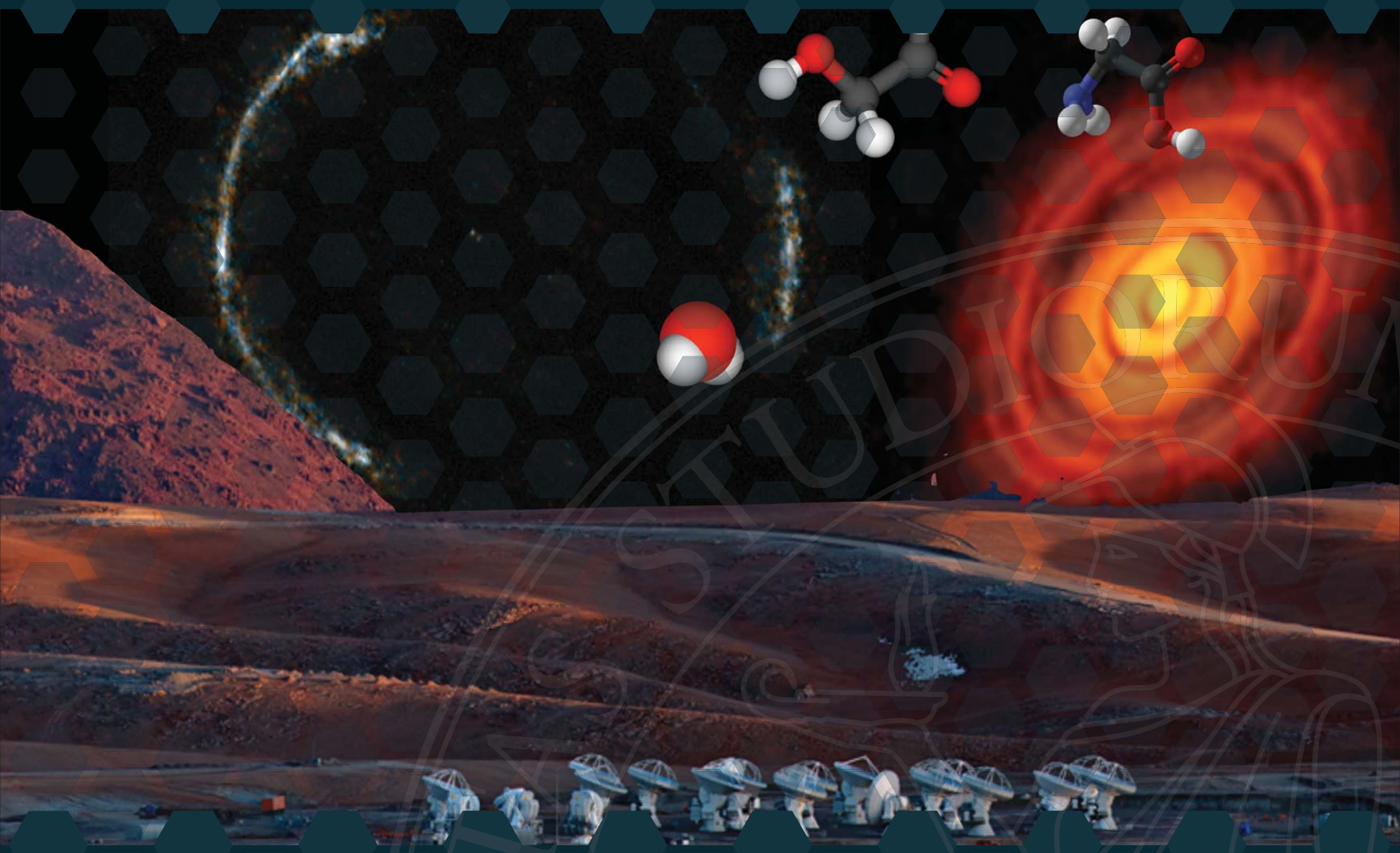
PHYSICS COLLOQUIA 2017



The interstellar medium that fuels star and planet formation across cosmic history is predominantly molecular, cold and dense. As a consequence, millimetre wave observations of the universe are key to understand the cycle of star formation in the universe, and the chemical and physical processes that produce planetary systems and pre-biotic chemistry. The Atacama Large Millimetre/submillimetre Array has been designed and built to allow us to realize a transformational breakthrough in the observations of the cold universe.
In this talk I will review the objectives, technical challenges and the scientific successes of ALMA.
I will emphasize the ALMA contributions in our understanding of the cosmic evolution of the ISM and of the formation of planetary systems.
I will close with an outlook on the long term development of the ALMA observatory and the scientific challenges ahead of us.

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Leonardo Testi *European Southern Observatory, Garching, Germania*

Science with ALMA: the cool side of the universe

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UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO
DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN FISICA
ASTROFISICA E FISICA APPLICATA

Gli incontri si terranno alle **ore 14:30**
nell'**aula A** del **DIPARTIMENTO DI FISICA**
via Celoria 16 | 20133 MILANO
Tel. +39 02 50317740
http://phd fisica unimi it | phd@fisica unimi it