

# Whittle : EXTRAGALACTIC ASTRONOMY

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## 5. SPIRAL GALAXIES

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### (1) Introduction

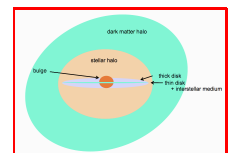
#### (a) Spiral Galaxies are Complex Systems

Disk galaxies appear to be more complex than ellipticals

- Wide range in morphological **appearance**:  
eg classification bins : simple E0-6 compared with all the spiral types  
not just smooth, considerable fine-scale details
- Wide range in stellar **populations**:  
old, intermediate, young and currently forming  
→ ongoing chemical enrichment
- Wide range in stellar **dynamics**:  
"cold" rotationally supported disk stars  
"hot" mainly dispersion supported bulge and halo stars
- Significant **cold ISM**:  
note : the cold and warm components are **dissipative**, and therefore :  
→ influences dynamical evolution (eg helps spiral formation)  
→ influences stellar density distribution (eg creates dense cores & black holes)

#### (b) Review of Basic Components [image]

- **Disks :**  
Metal rich stars and ISM  
Nearly circular orbits with little (~5%) random motion & spiral patterns  
Both thin and thick components
- **Bulge :**  
Metal poor to super-rich stars  
High stellar densities with steep profile  
 $V(\text{rot})/\sigma \sim 1$ , so dispersion support important.
- **Bar :**  
Flat, linear distribution of stars  
Associated rings and spiral pattern
- **Nucleus :**  
Central (< 10pc) region of very high density ( $\sim 10^6 M_{\odot} \text{pc}^{-3}$ )  
Dense ISM &/or starburst &/or star cluster  
Massive black hole



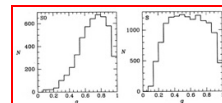
- **Stellar Halo :**  
Very low SB; ~few % total light; little/no rotation  
Metal poor stars; GCs, dwarfs; low-density hot gas
- **Dark Halo :**  
Dark matter dominates mass (and potential) outside ~10 kpc  
Mildly flattened &/or triaxial



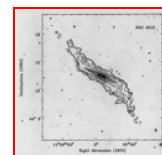
## (2) 3-D Shapes

### (a) Disks

- Distribution of (projected)  $b/a$  : [\[image\]](#)  
Approximately **flat** over wide range, from 0.3 to 0.8  
Rapid rise at  $b/a \sim 0.1 - 0.3$ ; and rapid fall at  $b/a > 0.8$
- Interpretation :
  - Randomly oriented thin circular disks give  $N(b/a) = \text{const}$   
→ observed  $N(b/a)$  consistent with **mostly flat circular disks**
  - Drop at low  $b/a$  due to bulge. Note: slower rise for big bulge S0s, and faster rise for small bulge Scs.
  - Minimum  $b/a \sim 0.05 - 0.1$  for ~bulgeless Sdm → **disks can be highly flattened**
  - drop at high  $b/a \sim 0.8$  caused by **non-circular disks**  
→ dark matter potentials slightly oblate/triaxial ( $\langle \epsilon(\phi) \rangle > \sim 0.045$ )



- Warps: [\[image\]](#)
  - starlight almost always flat (if undisturbed)
  - however, HI is often **warped**, with warp starting beyond  $D_{25}$
  - 180 degree symmetry: "integral sign" when seen edge-on.
  - 75% of warped galaxies have **no** significant companion  
→ probably response to non-spherical halo potential misaligned with disk



### (b) Bulges

Not as easy as ellipticals because of other components  
Study edge-on spirals to minimise contamination  
Results :

- oblate spheroids, flattened by rotation  
→ probably similar to low-luminosity ellipticals

### (c) Bars

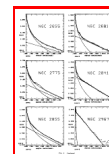
- Axis ratios from 2.5 to 5.
- Probably **flat**, since they aren't visible in edge-on spirals
- However, "peanut" bulges thought to be thickened (unstable) bars seen edge-on [\[image\]](#)



## (3) Surface Photometry

Model as two components: bulge and disk [\[image\]](#)

- 1-D fits to elliptically-azimuthally averaged light profile
- 2-D fits to full image: better, since bulge & disk have different ellipticities



### (a) Radial Profiles

#### (i) Bulge

deVaucouleurs  $R^{1/4}$  Law, first in flux units:

---

$$I(R) = I(0) \exp(-7.67 (R/R_e)^{1/4}) \quad (5.1a)$$

$$= I(R_e) \exp(-7.67 [(R/R_e)^{1/4} - 1]) \quad (5.1b)$$

or in magnitudes per square arcsec:

$$\mu(R) = \mu(0) + 8.325 (R/R_e)^{1/4} \quad (5.2a)$$

$$= \mu(R_e) + 8.325 [(R/R_e)^{1/4} - 1] \quad (5.2b)$$

where

- Effective radius,  $R_e$ , contains half the light; [Note:  $I(R_e) \equiv I_e$ , etc ]
- $R_e \sim 0.5 - 4$  kpc (larger for early Hubble types)
- $I(0) = 2140 I(R_e)$
- Integrating to infinity:  $L_{\text{tot}} = 7.22 \pi R_e^2 I_e$

## (ii) Disk

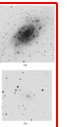
Exponential fits well (first flux units, then mag/ss):

$$I(R) = I(0) \exp(-R/R_d) \quad (5.3a)$$

$$\mu(R) = \mu(0) + 1.086 (R/R_d) \quad (5.3b)$$

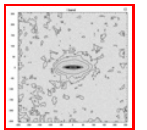
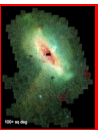
where

- $R_d$  is the disk **scale length**, ie  $I(R_d) = 1/e I(0)$
- Typically,  $R_d \sim 0.25 R_{25} \sim 2 - 5$  kpc ( $R_{25}$  is 25<sup>th</sup> mag/ss isophote)
- In practice, disk light falls sharply beyond 3 - 5  $R_d$
- $R_d > R_e$  always (eg MW :  $R_d \sim 5$  kpc,  $R_e \sim 2.7$  kpc)
- Integrating to infinity:  $L_{\text{tot}} = 2 \pi R_d^2 I(0)$
- $\mu_B(0) \sim 21.65 \pm 0.3$  mag/ss (Freeman 1970 "Law" of  $\sim \text{const } \mu(0)$  for normal spirals)  
However, a few Low Surface Brightness (LSB) galaxies have much fainter  $\mu(0)$  [\[image\]](#)



## (iii) Stellar Halos

- MW and M31 have **resolved** halos with metal poor stars, and globular clusters  
Both of these systems contain significant **substructure** [\[image\]](#)  
→ tidally stripped dwarf galaxies and globular clusters.  
However, M33 does **not** have a significant stellar halo
- Extremely difficult to see as integrated light in other galaxies [\[image\]](#)  
Stacking  $\sim 1000$  SDSS edge on galaxies shows extended red light out to  $\mu_i \sim 29$  mag/ss:  
Implied density:  $\rho(r) \propto r^{-\alpha}$  with  $\alpha \sim 3$ .  
Consistent with moderately flattened spheroid:  $c/a \sim 0.6$
- Overall, still unclear yet:  
How much of stellar halo is in form of tidal streams  
How many galaxies have stellar halos .

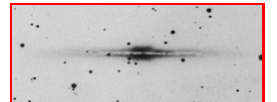


## (b) Vertical Disk Structure

Studies of edge on disks suggests **exponential** distribution: [\[image\]](#)

$$I(z) = I(0) \exp(-|z|/z_0) \quad (5.4)$$

Where  $z_0$  is the **scale height** of the disk, ie  $I(z_0) = I(0) / e$



At large  $z$ , excess light sometimes reveals a second "Thick Disk" of larger  $z_0$   
 (see 4d(ii) below for further discussion of vertical disk structure)

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## (4) Disk Velocity Field

### (a) Gas Rotation Curves

Typical rotation curve comprises [\[image\]](#)

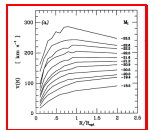
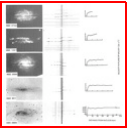
- rise from zero at the nucleus
- $V_{\max}$  peak at  $R_{\max}$
- extended region close to flat

Many rotation curves have now been measured

Some systematic trends are noticeable :

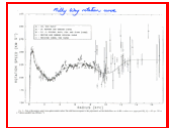
#### (i) At Large Radius

- $V_{\max}$  increases as  $L$  increases (T-F relation, see [below](#))
- Outer slope increases as  $L$  decreases [\[image\]](#)  
 for  $V(r) \propto R^m$  we find  $m$  in the range  $-0.2$  to  $0.2$  ( $m = 0$ , flat, for  $M_B \sim -22.5$ )  
 Drop in massive early types caused, in part, by high  $V_{\max}$  from bulge



#### (ii) At Small Radius

- For luminous early type spirals,  $V(r)$  rises **very rapidly** (often unresolved)  
 → dense bulge core( &/or black hole?) [see Milky Way rotation curve: [image](#)]
- For low luminosity later type spirals,  $V(r)$  rises **more slowly**  
 often  $V(r) \propto r \rightarrow$  "solid body"  
 However: sometimes, when  $V(r)$  drops,  $\sigma(r)$  **increases**, so  $V(r)$  is **not** the full  $V_c$   
 i.e. rotation **and** dispersion both provide support



### (b) Stellar Velocities in the Disk

Disks are **faint** → stellar LOSVD (Line Of Sight Velocity Dispersion) is difficult to measure

Also, brighter central regions are confused by bulge component

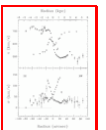
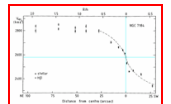
Nevertheless, some results are emerging.

#### (i) Rotation

For disk stars,  $V_{\text{los}} \gg \sigma_{\text{los}}$  so stars are **cold** and have  $\sim$  circular orbits

Usually,  $V_{\text{stars}}$  follows  $V_{\text{gas}}$  which is close to  $V_c$  [\[image\]](#)

- Sometimes, star orbital rotation velocity can be **slower** than the gas  
 this is called **asymmetric drift** and indicates a higher stellar dispersion  
 → support beginning to be shared with dispersion  
 → stars at  $r$  likely to be at apogee, so have  $V < V_c$
- In S0s,  $\sim 30\%$  have **counter-rotating** gas disks [\[image\]](#)  
 a few spirals even have two counter-rotating **stellar** disks  
 → both indicate external origin postdating primary disk formation



#### (ii) Vertical Dispersion

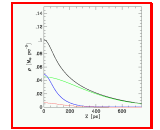
Face-on galaxies yield  $\sigma_z$  : the vertical stellar dispersion

- As a function of radius,  $\sigma_z$  decreases exponentially, with scale length  $2R_d$   
 This agrees with simple stellar dynamics theory:  
 An isothermal disk gives  $\sigma_z^2 = 2 \pi G z_0 \Sigma_M$   
 where  $\Sigma_M$  is the surface mass density and  $z_0$  is the scale height  
 Hence  $\sigma_z \propto \Sigma_M^{1/2} \propto I(r)^{1/2} \propto \exp(-R/2R_d)$ , as found.

- Consider the Milky Way disk: observations near the solar neighborhood:

The inferred mass density within the disk suggests dark matter does **not** dominate the disk.

It turns out there are **several components** of different  $z_0$  and  $\sigma_z$  [image]



- gas and dust,  $z_0 \sim 50$  pc ;  $\sigma_z \sim 10$  km/s
- young thin disk,  $z_0 \sim 200$  pc ;  $\sigma_z \sim 25$  km/s
- old thick disk,  $z_0 \sim 1.5$  kpc ;  $\sigma_z \sim 50$  km/s

The astrophysical origin of this is thought to be  $\sigma_z$  increasing with **age**

- stars born "cold" from molecular clouds with  $\sigma_z \sim$  sound speed, and corresponding small  $z_0$
- stars gradually "heated" by scattering off DMCs and spiral arms, and/or
- heating of the disk over time by satellite passage and/or minor mergers

## (c) 2-D Velocity Fields: Spider Diagrams

A circular disk tilted by angle  $i$  ( $0 =$  pole on) projects to an ellipse.

The photometric major axis (PMA) of this ellipse is called the **line of nodes**

Contours of projected velocity,  $V_{\text{los}}$ , give a **spider diagram** [image]

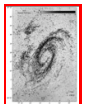
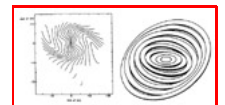
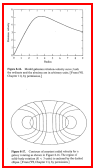


**Kinematic Major Axis (KMA):** line through nucleus **perpendicular** to velocity contours

**Kinematic Minor Axis (KMI):**  $V_{\text{los}}$  contour at  $V_{\text{sys}}$  through the nucleus

These spider diagrams reveal much about the detailed form of the disk velocity field:

- Circular velocity** in an inclined circular disk: [image]
  - KMA aligned with photometric major axis (PMA)
  - KMI aligned with photometric minor axis (PMI)
- Flat**  $V(r)$  (beyond initial rise) gives:
  - $V_{\text{los}}$  contours are approximately **radial** at large  $R$
  - If  $V(r)$  **declines** past  $V_{\text{max}}$ , then  $V_{\text{los}}$  contours close in a loop.
- Solid body** i.e.  $V_c(r) \propto r$  in near-nuclear regions, gives:
  - equally spaced contours across nuclear KMA, with spacing  $\propto 1/\text{slope}$
- Warped** disks have: [image]
  - Twisted  $V_{\text{los}}$  contours in outer parts
  - Note: model galaxies as a set of rings with different  $V(r)$ ,  $PA(r)$ ,  $i(r)$
- Bars** often show:
  - evidence of **radial motion** over bar region
- Oval disks** (e.g. arising from non-axisymmetric halo)
  - KMI and KMA not perpendicular
  - KMA not aligned with PMA, and KMI not aligned with PMI
- Spiral arms** yield: [image]
  - small perturbations to  $V_{\text{los}}$  contours near arm positions



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## (5) Scaling Relations

There are a number of correlations between the global parameters of galaxies:

Luminosity; Size; Surface Brightness; Rotation Velocity;

Such relations are called "Scaling Relations".

They are important for several reasons:

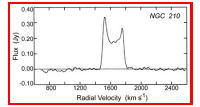
They reveal the internal properties of galaxies

They must arise naturally in theories of galaxy formation.

In the case of disk galaxies, the most important is between  $V_{\text{rot}}$  and Luminosity:

## (a) $V_{\max}$ and the Tully-Fisher Relation

- $V_{\max}$  = maximum rotation velocity (inclination corrected), derived from: [\[image\]](#)
  - Major axis optical (often  $H\alpha$ ) rotation curves (**half** the full amplitude)
  - HI 21 cm integrated (single dish) profile width,  $W_{20}$ :  $W_{20} / \sin i = 2V_{\max}$

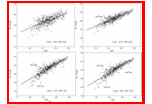


- Tully & Fisher (1977) recognised that  $V_{\max}$  correlates with galaxy luminosity
  - $L \propto V_{\max}^\alpha$   $\alpha \sim 3 - 4$
- As for the Faber-Jackson relation, the T-F relation stems from virial equilibrium:
 
$$V_c^2 \propto M/R \quad \text{and} \quad L \propto I(0) R^2$$

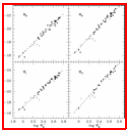
$$\rightarrow L \propto (M/L)^{-2} I(0)^{-1} V_c^4$$

$$\rightarrow \text{T-F relation holds if } (M/L)^{-2} I(0)^{-1} \sim \text{const} \quad (\text{roughly true})$$

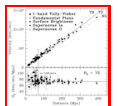
- Usually, choose **longer** wavelengths (eg I & H bands rather than B & V): [\[image\]](#)
  - smaller scatter on the T-F relation, and slightly steeper gradient ( $\alpha$  larger)
 This is because, at  $\sim 1-2\mu\text{m}$  :
  - $L_{1\mu}$  is less sensitive to star formation and dust
  - $L_{1\mu}$  tracks older population which dominates mass and has a more homogeneous M/L ratio



- The T-F relation is one of the key methods of **distance determination**
  - First calibrate on nearby galaxies with Cepheid distances [\[image\]](#)
  - this yields the following relations :



$$\begin{aligned}
 M_B^{0,i} &= -7.41 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 20.04 \pm 0.04 \\
 M_R^{0,i} &= -8.09 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 21.05 \pm 0.04 \\
 M_I^{0,i} &= -8.55 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 21.51 \pm 0.04 \\
 M_H^{0,i} &= -10.39 (\log W_R^i - 2.5) - 22.22 \pm 0.08
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{5.5}$$



- Then for more distant galaxies, measure  $V$ , inclination, and apparent magnitude:
  - $V_{\max}$  and TF relation gives  $M$ , which gives  $m - M$ , which gives distance.
  - These greater distances can now be used with redshifts to derive  $H_0$  [\[image\]](#)

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## (6) Mass Estimates and Dark Matter Halos

### (a) Deriving $M(r)$ from $V_c(r)$

For centrifugally supported circular motion,  $V_c(r)$  yields the mass distributions.  
 In general (**not** assuming spherical symmetry):

$$M(< r) = \beta \frac{RV_c^2(r)}{G}
 \tag{5.6}$$

where  $\beta$  is a geometry factor  $0.7 < \beta < 1.2$   
 Sphere:  $\beta = 1.0$ , Flattened:  $\beta \sim 0.7$

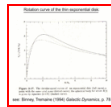
For an exponential, thin disk, one can show that :



$$\begin{aligned}
 V_c^2(R) &= R \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial R} \\
 &= 2 \frac{GM_d}{R_d} y^2 [I_0(y)K_0(y) - I_1(y)K_1(y)] \quad (y = \frac{R}{2R_d}) \\
 &\simeq 0.767 \frac{GM_d}{R_d} \frac{0.44(R/R_d)^{1.3}}{1 + 0.235(R/R_d)^{2.3}} \quad R < 4R_d
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{5.7}$$

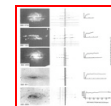
Where  $I_n$  and  $K_n$  are modified Bessel functions of the first and second kind.

This rotation curve has peak:  $V_{\max}$  at  $R_{\max} \sim 2.2 R_d$  [image]  
 for  $R > 3 R_{\max}$   $V_c(R)$  falls  $\sim R^{-1/2}$  (Keplerian)



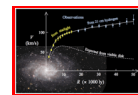
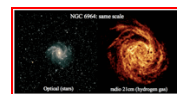
## (b) Results from Optical Rotation Curves

- 1960s (Burbidge's) gathered  $H\alpha$  rotation curves and **assumed** Keplerian fall-off beyond their data.  
 → quote well defined galaxy "masses"
- 1970s & 80s (Rubin et al) went deeper : **flat** out to  $\sim 2 - 3 R_d$  [image]  
 → conclude dark matter (**careful** : exponential disk still  $\sim$ flat here)
- Kent (1986) images **same** galaxies and derives rotation curves directly from light profile they **match** the observed rotation curves !  
 → dark matter **not required**; bulge + disk with normal M/L suffices

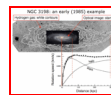


## (c) Results from HI mapping

- Fortunately, HI extends **well beyond** the optical disk [image]  
 while  $H\alpha$  goes to  $2-3 R_d$  ( $\sim 0.75 R_{25}$ ), HI often goes to  $> 5 R_d$
- $V_{\text{rot}}$  rarely declines; still flat or rising **well beyond the disk** [image]  
 It is necessary to invoke an invisible **halo**  
 Since  $\Phi = \Phi_d + \Phi_h$  and  $V_c^2 = r d\Phi/dr$ , then:  
 $V_c^2 = V_d^2 + V_h^2$   
 Use the observed rotation,  $V_c$ , and the (predicted) disk rotation,  $V_d$ , to  
 → infer the halo contribution,  $V_h$ , and its potential.



- Typically, bulge + disk accounts for inner rotation curve with reasonable  $M/L_B \sim 3 - 5$   
 If this is forced to fit the inner rotation, it is called "maximum disk" model  
 Dark matter **halo** needed at larger radii, giving total  $M/L_B \sim 30$   
 →  $\sim 5$  times more dark matter than normal matter in stars + gas  
 This is a **lower limit** since  $V_{\text{rot}}$  still constant/rising!



- Historically important paper: van Albada et al (1985) analysis of NGC 3198 : [image]
- It is now generally accepted that galaxies reside within large halos of dark matter. [image]



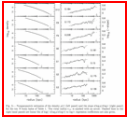
## (d) Dark Matter Halo Structure

- At largest measured radii  $V_{\text{rot}}$  is  $\sim$ flat, so  $\rho(r) \sim r^{-2}$  in this region  
 Unknown beyond this, but must drop faster to keep total mass finite.
- Difficult to constrain the **inner** parts  
 Bulge + "maximum disk" fits yield plausible M/L ( $\sim 3-5$ ), suggesting DM not important here  
 Halo contribution clearly drops at small radii, but functional form not well constrained.
- N-body codes which follow hierarchical assembly of DM halos yield a particular form:  
 The Navarro-Frenk-White (NFW) 2-parameter broken power-law profile:

$$\rho(r) = \frac{\rho_0}{(r/a)(1+r/a)^2}
 \tag{5.8}$$

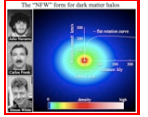
This has  $\rho(r) \sim r^{-1}$  in the center and  $\rho(r) \sim r^{-3}$  at  $r \gg a$ .

Or a slightly better 3-parameter fit is the "Einasto Profile": [\[image\]](#)



$$\begin{aligned} \rho(r) &= \rho_0 \exp[-d_n (r/r_e)^{1/n}] \\ &= \rho_e \exp[-d_n ((r/r_e)^{1/n} - 1)] \end{aligned} \quad (5.9)$$

In this case,  $d_n \approx 3n - 1/3 + 0.0079/n$ , ensures that  $r_e$  contains half the total mass.  
 $n \sim 7 \rightarrow 4$ , decreasing systematically with halo mass (cluster  $\rightarrow$  galaxy halos).  
 [See Merritt et al (2006 [o-link](#)) for a detailed discussion of halo fitting functions]



Both these give rotation curves that rise to a peak and slowly decline [\[image\]](#)  
 They are approximately flat in the regions measured by optical or HI rotation curves.

## (e) Disk-Halo Conspiracy

There is an intriguing property of these rotation curves:

- After a rapid rise, most rotation curves are **~flat at all radii** :
  - $\rightarrow$  in regions where  $V_c$  is determined by disk matter, **and**
  - $\rightarrow$  in regions where  $V_c$  is determined by dark matter
- How do these two **different** regions know they should have the **same** rotation amplitude ??
- This is not currently understood, but indicates something important about galaxy formation
- Notice that a related puzzle also underlies the Tully-Fisher relation
  - $V_{\max}$  is set by the halo, while
  - $M_I$  is set by the luminous matter
- Indeed, the theoretical origin of the TF relation is not yet fully understood.

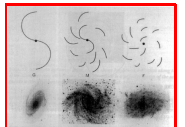
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## (7) Spiral and Bar Structures

### (a) Spirals

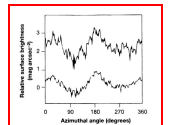
#### (i) Spiral Classes

- recall, two types (extremes) of spiral structure [\[image\]](#)
  - Grand Design (AC 12), two strong arms ( $\sim 10\%$ )
  - Flocculent (AC 1), more chaotic ( $\sim 90\%$ )
  - Multiple Arm (intermediate), strong inner arms, outer ratty



#### (ii) Arm Prominence

- Arm / Inter-arm contrast is useful [\[image\]](#)
  - for contrast  $\Delta m$  magnitudes (typically 1-2 in B), define  $A = \text{dex}(0.4 \Delta m)$
- A depends on color:
  - Grand Design :  $A_B \sim A_I \sim \text{large} (1.5 - 8)$
  - Flocculent :  $A_B \gg A_I \sim 1.0$
  - $\rightarrow$  a plot of  $A_B / A_I$  vs  $A_I$  separates the classes well. [\[image\]](#)
- Clearly:
  - spiral arms are **bluer** than the underlying (red) disk
  - spiral arms are **younger** than the disk
  - the old disk in Grand design has **spiral pattern**
  - the old disk in flocculents is **uniform**
- Interpretation:
  - Grand design is a **density wave**: it involves a spiral in the underlying mass distribution
  - global coherence implies **global** process generates structure





- o Flocculent spirals are **not** density waves  
lack of coherence implies **local** process generates structure

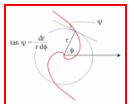
### (iii) Leading or Trailing ?

- Consider orientation of spiral w.r.t. direction of disk rotation: [image]
  - o arm ends point **forward** → **leading** spiral
  - o arm ends point **backwards** → **trailing** spiral
- To decide: need to know which side is nearest:
  - o Difficult, but try to identify the least obscured by dust (near side)  
→ arms are almost always **trailing**
- Many arms have dust lanes & HII regions on **inside** (concave) edge
  - gas runs into arms on concave side; compressed; star formation
  - HI and CO distribution is narrow and focussed on inner edge [image]



### (iv) Pitch Angle

- $\psi$  Defined as the angle between the tangents of arm and circle [image]  
e.g. tight spiral has **small**  $\psi$   
clearly:  $\tan \psi = dr / r d\phi$  (where  $\phi$  is azimuth)
- Most spirals have  $\psi \sim \text{const}$  throughout disk  
→ logarithmic spiral:  $r(\phi) = r_0 \exp[(\phi - \phi_0) \tan \psi]$   
with  $r = r_0$  at  $\phi_0$
- This is, in fact, predicted by density wave theory.



### (v) The Winding Problem

- If arms were "fixed" w.r.t. the disk (e.g. like leaves on water)  
With flat rotation ( $V \sim \text{const}$ ), inner parts rotate many times compared to outer parts  
E.g. for one rotation at R, two rotations at R/2, four at R/4, 8 at R/8.  
This leads to very tightly wound arms.

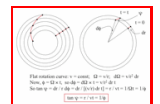
More precisely: with  $\Omega = V_c / R$  and  $V_c = \text{constant}$  we find [image]

$$\tan \psi = R / V t = 1 / \Omega t = 1 / \phi$$

so after 1 rotation:  $\tan \psi = 1 / 2\pi$  or  $\psi = 9^\circ$ ; after 2 rotations:  $\psi \sim 4.5^\circ$ .

This quickly becomes a **very tight** spiral in which  $\psi$  **decreases** with radius

- In reality: for Sa:  $\langle \psi \rangle \sim 5^\circ$ ; for Sc:  $\langle \psi \rangle \sim 10^\circ - 30^\circ$   
This suggests we might have two types of condition
- **Long lived** spiral arms are **not** material features in the disk  
they are a **pattern**, through which stars and gas move  
these might be the grand design spirals
- **Short lived** spiral arms can arise from temporary patches pulled out by differential rotation  
the patches might arise from **local** disk instabilities, leading to star formation  
these might be the flocculent spirals



### (b) Bars

- Barred galaxies are common (~50%): [image]
- Isophotes not fit by ellipses; more **rectangular**  
Probably **flat** in disk plane  
K (2.2μm) images can show bars within bars (inner bar ~independent)
- Bars are **straight**, and stars **stay in the bar** → rigid rotation of pattern with well defined  $\Omega_b$   
Bars are **not** density waves:  
Stars **move along the bar** on closed orbits in frame rotating at  $\Omega_b$



Such orbits only occur for  $\Omega_b < \Omega_{\text{stars}}$  → bars occur **inside co-rotation** (CR)

Bars can drive a density wave in disk → helps maintain spiral structure.

■ **Gas motions** important and interesting :

Observations:

Star formation occurs at bar ends

Dust lanes seen down leading edge of bar

Velocity fields suggest strong non-circular motion, including radial inflow.

Simulations :

Orbits mildly self-intersecting → weak shocks → compression where dust lanes seen

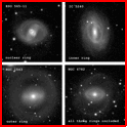
Inner gas loses angular momentum and **moves inwards**

May collect in disk/ring near ILR, or continue to fuel AGN & build black hole mass.

Outer gas stored in **ring** near bar ends (CR)

Gas beyond the bar can be stored in an outer ring at OLR

→ may explain inner and outer rings seen in many barred galaxies [\[image\]](#)



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