The link between black hole growth and galaxy formation: clues from large spectroscopic surveys

Sloan Digital Sky Survey



R50—radius enclosing half the light

Concentration index (C) = R90/R50

Stellar surface mass density $(\mu^* = 0.5 \text{ M}_*/\text{R}50^2)$

Stellar age parametrized by the 4000 Å break: ratio of flux bluewards and redwards of the break in the spectrum





Type I Seyfert Galaxy



Type II Seyfert Galaxy



Fit the stellar absorption line spectrum with a superposition of stellar templates of different ages/metallicities, subtract, then measure emission lines from the residual spectrum.



Emission line diagnostic diagrams for identification of AGN through emission-line ratios



Fraction of AGN as a function of Mass/Concentration



AGN are found only in massive galaxies with significant bulge component



No AGN and no evidence for black holes in galaxies like these. The stellar structure of the host galaxies of AGN is closest to early-type (elliptical)



The stellar populations of the host galaxies of strong AGN are closest to late-type (spiral)



Accretion

The [OIII] Line Luminosity as a Black Hole Accretion rate indicator



with bolomertic continuum luminosity for Type 1 AGN

Continuum is from accretion disk

Which black holes and galaxies are currently accreting?

Distribution of Σ L[OIII] as a function of galaxy properties



Most of the accretion today is occurring onto low mass black holes in galaxies like our own Milky Way ==> Massive black holes formed early on in the Universe and



Distribution of accretion rates (in units of the Eddington accretion rate) for black holes of different mass



The Starburst-AGN Connection



More strongly accreting AGN have younger stellar populations

The average ratio between the star formation rate in the bulge and the accretion rate onto the black hole is 1000 – remarkably close to the ratio of bulge mass to black hole mass.

What about radio-loud AGN?



Deep wide-field radio surveys can be cross-correlated with SDSS optical surveys



26

25

24

23

Hz-

log P



Radio synchrotron emission arises from electrons accelerated in supernovae shocks: correlation between radio emission and star formation rate as measured by Halpha emission

Radio AGN can be identified by their excess radio luminosity with respect to this correlation

Radio luminosity function for starforming galaxies and radio AGN





Radio AGN are found most frequently in the very most massive galaxies: more massive than the hosts of optical AGN

CONCLUSIONS FROM STUDYING HOST GALAXIES

Present-day Optical (emission-line) AGN activity is linked to:

- 1) lower mass black holes
- 2) galaxies with low mass bulges
- 3) more powerful AGN found in galaxies with younger stellar populations

Present-day Optical Radio-AGN activity is linked to:

- 1) high mass black holes
- 2) galaxies with higher mass bulges
- 3) no apparent dependence on mean stellar age

Cosmic Evolution of the AGN Activity

 Describe the distribution of accretion luminosities at different cosmic epochs by the "quasar-luminosity-function" at different redshifts

2DF Survey: Croom et al 2004

Abundance of luminous QSOs has decreased by 2 orders of magnitude since early epochs!

(e.g. SDSS Richards et al 2006)

Likewise radio AGN are more luminous at higher redshifts ==> Higher accretion rates onto the black holes

In the optical, it is the high mass black holes that exhibit greater nuclear activity in the past.

STUDYING THE ENVIRONMENTS OF AGN IN SDSS

Two-point correlation function defined as the excess probability to find two galaxies separated by distance r, compared to a randomly-distributed sample.

 dV_2

 \mathbf{r}_{12}

 dV_1

Optical AGN are more weakly clustered than control samples of non-AGN matched in stellar mass, redshift, concentration index, stellar surface density, and stellar age.

Galaxy interactions/mergers trigger more star formation, but apparently NOT more AGN activity

The cross-correlation function star-forming galaxies compared to AGN.

Lopsided galaxy

Symmetric galaxy

No evidence for excess of lopsided AGN hosts compared to matched control samples of non-AGN Radio-loud AGN are more strongly clustered than control samples – frequently found in the BCG (brightest cluster galaxy)

AGN "Feedback" : Impact on Galaxy Formation

RADIO-AGN ACTIVITY **INFLUENCING** THE GAS IN **THE PERSEUS CLUSTER**

VLA RADIO

More examples of cavities in X-ray emission filled in with radio synchrotron emitting plasma

Hα emission traces filamentary structure of gas that have been "uplifted" from the central galaxy

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Entropy profiles of clusters

Central entropy versus radio power

Central entropy determines whether there is star formation in the central galaxy

A possible picture is emerging from the data:

Jets from AGN (visible at radio wavelengths as a result of synchrotron emission) push gas and metals out of the central galaxy, and also heat the ambient gas, preventing from cooling and forming stars. Density and temperature are derived from the X-ray spectra. Pressure p=nkT. Mechanical power of the jet can be approximated as the energy (~pV) of the detected cavities averaged over some timescale.

Measuring Jet Power with X-ray Cavities

McNamara + 00,01, Birzan + 04

Outflows of ionized gas around Type II quasars also now seen. These ionized gas "halos" extend out to radii of 50 kpc and are very round in morphology. (Greene & Zakamska)

0.6

0.2

0.8

0.4

0.2

0.8

0.4

0.2

HERSCHEL observations of outflows of molecular gas in nearby quasars and AGN

ACTUAL **IMPACT OF OUTLOWS FROM** QUASARS ON **SUBSEQUENT EVOLUTION OF GALAXY NEEDS TO BE** BETTER **UNDERSTOOD**