

## Gas around galaxies – High Velocity Clouds and the Ly alpha forest

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Recent progress in cosmological simulations has led to a more general dissemination of the idea that galaxies grow by both hot and cold-mode accretion. Directly observing these flows has remained difficult, but what happens in the final stages of the accretion processes may be observable through studies of the high-velocity clouds and gas in the Milky Way halo. I will present new results on the distances and metallicities and orbits of these objects and show how they provide evidence for the infall of low-metallicity gas onto the Milky Way. I will further discuss some data concerning the reservoir of gas that these clouds come from and what this tells us about galaxy halos and the Cosmic Web.