

Active Galactic Nuclei evolution

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- AGN main properties
- AGN evolution
- AGN masses and physical evolution
- The Big Picture and 🔀 current understanding

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Powerful AGN and Their Host Galaxies Across Cosmic Time



Active Galactic Nuclei

- Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN) main characteristics include:
 - 1. High powers: most powerful "non-explosive" sources in the Universe
 - \checkmark visible up to large distances: current record z = 7.1
 - 2. Small emitting regions: \approx a few light days
 - (1 lt-day = 2.6 10^{15} cm \approx 1 millipc); R \leq c $t_{var}/(1+z)$
 - ✓ extremely large energy densities (≈ 1,000 galaxies packed in the Solar System!)
 - 3. Broad-band, variable emission: from the radio- to the γ -ray band
 - 4. Strong evolution: higher powers in the past, with peak at $z \approx 2$
- AGN phenomenon relatively rare: it affects \approx 1% of galaxies





Gravitational power

$$E_{acc} = \frac{GMm}{R} \quad L_{acc} = \frac{GMm}{R} = \frac{GMm}{kR_s} = \frac{GMm}{\frac{k^2GM}{c^2}} = \frac{c^2}{2k}m$$

$$L_{acc} = \eta \dot{m} c^2$$

$$R = \frac{1}{kR_s} = \frac{1}{kR_s} = \frac{1}{k^2GM} = \frac{1}{2k}m$$

 $\eta \approx 0.06$ non-rotating BH
 $\eta \approx 0.42$ maximally rotating BH
c.f. $\eta \approx 0.007$ for Hydrogen burning

$$\dot{m} \approx 2 \frac{(L_{acc} / 10^{46})}{(\eta / 0.1)} M_{\odot} / yr$$

$$L_{Edd} = 1.3 \ 10^{46} (M / 10^8 M_{\odot}) erg / s$$

 L/L_{Edd} measures how close to maximum accretion a BH is



The AGN Zoo

AGN come in a large (and scary!) number of sub-classes:

Radio-quiet AGN

Type 1 & 2, QSO, QSO2, Seyfert 1, Seyfert 2, Seyfert 1.5, Seyfert 1.8, Seyfert 1.9, Narrow-line Seyfert 1, Liners

Radio-loud AGN

Type 1 & 2, blazars, flat- and steep-spectrum radio quasars, coredominated, lobe-dominated, optically violent variable quasars, BL Lacertae objects (high-peaked, low-peaked, radio-selected, X-ray selected), highand low-polarization quasars

Radio-galaxies: Fanaroff-Riley I & II, narrow-lined, broad-lined, highexcitation, low-excitation, GHz-peaked

AGN "Really" Fundamental Parameters

• The full AGN variety can be explained by only three parameters:

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AGN Unified Schemes



AGN "Really" Fundamental Parameters

- The full AGN variety can be explained by only three parameters:
 - Indicate and angle; Seyfert 1 2, radio quasars radio galaxies, etc. [apparent]
 - presence (or lack of) jets; radio-loud radioguiet [intrinsic]
 - ✓ accretion rate: [intrinsic]
 - ► L/L_{edd} > 0.01 → efficient accretors (radiativemode AGN)
 - ≻ L/L_{edd} < 0.01 → inefficient accretors (jetmode AGN)

Number counts and evolution



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Number counts and evolution

• Uniform distribution and Euclidean space: Number $\propto D^3 = (L/4\pi S)^{3/2} \rightarrow N(\geq S) \propto S^{-3/2} \rightarrow N(S) \propto S^{-5/2}$









Population vs. individual (physical) evolution

- Luminosity functions give us information on the "population" history:
 - was the typical power larger at higher z? YES
 - were the typical number densities larger at higher z? YES
- Nothing can be inferred on ``individual" sources:
 - are the same sources being continuously active? ?
 - are most galaxies active only a small fraction of their lifetime? ?

AGN masses

 Estimated through the virial theorem applied to the broad line clouds

•
$$\langle T \rangle = -\langle U \rangle / 2$$
: $mv^2 / 2 = GmM / 2r \rightarrow M = rv^2 / G$

- Two parameters needed: • velocity \rightarrow from Doppler line broadening • distance \rightarrow through "reverberation mapping" $M = f \frac{rv^2}{G}$
- Mass range: 10⁶ 10⁹ Mo
- Almost always L \leq L_{Edd}

AGN masses



AGN masses





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AGN physical evolution. 1.

$$M = \int \dot{m} dt + M_i = \frac{(1-\eta)}{\eta c^2} \int L(t) dt + M_i$$

$$M \approx 1.6 \ 10^9 \ \frac{(L_{acc} \ / \ 10^{46})(\Delta T \ / \ Gyr)}{(\eta \ / \ 0.1)} M_{\odot} + M_i \ (L = const!)$$

$$3C273 \quad M \approx 10^9 M_{\odot} \& L_{acc} \approx 2x10^{46} erg / s \rightarrow \Delta T < 310^8 yr$$

$$NGC4151$$
 $M \approx 5x10^7 M_{\odot} \& L_{acc} \approx 7x10^{43} erg / s \rightarrow \Delta T < 4 Gyr$

*M*87 $M \approx 6x10^9 M_{\odot} \& L_{acc} \approx 10^{41} erg / s \rightarrow \Delta T < 370,000 Gyr$

AGN physical evolution. 2.

- Efficient accretors (strong disk emission) must have been active (i.e. accreting at current rate) for t << t_{Hubble}
- Inefficient accretors (strong jet emission) must have been much more active (i.e. accreting at rate >> than current rate) in the past





AGN Feedback: a simple estimate (adapted from Fabian 2012)

 $E_{\rm gal} \approx M_{\rm gal} \sigma^2$ (from U ~ GM^2/R and taking $GM/R \approx \sigma^2$)

$$E_{\rm BH} = \int L(t)dt = \eta c^2 \int \dot{m}dt = \eta M_{\rm BH}c^2$$

 $M_{\rm BH} \approx 5 \times 10^{-3} M_{\rm gal}$ (Kormendy & Ho 2013)

$$E_{\rm BH}/E_{\rm gal} \approx (\eta/0.1) \ 5 \times 10^{-4} (c/\sigma)^2$$

$$\sigma < 400 \text{ km/s} \rightarrow E_{\rm BH}/E_{\rm gal} > 280$$



T = 360 Myr

AGN feedback. Color = gas temperature Brightness = gas density





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BLACK HOLE VARIABILITY AND THE STAR FORMATION–ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEUS CONNECTION: DO ALL STAR-FORMING GALAXIES HOST AN ACTIVE GALACTIC NUCLEUS?

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ABSTRACT

We investigate the effect of active galactic nucleus (AGN) variability on the observed connection between star formation and black hole accretion in extragalactic surveys. Recent studies have reported relatively weak correlations between observed AGN luminosities and the properties of AGN hosts, which has been interpreted to imply that there is no direct connection between AGN activity and star formation. However, AGNs may be expected to vary significantly on a wide range of timescales (from hours to Myr) that are far shorter than the typical timescale for star formation (\geq 100 Myr). This variability can have important consequences for observed correlations. We present a simple model in which *all* star-forming galaxies host an AGN when averaged over ~100 Myr timescales, with long-term average AGN accretion rates that are perfectly correlated with the star formation rate (SFR). We show that reasonable prescriptions for AGN variability reproduce the observed weak correlations between SFR and L_{AGN} in typical AGN host galaxies, as well as the general trends in the observed AGN luminosity functions, merger fractions, and measurements of the average AGN luminosity as a function of SFR. These results imply that there may be a tight connection between AGN activity and SFR over galaxy evolution timescales, and that the apparent similarities in rest-frame colors, merger rates, and clustering of AGNs compared to "inactive" galaxies may be due primarily to AGN variability. The results provide motivation for future deep, wide extragalactic surveys that can measure the *distribution* of AGN accretion rates as a function of SFR.

Key words: galaxies: active - galaxies: evolution - quasars: general

Online-only material: color figures

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Summary

- AGN evolve over most of the age of the Universe
- The evolution of the most common AGN type (efficient accretors: radio-quiet/radiative-mode) *might* be explained as related to the variation in star formation rate on cosmic time scales (once the different variability time scales are taken into account)
- The evolution of the inefficient accretors (jet-mode) can be understood as a result of a strong burst of star formation at high z followed by a "cleaning up" of the gas (death of activity and of star formation)
- Only by comparing the short (~ days to years) with the very long (~ Gyr) time scales one can understand AGN evolution!