

The dark gas in the Milky Way

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The gas cycle in galaxies



http://soral.as.arizona.edu





How much extra gas is there?

 Plank dust measurements
Dust indicates more gas, than what we see in the HI and CO observation



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(CO) dark gas

- + Grenier et al. 2005:
 - Excess dust emission compared to the detected HI and CO
 - + More gas indicated by gamma rays





(CO) dark gas

✦ Dark gas in the Chamaeleon molecular cloud complex

+ Based on Fermi gamma ray measurements





What is the (CO)dark gas?

- Fukui et al. (2014) compared Planck dust optical depth with HI column density towards a high latitude molecular clouds.
 - 85% of the data points have HI optical depths τ > 0.5 and HI spin temperature (T_s) < 40 K.
 - Suggest that the local interstellar medium (ISM) may be dominated by the high optical depth HI.
- Stanimirovic et al. (2014) and Lee et al (2015) measured HI absorption around the nearby Perseus molecular cloud
 - **High optical depth** τ > 0.5 was only observed towards **20**% of the detected HI Gaussian components.



Inside the clouds





Measuring gas temperatures





$$T_{s}(v) = \frac{T_{B}(v)}{(1 - e^{-\tau(v)})}$$



The Riegel-Crutcher cloud



✦HI absorption cloud

- ✦Discovered by Heeschen (1955)
- ✦Towards the galactic center
 - ✦Bright background emission
 - +v = 5 km/s
 - +Distance: 125 pc
 - ✦Thickness 1-5 pc (6 km/s)
 - highly filamentary tendrils
 - Filaments align with the magnetic field
 - ★small amount of detected ¹²CO emission



McClure-Griffiths et al. (2006)

Previous temperature estimations



McClure-Griffiths et al. (2006)

- Interpolating the HI emission
 - estimating the temperature:
 - ~40 K (Montgomery et al. 1995; McClure-Griffith et al. 2006)



Temperatures with absorption lines



- + 47 NVSS background continuum sources
- + S > 200 mJy
- + Unresolved (< 45'')
- ✦ Observed for 100 minutes with ATCA





Fitting spectra

- + 47+ sources
- ✦ Using Gausspy the Autonomous Gaussian Decomposition (Lindtner et al. 2015)





Preliminary results





Temperatures $\sim 50 - 160$ K Optical depth (τ) $\sim 0.8 - 1.08$



- ✦Measuring the temperature of gas clouds can help us understand how much of the (CO) dark gas is HI and how much is H₂.
- ✦Preliminary results show that the gas in the Rigel-Crutcher cloud has temperatures between 50 160K, and suggest a temperature gradient.
- ✦Future plans
 - +Derive temperatures and column densities for the whole cloud
 - +Compare results to simulations
 - +Measure temperatures in other regions (molecular clouds)



Thank you

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