Subaru Users' Meeting FY2016

Excitation state of the ISM in star-forming galaxies at z~1.6 revealed by the FMOS-COSMOS survey

Based on FMOS-COSMOS paper IV arXiv:1604.06802 / ApJ, in printing

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The FMOS-COSMOS survey

Designed to detect Ha at 1.4 < z < 1.7 in H-band $(1.6 - 1.7 \mu m)$ Period: 2012 March - 2016 April Observed galaxies: In total, >5600 / Success rate ~35%



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Aim

Study the physics of star formation from the ISM properties

- Metal abundance reflects the past history of star formation.
- Ionized elements emit various lines: we can observationally investigate the physical conditions of the ionized gas.



The BPT diagram

Useful tool to distinguish ionizing origins: **hot stars (pure SF)** or **AGNs.** Purely star-forming population forms a **tight sequence.**



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High-z galaxies on the BPT diagram

High-z galaxies DO NOT follow the local (low-z) rules.

Changes in emission-line ratios for high-z SF galaxies are directly related to the physical conditions of the ISM (ionized gas).



Galaxy sample - FMOS-COSMOS

COSMOS photometric catalog (McCracken+12, Ilbert+13) $1.43 \le z \le 1.67$, K_{AB}<23.5, M_{*} $\ge 10^{9.6}$ M_•, Predicted f(Ha) $\ge 10^{-16}$ erg/s/cm²

FMOS Band	Range	Lines	Ν Hα det. (S/N>3)
Н	1.6-1.8µm	Ha [NII] [SII]	554
J	1.11-1.35µm	Hβ [OIII]	246 → BPT diagram



Galaxy sample

- Tracing well trace the epoch's main sequence
 "normal' SF population"
- High sampling rate of massive ($M_* \gtrsim 10^{11} M_{\odot}$) population
- AGNs are removed based on Chandra X-ray data (Civano+16).



Results: the BPT diagram

FMOS galaxies deviate from the local sequence towards the upper-right.



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Results: offset in the [SII]-BPT diagram



Results: electron density



Consistent with recent studies at z~2: (e.g., Shirazi+14, Shimakawa+15, Sanders+15)

Discussions: comparison with model

What is the origin(s) of the changes of emission-line ratios?



Discussions: [SII]-BPT diagram

Evidence of both the U enhancement and additional effects

required for massive galaxies



Expected situations in high-z star-forming regions



Summary

- ✓ a significant BPT offset at $z \sim 1.6$.
- \checkmark higher gas density (2—10 times higher than local)
- ✓ "excessive" enhancement of ionization parameter is the primary origin for the changes in high-z emission-line ratios.
- ✓ plus, high gas density and harder ionizing radiation are likely important.
- A lot of "circumstantial evidence", but still far from understanding the physical of star formation.
 - ★ Chemical composition N/O enhancement?
 - ★ Geometrical properties?
 - ★ Evolution of IMF, stellar population, stellar spectra