

# Sternentstehung - Star Formation

Winter term 2024/2025

Henrik Beuther, Thomas Henning & Caroline Gieser

## 15.10 Today: Introduction & Overview

(Beuther)

22.10 Physical processes I

(Beuther)

29.10 --

05.11 Physical processes II

(Beuther)

12.11 Molecular clouds as birth places of stars

(Beuther)

19.11 Molecular clouds (cont.), Jeans Analysis

(Henning)

26.11 Collapse models I

(Beuther)

03.12 Collapse models II

(Beuther)

10.12 Protostellar evolution

(Gieser)

17.12 Pre-main sequence evolution & outflows/jets

(Henning)

07.01 Accretion disks I

(Henning)

14.01 Accretion disks II

(Henning)

21.01 High-mass star formation, clusters and the IMF

(Gieser)

28.01 Extragalactic star formation

(Henning)

04.02 Planetarium@HdA, outlook, questions

11.02 Examination week, no star formation lecture (Beuther, Gieser, Henning)

**Book: Stahler & Palla: The Formation of Stars, Wileys**

More Information and the current lecture files: [http://www.mpia.de/homes/beuther/lecture\\_ws2425.html](http://www.mpia.de/homes/beuther/lecture_ws2425.html)

[beuther@mpia.de](mailto:beuther@mpia.de), [henning@mpia.de](mailto:henning@mpia.de), [gieser@mpia.de](mailto:gieser@mpia.de)

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# Webpage

## **Sternentstehung - Star Formation**

Lecture in winter term 2024/2025, 2SWS

Henrik Beuther, Thomas Henning & Caroline Gieser

**Tuesdays 9:15, Start 15.10.2024, Philosophenweg 12, kleiner Hoersaal (kHS)**

The lecture will be given in English.

Registration: To register for the lecture, please either directly via heiCO, or send an email directly to "beuther at mpia.de", or simply come to the first lecture on October 15, 2024.

Required credit points can be obtained at the end of the term via oral examinations.

Literature: Steven Stahler & Francesco Palla: The Formation of Stars, Wiley-VCH 2004

### Tentative Schedule:

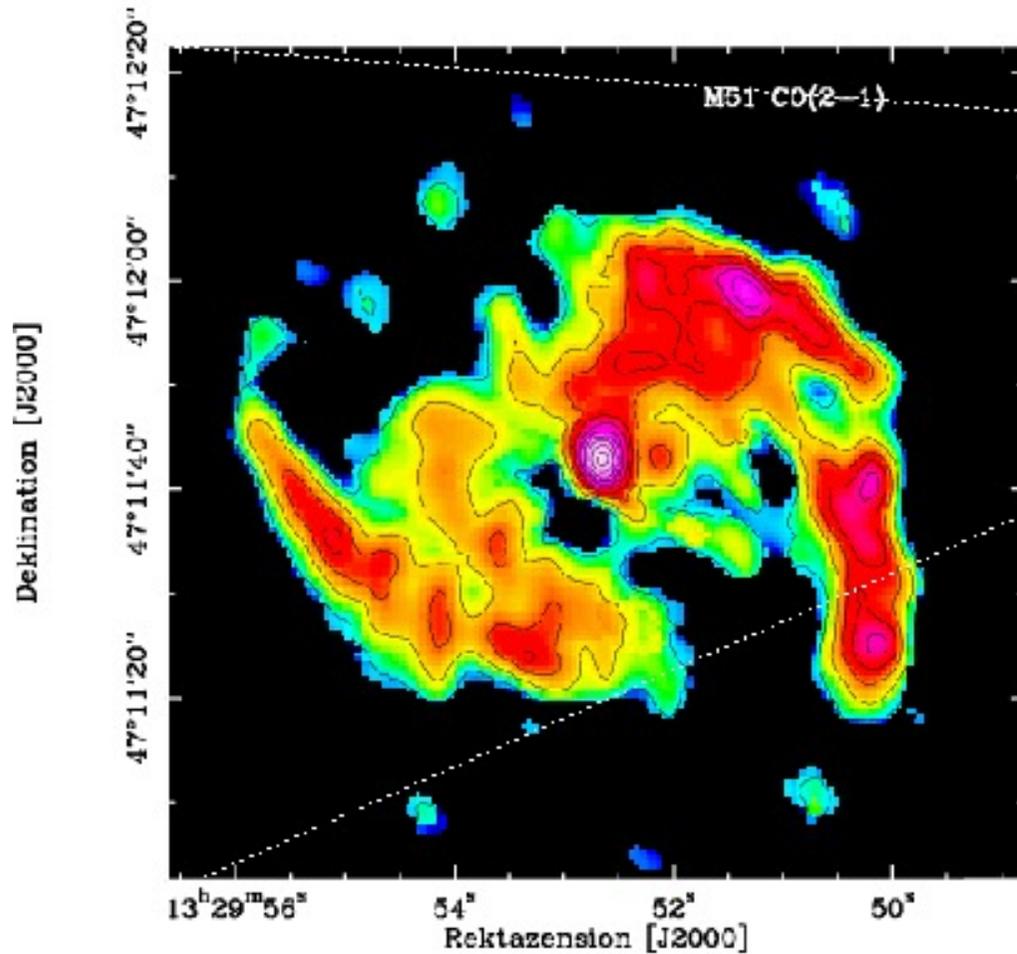
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Slides will be provided here.

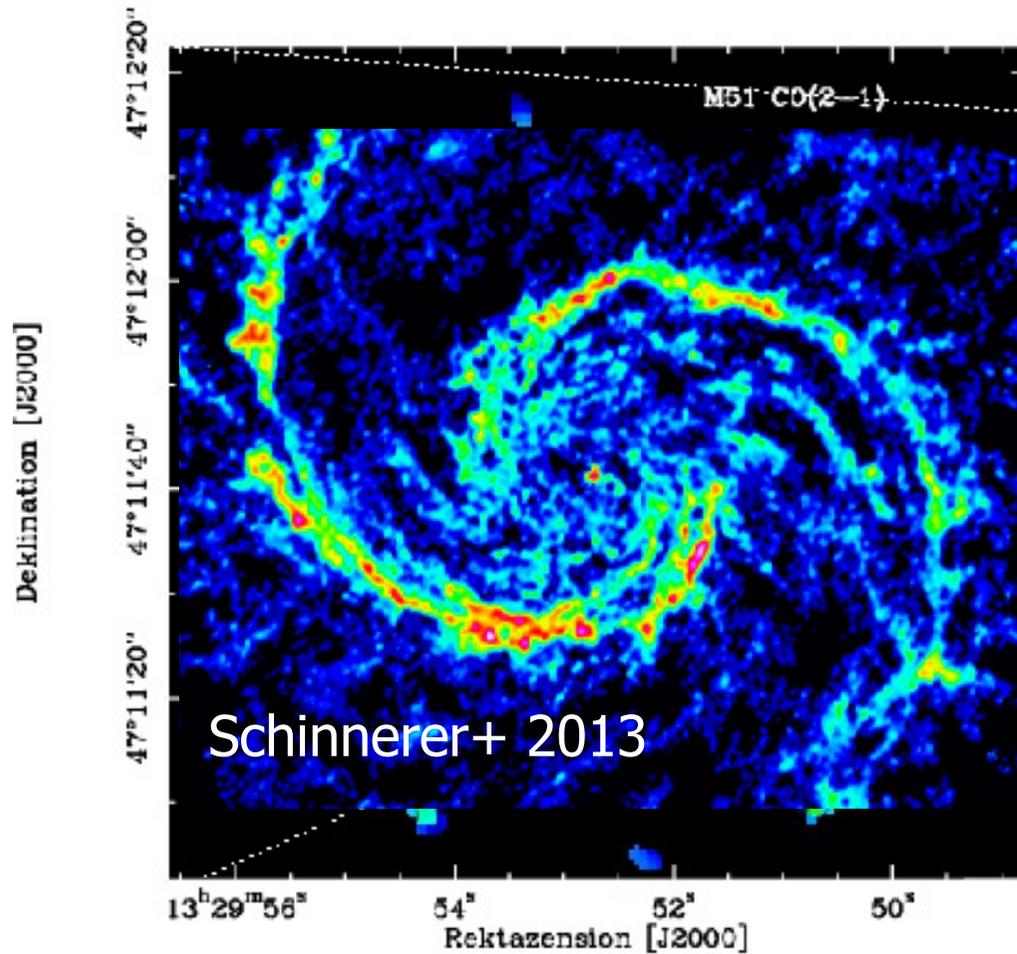
# Topics today

- From large to small scales.
- Different wavelengths sample different physics.
- Stars.
- The Interstellar Medium.

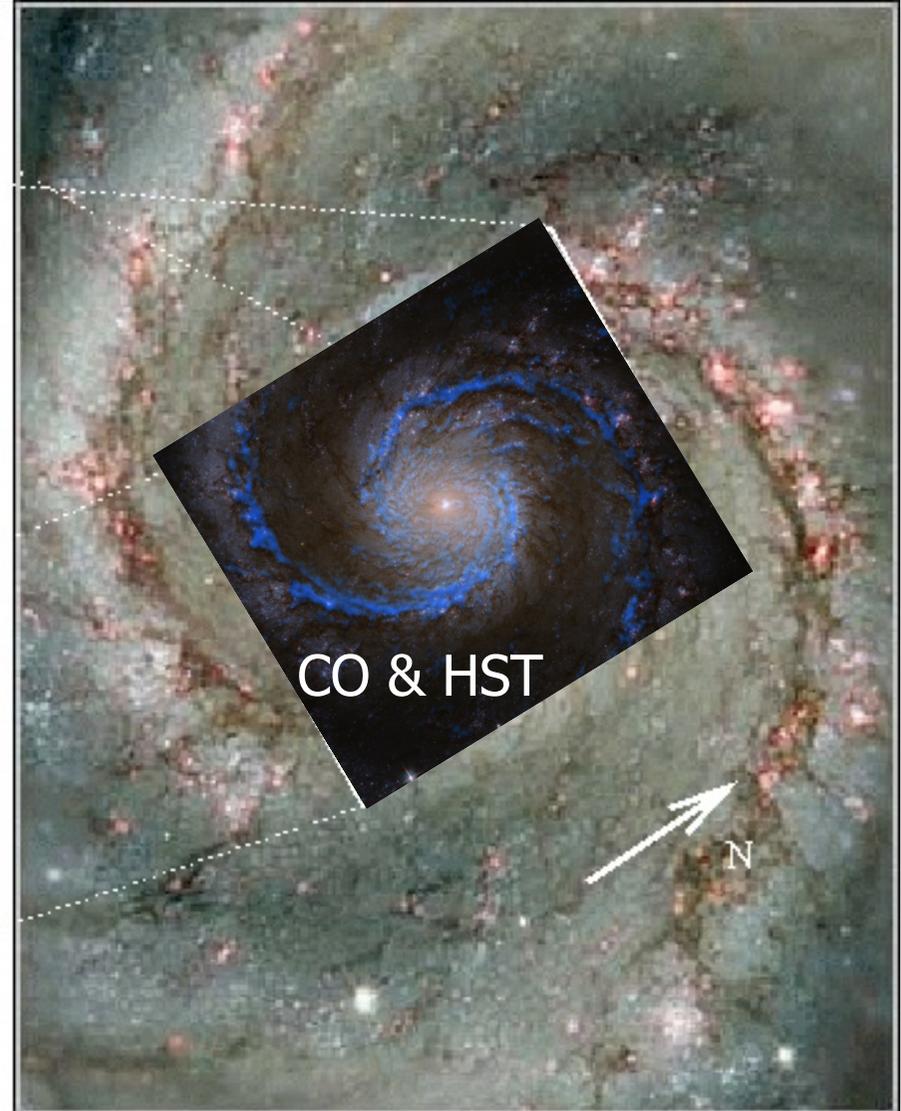
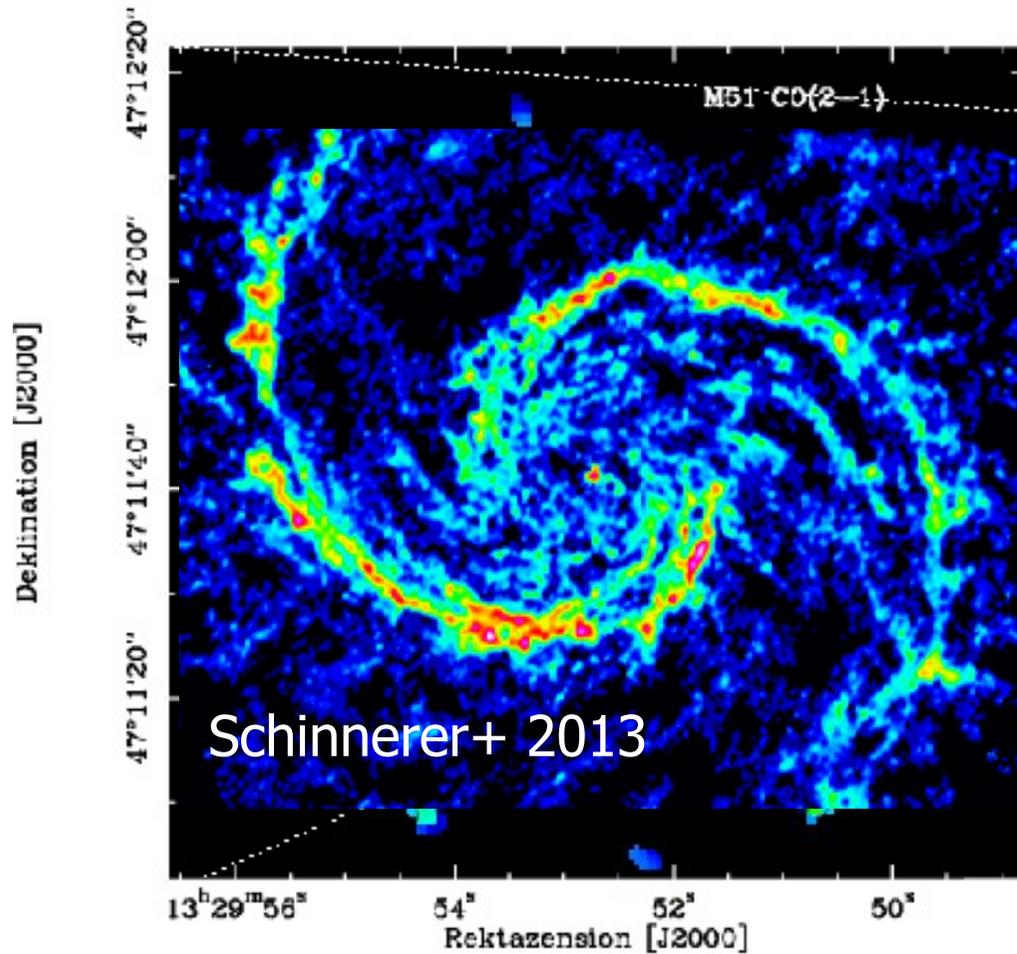
# M51: The Whirlpool Galaxy



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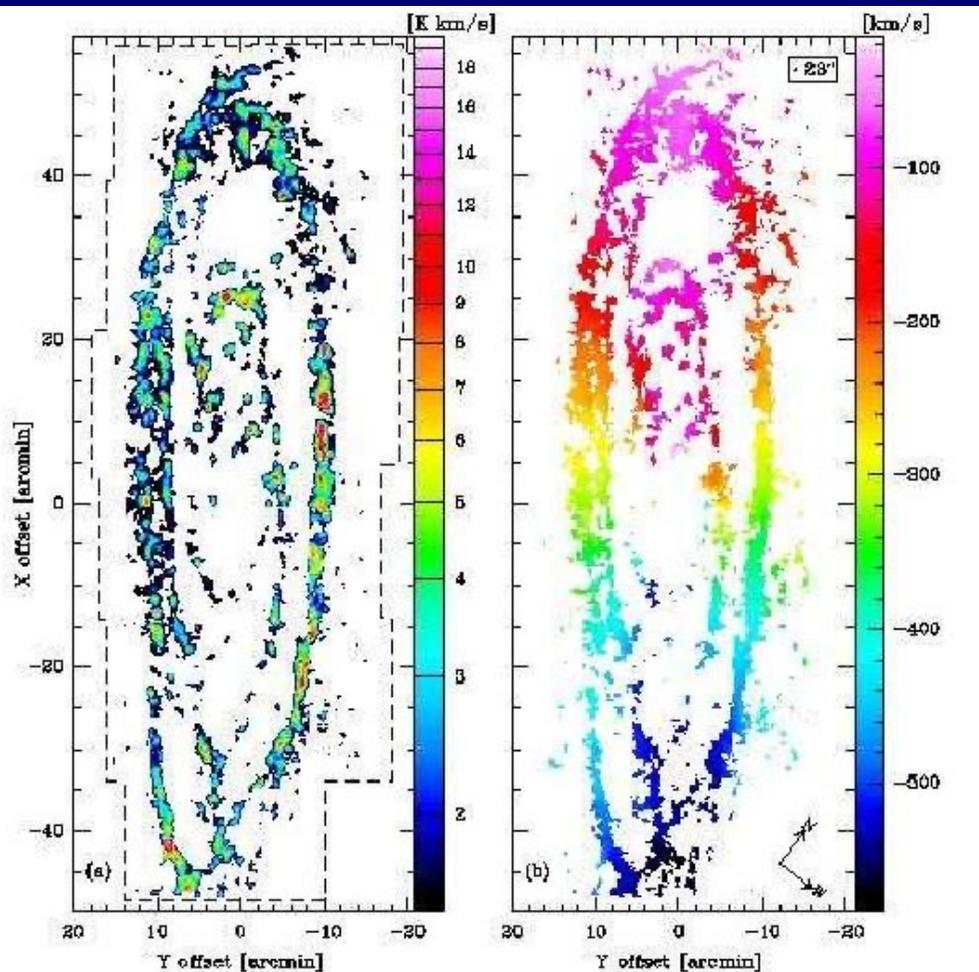


# M51: The Whirlpool Galaxy





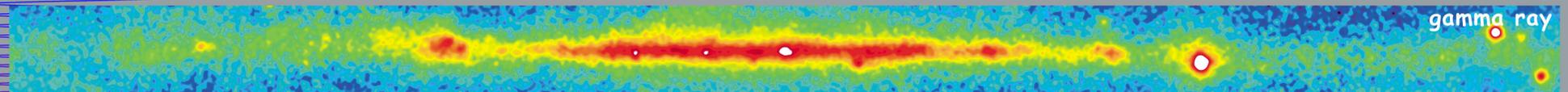
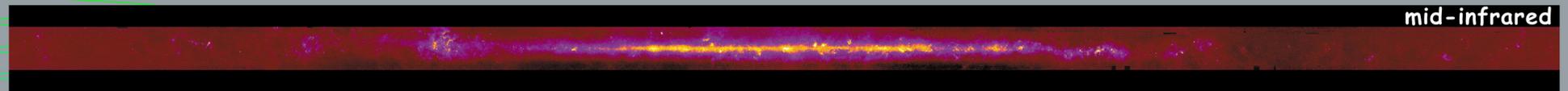
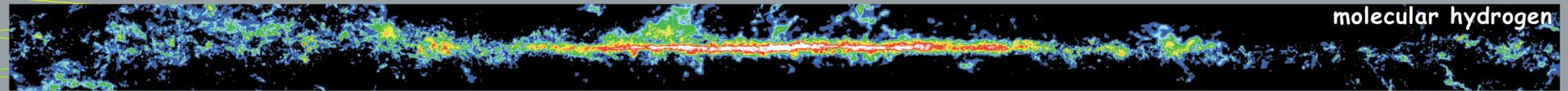
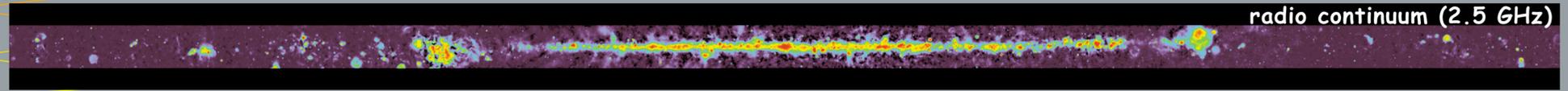
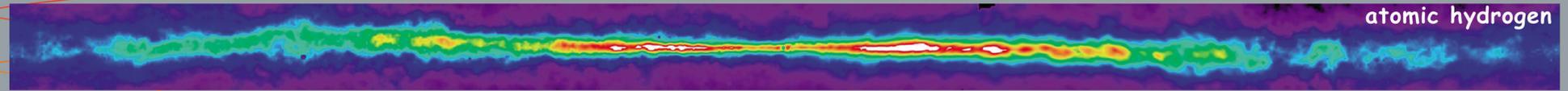
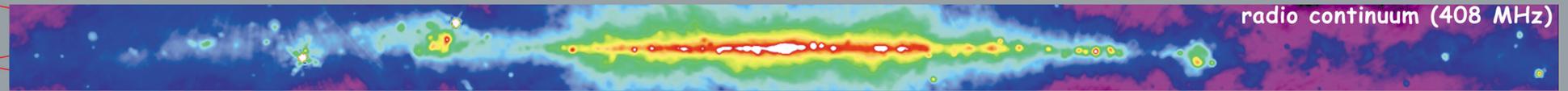
# Andromeda



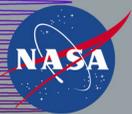
CO(2-1)

Optical

*Nieten et al. 2006*

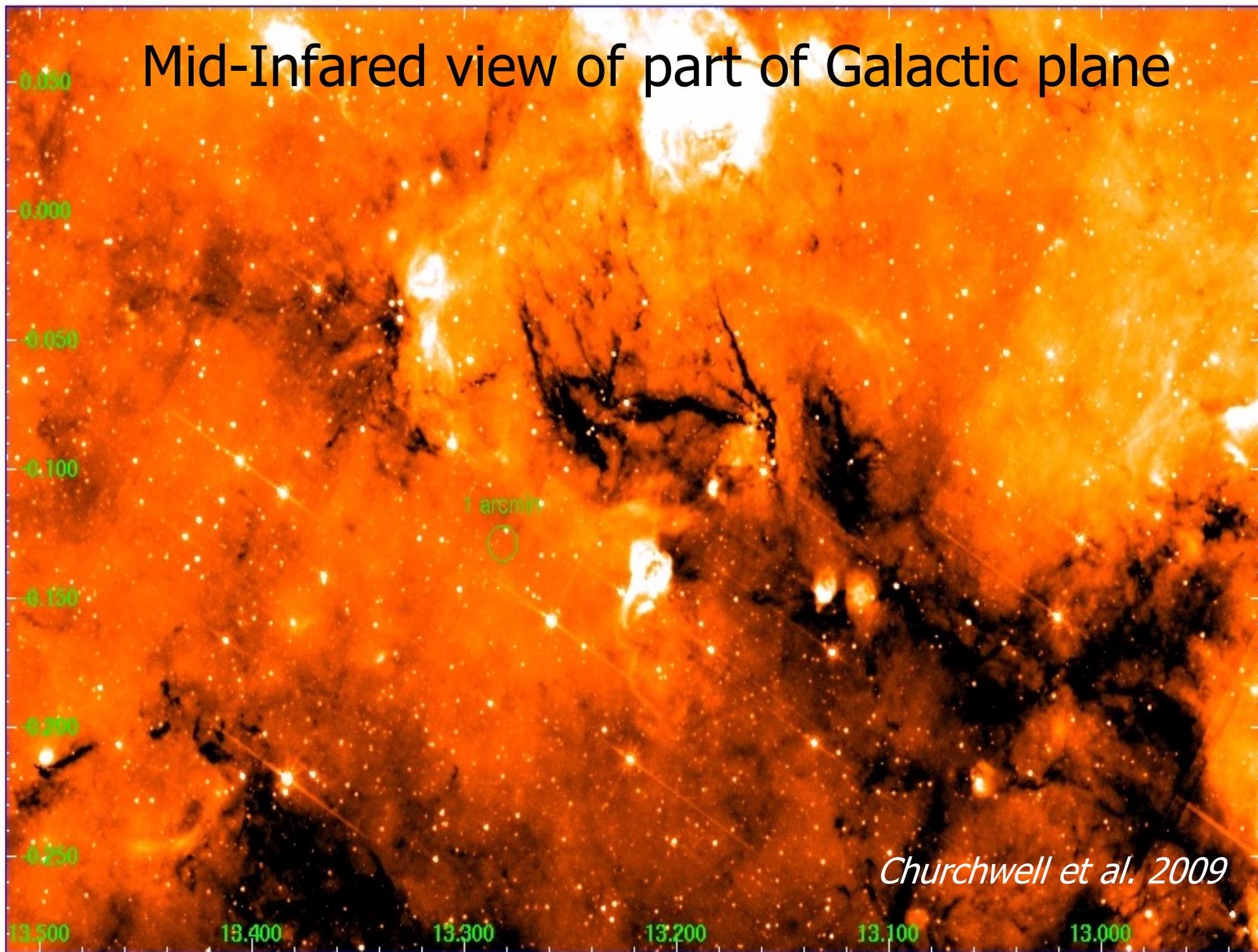


<http://adc.gsfc.nasa.gov/mw>



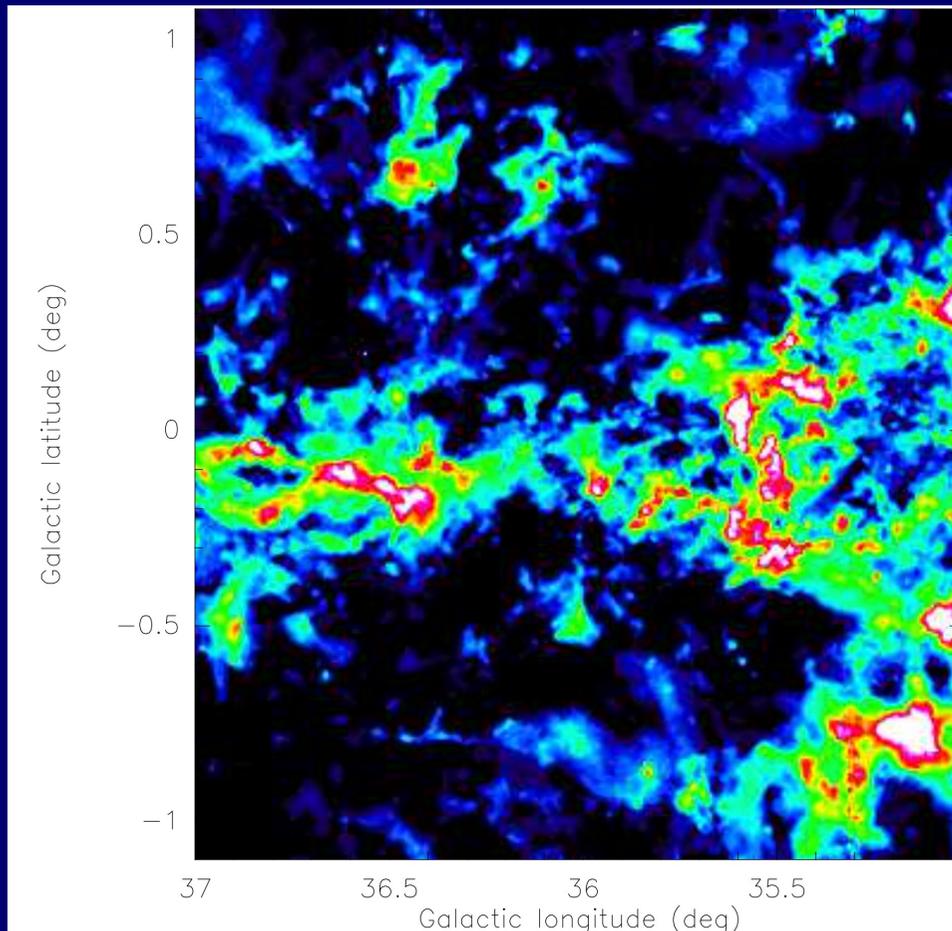
# Multiwavelength Milky Way

# Mid-Infrared view of part of Galactic plane



*Churchwell et al. 2009*

# Giant Molecular Clouds



Galactic Ring survey  
 $^{13}\text{CO}(1-0)$   
Jackson et al. 2006

Sizes: 20 to 100pc; Masses:  $10^4$  to  $10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$ ; Temperatures: 10 to 20K  
Supersonic velocity dispersion  $\sim 2-3$  km/s mainly due to turbulence  
Magnetic field strengths on the order of  $10\mu\text{G}$   
Average local densities  $\sim 10^4\text{cm}^{-3}$ ; Volume-averaged densities  $\sim 10^2\text{cm}^{-3}$   
--> highly clumped material

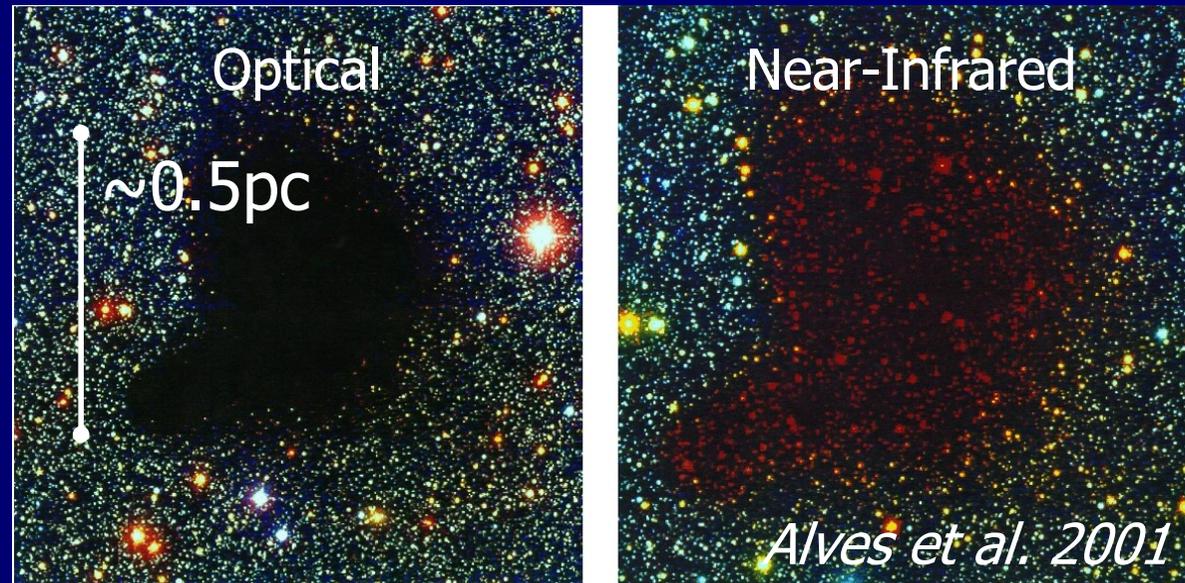
# Sites of Star Formation

## Masses:

Between fractions and a few 100 solar masses

## Densities:

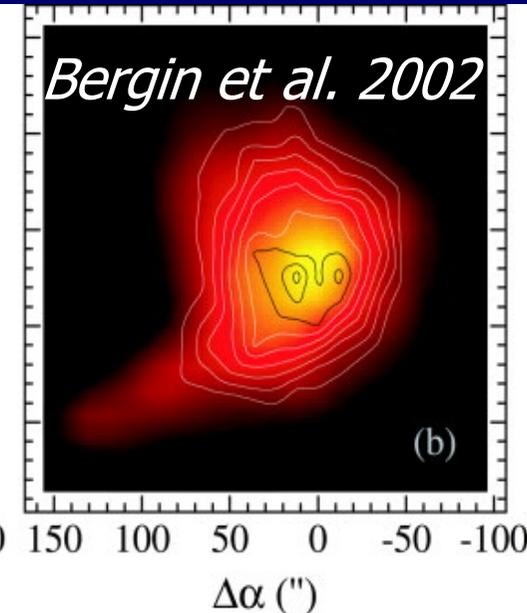
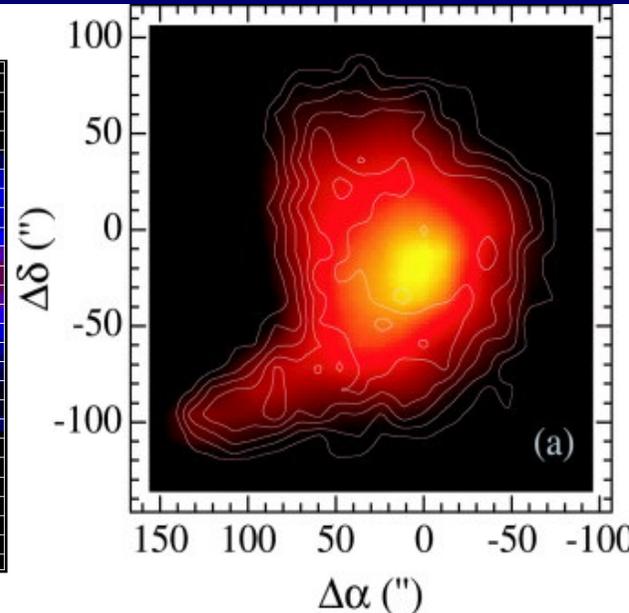
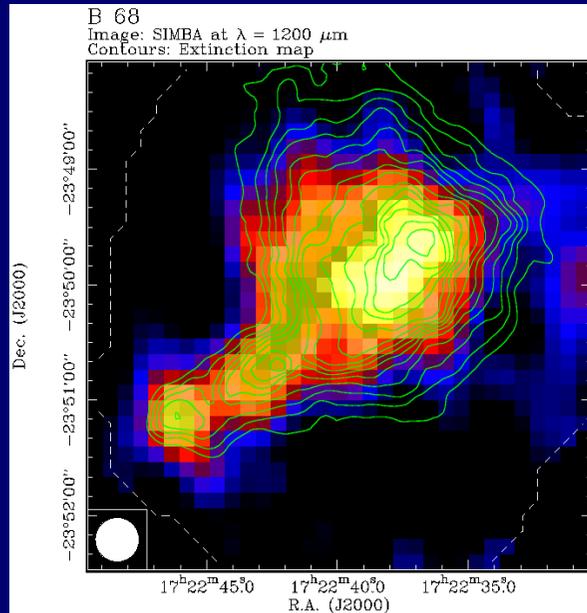
Of the order  $10^6 \text{cm}^{-3}$



1.2 mm Dust Continuum

$\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$

$\text{N}_2\text{H}^+$



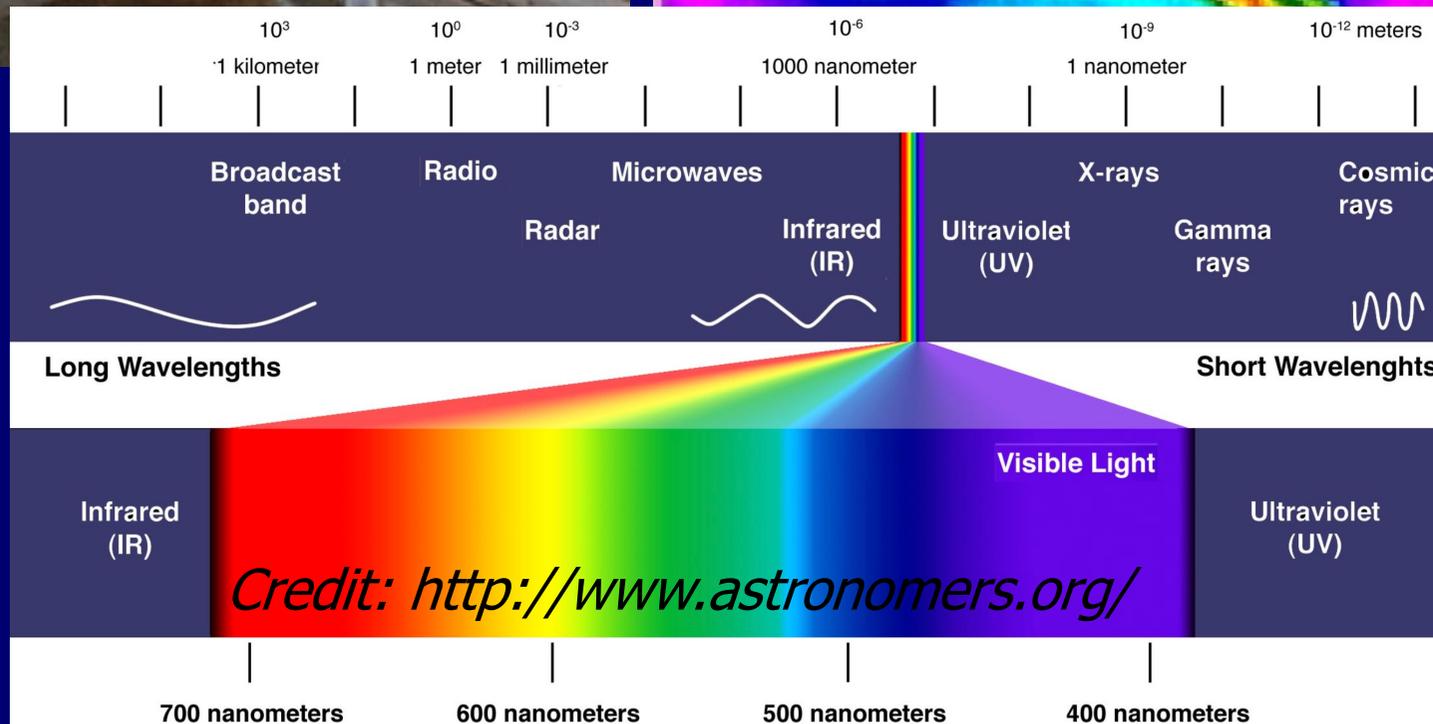
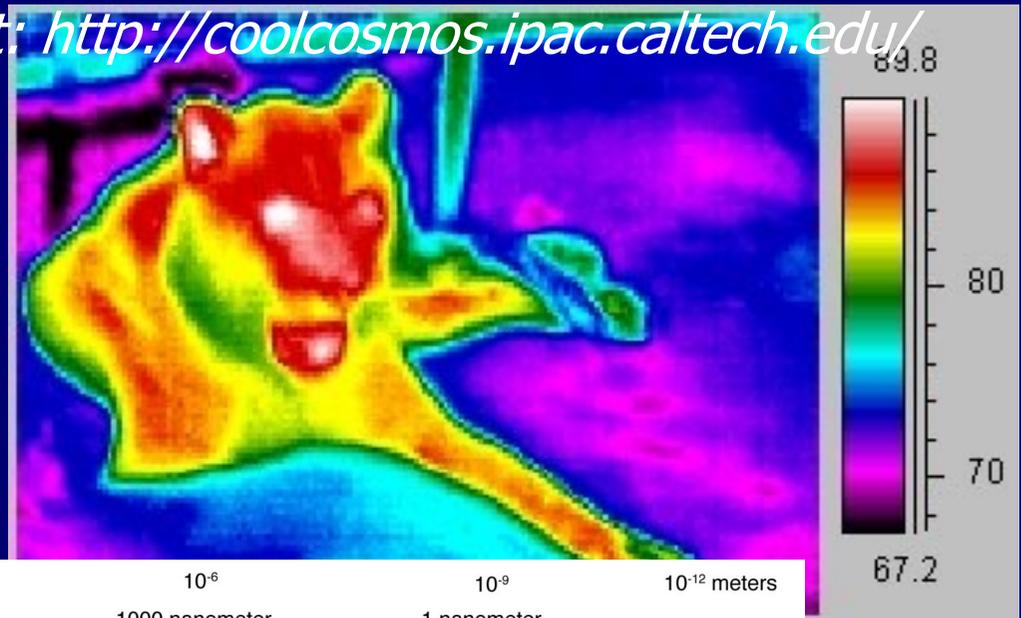
# Topics today

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- Different wavelengths sample different physics.
- Stars.
- The Interstellar Medium.

# The electromagnetic spektrum



Credit: <http://coolcosmos.ipac.caltech.edu/>



Credit: <http://www.astronomers.org/>

# Orion



VISIBLE LIGHT

Credit:  
IPAC  
Caltech



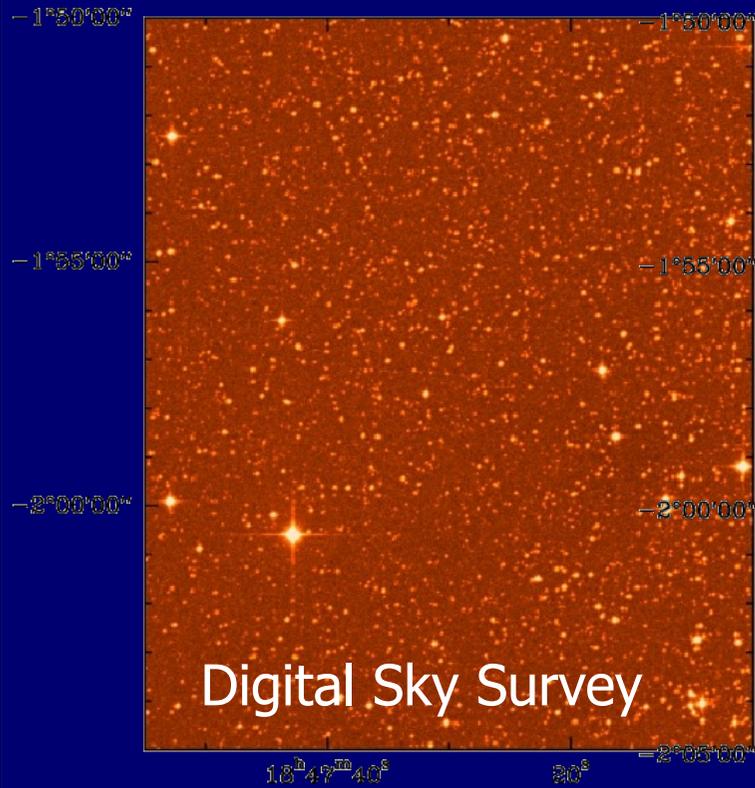
# Orion



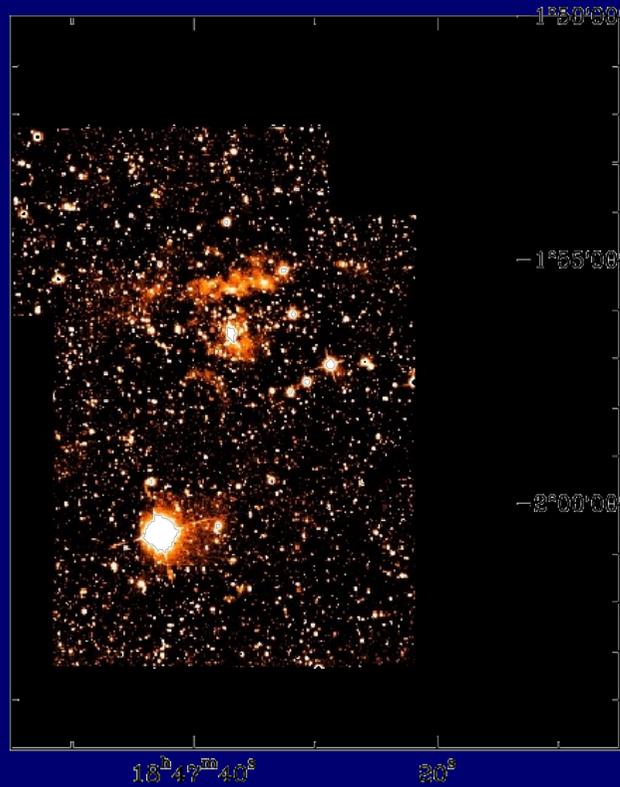
Credit:  
IPAC  
Caltech

# The Star-Forming Region W43

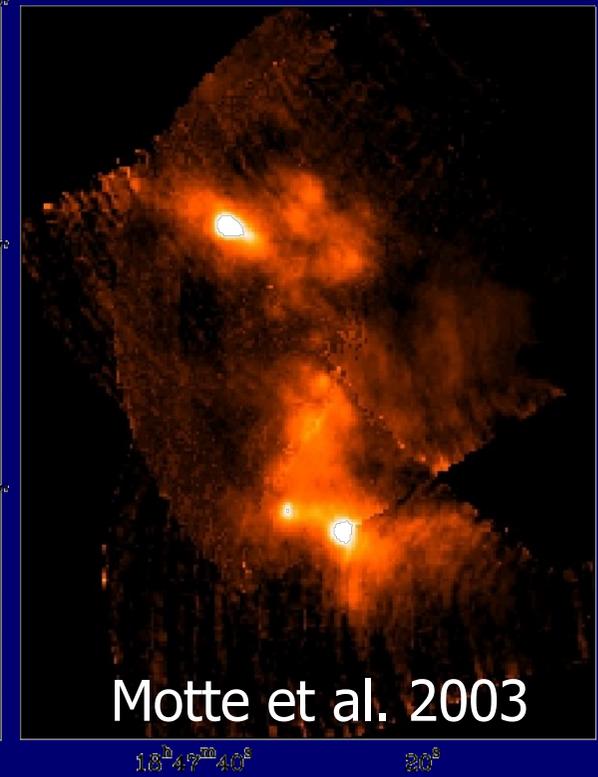
Optical



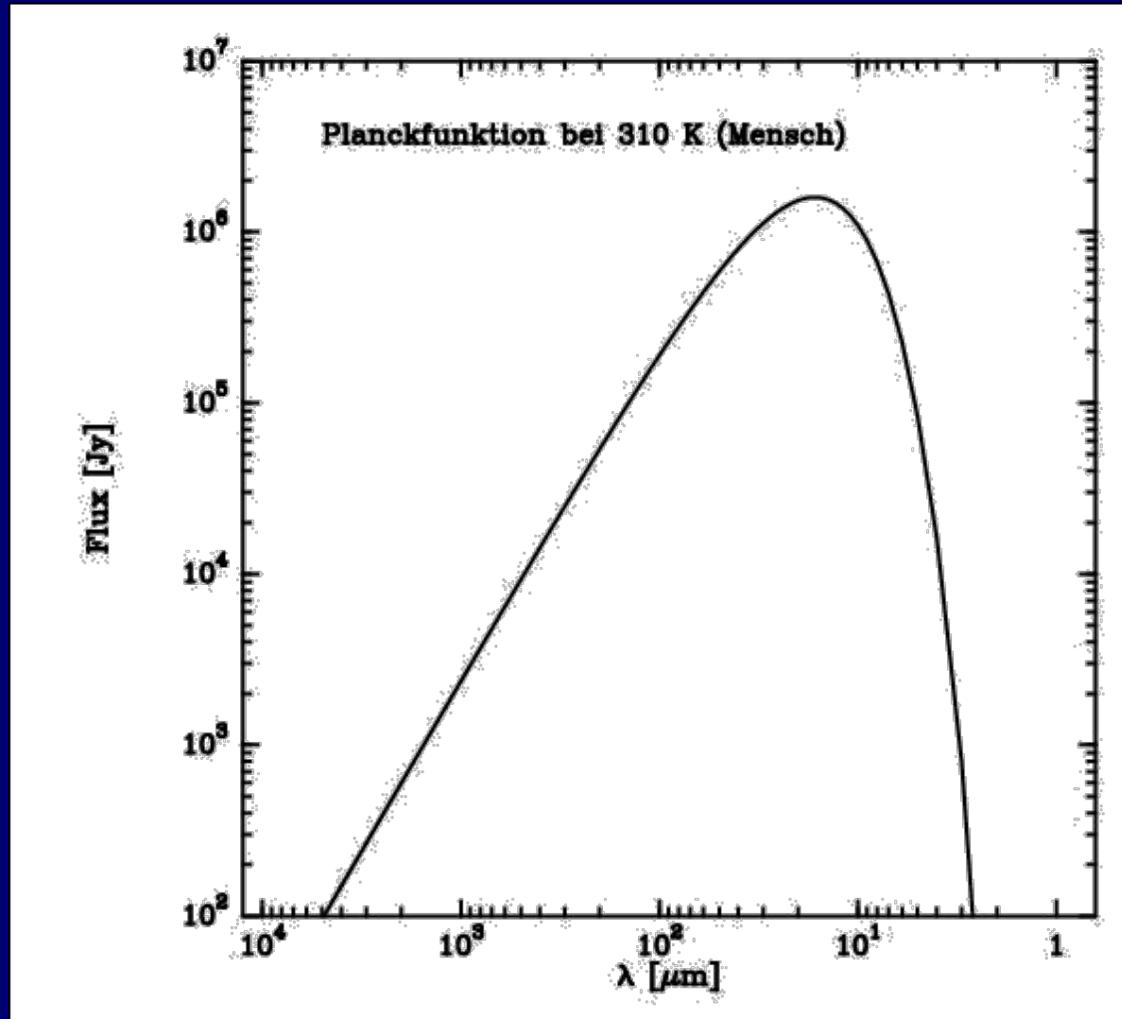
Near-Infrared



1.2mm dust cont.

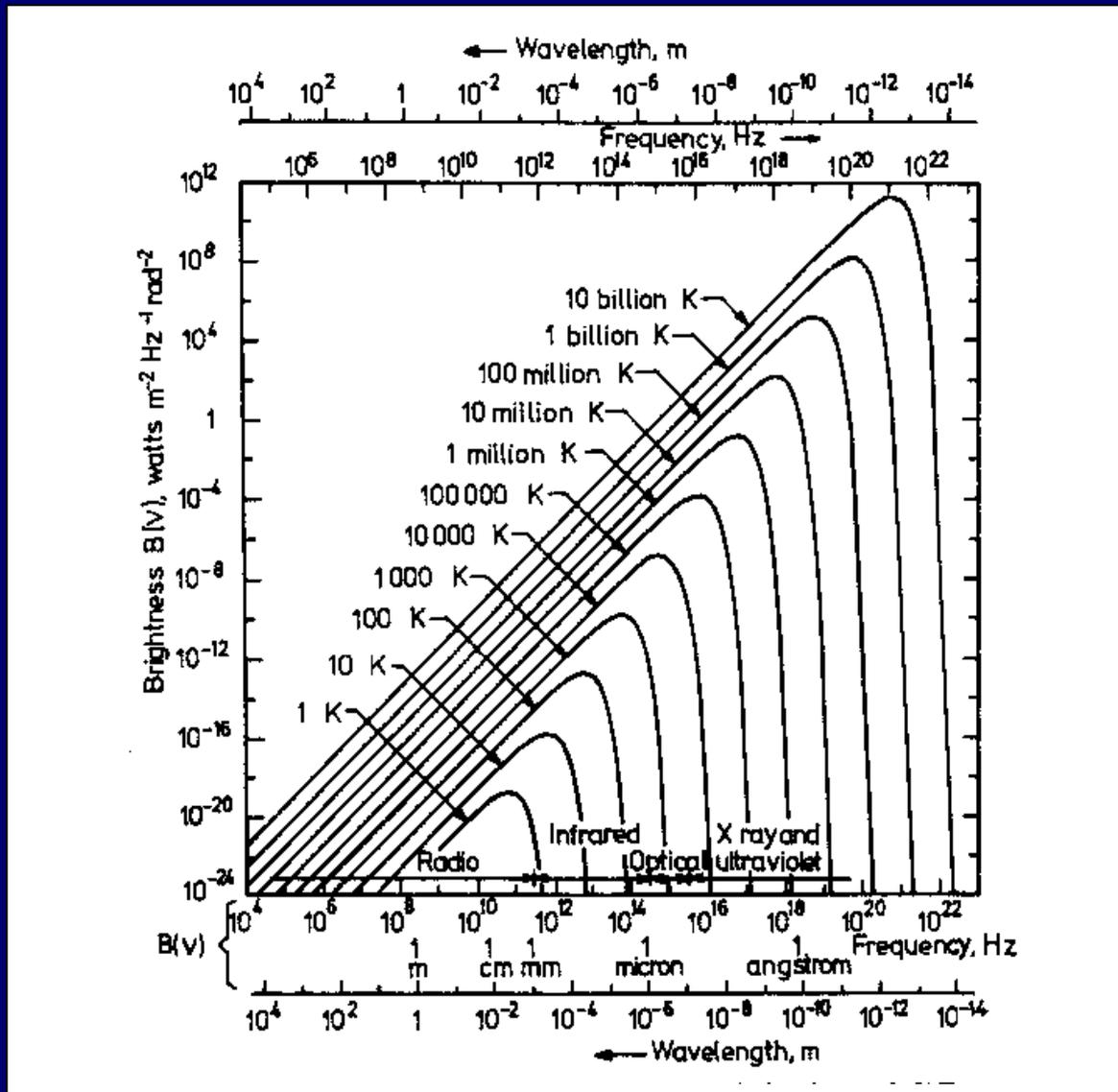


# Planck's Black Body



$$B_\nu(T) = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2} * \frac{1}{(\exp(h\nu/kT)-1)}$$

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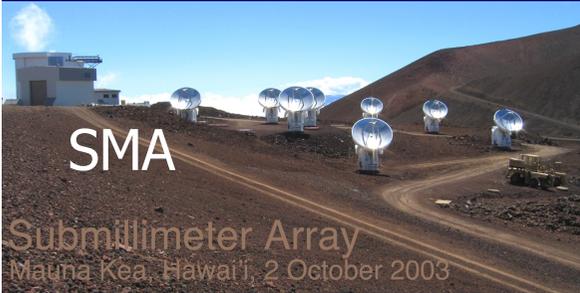
# Wien's Law

$$\lambda_{\max} = 2.9/T \text{ [mm]}$$

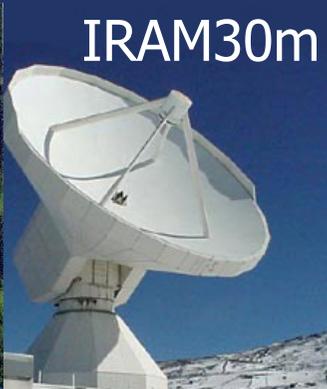
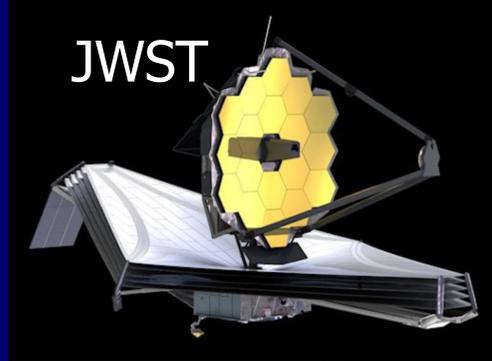
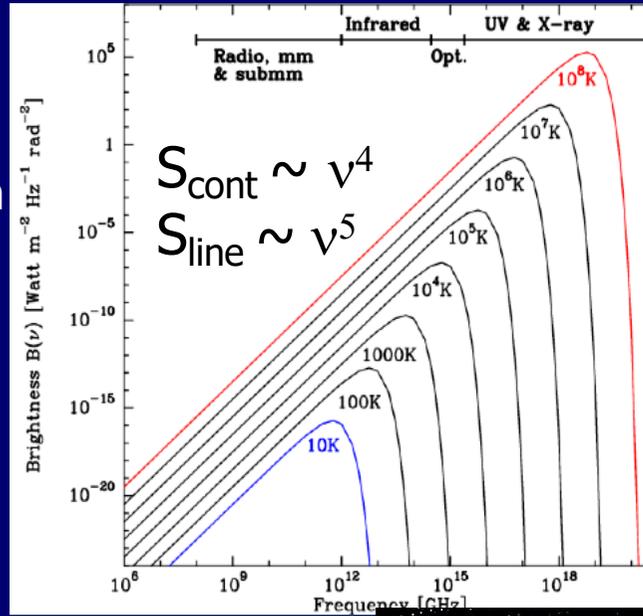
## Examples:

The Sun	$T \sim 6000 \text{ K} \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max} = 480 \text{ nm (optical)}$
Humans	$T \sim 310 \text{ K} \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max} = 9.4 \text{ } \mu\text{m (MIR)}$
Molecular Clouds	$T \sim 20 \text{ K} \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max} = 145 \text{ } \mu\text{m (FIR/submm)}$
Cosmic Background	$T \sim 2.7 \text{ K} \Rightarrow \lambda_{\max} = 1.1 \text{ mm (mm)}$

# Observatories



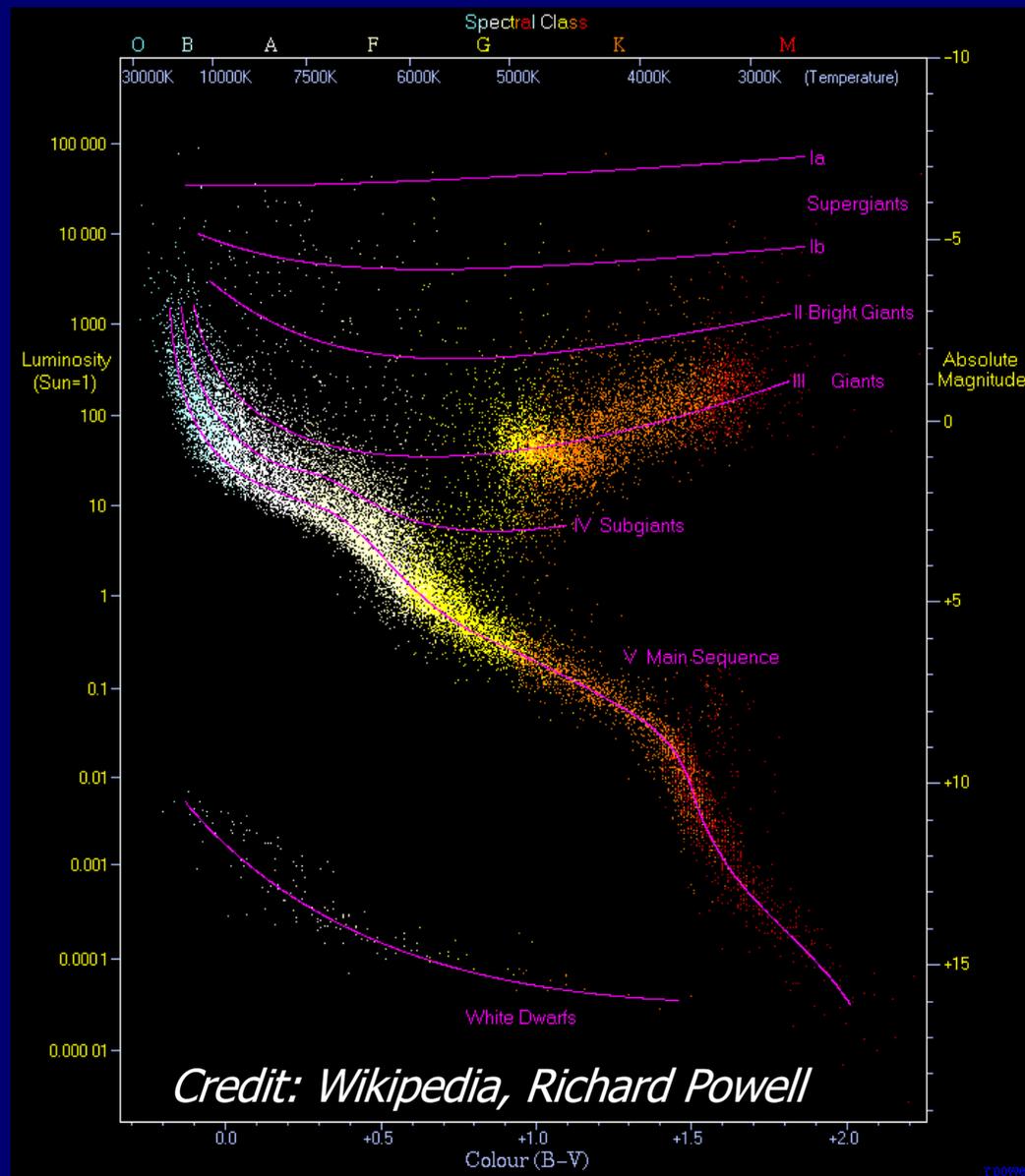
Spatial resolution  
 $\sim \lambda/D$



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- Different wavelengths sample different physics.
- **Stars.**
- The Interstellar Medium.

# Hertzsprung-Russel diagram

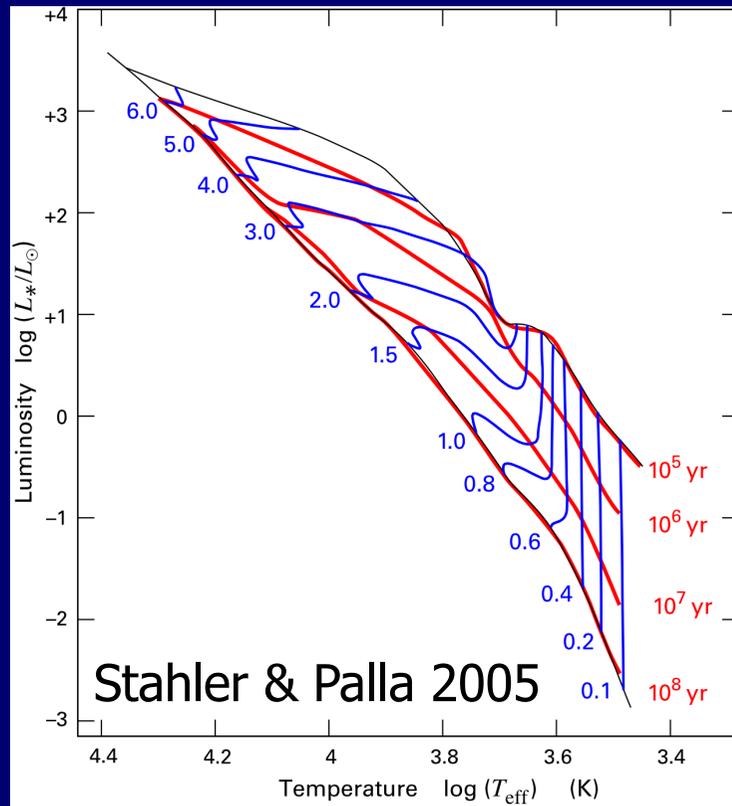


Main sequence:  $L=4\pi R^2\sigma_b T^4$

Stefan-Boltzmann law



# Hertzsprung-Russel diagram



## Time-scales:

**Free-fall time scale:** Virial theorem  $\rightarrow t_{\text{ff}} = (R^3/GM)^{1/2}$   $\xrightarrow{\rho=10^5\text{cm}^{-3}}$   $t_{\text{ff}} \sim 10^5 \text{ yr}$

Contraction of protostar under gravity releasing energy as radiation:

Virial theorem:  $E_{\text{pot}} + 2E_{\text{kin}} = 0 \rightarrow E_{\text{kin}} = 0.5E_{\text{pot}} \sim GM^2/R$

---> **Kelvin-Helmholtz time scale:**  $t_{\text{KH}} = E_{\text{kin}}/L = GM^2/(RL)$   
 $\sim 10^7 \text{ yr}$  for the sun

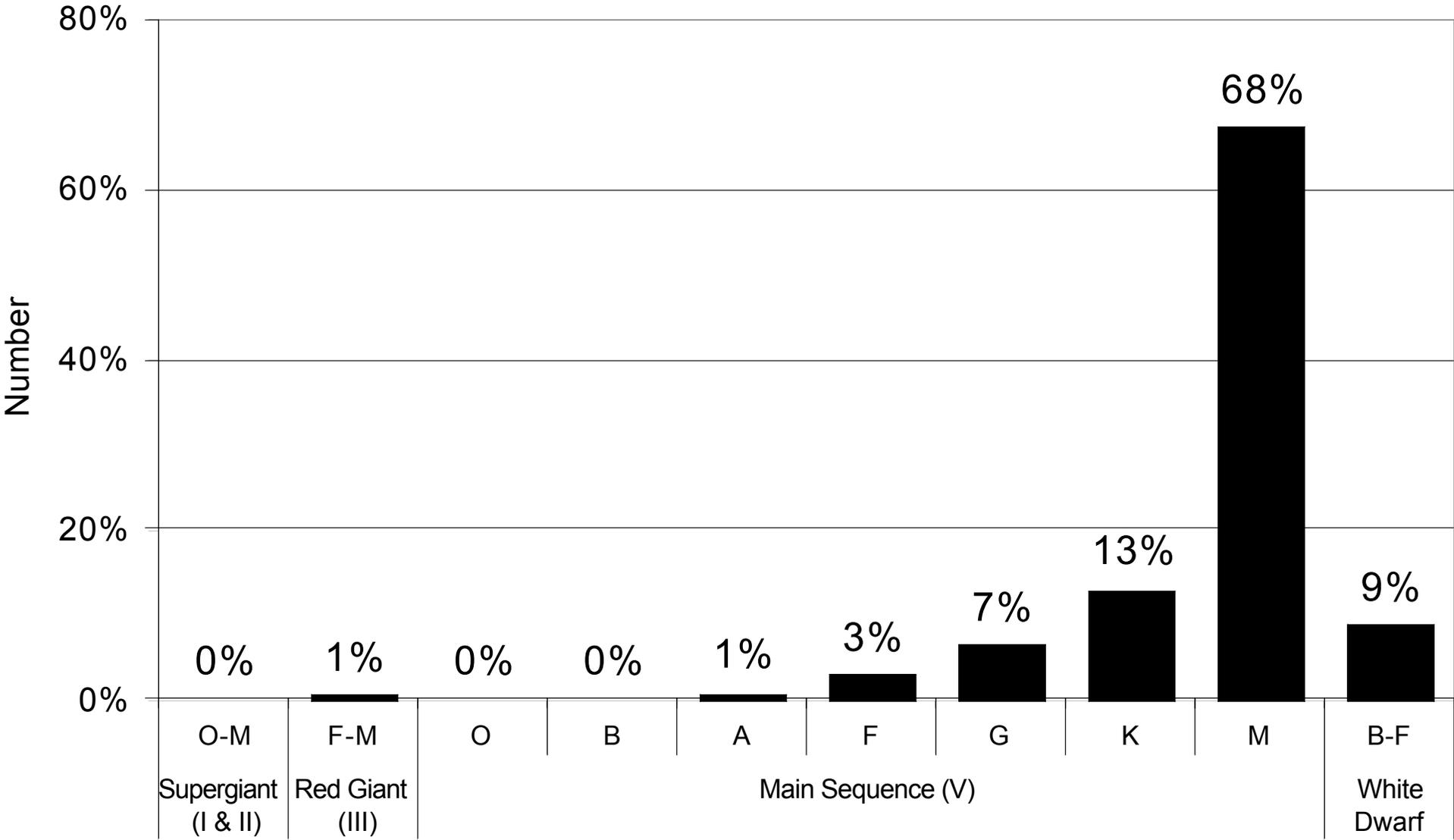
# Properties of Main Sequence Stars

Mass [ $M_{\text{sun}}$ ]	Sp. Type	Lum [ $\log(L_{\text{sun}})$ ]	$T_{\text{eff}}$ [ $\log(K)$ ]	$t_{\text{MS}}$ [yr]
60	O5	5.90	4.65	$3.4 \times 10^6$
40	O6	5.62	4.61	$4.3 \times 10^6$
20	O9	4.99	4.52	$8.1 \times 10^6$
10	B2	3.76	4.34	$2.6 \times 10^7$
4	B8	2.26	4.08	$1.6 \times 10^8$
2	A5	1.15	3.91	$1.1 \times 10^9$
1	G2	0.04	3.77	$1.0 \times 10^{10}$
0.8	K0	-0.55	3.66	$2.5 \times 10^{10}$
0.2	M5	-2.05	3.52	$> 10^{11}$

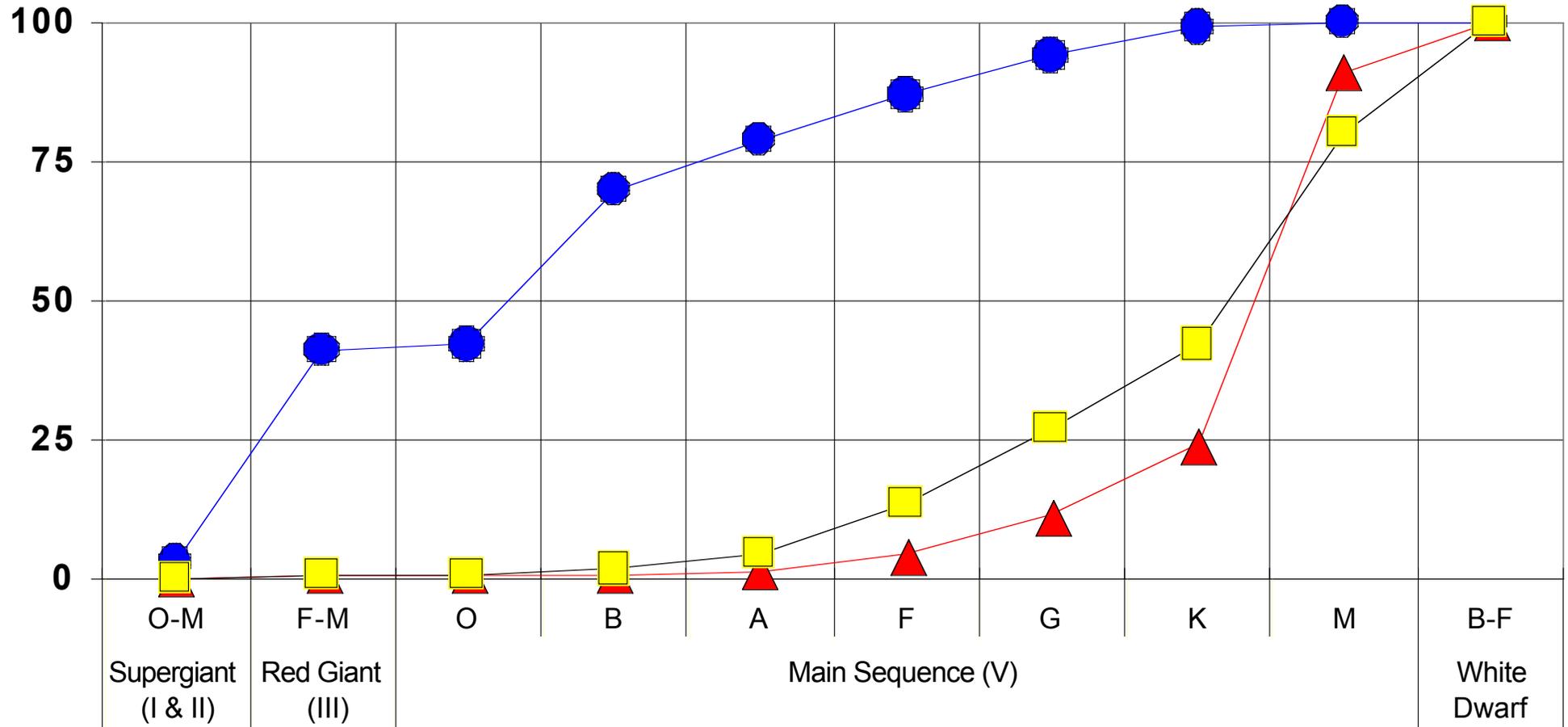
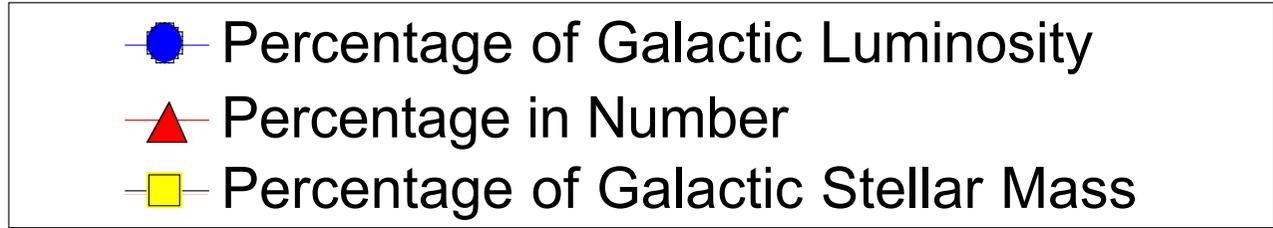
} greater  
than age of  
universe

$$t_{\text{MS}} \sim 5 \times 10^{-4} M c^2 / L = 1 \times 10^{10} (M[M_{\text{sun}}]) / (L[L_{\text{sun}}]) \text{ yr}$$

# Number of Stellar Types in the Milky Way



# The Milky Way



Luminosity Class and Spectral Type

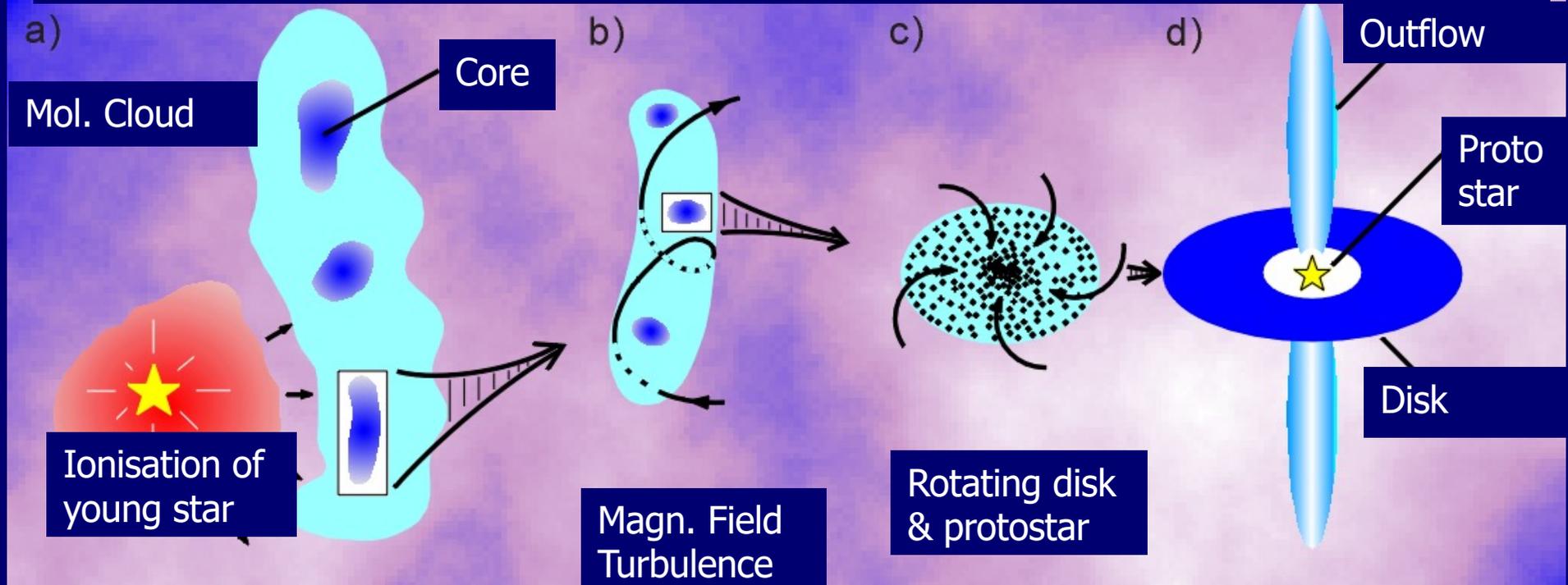
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ISM next week

# Star formation paradigm

## Phases of star formation



<https://www.mpifr-bonn.mpg.de/473576/starform>

Time-scales: Main accretion  $\sim$  500 000 years

Pre-main sequence evolution  $\sim$  2 Million years

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