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New measurements of radial velocities in clusters of galaxies (*)

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Summary. — We have obtained 101 new redshifts for 100 galaxies in ten clusters of galaxies. Data for individual galaxies are presented and the accuracy of velocities determined using four different instrumentations (located at Calar Alto, La Palma, ESO and Hawaï) is discussed.

Key words: redshifts of galaxies — clusters of galaxies.

1. Introduction.

From recent developments of observational astronomy, the overall view of the structure of the universe appears to be very different from the homogeneous and isotropic one claimed by the traditional cosmology. The scheme of long, interconnected linear filaments (of size $\approx 100~\text{h}^{-1}$ Mpc, where $h=H_0/100$ and H_0 is the Hubble constant) formed by concentration of galaxies seems now well established (e.g. Fontanelli, 1984), these regions being separated by large voids empty of bright galaxies.

One of the fundamental aspects of the understanding of such large structures is to accede to the third dimension in order to modify their « projected view ». For instance, the spatial correlation function $\xi(r)$ of galaxy pairs (Dekel, 1984) estimated from the Center for Astrophysics (CFA) survey shows unobserved structures from estimates made on the basis of catalogues which use only projected positions. The use of percolation applied to a sample of three-dimensional galaxies is also a powerful way to explain the reality of large structures.

If the redshift determination is the only way to have access to the third dimension, it is also essential for the understanding of the dynamics because it leads to the determination of the velocity dispersion in particle systems. The cosmic virial theorem (Peebles, 1980) using two and three points spatial correlation functions gives estimates of the cosmological parameter Ω_0 .

The radial velocities are also essential for the understanding of structures like clusters of galaxies, their dynamical analysis leading to their mass and to an estimate of the missing mass in the universe.

Analyses of some Abell clusters have been recently published: Gregory and Thompson (1984) for A 2197 and A 2199; Geller et al. (1984) for A 1142; Mazure et al. (1985) for A 496, and in this paper, we present 101 new redshifts for 100 galaxies in ten clusters. The data for individual galaxies are presented and the accuracy of velocities determination using four different instrumentations is discussed.

2. Observations.

The program of radial velocity measurements was carried out between March 1984 and March 1985, i) at the 2.2 m telescope at Calar Alto (Spain), ii) at the 2.5 m Isaac Newton telescope at La Palma (Canary Islands) and iii) at the 1.50 m telescope at ESO (Chile). We also include results of observations made during a technical run at the 3.60 m Canada-France-Hawaii (CFH) telescope at Mauna Kea.

2.1 OBSERVATIONS AT CALAR ALTO. — Observations were made in two observing runs of six nights each with the 2.20 m telescope in March 1984 and March 1985.

^(*) Based on observations made at Calar-Alto Observatory (Spain), La Palma Observatory (Canary Islands), European Southern Observatory — La Silla (Chile) and Canada — France — Hawaii Telescope operated by the National Research Council of Canada, the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique of France, and the University of Hawaii.

Fifty per cent of the nights were suitable for observations because of wheather conditions and Moon light.

We used the Boller & Chivens Spectrograph with an effective dispersion of 89 Å/mm. The spectral region covered was from 3900 Å to 7200 Å with a 600 line/mm grating blazed at 5500 Å. The slit was 180 μ m widened, the resolution was about 8 Å FWHM. A two-stage EMI9916 image intensifier of 40 mm cathode diameter was used, cooled at -18° . Spectrograms were obtained on IIa0 Kodak plates and the wavelength calibration was made using a Fe-Ne Source before and after each spectrum. Exposure times used ranged between 1800 and 3600 s, depending on magnitude and weather conditions. The resulting signal to noise ratio was between 8 and 12.

Spectrograms were recorded with the PDS1010G microphotometer of the Institut d'Optique at Orsay (using a 20 μ m square aperture). The observations were reduced using the STII interactive data processing programs developed at the Meudon observatory. The resulting redshifts are listed in table I referenced as CA1 and CA2 for the first and the second run respectively. The galaxy number is from Dressler (1980).

2.2 CALAR ALTO DATA REDUCTION. — Wavelength calibration was carried out using the Fe-Ne comparison source and night sky lines on each spectrum. Usually these set of lines are used in a fifth order polynomial fit of the wavelength solution with typical r.m.s. residuals of 0.6 Å.

The redshift computations were made using the H and K lines, the Ca1 4226.70 Å one, the G band, H_{γ} , H_{β} , H_{α} , Mg Ib triplet and Na ID doublet, and all these lines in the best case. Note that the [OII] 3727.30 Å line was not observed because of its position at the extreme edge of the spectral range.

Each line was fitted using a Gaussian profile so that a set of redshift was obtained depending upon the number of useful lines for each spectrum. The final redshift was determined following Balkowski et al. (1981), the principles of which are in de Vaucouleurs and de Vaucouleurs (1967). In order to check the accuracy of the procedure, we have observed three known galaxies in the Coma cluster (Tab. I): the results are in a very good agreement with previous values. The centroid determinations of the features measured is more or less uncertain, depending on the noise in the spectrum. This source of error is reflected for each galaxy by the dispersion of redshifts from individual lines. This dispersion is noted in table I.

2.3 OBSERVATIONS AT LA PALMA. — Observations were made during three nights (two nights were suitable for observations because of technical and clouds problems) with the 2.5 m Isaac Newton telescope in July 1984.

We used the Intermediate Dispersion Spectrograph (IDS) with a dispersion of 66.5~Å/mm. The spectral region covered was from 3500 to 5600~Å with a 632 line/mm grating blazed at 4500 Å - two slit apertures were used : 180 and 360 μ m. The Image Photon Counting System (IPCS) (Boksenberg, 1982) was used as the detector with the 235 mm camera. The spectral resolution

was 2 Å FWHM. The exposure time was 1000 s so that the average signal to noise ratio measured was 15. For each galaxy, a comparison spectrum was made using a Cu-Ar source before and after each spectrum. In order to use a cross-correlation procedure for data reduction, we have taken every night two spectra, one of the G8III giant HD210807 ($V_r = -14.8 \pm 0.5 \, \mathrm{km/s}$) and one of the G9III giant HD213009 ($V_r = -39.7 \pm 0.6 \, \mathrm{km/s}$) using a 55 μ m slit. In order to check possible mechanical flexure and instabilities the zero-points of the two stellar spectra were checked against each other, and agreed to within 20 km/s.

2.4 IPCS REDUCTIONS. — Reduction of the IPCS spectra followed the SPICA standard procedure similar to that used by many other observers (e.g. Davies, 1981; Sadler, 1982). After correction of distorsion, each spectrum was flat-fielded using a normalized flat field. The comparison spectra taken immediately before and after each galaxy observation were checked for a shift and then added together. No significant shift was found.

Wavelength calibration was performed by fitting a fifth order polynomial to each arc spectrum to a wavelength scale and checking the position of several lines. Each galaxy spectrum was rebinned to a log λ scale using the corresponding calibration polynomial, then sky subtracted and normalized. After filtering to remove noise and pixel to pixel sensitivity variations the spectrum of a given galaxy is then cross-correlated with the two stars above mentioned, the measured shift Δ log λ being easily converted to a velocity shift by:

$$v = c \left(e^{\Delta \log \lambda} - 1 \right) .$$

In order to estimate the accuracy of the radial velocities measured in this observing program, we have fit a Gaussian profile to the correlation peack displayed after a cross correlation procedure. The accuracy of the redshift determination is obtained from the width of the half height of the peak. Because of the response of the IPCS in the blue region (as for IDS at ESO) we cannot provide information on the [OII] 3727.30 Å line, specially for galaxies having $H\beta$ and $H\alpha$ in emission.

2.5 OBSERVATIONS AT ESO. — Observations were made during five nights with the 1.52 m telescope at La Silla in november 1984. We used the Image Dissector Scanner (IDS) mounted on a Boller & Chivens spectrograph which ends with an output phosphor readed by a scanning device dividing the one-dimensional image into 2048 pixels. The dispersion was 114 Å/mm so that the spectral region covered was from 3830 to 6150 Å with a 600 line/mm grating blazed at 5000 Å. The slit width was 200 µm widened and the spectral resolution was about 6 Å at FWHM. The average exposure time was 3600 s so that the measured signal to noise ratio was ranging around 12. For each galaxy, a comparison was made before and after each spectrum using an He-Ar source. In order to obtain the redshift by cross-correlation procedure, we have also taken every night two spectra, one of the G3IV star HD6655 $(V_r = 15.5 \pm 0.5 \text{ km/s})$

and one of the K1III giant CD-43°2527 ($V_r = 13.1 \pm$ 0.3 km/s); both stars are classical IAU Standards.

2.6 ESO DATA REDUCTION. — Data reduction was performed at Garching using the software package IHAP in order to obtain radial velocities with a cross correlation procedure. The different steps of the reduction are analogous to the IPCS ones.

2.7 OBSERVATIONS AT HAWAII. — Three galaxies have been observed at Hawaii in April 1985 with the CASS-HAWEC spectrograph installed at the Cassegrain focus of the 3.60 m telescope. The dispersion was 38 Å/mm centred to observe the MgIb triplet either on the galaxy and on the reference star, the giant K2III HD90861 $(V_r = 39.8 \pm 0.4 \text{ km s}^{-1})$. The detector was a 236 \times 236 px photon counting system with a Fe-Ne comparison source. The data reduction has been made using the cross correlation procedure, identical to the above IPCS one.

3. Estimate of errors.

In order to test the accuracy of our velocities, we have made a comparison of our redshift determinations with data available in the literature (see e.g. Palumbo et al., 1983) for the same set of galaxies. The results of the comparison between the two sets of observations are summarized in table II, where we list the velocity differences between our measurements and other determinations. We have excluded three galaxies for which the discrepancy between redshift determinations was too large: A496-57, A1142-41 and A2589-17; we find that our velocities are shifted by $+4.0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ in the average with respect to the published data. The standard deviation in the difference is 89.7 km s⁻¹, which is consistent with the rms of redshift measurements mentioned in table II, ranging from 50 to 100 km/s. A valuable comparison can be made for the twelve galaxies of A496.

From the comparison of our redshifts with those of Quintana et al. (1985), we find that our velocities are shifted by -6.2 km s⁻¹ in the average. The standard deviation in the differences is 91.3 km s⁻¹ which is consistent with the rms uncertainty of 96.3 km s⁻¹ derived from Quintana et al. (1985). Note that our velocities are not as homogeneous as those measured usually, since they come from different telescopes, but all velocities in the present study agreed with those quoted by authors mentioned in table II to within +/-180 km/s (2 σ level) except for the three galaxies above mentioned, which were not included in the error calculations.

4. Conclusion.

In this paper, we have reported new redshift measurements for 100 galaxies in ten Abell clusters. These redshifts represent the initial results of the observational group on clusters of galaxies of Meudon. However, the number of redshifts collected in our survey is too much dependent of the observing time allocated and weather conditions.

The recent development of multi-object spectrographs associated with large telescopes will be a powerful tool to increase the number of redshifts collected. We are doing a major effort in this direction.

Let us emphasize that, in addition to redshifts, a lot of data like reliable magnitudes, X observations... are also required in order to improve our knowledge on clusters of galaxies and large scale structures.

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TABLE I (continued)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5) (6)	(7)	(0)
57	17 U7 5U•4	A 22 +78 45 57 A 25	Su	LPA	17775 60	
17 21 28 30 31 32 33 35 46	23 21 20 U 23 21 27 8 23 21 32 0 23 21 32 0 23 21 29 7 23 21 20 U 23 21 20 U 23 21 20 U 23 21 20 U 23 21 20 U	+16 3U 3d +16 3U 21 +16 32 46 +16 52 13 +16 31 32 +16 29 38 +16 35 43	2 E S E S E S E S E S E S E S E S E S E	LPA	12200 60 12524 60 12476 60 12476 60 12626 60 12653 60 12320 60 14031 60 12070 60	

Notes to table I:

Column 1: Galaxy number in the cluster.

Column 2 and 3: Right ascension and declination (1950).

Column 4: Morphological type.

Column 5: Estimated total apparent visual magnitude.

Column 6: Observatory. CA1 and CA2 are observations made at Calar Alto in 1984 and 1985 respectively, LPA at La Palma in 1984, ESO at La Silla in 1984 and CFH at Mauna Kea in 1985.

Column 7: Galaxy heliocentric velocity and estimated error.

Column 8: Notes: 1- Results are derived from two correlation peaks.

2- $H\alpha$ and $H\beta$ in emission. 3- 3C 306.

TABLE II. — Comparison with published redshifts.

GALAXY	V-V(REF)	REFERENCE
A 151 - 61	+5 -77	HUMASON ET AL. (1956)
A 496 - 13 25 26 32 33 34 44 46 50 57	+58 -36 +90 +98 -4 -13 -95 +21 +390* +137 -146 -132	QUINTANA ET AL. (1985)
A 1142 - 19 20 29 35 41	-133 -98 -35 +/1 -3/0*	GELLER ET AL. (1984) " " "
A 1656 - 43 1U5 179	+143 -47 +80	KENT AND GUNN (1982)
A 1983 - 15 114	+117 -67	TK11TON (1972) Rubin et al. (1976)
A 2063 - 60	+156	HUMASON ET AL. (1956)
A 2256 - 37	+53	FABER AND DRESSLER (1977)
A 2589 - 17 28 32	+1045* +13 +23	HINTZÉN (1980) "
<v-v(ref)> σ</v-v(ref)>	+4 . U +89 . /	

^{*} NOT INCLUDED IN THE CALCULATIONS