# Dust and stars: an unavoidable and complex interplay

Dust Obscuration in (distant) galaxies



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### Dust is present in(almost) every galaxy, from low to high z but with very different distributions

An excellent and very recent reference: Salim & Narayanan ARAA 2020

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# Few examples, from low to high redshift, with more or less complex distributions



M51: M51A a grand design spiral, with similar global shape for dust and stars

M51B bright in optical and far-IR, very faint in UV

### Arp244: very different structure in optical and in IR



## Submillimeter galaxies (SMG) at z~4.5: HST/ALMA observations: multiple components and minor mergers, stellar and dust disconnection



S: SFR<sub>IR</sub>= 120  $M_{sun}yr^1$ SFR<sub>UV</sub>=25  $M_{sun}yr^1$ N: SFR<sub>UV</sub>=53  $M_{sun}yr^1$ 



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 $SFR_{IR} >> SFR_{UV'}$  dust emission in the reddest (stellar) components

Gomez-Guijarro+18

The IR (~5-1000 μm) emission (i.e. dust emission) can be inferred (in average) from a combination of UVoptical-NIR data (i.e. stellar emission)



#### $\rightarrow$ In average no completely hidden stellar emission

Arnouts+13, COSMOS field, 0.2<z<1.3

Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies: the framework

- Dust attenuation laws
- **\***Amount of Attenuation, empirical relations

### Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies: the framework

- Extinction and attenuation
- Definitions and extinction curves
- The theoretical framework: Radiation Transfer modelling
- Dust attenuation laws

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### **Dust attenuation**: amount of attenuation & attenuation law



 $\checkmark$  Attenuation  $\neq$  extinction in galaxies





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★ 1: S2 almost completely attenuated, S1 dominates
→ flat attenuation curve,
★ 2 ★ 3 ★ 4: optical depth for S1 increases
→ steeper attenuation curve



### **Extinction curves**

- MW, SMC, LMC
- Very few nearby galaxies
- Higher z: AGN,QSO, GRB, SN

Clumps in the central part of M31, Dong+14







### Extinction curves measured in galaxies hosting $\gamma$ -rays bursts



The afterglow is modelled by a single or double power-law: any deviation is due to dust extinction



### Extinction curves measured in obscured quasars

• Similar non obscured spectra: any deviation due to extinction



Gallerani+10: high z quasars: flatter curves  $\rightarrow$  constraints on dust production



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### Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies

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- The theoretical framework: Radiation Transfer modelling

### Short presentation and few very useful results

Dust attenuation laws

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# Radiation Transfer modeling to understand the main features of dust attenuation

- Dust models: optical properties, chemical composition, grain size distribution Most of the time, a single model → a single extinction curve
- **RT codes: interaction between photons and dust particles.** Monte-Carlo methods (TRADING, SKIRT) or/and ray-tracing (DartRay)
- Stellar radiation field: theoretical population synthesis models or from observations (commonly used for the old stellar population)
- **Dust/star geometry: distribution** homogeneous/ **clumpy**, **geometry**: shell/mixture, spherical/slab/bulge+disk

### **Radiation transfer modeling: different configurations**

• Simple global geometry and stellar content: to test dust properties and distributions

(e.g. Witt & Gordon 00, Seon and Draine 17, Law+18)

•Galaxy-like simplified geometries, to produce libraries or fit

for nearby galaxies, applied to sample of galaxies or to individual galaxies

(e.g. Pierini+04, Silva+98, Tuffs+04, deLooze14, Law+20 Nersenian+19)

 Post-processing Applied to simulated galaxies: hydrodynamical simulations to explore different galaxy types (isolated, mergers) and provide statistical analyses

(e.g.Trayford+17, 20, Narayanan+ 18)

Spherical geometry, Homogeneous stellar Populations *Witt&Gordon00* 

Non spherical geometry, different stellar populations, dustpedia sample deLooze+14

Eagle simulations+ SKIRT modeling Trayford+17





Oust

## **1. RT modeling:** Flattening of the attenuation curve & decrease of the UV bump amplitude when attenuation increases



## **2. RT modeling:** with different stellar populations and dust/stars geometry: Age selective attenuation $\rightarrow$ steeper attenuation law.

Youngest stars in dusty clumps & older stars in a smoooth dust distribution

Emission at short wavelengths comes from young stars embedded in a dusty medium: higher attenuation in the UV and **steeper attenuation laws Standard age limit for birth clouds : 10 Myr** *(Charlot & Fall 2000, Granato+06, Panuzzo+07, Inoue 2005)* 



Inoue+05: plane parallel geometry, clumpy medium for young stars

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# 3. RT modeling: a clumpy medium leads to a less effective optical depth than an homogeneous medium for the same dust column density and the attenuation curve flattens



### Application of RT models on nearby galaxies M51 De Looze+14, SKIRT code M31: Viaene+ 17

Table 2. Overview of the different stellar and dust components in the RT model of M 51. Component Parameter Value Old stars Bulgea 0.67 n Re [pc] 635.3 0.88 Ly [Lav]  $3.2 \times 10^{9}$ 15 Thick disk<sup>b</sup> 2D geometry IRAC 3.6 µm<sup>c</sup> h, [pc] 450  $2.0 \times 10^{10}$ Ly [Lav] Young stars (non-ionizing) 10 Thin disk<sup>d</sup> 2D geometry GALEX FUV<sup>e</sup>  $A_{\lambda}/A_{\nu}$ h<sub>z</sub> [pc] 100 SFR [M\_ yr-1] 3 Young stars (ionizing) 5 Thin disk<sup>f</sup>  $H\alpha + 0.031 \times MIPS 24 \mu m^9$ 2D geometry 100 h, [pc] SFR  $[M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}]$ 3  $\cap$  $4.5 \times 10^{6}$  $M_{\rm d} [M_{\odot}]$ Dust 0 Thin disk<sup>h</sup> 2D geometry Arty

> 225 $7.3 \times 10^7$

 $h_{z}$  [pc]

 $M_{\rm d} [M_{\odot}]$ 



### Radiation transfer modeling on simulated galaxies: more complex geometry, coupled with galaxy evolution (e.g. Baes+19, Camps+16,18, Trayford+20)

**MUFASA+GIZMO simulations** & **HYPERION RT** (Narayanan+18)



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### Gadget-2 simulations +SUNRISE post process Roebuck+19



# Key points to remember about RT analyses (useful for this lecture)

- Clumpy medium usually as a diffuse ISM+more opaque clumps *less efficient than an homogeneous medium to absorb photons*
- Models of galaxies with an age selective attenuation: steepens the effective attenuation curve
- A single extinction curve (single dust model) is assumed
- Attenuation curve become flatter when the attenuation increases.
- When the UV bump is present in the extinction curve, its amplitude decreases when attenuation increases

**\***Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies: the framework

### Dust attenuation laws

**Amount of Attenuation**, empirical relations

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### (too many..) important/useful definitions



# The representation of the attenuation laws strongly depends on the quantities considered



### Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies: the framework

### Dust attenuation laws

- The 'Calzetti' law and direct measurements
- Formalisms and shape of the attenuation law
- Attenuations laws from numerical simulations
- Attenuations laws from observations
- SED fitting methods, variation of attenuation laws
- The case of dusty IR luminous galaxies

Amount of Attenuation, empirical relations

## It is an empirical law, then models were developped to understand its shape

It was measured on a sample of central starbursts in nearby galaxies :

UV (IUE) spectra and Balmer decrements  $H\alpha/H\beta$ 

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UV (IUE) spectra and Balmer decrements H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$ 

✓ Galaxies ordered as a function of their obscuration measured with H $\alpha$ /H $\beta$ ✓ The UV-visible spectrum is supposed to ONLY vary with dust reddening → k( $\lambda_1$ )-k( $\lambda_2$ ) = (A( $\lambda_1$ )-A( $\lambda_2$ ))/E(B-V)<sub>gas</sub> → implies E(B-V)<sub>stars</sub> = 0.44 E(B-V)<sub>gas</sub>

✓ The absolute calibration is performed with dust emission (Calzetti+2000)

## The shape of the Calzetti-Starburst law



- The Calzetti attenuation law is compared to extinction laws for the MW, LMC, SMC
- The Calzetti attenuation law IS NOT an extinction law even if it is expressed as an extinction law and routinely compared to a few of them.
- No UV bump, a general shape similar to the MW extinction curve, and grayer (flatter) than the LMC & SMC extinction curves
### **Other Attenuation laws are derived from observations**

#### with Calzetti-like methods:

Balmer optical depth to quantify attenuation, comparison of UV spectra or photometric spectral energy distributions

e.g. Battisti+16, Reddy 2015, 2016: mostly consistent with Calzetti curve

*Shivaie+20* MOSDEF survey 1.4<z<2.6: variation of attenuation curve with metallity



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#### The most usual formalisms for the attenuation laws



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(da Cunha+08, , Wild+11,Chevallard+13, Lo Faro+17, Malek+18)

#### The Calzetti law is steeper than the Charlot & Fall recipe at $\lambda > \lambda_v$



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# No universal attenuation law: flexible recipes are introduced from the original recipes

Charlot & Fall 2000 (CF00) → DouBle-Power-Law-free, free slope



Calzetti+2000 (C00) → Calzetti-like, free slope

$$k(\lambda) = \left(\frac{A(\lambda)}{E(B-V)} + D(\lambda)\right) \times \left(\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_V}\right)^{\delta}$$



Narayanan'i 10

(Buat+11,12, Kriek&Conroy 13, Salmon+15, Zeimann+15, Seon & Draine 2016, Corre+18)

Lo Faro+17, Malek+18, Battisti+20: adds a UV bump Buat-ISM- Summerschool-july 2021

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Chevallard et al. 2013:

Compilation of Radiative Transfer modeling results for disk+bulge geometries+ application of the Charlot and Fall formalism

$$\begin{split} A_{\lambda}^{\rm BC} &= A_{\rm V}^{\rm BC} (\lambda/0.55)^{n^{\rm BC}} \\ A_{\lambda}^{\rm ISM} &= A_{\rm V}^{\rm ISM} (\lambda/0.55)^{n^{\rm ISM}} \end{split}$$

→ All models predict a grayer attenuation for an increasing attenuation



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→ All models predict a grayer attenuation for an increasing attenuation

→ Grayer attenuation curve in the NIR than any extinction curve and Calzetti law



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## Cosmological(Eagle) simulations +SKIRT RT & Charlot & Fall and Calzetti flexible formalisms

 $\rightarrow$  the attenuation curve flattens when A<sub>V</sub> increases (*Trayford+20*)



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• The case of dusty IR luminous galaxies

## Attenuation laws derived from observations

• Fitting the Spectral Energy Distributions (SEDs)

e.g. Salim18 (z=0), Buat+09, 11, 12,18,19, Kriek & Conroy 13, Salmon +16,, Lo Faro +17, Cullen+18, Battisti+20



## Fitting the SED (e.g. with CIGALE): the UV-optical (stellar) emission



Adapted from Narayanan+18, Calzetti12, Charlot&Fall00,

### Fitting the SED : re-emitted dust emission



Libraries of dust emission templates as:

- 1. The Dale & Helou 02 library
- 2. Draine & Li 07 (more physical, more parameters)
- 3. THEMIS models
- (combination of Modified) Black Bodies (essentially for temperature estimations)

•••••







#### The attenuation curve shapes the UV-to-NIR SED (with the star formation history)

#### **SDSS +GALEX+WISE z~0** fits with Calzetti flexible att. Laws (*Salim+18*)



- A(UV), A(V) increases with M<sub>star</sub>
- Att. Law flattens & bump amplitude decreases when A(V), A(UV) increases (consistent with RT predictions), when M<sub>star</sub> increases

The variation of the attenuation curve also at z>0 for optically selected, star-forming galaxies, also confirming RT results



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 $SFR_{IR} >> SFR_{UV'}$  dust emission in the reddest (stellar) components stellar masses also difficult to estimate

Gomez-Guijarro+18

#### Fitting the SED of IR bright galaxies observed with ALMA at z~2

- UV-NIR rest frame data: stellar continuum → recovers at most half of the IR dust luminosty
- Fit of the full UV-submm: stellar and dust emission → various 'flat' attenuation laws, from Calzetti to much flatter





#### Dusty galaxies with a large amount of hidden SFR are rare objects:

Dusty galaxies detected in ALMA blind or pointed surveys depart from this general trend: high sSFR, massive and IR bright



COSMOS galaxies with IR/Herschel data (HELP) : L<sub>IR</sub> estimated from stellar SED consistent with L<sub>IR</sub> from the IR-SED except for galaxies with high sSFR

Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies

Dust attenuation laws

- The IRX-β, (dust attenuation) relation
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#### Beginning of the story: the original IRX-β relation Meurer et al. 1995, 1999



β: a proxy for dust attenuation in local
 starburst galaxies (Calzetti sample already
 used to build the 'Calzetti' law)



The relation of Meurer+99 is found consistent with the Calzetti law, **but is not a measure of the law** 



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#### Simple physics to understand the origin of the IRX- $\beta$ relation

Dust emission = stellar light absorbed 
$$L_{ir} \propto \int_{\lambda_{min}}^{\lambda_{max}} (1 - e^{-\tau_{\lambda}}) d\lambda$$
 With a major contribution of UV photons ( $\tau_{UV}$ )  
UV light observed  $L_{UV} \propto e^{-\tau_{UV}}$   $IRX = \frac{L_{IR}}{L_{UV}} = f(\tau_{\lambda}) \quad \tau_{\lambda} \sim \tau_{UV}$   
 $f_{\lambda} \propto \lambda^{\beta} \Rightarrow \text{Slope } \beta$   $\beta = \frac{\log(F_{\lambda 1}/F_{\lambda 2})}{\lambda 1 - \lambda 2}$   $F_{\lambda i} \propto e^{-\tau_{\lambda i}}$   $\beta \propto \tau_{\lambda 2} - \tau_{\lambda 1}$ 

Dependence on both the attenuation curve in UV ( $\beta$ ) and on the total amount of attenuation (IRX)

The IRX-  $\beta$  diagram is a diagnostic to study/measure dust attenuation in galaxies



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How to measure  $\beta$ ? most of the time with broad band filters: does not always give a good representation of the UV spectrum easier at z>0



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#### **IRX-**β: a complex situation from observations at z=0



Dale et al. 07: Spitzer and GALEX data

#### IUE: 10"\*20" aperture IRAS: integrated fluxes





#### Modeling the IRX-β diagram (1) Variations with the shape of the attenuation curve in the UV

Salmon+16



#### Modeling the IRX-β plot (2) Impact of stars/dust geometry

A fraction of the stellar light is unobscured:

Turbulence and clumpiness: Screen+holes structure populate the upper part of the plot (locus of IR grayer attenuation, lower reddening of  $\beta$ bright galaxies) 4.0 Casey et al. 2014 0.0 Meurer et al. 1999 Casey et al. 2014 Overzier et al. 2011 Meurer et al. 1999 The UV light from the 3.5 SMC: Pettini et al. 1998 Overzier et al. 2011 SMC: Pottini at al 19 log IRX non-obscured stars -0.5 3.0 log IRX dominate  $\rightarrow \beta$  decreases 1.0 (Non Obscured Fraction) Mach number Dust type = MW-BUMP00 Dust type = MW 2.0 Dust type = MW Dust type = MW-BUMP00 1.5 log IRX log IRX 1.0 -2.5 0.5 Dust type = LMC Dust type = SMC Dust type = LMC Dust type = SMC 0.0 -3.0 2 0 -2 Λ -3 -2 2 -3-1 -2 2 -3 -2 -1 0 2 UV slope  $\beta$ UV slope  $\beta$ UV slope  $\beta$ UV slope  $\beta$ Popping+17

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Reddy et al. 2017, modifying stellar models (BPASS including binaries) change the intrinsic  $\beta$  value



*Popping et al 2017*: broadening with the age of the young stellar populations



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Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies

Dust attenuation laws

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#### Attenuation-stellar mass relation

Star forming galaxies (Stacking of Spitzer/Herschel data): relatively well established for ~1<z<~3 (cosmic noon)



# Relations $L_{IR}/L_{UV}$ (IRX) with $M_{star}$ still uncertain at z>3, possible decrease of IRX at a given mass




#### Attenuation-Stellar mass relation also found for nebular lines

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# Outline

Dust and stellar interplay in galaxies

Dust attenuation laws

### Amount of Attenuation, empirical relations

- The IRX-β, dust attenuation relation
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#### Measurement of extinction in the lines based on the Balmer decrement



 $\rightarrow$  The results depend on the choice of the extinction law (with a simple homogeneous screen)

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In several studies the Calzetti law is also used to measure the nebular/line attenuation which leads to a factor 2.34/1.96=1.2 in order to compare with the original relation of Calzetti

→  $E(B-V)_s = 0.44 E(B-V)_{line}$  becomes  $E(B-V)_s = 0.57 E(B-V)_{line}$ → f=0.44 becomes f=0.57

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Large variations of f= E(B-V)<sub>s</sub>/E(B-V)<sub>line</sub>



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f= E(B-V)<sub>s</sub>/E(B-V)<sub>line</sub> could vary with 12+log(O/H), stellar mass, intensity of SFR? still very uncertain trends



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### Extreme obscuration in massive starburst galaxies: Hydrogen recombination line ratios are unable to recover all the obscuration



Puglisi+17

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## Few concluding remarks

- Radiation Transfer modeling gives the theoretical framework to understand the physical processes, to model resolved nearby galaxies and are introduced in numerical simulations
- 'Effective' dust attenuation laws are measured in galaxies and they are found not to be universal and to flatten when the amount of attenuation increases, as expected from RT modeling
- The different recipes used to model the attenuation laws are not equivalent in the visible-NIR domain with implications on stellar mass measurements
- The IRX- $\beta$  plot is very sensitive to dust/stars interplay but difficult to handle
- The obscuration of emission lines in HII regions is not very well constrained out of the nearby universe. Data and models are still needed