## **Durham** University



Big Data applications for Black hole Evolution Studies

# The accretion and host properties of rapidly accreting black holes

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A panchromatic view of obscured quasars: exploring their role in quasar models

## Standard AGN orientation model



Obscured and unobscured AGNs should have the **same fundamental properties** 

Many works argue against an AGN orientation model!

e.g., Klindt+19, Fawcett+20, Rosario+2020, Fawcett+22, Andonie+22, Petter+22, etc

Credits: Claudio Ricci

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### Enhanced star-formation rates in obscured quasars



• Using UV-to-far infrared spectral energy distribution (SED) model fitting, we selected a sample of **600 IR quasars** in the COSMOS field at z<3.

Obscured quasars have, on average, **SFR ≈3 times higher** than unobscured quasars.

### Enhanced star-formation rates in obscured quasars



Enhanced star formation coming from SFRs>300  $M_{\odot}yr^{-1}$ 

Some of the obscuration might be coming from the host galaxy?

Andonie et al. (2022)

## Clear link between obscuration and SFR

- Obscured fraction is constant for SFR<300  $M_{\odot} yr^{-1}$
- Obscured fraction increases toward higher SFRs for SFRs>300 M<sub>☉</sub>yr<sup>-1</sup>



Andonie et al. (2024)

## Is the star-formation causing some of the obscuration? Test with ALMA



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- We use ALMA to calculate the interstellar medium obscuration (column density *N*<sub>H</sub> )
- The ISM of compact (R<sub>e</sub><1kpc) and highly star-forming (SFR>300 M<sub>o</sub>yr<sup>-1</sup>) quasars can be Compton-thick (N<sub>H</sub> >10<sup>24</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>)

## ALMA data shows that host galaxy obscuration is important in compact starburst host galaxies



## The obscured-unobscured quasar relationship cannot always be explained by the torus orientation

Evolutionary connection characterized by the decrease of dust and gas obscuration?



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A panchromatic view of obscured quasars: exploring their role in quasar models

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#### Unveiling rapid supermassive black hole growth with the 4MOST IR AGN survey

Undertaking 18 specific surveys

### 4MOST IR AGN survey (Andonie+ in prep)

**4MOST AGN Survey**: optical spectra for >1M AGNs over an area of ~10,000 deg<sup>2.</sup> The key components:

- X-ray: ~1M eROSITA selected AGNs → unobscured AGNs
- IR AGN: ~200k obscured, IR AGN selected using WISE colors IR Wide: R(AB)<22.1 mag IR Deep: R(AB)<22.8 mag</li>

500k obscured+unobscured IR quasars!





### 4MOST IR AGN survey (Andonie+ in prep)

- 4MOST is a multi-object optical spectrograph
- We expect to observe ~200000 obscured AGN at R < 22.8
- Selection approach: Assef+18 selection using unWISE catalogue + r-W2>6.1 [Vega] (Hickox+2008)
  COSMOS fields. X-ray constraints
- Reliability ~ 80%

COSMOS fields. X-ray constraints from Laloux+23



### 4MOST IR AGN survey predictions in deep fields

Testing our selection in Bootes, ELAIS-S1, and XMM-LSS fields using UV-to-FIR SED fitting





- Obscured IR quasars have higher SFRs than unobscured IR quasars
- Host-galaxy obscuration makes a significant contribution to the increase the obscured fraction at high SFR
- Quasar host galaxies with high SFRs and compact sizes can produce Compton-thick N<sub>H,ISM</sub>

**Back-up slides** 

### IR quasars in the main sequence (MS) of star formation

- Obscured quasars have SFR consistent with the star-forming MS
- Unobscured quasars lie below the star-forming MS→suppressed star formation?



## Clear link between obscuration and SFR

- Obscured fraction is constant for SFR<300  $\rm M_{\odot} yr^{-1}$
- Obscured fraction increases toward higher SFRs for SFRs>300 M<sub>☉</sub>yr<sup>-1</sup>

Could some of the obscuration come from the host galaxy rather than the AGN torus?

Andonie et al. (submitted)



### Investigating the host galaxy obscuration with ALMA



Line of sight  $N_{H,X(los)}$  from X-ray spectral fitting (Laloux+23)

 $<N_{H,ISM}>$  is comparable to  $N_{H,X(los)}$ 

The host galaxy can have an important contribution to the total obscuration of the systems

Andonie et al. (2024)

Quasars subpopulations beyond the standard AGN model



Andonie et al. (2024)

\* the figures are just illustrative and not drawn to scale