

PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY SEMINAR

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"Submillimeter Galaxies in the ALMA Era"

Abstract

Since their discovery in the late 1990s, submillimeter galaxies (SMGs), some of the most luminous galaxies in the Universe, have puzzled galaxy formation theorists, leading some to consider them one of the biggest challenges to the hierarchical galaxy formation paradigm. Based on insights from the local Universe and early observations, it was commonly thought that SMGs were late-stage merger-induced starbursts. However, both theoretical and observational works have since led to significant modifications to this picture, especially since the Atacama Large Millimeter Array has come online. I will discuss these recent developments and demonstrate that the SMG population is more heterogeneous than previously thought. Consequently, SMGs can be accounted for comfortably within the lambda CDM galaxy formation model.

Wednesday, December 2, 2015 11:00 a.m. Elliott Building Room 160