

Looking for needles in the HI-stack

Julia Healy

Supervised by Dr S Blyth & Dr E Elson

Department of Astronomy, University of Cape Town
Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, University of Groningen

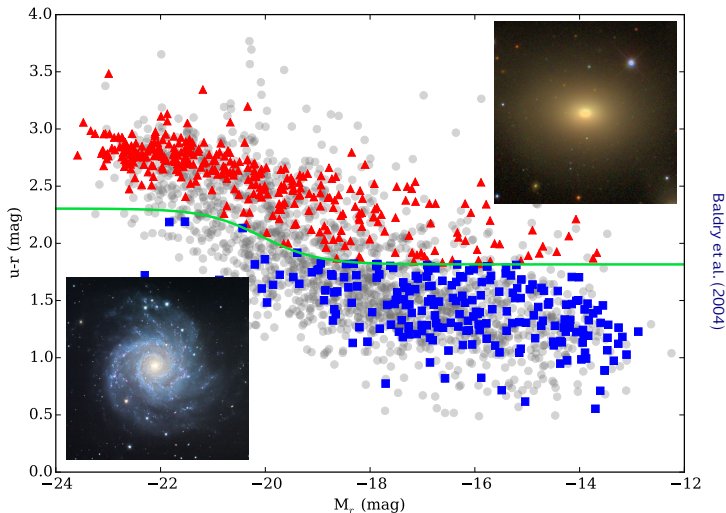
PHISCC

February 2017



Current understanding of Galaxy Evolution

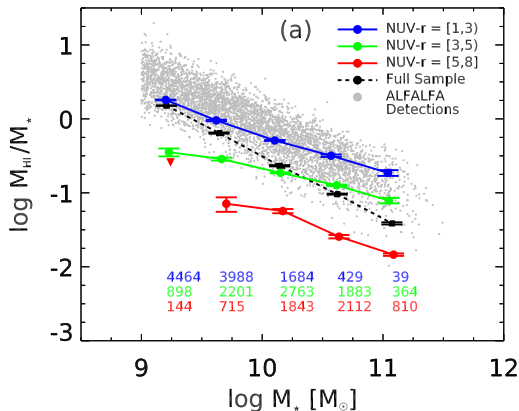
Colour bimodality: blue, mostly star-forming & old, red



Probing the gas-richness of galaxies

Gas fractions ($f_{\text{HI}} = M_{\text{HI}}/M_{\star}$) are useful to probe gas richness

- a volume-limited sample of ALFALFA galaxies
- Brown et al. (2015) explore what drives gas fraction relations
- gas fraction relations primarily driven by $\text{NUV} - r$, followed by $M_{\star}$

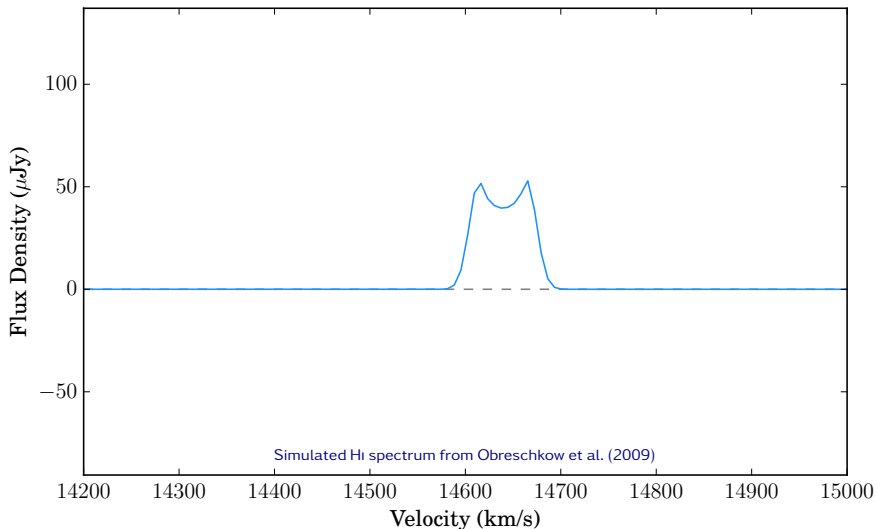


(Brown et al., 2015, Figure 5)

- Current challenges of H I studies:
 - limited by long integration times
 - deepest imaged H I at $z \sim 0.35$ (Fernández et al., 2016)
- Future Surveys using SKA and Pathfinders: LADUMA, APERTIF MDS, DINGO, etc
 - LADUMA aims to detect H I to $z \sim 0.6$
 - use stacking for high redshift ($0.4 \leq z \leq 1.4$)

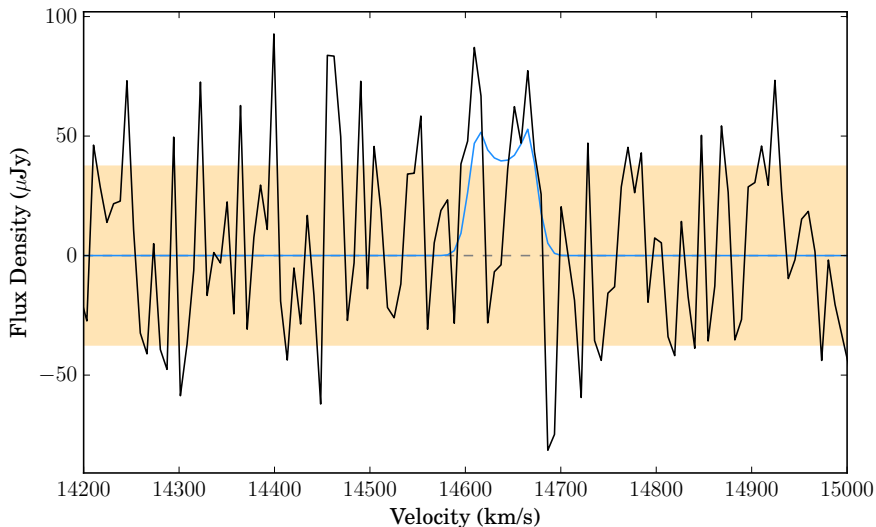
What is Stacking?

Detecting the H I signal from a distant galaxy

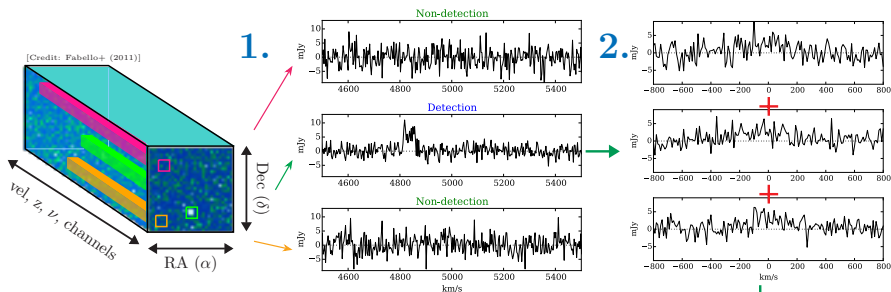


What is Stacking?

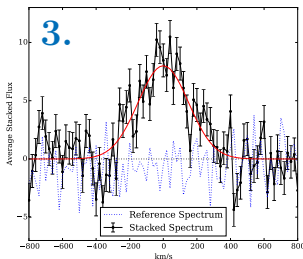
Most of the HI signal is buried in the noise



What is Stacking?

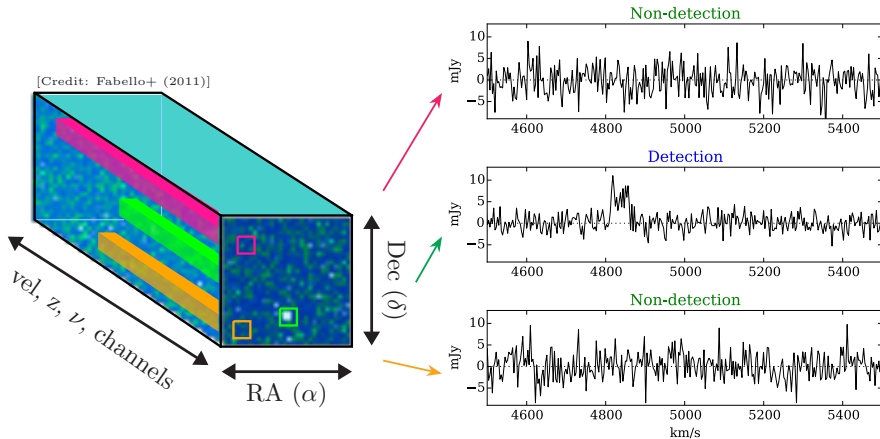


- 1 Extract line spectra from cube
- 2 Align spectra using optical z
- 3 Co-add spectra to create average spectrum



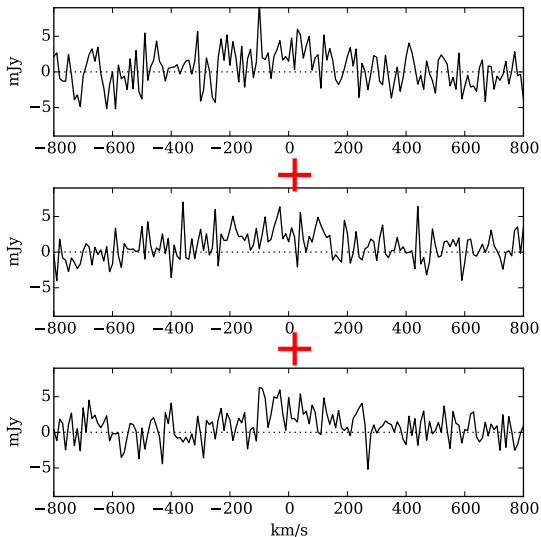
What is Stacking: 1. Extract spectra

① Extract HI line spectra from cube



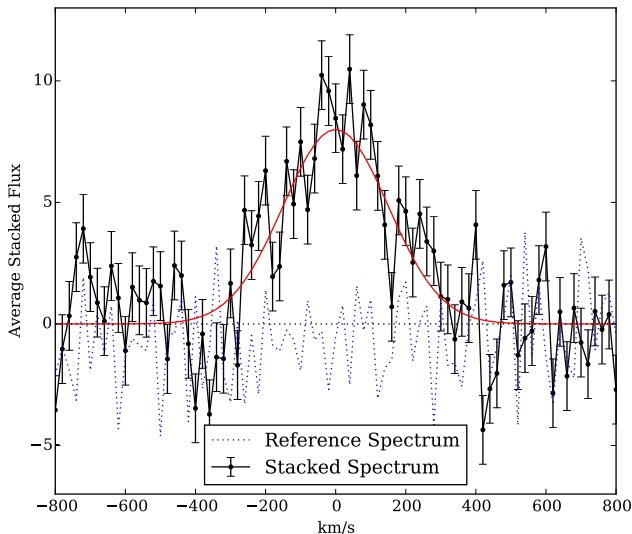
What is Stacking: 2. Align spectra

② Align spectra using optical z



What is Stacking: 3. Co-add spectra

3 Co-add spectra to create average spectrum



Two main goals:

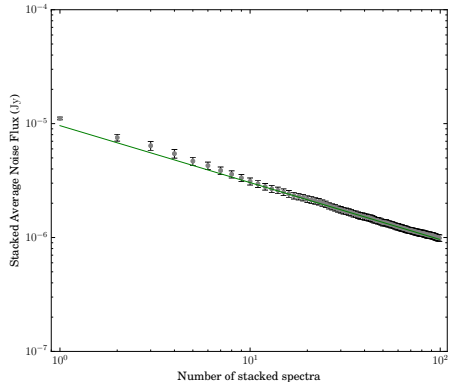
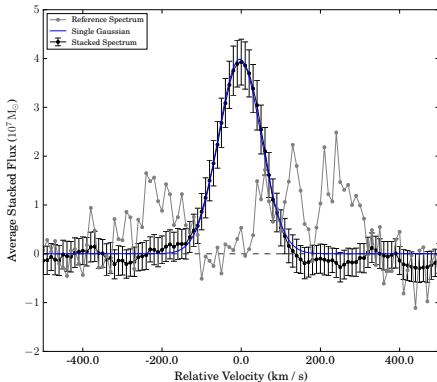
1. Develop, test and implement an HI spectral line stacking package to be used by the Astronomy community
 - Serve as a reference stacking tool
 - Free & accessible: Python-based
 - User friendly (use command-line or a graphical user interface)
 - Modular: easy to update & maintain
2. Use package to analyse spectra from the NIBLES Survey (van Driel et al., 2016)

Key Aspects of HI Stacker

- stack with different units
 - spectral units ($\text{km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ or Hz)
 - flux units ($M_{\odot}$, Jy, f_{HI})
- track stacking progress
- compute detection statistics (S/N, significance, etc.)
- characterise shape of stacked spectrum
- determine integrated flux of both individual spectra & stacked spectrum
- save all plots & calculated quantities to file
- display results

Key Aspects of HI Stacker

- stack with different units
 - spectral units ($\text{km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ or Hz)
 - flux units ($M_{\odot}$, Jy, f_{HI})
- track stacking progress
- compute detection statistics (S/N, significance, etc.)
- characterise shape of stacked spectrum
- determine integrated flux of both individual spectra & stacked spectrum
- save all plots & calculated quantities to file
- display results



Number of galaxy profiles included in Stacked Spectrum: 99

Total flux of sample = $5.09 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$

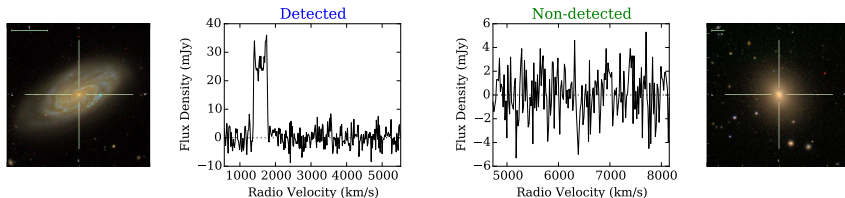
The peak signal-to-noise ratio: 34

The significance of the peak: 8.2σ (p-value = 1.64×10^{-141})

Fitted Function	Integrated Flux ($M_{\odot}$)	Uncertainty Integrated Flux ($M_{\odot}$)	Fit RMS	Fit ChiSquare
Single Gaussian	5.38×10^8	5.38×10^8	0.438	19.3
Summed Flux of Stacked Spectrum	5.40×10^8	1.13×10^7	0	0

Stacking with NIBLES

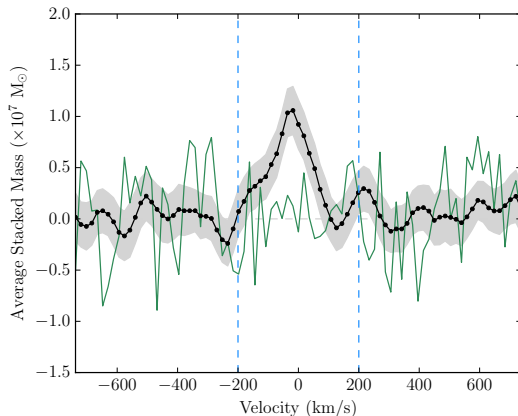
- NIBLES: Nançay Interstellar Baryon Legacy Extragalactic Survey (van Driel et al., 2016)
- Aim to investigate galaxy properties as a function of stellar mass
- Galaxies selected by stellar mass, no colour selection
- Targeted HI survey of SDSS selected galaxies



NIBLES: Stacking the Non-Detections

Stacking the non-detections to recover the H I content buried in the noise

- Stacked 361 profiles
- $\langle M_{\text{HI}} \rangle = (9.72 \pm 0.72) \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$

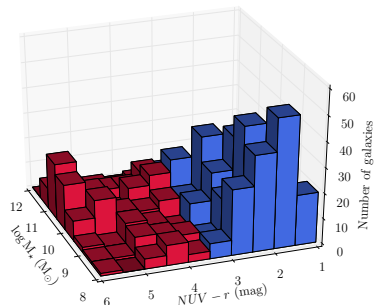
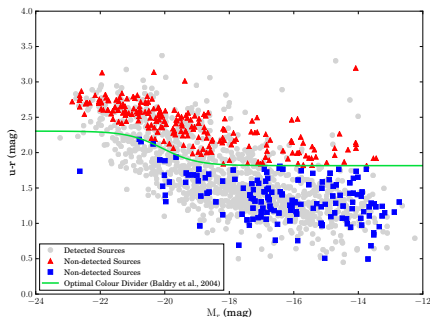


- black line: ave. stacked flux
- grey band: error on stacked flux
- green line: ave. reference spectrum

NIBLES: Stacking non-detections by Colour

Separate blue (mostly star-forming) and red (mostly non-starforming) populations using Baldry et al. (2004) SDSS optimal colour divider.

Find 147 (73) blue galaxies and 214 (191) red galaxies.

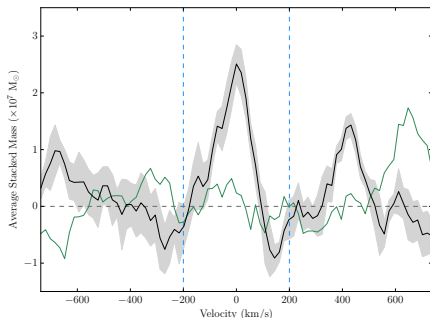


NIBLES: Stacking non-detections by Colour

Stacking all non-detections with $M_\star$ in two bins: **blue** & **red**

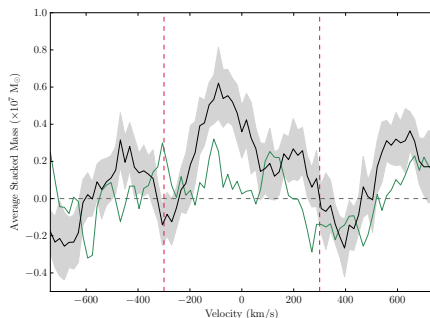
- The blue sample:

- $\langle M_{\text{HI}} \rangle = (1.384 \pm 0.038) \times 10^8 M_\odot$
- $\langle f_{\text{HI}} \rangle = 0.1188 \pm 0.0059$
- $\Delta v = 198 \text{ km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$



- The red sample:

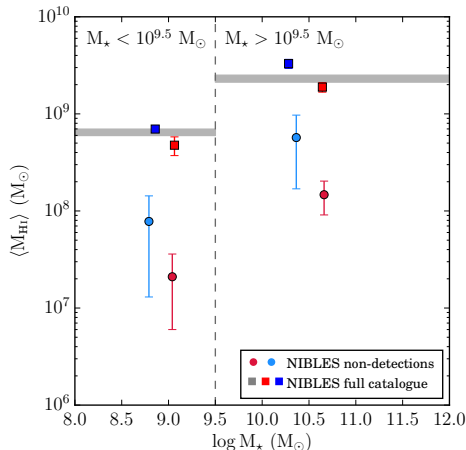
- $\langle M_{\text{HI}} \rangle = (8.301 \pm 0.065) \times 10^7 M_\odot$
- $\langle f_{\text{HI}} \rangle = 0.017190 \pm 0.000094$
- $\Delta v = 306 \text{ km} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$



Probing the gas-richness scale with NIBLES

“gas-richness scale” ($M_{\star} \sim 10^{9.5} M_{\odot}$): transition from gas-rich to gas poor (Kannappan et al., 2013)

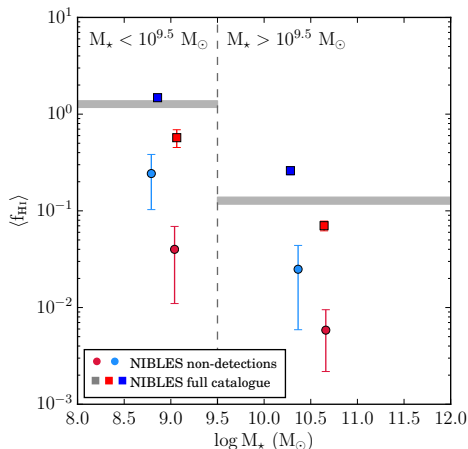
- non-detections only provide a limit
- blue, high $M_{\star}$ galaxies have more HI



Probing the gas-richness scale with NIBLES

“gas-richness scale” ($M_{\star} \sim 10^{9.5} M_{\odot}$): transition from gas-rich to gas poor (Kannappan et al., 2013)

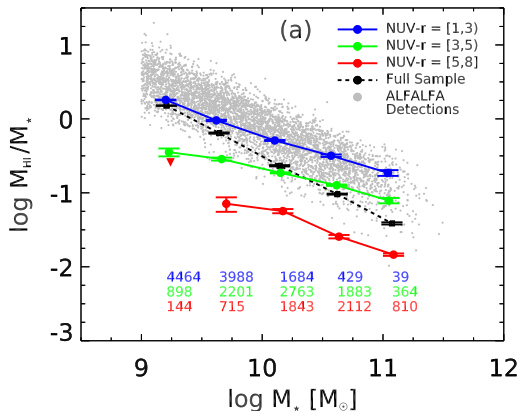
- high $M_{\star}$ galaxies more gas-poor
- blue, low $M_{\star}$ galaxies have higher f_{HI}



Probing the gas-richness of galaxies

Gas fractions ($f_{\text{HI}} = M_{\text{HI}}/M_{\star}$) are useful to probe gas richness

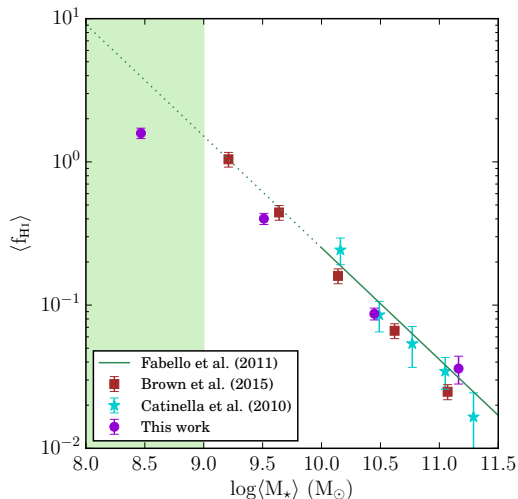
- a volume-limited sample of ALFALFA galaxies
- Brown et al. (2015) explore what drives gas fraction relations
- gas fraction relations primarily driven by $\text{NUV} - r$, followed by $M_{\star}$



(Brown et al., 2015, Figure 5)

NIBLES: Extending published work with NIBLES sample

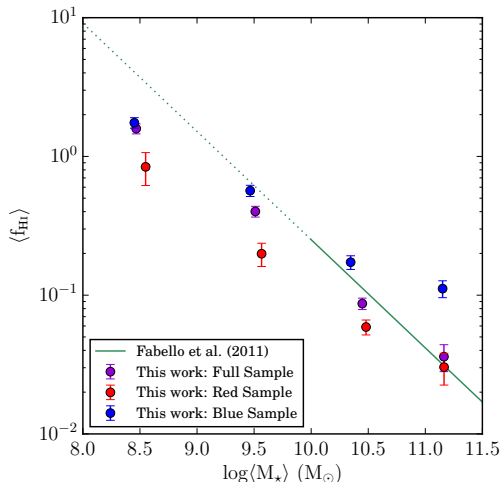
Find same f_{HI} vs $M_{\star}$ relation as Brown et al. (2015) to lower $M_{\star}$



- This work:
 $10^8 < M_{\star} < 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$
- Brown et al. (2015):
 $10^9 < M_{\star} < 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$
- Catinella et al. (2010) & Fabello et al. (2011):
 $10^{10} < M_{\star} < 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$

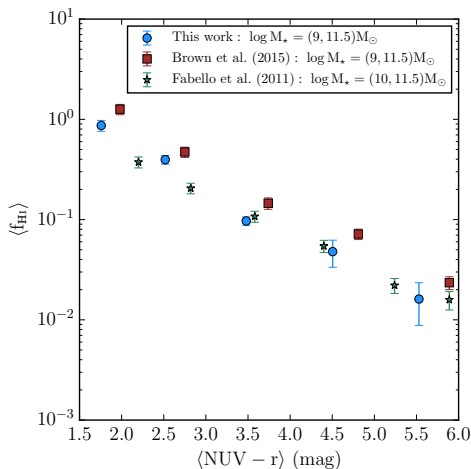
NIBLES: Extending published work with NIBLES sample

f_{HI} vs $M_{\star}$ for the red and blue galaxy samples



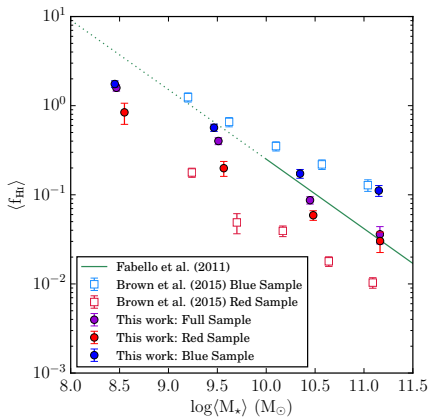
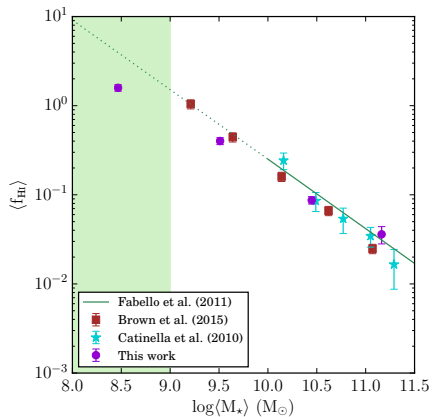
NIBLES: Extending published work with NIBLES sample

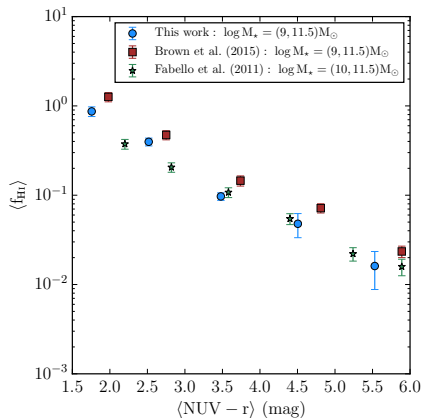
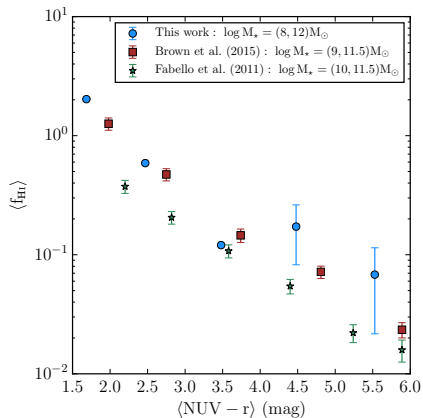
Investigate f_{HI} as function of colour: same trend as Brown et al. (2015)



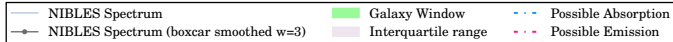
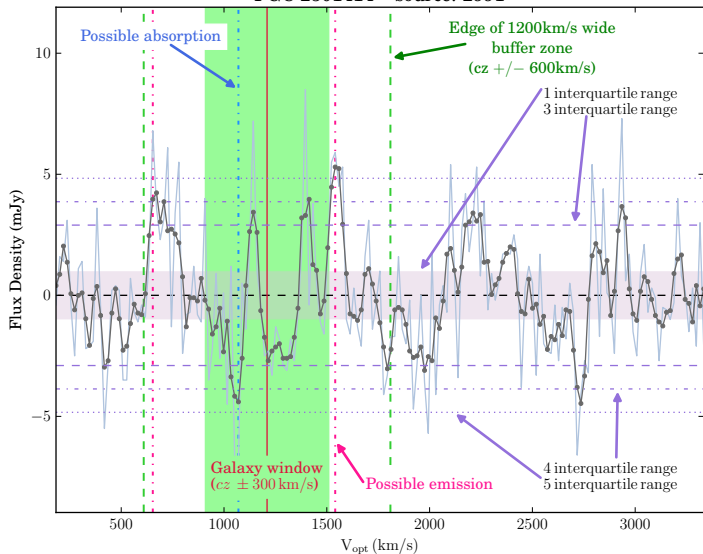
- Brown et al. (2015) find $\text{NUV} - r$ better tracer of HI
- This work:
 $10^9 < M_{\star} < 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$
- Brown et al. (2015):
 $10^9 < M_{\star} < 10^{11.5} M_{\odot}$

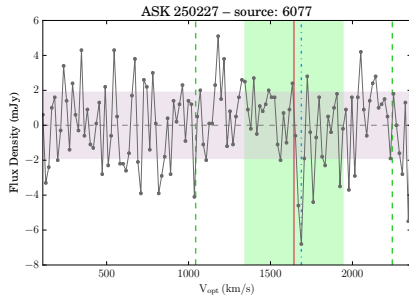
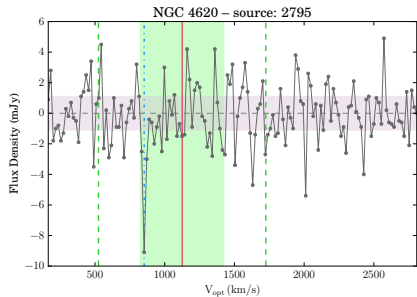
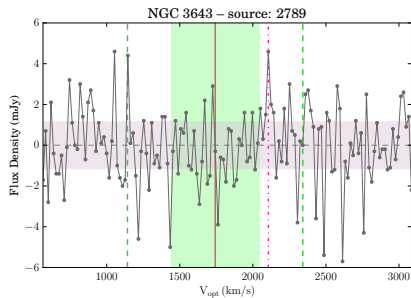
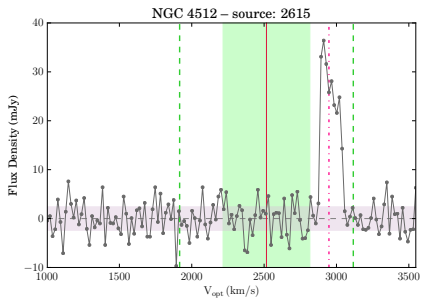
- Recently submitted MSc thesis
- Stacking Package:
 - Construct the graphical user interface for the Stacking Package
 - Write User Manual
 - Make HiSS publicly available
- NIBLES Analysis:
 - Write up paper
 - Investigate $M_{\star}/NUV - r$ distribution for comparison samples
- Start PhD with Prof Marc Verheijen and Dr Sarah Blyth

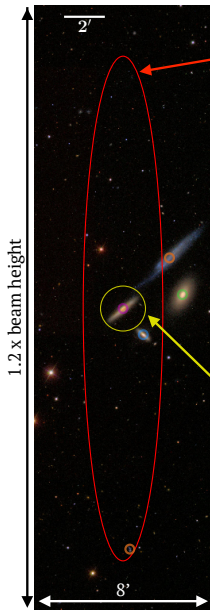




PGC 2501414 – source: 2991



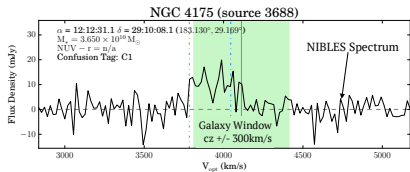




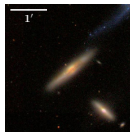
FWHM of Nançay beam (3.6' x 22'-34')

r-band Petrosian radius

Galaxy in beam and spectrum,
but not galaxy window



Close-up of the target
(3.7' x 3.7')



Gal. Identifier	cz km / s	Separation arcmin	Vel. Separation km / s
NGC 4175	4112	0	0
NGC 4174	4045	1.5	67
NGC 4169	3784	2.76	328
NGC 4173	1127	3.11	2985
KISSBx 37	10433	10.9	6320

Target galaxy

Galaxy in galaxy window

Galaxies in beam and survey
volume, but not spectrum

