"All of the ISM is a PDR"

...okay, so let's get out of the neighborhood...

- ...toward the inner parts of galaxies ($R_G \lesssim R_d$)
 - higher dust abundances (H₂ production, FUV attenuation)
 - higher cosmic ray densities (heating)
 - higher or lower FUV brightness, BUT...
 - much higher stellar densities
- ...and the outer parts ($R_G \gtrsim \text{few} \times R_d$)
 - lower dust abundances (but not zero!)
 - low CR densities (gas will be c...c...cold!)
 - little starlight, BUT...
 - young stars and FUV emission ARE present!

Metallicity dependence of HI production in PDRs

References: Sternberg 1988, ApJ, 332, 400 Goldshmidt & Sternberg 1995, ApJ, 439, 256 Allen, Heaton, & Kaufman 2004, ApJ, June (fit coefficients)

$$N(HI) = \frac{7.8 \times 10^{20}}{(\delta/\delta_0)} \ln\left[\frac{106G_0}{n} \left(\frac{\delta}{\delta_0}\right)^{-1/2} + 1\right] \,\mathrm{cm}^{-2}$$

where $n = n(HI) + 2n(H_2)$. G_0 and δ/δ_0 are the FUV flux and dust/gas ratio w.r.t. the Galaxy near the sun.

The limiting cases are:

• $G_0/n\gtrsim 10^{-2}$ (dust shielding):

$$N(HI) \sim \frac{1}{(\delta/\delta_0)} \ln\left[\frac{106G_0}{n} \left(\frac{\delta}{\delta_0}\right)^{-1/2} + 1\right] \,\mathrm{cm}^{-2}$$

• $G_0/n \lesssim 10^{-2}$ (H₂ shielding):

$$N(HI) \sim \frac{G_0/n}{(\delta/\delta_0)^{-3/2}} \,\mathrm{cm}^{-2}$$

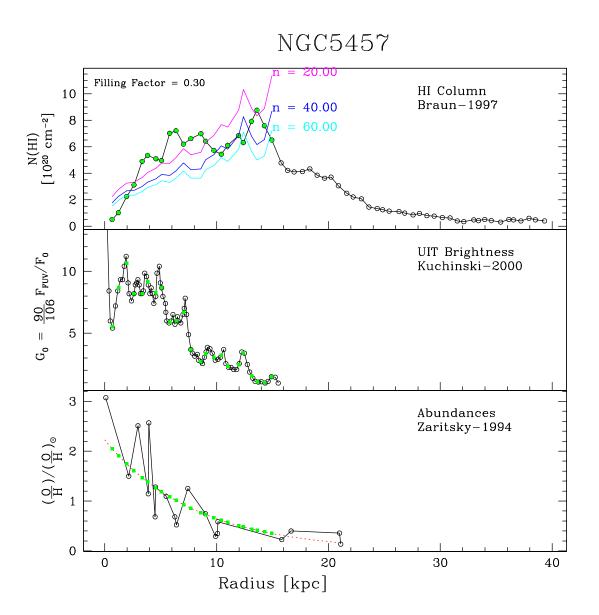


Figure 1: M 101



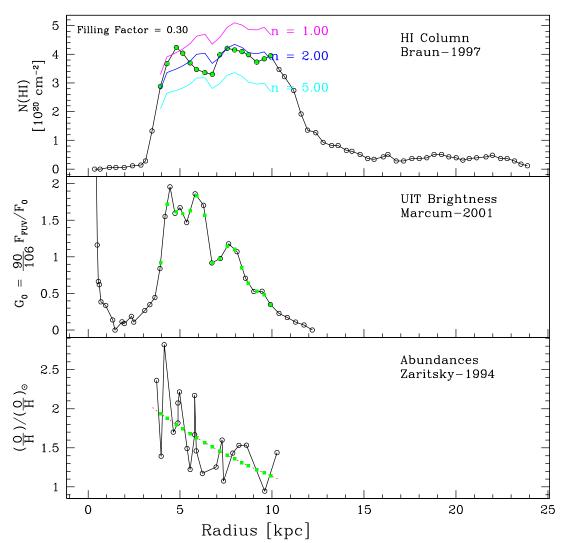


Figure 2: M 81

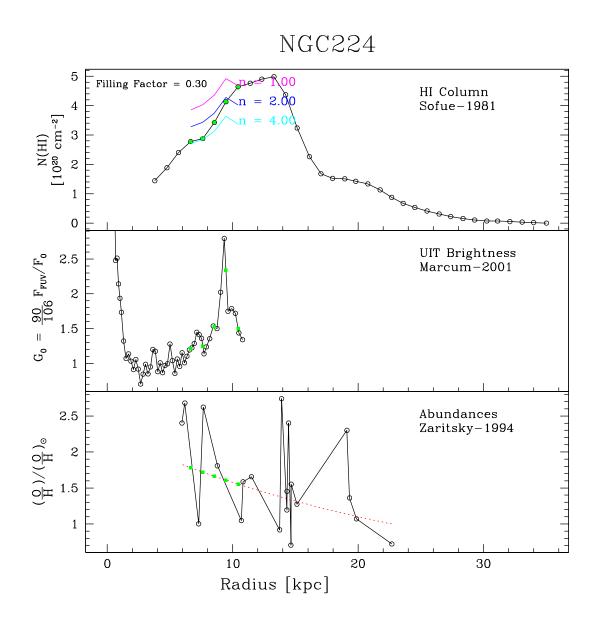


Figure 3: M 31

One observer's wish list

- ...from the theorists, model results for...
 - a range of dust/gas ratios ($0.1 > \delta/\delta_0 > 10$)
 - a range of C.R. ionization rates ($0.1 > \zeta/\zeta_0 > 10$)
 - lower FUV fluxes (down to $G_0 \approx 0.1$)
 - account for a range of ambient starlight
 - better understanding of very low temperature dust properties
- ...and from other observers...
 - better quality and extent of abundance data on nearby galaxies
 - less religion about what CO emission means for $N(H_2)$
 - less religion about what HI emission means for $\Sigma_{\rm gas}$