### EXPLORING THE TRIGGERING OF RADIO-INTERMEDIATE HERGS

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# LOCAL RADIO LUMINOSITY FUNCTION



Best & Heckman 2012

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### **RADIO-POWERFUL AGNs**

#### HIGH-EXCITATION RADIO GALAXIES (HERGS)

- Clear tidal features are <u>common</u> (in 94%)
- Dense, <u>group-like</u> environments
- MERGERS are dominant triggering mechanism





#### LOW-EXCITATION RADIO GALAXIES (LERGS)

- Clear tidal features are <u>rarer</u> (in 27%)
- Very dense, <u>cluster-like</u> environments

- Dominant triggering **NOT BY MERGERS** 



FIG. 9.— A schematic model showing the changes in the accretion disk from a broad-line AGN with high accretion rate  $(L_{int}/L_{Edd} \sim 0.1)$ to a narrow-line or lineless AGN with low accretion rate  $(L_{int}/L_{Edd} \sim 0.003)$ . The x axis shows the radial distance from the black hole in units of  $GM/c^2$ . The y axis is qualitative only. At  $L_{int}/L_{Edd} \leq 0.01$ , the disk wind falls inside the RIAF. As a result there are no broad emission lines, the hot dust signature becomes very different, and the radio jet becomes stronger.

# LOCAL RADIO LUMINOSITY FUNCTION



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#### 'Teacup' - $P_{1.4 \text{ GHz}} \sim 5 \times 10^{23} \text{ W Hz}^{-1}$ (Harrison et al. 2015)



'Beetle' -  $P_{1.4 \text{ GHz}} \sim 2 \times 10^{23} \text{ W Hz}^{-1}$  (Villar-Martin et al. 2017)



Mullaney et al. (2013): Broadest [OIII] lines in radio AGNs with <u>P<sub>1.4 GHz</sub> ~ 10<sup>24</sup> W Hz<sup>-1</sup></u>



IC 5063 - <u>P<sub>1.4 GHz</sub> ~ 3 x 10<sup>23</sup> W Hz<sup>-1</sup></u> (Tadhunter et al. 2014)



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# DEEP OPTICAL IMAGING

#### SAMPLE

32 RIAGNs with  $P_{1.4GHz} \sim 10^{22.5} - 10^{24} \text{ WHz}^{-1}$ 

z < 0.1

#### HERG optical emission





#### **OBSERVATIONS**

INT Wide-Field Camera, La Palma Sloan *r*-band Limiting SB ~ 27 mag arcsec<sup>-2</sup>

### IMAGES



#### $23.08 < \log(P_{1.4GHz}) WHz^{-1} < 24.0$

Streams



Tail

Fan

Shell





### RESULTS - TIDAL FEATURE PROPORTIONS



#### RESULTS - HOST TYPES

MORPHOLOGY	PROPORTION	
<u>DISK/SPIRAL</u>	21 (66%)	
ELLIPTICAL	5 (16%)	
M E R G E R	6 (18%)	

Host morphologies are mainly <u>disk-like</u>

- Lowers chances of significant major merger

3CR, 2 Jy are predominantly giant ellipticals (> 95%)

# FUTURE WORK - OPTICAL







#### VLA

<u>High-resolution</u> L-/C-band observations

20 HERGs; <u>P<sub>1.4GHz</sub> ~10<sup>23</sup> - 10<sup>24</sup> WHz<sup>-1</sup></u>

- Existing deep optical images
- Compact at FIRST res. (~5")

<u>Two</u> main goals...



#### INVESTIGATE FRII/HERG CONNECTION

#### '<u>Mini-FRIIs'</u> or <u>FR0s</u>?



Fig. 2 The J/LA maps at 7.5 GHz of the three FRDs (from left top: 567, 590, and 606) which show extended structure (resolution of -0.22, See Baidi et al. (2015) for the expanded radio maps.

#### Baldi, Capetti & Giovannini (2015)

Common <u>accretion mode</u> or driven by <u>environment</u>?



Fig. 1 The main radio and optical classifications of radio AGN. *Left* radio morphological classifications. *Right* optical spectroscopic classifications. The *dashed lines* indicate links between the radio and optical classifications. Credits: the radio images were taken from http://www.jh.man.ac.uk/atlas

Tadhunter (2016)

#### **SCALES FOR RADIO JET FEEDBACK**

#### **NLR** (<u>~ 1 kpc</u>)



#### 'Teacup' - (Harrison et al 2015)



#### Bulge (up to <u>~10 kpc</u>)?



'Beetle' - (Villar-Martin et al. 2017)

or

#### **HOST GALAXY PROPERTIES**

#### Jet <u>orientation</u> relative to disks?



Capetti & Celotti (1998)

# <u>Entrainment</u> more likely in galaxies with bulges?



Laing & Bridle (2014)

Radio-intermediate HERGs have <u>reduced proportion of tidal features</u> and <u>more disk-like hosts</u> than their radio-powerful counterparts

Implies <u>merger-based triggering is less important</u>

High-res. VLA observations will provide information about <u>radio</u> <u>morphologies</u>, <u>scales</u> of radio-jet feedback and relationship with <u>host</u> <u>galaxy properties</u>

#### **FUTURE WORK**

- <u>Environments</u>
- Control sample

- Host morphologies
- Statistics will improve with new observations



<u>Multiple peaks</u> in BH accretion rate throughout galaxy mergers

Timescale of separations <u>comparable with life-cycle</u> <u>times</u> of radio sources: ~10<sup>7</sup>-10<sup>8</sup> yrs (Morganti 2017)

Capelo et al. (2015)





Volonteri et al. (2015)



HERGs have systematically lower stellar masses, D<sub>n</sub>(4000) and black hole masses for RI cases

> ... also **bluer** colours, **less diffuse** optical emission



Best & Heckman 2012

### RESULTS - TIDAL FEATURE TYPES

TF TYPE	RI Sample		2 Jy
P <sub>1.4GHz</sub>	10 <sup>22.5</sup> - 10 <sup>23.08</sup> WHz <sup>-1</sup>	10 <sup>23.08</sup> - 10 <sup>24</sup> WHz <sup>-1</sup>	$> 10^{25} \text{WHz}^{-1}$
TAIL	<u>54%</u>	<u>50%</u>	17%
FAN	27%	13%	16%
SHELL	19%	21%	32%
BRIDGE	_	8%	9%
DOUBLE NUCLEUS	_	4%	10%
IRREGULAR	_	4%	9%





Evidence for galaxy interactions in PRGs

► 81% of the 3CR sample show signs of morphological disturbance

3CR (84)	SLRG (62 – 74%)	WLRG (22 – 26%)
81%	82%	77%
2Jy (46)	SLRG (35 – 76%)	WLRG (11 – 24%)
85%	94%	27%

73 3CR + 46 2Jy = 119 PRGs of which 83% show disturbed morphologies Ramos Almeida, Doña-Girón, Tadhunter et al. in prep.

ROE seminar - 5th October

Cristina Ramos Almeida

PRELIMINARY