Do current X-ray observations capture most of the black-hole accretion at high redshifts?

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$M_{\rm BH}$ is related to host galaxy, but why?



Previous works are controversial. Many studies tried to prove links between black hole accretion rate (BHAR) and SFR. But it turns out the BHAR-SFR links are largely a bias due to BHAR-M_{*} relation and the M_{*}-SFR main sequence





SFR >med(SFR)

Yang et al. 2017

Morphology might be the key, but is mostly neglected by previous studies due to technical difficulties



$M_{\rm BH}$ not related to disk



HST F160W imaging can do the job of bulge vs. non-bulge classification up to $z\sim3$

Bulge-dominated (~25%)



Comparison (~75%)



Machine-learning based classification (Huertas-Company+2015)

Bulge vs. non-bulge samples are totally different!

Bulge-dominated: BHAR is indeed correlated with SFR (10σ)

Non-bulge: BHAR is not significantly related to SFR (<2σ)



Yang et al. (2019)

Lockstep BH-bulge growth (also confirmed by Ni+2020 with COSMOS sample)



BHAR-SFR relation allows you to playback BH accretion history

HST spectroscopy (CLEAR survey) + broad-band photometry ⇒ **star formation history (SFH)** for each bugle-dominated galaxy (thank Vince)

The BHAR-SFR relation can convert the SFH to **black hole accretion history (BHAH)**

Add up all the BHAH and divide by the comoving volume ⇒ **black hole accretion density (BHAD)** from bulge-dominated galaxies



Summary of our approach



Result: At z=4-5, our BHAD >> X-ray observed BHADs

At z≲3, our bulge BHAD is consistent with (lower than) both theoretical and observational (X-ray) results

At z=4-5, our BHAD is still similar to theoretical BHADs but **much higher than the** X-ray BHADs

X-ray BHADs have been corrected for systematics due to radiation efficiency and bolometric correction



Scenario 1: X-ray surveys are incomplete

Most type-1 AGNs are also strong X-ray emitters. But many BPT-selected type-2 AGNs are missed by X-ray.

The reason is likely **obscuration**. When N_H>10²⁴ cm⁻² (Compton-thick), even high-energy X-rays are suppressed.



Predictions for AGN IR luminosity function

The X-ray missed Compton-thick AGNs likely have strong **IR dust re-emission**.

We predict AGN IR luminosity function based on our BHAD, assuming the missed AGNs have the same intrinsic L_x distribution and L_x - L_{IR} relation

JWST and Origins will sample \leq the break luminosity \Rightarrow dozens of z=4-5 AGNs in a CANDELS-like (~1000 arcmin²) survey



Scenario 2: bulge evolution

Our BHAD estimation assume the **progenitors of our sample are still bulge-dominated**, as BHAR-SFR relation only works for bulge-dominated galaxies.

Current results: **bulge fraction is ~ constant to z~2.5**, supporting our assumption.

But **bulge fraction might drop at z>2.5**. *JWST* will test this scenario.





What's next? Go to even higher redshift

CLEAR results show some bulge-dominated galaxies form at z>6.

Simulations cannot reproduce those galaxies.

Bulges and BHs might already be there within the 1st billion year since Big Bang, earlier than theorists' expectation.

