### Understanding Dust Obscured Activity in High Redshift Galaxies

### Alexandra Pope (UMass Amherst) 🕡 FIR Surveyor Workshop - June 3, 2015



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# Much of galaxy formation and evolution occurs behind dust



Dole et al. 2006

# Much of galaxy formation and evolution occurs behind dust



Herschel Space Observatory:

~75% of the CIB at 100 µ m and 160 µ m is resolved by individually detected sources (Magnelli+2013)

80-100% of CIB at 250 μ m is resolved from stacking 24 μ m and K-band selected galaxies (Bethermin+2013;Viero+2013)

RESOLVING THE CIB IS NO LONGER THE MOST PRESSING QUESTION

# Dust-obscured activity dominates the build-up of stars and black holes in galaxies



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### Dust-Obscured Activity Dominates Galaxy Evolution over Cosmic Time



**Outstanding Questions:** 



• What drives the cosmic history of star formation?

Why is there a peak period at  $z\sim2$ ? How is the process/mode of star formation evolving? How is the rise of metals/dust linked to SF? We need to probe the ISM where stars are forming.

How is the star formation linked to the black hole growth?
We need to <u>identify</u> and <u>separate</u> the emission from each in our observations.

Key science questions that are likely to be relevant in the 2020's which are uniquely addressable with a FIR mission:

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How do we probe the interstellar medium (gas and dust where stars are forming) in high redshift galaxies?



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## Galaxy Evolution: IR Diagnostics

#### 1. Far-IR spectrum

• Fine structure lines probe PDR chemistry and strength of incident radiation field

#### 2. Mid-IR spectrum

- ID and quantify AGN emission
- Fine structure lines identify high ionization gas
- PAHs probe ISM conditions (=>SF)
- Warm  $H_2 \rightarrow \text{see P. Appleton talk}$
- Metallicity indicators



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# Far- IR fine structure lines (C, O, N) in the local Universe : Universal deficit at high $L_{IR}$ or $L_{IR}/M_{H2}$



Gracia-Carpio et al. 2011, see also Farrah et al. 2013

# Far- IR [CII]158 at high redshift: Deficit at higher $L_{\rm IR}$ than local galaxies



### Far- IR [CII]158 at high redshift: PDR modeling to estimate $G_0$ and n



High redshift galaxies are scaled up version of local starburst galaxies but with intense activity occurring over kpc scales

Stacey et al. 2010



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# Quantifying AGN and SF activity in high redshift galaxies: mid-IR spectral decomposition

#### 1. <u>Star formation</u>: Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) emission lines + extinction



#### 2. <u>Active Galactic Nuclei</u>: Power-law + extinction



### Mid-IR AGN fraction -> Total IR AGN fraction



### Galaxy SEDs as a function of AGN fraction

Empirical SED templates based on *Spitzer* and *Herschel* observations of >300 galaxies from z=0.5-4

Many high redshift galaxies contain significant AGN emission and are missed in X-ray and mid-IR color selection techniques



Kirkpatrick, Pope, et al. in prep

# **Composites sources** are a significant fraction of high redshift galaxy samples



Kirkpatrick, Pope, et al. in prep



### **Probing ISM conditions: PAH line ratios**





### Enhanced PAH emission at high redshift



# Enhanced PAH emission at high redshift ... similar to enhanced [CII] emission?



Pope et al. 2013

Stacey et al. 2010, Graciá-Carpio et al. 2011

# Enhanced PAH emission at high redshift ... similar to enhanced [CII] emission?



Pope et al. 2013

# Link between enhanced PAH emission at high redshift and more molecular gas

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

[C II] (157.7µm) / FIF

10

Pope et al. 2013

### Combining mid-IR and far-IR line diagnostics: Powerful probe of the ISM at high redshift

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

Farrah et al. 2013

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

To detect PAHs and far-IR fine-structure lines (e.g. [OI]63) in <u>every LIRG out to z~6</u> we need ~10<sup>-20</sup> Wm<sup>-2</sup>

### Desired Measurement Capabilities: High redshift galaxies

| Parameter  | Units                               | Value or Range                |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Wavelength range                                 | μm                                  | 25-400                        |
| Angular resolution                               | arcsec                              | 6 <b>C</b> similar to Spitzer |
| Spectral resolution, ( $\lambda/\Delta\lambda$ ) | dimensionless                       | 100                           |
| Continuum sensitivity                            | μͿγ                                 |                               |
| Spectral line sensitivity                        | 10 <sup>-19</sup> W m <sup>-2</sup> | 0.1                           |
| Instantaneous FoV                                | arcmin                              |                               |
| Number of target fields                          | dimensionless                       |                               |
| Field of Regard                                  | sr                                  | ~all sky                      |

![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

# <u>Summary</u>: Understanding the cosmic history of star formation and BH growth with a FIR Surveyor

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

Key science questions that are likely to be relevant in the 2020's which are uniquely addressable with a FIR mission:

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