

# Understanding of Linear Dust Polarization

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On behalf of

Grain Alignment and Dust Evolution Physics with Polarisation (GRADE-POL)

Le N. Tram (PI), Thiem Hoang (co-PI), Alex Lazarian, B-G Andersson,

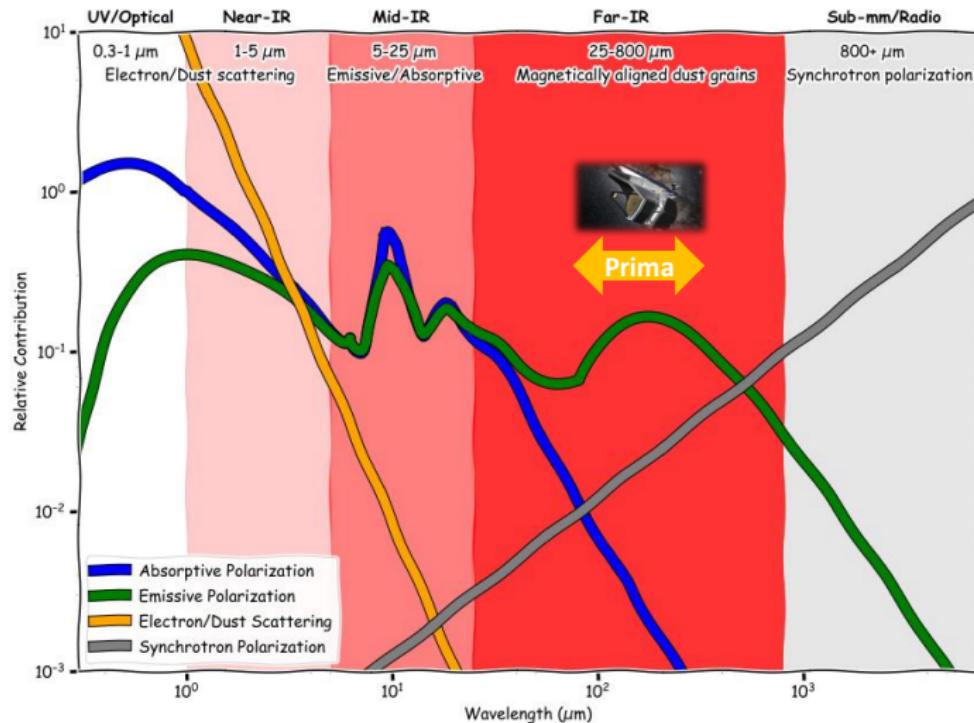
Enrique Lopez-Rodriguez, Thurshara Pillai, Archana Soam, Daniel Seifried, Brandon

Hensley, Pham N. Diep, Nguyen C. Giang, Lapo Fanciullo, Nguyen B. Ngoc

**PRIMA conference, Marseille, France**



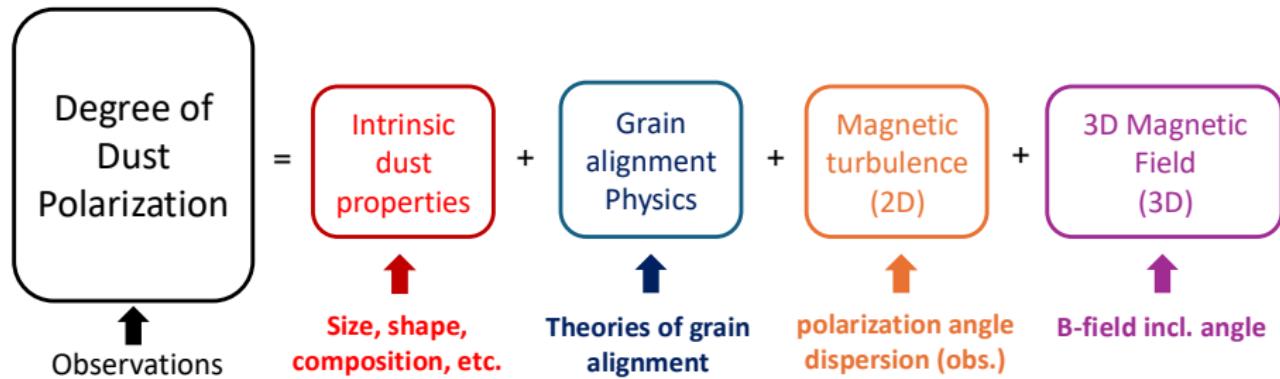
# Polarization Spectrum (toy model)



Modification from E. Lopez-Rodriguez's toy model



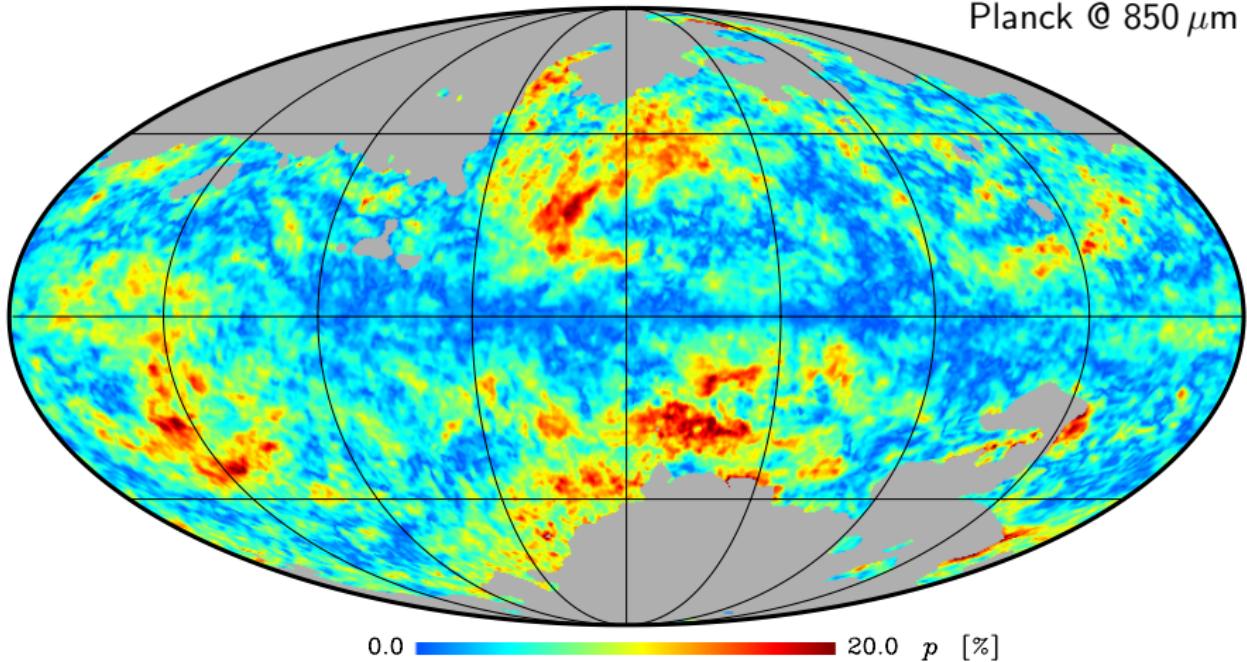
# Dust Polarization to Grain Properties + 3D-Bfield



- Dust Polarization provides insights into **dust's physical properties and compositions**
- Dust Polarization provides insights into **3D-magnetic fields**
- Understanding of physics of alignment mechanisms is the key



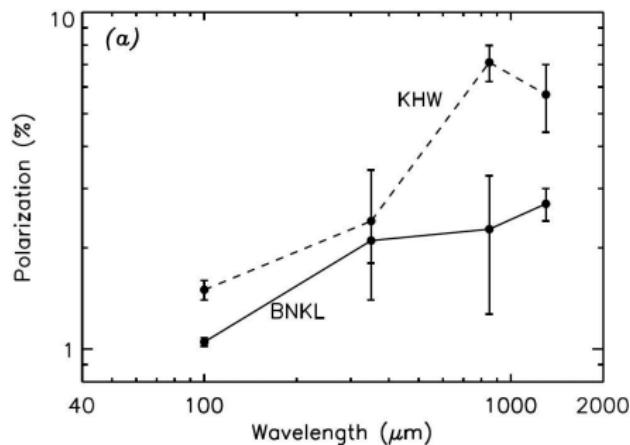
# Polarized Thermal Dust Emission seen by Planck



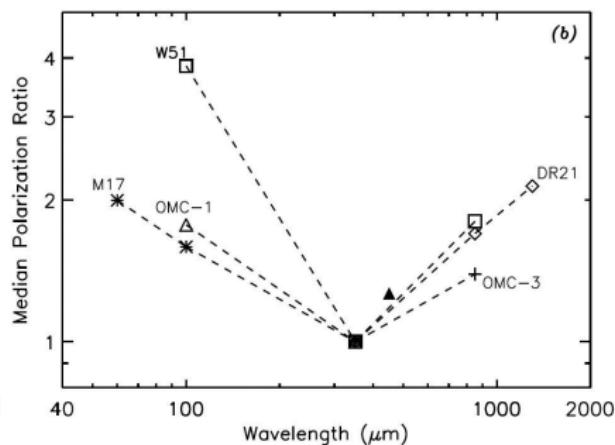
Planck collaboration XIX (2015)

# Polarized Thermal Dust Emission in multiple wavelengths

**Two cloud cores in OMC**  
(monotonic-increasing spectra)



**Different Clouds**  
(V-shape spectra)



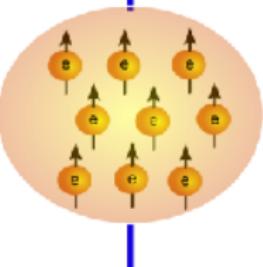
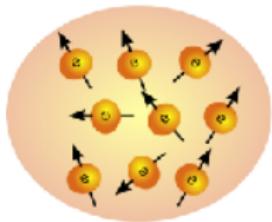
see Hilderbrand et al. 2000, Vaillancourt et al. 2008



# Alignment Mechanisms<sup>1</sup> in a Nutshell (Ideal case)

## Internal alignment

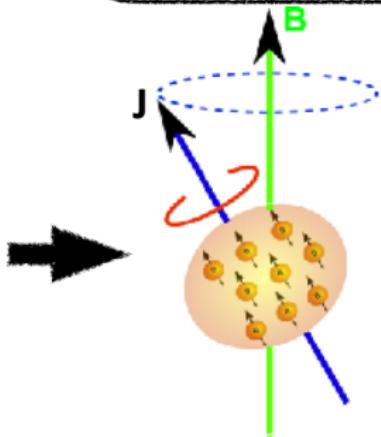
"Right" alignment  $\rightarrow J \parallel a_1$



Stationary:  $J=0$

rotating:  $J \neq 0$

## External alignment



<sup>1</sup> Only considering paramagnetic grains (e.g., astrosilicate)  
Disregarding diamagnetic grains (e.g., carbonaceous)



# Alignment Mechanisms of Grains – What do we know?

## History of Grain Alignment Theory



1949, 1951

paramagnetic  
relaxation

Davis-Greenstein



E Purcell

1979

spin-up by  
pinwheel torques

L Spitzer

1999

thermal  
flipping

Lazarian &amp; Hoang

1976 - 1996 - 2007 –

RAdiative Torque  
(RAT) alignment

Dolginov &amp; Mitraphanov (1976)

Draine &amp; Weingartner (96, 97)

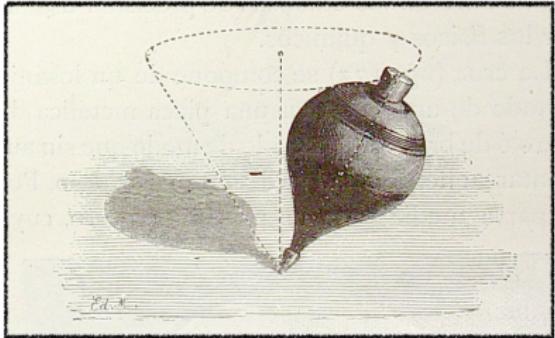
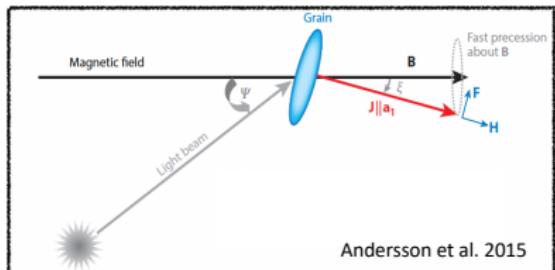
Lazarian &amp; Hoang (2007)

Hoang & Lazarian (2008, 2009ab,  
2014)Hoang & Lazarian (2016):  
unified theory

Adopted from Thiem Hoang presentation



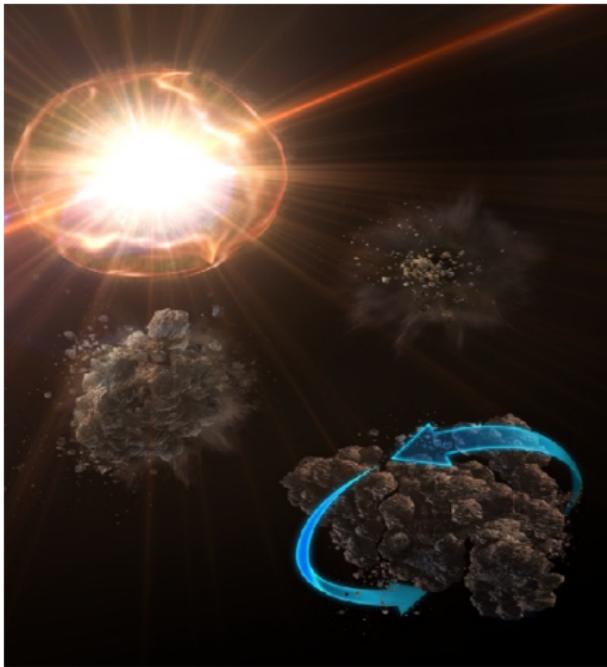
# Radiative Torque Alignment (RAT-A) Theory



- Anisotropic radiation field causes irregular grains to rotate (Dolginov & Mitrofanov, 1976).
- Rotation damped by gas collisions and dust re-emission
- Internal alignment due to Barnett relaxation (Barnett, 1909)
- Alignment with external B-field due to DG mechanism and "F" component of RATs.
- RAT's predictions are successfully tested by observations  
(e.g., reviews in Andersson et al. 2015  
Tram & Hoang 2022)



# Radiative Torque Disruption (RAT-D) Mechanism



**Table 2 | Characteristic timescales of dust destruction by different mechanisms**

Mechanisms	Timescales (yr)
RATD	$1.0a_{-5}^{-0.7}\lambda_{0.5}^{1.7}U_6^{-1}S_{\max,9}^{1/2}$
Thermal sputtering	$9.8 \times 10^3 a_{-5} n_1^{-1} T_6^{-1/2} (0.1 Y_{\text{sp}})$
Non-thermal sputtering	$5.7 \times 10^3 \hat{\rho} a_{-5} n_1^{-1} v_{\text{drift},3}^{-1} (0.1 Y_{\text{sp}})$
Grain–grain collision	$7.6 \times 10^4 \hat{\rho} a_{-5} n_1^{-1} v_{\text{drift},3}^{-1}$

$a_{-5} = a/(10^{-5} \text{ cm})$ ,  $U_6 = U/10^6$ ,  $S_{\max,9} = S_{\max}/(10^9 \text{ erg cm}^{-3})$ ,  $n_1 = n_{\text{H}}/(10 \text{ cm}^{-3})$ ,  $T_6 = T_{\text{gas}}/(10^6 \text{ K})$ ,  $v_{\text{drift},3} = v_{\text{drift}}/(10^3 \text{ km s}^{-1})$ , and  $Y_{\text{sp}}$  is the sputtering yield.

- RAT-D: large grains → smaller species
- RAT-D is far more efficient for  $a > 0.1 \mu\text{m}$  and  $U \gg 1$
- Disruption efficiency depends on the gas density, radiation strength, and grain porosity
- Disruption affects on the largest grains → modification of the grain-size distribution

Hoang, Tram et al. 2019, Nature Astronomy

Hoang, 2020

Lazarian & Hoang, 2021

Tram & Hoang, 2022

RAT paradigm = RAT-A + RAT-D



# Novel Computational Models for Dust Polarization

(First part)

DUSTPOL-PY<sup>2</sup>  
 (0-D and 1-D and 2-D)  
 (Tram et al. 2021,2024,2025)

- B-RAT paradigm
- //
- multi-wavelength
- perfect alignment (ideal)
- uniform B-field (POS and inclined)
- (simple) radiative transfer
- pol. degree
- single-dish obs.

(Second part)

POLARIS<sup>+3</sup>  
 (2-D and 3-D)  
 (Giang, Hoang, Kim & Tram, 2023)

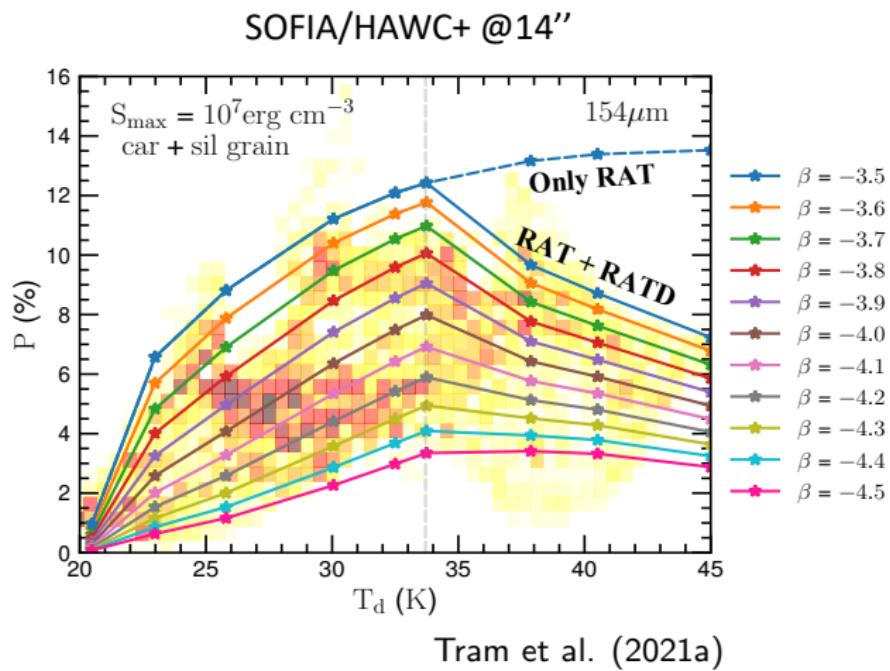
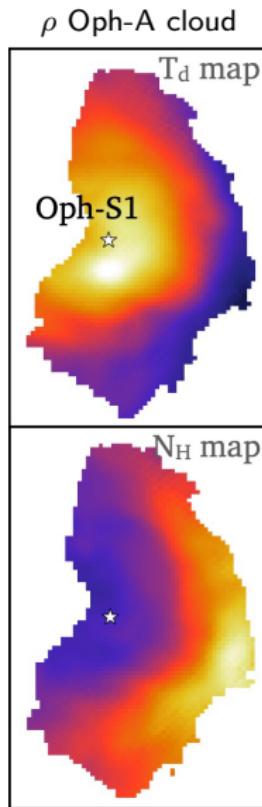
- B-/k- RAT paradigm
- dust self-scattering
- multi-wavelength
- IA and EA physics (more realistic)
- arbitrary B-field (e.g., from MHD)
- (complex) radiative transfer
- pol. degree & pol. angle
- single-dish and interferometry obs.

<sup>2</sup><https://github.com/lengoctrام/DustPOL-py>

<sup>3</sup>Initially developed by Reissl et al. 2016, Update version: [link](#)

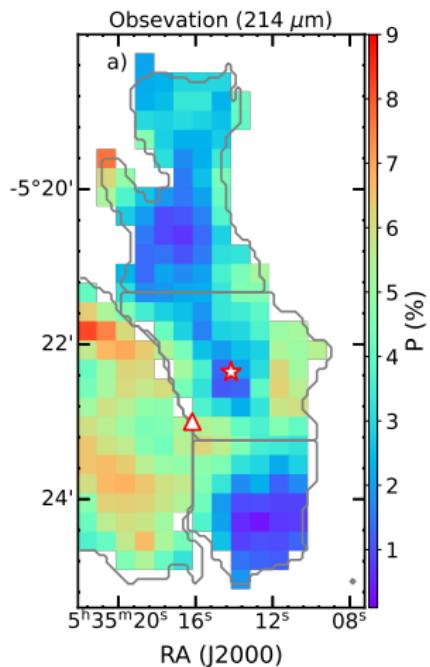


# Dust Polarization in Ophiuchus: RAT-D effect

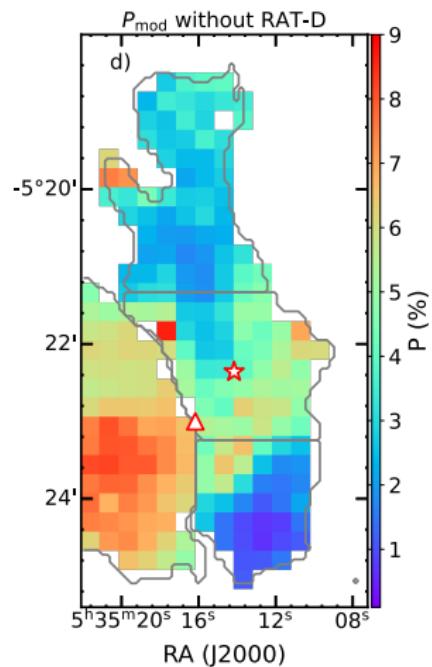


# Dust Polarization in Orion: RAT-D and B-field tangling

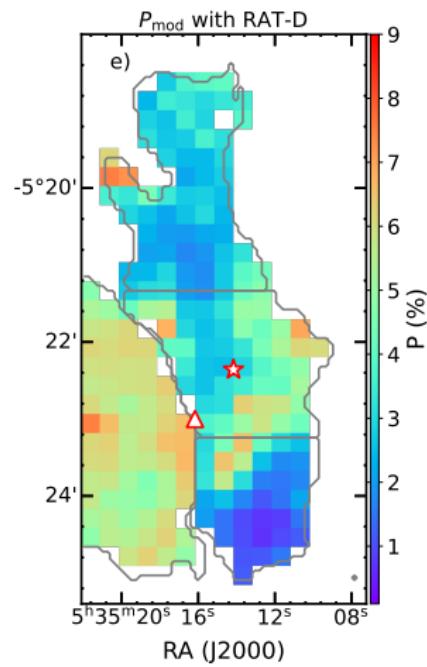
HAWC+ observation



RAT-A + B-tangling



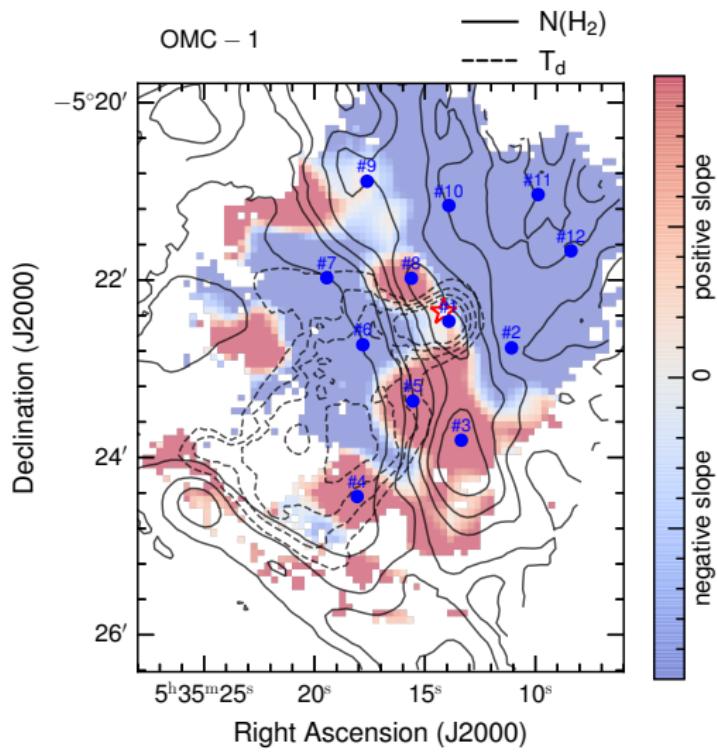
RAT-A+RAT-D+B-tangling



Ngoc, Diep, Hoang &amp; Tram (2024)



# Multiple-wavelength Dust Polarization: OMC-1



Tram et al. 2024

- pol. spectrum

- 54, 89, 154, 214  $\mu\text{m}$  with SOFIA/HAWC+ (Chuss+2019; Michail+2021)
- 450, and 850  $\mu\text{m}$  with JCMT/Pol-2 (Hwang+21)

- Spectrum slope: straight-line fitting ...

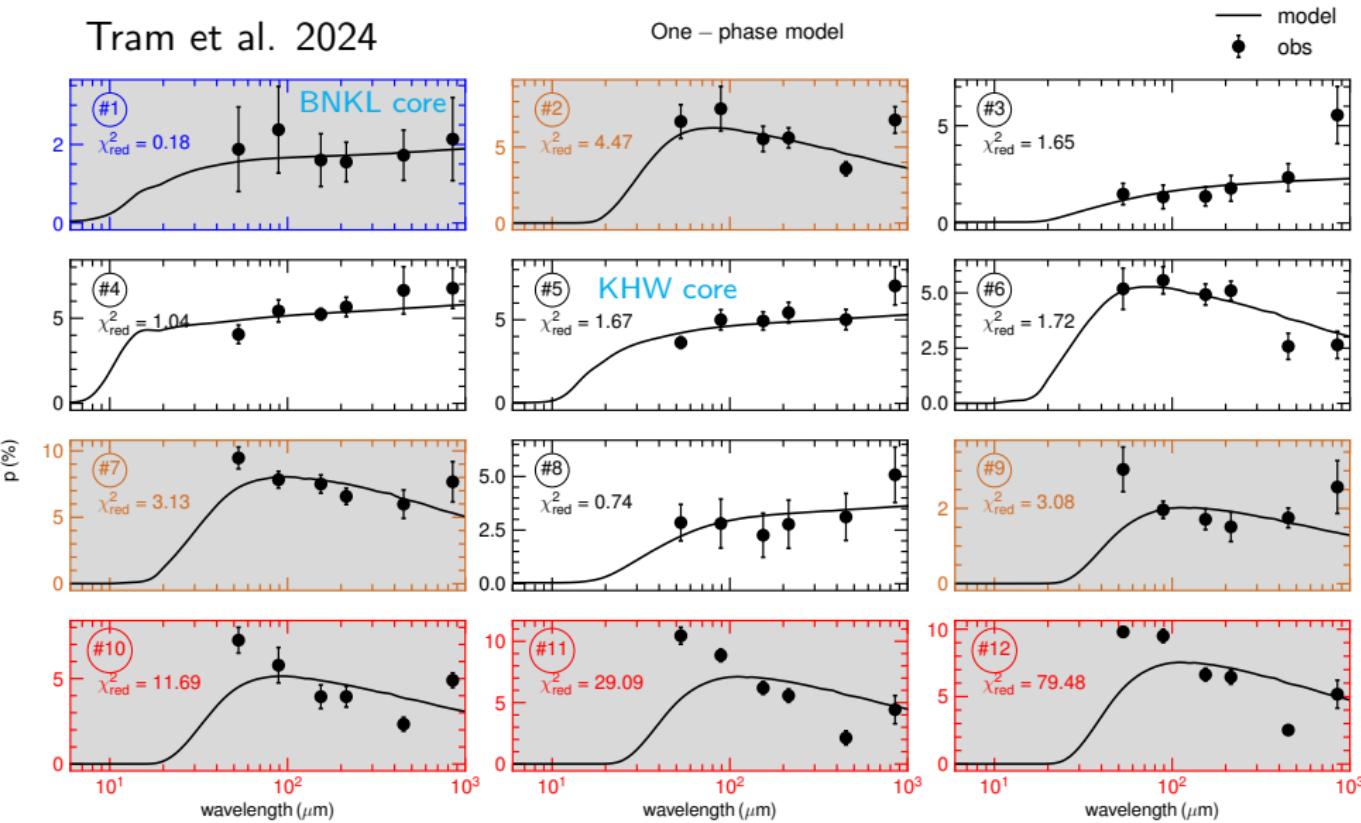
- Raising spectrum in dense region

- Falling spectrum in warm region

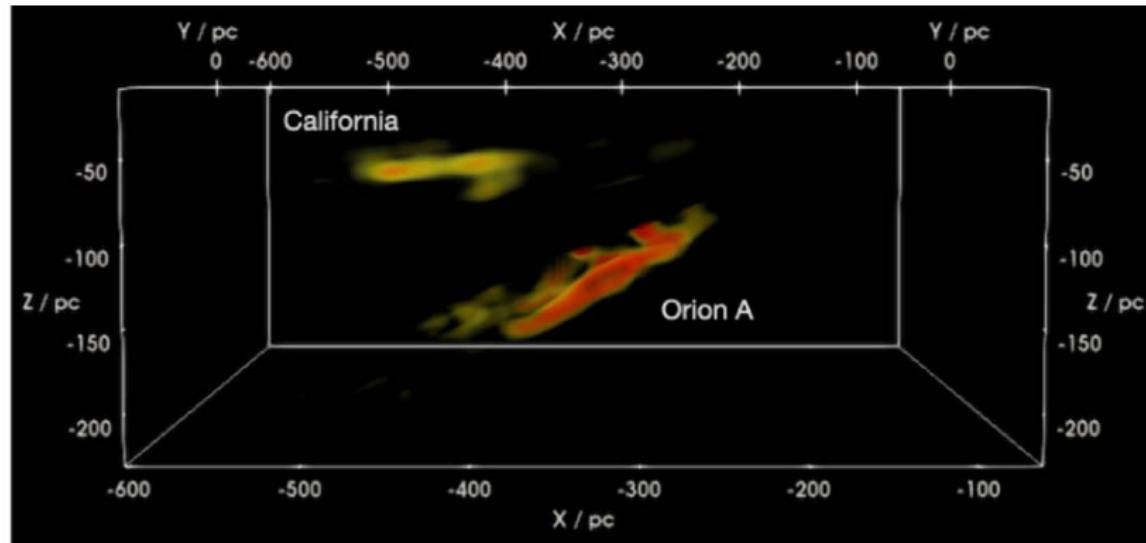


# Multiple-wavelength Dust Polarization: One-layer Dust

Tram et al. 2024



# Multiple Dust Layers toward Orion-A



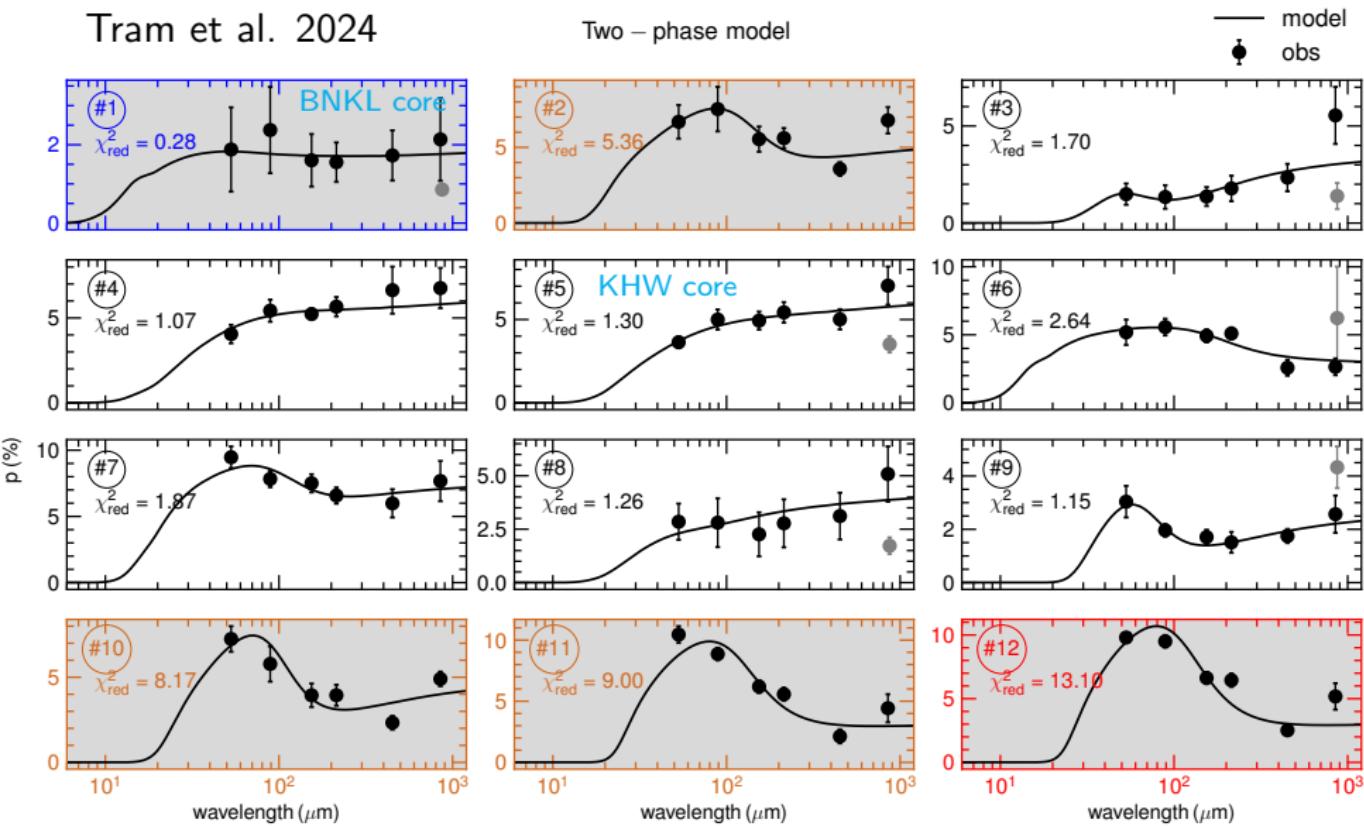
Rezaei & Kainulainen, 2022

- 3D Structure of OMC-A in dust shows "two dust layers"  
(Rezaei & Kainulainen, 2022)
- Potential contribution of multiple-dust components in  $p(\%)$ !

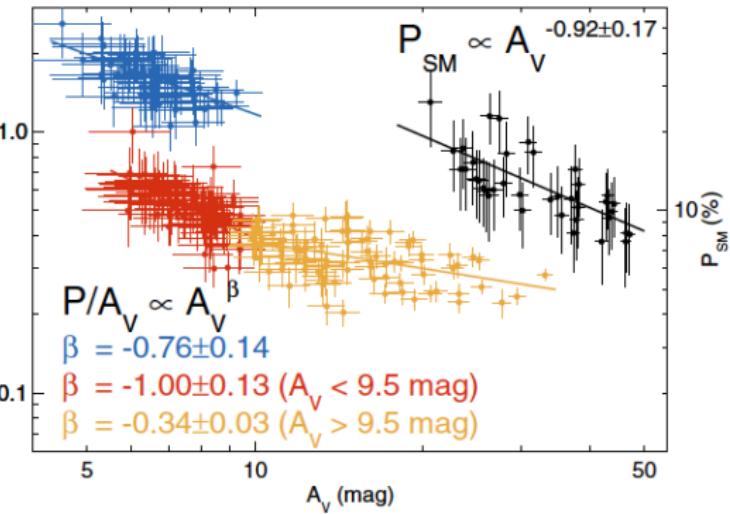
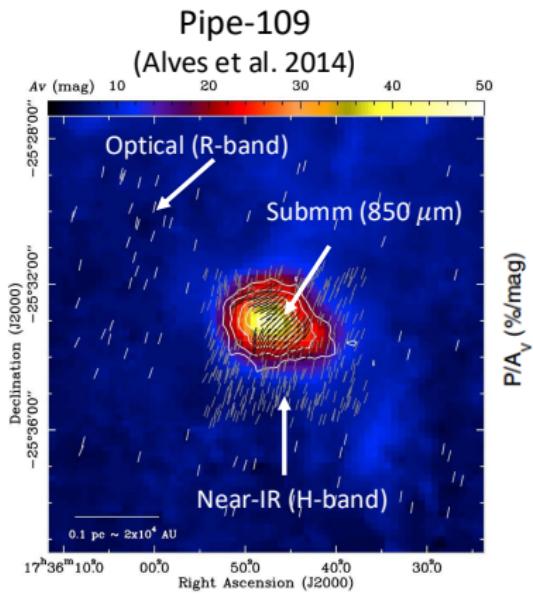


# Multiple-wavelength Dust Polarization: Multi-layers Dust

Tram et al. 2024



# Dust Polarization in Starless Cores: Grain growth effect

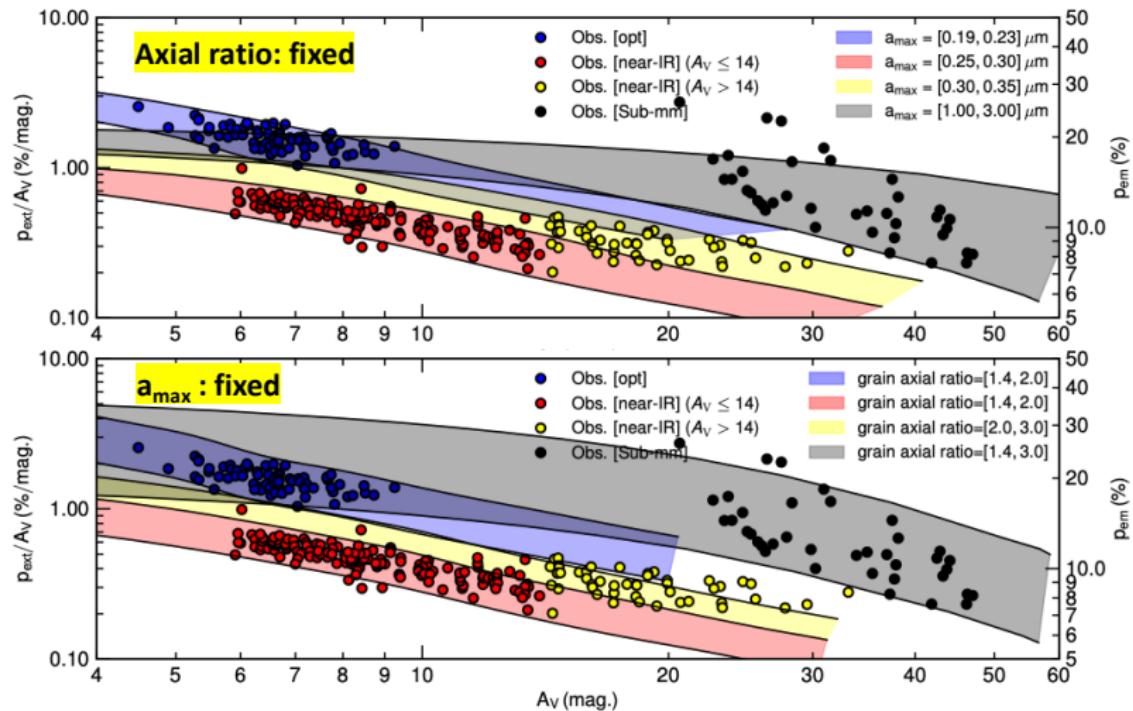


- R-band and H-band: OPD/LNA (in Brazil)
- 850  $\mu$ m: APEX/PolKa (in Chile)

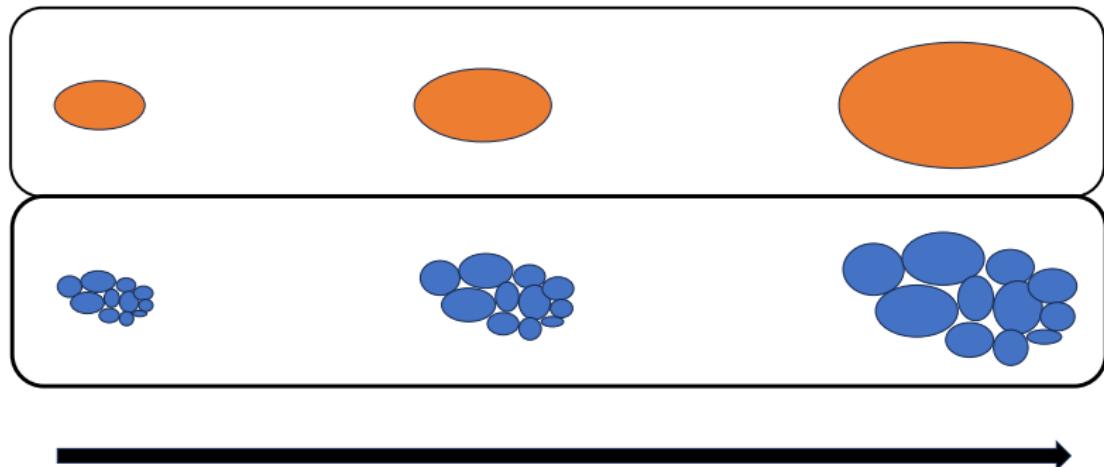


# Dust Polarization in Starless Cores: Grain growth effect

DustPOL-py in 3D (Tram et al. 2025)



# Anisotropic grain growth !? (first evidence – biased speaking)

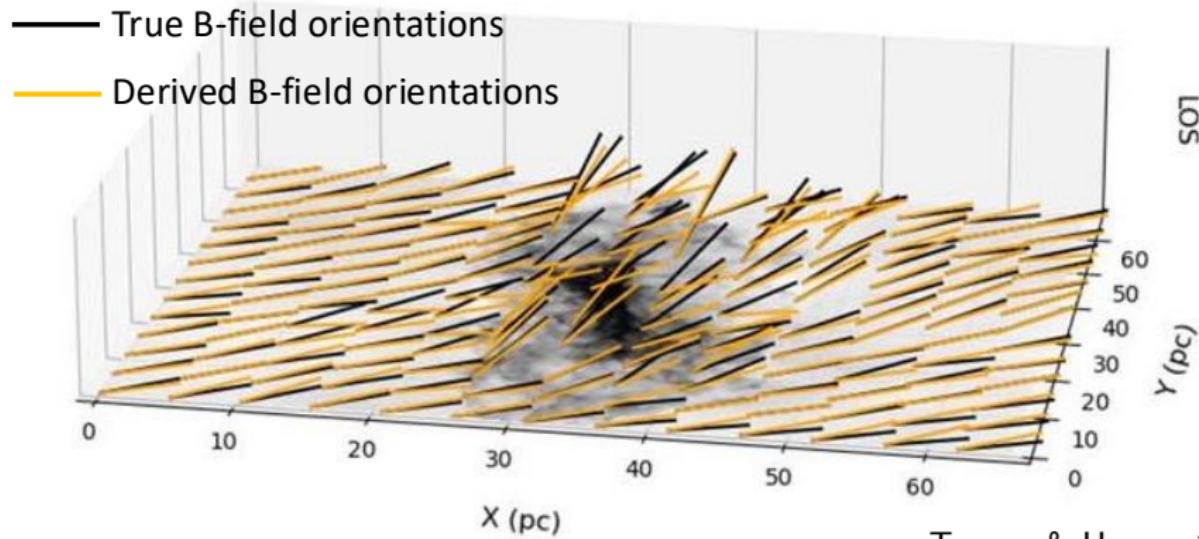


Universal?

- Anisotropic grain growth induced by magnetic grain alignment
- Icy mental?
- Compact vs. Porous vs. Composition: PRIMA + JWST



# Dust Polarization to Characterizations 3D Magnetic Field



Truong & Hoang, 2025

- pol. angle → plane-of-sky B-field (2D)
- pol. degree → B-field's incl. angle (3D)  
*(starlight + thermal pol.)*



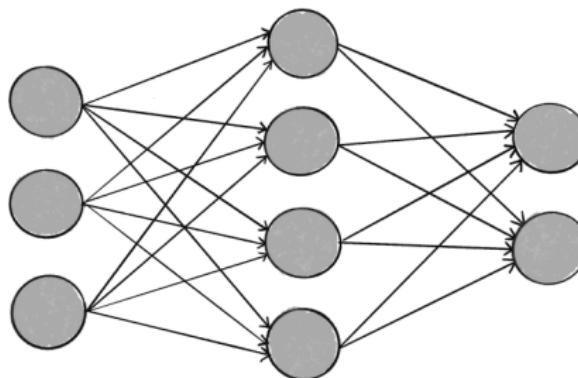
# Dust Polarization to Dust Properties and 3D B-fields

Input

Deep learning models  
(Neural network, CNN, Vision transformer)

Predictive Output

Feed-forwarding



3D B-fields  
( $\gamma_{\text{obs}}$ )

at once

Dust properties  
( $a_{\max}, s$ )

Back-propagation

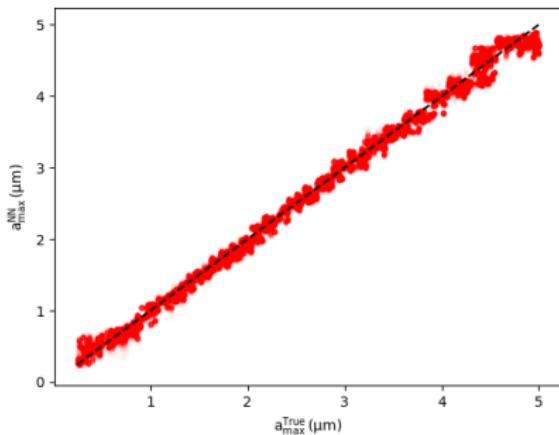
DustPOL-py

Bao Truong (PhD at KASI, South Korea)

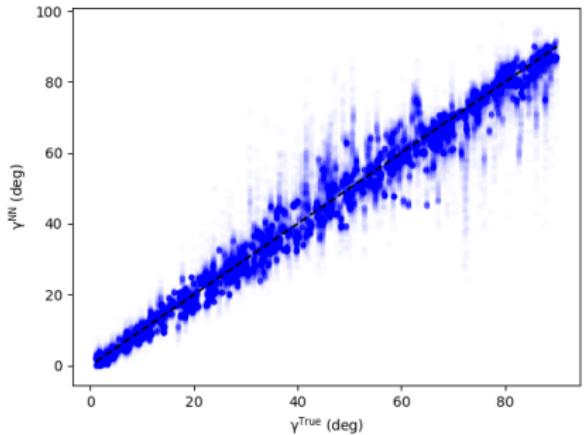
# Dust Polarization to Dust Properties and 3D B-fields

Preliminary

$a_{\max}^{\text{output}}$  vs.  $a_{\max}^{\text{input}}$  @ 850  $\mu\text{m}$



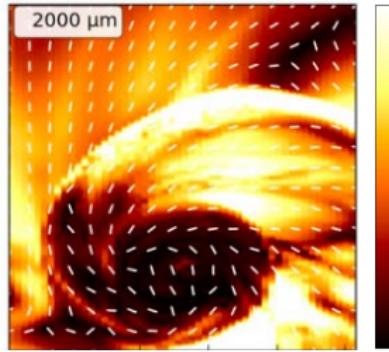
$\gamma_{\text{3D-Bfield}}^{\text{output}}$  vs.  $\gamma_{\text{3D-Bfield}}^{\text{input}}$  @ 850  $\mu\text{m}$



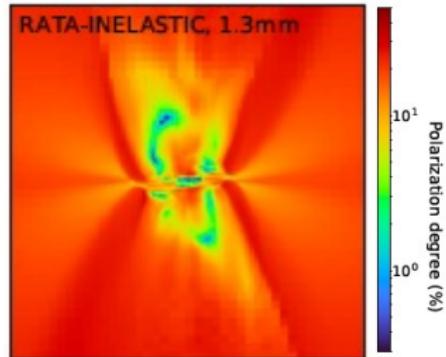
# Dust Polarization in YSOs

Giang & Hoang, 2024

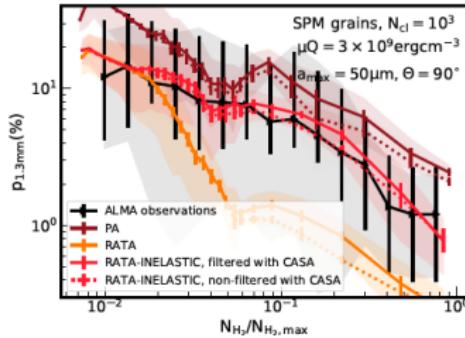
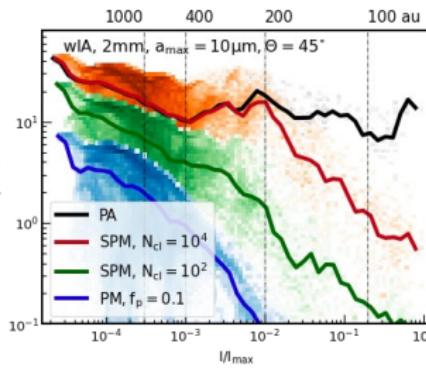
Low-mass YSOs



Intermediate-mass YSOs



Giang et al. 2024



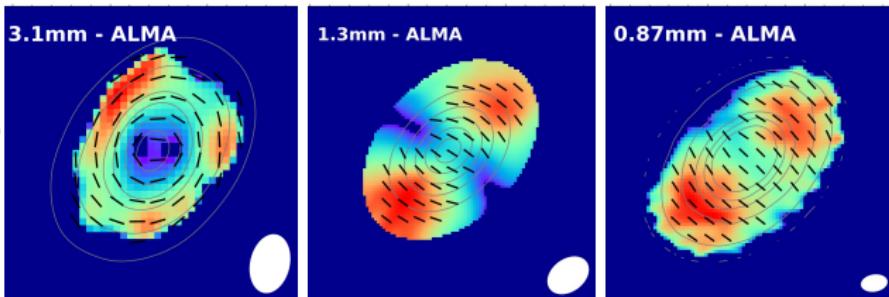
- SPM grains  
(ion inclusions!)
- Complex alignment
- Large size



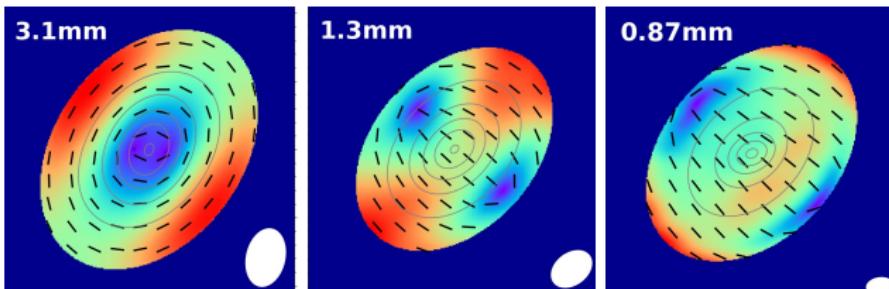
# Dust Polarization in PPDs

Smooth physical profiles for disk

Observations  
(ALMA)



Simulations  
(POLARIS+)



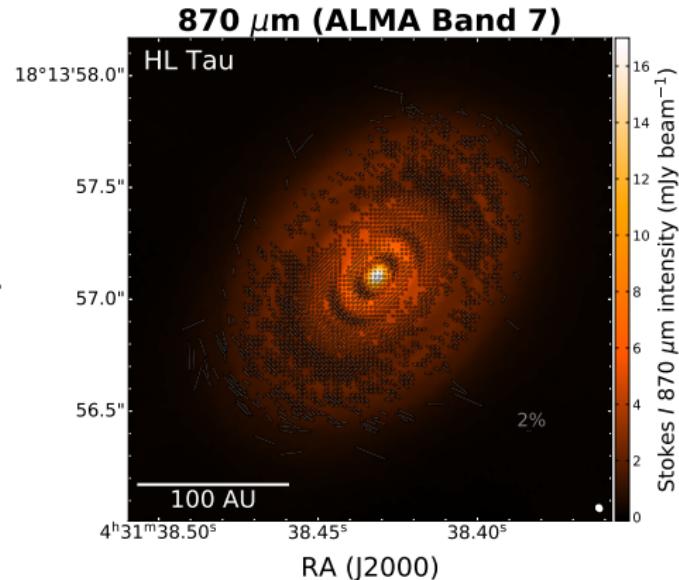
Combination of RATs and self-scattering

Nguyen Tat (incl. Tram) et al. 2024



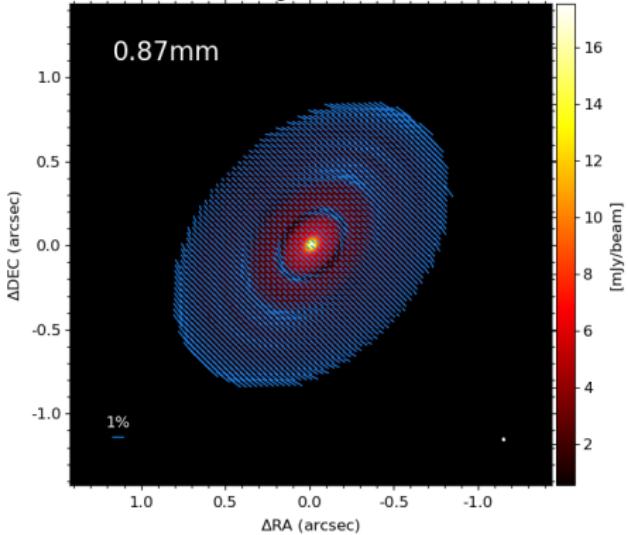
# Dust Polarization in PPDs

Ring/Grat physical profiles for disk



Stephens et al. 2023

**POLARIS synthetic Model**



Nguyen Tat (incl. Tram) et al. 2024



# Do we completely understand dust polarization?

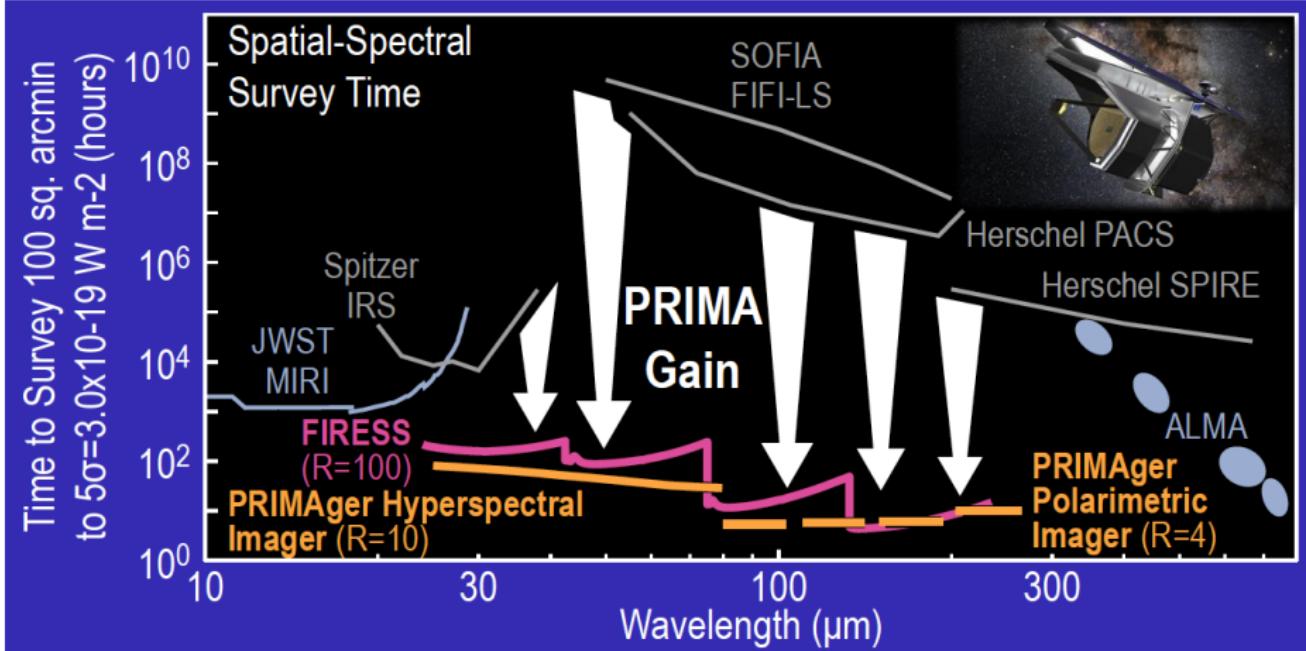
My answer: **NOT YET**

- ① Simple DustPOL-py as a promising tool for understanding single-dish observations
- ② Sophisticated POLARIS+ as a promising tool for interferometric observations

More works ...

- ① More FIR-polarization observations in syns. with  
UV (PUFFINS, POLLUX), NIR (Keck, ...), Sub-mm (POL-2), MM (NIKA-2, ATLast, ...)
- ② Dust polarization spectrum, extinction curve and SED
- ③ Grain properties in extra-galaxies?
- ④ Dynamics and alignment of fluffy/aggregated grains (Tram et al., in progress...)
- ⑤ Rotation and Disruption by Mechanical Torque (MET) (Tram et al., in progress ...)
- ⑥ Alignment of carbonaceous grains (Hoang, Minh & Tram 2023, , more works required ...)
- ⑦ Complex grain compositions proposed from lab experiments (Demyk et al. 2017a,b)  
...
- ∞ Not known yet!





Thank you for your attention!

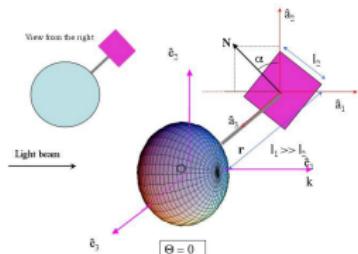


# Back ups

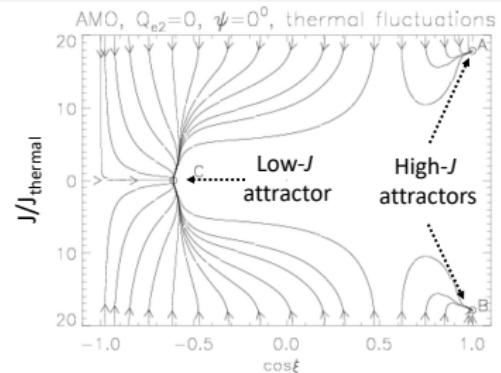
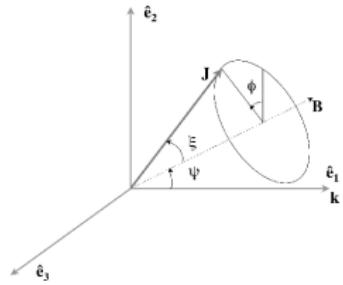


# Modelings on Rotation of Interstellar Dust Grains by Radiation

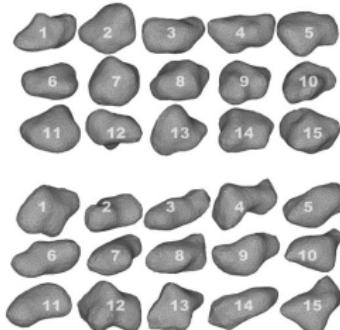
## Analytical model (AMO)



Lazarian & Hoang, 2007a

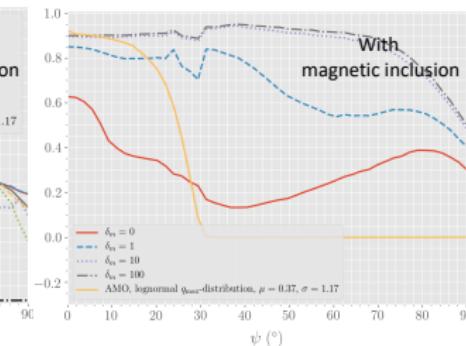
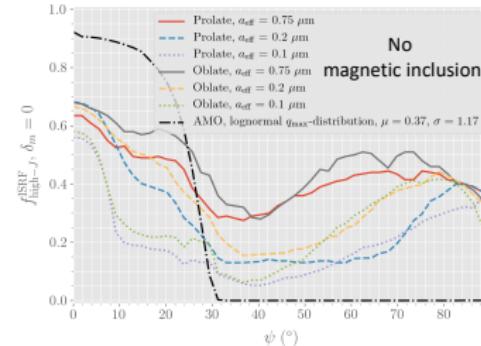


## Numerical model

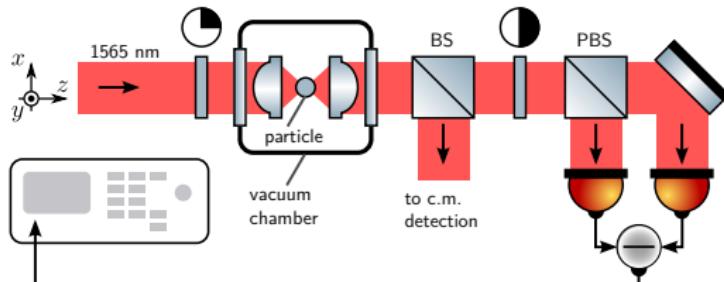


Herranen et al. 2021

## Fraction at high- $J$



# Lab. Experiments on Supra-thermal Rotation of Grains



Ahn et al. 2018  
Reimann et al. 2018

