

Today:

Cooler phases of ISM - non-ionised material

- What are the heating and cooling mechanisms here?
- What are the observational methods we use to probe these cool phases?
 - absorption line spectroscopy
 - abundance determination
- Why do we find some elements under-abundant compared to solar? -- something to do with pesky dust?
- More on dust
- Molecules & GMCs



1.6 arcmin = 0.95 pc



Temp regulation within Diffuse Clouds

Diffuse clouds: Similar composition to HII regions, but located far from any ionisation source. All ionising photons have been absorbed by other material.

But diffuse clouds do not have temp of 0 K – how are they heated?

All available photons have energies <13.6 eV

What atoms can we ionise with these low-energy photons?

Think of some commonly found atoms:

He I = 24 eV (He II = 54 eV !!)

O I = 13.6 eV

N I = 14.4 eV

C I = 11.3 eV

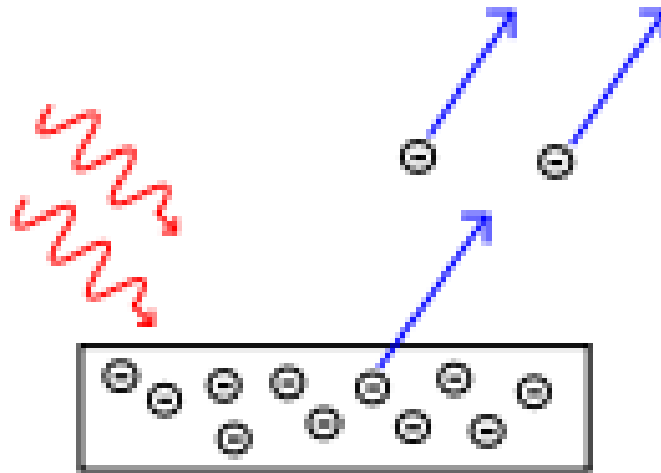
But photoionisation of C I not efficient as heating process because:

- C I not v. abundant
- small range of photon energies (11.3–13.6 eV = 912–1110 Å)
- max KE obtainable is **2.3 eV** – quite low so not much heating

Remember **DUST**? (really smoke - small, sub-micron sized grains)

These dust grains give out (photo)electrons when struck by photons of sufficient energy

Because of the **photoelectric effect**



(Call them photoelectrons because they are produced by photons)

Einstein's explanation of the photoelectric effect won him the Nobel Prize (in Physics) of 1921.

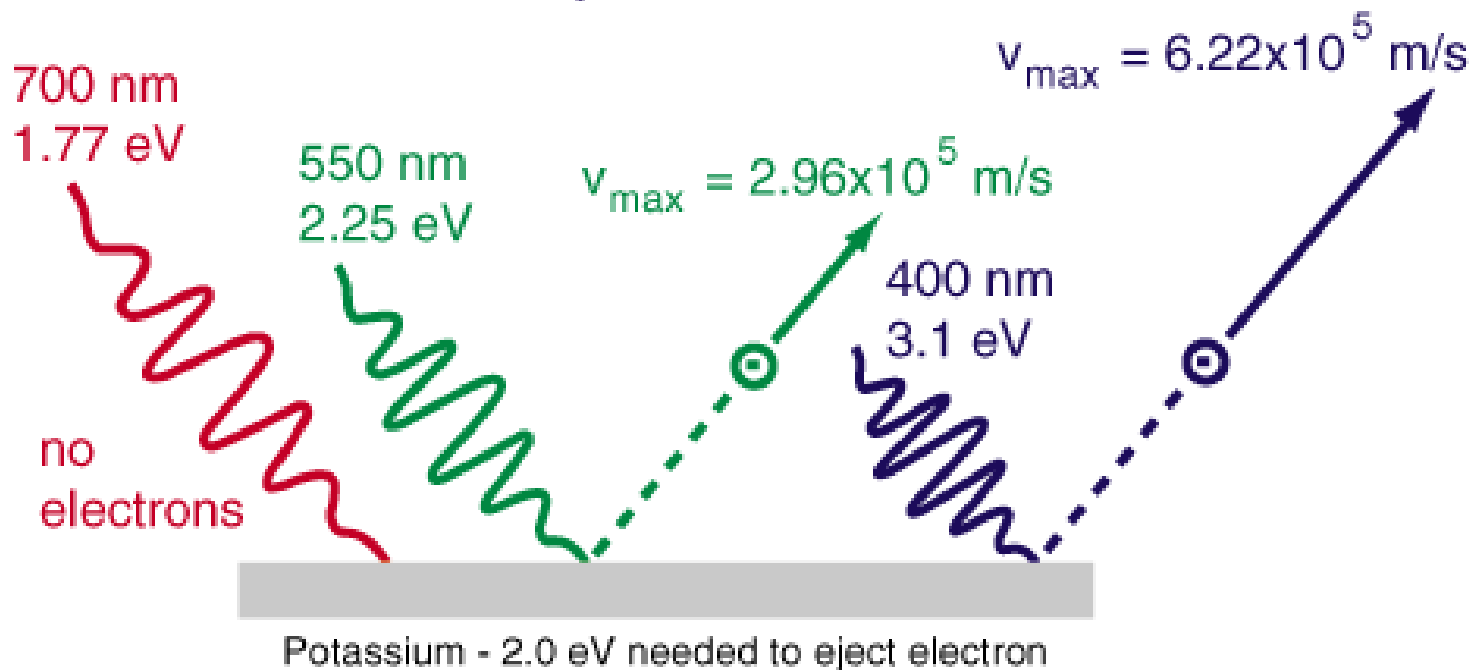
Work function (analogous to *ionization potential* of atoms):

$$E(\text{KE}) = h\nu - W$$

E = energy of the ejected photoelectrons

$h\nu$ = energy of photon (Planck constant, $h \times$ frequency, ν)

W = the “work function” of the grains. Small grains have $W \sim 5$ eV.



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Take same photons as we were talking about with photon energies 11.3–13.6 eV

→ resulting photoejected electrons have typical energies of **~6 eV**.

This is much higher than can be achieved with photoionization.

This energy is shared with other gas particles via collisions

This is the major source of **heating** in a dark cloud

Cooling

The heated gas cools mainly by emitting forbidden-lines.

These come from low-lying (low energy) states of:

- neutral Oxygen – [O I] 146 μm
- singly ionized Carbon – [C II] 158 μm (far IR)

Thus *again* forbidden-line emission is a major cooling mechanism

Remember metallicity dependence

The **heating rate** is

$$G = 2 \times 10^{-32} \chi y_{pe} n_H \quad [\text{J m}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}]$$

y_{pe} is the photoelectric efficiency of the grains ($\sim 0.1-1.0$), χ the radiation field

The **cooling rate** (for e.g. CII) is

$$L_{\text{CII}} = 2.5 \times 10^{-40} n_e n_{\text{C}^+} \text{ (or } d_{\text{C}} n_H) \quad [\text{J m}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}]$$

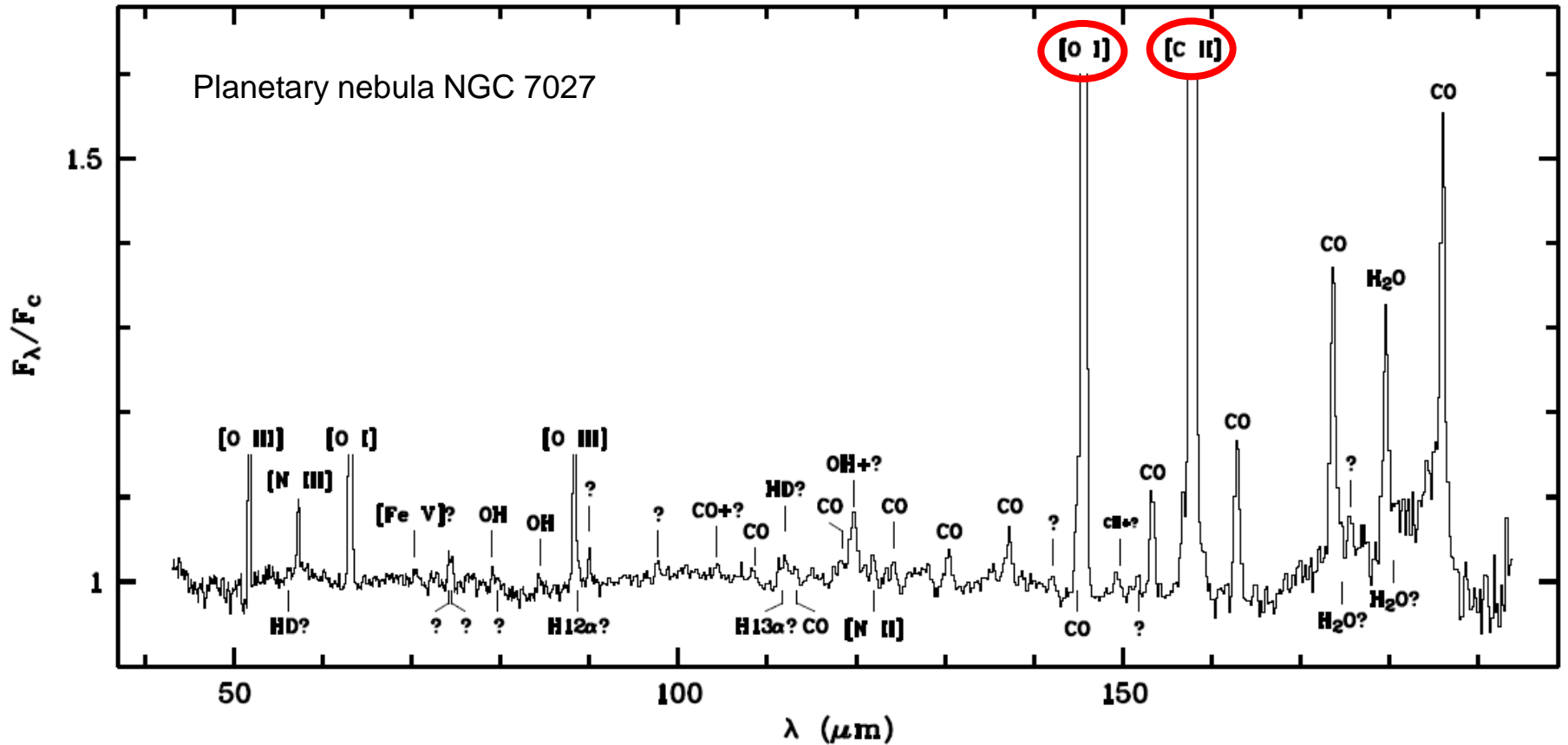
d_{C} = depletion factor: proportion of carbon atoms locked in dust grains.

Balance heating and cooling rates:

- assuming $n \sim 10^8 \text{ m}^{-3}$

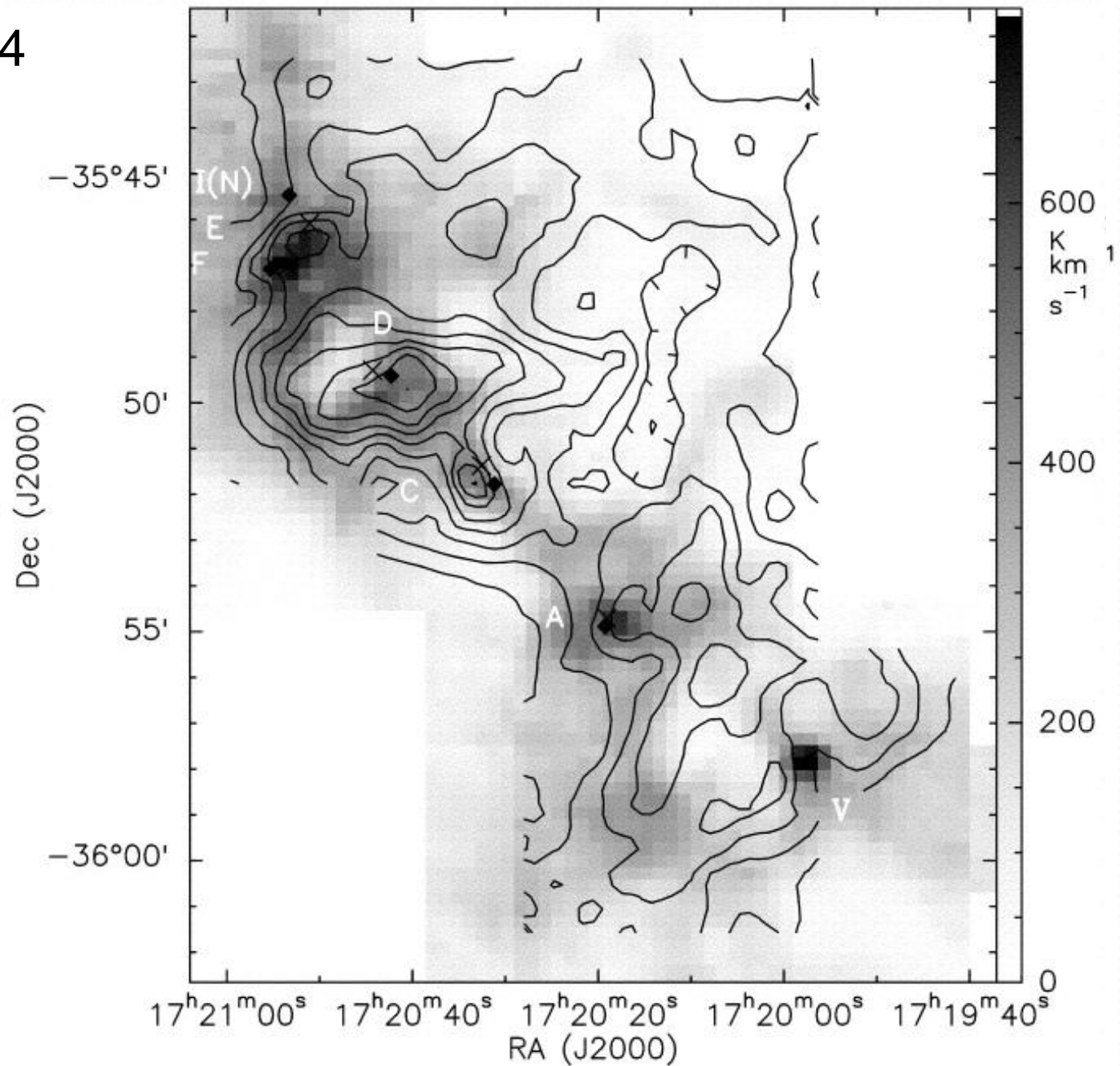
→ calculate gas temperature

→ in equilibrium $T \sim 70-100 \text{ K}$



The [O I] and [C II] IR forbidden lines:
coolants in diffuse clouds, and at the edges of Planetary Nebulae
and HII regions (called “photodissociation regions”)

NGC 6334



Far-Infrared Imaging Fabry-Pérot Interferometer (FIFI)



(Low temperature) Emission and absorption

Special case of emission: HI 21cm line

Absorption: resonance lines

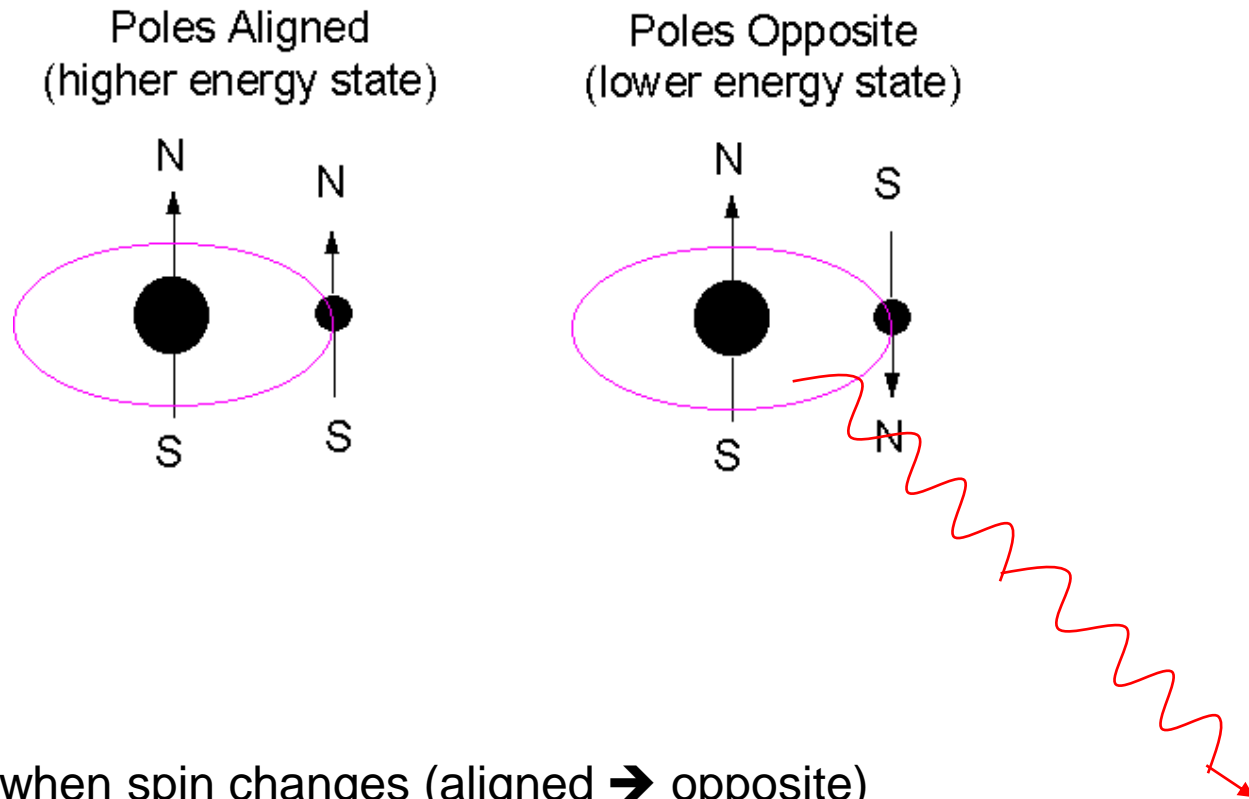
TIDAL INTERACTIONS IN M81 GROUP

Stellar Light Distribution



HI (neutral *atomic* H) spin-flip

spin = magnetic orientation



photon emitted when spin changes (aligned \rightarrow opposite)

wavelength = 21 cm (1.42 GHz)

prob of spontaneous flip = 1 in 10 million yrs, (highly forbidden)

but there is a lot of H!

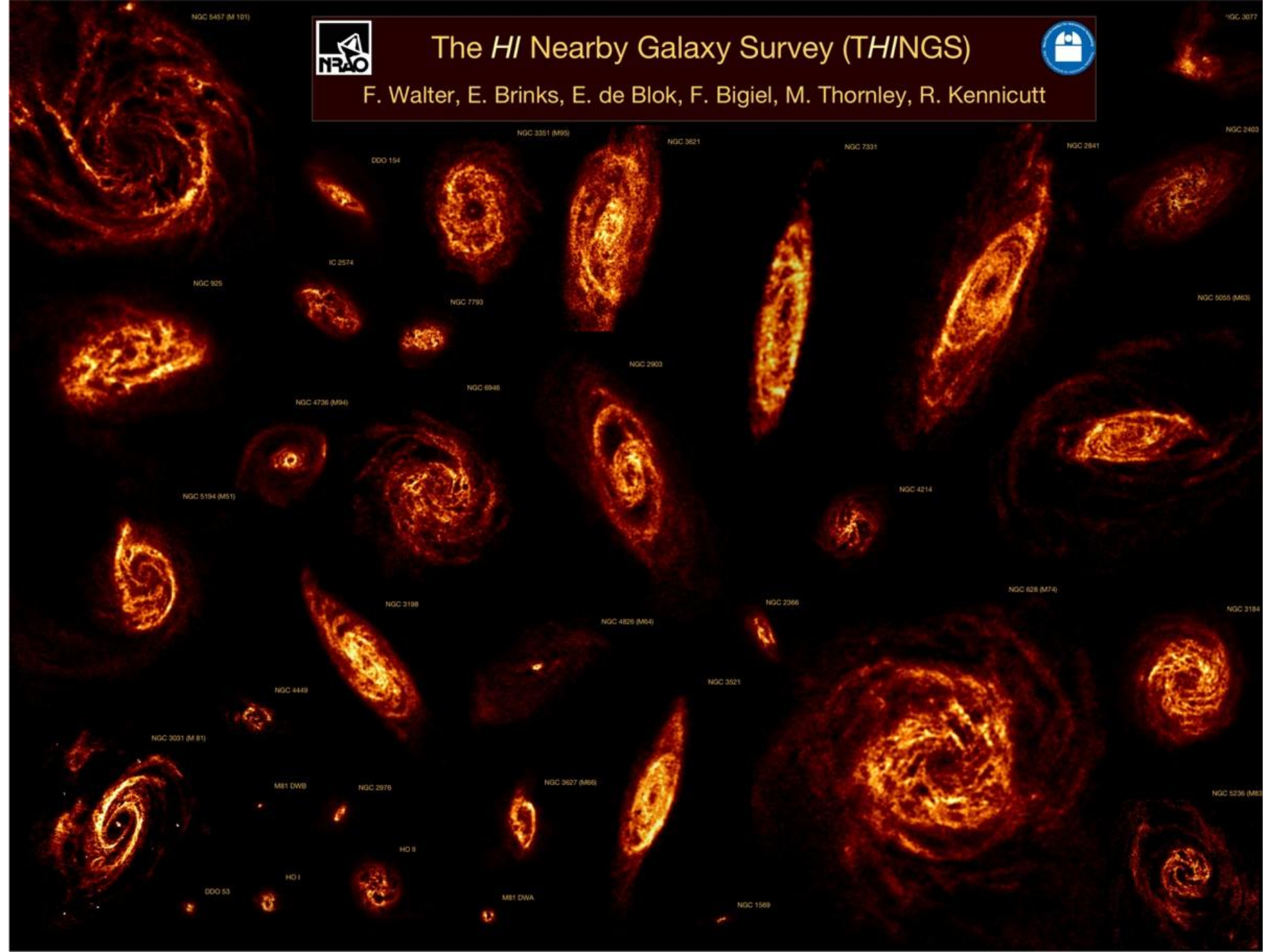




The *HI* Nearby Galaxy Survey (*THINGS*)

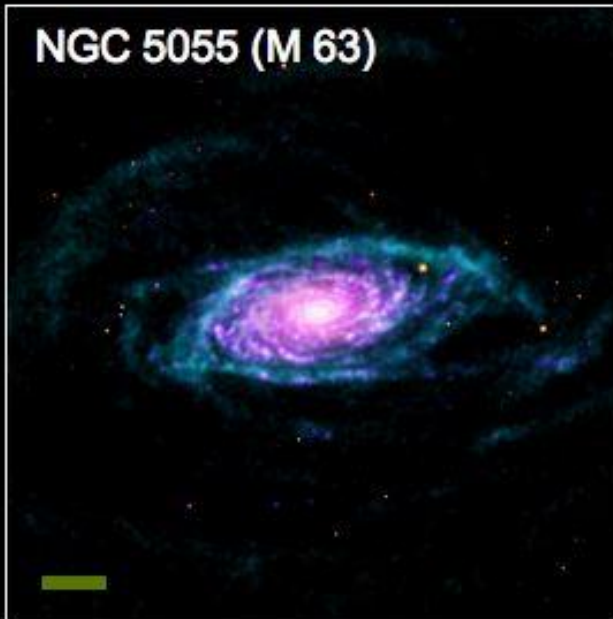


F. Walter, E. Brinks, E. de Blok, F. Bigiel, M. Thornley, R. Kennicutt



Spiral Galaxies in THINGS — The HI Nearby Galaxy Survey

NGC 5055 (M 63)



NGC 628 (M 74)



NGC 3031 (M 81)



NGC 5194 (M 51)



THINGS

The HI Nearby
Galaxy Survey

color coding:

THINGS Atomic Hydrogen
(Very Large Array)

Old stars
(Spitzer Space Telescope)

Star Formation
(GALEX & Spitzer)

scale: 

15,000 light years



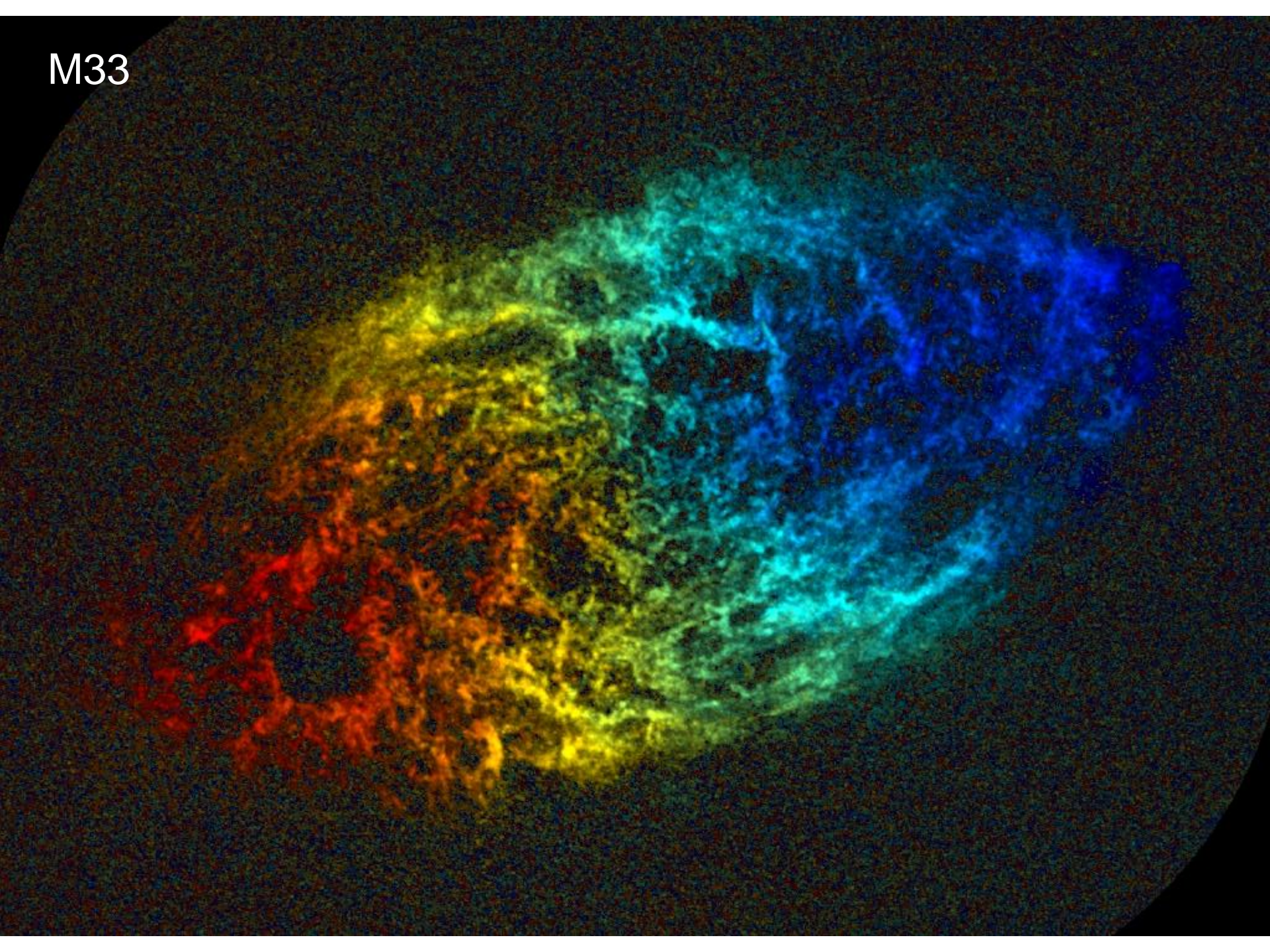
Image credits:

VLA THINGS: Walter et al. 08

Spitzer SINGS: Kennicutt et al. 03

GALEX NGS: Gil de Paz et al. 07

M33



Q: How can we understand the gas if we can't see it?

A: use a bright background source in order to see foreground ISM in 'silhouette'





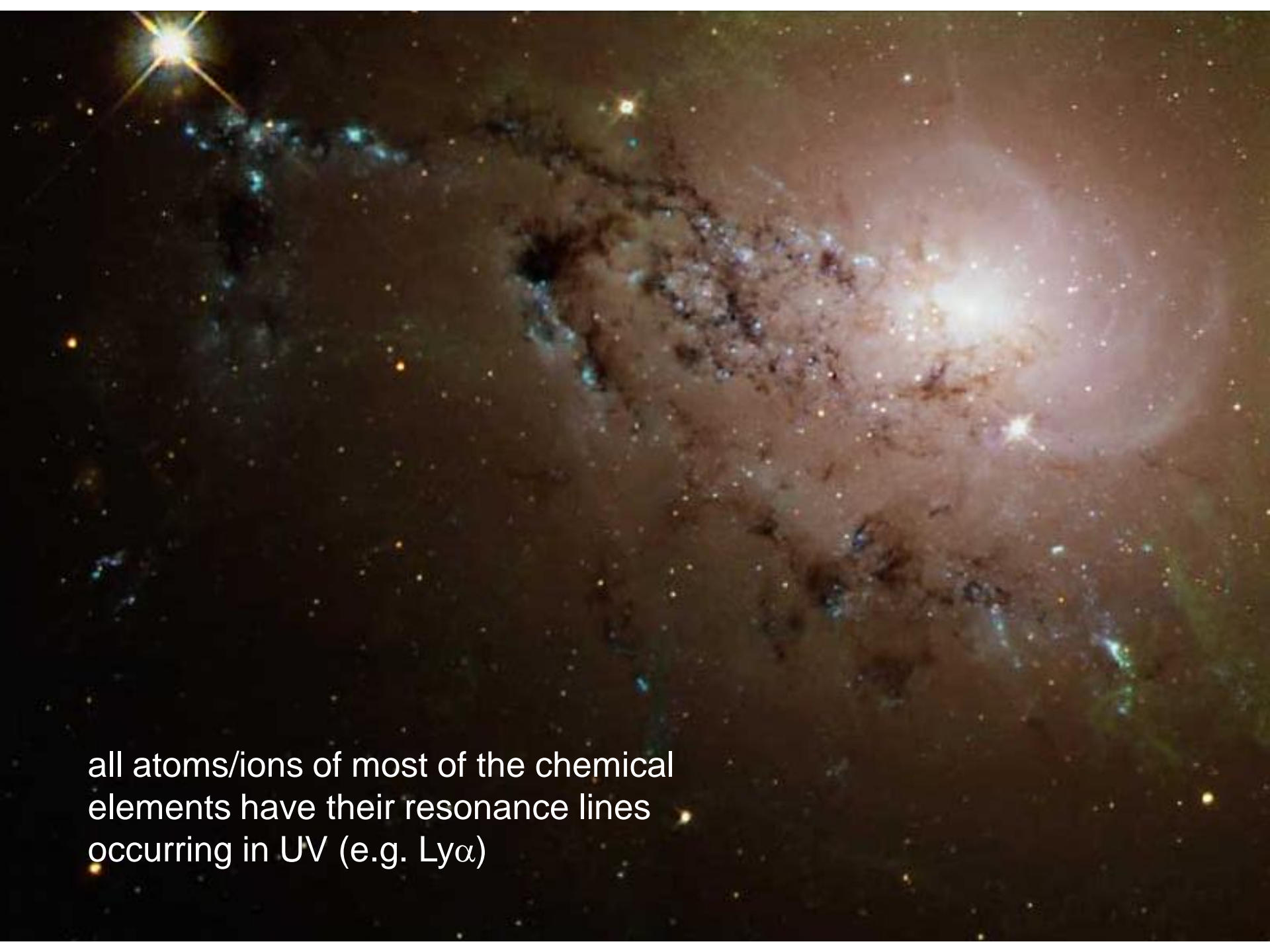


can be complicated: observed spectrum includes

- intrinsic source spectrum
- contrib from **dust** → scattering and absorption
(reddening extinction)
- contrib from **gas** → absorption lines

Rewards of careful study:

- temperature
- density
- line-of-sight motions
- chemical composition of the ISM material

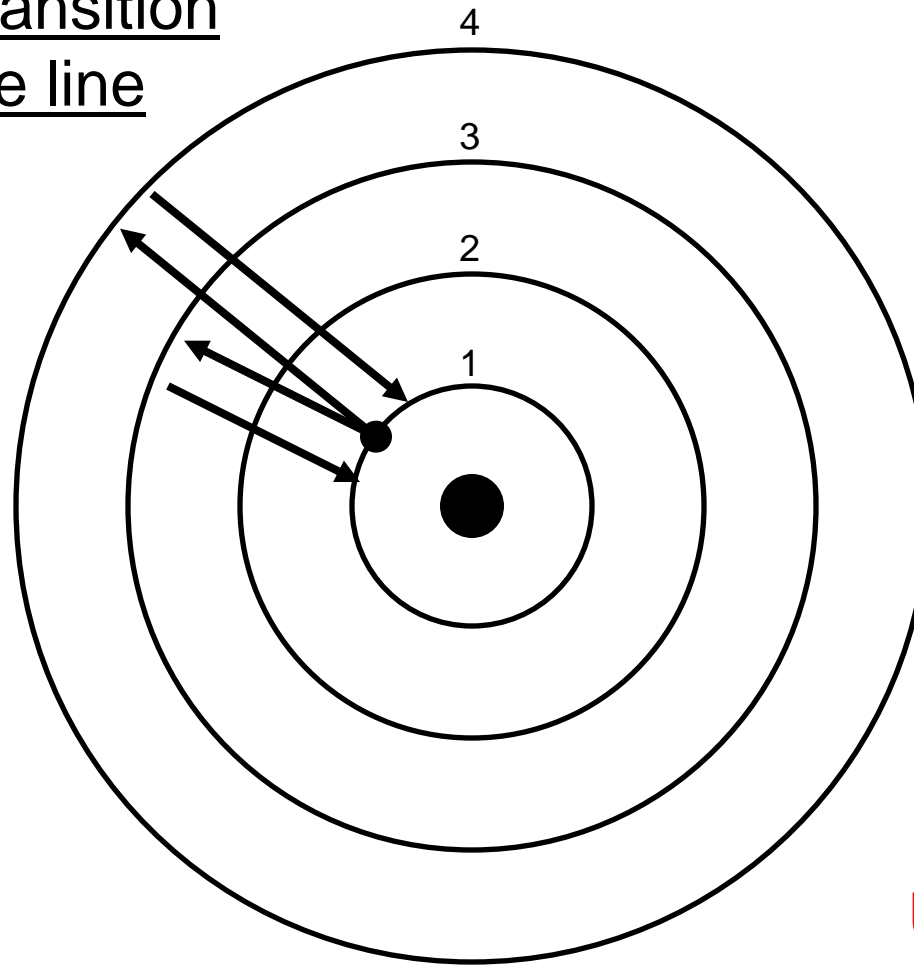


all atoms/ions of most of the chemical elements have their resonance lines occurring in UV (e.g. $\text{Ly}\alpha$)

$$n = 1 \rightarrow n'$$

resonance transition

→ resonance line



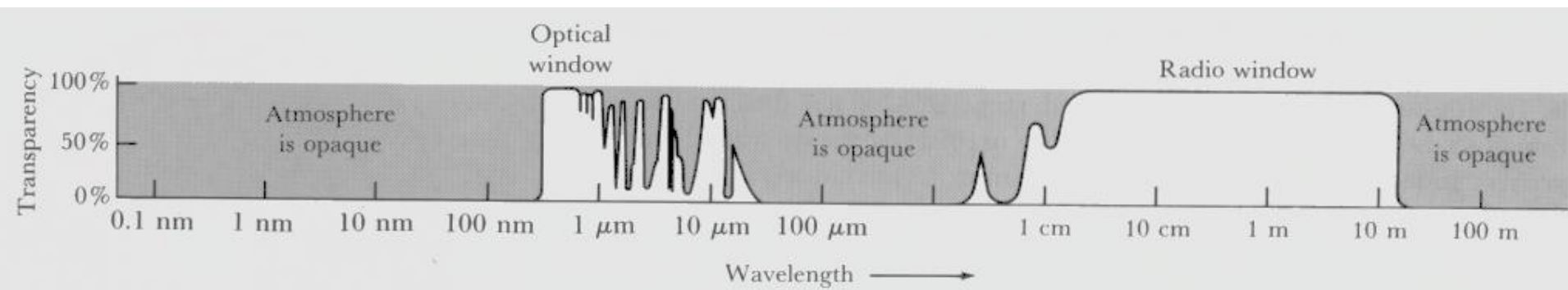
UV: 1200-3300 Å

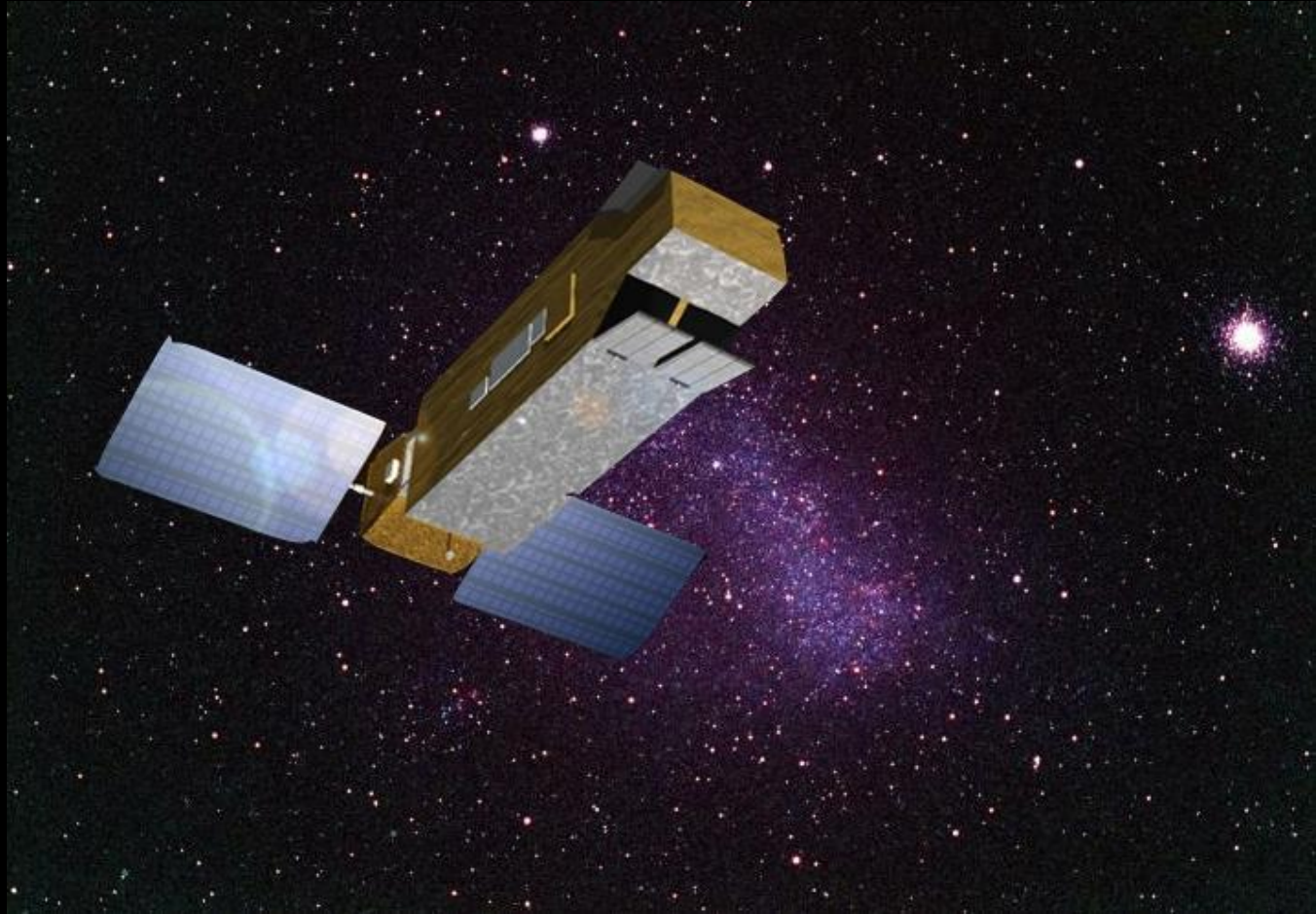
FUV: 912-1200 Å

EUV: 100-912 Å

Atmospheric transmission

UV
↔



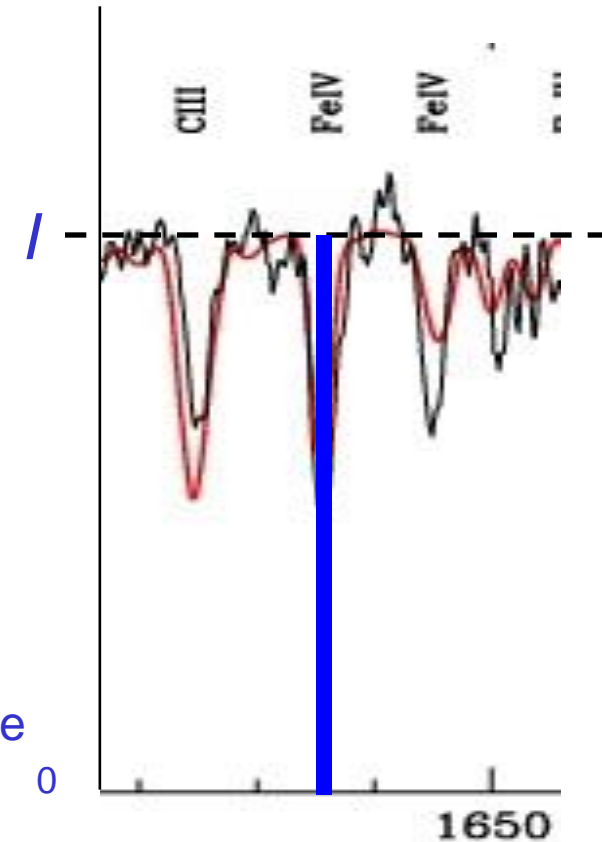
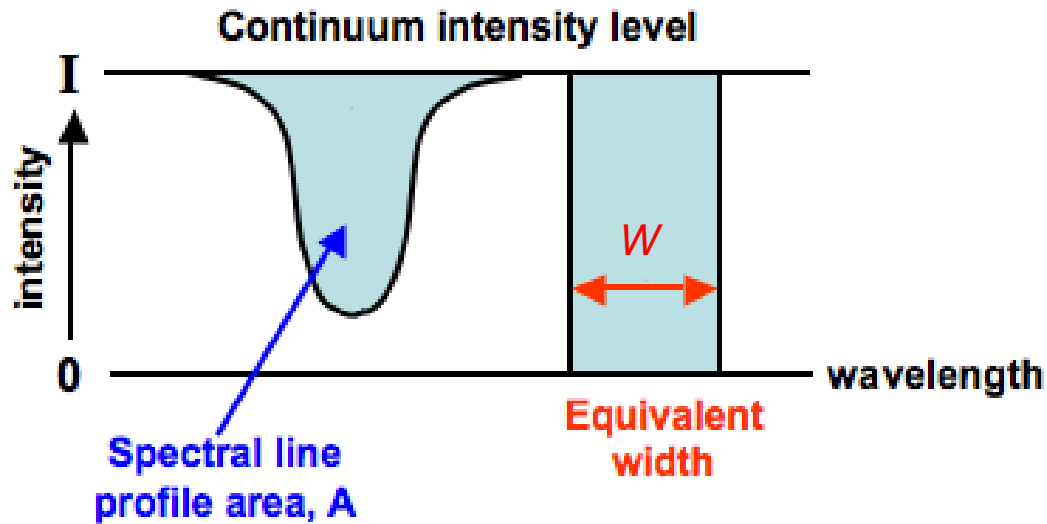


Aim:

determine the abundance of chemical elements in the neutral ISM (CNM, WNM), where T is <100 K

Method: use **absorption line spectroscopy**

but how do we get abundances using *absorption lines*?



What is the equivalent width of a **rectangular** line profile with area = the real line profile

$$A = I \times W$$

I = intensity level of the continuum

W = equivalent width of the absorption line -- units of *length* (\AA).

(identical for emission lines as well)

How do Equivalent Widths relate to abundances?

The EW of an absorption line grows as the number of absorbers along a particular sight line increases.

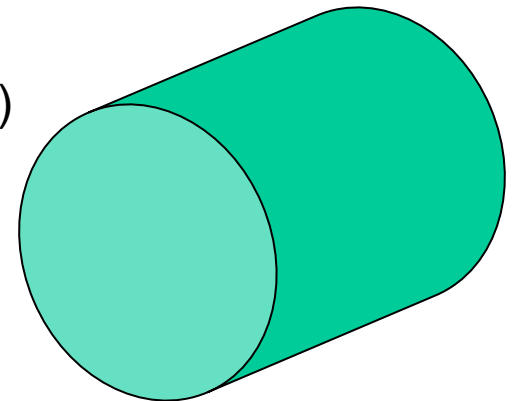
→ EW is proportional to the abundance of the species **and** the probability of absorption.

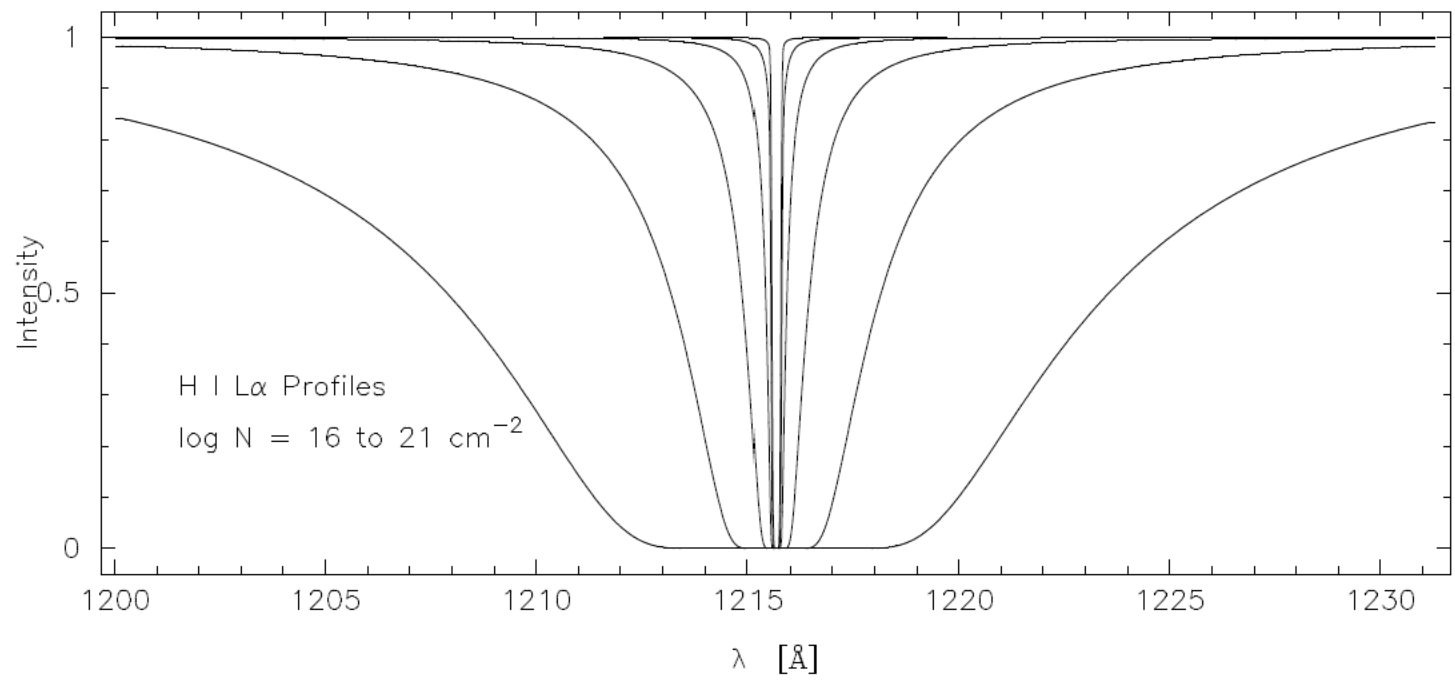
Abundance can be defined in terms of the **column density, N** of the species:

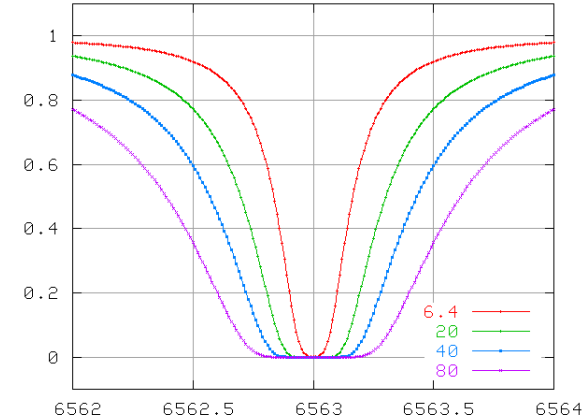
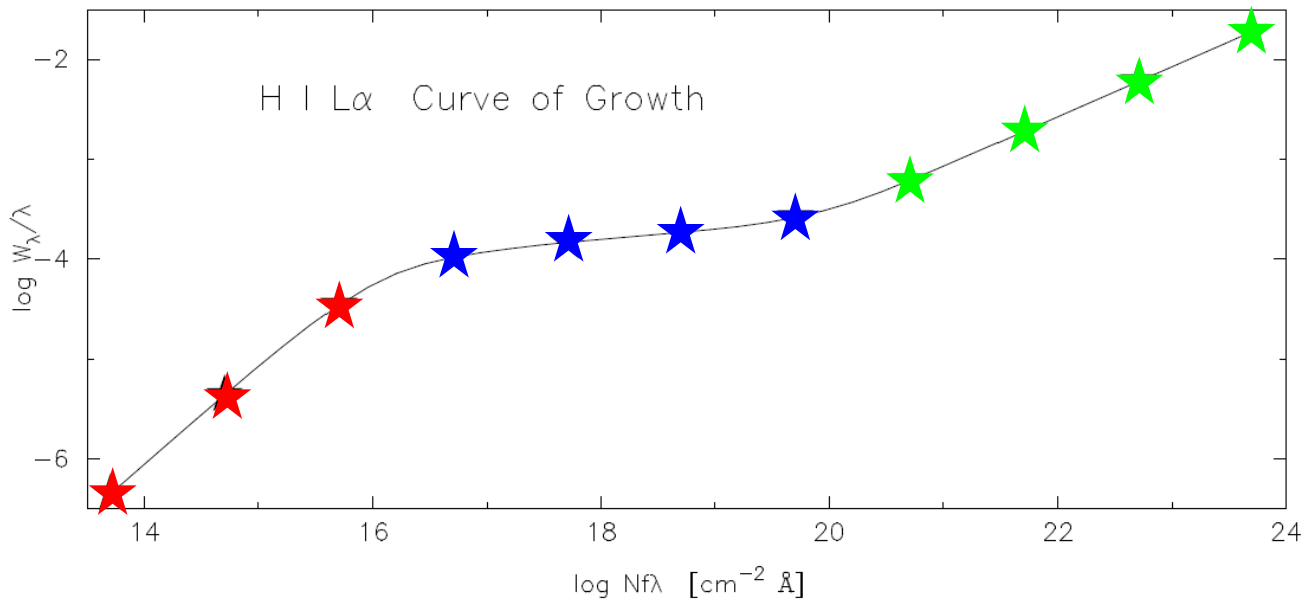
$$N(\text{absorber}) = n(\text{absorber}) \times l$$

$n(\text{absorber})$ = number density of absorbing species (m^{-3})

l = length of ISM sight line (distance to cloud)







Linear part: behaviour of EW for very weak lines. EW grows directly (linearly) proportional to the column density, N .

Flat part: EW grows only slowly with increasing column density. Most of background radiation has been absorbed by the line core which reaches zero intensity (becomes *saturated*). Only absorption in the line wings contributes to EW growth. Absorption there is weaker than in core so curve flattens out.

Damping part: At very large column densities the absorption in the line wings dominates EW growth and curve rises faster again (proportional to \sqrt{N}).

Abundance determination: the method

1. observe high-resolution spectrum of a suitable bright source
use a space telescope (e.g. IUE, HST, FUSE).
2. Identify set of resonance lines of elements/ions from comparison with a theoretical line list.
3. Measure the EW of the lines.
4. Use curve of growth to get the column density of each species.
5. Determine column density of Hydrogen (using same technique - use Lyman resonance lines) → get abundances of species relative to Hydrogen.

AAT (Anglo-Australian Telescope)

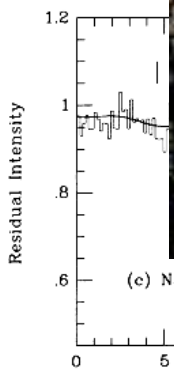
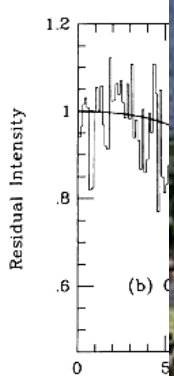
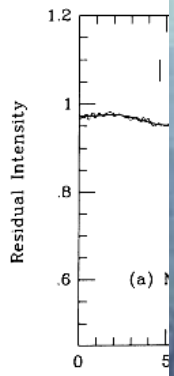
Ultra-high resolution facility (UHRF)

Built at UCL!

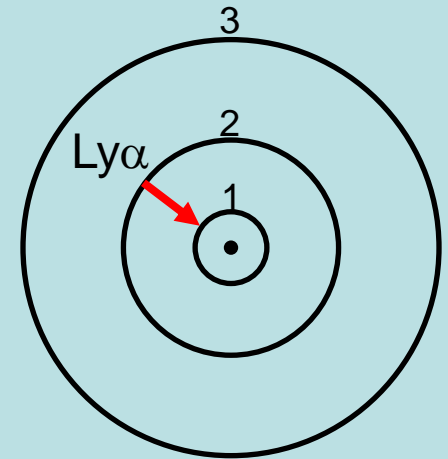
star: Δ Ori A (HD 36486) - O9.5II

v v high

© Anglo-Australian Observatory



Ly α



Ly α = 1216 Å (10.2 eV)

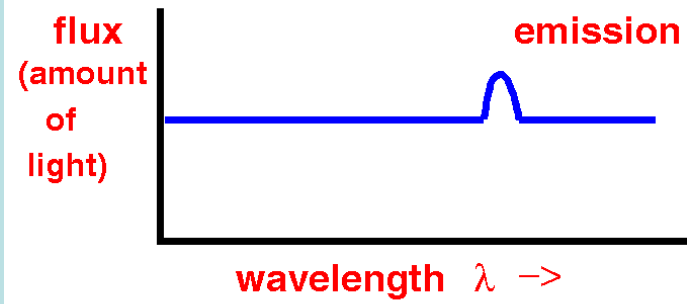
very useful transition in cosmology

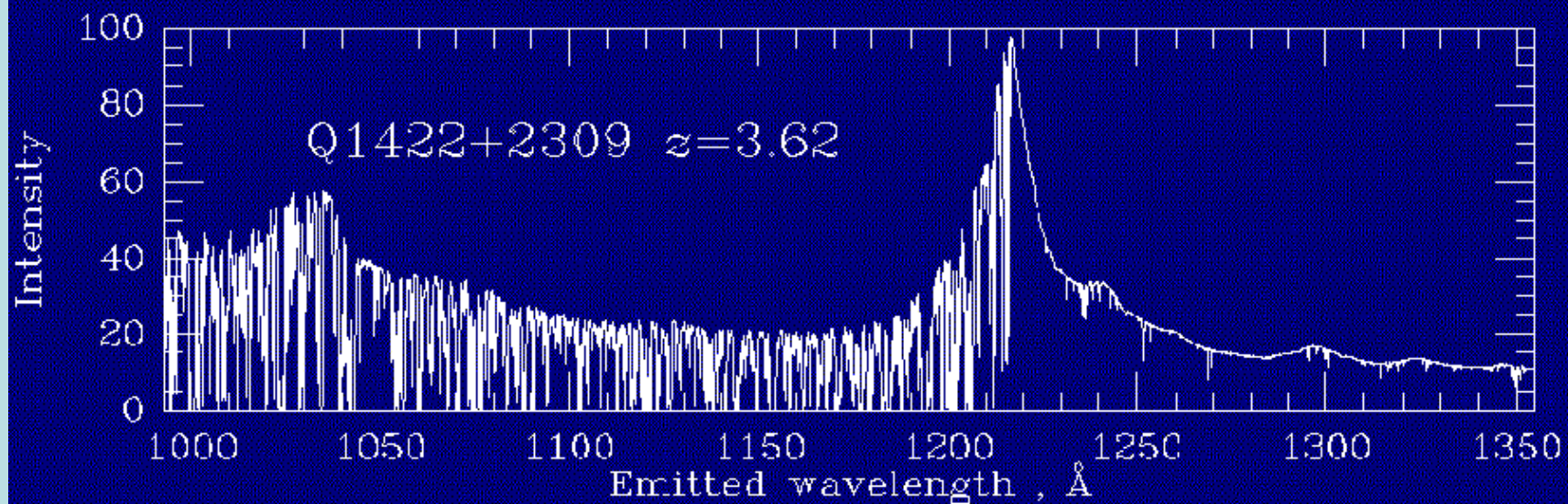
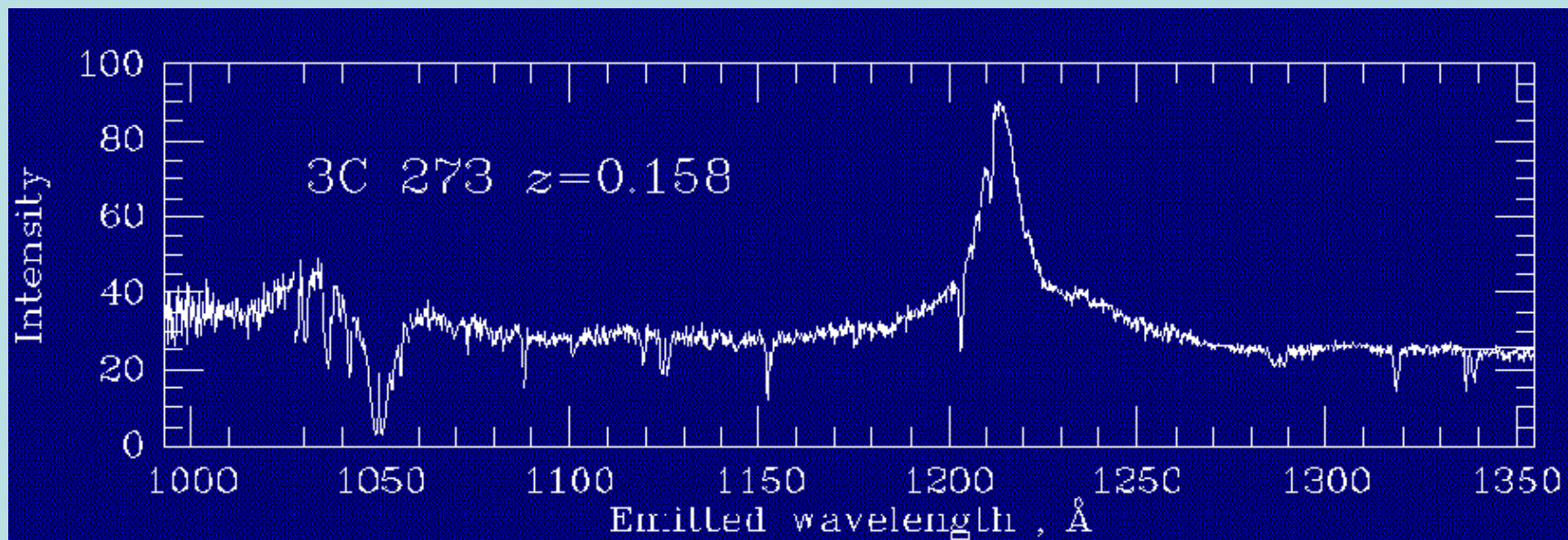
- although in rest-frame UV, it is shifted into optical for high-z systems

neutral atomic hydrogen (HI) is very hard to observe - very few transitions, very little emission (we will see main mechanism later)

however, Ly α photons are absorbed by neutral hydrogen in line-of-sight

No absorbing clouds







Element Abundances
(by number, relative to hydrogen)

Element	Solar	Ref.	Interstellar	Ref.
H	1.00	...	1.00	...
He	$0.10 \pm .05$	GN93
Li	1.4×10^{-11}	AG89	3.5×10^{-10}	L88
B	4.0×10^{-11}	GN93	8.9×10^{-11}	F95
→ C	4.0×10^{-4}	G91	1.4×10^{-4}	SS96
N	9.3×10^{-5}	GN93	7.9×10^{-5}	SS96
O	4.90×10^{-4}	APLA01	3.0×10^{-4}	SS96
Ne	1.2×10^{-4}	GN93	5×10^{-4}	P01
→ Na	2.1×10^{-6}	AG89	7.6×10^{-7}	L88
→ Mg	3.8×10^{-5}	AG89	1.1×10^{-6}	SS96
→ Al	3.0×10^{-6}	AG89	7.6×10^{-9}	L88
→ Si	3.5×10^{-5}	AG89	1.7×10^{-6}	SS96
P	2.8×10^{-7}	AG89	1.2×10^{-7}	SS96
S	1.6×10^{-5}	AG89	2.8×10^{-5}	SS96
Cl	3×10^{-7}	AG89	1×10^{-7}	B87
K	1.3×10^{-7}	AG89	1×10^{-8}	L88
→ Ca	2.3×10^{-6}	AG89	6×10^{-10}	L88
→ Ti	1.1×10^{-7}	GN93	8.1×10^{-11}	SS96
Cr	4.7×10^{-7}	AG89	2.5×10^{-9}	SS96
Mn	2.5×10^{-7}	AG89	1.2×10^{-8}	SS96
→ Fe	3.24×10^{-5}	GN93	1.7×10^{-7}	SS96
Co	8.3×10^{-8}	AG89	1.4×10^{-10}	SS96
Ni	1.8×10^{-6}	AG89	3.2×10^{-9}	SS96
Cu	1.6×10^{-8}	AG89	8.3×10^{-10}	SS96
Zn	4.0×10^{-8}	AG89	9.5×10^{-10}	SS96
Pb	8.9×10^{-11}	GN93	2.2×10^{-11}	SS96

Why are ISM abundances for many elements so much smaller than their solar values?

The Sun is a normal star born out of the ISM...

Depletion onto dust

Certain elements can **convert** from GAS to SOLID

Result: matter is removed (**depleted**) from GAS phase
matter is added to SOLID phase = DUST

The level of depletion of each element tells us something about the **composition of the dust**.

Depleted elements = *refractory* elements (high-melting point, non-volatile)
e.g. O, Fe, Mg, Si, Al

→ ISM abundance studies:

- composition of the gaseous ISM
- composition of ISM dust

remember: Dust = only 1% by mass of the ISM but very important



Dust





Dust in the ISM

Dust particles are extremely small (~0.1–10 microns)

Particles are irregularly shaped

Composed of *silicates*, *carbon*, *ices* (water, methane, ammonia etc) and/or *iron* compounds.

Effects of the Dust:

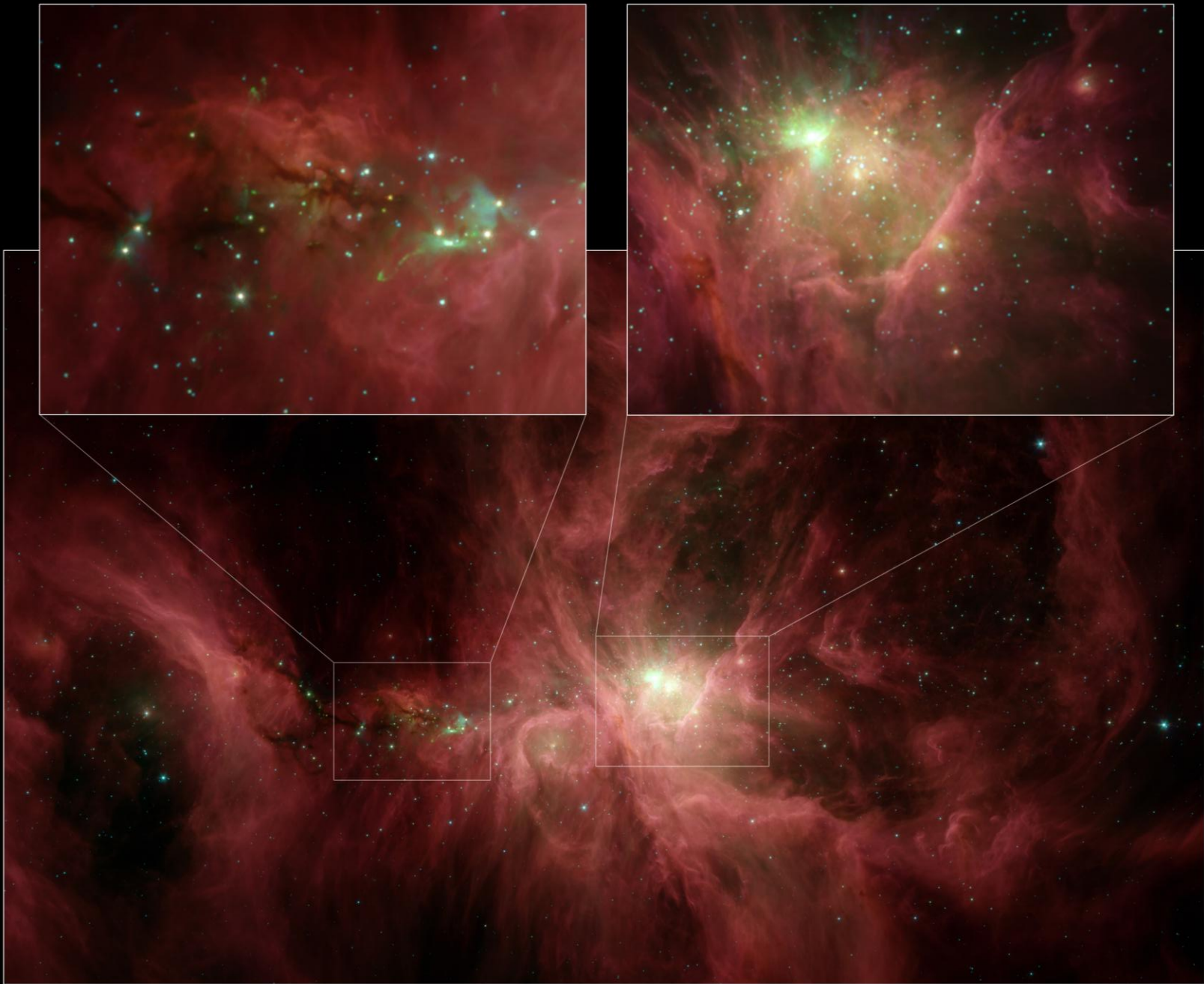
- On Elemental Abundances: We saw how elements are depleted from the GAS phase of the ISM sticking on to dust grains thus lowering the gas phase abundances of certain (mostly refractory) elements.
- On E/M radiation: dust grains absorb or scatter blue light more than red light removing it from the line of sight to the observer. Distant objects thus appear *reddened*.

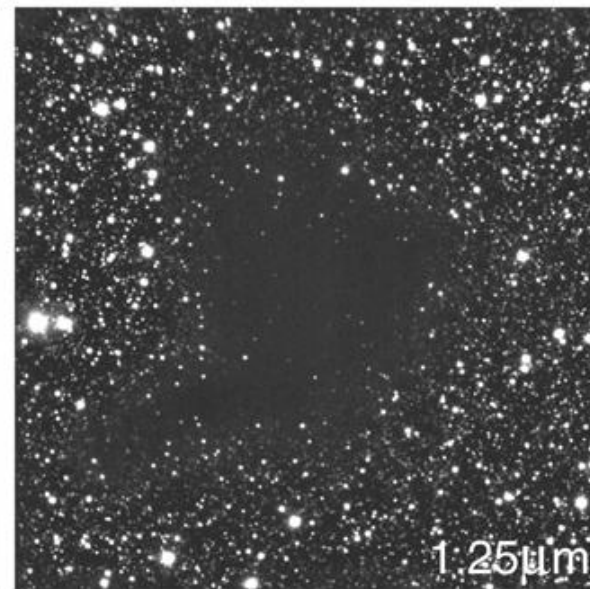
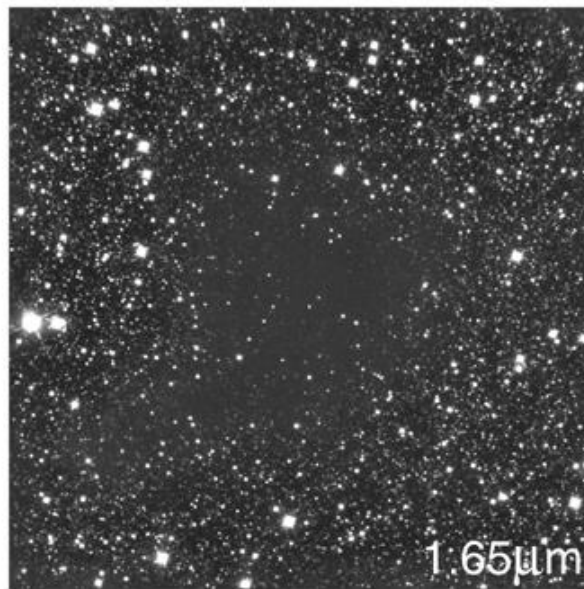
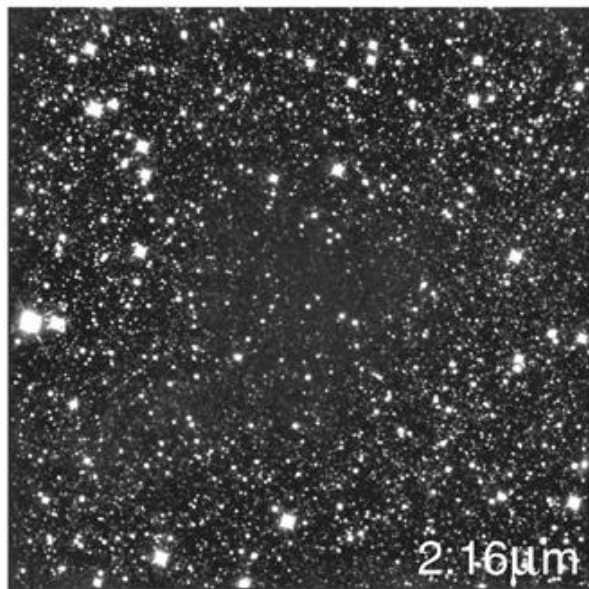
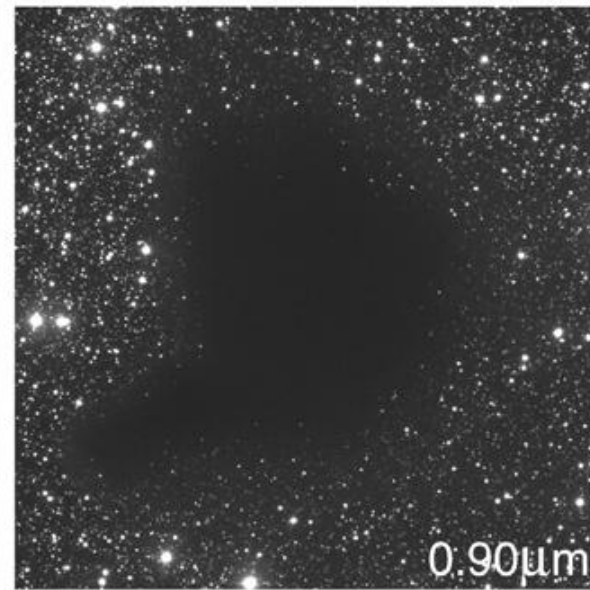
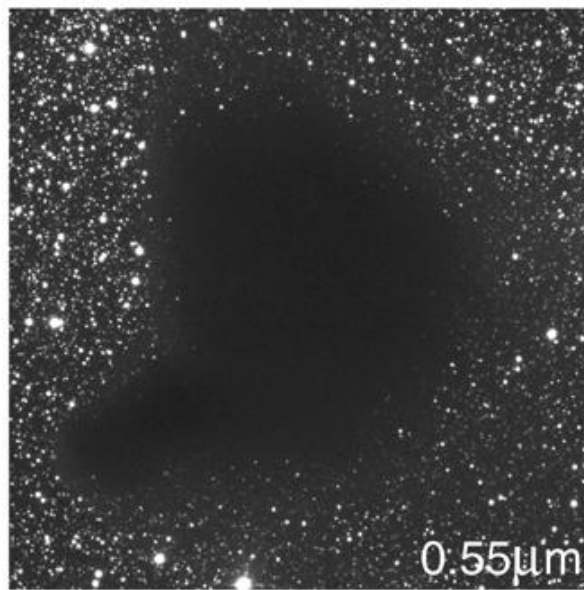
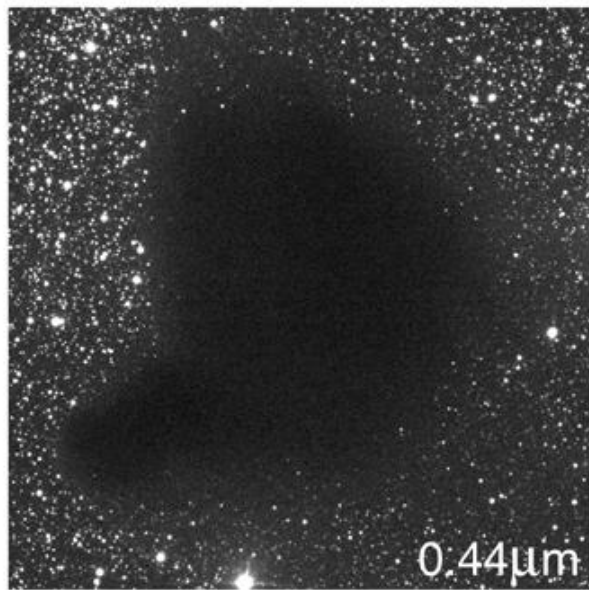




Visible







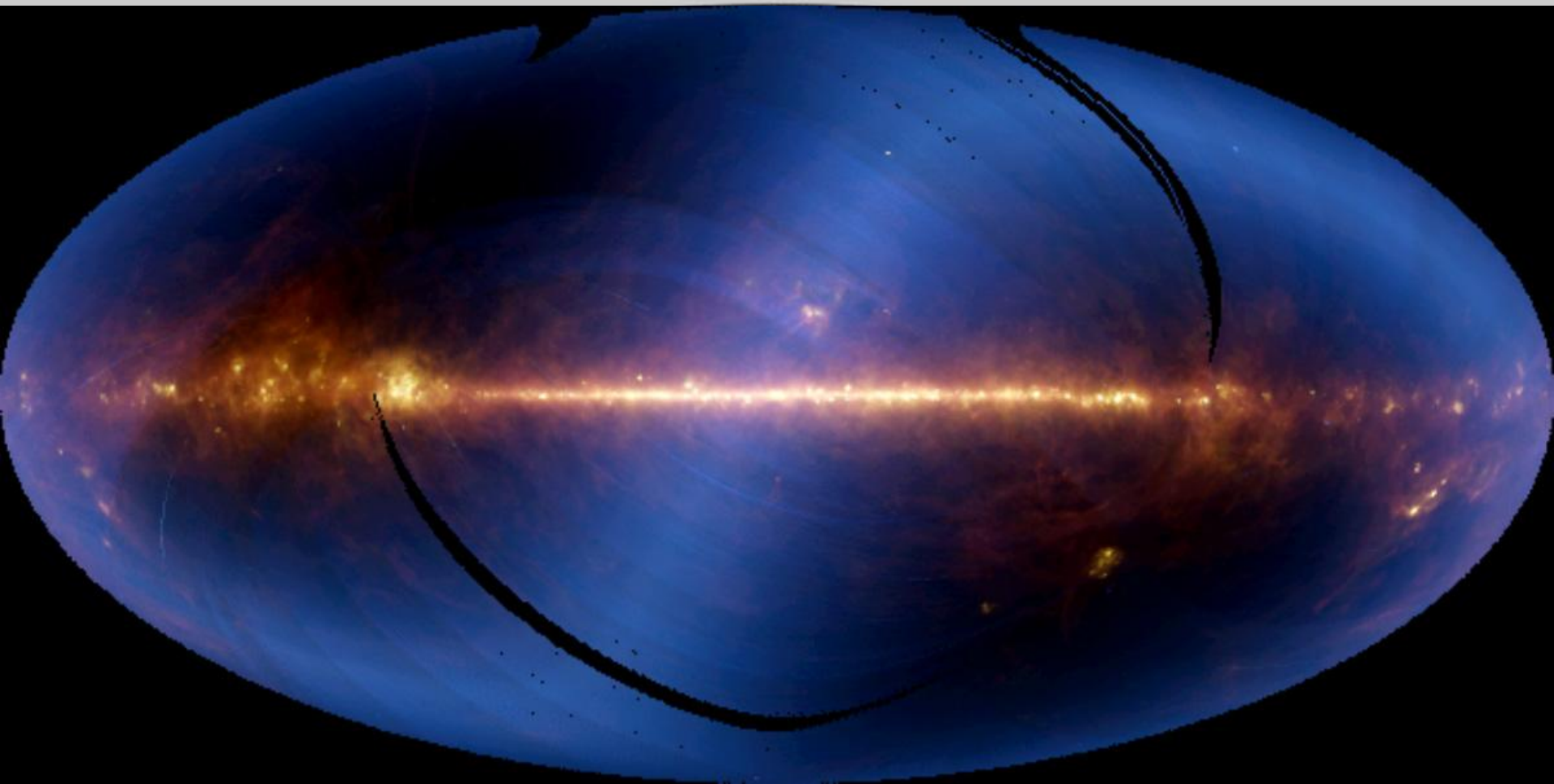
The Dark Cloud B68 at Different Wavelengths (NTT + SOFI)

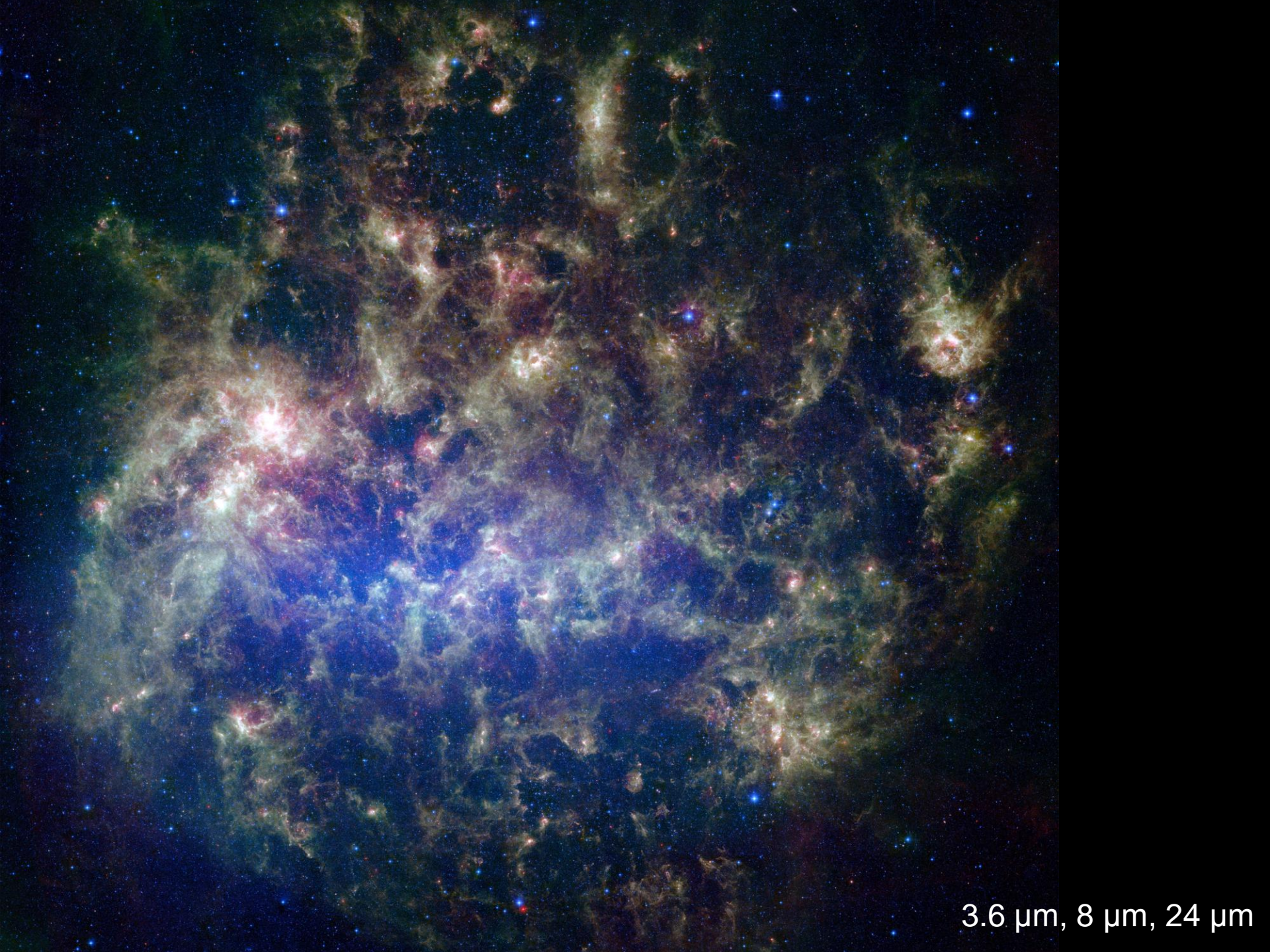
IR observations of dust

1. Image taken at $2\ \mu\text{m}$ by 2MASS survey
2. Composite image at $12\ \mu\text{m}$, $60\ \mu\text{m}$, $100\ \mu\text{m}$ by *IRAS* satellite

Dust warmed by far-UV starlight re-radiates light in the IR

“Wien’s law”: λ (re-emitted light) $\sim 1/T$ (dust)





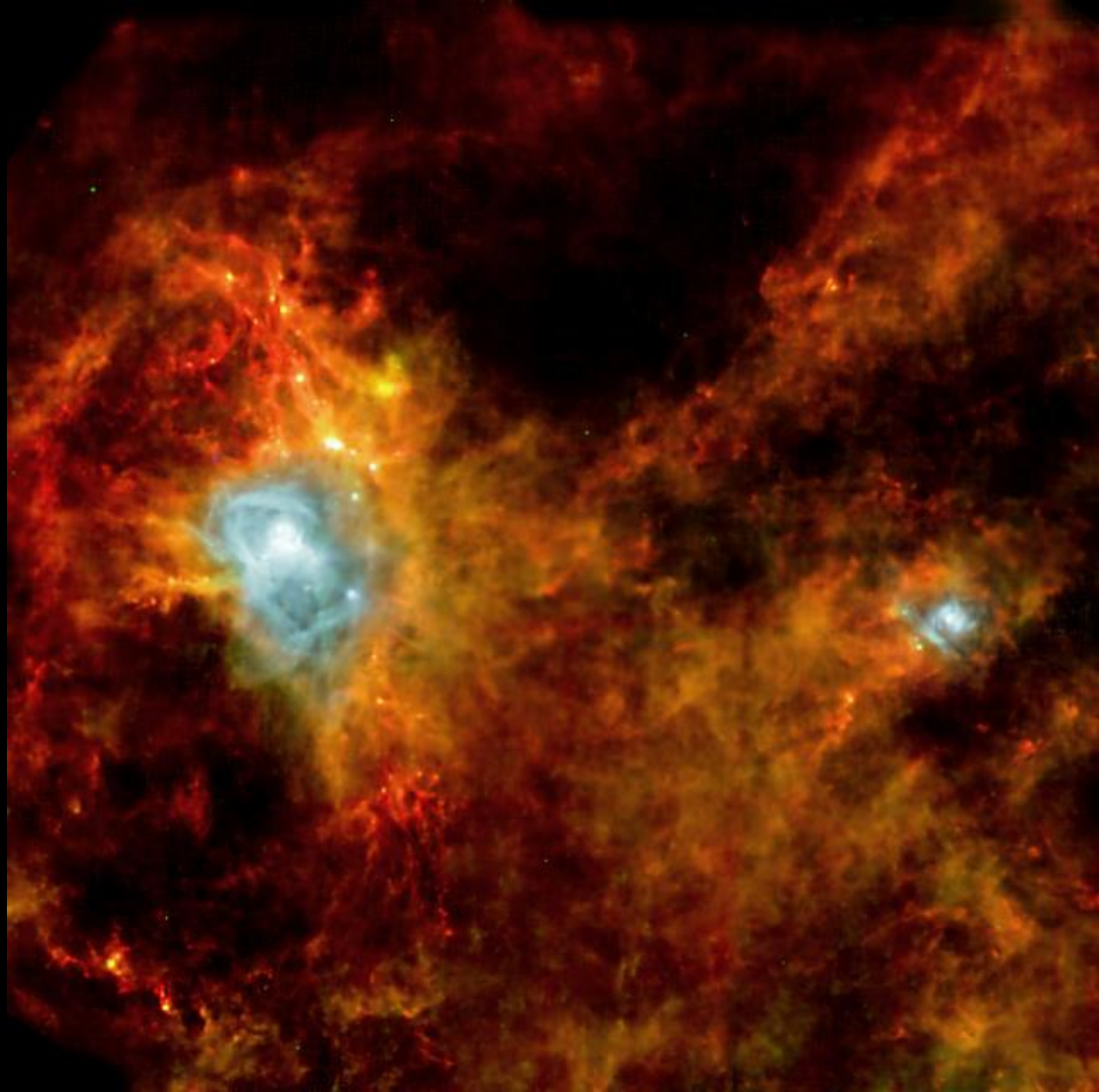
3.6 μm , 8 μm , 24 μm



Herschel



©ESA and the SPIRE & PACS consortia 70 μm , 160 μm , 250/350/500 μm





© ESA & the PACS Consortium

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Evidence for dust:

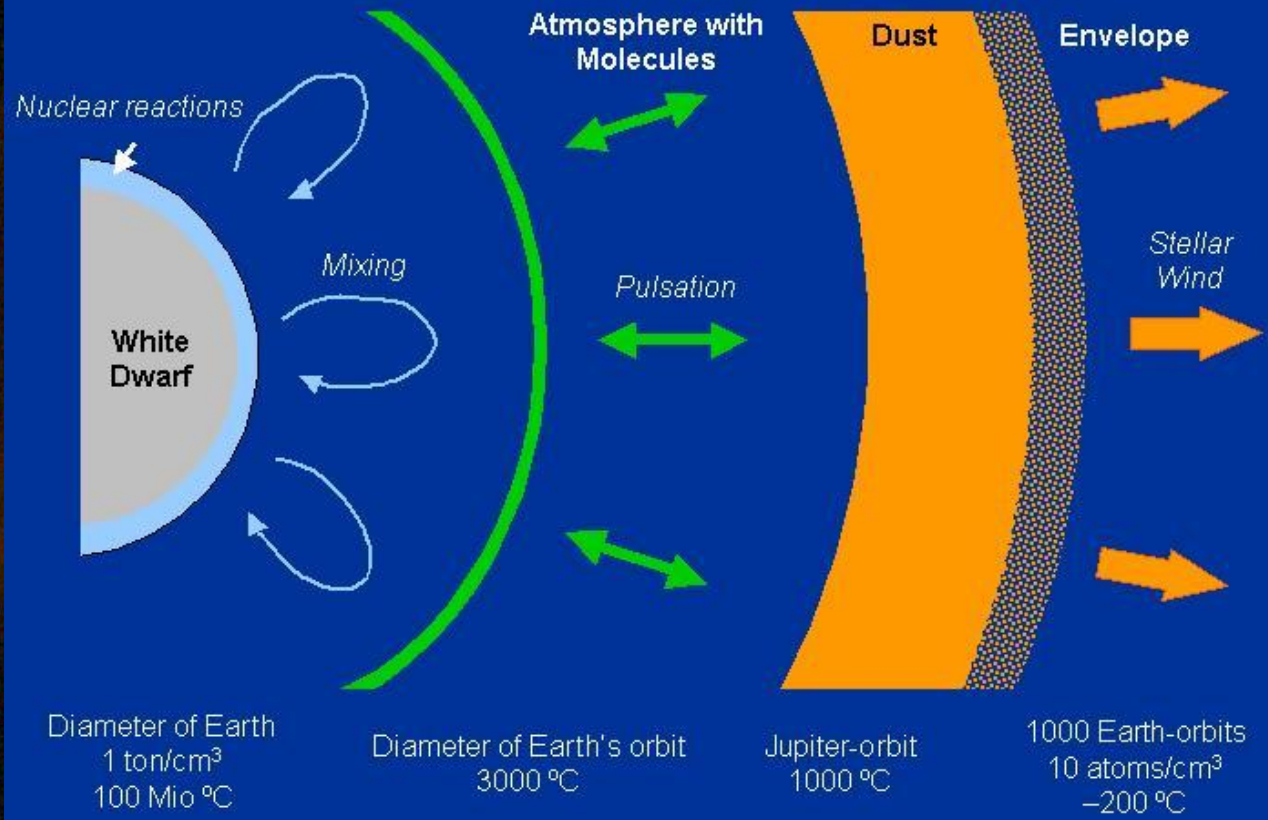
- 1) Absorption/Scattering of E/M radiation
(extinction/reddening)
 - (a) Reflection nebulae
 - (b) Dark nebulae/clouds
- 2) Depletion of abundances compared to solar
- 3) Dust emission in thermal IR – see it directly

Dust: where is it made? - AGB

Hourglass Nebula

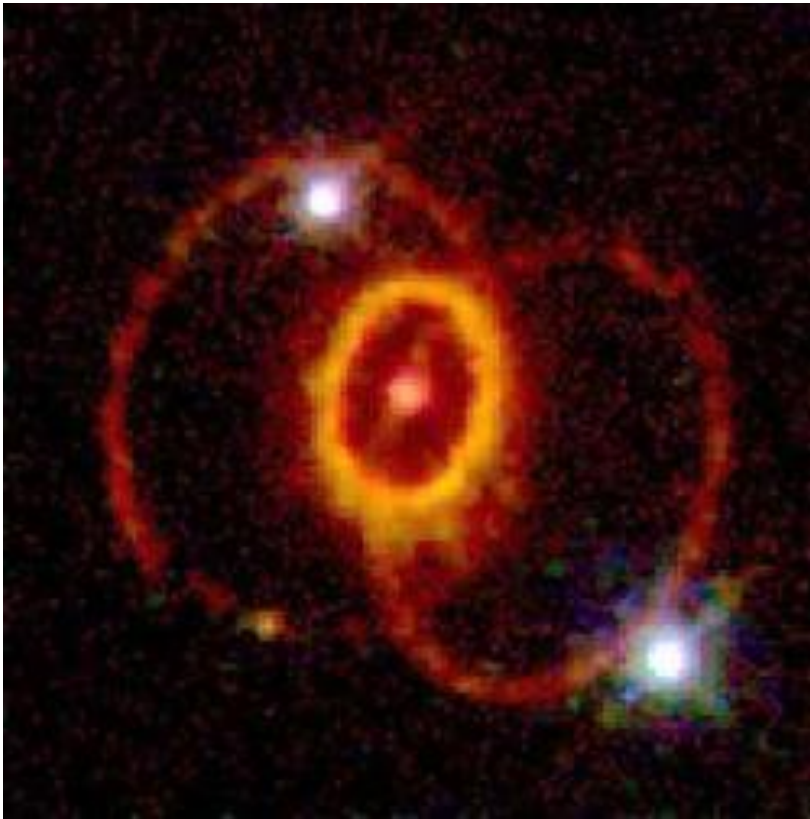
NAC

Schematic View of an AGB-star

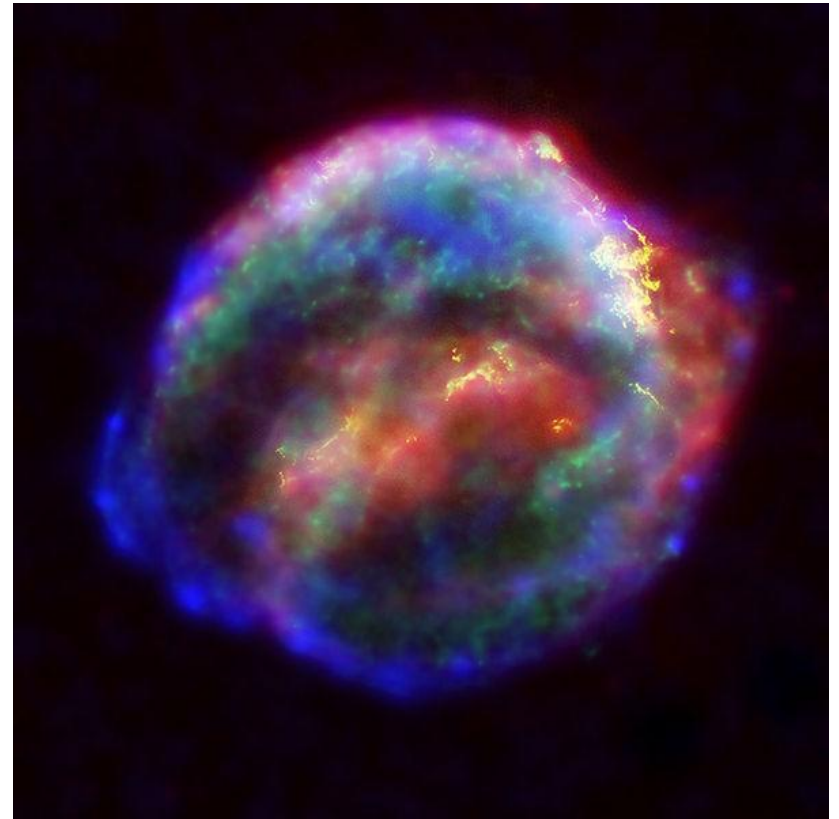


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Dust: where is it made? - SNe

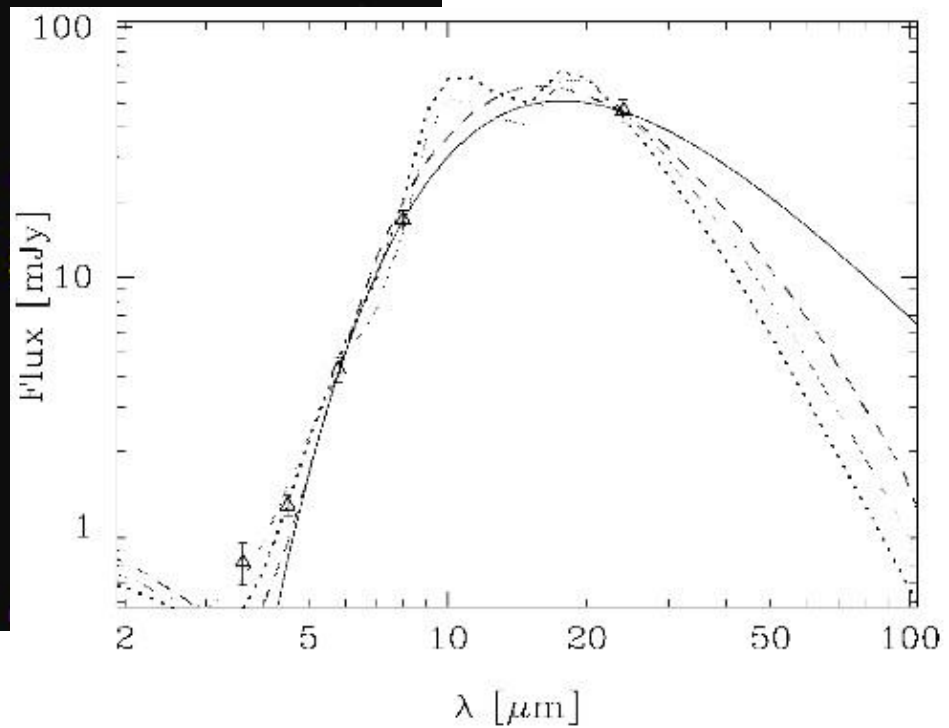
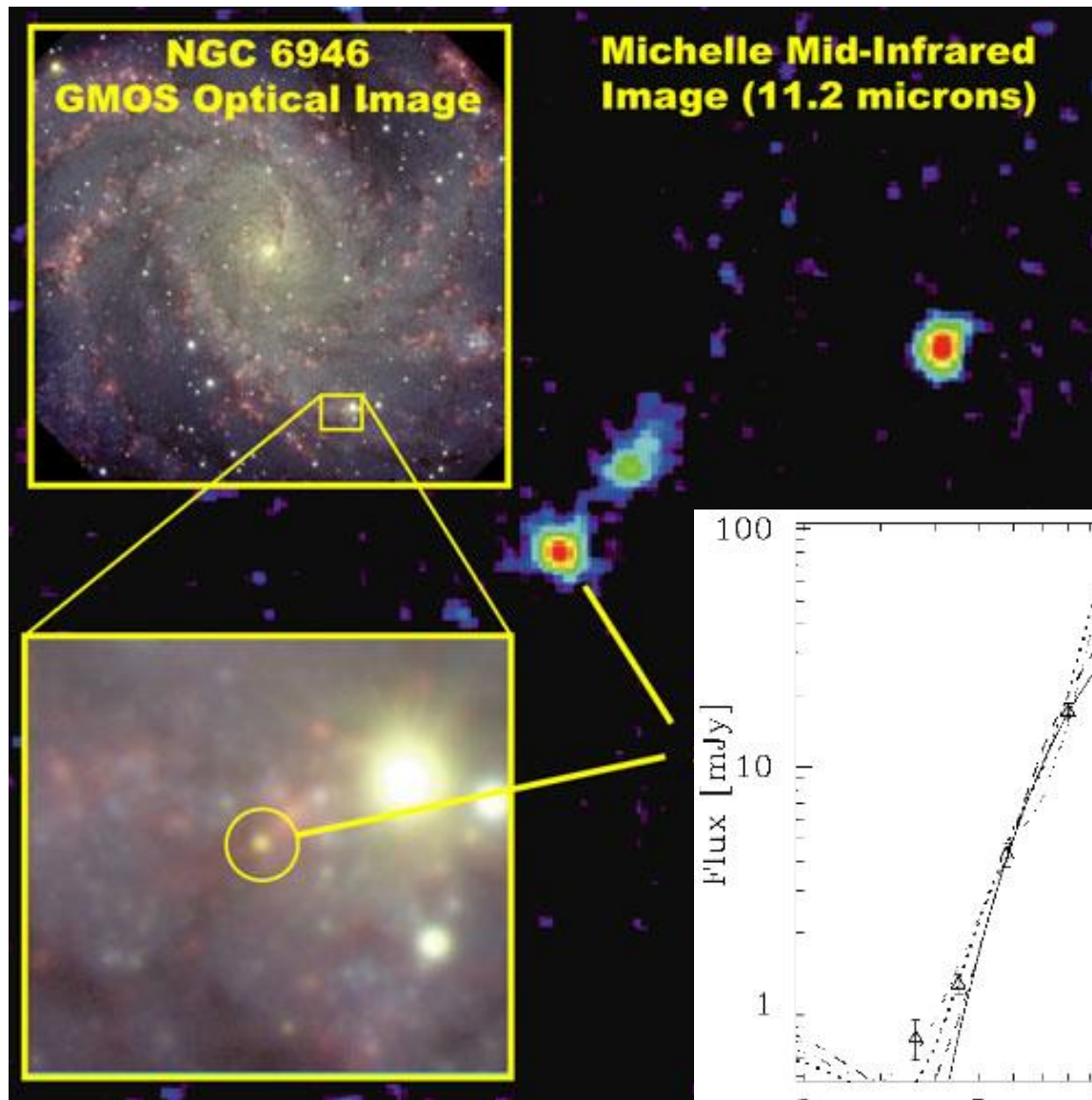


SN1987A
(HST)

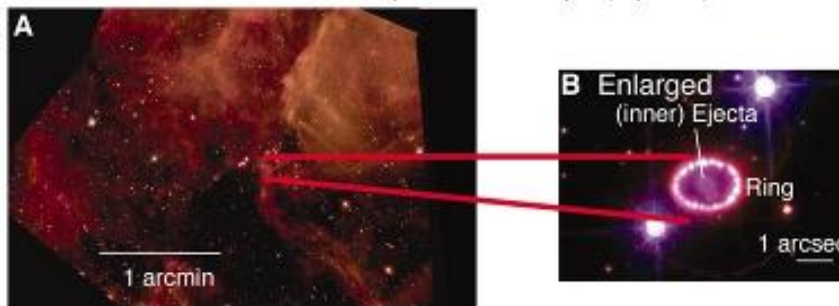


SN1604 (Kepler's SNR)
(Spitzer + HST + Chandra)

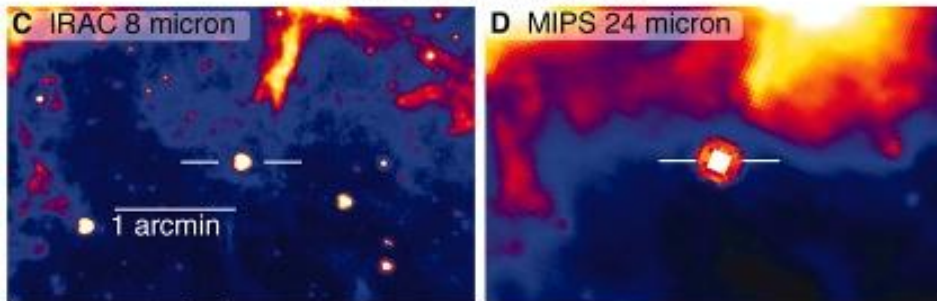
aftermath of supernova explosions as the expanding remnant slowly cools



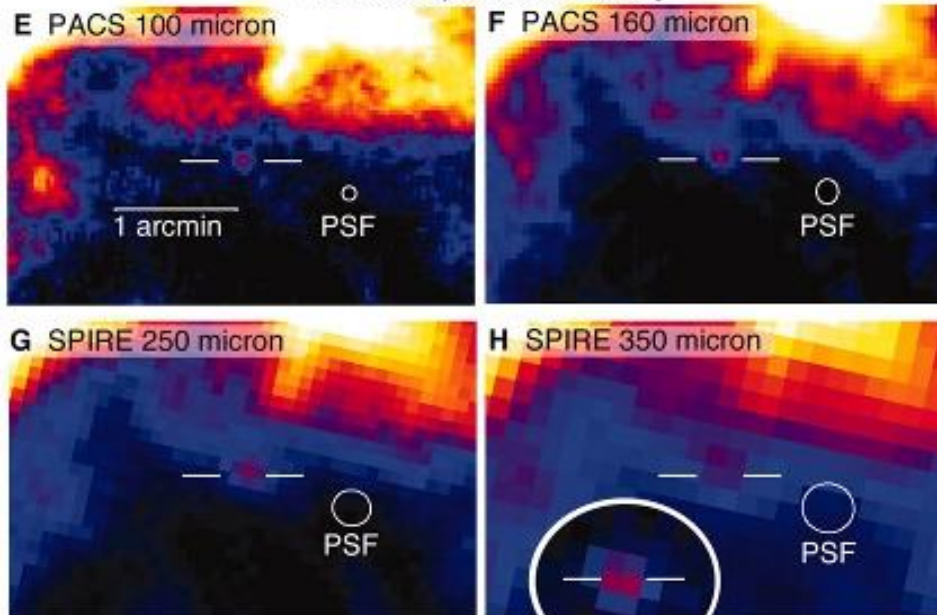
Hubble Space Telescope (Optical)



Spitzer Space Telescope



Herschel Space Observatory



SNR1987A

(Matsuura et al. 2011)

0.5 M_{sol} of dust

1000x more than
before

Could be a major
source of dust in
galaxies, particularly at
high redshift.

Dust in the ISM: What is it made of?

Tiny sub-micron sized grains whose composition can be either:

- mostly SILICATES (compounds containing Si – silicon and O – oxygen) forming in the outflows of Oxygen-rich stars as they evolve towards the PN phase and Supernova remnants
- mostly CARBON-based compounds (*especially polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons* - PAHs – like *benzene* and more complex stuff), forming in the outflows of Carbon-rich stars

When these are ejected deep into the ISM and find themselves in very cold conditions they can acquire a mantle (a shell) of “ices” (water, ammonia, methane etc.)

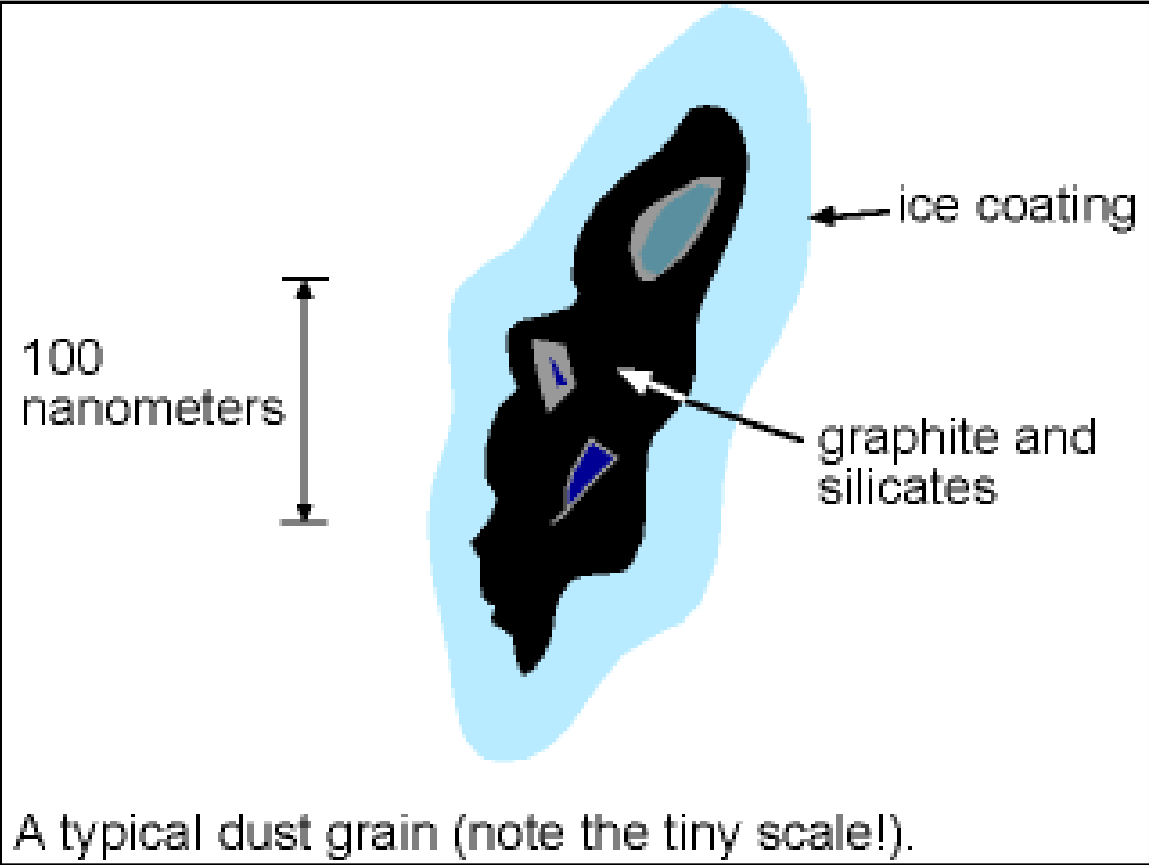
Dust in the ISM: What is it made of?

Tiny sub-

- mostly S forming in PN phase

- mostly C hydrocarbons in the outflow

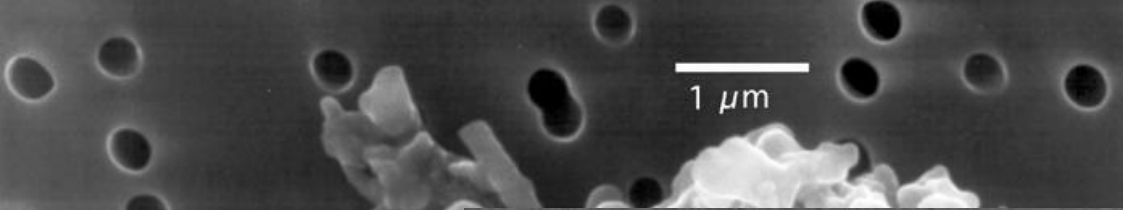
When the cold cond ammonia,



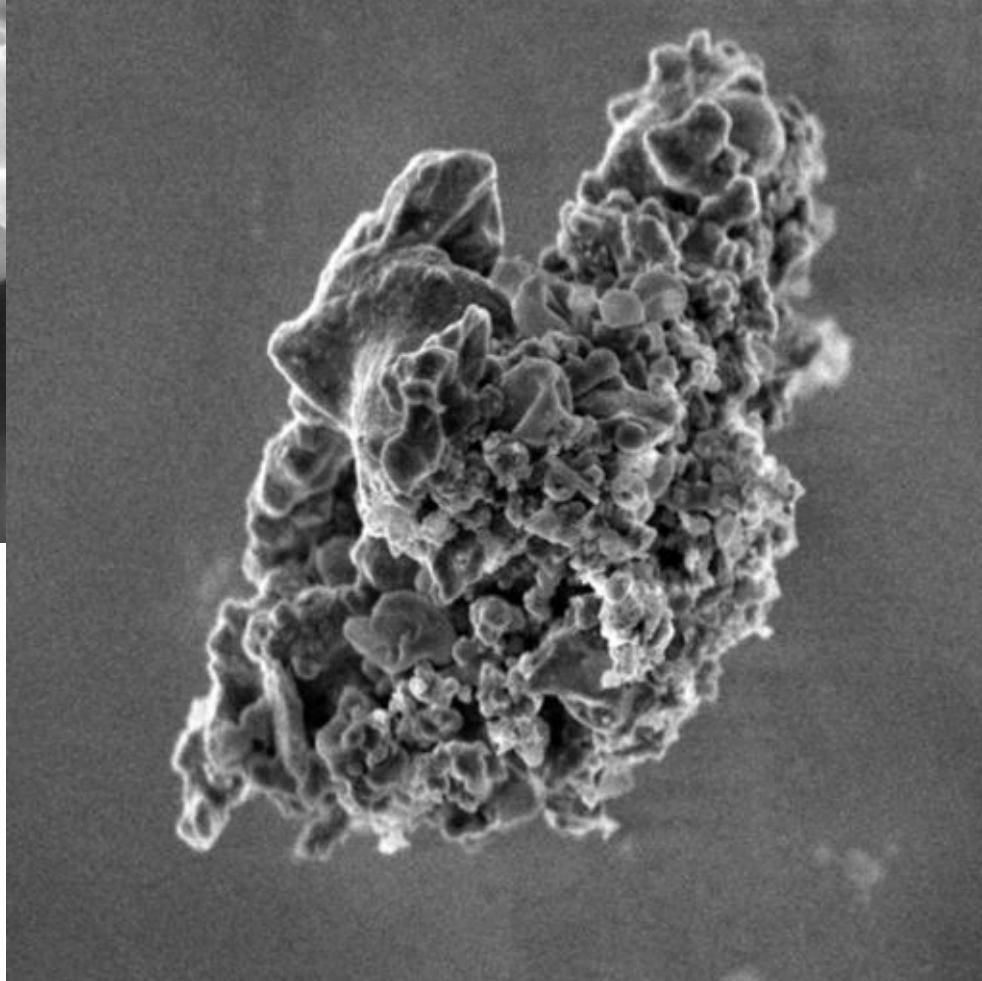
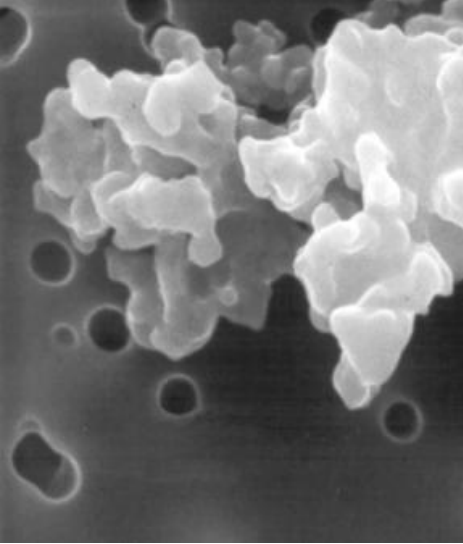
oxygen) towards the

omatic forming

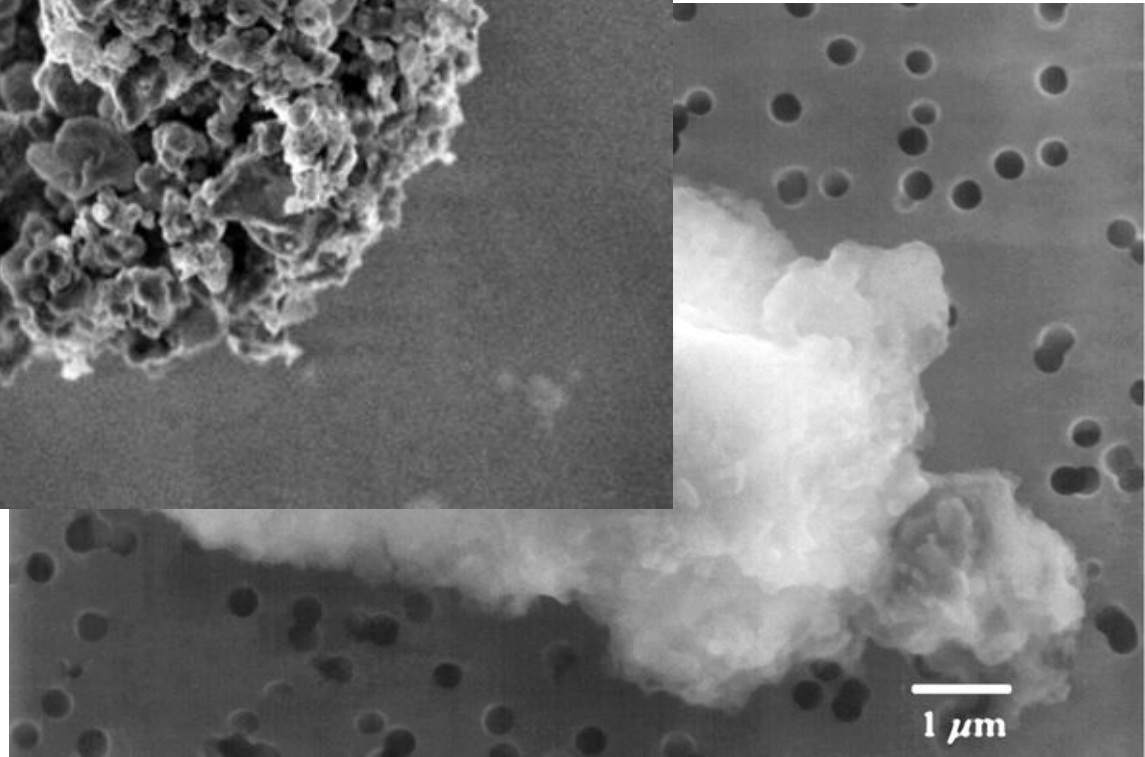
n very er,



Porous chondrite

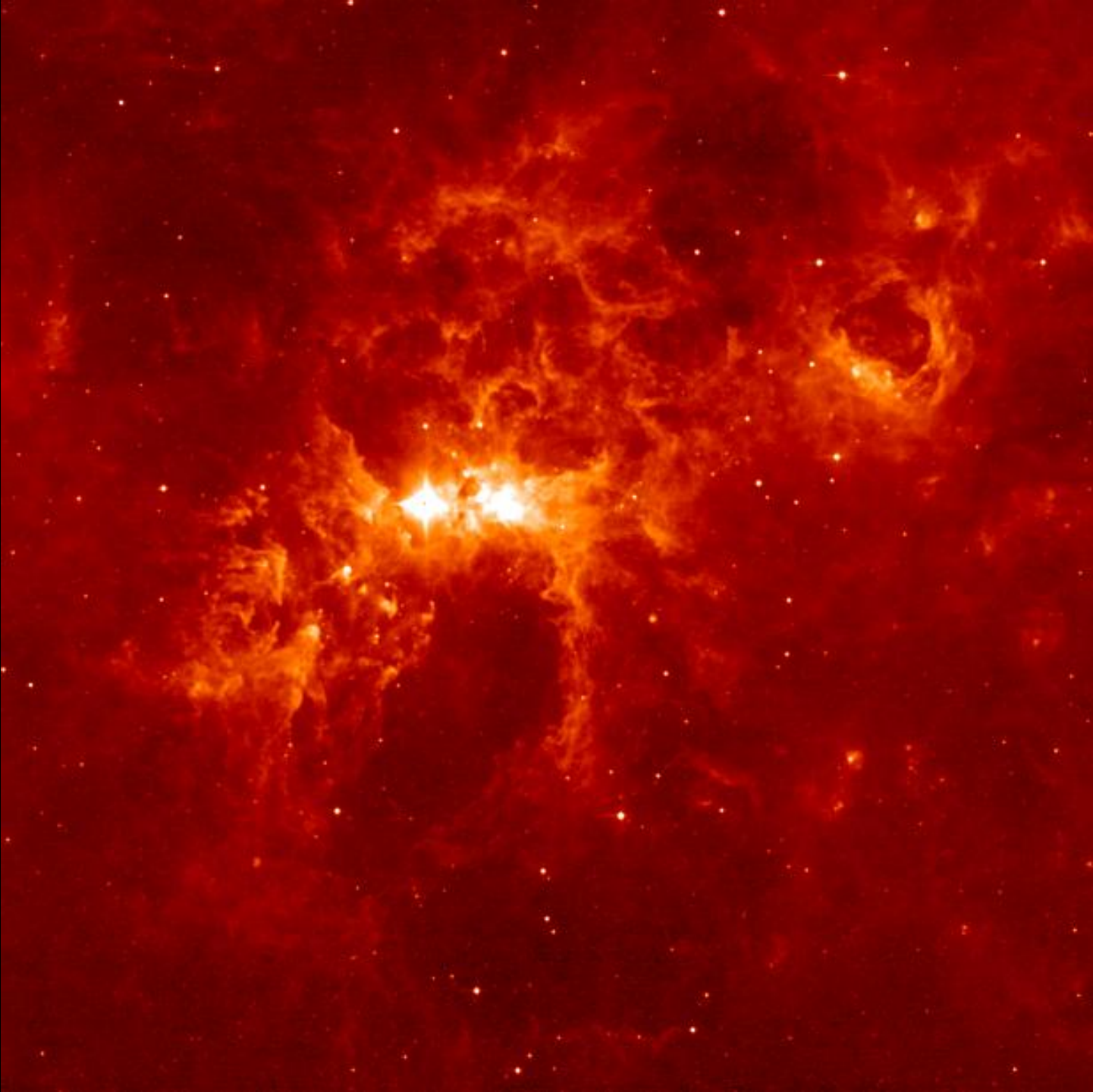


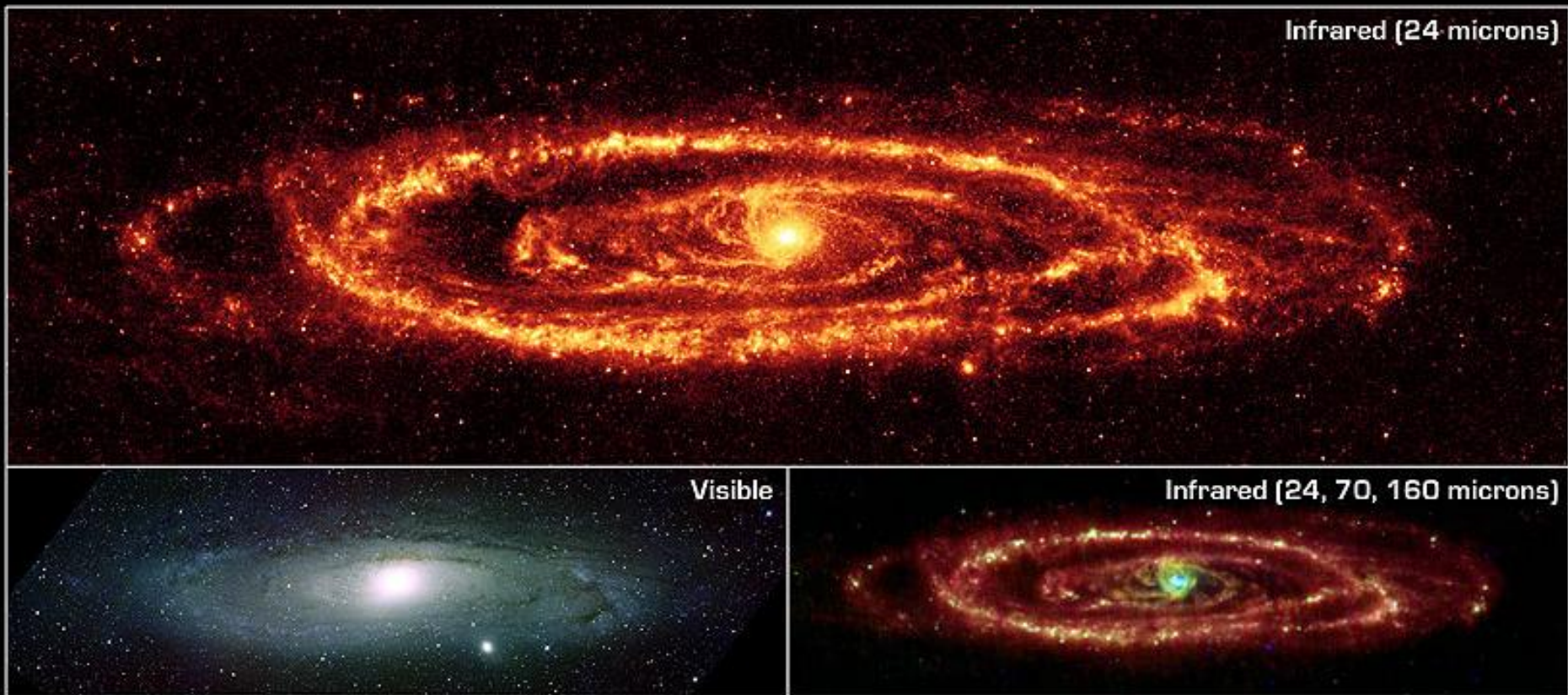
Smooth chondrite











Dust in Andromeda Galaxy (M31)

NASA / JPL-Caltech / K. Gordon (University of Arizona)

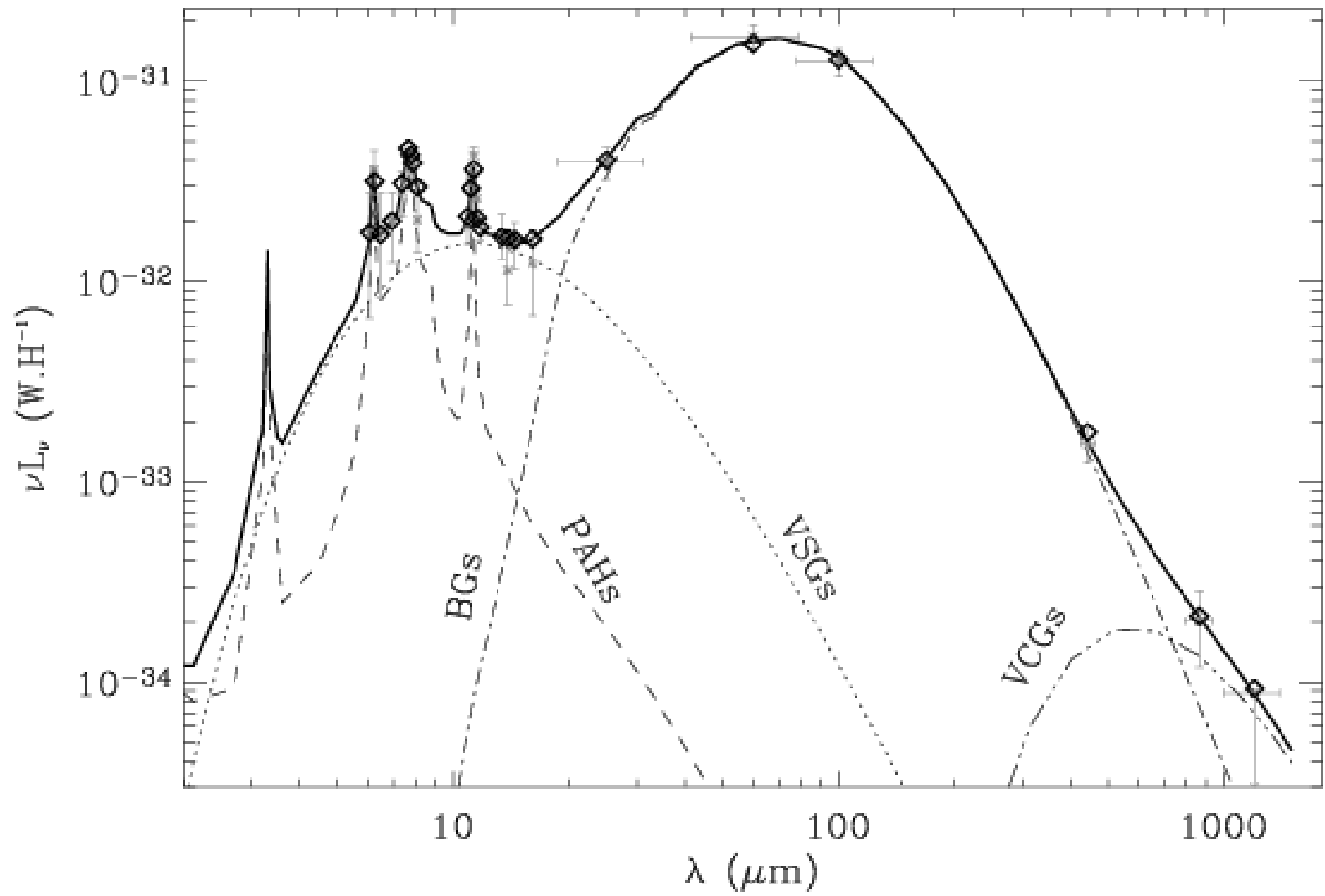
Spitzer Space Telescope • MIPS

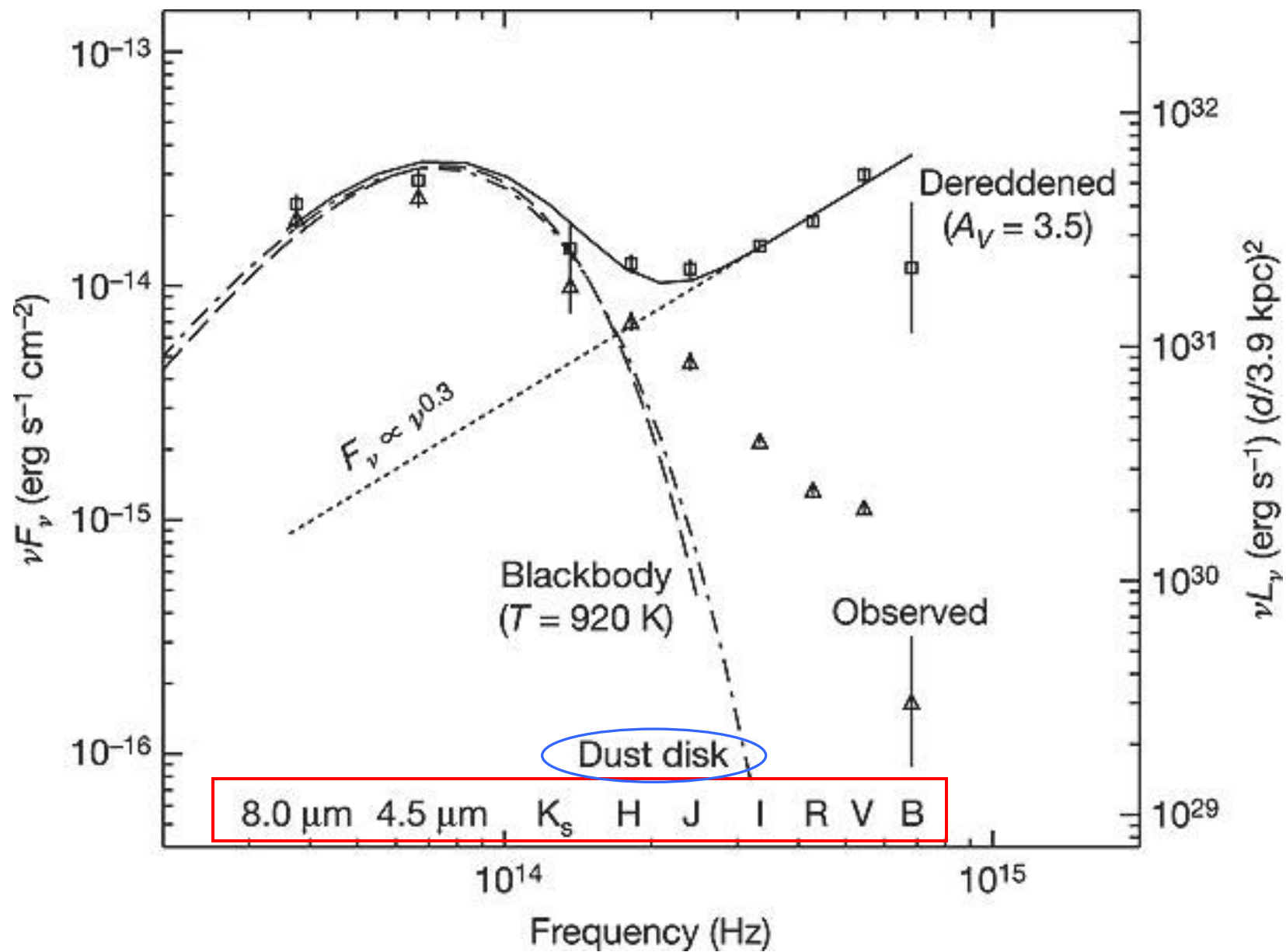
Visible: NOAO/AURA/NSF

ssc2005-20a

blue (24 μm), green (70 μm), red (160 μm)

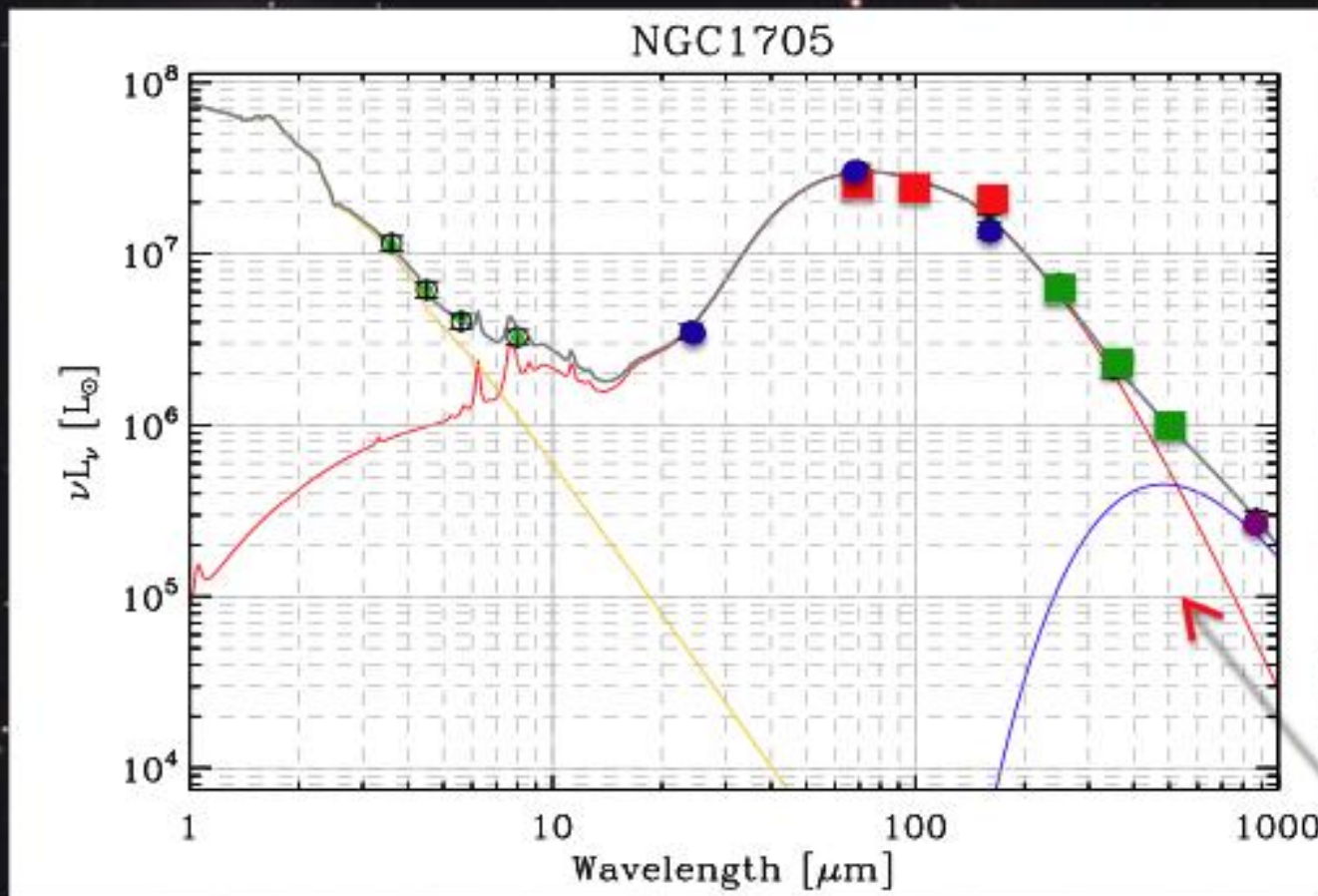
NGC 1140





NGC 1705 – *preliminary* global SED

IRAC + MIPS + PACS + SPIRE + Laboca 870 m

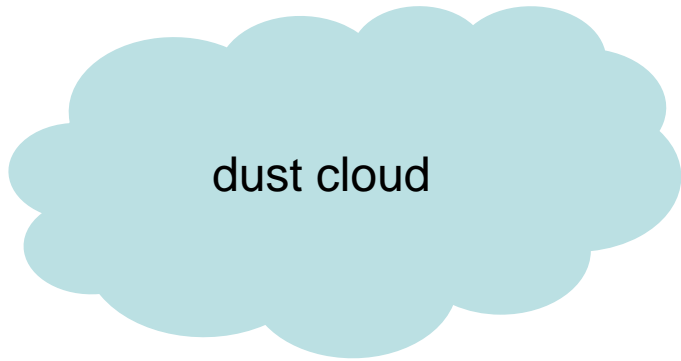


- MIPS
- PACS
- SPIRE
- LABOCA

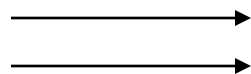
Very cold dust
component:

$T_{\text{dust}} \sim 6 \text{ K}$
 $\beta = 1.0$

SED model based on Galliano et al 2008 & Galametz et al 2009



reflection
(scattering)



Observer A

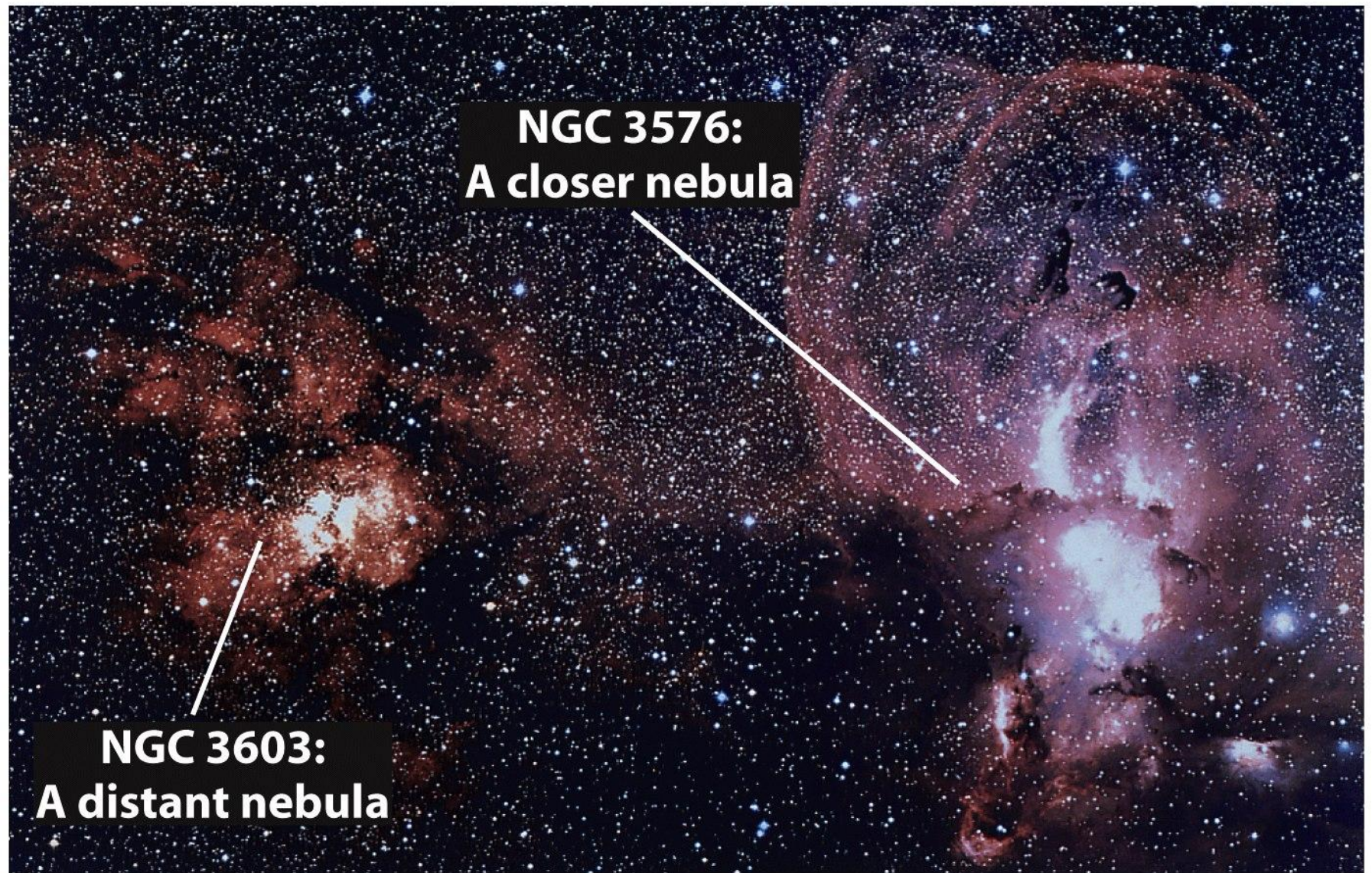


transmission



Observer B





**NGC 3576:
A closer nebula**

**NGC 3603:
A distant nebula**

Reddening depends on distance

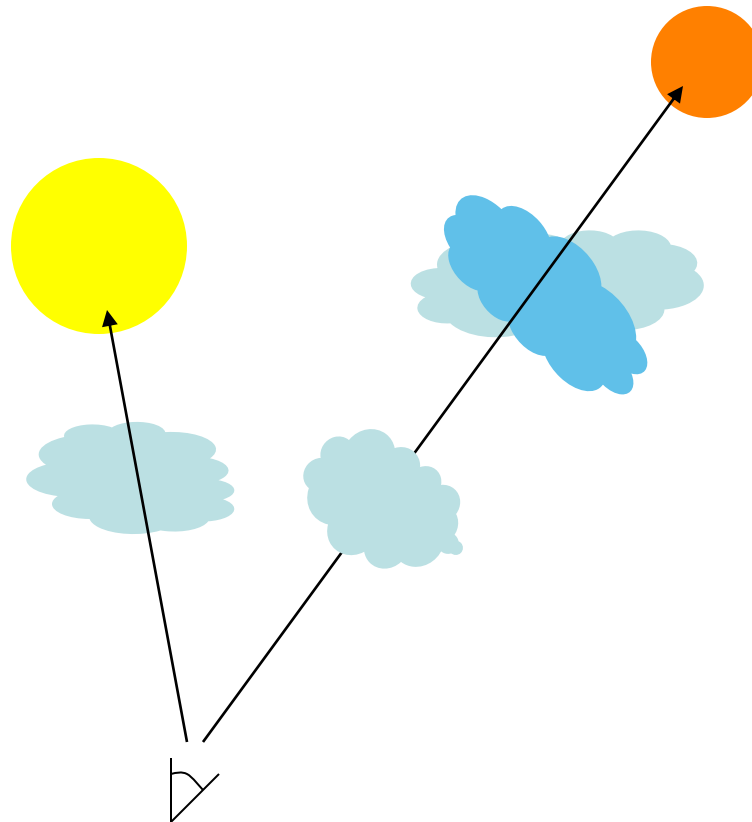
Figure 18-6b

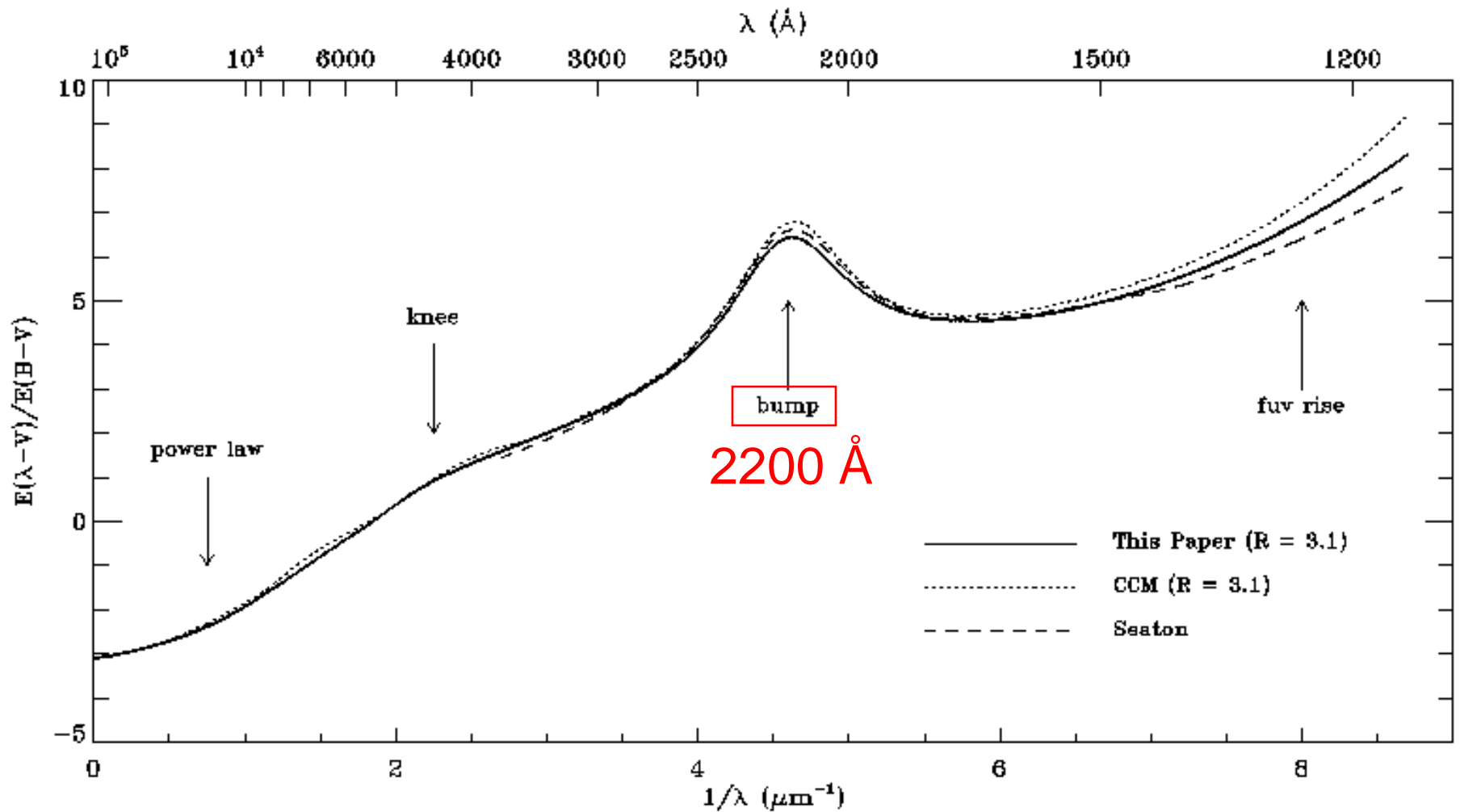
Universe, Eighth Edition

© 2008 W. H. Freeman and Company

Method: Observe spectra from intrinsically identical stars, but at different distances (and thus different amounts of dust extinction) -- and compare

Result: Determine the detailed scattering/absorption properties of the dust *as a function of wavelength*





bump: very broad ($\sim 400 \text{\AA}$), still unidentified!
 (possibly absorption from Graphite grains)

A_V = level of extinction at $\lambda = V$

$(B-V)$ = **observed** colour

$(B-V)_0$ = **intrinsic** colour of object (e.g. star)

define $E(B-V) = (B-V) - (B-V)_0$

in the V-band, $A_V \sim 3.2 E(B-V)$

Can we relate all these magnitudes to the **actual physics of the absorbing dust**?

The intensity of light propagating through ISM **dust** is reduced according to the equation

$$I_\lambda = I_{\lambda 0} e^{-\tau_\lambda}$$

I_λ = the light collected at the telescope

$I_{\lambda 0}$ = the intensity of the light that would have been collected in the absence of dust

τ_λ = the optical depth (**physical meaning!**) at the wavelength of the observation - can relate to extinction coefficient which can be measured in lab

τ_λ = the optical depth at the wavelength of the observation - can relate to extinction coefficient which can be measured in lab
(can also be a function of frequency)

$$\tau_\nu = \int \kappa_\nu \, dl$$

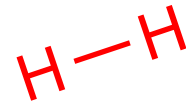
It is also related to the equivalent width (W), in the case where τ is small (<1 ; optically thin case – line is not saturated)

$$W = \int (1 - e^{-\tau_\nu}) \, d\nu$$

Back to gases...
we've looked at ionised hydrogen
(HII regions)

and neutral hydrogen, HI
(diffuse clouds)

But what if we want to observe
molecular hydrogen?



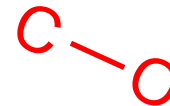
Molecules, found in cold regions, typically emit *cm* or *mm-wave* radiation
→ observable with radio-telescopes (large antennas).

The most abundant molecule, H₂, has very few transitions - in fact v. difficult to observe at any wavelength!

On the other hand, CO has a strong line at 2.6 mm – v. convenient!

The CO/H₂ ratio in the Galaxy is about 10⁻⁴ (1:10000) and remains ~constant.

CO observations can therefore be used to trace molecular hydrogen.



15–100 pc
~10⁵–10⁶ M_⊙
~200 H₂ molecules
cm⁻³

GEMINI

Cone Nebula



Rosette Nebula



Betelgeuse

ORION

MONOCEROS

Horsehead Nebula

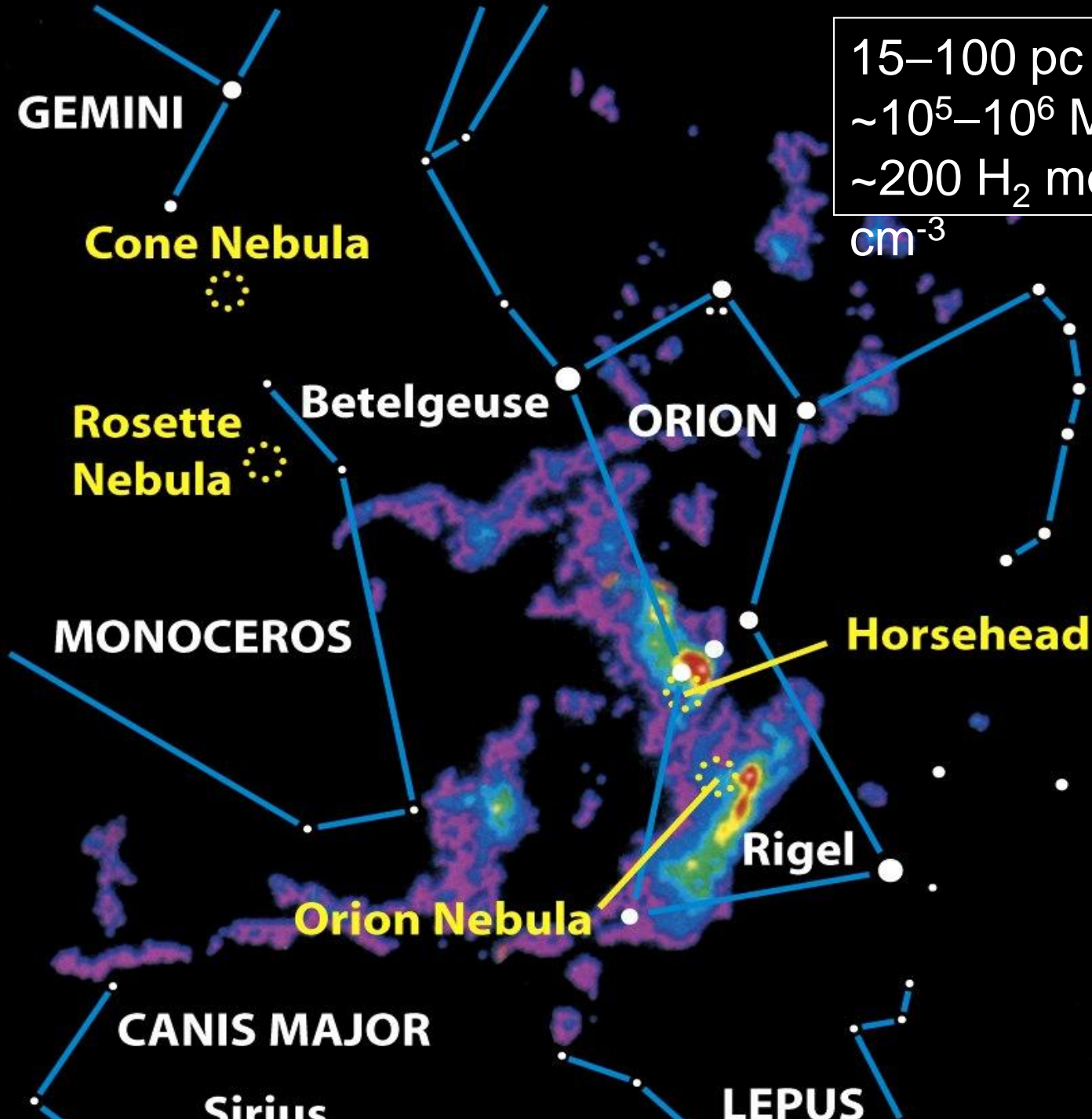
Rigel

Orion Nebula

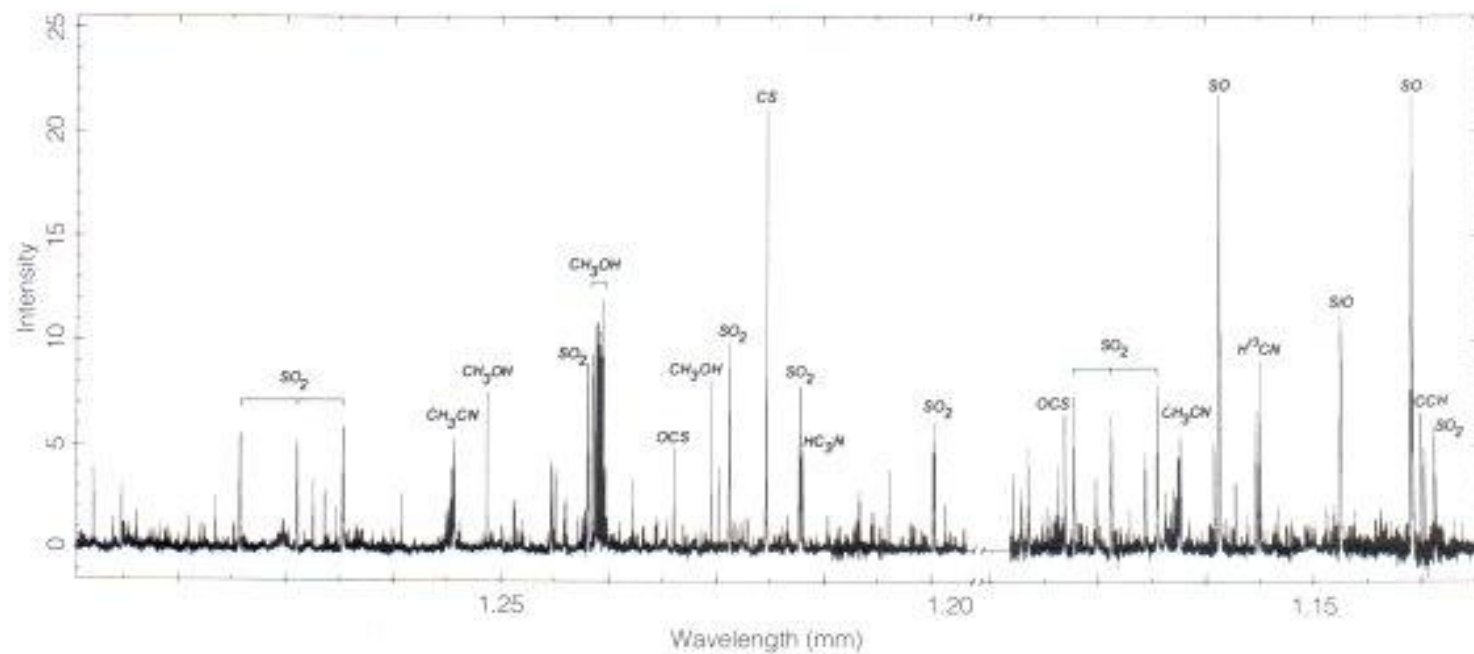
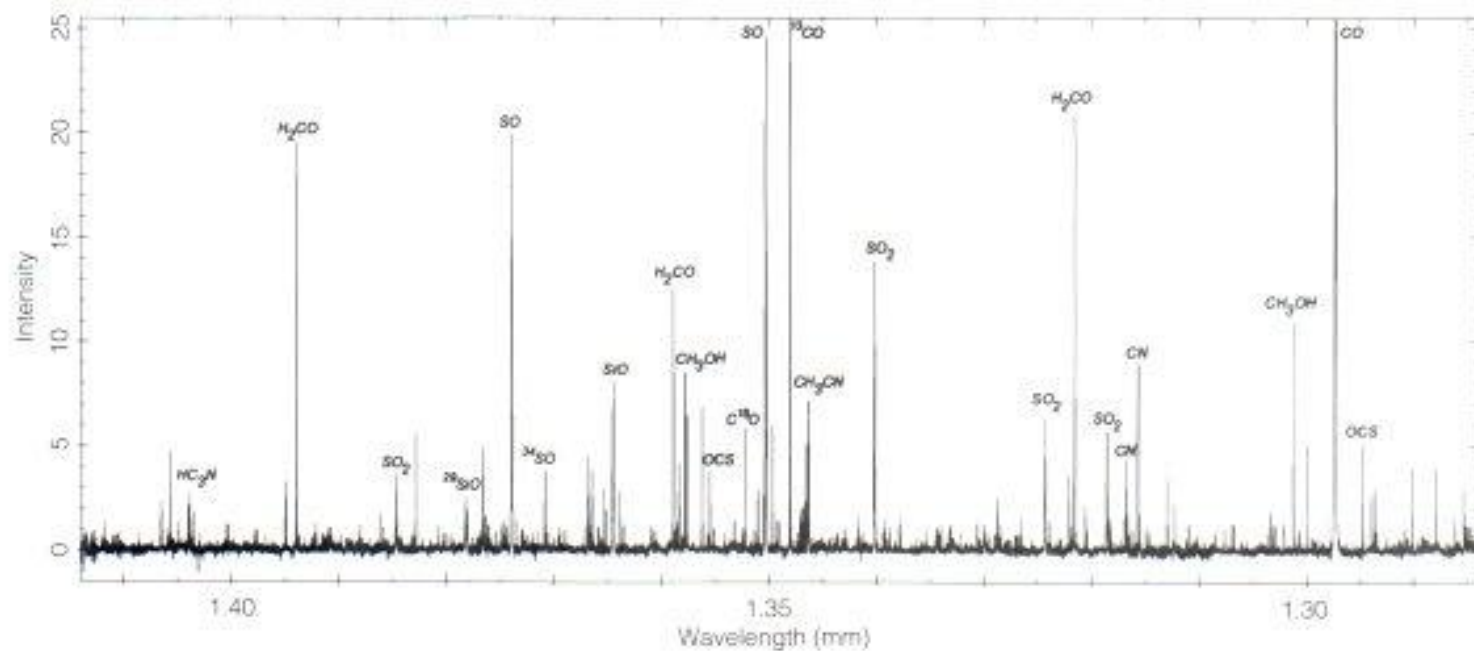
CANIS MAJOR

Sirius

LEPUS



Complexity	Inorganic		Organic	
Diatomic	H ₂	hydrogen	CH	methylidyne radical
	OH	hydroxyl radical	CN	cyanogen radical
	SiO	silicon monoxide	CO	carbon monoxide
	SO	sulphur monoxide	C ₂	carbon
	NO	nitric oxide	CS	carbon monosulphide
Triatomic	H ₂ O	water	CCH	ethynyl radical
	H ₂ S	hydrogen sulphide	HCN	hydrogen cyanide
	SO ₂	sulphur dioxide	HCO	formyl radical
4-atomic	NH ₃	ammonia	H ₂ CO	formaldehyde
			HNCO	hydrocyanic acid
			H ₂ CS	thioformaldehyde
5-atomic			CH ₄	methane
			HCOO	formic acid
			H	
...		
13-atomic			HC ₁₁ N	cyanopentaacetylene

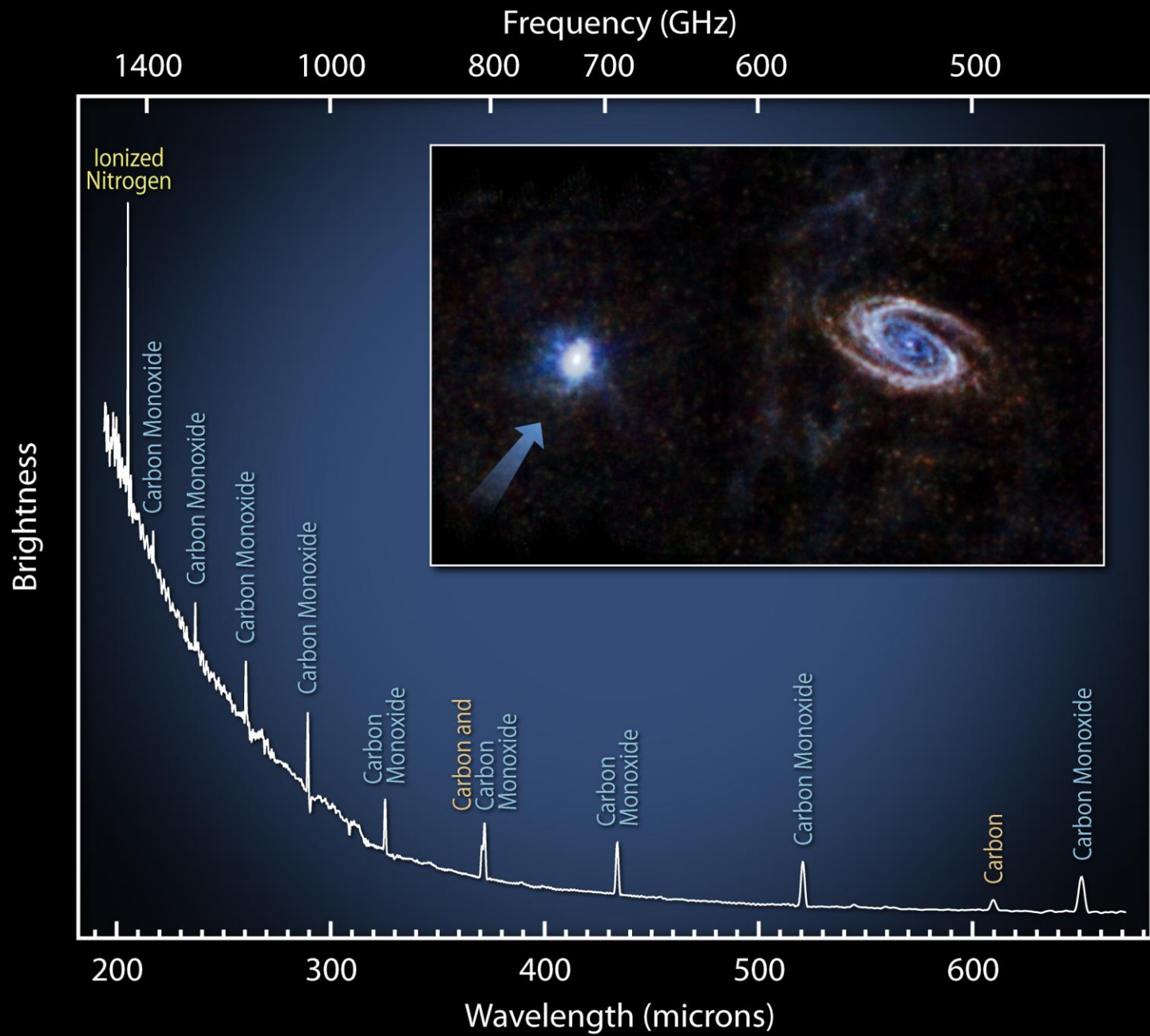


The Galaxy contains ~5000 GMCs

GMCs are mostly found within the spiral arms of the Galaxy, and are spaced out along a given arm by ~1000pc.

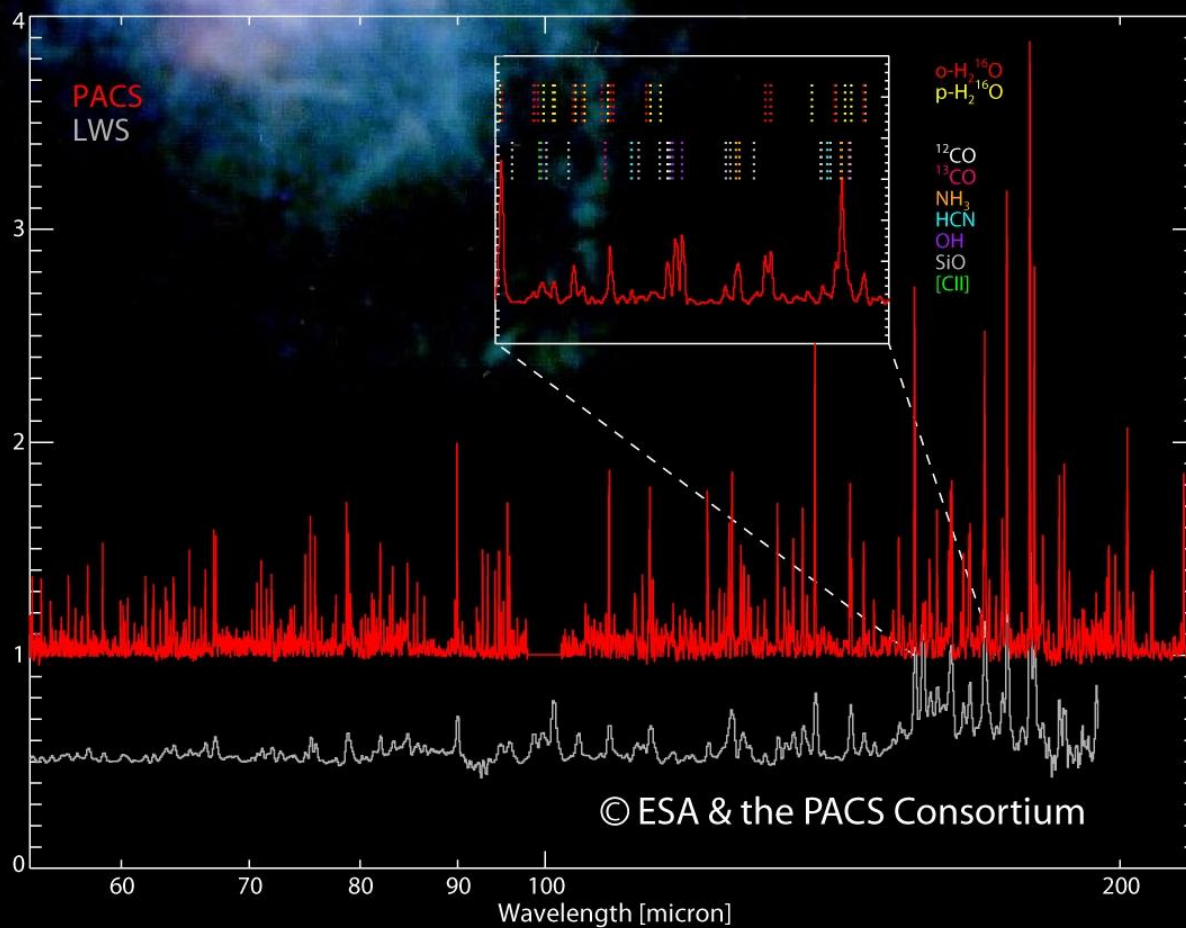
This resembles the distribution of HII Regions in external face-on spiral galaxies

GMCs are therefore clearly associated with Star Formation (since HII Regions are where young stars are found)



Messier 82

VY Canis Majoris

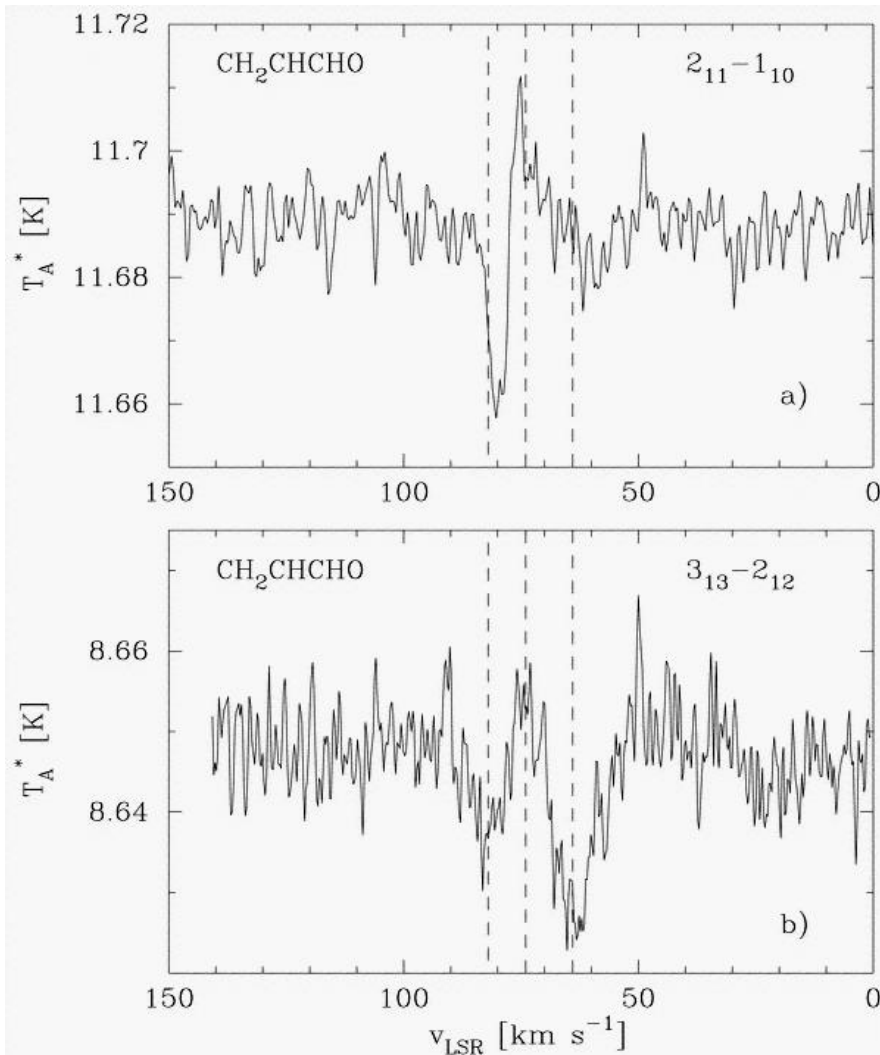
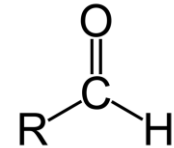


Complex Molecules

NaCl	salt
CH ₃ CH ₂ OH	alcohol
HOCH ₂ CH ₂ OH	anti-freeze
CH ₂ OHCHO	simple sugars
(CH ₃) ₂ CO	acetone
NH ₂ CH ₂ COOH	glycine (not confirmed)
	amino acids??

Aminoacids are the building blocks of *proteins*: life in interstellar space??

Glycolaldehyde (in absorption!)



Aldehydes (e.g., *propenal* & *propanal*): absorption lines in the star-forming region Sgr B2 (“hot core” source):

Complex chemistry can take place on dust grain surface
Protostar \rightarrow irradiation (heating) of dust grains \rightarrow chemicals evaporating off into gas phase

cm-wave obs with a 100m antenna (GBT)

(Hollis et al., 2004, ApJ 610, L21-L24)

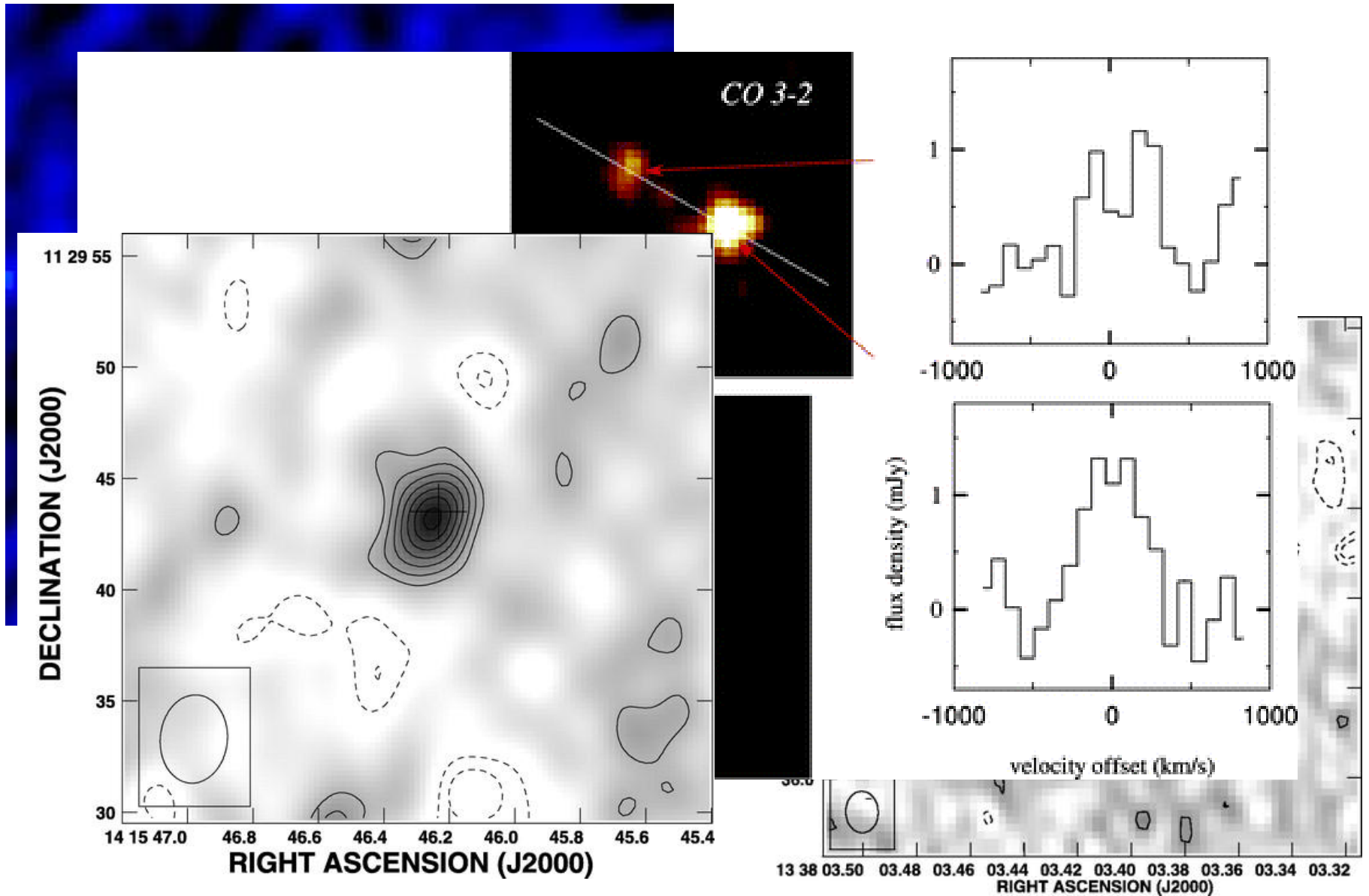




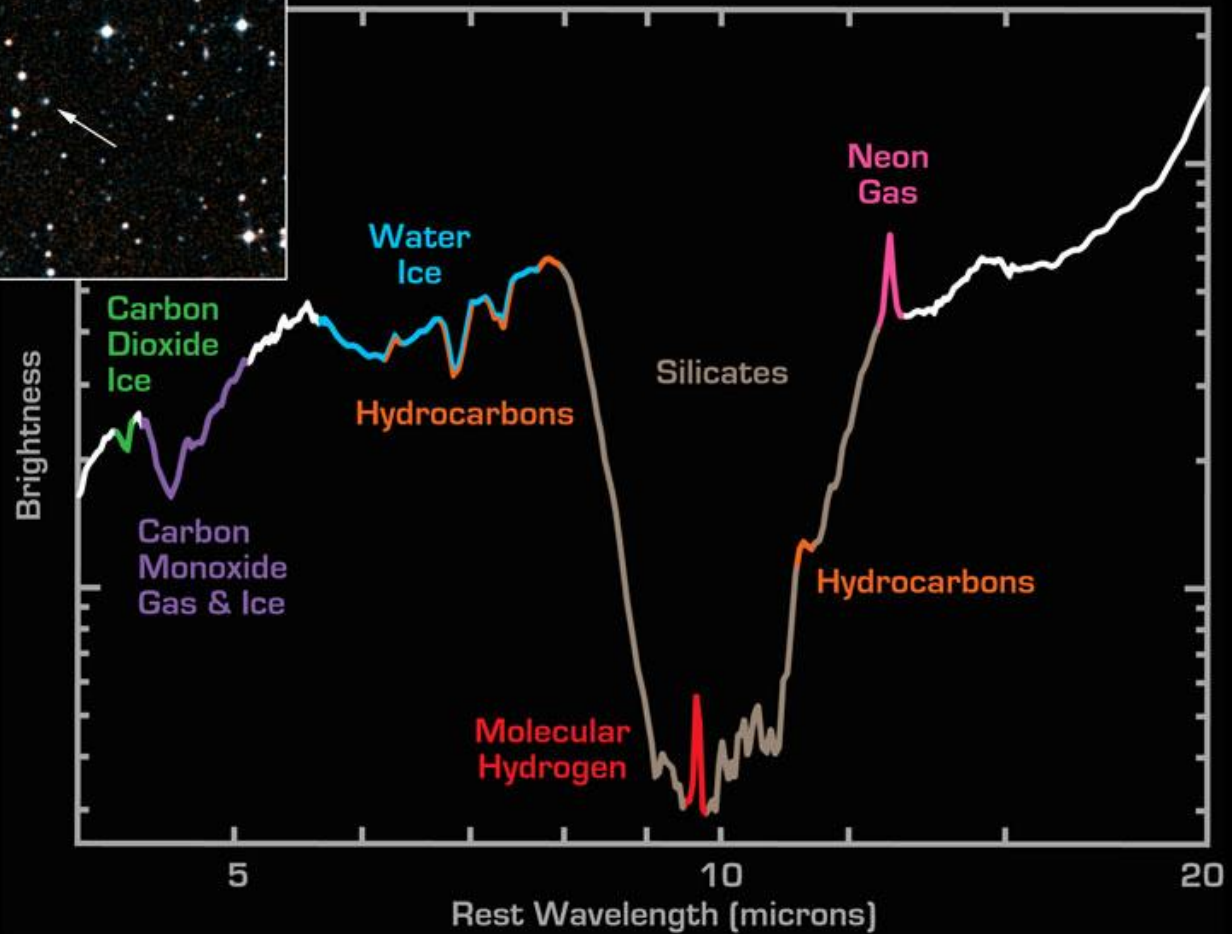
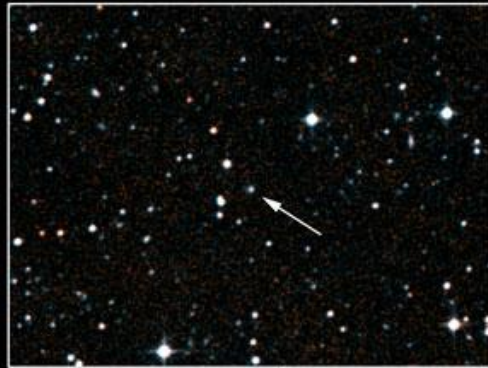




Molecules at high-z



AGN: IRAS F00183-7111



Galaxy IRAS F00183-7111

Spitzer Space Telescope • IRS

Inset: visible (DSS)

NASA / JPL-Caltech / L. Armus (SSC/Caltech)

ssc2003-06h

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Bad Astronomy

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NASA primer on WISE

...the infrared light from the dust and gas that surrounds the star, and the light from the star itself. The WISE satellite is the first to see the universe in these colors.



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