# High-z galaxies

Pierluigi Monaco, Galaxy Formation PhD course 2019





Observing the deep sky

### Atmospheric absorption





#### Angular resolution:

- diffraction limit
- seeing (atmospheric turbulence)
- ability to deflect photons

#### Spectral resolution:

- slitless spectroscopy,
- slits,
- Multi-Objects Spectroscopy (MOS),
- Integral Field Units (IFU)

#### Image depth (given the exposure time!):

- telescope size
- detector sensitivity
- backgrounds
- angular resolution / confusion limit

#### Survey vs pointings!





# Integral field units





From stellar spectra to galaxy SEDs

# Needed ingredients:



Wε

# SED of a Simple Stellar Population (SSP)

An SSP is a population of stars that share the same age and metallicity.

A star cluster may be a good example of SSP - with the exception of the early evolution phases, where the little age differences between stars can be important.

Parameters are:

- (luminosities scale with) mass,
- stellar age,
- stellar metallicity,
- stellar IMF,

plus:

- spectral libraries,
- stellar tracks.



*Bruzual 2000, arXiv:astro-ph/0011094*

# SED of a Simple Stellar Population (SSP)

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$$
L_{\nu}^{(\text{SSP},1\,\text{M}_{\odot})}(t_0 - t, Z_{\text{gas}}(t)) = \text{const} \times \int_{m_l}^{m_u} dm \left( \phi(m) \right) L_{\nu}^{\text{star}}(m, t_0 - t, Z)
$$

Adding dust

## Historical evidence for dust: Trumpler, 1930

The apparent size of an open cluster decreases like the inverse of the diameter distance.

The total flux of an open cluster decreases like the inverse square of the luminosity distance.

If open clusters have on average the same size and luminosity, one can get their luminosity ("photometric" in the plot) and diameter distances from observed flux and angular size.

As we are inside the galaxy, luminosity and diameter distances are the same.

Extinction of more distant objects is revealed by a flattening of the relation of luminosity vs diameter distance.

Because it is a continuum absorption, it must be due to dust.

![](_page_12_Figure_7.jpeg)

FIG. 1.—Comparison of the distances of 100 open star clusters determined from apparent magnitudes and spectral types (abscissae) with those determined from angular diameters (ordinates). The large dots refer to clusters with well-determined photometric distances, the small dots to clusters with less certain data (half weight). The asterisks and crosses represent group means. If no general space absorption were present, the clusters should fall along the dotted straight line; the dotted curve gives the relation between the two distance measures for a general absorption of  $0.7$  per 1000 parsecs.

Size distribution: from a few Å (PAH molecules) to ~1-10  $\mu$ m, with max at  $\sim$ 0.5  $\mu$ m (~the wavelength of visible light).

Composition: C, Si, O, Mg, Fe. two main groups carbonaceous (graphite and/or amorphous C) and silicate (Mg+Fe+Si+0, eg olivine) grains.

Typically from 0.5 to 1% of ISM mass is in dust at z=0, about 1/2 of heavy elements are *depleted* to dust.

Dust particles interact with photons emitted by astrophysical objects, mostly at optical/UV wavelengths:

- absorption,
- scattering,
- polarization.

Absorbed energy is then thermally re-radiated at  $\lambda$ ~ 10-100  $\mu$  m

### The effect of dust

reddening:

$$
E(B - V) := (B - V)_{\text{obs}} - (B - V)_{\text{true}}
$$

extinction in the V band:

![](_page_14_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_0.jpeg)

Optical: dust absorbs background Hα light from hydrogen recombination

#### MIR: dust thermal emission + PAH

![](_page_16_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

*Silva et al. 1998, ApJ 509, 103* 

# Full SED of a simulated galaxy

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

Figure 6: Simulated galaxy (Murante et al., 2015)

# Radiative transfer vs simple recipes on a set of model galaxies

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

*Fontanot et al. 2009, MNRAS 392, 553*

From galaxy SEDs to physical quantities

# Star Formation Rate indicators

SFR is mainly calibrated on local molecular clouds by counting the number of "Young Stellar Objects", that is massive newly born (pre-main sequence) stars. If *<M>* is the total mass of new stars for each YSO and *τ* the YSO lifetime:

$$
SFR = N_{\text{YSO}} \frac{\langle M \rangle}{\tau}
$$

Then light at a SFR-sensitive wavelength is correlated with this SFR.

The main SFR indicators are:

- UV (1500 A) luminosity,
- 24 μm luminosity,
- total IR luminosity, from 8 to 1000 μm,
- Ha line luminosity, emerging from HII regions,
- Paschen-α line luminosity, if observable,
- other nebular lines,
- radio luminosity,
- X-ray luminosity.

To account for dust extinction:

- correct UV data for extinction, using the (reddened) UV slope,
- add UV and FIR SFR indicators.

# (Un-extincted) UV light

The 1500 A luminosity of an SSP drops quickly with time, especially after 3 x 10<sup>8</sup> yr. For a constant SFR, the UV luminosity is constant after  $~10^8$  yr. These numbers depend weakly on metallicity.

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

*Madau & Dickinson 2014, ARA&A 52, 415*

![](_page_24_Figure_0.jpeg)

## Stellar mass measurements

- Luminosity in some red band (K band at 2 m, or Spitzer NIR bands)
- Average M/L in the K-band
- Correction for (little) extinction

![](_page_25_Figure_4.jpeg)

# SED fitting

Main parameters:

- REDSHIFT!
- stellar mass
- Star Formation Rate, SFR(tobs)
- Star Formation Rate history, SFR(t)
- metallicity, Z(t<sub>obs</sub>)
- metallicity history Z(t)
- IMF
- extinction and reddening (dust mass and geometry)
- library of galaxy SEDs
- **AGN contamination**

![](_page_26_Figure_12.jpeg)

*courtesy of C. Gruppioni*

# SED fitting tested SED fitting tested<br>
on model galaxies: stellar masses

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

*Mitchell et al. 2013, MNRAS 435, 87*

# SFR from SED fitting versus 24  $\mu$ m + H $\alpha$

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

Estimating the SFR of a galaxy, it is possible to notice a correlation of surface densities of SFR and gas mass.

This was first noticed by Maarten Schmidt in 1959, then confirmed by several authors among which Robert Kennicutt.

With significant uncertainties, the relation has been fit as:

$$
\Sigma_{\rm SFR} \propto \Sigma_{\rm gas}^{1.4}
$$

![](_page_30_Figure_5.jpeg)

*Kennicutt 1998, ApJ 498, 541*

A breakthrough was obtained in 2008 thanks to a suite of multiwavelength surveys of a sample of nearby spirals. *(Leroy et al. 2008, AJ 136 2782; Bigiel et al. 2008, AJ 136, 2846)*

```
VLA: 21 cm -> HI
mm antennas: CO -> H2 
Spitzer: 24 μm
GALEX: UV
24 \mu m + UV \rightarrow SFR
```
![](_page_31_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

total gas: different regimes molecular gas: linear relation

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### total gas: different regimes neutral gas: no correlation

## Timescales of star formation

Gas consumption timescale:

$$
t_{\rm gc} = \Sigma_{\rm mol}/\Sigma_{\rm SFR} \simeq 2 \text{ Gyr}
$$

Dynamical time of molecular clouds:

 $t_{\text{dyn}} \simeq 20 \text{ Myr}$ 

Fraction of stars formed per dynamical time:

$$
f_\star \simeq 1 \%
$$

Star formation rate:

$$
SFR = f_{\star} M_{\text{mol}}/t_{\text{dyn}}
$$

Then:

$$
t_{\rm dyn} \simeq f_{\star} t_{\rm gc}
$$

![](_page_35_Figure_11.jpeg)

Lines of constant gas consumption timescale
### Kennicutt relation with starbursts

Problem: does the ratio of (visible) CO to (wanted) H2 change in these extreme environments?

$$
M_{\rm gas} = \alpha_{CO} L_{CO}
$$



## Two relations at high densities?



*Daddi et al. 2010, ApJ 714, L118*

Passive and active galaxies

### Bimodality of the color-magnitude relation



*Baldry et al. 2006, MNRAS, 373, 469*

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### Selection of active and passive galaxies from rest-frame colors



### Main sequence of star-forming galaxies



*Noeske et al. 2007, ApJ 660, L43*

$$
SSFR = \frac{SFR}{M_{\star}}, \text{ yr}^{-1}
$$

Passive galaxies : *SSFR* < 10−<sup>11</sup> yr−<sup>1</sup>



*Rodhighiero et al. 2011, ApJ 739, L40*



# A personal opinion on morphologies



**Bulge over total (light or mass) ratio, B/T**

Observing galaxies at high redshift





*Dole et al. 2006, A&A 451, 417*

## Number counts -> backgrounds

Redshift surveys



*Cimatti et al. 2002, A&A 391, L1* 

Number counts -> backgrounds Redshift surveys Luminosity functions



*Bouwens et al. 2019, arXiv:1905.05202*

## Extragalactic surveys

#### Main properties:

Surveyed area on the sky Observed bands Depth in each band -> confusion limit Target selection for spectroscopy Spectroscopic redshifts Photometric redshifts

### To control systematics:

Completeness: fraction of galaxies really observed as a function of magnitude Purity: fraction of objects that are true galaxies Angular mask: completeness and purity maps on the sky

Spectroscopic redshift errors

**Photometric redshift errors**



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs:

just observe one small field, like the Hubble deep and ultra-deep fields, and take spectra for all the galaxies that are bright enough



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters at z~1:

these systems can be recognized both as galaxy overdensities and as X-ray soures, galaxies in that field have a high probability of belonging to the cluster



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters at  $z \sim 1$ ;

photometric redshifts from SED fitting:

redshift is one of the crucial parameters for SED fitting, even few bands are sufficient to obtain a redshift determination



### Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters at  $z \sim 1$ ;

photometric redshifts from SED fitting;

Lyman-break galaxies:

at high redshift the Lyman break enters optical or NUV filters, galaxies then "drop out" of blue images and their colors are easily recognisable



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters at  $z \sim 1$ ;

photometric redshifts from SED fitting;

Lyman-break galaxies;

other color-color techniques (BzK):

star-forming or passive galaxies at z~1.5 acquire recognizable colors due to their redshift.



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters at  $z \sim 1$ ;

photometric redshifts from SED fitting;

Lyman-break galaxies;

other color-color techniques (BzK);

Lyman-alpha emitters:

observations with a narrow filter can reveal galaxies that have a strong Lyman alpha emission line.



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object  $\nu\mathcal{L}_\nu$   $\left[\mathcal{L}_\odot\right]$ Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters  $\varepsilon$  $z \sim 1$ ;

photometric redshifts from SED fitting;

Lyman-break galaxies;

other color-color techniques (BzK);

Lyman-alpha emitters;

sub-mm galaxies:

the large positive K-correction at such long wavelenghts allows us to observe dusty star-forming galaxies in the submm to very high redshift.



Complete spectroscopic surveys of a deep field with Multi-Object Spectrographs;

Galaxies in massive galaxy clusters at  $z \sim 1$ ;

photometric redshifts from SED fitting;

Lyman-break galaxies;

other color-color techniques (BzK)

Lyman-alpha emitters;

sub-mm galaxies;

gravitational lenses:

high-redshift galaxies can be observed, highly amplified by lensing, in as background sources of clusters.



Two cool things related to lensing

# On lensing: Refsdal supernova



### Globular cluster formation caught in act?



*Vanzella et al. 2017, MNRAS 467, 4304*

The cosmic star formation history

### Evolution of the rest-frame UV luminosity function



*Cucciati et al. 2012, A&A 539, 31 Madau & Dickinson 2014, ARA&A 52, 415*

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### Evolution of the total IR luminosity function

The same is observed in the IR, that however does not go deep enough to see faint galaxies at high redshift



*Gruppioni et al. 2013, MNRAS 432, 23* 

Very high redshift galaxies



*Bouwens et al. 2019, arXiv:1905.05202*

## Evolution of SFR function



*Gruppioni et al. 2015, MNRAS 451, 3419*

### Evolution of stellar mass function



*Madau & Dickinson 2014, ARA&A 52, 415*

### The cosmic star formation history - UV and IR



*Madau & Dickinson 2014, ARA&A 52, 415*



*Madau & Dickinson 2014, ARA&A 52, 415*
### The stellar mass density



*Madau & Dickinson 2014, ARA&A 52, 415*

Evolution of galaxy properties with redshift

### Stellar mass function for passive and active galaxies



*Bundy et al. 2006, ApJ 651, 120*

### Evolution of the main sequence





*Mannucci & Cresci, arXiv:1011.0264*

### Ratio of IR and UV luminosity densities

$$
LD = \int_{L_{\min}}^{\infty} L\Phi(L) dL
$$





From the luminosity functions, one can compute the luminosity density of observed galaxies in the UV and IR; its ratio is a proxy of how dust extinction evolves with cosmic time.

*Burgarella et al. 2013, A&A 554, A70*

# Evolution of morphology



(from Steve Beckwith, private comm.)

# Evolution of morphology: clumpy discs at z~2



### Galaxy kinematics at z~2



 *Förster Schreiber, N. M., et al. 2009 ApJ, 706, 1364*

### Evolution of galaxy sizes

**z~0, SDSS**

#### What size?

- scale radius of a disc, R<sub>d</sub>
- optical radius  $(= 3.2 \text{ R}_d)$
- effective half-light radius  $R_e$
- Petrosian radius (surface brightness (SB) at that radius = a fraction of average SB within that radius
- half-mass radius (not projected)



**Figure 6.** The median and dispersion of the distribution of the Sérsic halflight radius  $R_{50,S}$  (in the r band) as functions of r-band absolute Sérsic magnitude. Here a galaxy is separated into early or late type according to whether its Sérsic index  $n$  is larger or smaller than 2.5. The error bars represent the scatter among 20 bootstrap samples. The solid curves are the fit of the  $\bar{R}-M$  and  $\sigma_{\ln R}-M$  relations by equations (14), (15) and (16).



*Lange et al. 2015, MNRAS 447, 2603*



*Cimatti et al. 2008, A&A 482, 21*

What makes elliptical galaxies larger at z=0? minor dry mergers?

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Evolution of galaxy sizes



*van der Wel et al. 2014, ApJ 788, 28*

### The gas content of local galaxies

### molecular hydrogen (CO +  $\alpha_{CO}$ )



**neutral hydrogen (21 cm)**

*from Zoldan et al. 2015, MNRAS latest data from Martin et al 2010, ApJ 723, 1359*

*Saintonge et al. 2017, ApJS 233, 22*



### Evolution of molecular hydrogen



Cosmic downsizing

*Fontanot et al. 2009, MNRAS 397, 1776*



*Gallazzi et al. 2005, MNRAS 362, 41*

*Fontanot et al. 2009, MNRAS 397, 1776*

Archaeological DS: more massive galaxies host older stellar populations.

Star formation DS: the mass of the typical star-forming galaxy grows with time.



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*Mannucci & Cresci, arXiv:1011.0264*

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Chemo-archaeological DS: more massive ellipticals have higher [α/Fe] ratios.



*Trager et al. 2000, AJ 120, 165 see also Matteucci 1994, A&A 288, 57*

*Fontanot et al. 2009, MNRAS 397, 1776*

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AGN DS: the number density of fainter AGNs peaks at lower z.

