



# Gravity drives the evolution of infrared dark hubs

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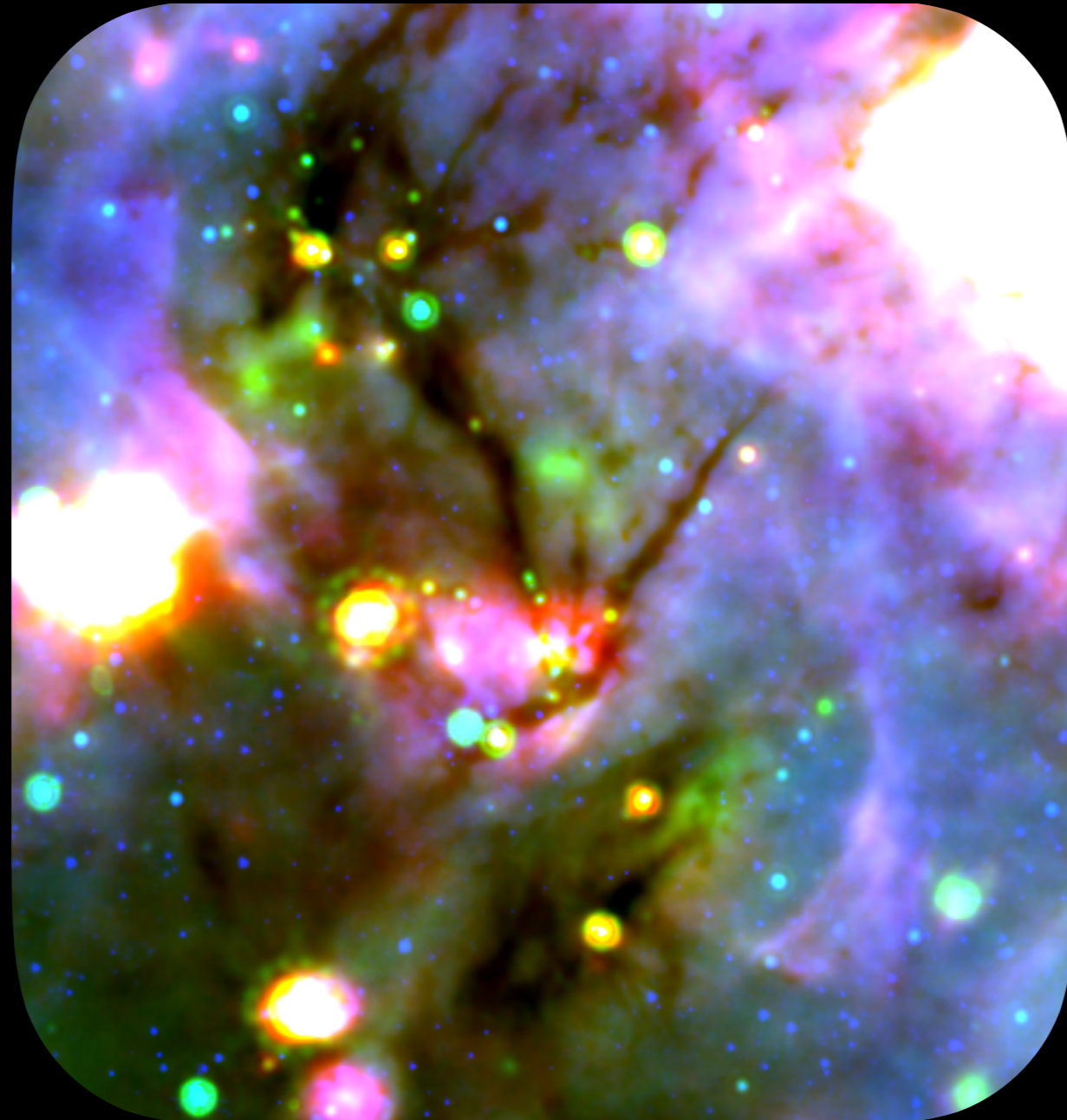


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# The SDC13 hub



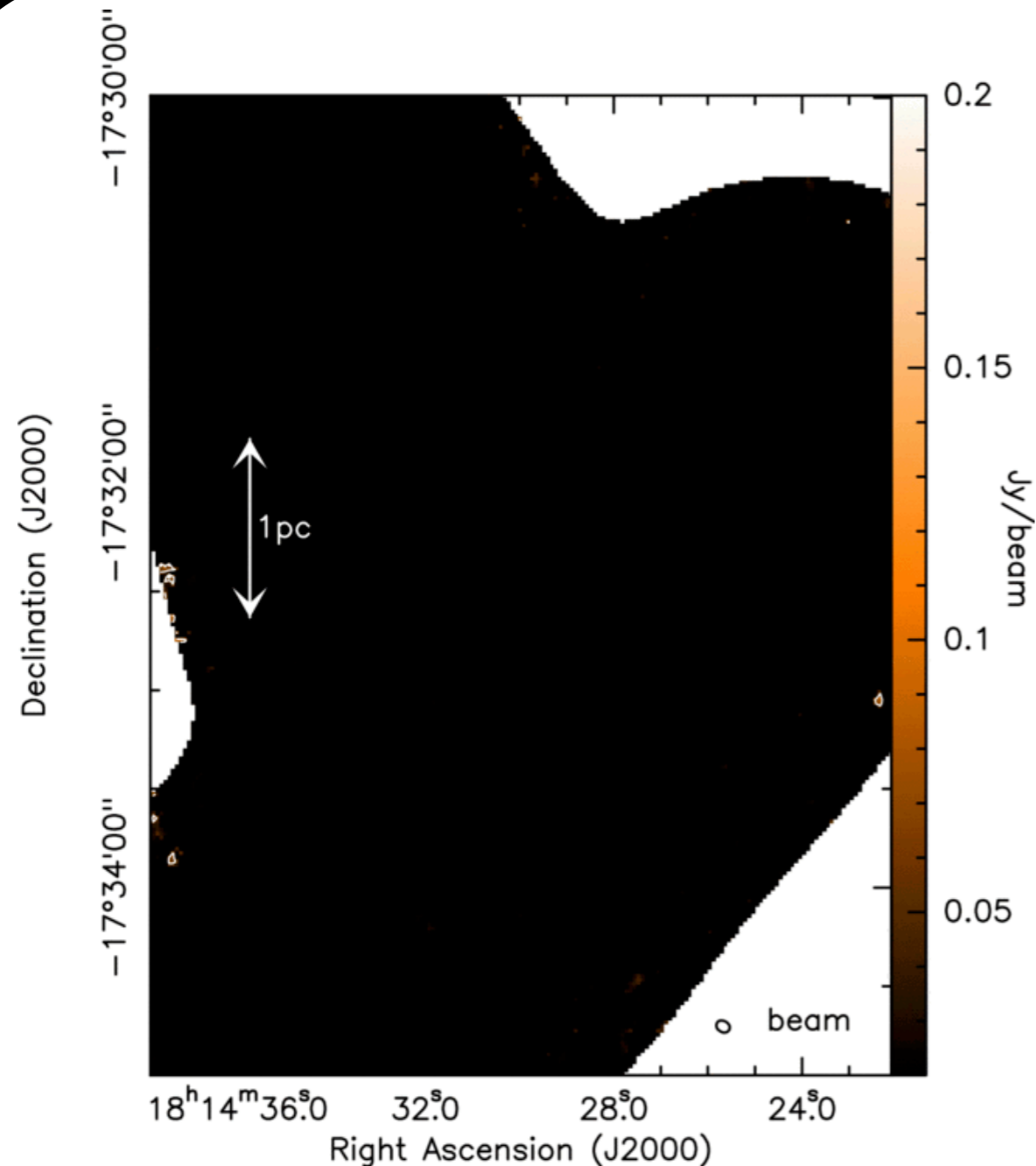
Three colour image

**R** 70μm HIGAL

**G** 24μm MIPSGAL

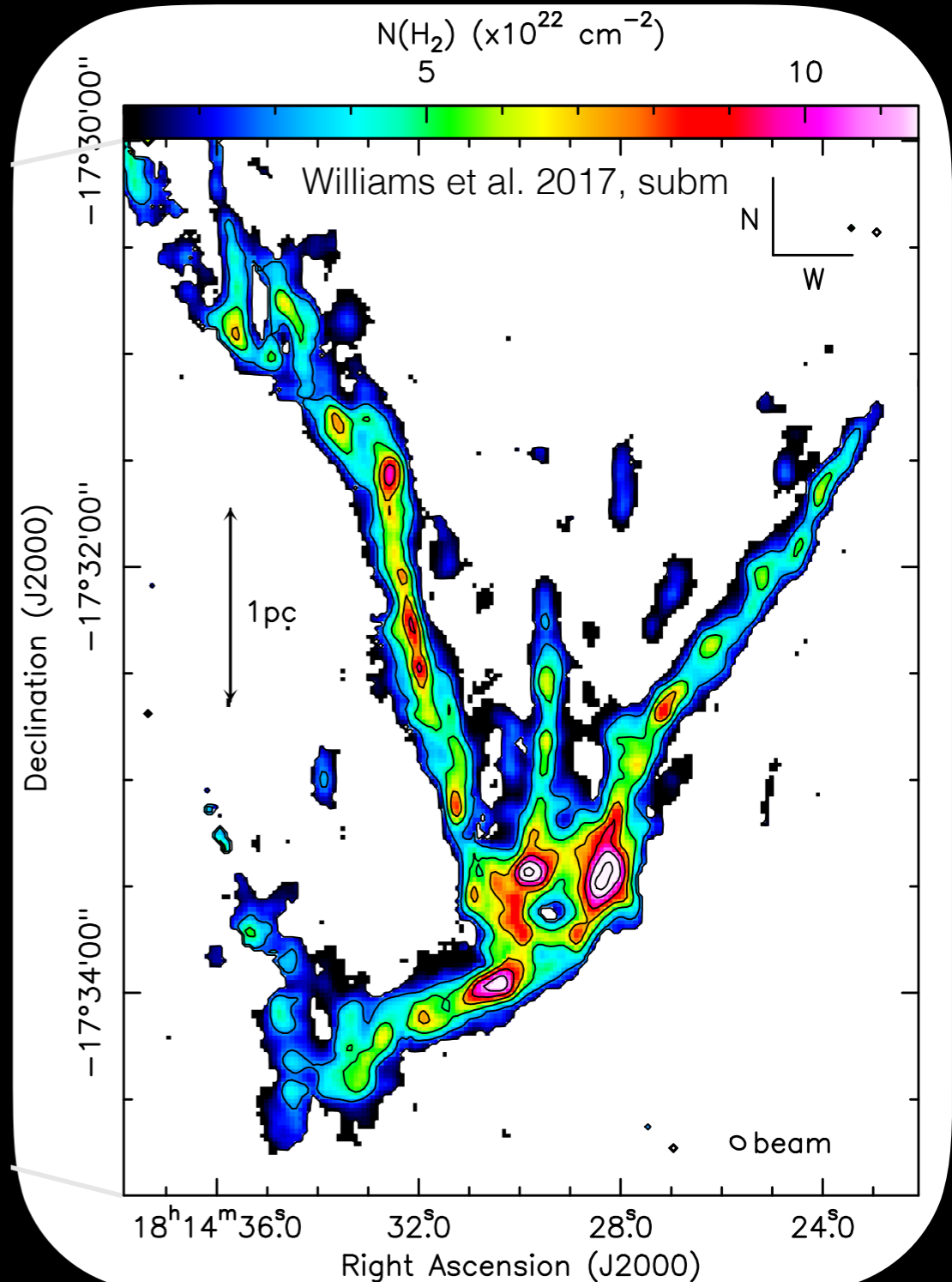
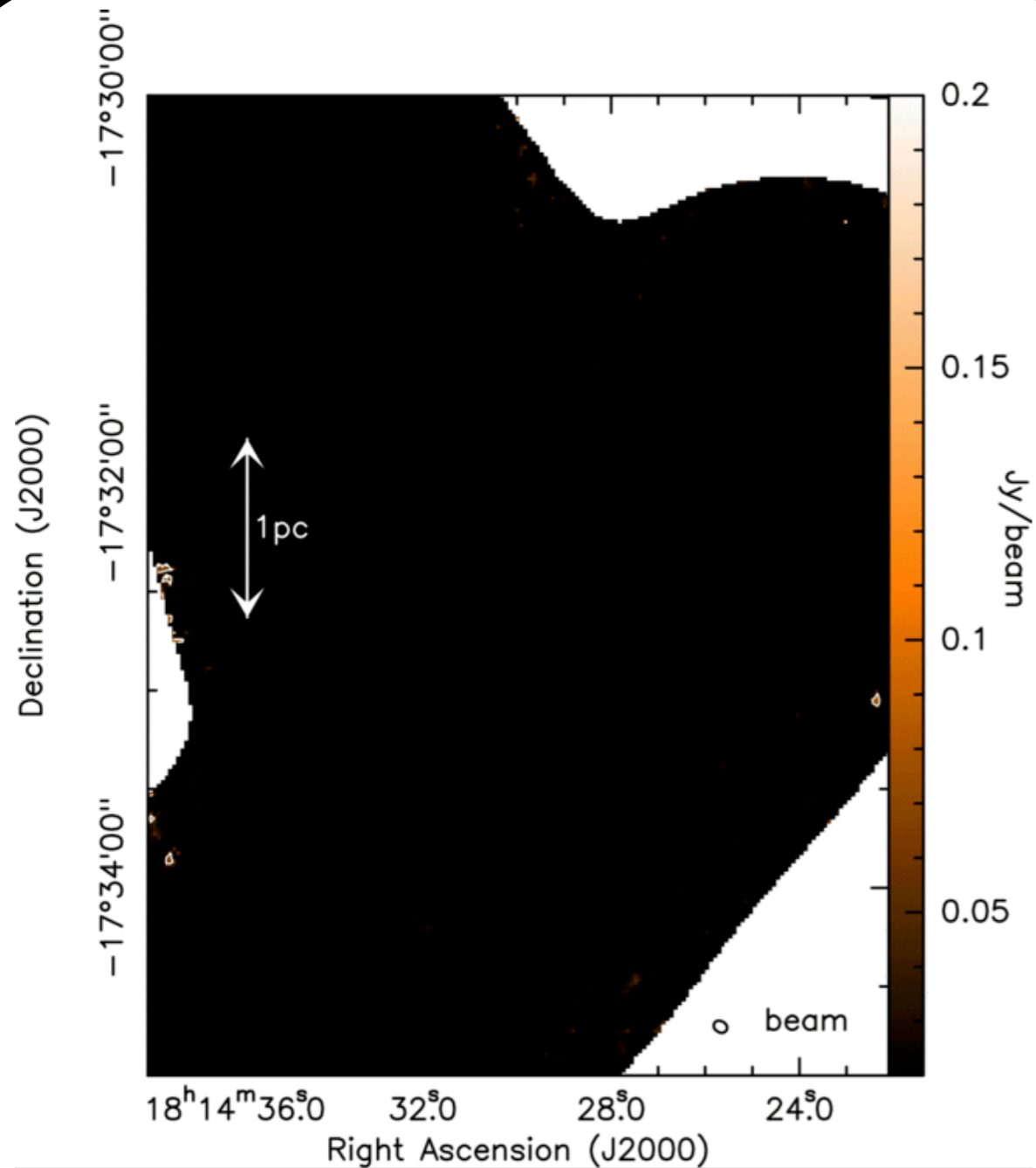
**B** 8μm GLIMPSE

# The SDC13 hub

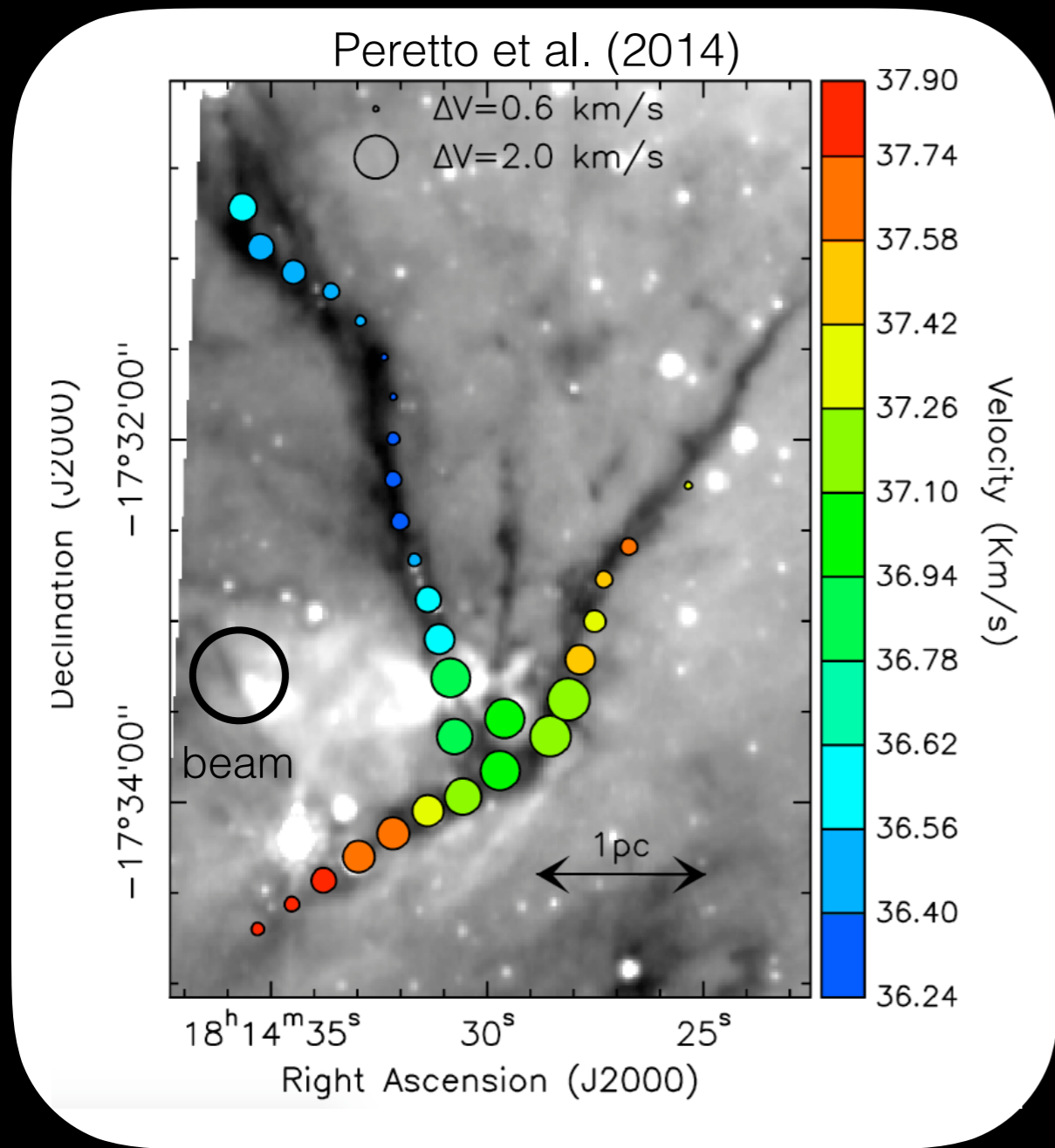


- NH<sub>3</sub>(1,1) and NH<sub>3</sub>(2,2)
- New, combined data set from the JVLA interferometer and GBT single-dish
- 7 times better angular resolution than old data
- ~4", 0.07 pc scales

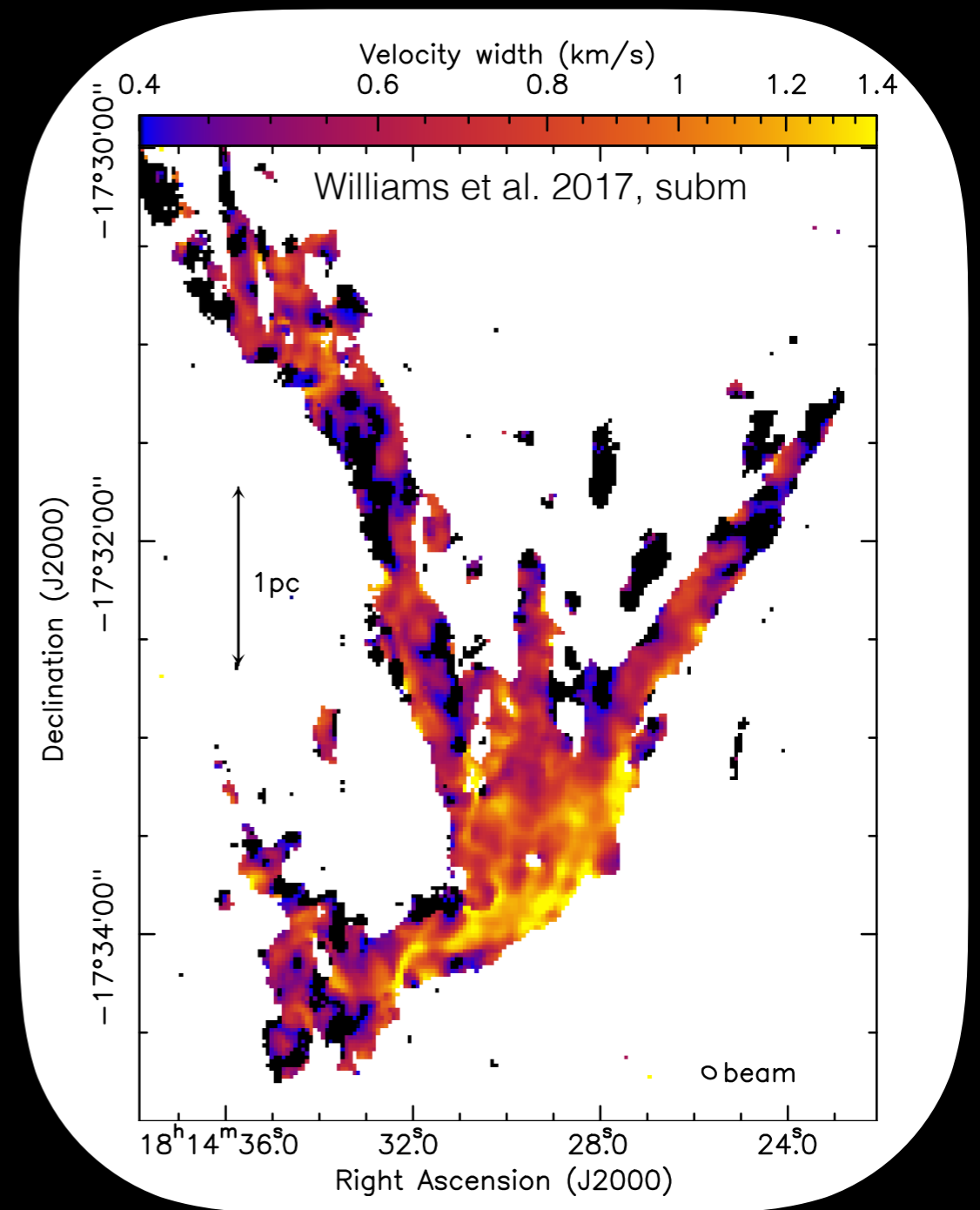
# The SDC13 hub



# Velocity width



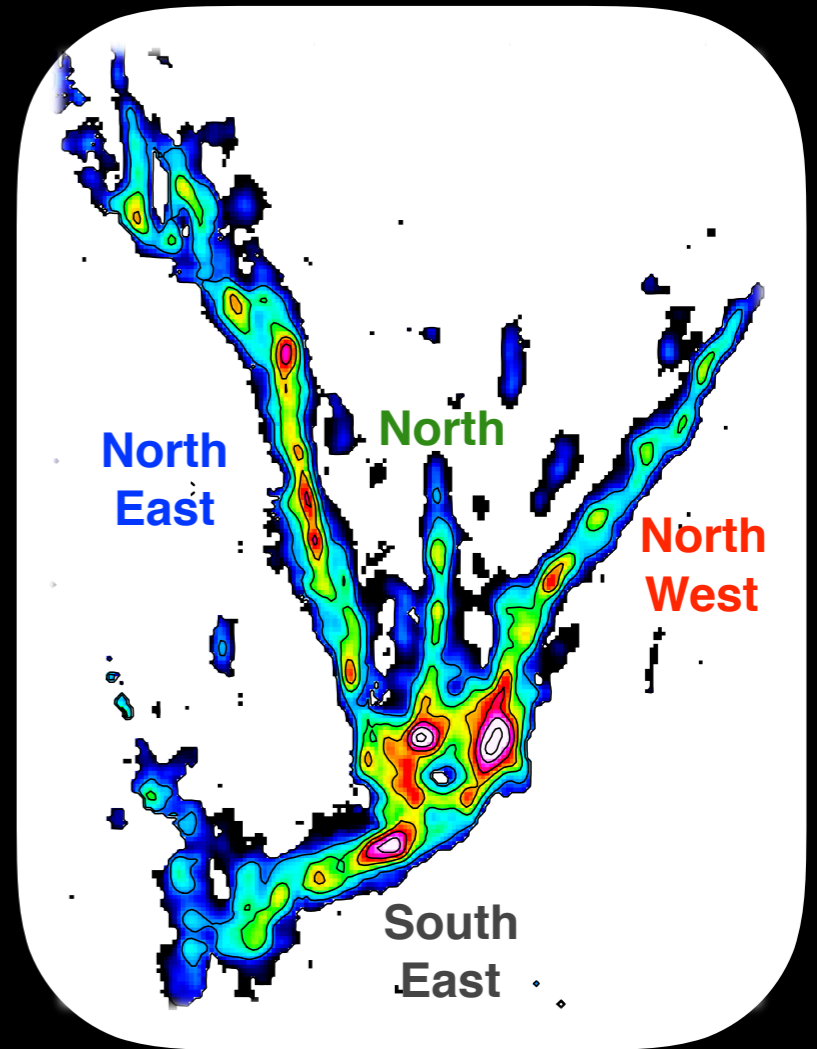
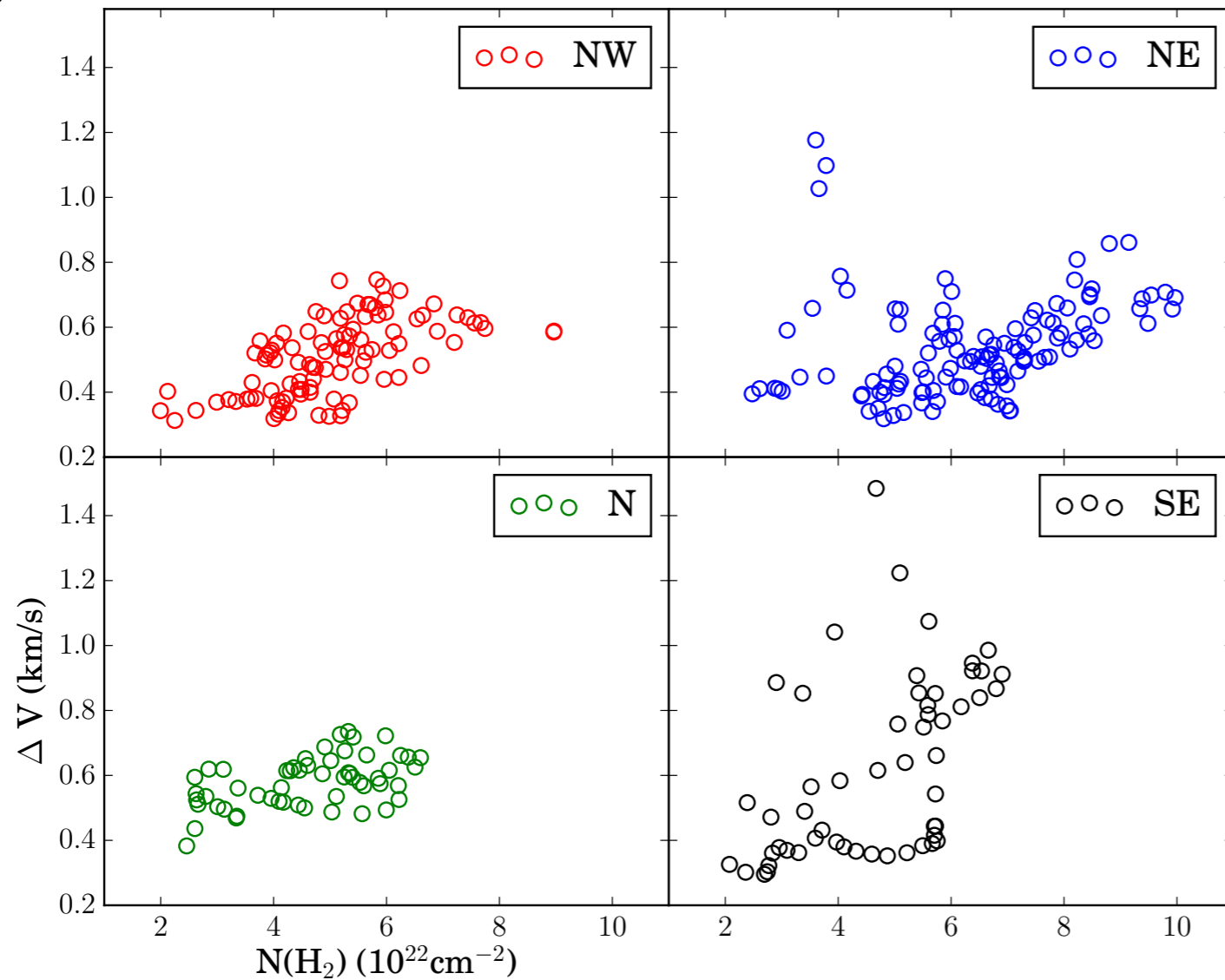
IRAM 30m  $N_2H^+(1,0)$  emission  
Greyscale: Spitzer 8 $\mu m$  image



JVLA+GBT combined  $NH_3(1,1)$  velocity width

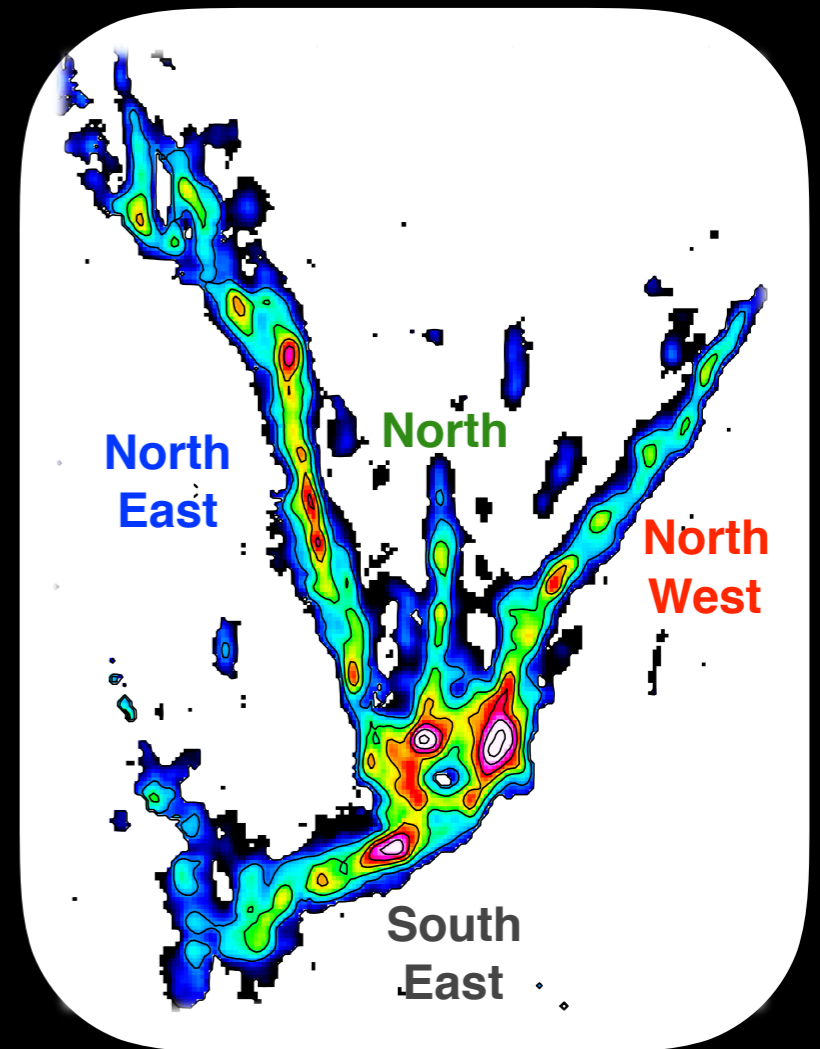
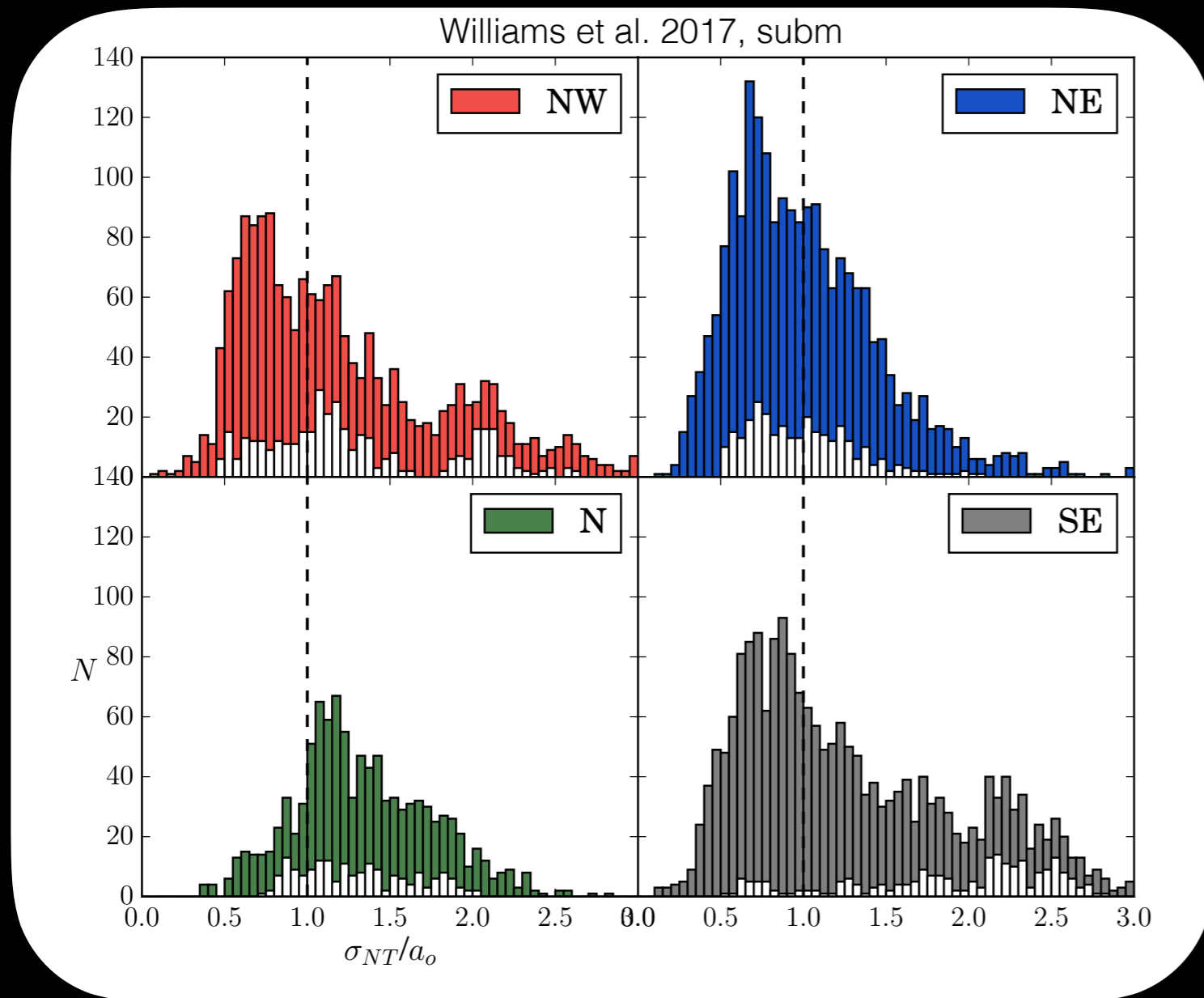
# Velocity width broadening

Williams et al. 2017, subm



Velocity width is seen to increase with column density along the filament spines.

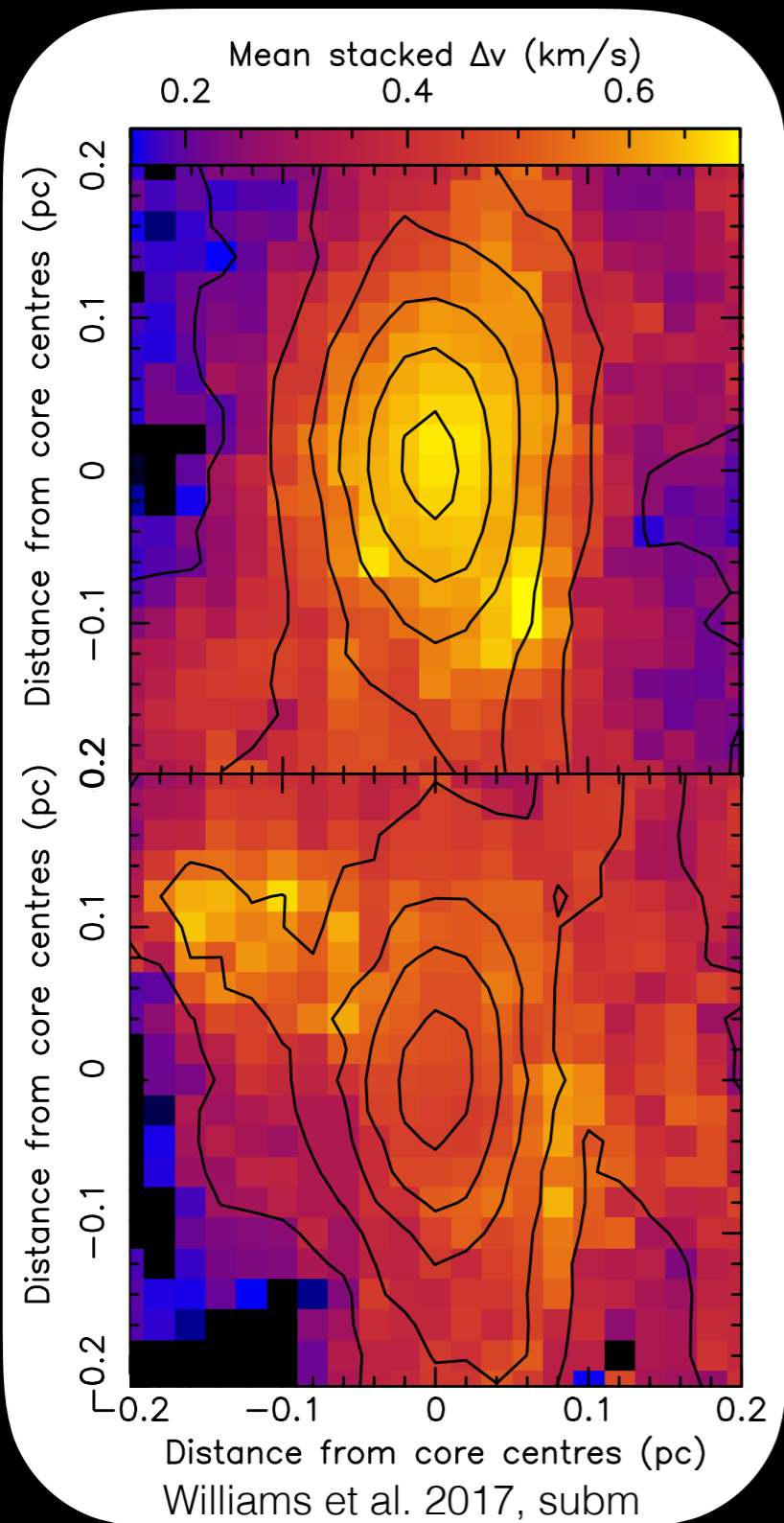
# Velocity width broadening



$$\sigma_{NT} = \sqrt{\frac{\Delta V_{obs}^2}{8 \ln 2} - \frac{k_b T}{m_{NH_3}}}$$

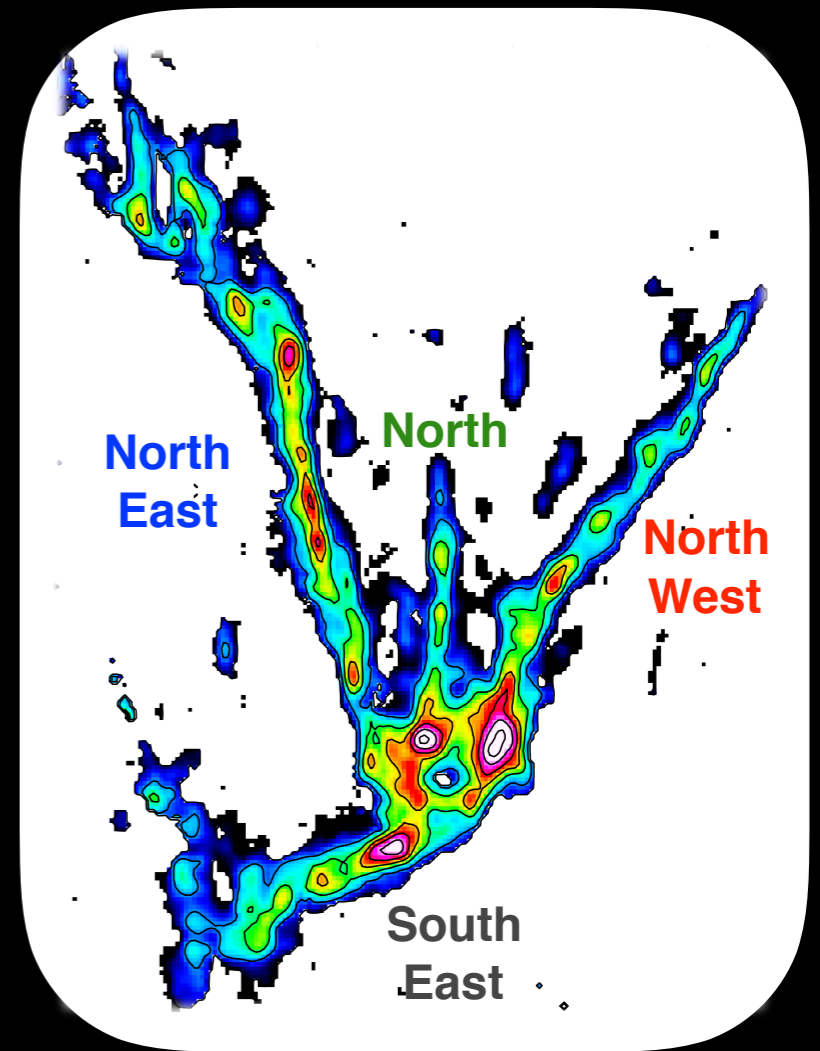
Supersonic behaviour seen to correspond well with the positions of 68% of cores (white histograms).

# Velocity width broadening



*Starless*  
cores  
WITH  
 $\Delta V$  peaks

*Starless*  
cores  
WITHOUT  
 $\Delta V$  peaks

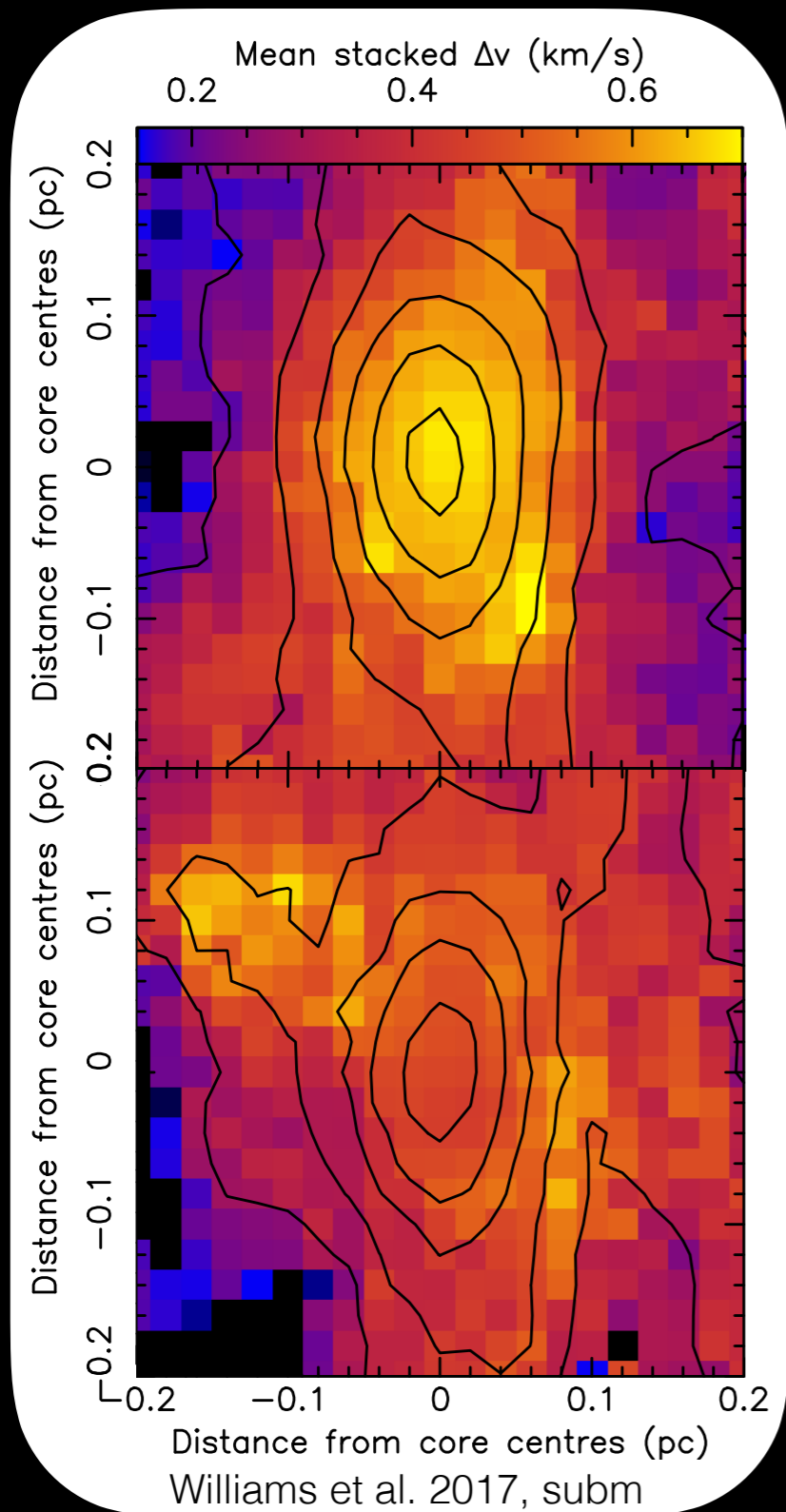


On average,  $\Delta V$  peaks are 1.5x broader than non-peaked cores.



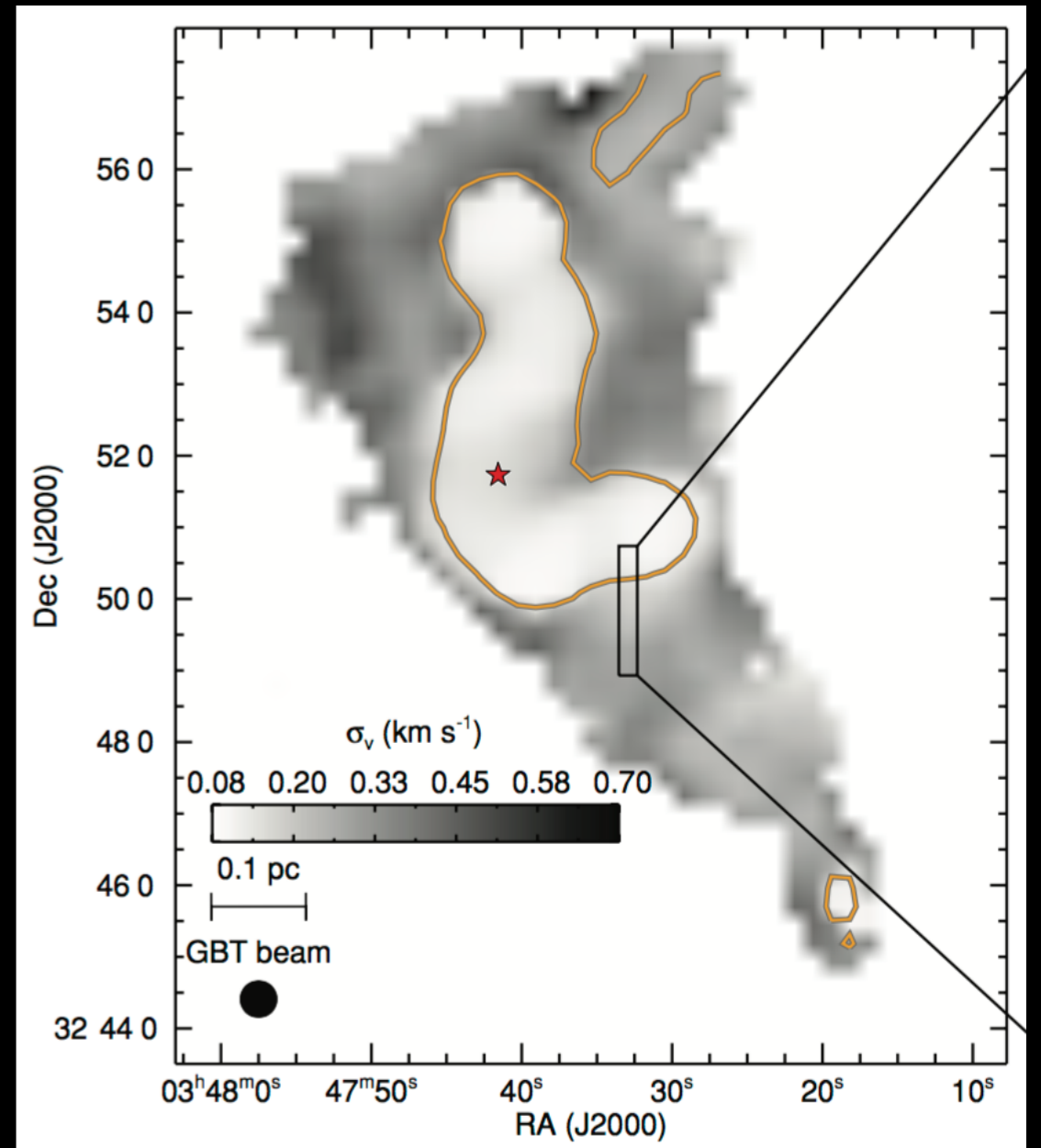
# Velocity width broadening

B5 region of Perseus  
Pineda et al. (2010)



*Starless*  
cores  
WITH  
 $\Delta v$  peaks

*Starless*  
cores  
WITHOUT  
 $\Delta v$  peaks



Troughs in  $\Delta v$  interpreted as  
dissipation of turbulence

# Velocity width broadening

- Transonic filaments expected out of turbulent ISM — supersonic shocks create stagnation regions where turbulent energy is dissipated
  - SDC13, with mostly transonic filaments, seems to represent such a post-shock region
- Supersonic nature of SDC13 cores then purely generated by gravity, representing accumulation of material, converting GPE into KE in the process

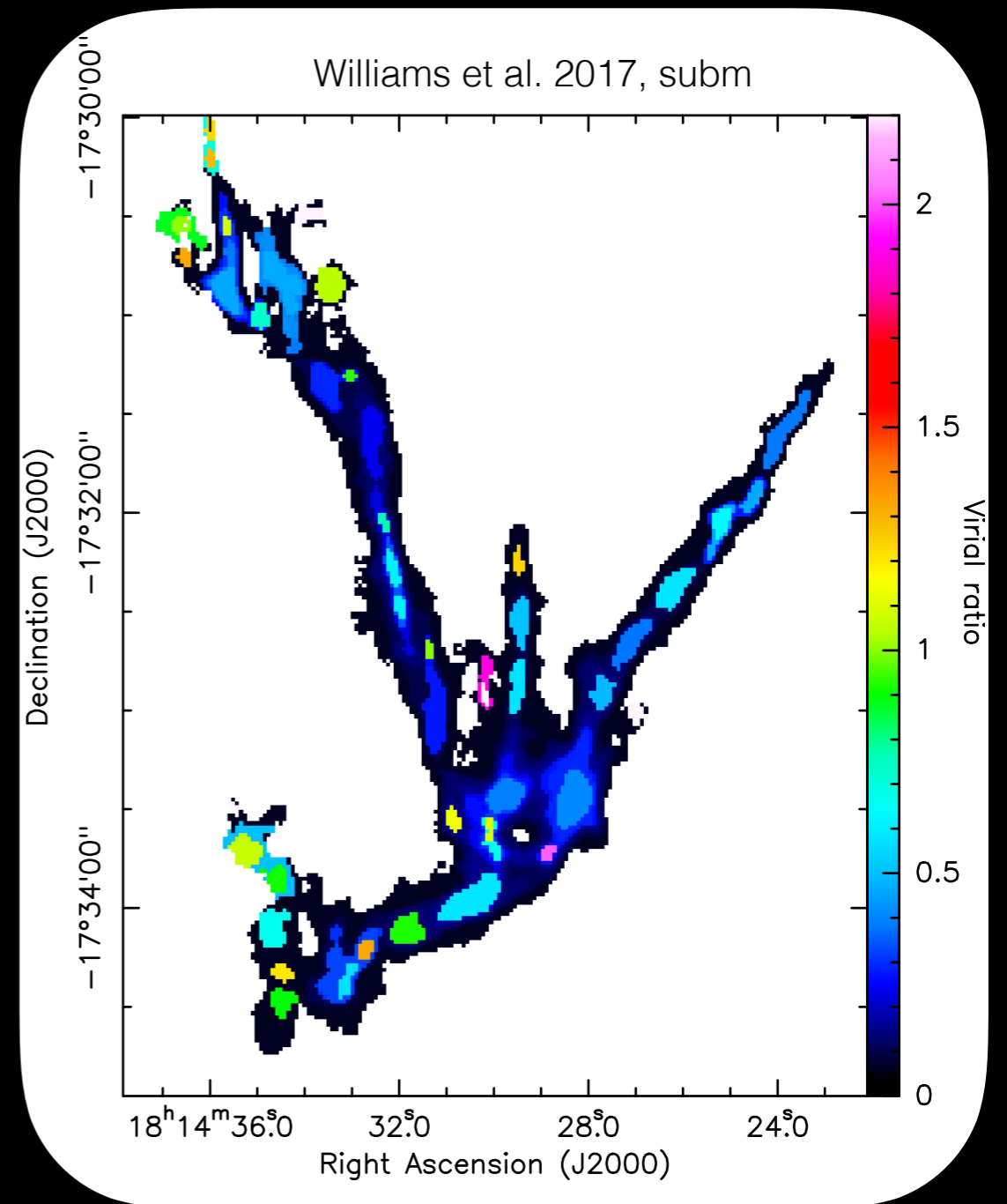
# Velocity width broadening

- Truly starless cores are central to core accretion models of massive star formation
- Other sources of  $\Delta V$  peaks in the “starless cores”:
  - Deeply embedded protostars
  - Already sub-fragmented into core systems
- My accepted ALMA Cycle 5 proposal will settle the issue

# Evolution of the virial ratio

$$\alpha_{vir} = \frac{5a_{eff}^2 R}{GM}$$

Virial ratio evolves from very sub-virial in the larger filament, towards less sub-virial/virial at the cores.



A conclusion also reached by Peretto et al. (2017) in prep

# Evolution of the virial ratio

$$\alpha_{vir} = \frac{5a_{eff}^2 R}{GM}$$

can be analytically described by,

$$\alpha_{vir} = 2 \frac{E_{k,0}}{|E_g|} + 2\epsilon \left( 1 - \frac{|E_{g,0}|}{|E_g|} \right)$$

where  $\epsilon$  is the energy conversion efficiency.

# Evolution of the virial ratio

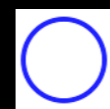
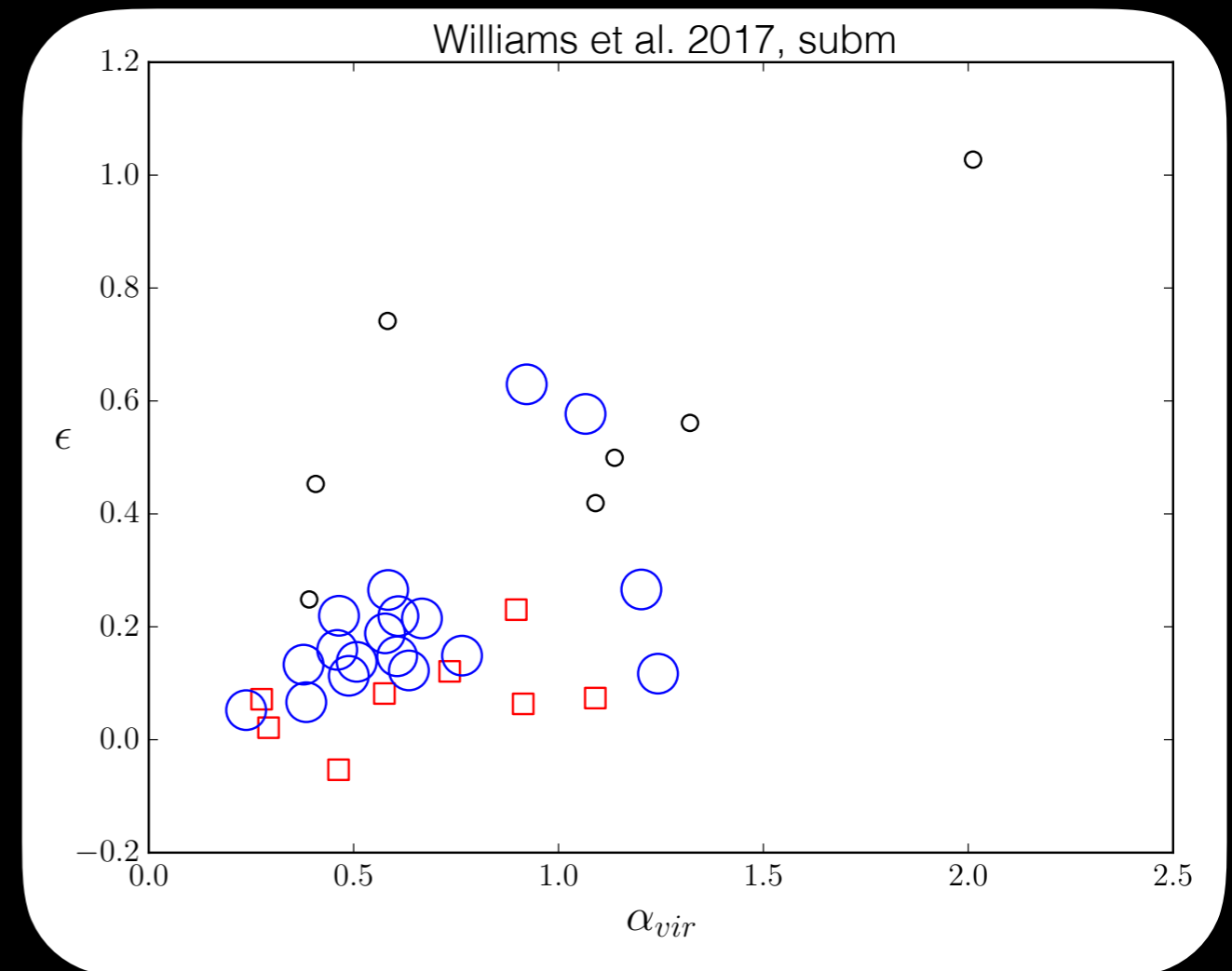
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where  $\epsilon$  is the energy conversion efficiency.

Average  $\epsilon \sim 20\%$



Cores with peak in velocity width.



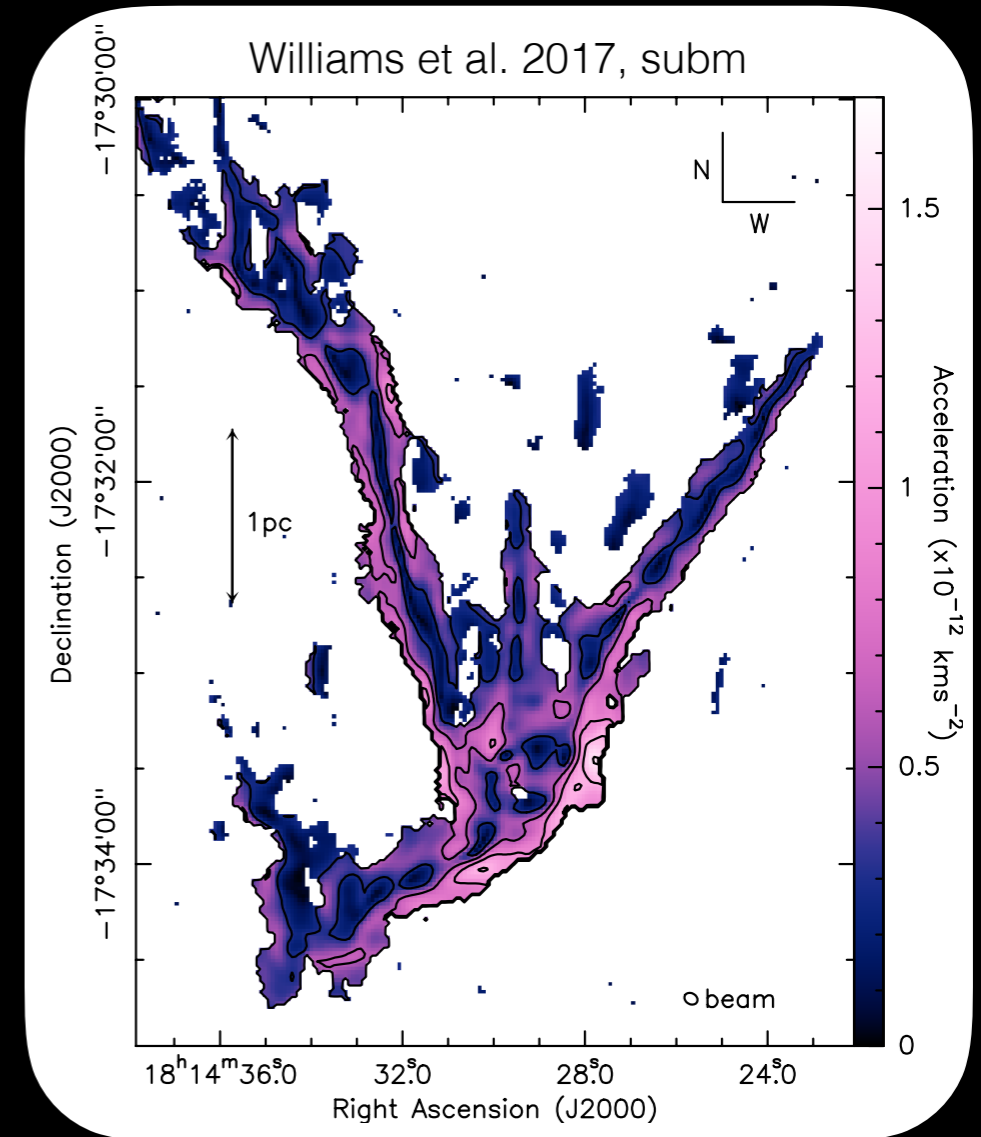
Prestellar and hub centre cores.



Cores with no peak in velocity width.

# Gravitational acceleration

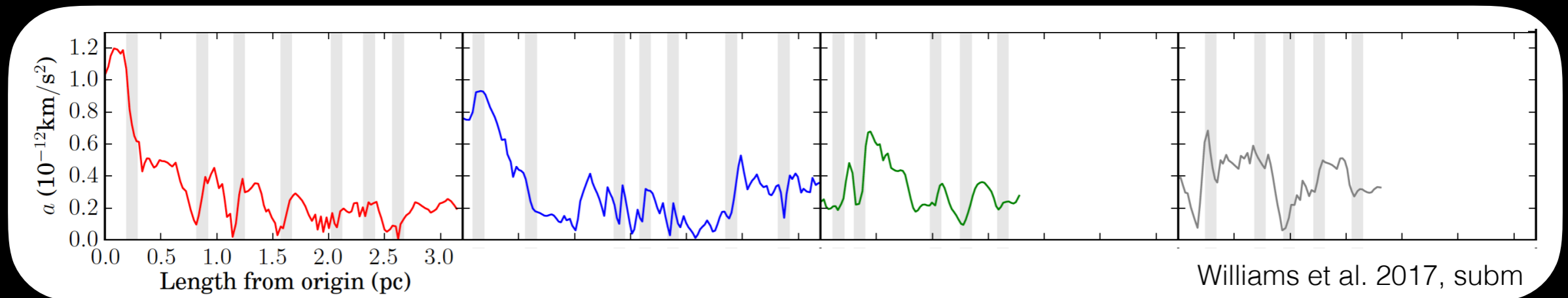
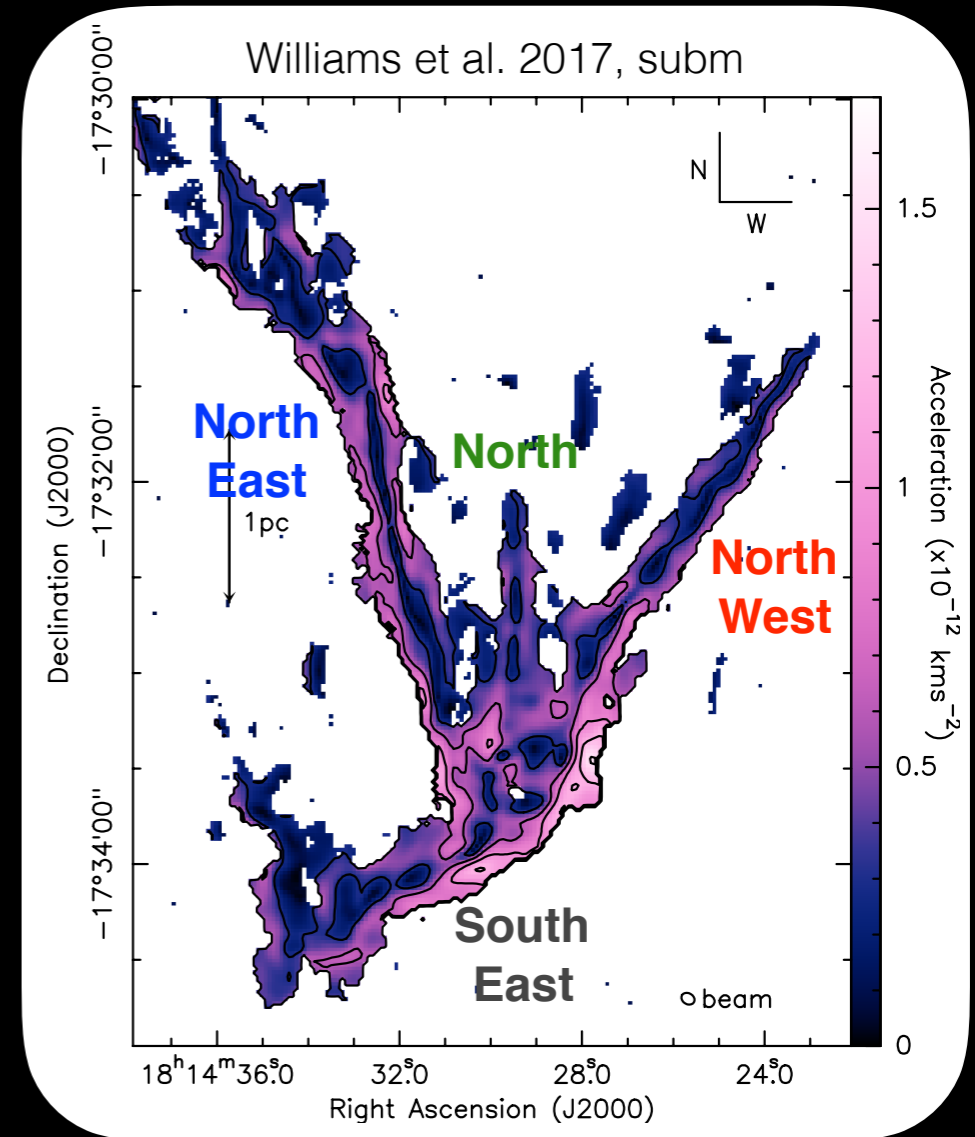
$$|\mathbf{a}_j| = \left| \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{Gm_i}{r_{i,j}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i,j} \right|$$



# Gravitational acceleration

$$|\mathbf{a}_j| = \left| \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{Gm_i}{r_{i,j}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i,j} \right|$$

- Acceleration increases towards hub centre
- Largest acceleration gradients at the centre of the hub

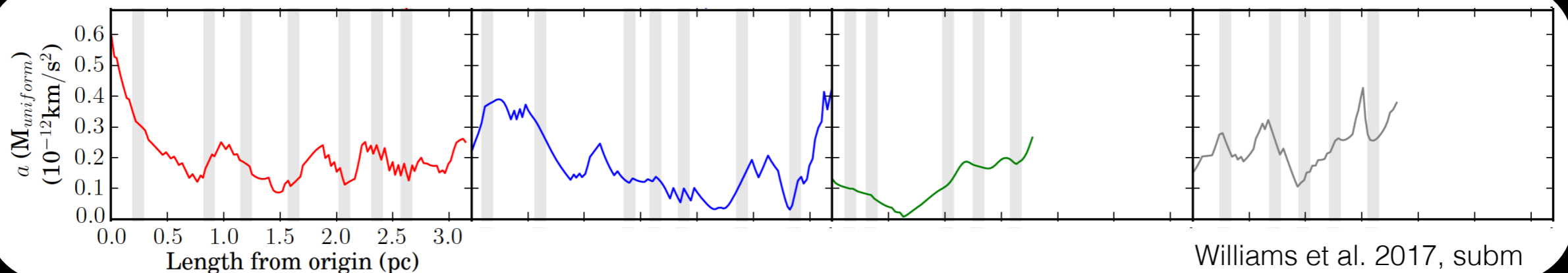
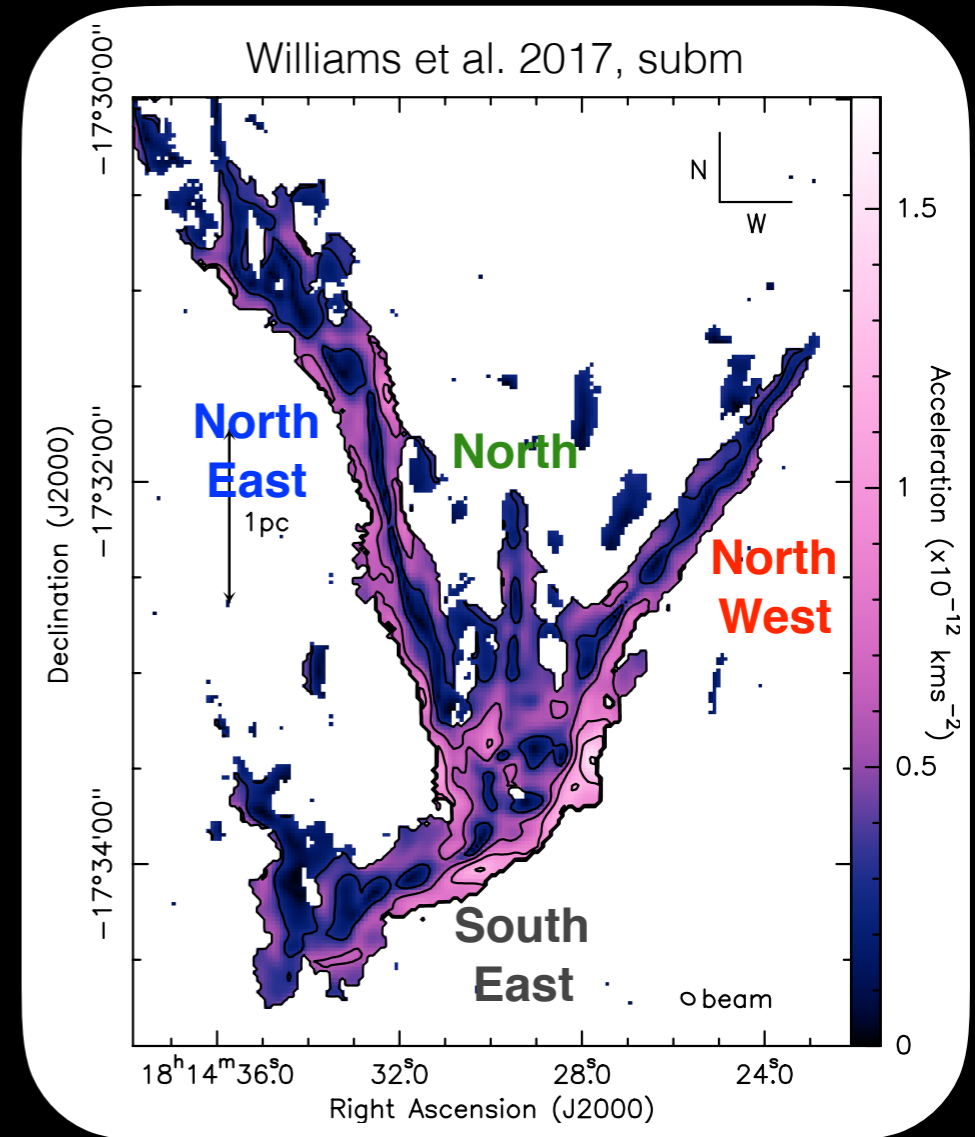




# Gravitational acceleration

$$|\mathbf{a}_j| = \left| \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{Gm_i}{r_{i,j}^3} \mathbf{r}_{i,j} \right|$$

- Large scale oscillations in acceleration prevail with the removal of density fluctuations
- Hub morphology is the main driver of the SDC13 kinematics



# Conclusions

- Velocity width of  $\text{NH}_3$  increases towards 68% of starless cores in SDC13
  - represents the conversion of GPE into KE during accretion
- Acceleration gradients largest at hub centre, coinciding with the largest starless core
  - Hub morphology is the main driver of SDC13 kinematics



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