The Luminosity-Size relation of galaxies

Simon Driver and Ewan Cameron (University of St Andrews)

- 1. The Luminosity-Size relation: Obs <====>Theory
- 2. Comparison of the MGC and UDF to z=1
- 3. Problems
 - Bias: Luminosity, Size and *Shape*
 - Bimodality: two evolutionary paths !
 - Dust: severe inclination dependent attenuation

4. Galaxy evolution: a two stage problem ?

The Luminosity-size/SB relation



The BBD or LSP can provide a crude connection between observation and theory:

 $\lambda \sim r$

e.g., Fall & Efstathiou 1980 Dalcanton, Spergel & Summers 1997

Distinct structures with distinct trends are seen: spheroids, discs, dwarfs and GCs

The UDF and MGC

- UDF provides deepest data to date
- But even UDF has z limits
- K-corrections severe requiring bandpass shifting
- Near-IR data not deep enough to probe below M* for z >1
- Understanding selection bias key to robust results





Detectability and recoverability

- Detailed and realistic simulations are required
- Simulated disc galaxies are thrown into real UDF data etc...
- Robustness is not defined by detectability but by *recoverability*
- Galaxies identified in grey area have huge systematics
- Systematic trend is to push galaxies to low flux and smaller sizes (!) which can be miss-interpreted as luminosity-size evolution



UDF v MGC results

- UDF comparison window is narrow
- Define comparison boundaries from reliability plots for MGC and UDF
- MGC = z=0 reference sample (Driver et al 2006)
- At z=1 UDF SB boundary brighter than reference sample, I.e., large diffuse objects' sizes and fluxes will be underestimated....



Galaxy Evolution to z=0.7

Results are consistent with 1 mag of luminosity evolution and no size evolution.



3 Major Additional Problems !

- This analysis has ignored three important issues:
- Bimodality and structural multiplicity of galaxies:
 - Spheroids (inc bulges) and discs are fundamentally different beasts, could they have distinct evolutionary paths ? (Driver et al 2006a)
- Shape/profile bias:
 - Previous simulations assumed all galaxies were n=1 discs, but they're not (Cameron, Driver & Freeman 2006)
- Dust attenuation:
 - MGC results suggest attenuation much more severe than previously thought and dependent on inclination and B/T ratio (Driver et al 2006b)







Empirical dust attenuationinclination relations

- Derive M* for discs in various inclination bins (with α fixed)
- Find that M* gets fainter for more inclined systems: Dust attenuation

Bulges: 0 - 2 mag !

Disc: 0.0 - 0.8 mag !



Face-on attenuation based on Tuffs and Popescu dust models

Results incorporating shape bias Qualitatively we see little evidence for any luminosity and size evolution to z=1.5 !



Summary

- All figures from Ewan Cameron's thesis (Cameron 2007) and Cameron & Driver (2006, submitted); Cameron, Driver & Freeman (2007; in prep)
- Luminosity-size is an important meeting ground between theory and observation (spin --> size, luminosity --> mass)
- UDF enables comprehensive comparison only to $z \sim 1.2$ for sub-M*
- Selection bias extremely severe and must be modelled for both the UDF and the local reference sample. DETECTABILITY **#** RECOVERABILITY
- Globally the population shows minimal L-r evolution to z=1 (1mag fading)
- Bimodality, shape bias and dust demand bulge-disc decompositions
- Dividing by Sersic index (n) we find minimal evolution to z=1.5
- Bulge-disc decomposition could reveal distinct disc and bulge evolution but too hard to model correctly given severe dust attenuation, need JWST
- Time to redefine galaxy properties at z=0 in K = GAMA
- Galaxy evolution a two path process ? (bulge=early collapse, disc=infall)



Galaxy And Matter Assembly

- 300 sq deg ugrizJHK sub-arcsec deep imaging and spectroscopic survey
- St Andrews (Driver), Edinburgh (Peacock), LJMU (Baldry), ESO (Liske)
- 4 tests of CDM structure plus generic galaxy resource on scale of SDSS
- Zero redshift near-IR benchmark for JWST (launch 2013)



Summary

- Disks & bulges occupy distinct regions in the colour-structure plane
- Must entertain notion of bi(tri)-modal galaxy formation scenario?
 - Bulk of dark matter halo assembly at high-z (rapid) ???
 - Bulge formation via collapse of baryons + residual mergers (Bulge/AGN/SMBH trinity) z >
 2 (Low mass blue spheroids suggest downsizing of bulge formation) ?
 - Disk formation through later splashback, accretion & infall ? (truncated disks still growing
 I.e., inside out formation) ???
- Must abandon HTF/global approach and routinely dismantle galaxies into their key components (bulges and discs)
- 20% of baryons in stars (almost half emergent B flux attenuated)
- 50% of stars in bulges 50% in discs
- Dust attenuation in B a big issue (bulges heavily attenuated) disks 0.2-1.1 mag, bulges: 0.8 - 3.4 mag ! τ_B~3.8 +/- 0.7
- Switch to near/far-IR now essential to overcome dust issues: GAMA