

# Whittle : EXTRAGALACTIC ASTRONOMY

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## 5. SPIRAL GALAXIES

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### (1) Introduction

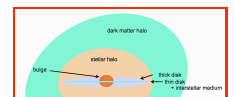
#### (a) Spiral Galaxies are Complex Systems

Disk galaxies appear to be more complex than ellipticals

- Wide range in morphological **appearance**:  
eg classification bins : simple E0-6 compared with all the spiral types  
not just smooth, considerable fine-scale details
- Wide range in stellar **populations**:  
old, intermediate, young and currently forming  
→ ongoing chemical enrichment
- Wide range in stellar **dynamics**:  
"cold" rotationally supported disk stars  
"hot" mainly dispersion supported bulge and halo stars
- Significant **cold ISM**:  
note : the cold and warm components are **dissipative**, and therefore :  
→ influences dynamical evolution (eg helps spiral formation)  
→ influences stellar density distribution (eg creates dense cores & black holes)

#### (b) Review of Basic Components [\[image\]](#)

- Disks :**  
Metal rich stars and ISM  
Nearly circular orbits with little (~5%) random motion & spiral patterns  
Both thin and thick components
- Bulge :**  
Metal poor to super-rich stars  
High stellar densities with steep profile  
 $V(\text{rot})/\sigma \sim 1$ , so dispersion support important.
- Bar :**  
Flat, linear distribution of stars  
Associated rings and spiral pattern



- **Nucleus :**
  - Central ( $< 10\text{pc}$ ) region of very high density ( $\sim 10^6 M_{\odot}\text{pc}^{-3}$ )
  - Dense ISM &/or starburst &/or star cluster
  - Massive black hole
- **Stellar Halo :**
  - Very low SB;  $\sim$ few % total light; little/no rotation
  - Metal poor stars; GCs, dwarfs; low-density hot gas
- **Dark Halo :**
  - Dark matter dominates mass (and potential) outside  $\sim 10\text{kpc}$
  - Mildly flattened &/or triaxial

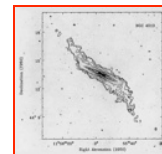
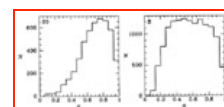


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## (2) 3-D Shapes

### (a) Disks

- Distribution of (projected)  $b/a$  : [\[image\]](#)
  - Approximately **flat** over wide range, from 0.3 to 0.8
  - Rapid rise at  $b/a \sim 0.1 - 0.3$ ; and rapid fall at  $b/a > 0.8$
- Interpretation :
  - Randomly oriented thin circular disks give  $N(b/a) = \text{const}$   
 → observed  $N(b/a)$  consistent with **mostly flat circular disks**
  - Drop at low  $b/a$  due to bulge. Note: slower rise for big bulge S0s, and faster rise for small bulge Scs.
  - Minimum  $b/a \sim 0.05 - 0.1$  for  $\sim$ bulgeless Sdm → **disks can be highly flattened**
  - drop at high  $b/a \sim 0.8$  caused by **non-circular disks**  
 → dark matter potentials slightly oblate/triaxial ( $\langle \epsilon(\phi) \rangle > \sim 0.045$ )
- Warps: [\[image\]](#)
  - starlight almost always flat (if undisturbed)
  - however, HI is often **warped**, with warp starting beyond  $D_{25}$
  - 180 degree symmetry: "integral sign" when seen edge-on.
  - 75% of warped galaxies have **no** significant companion  
 → probably response to non-spherical halo potential misaligned with disk



### (b) Bulges

Not as easy as ellipticals because of other components  
 Study edge-on spirals to minimise contamination

Results :

- oblate spheroids, flattened by rotation  
 → probably similar to low-luminosity ellipticals

### (c) Bars

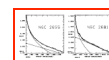
- Axis ratios from 2.5 to 5.
- Probably **flat**, since they aren't visible in edge-on spirals
- However, "peanut" bulges thought to be thickened (unstable) bars seen edge-on [\[image\]](#)



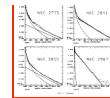
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## (3) Surface Photometry

Model as two components: bulge and disk [\[image\]](#)



- 1-D fits to elliptically-azimuthally averaged light profile
- 2-D fits to full image: better, since bulge & disk have different ellipticities



## (a) Radial Profiles

### (i) Bulge

deVaucouleurs  $R^{1/4}$  Law, first in flux units:

$$I(R) = I(0) \exp\left(-7.67 (R/R_e)^{1/4}\right) \quad (5.1a)$$

$$= I(R_e) \exp\left(-7.67 \left[ (R/R_e)^{1/4} - 1 \right]\right) \quad (5.1b)$$

or in magnitudes per square arcsec:

$$\mu(R) = \mu(0) + 8.325 (R/R_e)^{1/4} \quad (5.2a)$$

$$= \mu(R_e) + 8.325 \left[ (R/R_e)^{1/4} - 1 \right] \quad (5.2b)$$

where

- Effective radius,  $R_e$ , contains half the light; [Note:  $I(R_e) \equiv I_e$ , etc ]
- $R_e \sim 0.5 - 4$  kpc (larger for early Hubble types)
- $I(0) = 2140 I(R_e)$
- Integrating to infinity:  $L_{\text{tot}} = 7.22 \pi R_e^2 I_e$

### (ii) Disk

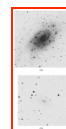
Exponential fits well (first flux units, then mag/ss):

$$I(R) = I(0) \exp(-R/R_d) \quad (5.3a)$$

$$\mu(R) = \mu(0) + 1.086 (R/R_d) \quad (5.3b)$$

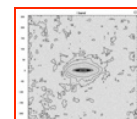
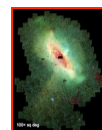
where

- $R_d$  is the disk **scale length**, ie  $I(R_d) = 1/e I(0)$
- Typically,  $R_d \sim 0.25 R_{25} \sim 2 - 5$  kpc ( $R_{25}$  is 25<sup>th</sup> mag/ss isophote)
- In practice, disk light falls sharply beyond 3 - 5  $R_d$
- $R_d > R_e$  always (eg MW :  $R_d \sim 5$  kpc,  $R_e \sim 2.7$  kpc)
- Integrating to infinity:  $L_{\text{tot}} = 2 \pi R_d^2 I(0)$
- $\mu_B(0) \sim 21.65 \pm 0.3$  mag/ss (Freeman 1970 "Law" of  $\sim \text{const } \mu(0)$  for normal spirals)  
However, a few Low Surface Brightness (LSB) galaxies have much fainter  $\mu(0)$  [\[image\]](#)



### (iii) Stellar Halos

- MW and M31 have **resolved** halos with metal poor stars, and globular clusters  
Both of these systems contain significant **substructure** [\[image\]](#)  
→ tidally stripped dwarf galaxies and globular clusters.  
However, M33 does **not** have a significant stellar halo
- Extremely difficult to see as integrated light in other galaxies [\[image\]](#)  
Stacking  $\sim 1000$  SDSS edge on galaxies shows extended red light out to  $\mu_i \sim 29$  mag/ss:  
Implied density:  $\rho(r) \propto r^{-\alpha}$  with  $\alpha \sim 3$ .  
Consistent with moderately flattened spheroid:  $c/a \sim 0.6$



- Overall, still unclear yet:
  - How much of stellar halo is in form of tidal streams
  - How many galaxies have stellar halos .

## (b) Vertical Disk Structure

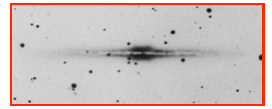
Studies of edge on disks suggests **exponential** distribution: [\[image\]](#)

$$I(z) = I(0) \exp(-|z|/z_0) \quad (5.4)$$

Where  $z_0$  is the **scale height** of the disk, ie  $I(z_0) = I(0) / e$

At large  $z$ , excess light sometimes reveals a second "Thick Disk" of larger  $z_0$

(see [4d\(ii\)](#) below for further discussion of vertical disk structure)



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## (4) Disk Velocity Field

### (a) Gas Rotation Curves

Typical rotation curve comprises [\[image\]](#)

- rise from zero at the nucleus
- $V_{\max}$  peak at  $R_{\max}$
- extended region close to flat

Many rotation curves have now been measured

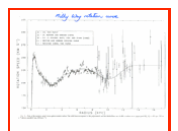
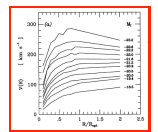
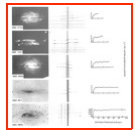
Some systematic trends are noticeable :

#### (i) At Large Radius

- $V_{\max}$  increases as  $L$  increases (T-F relation, see [below](#))
- Outer slope increases as  $L$  decreases [\[image\]](#)  
for  $V(r) \propto R^m$  we find  $m$  in the range -0.2 to 0.2 ( $m = 0$ , flat, for  $M_B \sim -22.5$ )  
Drop in massive early types caused, in part, by high  $V_{\max}$  from bulge

#### (ii) At Small Radius

- For luminous early type spirals,  $V(r)$  rises **very rapidly** (often unresolved)  
→ dense bulge core( &/or black hole?) [see Milky Way rotation curve: [image](#)]
- For low luminosity later type spirals,  $V(r)$  rises **more slowly**  
often  $V(r) \propto r$  → "solid body"  
However: sometimes, when  $V(r)$  drops,  $\sigma(r)$  **increases**, so  $V(r)$  is **not** the full  $V_c$   
i.e. rotation **and** dispersion both provide support



### (b) Stellar Velocities in the Disk

Disks are **faint** → stellar LOSVD (Line Of Sight Velocity Dispersion) is difficult to measure

Also, brighter central regions are confused by bulge component

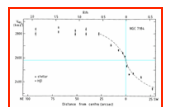
Nevertheless, some results are emerging.

#### (i) Rotation

For disk stars,  $V_{\text{los}} \gg \sigma_{\text{los}}$  so stars are **cold** and have ~ circular orbits

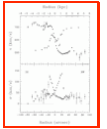
Usually,  $V_{\text{stars}}$  follows  $V_{\text{gas}}$  which is close to  $V_c$  [\[image\]](#)

- Sometimes, star orbital rotation velocity can be **slower** than the gas  
this is called **asymmetric drift** and indicates a higher stellar dispersion



- support beginning to be shared with dispersion
- stars at  $r$  likely to be at apogee, so have  $V < V_c$

- In S0s, ~30% have **counter-rotating** gas disks [image]  
a few spirals even have two counter-rotating **stellar** disks  
→ both indicate external origin postdating primary disk formation



## (ii) Vertical Dispersion

Face-on galaxies yield  $\sigma_z$ : the vertical stellar dispersion

- As a function of radius,  $\sigma_z$  decreases exponentially, with scale length  $2R_d$

This agrees with simple stellar dynamics theory:

An isothermal disk gives  $\sigma_z^2 = 2 \pi G z_0 \Sigma_M$

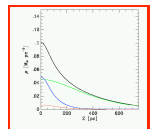
where  $\Sigma_M$  is the surface mass density and  $z_0$  is the scale height

Hence  $\sigma_z \propto \Sigma_M^{1/2} \propto I(r)^{1/2} \propto \exp(-R/2R_d)$ , as found.

- Consider the Milky Way disk: observations near the solar neighborhood:

The inferred mass density within the disk suggests dark matter does **not** dominate the disk.

It turns out there are **several components** of different  $z_0$  and  $\sigma_z$  [image]



- gas and dust,  $z_0 \sim 50$  pc ;  $\sigma_z \sim 10$  km/s
- young thin disk,  $z_0 \sim 200$  pc ;  $\sigma_z \sim 25$  km/s
- old thick disk,  $z_0 \sim 1.5$  kpc ;  $\sigma_z \sim 50$  km/s

The astrophysical origin of this is thought to be  $\sigma_z$  increasing with **age**

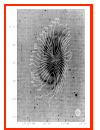
- stars born "cold" from molecular clouds with  $\sigma_z \sim$  sound speed, and corresponding small  $z_0$
- stars gradually "heated" by scattering off DMCs and spiral arms, and/or
- heating of the disk over time by satellite passage and/or minor mergers

## (c) 2-D Velocity Fields: Spider Diagrams

A circular disk tilted by angle  $i$  ( $0 =$  pole on) projects to an ellipse.

The photometric major axis (PMA) of this ellipse is called the **line of nodes**

Contours of projected velocity,  $V_{\text{los}}$ , give a **spider diagram** [image]

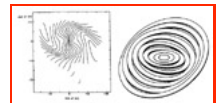
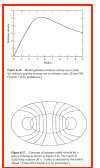


**Kinematic Major Axis (KMA):** line through nucleus **perpendicular** to velocity contours

**Kinematic Minor Axis (KMI):**  $V_{\text{los}}$  contour at  $V_{\text{sys}}$  through the nucleus

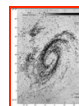
These spider diagrams reveal much about the detailed form of the disk velocity field:

- **Circular velocity** in an inclined circular disk: [image]  
KMA aligned with photometric major axis (PMA)  
KMI aligned with photometric minor axis (PMI)
- **Flat**  $V(r)$  (beyond initial rise) gives:  
 $V_{\text{los}}$  contours are approximately **radial** at large  $R$   
If  $V(r)$  **declines** past  $V_{\text{max}}$ , then  $V_{\text{los}}$  contours close in a loop.
- **Solid body** i.e.  $V_c(r) \propto r$  in near-nuclear regions, gives:  
equally spaced contours across nuclear KMA, with spacing  $\propto 1/\text{slope}$
- **Warped** disks have: [image]  
Twisted  $V_{\text{los}}$  contours in outer parts  
Note: model galaxies as a set of rings with different  $V(r)$ ,  $PA(r)$ ,  $i(r)$
- **Bars** often show:



evidence of **radial motion** over bar region

- **Oval disks** (e.g. arising from non-axisymmetric halo)
  - KMI and KMA not perpendicular
  - KMA not aligned with PMA, and KMI not aligned with PMI
- **Spiral arms** yield: [\[image\]](#)
  - small perturbations to  $V_{\text{los}}$  contours near arm positions



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## (5) Scaling Relations

There are a number of correlations between the global parameters of galaxies:

Luminosity; Size; Surface Brightness; Rotation Velocity;

Such relations are called "Scaling Relations".

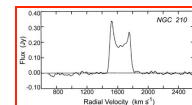
They are important for several reasons:

- They reveal the internal properties of galaxies
- They must arise naturally in theories of galaxy formation.

In the case of disk galaxies, the most important is between  $V_{\text{rot}}$  and Luminosity:

### (a) $V_{\text{max}}$ and the Tully-Fisher Relation

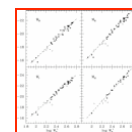
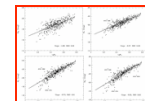
- $V_{\text{max}}$  = maximum rotation velocity (inclination corrected), derived from: [\[image\]](#)
  - Major axis optical (often  $H\alpha$ ) rotation curves (**half** the full amplitude)
  - HI 21 cm integrated (single dish) profile width,  $W_{20}$ :  $W_{20} / \sin i = 2V_{\text{max}}$
- Tully & Fisher (1977) recognised that  $V_{\text{max}}$  correlates with galaxy luminosity
  - $L \propto V_{\text{max}}^\alpha$      $\alpha \sim 3 - 4$
- As for the Faber-Jackson relation, the T-F relation stems from virial equilibrium:
  - $V_c^2 \propto M/R$     and     $L \propto I(0) R^2$
  - $\rightarrow L \propto (M/L)^{-2} I(0)^{-1} V_c^4$
  - $\rightarrow$  T-F relation holds if  $(M/L)^{-2} I(0)^{-1} \sim \text{const}$     (roughly true)



- Usually, choose **longer** wavelengths (eg I & H bands rather than B & V): [\[image\]](#)
  - smaller scatter on the T-F relation, and slightly steeper gradient ( $\alpha$  larger)

This is because, at  $\sim 1-2\mu\text{m}$  :

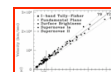
  - $L_{1\mu}$  is less sensitive to star formation and dust
  - $L_{1\mu}$  tracks older population which dominates mass and has a more homogeneous M/L ratio
- The T-F relation is one of the key methods of **distance determination**
  - First calibrate on nearby galaxies with Cepheid distances [\[image\]](#)
  - this yields the following relations :



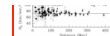
$$\begin{aligned}
 M_B^{0,i} &= -7.41 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 20.04 \pm 0.04 \\
 M_R^{0,i} &= -8.09 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 21.05 \pm 0.04 \\
 M_I^{0,i} &= -8.55 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 21.51 \pm 0.04 \\
 M_H^{0,i} &= -10.39 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 22.22 \pm 0.08
 \end{aligned}$$

(5.5)

- Then for more distant galaxies, measure  $V$ , inclination, and apparent magnitude:  $V_{\text{max}}$  and TF relation gives  $M$ , which gives  $m - M$ , which gives distance.



- These greater distances can now be used with redshifts to derive  $H_0$  [\[image\]](#)



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## (6) Mass Estimates and Dark Matter Halos

### (a) Deriving $M(r)$ from $V_c(r)$

For centrifugally supported circular motion,  $V_c(r)$  yields the mass distributions. In general (**not** assuming spherical symmetry):

$$M(< r) = \beta \frac{R V_c^2(r)}{G} \tag{5.6}$$

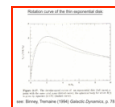
where  $\beta$  is a geometry factor  $0.7 < \beta < 1.2$   
 Sphere:  $\beta = 1.0$ ,    Flattened :  $\beta \sim 0.7$

For an exponential, thin disk, one can show that :

$$\begin{aligned} V_c^2(R) &= R \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial R} \\ &= 2 \frac{GM_d}{R_d} y^2 [I_0(y)K_0(y) - I_1(y)K_1(y)] \quad (y = \frac{R}{2R_d}) \\ &\simeq 0.767 \frac{GM_d}{R_d} \frac{0.44(R/R_d)^{1.3}}{1 + 0.235(R/R_d)^{2.3}} \quad R < 4R_d \end{aligned} \tag{5.7}$$

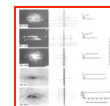
Where  $I_n$  and  $K_n$  are modified Bessel functions of the first and second kind.

This rotation curve has peak:  $V_{max}$  at  $R_{max} \sim 2.2 R_d$  [\[image\]](#)  
 for  $R > 3 R_{max}$   $V_c(R)$  falls  $\sim R^{-1/2}$  (Keplerian)



### (b) Results from Optical Rotation Curves

- 1960s (Burbidge's) gathered  $H\alpha$  rotation curves and **assumed** Keplerian fall-off beyond their data.  
 → quote well defined galaxy "masses"
- 1970s & 80s (Rubin et al) went deeper : **flat** out to  $\sim 2 - 3 R_d$  [\[image\]](#)  
 → conclude dark matter (**careful** : exponential disk still  $\sim$ flat here)
- Kent (1986) images **same** galaxies and derives rotation curves directly from light profile they **match** the observed rotation curves !  
 → dark matter **not required**; bulge + disk with normal M/L suffices



### (c) Results from HI mapping

- Fortunately, HI extends **well beyond** the optical disk [\[image\]](#)  
 while  $H\alpha$  goes to  $2-3 R_d$  ( $\sim 0.75 R_{25}$ ), HI often goes to  $> 5 R_d$
- $V_{rot}$  rarely declines; still flat or rising **well beyond the disk** [\[image\]](#)

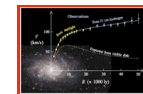


It is necessary to invoke an invisible **halo**

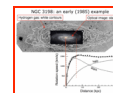
Since  $\Phi = \Phi_d + \Phi_h$  and  $V_c^2 = r d\Phi/dr$ , then:

$$V_c^2 = V_d^2 + V_h^2$$

Use the observed rotation,  $V_c$ , and the (predicted) disk rotation,  $V_d$ , to  
 → infer the halo contribution,  $V_h$ , and its potential.



- Typically, bulge + disk accounts for inner rotation curve with reasonable  $M/L_B \sim 3 - 5$   
If this is forced to fit the inner rotation, it is called "maximum disk" model  
Dark matter **halo** needed at larger radii, giving total  $M/L_B \sim 30$   
→ ~5 times more dark matter than normal matter in stars + gas  
This is a **lower limit** since  $V_{\text{rot}}$  still constant/rising!



- Historically important paper: van Albada et al (1985) analysis of NGC 3198 : [\[image\]](#)
- It is now generally accepted that galaxies reside within large halos of dark matter. [\[image\]](#)



## (d) Dark Matter Halo Structure

- At largest measured radii  $V_{\text{rot}}$  is ~flat, so  $\rho(r) \sim r^{-2}$  in this region  
Unknown beyond this, but must drop faster to keep total mass finite.
- Difficult to constrain the **inner** parts  
Bulge + "maximum disk" fits yield plausible M/L (~3-5), suggesting DM not important here  
Halo contribution clearly drops at small radii, but functional form not well constrained.
- N-body codes which follow hierarchical assembly of DM halos yield a particular form:  
The Navarro-Frenk-White (NFW) 2-parameter broken power-law profile:

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_0}{(r/a)(1+r/a)^2} \quad (5.8)$$

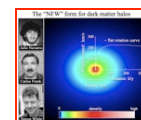
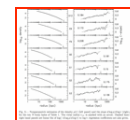
This has  $\rho(r) \sim r^{-1}$  in the center and  $\rho(r) \sim r^{-3}$  at  $r \gg a$ .

Or a slightly better 3-parameter fit is the "Einasto Profile": [\[image\]](#)

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(r) &= \rho_0 \exp[-d_n (r/r_e)^{1/n}] \\ &= \rho_e \exp[-d_n [(r/r_e)^{1/n} - 1]] \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

In this case,  $d_n \approx 3n - 1/3 + 0.0079/n$ , ensures that  $r_e$  contains half the total mass.  
 $n \sim 7 \rightarrow 4$ , decreasing systematically with halo mass (cluster → galaxy halos).  
[See Merritt et al (2006 [o-link](#)) for a detailed discussion of halo fitting functions]

Both these give rotation curves that rise to a peak and slowly decline [\[image\]](#)  
They are approximately flat in the regions measured by optical or HI rotation curves.



## (e) Disk-Halo Conspiracy

There is an intriguing property of these rotation curves:

- After a rapid rise, most rotation curves are ~flat **at all radii** :  
→ in regions where  $V_c$  is determined by disk matter, **and**  
→ in regions where  $V_c$  is determined by dark matter
- How do these two **different** regions know they should have the **same** rotation amplitude ??
- This is not currently understood, but indicates something important about galaxy formation
- Notice that a related puzzle also underlies the Tully-Fisher relation  
 $V_{\text{max}}$  is set by the halo, while  
 $M_I$  is set by the luminous matter
- Indeed, the theoretical origin of the TF relation is not yet fully understood.

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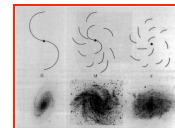


## (7) Spiral and Bar Structures

### (a) Spirals

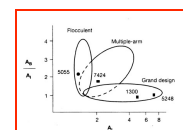
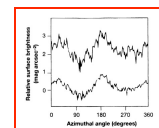
#### (i) Spiral Classes

- recall, two types (extremes) of spiral structure [image]
  - Grand Design (AC 12), two strong arms (~10%)
  - Flocculent (AC 1), more chaotic (~90%)
  - Multiple Arm (intermediate), strong inner arms, outer ratty



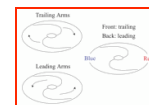
#### (ii) Arm Prominence

- Arm / Inter-arm contrast is useful [image]
  - for contrast  $\Delta m$  magnitudes (typically 1-2 in B), define  $A = \text{dex}(0.4 \Delta m)$
- A depends on color:
  - Grand Design :  $A_B \sim A_I \sim \text{large}$  (1.5 - 8)
  - Flocculent :  $A_B \gg A_I \sim 1.0$
  - a plot of  $A_B / A_I$  vs  $A_I$  separates the classes well. [image]
- Clearly:
  - spiral arms are **bluer** than the underlying (red) disk
  - spiral arms are **younger** than the disk
  - the old disk in Grand design has **spiral pattern**
  - the old disk in flocculents is **uniform**
- Interpretation:
  - Grand design is a **density wave**: it involves a spiral in the underlying mass distribution  
global coherence implies **global** process generates structure
  - Flocculent spirals are **not** density waves  
lack of coherence implies **local** process generates structure



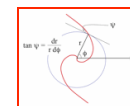
#### (iii) Leading or Trailing ?

- Consider orientation of spiral w.r.t. direction of disk rotation: [image]
  - arm ends point **forward** → **leading** spiral
  - arm ends point **backwards** → **trailing** spiral
- To decide: need to know which side is nearest:
  - Difficult, but try to identify the least obscured by dust (near side)
  - arms are almost always **trailing**
- Many arms have dust lanes & HII regions on **inside** (concave) edge
  - gas runs into arms on concave side; compressed; star formation
  - HI and CO distribution is narrow and focussed on inner edge [image]



#### (iv) Pitch Angle

- $\psi$  Defined as the angle between the tangents of arm and circle [image]
  - e.g. tight spiral has **small**  $\psi$
  - clearly:  $\tan \psi = dr / r d\phi$  (where  $\phi$  is azimuth)
- Most spirals have  $\psi \sim \text{const}$  throughout disk
  - logarithmic spiral :  $r(\phi) = r_0 \exp[(\phi - \phi_0) \tan \psi]$
  - with  $r = r_0$  at  $\phi_0$
- This is, in fact, predicted by density wave theory.



## (v) The Winding Problem

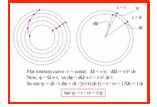
- If arms were "fixed" w.r.t. the disk (e.g. like leaves on water)  
With flat rotation ( $V \sim \text{const}$ ), inner parts rotate many times compared to outer parts  
E.g. for one rotation at  $R$ , two rotations at  $R/2$ , four at  $R/4$ , 8 at  $R/8$ .  
This leads to very tightly wound arms.

More precisely: with  $\Omega = V_c / R$  and  $V_c = \text{constant}$  we find [\[image\]](#)

$$\tan \psi = R / V t = 1 / \Omega t = 1 / \phi$$

so after 1 rotation:  $\tan \psi = 1 / 2\pi$  or  $\psi = 9^\circ$ ; after 2 rotations:  $\psi \sim 4.5^\circ$ .

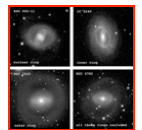
This quickly becomes a **very tight** spiral in which  $\psi$  **decreases** with radius



- In reality: for Sa:  $\langle \psi \rangle \sim 5^\circ$ ; for Sc:  $\langle \psi \rangle \sim 10^\circ - 30^\circ$   
This suggests we might have two types of condition
- Long lived** spiral arms are **not** material features in the disk  
they are a **pattern**, through which stars and gas move  
these might be the grand design spirals
- Short lived** spiral arms can arise from temporary patches pulled out by differential rotation  
the patches might arise from **local** disk instabilities, leading to star formation  
these might be the flocculent spirals

## (b) Bars

- Barred galaxies are common ( $\sim 50\%$ ): [\[image\]](#)
- Isophotes not fit by ellipses; more **rectangular**  
Probably **flat** in disk plane  
K ( $2.2\mu\text{m}$ ) images can show bars within bars (inner bar  $\sim$ independent)
- Bars are **straight**, and stars **stay in the bar**  $\rightarrow$  rigid rotation of pattern with well defined  $\Omega_b$   
Bars are **not** density waves:  
Stars **move along the bar** on closed orbits in frame rotating at  $\Omega_b$   
Such orbits only occur for  $\Omega_b < \Omega_{\text{stars}} \rightarrow$  bars occur **inside co-rotation** (CR)  
Bars can drive a density wave in disk  $\rightarrow$  helps maintain spiral structure.
- Gas motions** important and interesting :  
Observations:  
Star formation occurs at bar ends  
Dust lanes seen down leading edge of bar  
Velocity fields suggest strong non-circular motion, including radial inflow.  
Simulations :  
Orbits mildly self-intersecting  $\rightarrow$  weak shocks  $\rightarrow$  compression where dust lanes seen  
Inner gas loses angular momentum and **moves inwards**  
May collect in disk/ring near ILR, or continue to fuel AGN & build black hole mass.  
Outer gas stored in **ring** near bar ends (CR)  
Gas beyond the bar can be stored in an outer ring at OLR  
 $\rightarrow$  may explain inner and outer rings seen in many barred galaxies [\[image\]](#)


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## (8) Variation along the Hubble Sequence

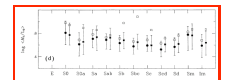
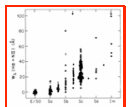
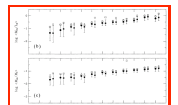
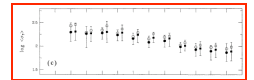
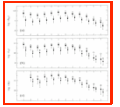
We expect **some** properties to vary systematically along the Hubble sequence (E  $\rightarrow$  Sa  $\rightarrow$  Sc  $\rightarrow$  Im)

A detailed discussion is given by Roberts and Haynes : 1994, ARAA [\[o-link\]](#) from which these plots have been taken [\[image\]](#), [\[image\]](#), [\[image\]](#).

**Selection effects** are very important, with different results for flux & volume limited samples. Roberts & Haynes use a sample of ~5000 RC3 galaxies with  $cz < 3000$  km/s (Local Supercluster).

**Three basic groups** : Ellipticals, Spirals (Sa - Scd), Dwarfs (Sd - Im) [S0 nature still debated]

- Median **size, luminosity**, or **mass** ~constant for E → Sc;  
however, significant decrease Scd → Im  
→ there are essentially **no** small low-luminosity Sa - Sb galaxies;  
→ likewise no large high-luminosity Sm-Im.
- **Surface mass density** decreases E → Im;  
→ reflects decreasing bulge contribution (Sm-Im no bulge)  
(Because bulges are high density systems compared to disks)
- **Gas content:**  
HI surface density;  $M_{\text{HI}}/L_B$ ;  $M_{\text{HI}}/M_{\text{tot}}$  all **increase**, however:  
including molecular gas reduces this trend  
as does including the hot (X-ray) coronae in Ellipticals  
→ **total** gas fraction approx independent of Hubble type
- **Star formation** increases along the sequence: [\[images\]](#)  
bluer color e.g. U-B; B-V  
more  $H_\alpha$  emission (equivalent width):  
more radio continuum emission (relative to R or I band light)  
higher atomic/cold gas content (see above)  
[FIR does **not** follow: several heating sources besides SF in normal galaxies]  
Caution, the story is more complex: nuclear vs disk SF differ (see [Topic 11.5](#))
- **$M/L_B$  ratio** decrease slightly S0 → Scd (8 → 6), (but ~7 for Sm - Im);  
however, large range; not as clean as expected (Sm-Im have significant HI).
- **Metallicity** decreases Sc → Im;  
but primary correlation with luminosity/mass (deep potentials retain metals)



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