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Outline

- I. IPMU Preamble. Galaxies and fundamental physics.
- 2. Measuring galaxy growth in BOSS.
- 3. Merger histories of individual galaxies.
- 4. Summary and prospects.

Preamble: Physics and Mathematics of the Universe Observations?



CERN / LHC





Current problems in galaxy evolution... since z~1.5, about 9 Gyr ago



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- growth and assembly through time
- relation to dark matter (bias)
- fueling of star formation (inflows)
- quenching of star formation
- star formation history (bursty? smooth?)
- morphology and morphological evolution
- role of galaxy-galaxy mergers
- role of active nuclei
- role of environment and local density
- outflows of gas

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See: weak lensing GR & cosmology to follow

 Do they grow hierarchically and at what rate?
 Following LCDM and dark matter?

2) What processes drive or inhibit growth? The most massive galaxies are centrals

Mergers, feedback, environment...



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detailed followup



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large surveys

<u>strategy</u>



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Hierarchical LCDM dark matter assembly

Note: comoving (expanding) coordinates

Millennium, Springel et al. 2005

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Assembling dark matter halos









Example triple merger 5 Gyr ago (z~0.5)





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0.35 Theoretical High Mass 0.30 M_{*}>1011 prediction for 0.25 fraction of galaxy assembly! galaxies 0.20 assembling at different 0.15 times 0.10 0.05 0.00 2 3 5 4 0 redshift 9 Gyr ago DeLucia et al. 2007





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- How do we measure mass?
- How do we measure assembly?

STELLAR MASS ESTIMATES





Palomar/DEEP2, 1.5 deg²













Connection to fundamental physics probes



Current galaxy surveys



Current galaxy surveys



Planned surveys



LSST: construction 2016?





SuMIRe, 2011-2020?

BOSS: Baryon Oscillation Spectroscopic Survey (Working NOW!)



PI: David Schlegel



(2.5m telescope!)

The BOSS

- SDSS-III program, better spectrographs
- 5 deg² plates, 1000 fibers
- 10,000 deg², 1.5e6 massive galaxies to $z\sim0.7$







The problem: IR for reliable stellar mass estimates



1000-2000 deg² overlap → catalog level matching

- Magnitude system (AB vs. Vega)
- Spatially varying PSFs

Differences

- Photometry techniques / apertures available
 - Pixel scales (UKIDSS is 0.4")
 - Magnitude limits
 - Coverage by band (non-detection vs non-observation)

Recurring problems for the future of large surveys

BOSS+UKIDSS: "Synthetic Aperture" Matched Photometry



First Look! Galaxy Stellar Mass Function



Preliminary results so far...



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COSMOS Groups





- HST/ACS over 1.6 deg²
- 30 bands to AB ~ 25
- Photo-z accuracy of ~0.02

Scoville+07, Capak+07, Ilbert+09

- ~150 groups X-ray selected groups using Chandra + XMM
- weak lensing calibrated halo masses $M_{200}{\sim}5~x~10^{13}~M_{\odot}$
- 0.2 < z < 1.2
- Unique in M₂₀₀, z, completeness

COSMOS Brightest Central (group) Galaxies



COSMOS Brightest Central (group) Galaxies

z=0.22

Why study galaxy growth using BCGs?

1. They are the most massive galaxies in the universe.

2. They live in a special place, allowing tests of specific physical processes.

z=0.75

3. They are (usually) ellipticals and follow scaling relations.

Internal structure of ellipticals



Internal structure of ellipticals



COSMOS Groups and BCGs



VLT Followup with FORS2

Increase spec-z membership (to z=1), Stellar velocity dispersions of BCGs and field ellipticals, Spec-z merging pairs of group members

• 4 perfect nights in February 2010

- ~1hr exposures, R~2000
- First pass reduction: 537 redshifts,
 47 BCG velocity dispersions
- Second pass will increase samples by 50%



Projects

1. Weak-lensing vs. L_X scaling relations. Alexie Leauthaud (Leauthaud+10)

2. Lensing constraints on halo centers and group member assignment. Matt George et al. (in prep)

3. HOD constraints. Jeremy Tinker et al. (in prep)

4. Statistical nature of BCGs. Melody Wolk et al. (in prep)

5. Assembly history of groups and BCGs.

See later slides!



BCG Mergers...

20 kpc



Log M₂₀₀ = 13.7 Log M* = 11.6

BCG triple merger at z=0.49 revealed!

PRELIMINARY

- Major BCG pairs ~10%
- Substructure and tidal features ~50%
- Late time BCG assembly in action? Growth to be quantified..

e.g., Tran+08 but see Wiley+08

The dynamical evolution of BCGs



Local cluster BCGs are larger...

with lower velocity dispersions.

But do lie on the Fundamental Plane

The dynamical evolution of BCGs

Expected evolution in FP projections as seen in radial merger simulations



Do radial BCG mergers may signify major *halo* mergers? Major galaxy mergers?



Major halo / Major stellar



New sub-halo studies needed. Still unclear see e.g., Wetzel 2010, Faltenbacher 2010

Minor halo / Major stellar









FUTURE





Combining the statistical power of new large surveys with detailed tests of physical mechanisms.

• **BOSS**: First robust measures of galaxy growth and detection of hierarchical galaxy assembly in the next few months.

• BCGs Mergers: COSMOS BCGs show frequent signs of minor merging. But their dynamics show little sign of significant mergers. Evidence for stripping and suppression?

