

Extra-galactic spectral lines - SWG Summary (key science concepts)

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On behalf of the ex-gal spectral line SWG



This SWG areas

'New' SWG

- But long history of science in this area
- Many important astrophysical line tracers beyond H1 21cm
 - Uniquely trace different material/environment = different science
 - From high-redshifted lines to local universe probe of physics
- Success of instruments like ALMA underline the crucial nature of such traces
- Band 5+ provide critical new science capabilities in this area.. This SWG is a strong advocate of increased frequency range/capability



Science discussion areas

Our Aims:

- Discussion focus on 'key science concepts (KSCs)' rather than projects - Start this process here and take this back to the wider group many of which not here.
- Explore commensality and science goal synergies with other areas

Broad science areas/drivers (non-exhaustive)

- Local group [SMC/LMC etc] Galactic-type masers
- Local galaxies
 - Dense molecular gas traces & masers
 - RRLs
- Wide-area line Maser searches (OH/H₂0 etc)
- High-z dense gas tracers
 - CO/CS/HCN etc, lensed lines [follow-up]



CMERLÍN

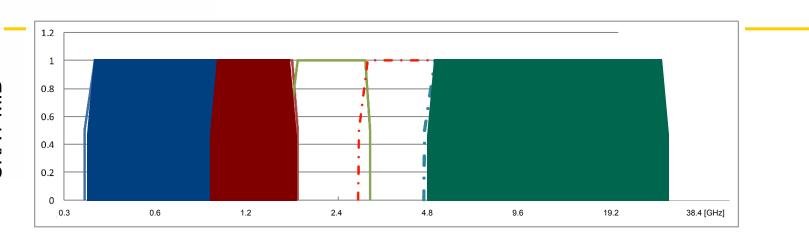
Commensality with other SWGs/areas & science Synergies

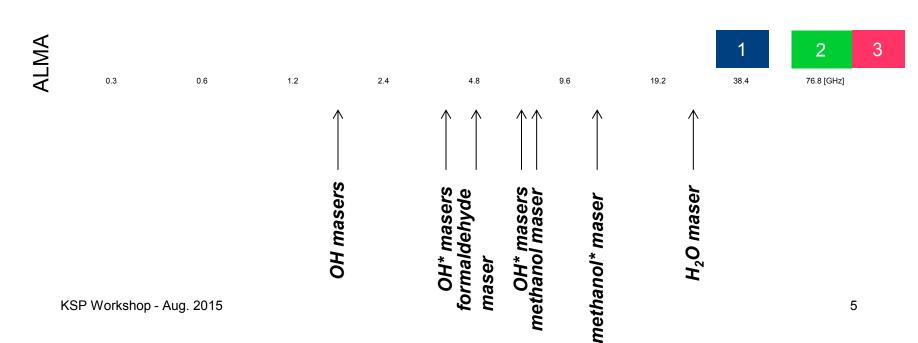
- Two types here:
 - Science synergies different areas/techniques drive toward the same/similar/complementary science goals
 - Commensality different science goals but can utilise similar/same resource





Frequency coverage of main lines

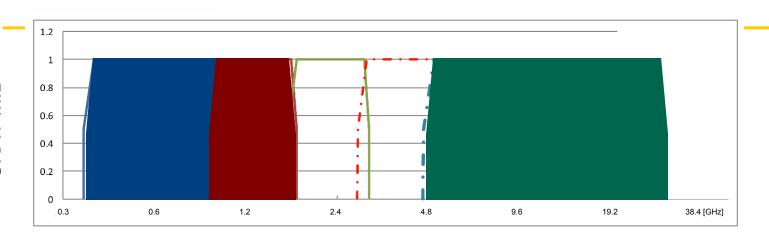


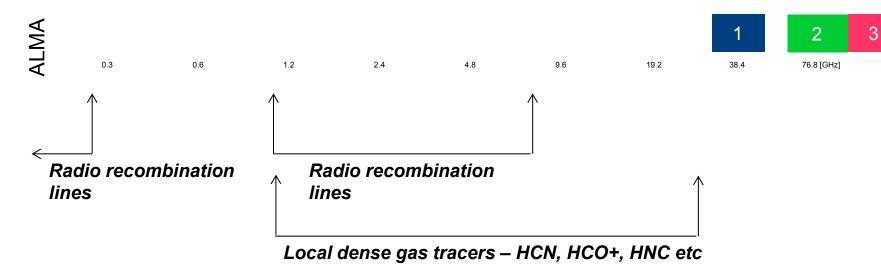






Frequency coverage of main lines

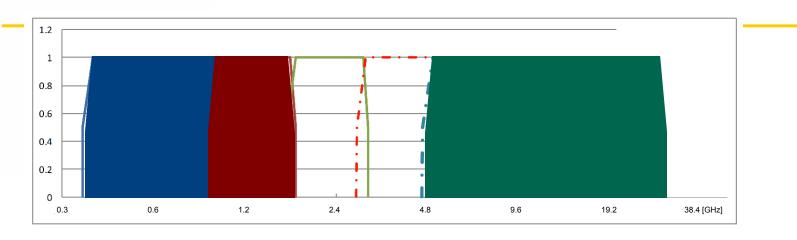


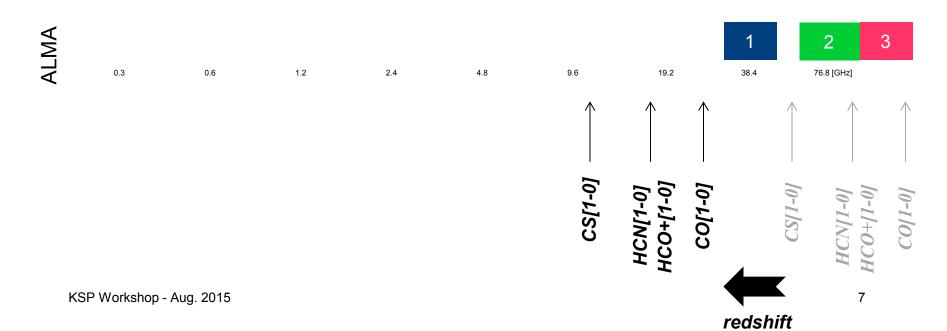


KSP Workshop - Aug. 2015



Frequency coverage of main lines







Local universe KSC

- Local galaxy survey dense (star-forming) ISM in nearby Universe:
 - 'physical process' linking Galactic studies through to local Universe and provide cornerstone for high-z interpretation - molecular gas a key component
 - Targeted observations of a statistical and representative sample of local galaxies – combined line & continuum
 - star-formation physics at physically important scales via probing the causes (dense gas) and consequences (continuum)
 - Band 2 (OH), Band 5(+) dense gas tracers
 - Tuned to multiple dense gas tracers HCN,H2CO, HCO+ etc



Commensal/synergistic

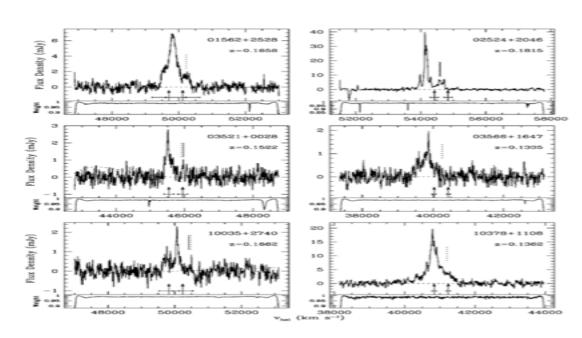
- Science driver synergies
 - Dense gas tracer as a key component in our understanding of local galaxies
 - Critical to studies of SFE and fuelling of activity
 - Both science synergies & commensality between multiple targeted surveys of local galaxies – e.g. continuum, magnetism, H1...

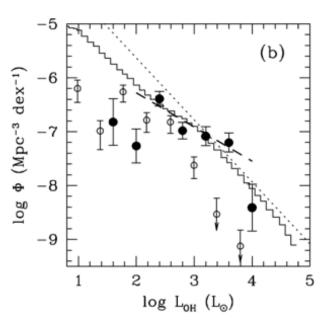




Wide area Maser searches KSC

- 1.667, 1.665 GHz hydroxyl search to find $\sim 10^4$ new MM and absorption systems at z < 0.85
 - What role does molecular gas play in the fueling of AGN?
 - What is the formation rate and evolution of the most extreme nuclear driven starbursts?
 - How do magnetic fields in distant galaxies evolve?
 - Does the fine structure constant vary?

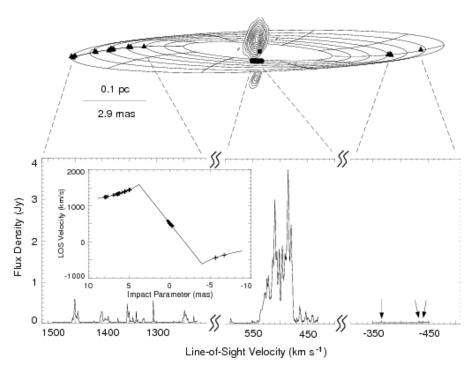


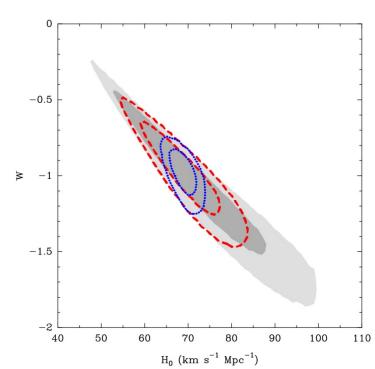




Wide area Maser searches KSC

- 22.245 GHz water search to find MM systems at z <
 3.45 (with Band5+)
 - How does the black hole mass function / scaling relations vary with galaxy mass / type (black hole mass precision ~10%)?
 - What is dark energy?
 - Needs VLBI capability (with high frequency component)







Commensal / Synergy

Hydroxyl MM

- Shallow luminosity function, wide better than deep
- line widths \sim 150 km/s (\sim 0.5-1 MHz)
- Carried out as part of the v.wide/all-sky survey (Band-2; SKA-MID)
- Needs VLBI follow-up

Water MM

- Low detection rates (1/100) and at high frequency
- Targeted observations of edge-on Seyfert galaxies (Band-5+; SKA-MID).
- Needs VLBI follow-up at high frequency.
- VLBI resolution may limit usable redshift range (except in the case of lensing).



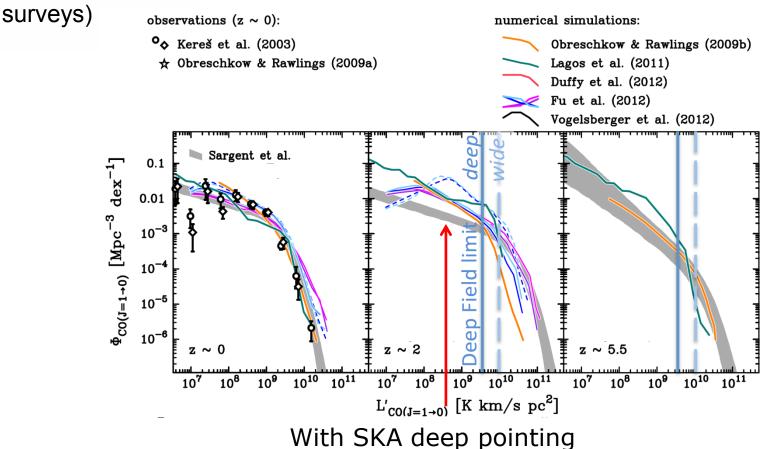
High-z line KSC

- Deep field band-5(+) dense gas tracer search (CO/CS/HCN)
 - Tracing the molecular gas luminosity function, overall gas reservoir (ground-state CO), plus HCN/HCO+ dense, SF gas
 - Cosmic evolution of molecular gas density
 - Chart SFE at high-z resolved KS continuum+gas tracers
 - Band 5(+) can directly target ground-state (low-excitation)
 molecular gas at high redshift
 - (At z>6 w/ SKA1, BAND 5+ => z>2.5 w/ extension to 24 GHz)
 - ie. Resolving a variety low J dense gas tracer from $z\sim2\rightarrow6$.
 - Single deep pointing Commensal with deep continuum pointing (band 5(+))
 - Depth/fov advantages compared to pre-SKA surveys (e.g. JVLA Ka survey 1sigma~55uJy → 6-sigma detection at knee of luminosity function.
 - SKA 10times => ~1uJy sensitivity. Can also probe HCN/CS



Tracing the luminosity function

- Redshift ranges (3.8-5.1, 5.1-7.2 CO[1-0]) (8.6-11.1, 11.1-15.5 CO[2-1])
- Volumes sampled: approx. 3 × 10⁷ Mpc³
- Indicative sensitivity required: 1uJy (approx. 10-fold improvement over current

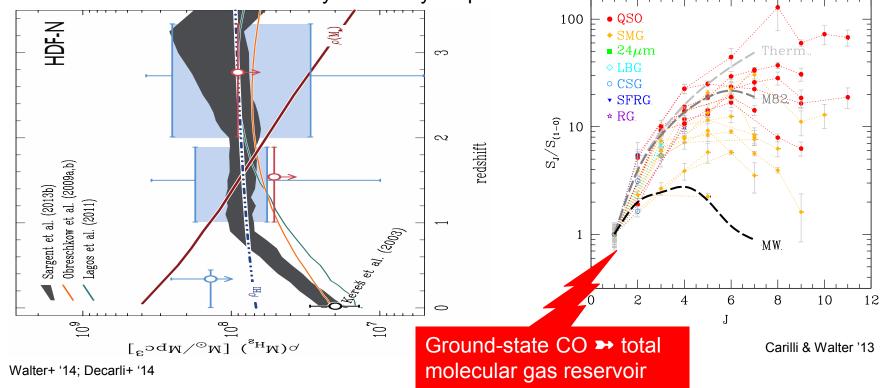


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Towards a cosmic inventory of star-forming gas band 5+ science

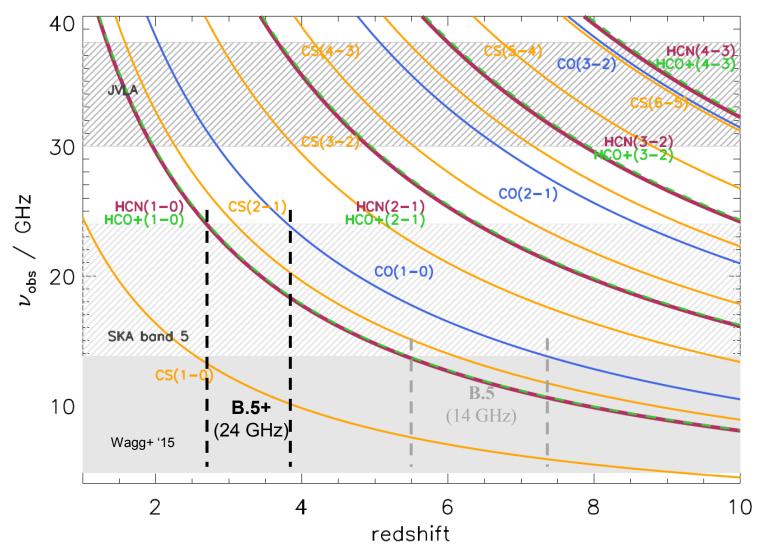
With blind PdBI, JVLA & ALMA line scan surveys we are beginning to sample CO luminosity function evolution and the "molecular Lilly-Madau plot" ... Current mm-blind surveys ~100s hrs over very small fov (0.5arcmin²) - PdBI

... but, we really would like to do this based on the ground-state CO transition which is either not accessible or limited by sensitivity for present observatories





Molecular gas at high z w/ band 5(+): low-J transitions



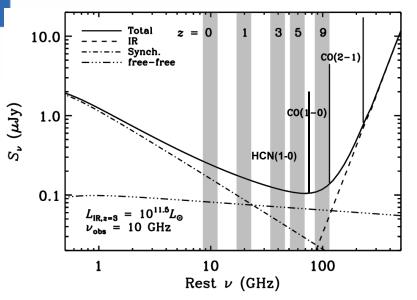
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SKA band 5(+) – the key to SFE studies at high redshift

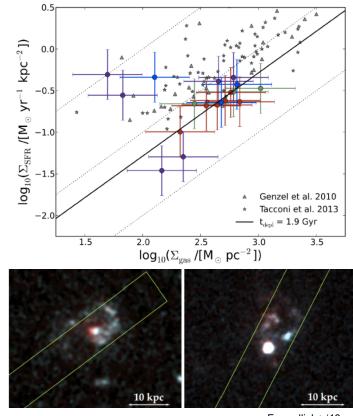
Band 5 can directly target ground-state (low-excitation) molecular gas at high redshift!

(At z>6 w/ SKA1, at z>2.5 w/ extension to 24 GHz.)



12CO[1-0] → overall molecular gas reservoir
 HCN[1-0], HCO+[1-0] → dense, star-forming gas
 12CO/13CO → e⁻ temp. in HII regions, IMF variations

- Marginally resolved (8 kpc) Schmidt-Kennicutt relation in z = 1.2 galaxies:
- → SKA could extend analysis to several 10s of resolution elements



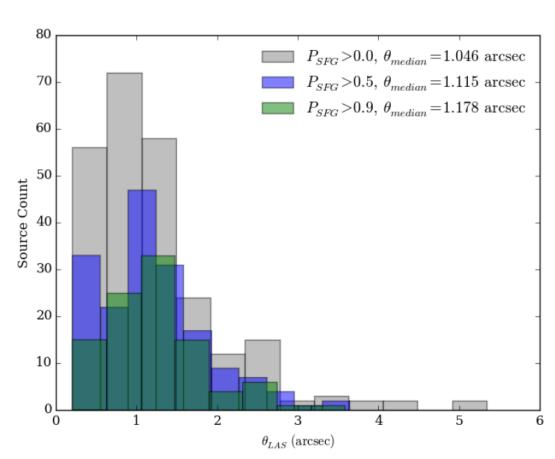
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Aside -



Resolved µJy radio source population - continuum

- High resolution (<0.5arcsec) critical for component separation
- Typical angular size of uJy starformers ~1-1.2arcsec

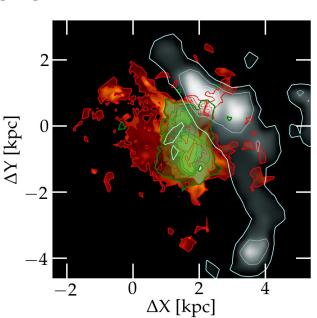


GOODS-N (e-MERLIN - 250 sources Above local 5-sigma 10-20uJy separated by starburst/AGN contribution – Wrigley 2015)



High redshift (lensed) Universe

- The total molecular gas content of galaxies at z > 3.8 at sub-100 pc-scales from CO (1-0) (with Band5+)
 - Directly measure star-formation using several tracers (KS-relation, Radio-FIR relation, Free-free emission)
 - Measure galaxy assembly (dynamics, out-flows, mergers) at EoR
 - Targeted observations of > 100s lensed star-forming galaxies with complimentary ALMA and HST imaging at 100-200 mas resolution.
 - SKA2 science with SKA1
 - Example of lensed SMG at z ~ 3
 - 50-100 pc unlensed resolution
 - RED : CO (5-4) (ALMA)
 - GREEN: Heated dust (ALMA)
 - WHITE: UV-stellar emission (HST)
 - SKA will add CO (1-0)





Summary

- Multiple KSC emerging.. [diverse, rapidly growing group and interests]
 - First f-2-f meeting of group this week
 - Early stage for group
 - Number of science areas/drivers yet to be discussed or represented at this meeting (not presented).
 - e.g. ammonia, methanol accessible via band5(+)
 - Many cases still in development phase and not highlighted here
- Band clarifications required line science dictated by band definition (or rather science should dictate band definition!)
 - Particular band 5 vs 5+ (or other)
 - Band 2 up to local OH...
- Not only high degree of commensality in many areas but high level of synergy in the science goals that needs to be developed..