Metallic Winds in Dwarf Galaxies

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Abstract

We present results from models of galactic winds driven by energy injected from nuclear (at the galactic center) and non-nuclear starbursts. The total energy of the starburst is provided by very massive young stellar clusters, which can push the galactic interstellar medium and produce an important outflow. Such outflow can be a well or partially mixed wind, or a highly metallic wind. We have performed adiabatic 3D N-Body/Smooth Particle Hydrodynamics simulations of galactic winds using the GADGET-2 code. The numerical models cover a wide range of parameters, varying the galaxy concentration index, gas fraction of the galactic disk, and radial distance of the starburst. We show that an off-center starburst in dwarf galaxies is the most effective mechanism to produce a significant loss of metals (material from the starburst itself). At the same time, a non-nuclear starburst produces a high efficiency of metal loss, in spite of having a moderate to low mass loss rate.

Key words: galaxies: starburst – galaxies: star clusters: general – ISM: general – stars: winds, outflows

1. Introduction

Dwarf galaxies are a crucial ingredient to understanding the evolution of the large-scale universe, as well as the formation of larger galaxies. The mass of dwarf galaxies range from $10^7$ to $10^{10} M_\odot$ and their luminosities from $10^6$ to $10^{10} L_\odot$ (McConnachie 2012), making them the basic units in the formation and evolution of the more massive galaxies under the $\Lambda$ Cold Dark Matter scenario. However, the details of how and when these type of galaxies are assembled, and whether they have galactic winds, are issues currently under debate (Mateo 1998; Recchi & Hensler 2013; Recchi 2014). Dwarf galaxies are characterized by their poor metallicity and low masses. They are subdivided into dwarf irregulars, which have a significant amount of gas and thus ongoing star formation; dwarf ellipticals, which are gas-poor, with an old stellar population; and dwarf spheroidal, which are diffuse and practically without gas. The dwarf irregulars associated with a burst often develop galactic winds, and this can define the metal evolution in these galaxies (Skillman 1997). These features can be related to the efficiency of such galaxies to lose mass and metals by galactic winds, basically linking the episodes of star formation or interactions with other galaxies. The research of these outflows is essential to fully understand the evolution of dwarf galaxies, their structural properties, and their chemical enrichment (Veilleux et al. 2005).

The galactic winds, according to their metal content, can be divided into two general categories (Matteucci 2012): (a) ordinary winds, in which the metals produced and ejected by stars are well mixed with the gas of the interstellar medium (ISM; and thus the metallicity of the wind and the ISM are the same), and (b) enriched winds, where the metals produced and ejected by the stars are not well mixed with the ISM (i.e., the chemical elements produced in the supernovae explosions are carried out to the intergalactic medium; IGM). In this case, the galactic wind has a metallicity higher than that of the ISM. An enriched wind is considered a differential wind if it has different ejection efficiencies of a chemical element (e.g., the ejection efficiencies for H and He and for heavier elements; Vader 1986; Recchi et al. 2001, 2008). The efficiency of ejection of each element may differ due to several factors, most importantly the origin of such chemical elements, since they are produced in different sources that can occur at different locations and times in the ISM. But there are also other factors that could be affected, such as the medium in which the elements mix. For instance, in the case of starbursts, their intensity and location (with respect to the potential well of the galaxy) become relevant. There is a wealth of observational evidence of galactic outflows and winds in dwarfs galaxies (e.g., Israel 1988; Meurer et al. 1992; Martin 1996; Pettini et al. 2001; Strickland 2007; Westmoquette et al. 2007; Matsubayashi et al. 2009; Contursi et al. 2013). Also, recently the metallicity of outflows in dwarf starburst galaxies has been determined (Martin et al. 2002; Ott et al. 2005). At the same time, several authors have presented theoretical models to explain the properties of the winds and their impact in the galactic evolution, including the chemical analysis of the effect of galactic winds in dwarf galaxies (Yin et al. 2010, 2011), as well as simple chemical models which couple the information of the galactic winds in the development of their codes (De Young & Heckman 1994; Marconi et al. 1994; Lanfranchi & Matteucci 2004, 2007). There have also been hydrodynamic simulations that follow flows in the galaxy in more detail (D’Ercole & Brighteni 1999; Mac Low & Ferrara 1999, hereafter MLF99; Recchi et al. 2001, 2008; Rodríguez-González et al. 2011, hereafter Paper I; Recchi & Hensler 2013, hereafter RH13). Other studies include semi-analytical simulations that aim to explain the effects of galactic winds at the cosmological scale, and study the interaction of these winds and the IGM (Bertone et al. 2007; De Lucia et al. 2014). These type of studies usually adopt galactic winds with little detail of their evolution, focusing on the moment when the material is uncoupled from the galaxy, and generally do not relate the properties of the wind with other properties of the galaxy, or they simply assume that the galactic wind is proportional to the rate of star formation. Other authors analyze the effects of galactic winds in the intracluster medium, making large-scale simulations and using observations of galaxy clusters (such as Höller et al. 2014). In these models, efficiencies of material ejection are averaged given the baryonic mass of the galaxy. An objective of this paper is the study of galactic winds in different host galaxies, varying the properties of the starburst.
that causes the wind (including the location of the outbreak in the disk of the galaxy). The results can provide better estimates for the efficiencies of ejection of gas mass and metals, thus yielding valuable information to improve the input for large-scale simulations.

In the present paper we analyze and compare the efficiencies of ejection of pristine gas and of metal-rich material in cases where the starburst occurs at the center and off-center of the galactic disk, exploring different values of the concentration parameter of dwarf galaxies, and the gas fraction of the galactic disk. Our goal is to understand how the ejection of pristine and enriched gas evolves, and explain the low metallicity observed in these galaxies, as well as the metal content in the IGM. This paper is organized as follows: In Section 2 we describe the ingredients considered in our galactic models. The framework to produce the winds is explained in Section 3. The results are presented in Section 5, and our conclusions are presented in Section 6.

## 2. Numerical Ingredients of the Galaxy

The density profiles of dark matter halos are not well constrained for dwarf galaxies. In order to model their mass distribution we used a Hernquist profile (Hernquist 1990),

$$
\rho_h(r) = \frac{M_{dm}}{2\pi} \frac{a}{r(a+r)^2},
$$

where \( r \) is the radial distance, and \( M_{dm} \) is the dark matter mass. This profile coincides well at the inner parts of the galaxy with the Navarro et al. (1996) fitting formula, but declines faster in the outer parts. The total mass converges in the Hernquist profile, allowing the construction of isolated halos without the need for ad hoc truncation. The \( a \) parameter is related to the scale radius \( r_s \) of the NFW profile by \( a = r_s \sqrt{2/[\ln(1+c)]} - c/(1+c) \), where \( c = r_{200}/r_s \) is a “concentration index,” and \( r_{200} \) is the radius at which the enclosed dark matter mean density is 200 times the critical value, where the critical density is \( \rho_c = 3H^2/8\pi G \) (see Navarro et al. 1996; Springel et al. 2005). We chose different concentration indices, \( c \), in the range of the dwarf galaxies, \( 5 < c < 15 \). The circular velocity of our models is given by

$$
v_c(r_{200}) = 10 H_0 r_{200}.
$$

where \( H_0 \) is the Hubble constant.

As in Paper I, we modeled gas and star disk components \( (M_g \text{ and } M_* , \text{respectively}) \), with an exponential surface density profile (in the radial direction of the galactic disk, \( R \)) with length-scale \( R_0 \),

$$
\Sigma_g(R) = \frac{M_g}{2\pi R_0^2} \exp(-R/R_0),
$$

and

$$
\Sigma_*(R) = \frac{M_*}{2\pi R_0^2} \exp(-R/R_0).
$$

One can obtain the disk mass \( M_d = M_g + M_* = m_dM_{tot} \), where \( m_d \) is a dimensionless parameter (fixed in this work to \( m_d = 0.041 \)), and \( M_{tot} \) is the total mass of the galaxy, including the dark matter halo (i.e., \( M_{tot} = M_d + M_h \), where \( M_h \) is the mass of the halo).

The vertical mass distribution of the stars in the disk is specified by the profile of an isothermal slab with a constant scale height \( H \). The 3D stellar density in the disk is hence given by

$$
\rho_* (R, z) = \frac{M_*}{4\pi H R_0^2} \text{sech}^2 \left( \frac{z}{2H} \right) \exp \left( -\frac{R}{R_0} \right).
$$

When constructing the galactic models, we assumed that the gas distribution is isothermal and the vertical structure of the gas disk is in hydrostatic equilibrium:

$$
\frac{\partial \rho_g}{\partial z} = -\frac{\rho_g}{P} \frac{\partial \Phi_T}{\partial z},
$$

where \( \Phi_T = \Phi_h + \Phi_\theta \) is the total gravitational potential (\( \Phi_h \) and \( \Phi_\theta \) are the halo and disk gravitational potentials, respectively). If one disregards the self-gravity of the gas, the previous equation simplifies and can be integrated to a closed solution. However, a more realistic model requires the inclusion of the gravity from all the components, and the inclusion of thermal and rotational support, which can only be done numerically (for a thorough study, see Vorobyov et al. 2012). In our models we start with a gaseous disk at a temperature of 1000 K, and an initial guess for the density value at the midplane \( (z = 0) \). For a given \( \Phi_T \), the solution of this equation is constrained by the condition

$$
\Sigma_g(R) = \int \rho_g(R, z) dz,
$$

where \( \Sigma_g(R) \) is the surface gas gaseous mass density (see also Equation (3)). One can obtain the vertical distribution by integrating Equation (6) at a given radius, adjusting the local density in an iterative process until the desired surface density (Equation (3)) is recovered. This process is repeated for different radii in order to obtain an axisymmetric gas density distribution. With these initial conditions, the galaxy models are evolved for an additional 10 Myr before the starbursts are imposed.

### 2.1. Numerical Models

We constructed two galaxies, G1 and G2, with a gas mass of \( 1.4 \times 10^8 M_\odot \) and \( 4.7 \times 10^8 M_\odot \), respectively (these correspond to models G4 and G7 in Paper I; see Table 1). We use the Smooth Particles Hydrodynamics code GADGET-2 to run a set of adiabatic numerical simulations for dwarf galaxies, with the purpose of studying the effects of the concentration index \( c \) and gas mass fraction \( (f_g) \), and the location of the starburst, nuclear and non-nuclear. Nuclear starbursts are imposed at the galactic center, while non-nuclear starbursts are placed at a
galactocentric distance $R$ along the $x$-axis, but remaining at the midplane of the galaxy ($z = 0$). We consider three mechanical luminosities ($L_m$) for the starburst for each of galaxy. $L_m = 3$, 15, and $75 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$ for a host galaxy as G1, $L_m = 10$, 50, and $250 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$ for a host galaxy as G2. That is, the mass of the starbursts are $1.0 \times 10^5$, $5.0 \times 10^5$, and $2.5 \times 10^6 M_\odot$ for a galaxy G1, and $3.3 \times 10^5$, $1.6 \times 10^5$, and $8.3 \times 10^5 M_\odot$ for a galaxy G2, following a Salpeter initial mass function (Salpeter 1955). In all these cases, the feedback radius (size of the starburst) is 50 pc. The energy input by the starburst is imposed instantaneously, in a single time-step of the simulation, due to the fact that such a time-step is of the same order, $1 \times 10^{-5}$ Gyr. The total energy injected was calculated integrating the $L_m$ over the cluster lifetime 40 Myr (as described in Paper I) In Paper I both cases, adiabatic and radiative cases were considered, and the results showed that (for such energetic starbursts) it was easier to lose enriched wind material than pristine ISM, regardless of the inclusion of radiative loses. Thus, in order to keep the free parameters to a minimum in the present paper, we only consider the adiabatic case. In the table we show the different concentration indices modeled for both galaxies; with a greater $c$ the galaxy is more compact, and with a smaller $c$ the galaxy is more disperse, as shown in Figure 1, where we plotted the density projection of the initial condition with a different concentration index for the same gas fraction ($f_g = 0.35$). This effect of galactic mass distribution is also reflected in the value of the scale radius of the galaxy ($R_0$) for a given $c$, with a decreasing $R_0$ as $c$ increases (Table 1). We also generated simulations in which $c$ is fixed (taking $c = 9$), and the variable parameter is the gas fraction. The variable $f_g$ represents the relative content of gas in the disk; the rest of the mass is in stars. The variation of fraction of gas is not reflected in the $R_0$ as in the case of $c$, because the gas content changes but the density remains equal. Finally, to analyze the impact of the starburst at different distances from the center of the galaxy (taking $c = 9$ and $f_g = 0.35$), we tested a set of simulations with the starburst located a galactocentric distance of $R = R_0$. All the numerical simulations in this work were built with three types of particles: $10^5$ for the disk, $10^5$ for the halo, and $5 \times 10^5$ gas particles.

This is a factor of $\sim 5$ higher resolution than in Paper I. In addition, for this study, we performed tests with an order of magnitude less and more particles (for the three types), finding that although more detail is seen in the high resolution runs, the efficiencies obtained do not vary considerably compared with the nominal resolution ones.

### 3. Metal-rich Galactic Winds

The most used outflow rate is the well mixed galactic winds. It represents the case where the mixing between the winds and the ISM is efficient. This result is a uniform metallicity in the galactic wind and the host galaxy (Matteucci 2012, and references therein). The amount of gas and chemical species as a function of the lifetime of an isolated galaxy, considering instantaneous recycling approximation (Matteucci 2012), are given by

$$\frac{d M_{\text{gas}}(t)}{dt} = -(1 - R) \psi(t) + f(t) - w(t), \quad (8)$$

and

$$\frac{d [Z_i(t)M_{\text{gas}}(t) \psi(t)Z(t)]}{dt} = -(1 - R) f(t)Z_i(t)$$

$$+ (1 - R_m) \psi(t)Z_{i,ms}$$

$$+ (1 - R_{lims}) \psi(t)Z_{i,lims}$$

$$+ Z_i f(t) - Z_i w(t), \quad (9)$$

where $M_{\text{gas}}$ is the gas mass, $w(t)$ the mass outflow from the galactic potential, $\psi(t)$ is the star formation rate, $Z_i(t)$ is the time dependent ISM metallicity for the $i$th source, $y_{i,ms}$ is the corresponding stellar yield from massive stars (which is the corresponding stellar yield from massive stars), and $y_{i,lims}$ is the mass fraction returned to the ISM is $R_{ms} = \int_{M_{ms}}^{M_*} \phi(m) dm / (1 - R_{ms})$, and $R_{lims} = \int_{M_{lims}}^{M_*} \phi(m) dm / (1 - R_{lims})$. The mass fraction of low and intermediate mass stars

$$\int_{M_{ms}}^{M_*} \phi(m) dm / (1 - R_{ms}),$$

while

$$\int_{M_{lims}}^{M_*} (m - R_{lims}) \phi(m) dm = R \int_{M_{ms}}^{M_*} (m - R_{ms}) \phi(m) dm.$$
and $M_{\text{up}}$ are the lower and upper limits of the initial mass function, $\phi(m)$. We used $M_{\text{low}} = 1 M_\odot$ and $M_{\text{up}} = 100 M_\odot$ for the mechanical energy calculations.

The term $Z_i^w(t)w(t)$ of Equation (9) assumes that the ISM of the host galaxy is well mixed, at least locally (in the starburst region). In the starburst region, the superwind contains the metals produced and ejected by the stars via supernova (SN) explosions, and stellar winds (in main and post-main sequences).

There are several mechanisms that came into play to produce or inhibit the production of a well mixed wind. For instance, the process of mixing the metals (formed in the star formation event) with the ISM of the galaxy requires a very long diffusion time. Such diffusion time is around $10^7$ and $10^{14}$ years for the ionized and molecular regions, respectively (see Tenorio-Tagle 1996, and references therein). Tenorio-Tagle (1996) presented a model based on the galactic fountains that are able to push hot gas injected by the massive stars from the galactic disk out to the galactic halo. In his model the galactic fountain is made up of metal-rich clumps that travel through the halo of the galaxy and fall back to different regions of the galactic disk. As a result the metals are well distributed in the galaxy, mixing with the local ISM and enhancing the process of contamination. However, as pointed out by Recchi et al. (2001), it is necessary to consider that in these models the cooling of the rich clumps could be very important to establish the time in which the metals diffuse, given that it affects its fall back the galactic disk. In other words, the process of mixing is dependent on the cooling by metals, and hence the heating efficiency adopted for SNs also should be taken into account. Additionally, tidal stripping can produce outflows that are inherently well mixed. At the same time, a star formation event with only a few massive stars can increase the metallicity locally, without being able to affect the ISM in the entire host galaxy.

MLF99 and several more recent papers (e.g., Paper I) study the efficiency at which metal-rich material is lost by dwarf galaxies with an important star formation event. The general conclusion is that the efficiency of ejection of the metal-rich material from the starburst (metal injection efficiency, in short, $\xi$) is not tied to the total mass ejection efficiency ($\xi_m$). As a result, many models produce a partially mixed galactic wind, in which both the metals produced in the wind and the pristine ISM material contribute to the galactic outflow.

Using the same definitions as in Paper I, the mass ejection efficiency is given by

$$\xi_m = \frac{M_{\text{ej}}}{M_{\text{gas}}}.$$  \hfill (10)

where $M_{\text{ej}}$ is the gas mass of the galaxy ejected (unbound) and $M_{\text{gas}}$ is the total gas mass.

The metal ejection efficiency is

$$\xi_e = \frac{M_{e,\text{ej}}}{M_e},$$  \hfill (11)

where $M_e$ is the total mass injected via stellar winds and supernova remnants inside the radius of feedback, $R_\text{f}$, and $M_{e,\text{ej}}$ is the mass ejected (unbound) that originated in the starburst. In the present paper, to obtain $M_{\text{ej}}$ from the simulations, we consider their position and velocity. If their velocity is greater than the escape velocity at their location, and if they lie outside a cylindrical region of radius 20 and 40 kpc in height, at the center of the galaxy, they are considered as mass that is effectively lost from the galaxy (see also D’Ercole & Brighenti 1999).

Assuming a thermal wind driven by an instantaneous starburst event, the galactic wind is a function of the mass and metal ejection efficiencies at the time that the starburst occurs. We propose to use the average mass lost rate as a function of mass and metal efficiency.

$$w(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t \text{ is not within } \Delta t_{\text{fl}}: \\ \xi_{\text{m}} \frac{M_{\text{gas}}}{\Delta t_{\text{fl}}} + \xi_e \frac{M_e}{\Delta t_{\text{fl}}} & \text{if } t \text{ is within } \Delta t_{\text{fl}}: \end{cases}$$  \hfill (12)

where $\Delta t_{\text{fl}}$ is the lifetime of the massive stars, which is around $10^7$ year.

This way, one can modify the chemical evolution expression in Equation (9) to include the metal ejection efficiency in favor of the mass outflow function $w(t)$. For instance, we can replace the $Z_i^w(t)$ term in Equation (9) for $(1 - R_{\text{m}})\xi_e \psi(t)\gamma_{\text{i,ms}}$ if $t$ is within $\Delta t$.

### 4. Previous Works

MLF99 studied the effect of a starburst placed at the center of dwarf galaxies with gas masses between $10^6$ and $10^9 M_\odot$. They found that the galaxies with masses of $10^8 M_\odot$ have a high efficiency of gas ejection, which is mostly independent from the energy of the starburst (mechanical luminosity, $L_m$). If the galaxy mass is $\leq 10^8 M_\odot$, the efficiency of gas ejection is relatively low and still dependent on $L_m$, while for $10^9 M_\odot$ the efficiency is almost null. In the case of the metal ejection efficiency (the efficiency to lose the metal-rich material in the starburst) for galaxies with $\leq 10^8 M_\odot$ is close to unity and does not depend on $L_m$, whereas for $10^9 M_\odot$ depends significantly on $L_m$. That is, the metals produced in the starburst escape more easily from the galaxy than the pristine gas (H and He; see Tables 2 and 3 of MLF99).

STT01 consider the same range of gas mass of the galaxies as MLF99. They studied the expulsion of gas and its relation to the degree of flatness/roundness of the galaxy, and whether the ejection is in the same direction as its axis of rotation. They also take into account the pressure of the IGM and the existence of gaseous halos. They conclude that the superbubbles in flat galaxies with rotation tend to break out from the disk and expel their metal content with only a small amount of pristine ISM gas (the cases of MLF99 fall into these type of
galaxies, with low pressure of the IGM. To eject the contents of super-bubbles in spherical galaxies, a starburst three times more energetic is required in comparison with a flat galaxy (see Figure 3 of STT01).

Fragile et al. (2004; hereafter F04) modeled several disk galaxies with masses of $10^9 M_\odot$ and one of $10^8 M_\odot$, with discrete events of supernovae (SNe) distributed over a fraction of the galactic disk (and one off-centered model). Comparing their models 1 and 2 (with the same parameters, but in model 1 the SN explosions are all placed at the galactic center, while in model 2, all are placed at the same point off-center). They found that the metal efficiency ejection is higher when the SNe are concentrated in the center (see Section 5 for a comparison with our results).

**Table 3**

| $L_m \times 10^{59}$ erg s$^{-1}$ | $L_m \times 10^{59}$ erg s$^{-1}$ |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| $f_g G_1$ ($f_g = 0.35$) | $G_2$ ($f_g = 0.35$) |
| 3 | 15 | 75 | 10 | 50 | 250 |
| 5 | 0.82 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.49 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| 9 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | <0.01 | 0.98 | 1.0 |
| 15 | 0.0 | 0.30 | 0.93 | <0.01 | 0.42 | 0.98 |

| $f_g$ | $G_1$ ($c = 9$) | $G_2$ ($c = 9$) |
|-------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 0.1   | 0.99 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.99 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| 0.35  | 0.0 | 1.0 | 1.0 | <0.01 | 0.98 | 1.0 |
| 0.5   | 0.0 | 0.06 | 1.0 | <0.01 | 0.83 | 1.0 |

**Figure 2.** Density cut of the G1 galaxy, $xz$-plane ($y = 0$), at $t = 0.1$ Gyr (the slice has a thickness of 0.2 kpc). The star formation event is nuclear (at $R = 0$). The arrows depict the velocity field of particles unbound from the potential well of the galaxy, the white arrows represent the pristine gas mass, and the green arrows represent the metals. For visual purposes we plotted only 20% of the arrows. In this figure we show simulations with the same gas fraction, $f_g = 0.35$, with different concentration indexes (top row: $c = 5$, middle row: $c = 9$, bottom row: $c = 15$) and mechanical luminosities (left column: $L_m = 3$, middle column: $L_m = 15$, and right column: $L_m = 75$; units: $\times 10^{59}$ erg s$^{-1}$).
In Paper I, a wide range of galactic masses was explored ($M_g = 6 \times 10^6-10^{11} M_\odot$), along with central starburst masses ($M_{SB} = 10^2-10^7 M_\odot$). The results are in agreement with those of previous studies; metal efficiency ejection and gas decrease as the mass of the galaxy increases. It is also shown that the values of efficiencies are higher for more massive bursts ($L_m$). Due to the larger mass range of galaxies and starbursts, a model that makes the transition between regimes of low and high efficiencies of ejection was included: $M_{SB} = 3 \times 10^4 M_\odot$ and $M_g = 3 \times 10^7 M_\odot$ (for more details, see Figures 2 to 5 of Paper I). In Paper I the variation in the location of the starburst for different models was considered, finding that the relation of the ejection efficiency with distance from the radius of the starburst is not monotonic. For the most massive galaxies the fraction of unbound pristine gas was less than 25%, while less massive galaxies lose virtually all their gas content. For the enriched material, a large escape fraction is seen in the less massive galaxies, in contrast with the less energetic starbursts, in which most of the metal content is retained. The results are qualitatively consistent with those obtained by MLF99.

RH13 made a similar study to STT01 for galaxies with masses between $10^7$ and $10^9 M_\odot$, analyzing the ejection efficiencies varying the mass distribution of the host galaxy. Similar to STT01, they concluded that the ejection of enriched gas on a flat galaxy is higher than on a spherical galaxy, while the fate of the pristine gas is relatively independent of the geometry of the galaxy. They also confirm that metal and gas efficiencies ejection are strongly dependent on the galactic mass. Thus, smaller galaxies develop larger flows and the fraction of metals and gas ejected tend to be larger (see Table 2 of RH13). In addition, they found that the fate of pristine gas

Figure 3. Same as in Figure 2, but for a non-nuclear a star formation event (at $R = R_h$).
and of newly produced metals are strongly dependent on the mass of the galaxy.

5. Results and Discussion

We computed the fraction of total mass and metal-rich material (produced in the starburst) that is effectively lost in all the models. After the starburst occurs, the mass and metal ejection efficiencies increase, and after a few tenths of Gyr, they saturate.

In what follows we discuss the effects of the concentration index, the disk gas fraction, and the location of the starburst. The efficiencies were calculated in all cases after an integration time of $t = 1$ Gyr (i.e., 990 Myr after the injection of the starburst).

5.1. The Concentration Index Effects

Figure 2 shows the effect of the concentration index in the G1 galaxy after an integration time of $t = 0.1$ Gyr (the starburst occurs at $t = 0.01$ Gyr, at the center of the galaxy). In this figure, it can be noted that more ISM mass (white arrows) and also more metals (green arrows) escape in the models, where the concentration of the galaxy is smaller (upper panels). This is due to the fact that the galaxy is less dense for a smaller $c$, and thus it is easier for the energy produced by

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**Figure 4.** Density cut of the G1 galaxy, $xz$-plane ($y = 0$), at $t = 0.1$ Gyr (the slice has a thickness of 0.2 kpc). The star formation event is nuclear (at $R = 0$). The arrows depict the velocity field of particles unbound from the potential well of the galaxy, the white arrows represent the pristine gas mass, and the green arrows represent the metals; for visual purposes we plotted only 20% of the arrows. In this figure, we show the simulations with different gas fractions (top row: $f_g = 0.1$, middle row: $f_g = 0.35$, bottom row: $f_g = 0.5$) and with the same concentration index ($c = 9$), vs. mechanical luminosity (left column: $L_m = 3$, middle column: $L_m = 15$, and right column: $L_m = 75$; units: $\times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$).
Figure 5. Same as Figure 4, but for a non-nuclear star formation event (at $R = R_0$).

Table 4

| $L_m$ ($\times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$) | 3  | 15 | 75 | 10 | 50 | 250 |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| $c$                                 | G1 ($f_g = 0.35$) | G2 ($f_g = 0.35$) |
| 5                                   | 0.07 | 0.33 | 0.85 | 0.02 | 0.13 | 0.36 |
| 15                                  | 0.01 | 0.14 | 0.47 | 0.00 | 0.04 | 0.18 |

| $f_g$ | G1 ($c = 9$) | G2 ($c = 9$) |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| 0.1   | 0.12 | 0.36 | 0.74 | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.35 |
| 0.35  | 0.03 | 0.28 | 0.61 | 0.00 | 0.06 | 0.27 |
| 0.5   | 0.01 | 0.16 | 0.57 | 0.00 | 0.05 | 0.24 |

Table 5

| $L_m$ ($\times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$) | 3  | 15 | 75 | 10 | 50 | 250 |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| $c$                                 | G1 ($f_g = 0.35$) | G2 ($f_g = 0.35$) |
| 5                                   | 0.89 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 1.00 |
| 9                                   | 0.38 | 0.90 | 1.00 | 0.10 | 0.88 | 0.97 |
| 15                                  | 0.00 | 0.56 | 0.93 | 0.00 | 0.54 | 0.94 |

| $f_g$ | G1 ($c = 9$) | G2 ($c = 9$) |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| 0.1   | 0.99 | 0.97 | 1.00 | 0.90 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| 0.35  | 0.38 | 0.90 | 1.00 | 0.10 | 0.88 | 0.97 |
| 0.5   | 0.12 | 0.89 | 1.00 | 0.00 | 0.87 | 0.97 |
supernova explosions to break out the bubbles, emptying their content (metal-rich) into the IGM, carrying in some cases a significant fraction of pristine ISM.

The least efficient model in mass and metals loss is that with a larger \( c \) and a smaller \( L_m \) (bottom left panel), and the most efficient has a smaller \( c \) and a larger \( L_m \) (upper right panel). This can be confirmed in the top panels of Tables 2 and 3, where we list the mass and metals ejection efficiencies for all the models where the starburst occur at the center of the galaxy.

In Table 2 (top) we show the values of the mass ejection efficiency as a function of \( c \) and \( L_m \) for both galaxies, with a nuclear starburst. As described for G1 in Figure 2, it is noted that with a lower \( c \) and a greater \( L_m \), higher efficiencies are achieved. The G2 galaxy has a mass ejection efficiency low with respect to G1. The reason is that despite the fact that G2 has more energetic starbursts, it is also more massive and does not allow the super-bubbles to break as easily as in G1. Similarly, in Table 3 (top box) we present the values of metal ejection efficiencies, where we can see the same trend that the models with smaller \( c \) and larger \( L_m \) are very efficient to launch the metals out of the galaxy.

In Figure 3 we show the G1 galaxy with the same parameters of Figure 2, only in this case the starburst is non-nuclear off the galactic center, and the values of the mass ejection efficiency and metal ejection efficiency are in the Tables 2–5 (top boxes), respectively. If we compare the efficiencies of loss of mass and of metals between nuclear and non-nuclear starbursts, we can see that there is not much difference; although in general it is easier to lose mass gas in the models with non-nuclear starburst, the metal loosing efficiencies are rather similar.

### 5.2. The Effect of the Disk Gas Fraction

Figure 4 illustrates the effect of the disk gas fraction in the G1 galaxy, at \( t = 0.1 \) Gyr, also for a nuclear starburst. The loss of gas mass and of enriched gas decrease from upper panels to the lower panels. That is, for models with larger \( f_g \) it is more difficult for the bubble to break out of the disk because there is a larger amount of gas in the disk to be cleared. Similar to models with variable \( c \), a higher \( L_m \) makes it easier to break out of the disk, and therefore as the mechanical luminosity increases, the amount lost of gas mass and metals does as well. Thus, the least efficient model in loss of mass and metals have a larger fraction of gas combined with a lower \( L_m \) (bottom left panel), and the most efficient have a smaller \( f_g \) and large \( L_m \) (upper right panel).

In Table 2 (bottom panel) we show the values of the mass ejection efficiency as a function of \( f_g \) and \( L_m \) for both galaxies, with the nuclear starburst. Not surprisingly the G2 galaxy results in efficiencies lower that the those of G1, since it is more massive than G1, having a larger amount of gas mass to push out of the galaxy by the supernova explosions. We show in Table 3 (bottom box) the metal ejection efficiencies for both galaxies, and can see again that the models with smaller \( f_g \) and larger \( L_m \) are more efficient to clear the metals from the galaxy.

Figure 5 shows the G1 galaxy with the same parameters of Figure 4, but with non-nuclear starburst, and the values of the mass ejection efficiency and metal ejection efficiency are in the Tables 4 and 5 (bottom boxes), respectively.

### 5.3. The Non-nuclear Starburst Effect

In Figure 6 we show the gas mass ejection efficiency for the G1 and G2 galaxies, with \( c = 9 \) and \( f_g = 0.35 \), for different values of \( R \) (namely, varying the position of the starburst only on the x-axis).

The general behavior of \( \xi_g \) for both galaxies is similar, but the values differ since G1 has larger efficiencies than G2. As mentioned previously, this is because G1 is less massive than G2, and thus G1 has a weaker gravitational potential overcome; therefore the wind is produced considerably easier in G1. In the central part of the galaxy the ejection is less effective, since the potential in this zone is stronger. Out of the central zone the potential is weakened, and it is easier for the material to escape; therefore a peak in the behavior of the efficiencies can be observed. At larger radii, however, in spite of being easier to launch galactic material out of the potential well, there is less mass in the outskirts of the galaxy to do so.

With the same conditions of Figure 6, we show in Figure 7 the metal ejection efficiency for nuclear and non-nuclear starbursts. It is observed that the loss of metals is 100% for both
galaxies, with models for all starbursts placed beyond one scale-length. This is due mostly to the fact that at large $R$ there is not enough mass to slow down the metal-rich injection form the starburst.

5.4. Comparison with Previous Works

In Table 6 we have compiled various values of gas mass ejection efficiency and metal ejection efficiency reported in previous works. To facilitate the comparison, we chose for Table 6 models with comparable parameters to the simulations presented here, and we add a selection of the models in this work to the table.

Given the $L_m$ of the starburst and the flat distribution of the gas mass of the galaxy (related to the parameter $c$), two models of MLF99 can be compared to our models of G1 and G2, with nuclear starburst ($c = 9$) and the lowest $L_m$, $\xi_m$ (Table 6). In the case of $\xi_m$ the results of MLF99 and our results are in agreement; both studies conclude that such galaxies cannot lose a significant amount of mass. For $\xi$, we found the opposite of what is presented by MLF99; in their models the metal loss is 100%, while in our models the metal loss is less than 1%.

We have six simulations in common with Paper I. The first three models of Paper I are equivalent to our models for G1, with $c = 9$ in Tables 2 and 3 for $\xi_m$ and $\xi$, respectively. And the following three models of Paper I correspond to our models for G2, with $c = 9$ in Tables 2 and 3 for $\xi_m$ and $\xi$, respectively. The simulations with small $L_m$ for both galaxies differ considerably in both efficiencies, $\xi_m$ and $\xi$. The values in Paper I are high compared with those obtained in the present analysis. For larger $L_m$, the mass loss of Paper I is greater than the mass loss found in the present work (30%–80% higher), but the loss of metals is very similar, close to 100%.

RH13 presented models with different galactic mass distributions, which we have named here as very flat (denoted as $v$ in the $c$ parameter column), flat ($f$), and spherical ($s$). G2 with the smaller $L_m$ and different values of $c$, where $c = 15$ is comparable to the very flat model, $c = 9$ is comparable to the flat ones, and $c = 5$ is comparable to the spherical one. The values for both $\xi_m$ and $\xi$ in RH13 are considerably different from ours; the most important difference between their models and ours is that they consider a continuous star formation and a larger region for the starburst.

In a similar study, Fragile et al. (2004) presented a series of models that inject the energy from SN explosions and estimate the efficiency mass and metals (metal-rich material imposed with the SN) loss. Their simulations have some important differences: for instance, their models include a continuous SN rate, and the explosions are distributed both in time, within the galactic disk, and their models do not include self-gravity. At the same time, their galactic disks with concentrated bursts are an order of magnitude more massive than ours. Their models $m1$, $m2$, and $m5$ can be more or less compared with ours. Although different in mass and energy input, both models are concentrated starbursts (all SNe are imposed at the same galactic location, but still over a period of 50 Myr), but $m2$ is off-centered. They found a higher efficiency in the nuclear burst ($m1$; see Table 6) and very similar mass and metal ejection efficiencies when their $m5$ (more energetic nuclear burst) is compared with our model, with nuclear starburst with mechanical energy $L_m = 3 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$, $f_g = 0.35$, and $c = 9$. In their off-centered model $m2$ the mass and metal efficiencies are comparable with our results, but they find a trend of lower metal loss efficiencies with increasing the galactocentric position of the starburst. To test this, we have run a set of simulations of G1 with $L_m = 3 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$, $f_g = 0.35$, and $c = 9$, placing the starburst at $R = 0, 0.5, 1, 1.5$, and $2R_0$. We obtained mass ejection efficiencies of 0.01, 0.02, 0.03, and 0.04, and metal ejection efficiencies of 0.0, 0.25, 0.38, 0.24, and 0.24, respectively. We attribute the difference

### Table 6

| Author | $M_{SB}$ ($10^3 M_\odot$) | $E_{SB}$ ($10^{51}$ erg) | $R_c$ (pc) | $M_g$ ($10^3 M_\odot$) | $f_g$ | $c$ | $\xi_m$ | $\xi_s$ |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------|---------|-----------------|------|----|--------|--------|
| MLF99  | 0.1             | $3.78 \times 10^4$ | 100     | 1               | ...  | f  | 0.000  | 1.0    |
|        | 1.0             | $3.78 \times 10^5$ | 100     | 1               | ...  | f  | 0.001  | 1.0    |
| F04b   | ...             | 1.5 $\times 10^3$ | ...     | ...             | 10   | ... | 0.023  | 0.91   |
|        | ...             | 1.5 $\times 10^4$ | ...     | ...             | 10   | ... | 0.032  | 0.47   |
| Paper I| 0.55            | 2.08 $\times 10^4$ | 100     | 1.4             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.500  | 0.800  |
|        | 5.55            | 2.08 $\times 10^5$ | 100     | 1.4             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.950  | 0.980  |
|        | 27.5            | 1.04 $\times 10^6$ | 100     | 4.7             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.990  | 1.0    |
|        | 27.5            | 1.04 $\times 10^5$ | 100     | 4.7             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.300  | 0.800  |
|        | 55.0            | 2.08 $\times 10^6$ | 100     | 4.7             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.920  | 1.0    |
| RH13   | ...             | 1.5 $\times 10^4$ | 200     | 1               | 0.6  | v  | 0.606  | 0.826  |
|        | ...             | 200              | 200     | 1               | 0.6  | f  | 0.598  | 0.872  |
|        | ...             | 200              | 200     | 1               | 0.6  | s  | 0.558  | 0.599  |
| This work | 0.55           | 2.08 $\times 10^4$ | 50      | 1.4             | 0.35 | 9  | <0.01  | 0.00   |
|        | 5.55            | 2.08 $\times 10^5$ | 50      | 1.4             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.23   | 1.00   |
|        | 27.5            | 1.04 $\times 10^6$ | 50      | 4.7             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.72   | 1.00   |
|        | 27.5            | 1.04 $\times 10^5$ | 50      | 4.7             | 0.35 | 9  | <0.01  | <0.01  |
|        | 55.0            | 2.08 $\times 10^6$ | 50      | 4.7             | 0.35 | 9  | 0.06   | 0.98   |

Notes.

$^a f = \text{flattened disk}, v = \text{very flattened disk}, s = \text{spherical}$.

$^b$ Same as the model given previously, with a starburst placed centered (halfway in the galactic disk).
(high metal ejection for non-nuclear starburst in comparison with the nuclear burst) to the flaring of their disks. The supershell formed by the SNe has to overcome a larger pressure at larger galactocentric radii. In our models the disks flared much less, and while the pressure is similar, the galactic potential is shallower at larger radii, thus facilitating the escape of material.

6. Conclusions

We have developed an extensive set of numerical simulations of dwarf galaxies with galactic winds. The galactic winds are produced by supernova explosions for a given starburst. The studied galaxies have masses of $1.4 \times 10^8 M_\odot$ and $4.7 \times 10^8 M_\odot$ for G1 and G2, respectively. For each galaxy three different energies were considered and injected into the starburst. Also, the position of the starburst on the disk was varied, in addition to the concentration parameter of the galaxy and its gas mass fraction of the disk.

From simulations, we analyzed the mass and metals ejection efficiency, and we found that:

For different concentration parameters, the metal ejection efficiency (loss of the mass from the starburst itself) is very dependent on the parameter $c$ adopted. However, it is very similar, irrespective of the difference in mechanical luminosities.

At the same time the mechanical luminosity does have an appreciable effect on the efficiency of mass (pristine ISM) loss, with high mechanical luminosities yielding higher losses.

When the gas mass fraction of the disk varies in the simulations, in general, the dependence of both efficiencies on the luminosity is very similar to the simulations where $c$ varies.

From our models we can say that the intense non-nuclear (off-centered) starbursts ($L \geq 15 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$ for G1 and $L \geq 50 \times 10^{39}$ erg s$^{-1}$ for G2) produce a metallic wind. This can be seen as the value of $\xi_\ast$ increases to almost one for $R > 0.5 R_0$, while the value of $\xi_m$ tends to decrease, as there is very little mass in the galaxy outskirts to be lost. For the less energetic starbursts, the efficiencies depend on the galaxy model (e.g., gas fraction or concentration index).

We found that most winds produced by starbursts in dwarf galaxies have a high metal content (provided by the stars that form the wind), and that these starbursts cannot produce well mixed winds, because the metals launched by the massive stars are unable to mix back into the galaxy efficiently.

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