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**The Spatial Distribution of the 3.3 Micron Emission Feature in NGC 253**

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PROTOCAM images of the central region of NGC 253 were taken at the IRTF using broadband H, K and M filters, and a CVF at 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 μm. The CVF images were used to map the spatial distribution of the 3.3 μm (PAH?) emission feature in the galaxy.

We find that the equivalent width of the 3.3 μm feature is fairly uniform over the central 10" (150 parsecs) of the galaxy. The strength of the feature appears to be well-correlated with the stellar distribution as revealed by our images at H and K. Superimposed on this extended distribution we find a compact (≤ 1") infrared source with a much redder color than the extended stellar distribution. The compact source dominates the M-band map but displays only weak 3.3 μm line emission. Careful astrometry at the IRTF indicates that the compact source is displaced by 3"±1" (~45 pc) from the centroids of H and K maps and published radio continuum maps at 2 cm and 6 cm. This suggests that a significant fraction of the near- and mid-infrared emission originates from a source that is not coincident with the nucleus.