



JOIN THE

DARK SIDE OF METALLICITY

*A long time ago in a dusty galaxy
far, far away....*

*Metallicity evolution probed by Spica
with rest-frame Mid- to Far-IR spectroscopy*

G. CRESCI - ARCETRI OBSERVATORY



METALLICITY: A FUNDAMENTAL PARAMETER

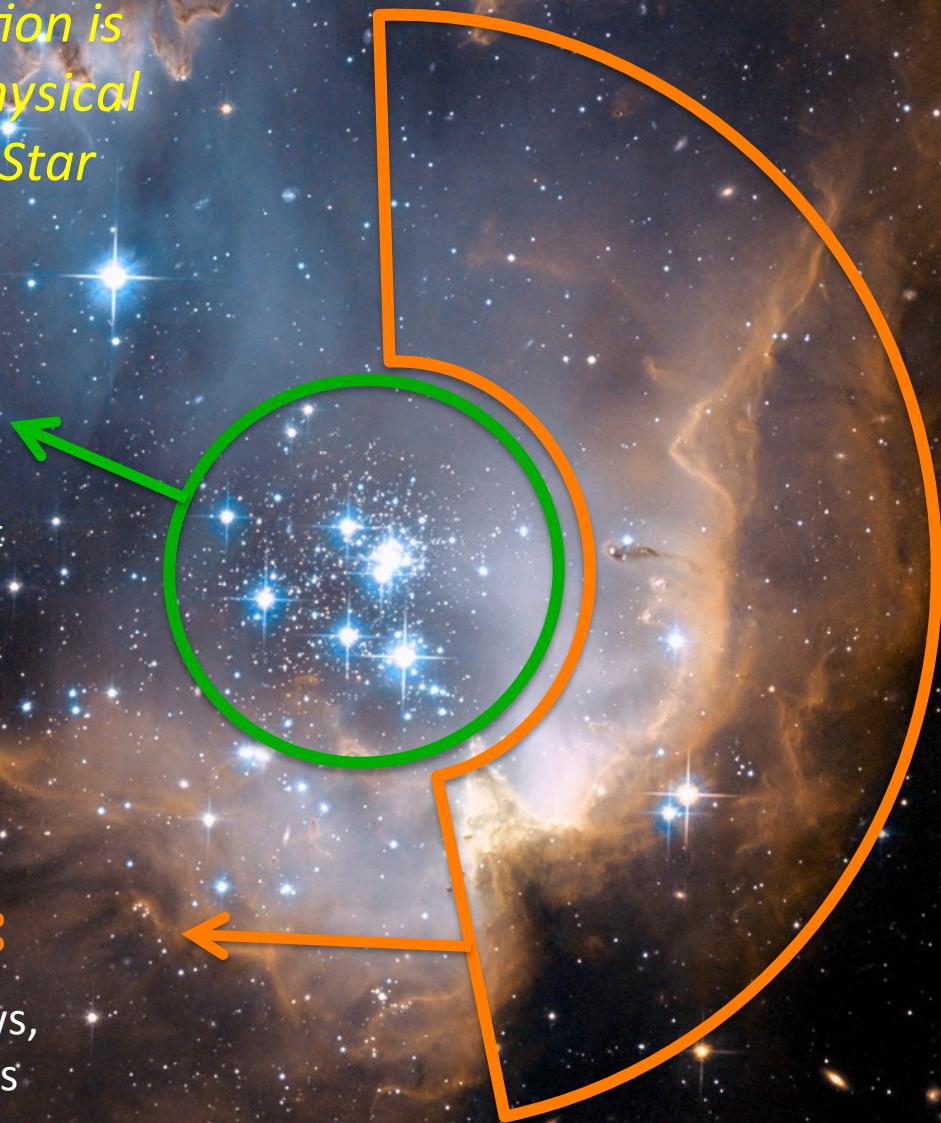
Understanding its evolution is essential to isolate the physical mechanisms that drive Star Formation

Stellar metallicity:

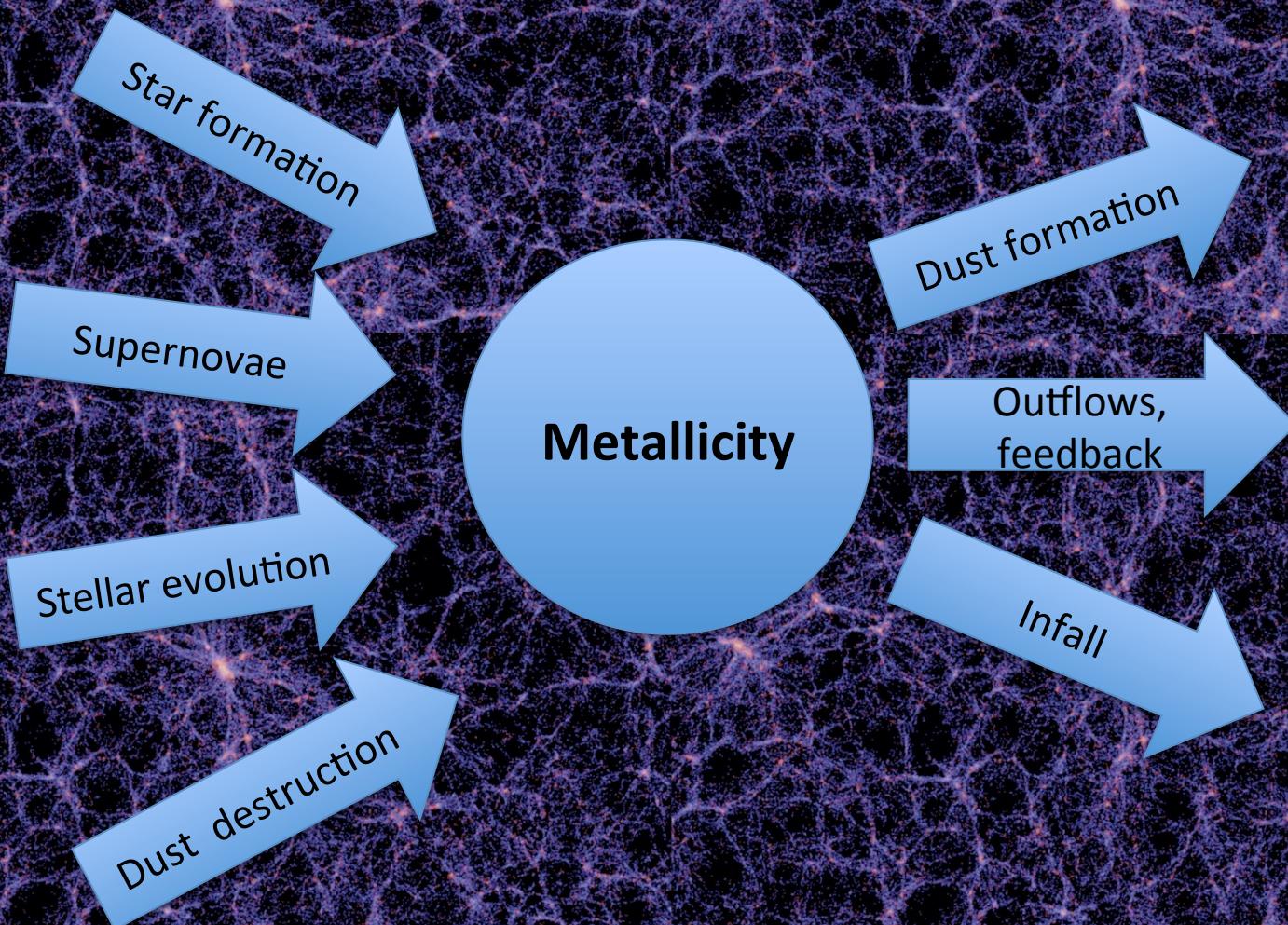
Represents an average over the entire star formation history of the galaxy, not only the current SFR: optical to UV absorption features

Gas-phase metallicity:

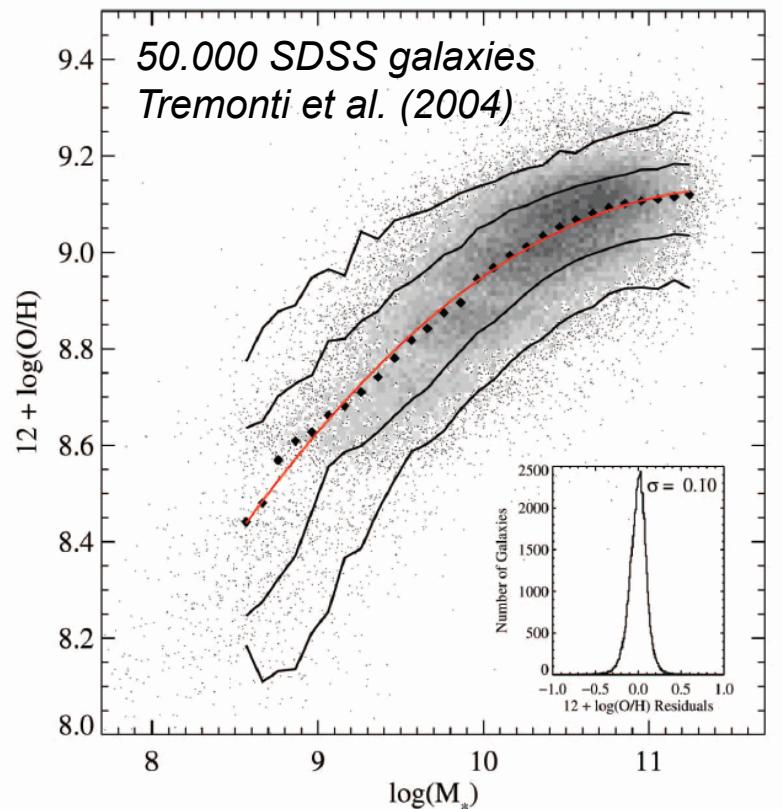
Also sensitive to inflows and outflows, cycling of gas: optical emission lines



METALLICITY: A FUNDAMENTAL PARAMETER

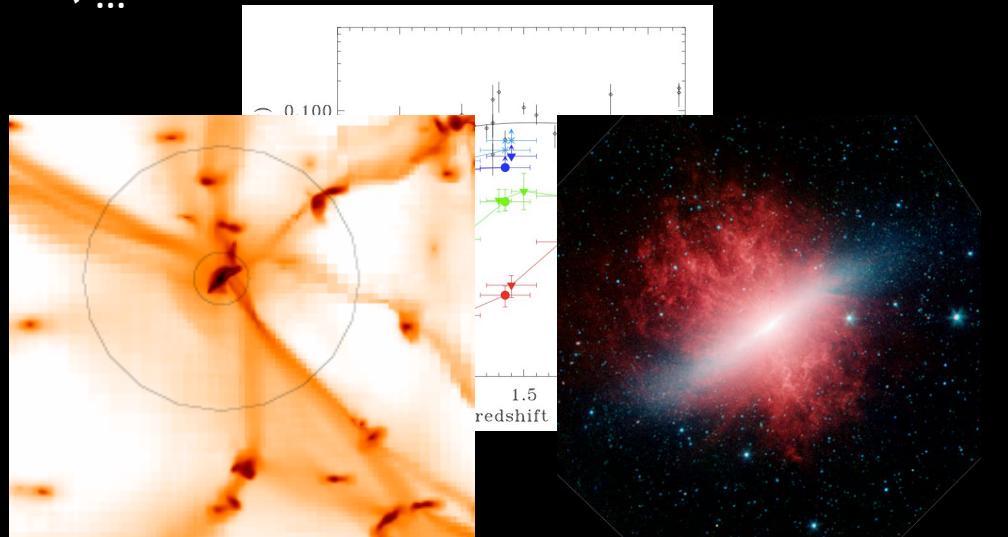


THE MASS-METALLICITY RELATION



Possible Drivers:

- ✓ star formation history and mass lost
- ✓ downsizing
- ✓ outflows and feedback (AGN, SNe)
- ✓ evolution in IMF
- ✓ ...

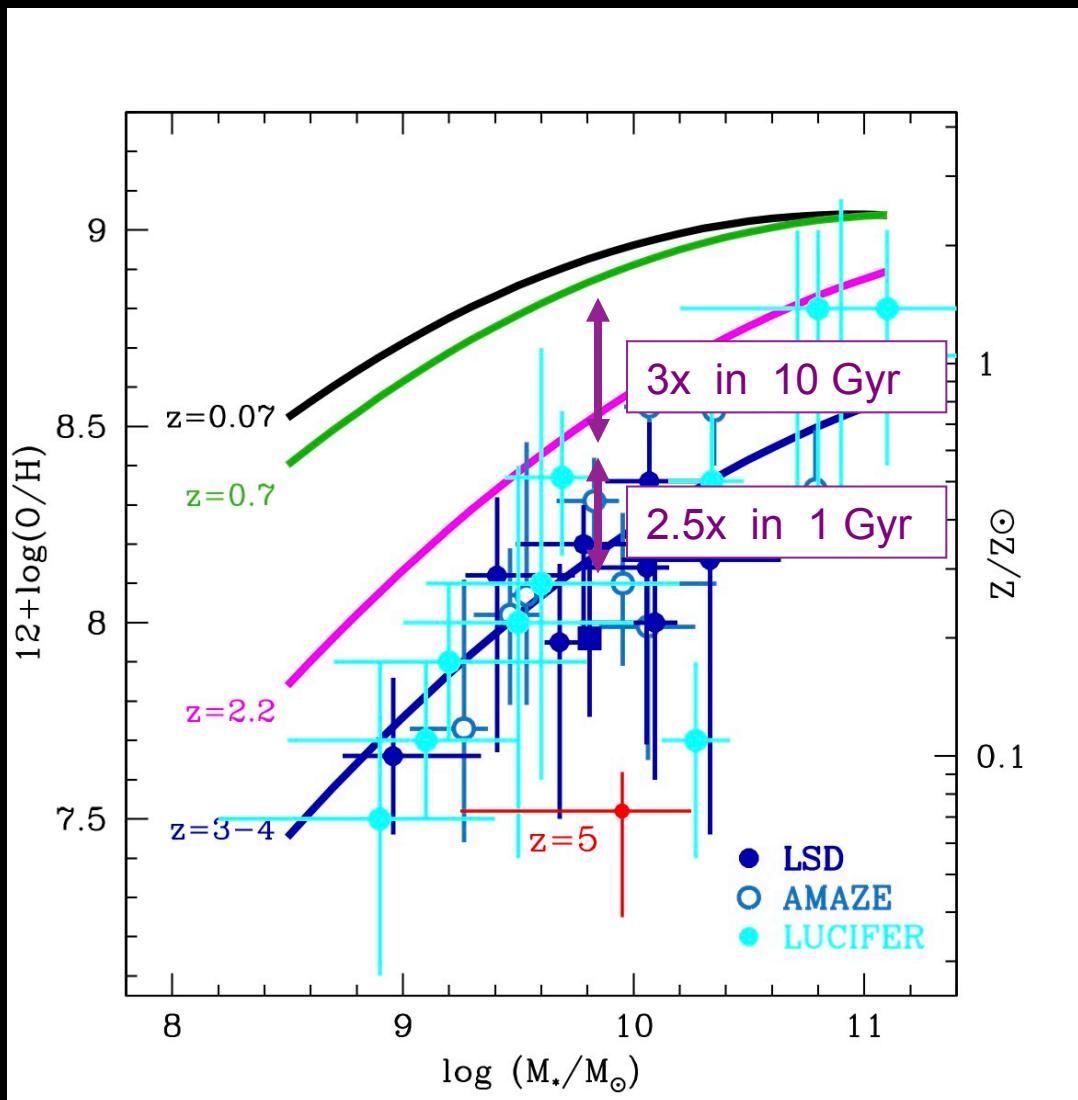


Crucial test for models

Especially at high-z, where the predictions of different models diverge more

See Kobayashi+ 2007; Brooks+ 2007; de Rossi+ 2007; Dave' & Oppenheimer 2007; Dalcanton, 2007; De Lucia+ 2004; Tissera+ 2005; Koppen+ 2007; Cid Fernandes+ 2007; Finlator & Dave', 2008; Panter+ 2008; Governato+ 2008; Sakstein+ 2009; Calura+ 2009; Save', Finlator & Oppenheimer 2011, etc

EVOLUTION OF THE MASS-GAS METALLICITY RELATION



$z \sim 0.07$ SDSS

$z \sim 0.8-1$ GDSS+CFRS (Savaglio+05),
GOODS (Cowie & Barger 09)
VVDS (Lamareille+09, Perez-Monteiro+09))

IMAGES (Rodrigues+08)
DEEP2 (Zahid+10)

$z \sim 2.2$ LBG (Shapley+04, Erb+06)
BzK (Hayashi+11)
Lenses (Richard+10)

$z \sim 3.3$

- AMAZE (Maiolino+08, Troncoso+13)
- LSD (Mannucci +09)
- LUCIFER (Cresci+16)

M-Z relation already
in place at $z \sim 3.5$

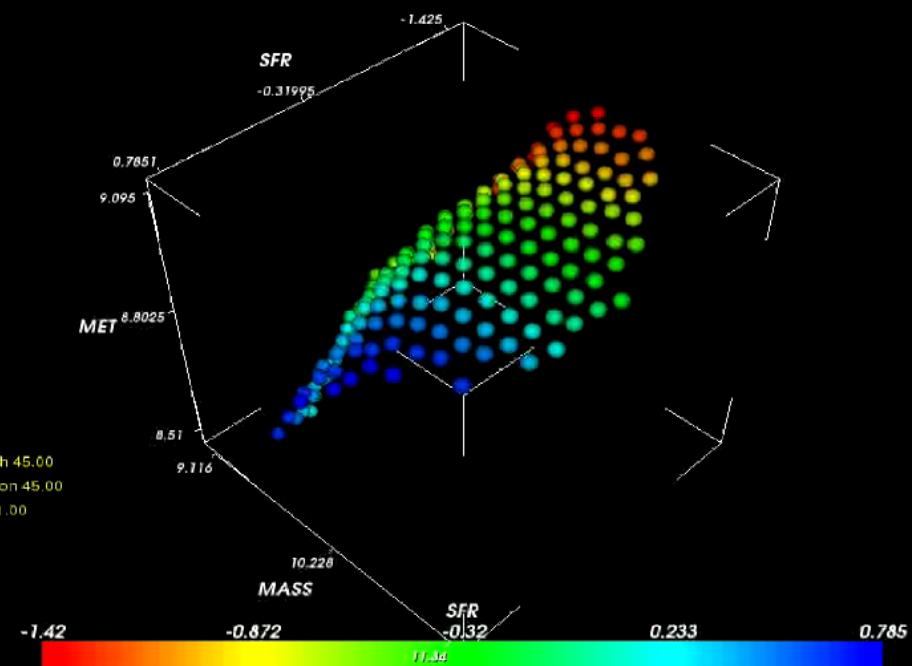
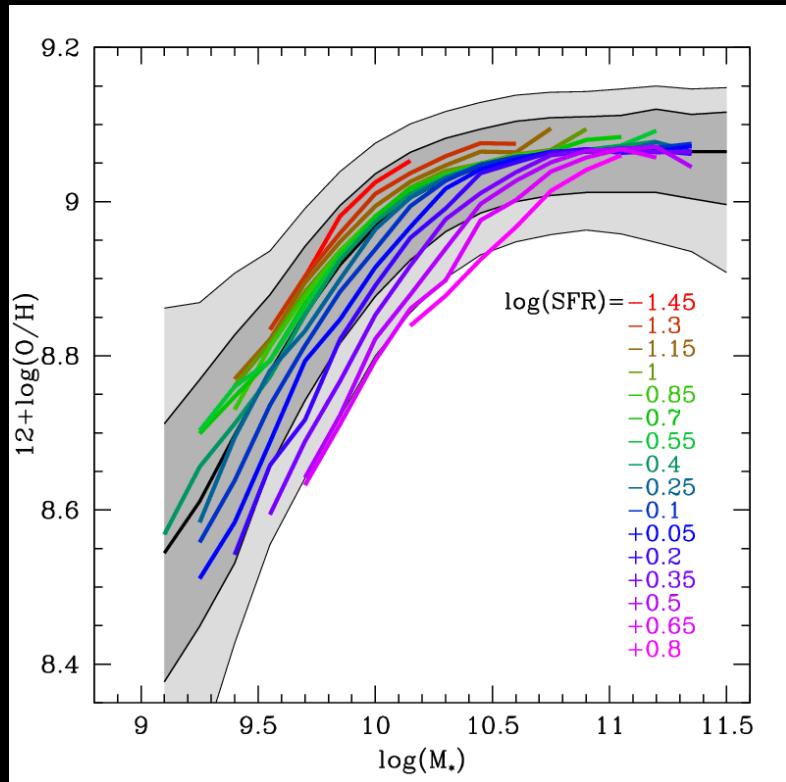
Strong and fast evolution of
the M-Z relation beyond $z \sim 2$

THE FUNDAMENTAL METALLICITY RELATION

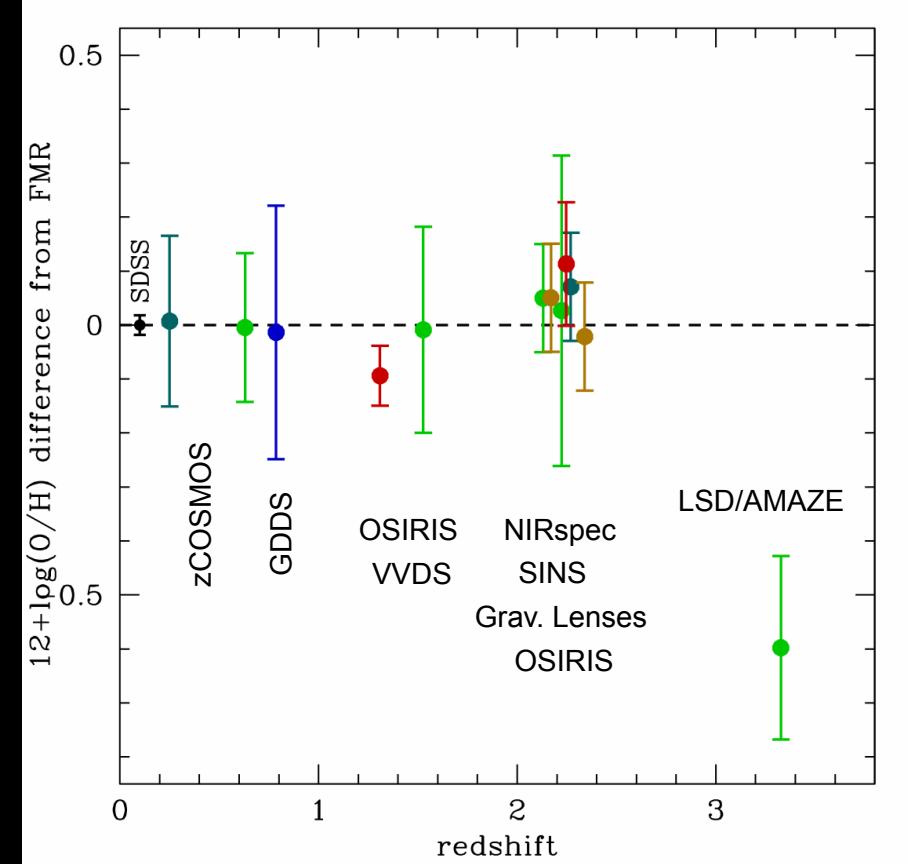
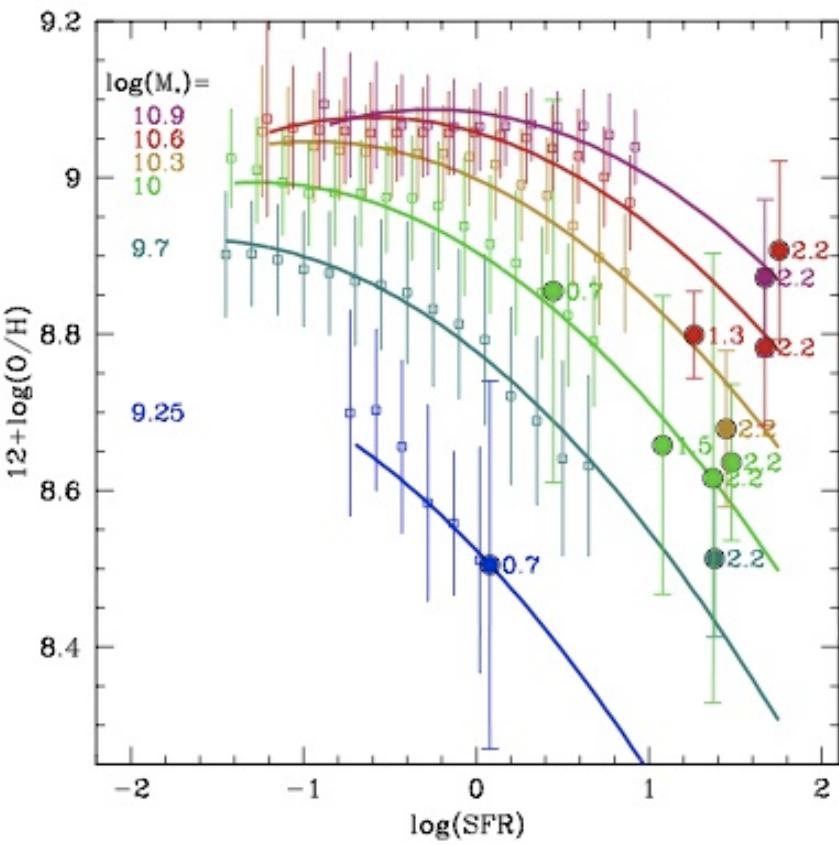
Gas Metallicity depends on Mass but also on SFR

Spread $\sim 0.05\text{dex}$ (12%)

→ half dispersion of the original M-Z due to SFR



REDSHIFT EVOLUTION OF THE FMR

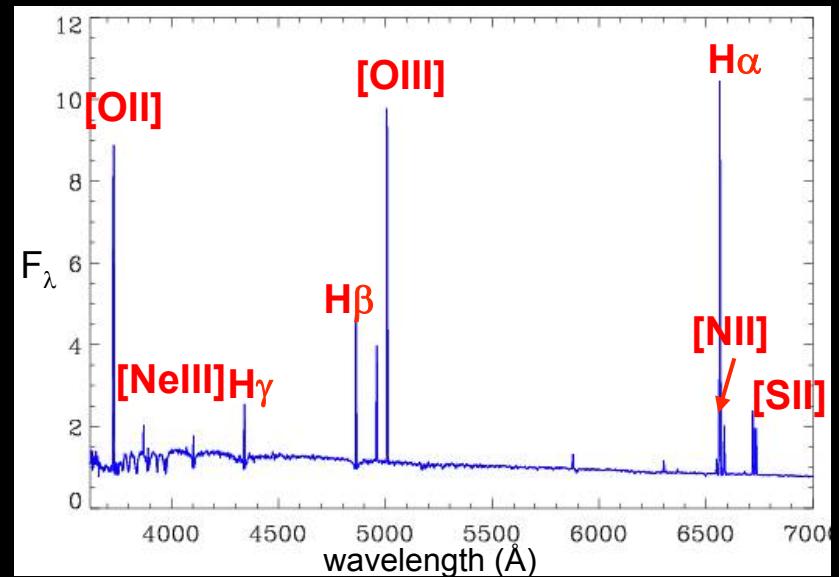
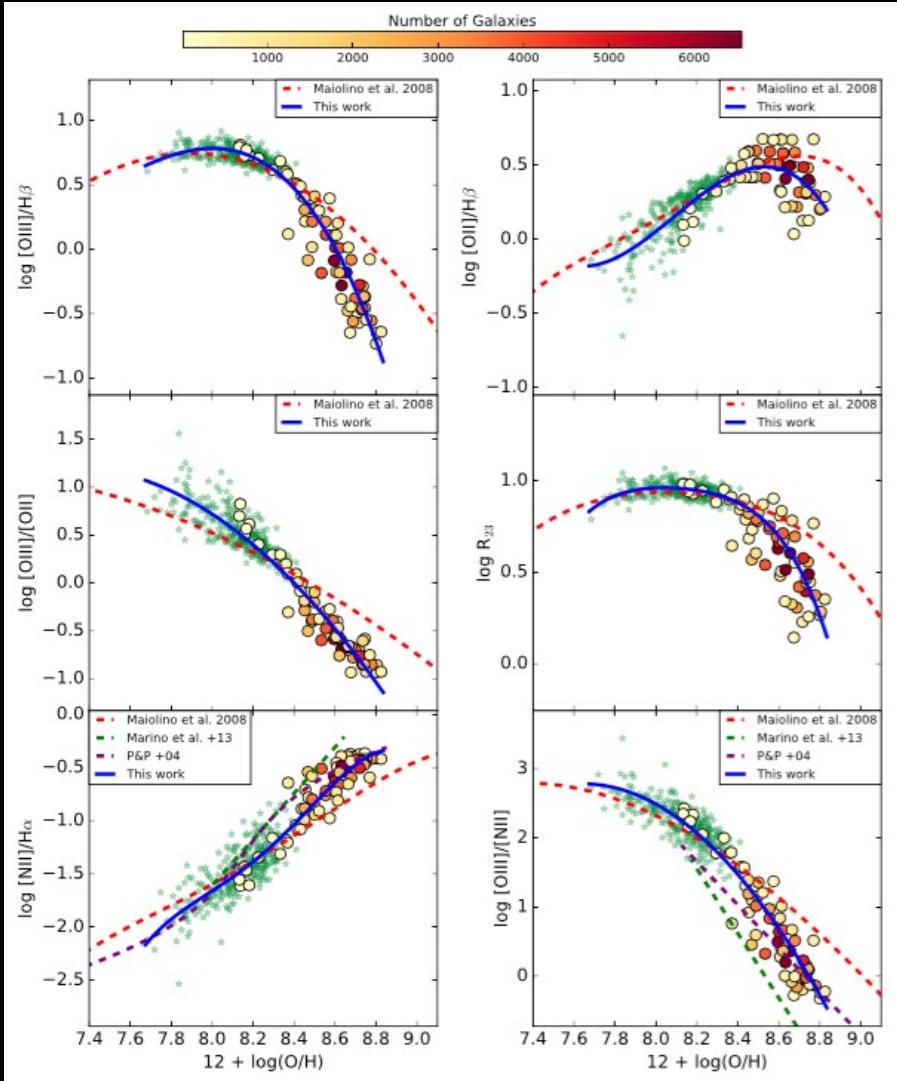


- No evolution up to $z=2.5$
- 0.6 dex of evolution at $z=3.3$?

SHORT-WAVELENGTH OBSERVATIONS

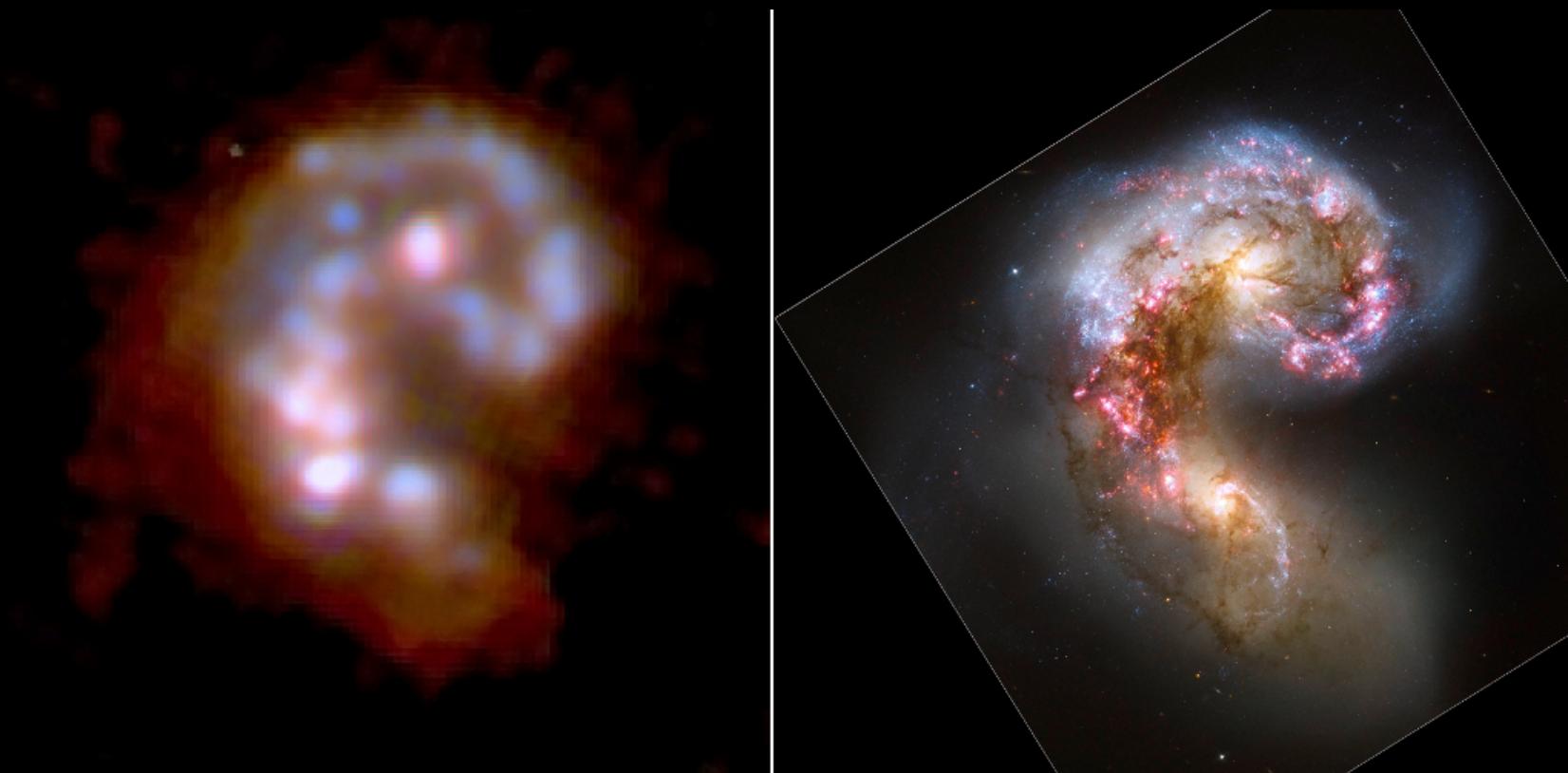
Gas phase metallicity:

- direct **electron temperature** measurements (Pilyugin+01,10, Izotov+06, etc.)
- from **strong emission lines** ([OII], [OIII], H β , [NII], H α) calibrated empirically (Pettini & Pagel 04, Liang+06, Andrews&Martini 16 etc.)
- or through **photoionization models** (Kewley&Dopita 02, Tremonti+04, Dopita+06,16 etc.)



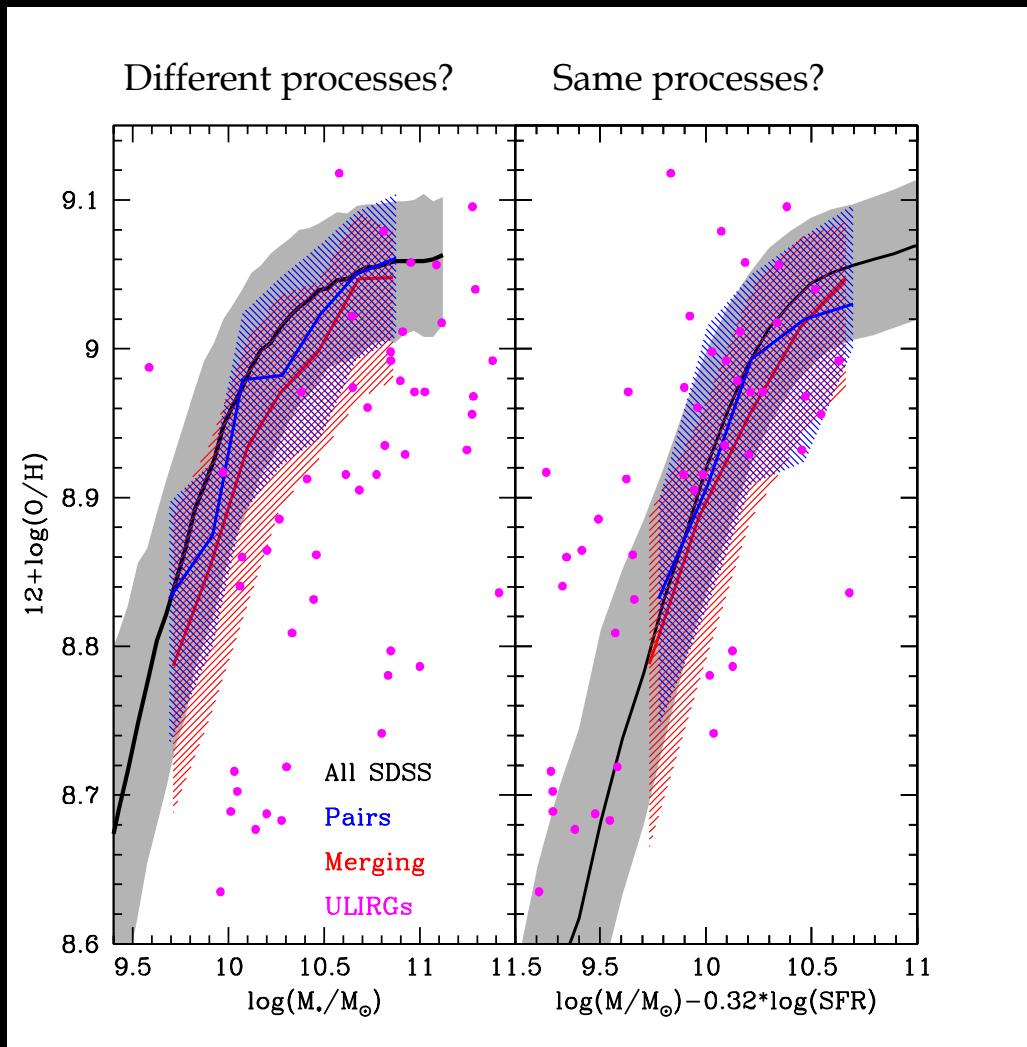
OBSCURED GALAXIES

- Metallicity is often unknown
- When observed, refers to the outskirt only



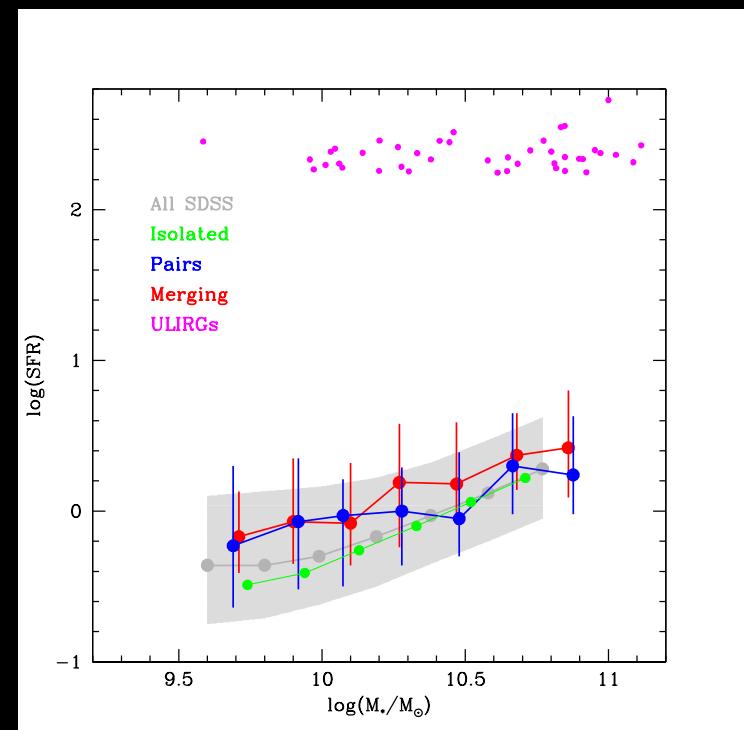
ESA / PACS / SHINING / U. Klaas & M. Nielbock, MPIA.

FMR IN OBSCURED GALAXIES



Lower metallicities than M-Z, but higher SFR
SFR from FIR luminosity needed in obscured
sources, or just a skin effect?

- Spectroscopic pairs in SDSS (Ellison et al. 2008)
- Merging galaxies from the Galaxy Zoo sample
- ULIRGs (Hou et al. 2009)



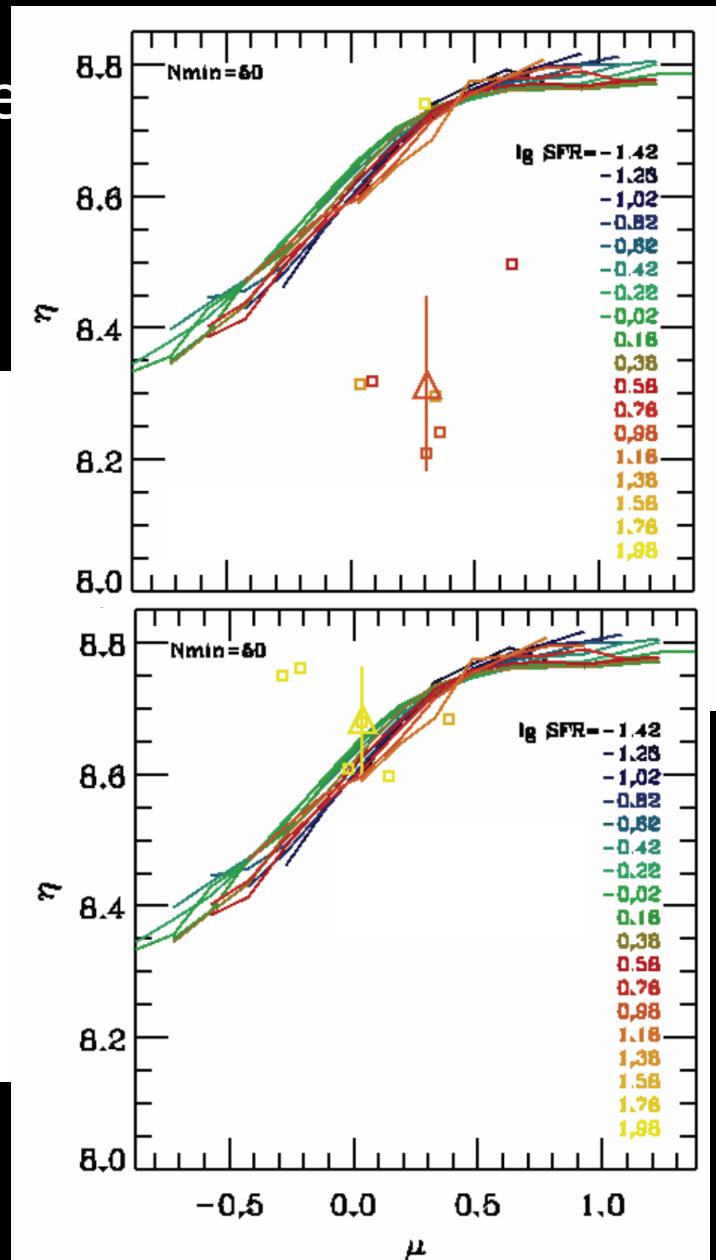
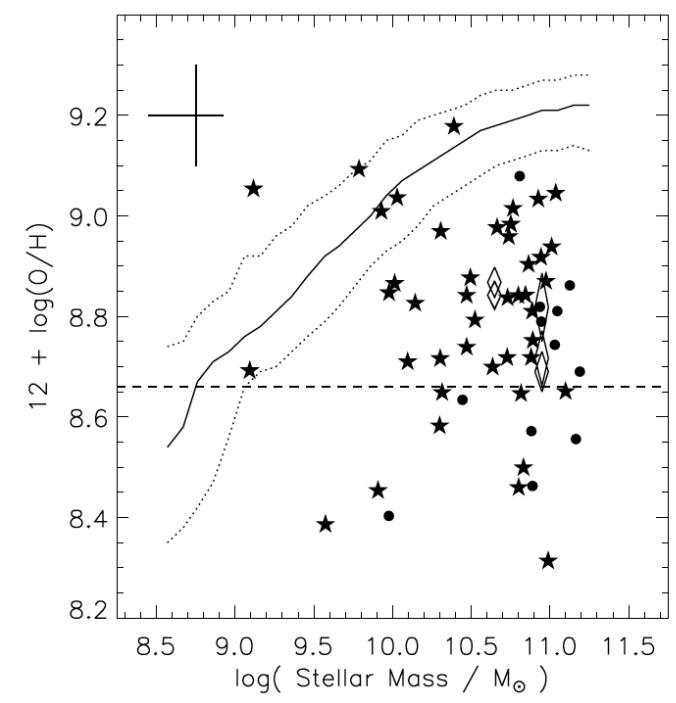
Cresci et al. 2025

SPICA: both SFR and metallicity
from FIR

OBSCURED GALAXIES

- Do ULIRG follow the same relations?

Rupke et al. 2008



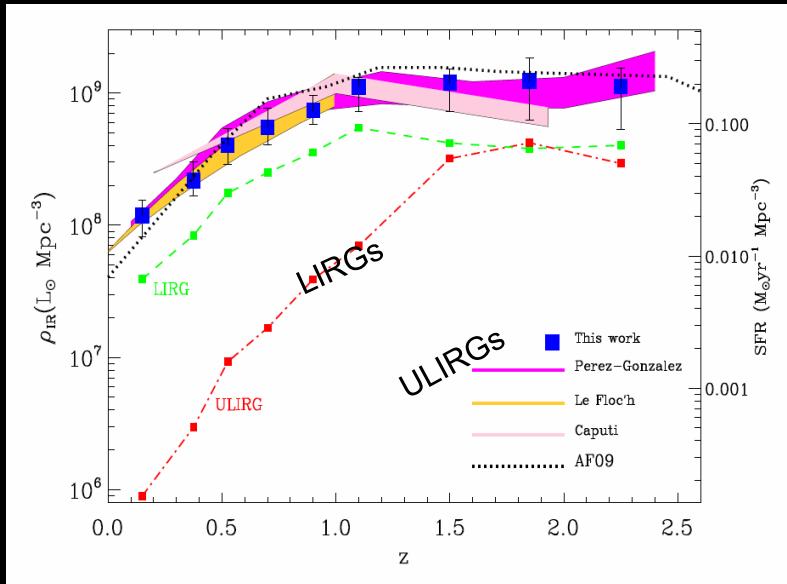
Maiolino+ in prep.

Different processes?

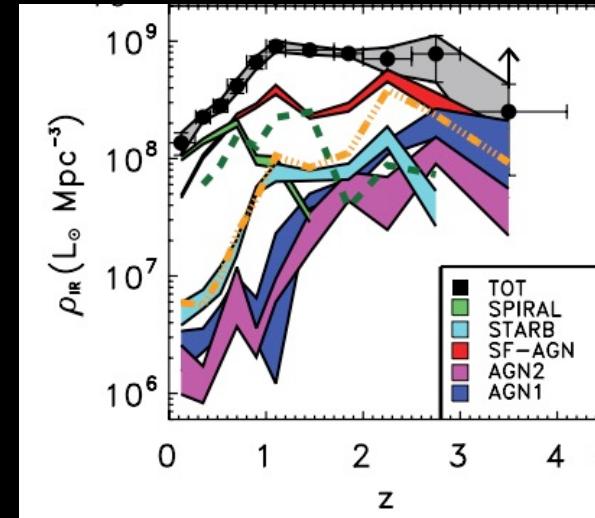
Same processes?

SPICA:
both SFR and
metallicity from
FIR

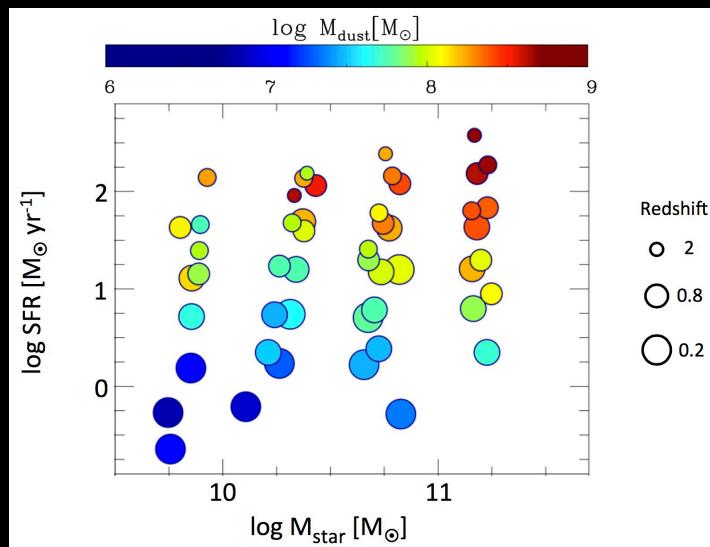
THE DARK SIDE AT HIGH-Z



Rodighiero *et al.* 2010



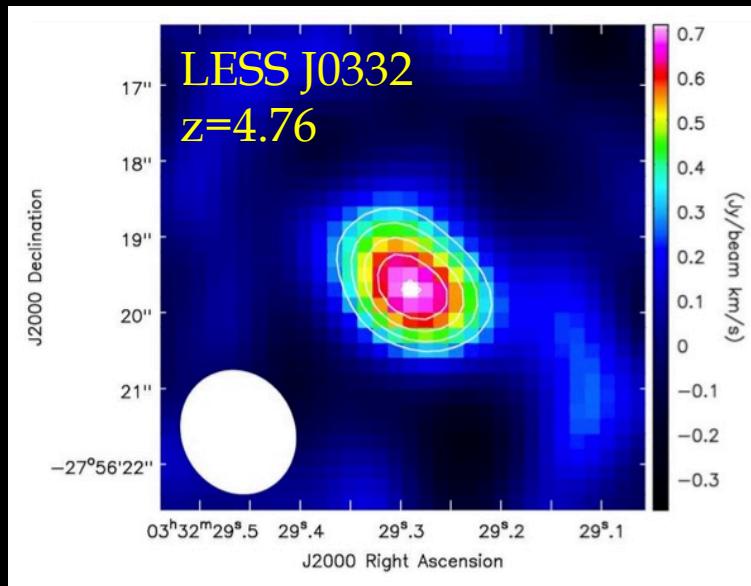
Gruppioni *et al* 2013



The fraction of obscured
star formation increases
with redshift, SFR and mass

Santini *et al.* 2013

LONGER WAVELENGTHS



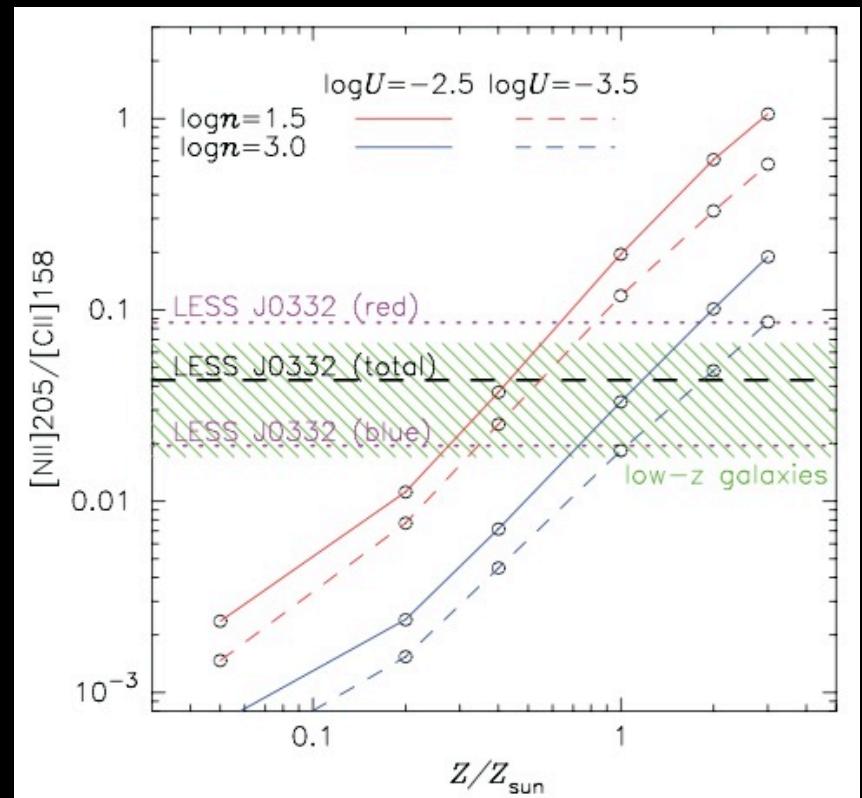
Nagao+12

But only very high-z, and only 1-2 far-IR lines in good atmospheric window with ALMA

Need to calibrate empirically with local galaxies

Pioneer ALMA
metallicity measurement!

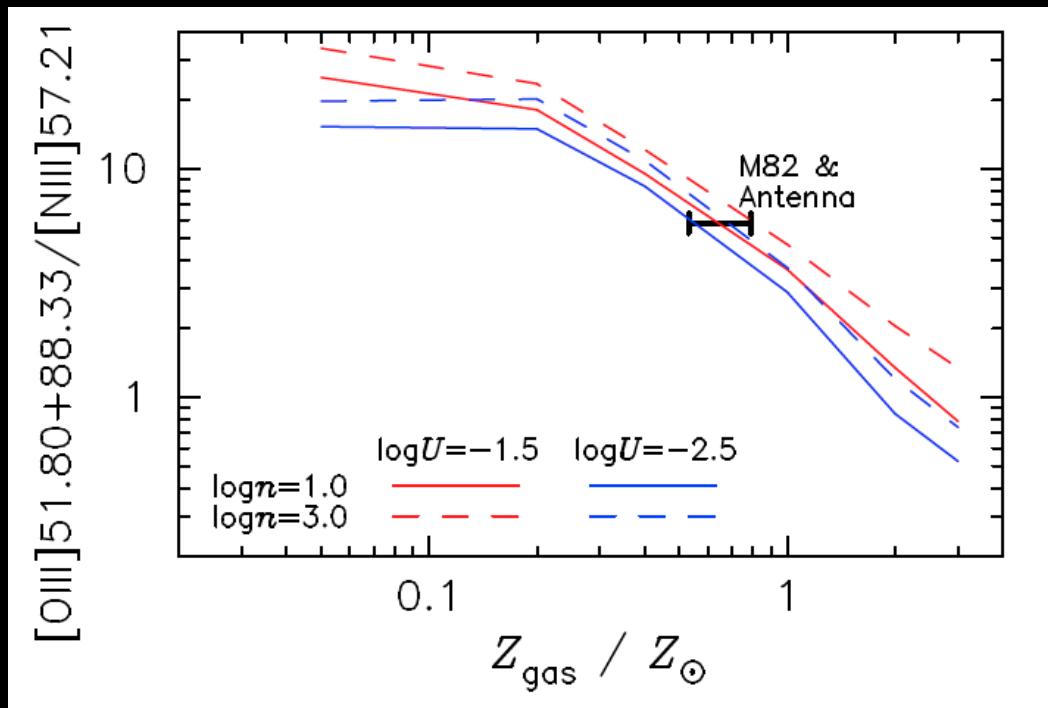
[NII]205μm
[CII]158μm



LONGER WAVELENGTHS

Extinction-free lines

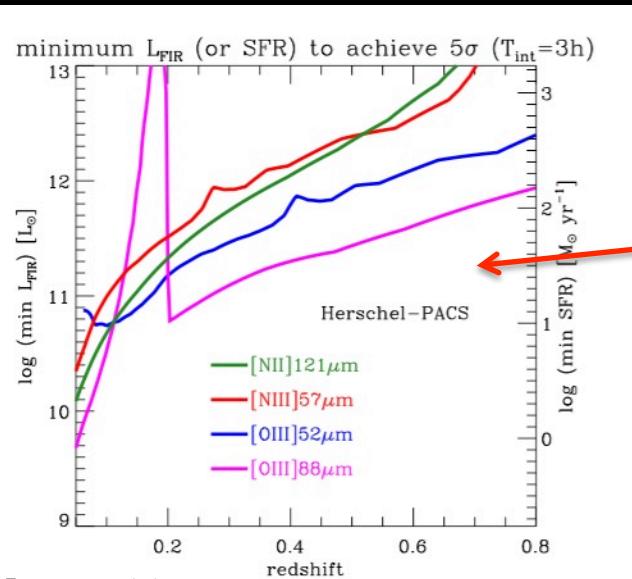
Exploring the chemical enrichment of dust embedded SF with Mid IR “strong” line



$$\frac{[\text{OIII}]52+88\mu\text{m}}{[\text{NIII}]57\mu\text{m}}$$

Nagao+11, calibrated with
photoionization models

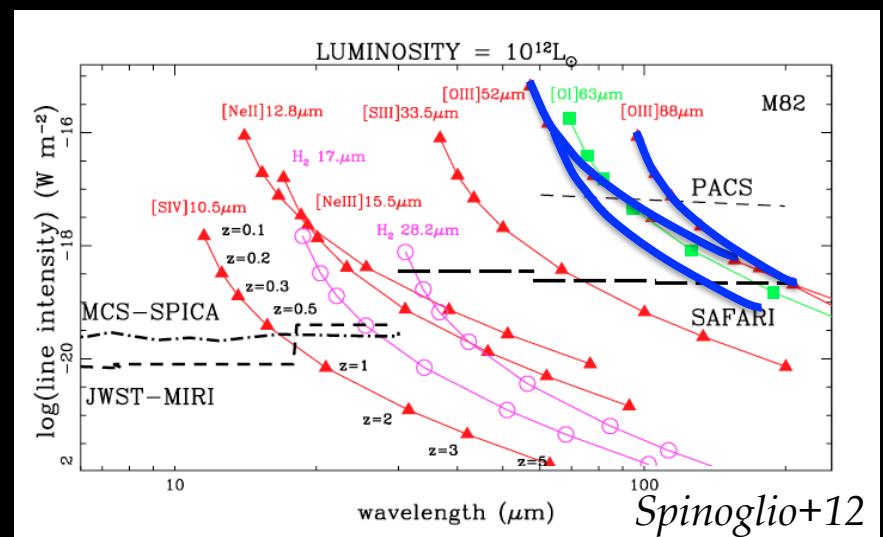
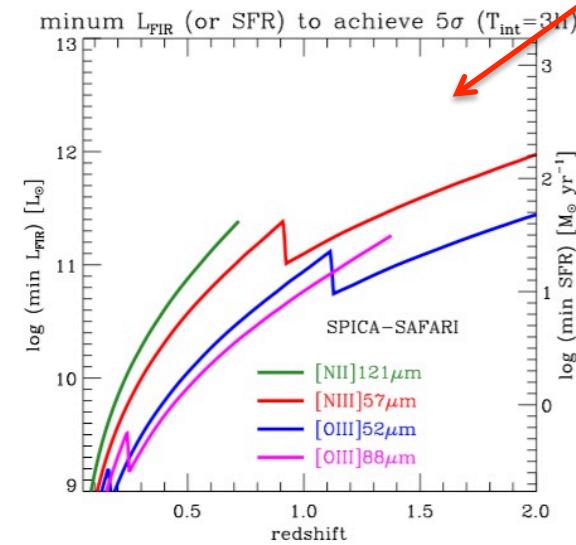
LONGER WAVELENGTHS



With **Herschel**, barely feasible for just a handful of local galaxies

Massive surveys possible with **SPICA** at high-z!

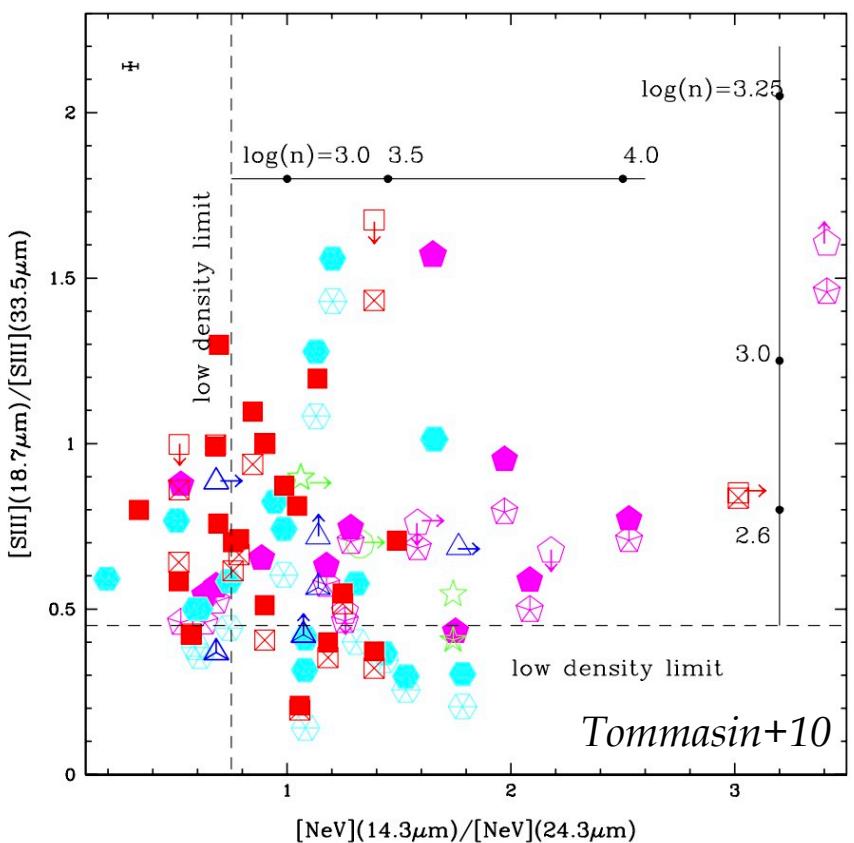
Nagao+11



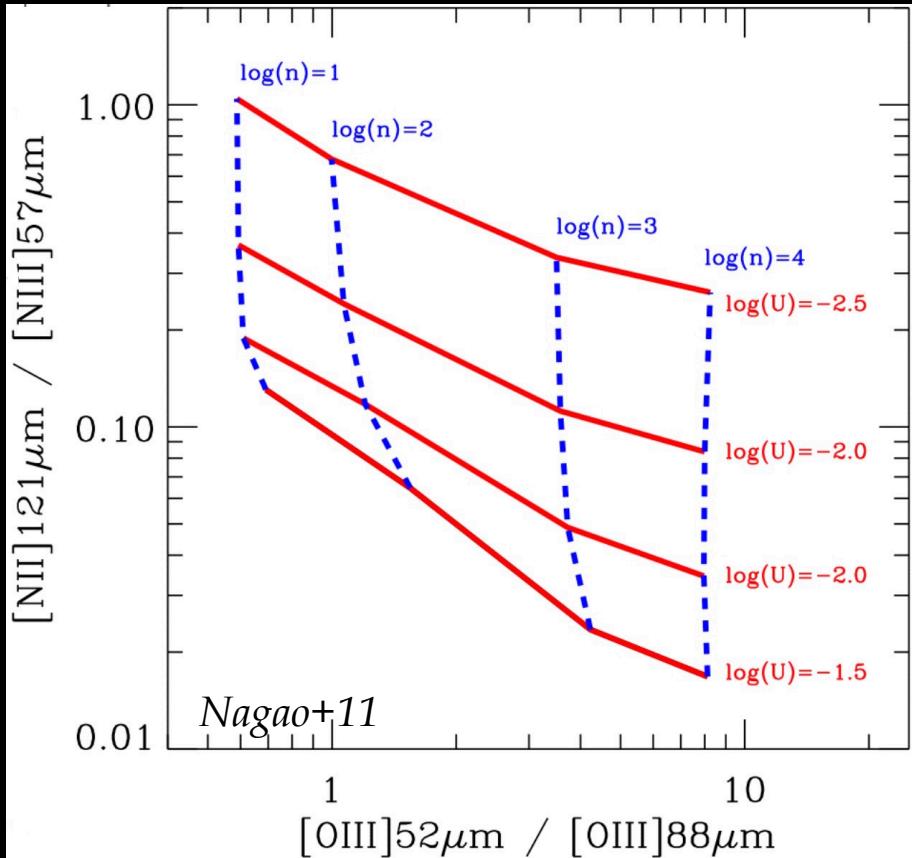
LONGER WAVELENGTHS

Not only metallicities...
...other physical quantities:

Electron densities



Ionization parameter



CONCLUSIONS

*A long time ago in a dusty galaxy
far, far away....*

*It is crucial but still really hard to measure metallicities
in very dusty environments*

*This can only be done by using extinction-free
lines in the Mid/Far IR*

*SPICA will finally allow these studies
in a sensible sample of galaxies
up to high-z*

THE DARK SIDE OF METALLICITY
IS STRONG WITH SPICA/SAFARI ...