

# **Probing Halo Gas Dynamics Using Absorption Spectroscopy**

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**University of Chicago**

**Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics**

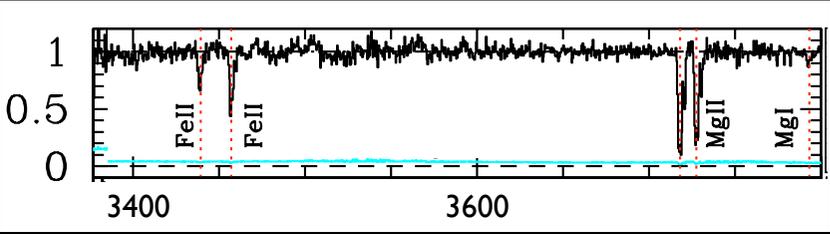
**Kavli Institute for Cosmological Physics**

# Outline

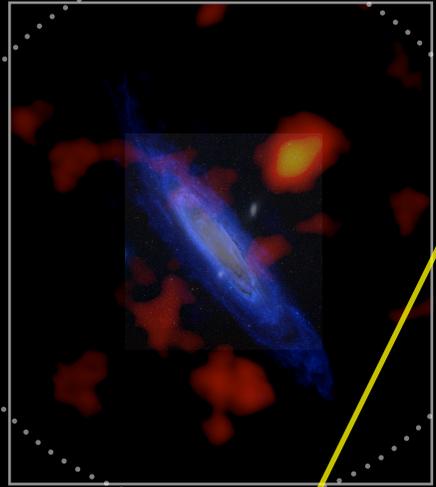
- **Redshift evolution of the circumgalactic medium**
- **Empirical constraints on super-galactic winds at  $z \gtrsim 0.5$**

# Probing the CGM using Absorption Spectroscopy

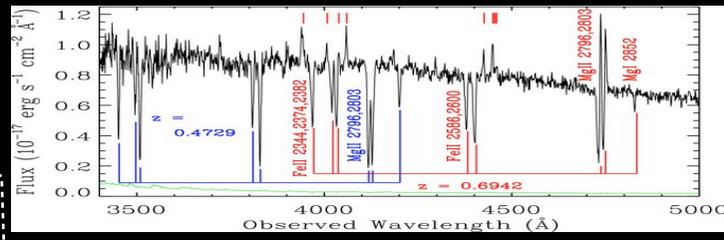
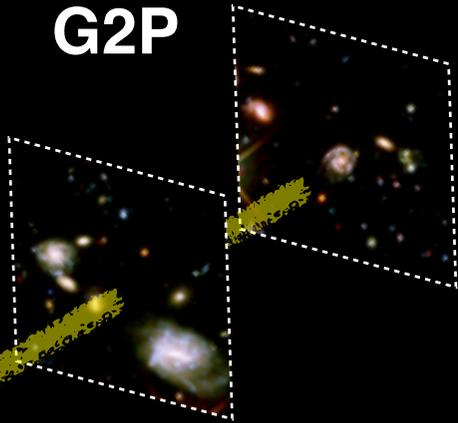
Bergeron '86; Guillemin & Bergeron '97; Le Brun+'97;  
 Lanzetta & Bowen '90, '92; Lanzetta+'95; Chen+'98,01a; Chen  
 +'01b; Chen & Tinker '98; Chen & Mulchaey '09; Chen+'10a,b;  
 Gauthier+'09,'10; Gauthier & Chen '11,'12;  
 Steidel '93; Steidel+'94; Steidel+'97; Steidel+'02; Adelberger  
 +'03,'05; Churchill '01; Churchill+'03; Kacprzak+'07,'10;  
 Bowen+'95; Tripp+'98; Bowen+'02; Borthakur+'11; Tripp+'11;  
 Rao+'03; Nestor+'07; Rao+'11; Nestor+'11;  
 Barton & Cooke '09; Prochaska+'11; Tumlinson+'11; Ménard+'11



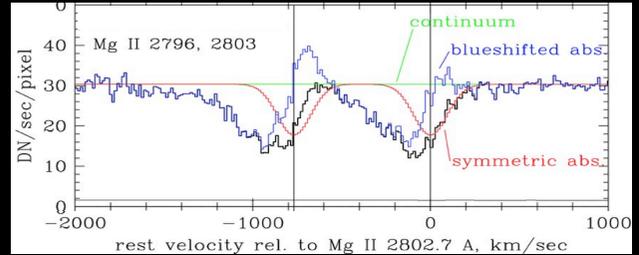
**QGP**



**G2P**



Rubin+'10; Steidel+'10; Bordoloi+'11



Martin & Bouché '09;  
 Weiner+'09; Rubin+'10;  
 Kornei+'12

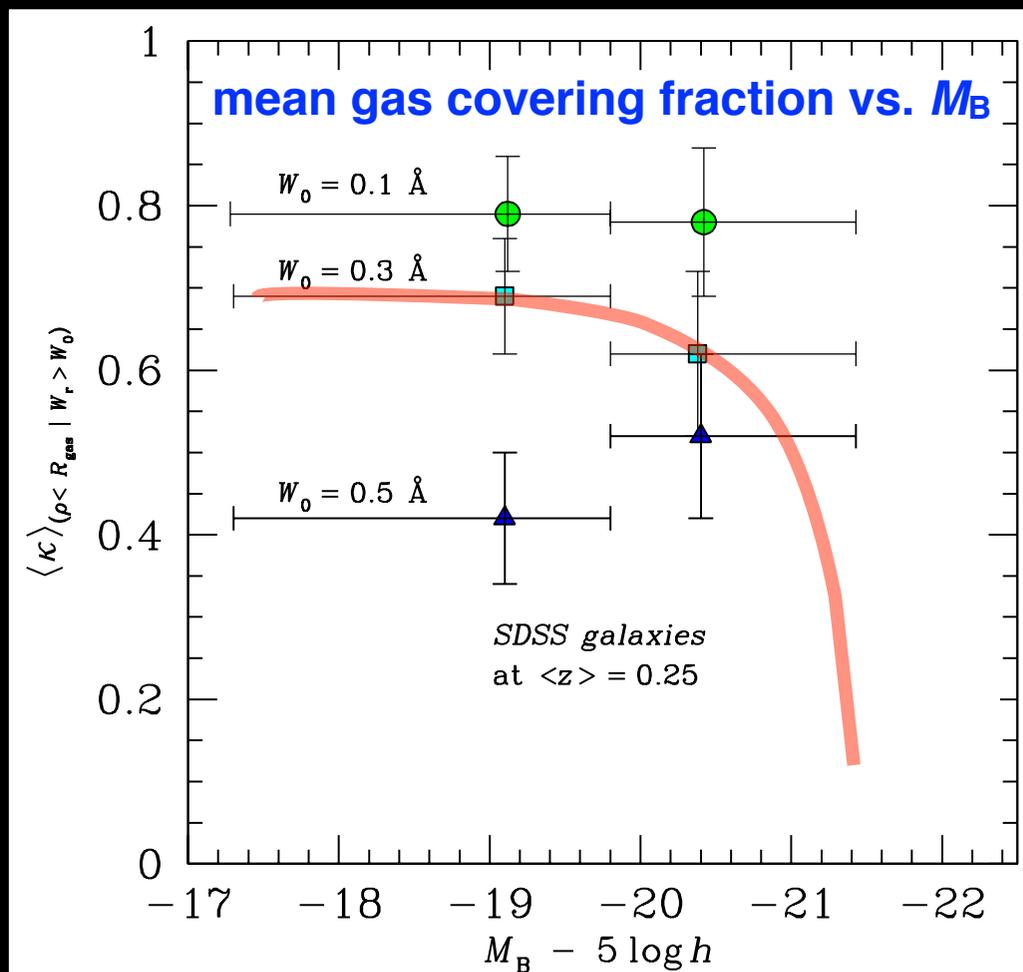
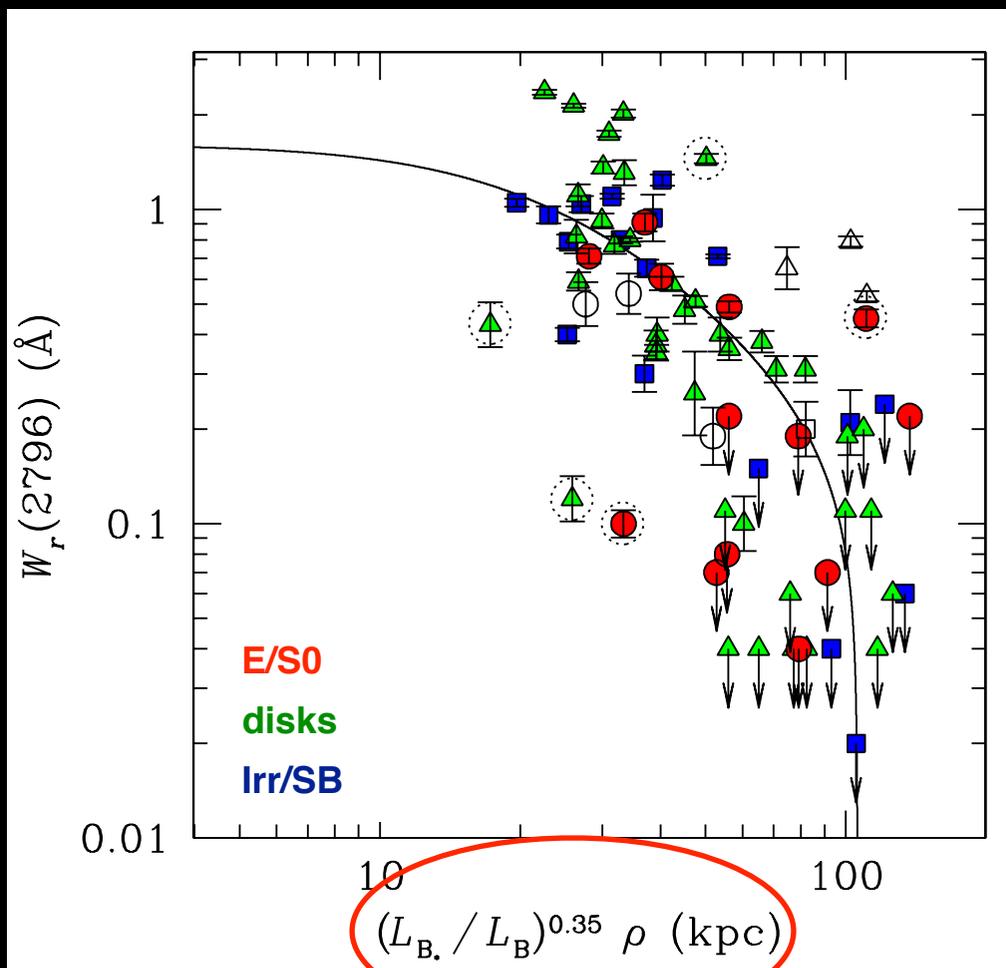
**GSA**



# The Chemical Enriched Circumgalactic Medium at $z < 1$

## Probing cool, photo-ionized halo gas using MgII 2796, 2803

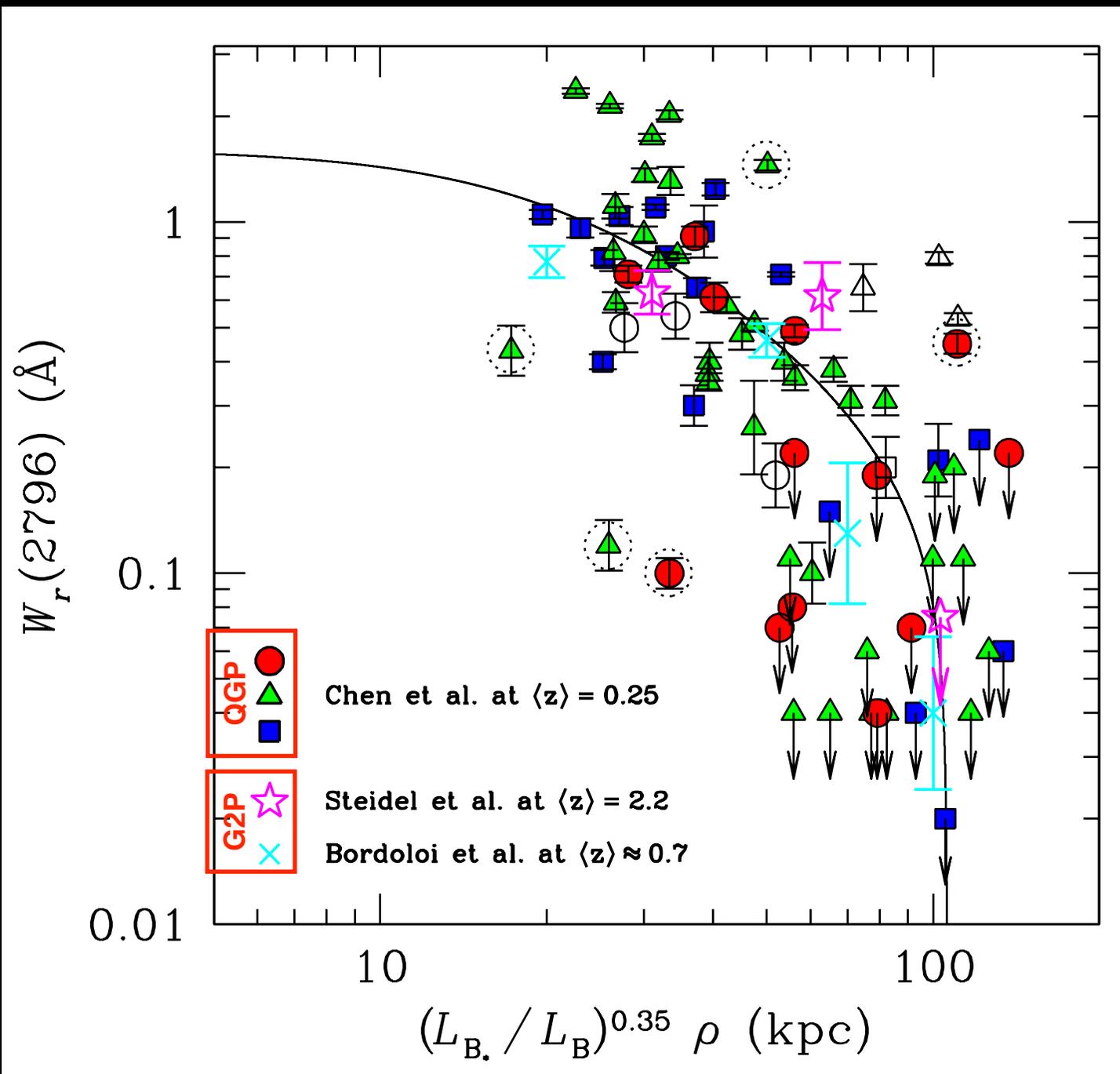
### The QGP approach



- Chen & Tinker (2008)  
Chen, Helsby, Gauthier, Sheckman, Thompson, & Tinker (2010)  
Chen, Wild, Tinker, Gauthier, Helsby, Sheckman, & Thompson (2010)  
Gauthier, Chen, & Tinker (2009, 2010)

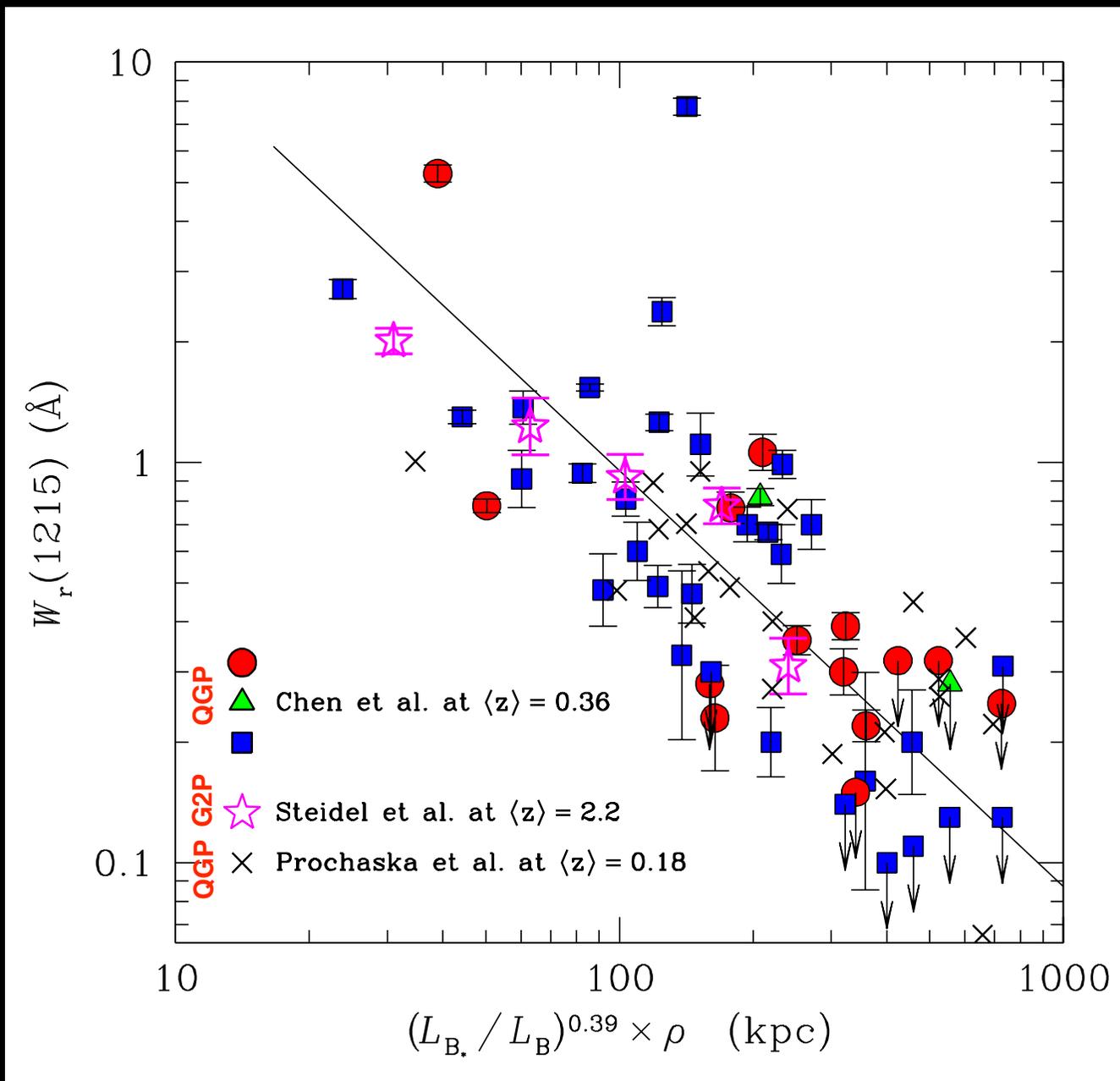
A declining covering fraction  
of cool gas in high-mass halos

# The Unchanging Circumgalactic Medium Since $z \sim 2.2$



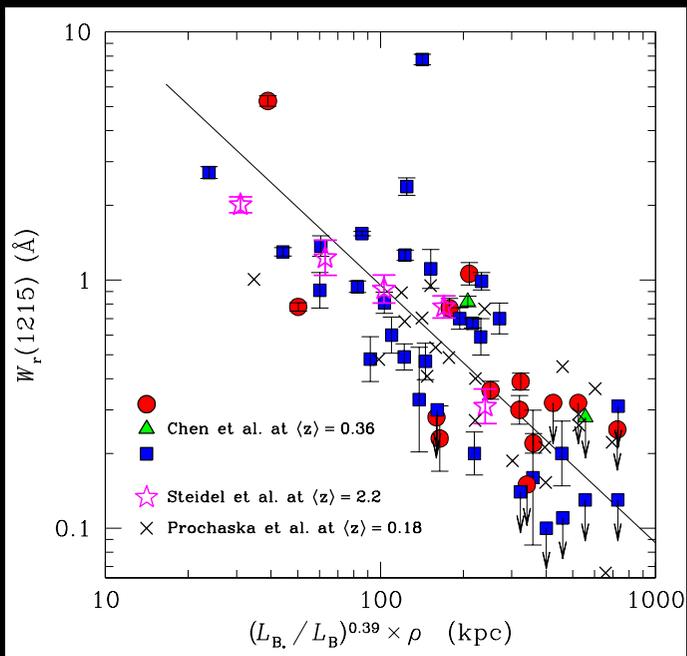
# The Unchanging Circumgalactic Medium Since $z \sim 2.2$

Tenuous gas traced by Ly $\alpha$  1215

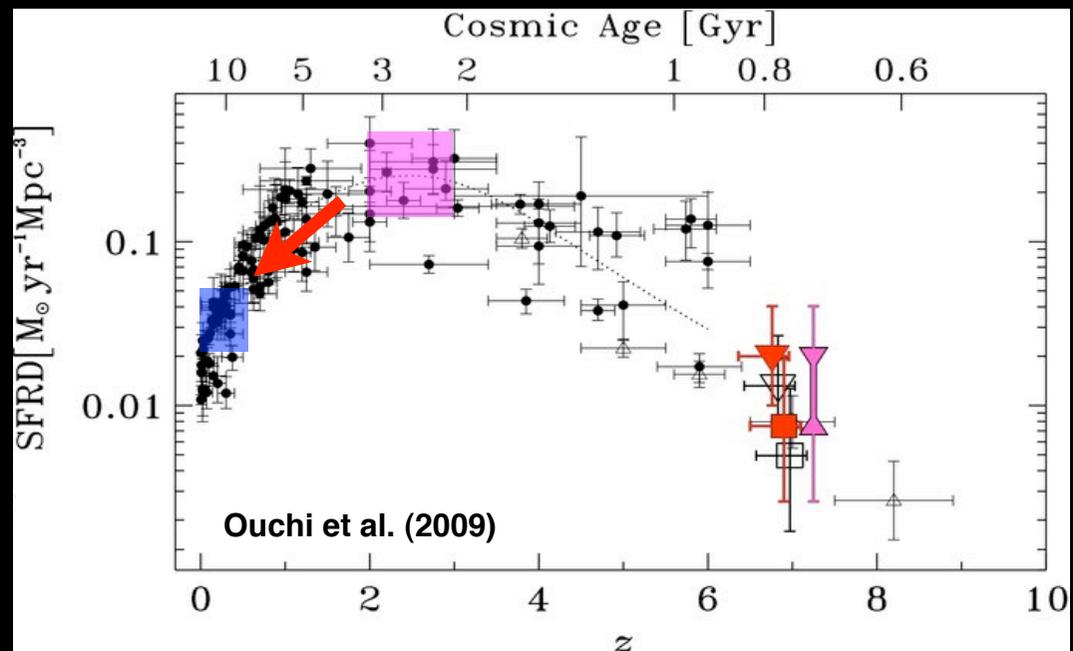
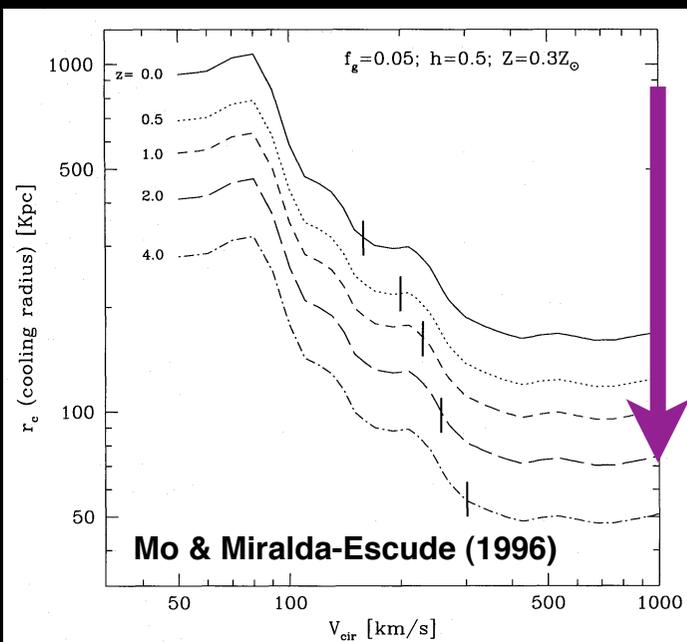
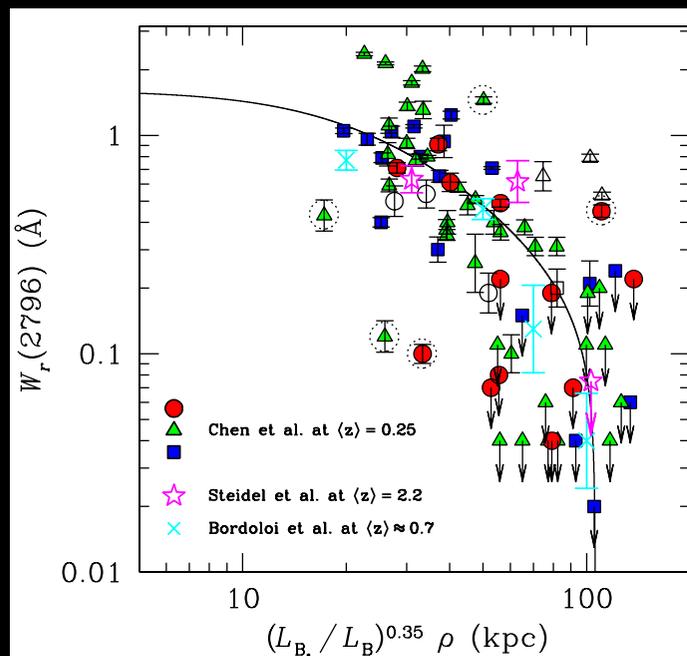


# The Unchanging Circumgalactic Medium Since $z \sim 2.2$

## Ly $\alpha$ Absorbers



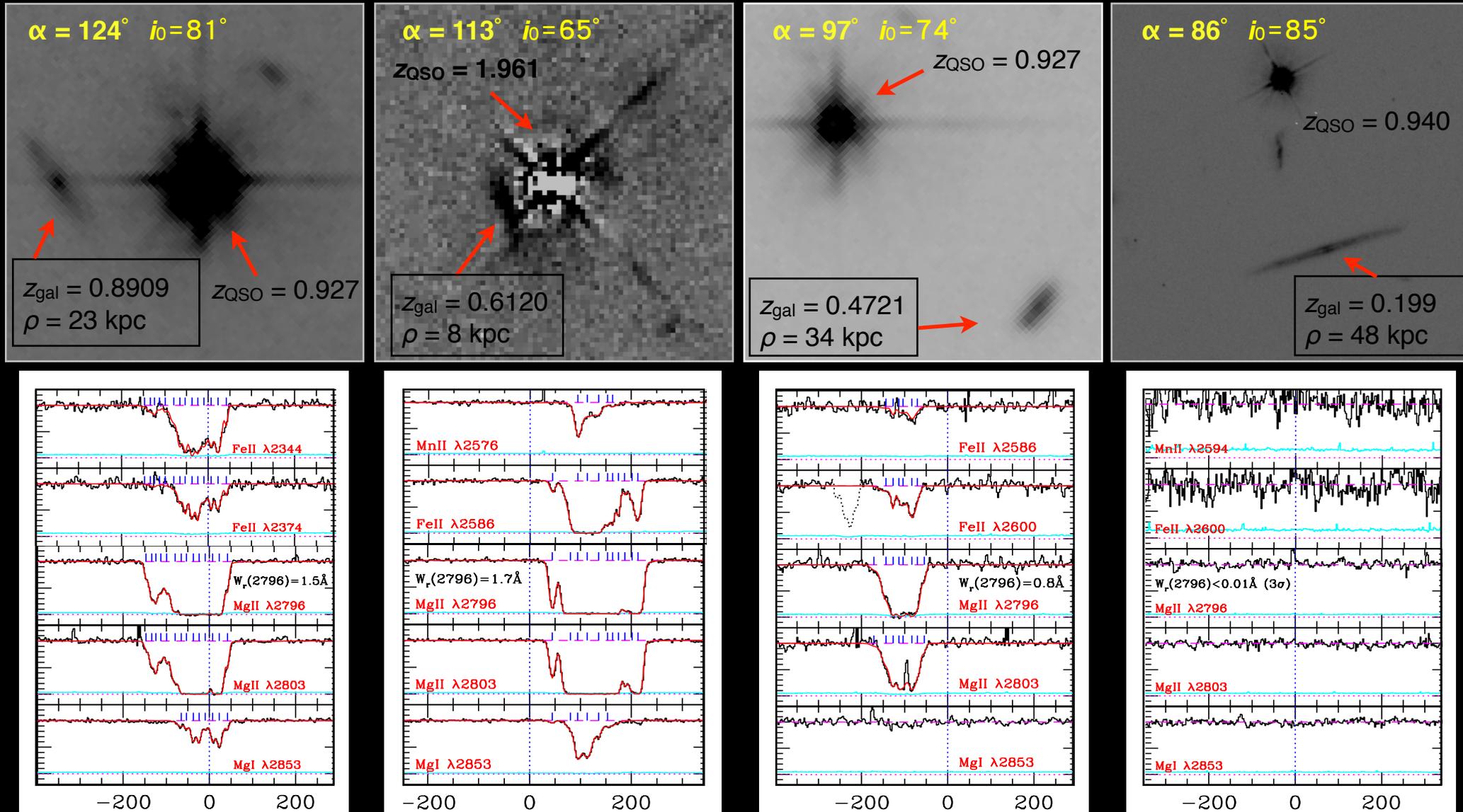
## MgII Absorbers



# Empirical Constraints of Supergalactic Winds at $z \gtrsim 0.5$

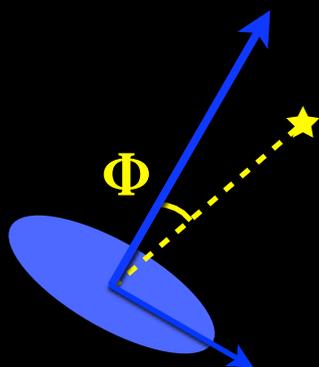
Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012, MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)

four highly inclined disk galaxies with a background QSO  
probing the CGM within 45 degrees of the rotation axis

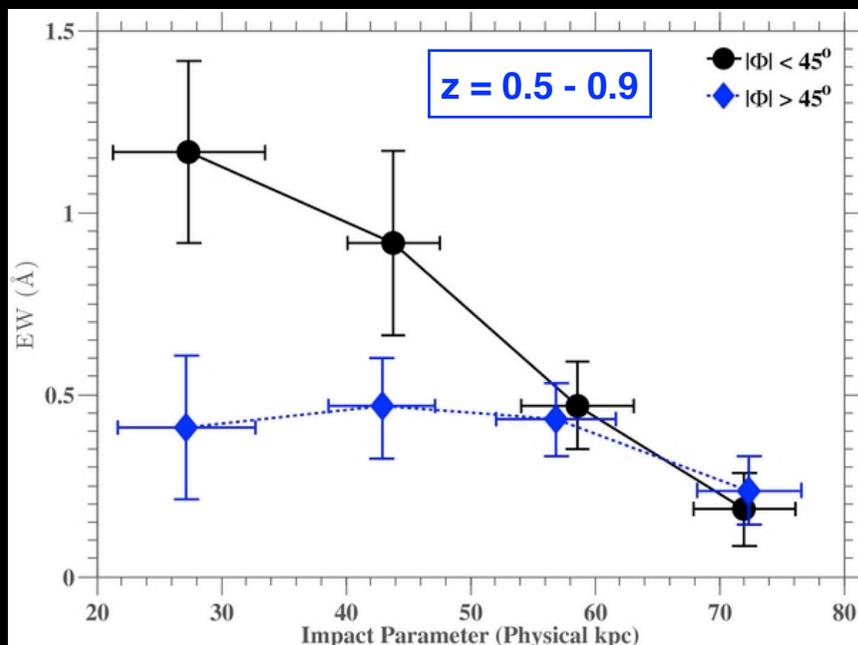


# Empirical Constraints of Supergalactic Winds at $z \gtrsim 0.5$

Enhanced Absorber Strength Near the polar Axis



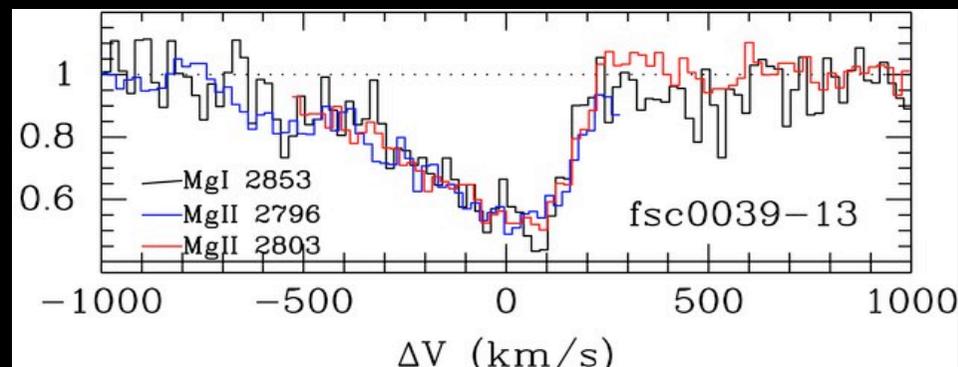
Bordoloi et al. (2011) **G2P**



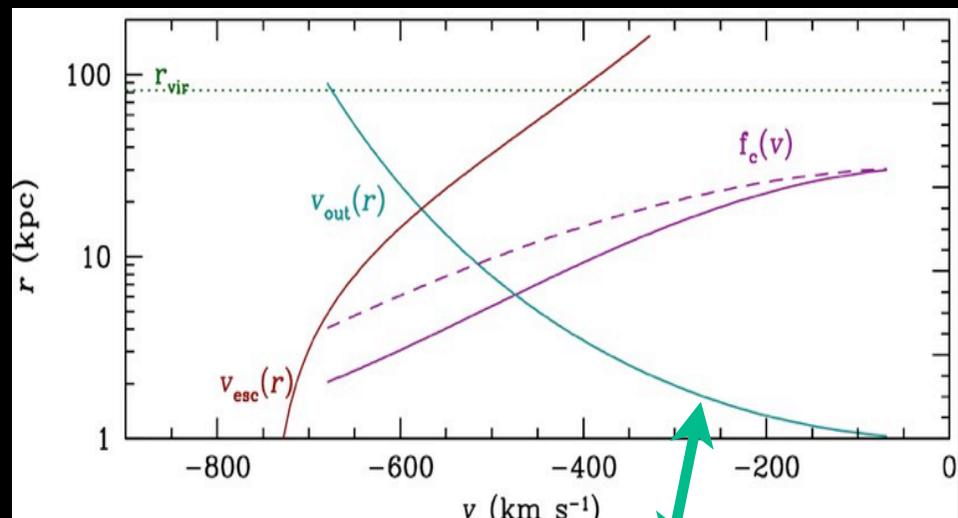
Accelerated outflows

Martin & Bouché (2009)

Steidel et al. (2010)



GSA



$$v_{\text{out}}(r) = \left( \frac{2A}{\alpha - 1} \right)^{0.5} \sqrt{r_{\text{min}}^{1-\alpha} - r^{1-\alpha}}$$

# A Simple Conical Outflow Model

Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012,  
MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)

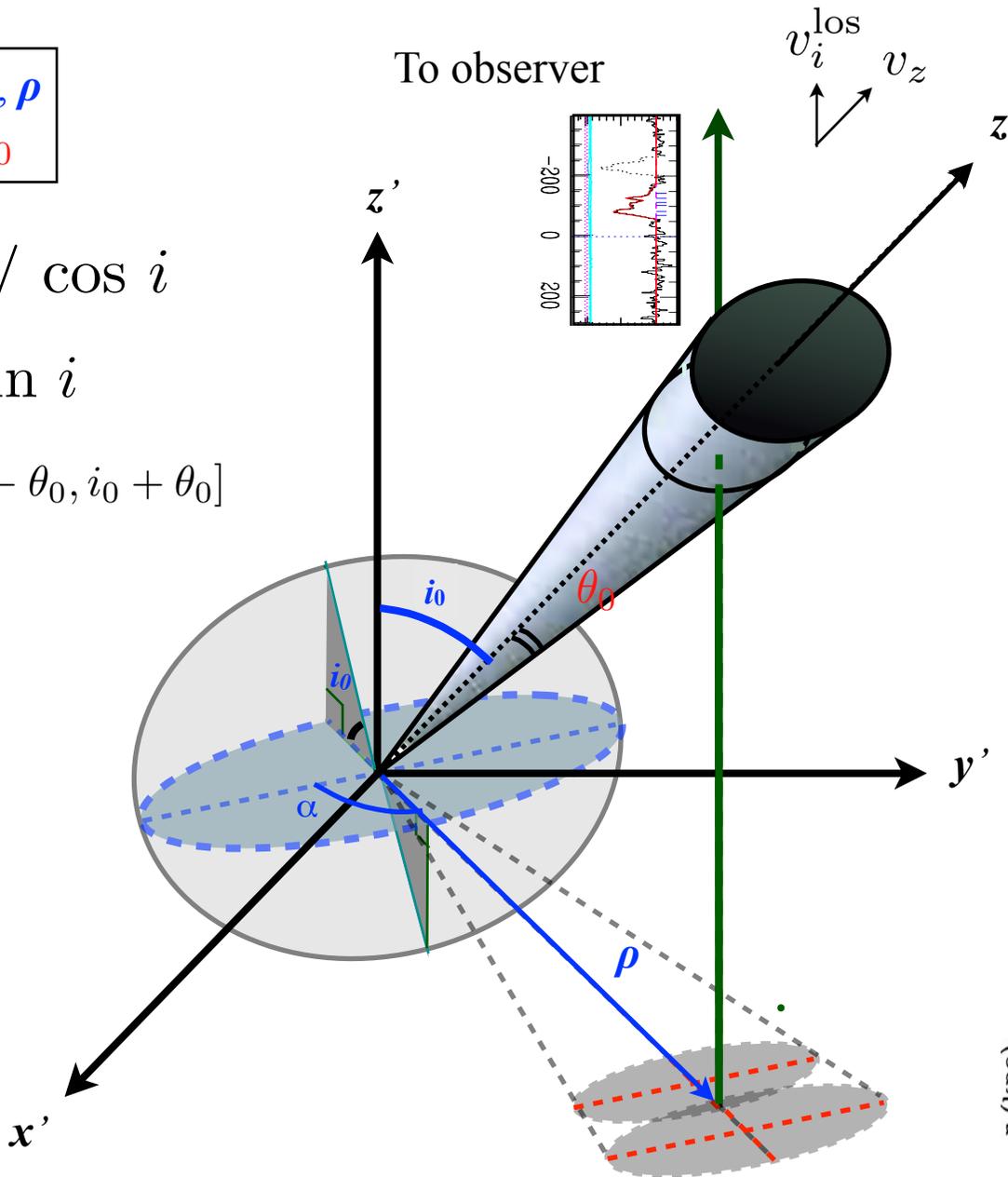
Knowns:  $i_0, \alpha, \rho$

Unknowns:  $\theta_0$

$$v_z = v_i^{\text{los}} / \cos i$$

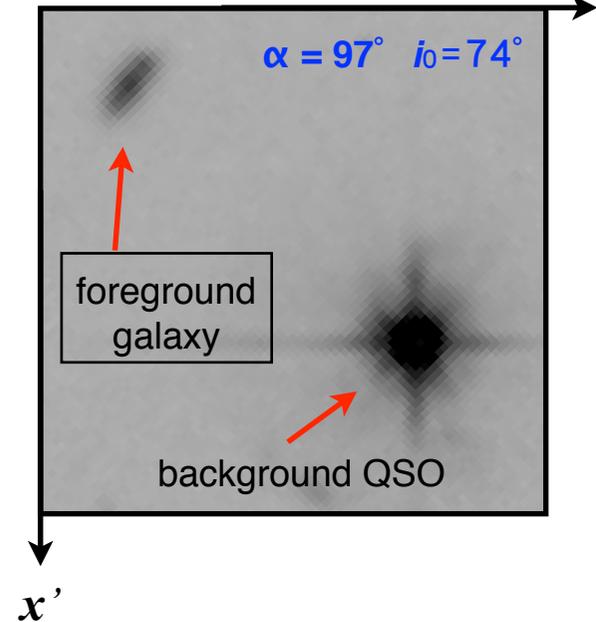
$$z \approx \rho / \sin i$$

where  $i \in [i_0 - \theta_0, i_0 + \theta_0]$

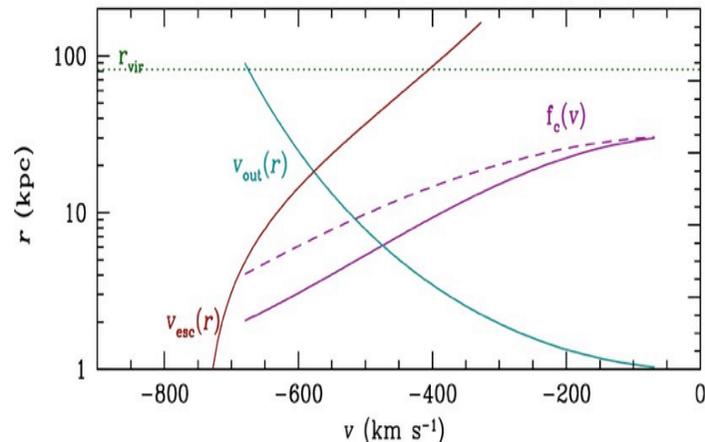


$x'-y'$ : plane of the sky

QSO ★



For each allowed  $\theta_0$ ,  
we can work out  $v_z(z)$



# A Simple Conical Outflow Model

Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012,  
MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)

Knowns:  $i_0, \alpha, \rho$

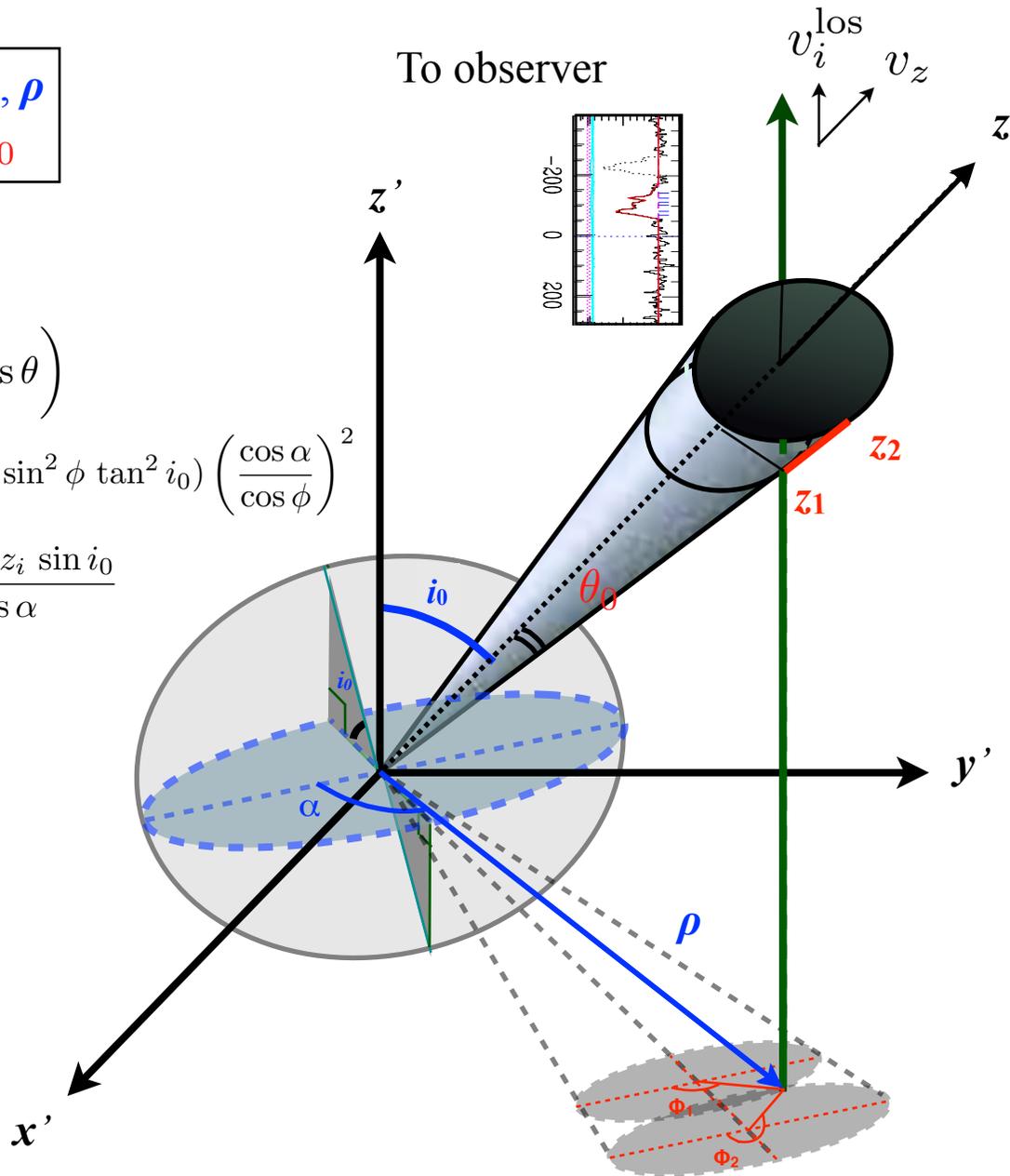
Unknowns:  $\theta_0$

$$v_i^{\text{los}} = v_{z_i} \cos i$$

$$i = \sin^{-1} \left( \frac{\rho}{z_i} \cos \theta \right)$$

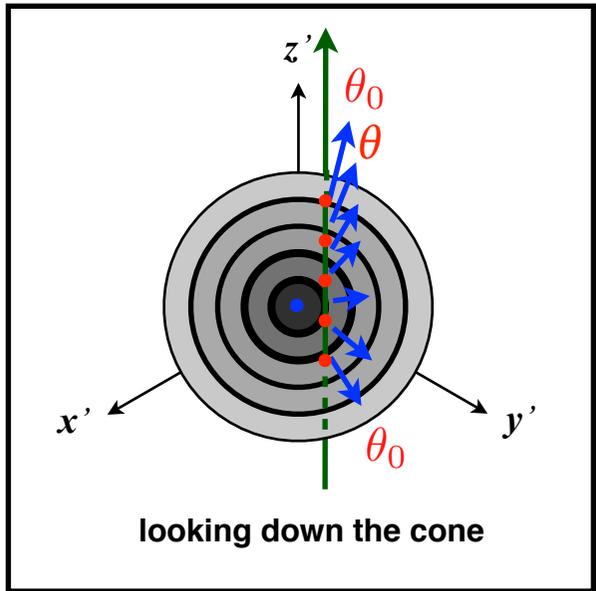
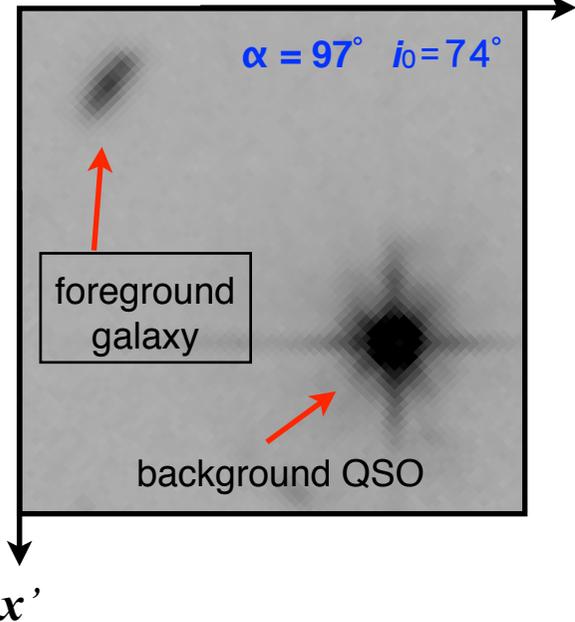
$$z_i^2 \tan^2 \theta = \rho^2 (1 + \sin^2 \phi \tan^2 i_0) \left( \frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \phi} \right)^2$$

$$\tan \phi = \frac{\rho \sin \alpha - z_i \sin i_0}{\rho \cos \alpha}$$



$x'-y'$  : plane of the sky

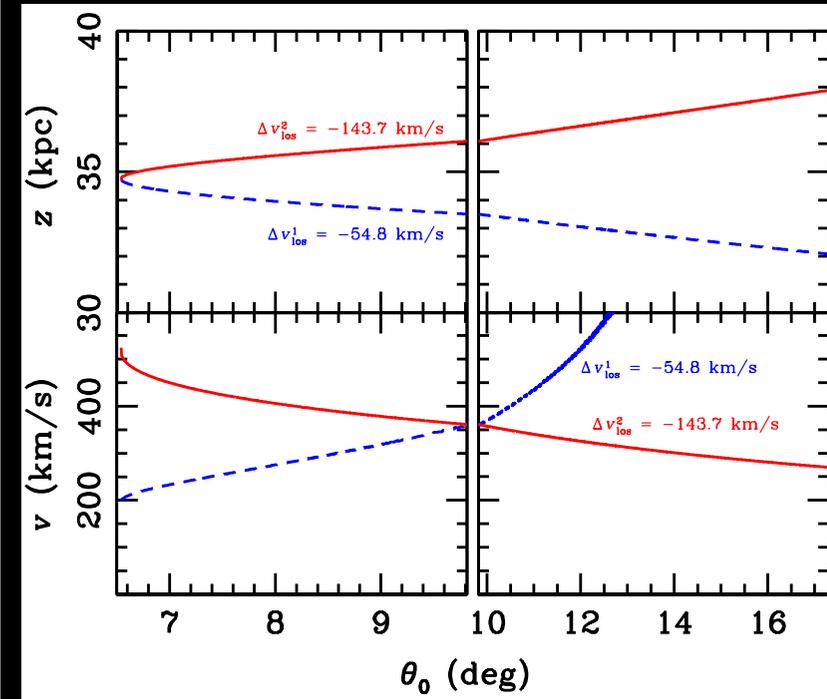
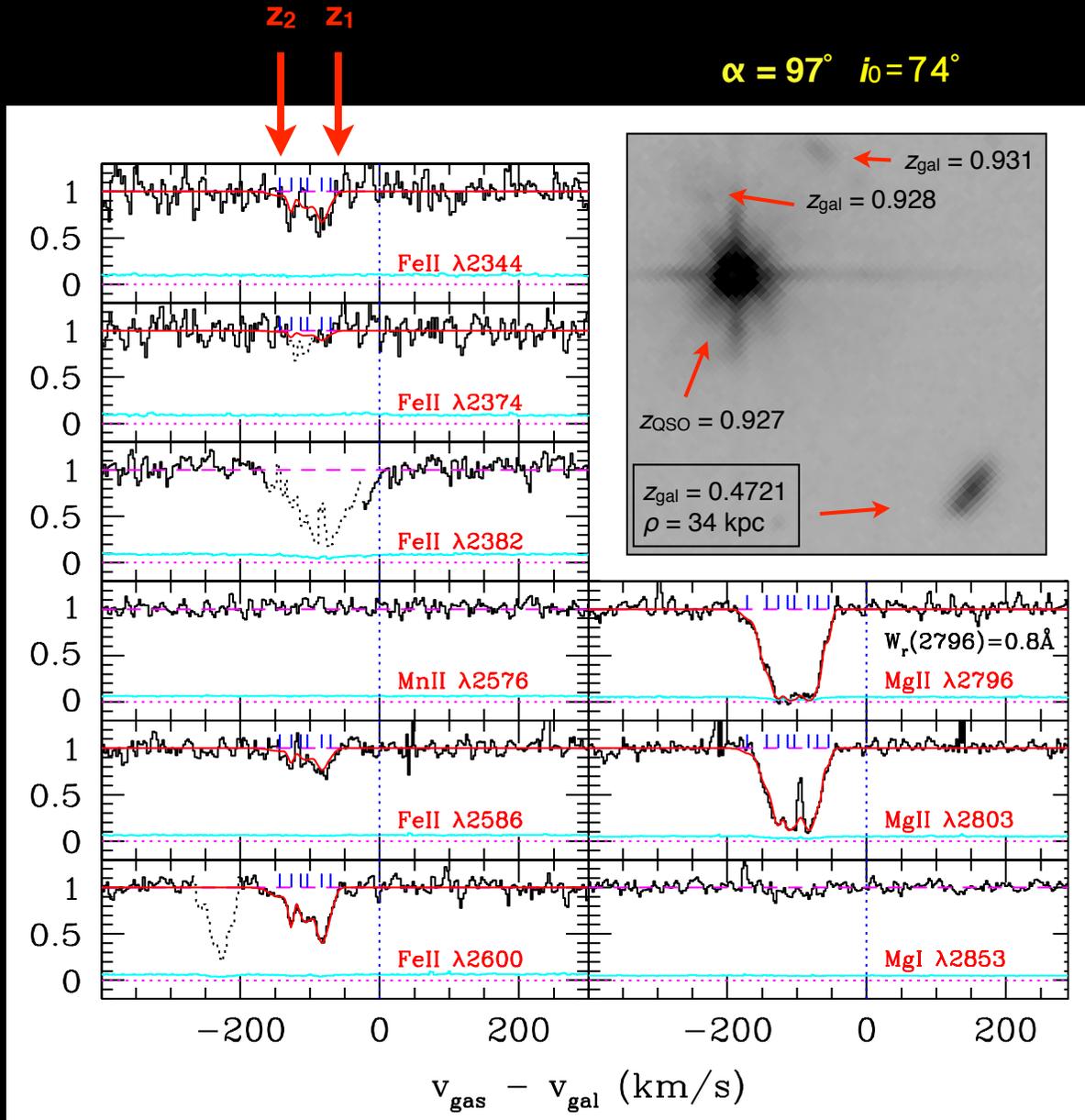
QSO ★



looking down the cone

# Empirical Constraints of Supergalactic Winds at $z \gtrsim 0.5$

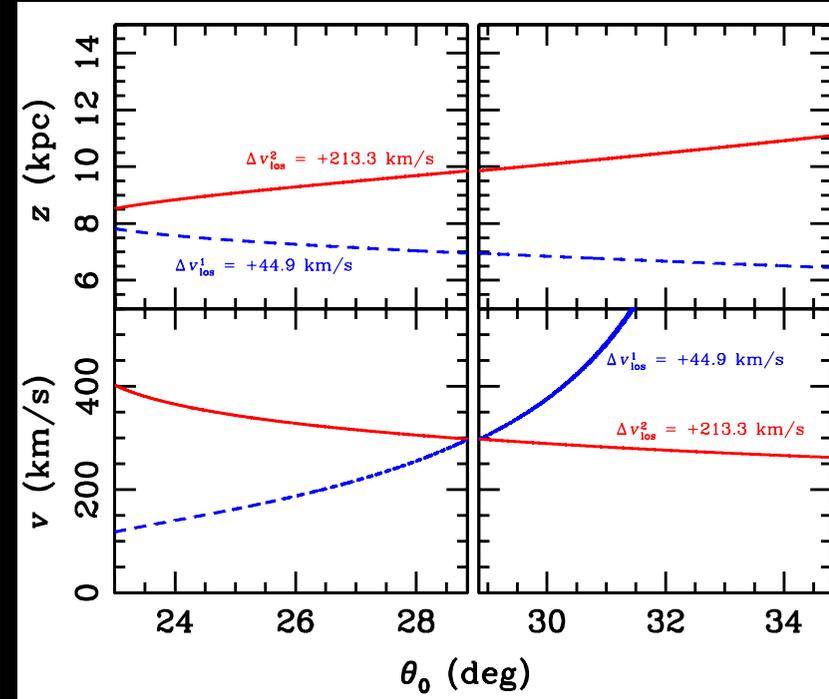
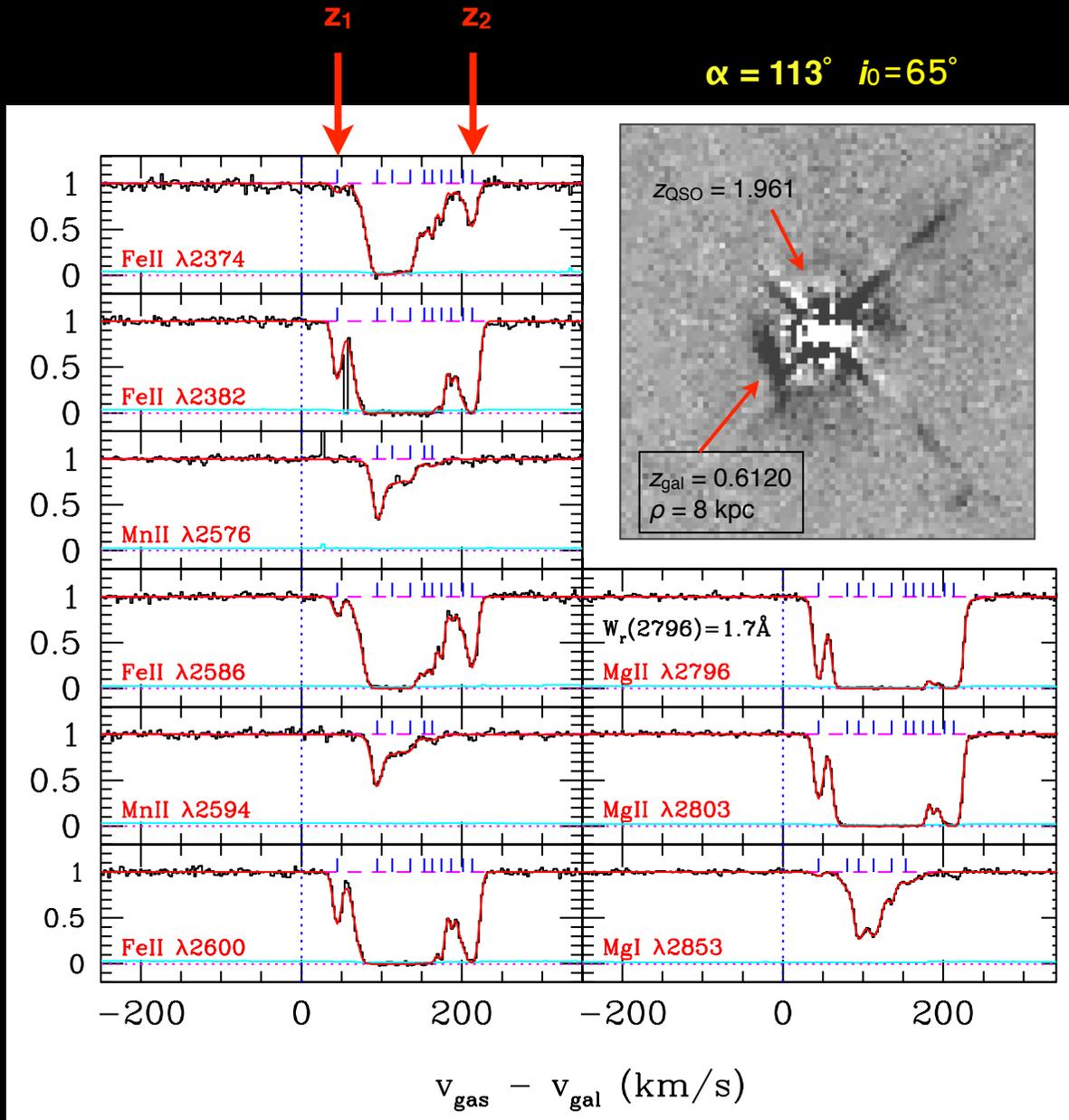
Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012, MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)



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Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012, MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)

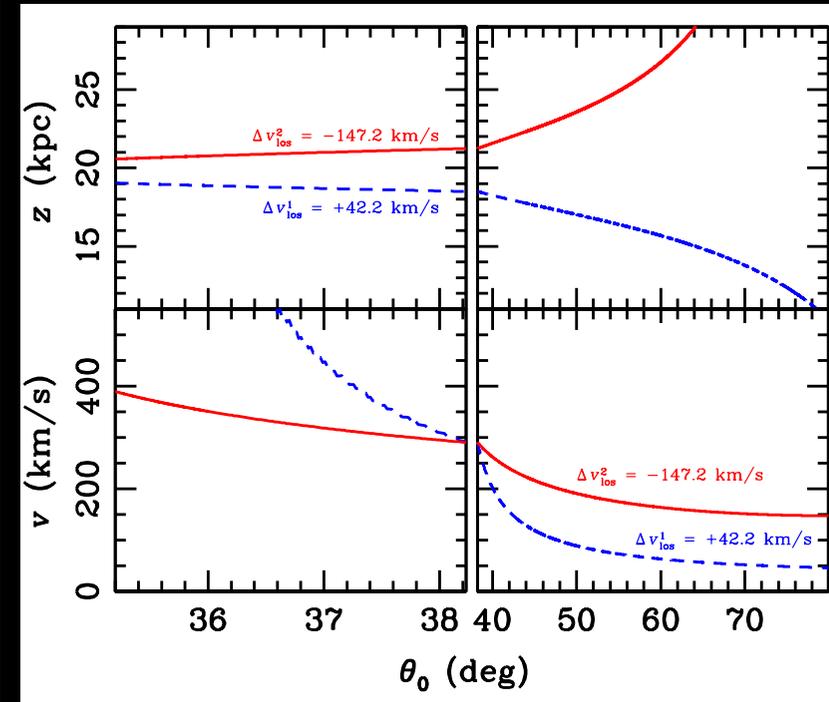
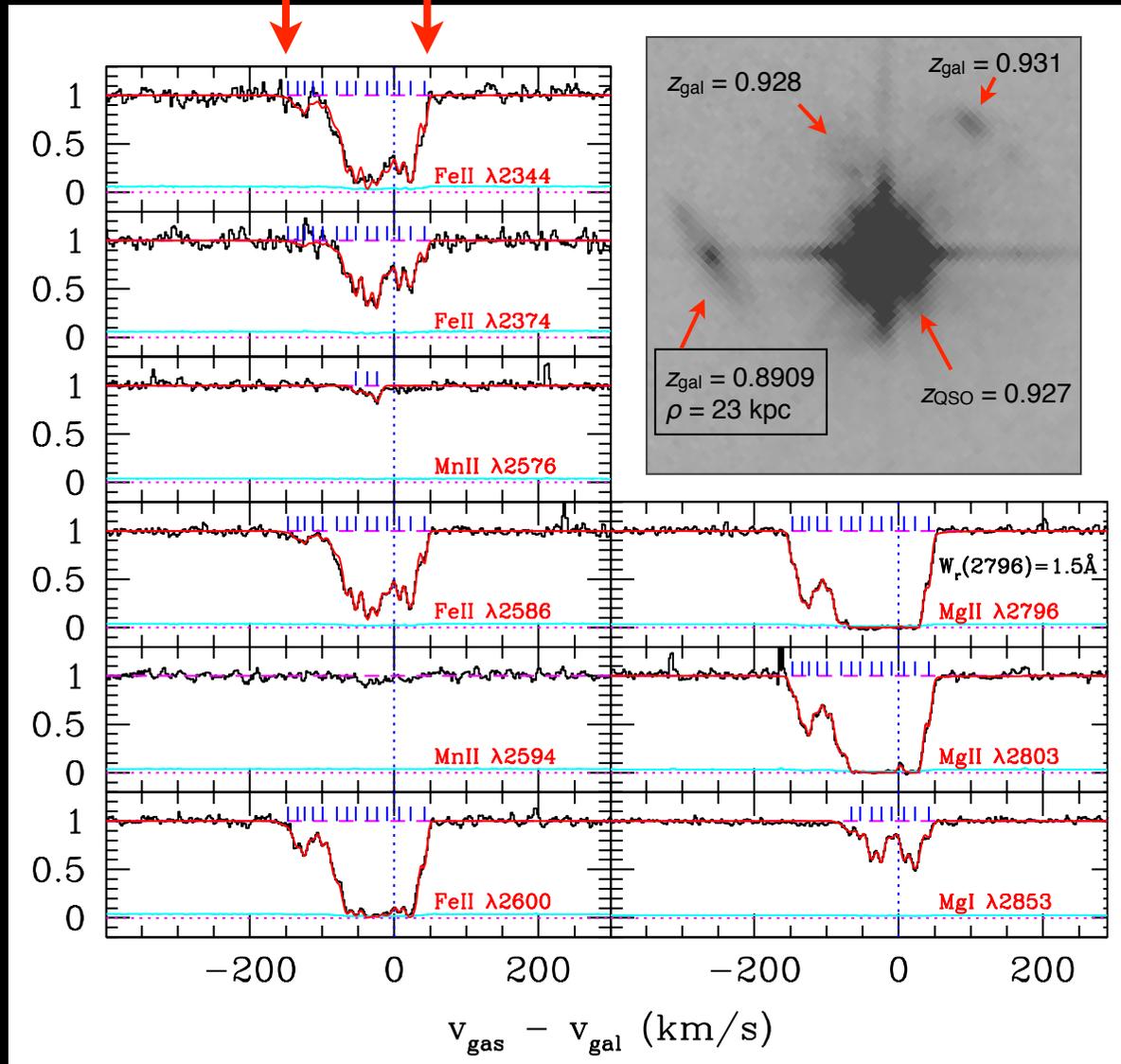
$\alpha = 113^\circ$   $i_0 = 65^\circ$



# Empirical Constraints of Supergalactic Winds at $z \gtrsim 0.5$

Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012, MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)

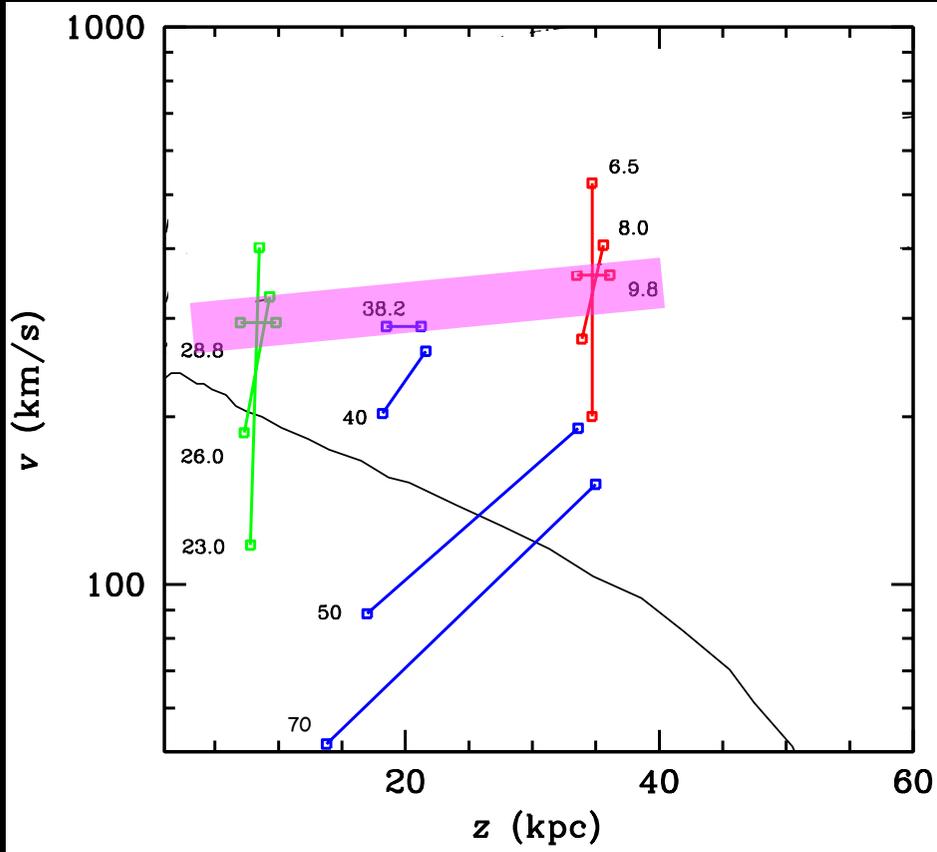
$\alpha = 124^\circ$   $i_0 = 81^\circ$



# Empirical Constraints of Supergalactic Winds at $z \gtrsim 0.5$

Jean-René Gauthier & H.-W. Chen 2012, MNRAS in press (arXiv:1205.4037)

## Derived velocity field for accelerated outflows



accelerated outflows due to radiation pressure can explain the observations for specific values of opening angle

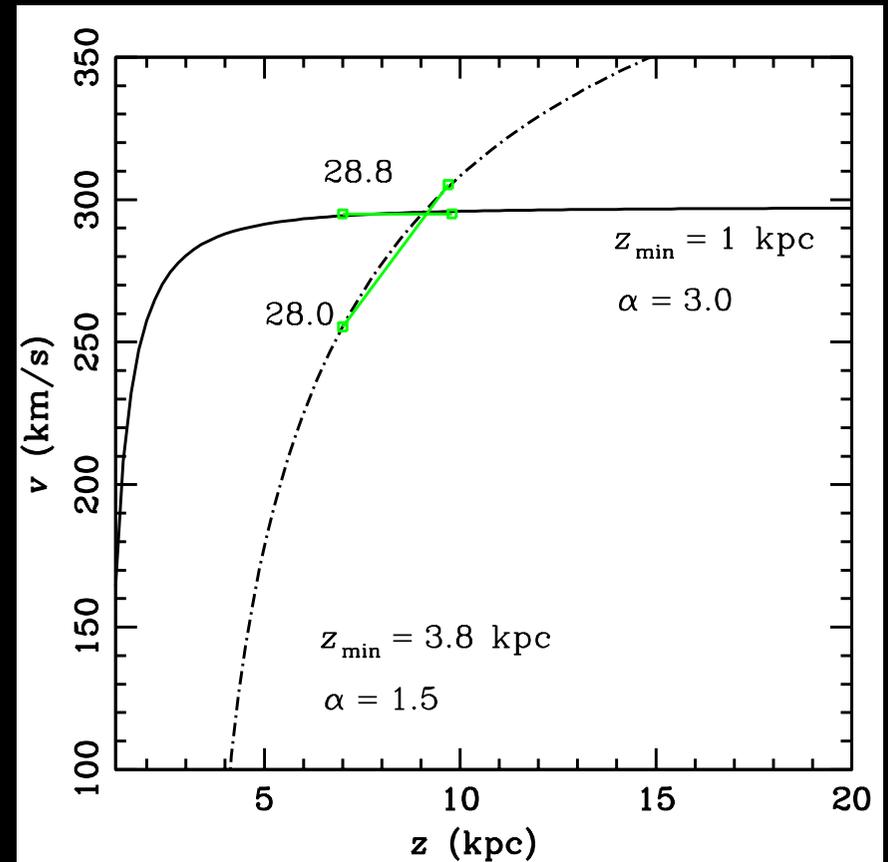
Given  $\beta = 1 - 17$ ,  $\epsilon \lesssim 0.01$

## Characterizing the acceleration using a power-law function $a(z) = A z^{-\alpha}$

Steidel et al. (2010)

$$v(z) = \left( \frac{2A}{\alpha - 1} \right)^{1/2} \sqrt{z_{\min}^{1-\alpha} - z^{1-\alpha}}$$

where  $z_{\min}$  is the z-height where superwinds are launched



# Summary

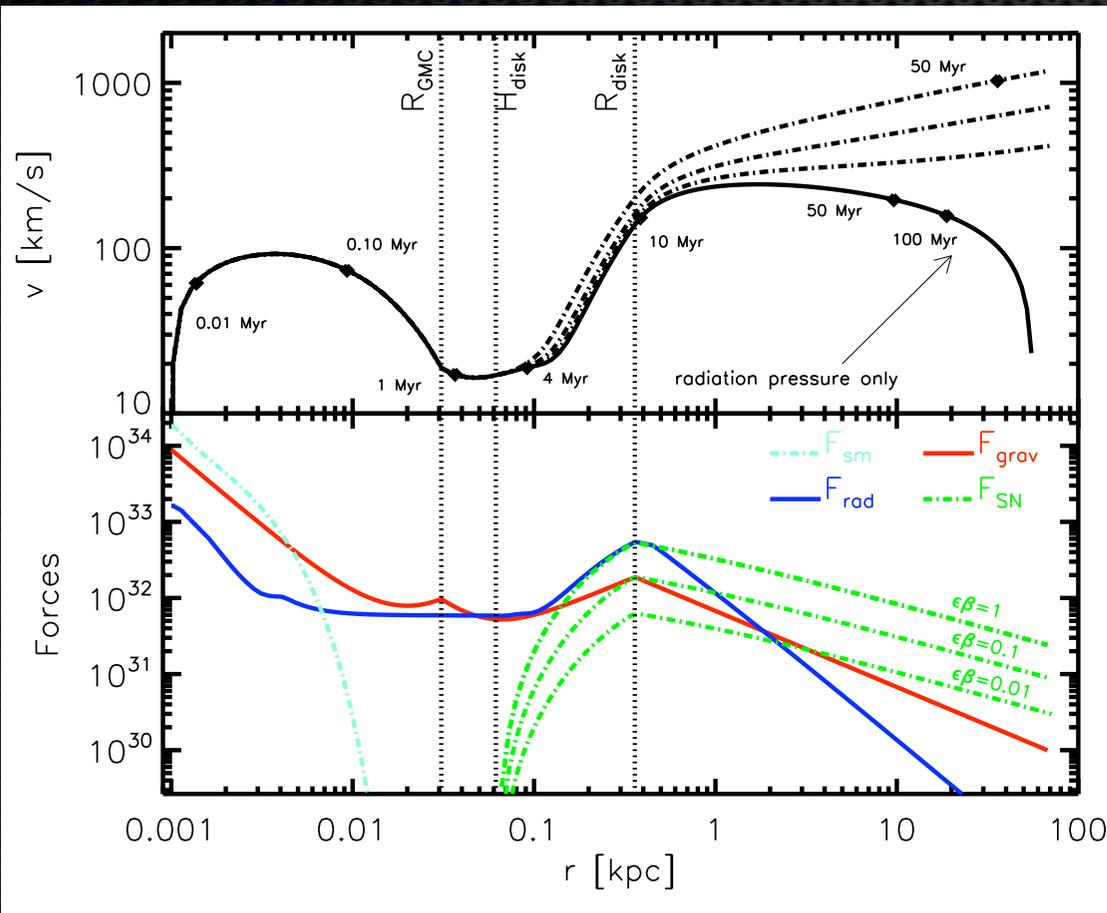
- The spatial extent and absorption strength of the *circumgalactic medium has changed little since  $z \sim 2.2$ .*
- Explaining the observed absorption profiles as due to accelerated outflows constrains *the opening angle to a limited range and SNe thermal input efficiency to  $\lesssim 0.01$ .*
- Characterizing the acceleration field as a power-law function, we find a *steep power-law index of  $\alpha = 3$  for a typical launch radius of 1 kpc.* For  $\alpha = 1.5$ , compatible with GSA findings at  $z \sim 2$ , the outflows would be *launched at  $> 4$  kpc*

# Launching mechanism for super-galactic winds

(Murray et al. 2010, Murray et al. 2011)

## How far does the gas travel?

M82 --  $10^6 M_\odot$  star cluster



distance from the cluster center (kpc)

**At  $r \gtrsim 1$  kpc :**

Radiation pressure

$$F_{\text{rad}} = F_{\text{rad,cl}} + \frac{L_{\text{gal}}}{c} \frac{1}{r^2}$$

Gravity

$$g_{\text{grav}} = \frac{v_c^2}{r}$$

Ram pressure force from SNe hot outflow

$$F_{\text{ram}} = C_D \pi l_\perp^2 \rho_h (v_h - v_c)^2$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \dot{M}_h v_h^2 = \epsilon L_{\text{SN}}$$

$$\dot{M}_h = 0.2 \beta \dot{M}_*$$