Abstract

Galaxies contain several structural components that define their morphologies and that are the results of multiple processes that range from secular evolution to accretion events. They range from bulges, disks, and bars (among the most common), kinematically decoupled cores, counter-rotating stellar disks, and polar rings (among the most rare but outstanding). Their properties hold the key to understand their formation and evolution. The observational challenge to study these components is to remove the contamination from the rest of the galaxy. I will present a technique aimed at extracting the spectra of multiple stellar components independently, minimizing their mutual contamination. Then, I will discuss the results obtained using such technique for several classes of components, with particular emphasis to the formation of the bulge and disk of NGC 3521.