

# The Ying and Yang of the M 83 Nucleus

Damián Mast<sup>1</sup>, Rubén J. Díaz<sup>2</sup>, Horacio A. Dottori<sup>3</sup>,  
María P. Agüero<sup>4</sup>, Irapuán Rodrigues<sup>5</sup>,  
and Juan F. Albacete-Colombo<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (IAA/CSIC), 18008 Granada, Spain

<sup>2</sup>Gemini Observatory, AURA, 950 N Cherry Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719

<sup>3</sup>Instituto de Física – Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre, Brazil

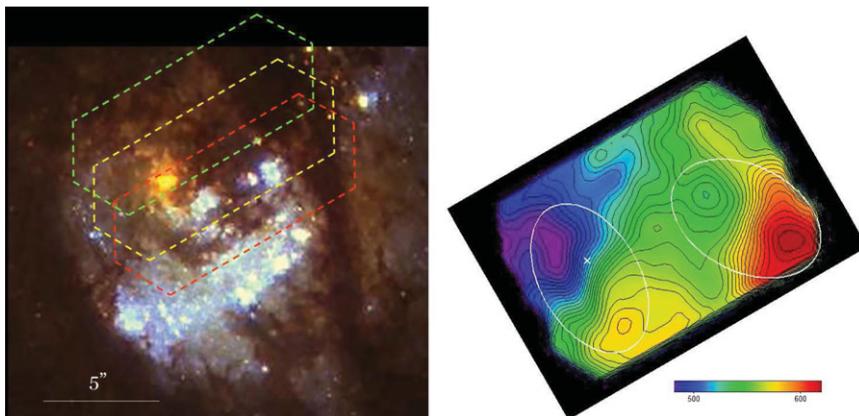
<sup>4</sup>Observatorio Astronómico de Córdoba, 5000 Córdoba, Argentina

<sup>5</sup>Universidade do Vale do Paraíba, UNIVAP, São José dos Campos, SP, Brazil

<sup>6</sup>Universidad del Comahue, Viedma, CP8500 Rio Negro, Argentina

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The spiral galaxy M 83, an SB(rs)b at only 4.5 Mpc, is a privileged case for study of the detailed physics on spatial scales of a tenth of a parsec. With 3-D spectroscopic observations using CIRPASS on Gemini-S, we studied the ionized gas properties in  $J$ -band with spatial resolution of  $0''.5$  (Figure 1). The Pa $\beta$  velocity field shows two dynamical centers, neither of them coincident with the bulge center, identified with the optical nucleus (ON) and the hidden nucleus (HN), with masses, within a radius of 10 pc, of  $M_{ON} = (1.8 \pm 0.4) \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$  and  $M_{HN} = (1.0 \pm 0.4) \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$ . Using the Pa $\beta$  equivalent width together with population synthesis models, we are able to estimate the ages of both mass concentrations,  $T_{ON} = 8$  Myr and  $T_{HN} = 6-7$  Myr. Adding complexity to this puzzling scenario, we used GMOS+Gemini imaging and spectroscopy to study the radio source J133658.3–295105 (Dottori *et al.* 2008) and find that H $\alpha$  emission at the position of this source is redshifted by  $\sim 130$  km s<sup>-1</sup> with respect to an M 83 H II region, leading us to face the possibility of that we are witnessing the ejection of an object by gravitational recoil from the M 83 nucleus. A fit to the X-ray spectrum obtained *Chandra* supports the association between this source and the disk of M 83 by the presence of the Fe K $\alpha$  line at 6.7 keV.



**Figure 1.** *Left:* The nuclear region of M 83 with the three CIRPASS fields superimposed (PA  $120^\circ$ ). North is up. *Right:* The Pa $\beta$  radial velocity field. The isovelocity contours are traced each  $5$  km s<sup>-1</sup>. Two ellipses mark regions where disk-like rotation around a mass concentration is detected. A cross marks the position of the optical nucleus. The scale is in km s<sup>-1</sup>.

## Reference

Dottori, H., Díaz, R., & Mast, D. 2008, *AJ*, 136, 2468