Star Formation in the Galactic Context

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J231433.12+001409.5

Modern analogues of high-*z* galaxies?



How does SN placement and rate matter?



H₂: necessity or tracer?



Does SN feedback determine SF efficiency? Star formation rate density correlates with H₂ surface density.

Does correlation imply causation?

Bigiel + I I; also see Rownd & Young 99, Wong & Blitz 02, Bigiel + 08, Leroy + 08





Other measurements of high density gas correlate equally well.

Alternatives: HCN, $A_K > 0.8$





also see Krumholz + 11

Molecules do not control [modern] star formation.



Cooling occurs faster than H_2 formation. At low metallicity, collapse occurs faster as well.

3.0 3.0 2.5 2.5 log T log Z 10g Z log 10g T 1082 108 log T 2.0 2.011 0.5 .5 1.0 metallicity 0.5 0.5 0.0 0.0 -3 -5-4-22 0 log free-fall times $\log t/t_{\rm ff}$

Krumholz 12

GI predicts threshold seen at low surface density



Li, Mac Low & Klessen 06 (also Kravtsov 03)



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0 X/R,

-2

-4

Gravitational instability drives clump formation and rapid star formation in gas-rich disks



Agertz + 09



Luminous compact blue galaxies often turn out to be gas-rich local examples of similar behavior.



Fig. 2.— Color-combined SDSS images of the 14 local LCBGs classified as clumpy. A range

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Model ingredients

Physics included.



Non-self-gravitating evolution.



Non-self-gravitating evolution.



Non-self-gravitating evolution.



Self-gravitating evolution



Self-gravitating evolution





Ibáñez-Mejía + 16



Ibáñez-Mejía + 16

 $\Delta x = 0.12 \text{ pc}$



lbáñez-Mejía + 16b

 $\Delta x = 0.12 \text{ pc}$



lbáñez-Mejía + 16b



Figure 10. Velocity dispersion-radius-surface density $(\sigma - R - \Sigma)$ scaling relation for observations and simulations of MCs, clumps, and cores in the Galaxy. Both plots show (orange open and filled circles) observations in ¹³CO reported by Heyer et al. (2009); (light green diamonds) Galactic infrared-dark clouds observed in CS (Gibson et al. 2009); and (yellow stars) infrared dark clouds observed with NH₃ (Bihr et al. 2015). The black triangle shows the constant value of the column density reported by Solomon et al. (1987) in their size-density relation. The left plot shows the simulated objects captured by the low (red circles) and high (blue triangles) density ranges at $t_{SG} = 0$. The right plot contains the evolved population of simulated clouds and clumps for low (red circles) and high (blue triangles) density ranges. Clumps are always denoted with triangles because they are lower limits for the velocity dispersion, upper limits for the cloud radius and the surface density. The dashed and dotted lines correspond to the relation $\sigma/R^{1/2} \propto \Sigma^{1/2}$, where the dashed line corresponds to the velocity dispersion for a uniform spherical cloud in virial equilibrium and the dotted line the apparent velocity dispersion for a cloud in free-fall collapse.

Ibáñez-Mejía + 16

Accretion drives Larson's size-velocity relation. Turbulence drives the scatter.

Molecular clouds appear to form quickly by gravitational instability and begin forming stars just as quickly.

This leaves open the question of why star formation remains inefficient. Rapid feedback, which we are now working on simulating, must be important.





Only 10% of identified SNRs interact with molecular gas (traced here by OH maser emission, but also seen with TeV γ -ray emission by Fukui+ 03)

Many more SNRs are hidden in superbubbles (e.g. Chu & Mac Low 90)



comparing Joung & Mac Low 06 to Avillez & Breitschwerdt 04

see Miao Li talk as well (and Li+15)

Thermal equilibrium between FUV stellar heating and radiative cooling can result in a two phase medium





Example of a high-pressure simulation with all mass in tiny, dense, clumps.

Pure cold phase has huge volume filling factor of hot gas, leading to thermal runaway from supernova heating (Gatto + 15, Miao Li + 15)

Massive, gas rich, high-pressure, molecular disks might be in this phase (Hill + 16, in prep)



Following the Kennicutt-Schmidt relation results in three-phase ISM, *but* increasing SN rate (= SFR) by factor of three leads to thermal runaway and a cold ISM filled with hot gas.



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Massive clumps likely to have hierarchical substructure so they are better thought of as clump clusters, again with low filling factor of cold, dense gas.



H₂: tracer if metals present



Clouds collapse hierarchically: SFE from feedback?

SN placement and rate can determine phases.



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LCBGs analogues of high-*z* galaxies



