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CHARACTERIZATION OF AGN VARIABILITY IN THE OPTICAL AND NEAR INFRARED REGIMES

- The characteristic time-scales of the variability range from hours to years, with the shortest time-scales being associated with shorter emission wavelengths.
- There is a correlation between the variations seen at different wavelengths.





Connection between AGN variability and black hole physical properties?



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MacLeod et al. 2010 (~9000 sources): the amplitude of the variability correlates with BH mass and anti-correlates with luminosity.

Variability VS Physical Properties

Sources from SDSS Data Release 14 Quasar catalog (DR14Q, Pâris et al. 2017a). 1348 QSO with SDSS spectra, and with light curves from the QUEST-La Silla AGN variability survey (Cartier et al. 2015).



The amplitude of the variability (A) depends solely on the rest frame emission wavelength and the Eddington ratio, where A anticorrelates with both λ_{rest} and L/ $L_{Edd.}$

Correlation with z –> anti-correlation with λ_{rest}

Sánchez-Sáez et al. (2018)

L/L_{Edd} as the main driver of the amplitude of the variability

For lower accretion rates, the disk becomes cooler and the innermost, most variable region, will shift its emission from the UV to optical wavebands.

 $r_{\lambda} \propto M_{\rm BH}^{2/3} (L/L_{\rm Edd})^{1/3} \lambda^{4/3}$



Sánchez-Sáez et al. (2018)

DUST REVERBERATION MAPPING

Dust Reverberation Mapping: what do we know?

Suganuma et al. 2006

Four nearby Seyfert 1 galaxies.



Dust Reverberation Mapping: what do we know?

Suganuma et al. 2006

- Four nearby Seyfert 1 galaxies.
- The lag times are tightly correlated with the optical luminosities.

$$\Delta t \propto L^{0.5}$$



Dust Reverberation Mapping: what do we know?

- Koshida et al. 2014
- 17 nearby Seyfert 1 galaxies.



 $\Delta t \propto L^{0.5}$

Dust Reverberation Mapping: what do we know?

Koshida et al. 2014

- 17 nearby Seyfert 1 galaxies.
- The lag times strongly correlated with the optical luminosity in the luminosity range of M_V ~ -16 to -22.



Dust Reverberation Mapping: AGN as standard candles?

The tight correlation of the optical-NIR time lag with luminosity can be used to define a new standard candle for cosmology.



REVERBERATION MAPPING OF HIGH Z SOURCES



NIR ANALYSIS

ULTRAVISTA SURVEY

(McCracken et al. 2012)

- Single epoch images of the COSMOS field, taken between
 December 2009 and June 2016.
- Instrument: VIRCAM
- Y,J,H and Ks bands

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Dust Reverberation Mapping (RM)

- RM analysis of ~100 type 1 AGN with z<1.2. (selected from Marchesi et al. 2016 and Flesch 2015) using UltraVISTA data.
 - Is the emission received in the NIR from high redshift sources consistent with emission from the dusty torus or the accretion disk?
 - Is the correlation between luminosity and time delay observed at higher z?

Dust Reverberation Mapping Challenges at z~1

Time dilation:

$$t_{rest} = \frac{t_{obs}}{(1+z)}$$

Kelly et al. 2009

Light curve cadence: GAPS

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Measuring the time delays

ICCF

- Interpolate between real data points to obtain a regular sampling.
- Estimates errors by FR/RSS

$$CCF(\tau) = \frac{E[(a(t) - E_a)(b(t + \tau) - E_b)]}{\sqrt{V_a V_b}}$$

ZDCF

- Bins the data over discrete time intervals with different widths.
- Estimates errors by Monte Carlo simulations.

$$r = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} (a_i - \bar{a})(b_i - \bar{b})/(n-1)}{s_a s_b}$$

Javelin

- Damp Random Walk (DRW) modeling of the light curves.
- Errors are included in the modeling.

$$dX(t) = -\frac{1}{\tau}X(t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{dt} \ \epsilon(t) + b \ dt$$

Lira et al. 2011

Lira et al. 2011

SED analysis

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SED analysis

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- Type 1 AGN in the COSMOS selected from Marchesi et al. 2016 and Flesch 2015.
- Light curves with 6.5 years of coverage and ~150 epochs per band

Filter	Y	J	Н	Ks	All
# type 1	88	89	125	162	85
# var	59	59	55	95	42

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TORUS detected from SED analysis \overline{m} max-min P_{90} - P_{10} ۰. $\sigma_{
m rms}$ P35-P5 ŧ. • -12.4-12.6-12.810 sources without TORUS detected $\log_{10} \lambda F_{\rm A}$ (erg s 1 cm 2) -13.0-13.2-13.4-13.6-13.8-14.03.80 3.70 3.75 3.85 3.90 3.95 log₁₀ λ (Å)

TORUS detected from SED analysis

- -12.73
 -13.00
 -13.25
 10 sources without TORUS detected
 ⁷/₅ -13.50
- 12 sources with unclear detection

- TORUS detected from SED analysis
 10 sources without TORUS detected
 12 sources with unclear detection
- 20 sources with TORUS detected

Time delay estimates

 13 sources with time delays consistent with emission from the accretion disk

Time delay estimates

 14 sources with time delays consistent with emission from dusty torus

Time delay estimates

 14 sources with time delays consistent with emission from dusty torus

M_V upper limits!

SUMMARY

- We found that the amplitude of the variability (A) depends solely on the rest frame emission wavelength and the Eddington ratio, where A anti-correlates with both λ_{rest} and L/L_{Edd} .
- RM at z~1 is needed if we want to use AGN as standard candles.
- RM at z~1 is challenging: we need longer light curves, the analysis at individual periods of observations is limited by the time scale of the variability, and the time delays are affected by the presence of gaps.
- SEDs can be used to detect a variable torus component.
- We need proper estimations of the absolute magnitude in order to test any correlation between time delay and luminosity.
- If we want to use LSST for dust reverberation mapping at z~1 we need a complementary program in the NIR.