HI in the Local Group: what analogous groups tell us

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Questions to be addressed:

Are the HI clouds (i.e. the High Velocity Clouds) seen around the Milky Way and within the Local Group associated with galaxy formation?

Are there too few dIrr's in the Local Group?

What do these data say about models of galaxy formation and the evolution of galaxies in different environments?



Observational Motivation: Milky Way High Velocity Clouds (HVCs)

HVCs are HI clouds, first discovered in 1963, moving at velocities inconsistent with Galactic Rotation.

HVCs lack stars

HVCs have mostly unknown distances

HVCs probably have a variety of origins

Milky Way/Local Group High Velocity Clouds



Local Group HVCs

Blitz et al. (1999) suggested that most HVCs were associated with low-mass dark matter halos and have D ~ 1 Mpc and $M_{\rm HI} \sim 10^7 M_{\odot}$.

Braun & Burton (1999) suggested that just the compact HVCs had these properties.

de Heij et al. (2002) proposed the CHVCs are concentrated around the Milky Way and M31 with a Gaussian distance distribution with $D \sim 150 - 200$ kpc and $M_{\rm HI} \leq 10^7 M_{\odot}$.

All of these models associate HVCs with galaxy formation.

They all associate HVCs with dark matter halos.

The Formation of the Local Group



"Missing Satellite" Problem

Cold Dark Matter models of galaxy formation predict ~ 300 dark matter halos in the Local Group, most with velocity widths less than 20 km/s, but only ~ 20 satellites known. (~ 270 CHVCs)

Is the Local Group typical?

Could the remaining DM halos be associated with HVCs or are they devoid of baryons?



from Klypin et al. (1999)





If HVCs are associated with galaxy formation in the Local Group, perhaps we should search in analogous groups.

We observed the entire area of 6 spiral-rich, loose groups with the Parkes Multibeam and ATCA.

Groups observed: LGG 93, 106, 180, 293, 478, HIPASS Group 3

Composition: All spiral + irregular galaxies No X-ray emission.

Group distances: 10.6 - 13.4 Mpc

Number of galaxies in optically defined group: 3 - 9

Group velocity dispersions: ~ 30 - 300 km/s

Average diameter of groups: ~ 1.6 Mpc

Average galaxy-galaxy separation: ~ 550 kpc

Group dynamical masses: log M \sim 11.7 - 13.6 M_{\odot}

Parkes Multibeam Observations

Groups observed: LGG 93, 106, 180, 293, 478, HIPASS Group 3

Area observed: ~ 1-2 Mpc² \approx 25 - 35 sq. deg.

Velocity Resolution: 1.65 or 3.3 km/s

Velocity Coverage: 1700 - 3400 km/s

Spatial Resolution: 14' ~ 50 kpc

Mass sensitivity $(1\sigma \Delta M_{HI} \text{ over 3.3 km/s}):$ 5 - 8 x 10⁵ M_{\odot}

New Detections in LGG 93

ATCA Follow-Up

Optical Counterparts

All 64 detections have optical counterparts. No HI clouds without stars found yet!

HI Mass "Function"

HIMF in various environments

Halo Mass Distribution

A simple CHVC model

As D_{HWHM} decreases, we expect fewer detections. As the population decreases, we expect fewer detections.

Implications for HVCs

Non-detections imply CHVCs must be within $D_{HWHM} < 125$ kpc at 95.45% confidence level.

 \Rightarrow Average CHVC M_{HI} < 2 x 10⁵ M_{\odot}

 \Rightarrow Total HI Mass in CHVCs ~ 5 x 10⁷ M_{\odot}

Therefore,

There is very little *NEUTRAL* gas around the Milky Way to participate in galaxy formation. Yet, it can still provide fuel for star formation. May be plenty of *ionized* gas!

Furthermore,

The total mass in CHVCs is much less than the total mass in the Milky Way or M31, and they are dynamically unimportant.

Spatial Distribution of HVCs

CDM Halos $D_{HWHM} \sim 100 \text{ kpc}$ MW dwarfs $D_{HWHM} \sim 50 \text{ kpc}$ CHVC limit $D_{HWHM} < 125 \text{ kpc}$

CDM Simulation (Kravtsov et al. 2004)

Halo Mass Distribution of HVCs

Conclusions

- Of our ~ 64 Parkes + ATCA HI detections, no HI clouds without stars were were found with $M_{\rm HI} \leq 10^7\,M_{\odot}!$

• Non-detections imply HVCs must be within $D_{HWHM} < 125$ kpc at 95% confidence level. Very little neutral gas remaining for galaxy assembly. ($\leq 5 \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$) There may be plenty of ionized gas, however.

⇒ There is a consensus between the current models & observations as to the distance and masses of HVCs.

• HI mass function and Halo mass function are similar for our groups and Local Group. The Local Group is not atypical as regards the number of dIrr's.

 \Rightarrow Neither are consistent with simple CDM predictions.

• Local Group + CHVC mass function is consistent w/ CDM. Distance limits are also consistent w/ models and Milky Way satellites.

⇒ "Missing Satellites" found???