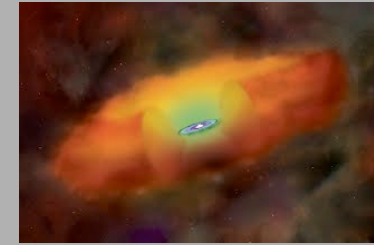


## Challenges in AGN science: the VLTI in a broader context (from an infrared perspective)

Almudena Alonso Herrero  
Instituto de Física de Cantabria,  
Santander, Spain

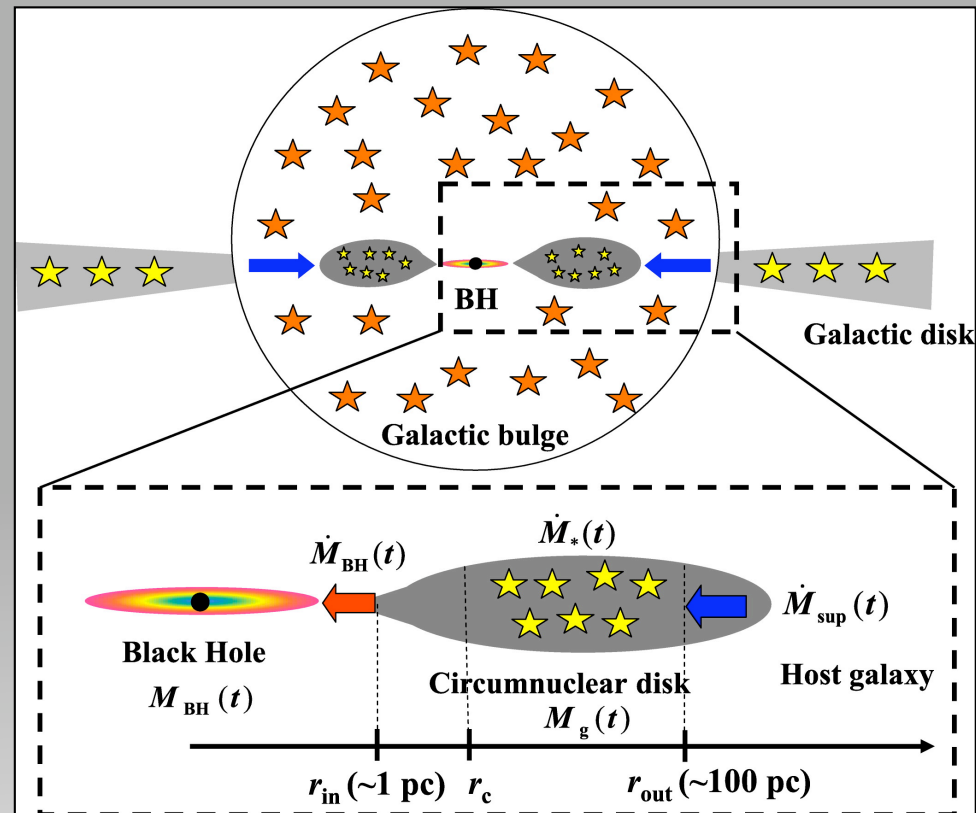
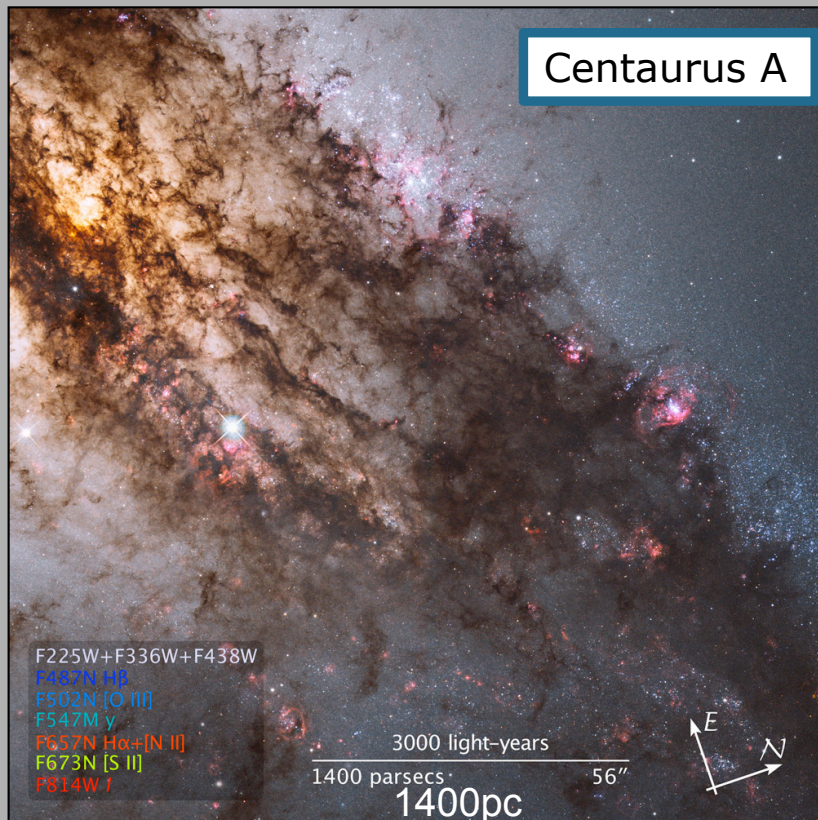
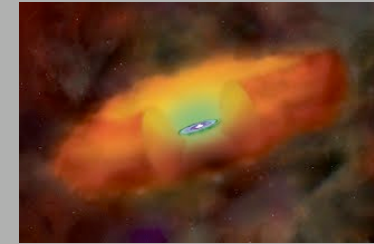


# Open questions about the torus and its environment



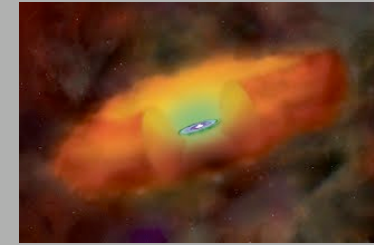
- **Naked tori?** The role of “other” dust components
- **One torus rules it all?** Unification of type 1 and type 2 AGN
- **Whas is the torus?**
- **The winner takes all?** Nuclear ( $<100\text{pc}$ ) star formation vs. black hole accretion
- **How about the wimpy ones?** Low luminosity AGN and the origin of the torus

# The dusty torus is not an isolated structure

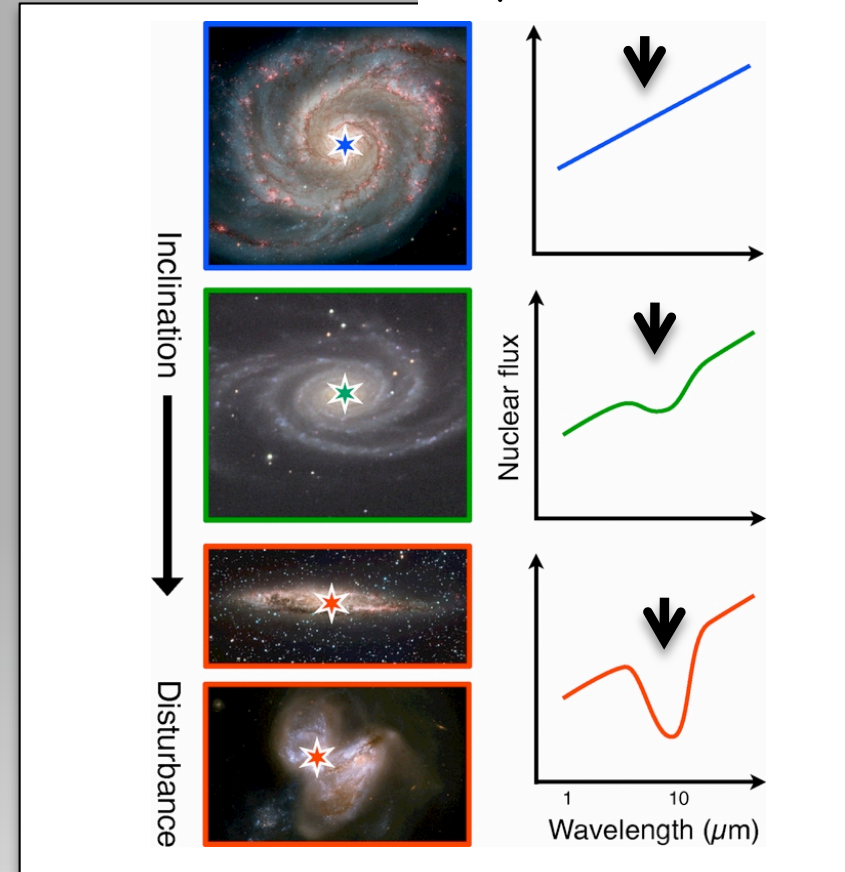
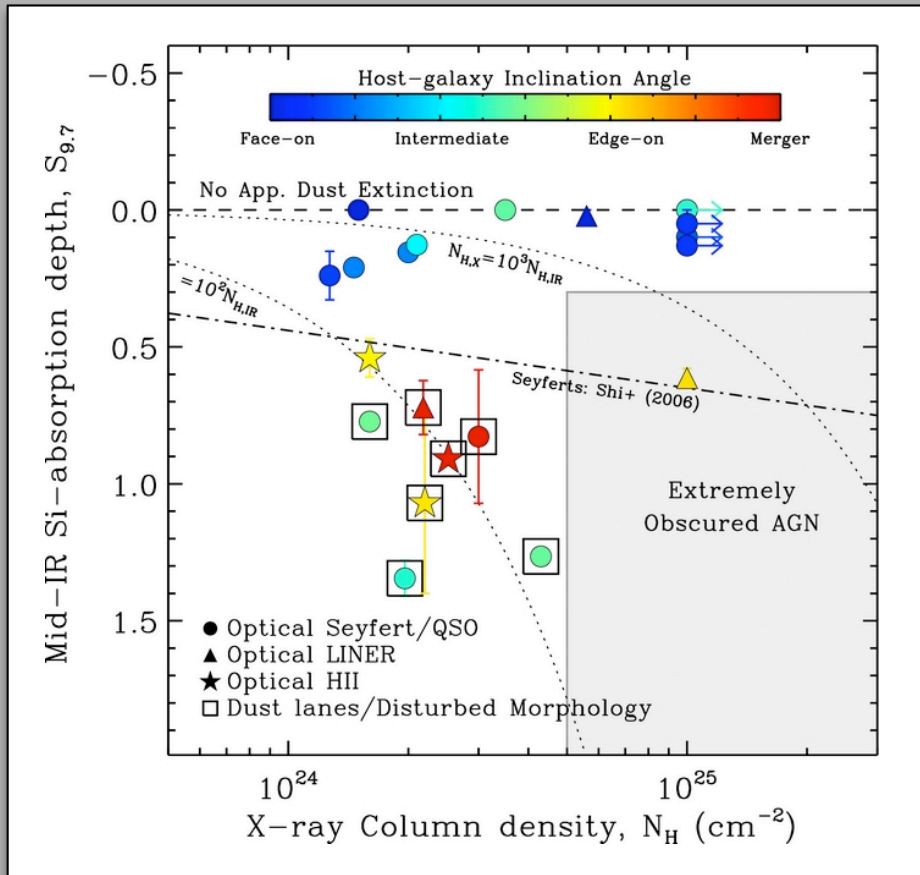


Kawakatu & Wada 2008

# Host galaxy: kpc scale obscuration



9.7 $\mu$ m silicate feature

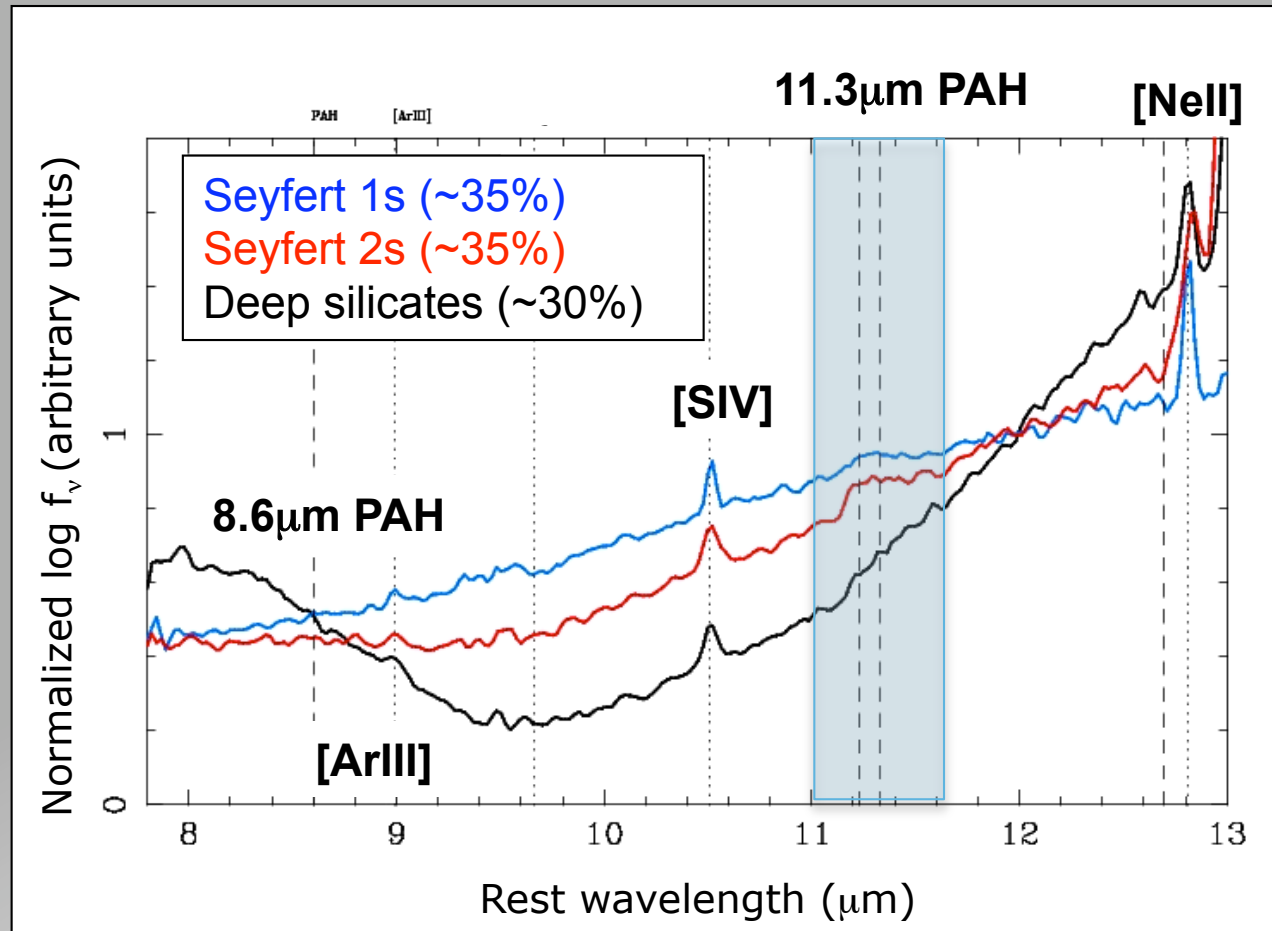


Effects of extinction on kpc scales: IR using Spitzer/IRS: Goulding et al. 2012  
 Using X-rays and HST images: Guainazzi et al. 2005



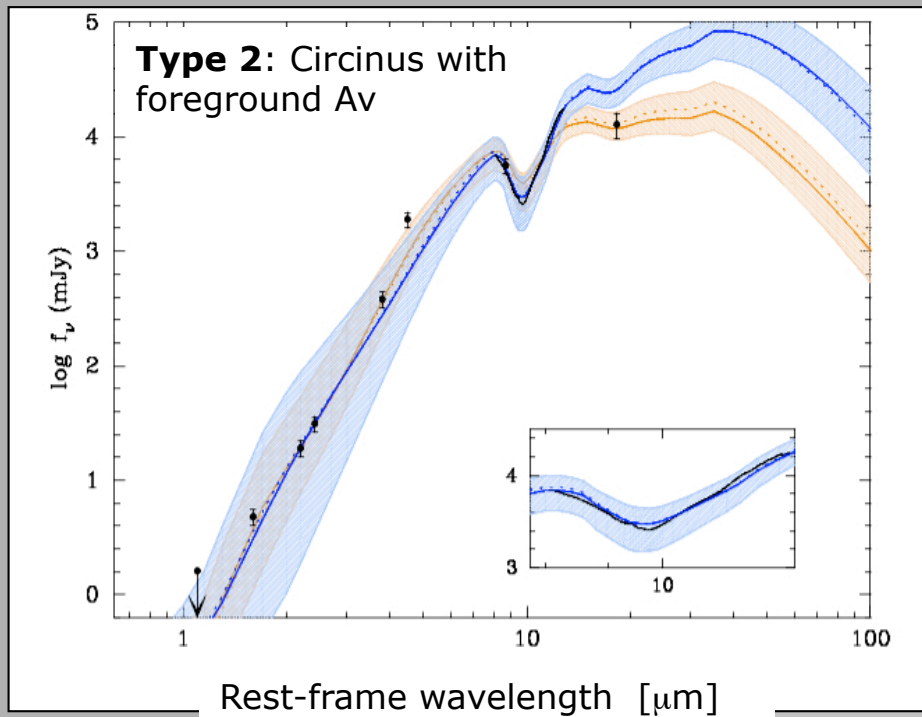
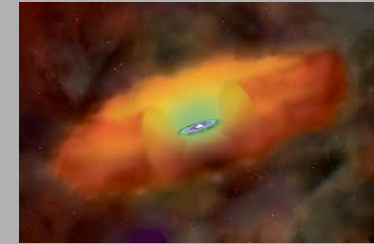
# Nuclear (<100pc) spectra of RSA Seyferts

Ground-based observations (0.3-0.5'' resolution) with T-ReCS, VISIR, and Michelle of 30 Seyferts in RSA sample.

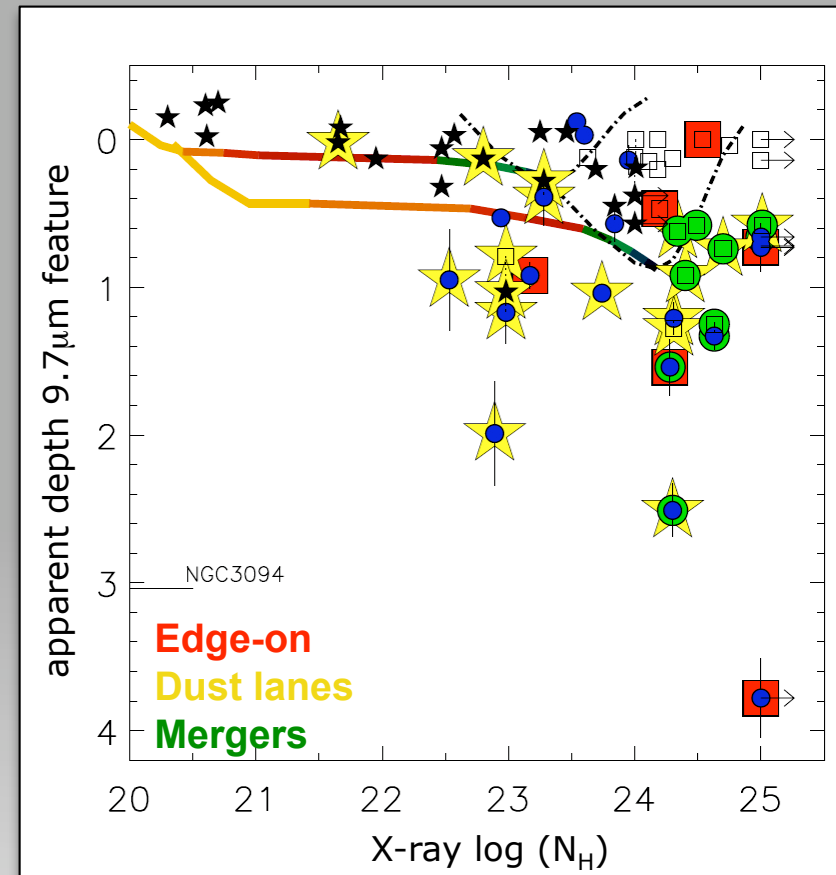


**Average nuclear (central 60pc) spectra:**  
data compiled by Esquej et al. 2014

# Importance of host galaxy obscuration on 100pc scales



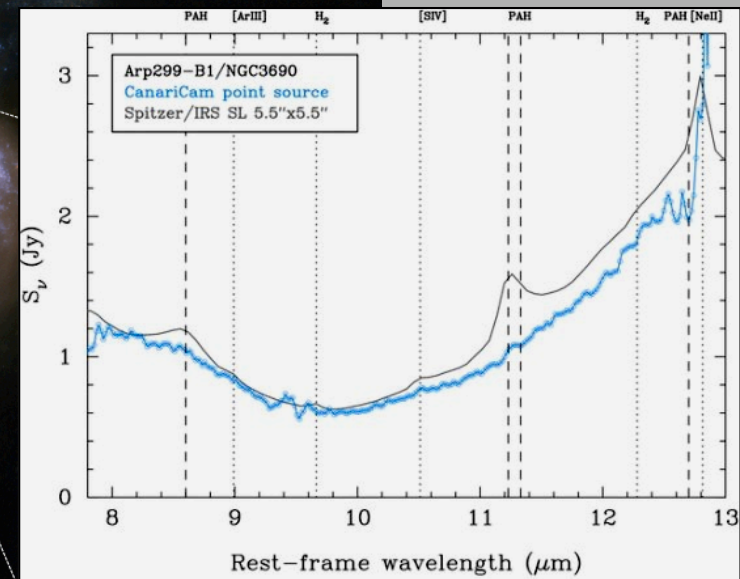
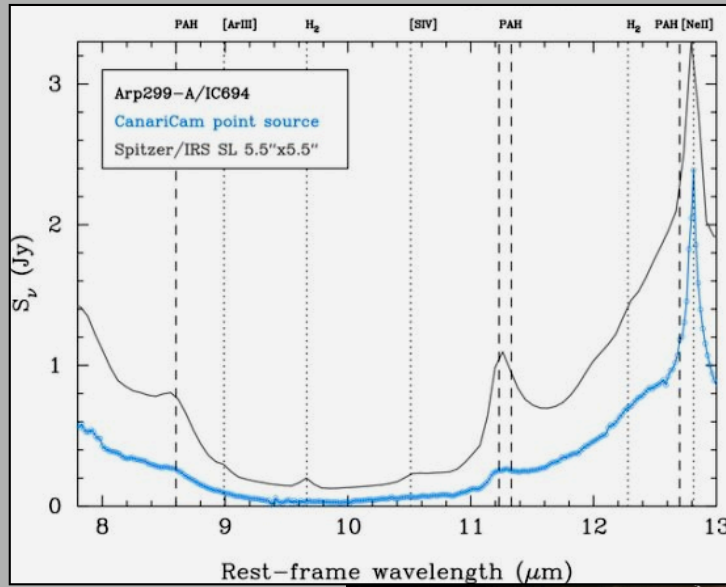
Consistent with presence of 100pc dust lanes in galaxies



**Fits:** Alonso-Herrero et al. 2011

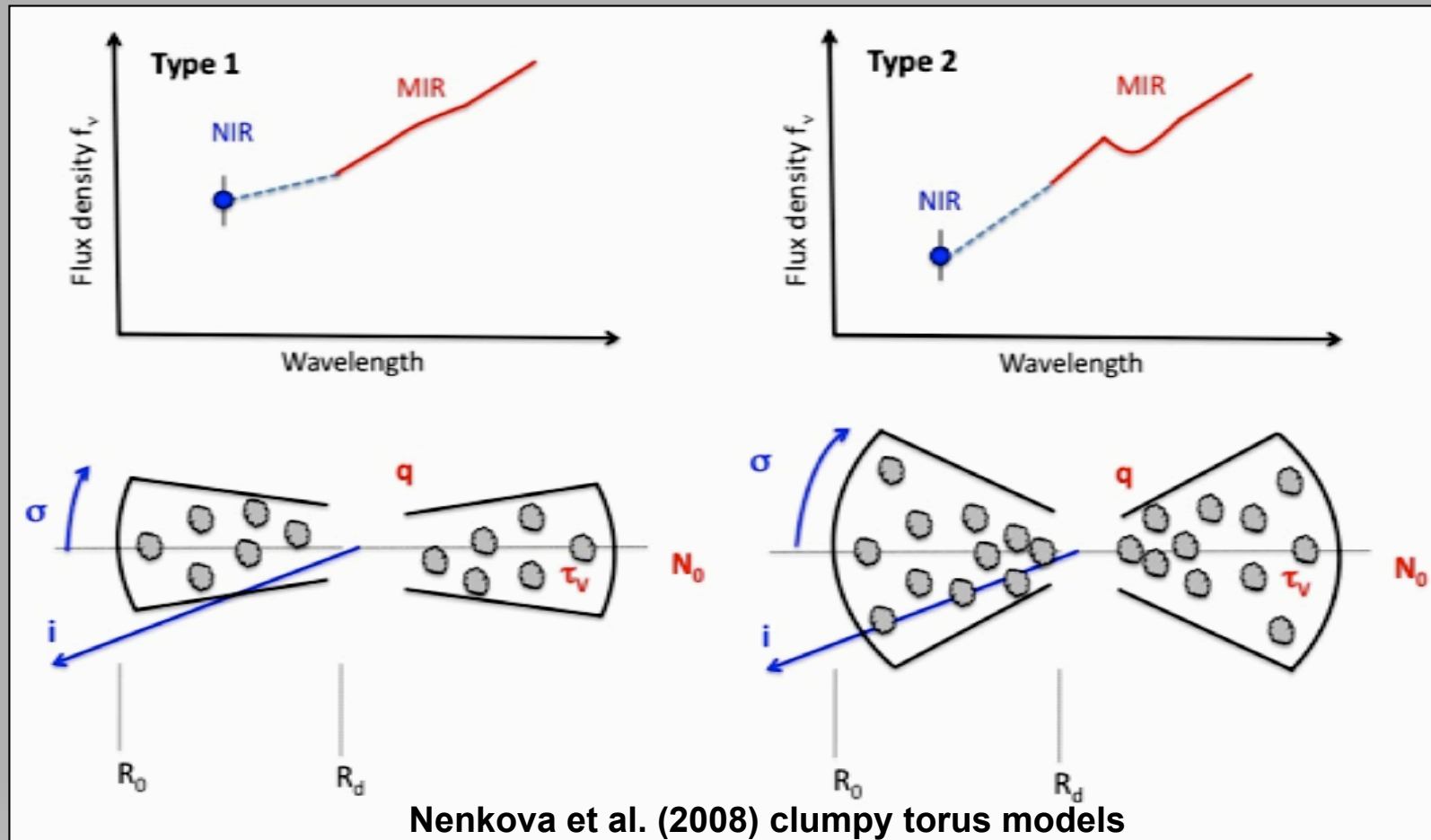
**100 pc scales (Gemini/T-RecS, VLT/VISIR):** González Martín et al. 2013

# Two deeply embedded AGN in Arp299



**First GTC/CanariCam observations of AGN survey:**  
Alonso-Herrero et al. 2013

# Do the torus properties change with AGN type, luminosity, etc?



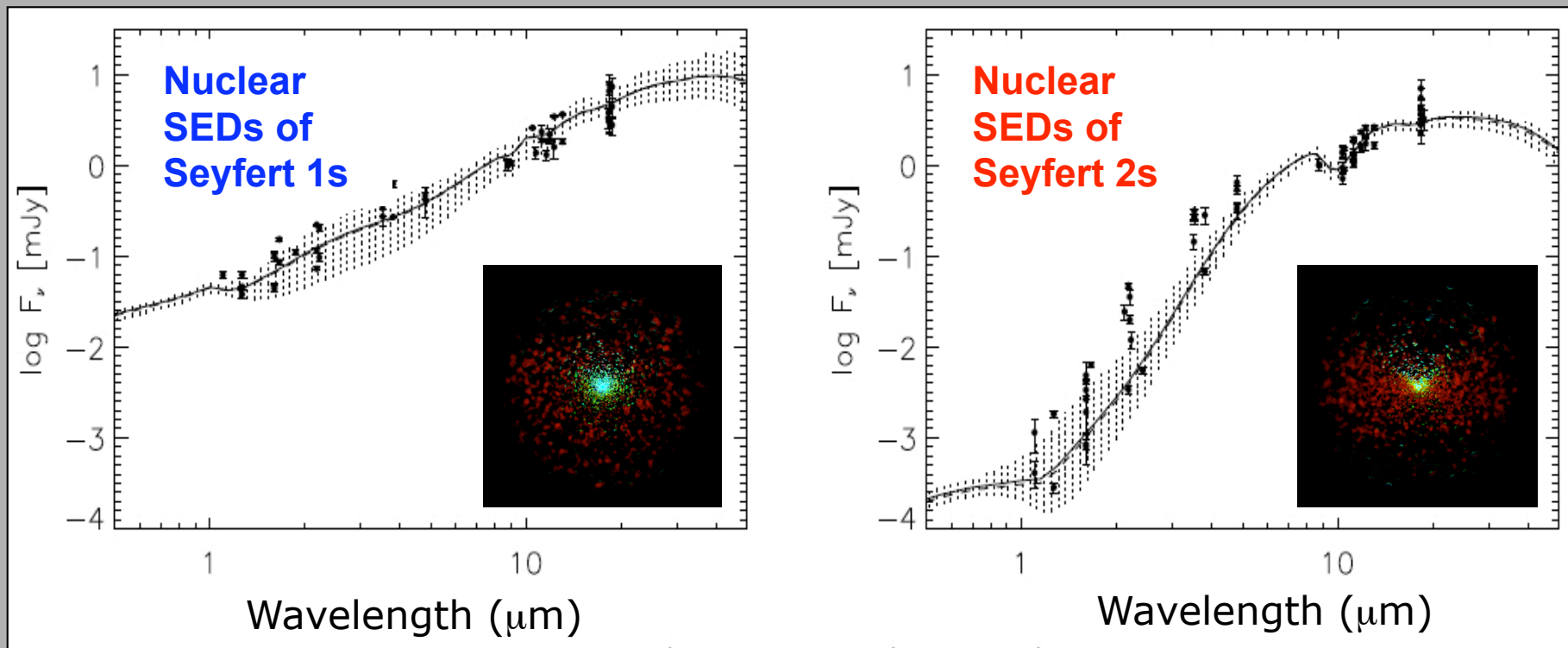
Ramos Almeida et al. 2009, 2011, 2014 and Alonso-Herrero et al. 2011



# Torus emission peaks in the mid-IR

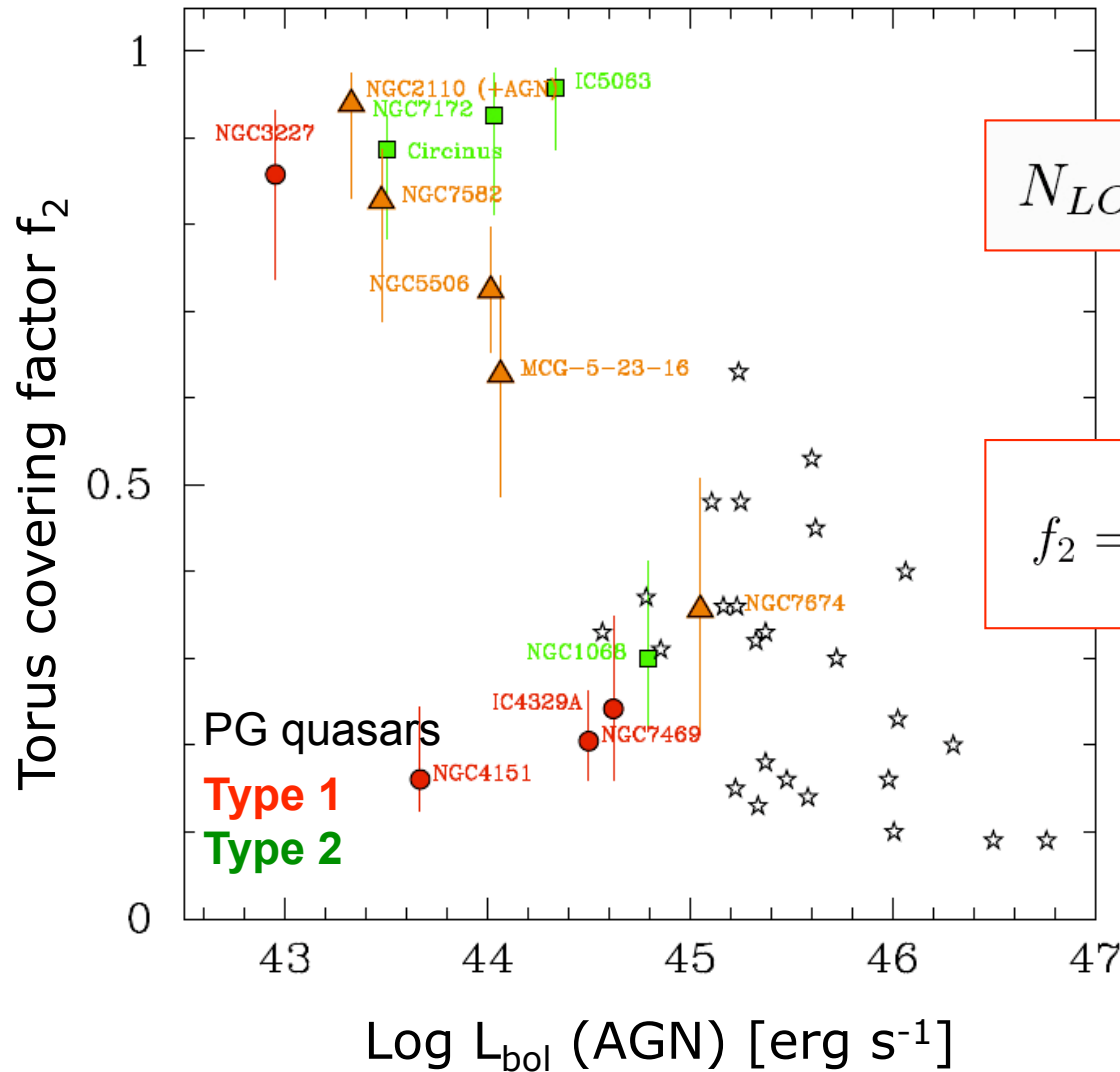
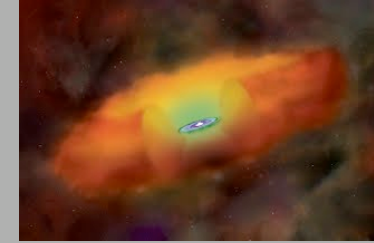
High angular resolution IR observations are needed to minimize contamination from host galaxy

Modeling with Nenkova et al. (2008) clumpy torus models



Ramos Almeida et al. 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014, Alonso-Herrero et al. 2003, 2011, 2013

# Receding torus?



$$N_{LOS}(i) = N_0 e^{-(90-i)^2/\sigma_{\text{torus}}^2}$$

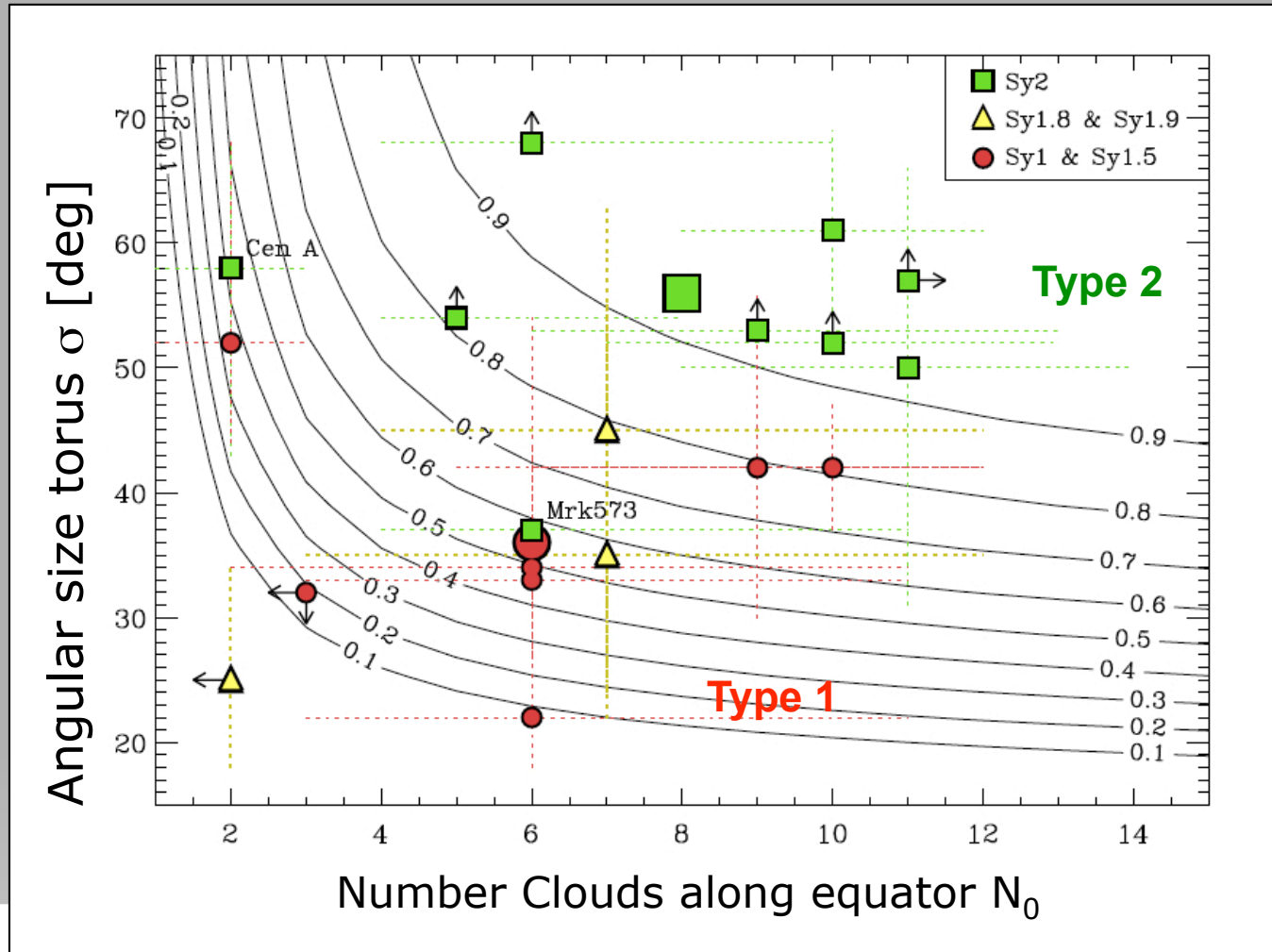
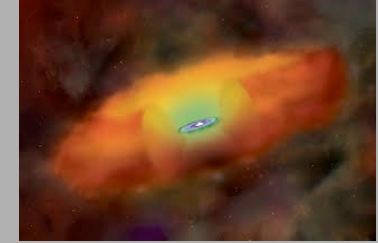
$$P_{\text{esc}} \simeq e^{(-N_{LOS})}$$

$$f_2 = 1 - \int_0^{\pi/2} P_{\text{esc}}(\beta) \cos(\beta) d\beta.$$

Covering factor  $f_2$  is the ratio of type 2 to type 1 AGN

Observationally  $f_2$  decreases at high  $L_{\text{AGN}}$

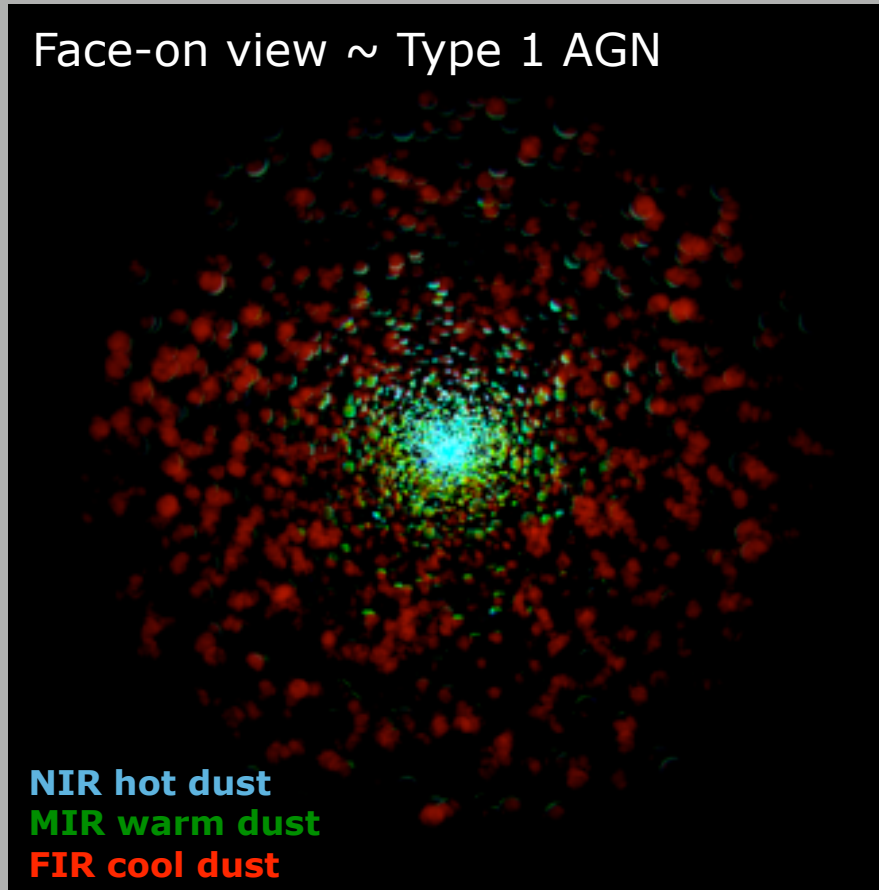
# Different Covering Factors



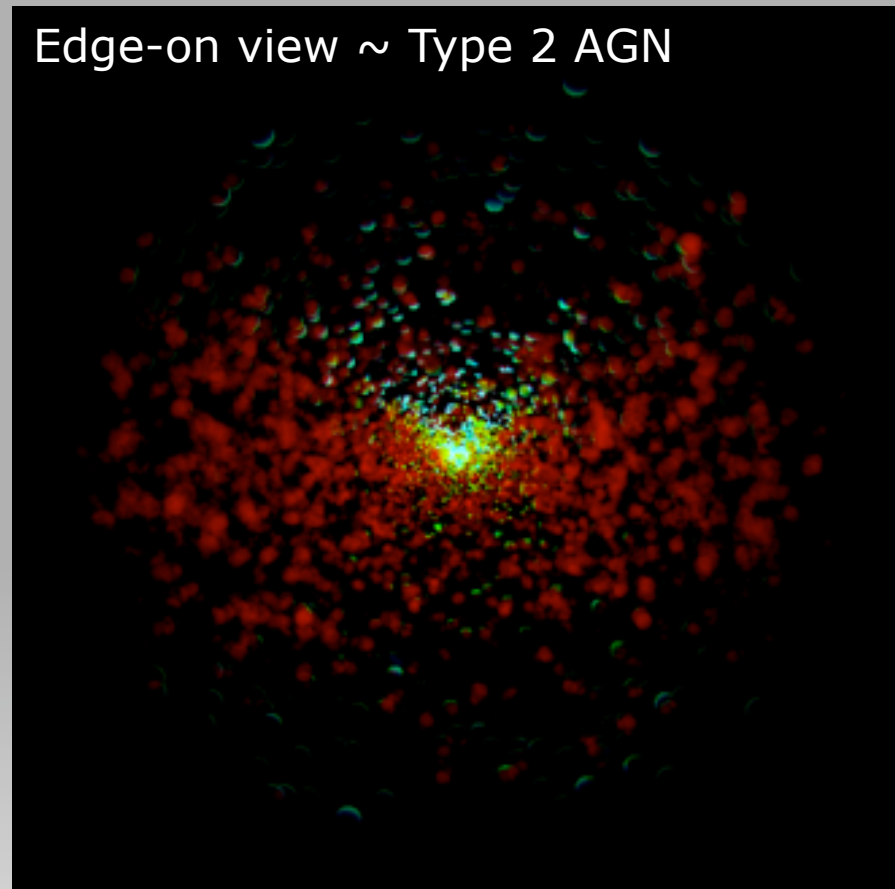
Ramos Almeida et al. 2011

# The extent of the dusty torus

Face-on view ~ Type 1 AGN



Edge-on view ~ Type 2 AGN



**Torus models from** Hönic & Kishimoto 2010

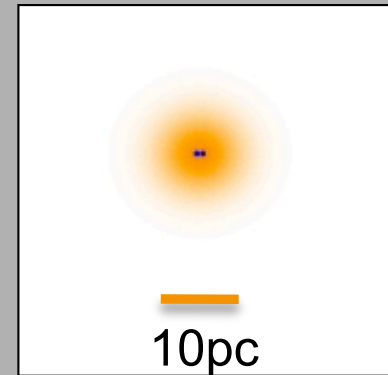
<http://www.sungrazer.org/CAT3D.html> and review Hönic 2013



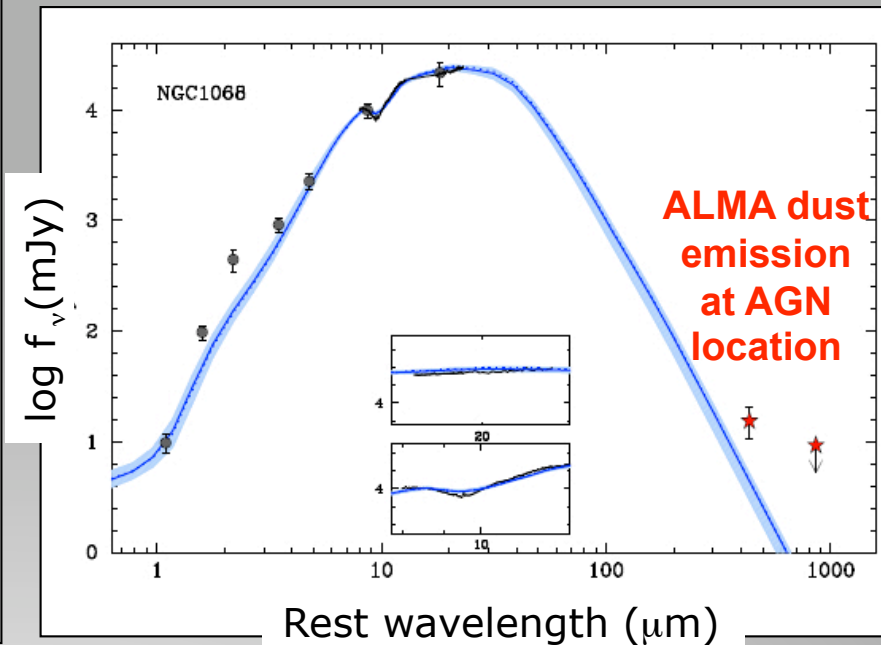
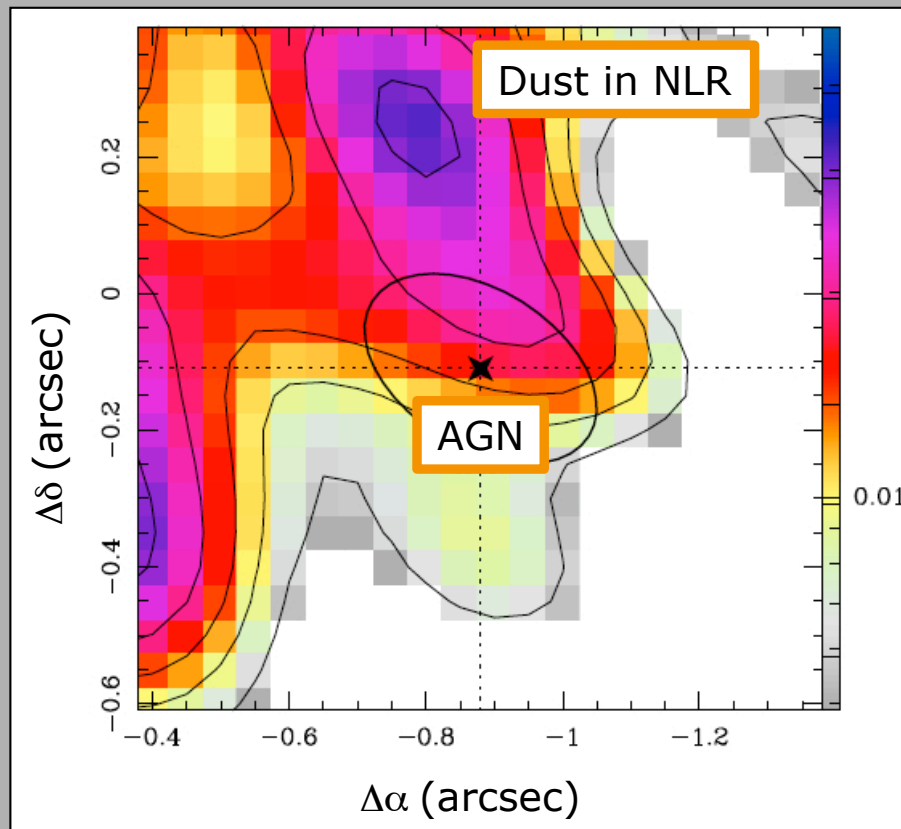
# The dusty torus of NGC1068

**ALMA continuum emission at  $435\mu\text{m}$**  at  $0.2''\times 0.4''$  angular resolution, no AGN point source  $\text{FWHM} < 32\text{-}16\text{pc}$

MIDI model image at  $12\mu\text{m}$



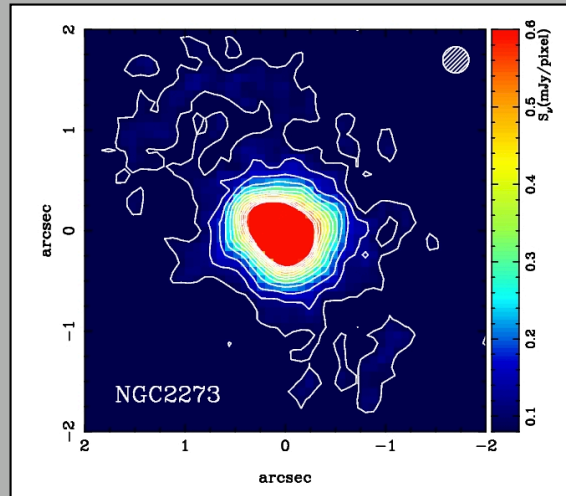
Burtscher et al. 2013



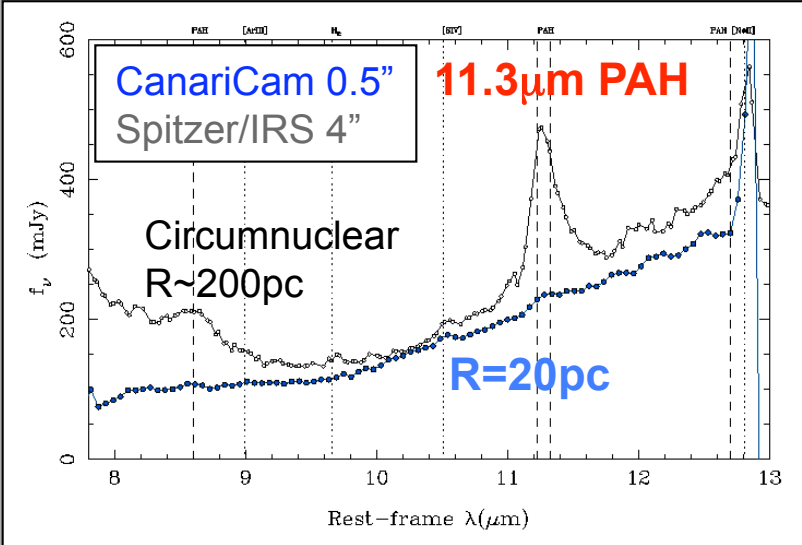
**ALMA data:** García Burillo et al. 2014 (about to be submitted)

**SED + spectroscopy fit:** Alonso-Herrero et al. 2011

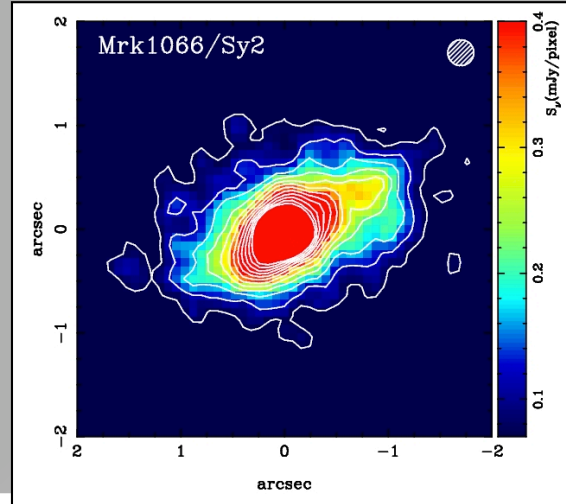
# Nuclear and Circumnuclear SF in AGN



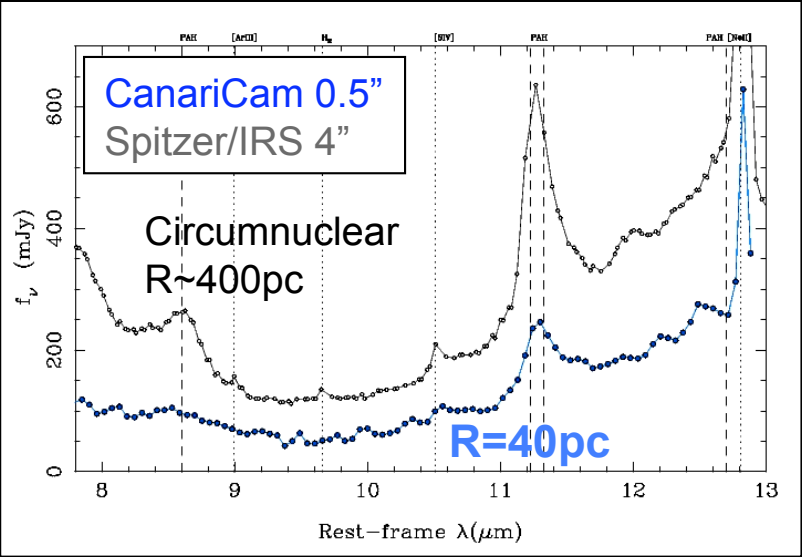
NGC2273



GTC/CanariCam 8.7  $\mu\text{m}$



Mrk1066



Alonso-Herrero et al. 2014 in preparation, see also e.g., Siebenmorgen et al. 2004, Hönig et al. 2010, Esquej et al. 2014

# Nuclear PAH molecules shielded by torus

Siebenmorgen et al. 2004 predict PAH evaporate at  $D_{\text{AGN}} < 10\text{pc}$  but will survive at  $D_{\text{AGN}} > 100\text{pc}$

PAHs will survive if rate of reaccretion of carbon onto PAHs higher than evaporation rate due to harsh AGN radiation field

$$\tau \approx 700 \text{ yr} \left( \frac{N_{\text{H}}(\text{tot})}{10^{22} \text{ cm}^{-2}} \right)^{1.5} \left( \frac{D_{\text{agn}}}{\text{kpc}} \right)^2 \left( \frac{10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}}{L_{\text{X}}} \right)$$

3000yr

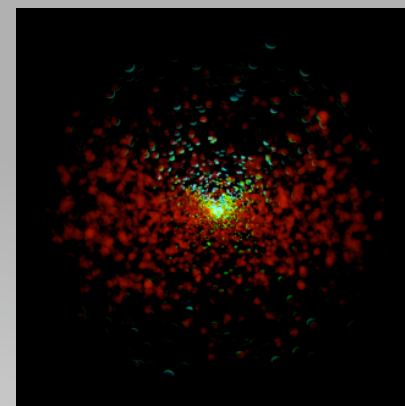
Voit 1991, 1992, Miles 1994

Torus and/or material in host galaxy provides sufficient material to shield the PAH molecules for RSA Seyferts:

$L_{\text{X}}(\text{AGN}) \sim 10^{41} - 10^{44} \text{ erg/s}$

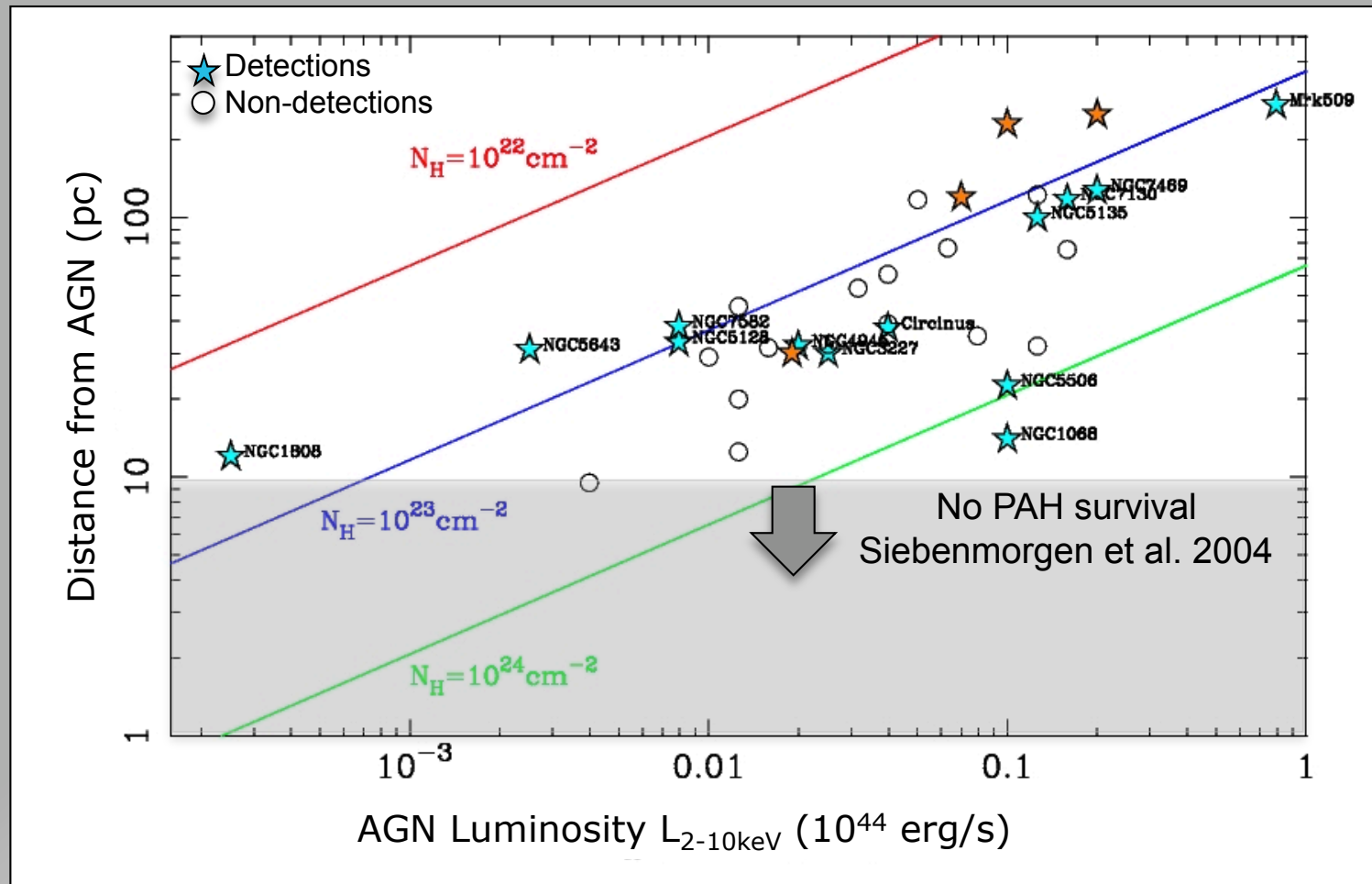
Distances to AGN  $D_{\text{AGN}} \sim 12 - 250\text{pc}$

$N_{\text{H}} \sim \text{a few } 10^{23} \text{ to } 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$



Ramos Almeida et al. 2009, 2011, Alonso-Herrero et al. 2011, González-Martín et al. 2013, Esquej et al. 2014

# 11.3 $\mu$ m PAH carriers do not get destroyed near AGN to distances >10pc

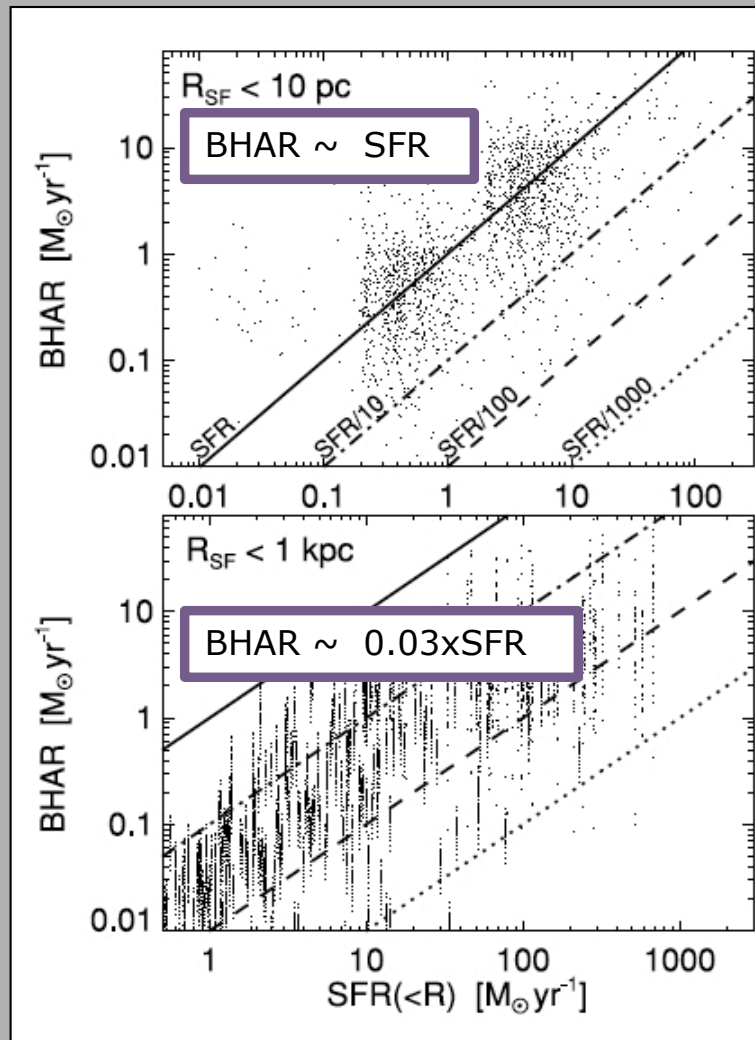


**RSA galaxies:** data compiled by Esquej et al. 2014

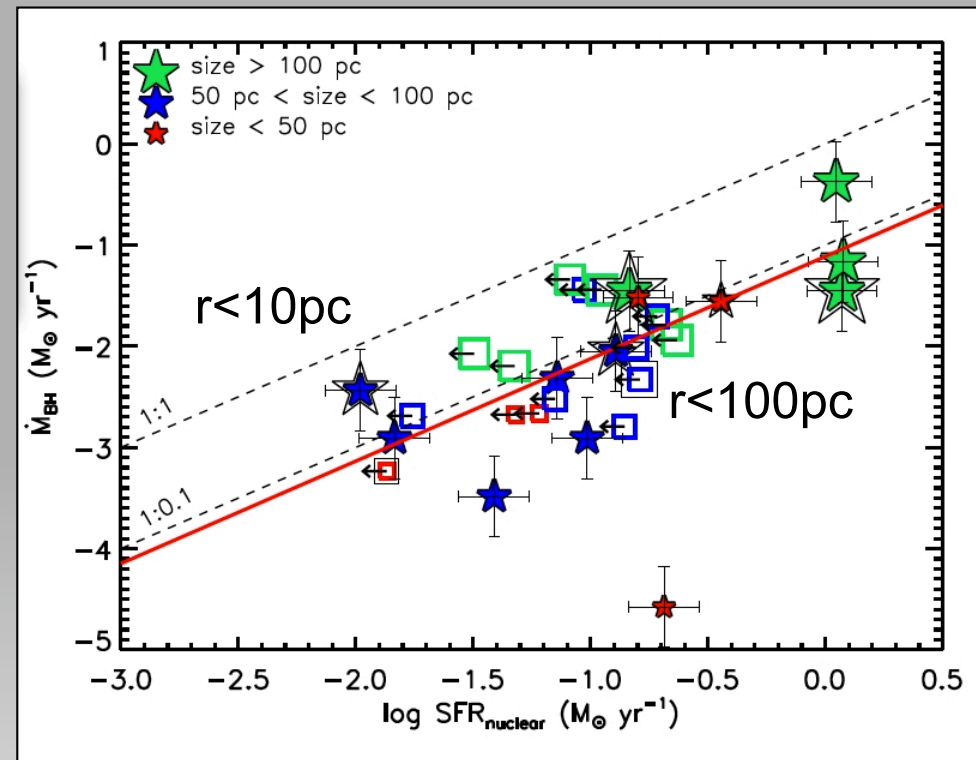
**New GTC/CanariCam observations:** Alonso-Herrero et al. 2014 in prep.



# Black Hole Accretion Rate vs. Nuclear SFR



**Numerical simulations:** Hopkins & Quataert 2010

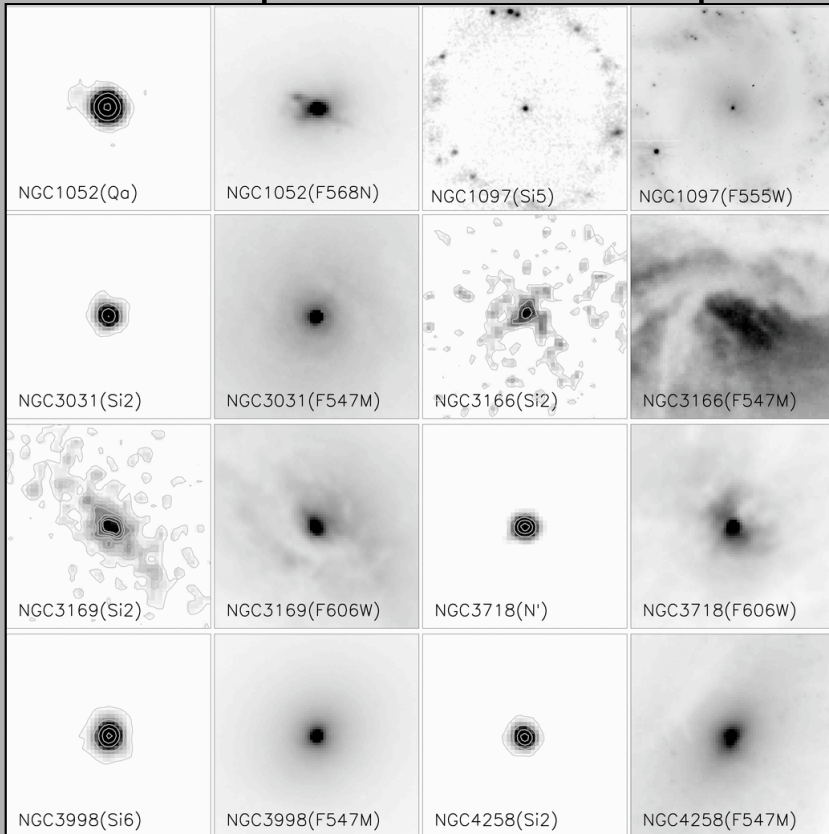


**Empirical relation:** Esquej et al. 2014

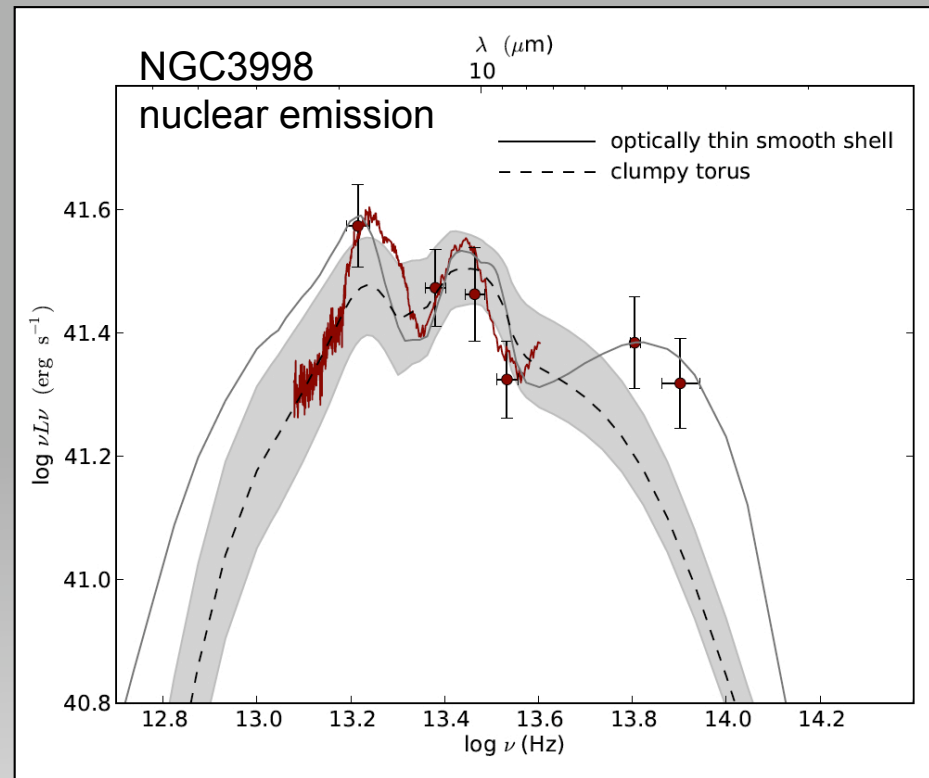
# Is there a torus in low luminosity AGN?

Theoretical models predict  $L_{\text{bol}} < 10^{42} \text{ erg/s}$ , low accretion cannot sustain the outflows required for large column densities

mid-IR    optical    mid-IR    optical

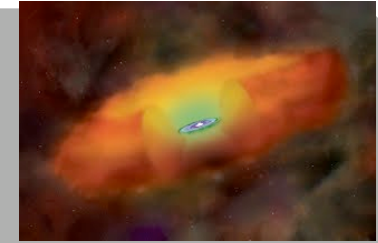


5"



Mason et al. 2012, 2013

# Conclusions



- Host galaxy obscuration even on  $<100$ pc scales is important when modeling torus properties
- Clumpy torus models reproduce nuclear IR emission of Seyfert galaxies but contamination by extended dust emission can be a problem
- Not a single torus? Sy1/high L tori are narrower and contain fewer clouds than those of Sy2/low L
- Torus extent: are ALMA observations our best hope?
- Role of nuclear star formation and destruction/survival PAHs especially at  $<10$ pc

**High angular res mid-IR data + new VLTI data for large samples of AGN will help understand the torus**

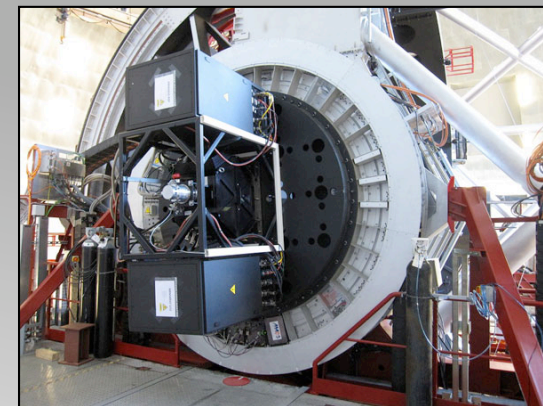
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- Miguel Pereira-Santaella, INAF, Italy
- Eric Perlman, Florida Tech., USA
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- Stuart Young, Rochester, USA
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- Ralf Siebenmorgen, ESO, Germany
- Klaus Meisenheimer, Heidelberg, Germany
- + Carlos Alvarez, GTC, Spain
- + Charlie Telesco (PI of CanariCam Guaranteed Time)
- + Sebastian Hönig, Copenhagen, Denmark
- + Robert Nikutta, Chile

10.4m GTC



CanariCam



See <https://sites.google.com/site/piratasrelatedpublications>