

**$^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  OBSERVATIONS OF BARRED GALAXIES WITH INTENSE FIR EMISSION**J.I. Harnett<sup>1)</sup>, N. Loiseau<sup>2)</sup>, H.P. Reuter<sup>3)</sup><sup>1)</sup>University of Sydney, Australia<sup>2)</sup>Instituto de Pesquisas Espaciais, Brazil<sup>3)</sup>Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie, Alemanha Federal

**RESUMEN.** Se observó la línea  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  con el nuevo radiotelescopio SEST de La Silla, Chile, en una muestra de galaxias espirales barreadas con intensa emisión en el infrarojo lejano, con el fin de estudiar la dinámica del gas molecular en relación al fenómeno de barras y al incremento de la actividad nuclear. La línea  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  fue detectada en cinco de las seis galaxias observadas.

**ABSTRACT.** We have used the new 15 m SEST telescope at La Silla, Chile, to observe the  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  emission from a sample of barred spiral galaxies with intense FIR emission, in order to study the molecular gas dynamics in relation to the bar phenomena and the enhanced nuclear activity. The  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  line was detected in five of the six galaxies observed.

*Key words:* GALAXIES-BARRED — INTERSTELLAR-MOLECULES

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Recent studies reveal that extreme cases of 'starburst' galaxies, in the absence of interaction, occur nearly always in barred spiral systems (e.g. Hawarden et al., 1986). On the other hand theoretical studies show that bars provide an efficient mechanism of transport of gas from the disc into the active starforming nuclear region (Combes and Gerin, 1987).

The rotation velocity of the bar with respect to the galaxy rotation, and the dynamics of the gas inside the bar would determine the kind of activity of the galaxies: 'starbursts' or AGNs (Arsenault 1989).

On the other hand outflows of gas into the halo have been detected in some galaxies with intense nuclear activity (NGC 1365, Edmunds et al., 1988; M82, Loiseau et al., 1989).

**2. SAMPLE SELECTION AND OBSERVATIONS**

We selected a sample of barred spiral galaxies with 100  $\mu\text{m}$  flux densities greater than 30 Jy from the IRAS catalogue (1985). The high FIR flux density is an indication of the high activity that we intend to correlate with the molecular gas inflow and, on the other hand, it grants the detection of the line in view of the well established correlation between  $^{12}\text{CO}$  and FIR apparent luminosities (e.g. Young et al., 1985). We selected galaxies south of declination  $-25^\circ$  which cannot be properly observed from the Northern Hemisphere. From this sample we selected galaxies with inclination between  $40^\circ$  and  $75^\circ$ . In galaxies with larger inclinations the emission from bars and spiral arms can be confused, whereas in nearly face-on galaxies streaming motions cannot be detected.

The galaxies observed are N986, N1385, N4835, N6215, N6221 and N7582. Observations were done during 1988, July 17 to 21, with the new 15 m Swedish-ESO-Submillimeter Telescope

(SEST, Booth et al., 1989) at La Silla, Chile. At the frequency of the  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  line ( $\lambda 2.6$  mm) the half power beam width (HPBW) is 43 arcsec. A typical system temperature was 850 K including atmospheric noise and extinction. The backend was a wide-band AOS with 1700 channels spaced 690 kHz ( $1.8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  at  $\lambda 2.6$  mm). Due to technical problems in this first public period of SEST observations, we could not observe all the points that we planned.

### III. RESULTS

The CLASS package of programs was used to reduce the data. Straight line baselines were removed and the data were Hanning smoothed.

The derived parameters for the observed galaxies are listed in Table 1 and discussed individually below.

Table 1. Derived parameters of the observed galaxies.

NGC	Points Obs.	$V_{\text{hel}}$ $\text{km s}^{-1}$	$\Delta V$ $\text{km s}^{-1}$	Res $\text{km s}^{-1}$	$T_A^*$ mK	$\sigma$ mK	$I_{\text{CO}}$ $\text{K km s}^{-1}$	$N_{\text{H}_2}$ $\text{H}_2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$
0986	1	2004	100	7.2	18.	13.	1.5	$6.0 \cdot 10^{20}$
1385	5	1484	102	7.2	49.	9.5	4.5	$1.8 \cdot 10^{21}$
4835	4	2196	-	14.4	<18.	9.1	<1.8	$<7.2 \cdot 10^{20}$
6215	1	1567	50	7.2	132.	19.	7.1	$2.8 \cdot 10^{21}$
6221	9	1486	190	3.6	85.	14.	20.0	$8.0 \cdot 10^{21}$
7582	7	1600	280	3.6	131.	15.	38.4	$1.54 \cdot 10^{22}$

#### Notes to Table 1

- For NGC 4835 the value of  $V_{\text{hel}}$  is from Huchtmeier et al. (1983) as the galaxy was not detected.
- $T_A^*$  is the peak temperature at the central position.
- $I_{\text{CO}}$  is the intensity of the emission at the central position.
- Values of  $N_{\text{H}_2}$  are calculated assuming a constant conversion factor of  $N_{\text{H}_2}/I_{\text{CO}} = (4 \pm 2) \cdot 10^{20} \text{ (H}_2 \text{ cm}^{-2}/\text{K km s}^{-1})$ .

**NGC 986.** In NGC 986, classified SB(r)ab (de Vaucouleurs et al., 1976; RC2), intense star formation is taking place at the ends of the bar where the spiral arms begin. We have obtained useable data for one point at the position of the optical nucleus.

**NGC 1385.** The nucleus of this SB(s)cd galaxy (RC2) is rich in stars of age comparable to or less than 100 Myr (Frogel, 1985), which implies a recent burst of star formation. We observed five points in a cross on a 40 arcsec grid, along the bar and perpendicular to it. The central profile, as for the other galaxies, is less noisy because it was observed often as a pointing accuracy check. The  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  emission is stronger along the bar (p.a.  $101^\circ$ ). The spectrum 40 arcsec to the west is the widest one, probably formed by more than one component.

**NGC 4835.** This strong IRAS source is classified as SAB(rs)bc in the RC2. We did not detect the  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  line towards four points observed in this galaxy. In Table 1 upper limits are given.

**NGC 6215.** The central profile obtained for the SA(s)c (RC2) galaxy NGC 6215 presents a strong  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  line. Being this galaxy non-barred, the enhancement of the line could be related to the interaction with NGC 6221 and NGC 6300, with which it forms a group. As NGC 6215 has an almost face-on inclination of  $38^\circ$ , the narrow profile width of  $50 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  is not surprising.

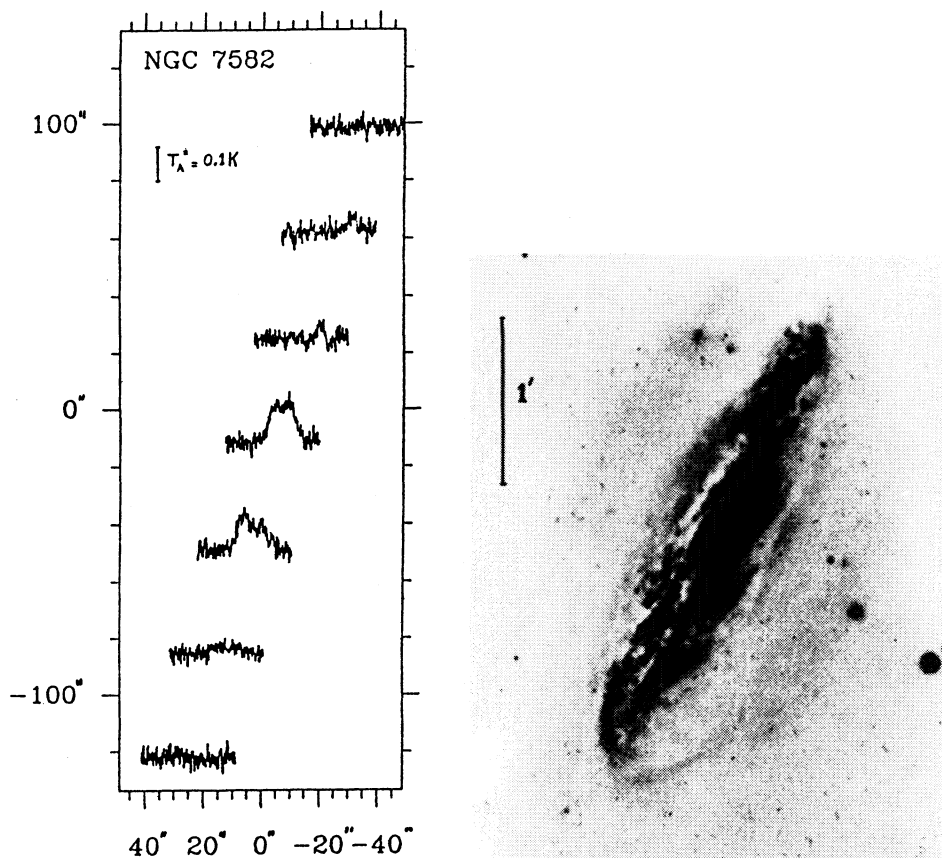
**6221.** This galaxy, classified as SB(s)c (RC2), belongs to a small group together with NGC 6300. It has a small bright nucleus with properties akin to both a weak Seyfert 2 and an HII region (Boisson and Durret, 1986). It has also been identified with a fairly strong X-ray source (Marshall et al., 1979).

We observed nine points of a grid aligned with the bar (p.a.  $118^\circ$ ). The profiles along the bar, as in the case of NGC 1385, are wider than the ones outside the bar. The high signal-to-noise central profile shows at least two components. The profile 40 arcsec to the east, where there are prominent dust lanes, is stronger than the western one.

NGC 6221 is being mapped with better resolution in the  $^{12}\text{CO}(2-1)$  transition with SEST telescope.

**7582.** This SB(s)ab (RC2) galaxy belongs to the Grus group and has a prominent bar which appears very dusty (Fig. 1b). This Seyfert 2 galaxy shows a high ionization region associated with non-thermal ionization and low excitation gas related to a starburst region. (Ward et al., 1987).  $\text{H}\alpha$  observations show quite large deviations from axisymmetric flows along the bar and a completely different nuclear velocity field (Morris et al., 1985).

As expected we detected significant  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  emission along the bar out to a distance of 80 arcsec from the nucleus, in both directions (Fig. 1a). The rotation velocity of the bar, with  $v_{\text{rot}}(\text{max}) \sim 150 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  is in very good agreement with the  $\text{H}\alpha$  values of Morris et al. (1985). The two separate components in the centre show that the rotation curve becomes continuous in the central region. This is also consistent with the  $\text{H}\alpha$  data which show a rapidly rotating disc inside a  $\sim 5$  arcsec radius. Moreover, OIII line observations indicate a bipolar outflow of highly ionized gas out of the plane of the galaxy.



**Fig. 1a)**  $^{12}\text{CO}(1-0)$  spectra along the bar of N7582. The velocity range is  $1000 \leq v_{\text{hel}} \leq 2000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . **b)** AAT prime focus unsharp masked plate of N7582 made by Morris et al. (1985) (Courtesy of the Royal Astronomical Society). North is to the top and East to the left.

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