Lyα Emission and the Circumgalactic Medium in Low Mass Galaxies Dawn Erb

Escape of Lyman radiation from galactic labyrinths Kolymbari, Crete, 12 September 2018

University of Wisconsin Milwaukee

Image: Tonia Klein

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Escape of Lyman radiation from galactic labyrinths Kolymbari, Crete, 12 September 2018

Image: Tonia Klein

Faint galaxies (probably) reionized the universe



Finkelstein et al 2012

The CGM is crucial to $Ly\alpha$ and LyC escape



Ly α -emitting galaxies tend to be compact, low mass, low metallicity and highly ionized

Ideal targets for detailed study of reionization-era analogs

Lyα is a tool for characterization of the CGM

Image: Tonia Klein

Ly α emission in low mass galaxies at z~2

arcsec

Ly α surface brightness (erg s⁻¹ cm⁻²



Reaching more extreme properties with gravitational lensing: new information brings new complications



Spatial + spectral information: studying the CGM with integral field spectroscopy of $Ly\alpha$

Targeting extreme objects with lensing



SL2S J021737–051329, gravitationally lensed galaxy at z=1.85 $M \neq 2 \ge 10^8 M_{\odot}, Z \sim 1/20 Z_{\odot}$ sSFR ~ 120 Gyr⁻¹ (mass doubling time ~ 8 Myr) SFR surface density ~ 58 M_☉ yr⁻¹ kpc⁻² Blue UV slope, negligible extinction

Brammer et al (+DKE) 2012, Berg et al 2018

Extreme high equivalent width emission lines



Brammer et al (+DKE) 2012, Berg et al 2018

Rest-frame UV spectrum



No evidence for outflows



Strong, blue-peaked Ly α emission



Is there underlying $Ly\alpha$ absorption?



Narrow-band imaging of $Ly\alpha$ with HST





Total NB flux implies 33% slit losses Photometric Ly α equivalent width 191 Å Ly α escape fraction ~9%

Erb et al 2018b, in prep

$Ly\alpha$ equivalent width vs escape fraction



SL2S J021737

Harikane et al 2018

Spatial distribution of $Ly\alpha$ emission



Erb et al 2018b, in prep

Source reconstruction





Lyα and UV continuum peaks offset by 650 pc in source plane

Lyα puzzles



Total equivalent width 191 Å, escape fraction ~9% 65 pc offset between $Ly\alpha$ and UV continuum peaks Possible underlying absorption

Comparison with local analogs

Rare local, low metallicity blue compact dwarfs have similar SEDs and optical line ratios



SBS 0335-052 has very similar high ionization lines, DLA

Does SL2S J021737 have a (partial) damped Ly α profile?

SBS 0335-052: James et al 2014



Need to spatially separate $Ly\alpha$ and UV continuum, decouple equivalent width and escape fraction

Ly α emission from accretion or fluorescence?

Accretion may be consistent with blue $Ly\alpha$ peak, lack of outflows

Additional ionizing source for fluorescence model?

Or intrinsic equivalent width is extreme, for a very short time? Work in progress!



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The power of $Ly\alpha$: spectral + spatial

Extended Ly α halos from stacked NB imaging

Imaging Imaging

MUSE reveals statistical samples of individual Ly α halos



Steidel et al 2011 see also Momose et al 2014, 2016, many others

Wisotzki et al 2016 see also Leclercq et al 2017

Next step: spatially resolved spectroscopy

See also MUSE results, Floriane Leclerq's talk tomorrow

Highly ionized Ly α -emitting galaxies are prime targets for resolved spectroscopy of spatially-extended Ly α emission

The Keck Cosmic Web Imager (KCWI)



Optical IFU commissioned on Keck II, September 2017 Optimized for low surface brightness spectroscopy Blue channel: 3500-5600 Å Multiple configurations Medium scale image slicer: 16.5" × 20.4" FOV BL grating: Resolution 2.5 Å, R ~ 1400-2200

Q2343-BX418: a low mass galaxy at z=2.3



Erb et al 2010, 2018; Steidel et al 2014

Q2343-BX418: a low mass galaxy at z=2.3



The Lyα halo of BX418 as seen with KCWI



Observed with KCWI during commissioning, September 2017 $9 \times 1200s$ (3 hr) integration

Ly α detected with S/N \geq 3 (1) per pixel to a radius of 16 (20) kpc Erb et al 2018

Spatially resolved spectroscopy



Spatially resolved spectroscopy



Spatially resolved spectroscopy

















Mapping the $Ly\alpha$ peak ratio



Mapping the $Ly\alpha$ peak separation



Peak ratio vs peak separation



$Ly\alpha$ peak ratio and radial outflows







Ly α peak separation



Ly α peak separation and H α velocity dispersion



More observations + more models needed



Observations of similar targets underway this fall Are BX418's patterns of peak ratio and separation typical?

Spatially resolved radiative transfer models required

Summary

 $Ly\alpha$ emission is a powerful tool for the characterization of the gas in and around galaxies

Reionization-era analogs are prime targets



Gravitational lensing enables the study of more extreme objects at higher spatial (and spectral) resolution

More information = more challenges!



Spatially resolved spectroscopy is the next step

More data + more models required