Evidence of Accretion Traced by MgII Absorption at z~0.5

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Outflow vs. Infall

•Lots of evidence that *Strong* MgII systems arise in/from outflowing gas

Bordoloi et al. 2011, Rubin et al. 2010, Menard et al. 2009, Weiner et al. 2009, Martin & Bouche 2009, Zibetti et al. 2007



•Evidence of Infalling gas?







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Sample of 40 Mgll absorbers imaged with HST
0.3 < z <1.0
Galaxy morphologies modeled using GIM2D
3.3 σ correlation between EW and D



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Absorption strength coupled to galaxy major axis orientation: Not produced by winds! (wind would likely cause and anti-correlation)



Kacprzak et al. 2010



galaxy







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Stewart et al. 2011 arXiv:1103.4388



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The velocity spread of the absorption is consistent with the simulations, again hinting at an infall model.

<u>Summary</u>

Likely:

- Strong systems (EW> 1A) trace winds.
- Weak systems (EW<1A) trace infalling gas.

Evidence for infall:

• Galaxy inclination and EW correlation: MgII strength correlated with galaxy major axis, thus likely not outflow.

• Halo gas and galaxy kinematics suggest halo gas is coupled to galaxy rotation, however simples models can not explain velocity widths. Simulations show that inflow is a possible explanation.

The interesting questions now:

What is the infall/outflow fraction as a function of EW? OR infall/outflow fraction as a function of D? How can you tell the difference between them? Multiphase gas probes?