

Herschel/HIFI Observations of Extra-Ordinary Sources:
The physical and chemical structure of the Orion Bar

Zsolia Nagy (nagy@ph1.uni-koeln.de)¹; Volker Ossenkopf¹; Floris van der Tak^{2,3}; Yunhee Choi^{2,3}; Edwin Bergin⁴; Maryvonne Gerin⁵; Christine Joblin^{6,7}; Markus Röllig¹; Robert Simon¹; and Jürgen Stutzki¹

¹I. Physikalisches Institut, Universität zu Köln, Germany

²Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, University of Groningen, Netherlands

³SRON Netherlands Institute for Space Research, Netherlands

⁴University of Michigan, USA

⁵Observatoire de Paris, École Normale Supérieure, France

⁶Université de Toulouse, France

⁷CNRS, France

Young massive stars have a strong impact on their environment, including feedback due to their Far Ultraviolet (FUV) radiation. The penetration of FUV radiation into the interstellar medium affects the physical and chemical structure of high-mass star forming regions. Photon-Dominated Regions (PDRs) are interfaces between fully ionized and cold molecular material. Spectral line observations at sub-mm and far-infrared wavelengths provide information on the physics and chemistry of PDRs, and therefore help us to understand the impact of young massive stars on their surrounding interstellar medium.

One of the best targets to probe PDR structure and chemistry is the Orion Bar, located at a distance of about 415 pc, with a nearly edge-on geometry. We have carried out an unbiased spectral line survey with Herschel/HIFI in the 480-1250 GHz and 1410-1910 GHz frequency range. We have identified lines from about 30 molecules, including the reactive ions CH⁺, SH⁺, CF⁺, and OH⁺ (Nagy et al., 2013; Van der Tak and Nagy et al., 2013), the high-J ladder of CO isotopes, and grain chemistry tracers such as H₂CO.

We interpret the molecular line emission observed in the HIFI range using detailed non-LTE and PDR models in order to probe the structure and chemistry of the Orion Bar. We present an overview of the HIFI line survey observations and their interpretation using radiative transfer and chemical models.