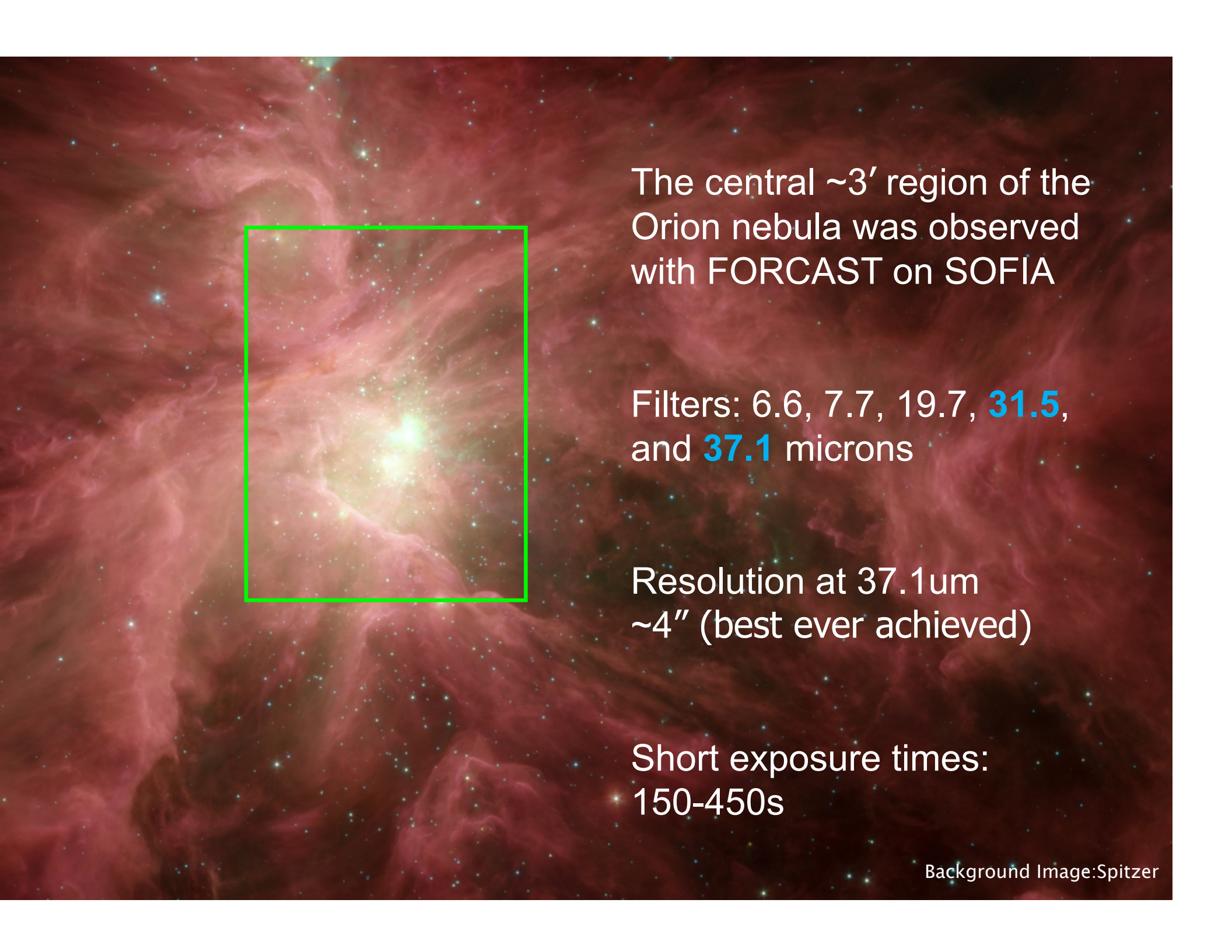


SOFIA Observations of Orion with FORCAST

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R. Y. Shuping, W. D. Vacca, H. Zinnecker

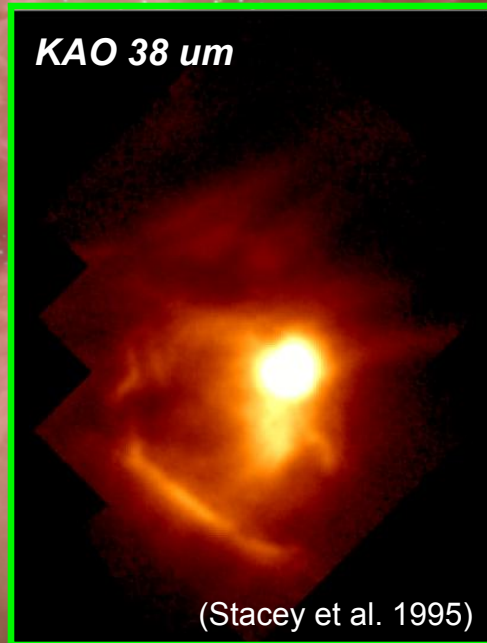
The image shows the Orion Nebula, a large interstellar cloud of ionized gas and dust. The central region is highlighted with a green rectangular box. The nebula exhibits a complex structure of filaments and knots, with a bright central star cluster. The background is a deep red color, characteristic of the nebula's emission spectrum.

The central $\sim 3'$ region of the Orion nebula was observed with FORCAST on SOFIA

Filters: 6.6, 7.7, 19.7, **31.5**, and **37.1** microns

Resolution at 37.1 μ m
 $\sim 4''$ (best ever achieved)

Short exposure times:
150-450s

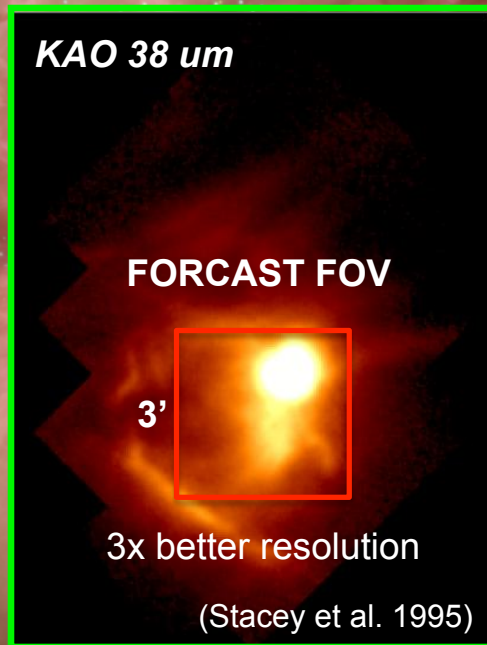


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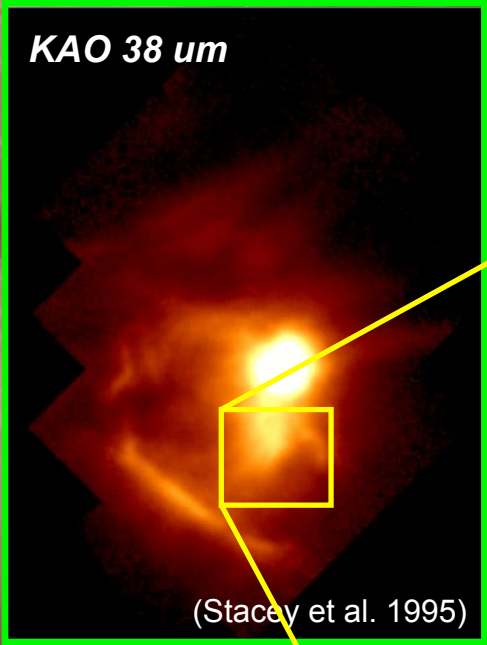
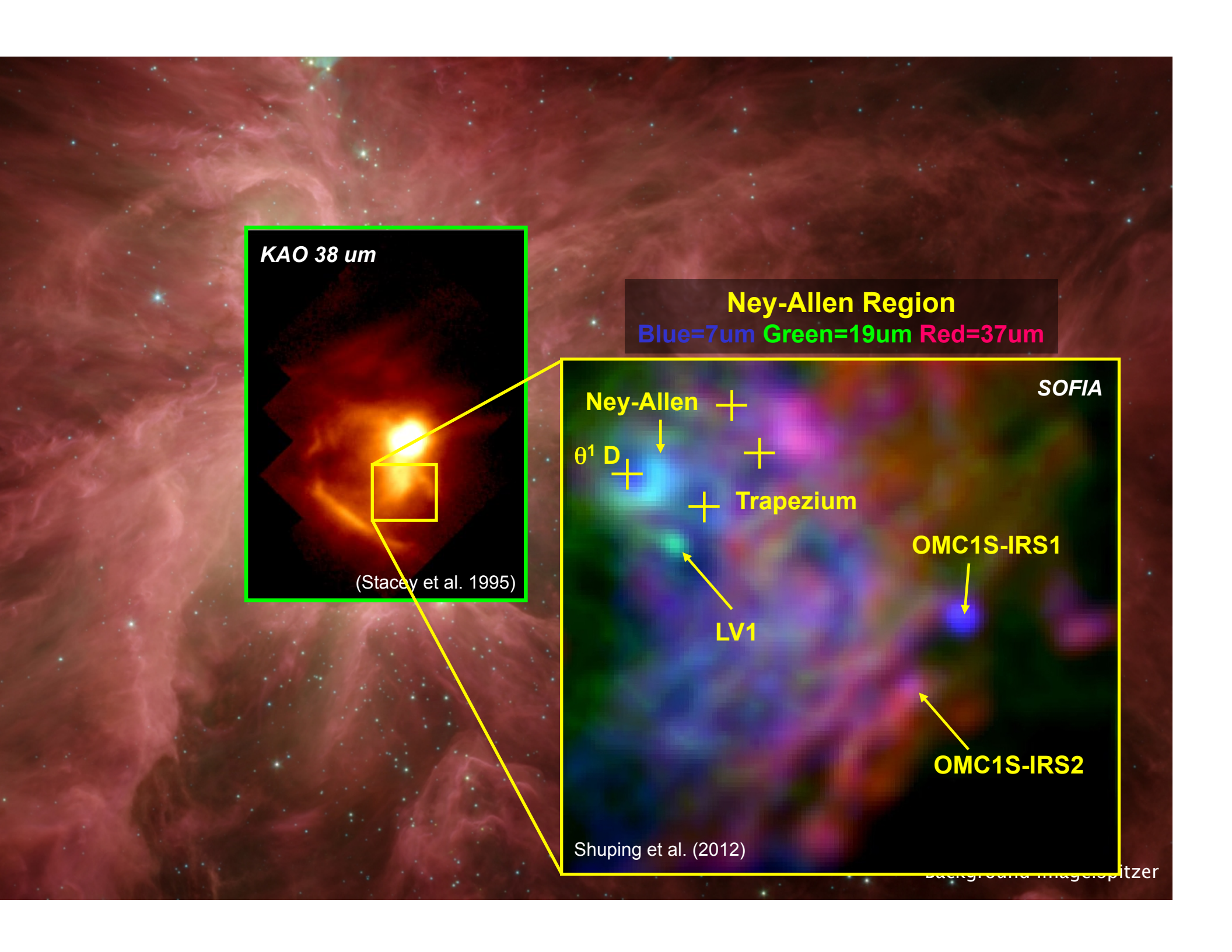


The central $\sim 3'$ region of the Orion nebula was observed with FORCAST on SOFIA

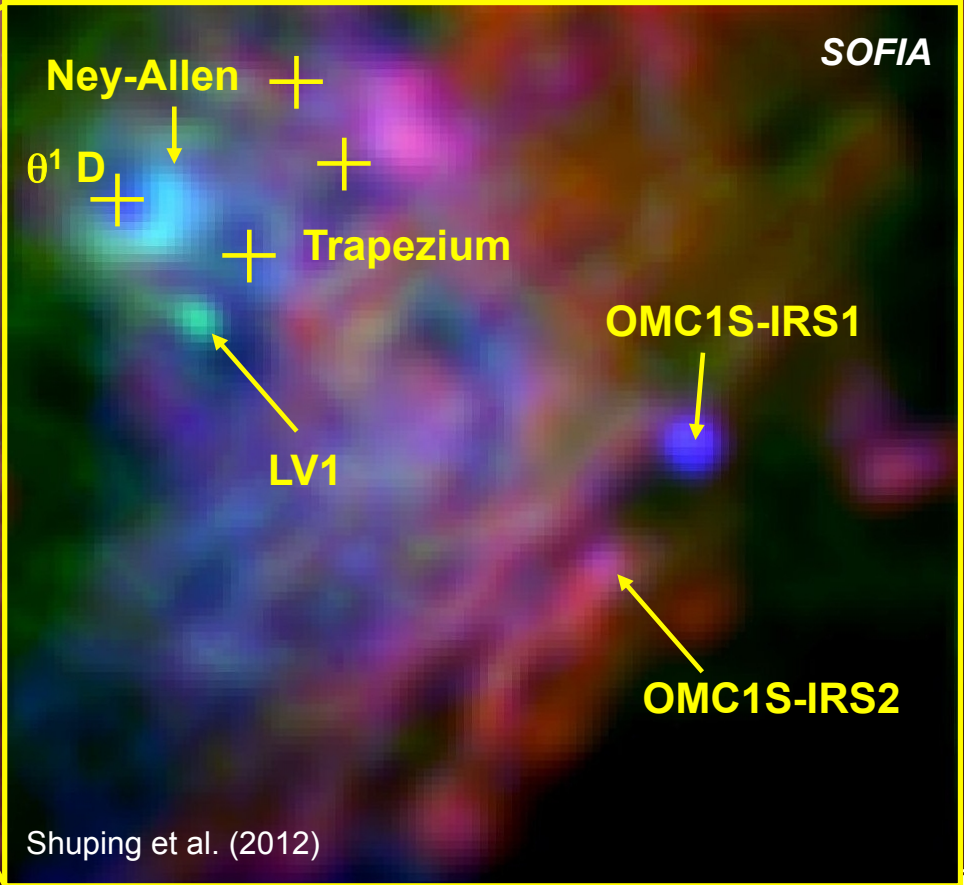
Filters: 6.6, 7.7, 19.7, **31.5**, and **37.1** microns

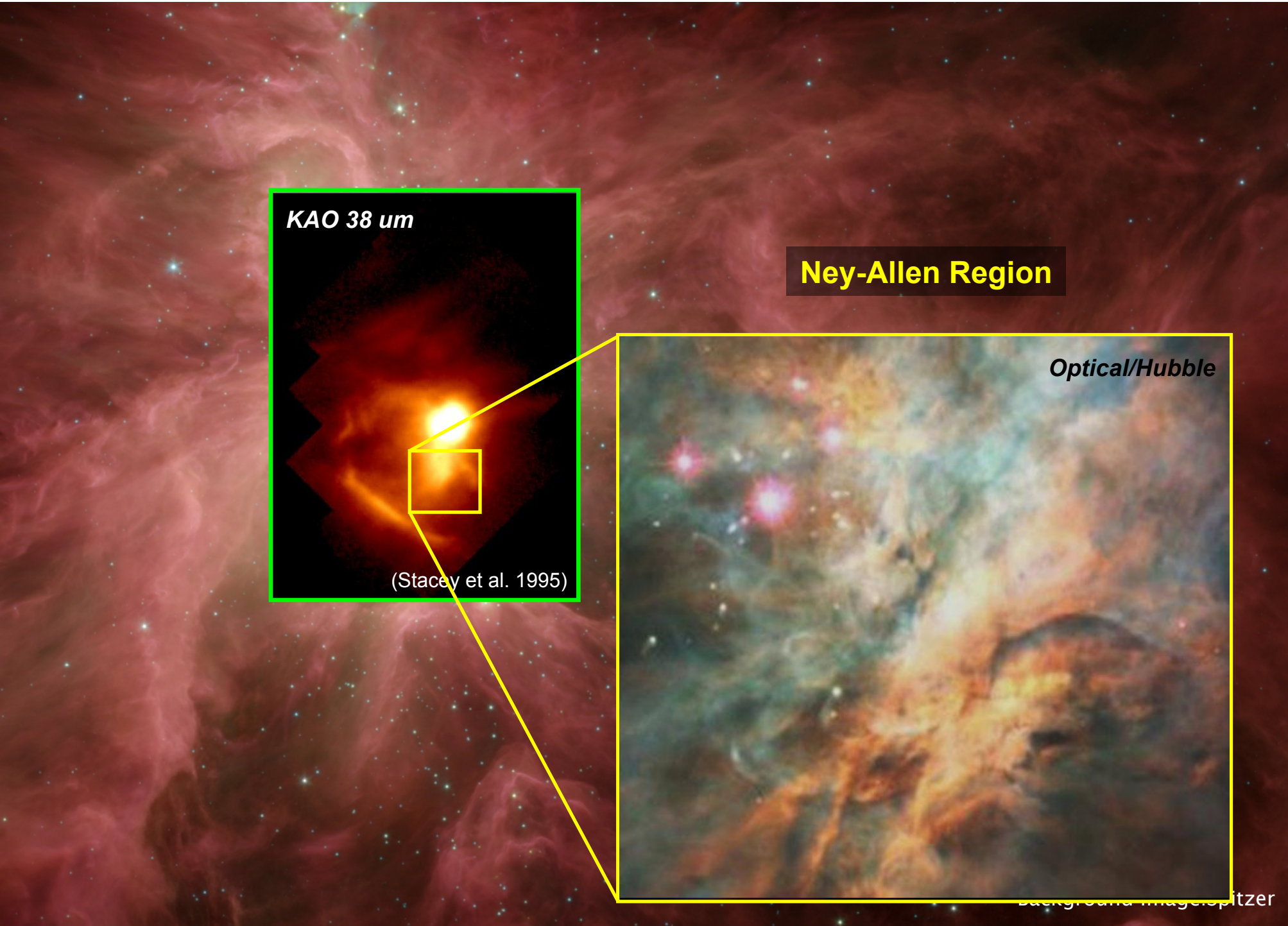
Resolution at 37.1um
 $\sim 4''$ (best ever achieved)

Short exposure times:
150-450s



Ney-Allen Region
Blue=7 μm Green=19 μm Red=37 μm





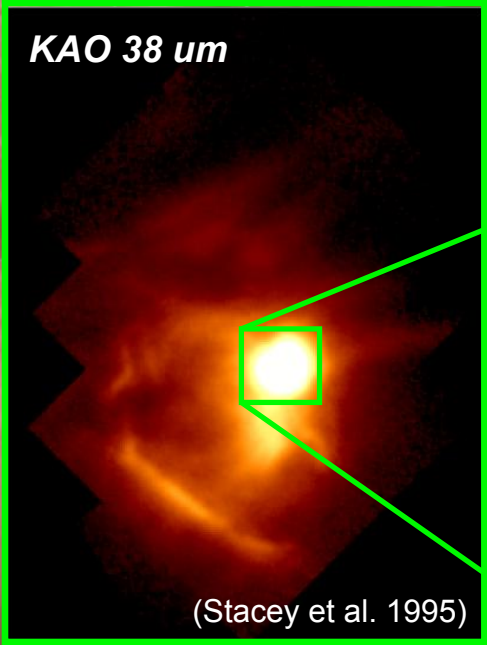
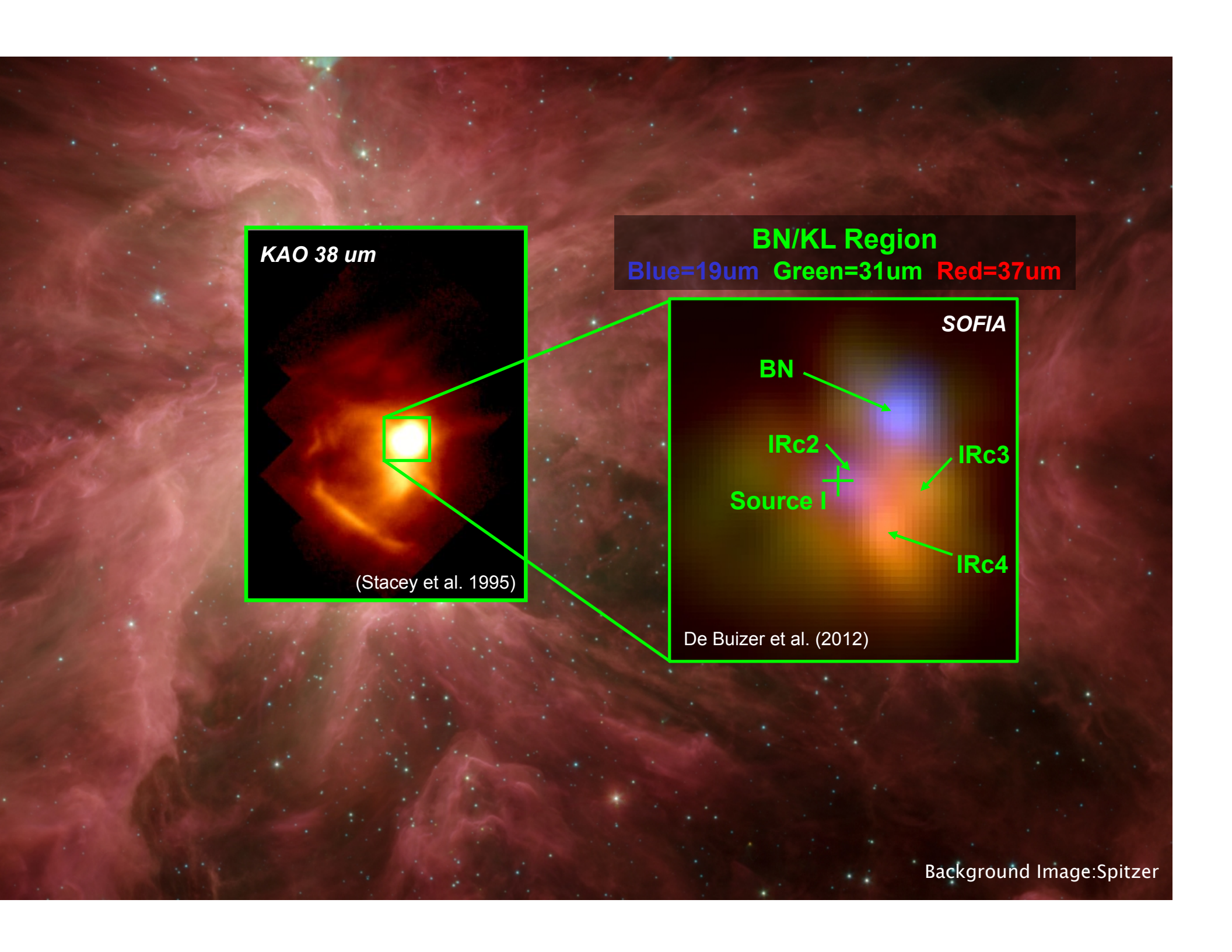
KAO 38 um

Ney-Allen Region

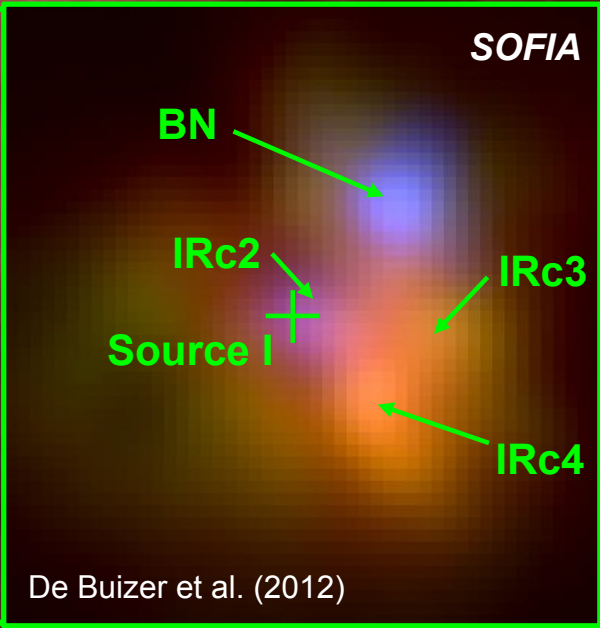
Optical/Hubble

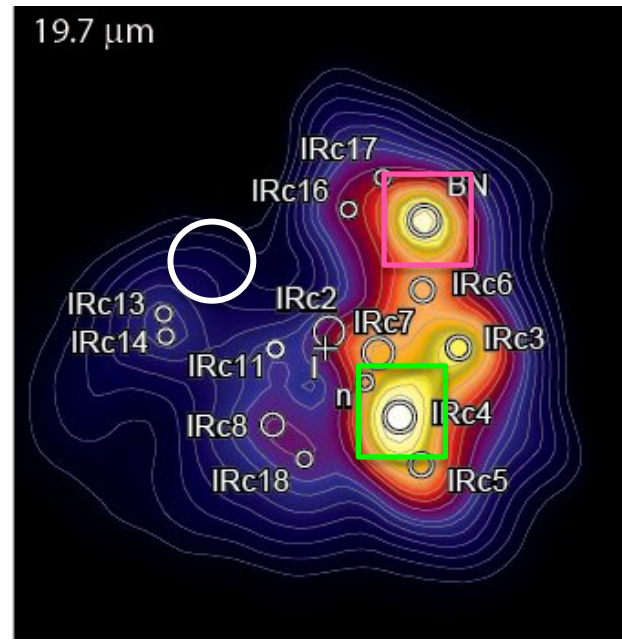
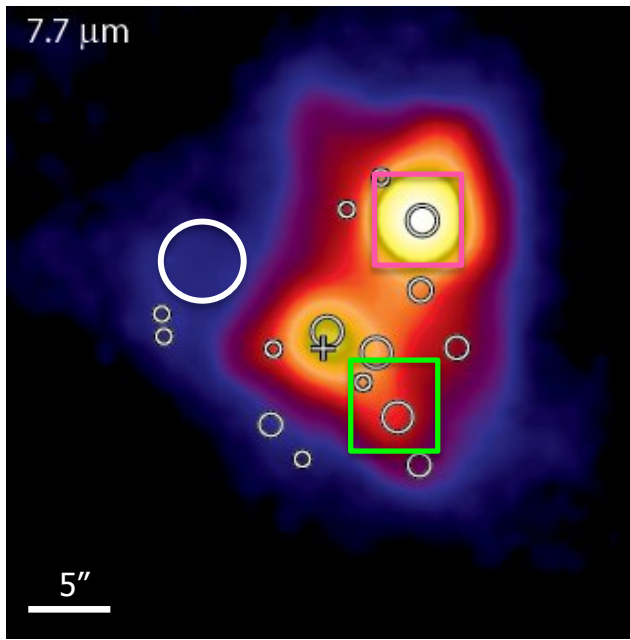
(Stacey et al. 1995)

background image by pitzer



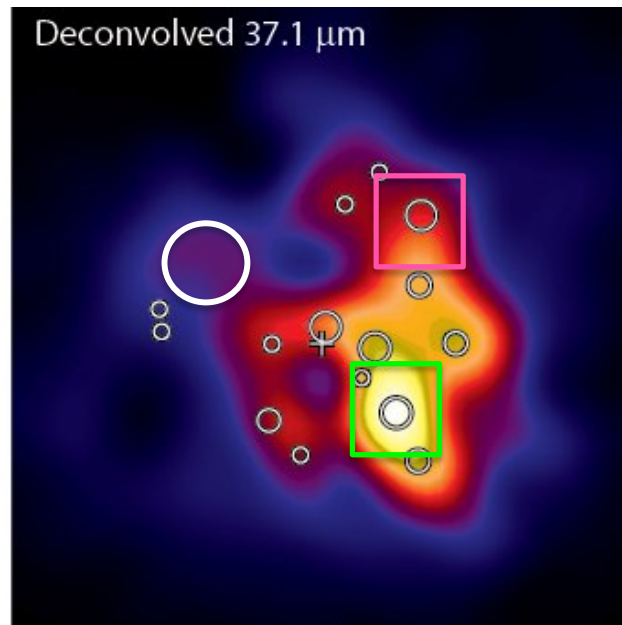
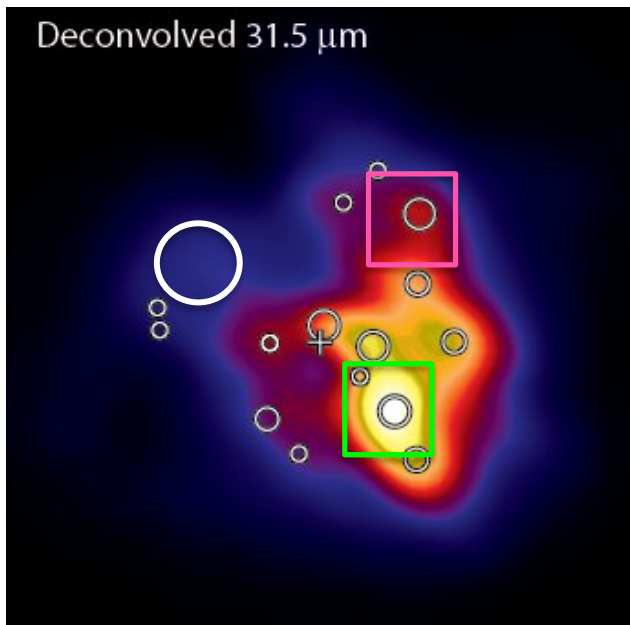
BN/KL Region
Blue=19 μ m Green=31 μ m Red=37 μ m





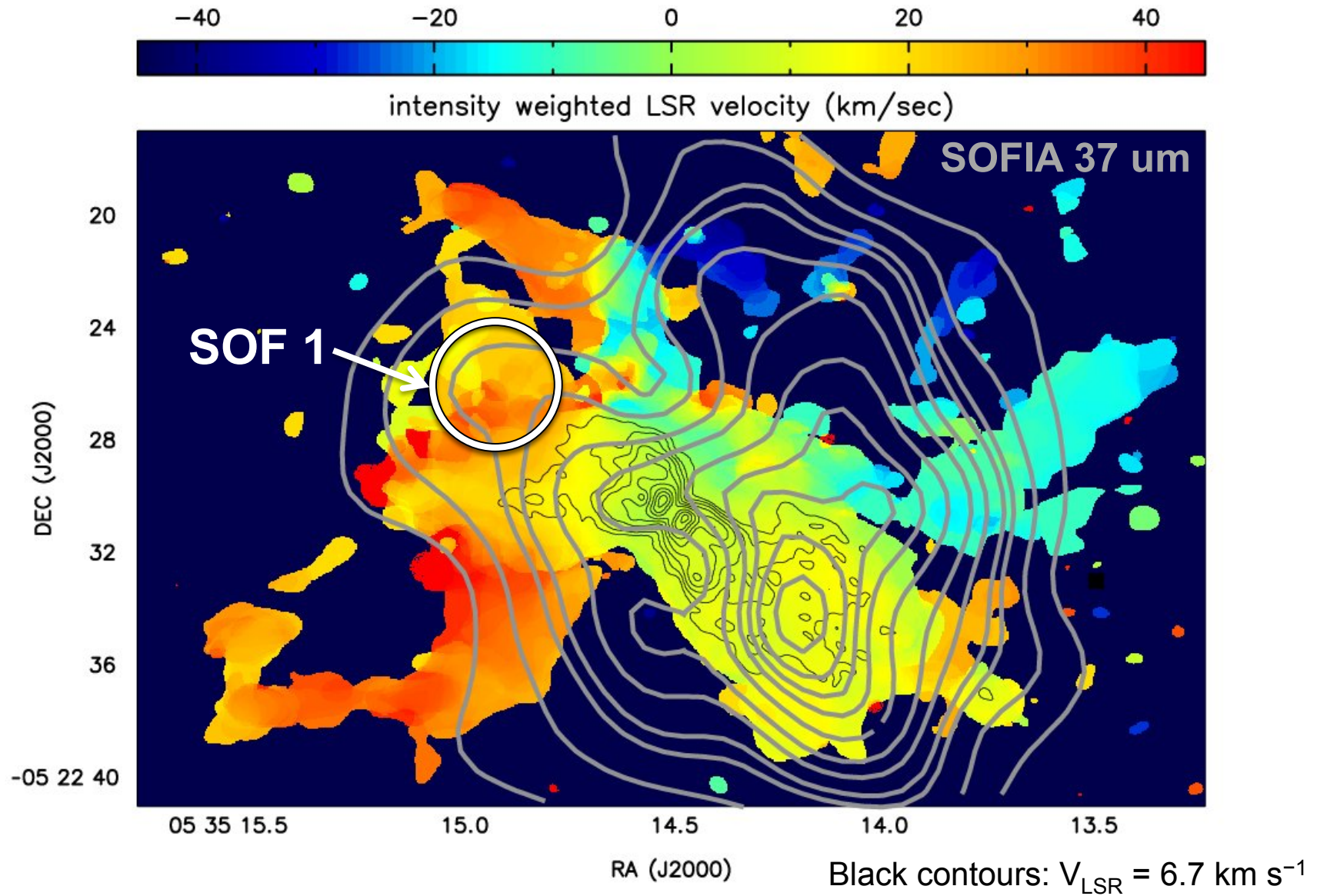
BN declines in prominence at longer λ 's

IRc4 dominates at $\lambda > 31\mu\text{m}$

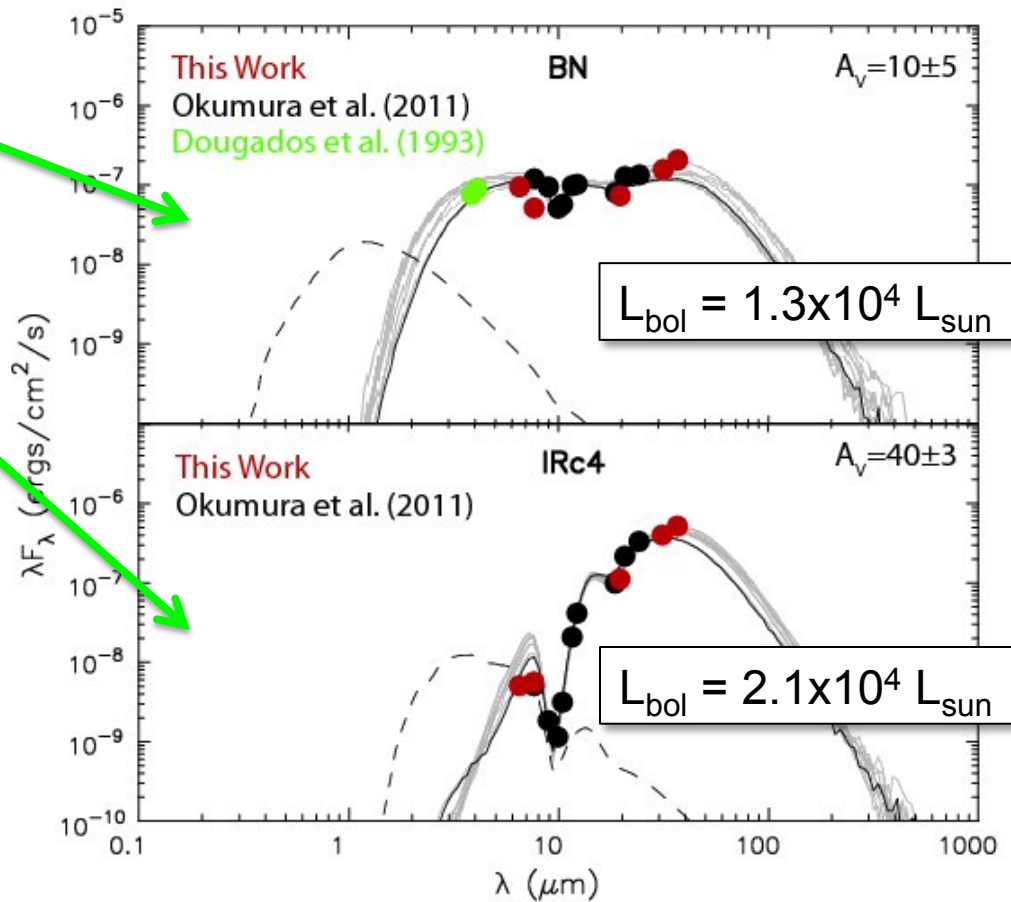
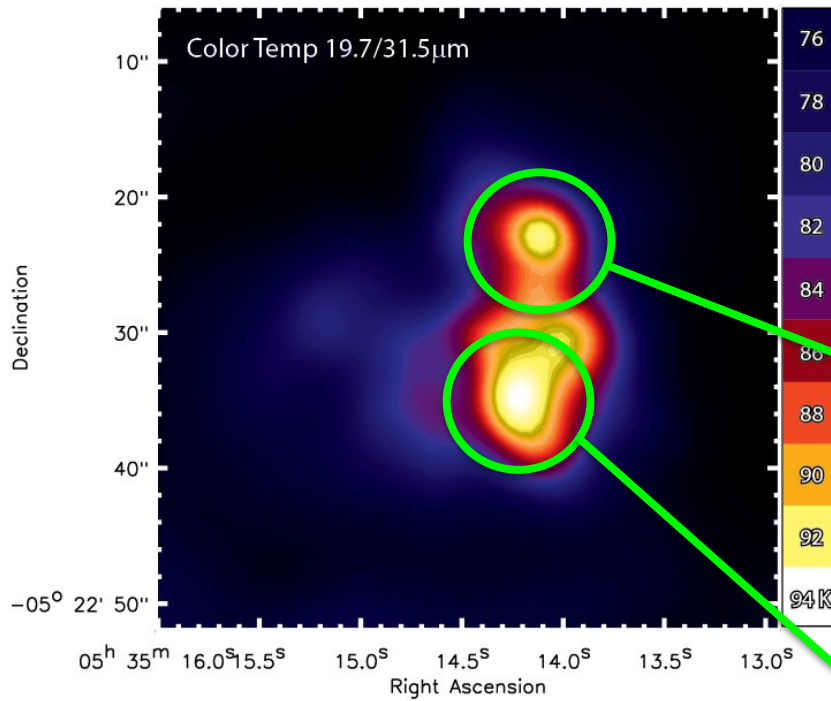


A previously unidentified area of emission is apparent at $\lambda > 31\mu\text{m}$ (SOF1)

SOF 1 is coincident with the redshifted outflow lobe



Like BN, IRc4 is a self-luminous source



IRc4 luminosity is too high to be caused by externally heating

BN+IRc4 account for ~50% of the $\sim 10^5 L_{\text{sun}}$ of the BN/KL region

Conclusions

- SOFIA/FORCAST observed the central 3' of the Orion Nebula with the highest resolution ever at 31 and 37 microns
- BN is not prominent at wavelengths 31 microns or longer
- IRc4 is likely a self-luminous source with a luminosity of about 1/4 the entire KL Nebula
- A previously unidentified area of emission, prevalent at wavelengths >31 microns appears to be associated with the outflow cavity