Galaxy evolution since z = 2

Simon Lilly ETH Zurich

(Simple) phenomenology of an evolving population

Star-formation rates and the evolution of the sSFR Gas inflow, outflow and the steady state (The apparent size evolution) Environmental effects on star-formation and quenching Quenching A simple phenomenological model Some clarifications

Star-formation rates in "main-sequence" SF galaxies



 $H\alpha$ star-formation rates in SDSS at low z, based on Brinchmann et al (2004) SDSS data

sSFR evolves strongly with epoch – factor of 20 to z ~ 2

e.g. Noeske et al 2007, Elbaz et al 2007, Daddi et al 2007, Damen et al 2009, Gonzalez et al 2009, Panella et al 2009



If not quenched, this implies 0.8 dex mass growth since z =1, 2 dex since z = 2

What causes the evolution in the sSFR?

Similarities in specific mass increase rate of DM haloes and specific star-formation rate

- Similar m⁻¹dm/dt as f(t)
- Both very weak dependence on mass

 β_{DM} ~ +0.05-0.1 $\,$ c.f. β_{SFR} ~ -0.1 $\,$





Figure 3. The average halo accretion rate as a function of redshift and halo mass. The accretion values onto the AHOP halos are shown as the solid lines for each of the five $\langle M_H \rangle$ bins, with the errors corresponding to the 1σ errors on the mean accretion rate. The EPS curves using equation (1) are shown as the dashed lines for each mass bin.

SFR evolution in star-forming galaxies is simply driven by accretion of ~ constant fraction of incoming baryonic material ?

Why high redshift galaxies must be gas rich



Timescale for depletion of gas < the mass increase timescales at all epochs, so there will be quasi-steady-state evolution

Quasi-steady state evolution ("bath tub model") Bouche et al (2010), Dave et al (2011)

Steady-state balance between inflow, SFR and outflow sets gas content



Ubiquitous winds: mass loss ~ SFR

 Blue-shifted MgII absorption in spectra "down the barrel"

e.g. Weiner et al (2009)... Rubin et al (2010).



Weiner et al (2009) – stacked DEEP spectra

Figure 3. [O II] 3726.0, 3728.8, Mg II 2795.5, 2802.7, and Mg I 2852.1 Å lines in the co-added spectrum of 1406 galaxies, relative to zero velocity as defined by the redshift derived from [O II]. The [O II] doublet lines are at their nominal systemic velocities, but the Mg I and both Mg II lines show blueshifted and asymmetric absorption profiles. The horizontal bars in the middle panel show the extent of the windows used in Section 3.4 to measure absorption and excess emission in individual spectra.

Ubiquitous winds: mass loss ~ SFR

 Cause of extended MgII absorption haloes at b < 50 kpc ?
 Bordoloi et al (2011) (but see also Kacprzak et al 2010)

Stacked spectra of ~ 5200 zCOSMOS z > 1.2 galaxies lying behind 4000 0.5 < z < 0.9 galaxies with b < 200 kpc





The growth of stellar mass through star-formation

$$sSFR(m,t) = 2.0 \left(\frac{t}{3.5 \,\text{Gyr}}\right)^{-2.2} \left(\frac{m}{10^{10} \,\text{M}_{\odot}}\right)^{\beta} \,\text{Gyr}^{-1}$$
$$= \text{constant at } z \ge 2$$



Integrating the *sSFR(t)* relation gives the growth in stellar mass of a given starforming galaxy.

• 2.0 dex since z ~ 2

Large creation of stellar mass since z ~ 2



Coupled with absence in change of M* (see later) implies galaxies at given stellar mass at one epoch are not the same as at another epoch.

The galaxy population is a dynamically evolving one tracked with continuity equation(s)

The size evolution of ellipticals and disks

Daddi et al. 2005; Trujillo et al. 2007; Toft et al. 2007; Zirm et al. 2007; van Dokkum et al. 2008; Buitrago et al. 2008; Cimatti et al. 2008



The size evolution of ellipticals

Carollo et al (2011)



sSFR of <u>star-forming</u> galaxies does not depend on environment** at z ~ 0 Peng et al (2010, 2011)

** either overdensity, central/satellite, or dark matter mass of halo



At higher z?



zCOSMOS-deep ~ 4000 galaxies 1.4 < z < 3.0 (Maier et al 2011, in prep see poster)



The fraction of (red) passive galaxies depends strongly on stellar mass and environment in SDSS <u>but are separable</u> (Peng et al 2010)

The fraction of (red) passive galaxies depends strongly on stellar mass and environment in SDSS <u>but are separable</u> (Peng et al 2010)

This differential effect of the environment is unchanged to $z \sim 1$. Environmental differentiation with time is caused by sampling wider range of densities

"Relative environmentquenching efficiency"

$$\varepsilon_{\rho}(\rho,\rho_{0},m) = \frac{f_{red}(\rho,m) - f_{red}(\rho_{0},m)}{f_{blue}(\rho_{0},m)}$$

"Relative massquenching efficiency"

$$\varepsilon_m(m,m_0,\rho) = \frac{f_{red}(m,\rho) - f_{red}(m_0,\rho)}{f_{blue}(m_0,\rho)}$$

Contrasts between $sSFR(m,\rho,t)$ and $f_{red}(m,\rho,t)$ back to z ~ 1 to 2

| sSFR | <i>f</i> _{red} |
|---|--|
| Weakly dependent on stellar mass | Strongly dependent on stellar mass |
| Largely independent of environment | Strongly dependent on environment, especially at low stellar masses |
| Strongly evolves with redshift, uniformly for all masses and environments | Weakly evolves with redshift (except for lowest stellar masses in high density environments) |

Need to distinguish between two distinct phenomena

- Evolution of sSFR of star-forming galaxies
- "Quenching"

The constancy of M* (and α) of star-forming galaxies to z ~ 2+ (despite 0.8 dex increase in *m* since z = 1, and 2 dex since z = 2)

e.g. Bell et al (2005), Perez-Gonzalez et al (2008), Pozzetti et al (2010), Ilbert et al (2010)

Figure 18. MF of "star-forming" galaxies (sum of intermediate and high activity galaxies) from z = 2 to z = 0.2. The vertical box quantifies the cosmic variance at z = 0.2–0.4 (Scoville et al. 2007).

Perez-Gonzalez et al (2008)

Ilbert et al (2008): COSMOS photo-z

See Peng et al 2010, ApJ, 721, 193, Peng et al 2011 arXiv:1106:2546 and talk this afternoon by Yingjie Peng

- Precise relationships between M*, α and ϕ * for different components.
- SDSS mass functions at z ~ 0 are "inevitable" and do not strongly depend on what happens at z >> 2

$$\alpha_{s,red} = \alpha_{s,blue} + (1 + \beta)$$

$$M^*_{-0.4,red} = M^*_{-1.4,blue} = M^*_{-1.4,red}$$

$$\frac{\phi^*_{-0.4}}{\phi^*_{-1.4}} = \frac{1}{(-\alpha_s - 1)} \sim 2.5$$

SDSS $\phi(m)$ for blue and red in different environments

| | $Log(M^*/M_{\circ})^a$ | $\phi_1 * / 10^{-3} \text{Mpc}^{-3}$ | α_1 | $\phi_2 * / 10^{-3} \text{Mpc}^{-3}$ | α_2 | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| (a) Free fitting parameters | | | | | | |
| Global | 10.67 ± 0.01 | 4.032 ± 0.12 | -0.52 ± 0.04 | 0.655 ± 0.09 | -1.56 ± 0.12 | |
| Blue-all | 10.63 ± 0.01 | | | 1.068 ± 0.03 | -1.40 ± 0.01 | |
| Blue-D1 | 10.60 ± 0.01 | | | 0.417 ± 0.02 | -1.39 ± 0.02 | |
| Blue-D4 | 10.64 ± 0.02 | | | 0.151 ± 0.01 | -1.41 ± 0.04 | |
| Red-all | 10.68 ± 0.01 | 3.410 ± 0.07 | -0.39 ± 0.03 | 0.126 ± 0.02 | (-1.56) | |
| Red-D1 | 10.61 ± 0.0 | 0.893 ± 0.03 | -0.36 ± 0.05 | 0.014 ± 0.01 | (-1.56) | |
| Red-D4 | 10.76 ± 0.82 | 0.814 ± 0.03 | -0.55 ± 0.06 | 0.052 ± 0.01 | (-1.56) | |
| | | | | | | |

Two common misconceptions

Are there two populations of galaxies divided by an evolving threshold mass ?

Do we require a lot of drymerging to populate red sequence given an absence of bright blue galaxies ?

No, the red passive population is populated by quenching of star-forming galaxies at <u>same</u> mass.

Three approaches to the importance of merging

- Conventional direct estimates of the merging rate
 - recognition of "mergers"
 - (extended) timescales for merging
 - Biasses due to e.g. enhanced SF
- Constraints from continuity analysis M* of passives is ~ M* of SF galaxies means that the average ∆m for <u>post-quenching</u> increase of stellar mass
 - Around 15% for all passive galaxies
 - 25% for centrals, zero for satellites
- Analysis of "merger-quenching" of star-forming objects $\kappa = -(1+\alpha) \epsilon_{\rho}$ sSFR

$$\frac{\dot{m}}{m}\Big|_{merge} = \left\{\frac{\Delta m}{m}(1+\alpha_s)\varepsilon_{\rho}\right\}\frac{\dot{m}}{m}\Big|_{SFR}$$
$$\leq 0.1\frac{\dot{m}}{m}\Big|_{SFR}$$

Histories of today's passive galaxies

- What quenched today's passive galaxies?
- Did they subsequently (post-quenching) merge?

Where's the "down-sizing" ?

There is no explicit down-sizing in the <u>inputs</u> to the model (e.g. uniform increase in sSFR(t) across all masses).

But what actually is down-sizing?

- "Activity-mass dichotomy" for <u>overall</u> <u>population</u> comes from the mass-dependence of quenching m^(1+β) (at a given epoch)
- "Anti-hierarchical age-mass relation" for <u>passives</u> appears naturally due to early massquenching at high masses and later environment quenching at lower masses.
- If β < 0, the threshold for sSFR⁻¹ < Hubble time will migrate to higher z (as per Cowie et al's 1996 original definition of down-sizing)

Predictions for transitory objects "caught in the act"

Assume objects being mass-quenched exhibit some transitory "signature" for some time τ_{trans} . What is mass-function of these transitory galaxies ?

$$M_{trans}^{*} = M_{blue}^{*} = M_{red}^{*}$$

$$\alpha_{s,trans} = \alpha_{s,blue} + (1 + \beta) = \alpha_{s,red}$$

$$\phi_{trans}^{*} = \phi_{blue}^{*} \ sSFR(t)|_{M^{*}} \ \tau_{trans} = \phi_{blue}^{*} \ \frac{\tau_{trans}}{\tau(t)|_{M^{*}}}$$

- The shape (M*_{trans} and α_{s,trans}) of φ_{trans}(m) should be the same as that of the red <u>passive</u> galaxies (in low density environments) and be *independent* of environment.
- But, the normalisation ϕ^*_{trans} is given by the density of the blue <u>active</u> star-forming galaxies, multiplied by the ratio of τ_{trans} and the <u>star-formation time-scale</u>, which evolves strongly with epoch as t -2.5

Is "mass-quenching" simply rephrasing an underlying "masslimiting" law?

Quenching occurs, statistically, when a galaxy has formed M* of stars.

Survival probability is simple f(m), not of the detailed SFR history.

$$\frac{dP}{dt} = -\eta P = -\mu \frac{dm}{dt}P$$
$$\frac{dP}{P} = -\mu dm$$
$$P \propto \exp(-\mu m) = \exp(-m/M^*)$$

But why should a mass-limiting law so accurately reproduce the <u>Schechter</u> function with $\Delta \alpha = 1$ over two dex of mass?

Any "second parameter" controlling m_{lim} must be <u>strictly</u> independent of environment

So, how important really are the dark-matter haloes?

Most things of interest seem to be strikingly <u>independent</u> of the mass of the dark haloes (above $10^{12} M_{\odot}$) in SDSS from Peng et al 2011 using Yang et al SDSS DR7 catalogue)

- (1) star-formation rates: sSFR
- (2) satellite-quenching: red fraction of satellites at fixed m and ρ
- (3) mass-quenching: mass function $\phi(m)$ of satellites

Summary:

- The galaxy population exhibits certain clear "simplicities" in its evolution
 - sSFR DM growth link
 - sSFR largely independent of mass and environment
 - separability of mass and environment effects in quenching
 - constant M* and α of star-forming mass function
- These in term demand that the dominant evolutionary processes take particular, simple forms.
- Simple models using these reproduce basic properties, e.g. $\phi(m)$, with impressive accuracy

Questions: Why does it look so simple with all we know about complex astrophysics ?

- Why does the sSFR so simply follow the DM accretion history ?
- Why does sSFR on the main sequence not depend on environment?
- Why does the Peng et al phenomenological model work so well?
 - what is the mass-quenching (independent of environment) ?
 - how does the environment quench (independent of stellar mass and acting only on satellites) ?