

Groups of galaxies

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A large fraction of all galaxies in the universe are found in groups. They are the basic building blocks of the non-clustered part of the large scale structure, bridging intermediate scales between isolated galaxies and rich clusters. The study of galaxy groups is also important for investigating the relevant processes affecting galaxy formation and, particularly, evolution. Despite the importance and numbers of groups they are still much less studied than clusters of galaxies, as identification of structures with small numbers of galaxies is a difficult task. The recent availability of large databases (both photometric only and with redshift) is the key to exploiting the potentials of groups as cosmological tool. I will review some of the recent progress on this topic.

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