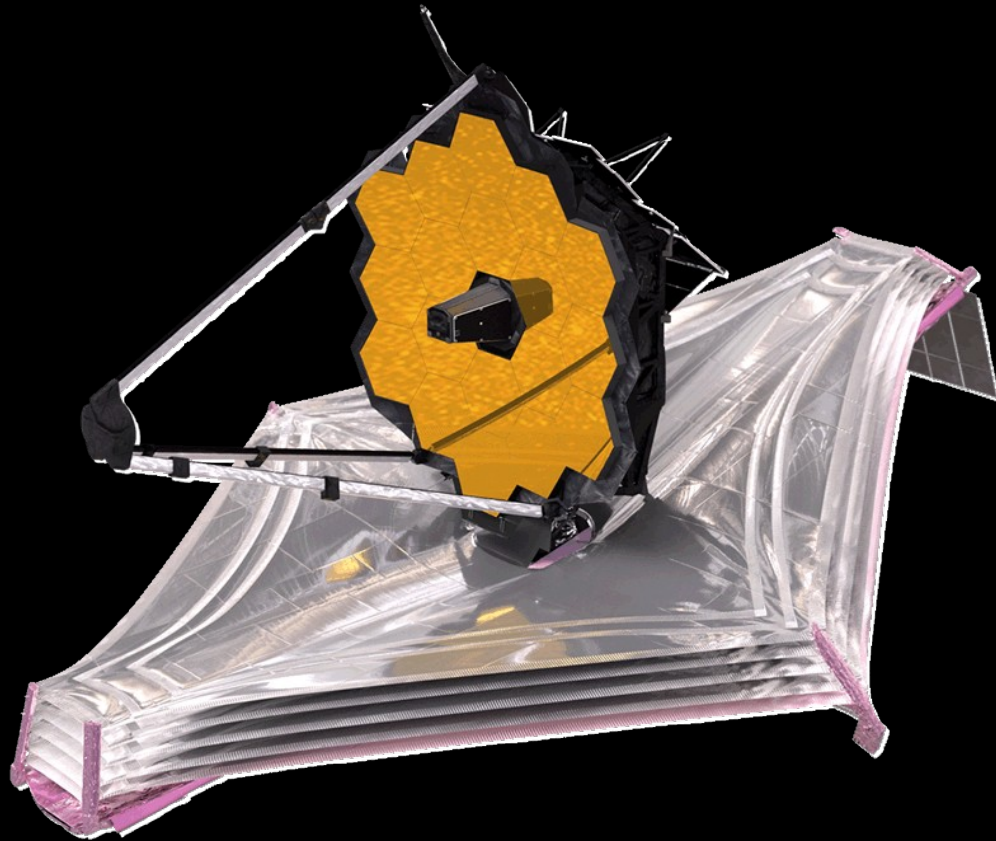


Unraveling the Universe with JWST from galaxies to the Solar System

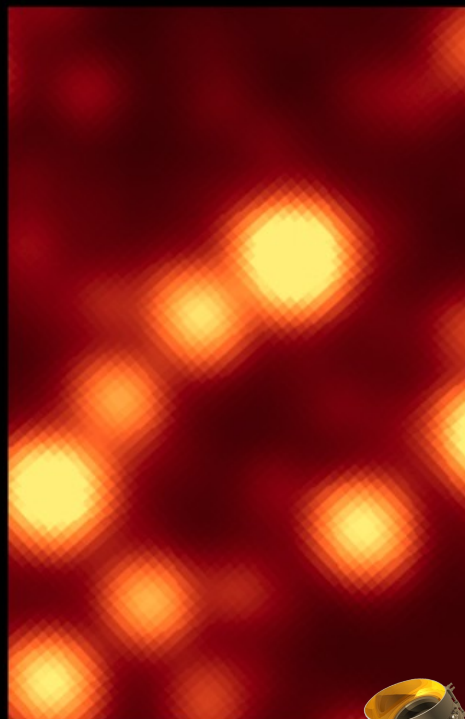
Laura Hermosa Muñoz

Universidad de Oviedo / ICTEA

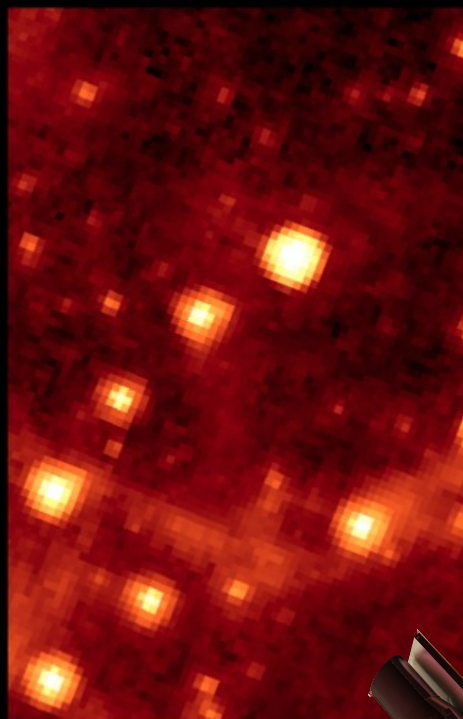
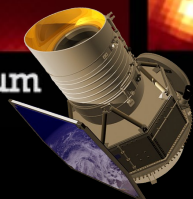
The James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)



The Evolution of Infrared Space Telescopes



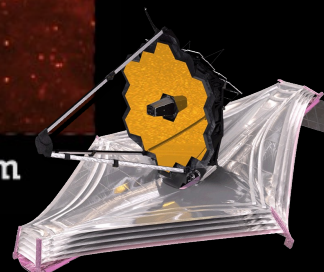
WISE W2 4.6 μm

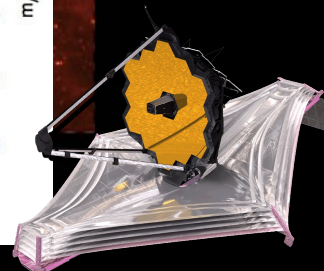
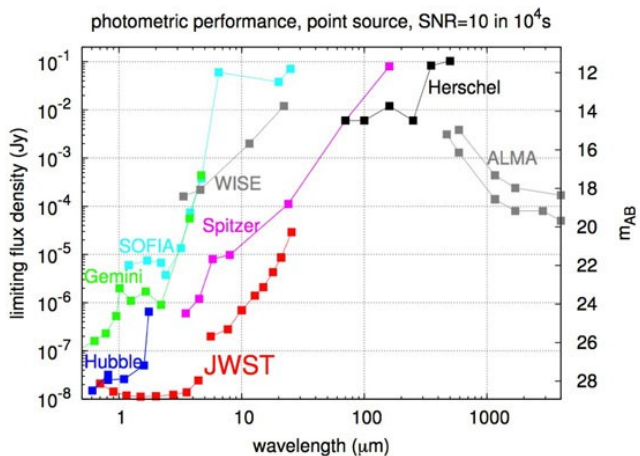
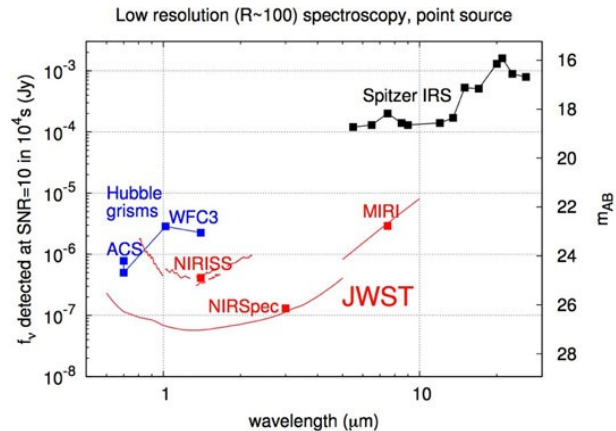
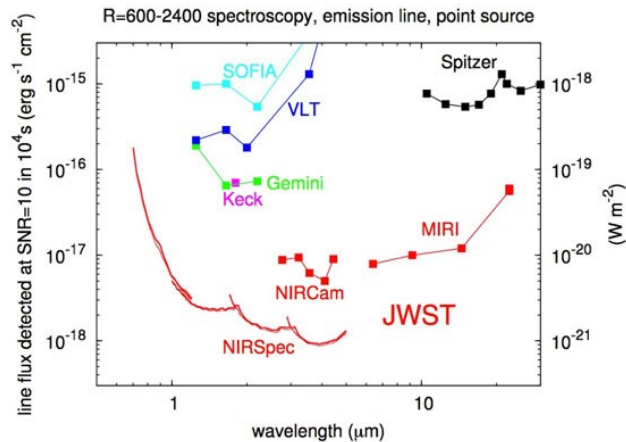


Spitzer/IRAC 8.6 μm



JWST/MIRI 7.7 μm





JWST instruments: *near- to mid-IR*



WEBB'S SCIENCE INSTRUMENTS



Near-Infrared Spectrograph (NIRSpec)



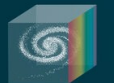
Temperature, mass, chemical composition of objects



Can capture spectra of **200 objects** simultaneously

Mid-InfraRed Instrument (MIRI)

Observes **cold, distant objects** in mid-infrared

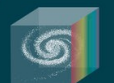


Spectroscopy mapping



-266°C

Extra refrigerator: **cryocooler**



Spectroscopy mapping



Farthest objects ever in **near-infrared**



Critical role in telescope alignment

Near-Infrared Camera (NIRCam)

Light from **first stars and galaxies**



Molecules in exoplanet atmospheres

Near-InfraRed Imager and Slitless Spectrograph (NIRISS)

Temperature, mass, chemical composition of objects



High precision pointing

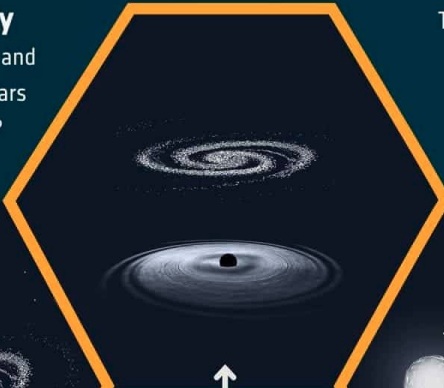


JWST scientific objectives

What did the **early Universe** look like and when did the first stars and galaxies form?



Understanding how **galaxies and black holes** form and evolve



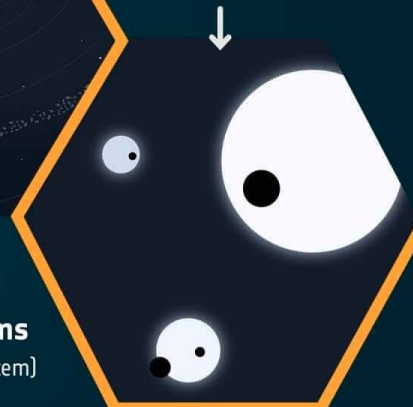
The lifecycle of **stars**: from their birth to their death



Investigating how **planetary systems** form and evolve (including our Solar System)



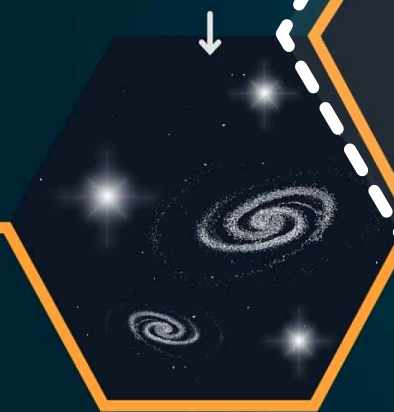
Studying **exoplanets, their atmospheres,** and the building blocks of life that they might contain



JWST scientific objectives



What did the **early Universe** look like and when did the first stars and galaxies form?



Understanding how **galaxies and black holes** form and evolve

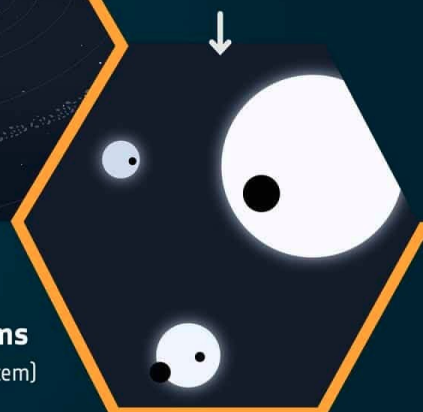
The lifecycle of **stars**: from their birth to their death



Investigating how **planetary systems** form and evolve (including our Solar System)



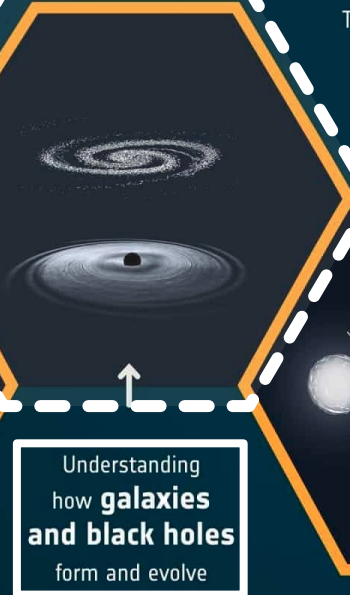
Studying **exoplanets, their atmospheres,** and the building blocks of life that they might contain



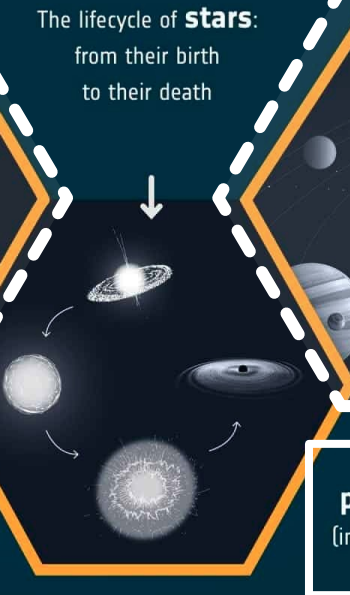
JWST scientific objectives



What did the **early Universe** look like and when did the first stars and galaxies form?



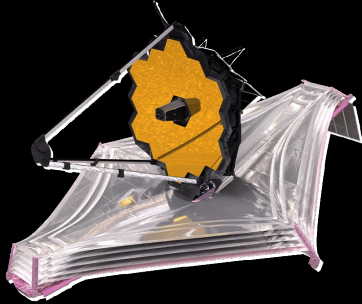
The lifecycle of **stars**: from their birth to their death



Studying **exoplanets, their atmospheres,** and the building blocks of life that they might contain



Why the **mid-IR** and **JWST** for studying nearby galaxies?



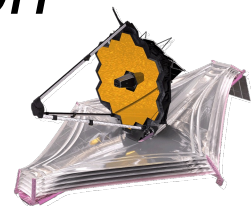
- Unprecedented sensitivity and spatial resolution in the infrared.
- Access to the full near and mid-IR window (1-28 μm).
- Ideal for penetrating dusty, obscured environments in galactic centers.

- Suffers from less obscuration than in optical \rightarrow reveals nuclei
- Access to ionised (e.g. [NeII], [NeIII] or [NeV]), molecular (e.g. warm H_2), recombination (P α) gas emission lines, ices, molecules, and other absorption features.
- Allows to study SF, AGN, and other physical processes.




NGC 628. Crédito: ESA/Webb, NASA & CSA, J. Lee, the PHANGS-JWST Team.

MICONIC: *Mid-Infrared Characterization Of Nearby Iconic galaxy Centers*



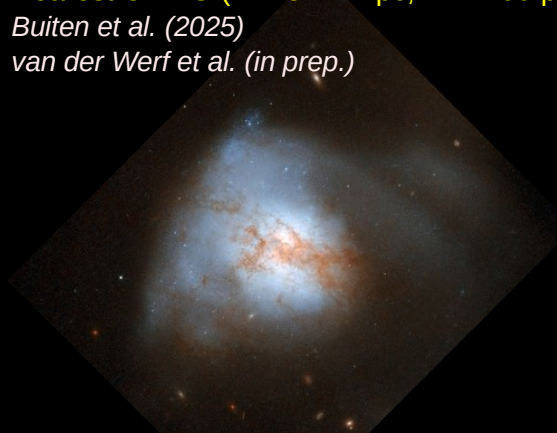
MIRI/JWST Guaranteed Time Observations (GTO) program for nearby galaxies

Closest radio galaxy to Earth
($D = 3.5$ Mpc; $1'' = 17$ pc):
Alonso-Herrero, HM et al. (2025)
Pantoni et al. (2026)
Evangelista et al. (accepted)
Jones et al. (in prep.)



Centaurus A
Credit: ESO

Nearest ULIRG ($D = 84.4$ Mpc; $1'' \sim 400$ pc)
Buiten et al. (2025)
van der Werf et al. (in prep.)



Arp 220
Credit: NASA/ESA HST

Closest merger ($D = 111$ Mpc; $1'' = 526$ pc)
Hermosa Muñoz et al. (2025)
Hermosa Muñoz et al. (in prep.)
Pantoni et al. (in prep.)



NGC 6240
Credit: NASA/ESA HST

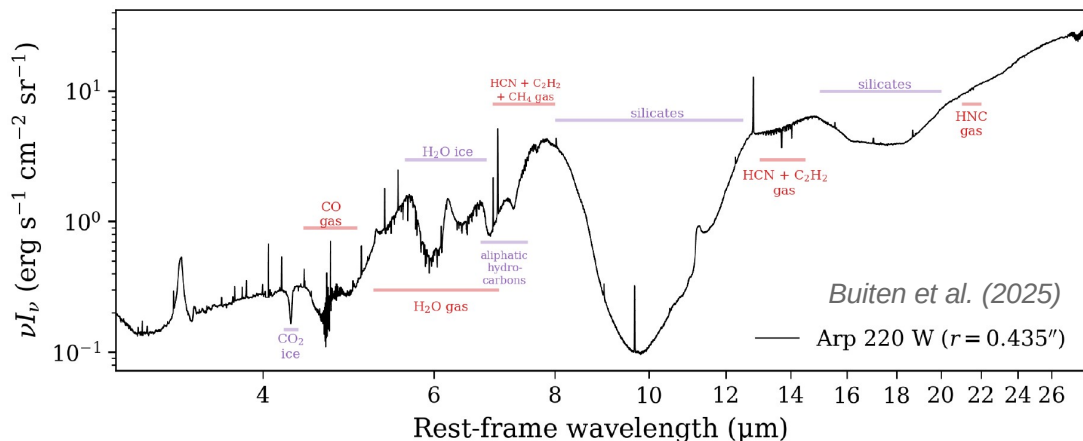
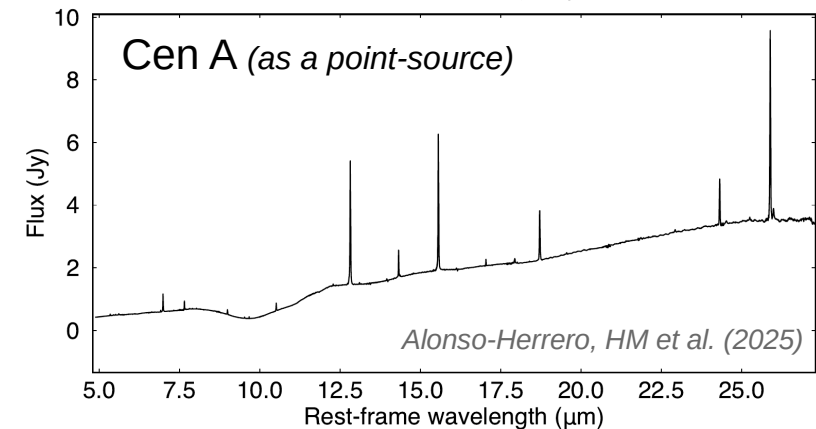
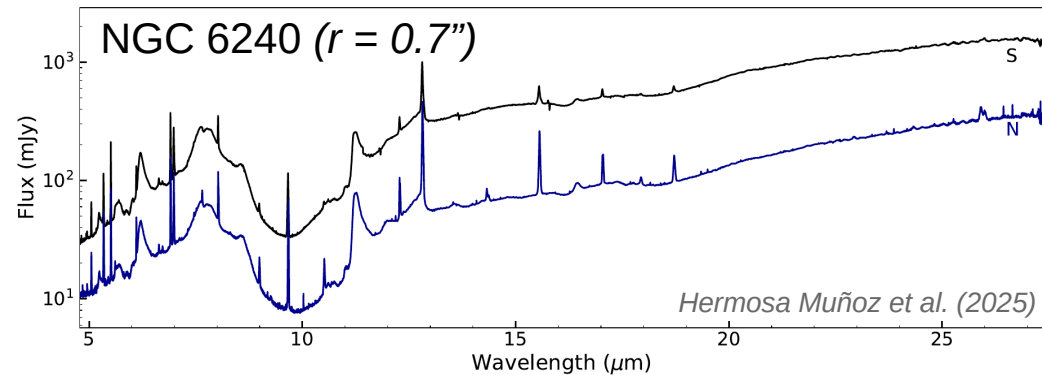
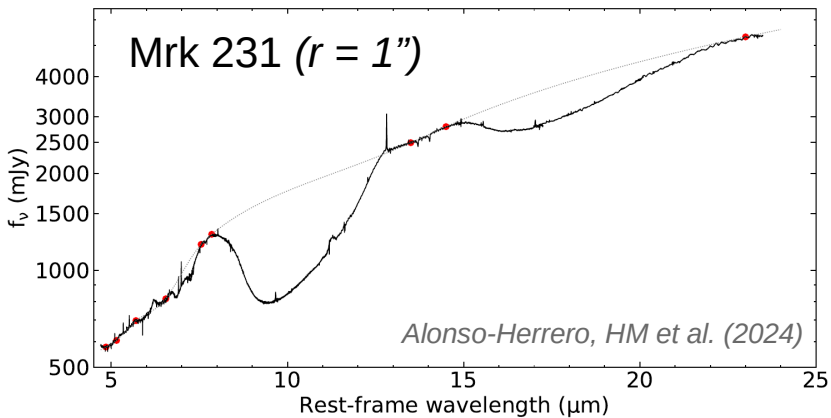
Nearest BAL-QSO/ULIRG
($D \sim 187.6$ Mpc; $1'' \sim 837$ pc)
Alonso-Herrero, HM et al. (2024)



Mrk 231
Credit: NASA/ESA HST

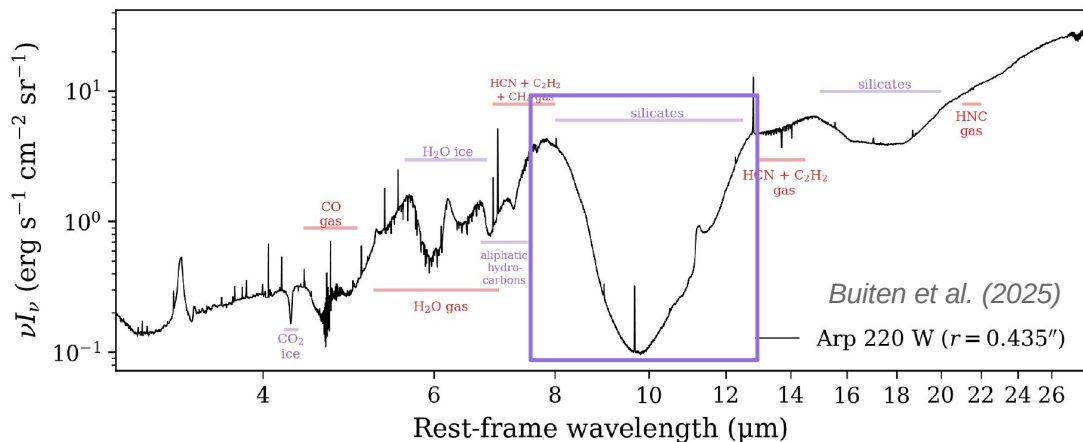
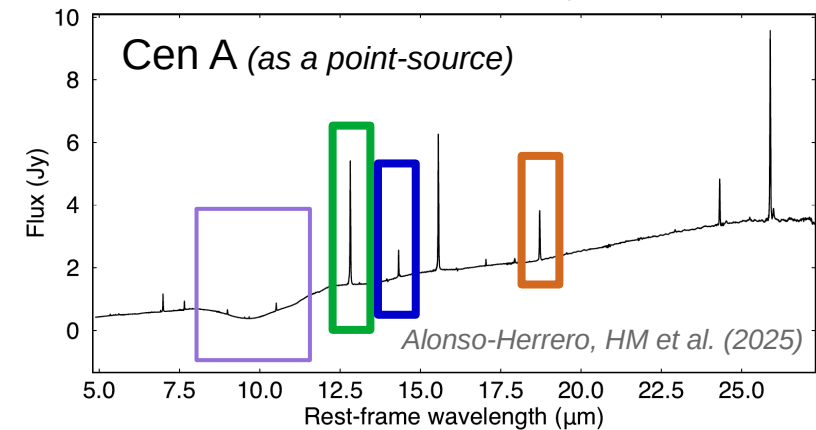
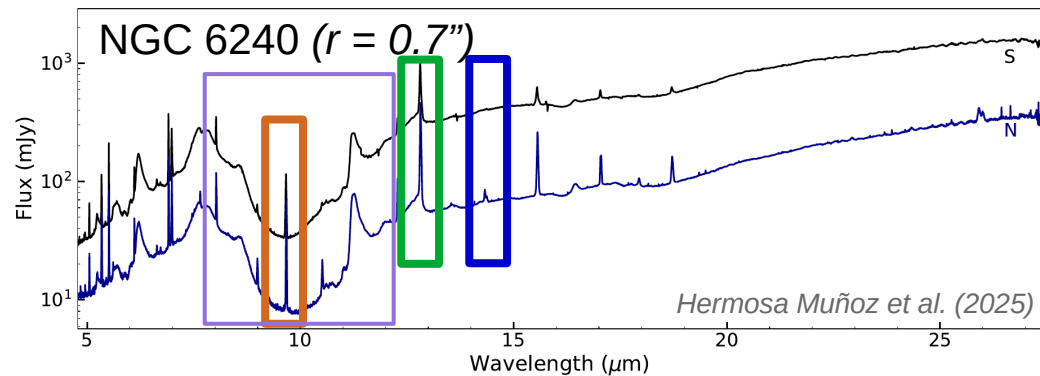
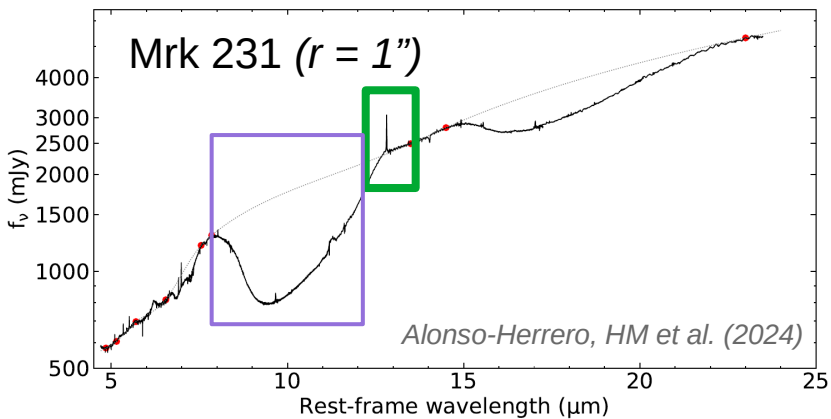
+ region near to the Galactic Centre (Peißker et al. accepted) & SBS0335-52

MICONIC: *Global overview*



MICONIC: *Global overview*

Low excitation ionised gas
 High excitation ionised gas
 Warm molecular gas
 Silicate absorption + molecules



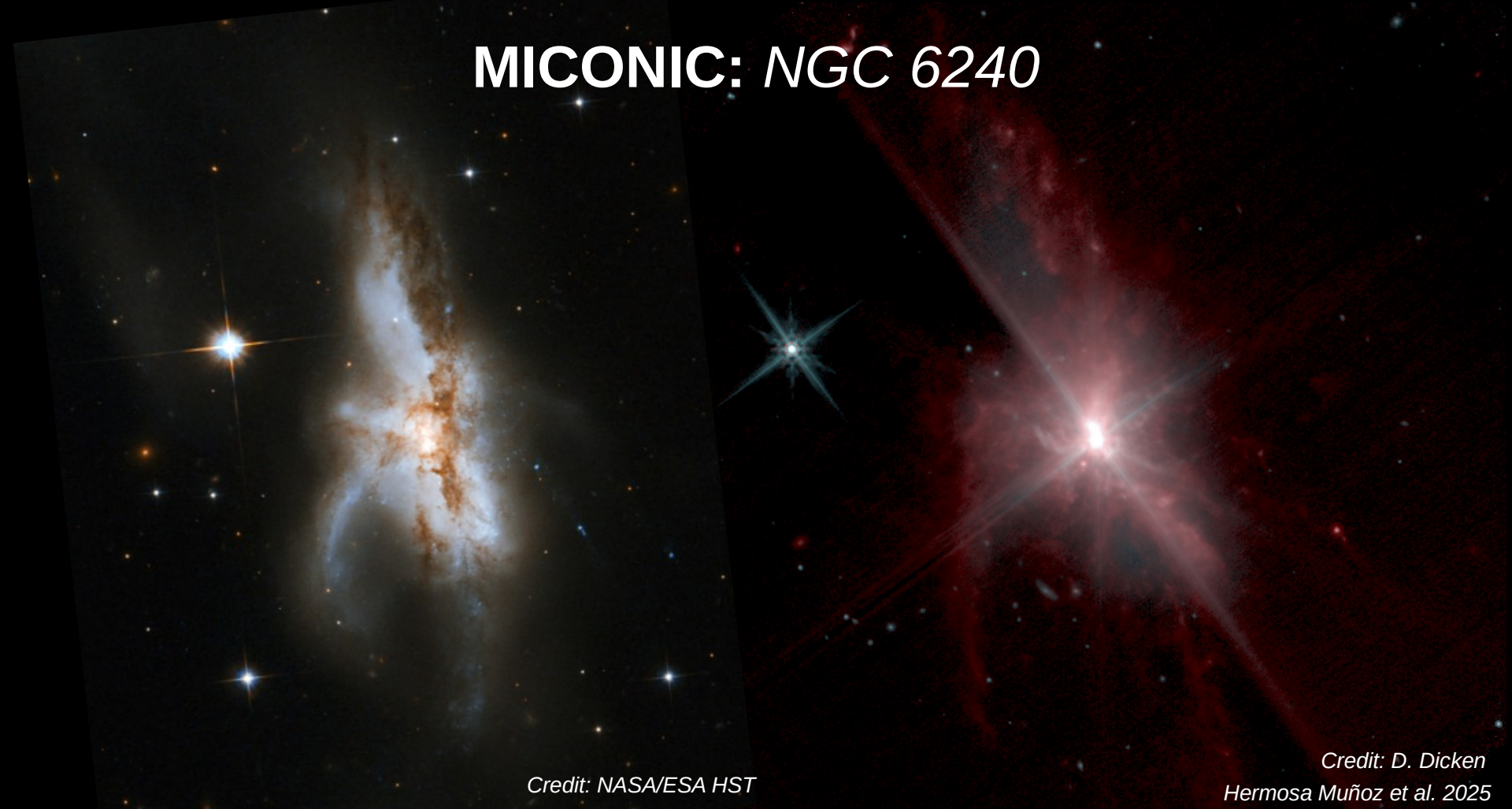
MICONIC: NGC 6240

$Z \sim 0.0244$, $D \sim 111$ Mpc; $1'' \sim 526$ pc
Dual AGN: type-2 Seyfert & LINER
($L_{\text{bol}} 2.6 \times 10^{44}$ erg s^{-1} & 8×10^{44} erg s^{-1} , Müller-Sánchez+18)

Observed: 14th August 2023
GTO program 1265

Credit: NASA/ESA HST

MICONIC: NGC 6240



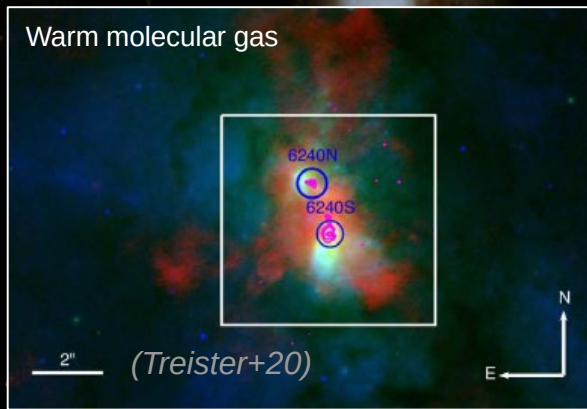
Credit: NASA/ESA HST

*Credit: D. Dicken
Hermosa Muñoz et al. 2025*

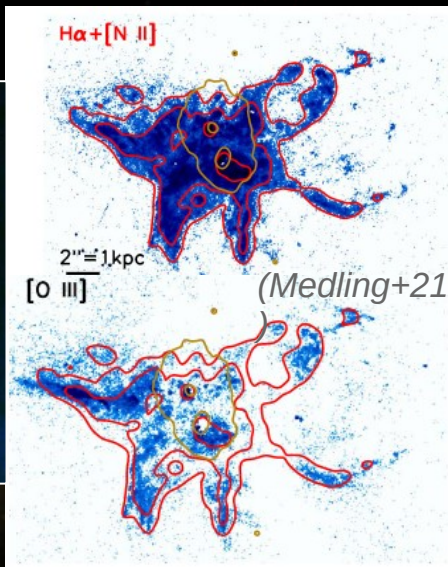
MICONIC: NGC 6240

LIRG – $\log(L_{\text{IR}} / L_{\text{sun}}) = 11.93$ (Kim+13)

Dual AGN ~ 0.7 kpc + nuclear starburst (6-9 Myr ago Tezca+10, Yoshida+16; SFR $> 100 M_{\text{sun}}/\text{yr}$, Howell+10)



Hermosa Muñoz et al. (in prep.)

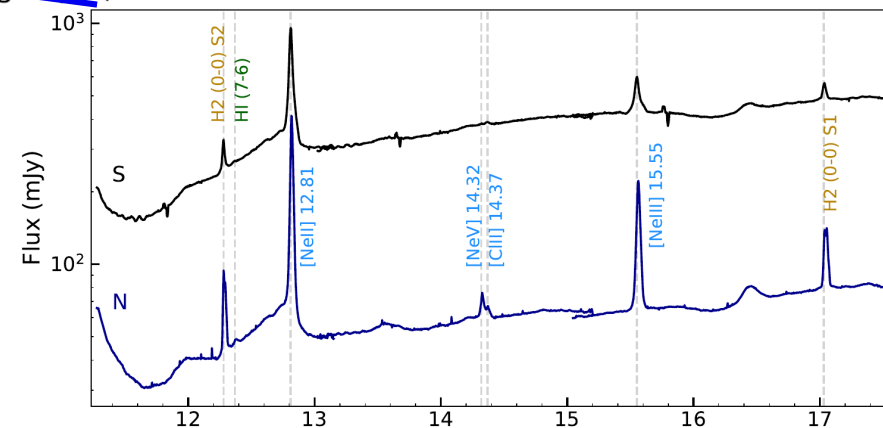
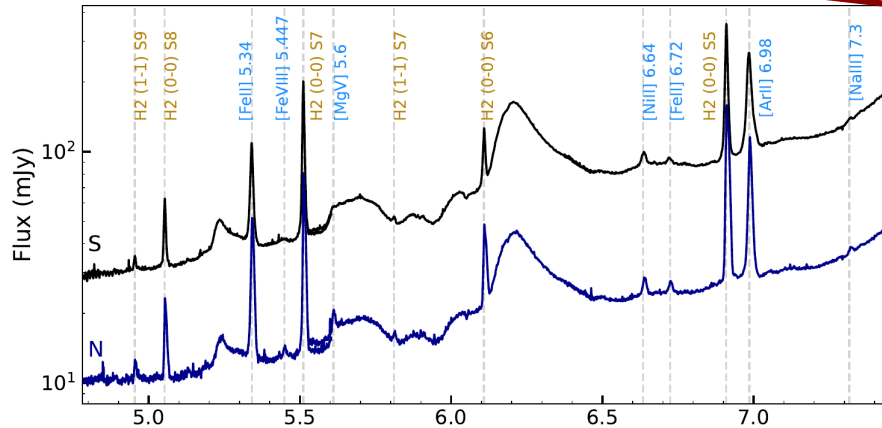
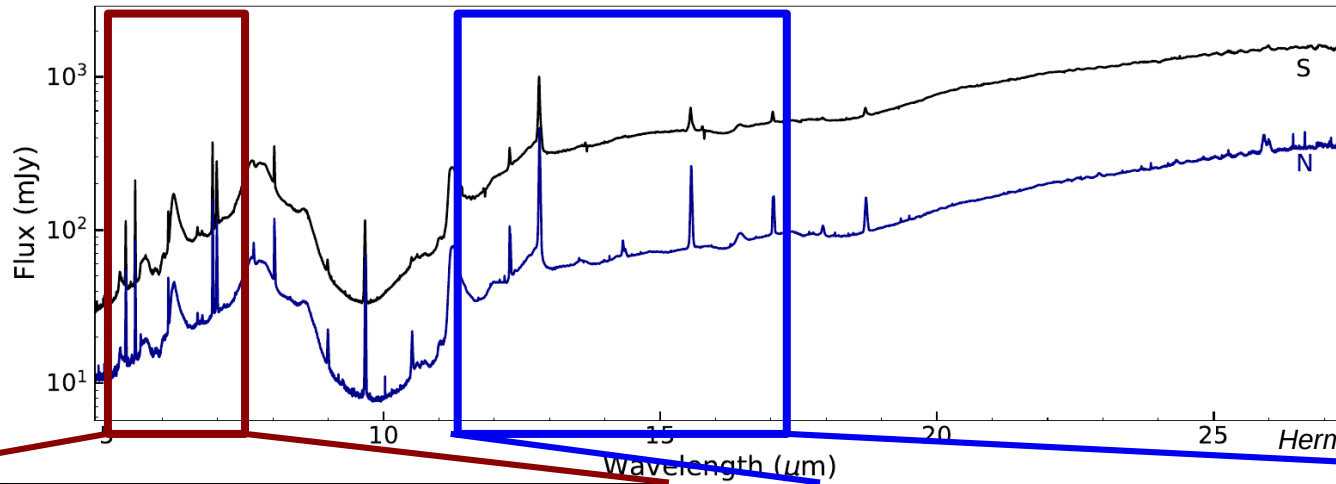


Credit: NASA/ESA HST

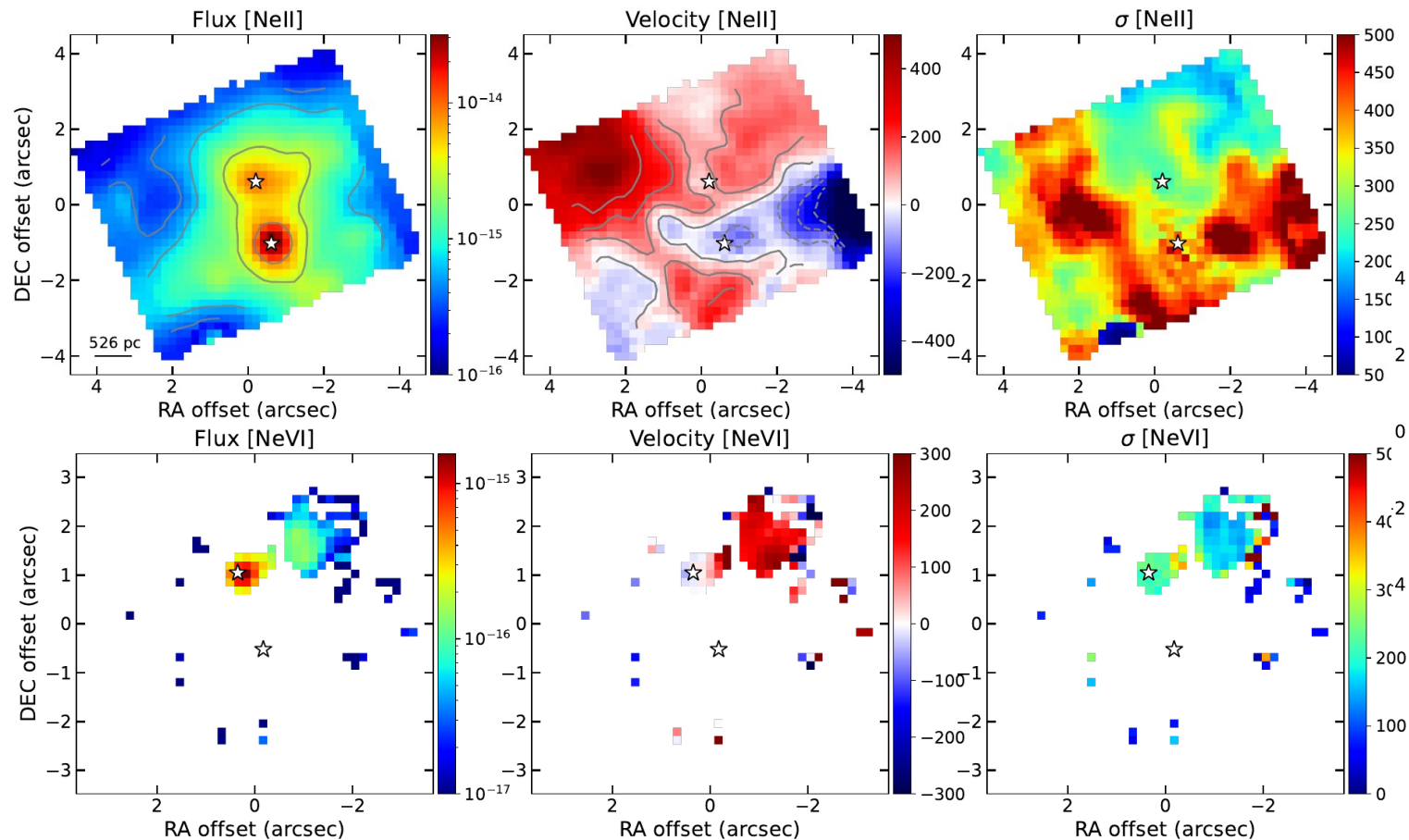
Credit: D. Dicken

Hermosa Muñoz et al. (2025)

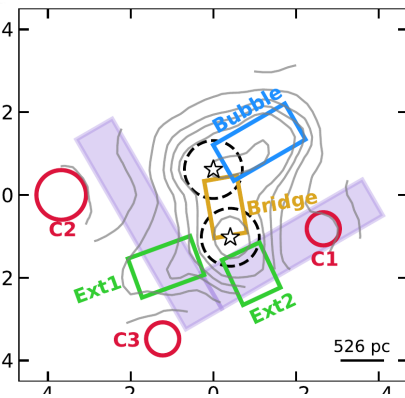
Integrated MIRI/MRS spectrum per nuclei ($r = 0.7''$)



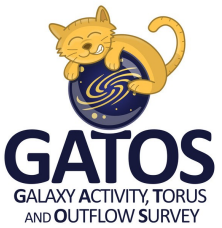
NGC 6240: kinematic maps for the ionised gas



We are now comparing with the warm molecular gas properties.



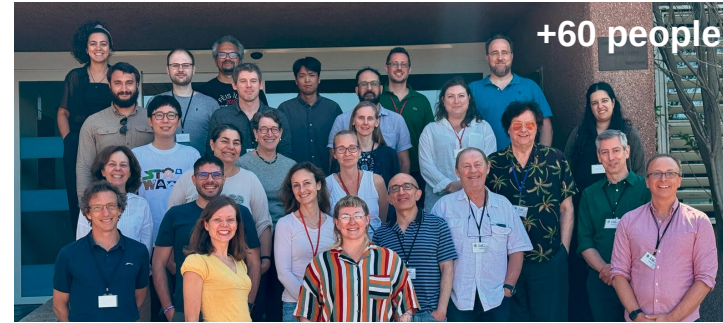
Hermosa Muñoz et al. 2025



GATOS:

Galaxy Activity, Torus, and Outflow Survey

Study of the fuelling and feedback processes taking place in the central few kpc of active galaxies, polar dust emissions, the torus, and obscuring materials. Our efforts also extend to shedding light on star formation, galaxy evolution, and other cosmic phenomena, crucial for understanding co-evolution of galaxies and SMBH.



A&A 652, A98 (2021)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202141075>
 © ESO 2021

**Astronomy
&
Astrophysics**

The Galaxy Activity, Torus, and Outflow Survey (GATOS)

I. ALMA images of dusty molecular tori in Seyfert galaxies

S. García-Burillo¹, A. Alonso-Herrero², C. Ramos Almeida^{3,4}, O. González-Martín⁵, F. Combes⁶, A. Usero¹, S. Hönig⁷, M. Querejeta¹, E. K. S. Hicks⁸, L. K. Hunt⁹, D. Rosario¹⁰, R. Davies¹¹, P. G. Boorman¹², A. J. Bunker¹³, L. Burtscher¹⁴, L. Colina¹⁵, T. Díaz-Santos¹⁶, P. Gandhi¹⁷, I. García-Bernete¹³, B. García-Lorenzo^{3,4}, K. Ichikawa¹⁷, M. Imanishi^{18,19}, T. Izumi^{18,19}, A. Labiano¹⁵, N. A. Levenson²⁰, E. López-Rodríguez^{21,22}, C. Packham²³, M. Pereira-Santaella¹⁵, C. Ricci^{24,25}, D. Rigopoulou¹³, D. Rouan²⁶, T. Shimizu¹¹, M. Stalevski^{27,28}, K. Wada^{29,30,31}, and D. Williamson⁷

(Affiliations can be found after the references)

Received 13 April 2021 / Accepted 22 June 2021

A&A 652, A99 (2021)
<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202141219>
 © ESO 2021

**Astronomy
&
Astrophysics**

The Galaxy Activity, Torus, and Outflow Survey (GATOS)

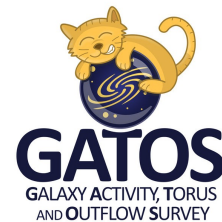
II. Torus and polar dust emission in nearby Seyfert galaxies

A. Alonso-Herrero¹, S. García-Burillo², S. F. Hönig³, I. García-Bernete⁴, C. Ramos Almeida^{5,6}, O. González-Martín⁷, E. López-Rodríguez⁸, P. G. Boorman⁹, A. J. Bunker⁴, L. Burtscher¹⁰, F. Combes¹¹, R. Davies¹², T. Díaz-Santos¹³, P. Gandhi³, B. García-Lorenzo^{5,6}, E. K. S. Hicks¹⁴, L. K. Hunt¹⁵, K. Ichikawa^{12,16,17}, M. Imanishi^{18,19,20}, T. Izumi²¹, A. Labiano¹, N. A. Levenson²³, C. Packham^{24,18}, M. Pereira-Santaella²², C. Ricci^{25,26}, D. Rigopoulou⁴, P. Roche⁴, D. J. Rosario²⁷, D. Rouan²⁸, T. Shimizu¹², M. Stalevski^{29,30}, K. Wada^{31,32,33}, and D. Williamson³

(Affiliations can be found after the references)

Received 30 April 2021 / Accepted 30 June 2021

GATOS: JWST GO time



ID	Program Title	PI & Co-PIs	Exclusive Access Period (months)	Prime/Parallel Time (hours)	Instrument/Mode	Type	
1670	Closing in on the Launching Sites of AGN Outflows	PI: Thomas Shimizu	12	34	MIRI/MRS	GO	
2064	Dust in the Wind: Testing a New Paradigm for the Nature of AGN Feedback	PI: David Rosario Co-PIs: Sebastian Hoenig and Leonard Burtscher	12	19.3	MIRI/Imaging	GO	
3535	Unveiling the AGN-host connection with PAH molecules	PI: Ismael Garcia Bernete Co-PI: Dimitra Rigopoulou	12	11.88/0	MIRI/MRS NIRSpec/IFU	GO	
4225	First spatially resolved characterization of the warm molecular torus in the Circinus galaxy	PI: Takuma Izumi	12	3.25/0	MIRI/MRS	GO	
4972	Hunting the Kinetic Mode Feedback of AGNs via PAH Features	PI: Lulu Zhang	12	12.32/0.0	MIRI/MRS NIRSpec/IFU	GO	
5017	AGN and their outflows: probing fragmentation and survival of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons	PI: Ismael Garcia Bernete Co-PIs: Almudena Alonso-Herrero and Dimitra Rigopoulou	12	18.53/0.0	NIRSpec/IFU	GO	
7195	Deciphering the torus and extended dust properties of local active galactic nuclei	PI: Almudena Alonso-Herrero Co-PIs: Ismael Garcia Bernete and Sebastian Hoenig		12	32.7/0.0	MIRI/MRS NIRSpec/IFU	GO
7429	Unraveling Effects of Different Modes of AGN Feedback via PAH Features	PI: Lulu Zhang		12	11.6/0.0	MIRI/MRS NIRSpec/IFU	GO
7802	Dust in shocks: The missing link in AGN feedback	PI: Houda Haidar		12	14.1/0.0	MIRI/MRS	GO
9652	The hot dusty phase of active galaxies as observed by JWST interferometry	PI: Enrique Lopez-Rodriguez	12	109.7/0.0	NIRISS/AMI	GO	

Cycle 1

Cycle 2

Cycle 3

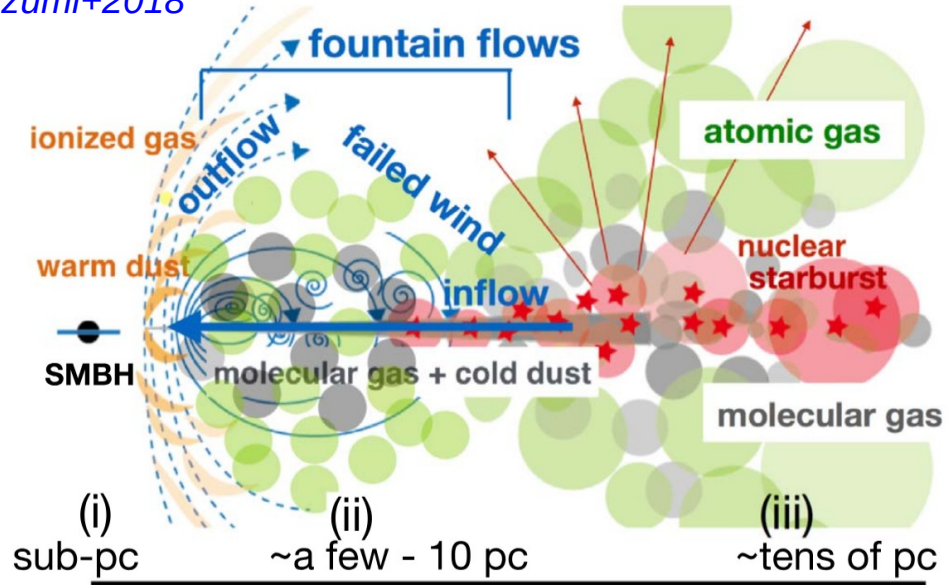
~270 h !

Cycle 4

Cycle 5

GATOS: recent JWST works

Izumi+2018



PAHs:
García-Bernete+2024c,
Zhang+2024b,
Donnan+2026

Extended dust emission: Leist+2024,
Haidar+2024,+2026,
López-Rodríguez+2025,
Campbell+2025

IA/ML: Hermosa
Muñoz+2026

**+ 3 JWST papers submitted
+ several others in prep.**

**+ other works with other facilities:
ALMA, MEGARA, VLT, SOFIA, ...**

Ionised and warm molecular outflows:
Hermosa Muñoz+2024b,
Zhang+2024a,
Davies+2024, Esparza-Arredondo+2025,
Delaney+2025,+2026,
Veenema+2025,+2026

Torus modelling and ices:
García-Bernete+2024a,
González-Martín+2025

ESO 428-G14

HST

NGC 5728

NGC 7172

NGC 3227

NGC 5135

NGC 3081

NGC 2992

NGC 4388

Rosario+(submitted)

ESO 428-G14

JWST

NGC 5728

NGC 7172

NGC 3227

NGC 5135

NGC 3081

NGC 2992

NGC 4388

Rosario+(submitted)

XII. Unveiling physical processes in local active galaxies. Unsupervised hierarchical clustering of JWST MIRI/MRS observations

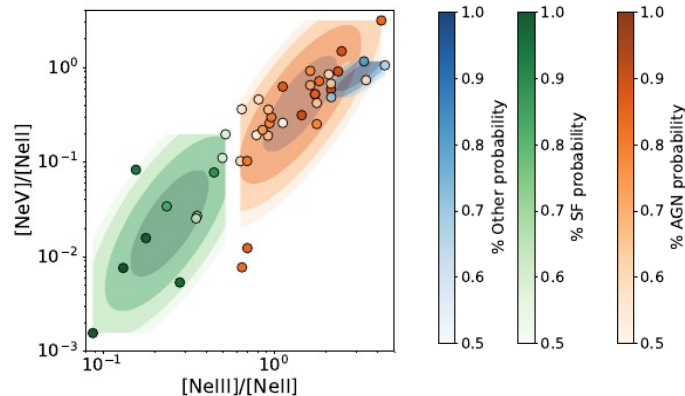
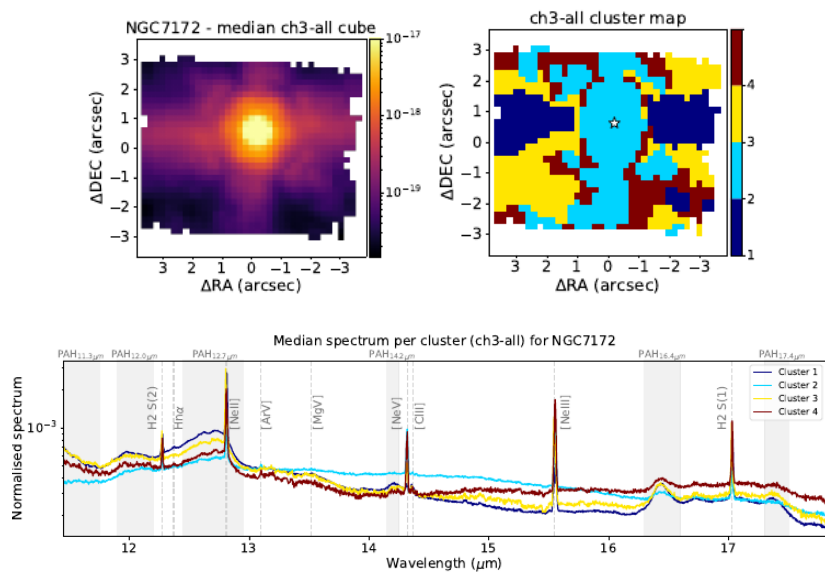
L. Hermosa Muñoz^{1,*} , J. R. González Fernández² , A. Alonso-Herrero¹ , I. García-Bernete¹,
O. González-Martín³ , M. Pereira-Santaella⁴ , E. López-Rodríguez⁵, C. Ramos Almeida^{6,7} , S. García-Burillo⁸ ,
L. Zhang⁹ , A. Audibert^{6,7} , E. Bellocchi^{10,11}, F. Combes^{12,13} , T. Díaz-Santos^{14,15} , D. Esparza-Arredondo³ ,
B. García-Lorenzo^{6,7} , M. García-Marín¹⁶, E. K. S. Hicks^{17,9,18} , Á. Labiano¹⁹, N. A. Levenson²⁰ ,
M. Martínez-Paredes²¹ , C. Packham⁹ , R. A. Riffel^{22,23} , D. Rigopoulou²⁴ ,
J. Schneider⁹, and M. Villar-Martín²³

A&A, 708, A297 (2026)

<https://doi.org/10.1051/0004-6361/202557220>

© The Authors 2026

Received 12 September 2025 / Accepted 26 February 2026



Clustering of any data cube (tested on MIRI/JWST).

Automatic identification and classification of the main ionising source of the gas present in the galaxies.

Summary



JWST is allowing us to observe nearby objects in the infrared with an unprecedented spatial and spectral resolution.

DiSCO + TNOs → The best is yet to come!

Thank you for your attention!

