

Lecture 7. Galaxy Formation

After decoupling, overdense regions collapse IF

$$L > L_J \sim \left(\frac{kT}{Gm\rho} \right)^{1/2} \sim 50 \text{ pc} \quad M > M_J \sim \rho L_J^3 \sim 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$$

Collapse time $t_G \sim (G\rho)^{-1/2} \sim 10^7 \text{ yr}$ for all sizes.

More small ripples than large waves.

--> Universe dominated by globular clusters (!)



Caveats

Dimensional Analysis --> scaling laws
leaving out dimensionless factors (e.g. ~10).

We ignored:

angular momentum -- slows and can halt the collapse
--> Spiral Galaxies.

cosmological expansion -- delays collapse until
expansion time > collapse time.

$$t > (G\rho)^{-1/2}$$

--> Need "Dark Matter halos" (which begin collapsing
before decoupling) into which baryon gas falls.

The Dark Ages ($1100 < z < 20$)

Uniform neutral IGM
(Inter-Galactic Medium)

Proto-globular clusters.

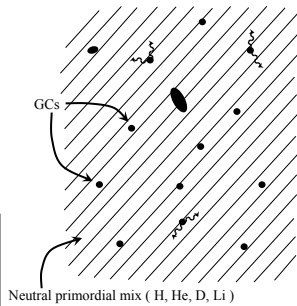
Rare larger objects:

proto-galaxies
proto-clusters

$T_{\text{CMB}} = 2.7(1+z)$ K

No stars!

As regions collapse and
merge, stars form, and
their ultra-violet light
can re-ionise the IGM.



Redshift of Galaxy Formation

Recombination :

$$t_{\text{Rec}} = 3 \times 10^5 \text{ yr} \quad z_{\text{Rec}} = 1100$$

Galaxy formation (collapse time) :

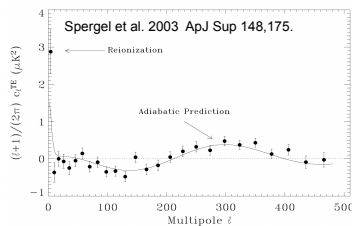
$$t_G = 10^7 \text{ yr} \quad z_G = ?$$

CMB ~15% Polarised

2003 WMAP discovery.

Free electrons have scattered ~15% of CMB photons.

--> IGM was re-ionised by redshift $z \sim 20$.



History of Galaxy Formation

CMB ($z \sim 1100$)

First (smaller) galaxies form (GCs?)

Reionisation ($z \sim 20$) by first UV sources

(first stars and/or accreting black holes)

Main phase of galaxy formation ($z \sim 2-3$)

Today ($z = 0$)

Star-Formation Rates (SFR)

Consider a condensation of primordial mix
 $[X=0.75, Y=0.25, Z=0.0]$

Total mass: M_{gas}

Star formation: $M_{gas} \longrightarrow M_{stars}$

How quickly? With what efficiency?

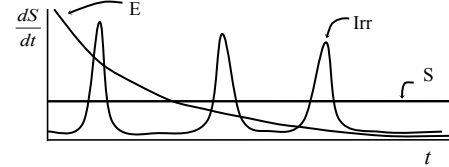
Star Formation Histories



Stellar populations (old vs young stars) reveal SF histories. Three main galaxy types:

Elliptical exponential SFR

Spiral constant SFR

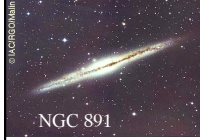

Irregular episodic SFR





Ellipticals

- Red \Rightarrow Old stars
- Few emission lines \Rightarrow Low SFR
- Little dust or gas \Rightarrow Gas converted to stars.
- High surface brightness \Rightarrow Form via mergers
- No net rotation \Rightarrow with low net
- Found in clusters \Rightarrow angular momentum.
- Have many GCs

Spirals

- Red halo, blue disc \Rightarrow Old and young stars.
- Emission & absorption lines \Rightarrow Star formation + old stars
- Dust lanes & HI \Rightarrow Gas available to form stars
- Moderate surface brightness \Rightarrow Form via collapse with
- Rotating disk \Rightarrow high angular momentum.
- Fewer spirals in clusters. \Rightarrow Destroyed by mergers.

Irregulars

- Blue \Rightarrow Young stars
- Strong emission lines \Rightarrow High SFR
- Very dusty \Rightarrow Large gas reservoir
- Low surface brightness \Rightarrow High angular momentum
- Rotating \Rightarrow Form via collapse.
- Have few GCs \Rightarrow “
- Mainly in field \Rightarrow Easily disrupted.

Closed Box Model

M_0 = initial gas mass
 $M_G(t)$ = gas mass at time t
 $M_S(t)$ = mass converted to stars
 β = fraction of M_S returned to gas (supernovae, stellar winds, PNe)

$$M_G = M_0 - M_S + \beta M_S$$

$$= M_0 - \alpha M_S$$

$\alpha = 1 - \beta$ = fraction of M_S retained in stars
 = **star formation efficiency**

In densities: $\rho_G = \rho_0 - \alpha \rho_S$

In dimensionless form

$$\mu(t) = \frac{M_G(t)}{M_0} = \text{fraction of } M_0 \text{ in gas}$$

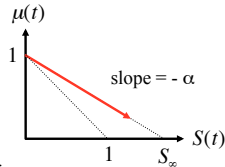
$$S(t) = \frac{M_S(t)}{M_0} = \text{fraction of } M_0 \text{ that has been turned into stars}$$

$$M_G = M_0 - \alpha M_S$$

$$\mu = 1 - \alpha S$$

Since $\alpha < 1$, $S(t) \rightarrow S_\infty > 1$

OK, since some gas is recycled.



SFR in Ellipticals

Assume $dS/dt \propto \mu$ (more gas \rightarrow more stars form)

$$\mu(t) = 1 - \alpha S(t)$$

$$\frac{d\mu}{dt} = -\alpha \frac{dS}{dt} = -\alpha C \mu \quad \frac{dS}{dt} = C \mu$$

$$\frac{d\mu}{\mu} = -\alpha C dt = -\frac{dt}{t_*} \quad t_* \equiv \frac{1}{\alpha C}$$

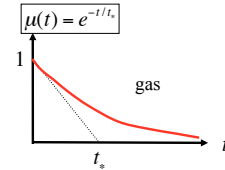
$$\ln \mu = -\frac{t}{t_*} + A \quad A = \ln \mu(0) = 0 \text{ for } \mu(0) = 1$$

gas $\mu(t) = e^{-t/t_*}$

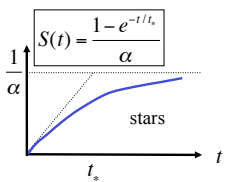
stars $\alpha S(t) = 1 - e^{-t/t_*}$

Star Formation Timescale

t_* = "e-folding time"
= time to turn mass M_0/e into stars. Typically:
 $t_* \sim 1-5$ Gyr



Q: If $t_* = 2$ Gyr, how long to turn 90% of gas into stars?
A: $\mu(t) = e^{-t/t_*} = 0.1$
 $t = -t_* \ln(\mu)$
 $= -2 \ln(0.1) = 4.6$ Gyr



SFR in Spirals

Assume $SFR = \text{constant}$

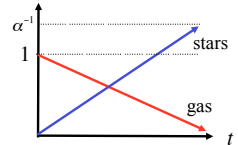
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0}$$

\dot{M} = mass converted per year

$$S(t) = \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0} t$$

$$\mu(t) = 1 - \alpha S(t)$$

$$= 1 - \alpha \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0} t$$



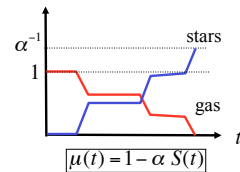
SFR in Irregulars

Typically bursts of $100 M_\odot \text{yr}^{-1}$ for 0.5 Gyr at intermittent intervals

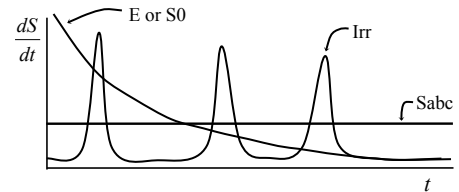
$$\frac{dS}{dt} = f \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0}$$

Star formation rate during star bursts. f Fraction of time spent star-bursting

$$\mu(t) = 1 - \alpha f \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0} t$$



Star-formation histories



For ellipticals most stars form early on.
Stars all roughly same age (co-eval).

Ages from main-sequence turn-off stars

Main sequence lifetime:

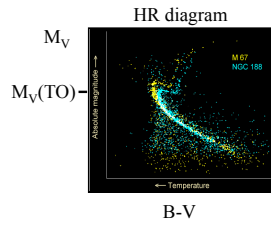
lifetime = fuel / burning rate

$$\tau_{MS} = 7 \times 10^9 \left[\frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right] \left[\frac{L}{L_{\odot}} \right]^{-1} \text{ yr}$$

$$\tau_{MS} = 7 \times 10^9 \left[\frac{L}{L_{\odot}} \right]^{-\frac{3}{4}} \text{ yr}$$

(since $L \propto M^4 \rightarrow M \propto L^{1/4}$)

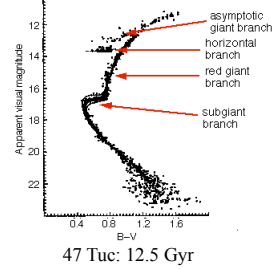
Luminosity at the top of the main sequence (turn-off stars) gives the age t .



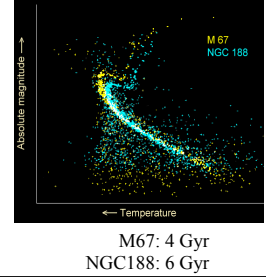
Ages from main-sequence turn-off stars

$$M_V(\text{TO}) = 2.70 \log (t / \text{Gyr}) + 0.30 [\text{Fe}/\text{H}] + 1.41$$

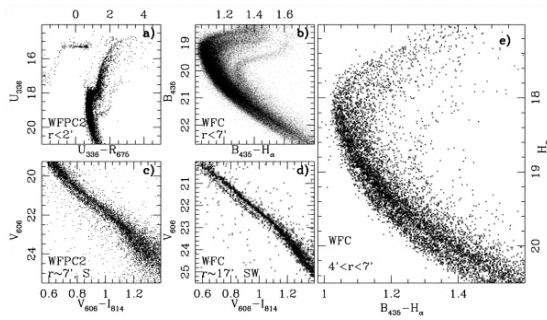
Globular Cluster in Halo



Open Clusters in Disk



Multiple Ages of stars in Omega Cen



Summary of Star Formation Models

$$\mu_{\text{EII}} = e^{-\frac{t}{t_*}} \quad t_* = \text{e-folding time}$$

$$\mu_{\text{Sp}} = 1 - \alpha \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0} t \quad \alpha = \text{star-forming efficiency}$$

$$\mu_{\text{Irr}} = 1 - \alpha f \frac{\dot{M}}{M_0} t \quad f = \text{fraction of time spent star-bursting}$$

$$\tau_{MS} = 7 \times 10^9 \left[\frac{M}{M_{\odot}} \right] \left[\frac{L}{L_{\odot}} \right]^{-1} = 7 \times 10^9 \left[\frac{L}{L_{\odot}} \right]^{-\frac{3}{4}} \text{ yr}$$