

Molecular Line Probes of activity In **low metallicity** Galaxies

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Molecular gas in low metallicity galaxies

- **Strong UV fields + low dust** content change:

→ - Cloud 'Structure' and 'phase balance' (HI/H₂, H₂/CO, CII/CI/CO)

- Physical parameters (n(H₂), T_k, X(e⁻), ...)

→ - Chemistry

PDRs

SHOCKs ('MDRs')

Hot cores

...

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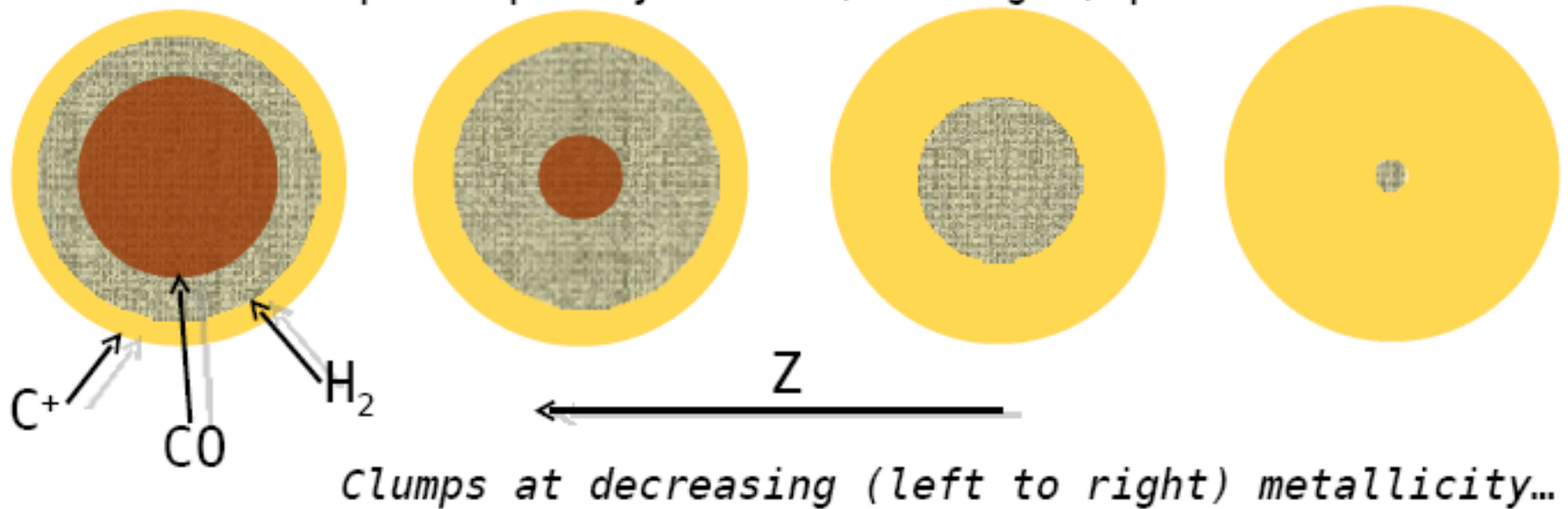
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Hot cores

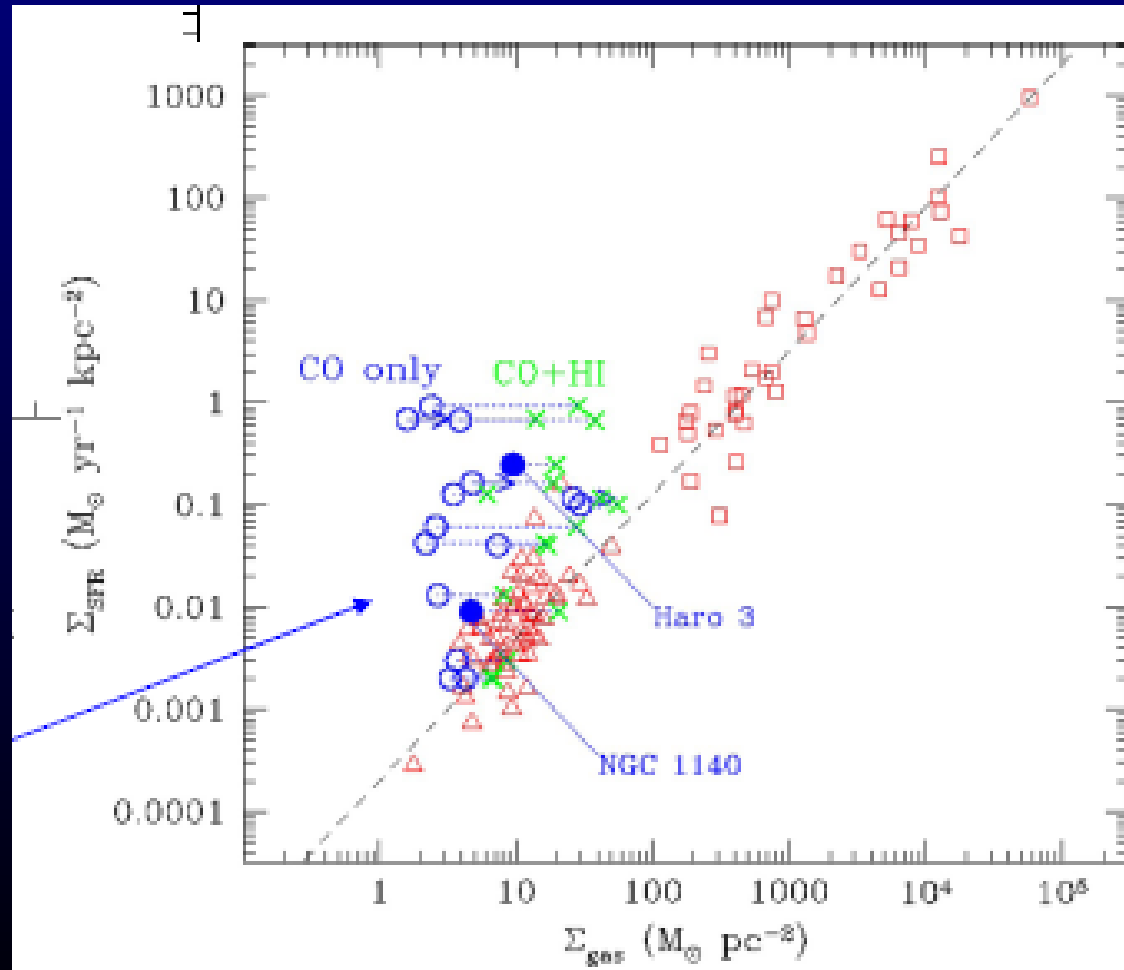
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Cloud 'Structure': H_2/CO _

-CO 'deficiency' in low metallicity mol. gas...



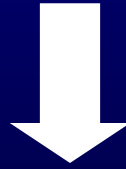
CO deficiency in low Z dwarfs



Hunt et al. 2010

CO deficiency in low Z dwarfs

- Dust:gas ratio (DGR) $\sim Z$



- $[\text{CO}] \sim Z$?

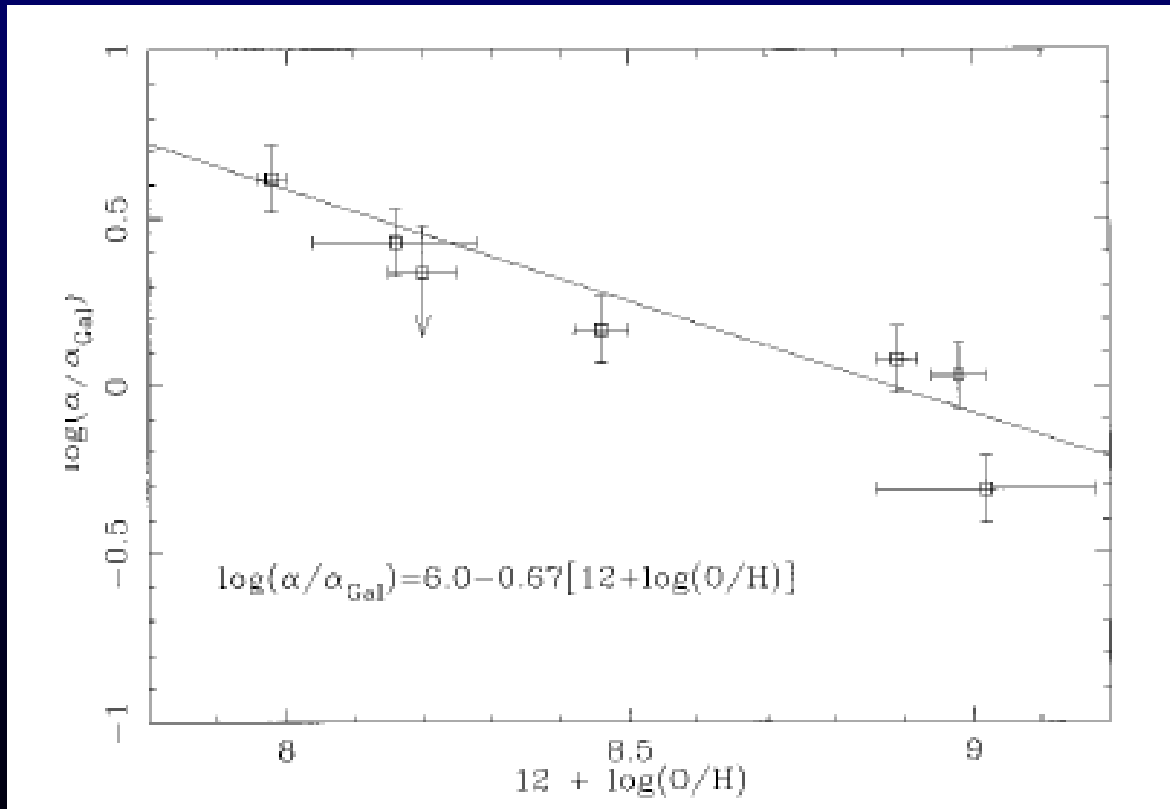
- CO conversion factor X_{CO} : $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

if $[\text{CO}] \uparrow \rightarrow \tau(\text{CO}) \uparrow \rightarrow X_{\text{CO}} \neq f(Z)$

if $[\text{CO}] \downarrow \rightarrow \tau(\text{CO}) \downarrow \rightarrow X_{\text{CO}} \sim Z^{-1}$

CO conversion factor: $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

- X_{CO} estimates from virial masses of CO emitting clouds
- X_{CO} increases by a factor **5** for a factor **10** decrease in Z

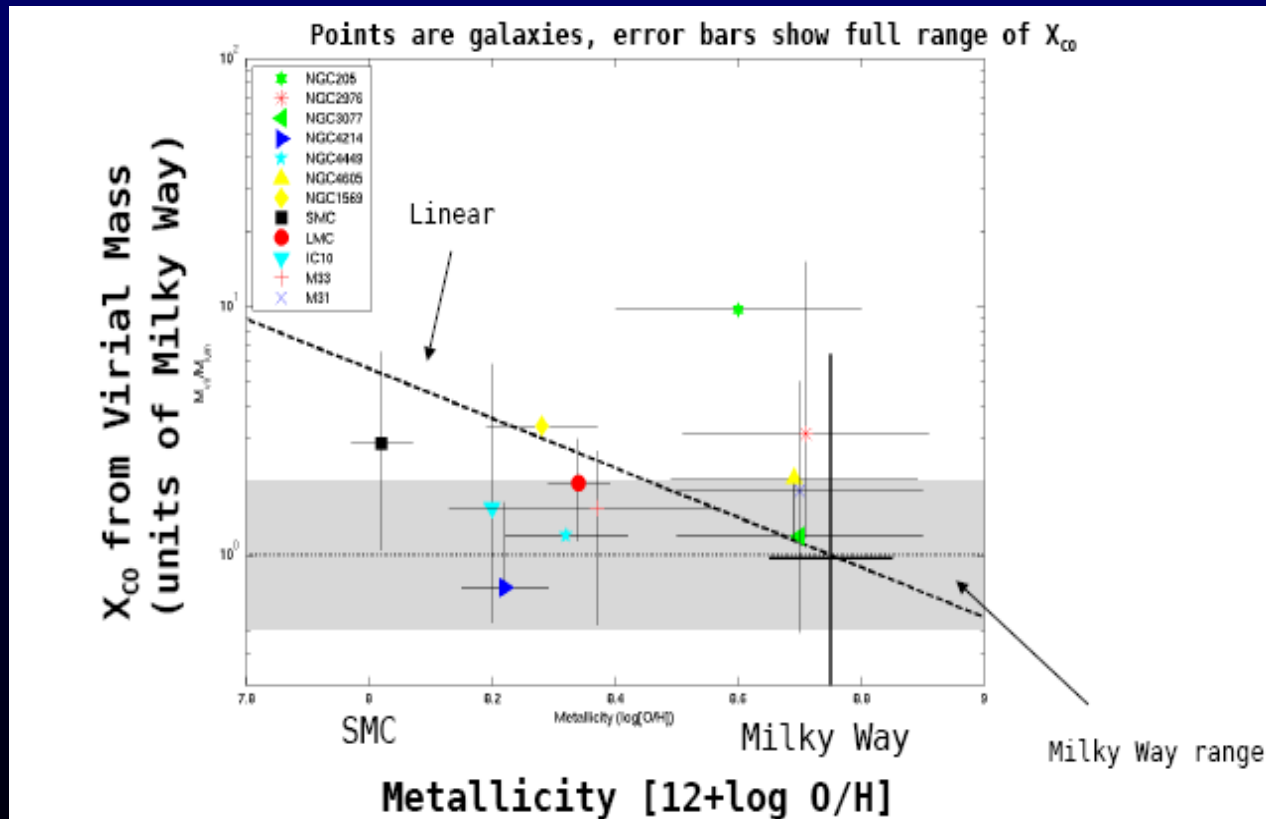


Wilson 1995

CO conversion factor: $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

- X_{CO} estimates from virial masses of CO emitting clouds

-No clear trend in X_{CO} with Z !



Bolatto et al. 2008

CO conversion factor: $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

$-\text{X}_{\text{CO}}$ estimated from FIR data (+ HI): 'global' X_{CO}

$$\Sigma_{\text{H}_2} = (\Sigma_{\text{dust}} \times \text{DGR}^{-1}) - \Sigma_{\text{HI}}$$

Estimate dust surface density from IR (need at least two bands to make a temperature estimate).

Measure the dust-to-gas ratio from the ratio of dust to atomic gas away from the molecular line emission but near

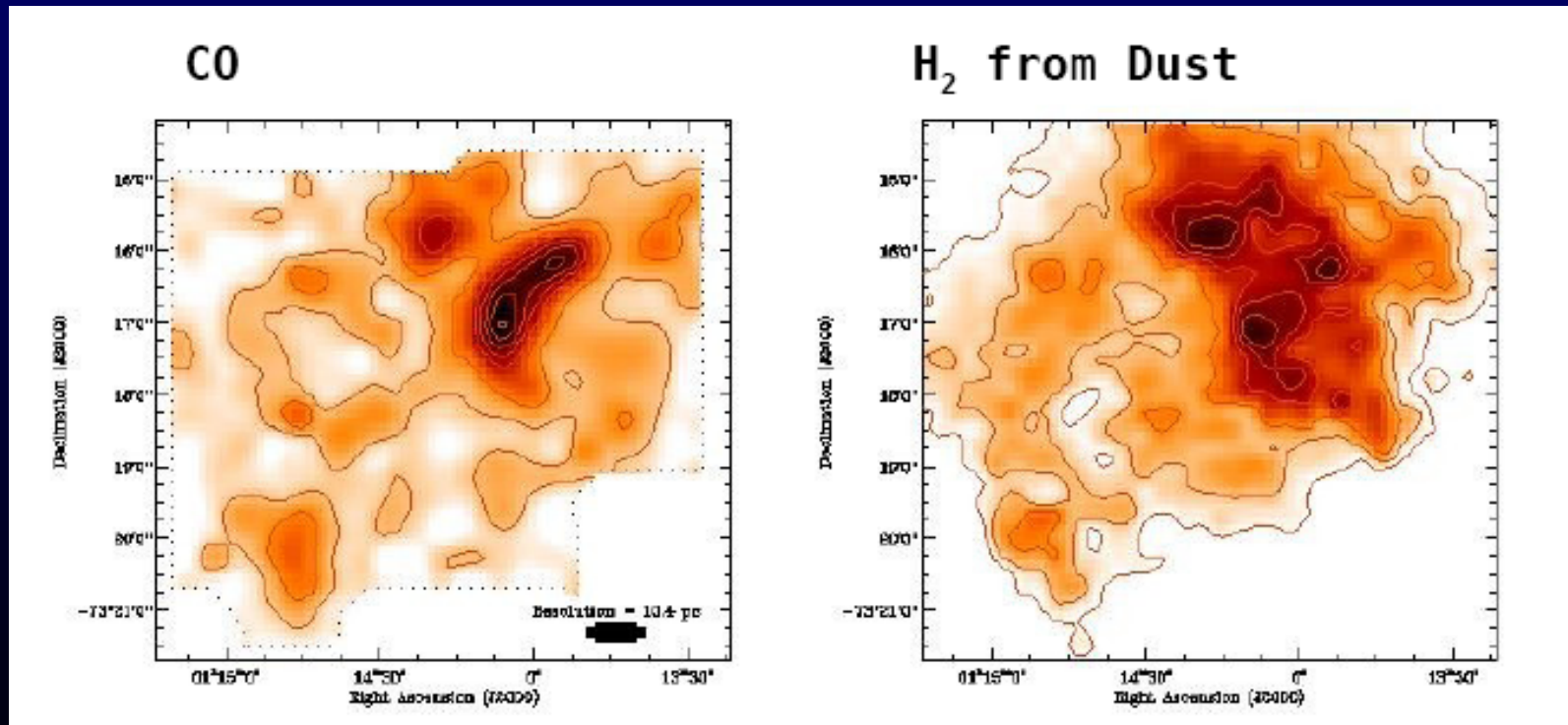
Subtract the already known distribution of atomic gas.

Leroy et al. 2009

CO conversion factor: $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

- X_{CO} estimated from FIR data (+ HI): 'global' X_{CO}

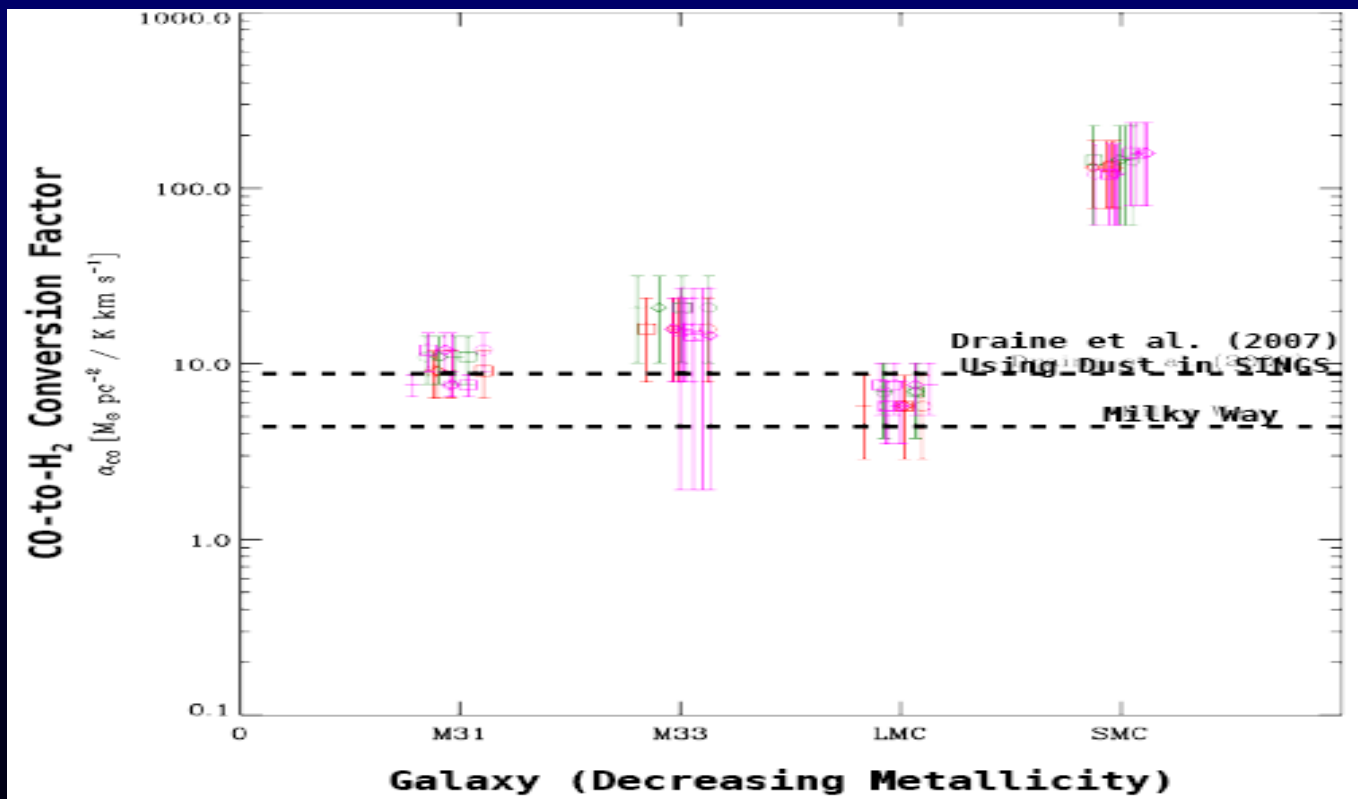
N83 complex in the SMC



Leroy et al. 2009

CO conversion factor: $\text{CO} \rightarrow \text{H}_2$

‘global’ X_{CO} [SMC] $\sim 20\text{-}30 \times X_{\text{CO}}$ [MW]



Leroy et al. 2010

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- Physical parameters (n(H₂), T_k, X(e-),...)

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Physical parameters of mol. clouds in low Z galaxies:

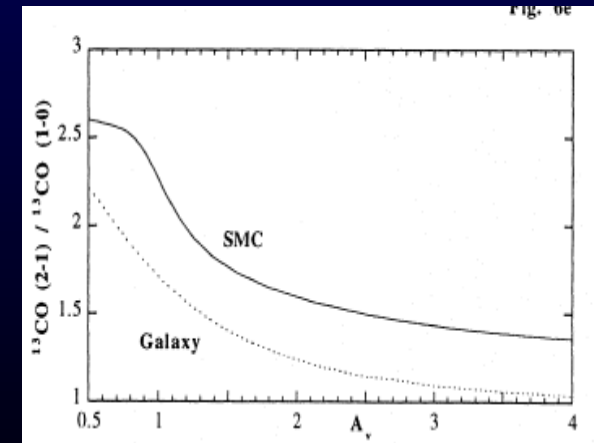
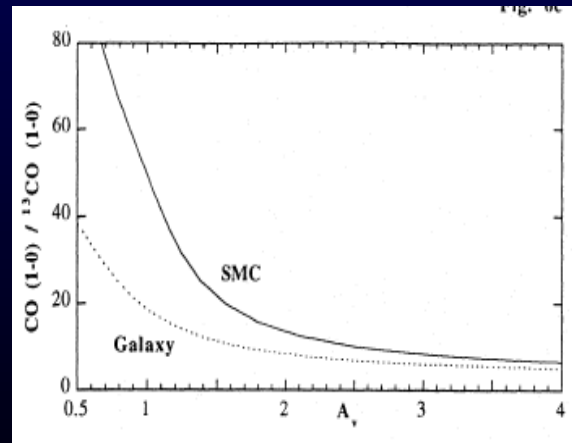
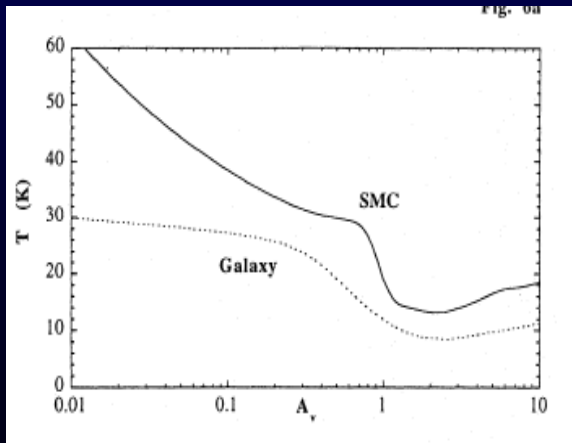
- Multi-species studies of molecular gas in dwarfs
- ^{12}CO , ^{13}CO , CI, CII, other molecules...

Physical parameters of mol. clouds in low Z galaxies:

-Multi-species studies of molecular gas in dwarfs

-SF molecular clouds in the SMC *Lequeux et al. 1994*

Modeling of 1-0 and 2-1 ^{12}CO + ^{13}CO ratios @ SMC



T_k (SMC) > T_k (MW)

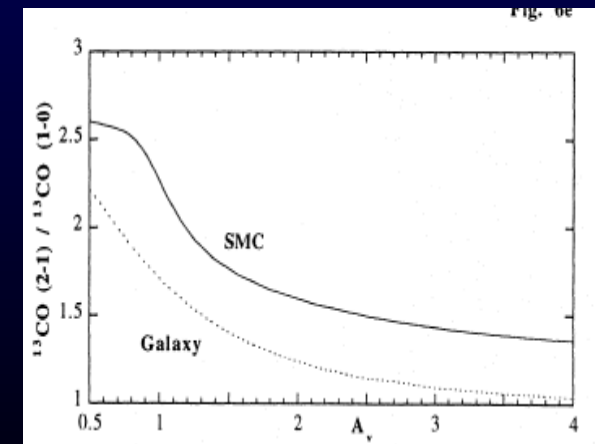
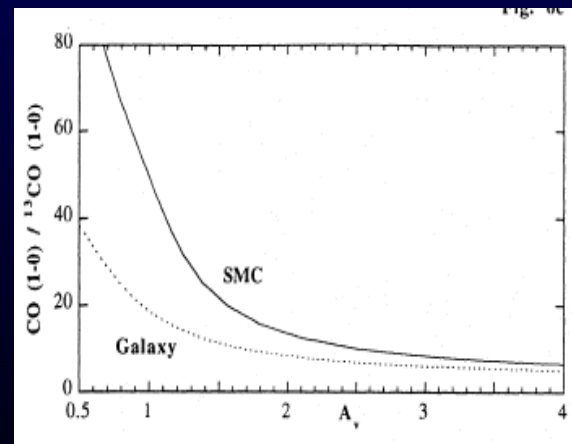
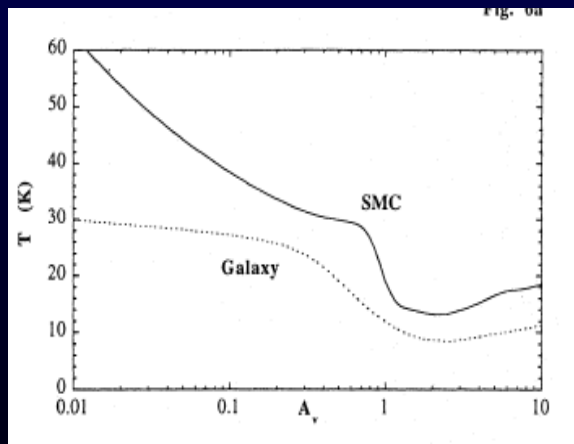
cloud size (SMC) < cloud size (MW)

Physical parameters of mol. clouds in low Z galaxies:

-Multi-species studies of molecular gas in dwarfs

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Modeling of 1-0 and 2-1 ^{12}CO + ^{13}CO ratios @ SMC



‘HOT(ter)’ than in MW

‘SMALL(er)’ than in MW

Physical parameters of mol. clouds in low Z galaxies:

-Mol. clouds in the SMC + LMC *Bolatto et al. 2005*

Modeling of (1-0, 2-1, 3-2, 4-3) ^{12}CO + (1-0, 2-1) ^{13}CO ratios

SOURCE	"COLD DENSE" COMPONENT			"HOT TENUOUS" COMPONENT	
	Kinetic Temperature T_k (K)	Volume Density $n(\text{H}_2)$ (cm^{-3})	Column Density $N(\text{CO})/dV$ ($\text{cm}^{-2} \text{km}^{-1} \text{s}$)	Kinetic Temperature T_k (K)	Volume Density $n(\text{H}_2)$ (cm^{-3})
LMC					
N83A.....	10 60 150	10^5 10^5 10^5	10×10^{17} 1×10^{17} 3×10^{17}	100 150 150	10^5 $(5-10) \times 10^2$ 10^2
N159W.....	20	10^5	1×10^{17}	100	10^2
N167.....	20	10^4	0.6×10^{17}	30-60	$(1-10) \times 10^2$
SMC					
N12.....	150	10^5	10×10^{17}	150	$(1-5) \times 10^2$
N27.....	30	10^5	0.6×10^{17}	60-100	10^2
N66.....	20-60	10^4-10^5	6×10^{17}	300	10^4
N83.....	10-30	10^4	$(1-2) \times 10^{17}$	100	3×10^3

Two phases

cold (10-30K) + **dense** (10^5cm^{-3}) and **hot** (100-300K) + **tenuous** (10^2-10^3cm^{-3})

Physical parameters of mol. clouds in low Z galaxies:

-Mol. clouds in the LMC (N159W region) *Pineda et al. 2008*

Modelling of (1-0, 4-3, 7-6) ^{12}CO + (1-0, 4-3) ^{13}CO + (1-0, 2-1)CI ratios



One phase modelling (escape probability scheme...)

moderately **dense** (10^4cm^{-3}) and **hot** (80K !!)

...but probably requires more than one phase...

PDRs in low metallicity dwarfs

-Mol. clouds in the LMC (N159W region) *Pineda et al. 2008*

Modelling of (1-0, 4-3, 7-6) ^{12}CO + (1-0, 4-3) ^{13}CO + (1-0, 2-1)CI ratios



PDR clumpy modelling

dense (10^5cm^{-3}) and **low mass clumps** (0.1-1Msun !!)

...the upper clump mass cut-off is just 0.1-1Msun



a broken up structure of the ISM

PDRs in 'solar' metallicity SBs

M82

Lord et al. 1996

Atomic lines CI, CII, OI

Mao, Henkel et al 2000

12CO and 13CO lines

PDR models of molecular gas

Molecular 'clouds' are....

- Small ($r \ll 1 \text{ pc}$)
- Moderately dense ($n_{\text{H}_2} \sim 10^{3-4}$)
- Low mass : 100- 1000 $M_{\text{sun}} \ll M_{\text{GMC}}(\text{MW})$
- Immersed in intense UV-field $G_0 = 10^3$

PDRs in 'solar' metallicity SBs

M82

Garcia-Burillo et al 2002, 2010

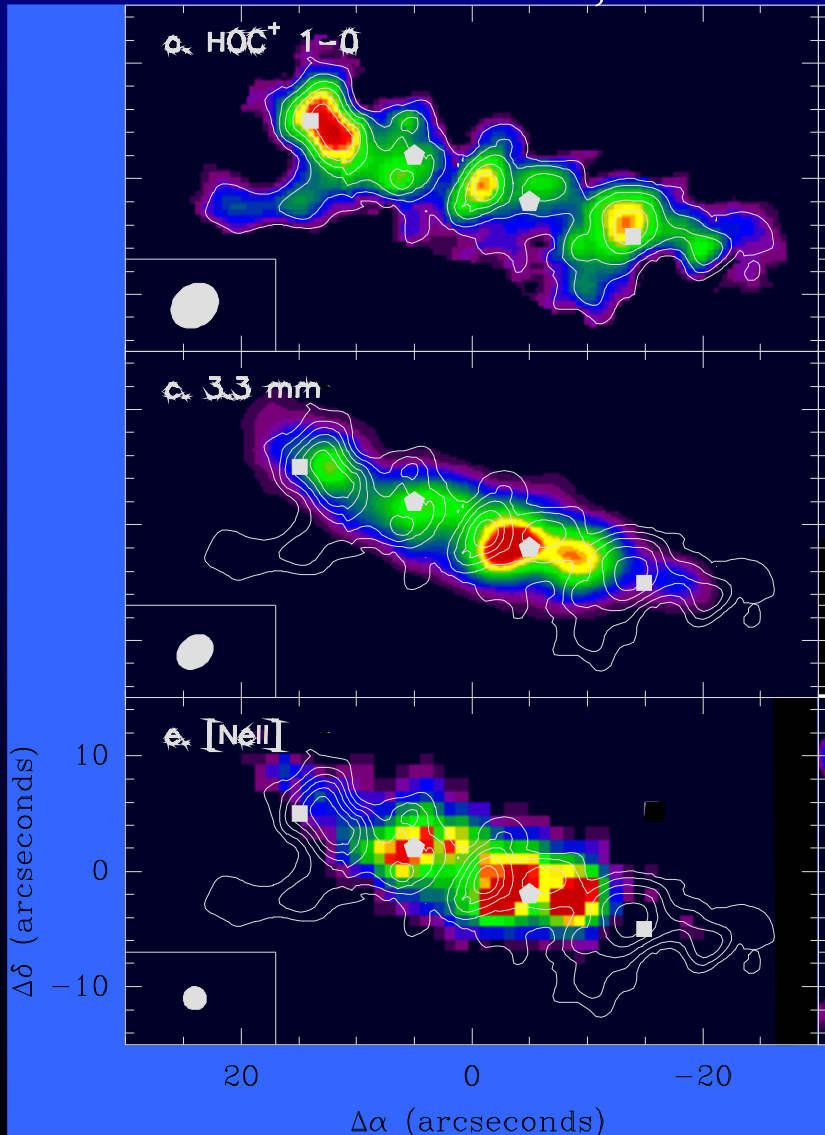
Fuente et al 2005, 2008

PdBI HOC⁺ HCO CN maps
30m CN, CO⁺, CS...

PDR models of 'dense' gas

Molecular 'cloud cores' are....

- Small ($r \ll 1 \text{ pc}$)
- Dense ($n_{\text{H}_2} \sim 10^5$)
- Low mass 'filaments': $< 0.01 \text{ M}_{\text{sun}}$
- Immersed in intense UV-field $G_0 = 10^4$
- Highly-ionized: $X(e^-) > 10^{-5}$



PDRs in low metallicity dwarfs

-Mol. clouds in the LMC (N159W region) *Pineda et al. 2008*



PDR clumpy modelling

dense (10^5cm^{-3}) and low mass clumps (0.1 Msun !!)

PDRs in low Z dwarfs are pretty extreme compared to M82

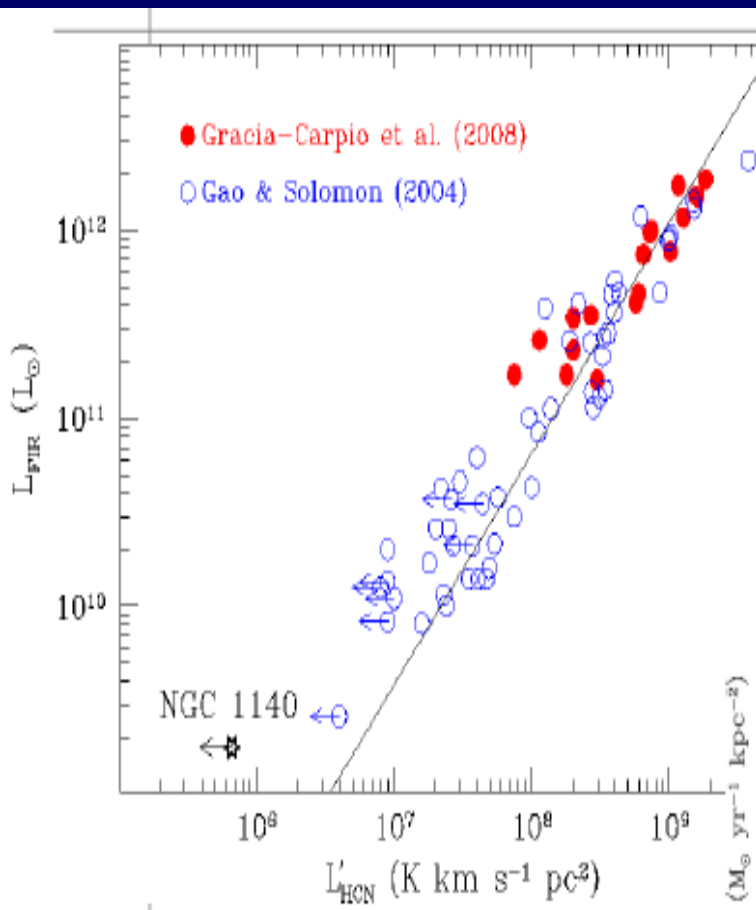


Clumps of much smaller size and smaller masses → can we detect the cores??

PDRs in low metallicity

dwarfs: **NGC1140** *Hunt et al. 2010*

-Tracing the dense cloud cores: **HCN, HCO+, CN, CS...**



- HCN(1-0) not detected! :
HCN/CO < 0.04 similar to normal SF galaxies, so \ll ratio in ULIRGs
- NGC1140 clear outlier in HCN/FIR correlation
- [CO] \sim Z, but for [HCN] is probably 'worse'!!!
- HCN- M_{dense} conversion factor is \sim 10 times larger?

PDRs in low metallicity dwarfs: **SMC & LMC** *Chin, Henkel et al. 1997, 1998*

-Tracing the dense cloud cores: **HCN, HCO⁺, CN, CS...**

- CO, CS, HCO⁺ abundances are $\sim 1/10$ x MW values
- HCN, HNC and CN are $\sim 1/100$ x MW values !
- HCO⁺ is the 'best' tracer of the dense phase in low Z PDRs:

$I(\text{HCN})/I(\text{CO}) [1-0] \sim 0.04 \sim$ in NGC1140

$I(\text{HCO}^+)/I(\text{HCN}) [1-0] = 1.5-3$!

PDRs in low metallicity dwarfs: **models** *Bayet et al. 2009*

-What are the 'best' (detectable) tracers?



$$Z \sim 1/10 Z_{\odot}, G \sim 10^5 G_{\odot}, \zeta \sim 10^2 \zeta_{\odot}, n(\text{H}_2) \sim 10^4 \text{cm}^{-3}$$

- Very good: **[OH]** $\sim 10 \times [\text{OH}]_{\text{MW}}$!
- Good: **[CO]**, **[H₂O]** and **[HCO⁺]** $\sim 1/10 \times [\text{CO}, \text{H}_2\text{O}]_{\text{MW}}$, but still OK
- Bad: $[\text{HCN}] \sim 10^{-11}$, and $[\text{CN}], [\text{CS}] \sim 1/100 \times [\text{CN}, \text{CS}]_{\text{MW}}$

PDRs in low metallicity dwarfs: **models** *Bayet et al. 2009*

-What are the 'best' (detectable) tracers?



- **CO** and **HCO⁺** (mm/subm)
- **H₂O** and **OH** (FIR/subm → HERSCHEL)

Hot Cores in low metallicity dwarfs: **models** *Bayet et al. 2008*

-What are the 'best' (detectable) tracers?



$$Z \sim 1/5 Z_{\odot}, \zeta \sim \zeta_0, n_{\text{final}}(\text{H}_2) \sim 10^7 \text{cm}^{-3}, T \sim 300 \text{K}$$

• Good: **[CS], [HCN], [HNC], [H₂S]** $\sim 10^{-8}$

• Bad: **[HCO⁺]** and **[CN]** $< 10^{-12}$

Hot Cores in low metallicity dwarfs: **models** *Bayet et al. 2008*

-What are the 'best' (detectable) tracers?



- **HCN, CS, HNC** and **H₂S** (mm/subm)
- **??** (FIR/subm → HERSCHEL)

Mechanical dominated regions (MDR) in low metallicity dwarfs

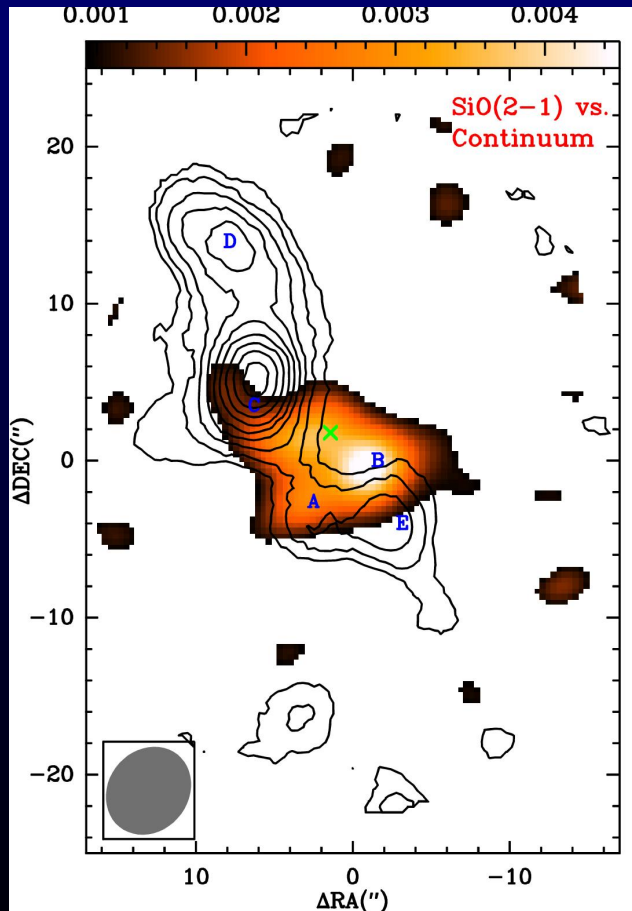
-Molecular shocks in dwarfs?

MDRs in 'normal' SBs: shocks

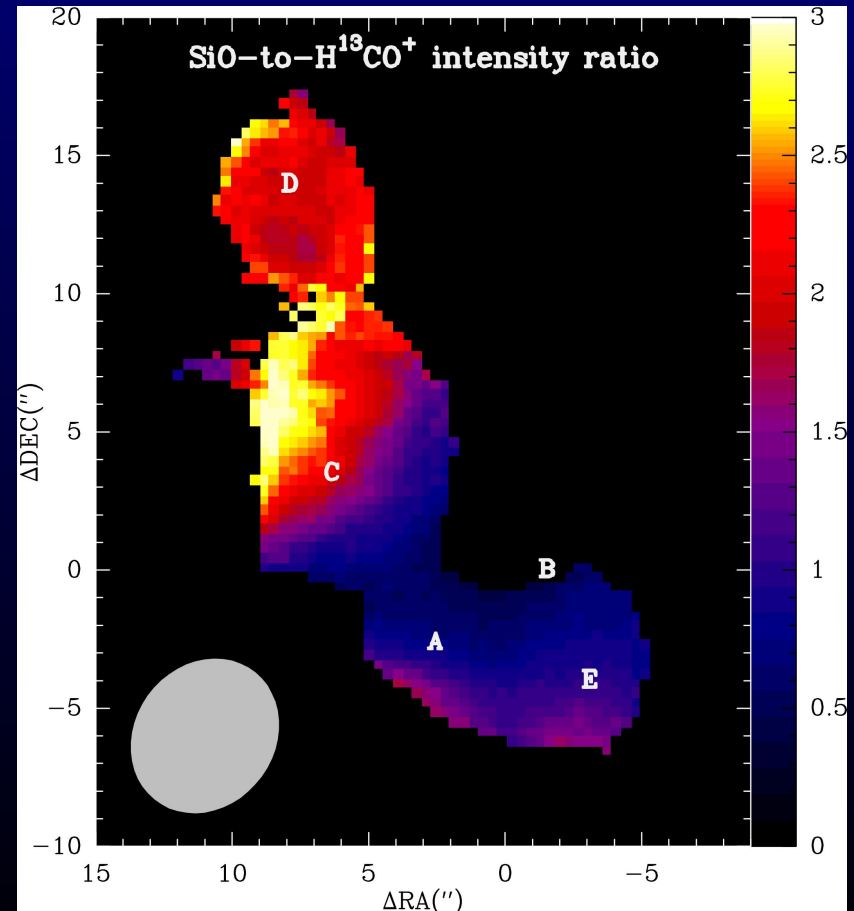
IC342

Usero, Garcia-Burillo et al. 2006

- SiO emission probed by PdBI along spiral structure \rightarrow gas response to bar
- Shocks not powered by on-going star formation but by density waves



SiO (contours) on 3.5mm RC (color) PdBI maps.



SiO-to- H^{13}CO^+ integrated intensity ratio.

Mechanical dominated regions (MDR) in low metallicity dwarfs

-Molecular shocks in dwarfs?

- Shallow gravitational potential → no density waves (spiral arms, bars)?
- Bubbles inflated by SN explosions + hot gas → starburst outflows?
- Signature of molecular shock in dwarfs: OIV and H₂O lines detected by Spitzer... →

Mechanical dominated regions (MDR) in low metallicity dwarfs

-What are the 'best' (detectable) tracers?



- **SiO, CH₃OH, HNCO** (mm/subm), likely weak...
- **H₂O** and **OH** lines (FIR/subm → HERSCHEL)

Final Thoughts....

→ Molecular gas tracers in dwarfs: CO

CO lines need conversion factor (X_{CO}) to get $M(\text{H}_2)$

$X_{\text{CO}}\text{-virial}$

$X_{\text{CO}}\text{-LVG/PDR}$



$X_{\text{CO}}\text{-global (FIR)}$

Final Thoughts....

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 $X_{\text{CO}}\text{-LVG/PDR}$ \longleftrightarrow $X_{\text{CO}}\text{-global (FIR)}$

→ Molecular gas tracers in dwarfs: **other molecules**

Suitability of tracers depends on prevalent type of chemistry

PDRs, but also hot cores and shocks,...(mm, subm, to Herschel)

'Other molecules' also need X_{other} to get $M(\text{H}_2)$ -dense

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→ Star formation laws in low Z galaxies: **models**

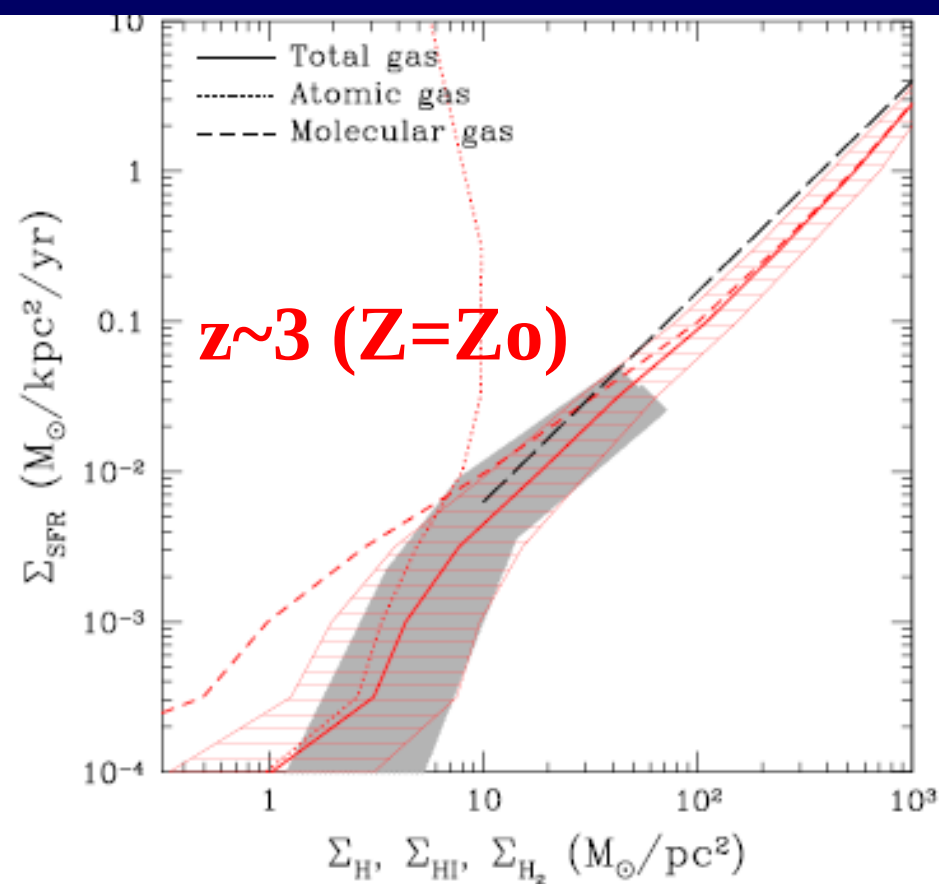
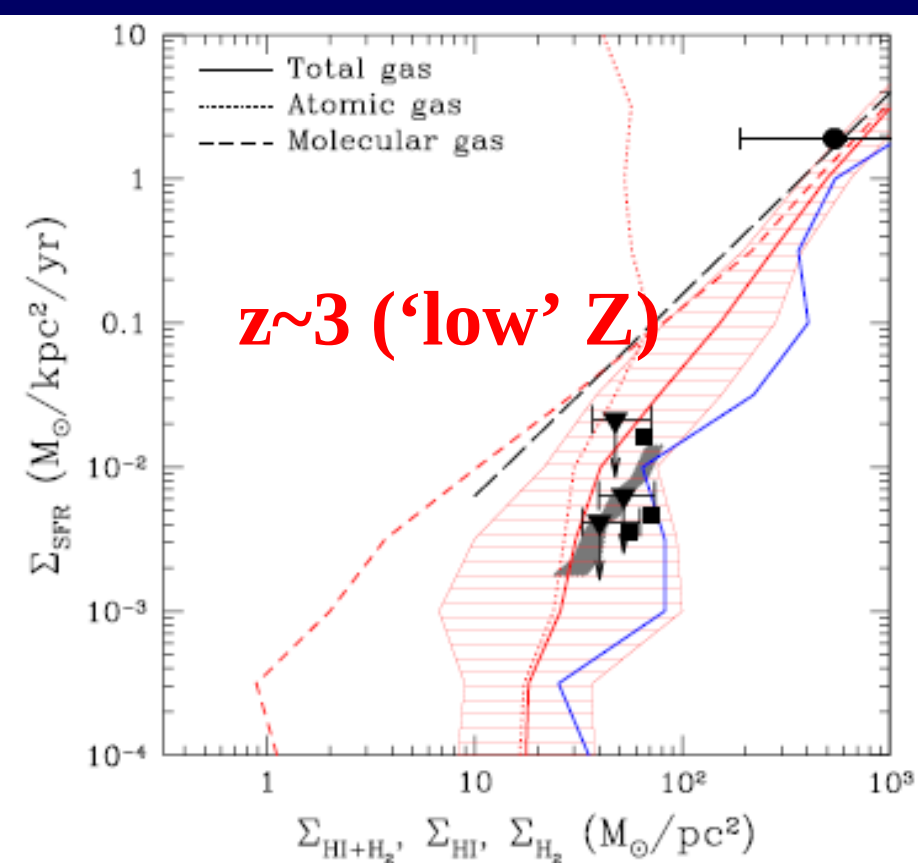
Do we expect to find the same KS law in low Z galaxies?

SF laws at low Z + high redshift...

Gnedin and Kravtsov 2009, astro-ph

➔ **KS law at low Z and redshift ~ 3**

lower amplitude + steeper power law ! \rightarrow metallicity is the key factor!



Final Thoughts....

Molecular gas tracers in dwarfs: **CO**

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