## Diffuse Media Science with BigBOSS



### J. Xavier Prochaska

Inter(stellar+galactic) Medium Program of Studies [IMPS]

UCO/Lick Observatory

UC Santa Cruz

## DM DRM: Survey of z~0.5 SF Galaxies

#### Science Motivations

- Tracing the processes of how gas flows into and out of galaxies is central to developing the theory of galaxy formation and the evolution of the intergalactic medium. Beyond the local universe, one requires absorption to trace this diffuse medium. This project aims to trace metal-enriched, cool gas in the environments of SF galaxies to constrain the distribution and motions of the gas on scales of 1-100kpc. It approaches these goals with two thrusts:
- 1. Characterize the prevalence of cool gas outflows in 'normal' SF galaxies
  - ◆ Recycling of gas; enrichment of IGM; galactic feedback
- 2. Trace the enrichment of the CGM/IGM to several hundred kpc around the same galaxies
  - This ties, in principle, the gas being driven from galaxies to the material that surrounds them.

### Observational program

- ▶ Use <u>community fibers</u> to obtain low S/N spectra of 10,000+ galaxies at z~0.5 with R<23.5 across the sky (goal 1)
  - A significant fraction of these may be targeted by the Main survey
  - ◆ More than one 'pass' may be required for sufficient S/N
- ▶ Restrict targets to lie within 300kpc of known (and previously observed) z<2 quasars to map metals around the galaxies (goal 2)
- Analysis
  - ◆ Composite the galaxy spectra to characterize the outflows (function of impact parameter, SFR, mass, etc)
  - ◆ Analyze archived quasar spectra, individual and composite for CGM/IGM absorption

### • Technical requirements

- Sensitivity at blue wavelengths is critical ( $\lambda$  < 3800A)
  - ♦ Key diagnostics are UV transitions (e.g. FeII 2600, MgII)
- Ancillary data
  - ◆ Efficient targeting of z~0.5 galaxies; are PTF g+R and WISE sufficient?
  - → Higher quality images (spatial resolution, depth, filters) to better characterize the target galaxies
- Data Reduction Pipeline must enable composite spectra (outflows)
  - ◆ Sky subtraction without a 'pedastal'; systematics must average away

## DM DRM: Mining for Close QX Pairs

#### Science Motivations

- ► Trace the distribution of gas and metals around quasars and galaxies on very small scales (10kpc) across cosmic time
- Constrain the processes of
  - ◆ Gas accretion, outflows, formation of extended HI disks, chemical enrichment
- Observational program
  - Use <u>community fibers</u> to obtain redshifts for thousands of sources within 5" of a known z<2 (or z>3.3) quasars
    - → Emphasis on z>1.6 quasars to have access to Lya absorption from the ground
    - ♦ Also preference to z>1 galaxies and quasars
  - ▶ Assuming 50 quasars per sq deg and 30,000 sources per sq. deg to R=23.5, one predicts ~10 per sq. deg.
    - ◆ Restricting to higher priority targets may imply 3-10 fibers per tile
  - Analysis is both statistical from SDSS/BOSS dataset and through follow-up 10m-class observations

### • Technical requirements

- Wavelength coverage
  - **→** Maximize for redshift determination
- Ancillary data
  - ◆ Efficient targeting of sources very close (few arcseconds) to bright quasars

# DM DRM: Extinction Mapping at z~0

#### Science Motivations

- ▶ Trace the distribution of dust around individual, nearby galaxies
  - ◆ Constrains the galactic fountain process; dust formation/destruction
  - **♦** Complements deep 21cm emission maps for HI gas
  - ◆ Probe galaxies with a range of inclination, mass, SFH, etc.

### Observational program

- Use the full instrument to obtain spectra of Galactic stars and background galaxies/ quasars to the virial radius around a sample of local galaxies
  - ◆ Background sources with well established SEDs (quasars; early-type galaxies)
  - ◆ 'Foreground' sources are important to assess Galactic extinction
  - ◆ Match nearby galaxy to the BB field-of-view
- ▶ Deep exposures with several pointings (~1 night per target)
- ▶ Measure differential reddening versus impact parameter
  - ◆ Map to beyond the virial radius to properly assess the no-reddening signal

### • Technical requirements

- High precision spectrophotometry
  - **→** Relative fluxing is most critical
- ▶ Blue sensitivity is highly desired to maximize reddening signal
- Ancillary data
  - ◆ High precision photometry would be ideal to complement the spectra (bluer the better)

# DM: A few thoughts on BAO design

- We suggest that when BB has a targetable galaxy within ~10-15" of a BAO QSO, it should take 1 of the ~5 repeats and put the fiber on the galaxy instead of the QSO. This has two purposes:
  - ▶ Establish the redshift of the galaxy. One can then mask metal-line transitions at that redshift and perform an assessment of the systematics of metal-line transitions on the BAO signal.
  - ▶ It also reduces the BAO-QSO footprint on the ELG galaxy window function. At 65 QSOs/sq. deg, that compromises ~10% of the field.

## DM: Summary of Key Tech. Requirements

- Instrumental
  - Maximize throughput at the bluest wavelengths
    - ◆ Density of valuable UV transitions \*rapidly\* increases with energy
    - Every Angstrom of additional coverage has a major science gain
    - ◆ This is just as true (maybe more so) for the Main survey
  - ▶ If R=5,000 were achieved (at blue wavelengths), this would be a qualitative leap in science (EWs -> column densities)
  - ▶ Relative spectrophotometry to better than 5% precision
    - → Most critical to avoid systematics that prohibit composite spectra
- Data Reduction
  - Achieve sky subtraction to a proper zero level
  - ▶ Achieve Poisson limit away from bright sky lines

### DM: Summary of Key Tech. Requirements

- Archiving
  - Archive all of the targeting criteria for every object in the main sample to properly establish the selection function
  - Monitor seeing (may be critical for spectrophotometry)
- Community access
  - ▶ The main survey will enable significant diffuse media science on its own
    - \* i.e. Quasar spectroscopy across the sky
  - Maximize access via community fibers (more than PI mode)
  - ► Full access to the targeting data and tools of BB