The Interstellar Medium in Nearby Galaxies

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In recent years, there has been remarkable progress in quantifying the key processes and properties of the interstellar medium (ISM) in nearby galaxies. This is due to new observational capabilities as well as dedicated surveys that target samples of nearby galaxies at many different wavelengths. In this talk, I will review our current understanding of the ISM properties in nearby galaxies, focussing on the dust and cold gas phases. I will highlight several recent results obtained by the PCMI community, and suggest some opportunities for connecting detailed Galactic studies to extragalactic ISM work.