EVOLVING GALAXIES IN EVOLVING ENVIRONMENTS 15-19th September 2014, Bologna

The influence of the environmental history on quenching star formation

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Star formation can get quenched by...



How relevant is environment for quenching galaxies?

(e.g. Font+08, vandenBosch+08, Kimm+09, Weinmann +09/10, Peng+10, Tinker+11, Woo+12, Cucciati+12, Wetzel+12/13, DeLucia+13, Bahe+13, Kovac+13, Mok+14...)

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Our approach: analyse the environmental history!
Environmental effects important for centrals (super-halo scales)?
Typical quenching time-scales of satellites?

Method: Comparing galaxy formation models to observations

Method

Observational data

- ◆ Density catalogue of Wilman et al. (2010) using SDSS (DR8): z = 0.015-0.08, Mr<-18, ∆v = +/-1000km/s + V_{max} correction
- Cross-correlated with Brinchmann et al. (2004) & Yang et al. (2007): Estimates for stellar masses, SFRs (Halpha emission lines), galaxy types

Theoretical models

- Millennium-Simulation
 (Springel at al. 2005):
 512³ particles in a (500Mpc/h)³ box, merger trees & spatial distribution of the halos
- Semi-analytic model, Guo et al., 2011, assuming a gradual stripping of the hot halo gas:

Populate dark matter halos with galaxies, same selection criteria as in observations

Quiescent galaxies:
$$sSFR \equiv \frac{SFR}{M_{stellar}} < \frac{0.3}{t_{Hubble}}$$
 see Franx+10
Density estimation: $\sum_{r_i, r_a} = \frac{N_{gal}}{\pi(r_a^2 - r_i^2)}$ see Wilman+10
with: $r_i = 0$ Mpc, $r_a = 1$ Mpc

I. How well do current models (Guo) reproduce the observed quiescent fractions?

Quiescent/red fractions are dependent on both stellar mass and density (e.g. Peng+10)



Stellar mass



overall density dependence mainly driven by satellites (Kovac et al.,2013) similar behavior of centrals & satellites & strong density dependence

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 ◆ Models: centrals & satellites behave differently & weaker density dependence
 ⇒ Over-estimating quiescent satellites (e.g. Kimm+09)

Stellar mass



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Models: centrals & satellites behave differently & weaker density dependence ⇒ Over-estimating *quiescent* \Rightarrow Under-estimating

satellites (e.g. Kimm+09)

quiescent centrals

Stellar mass



Density-halo mass relation

Stellar mass



- Models and observations agree well
- ◆ Satellites: Halo mass is related with 1Mpc-density at all stellar masses
- ◆ Centrals: Halo mass is unrelated with 1Mpc-density (except for the most massive galaxies >10¹¹ M_☉)

see also Haas+12, Muldrew+12

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Halo mass is a 'theoretical' explanation for the density dependence of satellites, (consistent with Woo et al., 2012) but **not** for the one of centrals!

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II. Central galaxies

Their density dependence... environmental effects on superhalo scales? (as 1Mpc is larger than the size of (see also Haines+09, von der Linden+10, Wilman +10,Geha et al. 2012, Rasmussen+12) Backsplash population of centrals (see also Balogh+00, Mamon+04, Ludlow+11, Knebe +11, Wetzel et al. 2014)

 Direct interaction with an extended hot halo

Fraction of galaxies with a hot gas fraction above 0.1 (Bahe+13)



Backsplash population

Stellar mass



True centrals: No dependence on density

◆ Backsplash centrals: Responsible for over-all density dependence ⇒ environment mainly relevant for low mass centrals at high densities

Spend on average 1.5-3 Gyrs at z=0.5-2 as a satellite (depending on density & mass)

Backsplash population

Stellar mass



on density & mass)

III. Satellite galaxies

 ... density correlates with parent halo mass

 density also correlates with the radial distance to the parent halo center

Density dependence is a superposition of both halo mass & radial distance dependence



Radial distance to the halo center

Stellar mass



Residual effects on the radial distance on top of halo mass

 Observations: Environmental effects mainly affecting low-mass satellites in massive halos

Radial distance to the halo center

Stellar mass



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Models: Much stronger residual dependence at all masses Quiescent fractions over-estimated, particularly in the innermost regions

Radial distance to the halo center

Stellar mass



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Environmental history

Can we gain any information on the *typical time-scale* of *star formation quenching in satellites*?

Investigate the environmental history of galaxies...



Environmental history

Time



Lines: 'Environmental fractions' vs the z=0 density = fraction of model satellite galaxies having been residing in halos more massive than 1e12, 5e12 or 1e13 M_☉ for a longer time than 3, 5 or 7 Gyr

Environmental history

Time



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compare with

Observed transition fraction (van den Bosch et al., 2008 and Peng et al., 2011) i.e. "the probability of satellites getting quenched after being accreted":



Quenching time-scales

Time



Lines: 'Environmental' fractions of model satellite galaxies Symbols: Transition fractions from observations

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Implication:

Long quenching timescales for low-mass satellites: **5-7** *Gyr*

Very gentle mode of strangulation/stripping

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Stellar mass dependence



For low mass satellites consistent with De Lucia+12 Fully consistent with Wetzel+12 (HOD)

Conclusion

Challenges:

Current models (with similar prescriptions as the Guo model) *cannot predict observed environmental trends*

More continuous transition between centrals & satellites!

 Environmental effects important for low mass Centrals out to ~1Mpc
 ⇒ Non-negligible fraction of backsplash centrals
 ⇒ Additional effects in the models?

2. Satellites: Environmental histories indicate long quenching time-scales (5-7Gyrs) in low-mass sats ⇒ modifying recipes for internal & environmental processes (dep. on dynamical friction time-scales?)

Outlook...

Effect of stellar feedback



- Changing stellar feedback can have a significant *effect on the* quiescent satellite fraction:
 - ▶ If star formation is delayed due to fb in low mass galaxies, infalling galaxies are younger and contain more gas
 Reducing the quiescent satellite fraction!

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Thank you