

Understanding the magnetic field structure  
in the star formation to the Galactic scales  
through the maser observations  
for Zeeman splitting and polarization

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# 0. Brief introduction for masers

# Interstellar masers

## ✓ Masers in the star-forming regions

- Major : OH, H<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>3</sub>OH
- Minor : NH<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>CO, SiO, radio RL

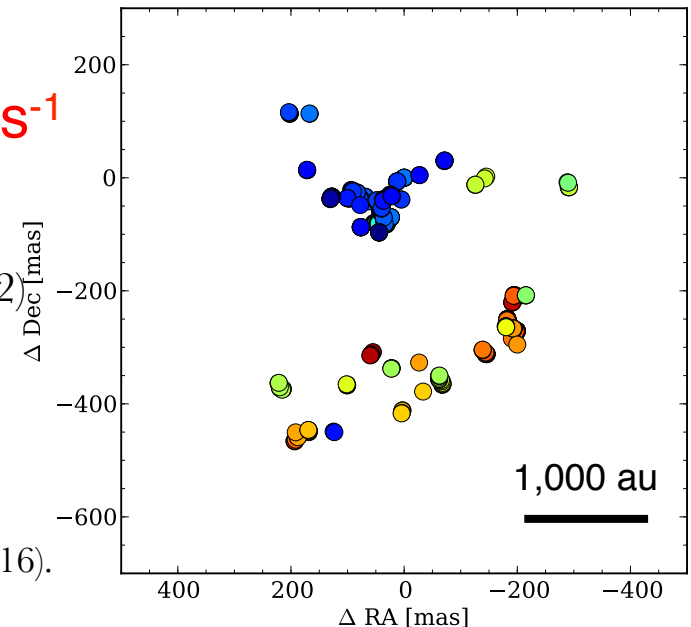
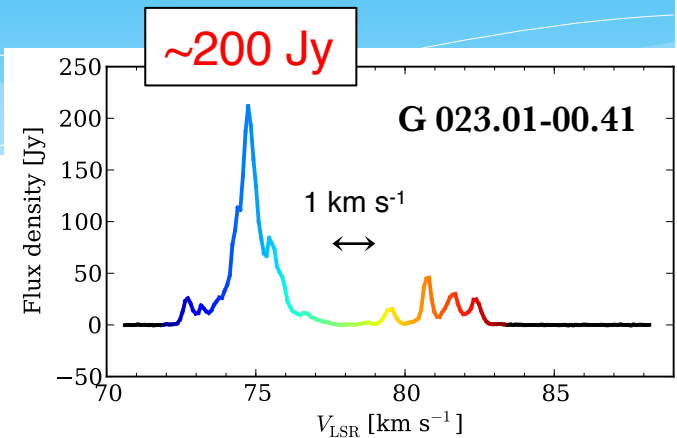
## ✓ Characteristics

- Much brighter than thermal lines
- **Narrow line width** :  $\Delta v \sim 0.2-0.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- Compact size of spot :  $\sim 1-10 \text{ au}$ 
  - Some spots consist of core/halo (Minier+ 02)



**very bright** :  $T_B \sim 10^7-10^{12} \text{ K}$

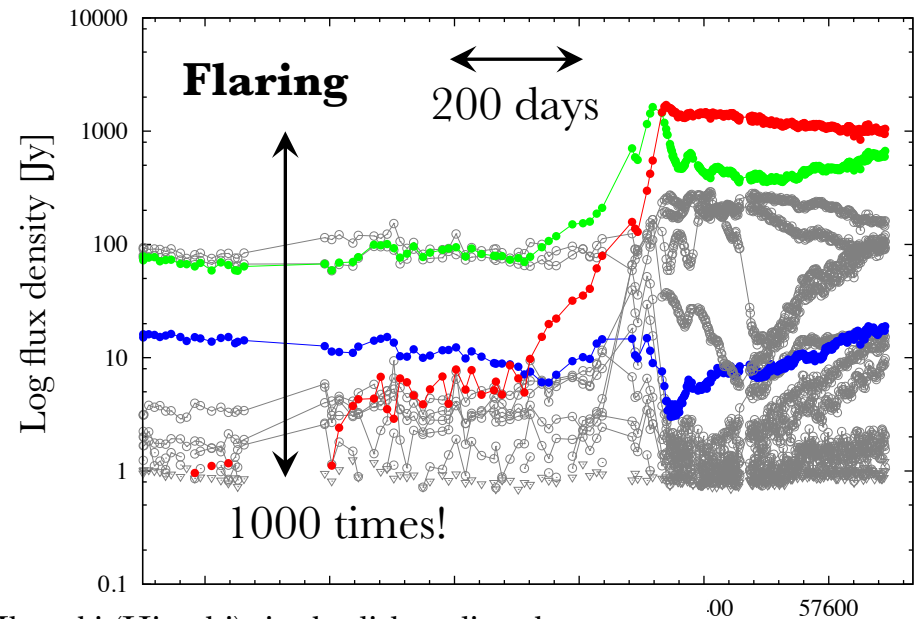
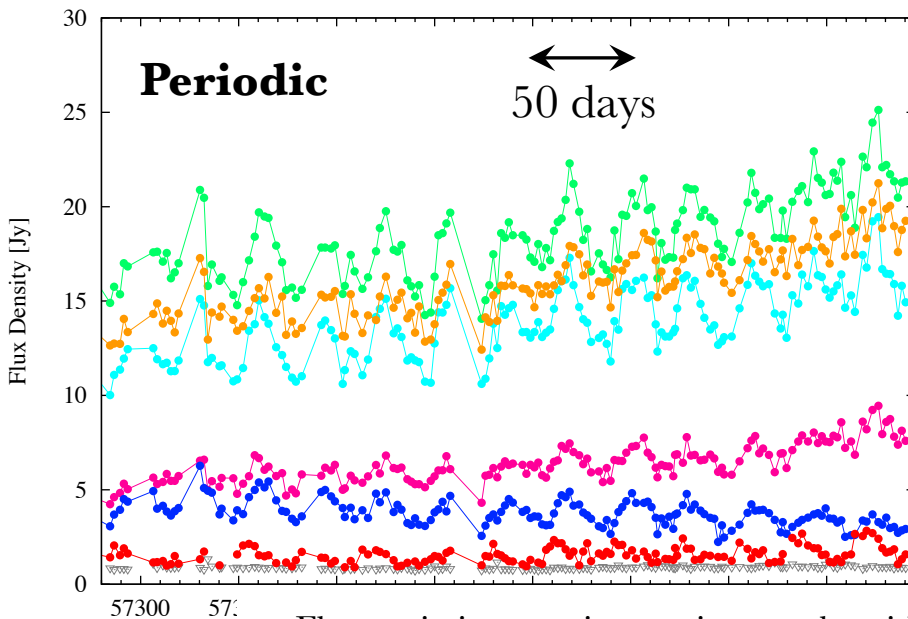
European VLBI spectrum and map of the 6.7 GHz CH<sub>3</sub>OH maser (Bartkiewicz+ 16).



# Usable characteristics of masers

## ✓ Flux variability

- Various times-scales :  $< 1 \text{ day} - \text{a few month} - 1 \text{ year} <$ 
  - Provide information in **0.1-1 au spatial scales** from Keplerian time-scale
- Remarkable variation : Periodic, Flaring
  - Periodic : stellar pulsation / binary system ?
  - Flaring : flare of exciting star / accretion burst / magnetic reconnection ?



Flux variation monitor project results with Ibaraki (Hitachi) single-dish radio telescope.

# Usable characteristics of masers

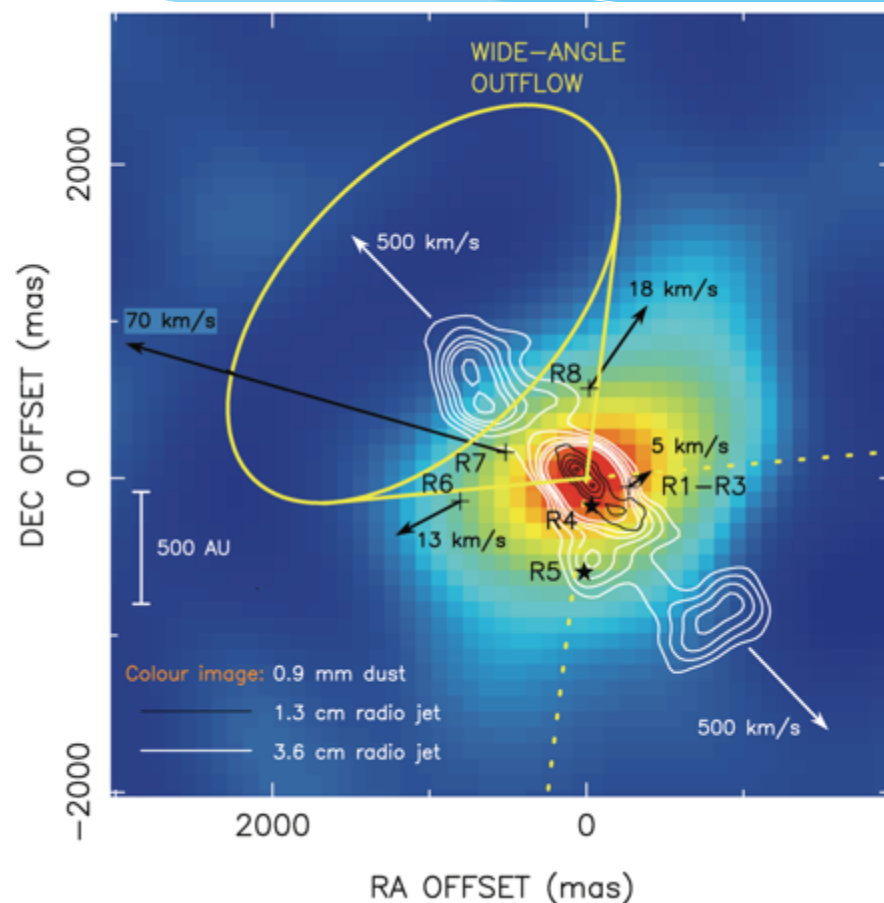
## ✓ Flux variability

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## ✓ Proper motion with VLBI (**a few milliarcsec (mas)** spatial resolution)

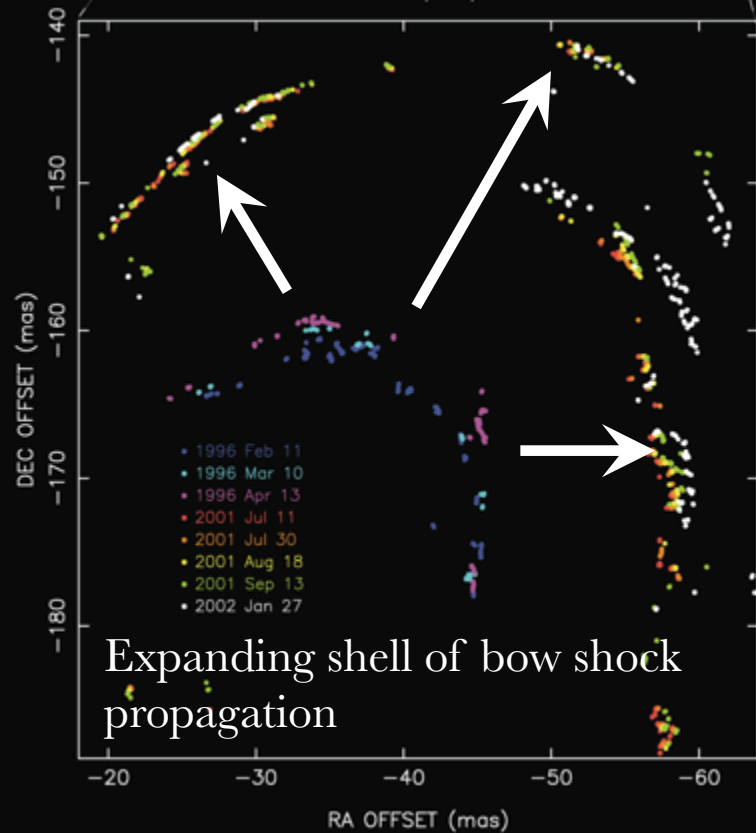
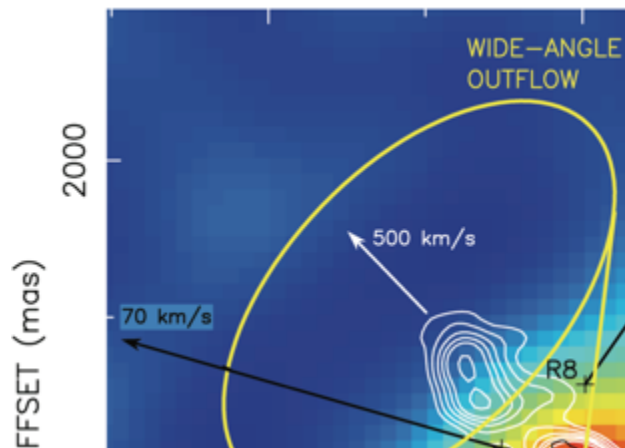
- Enable us to detect tiny motions of **a few mas yr<sup>-1</sup>** on disk/outflow/jet
- Reveal 3-D velocity structure with LSR velocity information

# Proper motion with VLBI

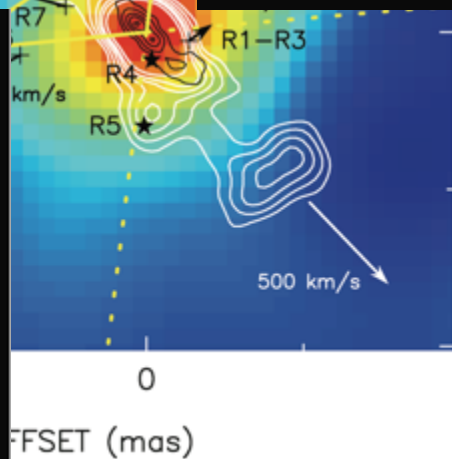
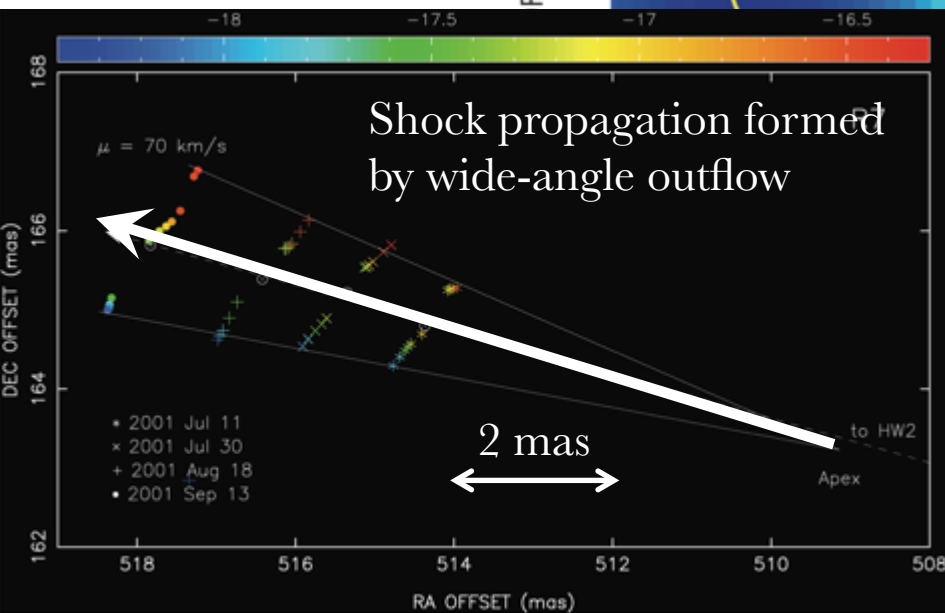


Wide-angle outflow and jet scenario observed in high-mass SFR Cepheus A (Torrelles+ 11). Proper motions of 22 GHz H<sub>2</sub>O masers showed expanding motions emanated by wide-angle outflow, while a radio jet was observed by radio continuum observation.

# Proper motion with



Expanding shell of bow shock propagation



observed in high-mass SFR Cepheus A (Torrelles+ 11).  
showed expanding motions emanated by wide-angle  
radio continuum observation.



# Usable characteristics of masers

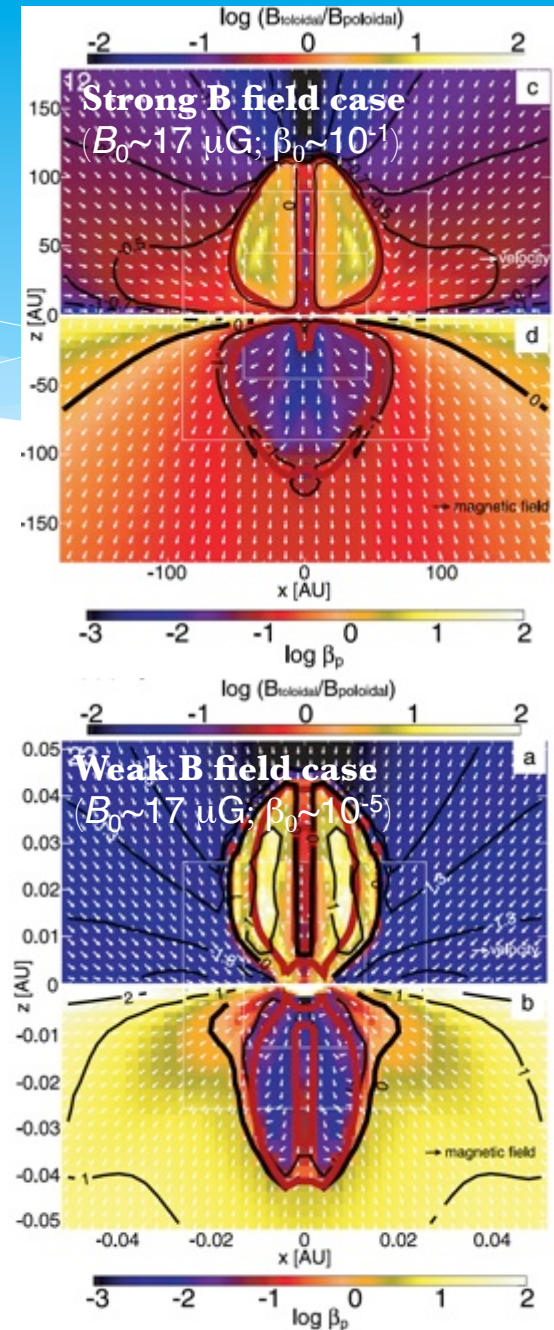
- ✓ Flux variability
  - Various times-scales :  $< 1 \text{ day} - \text{a few month} - 1 \text{ year} <$ 
    - Provide information in **0.1-1 au** spatial scales from Keplerian time-scale
  - Remarkable variation : Periodic, Flaring
    - Periodic : stellar pulsation / binary system ?
    - Flaring : magnetic reconnection / flare of exciting star / accretion burst ?
- ✓ Proper motion with VLBI (a few milliarcsec (mas) spatial resolution)
  - Enable us to detect tiny motions of **a few mas yr<sup>-1</sup>** on disk/outflow/jet
  - Reveal 3-D velocity structure with LSR velocity information
- ✓ **Magnetic field strength** and **3D structure**
  - Circular polarization => **Zeeman splitting**
  - Linear polarization => **Polarization vector**
    - Convertible to the direction of the magnetic field axes

1. What's advantages of maser  
obs. for magnetic ( $B$ ) field?

# Importance of $B$ field

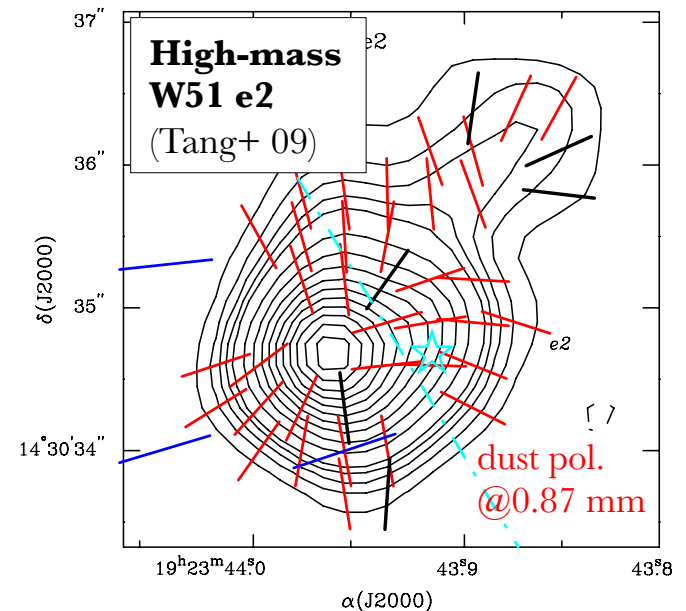
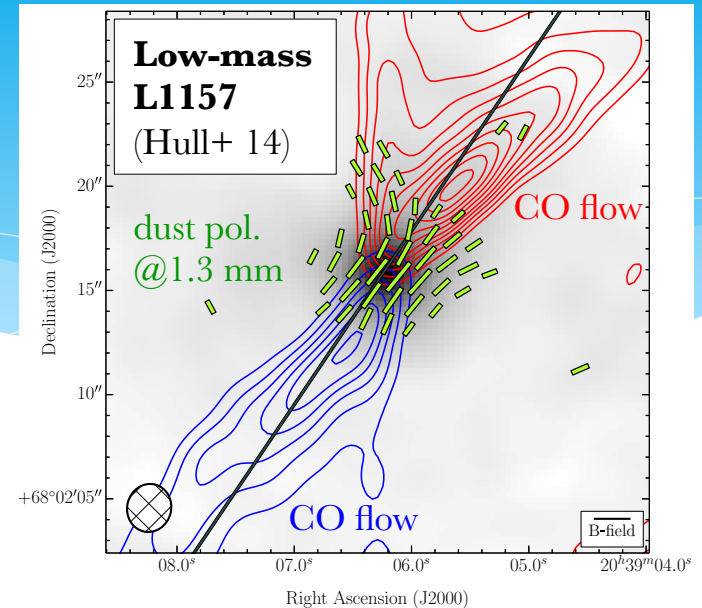
- ✓ Launch outflow/jets and magnetic braking
  - Removal of angular momentum
  - Maintain accretion through disk
- ✓ Launch mechanism and morphology of outflow/jets affected by the strength and the configuration of the  $B$  field (Machida+ 08)
  - Outflow : low-velocity and hourglass-like, caused by strong  $B$  field and the magnetocentrifugal force
  - Jet : high-velocity and well-collimated, caused by weak  $B$  field and the magnetic pressure gradient force

3D MHD simulations to understand the outflow/jet launching mechanism and morphology in the star-forming core (Machida+ 08). These figures show the relation among velocities, collimations,  $B$  field strength, and morphology.



# e.g.) Dust pol. obs.

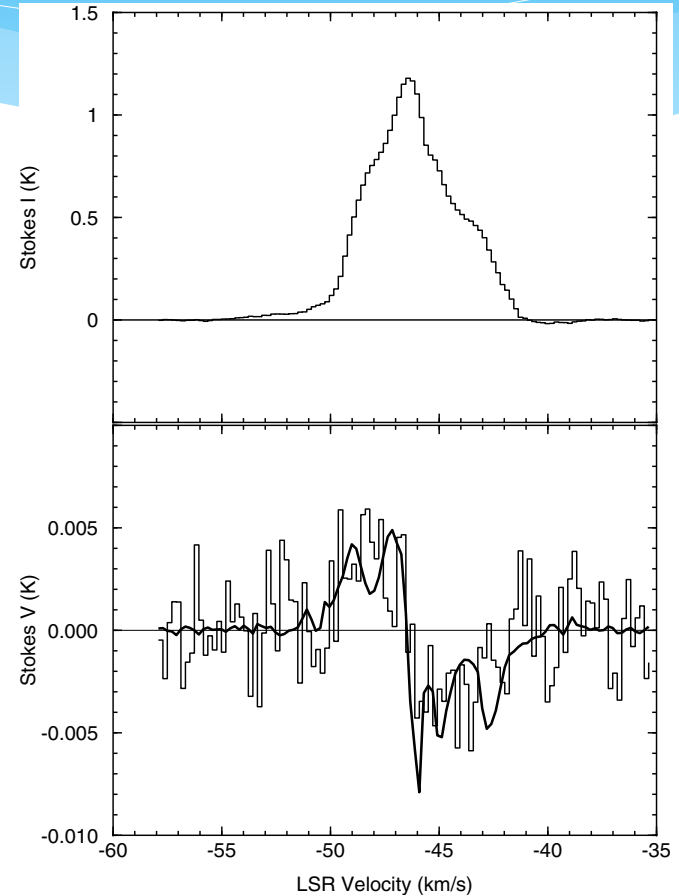
- ✓ Aligned dust by  $\mathbf{B}$  field
- ✓ Measure polarization vector, convertible to the  $\mathbf{B}$  field on the plane of sky
  - e.g., “hourglass” shape (e.g., Girart+ 06)
- ✓ Weak points
  - Impossible to direct measurement of the strength of  $\mathbf{B}$  field
    - may be estimated by comparing the gravitational force as an upper limit at collapse phase
  - Hard to trace high-density area ( $> 10^8$  /cc)



# e.g.) Zeeman splitting obs.

- ✓ Energy quantum state is split by the ***B*** field into multiple states
- ✓ Measure the strength of the ***B*** field directly!
- ✓ To date in thermal lines, measured from HI, OH, and CN (e.g., Crutcher+ 99; Falgarone+ 08)
  - Low-density ( $< 10^4$  /cc) : HI, OH
  - High-density ( $10^4$ - $10^6$  /cc) : CN
- ✓ Weak points
  - Split coefficient is much smaller than thermal line-width :  $\sim 1$  Hz/ $\mu$ G
  - Signal-to-noise ratio is not enough to detect circular polarized spectrum

☞ a few detections in the high-density tracer



CN Zeeman spectra of Stokes *I* (top) and *V* (bottom) in W3(OH) (Falgarone+ 08).

# Advantages of the masers

- i. **Narrower** line-width and **brighter** emission than thermal lines
  - Enable us to measure for small Zeeman split with high S/N
- ii. Pumped in compact and **high-dense** cloud, called as “spot”
  - Enable us to trace higher-density area than thermal emissions
- iii. Both **linearly and circularly** polarized emission
  - **Full stokes** parameters (I, Q, U, V) usable to determine **3D  $\mathbf{B}$  field structure**
- iv. Combined **with dynamics (3D velocity structure)** information
  - Understand dynamical motions and magnetic structures, simultaneously

## ii. High-density tracer ( $> 10^6$ /cc)

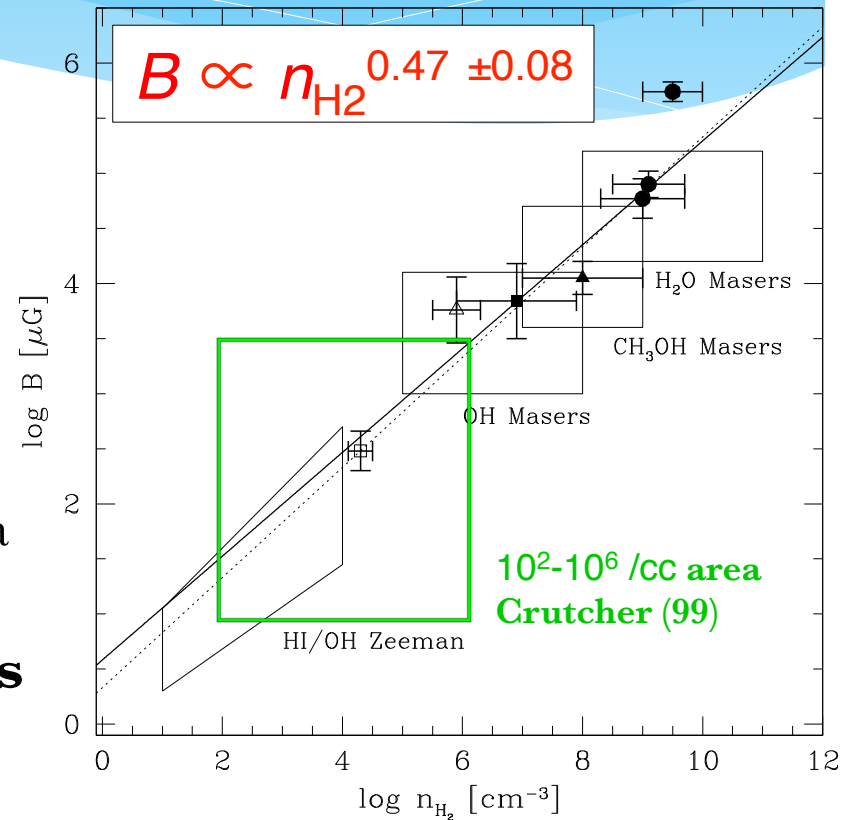
✓  $n_{\text{H}_2} > 10^6$  /cc

- OH :  $10^5$ - $10^8$  /cc (Cragg+ 02)
- CH<sub>3</sub>OH :  $10^4$ - $10^9$  /cc (Cragg+ 05)
- H<sub>2</sub>O :  $10^8$ - $10^{11}$  /cc (Elitzer+ 92)

✓  $B \propto n_{\text{H}_2}^{0.47 \pm 0.08}$  (Vlemmings 08)

- Consistent with Crutcher (99) relation
- Connect from low to high-density area

☞ **Zeeman splitting measurements  
extensible to high-density area !**



Magnetic field strength  $B$  vs the number density  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  in high-mass SFR Cepheus A (Vlemmings 08).

# iii. Full stokes (linear and circular)

- ✓ Masers linearly and circularly polarized **3D  $B$  field structure**
  - Linear : 2D pol. vector on the plane of sky
  - Circular : Strength and radial 1D pol. vector through Zeeman split

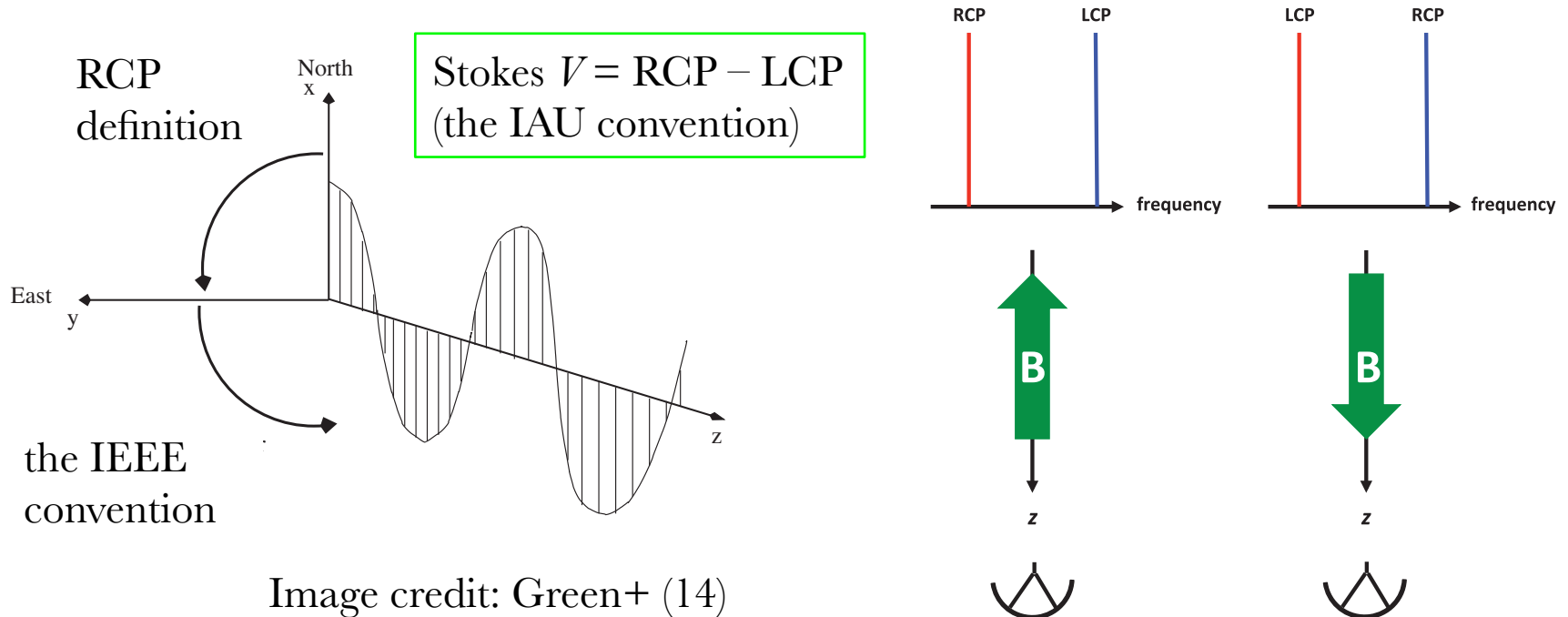


Image credit: Green+ (14)

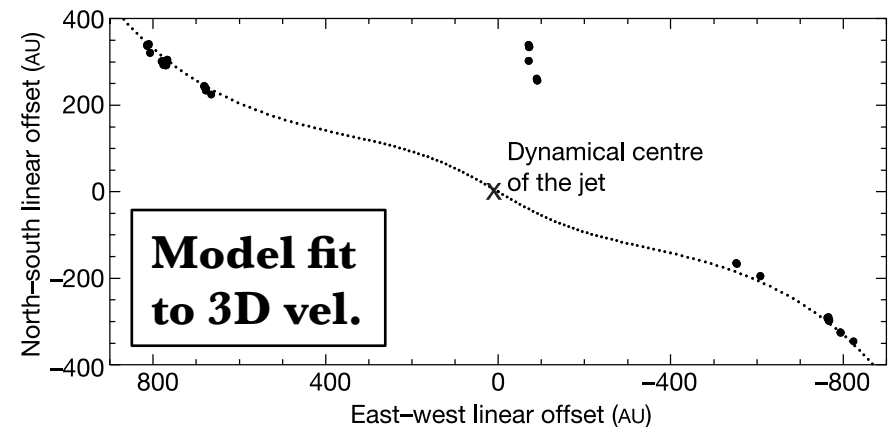
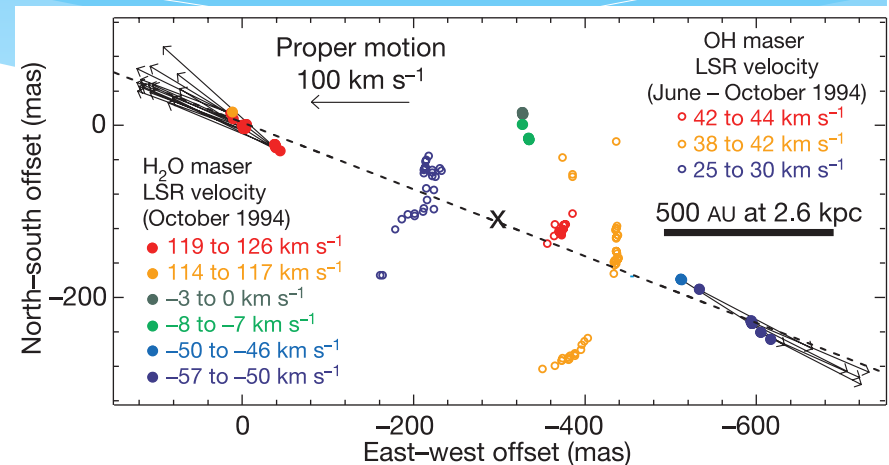


# iv. Combined with 3D vel. structure

- ✓ Totally understanding through the compact gas cloud “spot”
  - Spatial distribution
  - Dynamics from 3D vel. structure
  - **B** field structure

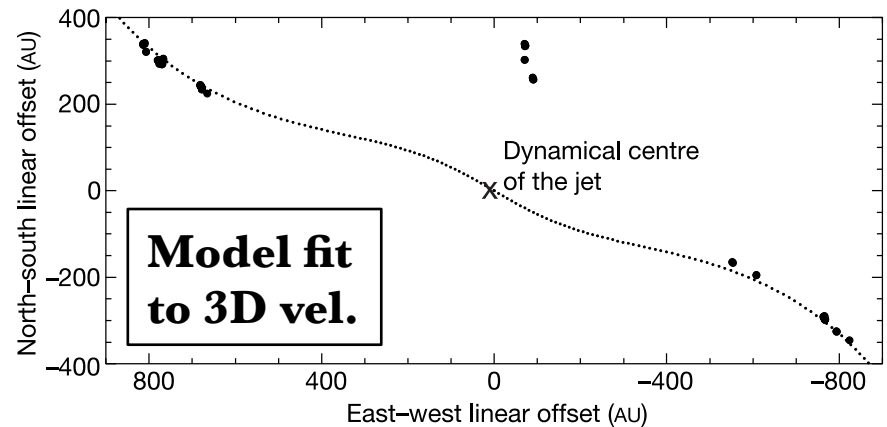
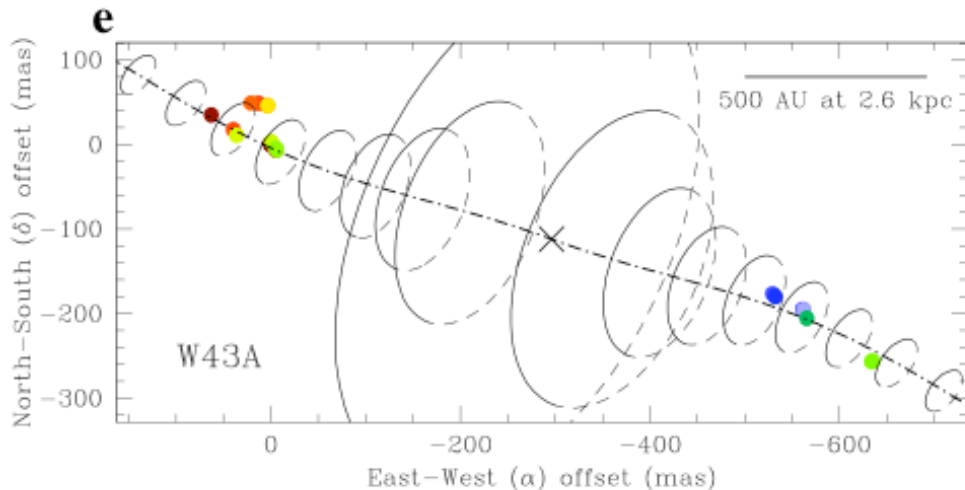
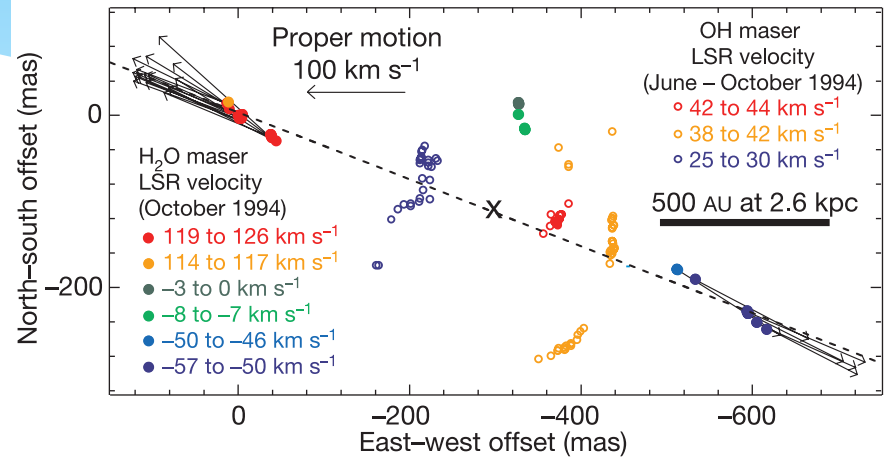
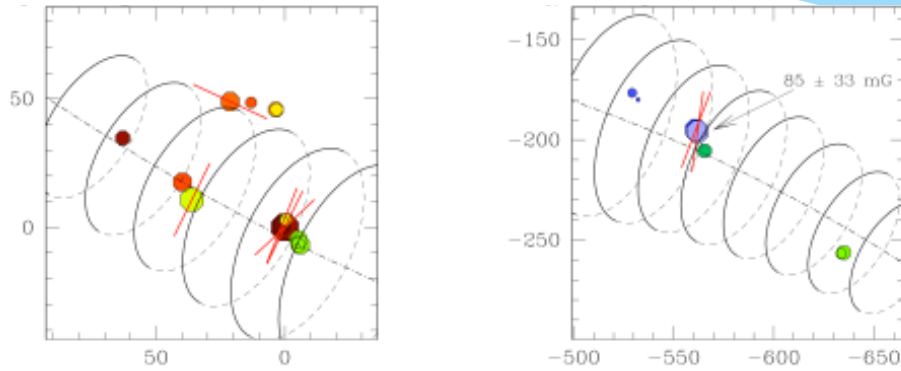
e.g.) evolved AGB star W43A case

- 3D vel. structure well fitted by precessing jet model (Imai+ 02)
- Toroidal B field structure measured through linear pol. of H<sub>2</sub>O masers (Vlemmings+ 06a)



↑ : Proper motions detected for H<sub>2</sub>O masers in the evolved AGB star W43A (Imai+ 02). ↓ : Precessing jet model fit to 3D velocity structure of H<sub>2</sub>O masers.

# iv. Combined with 3D vel. structure



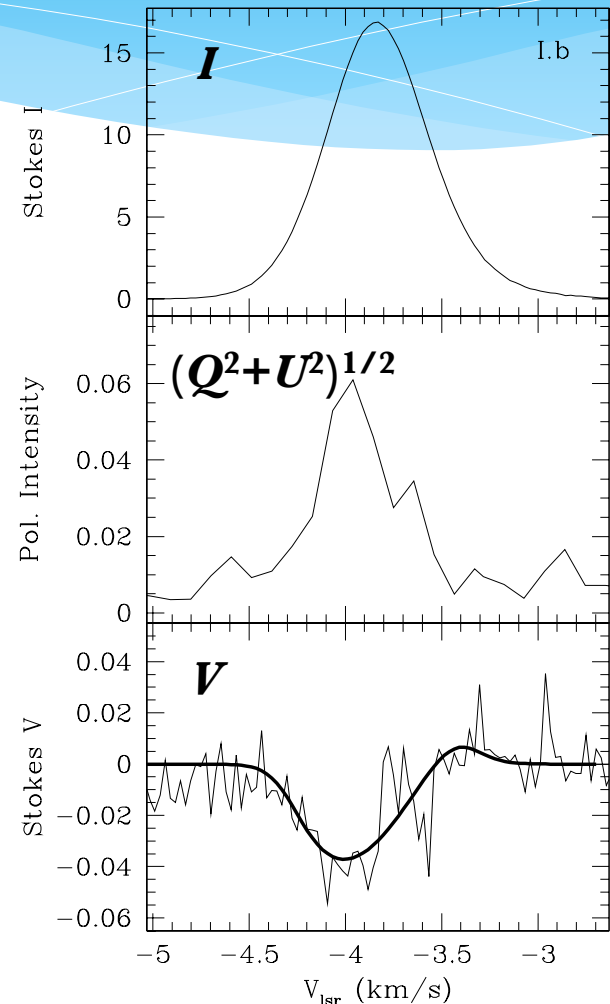
↑ :  $\mathbf{B}$  field direction converted from linear pol. vector of the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  masers in W43A (Vlemmings+ 06a). ↓ : Toroidal  $\mathbf{B}$  field model inferred of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  maser results.

↑ : Proper motions detected for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  masers in the evolved AGB star W43A (Imai+ 02). ↓ : Precessing jet model fit to 3D velocity structure of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  masers.

## 2. Remarkable works of maser obs. for the magnetic field

# B field parameters of the masers

	OH	CH <sub>3</sub> OH	H <sub>2</sub> O
$\nu$ [GHz]	1.6-1.7	6.7	22.2
Coefficient [Hz/ $\mu$ G]	2-3	$\sim 10^{-4}$ * (Jen 1951)	$\sim 10^{-3}$
Trace	Edeg of HII region	Accretion disk	Outflow/jet
fraction L	$\sim 10$ -20%	<1-20%	<1-10%
fraction C	$\sim 50$ -60%	<1-5%	<1-5%
Strength [mG]	$\sim 10$ -50	$\sim 10$ -100 *	$\sim 10$ -1000
Note.	Strongly affected by RM	* Large uncertainty of coefficient	



Ref. --- e.g., Szymczak & Gerard (09); Surcis+ (12, 15); Vlemmings (08, +11)

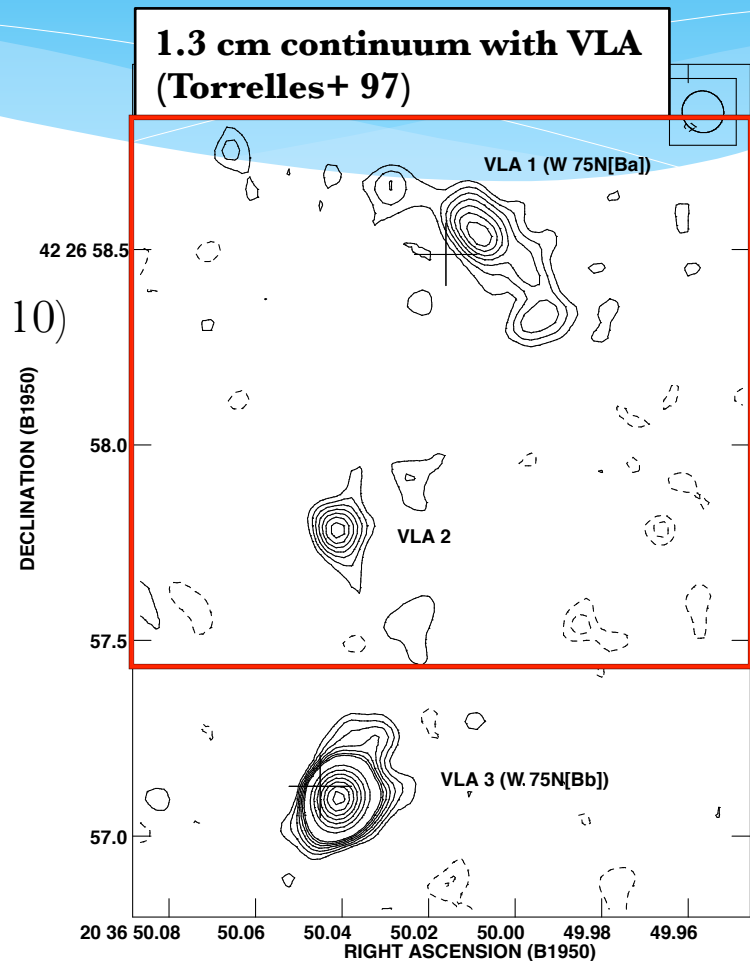
H<sub>2</sub>O maser spectra in Cepheus A (Vlemming+ 06b)

# Case 1. W75 N

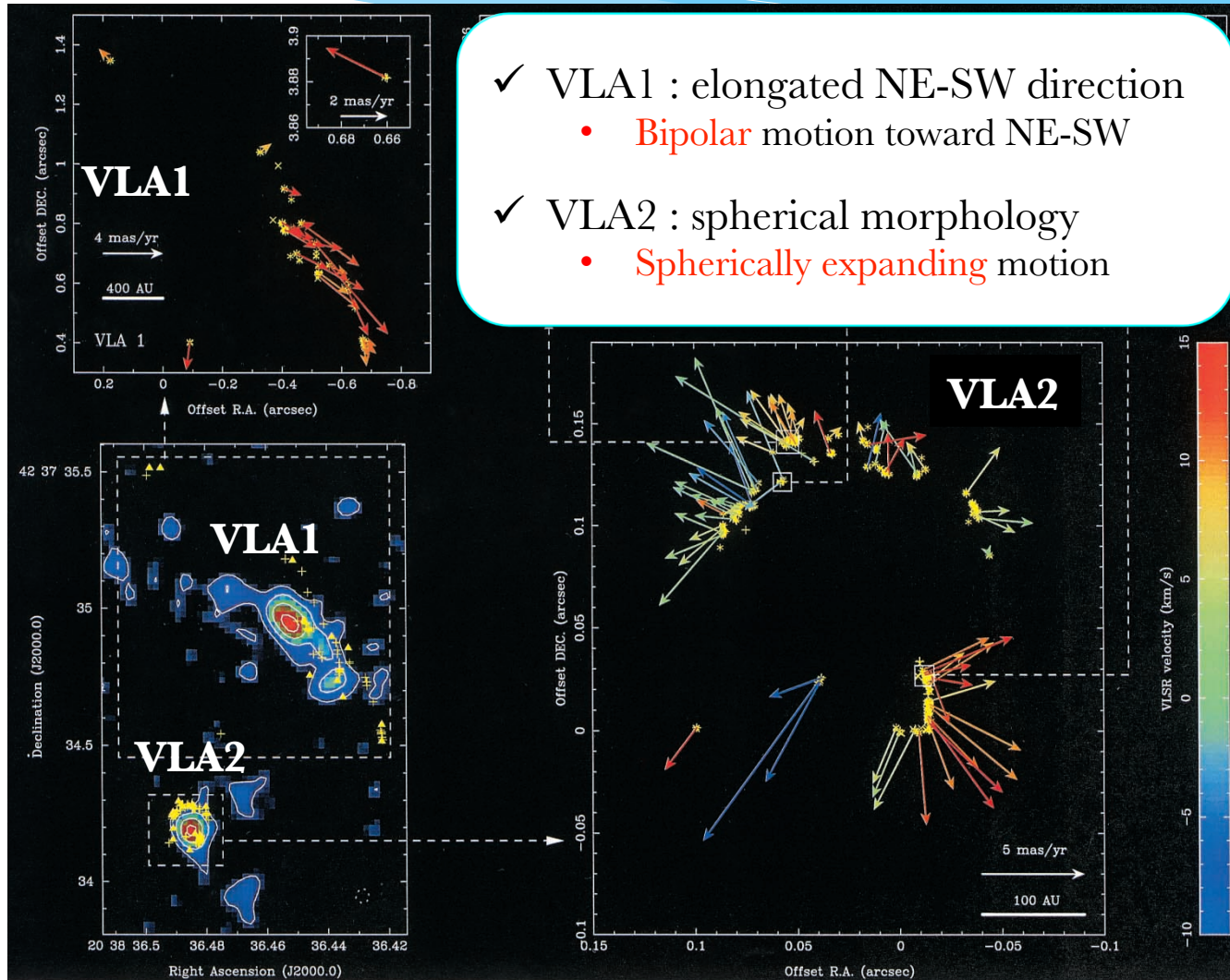
~ rapidly evolution of outflow  
morphology and  $B$  field structures ~

# High-mass star-forming region W75 N

- ✓ Part of Cygnus X region
- ✓ Distance: 1.30 kpc (Rygl+ 12)
- ✓ Three YSO candidates at different evolutionary phase (Carrasco-Gonzalez+ 10)
  - **VLA1**: oldest
    - Index:  $-0.4 \pm 0.1 \Rightarrow$  optically thin, free-free
  - **VLA2**: younger than VLA1
    - Index:  $2.2 \pm 0.3 \Rightarrow$  optically thick, free-free
  - **VLA3**: youngest
    - Index:  $0.6 \pm 0.1 \Rightarrow$  thermal jet

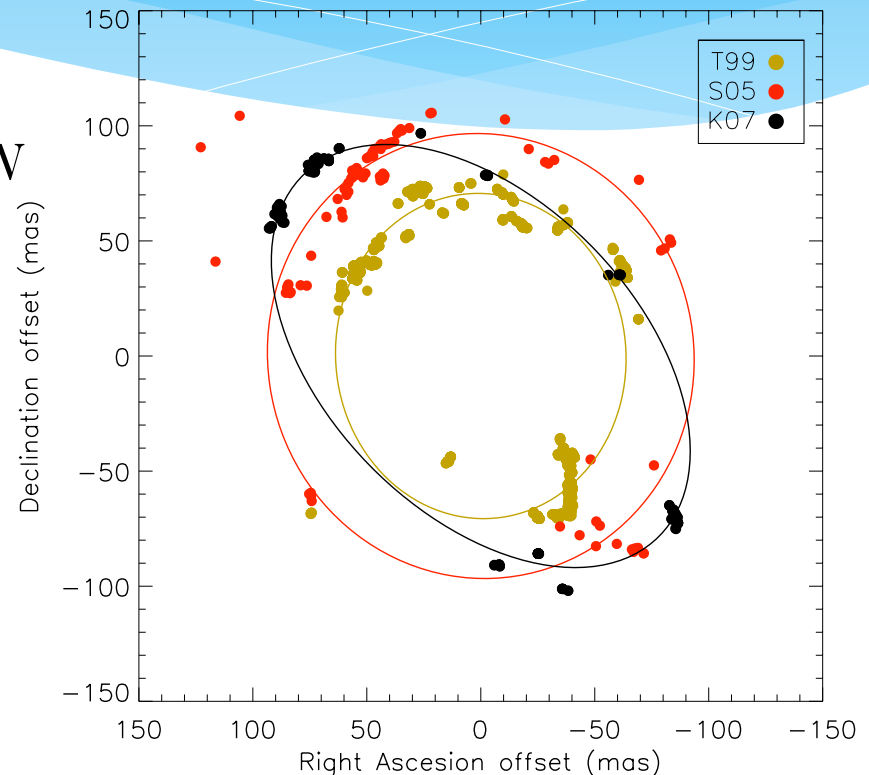


# H<sub>2</sub>O maser distributions and motions



# Rapidly change of spatial distribution and $B$ field structure of $H_2O$ maser in VLA2

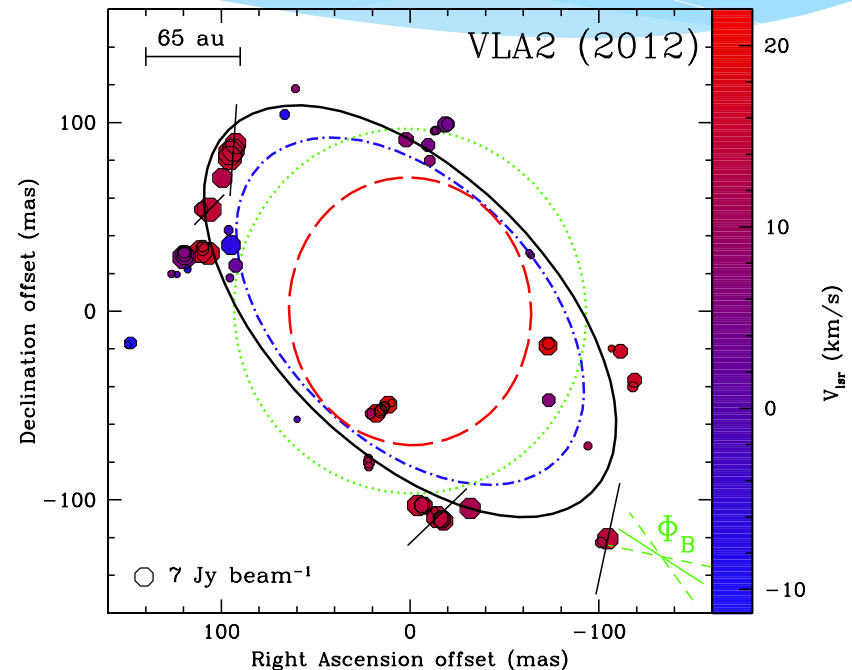
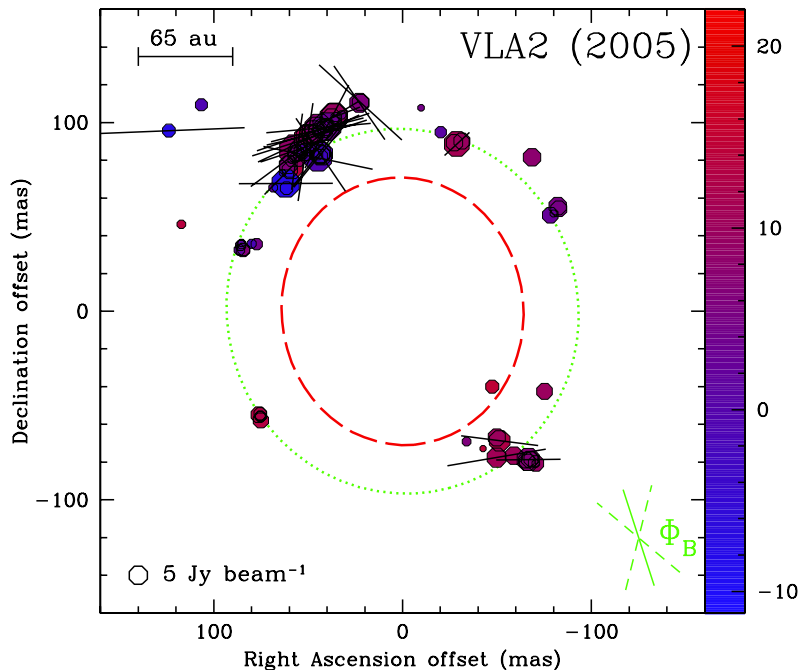
- ✓ Spatial distribution of  $H_2O$  maser in VLA2 in  $\sim 8$  yrs (Kim+ 13)
  - Spherical  $\Rightarrow$  Elongated to NE-SW



VLBI maps at 3 epochs  
(Torrelles+ 03; Surcis+ 11; Kim+ 13).



# Rapidly change of spatial distribution and $B$ field structure of $H_2O$ maser in VLA2

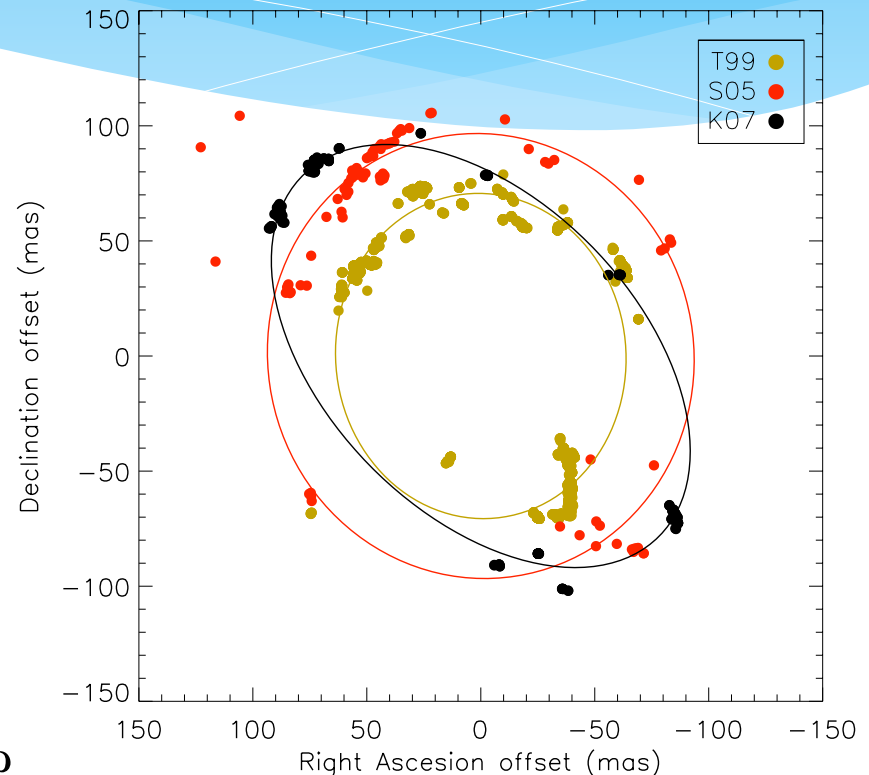


- ✓ Surcis+ (14) detected rapidly changes of the  $B$  field structure in 7 yrs
  - the direction of the  $B$  field :  $+18 \Rightarrow +57$  deg
  - the strength of the  $B$  field :  $345$  mG  $\Rightarrow$   $128$  mG

# Rapidly change of spatial distribution and $B$ field structure of $H_2O$ maser in VLA2

- ✓ Spatial distribution of  $H_2O$  maser in VLA2 in  $\sim 8$  yrs (Kim+ 13)
  - Spherical  $\Rightarrow$  Elongated to NE-SW
- ✓  $B$  field structure of  $H_2O$  maser in VLA2 in  $\sim 7$  yrs (Surcis+14)
  - Direction :  $+18 \Rightarrow +57$  deg
  - Strength :  $345$  mG  $\Rightarrow 128$  mG

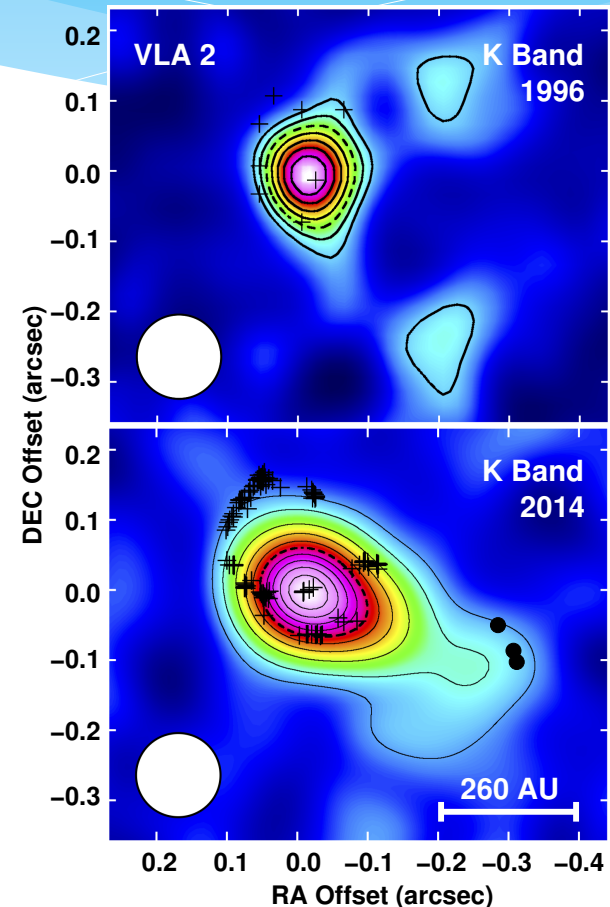
- ☞ **short-lived, isotropic**, ionized wind in the **strong  $B$**  field predicted by MHD simulation ? (e.g., Machida+ 08; Seifried+ 12)
- Collimated as being evolved ??



VLBI maps at 3 epochs  
(Torrelles+ 03; Surcis+ 11; Kim+ 13).

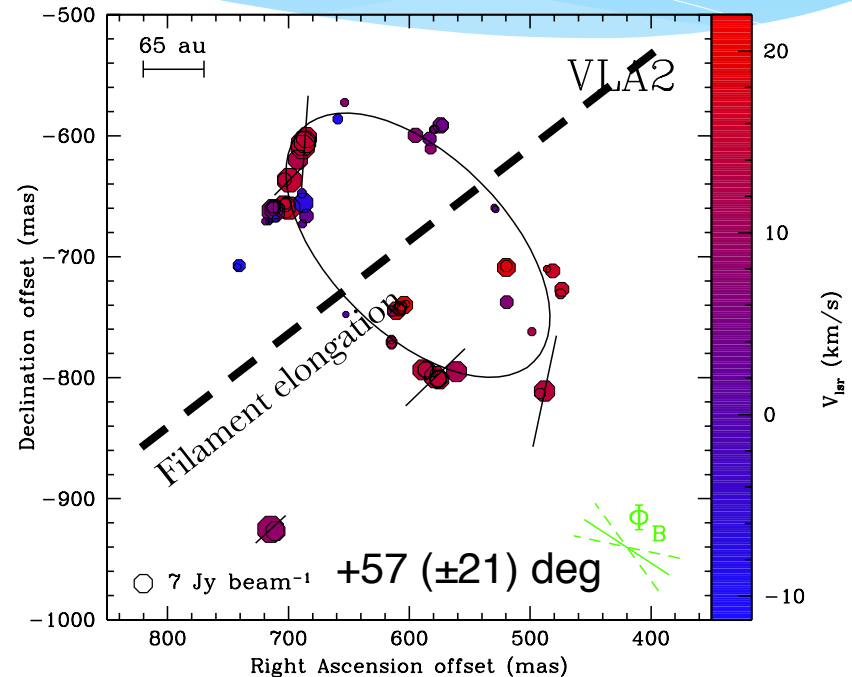
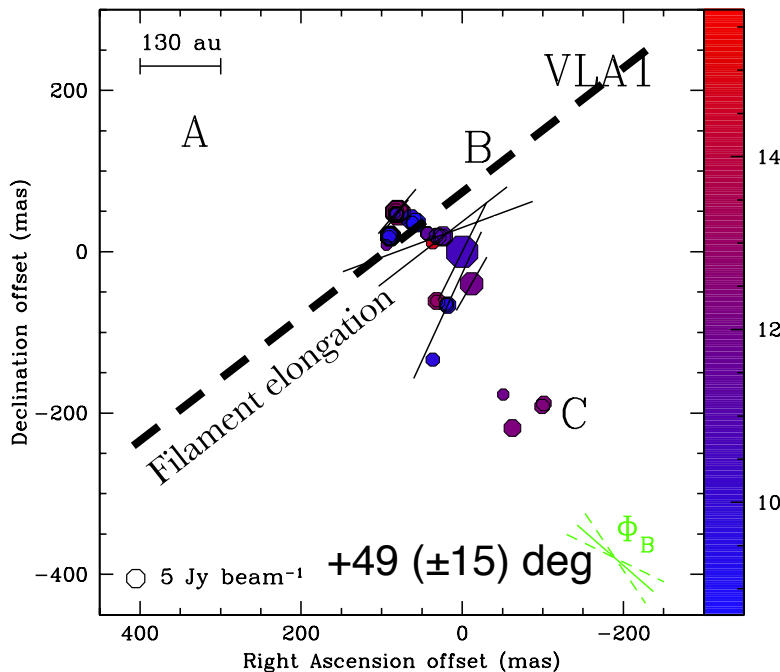
# Verified by radio continuum obs.

- ✓ 1.3 cm continuum distribution was also changed in  $\sim 20$  yr in VLA2 (Carrasco-Gonzalez+ 15)
  - Spherical  $\Rightarrow$  Elongated to NE-SW
- ✓ Verified **short-lived, isotropic**, ionized wind whose morphology **evolves into elongated** to NE-SW inferred from H<sub>2</sub>O maser observations (dynamics & **B**) !!



Carrasco-Gonzalez+ (15)

# Alignment of the $B$ direction ?



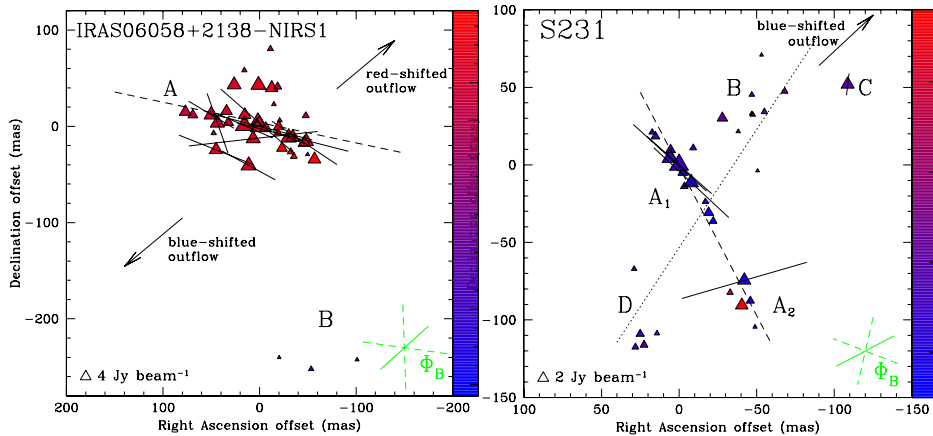
- ✓ Surcis+ (14) detected alignment of  $B$  field direction in VLA1 and VLA2
  - VLA1 :  $+49 (\pm 15) \text{ deg}$ , VLA2 :  $+57 (\pm 21) \text{ deg}$
  - Nearly perpendicular filament structure traced by  $\text{NH}_3$  emission ??

## Case 2. Statistical study in star-formation scale

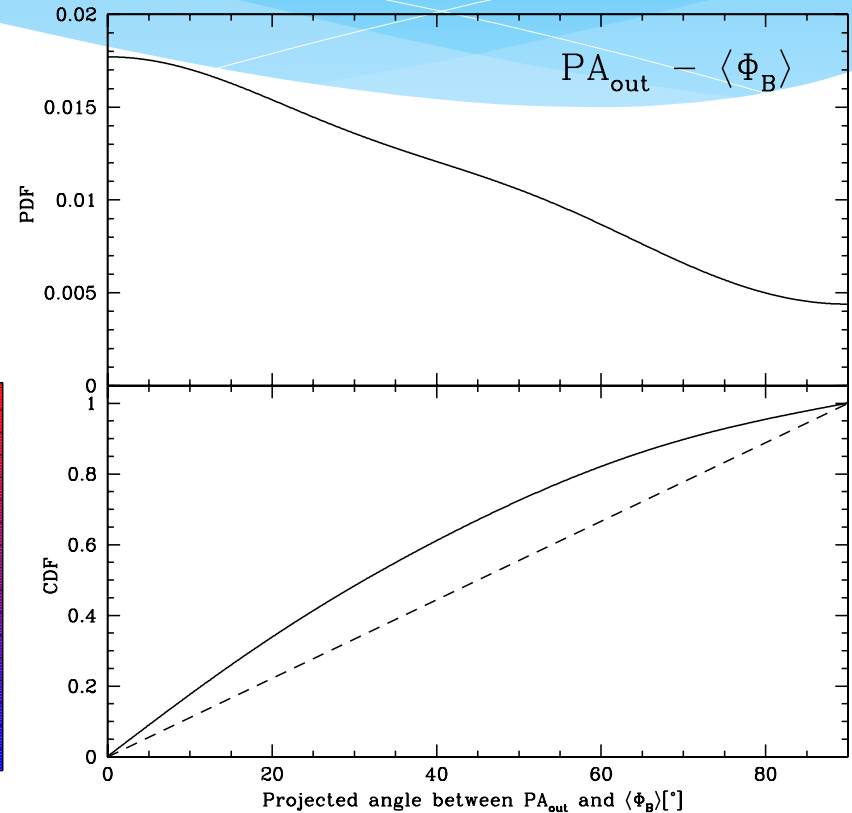
~ relationship of the orientations  
between  $B$  field and outflow axes ~

# $B$ field vs outflow axes

- ✓ Measured  $\mathbf{B}$  field of  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  masers in  $\sim 20$  high-mass YSOs (Surcis+ 12, 13, 15)
- ✓ Orientation of the  $\mathbf{B}$  field along the outflow axes, preferentially
  - At least, on scales of 10-100 au



Comparison of the  $\mathbf{B}$  field orientation from  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  maser obs. to the outflow axes (Surcis+ 13).

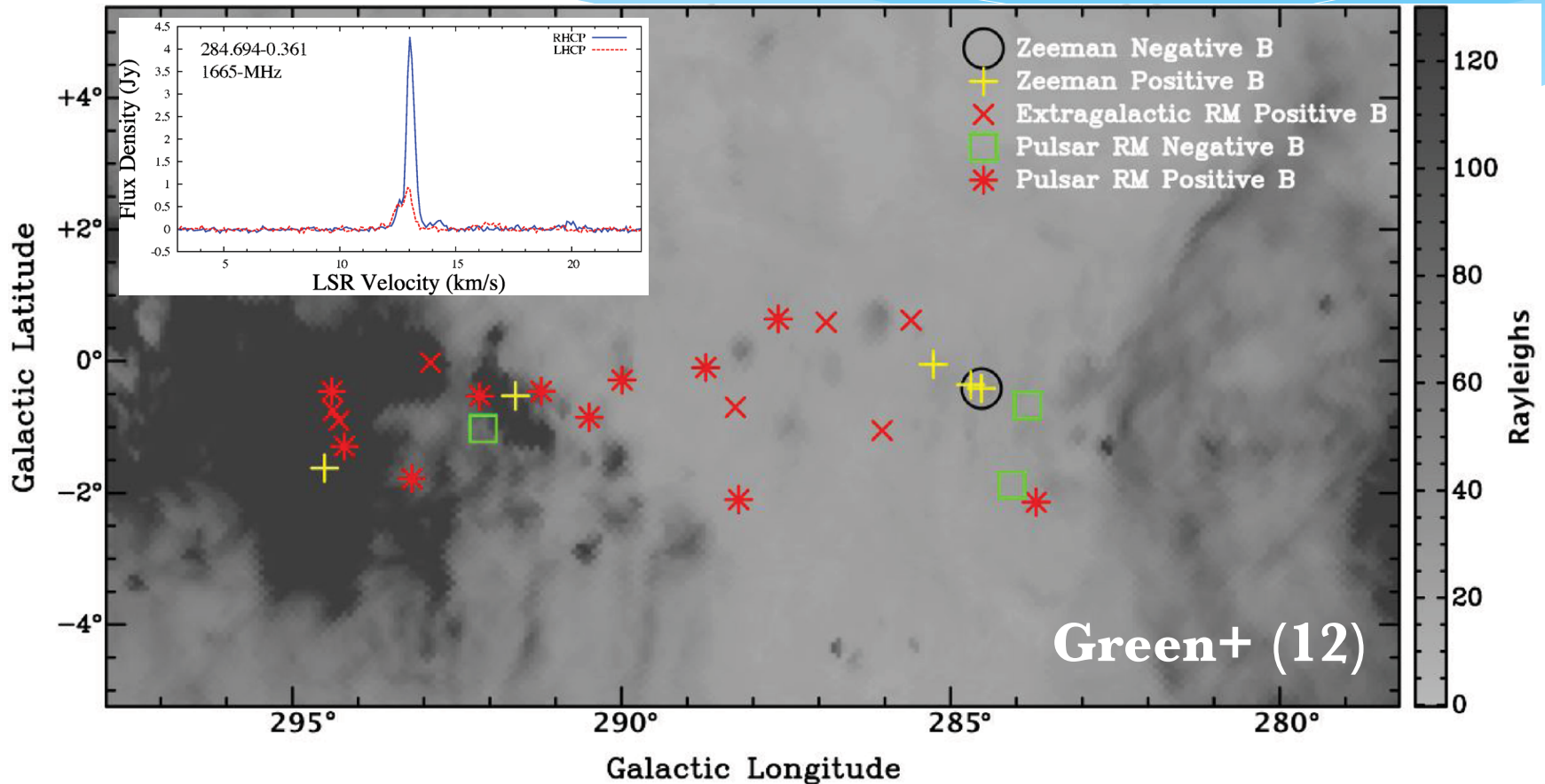


PDF and CDF of the projected angle between the  $\mathbf{B}$  field and the outflow axes (Surcis+ 13).

# Case 3. Statistical study in the Galactic scale

~ Galactic structure of the  $B$  field ~

# 'MAGMO' project through Zeeman splitting of OH masers



- MAGMO : the Magnetic field of the Milky Way through OH masers (e.g., Green+ 12)
  - Pilot survey : 6 high-mass sources  $280 < l < 295^\circ$ ,  $|B_{||}| \sim 1-10$  mG, Same orientation



# 4. Summary

# Summary

- ✓ **B** field observations of the masers is usable
  - **Narrower** line-width and **brighter** emission than thermal one
  - Pumped in compact **dense** cloud ( $10^6$ - $10^{11}$  /cc)
  - Both **linearly and circularly** polarized (full stokes  $I, Q, U, V$ )
  - Combined with dynamics (**3D** velocity structure) information
- ✓ Remarkable works of the maser **B** field obs.
  - W75 N : short-lived, isotropic, ionized wind in the strong **B** field whose morphology evolves into elongations (e.g., Surcis+ 14; Carrasco-Gonzalez+ 15)
  - Statistical study (e.g., Surcis+ 12, 13, 15; Green+ 12)
    - in the star formation scale : Alignment of the B field along the outflow axes
    - in the Galactic scale : Zeeman splitting measurements throughout the Milky Way 'MAGMO'