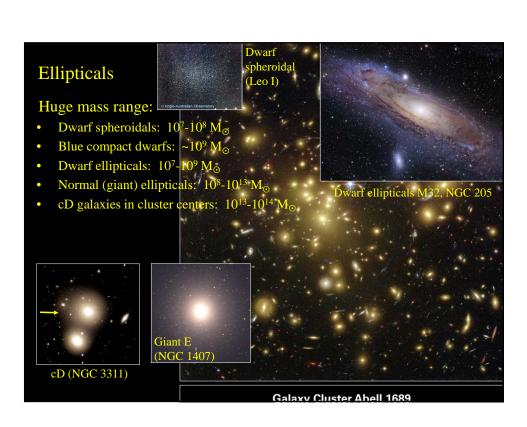


Summary: Density Waves?

- Evidence showing density waves do occur.
 - Old, red stars show spiral density perturbation.
 - Molecular clouds form on inner edges of spiral arms.
 - HI gas flow shows discontinuity due to shocks at inner edges of spiral arms.
 - Bright young stars also in narrow arms.
 - Observed width $\Delta \theta \sim t_*(\Omega \Omega_p)$, as predicted.
- Are these waves self-sustaining over 10¹⁰ years? Problems:
 - Lin-Shu theory is linear; does not predict whether waves will grow or decay.
 - How are density waves initially formed?
- The usual interpretation
 - Density waves need a driving force
 - Satellite galaxy at co-rotation radius (M51)Bars
 - Otherwise, act to prolong life of transitory phenomena.
 - Other mechanisms probably also important.
 - Swing-amplification efficiently builds up temporary trailing spirals.



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