Resolved spectroscopy of gravitationally lensed galaxies at z≈2

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Galaxies in 3D across the universe, 10 July 2014

Gravitational lensing provides a huge advantage for high z galaxy studies!

Gravitational lensing magnifies angular size and flux

- Typical linear magnification ~10x
 - \rightarrow 10x more resolution elements than non-lensed case
 - \rightarrow resolution ~100 pc (c.f. >1000 pc)
 - Flux magnification up to 4 magnitudes
 - \rightarrow can study galaxies with ~50x fainter intrinsic luminosity

Kinematics

Morphology

Metallicity



- Kinematics: rotating with high velocity dispersion
 - A minority are major mergers
- Gravitationally unstable
 - Toomre parameter Q = σ κ/πGΣ ≈ 0.5-1
- Clumpy star formation driven by gravitational instability
 - Clump sizes, masses agree with expected fragmentation scale
 See talks by Genzel, Förster Schreiber, etc. Lensing data show very similar results for more compact, lower mass galaxies.
- Metallicity: ~0.1-1x solar with negative radial gradients
 - Steeper gradients than in local disk galaxies
 - Indicates no recent major mergers, and consistent with current cosmological simulations with "normal" feedback (e.g. Gibson+2013; Angles-Alcazar+2014)

TJ+2010a,b, 2013; Livermore, TJ+2012; Leethochawalit, TJ+ in prep

Why measure metallicity gradients?

Local disk galaxies have negative radial gas-phase metallicity gradients

Explained by inside-out disk growth

Various models + simulations predict a range of evolutionary behavior for the metallicity gradient slope

- Gradients may be steeper, flatter, or even inverted at earlier times
- Time evolution is sensitive to kinematics, feedback, accretion history, etc.
- Mergers, interactions cause gradients to flatten on short time scales

Time evolution of metallicity gradients constrains galaxy assembly history and directly tests models of galaxy formation.



High angular resolution is essential for high-z gradient measurements



Large samples of lensed galaxies



Ground: Keck/OSIRIS IFU + AO

Advantages: kinematic data, large aperture, sensitivity improved by recent upgrades to grating and AO system



GLASS

PI: Tommaso Treu glass.physics.ucsb.edu Schmidt+ 2014



Space: GLASS (HST grism survey of 10 strong lensing galaxy clusters)

Advantages: multiplexing, wavelength range, excellent Strehl, no atmosphere

Methods: Keck/OSIRIS+AO data









R.A.



HST/WFC3 grism data



System of 3 interacting galaxies at z=1.855



Gradient evolution: data vs simulations





Gibson et al 2013; Angles-Alcazar et al 2014; Torrey et al simulations:

stronger feedback removes metals from small radii and re-deposits them at larger radii, resulting in weaker gradients.

- \rightarrow Current lensing data compatible with "standard" feedback/outflow models.
- \rightarrow Merging / interacting galaxies have flatter gradients.

Outflow properties from UV absorption lines



Measure feedback properties, stellar metallicity, ISM metallicity, abundance ratios from optical echelle spectra (Keck/ESI) High quality data for >10 lensed galaxies

Combining IR and optical spectra



Remarkably good agreement in different phases ISM abundance ratios $[\alpha/Fe] \approx +0.6$ \rightarrow Abundances similar to bulge & thick disk of MW

Summary: z=2 galaxies at high resolution



Spectroscopy of star-forming galaxies at z=2: 100 pc resolution achieved with gravitational lensing

- 2/3 are thick disks evolving *in situ*
 - High velocity dispersion σ ~50-100 km/s, low V/ σ < 2
 - Clumpy SF driven by gravitational instability, high gas fraction
 - Negative metallicity gradients, consistent with expectations from feedback
- 1/3 are undergoing major mergers

Lensed galaxy sample size at z~2 is increasing dramatically thanks to OSIRIS instrument upgrades and the GLASS survey