

Mapping gas inflows in nearby AGN



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Outline

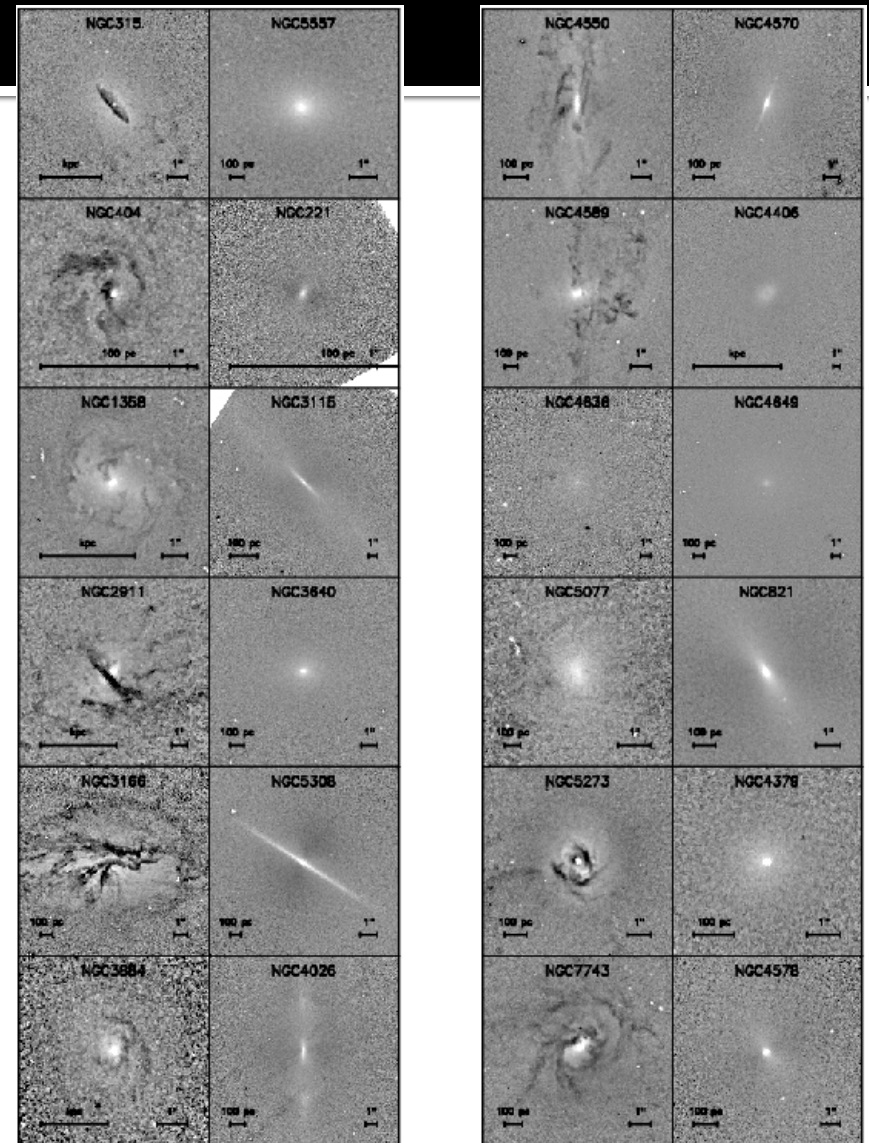
- Introduction: role of inflows
- Signature of inflows: nuclear spirals
- Kinematics: ionized and molecular gas
- New results and methods (PCA)
- Mass inflow rates
- Conclusions

Introduction

- Inflows in galaxies: necessary to trigger nuclear starbursts and promote galaxy secular evolution (Combes 2010); in AGN, to feed the SMBHs;
- Models for inflows: bars (Shlosman et al. 1990), gravitational torques (Garcia Burillo et al. 2005, 2007);
- In the inner kpc, role of nuclear bars (Englmaier & Shlosman 2004) and spirals (Englmaier & Shlosman 2004; Maciejewski 2004);
- Kinematic signatures of inflows in AGNs: difficult to find, as outflows dominate emission (over most wavelengths);
- Goal of present work search for these signatures in nearby AGN (Storchi-Bergmann, Riffel, Schnorr Muller);
- Other authors looking for inflows: Davies, Hicks and collabs. ; two posters: 1.1 – Bartakova; 1.10 – Westoby.

Morphology (Simões-Lopes et al. 2007)

- Structure maps: HST F6o6W early-type AGN vs. non-AGN
- Dusty nuclear spirals in ~100% AGN;
- But in ~ 25% of non-AGN;
- Channels to feed the SMBH ?



AGN Non-AGN

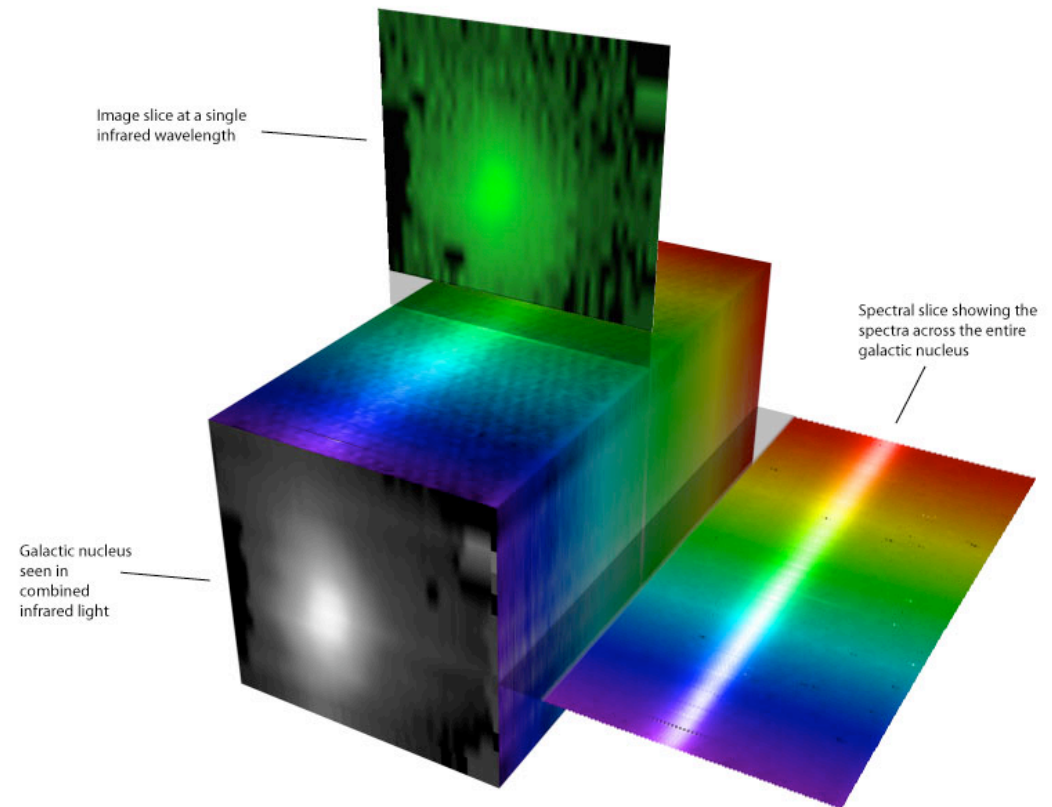
AGN Non-AGN

Observations: Integral Field Spectrographs

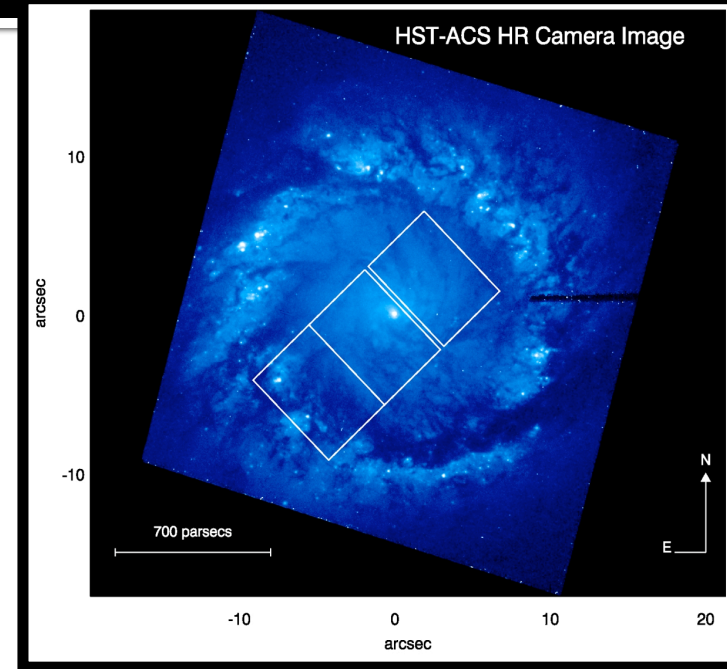
Gemini

- **Optical:** GMOS
- FOV: 3.5" x 5" or 5" x 7"
- Sampling 0.2" , Res. 0.6"
- R~3000, λ 6000 - λ 9500A

- **Near-IR:** NIFS+ALTAIR
- FOV: 3" x 3"
- Sampling: 0.04" x 0.1"
- Res. 0.1"
- R~6000, J, H & K-band



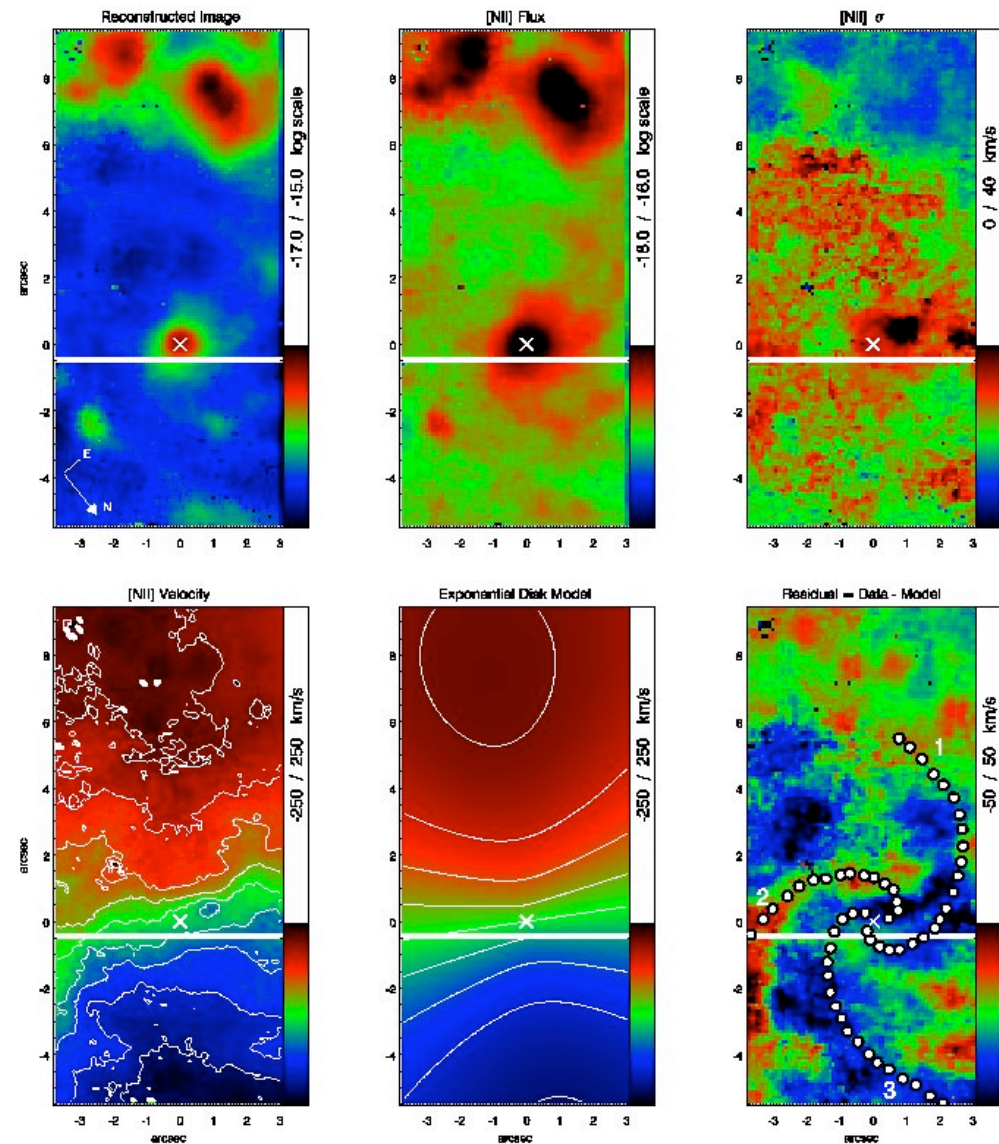
Kinematics: NGC1097 (Fathi et al. 2006)



- GMOS IFU: 3 fields $5'' \times 7'' = 15'' \times 7''$ (1.2x0.6 kpc)
- Measured gas kinematics ($H\alpha$ + [NII])
- Fit and subtract a circular rotating disk model
- Look for residuals in association with nuclear spirals

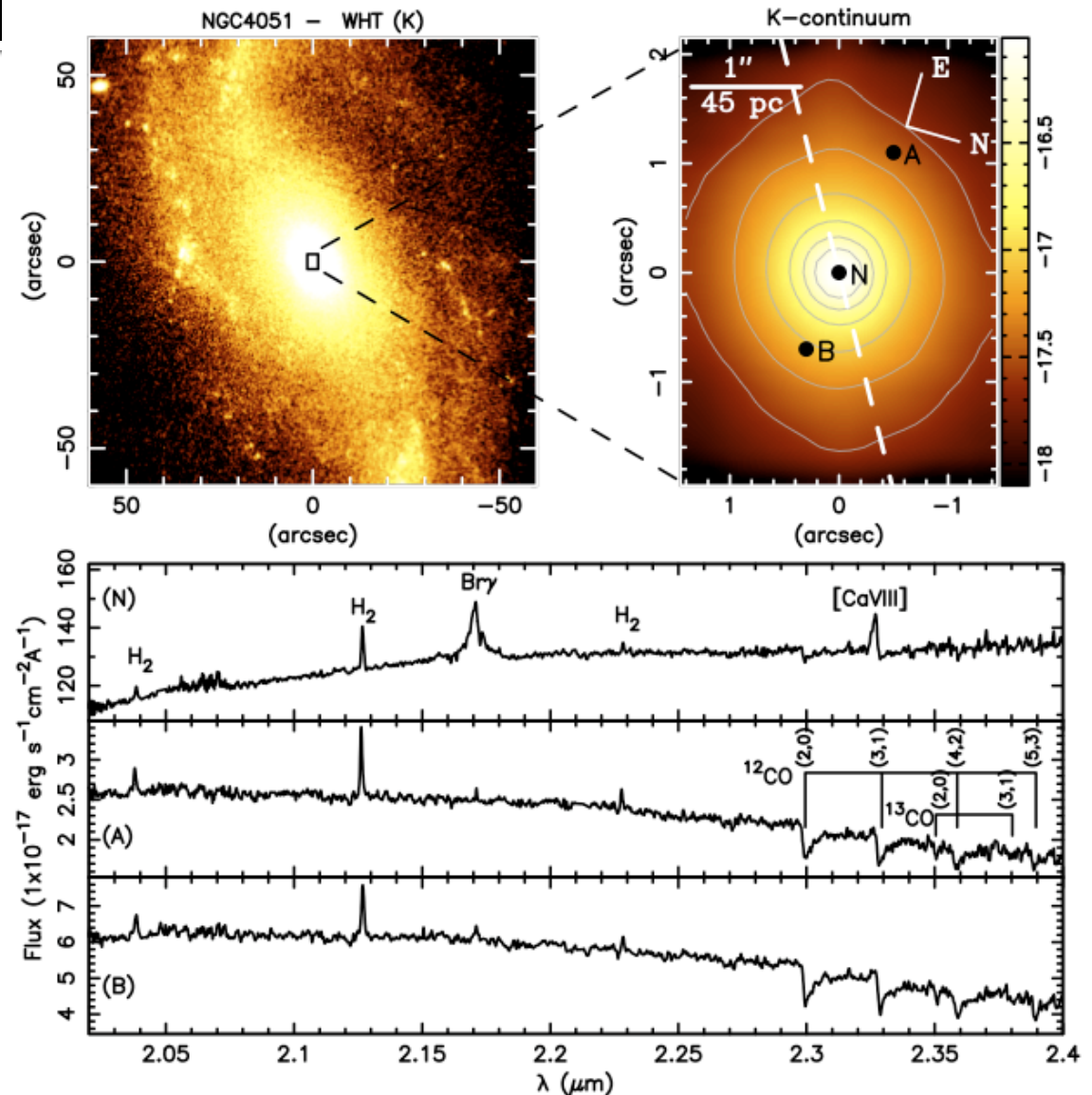
Kinematics: NGC1097 (Fathi et al. 2006)

- Residuals of up to 50 km/s along nuclear spirals
- Mass inflow rate of ionized gas: $\sim 10^{-3} M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- Flow in neutral and molecular gas much larger (Davies et al. 2009)
- Another case: NGC6951 (Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2007)
- Difficulties: in most cases kinematics is too disturbed to fit circular model



Kinematics: NGC4051 (Riffel et al. 2008)

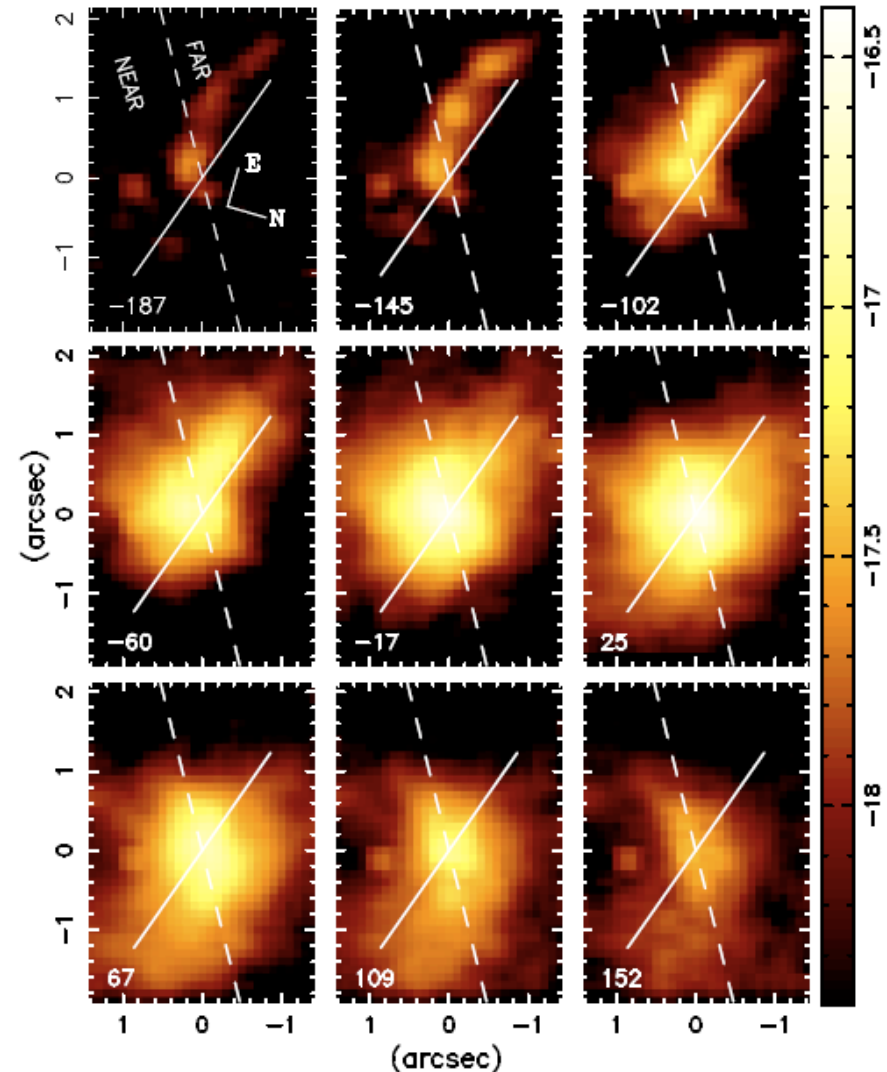
- NIFS, K-band
3"x4" (135x180pc)
- Stellar and H₂ gas kinematics
- Channel maps in H₂



Kinematics: NGC4051 (Riffel et al. 2008)

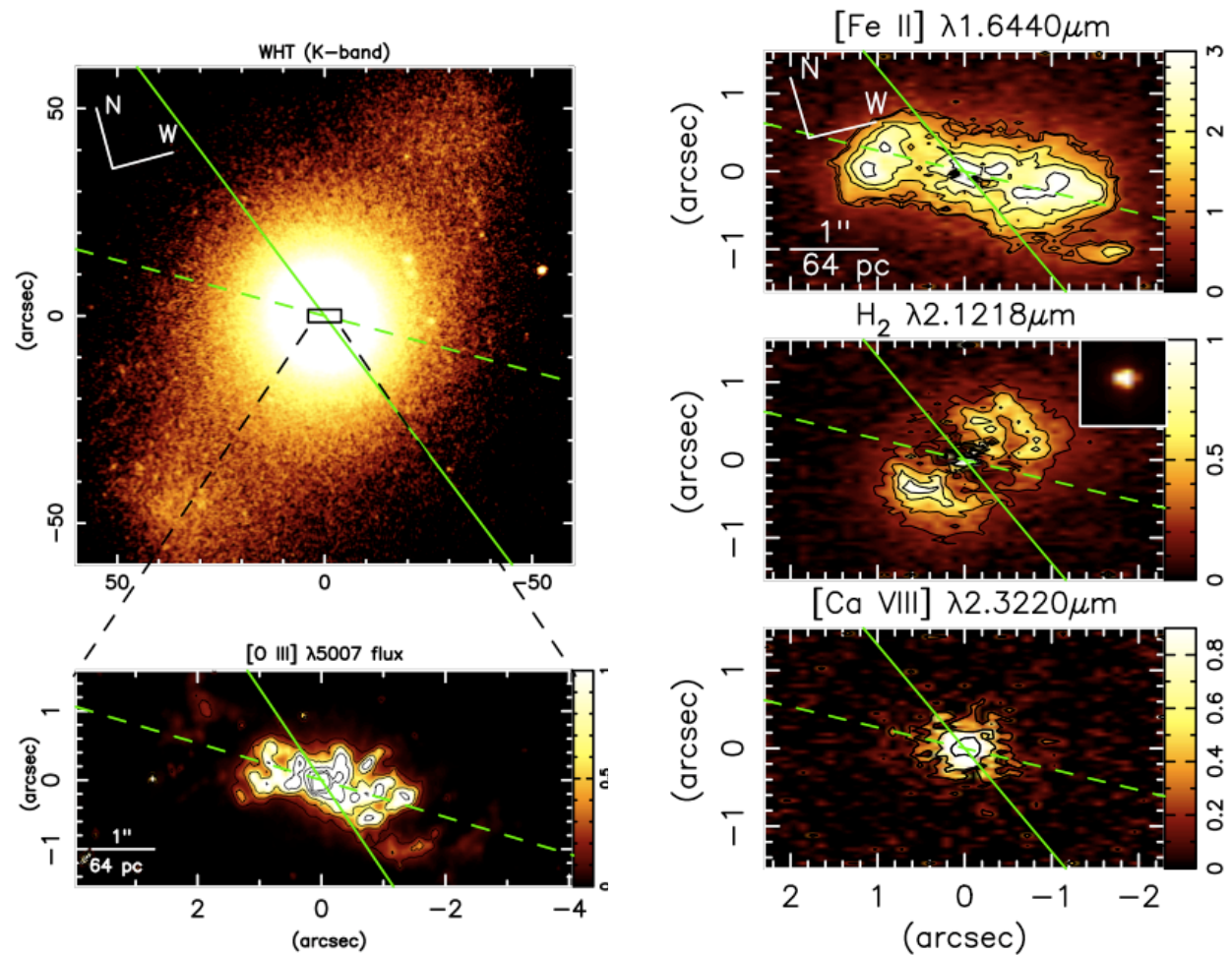
H₂ channel maps

- Blueshifts in far side, redshifts in near side. If gas is in the plane → inflow.
- Mass inflow rate $\sim 1/100$ mass accretion rate → only “hot skin” of molecular gas flow
- Cold molecular gas: $\geq 10^5$ larger (Dale et al. 2005) → Mass inflow rate $\geq 1 M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

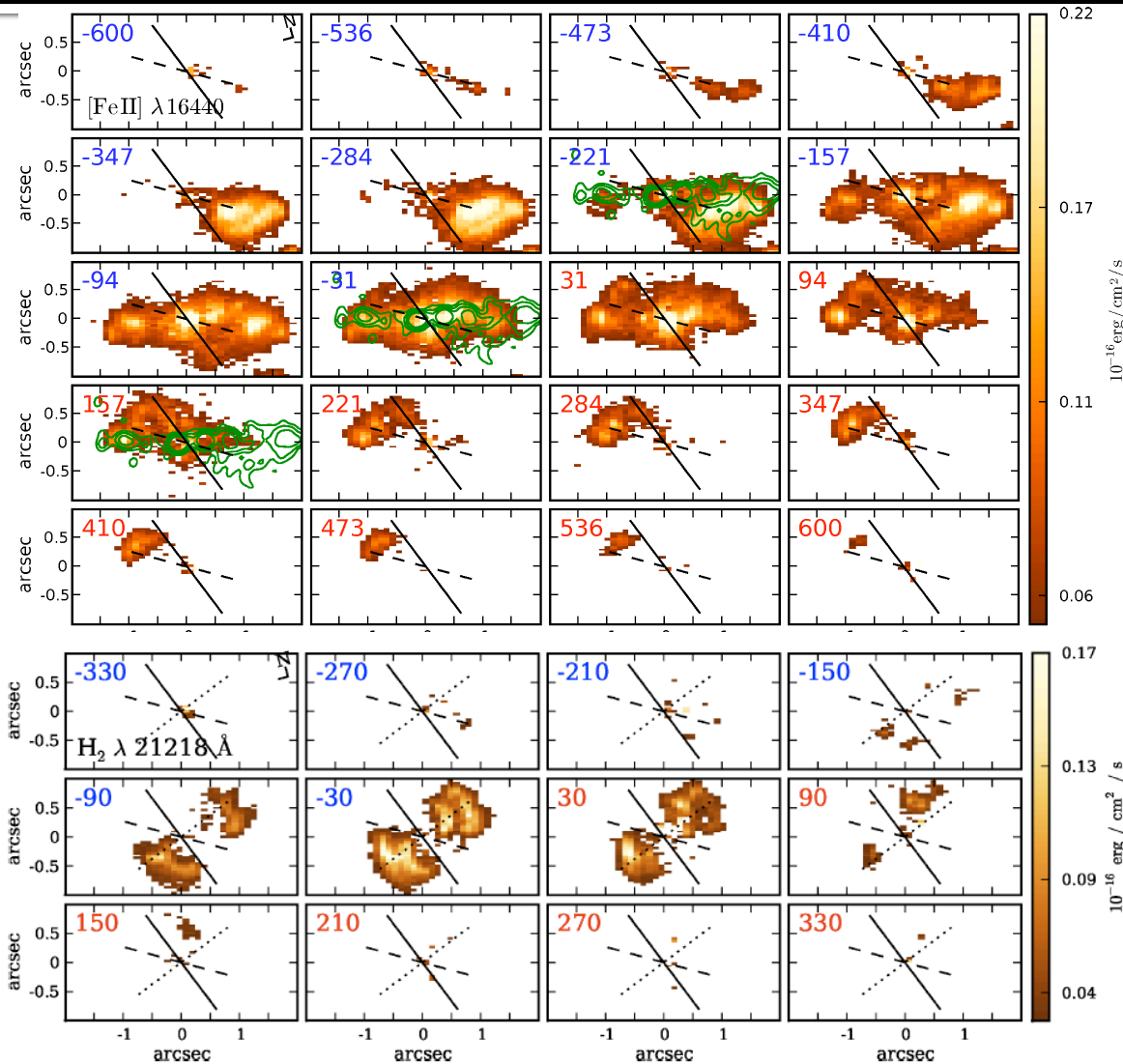


NGC 4151 (Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2009, 2010)

- NIFS: Z, J, H,K
- 3"x8" (200x500pc)
- Distinct flux distributions
- H₂: "toroidal" flux distribution at the apex of ionization cone



Kinematics: NGC4151 (Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2010)



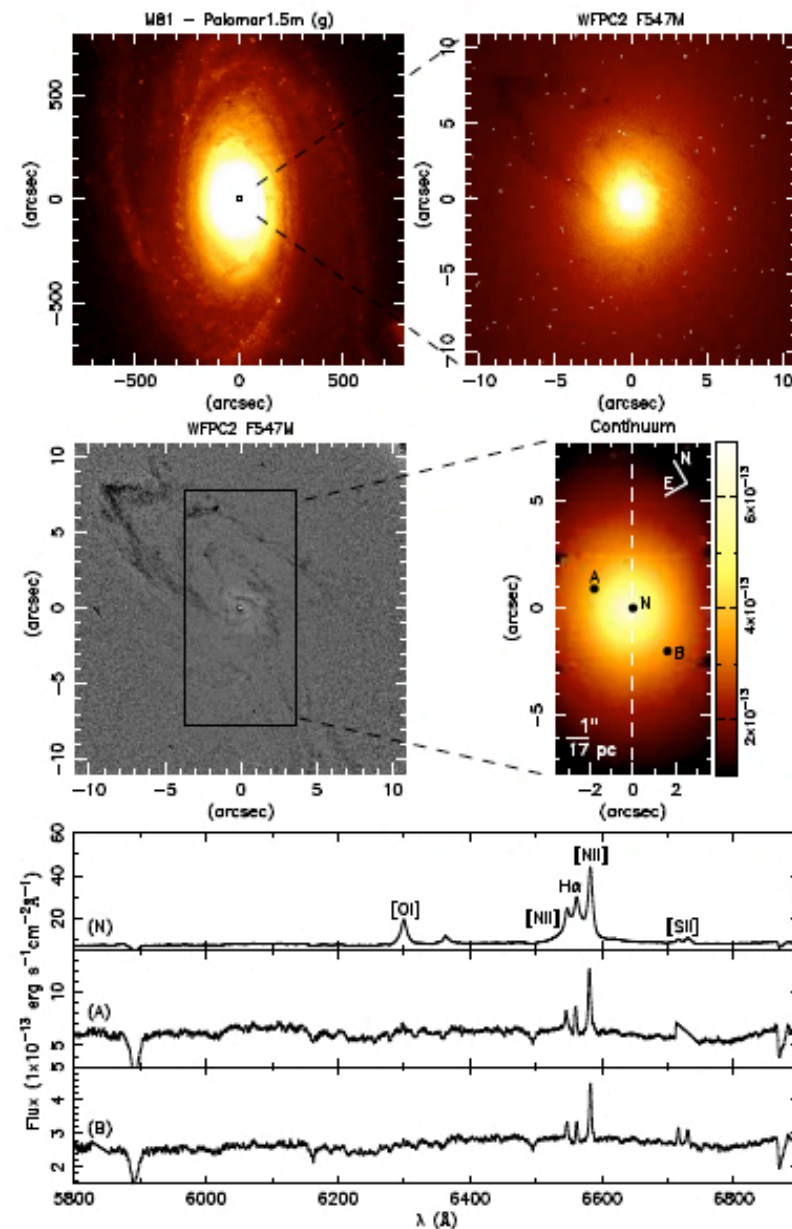
Channel maps: distinct kinematics between ionized and molecular gas:

- [Fe II]: high velocities along radio jet: outflows at $2 M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

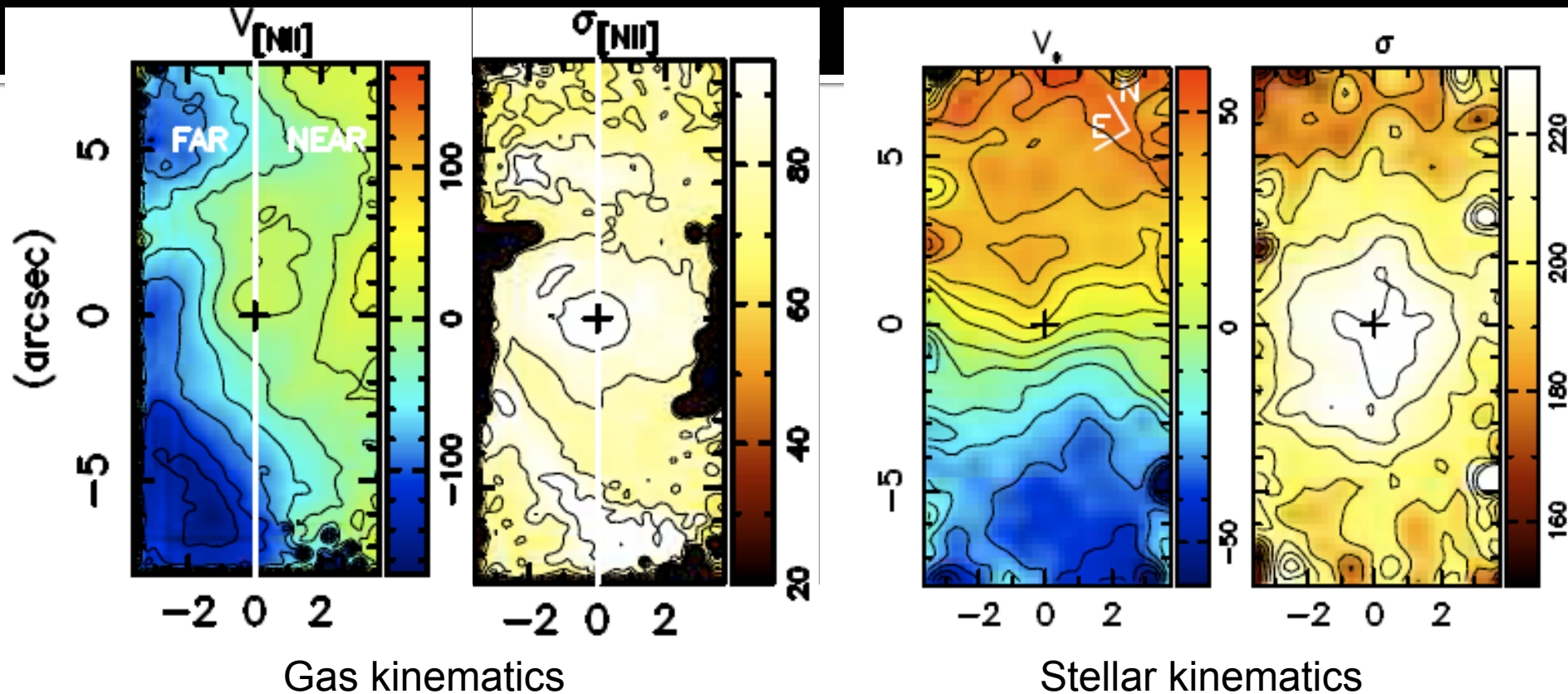
- H_2 : low velocities: rotation in the plane, total mass only $240 M_{\text{sun}}$; again, cold gas 10^5 times larger.

Kinematics: M81 (Schnorr-Muller et al. 2010)

- GMOS IFU: 3 fields
 $5'' \times 7'' = 15'' \times 7''$ (255×120 pc²)
- Measured stellar and gas kinematics (H α + [NII])
- Subtract stellar from gaseous kinematics
- Look for residuals in association with nuclear spirals

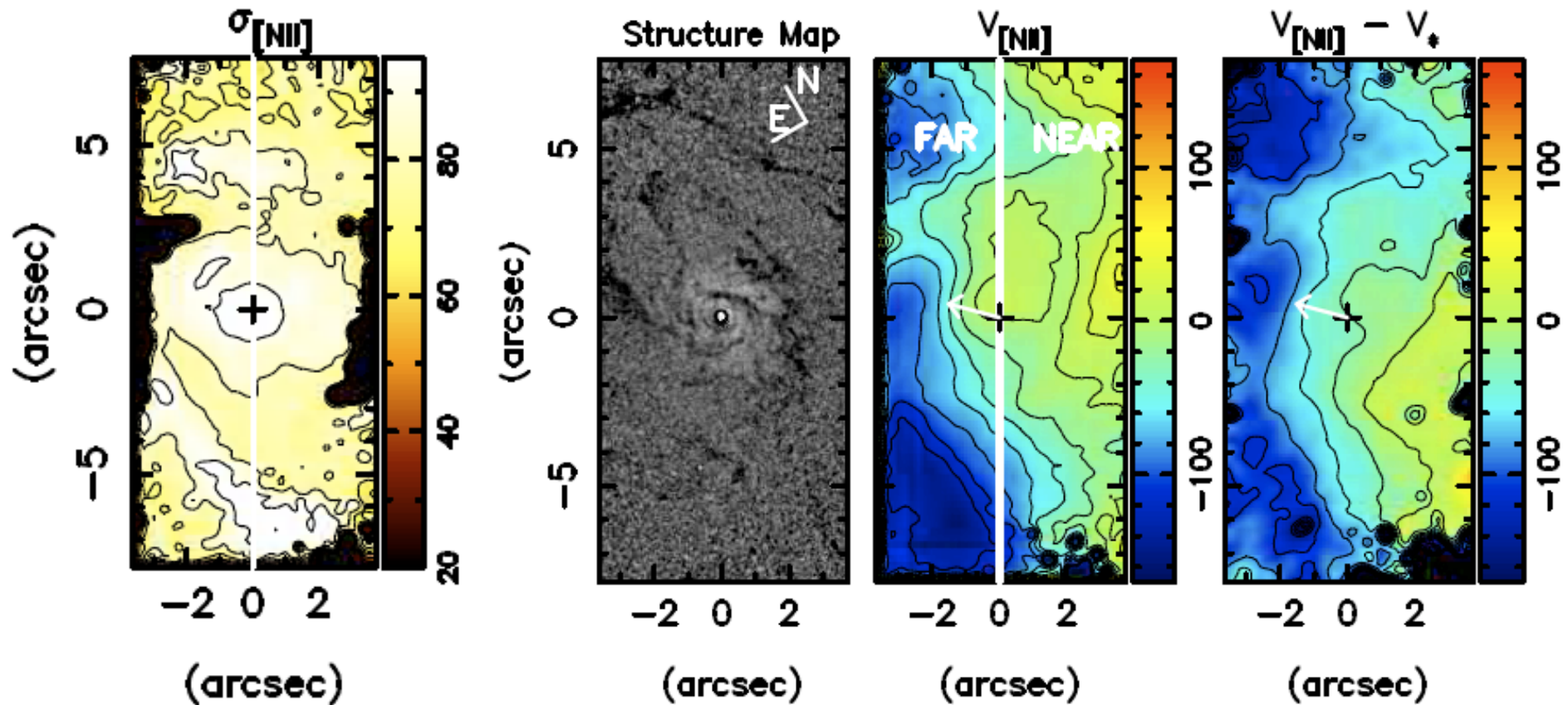


Kinematics: M81 (Schnorr Muller et al. 2010)



Gas kinematics distinct from stellar: “rotation axes” perpendicular to each other.

Kinematics: M81 (Schnorr-Muller et al. 2010)



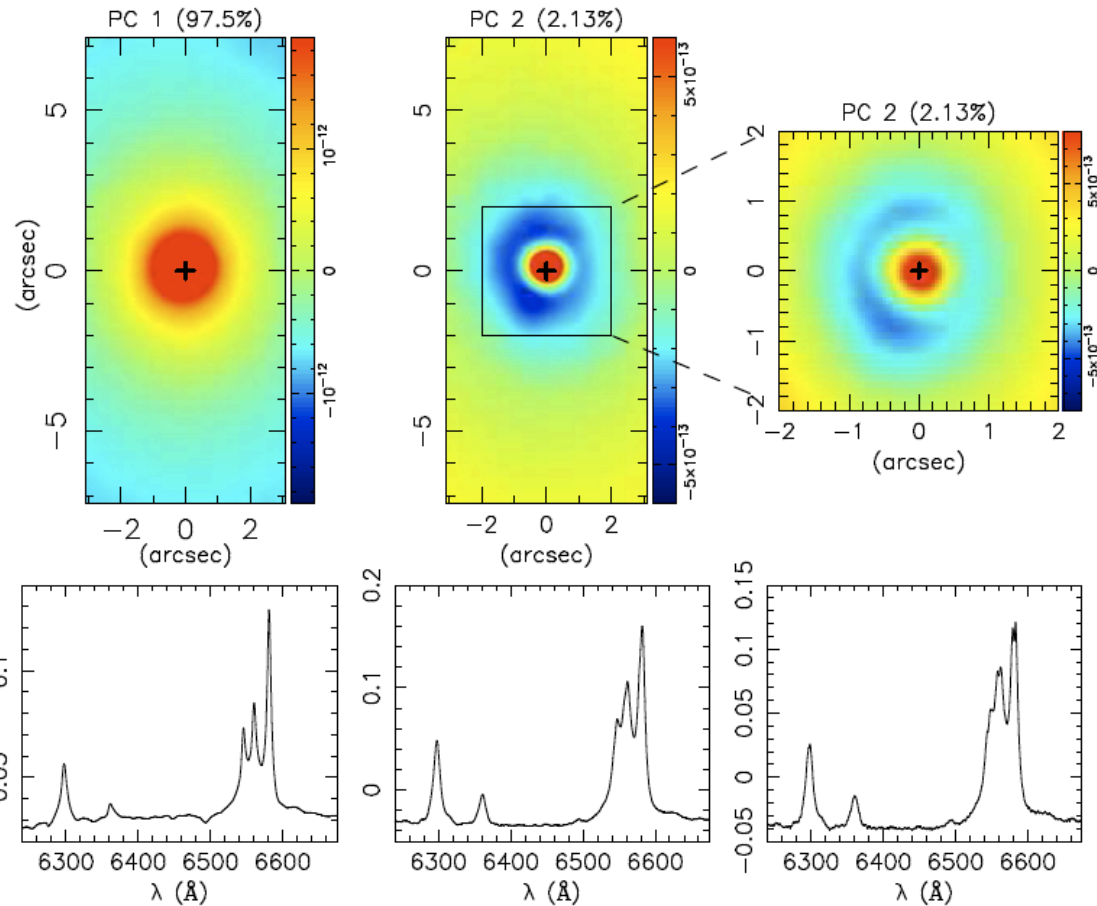
- Relation between velocity, velocity dispersion and structure map: shocks in the plane;
- If gas is in the plane, blueshifts in the far side → inflows towards the center

New Technique: PCA (Steiner et al. 2009)

Principal component analysis of spectral properties of each pixel:

“Tomograms” →

“Eigenspectra” →

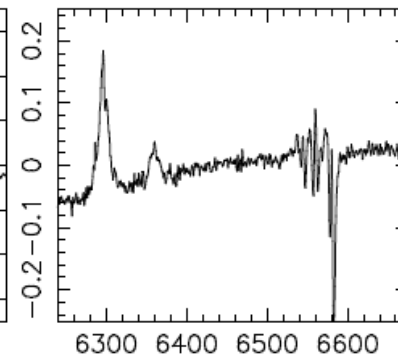
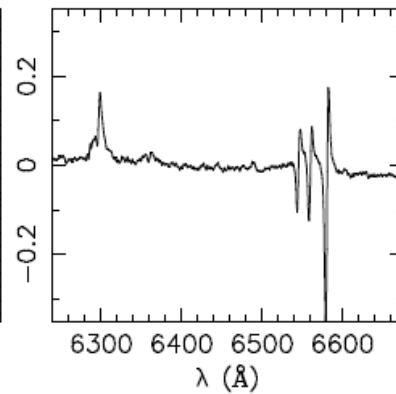
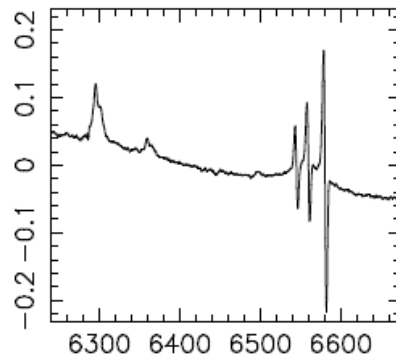
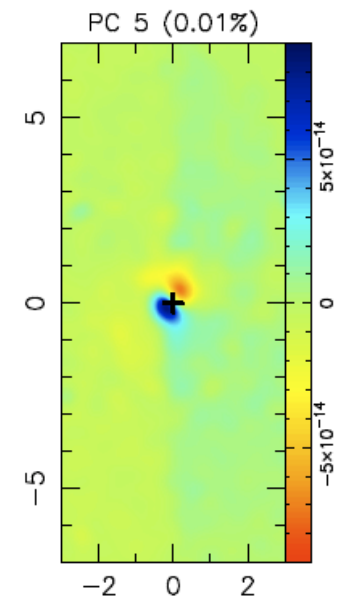
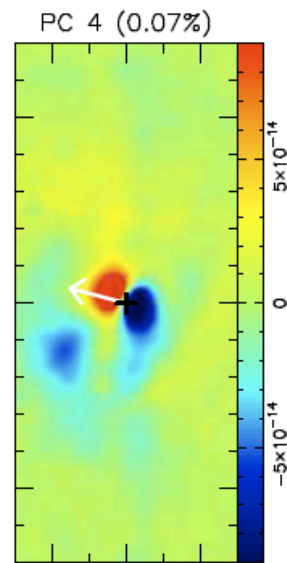
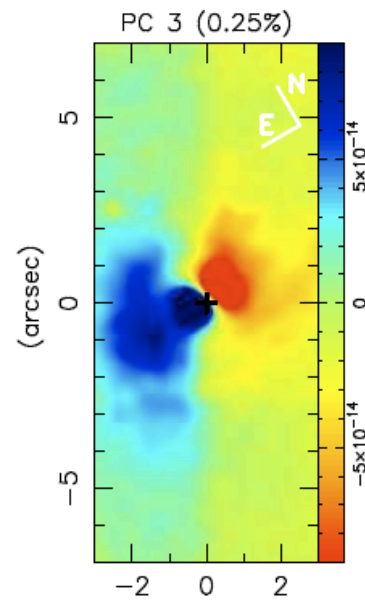
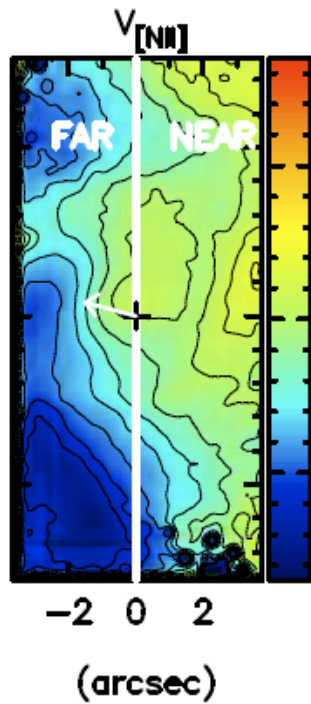


PC1: Principal comp. 1 has most information

PC2: anti-correlation between gas emission and stellar continuum

PC2 in smaller FOV: unresolved double-peaks: bipolar outflow or rotation

PCA Results M81



PC3: rotating disk being fed along minor axis

PC4: bi-polar outflow related to radio jet (arrow)

PC5: more of the disk

PCA Results M81

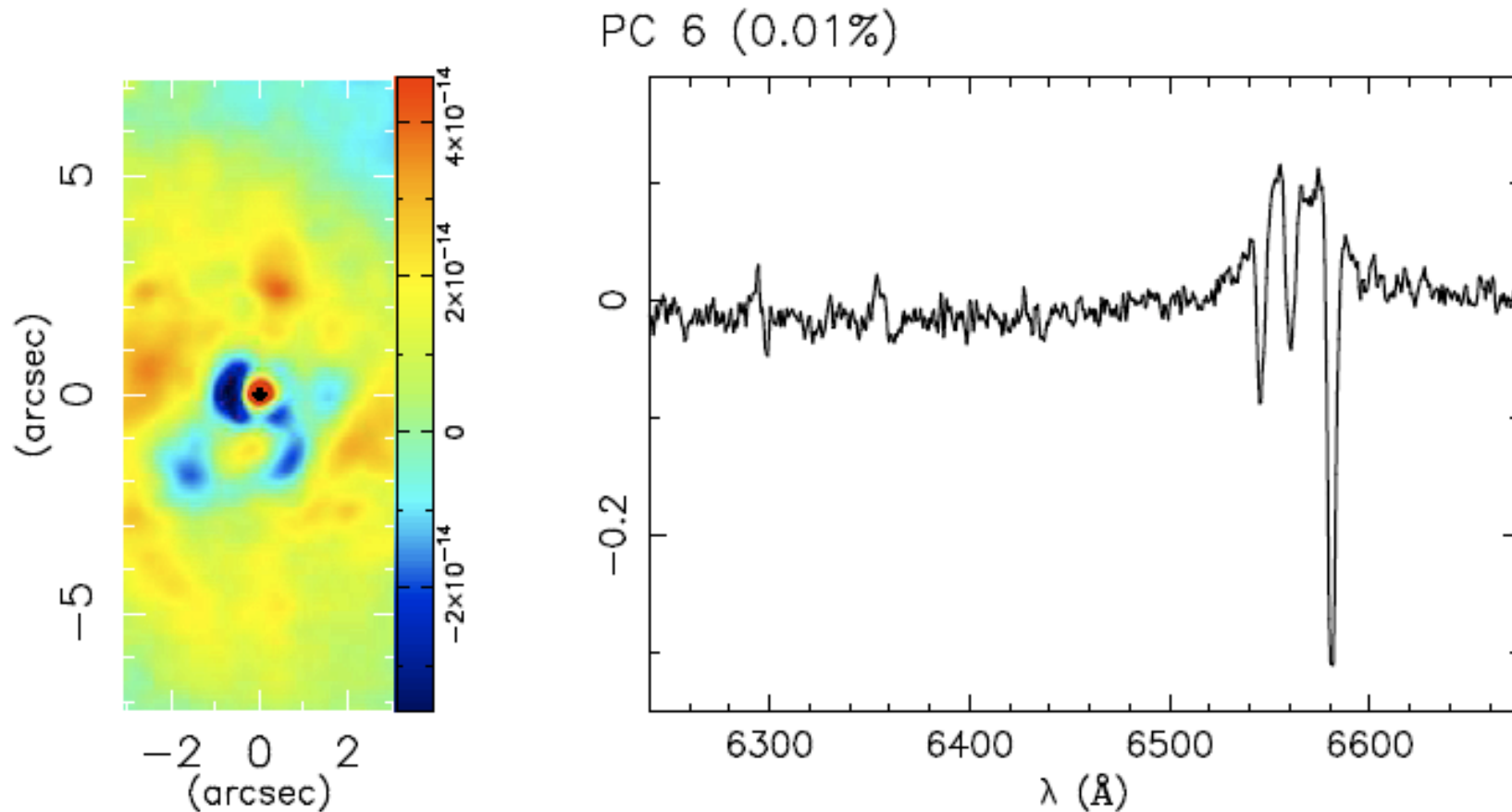
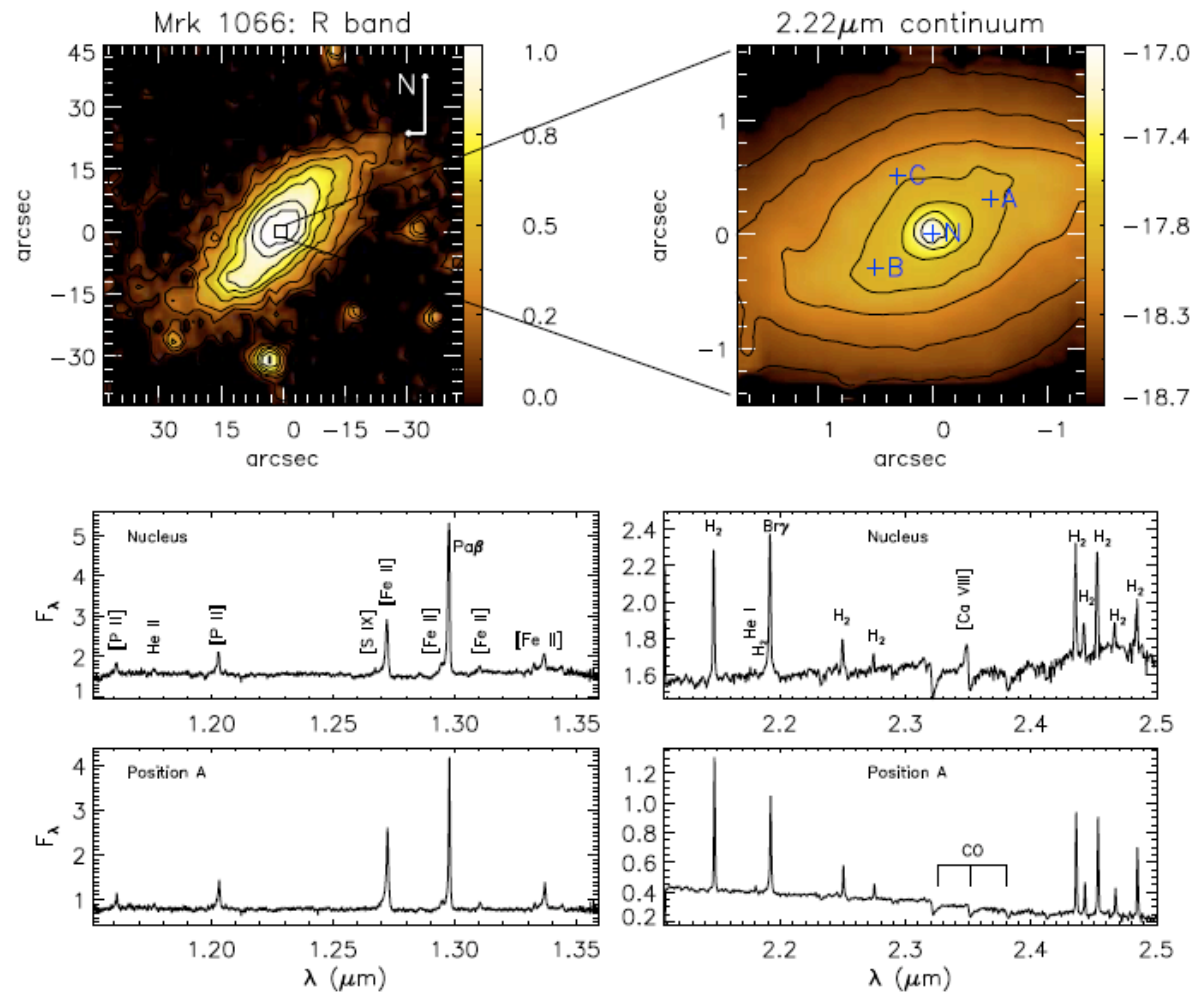


Figure 12. Left: Tomogram of PC6; right: eigenvector 6, showing the broad H α component.

Kinematics: Mrk1066 (Riffel et al. 2010)

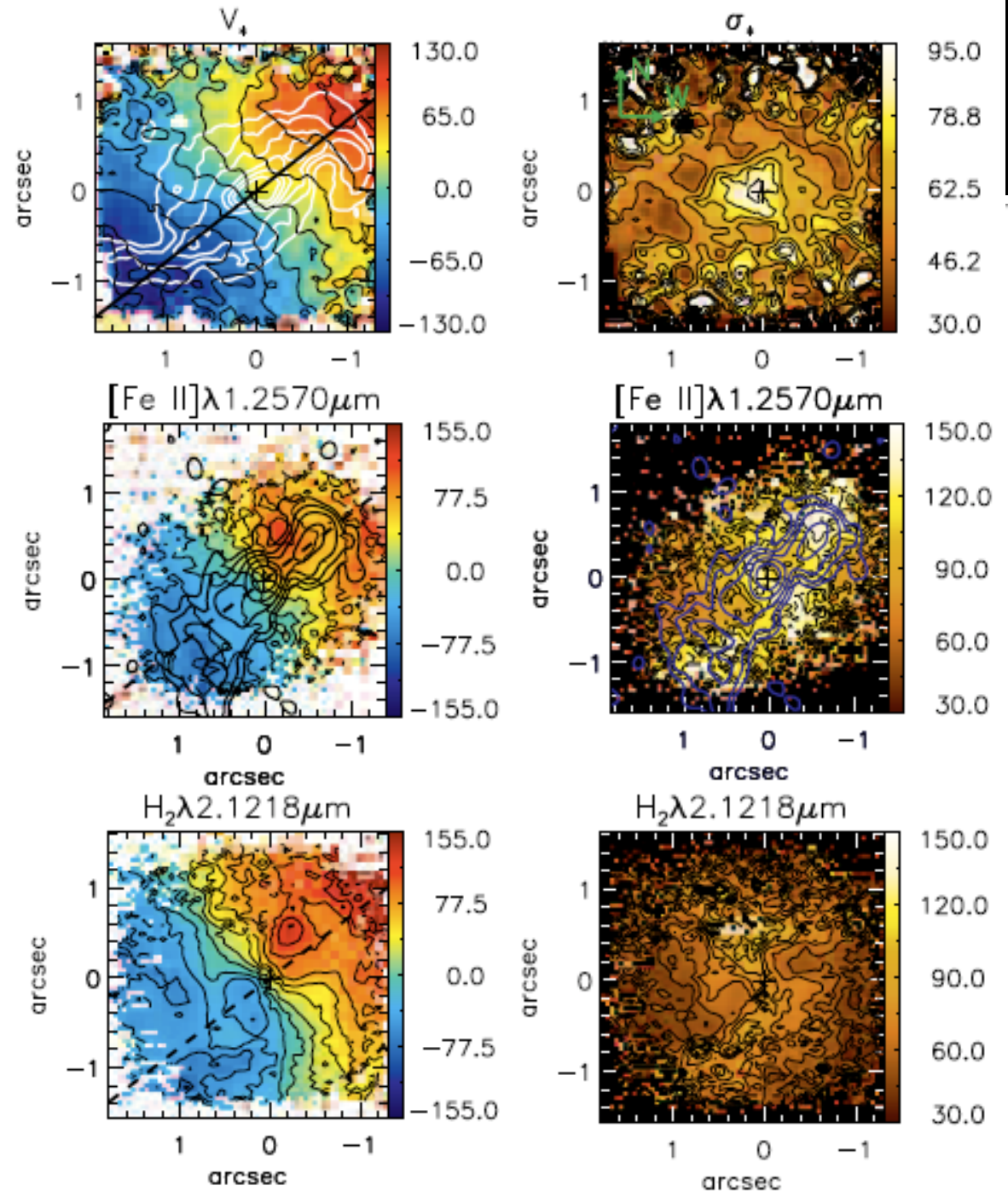
- NIFS J and K: $3'' \times 3''$ (700×700 pc²)
- Stellar (CO) and gas kinematics (Pa β , [Fe II], H₂)
- Channel maps



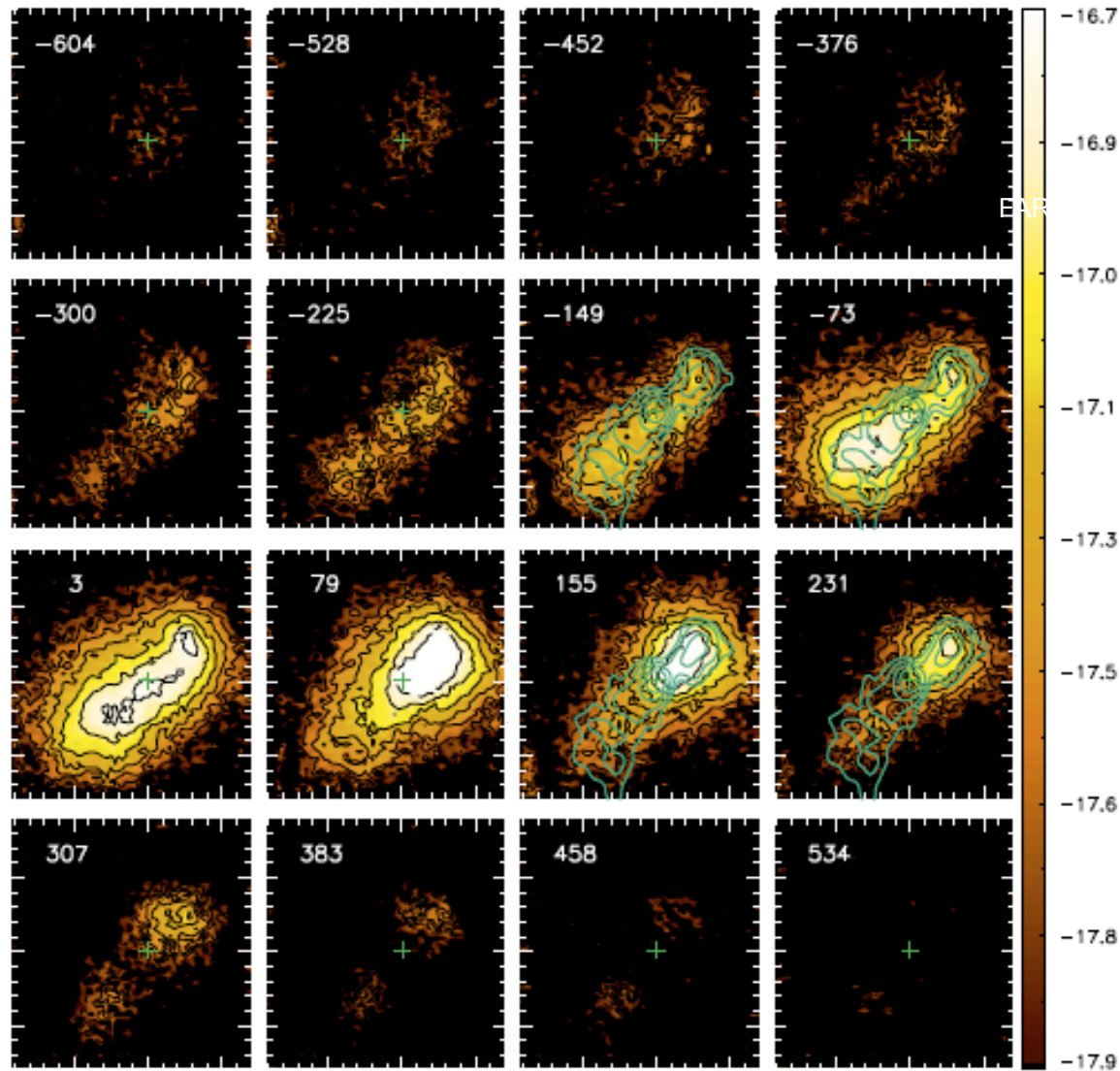
Mrk 1066

(Riffel et al. 2010)

- Stars: → rotation; low- σ ring ~250 pc
- Gas:
 - (i) [Fe II], high σ : → rotation + outflows along radio axis;
 - (ii) H_2 , low σ : compact disk (100 pc) fed by spiral arms →

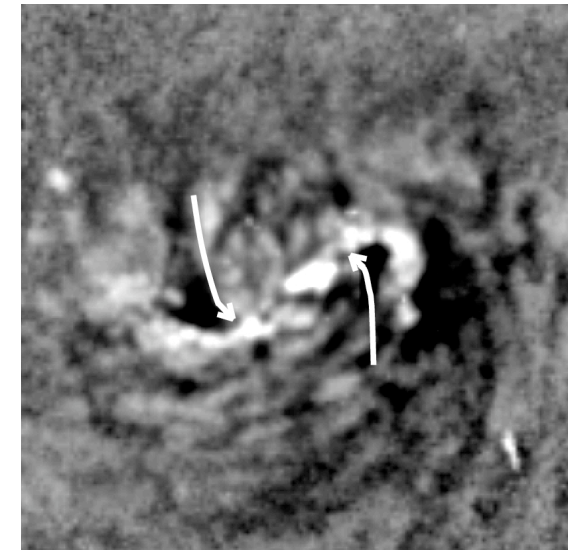
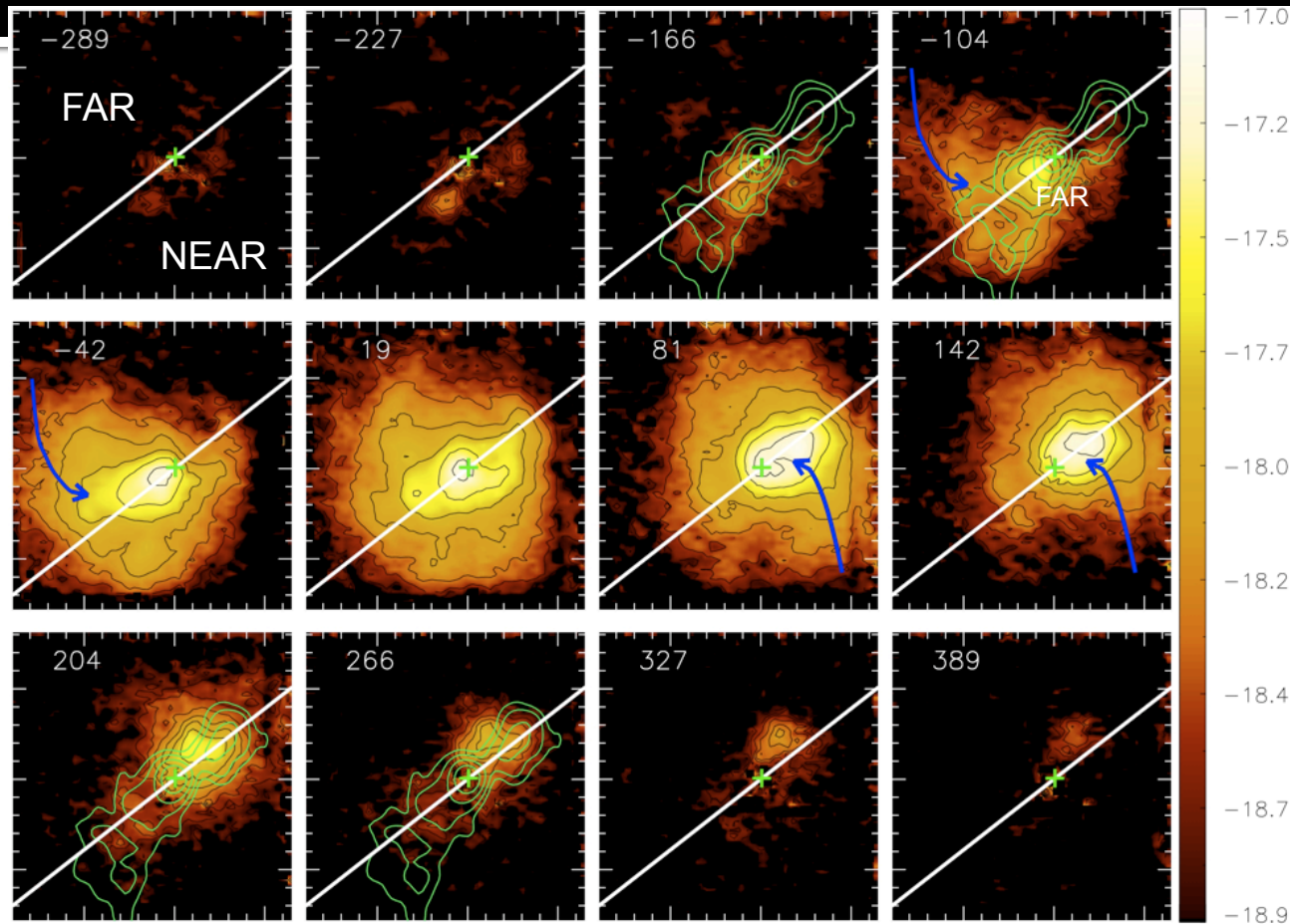


Mrk 1066: [Fe II] channel maps (Riffel et al. 2010)



- High velocities;
- Correlation with radio jet (green contours);
- Outflows in ionized gas of $6 \times 10^{-2} M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

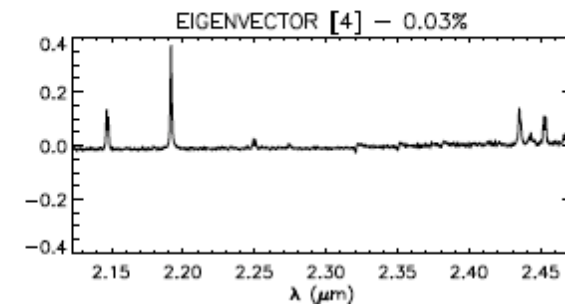
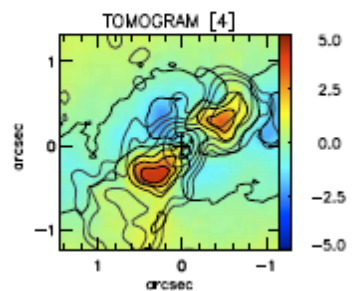
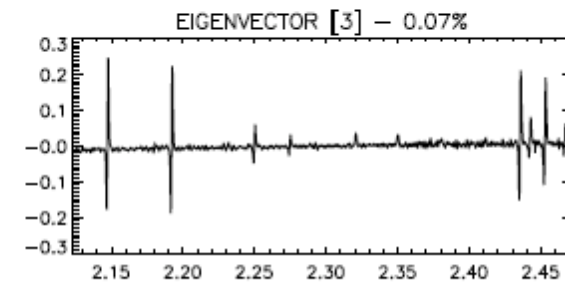
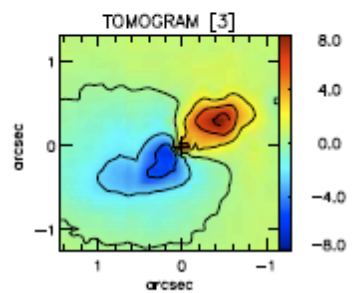
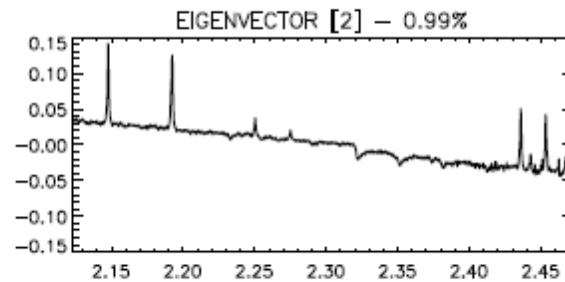
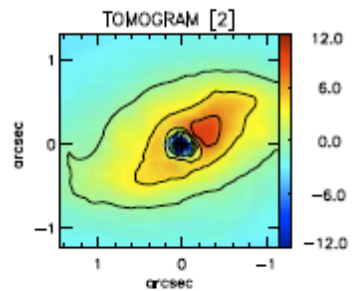
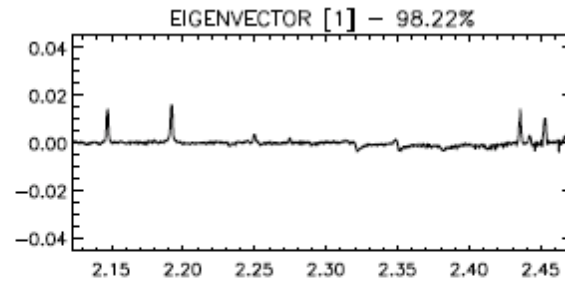
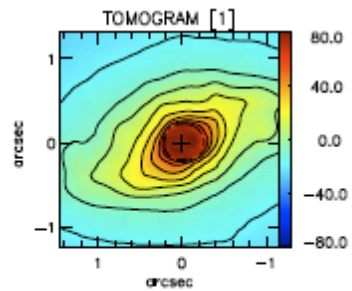
Mrk 1066: H₂ channel maps (Riffel et al. 2010)



HST Optical structure map

Low velocities (low σ); rotation in the plane + inflows

Mrk 1066: K-band PCA



Blue nuclear continuum

Compact rotating disk

Bipolar outflow

Mass inflow rates along spiral arms

- In ionized gas: $\Phi_{ion} = nN_e v A m_p f$

n : number of arms; N_e : density; v : velocity; A : cross-section area of the arm;
 m_p : proton mass; f : filling factor

Typical values (NGC1097, NGC6951, M81):

$n=2$; $N_e=100 \text{ cm}^{-3}$; $v=40 \text{ km/s}$; $f=0.005$, $A=1 \text{ kpc}^2$

→ $\Phi_{ion} = 0.001 M_{sun} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ in ionized gas

- In molecular gas: $\Phi_{mol} = nN_{H_2} v A m_p f$

For NGC4501, using the H₂ flux F_{2.12} to obtain $N_{H_2} f$

→ $\Phi_{mol} = 4 \times 10^{-5} M_{sun} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ in warm molecular gas

Conclusions and final considerations

- Inflows on scales of 10 to few 100 pc mapped in ionized (HII) and molecular gas;
- Structure: nuclear spiral arms;
- PCA: compact nuclear disks (fed by inflows)
- Near-IR: H₂ kinematics distinct from [Fe II] kinematics; when inflows not clearly seen, see rotation in a disk
- Mass inflow rates: $\sim 10^{-3} M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ in ionized gas and smaller in warm molecular gas;

Conclusions and final considerations

- Actual mass inflow rate probably much larger, in neutral and cold molecular gas (estimates of total H₂ mass of ~few $10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$, e.g. Hicks et al. 2009; CO observations by NUA group)
- Dale et al. (2005): cold to warm molecular gas ratio: $10^5 - 10^7 \rightarrow$ total inflow rate of ~ few $M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- Simões Lopes et al. (2010): dust masses of nuclear spirals in this sample ~ $10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$; for dust/gas ~ 10^{-2} , $M_{\text{gas}} \sim 10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$; if activity lasts 10^7 yr, inflow rate ~ $1 M_{\text{sun}} \text{ yr}^{-1}$
- Large Inflow rate: also triggers star formation, explaining excess of young to intermediate-age stars around AGN (Storchi-Bergmann et al. 2001, 2005; Cid Fernandes et al. 2004) and low velocity dispersion rings and disks (Mrk1066, Barbosa et al. 2006; Davies et al. 2007)