Self-regulated evolution of spheroidal galaxies and AGNs

Gianfranco De Zotti (INAF-OAPd)

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MOST SUBMILLIMETER GALAXIES ARE MAJOR MERGERS

H. Engel\textsuperscript{1}, L. J. Tacconi\textsuperscript{1}, R. I. Davies\textsuperscript{1}, R. Neri\textsuperscript{2}, I. Smail\textsuperscript{3}, S. C. Chapman\textsuperscript{4}, R. Genzel\textsuperscript{1}, P. Cox\textsuperscript{2}, T. R. Greve\textsuperscript{5}, R. J. Ivison\textsuperscript{6,7}, A. Blain\textsuperscript{8}, F. Bertoldi\textsuperscript{9}, and A. Omont\textsuperscript{10}

Gas-rich mergers and feedback are ubiquitous amongst starbursting radio galaxies, as revealed by the VLA, IRAM PdBI and \textit{Herschel}

R. J. Ivison\textsuperscript{1,2}\textsuperscript{*} Ian Smail\textsuperscript{3} A. Amblard\textsuperscript{4} V. Arumugam\textsuperscript{2} C. De Breuck\textsuperscript{5} B. H. C. Emonts\textsuperscript{6} I. Feain\textsuperscript{6} T. R. Greve\textsuperscript{7} M. Haas\textsuperscript{8} E. Ibar\textsuperscript{1} M. J. Jarvis\textsuperscript{9} A. Kovács\textsuperscript{10,11} M. D. Lehnert\textsuperscript{12} N. P. H. Nesvadba\textsuperscript{13} H. J. A. Röttgering\textsuperscript{14} N. Seymour\textsuperscript{6} and D. Wylezalek\textsuperscript{5}
The insignificance of major mergers in driving star formation at $z \sim 2$

S. Kaviraj,$^{1,2}$ S. Cohen,$^3$ R. A. Windhorst,$^3$ J. Silk,$^2,4$ R. W. O’Connell,$^5$
M. A. Dopita,$^6,7$ A. Dekel,$^8$ N. P. Hathi,$^9$ A. Straughn$^{10}$ and M. Rutkowski$^3$

Heavily obscured quasar host galaxies at $z \sim 2$ are discs, not major mergers*

Kevin Schawinski,$^{1,2}$ Brooke D. Simmons,$^{2,3}$ C. Megan Urry,$^{1,2,3}$ Ezequiel Treister$^4$
and Eilat Glikman$^{2,3}$§
The bulk of the black hole growth since $z \sim 1$ occurs in a secular universe: no major merger–AGN connection.*

Mauricio Cisternas$^{1,20}$, Knud Jahnke$^1$, Katherine J. Inskip$^1$, Jeyhan Kartaltepe$^2$, Anton M. Koekemoer$^3$, Thorsten Lisker$^4$, Ady R. Robaina$^{1,5}$, Marco Scodellio$^6$, Kartik Sheth$^{7,8}$, Jonathan R. Trump$^9$, René Andrae$^1$, Takamitsu Miyaji$^{10,11}$, Elisabeta Luioso$^{12}$, Marcella Brusa$^{13}$, Peter Capak$^7$, Nico Cappelluti$^{13}$, Francesca Civano$^{14}$, Olivier Ilbert$^{15}$, Chris D. Impey$^9$, Alexie Leauthaud$^{16}$, Simon J. Lilly$^{17}$, Mara Salvato$^{18}$, Nick Z. Scoville$^7$, and Yoshi Taniguchi$^{19}$

The origin of discs and spheroids in simulated galaxies

Laura V. Sales,$^{1, *}$ Julio F. Navarro,$^2$ Tom Theuns,$^{3,4}$ Joop Schaye,$^5$ Simon D. M. White,$^1$ Carlos S. Frenk,$^3$ Robert A. Crain$^5$ and Claudio Dalla Vecchia$^6$

... mergers play a negligible role in the formation of spheroids, whose stars form primarily in situ.
Problems with merger-driven galaxy evolution - 1

- Early type galaxies are characterized by old and homogeneous stellar populations. Correlations tight enough to leave little room for random processes have been known for a long time (colour-luminosity; fundamental plane relations; dynamical mass-luminosity) and have been recently confirmed and strengthened with very large samples.

- Such correlations have been found to be insensitive to environment (Clemens et al. 2009; Nair et al. 2010) and to persist up to substantial redshifts.

- They appear to be driven only by self-regulation processes and intrinsic galaxy properties such as mass.
Galaxy Formation

**M.S. Clemens, A. Bressan, B. Nikolic, Rampazzo 09**

**Evolution of DM Halos:**
smaller halos form first

The order of formation of visible galaxies is reversed: in smaller galaxies star formation proceeds slowly

lower $[\alpha/\text{Fe}]$ indicates longer duration
Problems with merger-driven galaxy evolution - 2

- \( \alpha \)-enhancement: depending on the slope of the assumed IMF, the observed \( \alpha/Fe \) element ratios require star formation timescales \( \leq 10^9 \) years (e.g. Matteucci 1994; Thomas et al. 1999). But in models of merger-driven galaxy formation, star formation in ellipticals typically does not truncate after \( 1 \) Gyr (Thomas & Kauffmann 1999; see however Arrigoni et al. 2010; Khochfar & Silk 2010).

- Lifetime of Sub-Millimeter bright Galaxies: if a standard IMF is assumed (sub-)mm counts imply that several percent of massive galaxies are forming stars at rates of thousands \( M_{\odot} \) yr \(^{-1} \) at \( z = 2 - 3 \). This requires that this SFR is sustained for \( \sim 0.5 - 1 \) Gyr, much longer than the timescale of a merger-induced starburst.
Niemi, Somerville et al. (2012)
The coloured bands correspond to 3 template SEDs for dusty galaxies. The widths of the bands correspond to $3\sigma$ errors of the model.
In the build-up of a galactic halo we can schematically identify two phases (Zhao et al. 2003):

- A fast accretion phase (timescale $\ll H(z)^{-1}$) in which the potential well is created by major mergers, and that can define the formation epoch of the galaxy.

- A slow accretion (minor merger) phase in which mass is added in the outskirts of the halo, affecting only weakly the central region where the stellar component resides.

This second phase affects only marginally the stellar component, although occasionally major mergers occur, but they involve a minority of large galaxies.
Mass within size of visible galaxy

Diemand et al. (2007)
The size of the halo is 20-30 times larger than the size of the stellar distribution. Thus the cross section of the visible galaxy is \(~0.1\%\) of that of the dark halo and collisions between substructure halos and the visible part of the galaxy occur quite infrequently.

\[
R_v \approx 170 \times 4/(1+z_v) \times (M_v/10^{13} \, M_{\text{sun}})^{1/3} \, \text{kpc}
\]
Self-regulated evolution - 2

- Plenty of gas available: the total mass density in stars is $\Omega_{\text{star}} = 0.0027 \pm 0.0005$ (Fukugita & Peebles 2004), i.e. only 5.8% ± 1.1% of the initial baryonic mass density ($\Omega_b = 0.0456 \pm 0.0016$; Komatsu et al. 2010) is used to form stars. No need of inflows from outside. If they happen, probably add little.

- Enhanced SFR rate in most massive galaxies: very high (thousands $M_{\odot}$/yr) SFRs for very massive high-$z$ galaxies, without invoking non-standard (top-heavy) IMFs.

- Fast metal enrichment and therefore rapid increase of dust abundance.

- The two ingredients above allow to easily account for (sub)-mm counts and redshift distributions.
Herschel/SPIRE 500µm counts

Negrello et al. (2010)

H-ATLAS counts from Clements et al. (2010); predictions by Negrello et al. (2007), based on model by Granato et al. (2004) and Lapi et al. (2006).
Lapi et al. (2011)
Submm restframe luminosity function @ 100µm

100µm Luminosity Function at different redshifts (Lapi et al. 2011)

z~1.3

z~ 1.8

z~ 2.3

z~3
AGN evolution
Merger-driven evolution (Hopkins et al. 2008)

Light curve with multiple peaks and SFR well correlated with $L_{\text{QSO}}$
Approximate proportionality between SFR and accretion rate found for far-IR selected galaxies in the redshift range $0.25 < z < 0.8$ (left panel). The correlation weakens as we move to slightly higher redshifts and disappears at $z \geq 2$ (right panel).
SFR vs accretion rate

Lutz et al. (2010)
Comparison of the evolution of $L_{\text{AGN}}$ and $L_{\text{SF}}$. Dust obscured evolution of $L_{\text{AGN}}$ Eddington limited, hence independent of host galaxy properties. Sort of proportionality between $L_{\text{AGN}}$ and $L_{\text{SF}}$ when $L_{\text{AGN}}$ around its maximum: fraction of X-ray detected AGNs in far-IR/sub-mm selected galaxies is higher for the far-IR brighter objects that have higher $L_{\text{AGN}}/L_{\text{SF}}$ ratios. $L_{\text{SF}}/L_{\text{AGN}}$ ratio strongly decreases afterwards in a way that depends on halo mass. From Lapi et al. (2013).
X-ray luminosity functions of AGNs

X-ray AGN LF
Optical luminosity functions of AGNs

- Willott+10
- Jiang+09
- Fan+06

- Masters+12
- Fontanot+07
- Richards+06
- Cristiani+04
- Wolf+03

- Ross+12
- Richards+06
- Hunt+04
- Pei+95

- Croom+09
- Richards+05

- z=5.5
- z=6.5
- z=7.5

- z=3.5
- z=4.5
- z=5.5

- z=2.5
- z=3.0
- z=3.5

- z=1.5
- z=2.0
- z=2.5
The BH mass growth follows, with some delay, the growth of stellar mass. Hence a higher AGN fraction is expected in star-forming galaxies with higher stellar mass. From Lapi et al. (2013).
Did BHs grow faster than their hosts formed stars or were assembled?

High-z BHs found to have $M_{BH}/M_{\text{star}}$ ratios higher than local values. Sub-mm galaxies found to have lower ratios.

The distribution of $M_{BH}/M_{\text{star}}$ ratios has a large scatter. The high-luminosity tail of the QSO LF is dominated by sources with the highest ratios. Only the brightest QSOs can be detected at high-z.
The “merger-driven galaxy evolution” paradigm faces serious difficulties. Several observational indications favour a scenario whereby star-formation and BH accretion in proto-spheroidal galaxies are mostly driven by self-regulated processes and intrinsic galaxy properties.

The self-regulated evolutionary scenario provides a good fit to a broad variety of data on the evolution of both galaxies and AGNs. In particular:

- It naturally reproduces the counts and the redshift-dependent luminosity functions of sub-mm selected galaxies, that are very hard to account for by alternative scenarios.
- It was the only one capable of successfully predicting the sub-mm counts of strongly lensed galaxies.
Summary - 2

• This scenario also accounts for the population properties of high-z AGNs as well as for their relationships with the properties (halo mass, stellar mass, SFR) of host galaxies.

• Recent findings that high-z BHs have $M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\text{star}}$ ratios higher than local values while sub-mm galaxies have lower ratios naturally fit in this framework;
  – During most of the sub-mm bright galaxy evolution phase the Eddington limited accretion rate is lower than the SFR
  – The final BH mass is determined by the mass of the reservoir whose ratio to $M_{\text{star}}$ has a large variance. At high z AGNs with $M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\text{star}}$ ratios in the high tail of the distribution are preferentially selected.