Kinematically decoupled galaxies

Outline: →KDC large or small

→Counter-rotating components

→Polar rings

→ Hierarchical or gas accretion?



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30% of early-types have Kinematically Decoupled Cores (KDC)

Stellar populations and ages are the same in the KDC and the host

KDC not visible in the line maps

The events are at least 12 Gyr SAURON & Davies et al 2001

Large KDC are old, slow rotators



The small ones will fade out and not be visible after a few Gyr

McDermid et al 2006

High fraction of counter-rotating gas

10% in late spirals21% in S027% in S0 with extended ionised gas*Bureau & Cheung 2006*

More in gas (24%) than in stars (10%) *Merrifield et al 1996*



Counter-rotating also in dwarfs

VCC 510, one of the smallest systems, *Thomas et al 2006* Virgo cluster dE/dS0, *Chilingarian 2009* In a cluster: Gas accretion or mergers?



NGC 4550

Two disks of stars, coplanar Counter-rotating (Rubin et al 92)

In the Virgo Cluster



Major merger, N4550 prototype with opposite spins



Formation of the counter-rotating disk

Gas settles in the prograde sense.



T=1250 Myr







2 CR stellar disks, but only one gas rotation

Red= prograde galaxy, Blue= retrograde galaxy, Black=total



Angular momentum exchange



Red= prograde galaxy, Blue= retrograde galaxy, Black=total Full lines= orbital AM, Dash lines= individual spins

The gas settles in corotation with the thicker, more perturbed, disk Formation of a bulge with low $n \sim 1-2$ Special geometry, of aligned or anti-aligned spins

Crocker et al 2008

GalMer

A library of Galaxy Mergers



GALMER: Data base with on-the-fly computationsSED of galaxies pixel by pixel, dust, spectra, etc..*Chilingarian et al 2008* http://galmer.obspm.fr



Formation of Counter-rotating cores



A dissipative encounter between a spiral and an E-gal

→ Retrograde orbit

Tidal forces are strong in the outer parts

The center is unaffected Keeps spin orientation

Effect opposite to Balcells & Gonzalez 98



x [kpc]

Angular momentum exchange

Solid r < 2kpc Dot-dash 5<r<10 Dash 2< r <5kpc Dots r>10kpc



Other mechanisms to form KDC

Balcells & Gonzalez 98: → Stellar spiral-spiral mergers



Bulges drag the orbital spin inside

While the outer parts keep the precursor internal spins *Both disks rotate opposite to orbit*

→Merger between 2 gas-rich spirals NGC 7252 type

CR * disk built afterwards, from gas

Return of tidal material Hernquist & Barnes 1991 Hibbard & Mihos 1995 Polar-Ring Galaxy NGC 4650A



Formation of Polar rings

Either by galaxy merger with perpendicular J

Or by gas accretion in the outer parts

3D shaped of the dark matter?

PRC99-12 Space Telescope Science Institute Hubble Heritage Team (AURA/STScI/NASA)

Formation of Polar Rings

By accretion? Schweizer et al 83 Reshetnikov et al 97







Formation of PRG by collision





Formation of PRG by accretion



Polar rings from cosmic gas accretion



→After 1.5 Gyr, interaction between the two disks destroys the PRG

 \rightarrow Velocity curve about the same in both equatorial and polar planes



Brook et al 2008



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NGC 3718, face-on spiral + Polar ring HI until 42kpc, symmetric to 35kpc where period is 1 Gyr Tilt with radius→ precess rigidly



Formation of the N3718 ring?

Gas still accreting at 60kpc, and young stars form in this accreted gas In the symmetrical part, must be lasting since 2-3 Gyr Swing of the gas of 100° Polar at the center, and going

towards the plane, 25°



Line of nodes twists by 90° In the plane of the face-on spiral

Compatible with a round DM halo, And differential precession With self-gravity of the disk

Torques balanced by self-g→Explains the longevity

NGC 2768: molecular polar disk

Crocker et al 2008



CO(2-1) map superposed on the velocity dispersion map of the stellar component

The polar CO disk corresponds to a sigma-drop



Polar disk accreted from filaments

HI polar disk, with no optical counterpart, must be recent accretion Mass of HI, equivalent of mass of stars in the normal disk



Stanonik et al 2009

Galaxy aligned along a wall between voids

Gas from the cosmic filaments flowing to the wall, and perpendicular to it → Formation of the gaseous polar disk Up





Stanonik et al 2009

Relative role of gas accretion and mergers

Dekel et al (2008)





Analysis of results from a cosmological simulation with gas and SF (Horizon) shows that most of the starburst are due to smooth flows

Inflow rates are sufficient to assemble galaxy mass (10-100 Mo/yr) 26

Conclusion

The fraction of systems seen with kinematically decoupled components can yield clues in the formation mechanisms

 \rightarrow Cannot be monolithic collapse

→But Hierachical Scenario: either collisionless (dry mergers) or dissipative (hydrodynamics)

 \rightarrow Or large external accretion, from filaments with changing orientations, and angular momentum