Detectability of cold streams in absorption and emission



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Cold streams



Steidel et al. 2010:

- Observes "Circum Galactic Medium"
- Absorption line profiles
- Stacks more than 100 spectra
- Detects massive outflows
- But: no sign of inflows
- Claim: Proof of absence of cold streams

Central geometry

 Observes central galaxy through its own circum galactic medium



Stacked line profile:

 Averaging over all available example line profiles (3 galaxies, all directions)



Stacking?

- Stacking washes out the cold filament absorption signal
- Cold filament absorption signal might still be visible in non stacked data

Statistics

 Mg II: inflow > 150 km s⁻¹ with an EW > 0.2 Å in 1.3 % of all observations



Absorption summary

- Observational features from cold streams extremely difficult to detect.
- Outflows are dominant.
- No falsification done.

Lyman alpha blobs

- First observed by Steidel et al. 2000
- Redshift range z = 2 6.5
- Observation by Matsuda et al. 2004



Surface brightness maps:

- CDB simulation
- Z = 3.09
- M_{vir} = 3.5e11M_o

I = S / [4 π(1+z)⁴]
0.6" FWHM Gaussian PSF



The data for comparison:



Lyman alpha vs halo mass

- Several galaxies per data point
- z = 3.09



Luminosity function

- Correlation with Sheth Tormen mass function
- Data from Matsuda et al. 2004



Emission summary

- Cold streams loose pot. energy released as Lyman alpha photons
- Simulation maps very similar to observations in extent, shape, luminosity
- Luminosity function fits data

=> Cold streams can explain Lyman alpha blobs

=> First observational evidence for cold streams!

Thanks!

Equivalent width

$$EW = \frac{\lambda^2}{c} \int_0^\infty \left[1 - \exp(-\tau_\nu)\right] \,\mathrm{d}\nu = \frac{\lambda^2}{c} \int_0^\infty g(\nu) \,\mathrm{d}\nu,$$



covering fraction vs impact parameter vs column density



Equivalent width



Background geometry

- Observes background galaxy through circum galactic medium of galaxy in question
- Additional parameter: Impact parameter b



Column density vs impact parameter

- All lines decreasing
- Ly alpha considerably higher than metals



Stacked line profile

 Averaging over all available example line profiles (3 galaxies, 6 principal directions, all points in radiusrange)



Lα emissivity:

50% of the gas emits Lα efficiently





Toy model:

- NFW profile
- Neistein infall (EPS)
- Constant infall velocity



Kinematics

Area vs. velocity dispersion



Energy source: Gravitational heating vs. UV background

In the gas that contributes 80% of the luminosity more than 80% of the input energy is gravitational



Area vs. Luminosity

 Isophotal area above 2.2e-18 erg s⁻¹ cm⁻² arcsec⁻² as a function of total luminosity



The AMR simulations

- Ceverino, Dekel & Bournaud
 - Art by Andrey Kravtsov
 - UV background, Haardt & Madau 1996
 - mimics self-shielding
 - Gas can cool down to 100K
 - 3 re-simulated galaxies
 - High resolution (70 pc physical)

Computing Lyman alpha Emissivity:

$$\epsilon = n_{\rm e} \, n_{\rm HI} \, C_{\rm L\alpha}(T) + 0.68 \, h\nu_{\alpha} \, n_{\rm e} \, n_{\rm HII} \, \alpha_{\rm rec,B}(T)$$

Collisional excitation coefficient:

$$C_{L\alpha} = 3.7 \times 10^{-17} T^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{h\nu_{\alpha}}{kT}\right) \,\mathrm{erg\,s}^{-1} \,\mathrm{cm}^3$$

Case-B recombination coefficient:

$$\alpha_{\rm rec,B}(T) = 4.9 \times 10^{-6} T^{-1.5} \left(1 + \frac{115}{T^{0.41}} \right)^{-2.24} \, {\rm cm}^3 \, {\rm s}^{-1}$$

More computing

• Number densities:

$$\begin{split} n_{\rm HI} &= \frac{x_{\rm HI}\,X\,\rho}{m_{\rm p}}\,,\\ n_{\rm HII} &= n_{\rm e} = \frac{\left(1-x_{\rm HI}\right)X\,\rho}{m_{\rm p}} \end{split}$$

• Neutral Hydrogen fraction:

$$x_{\rm HI} = \frac{\alpha_{\rm rec,B}(T)}{\alpha_{\rm rec,B}(T) + C_{\rm ion}}$$

Resulting maps: Surface brightness

- CDB simulation
- Z = 3.09
- M_{vir} = 3.5e11M_o



What an observer would see:

I = S / [4 π(1+z)⁴]
0.6" FWHM Gaussian PSF



Sky covering fraction

- Very low sky covering fraction
- Low metallicity in streams



Computing line profiles

Doppler broadening

$$b = \sqrt{\frac{2 k T}{m_{\rm Y}}},$$

Optical depth τ

$$\begin{aligned} \tau_{\nu}(\phi, \theta, \Delta w) &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi} \ e^2 \ f_{\lambda} \ \lambda_0}{m_{\rm e} \ c} \int_{\rm r_i}^{R_{\rm v}} \frac{n_{\rm Y}(\vec{r}) \ X_{\rm XX}(\vec{r})}{b(\vec{r})} \\ &\times H\left[\frac{\gamma_{\lambda} \ \lambda_0}{4 \ \pi \ b(\vec{r})} \ , \frac{\Delta w - v(\vec{r})}{b(\vec{r})}\right] \ dr, \end{aligned}$$

• Intensity $I(\Delta w) = exp(-\tau)$

Example line profiles

Lyα

- Gaussian point spread function with 4kpc beam-size applied
- Velocity resolution degraded to 50 km s⁻¹
- Observer convention: inflow positive (right)



Additional AMR simulations

- Horizon MareNostrum
 - Ramses by Romain Teyssier
 - UV background: Haardt & Madau 1996
 - Density dependent pressure floor:
 - $-T_{floor} = 10^4 (n/0.1)^{2/3} K \text{ for } n > 0.1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
 - Fully cosmological simulation
 - Fairly good resolution (1kpc physical)