The PHANGS view of cold gas motions, star formation and SF feedback in nearby galaxies



phanas



Annie Hughes (IRAP) for PHANGS and in particular: Sharon Meidt van der Wel, Raphael Maris, Antoine Zakardjian, Jiayi Sun, Jaeyeon Kim, Ashley Barnes, Philip Lang, Kathryn Kreckel, Liz Watson

PHANGS aims for a statistical description of the cycling between gas and SF across the local star-forming galaxy population

Aim

Understand the interplay between the small-scale physics of gas and star formation with galactic structure and galaxy evolution

Sample

Close: $D \leq 17 \text{ Mpc} (1" \approx 100 \text{ pc})$ Not edge-on: inclination < 75° ALMA visible: -75° < Dec. < +25° 9.75 < log M* < 11 74+26 = 90 total targets

main sequence of star-forming galaxies (~70% of SF at z~0)



PHANGS sample covers diverse morphologies, ISM conditions



with ALMA FoV highlighted













Santoro et al. (2022)



Imaging of 19 galaxies across [4750-9350] Å: optical emission line maps



Imaging of 19 galaxies across [4750-9350] Å: stellar continuum







WFC3/ACS UV-optical imaging of 38 galaxies





Lee et al. (2022)

cold gas organization: galactic scales



Towards the gravitational potential

CO velocity fields and rotation curves for 67 galaxies @ 150pc



Towards the gravitational potential



Stellar and cold gas arm-interarm contrasts



Where is the molecular gas in nearby galaxies?

environmental masks

based on S⁴G (Salo et al. 2015, Herrera-Endoqui et al. 2016) 3.6um imaging



centre	centre
b ar	har
bar ends	bai
spirals inside R _{bar}	spiral arms
spirals outside R _{bar}	spiraranns
interbar	
interarm	interarm
outer disc	
outer disc	Interdim

Querejeta et al. (2021)





Where is the molecular gas in nearby galaxies?

environmental masks

based on S⁴G (Salo et al. 2015, Herrera-Endoqui et al. 2016) 3.6um imaging





Querejeta et al. (2021)





environment fractions per area, gas mass, SFR

environmental masks

Querejeta et al. (2021)

based on S⁴G (Salo et al. 2015, Herrera-Endoqui et al. 2016) 3.6um imaging

applied to PHANGS maps of molecular gas & SFR



where is the star-forming gas in galaxies?

8 galaxies @ 140pc resolution Schinnerer et al. (2019)

49 galaxies @ 150pc resolution Pan et al (2022)



ALMA CO(2-1) PHANGS ALMA (Leroy et al. 2021b) H**α** narrowband literature (mainly SINGS) sightlines with gas only gas+SFR SFR only

fraction of star-forming gas in galaxies



in many galaxies, large reservoir of CO gas without high-mass SF but need to reach scales below \ll 500pc to see it

fraction of star-forming gas — variations

49 galaxies @ 150pc resolution PHANGS-ALMA CO PHANGS Narrowband Halpha (Razza et al, in prep)

overlap fraction (by area and mass) is roughly constant with stellar mass & Hubble type:

but non-star-forming gas & star-forming only sites show clear, but opposite trends



Pan et al. (2022)

cold gas organization: cloud-scales

cold gas properties vary with galaxy properties

typical molecular gas surface density varies with global galaxy properties



cold gas properties vary with environment



cold gas properties vary with environment

150pc molecular gas properties — correlation, anti-correlation

Sun et al. (accepted)



 10^{2}

 $\Sigma_{\star} [M_{\odot} pc^{-2}]$

correlation(s)

molecular gas in \approx equilibrium

Sun et al. (2018, 2020a)



dynamically-regulated clouds and SF



Sharon Meidt has been developing a model for how gas motions induced by the background galactic potential influence cloud properties and may represent a bottle-neck to SF under certain conditions.



Starting point: we see systematic variations in the CO line widths that depend on position, galaxy mass and viewing angle: cloud-scale velocity dispersion measurements reflect a contribution from gas motions in the galactic potential.

LANG ET PHANGS 2021, MEIDT ET PHANGS 2018, MEIDT ET PHANGS, 2020

dynamically-regulated clouds and SF





MEIDT ET PHANGS 2018, 2020

... but can we measure it with PHANGS?

systematic variations in CO line profile shapes with galaxy environment



metric: equivalent width/moment-2 (~I for a Gaussian)

Raphael Maris, M2 project — work in progress!

... but can we measure it with PHANGS?

Comparison between different methods for measuring moment-2 from CO data:



Comparison to Meidt et al prediction (average cloud properties in radial bins):



feedback: timescales, mechanisms, impact on cold gas properties, enrichment

Search for SF feedback signatures on cold gas



Feedback from HII regions on molecular clouds may affect CO brightness, but evidence for an impact on the cold gas velocity dispersion is less clear

quantifying pre-SN feedback with MUSE HII regions



two limit scenarios to estimate Pmin & Pmax

external pressure:

• dynamical equilibrium pressure

internal pressure terms:

- thermal ionised gas pressure
- direct radiation pressure
- mechanical wind pressure

derive internal & external pressure for ~6000 HII regions in MUSE observations of 19 galaxies



most HII regions are over-pressured and expanding, but some HII regions in centers appear under-pressured

(Barnes et al. 2021)

timescales from spatial distribution of gas&SF



(see also Kawamura et al. 2009, Schruba et al. 2010, Gratier et al. 2012, Corbelli et al. 2017)

measuring cloud lifetimes & feedback timescales



measurements vs predictions: SF feedback



pre-supernova (<5Myr) feedback (winds, photoionisation) is important



SF feedback timescale increases in more massive galaxies (which also tend to host higher density, more massive GMCs)

(Chevance et al. 2022)

chemical enrichment and mixing



correlation scale increases with gas velocity dispersion broad agreement with KT (2018) stochastically forced diffusion model

(Kreckel et al 2019, 2020)

metallicity measurements for ~6000 HII regions in 17 galaxies with MUSE observation

after removing radial gradient, residual metallicity variations of ~0.05dex

characteristic homogeneity scale of ~600pc, but systematically larger for metal-poor HII regions than for metal-rich regions (infall of pristine material + enrichment with spiral arms?)



Talk Summary

Molecular gas properties and kinematics on cloud-scales appear linked to the properties of the local galactic environment and the host galaxy disk.

Joint analysis of high resolution CO and Ha data suggests rapid cycling between molecular gas and star formation, and a significant reservoir of molecular gas in many galaxies without associated high-mass star formation. GMC lifetimes and SF feedback timescales are short.

At 100pc resolution, we don't unambiguously isolate the cold gas component that is being directly modified by star formation feedback

There is an overall high level of chemical homogeneity on large spatial scales in galaxies, suggesting efficient ISM mixing.