REVEALING THE PROPERTIES OF DARK MATTER IN THE MERGING CLUSTER MACS J0025.4–1222

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ABSTRACT

We constrain the physical nature of dark matter using the newly identified massive merging galaxy cluster MACS J0025.4–1222. As was previously shown by the example of the Bullet Cluster (1E 0657–56), such systems are ideal laboratories for detecting isolated dark matter and distinguishing between cold dark matter (CDM) and other scenarios (e.g., self-interacting dark matter, alternative gravity theories). MACS J0025.4–1222 consists of two merging subclusters of similar richness at z = 0.586. We measure the distribution of X-ray-emitting gas from Chandra X-ray data and find it to be clearly displaced from the distribution of galaxies. A strong (information from highly distorted arcs) and weak (using weakly distorted background galaxies) gravitational lensing analysis based on Hubble Space Telescope observations and Keck arc spectroscopy confirms that the subclusters have near-equal mass. The total mass distribution in each of the subclusters is clearly offset (at >4σ significance) from the peak of the hot X-ray-emitting gas (the main baryonic component) but aligned with the distribution of galaxies. We measure the fractions of mass in hot gas (0.09±0.02) and stars (0.010±0.007), consistent with those of typical clusters, finding that dark matter is the dominant contributor to the gravitational field. Under the assumption that the subclusters experienced a head-on collision in the plane of the sky, we obtain an order-of-magnitude estimate of the dark matter self-interaction cross section of σ/m < 4 cm² g⁻¹, reaffirming the results from the Bullet Cluster on the collisionless nature of dark matter.

Subject headings: dark matter — galaxies: clusters: individual (MACS J0025.4–1222) — gravitational lensing

Online material: color figures

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the most important quests in cosmology is to understand the formation and evolution of galaxies and galaxy clusters. While the standard paradigm of cold dark matter (CDM) within a ΛCDM cosmology works well overall, discrepancies between the predictions of this model and observations remain (such as the abundance of substructure in halos, and the shapes of dark matter profiles, especially in dwarf systems). These issues can be resolved in several ways, for example by invoking warm and/or self-interacting dark matter.

Mergers of galaxy clusters are excellent laboratories to test such ideas. Not only are cluster mergers the most energetic events since the big bang, but, as demonstrated by a recent study of the Bullet Cluster (1E 0657–56; Clowe et al. 2004, 2006; Bradac et al. 2006), they provide a unique avenue by which to probe the self-interaction of dark matter particles and test alternative gravity theories.

In clusters with recent major merger activity, the positions of the dark matter and main baryonic component (the X-ray-emitting gas) can become temporarily separated. This occurs because the gas is collisional and experiences ram pressure, whereas galaxies and (presumably) dark matter are effectively collisionless. A merging direction perpendicular to the line of sight maximizes the apparent separation, allowing observers to independently study the main baryonic and dark matter components. In the example of the Bullet Cluster, Clowe et al. (2004, 2006) and Bradac et al. (2006) used X-ray and gravitational lensing data to derive mass maps for both the baryonic and dark matter components, clearly showing the presence and dominance of dark matter. In agreement with the standard CDM paradigm, these observations indicate that dark matter has to be in a near-collisionless form, with a scattering cross section σ/m < 0.7 cm² g⁻¹ (Randall et al. 2008).

A recent study of the merging cluster A520 by Mahdavi et al. (2007) rests less easily within this simple picture. For A520, Mahdavi et al. (2007) find a central mass peak that contains gas and dark matter but no significant galaxy concentration. These authors argue that such a configuration could occur if dark matter is collisional with a self-interaction cross section of 3.8 ± 1.1 cm² g⁻¹, a result that is inconsistent with the Bullet Cluster limits. However, the statistical significance of the result for A520 is not high, and the dynamics of the cluster are more complicated than object 1E 0657–56, with A520 appearing to be in the late stages of multiple, complex merger events.

It has also been argued that the optical and X-ray observations of object 1E 0657–56 might be explained without standard CDM, by instead modifying the theory of gravity (and thus the effects of gravitational lensing). Models using the modified Newtonian dynamics (MOND) theory (e.g., Milgrom 1983; Bekenstein 2004) have, however, so far achieved only limited success in reproducing the weak-lensing observations (e.g., Angus et al. 2006). In addition, both MOND and modified gravity (MOG; Brownstein & Moffat 2007) models have not yet been able to explain the observed strong lensing. Moreover, the application...
of MOND models to galaxy clusters in general still requires the presence of large masses of invisible matter, which are typically argued to be a mixture of massive neutrinos and cold baryons (e.g., Angus et al. 2008).

Clearly, a satisfactory resolution to this debate requires further observations of massive, merging clusters—preferably those with simple, two-body configurations. Using deep, ground-based optical imaging and short, snapshot Chandra exposures of clusters in the all-sky, X-ray flux–limited Massive Cluster Survey (MACS; Ebeling et al. 2001, 2007), we have identified the X-ray–brightest, most massive, obvious postmerging clusters in the redshift range 0.3 < z < 0.7. From this search, MACS J0025.4–1222 emerges as a massive, merging cluster with an apparently simple geometry, consisting of two large subclusters of similar richness, both at redshift z = 0.586, colliding in approximately the plane of the sky.

Owing to their high masses and favorable redshifts, MACS clusters are ideally suited to gravitational lensing studies. Here we use new, multicolor Hubble Space Telescope (HST) data to determine a projected mass map for MACS J0025.4–1222, using both strong- and weak-lensing information. When combined with the Chandra data, this allows us to map the distributions of dark matter, hot X-ray–emitting gas, and stars. The dark matter is resolved into two main clumps, centered on the galaxy populations. The Chandra data reveal a single, clear X-ray peak located between the two optical/lensing subclusters. The observed offset between the locations of the hot gas and galaxies/lensing mass is in good agreement with the expectations for standard collisionless cold dark matter. Both object 1E 0657–56 and MACS J0025.4–1222 provide direct evidence for the existence of dark matter and can be used to estimate the self-interaction cross section.

This paper is structured as follows. Section 2 describes the optical and X-ray data and reduction procedures. Section 3 discusses the dynamics of the cluster, based on optical spectroscopy. Section 4 presents the strong and weak gravitational lensing analysis and the mass reconstruction based on these data. Section 5 discusses the X-ray data analysis. Section 6 details the results on the stellar and X-ray gas mass fractions. In § 7 we present our main result on the relative distributions of dark and baryonic matter in the cluster, and determine rough limits on the dark matter self-interaction cross section. Our conclusions are summarized in § 8.

Throughout the paper we assume a ΛCDM cosmology with Ω_m = 0.3, Ω_L = 0.7, and Hubble constant H_0 = 70 km s⁻¹ Mpc⁻¹. At a redshift z = 0.586, the length scale is 6.61 kpc arcsec⁻¹.

2. OBSERVATIONS OF MACS J0025.4–1222

We observed MACS J0025.4–1222 with HST ACS for 4140 s in the F555W filter and 4200 s in F814W (six exposures each) as part of the Cycle 13 proposal GO-10703 (PI Ebeling, 2006 November 5). We also obtained a 11,000 s F450W HST WFPC2 observation (11 exposures) as a part of the Cycle 16 proposal GO-11100 (PI Bradac, 2007 June 9). As a part of the MACS survey, the cluster has been observed in the BVRi' bands with Subaru Suprime-Cam. Here we use ACS F814W as our primary weak-lensing band because it has the largest number of resolved background sources for which shapes can be measured, and a well understood point-spread function (PSF; Rhodes et al. 2007). The other bands are used to aid the color matching for identifying strongly lensed systems and to exclude foreground objects from the weak-lensing catalogs.

The demands placed by the lensing analysis required special care when we reduced images. The ACS images were reduced using the HAGGLES pipeline (P. Marshall et al. 2008, in preparation).

A similar procedure was also followed for the WFPC2 data. The data reduction procedure is described in Bradac et al. (2008).

A sample of more than 200 objects in MACS J0025.4–1222 were targeted in the course of a Keck DEIMOS spectroscopic campaign for the MACS survey (Ebeling et al. 2007). The DEIMOS data were reduced using the same procedure as described in Ma et al. (2008). In addition, Keck LRIS (Oke et al. 1995) has been used to target likely multiply imaged sources selected based on their colors in the HST data. One slit mask was used with an exposure of 6.3 ks on 2007 September 13. The LRIS data were reduced using a dedicated pipeline, developed and kindly made available by M. Auger (see also Auger et al. 2008).

MACS J0025.4–1222 has been observed twice with the Chandra X-Ray Observatory, in 2002 November for 19.3 ks (ObsID 3251) and in August 2004 for 24.8 ks (ObsID 5010). Both observations were made with ACIS-I in VFAINTE mode. We have analyzed the data using version 3.4 of the CIAO software and CALDB version 3.3.0.1. Applying conservative filtering, we obtain clean exposures of 15.7 and 21.3 ks for ObsID 3251 and 5010, respectively (total 37 ks). These two exposures were combined for imaging purposes, but fitted separately and simultaneously in the spectral analysis.

3. OPTICAL DYNAMICAL ANALYSIS

Using the redshifts obtained with DEIMOS, we measure the cluster redshift z_cl and velocity dispersion σ_cl. This is done via an iterative algorithm to determine z_cl and σ_cl from galaxies within 1.5 Mpc from the peak of the X-ray emission (§ 5), and within ±3σ_cl from z_cl. Both z_cl and σ_cl are calculated using the biweight estimator of Beers et al. (1990). Galaxies are allowed to reenter the sample at each iteration. This yields z_cl = 0.5857 and σ_cl = 835±58 km s⁻¹, measured from 108 galaxies. The overall appearance of the redshift distribution is roughly Gaussian, with little evidence for a bimodal distribution (Fig. 1).
As a test for the presence of dynamical substructure, we compute the statistics suggested by Dressler & Shectman (1988). Briefly, this method measures local deviations from the overall cluster redshift and velocity dispersion and compares the result to Monte Carlo realizations of the redshift and position values, where the redshifts have been randomized. The probability of finding larger deviations in the randomized cluster realizations is 3%; i.e., cluster substructure is marginally detected. This is mainly driven by some of the galaxies in the northwestern subcluster, which have slightly lower than systemic redshifts.

The southeastern (SE) subcluster has two equally dominant galaxies (BCG1 and BCG2; their magnitudes are equal within the error bars; see Fig. 2) of redshifts $z = 0.5856 \pm 0.0003$ and $0.5838 \pm 0.0003$. The northwestern (NW) one has a single dominant galaxy (BCG3) at a redshift $z = 0.5842 \pm 0.0003$. Assuming that the dominant galaxies lie at or near the minima of the subcluster potentials, and averaging the redshifts of BCG1 and BCG2 in the SE subcluster, we infer a redshift difference between the NW and SE clumps of $\Delta z = 0.0005 \pm 0.0004$. This implies a line-of-sight velocity difference between the subclusters.
of 100 ± 80 km s⁻¹. Given that the subclusters have collided, they have likely decoupled from the Hubble flow.

Based on this result and the measured velocity dispersion, we can obtain a crude estimate of the merger velocity and the angle of the merger axis relative to the plane of the sky. For object 1E 0657−56, Barrena et al. (2002) measure a velocity dispersion of 1132±116 km s⁻¹ (from 52 early-type galaxy spectra) and Markevitch (2006) estimate a merger velocity for object 1E 0657−56 (based on a 500 ks Chandra observation) of ∼4500 km s⁻¹ (although this value is thought to be extreme; e.g., Hayashi & White 2006; Springel & Farrar 2007). Scaling by the ratio of these velocity dispersions, and assuming that the merger velocity in MACS J0025.4−1222 is more typical for a cluster of its mass, we crudely estimate a merger velocity of ∼2000 km s⁻¹. Given this merger velocity, the strong evidence that the subclusters in MACS J0025.4−1222 have merged recently, and the small, observed line-of-sight velocity difference between the subclusters, the merger event is likely to have occurred in close to the plane of the sky (within 8°). The separation between the subclusters implies that closest approach occurred a few ×10⁸ yr ago. Deeper X-ray data are required to refine our understanding of the geometry of the cluster.

4. LENSING ANALYSIS

The optical imaging data were used to identify multiply imaged sources (for strong lensing) and measure the distortion of background galaxies (for weak lensing). We then simultaneously fit these two data sets to obtain the (total) mass distribution of MACS J0025.4−1222.

4.1. Strong-Lensing Features

Using the F450W/F555W/F814W HST and BYR′e Subaru data, we have searched for multiply imaged, lensed background sources. The positions of the multiple images used in the analysis are listed in Table 1 and shown in Figure 2.

We measure a spectroscopic redshift for system AB from the Keck LRIS data of z = 2.38. This source has two distinct components (as seen from Fig. 2; hence the name AB), and we placed slits over both components each time. The spectrum of the northern of the three images is shown in Figure 3, together with a composite Lyman break galaxy template from Shapley et al. (2003). A Lyα emission line is significantly detected (6σ). The other two images had lower S/N spectra but yield consistent results. For system C, we obtain a photometric redshift z_C = 1.0+0.2 using the IRAF polychot task and the HyperZ package (Bolzonella et al. 2000); this redshift is robust (i.e., there is no other likely redshift solution) due to the presence of the 4000 Å break seen between the F555W and F814W bands. We have placed a slit over the northern of the two images, and we see a tentative absorption feature at 7140 Å. If interpreted as Mg II at 2799 Å this gives a redshift of 1.55. However, the absorption feature is detected at a very low significance and no other features are seen. Therefore, we do not consider this identification as reliable and adopt the photometric redshift as our best estimate. Adopting the tentative spectroscopic redshift instead would not change our results significantly.

The photometric redshift of system D is less well determined. In addition, the spectra did not have high enough S/N to obtain any spectroscopic redshift information. Using the photometric information we estimate z_D = 2.8+0.4 .

The scarcity of reliably defined multiply imaged systems and spectroscopic redshifts limits our ability to determine an absolute calibration for the lensing mass map, due to the mass sheet degeneracy [i.e., the reconstruction suffers from a degeneracy of the form k → k' = λk + (1 − λ), where λ is an arbitrary constant; see, e.g., Bradac et al. 2004a]. This degeneracy can, in principle, be lifted when information from at least two source redshift planes is available (see, e.g., Seitz & Schneider 1997; since k is redshift-dependent, data from two redshifts can simultaneously constrain k and λ). In our case, we have only one spectroscopically determined source redshift (around the NW peak). In principle, weak-lensing data can provide a second effective redshift plane, allowing us to tightly constrain the mass, at least around the NW peak; in practice, however, the weak-lensing data are too noisy to completely break the mass sheet degeneracy (see, e.g., Bradac et al. 2004b; Limousin et al. 2007). We might also, in principle, constrain the redshifts of systems C and D around the SE peak using the predictive power of the lens model. This requires the adoption of a specific family of models, which includes assumptions that lift the mass sheet degeneracy, such as assuming zero

![Fig. 3. —LRIS spectrum of the images A and B (a single slit was placed over both images). Lines redshifted to z = 2.38 are marked. Overplotted (and offset for clarity) in gray (top) is the composite Lyman break galaxy spectrum from Shapley et al. (2003). The emission line is significantly detected (6σ); no other significant features are seen in the spectrum. [See the electronic edition of the Journal for a color version of this figure.]

| System | R.A. (deg) | Decl. (deg) | z |
|--------|-----------|------------|---|
| A       | 6.365628  | −12.36976  | 2.38 |
| B       | 6.363495  | −12.37609  | 2.38 |
| C       | 6.363393  | −12.37276  | 2.38 |
| D       | 6.363535  | −12.36974  | 2.38 |
|         | 6.363261  | −12.37606  | 2.38 |
|         | 6.363169  | −12.37268  | 2.38 |
|         | 6.392082  | −12.38603  | 1.0±0.5 |
|         | 6.391968  | −12.38757  | 1.0±0.2 |
|         | 6.382898  | −12.38511  | 2.8±0.4 |
|         | 6.384163  | −12.38253  | 2.8±0.4 |
|         | 6.382926  | −12.38472  | 2.8±0.4 |

Note.—The redshifts of systems A and B were obtained using Keck spectroscopy (a single slit was placed over both components each time), whereas the others have been determined photometrically.

![Table 1. The Properties of the Multiply Imaged Systems.](image)
 mass at large distances. Moreover, the constraints in regions far from the systems of known redshift tend to be weak.

4.2. Weak-Lensing Data

Our weak-lensing analysis of the HST ACS data uses the RRG (Rhodes et al. 2000) galaxy shape measurement method, and the pipeline developed for the HST COSMOS survey (Massey et al. 2007). This has been tested and calibrated on simulated images containing a known weak-lensing signal by Leauthaud et al. (2007). The MACS J0025.4−1222 and COSMOS observations use the same filter and are contemporary, although the COSMOS survey covered a much larger area of sky and provides a better calibration of instrumental systematics, including the camera’s PSF and charge transfer inefficiency (CTI). Thermal variations within HST’s orbit cause it to expand and contract by a few microns (Rhodes et al. 2007). By matching the shapes of stars in the MACS J0025.4−1222 images to those in COSMOS fields (which were in turn compared to TinyTim models of the PSF; see Fruchter & Hook 2002), we determined that the focal length of HST (the distance between its primary and secondary mirrors) was 2 μm shorter than nominal at the time of ACS exposure. This is a typical value (Leauthaud et al. 2007). We created a model of the PSF over the field of view and over all possible focus positions by interpolating the shapes of stars in all images within the COSMOS survey. Similarly, the PSF-corrected ellipticities of galaxies in the MACS J0025.4−1222 data were corrected for CTI trailing (associated with radiation damage in the ACS detectors) by subtracting the spurious ellipticity induced by this effect. This spurious ellipticity was modeled from the observed shapes of galaxies within the COSMOS survey as a function of object flux and position on the detectors (Rhodes et al. 2007).

From the final catalog we selected background objects, excluding cluster members using color information from the HST (F450W/F555W/F814W) images and spectroscopic data. Galaxies in the cluster red sequence are identified by two color criteria: (F450W/F555W/F814W) images and spectroscopic data. Galaxies in the cluster red sequence are identified by two color criteria:

| Subcluster | Mass | $\Delta x$ (arcmin) | $\Delta y$ (arcmin) |
|------------|------|---------------------|---------------------|
| SE.......... | Total | $-0.70 \pm 0.25$ | $-0.43 \pm 0.06$ |
|            | Gas   | $-0.0 \pm 0.08$   | $0.0 \pm 0.08$     |
|            | Galaxies | $-0.79 \pm 0.20$ | $-0.50 \pm 0.20$   |
| NW.......... | Total | $0.46 \pm 0.13$   | $0.20 \pm 0.04$    |
|            | Gas   | $0.0 \pm 0.08$    | $0.0 \pm 0.08$     |
|            | Galaxies | $0.39 \pm 0.20$  | $0.18 \pm 0.20$    |

Note.—Offsets are calculated from (00°25′29.5″, 12°22′36.6″), which corresponds to the peak in gas distribution (marked with a white cross in Fig. 2).

Our combined strong- and weak-lensing analysis follows the method described in Bradacˇ et al. (2005) and implemented on ACS data in Bradacˇ et al. (2006, 2008). We describe the cluster’s projected gravitational potential by a set of values on a regular grid $\psi_k$, from which all observable quantities are evaluated by finite differencing. For example, the scaled surface mass density $\kappa$ is related to $\psi$ via the Poisson equation, $2\kappa = \nabla^2 \psi$ (where the physical surface mass density is $\Sigma = \kappa \Sigma_{\text{crit}}$ and $\Sigma_{\text{crit}}$ is a constant that depends on the angular diameter distances between the observer, the lens, and the source). Similarly, the shear $\gamma = \gamma_1 + i\gamma_2$ and the deflection angle $\alpha$ are derivatives of the potential $\gamma_1 = 0.5(\psi_{11} - \psi_{22})$, $\gamma_2 = \psi_{12}$, and $\alpha = \nabla \psi$. The advantage of such an approach is that we avoid strong assumptions regarding the shape and profile of the potential, which is crucial when dealing with merging clusters.

The strong- and weak-lensing data are combined in a $\chi^2$-fashion, minimizing the $\chi^2$ difference between the data and the model by searching for a solution to the nonlinear equation $\partial^2 \chi^2 / \partial \psi_k = 0$. Hence, we solve it in an iterative fashion (keeping the nonlinear terms fixed at each iteration step). This requires an initial guess for the gravitational potential; the systematic effects arising from these particular choices are discussed below.

Figure 4 shows our best-fit reconstruction of the surface mass density, starting from an initial model consisting of two isothermal spheres, each of $\sigma = 1000$ km s$^{-1}$. The first sphere was centered between the two brightest galaxies in the SE cluster (BCG1 and BCG2), and the second on the BCG of the NW subcluster (BCG3; see also Fig. 2). We also examined models in which the initial velocity dispersion of the spheres was reduced to $\sigma = 700$ km s$^{-1}$, and where the initial guess had zero mass: the resulting reconstruction did not change significantly. Throughout the paper we will quote the results with the initial model using $\sigma = 1000$ km s$^{-1}$, as this model gives the best fit to the data. The other final solutions (encountered due to secondary minima in $\chi^2$ function) were however not significantly different.

The recovered distribution of mass in MACS J0025.4−1222 shows two distinct peaks, each centered approximately at the centers of the light distributions (galaxies). The measured positions and error bars are given in Table 2. The quoted error bars reflect the effects of exploring different initial conditions and other systematic effects (such as misidentification of multiply imaged systems), and the statistical and systematic errors in the weak-lensing data (see below). Table 3 lists the projected masses within 300 kpc of each of the BCG1 and BCG3, and the mass within 500 kpc of the X-ray peak.

| Subcluster | Mass $\left(10^{14} M_\odot\right)$ |
|------------|-------------------------------|
| Southeast—BCG1 | Total | 2.5$_{-1.0}^{+1.0}$ |
|            | Galaxies | 0.027 ± 0.008 |
| Northwest—BCG3 | Total | 2.6$_{-1.4}^{+0.5}$ |
|            | Galaxies | 0.019 ± 0.006 |
| Gas peak | Total | 6.2$_{-1.0}^{+1.2}$ |
|            | Gas | 0.55 ± 0.06 |
|            | Galaxies | 0.05 ± 0.01 |

Note.—Total projected masses are calculated from strong- and weak-lensing reconstruction, gas mass from Chandra X-ray data, and stellar mass from F814W data.
4.4. Systematic and Statistical Uncertainties

As in previous work, we pay special attention to possible systematic effects when obtaining the surface mass density map. We have performed the following tests of robustness:

1. Initial Conditions.—Instead of assuming a two-component mass model, we have examined the effects of starting with an “ignorant” model, i.e., assuming zero mass for the system. The final reconstructed peak positions differ little from those shown in Figure 4 and are well within the quoted error bars. We obtained a better fit, however, when using two isothermal spheres as initial conditions; hence, the quoted numbers are from this reconstruction.

2. Multiply imaged system identification and redshifts.—Misidentification of multiply imaged systems can, in principle, significantly change the outcome of a reconstruction. We have examined the effects of removing one system at a time, as well as removing them all. While the absolute calibration of the mass distribution changes, the peak positions are not significantly altered and these changes are added in quadrature to the quoted error bars.

3. Statistical errors on weak-lensing measurements.—The observed ellipticities of galaxies provide a noisy estimate of the local reduced shear \( g = \gamma/(1 - \kappa) \). We bootstrap resample the measured ellipticities to estimate the uncertainties. These are added to the errors discussed above to obtain the final estimate of the uncertainty on the measured positions and masses of the two peaks.

4. Systematic error budget on weak-lensing measurements.—We estimate a \( \sim 6\% \) uncertainty in the overall normalization of the shear measurements. There is an additional \( \sim 15\% \) calibration uncertainty from the assumption on the average redshift for galaxies in the final catalog. These uncertainties only affect the mass measurement (for which the systematic errors mentioned above dominate) and do not add to the positional uncertainty.

5. X-RAY DATA ANALYSIS

Using the Chandra data, we have constructed an exposure-corrected, 0.5-7.0 keV, 4'' pixel\(^{-1}\) count image of the central 4' x 4' region of the cluster. Two point sources in this region were removed, and the CIAO \texttt{dmfilth} tool used to fill in the excised regions by sampling from the distribution of surrounding pixels. The image was then adaptively smoothed using the \texttt{csmooth} tool, applying a sliding Gaussian kernel. The linearly spaced contours derived from this image are shown in yellow in Figure 4. The peak position in the adaptively smoothed X-ray contours is 00h25m29.s, 12.22.36.6. Although the precise position of this peak depends in detail on the smoothing algorithm, we conservatively estimate the accuracy to be better than 5'' (i.e., the X-ray brightness peak is constrained to lie within 5'' of this position). Significant X-ray emission from the cluster is detected out to a radius \( \sim 150'' \) (1 Mpc).

The overall X-ray morphology of MACS J0025.4--1222 exhibits characteristics typical of a large merger event: the cluster shows a modest central surface brightness, high overall ellipticity, and clear shifting of the X-ray centroid as a function of radius. Fitting a King model to the X-ray surface brightness profile, we measure a large core radius of \( \sim 60'' \) (400 kpc), which is also typical for large, merging clusters (e.g., Allen 1998).
We have carried out a spectral analysis of the Chandra data using the XSPEC code (version 11.3.2; Arnaud 1996). Background spectra were extracted from appropriate source-free regions of the ACIS-I chips. The Galactic absorption was fixed at the value of $2.5 \times 10^{20}$ cm$^{-2}$ derived from HI surveys (Kalberla et al. 2005). We use the MEKAL plasma emission code (Kaastra & Mewe 1993; incorporating the Fe L calculations of Liedahl et al. 1995) and the photoelectric absorption models of Balucinska-Church & McCammon (1992). The abundances of the elements were assumed to vary with a common ratio, $Z$, with respect to solar values (Anders & Grevesse 1989). Only data in the 0.6–7.0 keV energy range were used.

Examining a circular region of radius 100$''$ (660 kpc) centered on the X-ray peak, we measure a temperature of $6.26^{+0.50}_{-0.41}$ keV and a metallicity $Z = 0.37 \pm 0.10$ solar. This spectrum contains approximately 4300 net (background-subtracted) counts. Dividing this region into four annuli with approximately equal net counts, we obtain the (projected and deprojected) temperature profiles shown in Figure 5. The deprojected metallicity rises from a value of 0.2 solar in the outer regions to $> 1.0$ within the central 25$''$ ($ \approx 160$ kpc).

6. THE GAS AND STELLAR MASS CONTENT

The gas mass profile has been determined, under the assumption of spherical symmetry, using the deprojection method described by Allen et al. (2008). As discussed by, e.g., Nagai et al. (2007), such an approach should provide an accurate measure of the gas mass, with systematic errors of <10%, even for clusters experiencing major merger events. The deprojected gas mass profile, with statistical and (conservative) systematic error bars, is shown as the lower curve in Figure 6. Within a spherical radius of 500 kpc, we measure a gas mass of $(3.6 \pm 0.4) \times 10^{13}$ $M_\odot$. The projected gas mass within a cylinder along the line of sight is shown in the upper curve; this result is (slightly) sensitive to the outermost extent assumed for the cluster. The surface brightness profile is measurable out to 1.1 Mpc, whereas a virial radius for a cluster of this temperature and redshift is expected to be $\approx 1.5$ Mpc. We therefore consider values from 1.1 to 2 Mpc for the outermost cluster radius. Within the region plotted (for which X-ray temperature data are available), the variation in projected mass due to our choice of outer radius is less than 10% at all radii. The error range displayed in Figure 6 is formed from the sum in quadrature of this uncertainty and a conservative 10% systematic error. At 500 kpc we measure a projected mass $(5.5 \pm 0.6) \times 10^{13}$ $M_\odot$.

We adopt the following procedure to measure the stellar mass distribution from the HST data. We identify cluster members based on color-color diagrams, with the color cuts described in § 4.2, making use of the Keck DEIMOS spectroscopic redshifts when available. These cuts primarily select red cluster members, which should be the dominant contributors to the total luminosity. To calculate the stellar mass, we transform observed $B$-band magnitudes (MAGAUTO; Bertin & Arnouts 1996) to $B$-band rest-frame luminosities, adopting an absolute solar magnitude $M_{B, \odot} = -3.28$, Galactic extinction following Schlegel et al. (1998) and Cardelli et al. (1989) with $A_V = 0.054$, and K-correcting (we assume zero evolutionary correction) using an SED template for an elliptical galaxy from Coleman et al. (1980); extended in the UV and IR regions with the GISSEL spectra; Bruzual A. & Charlot 1993). The resulting K-correction is 2.464.

We note that our template is likely slightly redder than the cluster members (possibly giving a larger stellar mass), although the approximation is adequate for our purposes. The resulting luminosity distribution (smoothed with a Gaussian kernel with FWHM 80 kpc) is shown in Figure 4. To convert luminosities to stellar masses we follow Drory et al. (2004) and assume the stellar mass-to-light ratio in the $K$ band to be $M_*/L_K = 0.74 \pm 0.30$ (see also Bell et al. 2003).

The enclosed, projected total mass within 500 kpc of the X-ray peak and the projected masses in X-ray–emitting gas and stars (in galaxies) are listed in Table 3. The gas mass fraction of $9\%, <1\%$ is consistent with the typical value of $\approx 11\%$ observed at similar radii in other massive, X-ray–luminous clusters (e.g., Allen et al. 2008; note that the value of 11% does not refer to the projected values, but the projection will make little difference given the error bars). The mass-to-light ratio $[M/L_K(<500 \text{ kpc}) = 130^{+40}_{-80}]$ and stellar mass fraction (1.0%/0.4%) within this aperture are also normal (see, e.g., Kneib et al. 2003; Lin & Mohr...
2004). Studying the inner regions of the two subclusters, we measure mass-to-light ratios of $M/L_X(<300\,\text{kpc}) = 70^{+40}_{-50}$ and $100^{+50}_{-60}$ for the SE and NW peaks, respectively, which are also consistent with values found for other clusters (see, e.g., Kneib et al. 2003). Both subclusters have a stellar-to-total mass ratio of 1% within 300 kpc.

7. DISSECTING MACS J0025.4–1222 INTO DARK MATTER AND BARYONS

Figure 4 shows the distributions of galaxies, X-ray–emitting gas, and total mass in MACS J0025.4–1222. The figure clearly demonstrates our main result: an obvious spatial offset is observed between the peak of the X-ray emission and the twin peaks of the total mass distribution. As in the case of object 1E 0657–56, we see a good alignment between the total mass and light distribution. The offsets between the X-ray and total mass components are significant at $>4\sigma$ for both the SE and NW clumps (see Table 2). We calculate the significance by assuming that the errors on the total mass distribution follow Gaussian distribution and those on the peak position a top-hat function. This is conservative, since both strong and weak lensing (separately) give the peak positions within the observed multiple images; hence, the lensing errors are also unlikely to be Gaussian.

Like the offset of the Bullet Cluster, the morphology and properties of MACS J0025.4–1222 are consistent with those of a high-velocity merger event approximately in the plane of the sky. A sound speed for the X-ray high-velocity merger event is approximately in the plane of the sky. Given a sound speed for the X-ray high-velocity merger event approximately in the plane of the sky, accurate in MACS J0025.4–1222, the newly formed cluster potential. Thus, whereas in 1E 0657–56, MACS J0025.4–1222 contains an X-ray–emitting gas of $\sim 1300\,\text{km}\,\text{s}^{-1}$ and a collision velocity of order $2000\,\text{km}\,\text{s}^{-1}$, the merger is likely to have been supersonic; clearly it was violent enough to have separated the baryonic and dark matter cores. The existing, short Chandra exposures are insufficient to identify and measure shock fronts in the cluster; a deeper Chandra observation of MACS J0025.4–1222 is required. Such a Chandra observation would also permit detailed thermodynamic mapping of the cluster (e.g., Million & Allen 2008).

In contrast to object 1E 0657–56, neither of the subclusters in MACS J0025.4–1222 contains an X-ray–bright, relatively cool, dense “bullet” of low-entropy gas. This is not surprising; at low-to-intermediate redshifts only a fraction (tens of percent) of clusters contain such cores (e.g., Peres et al. 1998; Bauer et al. 2005). Once formed, these cores are expected to be relatively robust and, after the merger, eventually settle at the base of the newly formed cluster potential. Thus, whereas in 1–2 Gyr time MACS J0025.4–1222 may still not possess a cool core, object 1E 0657–56 appears likely to evolve into a cool-core cluster.

7.1. Limits on Self-Interaction Cross Section and Dark Matter Alternatives

Following Markevitch et al. (2004) and based on the new data for MACS J0025.4–1222, we can make an order-of-magnitude estimate for the self-interaction cross section of dark matter. In the first case, the observed offset between the gas and total mass component implies that the scattering depth of dark matter particles $\tau = \Sigma\sigma/m$ during the collision cannot be much greater than 1. The surface mass density $\Sigma$ at the position of both peaks averaged over a radius of 150 kpc is $\sim 0.25 \pm 0.10\,\text{g}\,\text{cm}^{-2}$. Assuming that the two subclusters experienced a head-on collision within this radius, we obtain an estimate for the scattering cross section of $\sigma/m < 4\,\text{cm}^{-2}\,\text{g}^{-1}$. The assumption of spherical symmetry (we assume that the surface mass density along the collision direction is similar to that along the line of sight) appears reasonable in MACS J0025.4–1222 with both subclusters showing little ellipticity.

Second, the apparent survival of the dark matter content after the recent merger event, implied by the mass-to-light ratios, confirms that the dark matter needs to be collisionless (Markevitch et al. 2004). Unfortunately, current constraints on the escape velocity and shock velocity are too weak to derive more stringent limits on the cross section. Better X-ray data, improved lensing constraints, and detailed hydrodynamical simulations are required to significantly improve on these constraints.

Just like object 1E 0657–56, MACS J0025.4–1222 severely challenges modified gravities theories such as MOND (e.g., Milgrom 1983) and TeVeS (Bekenstein 2004). Angus et al. (2006) attempt to explain the weak-lensing data for object 1E 0657–56 using a MOND-like model with 2 eV neutrinos. However, such neutrinos alone cannot explain the X-ray properties of groups (Angus et al. 2008), and lie at the limit of the allowed region from current neutrino experiments (Maintz/Troitsk; e.g., Weinheimer 2003). Moreover, such a model cannot easily explain the tight strong-lensing constraints on the mass distributions in the inner regions of object 1E 0657–56 and MACS J0025.4–1222, where multiple images are observed.

8. CONCLUSIONS AND OUTLOOK

We have presented new data for the postmerging galaxy cluster MACS J0025.4–1222. This system exhibits many similar properties to the Bullet Cluster object 1E 0657–56, although it does not contain a low-entropy, high-density hydrodynamical “bullet.” HST and Chandra data have allowed us to derive a high-resolution total mass map, as well as the X-ray gas mass and stellar mass distributions in the cluster. Our main conclusions are as follows:

1. The total mass distribution in MACS J0025.4–1222 shows two distinct peaks. Both are clearly offset from the main baryonic component (the hot gas) as traced by the X-ray emission, at $>4\sigma$ significance (for each of the peaks). There is no significant offset between the peaks of the total mass distribution and the galaxies.

2. We have measured the projected, enclosed mass of the three main mass constituents (dark matter, gas, and stars) within 500 kpc of the X-ray center. The gas-to-total mass ratio ($9\%\pm3\%$) and the mass-to-light ratio ($1.0\%\pm0.4\%$) are typical for a massive cluster.

3. The mass-to-light ratios ($M/L_X(<300\,\text{kpc}) = 70^{+40}_{-50}$ and $100^{+50}_{-60}$ for the SE and NW peak, respectively, and the stellar-to-total mass ratios ($1.0\%\pm0.7\%$ and $0.4\%\pm0.7\%$) in these regions are consistent with values for other massive clusters, arguing that there was no significant loss of dark matter from either subcluster during the collision.

4. The majority of the mass is spatially coincident with the galaxies, which implies, just as for the Bullet Cluster, that the cluster must be dominated by a relatively collisionless form of dark matter. We obtain an estimate for the self-interaction cross section $\sigma/m < 4\,\text{cm}^{-2}\,\text{g}^{-1}$.

MACS J0025.4–1222 is a remarkable cluster with properties that allow us to improve our understanding of the details of cluster formation and evolution, and the nature of dark matter. Our results can be further improved with additional strong-lensing information to better constrain the normalization of the mass model and better X-ray data to improve the determination of the merger speed, and hence improve the limits on the dark matter cross section. Discovering more clusters like MACS J0025.4–1222 and object 1E 0657–56 will also improve the systematic uncertainties on dark matter self-interaction cross section inherent to the study of a small number of these objects.
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