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Constraints on Galaxy Formation from Edge-On Disks

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Abstract Using a sample of edge-on disks we have identified a sharp transition in the properties of disks at a rotation speed of 120 km/s. We explain the origin of this transition, and its implications for the morphology of the cold ISM, the stability of the disks, the three-dimensional structure of dwarfs, and the metallicity of disks as a function of mass.