

Sept 30, 2017, IceCube Polar Science WS, Berlin

Ilka Weikusat:

"Anisotropy in ice sheets - some types and causes", Neutrino-astronomy meets ice drilling and glaciology, 30 September 2017 *Humboldt University*  
List of references with full biblio info

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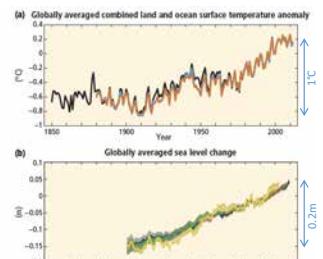
Located at estuary of river Weser into the North-Sea



# Why should we care about anisotropy?



Sea level  
IPCC - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
(set up by UN to assess of the scientific basis of climate change for policymakers)



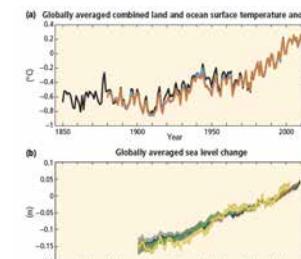
Observations (over ca. 100a)

IPCC 2014



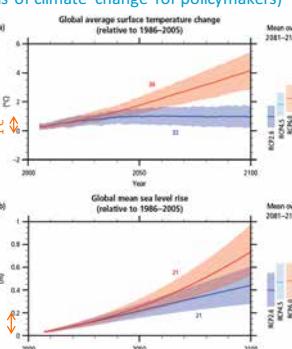
## Sea level

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Observations (over ca. 100a)

IPCC 2014

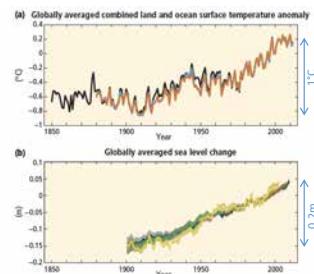


Projections (for ca. 100a)



## Sea level

IPCC - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
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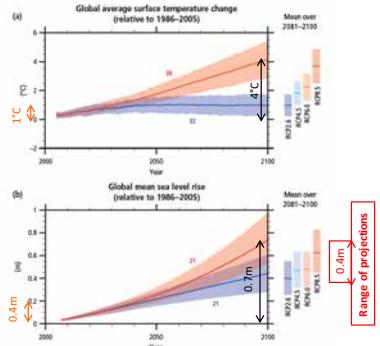
Observations (over ca. 100a)

IPCC 2014



## Ice sheets & Sea level

IPCC - Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
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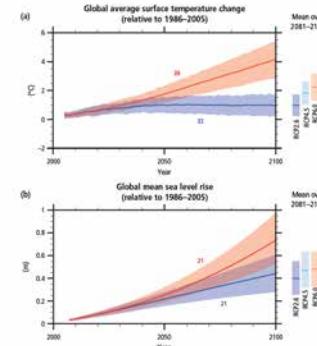
Projections (for ca. 100a)



IPCC 2014:  
-low confidence in the available  
models' ability to project **solid  
ice discharge**

-models **likely underestimate**  
**ice sheet contribution**

->**underestimation** of projected  
**sea level rise**

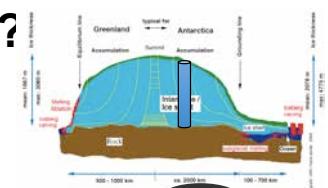


Projections (for ca. 100a)

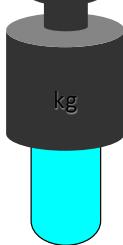


# Why should we care about anisotropy?

- Glaciology: ice discharge and sea level



Predictions by large scale flow models  
Ice deformation



Glen's flow law

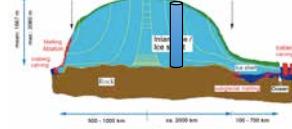
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Ilka Weikusat Glen 1955



# Why should we care about anisotropy?

- Glaciology: ice discharge and sea level



Predictions by large scale flow models  
Ice deformation

$$\dot{\varepsilon} = B \cdot \exp(-Q/RT) \cdot \sigma^n$$

$\dot{\varepsilon}$  = strain rate ("How fast do we deform?")  
 $\sigma$  = stress ("How much do we press?")  
 $T$  = temperature  
 $R$  = ideal gas constant ("general physical constant")  
 $B, n, Q$  = treated as constant ("tuning parameters")

Glen's flow law



Glen 1955



# Why should we care about anisotropy?

- Ice cube: optical scatter length

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## Anisotropy types



### Intrinsic

Basically single material

- crystal orientation, crystal preferred orientation (CPO)
- crystal shapes, shape preferred orientation (SPO)



### Composite

Two or more materials with different properties

- Isotropic or anisotropic in isolation
- E.g. stack of layers

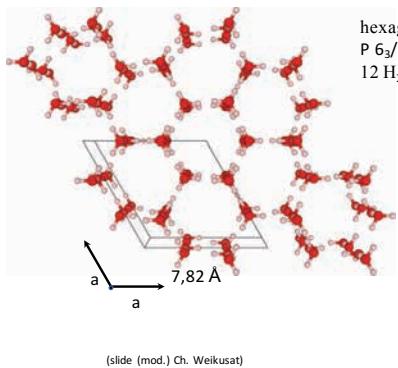
Griera et al. 2013

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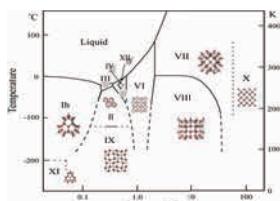
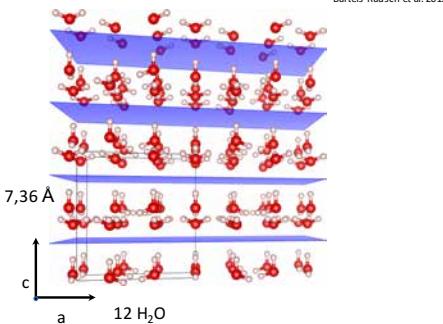
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## Intrinsic anisotropy - Crystal preferred orientation

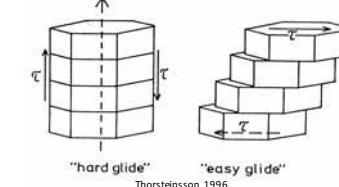
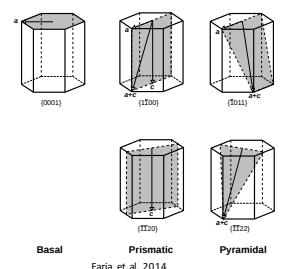


Ice Ih

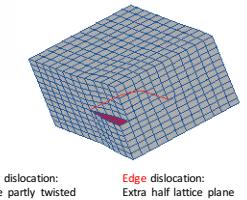


## Intrinsic anisotropy - Crystal preferred orientation (fabric)

Possible dislocation slip systems in ice



Dislocation:



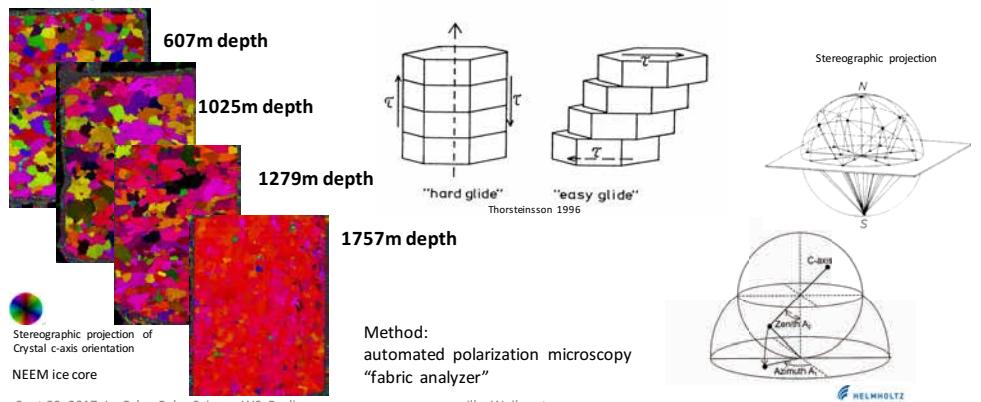
Activation of non-basal slip: **60-100x higher stresses**  
needed than for basal planes

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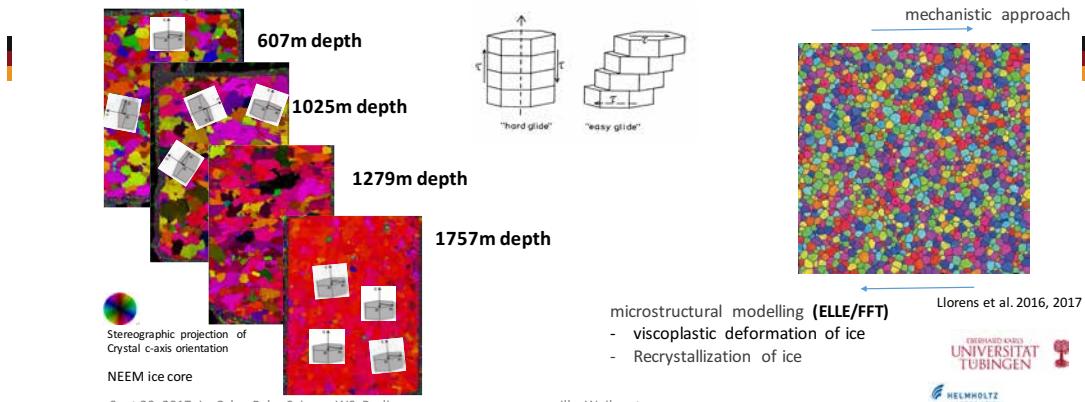


## Intrinsic anisotropy - Crystal preferred orientation (fabric)



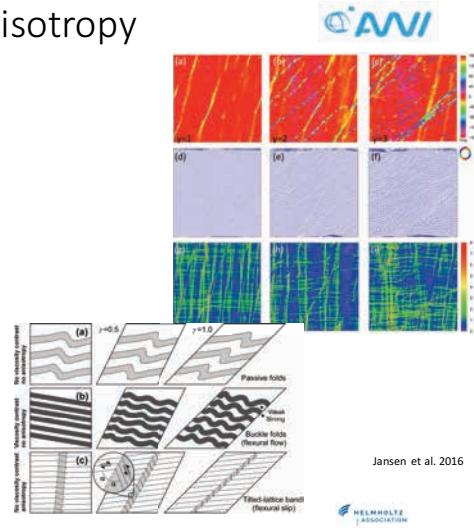
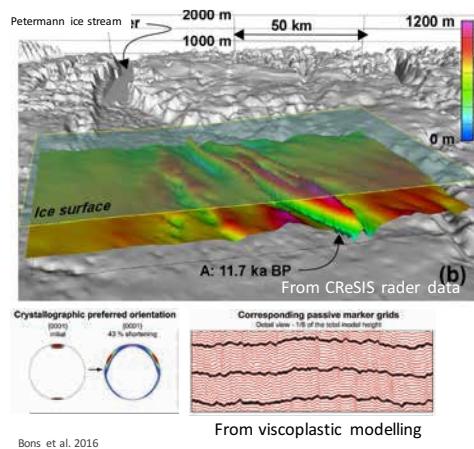
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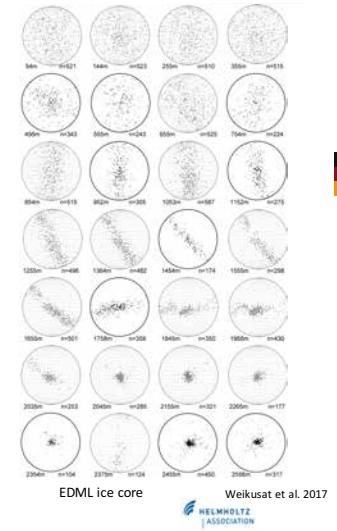
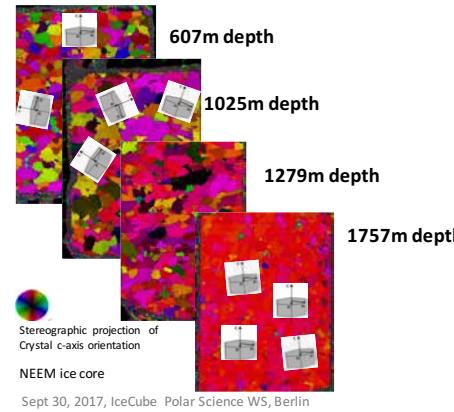


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Folding partly caused by anisotropy

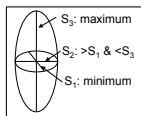


## Intrinsic anisotropy - Crystal preferred orientation

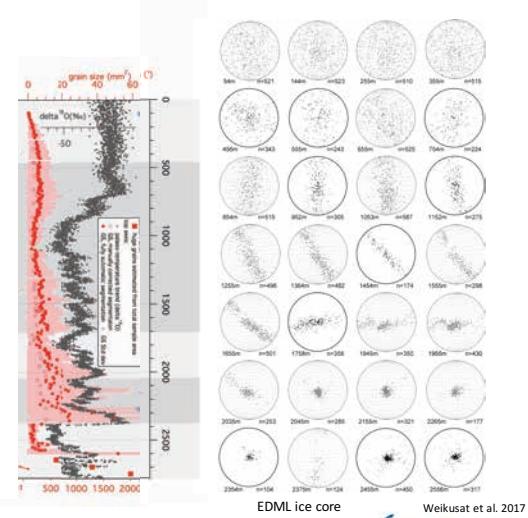
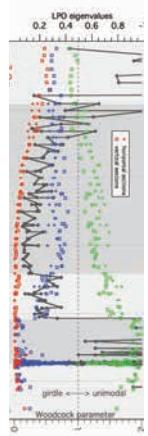


## Intrinsic anisotropy - CPO evolution with depth

CPO (fabrics)  
as  
Eigenvalues of 2<sup>nd</sup> order  
orientation tensor

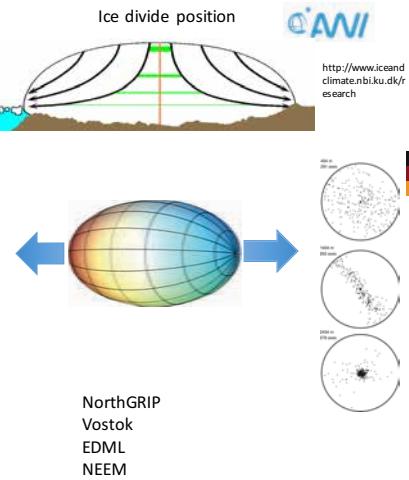
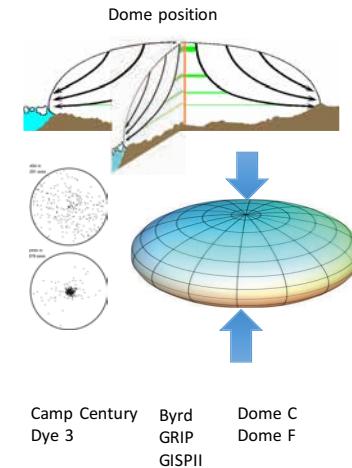


Strong single maximum:  
 $0 < S_3 \sim S_2 \sim 1/6; 2/3 S_3 \leq 1$   
Girdle:  
 $0 < S_1 \sim S_2 \sim 1/3; S_3 \leq 2/3$



## Intrinsic anisotropy - CPO evolution with depth

History - deep ice cores for paleo-climate reconstruction  
→ Low dynamic sites



## Intrinsic anisotropy - CPO evolution with depth

History - deep ice cores for paleo-climate reconstruction  
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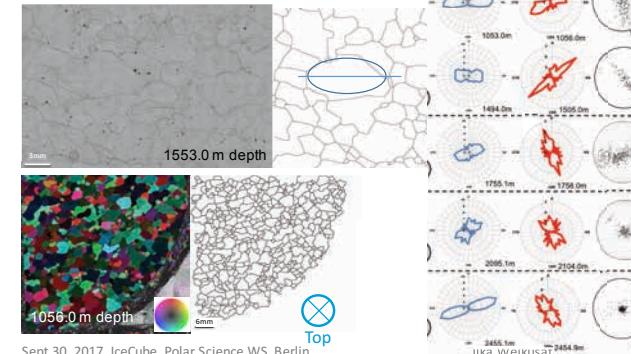
First physically motivated deep ice core:  
EastGRIP – launched into the largest ice stream in Greenland

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## Intrinsic anisotropy - Shape preferred orientation

Weikusat et al. 2017



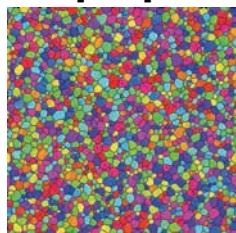
Distributions of grain elongation directions

EDML ice core



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## Intrinsic anisotropy - Shape preferred orientation



Ice in nature is a hot material  
 $T/T_m > 0.8$   
→ Extensively recrystallizing

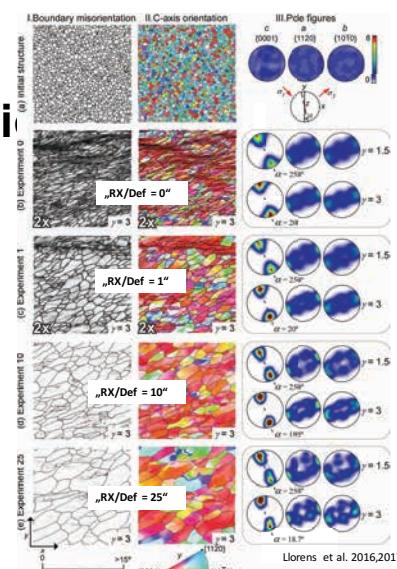
Llorens et al. 2016,2017



microstructural modelling  
(ELLE/FFT)  
- viscoplastic deformation of ice  
- Recrystallization of ice

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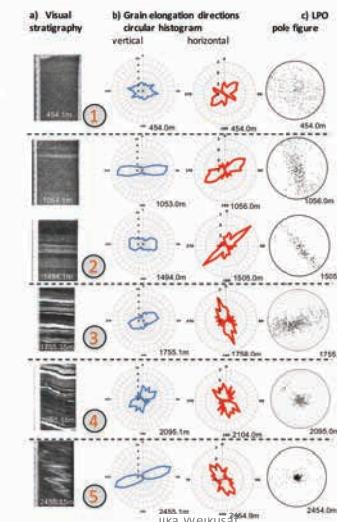
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Llorens et al. 2016,2017

## Intrinsic anisotropy - Shape preferred orientation

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Visual stratigraphy  
Distributions of grain elongations

EDML ice core

Weikusat et al. 2017



## Composite anisotropy - Dusty layers – “cloudy bands”



Method:  
Visual stratigraphy line scanner

TOP

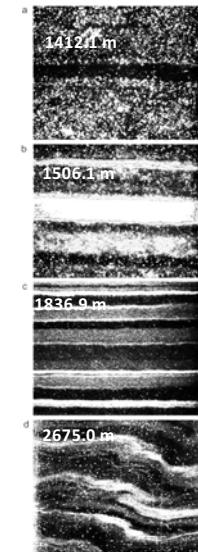
- Scatter object:
- Second phase particles
  - Air bubbles
  - Grain boundaries

EDML core

126m 487m 808m 1282m 1491m 1691m  
127m 488m 809m 1283m 1492m 1692m

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## Composite anisotropy - Dusty layers – “cloudy bands”



Method:  
Visual stratigraphy line scanner

TOP

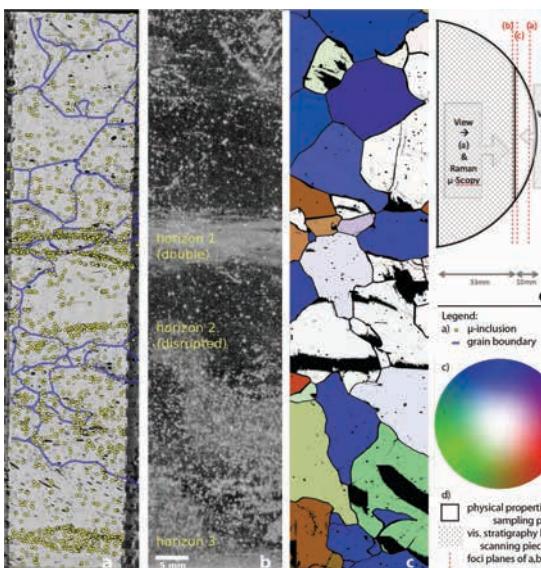
- Scatter object:
- Second phase particles
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EDML core

126m 487m 808m 1282m 1491m 1691m  
127m 488m 809m 1283m 1492m 1692m

NorthGRIP  
Svensson et al. 2005  
Science WS, Berlin

## “Dust” distribution



Eichler et al. 2017

## Composite anisotropy - Dusty layers – “cloudy bands”

- Scatter object:
- Second phase particles
  - Air bubbles
  - Grain boundaries

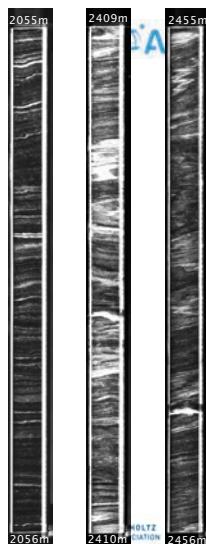
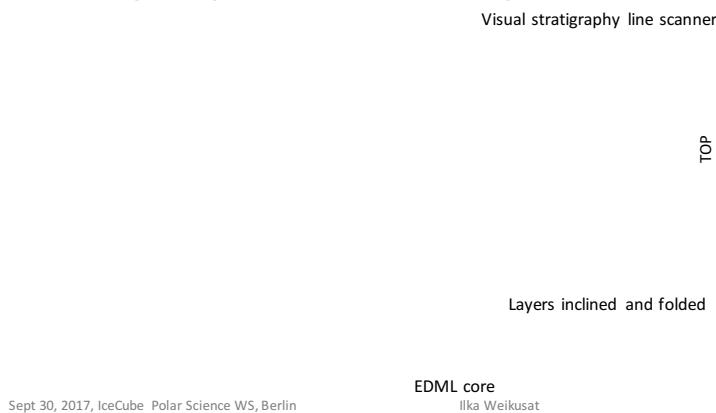
EDML below 2380-2390 m

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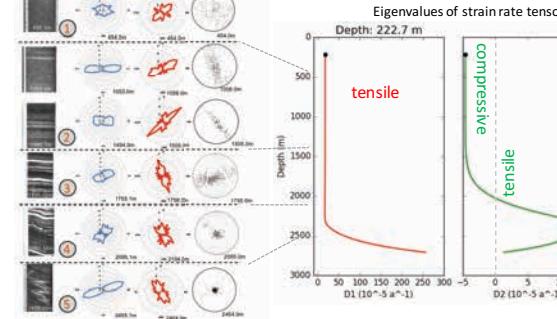
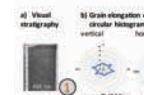
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## Composite anisotropy - Dusty layers – “cloudy bands”



## Layer deformation

Weikusat et al. 2017



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Ice sheet flow model PISM at EDML site  
Input:  
-bed rock geometry  
-surface T, AccRate  
-geothermal heat flux



Eigenvectors' directions of strain rate tensor

Thomas Kleiner  
Flow model with isotropic flow description!



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## Anisotropy in ice cores – types and causes

Overview

### Intrinsic anisotropy

- Extremely strong mechanical anisotropy in ice crystal.
- Evolution of crystal preferred orientation with depth depends on deformation mode (pure shear, simple shear etc.)
- Evolution of shape preferred orientation strongly masked by recrystallization, but can reveal deformation mode.

### Composite anisotropy

- Layers of inclusions (air inclusions, dust) though in ppb range can change properties of layers significantly.

