# Metallicity evolution and scaling relations in galaxies

# ...feeding Francesca with some new observational results...

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Pasadena, 2003



## **Basic equation of chemical evolution**

#### (Matteucci 2008)

$$egin{aligned} \dot{\sigma}_i(t) &= -\psi(t)X_i(t) \ &+ \int_{M_L}^{M_{Bm}} \psi(t- au_m)Q_{mi}(t- au_m)arphi(m)dm \ &+ A\int_{M_{Bm}}^{M_{BM}} \phi(m) \ \cdot [\int_{\gamma_{min}}^{0.5} f(\gamma)\psi(t- au_{m2})Q_{mi}(t- au_{m2})d\gamma]dm \ &+ B\int_{M_{Bm}}^{M_{BM}} \psi(t- au_m)Q_{mi}(t- au_m)arphi(m)dm \ &+ \int_{M_{Bm}}^{M_U} \psi(t- au_m)Q_{mi}(t- au_m)arphi(m)dm \ &+ \int_{M_{BM}}^{M_U} \psi(t- au_m)Q_{mi}(t- au_m)arphi(m)dm \ &+ X_{A_i}A(t) - X_i(t)W(t) \end{aligned}$$

Key parameters:

- Star formation efficiency
- Infall/inflow rate
- Outflow rate

## The Stellar Mass-Metallicity relation



Early nterpretations: outflows...

The Mass-Metallicity relation is a projection of more complex multi-dimensional relations: part of the scatter due to the mixing of other secondary relations



Mannucci et al. 2010



Metallicity, in principle, should be little related with *current* SFR in principle, (should be related to the whole past star formation history). However, the metallicity can be DIRECTLY related to the gas content, and SFR is a proxy of the gas content...





anticorrelation between SFR and metallicity may be a **by-product** of a more fundamental anticorrelation between M<sub>gas</sub> and metallicity





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Expected (Spitoni's talk) and observed in galaxies...

...yet, impressive that the metallicity in the "active region" is so tightly related to HI content on larger scales
→ smooth and universal process **Inflow...** generally assumed pristine (most models) or pre-enriched by the halo... **environment independent**...

indeed so far no evidence of metallicity-environment relation...



**Centrals**: gas metallicity ~ independent of environment

Satellites: gas metallicity strongly dependent of environment

## Environment vs. Metallicity: combining all satellites and all centrals



Metallicity-environment relation of satellites *independent* of mass

Responsible for part of the scatter in the mass-metallicity relation

Peng+Maiolino'13

Can be reproduced by inflow of metal enriched gas, with Z<sub>inflow</sub>-environment relation Role of environment in enhancing the metallicity of satellites already in place at high-z



# Outflows... generally assumed SF-driven



- Discovery of massive quasar-driven molecular outflows (1000 M<sub>o</sub>/yr)
  - $\rightarrow$  removal of large amount of metals from the central regions
- Velocities in excess of 1000 km/s → implications for fountain models
- Extended on kpc scales
- Revealed out to z~6.4

Feruglio+10,13, Cicone+12, Aalto+12 Fischer+10, Sturm+11, Maiolino+12



Cicone+13

# Depletion timescale due to AGN-driven outflow much shorter than depletion due to Star Formation



## Star Formation Efficiency (SFE)

SFR =  $\mathcal{E}$  M<sub>gas</sub>

Does it change with stellar mass? Does it change with redshift? Does it change with SFR?

Observational constraints: need to measure M<sub>gas</sub>

Classical method: CO measurements

- time demanding
- lots of assumptions and uncertainties in CO-to-H<sub>2</sub> conversion factor(s)

#### Inferring M(gas) from the dust content



### Integrated S-K: single relation (slope 1.5)

- "Main Sequence" galaxies (secular)
- "Starburst" galaxies

Star Formation Efficiency (SFE=SFR/M<sub>gas</sub>) higher for more strongly star forming galaxies





SFE higher in high-z galaxies (but not because they are starburst)...

SFE peaks between  $lg(M/M_{\odot})$ ~10.5 and ~11 Msun, but possibly evolving with redshift...



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