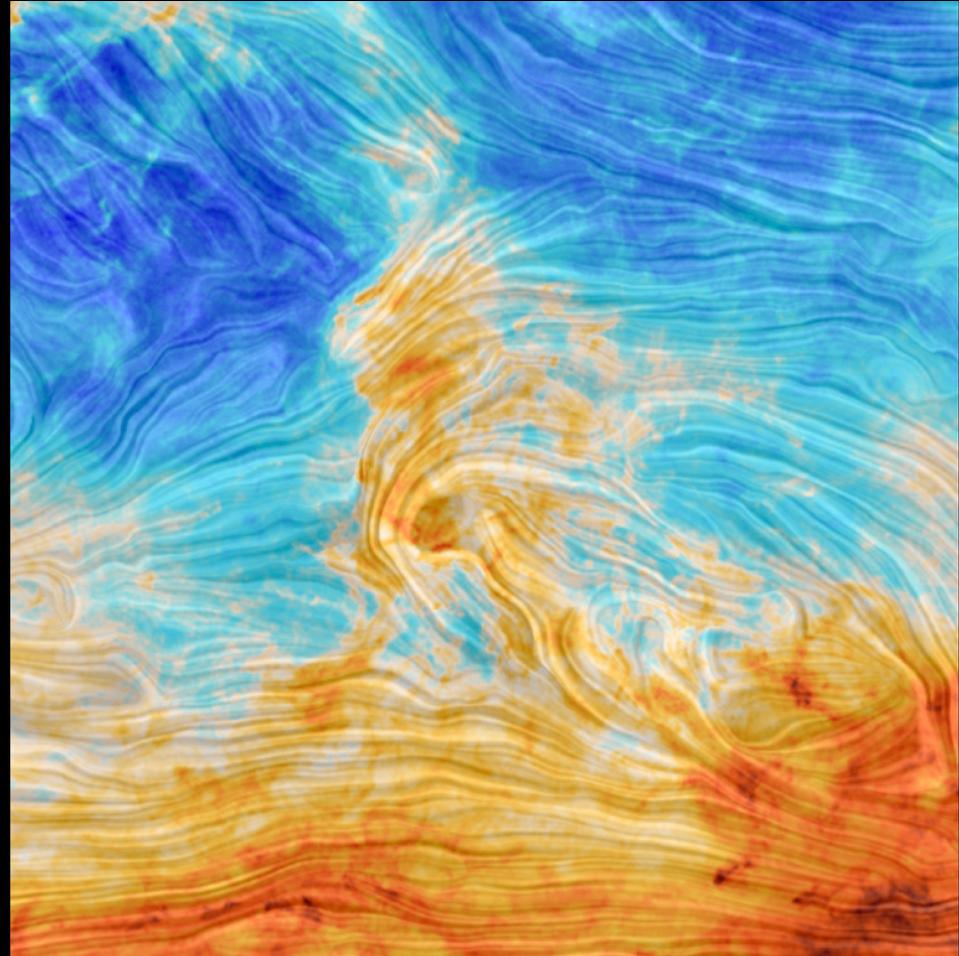




# The Astrophysics of Dust Polarization

F. Boulanger (IAS,  
Orsay)  
on behalf of the  
Planck Collaboration



## **I. The astrophysics of dust polarization**

- The magnetized interstellar medium
- Dust polarization properties

## **II. The Planck dust polarization sky**

- Polarization maps
- Magnetic field structure

## **III. Dust foreground to CMB polarization**

- Frequency dependence
- Power spectra analysis

# Part I

## **The astrophysics of dust polarization**

- ▶ The magnetized interstellar medium
- ▶ Dust polarization properties

# The dynamics of the ISM

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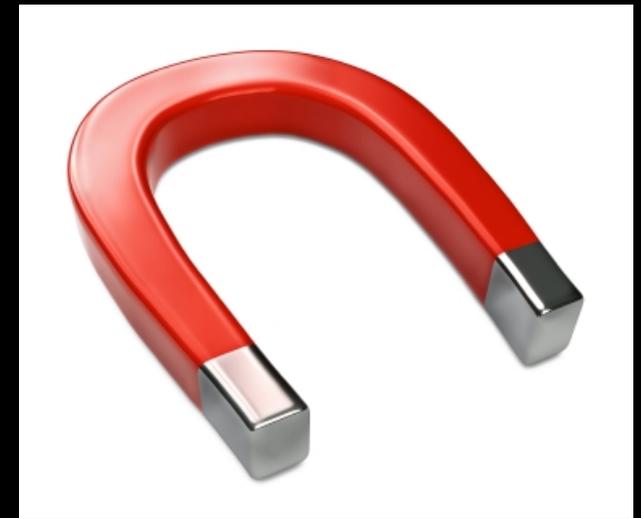
Gravity



Turbulence



Magnetic fields



In the diffuse ISM HI observations and Zeeman measurements show:

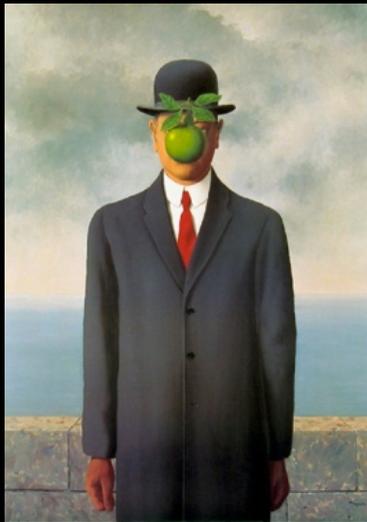
$$E_{grav} \ll E_{turb} \approx E_{mag}$$

(Heiles & Troland 2005)

# The dynamics of the ISM

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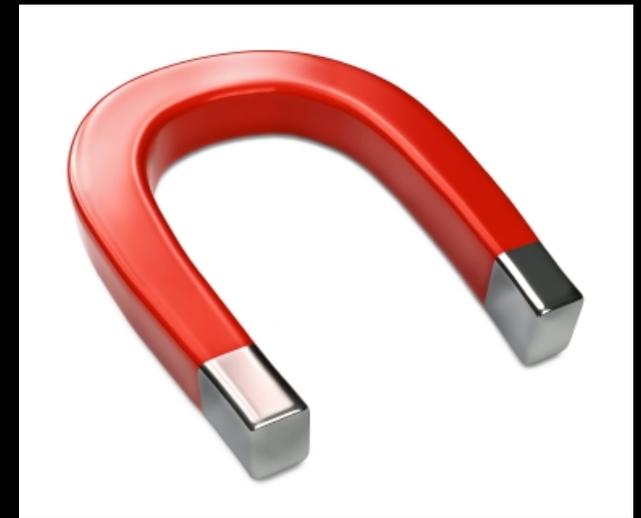
Gravity



Turbulence



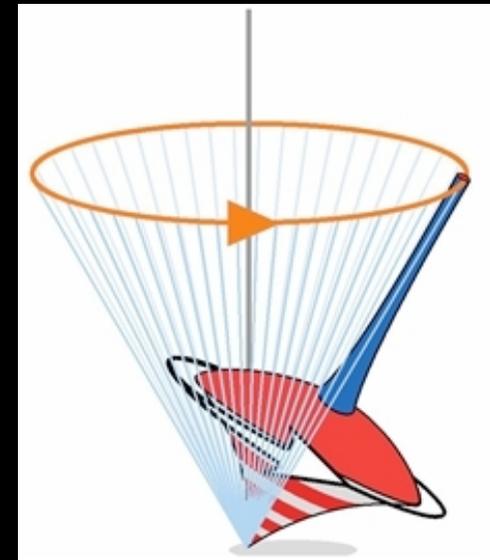
Magnetic fields



Open issue:  
How does gravity become the local dominant force to  
allow for Star Formation ?

## Why are grains aligned with the field?

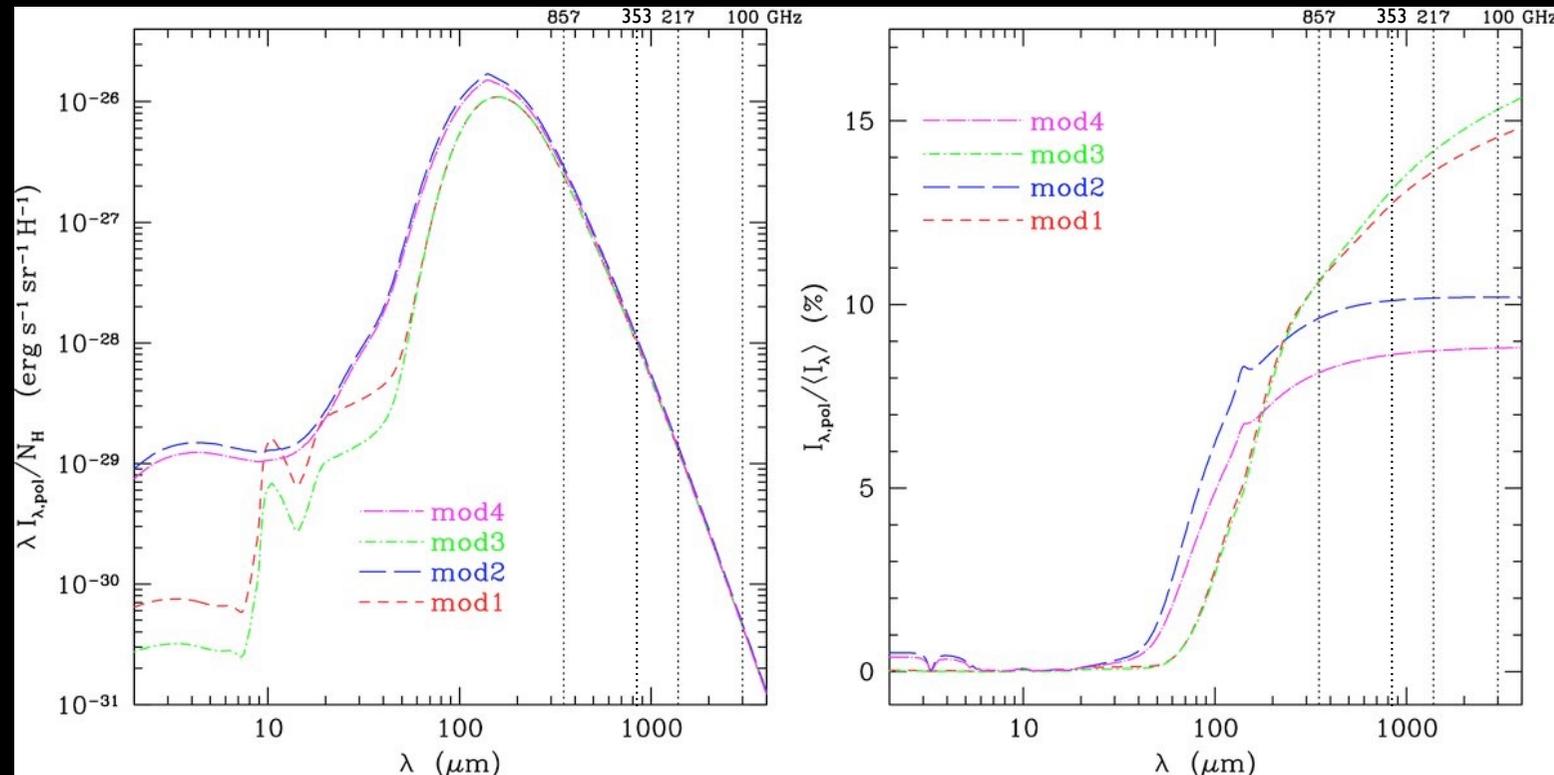
- ▶ Interstellar grains spin like tops around their axis of maximal inertia. Their rotation axis precesses around the magnetic field lines.
- ▶ Dissipation of precession energy leads to alignment with the field. Alignment may be associated with paramagnetic relaxation or radiative torques.  $\text{H}_2$  formation can also locally contribute.



The degree of grain alignment may vary, but it is difficult to discriminate this possibility from magnetic field structure

# Dust Polarization Properties

Dust includes grain with different sizes and composition that have different polarization properties



Only silicates are aligned

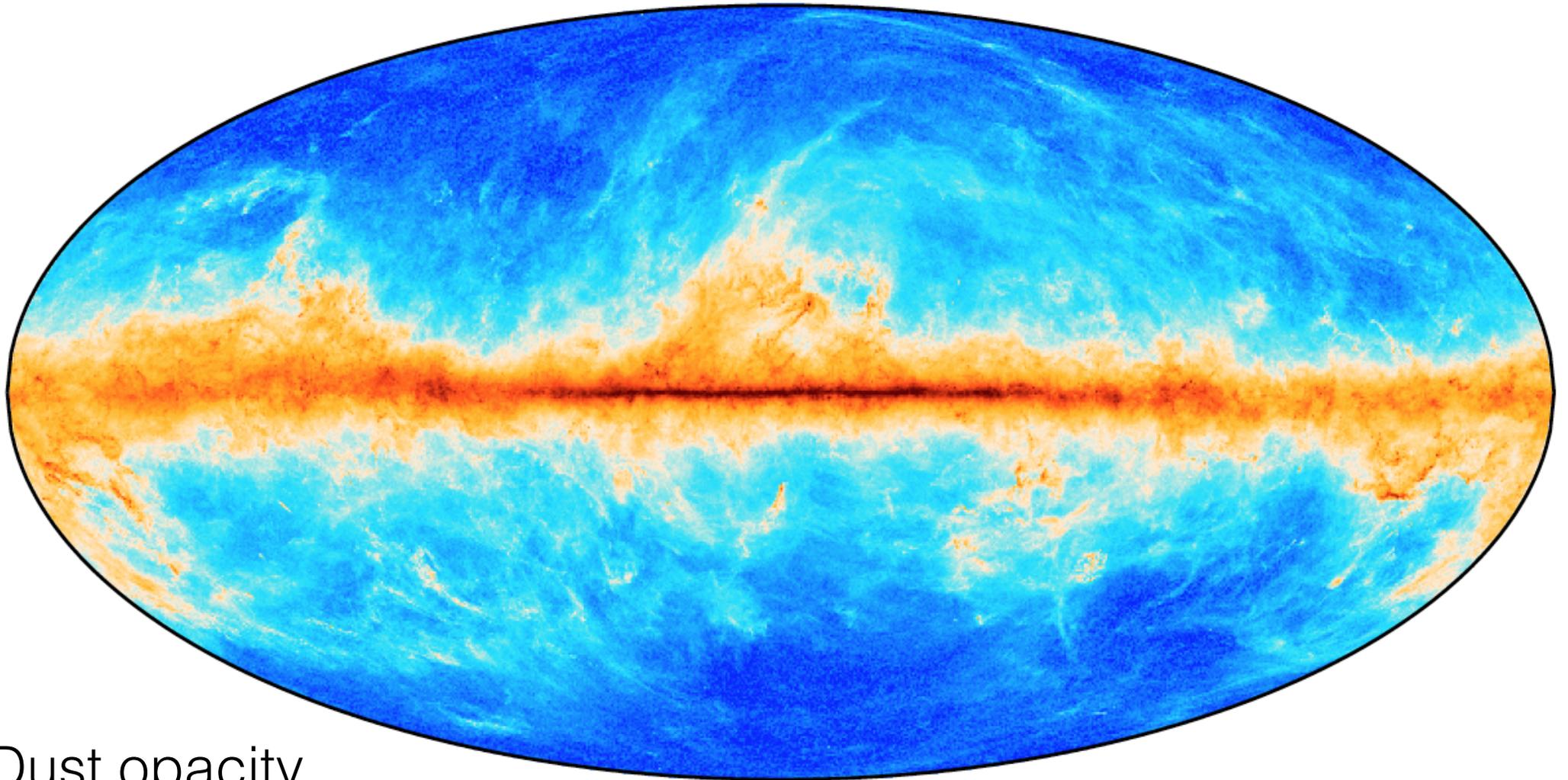
Carbon grains and silicates are aligned

All models produce the same polarization opacity in the visible and near-IR but distinct values of P/I in the sub-millimeter (Draine and Fraisse 2009)

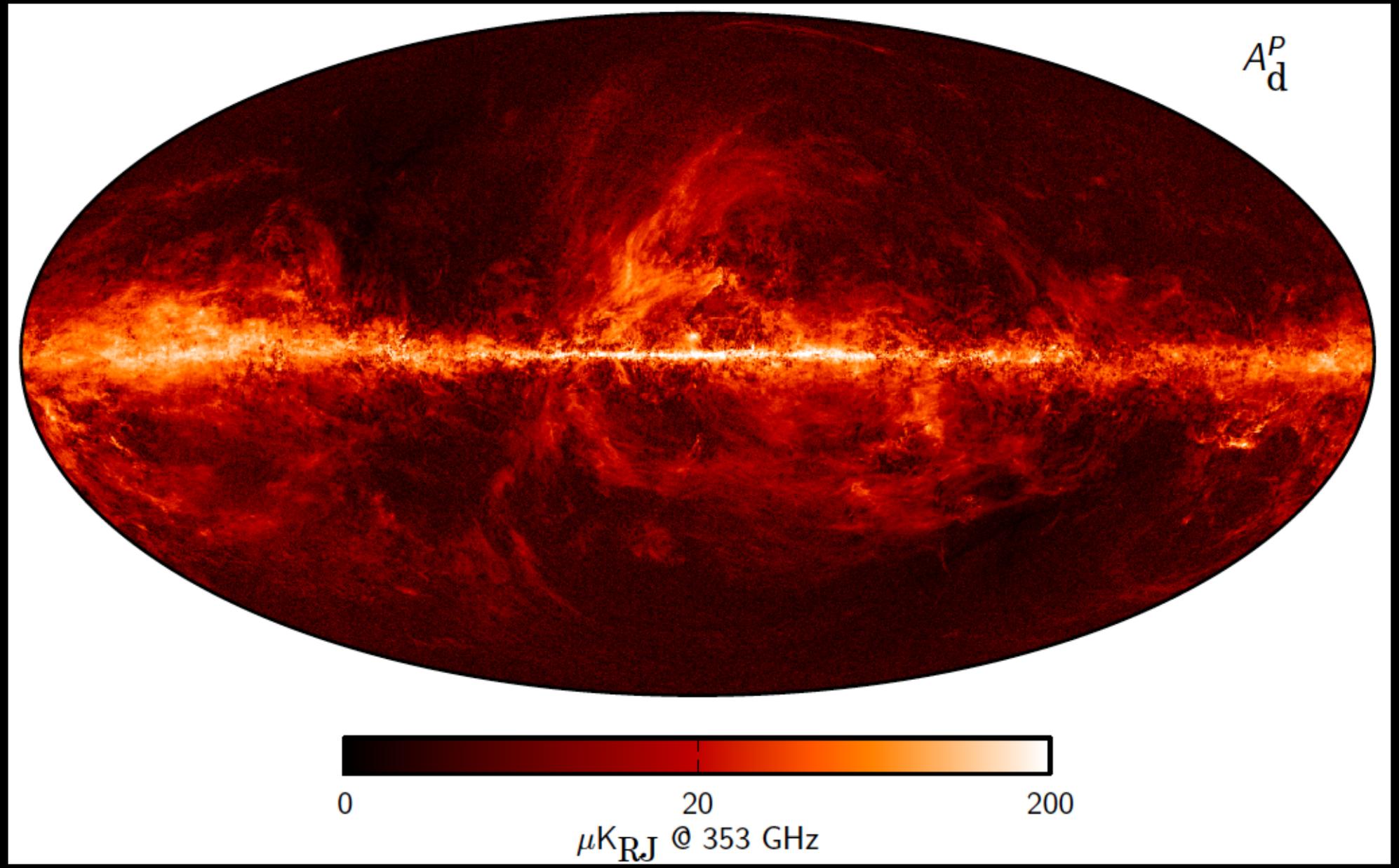
## Part II

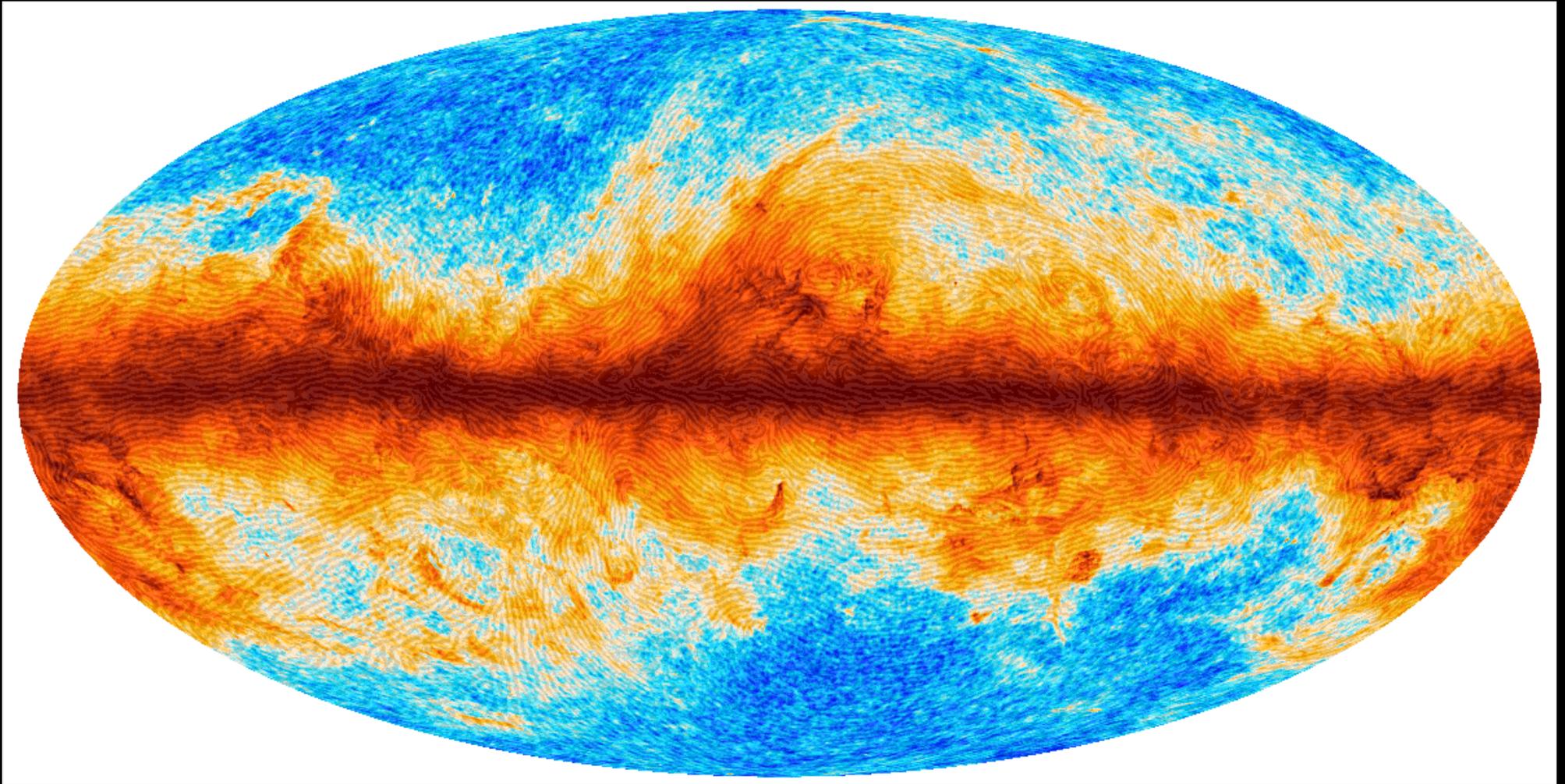
### **The Planck polarization sky**

- ▶ Polarization maps
- ▶ Magnetic field structure

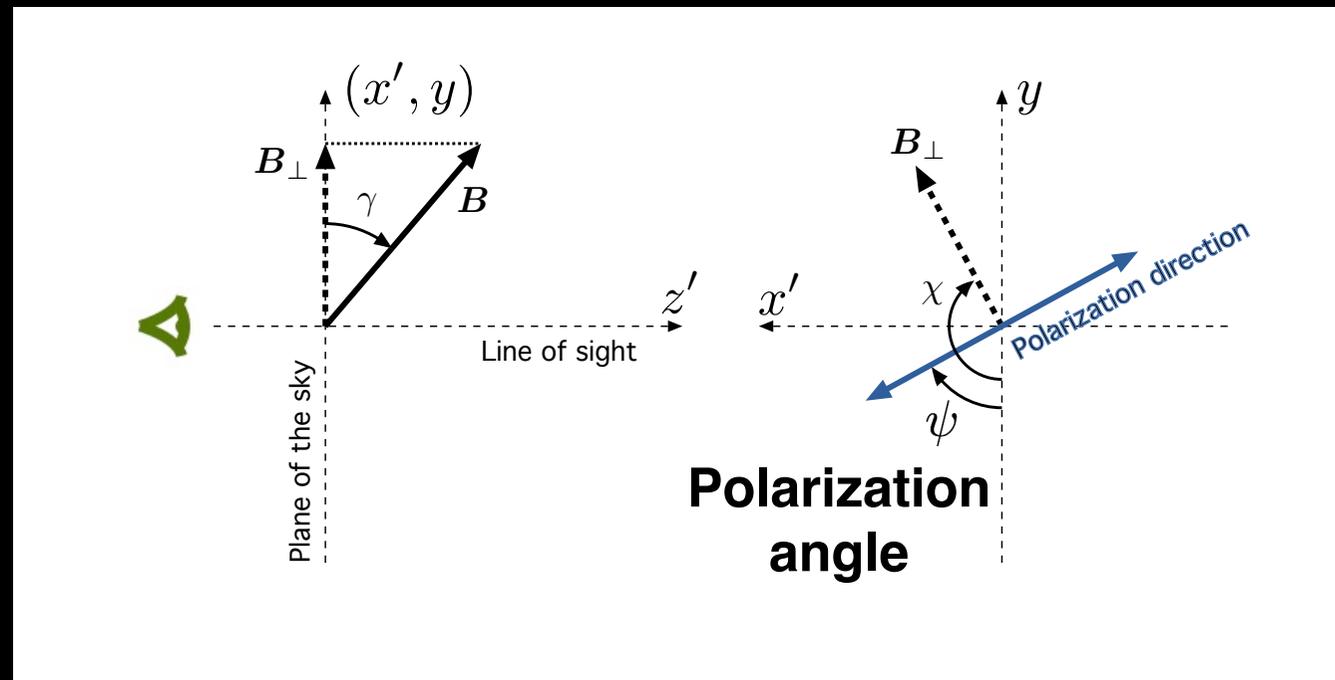


Dust opacity





# What are we measuring?



$$Q = \int p_{\max} R \cos(2\psi) \cos^2 \gamma dI$$
$$U = - \int p_{\max} R \sin(2\psi) \cos^2 \gamma dI$$

$$P = (Q^2 + U^2)^{0.5}$$
$$p = P/I$$
$$\psi = 0.5 \arctan(-U, Q)$$

## Polarization fraction

$$p = p_{\max} R F \cos^2 \gamma$$
$$R \text{ and } F \leq 1$$

R: Rayleigh reduction factor  
(efficiency of grain alignment)

F: Depolarization factor (change of  
B orientation within the beam)

# What are we learning from Planck?

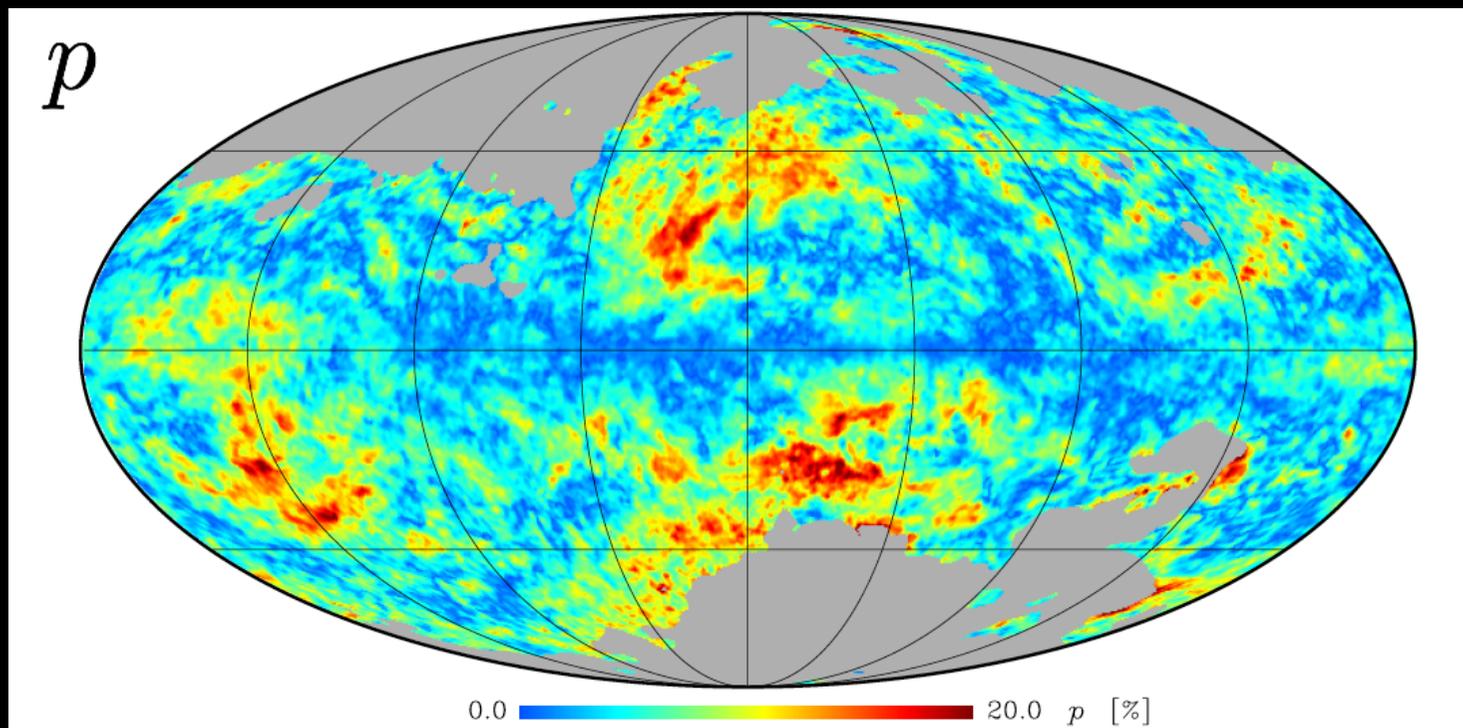
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Planck probes the field structure in the diffuse ISM and in star-forming molecular clouds, on scales relevant to the formation of their filamentary structure.

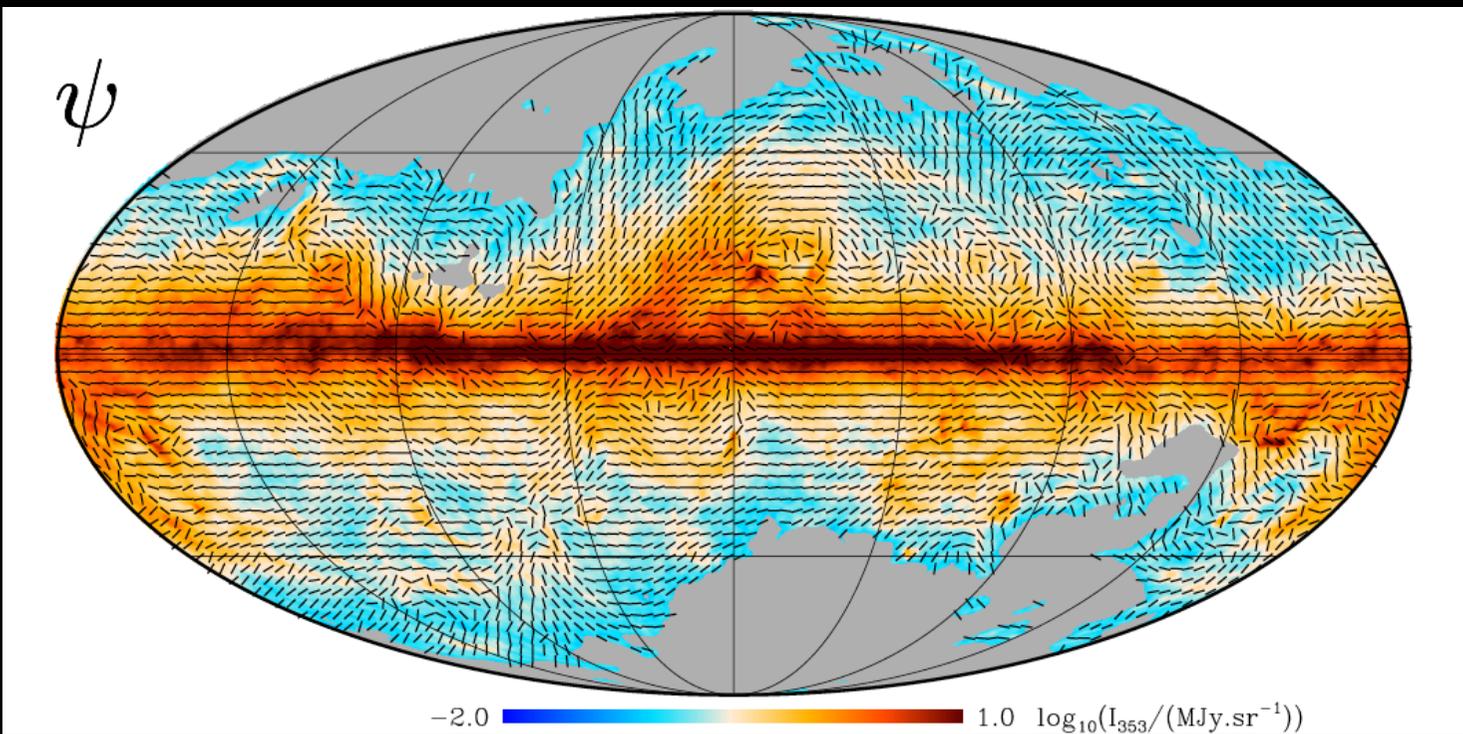
- ▶ The dust polarization fraction
- ▶ The structure of the magnetic field
- ▶ Correlation between the matter and the magnetic field.

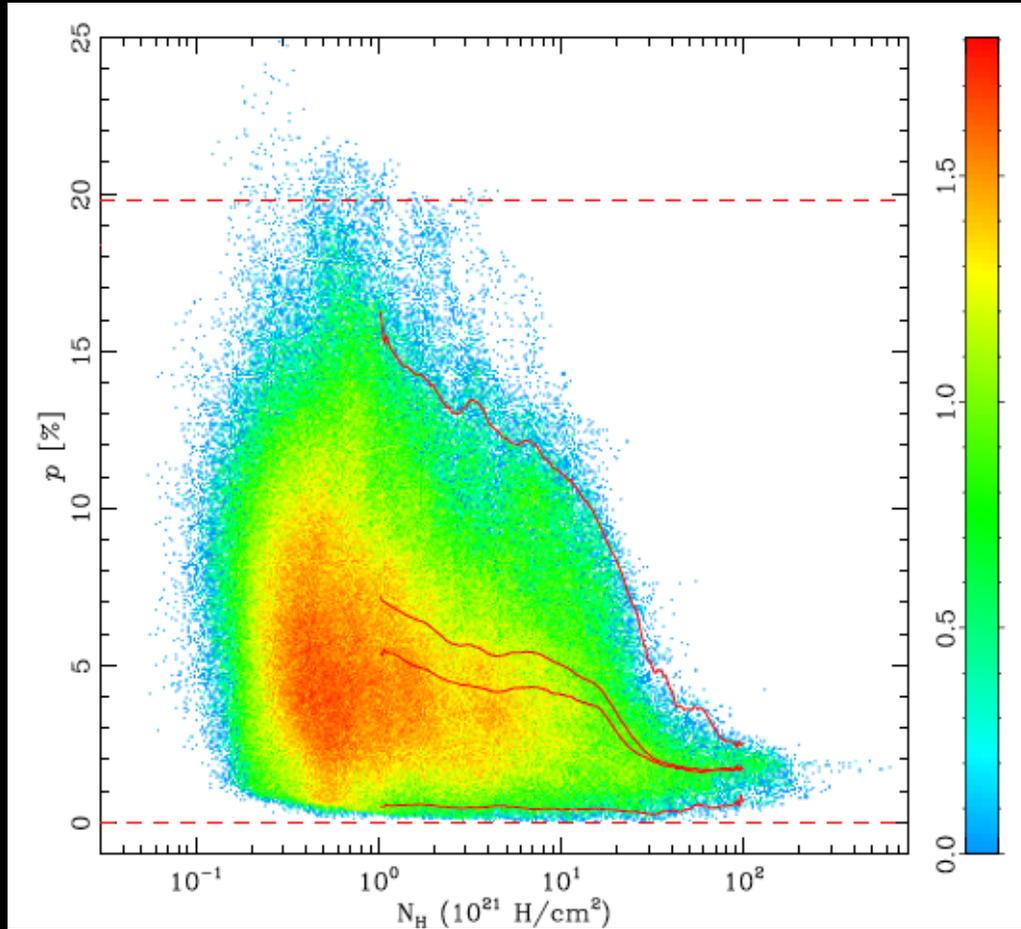
More results on Planck intermediate papers available on Arxiv.

Polarization  
degree

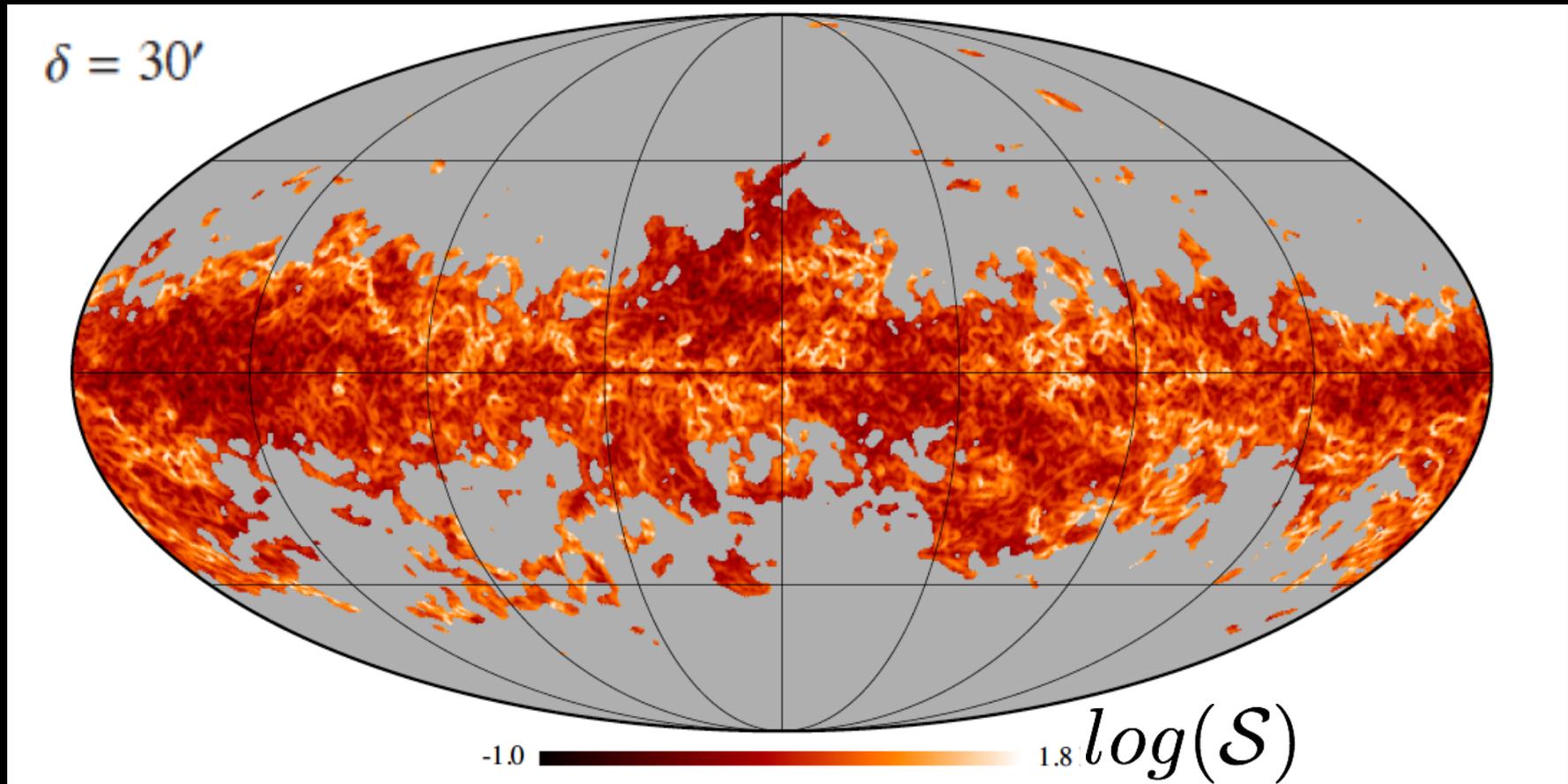


Polarization  
angle



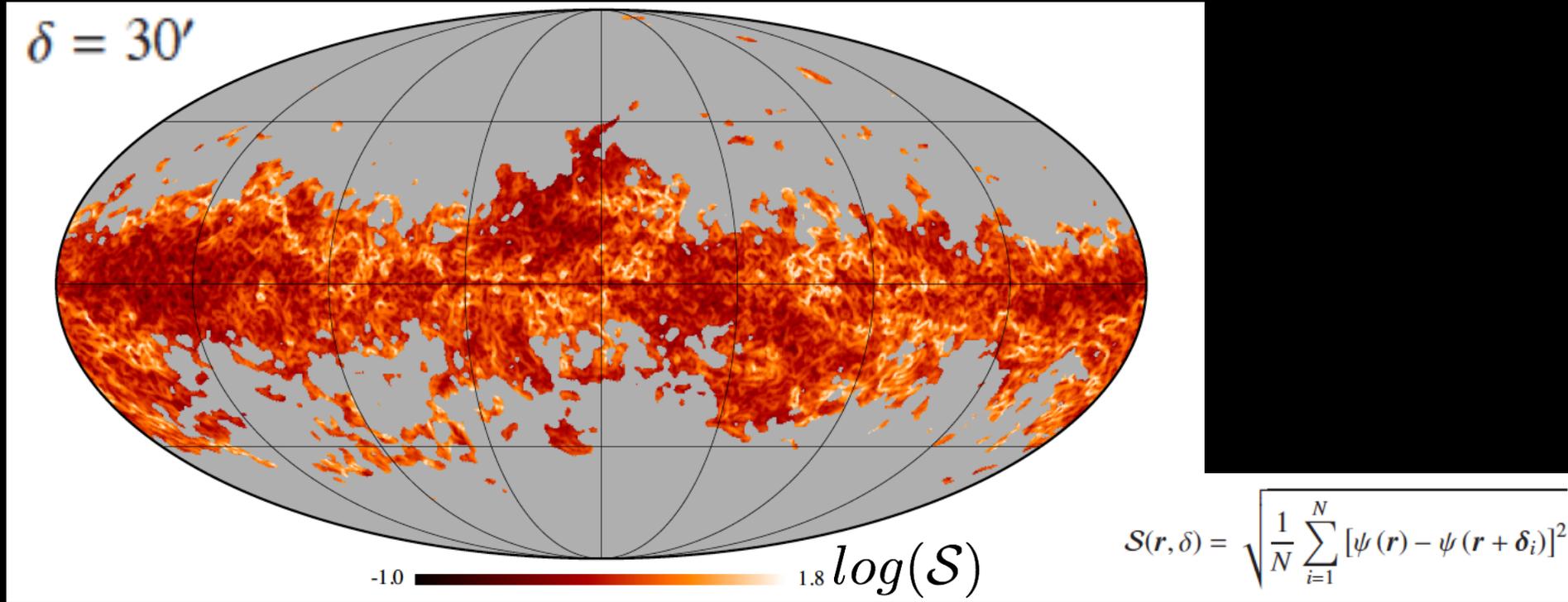


- ▶ Polarization fraction up to 20%.
- ▶ Large dispersion of  $p$  at all  $N_H$ , tracing changes in B-field orientation and depolarization within the beam.
- ▶ Sharp decrease of  $p$  for  $N_H > 10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ . Consistent with earlier results from ground-based observations, which has been interpreted by a loss of grain alignment in the shielded interiors of clouds.



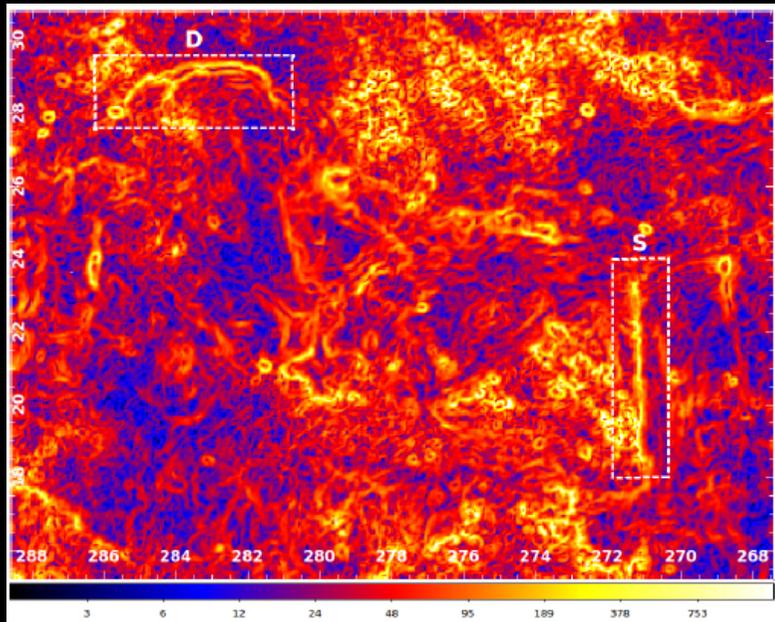
$$\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{r}, \delta) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N [\psi(\mathbf{r}) - \psi(\mathbf{r} + \delta_i)]^2}$$

The polarization angle dispersion highlights filamentary structure of the magnetic field



$|\nabla P|/|P|$

S-PASS 2.3 GHz

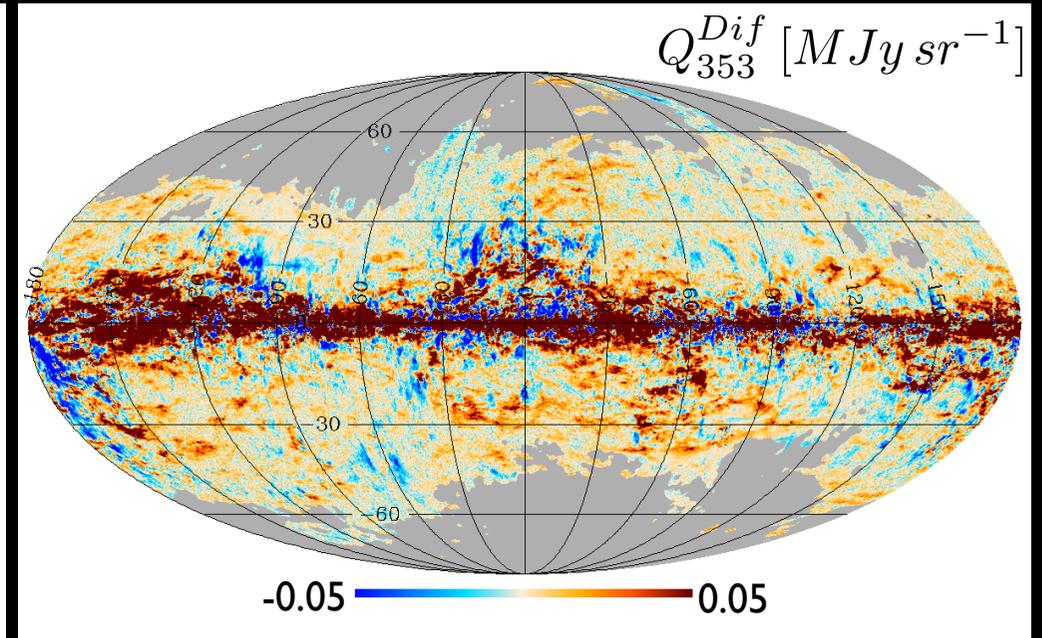
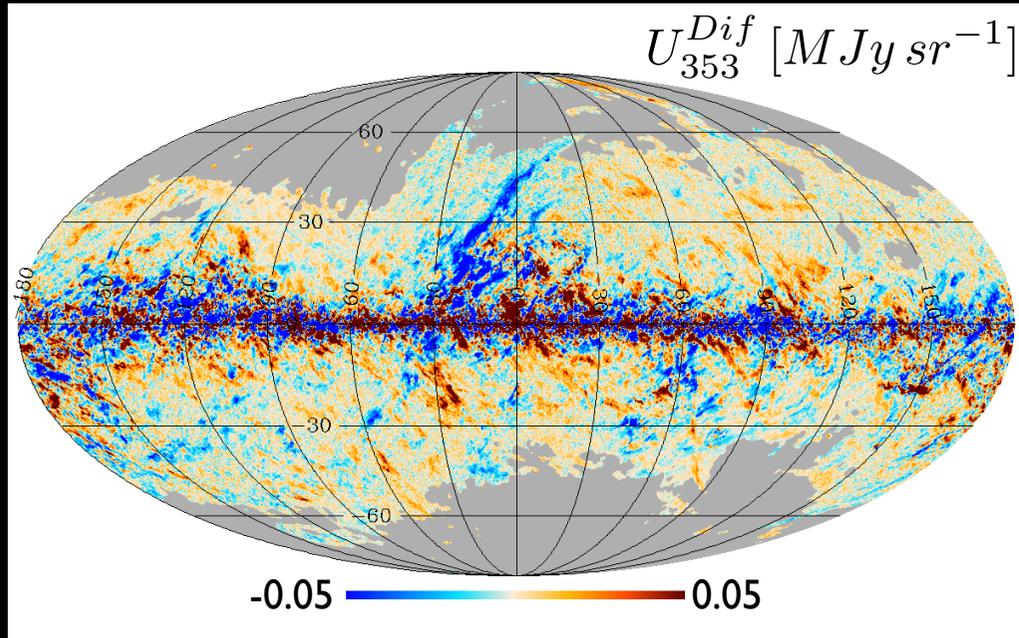
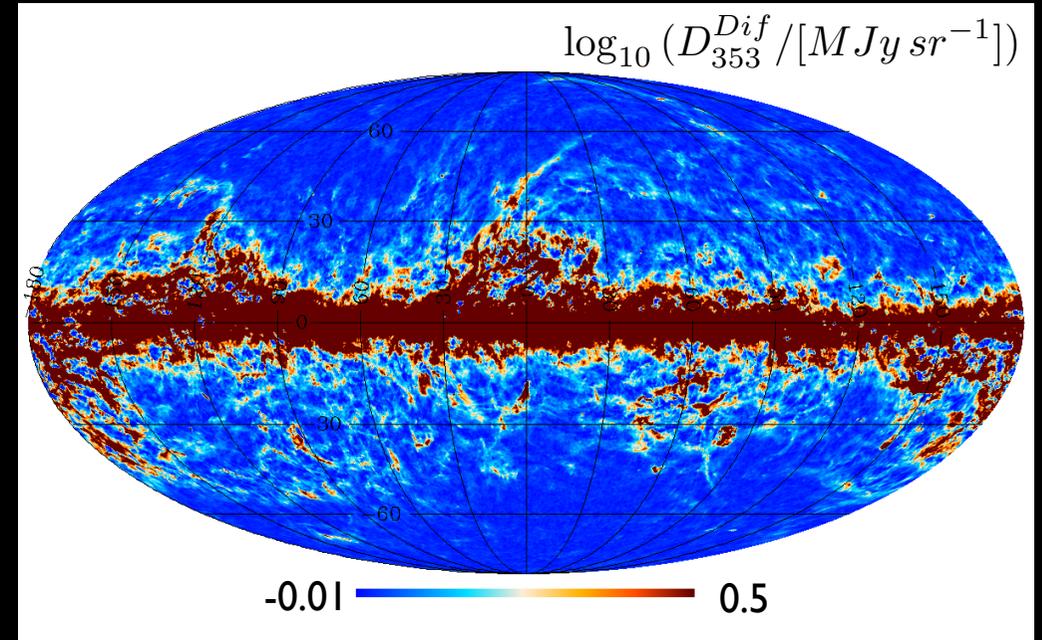


Filamentary structures are observed in dust polarization as in synchrotron polarization

# Matter/B-field Correlation

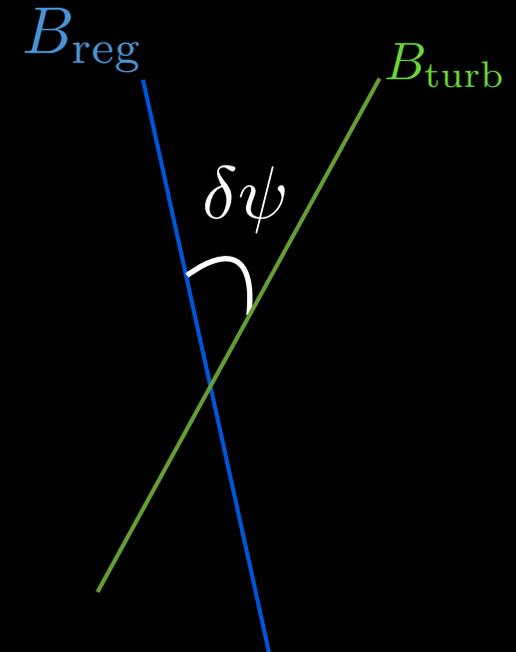
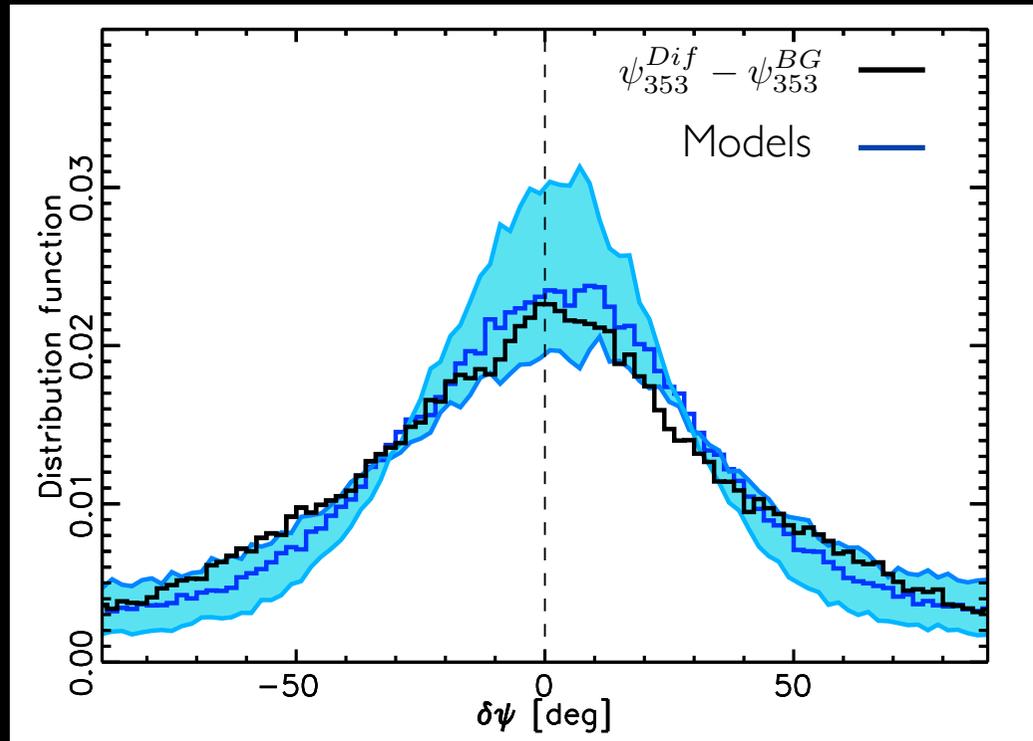
Stokes filtered maps (Dif) after subtraction of a local background

[Planck Intermediate XXXII 2014, arXiv:1409.6728]



# Turbulent component of magnetic field

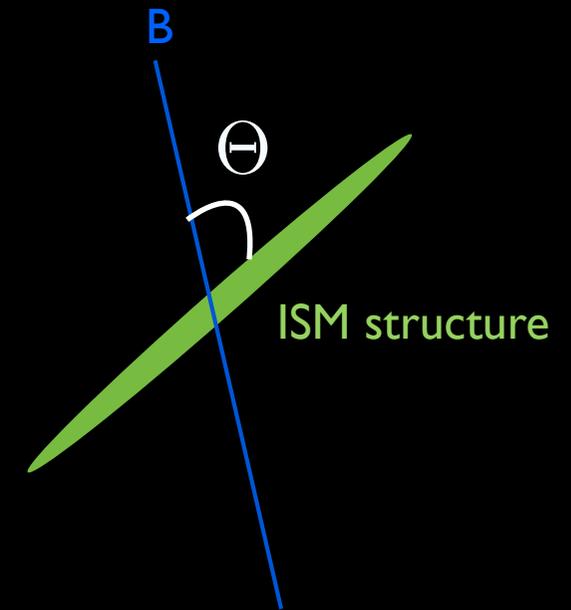
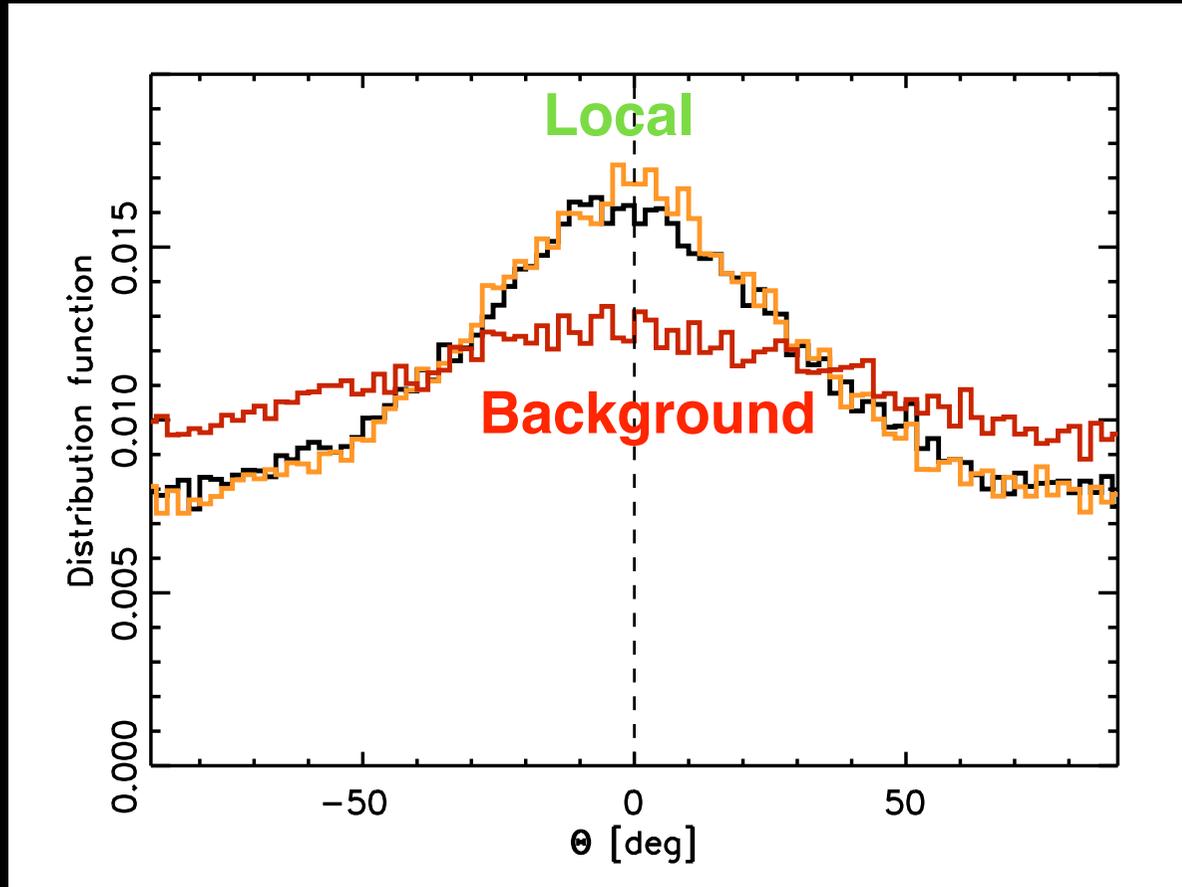
$$\vec{B} = \vec{B}_{\text{reg}} + \vec{B}_{\text{turb}} \quad (\langle \vec{B}_{\text{turb}} \rangle = 0)$$



- ▶ Comparing the orientation of the field at two scales: *structures* ( $\sim 2\text{pc}$ ) and *background* ( $\sim 40\text{pc}$ )
- ▶ Models quantifying the ratio between the strengths of the turbulent and mean components of the magnetic field. Best fit model for :  $B_{\text{turb}}/B_{\text{reg}} = 0.8$  (trans-Alfvénic turbulence)

# Matter vs Magnetic Field

[Planck Intermediate XXXII 2014, arXiv:1409.6728]



The structures tend to be aligned with the local magnetic field

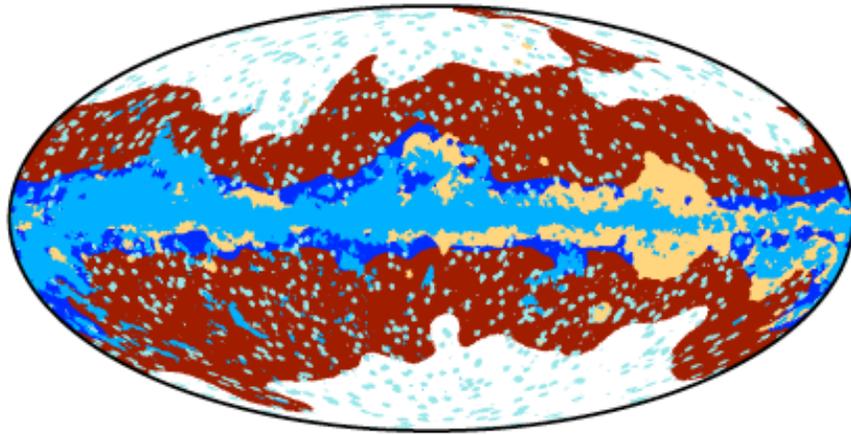
Projection effects (3D to 2D) are crucial for the interpretation of the shape of the distribution!

## **Part III**

### **Dust foreground to CMB polarization**

- ▶ **Frequency dependence**
- ▶ **Power spectra analysis**

# Dust SED at intermediate latitude sky



Only red region is analysed  
in our study

The cross-correlation coefficients at and above 100 GHz can be decomposed as

$$[\alpha_{\nu}^I]_{353}^{3T} = \alpha^I(c_{353}^3) + \alpha_{\nu}^I(d_{353})$$

We work with the colour ratio between two frequencies  $\nu_1$  and  $\nu_2$  ( $\nu_0$  is used as a reference to get rid of the CMB contribution)

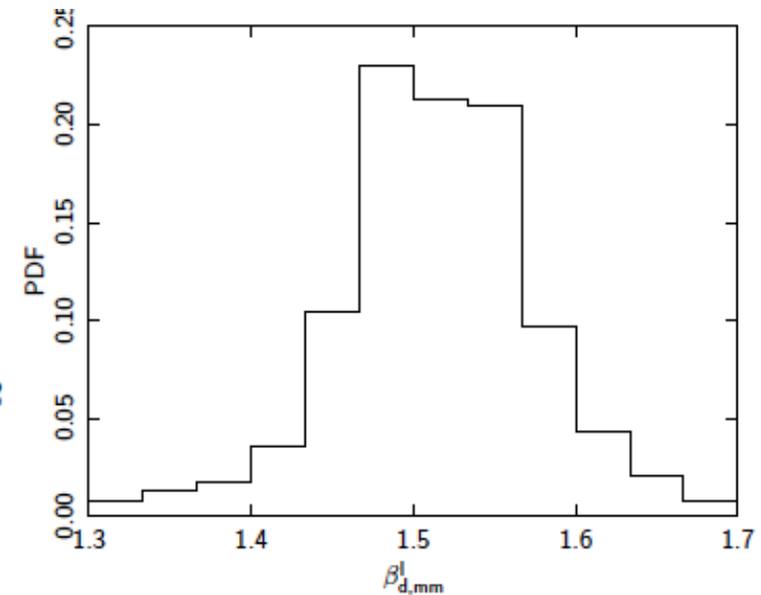
$$\begin{aligned} R_{\nu_0}^I(\nu_2, \nu_1) &= \frac{[\alpha_{\nu_2}^I]_{353}^{3T} - [\alpha_{\nu_0}^I]_{353}^{3T}}{[\alpha_{\nu_1}^I]_{353}^{3T} - [\alpha_{\nu_0}^I]_{353}^{3T}} \\ &= \frac{\alpha_{\nu_2}^I(d_{353}) - \alpha_{\nu_0}^I(d_{353})}{\alpha_{\nu_1}^I(d_{353}) - \alpha_{\nu_0}^I(d_{353})}, \\ &= g(\beta_d, T_d) \end{aligned}$$

Cross-correlation analysis with three templates

- a. 408 MHz survey -> synchrotron emission
- b. Halpha map -> free-free emission
- c. 353 GHz map -> dust emission

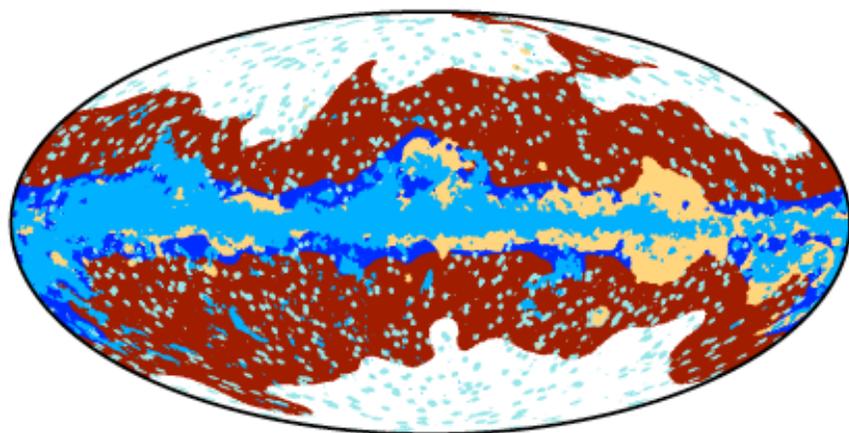
$$I_{\nu} = \tau_{353} B_{\nu}(T_d) \left( \frac{\nu}{353} \right)^{\beta_d}$$

$$\langle \beta_{d,mm}^I \rangle = 1.51 \pm 0.06, T_d = 19.6 \text{ K}$$



Histogram of  $\beta_{d,mm}^I$

# Polarized Dust SED at intermediate latitude sky

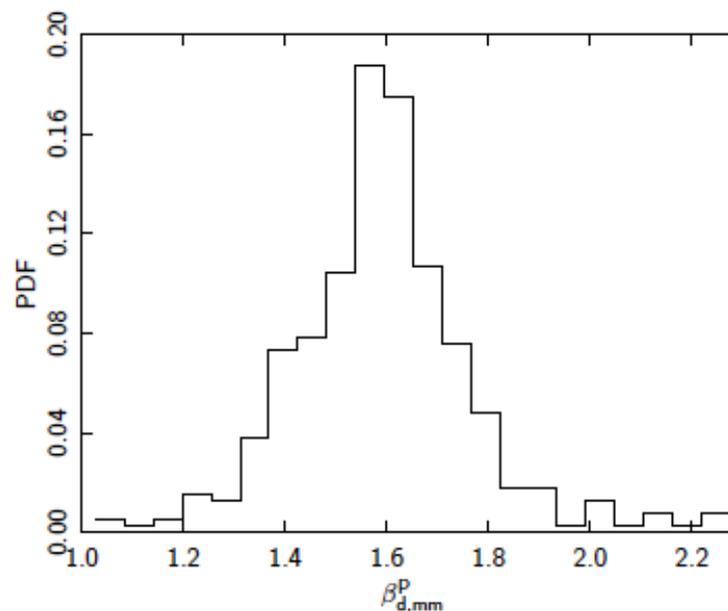


Only red region is analysed  
in our study

$$\langle \beta_{d,mm}^P \rangle = 1.59 \pm 0.17, \quad T_d = 19.6 \text{ K}$$

Polarized SED is slightly steeper than the  
intensity SED for a fixed  $T_d$ .

Cross-correlation analysis with 353  
GHz polarized dust template



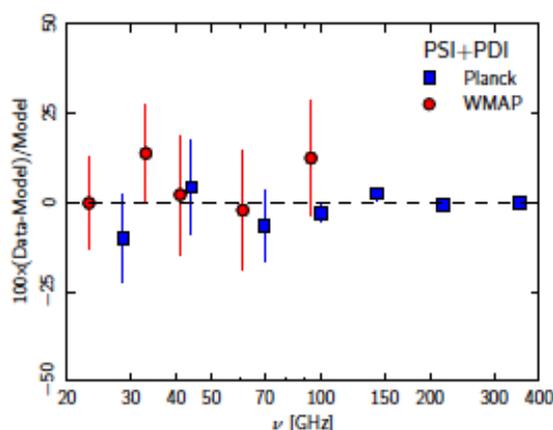
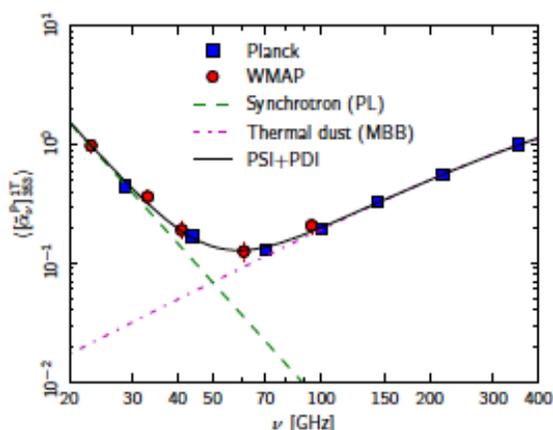
Histogram of  $\beta_{d,mm}^P$

# Polarization dust SED

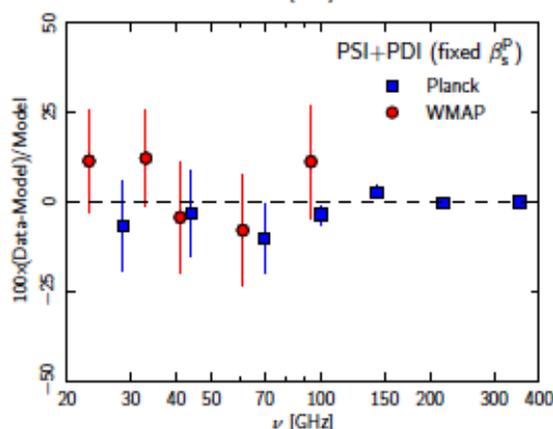
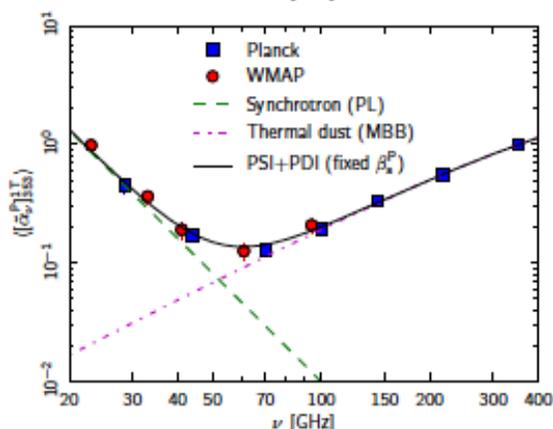
## Spectral modeling

## Residuals

Free  
synchrotron  
spectral index



Fixed  
synchrotron  
spectral index  
(  $\beta_s = -3.04$  )



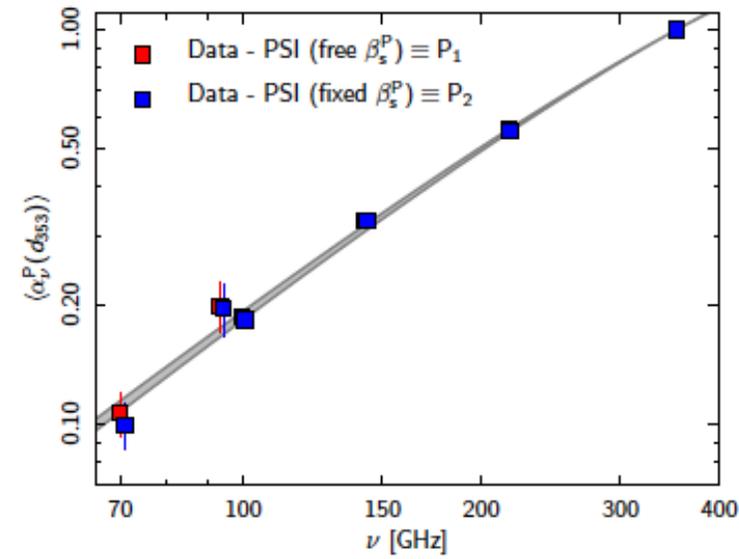
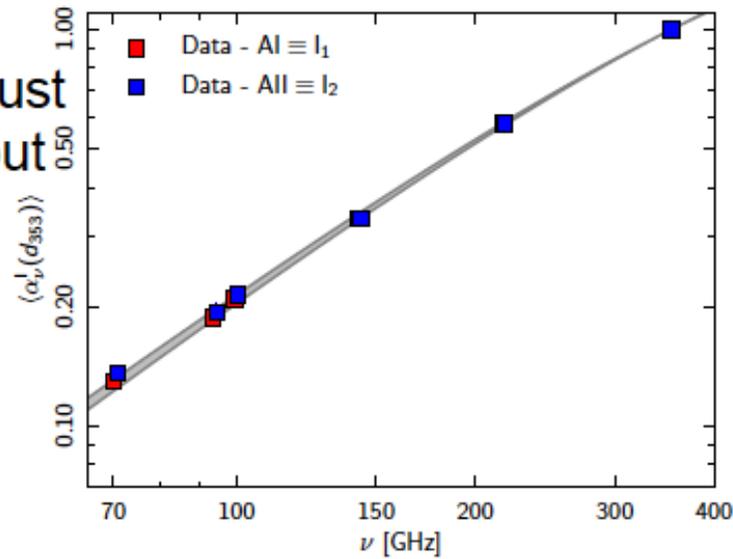
Power-law model of 353  
GHz correlated  
synchrotron emission  
+

MBB spectrum of polarized  
thermal dust emission

Parameters <sup>a</sup>	Unconstrained $\beta_s^P$	Fixed $\beta_s^P$
$A_s^P$ . . . . .	$0.97 \pm 0.10$	$0.86 \pm 0.06$
$\beta_s^P$ . . . . .	$-3.40 \pm 0.28$	$-3.04$
$\beta_{d,mm}^P$ . . . .	$1.57 \pm 0.01$	$1.58 \pm 0.01$
$\chi^2/N_{\text{dof}}$ . . .	$6.6/9$	$8.6/10$

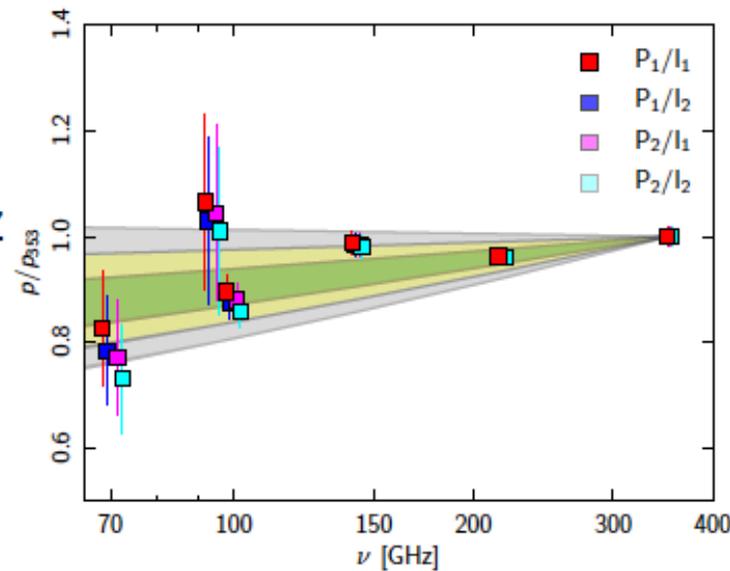
# Variation of polarization fraction with frequency

Intensity dust  
SED without  
AME

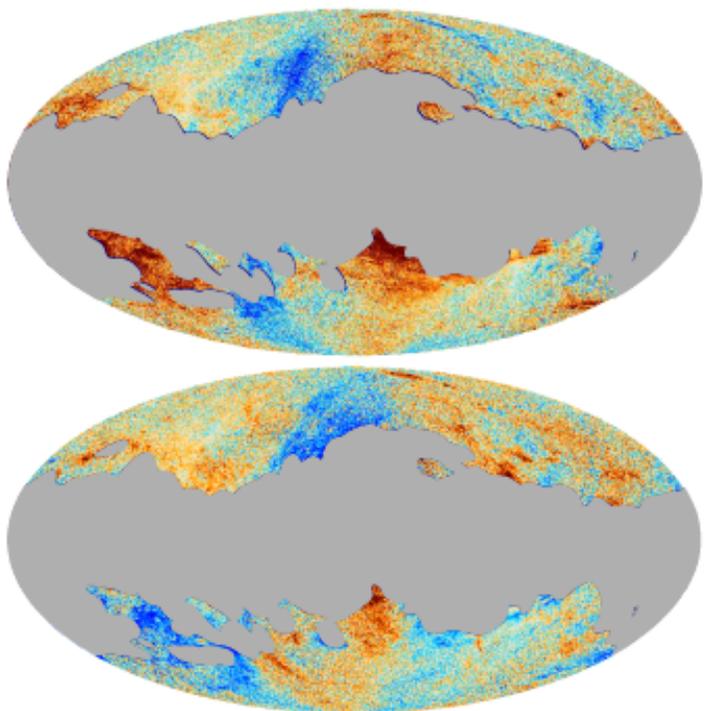


Polarized dust  
SED without  
353 GHz  
correlated  
synchrotron  
emission

polarization fraction is  
normalized to 353 GHz



# General methodology

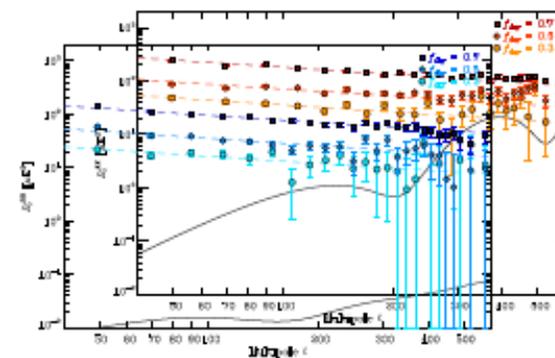


$Q$  and  $U$  maps at 353 GHz

**XPOL**  
pseudo- $C_\ell$  estimator  
based on **XSPECT**  
[Tristram et al. 2005]



Corrects for **incomplete sky coverage**, pixel and beam window functions



Angular power spectra

$C_\ell^{EE}$  and  $C_\ell^{BB}$

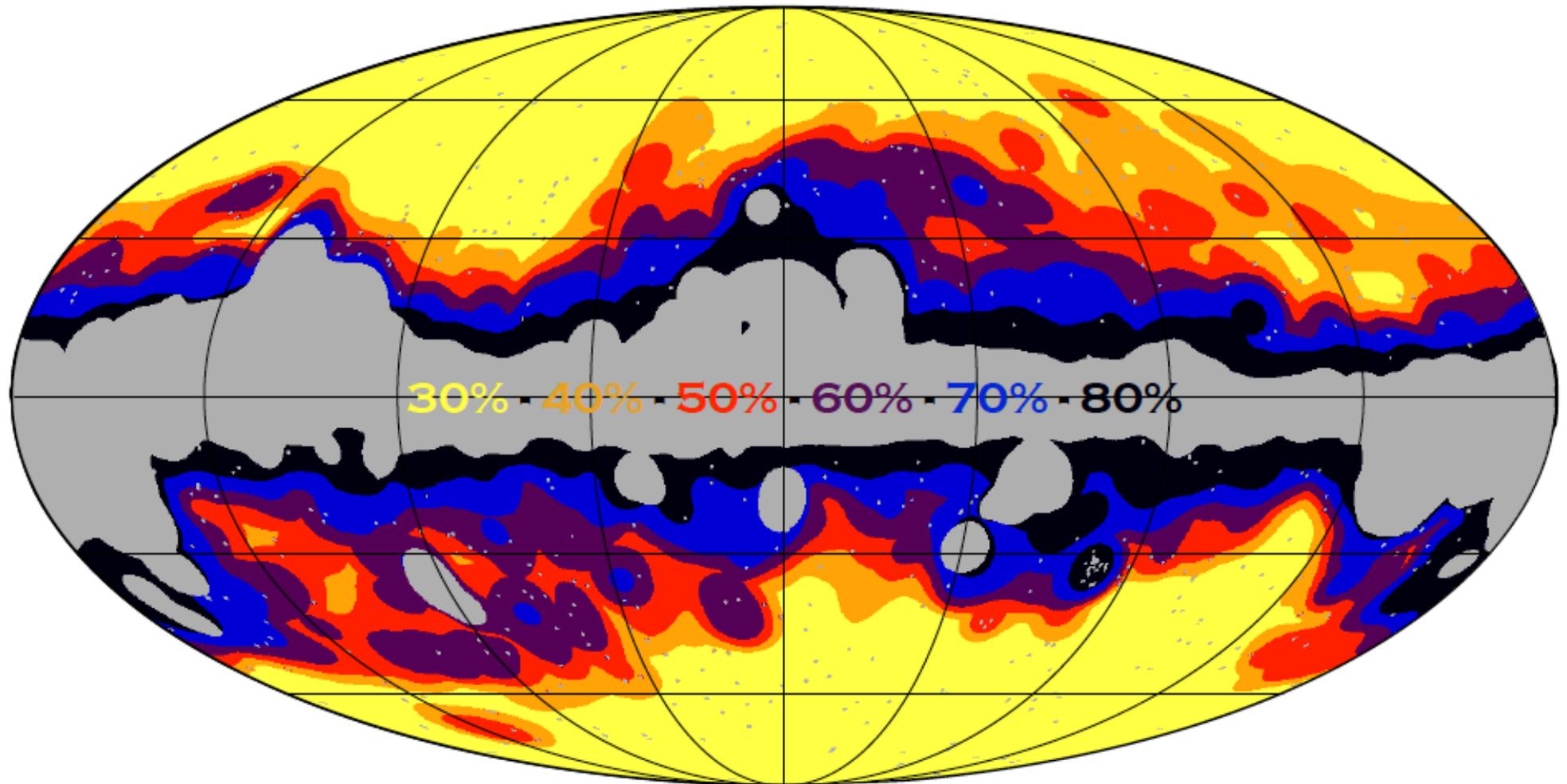
Spectra are computed from the two noise-independent **Detector Set** maps

$$C_\ell(\nu \times \nu) \equiv C_\ell(D_\nu^1 \times D_\nu^2).$$

The CMB  $C_\ell^{EE}$  best fit model is removed  
[Planck Collaboration XIV 2014]

## Large sky fraction regions

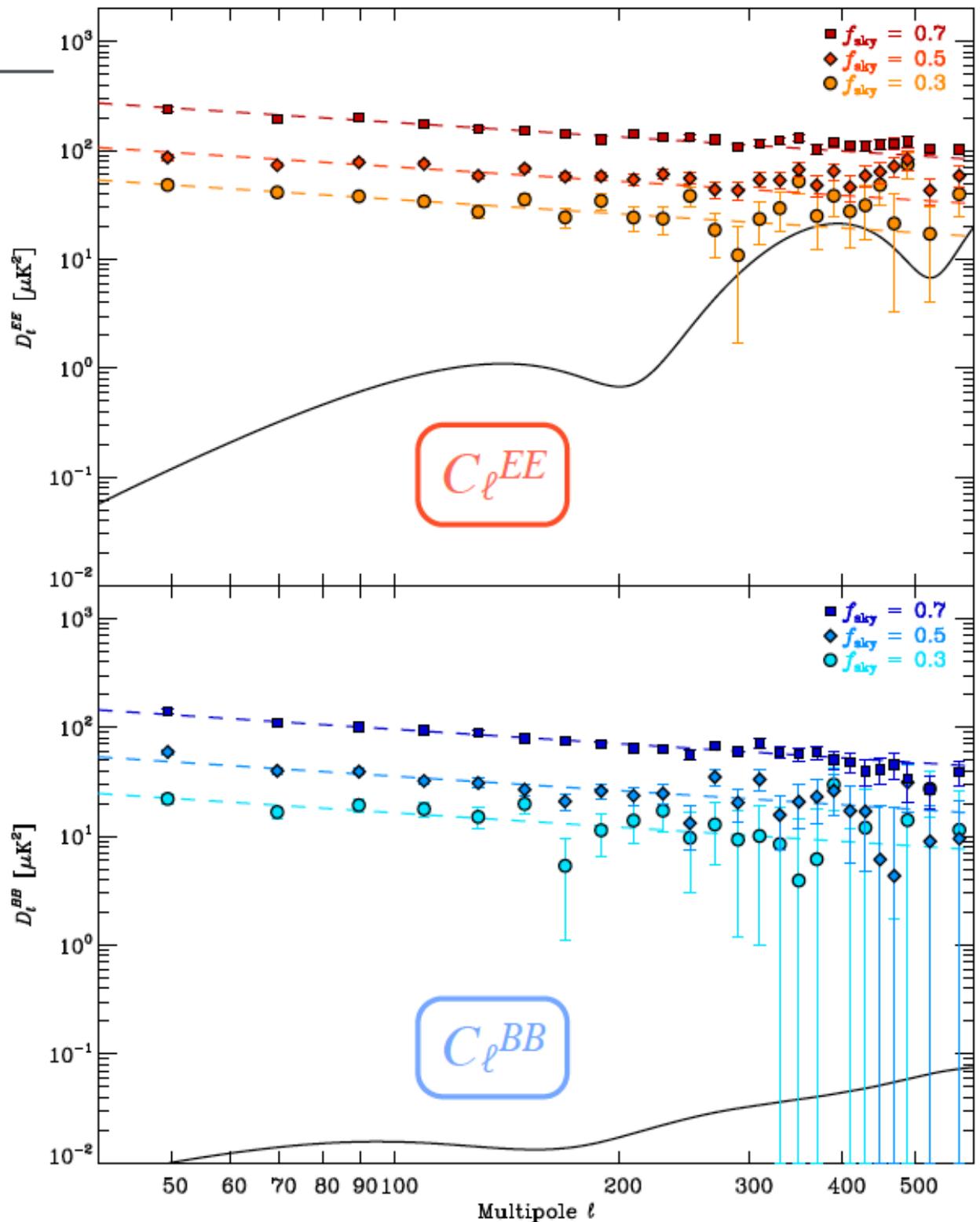
**Masks:** built from the smoothed (10 degrees) dust intensity map at 857 GHz



+ CO + radio point sources mask + apodization (5 degrees)

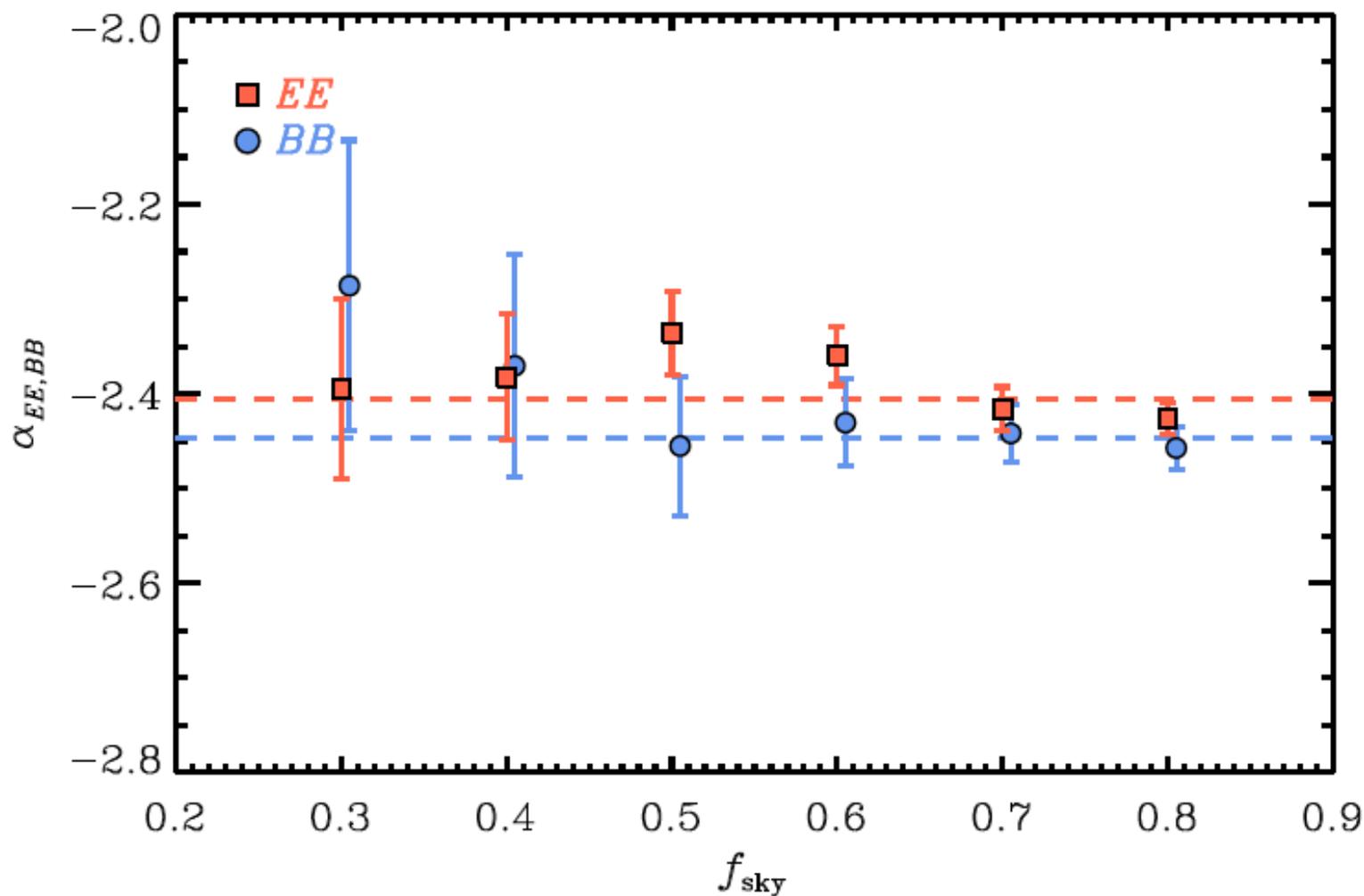
# Results

- ★ First detection of the dust polarized angular power spectra at  $\ell > 10$
  - ★ Even on 30% of the sky, the dust polarized emission dominates the CMB, at all scales
1. Shape of the spectra?
  2. Variation of their amplitudes with respect to the mask?
  3.  $BB/EE$  ratio?
  4. Amplitudes at other frequencies?



# Shape of the spectra?

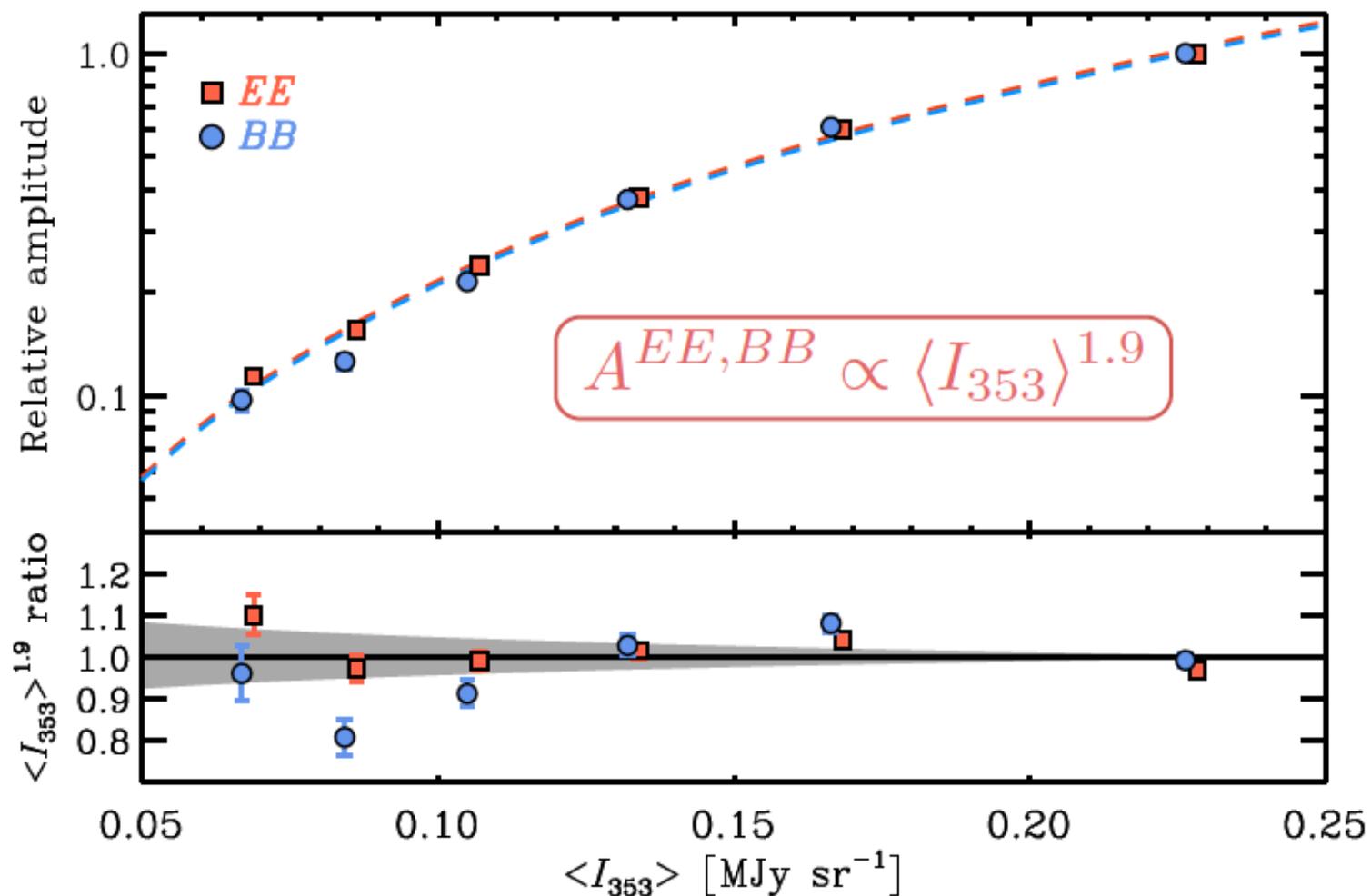
$$\text{Power-law: } C_{\ell}^{EE, BB} \equiv A^{EE, BB} \ell^{\alpha_{EE, BB}}$$



- ★ The spectra are compatible with power-laws with a  $-2.42$  slope
- ★ No significant difference between  $EE$  and  $BB$

# Amplitude as a function of the mask

$$C_{\ell}^{EE, BB} \equiv A^{EE, BB} \ell^{-2.42}$$

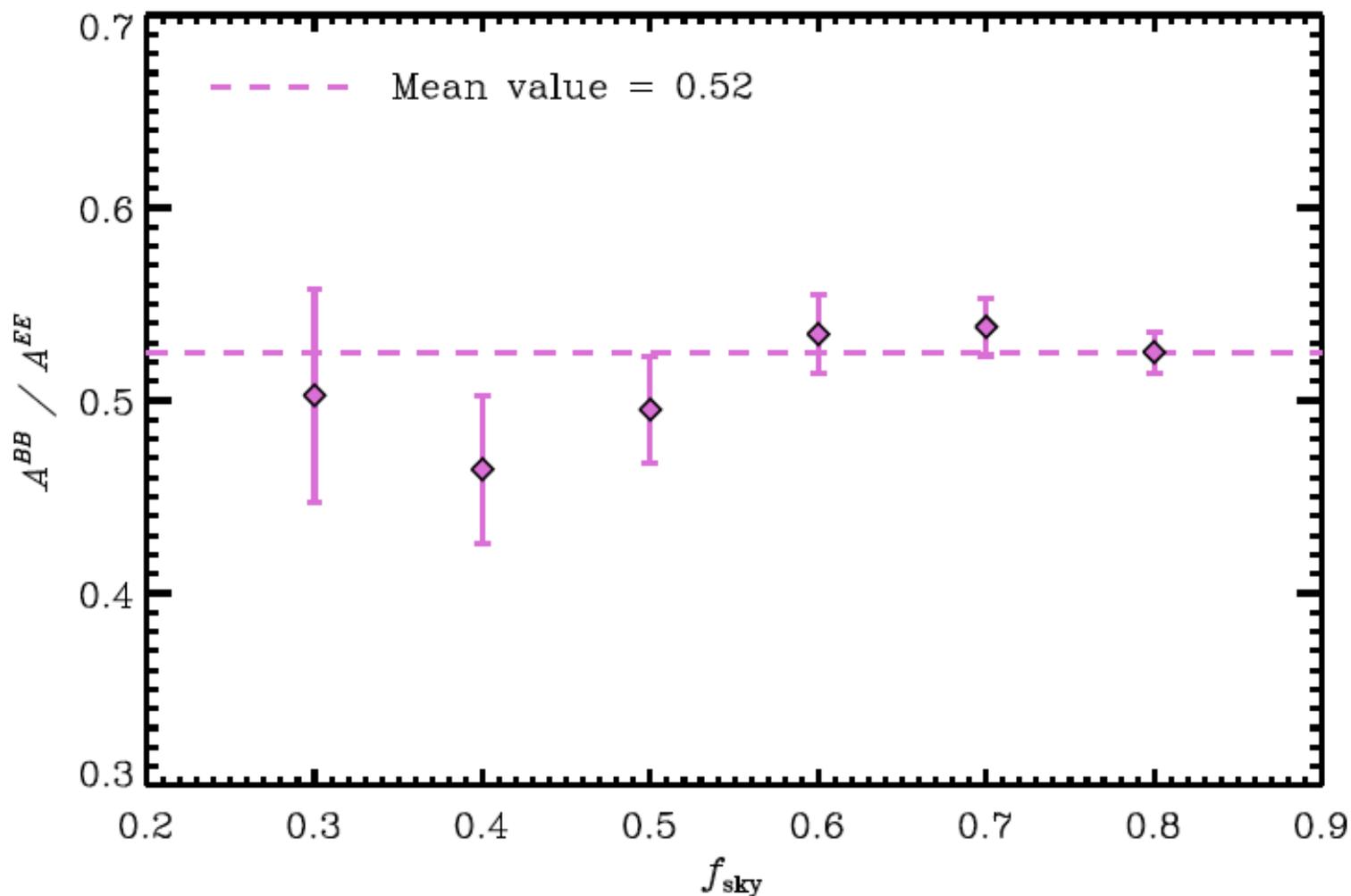


[Planck Intermediate XXX 2014, arXiv 1409.5738]

- ★ There is an empirical relation between the amplitude and the mean dust intensity on the considered region

# BB/EE ratio?

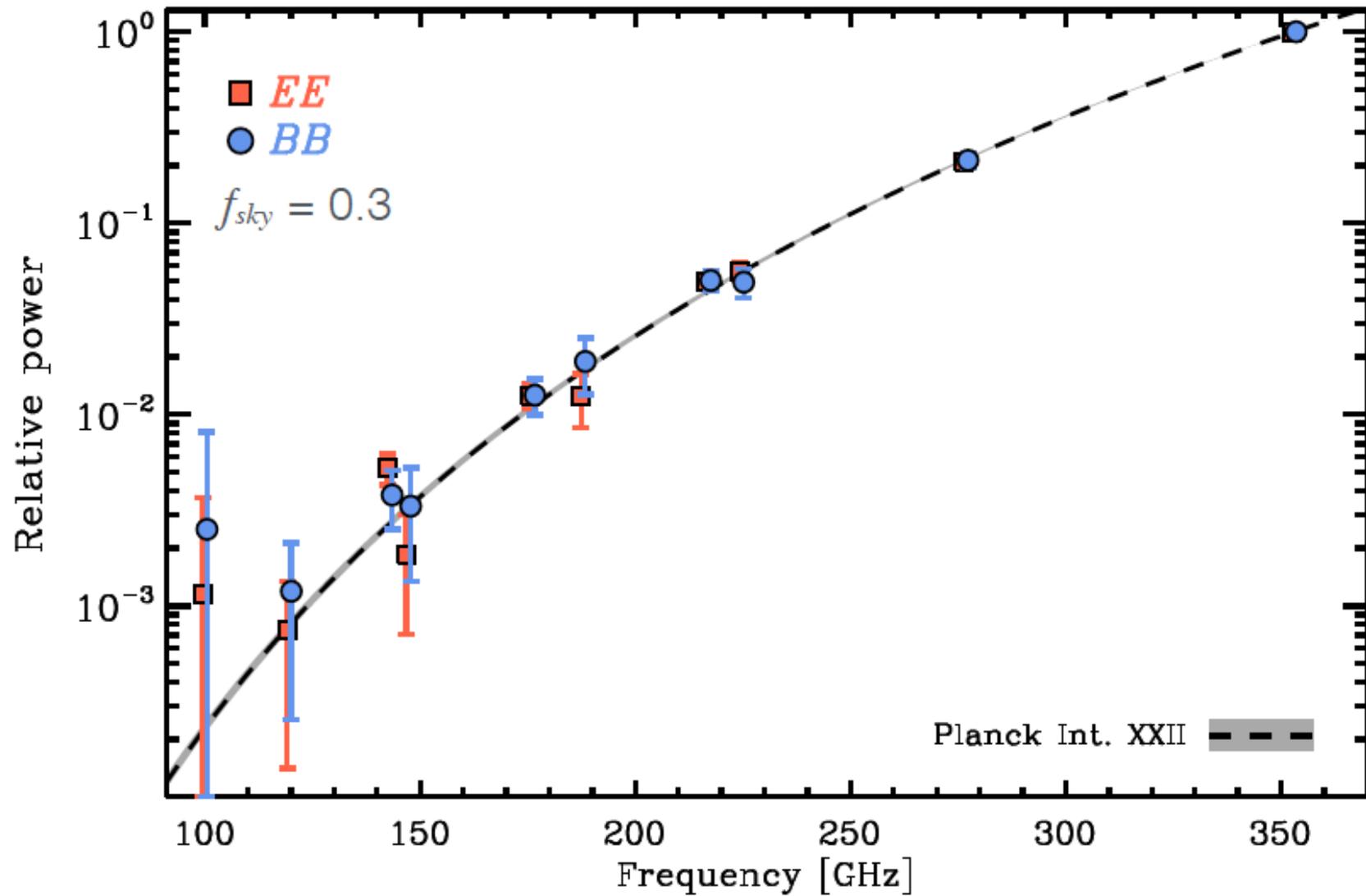
[Planck Intermediate XXX 2014, arXiv 1409.5738]



- ★ The dust polarized emission produces twice as much *EE* than *BB*
- ★ The existing dust models give  $BB/EE \sim 1$

# Amplitude as a function of the observing frequency?

[Planck Intermediate XXX 2014, arXiv 1409.5738]  
[Planck Intermediate XXII 2014, arXiv 1405.0874]

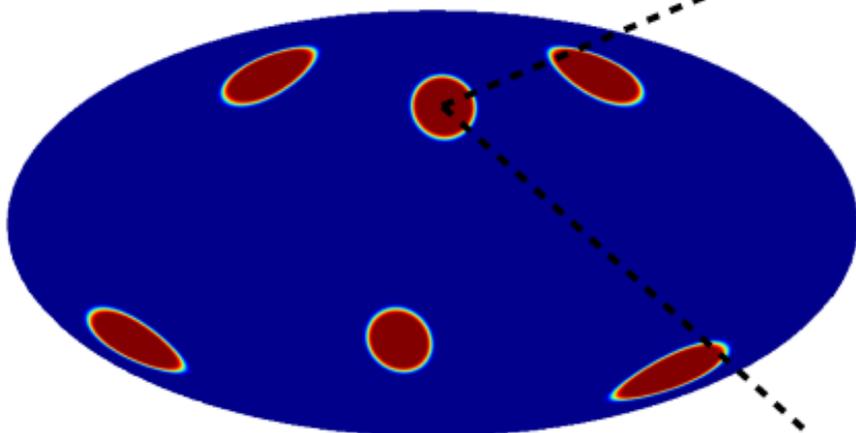


★ The spectra amplitudes follow the frequency dependence of the dust polarization for both *EE* and *BB*

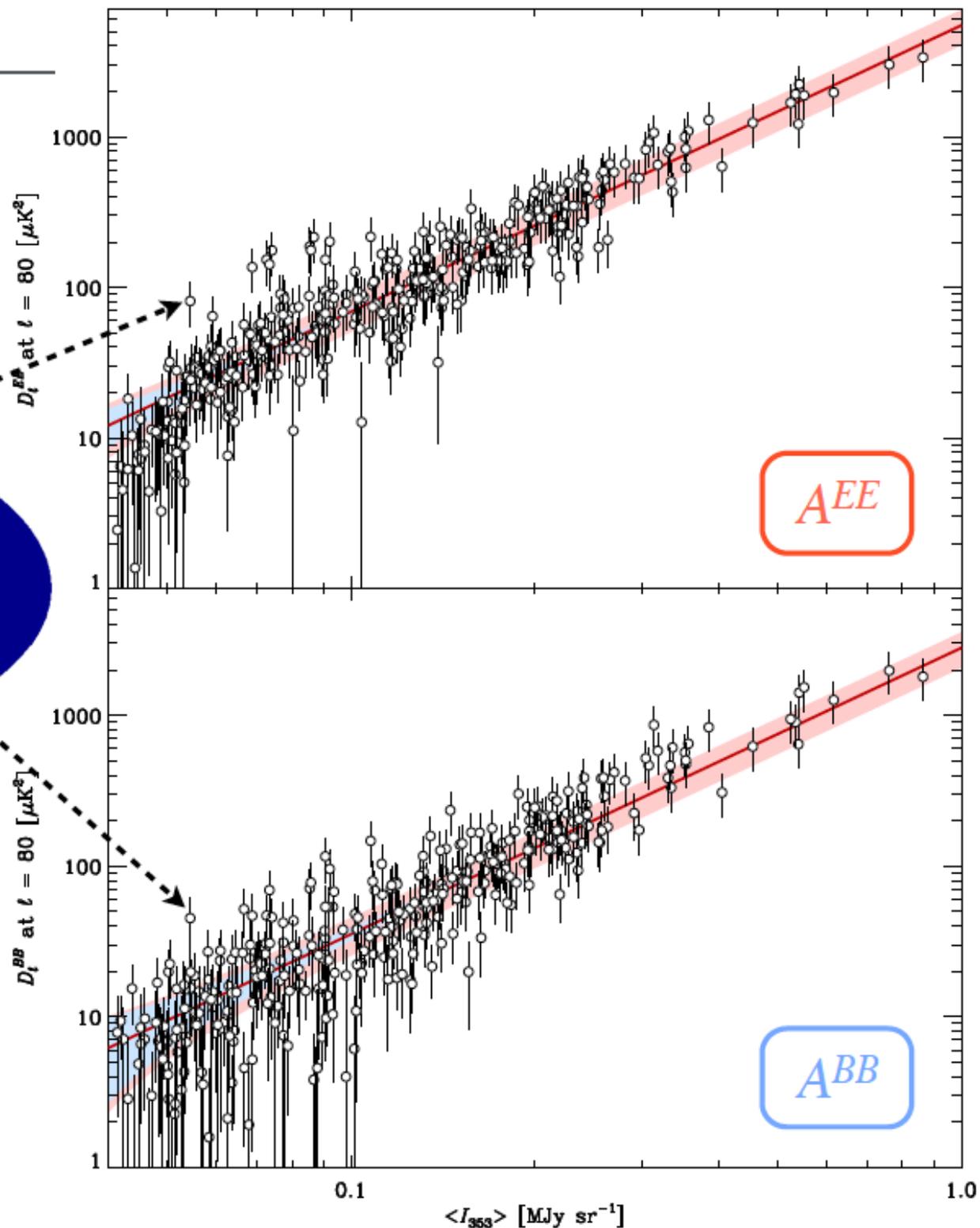
# Statistics on 400 deg<sup>2</sup>

[Planck Intermediate XXX 2014, arXiv 1409.5738]

★ 352 patches with  $|b| > 35^\circ$



- ★ Empirical law as a function of the mean dust intensity is also derived for these patches
- ★ The dispersion is higher than it would be expected for a Gaussian process



Planck observations of light emitted by interstellar dust are revealing a new sky for Galactic astrophysics and cosmology.

These maps provide astrophysicists with the most detailed view yet of the Galactic magnetic field, unveiling its role in creating the filamentary, web-like structures where stars form.

The spectral dependence of the polarized signal from dust furthers our understanding of the nature of interstellar dust.

Planck data characterize dust polarization as a foreground to CMB polarization.

The CMB B-mode signal from primordial gravity waves will not be detected without removal of the dust polarization with high accuracy and confidence. This requirement ties the search for primordial B-modes to the astrophysics of the dusty magnetized interstellar medium.

The scientific results that we present today are a product of the Planck Collaboration, including individuals from more than 100 scientific institutes in Europe, the USA and Canada



planck



Planck is a project of the European Space Agency, with instruments provided by two scientific Consortia funded by ESA member states (in particular the lead countries: France and Italy) with contributions from NASA (USA), and telescope reflectors provided in a collaboration between ESA and a scientific Consortium led and funded by Denmark.