



## The Universe through absorption lines

Intervening Objects:

The IGM

The ISM of high redshift galaxies The interplay between galaxies and the IGM Large scale structures traced by the gas At the two ends:

> The local universe Winds from quasars

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#### QSO (GRBs ?) Absorption Lines



#### Simulations



# Fifty years of history

- 1962: Spectroscopy of the first quasar ; Schmidt, ApJL136, 6841963: Identification of the redshift, Schmidt and Greenstein & Matthews
- 1965: Bahcall & Salpeter predict Absorption lines if redshifts are cosmological
- 1966: First detection of absorption lines in a QSO spectrum
  Gamov, G. Nature, 216,461 (1967) -> Due to intervening galaxies
  Burbidge, G+M, Nature, 216, 1092, (1967) -> Associated to the quasar
- Twenty years will be needed to definitely settle the problem

#### QSOAL studies at ESO : an answer



Fig.1. V image of a 216 x 240  $\mathrm{arcsec}^2$  field centred on the QSO PKS2128-12. North-east is at the top left corner. The QSO and detected resolved objects are labelled as in Table 1. The spatial resolution is FMHM = 1.6 arcsec Direct dete galaxy asso

Fig.3. Spectrum of galaxy # 1. It is the sum of two spectra, each of one hour exposure. The spectral resolution is FWHM = 14Å. Emission and absorption lines are indicated

Shaver & Robertson 1983 Messenger 31, 28 IPCS on the 3.6m Telescope

Foreground quasar defined with the associated absorption has a smaller redshift

> Bergeron 1986 A&A, 155, L8 EFOSC on the 3.6m Tel

Direct detection of a galaxy associated with a MgII system at z=0.4299

#### CASPEC at the 3.6mTelescope and EMMI at the NTT



ISM in M83 from SN1983 D'Odorico et al. (1986)

#### The Gunn-Peterson effect Giallong o et al. (1994)



FIG. 1.—Absolute flux distribution of BR 1202-0725 smoothed to FWHM ~6 Å. The data have not been corrected for slit losses. They are estimated at 20% from the observations of the standard stars. The fitted power-law continuum is also shown. The region between 7600 and 7680 Å has been corrected for atmospheric absorption.

# **UVES 2000**

- -> LP « Cosmic Evolution of the IGM » PI: J. Bergeron Best data on 21 QSOs at z<3 available to the community over the past ten years (SNR=40-80 at R>45,000)
- -> Metals in the IGM
- -> The ISM of high redshift galaxies : studies of DLAs
- -> Broad Absorption lines in quasars
- -> Constraints on the variations of fundamental constants (LP PI: P. Molaro) -> M. Murphy talk

## IGM



Metals in the IGM (20% of the volume) Stacking pixels

Aracil et al. (2004) The blue

## Spatial distribution of metals



Comparison of the spatial distribution of metals in simulations and the correlation function in the data

-> Massive halos (same for DLAs)



Scannapieco et al. (2006)

## Damped Ly-a Systems: The ISM of high-z galaxies



Metals :

- -> Metallicities
- -> Dust content
- -> Kinematics

Star- Formation ? Winds ?





Molecules H2 + CI, CI\* : -> Density/Temperature -> UV flux (excitation)

### Chemical evolution



# Analytical Models of chemical evolution

Dessauges-Zavadsky et al. (2007)

Exact nature is still unclear

Molecules: Cold gas with small covering factor ESO survey for H2 : < 10% =>most DLAs are warm

#### Presence of dust



- Correlation Depletion ([Zn/Fe]) vs Metallicity ([Zn/H])

- Presence of H2 related to the dust column density

(Ledoux et al. 2003, 2006, 2012)

#### Heating processes: Molecular excitation



## CO and HD



First detection of CO (elusive for 25 years) : Object selected amongst 10 000 QSOs => HD/2H2 = > The galaxy is formed with strong accretion of gas HD/2H2 = 2.1x10-5 Log(f) = -0.3 (highest in DLAs) ; CO/H2 = 3x10-6

Srianand et al. (2008) A&A, 482, L39 - Noterdaeme et al. (2008) A&A, 491, 397

#### Excitation of CO: Redshift evolution of $T_{CMB}$



#### Broad Absorption Lines – Quasar winds

Small scale to large scales ?



Organised flow : small covering factor and line locking Clouds are small and flow is radiatively driven -> Variability

Srianand et al. (2002)

#### New claims for variations of constants

Webb et al., 2010, astroph/1008.3907 2011, PRL 107.191101

- <u>UVES data</u> : All data: no significant variation
  - $\begin{bmatrix} z < 1.8 & -0.06 \pm 0.16 \times 10^{-5} \\ z \sim 1.5 & 0.01 \pm 0.15 \times 10^{-5} \end{bmatrix}$ 
    - $z\sim 1.5$  0.01±0.15x10<sup>-5</sup> Srianand et al., 2007, PRL, 99, 239002 The two groups agree

 $z>1.8 +0.61\pm0.20x10^{-5}$  3 $\sigma$ + Keck -0.74±0.17x10<sup>-5</sup> 4 $\sigma$ 

Spatial Variations ?

-> M. Murphy Talk

## The Future: The questions

-IGM : Derive the power spectrum better (simulations) Metals at lower tauHI

- -IGM : The acceleration of the universe from the Lya forest
- IGM : Correlations in pairs (or groups) of quasars (A. Smette et al. 1995)
- ISM : Physical conditions vs Z (need to go fainter at HR)
- Galaxy IGM interactions <- <- <-

-Broad Absorption Lines and the AGN properties Variability and covering factors (several cases from H2)

## The Future: The instruments

-> Xshooter :

LP for 100 los at z>3 PI: S. Lopez : IGM properties and zQSO Legacy value

-> CUBES : Keep the blue with very high throughput R=10,000-20,000

-> Espresso : Very high resolution and precision but fixed set-up (variation of constants )

-> High resolution spectrograph on E-ELT obviously needed

Boss will discover over 150,000 z>2 QSO at g=21 !

#### A MOS on ELT

Large Scales: Direct reconstruction of the IGM at z=3



#### Pichon et al. 2001, MNRAS, 326, 597

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

QSOs -> 100 / sqdeg not enough With LBGs => Density field will be recovered

![](_page_22_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

Inversion methods tested : density of sources: LBGs: about 900 sources/sq degree at r=24.8 QSOs: only 100 sources/sq degree Topology of the IGM (cosmological parameters; growth of structures) Correlation IGM-galaxies: winds; metal enrichment; infall

Caucci et al. 2008, MNRAS, 386, 211

![](_page_23_Picture_0.jpeg)

#### Skeleton

# Variability

F, / 0-

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

4000

And a lot of strange things !

The boomerang outflow

![](_page_24_Figure_4.jpeg)

5000

6000

## Thank you !

to all these people running the telescopes