The host galaxy properties of powerful radio sources across cosmic time

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What are they?

- First extragalactic radio sources identified with optical counterparts in 1949
- Centaurus A and Virgo A soon followed by Cygnus A in 1951
- Bright radio -> faint optical hard to accept.
- Followed by the discovery/identification of the quasars in the early `60s

Cygnus A

VLA Chandra HST/Keck



Cygnus A

VLA Chandra HST/Keck



Cygnus A

VLA Chandra HST/Keck



- Massive 'elliptical' galaxies containing a currently active nucleus powered by accretion onto a (spinning) supermassive black hole
- Desire to study host galaxies leads to study or radio galaxies rather than quasars
- Orientation-based unification allows exploitation of `natural coronograph'



Stills from animation in presentation

Cosmic context

- The RG were the first galaxies to be found above redshifts of 1, 2, 3 and 4 – enabling a leap to the high z universe
- They mark the most massive galaxies at each epoch
 - probability of being a powerful radio source a strong function of stellar (and black-hole) mass - but still only a few % of them are radio loud at any one time
- They mark the positions of the first protoclusters (Venemans et al. 2007)

- The juxtaposition of powerful sources of radiation from nucleosynthesis (stars) and from gravitational collapse (AGN)
- The sites of feedback* in action...

• * negative and/or positive??

Their component

parts



The Host + AGN catalogue of parts

- Two programmes:
 - The z2p5 spectroscopic/polarimetric study of z ~ 2.5 radio galaxies
 - High quality spectra from Lya to [S II] and restframe UV polarimetry
 - The SHzRGS Spitzer survey of 69 radio galaxies 1 < z < 5.2</p>
 - Separate the stellar and AGN contributions to the SED
 - Construct the restframe H-band Hubble diagram and determine stellar masses
 - Examine the RG environment with multi-band data
 - Both programmes founded upon extensive archival HST data for optical/NIR photometry and morphology





- Keck LRISp observations of 9 RG
 - high radio power sources from USS survey (Röttgering 1995) 2.2 < z < 3.6
 - long slit spectopolarimetry 3900-9000Å with R~600
 - typical exposure 20ks
 - slit along radio axis
- VLT ISAAC observations of 9 RG
 - from USS survey 2.2 < z < 2.6
 - 3 in common with above
 - long slit spectroscopy in J, H and K with R ~ 500
 - typical exposure 3-10ks in each band
 - slit along radio axis (congruent for sources in common)









•Vernet et al. (2001)









•ISAAC spectroscopy in J, H and K

•Humphrey et al. (2007)

















Continuum fitting using`clumpy-scattering' model





Stills from animation in presentation (left to right, top to bottom)











Emission line fitting, [O III] and H-alpha

1138-262

4C+10.48 Aperture 1

2104-242 Aperture 1









2104-242 Aperture 1

0529-549





Principal results

- Continuum
 - The restframe UV continuum in these powerful sources is generally dominated by 'grey' dust scattering of the obscured AGN from a clumpy medium
 - The fractional linear polarization P_{ctm} (1250-1400Å) ranges from a few to 20%
 - but note that the narrow emission lines are unpolarized and some objects show a scattered BLR
 - E-vector more closely perp. to UV elongation than to radio axis
 - P_{ctm} correlates with NV/CIV and anticorrelates with Lya/CIV
 - Sources with high emission line Av show high polarization



Principal results

Continuum





Continuum



high polarization



Continuum



high polarization



Emission lines

- Lines from wide range of ionization
- Predominantly AGN photoionized with a range in ionization parameter U but some evidence for shock contributions
- New, sensitive, measures of T_e from UV/optical line ratios – particularly [O III] 1660/5007 – giving an average of 14,000K
- Kinematics divide into perturbed (>1000km/s) regions – associated with the radio jets – and quiescent (<250km/s) halos
- Large Lya halos (>100kpc, L_{La} ~ 10⁴³⁻⁴⁴ erg/s) seen in other lines, eg. CIV, HeII, [O III], Ha => they are ionized and not neutral scatterers



Emission lines (ctd)

- Photoionization modelling shows that the metallicity Z (and N/H) are close to Solar with variations of < x2</p>
- This is similar to the result at low redshift by Robinson et al. (1987)



- Light from a young stellar population?
 - Hard to detect unambiguously, though we believe it dilutes the linear polarization below the 'pure' scattering values
 - UV from massive stars may produce the large Lya/CIV ratios (LAE objects) seen predominantly in HzRG with z > 3
 - Villar-Martin et al. (2007)
 - The cool dust emission (sub-mm) from HzRG is more likely to arise from stellar than AGN - heated dust



•The dust scattering model (Vernet et al. 2001)



A comprehensive Spitzer survey of HzRGs: the most massive galaxies at every epoch

- 28.3 hr of Spitzer Cycle 1 GO observations
- 69 HzRGs at 1 < z < 5.2 ($L_{3GHz} > 10^{26}$ W Hz⁻¹)
- 3 camera imaging to measure the SEDs of stellar populations and the dust properties
- Supporting data in other bands (including HST archival data) to characterise the AGN contributions
- Observations between Nov 2004 and Nov 2006
- And hopefully more data from a GTO Cycle 4 proposal!

• To appear in ApJS (astro-ph/0703224)



С 0

- RG are gE and cD galaxies in the local universe
- ∎ r^{1/4} light profiles in distant sources (NICMOS)
- HzRG reside in (proto-)cluster environments
- Large, luminous Lya halos
- sub-mm detections => high star formation rates
- NIR Hubble diagram (K-z; Rocca-Volmerange et al. 2004)

Correlation of stellar bulge and BH masses





- Decompose SED into AGN and stellar parts using X-ray - radio observations
- Characterise environments using optical, NIR and MIR imaging



•The sample

•Circles HzRGs in our Spitzer sample with IRAC/IRS imaging

•Squares MIPS observations as well, i.e. low Galactic background

•*Plusses* parent sample of 225 HzRG from which our sample was drawn







• Stern et al. 2005, Lacy et al. 2004/6

These diagrams find (almost) equally type 1 (unobscured) and type 2 (obscured) AGN - why?

SHZRGS Modelling the restframe NIR SED

- Using only IRAC bands + 16µm + 24µm (26 sources)
- Fit elliptical templates of varying age from PEGASE 2 (assuming z_{form}=10, Eyles et al. 2007)
- Use 3 black-body components of dust at different temperatures: 60K and 250K, both fixed, and 600-1500K hot AGN-heated dust
- Use formal Ξ^2 fitting for results



•Sources with MIPS data











•Stellar fraction of restframe H-band light





Restframe H-band stellar luminosity vs. redshift from the SED-fitting

•Solid points for sources with MIPS data

•Red + are sub-mm sources from Borys et al. (2005) derived in the same fashion

•Green dashed lines
are luminosities of
elliptical galaxies
with z_{form} = 10, from
PÉGASE.2 models
(assuming Kroupa
2001 IMF) normalised
to 10¹¹ and 10¹² Msun







log[L_{3GHz} (W/Hz)]

•Marginally significant correlation of stellar mass with radio luminosity that would imply that the more massive galaxies host more powerful AGN





Both MIR and Radio emission trace AGN power – but possibly with a time-delay (Ogle et al. 2006)



- The hosts of powerful radio galaxies comprise a homogeneous population with stellar masses between 10¹¹ and 12¹² M_{sun}
- The powerful RG have similar MIR colours to the unobscured AGN
 - Most would be classified as LIRG or ULIRG
- Marginal evidence for higher mass galaxies to have higher radio (AGN) power

The parts

- A massive, old stellar population
- A radio loud AGN with axial symmetry and a mixture of isotropic and anisotropic emissions
- Active star formation (at least at z > 2-3) largely obscured by dust
- Hot and warm halos enriched by outflows



ToDo/In Progress

- Better SED fitting using shorter wavelength data and estimated of stellar population age (eg. from 4000Å break)
- Obtain MIPS data for more of the sample
- Decomposition of the stellar and AGN bolometric luminosities
- Study of the environments using optical, NIR and MIR imaging