



Dusting Off the Secrets of the Cosmos with PRIMA Space IR Telescope

Marseille (France)
31 March – 2 April 2025

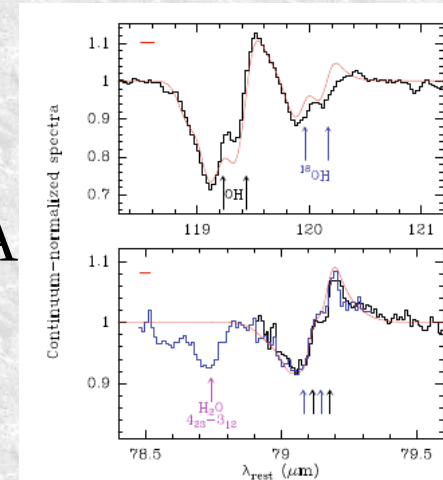
OH Outflow Energetics and the Presence of Buried Galactic Nuclei at (Nearly) Cosmic Noon

E. González-Alfonso⁽¹⁾, M. Pereira-Santaella⁽²⁾, I. García-Bernete⁽³⁾

⁽¹⁾Universidad de Alcalá

⁽²⁾Instituto de Física Fundamental, CSIC

⁽³⁾Centro de Astrobiología (CAB), CSIC-INTA
Spain



(P-Cygni OH
profiles in Mrk 231;
Fischer+2010)

Part I: OH outflow energetics

Introduction

PRIMA : one of the Core Science Themes, Co-Evolution of Galaxies and SMBHs Since Cosmic Noon, involves far-IR observations of galaxies up to $z \sim 2$ to check for outflows & measure their energetics

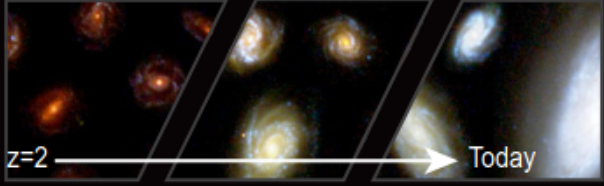
PRIMA

UNVEILING OUR COSMIC ORIGINS IN THE FAR INFRARED

PRobe far-Infrared Mission for Astrophysics

PRIMA provides broad continuous spectral coverage from 24 to 261 μm , a critical region of the spectrum that reveals the origins of planetary atmospheres, evolution of galactic ecosystems, and the buildup of dust and metals over cosmic time.

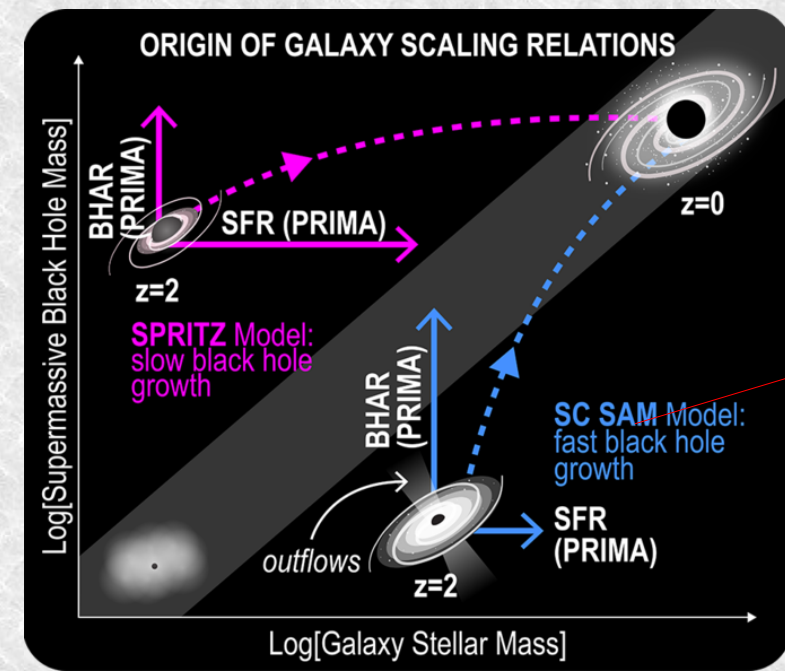
Decadal Goal: Probe the co-evolution of galaxies and their supermassive black holes across cosmic time.



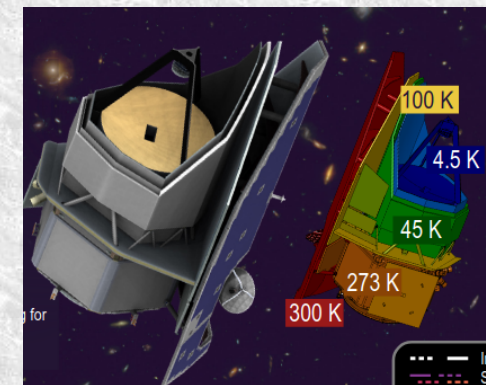
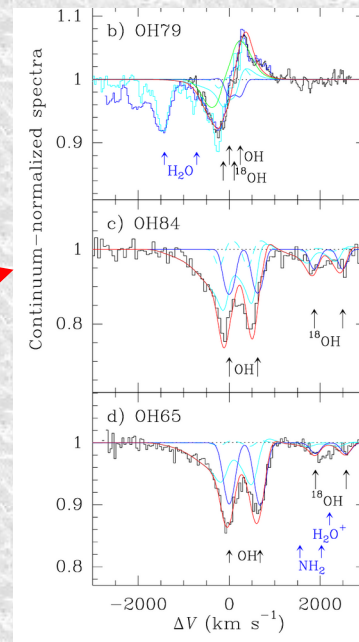
$z=2$ Today

EVOLUTION OF GALACTIC ECOSYSTEMS

PRIMA Objective: Provide a simultaneous measurement of black hole and galaxy growth from the peak of their development at $z=2$ (cosmic noon) up to the present day, and determine if winds in luminous galaxies quench star formation.



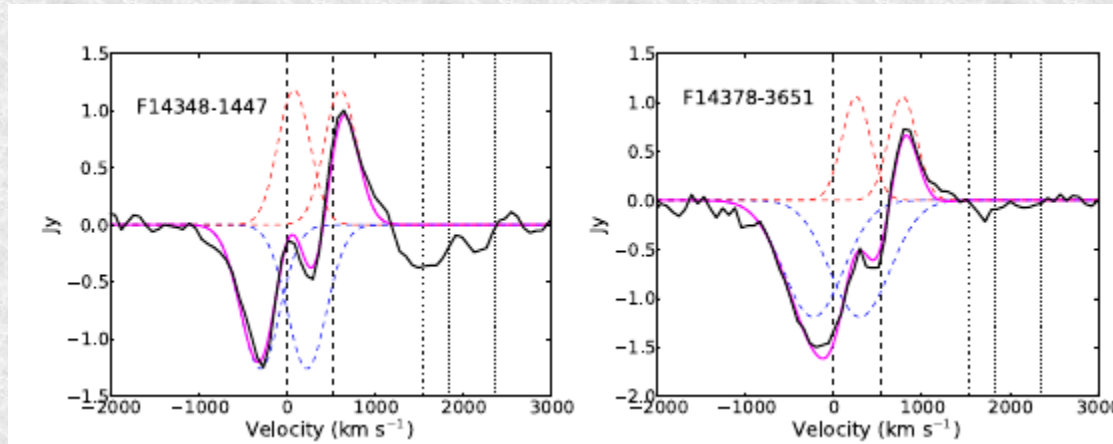
???



GA+14, A&A, 561, A27

P-Cygni profiles in OH119 and OH79 from Herschel : Outflows

Many local ULIRGs show P-Cygni profiles in OH119 (Sturm+11, Veilleux+13, Spoon+13):



$V_{84} = -509 \text{ km/s}$

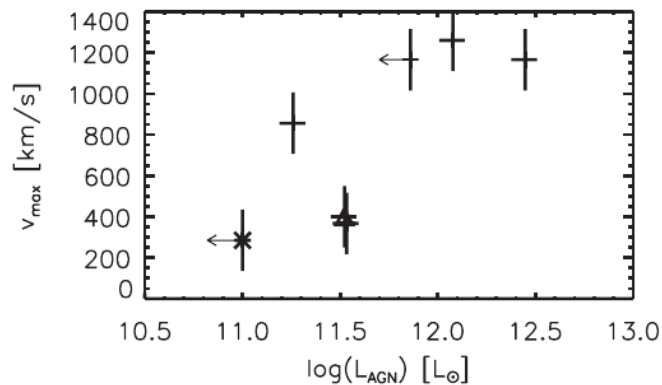
$V_{84} = -556 \text{ km/s}$

Veilleux+13, ApJ, 776, 27

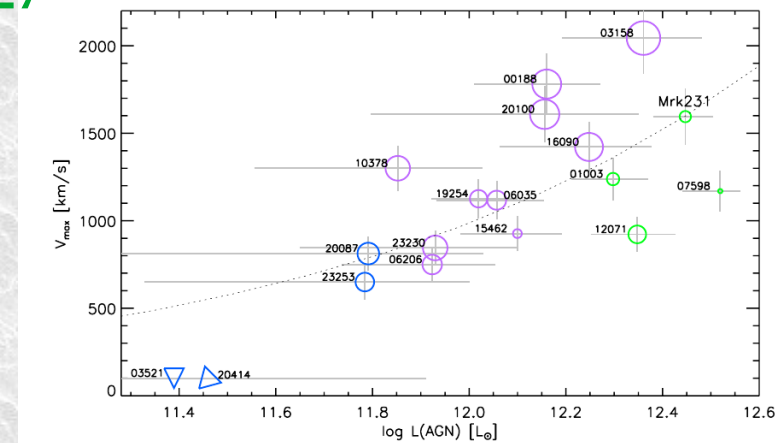
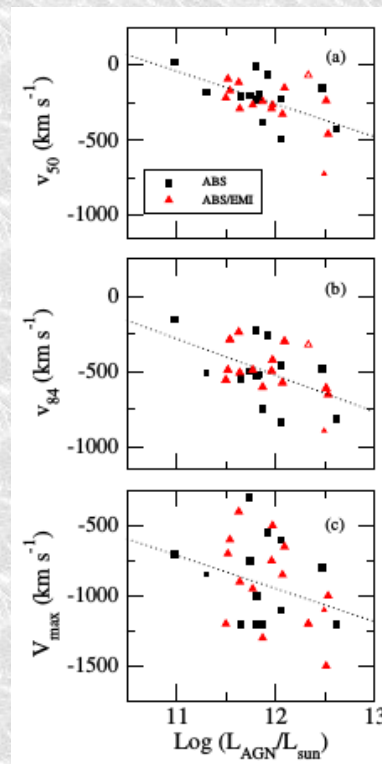
Spoon+13, ApJ, 775, 127

V_{84} (OH119) is measured: 84% of the absorption produced at higher velocities

Sturm+11, ApJ, 733, L16

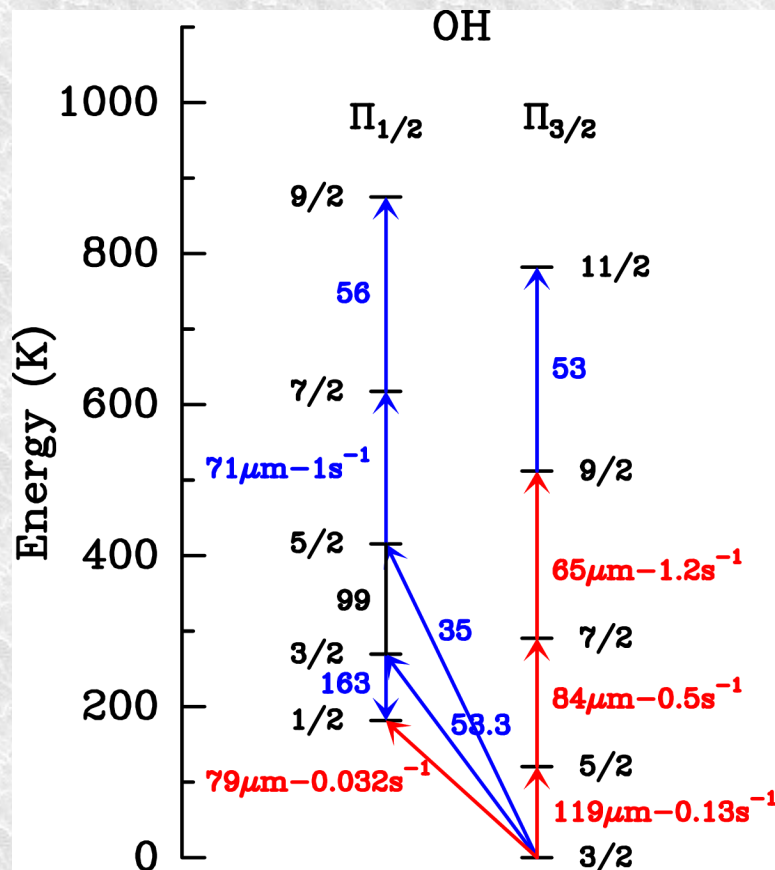


Outflows are found in 70% of ULIRGs



A trend is found of increasing Velocities with increasing $L(\text{AGN})$

OH is characterized by high level spacing and high transition probabilities: it couples very well to the far-IR radiation field



We use the ground state **OH 119 μm** and **79 μm** doublets, and also the excited **OH 84 μm** and **65 μm** to characterize the high-lying molecular absorption

- 1) **OH119** is optically thick: covering factor f_c
- 2) **OH79** is also ground, but optically thin: N_H
- 3) **OH84** is excited ($E_{\text{low}}=120$ K): compactness, r
- 4) **OH65** is high-lying ($E_{\text{low}}=300$ K): very compact and excited components, r

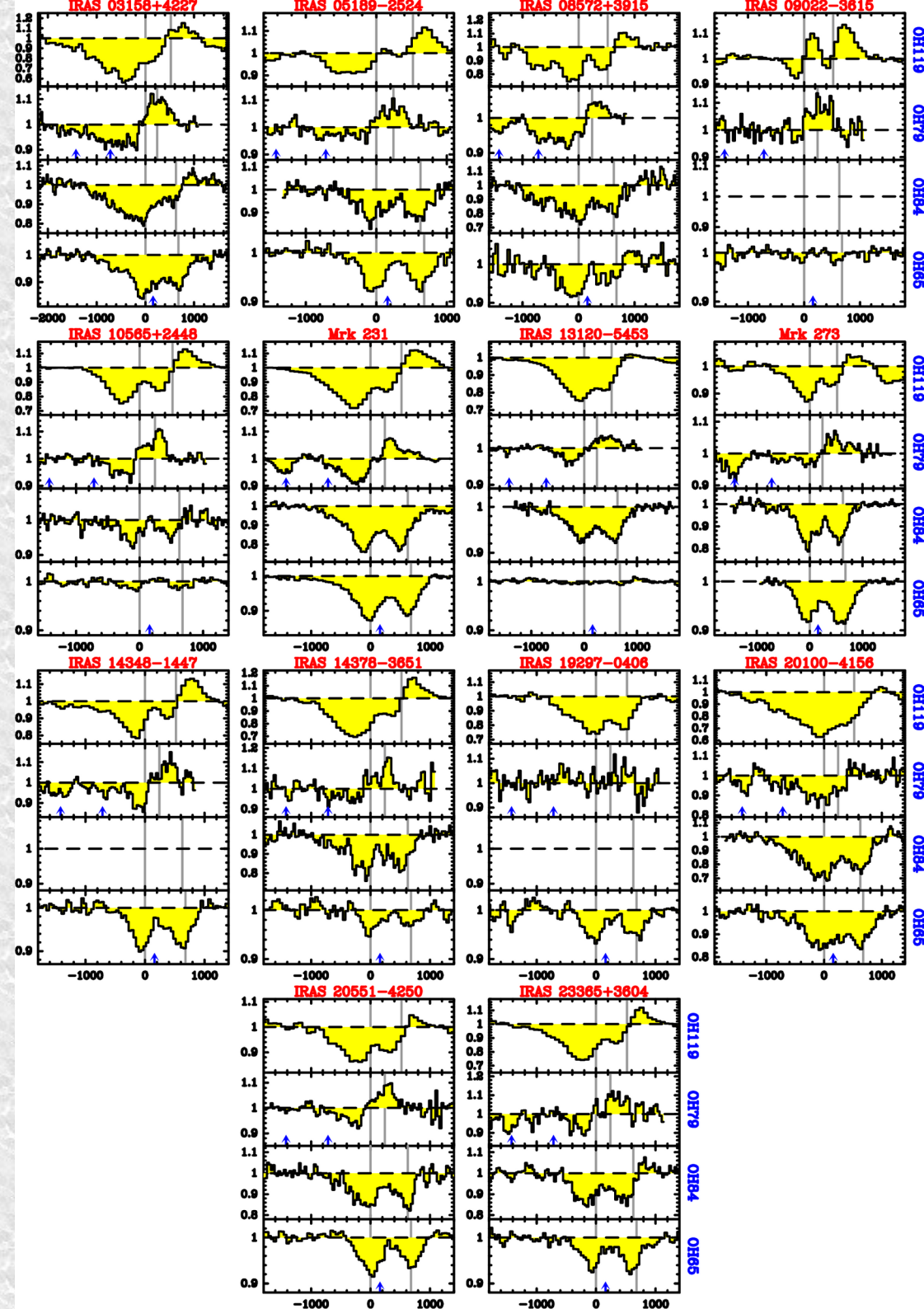
The excitation of **OH84 & OH65** is dominated by **absorption of photons emitted by dust**, requiring high far-IR radiation densities

$\Pi_{3/2} J = 3/2 \rightarrow 5/2 \rightarrow 7/2 \rightarrow 9/2$

The size of the outflow is computed from the predicted far-IR emission, which in turn depends on the observed OH excitation

With the column density, size (and thus the outflowing mass), and the velocity field obtained from the spectra, we can estimate the outflow energetics.

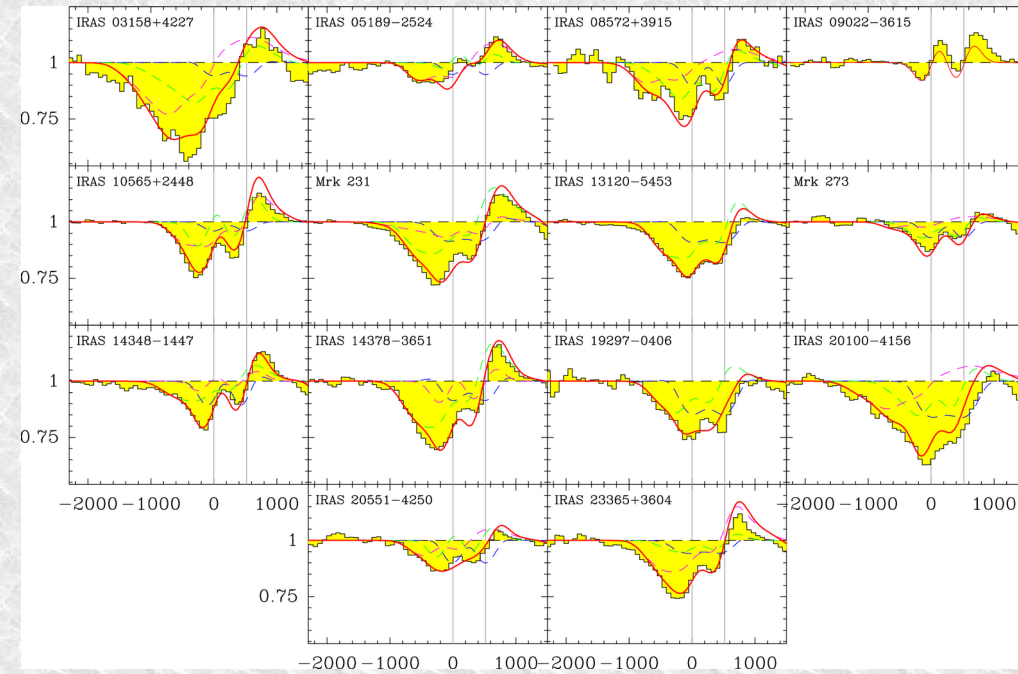
*P-Cygni profiles in local
ULIRGs: estimating the
energetics of the outflows
GA+17, ApJ, 836, 11*



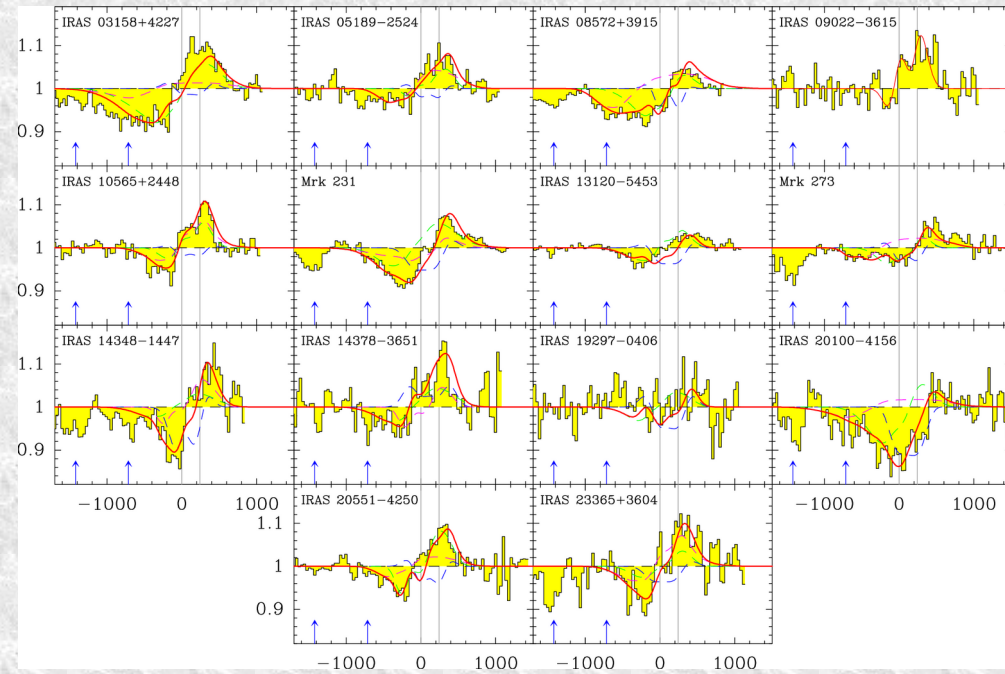
Sample: all ULIRGs with
evidence for outflows in
OH119 & OH79 and
observed in at least 1
excited doublet (OH84
and/or OH65)

RT models : overall modeling results

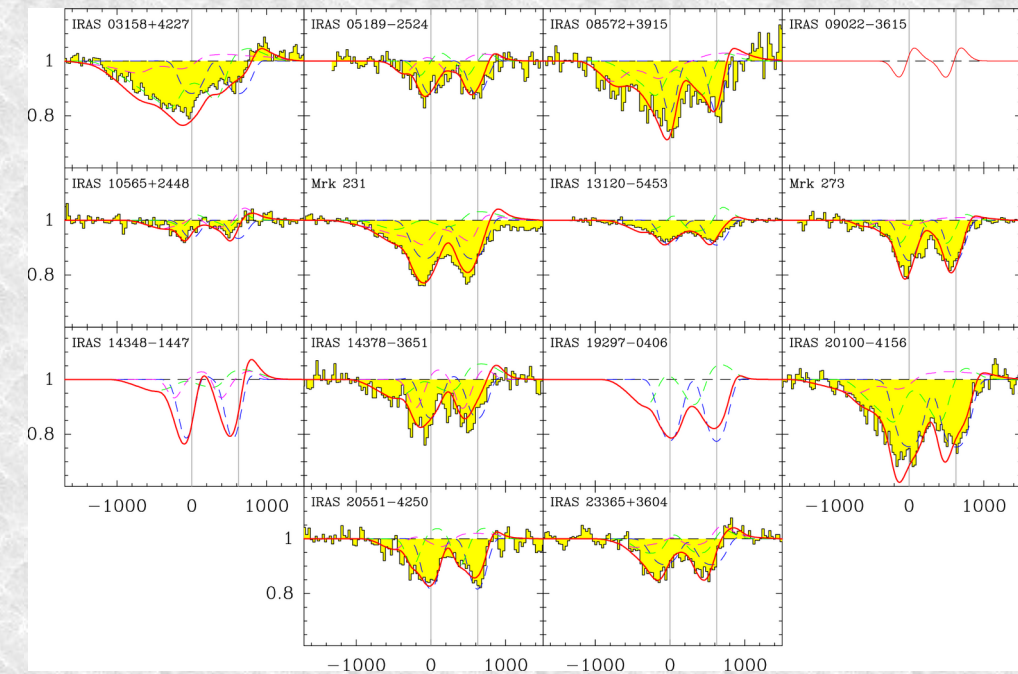
OH119



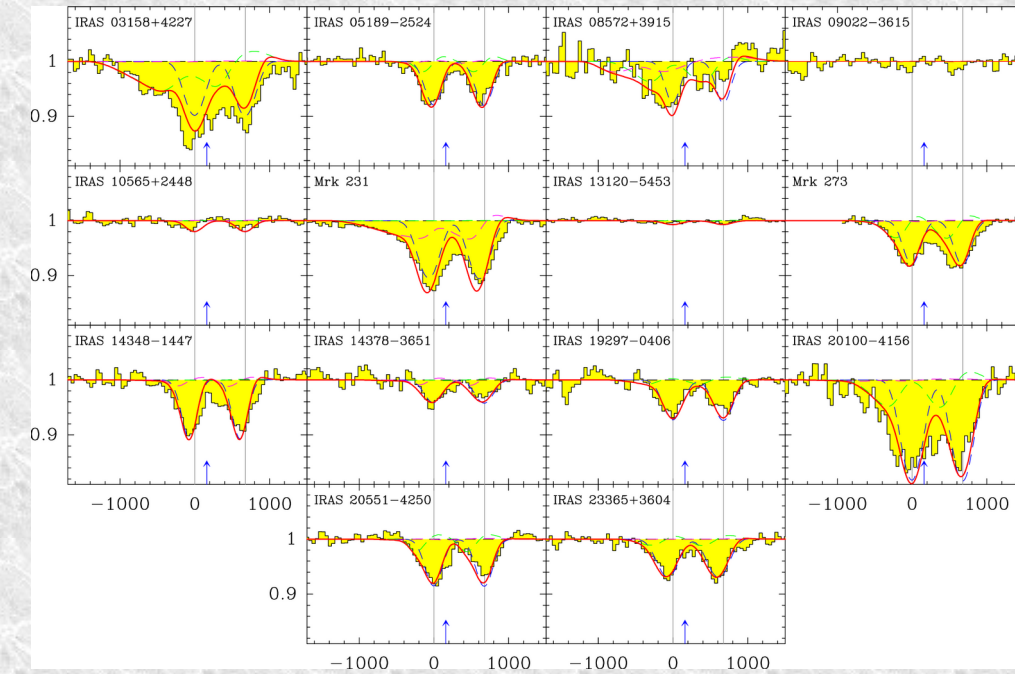
OH79



OH84

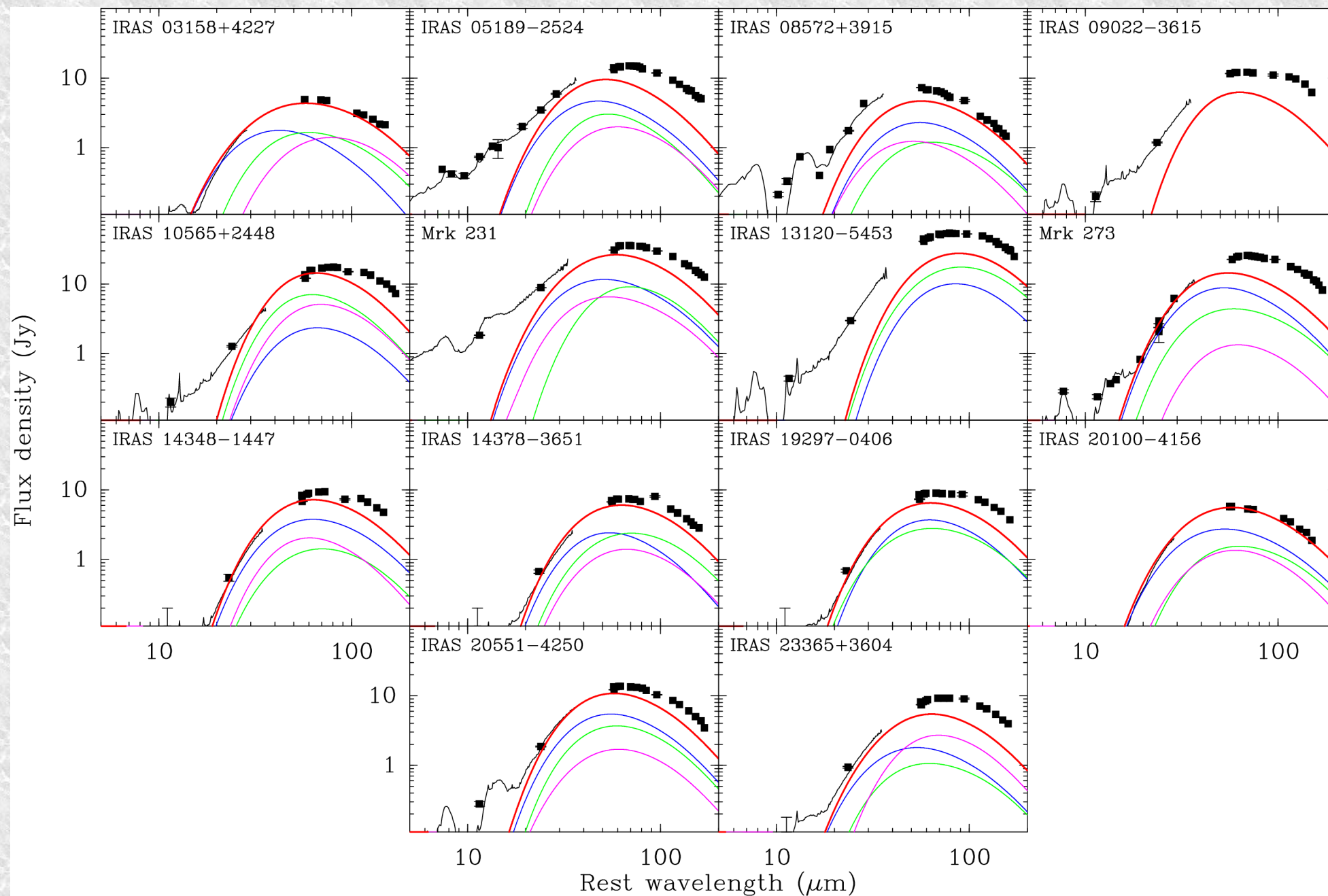


OH65



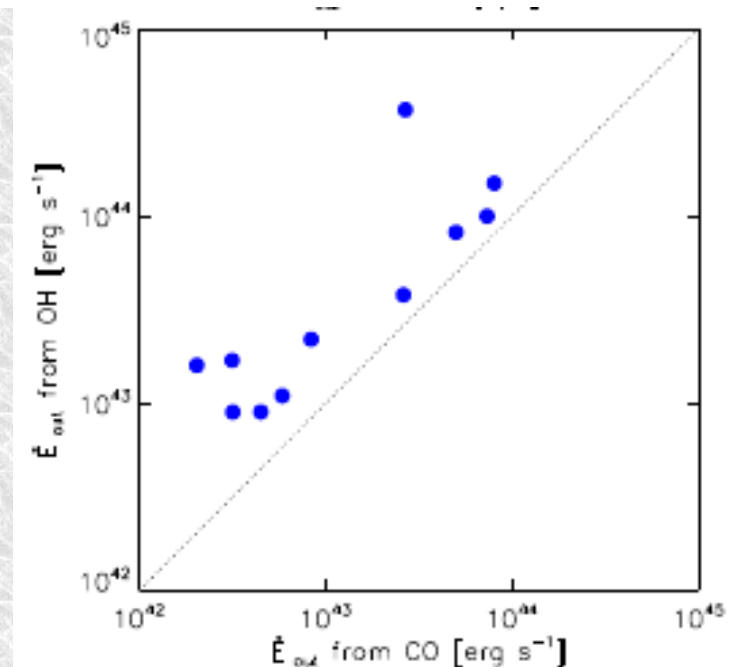
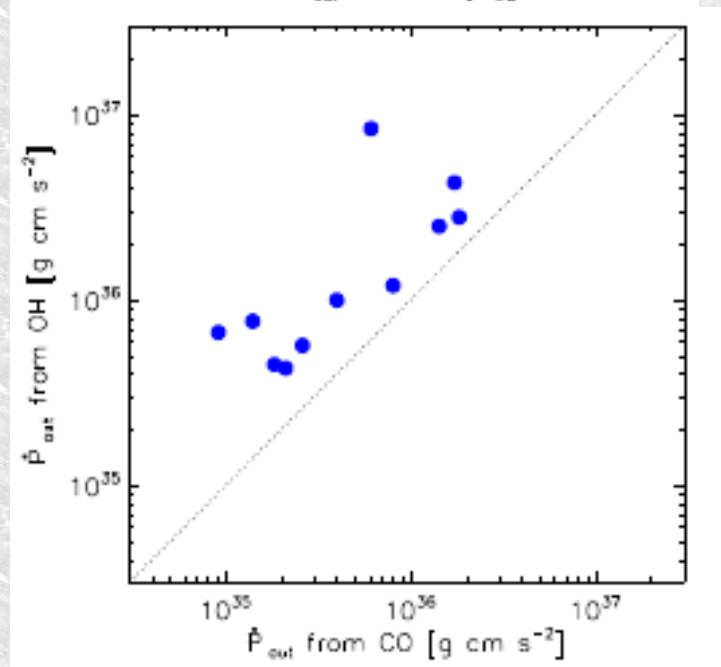
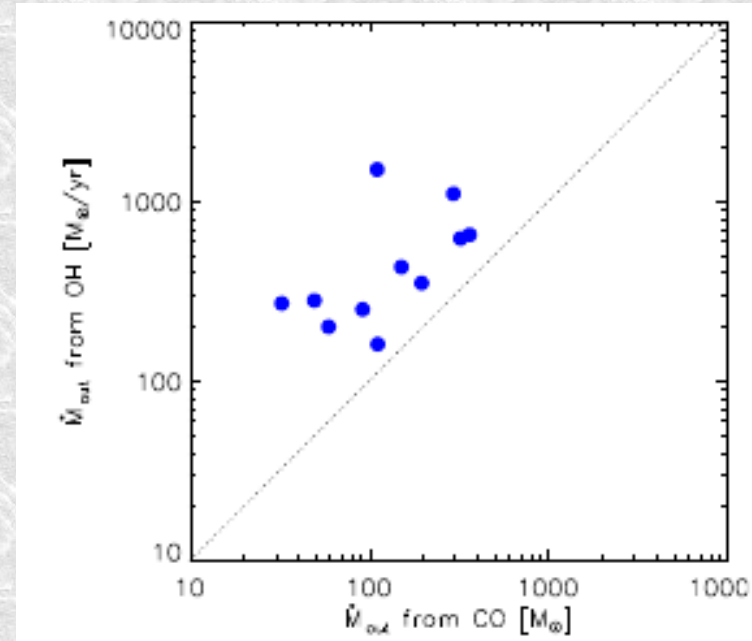
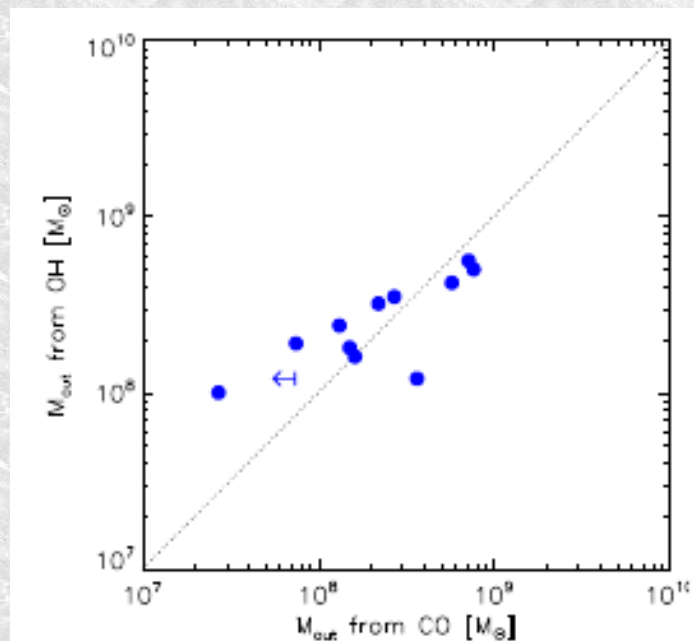
RT models : overall modeling results

Predictions for the far-IR continuum (red is total):
a fraction of the far-IR emission is associated with the OH



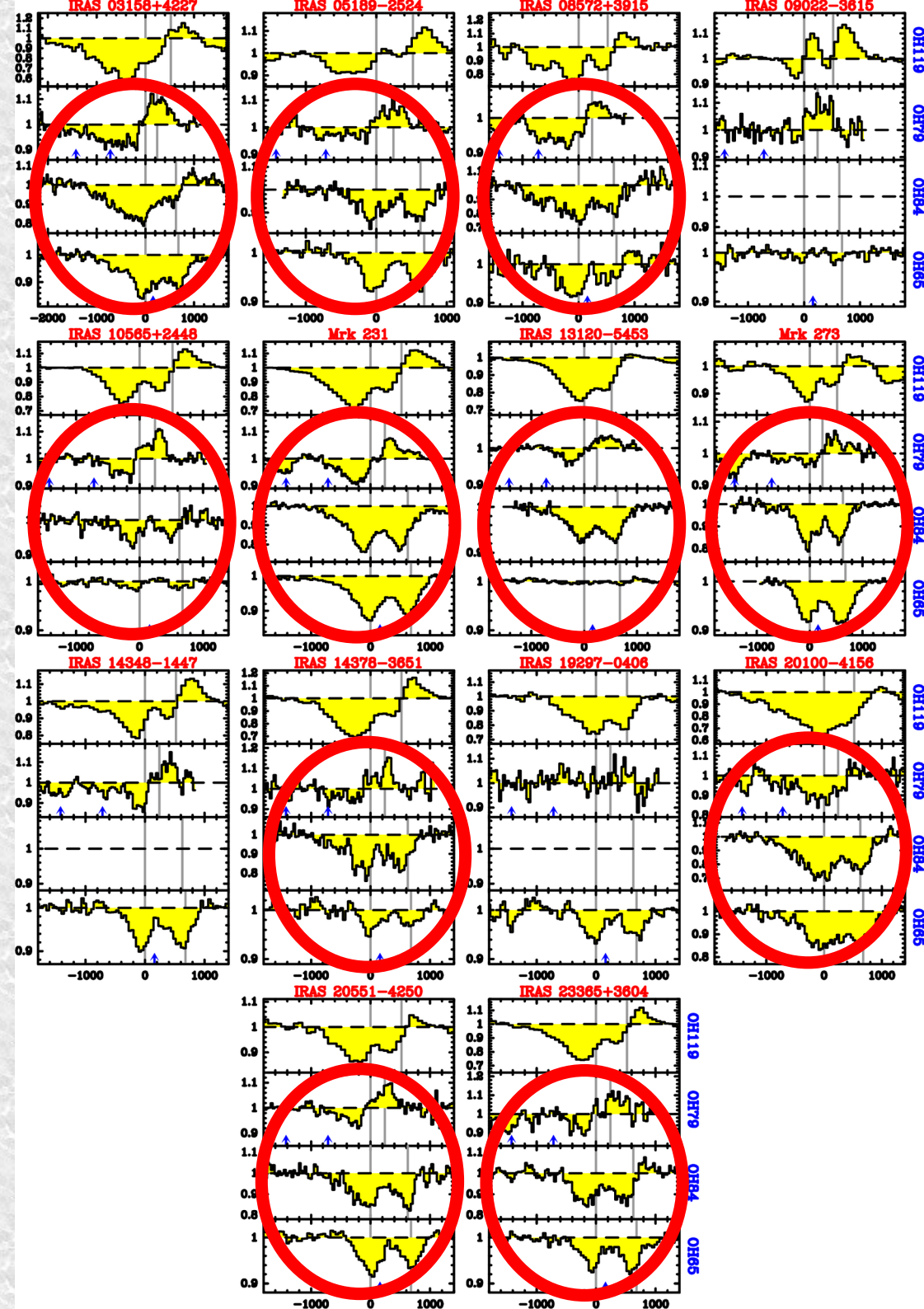
Comparison with CO

Lutz et al 2020, A&A, 633, A134



***Potential Problem: with
PRIMA, OH119 will not be
available at $z > 1$***

***We have to deal with OH79,
OH84, and OH65: how will be
affected the outflow energetics?***



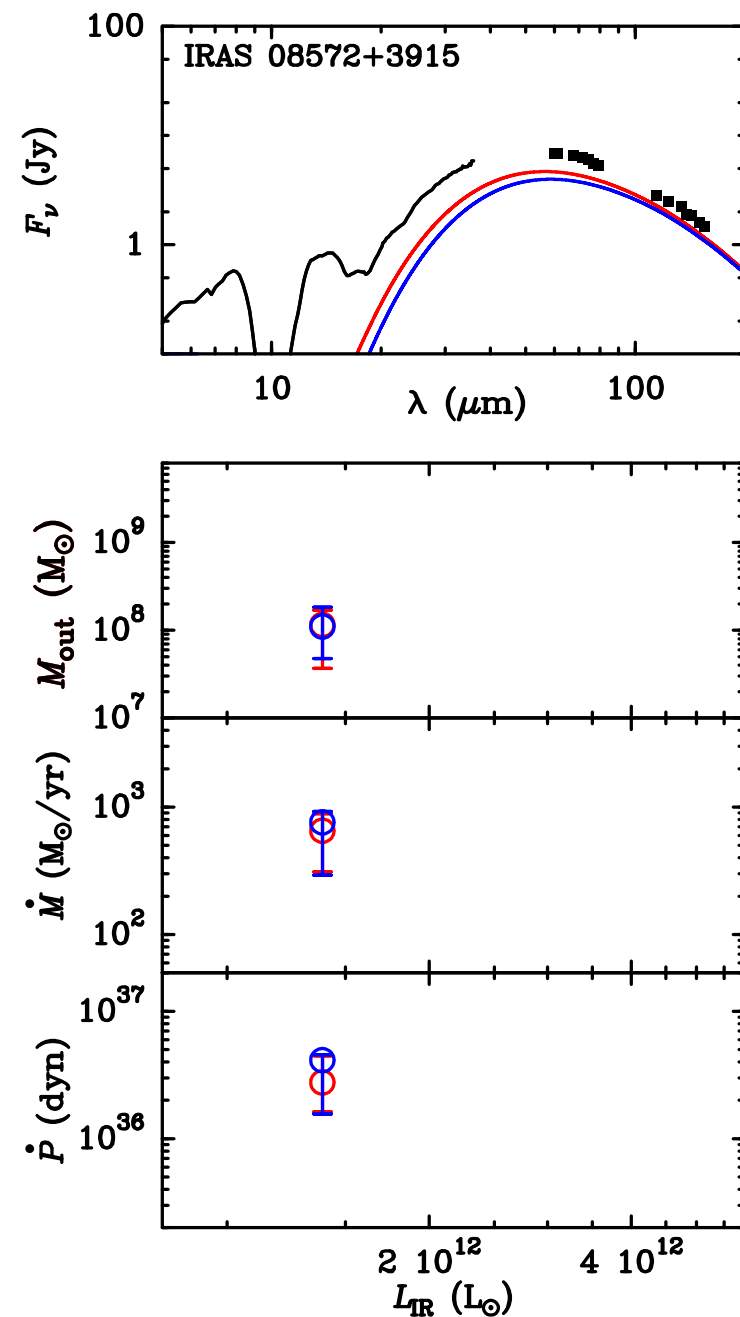
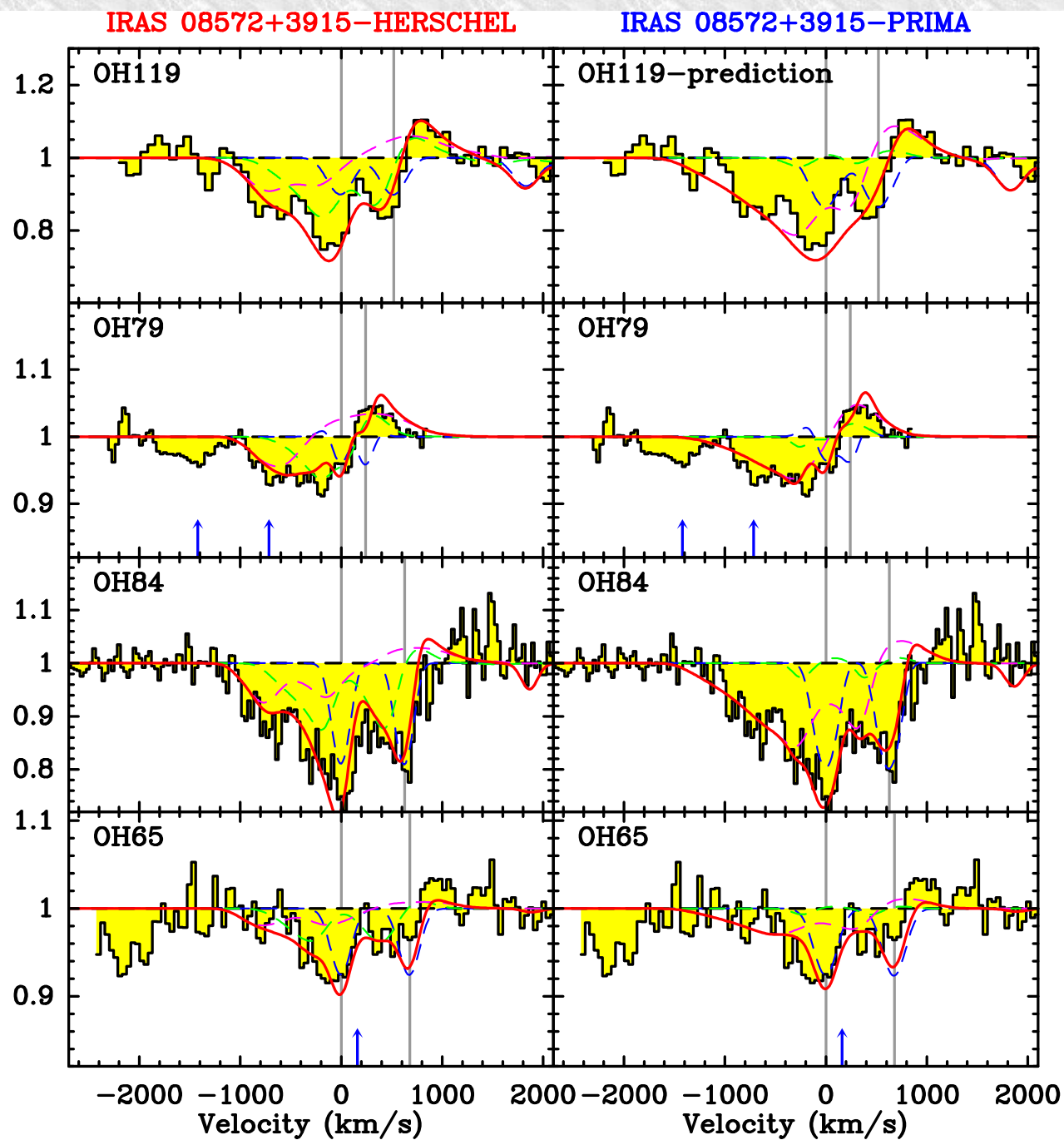
I have used the same model grid as with Herschel data to fit the OH profiles in all 11 sources where OH79, OH84, and OH65 are available, using only these 3 doublets (i.e. disregarding OH119): **PRIMA-fits**.

Energetics are obtained from these new **PRIMA-fits**, and compared with the energetics that are obtained using the 4 doublets (**Herschel-fits**).

One additional constraint for **PRIMA-fits**: the sum of the covering factors of all components **cannot exceed 1** for any transition.

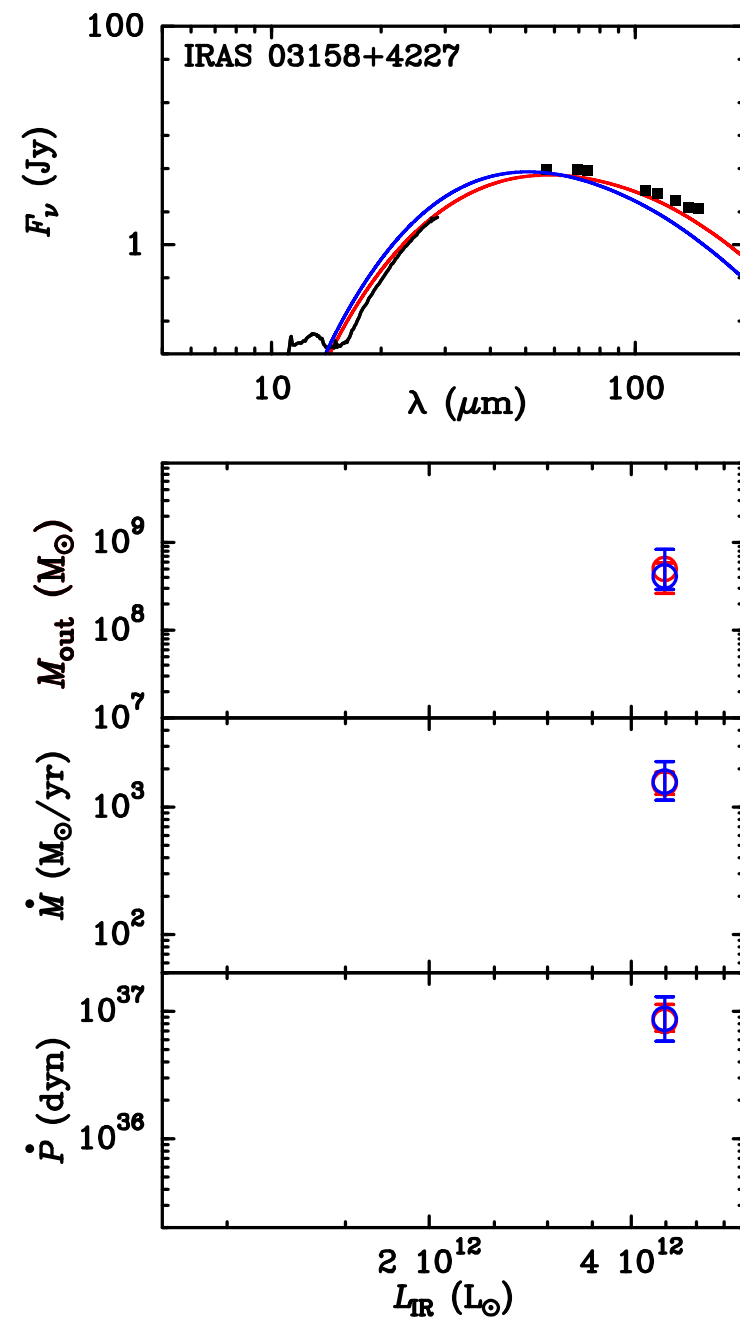
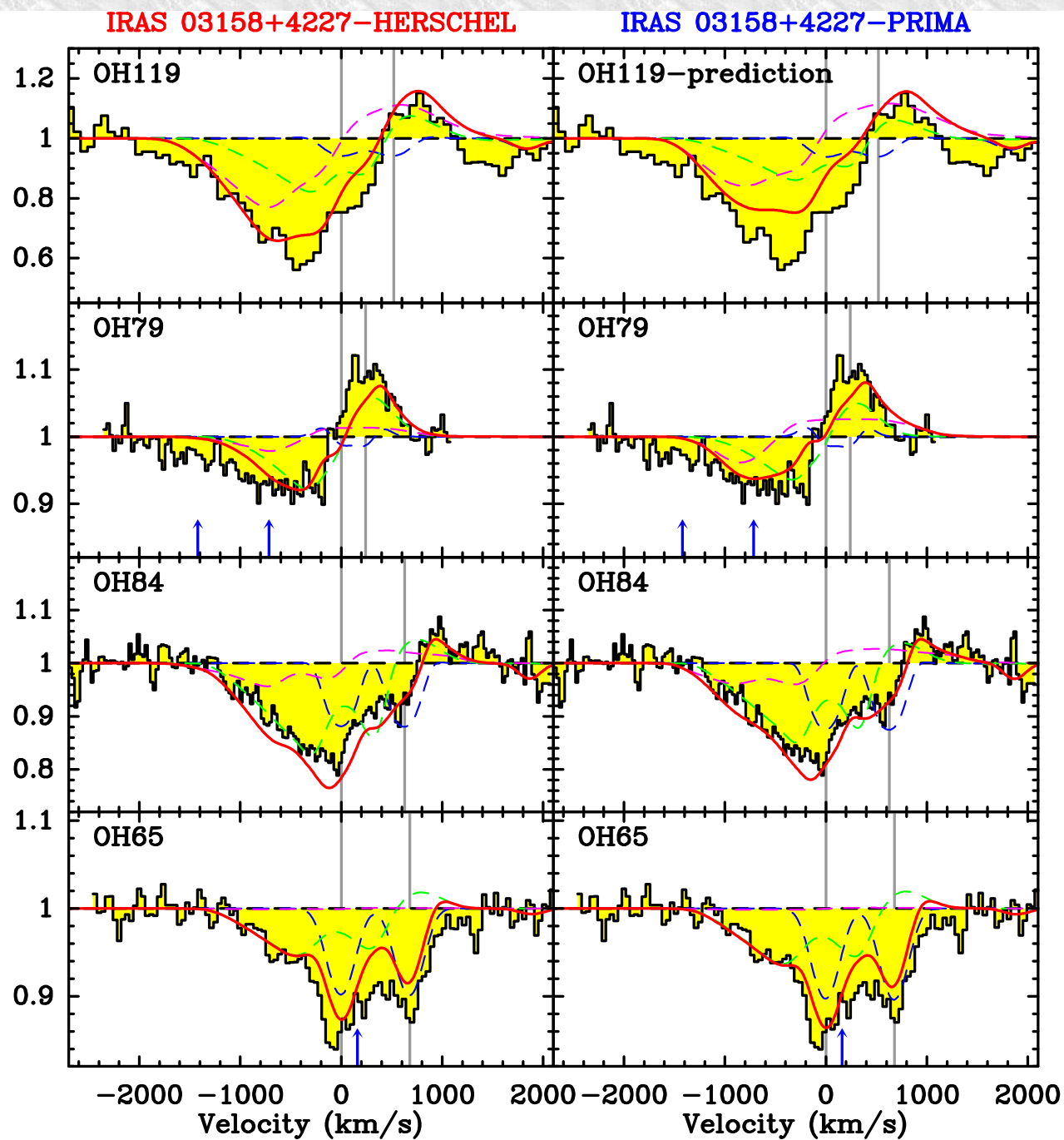
IRAS 08572+3915: comparison

Continuum-normalized spectra



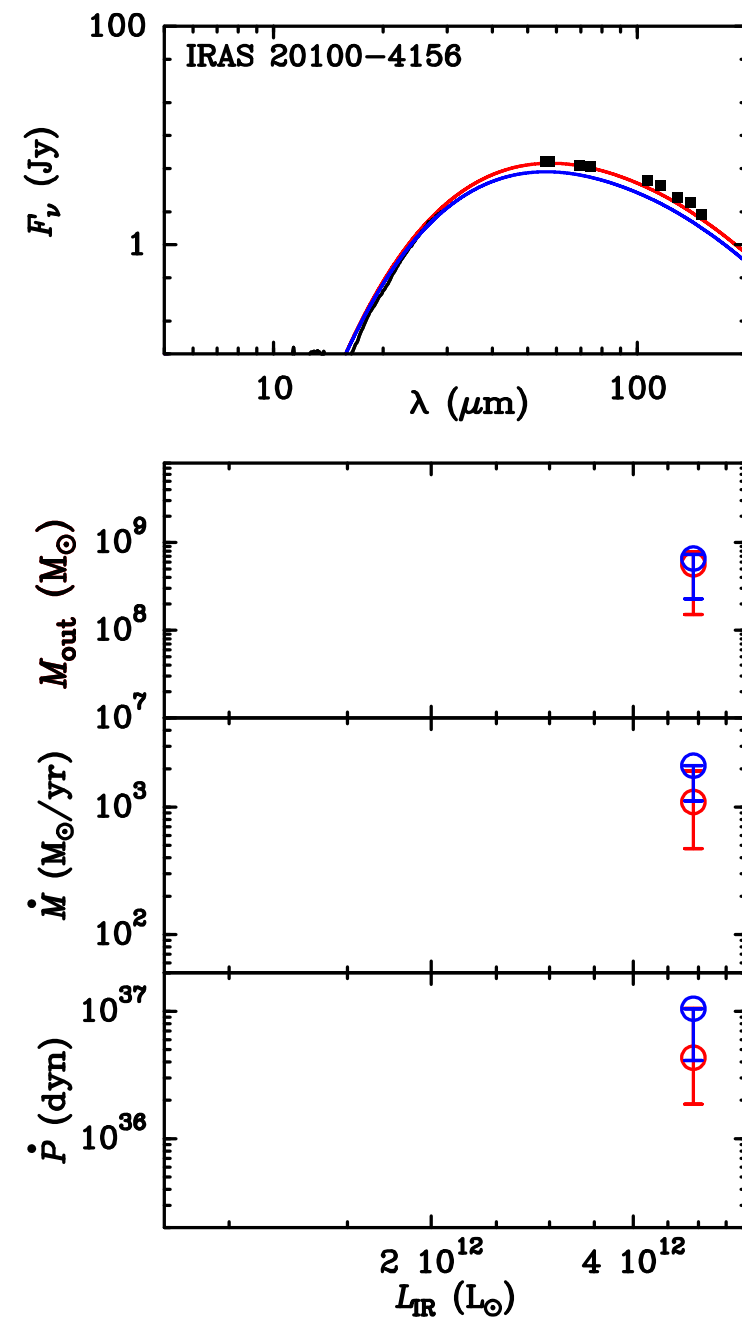
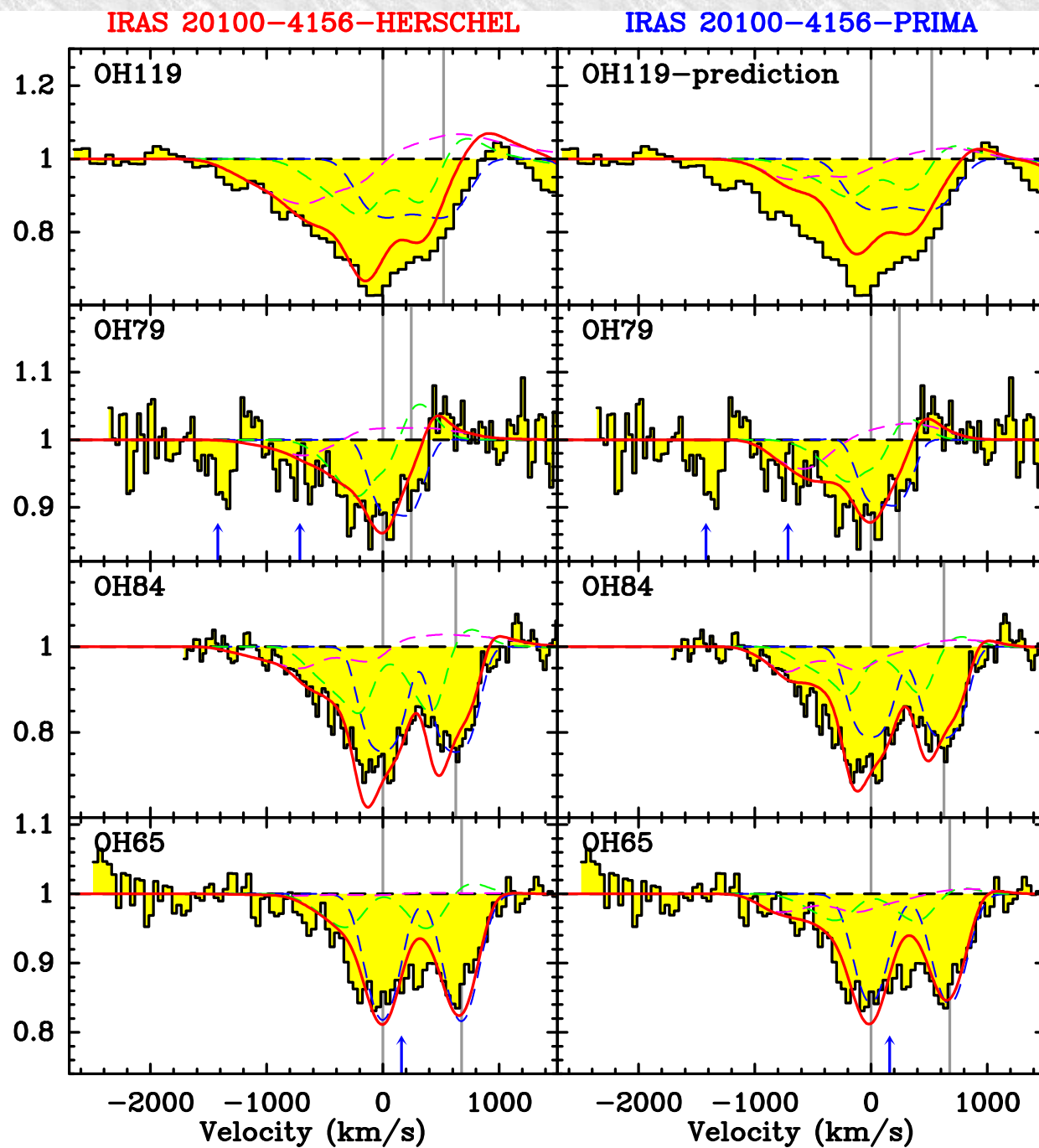
IRAS 03158+4227: comparison

Continuum-normalized spectra



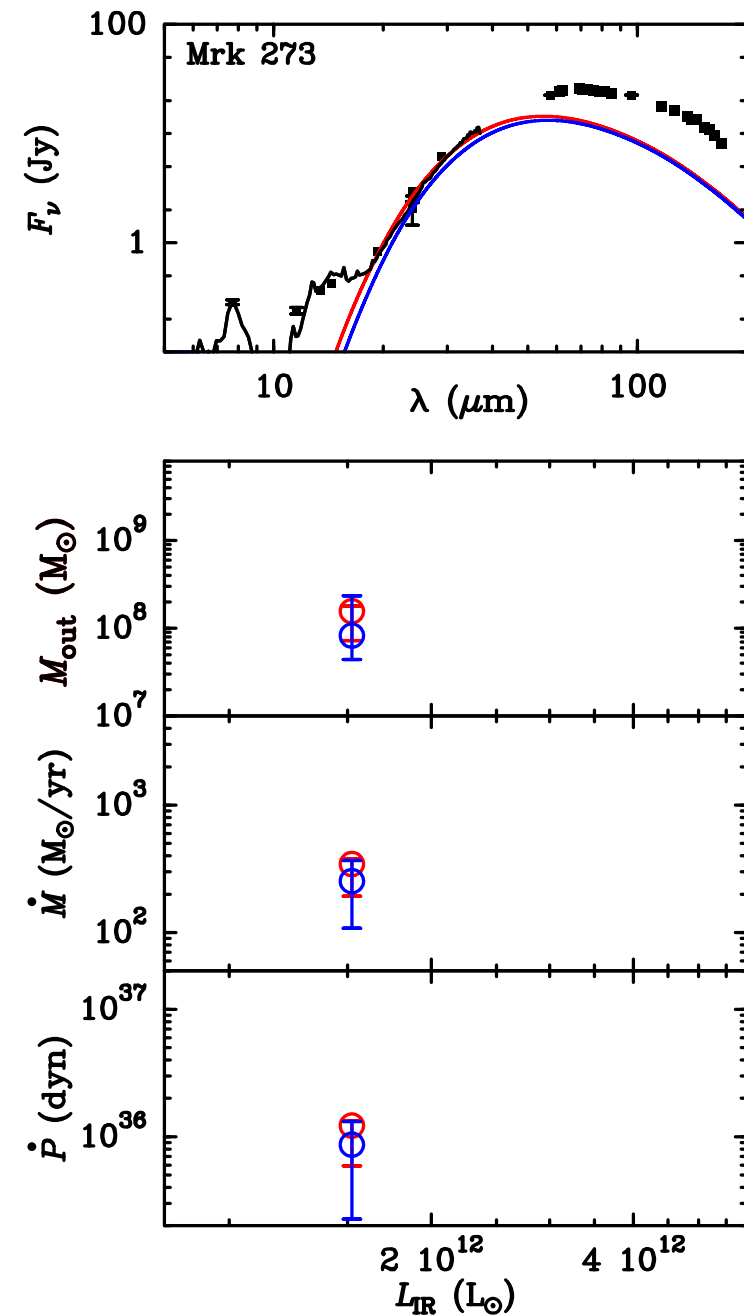
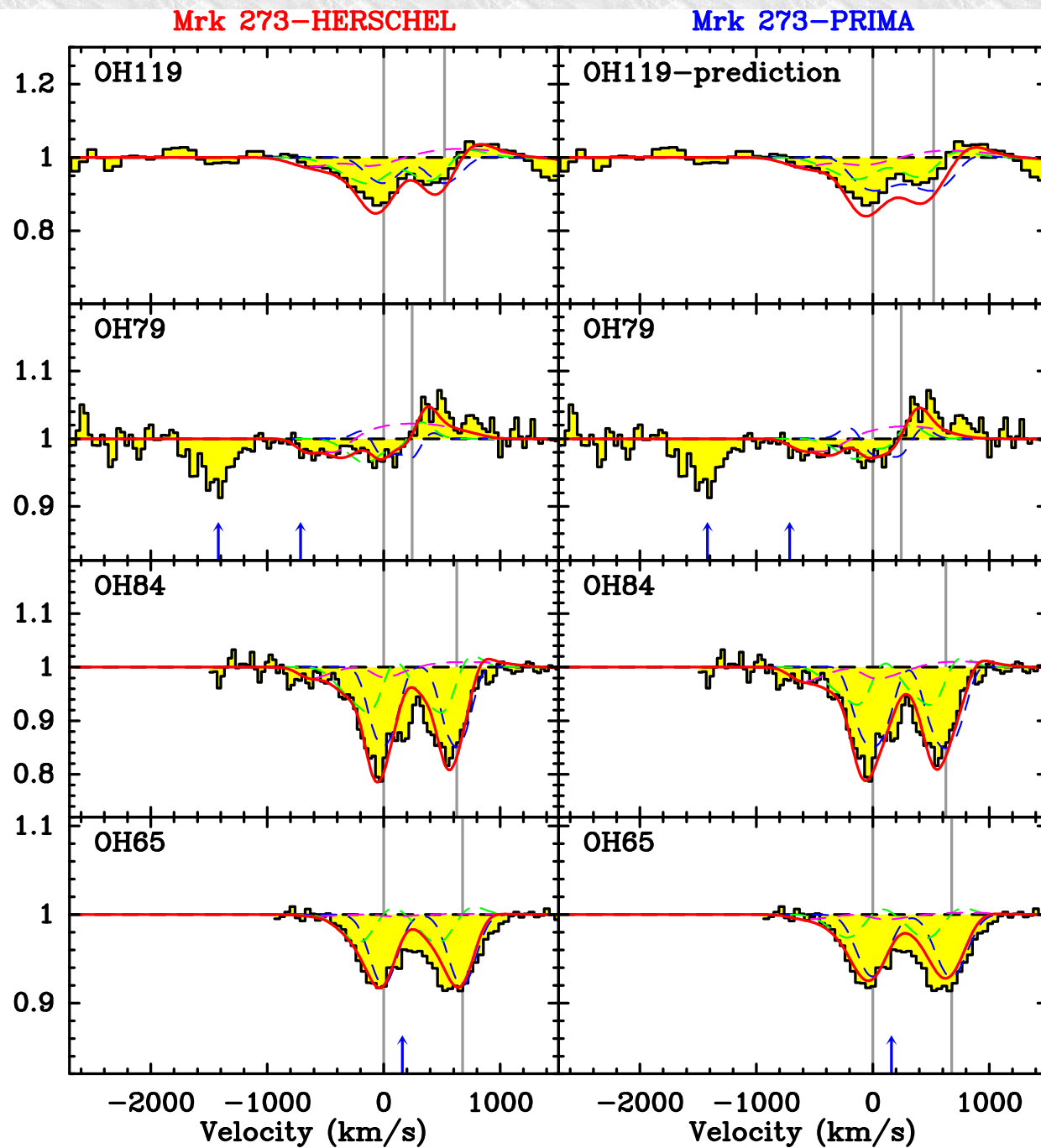
IRAS 20100-4156: comparison

Continuum-normalized spectra

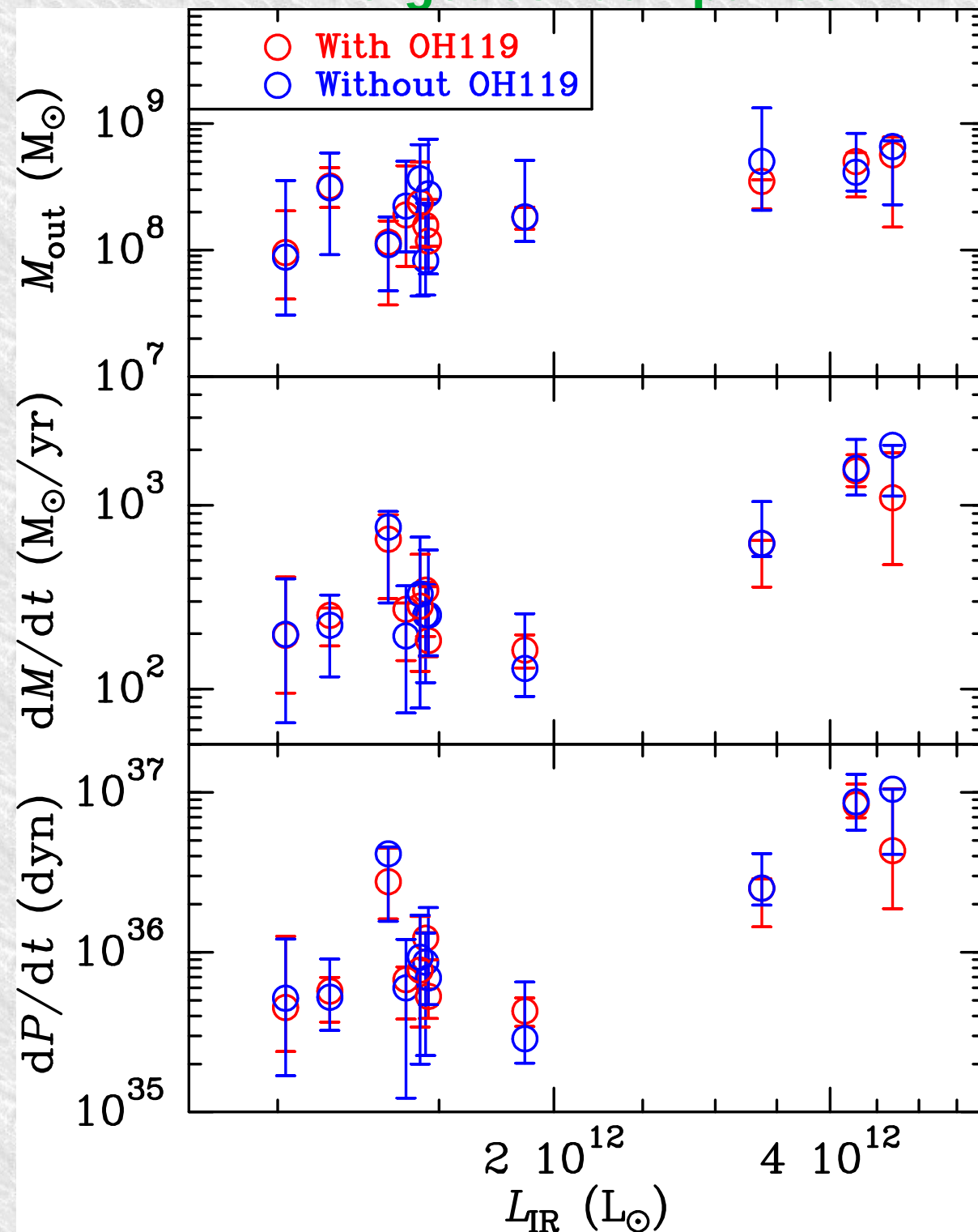


Mrk 273: comparison

Continuum-normalized spectra



Energetics: comparison



Herschel-fits

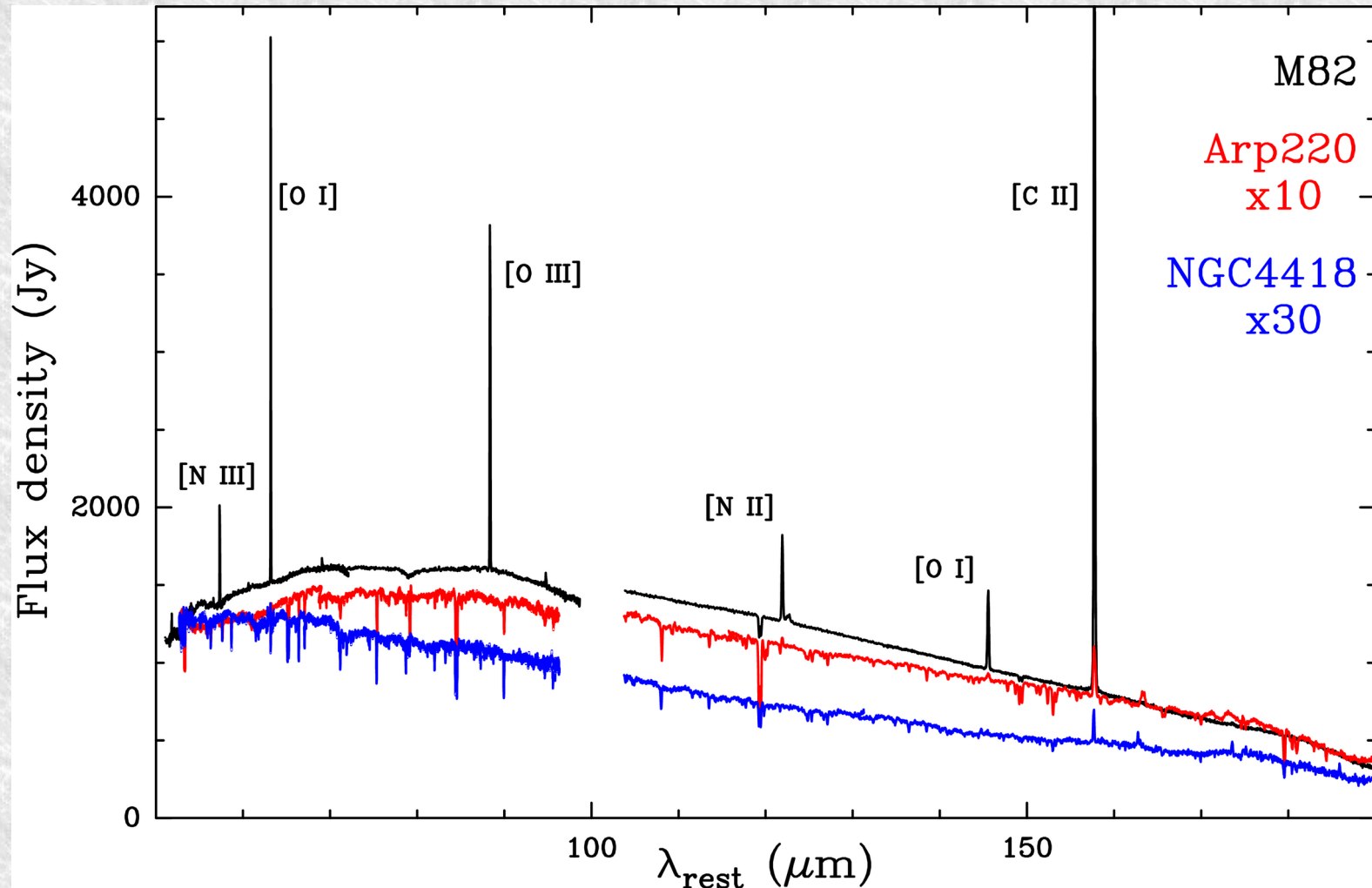
PRIMA-fits

Part II: Buried Galactic Nuclei at (Nearly) Cosmic Noon

Introduction

ABSORPTION LINES: Herschel/PACS

LOCAL (U)LIRGs with high far-IR radiation densities have far-IR spectra (50-200 μm) dominated by absorption in molecular lines



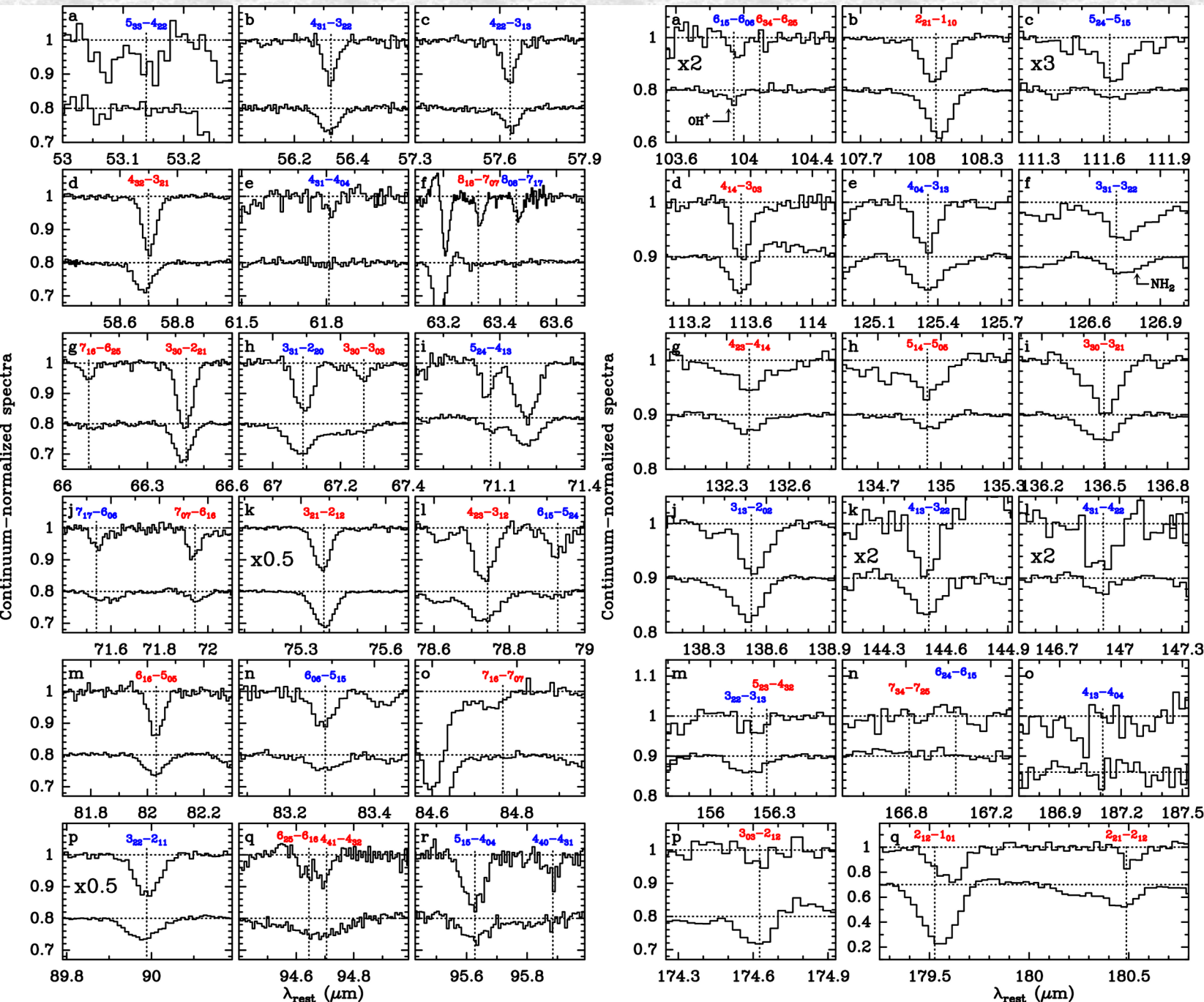
Mostly light hydrides: H_2O , OH , NH , NH_2 , NH_3 , HF , H_2S , CH , CH^+ , OH^+ , H_2O^+ , H_3O^+

ABSORPTION LINES

Upper spectra: NGC 4418

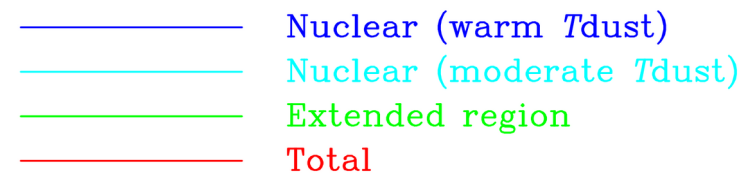
Lower spectra: Arp 220

H₂O lines in NGC 4418 & Arp 220 (GA+12, A&A, 541, A4)

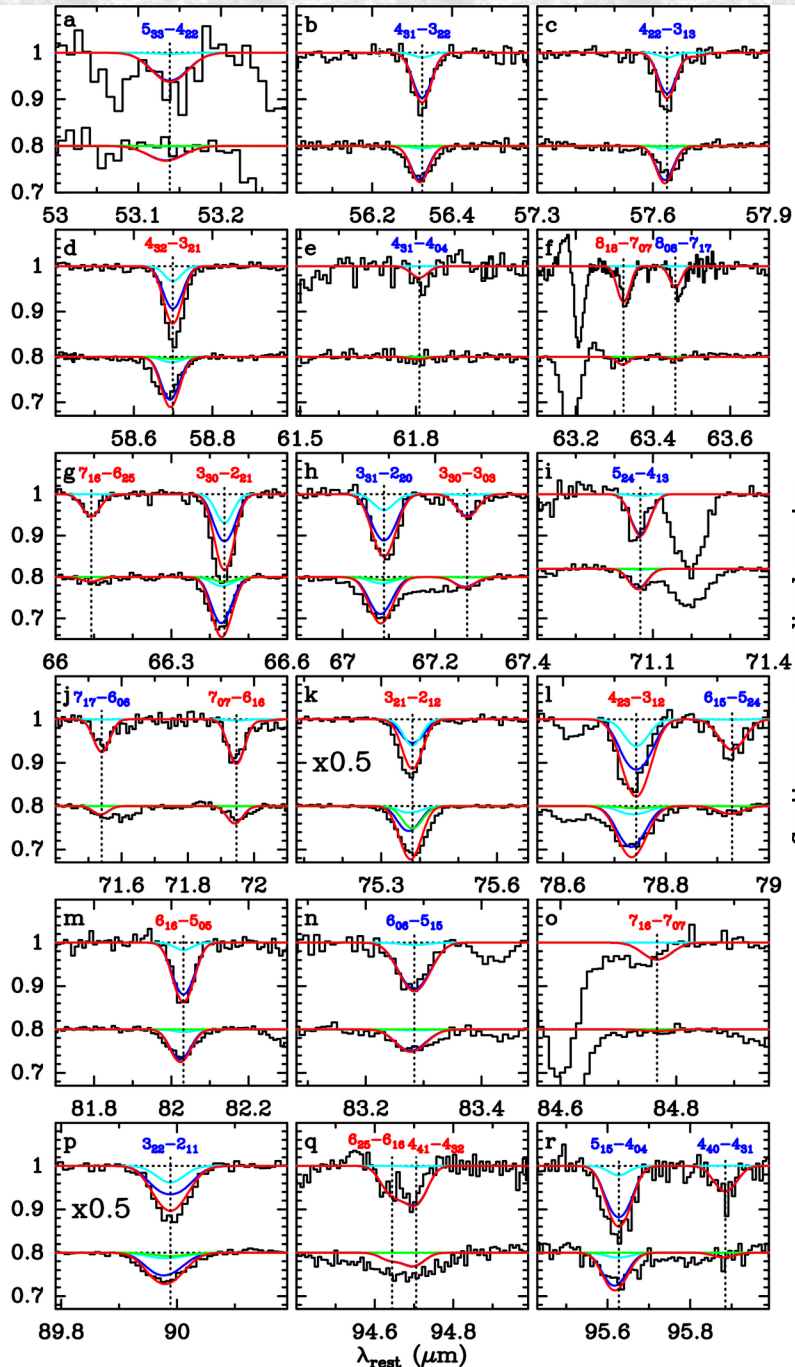


Red: ortho
Blue: para

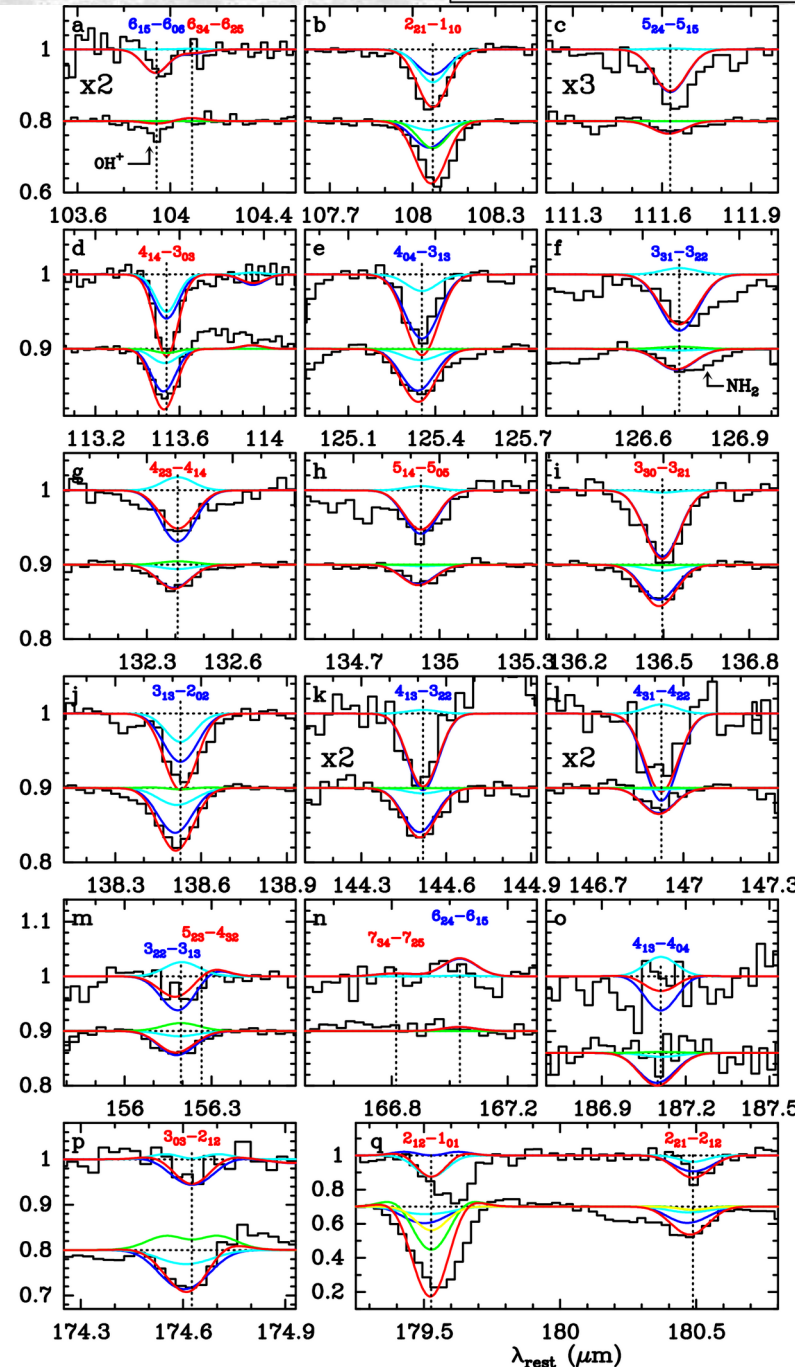
A forest of absorption H₂O lines (GA+12)



Continuum-normalized spectra



Continuum-normalized spectra



Red: ortho
Blue: para

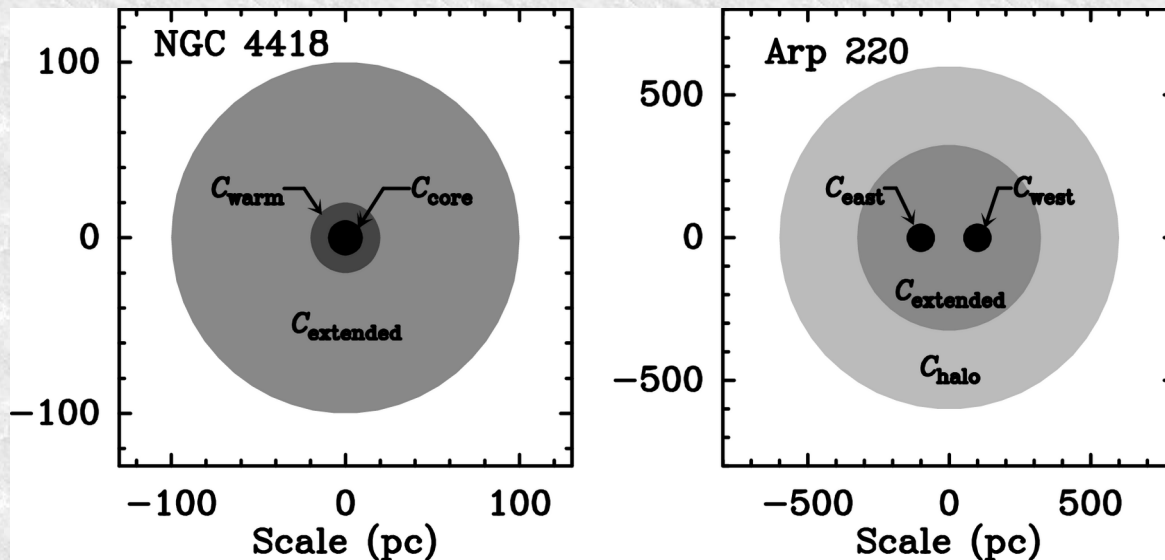
Nuclear regions:

NGC 4418:
 $T_{\text{dust}} \sim 130-150 \text{ K}$
 $N(\text{H}_2\text{O})/\tau_{50} \sim (2-6) \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

Arp 220:
 $T_{\text{dust}} \sim 90-110 \text{ K}$
 $N(\text{H}_2\text{O})/\tau_{50} \sim (0.8-6) \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

mantle-free dust grains
or “undepleted chemistry”

H₂O emission/absorption probes the source structure (GA+12)

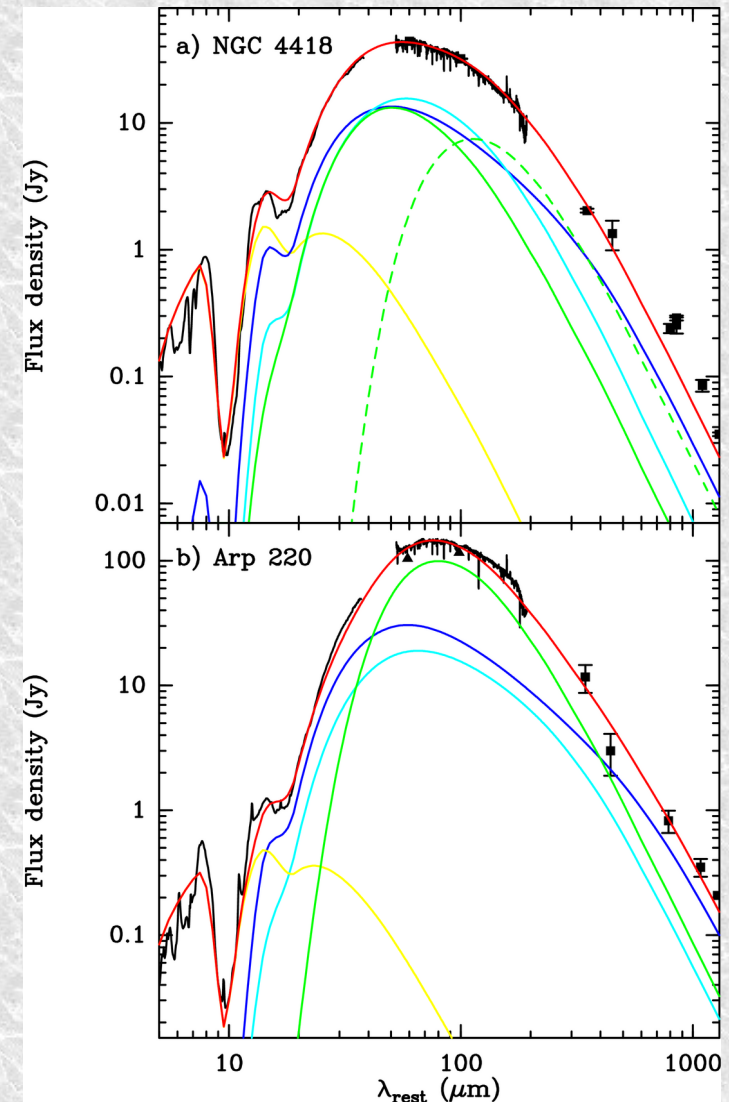


**The optically thick and compact nuclei are responsible for the high-lying H₂O absorption lines.*

**The more optically thin, more extended C_{extended} dominate the emission in the submm H₂O emission lines*

We understand better the SEDs... from the lines

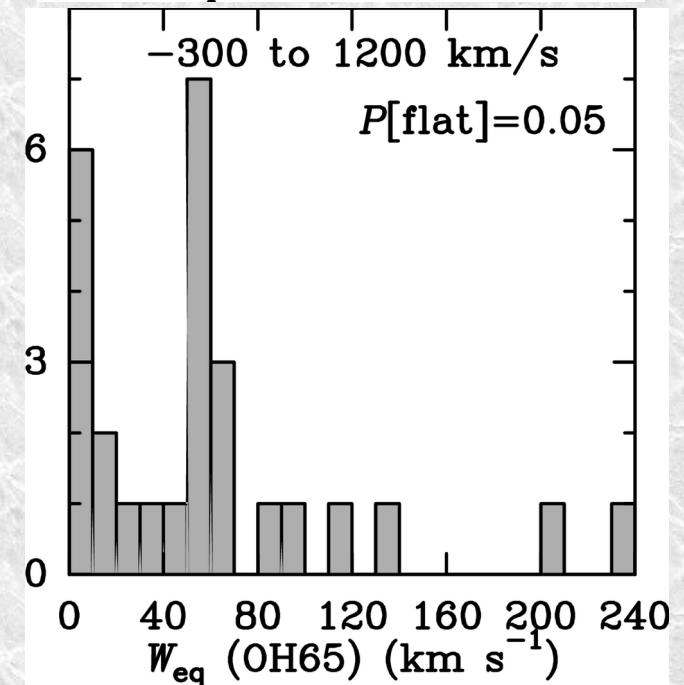
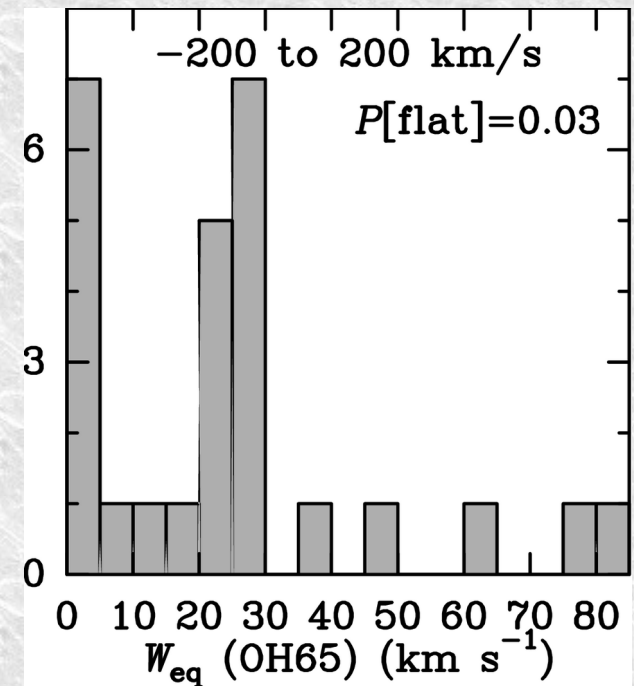
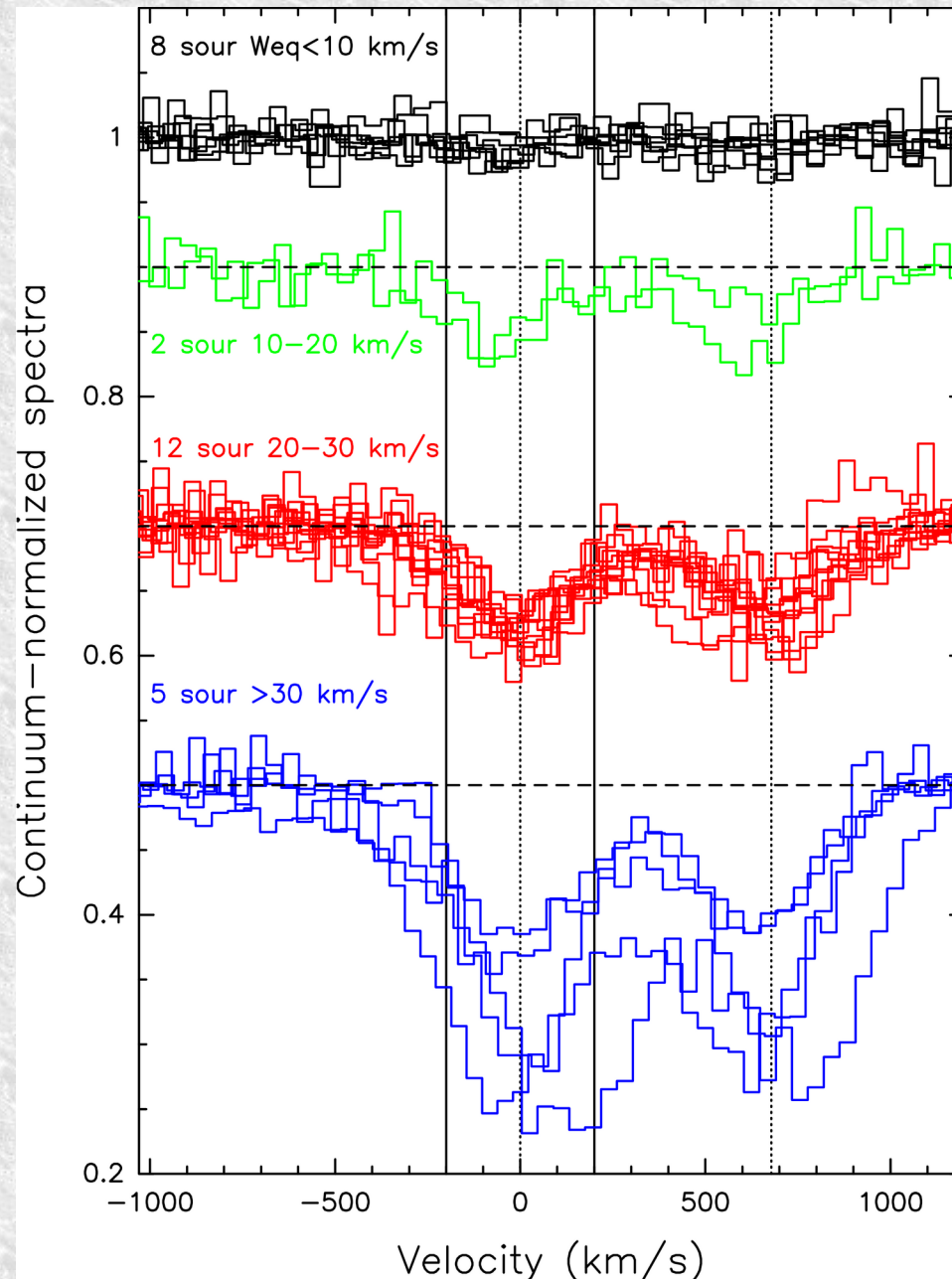
The far-IR continuum



The nuclear and extended regions may have different SEDs

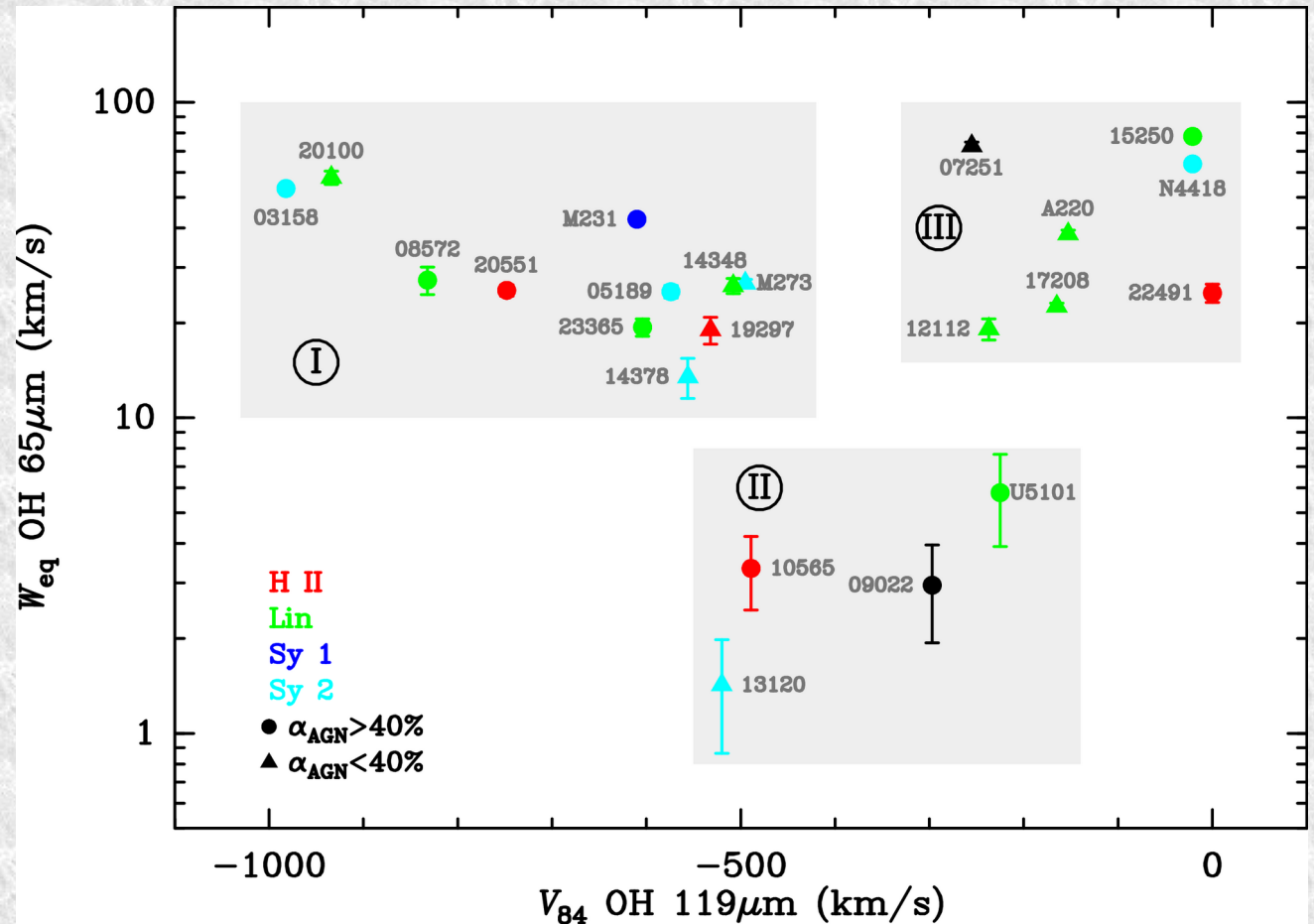
THE OH 65 μ m *HERSCHEL*/PACS SPECTRA

Bimodality in OH65

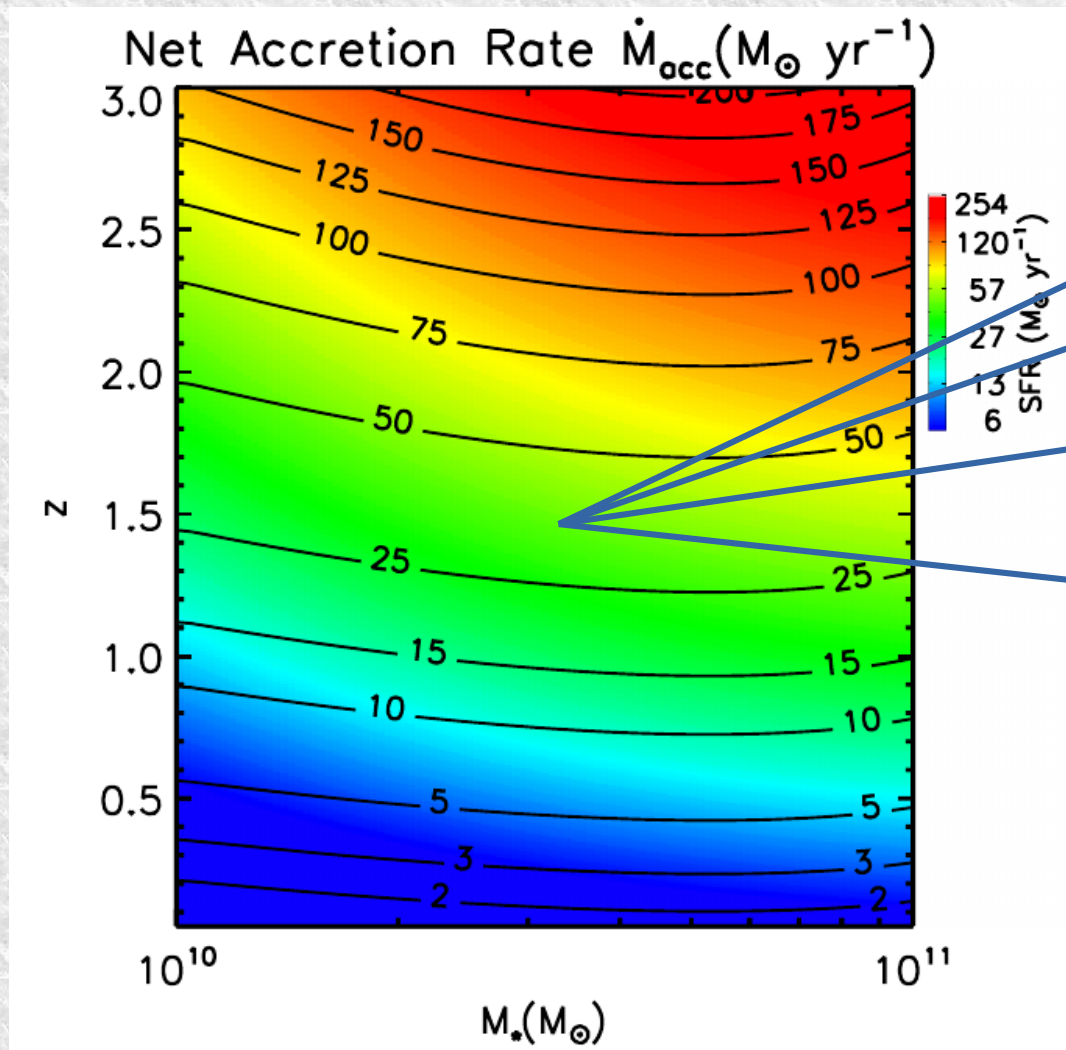


CONNECTING THE OH 65 μ m ABSORPTION WITH THE OUTFLOWS

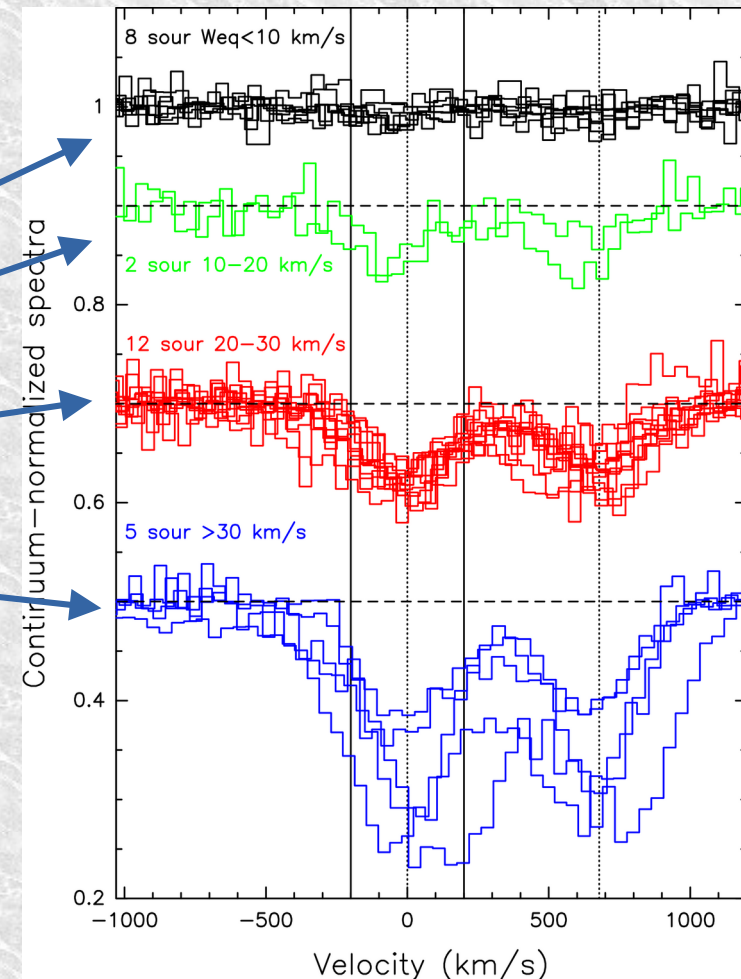
Highest
outflowing
velocities are
found in buried
sources
(the opposite is
not true)



At redshift ~ 1.5 , the SFR of galaxies $\gtrsim M_{\text{MS}}$ is $\gtrsim 30 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$, and is probably maintained by accretion of intergalactic gas, which drives galaxy evolution (Scoville et al. 2017, ApJ, 837, 150)



?

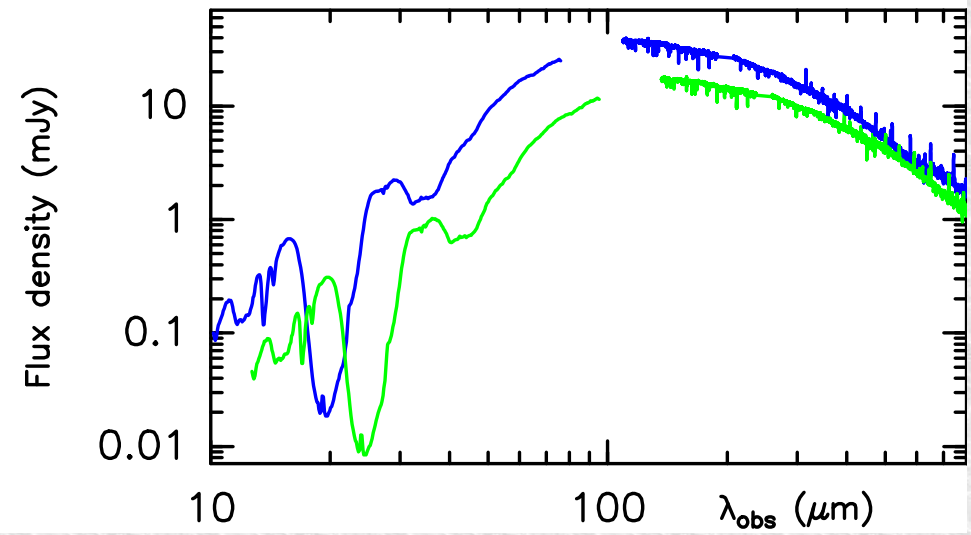
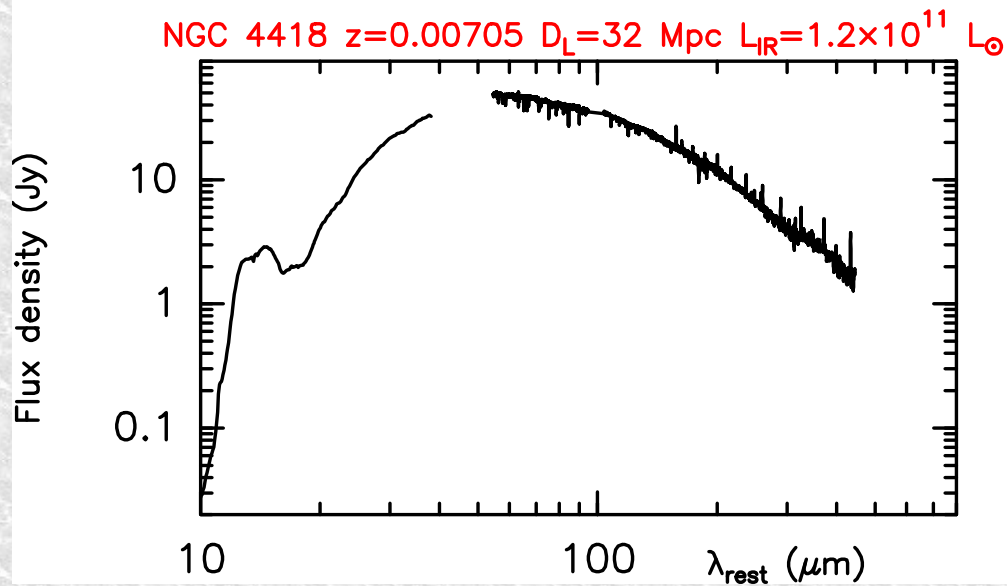
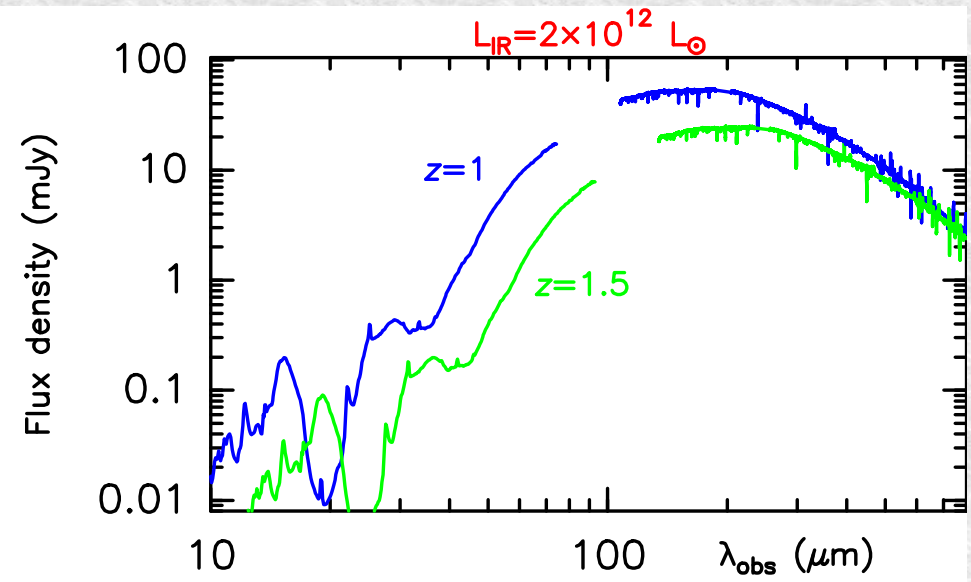
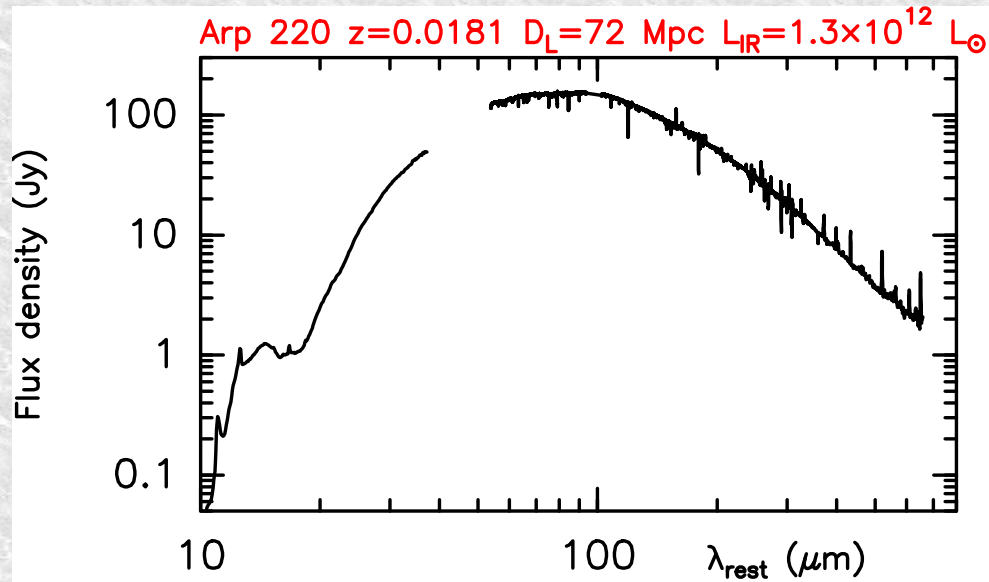


How is this gas accreted? How does it fall onto the galaxies?
 Is it forming spatially extended structures (disks) with low Σ_{SFR} ? (no excited absorption)
 Or is (part of) it falling towards the galaxy nucleus? (with excited absorption)
 Do galaxies at (nearly) cosmic noon have local-(U)LIRG structure?

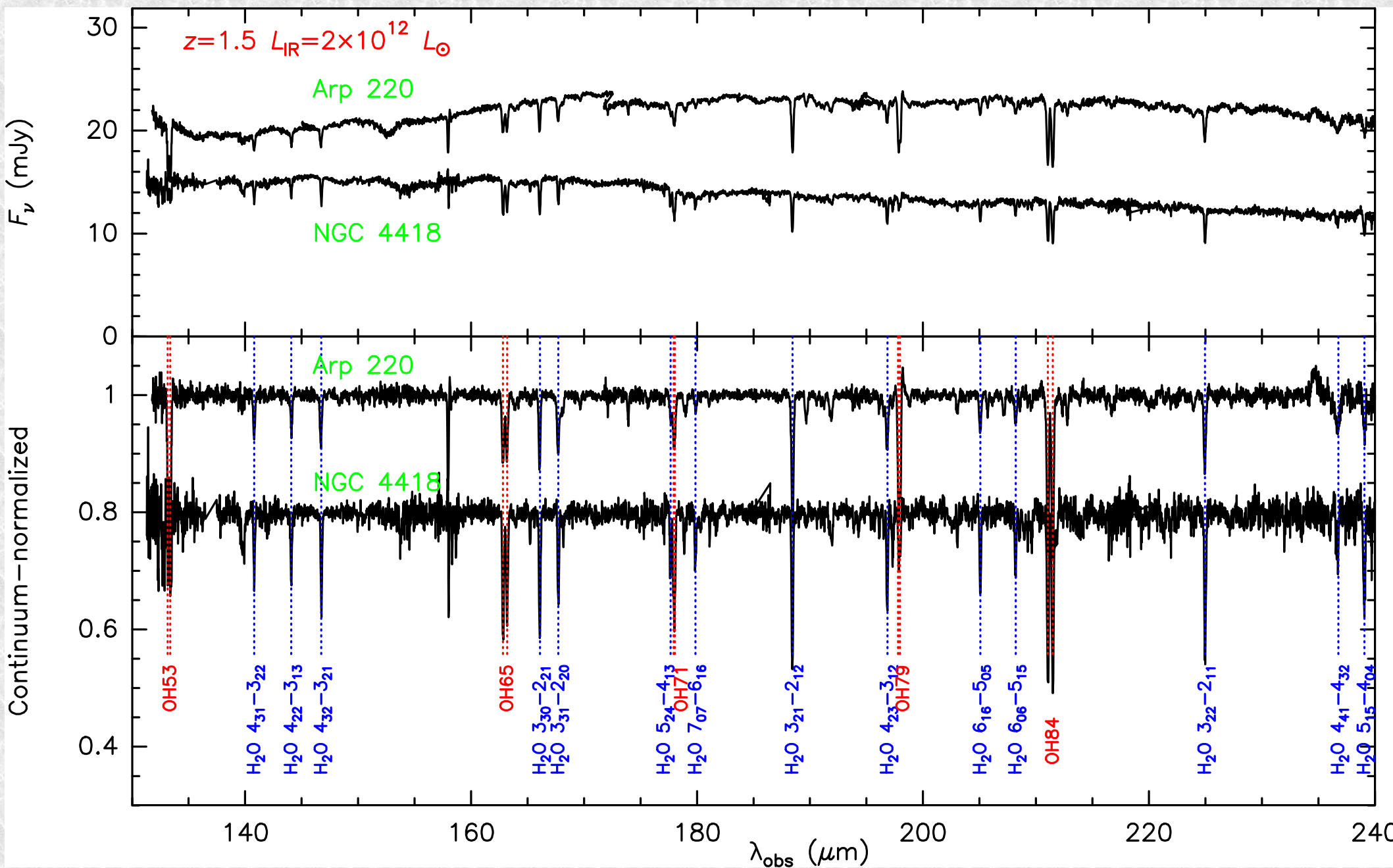
ABSORPTION LINES: Probing chemistry, excitation, ionization, columns, compactness, SED, structure, radiation field, and kinematics.

***Buried Galactic Nuclei:
can we detect them, if they are
present, at (Nearly) Cosmic
Noon?***

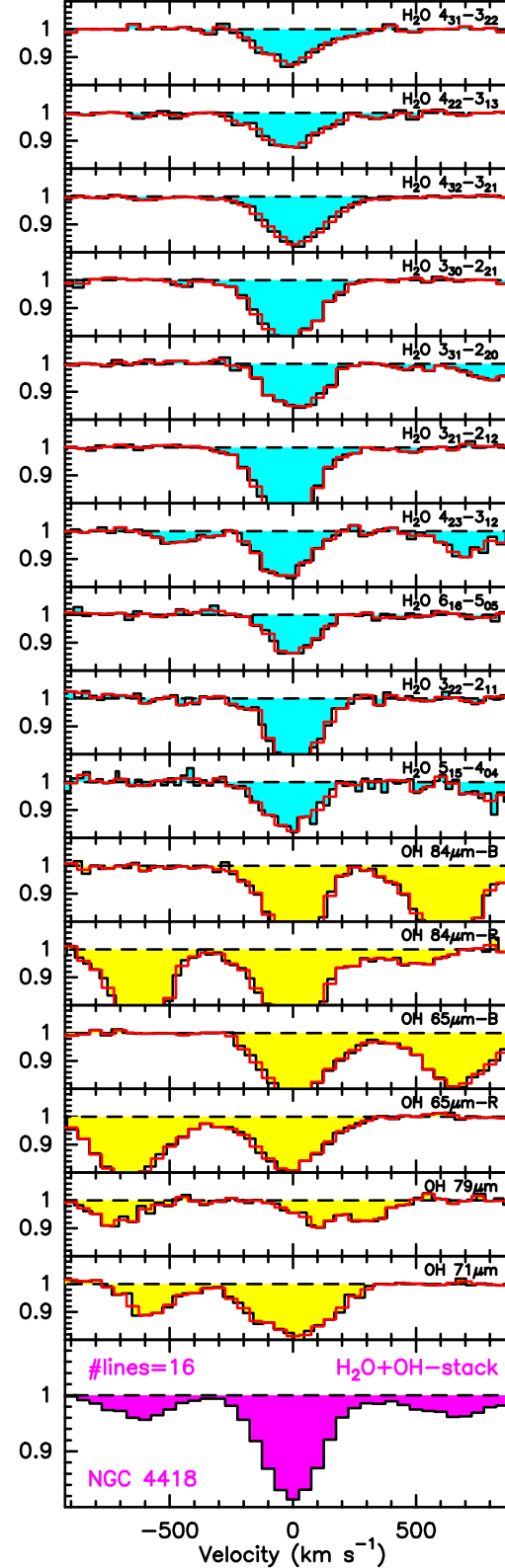
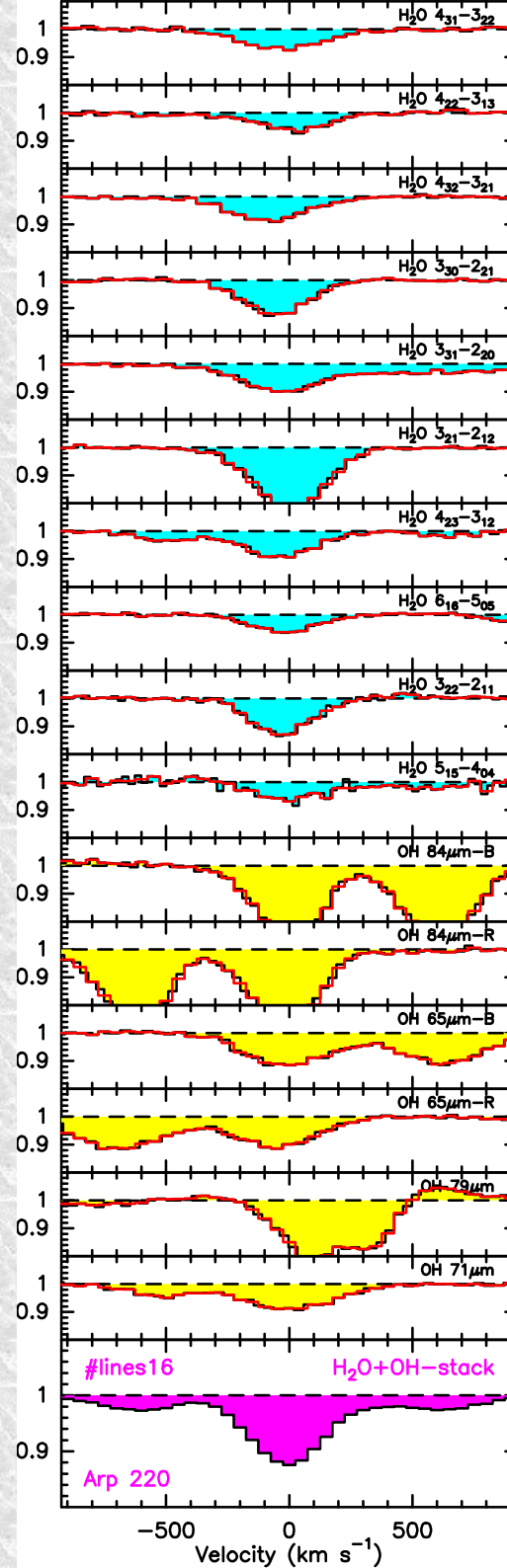
Scaling Arp 220 and NGC 4418 @ $z=1-1.5$ & $L_{\text{IR}}=2 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot}$



Identifying the strongest lines



Stacking Lines to improve SNR



We can expect a peak absorption of 12-18% of the continuum for Arp220 & NGC 4418 with $N_{\text{lines}} = 16$

$\text{EW} = 44\text{-}54 \text{ km/s}$ for the stacked line $[-300, 300] \text{ km/s}$

Estimating observing time for 1 source @ $z=1-2$ with $L_{\text{IR}}=2 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot}$

FIRESS low-res point source ETC, for $N_{\text{lines}}=16$

z	F_{mJy}	$F_{\text{SL}} \text{ (W/m}^2\text{)}$	$t_{\text{ETC}} \text{ (h)}$	$t_{\text{ETC}} / N_{\text{lines}} \text{ (h)}$
1.0	40	1.05×10^{-19}	3.27	0.20
1.5	20	5.26×10^{-20}	13.05	0.82
1.7	14	3.68×10^{-20}	26.66	1.67
2.0	8	2.11×10^{-20}	81.09	5.07

The flux of the stacked line is

$$F_{\text{SL}} = 10^{-20} \lambda_{\mu\text{m}}^{-1} F_{\text{mJy}} EW_{\text{km s}^{-1}} \text{ W/m}^2$$

where

$$\lambda_{\mu\text{m}} \sim 190$$

$$EW_{\text{km s}^{-1}} \sim 50$$

Spectral stacking can be combined with source stacking @ $z=1.5-2.0$ to approach as much as possible the MS.

Conclusions

- * Outflow energetics will be reliably estimated from OH doublets @ 79, 84, and 65 μm
- * Buried galactic nuclei in galaxies at $z \gtrsim 1.5$ and $L_{\text{IR}} \sim 2 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot}$ might be spectroscopically identified from spectral stacking and FIRESS low-resolution in $\gtrsim 1$ hour.
Source stacking is worth considering for $z \sim 1.5-2$.

Thank you.