



Séminaire organisé par

**AIM & Le service d'Astrophysique
CEA/DSM/Irfu**



SEARCHING FOR THE ORIGINS OF GALAXY BIMODALITY

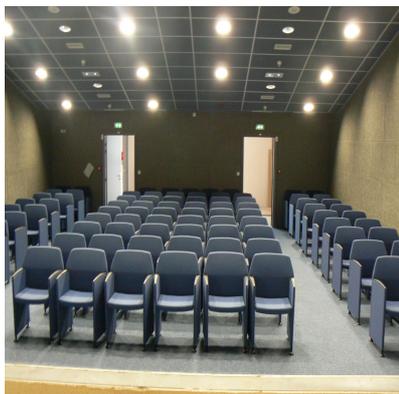
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Understanding how and why galaxies form and evolve is one of the most challenging problems in modern astrophysics. Our own galaxy, the Milky Way, shows order and structure, as do most massive galaxies in our local neighbourhood. Yet when we look to very distant galaxies they are often disordered and chaotic. Compared to the early Universe, a much higher fraction of massive galaxies in the local Universe are elliptical with little ongoing star formation. One theory for explaining at least a fraction of these transformations invokes gas-rich mergers, which trigger massive starbursts leading to bulge and supermassive black hole growth. I will start by reviewing the evidence for and against this scenario. I will then turn to the interesting case of post-starburst galaxies at $0 < z < 2$, a population of galaxies transitioning from the blue to the red sequence. How many of these recently quenched descendants of massive starbursts could be the progenitors of modern day red ellipticals, and what fraction of red ellipticals could have been formed through the gas-rich mergers required to trigger such strong starbursts?

mardi 4 novembre 2014

10h00 Salle Galilée bât 713 C - Orme des Merisiers



Le petit-déjeuner précèdera le séminaire

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