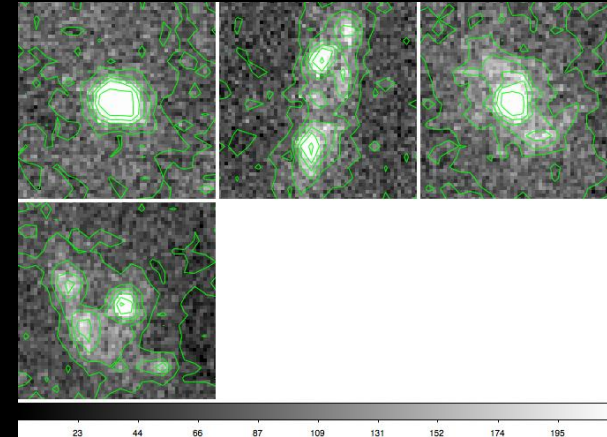
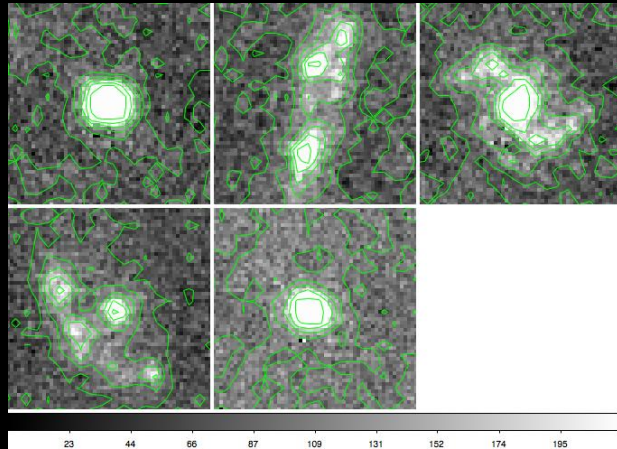




# Morphologies and SFR of the Circumnuclear Regions of 5 Local LIRGs

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Investigating the role of dust-obscured star formation in the circumnuclear region.

5 local LIRGs chosen based on redshift ( $<.03$ ), RA and Dec, and IRAS 12micron flux ( $>250\text{mJy}$ )  
Took data in 2 filters, 12.81 microns and 13.01 microns (on-line and continuum)

Using [Nell]12.8microns as a tracer of star formation (Ho and Keto 2007)

VLT images with VISIR instrument, giving us 1.5-3 kpc fields with  $\sim 100\text{pc}$  resolution

Morphological variation: extended vs compact objects, one “mini-spiral”

[Nell] line images give upper limits on SFR (AGN contribution to [Nell] unknown)

Further work to focus on comparisons to Spitzer IRAS integrated spectra and HST NICMOS images

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