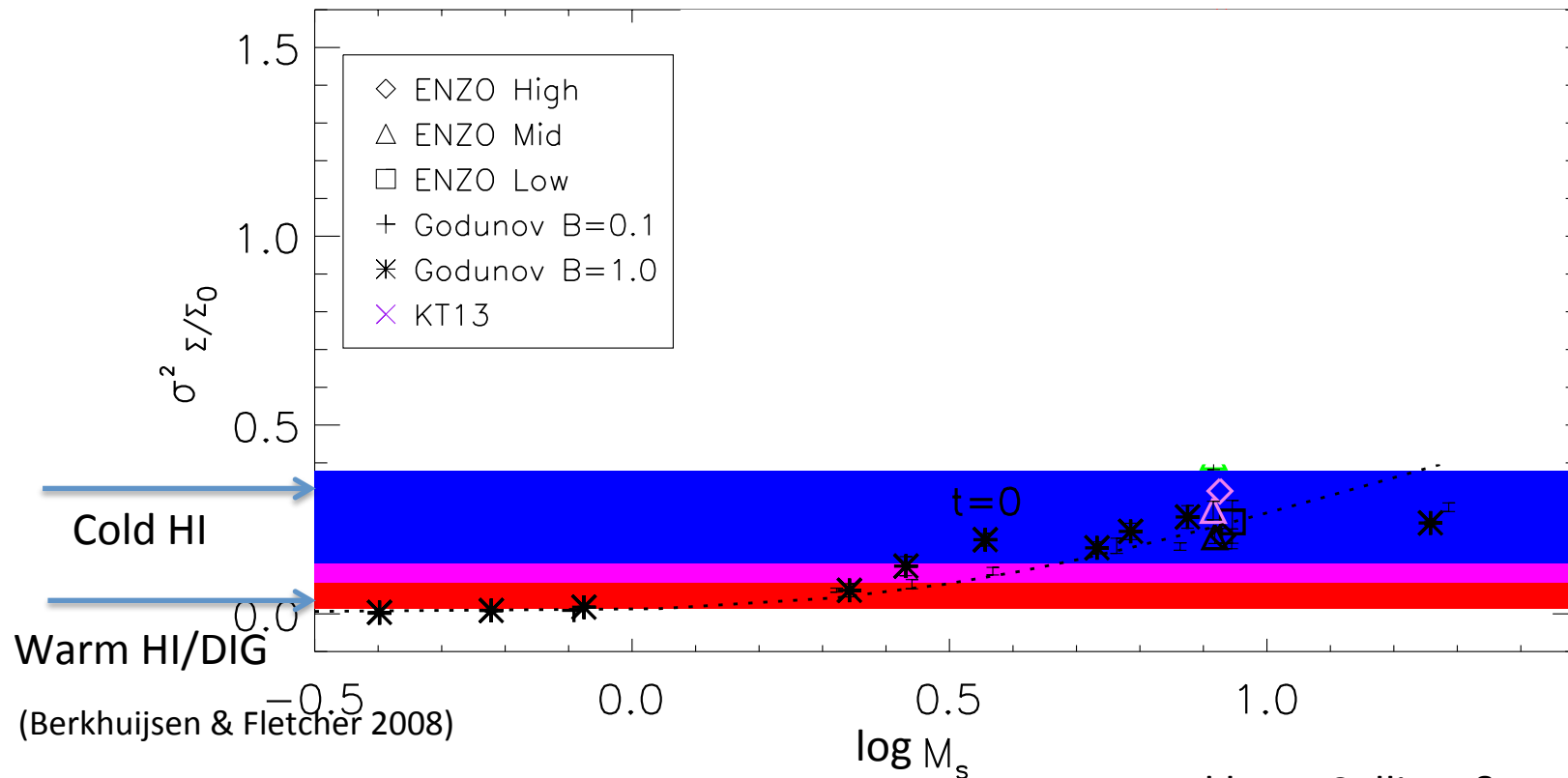
Collins et al. 2012; Burkhardt, Collins, Lazarian 2014, submitted



Movies: D. Collins



# Sonic Mach Number vs. Variance Relation: Where do the Self-Gravitating?

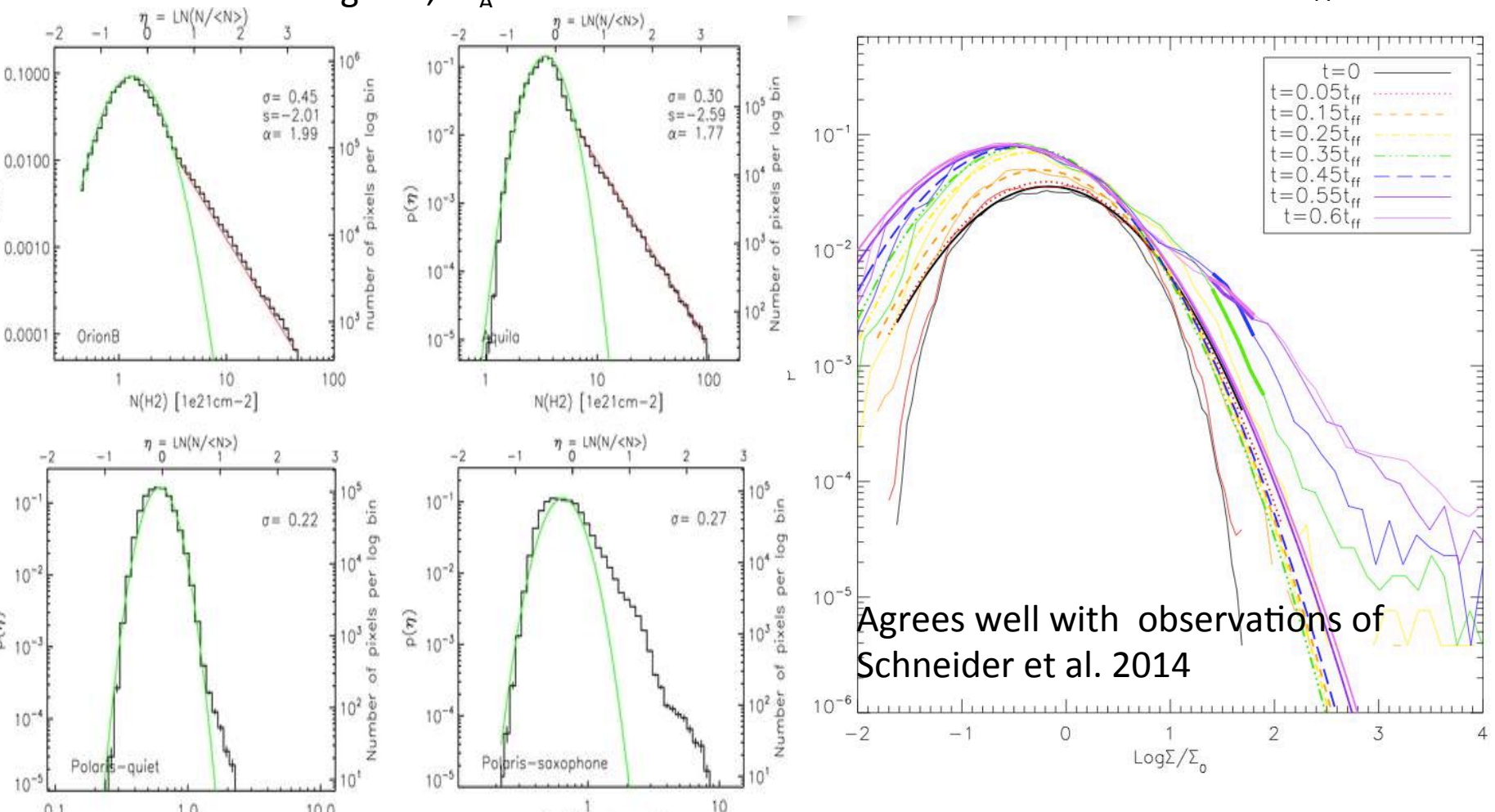


# PDFs of Magneto gravoturbulence

Power law tails observed in column density: Burkhart, Collins, Lazarian (2014, submitted)

“High B”,  $M_A=7$

“Low B”,  $M_A=20$

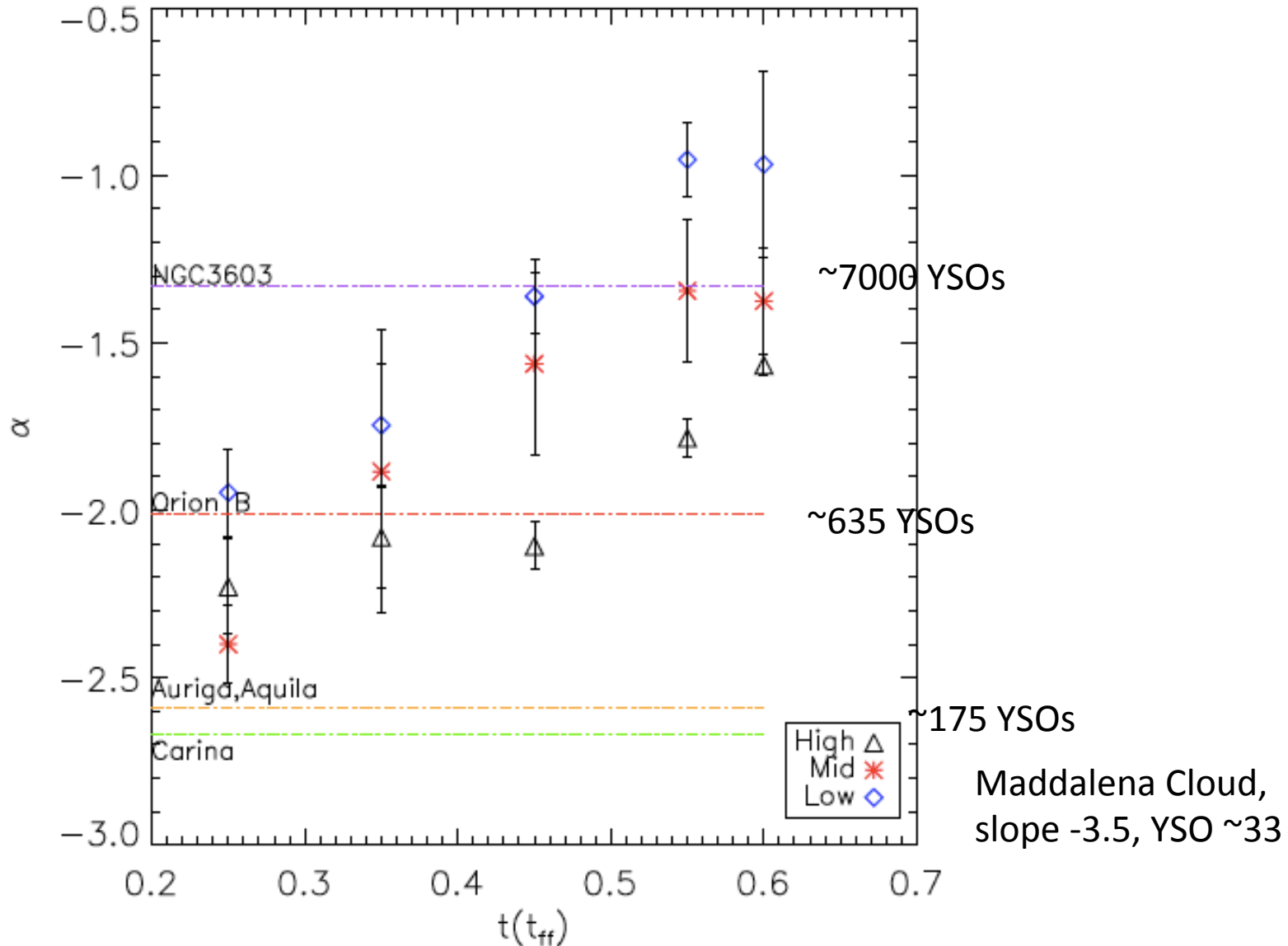


Agrees well with observations of Schneider et al. 2014

# Power Law Tail Slopes

Burkhart Collins Lazarian 2015

Implications:  
PDF Power  
Law tails can  
be used to  
asses the  
evolutionary  
stage of the  
cloud!



# Conclusions

- 1) The PDF can diagnose the turbulent state of the gas (sonic Mach number) for the diffuse medium.
- 2) For self-gravitating gas the PDF is a better indicator of the evolutionary stage of the cloud.
- 3) Orion B seems to be in an intermediate state of evolution compared with other clouds (as traced by the PDF).
- 4) Additional tracers for PDFs beyond dust are needed to get the full dynamic range of the PDF in molecular clouds, i.e. to probe the 'lognormal' portion (Lombardi, Alves & Lada 2015).