

# Magnetic fields in the Galactic interstellar medium

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## Methods, results, and open questions

Niels Oppermann

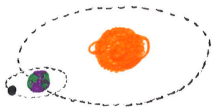


**CITA**  
**ICAT**

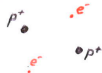
Canadian Institute for  
Theoretical Astrophysics

L'institut Canadien  
d'astrophysique théorique

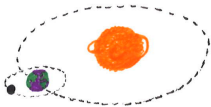
CHANG-ES meeting, Kingston, 2014-07-24



plasma



gas



dust



molécules

plasma

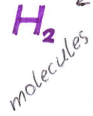


recombination

gas

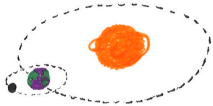


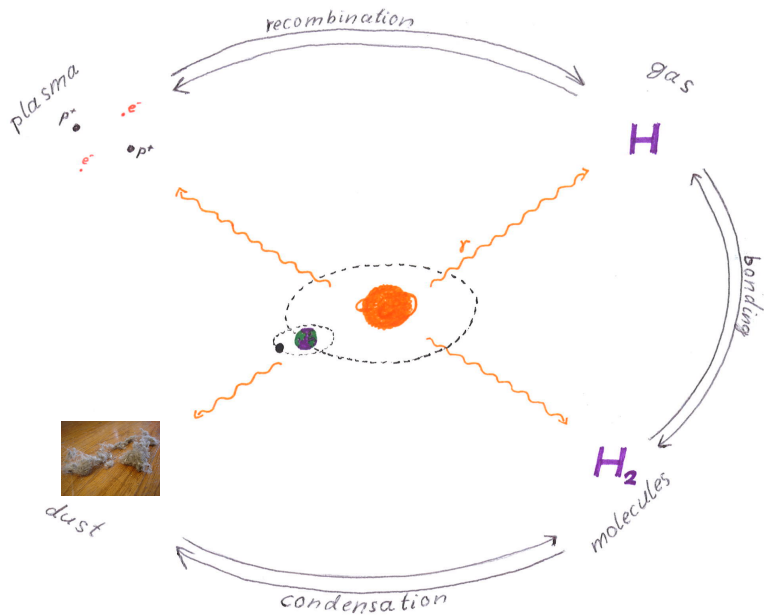
bonding

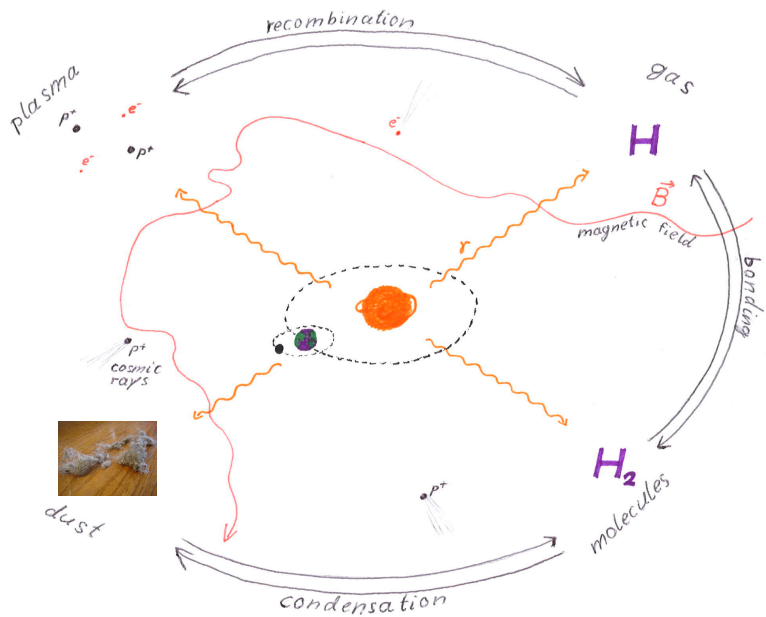


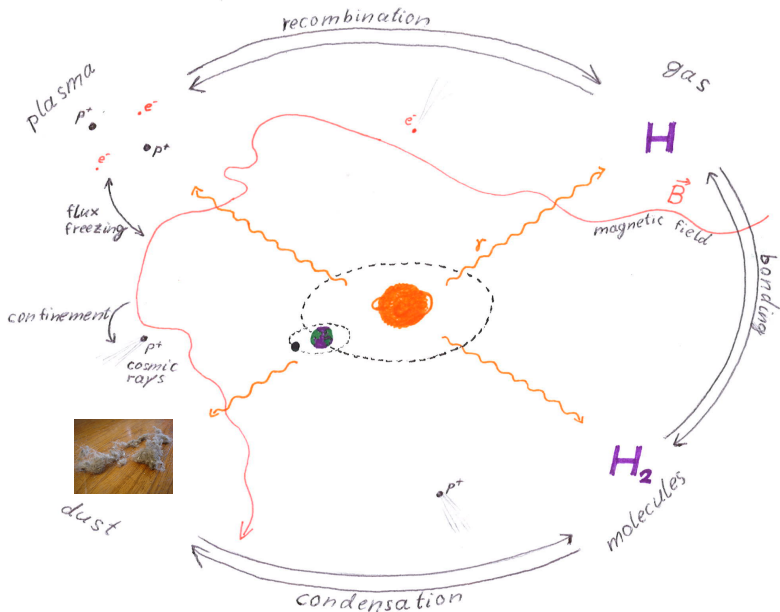
condensation

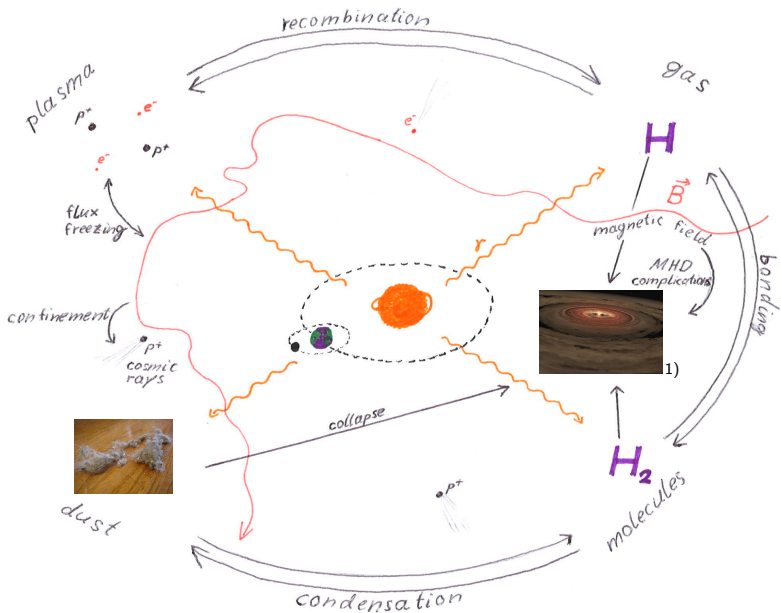
dust













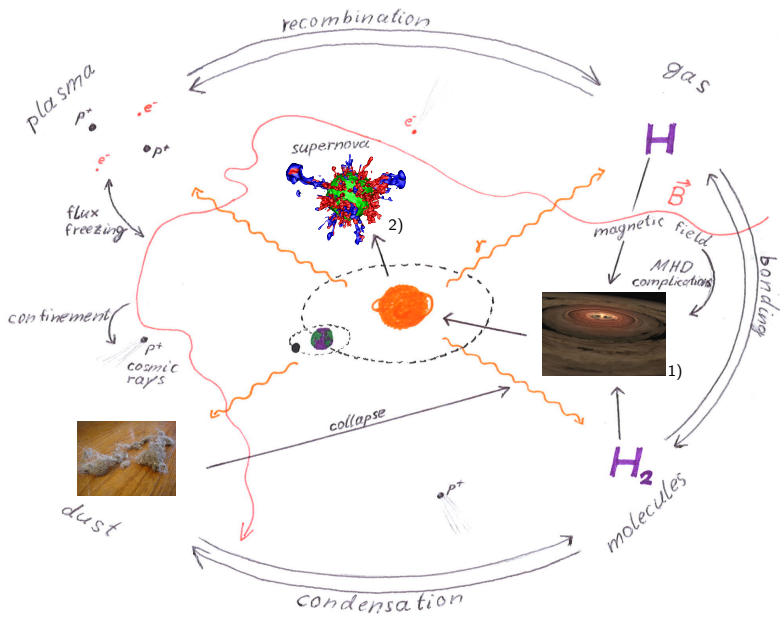
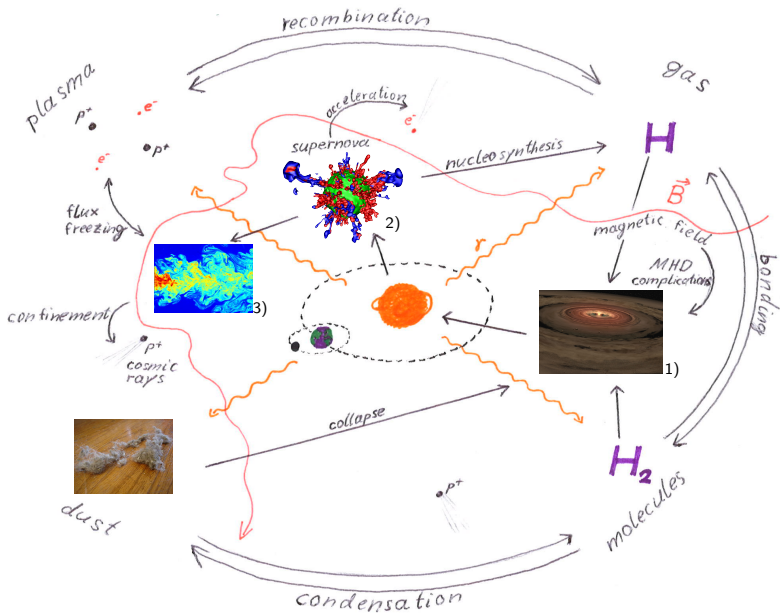
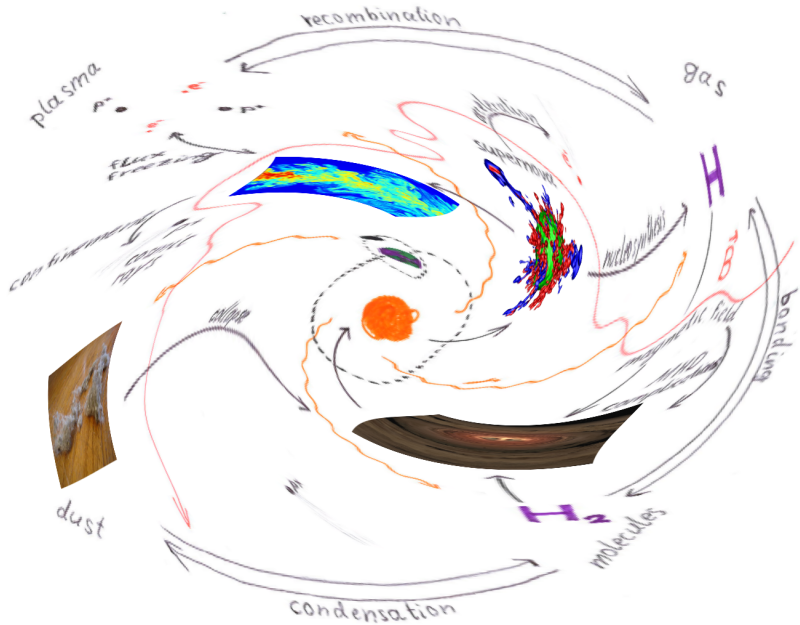


Image credits: 1) D. Darling; 2) N.J. Hammer/MPA

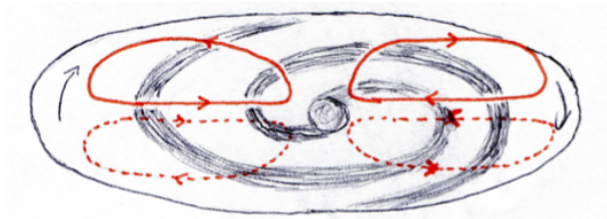




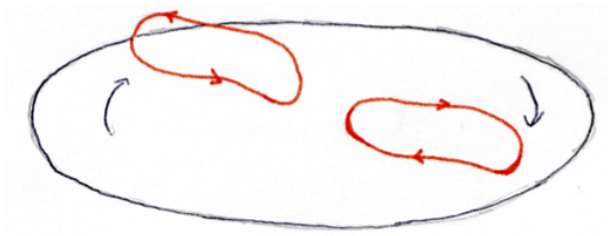
# Overview

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

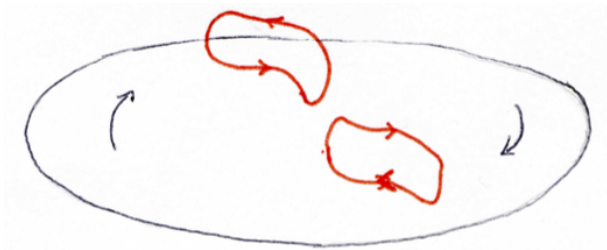
# Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



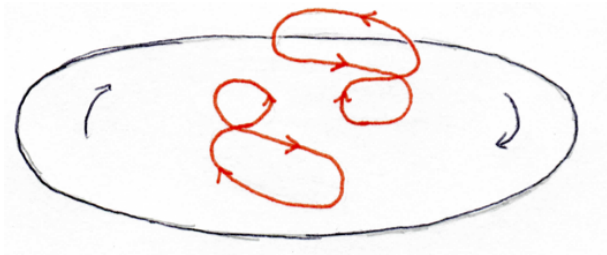
# Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



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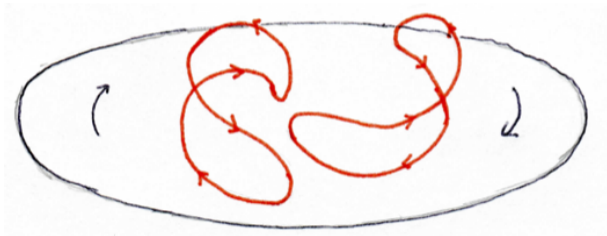


# Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo

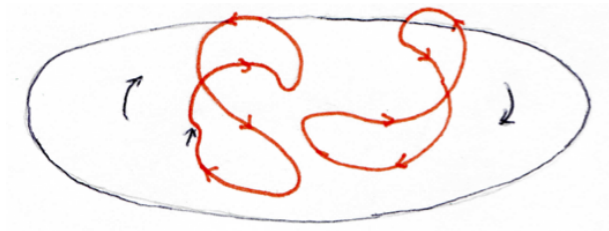




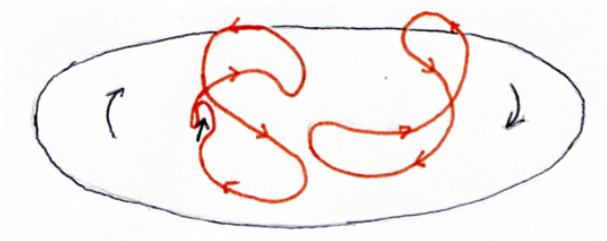
# Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



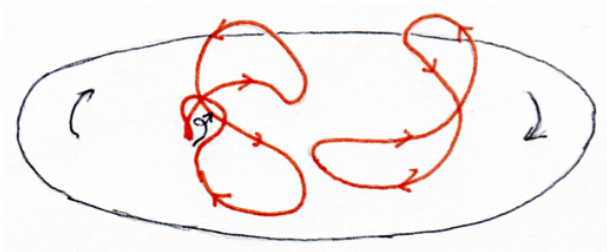
# Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



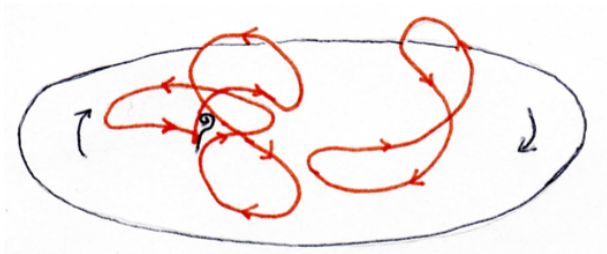
# Theory: $\alpha$ - $\Omega$ -dynamo



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



## Theory: Magnetic field components



coherent

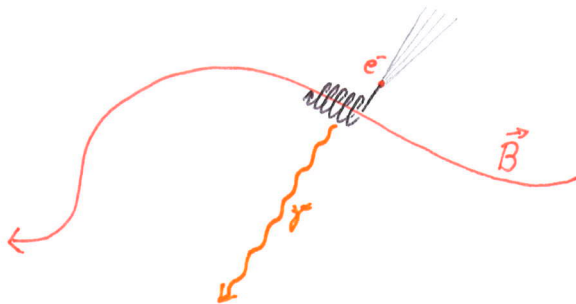


isotropic random



"ordered random"

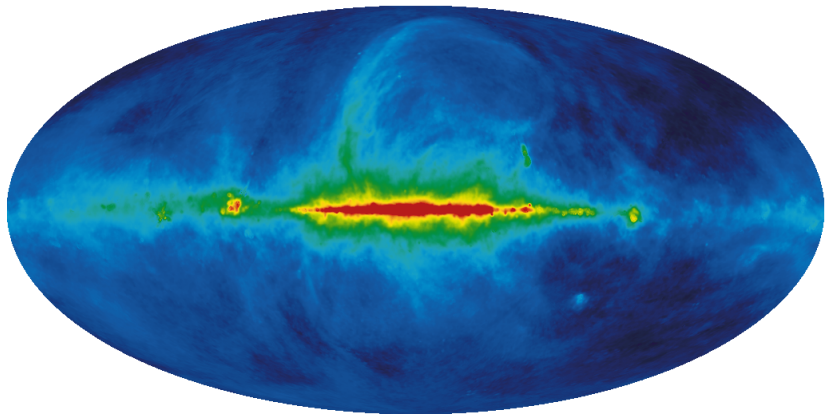
# Synchrotron



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

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

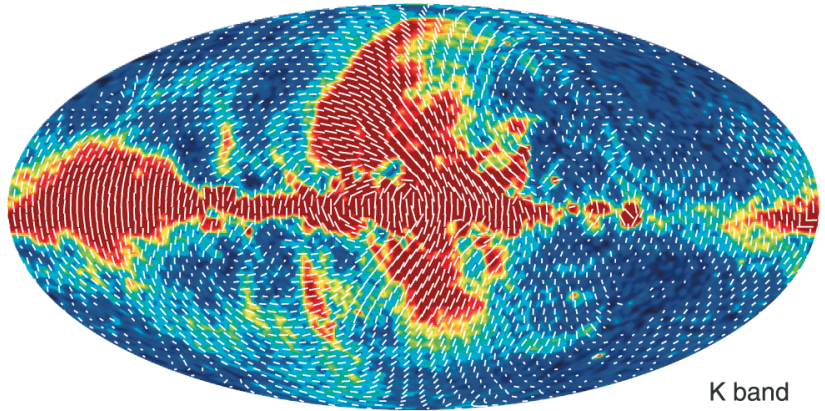
# Synchrotron



Haslam et al. (1981)

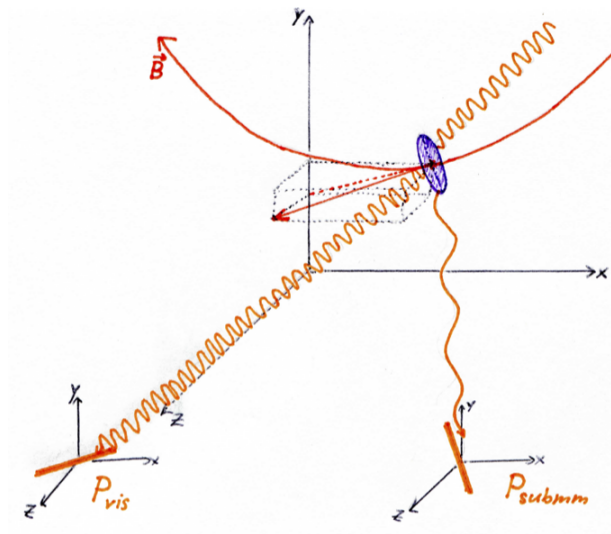


# Synchrotron

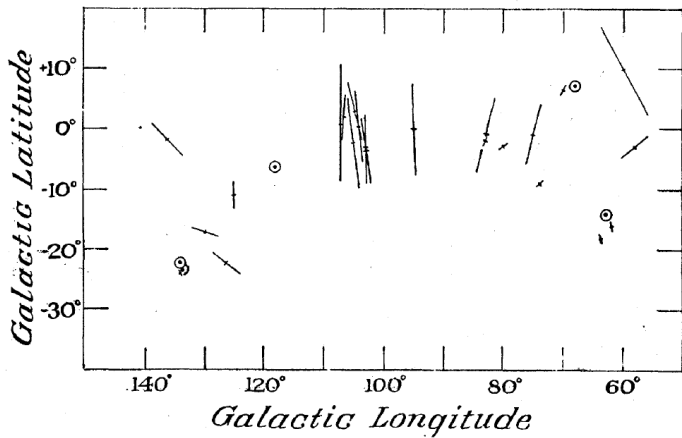


Hinshaw et al. (2009)

# Dust

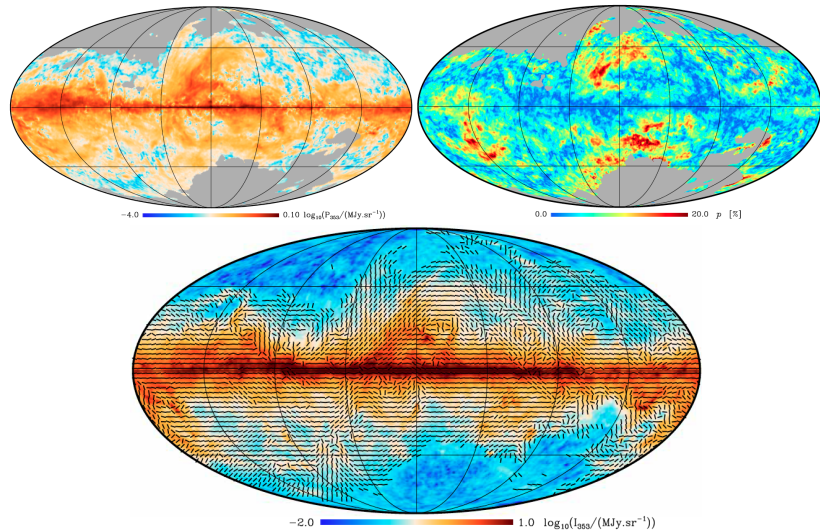


# Dust



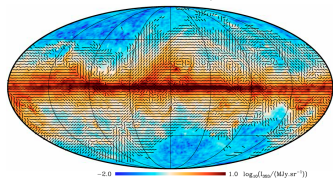
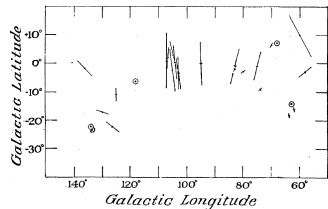
Hall (1949)

# Dust

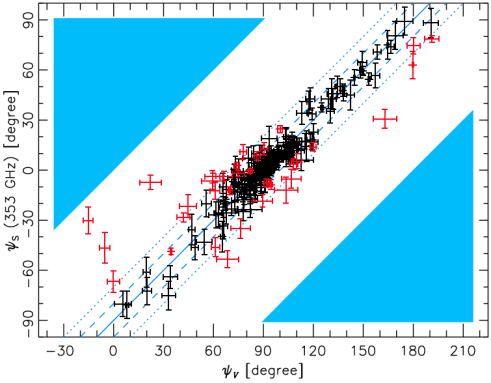
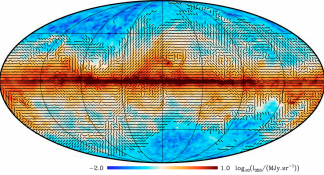
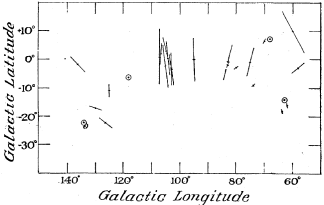


Planck Collaboration Int. XIX (2014)

# Dust

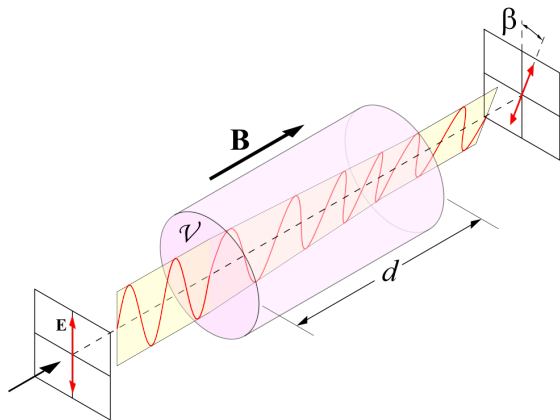


# Dust



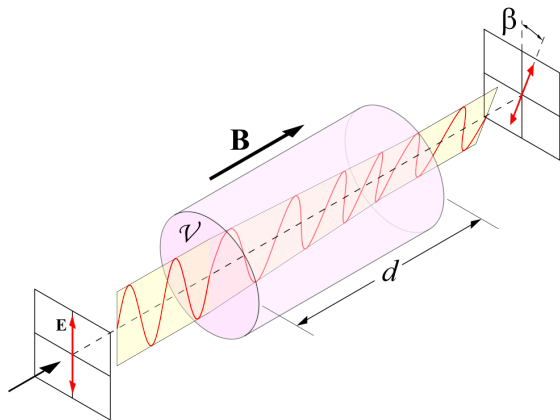
Planck Collaboration Int. XXI (2014)

# 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

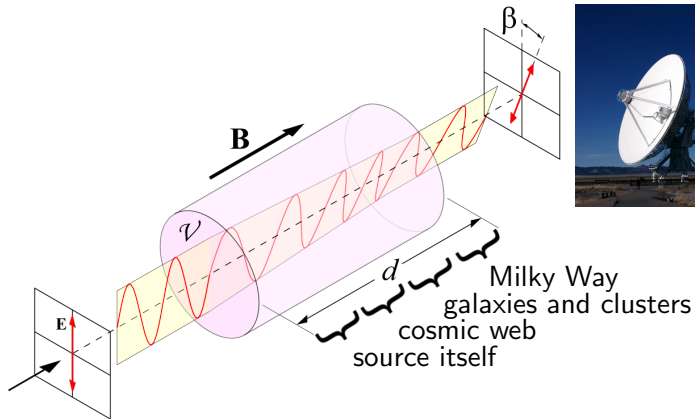


$$\text{Faraday depth: } \phi \propto \int_{r_{\text{source}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

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



# Faraday rotation

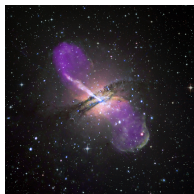
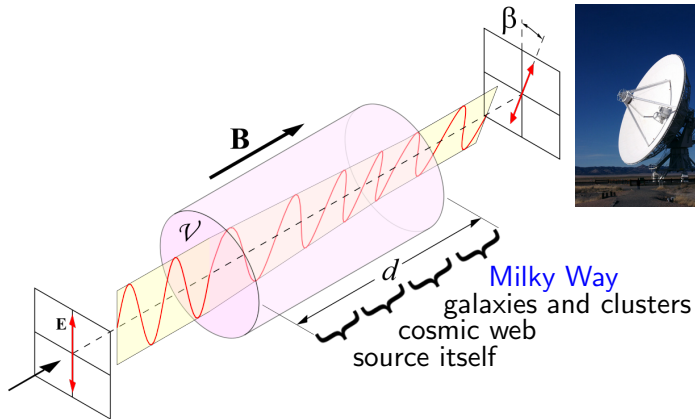


$$\text{Faraday depth: } \phi \propto \int_{r_{\text{source}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

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



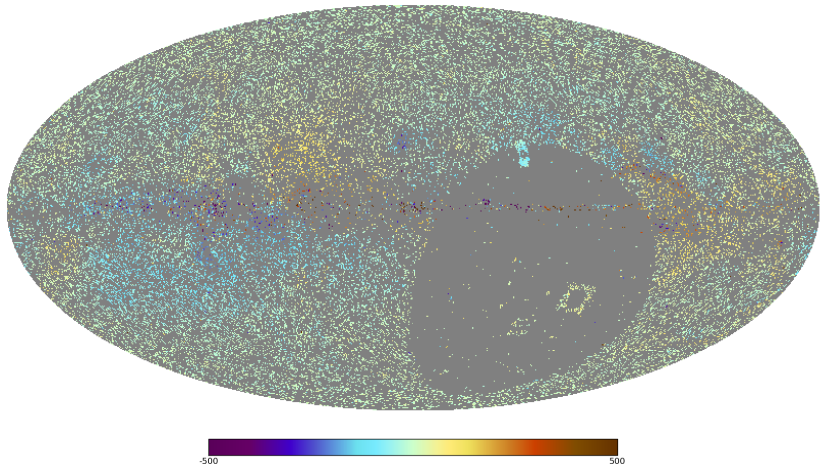
# Faraday rotation



Galactic Faraday depth:

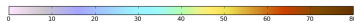
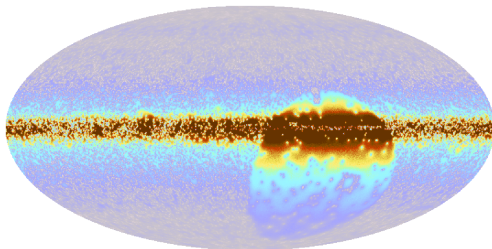
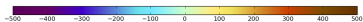
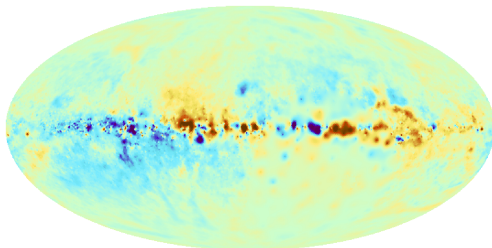
$$\phi_g \propto \int_{r_{\text{MilkyWay}}}^0 n_e(\vec{x}) B_r(\vec{x}) dr$$

# Faraday rotation



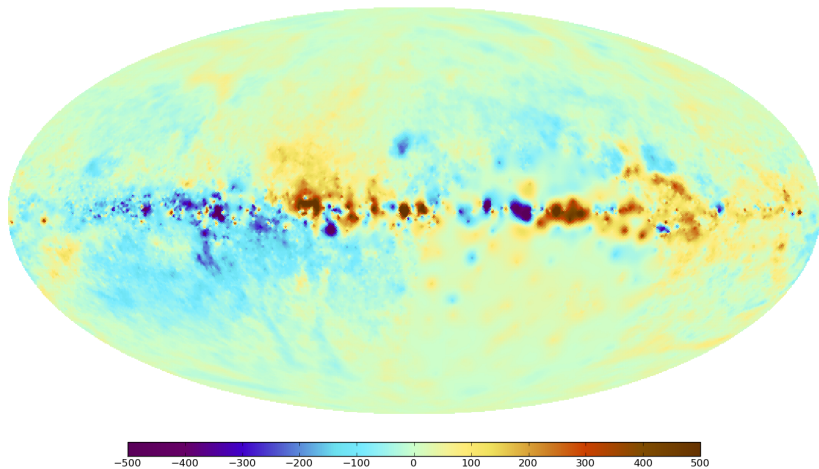
41 330 data points

# Faraday rotation



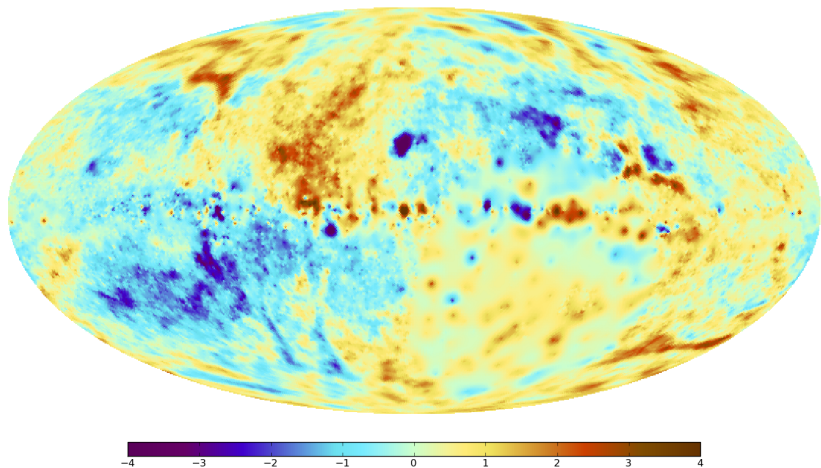
Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Faraday rotation



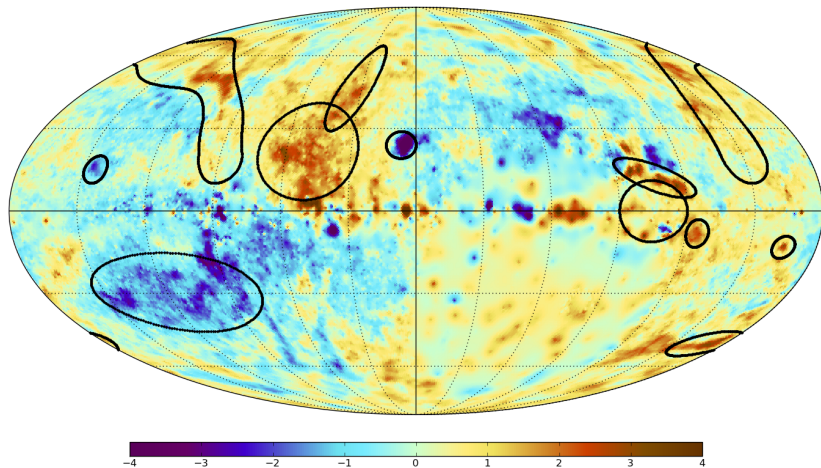
Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Faraday rotation



Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Faraday rotation



Oppermann et al. (2012/2014)

# Rotation measure synthesis

## Faraday rotated synchrotron radiation

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

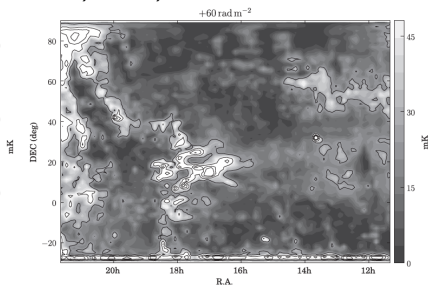
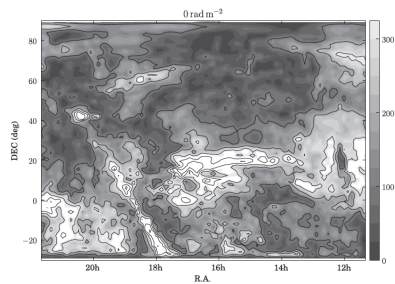
$$\Rightarrow p(\phi) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\lambda^2 P(\lambda^2) e^{-2i\lambda^2\phi}$$

Faraday dispersion function



# Rotation measure synthesis

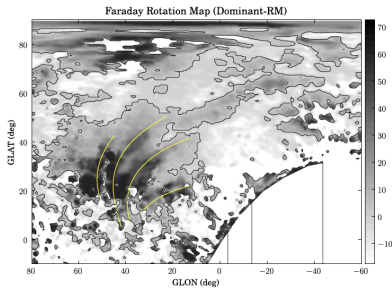
GMIMS (here: northern, ca. (1.3 - 1.8) GHz)



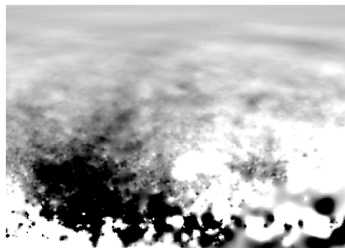
Wolleben et al. (2010)

# Rotation measure synthesis

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



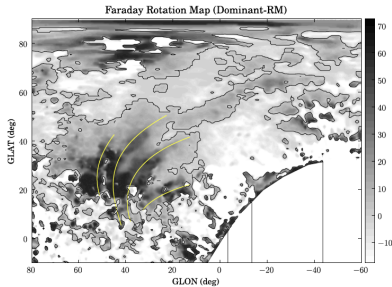
Wolleben et al. (2010)



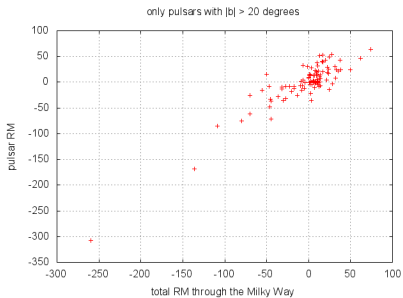
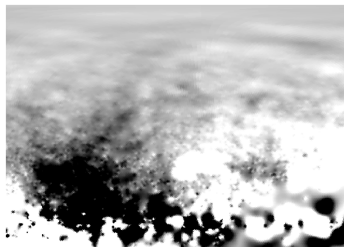
Oppermann et al. (2012)

# Rotation measure synthesis

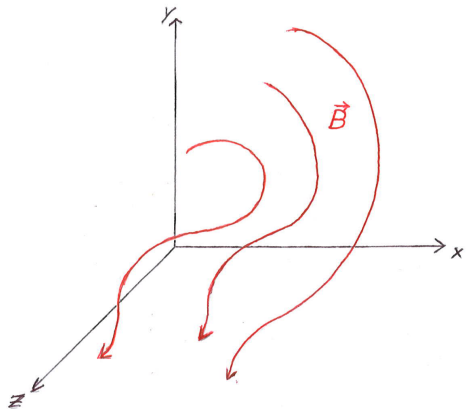
GMIMS (here: northern, ca. (1.3 - 1.8) GHz)



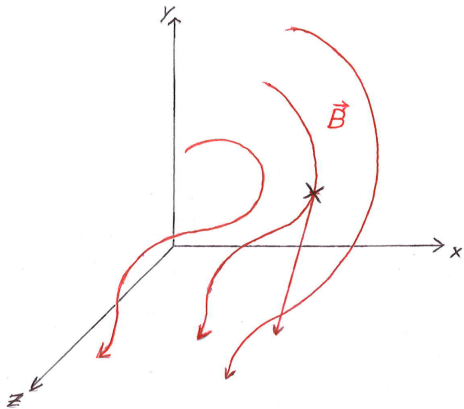
Wolleben et al. (2010)



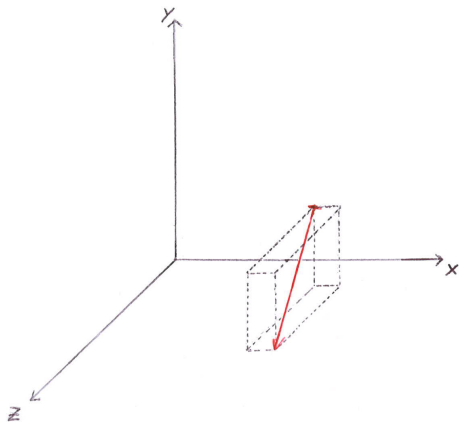
# Magnetic field modeling



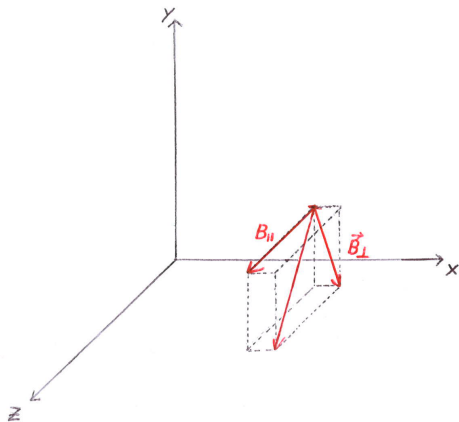
# Magnetic field modeling



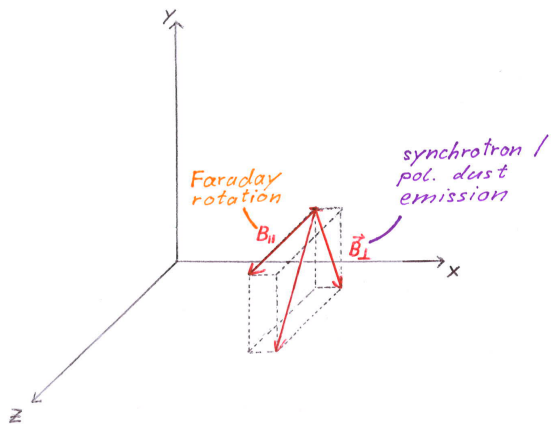
# Magnetic field modeling



# Magnetic field modeling

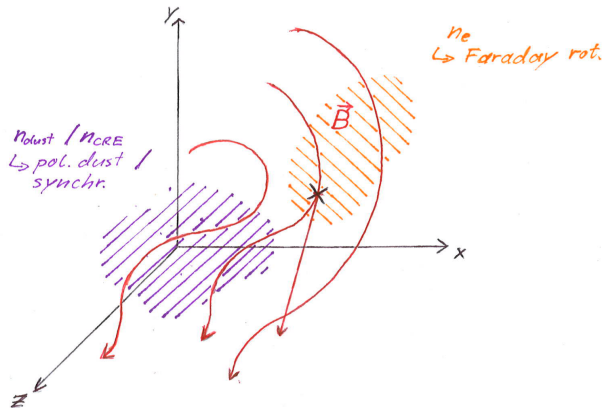


# Magnetic field modeling

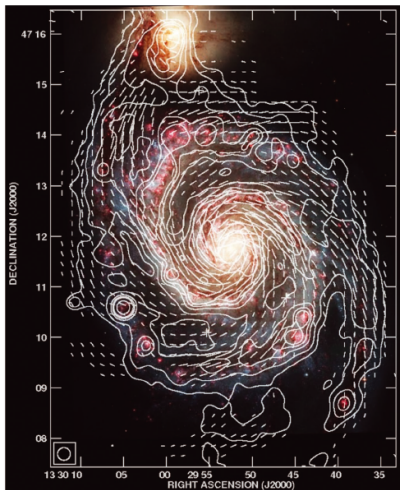




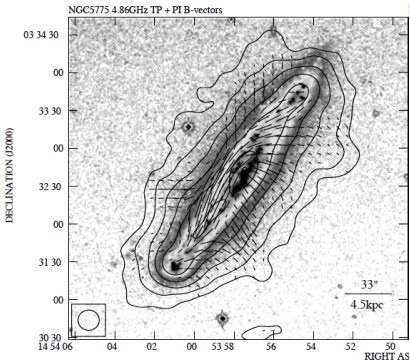
# Magnetic field modeling



# 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	$p$
[24]	149 EGS RMs  120 pulsar RMs	Q4 <sup>c</sup> disk	spiral	one reversal	-11.5°
[39]	WMAP5 $I$ 23GHz; ARCHEOPS 353GHz $I$ 408MHz	all	modified log spiral $B_z + B_{ran}$	$B_z = 0.4 \mu\text{G}$	-30°
[12]	$I$ 408MHz WMAP $P$ 23GHz 269 EGS RMs	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 $PI$ 23GHz 1433 EGS RMs	disk	BSS/ASS - $S$ - $A$ , ring, lit. models	no good models, disk and halo separate	+35°
[11]	WMAP7 $PI$ 23GHz $\geq 37000$ EGS RMs	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 RMs	disk	ASS, BSS, ring	no good models, slight prefer- ence for ASS	
[53]	$I$ 408MHz WMAP $PI$ 23GHz	halo	BSS, $B_{ran}$	$B_{ran} = 0.57B_{reg}$	-8.5°
[25]	133 pulsar RMs 107 EGS RMs	Q4 <sup>d</sup> disk	log spirals	QSS/many reversals preferred	
[15]	WMAP3 $PI$ 23GHz	halo	log spirals, $B_z$	$B_z$ at 25° tilt	-55° <sup>d</sup>
[49]	$\geq 37000$ EGS RMs	all	ASS, BSS, ring	ASS best in disk; odd in halo	-5°
[54]	WMAP5 $PI$ 23GHz	halo	ASS, BSS, ring, bi-toroidal, $B_z$	ASS preferred, $B_z = 1 \mu\text{G}$	-24° <sup>e</sup>
[38]	$I$ 408MHz WMAP $PI$ 23GHz $I + PI$ 1.4GHz	all	ASS, BSS, ring	ASS best in disk, odd in halo	-12° IN
[55]	354 pulsar RMs	disk	rings with $p$	one reversal only	-12° IN
[41]	1373 EGS RMs 557 pulsar RMs	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 = quadrisymmetric spiral; - $A$ - $S$  = (anti-)symmetric with respect to Galactic plane.

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

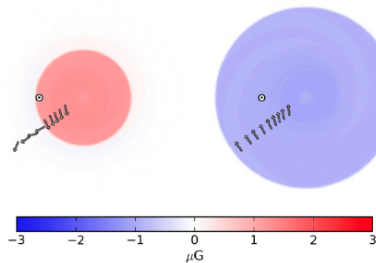
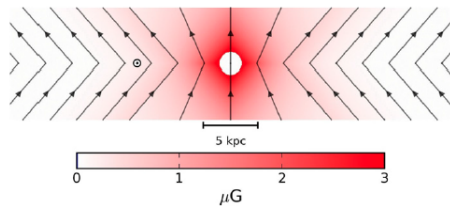
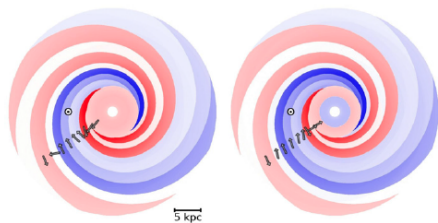
<sup>d</sup> taking into account their deviating definition of pitch angle, see Section 2.3

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

Haverkorn (2014)

# Magnetic field modeling

in plane      Coherent component      out of plane



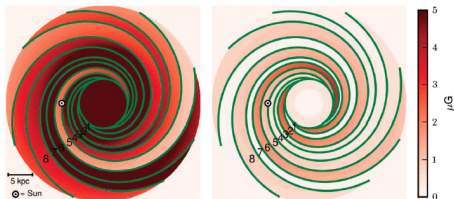
Jansson et al. (2012a,b)

# Magnetic field modeling

isotropic

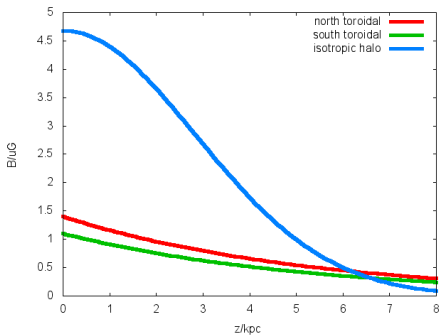
Random components

“ordered”



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

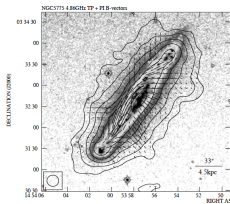
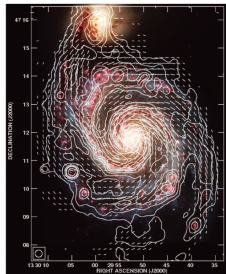
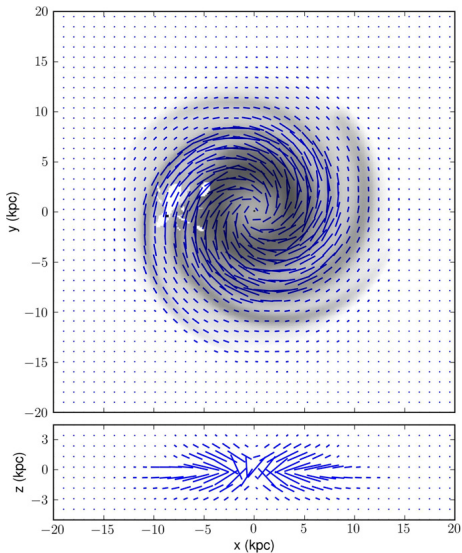
$$B_{\text{ordered}}^2 \propto B_{\text{coherent}}^2$$



Jansson et al. (2012a,b)

# Magnetic field modeling

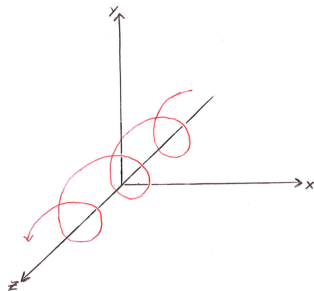
An outside observer



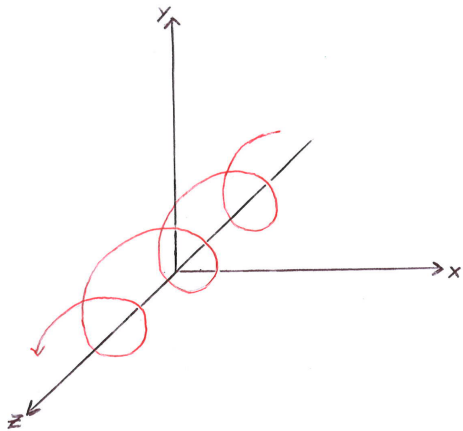
Jansson et al. (2012a)

# Helicity

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

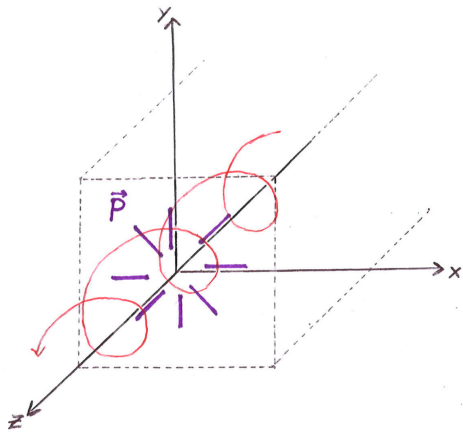


# Helicity

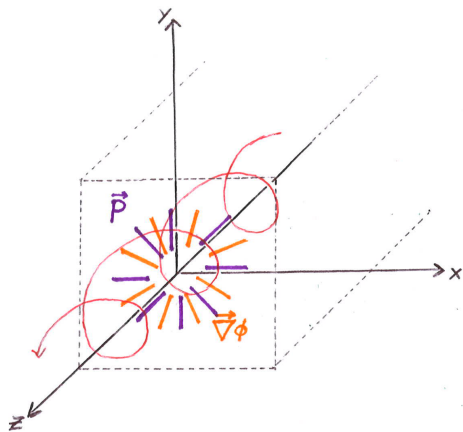




# Helicity



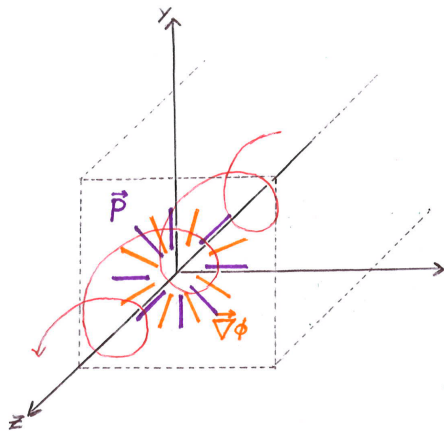
# Helicity



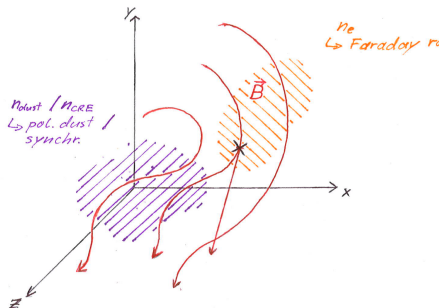
Junklewitz et al. (2011)

Oppermann et al. (2011)

# Helicity

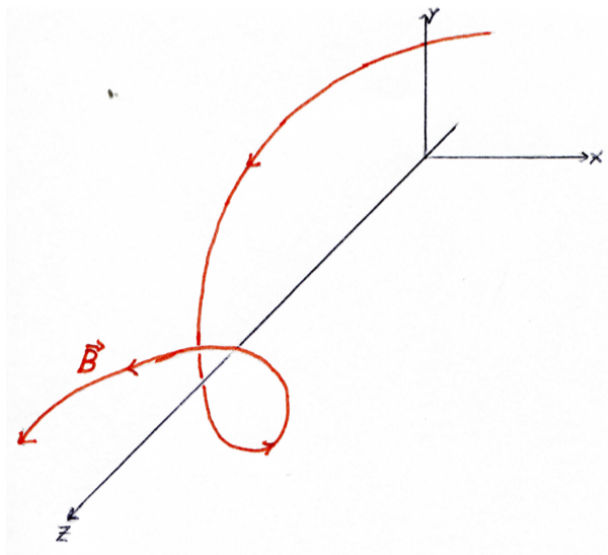


**but:**



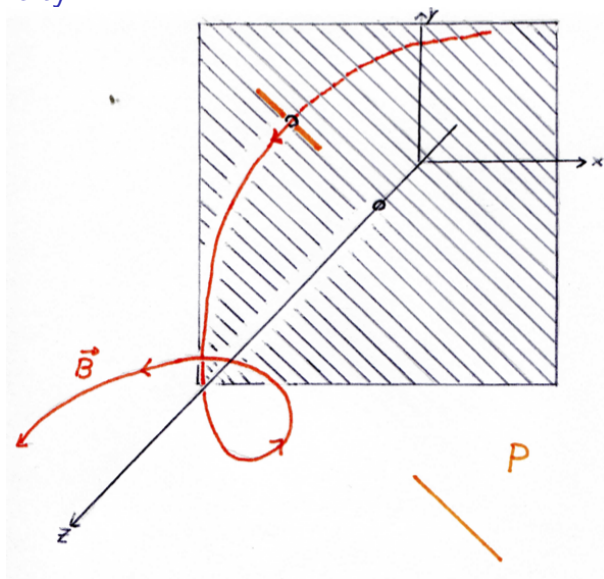
Junklewitz et al. (2011)  
Oppermann et al. (2011)

# Helicity



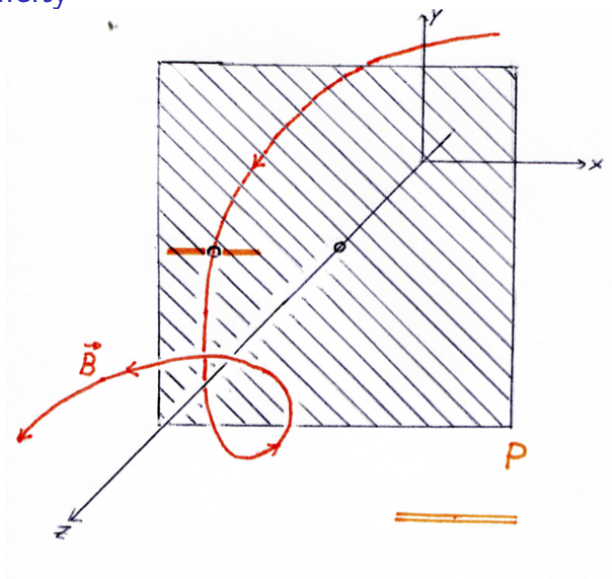
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity



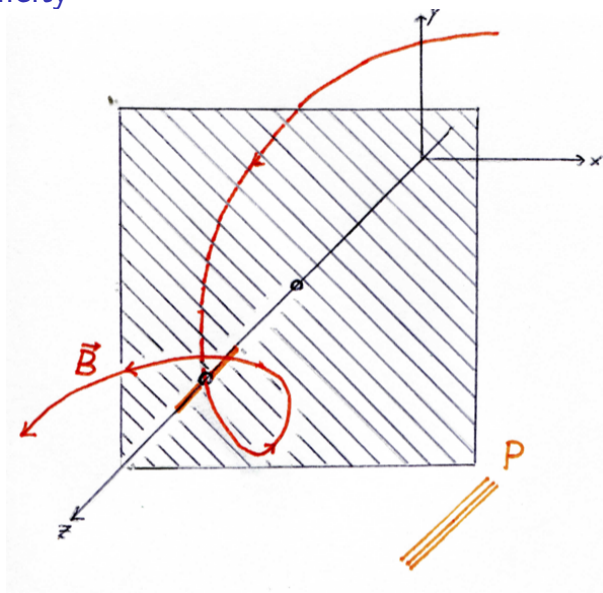
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity



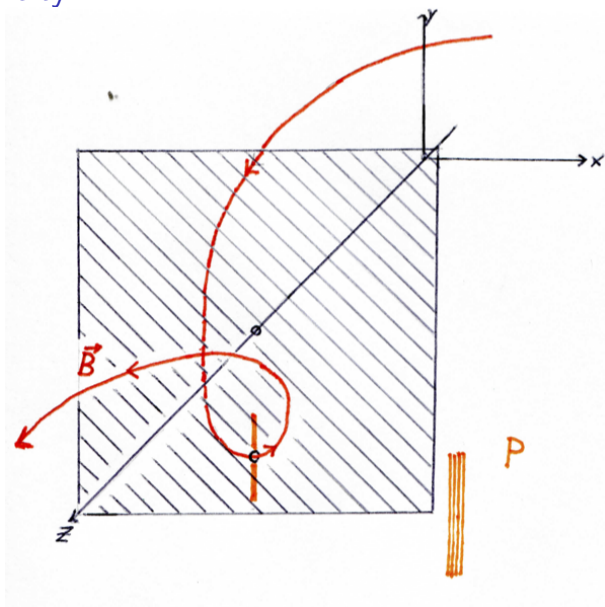
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity



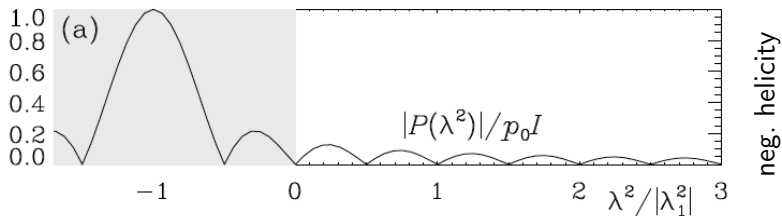
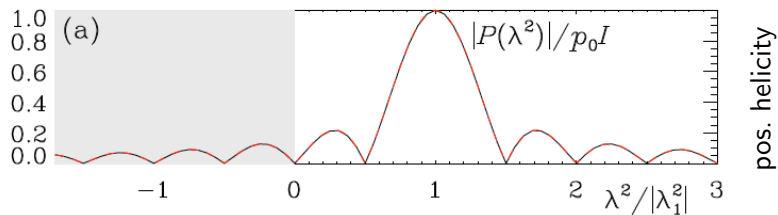
Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Helicity



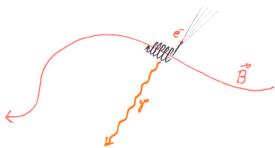


# Helicity

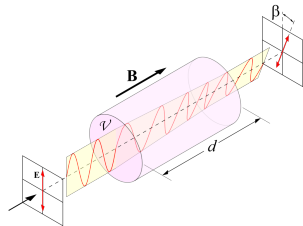


Brandenburg et al. (2014)

# Summary



partially hard  
to reconcile



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

azimuthal halo field

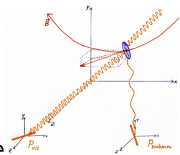
disk field spiral  
one reversal  
pitch angle ca.  $12^\circ$

ordered random  
field present

X-shaped out-of-plane component

helical?

helical





Thanks.

See you at dinner.