# THE REALM OF THE GALAXY PROTO-CLUSTERS

an introductory review

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Galaxy Clusters 2017, Santander

# Why care about Galaxy Clusters?

### **Structure Formation Models**

- Assembly history of largest halos, galaxies, gas
- Cosmology

### **Galaxy Formation**

- Clusters contain large numbers of galaxies
- Pre-processing at the group stage?
- Assembly bias
- Reionization

### Lots of astrophysics unique to clusters

- Galaxy evolution in dense environments
- Brightest Cluster Galaxies
- Thermal ICM and Intra-Cluster Light
- Supermassive Black Holes & AGN Feedback



A lot of the "action" happened at redshifts well before these clusters were actual "clusters" (i.e. z > 2, for massive clusters)

# Some definitions: Clusters versus "proto-clusters"

- Cluster: virialized object (halo) with mass  $M \ge 10^{14} M_{\odot}$
- "Protocluster": (Langrangian) volume that will collapse to form a M ≥ 10<sup>14</sup> M o halo before or at z = 0

Some observations:

- 1) the distinction is clear only in theory/simulations, less clear in observations
- 2) the  $10^{14}$  M $\odot$  threshold is somewhat arbitrary, but follows the convention
- 3) a  $10^{14}$  M $\odot$  object at z~2 is *also* a proto-cluster of a  $10^{15}$  M $\odot$  cluster at z~0
- 4) other useful definitions exist: Thermalized X-ray ICM ? Well-defined redsequence ? Strong environmental effects ?

The total number density of clusters and protoclusters at any redshift is equal to the cluster abundance today:

 $n_{clusters} (M_{z=0,z}) + n_{protoclusters} (M_{z=0,z}) = n_{clusters} (M_{z=0,z=0})$ 

# Some definitions: Clusters versus "proto-clusters"



#### Dark matter halo merger tree



• formation of most halos and their galaxies happens in large overdense regions of star-forming galaxies at high redshift *long before virialization* 

Most of galaxy and halo formation happens during the proto-cluster phase of the collapse:



### **Evolution of star formation rate as function of halo mass**



• more massive dark matter halos formed their stars earlier

• for massive clusters and their galaxies, even z ~ 2 is too nearby



WL, X-ray, SZE, red sequence techniques impractical by z ~ 2

### Higher redshift clusters not necessarily yield younger systems!



# **Cluster formation in a hierarchical universe**





- large-scale (~100 Mpc) dark matter overdensities present from very early on (z>6)
- multiple centers, filamentary structure and elongated halos present at least down to z~2
- last major mergers at z~1

 single cluster-sized halo surrounded by "frozen" large-scale structure at z~0

Boylan-Kolchin et al. (2012)

# **Cluster growth in cosmological simulations**

Chiang, Overzier & Gebhardt (2013, 2014, 2015, 2017) see also Suwa+06, Overzier+09, Sembolini+14, Muldrew+15, Contini+15



- GOALS: understand current data and prepare for large surveys of high redshift (proto-)clusters (e.g., VUDS, HSC, HETDEX, PFS)
- ~3,000 clusters from z~10 to z=0
- derive sizes, masses and overdensity statistics of cluster progenitors as function of (M,z)
- results relatively insensitive to either cosmology or semianalytics

### Mass evolution of clusters (central halos only)



# Size evolution of (proto-)clusters



(Re is the second order moment of the mass distribution)

Chiang, Overzier & Gebhardt (2013)

# Galaxy overdensities derived from the simulated clusters



higher mass clusters today generally came from higher overdensities

higher overdensities have lower contamination (but higher incompleteness)

# Galaxy overdensities derived from the simulated clusters

Estimating the present-day mass estimate of high redshift overdensities



• high-z overdensities reasonably accurate proxies for z = 0 cluster mass

this should allow us to track cluster evolution all the way back to z > 2

# **Overview of galaxy protoclusters discovered to date**



Redshift

# **Overview of galaxy protoclusters discovered to date**



# **Overview of galaxy protoclusters discovered to date**



~200 Subaru HyperSuprimeCam candidates at z~4 (Uchiyama et al. 2017; Toshikawa et al. 2017)

Overzier (2016)





























### **Derivation of present-day masses (based on dodgy high-z data)**

• MASS METHOD 1: assume spherical collapse model:



 $\delta_{dm}(z) \simeq \delta_{gal,obs} / b_g$ 

 $M_{z=0} \simeq \left(1 \, + \, \delta_{dm} \left(z\right)\right) \cdot \, \rho_{dm} \cdot \, V_{pc}$ 

as  $\delta_L > 1.69$  by z=0

# **Important: Redshift Space Distortions**

A collapsing structure will appear compressed along the redshift direction, and the density of galaxies will appear enhanced:



• The larger the overdensity, the larger the distortion (C)

- C virtually does not depend on redshift or cosmology!
- MASS METHOD 2: Directly compare  $\delta_{gal}$  with cosmological simulations

### These "protoclusters" trace today's (massive) cluster population



# First glimpse of BCG formation (?)





- most massive and most complex z > 2 galaxy known
- powerul radio galaxy with SMBH of ~10^{10}  $M \odot$
- star formation in a ~100 kpc diffuse halo (intra-cluster light?)
- faint thermal X-ray emission (maybe ICM but likely radio AGN)
- NB: not typical of central galaxies in protoclusters !

### **Enhanced Galaxy Evolution in a protocluster at z = 2.3**



- SFGs in this region are ~1 Gyr older compared to the surrounding field
- Did they evolve faster due to the environment in the dense region (?)
- Did galaxies form earlier because the dense region collapsed earlier (?)

### **Evolution in the AGN fraction of galaxy clusters with redshift**



- AGN fraction in proto-clusters seems higher than in the field
- is it due to faster galaxy growth leading to more massive galaxies ?
- is it due to more frequent mergers in overdense regions ?
- is it due to more efficient inflows of gas in overdense regions ?

# **Gas-phase metal abundances of protocluster galaxies**

Hydro simulations of cluster formation show that **environment should play some role, e.g.** 

extra enrichment due to faster
gas-recycling times in dense
regions (e.g., Oppenheimer &
Davé 2008, Kacprzak et al. 2015)

 but also dilution due to the rapid inflows of pristine gas from the IGM (e.g. Valentino et al. 2015)



# First measurements on 4 (proto)clusters completely inconclusive !

Caveats:

strong-line method, small samples, large errors, AGN contamination, ...

# Large-scale ionized flows associated with PCs ("Lya blobs")



- $L_{Lya} > 10^{44}$  erg/s; sizes 100 500 kpc; mainly powered by AGN photoionization
- gas most likely produced by AGN-driven superwinds (?)
- but may also be gas accretion from the large-scale cosmic web (?)
- metallicity measurements show the material has been enriched (?)

(e.g., Overzier et al. 2001, 2013; Cantalupo et al. 2014; Hennawi et al. 2015; Morais et al. 2016)

# A few words on how the protoclusters are being found



- using cosmic "beacons", such as radio galaxies, quasars, SMGs, ...
- recently also using Mpc-scale coherent absorption ("Lya tomography")
- large-scale overdensities in large photometric or spectroscopic sky surveys (majority of systems discovered by now)



### **Protoclusters, Radio Galaxies and Quasars**

- local BCGs passed through a luminous quasar phase at z > 2
- radio galaxies and QSOs at high-z have the largest SMBHs, massive hosts, high SFRs, massive DM halos
- they are easily found at high redshift ("cosmic lighthouses")
- **KEY RESULTS (1996 2017)**



- some spectacular structures found, primarily near radio galaxies at z = 2 5, but statistics not well known (literature bias!)
- searches near QSOs have been far less successful
- main reason for the difference not clear: halo mass? radio loudness / BH spin? host mass? QSO feedback effects (e.g., near-zone or QSO self-destruction)?

### The unexpected environments of QSOs at z ~ 6

The most massive halo in the Millennium Run simulations:

- at z ~ 6.2, the main progenitor halo hosts a luminous QSO and supermassive black hole
- surrounded by many fainter galaxies that should be easily detectable using, e.g., HST or narrow-band surveys

e.g. Stiavelli et al. 2005; Zheng et al. 2006; Overzier et al. 2009,2016; Kim et al. 2009; Angulo & White 2012; Bañados et al. 2016; Mazzucchelli et al. 2017; Goto et al. 2017



Nearly every observation of z~6 QSOs to date has failed to produce any significant large-scale structure associated with these QSOs (!)

### The unexpected environments of QSOs at z ~ 6

### Most distant galaxy proto-cluster at z = 6.0 (not a QSO!)



- 10 spectroscopic redshifts at  $z = 6.02 \pm 0.02$  within 10 x 15 Mpc region
- overdensity consistent with "proto-Coma" cluster seen in simulations
- the kind of structure everyone expects, but fails, to see around z ~ 6 QSOs

Toshikawa et al. (2014,2016)

### **Breaking news:**

### 4 out of 25 QSOs at z > 6 have "invisible" companions seen w/ ALMA



Decarli et al. (2017)

### Lya "tomographic mapping" of the cosmic web at z > 2



Mukae et al. (2016)

# Lya "tomographic mapping" of the cosmic web at z > 2



Cai et al. (2015,2017)

# **Searching more systematically in photo-z surveys**

Dissecting the cosmic web in the COSMOS field with 7-10% photo-z accuracy



Chiang, Overzier & Gebhardt (2014)

# Most distant X-ray detected (proto)cluster at z = 2.5 (?)



- first found in our photo-z sample of "Coma"-type protoclusters in COSMOS
- Wang et al. (2015) found a strong spec-z overdensity of quiescent galaxies
- velocity dispersions, X-rays (?) and M\* point to mass of log M = 13.9 ± 0.2

Chiang et al. (2014), Wang et al. (2016)

# **Protoclusters from "blind" spectroscopic surveys**



associated cold gas seen in absorption in background galaxy spectra:

infalling gas from the cosmic web or outflowing gas blown out by the forming proto-cluster galaxies (?)



Cucciati et al. (2014), Lemaux et al. (2014, 2017)

### First results from the Subaru/HyperSuprimeCam Survey



- ~200 high-fidelity protoclusters at z ~ 3.8 ± 0.3 (Toshikawa et al. 2017)
- first analysis of co-incidence of protoclusters and (binary) quasars (Uchiyama et al. 2017, Onoue et al. 2017)
- first angular correlation function of z ~ 4 protoclusters (Toshikawa et al. 2017)
- precursor to the Subaru Prime Focus Spectrograph Survey (~2019)

### Protoclusters also appear as "cold spots" in the Planck maps

• 545 GHz excess emission relative to the 353 - 857 GHz interpolation



- about 1200 known to date
- Herschel/SPIRE shows they are large groups of dusty SFGs at z ~ 1 4
- relation to "unobscured" protoclusters not yet clear, perhaps later stage

Planck collaboration, Paper XXVII (2015)

# The cluster contribution to the cosmic SFR density

- today, clusters only occupy ~0.01% of space
- however, by z > 6 the protoclusters occupy ~6% of the cosmic volume



Chiang et al. (2017)

# The cluster contribution to the cosmic SFR density

- contribution from cluster progenitors to the cosmic SFRD increases with z
- by z ~ 3 (z~10) they represent ~20-30% (>50%) of all cosmic SF
- the "cores" are insignificant



Chiang et al. (2017)

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# **Protoclusters and the Epoch of Reionization**



 radio 21 cm maps show the change in the distribution of neutral gas during the EoR

 the "dark" spots are regions around clusters where all neutral gas has been ionized

Mellema et al. (2013)



# First attempt toward measuring cluster evolution



• (Proto)clusters should be the first structures to "switch off"

Overzier (2016)

# Putting it all together...



Overzier (2016)

# Targets wanted...



see Overzier (A&ARev, 2016) for a review contact: overzier@on.br