

DUST-OBSCURED RADIO AGNS FROM THE WISE SURVEY

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ABSTRACT

Feedback from accreting BH (AGN) is thought to be responsible for the co-evolution of BHs and galaxies. It is likely to be prominent in the most luminous dust-obscured quasars, particularly those containing radio sources too luminous to be powered by starbursts. In order to investigate the feedback mechanism in detail, we select a unique sample containing ~ 200 of the most luminous obscured QSOs by cross-matching the WISE catalog with the FIRST and NVSS radio surveys. We present overall statistics for the observed range of colors and radio/mid-IR flux density ratio. We also present our efforts to understand the physical and evolutionary nature of these extreme feedback candidates using various telescopes such as Magellan, SOAR, Herschel, and ALMA.

Key words: infrared: telescope; conferences: proceedings; quasars: general

1. INTRODUCTION

Many studies during the last decade have found that central supermassive black holes (SMBH) are ubiquitous in massive galaxies and that their masses correlate with the properties of host galaxies, such as the velocity dispersion and the bulge luminosity (Magorrian et al., 1998; Gebhardt et al., 2000). While the origin of these correlations has been controversial, it indicates that SMBHs and galaxies are closely linked in their evolution. The most convincing scenario invokes feedback from an active galactic nucleus (AGN) during mergers between gas rich galaxies regulating BH accretion and star formation. There are two feedback modes; (1) radiation pressure and thermal winds from a luminous AGN (“quasar mode” feedback) and (2) momentum transfer from radio jets (“radio mode” feedback).

In the merger-based feedback scenario, objects in the early stage are likely to be very luminous due to starbursts and highly accreting BH, and enshrouded by dust. There have been mounting evidence supporting feedback in radio galaxies and obscured IR-luminous systems (e.g., Lonsdale et al., 2003). Several recent

studies have found indications of radio jet feedback, including Guillard et al. (2012) who detect shock-excited H₂ and warm dust in a sample of radio galaxies with high-velocity H I outflows. In this study, we focus on radio jet-induced feedback in highly obscured, high-accretion rate QSOs.

2. HIGHLY OBSCURED QSOs FROM WISE

To find the most luminous obscured AGNs in the Universe during the broad era $0.5 < z < 4$ that includes the peak epoch of BH and host bulge building, we matched the WISE catalog, which covers the full sky at 3.4, 4.6, 12, and 22 μm with >2 orders of magnitude deeper sensitivity than previous large-area MIR surveys, with the 1.4 GHz NVSS and FIRST radio catalogs. The WISE survey is the first to have both the MIR sensitivity and the sky coverage needed to find the most luminous ULIRGs and QSOs throughout most of the Universe (Wright et al., 2010). Only at radio wavelengths is it possible to identify actively accreting BHs with no obscuration bias, and the WISE/radio match yields all

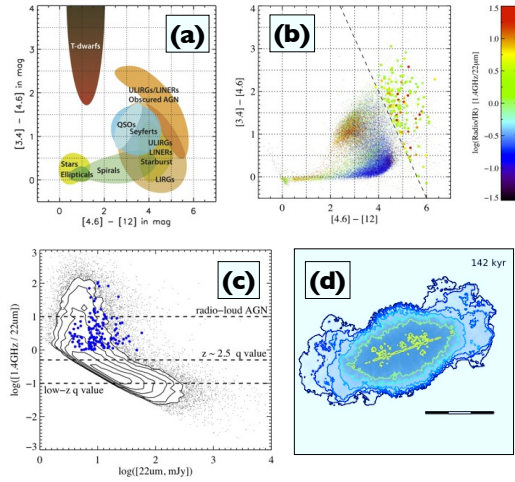


Fig. 1. (a) Distribution of WISE sources in MIR color-color space (Wright et al., 2010). (b) The large NVSS radio-detected sample shows a clear gradient in radio-loudness (color bar) from the starburst region to the QSO region. Our sample of MIR-red obscured AGNs/QSOs is shown as large dots. (c) The radio and MIR properties of our W4-selected WISE-radio sample (solid points), comparing the expected position of well-known radio populations, and the radio-infrared correlation at low and high redshifts (Ibar et al., 2008). Radio completeness cuts off at the bottom left. All of the selected sources are radio-intermediate or radio-loud. (d) High-resolution simulation of a 142-kyr old frustrated radio source (Wagner & Bicknell, 2011). The scale bar is 600 pc in extent.

radio-intermediate and radio-loud MIR-luminous AGN in the NVSS sky.

We selected MIR sources with steep power-law or convex spectra dropping sharply at shorter wavelengths. Specifically we selected a $22\ \mu\text{m}$ flux-limited complete sample of 151 objects redward of the diagonal line in Fig. 1 (right), with no image visible on the DPOSS r -band image so as to favor distant systems that are most likely to host luminous warm dusty cocoons powered by a heavily buried AGNs, and with compact radio counterparts to avoid large, evolved, FR II systems. Objects in our sample have no data in the literature beyond photometric points from large-area surveys. Thus we have performed a multiwavelength study on the sample, using various telescopes.

3. SUPPORTING OBSERVATIONS

We followed up our southern candidates with 345 GHz (870 μm) ALMA continuum observations. The goal of the ALMA observations is to determine the AGN vs. starburst dominance from the $22\ \mu\text{m}/345\ \text{GHz}$ flux density ratio, which is sensitive to warm/cool dust, and to place our obscured QSO sample in a sequence from systems dominated by cool, starburst-heated dust before feedback mechanisms have their greatest impact to those dominated by AGN-heated warm dust. We have a Herschel priority 2 award for the full sample of 151 sources (imaging in all PACS & SPIRE bands) to determine cool dust component temperatures, luminosities, and SF rates (SFRs). For a part of the sample (~ 20), we obtained optical spectra using SOAR/Goodman to determine redshifts. Observing run for Magellan/FIRE is awarded. NIR spectroscopic data will give a clue on the detailed mechanism of AGN feedback.

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