# Hunting gamma-ray blazars and presenting Turin-SyCAT a new catalog of Seyfert galaxies

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Credits of background image: ESO.





- 1. Hunting Blazars
- 2. The Turin-SyCAT
- 3. The Large-scale environment of Seyfert galaxies

#### **Unification Schemes of Active Galactic Nuclei**

Active Galaxies



Urry & Padovani, (1995)



#### **Spectral Energy Distribution** (SED) of BL Lac Mrk 501. Two bumps:

- Low-energy bumb: synchrotron emission
- High-energy bumb: inverse Compton

**Blazars**  $H\alpha + [N II]$ Arbitrary Flux BZB BZQ  $H\beta + [O III]$ Fe II Fe II  $\otimes$ 4000 7000 7000 5000 6000 4000 Wavelength 5000 6000 FSRQ (BZQ): Intense emission **BL Lac (BZB)**: Weak emission lines, EW<5 Å. lines

#### Spectral variability



Acosta-Pulido et al. 2017

Despite of being the **rarest class** of **AGNs**, **Blazars** are the **dominant** source of the **extragalactic** gamma-rays **sky**.

In the 4FGL Blazars are ~91 % associated sources (3070/3370)



In *Fermi-LAT* Catalogs there are sources with uncertain nature or no association:

• Blazar Candidates of Uncertain type (**BCU**)

Show **multifrequency behavior** similar to blazars but **lacking** optical **spectra** in the literature. Or the **quality** of such **spectra** is too low to confirm their nature.

- Unidentified/Unassociated gamma-ray sources (UGS):
  - **43** % of 1451 in 1FGL (Abdo et al. 2010)
  - **31** % of 1873 2FGL (Nolan et al. 2012)
  - 33 % 3033 in 3FGL (Acero et al. 2015)

My contribution: to reduce this fraction!

• 26 % 5064 in 4FGL (Abdollahi et al. 2020)

The necessity of **methods** for finding UGS counterparts.

The number of UGSs is still an unresolved issue!

Total 4FGL	5064
Identified	358
Associated	3370
Unassociated	1336

Using Roma-BzCAT it was discovered the WISE

blazar strip [3.4]–[4.6]–[12] µm color–color

diagram.

- This trend is not visible using other catalogs (e.g., Vèron-Cetty 2010)
- It was possible thanks to the homogeneous sources selection of Roma-BzCAT, i.e., a
   clean catalogue of blazars.



Finding the UGSs counterparts:

- Surveys Compact Radio emission, of UGSs in Fermi-LAT catalogs (Petrov et al. 2013, Schinzel et al. 2015)
- Surveys Flat radio spectra, surveys of 2FGL objects (Nori et al. 2014, Giroletti et al. 2016)
- Follow up with X-rays Swift, Suzaku, XMM-Newton, and Chandra (Paggi et al. 2013, Takeuchi et al. 2013, Acero et al. 2013, Marchesini 2020)
- Gamma-ray blazars locus in a distinctive region in the color-color diagram separated from other extragalactic sources. WISE gamma-ray strip.

#### **Optical Spectral Classification**

To provide **unambiguous** confirmation is necessary to observe the candidates with **optical spectroscopy**.

(**UGSs**) in Fermi/LAT catalogs;

- Confirm the blazar nature and find redshift estimation of BCUs, already associated in Fermi/LAT catalogs.
- Using 2 and 4 m class telescopes





433.

- We classified 333 BL Lacs (58 with a firm redshift measurement), 51 FSRQs, and 49 BZGs.
- We collected 112 from archival observations from
  - large spectroscopic surveys (SDSS and LAMOST).



NAOE, OAN-SPM Ilse Plauchu Frayn, SOAR

#### Peña-Herazo et al. 2021c





Peña-Herazo et al. 2021a, 2021b

- We confirmed the blazar nature of 24 BCUs.
- Obtained 15 new redshift measurements.
- Reported 26 sources as potential changing-look blazars.



The Large Sky Area Multi-Object Fibre Spectroscopic Telescope (LAMOST). Credit: Paul Hilscher.



Changing look blazars?

#### **Blind search in LAMOST**

#### Search for BL Lacs in the uncertainty ellipse of UGSs



Peña-Herazo et al. 2019



NAOC press release in preparation

#### The optical spectroscopic follow up still on going.

- During 2021 I acquired new 62 spectra.
- 19 more nights, twice per year ~ 1/3 of BCUs in 4FGL.
  Upcoming observing nights: OAN-SPM, SOAR, Blanco, and KPNO thanks Fermi-NOAO Cooperative Agreement and CNTAC.
- Blind search for BL Lacs with LAMOST.
- Sources will be used in Roma-BzCAT v6.

#### Seyfert Galaxies



**Nebular** emission lines: Balmer, [O I], [O II], [O III] [N II], [S II]

#### By emission lines: Khachikian & Weedman (1974)



Detection of broad emission lines in polarized spectrum of a type 2, NGC 1068



Based on the previous use of other clean catalogs (like Roma-BzCAT).

- Create a clean (i.e. with robust selection) catalog of Seyfert galaxies. Several other catalogs include are contaminated with other type of AGNs.
- Study **statistically** the Turin-SyCAT sample
- Study the large scale **environment** of Turin-SyCAT sample

- I selected **351** Seyfert galaxies fulfilling the selection criteria
- Image of their spectra
- **Counterparts** and multi-frequency properties (radio, infrared, optical, and X-rays)



Catalog	Total sources	Seyfert galaxies	Targets identified	+UHXs
3PBC BAT105	$\begin{array}{c} 1593 \\ 1632 \end{array}$	$520\\827$	$\begin{array}{c} 265 \\ 289 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 300\\ 331 \end{array}$

- The 3rd release of the Palermo BAT source catalog (3PBC, Cusumano et al. 2010)
- The BAT 105 months survey (Oh et al. 2018)
- Optical spectroscopic campaign of Swift-BAT and INTEGRAL unidentified hard Xrays sources (UHXs, Masetti et al. 2004)



0.3

0.2

z

Using the following selection criteria:

80

60

40

20

0

0.0

Source number

- 1. **Existence** Seyfert like optical **spectrum**, in literature.
- Radio luminosity lower than 10<sup>40</sup> erg s<sup>-1</sup> whenever has a radio counterpart belonging to one of the major radio surveys, namely: NVSS, FIRST and SUMSS
- 3. A **mid-IR counterpart** listed in the AllWISE Source catalog.
- 4. Exclude nearby quasars by cutting  $L_{3.4\mu m} < 10^{11} \ \text{L}_{\odot}$

0.1



Peña-Herazo et al. 2021d accepted in A&A

Flux limited samples at 90% and 95 % identification fraction in 3PBC



**3PBC identification fraction** 





Point Source catalog of the Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS) at 60  $\mu m$  and 100  $\mu m.$ 



No trend. Cold dust it is not expected to be linked directly with the central AGN.





2.5

2.0

1.5

1.0

0.5

0.0

-0.5

0

W1-W2 (mag)

Generic Sources

1

2

BZBs

BZQs

Sy 1

+



Peña-Herazo et al. 2021d accepted in A&A

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- I selected **351** Seyfert galaxies with homogeneous properties at radio, infrared and optical energies, 233 type 1 and 118 type 2.
- There is a tight correlation between the mid-IR flux (W3 and W4 bands) and that  $F_{HX}(>15 \text{ keV})$  for both classes of Seyfert galaxies.
- Type I and 2 Seyfert galaxies have a neat distinction when using the u-r color.
- We found that Seyfert galaxies contaminate the gamma-ray blazar strip



- Automatize the search to increase by factor of five the sample.
- Search for Sy 2 at higher redshift. Already several Sy 2 will be added thanks to a literature and archival search (Kosiba et al. 2021 in preparation).
- Study infrared spectra of 157 sources in Spitzer archive.
  Spectral features compared with X-ray flux.

There is no clear consensus about the environment of Seyfert galaxies.

Different sample selections, methods, definitions of neighbors and environment.

**Test** the Unification Scenario!

Sy 1 and Sy 2 must lie in the same environment.



Kolouridis et al., 2013

Samples, all limited to the SDSS footprint:

- Seyfert galaxies: Turin-SyCAT with  $0.02 \le z_{src} \le 0.15$ ;
- Radio Galaxies: Low Excitation Radio Galaxies (LERGs) in FRICAT and FRIICAT with  $0.02 \le Z_{src} \le 0.15$ . Capetti et al. (2017a), Capetti et al. (2017b)
- Mock sources located in random positions of the sky.

#### **Cosmological neighbors:**

Are optical sources lying within the within **500** kpc, **I**Mpc or **2** Mpc **radius** computed at  $z_{src}$  of the central Seyfert galaxy with all the **SDSS** magnitude flags indicating a **galaxy-type object**, and having a spectroscopic redshift z with  $\Delta z =$  $|z_{src} - z| \leq 0.005$ , corresponding to the maximum velocity dispersion in groups and clusters of galaxies.



Cosmological neighbors & optical galaxies if central source **would** be at  $z_{src} = 0.05, 0.10$ , and 0.15. **Re-scaling** m<sub>r</sub> to the **different**  $z_{src}$ . N<sub>500</sub>=3, 2 and 0

Important to compare sources at the same redshifts

Threshold of 2 neighbors when  $z_{src}$ >0.1, as noise increases at higher redshift.

Median values



**Medians** of  $N_{500}$  type 1 and type 2 Seyfert galaxies  $N_{cn}$  and **LERGs** per redshift **bins of 0.01** size.

As shown the large-scale environment is consistent between the two types of Seyfert galaxies but appear richer in **LERGs** showing all medians distributed systematically above those of Seyfert galaxies.



Physical distance in kpc between the central source and the average position of the  $N_{2000}$  vs z difference. This is computed at the  $z_{src}$  of the central source.

No differences in the behavior of type I and type 2 Seyfert galaxies between them and in comparison with radio galaxies.

Meaning that Seyfert galaxies have the same location in the clusters/groups as LERGs and ELLs



Concentration parameter  $\zeta_{cn,}$  (ratio of N<sub>500</sub> / N<sub>1000</sub>) as function of redshift  $z_{src}$  for both Seyfert and radio galaxies:

• No trend between these two parameters is evident, no cosmological evolution of the concentration parameter.

- Sy I and 2 inhabit the same large-scale environments. With no differences in spatial distribution and richness of surrounding galaxies. Supporting the unification scenario!
- Radio galaxies inhabits richer environment than Seyfert galaxies.
- All other parameters related to the large-scale environments of both classes appear to be quite similar.

- Study the colors of companions of Seyfert galaxies
- Overdensity vs Luminosity ([O III] and mid-IR)
- Study the environment with Turin-SyCAT v2.

## Questions

