# The Role of Secular Features in galaxy evolution

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# Collaborators

- zCOSMOS team, specifically:
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- For SDSS
  - Bob Abraham, Sidney van den Bergh
  - Sara Ellison, Dave Patton, Luc Simard

# Bars build bulges and drive galaxy evolution at z<1

\*Background

- **\***Bars are important!
- Internal/External Merger/Secular processes
- **\***Observable signatures
- \*Results from low redshift
- **\***Results from high redshift
- **\***Conclusions





### Two modes to assemble and redistribute mass → according to epochs and environment

### **Secular evolution**

Internal slow evolution

### Cosmological or Hierarchical scenario

Spheroids form through major spiral mergers



# early disk systems

### Gas accretion can then reform disks



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### Triggers of Radial Gas Inflows.

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- Mergers
- Close pair interactions
- Ram-pressure stripping<sup>\*</sup>

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Barred Galaxies

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- Oval distortions (lenses, rings)

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- Oval distortions (lenses, rings)
- Spiral arms/nonaxisymmetric dist.

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• Gas Infall

Triggers of Radial Gas Inflows.

## Secular Structures



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## Secular Structures



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### 2 main mechanisms for gas inflow to build bulge.



### Galaxy-galaxy mergers (e.g. the mice)

### Galaxy bars (e.g. NGC 1300)







• Close pair interactions should show enhanced star formation rates.



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  - 30% 200%

### Star formation rates in ~2000 SDSS galaxy pairs



Enhancement depends on mass ratio: Ellison et al. (2008)

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- Shallower metallicity gradients. (Rupke et al. 2010, Kewley et al. 2010)

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# Metallicity gradients in pairs



Kewley et al. 2010

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- Central metallicities are lower in close pair galaxies (0.05 dex to 0.1 dex decrement).

## Metallicities in galaxy pairs





Luminosity-metallicity relation is lower by 0.1 dex in pairs relative to the control. Mass-metallicity relation is lower by 0.03 dex in pairs relative to the control.

About half of the offset in the LZR is due to changes in luminosity (due to triggered star formation). Ellison et al. 2008



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- AGN triggers? Bar triggers?

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### Signature of Gas Inflows



Montuori et al (2010)

Metal-poor gas flows to galaxy centre and triggers star formation. Star formation is preceded by dilution of metallicity in galaxy centre before eventual enrichment.

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  - Hubble type

# Distribution of SFR for barred vs. unbarred





Ho et a. 1997

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# Metallicity gradients



FIG. 1.—Mean gaseous (solid cirles) and stellar (open circles) radial abundance gradients after 1 Gyr. The solid line indicates the initial gradient. The CR of the bar is also indicated. (a) Model  $A_{no}$ . (b) Model  $B_{no}$ . (c) Model  $A_{sf}$ . (d) Model  $B_{sf}$ .

- Barred galaxies show a shallower gradient than un-barred galaxies.
- Central metallicities peak in star-forming barred galaxies.

Freidli et al. 1994

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# Metallicity gradients

## [Z/H] gradients. First results

## Luminosity weighted Mass weighted



Large variety of metallicity gradients but very mild in the disk region

Patricia Sanchez-Blazquez 2011

2.5

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20 r(kpc)



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- AGN triggers?





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- How do bars form? Why don't all disk galaxies have bars?
- What is the role of dark matter?
- Evolution of Bar fractions with redshift.



# The role of secular structures

- Redistribute angular momentum between baryonic and dark matter components
- 2. Gas inflows
- 3. Build bulges (pseudo-bulges)
- 4. Trigger AGN (?)
- 5. Metallicity gradients
- Triggered in unstable disks
- fractions (?)
- contribution to sfrd (?)
- timescales (?)
- destruction mechanisms? (?)

# Results at z = 0 (SDSS)



# **Sloan Digital Sky Survey**

## Mapping the Universe

- Visual catalog of Nair & Abraham 2010.
- 0.02 < z < 0.1
- S/N>5 in [OII], H\_beta,
   [OIII], H\_alpha, [NII]
- AGN are excluded.
- 311 barred galaxies and 806 unbarred galaxies.



Ellison et al. 2011

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## - Color Evolution



- Global colors shows a mass dependent offset where barred galaxies are redder than normal galaxies.
- Fiber colors are also redder in barred galaxies.

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Quantify SFR and metallicity enhancements by looking for offsets from the mass-SFR and mass-metallicity relations of control galaxies.



 $\Delta O/H = \log O/H - \log O/H_{\text{predict}}$ 

## $\Delta$ SFR = log SFR - log SFR<sub>predict</sub>

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Figure 1 : SDSS 2.5m telescope mage credit: Fermilab Visual Media Services

## - Star Formation Rates



- Figure shows offsets from the SFR-mass relation for non-barred galaxies .
- Radial gas flows triggered by bars do not affect the total star formation rates.
- They do cause an enhancement in fiber star-formation rates.

Ellison et al. 2011

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- Barred galaxies more metal-rich at all masses.
- Bars sufficiently long lived to show enrichment, even after SF.

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- Metallicities aperture effects



Total stellar mass (log  $M_{\odot}$ )



Figure 1 : SDSS 2.5m telescope Image credit: Fermilab Visual Media Services

## - Bimodality in bar fractions



Nair & Abraham 2010



Barred galaxies at masses
 >10^10 tend to have longer
 stronger bars in bulge
 dominated systems

Barred galaxies below
10^10 tend to have shorter,
weaker, exponential bars

- Simulations indicate that radial inflows depends on the length and strength of the bars.

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Figure 1 : SDSS 2.5m telescope Image credit: Fermilab Visual Media Services

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# Properties of Barred Galaxies - Bar Lengths



Barazza et al. 2008

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Figure 1 : SDSS 2.5m telescope Image credit: Fermilab Visual Media Services

# Properties of Barred Galaxies

## - Bar Lengths



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Figure 1 : SDSS 2.5m telescope Image credit: Fermilab Visual Media Services



## - SFR vs. Bar Lengths



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Figure 1 : SDSS 2.5m telescope Image credit: Fermilab Visual Media Services

- Star Formation Rates



- Star Formation Rates



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- Star Formation Rates







- Star Formation Rates



$$\epsilon_{b/p} = \frac{f_b}{f_p} \times \frac{f_{b,\star}}{f_{p,\star}} \times \frac{10^{\Delta SFR_b}}{10^{\Delta SFR_p}}$$

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 $\epsilon_{b/p}$ 

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Ratio of enhanced star formation coming from bars and pairs.

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Ratio of bar and pair fraction in

 $\frac{f_b}{f_p}$  Ratio of bar and parallel for galaxy population.



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Ratio of SFR enhancements bar and pair star-forming sample (this ratio  $\sim 1$ ).

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 $\epsilon_{b/p}$  >3, I.e. at least 3 times more central star formation comes from bars than pairs.

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  - Hubble type (Aguerri 1999, Elmegreen et al.)
- Metallicity gradients of barred galaxies predicted to be shallower than normal star forming galaxies.



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## **Conclusions from SDSS**

- Fiber metallicities of barred galaxies are uniformly higher by 0.06 dex.
- Fiber star-formation rates of barred galaxies are higher by 60%.
- Barred galaxies are redder at Log M > 10
- No correlation between bar length and star formation enhancement.
- Bars account for 3.5 times more triggered central star formation.







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Combes & Elmegreen 1993

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30

20

10

60

40

20



Combes & Elmegreen 1993

Weak bars

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Combes & Elmegreen 1993

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- 18,143 galaxies from 20 K with 0.1<z<4
- If an object could not be placed on the normal Hubble T-Type sequence, I used the following classes:





Other Classes

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## Cosmic Evolution Survey COSMIC Evolution Survey

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- CC = Clump Clusters as defined by Elmegreen et al. 2005



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Other Classes



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- Additional flags: "Incl" corresponds to inclined or edge on galaxies and "DL" to galaxies with dust lanes.



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Quantity	z < 0.45	0.45 < z < 0.9	0.9 < z < 1.4
STB vs. AGN	Hα, [NII], [SII] [OIII], Hβ	[OIII],[OII],Hβ	[OII],[NeIII], Hð
SFR	Ηα	Ηβ	[OII]
Reddening	Ηα/Ηβ	Ηβ/Ηγ	
Gas-phase Metallicity	N2=[NII]/Hα N2O3=[NII]/[OII	R <sub>23</sub>	[OII],[NeIII], Hð
Stellar mass	tellar mass photometric SED +( $D_{4000}$ + $H\delta_A$ )(0.3 < z < 1.3)		
Stellar mass, age metallicity & SFH stellar cont. + abs. lines + photometry			







### - MEx diagram







### - MEx diagram





Sample size increases from ~1300 to 6200

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#### - sample selection



 Each barred galaxies is matched in mass and redshift to a control sample, where the control galaxies have no secular signatures (bars/rings/lenses).



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## Properties of high-z Barred Galaxies



### - Color Evolution



- Barred galaxies are bluer than control galaxies at all masses and at high and mid-z.
- The strength of the color offset decreases with redshift => barred galaxies are being quenched.
- Barred galaxies have to undergo 0.1 mag in color evolution since z~0.85

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No MEx AGN



#### - Star Formation Rates

#### All



- Barred galaxies have a higher (mass dependent) star formation rate than control galaxies at all masses and at high and intermediate-z. (if AGN are ignored)
- Using MEx AGN, at intermediate redshifts, barred galaxies are quenched.

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11

11





#### - Color/Environment









### - Central concentration



- Barred galaxies are less concentrated than the control sample at high redshifts.
- In the intermediate mass regime, barred galaxies are nearly the same concentrations as the control at high masses. Bulges are being built?

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## Metallicity Calibrators



1. Tremonti 2004 - Theoretical estimator
2. Zaritsky 1994 - Theoretical estimator
3. Kobulnicky & Kewley 2004 - Theoretical
4. Kewley & Dopita 2002 - Theoretical
5. McGaugh 1991 - Theoretical
6. Demicolo et al. 2002 - Combined
7. Pettini & Pagel 2004 -Empirical
8. Pettini & Pagel 2004 - Empirical
9. Pilyugin 2001 - Empirical
10. Pilyugin et al. 2005 - Direct

[OII],Hβ,[OIII],Ha,[NII],[SII] R<sub>23</sub> R<sub>23</sub>, [OIII]/O[II] [NII]/[OII], R<sub>23</sub>, [OIII]/O[II] R<sub>23</sub>, [OIII]/O[II] [NII]/Ha, [NII]/Ha, [OIII]/Hβ [NII]/Ha R<sub>23</sub>, [OIII]/O[II] [OIII]4363, [OIII]4959,5007

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The Role of Secular Features



### Properties of high-z Barred Galaxies



### - Metallicities





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0.1 < z < 0.45

0.45 < z < 0.85



- Concentration dependence at low masses is similar at all redshift bins.
- Concentration dependence at high masses is not the same as at z~0  $\,$
- There appears to be an evolution in the low mass bar fraction with redshift.

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### Conclusions



- High redshift barred galaxies show a strong global enhancement in star-formation rates compared to unbarred galaxies.
  - The enhancement is mass and redshift dependent such that it is higher at larger masses and at higher redshifts
- Barred galaxies are bluer at high redshifts at all masses.
- Group environments can quench barred galaxies.

# Implications



- The interaction fraction increases from 6% locally to 15% by z ~1.
- While bar fractions for high mass galaxies (LogM>10) decreases with redshift, bar fractions are still ~20%.
- Bar fractions are still high for low mass (Log M < 10) galaxies
- Barred galaxies account for a larger fraction of the star formation rate enhancement at high redshifts.
- Bars are just one of the axi-symmetric distortions which can cause gas inflow.

### Questions

- What is the distribution of the enhanced starformation within disk galaxies?
  - centrally concentrated or throughout the disk?
- What are the roles of AGN and environment in quenching star formation?
  - Or is it some other bar destruction mechanism.

