

Constraining the Dust Grain Alignment Mechanism(s) Responsible for the (Sub-)millimeter Dust Polarization Observed in Class 0 Protostellar Cores

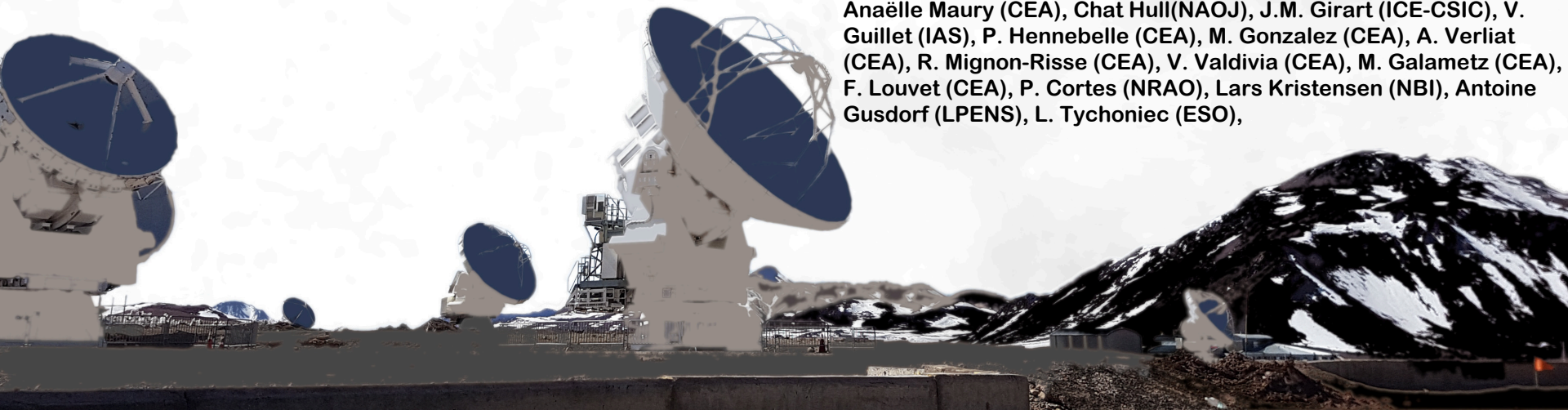
Our Galactic Ecosystem: Opportunities and Diagnostics in the Infrared and Beyond

Valentin Le Gouellec

March 2nd 2022

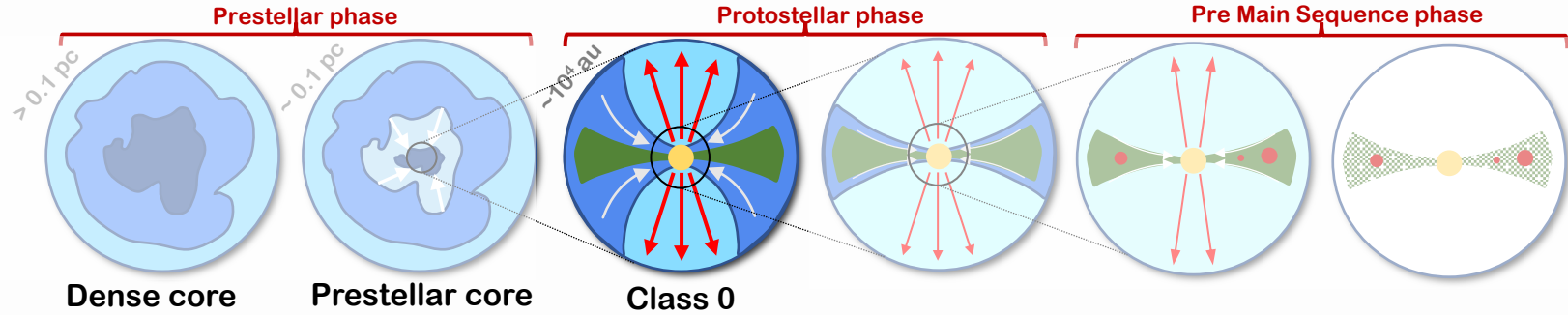


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How do solar-type stars form ?

Lada + 1984, 1987, André + 2000, 2002

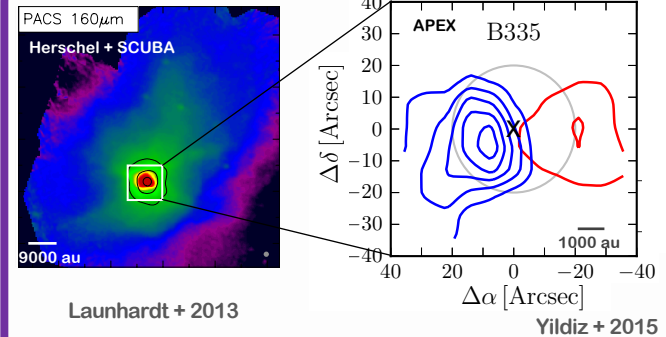
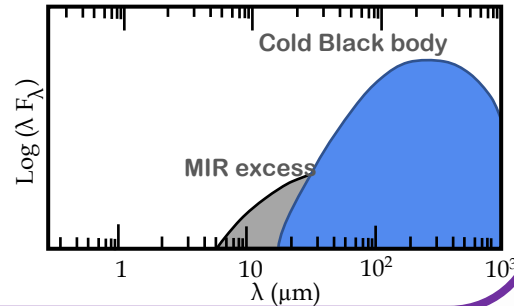


Main accretion phase. Material is accreted onto the protostellar embryo from the collapsing envelope.

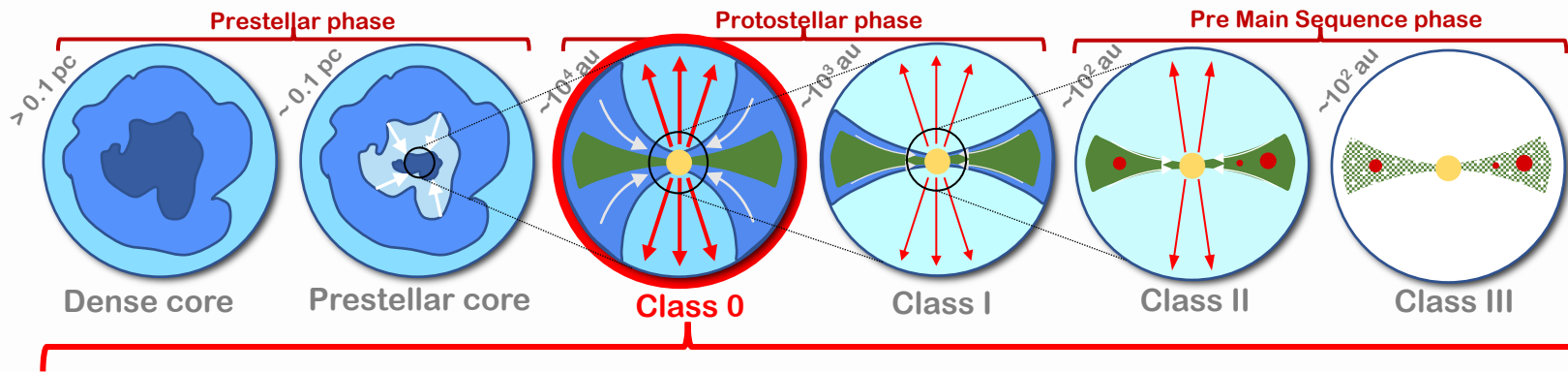
Formation of a circumstellar disk

Ejection of mater via bipolar outflows

Size $\sim 10\,000$ au
 Duration $\sim 10^4$ yrs
 $T_{\text{bol}} < 70$ K
 $M_* \ll M_{\text{env}}$
 $M_{\text{acc}} \sim 10^{-5} M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$



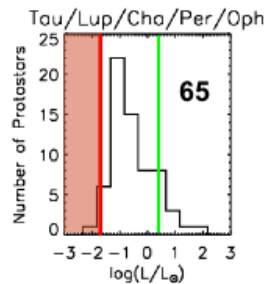
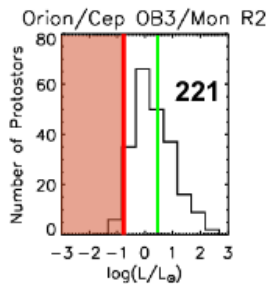
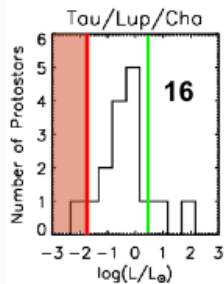
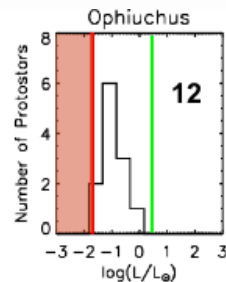
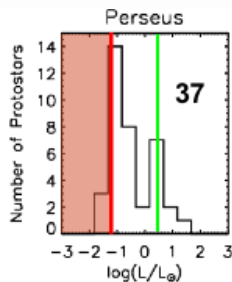
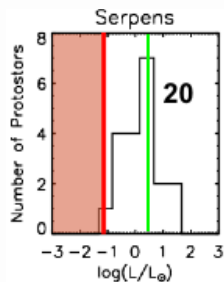
Class 0 protostars: what problems remain?



Evolution of Class 0 :
how do the infall and
accretion proceed?

How do we reconcile the
infall of the envelope with
the accretion onto the
protostellar embryo ?

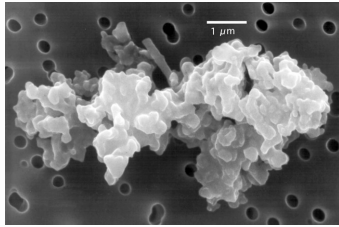
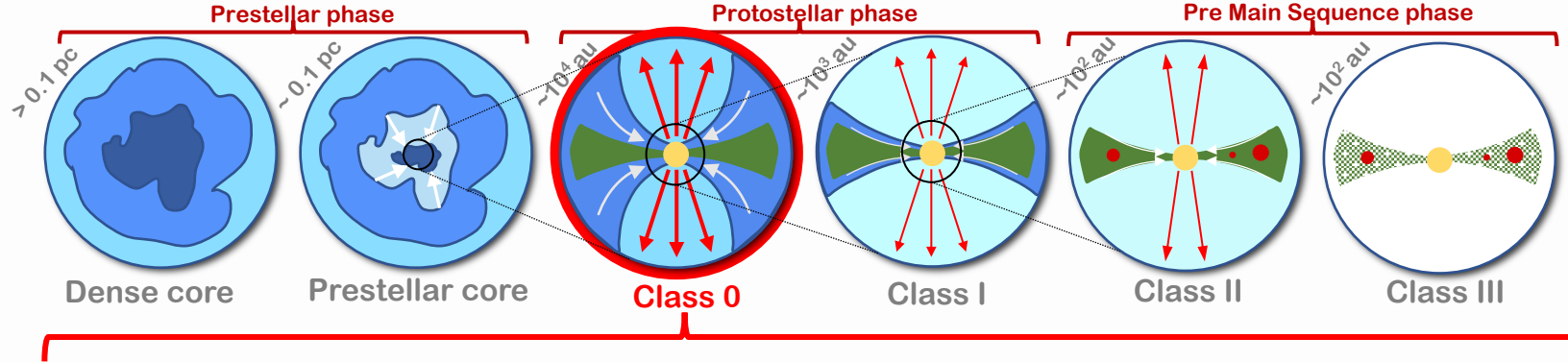
- Episodic accretion
events



Luminosity of protostars < Expected
Mass accretion rate

from c2d Spitzer, Kryukova + 2012

Class 0 protostars: what problems remain?



Cosmic dust grains

Observations of their thermal emission in star forming regions to find protostars

1/100 of the gas density



Pebbles and Planetesimals

What are the characteristics of the dust populating YSOs?

What is the dust size distribution in the envelope?

How efficient is the dust growth in the Class 0 stage as a function of scales and region of YSOs?

How all those problems are linked to **magnetic fields** and **dust polarization** ?

The role of magnetic fields in protostars

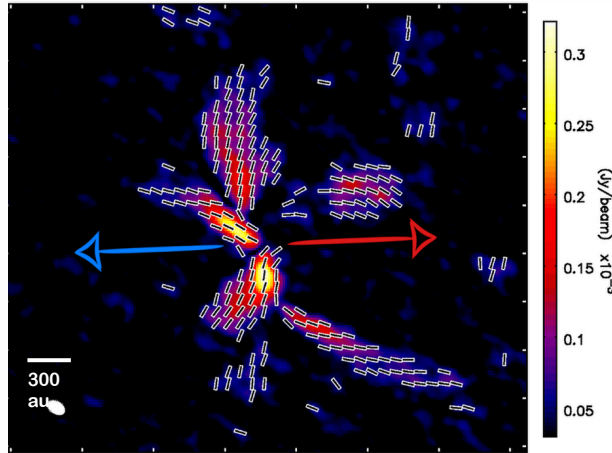
500 – 1000 au

What ALMA reveals at below 500 au scale.

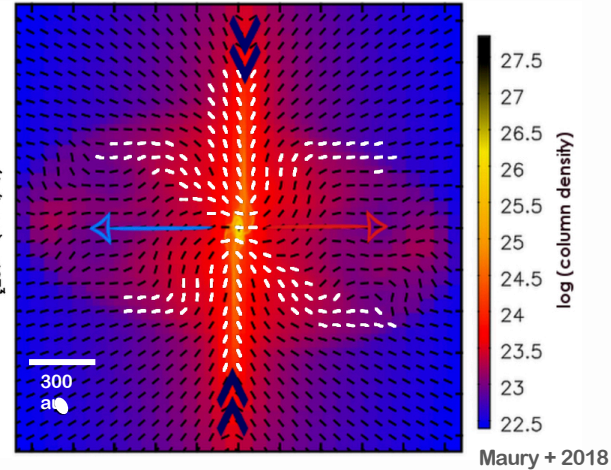
B335: a possible magnetically regulated collapse?

Protostellar
envelope

ALMA observations: Polarized intensity + magnetic fields



Model: Column density + magnetic fields



How efficient is this regulation?

Is magnetic braking influencing for the formation of young disks
(their size and mass)?

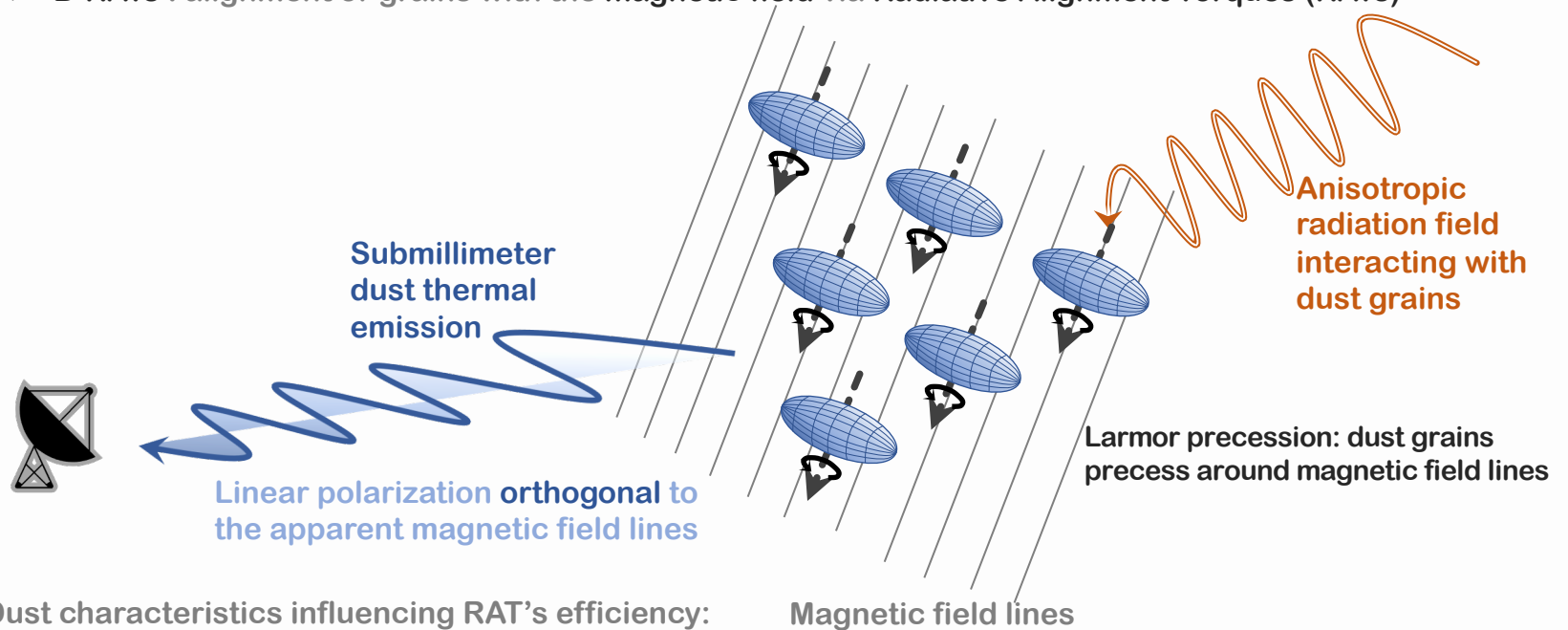
Observational constrains on the coupling between collapsing material and magnetic fields:

- Ionization (charged particles, atomic and molecular ions)
- Dust characteristics

Dust polarization and grain alignment

What grain alignment mechanisms?

- B-RATs : alignment of grains with the magnetic field via Radiative Alignment Torques (RATs)

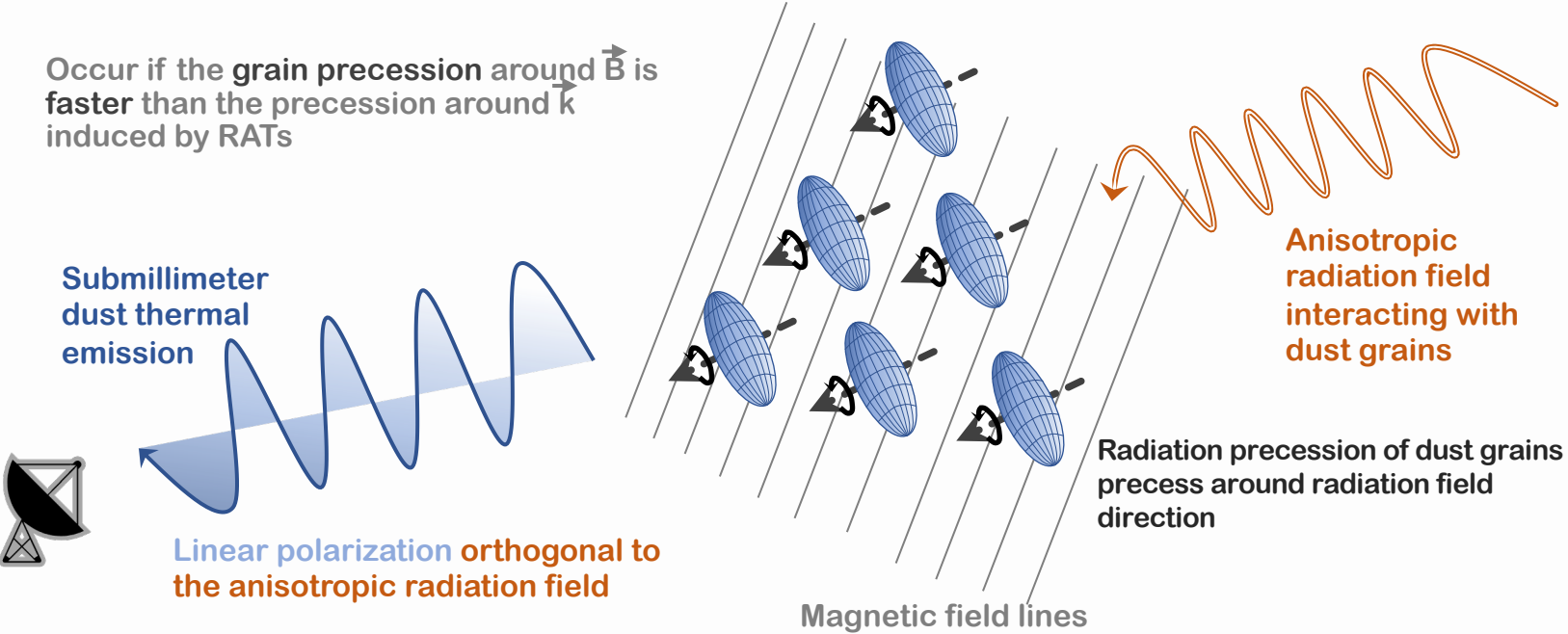


- Size
- Shape
- Composition

Dust polarization and grain alignment

What grain alignment mechanisms?

- B-RATs : alignment of grains with the magnetic field via Radiative Alignment Torques (RATs)
- k-RATs : alignment of grains with the radiation field via Radiative Alignment Torques (RATs)



Dust polarization and grain alignment

Is the collapse magnetically regulated ?

Which grain's characteristics reproduce the polarization?

Theory of grain alignment mechanisms

Analysis of the observations with respect to grain alignment theories

Le Gouellec + 2019

Implementation of RATs (success and limitations)

Le Gouellec + 2020, Le Gouellec + 2022 in prep

Class 0 protostars

Dust polarization observations
Molecular line observations

Synthetic observations

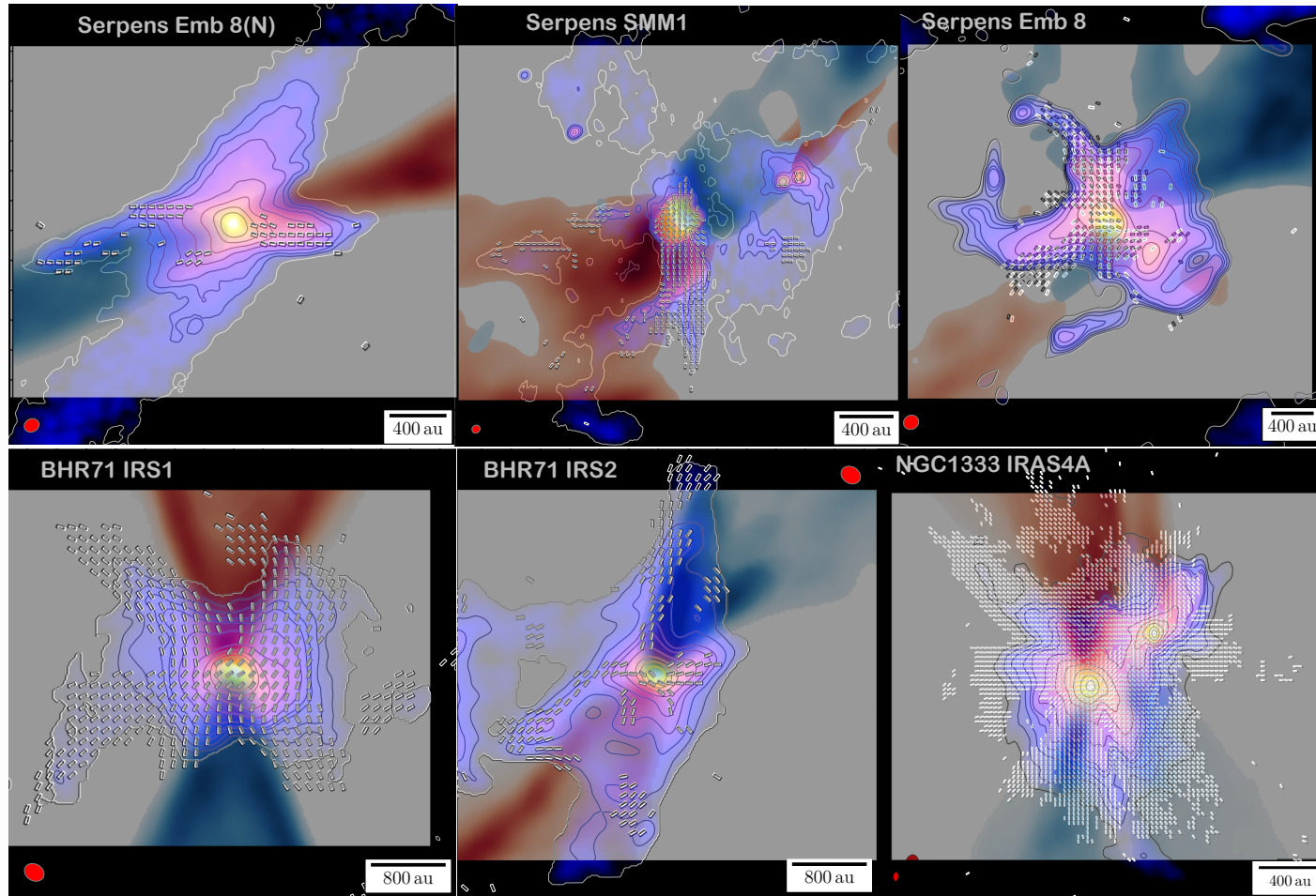
MHD simulation :RAMSES
Radiative transfer: POLARIS

Comparing the dust grain alignment efficiency

Le Gouellec + 2020, Le Gouellec + 2022 in prep



ALMA observations of Class 0 protostars



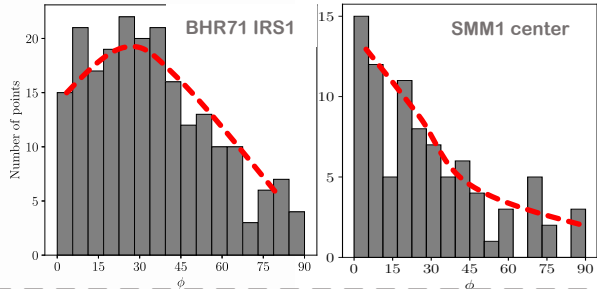
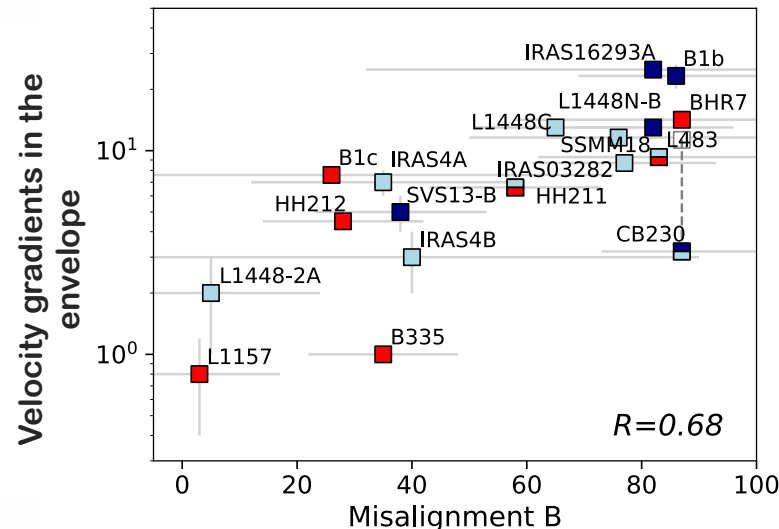
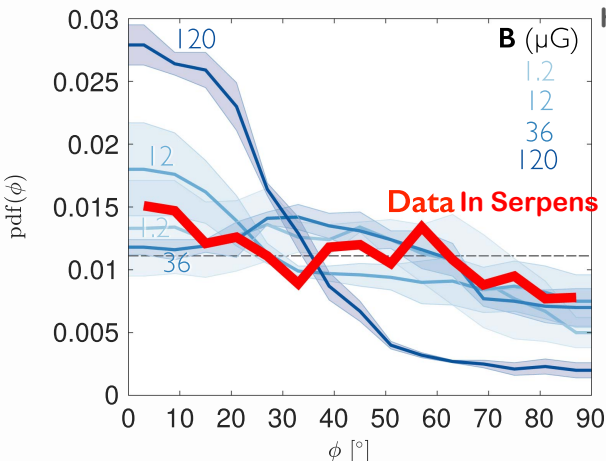
Analysis of the ALMA dust polarization observations of Class 0 protostellar cores

Spatial resolution of 30-200 au

Inside the inner envelope, we will study:

- The morphology of the thermal emission
- The morphology of magnetic fields
- The spatial locations of the polarized emission

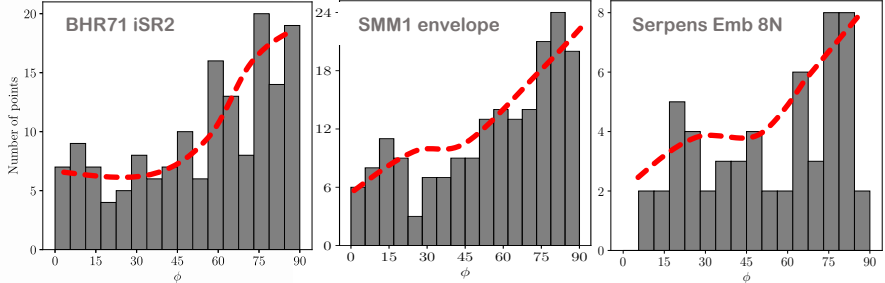
Magnetic fields in Class 0 protostars



B-fields // to density gradients

Misalignment between magnetic field and outflow axis

Galamez + 2020, using SMA

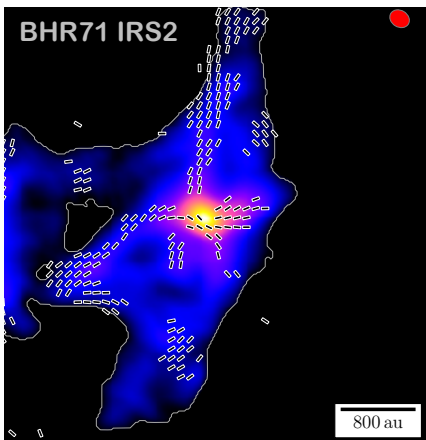


B-fields \perp to density gradients

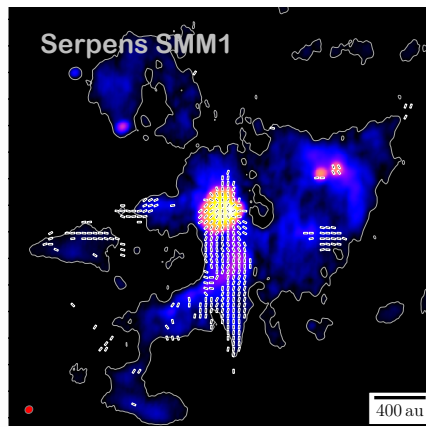
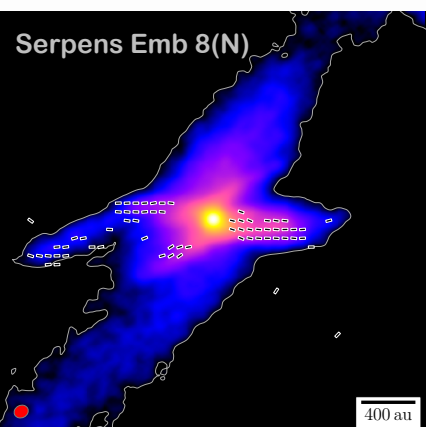
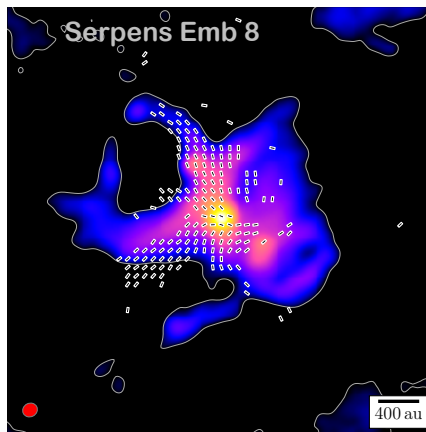
Le Gouellec + 2019, Hull + 2020

Magnetic fields in Class 0 protostars

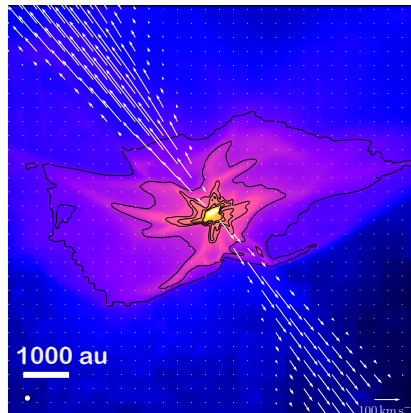
B-field organized along cavity walls



B-field less organized, streamer structures

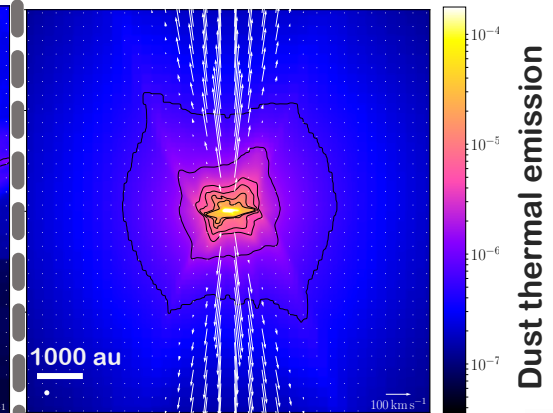


Turbulence $M_s = 2$
Mass-to-flux ratio: 6

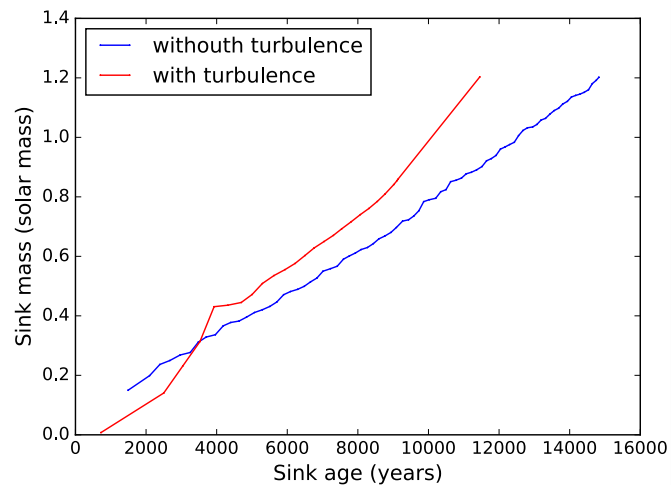


Fragmentation, streamers

No turbulence $M_s = 0$
Mass-to-flux ratio: 5



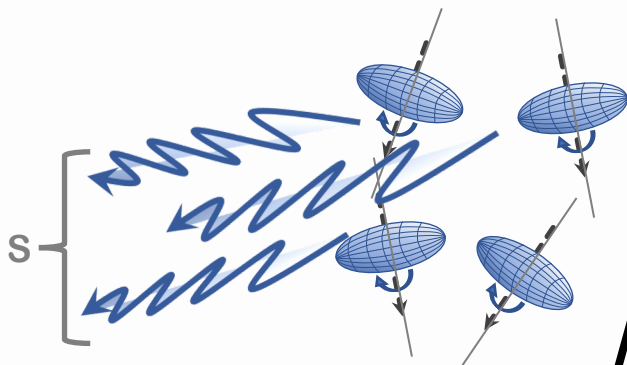
No fragmentation, organized B-field



Magnetic fields in Class 0 protostars

Polarization angle Dispersion function

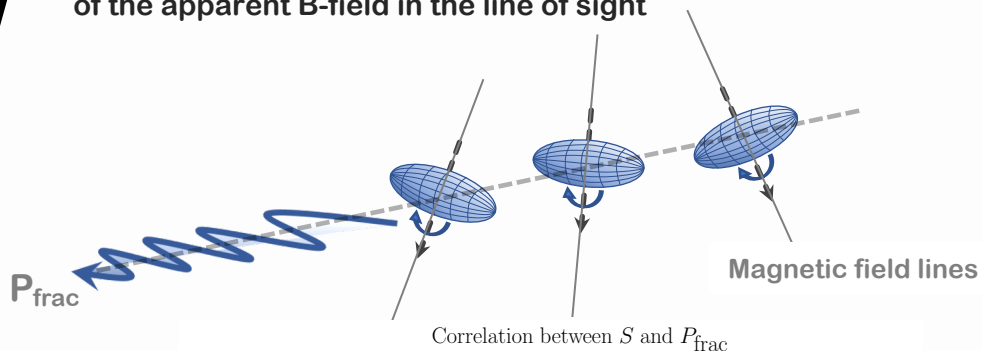
$$S(r, \delta) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [\Psi(r + \delta_i) - \Psi(r)]^2}$$



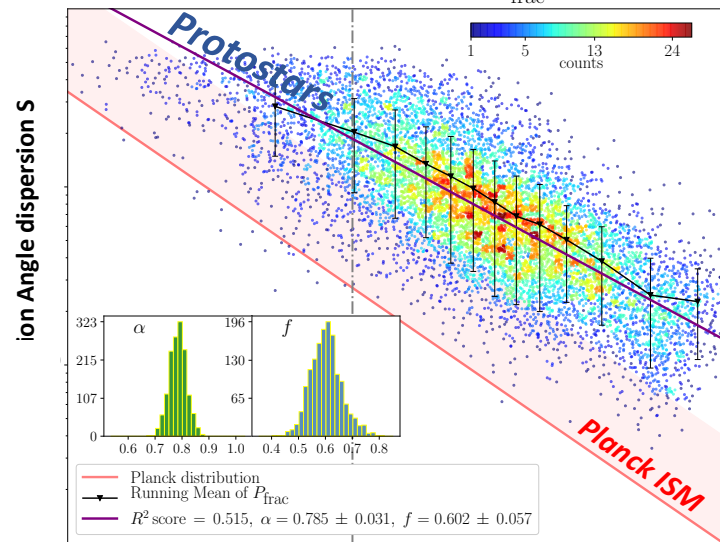
disorganized component of the apparent B-field in the plane of the sky

Polarization fraction

Grain alignment efficiency + disorganized component of the apparent B-field in the line of sight



- Correlation between S and P_{frac} in Class 0 protostars. What does it tell us about magnetic field structures?



See Planck + 2020, King + 2018, 2019, and Sullivan + 2021

Le Gouellec + 2020

Polarization Fraction P_{frac}

Aligned dust grains in Class 0 protostars

The dependence on the B-field geometry is removed in the product $S \times P_{\text{frac}}$ which becomes a proxy for the grain alignment efficiency

See Planck collab 2020

RAMSES
Non-ideal MHD models



POLARIS
Radiative transfers



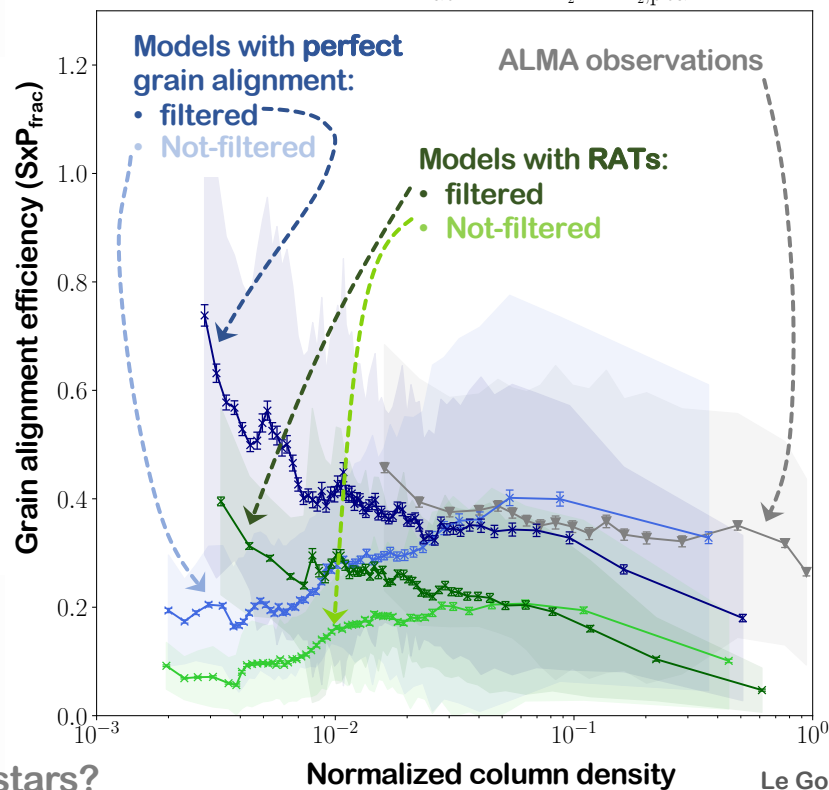
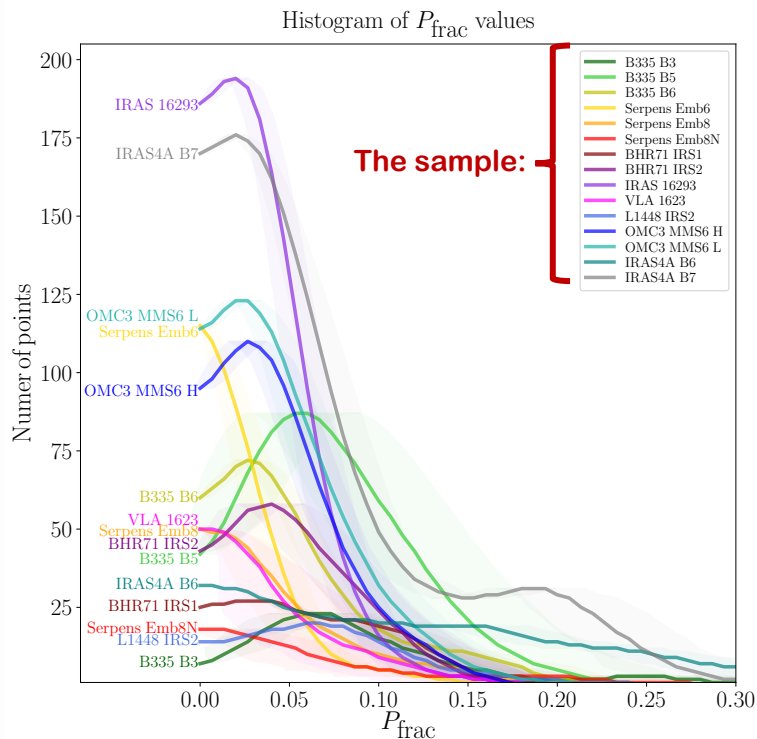
Artificial interferometric filtering

$S \times P_{\text{frac}}$

ALMA observations of YSOs

Different grain alignment hypotheses

Evolution of $S \times P_{\text{frac}}$ along $N_{\text{H}_2} / N_{\text{H}_2, \text{peak}}$

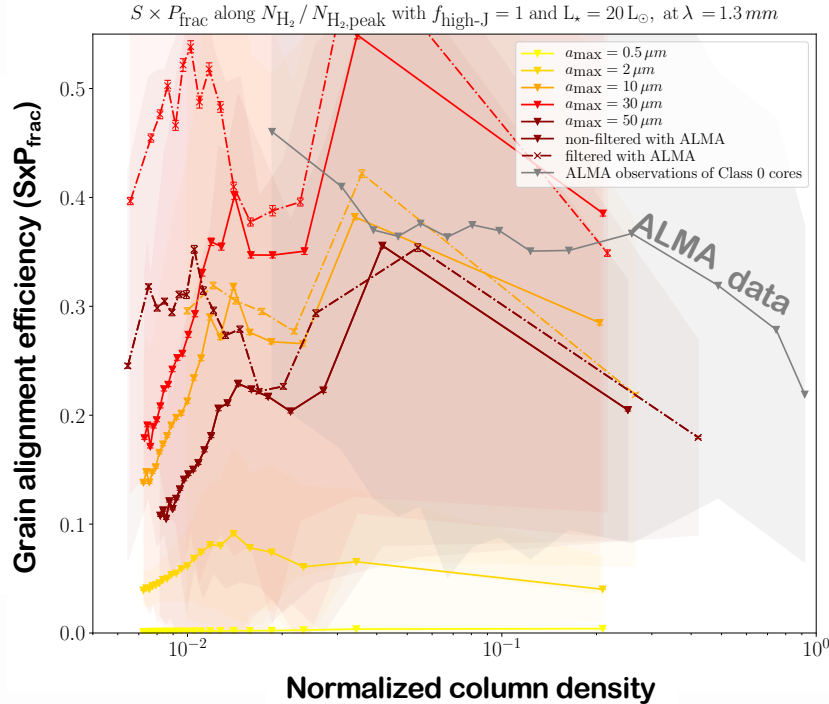


➤ Why is the grain alignment so efficient in protostars?

Le Gouellec + 2020

Aligned dust grains in Class 0 protostars

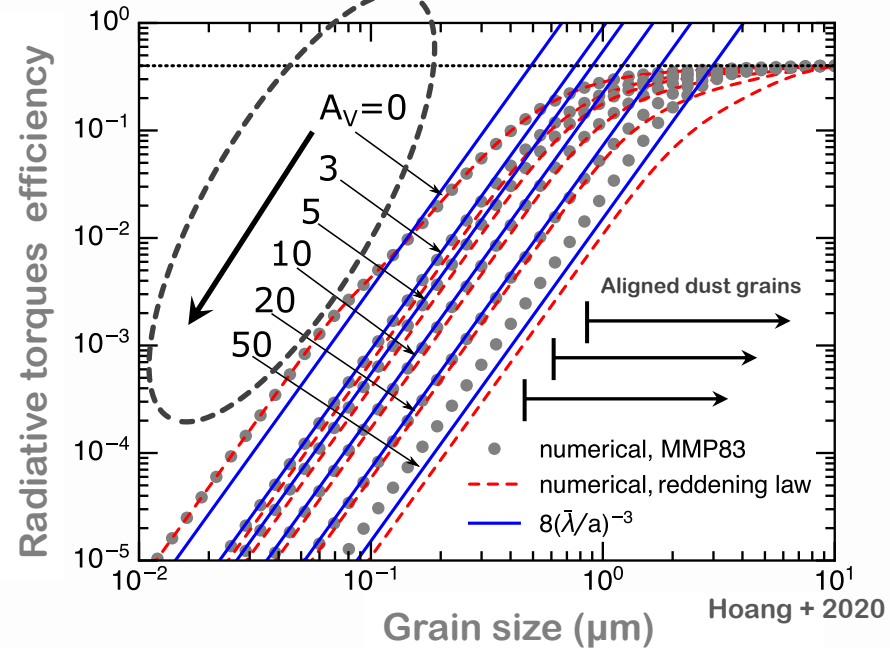
Influence of the different maximum grain sizes on the grain alignment



Increasing extinction A_V

=>

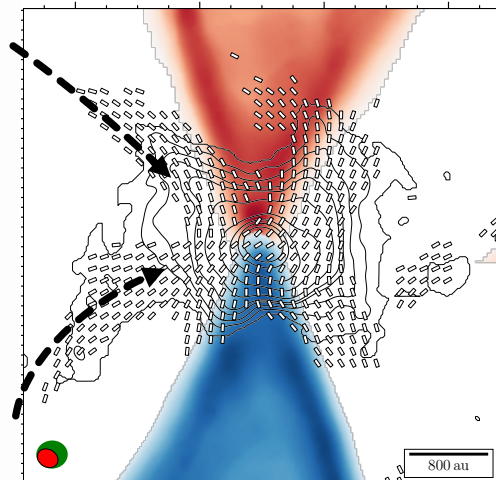
Increasing of the radiation field wavelength



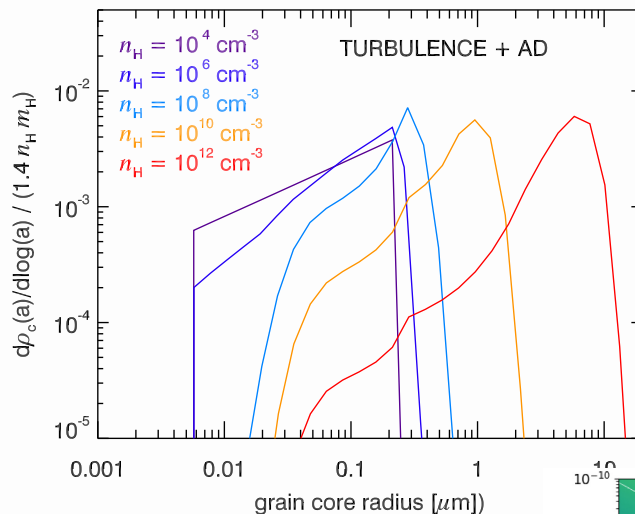
- Only grains larger than $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ could align in the dense outflow cavity walls and streamers we detect
- Suggestive of early grain growth in Class 0 protostars

Aligned dust grains in Class 0 protostars

Where do these large grains come from ?

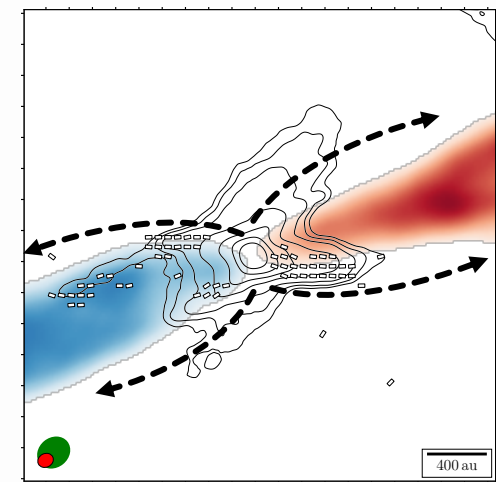


Infalling material ?

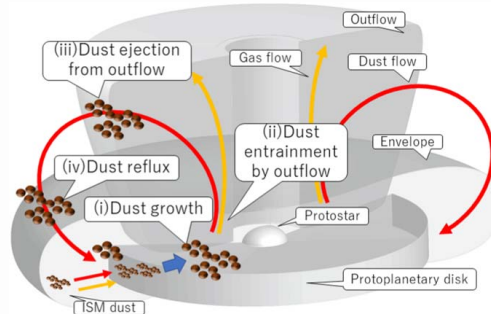


Grains coagulation along collapse, after one free-fall time, with turbulence and ambipolar drift

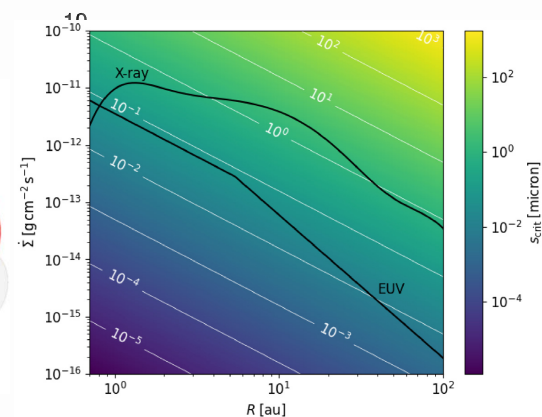
Guillet + 2020



Material entrained by the wind from the dense disk?



Tsukamoto + 2021



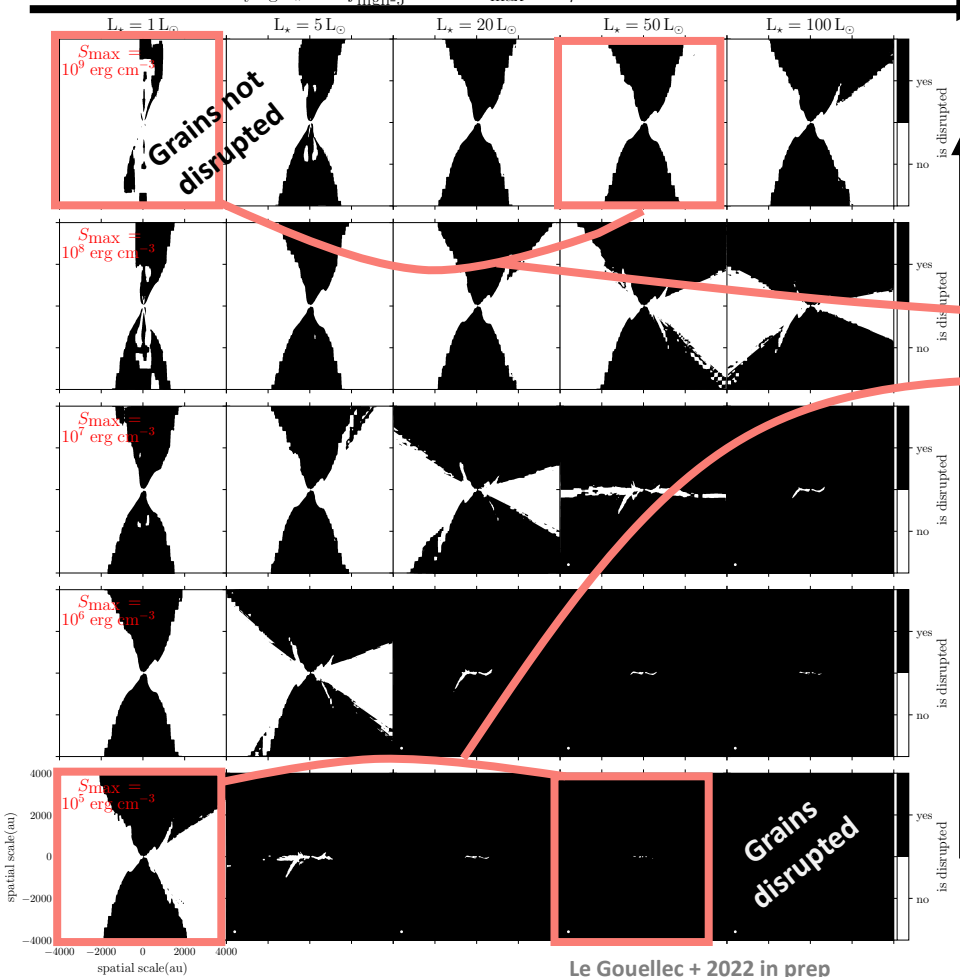
Booth & Clarke 2021

See also Liffman + 2020; Vinkovic & Ćemeljić 2021; Hutchison & Clarke 2021

The role played by the radiation field

Do large grains can survive the radiation field or do they get rotationally disrupted?

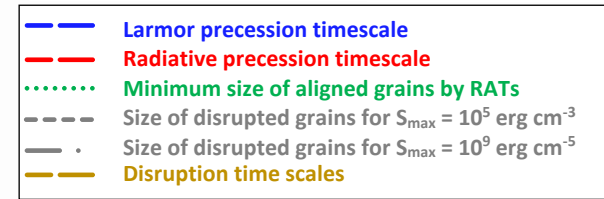
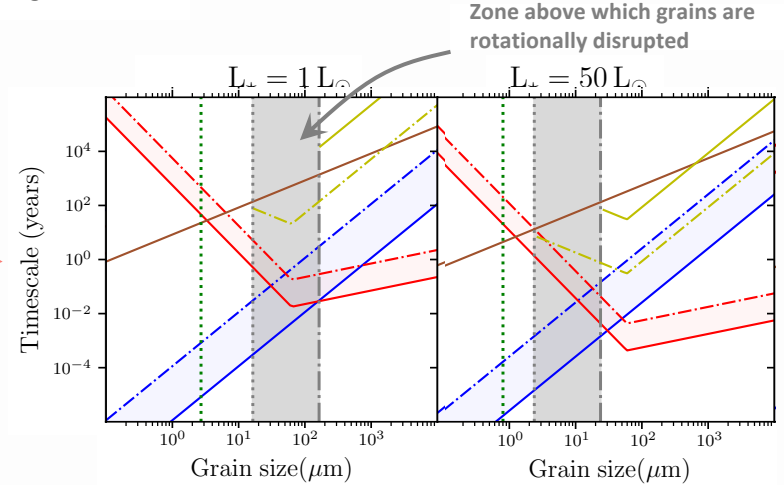
Varying L_* with $f_{\text{high-J}} = 1$ and $a_{\text{max}} = 10 \mu\text{m}$ at $\lambda = 0.87 \text{ mm}$



Le Gouellec + 2022 in prep

Increasing radiation field strength

Hoang + 2020, Tram + 2020, see Tram's poster



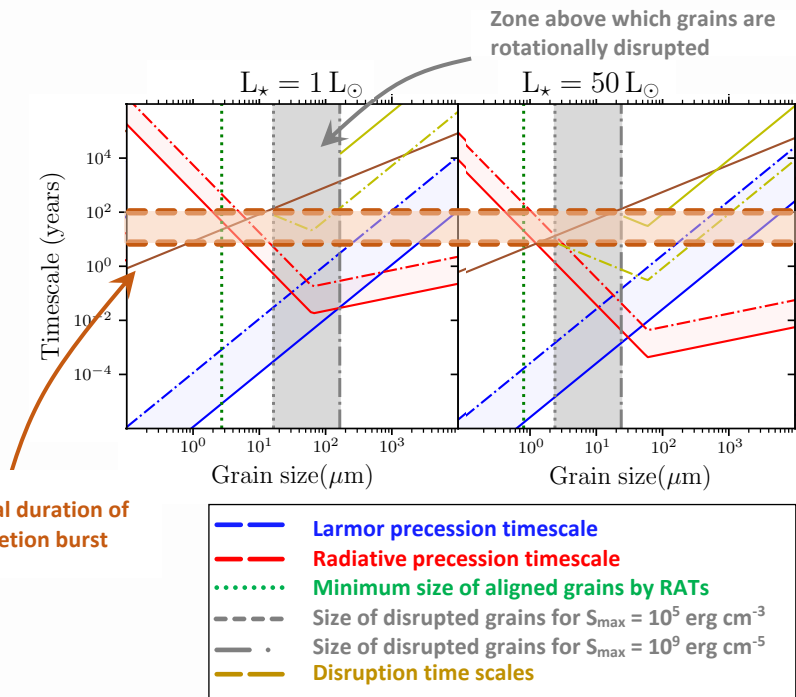
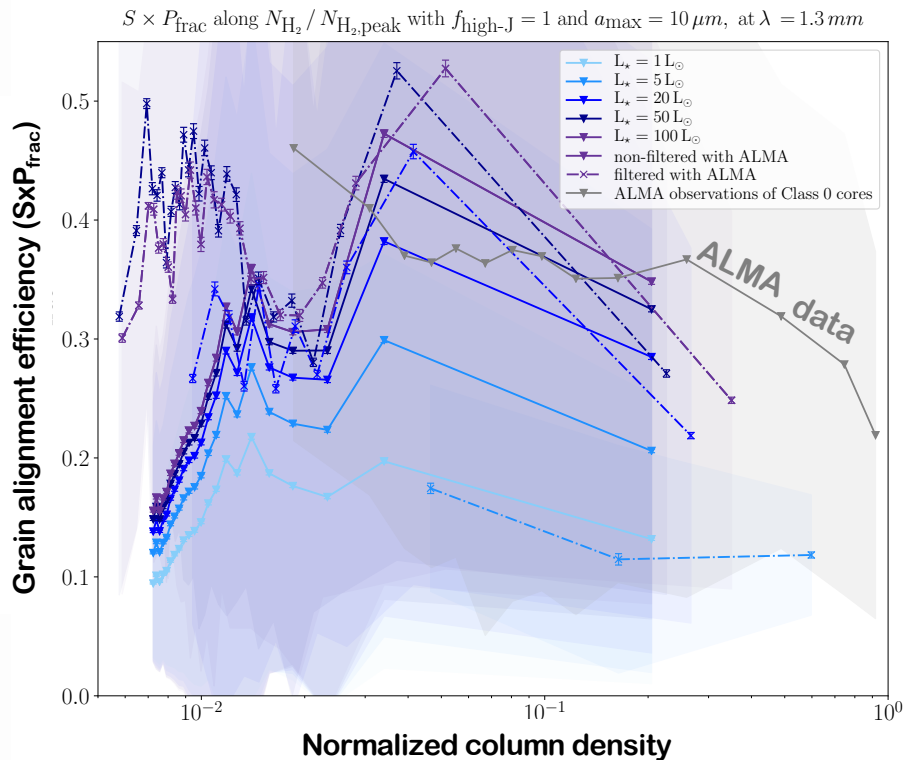
- Grains are disrupted before aligning with the radiation field via k-RATs
- What are the consequences on grains of variable accretion/luminosity?

Increasing tensile strength

The role played by the radiation field

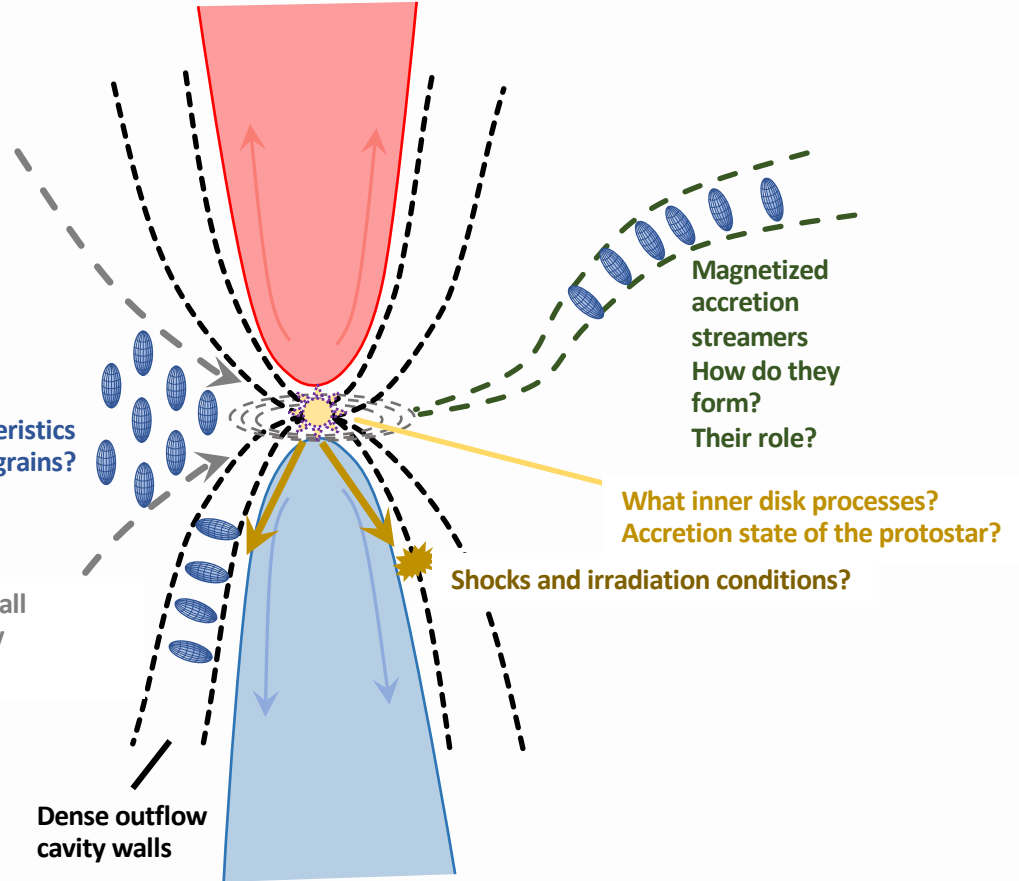
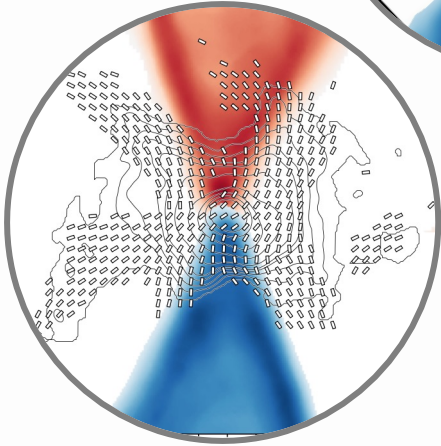
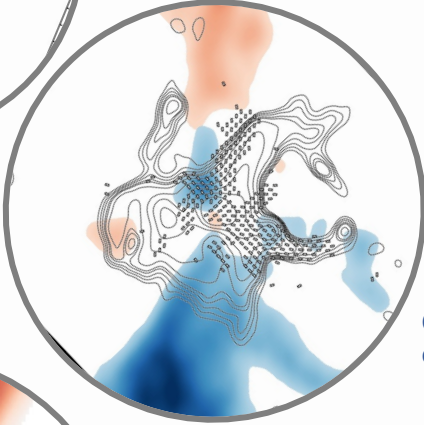
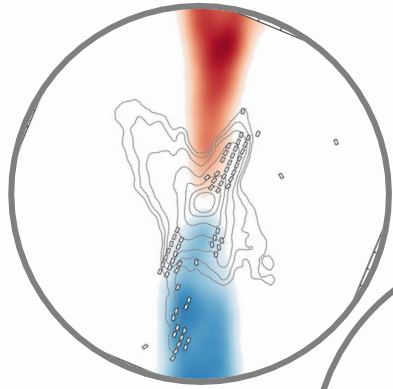
The accretion luminosity is the main actor responsible for the dust polarization observed in YSOs' envelope

Influence of the radiation field on the grain alignment



- Dust polarization should increase during an accretion burst
- Grains can also get rotationally disrupted during an accretion burst

Global Picture



Characteristics of dust grains?

Envelope infall
Magnetically regulated?

Dense outflow
cavity walls

Magnetized accretion streamers
How do they form?
Their role?

What inner disk processes?
Accretion state of the protostar?

Shocks and irradiation conditions?