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News from the Atlas3D project: shifting our paradigm for early-type galaxies

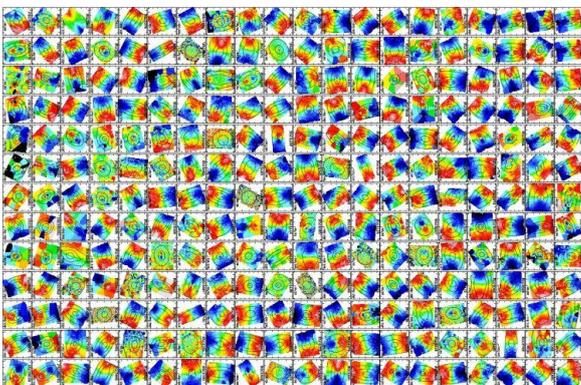
Prof. Eric Emsellem

Head of the Office for Science, ESO

Prof. Eric Emsellem is European Southern Observatory (ESO) Head of the Office for Science, Garching (since 2009). He holds an Engineering degree from the Ecole Centrale de Lyon, a Master degree from Cornell University, and a doctoral degree from Paris University (1994) but spent most of his time as a PhD student at the Center for Research in Astrophysics in Lyon (CRAL). He went on to take an EARA Fellowship at the Leiden Observatory and then became an ESO Fellow in Garching. He obtained a staff position as associate Astronomer at the CRAL in 1997, and became full Astronomer in 2006 (Habilitation in 2005). In the meantime he served as INSU deputy (since 2004), head of the TIGER then GALPAC teams (since 2003), and deputy director for the CRAL since 2008. He work mostly on extragalactic objects, probing galaxy stellar populations and their kinematics, but also gaseous components, trying to link what we see in nearby objects, with scenarios of galaxy formation and evolution. He is a CoPI of the Atlas3D project, and involved in a few collaborations, some including the running of state-of-the-art numerical simulations of interacting or isolated galaxies.



Abstract



Recent observations of nearby early-type galaxies have revealed a wealth of structures, associated with complex formation and evolution processes. The Atlas3D project has been designed to further probe this galaxy population with the first complete, volume limited ($D < 42$ Mpc), sample of 260 nearby early-type galaxies, combining a unique observational dataset including multi-band photometry, integral-field spectroscopy, radio and millimeter observations with state-of-the-art numerical simulations and modelling efforts. I will present an update on the recent results from Atlas3D, and try to cover what we have learned from the baryonic angular momentum, stellar populations and star formation history, the role of the environment, the molecular, neutral and ionised gas contents, the dark matter component, further lifting the veil on the origin of early-type galaxies and their link with spiral galaxies.

All are welcome! Tea, coffee, biscuits will be served at 2:45 P.M.