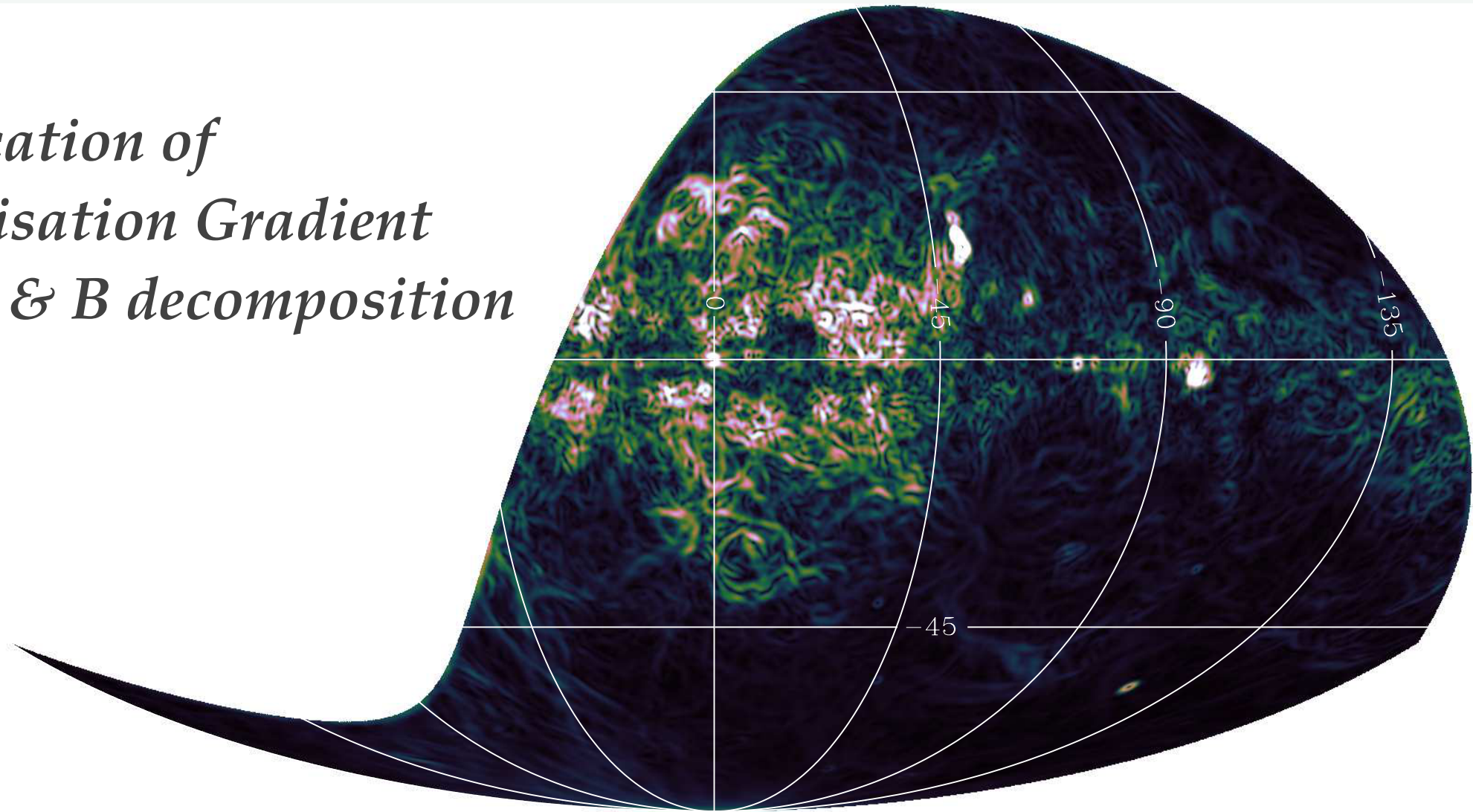


*Unification of  
Polarisation Gradient  
and E & B decomposition*



EWASS 2016

**A second view on  
synchrotron linear  
polarisation fluctuations**

Jean-François Robitaille  
Anna Scaife

*Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics, University of Manchester*

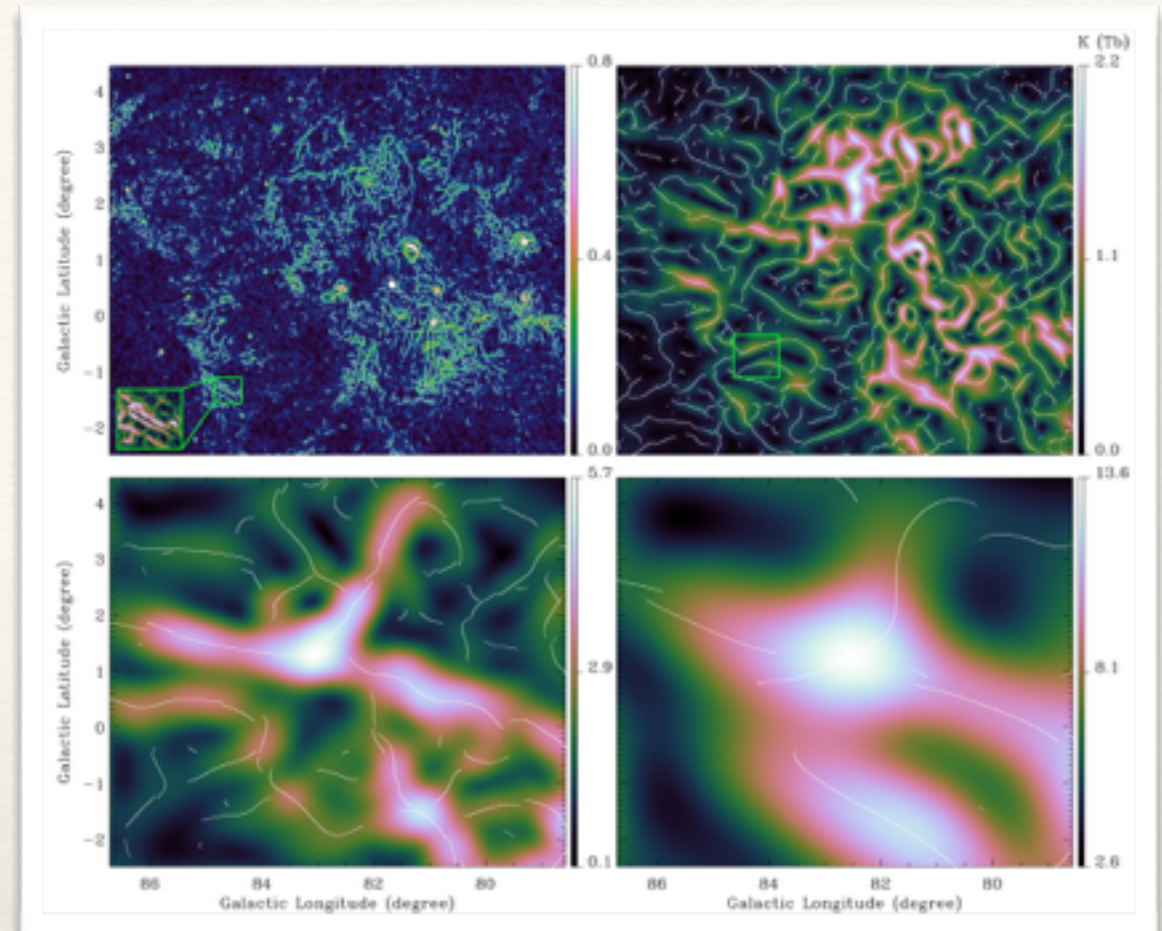
# Polarisation gradient

Robitaille & Scaife 2015, MNRAS **451**.4891

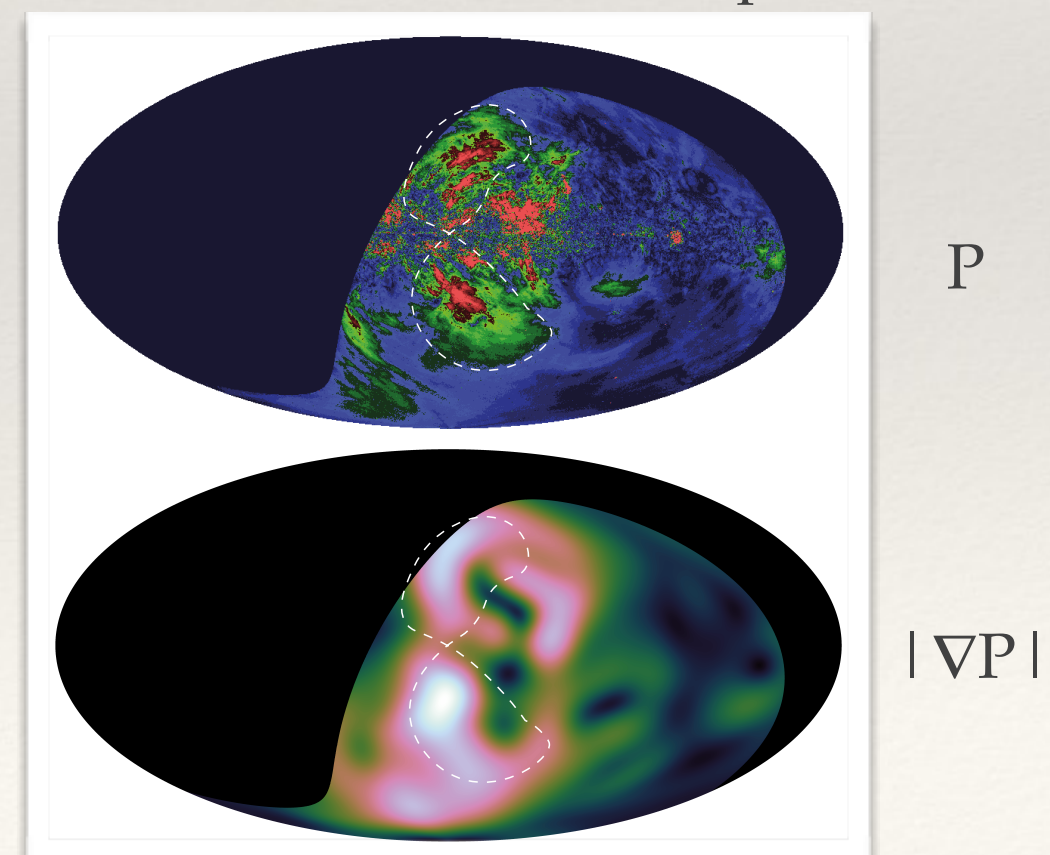
$$|\nabla \mathbf{P}| = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial U}{\partial y}\right)^2}$$

- ❖  $|\nabla \mathbf{P}|$  measures the rate at which the polarisation vector traces out a trajectory in the Q-U plane as a function of position on the sky.
- ❖ Invariant under rotation and translation of the Q-U plane.
- ❖ Using a wavelet formalism we extended the polarisation gradient analysis at multiple spatial scales.

Galactic Plane Survey



S-PASS (Parkes Telescope)



# Spin-2 decomposition

$$(Q \pm iU)' = \exp(\mp 2i\theta)(Q \pm iU)$$

Rotationally invariant in “real space”

Zaldarriaga & Seljak 1997

$$\tilde{E}(\hat{n}) \equiv -[\overline{\partial\partial}(Q + iU) + \partial\partial(Q - iU)]/2$$

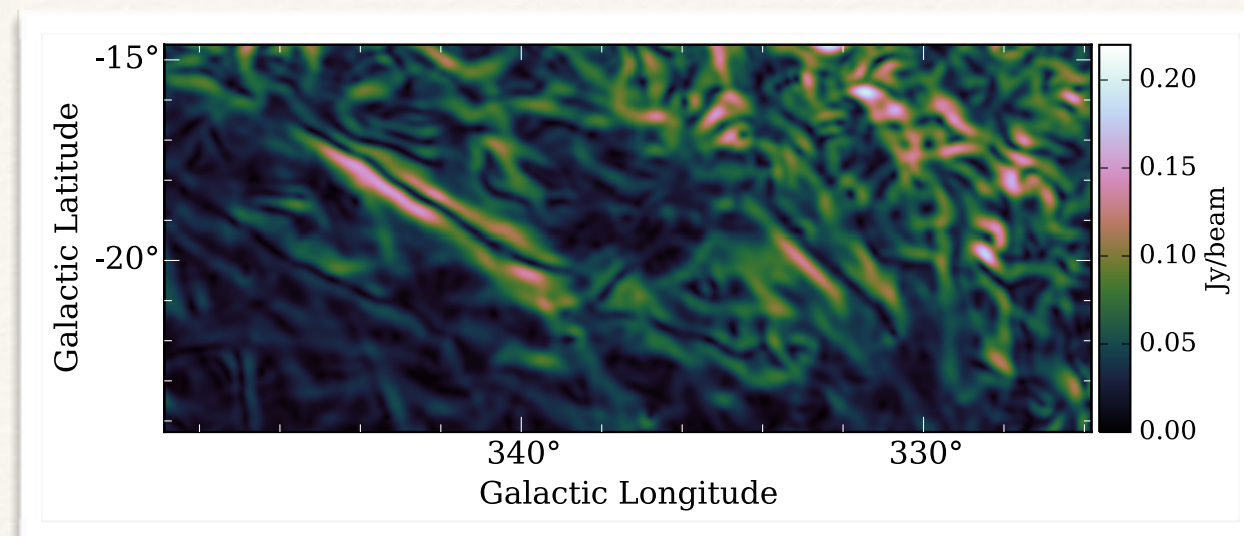
$$\tilde{B}(\hat{n}) \equiv i[\overline{\partial\partial}(Q + iU) - \partial\partial(Q - iU)]/2$$

In the flat-sky approximation

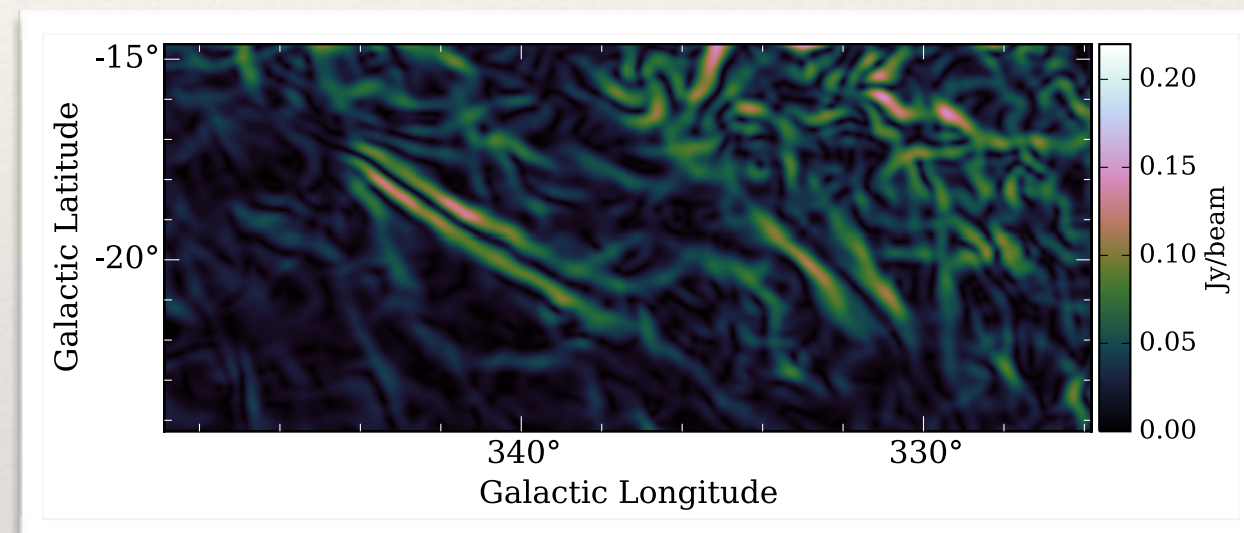
Bunn et al. 2003

$$\nabla^2 E = \tilde{E}(\hat{n}) \quad \nabla^2 B = \tilde{B}(\hat{n})$$

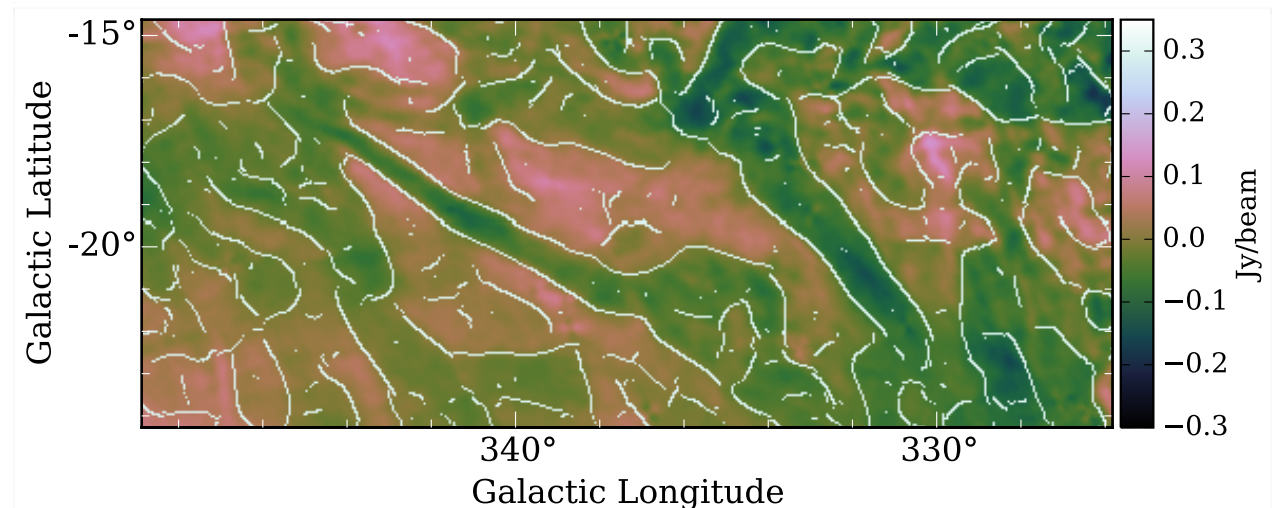
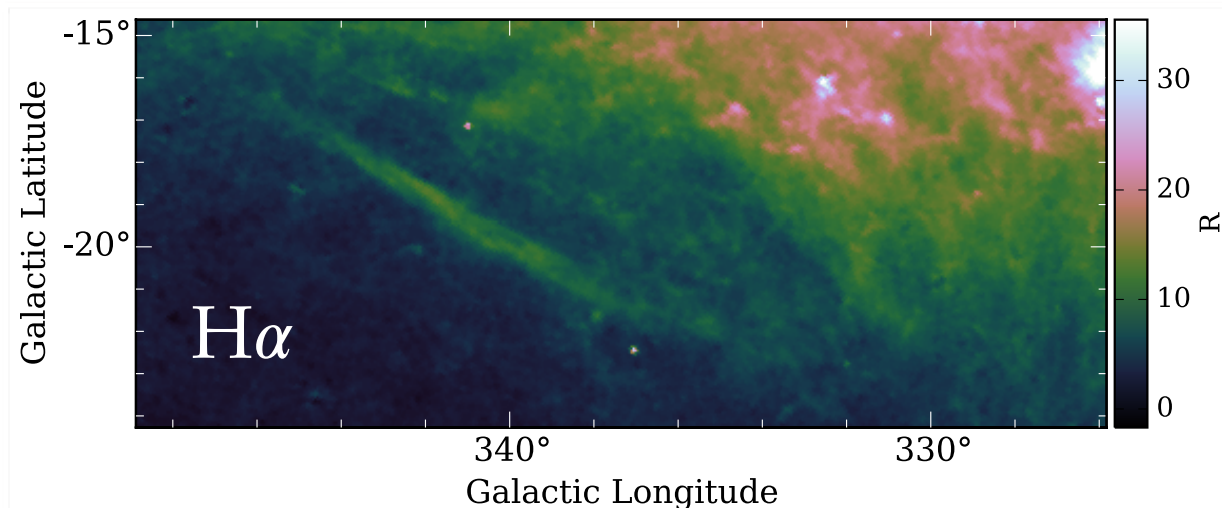
$|\nabla P|$



$|\nabla E|$



*E mode &  $|\nabla P|$  maxima chains*

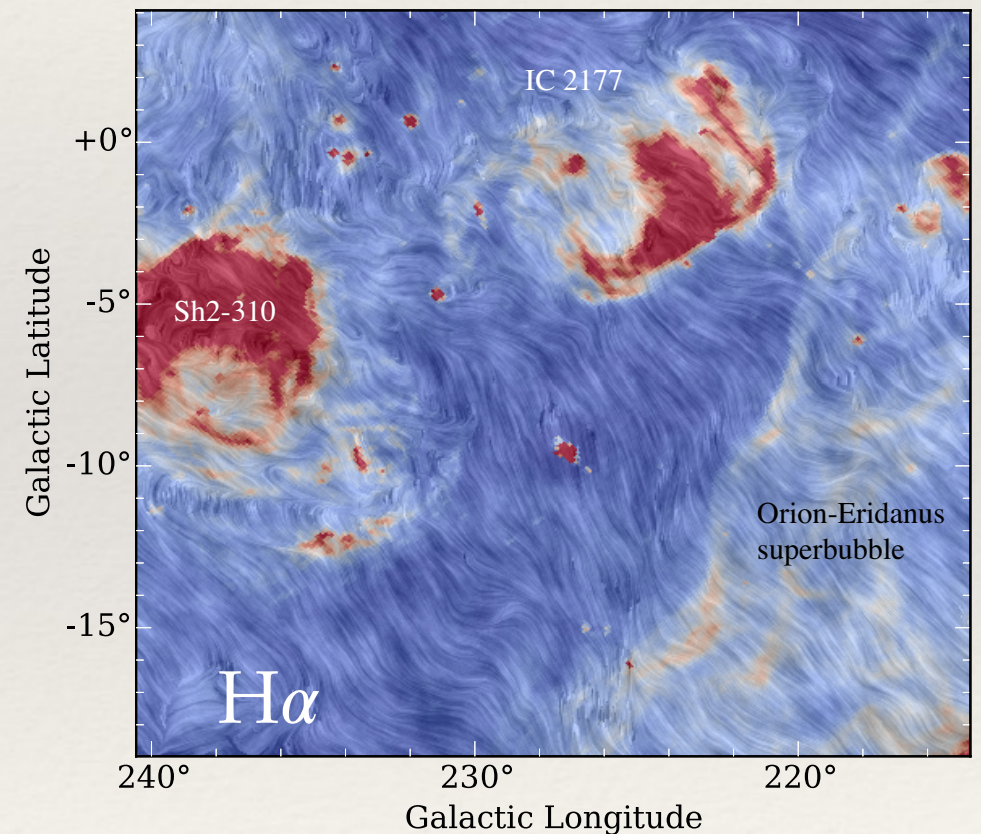
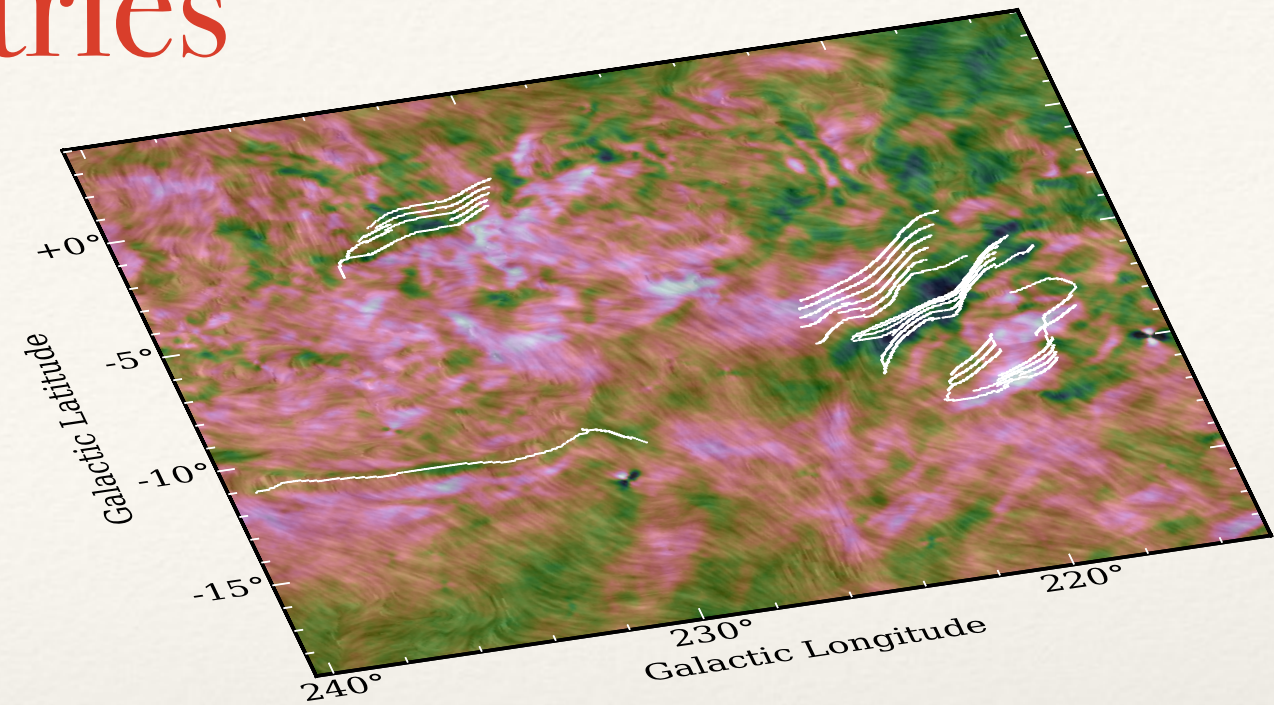
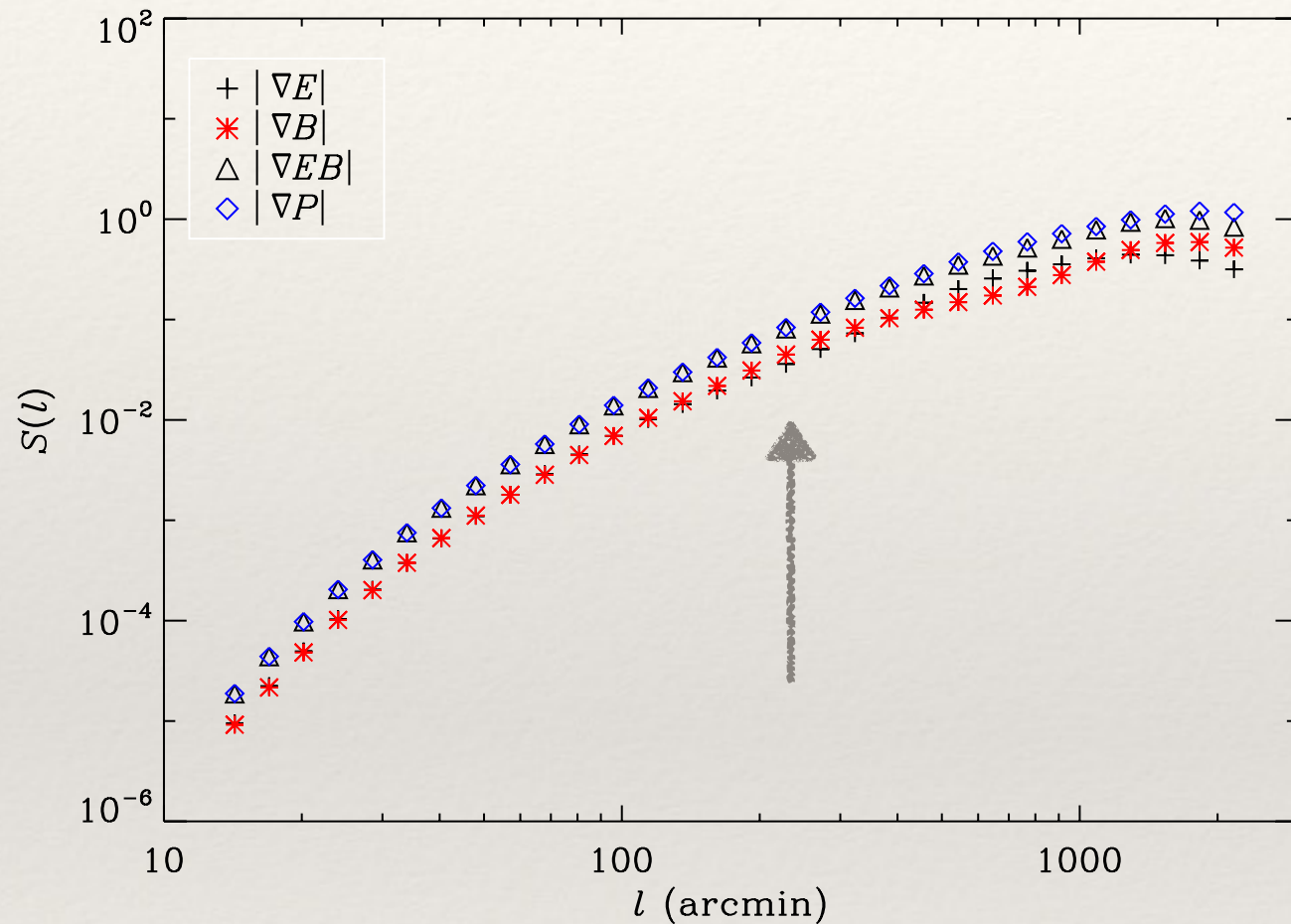


# Localising E-B asymmetries

## Wavelet power spectra

$$S_Y(l) = \langle |\nabla \tilde{Y}(l, \mathbf{x})|^2 \rangle_{\mathbf{x}}$$

↑ ↑ Spatial scale



Multiscale analysis of the gradient of linear polarization

Robitaille & Scaife 2015, MNRAS **451**.4891

Unification of linear polarisation decomposition techniques

Robitaille & Scaife 2016, in preparation

[jean-francois.robaille@manchester.ac.uk](mailto:jean-francois.robaille@manchester.ac.uk)