

The relation between stars and gas in distant galaxies

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Observing any galaxy in the universe will yield the fact that it contains stars and also gas. The dynamics of both can be explored by observing galaxies and collecting spectroscopic data.

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1 Amongst the different types of cosmic
2 structure within our universe, galaxies can
2 be seen as the island powerhouses of industry
2 and activity. Containing countless stars,
gas, dust, and dark matter [1], it would be
difficult not to express the statement that
the motions of these objects must be linked
in some galactic relationship.

2 By utilising the most powerful tool in as-
tronomy, observation, galaxies, their struc-
ture and the motions of the objects within
them can be studied to a great depth. As an
example, if we took optical measurements of
the stellar population, we could use that in-
formation to estimate the potential age of
the galaxy. We know that redder stars are
older and bluer stars represent a more young
set of objects [1]. Or if we wanted to know
about the material composition or even the
distance to a certain galaxy, we could split
the collected light in a spectrograph to pro-
duce a spectrum. Values of redshift and
the content of a galaxy can be obtained by
looking at the absorption and emission lines
within a galactic spectrum [1].

Gathering and processing this optical and spectroscopic information allows us to build a broad picture of the internal workings of a galaxy. Then with further analysis we can begin to comprehend the intricate re-

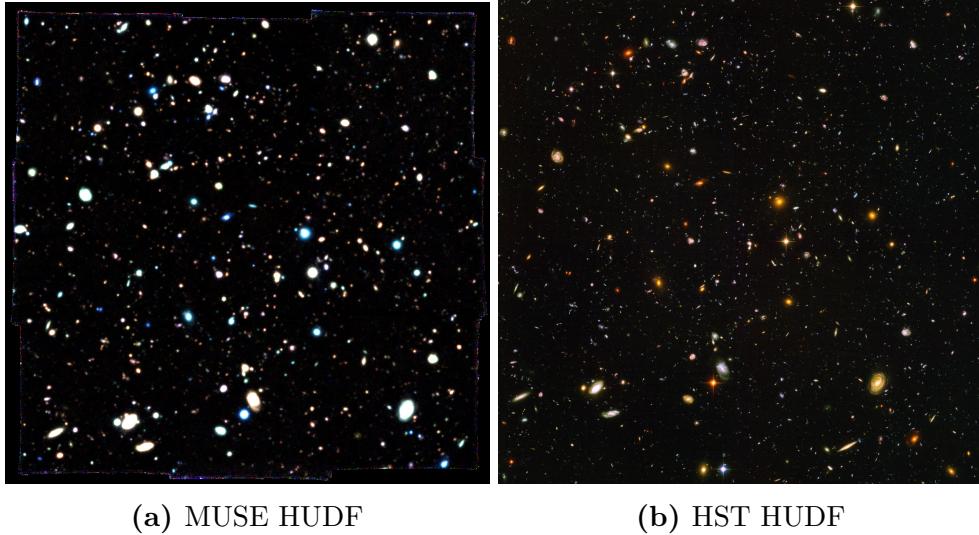


FIG. 1: (a) A colour image created from the MUSE spectroscopic data of the HUDF. The wavelength range was split into three equal regions and then collapsed to create three bands (R, G, B). A final colour image was produced by combining these separate frames together. (b) The optical HUDF as captured by the Advanced Camera for Surveys instrument on the Hubble Space Telescope [2].

lationships contained within these individual islands.

To begin with we must consider a general picture of galaxies, after which we will be able to appreciate and explore more complex ideas.

a. Galactic classification

As we stated previously, a galaxy can be quite broadly defined as a collection of gas, dust, stars and dark matter. But if we were to observe a large enough sample of them then we would begin to see that some of them could potentially be grouped together.

This categorisation is called the *Hubble Sequence* or the *Hubble Tuning Fork*. With a horizontal handle and two prongs, the sequence itself does not show the evolution of the galaxies, rather it provides a way to view the possible different types of galaxies on one graph. [REF and show an example of the sequence - find some data and plot

2. ANALYSIS

a. Cube extraction

b. pPXF

it? or images of galaxies?]

We introduced the concept that through optical measurements of the stars

What do I want to say with this? I want to introduce galaxies, the different types of galaxies, how they form, how they can be confused with other types of structure.

b. Data

1. HUDF and MUSE

To obtain spectroscopic information on the Hubble UDF objects, the Multi-Unit Spectroscopic Explorer or MUSE was employed. This instrument is

what is MUSE, where it is on the VLT, problems, limitations of MUSE - why it is useful...etc

3. DISCUSSION

4. CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, through extensive data and statistical analysis it can be said that the dynamics of stars and gas in galaxies are ... (?)

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References

- [1] Bradley W. Carroll and Dale A. Ostlie. An Introduction to Modern Astrophysics. Pearson, 2nd edition, 2007.
- [2] NASA, ESA, S. Beckwith, and HUDF Team. Hubble Ultra Deep Field. <https://svs.gsfc.nasa.gov/30946>, May 2018. [Online; accessed 5th November 2018].