

Dense gas tracers and star formation laws: Multiple transition CS survey in nearby active star-forming galaxies

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Dense gas really matters.

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et al.



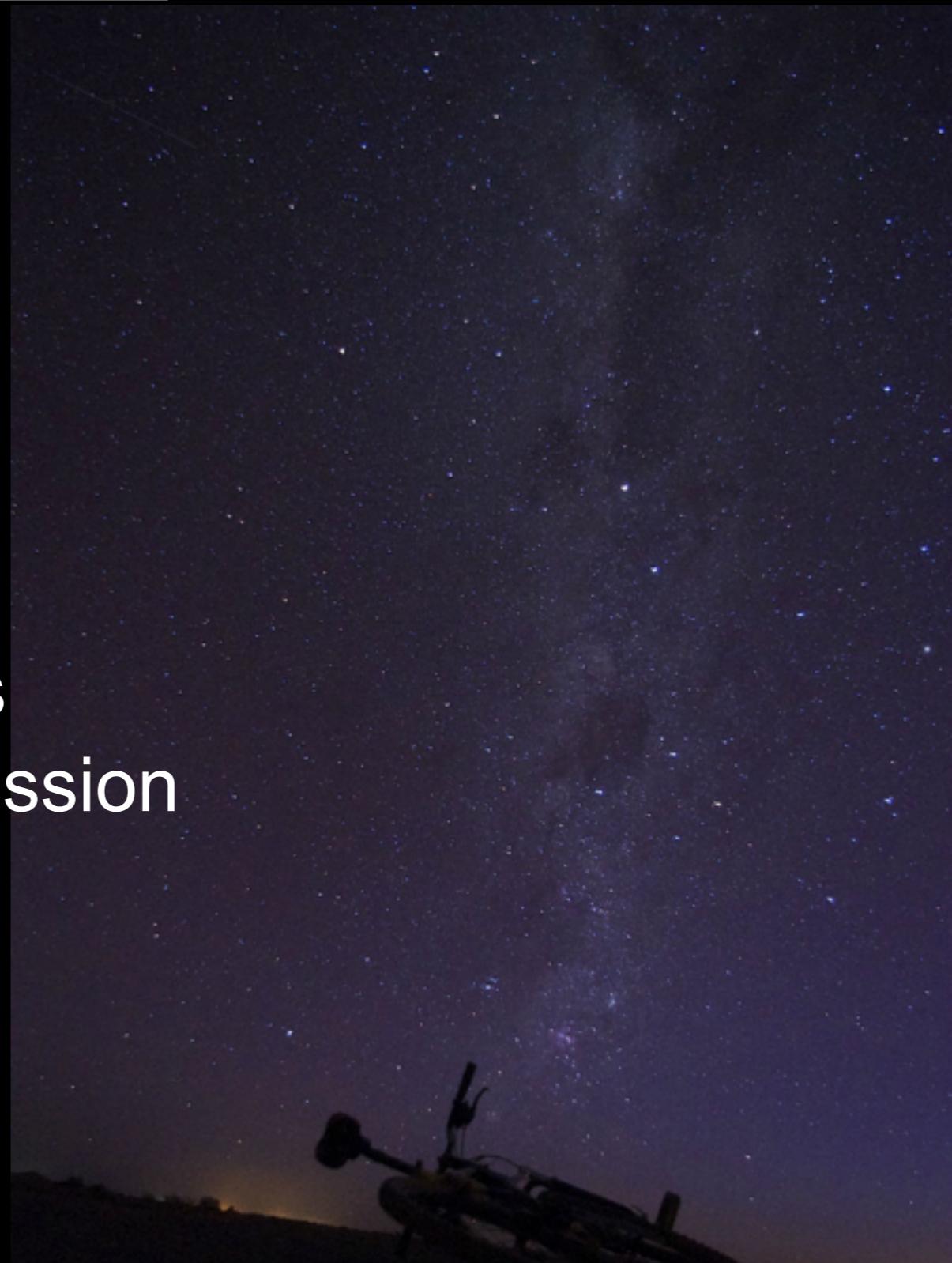
Outline

- Background
- Gas tracers and Star formation
- Star formation laws

- Surveys and Results
- Multiple-J CS surveys in galaxies
- Star formation vs. dense gas emission

- MALATANG and more.

- Summary

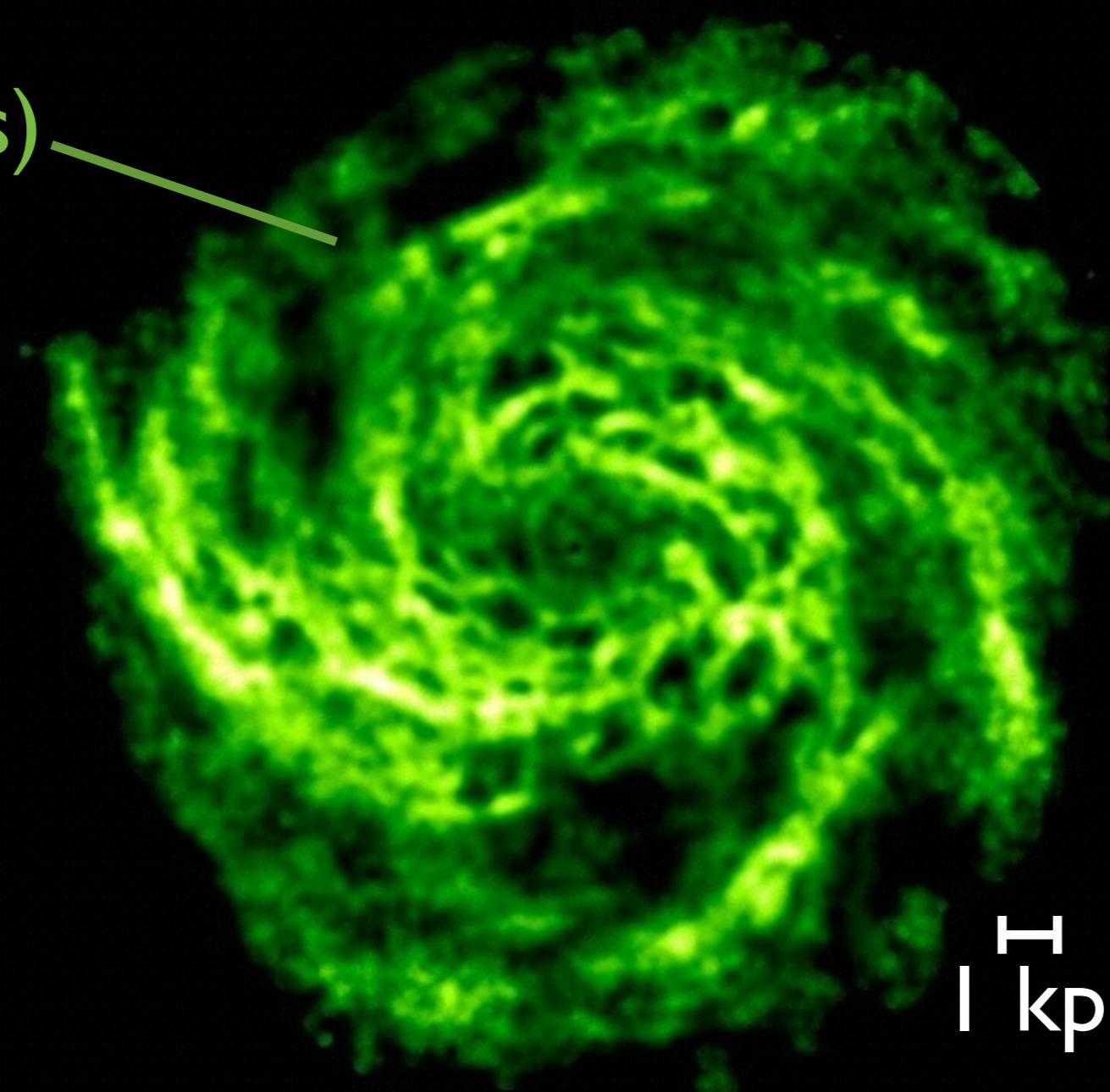


Which gases are forming stars?

IC 342

H I (atomic gas)

THINGS



1 kpc

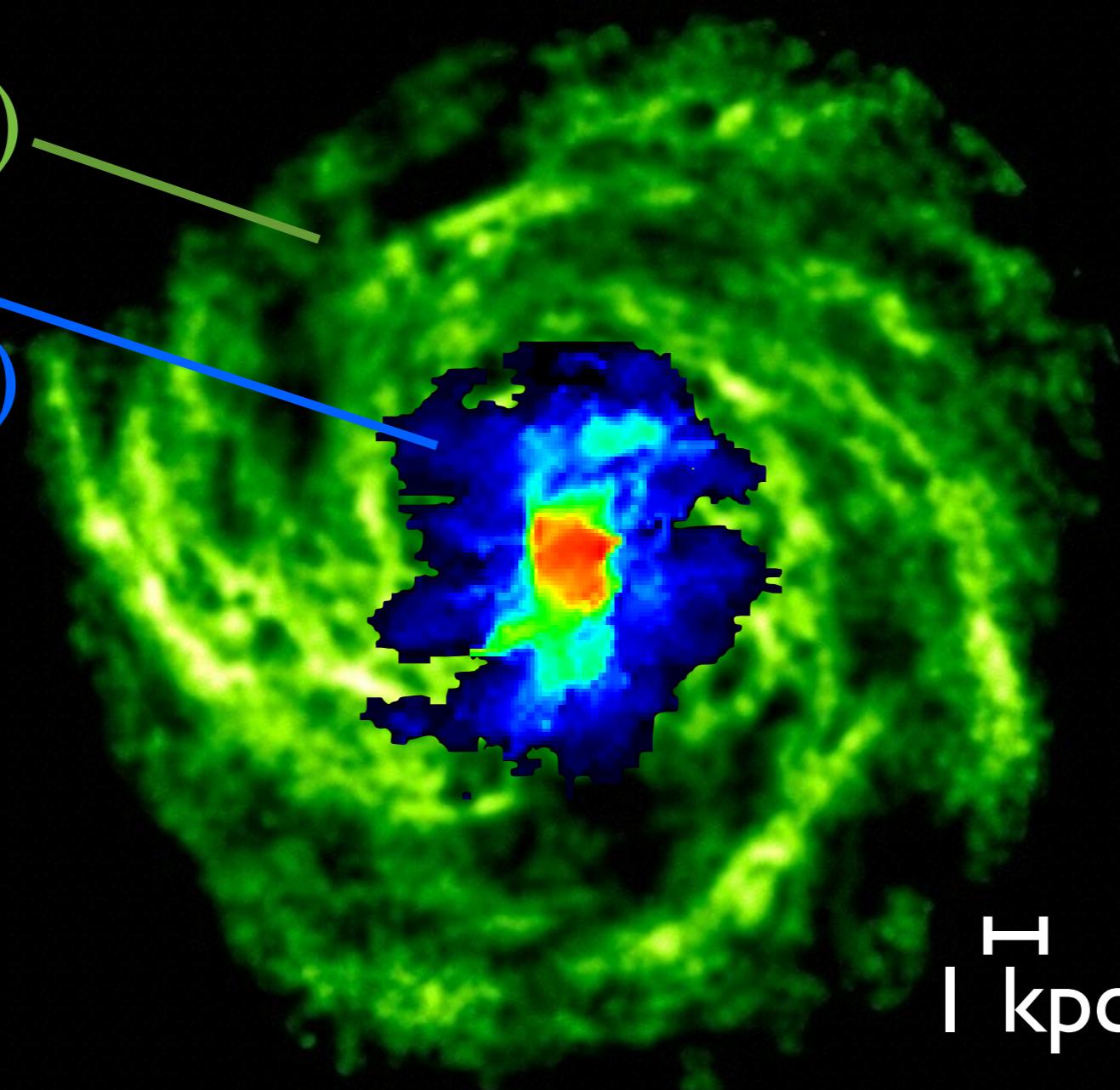
Which gases are forming stars?

IC 342

HI (atomic gas)

$^{12}\text{CO } J=1-0$

(molecular gas)



THINGS

NRAO 12m

1 kpc

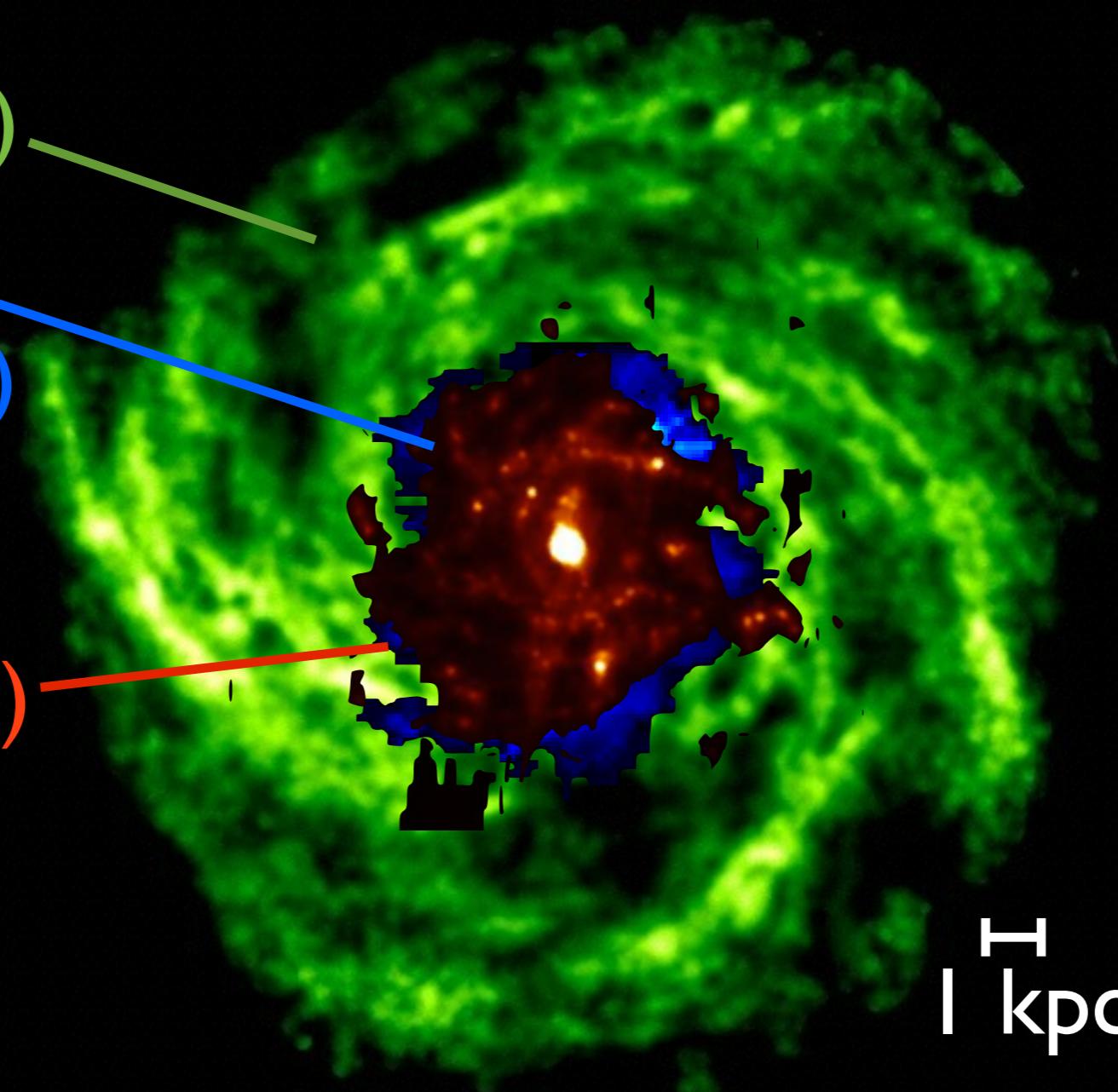
Which gases are forming stars?

IC 342

HI (atomic gas)

$^{12}\text{CO } J=1-0$
(molecular gas)

IR emission
(star formation)



THINGS

NRAO 12m

Spitzer 70um

1 kpc

On kpc scales, SFR is more related to H_2 gas, rather than to HI.

Which gases are forming stars?

IC 342

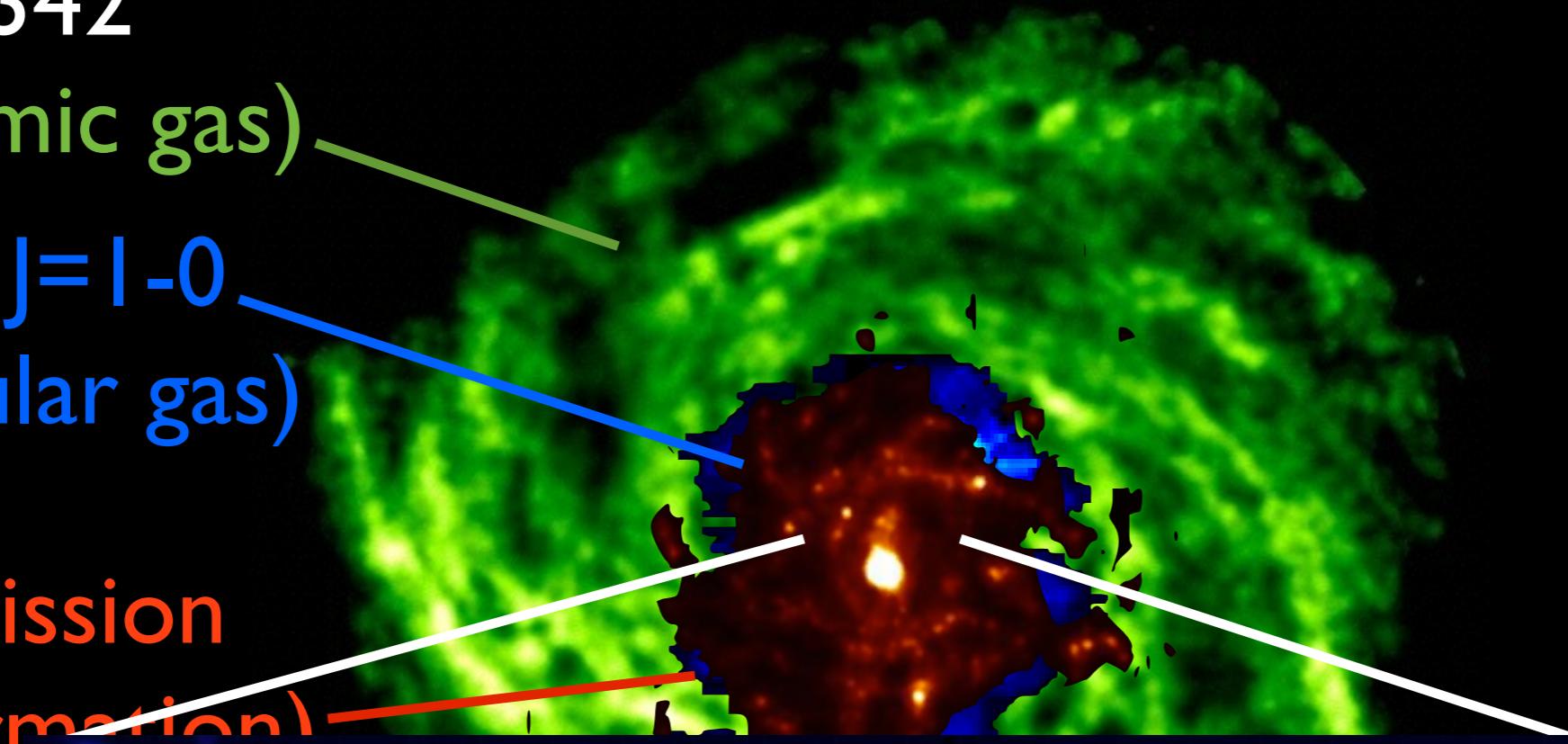
HI (atomic gas)

$^{12}\text{CO } J=1-0$

(molecular gas)

IR emission

(star formation)



THINGS

NRAO 12m

Spitzer 70um

Galactic Ring Survey (GRS)

$^{13}\text{CO } J=1-0$

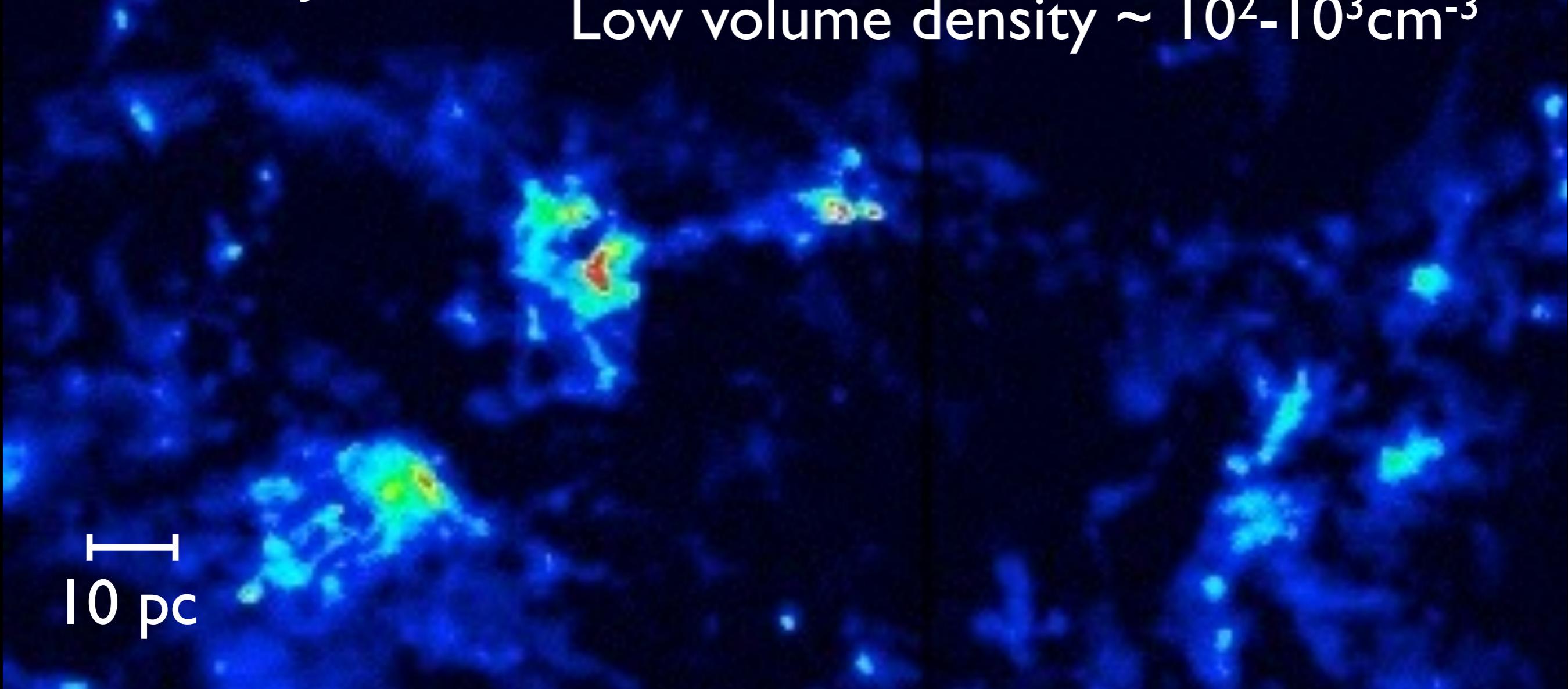
On kpc

than HI

Which gases are forming stars? - Galactic view

GRS ^{13}CO J=1-0

Extended on ~ 10 pc scales
Low volume density $\sim 10^2\text{-}10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$



Which gases are forming stars? - Galactic view

MSX 20 μm

Compact on \sim sub-pc scales

10 pc

Which gases are forming stars? - Galactic view

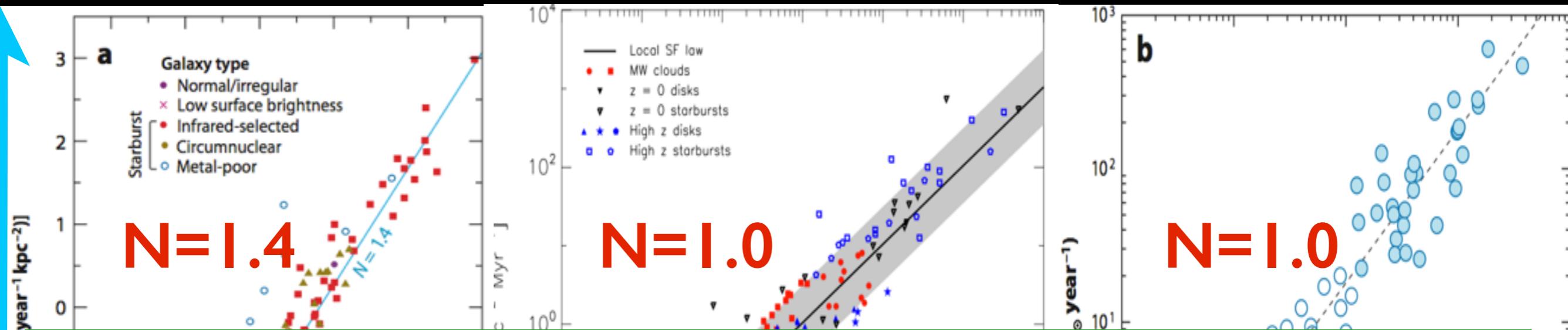
GRS CS J=2-1

Compact on ~ sub-pc scales
High volume density $\sim 10^4\text{-}10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

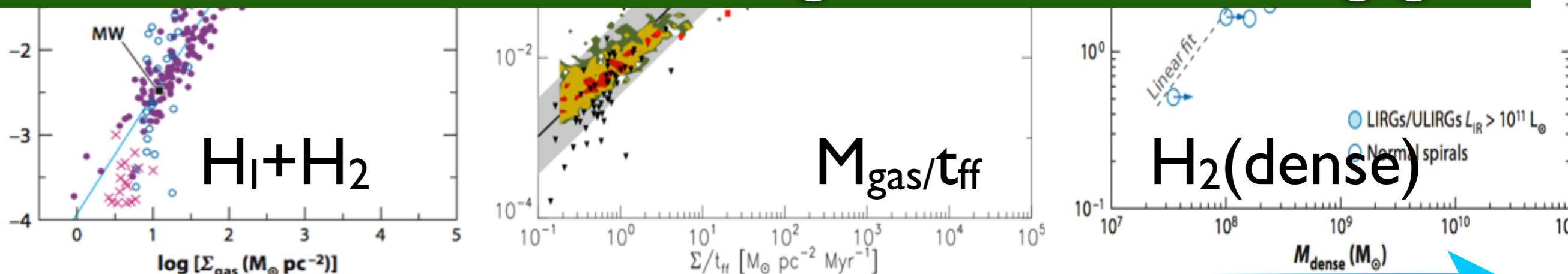
10 pc

Star Formation Laws: Gas - SFR relations

SFR



Which tracers are tracing the star forming gas?



Gas Mass

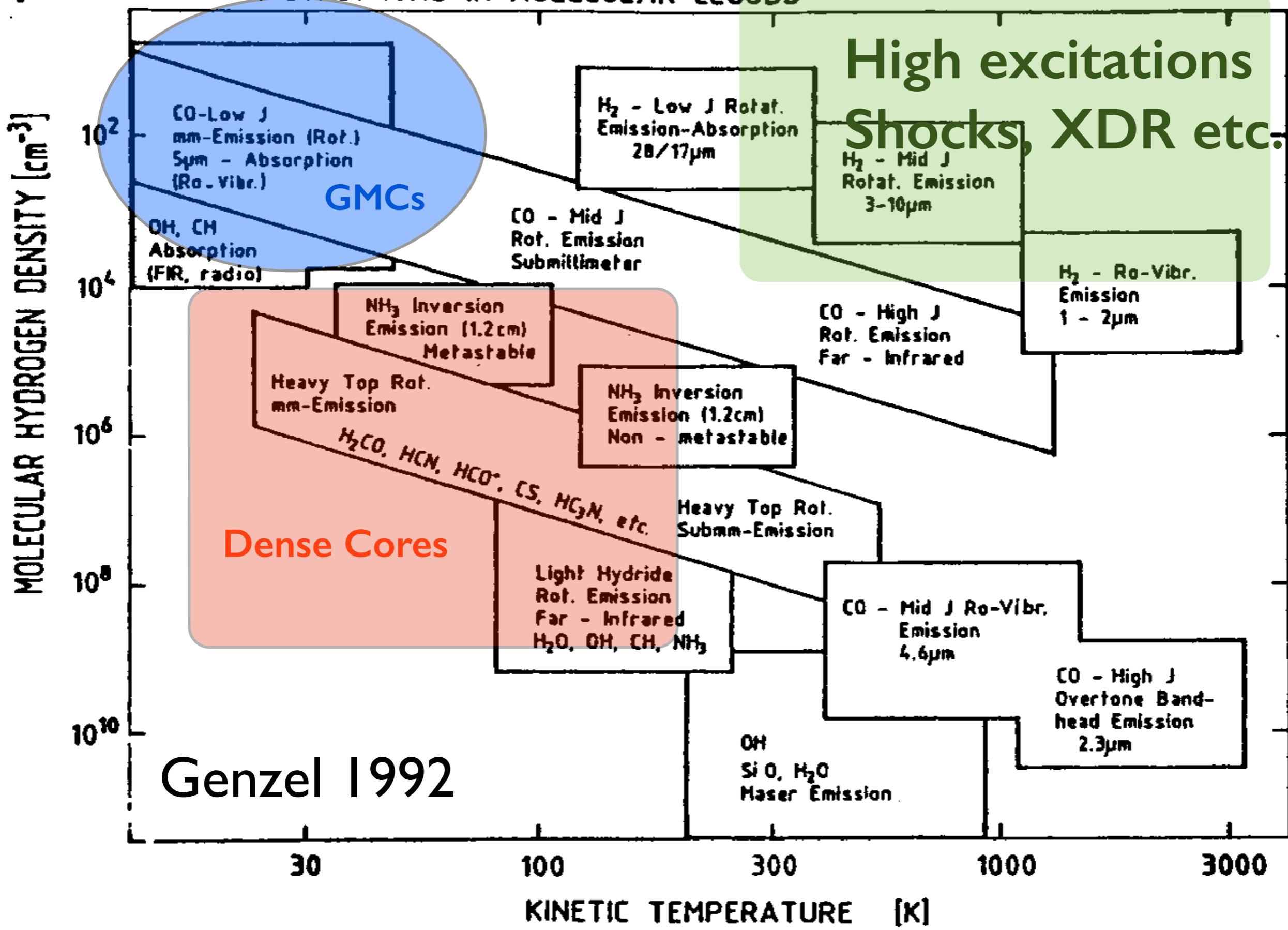
Kennicutt 1998

Krumholz et al. 2012

Gao & Solomon 2004

Tracers of Physical Conditions in Molecular Clouds

INFRARED AND MICROWAVE MOLECULAR LINES AS PROBES OF PHYSICAL CONDITIONS IN MOLECULAR CLOUDS



Dense gas tracers $n_{\text{crit}} > 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

When $n(\text{H}_2) > n_{\text{crit}}$:

Collisional excitation dominant.

Easily be thermalised.

$$n_{\text{crit}} = \frac{\sum_{l < u} A_{ul}}{\sum_{l \neq u} C_{ul}}$$

$n_{\text{crit}}(\text{HCN}) : 10^4 \sim 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$n_{\text{crit}}(\text{HCO}^+) : 10^4 \sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$n_{\text{crit}}(\text{CO}) : 10^2 \sim 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$n_{\text{crit}}(\text{CS}) : 10^4 \sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

HCN : IR-pumping, XDR, chemistry on T_{kin} .

e.g. Weiss et al. 2008; Graci-Carpio et al. 2006; Lintott & Viti 2006; Baan et al. 2008

HCO⁺ : Shock, ionisation fields, etc.

e.g. Dickinson et al. 1980; Dickmann et al. 1992; Papadopoulos et al. 2007

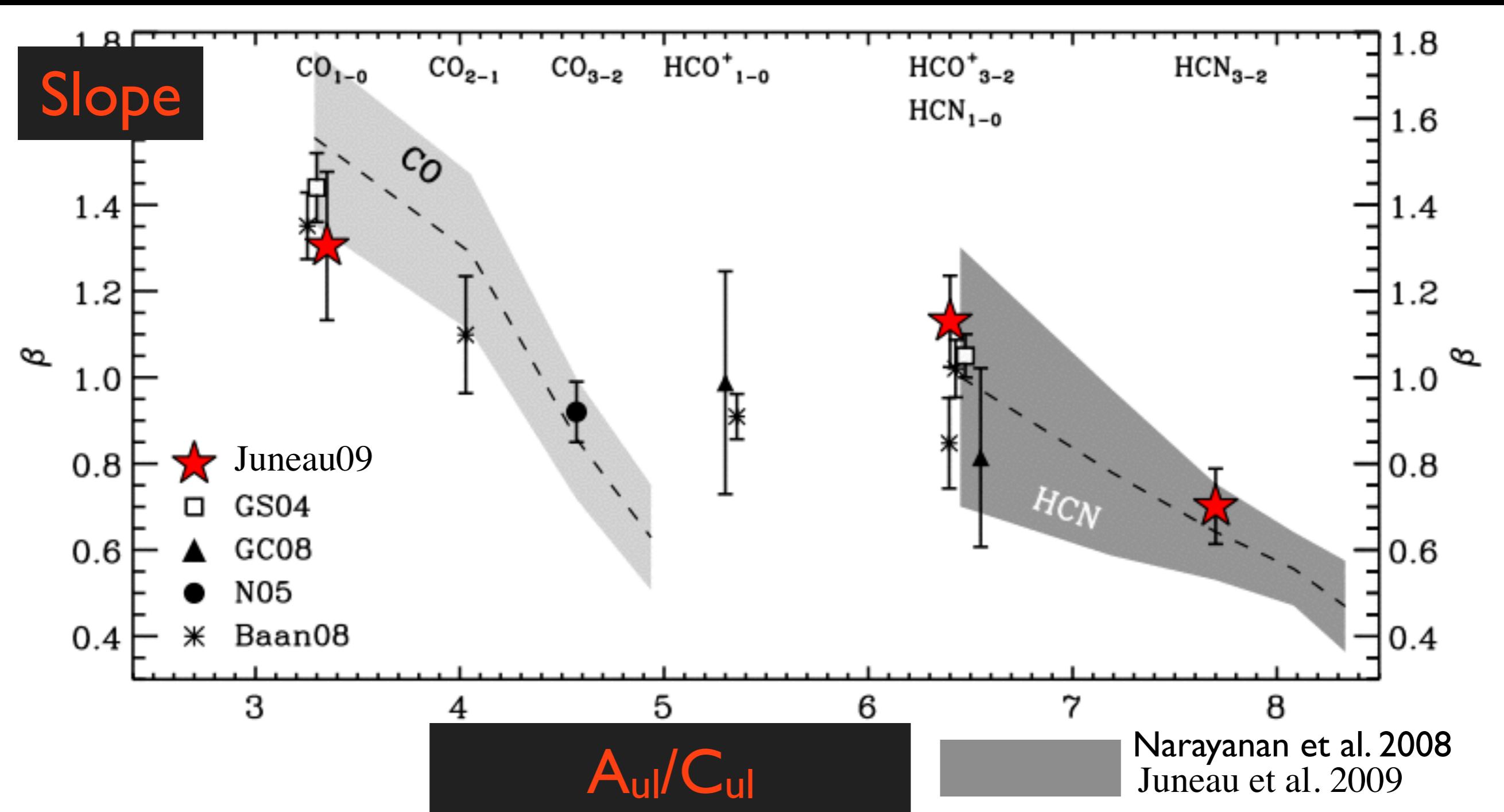
High-J CO: Warm gas.

CS : Weak ($\sim 1/4$ of HCN intensity), chemically stable?

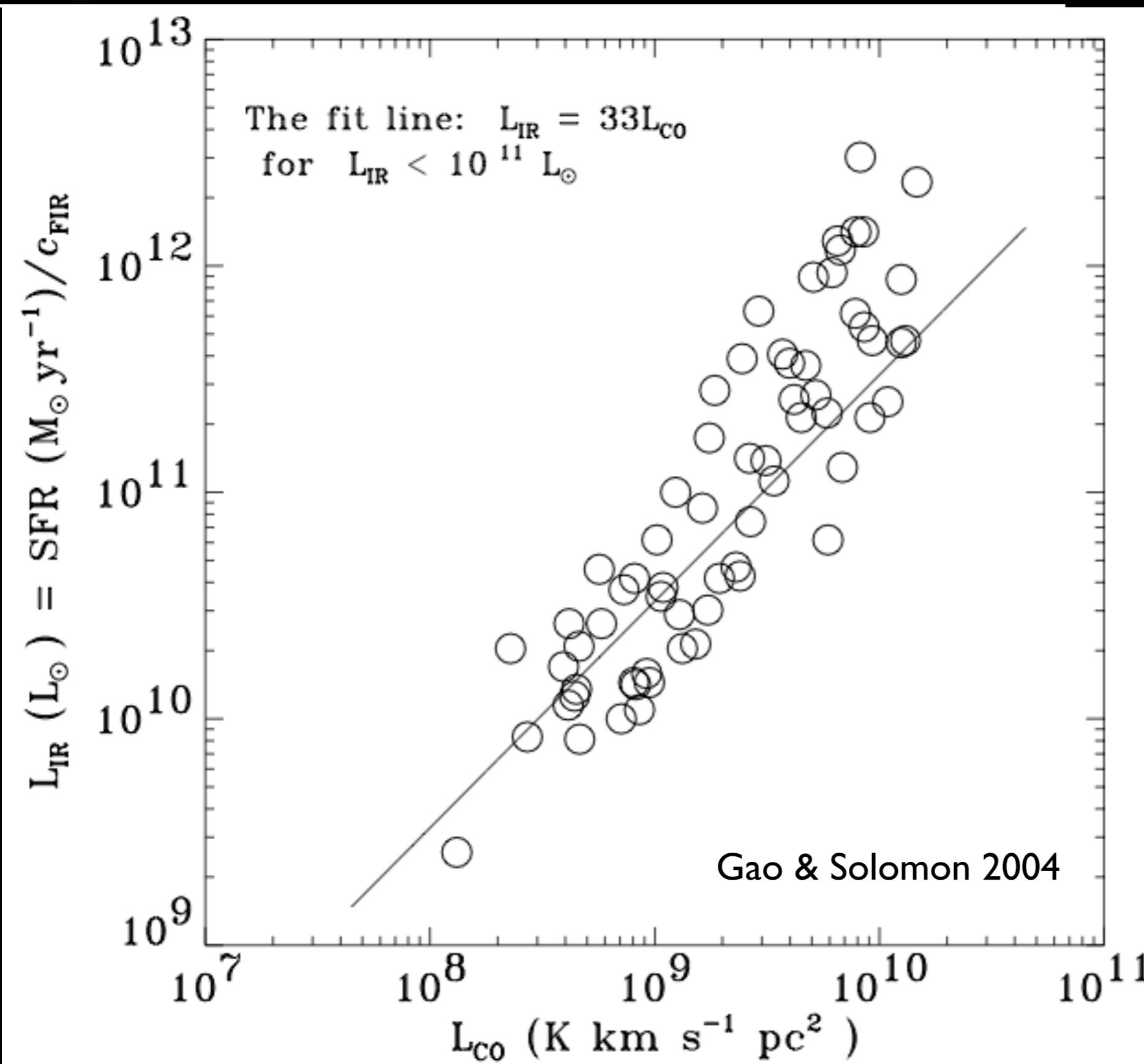
e.g. Charnley 1997; Martín et al. 2008; 2009

Simulations of star formation laws

higher transitions/densities have lower slope indices?

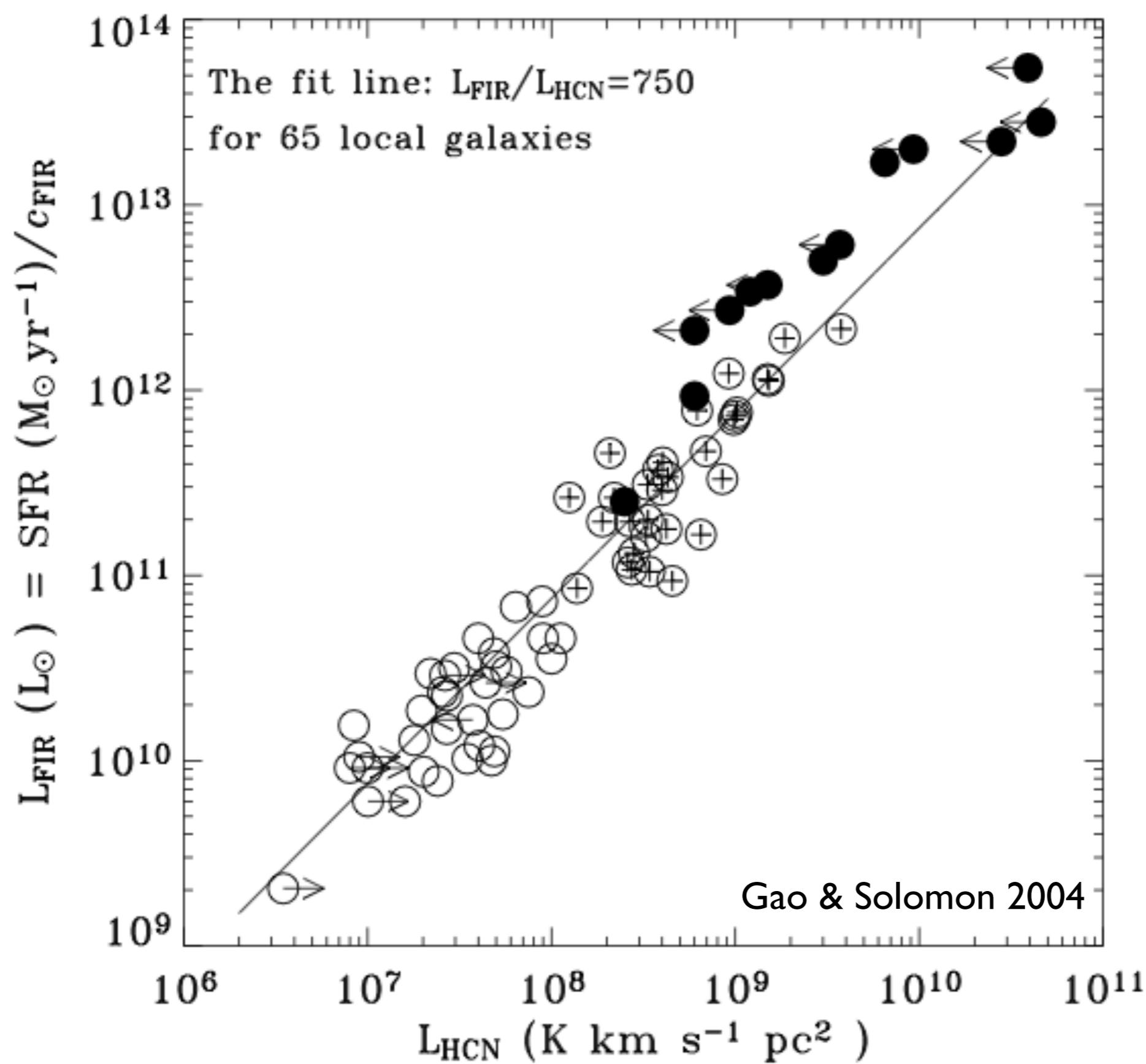


$L'_{\text{gas}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations -- CO I-0 ($n_{\text{crit}} \sim 4 \times 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$)



Slope ~ 1.4

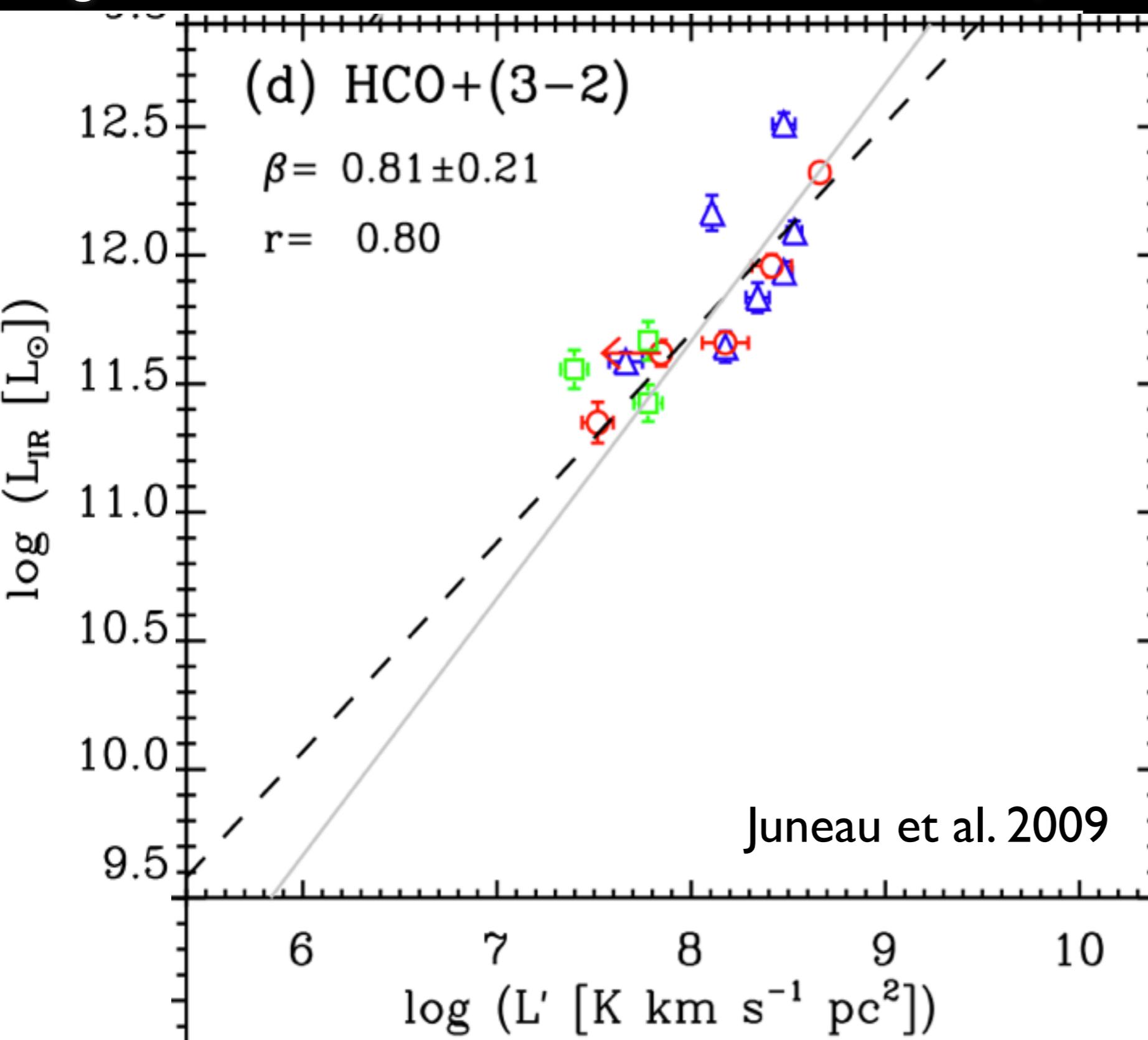
$L'_{\text{gas}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations -- HCN I-0 ($n_{\text{crit}} \sim 2 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$)



Slope=1

$L'_{\text{gas}} \sim M_{\text{gas}}$
 $L_{\text{IR}} \sim \text{SFR}$

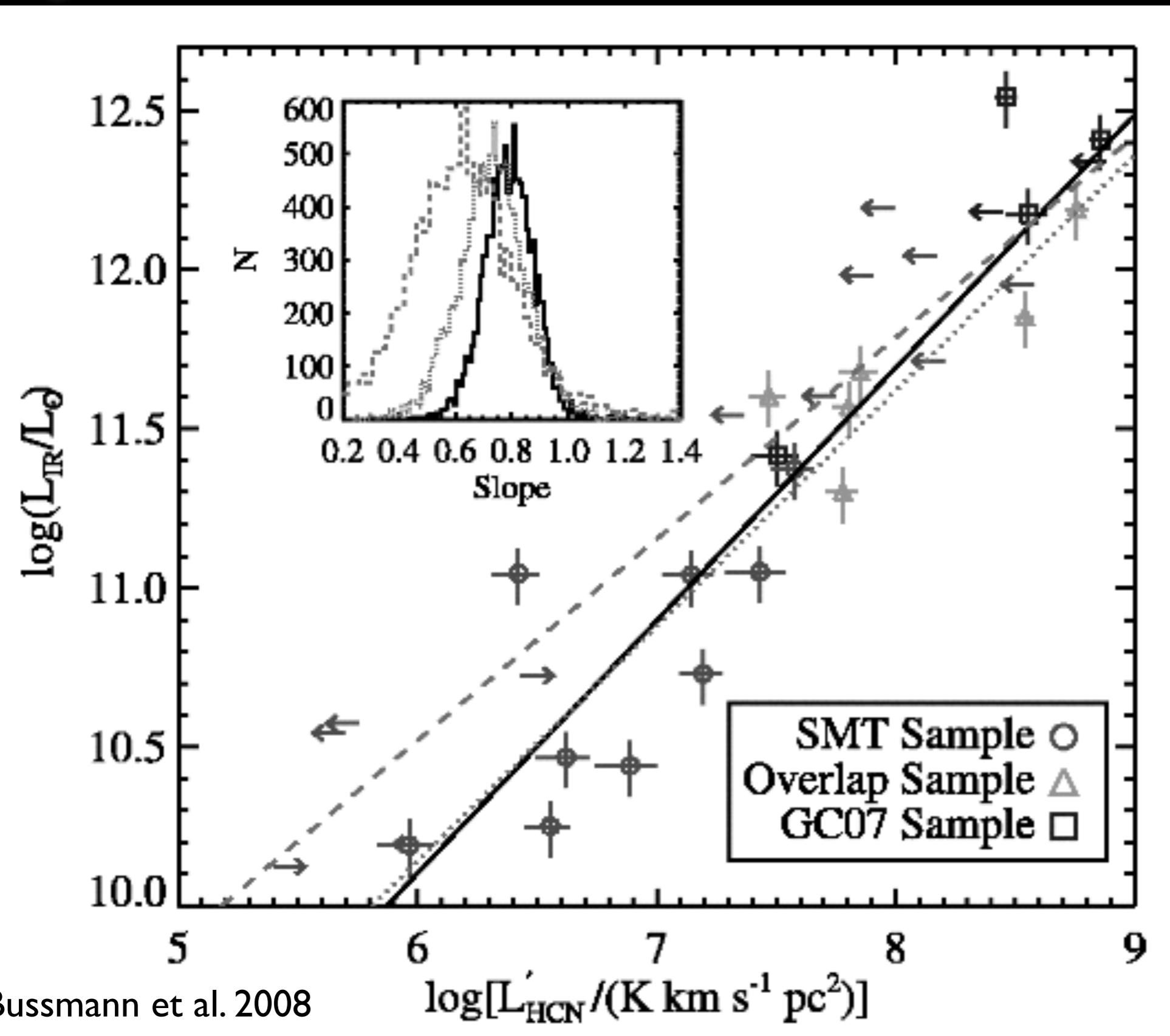
$L'_{\text{gas}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations -- $\text{HCO}^+ 3-2$ ($n_{\text{crit}} \sim 1 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$)



Slope=0.8

$L'_{\text{gas}} \text{ -- } M_{\text{gas}}$
 $L_{\text{IR}} \text{ -- SFR}$

$L'_{\text{gas}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations -- HCN 3-2 ($n_{\text{crit}} \sim 5 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$)



$N \sim 0.7$

$L'_{\text{gas}} \text{ -- } M_{\text{gas}}$
 $L_{\text{IR}} \text{ -- SFR}$

Galactic CS & HCN studies

CS 2-1:

$$\text{Least squares : } \log(L_{\text{IR}}) = 1.03(\pm 0.05) \times \log(L'_{\text{CS}2-1}) + 3.25(\pm 0.11); r = 0.80$$

$$\text{Robust fit : } \log(L_{\text{IR}}) = 0.87 \times \log(L'_{\text{CS}2-1}) + 3.56$$

CS 5-4:

$$\text{Least squares fit : } \log(L_{\text{IR}}) = 1.05(\pm 0.05) \times \log(L'_{\text{CS}5-4}) + 3.77(\pm 0.08); r = 0.86$$

$$\text{Robust fit : } \log(L_{\text{IR}}) = 0.86 \times \log(L'_{\text{CS}5-4}) + 3.90$$

CS 7-6:

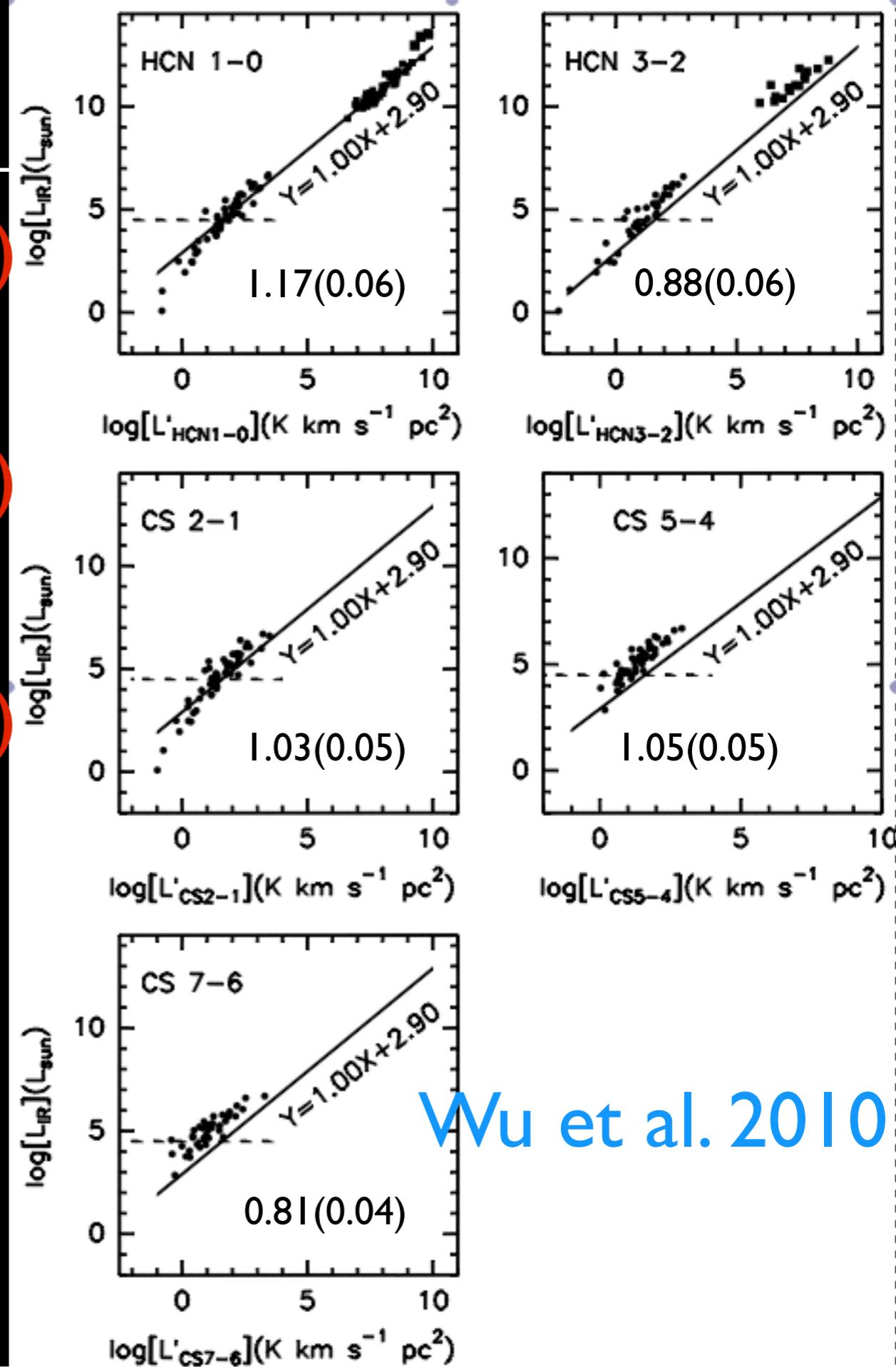
$$\text{Least squares fit : } \log(L_{\text{IR}}) = 0.81(\pm 0.04) \times \log(L'_{\text{CS}7-6}) + 4.31(\pm 0.06); r = 0.81$$

$$\text{Robust fit : } \log(L_{\text{IR}}) = 0.64 \times \log(L'_{\text{CS}7-6}) + 4.58$$

1.03(0.05)

1.05(0.05)

0.81(0.04)

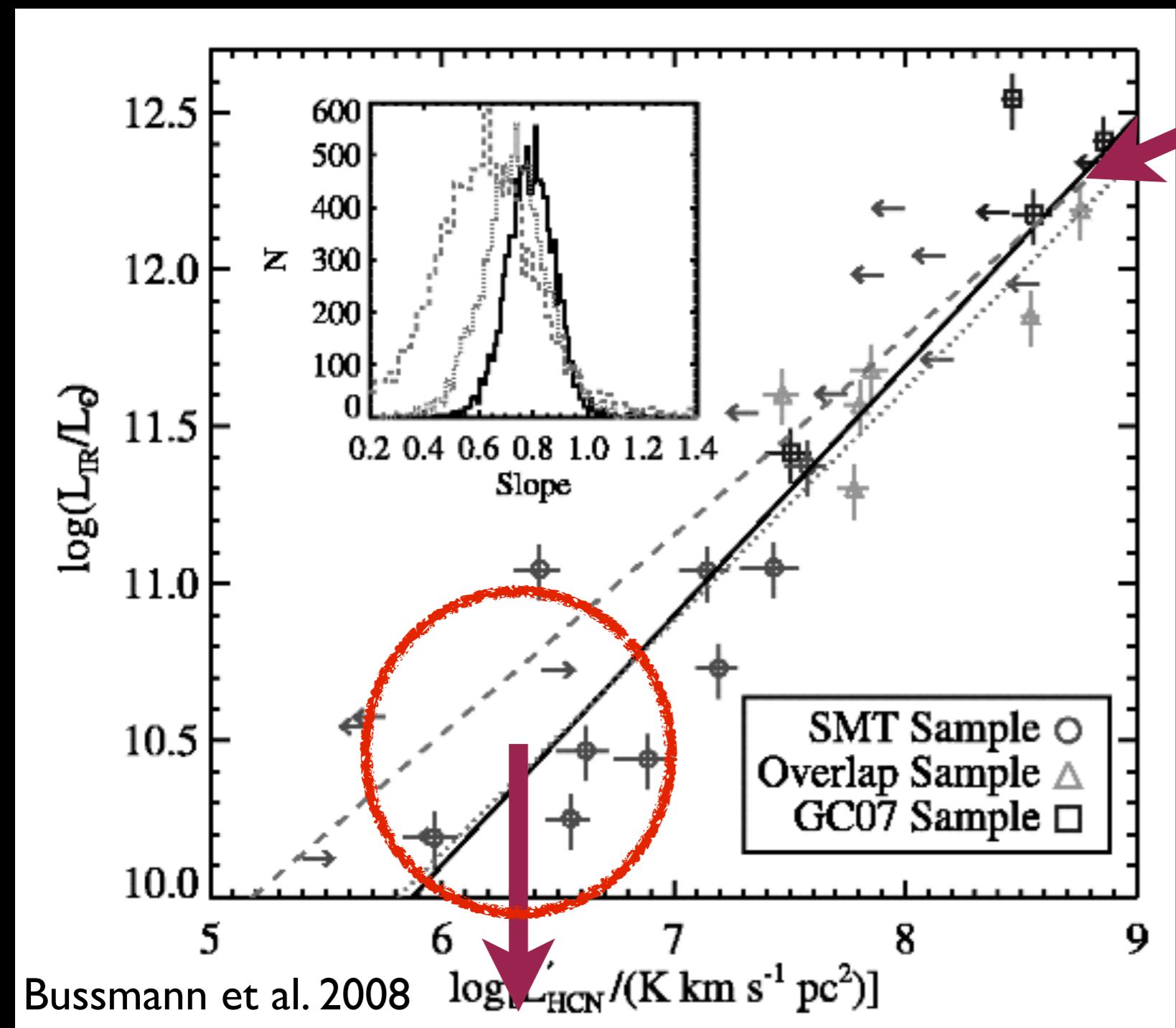


The average density determined from CS excitation of the massive clumps in our sample is about $10^{5.9} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (Plume et al. 1997), less than the critical density of all the tracers in this study except for the CS 2-1 line (Table 9), but greater than the effective density (Table 9) and the density that was found to contribute most to the HCN 1-0 line in the simulations of Krumholz & Thompson (2007). In fact, a density derived from excitation analysis is biased toward the densest regions and the mean density of the clumps in the sense of mass divided by volume is generally less (e.g., Shirley et al. 2003). As noted above, the relations we find do not support the suggestions by Krumholz & Thompson (2007) or Narayanan et al. (2008).

Wu et al. 2010

Issues in observational results

IR pumping?
Chemistry?



Stable tracers need.

IR size > beamsize

Either to map gas emission
or

to match IR with beam

To test the above models in galaxies, **multiple transition surveys** of **chemically clean** dense tracers, e.g. CS lines, are needed.

Sample Selection:

- I. IRAS Revised Bright Galaxies sample (IRAS RBGs, Sanders 2003).
Flux cutoff: $F_{100\mu m} > 100$ Jy, $F_{60\mu m} > 50$ Jy.
2. Rich detections of CO and HCN lines.
3. A large range of L_{IR} , and galaxy types:
Nearby normal galaxies, starburst, LIRGs, and ULIRGs.

~ 50 galaxies are selected

Multiple-J CS survey

~ 280 hours in total

Multiple transitions ($J=1-0$ to $7-6$) of CS lines towards
~ 40 nearby normal galaxies, starburst, and (U)LIRGs

CS J= **2-1/3-2/5-4** IRAM 30m



2009 ~ 2011

80 hours

CS J= **5-4** SMT(HHT) 10m



50 hours

CS J= **5-4/7-6** APEX 12m



40 hours

CS J= **1-0**

GBT and the EVLA



60 hours

~40 hours

2012-2014

2012-2014

Samples and Detections

CS J=1-0 : 20/24 galaxies

CS J=2-1 : 41/47 galaxies

CS J=3-2 : 30/41 galaxies

CS J=5-4 : 21/40 galaxies

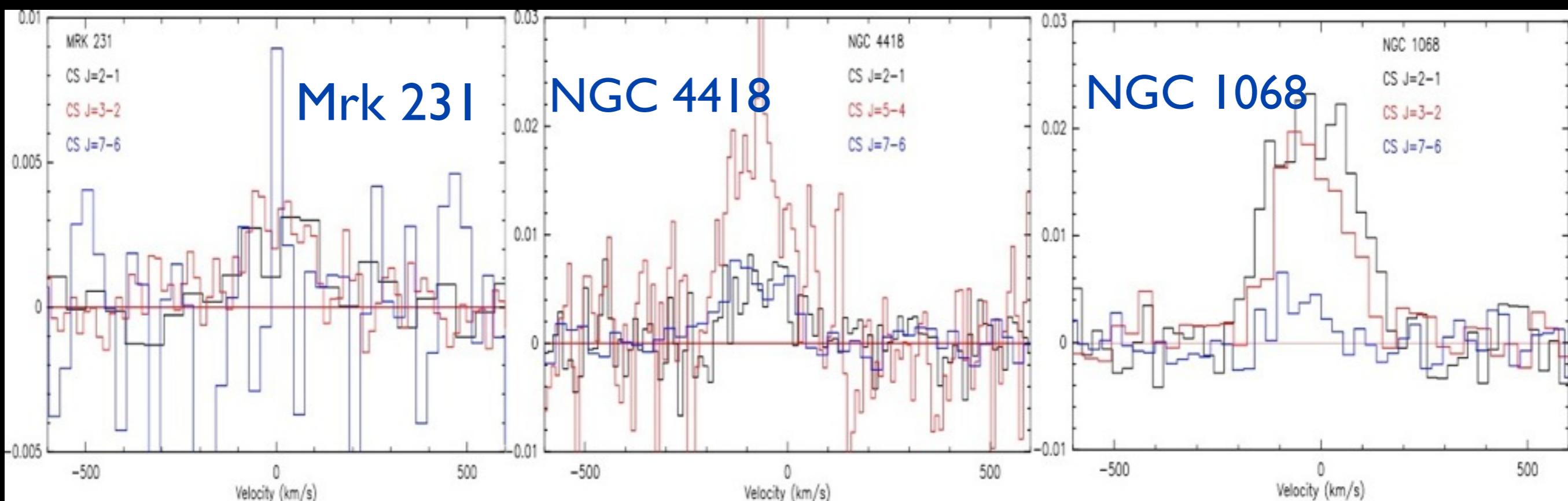
CS J=7-6 : 11/20 galaxies

C³⁴S J=2-1: 5 detections

+

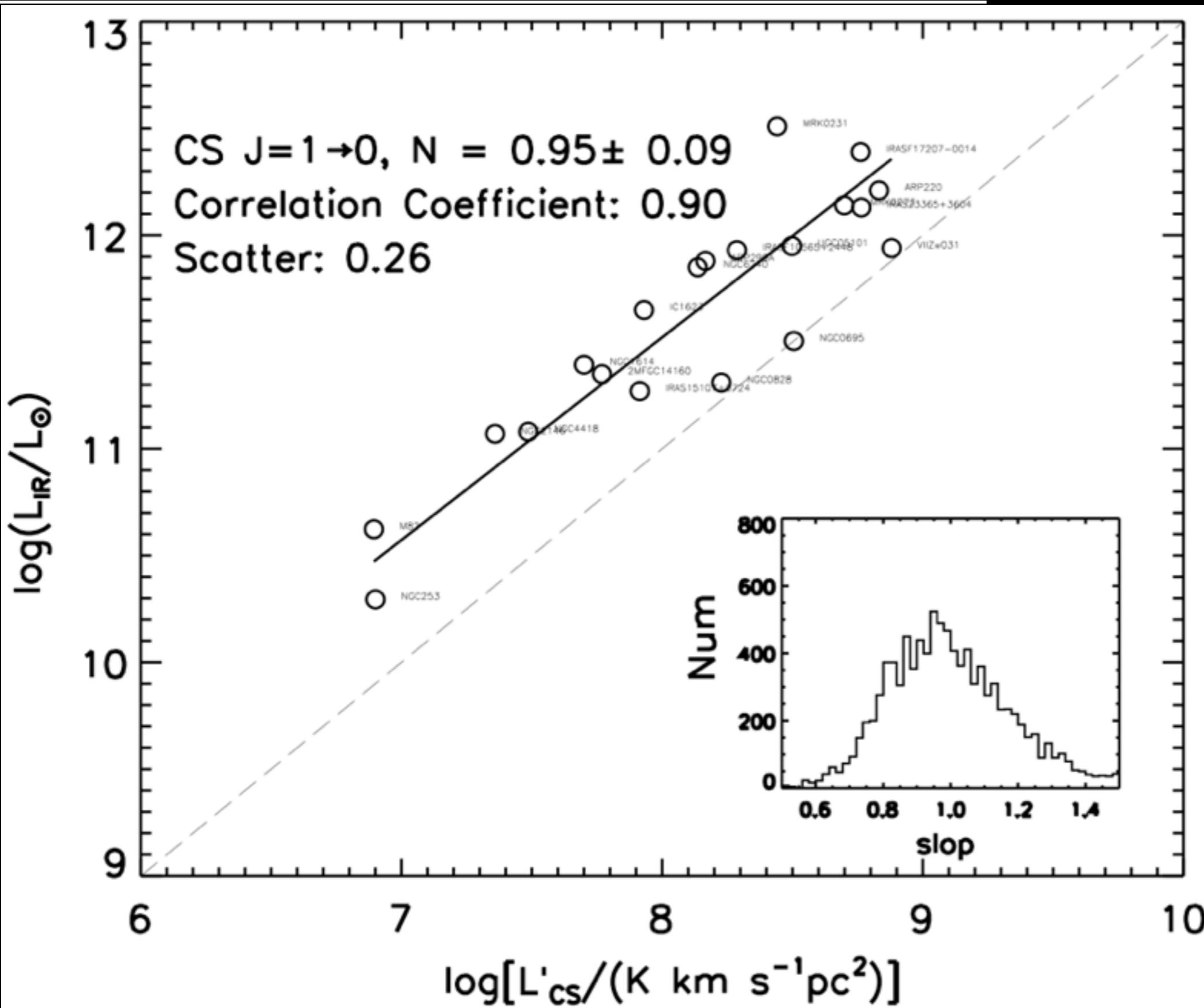
CS detections
in literatures

HCN/HCO⁺J=4-3 simultaneously



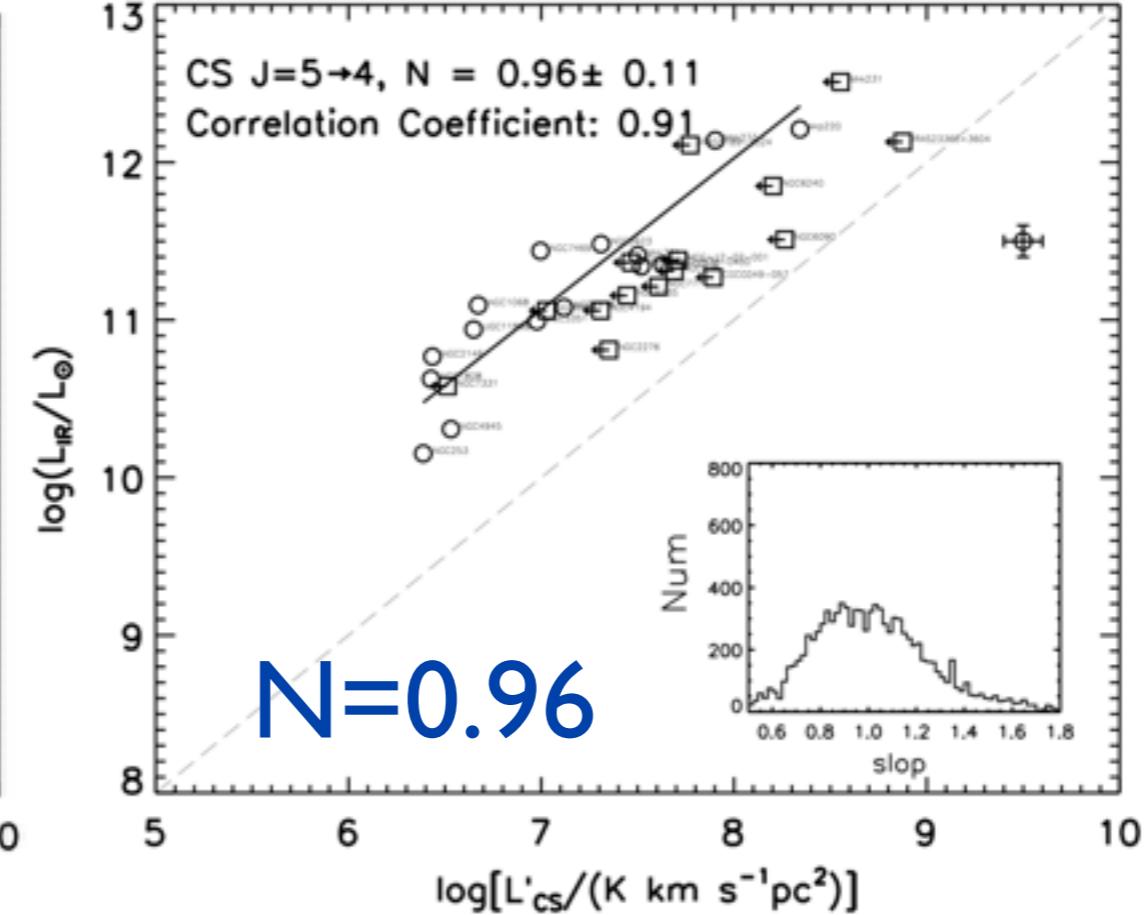
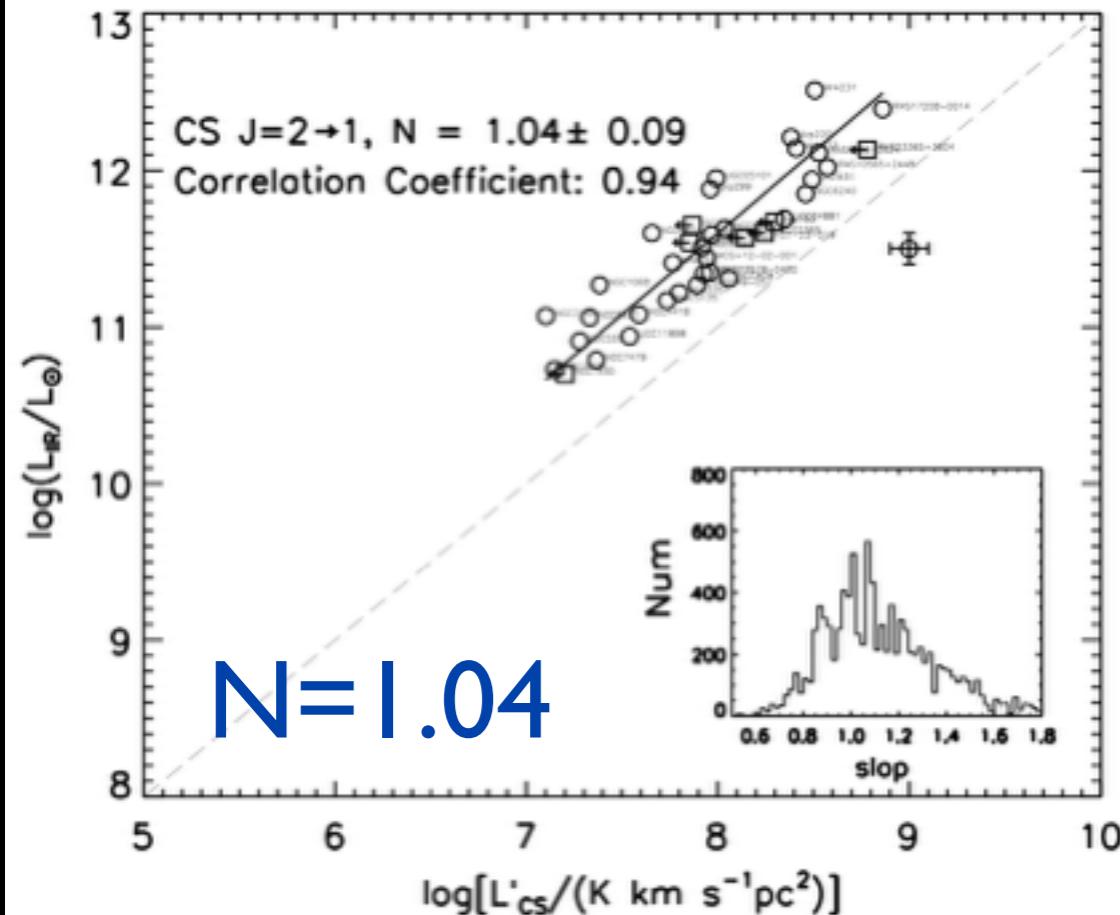
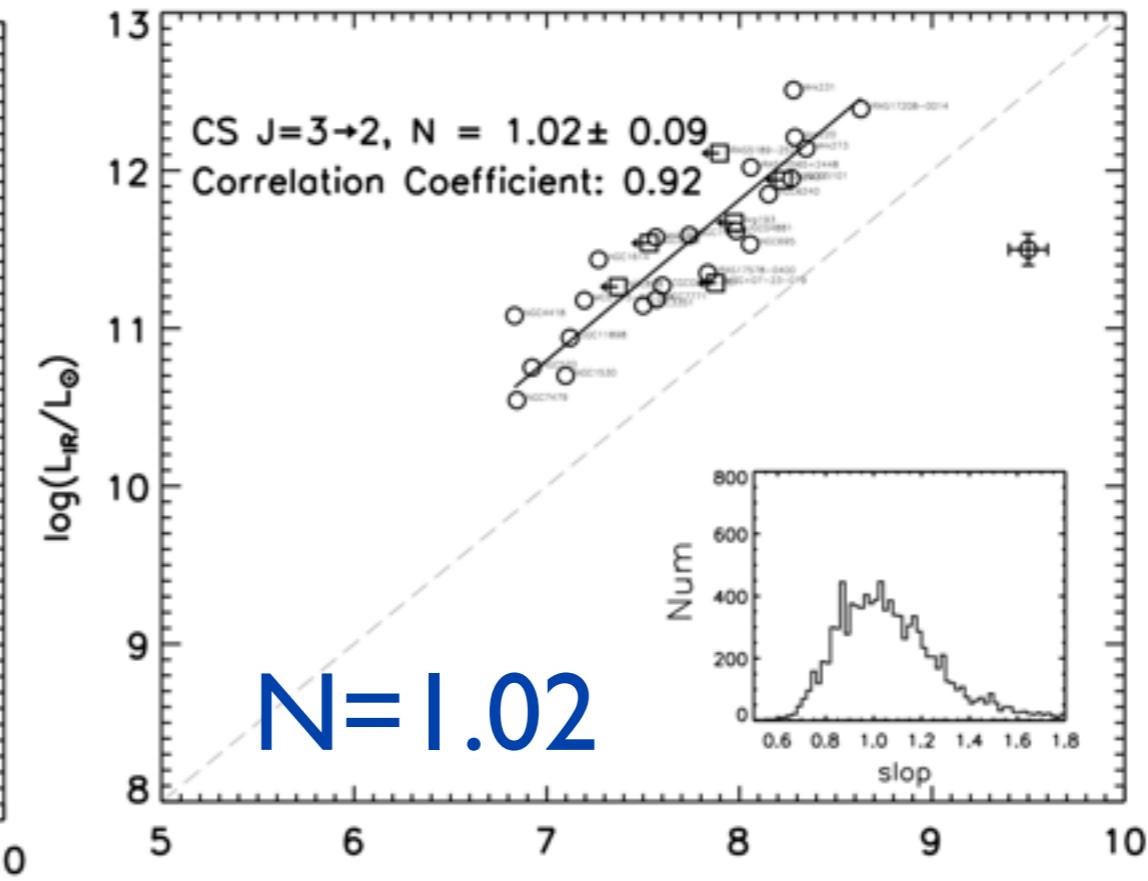
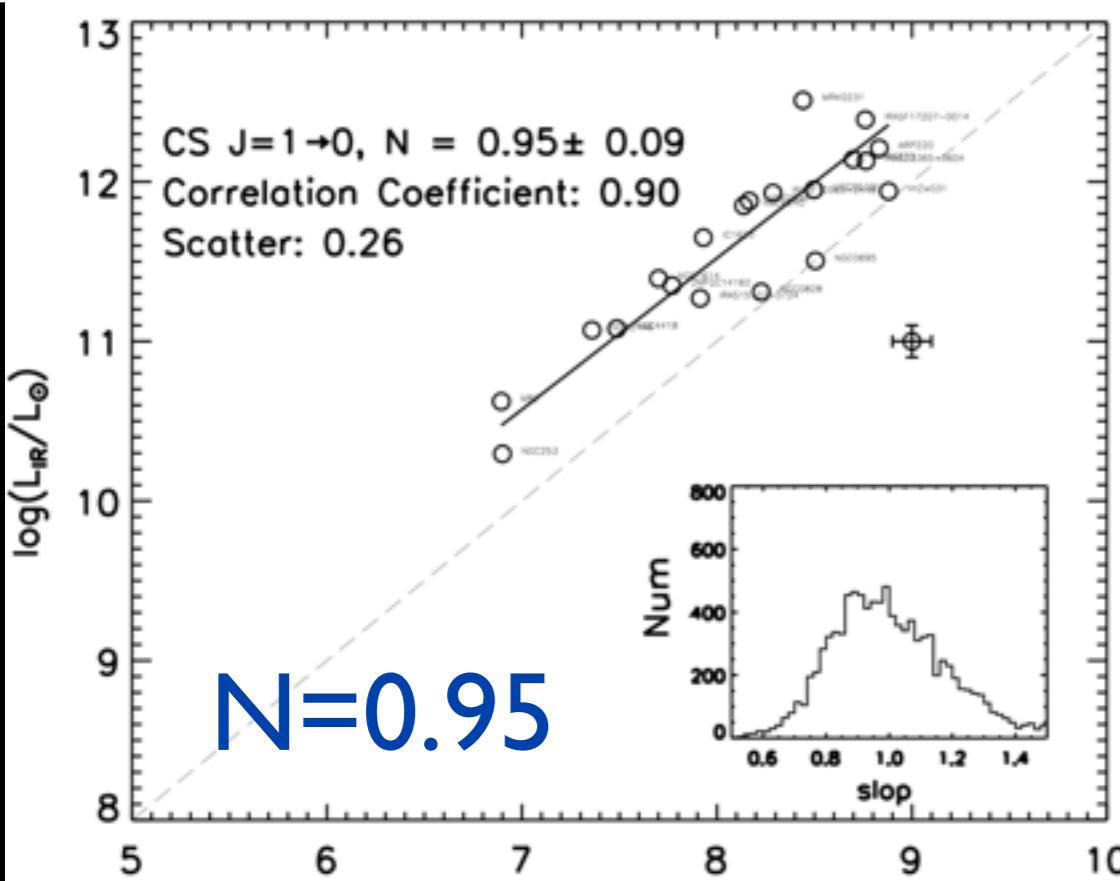
$L'_{\text{gas}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ (small targets)

CS J=1-0 $n_{\text{crit}} \sim 1 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$



$L'_{\text{gas}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ (small targets)

CS J=1-0 to J=5-4



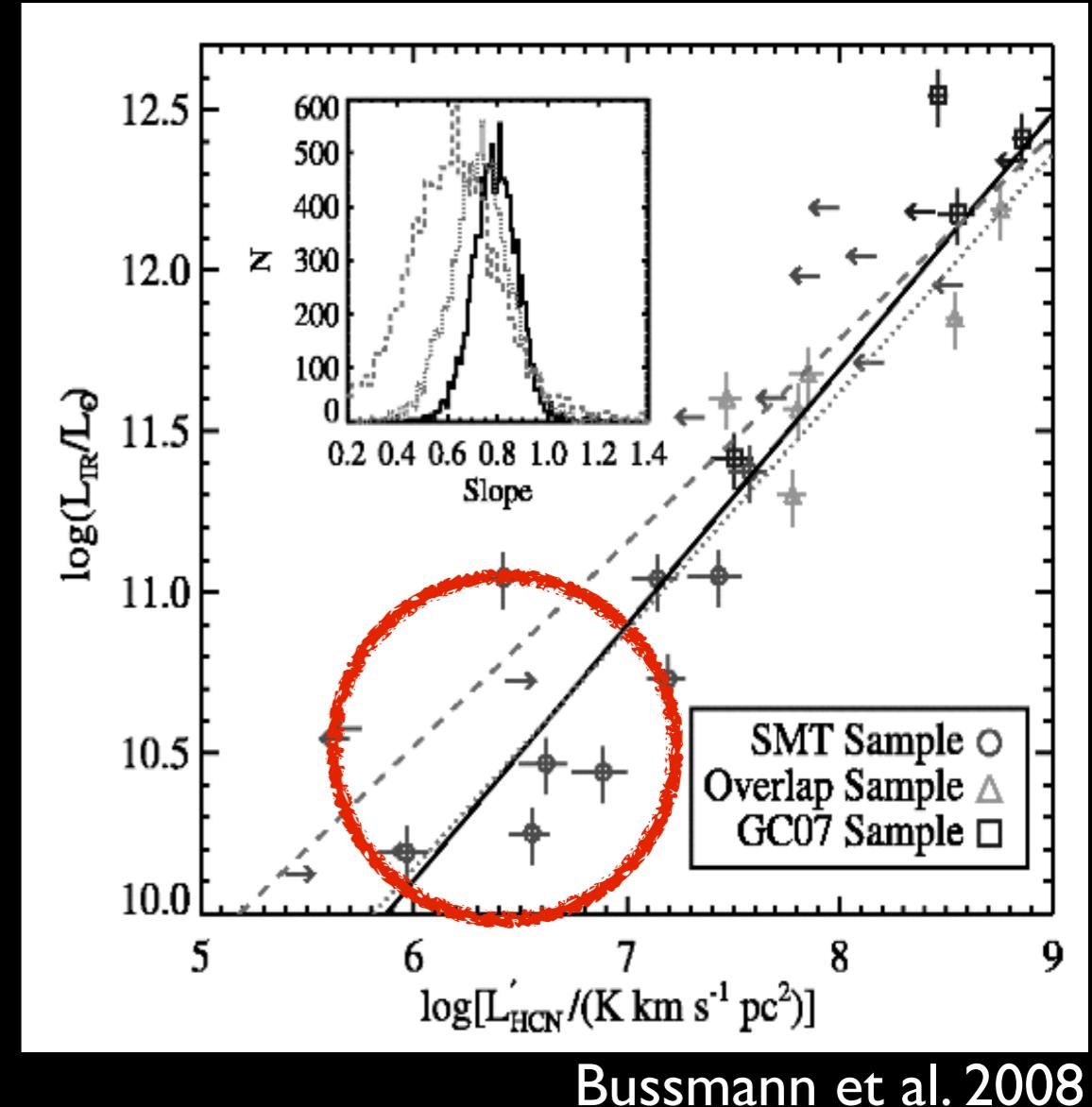
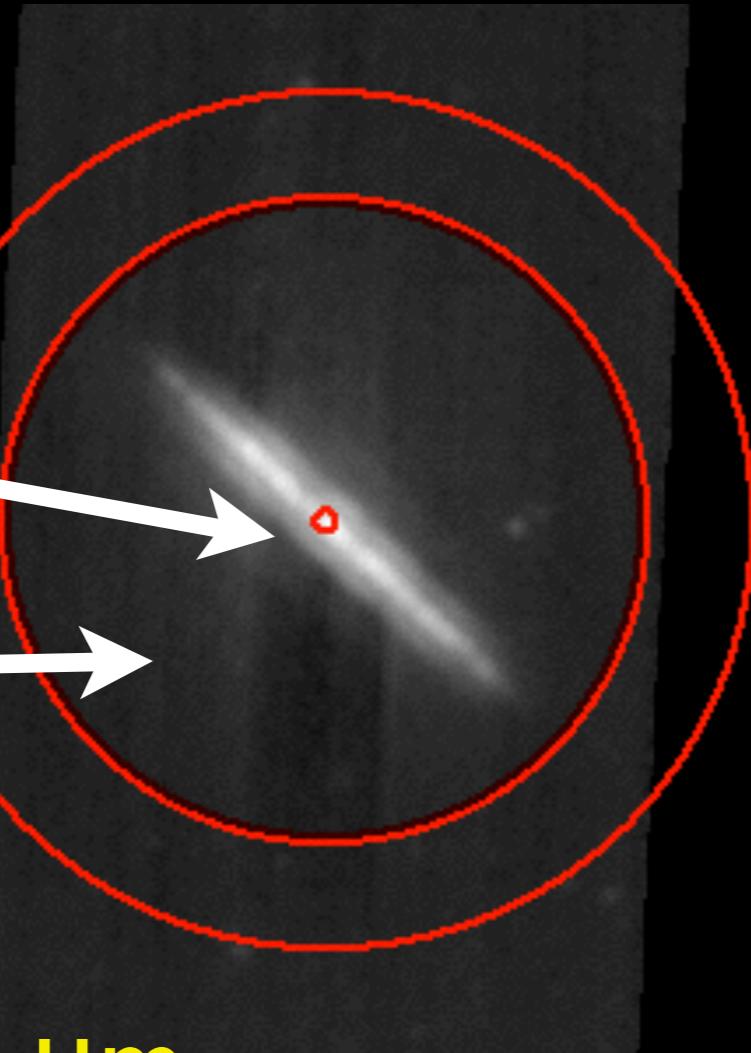
Beam matching photometry for extended targets

NGC 891

Beam

Whole

Herschel 100 μm



Bussmann et al. 2008

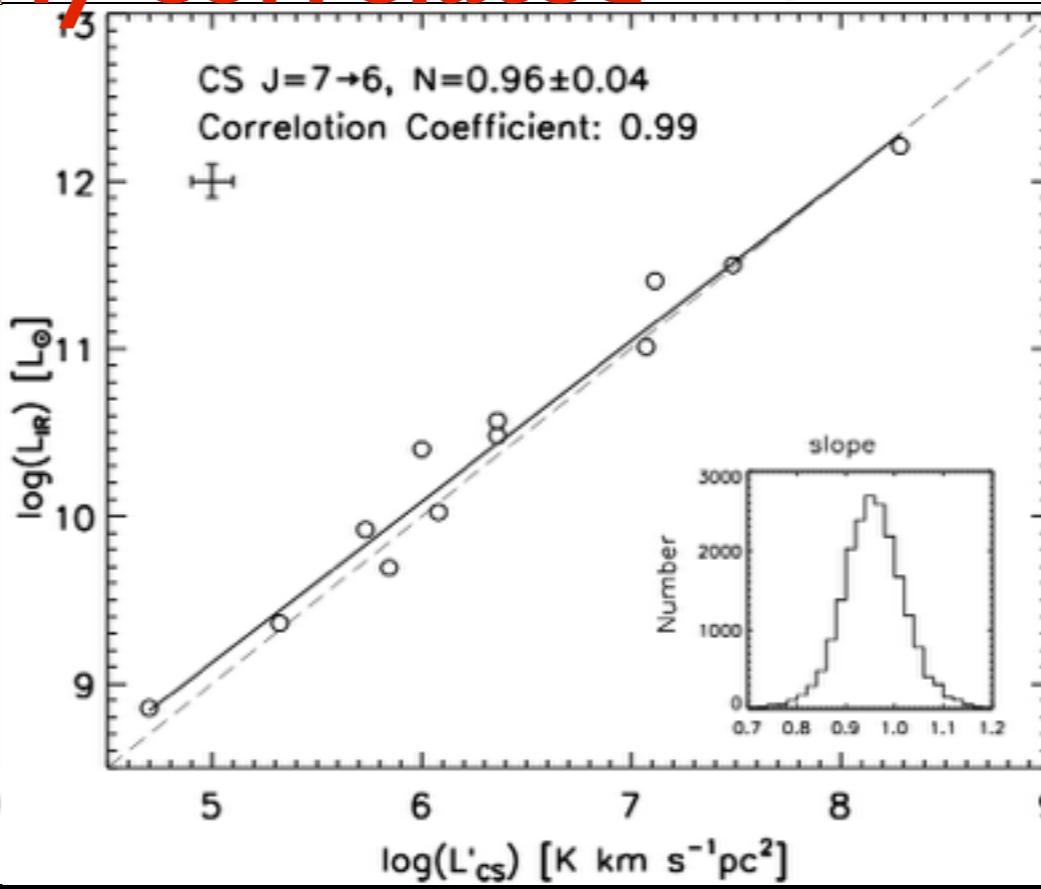
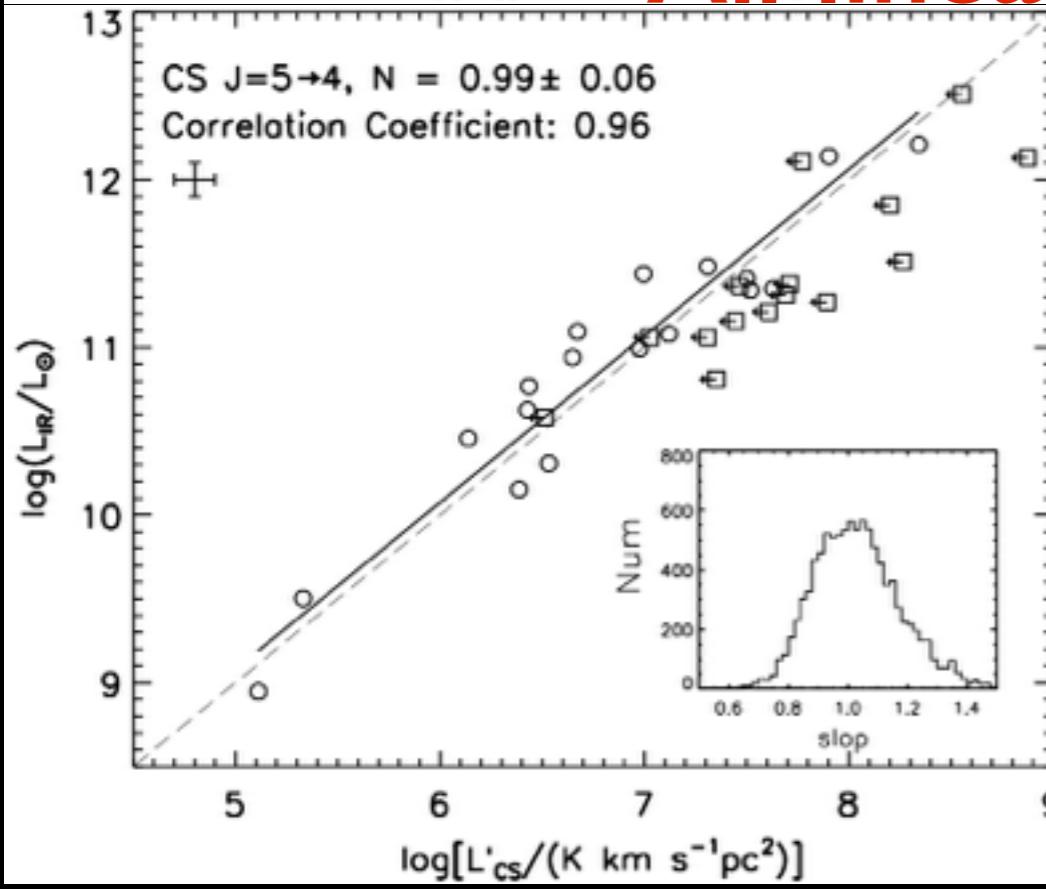
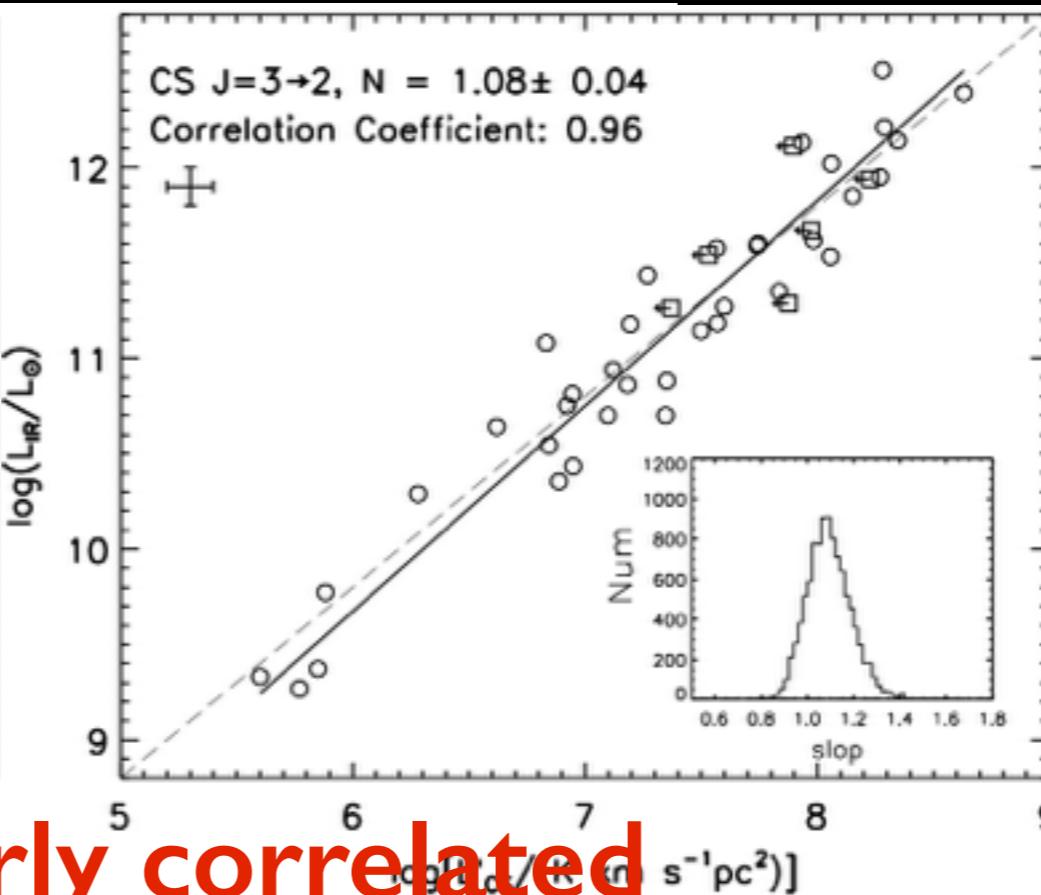
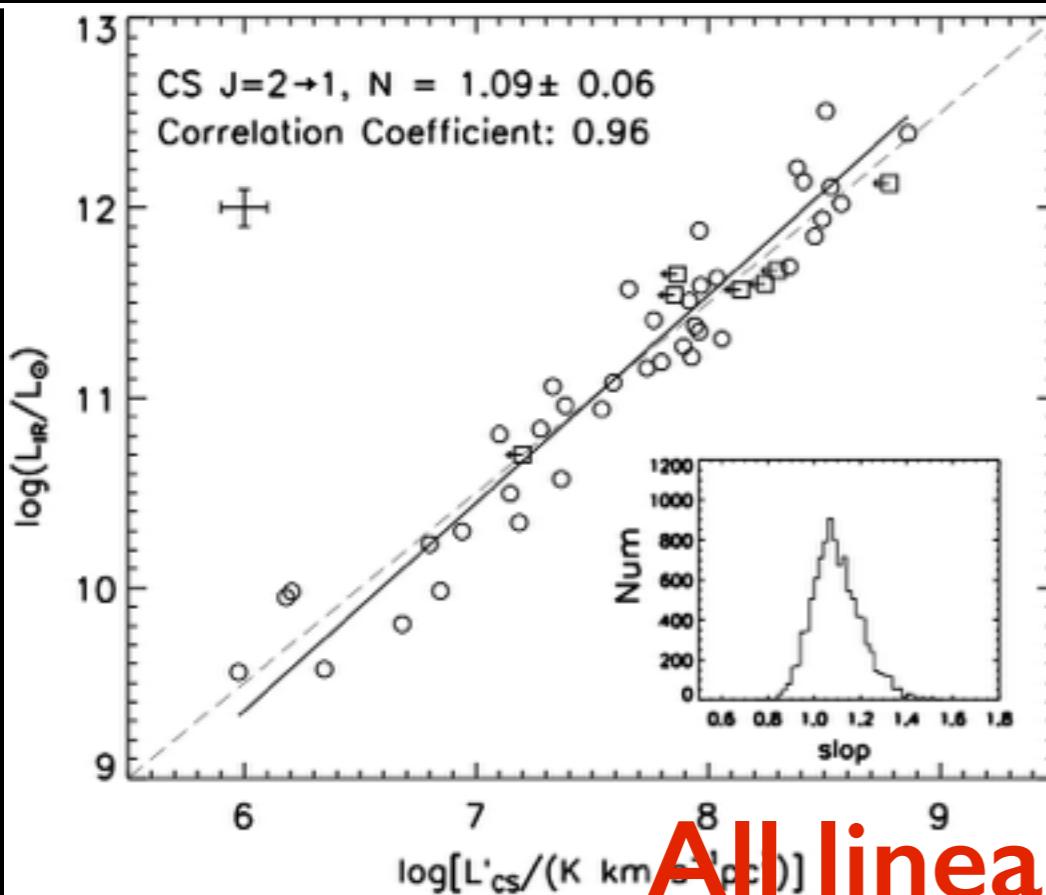
$$L_{\text{SD}} = R_{\text{SD}} \times L_{\text{TIR}}(\text{IRAS})$$

$R_{\text{SD}} = F_{\text{beam}}/F_{\text{total}}$ varies at different bands

Assuming whole galaxy share one IR SED.

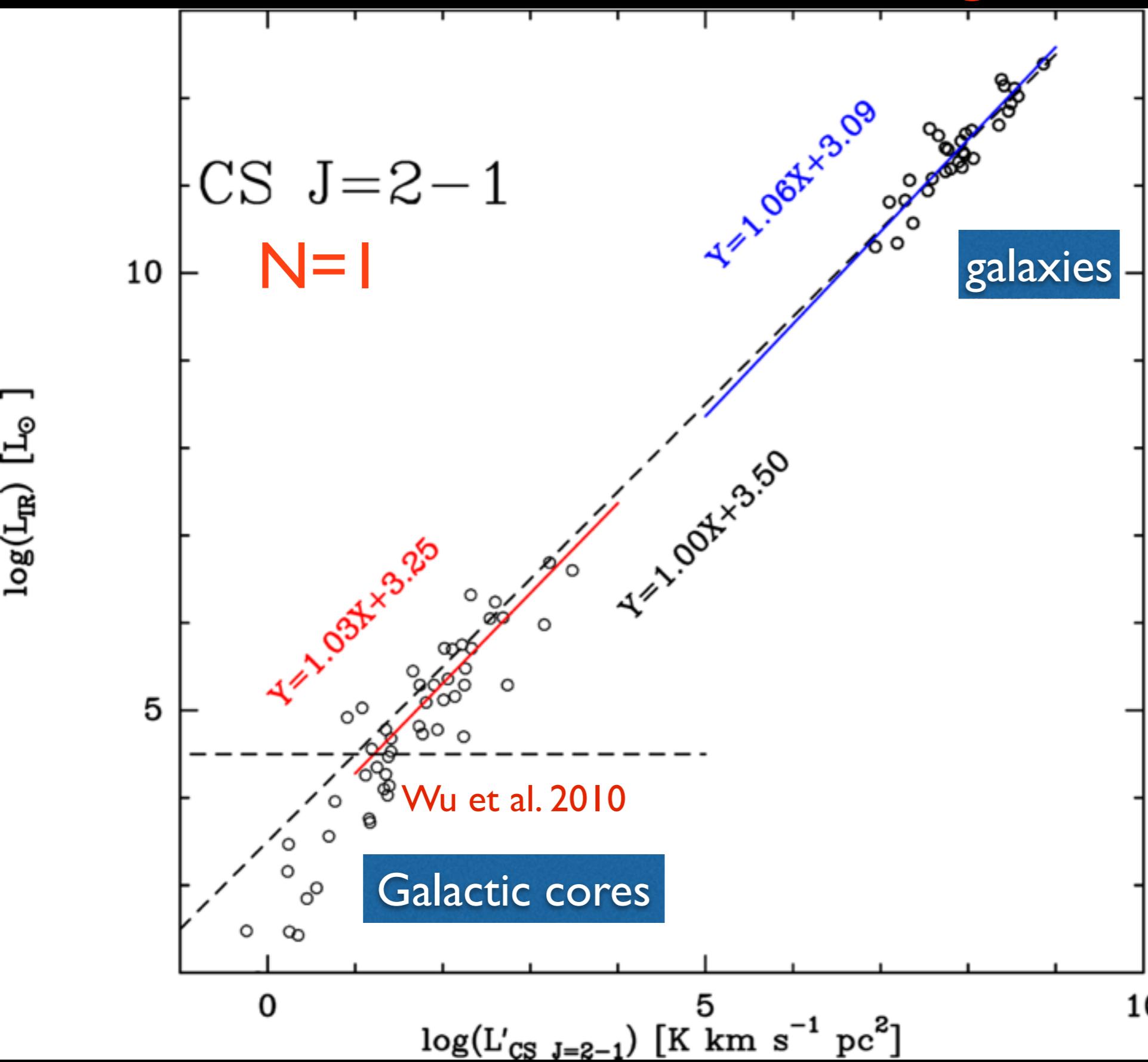
$L'_{\text{CS}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations

Beam matching correction

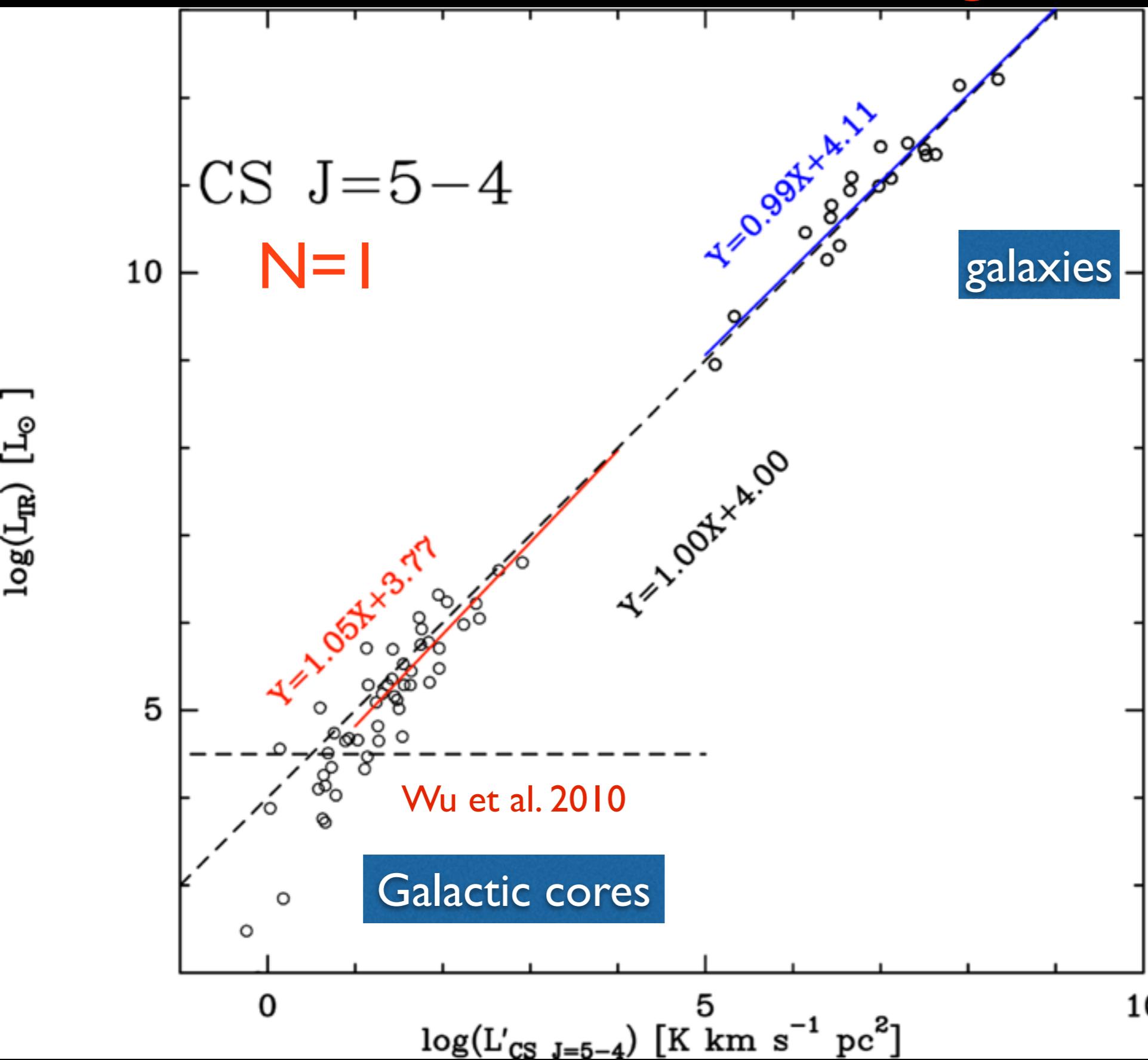


All linearly correlated

$L'_{\text{CS}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations ~ 8 orders of magnitude

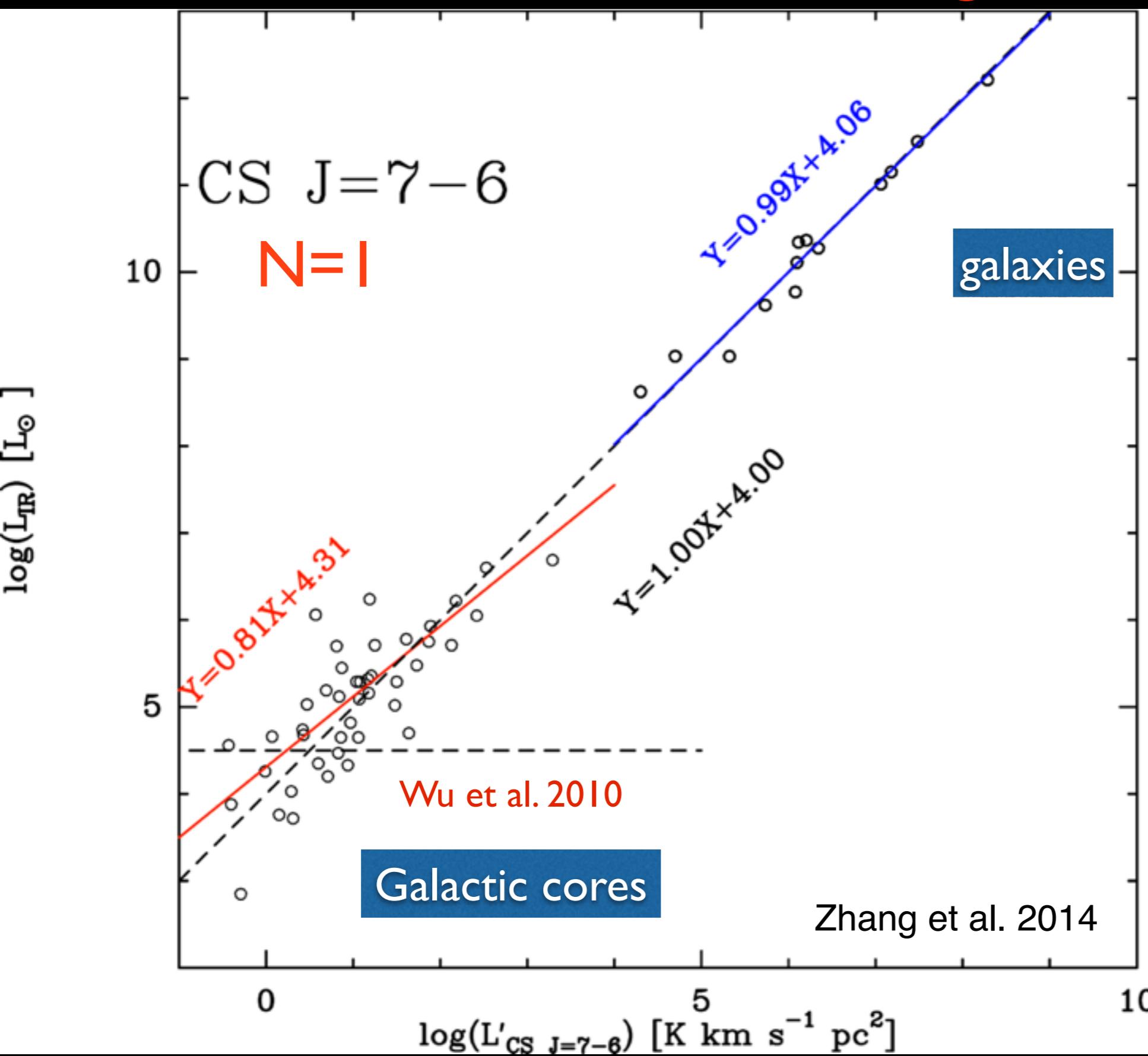


$L'_{\text{CS}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations ~ 8 orders of magnitude

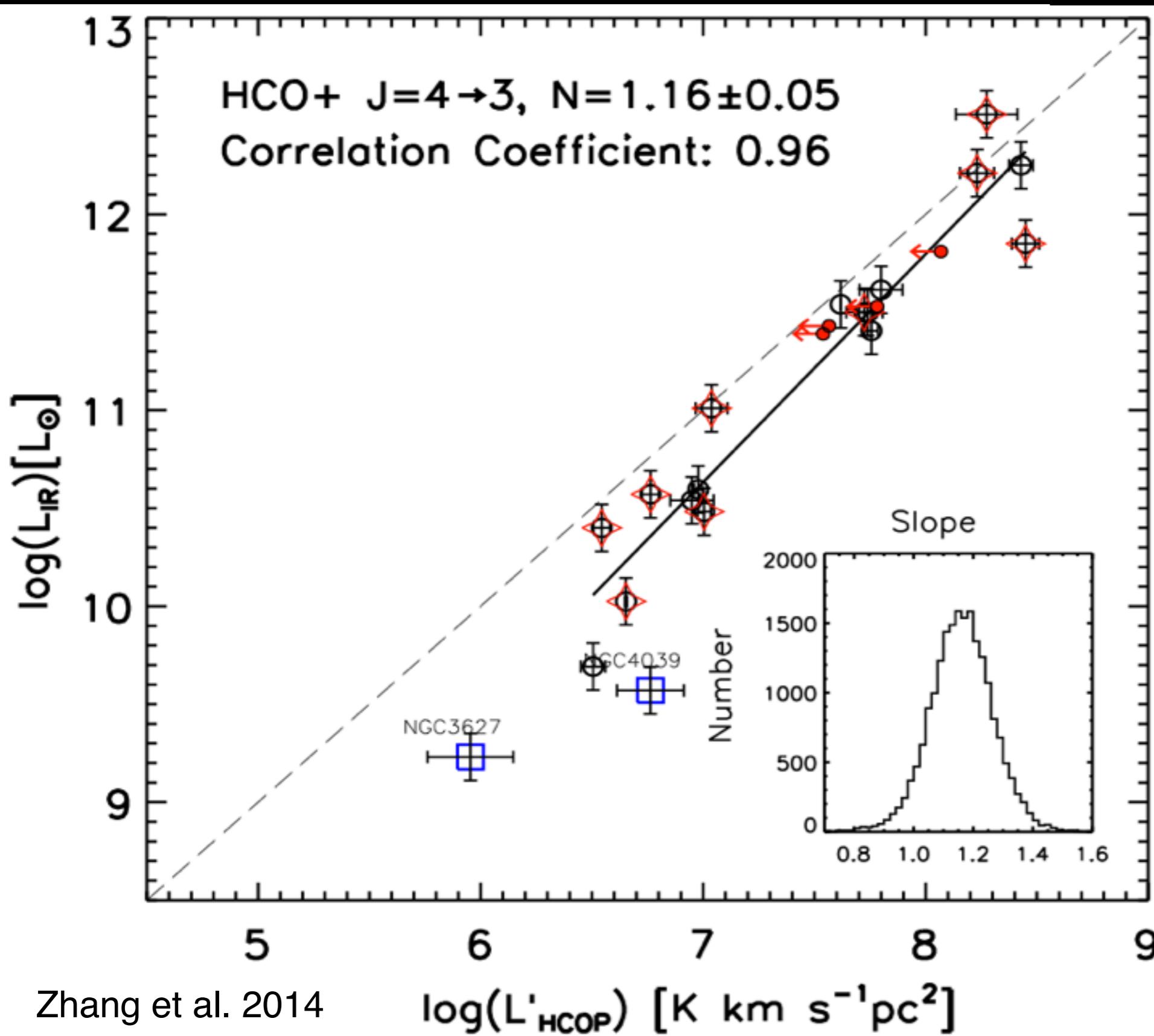


$$n_{\text{crit}} \sim 2 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

$L'_{\text{CS}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ correlations ~ 8 orders of magnitude

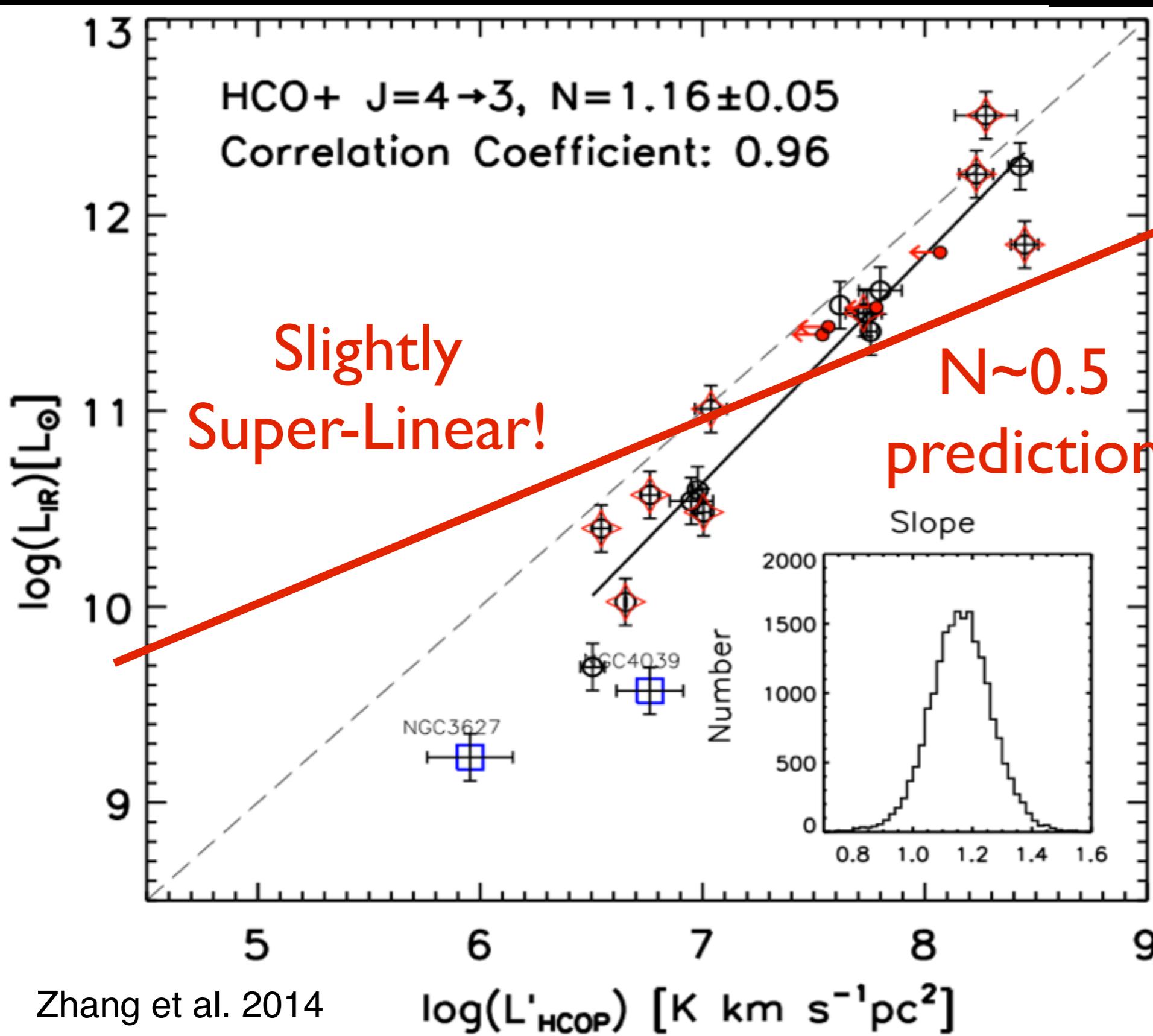


$\text{HCO}^+ \text{ J}=4-3$ -- observed simultaneously with CS J=7-6

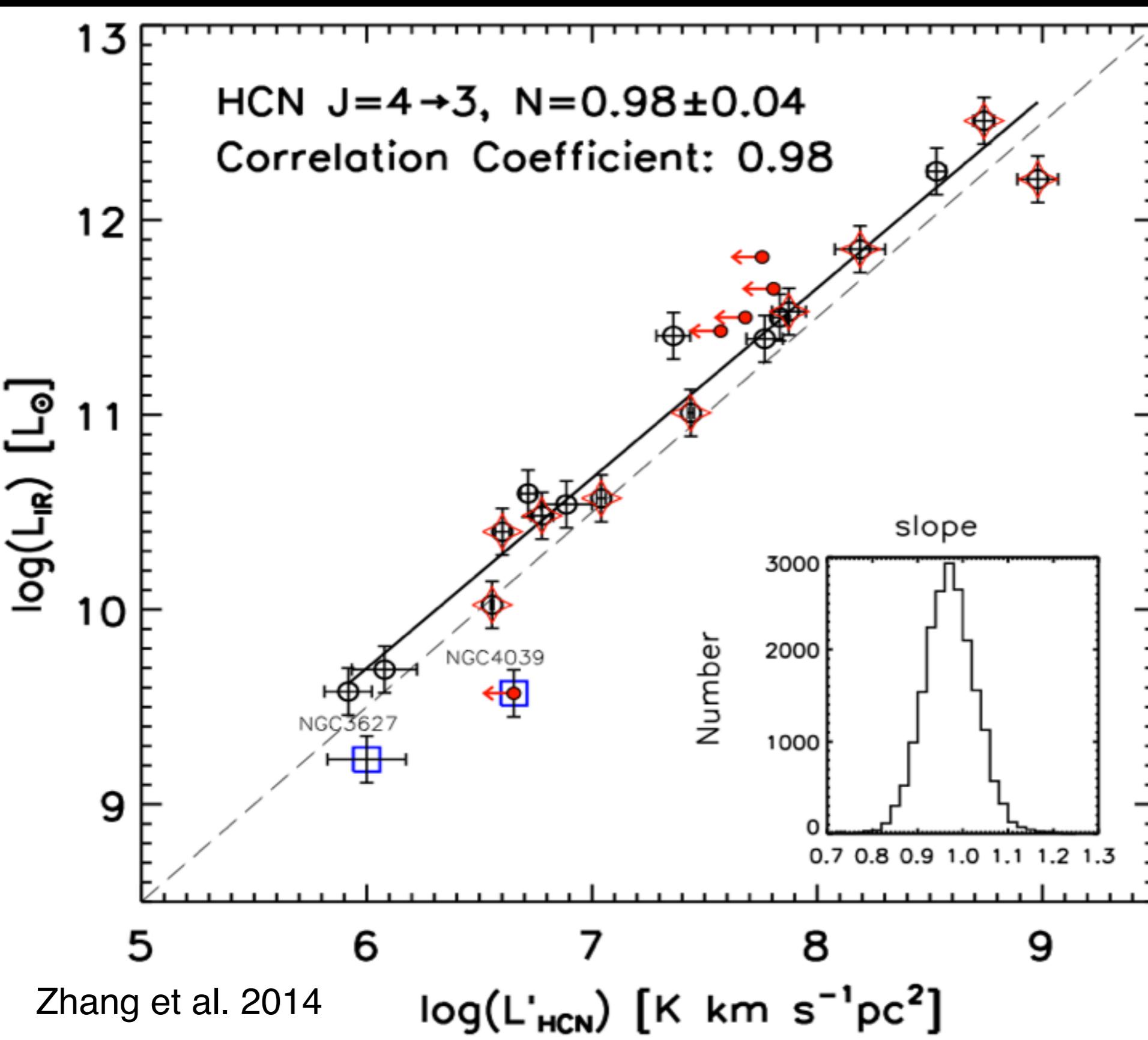


$n_{\text{crit}} \sim 2 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

$\text{HCO}^+ \text{ J}=4-3$ -- observed simultaneously with CS J=7-6



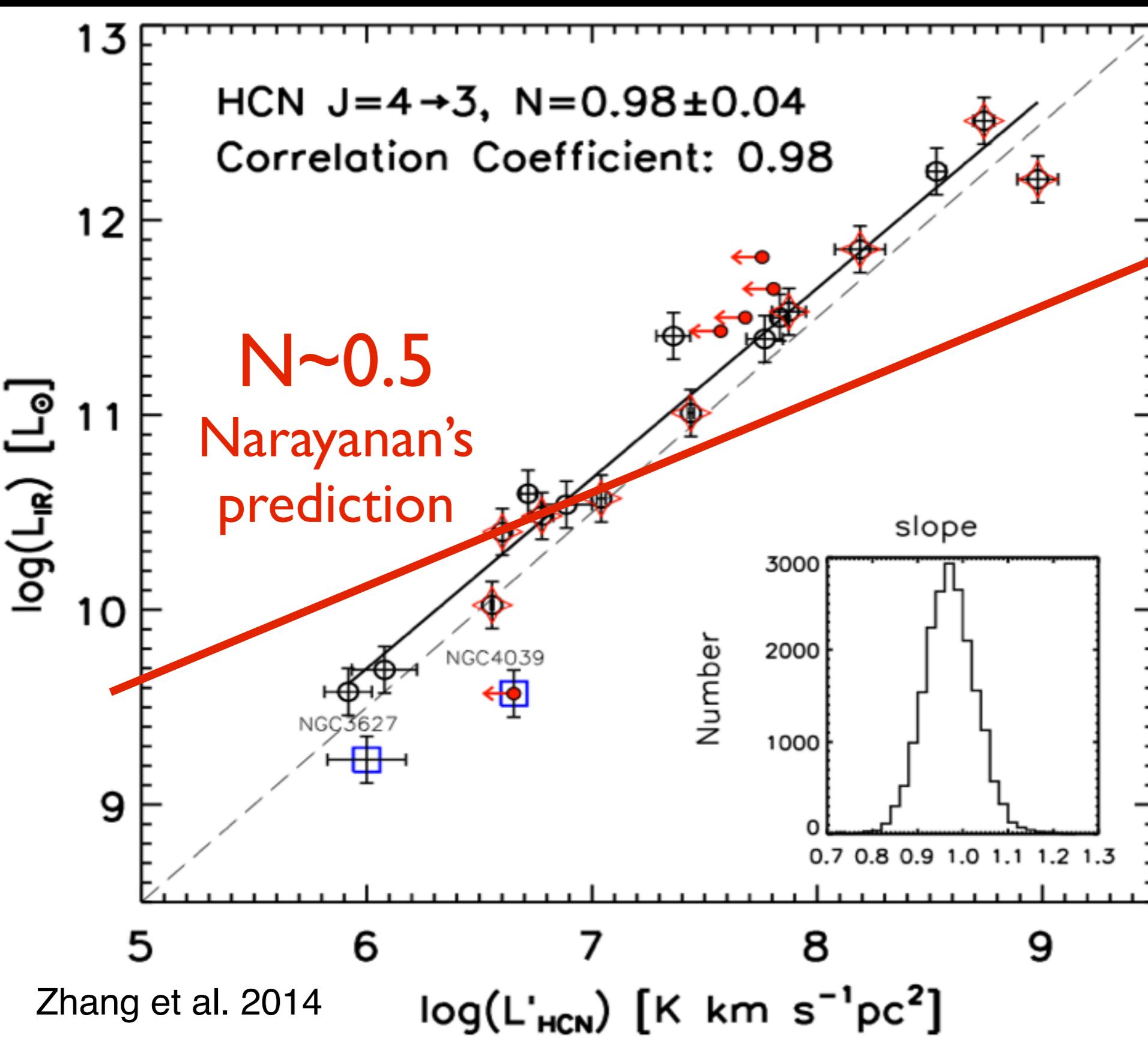
HCN J=4-3 -- observed simultaneously with CS J=7-6



$n_{\text{crit}} \sim 1 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

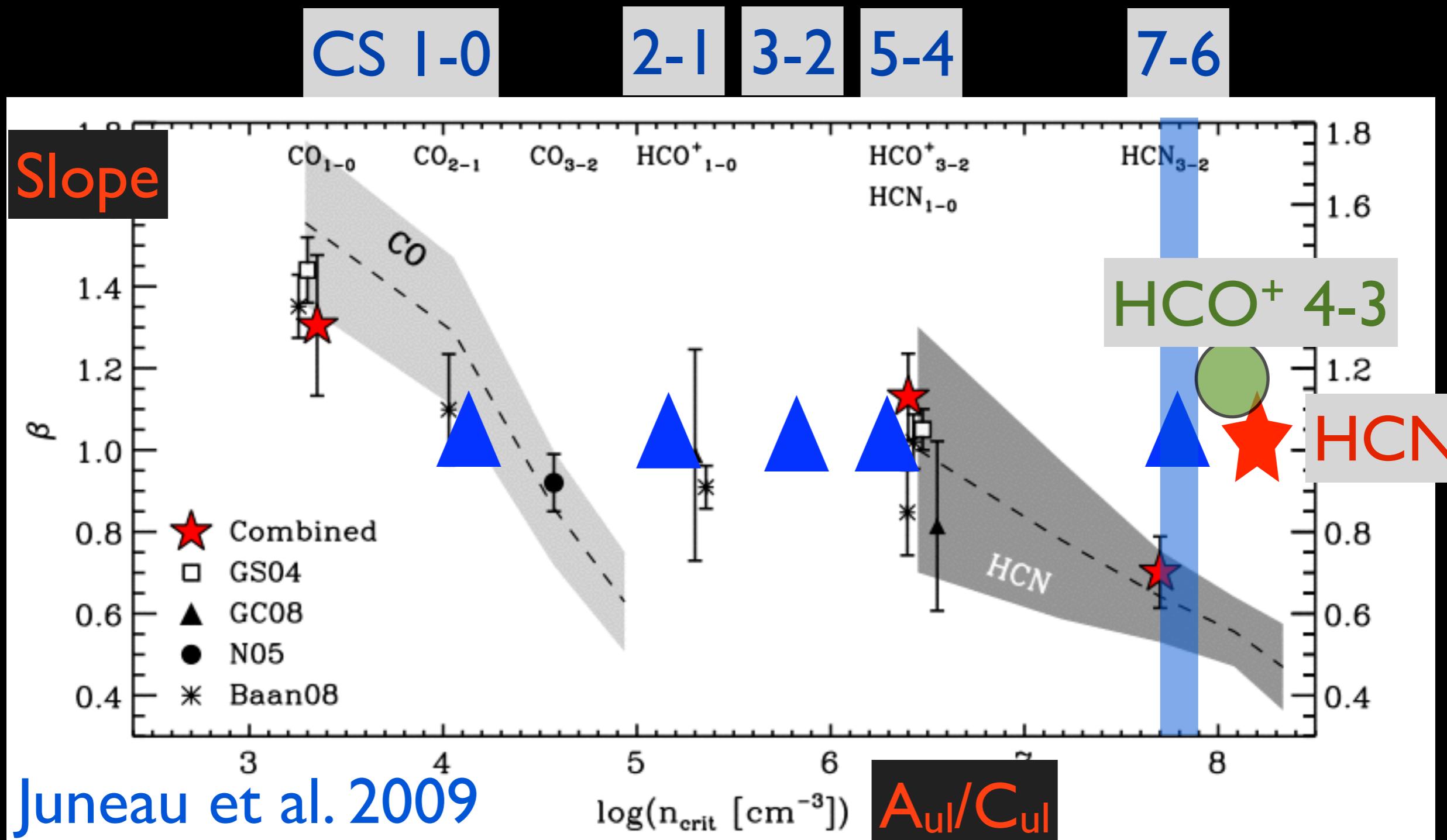
Zhang et al. 2014

HCN J=4-3 -- the highest n_{crit} tracer



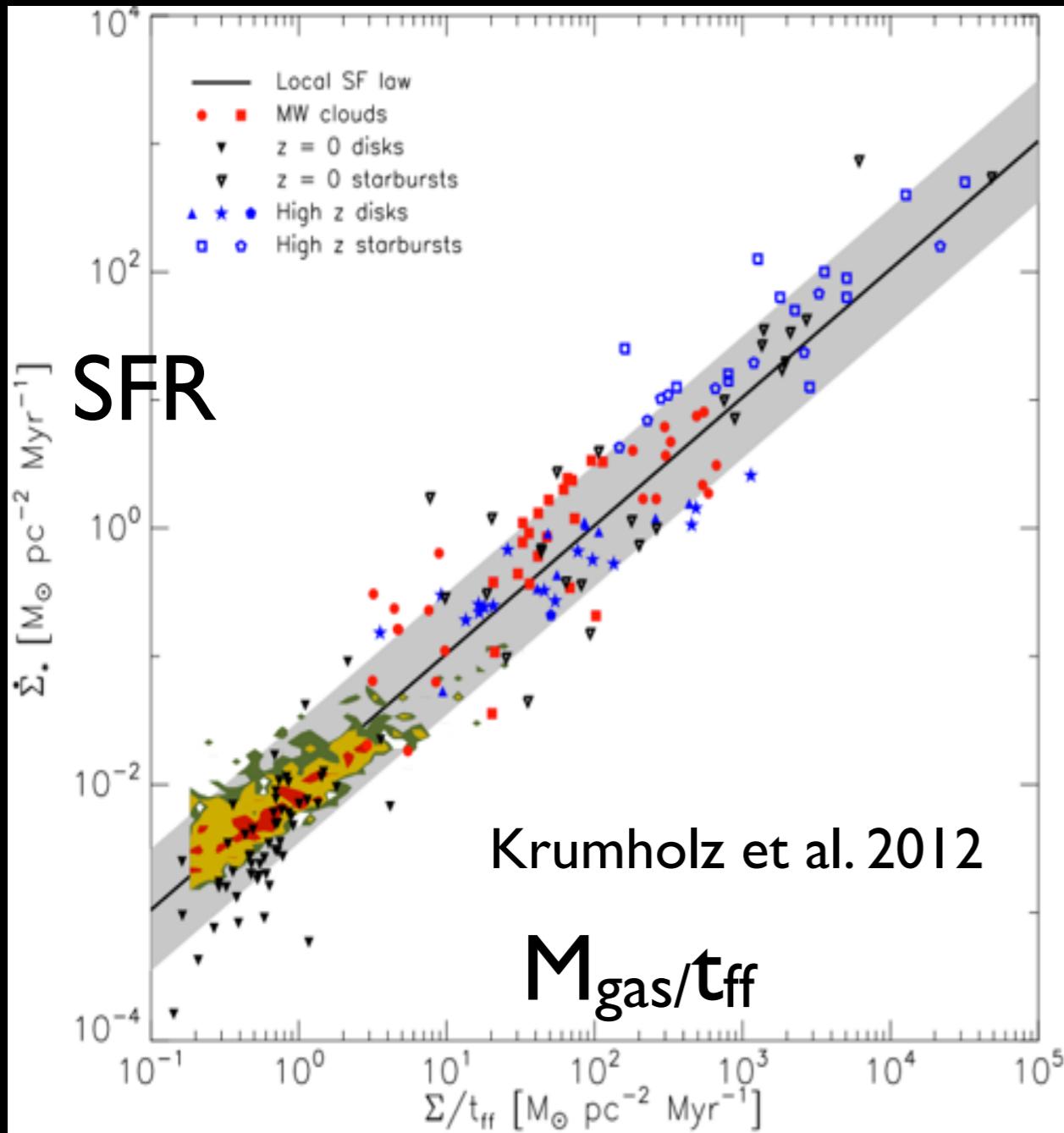
$n_{\text{crit}} \sim 1 \times 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

Dense gas tracers with $n_{\text{crit}} \sim 10^4 - 10^8 \text{ cm}^{-3}$



Dense gas tracers have linear correlations irrespective to n_{crit} , universally over 8 orders of luminosity magnitudes.

Does time scale matter? -- For Dense gas: probably No.



$$\dot{\rho}_* = f_{\text{H}_2} \epsilon_{\text{ff}} \frac{\rho}{t_{\text{ff}}} = f_{\text{H}_2} \epsilon_{\text{ff}} \sqrt{\frac{32G\rho^3}{3\pi}}$$

f_{H_2} : H_2 fraction
 ϵ_{ff} : constant, dimensionless measure of SFR

$$t_{\text{ff}} \propto \rho^{-1/2}$$

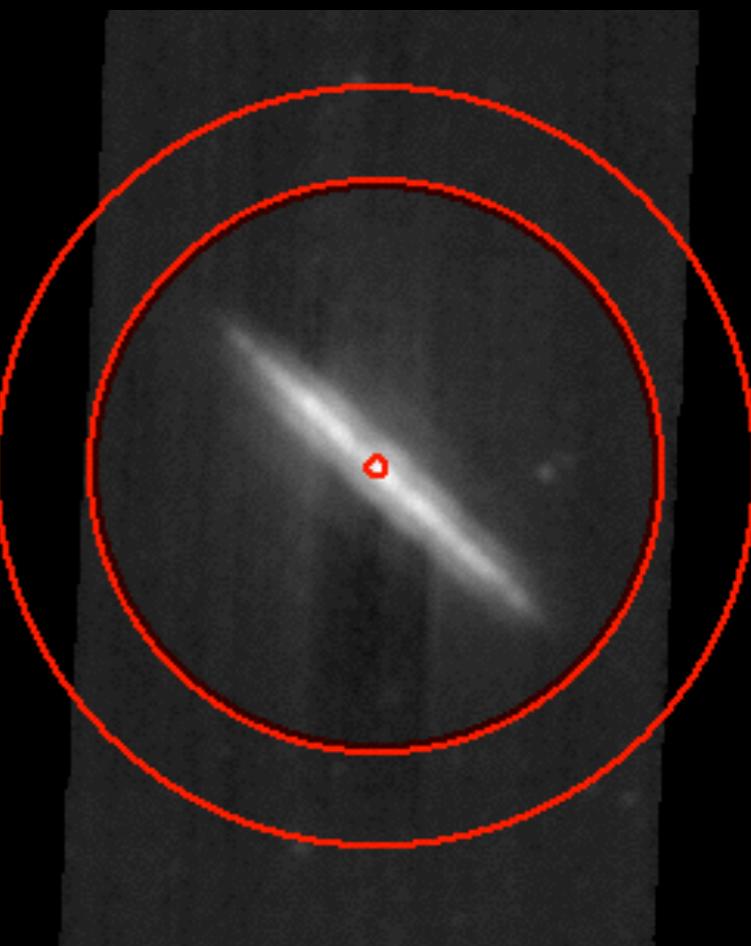
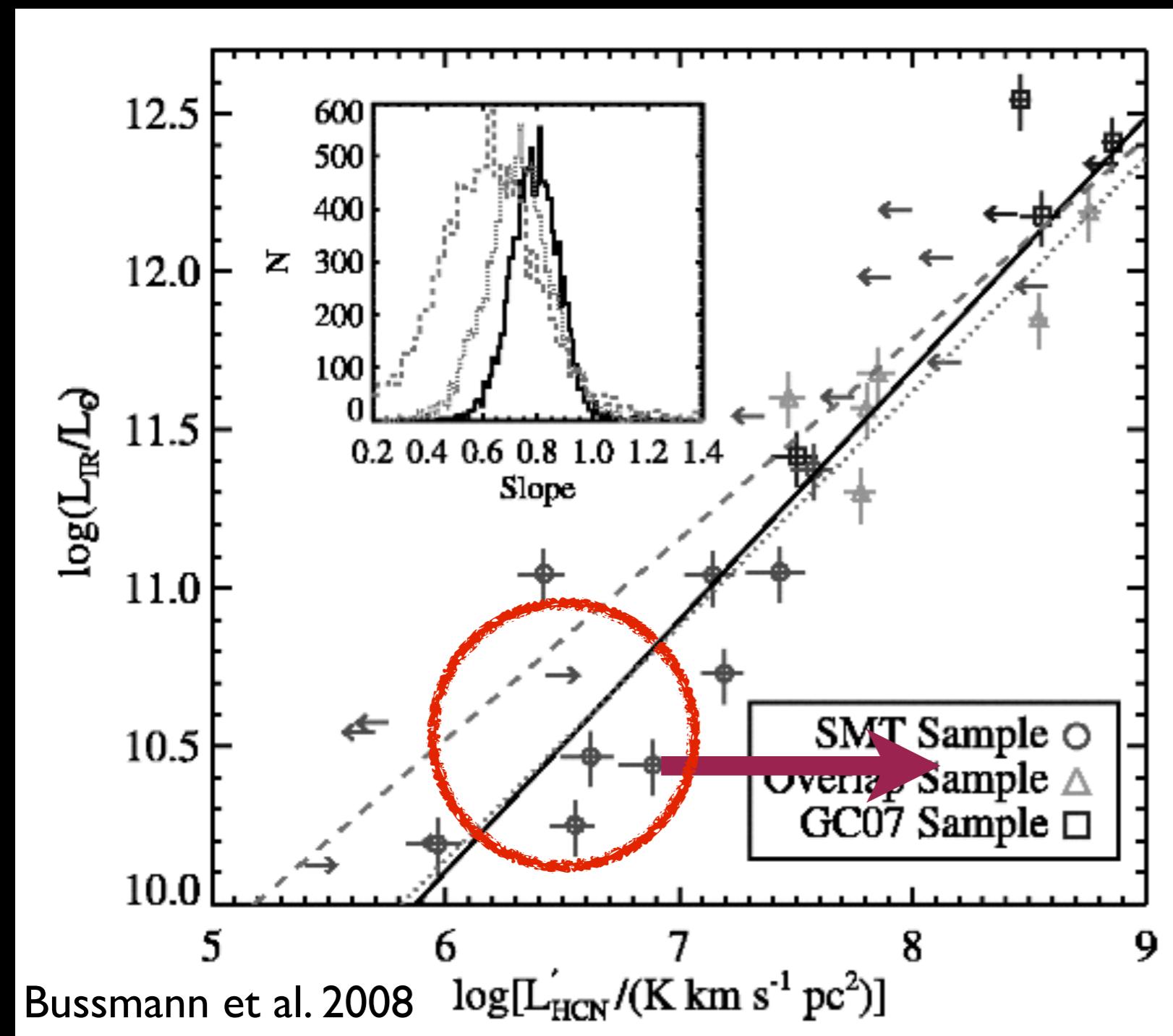
If $L_{\text{IR}} = (L'_{\text{dense}})^N / t_{\text{ff}}$, N will decrease with n_{crit} .
This will be contradictory to our observed results.

Short summary

- 1) Dense molecular gas ($n(\text{H}_2) \sim > 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$) is the star-forming gas.
- 2) How much dense gas, how much star-formation —linear correlations.
- 3) $L'_{\text{dense}} - L_{\text{IR}}$ universally stays linear from Galactic cores to galaxies, irrespective to critical density, once it is $> 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

The other half of the story

Either to map gas emission
or
to match IR with beam



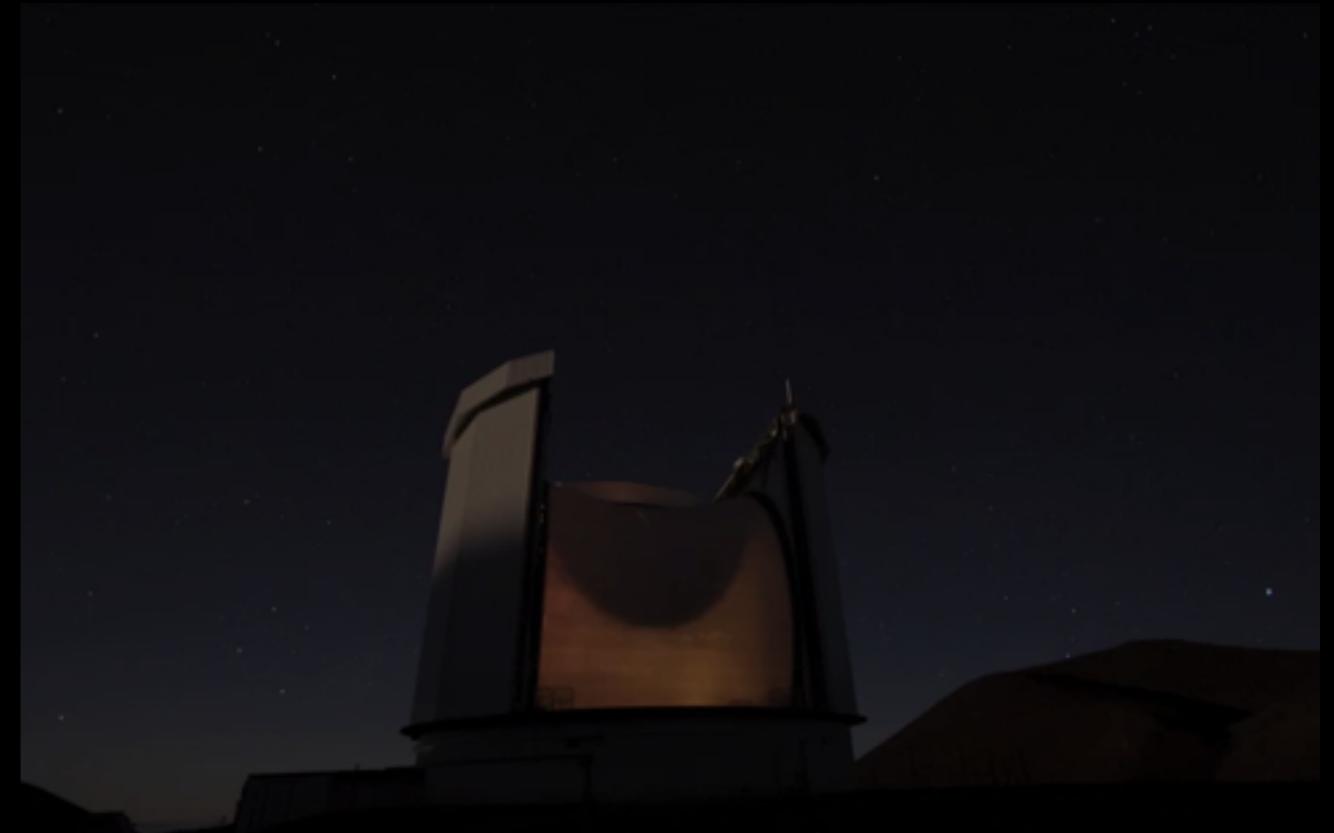


JCMT 390 hrs large program

Mapping HCN/HCO+ J=4-3 in ~20 nearby star-forming galaxies.

Synergy with Herschel FTS high-J CO and excitation modelling.

Characterising the physical/chemical conditions and excitations of the SF units probed by HCN/HCO+

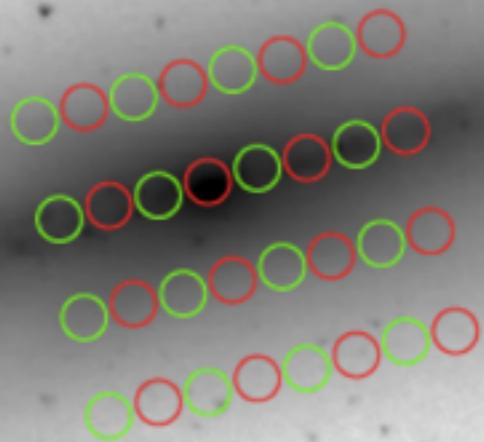


Dense gas emission on disks and arms.

Grid mode

Mostly for edge-on galaxies

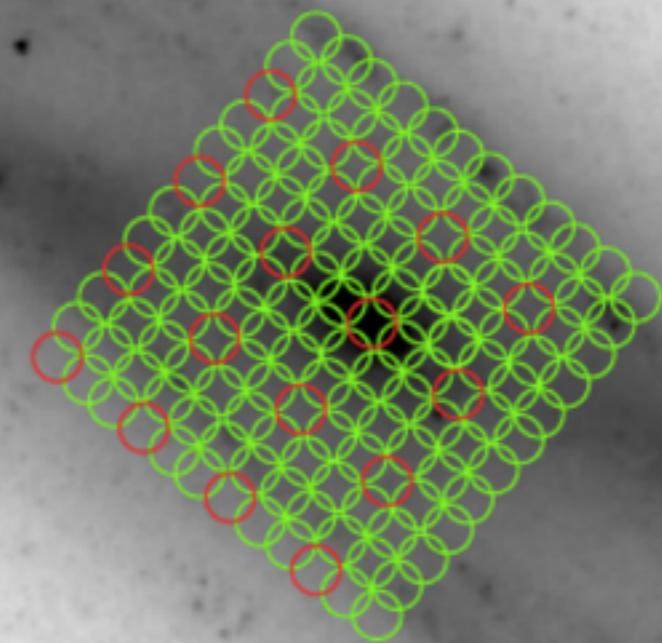
NGC 3628



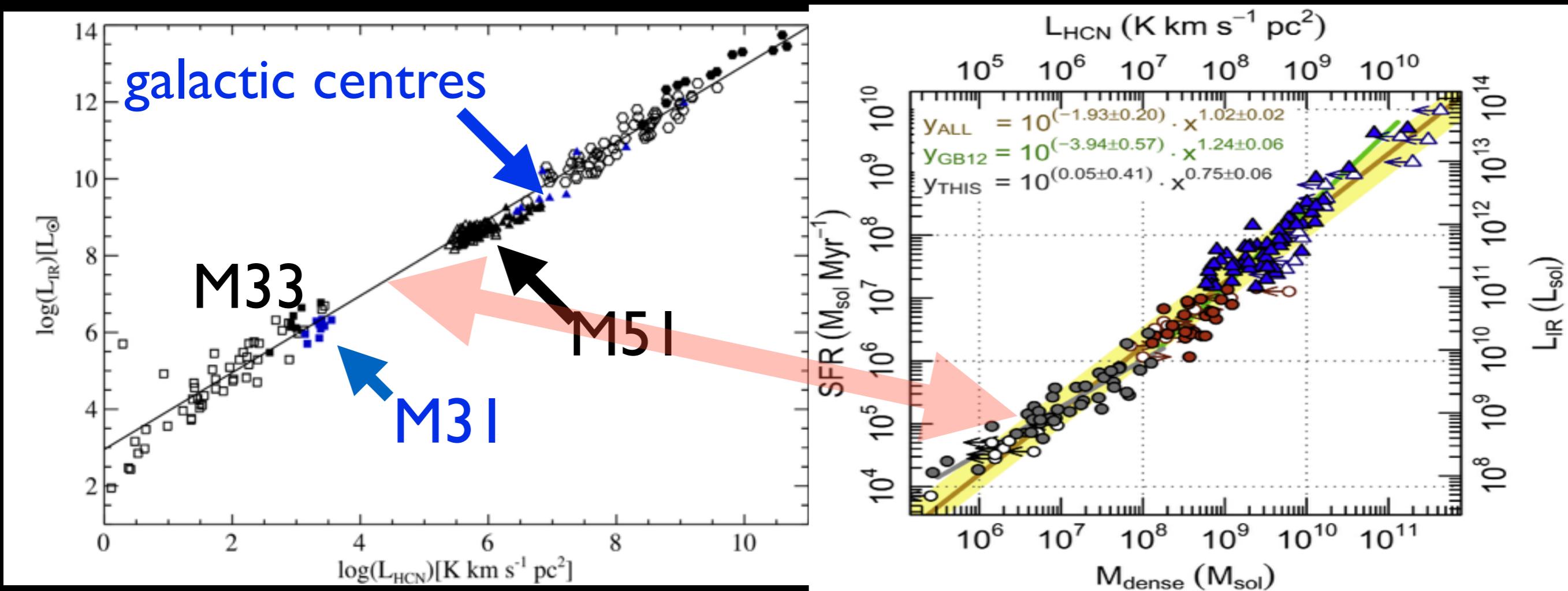
Jiggle mode

Mostly for face-on/large galaxies

NGC 253



Different mode of star formation on disks?

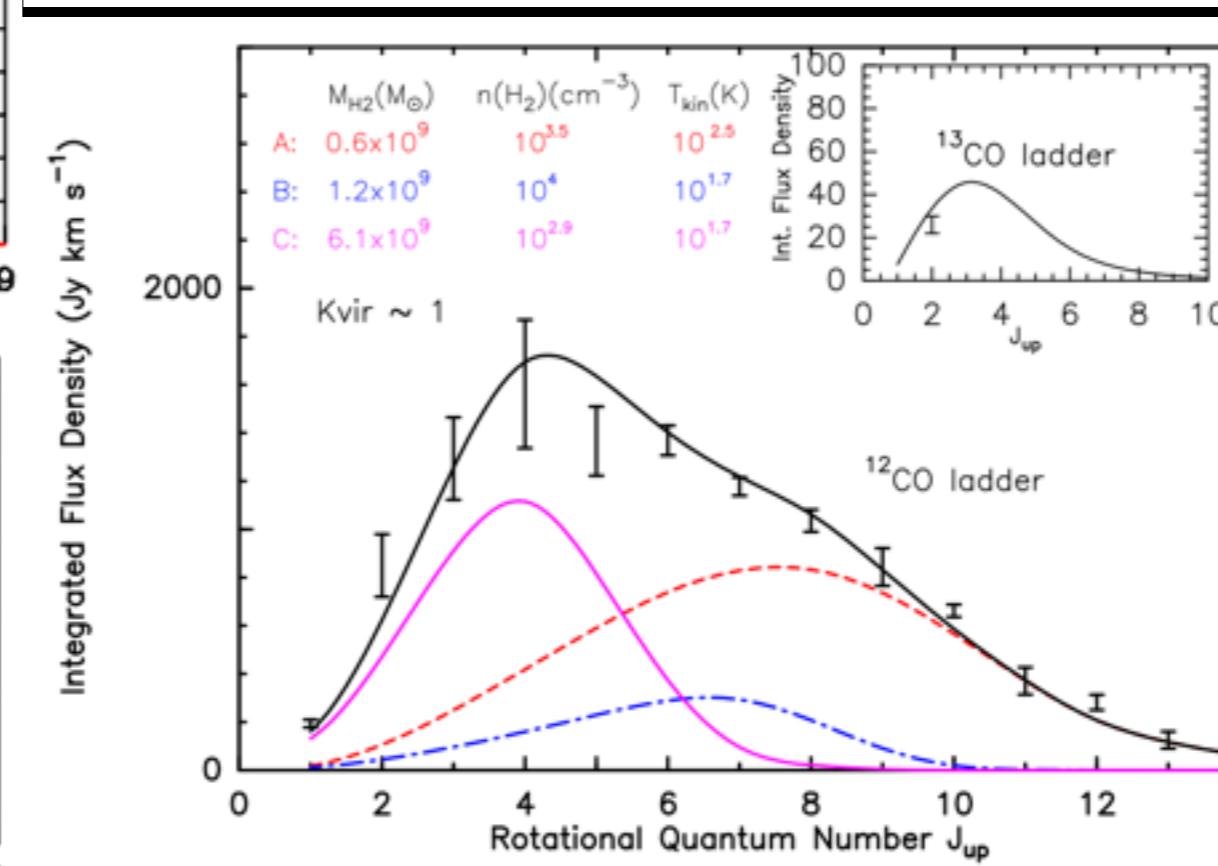
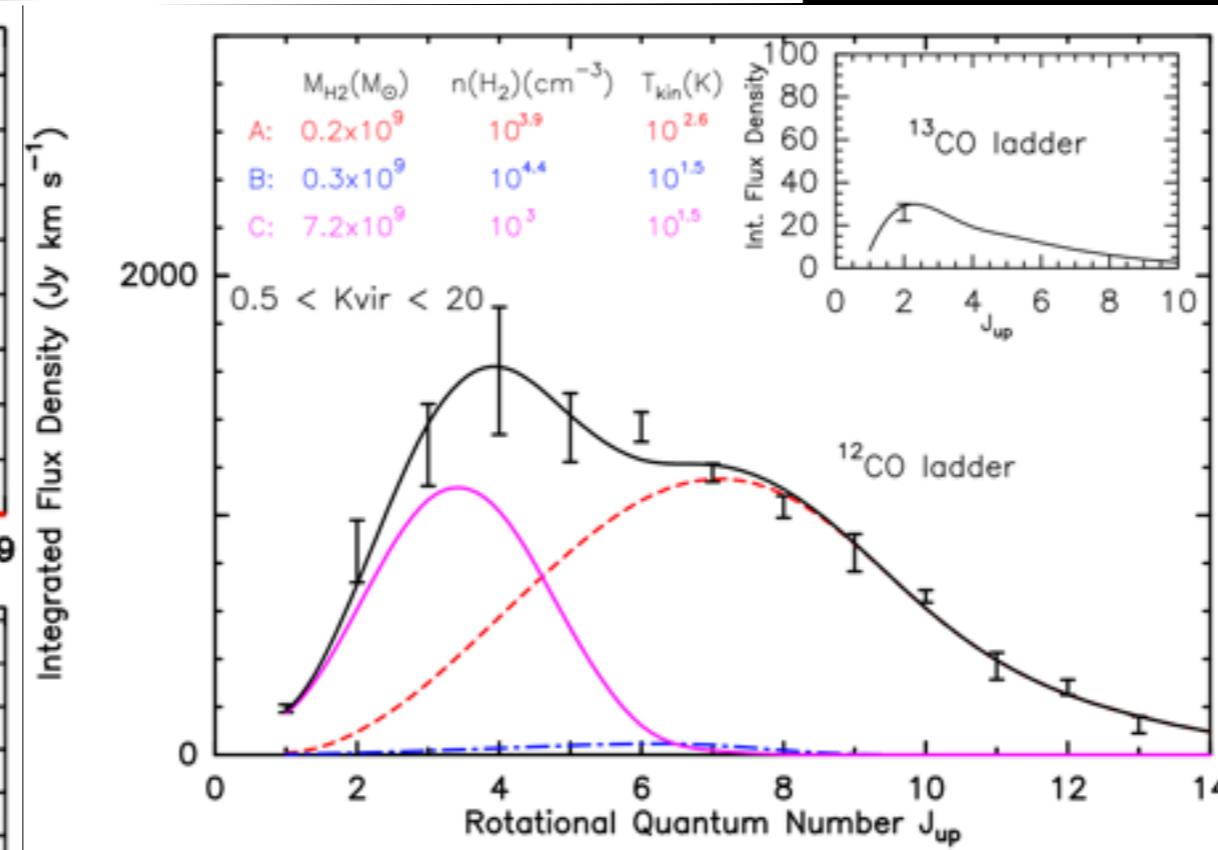
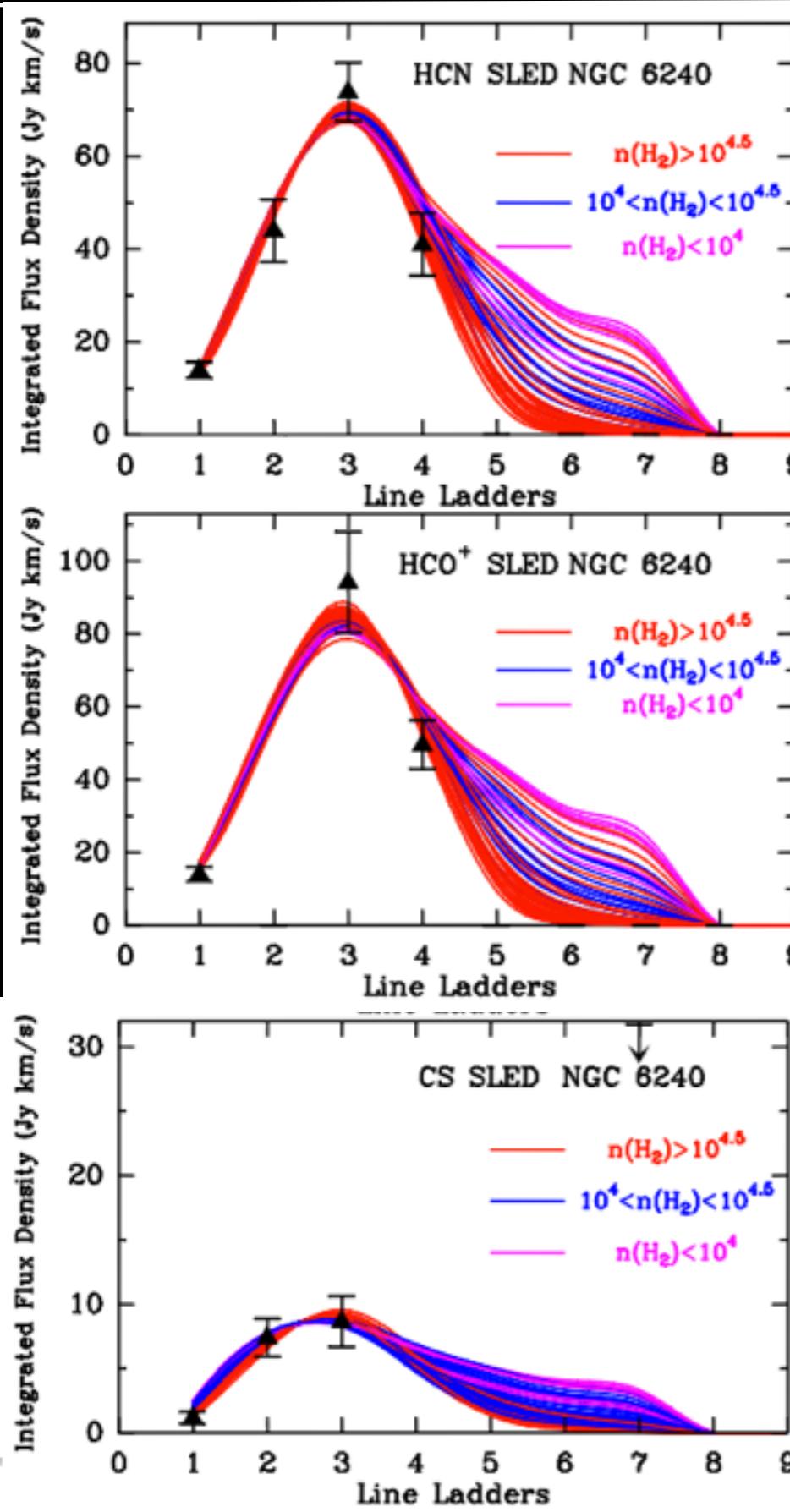


Chen et al. 2015

MALATANG will give the answers.

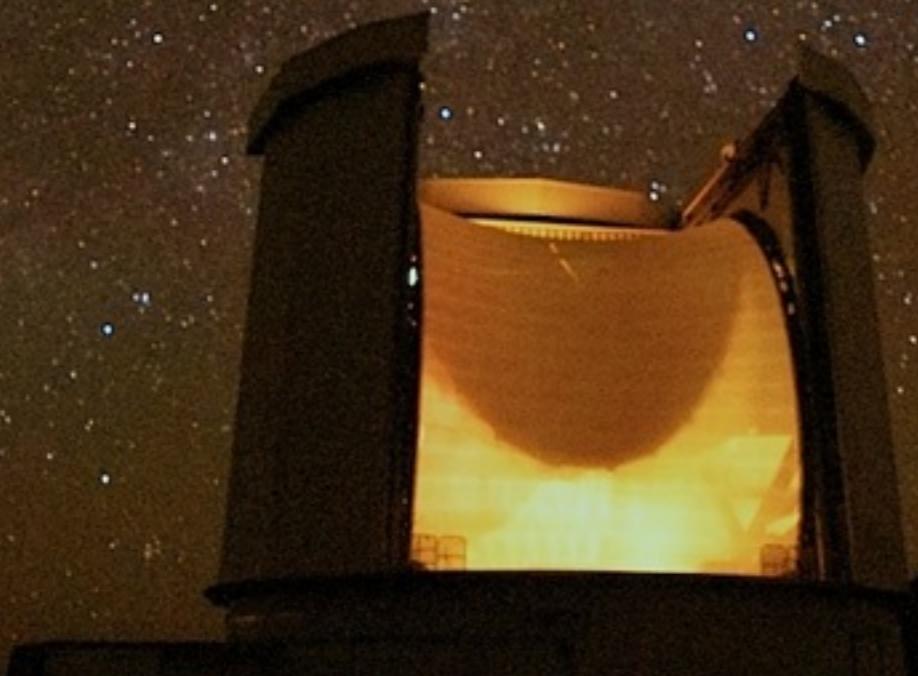
Usero et al. 2015

Synergy the HCN/HCO+ SLEDs with CO



Papadopoulos
+ 2014

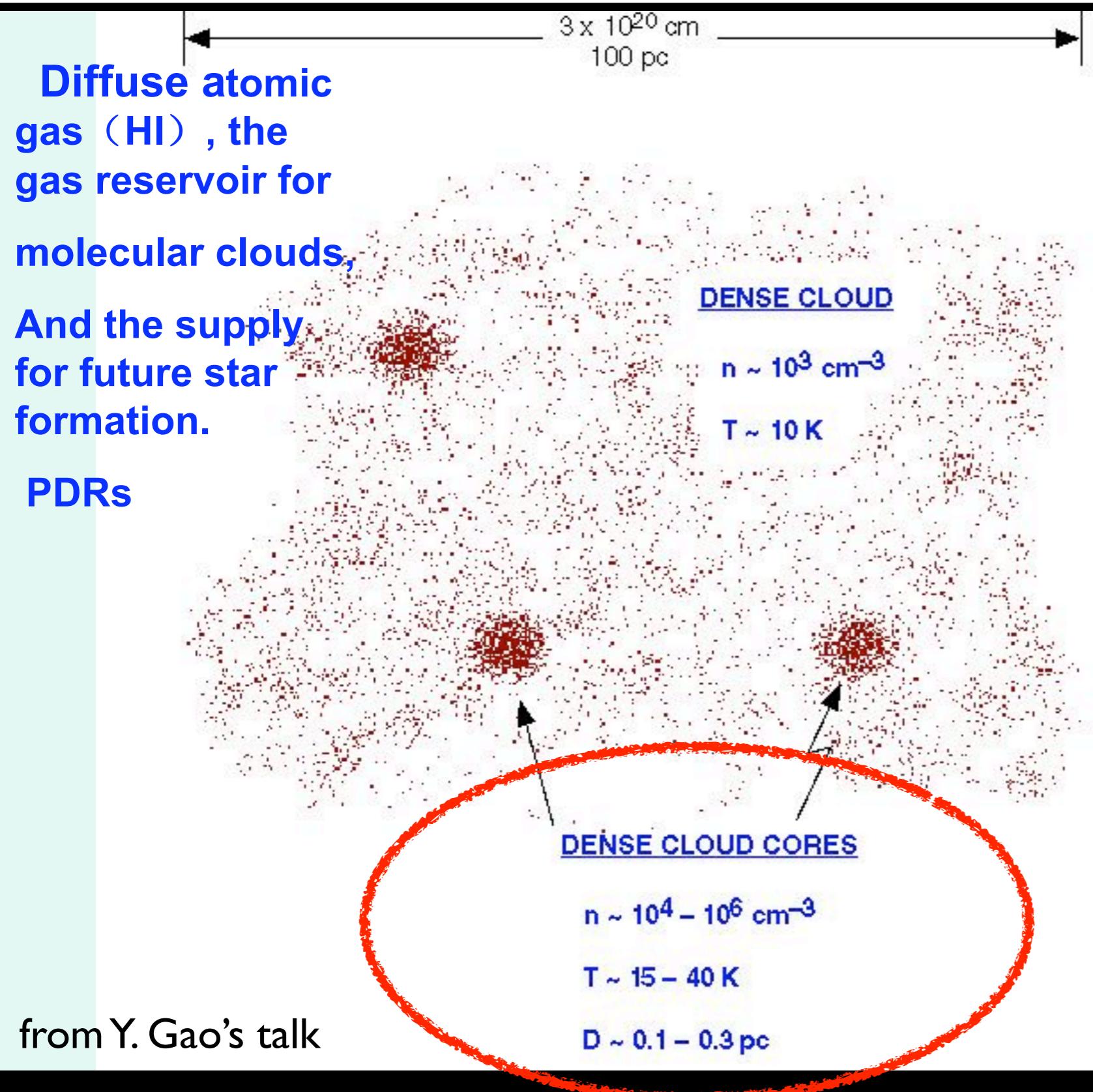
Thank you!



Background: Gymnastic music

ALMA will be helpful!

Stars are forming in dense molecular gas cores



GMCs:

$$\begin{aligned} n(\text{H}_2) &\sim 10^2 - 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\ T_{\text{kin}} &\sim 10 - 20 \text{ K} \\ D &\sim 10 - 100 \text{ pc} \end{aligned}$$

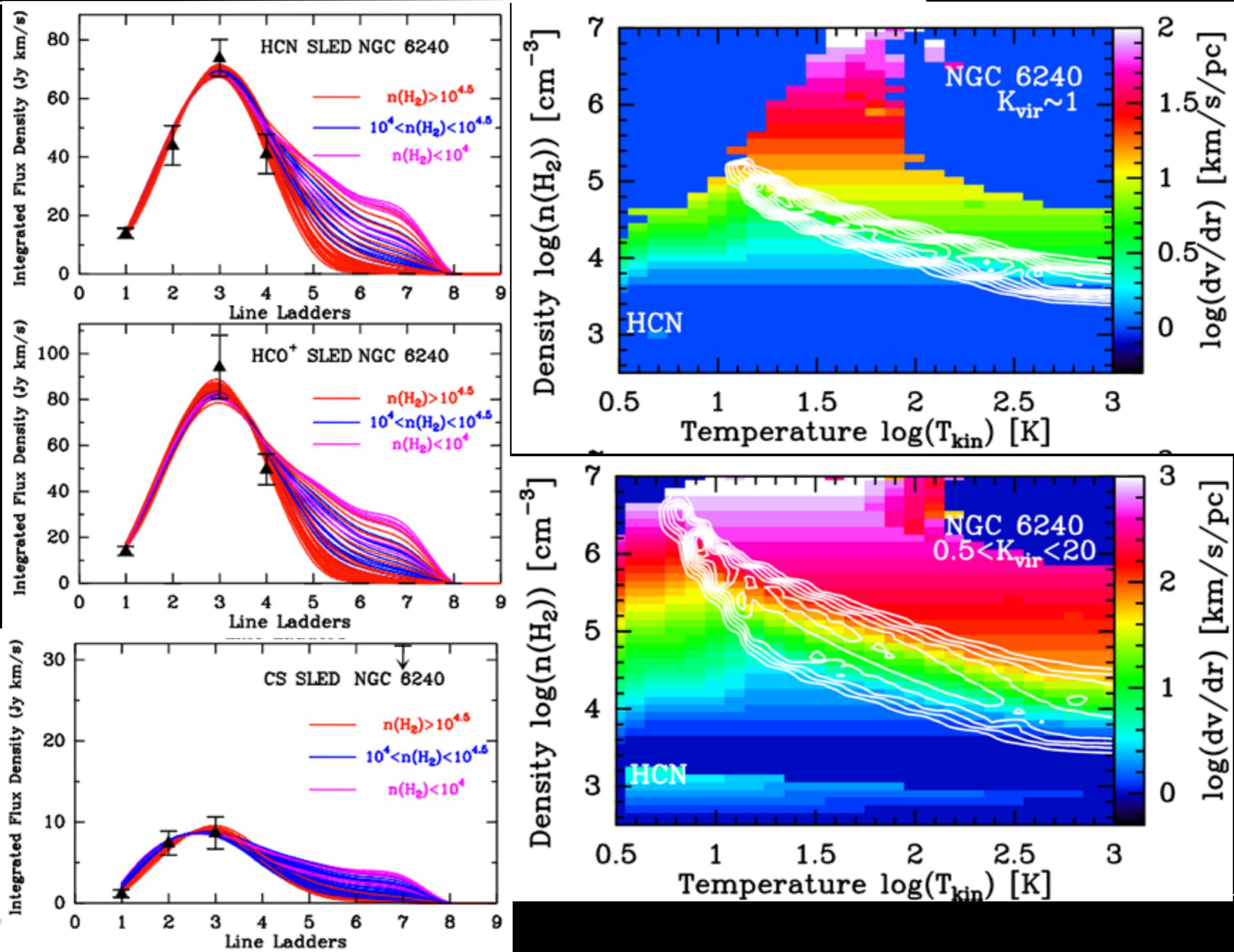
Dense cores:

$$\begin{aligned} n(\text{H}_2) &\sim 10^4 - 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3} \\ T_{\text{kin}} &\sim 15 - 100 \text{ K} \\ D &\sim 0.1 - 0.3 \text{ pc} \end{aligned}$$

self-gravity bound

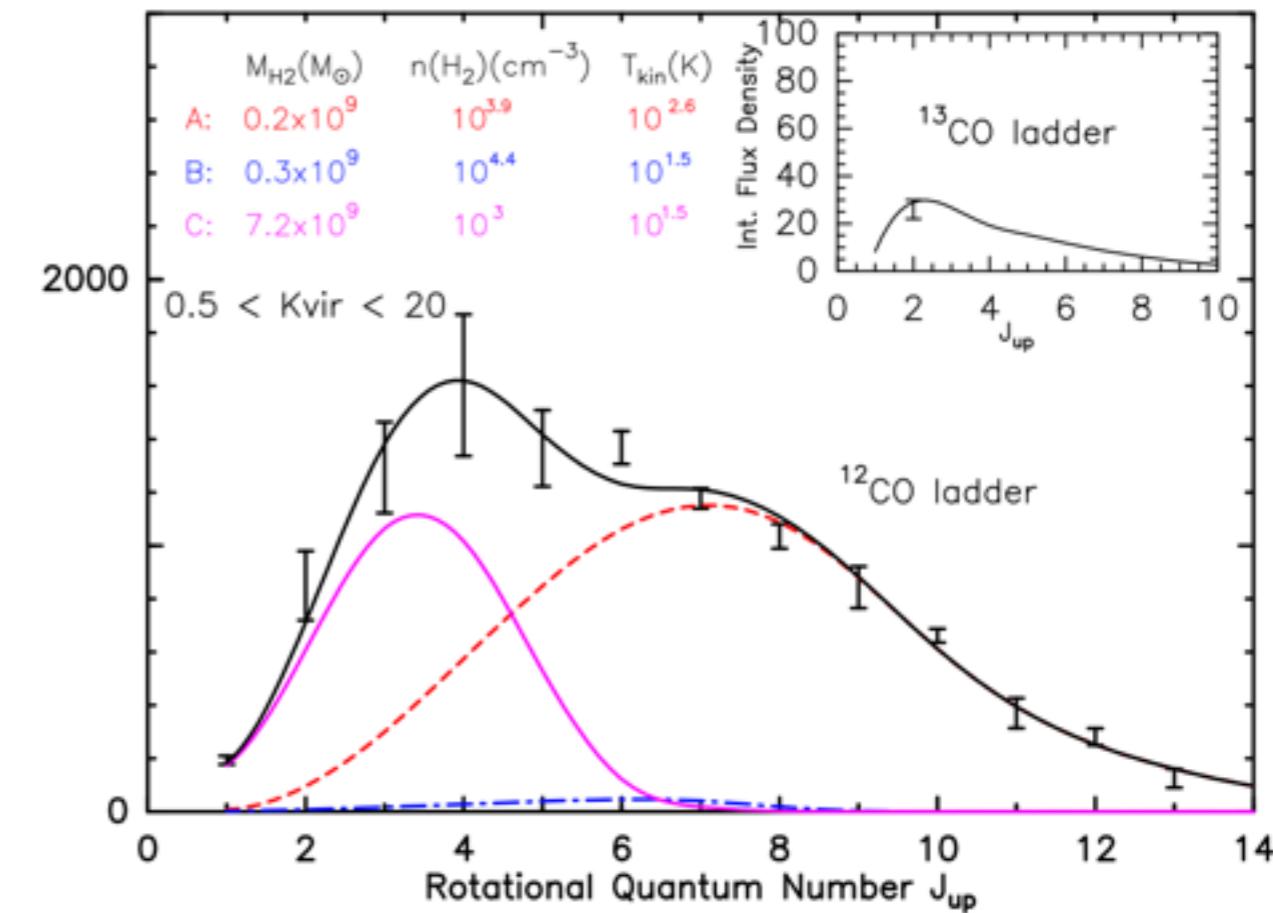
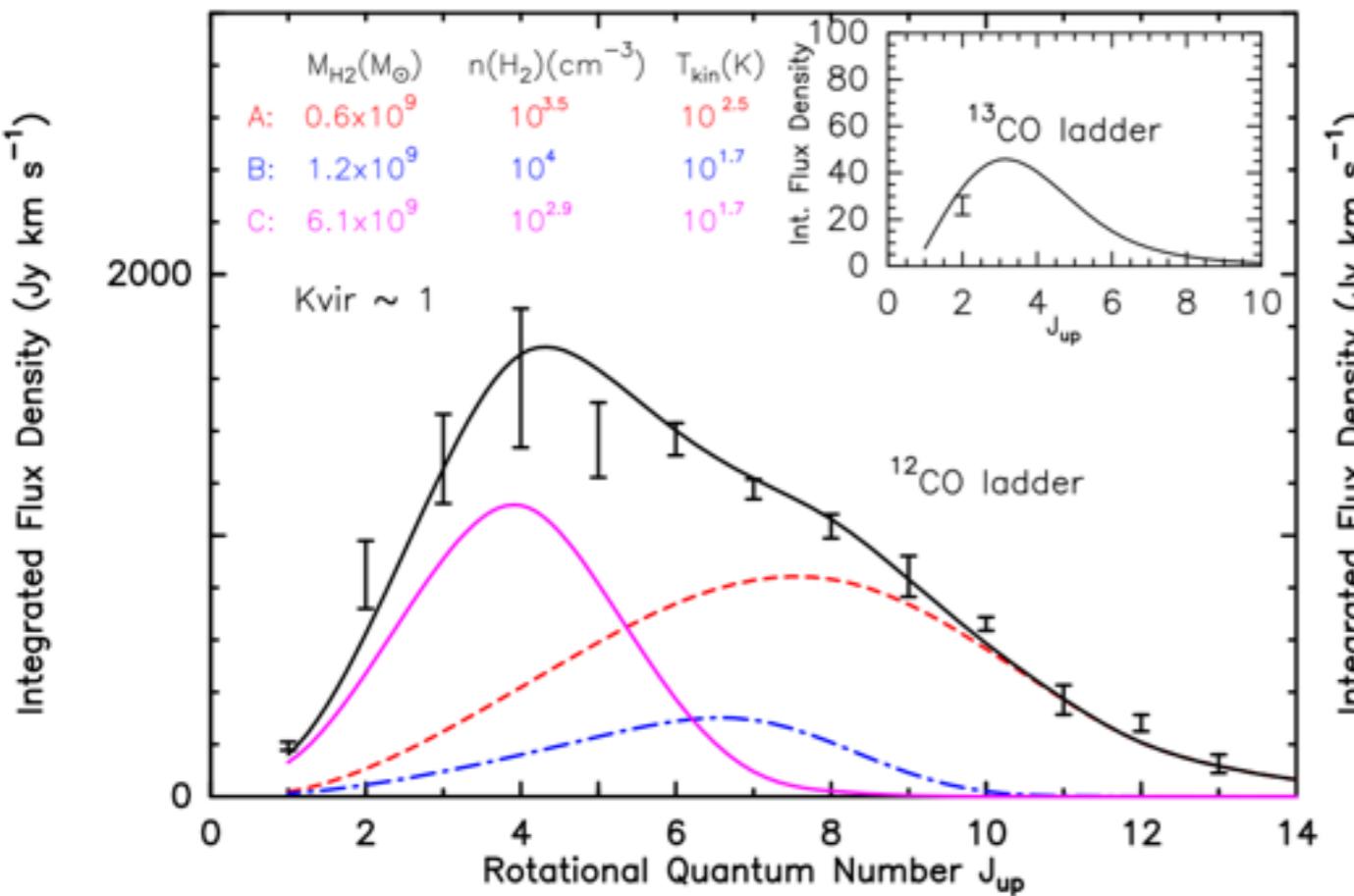
Backup Slides

LVG+ML/Bayesian Modelling with dense gas tracers and CO



Papadopoulos
+ 2014

Model high-J CO using LVG results of HCN (NGC 6240)



~60-70% of the molecular gas is in dense gas phase.
The thermal state of molecular gases can not be maintained by FUV from PDRs.

Detailed LVG analysis will be done for the whole sample.

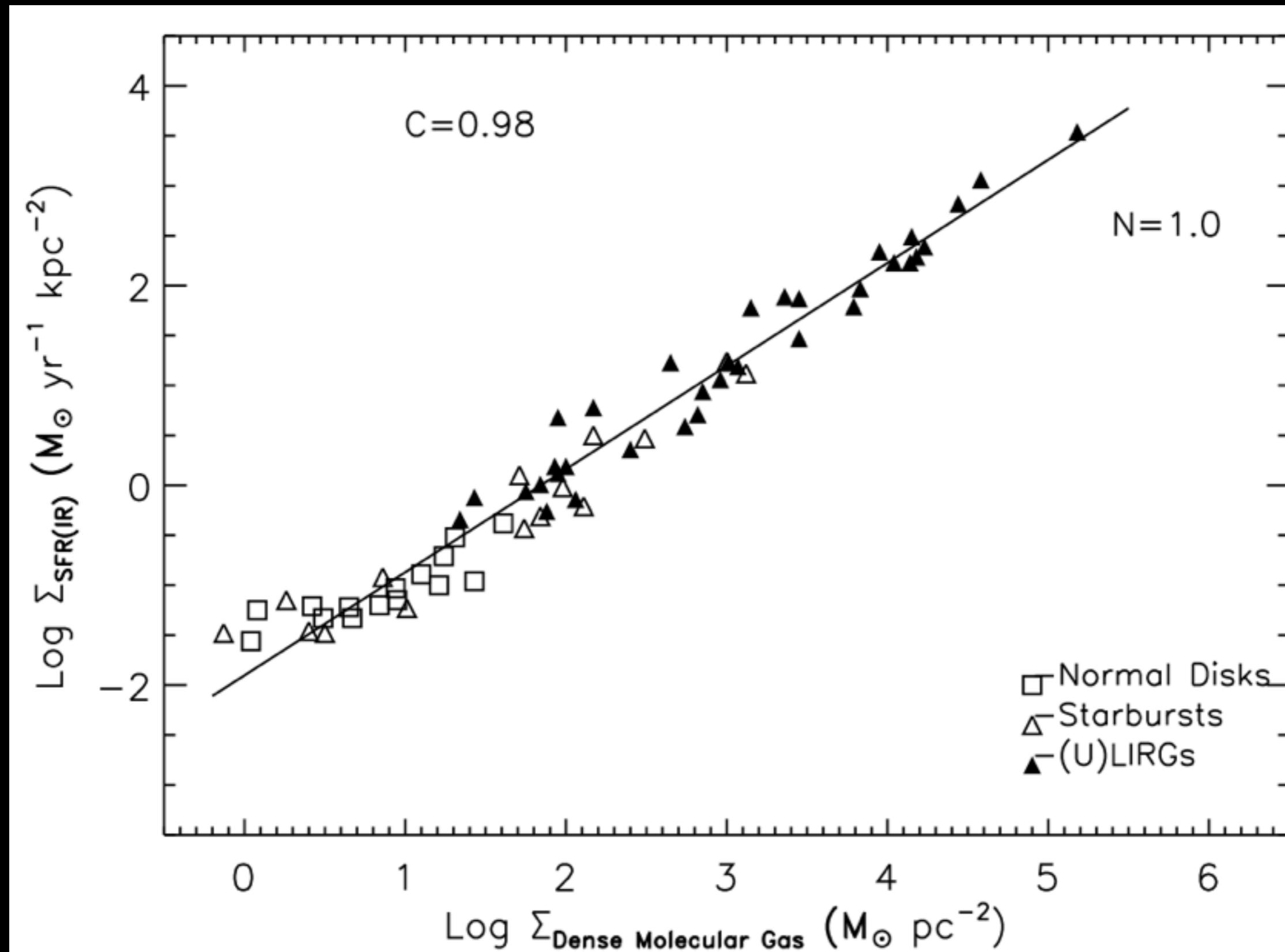
Caveats

L' _{dense} is a first order approximation of M _{dense}.

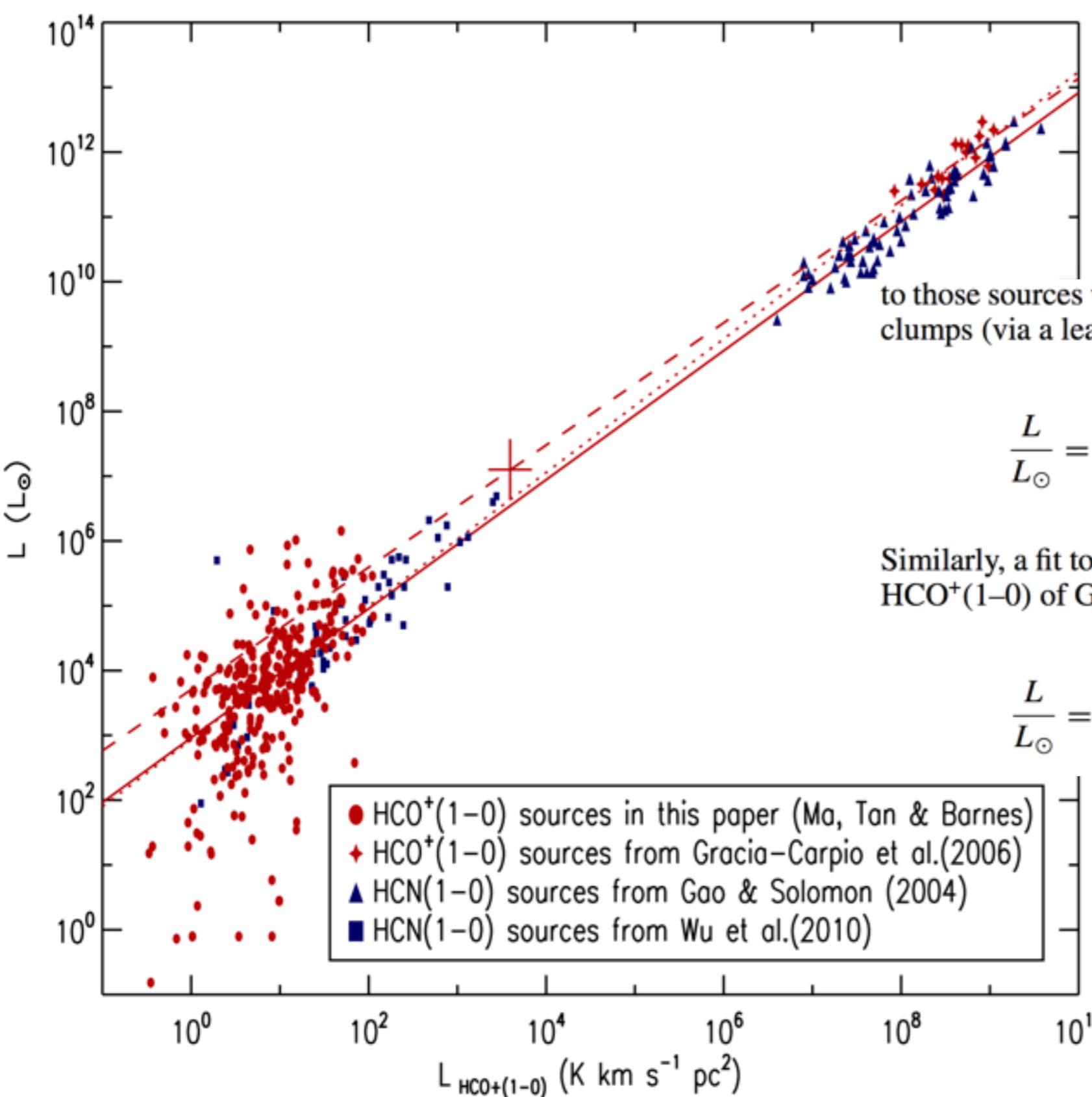
Detections of high n_{crit} lines do not necessarily mean that the gas densities are above n_{crit} , because they can be sub-thermally excited.

Analysis on excitation conditions is needed.

Surface density correlation of HCN - 10



HCO⁺ J=1-0



$$\frac{L}{L_{\odot}} = 917 \left(\begin{array}{l} +208 \\ -170 \end{array} \right) \left(\frac{L_{\text{HCO}^+(1-0)}}{\text{K km s}^{-1}\text{pc}^2} \right)^{1.00 \pm 0.09}. \quad (41)$$

Similarly, a fit to both the CHaMP sample and the extragalactic HCO⁺(1-0) of Graciá-Carpio et al. (2006) yields

$$\frac{L}{L_{\odot}} = 857 \left(\begin{array}{l} +105 \\ -93 \end{array} \right) \left(\frac{L_{\text{HCO}^+(1-0)}}{\text{K km s}^{-1}\text{pc}^2} \right)^{1.03 \pm 0.02}. \quad (42)$$

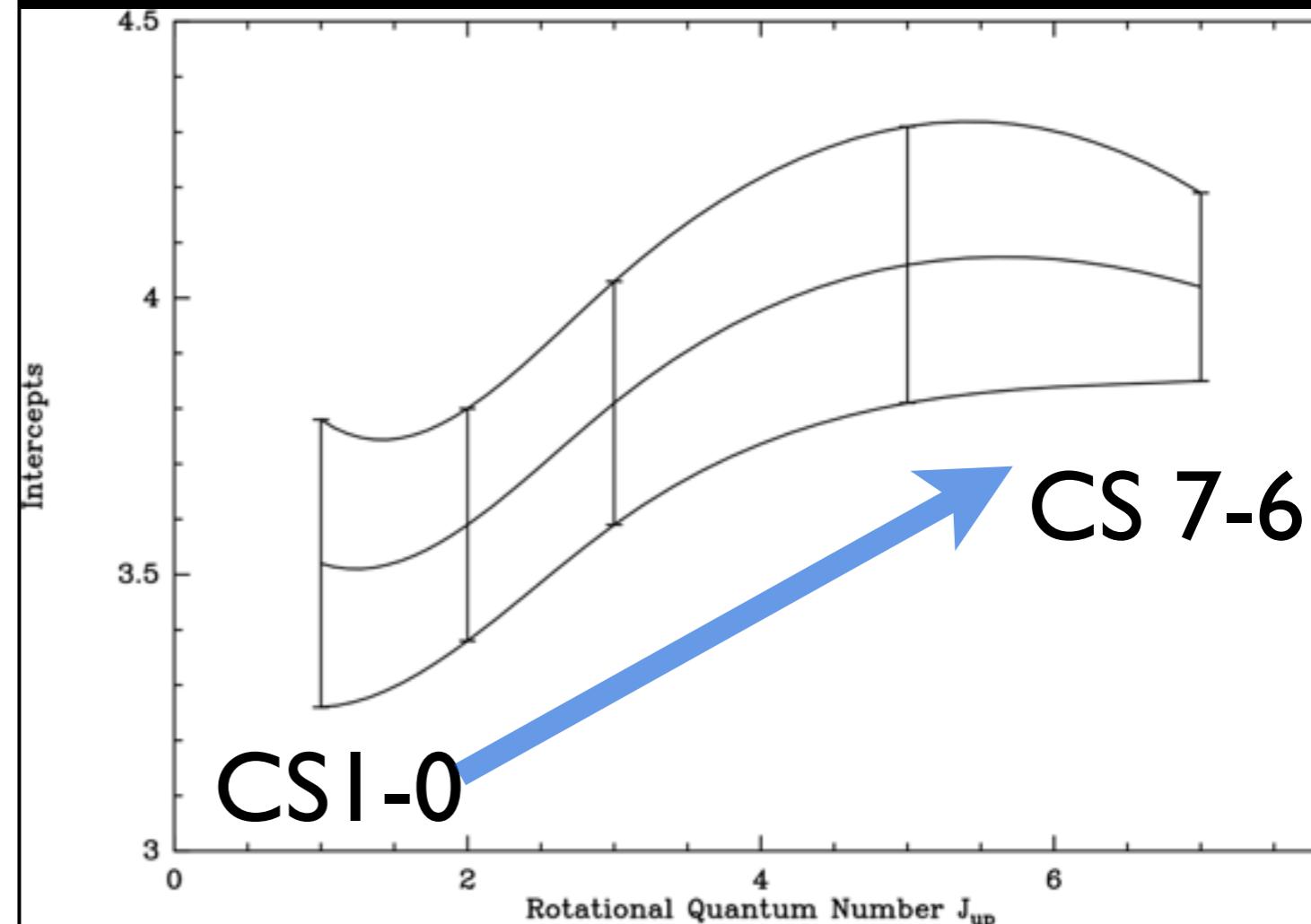
Ma et al. 2013

Fitting results

Table 3.8: Fitting parameters of the correlations of $L'_{\text{CS}} - L_{\text{IR}}$

Transition	Slope index	Intercepts	r^a	s^b
fitting without beam match correction				
CS $J=1 \rightarrow 0$	0.71(0.10)	5.99(0.76)	0.82	0.31
CS $J=2 \rightarrow 1$	0.88(0.05)	4.57(0.40)	0.94	0.24
CS $J=3 \rightarrow 2$	0.83(0.05)	5.17(0.34)	0.93	0.26
CS $J=5 \rightarrow 4$	0.69(0.06)	6.40(0.42)	0.91	0.25
CS $J=7 \rightarrow 6$	0.68(0.08)	6.60(0.56)	0.89	0.33
fitting with beam match correction				
CS $J=1 \rightarrow 0$	0.94(0.07)	3.96(0.52)	0.93	0.24
CS $J=2 \rightarrow 1$	1.20(0.06)	1.95(0.44)	0.96	0.27
CS $J=3 \rightarrow 2$	1.13(0.05)	2.80(0.34)	0.96	0.25
CS $J=5 \rightarrow 4$	0.99(0.06)	4.11(0.44)	0.96	0.24
CS $J=7 \rightarrow 6$	0.99(0.06)	4.06(0.43)	0.98	0.17
fitting with only point sources				
CS $J=1 \rightarrow 0$	0.95(0.09)	3.93(0.69)	0.90	0.26
CS $J=2 \rightarrow 1$	1.04(0.09)	3.30(0.72)	0.94	0.22
CS $J=3 \rightarrow 2$	1.02(0.09)	3.67(0.69)	0.92	0.22
CS $J=5 \rightarrow 4$	0.96(0.11)	4.33(0.80)	0.91	0.24

Intercept vs. J



sub-linear slope indices for uncorrected targets
 linear correlations for point targets and beam
 matched targets

Aperture Correction -- beams are small

6: Parameters of the photometry.

Source name	CS2-1 (25'')				CS 3-2 (17'')				MIPS IR IR
	24Ratio	24Apercor	70Ratio	70Apercor	24Ratio	24Apercor	70Ratio	70Apercor	
NGC3628	0.390	1.17	0.146	1.819	0.299	1.53	0.081	2.67	
NGC3079	0.068	1.17	0.182	1.819	0.052	1.53	0.103	2.67	
NGC0520	0.763	1.17	0.359	1.819	0.600	1.53	0.206	2.67	
NGC7479	0.697	1.17	0.228	1.819	0.550	1.53	0.134	2.67	
NGC1530	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
NGC7771	0.465	1.17	0.201	1.819	0.364	1.53	0.110	2.67	
NGC7469	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
NGC1614	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
NGC828	0.740	1.17	0.373	1.819	0.530	1.53	0.213	2.67	
ARP193	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
UGC02369	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
NGC0695	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
MIPS IR IR									
IRAS10565	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
VIZW31	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	
IRAS23365	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	1.	

Photometry

Aperture
correction

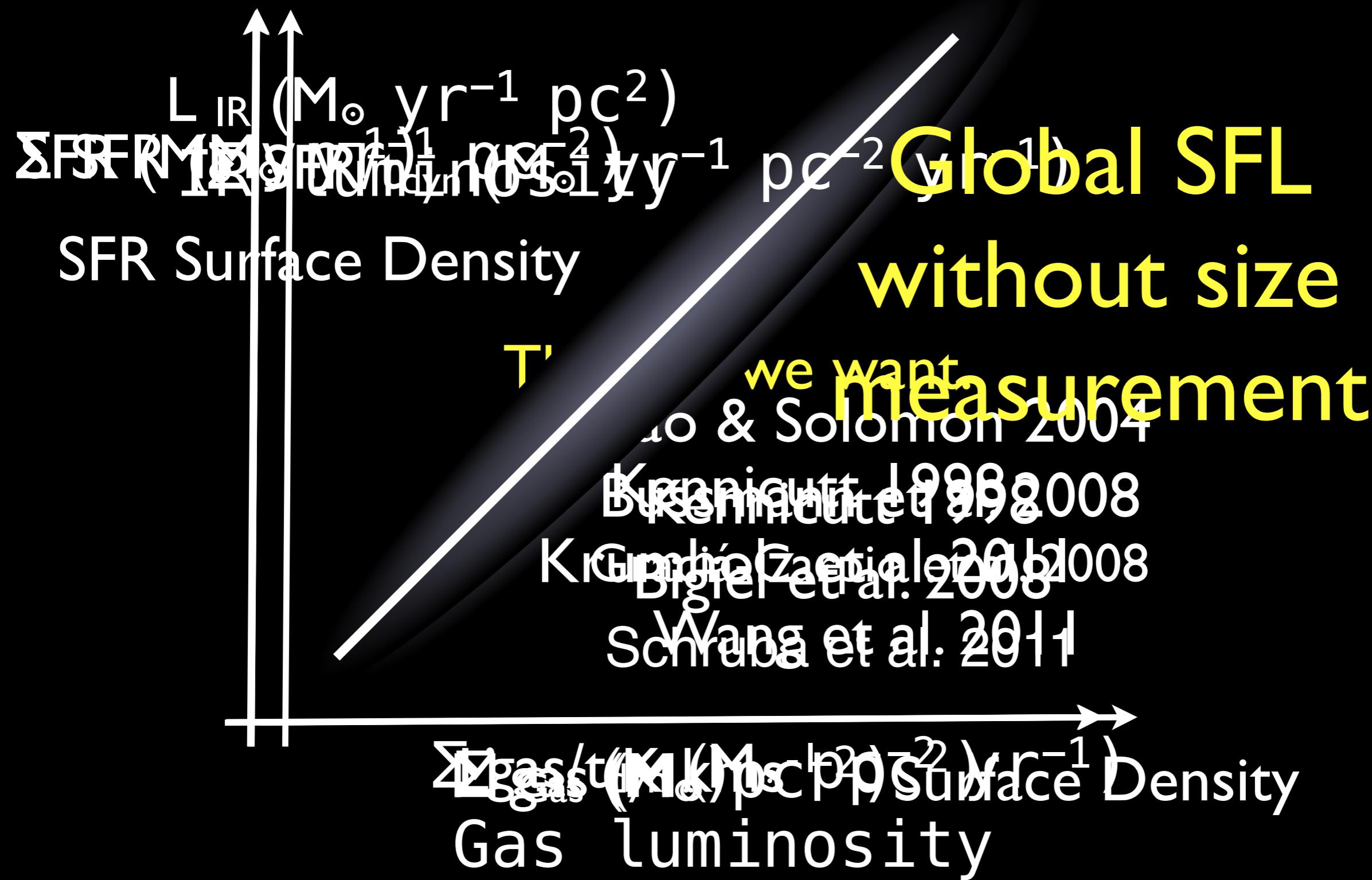
Final flux

$$\text{Flux}_{\text{beam}} = \text{Flux}_{\text{total}} \times R_{\text{beam/total}} \times \text{Aper}_{\text{corr}}$$

50K blackbody PSF

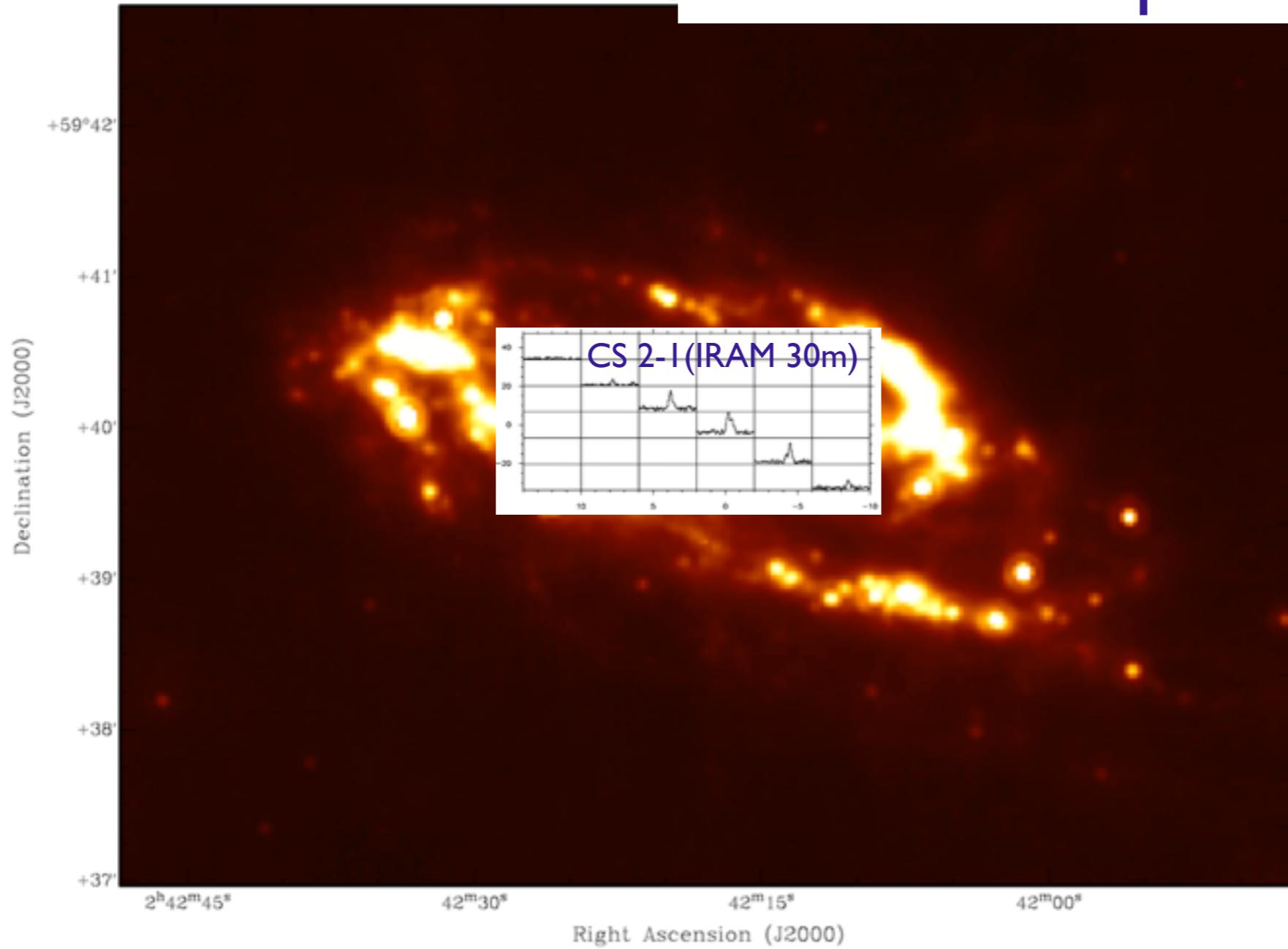
The IR flux corresponding to CS beams are calculated with $\text{Flux}_{\text{beam}} = \text{Flux}_{\text{gal}} \times R_{\text{beam/gal}} \times \text{Aper}$, where $\text{Flux}_{\text{beam}}$ is the IR flux with in the CS beam, Flux_{gal} is the IRAS flux of the total galaxies, $R_{\text{beam/gal}}$ is the ratio of the flux inside CS beam to the flux of the whole galaxies measured in the Spitzer MIPS $24\mu\text{m}$ or $70\mu\text{m}$ images, and Aper is the aperture correction factor measured on the Spitzer MIPS PSF of a 50K blackbody for the corresponding beamsizes.

Star Formation Law (Units)



Extended CS emission on the disk

MAFFEI 2 Spitzer 24 μ m



Dense gas tracers

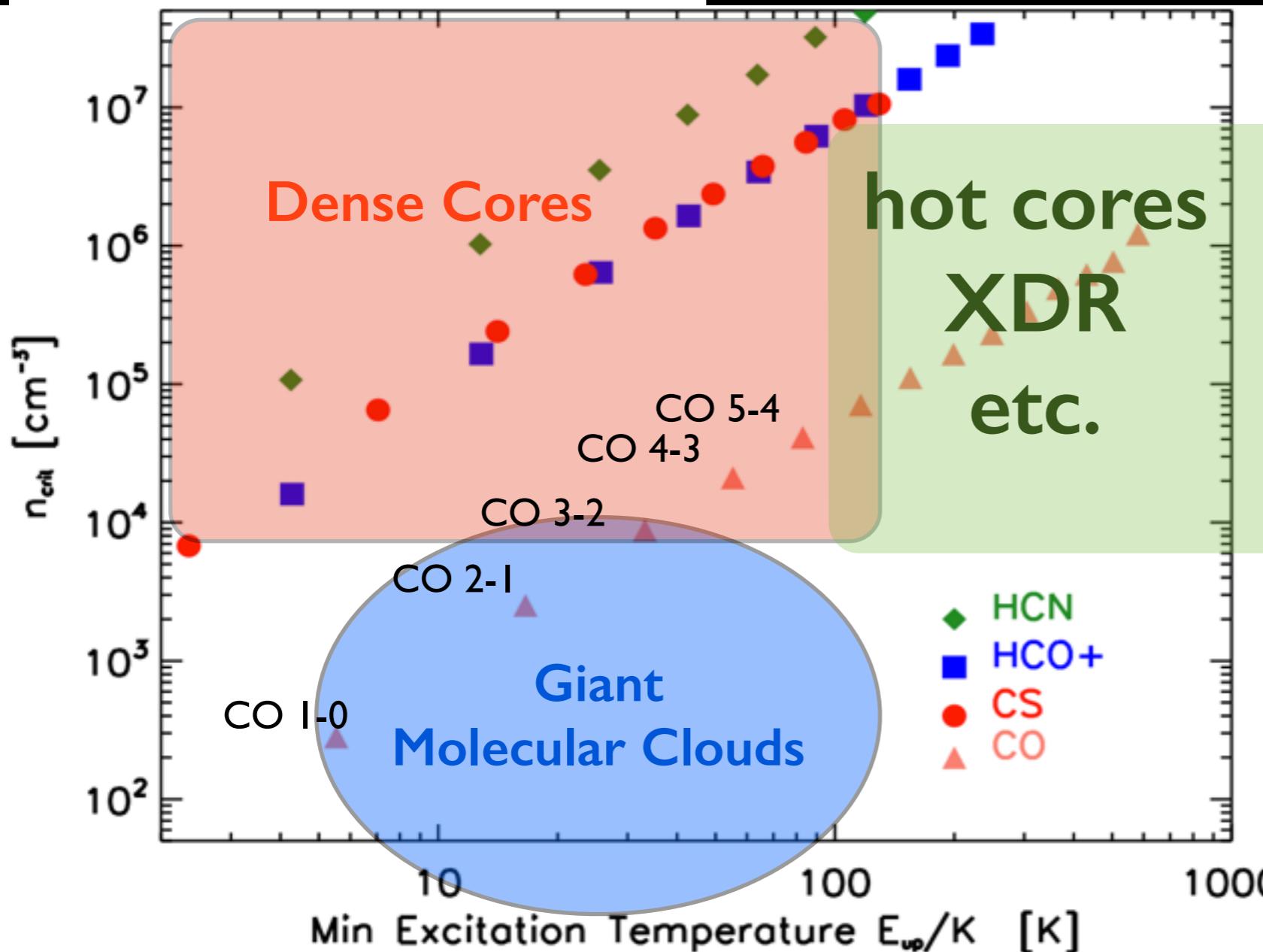
Critical Density:

$$n_{\text{crit}} = \frac{\sum_{l < u} A_{ul}}{\sum_{l \neq u} C_{ul}}$$

Rotational transitions of heavy molecules

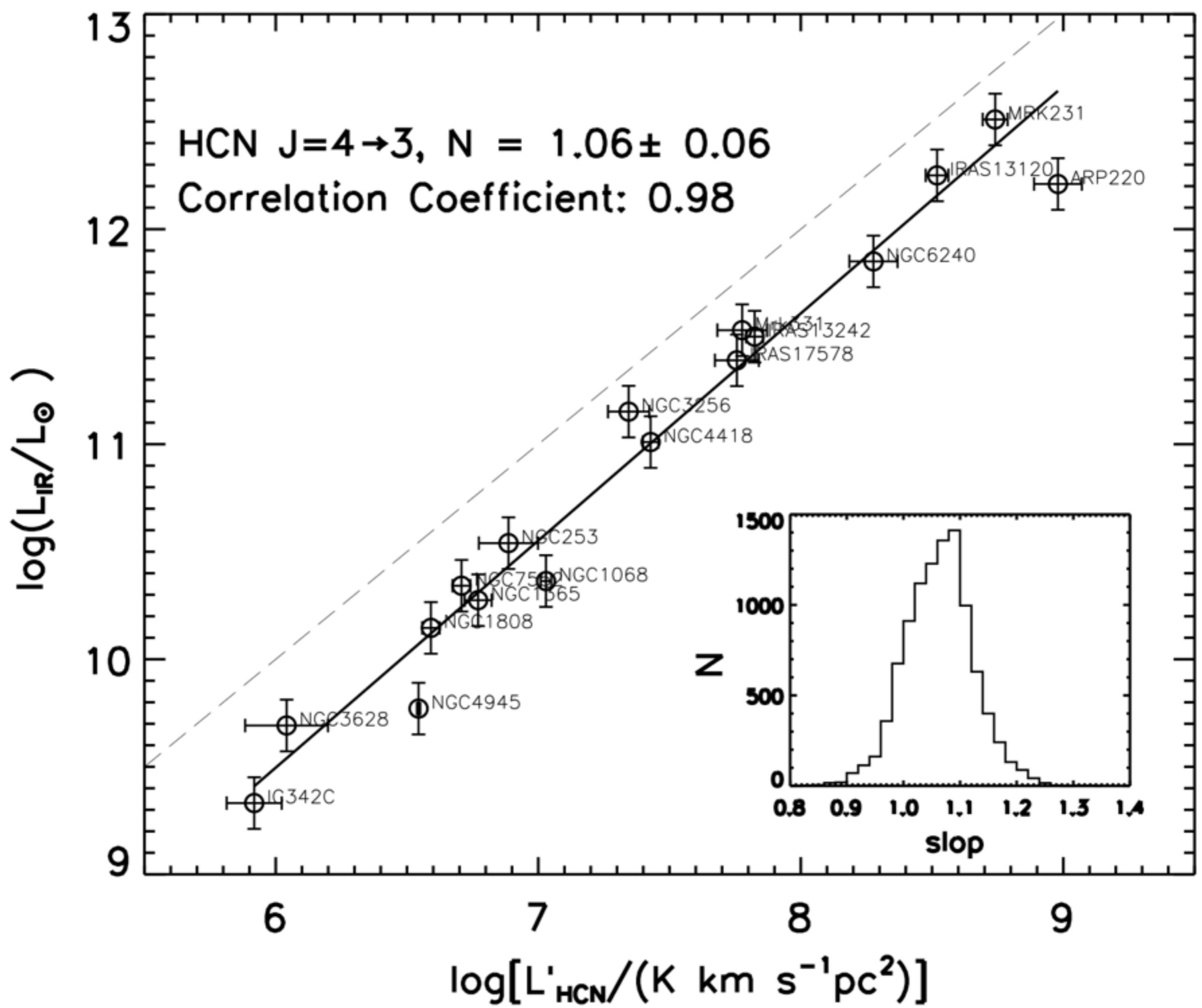
HCN, HCO+, CS, high-J CO etc.

Dense gas tracer: $n_{\text{crit}} > 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$



Except for abundance and excitation, molecular emissions can be influenced by:
radiative pumping, chemistry, electron density, shock dissociation, etc.

Molecule	Transitions	Frequency	E_{upper}	$n_{\text{crit}}(100 \text{ K})$	$A_{\text{ul}}/\Gamma_{\text{ul}}(100 \text{ K})$	$n_{\text{crit}}(20 \text{ K})$	$A_{\text{ul}}/\Gamma_{\text{ul}}(20 \text{ K})$
		J	(GHz)	(K)	(cm $^{-3}$)	(cm $^{-3}$)	(cm $^{-3}$)
CO	1→0	115.2711912	5.53	2.1×10 ²	2.1×10 ³	4.4×10 ²	2.2×10 ³
	2→1	230.5379938	16.60	1.9×10 ³	2.2×10 ⁴	3.6×10 ³	2.3×10 ⁴
	3→2	345.7959762	33.19	6.8×10 ³	4.0×10 ⁴	1.3×10 ⁴	3.5×10 ⁴
	4→3	461.0406784	55.32	1.6×10 ⁴	6.1×10 ⁵	3.0×10 ⁴	1.2×10 ⁶
	5→4	576.2679118	82.97	3.2×10 ⁴	2.4×10 ⁵	5.9×10 ⁴	2.4×10 ⁵
	6→5	691.4731878	116.16	5.4×10 ⁴	3.1×10 ⁵	1.0×10 ⁵	2.7×10 ⁵
	7→6	806.6514744	154.87	8.6×10 ⁴	7.3×10 ⁵	1.5×10 ⁵	1.1×10 ⁶
^{13}CO	1→0	110.20135428	5.29	1.8×10 ²	1.8×10 ³	3.7×10 ²	1.9×10 ³
	2→1	220.39868413	15.87	1.7×10 ³	1.9×10 ⁴	3.1×10 ³	2.0×10 ⁴
	3→2	330.58796522	31.73	5.9×10 ³	3.5×10 ⁴	1.1×10 ⁴	3.4×10 ⁴
C^{18}O	1→0	109.7821734	5.27	1.8×10 ²	1.9×10 ³	3.7×10 ²	1.9×10 ³
	2→1	219.5603541	15.81	1.7×10 ³	2.0×10 ⁴	3.1×10 ³	1.9×10 ⁴
	3→2	329.3305525	31.61	5.9×10 ³	3.0×10 ⁴	1.1×10 ⁴	3.4×10 ⁴
HCO^+	1→0	89.1885230	4.28	1.4×10 ⁴	2.3×10 ⁵	2.6×10 ⁴	1.8×10 ⁵
	2→1	178.3750650	12.84	1.4×10 ⁵	4.6×10 ⁶	2.6×10 ⁵	3.4×10 ⁶
	3→2	267.5576190	25.68	5.2×10 ⁶	4.2×10 ⁶	1.0×10 ⁶	4.0×10 ⁶
	4→3	356.7342880	42.80	1.3×10 ⁶	5.8×10 ⁷	2.5×10 ⁶	4.0×10 ⁷
CS	1→0	48.9909549	2.35	5.5×10 ³	6.2×10 ⁴	8.3×10 ³	4.7×10 ⁴
	2→1	97.9809533	7.05	5.3×10 ⁴	5.2×10 ⁵	7.9×10 ⁴	6.0×10 ⁵
	3→2	146.9690287	14.11	1.9×10 ⁵	1.4×10 ⁶	3.0×10 ⁵	1.1×10 ⁶
	4→3	195.9542109	23.51	4.8×10 ⁵	2.7×10 ⁶	7.7×10 ⁵	3.3×10 ⁷
	5→4	244.9355565	35.27	9.9×10 ⁵	6.1×10 ⁶	1.8×10 ⁶	7.5×10 ⁶
	6→5	293.9120865	49.37	1.7×10 ⁶	1.2×10 ⁷	3.1×10 ⁶	1.1×10 ⁷
	7→6	342.8828503	65.83	2.8×10 ⁶	1.8×10 ⁸	4.9×10 ⁶	2.8×10 ⁸



HCO^+ deficient in extreme conditions??

Higher slopes for HCO^+ (only) in galaxies.

Gracia' - Carpio et al. 2006, 2008; Imanishi et al. 2007

Linear in Galactic cores, e.g., Ma et al. 2013

HCO^+ is an **ionic molecule**.



High radiation fields in ULIRGs

X-ray / Cosmic Rays => high n(e)

Papadopoulos et al. 2007

Shock environment

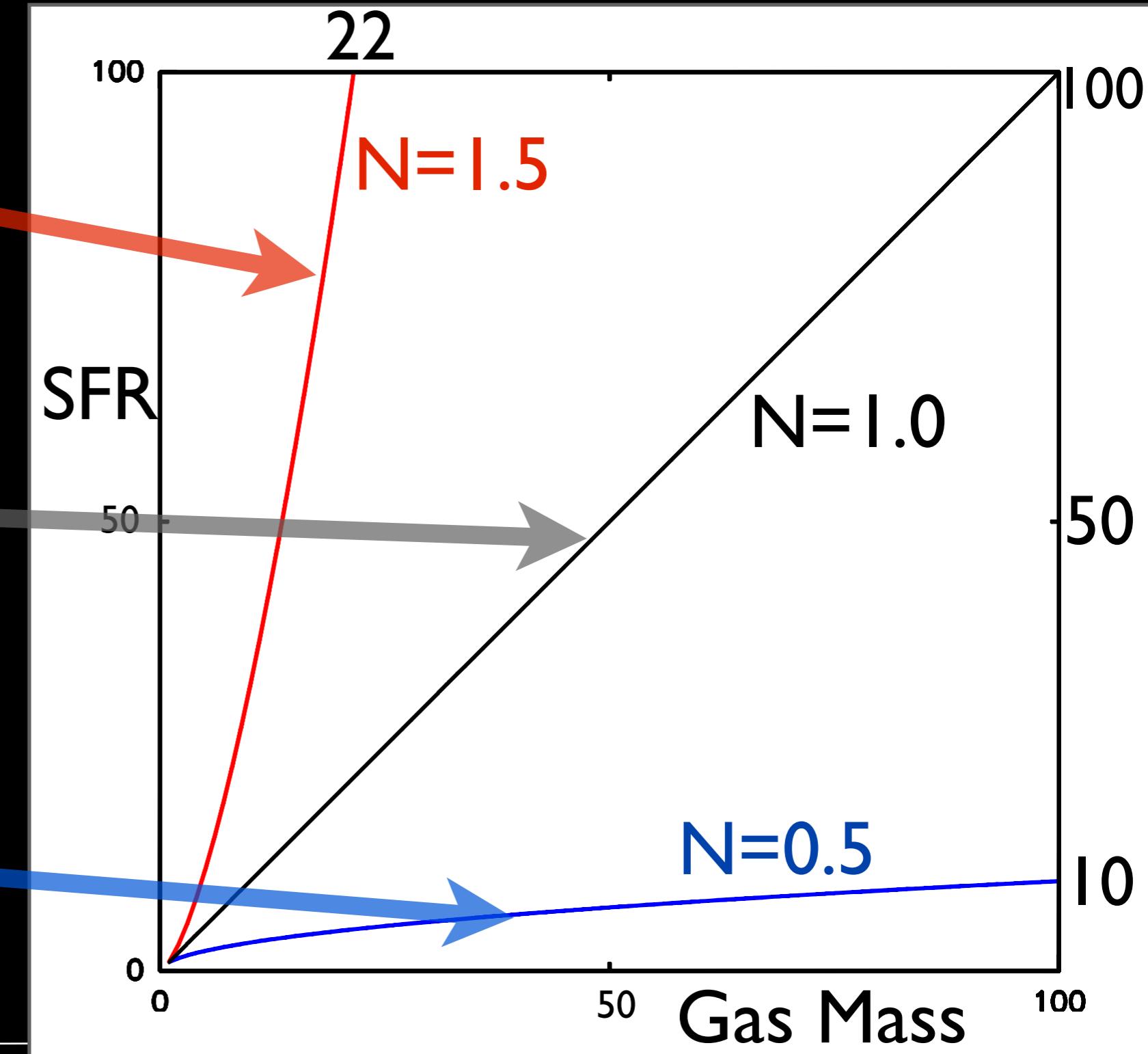
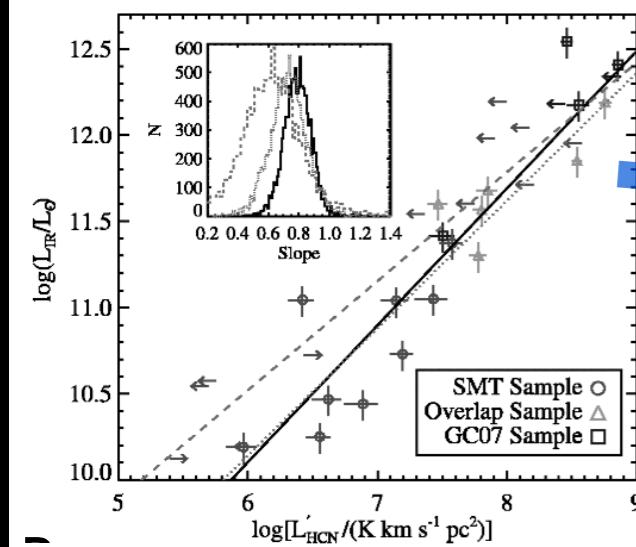
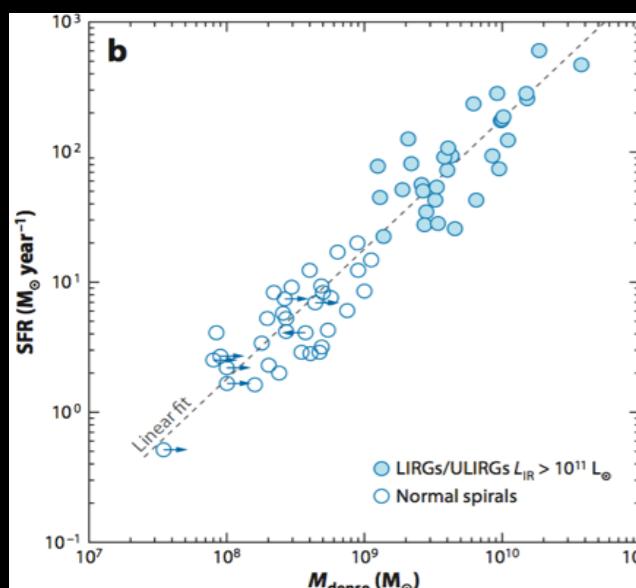
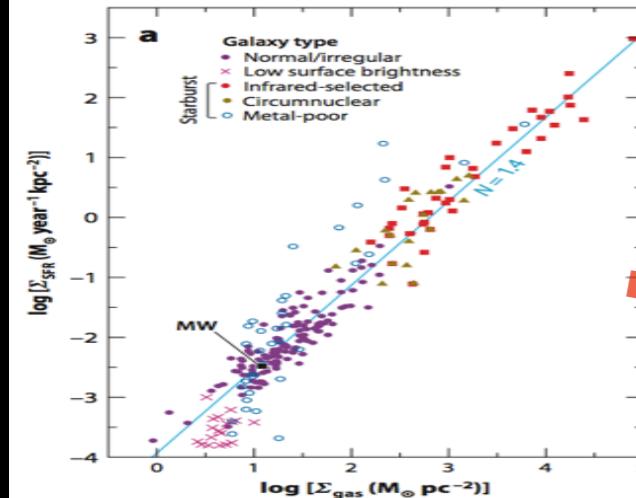
Shocks produce electron-rich outer layers

Xie et al. 1995

Why slopes matter?

Different SFE

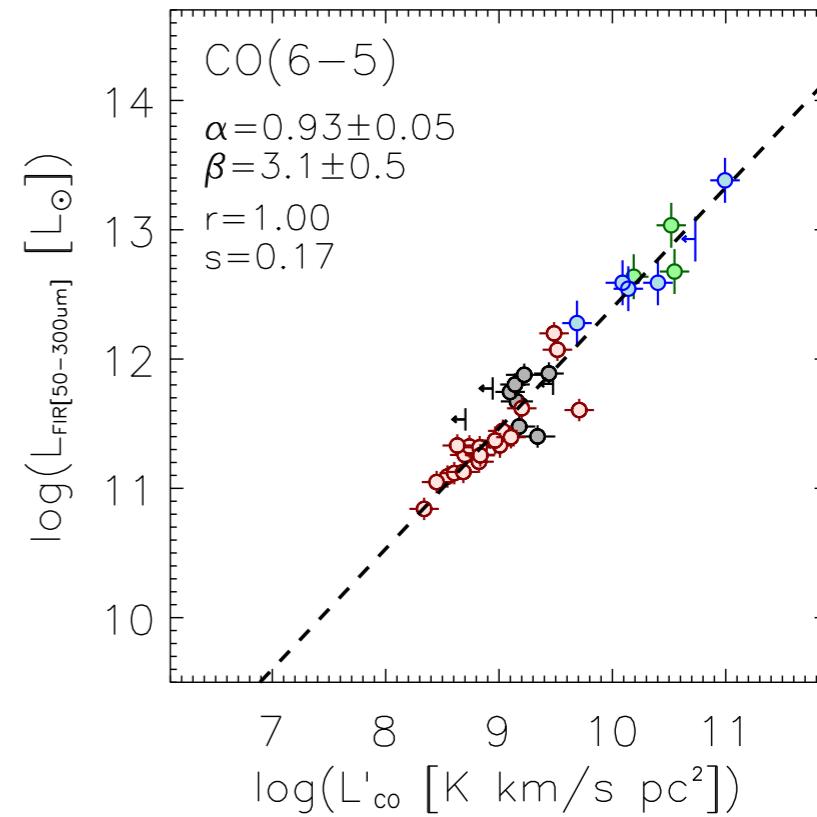
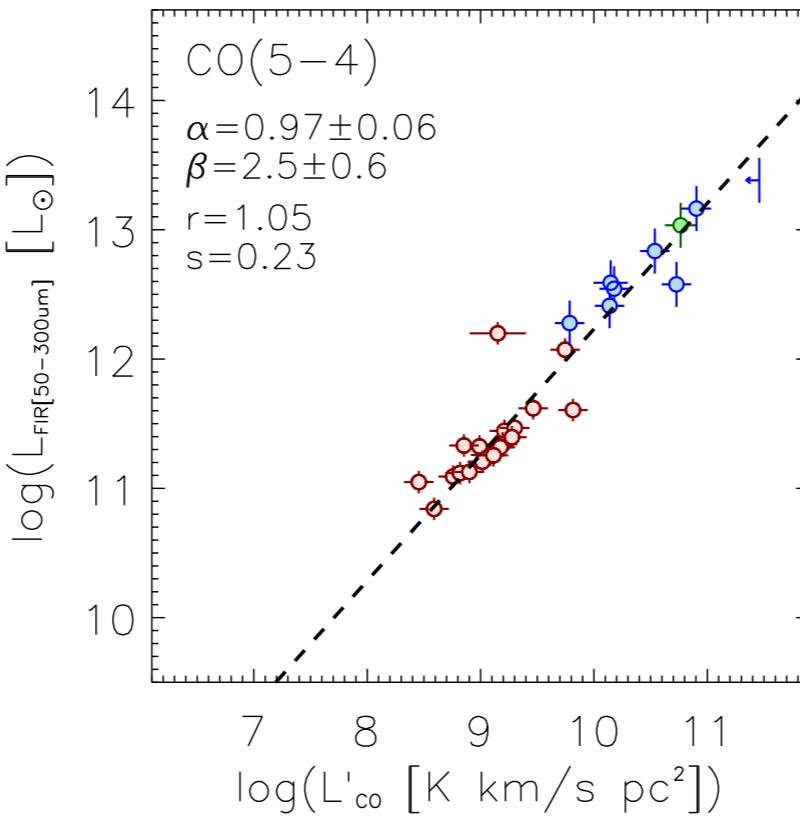
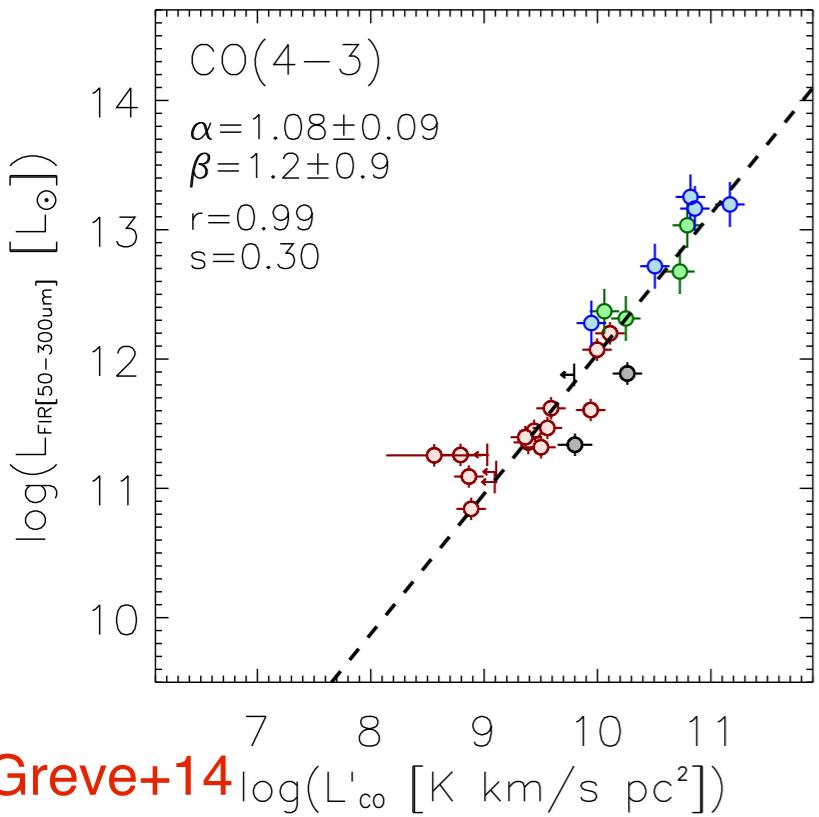
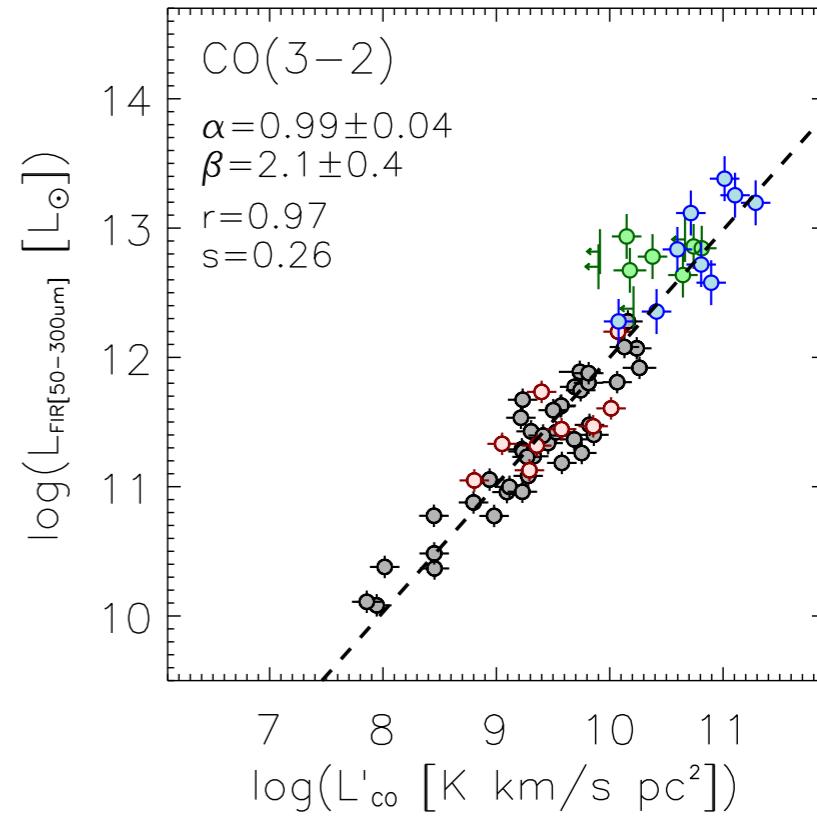
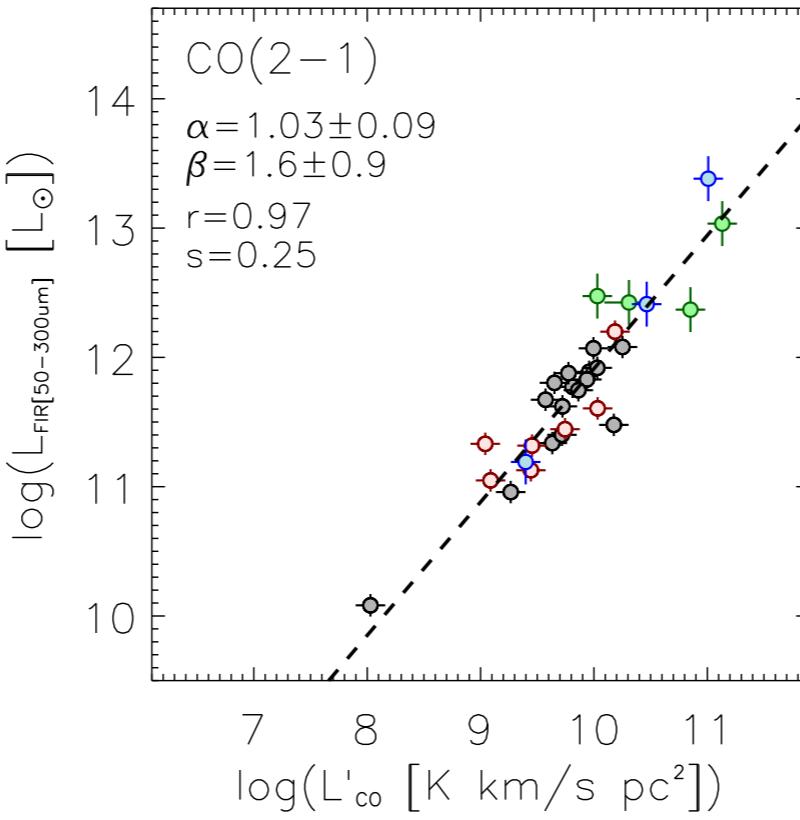
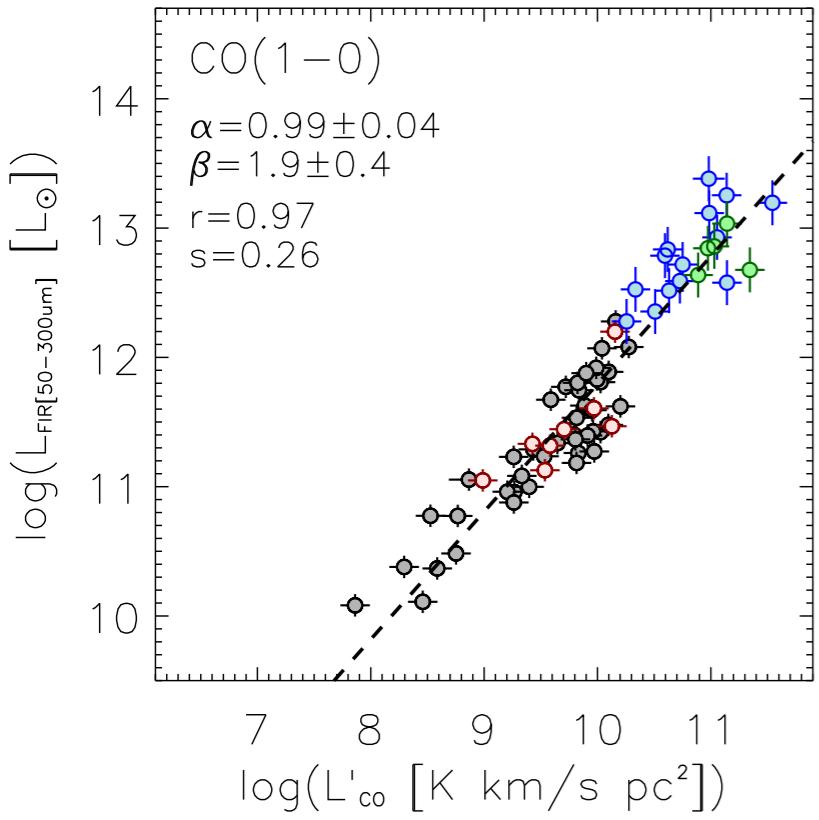
Which gases are forming stars?



L_{IR}-L_{co} relations

ULIRGs low/high-z

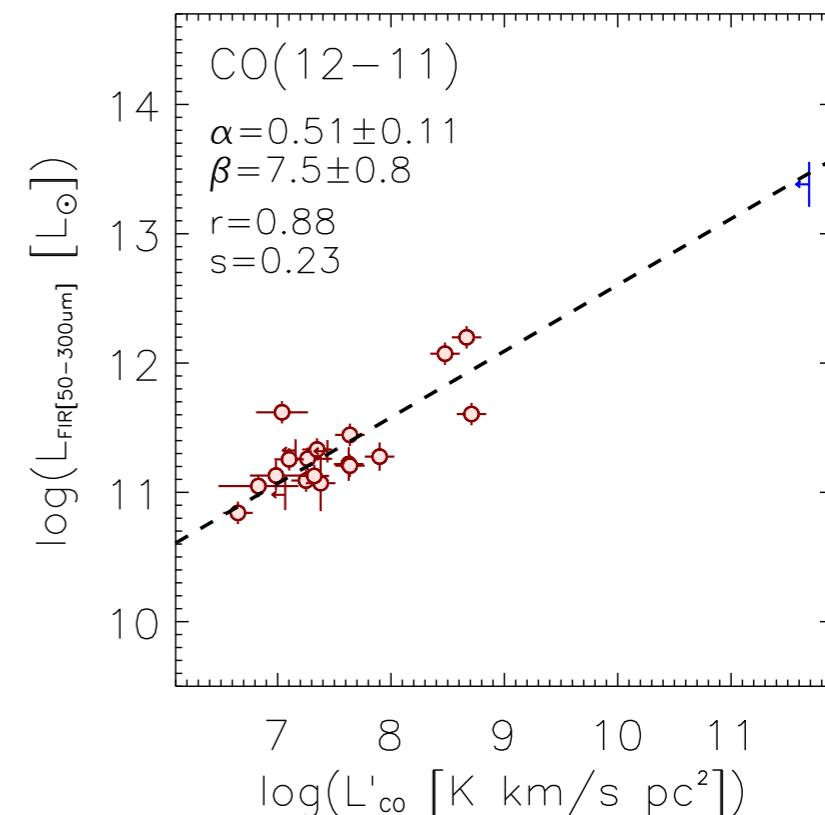
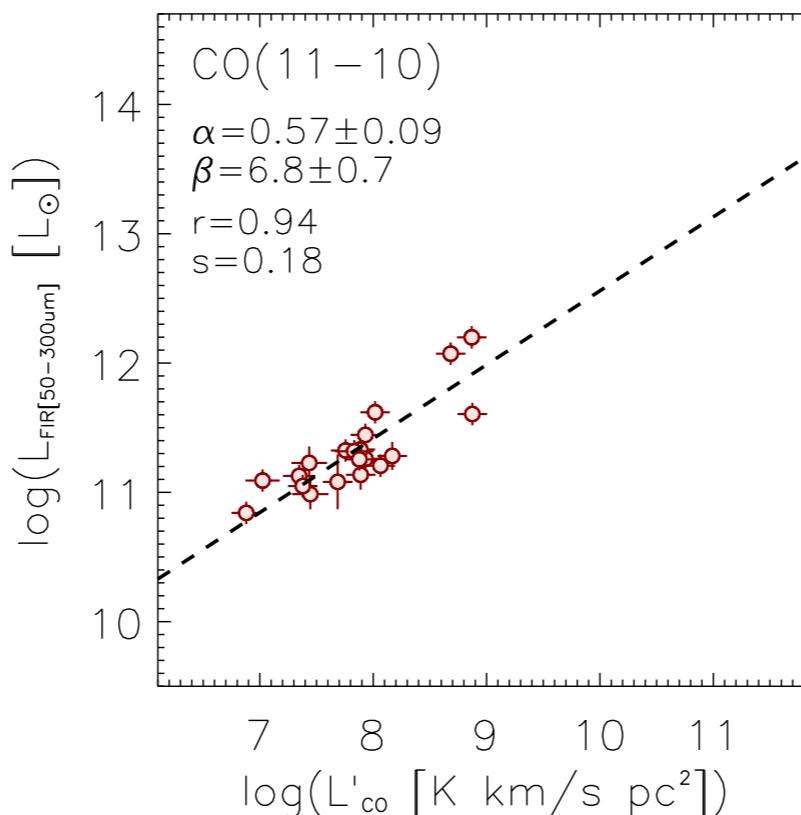
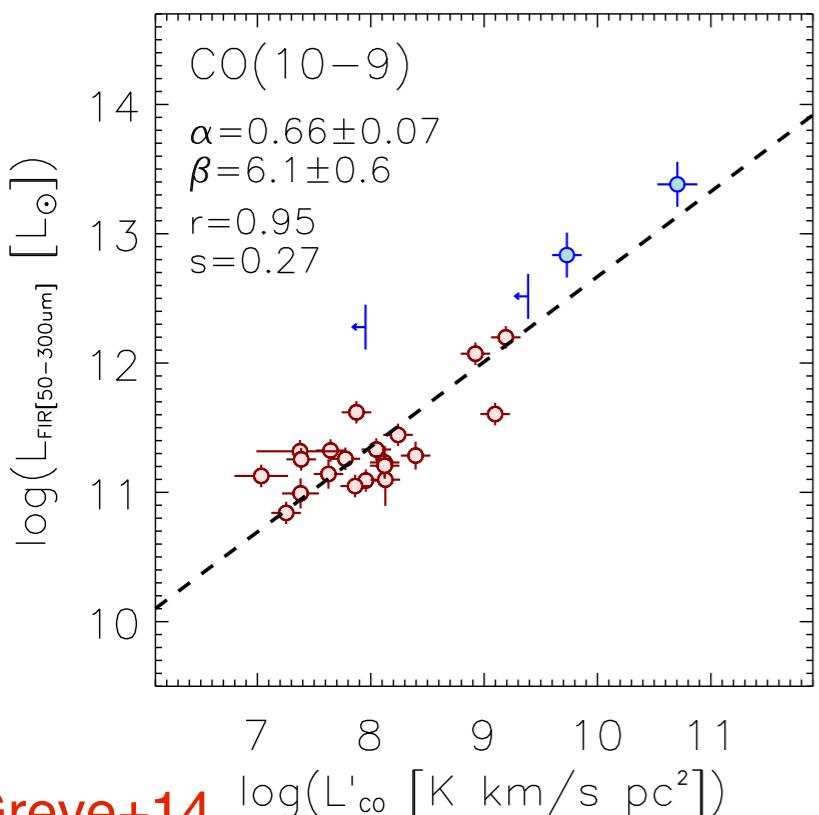
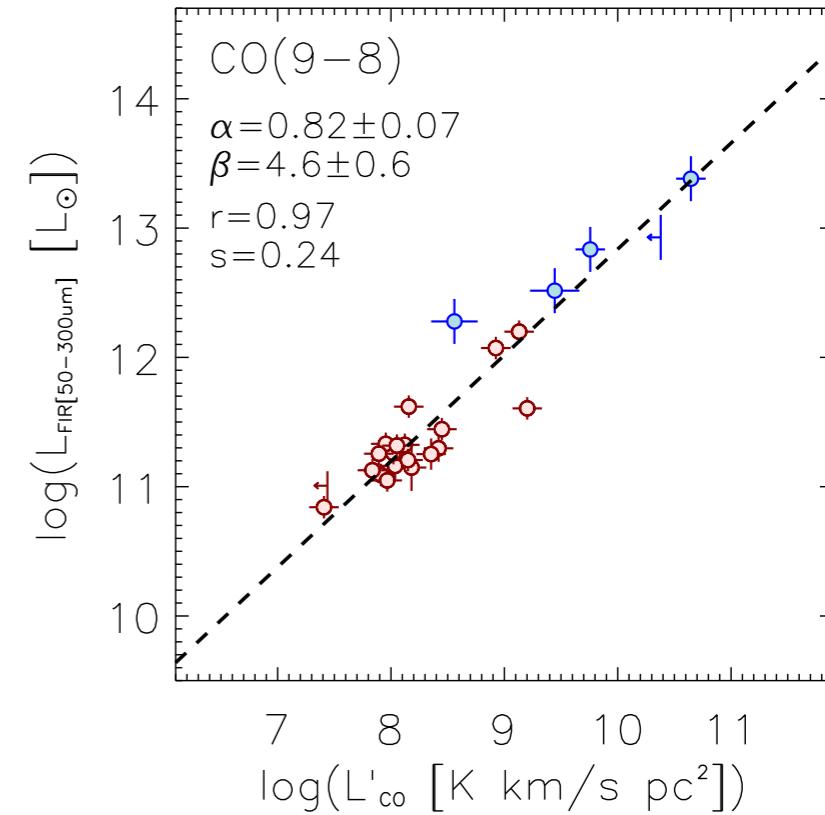
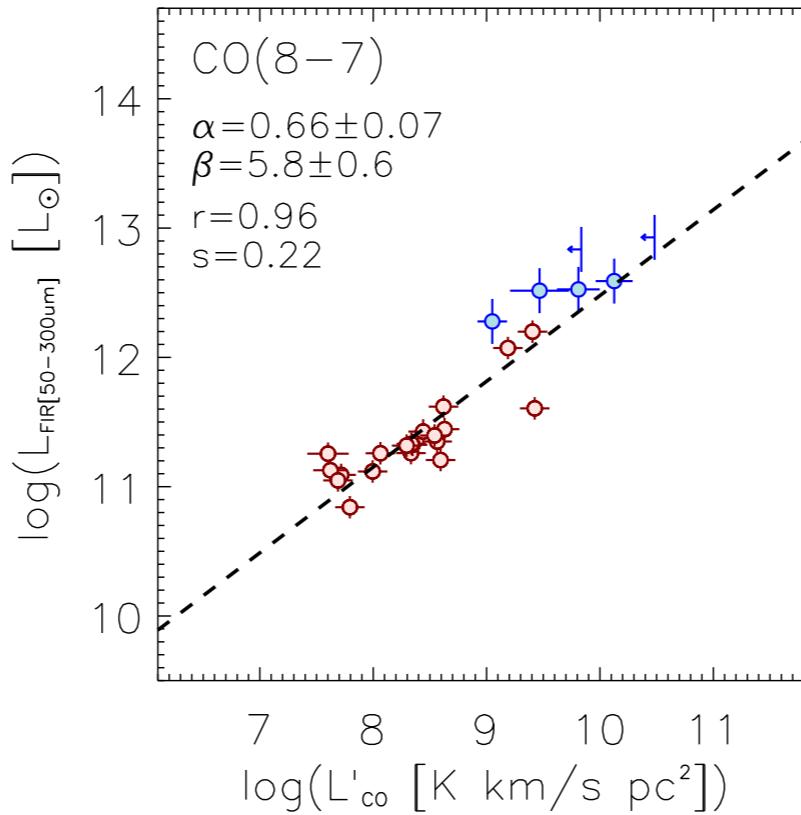
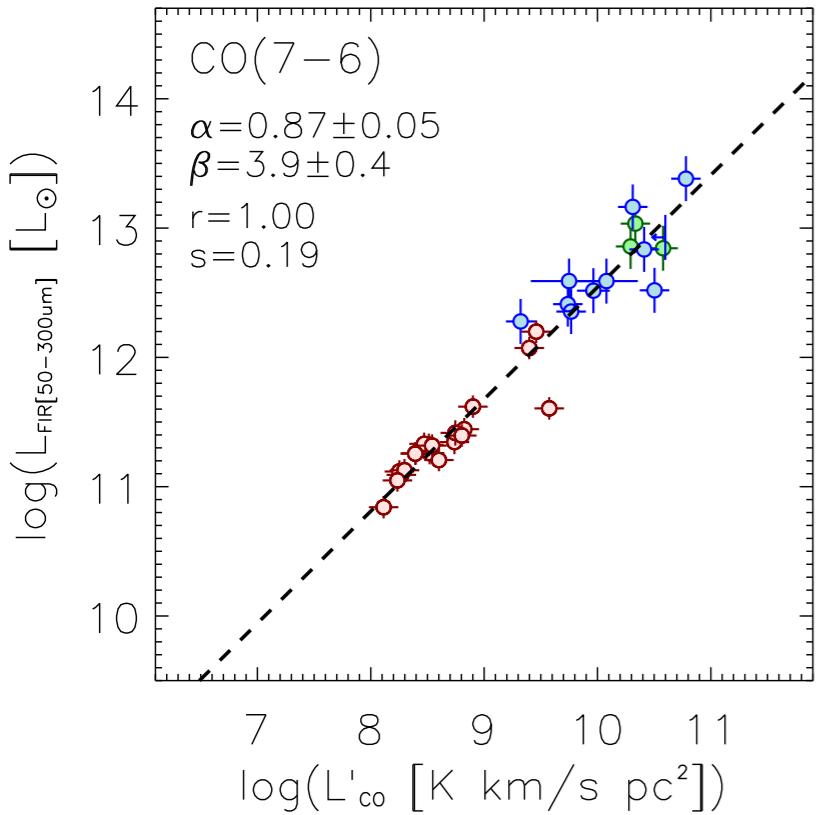
- z < 0.1 (U)LIRGs (HerCULES)
- z < 0.1 (U)LIRGs
- z > 1 DSFGs (unlensed)
- z > 1 DSFGs (lensed)



L_{IR}-L_{co} relations

ULIRGs low/high-z

○ z < 0.1 (U)LIRGs (HerCULES)
● z < 0.1 (U)LIRGs
● z > 1 DSFGs (unlensed)
● z > 1 DSFGs (lensed)

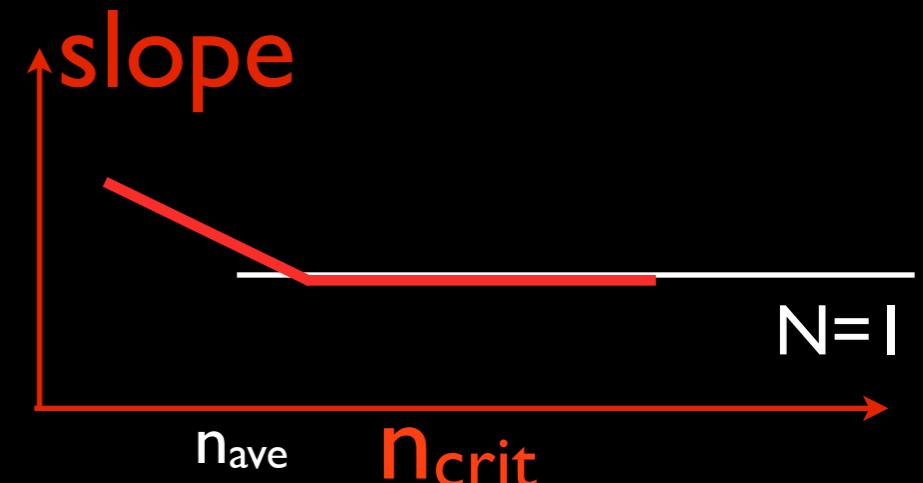


Theoretical works

1) Krumholz et al. (2007):

$n_{\text{crit}} < n_{\text{ave}}$: slope ~ 1.5 e.g., CO I-0

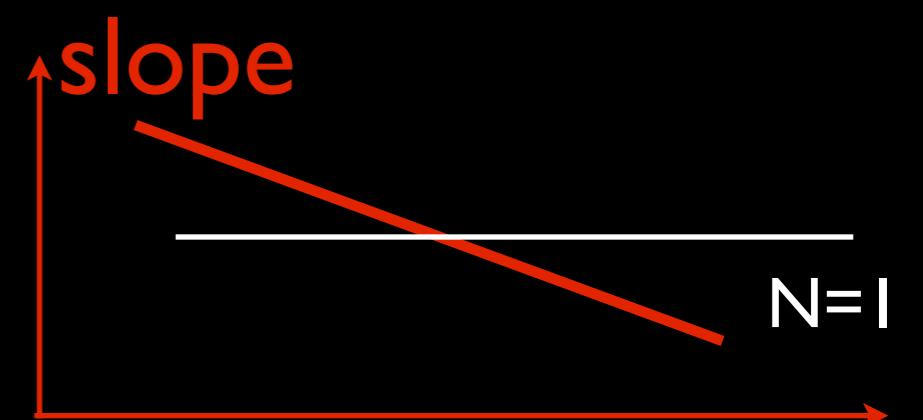
$n_{\text{crit}} > n_{\text{ave}}$: slope ~ 1 e.g., HCN I-0



2) Narayanan et al. (2008):

Sub-thermal excitation.

Slope decreases with n_{crit} .

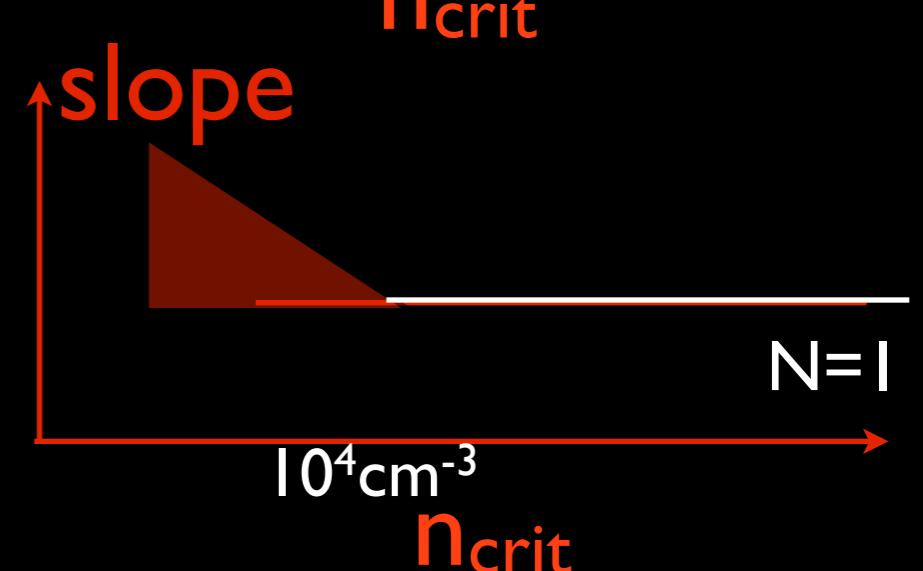


3) Lada et al. (2012):

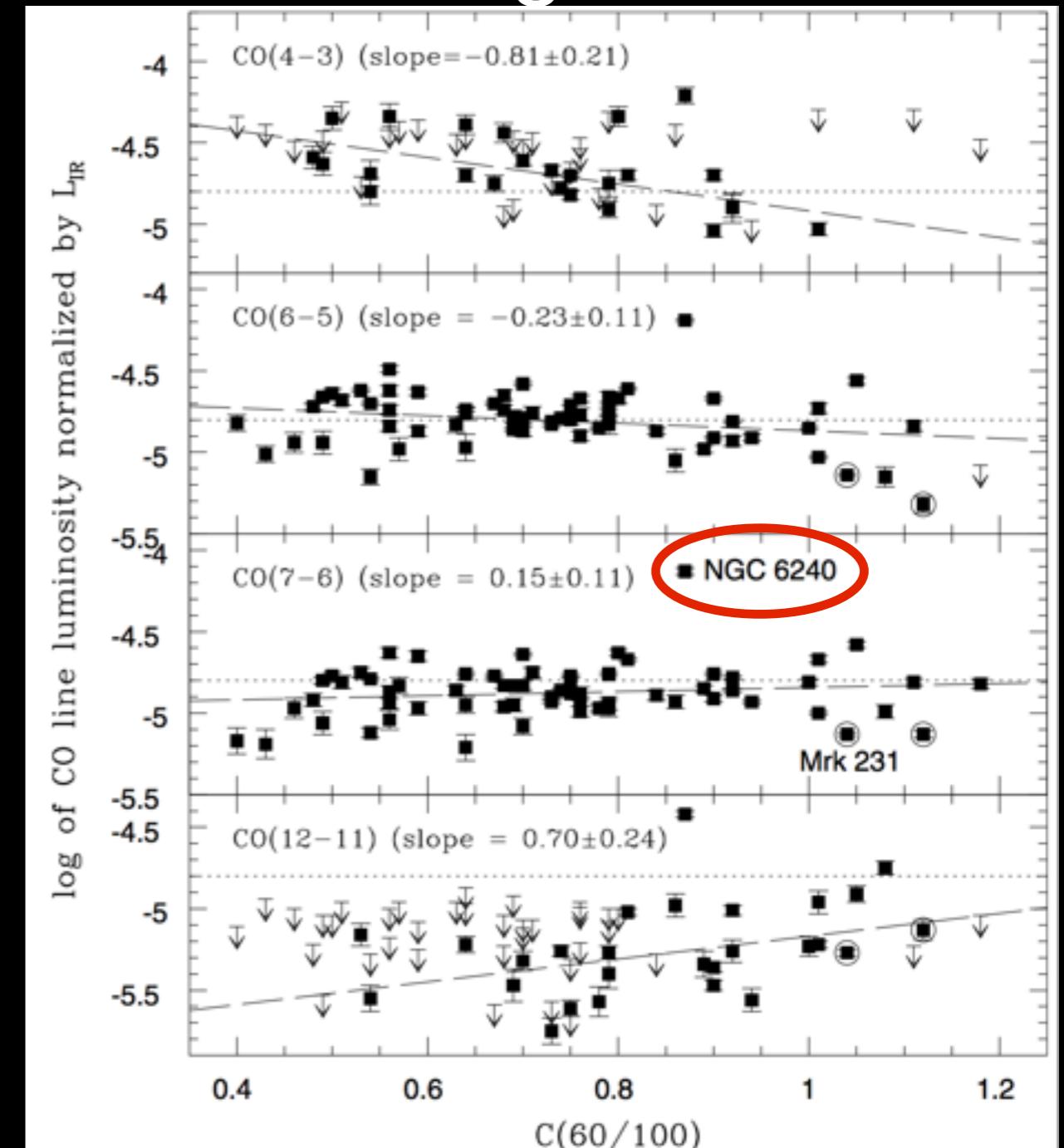
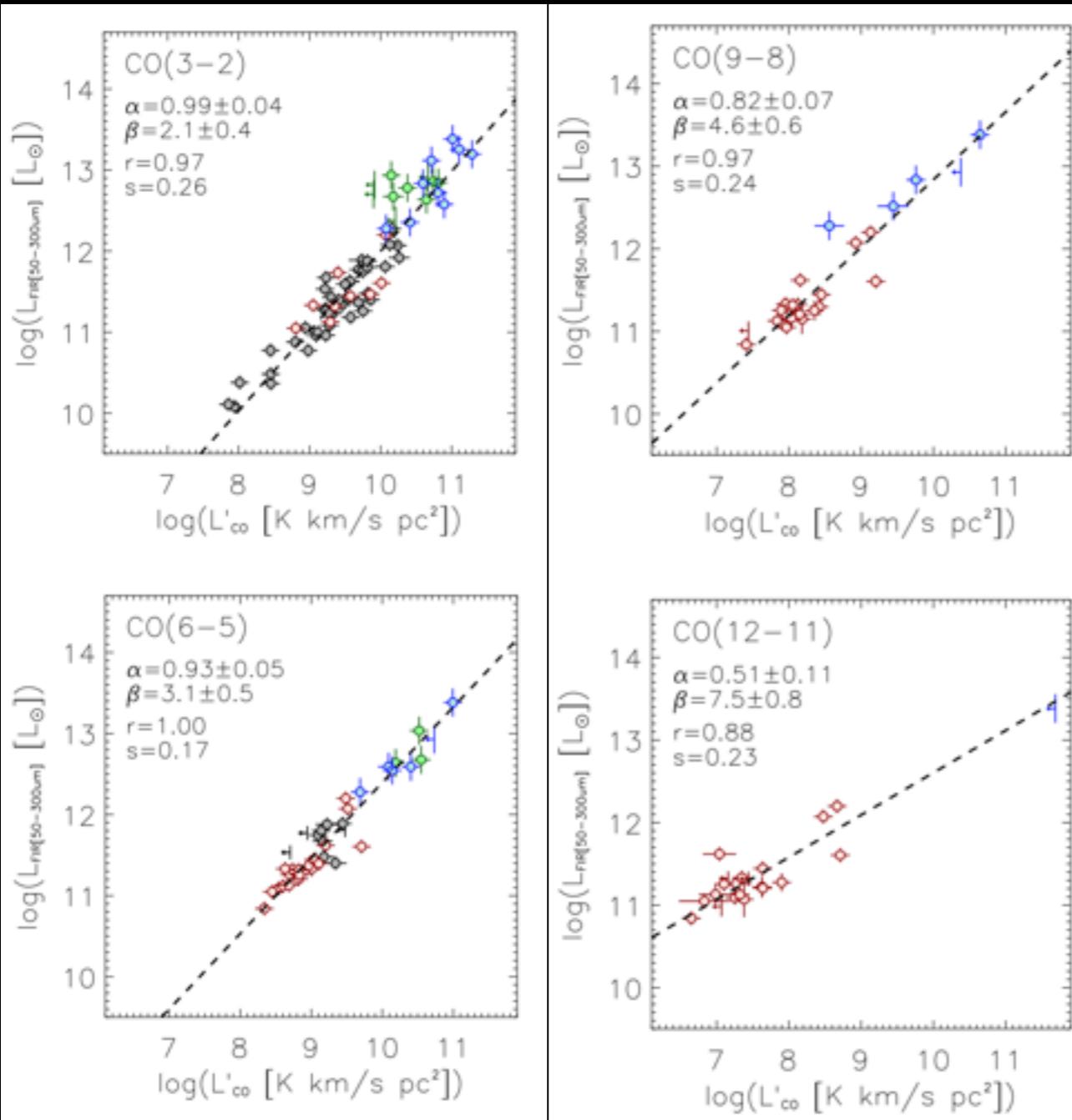
Linear slope for lines with $n_{\text{crit}} > 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

SFR is only related to M_{dense} .

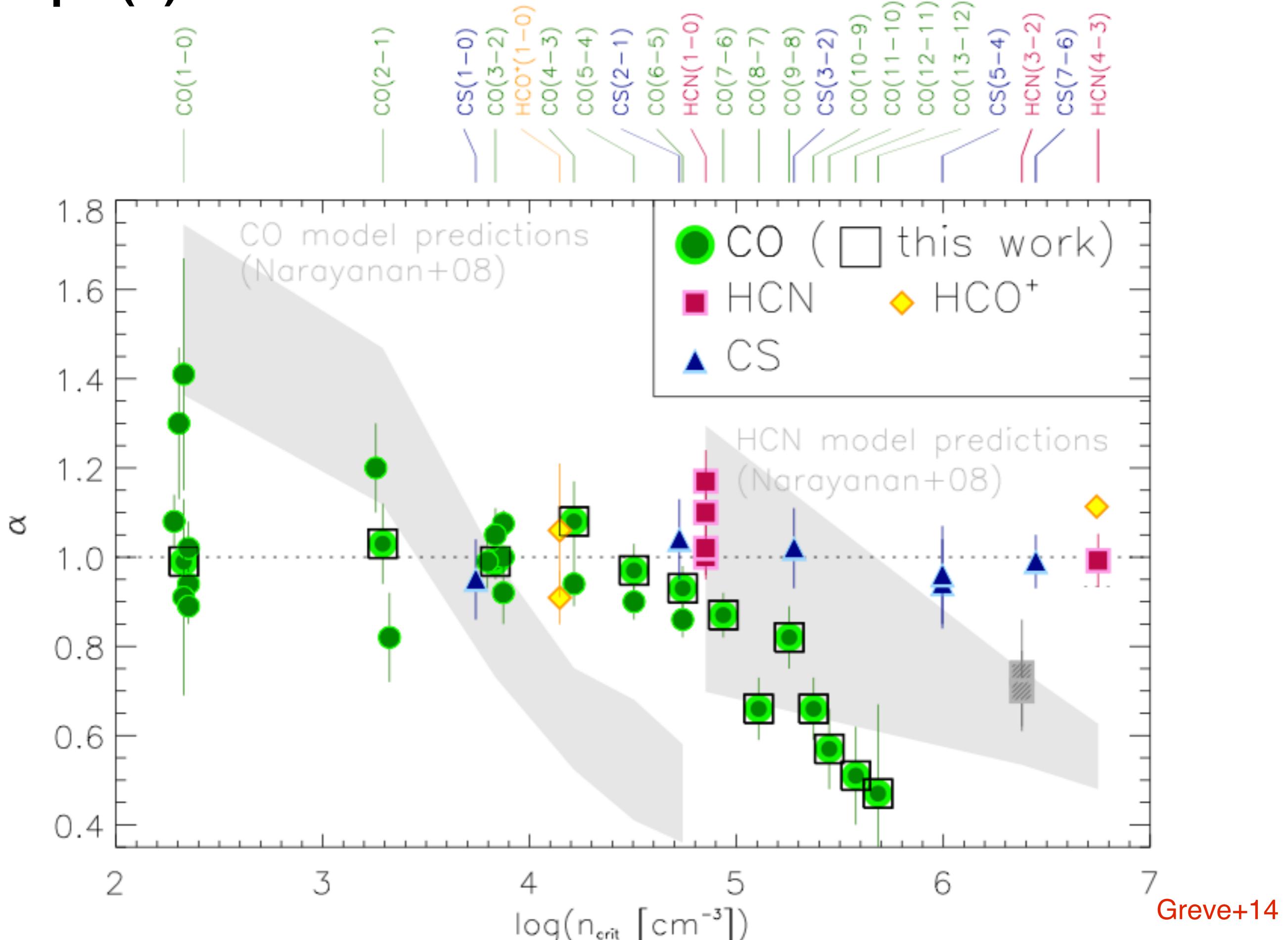
K-S law slope is related to M_{dense} fraction.



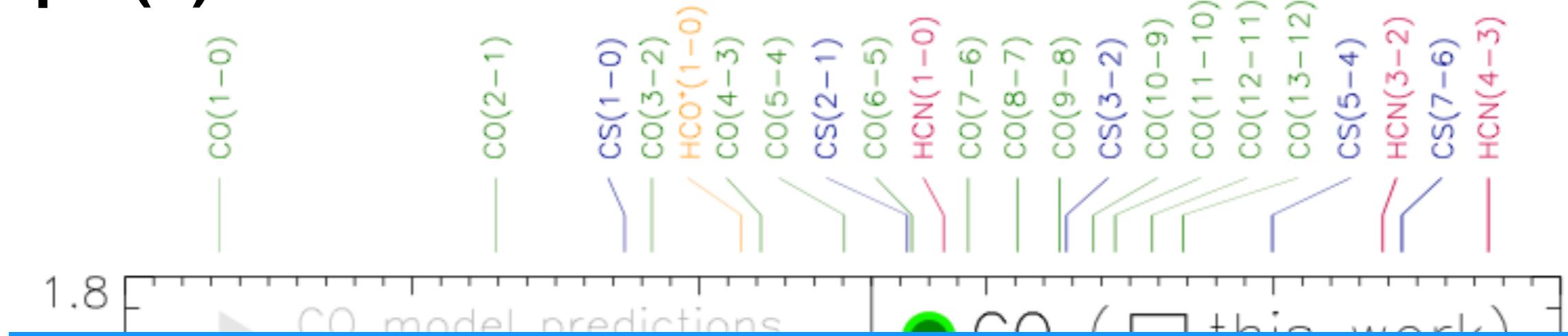
Low-J CO: gas not all forming stars.
 mid-&high-J CO: Mid-J CO: star forming gas.
 High-J CO: extra heating mechanism.



Slope (α) vs. J



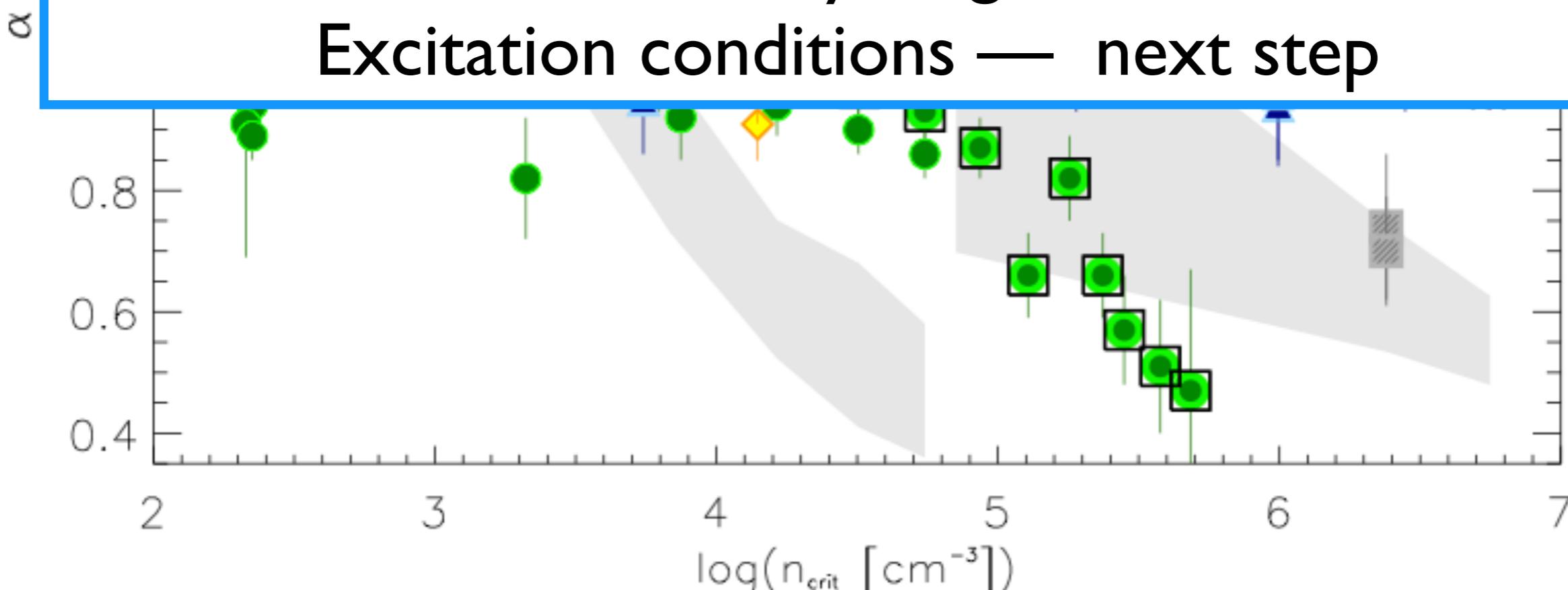
Slope (α) vs. J



Dense and cold gas tracers have linear correlations irrespective to n_{crit} .

This is valid universally over 8 orders of luminosity magnitudes.

Excitation conditions — next step





- HerCULES sample
- Full CO ladders (from J=1-0 to 13-12)
- ^{13}CO ladders
- Multiple molecules (HCN/HCO+/CS/etc.)
- Multiple transitions

**The most complete dataset of dense gas tracers
in nearby U/LIRGs.**

Manolis Xilouris
Ioanna Leonidaki
Padelis Papadopoulos
Paul van der Werf
Thomas Greve
Zhi-Yu Zhang
Panos Boumis
Alceste Bonanos