

# Energized Clouds in the Milky Way Bar: Overshooting, Colliding, and Accreting Gas

Juergen Ott

# John Bally's Fundamental Galactic Center Work; also linking Galaxy to extragalactic universe, and the disk to the Center

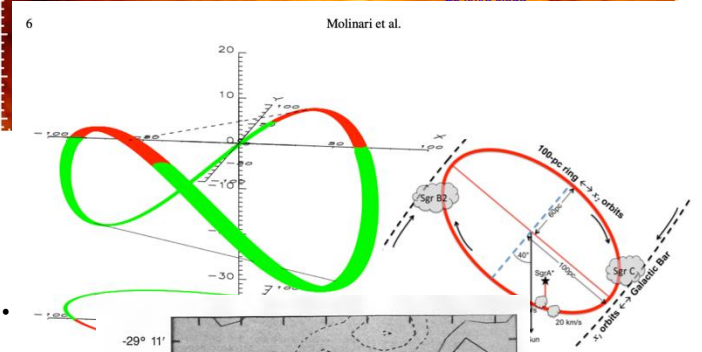
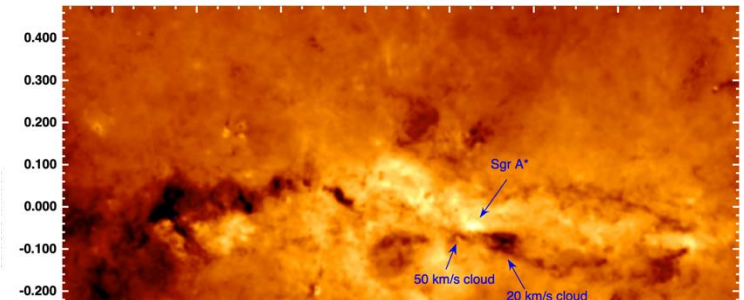
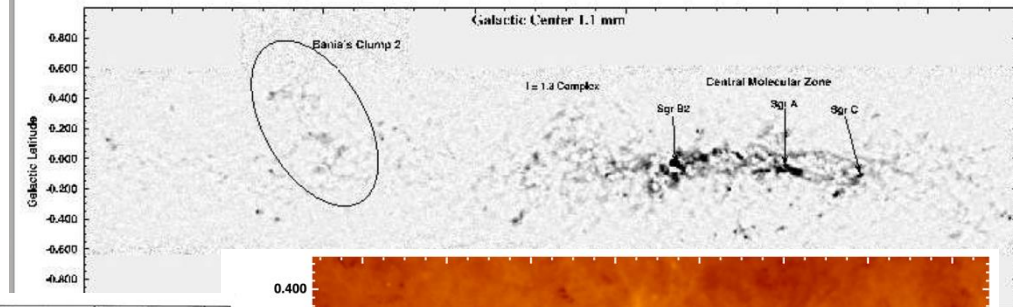
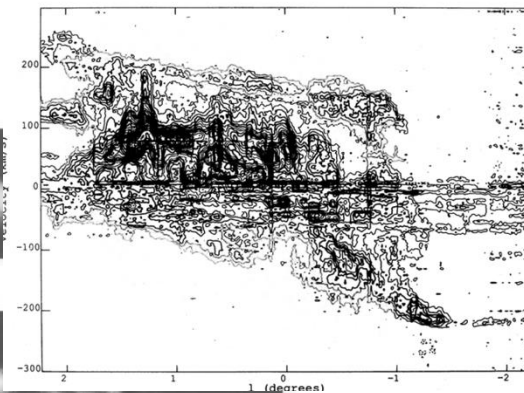
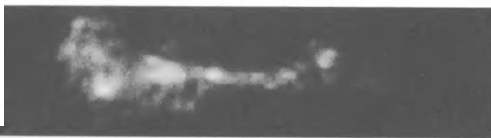
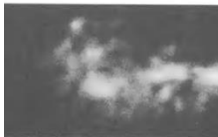
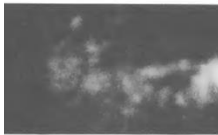
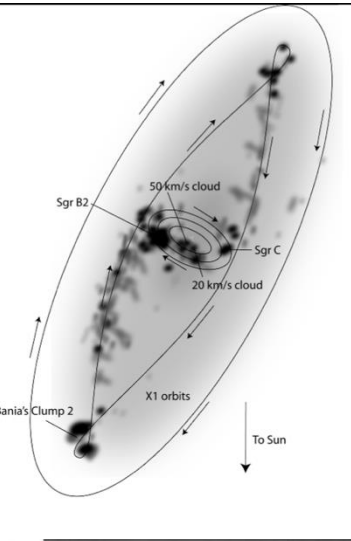
gas + dust content

Temperature distribution

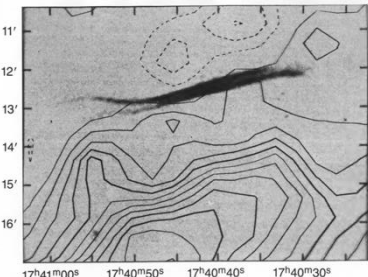
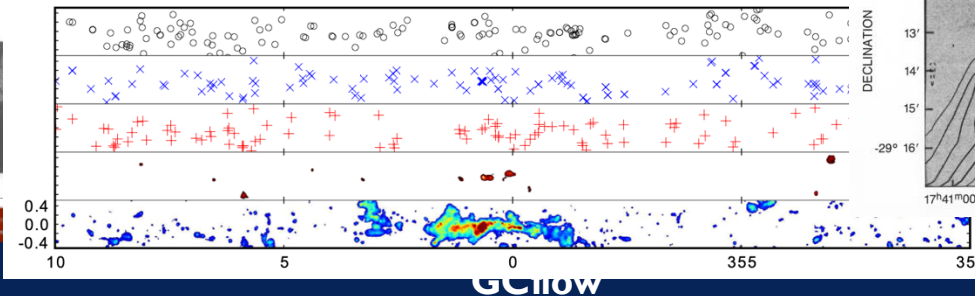
Energetic sources; feedback

Star formation properties

3D models



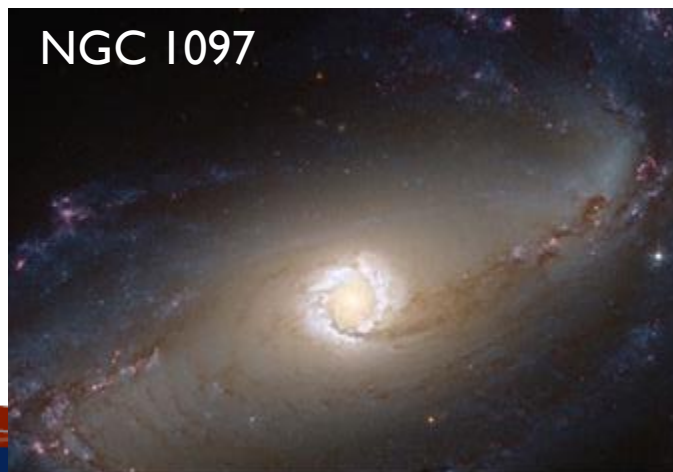
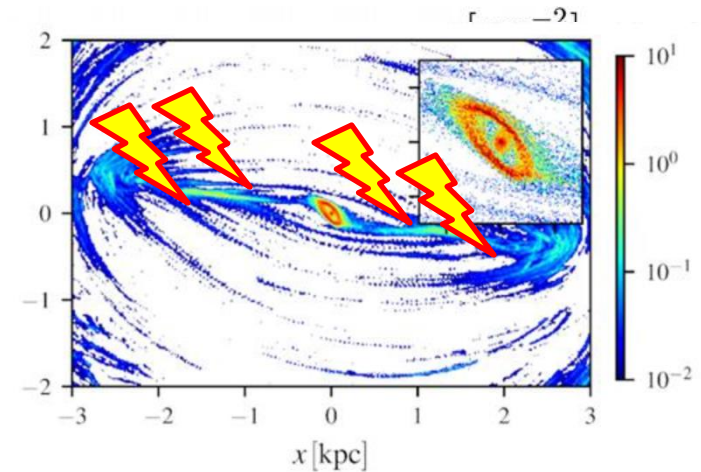
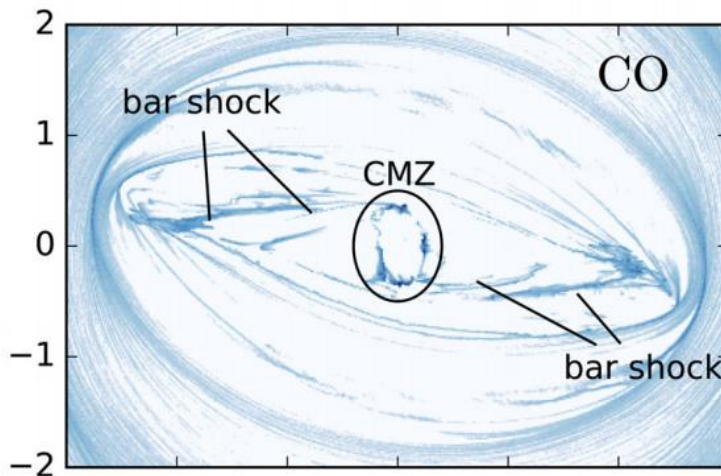
.. and much much more...



## Gas Flows in Bar Potentials

Bar potential  $x_1$  orbits, start self-intersecting  $\rightarrow$  cloud-cloud collisions  $\rightarrow$  formation of dust lanes ('bar shocks')  $\rightarrow$  instability form inner ring close to  $x_2$  orbits (Sormani+ 2018, Tress+ 2020, 2022, Hatchfield+ 2021...)

~50%(?) of accreting material overshoots ... and eventually re-accretes..

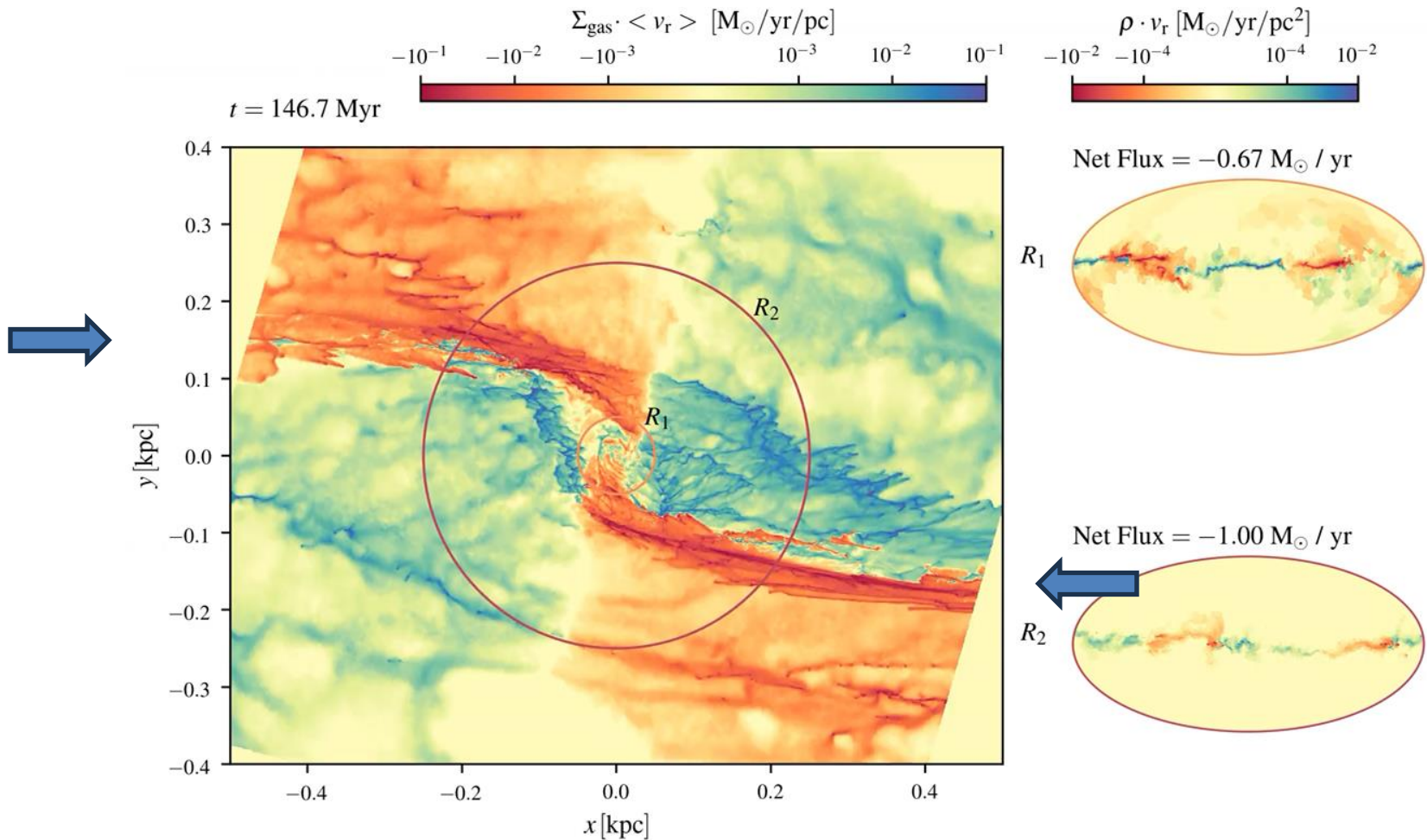


Observed in nearby face-on barred galaxies; difficult to confirm and detail this scenario in the edge-on Milky Way



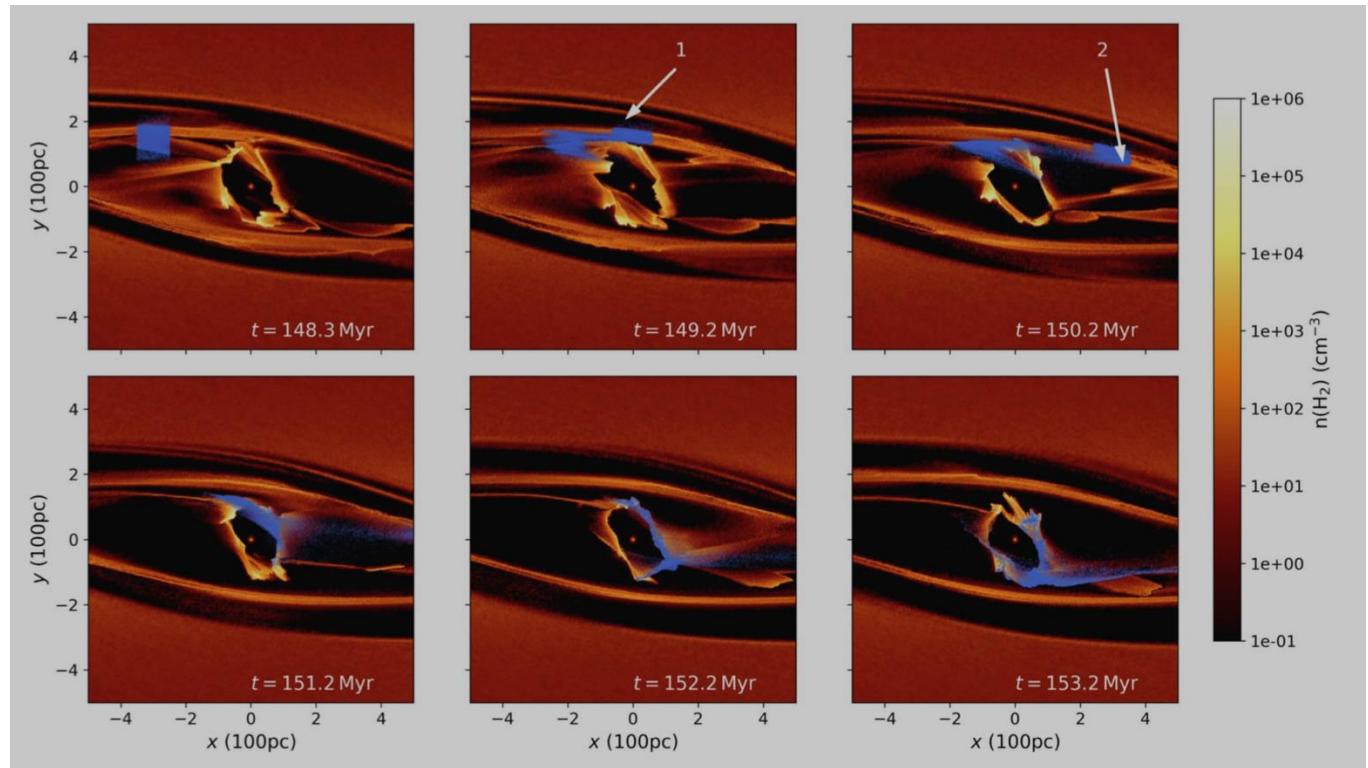
# Gas Flows from the disk to the CMZ

Simulation: Tress, Sormani+; Sormani, Tress+ 2020



# Gas Flows in Bar Potentials

Hatchfield+ 2021



Violent accretion on the CMZ, but also by the overshooting material along the bar.

Does the gas there resemble the CMZ gas before it accretes?

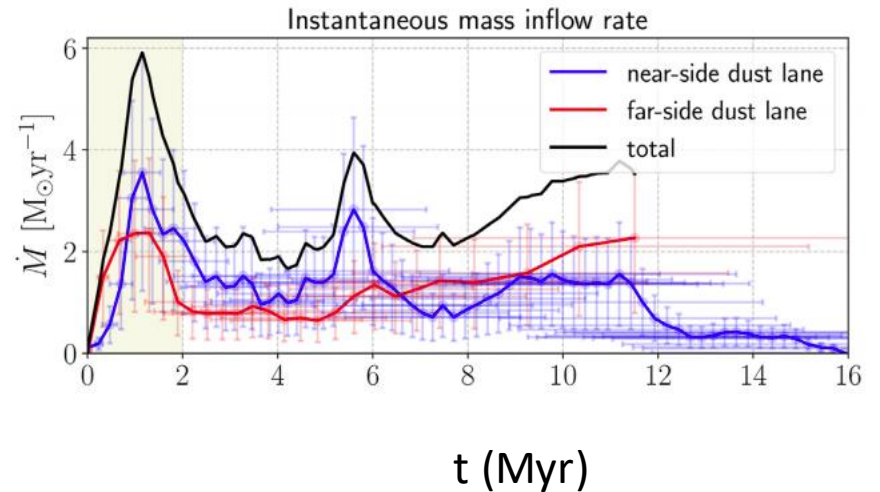
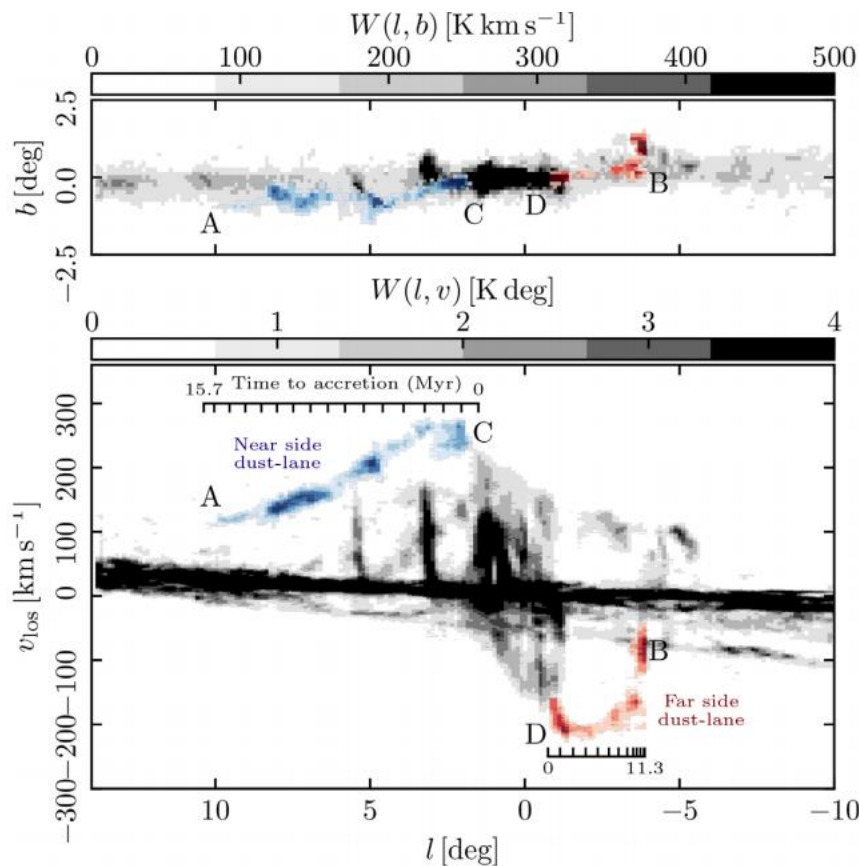
Temperature, Mach number, shock states, ...

What are the star formation properties?

→ We are looking for non-dustlane velocities, and gas that has higher linewidths and temperatures.

# Gas Flows from the disk to the CMZ

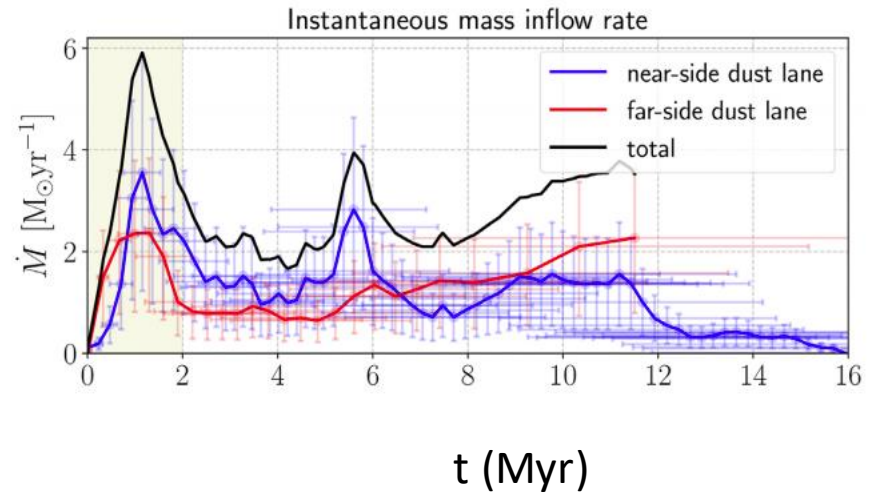
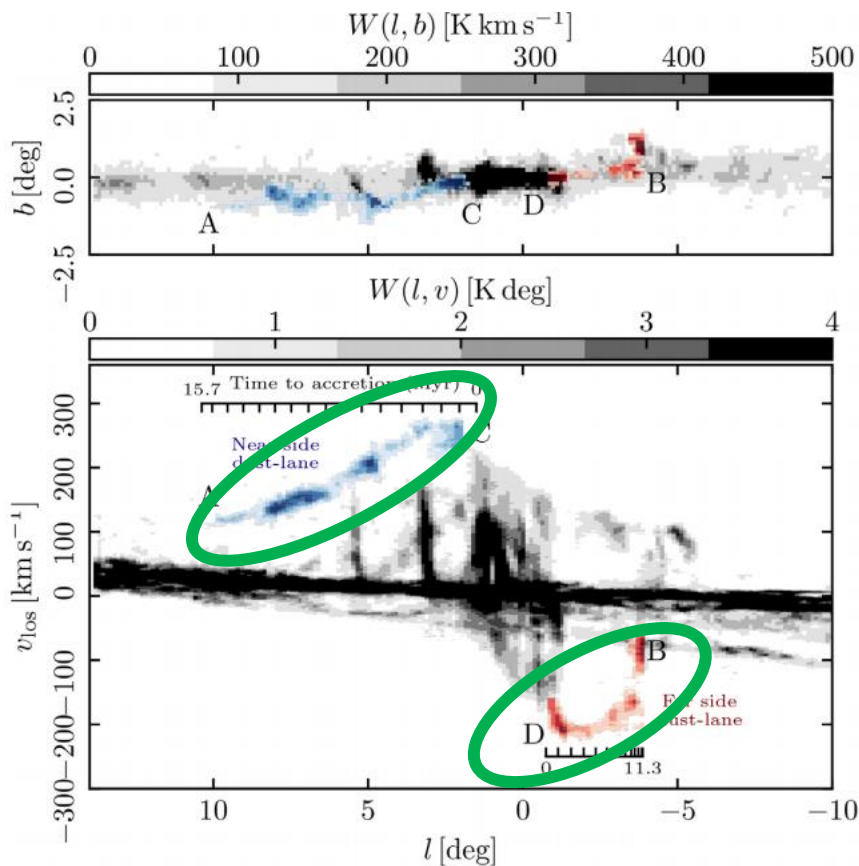
Gas flows from disk to CMZ: Based on CO,  $\sim 2.7 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$ , fairly symmetric from both sides, but episodic (Sormani & Barnes 2018)



Some broad line regions are also visible that seem to connect the dust lanes and lower velocity gas

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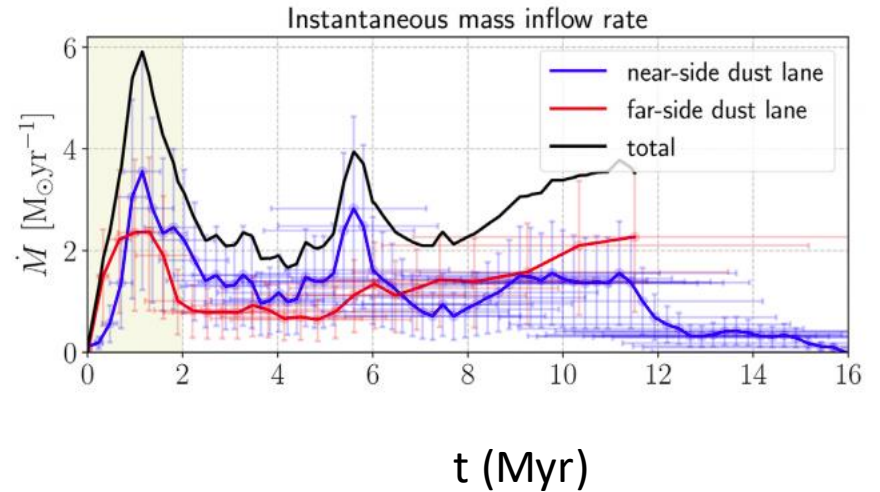
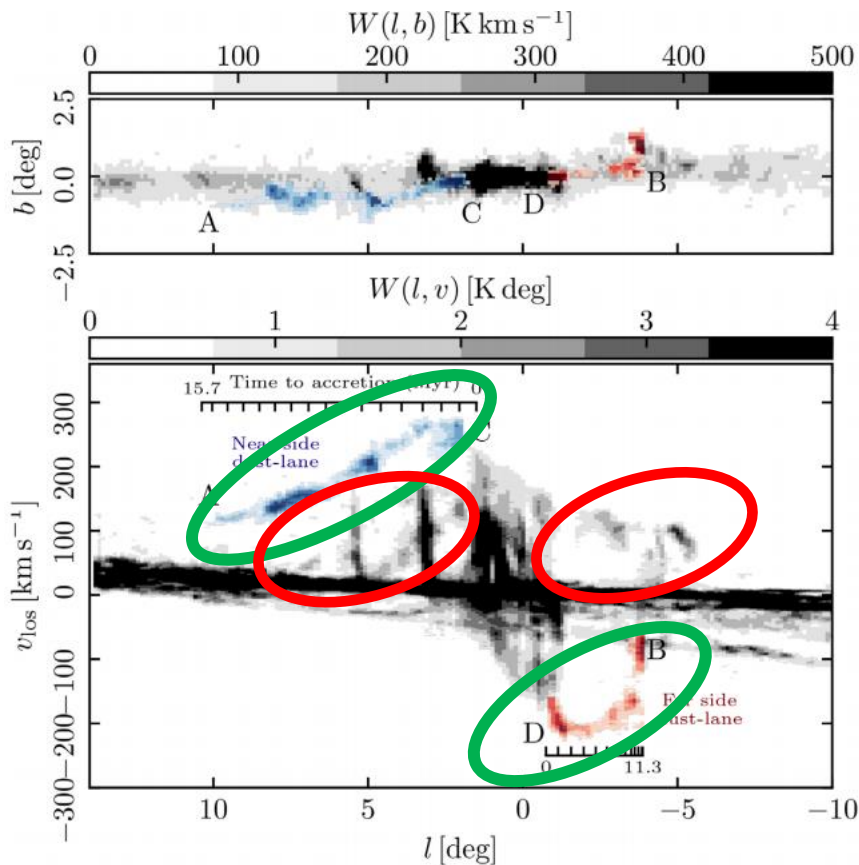


Dust Lanes: BARFLY GBT survey  
Butterfield et al.



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Dust Lanes: BARFLY GBT survey  
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High Velocity/Non-Dust Lane Clouds:  
This work



## Gas Flows from the disk to the CMZ

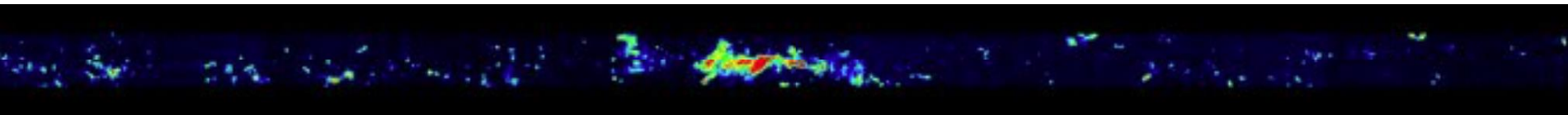
Our approach: if the gas is on non-dustlane orbits, it should have experienced shocks → larger linewidths, higher temperatures, shock tracer (liberation of molecules and destruction of grains)

Search for warm, hot and turbulent gas with HOPS (“The H<sub>2</sub>O Southern Galactic Plane Survey”) data: Mopra Single dish survey in H<sub>2</sub>O, NH<sub>3</sub> and other molecular lines (Walsh et al. 2011; Purcell et al. 2012; Longmore et al. 2017)

**H<sub>2</sub>O**: relatively uniform distribution, YSOs and AGB stars in the CMZ but also across the entire MW disk

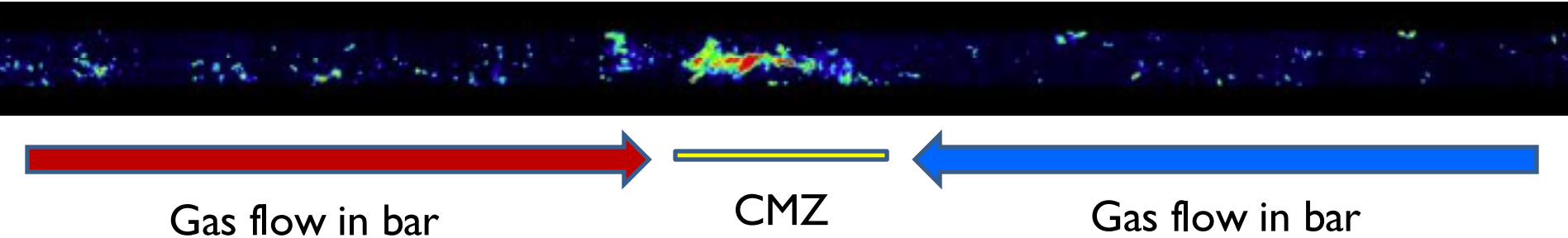


**NH<sub>3</sub> (1,1)**: accumulation of (dense) molecular gas in the CMZ, scattered clouds



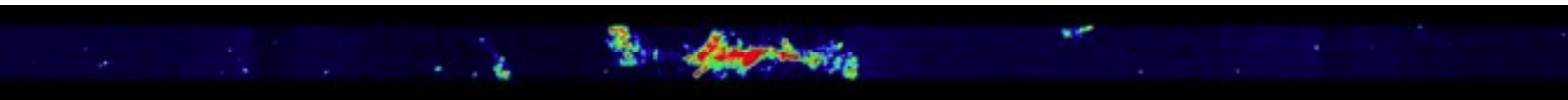
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$\text{NH}_3$  (1,1): accumulation of (dense) molecular gas in the CMZ

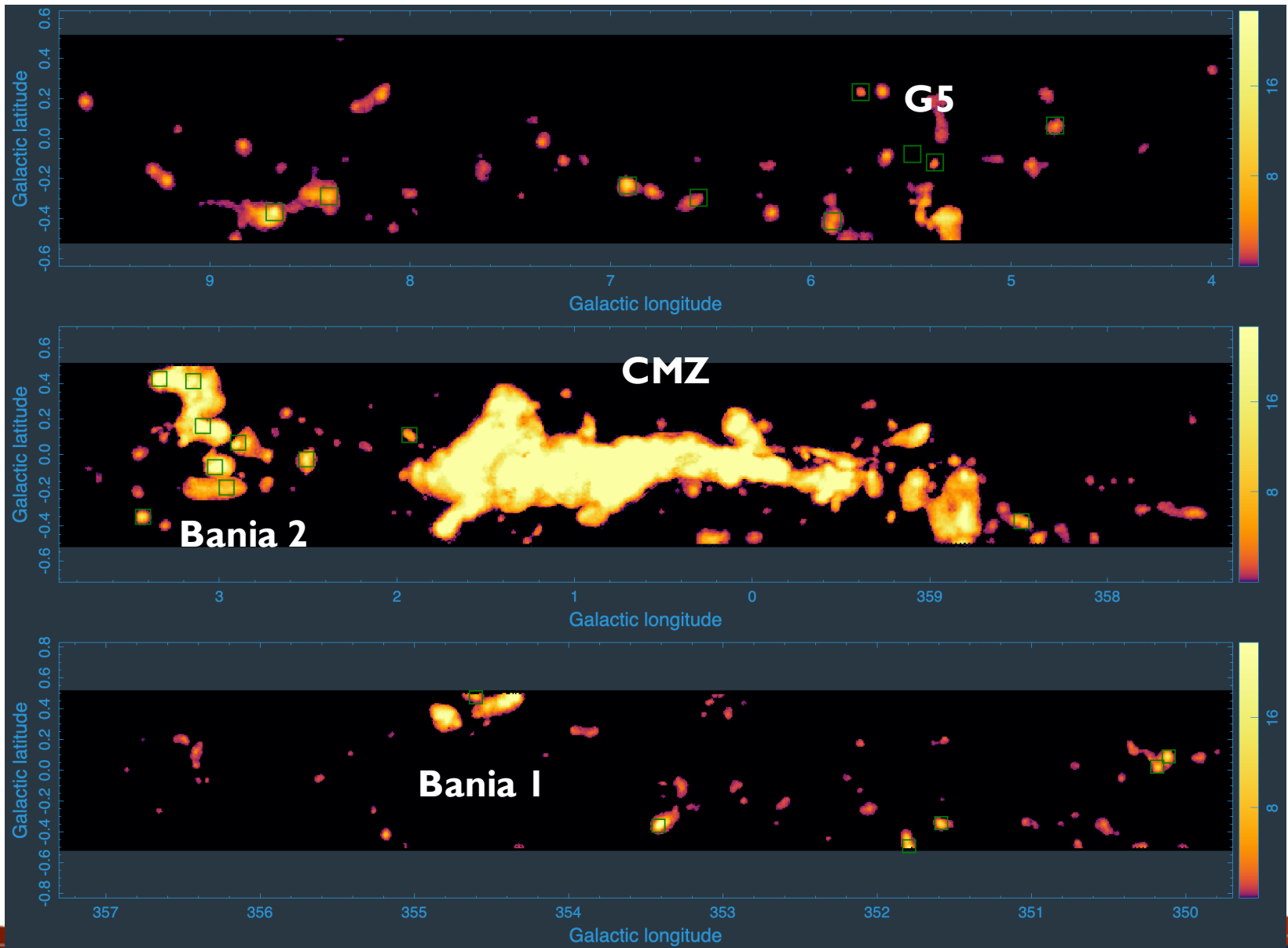


What gas is in the non-dustlane bar and what gas is in the MW disk across the line of sight?

$\text{NH}_3$  (3,3): tracer of warm gas; (3,3) line also almost perfect correlation with large line widths: → gas properties similar to the CMZ, likely energized clouds in the gas flow



$\text{NH}_3(1,1)$ :  $E=16\text{K}$  (para)

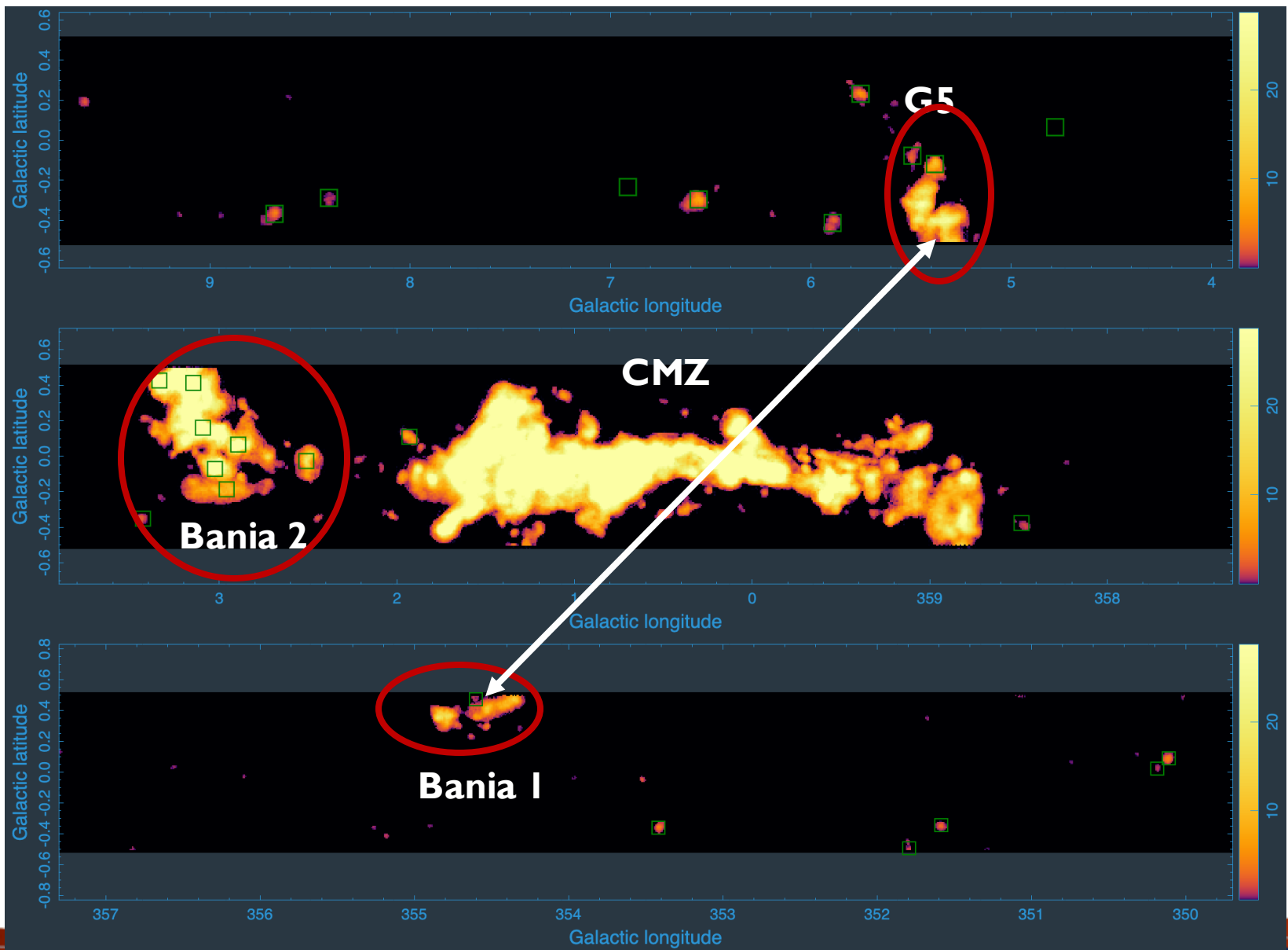


# $\text{NH}_3(3,3)$ : E=85K (ortho)

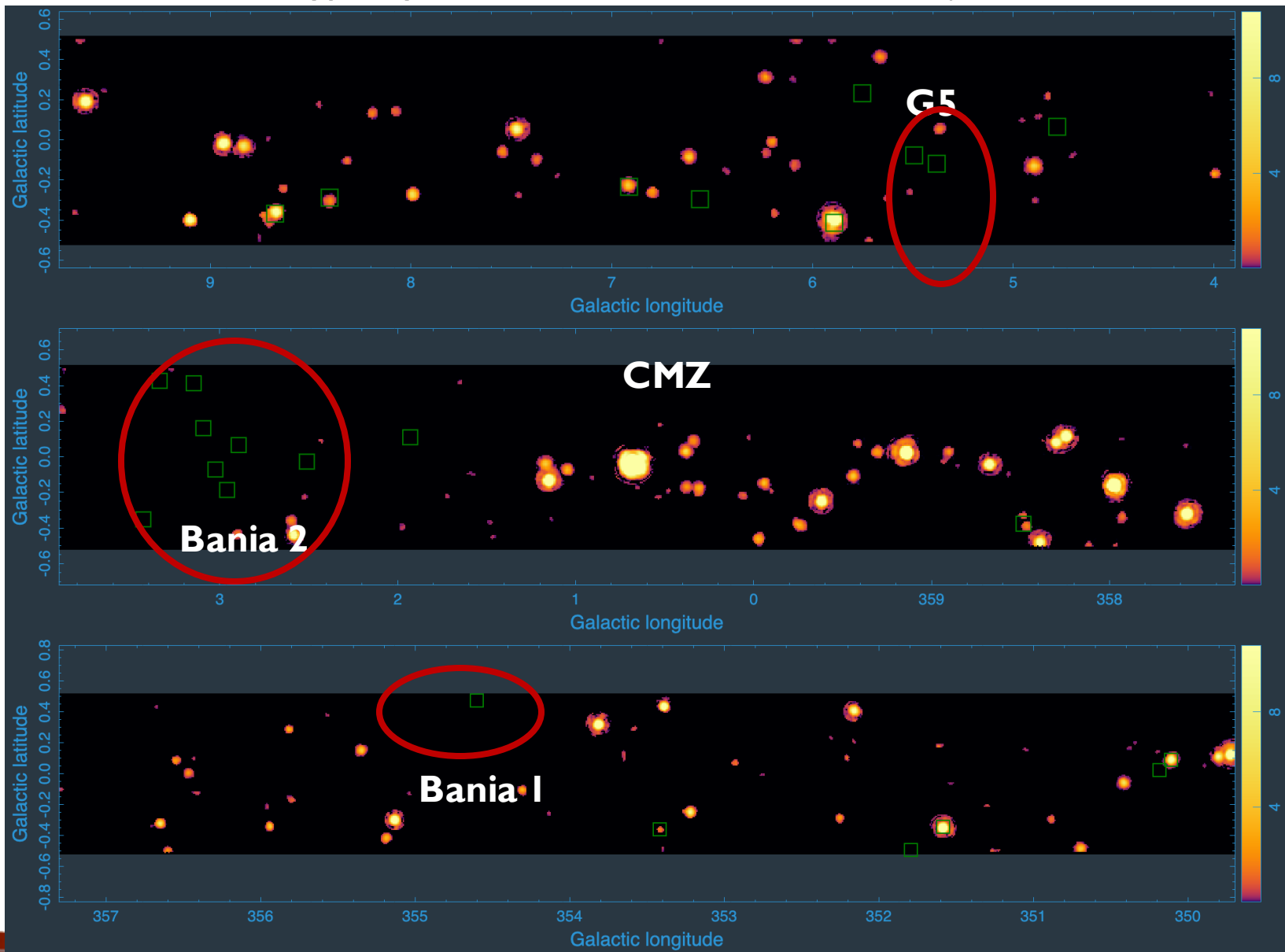




$\text{NH}_3(3,3)$ :  $E=85\text{K}$  (ortho)



H<sub>2</sub>O 22GHz maser: typically not correlated with these clouds (but mix of AGB and YSO)



# Galactic Flow

ALMA ACA: TP+7m data

G5 and B1

25 5x5arcmin maps (some 3.5x3.5arcmin)

Band 6, 1mm

CO + isotopes → opacity tracers

Various H<sub>2</sub>CO lines → Temperature tracer

HC<sub>3</sub>N → excitation tracer

SiO → shock tracer

Methanol → weak shocks

H30α → SF /HII region

Continuum (dust)

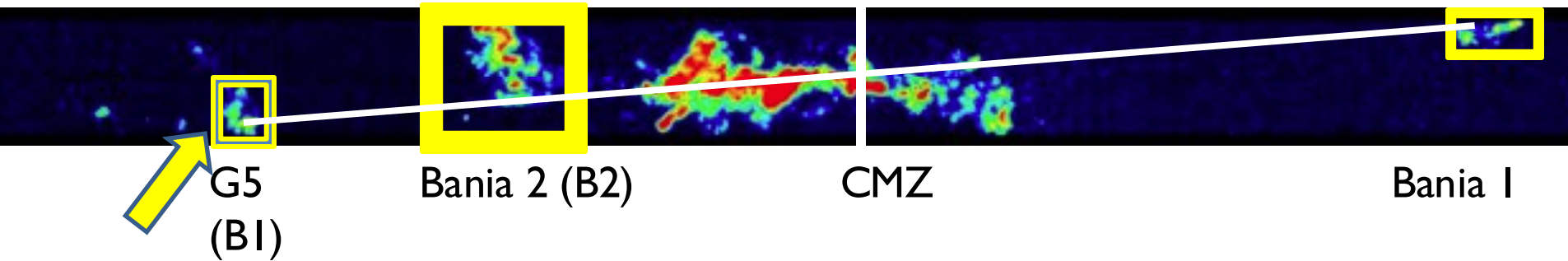


ESO

## G5

(Gramze, JO, D. Meier, A. Ginsburg, + 2023)

G5 and Bania I are almost point symmetric  $\pm 5.5^\circ$  GLON  $\pm 0.5^\circ$  GLAT, but seem to have different properties. G5 shows a cloud-cloud collision

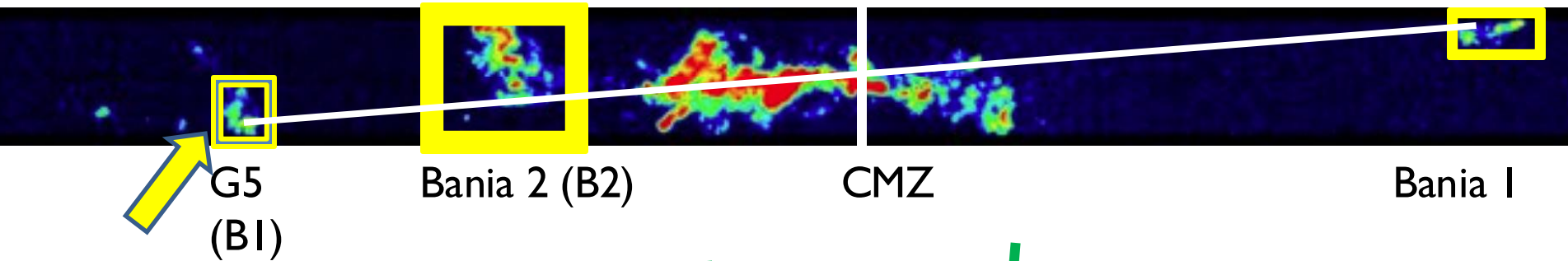




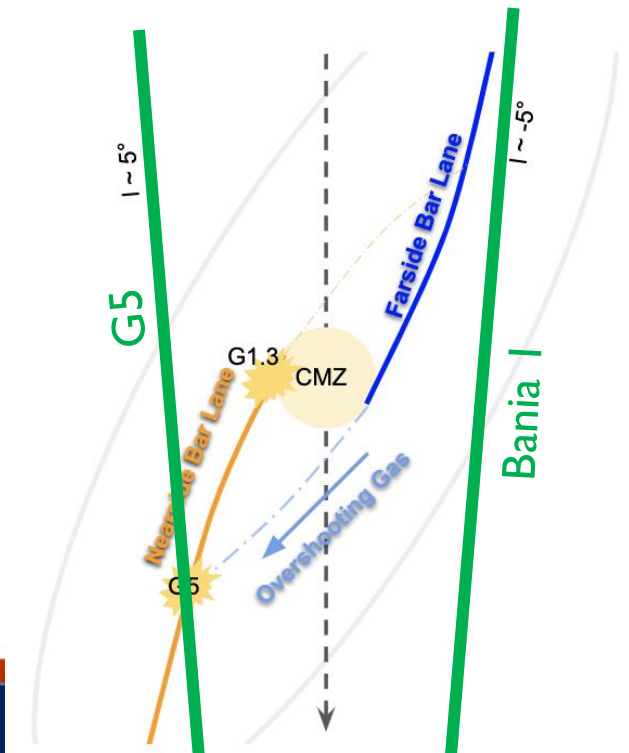
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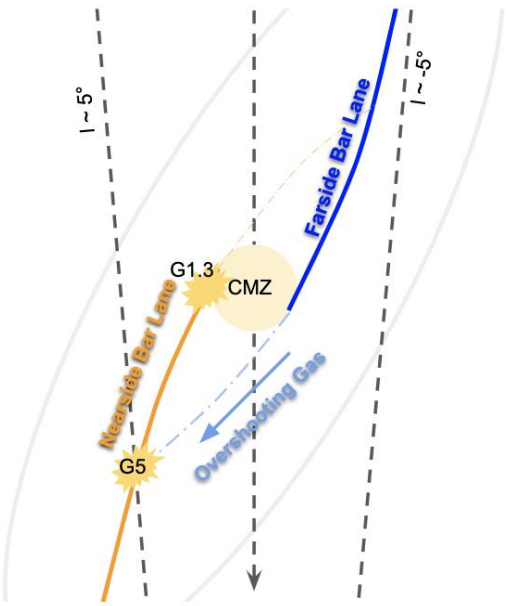
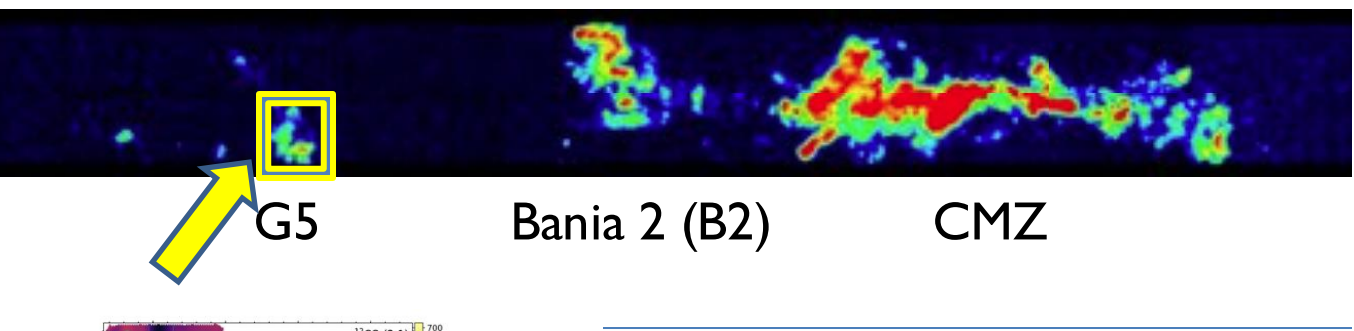
Point symmetry is still unexplained, maybe just a coincidence?



# G5

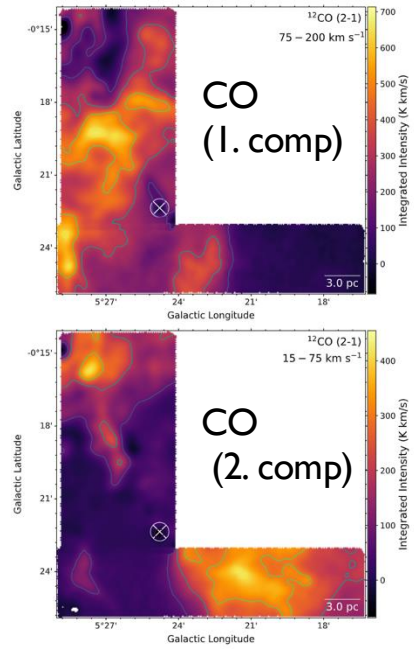
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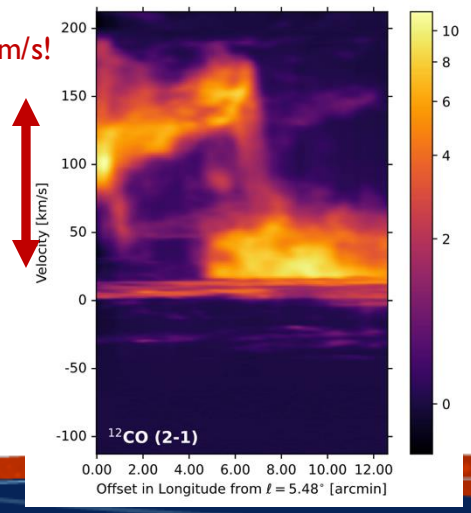
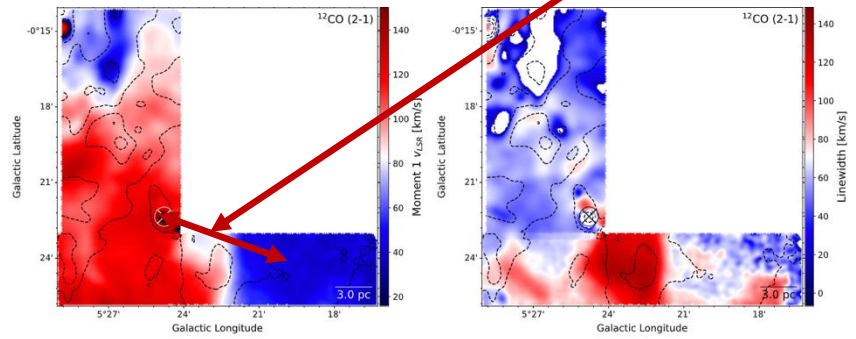
G5: high opacity, elevated T, shock tracer  
Velocity gradient with bridge

CO position-velocity



CO velocity field

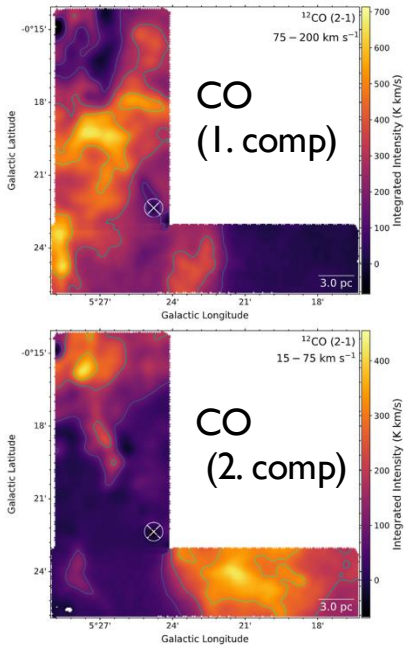
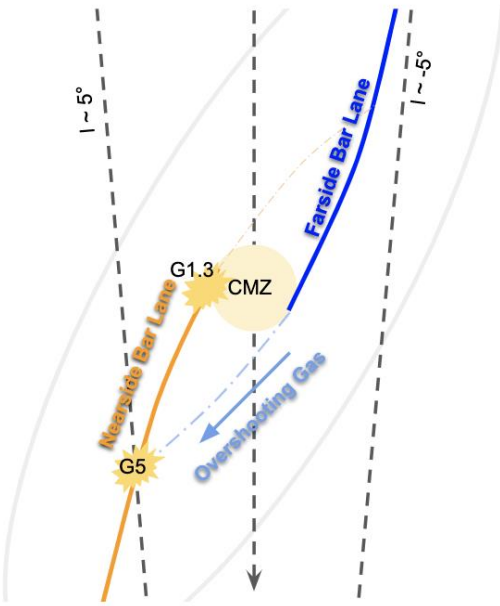
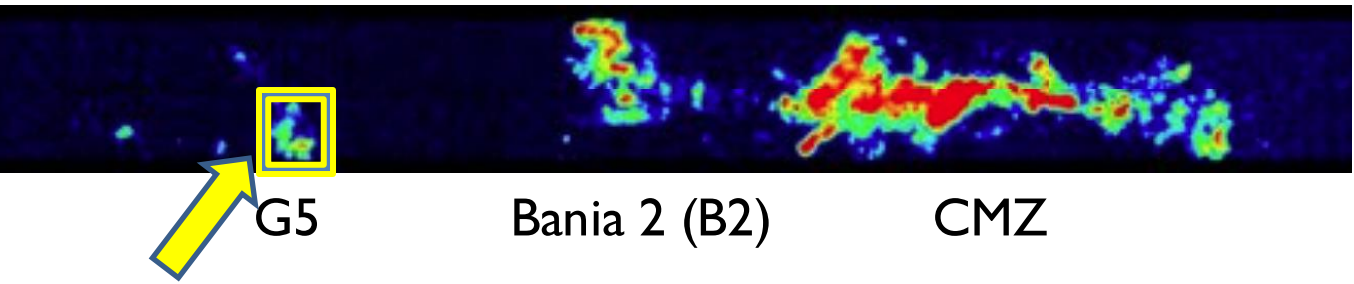
CO velocity dispersion



# G5

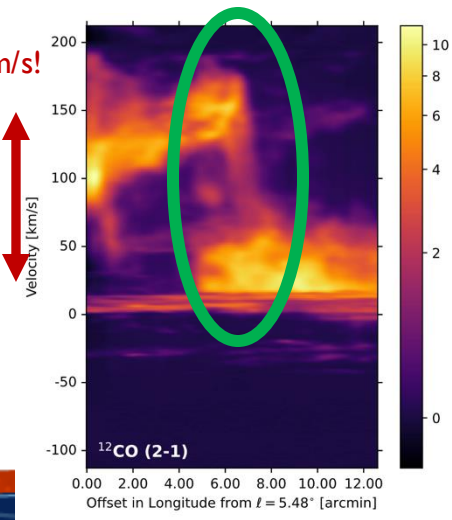
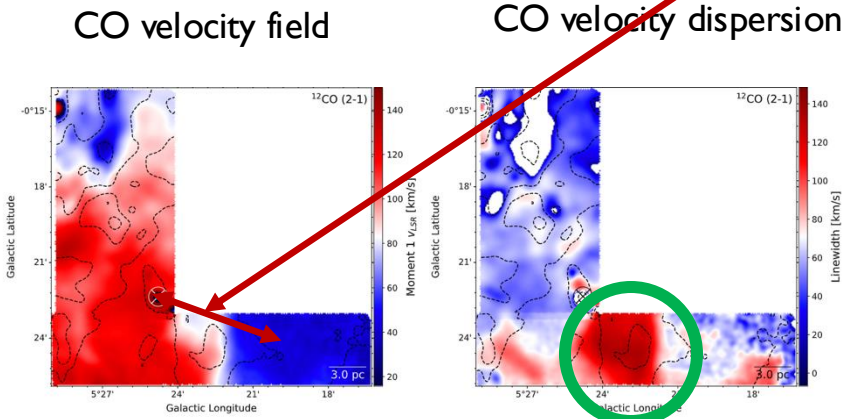
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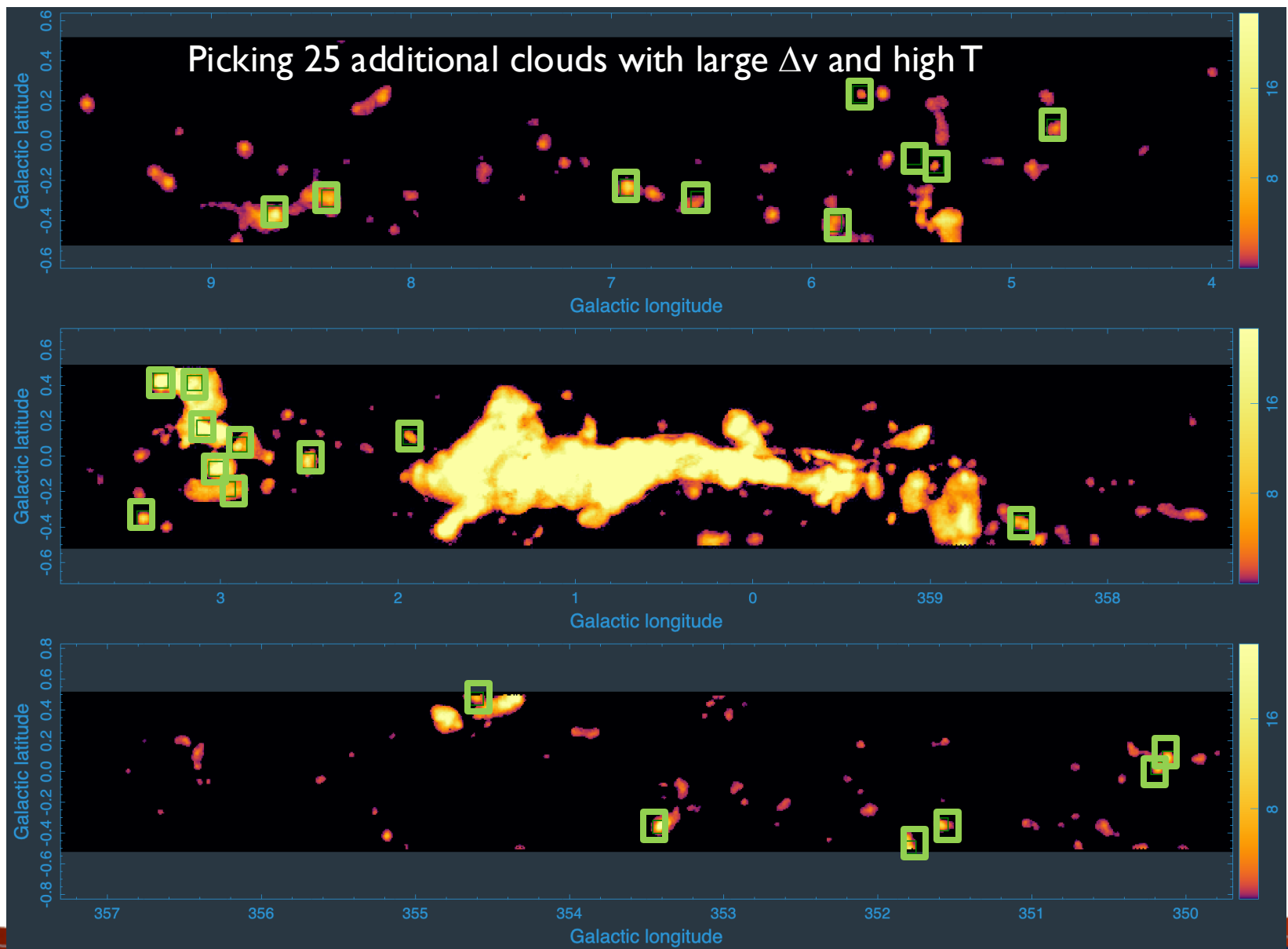


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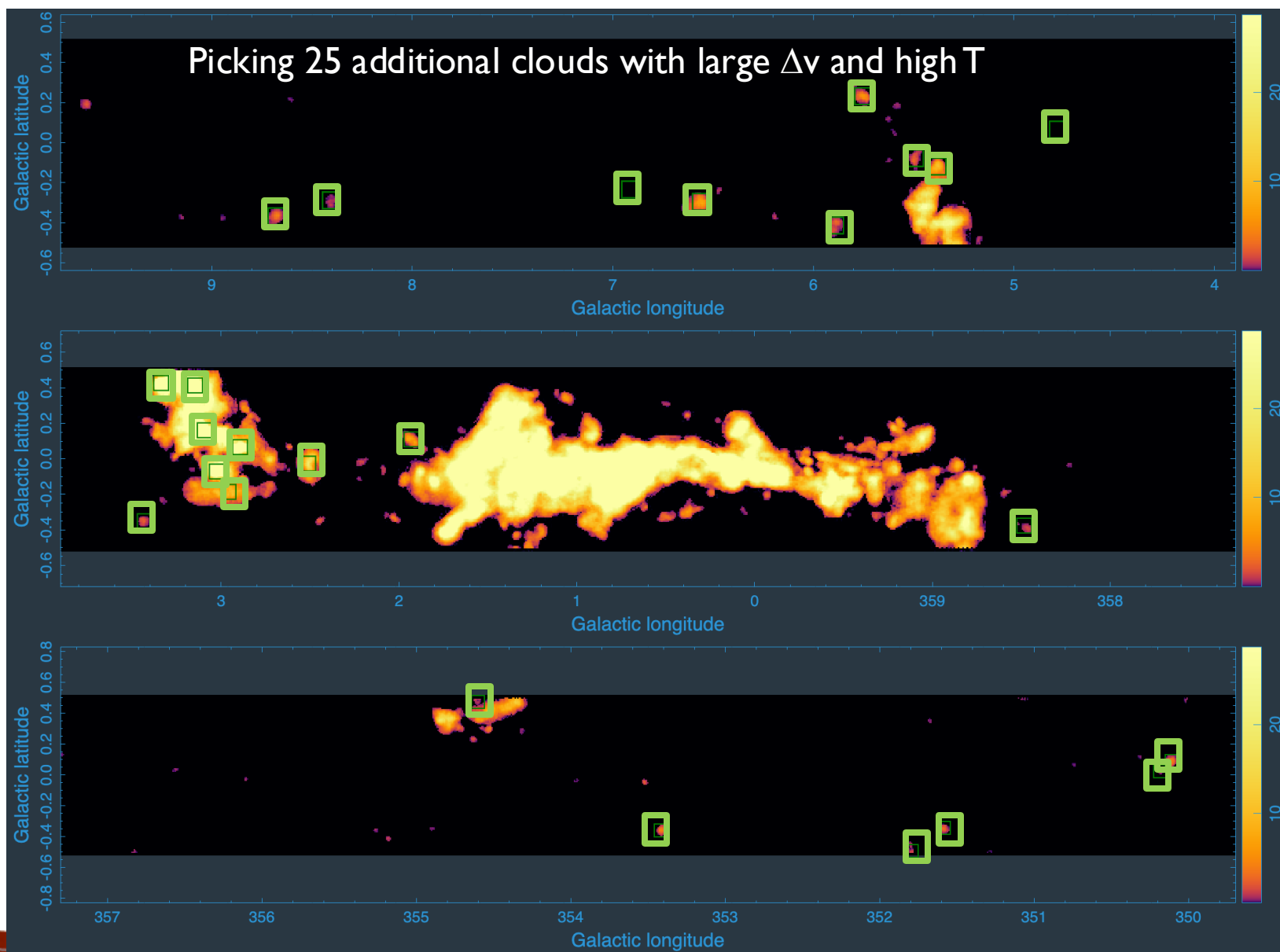


$\text{NH}_3(1,1)$ :  $E=16\text{K}$  (para)

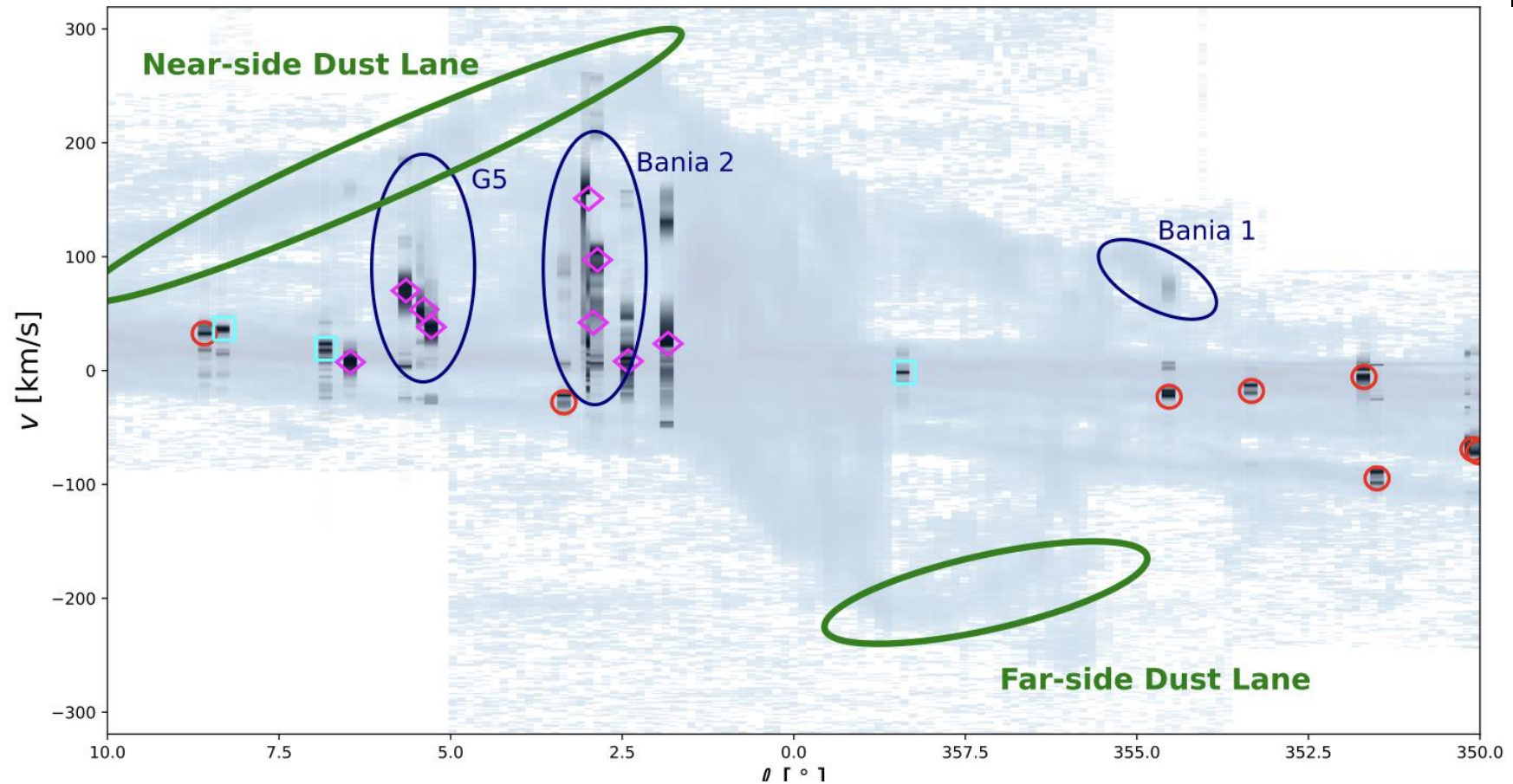
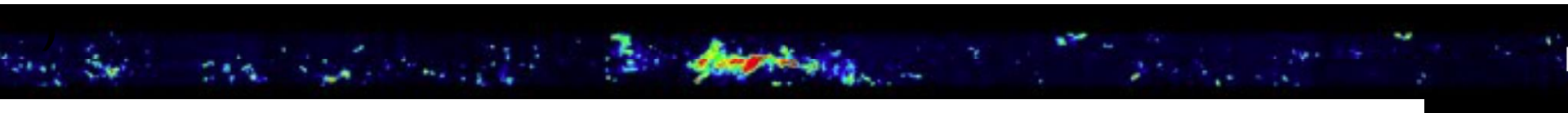




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# Clump gas properties (A. Nilipour, JO, D. Meier, + et al. 2024)

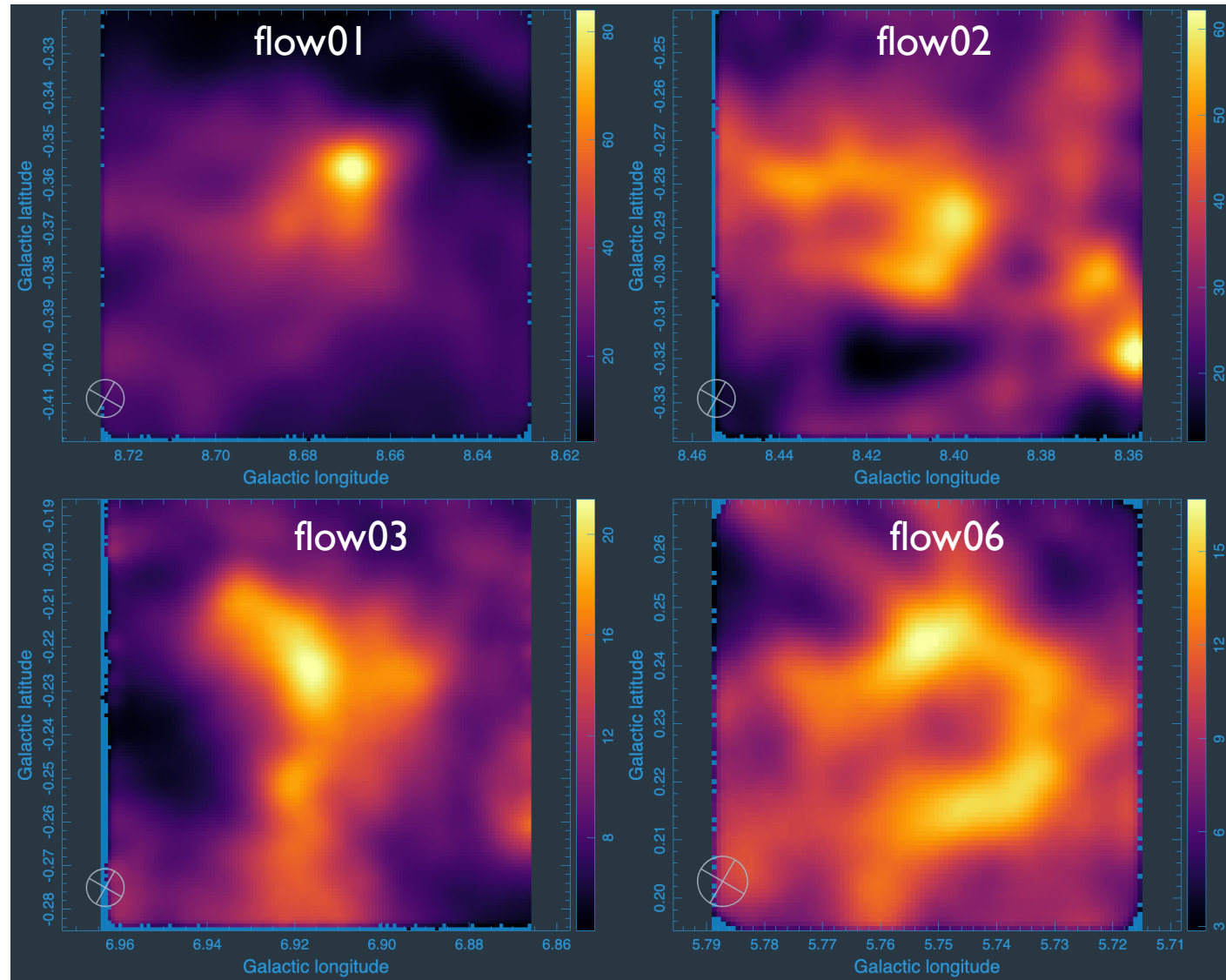


# Galactic Flow

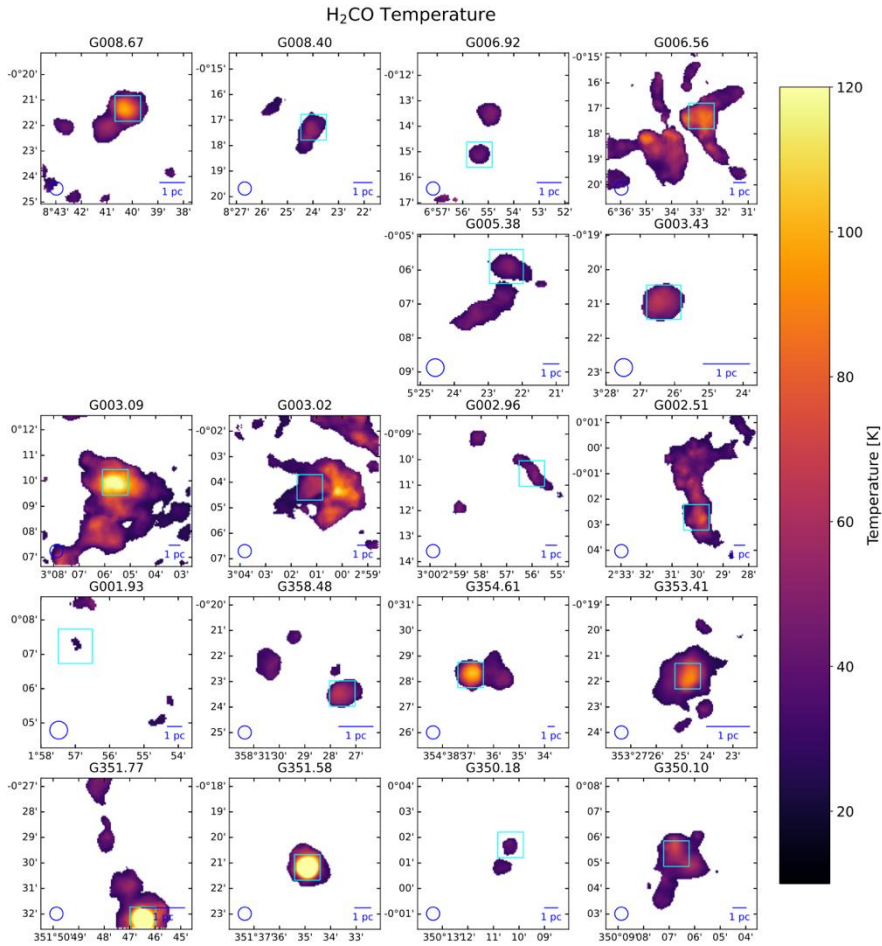
Different  
Structures:

Compact clumps  
Ridges

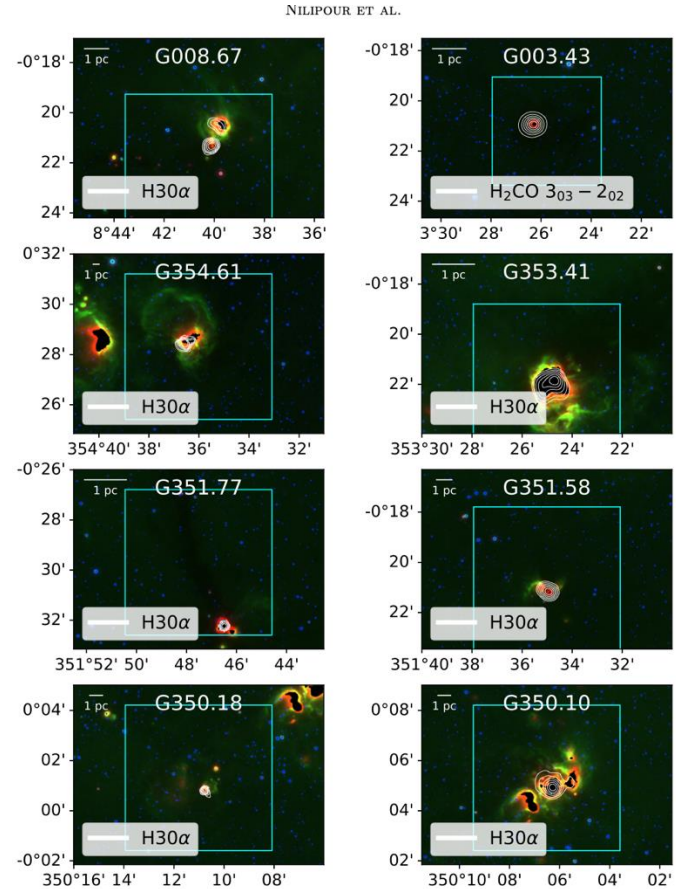
Rings seem to be  
abundant in various  
tracers: indication of  
collisions?



# Clump gas properties (A. Nilipour, JO, D. Meier, + et al. 2024)

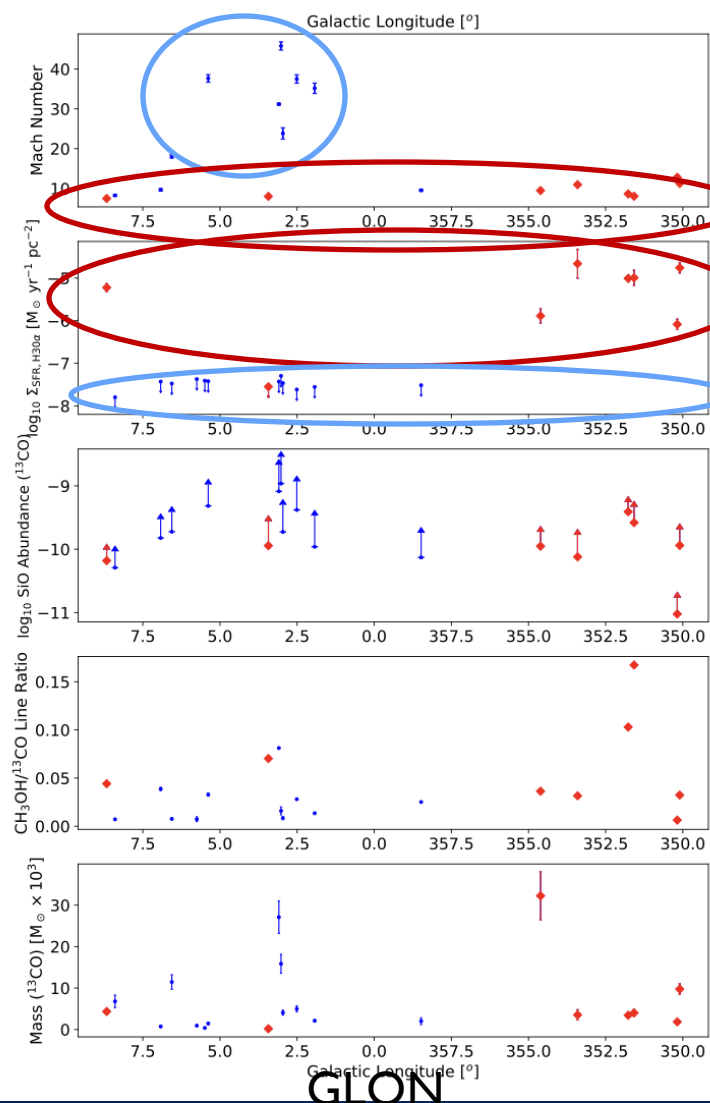


H30 $\alpha$  and 24 $\mu$ m associated with some sources, but not all





# Clump gas properties (A. Nilipour, JO, D. Meier, + et al. 2024)



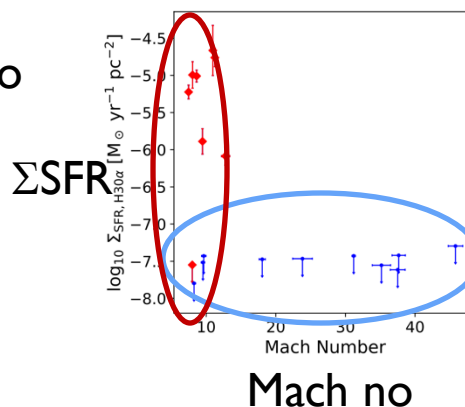
Mach no

$\Sigma\text{SFR}$

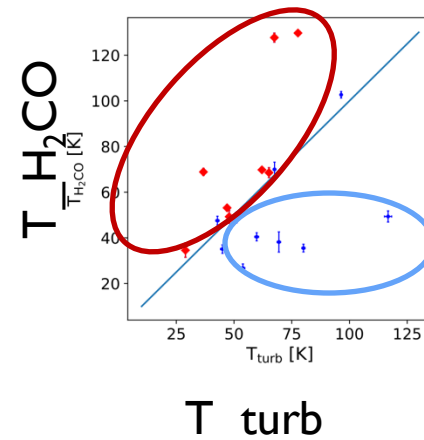
SiO

Methanol/CO

Mol. Mass



Mach no



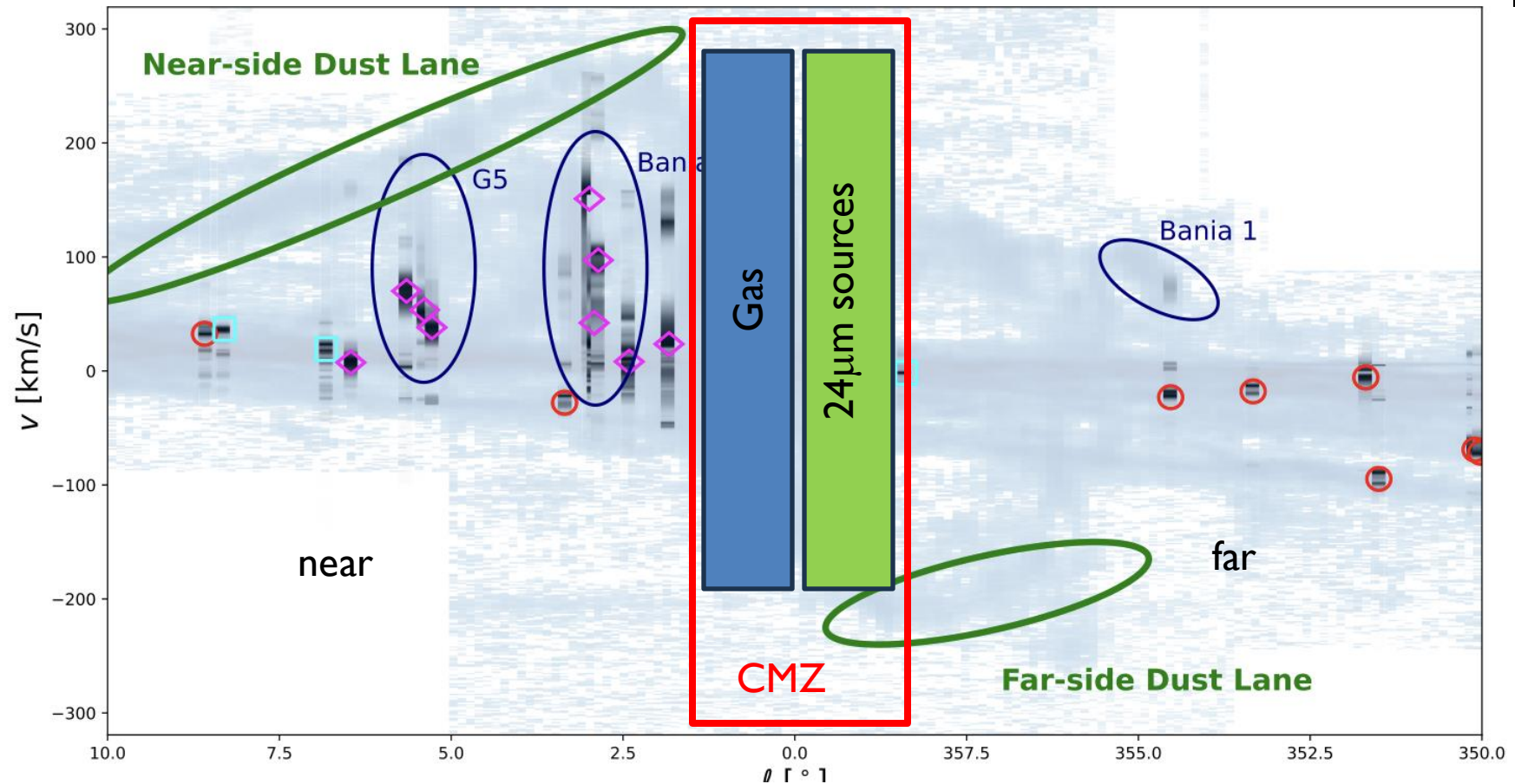
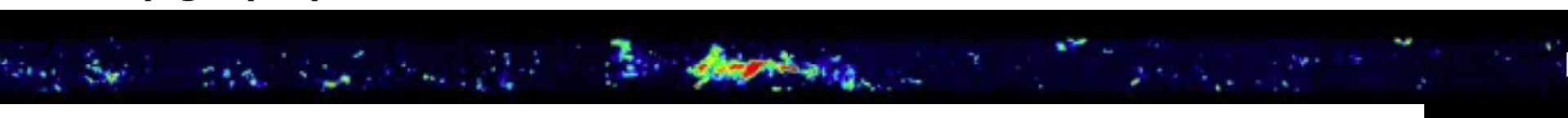
**Red:** star forming clouds (24 $\mu\text{m}$ )

- lower Mach numbers
- warmer in formaldehyde

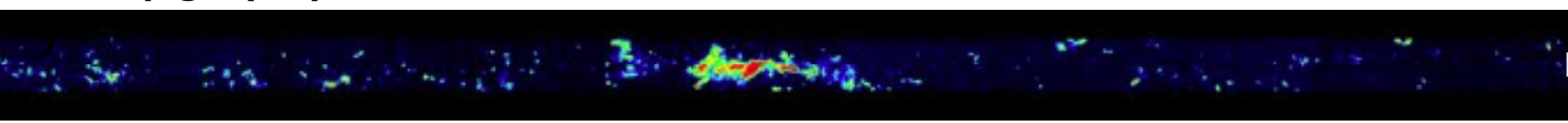
**Blue:** non-star forming

- higher Mach numbers
- warmer in turbulent temperature
- Lower  $X(\text{CO})$  factor!

# Clump gas properties (A. Nilipour, JO, D. Meier, + et al. 2024)

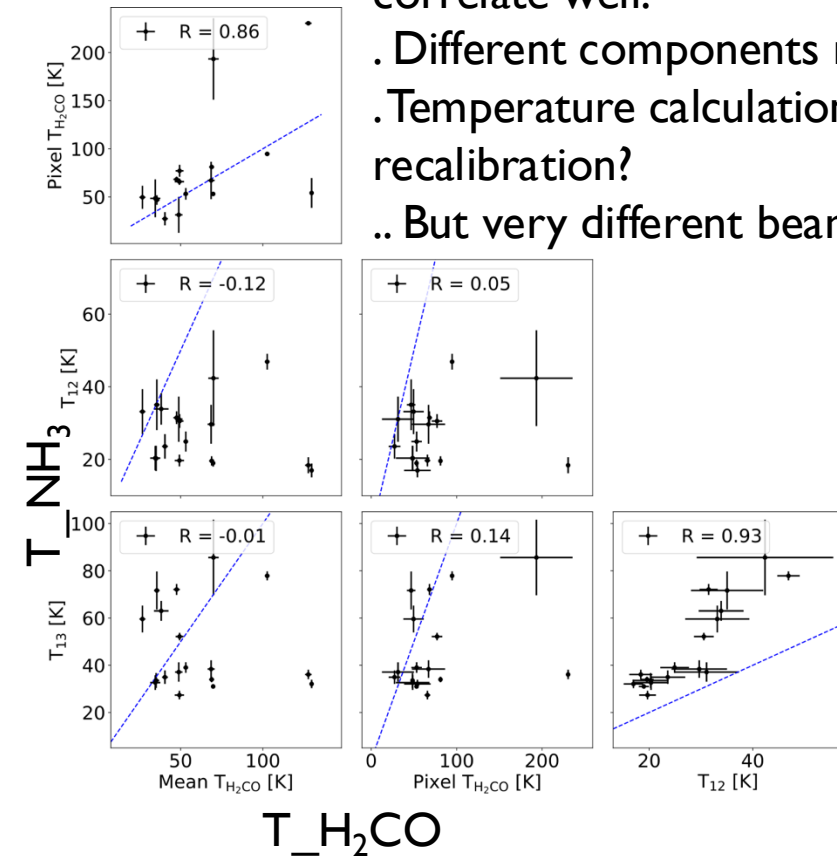


Is the CMZ asymmetry also reflected in the Galactic bar and accretion properties?



The ammonia (HOPS) vs  $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$  (ALMA) temperatures do not correlate well:

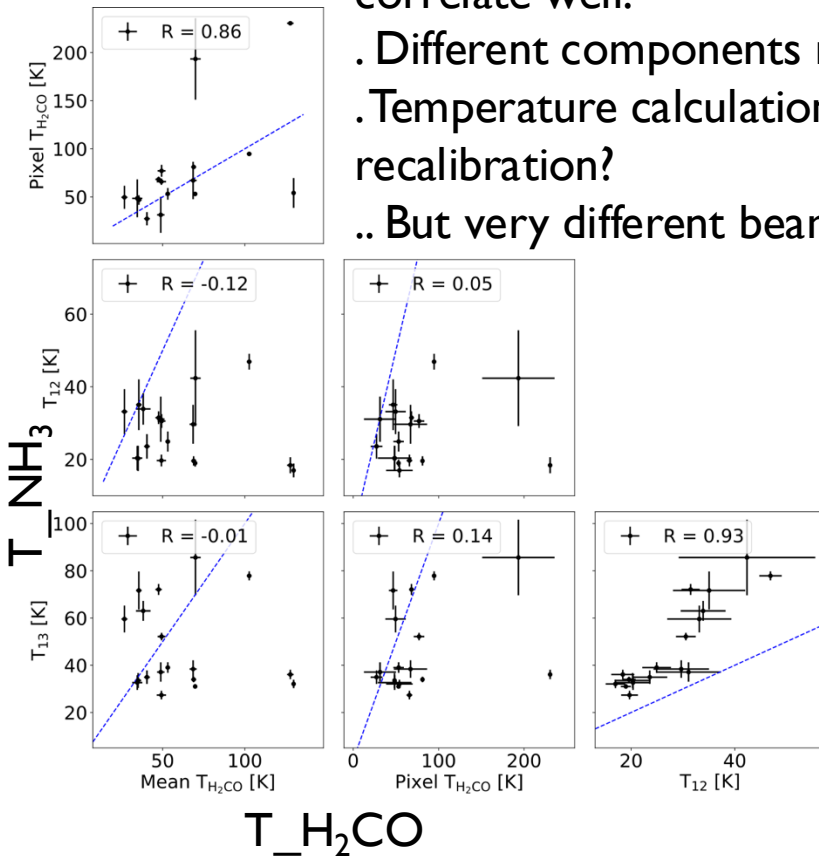
- . Different components measured?
- . Temperature calculations need recalibration?
- .. But very different beams



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~100h VLA imaging of the 25 clouds  
+ B1, B2, G5 completely  
(total about 4000 pointings)



Ammonia, water, and other shock,  
Turbulence, ionization tracers, RC  
(K + C bands)  
Resolution compatible with ALMA  
ACA

# Galactic Flow/Bar/Overshoot Clouds

## Results:

- Based on HOPS data, we find clouds near the positive and negative side of the CMZ that seem to be energized: they have a higher temperature than other clouds in the vicinity and wider linewidths, they resemble CMZ gas, only very few have obvious star formation tracers
  - Clouds are  $\pm 100$  km/s, which is not aligned with the dust lanes
- Some of it is likely overshooting, interacting gas

## ALMA ACA data reveals

- At least one cloud, G5, is likely energized by a very strong  $\sim 100$  km/s collision with gas likely from the other side of the CMZ
- The energized clouds show very different morphologies in different gas tracers, some have apparent shell structure, some show compact areas, many ring-like structures, also some chemically very rich areas
- A small fraction shows active star formation tracers, mostly at low GLON: energized disk clouds?
- SiO abundance not always enhanced
- In the high velocity features: Gas have mostly no SF but high Mach numbers, turbulent heating; Sub-disk  $X(\text{CO})$ , similar to CMZ
- $\text{H}_2\text{CO}$  and  $\text{NH}_3$  temperature differ (gas phases?) but also have been observed with very different beams.
- VLA has finished observing all of the cloud two weeks ago. → high resolution  $\text{NH}_3$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and additional shock and gas tracers will be available





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