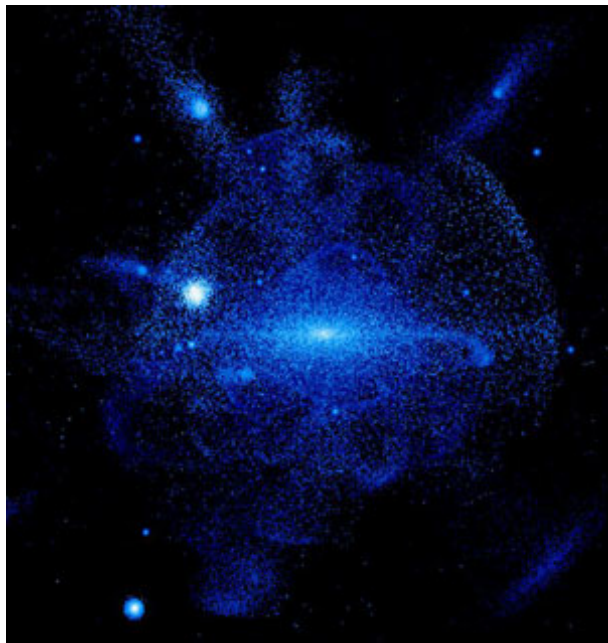
A deep space photograph showing a vast field of stars of various colors (white, yellow, orange, red, blue) against a dark background. In the center, there is a prominent, glowing purple nebula or star-forming region. The text is overlaid on this image.

# Gas and Stars in Nearby Dwarf Galaxies with Extended Neutral Hydrogen Disks

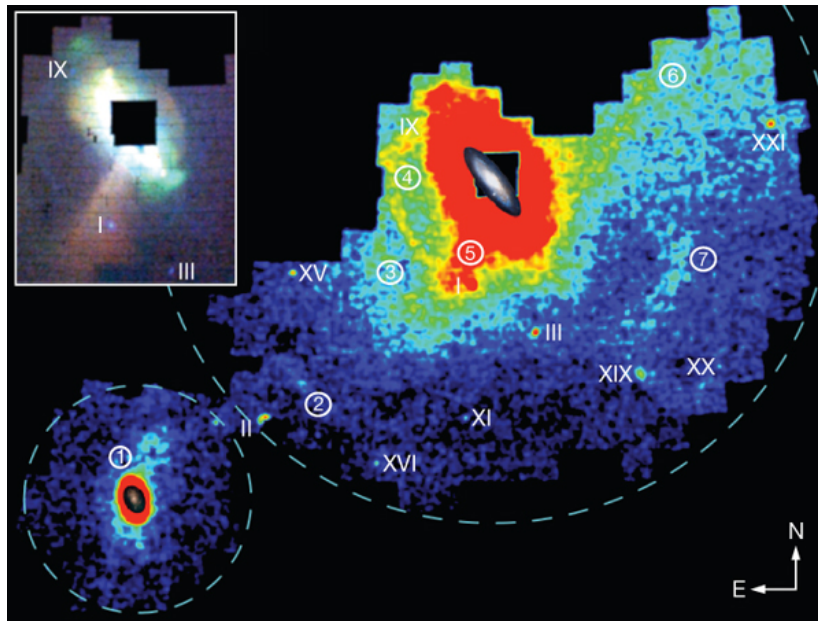
Liese van Zee  
Indiana University

# “Existential Crisis” Questions

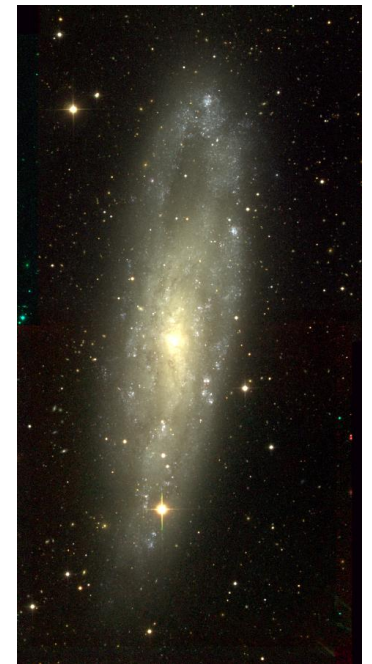
- What is a galaxy?
- How big is a galaxy?
- Where does one galaxy end and another begin?



J. Bullock & K. Johnston 2005



McConnachie et al. 2009, Nature, 461, 66



NGC 247

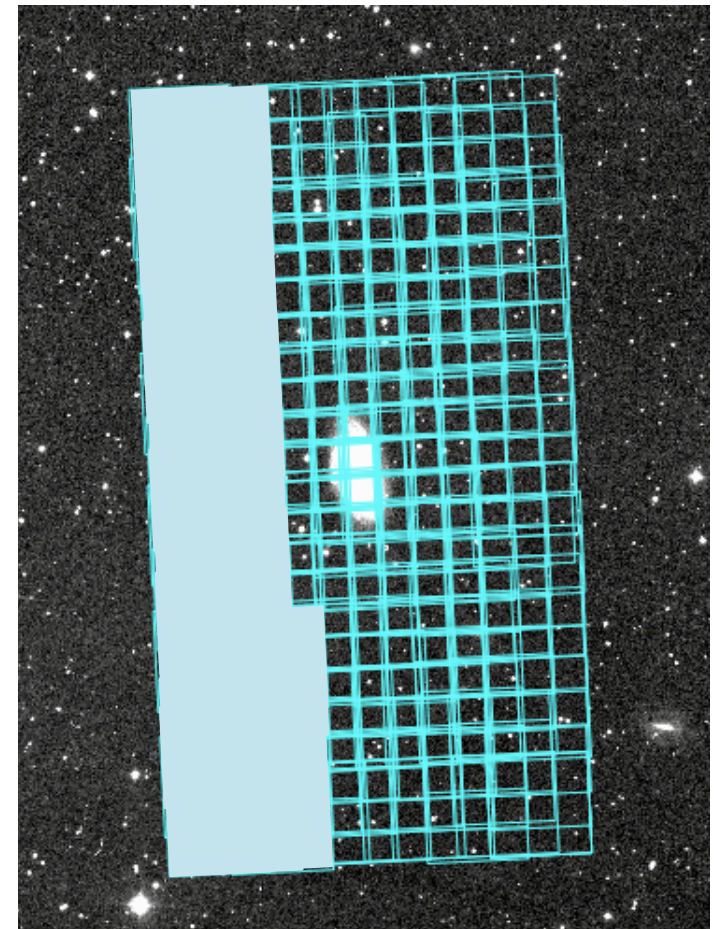
# EDGES: Extended Disk Galaxy Exploration Science Survey

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D. A. Dale  
**K. L. Barnes**  
**S. Staudaher**  
D. Calzetti  
J. J. Dalcanton  
J. S. Bullock  
R. Chandar  
**E. Richards**

- *Spitzer* 3.6 $\mu\text{m}$  survey of 92 galaxies, spanning a wide range of morphology, luminosity, and environment.
- We are sensitive to stellar mass surface densities of  $\text{few} \times 0.01 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}^2$ , independent of star formation history.
- Our wide FOV observations allow us to trace substructures out to  $5 \times R_{25}$ .
- **When the analysis is complete, we will create a census with the first quantitative measurements of low surface brightness features identified around nearby galaxies.**

# Survey Design: EDGES and pre-cursors

- **Deep:** 1800 s/pixel
- **Wide:** at least  $5 \times R_{25}$
- **IR:** Relatively insensitive to stellar population and dust extinction
- Concerns: sky background stability and point source masking
- Two precursor studies in Cycle 6:
  - M83
  - **Dwarf Galaxies with Extended HI Distributions**

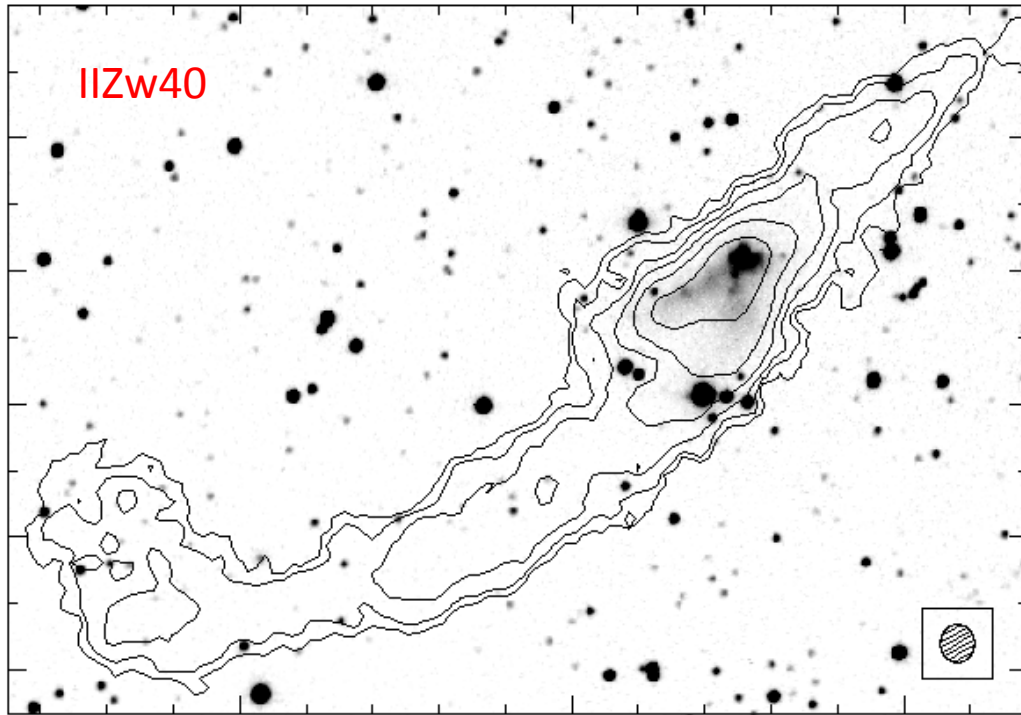


NGC3953:  $40' \times 21.7'$   
a x b:  $6.9' \times 3.5'$

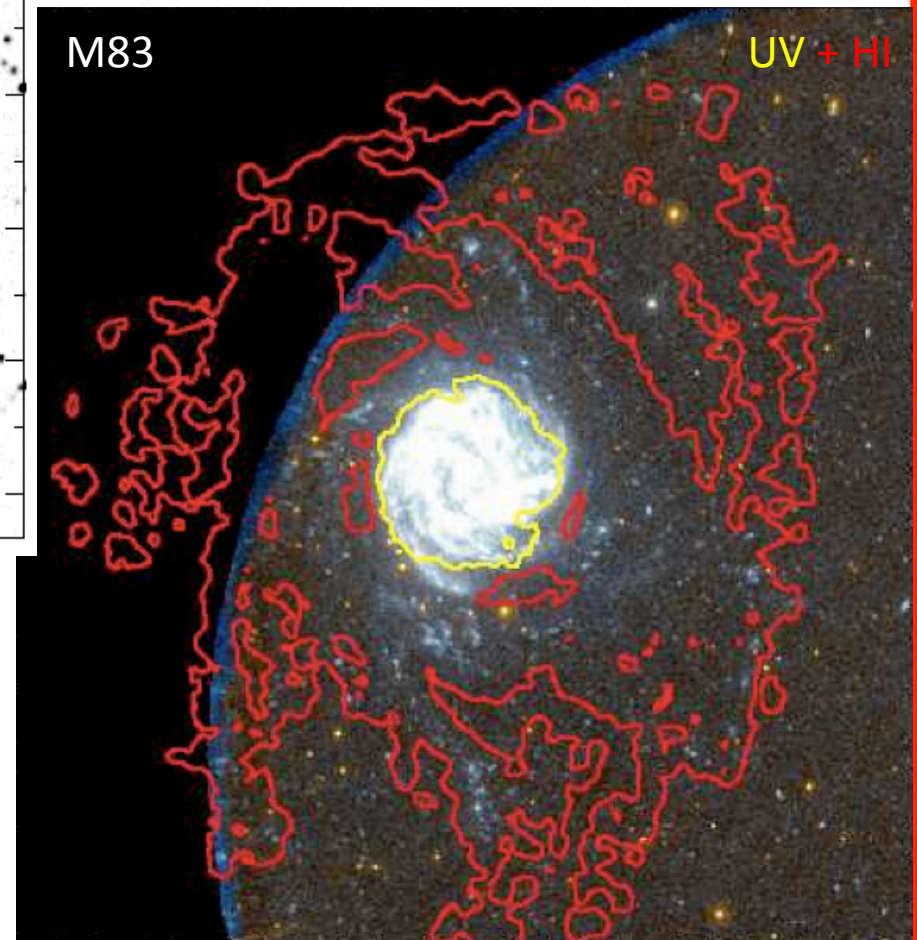
# Gas Distributions in Normal Galaxies

- Typical HI-to-optical diameters are approximately 1.2 (Broeils & Rhee 1997).
- Spectacular examples of extended gas distributions from tidal interactions (see HI Rogues Gallery, compiled by John Hibbard)
- There are a handful of galaxies with unusually extended HI distributions that do not appear to be associated with tidal interactions such as M63, M83, NGC 628, all of which have an underlying faint stellar/star forming component when deep optical/UV observations are obtained.

# Extended Gas: tidal or stable?



van Zee et al. 1998, AJ, 116, 1186



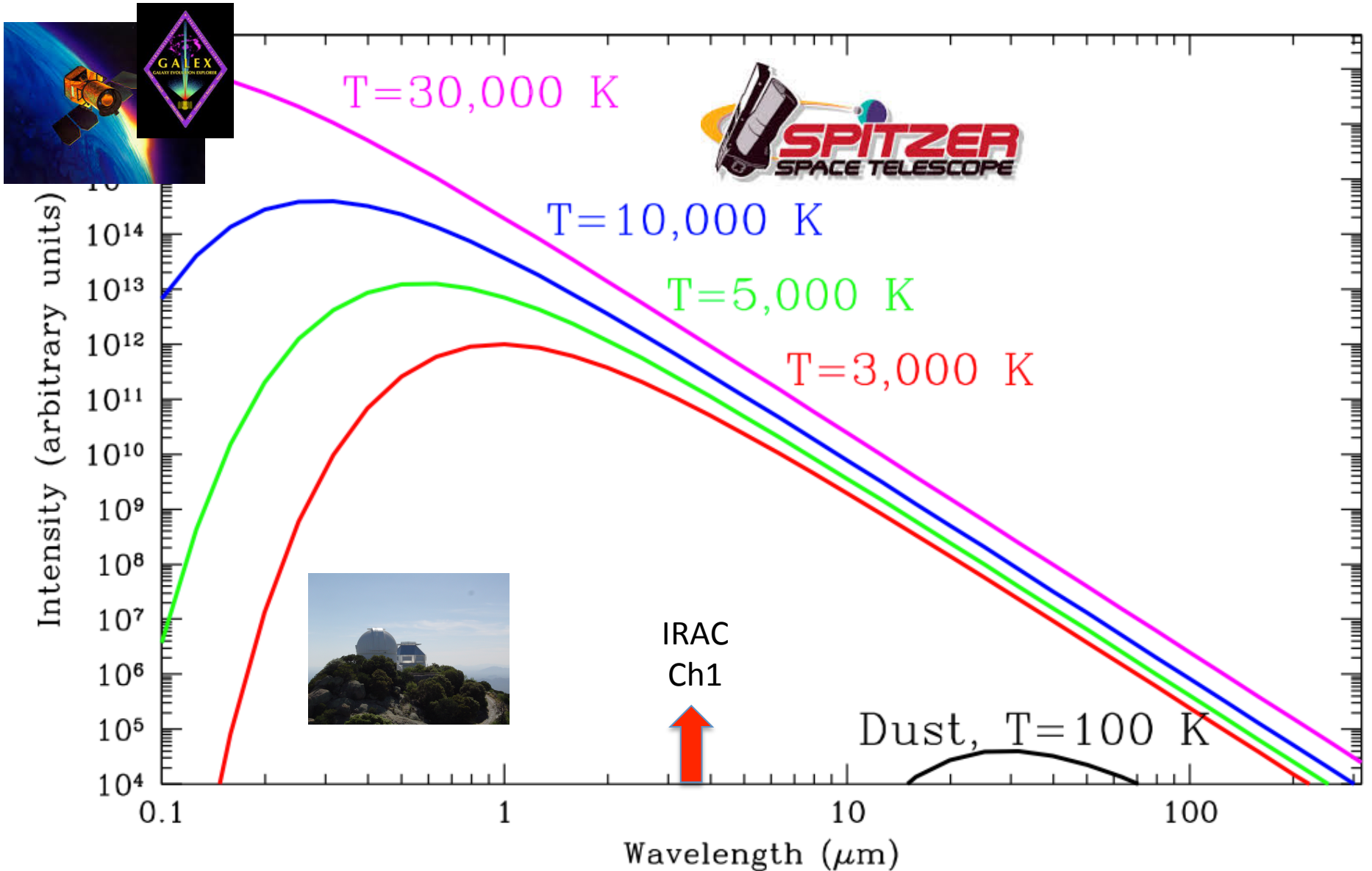
Thilker et al. 2005, ApJ, 619, L79

# Searching for Stars in Extended Gaseous Disks

- Observed 9 dwarf irregular galaxies with *Spitzer*
  - 5 galaxies with extended HI
  - 4 galaxies with normal HI distributions
- Precursor to the EDGES Survey; with same observing design, but FOV  $\sim 10 \times R_{25}$

# Why Near-Infrared Observations?

## M/L is Less Sensitive to Stellar Population

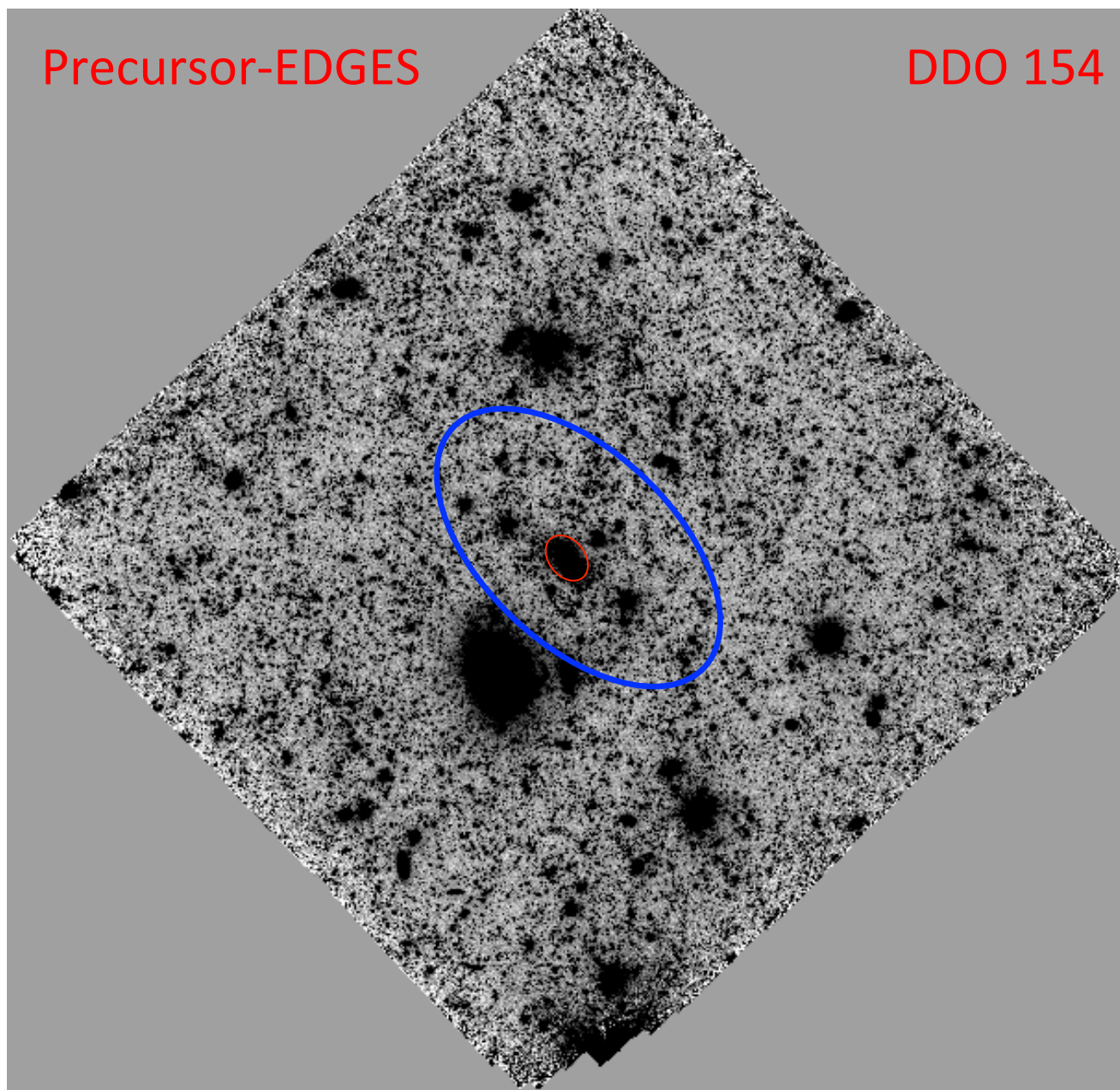




# Comparison to Other *Spitzer* Surveys

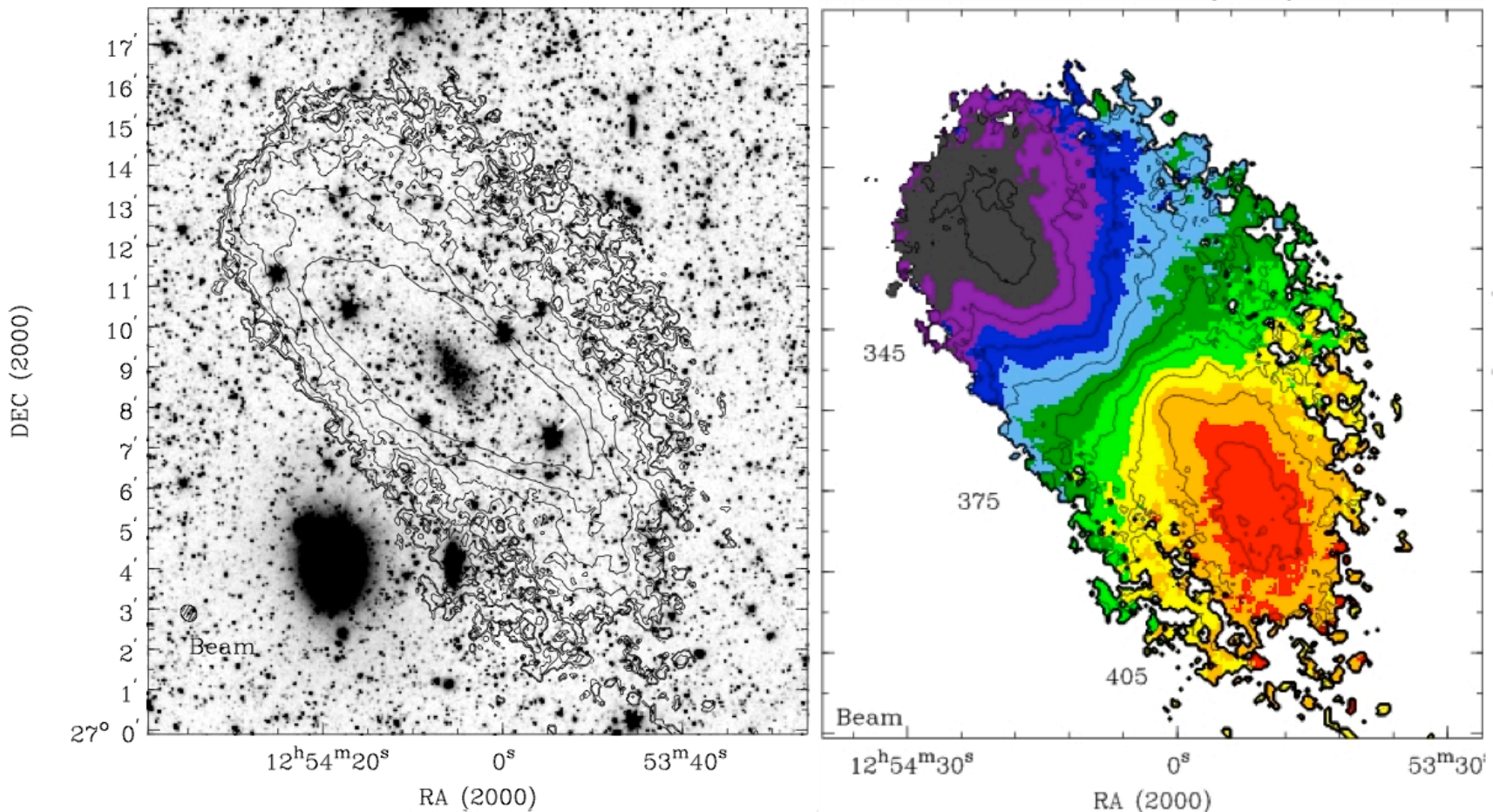
- For example: SINGS, LVL, S<sup>4</sup>G:
  - Shallow: 240 s/pixel
  - Small: at least  $1 \times R_{25}$  (usually)
  - IR: Relatively insensitive to stellar population and dust extinction
- Consider DDO 154, observed by Kennicutt et al. as part of SINGS and reprocessed by S<sup>4</sup>G

# Comparison to Other *Spitzer* Surveys



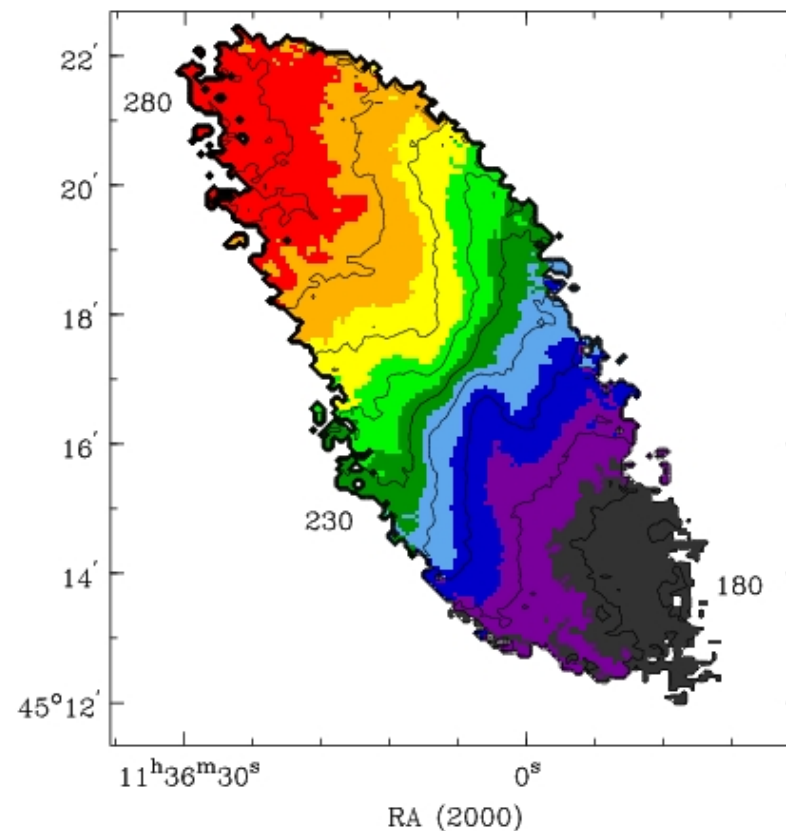
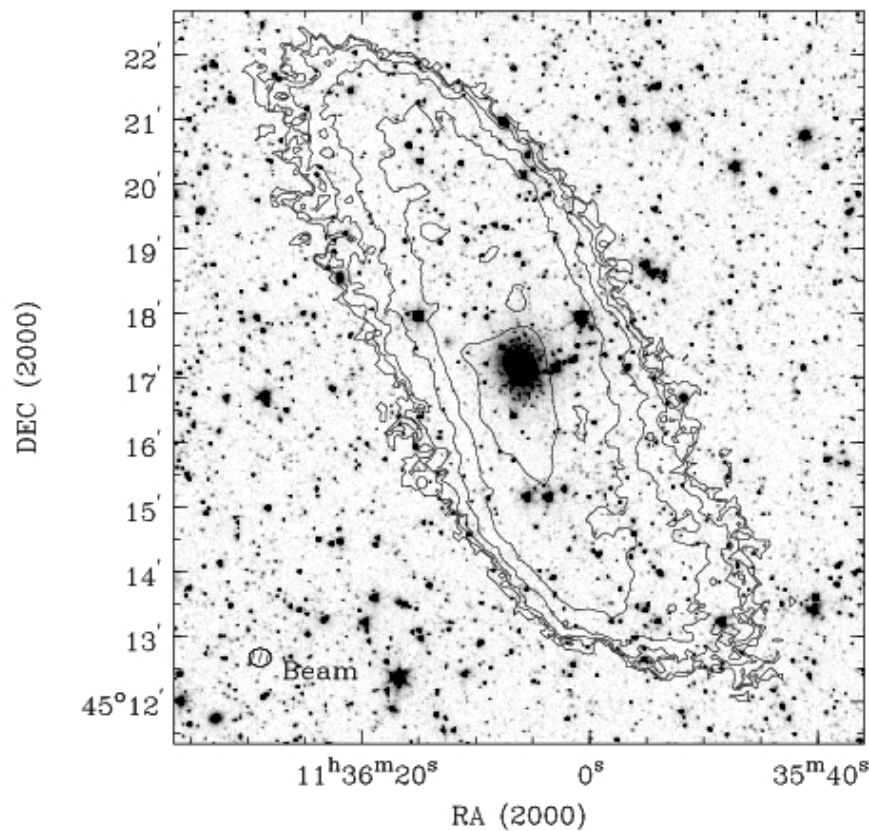
# DDO 154

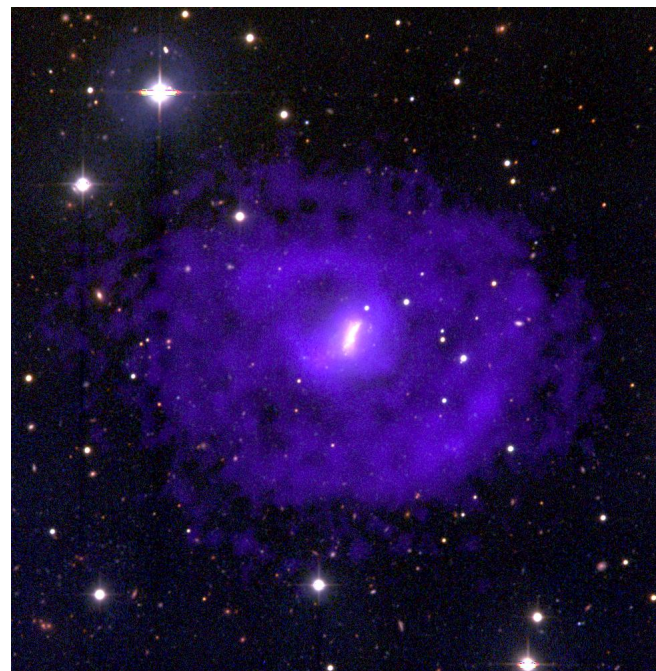
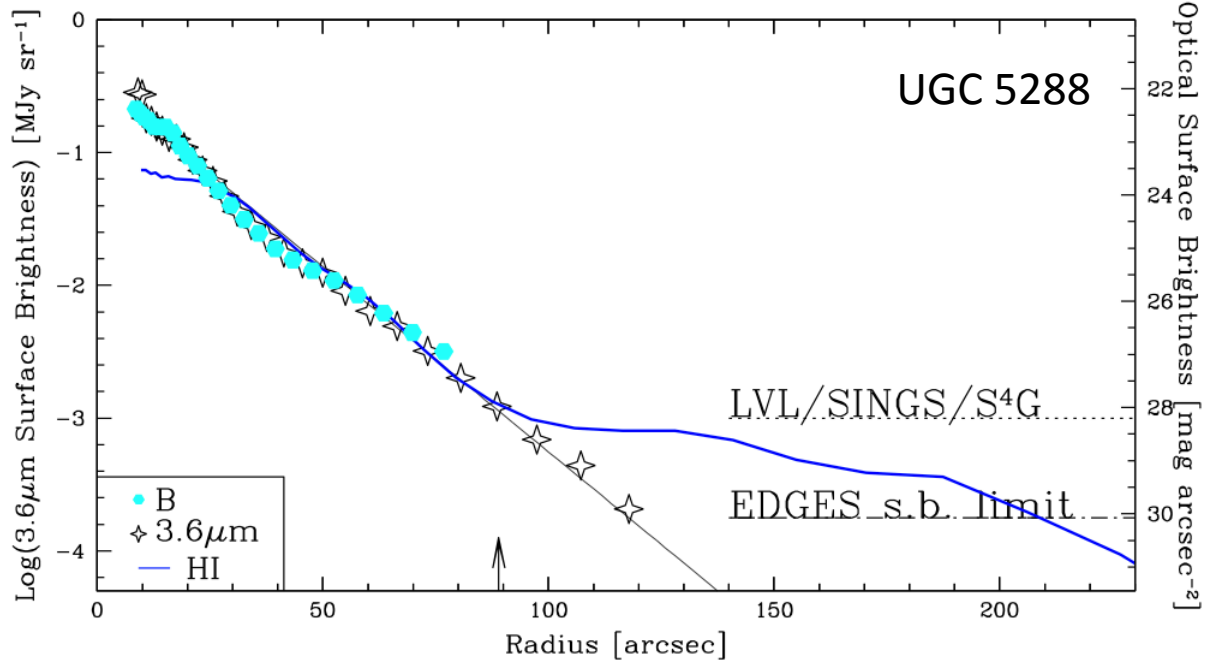
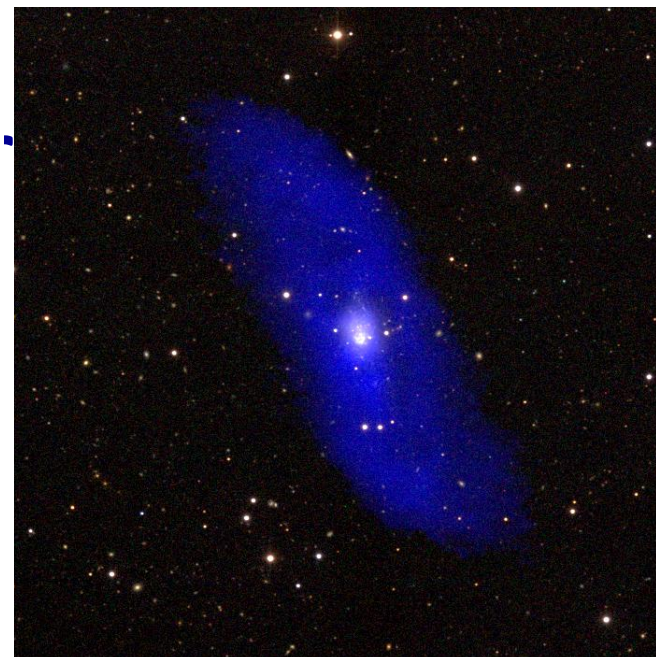
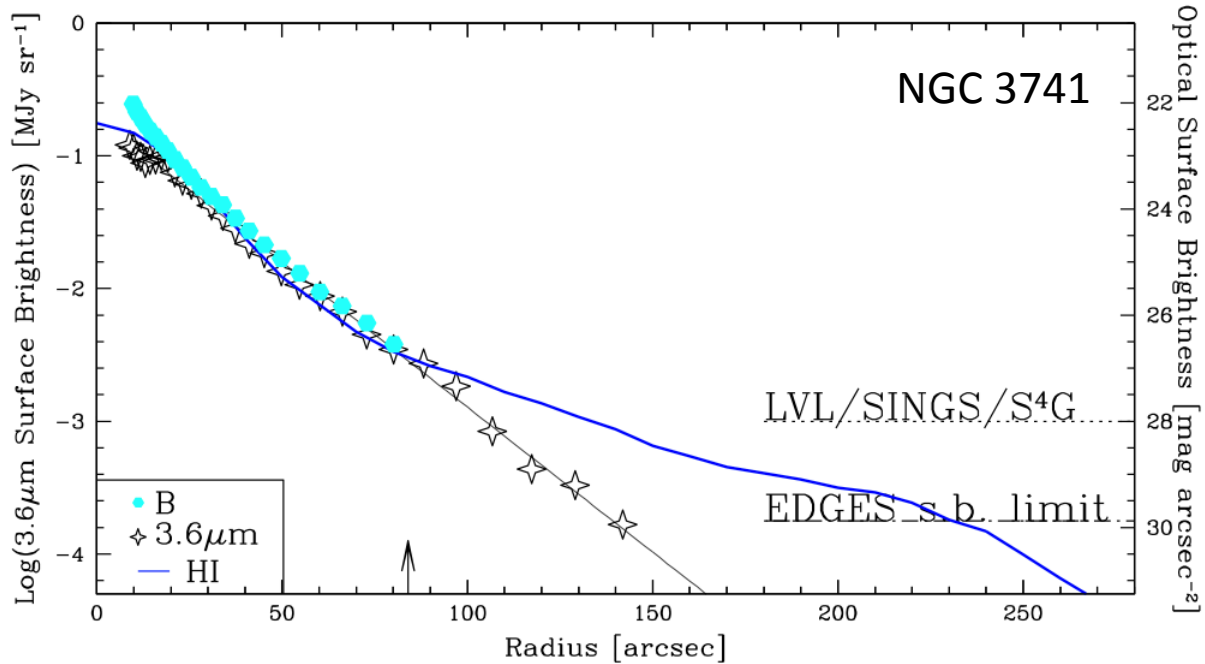
- An extended gaseous disk was discovered by Krumm & Burstein (1984):  $D_{\text{HI}}/D_{25} \sim 6$



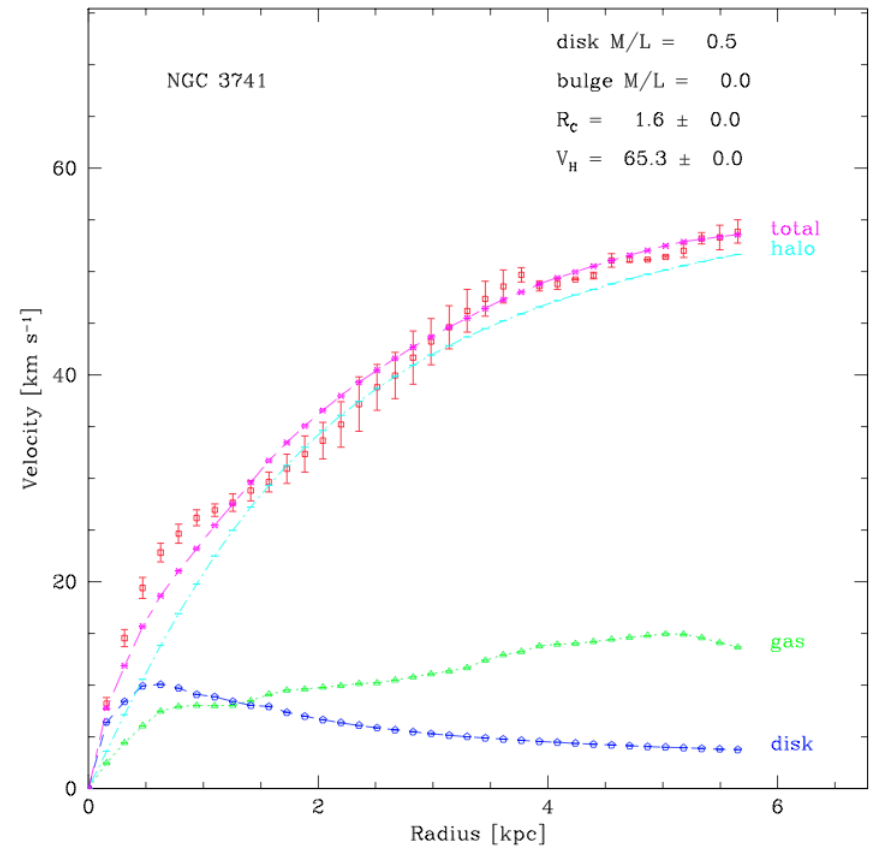
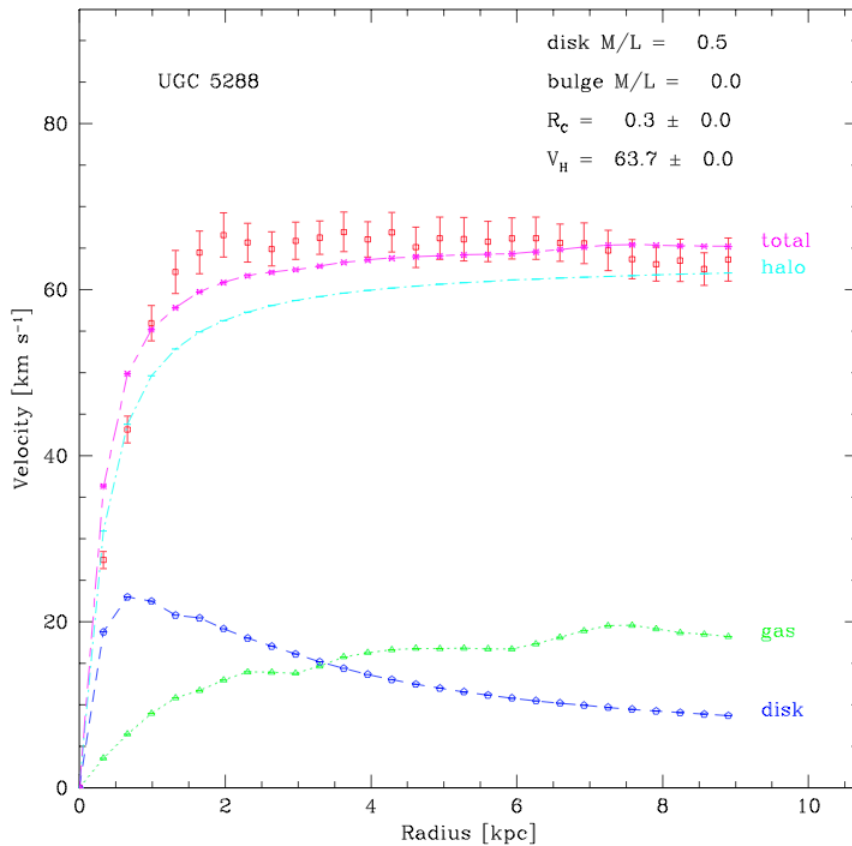
# NGC 3741

- An extended gaseous disk was discovered by Begum et al. (2008):  $D_{\text{HI}}/D_{25} \sim 11$

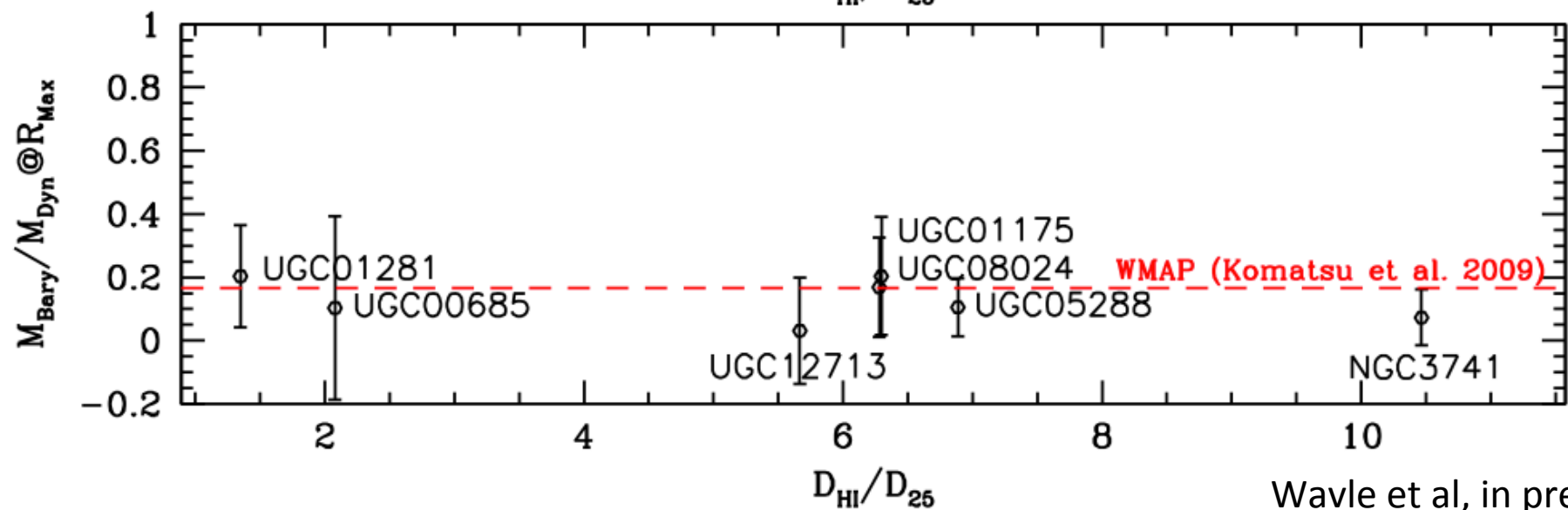
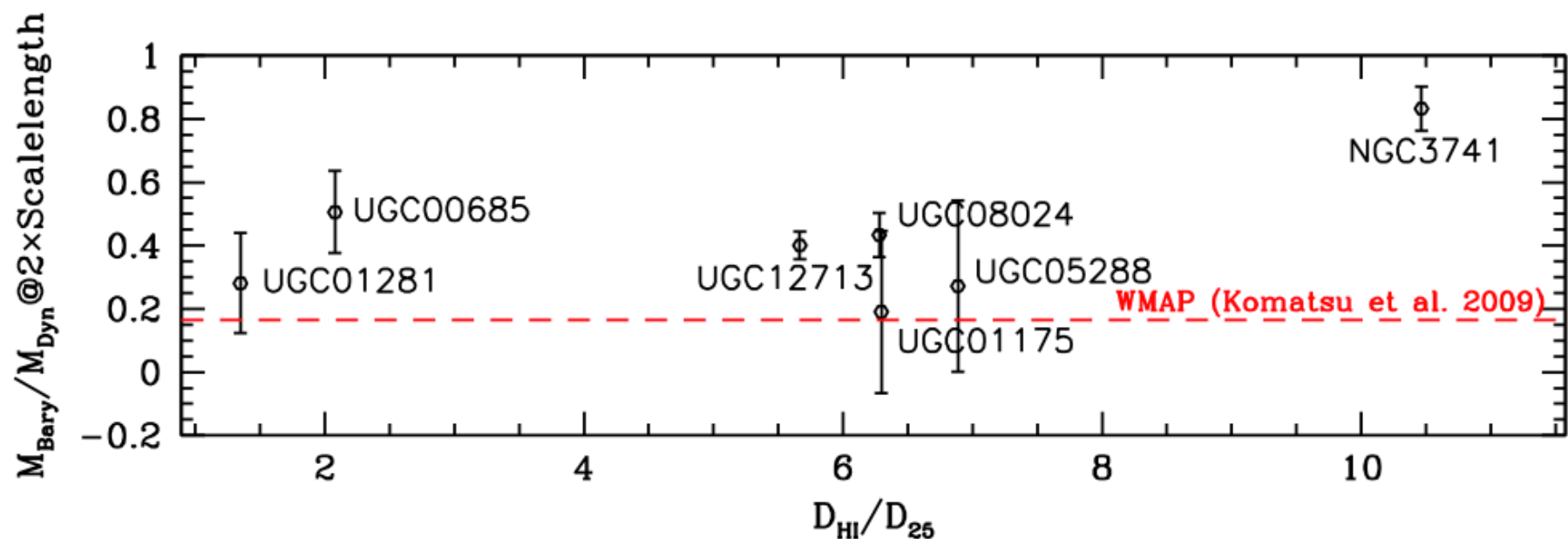




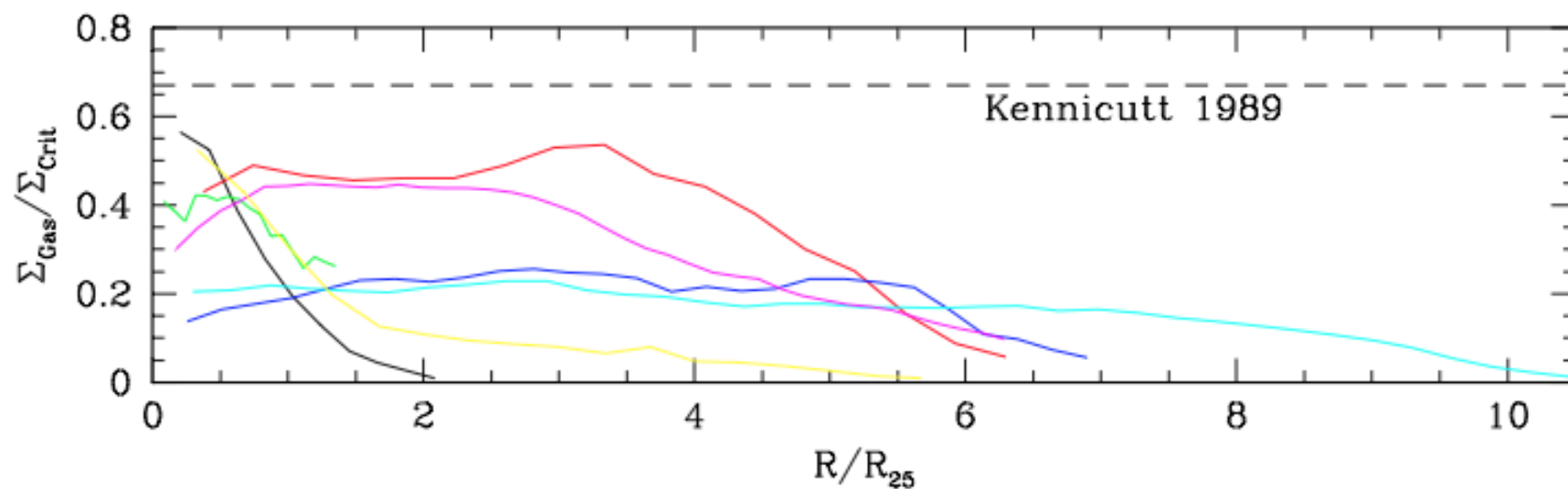
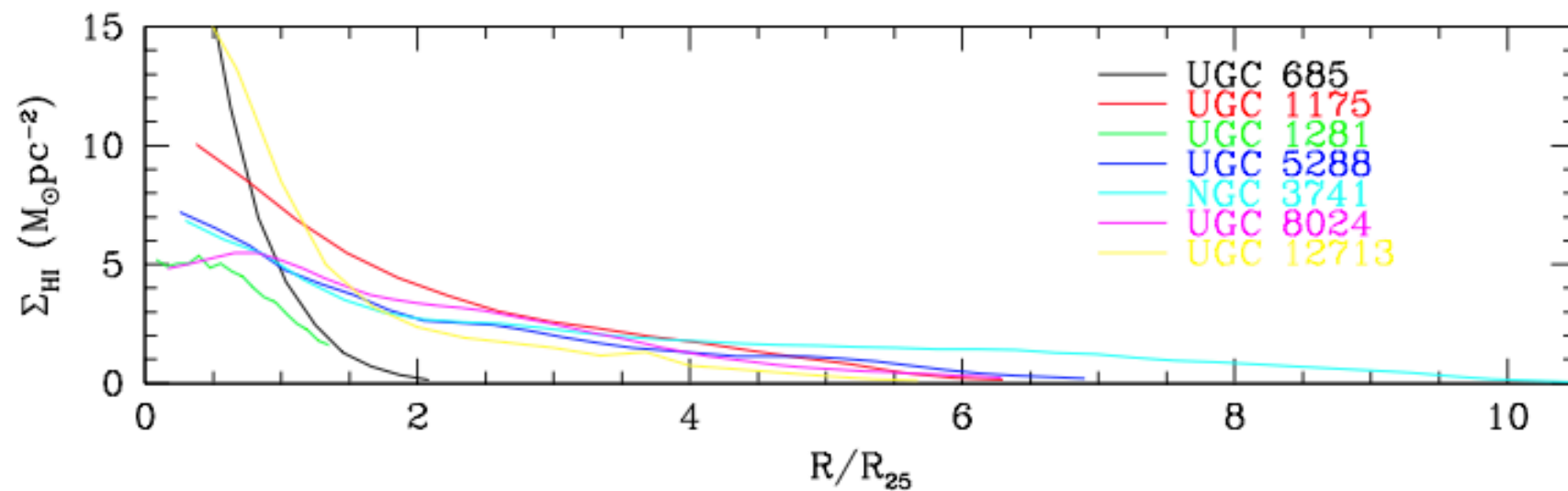
# Rotation Curve Decomposition



# Baryon Fraction: Dark Matter Dominated



# Gas Surface Density and Stability





# Conclusions

- Deep *Spitzer*  $3.6\mu\text{m}$  images can trace stellar disks to large radii, but the stellar distributions for these particular galaxies fall off more rapidly than their gaseous disks.
- As is typical of dwarf galaxies, atomic gas surface densities fall well below the Toomre criterion throughout their gaseous disks, indicating that these galaxies are relatively stable against cloud collapse and subsequent star formation activity.
- Despite their “extended gaseous disks,” these galaxies trace the same fraction of the dark matter potential as other dwarf galaxies, suggesting that it is not the gas that is extended, but rather that the stars are too compact, or under performing.