

# Radio-Selected NIRdark galaxies

## *The ALMA view behind the dust*

mm Universe 2023,  
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Why are “dark galaxies” *so interesting*?

Why do we need a radio-selection of “dark galaxies”?

What can we learn from existing data?

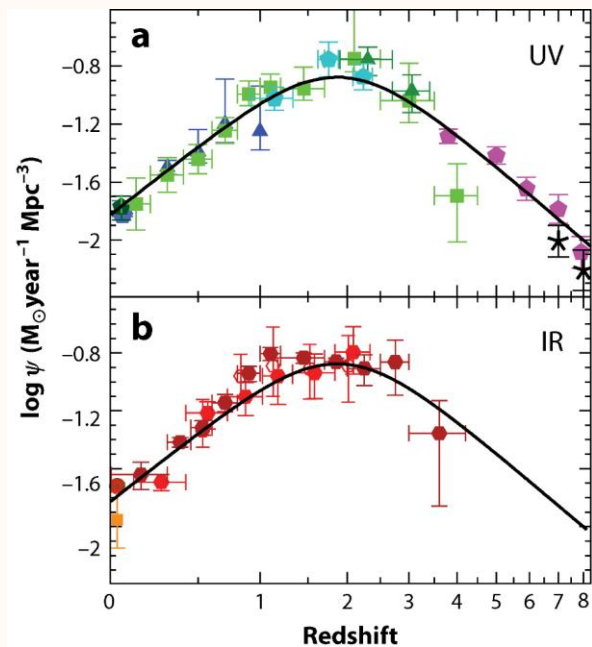
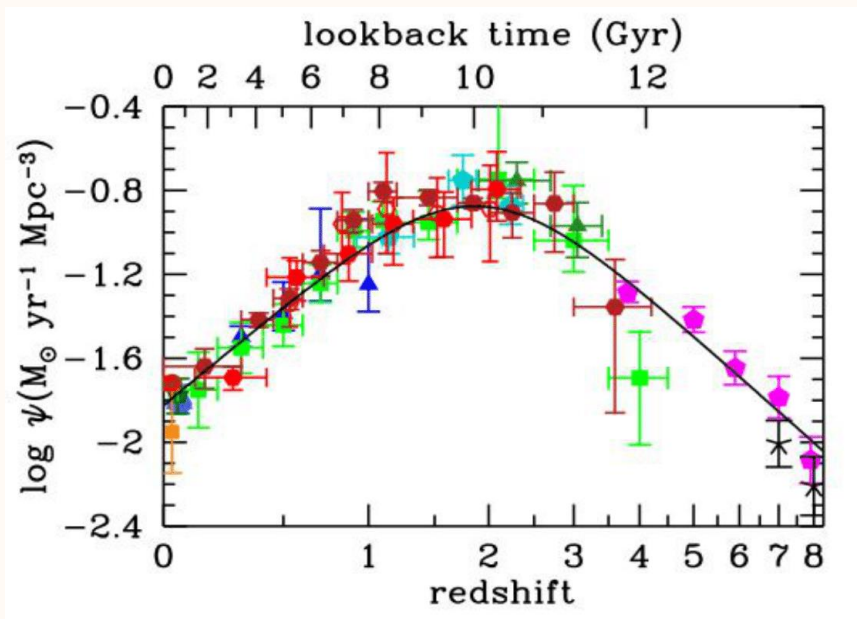
What can we learn from new data?

*And why do I need nice reviews from ALMA/NOEMA referees?*



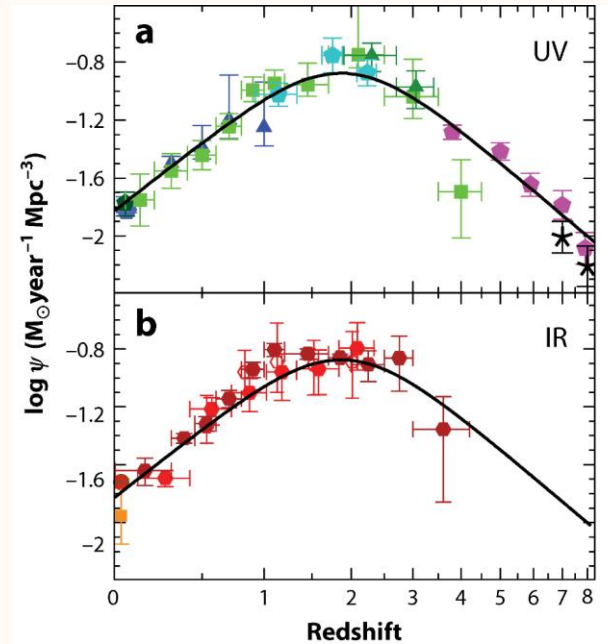
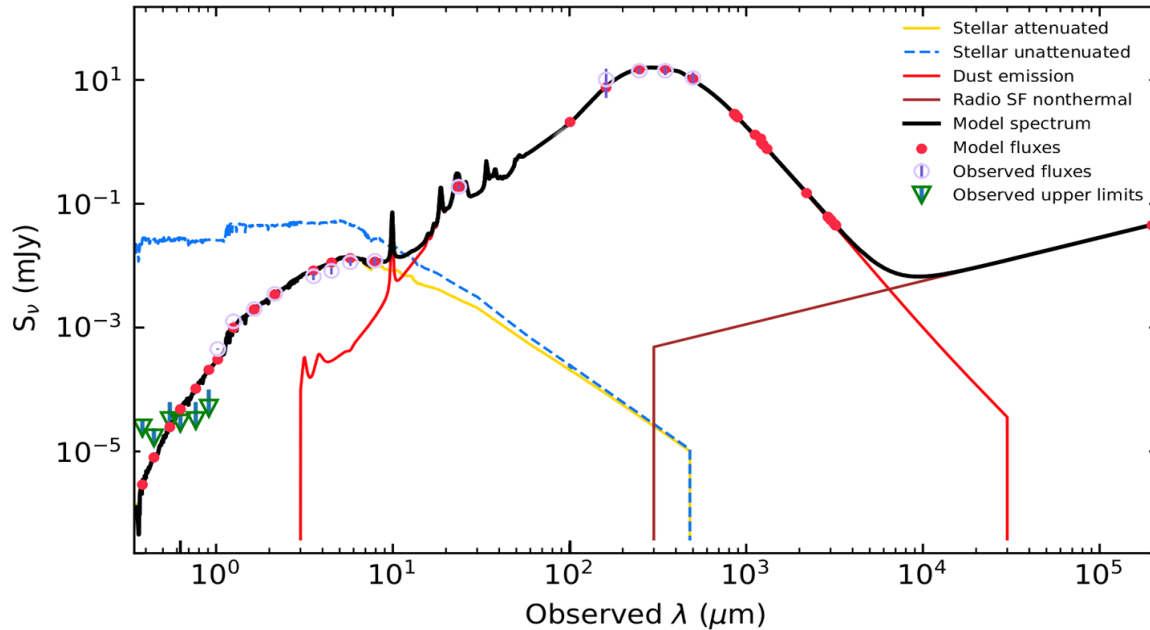
Answers

# Background: Why are “dark galaxies” so *interesting*?



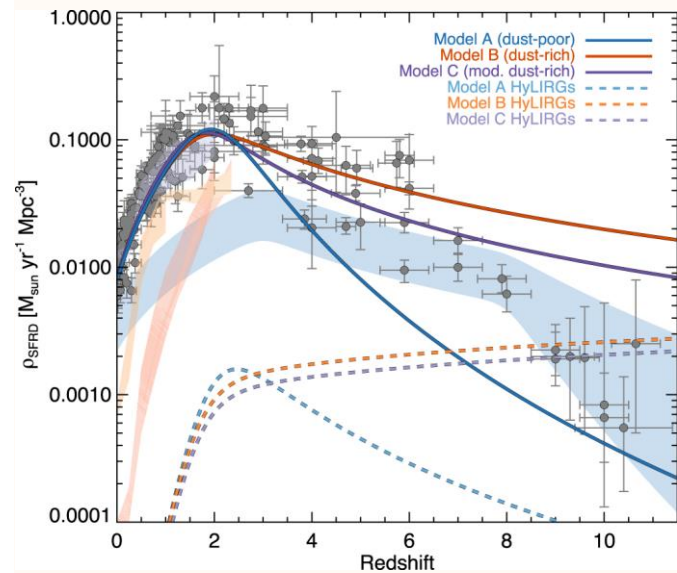
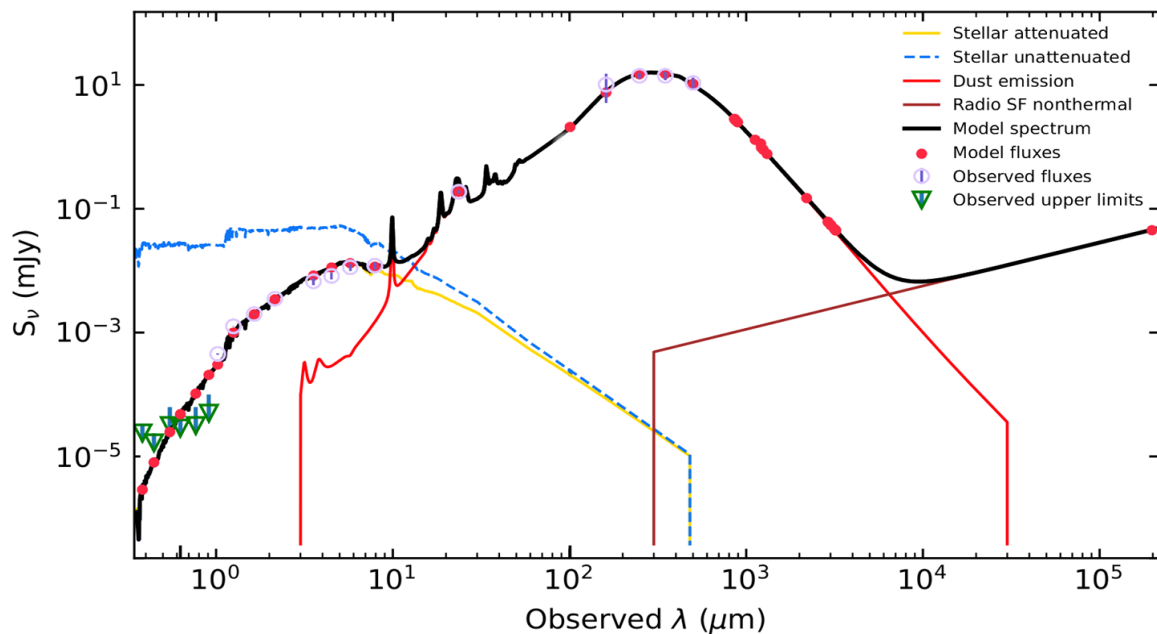
Madau & Dickinson (2014)

# Background: Why are “dark galaxies” so interesting?



Madau & Dickinson (2014)

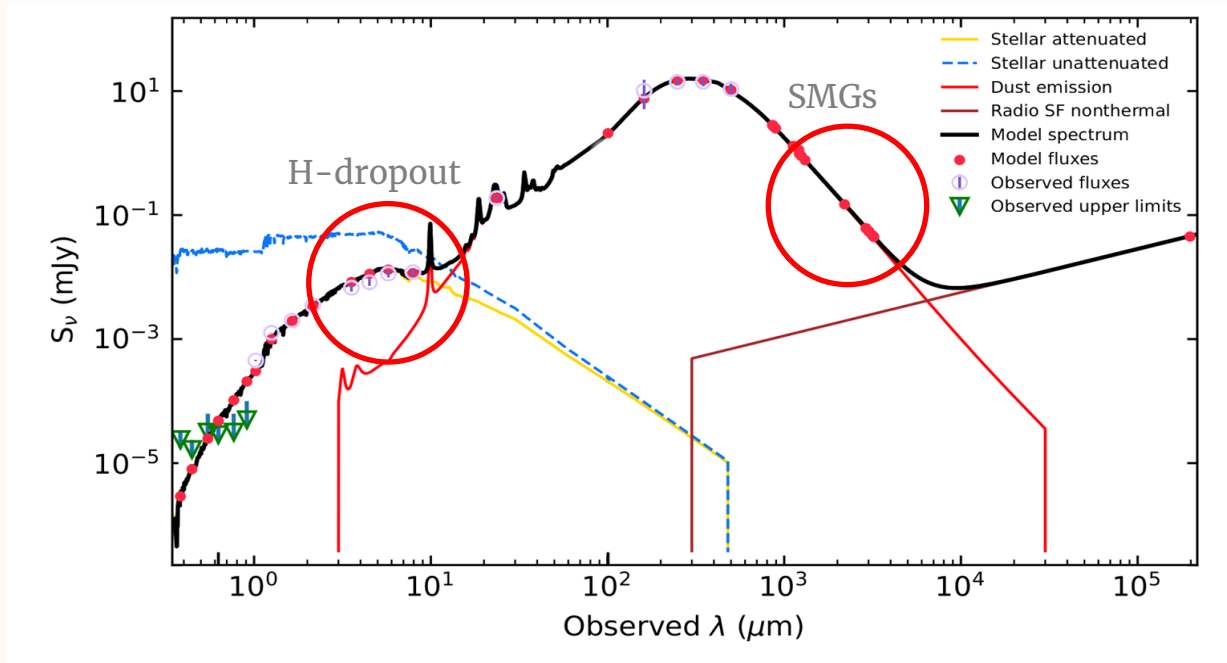
# Background: Why are “dark galaxies” so interesting?



Casey+(2018)

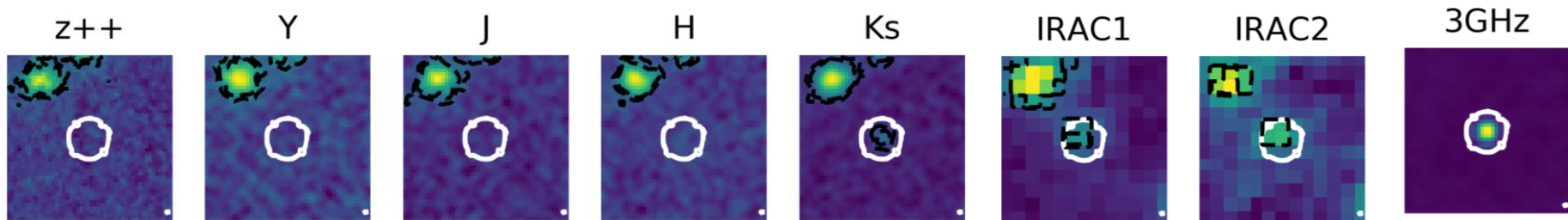
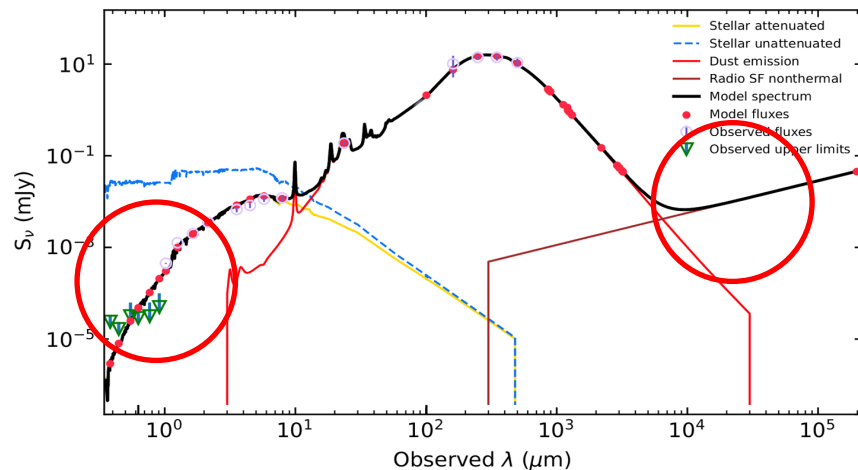
See also Novak+17; Gruppioni+20; Traina+(subm)

# Background: How can we find “dark galaxies”?



See e.g. Casey+14; Wang+19; Gruppioni+20 etc

# Our answer: Radio-Selected NIRdark galaxies



Talia+(2021), Enia+(2022), Behiri+(subm), Gentile+(subm)

# Radio-Selected NIRdark galaxies

## FIR / (sub)mm-Selection

### Pros:

- Strongly negative  $k$ -correction in the (sub)mm regime

### Cons:

- Large beam size and limited sensitivity (single-dish instruments)
- Small FOV (ALMA/NOEMA)
- Possible biases due to still-debated high- $z$  properties of dust

## Radio-Selection

### Pros:

- High resolution, sensitivity and FOV of modern interferometers
- Radio = dust-unbiased tracer of star-formation

### Cons:

- Positive  $k$ -correction in the radio regime
- Possible contamination by AGN



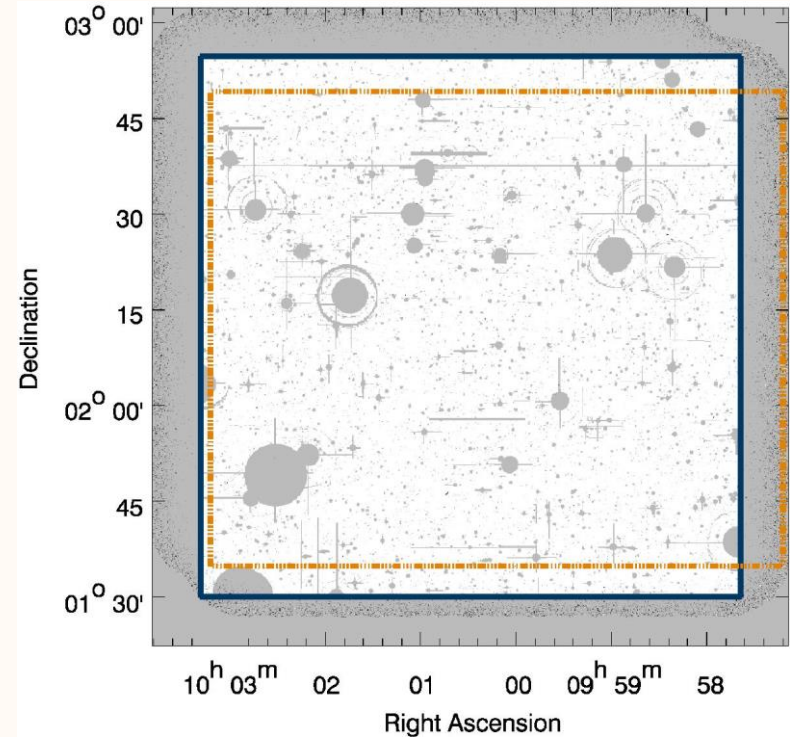
# What can we learn from existing data?

We focus on the COSMOS field:

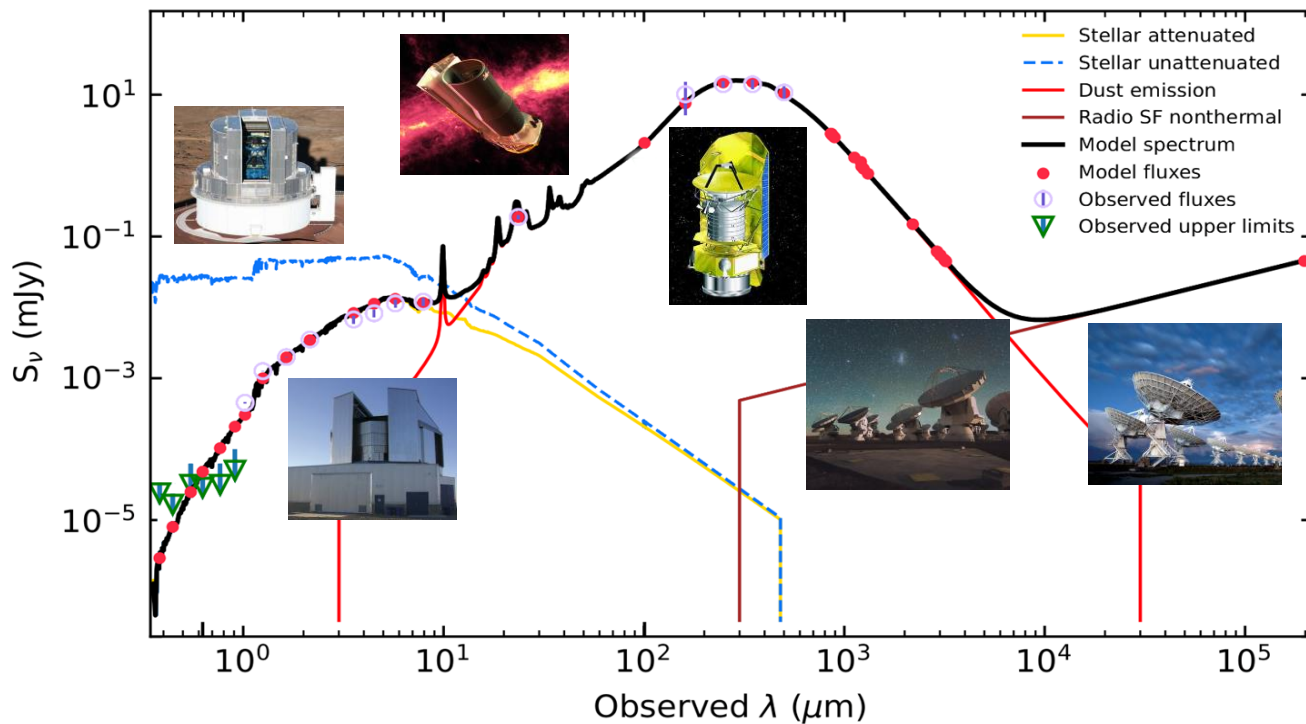
- $\sim 2.0 \text{ deg}^2$  of extra-galactic sky
- Deep coverage in all the spectrum
- COSMOS-VLA 3GHz Large Project:  
Deep enough to identify SFGs  
up to  $z \sim 5$

**323 Radio-Selected  
NIRdark Galaxies**

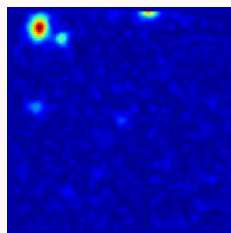
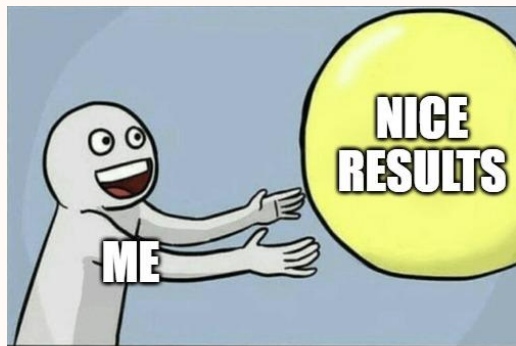
i.e. No opt/nir counterpart in the  
COSMOS2020 catalogue (Weaver+22)



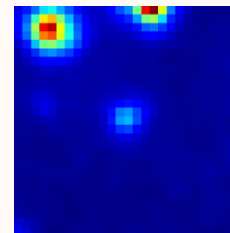
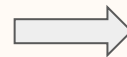
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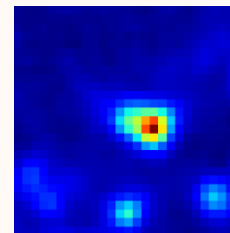
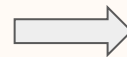
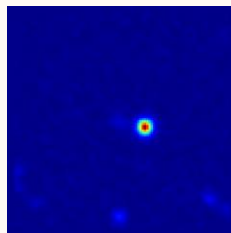
# What can we learn from existing data?



UltraVISTA

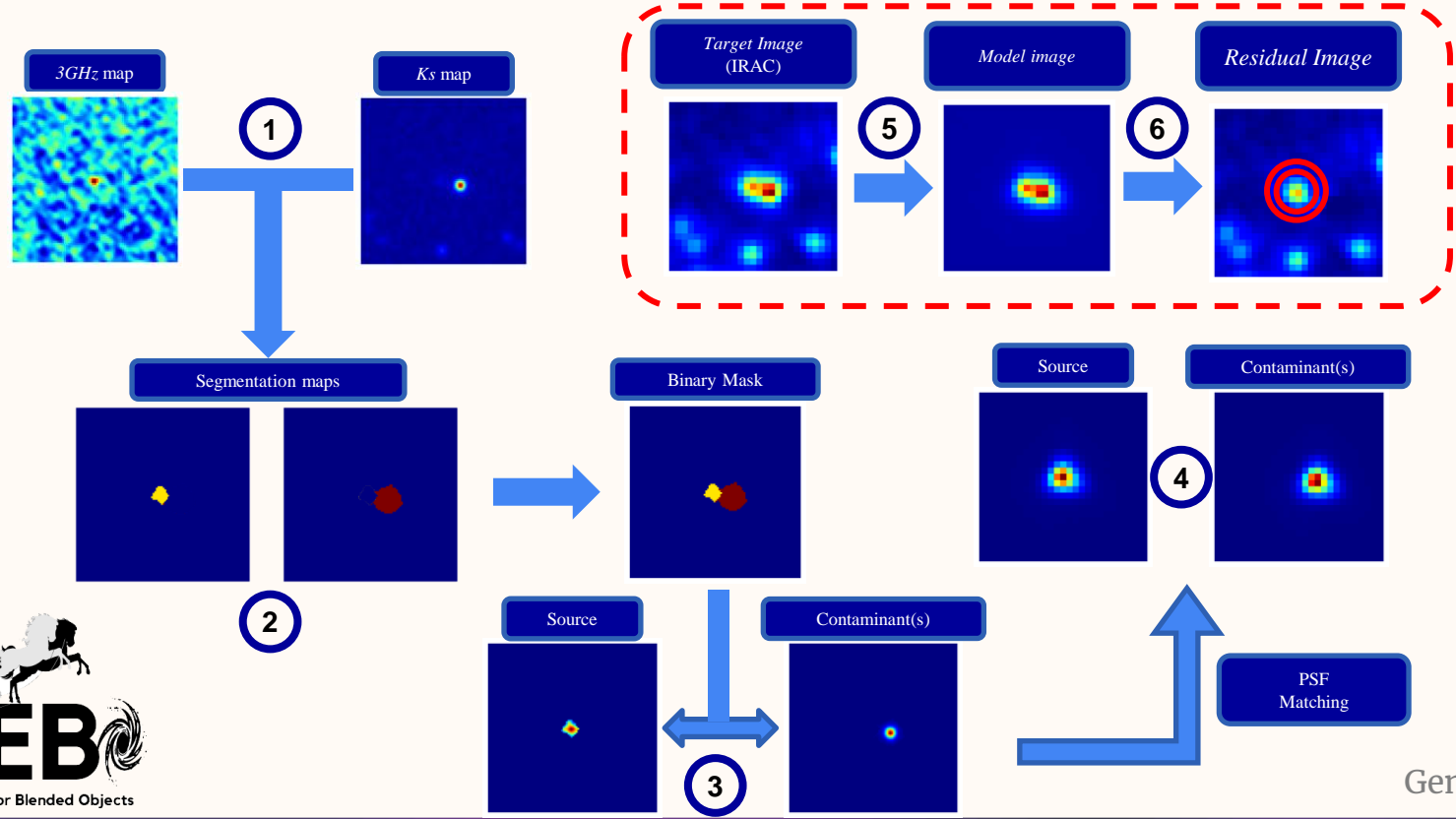


IRAC



How to deal with source-blending?

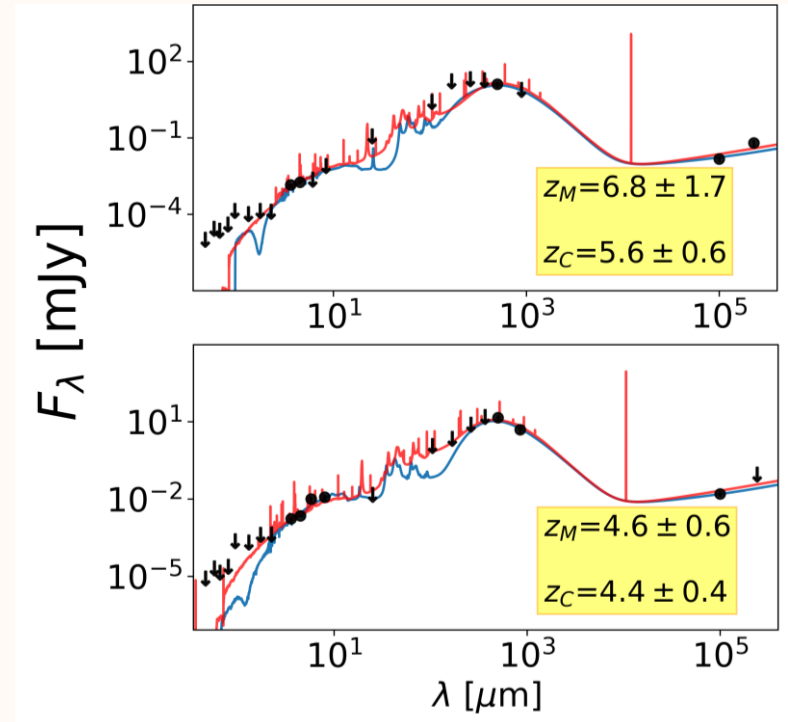
# PhoEBO: the Photometry Extractor for Blended Objects



Gentile+(subm)

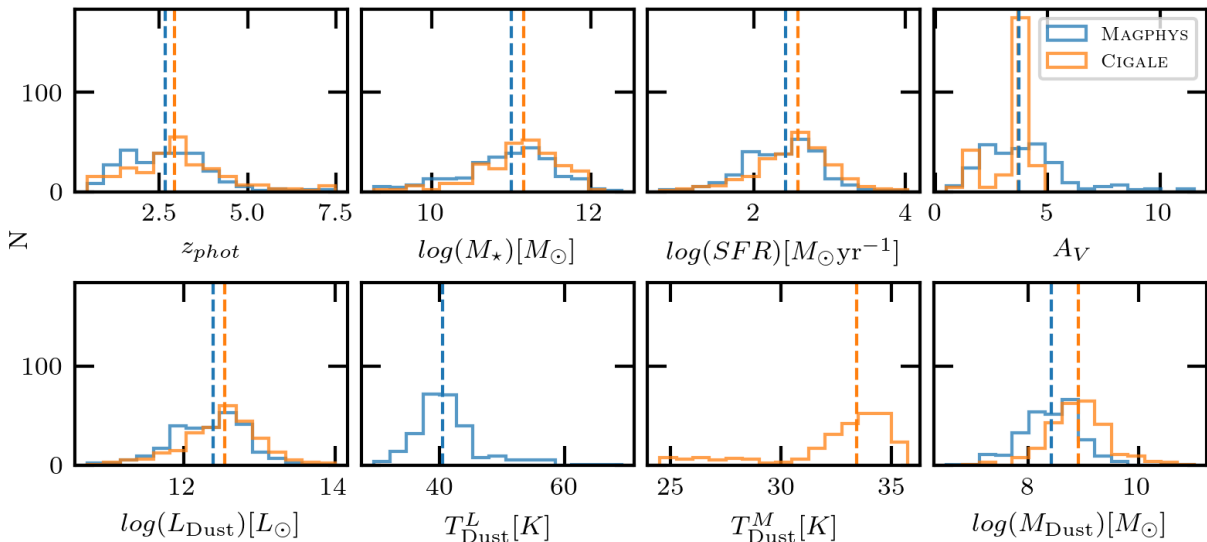
# What can we learn from existing data?

- Optical/NIR/MIR: PhoEBO  
(Gentile+subm)
- FIR: SuperDeblended  
(Jin+18)
- (sub)mm: A3COSMOS  
(Liu+19)
- Radio: VLA-COSMOS (1.4/3 GHz)  
(Schinnerer+10; Smolcic+17)



Gentile+(subm)

# What can we learn from existing data?



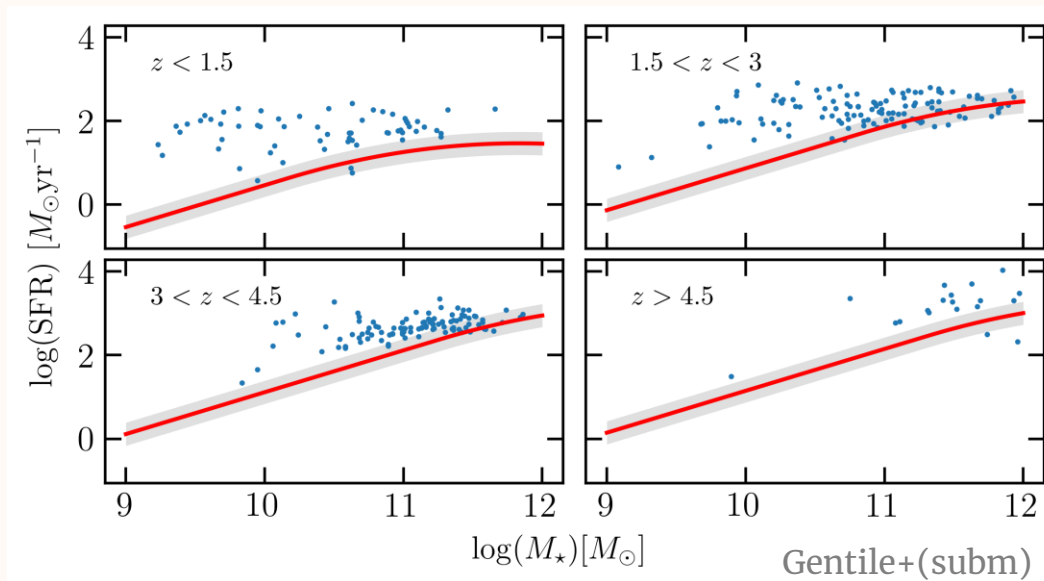
**Table 2.** Comparison between the median properties estimated by MAGPHYS and CIGALE

Property	MAGPHYS median	CIGALE median	Unit
$z_{phot}$	$2.68 \pm 0.04$	$2.93 \pm 0.04$	
$\log(M_{\star})$	$11.00 \pm 0.02$	$11.15 \pm 0.02$	$M_{\odot}$
$\log(SFR)$	$2.42 \pm 0.02$	$2.58 \pm 0.04$	$M_{\odot}\text{yr}^{-1}$
$A_v$	$3.74 \pm 0.04$	$3.70 \pm 0.05$	mag
$\log(L_{Dust})$	$12.39 \pm 0.02$	$12.54 \pm 0.02$	$L_{\odot}$
$T_{Dust}^L$	$40.5 \pm 0.2$	–	K
$T_{Dust}^M$	–	$33.4 \pm 0.2$	K
$\log(M_{Dust})$	$8.43 \pm 0.02$	$8.91 \pm 0.02$	$M_{\odot}$

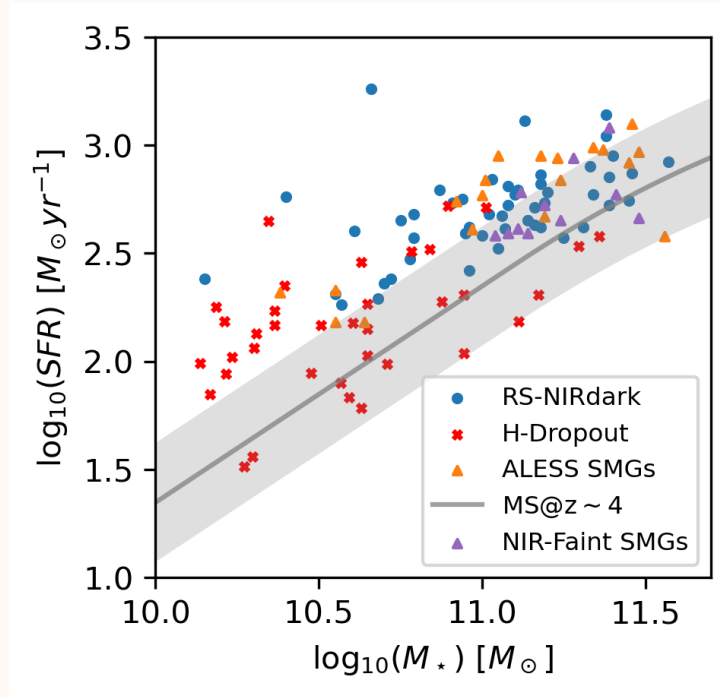
Gentile+(subm)

# What can we learn from existing data?

- $\sim 40\%$  of the RS-NIRdark galaxies lie on the main sequence
- $\sim 55\%$  galaxies are classified as «starburst»



# What can we learn from existing data?



Gentile+(subm)



*What can we learn from new data?*

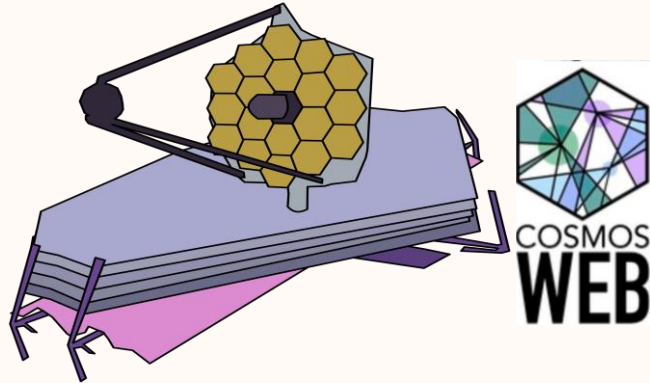
# *What can we learn from new data?*



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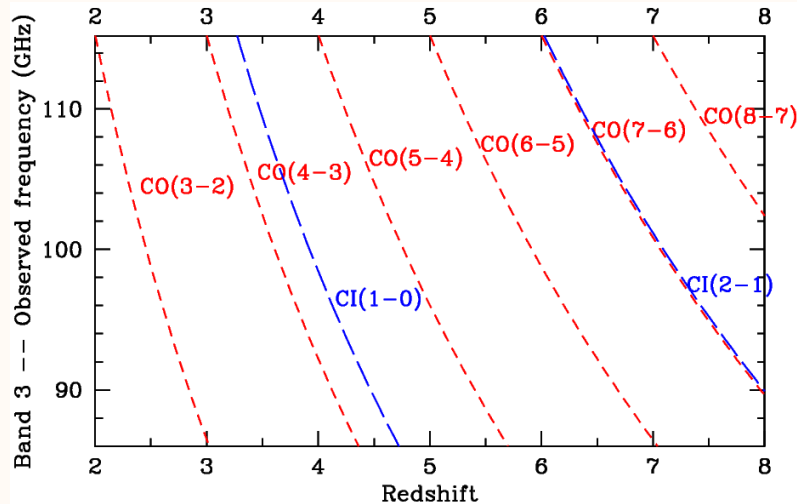


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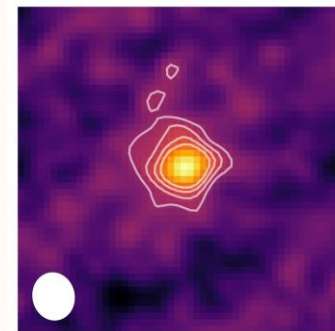
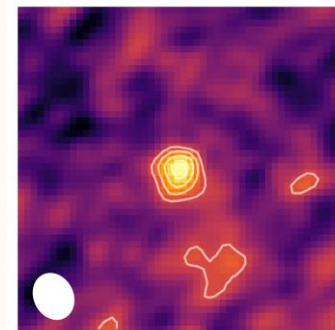
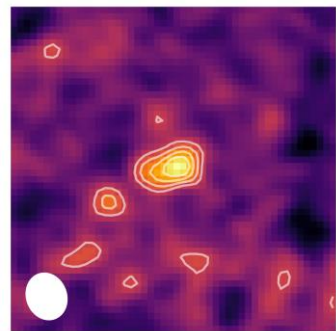
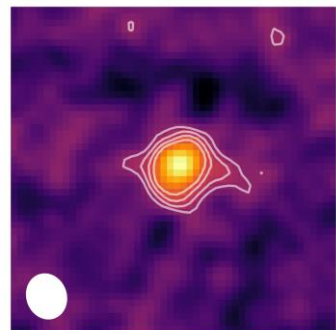
# What can we learn from new data?

- Two proposals accepted:
  - ALMA spectral scan for 9 RS-NIRdark galaxies
  - NOEMA spectral scan for 2 RS-NIRdark galaxies



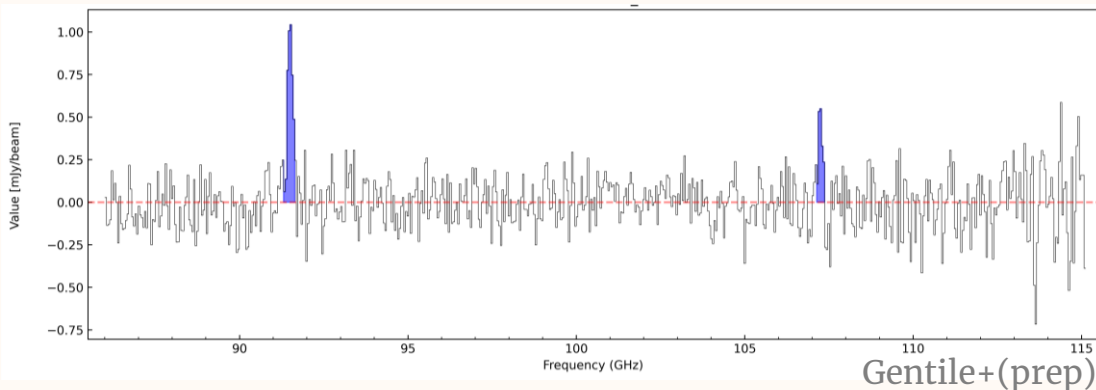
# ALMA data – Continuum detections

- Robust ( $S/N > 5$ ) continuum detection for 6/9 galaxies -> The two populations are not totally overlapping!
- $S_{3\text{mm}} \sim 0.1 - 1 \text{ mJy}$
- Most of the sources are unresolved, some partially-resolved -> **Future constraints on sizes!**

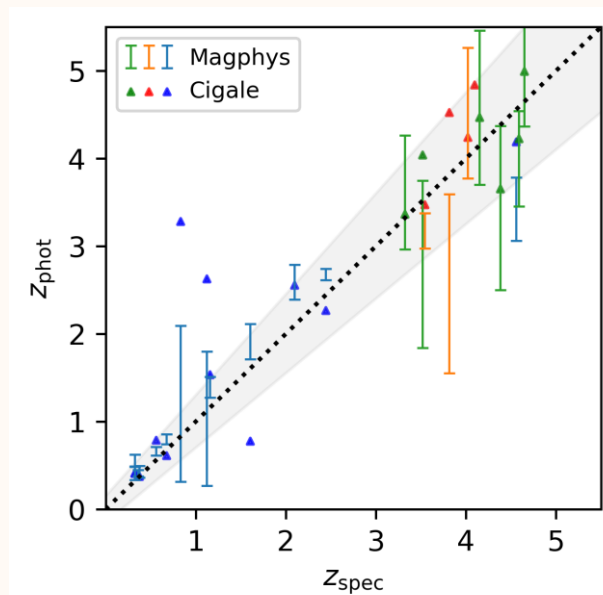
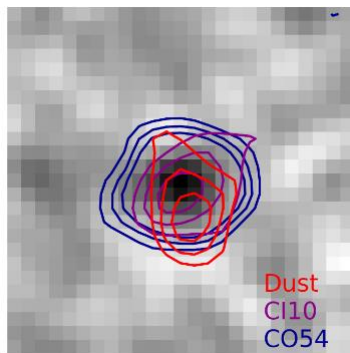


Gentile+(prep)

# ALMA – Spectroscopic redshifts



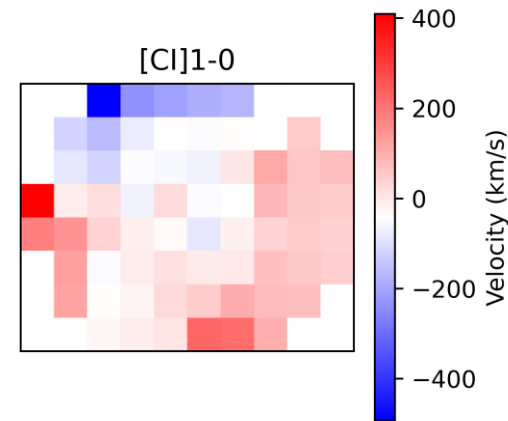
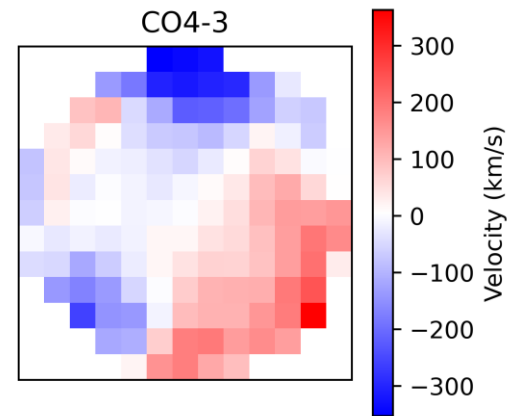
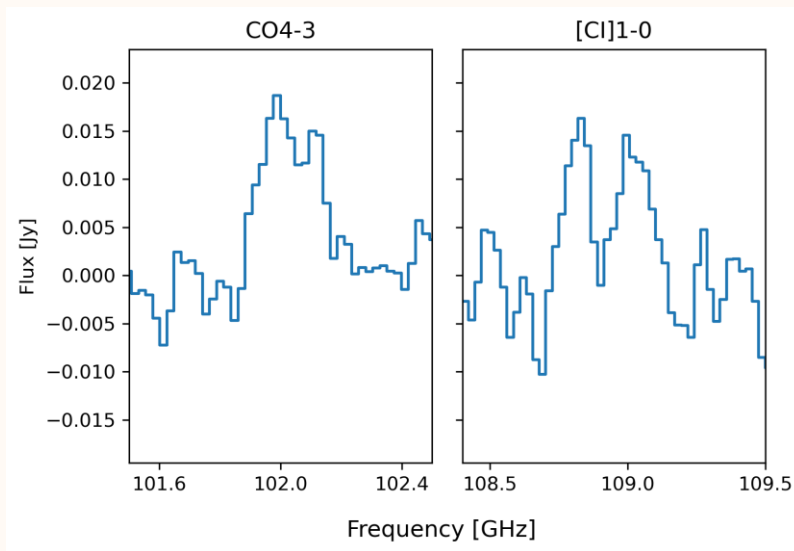
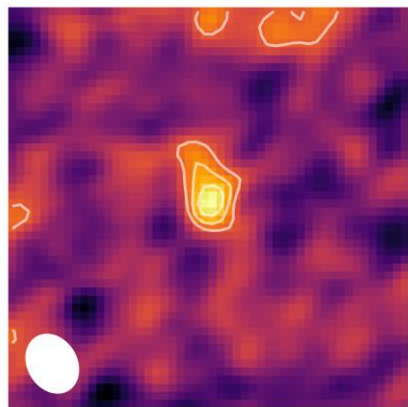
$$\text{median} \left( \frac{|\Delta z|}{1 + z_{\text{spec}}} \right) \sim 0.07$$





# ALMA - Kinematics

- For one of the galaxies observed with ALMA ( $z = 3.52$ ) the spectrum gave some interesting insights on the ISM kinematics



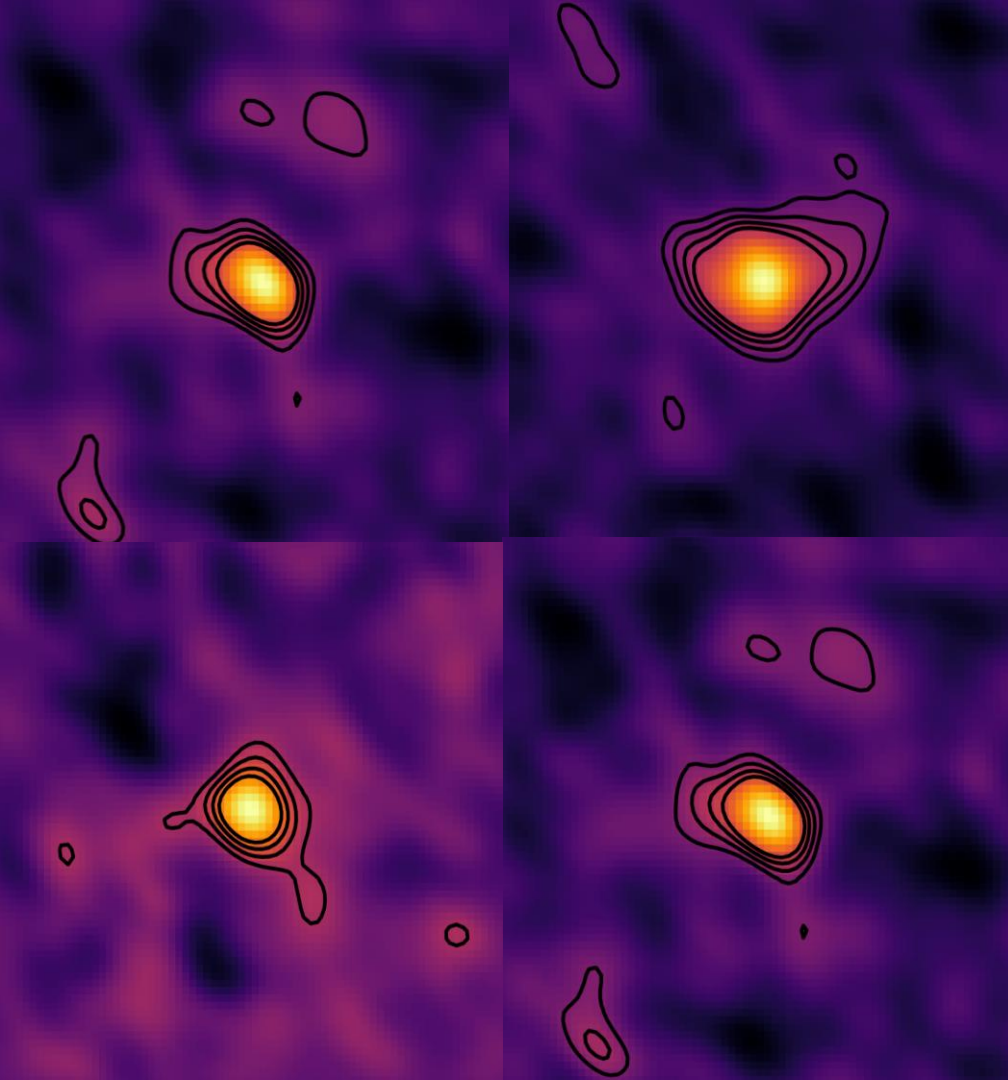
Gentile+(prep)

# ALMA & NOEMA – Future steps

- Constraints on dust temperature (continuum detection + A3COSMOS)
- Direct measure of the gas mass (from [CI] line)
- Improvement in the SED-fitting (from spec-z and additional point)
- Constraints on the physical sizes

# Conclusion

- The role of “dark” DSFGs in the cosmic SFRD and in the evolution of massive galaxies could be extremely significant
- We assembled a sample of 323 Radio-Selected NIRdark galaxies in the COSMOS field, extracting photometry from the optical to the radio with PhoEBO and cross-matching with pre-existing catalogues
- The physical properties estimated through SED-fitting confirm the DSFG nature of the RS-NIRdark galaxies
- Ongoing ALMA/NOEMA/JWST programmes will give new insights on these promising sources. So... stay tuned!



**Thank you**

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