Origin of the 12µm Emission Across Galaxy Populations from WISE and SDSS

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Combining WISE and SDSS

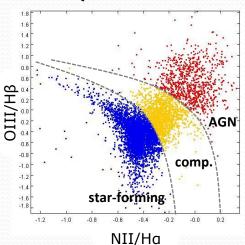
WISE PR1 Catalog

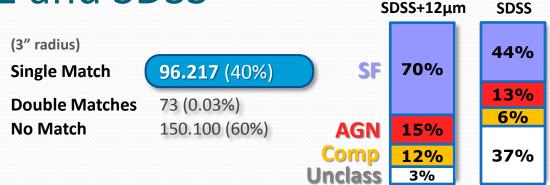
- 12μm flux > 1 mJy
- clean photometry

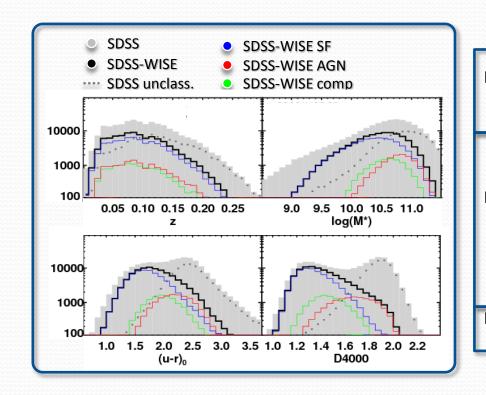
SDSS MPA -JHU Catalog

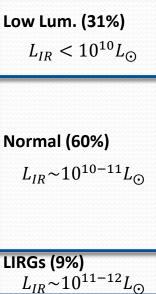
Brinchman et al. (2004)

- $r^* < 17.7 < z > = 0.1$
- improved emission line fluxes
 → SFR, metall., dust, mass
- No QSOs!

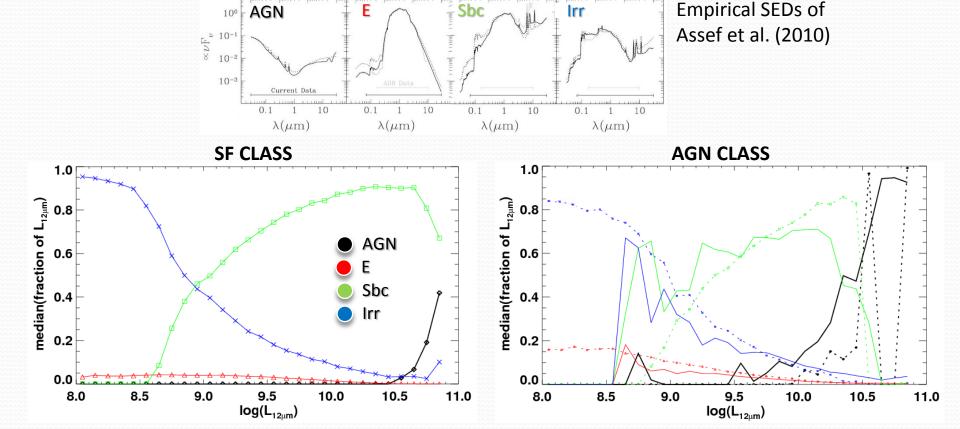






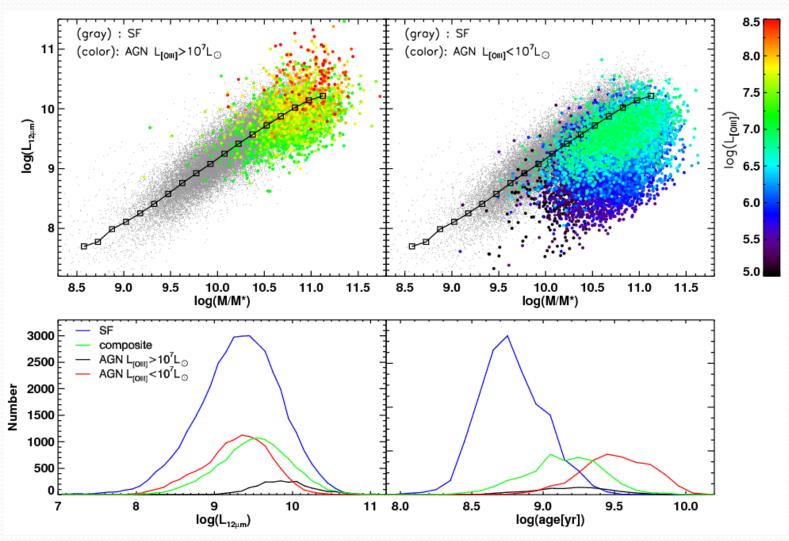


Role of AGN in the Energy Budget

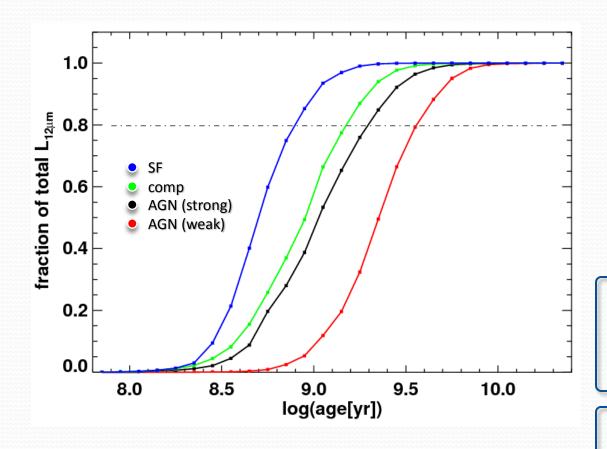


- 96% of sources have AGN contributing <10% of Lbol
- For AGN class → 86% have AGN contributing <40% of L₁₂
- AGN play small part in the total energy budget (no type 1 AGN in the sample !)

Mass - IR Luminosity Relation



IR Luminosity budget of stellar age



80% of total IR luminosity produced in galaxies :

- < 0.6 Gyr (SF)
- < 1.5 Gyr (comp)
- < 2 Gyr (strong AGN)
- 1-3 Gyr (weak AGN)

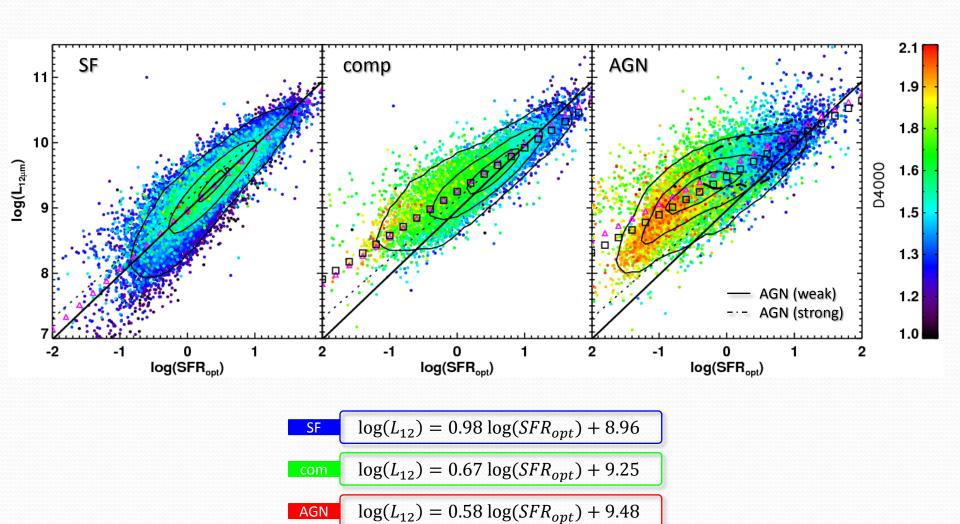


Important role of young/old stars in powering 12µm emission

Smooth seq. between

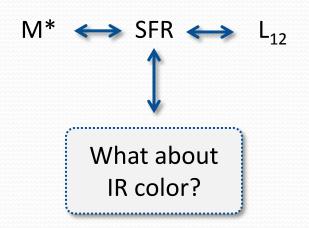
High SF quiescent

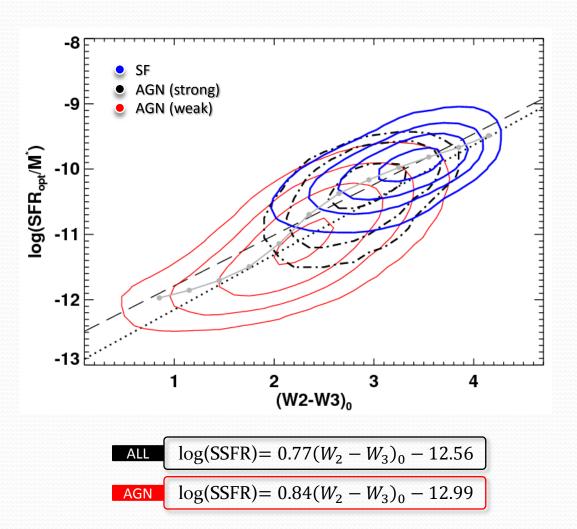
SFR-IR Luminosity Relation



The Color of Star Formation

So far, there is a tight link between





Conclusions

- SDSS+WISE 12µm sources trace typical, blue sequence star-forming galaxies, but also AGN. Avoids the bulk of "red and dead" galaxies. Low/normal IR luminosities.
- Redder systems are dominated by older stellar pop., which contribute more to the 12µm emission → relevance of old/interm. age stars in heating the dust
- Strong AGN → smooth continuation at massive-end of normal SF sequence, where the AGN gradually quenches SF (possibly after a SB episode)
- The AGN, if present, does <u>not</u> dominate the energy budget
- The (4.6μm-12μm) color can be used as a first-order indicator of the overall SF activity