

# HI Galaxy Science with SKA and Pathfinders

Federico Lelli

Arcetri Astrophysical Observatory



# Why HI observations? What do we learn?

## 1. Galaxy Formation and Evolution

HI = main reservoir for star formation (SF) in galaxies

HI accretion & depletion history  $\leftrightarrow$  Galaxy SF history

MeerKAT (South Africa)



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Tests of dark matter models & modified gravity theories

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## 3. Cosmology & Large-Scale Structure

HI mass functions & HI cosmic density  $\Omega_{\text{HI}}(z)$   
Galaxy redshifts & TF distances  $\rightarrow H_0$ , galaxy flows

MeerKAT (South Africa)





# 1. Galaxy Formation and Evolution

# BARYON LIFE CYCLE



Credit: PHANGS collaboration

**1** diffuse atomic gas

HI line

**2** dense molecular gas

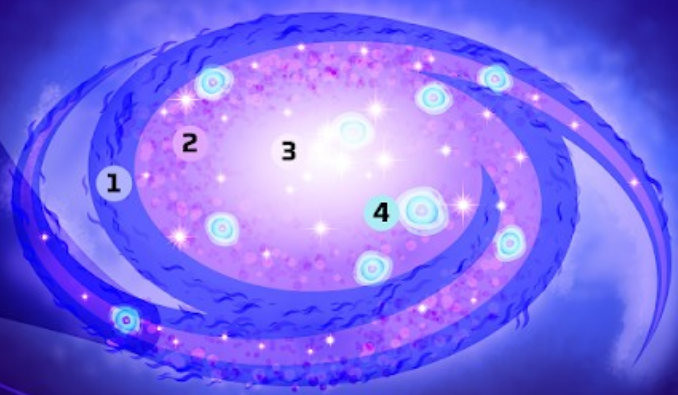
CO line

**3** stars, star clusters

UV to NIR continuum

**4** HII regions, supernovae, stellar ejecta

ionized gas lines  
radio continuum



HI [21cm]

CO [1,3mm]



radio waves



[sub-]millimeter



infrared



optical light



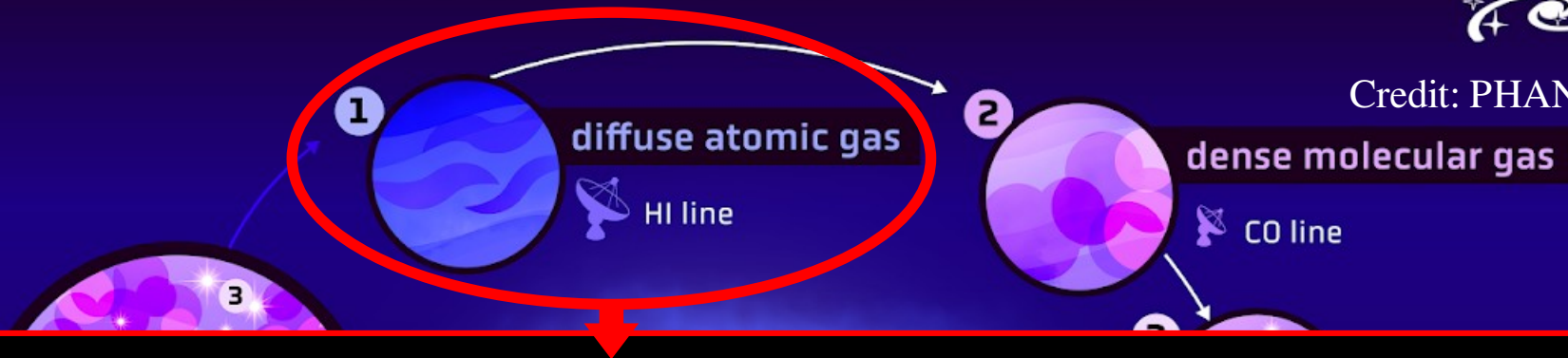
UV

# BARYON LIFE CYCLE

Phangs



Credit: PHANGS collaboration



## Major Scientific Questions:

- How do galaxies accrete gas to sustain the SF activity?
- How do galaxies lose their gas and halt the SF activity?  
*Galaxy quenching: star forming → passive?*
- What's the role of *internal* and *external* processes?

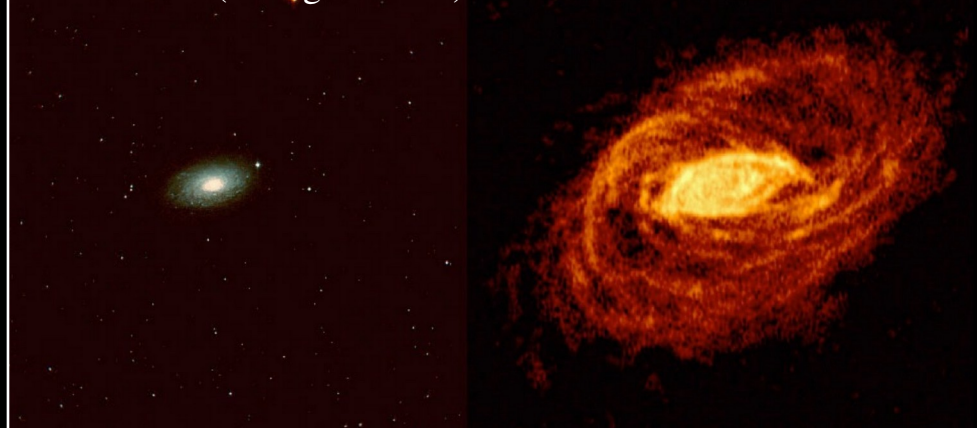


# Star-Forming Late-Type Galaxies: Extended HI disks

NGC2403 (Fraternali+2001)



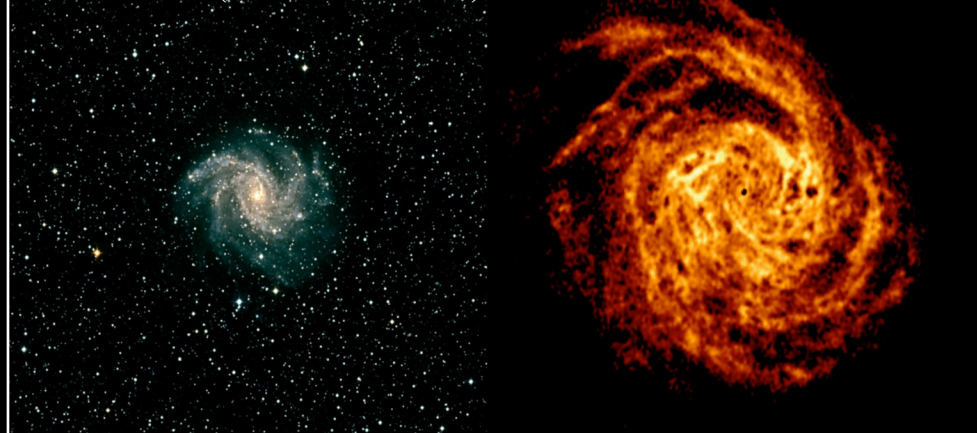
NGC5055 (Battaglia+2005)



M31 (Braun & Thilker 2004)



NGC6946 (Boomsma+2007)



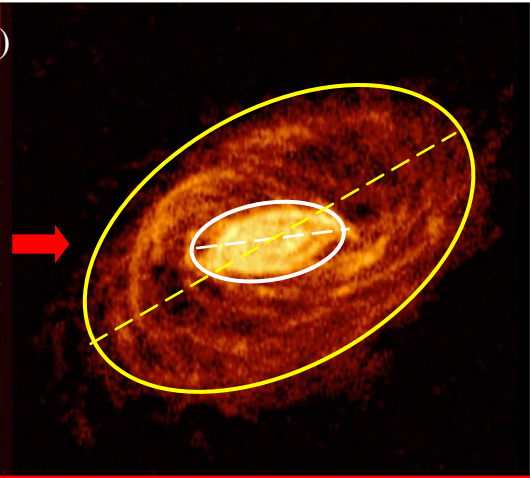
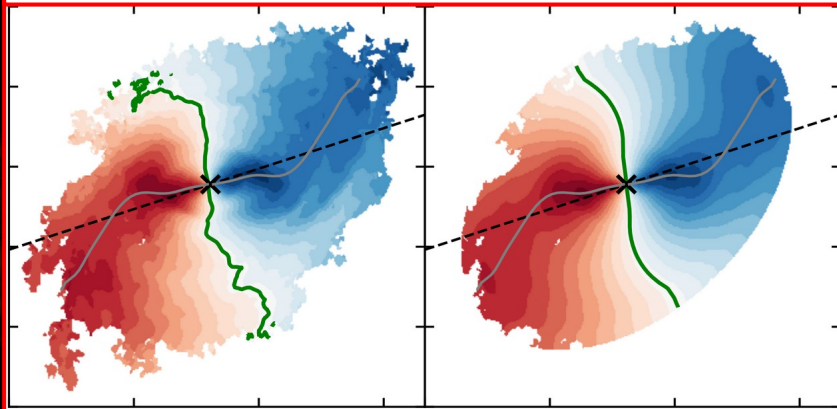


# Star-Forming Late-Type Galaxies: Extended HI disks

NGC2403 (Fraternali+2001)

Observed Velocity Map

Model Velocity Map



M31 (Braun & Thilker 2004)

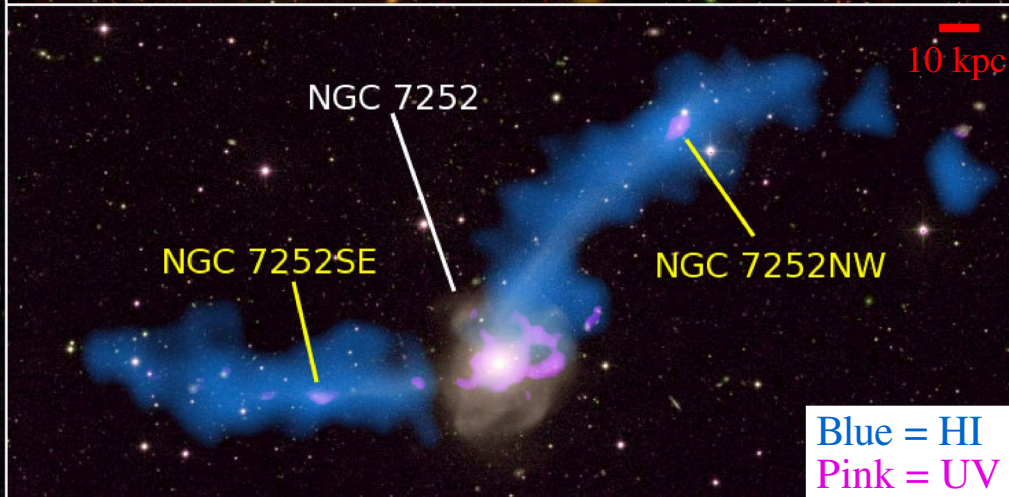
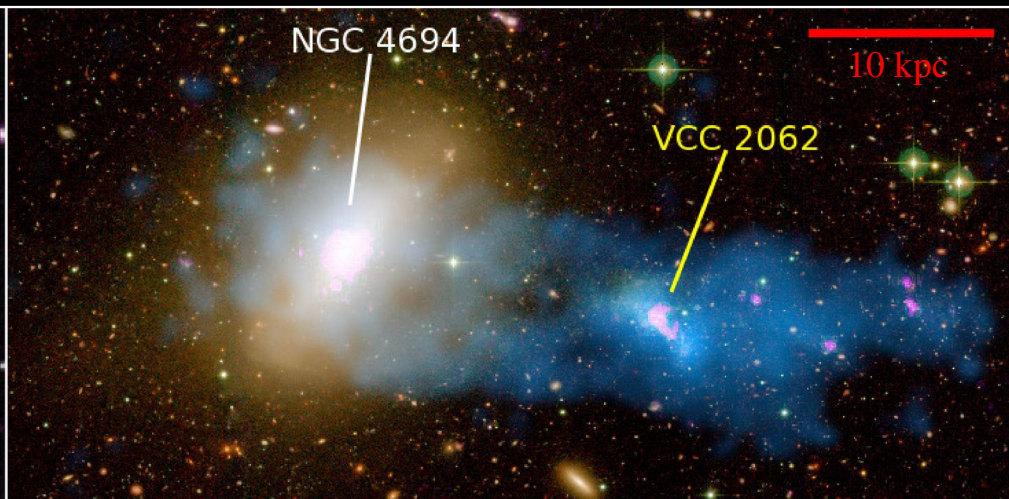
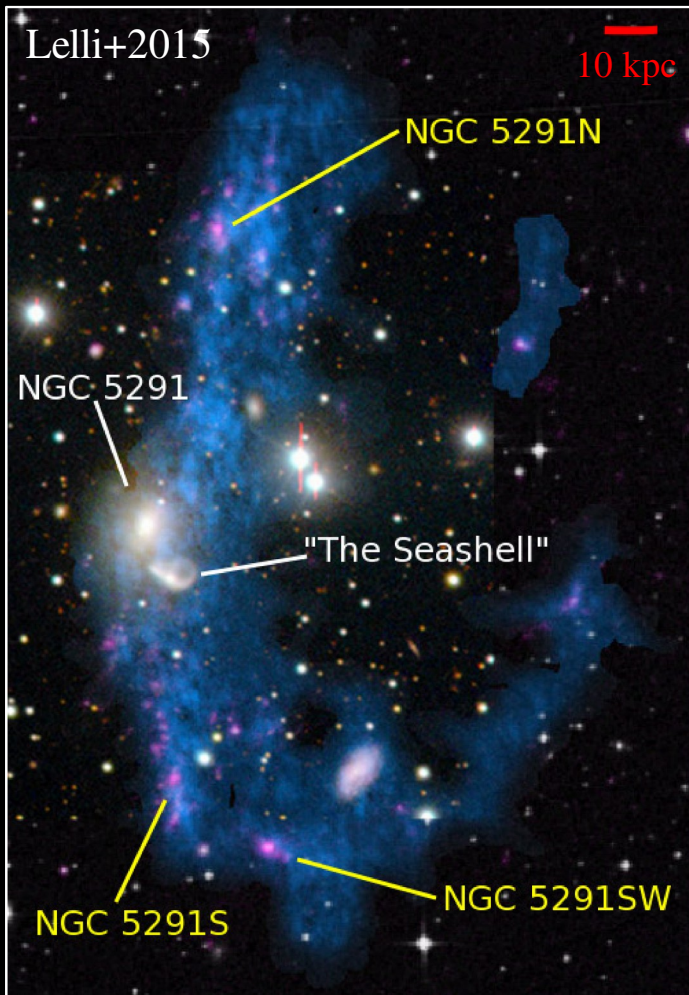


## Warped HI disks:

Direction of the gas angular momentum changes from the inner to outer parts:  
Possible signature of cold gas accretion?

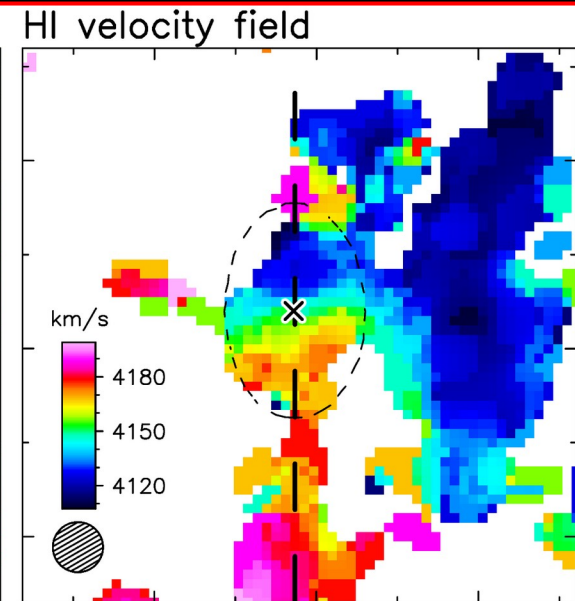
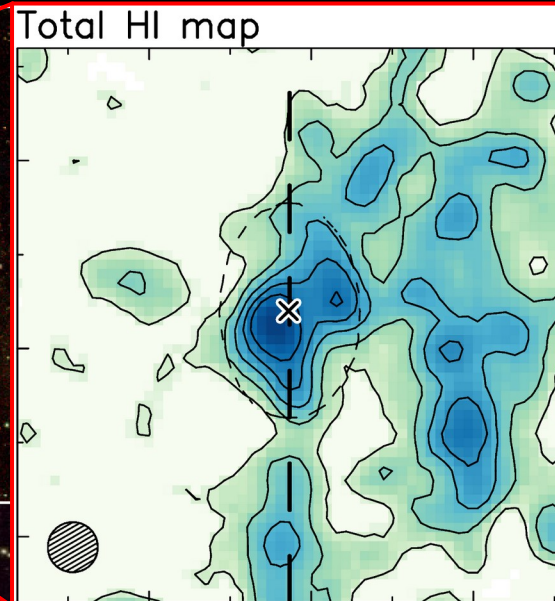
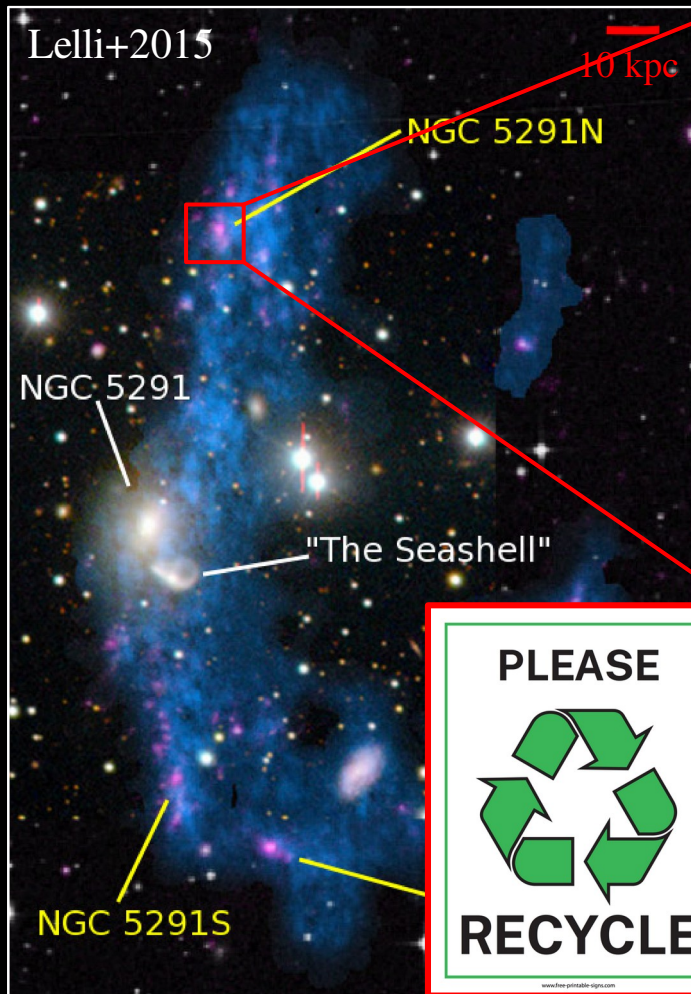
(Sancisi 1976, Sancisi+2006)

# Interacting Starburst Galaxies: HI Tidal Tails & Debris





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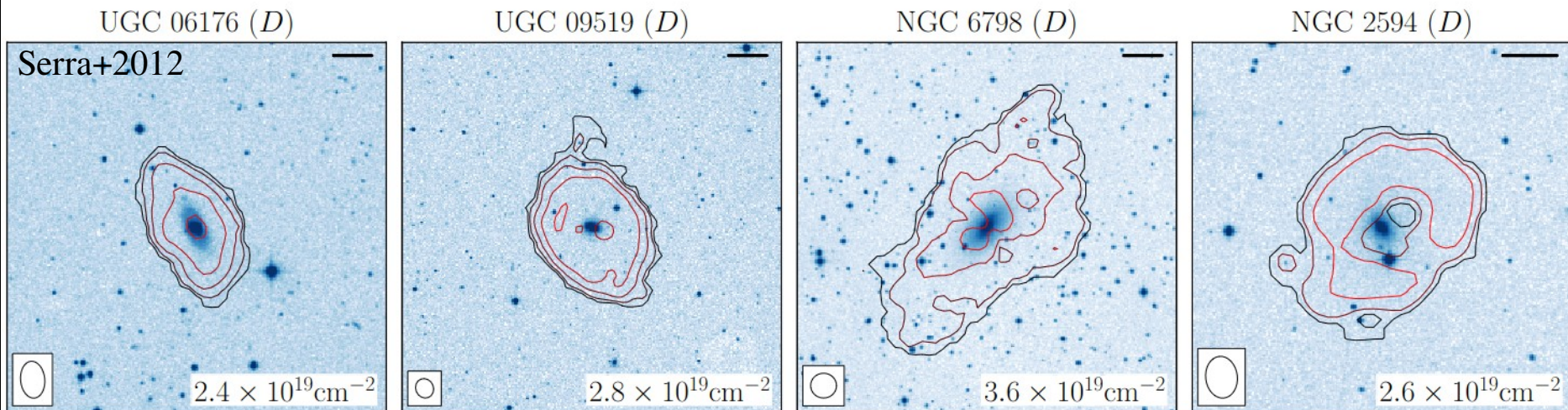


**Tidal dwarf galaxies: recycled objects!**  
Are they common? Are they long lived?  
Do they contain dark matter?

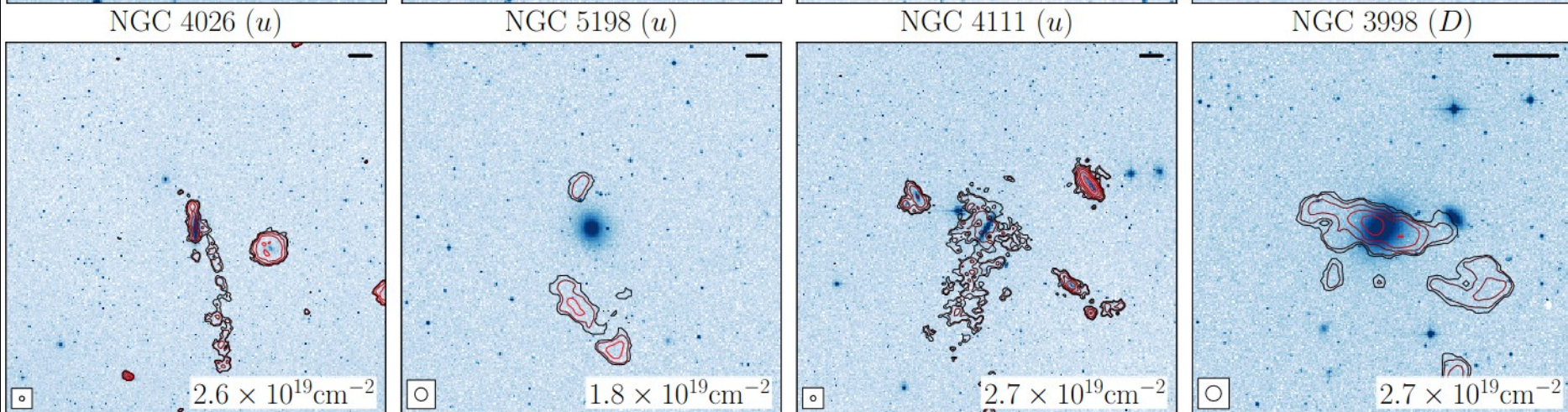


# Quiescent Early-Type Galaxies: Low Density HI!

Poor Environments



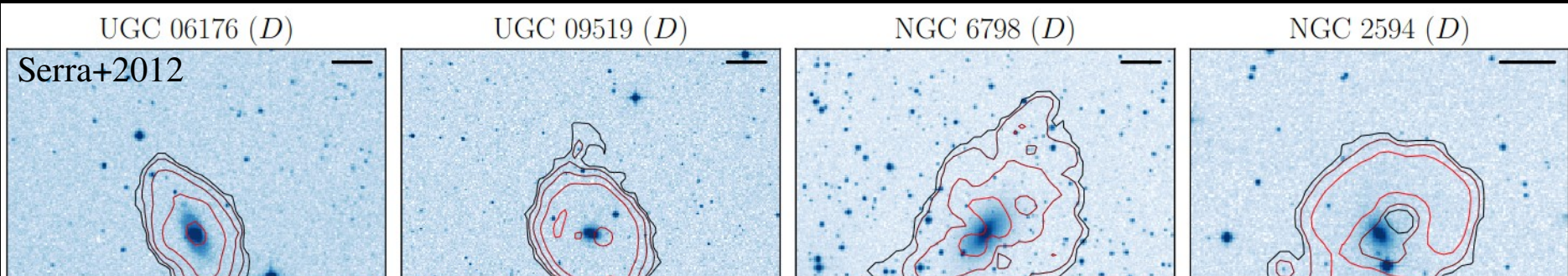
Rich Environments



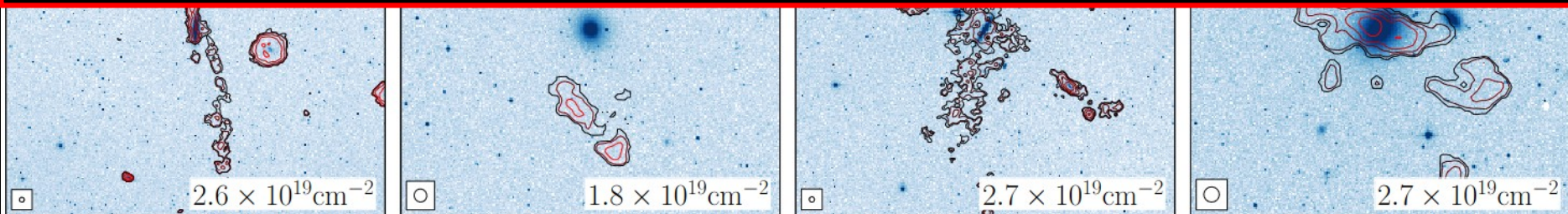


# Quiescent Early-Type Galaxies: Low Density HI!

Poor Environments



Rich Environments



Probably, there are multiple channels to galaxy quenching.

Mergers is one of them. But *no need* to remove *all the gas*.

Remove or suppress high-density HI in the central regions.

# Ultradeep HI surveys with MeerKAT

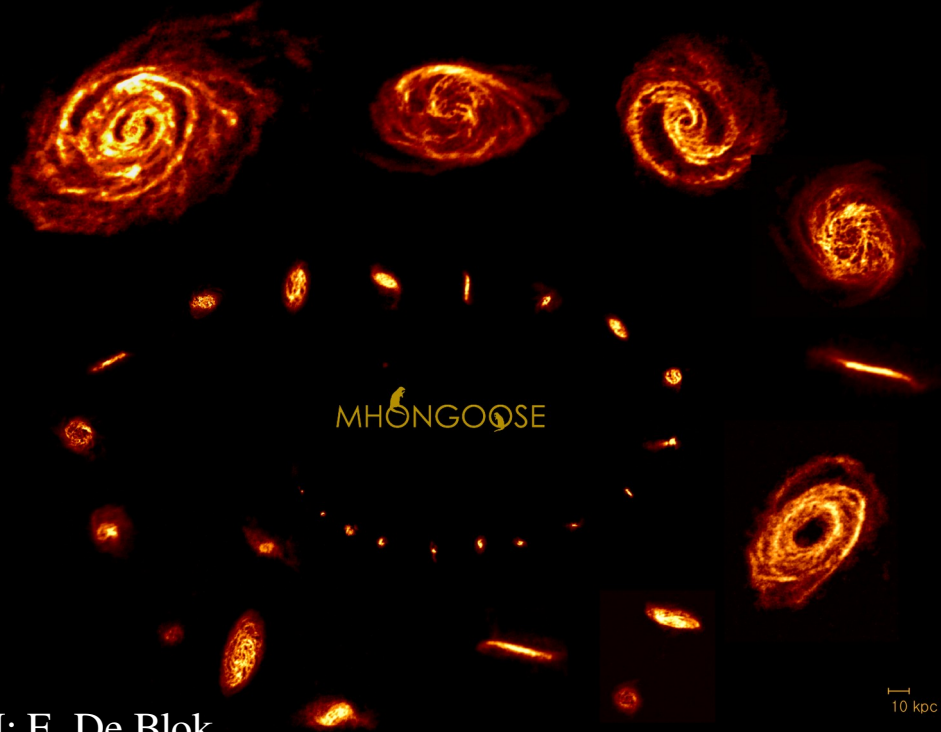
## Large Survey Projects:

- MOONGHOSE survey (PI: E. De Blok)
- Fornax Cluster Survey (PI: P. Serra)





# Ultradeep surveys at $z=0$ : MHONGOOSE



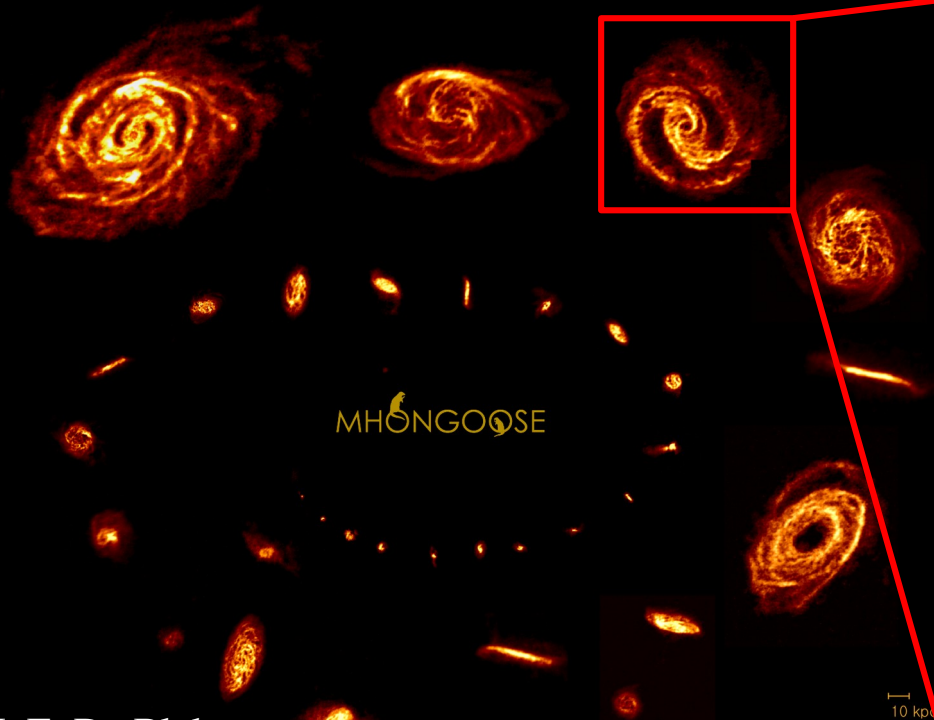
PI: E. De Blok

30 field galaxies with MeerKAT (55 hrs each)

$L_R \approx 10^7 - 10^{11} L_\odot$ ;  $M_{\text{HI}} \approx 10^5 - 10^{11} M_\odot$

**Goal: cold gas accretion at low column densities**

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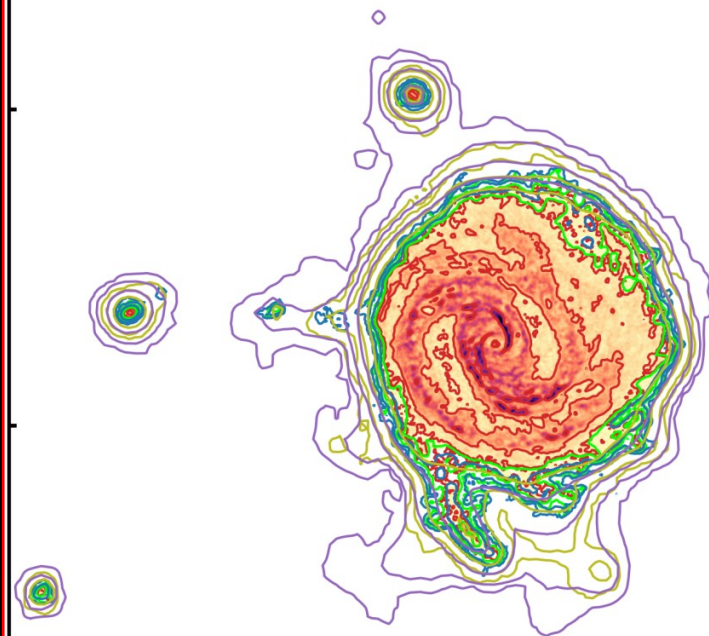
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MHONGOOSE collaboration (in prep.)

See also [Maccagni's](#) talk on Thursday Morning



$$\begin{aligned} N_{\text{HI}} &= 2.0 \times 10^{19} \times 2^n \text{ cm}^{-2} \\ N_{\text{HI}} &= 4.2 \times 10^{19} \times 2^n \text{ cm}^{-2} \\ N_{\text{HI}} &= 2.2 \times 10^{18} \times 2^n \text{ cm}^{-2} \\ N_{\text{HI}} &= 6.1 \times 10^{17} \times 2^n \text{ cm}^{-2} \\ N_{\text{HI}} &= 3.2 \times 10^{17} \times 2^n \text{ cm}^{-2} \end{aligned}$$



# Ultradeep surveys at $z=0$ : MHONGOOSE

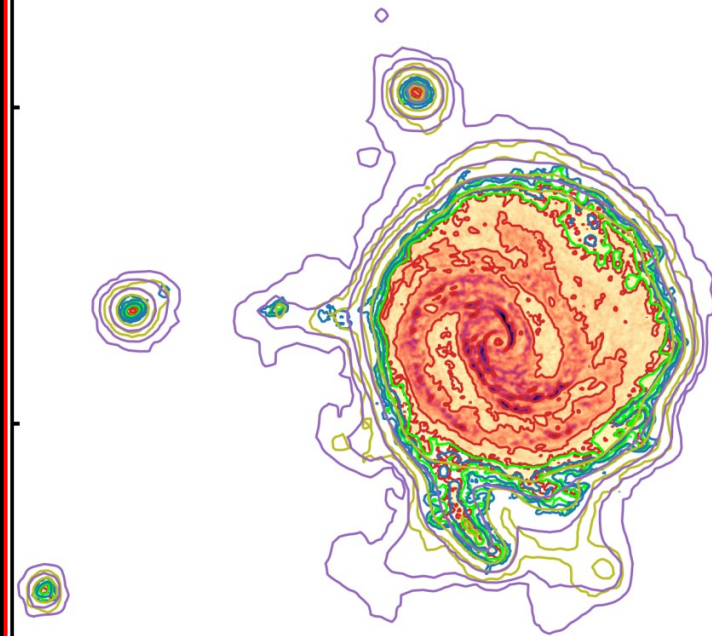
Where's cold gas accretion?  
No gas streams or filaments...  
Problem for  $\Lambda$ CDM simulations?

Accretion *near* the HI disk from  
*local* cooling of the hot corona?

(Fraternali & Binney 2008; Marinacci+2010;  
Marasco+2013; Armillotta+2016, 2017)

MHONGOOSE collaboration (in prep.)

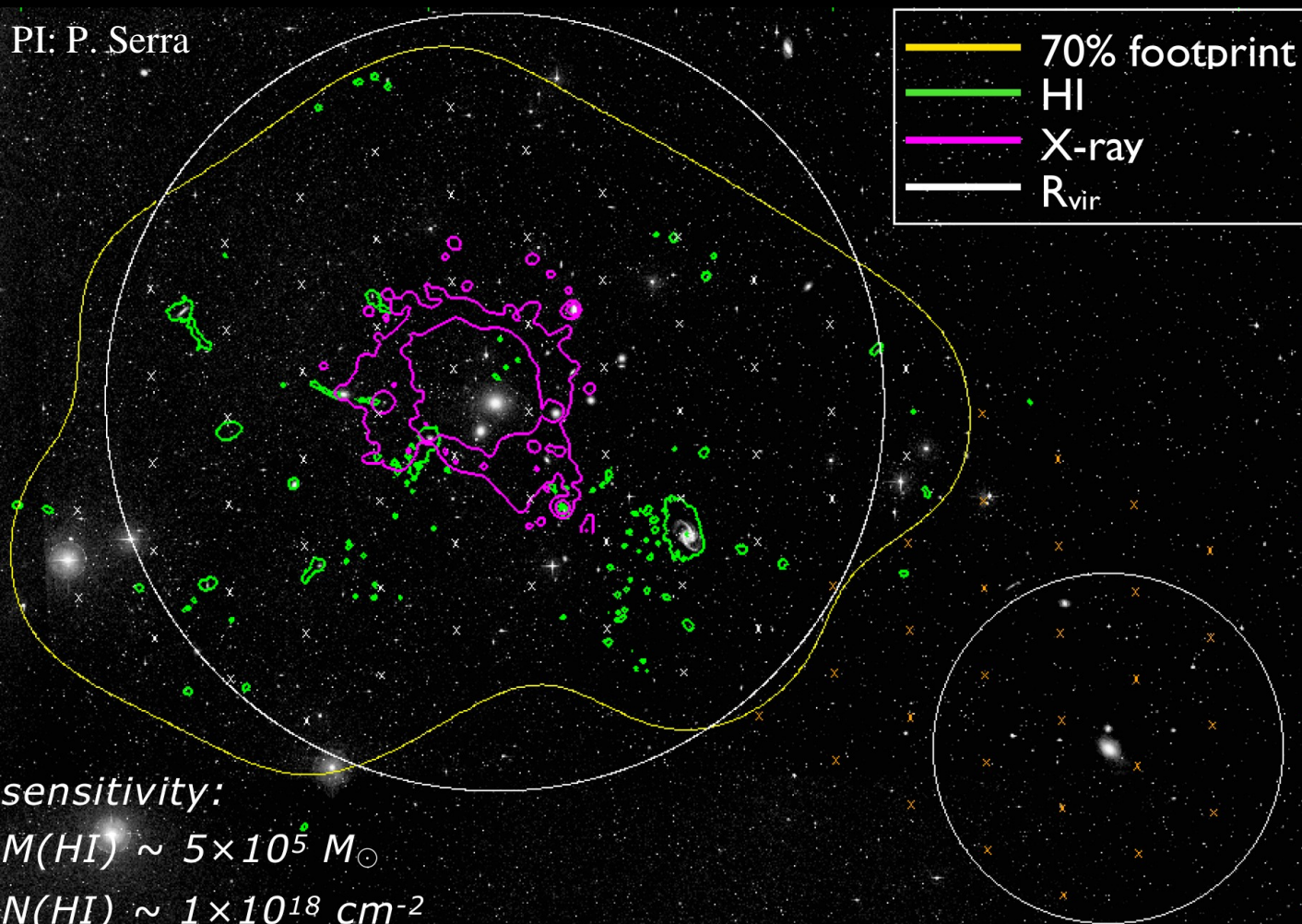
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# Ultradeep surveys at $z=0$ : Fornax Cluster

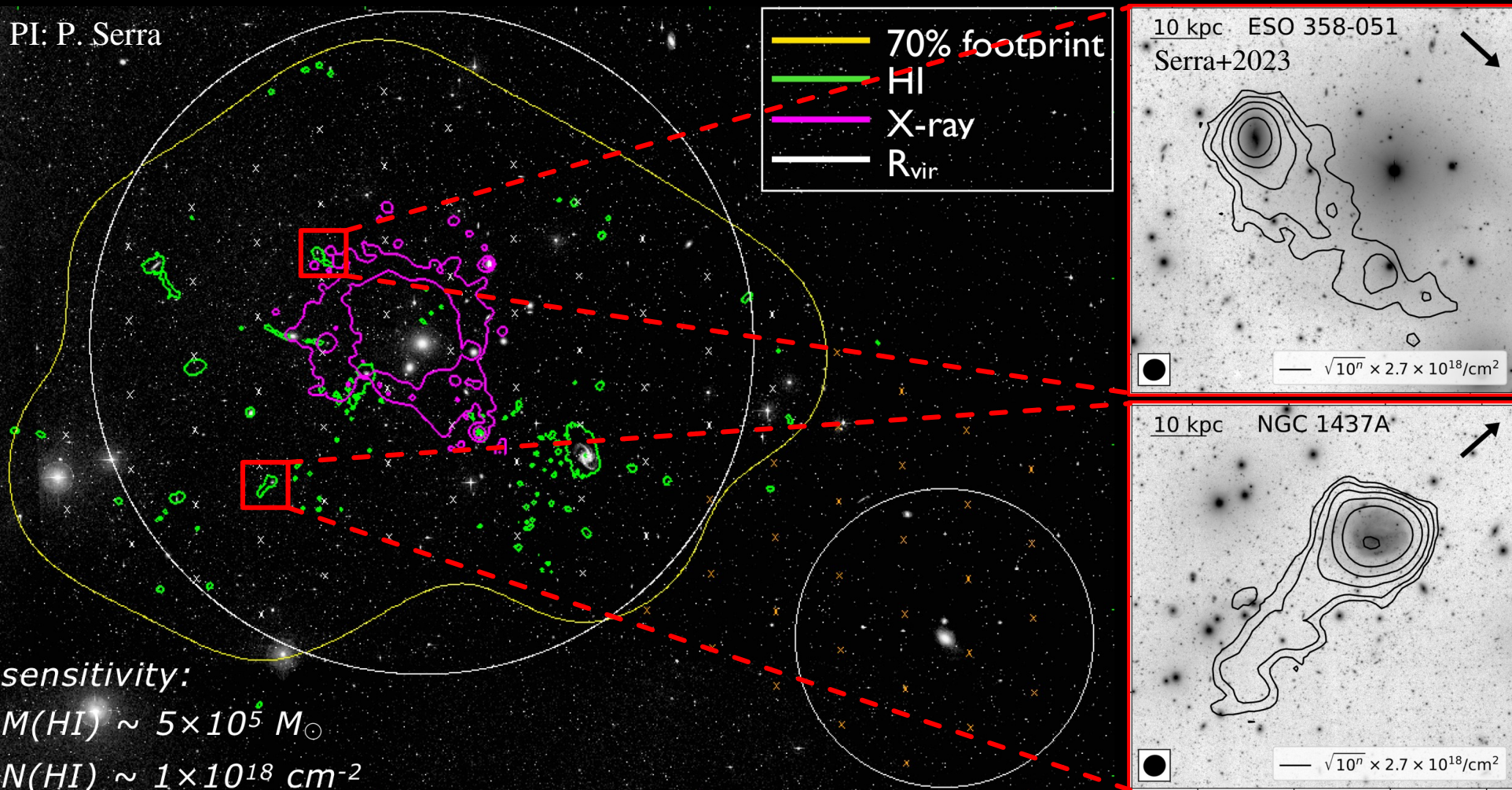
PI: P. Serra





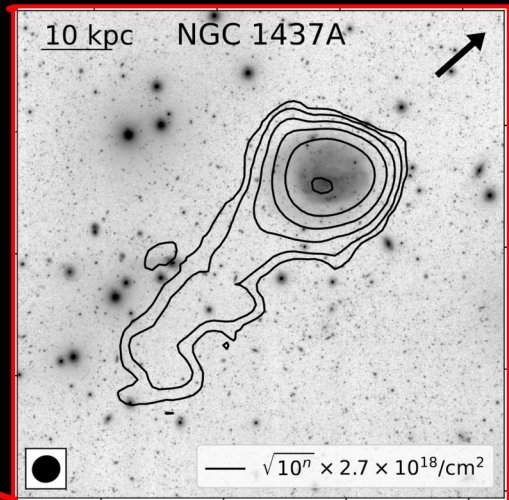
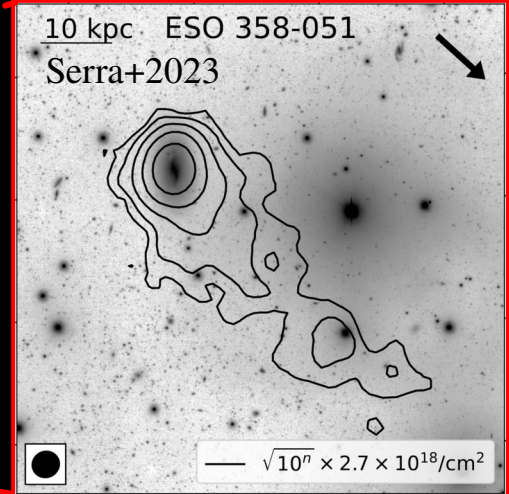
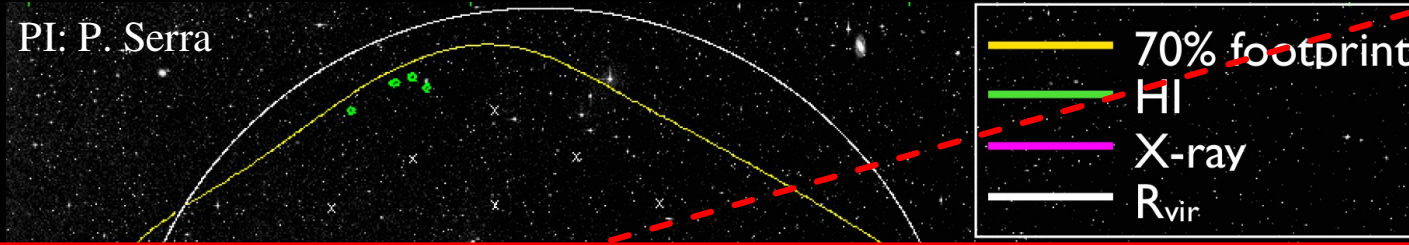
# Ultradeep surveys at $z=0$ : Fornax Cluster

PI: P. Serra



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PI: P. Serra



**Gas stripping due to environment!**

Ram pressure from ICM? Tidal interactions? Both?

Mass dependent process? Timescales?

See **Ignesti's**, **Serra's**, **Boselli's** & **Loni's** talks tomorrow!

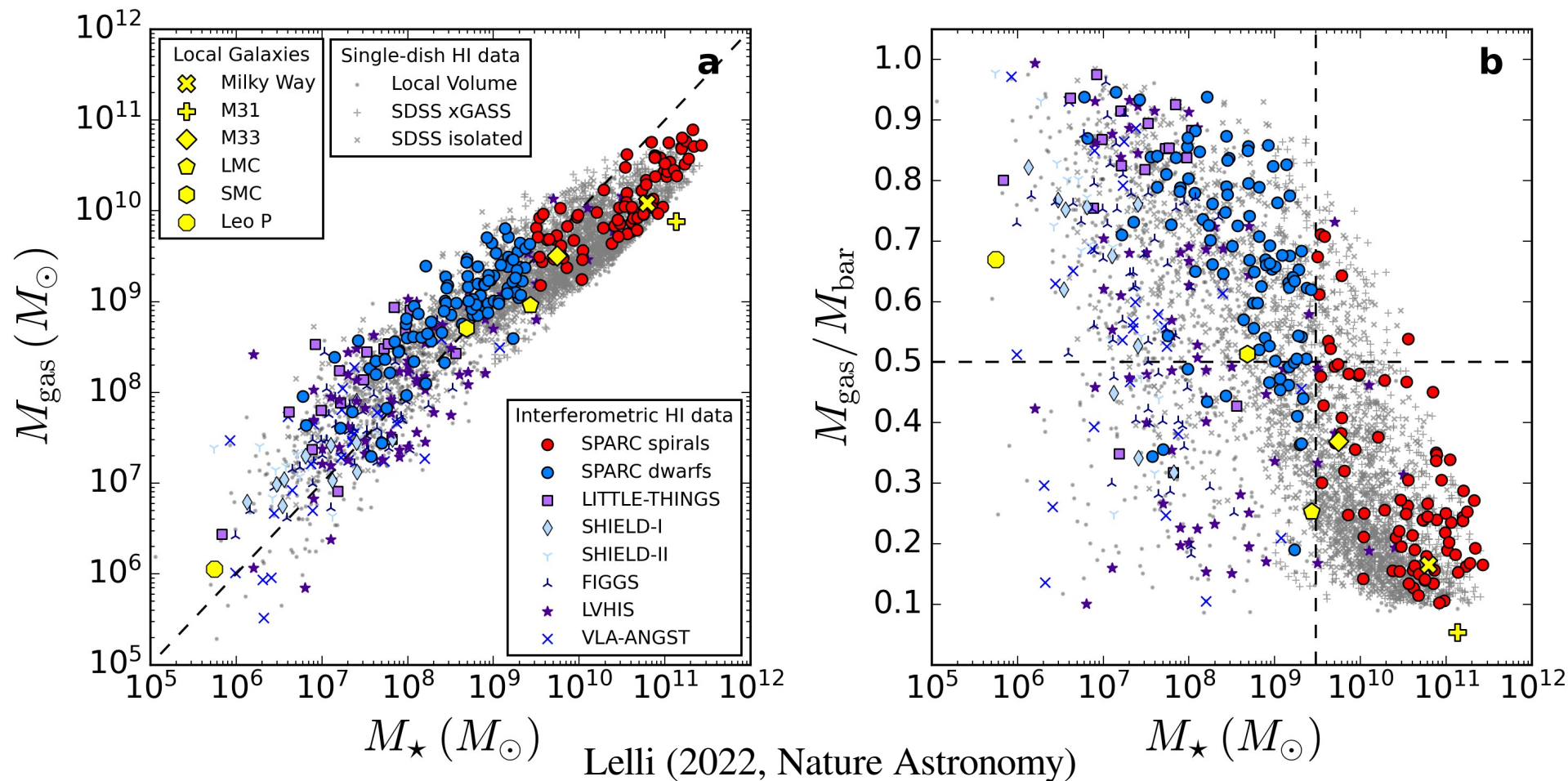
sensitivity:

$$M(\text{HI}) \sim 5 \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$$

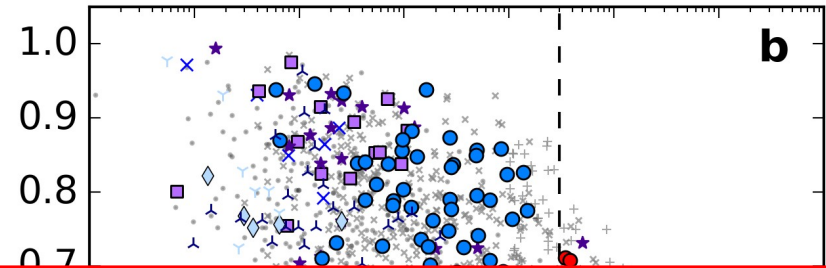
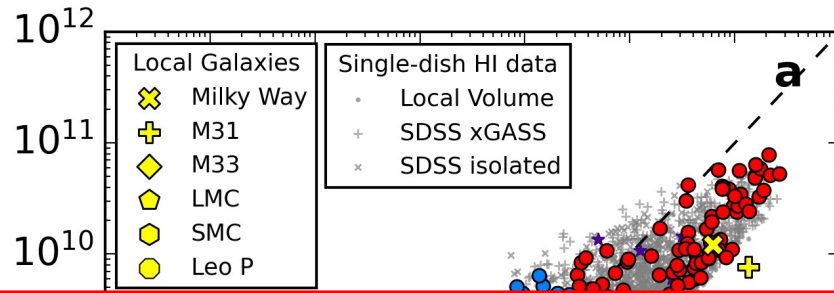
$$N(\text{HI}) \sim 1 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$



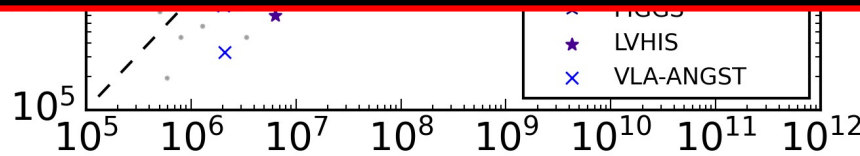
# Gas Content of Nearby Galaxies ( $z < 0.05$ , $D < 200$ Mpc)



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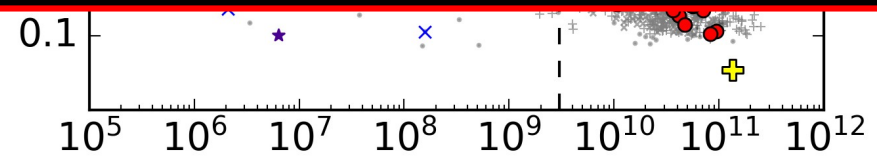


Link between **global gas content** and **HI morphology & kinematics**  
only in a few hundreds spatially resolved galaxies at  $z \approx 0$ ...  
The situation will soon change with **SKA pathfinders & SKA-Mid!**



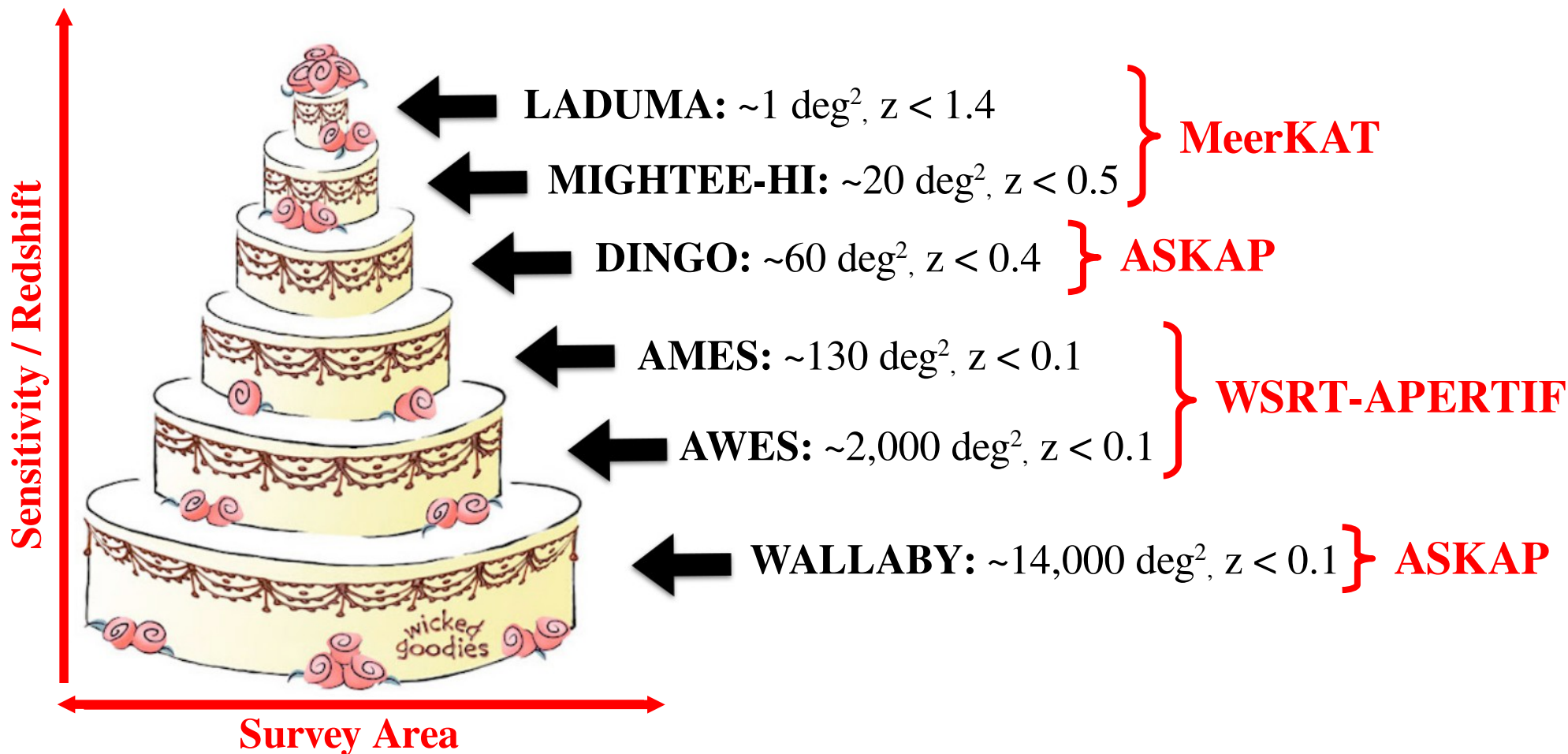
$M_{\star} (M_{\odot})$

Lelli (2022, Nature Astronomy)

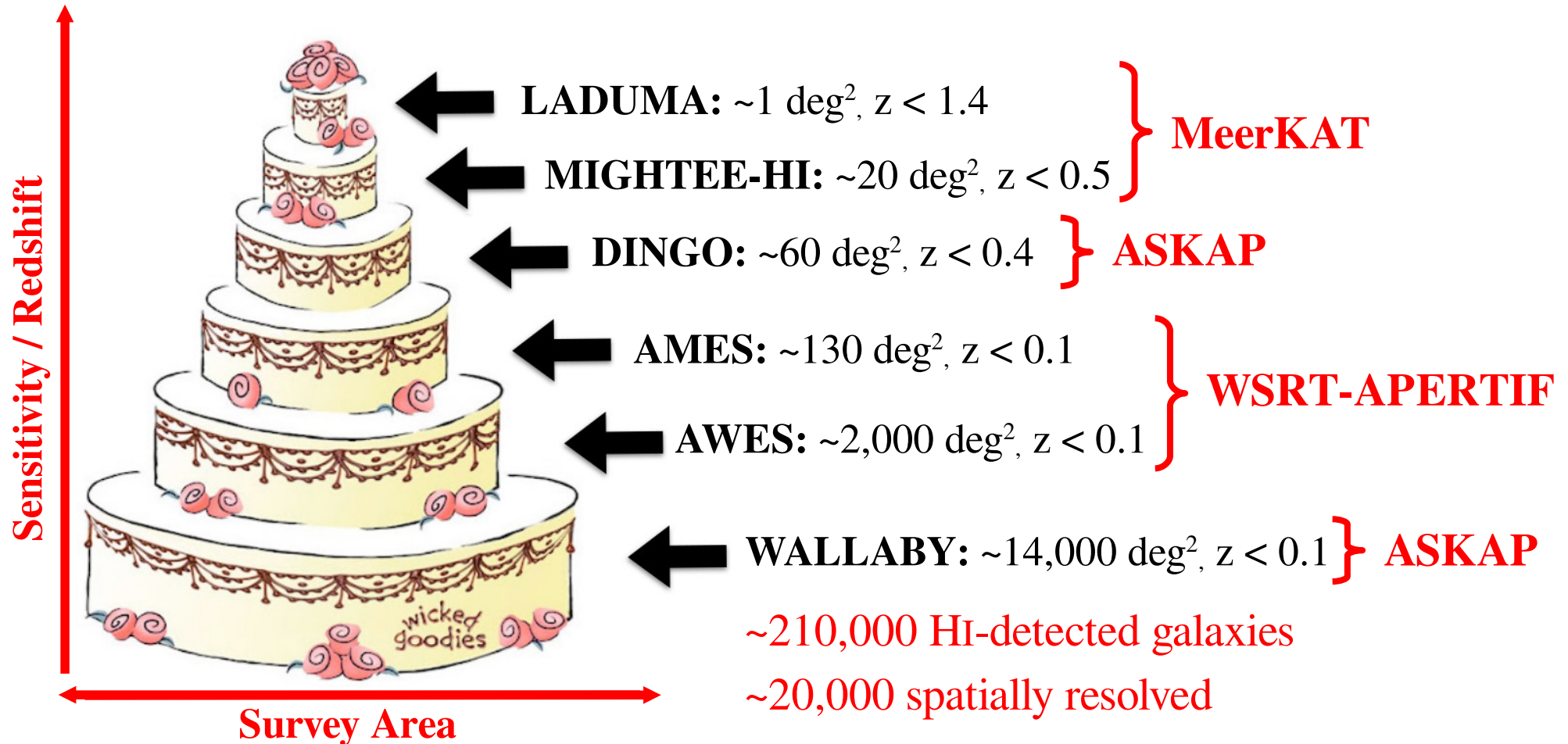


$M_{\star} (M_{\odot})$

# Ongoing blind HI surveys with SKA pathfinders



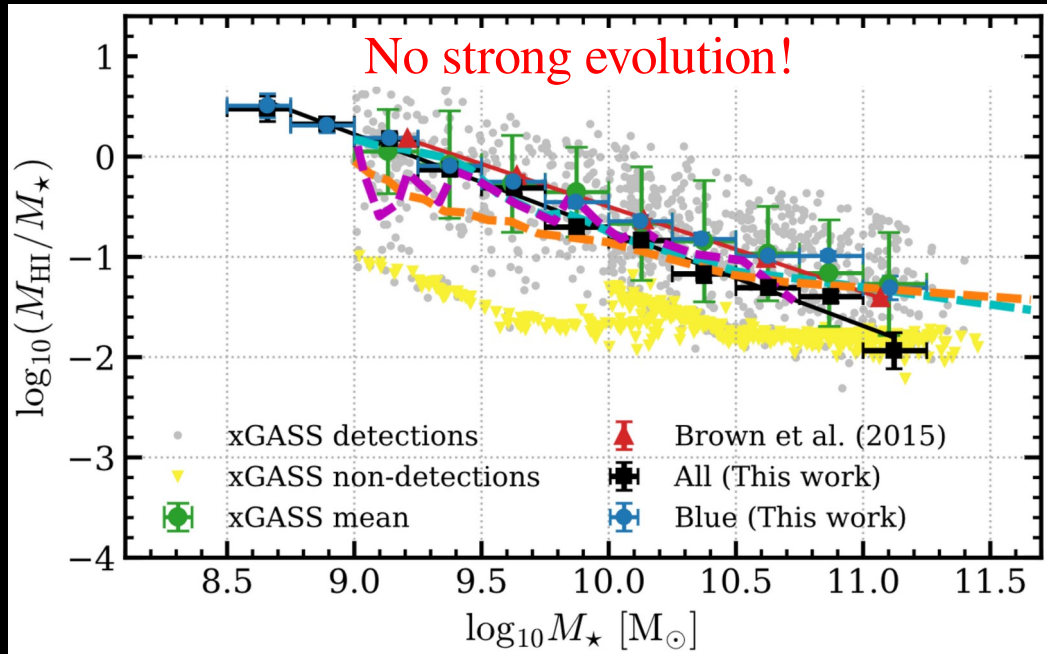
# Ongoing blind HI surveys with SKA pathfinders





# Pushing to “high” $z$ : HI spectral stacking experiments

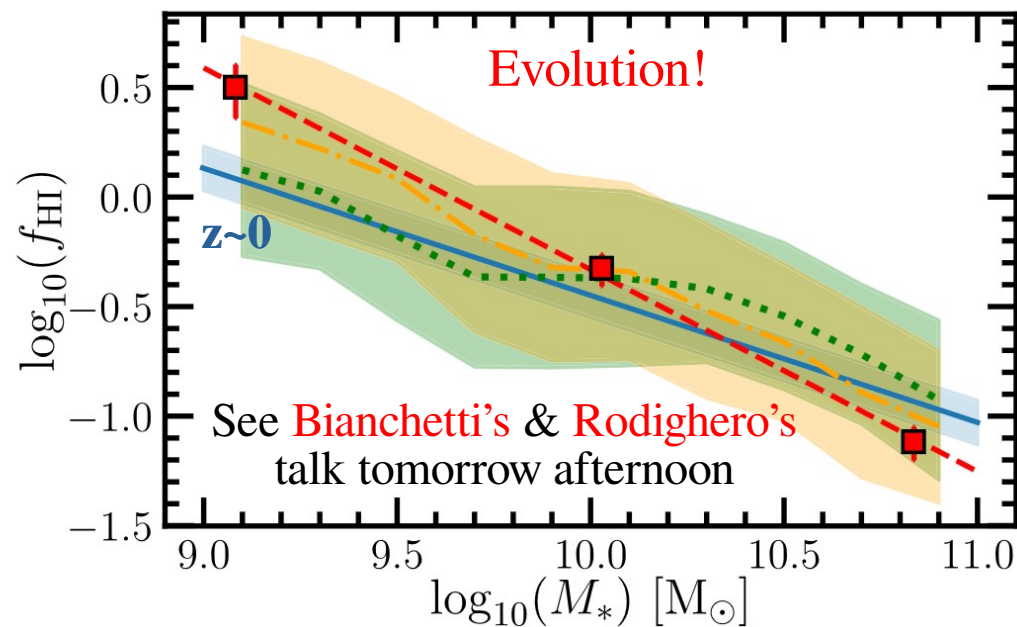
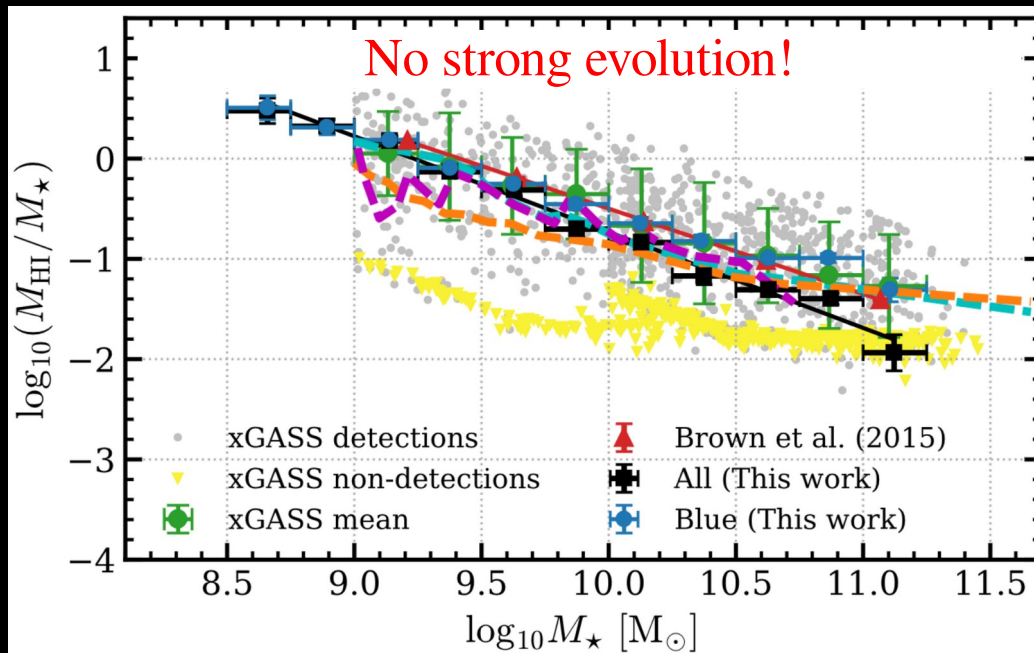
DINGO:  $0.04 < z < 0.09$  (Rhee+2023)



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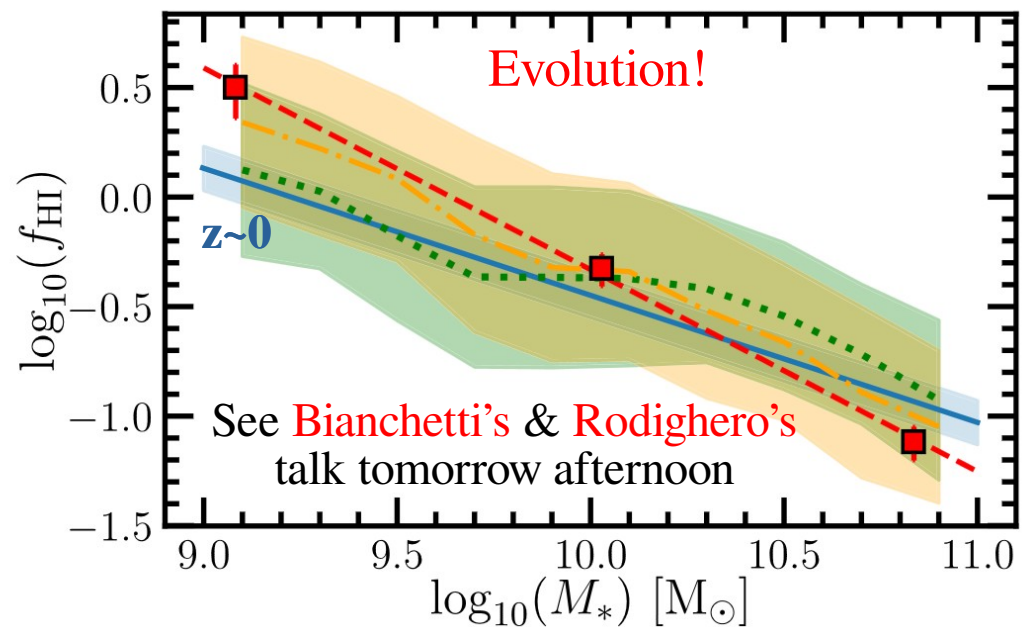
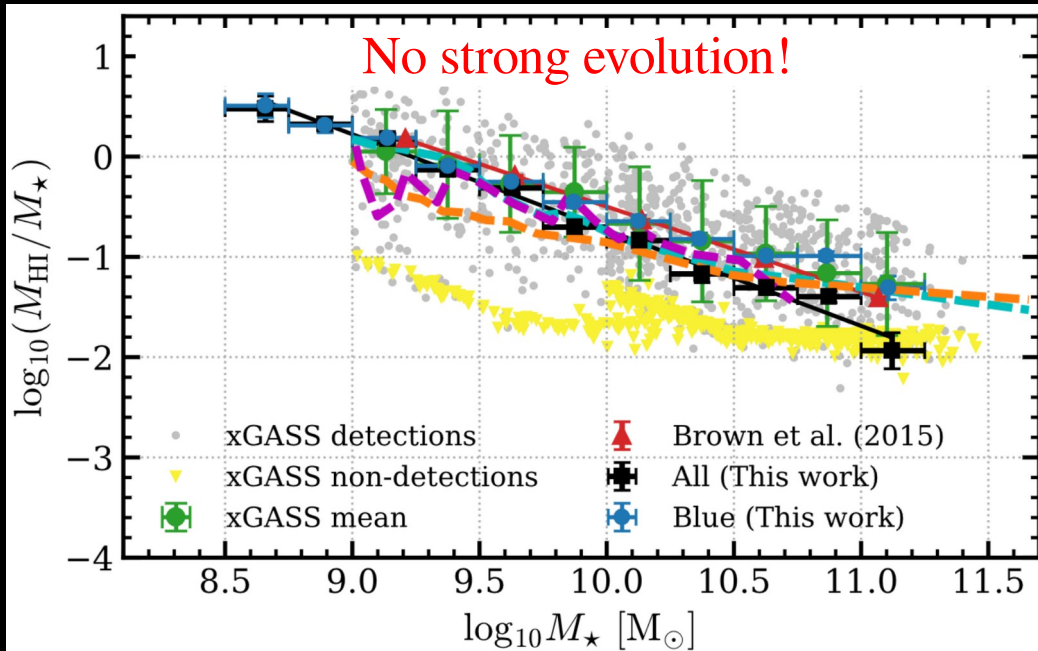
MIGHTEE-HI:  $0.23 < z < 0.5$  (Sinigaglia+2022)



# Pushing to “high” z: HI spectral stacking experiments

DINGO:  $0.04 < z < 0.09$  (Rhee+2023)

MIGHTEE-HI:  $0.23 < z < 0.5$  (Sinigaglia+2022)



**LADUMA:** HI stacking up to  $z \sim 1.4$

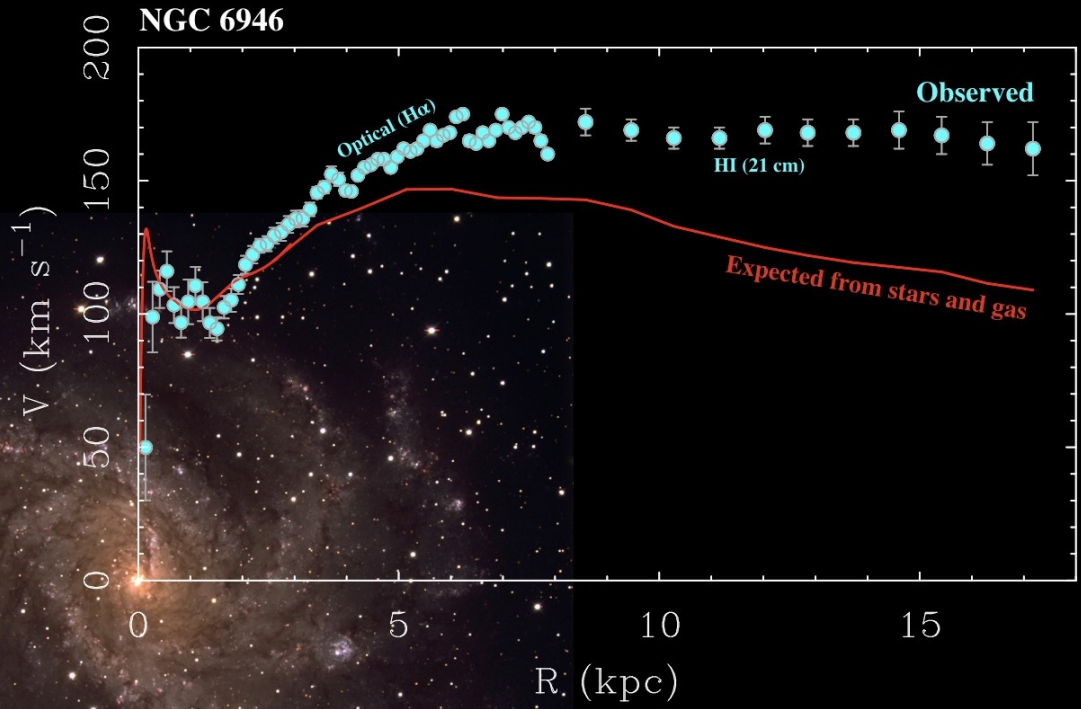
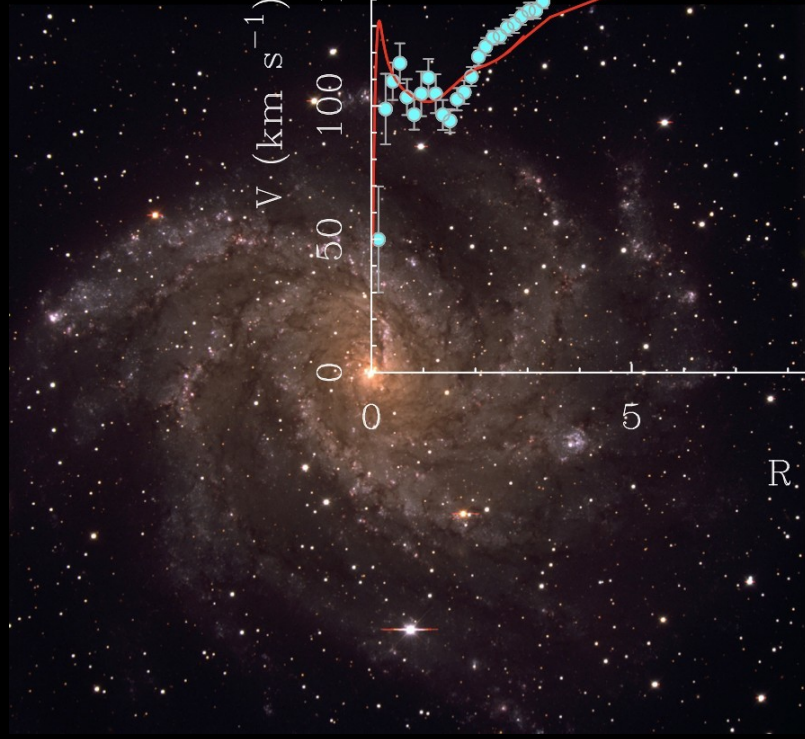
**SKA-Mid:** HI direct detections up to  $z \sim 1$ !



# 2. The Dark Matter Problem

# HI Rotation Curves → DM-dominated Regime

Data Credits:  
HI: Boomsma+08  
H $\alpha$ : Daigle+06  
NIR: Lelli+2016



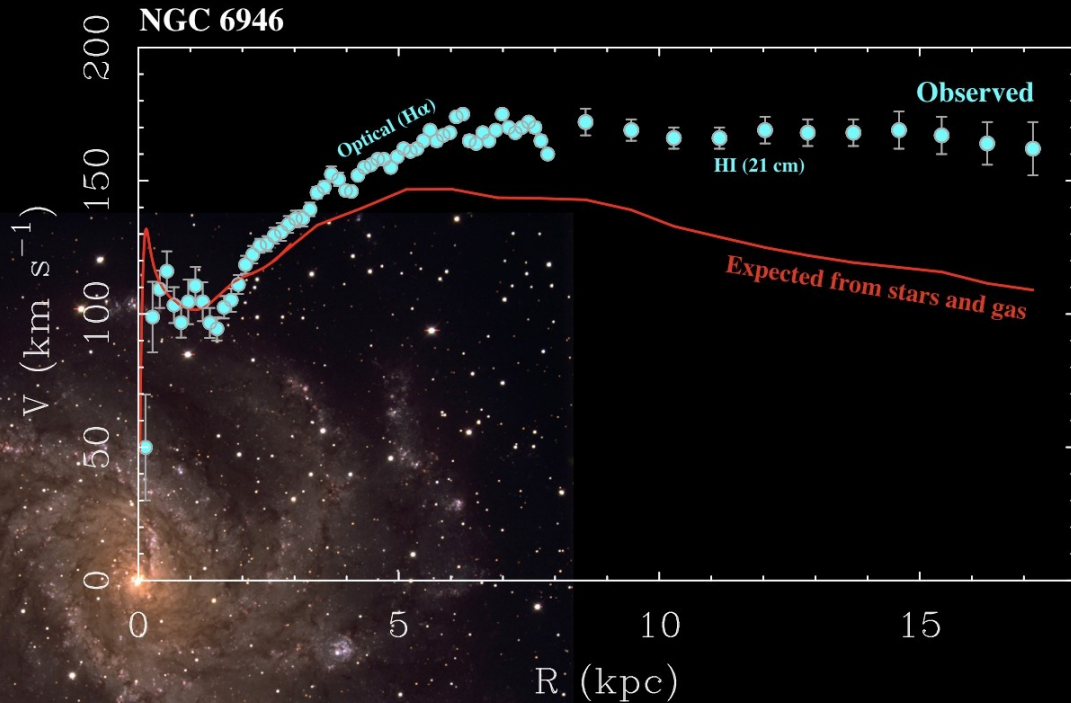
# HI Rotation Curves → DM-dominated Regime

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(Lelli+2016)

Database of 175 disk galaxies

HI rotation curves

+

HI surface density profiles

+

NIR photometry (Spitzer)

=

Full mass models



# HI Rotation Curves → DM-dominated Regime



Surface Photometry & Accurate Rotation Curves

(Lelli+2016)

Database of 175 disk galaxies

HI rotation curves

+

HI surface density profiles

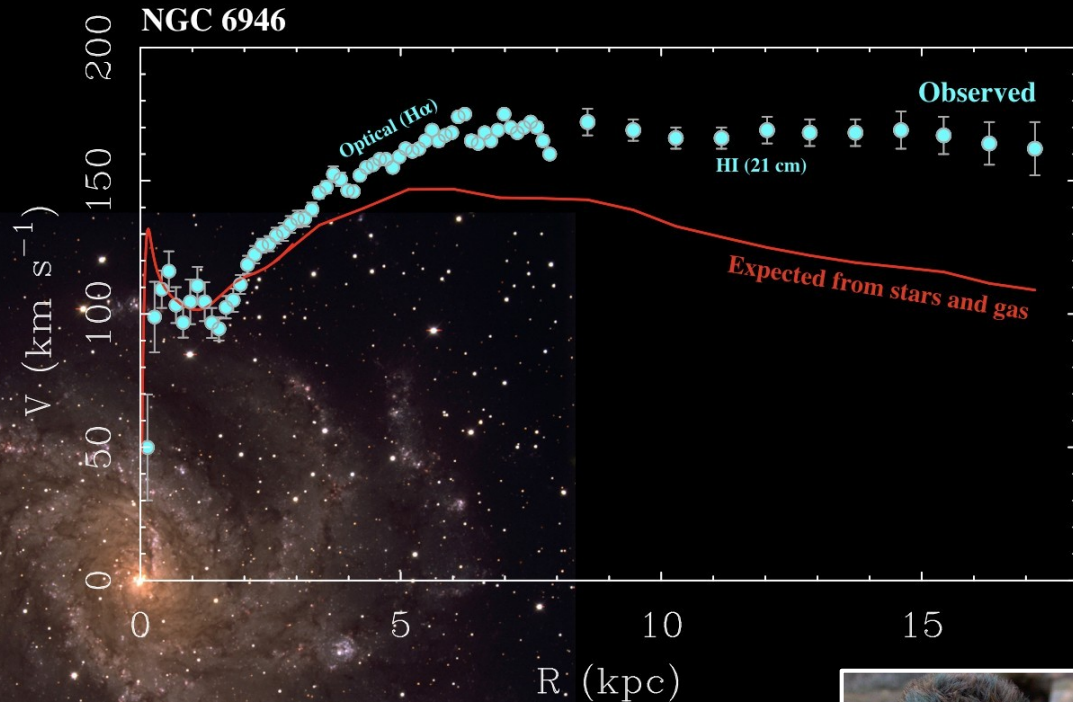
+

NIR photometry (Spitzer)

=

Full mass models

New SPARC-1k (~1000 gals)  
see **Haubner's** talk tomorrow

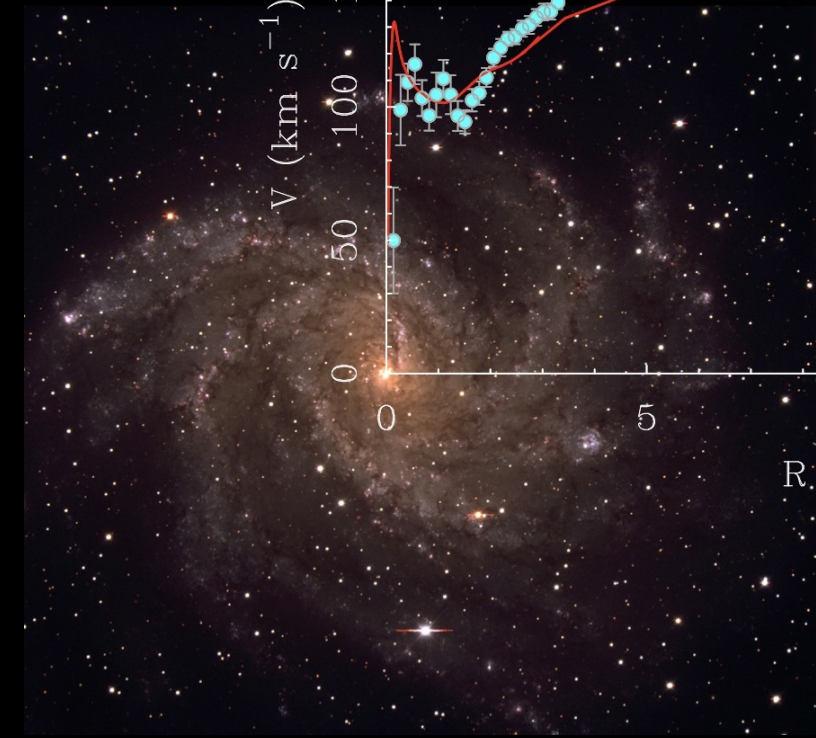


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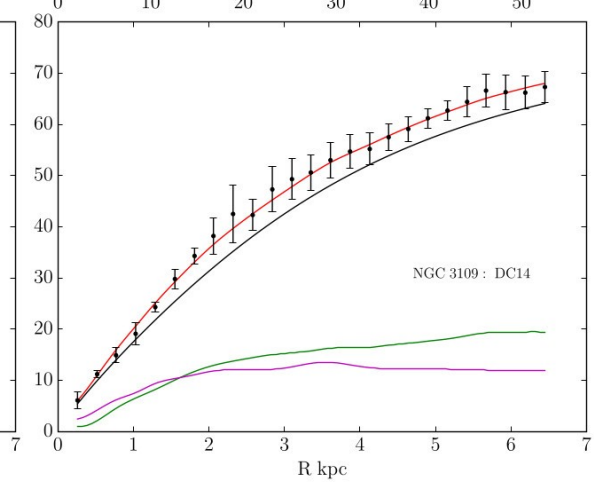
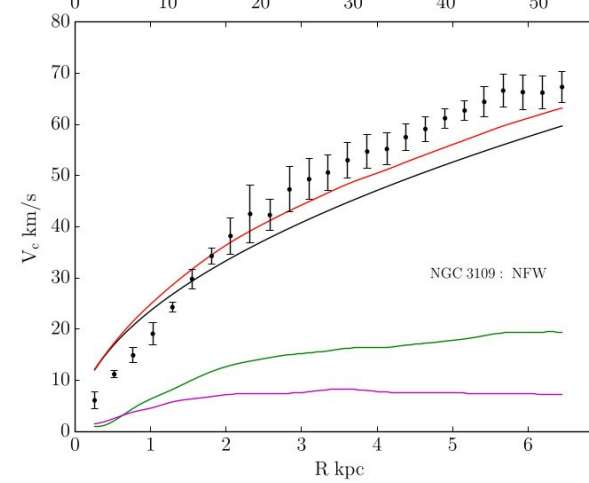
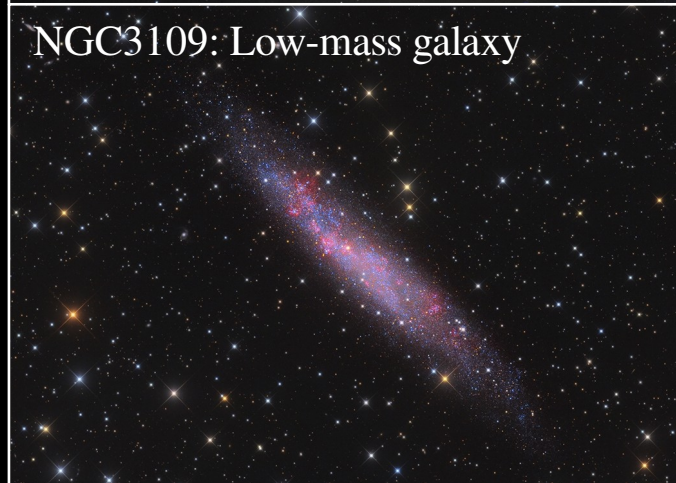
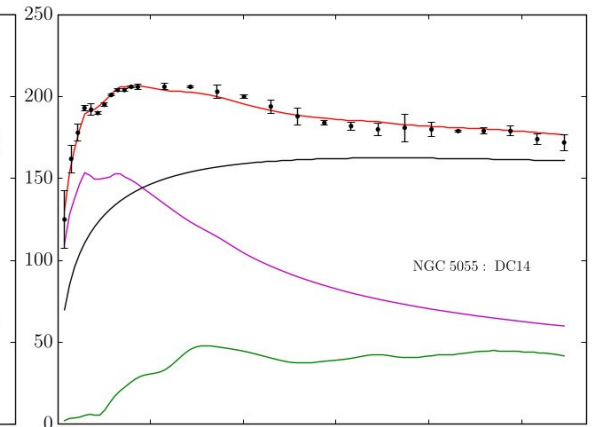
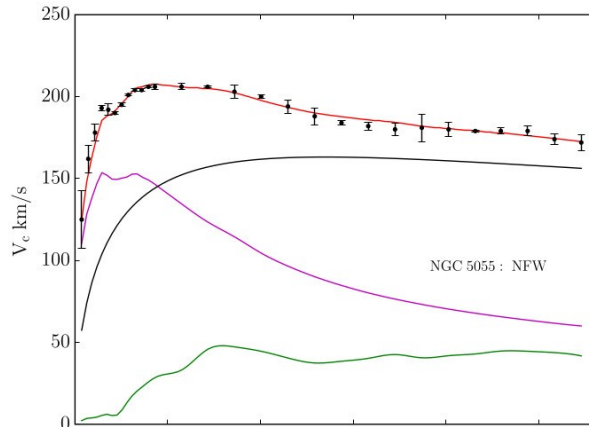


# Testing different DM halo models

From Katz, Lelli et al. (2017)

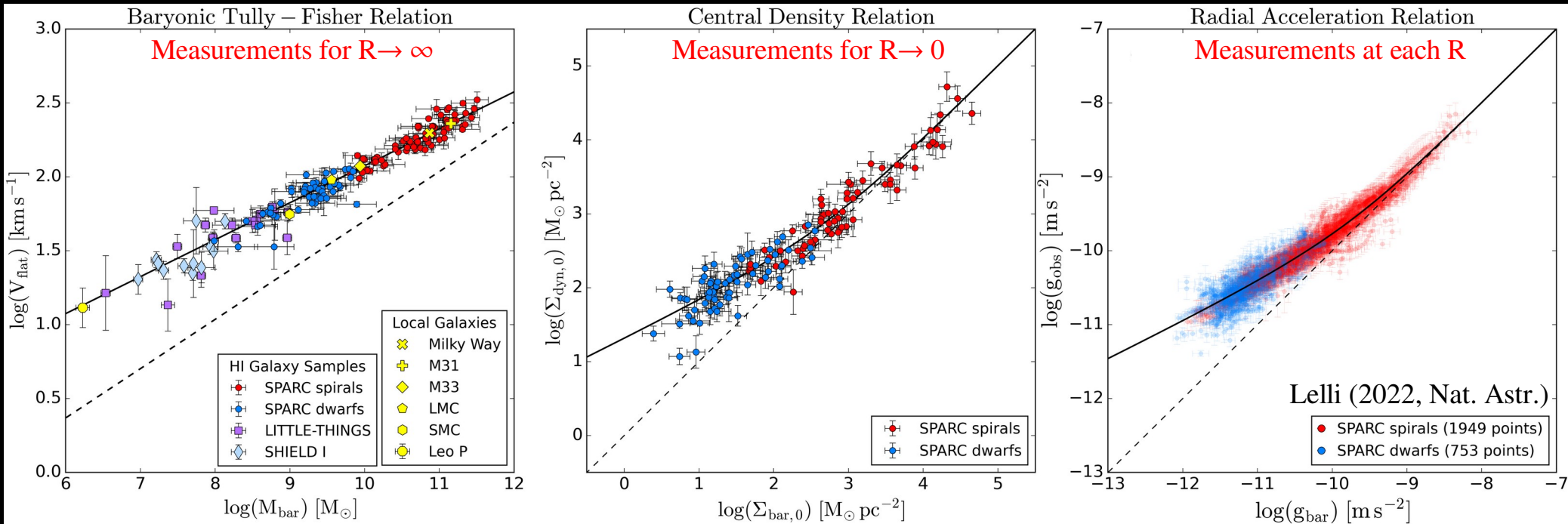
Cuspy Halo (NFW)

Baryonic-feedback-altered Halo

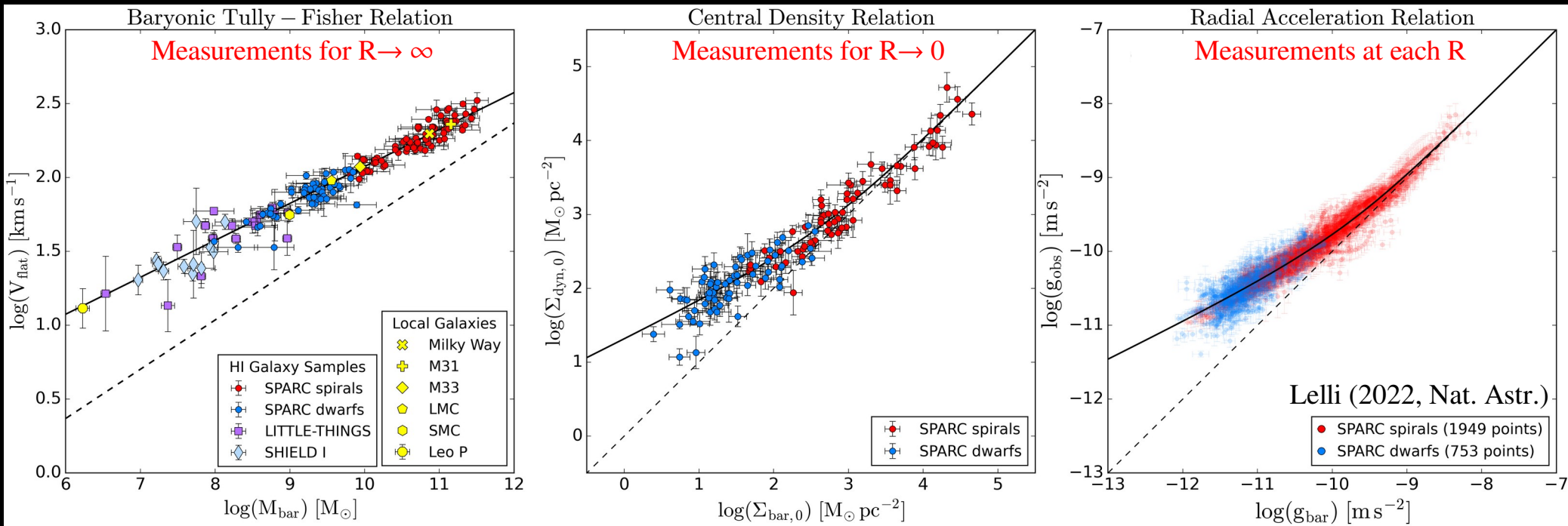




# Empirical Dynamical Scaling Laws

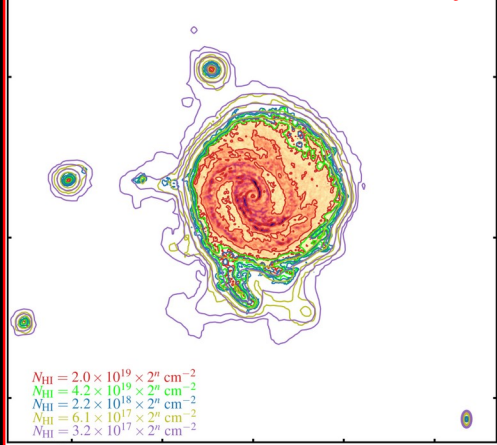


# Empirical Dynamical Scaling Laws

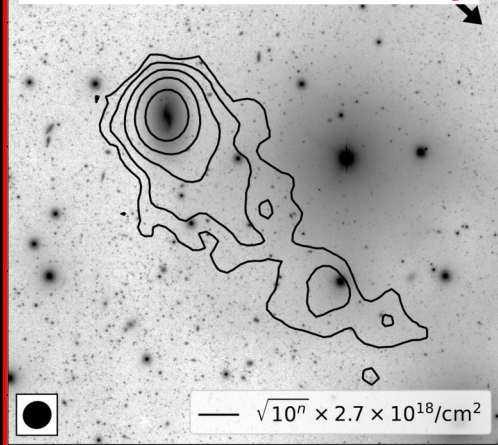


- **Baryon-DM coupling** at both global & local scales. What's driving it?
- **Extremely tight:** observed scatter  $\simeq$  uncertainties. What's the intrinsic scatter?
- **Predicted a-priori by MOND** (Milgrom 1983). Credit to alternatives to DM.

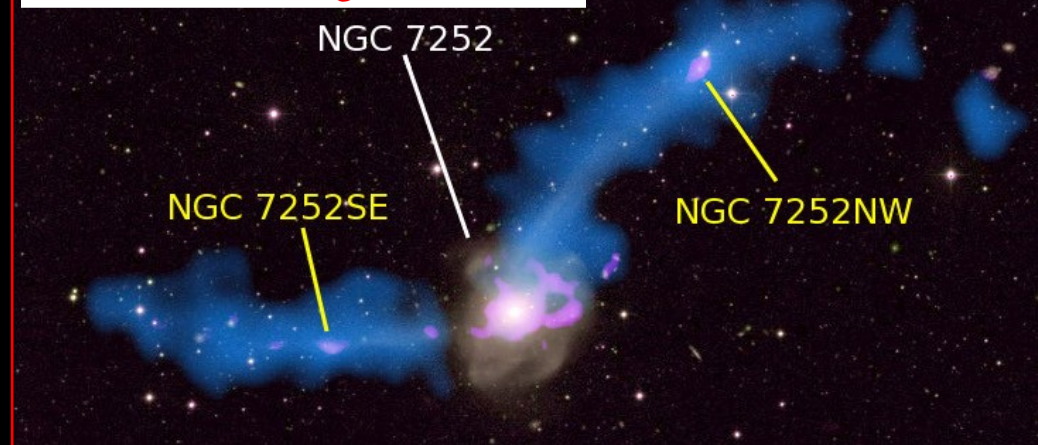
Gas Accretion ↔ SF activity



Gas Removal ↔ Quenching

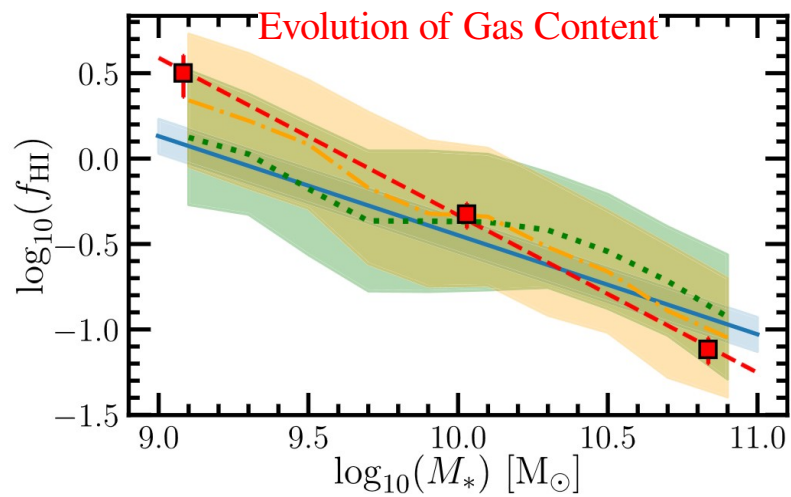


Interactions & Mergers → TDGs?

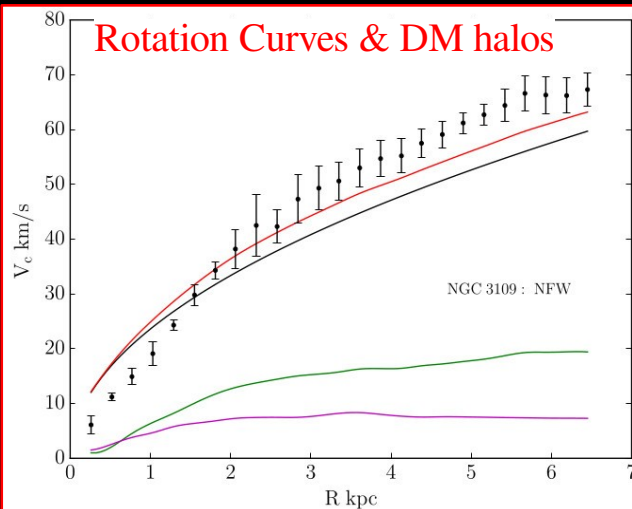


HI Galaxy Science with SKA-Mid will be very exciting!

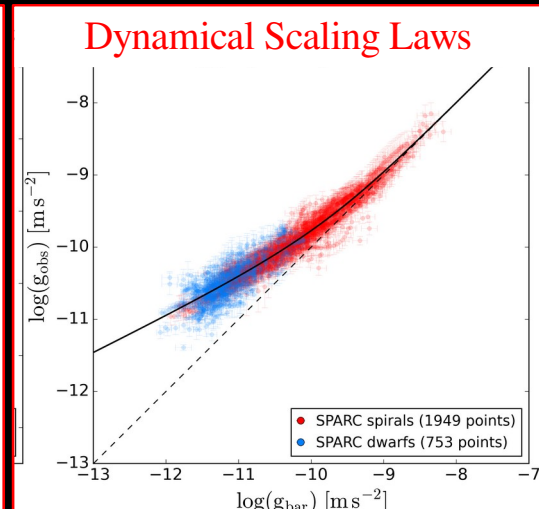
Evolution of Gas Content



Rotation Curves & DM halos



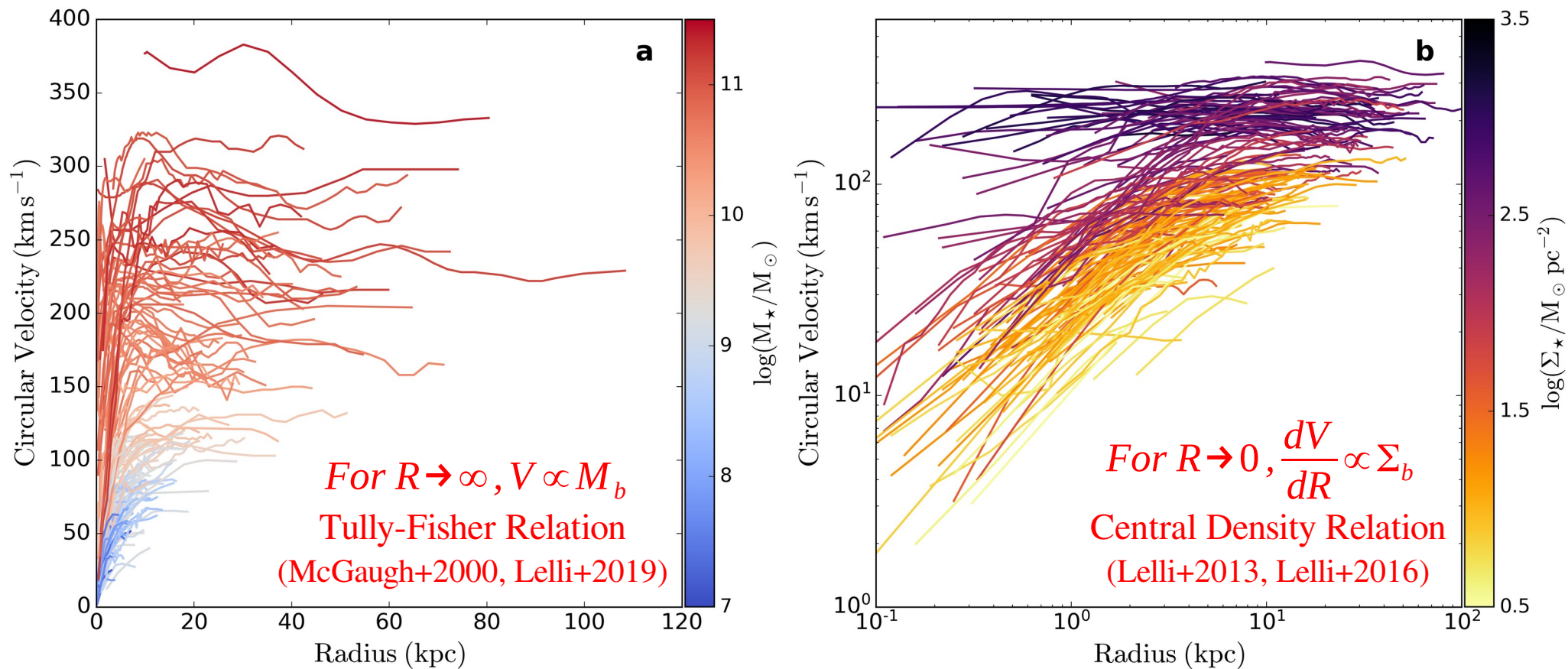
Dynamical Scaling Laws





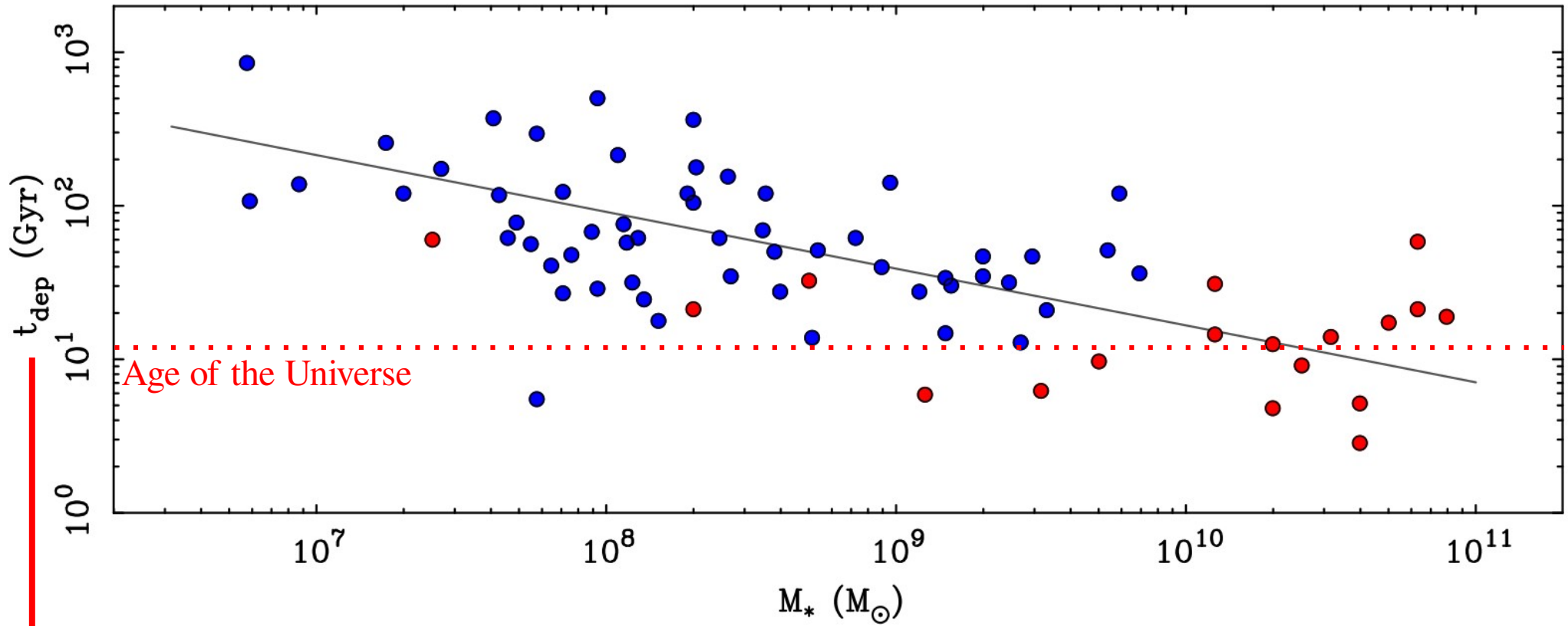
# More Slides

# Rotation Curve Shapes $\leftrightarrow$ Baryon Distribution



Lelli (2022, Nature Astronomy)

# Gas depletion times of nearby star-forming galaxies



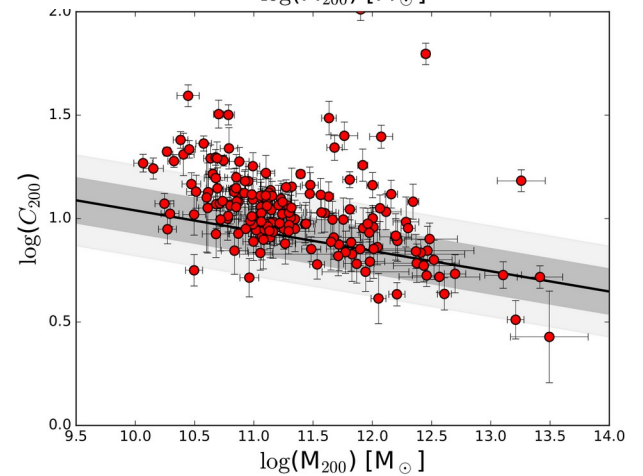
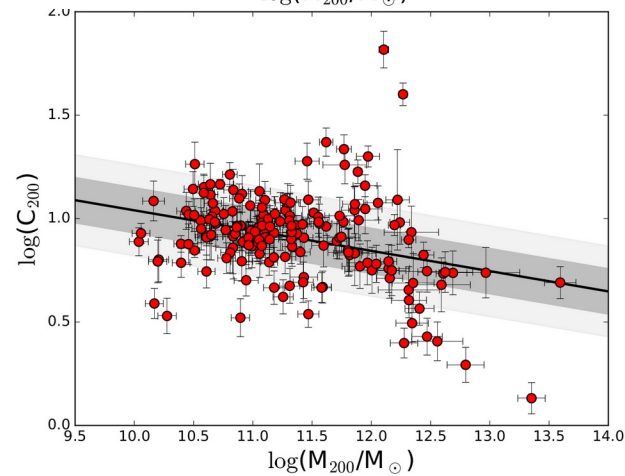
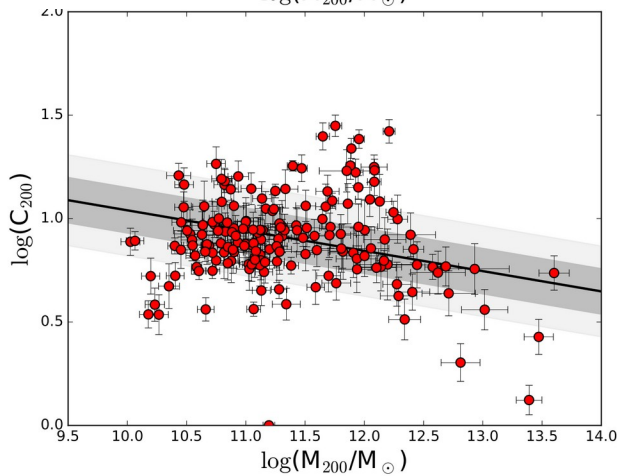
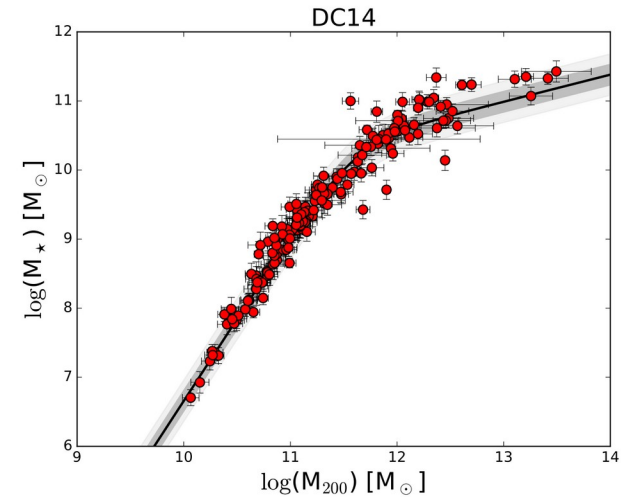
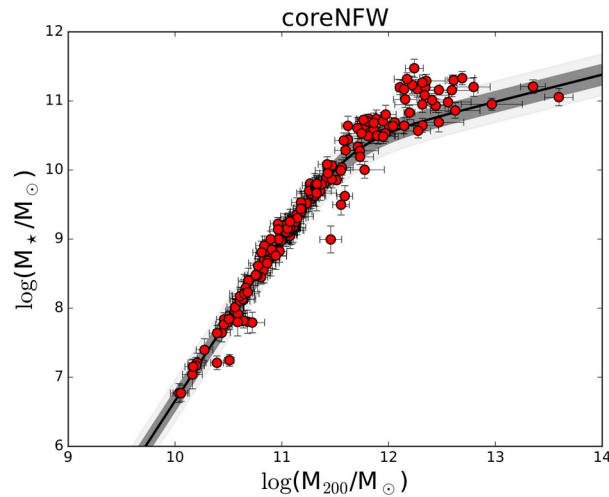
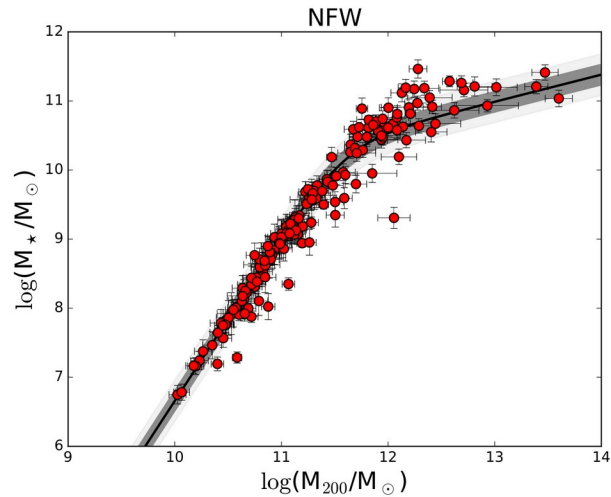
$M_{\text{gas}}/\text{SFR}$

McGaugh, Schombert, Lelli (2017, ApJ)



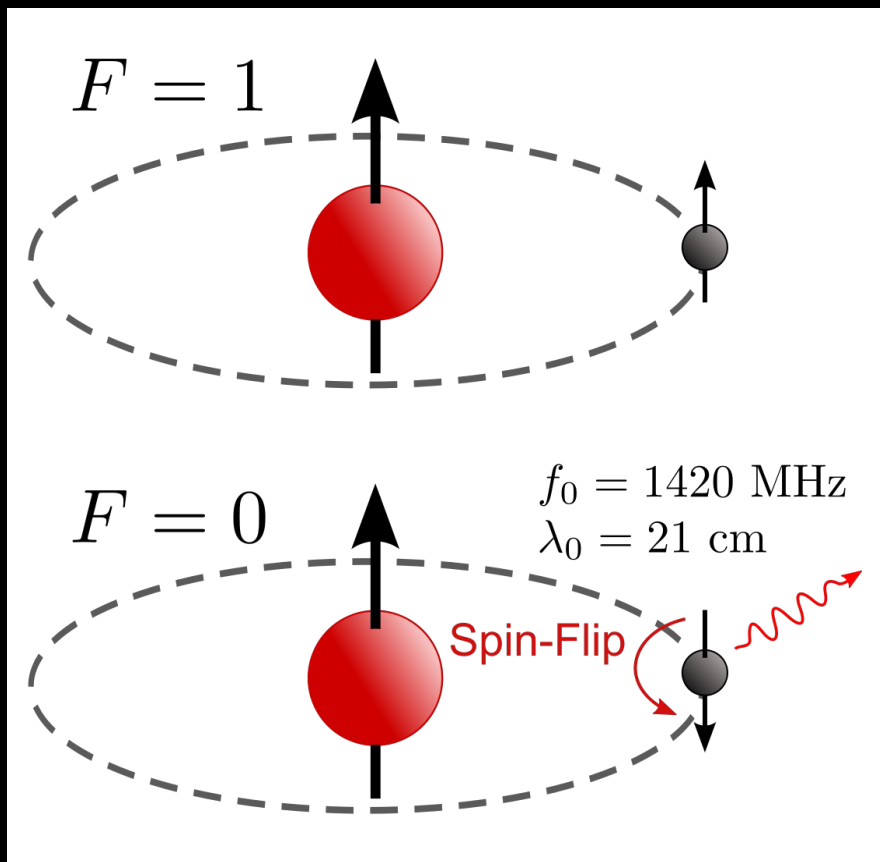
# Halo Scaling Relations in $\Lambda$ CDM

Li, Lelli et al. (2020)



# The 21-cm line of Atomic Hydrogen (HI)

Hyperfine transition (known physics) → exact conversions to physical quantities!



In the optically thin case:

HI surface brightness → HI column density

$$N_{\text{HI}} [\text{atoms}/\text{cm}^2] = 1.83 \cdot 10^{18} \int_{\text{line}} T_b [\text{K}] dV [\text{km}/\text{s}]$$

HI flux or luminosity → HI mass (knowing  $D$ )

$$M_{\text{HI}} [M_{\odot}] = 2.36 \cdot 10^5 D^2 [\text{Mpc}] \int_{\text{line}} S_{\nu} [\text{Jy}] dV [\text{km}/\text{s}]$$

**Rather unique situation in astrophysics!**

Stellar masses,  $\text{H}_2$  masses, SFRs require some astrophysical modeling and assumptions...