

# Probing the Initial Conditions of Massive Star Formation with JCMT

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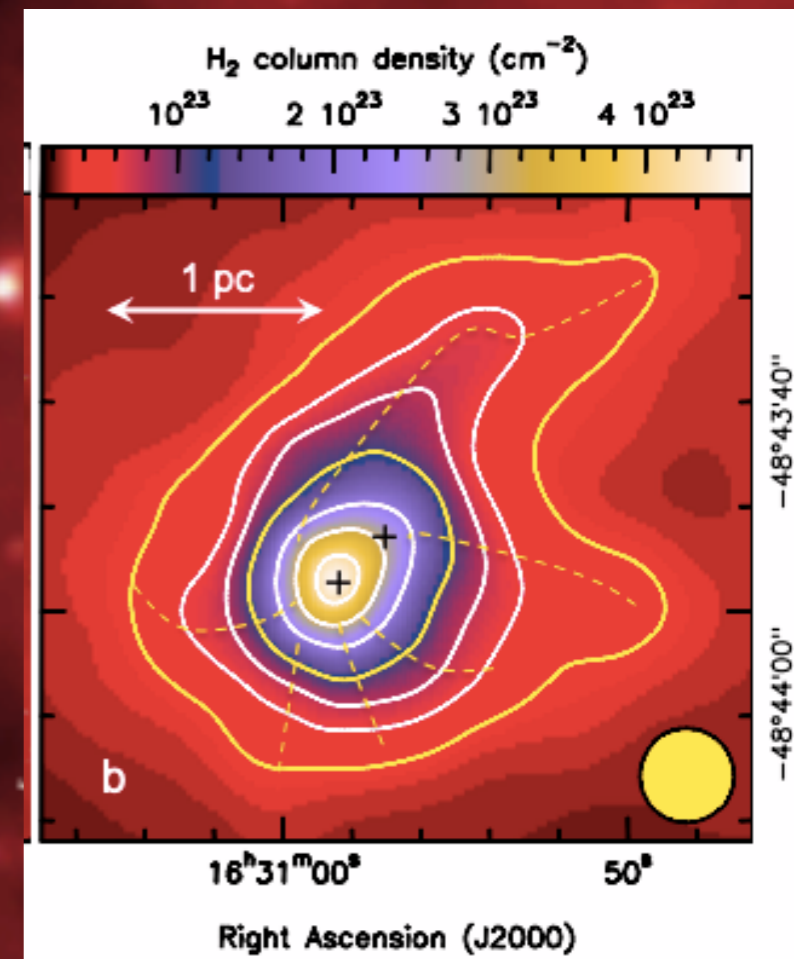


*JCMT User Meeting, Taipei, Nov, 2019*

**IRDC (Infrared Dark Cloud) —**

**Cold & Dense**

**The Initial Condition of Star Formation**



**First Detection: Pérault et al (1996) with ISO**  
**Typical Distance: 4 kpc**

**Peak Column Density:  $3 \times 10^{22}$  cm<sup>-2</sup>**

**Temperature: <30 K**

**Many of them are massive!**

**Spitzer 8  $\mu$ m image**  
**Credit: Nicolas Peretto**

# One Massive IRDC SDC335

2.4 pc

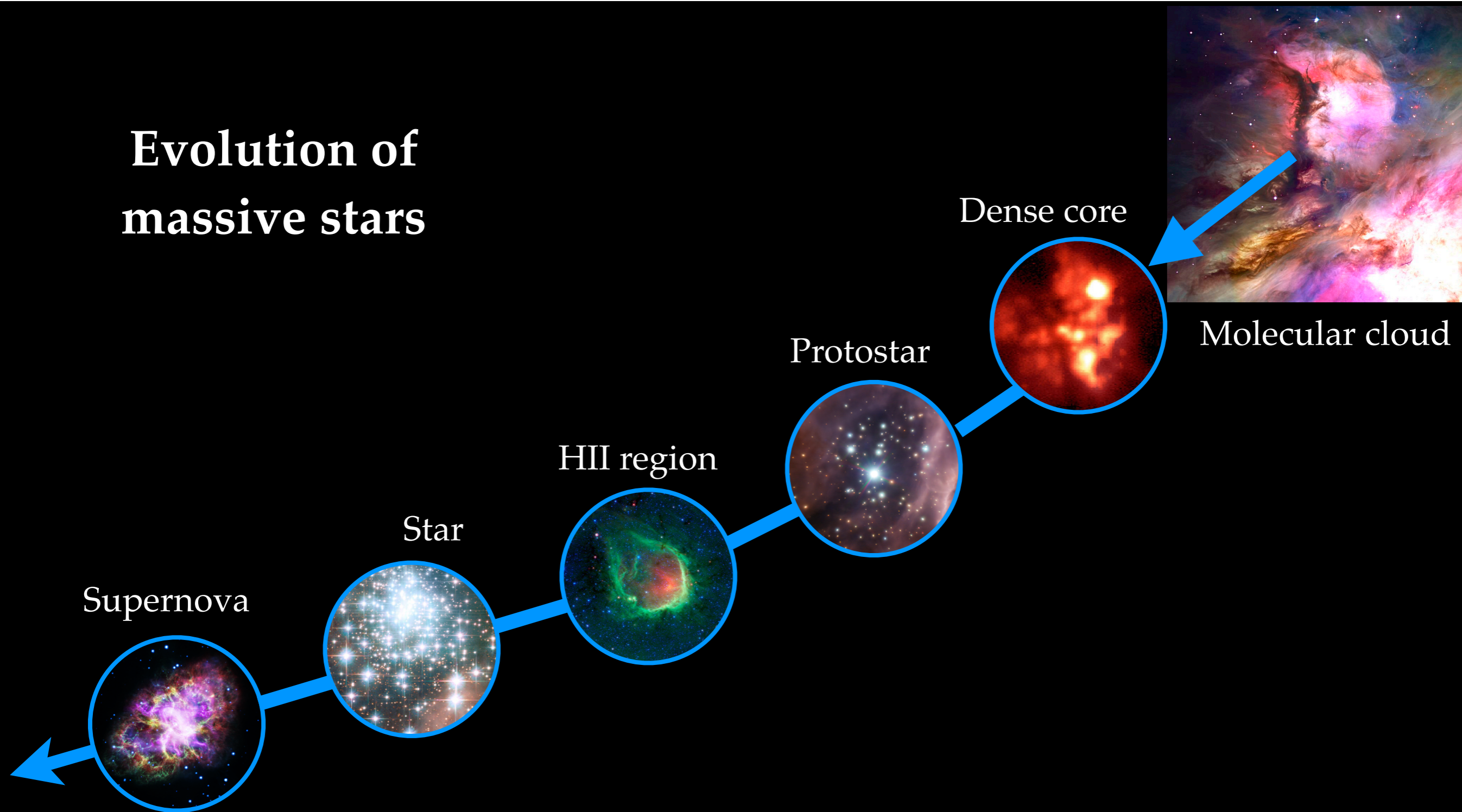
3.25 kpc

$5500 \pm 800 M_{\odot}$

**Global Collapsing**

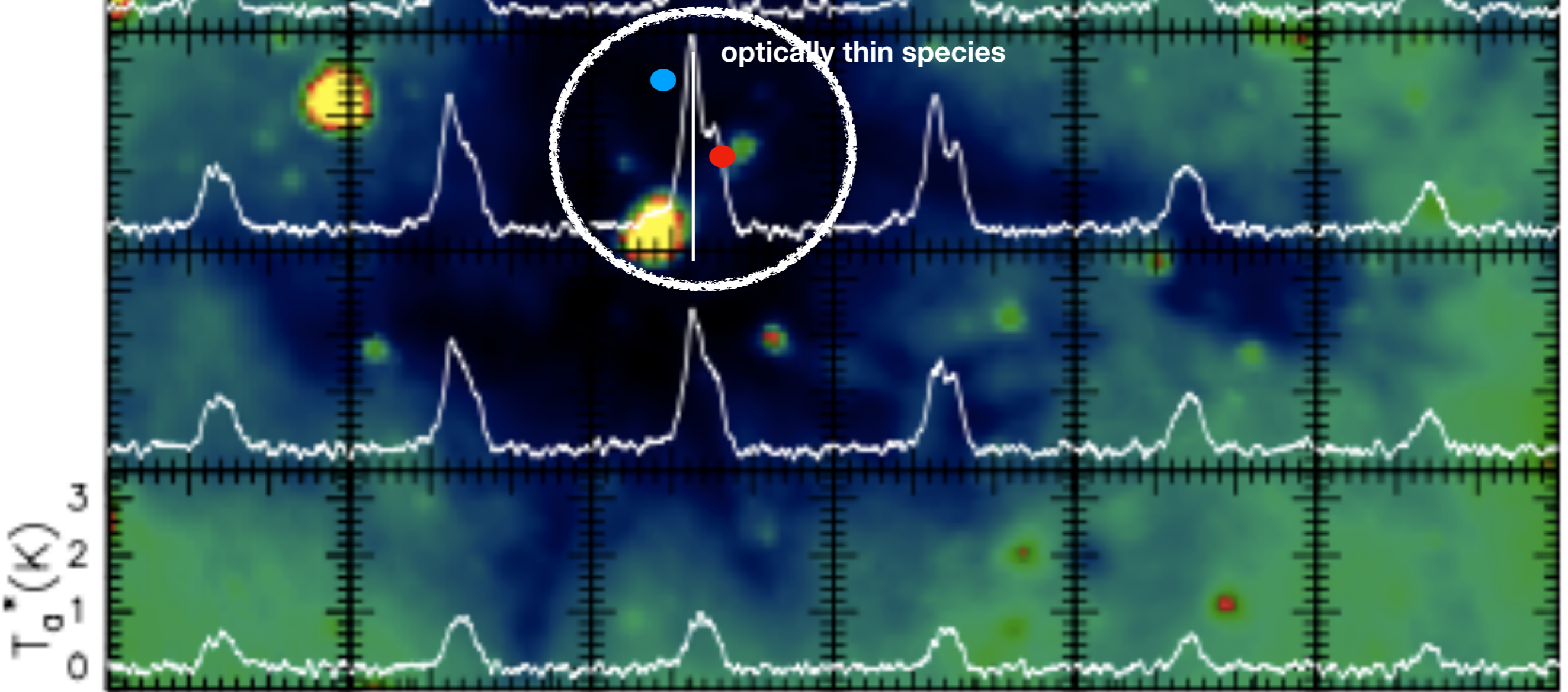
Spitzer 8  $\mu\text{m}$  image  
Credit: Nicolas Peretto

# Evolution of massive stars



A collapsing core  
creates excitation temperature gradient.

Observing in optically thick molecular lines  
— Blue-shifted asymmetric line profile



-60 -50 -40 -30  
Velocity (km/s)

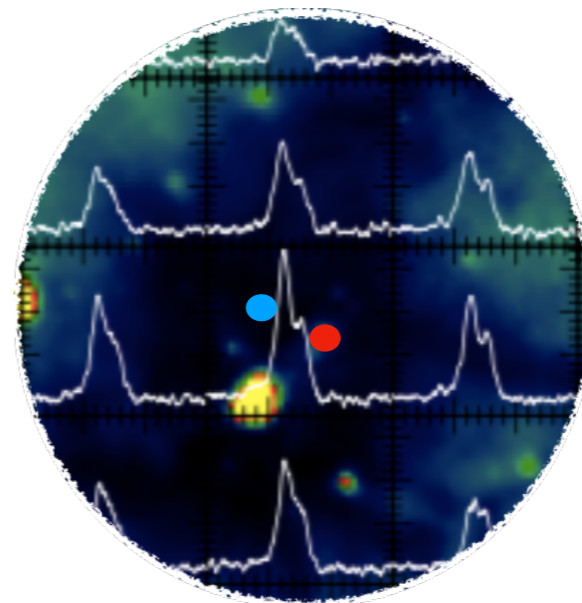
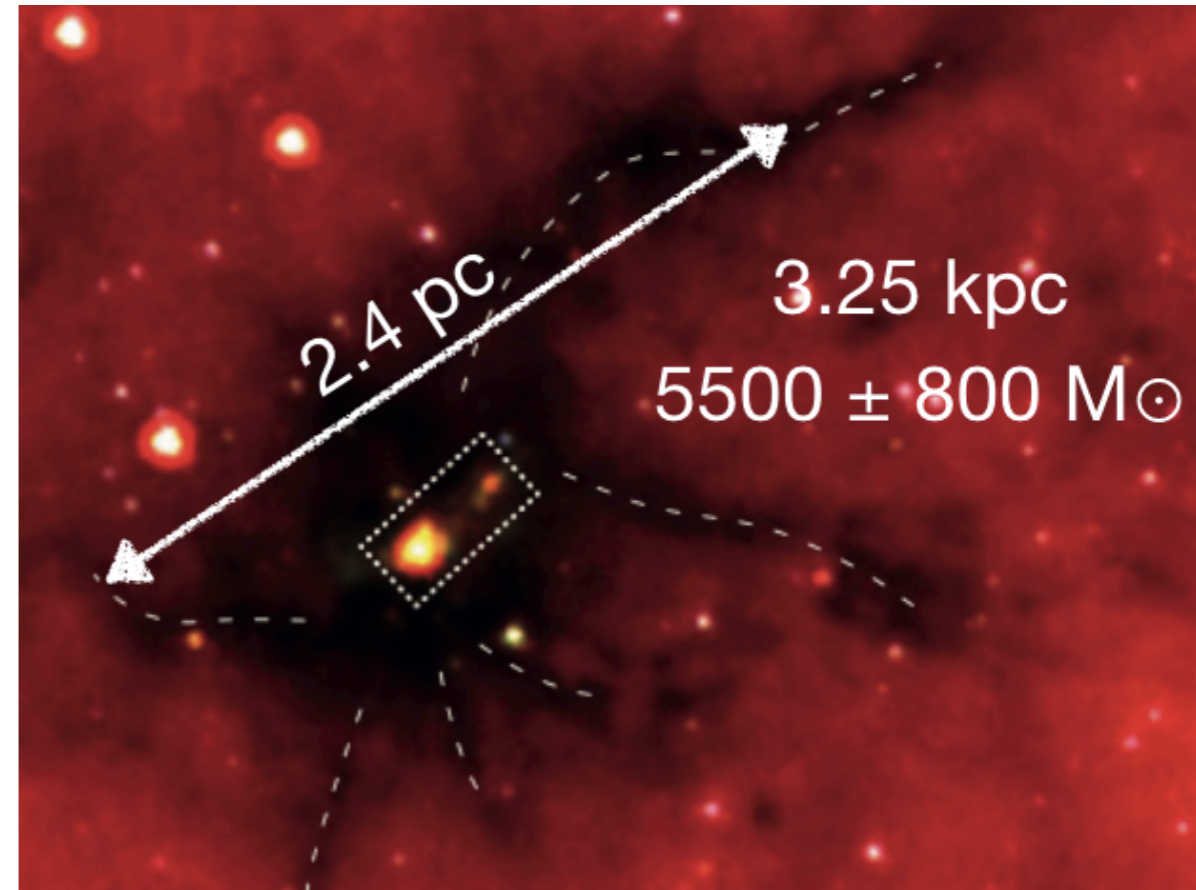
**Diagnostic feature of  
gas infalling**

$\text{HCO}^+(1-0)$  Mopra 22 m  
(Peretto et al. 2013)

# *state-of-art* RT model RADMC-3D

## Input Parametres:

- **R** – cloud size;
- **X** – molecular abundance;
- molecule properties (LAMDA)
- **V<sub>in</sub>** – infall velocity (structure);
- **$\sigma$**  – turbulence velocity;
- **T<sub>gas</sub>** – gas temperature;
- **m** – mass;
- **$\rho$**  – density profile;
- **T<sub>dust</sub>** – dust temperature.



model to  
**HCO<sup>+</sup> (1-0)**

**RADMC-3D**  
(Dullemond et al. in prep)

**Analytical (HILL)**  
(De Vries & Myers 2005)

**RATRAN**  
(Peretto et al. 2013)

**complexity**

**3D**

**1D**

**1D**

**V<sub>in</sub>**

**1.6 km/s**

**0.7 km/s**

**0.7 km/s**

**V<sub>turb</sub>**

**1.3 km/s**

**1.2 km/s**

**1.0 km/s**

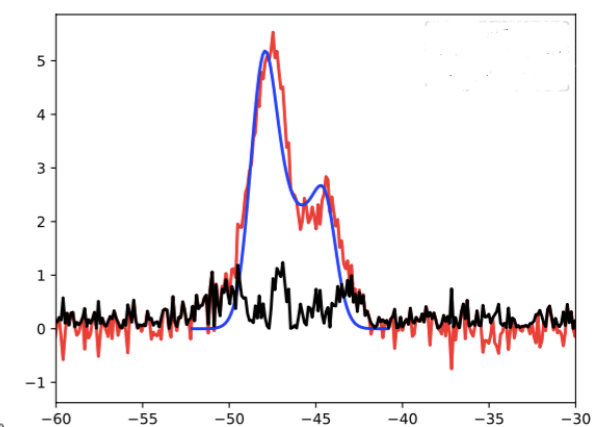
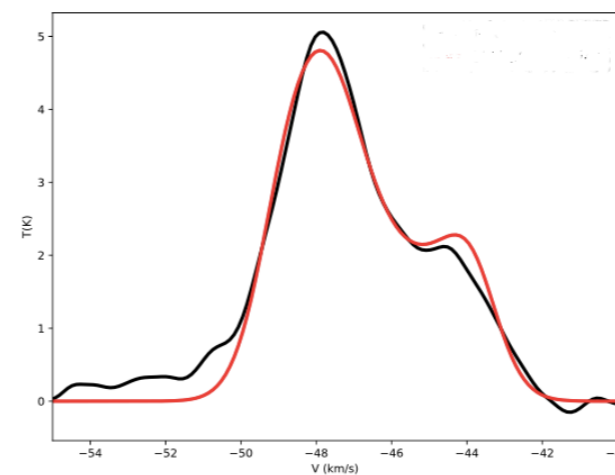
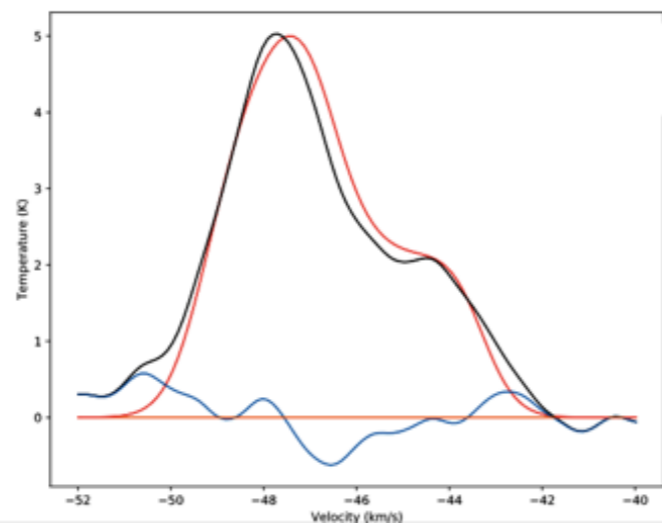
**V<sub>in</sub>(r)**

**increasing**

**decreasing**

**constant  
(assumption)**

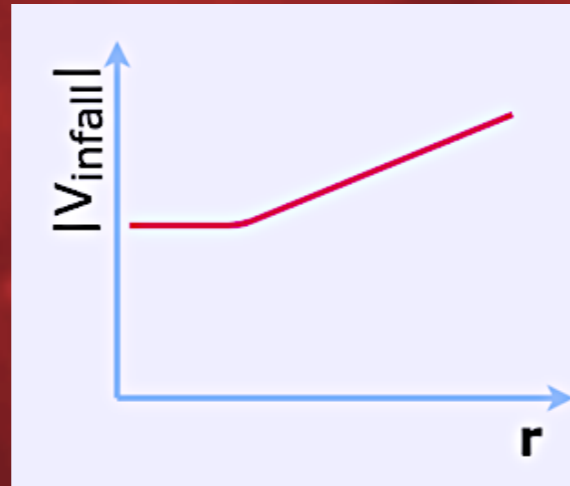
**central pixel**



**They only fitted  
the central pixel.**

**Xie et al. in prep**

# Current Conclusion



$V_{\text{in}} = 1.6 \text{ km/s}$

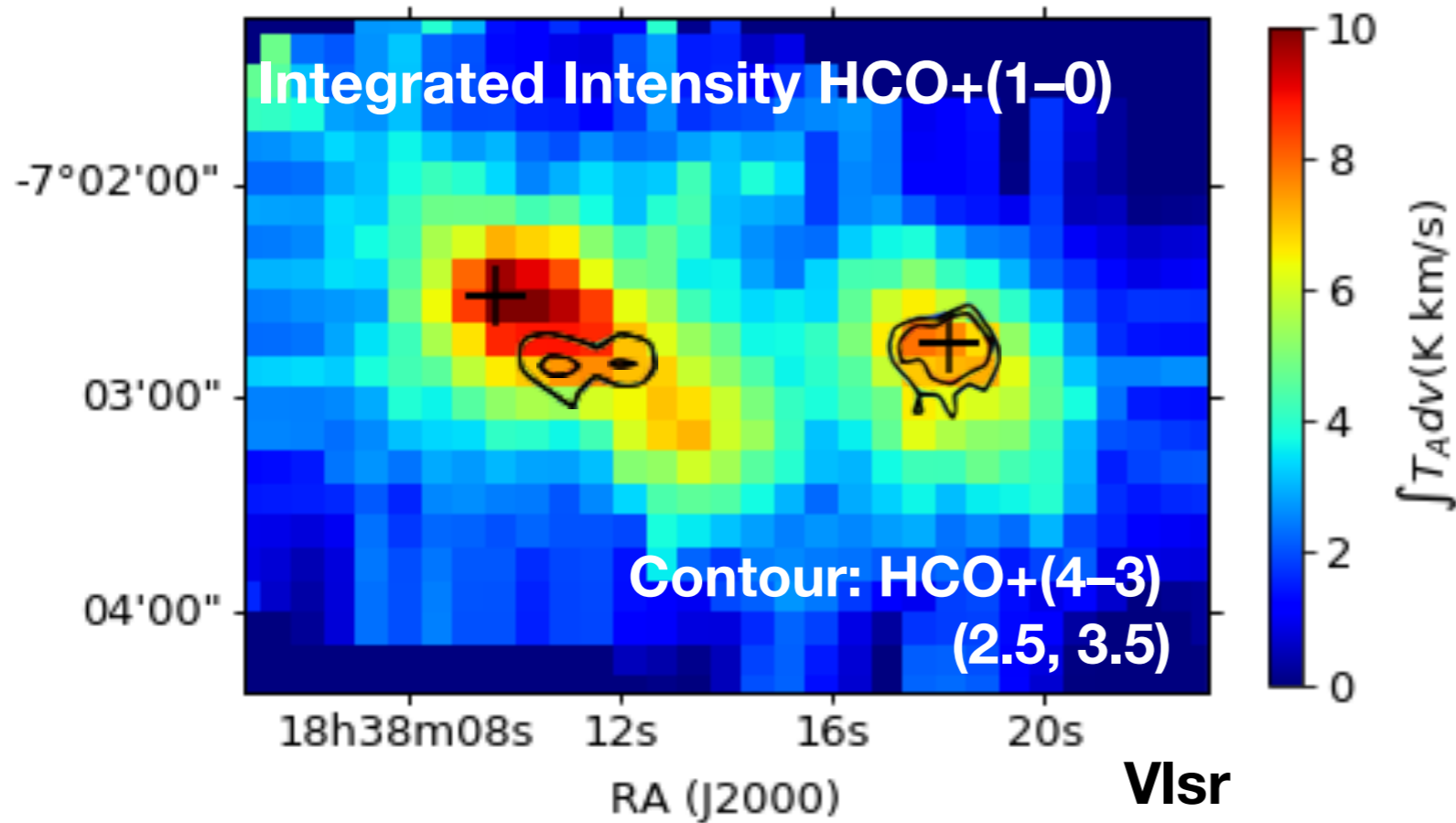
**Whether this velocity structure holds true for other massive star forming clouds?**



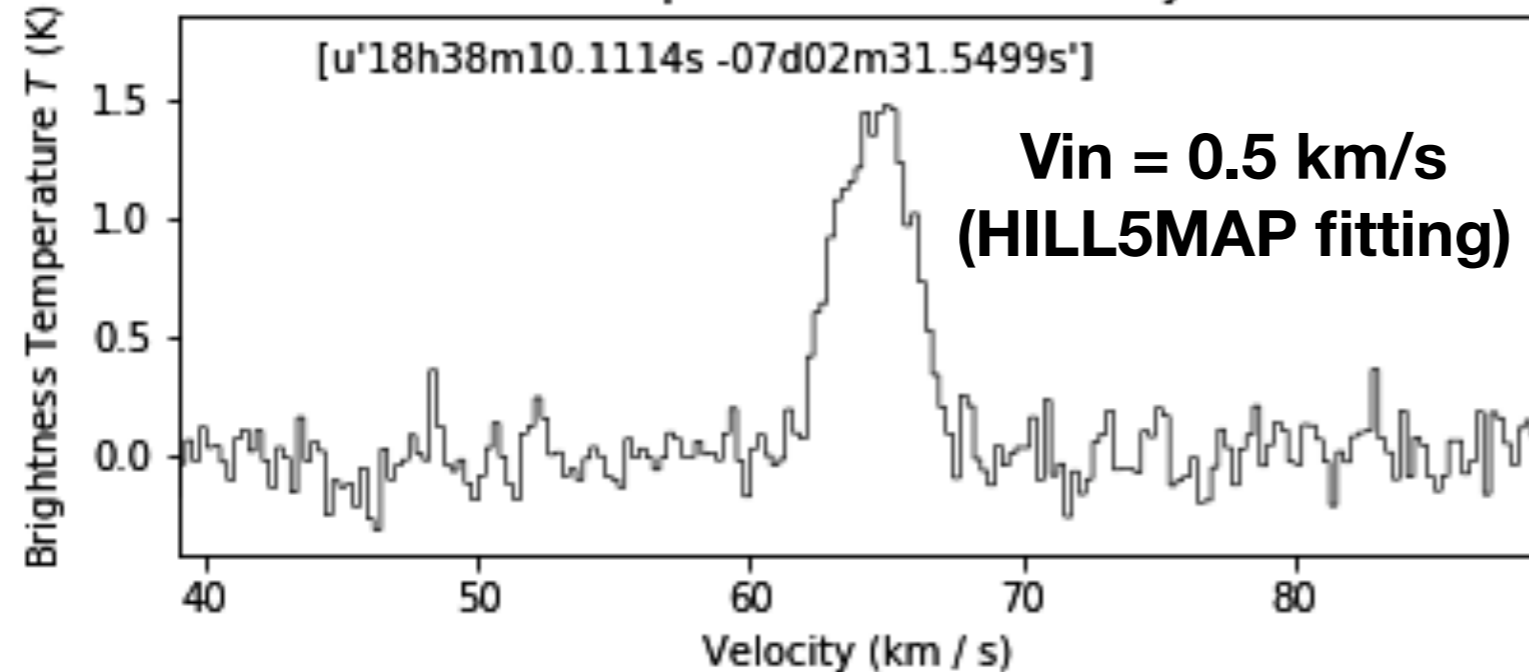
*Observations*

# Infall Candidate SDC25.166 (Massive IRDC)

JCMT HARP



SDC25.166: Peak Spectrum (smoothed by 10 channels)

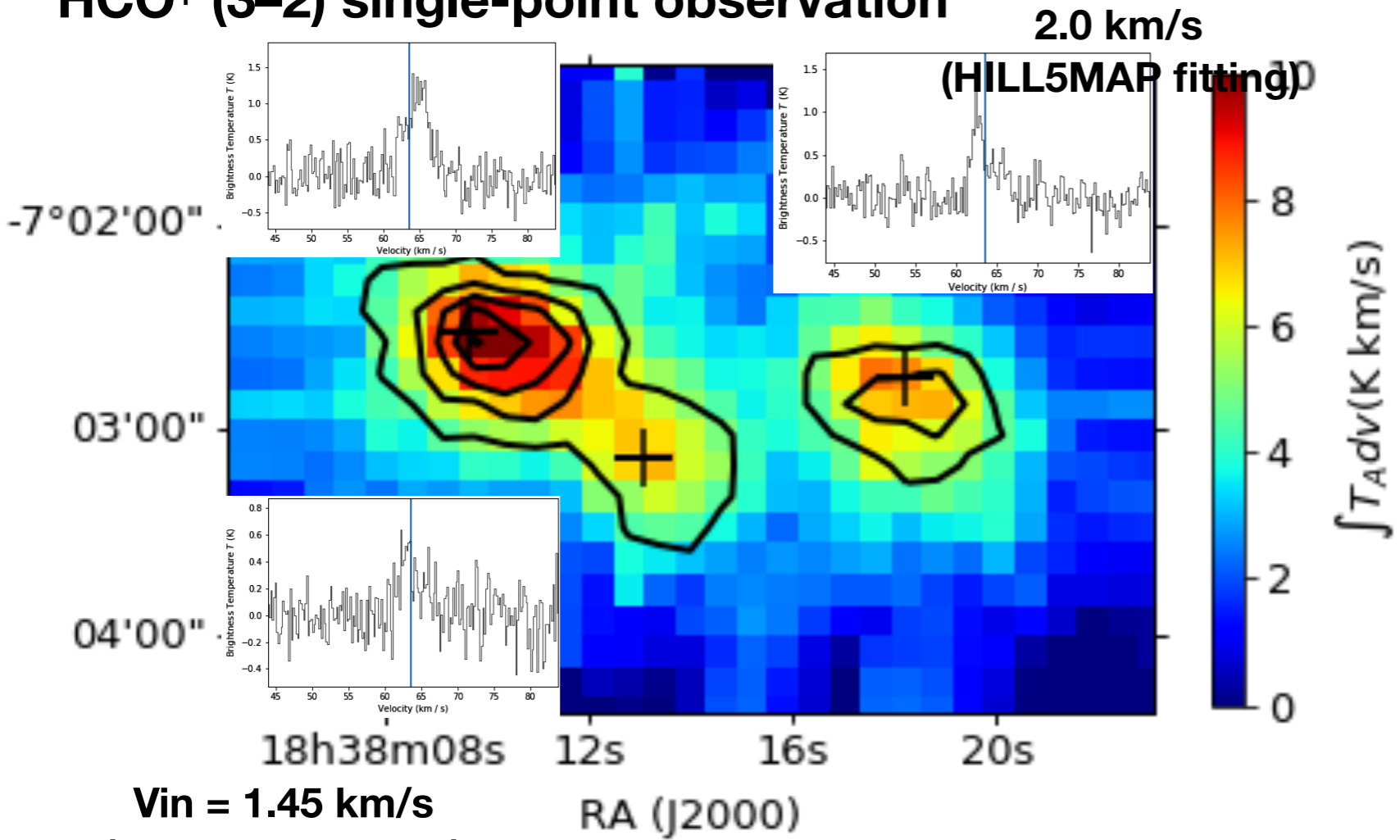


Xie et al. in prep

# Infall Candidate SDC25.166 (Massive IRDC)

JCMT RxA

HCO<sup>+</sup> (3–2) single-point observation

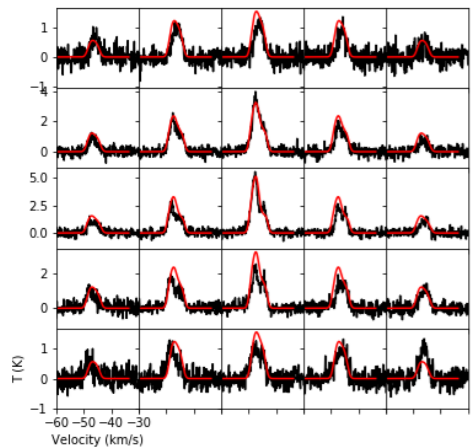


$V_{in} = 1.45 \text{ km/s}$   
(HILL5MAP fitting)

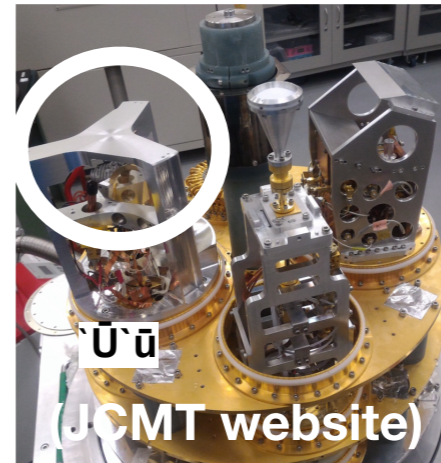


To fully constrain the infall velocity across the cloud

**We need mapping with Namakanui!**



RADMC-3D modelling for SDC335



Xie et al. in prep

# *Basic Parameters of IRDC*

- **m** – mass;
- **$\rho$**  – density profile;
- **T<sub>dust</sub>** – dust temperature;
- **R** – cloud size;
- **V<sub>in</sub>** – infall velocity (structure);
- **$\sigma$**  – turbulence velocity;
- **T<sub>gas</sub>** – gas temperature;

**Interstellar Dust**

**line survey**

**There is no JCMT/SCUBA-2 survey  
towards IRDCs yet!**

## ***Herschel***



**36''  
500  $\mu\text{m}$**

## **SCUBA-2**



**higher resolution 14''  
longer wavelength 850  $\mu\text{m}$**

**To cover Rayleigh Jeans tail from the peak  
to better constrain the density and temperature.**

# Proposed Large Program

ALOHA IRDC

A Lei Of the Habitat and Assembly  
of Infrared Dark Clouds



Lei



# Proposed Large Program

ALOHA IRDC

A Lei Of the Habitat and Assembly  
of Infrared Dark Clouds

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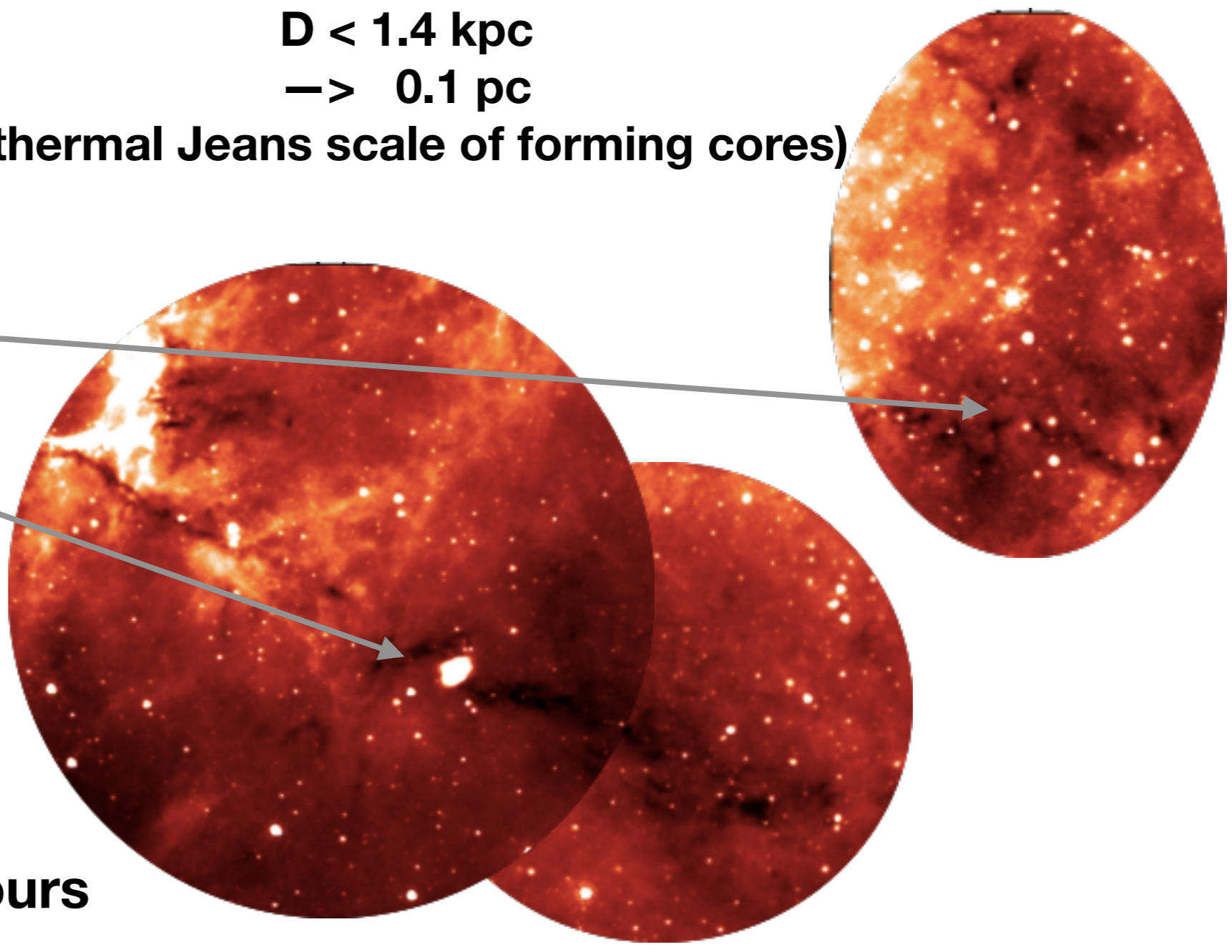
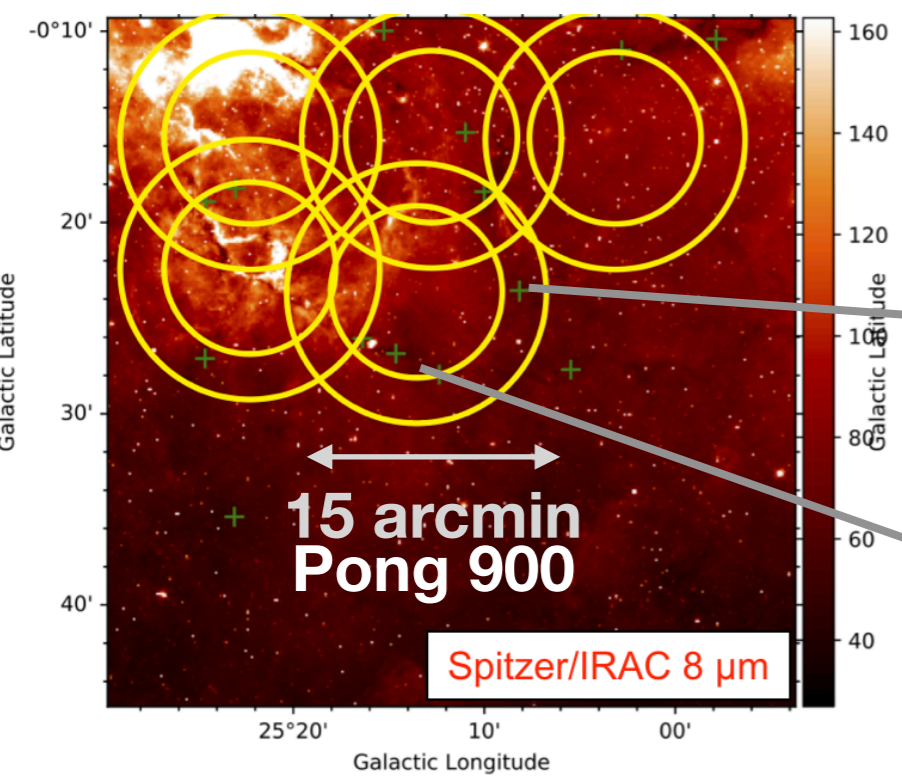




# Selection & Mapping on *The Habitat & Assembly*

$D < 1.4 \text{ kpc}$   
 $\rightarrow 0.1 \text{ pc}$

(thermal Jeans scale of forming cores)



**50 Pong mappings**

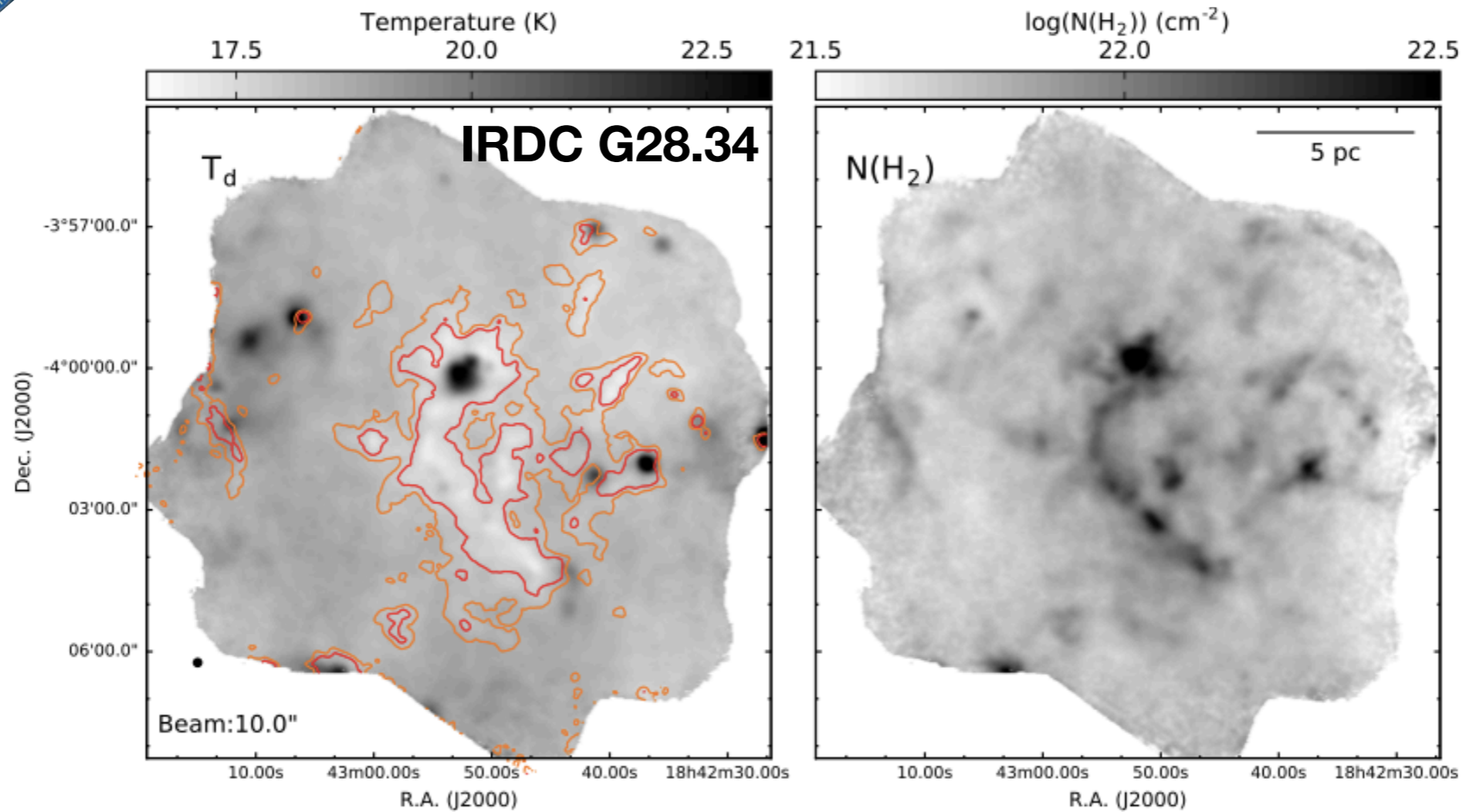
**Weather Request: Band 3**

**Each Pong mapping: 10 hours**

**Total mapping time: 520 Hours**



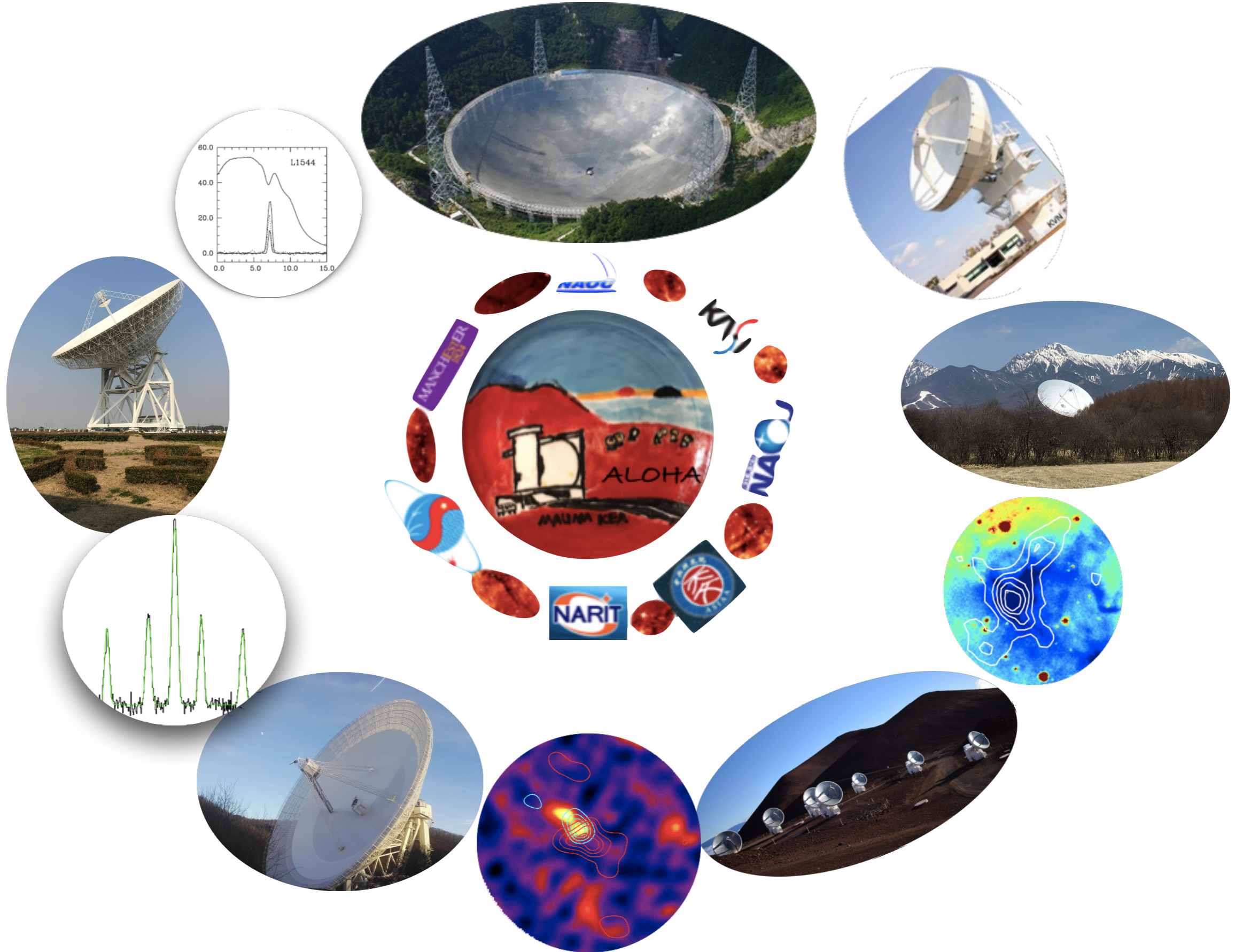
# Innovative Analysis Tool — J-Comb



Lin et al. 2017

**Optimise the observation data with the combination of Herschel data  
To derive the column density and dust temperature.**

# Coordinating Multi-wavelength Observations



# ALOHA IRDCs

