Observational signatures of an evolving interstellar medium in high redshift galaxies

Alexandra Pope (UMass Amherst)



Latest results from the deepest astronomical surveys

Back at the Edge of the Universe:

Sintra, Portugal – March 18, 2015







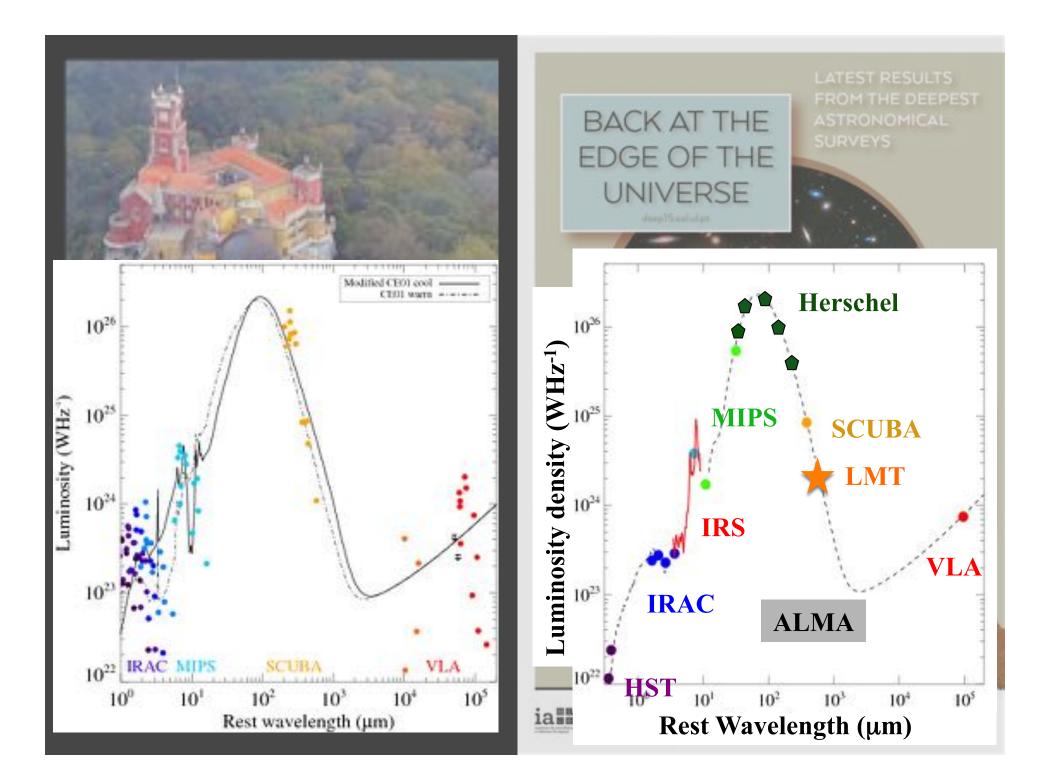
At the Edge of the Universe

Latest results from the deepest astronomical surveys Sintra, Portugal, 9 - 13 October 2006 BACK AT THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE LATEST RESULTS FROM THE DEEPEST ASTRONOMICAL SURVEYS

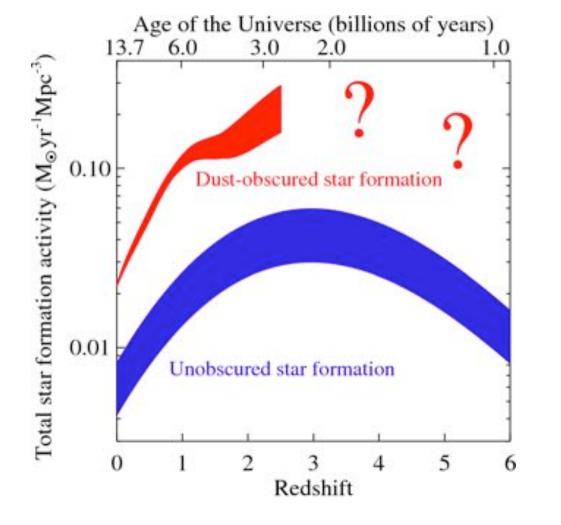
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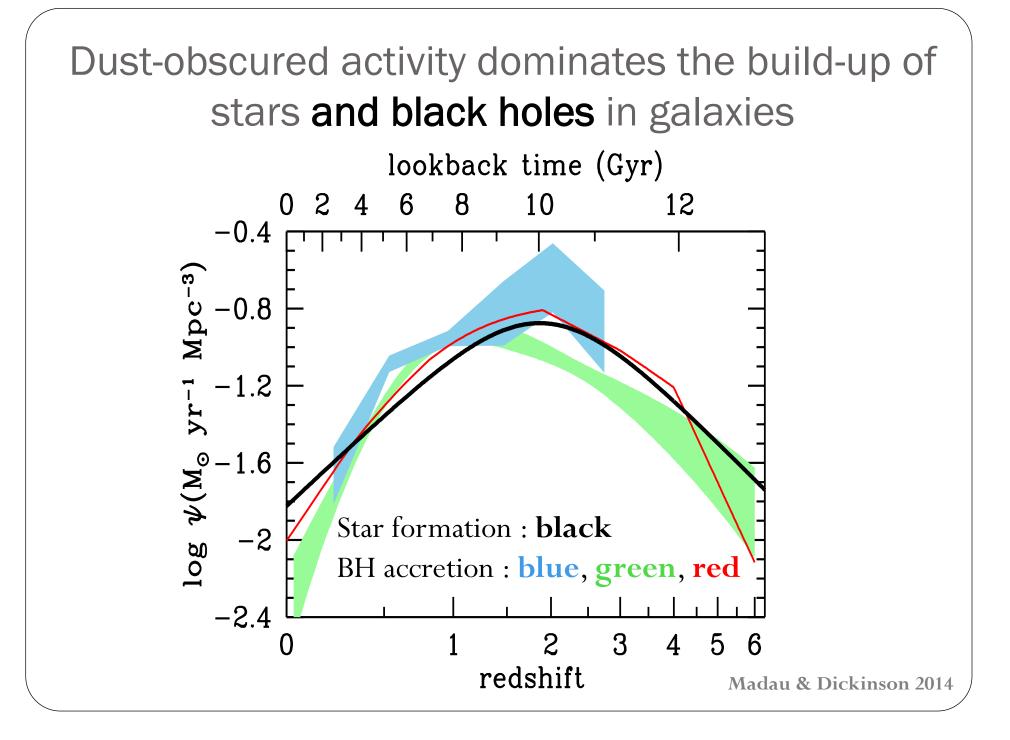
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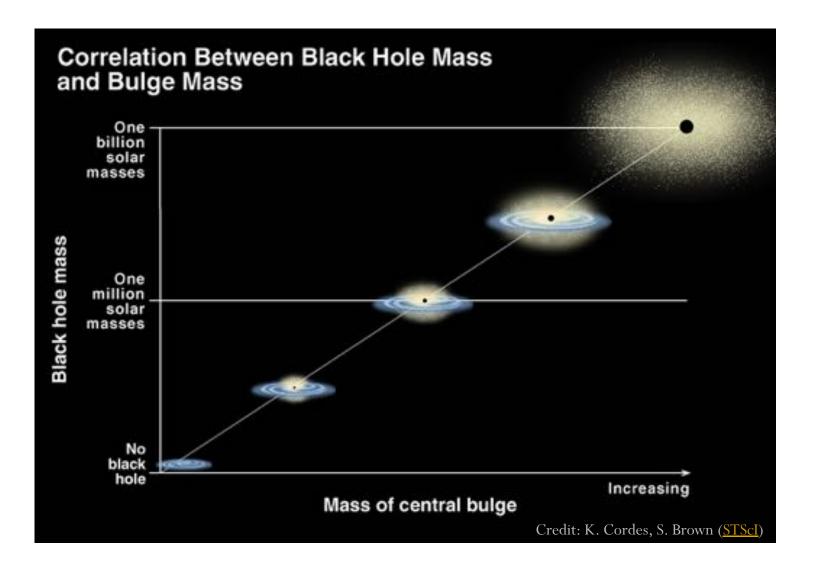
Dust-obscured activity dominates the build-up of stars and black holes in galaxies

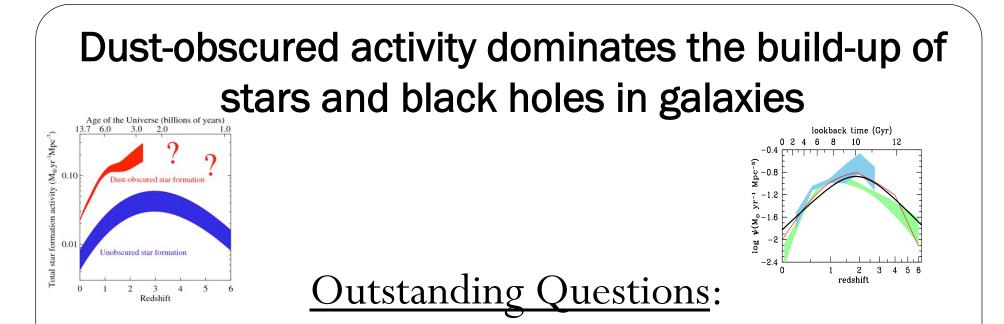


Using data from Bouwens+2009 and Murphy+2011



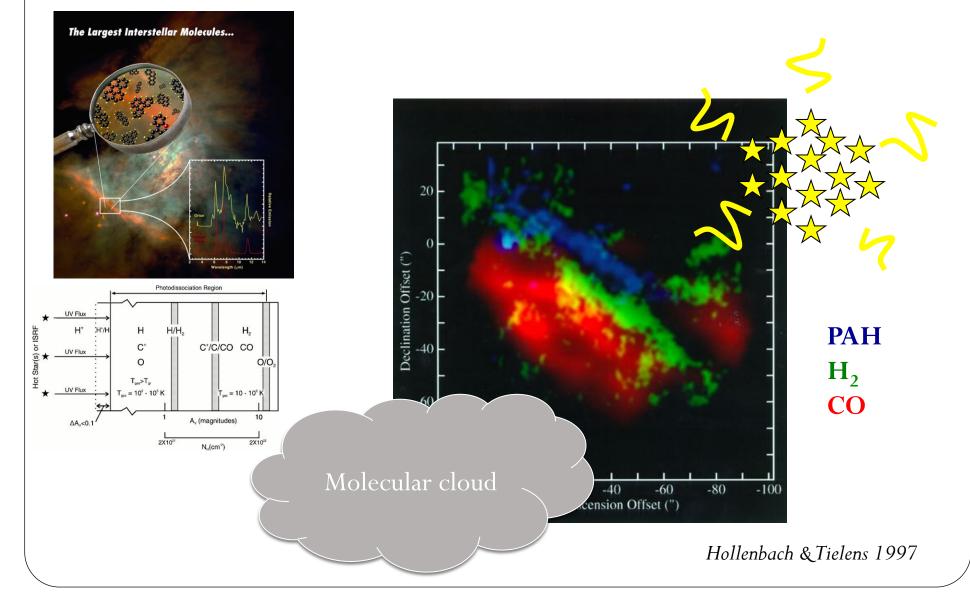
Stars and black holes grow together in galaxies

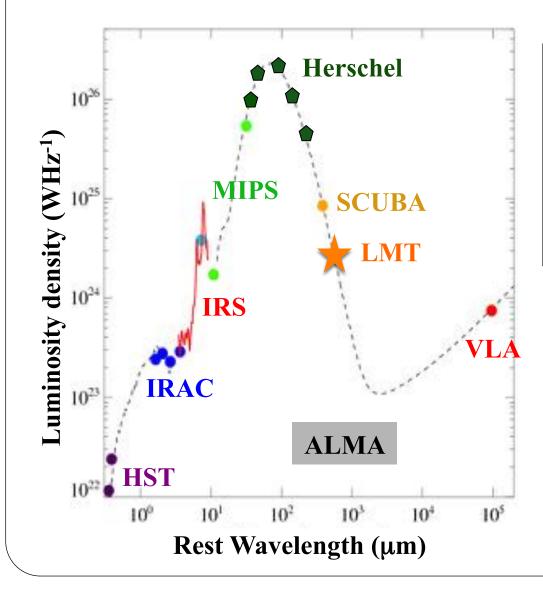




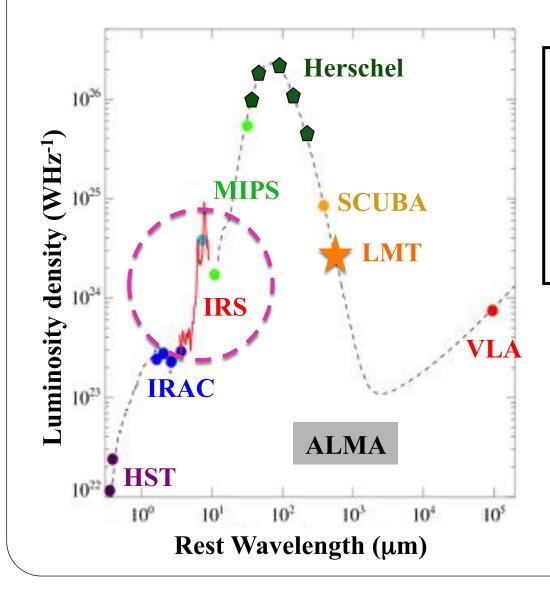
- How is the star formation linked to the black hole growth? Can we separate emission from each in our observations?
- Are the mechanisms of triggering and fueling star formation during the peak period of z=1-3 different from those in the local Universe?

How do the interstellar medium conditions differ during the peak period of z=1-3 from those in local galaxies?



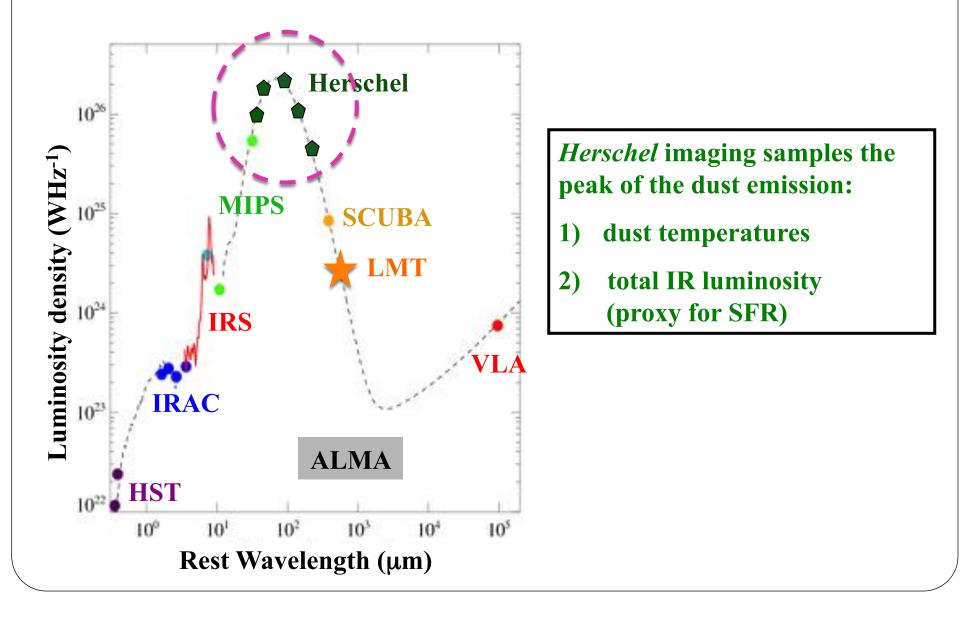


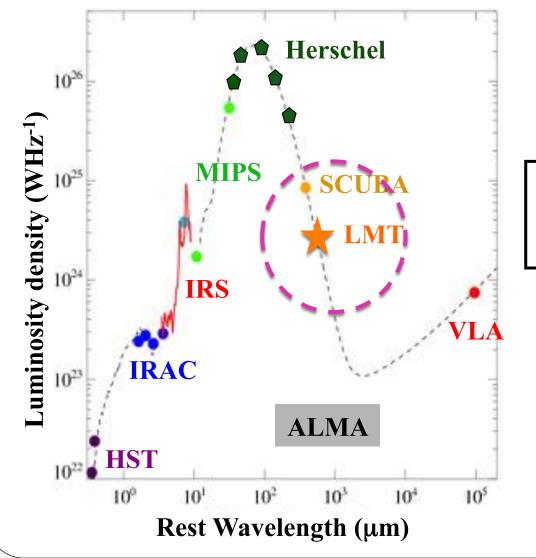
Circa 2015: Well sampled spectral energy distribution (SED) for high redshift dusty galaxies



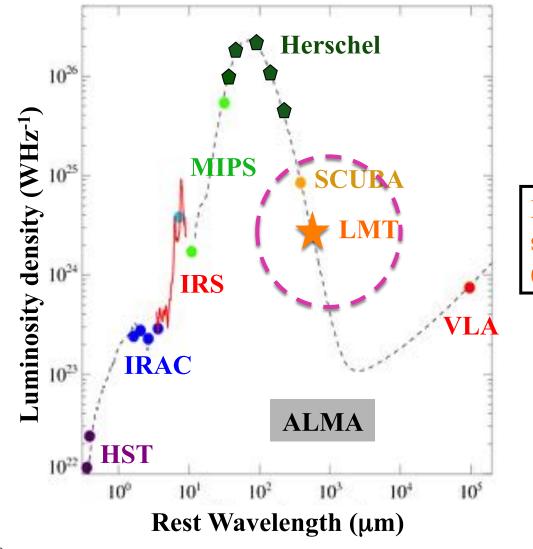
Spitzer mid-IR spectroscopy is sensitive to:

- 1) radiation heating the dust : star formation (SF) or AGN
- 2) PAHs tell you about dust composition





Millimeter <u>spectroscopy</u> probes the molecular gas reservoir (observations of CO)

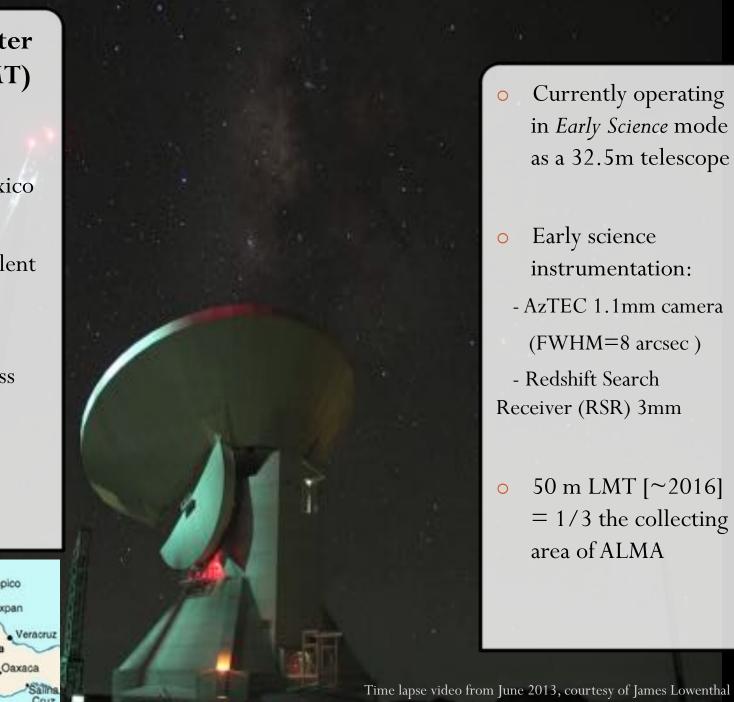


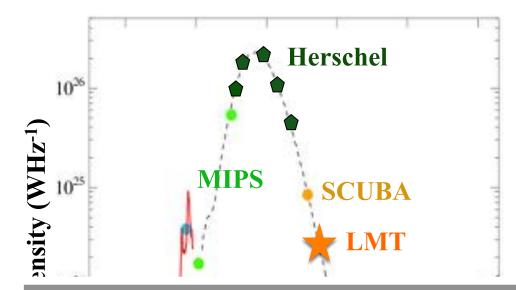
Millimeter <u>continuum</u> is sensitive to the dust mass (proxy for the total ISM mass)

Large Millimeter Telescope (LMT)

- 50m millimeter telescope in Mexico
- 15,000 ft: Excellent mm site
- Owned by UMass and Mexico

Mazatian León Guadalajara Manzanillo Lázaro Cárdenas Acapulco +19 deg. latitude





- *Spitzer* mid-IR spectroscopy is sensitive to the radiation heating the dust : SF or AGN
- *Herschel* imaging samples the peak of the dust

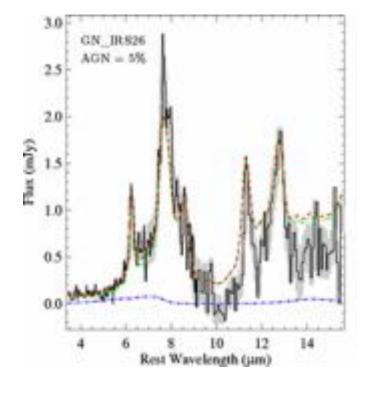
<u>Goal:</u> Understand how dusty star formation and black hole growth proceeds during the peak epoch

<u>Approach:</u> Link multi-wavelength diagnostics of the ISM in high redshift dusty galaxies

Decomposing *Spitzer* <u>mid-IR</u> spectra into two main components:

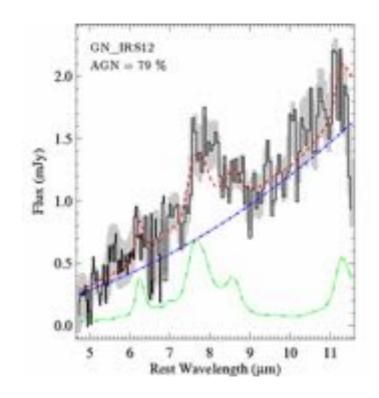


1. <u>Star formation</u>: Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) emission lines + extinction

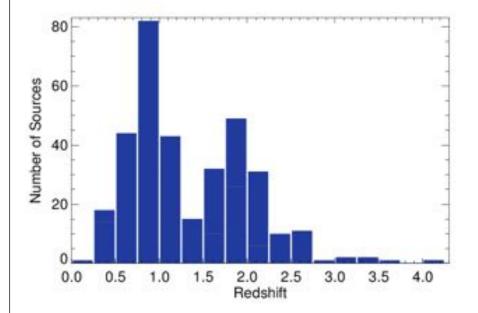


2. Active Galactic Nuclei:

Power-law + extinction



High redshift mid-IR spectra supersample



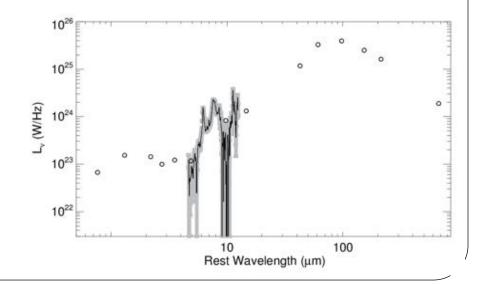
Redshift range: 0.2-4

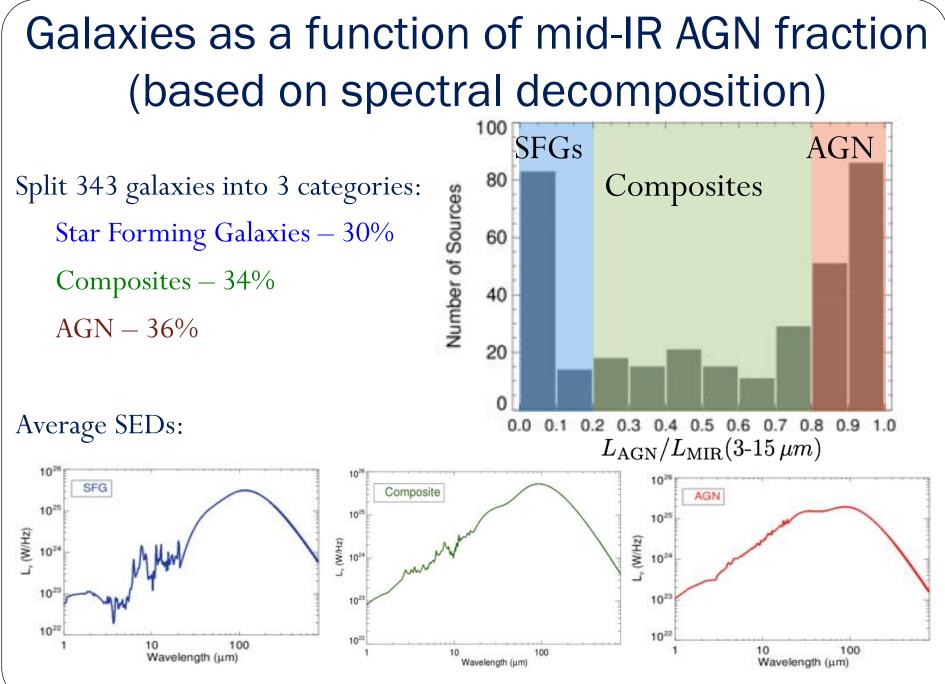
All sources have mid-IR spectroscopy Photometry from *Herschel, Spitzer,* and ground-based telescopes

Kirkpatrick, Pope, et al. in prep

343 galaxies from *Spitzer* FLS and GOODS

Selected at 24 µm: S₂₄ > 0.9 mJy (xFLS) S₂₄ > 0.2 mJy (GOODS)



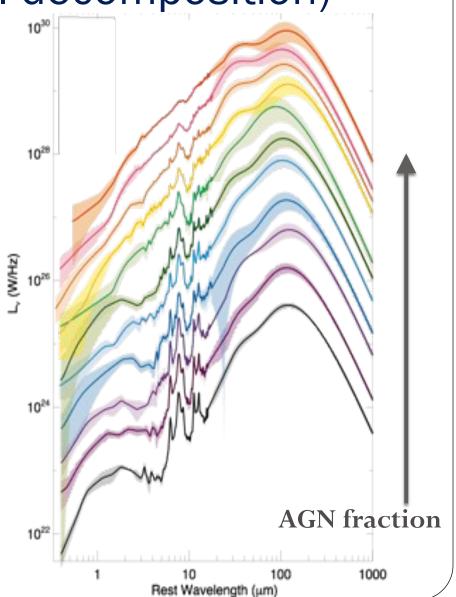


Kirkpatrick, Pope, et al. in prep; see also Kirkpatrick, Pope, et al. 2012

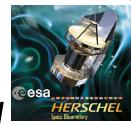
SEDs as a function of mid-IR AGN fraction (based on spectral decomposition)

Want to look for **evolution** in SED properties with redshift, L_{IR} and AGN fraction

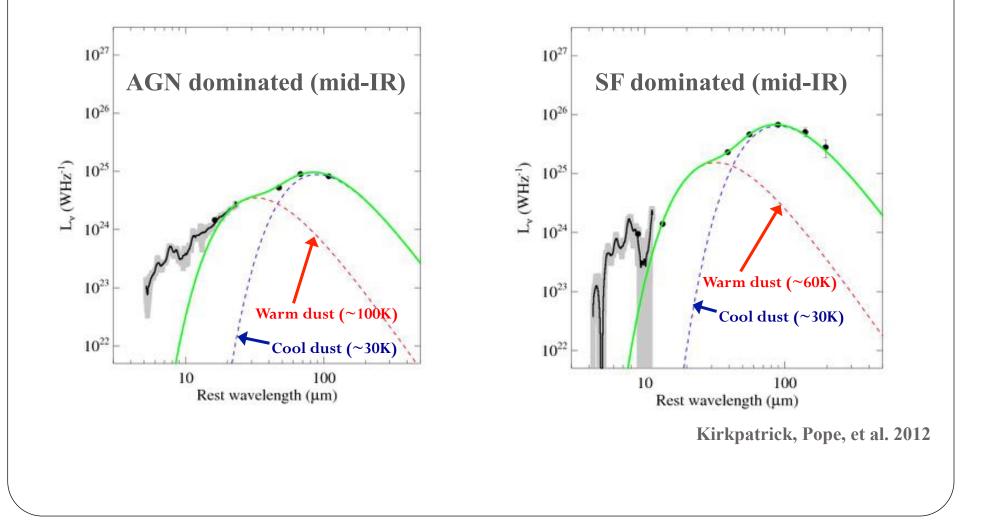
Create SED template libraries by stacking sources to control for these parameters

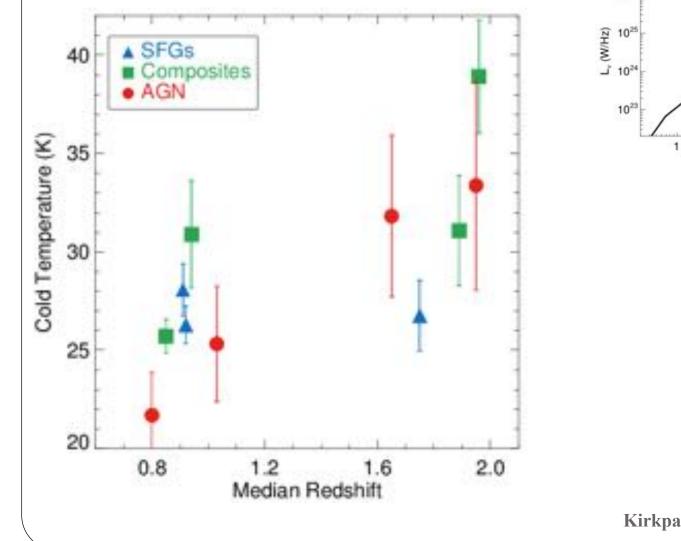


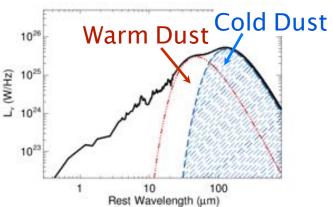


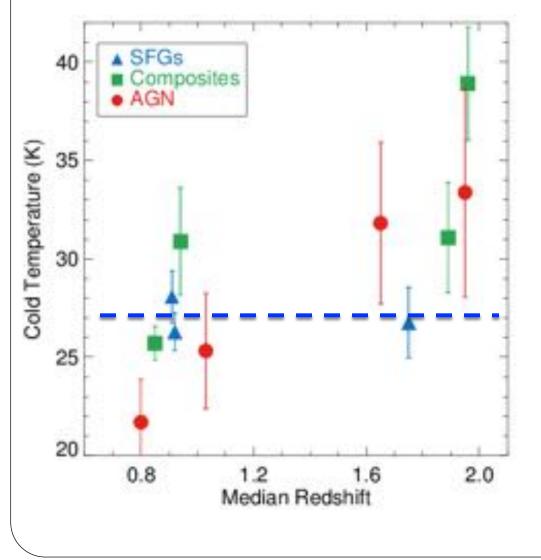


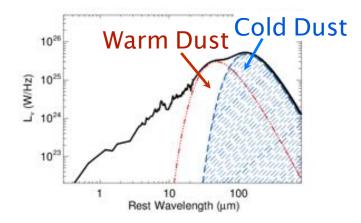
SED fitting with Spitzer/IRS + Herschel



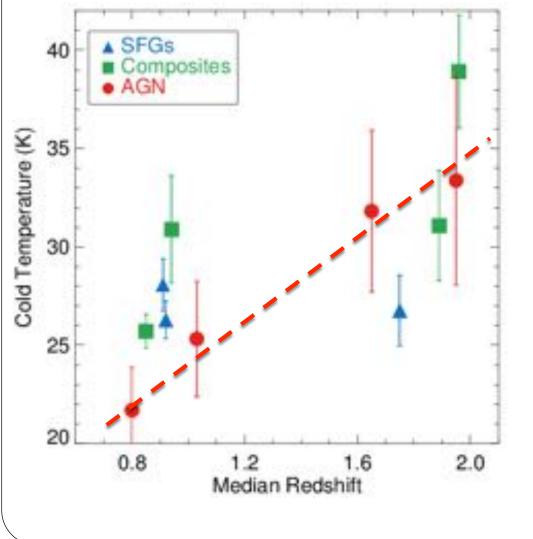


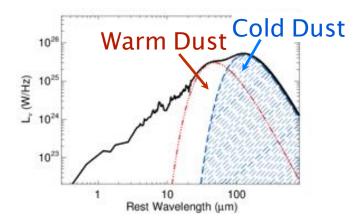




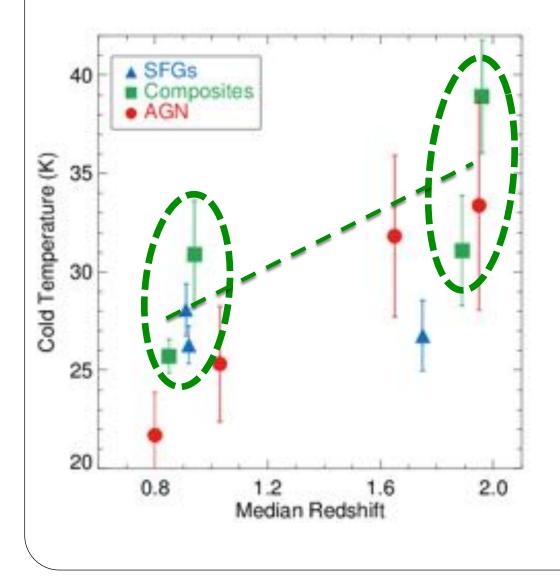


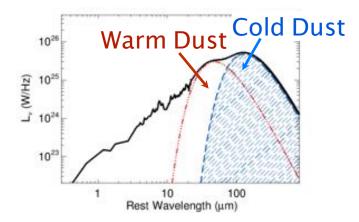
Star Forming Galaxies show no change in cold dust temperature from z~1-2



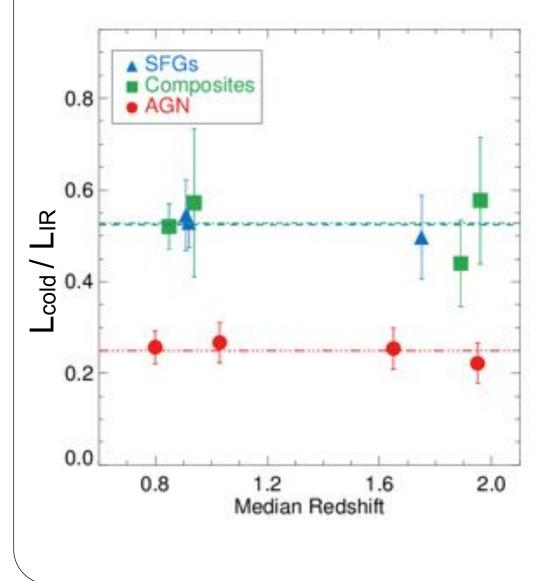


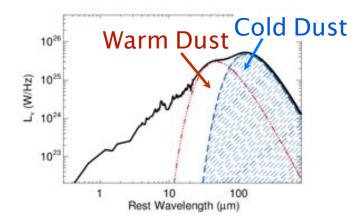
Mild evolution in cold dust temperature for AGN





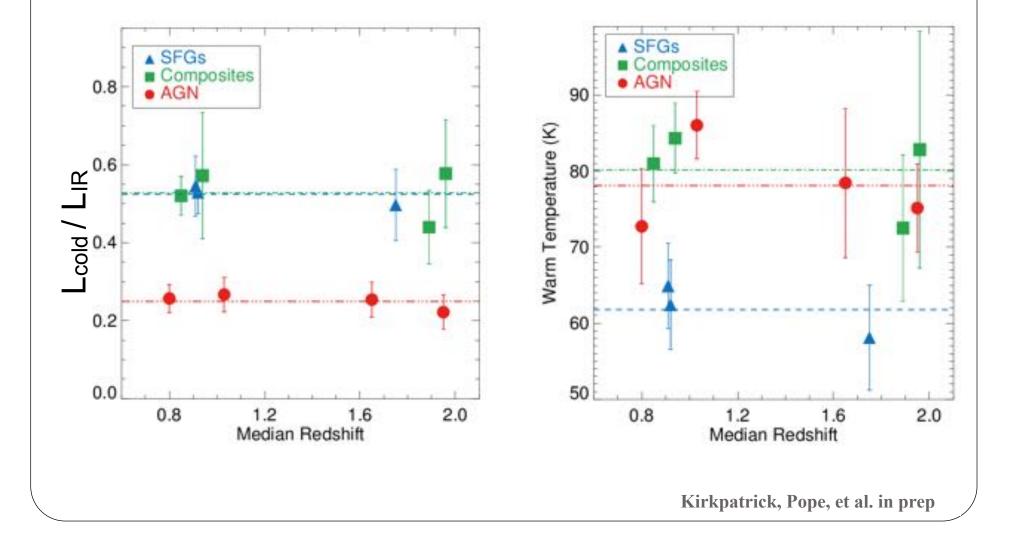
Composite sources show mild increase in cold dust temperature with redshift <u>and LIR</u>



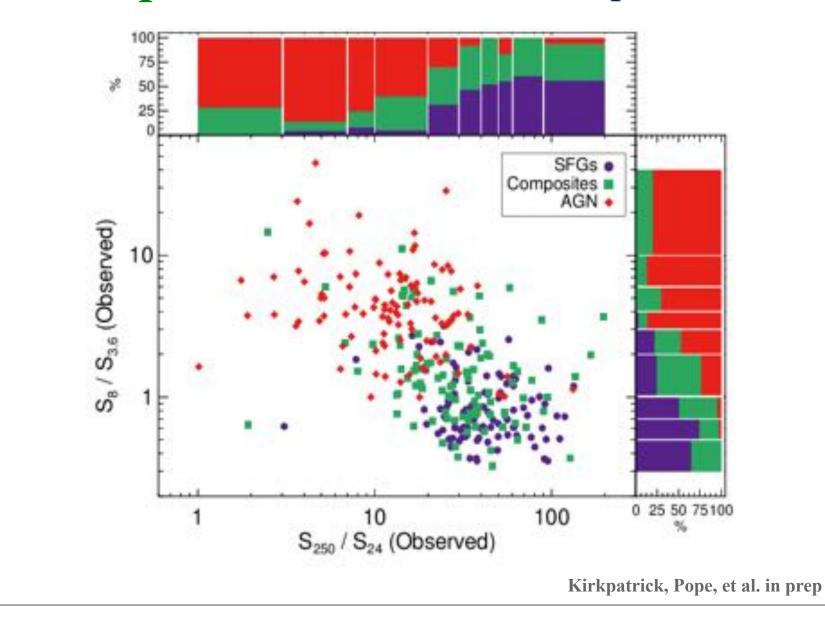


Fraction of L_{IR} from the cold dust component is 50% for **SFGs** and **composite galaxies** but only 25% for **AGN**

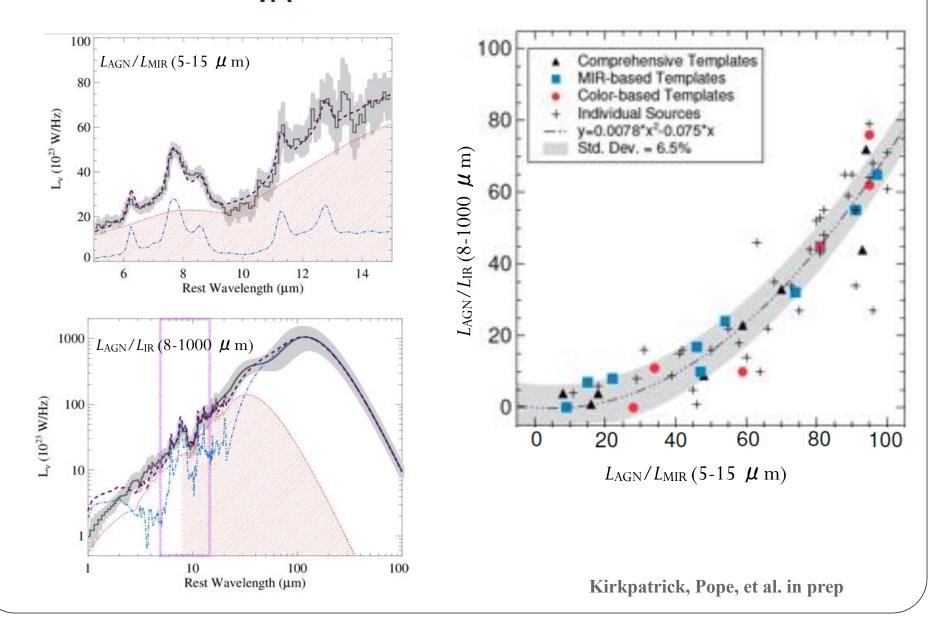
Composites sources: same amount of cold dust as **SFGs** but same warm dust temperature as **AGN**



Composites sources are important



Total L_{IR} AGN fractions



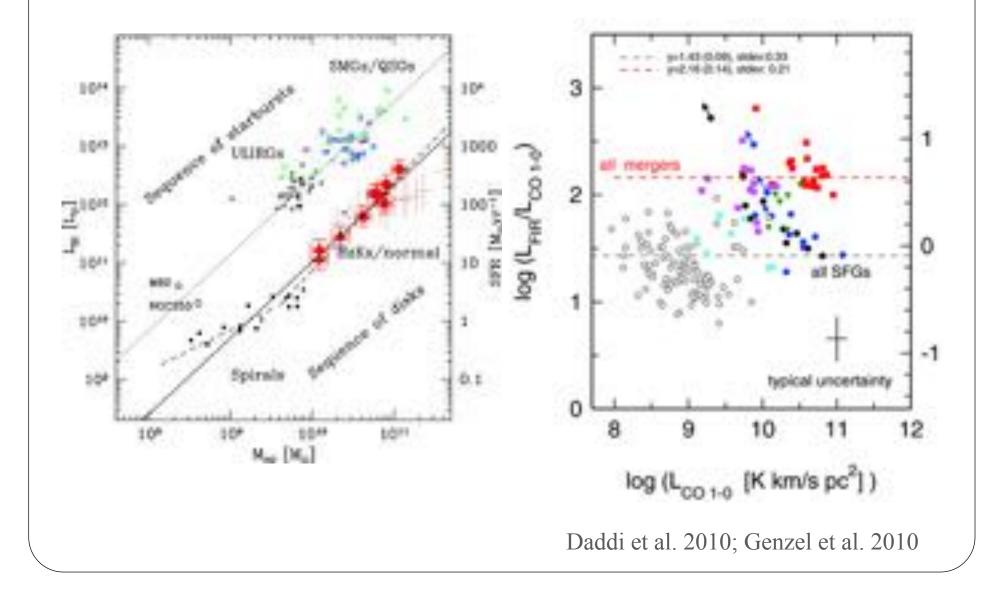
Take away points

- Composite sources really do show a mix of AGN and SF activity across the SED (MIR and FIR)
- 2. Composite sources can be significant contaminants to samples of "star forming galaxies"
- 3. The AGN component of the total IR SED can be significant need to account for this when calculating SFR from L_{IR}

Take away points

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Linking molecular gas and star formation at high redshift: Integrated Schmidt-Kennicutt relation

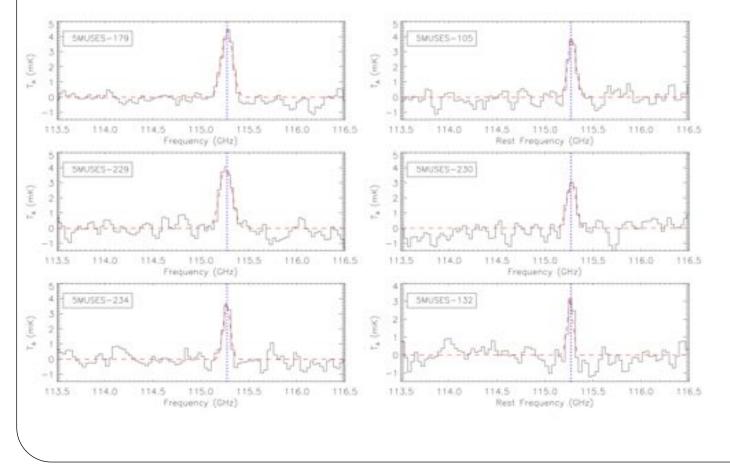


EARLY SCIENCE WITH THE LARGE MILLIMETER TELESCOPE: EXPLORING THE EFFECT OF AGN ACTIVITY ON THE RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN MOLECULAR GAS, DUST, AND STAR FORMATION

Allison Kirkpatrick¹, Alexandra Pope¹, Itziar Aretxaga², Lee Armus³, Daniela Calzetti¹, George Helou⁴, Alfredo Montaña², Gopal Narayanan¹, F. Peter Schloerb¹, Yong Shi⁵, Olga Vega², Min Yun¹

2014, ApJ, 796, 135

Observations: LMT/RSR CO(1-0) detections for AGN and SF galaxies

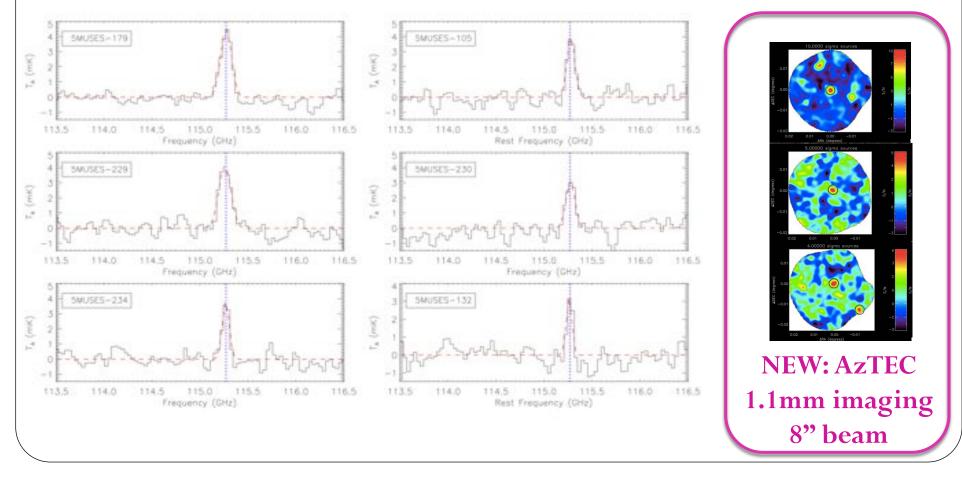


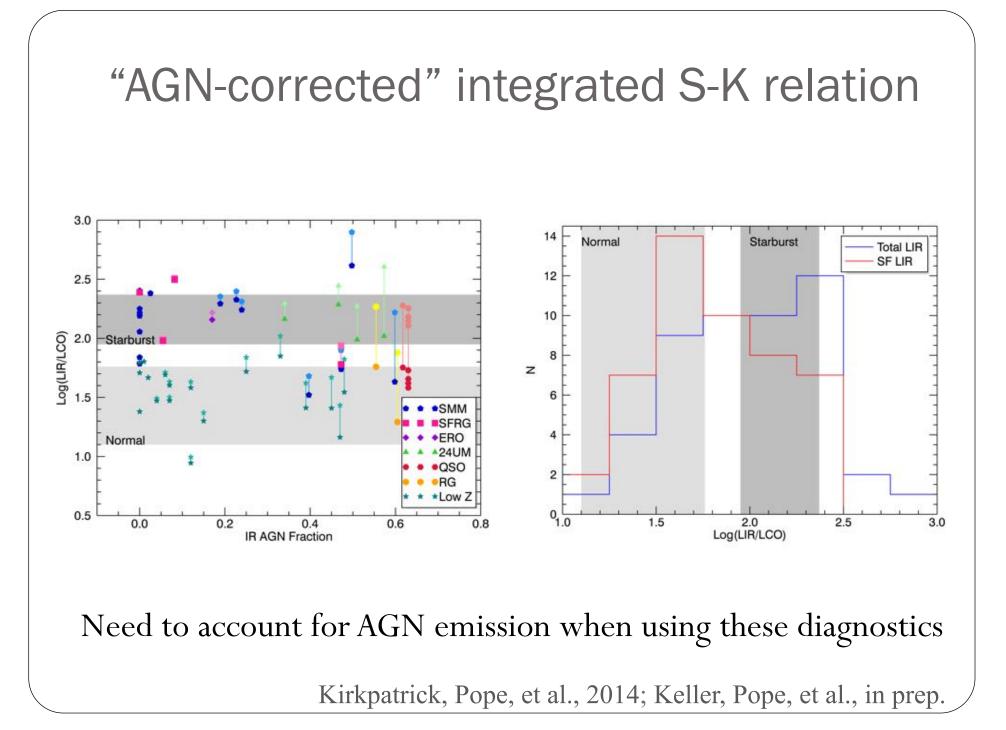
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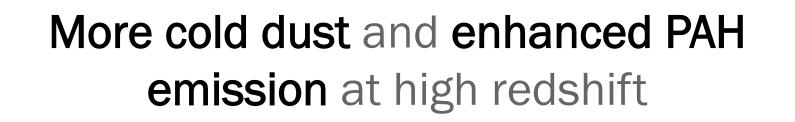


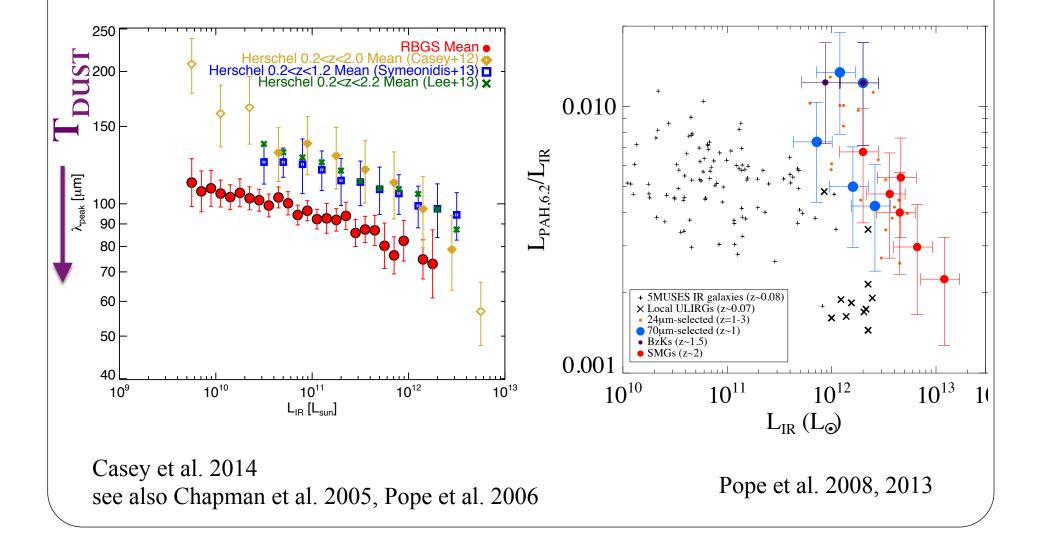
Outstanding Questions

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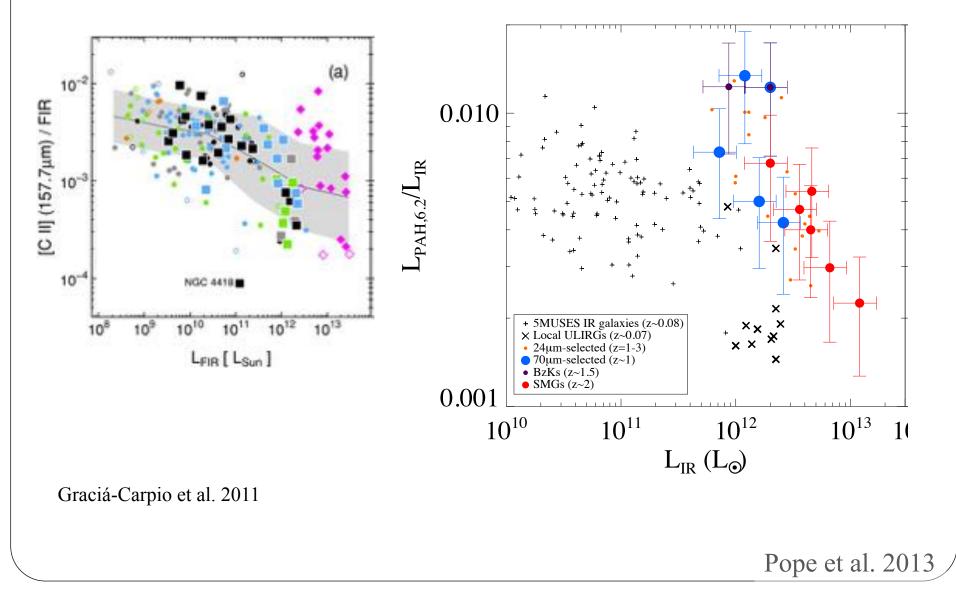
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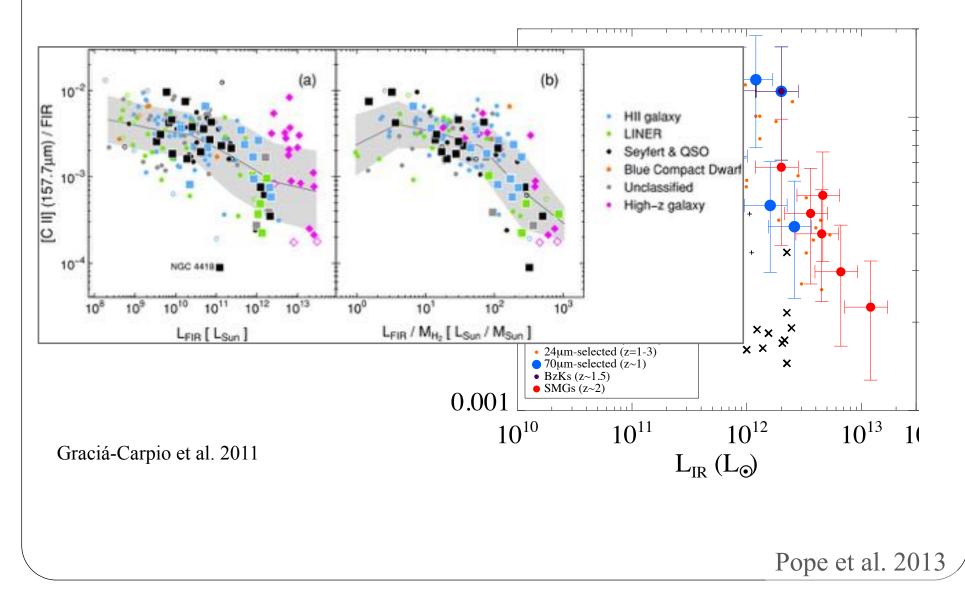




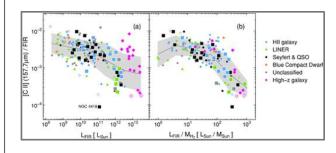
Enhanced PAH emission at high redshift ... similar to enhanced [CII] emission?

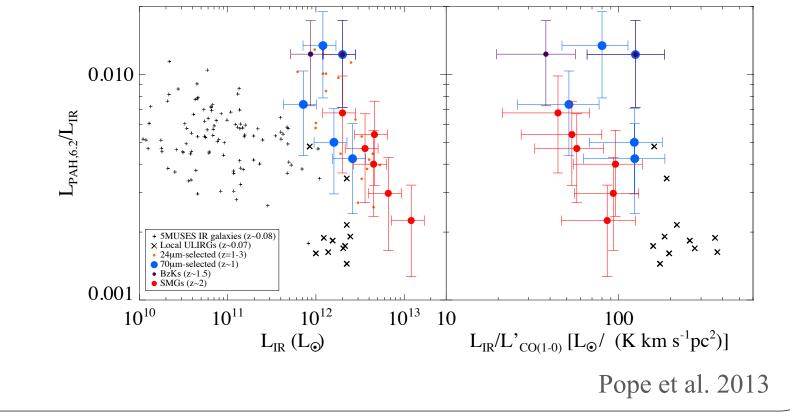


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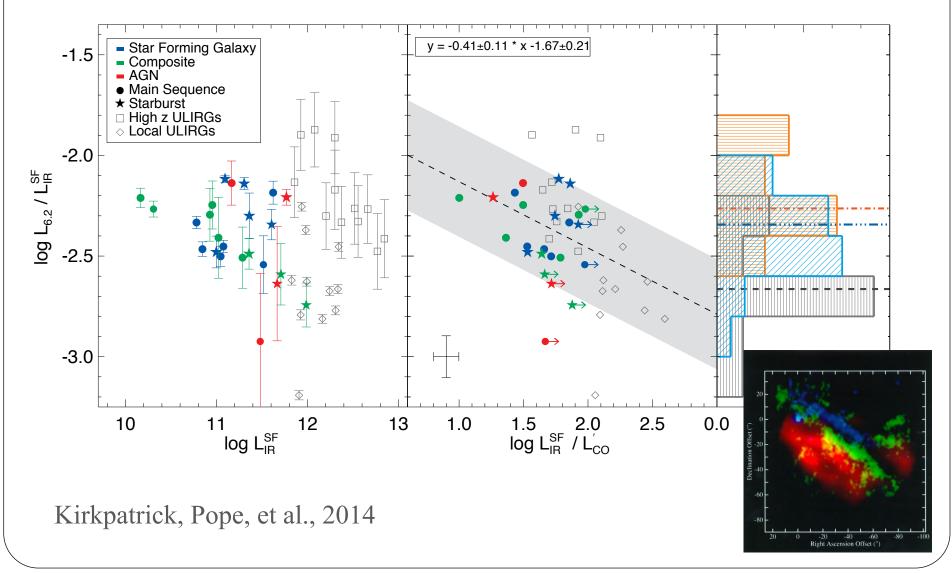


Link between enhanced PAH emission at high redshift and more molecular gas





Link between enhanced PAH emission at high redshift and more molecular gas



SUMMARY

- How is the star formation linked to the black hole growth? Can we separate emission from each in our observations?
 - Yes: decompose IR SED into SF and AGN components. Many galaxies show significant emission from both: "composite galaxies"
 - We observe differences in the cool and warm dust temperatures between the AGN, composite and SF galaxies => AGN heat the dust to higher temperatures and can account for up to 80% of L_{IR}

o AGN emission must be subtracted when calculating SFRs (e.g S-K)

SUMMARY

• Are the mechanisms of triggering and fueling star formation during the peak period of z=1-3 different from those in the local Universe?

How do the interstellar medium conditions differ during the peak period of z=1-3 from those in local galaxies?

 Enhanced PAH emission is linked to the increased molecular gas in high redshift galaxies -> star formation in scaled up PDRs?

ALMA+large single dish (sub)mm telescopes (e.g. LMT) are allowing us to push studies of the ISM down to typical L^{*} galaxies that are dominating the SFRD

