What metallicity can tell us about galaxy formation

F. Mannucci – Arcetri

G. Cresci, A. Marconi, R. Maiolino, T. Nagao, A. Gallazzi, S. Zibetti, Y. Peng, M. Bothwell, P. Troncoso, V. Sommariva, S. Carniani, M. Curti

IGM@50, Spineto, Jun 2015



Scaling relations

Mass-metallicity





stellar

gas-phase

Mass metallicity

• redshift evolution



Shapley+04, Maier+04,05,06, Savaglio+05, Erb+06, Hayashi+08, Rodrigues+08, Lamareille+08, Cowie & Barger 08, Perez-Montero+09,13, Kewley+08, Maiolino+08, Mannucci+09, Richard+10, Zahid+11,12,14, Cresci+11, Troncoso+14

The Fundamental Metallicity Relation (FMR)



Metallicity depends on both mass and SFR

Extension towards lower masses: Mannucci+11





- No evolution up to z=2.5, evolution of ~0.6 dex at z=3.3
- galaxies at z < 2.3 are no less metal abundant than local galaxies
- evolution of the mass-met.: only apparent, due to higher SFR at higher redshifts



prediction of the metallicity of high-redshift galaxies of a given mass and SFR based only on local galaxies

Equilibrium models

- 1. numerical simulations
- 2. analytic formulations

Reproducing trends and scatter

Many parameters:

- SFR efficiency vs. mass
- gas fraction vs. mass
- in-falling gas
- gas exchange galaxy-halo
- preventive and depleting feedbacks
- properties of the galactic wind



Davé+11, Campisi+11, Krumholz+11, Fu+13, Dayal+13, Romeo-Velona+13,, Lilly+13, Forbes+14, Peng+14,15, Pipino+14, Muñoz & Peeples 14, Lu+14, Creasy+15, Mitra+15, Lu+15

Equilibrium models

1. numerical simulation

Davé+11:

- balance between inflows, outflows, star formation, recycling and feedback
- mass-metallicity due to outflow rate
- scatter set by the timescale to re-equilibrate stochastic variations in the inflow rate
- metallicity depends on SFR
- slow evolution of the FMR with redshift
- momentum-driven wind





Equilibrium models

2. analytic formulation

Lilly+13, Pipino+14

- timescales: gas consumption < evolution
- metallicity driven by the instantaneous equilibrium
- equilibrium naturally produces the FMR with no redshift evolution





- 1. A dependence of metallicity on SFR is expected/reproduced by all models
- 2. Many models produce an un-evolving relation

Strangulation model

Peng+15



closed-box evolution

Strangulation model



no outflows after strangulation

Gas-phase metallicity:

after strangulation SFR keeps reducing while metallicity keeps increasing: origin of the FMR in the gas-phase metallicity?

Testing the models

- low and high redshifts
- excellent databases:
 - SDSS
 - LBT/LUCI
 - Keck/MOSFIRE
 - Subaru/FMOS
 - VLT/KMOS
 - VLT/SINFONI
 - VLT/MOONS (2019)

strong and weak points of current datasets on metallicity scaling relations



Observational status of FMR

• Numerous confirmations (predictions!) at all redshifts



- wide range of selections, properties, and redshifts
- cautions when selecting in metallicity (OIII4363, OIII5007)

Richard+10, Nakajina+11, Erb+10, Contini+11, Sanders+11, Dessauges+11, Cresci+12, Wuyts+12, Roseboom+12, Cullen+13, Pilyugin+13, Ly+13, Belli+13, Henry+13a,13b, Yabe+13, Maier+14, Stott+14, Lian+15

Sanders et al. 2014: 87 z~2 galaxies with MOSFIRE:

"When the sample is divided at the median star-formation rate (SFR), we do not observe significant SFR dependence of the $z \sim 2.3 MZR...$. This suggests that high-redshift galaxies do not fall on the local FMR



- metallicity
- mass (IMF)
- SFR (aperture)



11.5



Contradictions and Translations





Steidel et al. 2014: 179 galaxies at z~2.3 with MOSFIRE:

We find that the dependence of inferred gas-phase metallicity on SFR at a given M* is much weaker at high redshift than at $z \sim 0$, indicating that $z \sim 2.3$ galaxies do not adhere to the same "fundamental metallicity relation" as star-forming galaxies at low redshift.





Wuyts et al. 2014: 222 z~2.2 with SINFONI/ KMOS:

"our data do not show a correlation between the [N II]/Ha ratio and SFR, which disagrees with the 0.2-0.3 dex offset in [N II]/Ha predicted by the "fundamental relation" between stellar mass, SFR and metallicity discussed in recent literature"



There is no "absolute" mass-metallicity relation at any redshift

scatter can be reduced by considering SFR only if the intrinsic scatter is smaller than the dependence on SFR

- 1. quality of data:
 - metallicity
 - SFR
 - mass
- 2. range in SFR (usually narrow)
- 3. mass range
- 4. larger intrinsic scatter at high redshifts

FMR: prediction of the median value of metallicity from local galaxies

mass-metallicity relations: different parts of the same FMR



FMR and apertures

FMR: due to aperture because of gradients?

SDSS spectra: 3" fiber metallicity gradients and dimensions correlated to SFR?

- 1. min dist = 300Mpc, aperture=4kpc (median 6kpc)
- 2. no dependence on distance
- 3. no dependence on light fraction

Sanchez et al 2012" *The Mass-Metallicity relation explored with CALIFA: Is there a dependence on the star formation rate?*" "..we do not find any secondary relation with the starformation rate.."





- shape depends on metallicity calibration
- different conditions at high redshift
- evolution in the BTP diagram

8.4

7.8

7.8

Extreme GPs

Normal GPs Q2343-BX418

02343-BX660 Q0207-BX74

 $\Delta \log(O/H) = 0.04 \pm 0.04$

8.2

CSWR 20

8

 $12 + \log(0/H)$ [N2]

significant spread when using Te

8.4

12+log(0/H) [direct] a

7.8

7.8

8.4



Shapley+05, Brinchman+08, Cullen+13, Wuyts+14, Steidel+14, Shapley+14, Kweley+13, Cullen+13

12+log(0/H) [R23]

8.2

8

Extreme GPs

Normal GPs Q2343-BX418

Q2343-BX660 Q0207-BX74

CSWR 20

• systematic offset between NII/Ha and O3+O2



Oxygen better than Nitrogen?



Oxygen better than Nitrogen?



SDSS galaxies with [OIII]4363 detection, binned in OIII/OII (i.e. ionization parameter): no clear trend with ionization parameter, and no differences with Te and N2 metallicity

Conclusions

- Metallicity to study galaxy evolution
 - many accurate models producing trends and scatter
 - large number of observed spectra up to z=3
 - spatially-resolved observations
 - really possible discriminate among models
- Scaling relations: handle with care
 - aperture not a problem
 - metallicity calibration and evolution of properties
 - FMR does not evolve up to z=2.3, predicts metallicities
 - moderate evolution ($\sim 0.2 \text{ dex at } z=2$) is possible
- Observe the models
 - reproduce the FMR both scatter and no (or slow) evolution
 - MZR? same selection effects (SFR) <u>must</u> be taken into account
 - observed evolution of the MZR is likely to be due <u>ONLY</u> to selection effects