

Getting to know the "island universes" out there.

## Galaxies I

ASTR 555 Dr. Jon Holtzman

# Warm-up

- \* Consider the PV diagram for NGC 4666.
  - How would you
     estimate the dynamical
     mass of this galaxy?
  - What kinematic

     observation could you
     make even if your
     telescope couldn't
     spatially resolve this
     galaxy?



### Galaxy Population - Spirals/Disks: Kinematics

 Unresolved HI profiles — rotation characterized by line widths, e.g. W<sub>50</sub>, W<sub>20</sub> (width at 50%, 20% of peak line flux)



Swaters et al. 2002

# Outline for Today

- Galaxy Population Spirals/Disks:
  - Scaling Relations
  - Spectral Energy
     Distributions (SEDs)
  - Interstellar Medium (ISM)



NGC1232 (ESO)

- Size-Luminosity Relation & Surface Brightness-Luminosity Relation:
  - more luminous spirals are larger and have higher surface brightness at the effective radius



Fig. 2.20. The effective radius (left panel) and the surface brightness at the effective radius (right panel) of disk dominated galaxies plotted against their absolute magnitude in the *B*-band. [Based on data published in Impey et al. (1996b)]



#### Tully-Fisher Relation:

- Correlation between maximum rotation velocity (or HI linewidth W) and luminosity:
  - \* L  $\alpha$  v<sup>3-4</sup>
  - Slope depends on wavelength, definition of velocity, etc.
- Small scatter useful distance indicator!
- Various "explanations" similar to Fundamental Plane with same caveats



Courteau et al. 2007

Virial theorem:

$$- < U >= 2 < K >$$
$$\frac{GM}{< R >} = < v^2 >$$

Note that this is the same that we get from simple rotation, so for disks, it's easier than for ellipticals.

$$L \propto IR^2$$
 ${GM\over R} \propto v^2$ 

 $L \propto I R^2$ 

Therefore we have

M = L(M/L)

3 6

We then derive:

$$R \propto \left(\frac{M}{L}\right)^{-1} v^2 I^{-1}$$
$$L \propto \left(\frac{M}{L}\right)^{-1} v^4 I^{-1}$$

Spiral/disks: SEDs Thought Question

- Sketch a typical elliptical galaxy spectrum and a typical spiral galaxy spectrum, labeling a few spectral features on each (with wavelengths if you can).
- \* Where are these spectral features coming from?

### Ellipticals/Spheroids: SEDs

Reminder

- Elliptical spectra energy distributions (SEDs):
- Typical features:
- \* 4000A break
- Stellar absorption lines:
  - Ca H & K
     (~3934A,3969A)
  - Fe & CH G-band (~4304A)
  - \* Mg (~5175A)
  - \* Na D doublet (~5894A)



## Spirals/Disks: SEDs

- Spiral spectra energy distributions (SEDs):
- Typical features:
  - blue continuum
  - emission lines
     from HII regions
  - \* [OII] (3727A)
  - \* Hβ (4861A)
  - \* [OIII] (4959A,5007A)
  - \* Hα (6563A)



Kennicutt 1992b

## Spirals/Disks: SEDs

Strong emission
 lines like Hα
 used to estimate
 star formation
 rate (SFR)

As star
formation
proceeds, a
galaxy will turn
gas into stars
and build up
stellar mass
(M\*)



### Spiral/disk SEDs: Multiwavelength





### Spiral/disks : Star formation rate

- Defining feature of blue cloud galaxies: star forming!
- Can observationally estimate star formation rate:
  - from emission lines in regions of star formation
  - from UV emission
  - from dust emission
- \* In principle, as time passes a galaxy may:
  - form stars until it runs out of gas
  - accrete more gas and form more stars
  - blow out material in supernova-driven winds
  - \* interact/merge with another galaxy, triggering star formation
  - \* experience periods of higher AGN activity/outflows
- \* How does star formation rate depend on stellar mass?

#### Star Formation Rate - Stellar Mass Relation — the "Galaxy Main Sequence":

- \* tight empirical relation between SFR and stellar mass
- Note typical SFRs: ~1 solar mass per year for L\* galaxy
- specific star formation rate (sSFR = SFR/M\*, the star formation per unit mass) is
   ~independent of stellar mass



- \* Star Formation Rate Stellar Mass Relation the "Galaxy Main Sequence":
  - Outliers:
    - galaxies undergoing a burst of star formation after a merger/interaction
    - galaxies that have been "quenched" (star formation has shut down)
  - Normalization shifts with redshift due to change in cosmic SFR over time





- Star Formation Rate Stellar Mass Relation — the "Galaxy Main Sequence":
  - ~independent of environment
  - Note: fraction of galaxies that are star-forming is lower in high density environments, particularly at later times
  - Suggests transition of a galaxy from star-forming to passive is sharp (either forming stars or not)



Peng et al. 2010

# Spirals/Disks: ISM

- Interstellar medium (ISM)
   in disk galaxies:
  - Gas and dust strongly confined to plane of galaxy
  - Most of the gas is neutral hydrogen, observed in HI
  - HI disks are very extended, often well past starlight





Battaglia et al. 2006; Sancisi et al. 2008

# Spirals/Disks: ISM

- Gas mass fractions can be significant (~5 - 80%)!
- Total gas mass fractions higher for:
  - 1) lower stellar mass
  - 2) lower stellar
     mass surface
     density
  - \* 3) higher sSFR
  - \* 4) bluer color



# Spirals/Disks: ISM

- Gas can be a significant component of mass, especially for lower mass/ luminosity galaxies
- Baryonic Tully-Fisher
   Relation relation between
   baryonic mass and rotation
   velocity (or HI linewidth):
  - requires estimate of stellar mass from luminosity
  - even less scatter than the stellar Tully-Fisher
     Relation



### Spiral/disk SEDs: Thought Question

- Given a spiral galaxy spectrum, what are some different ways you might think of to measure metallicities?
- What might the metallicities you measure depend on?



### Spirals/Disks SEDs : Thought question

- Given a spiral galaxy spectrum, what are some different ways you might think of to measure metallicities?
- What might the metallicities you measure depend on?



Kennicutt 1992b

### Spirals/Disks: Metallicity

- Stellar
   metallicities from stellar
   absorption lines
- Gas phase metallicities from emission
   lines (or gas absorption of stellar light)



Kennicutt 1992b

### Galaxy Population - Spirals/Disks: Metallicity

- Galaxy stellar metallicity:
  - varies over time, depending on metallicity of the gas stars are forming out of
  - spectrum is luminosityweighted average
- Gas metallicity gives presentday metallicity
- Galaxy metallicity affected by:
  - star formation producing metals
  - feedback/outflows
     expelling enriched material
  - fresh (unenriched) gas infall



Kennicutt 1992b

### Spirals/Disks: Metallicity S

\* Luminosity-Metallicity Relation or Mass-Metallicity Relation

[H/0]

- more luminous/massive galaxies generally are more metal-rich
- Related to
  - Efficiency of forming stars (and metals)
  - How well the galaxy holds onto those metals given outflows



Fig. 2.28. The relation between stellar mass, in units of solar masses, and the gas-phase oxygen abundance for  $\sim$ 53,400 star-forming galaxies in the SDSS. For comparison, the Sun has  $12 + \log[(O/H)] = 8.69$ . The large black points represent the median in bins of 0.1 dex in mass. The solid lines are the contours which enclose 68% and 95% of the data. The gray line shows a polynomial fit to the data. The inset shows the residuals of the fit. [Adapted from Tremonti et al. (2004) by permission of AAS]

Tremonti et al. 2004