Pa-alpha/beta imaging toward nearby starburst galaxy NGC 253

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miniTAO WS 2013/3/15 at Mitaka

Abstract

- We propose observations of Pa-alpha/beta recombination lines toward the starburst regions in NGC 253.
- Primary aim of this study is revealing unattenuated intensities and distributions of massive star-formation. Combining with our radio observation data, we will investigate necessary physical condition for starburst activity.

NGC 253

- Nearby barred spiral at D=3.4Mpc (1"= 17pc) – velocity=50~450 km/s (240 km/s@galaxy center)
 Active star-formation in the galaxy center – a few~several Msun yr⁻¹, highest SFR (D<5Mpc,d<0)
 - huge amount of molecular gas, and high star-formation efficiency (Sorai+ 2001, Nakanishi+ in prep.)
 - super star cluster (Fernandez-Ontiveros+ 2009)
- Question: what makes it possible to activate starburst?



Right Ascension

Molecular gas observations

- Molecular gas (¹²CO and ¹³CO) observations have been made using NRO 45-m and ASTE
- Molecular gas at the galaxy center is denser and warmer than those at galaxy disk
- Star-formation activities are enhanced at the galaxy center, and star-formation efficiencies* are also enhanced.

* star-formation rate per molecular gas mass

¹²CO(1-0) and (3-2) maps on NGC253



Center : Disk (r<500pc) = 1:2.6

Center : Disk = 1:0.7

CO(3-2) / (1-0) line ratio



Indicator of Density or Temperature of molecular gas
Overall = 0.4
Center ~ 1
Starforming region (2kpc ring) = 0.4~0.7
Disk region (non SFR) < 0.2

Molecular gas and star-formation



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Higher star-formation efficiency at the galaxy center



NGC253 [CII]158um map on 12CO (1-0) contour



Caveats

- Star-formation rate may be inaccurate

 cm-wave radio continuum trace longer time-scale phenomena than lifetime of OB stars, and it suffers contamination by free-free emission
- Other star-formation rate indicators?
 - we don't have reliable image of mid-infrared continuum (e.g. 24um) due to severe saturation at the galaxy center and ghosts
 - H-alpha emission suffer from large extinction $(A_v > 10 \text{ at most})$

Proposed observations

- Pa-alpha/beta observations toward starburst regions of NGC 253 using mini-TAO/ANIR – unattenuated intensities/distributions of starburst
- We will be able to obtain more accurate relationship between star-formation activities and physical properties of interstellar matter – it should be a clue to prove an origin of starburst

Observation strategy

• High priority

- Pa-alpha(on-band), Pa-beta(on): 1hr on-source integration, 9-points dither
- J, Ks: 15 min on-source integration, 9 pts. dither
- need sky flames (target is very extended)
- request: 5 hrs observations in total
- Medium priority
 - Pa-alpha(off-band), Pa-beta(off): 1hr on-source integration, 9-points dither + sky frames
 - request: 4 hrs observations in total

Target visibility (2013/11/1)



optimal season for observations: August - December

ALMA Cycle 1 Observation

- Our proposal (high-resolution (0."5) radio recombination line (H30alpha) and molecular line observation) has been ranked "highest priority"
- H30alpha line is mostly extinction free, but H30alpha emission line intensity is weak. Observation is limited to narrow area (30"f)
- miniTAO/ANIR observation will cover much wider area (3'-4'=3-4kpc) which includes not only the galaxy center but also bar/disk region.
 Wider range of star-formation activities can be investigated by the proposed observation.



- 今回のWSも不参加で申し訳ありません。
- 観測させていただけると、とても有難いです。
- •よろしくお願いいたします。

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