No direct coupling between bending of galaxy disc stellar age and light profiles as seen from CALIFA

Tomás Ruiz-Lara^{1,2}, Isabel Pérez^{1,2}, Estrella Florido^{1,2}, Patricia Sánchez-Blázquez³, Jairo Méndez-Abreu⁴, Mariya Lyubenova⁵, Jesús Falcón-Barroso⁶, Laura Sánchez-Menguiano^{1,7}, Sebastián F. Sánchez⁸ and the CALIFA team

Dpto. de Física Teórica y del Cosmos, Universidad de Granada, Campus de Fuentenueva, E-18071 Granada, Spain. email: estrella@ugr.es, ruizlara@ugr.es, isa@ugr.es
Instituto Carlos I de Física Teórica y computacional, Universidad de Granada, E-18071
Dpto. de Física Teórica, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, E-28049 Cantoblanco, Spain
School of Physics and Astronomy, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, UK
Kapteyn Astronomical Institute, University of Groningen, Groningen, the Netherlands
Instituto de Astrofísica de Canarias, La Laguna, Tenerife, Spain
Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (CSIC), Granada, Spain
Instituto de Astronomía, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, México D.F., Mexico

Recent theoretical and observational works claim the existence of galaxies with a characteristic age profile consisting on a negative radial trend followed by a smooth age upturn in its outskirts ("U-shape"). This shape has been generally related to down-bending light distributions; however, the existence of a real link between observed Surface Brightness (SB) profiles and changes in stellar properties such as age is still unclear.

We select a sample of 68 spiral galaxies from the CALIFA survey (Sánchez et al. 2012) for which we analyse their 2D light distribution (aplying GASP2D to the SDSS data) and their stellar content from the IFS CALIFA data up to their outer parts using full-spectrum fitting codes (i.e. ppxf, GANDALF, and STECKMAP). We compare the age profile (light and mass-weighted) with the SB distribution for each galaxy in order to highlight differences between profile types (type I, exponential profile; and II, down-bending profile). From this comparison we should highlight three main points:

- We observe "U-shape" light-weighted age profiles in 29 out of the 68 galaxies under analysis. This finding implies that this feature seems to be a common one.
- This age upturn disappears in all cases when mass-weighting the age, suggesting the presence of an extended, old population of stars along the entire disc and highlighting the importance of recent star formation in the building-up of the U-shape.
- These profiles appear indistinctly for type I (11) and II (18) galaxies. Breaks are not necessarily linked to changes in the stellar population age.

Given recent results on the outer parts of nearby systems and the results presented in this proceeding, one of the most plausible explanations for the age upturn is the combination of an early formation of the entire disc (~ 10 Gyr ago), an inside-out growth of the disc that has not reached the outermost regions yet (reason of the age upturn), and an inside-out quenching of the star formation (partly responsible of the inner age decline).

All these results have been already published in Ruiz-Lara et al. 2016. We strongly encourage the reader to check such paper to expand the information given here.

References

Sánchez, S. F., et al. 2012, A & A, 538, A8 Ruiz-Lara, T., Pérez, I., Florido, E., Sánchez-Blázquez, P., et al. 2016, MNRAS, 456L, 35