

Radio and mm astronomy

Wintersemester 2012/2013
Henrik Beuther & Hendrik Linz

<i>16.10 Introduction & Overview</i>	<i>(HL & HB)</i>
<i>23.10 Emission mechanisms, physics of radiation</i>	<i>(HB)</i>
<i>30.10 Telescopes – single-dishes</i>	<i>(HL)</i>
<i>06.11 Telescopes – interferometers</i>	<i>(HB)</i>
<i>13.11 Instruments – continuum radiation</i>	<i>(HL)</i>
<i>20.11 Instruments – line radiation</i>	<i>(HB)</i>
<i>27.11 Continuous radiation (free-free, synchrotron, dust, CMB)</i>	<i>(HL)</i>
<i>04.12 Line radiation</i>	<i>(HB)</i>
<i>11.12 Radiation transfer</i>	<i>(HL)</i>
<i>18.12 Effelsberg Excursion</i>	
<i>Christmas break</i>	
<i>08.01 Molecules and chemistry</i>	<i>(HL)</i>
15.01 Physics and kinematics	(HB)
<i>22.01 Applications</i>	<i>(HL)</i>
<i>29.01 Applications</i>	<i>(HB)</i>
<i>05.02 last week, no lecture</i>	

More Information and the current lecture files: http://www.mpia.de/homes/beuther/lecture_ws1213.html
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Topics today

- Physical conditions
- Kinematics of galaxies
- Kinematics in star formation

Physical conditions : Micro-Level

A medium in thermodynamic eq. can be described by 4 distribution laws:

1.) MAXWELL distribution of the particle velocity contributions (kinetic energy):

$$N(v;T) = 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2kT} \right)^{3/2} v^2 \exp\left(-\frac{mv^2}{2kT} \right) \quad v : \text{particle velocities}$$

2.) BOLTZMANN distribution of the population numbers of the particle energy levels:

$$\frac{N_o}{N_u} = \frac{g_o}{g_u} \exp\left(-\frac{E_o - E_u}{kT} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} E_{o/u} \longrightarrow \text{Energies of the upper (o) and lower (u) levels} \\ g_{o/u} \longrightarrow \text{Corresponding statistical weights} \end{array}$$

3.) PLANCK radiation law (distribution of the photon energies):

$$B_\nu = \frac{2h\nu^3 / c^2}{\exp(h\nu / kT) - 1} \quad \nu : \text{photon frequencies}$$

4.) SAHA equation (distribution of the ionisation levels in plasma):

$$\frac{N_{j+1} N_e}{N_j} = \frac{2 U_{j+1}(T)}{U_j(T)} \left(\frac{2\pi m_e kT}{h^2} \right)^{3/2} \exp(-\chi_{j,j+1} / kT)$$

N_{j+1}, N_j - Number densities of (j+1)-fold and j-fold ionised particles

N_e - electron density

$\chi_{j,j+1}$ - ionisation energy needed to get from ionisation level j to $j+1$

U_{j+1}, U_j - partition function for both states

Physical conditions : Micro-Level

Are these distribution functions valid in the ISM?

General rule: time scale for processes leading to equilibrium short compared to time scales of disturbing processes

1. Example : collisions between H-atoms: consider $T = 100$ K, mean velocity $v \sim 1$ km/s

cross section $\sigma = \pi R_H^2 \sim \pi (0.1 \text{ nm})^2$

average time between two collision $\tau_s = (v \sigma n_H)^{-1}$

with HI density of 1 cm^{-3} we have $\tau_s \sim 1000$ yrs \longrightarrow short wrt most interstellar processes (except shock fronts)

\rightarrow Maxwell distribution valid, introduction of kinetic temperature T_{kin} makes sense!

2. Example : balance for energy level population numbers for ISM:

correction factor to Boltzmann:

$$\frac{1}{1 + (A_{21} / (n Q_{21}))}$$

$A_{21} [\text{s}^{-1}]$ Einstein coefficient for spontaneous radiative decay
 $Q_{21} [\text{m}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}]$ collision rate
 $n [\text{m}^{-3}]$ number density

Pure Boltzmann only if $(n Q_{21}) \gg A_{21}$

In thin ISM is the collision rate small (see Example 1 above). For permitted transitions ($A_{21} \sim 10^8 \text{ s}^{-1}$) the correction factor gets large \rightarrow almost all particles in ground state. For forbidden transitions ($A_{21} \sim 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) the level population approach Boltzmann.

For dense cores: E.g. CO(1-0) at density 10^5 cm^{-3} : $A_{21} = 7.2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ s}^{-1}$, $Q_{21} = 3.3 \times 10^{-11} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$
 $\rightarrow A_{21} / (n Q_{21}) \sim 0.02$

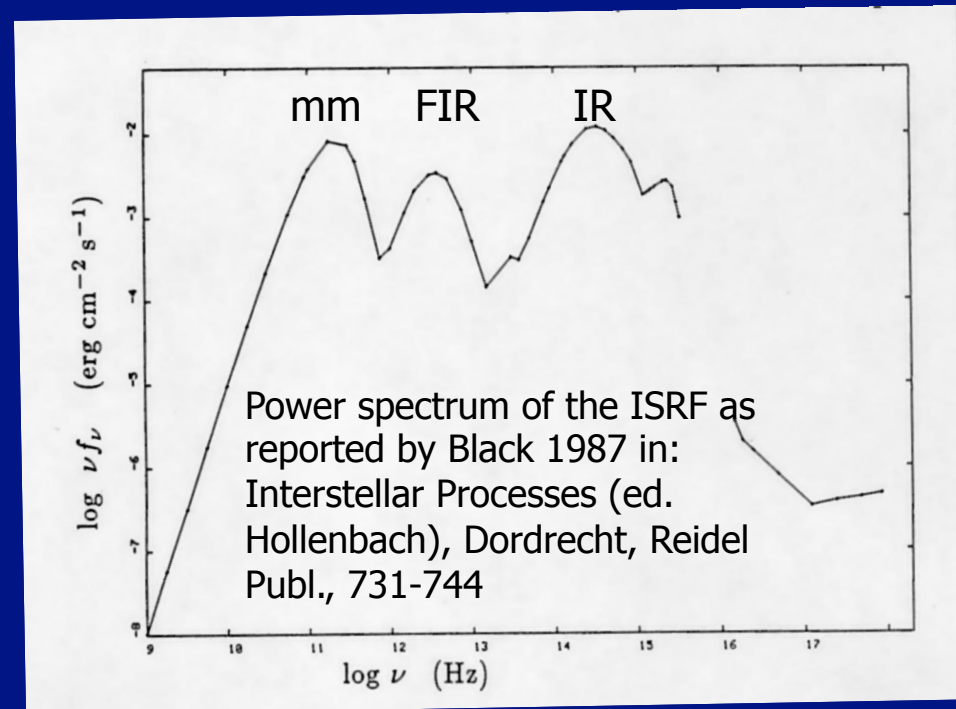
\rightarrow Boltzmann distribution valid in dense cores!

Physical conditions : Micro-Level

Are these distribution functions valid in the ISM?

3. Example : Interstellar radiation field (ISRF) : sum of emission contributions from all emitting objects (stars, dust, gas) in the nearer and further vicinity of the gas cloud (distance-dependent thinning factor comes into play)

ISRF can not be approximated by a black body (i.e., Planck function not applicable)
ISRF hence far from thermodynamic equilibrium ...



However: Dense cores and stars can be fitted relatively well with single or multiple black body functions.

A few important molecules

Mol.	Trans.	Abund.	Crit. Dens. [cm ⁻³]	Comments
H ₂	1-0 S(1)	1	8x10 ⁷	Shock tracer
CO	J=1-0	8x10 ⁻⁵	3x10 ³	Low-density probe
OH	² Π _{3/2} ; J=3/2	3x10 ⁻⁷	1x10 ⁰	Magnetic field probe (Zeeman)
NH ₃	J,K=1,1	2x10 ⁻⁸	2x10 ⁴	Temperature probe
CS	J=2-1	1x10 ⁻⁸	4x10 ⁵	High-density probe
SiO	J=2-1		6x10 ⁵	Outflow shock tracer
H ₂ O	6 ₁₆ -5 ₂₃		1x10 ³	Maser
H ₂ O	1 ₁₀ -1 ₁₁	<7x10 ⁻⁸	2x10 ⁷	Warm gas probe
CH ₃ OH	7-6	1x10 ⁻⁷	1x10 ⁵	Dense gas/temperature probe
CH ₃ CN	19-18	2x10 ⁻⁸	2x10 ⁷	Temperature probe in Hot Cores

Line broadening

Natural line broadening: Disturbance of molecule by zero-point vibrations of electromagnetic field (or from thermal electromagnetic field)

$$dv = 32\pi^3\nu^3 \mu^2 / (3hc^3) \quad (\mu: \text{Dipole moment})$$

For CO(1-0) at 20K $\rightarrow dv \sim 3.5 \times 10^{-8}$ or $dv \sim 9 \times 10^{-14}$ km/s
 \rightarrow Negligible!

Pressure broadening: Arises from collisions between molecules. Complex quantum-mechanical problem for intermolecular forces. At densities of star-forming regions for molecular lines negligible (different for recombination lines).

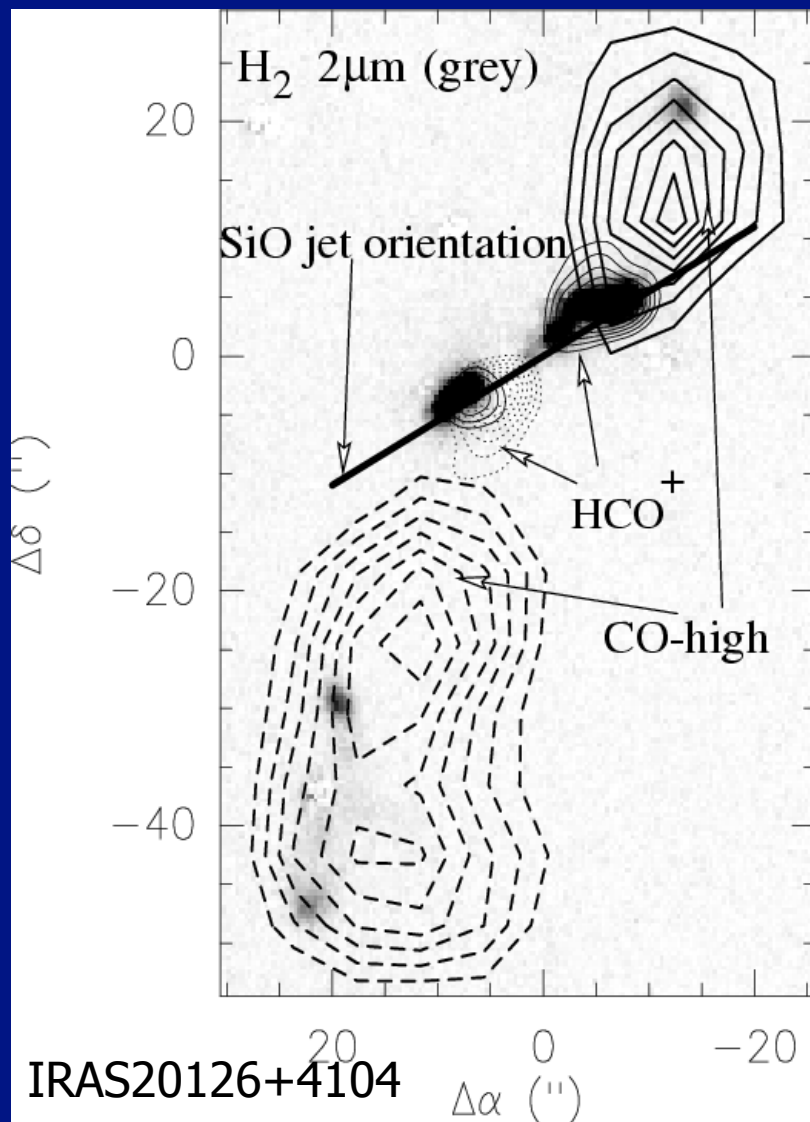
Thermal line broadening: Thermal motions of gas cause doppler broadening:

$$dv = \text{sqrt}(8 \ln 2 \text{ kT} / m_{\text{mol}})$$

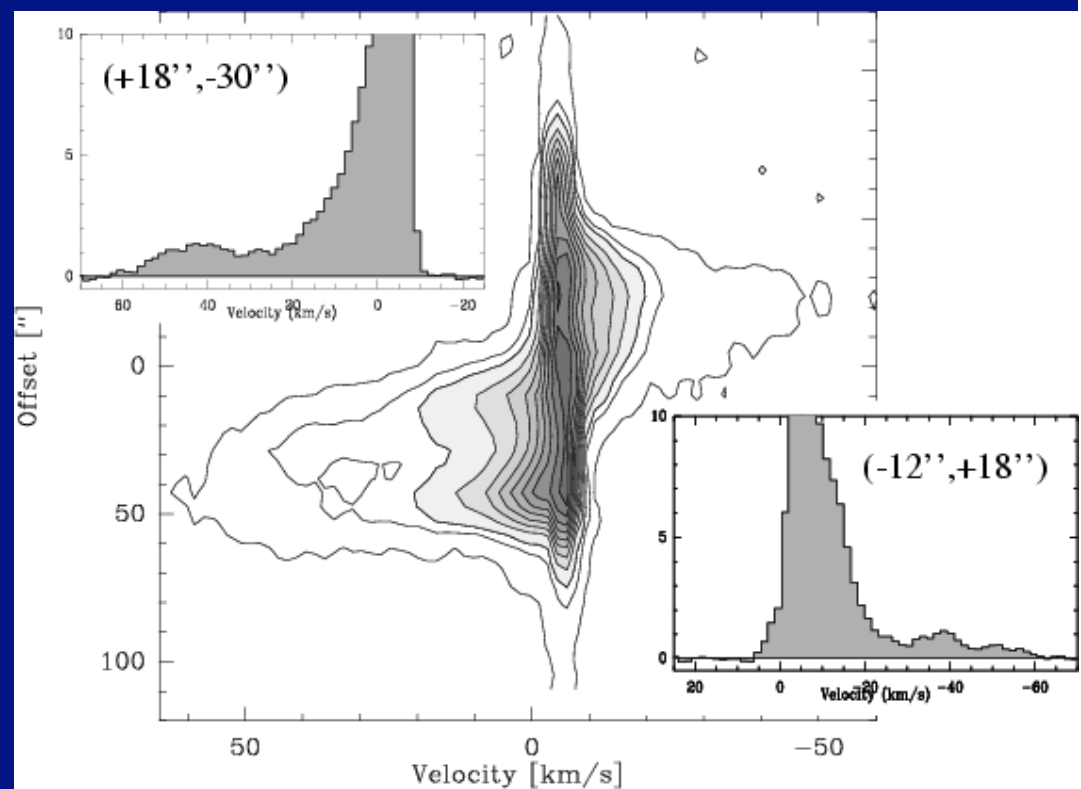
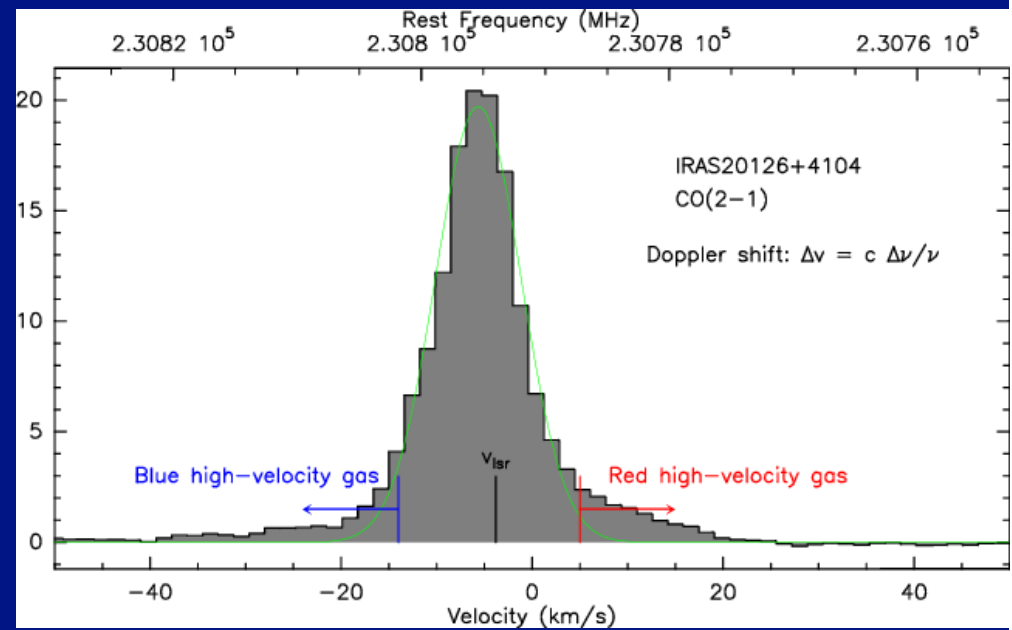
$$dv(\text{NH}_3 @ 30\text{K}) \sim 0.28 \text{ km/s}$$

Other physical effects: Line broadening due to outflow motions, rotation ...

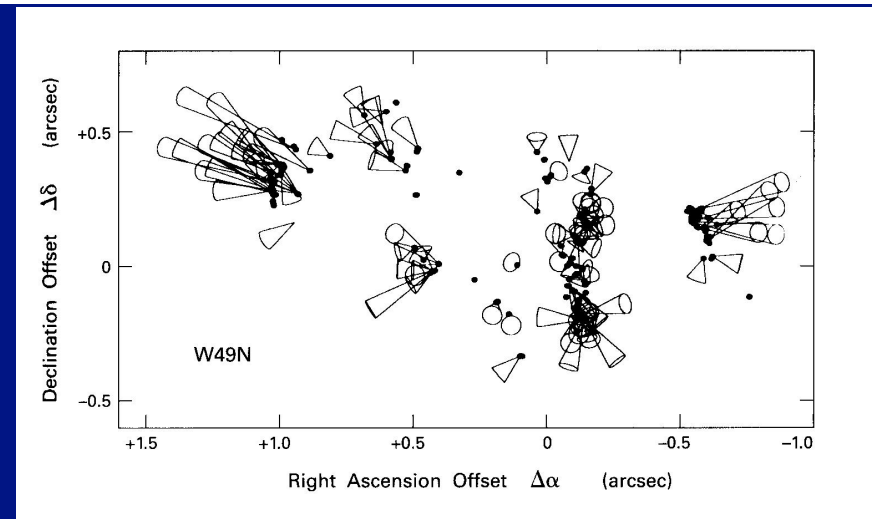
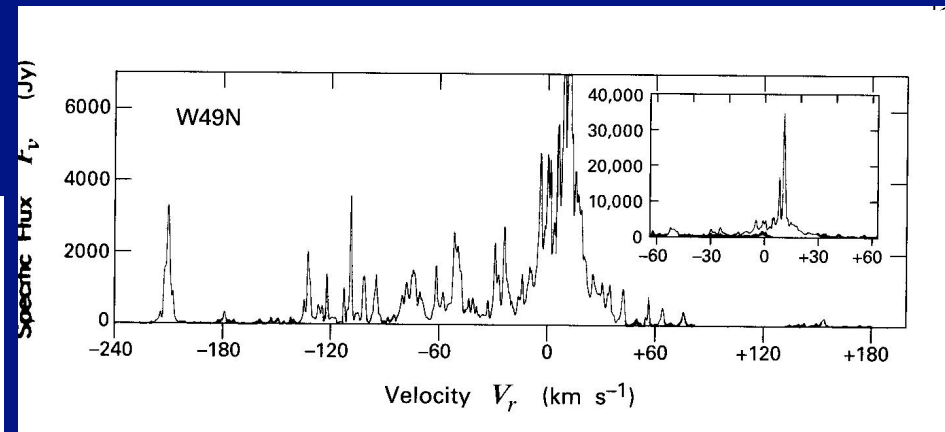
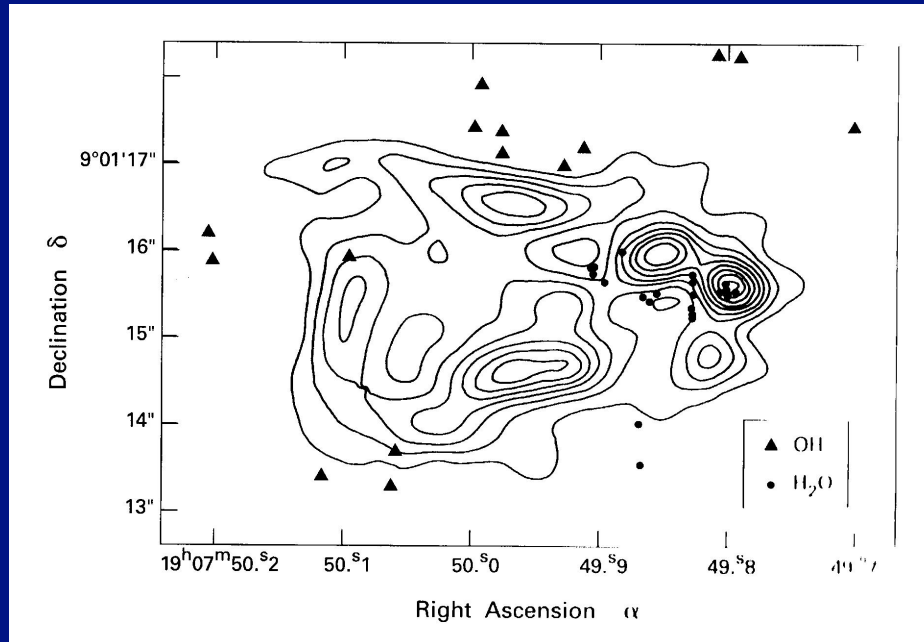
Molecular outflows



Lebron et al. 2006



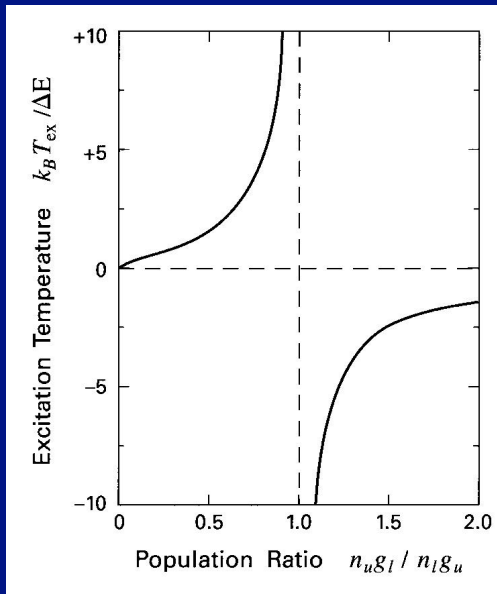
Molecular Masers I



- In the Rayleigh-Jeans limit, brightness temperature T and intensity I relate like $T = \frac{c^2}{2k\nu^2} I$ with $I = F/\Omega$ (Ω : solid angle). With the small spot diameters (of the order some AU), this implies brightness temperatures as high as 10^{15}K , far in excess of any thermal temperature --> no thermal equilibrium and no Boltzmann distribution.
- Narrow line-width
- Potential broad velocity distribution.
- They allow to study proper motions.

Molecular Masers II

- The excitation temperature was defined as: $n_u/n_l = g_u/g_l \exp(-h\nu/kT_{\text{ex}})$.
- For maser activity, population inversion is required, i.e., $n_u/g_u > n_l/g_l$.
--> This implies negative excitation temperatures for maser activity.
- In thermal conditions at a few 100K, for typical microwave lines
 $E_{\text{line}} = h\nu/k < T_{\text{kin}} \sim T_{\text{ex}} \text{ --> } n_u/g_u \sim n_l/g_l$
--> Only a relatively small shift is required in get population inversion



$$T_{\text{ex}}/E_{\text{line}} = -1/\ln(n_u g_l / n_l g_u)$$

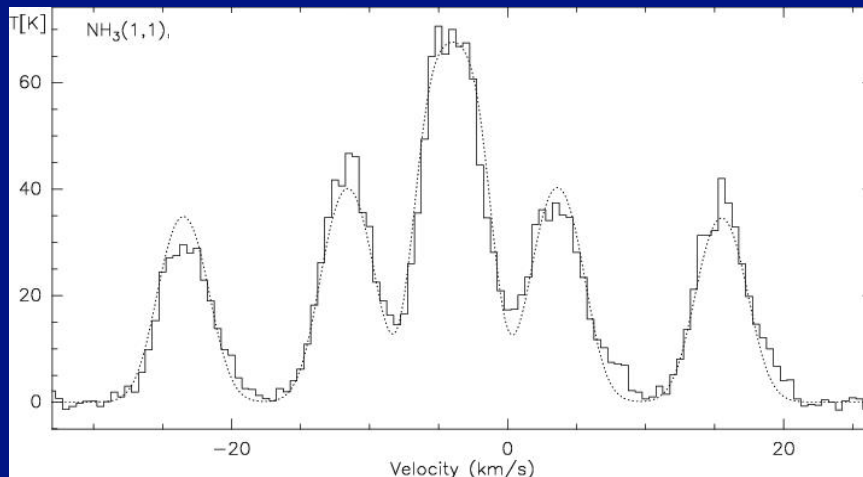
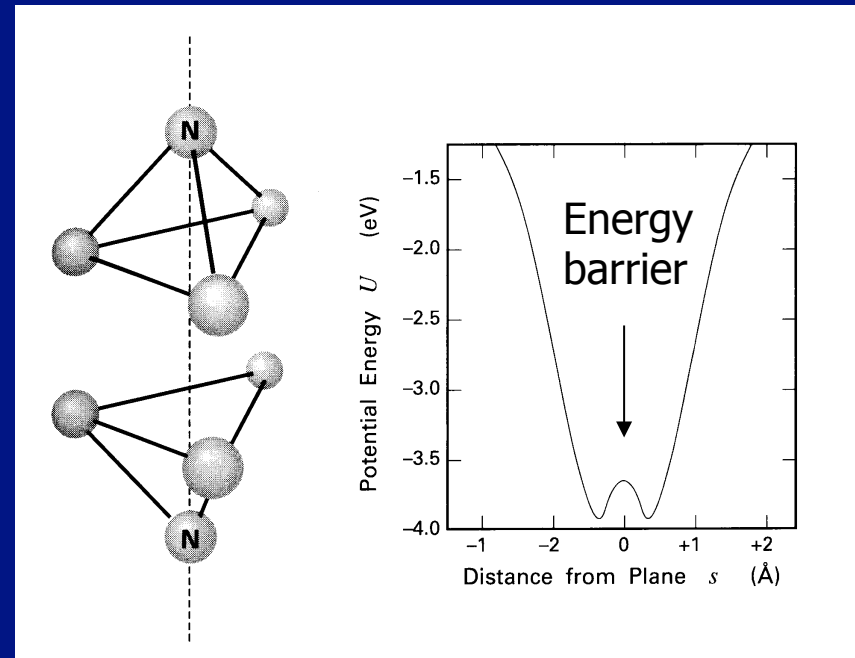
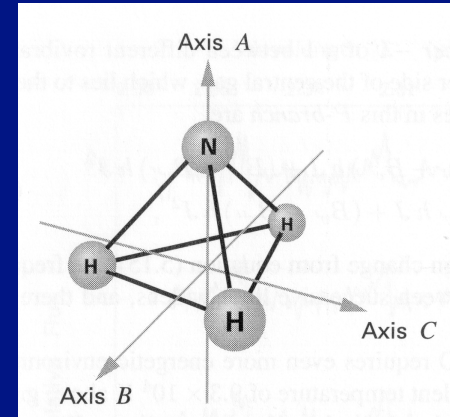
With rising T_{ex} the level populations are approaching each other, and then one has only to “overcome the border”.

Different proposed pumping mechanisms, e.g.:

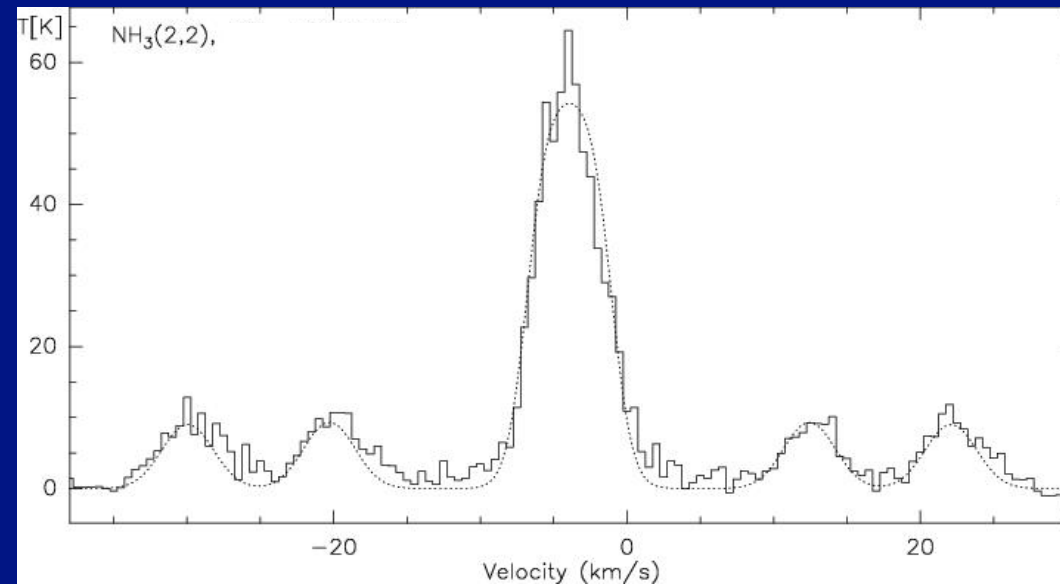
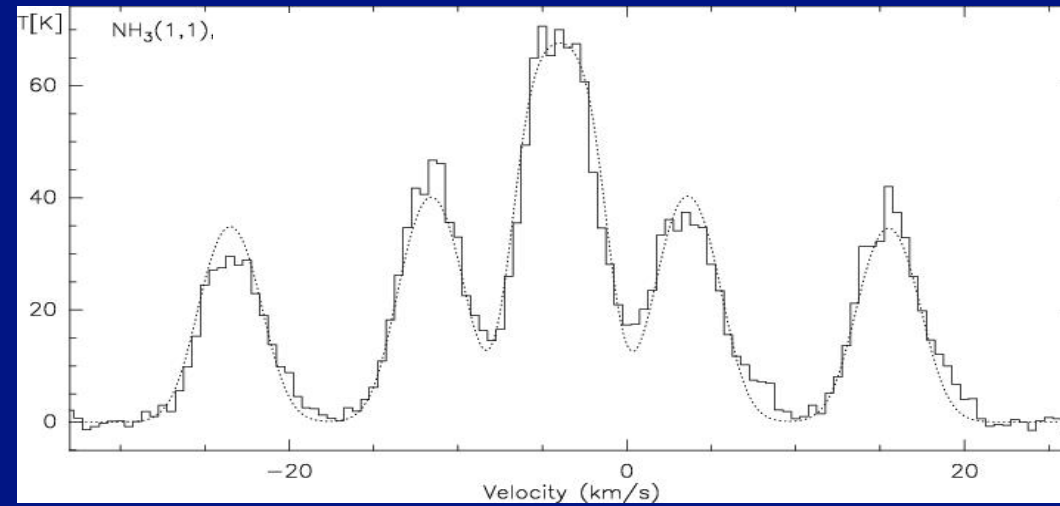
- Collisional pumping in J- and C-shocks of protostellar jets for H₂O masers.
- Radiative pumping at shock fronts between UCHII regions and ambient clouds.
In both cases, very high densities and temperatures are required.

Ammonia (NH₃)

- Formed through gas-phase reactions.
- Symmetric-top molecule
- However, useful rot. transitions only at very high freq.
- Most useful transitions are the inversion transitions around 25GHz.
 - > tunneling energy barrier
- Additional effects (non-spherical charge distribution, quadr. mom., magn. interaction between spins) causes further hyperfine splitting.



Temperature estimates from NH₃



$$T_{\text{kin}} = T_{\text{rot}} (\tau_{11} \tau_{22} T_{11} T_{22})$$

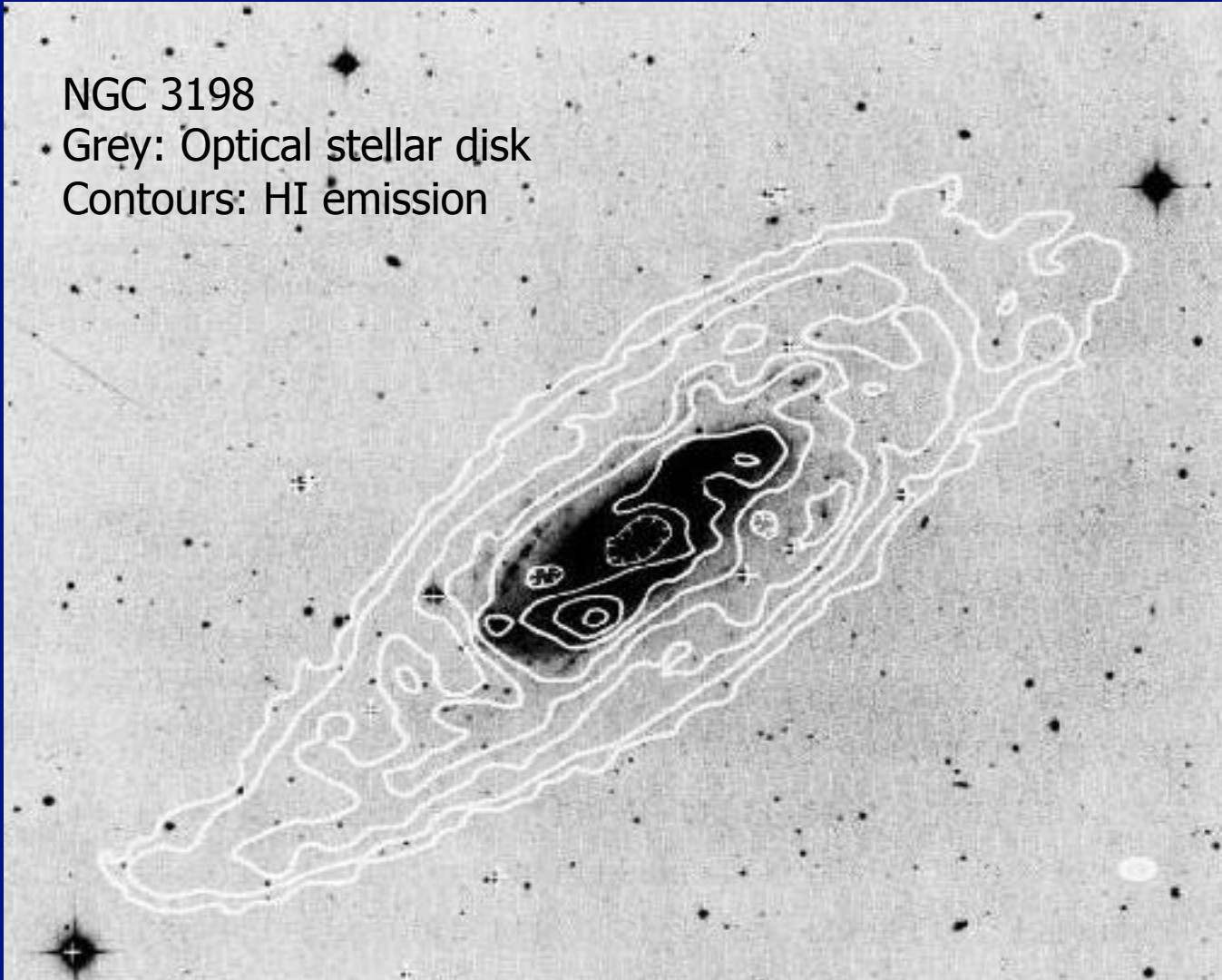
Topics today

- Physical conditions
- Kinematics of galaxies
- Kinematics in star formation

Rotation curves of Galaxies

NGC 3198

- Grey: Optical stellar disk
- Contours: HI emission

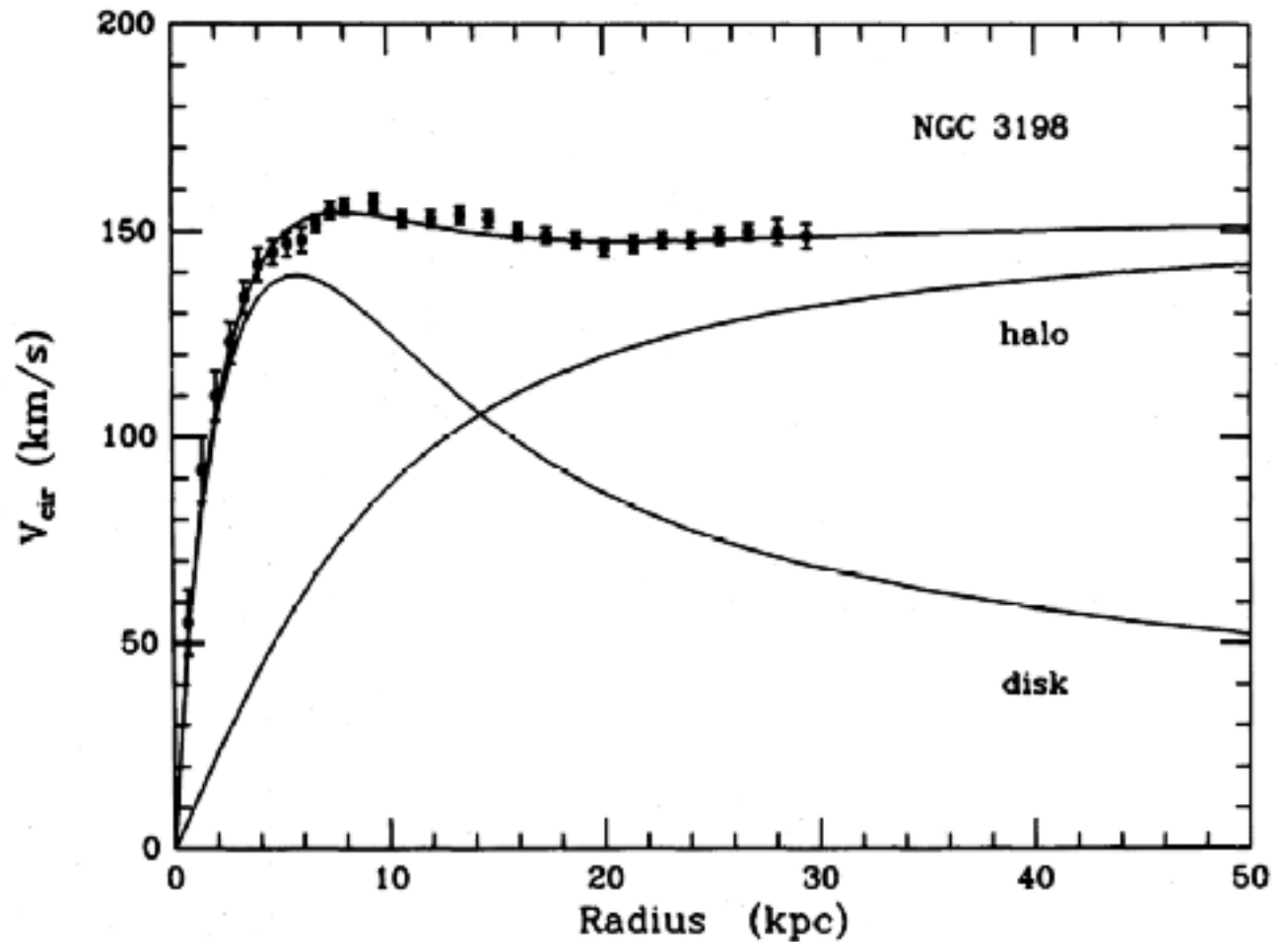
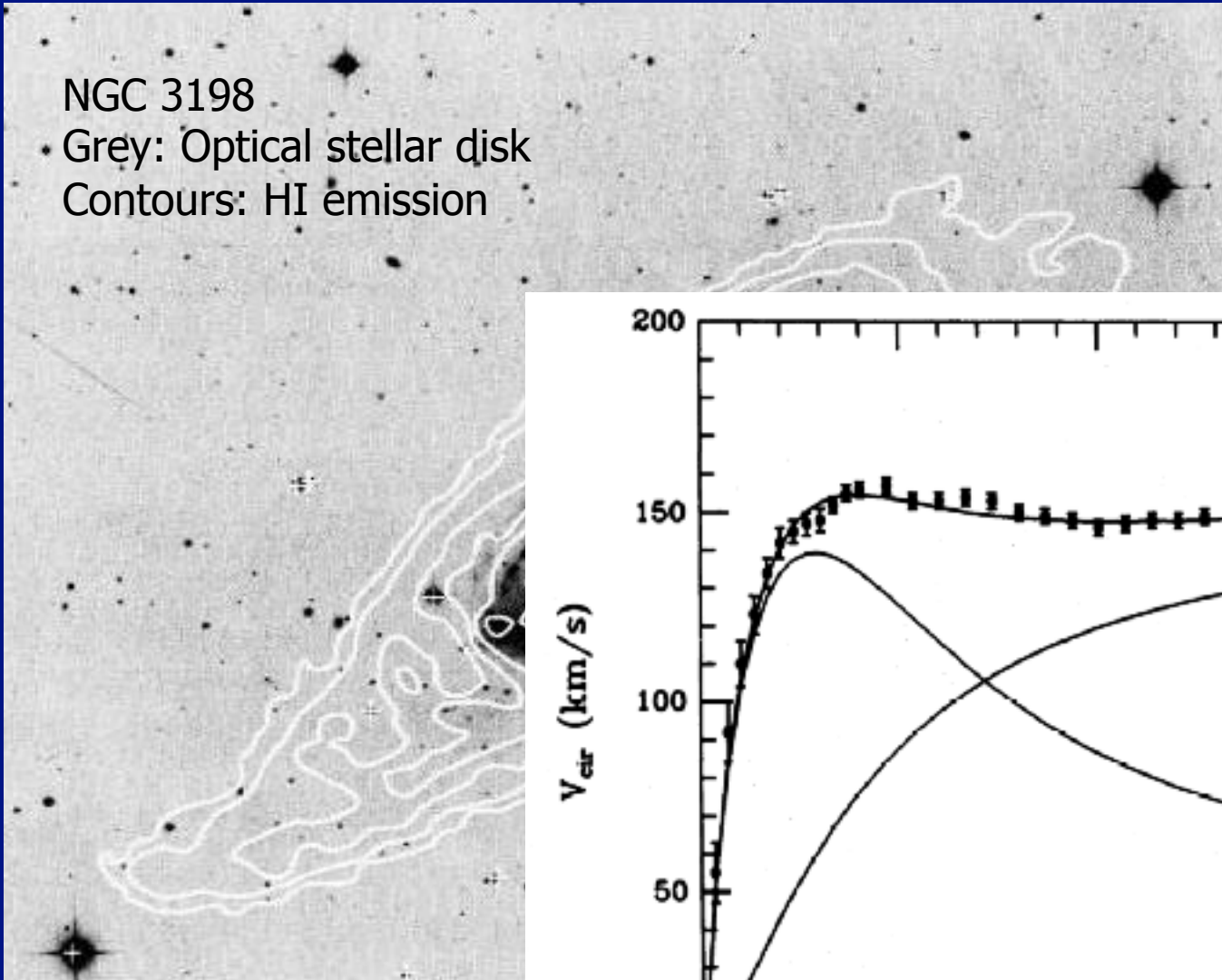


Courtesy D. Bennet

Rotation curves of Galaxies

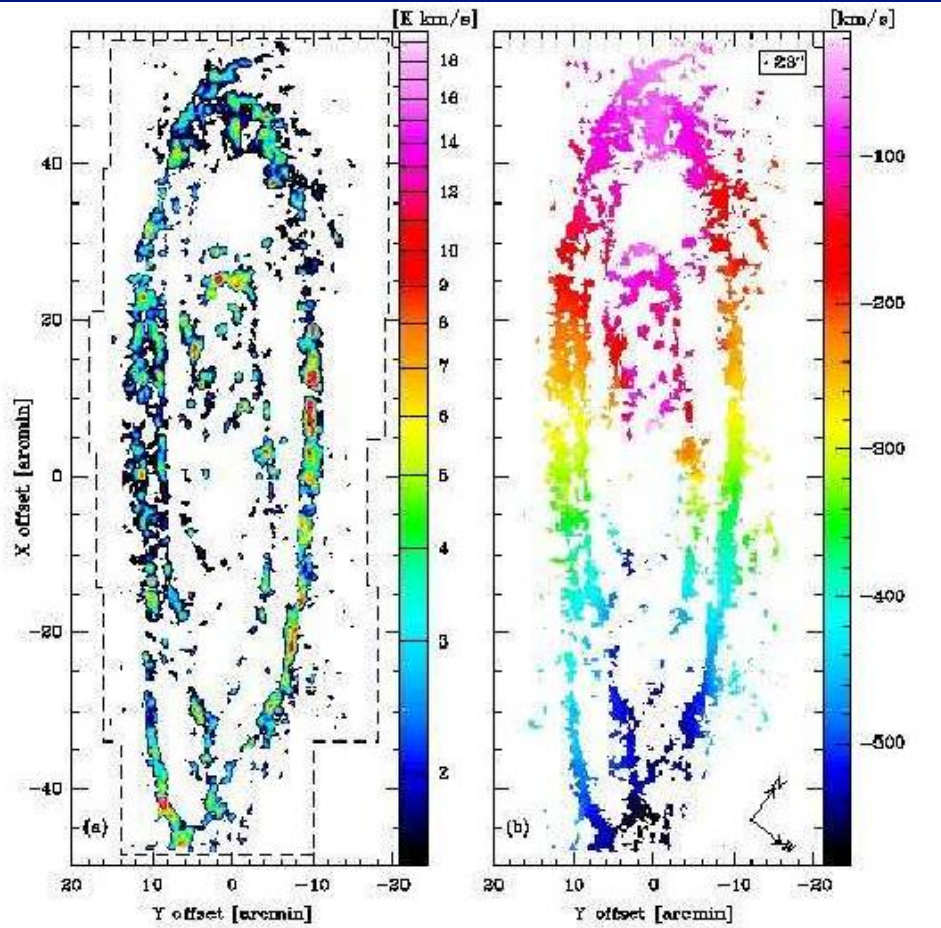
NGC 3198

- Grey: Optical stellar disk
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Andromeda



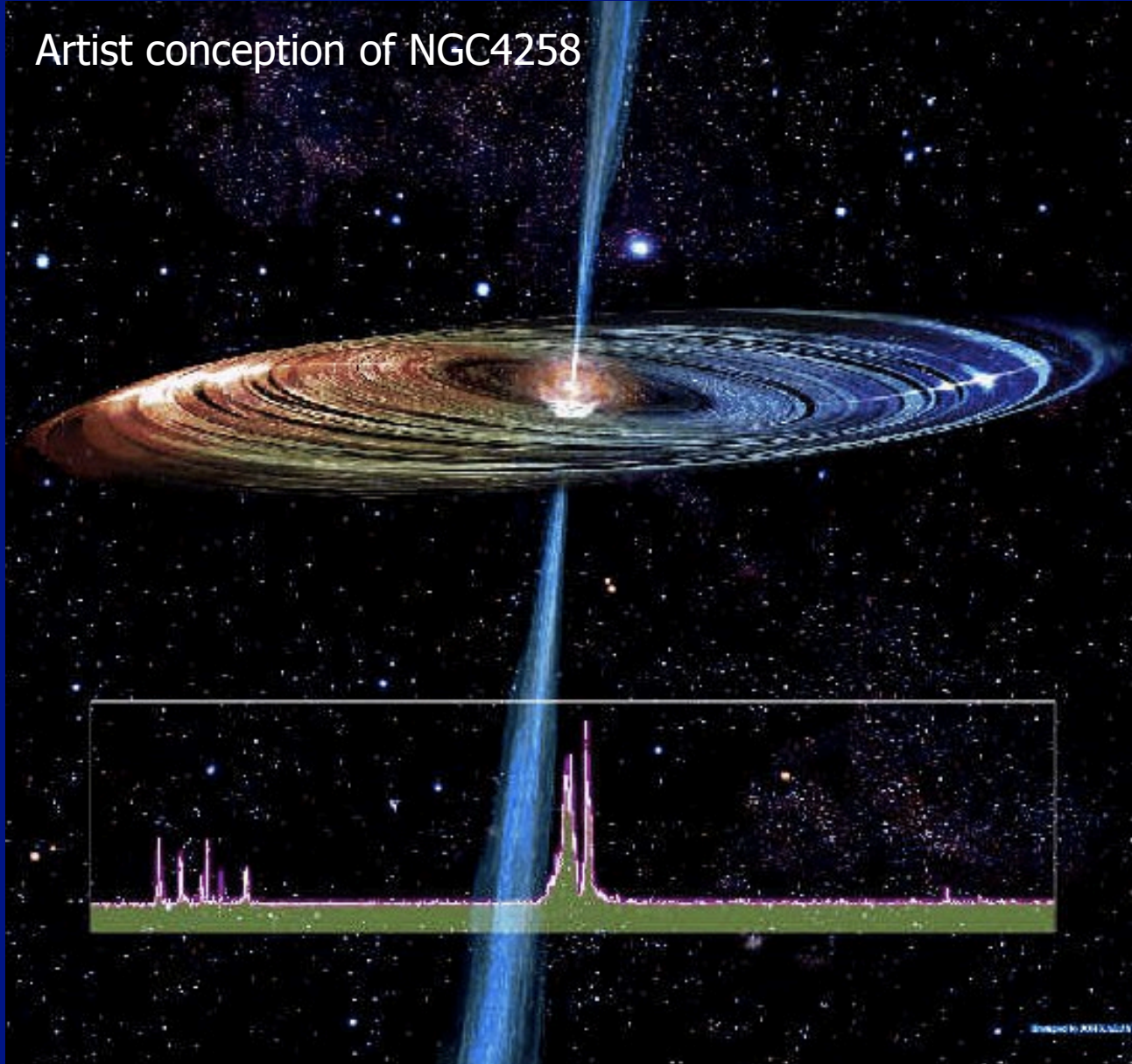
CO(2-1)



Optical

Extragalactic disks

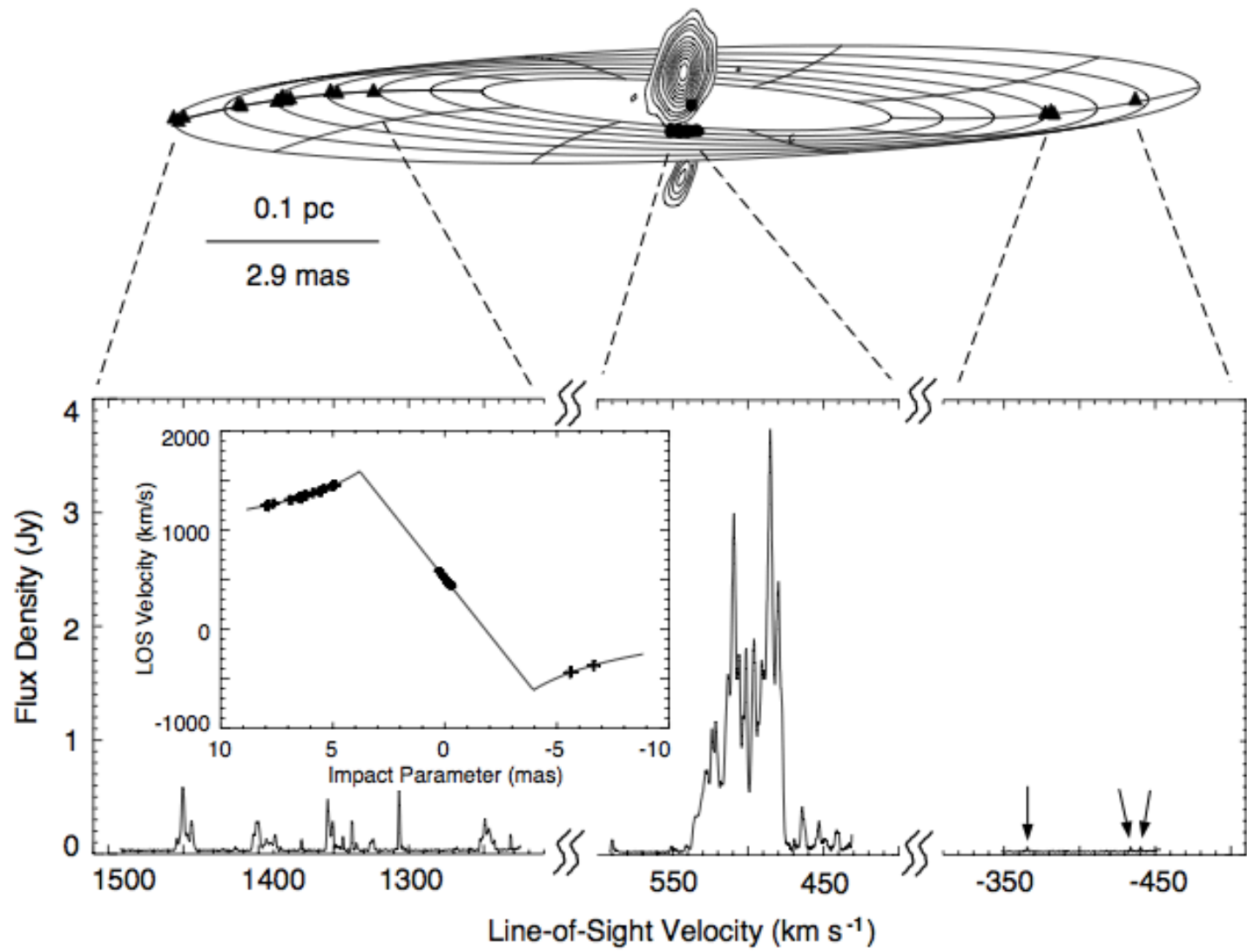
Artist conception of NGC4258



Herrnstein et al. 1999

Extragalactic disks

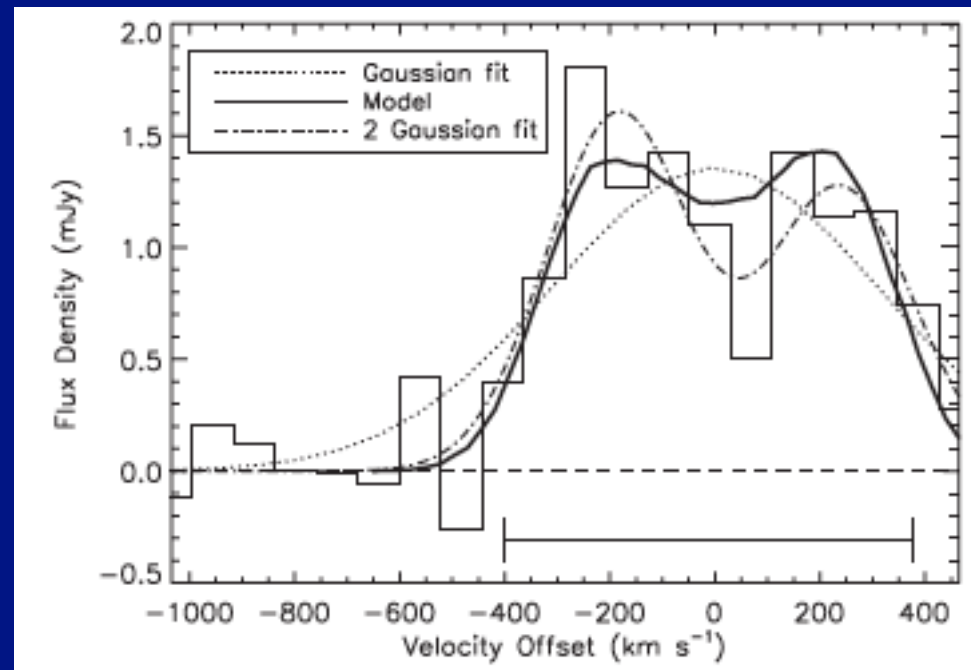
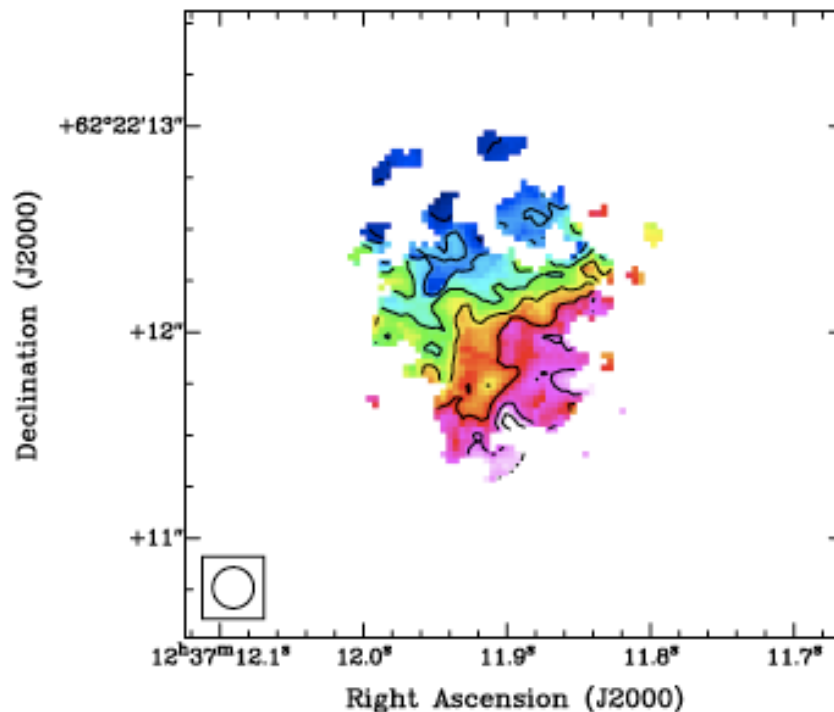
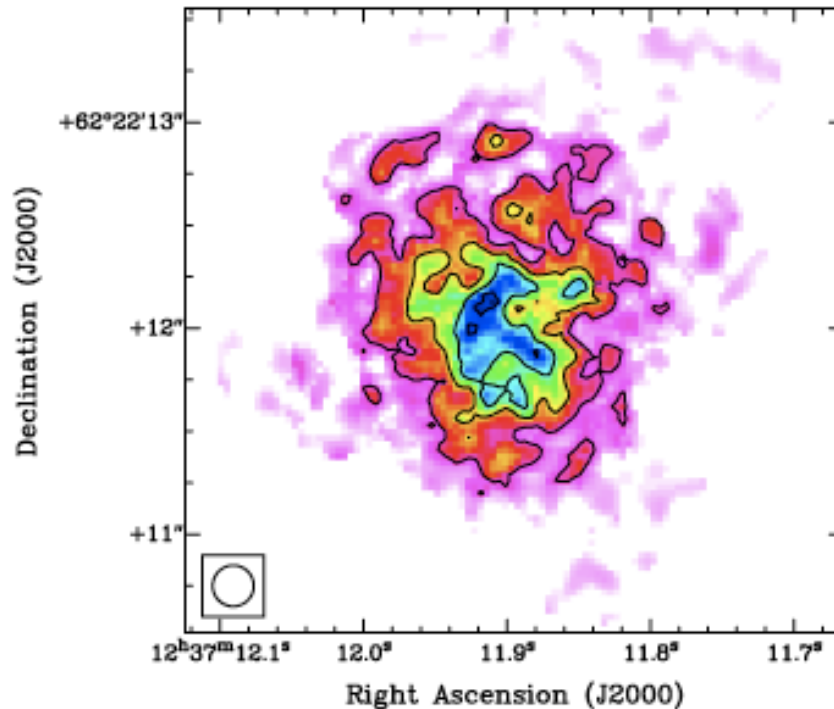
Artist concept



Herrnstein et al. 1999

Kinematics at $z=4$

- GN20 at $z=4.05$, 1.6Gy after big bang
- CO(2-1) shifted from 235.538 to 46.66GHz
- Rotating disk with dynamical mass $\sim 5 \times 10^{11} M_{\text{sun}}$



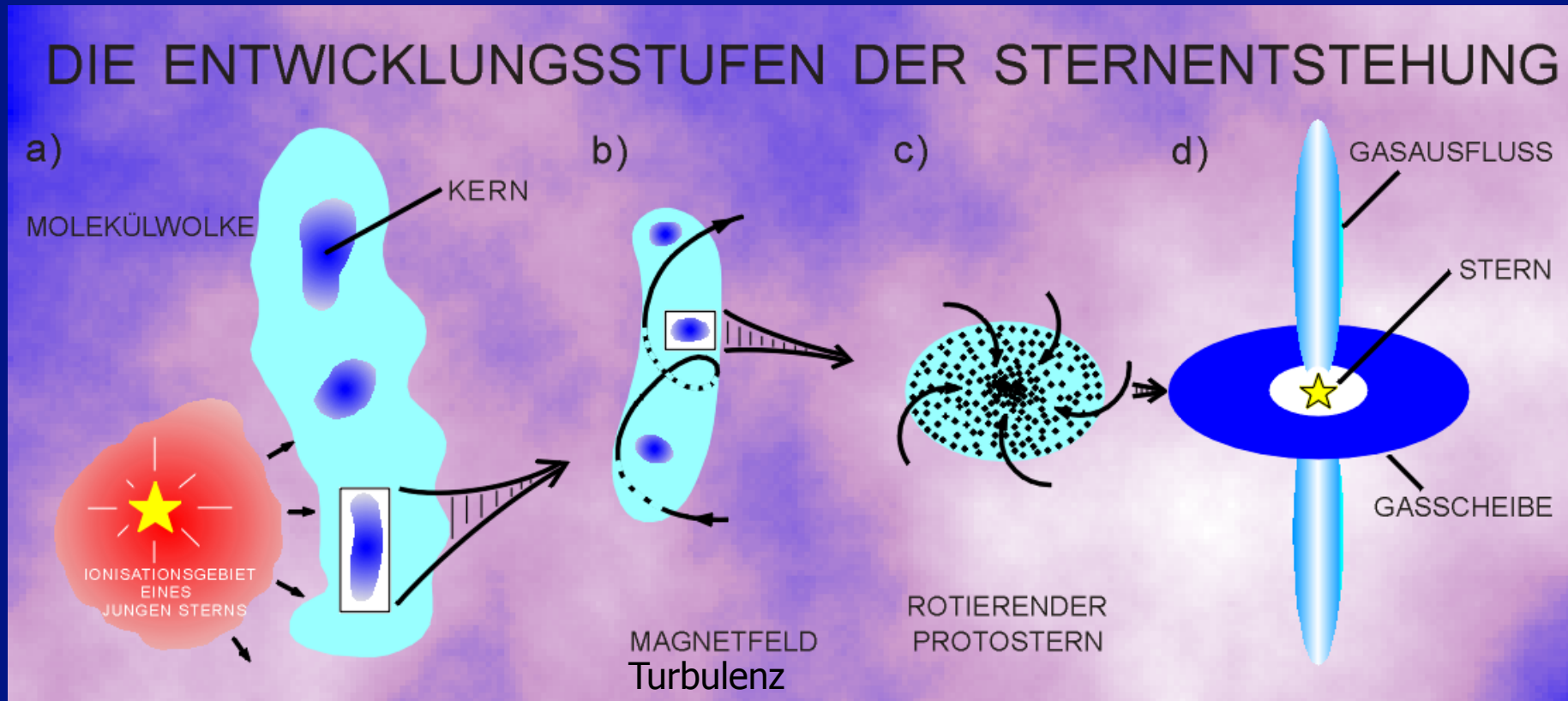
Hodge et al. 2012

Topics today

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- Kinematics in star formation

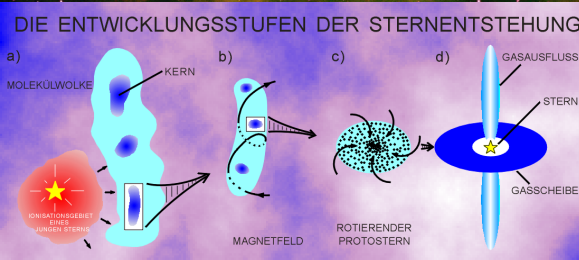
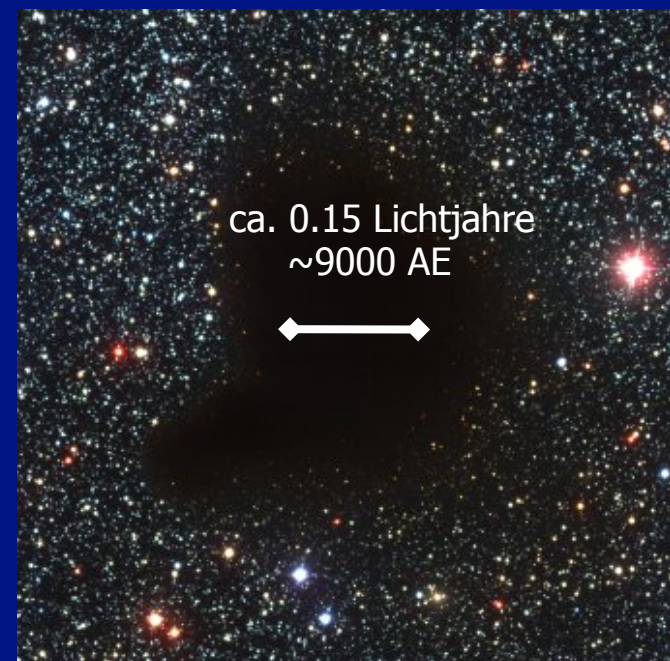
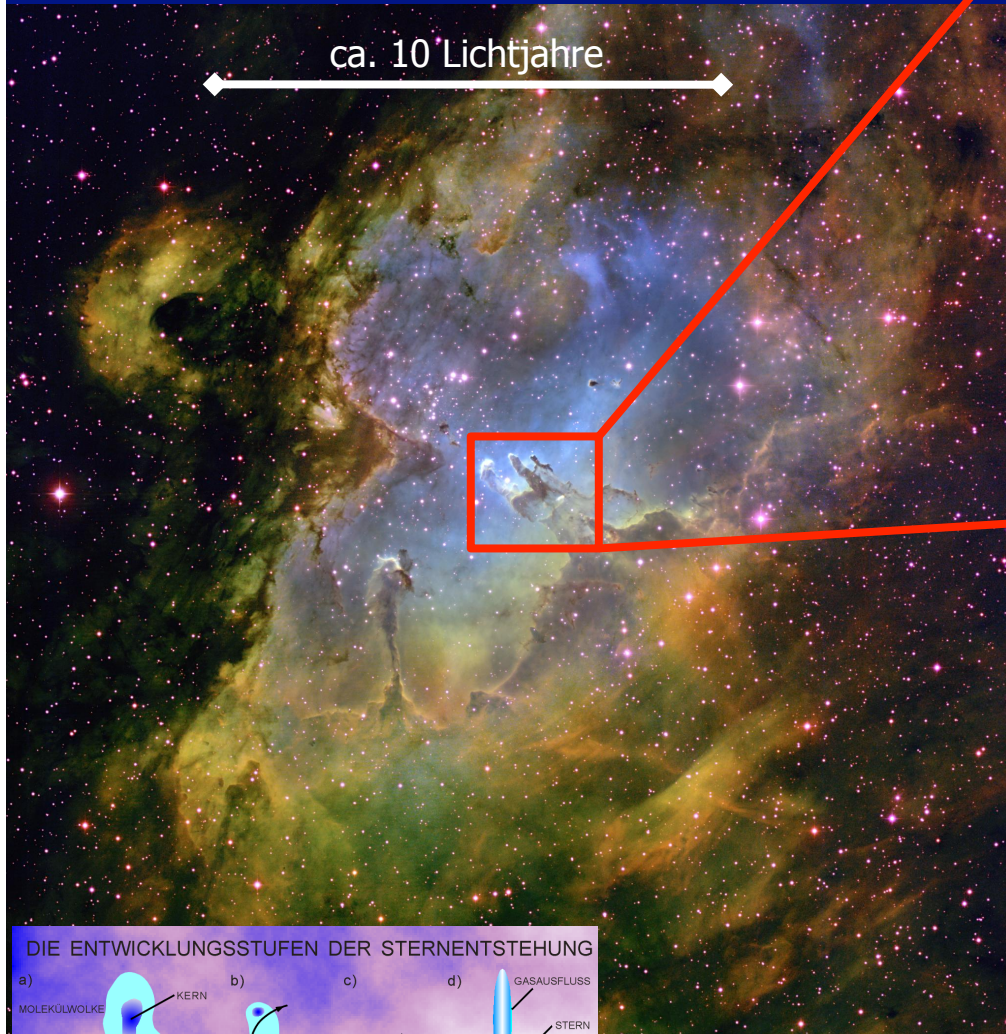


Sternentstehungsparadigma

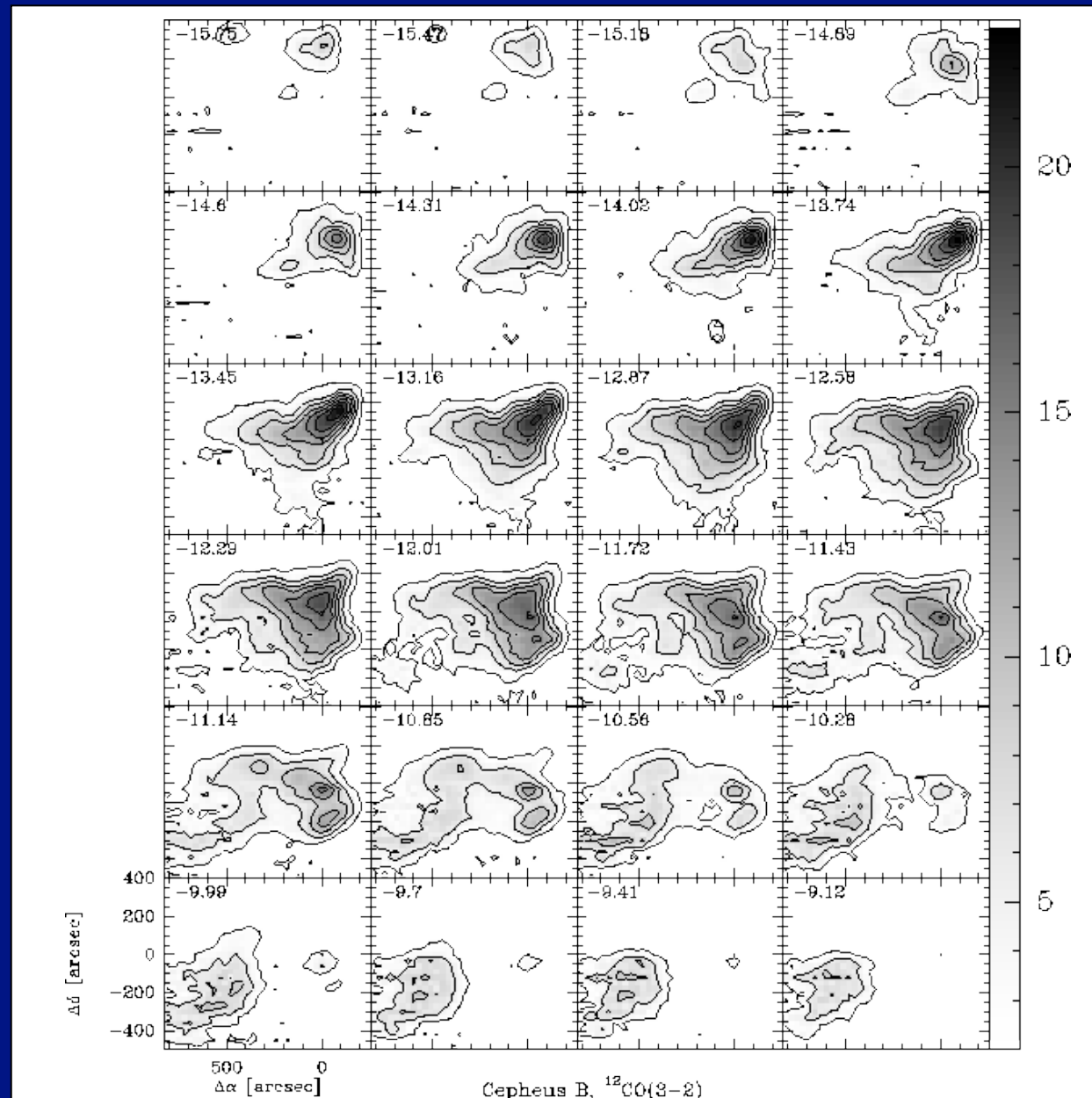


Time scales: Main accretion phase $\sim 500\,000$ years
Pre-main-sequence evolution $\sim 2e6$ years

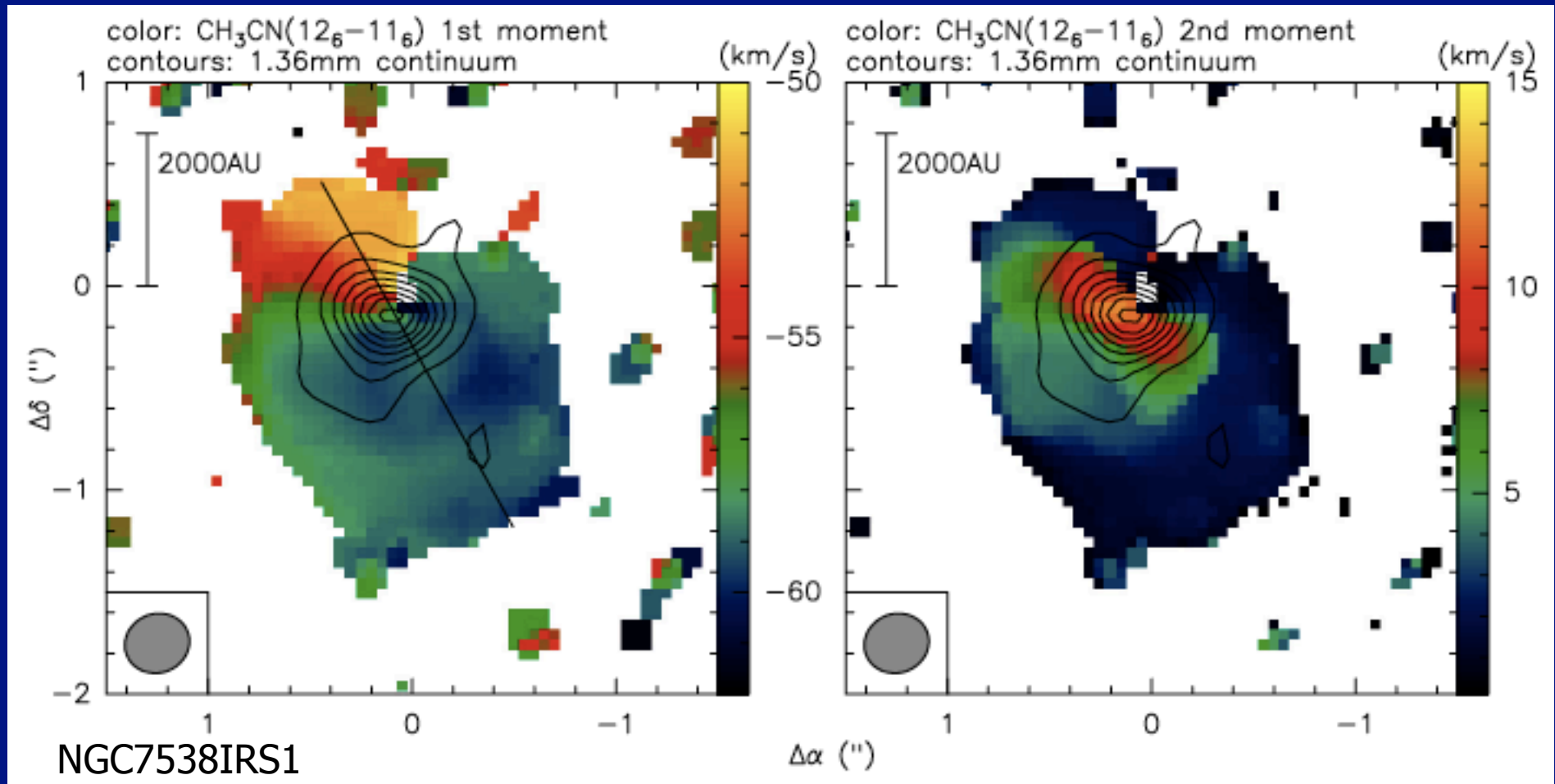
Molekülwolkenkalen



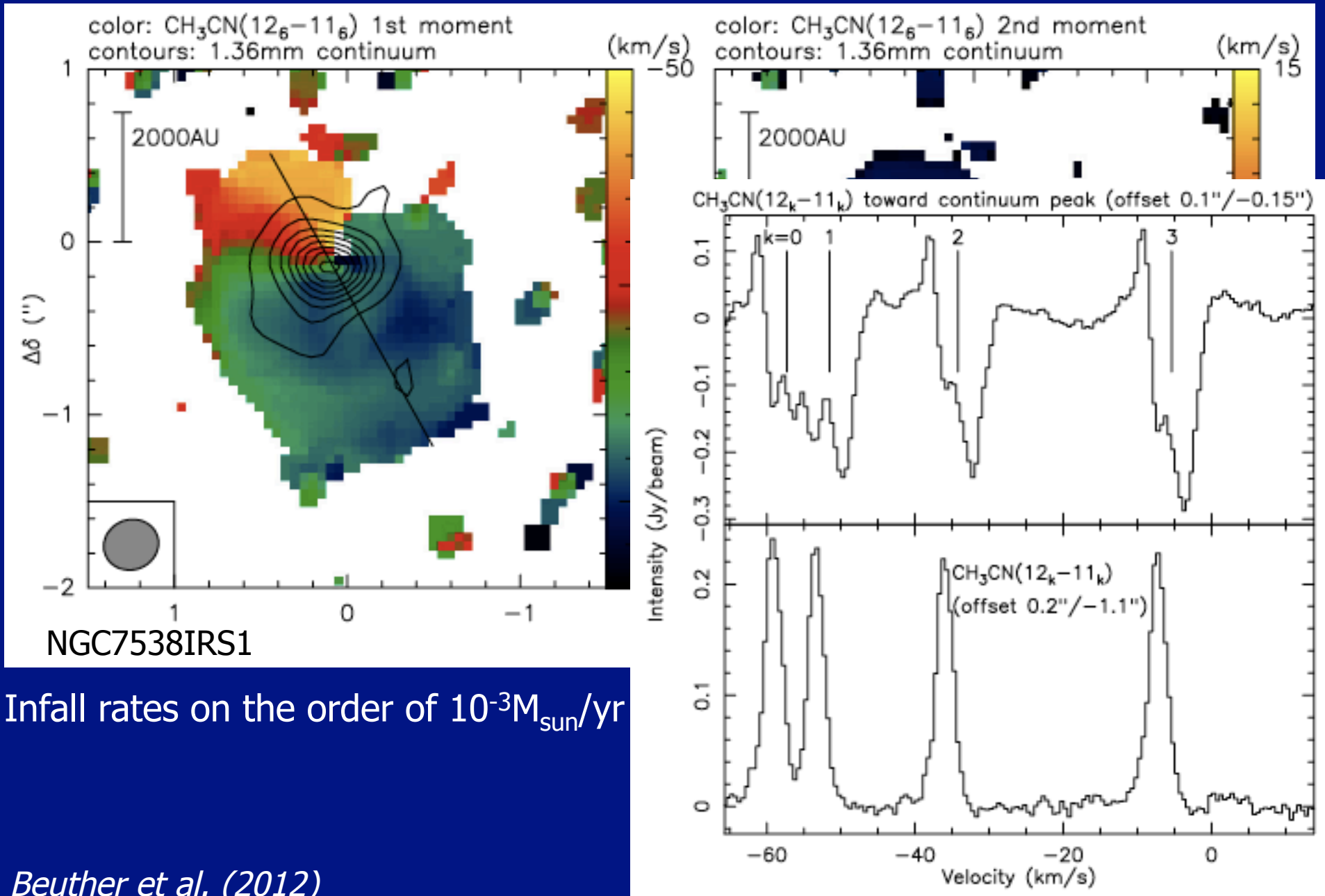
Velocity structure of molecular clouds



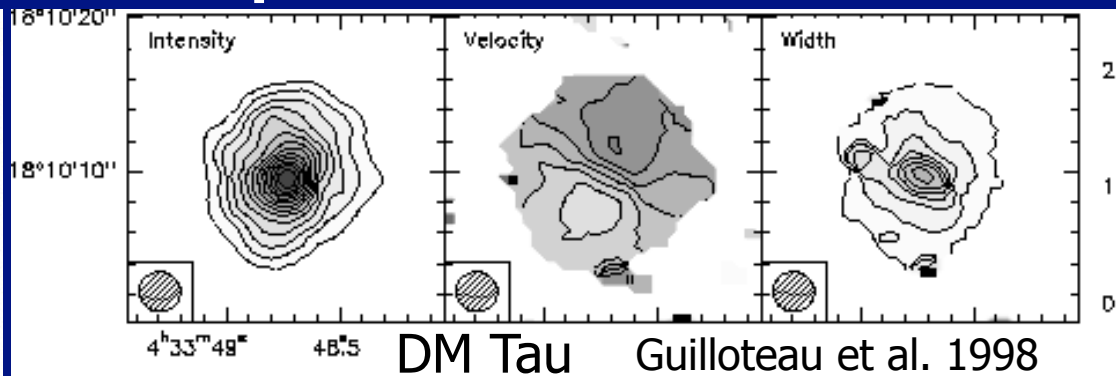
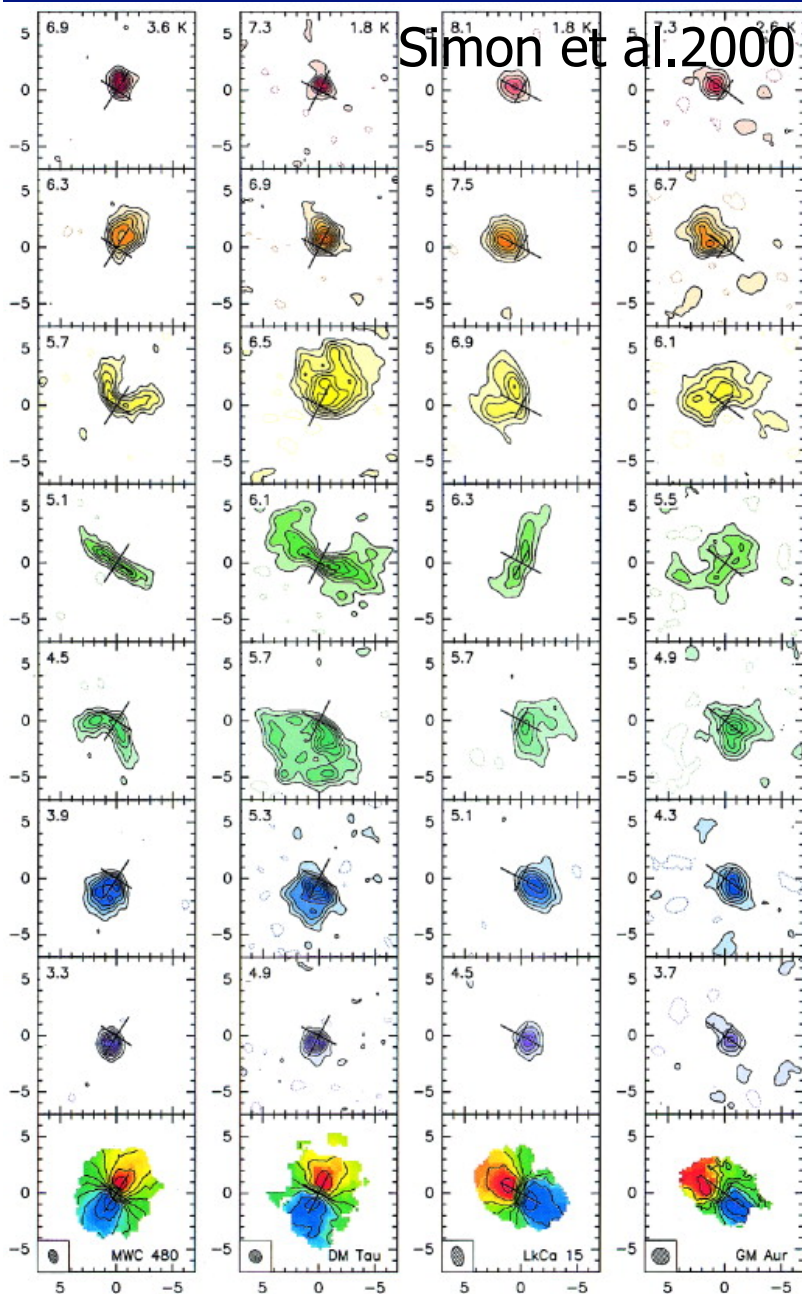
Infall and rotation



Infall and rotation



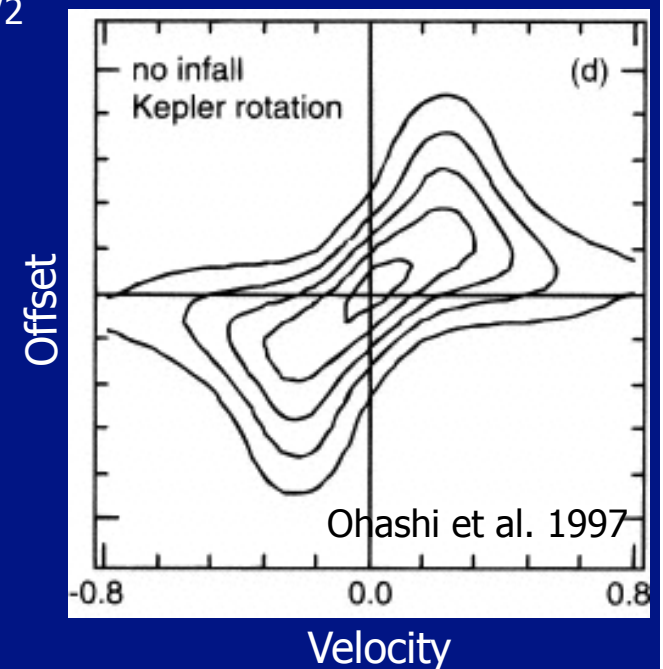
Disk dynamics: Keplerian motion



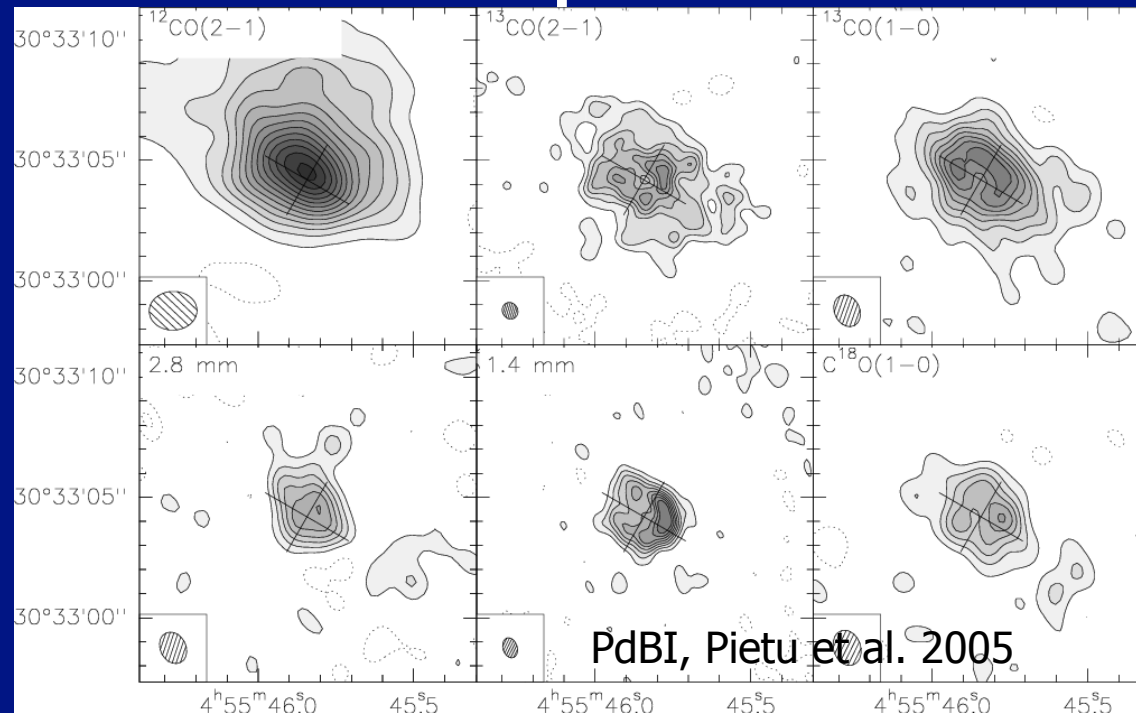
For a Keplerian supported disk, centrifugal force should equal grav. force.

$$F_{\text{cen}} = mv^2/r = F_{\text{grav}} = Gm_*m/r^2$$

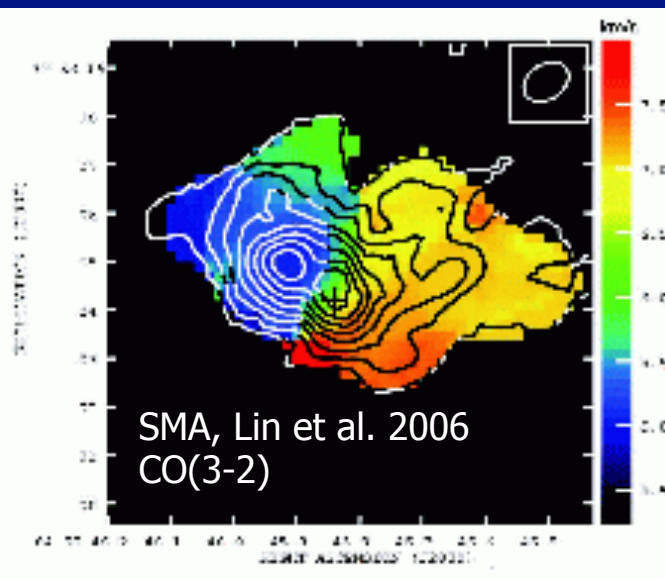
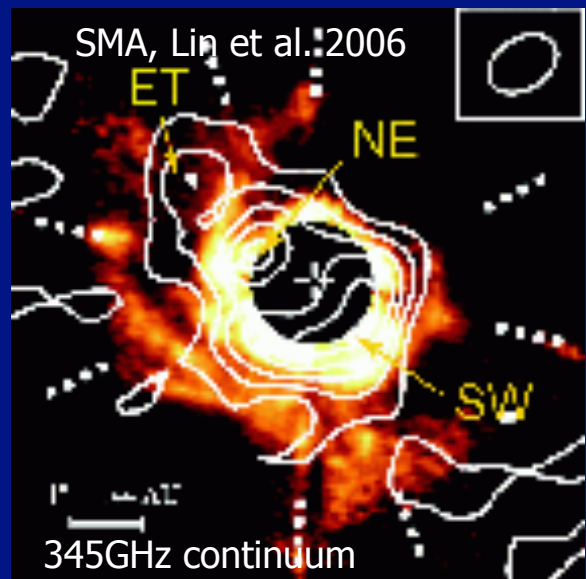
$$\rightarrow v = (Gm_*/r)^{1/2}$$



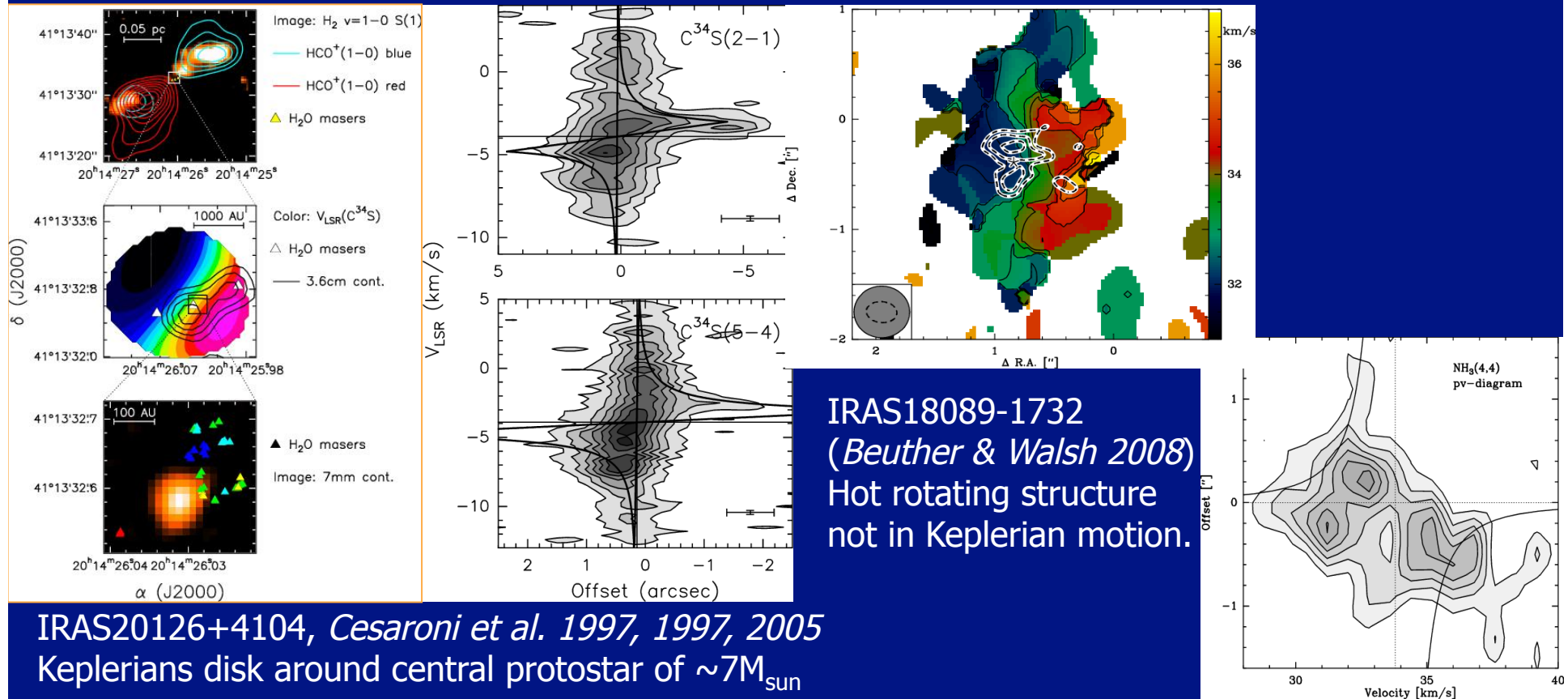
Non-Keplerian motion: AB Aur



- Central depression in cold dust and gas emission.
- Non-Keplerian velocity profile $v \propto r^{-0.4 \pm 0.01}$
- Possible explanations
Formation of low-mass companion or planet in inner disk.
Early evolutionary phase where Keplerian motion is not established yet (large envelope).



Disks in massive star formation



- Still deeply embedded, large distances, clustered environment --> confusion
- Keplerian motion possible but not necessarily observed on large scales.
- (Sub)mm interferometry important to disentangle the spatial confusion.
- The right spectral line tracer still difficult to identify which can distinguish the disk emission from the surrounding envelope emission.

Outflows/jets to be continued in
the coming lectures

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