

THE RELATIONSHIP  
BETWEEN  
STAR FORMATION  
AND  
AGN ACCRETION

**Mojegan Azadi**  
**UC SAN Diego**  
**July 2014**

**Azadi et al. 2014 ApJ, arXiv:1407.1975**

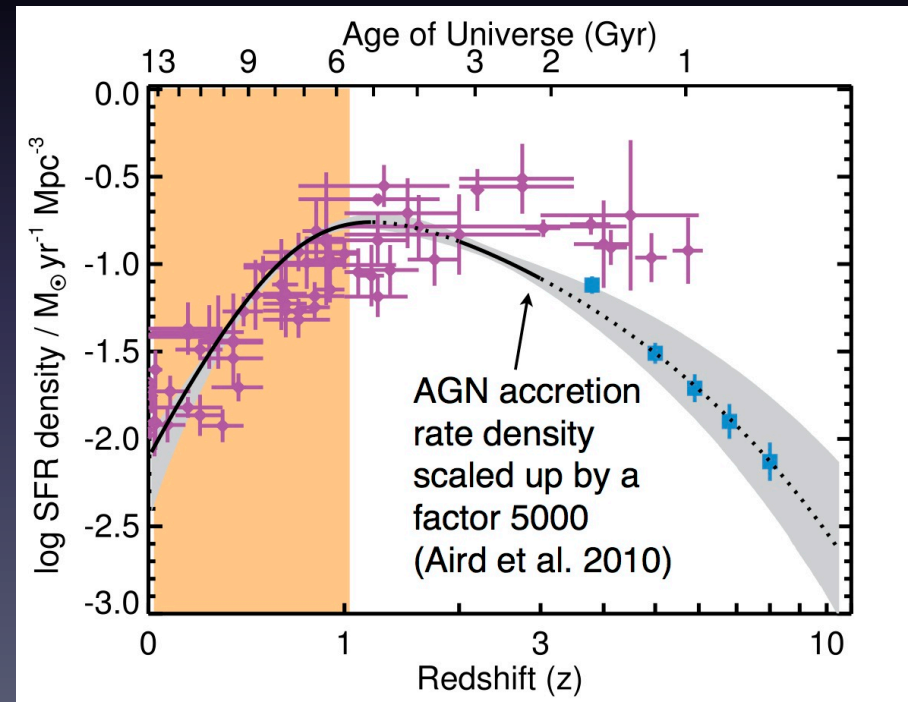
Collaborators: **James Aird, Alison Coil**, John Moustakas,  
Alexander Mendez, Michael Blanton, Richard Cool, Daniel  
Eisenstein, Kenneth Wong, Guangtun Zhu

# Hints of BH-Galaxy relation

- BH mass-velocity dispersion relation
- BH mass – bulge stellar mass relation
- Evolution of SFR density and BH accretion density with redshifts

◆ Hopkins (2004)

□ Bouwens et al. (2012)



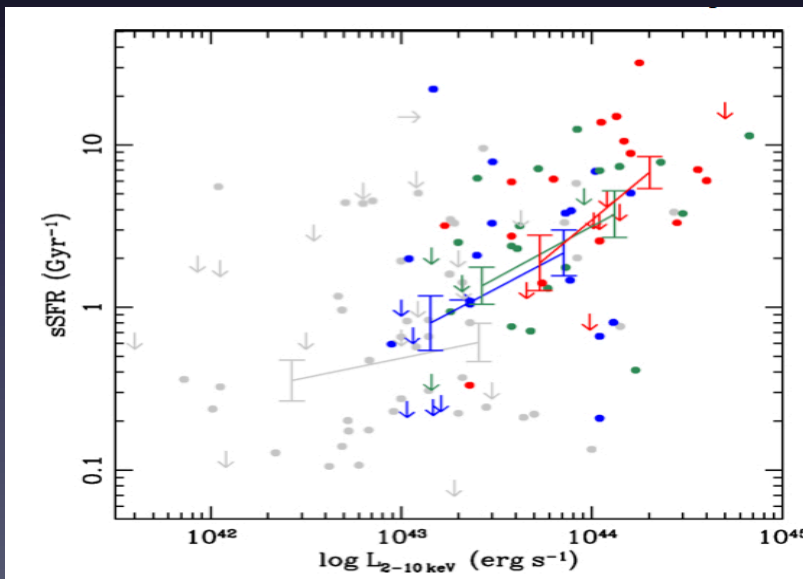
SFR density vs. redshift

# Is there an overall correlation between levels of SF and levels of AGN activity?

**Rovilos et al. 2012**

Field: CDFS

Correlation between sSFR and  $L_X$   
at  
 $\log L_X > 43.5$  at  $z > 1$

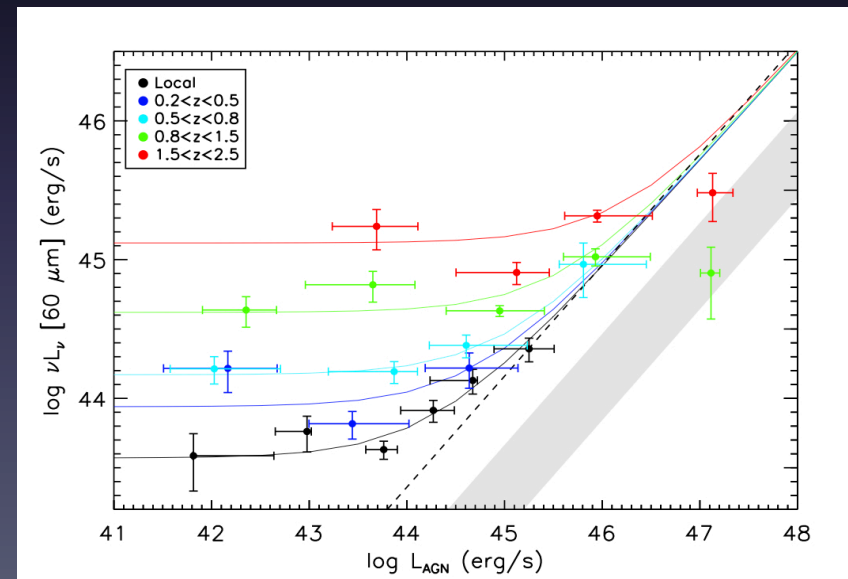


**Rosario et al. 2012**

Field: CDFS, CDFN & COSMOS

$$L_{60\mu\text{m}} \propto \text{SFR}$$

Correlation between  $L_{60\mu\text{m}}$  and  $L_{\text{AGN}}$  at  
 $\log L_{\text{AGN}} > 44.5$  at  $z < 1$



e.g. Mullaney et al. 2012, Harrison et al. 2012, Page et al. 2012

# DATA

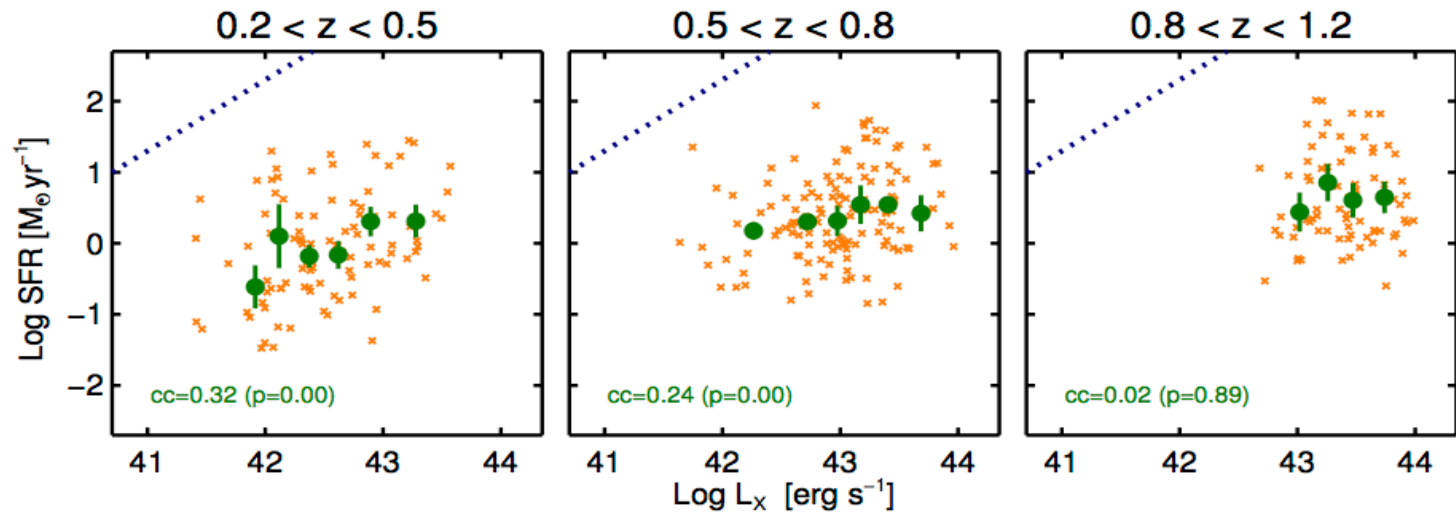
- **PRIMUS: Prism Multi-object Survey** (used IMACS on Magellan with a low-dispersion prism  $R \sim 40$ )
- Redshift:  $0.2 < z < 1.2$  with precision 0.5%
- Fields: COSMOS, ELAIS S1, XMM-LSS, CDFS
- Stellar mass and SFR estimation: SED fitting, UV and optical photometry
- AGN:
  - X-ray luminosity tracer of AGN activity, Chandra & XMM-Newton
  - Exclude BLAGN
  - Hard-band X-ray detections,  $L_{X(2-10 \text{ keV})}$
  - X-ray luminosity  $41 < \text{Log } L_X < 44 \text{ erg/s}$



**309 AGN**

# The relation between SFR and instantaneous $L_X$

- **Instantaneous  $L_X$ : observed X-ray luminosity of individual sources**
- Weak but significant correlation between SFR and  $L_X$  at  $0.2 < z < 0.5$  and at  $0.5 < z < 0.8$
- No correlation between stellar mass and  $L_X$

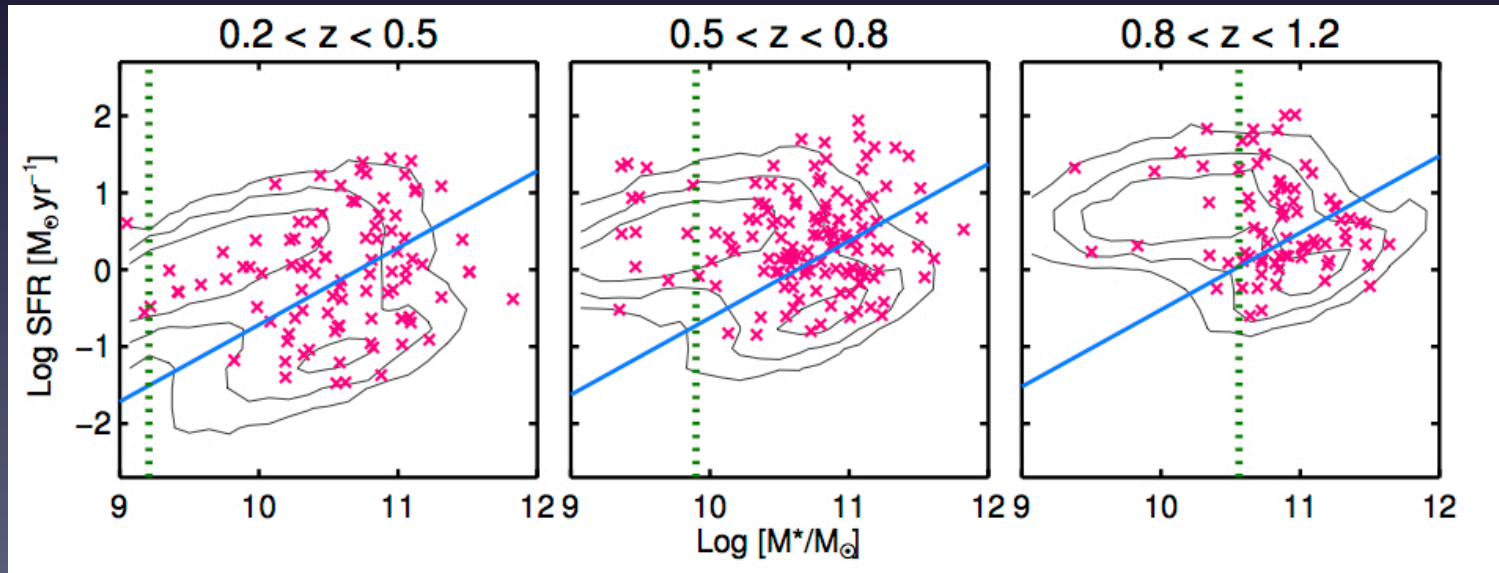


# Star forming and Quiescent host galaxies

- AGN reside in both SF and Q galaxy populations

Contours: PRIMUS Galaxies

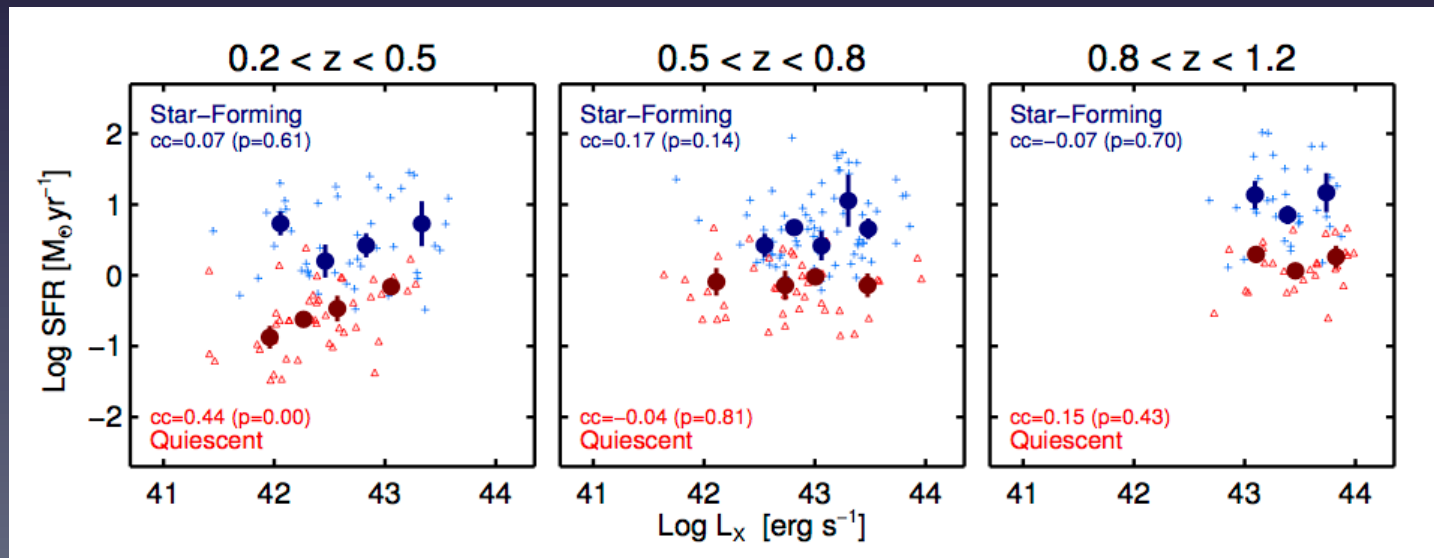
× AGN



# The relation between SFR and instantaneous $L_x$ in SF & Q host galaxies

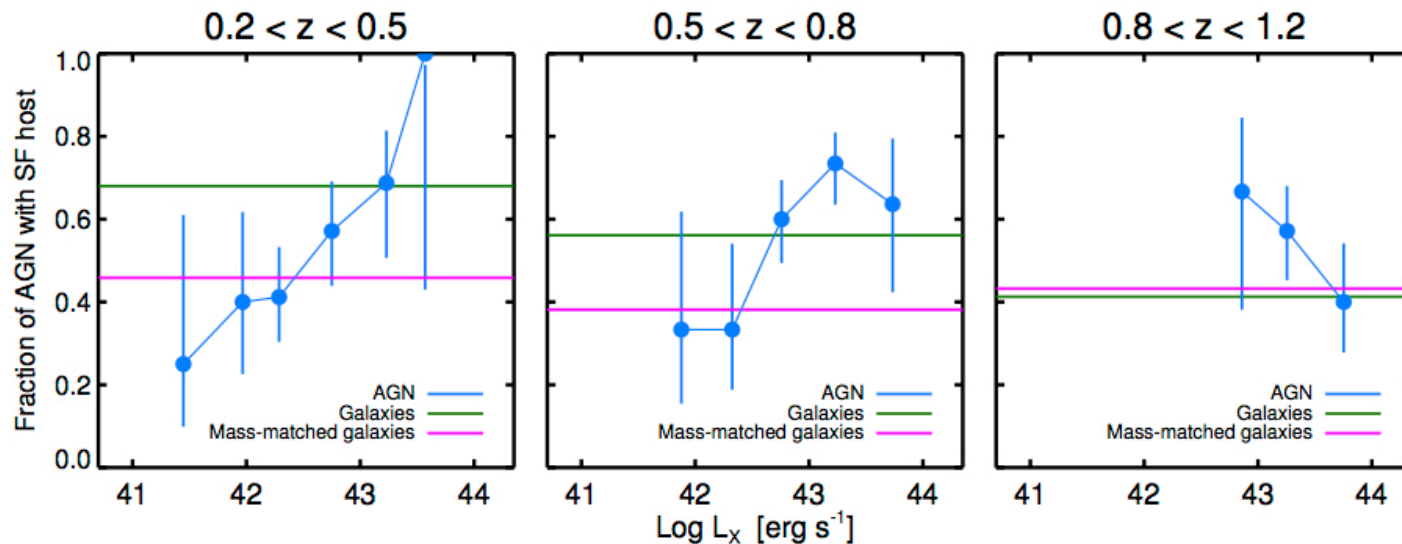
- No correlation between SFR and  $L_x$  in SF hosts at any redshift bins
- A weak but significant correlation in quiescent galaxies at  $0.2 < z < 0.5$ 
  - No correlation between stellar mass and  $L_x$
  - No correlation between SFR and specific accretion rate in quiescent galaxies

$$\text{Specific accretion rate} \propto L_{\text{bol}} / M^*$$



# The fraction of star forming host galaxies

- Fraction of AGN in SF galaxies increases with  $L_x$  at  $z < 0.8$
- The correlation between SFR and  $L_x$  in the entire sample at  $z < 0.8$  could be due to the presence of more powerful AGN in SF galaxies





# The relation between SFR and average $L_x$ in star forming galaxies

## ➤ AGN stochastic fueling

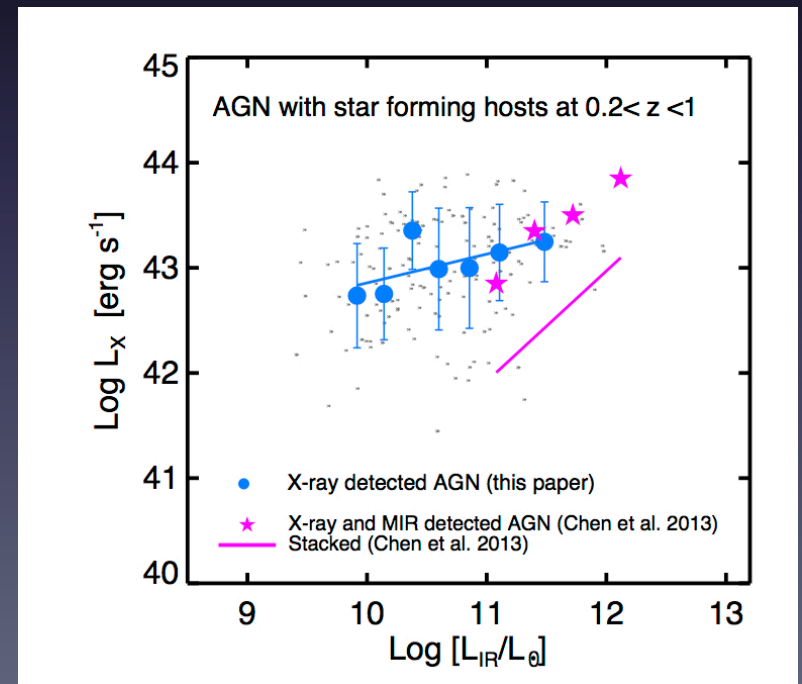
- AGN variability
- Average  $L_x$ : averaging BH growth over long timescales

## ➤ Correlation between average $L_x$

and SFR in SF galaxies

at  $0.2 < z < 1$

$$\text{SFR} \propto L_{\text{IR}}$$



# The probability of hosting AGN in galaxies

- We use PRIMUS galaxy sample instead of AGN sample
- Divide galaxies to star forming and quiescent
- Probability of hosting an AGN in each population
- Specific accretion rate as the indicator of AGN activity

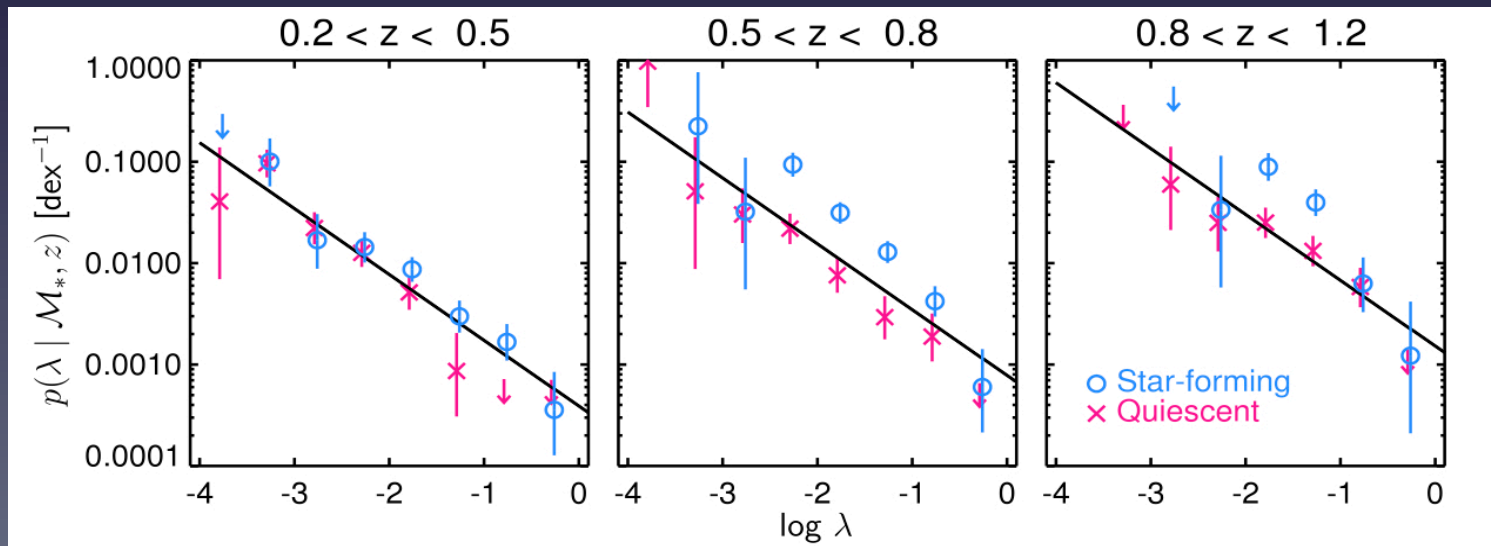
$$\text{Specific accretion rate } \lambda \propto L_{\text{bol}} / M^*$$

- The probability density for a galaxy of a given stellar mass, redshift and SFR to host an AGN of specific accretion rate of  $\lambda$ :

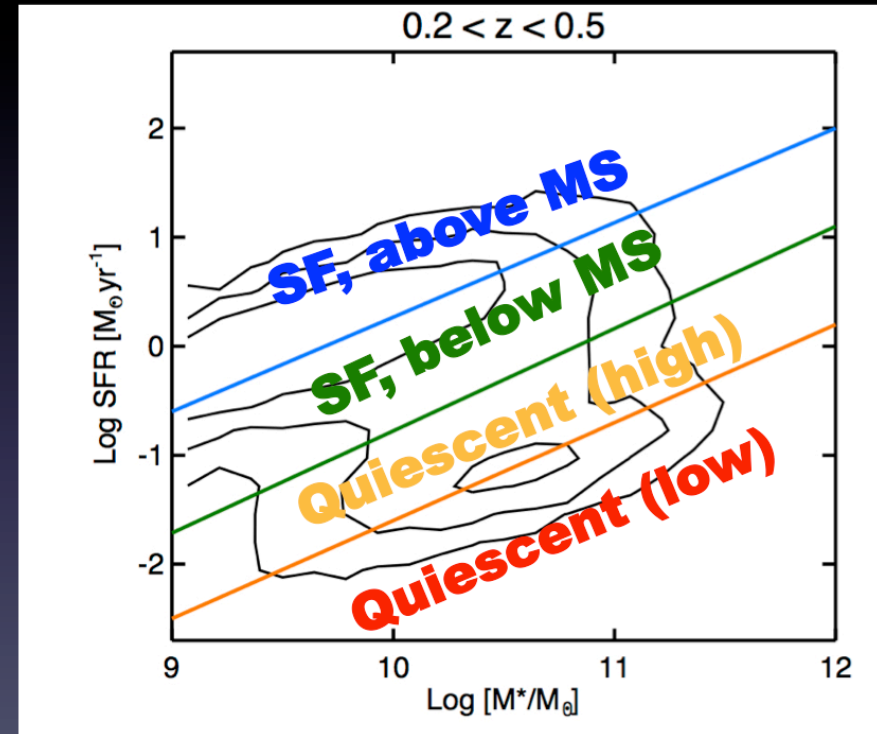
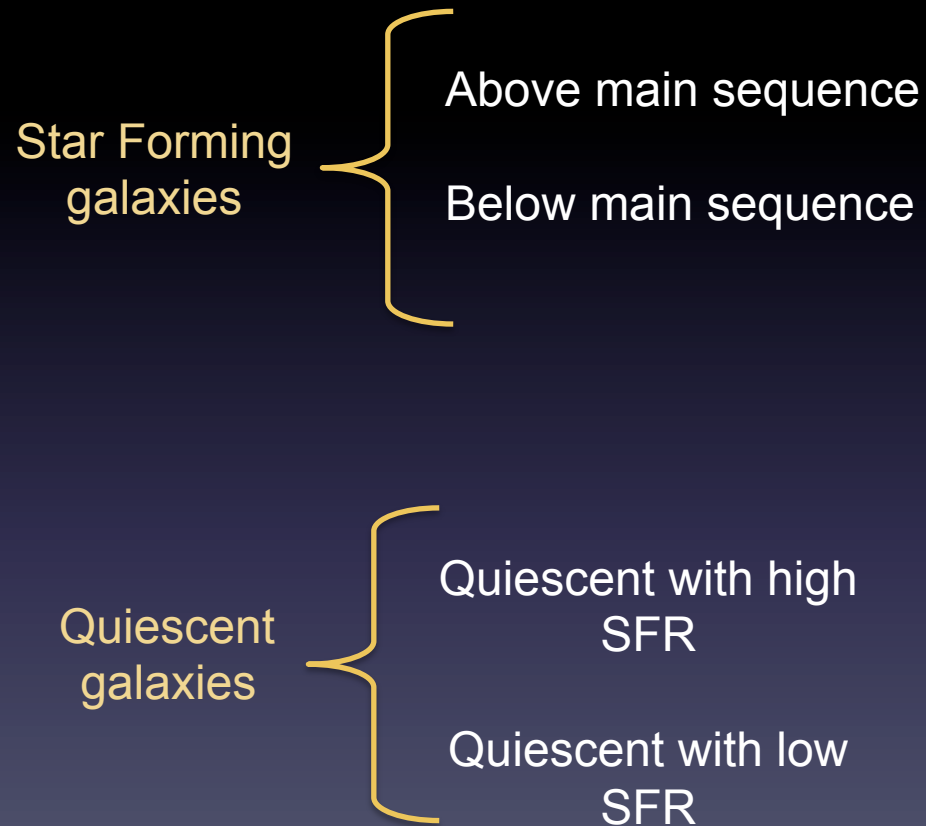
$$p(\lambda | M^*, z)$$

# The probability of a galaxy hosting an AGN as a function of SFR

- Similar power law distribution in both populations
- More likely to find AGN with lower specific accretion rate
- More likely to find AGN in SF host galaxies by 2-3 times
- For a given  $\lambda$  the probability of find an AGN increases with redshift in both population

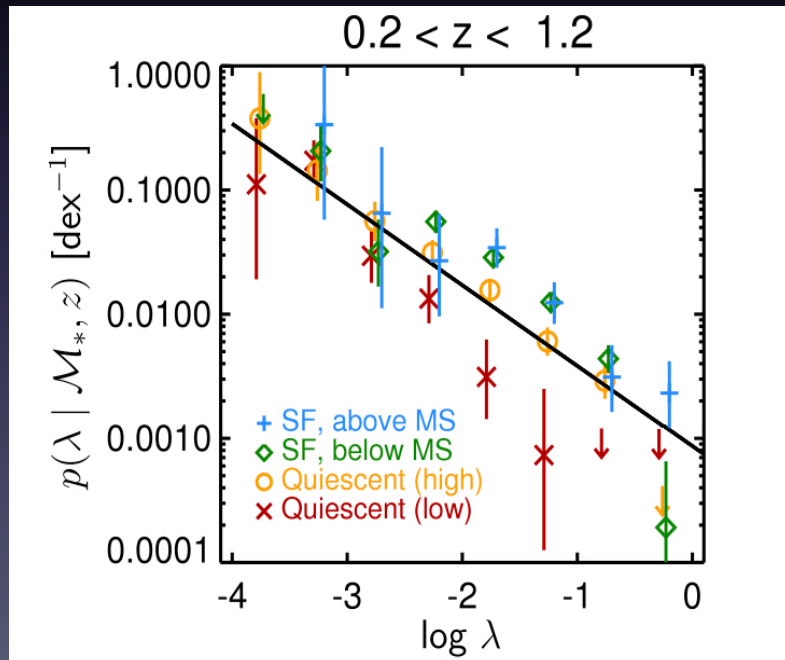


# Dividing galaxies based on their sSFR

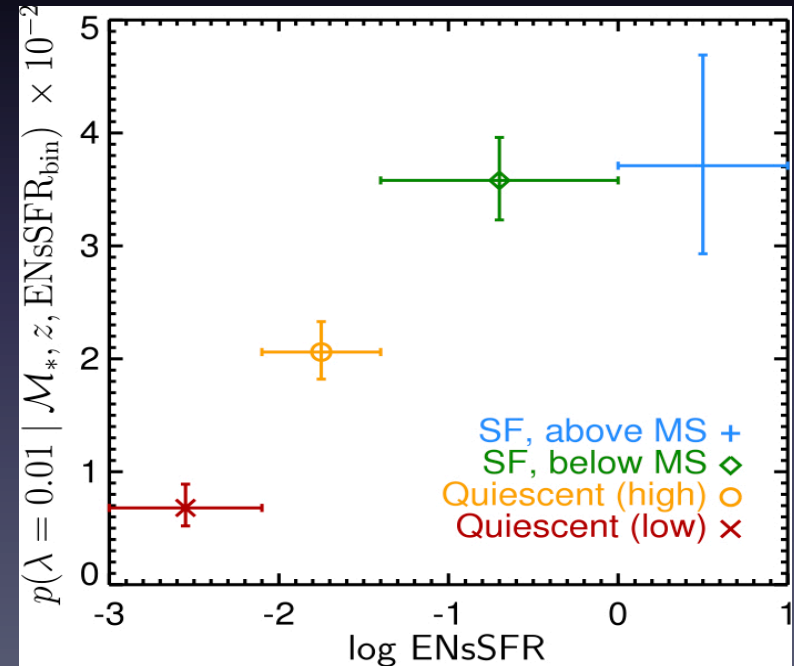


# The probability of hosting AGN as a function of SFR

- $P(\lambda | M_*, z)$  has similar shape in 4 populations



- Normalization: The probability of hosting AGN increases with sSFR within quiescent galaxies but not in star forming galaxies.



Normalization vs. sSFR

# Take home points

- ➔ We find AGN in both SF and Q host galaxies with wide range of SFR at a given  $L_x$ . There is **no correlation** between SFR and instantaneous  $L_x$  in SF galaxies.
- ➔ However, We do find a **weak but significant correlation** between the mean  $L_x$  and SFR in SF galaxies that could be due to a common cold gas supply.
- ➔ The probability that a galaxy at a given stellar mass and redshift hosts an AGN is factor of 2-3 higher in SF galaxies. This probability increases with SFR in quiescent galaxy population, but doesn't change across the main sequence of star formation.