

# Separating Infrared Emission from Star Forming Regions and Diffuse Dust in Nearby Galaxies

**George J. Bendo**

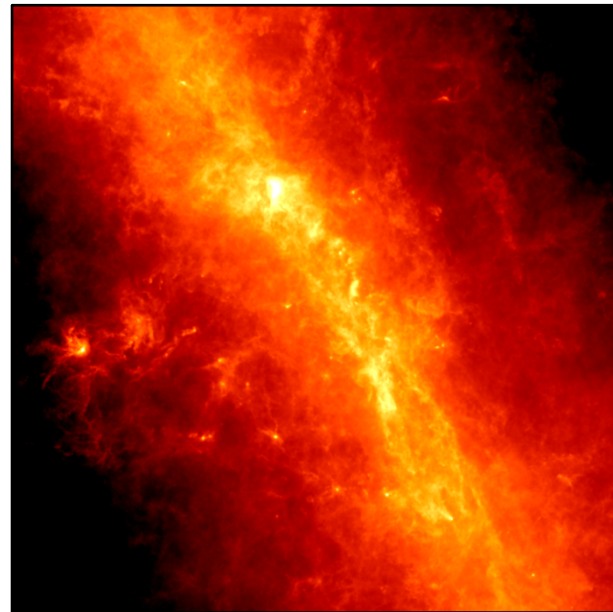
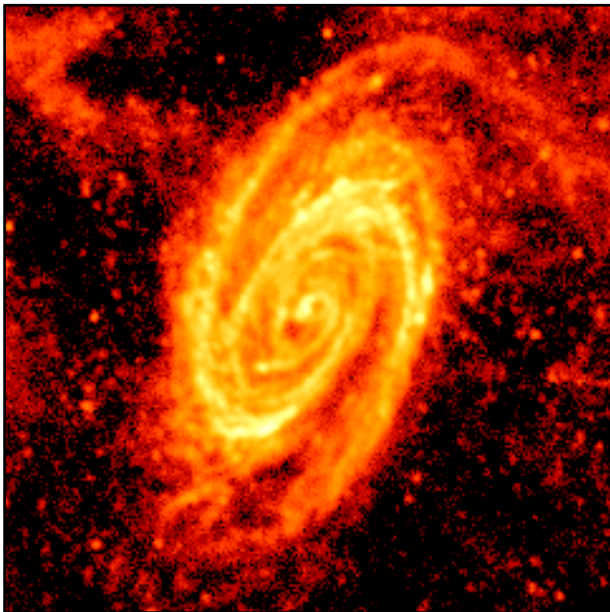
UK ALMA Regional Centre Node  
Jodrell Bank Centre for Astrophysics  
The University of Manchester



# Reasons to Study Dust in Nearby Galaxies

In comparison to **dust in the Milky Way**:

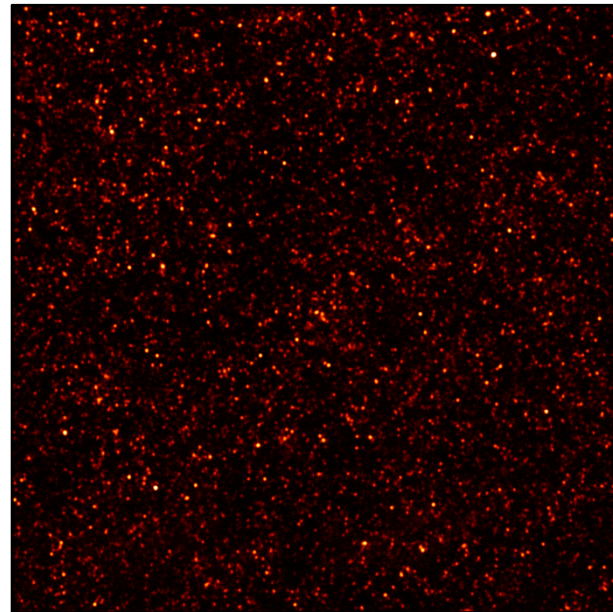
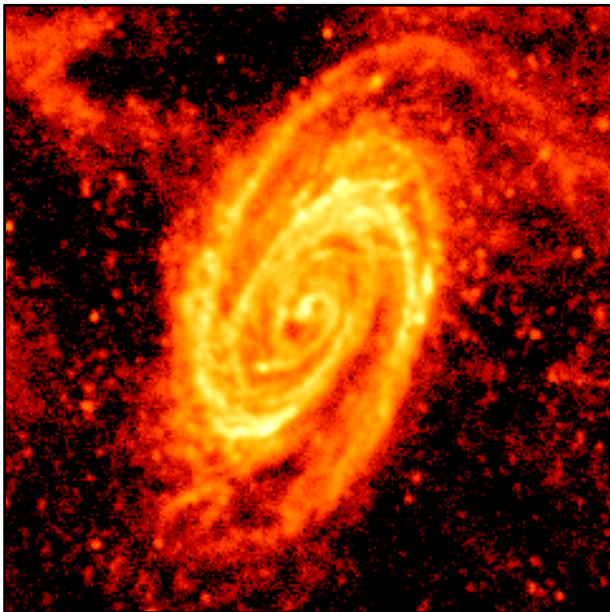
- Global distribution of dust is readily apparent
- No complications from projection effects
- Associated stellar populations (and obscuration of those stellar populations) is more straightforward to identify
- Options to see dust in environments other than the typical spiral galaxy environment (including in different metallicity regions)



# Reasons to Study Dust in Nearby Galaxies

In comparison to **high-redshift galaxies**:

- Dust structures are clearly visible
- Dust emission can be associated with star formation more exactly
- Resolved images of stars and dust allow for constructing dust emission/radiative transfer models
- Provide a baseline of what  $z=0$  objects should look like
- Can study fainter/smaller objects not easily seen at high redshift (early-type galaxies, dwarf galaxies)



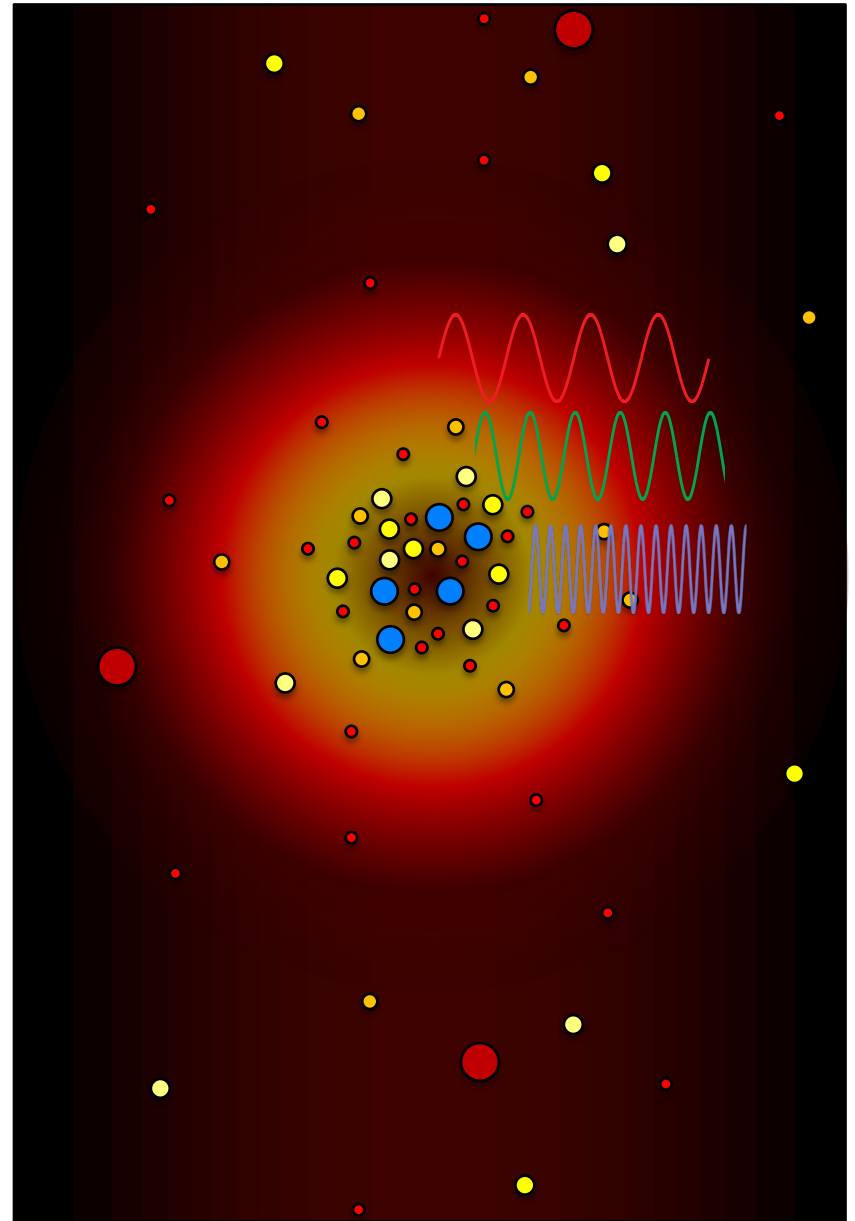
# Simplified Model of Dust

Dust emission could be characterized as originating from a shell structure around star forming regions.

Mid-infrared ( $\sim 25 \mu\text{m}$ ) emission originates mainly from  $\geq 100 \text{ K}$  dust near the photoionizing stars.

Submillimetre ( $\geq 200 \mu\text{m}$ ) emission originates from the bulk of the dust mass (at 15-25 K) in outer shell regions or the diffuse ISM.

Far-infrared ( $50\text{-}200 \mu\text{m}$ ) emission originates from 30-50 K dust in between these regions.



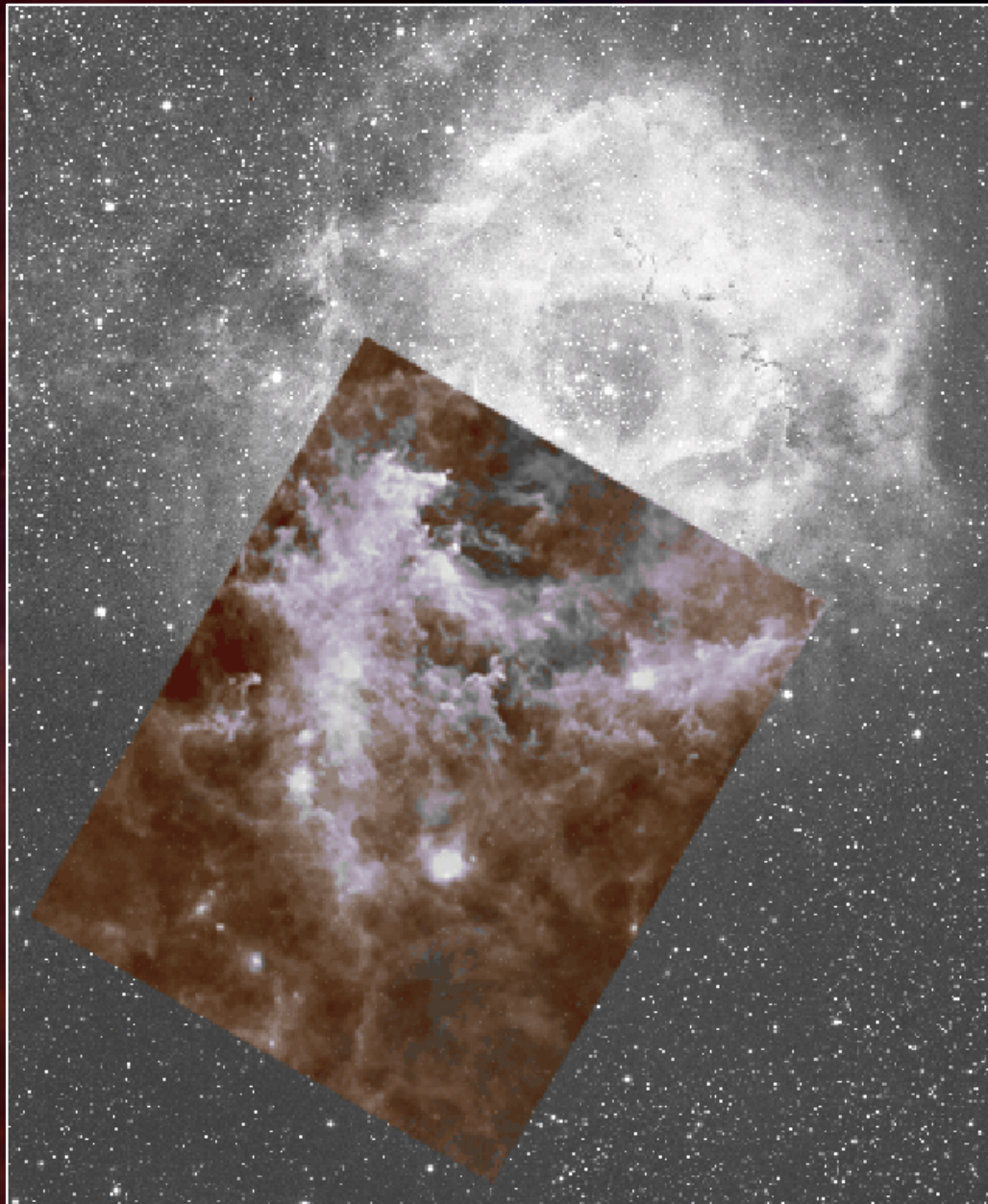
# Observations of Dust

Within the Milky Way, it is possible to actually measure colour temperature gradients in the dust around star forming regions (although identifying the “background” can be difficult).

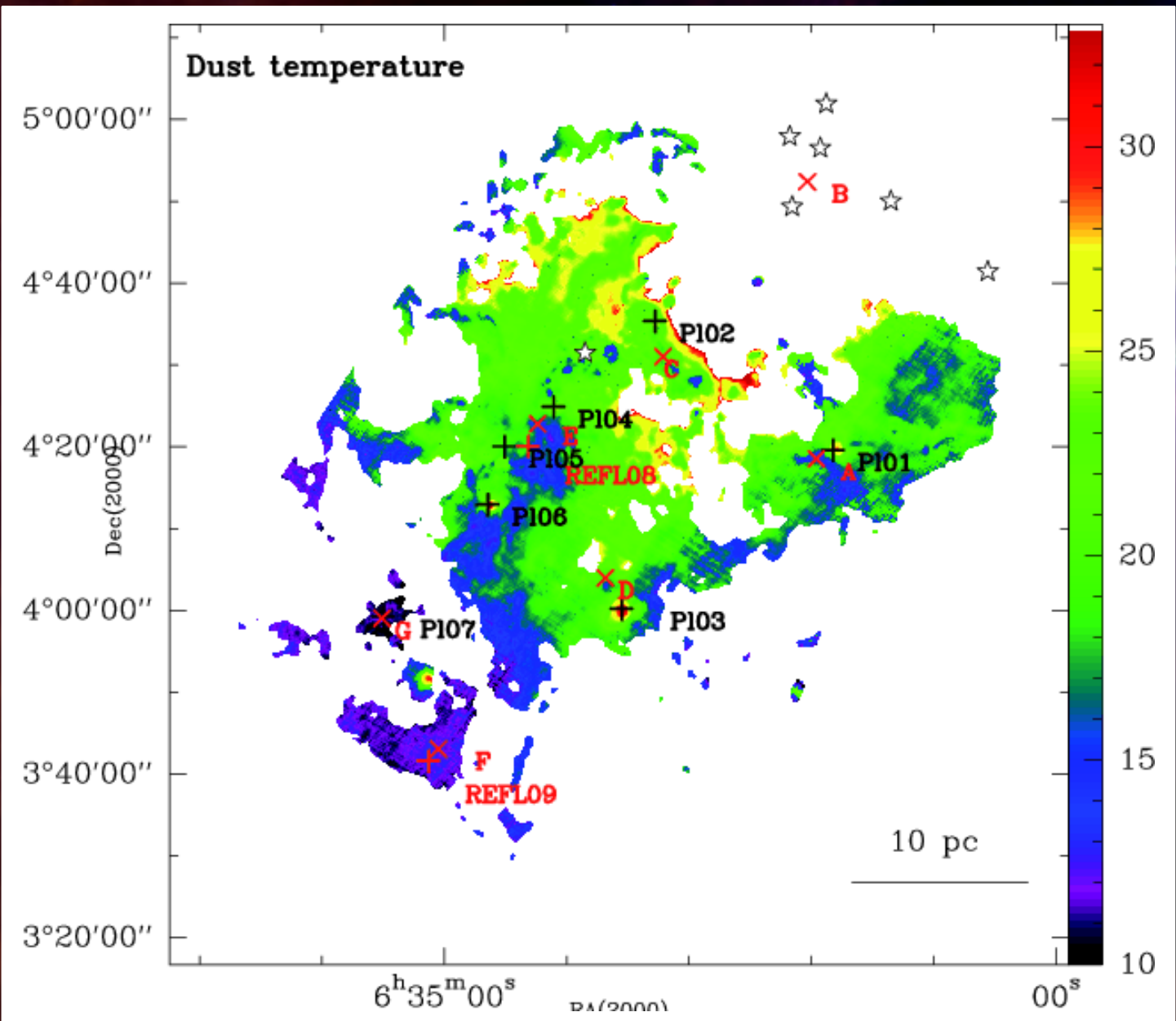
In the Magellanic Clouds, it is straightforward to spatially separate dust emission from star forming and diffuse regions.

In other galaxies in the Local Group, it is possible to resolve the largest star forming complexes.

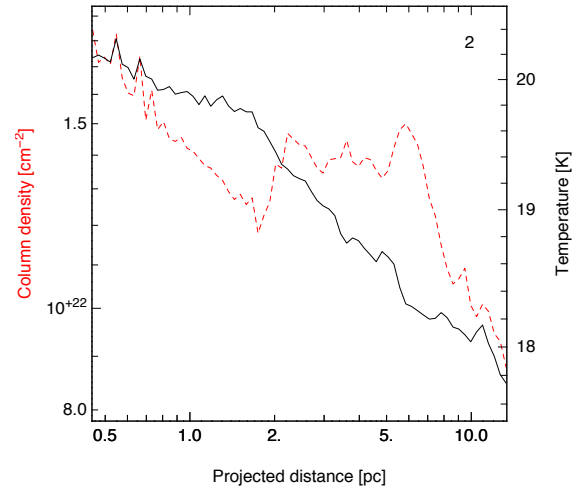
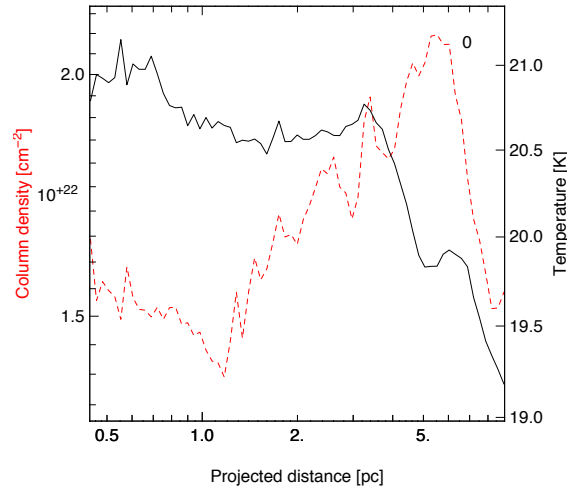
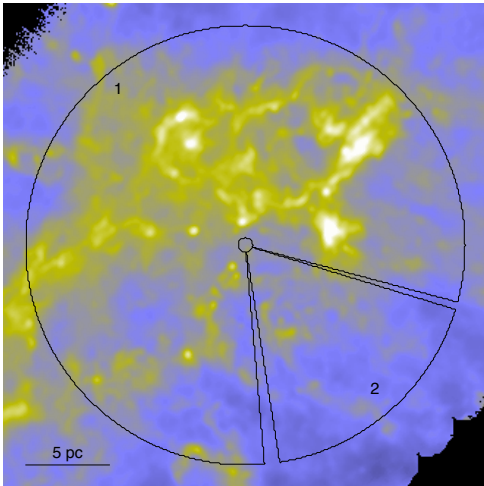
In most other galaxies, star forming regions and diffuse dust tend to blend together. Disentangling the emission requires either clever empirical analyses or careful modelling.



NGC 2244 (Schneider et al., 2010, A&A, 518, L83)

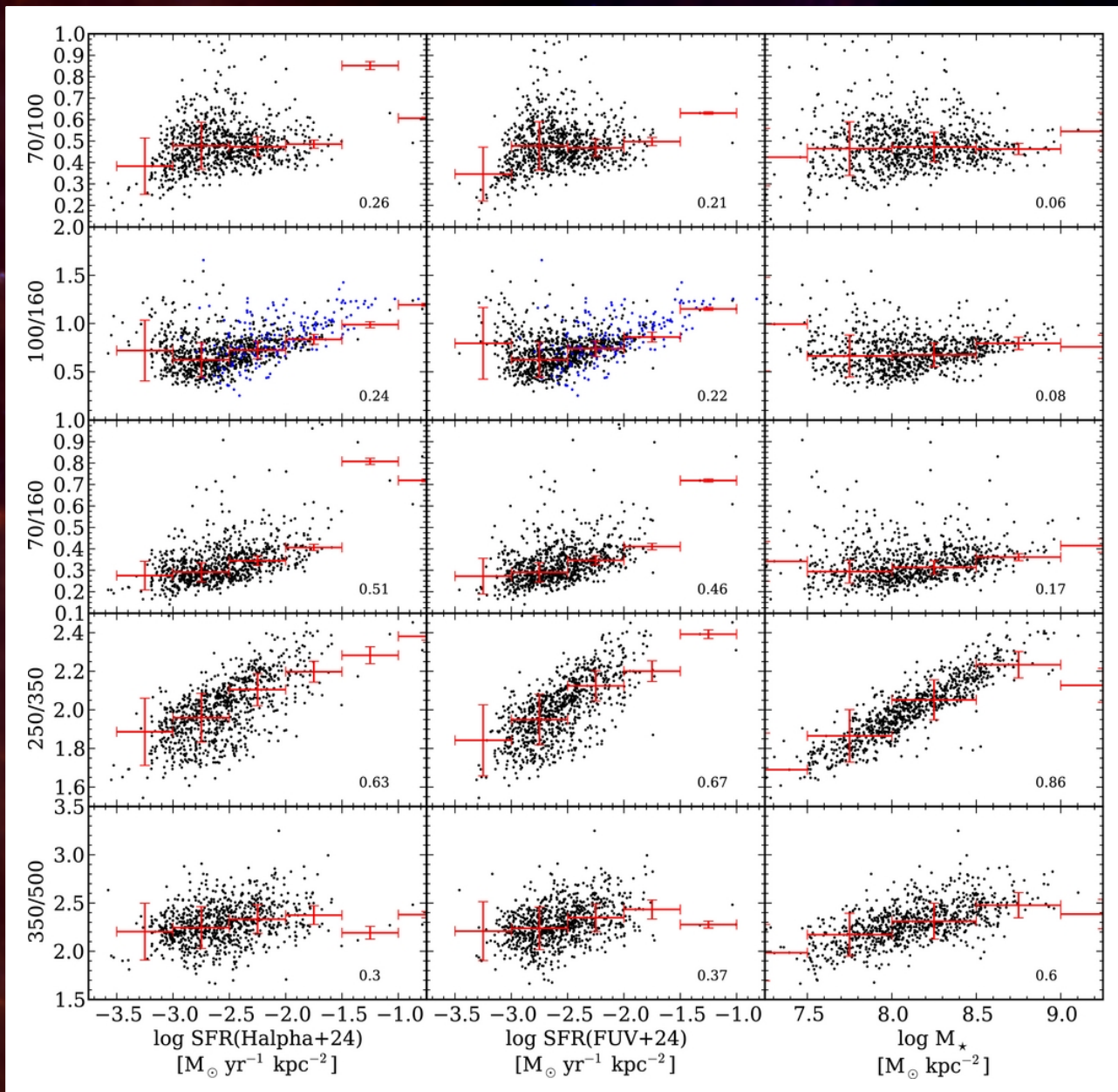


NGC 2244 (Schneider et al., 2010, A&A, 518, L83)

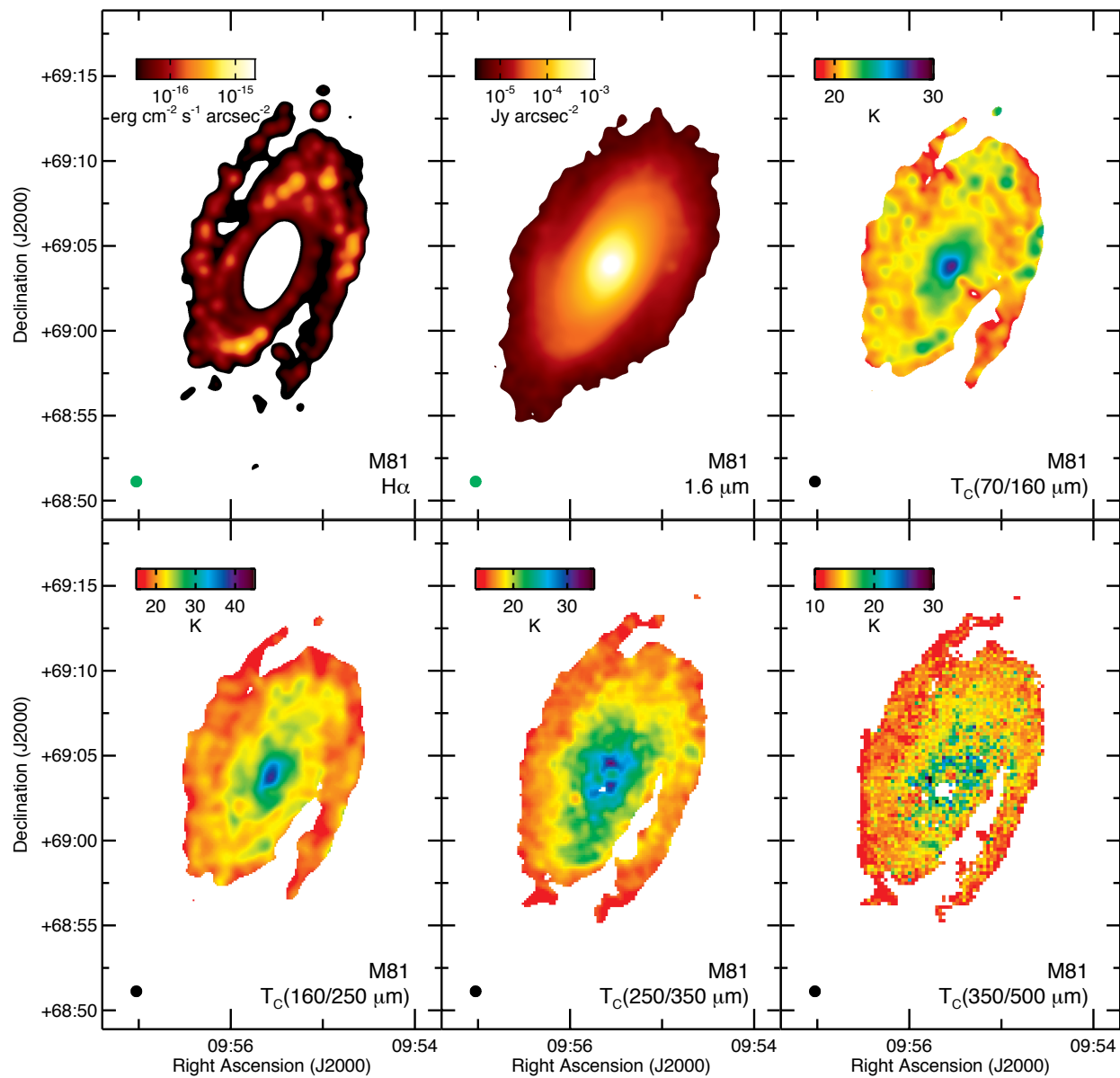


M16 (Hill et al., 2012, A&A, 542, A114)

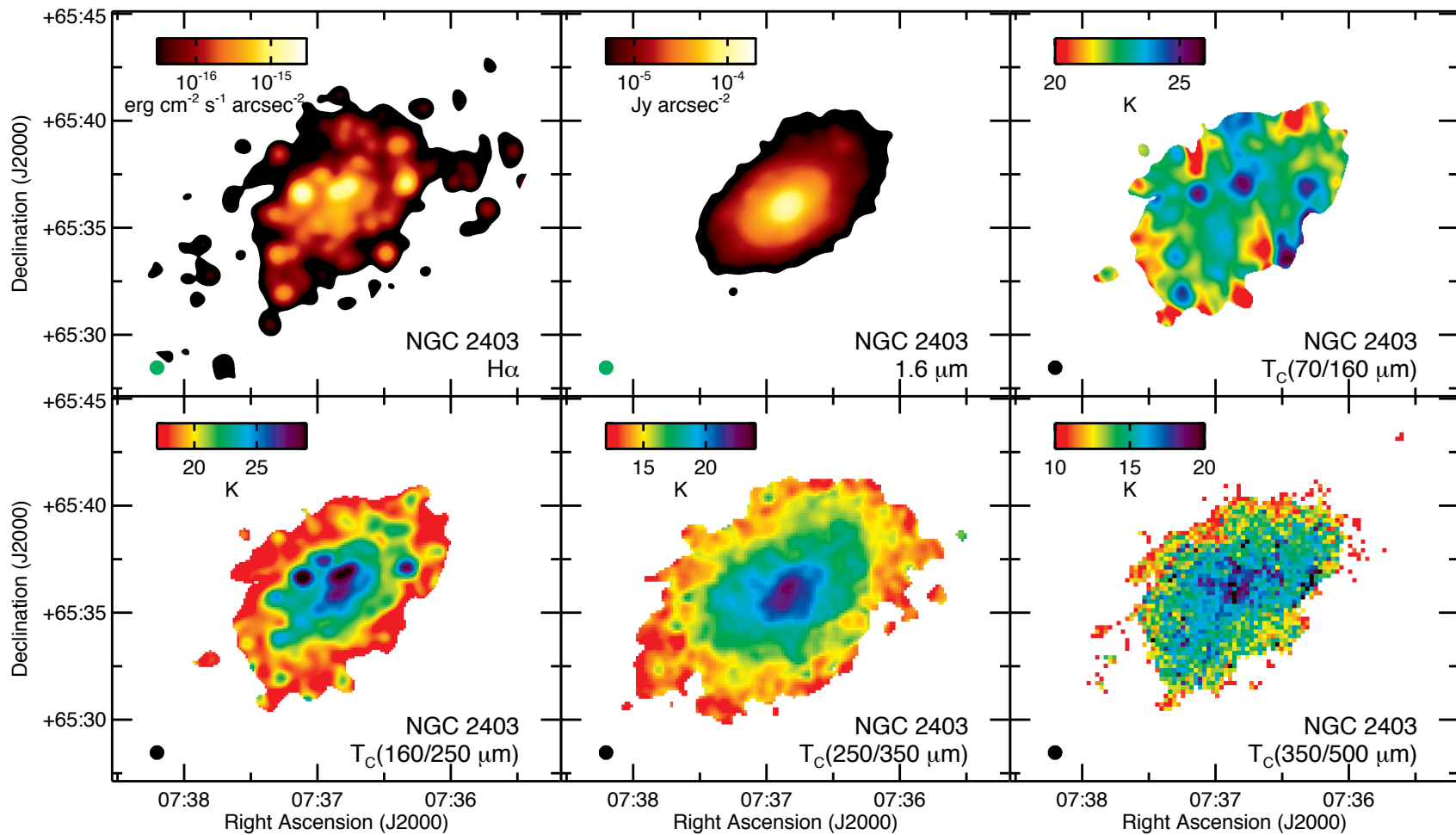




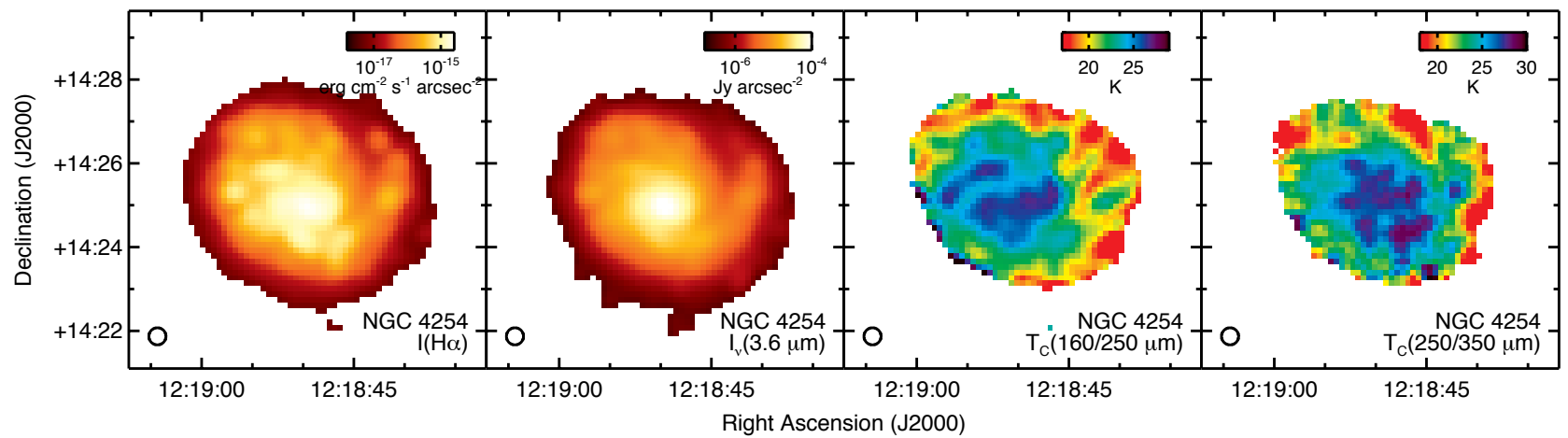
M33 (Boquien et al., 2011, A&A, 142, 4)



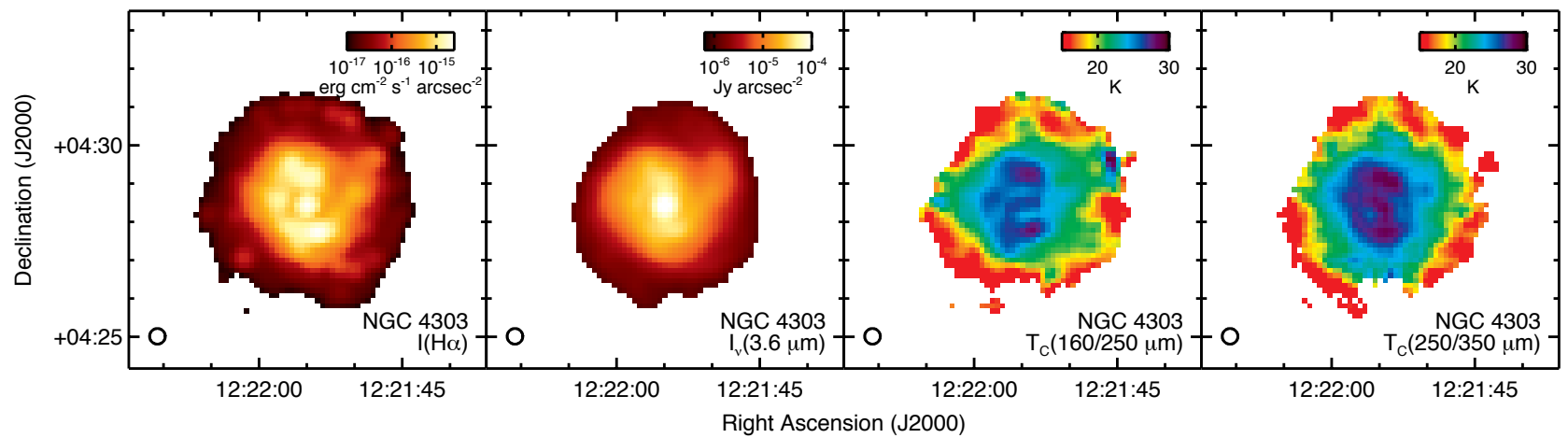
M81 (Bendo et al., 2012, MNRAS, 419, 1833)



NGC 2403 (Bendo et al., 2012, MNRAS, 419, 1833)



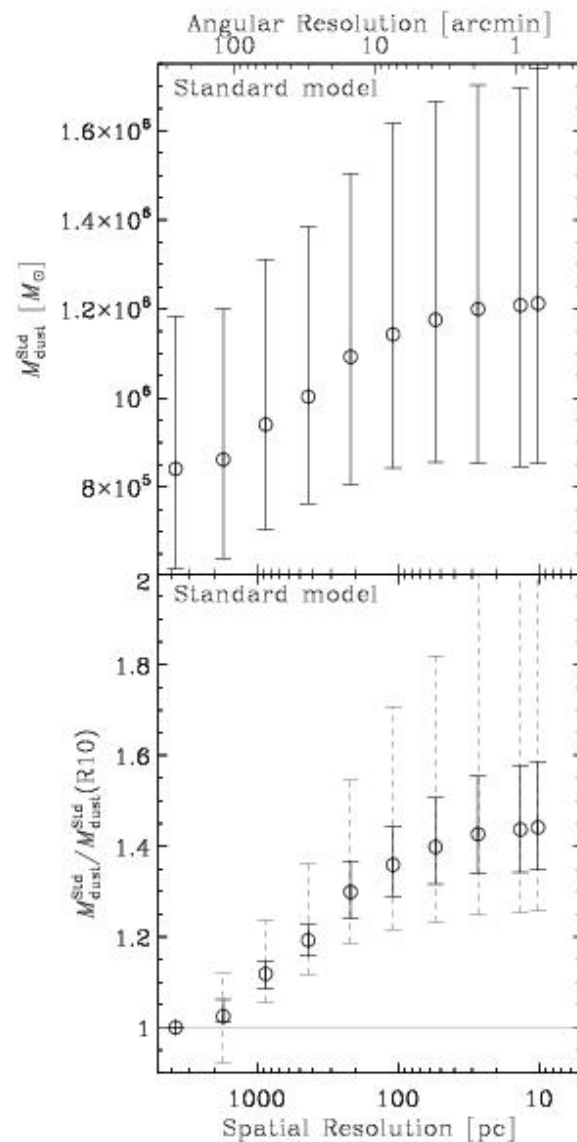
NGC 4254 (Bendo et al., 2015, MNRAS, 448, 135)



NGC 4303 (Bendo et al., 2015, MNRAS, 448, 135)

When the SEDs for the warmer dust around star forming regions and the colder diffuse dust are not separated properly, models fit to the SED could yield inaccurate results, including:

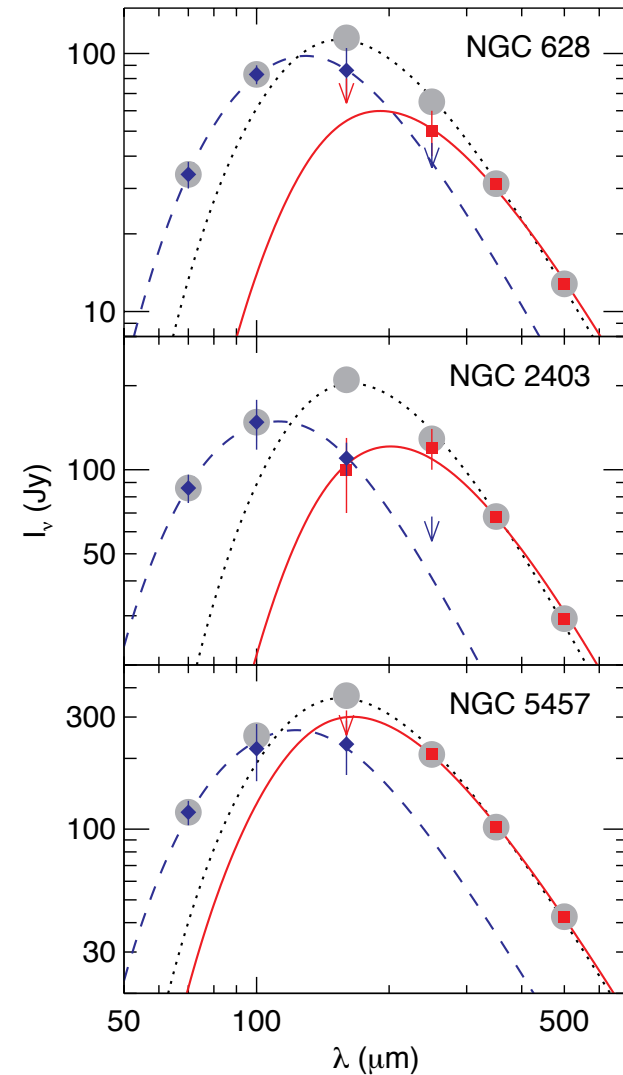
- Higher temperatures
- Lower dust emissivity coefficients ( $\beta$ )
- Low dust masses
- High gas-to-dust mass ratios



Large Magellanic Cloud  
(Galliano et al. 2010, A&A, 536, A88)

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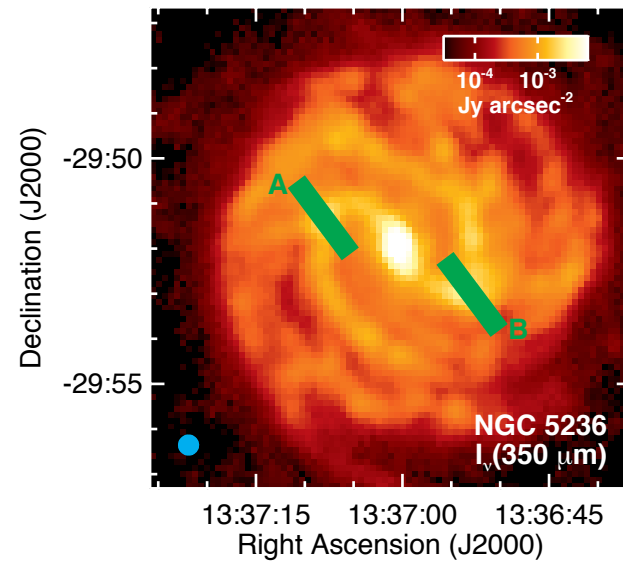
- Higher temperatures
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(Bendo et al., 2015, MNRAS, 448, 135)

Colour temperature analyses have also hinted at the possibilities of radiative transfer effects related to spiral density waves (but only in very nearby grand design spiral galaxies).

If similar effects related to shocks are present in cluster galaxies, they may be impossible to see with Spitzer and Herschel.

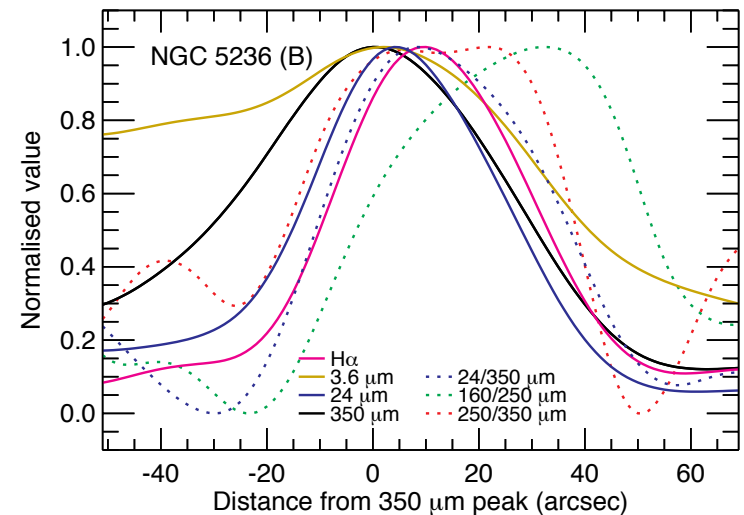
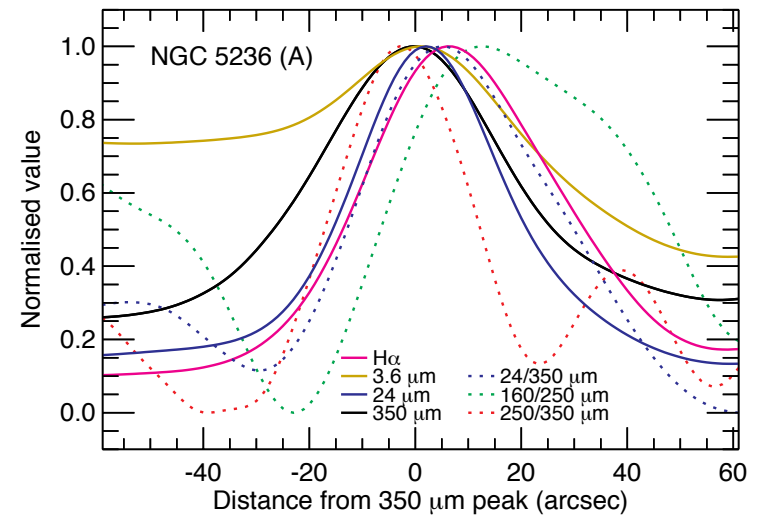


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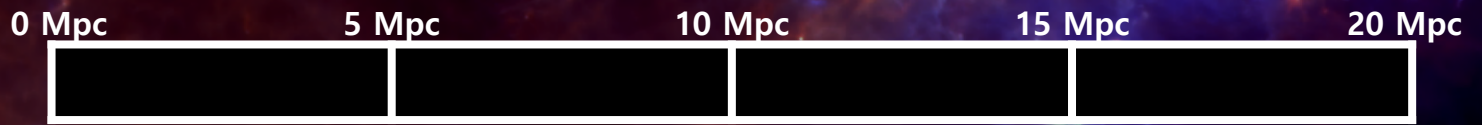
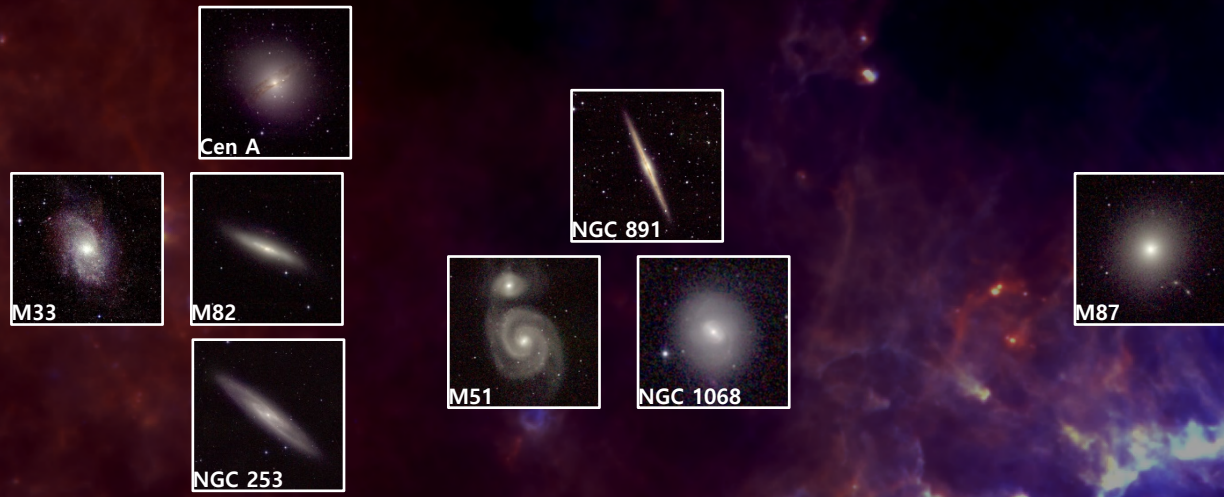


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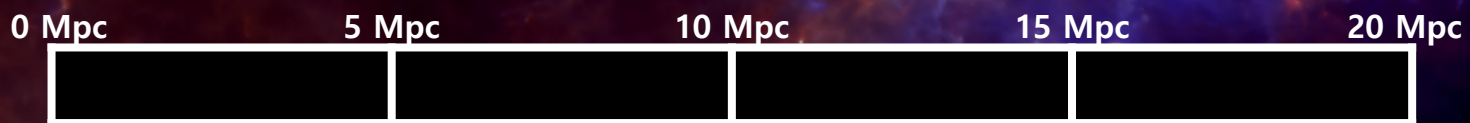
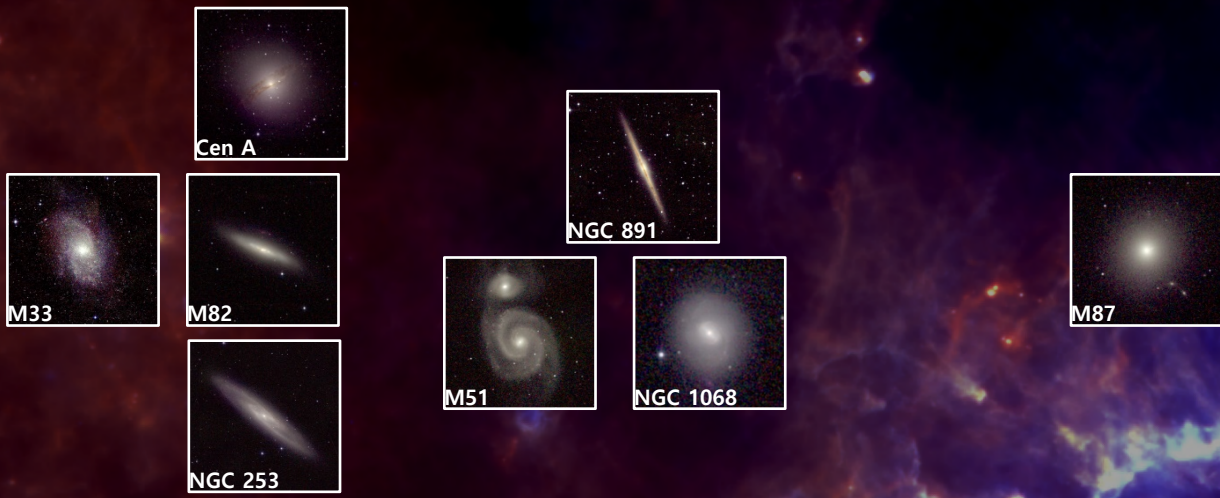
# Advances with the OST

The improved resolution with the OST allows for studying dust in smaller structures than possible before. This will include:

- Resolving 100 pc structures (the size of typical OB associations)
  - In the 50  $\mu\text{m}$  band at 10 Mpc
  - In the 250  $\mu\text{m}$  band at 2 Mpc
- Resolving 500 pc structures (the scale at which colour variations from spiral density waves are visible) up to 10 Mpc at 250  $\mu\text{m}$
- Resolving 1 kpc structures out to  $\sim 20$  Mpc at 250  $\mu\text{m}$



Spitzer 70 $\mu\text{m}$	18"	1 kpc	
Spitzer 160 $\mu\text{m}$	40"	1 kpc	
Herschel 70 $\mu\text{m}$	6"		1 kpc →
Herschel 250 $\mu\text{m}$	18"	1 kpc	
OST [6m] 50 $\mu\text{m}$	2.1"		1 kpc →
OST [6m] 250 $\mu\text{m}$	10"		1 kpc →
OST [9m] 50 $\mu\text{m}$	1.4"		1 kpc →
OST [9m] 250 $\mu\text{m}$	7"		1 kpc →



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*density waves & large SF complexes*

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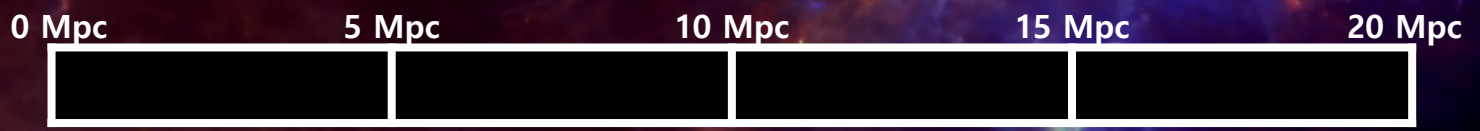
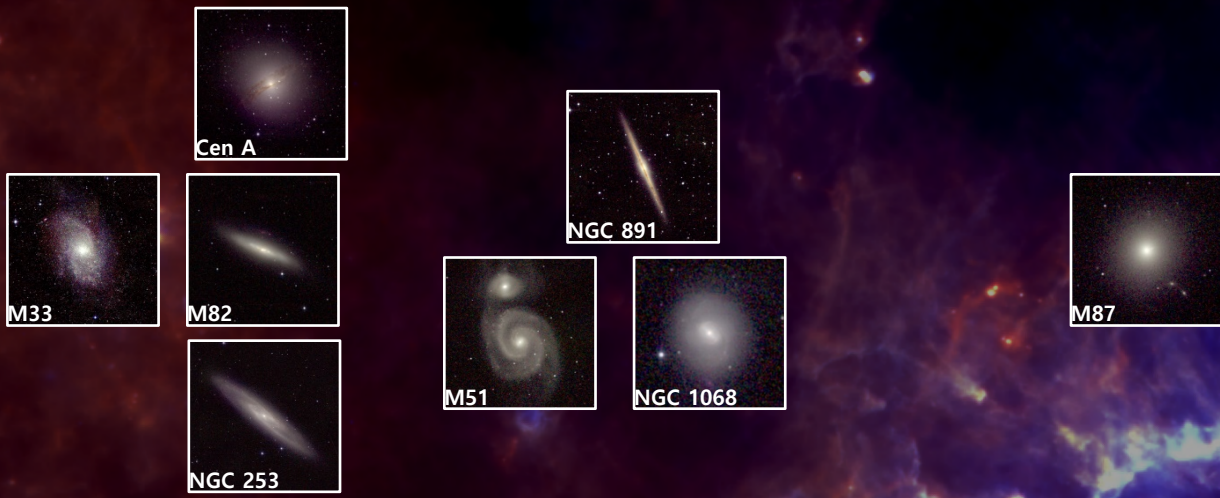
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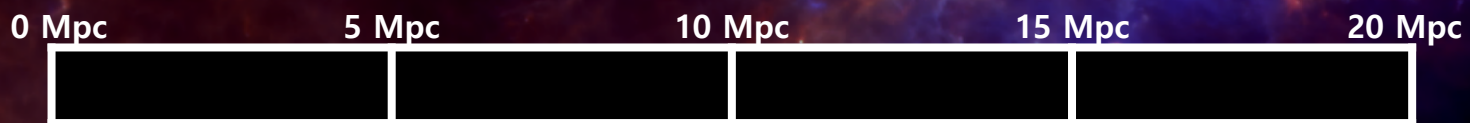
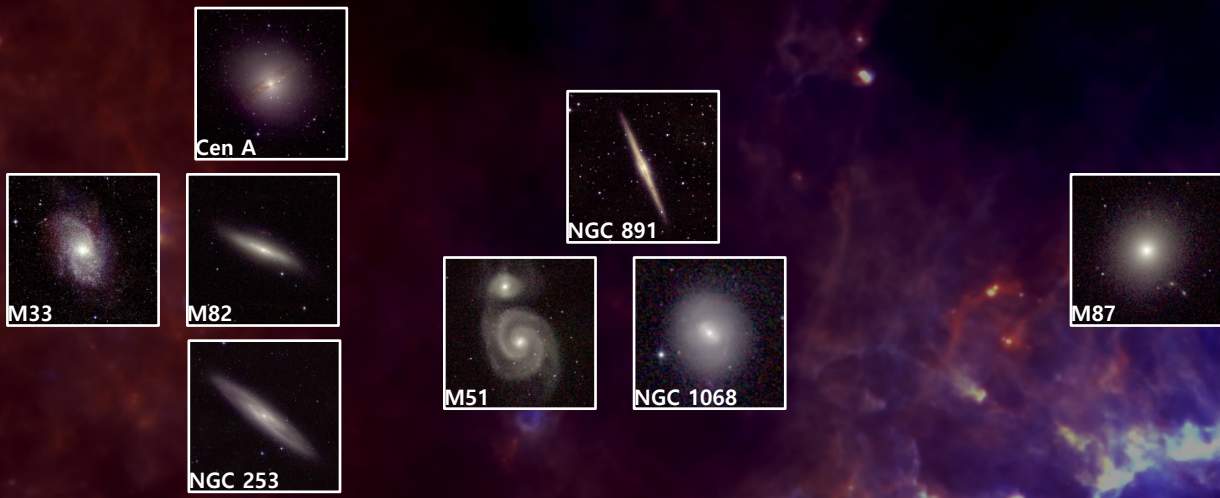
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Spitzer 70 $\mu\text{m}$	18"	<i>typical OB association</i>
Spitzer 160 $\mu\text{m}$	40"	<i>typical OB association</i>
Herschel 70 $\mu\text{m}$	6"	<i>typical OB association</i>
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OST [9m] 250 $\mu\text{m}$	7"	<i>typical OB association</i>

Images from Jarrett et al. (2003, AJ, 125, 525)



Instrument / Wavelength	Resolution	0 - 5 Mpc	5 - 10 Mpc	10 - 15 Mpc	15 - 20 Mpc
Spitzer 70 $\mu\text{m}$	18"	typical OB association	density waves & large SF complexes	1 kpc	
Spitzer 160 $\mu\text{m}$	40"	typical OB association	density waves & large SF complexes	1 kpc	
Herschel 70 $\mu\text{m}$	6"		typical OB association		density waves & large SF complexes 1 kpc →
Herschel 250 $\mu\text{m}$	18"	typical OB association	density waves & large SF complexes	1 kpc	
OST [6m] 50 $\mu\text{m}$	2.1"			typical OB association	density waves & large SF complexes →
OST [6m] 250 $\mu\text{m}$	10"	typical OB association		density waves & large SF complexes	1 kpc →
OST [9m] 50 $\mu\text{m}$	1.4"			typical OB association	density waves & large SF complexes →
OST [9m] 250 $\mu\text{m}$	7"	typical OB association		density waves & large SF complexes	1 kpc →

Images from Jarrett et al. (2003, AJ, 125, 525)

# Science Questions

- What is the structure of dust around star forming regions in other galaxies?
- What are the separate SEDs of star forming complexes and diffuse dust?
- How can radiative transfer models be improved by observing dust structures on smaller spatial scales?
- How exactly does far-infrared emission relate to star formation?
- How does radiative transfer work for spiral density waves?
- Does ram-pressure stripping affect the radiative transfer in spiral galaxies?