The evolution of dust-obscured star formation activity in galaxy clusters relative to the field over the last 9 billion years

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ABSTRACT
We compare the star formation (SF) activity in cluster galaxies to the field from $z = 0.3$ to 1.5 using Herschel Spectral and Photometric Imaging REceiver 250 μm imaging and utilizing 274 clusters from the IRAC Shallow Cluster Survey (ISCS). These clusters were selected as rest-frame near-infrared overdensities over the 9 square degree Boötes field. This sample allows us to quantify the evolution of SF in clusters over a long redshift baseline without bias against active cluster systems. Using a stacking analysis, we determine the average star formation rates (SFRs) and specific SFRs ($SSFR = SFR/M_\star$) of stellar mass-limited ($M_\star \geq 1.3 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$), statistical samples of cluster and field galaxies, probing both the star-forming and quiescent populations. We find a clear indication that the average SF in cluster galaxies is evolving more rapidly than in the field, with field SF levels at $z \gtrsim 1.2$ in the cluster cores ($r < 0.5$ Mpc), in good agreement with previous ISCS studies. By quantifying the SF in cluster and field galaxies as an exponential function of cosmic time, we determine that cluster galaxies are evolving approximately two times faster than the field. Additionally, we see enhanced SF above the field level at $z \sim 1.4$ in the cluster outskirts ($r > 0.5$ Mpc). These general trends in the cluster cores and outskirts are driven by the lower mass galaxies in our sample. Blue cluster galaxies have systematically lower SSFRs than blue field galaxies, but otherwise show no strong differential evolution with respect to the field over our redshift range. This suggests that the cluster environment is both suppressing the SF in blue galaxies on long time-scales and rapidly transitioning some fraction of blue galaxies to the quiescent galaxy population on short time-scales. We argue that our results are consistent with both strangulation and ram pressure stripping acting in these clusters, with merger activity occurring in the cluster outskirts.

Key words: galaxies: clusters: general – galaxies: evolution – galaxies: high-redshift – infrared: galaxies.

1 INTRODUCTION

It is well established that in the local Universe galaxy properties are strongly correlated with both their local environment and their stellar mass (e.g. Peng et al. 2010). Local clusters host strong red sequences of passively evolving galaxies with little to no star

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formation (SF), while the lower density field contains the bulk of star-forming galaxies (see Blanton & Moustakas 2009, for a review). Similarly, massive galaxies tend to be redder, with old galaxy populations and low star formation rates (SFRs; e.g. Bower, Lucey & Ellis 1992; Baldry et al. 2006; Weinmann et al. 2006; Peng et al. 2010; Thomas et al. 2010). Massive galaxies are also known to reside preferentially in denser environments (Kauffmann et al. 2004; Baldry et al. 2006). So while it is clear that environment plays a prominent role in galaxy evolution, it is still controversial whether the role of environment is direct, operating through processes external to individual galaxies and specific to dense regions, or indirect, with galaxy density tracing specific galaxy populations (such as massive galaxies) whose evolution is dominated by their own internal mechanisms. Given that environmental effects are also likely strongly dependent on cosmic time in an evolving Universe, it is important to quantify the transition epoch from active SF and mass assembly to passive evolution in the densest environments.

Cluster studies have determined that the density local correlations are in place at \( z \sim 1 \) (e.g. Patel et al. 2009; Muzzin et al. 2012). Recently, Scoville et al. (2013) analysed a large dynamical range of environments in the Cosmic Evolution Survey (COSMOS) field and determined that the strong correlation between red, passive galaxies and dense environments becomes much weaker at \( z > 1.2 \). Though Scoville et al. (2013) and other studies (Patel et al. 2009; Bolzonella et al. 2010; Cucciati et al. 2010) did not observe a reversal of the local SFR–density relation (where SF decreases with increasing galaxy density up to group scales) as found previously (Elbaz et al. 2007, see also Cooper et al. 2008), multiple high-redshift studies of galaxy clusters have presented tantalizing evidence of increased SF activity towards the densest environments. Infrared (IR) studies have noted increasing fractions of Luminous Infrared Galaxies (LIRGs; \( 1 \times 10^{11} L_{\odot} < L_{IR} < 1 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot} \)) and Ultra-Luminous Infrared Galaxies (ULIRGs; \( L_{IR} > 1 \times 10^{12} L_{\odot} \)) in clusters out to \( z \sim 0.8 \) (Coia et al. 2005; Geach et al. 2006; Marcillac et al. 2007; Koyama et al. 2008; Muzzin et al. 2008; Haines et al. 2009; Smith et al. 2010; Chung et al. 2011). Studies of the evolution of cluster galaxies up to \( z \sim 1 \) have found increasing fractions of star-forming galaxies in cluster cores (Saintonge, Tran & Holden 2008; Haines et al. 2013; Webb et al. 2013) and the total SFR per unit halo mass in clusters has been found to be evolving as fast or faster than the field with a redshift dependence of roughly \((1+z)^{-3}\) (Kodama et al. 2004; Bai et al. 2009; Popesso et al. 2012; Haines et al. 2013; Webb et al. 2013). At higher redshifts, individual cluster studies have revealed increased SF activity down into the cluster cores \((z > 1.4)\) (Hilton et al. 2010; Tran et al. 2010; Fassbender et al. 2011; Hayashi et al. 2011; Tadaki et al. 2012). Small cluster samples, however, are susceptible to large variations in clusters properties (Geach et al. 2006) and these works highlighted the need for evolutionary studies of large, uniform cluster samples over a long redshift baseline. Recently, such studies have shown active mass assembly in clusters (Mancone et al. 2010), stochastic SF histories (Snyder et al. 2012) and a transition to active SF in clusters at high redshift (Brodwin et al. 2013).

The mechanisms which drive the majority of cluster galaxies from actively star forming to passively evolving have not yet been fully identified. Multiple interpretations have been put forth as to the environment’s role in the suppression of SF. Peng et al. (2010) found that the effects of environment and the stellar mass of galaxies are largely separable at \( z \sim 1 \), with the environment playing no substantial role in the quenching process for massive galaxies, whose evolution is dominated by internal self-quenching (so-called mass-quenching). Muzzin et al. (2012) found that the specific star formation rates (SSFR=SFR/\( M_\star \)) of star-forming galaxies appear independent of environment and interpreted the environment’s primary function as controlling the fraction of star-forming to quiescent galaxies through quenching on rapid time-scales. This is further supported by differences found in the stellar mass distributions of cluster and field galaxy populations (van der Burg et al. 2013). Studies of the 3.6 and 4.5 \( \mu m \) luminosity function in clusters found evidence for mass assembly at high redshift (Mancone et al. 2010), which is consistent with the two order of magnitude increase in active galactic nucleus (AGN) activity in cluster galaxies from \( z = 0 \) to 1.5 (Galametz et al. 2009; Martini et al. 2013) and may indicate a prominent role for mergers in cluster environments. More long redshift baseline studies of large, uniform cluster catalogues are necessary to quantify the relative importance of mass- versus environmental-quenching as well as what cluster-specific processes may drive the evolution of cluster populations.

In addition to needing large cluster samples over a range of redshifts, studies have shown that the prominence of dust-obscured SF increases with redshift, with the majority of SF enshrouded by dust at \( z > 1 \) (e.g. Bouwens et al. 2009; Magnelli et al. 2013). IR observations of clusters are therefore necessary to get a complete census of SF over a large redshift range. Current mid-IR studies of clusters (e.g. Brodwin et al. 2013; Webb et al. 2013) have analysed detected IR sources and have thus probed relatively bright IR galaxy populations. Complimentary to this, a stacking analysis can measure average SF properties by probing farther down the luminosity function, including relatively quiescent galaxies, for a look at the full population of cluster galaxies.

In this study, we quantify the average SF properties of cluster galaxies over a long baseline of cosmic time out to \( z = 1.5 \) (\( \sim 9 \) billion years ago) using a uniform, stellar mass-selected sample of 274 clusters over the 9 square degree Boötes field. This is the first study to measure the SF properties in stellar mass-limited cluster and field galaxy samples over such a long redshift baseline. Our cluster sample is identified as three-dimensional near-IR overdensities in photometric redshift space; as such, we do not rely on the presence of absence of a red sequence and thus are not biased against actively forming clusters. Cluster membership is determined using spectroscopic and photometric redshifts and we perform a robust, statistical removal of contaminating field galaxies. The cluster SF properties are compared to those of a field galaxy sample drawn from the same 4.5 \( \mu m \)-selected catalogue. Stellar masses are available for our entire catalogue enabling us to construct stellar mass-limited galaxy samples. SFRs and SSFRs are obtained by a stacking analysis performed on Herschel Spectral and Photometric Imaging REceiver (SPIRE) 250 \( \mu m \) imaging. By stacking thousands of cluster galaxies and tens of thousands of field galaxies, we derive robust measurements of the average 250 \( \mu m \) flux, from which we derive accurate estimates of the \( L_{IR} \) and dust-obscured SFR. Our stacking analysis accounts for the contribution from both star-forming and quiescent galaxies. Given our large samples of cluster and field galaxies, we are able to break our analysis down into subsets by stellar mass and galaxy colour. By quantifying the rate of evolution out to high redshift, we constrain which processes might dominate the change in cluster galaxy properties and present arguments for specific quenching mechanisms in the clusters.

In Section 2, we present our cluster sample, cluster and field membership selection, and describe the Herschel SPIRE imaging and other ancillary data used. In Section 3, we lay out the stacking analysis, including the stacking procedure at 250 \( \mu m \) and our method for stacking clusters members including corrections for source blending/clustering bias and field contamination.
We discuss the procedure for stacking field galaxies, and our report on possible complications from projection effects and AGN. This section also includes the procedure for stacking at 70 μm, a check on possible systematics introduced during the conversion of 250 μm flux to LIR. In Section 4, we detail the conversion of 250 μm fluxes to galaxy properties (LIR and SFR) and present the results of the stacking analysis for cluster and field galaxy samples. In Section 5, we discuss our results in terms of environmental and internal quenching mechanisms, place our results in the context of other studies. Section 6 contains our conclusions. Throughout this work, we adopt a Wilkinson Microwave Anisotropy Probe 7 cosmology with (ΩΛ, ΩM, h) = (0.728, 0.272, 0.704) (Komatsu et al. 2011).

2 DATA

2.1 ISCS cluster Sample

The IRAC Shallow Cluster Survey (ISCS; Eisenhardt et al. 2008) is a sample of 335 clusters over the redshift range 0 < z < 2 (106 at z > 1) in the Boötes field. Clusters were identified via a wavelet search algorithm which determined statistically significant rest-frame near-IR overdensities in three-dimensional redshift slices using the photometric redshift probability distribution functions of 4.5 μm-selected galaxies across the field. The photometric redshifts used for cluster identification (Brodwin et al. 2006) were calculated using deep B07-, R- and I-band optical data from the NOAO Deep, Wide-Field Survey (NDWFS; Jannuzi & Dey 1999) and Spitzer IRAC 3.6 and 4.5 μm imaging from the IRAC Shallow Survey (ISS; Eisenhardt et al. 2004). As the ISS is 4.5 μm flux-limited (8.8 μJy at 5σ), this cluster sample is essentially stellar mass selected and does not require nor preclude the presence of a strong red sequence in the clusters. Spectroscopic confirmation of dozens of the ISCS clusters at low redshifts (z ≤ 0.9) was obtained through the AGN and Galaxy Evolution Survey (AGES; Kochanek et al. 2012) and Keck/Low Resolution Imaging Spectrometer (LIRS) spectroscopy (Stern et al. 2010). Additionally, over 20 of the clusters at z > 1 have been spectroscopically confirmed via Keck or Hubble Space Telescope spectroscopy (Stanford et al. 2005, 2012; Brodwin et al. 2006, 2011, 2013; Elston et al. 2006; Eisenhardt et al. 2008; Zeimann et al. 2013). Overall, this cluster sample is expected to have an ~10 per cent false detection rate due to chance projections (Eisenhardt et al. 2008).

In order to characterize the ISCS cluster masses as a function of redshift, we perform a halo mass ranking simulation following the procedure in Lin et al. (2013). We determine the median mass of the N most luminous clusters, as determined from their total 4.5 μm luminosity, in redshift bins with width 0.2 from z = 0.3 to 1.5 (see Table 1). We find a range of median cluster masses of $M_{200} \sim 5 \times 10^{13} - 8 \times 10^{13} M_\odot$ with no significant evolution with redshift. This is consistent with measurements of individual ISCS clusters of the dynamical (Stanford et al. 2005; Brodwin et al. 2006; Elston et al. 2006; Eisenhardt et al. 2008) and X-ray (Brodwin et al. 2011) masses, as well as an analysis of the galaxy cluster autocorrelation function for the ISCS sample (Brodwin et al. 2007) which found the characteristic cluster mass to be $\sim 10^{14} M_\odot$. Mass estimates from weak lensing are also available for six ISCS clusters at z > 1 (Jee et al. 2011).

In this study, we analyse the SF properties of the 274 clusters that fall within the coverage of the SPIRE Boötes maps (Section 2.2), presenting the evolution of a uniform cluster sample with cosmic time and redshift. These clusters span the redshift range 0.3 < z < 1.5, over which the photometric redshifts have a uniform accuracy as described in the next section.

2.1.1 The Boötes field: photometric redshifts and stellar mass estimates

Photometric redshifts are available across the 9 square degree NDWFS Boötes field, which includes the SPIRE Boötes imaging. The photometric redshifts used in this study were updated from the original work in Brodwin et al. (2006) to incorporate IR data from the Spitzer Deep, Wide-Field Survey (SDWFS; Ashby et al. 2009), which repeated the 9 s exposure of the ISS three more times. This resulted in a factor of 2 increase in the catalogue depth, a significantly more robust catalogue with regards to cosmic rays and instrumental effects, and a greater sensitivity to distant galaxies in the 5.8 and 8.0 μm bands. Photometric redshifts for 434 295 galaxies were determined by fitting a subset of models (late types: Sb, Sc, Sd, Spi4, M82; early types: E115, E113, S0 and Sa) from Polletta et al. (2007) to rest-frame wavelengths ~0.1–8 μm over 0 < z < 2. These models were chosen over the original models used in Brodwin et al. (2006) as they span the full wavelength range probed by the NDWFS+SDWFS filters (see Brodwin et al. 2013 for more details). A comparison with available spectroscopic redshifts shows that the precision of these photometric redshifts is $\sigma \sim 0.06(1 + z)$ for 95 per cent of the galaxies over the redshift range 0 < z < 1.5 (Brodwin et al. 2013). To be conservative, we further limit our lower redshift bound to z ≥ 0.3, below which the 4000 Å is blueward of the NDWFS filters.

Estimates of the stellar masses for galaxies in the photometric redshift catalogue were calculated using BSEP (Moustakas et al. 2013), a Bayesian spectral energy distribution (SED) fitting code. The data are fit using the Bruzual & Charlot (2003) population synthesis models and assuming the Chabrier (2003) initial mass function (IMF) from 0.1 to 100 $M_\odot$. We adopt a stellar mass cutoff of $M_* = 1.3 \times 10^{10} M_\odot$ throughout this work, which corresponds to the mass limit of our sample at z = 1.5 (see fig. 3 in Brodwin et al. 2013). Though the statistical uncertainties in the stellar masses are typically < 0.2 dex, we adopt a conservative error of 0.3 dex.

| Redshift bin | Number of clusters | Number of spectroscopic redshift members | Number of photometric redshift members |
|-------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 0.3–0.5     | 60                 | 160                                     | 1539                                    |
| 0.5–0.7     | 55                 | 112                                     | 1956                                    |
| 0.7–0.9     | 52                 | 24                                      | 2423                                    |
| 0.9–1.1     | 49                 | 20                                      | 2482                                    |
| 1.1–1.3     | 30                 | 58                                      | 1383                                    |
| 1.3–1.5     | 28                 | 47                                      | 1320                                    |

*Not corrected for field contamination (see Section 3.1.2).*
on all stellar masses to account for systematic uncertainties (see Appendix A Moustakas et al. 2013, for a more in-depth discussion of how our stellar masses are derived).

2.1.2 Cluster membership

Cluster membership is first determined through available spectroscopic redshifts. As in Eisenhardt et al. (2008), if a spectroscopic redshift is within 2000 km s⁻¹ of the systemic cluster velocity and lies within a 2 Mpc radius of the projected cluster centre, it is considered to be a cluster member. The cluster centres are taken from the density peaks identified by the wavelet search algorithm.

Galaxies with only photometric redshifts are assigned membership based on a constraint of the integral of their normalized photometric redshift probability distributions:

\[ \int_{z_{cl} + 0.06(z_{cl} + z)} P(z) \, dz \geq 0.3, \]  

(1)

where \( z_{cl} \) is the redshift of the cluster, calculated by iteratively summing up the \( P(z) \) function for potential cluster members within 1 Mpc and re-identifying cluster members until convergence. Galaxies which satisfy equation (1) and are within 2 Mpc of the projected cluster centre are photometric redshift cluster members. The numbers of spectroscopic and photometric cluster members for \( r \leq 1 \) Mpc (approximately the virial radius) can be seen in Table 1 and the stellar mass distribution of cluster galaxies at all redshifts (\( z = 0.3–1.5 \)) can be seen in Fig. 1, normalized by the total number of cluster galaxies.

Constraining the integral of \( P(z) \) provides both an indication of whether a given galaxy is a cluster member or a foreground/background source and a cut on the quality of the photometric redshifts used throughout this study. We expect that some fraction of the galaxies identified as cluster members will actually be contaminating field galaxies due to the width of the redshift probability distribution functions. We mitigate this effect on our stacking analysis in two ways: (1) we test the effect of raising the integrated \( P(z) \) threshold on our results and (2) we estimate and subtract the field contamination directly using our field galaxy population. We find that raising the integrated \( P(z) \) threshold has little effect on our overall conclusions and is likely removing real cluster members from our sample. Our field contamination correction, based on a statistical analysis, is described in Section 3.1.2.

We also expect some of our galaxies to host AGN. Using shallow X-ray observations across the field (see Section 2.4) and IRAC colour selection (Stern et al. 2005; Kirkpatrick et al. 2013), we identify AGN in a small fraction of our cluster galaxies, ~1–3 per cent from low to high redshift. More thorough studies of AGN in the ISCS, using deeper X-ray data, have shown that the fraction of AGN in cluster galaxies is as much as 10 per cent at \( z > 1 \), an increase of two orders of magnitude from local AGN fractions (Galametz et al. 2009; Martini et al. 2013). Given a constraint of \( \lesssim 10 \) per cent and the fact that we are primarily probing with the cold dust regime which has been found to be dominated by heating from SF even in known AGN (e.g. Mullaney et al. 2012), we choose to leave AGN in our sample for our main analysis. We examine the impact of AGN on our SPIRE stacking analysis separately in Section 3.2.

2.1.3 Field galaxies

Our field galaxy set is drawn from the Boötes field using the same 4.5 µm-selected galaxy catalogue as the cluster members. In order to get a clean field sample, we discard any galaxies that are within a radius of 2.5 Mpc and 0.2(1 + \( z \)) in redshift space of known clusters. We further restrict our field sample by requiring that each galaxy have an integrated \( P(z) \geq 0.3 \) at its best-fitting redshift, which places a similar cut in the quality of the photometric redshifts as our cluster member sample. This ensures that we are looking at similar galaxy populations in terms of our ability to assign an accurate photometric redshift. The stellar mass distribution of our field galaxy sample at all redshifts can be seen in Fig. 1, normalized to the total number of field galaxies. Though a more careful analysis of the stellar mass function is beyond the scope of this work, we can see that, within the uncertainties, the mass distributions for cluster and field galaxies are similar, with a suggestion of a small difference in the normalized fraction of galaxies in each environment in the low- and high-mass ends. We find the same relative mass distributions of cluster and field galaxies when we split out galaxy samples into \( z < 1 \) and \( z > 1 \) bins.

2.2 Far-IR: SPIRE imaging

The Boötes field was observed with Herschel SPIRE (250, 350 and 500 µm; Griffin et al. 2010) as part of the Herschel Multi-tiered Extragalactic Survey (HerMES; Oliver et al. 2012). The observations covered 8 square degrees of the NDWFS/Boötes field, centred on 14:32:06 +34:16:48, which was surveyed with four pointings. The central two square degrees of the field were then observed with an additional five pointings. We will refer to the smaller, deep area as the ‘inner’ region and the shallower, wider area as the ‘outer’ region throughout this work. In order to optimize these data for point source recovery, we reduced and mosaiced the publicly available Astronomical Observation Requests (AORs) using the Herschel Interactive Processing Environment version 7 (HIPE; Ott 2010), focusing on the removal of striping through high-order polynomial baseline removal, the correction of astrometry offsets through the stacking of the positions of known Spitzer Multiband Imaging Photometer (MIPS) 24 µm sources, and the removal of glitches missed by the standard pipeline reduction. The final maps have a 5σ depth in the inner (outer) region of 14 mJy (26 mJy) at 250 µm. The confusion noise for SPIRE observations is discussed in Nguyen et al. (2010).
and is $5.8 \pm 0.3$ mJy at 250 $\mu$m. We generated $5\sigma$ point source catalogues at 250, 350 and 500 $\mu$m, both for the original unfiltered maps and after using a matched-filter technique, a method developed to optimize the signal-to-noise ratio (S/N) for confusion-dominated submillimetre maps (see Chapin et al. 2011). Completeness simulations indicate that our source catalogue is 90 per cent complete in the inner (outer) region down to 20 mJy (33 mJy) at 250 $\mu$m for the unfiltered map and down to 18 mJy (25 mJy) for the matched-filter map. A more detailed description of the reduction of the 250, 350 and 500 $\mu$m SPIRE maps, their catalogues, and the completeness tests performed can be seen in Appendix A.

The large full width at half-maximum (FWHM) of the SPIRE imaging (18.1 arcsec, 24.9 arcsec and 36.6 arcsec at 250, 350 and 500 $\mu$m; Swinyard et al. 2010) presents challenges for both detected sources and for stacking analyses. Clustering and source blending will result in flux boosting within the large beams, particularly at the longer wavelengths. For detected sources, we address this by simulating the flux boosting as a function of flux (see Appendix A). The bias introduced into SPIRE stacking analyses due to clustering has recently been examined in two studies. Béthermin et al. (2012) found that boosting due to clustering of sources ranges from $\sim 7$ per cent at 250 $\mu$m to $\sim 20$ per cent at 500 $\mu$m for typical galaxy densities in the field; however, Viero et al. (2013) showed that this bias factor increases dramatically with increasing source density and increasing beamsize (see their fig. 4). In addition, the typical region examined in this study ($0.5$ Mpc or 1 arcmin radius at $z = 1$), will be covered by $\lesssim 2$ beams at 500 $\mu$m. For these reasons, we limit our stacking analysis to the 250 $\mu$m waveband and apply a correction for clustering bias by determining the baseline signal in the map through a random sampling of pixels both in the field and in the areas of our map which contain clusters (see Section 3.1.2).

2.3 Mid-IR: MIPS imaging

To constrain any evolution in the SEDs of cluster galaxies relative to coeval field galaxies, we also stack the MIPS AGN and Galaxy Evolution Survey (MAGES; Jannuzi et al., in preparation) 70 $\mu$m images at the positions of our cluster and field galaxies (see Section 3.3 for details on the stacking of the 70 $\mu$m images).

MAGES imaged the Boötes field to a depth two times greater than the original Guaranteed Time Observations (GTO) survey of the Boötes field in each of the three MIPS bandpasses (Rieke et al. 2004). The MAGES data also added three additional spacecraft roll angles, which allow for improved rejection of 1/f noise in the resulting maps. The flatter backgrounds in the 70 $\mu$m and 160 $\mu$m MAGES images compared to the original survey allow reliable stacking in these bands.

The MAGES data were reduced using the MIPS-GTO pipeline (Gordon et al. 2005), and source catalogues were generated from the resulting image mosaics with DAOPHOT (Stetson 1987). The MAGES point-source catalogues reach $3\sigma$ sensitivities of 0.122, 18.6 and 110 mJy in the 24, 70 and 160 $\mu$m images, respectively.

2.4 X-ray: Chandra photometry

X-ray data is available across a 9.3 square degree field as part of XBoötes, a mosaic of 126 short (5 ks) Chandra ACIS-I images covering the entirety of NDWFS (Kenter et al. 2005; Murray et al. 2005). The XBoötes catalogue contains 2724 point sources with energies of 0.5–7 keV, which is sufficient to detect unobscured moderate to luminous AGN (Ranalli, Comastri & Setti 2003).

3 STACKING ANALYSES

Stacking is a statistical process by which the signal from multiple individually undetected sources is combined in order to increase the overall S/N and obtain a representative (commonly mean or median) flux density of a population in some waveband (e.g. Dole et al. 2006; Marsden et al. 2009; Béthermin et al. 2012). The details of the stacking process depend on the map and the spread in the properties of the population being stacked. Stacking will allow us to probe much deeper down the IR luminosity function than requiring detections, as most of the ISCS cluster galaxies will be undetected given the 250 $\mu$m flux limit ($14$ mJy or $L_\text{IR} \sim 5 \times 10^{10} L_\odot$). We describe our stacking procedure at 250 $\mu$m and our main stacking analysis of cluster and field galaxies in this section. In addition, we describe stacking procedure at MIPS 70 $\mu$m, which will be used to verify our results at 250 $\mu$m.

3.1 Stacking at 250 $\mu$m

3.1.1 Procedure

Stacking at 250 $\mu$m is performed on the unfiltered map, which has a zero mean and is calibrated in Jy beam$^{-1}$. The latter fact greatly simplifies the stacking process as the peak pixel value provides the best estimate of the total flux density of a given source at that position (in the absence of clustering or source blending). The signal of a stack is therefore obtained by combining the pixels in which the sources being stacked are located. Given that our map has two regions with differing noise properties, we choose to combine the pixel values at the locations of the sources in each stack using a variance-weighted mean. Stacking tests on fake sources inserted into the map (see Appendix A), however, show that both variance-weighting and unweighted schemes provide equally good estimates of the true stacked flux.

The uncertainties associated with each stacked flux density are obtained via the bootstrap method, during which random subsamples (with replacement) of sources are chosen and re-stacked. The number of sources in each subsample is equal to the original number of sources in the stack. This process is repeated 10 000 times in order to determine the representative spread in the properties of the population being stacked. The bootstrap uncertainty $\sigma_{\text{boot}}$ can be expressed by

$$
\sigma_{\text{boot}} = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_{\text{instr}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{conf}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{pop}}^2}}{\sqrt{N_{\text{stack}}}}.
$$

where $\sigma_{\text{instr}}$ is the instrument noise, $\sigma_{\text{conf}}$ is the confusion noise, $\sigma_{\text{pop}}$ is the intrinsic spread in the flux density of the population being stacked and $N_{\text{stack}}$ is the number of sources in the stack. As discussed in Béthermin et al. (2012), though $\sigma_{\text{conf}}$ and $\sigma_{\text{pop}}$ are most likely not Gaussian, $\sigma_{\text{boot}}$ can be approximated as a Gaussian via the central limit theorem given a large number of stacking iterations. Bootstrapped uncertainties are advantageous as they provide an indication of the scatter in a population, which may include extreme outliers which are otherwise not obvious in a straight measurement of the mean and the standard deviation.

The process of stacking in general is best understood for sources below the detection limit, where each individual measurement is
dominated by Gaussian noise. We test the contribution from detected sources by matching our cluster members to the 250 μm matched-filter catalogue. The large beamsize and relatively low S/N of the SPIRE observations creates large offsets between the true position of the submillimetre flux and where it is detected in the maps due to random noise peaks. We characterize these positional uncertainties as part of our completeness simulations (see Appendix A) and determine that a search radius of 8 arcsec is appropriate to identify the vast majority of 250 μm counterparts. We find that <10 per cent of our cluster members (r < 0.5 Mpc) have a 250 μm counterpart within 8 arcsec of their position. This is not unexpected, given that the deep inner region of the 250 μm map has a flux limit of 14 mJy, which corresponds to \( L_{\text{IR}} \sim 5 \times 10^{11} \, L_\odot \) at \( z = 1 \). A test of random positions across the 250 μm map indicates that we expect a chance encounter with a detected source in an 8 arcsec search radius at a rate of \( \sim 3 \) per cent. Given that only a small fraction of our cluster sample is detected at 250 μm, we treat all of our cluster members as undetected and stack them accordingly. We verify this approach by examining the distribution of flux values that go into each stack, which should be Gaussian due to the noise properties of the undetected sources and have a well-defined mean.

### 3.1.2 Stacking cluster members

Cluster members identified as described in Section 2.1.2 are stacked in redshift bins with a width of 0.2 over the redshift range \( z = 0.3–1.5 \) and radial bins as described below. The mean redshift of each bin is calculated as the mean of the best-fitting redshifts of the constituent galaxies. As discussed in Section 2.1.1, to obtain a complete mass-limited sample over our redshift range, we impose a stellar mass limit of \( M_\star = 1.3 \times 10^{10} \, M_\odot \).

In order for the average flux values of our cluster member stacks to be meaningful, we need to remove any signal that is unrelated to real cluster members. There are two potential sources of contaminating signal in our stacks: (1) an underlying, baseline signal, mainly due to source blending and clustering [with a possible minor contribution from dust in the intercluster medium (ICM) contributing a few percent to the IR luminosity Giard et al. 2008] and (2) contamination from field galaxies which are mistaken for cluster members due to the width of the photometric redshift probability distribution functions.

First, we test the 250 μm map for a baseline signal towards the clusters. SPIRE maps are normalized such that they have a zero flux limit of 0.3 at each redshift, ranging from \( L_{\text{M}} \ll < 1 \). A test of random positions across the 250 μm map indicates that we expect a chance encounter with a detected source in an 8 arcsec search radius at a rate of \( \sim 3 \) per cent. Given that only a small fraction of our cluster sample is detected at 250 μm, we treat all of our cluster members as undetected and stack them accordingly. We verify this approach by examining the distribution of flux values that go into each stack, which should be Gaussian due to the noise properties of the undetected sources and have a well-defined mean.

The second correction is for contamination of the cluster member catalogue by field galaxies. Due to the nature of our criteria for cluster membership, we expect that some fraction of our cluster members are actually field galaxies which are spatially coincident with one of the ISCS clusters and whose photometric redshift probability distribution function satisfies equation (1). Given that the width of a cluster in redshift space will be sharply peaked compared to the cumulative width of the photometric redshift probability distribution functions, this contribution can be determined in a statistical fashion by calculating the ‘background’ total 250 μm flux per unit area of field galaxies which would satisfy equation (1) if the cluster was not present. To accomplish this, we mask out a 2.5 Mpc area around all known clusters within the Boötes field and use the remaining area to identify galaxies which have an integrated \( P(z) \geq 0.3 \) at discrete redshifts, ranging from \( z = 0.3 \) to 1.5 in steps of 0.05. The galaxies which satisfy integrated \( P(z) \geq 0.3 \) at each redshift step are stacked to determine the mean flux level of field galaxies, \( \langle S_{\text{fc}}(z) \rangle \), which we additionally smooth with a boxcar filter with a width of 0.1 to remove noise introduced by the binning in redshift space. Multiplying by the number of field galaxies per unit

**Figure 2.** Top: the average 250 μm flux density in randomly selected pixels as a function of projected cluster-centric radius in redshift bins. This baseline signal is due to the increased source density towards clusters (resulting in source blending and clustering signal) and must be removed from the stacking signal in the areas of the SPIRE map that have clusters. Bottom: the source surface density of cluster members after correcting for field contamination. The density of cluster members at \( r < 0.5 \) Mpc dominates over the background field level, while at \( r > 0.5 \) Mpc, the corrected source density of cluster members is only a small enhancement over the field source density.
and <r < 0.5 Mpc (bottom). This quantity is obtained by multiplying the 0.5 Mpc < r < 0.5 Mpc; top) and outskirts (0.5 Mpc < r < 1 Mpc (middle). No stacked signal above the field was detected for 0.5 Mpc < r < 0.5 Mpc (top) and outskirts (0.5 Mpc < r < 1 Mpc) in any of the redshift bins. Four out of six redshift bins are detected at 0.5 Mpc < r < 1 Mpc radial bin to maximize detections. In addition, we combine the two lowest redshift bins into a bin spanning r = 0.3–0.7 (indicated by green circles). The average 250 µm flux densities of field galaxies which satisfy equation (1) are consistent with the average fluxes of all field galaxies in our mass-limited sample (Section 2.1.3). The dotted lines show the 250 µm k-correction for a typical dusty, star-forming galaxy of constant luminosity and normalized to the field level at z = 0.3. Upper limits are 3σ. Some lower redshift bins are poorly constrained and their upper limits are outside the plot ranges. (see Fig. 2), corrected via equation (4), is only a small enhancement over the field source density at these redshifts, indicating that the average activity in cluster members will be higher than in the field in this high-redshift bin (see Fig. 4).

The corrected mean flux density of cluster galaxies, after the baseline and field corrections described above are applied, can be seen in Fig. 4 (black diamonds) compared to the average flux of field galaxies per redshift (red squares) for r < 0.5 Mpc (top) and 0.5 < r < 1 Mpc (middle). No stacked signal above the field was found at r > 1 Mpc. Four out of six redshift bins are detected at ≥3σ for r < 0.5 Mpc and two out of six are detected for 0.5 < r < 1 Mpc in any of the redshift bins. Upper limits are 3σ for cluster galaxies at 0.3–0.7 (indicated by green circles). The average 250 µm flux per unit area of our contaminated cluster stacks (Fig. 3, blue diamonds) is found via:

\[
\langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle = \langle S_{total}(z) \rangle - \langle S_{fc}(z) \rangle \langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle.
\]

(3)

where \( z \) is the mean redshift of cluster members in a given bin, \( \langle S_{total}(z) \rangle \) and \( \langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle \) are the stacked fluxes and the number of sources per unit area in the contaminated cluster stacks, \( \langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle \) is the true flux density of cluster galaxies and \( \langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle \) is found via

\[
\langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle = \langle S_{total}(z) \rangle - \langle S_{fc}(z) \rangle \langle S_{cl}(z) \rangle.
\]

(4)

The corrected mean flux density of cluster galaxies, after baseline and field corrections described above are applied, can be seen in Fig. 4 (black diamonds) compared to the average flux of field galaxies per redshift (red squares) for r < 0.5 Mpc (top) and 0.5 < r < 1 Mpc (middle). No stacked signal above the field was found at r > 1 Mpc. Four out of six redshift bins are detected at ≥3σ for r < 0.5 Mpc and two out of six are detected for 0.5 < r < 1 Mpc. In order to maximize the number of detected stacked signals we have to work with, we make two changes for the subsequent analysis: (1) we combine the two lowest redshift bins and (2) we combine the core and outskirts bins into one `core+outskirts’ r < 1 Mpc radial bin (Fig. 4, bottom), which we will compare with the r < 0.5 Mpc radial bin. The two radial bins are combined as a weighted mean.

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3.1.3 Stacking field galaxies

We stack field galaxies in the Bootes field, the selection of which is described in Section 2.1.3, in two ways. First, we stack them in redshift bins with width 0.1 to take full advantage of the large numbers of field galaxies at our disposal in order to examine the evolution of their IR properties as a function of redshift. Secondly, we bin them in the same redshift bins as our cluster galaxies for a direct comparison. For the latter, we take $N_{\text{stack}}$ (see equation 2) from the corresponding cluster stack rather than the total number of field galaxies in the stack, which is typically an order of magnitude larger than the number of cluster members. This will provide comparable uncertainties. We find that the average 250 µm flux densities of field galaxies stacked in this way are consistent with the values found for the field correction. We test that this holds even if we remove the restriction on the integrated $P(z)$ for the field stacks. This indicates that the cluster membership criteria does not introduce a bias based on the restriction of the integrated $P(z)$ parameter at a given redshift.

3.1.4 Projection effects and verifying the baseline correction

In this section, we briefly discuss (i) projection effects due to selecting cluster members based on their 2D cluster-centric radius and (ii) our tests to verify our baseline correction procedure.

(i) Since we are using projected cluster-centric radii, we are stacking cluster galaxies in cylinders rather than spheres and will suffer some contamination to our signal from projection effects. A recent study by Noble et al. (2013) examined contamination due to projection effects by separating infalling galaxies from older cluster populations using caustic diagrams. They found that recently accreted, star-forming galaxies contaminate at all projected radii and that this effect may be responsible for recent studies claiming no environmental dependence for star-forming galaxy properties as a function of radius. As our radial bins are quite large, we expect our susceptibility to this to be minimized; however, we can quantify these effects in the following way. For the $r < 1$ Mpc bin, we argue that projection effects are not significant as we found no stacked signal above our field contamination outside 1 Mpc. The $r < 0.5$ Mpc bin most likely contains some signal from cluster galaxies at larger radii. Stacking at $0.5 < r < 1$ Mpc found that only 2/5 redshift bins are detected, with the strongest signal in the outskirts at $(z) = 1.4$.

By comparing the field-corrected source density of cluster members in the core and outskirts in our highest redshift bin and using the average-stacked flux from each to determine their relative contribution to the total flux and source densities, we estimate that the outskirts are contributing ~30 per cent of the average flux in the $r < 0.5$ Mpc $(z) = 1.4$ bin.

(ii) We test our general stacking technique and method for extracting the baseline signal due to galaxy clustering and source blending by re-stacking our $r < 0.5$ Mpc cluster members and field galaxies using SIMSTACK from Viero et al. (2013), which was developed to account for clustering bias in stacking analyses. We find that SIMSTACK yields consistent results with our stacking method, indicating that any clustering bias in the full field population is negligible, as our baseline test in the field determined, and that we are correctly removing the signal from clustering bias in our $r < 0.5$ cluster stacks. The Viero et al. (2013) code is designed to stack populations of galaxies with similar clustering properties and so we do not test our outer radial bin, as they mix cluster and field galaxies in similar proportions.

3.2 Testing the contribution of active galactic nuclei at 250µm

As discussed in Section 2.1.2, a small fraction ($\lesssim$10 per cent) of the galaxies in our field-contaminated cluster stacks are expected to host AGN, which we expect to have a minimal contribution to the cold dust regime as probed at 250 µm over our redshift range. To confirm this is true for the bright AGN, we can detect across our galaxy samples, we remove all galaxies which (1) have an X-ray detection and/or (2) fall in the IRAC colour selection ‘wedge’ for AGN as described in Kirkpatrick et al. (2013) and repeat our stacking analysis as described in Sections 3.1.2 and 3.1.3. We find that removing these AGN makes no statistically significant difference in the measured stacked fluxes for either our cluster or field galaxy samples.

3.3 Stacking at 70 µm

The MAGES 70 µm flux maps differ from the 250 µm maps described above in several respects, including larger spatial variations in sensitivity, the units of the image mosaic and the relative importance of confusion noise. As a result, we treat the 70 µm stacks slightly differently than the 250 µm stacks. In this section, we describe the procedures we used to stack the MAGES 70 µm image for both the field and cluster galaxy samples and the corrections that we applied to photometry measured from stacks of cluster galaxies.

3.3.1 Procedure

The MIPS 70 µm bandpass is more sensitive to the presence of warm and hot dust than the SPIRE 250 µm bandpass. This is especially true in our higher-$z$ bins, in which the 70 µm band probes rest-frame wavelengths $\lambda \lesssim 30$ µm. As a result, the $L_{\text{IR}}$ inferred at $\lambda_{\text{obs}} = 70$ µm can be more strongly influenced by a small population of galaxies with unusually warm dust than can $L_{\text{IR}}$ inferred at 250 µm.

Since detected sources contribute more at 70 µm than at 250 µm where confused sources dominate, we use a residual image for stacking to avoid contribution from the wings of unrelated bright sources near the target positions. The 70 µm residual image is constructed by point spread function (PSF) subtracting all sources detected at $5\sigma$ significance from the 70 µm science image using DAOPHOT. Stacked images constructed from the residual image yield a flatter background that is consistent with the intrinsic background in the 70 µm
science image. This allows more reliable photometry of the stacked images; however, our use of the residual image requires that we add back the flux from target positions with detected 70 µm counterparts to the flux measured from the stacked image. We determine the mean flux of galaxies in each redshift bin as

\[ S_{70\mu m} = \frac{(N_{\text{stack}} - N_{\text{det}})S_{\text{stack}} + N_{\text{det}}S_{\text{det}})}{N_{\text{stack}}}, \]

where \( S_{\text{stack}} \) is the flux measured from the stacked image and \( S_{\text{det}} \) is the mean flux of detected galaxies. The numbers of sources \( N_{\text{stack}} \) and \( N_{\text{det}} \) indicate the total number of galaxies in the appropriate redshift bin and the number of targets in the stack with detected counterparts, respectively. We tested whether spatial variations in the uncertainties of individual pixels require variance weighting in the mean-combined stacks and found that weighting the stacked images makes no difference in our ability to recover the mean fluxes of galaxies in our source lists. In order to determine the uncertainties associated with each stack, we also generate 2500 mean-combined, bootstrap-sampled image stacks from the residual image.

We use aperture photometry to measure fluxes from the mean-combined images. We measure fluxes in radii of 16 arcsec, equal to the FWHM of the 70 µm PSF, and we use annuli extending from \( r = 18 \) arcsec to \( r = 39 \) arcsec to measure the sky flux. The measured fluxes are aperture corrected to \( r = \infty \) using a multiplicative factor of 1.21.\(^2\) The uncertainties are obtained from the rms dispersion about the mean bootstrapped flux.

### 4.1 Deriving the total \( L_{100} \), SFRs and SSFRs from stacking at 250 µm

Using the stacked 250 µm flux densities, we infer the average physical properties of our cluster galaxies and field galaxies as a function of redshift and cluster radius, including the total IR luminosity \( (L_{\text{IR}}) \), defined over the rest-wavelengths 8–1000 µm, SFR and specific star formation rate \( (SSFR = SFR/M_\star) \). Over our redshift range, the 250 µm waveband probes the far-IR portion of a galaxySED, which is dominated by emission from cold dust heated by SF. We derive these quantities by comparing to an empirical template developed in Kirkpatrick et al. (2012). This template was formulated using a sample of star-forming galaxies at 0.4 < \( z < 1.4 \) \( (L_{\text{IR}} \sim 10^{11} L_\odot) \) selected at 24 µm and identified as star-forming through IRS spectroscopy. Using deep \textit{Herschel} imaging over the 100–500 µm wavelength range, the dust properties of the template were modelled using a two-component blackbody.

The choice to represent the average properties of star-forming galaxies with one template is appropriate given that we are measuring the average flux of similar populations and is consistent with our goal of comparing the average SF properties of cluster galaxies versus field galaxies as a function of redshift. Template-to-template variations in the far-IR will be driven by differences in the dust properties of star-forming galaxies, which will, to first order, contain a cold dust component from SF heating of the interstellar medium (ISM) and warm dust components originating from young star-forming regions or AGN emission. In terms of the SED, these details determine the location of the peak of the dust emission and the shape of the Rayleigh–Jeans tail. Before \textit{Herschel}, only templates from local starbursting galaxies were available for fitting high redshift star-forming galaxies; however, these local templates often lacked data spanning 160–850 µm and so had difficulty constraining cold dust emission. Multiple studies have shown that high-redshift star-forming galaxies at the LIRG and ULIRG level may have colder dust than their local counterparts, making the application of local templates to high-redshift galaxies problematic (Rowan-Robinson et al. 2004, 2005; Pope et al. 2006; Symeonidis et al. 2009; Elbaz et al. 2010; Muzzin et al. 2010; Nordon et al. 2010; Seymour et al. 2010; Rujopakarn et al. 2011). Using an empirical template with well-sampled far-IR data and based on high-redshift galaxies mitigates some of these concerns; however, we must still address whether it is appropriate to apply one template over the redshift range in this study. Chen et al. (2013) examined the dependence of the scatter in \( S_{250}/L_{\text{IR}} \) on differing SED shapes for a subset of star-forming \( z \sim 1 \) galaxies from Kirkpatrick et al. (2012), finding that the deviations in the far-IR SED shape are reasonably small and the estimation of \( L_{\text{IR}} \) from the monochromatic 250 µm flux is appropriate for representative star-forming populations. In addition, Hwang et al. (2010) examined the dust properties of galaxies out to \( z = 3 \) using \textit{Herschel} Photodetector Array Camera and Spectrometer (PACS) and SPIRE data and found the relation between the total IR luminosity and dust temperature to be fairly constant at sub-LIRG luminosities, with a small rise of \( \sim 5K \) in galaxies with \( 10^{11} < L < 10^{12} L_\odot \). Based on previous studies (Brodwin et al. 2013) and the rate of detection of cluster members in our shallow SPIRE data, we expect the typical luminosities of our galaxies to be significantly \( < 10^{12} L_\odot \). The Hwang et al. (2010) results then suggest that our galaxies should have fairly consistent dust properties over the redshift range probed. While a different choice in templates may affect the absolute level of the physical properties inferred in this study, it should not affect the differences we quantify between cluster and field galaxies, if the templates are applied consistently. We further test this assumption by stacking the same galaxies at 70 µm in Section 4.2. A comparison between the Kirkpatrick et al. (2012) LIRG template and the commonly used Chary & Elbaz (2001) templates can be found in Kirkpatrick et al. (2012).

In the following analysis, we estimate the total \( L_{\text{IR}} \) by normalizing the Kirkpatrick et al. (2012) SED template to the stacked 250 µm flux densities of our cluster and field galaxy samples. The error associated with the SED template is 40 per cent, which accounts for the spread in the SEDs of high-redshift star-forming galaxies. From the \( L_{\text{IR}} \), we obtain the SFR via the Murphy et al. (2011b) relation

\[ \text{SFR}\left[M_\odot \text{yr}^{-1}\right] = 1.47 \times 10^{-10} L_{\text{IR}}[L_\odot]. \]

which assumes a Kroupa IMF (Kroupa 2001), providing a similar normalization to the Chabrier IMF used to calculate the stellar masses. SSFRs are calculated from the average SFR (obtained from

\(^2\) MIPS Instrument Handbook http://irsa.ipac.caltech.edu/data/SPITZER/docs/mips/mipsinstrumenthandbook/
4.2 Evolution of star formation in clusters and field galaxies with cosmic time

In this section, we examine the average dust-obscured SF activity in cluster galaxies as a function of environment by comparing cluster galaxies in two projected radial bins, \( r < 0.5 \text{ Mpc} \) (core) and \( r < 1 \text{ Mpc} \) (core+outskirts), to our field galaxy sample. We examine trends in physical galaxy properties as a function of cosmic time and redshift, to better connect our results to the characteristic time-scales of different cluster processes.

In the cluster cores, the average \( L_{IR} \) and SFR of our mass-limited sample of cluster galaxies (Fig. 5, left, black diamonds) rises rapidly as a function of redshift, even with the field activity (blue circles) at \( z \gtrsim 1.2 \). Our low-redshift bin (\( z = 0.5 \)) has an average SFR \( \sim \text{few } M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \), quenched to \( \sim 30 \) per cent of the field level. In our highest redshift bin, \( z = 1.4 \), the average cluster galaxy SFR is consistent with the field at \( \sim 30 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \). The (SSFR) (Fig. 5, right) shows a similarly rapid trend, with the ratio of SSFR in the clusters to the field doubling over this redshift range. The clusters are suppressed to \( \sim 30 \) per cent of the field level at \( z = 0.5 \) versus \( \sim 75 \) per cent of field level at \( z = 1.4 \). Over our redshift range \( z = 0.3-1.5 \) or \( \sim 6 \text{ Gyr} \), the SSFR in cluster galaxies increases an order of magnitude from \( \sim 0.05 \) to 0.5 \( \text{Gyr}^{-1} \).

Including all cluster galaxies out to \( r < 1 \text{ Mpc} \) (Fig. 6) dramatically raises the average SFR in the highest redshift bin to \( \sim 60 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \). In the radial bin \( 0.5 < r < 1 \text{ Mpc} \) (not shown), the \( z = 1.4 \) bin is detected at the 5\( \sigma \) level with \( \langle \text{SFR} \rangle \sim 90 M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \), three times the \( \langle \text{SFR} \rangle \) in the cluster cores and the field level, with a \( \langle \text{SSFR} \rangle \sim 2 \text{ Gyr}^{-1} \).

As a check of our measured average field SFR, we compare our field values to 250 \( \mu \text{m} \) stacks of \( K \)-band selected field galaxies from the UKIRT Infrared Deep Sky Survey (UKIDSS; Lawrence et al. 2007) in the Ultra-Deep Survey (UDS). This field galaxy sample extends down to the same stellar mass limit as used in this work and was stacked using SIMSTACK (M. Viero, private communication; Viero et al. 2013). We convert the average 250 \( \mu \text{m} \) of the UDS sample into an \( L_{IR} \) and SFR as described in Section 4.1 and the results are in good agreement with our field values (Figs 5–6, yellow squares).

4.2.1 Evolution as a function of cosmic time

In order to quantify the evolution of the average SFRs and SSFRs for galaxies in clusters versus the field, we fit both the cluster galaxy stacks (Fig. 5, black diamonds) and high-resolution field galaxy stacks (small blue circles) with a function of the form \( y = \beta(t)^{\alpha(t)} \), where \( t \) is cosmic time. The fits were performed using MPFIT (Markwardt 2009). Table 2 provides a summary of the fit coefficients, where the coefficient uncertainties are the 1\( \sigma \) errors from the

![Figure 5](https://academic.oup.com/mnras/article-abstract/437/1/437/1000529/4714371000529)
for. The reduced \( \chi^2 \) values for each fit are shown in the last column.

| Coefficients | \( \beta^a \) | \( \alpha^b \) | \( \chi^2 \) |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|
| Clusters \((r < 0.5 \text{ Mpc})\) | \(810 \pm 400\) | \(-0.66 \pm 0.08\) | 1.1 |
| Clusters \((r < 1 \text{ Mpc})\) | \(1540 \pm 1100\) | \(-0.76 \pm 0.10\) | 1.0 |
| Field \((z < 0.8)\) | \(267 \pm 9\) | \(-0.42 \pm 0.005\) | 14.0 |
| Field \((z > 0.8)\) | \(630 \pm 60\) | \(-0.53 \pm 0.01\) | 3.2 |
| Field \((z > 0.8)\) | \(124 \pm 10\) | \(-0.28 \pm 0.01\) | 1.1 |
| Clusters \((r < 0.5 \text{ Mpc})\) | \(11 \pm 6\) | \(-0.59 \pm 0.08\) | 0.9 |
| Clusters \((r < 1 \text{ Mpc})\) | \(15 \pm 12\) | \(-0.66 \pm 0.1\) | 2.1 |
| Field \((z < 0.8)\) | \(6.4 \pm 0.2\) | \(-0.45 \pm 0.005\) | 16.0 |
| Field \((z > 0.8)\) | \(17 \pm 2\) | \(-0.56 \pm 0.01\) | 3.5 |
| Field \((z > 0.8)\) | \(2.8 \pm 0.2\) | \(-0.30 \pm 0.01\) | 1.8 |

\( ^a \beta \) has units of \( M_\odot \text{ yr}^{-1} \) for \( y = \langle \text{SFR} \rangle \) and \( \text{Gyr}^{-1} \) for \( y = \langle \text{SSFR} \rangle \).

\( ^b \alpha \) has units of \( \text{Gyr}^{-1} \).

The reduced \( \chi^2 \) values for the fit to the high-resolution field galaxies stacks indicate that a single exponential function is not a good fit to the data. Fitting two exponential functions to the field galaxies with an break at \( z \sim 0.8 \) greatly improves the goodness of fit and we find that the best-fitting (SFR) slopes are significantly different, with \( \alpha = -0.53 \pm 0.01 \) at \( z < 0.8 \) and \( \alpha = -0.28 \pm 0.01 \) at \( z > 0.8 \). This break is reminiscent of the differential ramp up of LIRGs and ULIRGs in the field with time and the general form of the SFR density of the Universe (see Murphy et al. 2013). Though we are unable to repeat this analysis for our cluster sample due to poor resolution in the cluster stacks, we note that the cluster galaxy evolution is still distinct from the field at both low and high redshift. A more in-depth look at the evolution of field galaxies as a function of cosmic time is reserved for a future paper.

4.2.2 Evolution as a function of redshift

Multiple studies have examined cluster properties, such as the star-forming galaxy fraction, number of LIRGs and total SFR per halo mass (e.g. Bai et al. 2009; Haines et al. 2009; Popesso et al. 2012; Webb et al. 2013), and quantified their evolution as a function of redshift. Though the cluster properties, quantities measured and sample selection vary greatly between cluster studies, including this work, it is instructive to assume that all of these quantities are related on some level. As such, we compare our average SFR as a function of redshift by fitting the commonly adopted form \( y = y_0(1 + z)^\alpha \) to the cluster members and high-resolution field stacks, as above.
In the cluster cores ($r < 0.5$ Mpc), we find that the evolution of the average SFR goes as $n = 5.6 \pm 0.6$, while in the core+outskirts ($r < 1$ Mpc), $n = 5.9 \pm 1.0$. This is statistically distinct from the field, where $n = 3.9 \pm 0.04$. The evolution of the SSFR is similar, with $n = 5.1 \pm 0.7$ (core) and $n = 5.3 \pm 1.1$ (core+outskirts), compared to $n = 4.0 \pm 0.05$ for field galaxies. The coefficients and their reduced $\chi^2$ values are summarized in Table 3. For further discussion and a comparison with other cluster studies, see Section 5.2.

### Table 3. Fit coefficients for (SFR) and (SSFR)

| Coefficients | $n$ | $\chi^2$ |
|--------------|-----|---------|
| y = $\langle$SFR$\rangle$ | $\langle$SFR$\rangle$ | 5.6 ± 0.6 | 1.8 |
| Clusters ($r < 0.5$ Mpc) | $\langle$SFR$\rangle$ | 5.6 ± 0.6 | 1.8 |
| Clusters ($r < 1$ Mpc) | $\langle$SFR$\rangle$ | 5.9 ± 1.0 | 0.6 |
| Field | $\langle$SFR$\rangle$ | 3.9 ± 0.4 | 39.0 |
| y = $\langle$SSFR$\rangle$ | $\langle$SSFR$\rangle$ | 5.0 ± 0.7 | 1.33 |
| Clusters ($r < 0.5$ Mpc) | $\langle$SSFR$\rangle$ | 5.0 ± 0.7 | 1.33 |
| Clusters ($r < 1$ Mpc) | $\langle$SSFR$\rangle$ | 5.3 ± 1.1 | 1.6 |
| Field | $\langle$SSFR$\rangle$ | 4.0 ± 0.05 | 32.5 |

4.2.3 Verification at 70 $\mu$m

To verify our procedure of choosing a single SED template to measure $L_{IR}$ and probe the importance of galaxies with unusually warm dust, we have constructed stacks of our galaxy samples at 70 $\mu$m. By measuring the $L_{70}$ of our galaxy samples using one template, we have made two assumptions: (1) that the SEDs of the galaxies in our samples, in particular their dust properties, do not vary significantly over the redshift range we probe and (2) that the dust properties of our cluster galaxies do not differ systematically from those of our field galaxies. We outlined some of our justifications for these assumptions in Section 4.1 and here we further test them by repeating our stacking analysis at 70 $\mu$m, a waveband which probes the warm dust component of a galaxy’s SED (see Section 3.3 for the 70 $\mu$m stacking procedure).

Fig. 7 shows the ratio of the $L_{IR}$ as derived from the average 70 and 250 $\mu$m fluxes as a function of redshift for cluster galaxies (red) and field galaxies (purple). The red shaded region shows the scatter associated with the (Kirkpatrick et al. 2012) SED template, which was derived from a field galaxy population. The 70 $\mu$m data slightly overpredicts the $L_{IR}$ as compared to 250 $\mu$m at $z > 0.8$, which may be due to increased warm dust caused by AGN activity, which is known to increase with redshift (e.g. Ueda et al. 2003; Richards et al. 2006; Galametz et al. 2009; Martini et al. 2013). We verified that the removal of AGN identified in our X-ray and mid-IR data did not significantly change the 70 $\mu$m stacked flux measurements. However, given the uncertainties in the 70 $\mu$m fluxes and our AGN selection, this does not necessarily rule out the contributions from lower luminosity AGN. At low redshift, the 70 $\mu$m data slightly underpredicts the $L_{70}$ relative to 250 $\mu$m, which may indicate that our chosen template has insufficient cold dust to represent the average low-redshift galaxy at the low-IR luminosities we are probing ($L_{IR} \sim 10^{10} L_\odot$) (e.g. Hwang et al. 2010; Symeonidis et al. 2013). All points, however, fall within the expected scatter of the SED template, for both cluster and field samples. This indicates that our use of one SED template to compare cluster and field galaxies as a function of redshift is robust. When the cluster and field galaxy...
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Figure 8. The \langle SSFR \rangle for cluster (black diamonds) and field (blue circles) galaxies as in Fig. 5, but for mass bins $1.3 \times 10^{10} < M_\star < 6.3 \times 10^{10} M\odot$ (left) and $M_\star > 6.3 \times 10^{10} M\odot$ (right). The top panels show cluster members out to projected radius of 0.5 Mpc (core) and the bottom panels show out to 1 Mpc (core+outskirts). In the cluster cores, the evolution in SF activity seems to be dominated by the lower mass galaxies, as the higher mass galaxies show no strong differential evolution with respect to the field, though they are suppressed below the field level at all redshifts. When the outskirts are included we see that all cluster galaxies are on average evolving more rapidly than the field, with the lower mass galaxies showing enhancement over the field in the highest redshift bin. The green, dashed-dot lines denote the boundaries of the IR Main Sequence as defined in Elbaz et al. (2011).

Whether a galaxy is a best fit to a late-type or early-type template depends predominantly on the strength of its 4000 Å break. This allows us to roughly separate our galaxy samples into ‘blue’ (late-type) and ‘red’ (early-type) subsamples. This selection is similar to traditional methods of using rest-frame optical colours which bracket the 4000 Å break to separate galaxies into star-forming and quiescent categories. The process of matching the best-fitting template for deriving photometric redshifts is applied
in the same way to both cluster and field galaxies, meaning that we can consistently compare blue or red galaxies in the cluster to those in the field using this selection.

We note that, using this selection technique, galaxies fit to early-type templates may be truly passive or may be star-forming galaxies that are so heavily dust obscured as to look red. By matching to MIPS 24 μm, we find that 15–30 per cent of galaxies best fitted by early-type templates have a corresponding MIPS detection within 4 arcsec. Unfortunately, the MIPS catalogue is too shallow to detect the characteristic $L_{IR}$ of our sample at $z \gtrsim 1$ and so gives an incomplete census of contamination as well as introducing complications from AGN contamination. As such, we focus on the blue galaxies as a representative sample of star-forming galaxies with non-extreme dust properties and determine their average $L_{IR}$, SFR and SSFR properties, with the caveat that we are likely missing some fraction of heavily dust-obscured SF, a fraction which will grow more significant with increasing redshift.

In Fig. 9, we compare the average SFR (left) and SSFR (right) of blue galaxies in the cluster cores versus the field. We find that the evolution of (SFR) shows an increase with redshift compared to the field, as we saw with the full sample in Fig. 5; however, when the stellar mass of the blue galaxies is taken into account for the (SSFR), the star-forming galaxies no longer show a strong evolution relative to the field over time, though they are suppressed at $\sim 70$ per cent of the field SSFR. At $(z) = 1.4$, the average SFR in the cluster cores is consistent with the field, but the average SSFR is lower. This may be an indication that the stellar mass function of blue, star-forming galaxies is different in cluster versus the field at these redshifts. At lower redshifts, the other hand, the average SFR and SSFR are both quenched below the field level. Taken together, these two plots indicate that both the SFRs and stellar mass distributions in cluster galaxies relative to the field may be different over our redshift range. In the core+ outskirts (not shown), the average SFR and SSFR behave in the same manner with the exception of the $(z) = 1.4$ bin, which again has enhanced SF of 1.7 times the field SFR and 1.2 times the field SSFR.

We compare our results to a recent study which looked at the average SSFRs in star-forming cluster galaxies from $z = 0.15$ to 0.3. Haines et al. (2013) too found that the SSFR does not show a strong differential evolution relative to the field, but that the average SSFR is suppressed below the field level. We show the Haines et al. (2013) results in Fig. 9 (right), where we also indicate the region which corresponds to the IR Main Sequence (Elbaz et al. 2011). Our star-forming galaxy samples, both cluster and field, fall on the Main Sequence at all redshifts.

5 DISCUSSION

As cluster studies push to higher and higher redshifts, the challenge becomes not just to explain the signature properties of local clusters – the strong, red sequence of passively evolving galaxies – but to constrain the epoch in which clusters were engaging in active mass build-up, with the SF necessary to assemble present-day massive ellipticals. Using a uniform sample of clusters ($\sim 10^{14} M_\odot$), we have demonstrated that the average 250 μm flux (and by extension the dust-obscured SFR) of cluster galaxies is quenched below the field level across most of cosmic time, $\sim 8$ Gyr, but with a rapid evolution in which the average SFR of cluster galaxies draws even with the field in the cluster cores at $z \gtrsim 1.2$, with enhanced SF above the field level in the cluster outskirts. We measure an e-folding time for the SF in the cluster cores of $\sim 1.5$ Gyr over $0.3 < z < 1.5$. This is consistent with the findings of Brodwin et al. 2013, who looked at cluster members detected at 24 μm within the range $1.0 < z < 1.5$ and found a sharp transition from active to quenched SF. Here, we...
explore what mechanisms might be responsible for the evolution we observe.

5.1 Quenching mechanisms

Several pieces of evidence presented here give us clues about the processes involved in the quenching of SF activity in cluster galaxies. We find that in the cluster cores ($r < 0.5$ Mpc), the full population of cluster galaxies (Fig. 5) shows significant quenching over the redshifts we probe, starting with field-like SF activity at $z \gtrsim 1.2$ and quenching with an e-folding time of $\sim 1.5$ Gyr. This is considerably faster than the e-folding time of SF in field galaxies, $\sim 2.4$ Gyr, where galaxy evolution is likely driven by mass-quenching, gas accretion and/or AGN (Mo, van den Bosch & White 2010). This rapid evolution is seen in both the average SFR and SSFR, the latter suggests that these trends cannot be fully explained by a different stellar mass functions for cluster and field galaxies.

When broken into subpopulations, our cluster galaxies suggest that multiple processes are likely operating in these clusters. High-mass cluster galaxies ($M > 6.3 \times 10^{10}$) in the cores show no strong evolution relative to the field, which may indicate that their evolution is dominated by mass-quenching. This is consistent with the results of Peng et al. (2010), who found that galaxies of these masses are dominated by internal evolution regardless of environment. High-mass galaxies in the cluster outskirts, however, do show a more rapid evolution relative to the field. Lower mass galaxies show a more rapid evolution at all redshifts and radii, with field-like SF in the cores at high redshift and enhanced SF in the outskirts.

Blue, star-forming galaxies show a strong evolution relative to the field in their SFRs, but no strong evolution in their SSFRs. Unlike the full galaxy populations, this suggests that the evolution in blue galaxy SFRs could be fully explained by different stellar mass functions between cluster and field for blue galaxies specifically. This would be consistent with studies of low-redshift massive clusters, where measures of the Ho luminosity function (Kodama et al. 2004) and mid-IR SFRs (Bai et al. 2009; Haines et al. 2009) were found to be largely independent of environment. Haines et al. (2013) found a similar trend with the SSFR in low-redshift clusters (see Section 5.2).

Taken together, these observations suggest that multiple cluster-specific processes may be driving the evolution of subpopulations of cluster galaxies in different cluster regions, while other dusty galaxies (high-mass, core galaxies) may be dominated by mass-quenching. If the trends seen in the SFRs of blue, star-forming galaxies can be explained as differences in the stellar mass distribution of cluster galaxies, then the evolution of the full population may be driven by the rapid transition of star-forming galaxies to the quiescent galaxy population through the effective shut down of SF. This is supported by Brodwin et al. 2013, who found a strong transition to lower SFRs below $z \sim 1.3–1.4$ in $z > 1$ ISCS clusters using MIPS 24 µm observations and concluded that these trends can be explained by merger-driven SF followed by rapid AGN quenching in $z \gtrsim 1.5$ clusters. These observations further support Muzzin et al. (2012), who found a lack of correlation between SSFR and $D_0$ (4000) in star-forming galaxies with environment at $z \sim 1$ and a high post-starburst fraction. They concluded that star-forming galaxies are transitioning to the quiescent population on rapid timescales at higher redshifts. This transition would require that the cold gas which fuels SF in galaxies be consumed, heated or removed. In this work, we have observed evidence for the previously suggested mergers at high redshifts in the cluster outskirts; however, we do not see enhanced SF on average at lower redshifts and radii (though this does not rule out dry mergers). A more likely scenario for ongoing quenching at lower redshifts and in the cluster cores may involve the removal of gas. This is supported by local observations, which have found cluster galaxies to be increasingly deficient in H I gas close to cluster centres (Haynes, Giovanelli & Chincarini 1984; Solanes et al. 2001; Hughes et al. 2009) as well as cluster galaxies with truncated gaseous discs (e.g. Koopmann & Kenney 2004; Koopmann, Haynes & Catinella 2006) and long extragalactic tails of H I gas (Chung et al. 2007). The two main processes that remove gas in galaxies in dense environments are strangulation (Larson, Tinsley & Caldwell 1980) and ram pressure stripping (RPS; Gunn & Gott 1972). For a review of cluster processes in general, see Boselli & Gavazzi (2006).

Strangulation, the removal of loosely bound hot halo due to the ICM and global tidal field of the clusters, is capable preventing the re-fuelling of galaxies over several Gyr. Unlike their analogues in the field, cluster galaxies can no longer accrete fresh, cold gas once they enter a region with a hot, dense ICM. This lack of fresh gas may lower their SFR relative to field galaxies on long time-scales and we suggest this may be responsible for the lower SSFRs of high-mass galaxies in the cluster cores.

RPS, the removal of the ISM by the hot ($\sim 10^7–10^8$ K), dense ($\sim 10^{-3}–10^{-4}$ atoms cm$^{-3}$) ICM, can operate efficiently on galaxies with high orbital velocities ($\gtrsim 1000$ km s$^{-1}$), loosely bound ISMs such as in intermediate to low-mass galaxies, and in clusters with short crossing times. Hydrodynamical simulations of individual galaxies using the Gunn & Gott (1972) RPS estimation found the time-scale for gas removal to be $\sim 10–100$ Myr (Abadi, Moore & Bower 1999; Quilis, Ibáñez & Sáez 2000; Marcolini, Brighenti & D’Ercole 2003; Roediger & Bruggen 2006, 2007; Kronberger et al. 2008). As such, lower mass galaxies near the cluster cores may see their gas stripped away on short time-scales, stopping their SF and adding them to the passively evolving galaxy fraction.

5.1.1 A back-of-the-envelope calculation for gas depletion

By making some simplifying assumptions, we can link our measured $\langle L_{IR} \rangle$ for cluster and field galaxies to the fraction of galaxies which retain gas between $z = 1$ and $z = 0.5$. We first assume that if a galaxy has gas, then it contributes a fixed amount to the average $L_{IR}$, $\epsilon_{IR,g}$; if it contains no gas, it contributes nothing. If the fraction of galaxies that retain their gas is given by $f_g(z)$ and the total number of galaxies is $N_g(z)$ then

$$\langle L_{IR}(z) \rangle = \Sigma L_{IR}(z) \approx f_g(z) N_g(z) / \epsilon_{IR,g}(z) / N_g(z)$$

$$= f_g(z) \epsilon_{IR,g}(z).$$

Consider the field-normalized ratio of the average $L_{IR}$ of cluster galaxies at $z = 1$ to $z = 0.5$, $Q$:

$$Q = \langle L_{IR}(z = 1) / L_{IR}(z = 0.5) \rangle / \langle L_{IR}(z = 1) / L_{min}(z = 0.5) \rangle$$

$$= f_g(z = 1) / f_g(z = 0.5) / \epsilon_{IR,g}(z = 1) / \epsilon_{IR,g}(z = 0.5)$$

$$= \langle f_g(z = 1) / f_g(z = 0.5) \rangle / \langle \epsilon_{IR,g}(z = 1) / \epsilon_{IR,g}(z = 0.5) \rangle.$$

We further assume that the fraction of galaxies with gas in the field does not change significantly, $\langle f_g(z = 1) / f_g(z = 0.5) \rangle = 1$, and that, in the absence of gas stripping, the contribution to the total IR luminosity for cluster galaxies which retain their gas is equal to contributions from field...
galaxies: $\tilde{f}_{\text{gas}}(z) = \tilde{f}_{\text{gas}}^\text{field}(z)$ (this assumption breaks down on the time-scales of strangulation). This simplifies $Q$ to a simple ratio of the fraction of galaxies that retain gas in clusters at $z = 1$ to at $z = 0.5$: 

$$Q \approx \frac{\tilde{f}_{\text{gas}}^\text{cluster}(z=1)}{\tilde{f}_{\text{gas}}^\text{cluster}(z=0.5)}.$$ 

From equation (8), the ratio of our average $L_\text{IR}$ for cluster and field galaxies across $z = 0.5–1$ is then approximately the fraction of galaxies which retain gas over the same redshift range. We calculate $Q \approx 1.8 \pm 0.7$ from our observations at $r < 0.5$ Mpc (Fig. 5).

### 5.1.2 Comparison to a RPS Simulation

Tecce et al. (2010) performed a self-consistent estimation of the effects of RPS in moderate- to high-mass clusters using a semi-analytic model of galaxy formation combined with hydrodynamical simulations of galaxy clusters. They calculated the fraction of galaxies which have been stripped of their gas as a function of cluster-centric radius and redshift, finding that out to the virial radius of $\sim 10^{14}$ M$_\odot$ clusters, this fraction increases by a factor of 2 from $z = 1$ to $z = 0.5$. Their simulations consider galaxy velocities of 700–3000 km s$^{-1}$ and note that the ICM density increases an order of magnitude from $z = 1$ to the present day (with $\rho_{\text{ICM}} \sim 10^{-6} - 10^{-3}$ atoms cm$^{-3}$ at $z = 1$).

From Tecce et al. (2010), we determine the simulated fraction of cluster galaxies that retain their gas from $z = 1$ to $z = 0.5$ at a radius of 0.5 Mpc for $\sim 10^{14}$ M$_\odot$ clusters is $Q = 1.5 \pm 0.3$ (Tecce et al. 2010), while our observations show $Q \approx 1.8 \pm 0.7$. Given this simple calculation, our observations are consistent with RPS playing a prominent role in the removal of gas from star-forming galaxies in the ISCS cluster cores. Currently, similar theoretical predictions do not exist for strangulation, though it too may play a role in SF quenching. In addition to the simplifying assumptions we have made, we note two caveats: (1) the velocity dispersions of the ISCS clusters are $\sim 700$ km s$^{-1}$ (Brodwin et al. 2011), lower than the typical velocities at which RPS is thought to be efficient. As the scatter for the individual galaxy velocities within the ISCS is unknown, the fraction of galaxies for which RPS may be relevant is also unknown and (2) hydrodynamical simulations have found that $\sim 30$ per cent of a galaxy’s hot halo gas may remain intact even 10 Gyr after the initial infall (McCarthy et al. 2008).

### 5.1.3 Mergers and active galactic nuclei

In Fig. 6, we see a striking increase in the average SFR and SSFR of cluster galaxies over the field at high redshift when we examine the cluster outskirts. Detected at the 5$\sigma$ level, the 250 $\mu$m flux in the $(z) = 1.4, 0.5 < r < 1$ Mpc bin reveals an (SFR) (SFR)) of $\sim 3$ (~2) times the field level at the same redshifts (though the average SSFR is still within the IR Main Sequence; Elbaz et al. 2011). One possible explanation for this enhanced activity is galaxy mergers, which operate in dense environments where galaxy velocities are moderate. Mergers have been observed at high redshift (Bridge, Carlberg & Sullivan 2010; Lotz et al. 2011) and a recent study of a $z = 1.4$ cluster using Herschel found that ULIRGs were primarily residing in the cluster outskirts ($r > 250$ kpc), with half of the PACS detected sources showing the disturbed morphologies indicative of merger activity (Santos et al. 2013).

Mancone et al. (2010) presented statistical evidence for rapid mass assembly in the ISCS (consistent with merger activity) by examining the rest-frame 3.6 and 4.5 $\mu$m luminosity functions for cluster galaxies over the redshift range $z = 0.3–2$, finding that the characteristic magnitude $m_c$ was well described by passive evolution models up until $z \sim 1.4$, above which $m_c$ is abruptly fainter. This shift in the characteristic 3.6 and 4.5 $\mu$m magnitudes, a proxy for the characteristic stellar mass, can be explained by an increase in the merger rate. These results are corroborated by a study of the SSFR in 16 ISCS clusters between $z = 1$ and 1.5 using MIPS 24 $\mu$m imaging, which finds substantial SF occurring at all cluster-centric radii and a transition epoch from passively evolving to actively star forming at $z \sim 1.4$ (Brodwin et al. 2013). Mergers can both greatly enhance SF and quickly quench it, as simulations show that mergers often trigger substantial AGN feedback that expels the remaining gas and ends SF; this process operates on time-scales of $\sim 100$ Myr (Springel et al. 2005; Hopkins et al. 2006; Narayan et al. 2010). The fraction of AGN has been found to increase by two orders of magnitude within the ISCS sample over $z = 0–1.5$ (Galametz et al. 2009; Martini et al. 2013). In our sample, we see that the enhanced SF is occurring primarily in lower mass galaxies, consistent with the Mancone et al. (2010) results and with studies of the merger rate which find that higher mass galaxies ($\gtrsim 5 \times 10^{10}$ M$_\odot$) are undergoing fewer mergers than low-mass galaxies (Bridge et al. 2010; Lotz et al. 2011). We note that there may also be minor or dry mergers, even at radii or redshifts where we do not see enhanced SF activity.

Though the accretion of galaxy groups on to clusters has also been posited to enhanced SF and lead to the rapid consumption of gas (Miller & Owen 2003; Poggianti et al. 2004; Coia et al. 2005; Ferrari et al. 2005), this process is expected to be more or less continuous over the last 10 billion years (Berrier et al. 2009), which would not explain the abrupt transition from enhanced to quenched that we see in the cluster outskirts (Fig. 6). Multiple lines of evidence are pointing towards a prominent role for mergers in the evolution of the ISCS clusters. Future work using deep Herschel PACS imaging will be used to take a closer look at the radial dependence of the (U)LIRG population in high-redshift ISCS clusters (Alberts et al., in preparation).

### 5.2 Comparison of the evolution of the SFR in clusters to other studies in the literature

The most direct comparison to our study is a recent work by Haines et al. (2013), who looked at the average SSFRs of massive ($M \gtrsim 10^{10}$ M$_\odot$) star-forming galaxies out to $r_{200}$ in 30 galaxy clusters within the range $0.15 < z < 0.3$. Though their clusters are on average more massive than ours ($\sim 10^{14} - 10^{15}$ M$_\odot$), we probe to similar depths in $L_{\text{IR}}$ ($\sim 1 \times 10^{10}$ L$_\odot$). We find remarkable agreement in that their star-forming cluster galaxies also show little differential evolution with respect to the field, but are suppressed below the field level by 28 per cent (see Fig. 9 for comparison). They further determine that this holds for fixed stellar mass, indicating it is caused by changes in the SFRs at these redshifts. Haines et al. (2013) concludes that this systematic reduction of the SFRs in cluster galaxies is due to long time-scale ($\gtrsim 1$ Gyr) quenching, such as strangulation or RPS. Combined, our results suggest that the suppression of the SSFRs in star-forming cluster galaxies exists over a long redshift baseline ($0.15 < z < 1.5$), which may indicate a common quenching mechanism in low- and high-redshift clusters.

In Section 4.2.2, we quantified the evolution of the average SFR and SSFR as a function of redshift in order to compare to other work in the literature. We found that, when quantified via the function $y = y_0(1 + z)^n$, the average SFR of cluster galaxies goes as $n = 5.6 \pm 0.6$ in the cluster cores and $n = 5.9 \pm 1.0$ in the core-i-outsides. We compare the evolution of the average SFR to two popular quantities in the literature: the total SFR per halo mass, $\Sigma(SFR)/M_{\text{halo}}$, which is particularly useful measurement for...
comparing systems of different mass, and the fraction of star-forming galaxies, $f_{\text{SF}}$. Several studies have found that the redshift dependence of the total SFR per halo mass goes as $n \sim 5$ (Finn, Zaritsky & McCarthy 2004; Kodama et al. 2004; Finn et al. 2005; Geach et al. 2006; Bai et al. 2009; Chung et al. 2010; Koyama et al. 2010; Hayashi et al. 2011; Popesso et al. 2012; Haines et al. 2013; Webb et al. 2013). Given that our cluster sample is uniform in mass across our redshift range, we can fairly compare the evolution of our average SFR to this quantity. The evolution of $f_{\text{SF}}$ is somewhat less constrained with $f_{\text{SF}} \propto (1+z)^{2/3}$ (Kodama et al. 2004; Geach et al. 2006; Saintonge et al. 2008; Bai et al. 2009; Haines et al. 2009, 2013; Webb et al. 2013). Comparing to this quantity is interesting, however, given the suggestion that the evolution we see in the SF activity in our full cluster galaxy population is dominated by the changing fraction of star-forming galaxies. Comparisons between our results and these literature results are complicated as we are measuring different quantities and have different cluster masses, cluster selection, galaxy selections, SFR tracers and redshift ranges. Nevertheless, we find good agreement between our measured evolution of the average SFR and the measured evolution of both $\Sigma (\text{SFR})/M_{\text{halo}}$ and $f_{\text{SF}}$ from previous works. In particular, we note the high-redshift cluster studies of Webb et al. (2013), who looked at IR-luminous $(L_{\text{IR}} > 2 \times 10^{11} \text{L}_\odot)$ galaxies in 42 red-sequence selected cluster within the range $0.3 < z < 1$. They found evolutions of $n = 5.4 \pm 1.5$ for the total SFR per halo mass and $n = 5.1 \pm 1.9$ for the star-forming fraction. Given this consistent evolution between these quantities and between our studies (and others), this indicates that the total SFR per halo mass in cluster galaxies could be tightly correlated with the star-forming fraction in clusters over a range of luminosities and that different cluster samples may be experiencing similar quenching mechanisms over a range of redshifts.

At $z > 1$, our findings provide important direct support for conclusions drawn from previous investigations of the ISCS clusters. In particular, we have shown field-level SFRs, indicating ongoing stellar mass assembly, at $z > 1.2$, matching the inference based on the near-IR luminosity function evolution of cluster members by Mancone et al. (2010). In addition, we have shown that, at $z \lesssim 1.2$, one or more processes are rapidly halting SF in some of these cluster galaxies (Figs 5–6). In combination, these scenarios can explain the nearly constant colour of the optically defined quiescent galaxies in ISCS clusters (Snyder et al. 2012): at any given time, the population of red cluster galaxies reflects the extended SF histories of the previous star-forming galaxies that have been very rapidly quenched in their past, possibly in a stochastic manner. Therefore, we conclude that there is broad agreement between the scenarios implied by the stellar mass build-up of cluster galaxies, the apparent stellar age evolution of cluster ellipticals and the SFRs of cluster galaxies as measured directly (this work; Brodwin et al. 2013).

6 CONCLUSIONS

In this work, we have used a large, uniform cluster sample over a long redshift baseline ($z = 0.3–1.5$) in order to analyse the SF activity in cluster galaxies relative to the field as a function of cosmic time. Through a stacking analysis, we have probed to low-IR luminosities and determined the average $L_{\text{IR}}$, SFRs and SSFRs by measuring the average $250 \mu\text{m}$ flux of mass-limited samples of thousands of cluster galaxies and tens of thousands of field galaxies. Using robust, statistical methods, we have accounted for source blending/clustering bias and field galaxy contamination (due to photometric redshift uncertainties) in our cluster galaxy stacking. Our main results are as follows.

(i) Our full (star-forming and quiescent) cluster galaxy sample exhibits rapid evolution with cosmic time as compared to the field. We quantify this evolution as an exponential function of time and find that cluster galaxies in the cluster cores ($r < 0.5 \text{ Mpc}$) have an e-folding time of $\sim 1.5 \text{ Gyr}$, as compared to $\sim 2.4 \text{ Gyr}$ for field galaxies. The average SFR in the cluster cores is quenched below the field level for much of cosmic time ($\sim 9 \text{ billion years}$) but draws even with the field at $z > 1.2$. When accounting for stellar mass by measuring the SSFR, the core cluster galaxies do not quite even drawn even with the field up to $z \sim 1.5$, but still show a statistically faster evolution than the average SSFR of field galaxies (see Table 2). In the cluster outskirts ($0.5 < r < 1 \text{ Mpc}$), we see enhanced SFRs (SSFRs) of $\sim 3 (\sim 2)$ times the field level at $z = 1.4$, likely due to increased merger activity among the infalling galaxy population. These results confirm the transition epoch towards active SF and mass assembly at $z \sim 1.4$ seen in previous studies.

(ii) When divided into lower and higher mass bins, we see that the SSFRs of the higher mass galaxies ($M_* > 6.3 \times 10^{10} \text{M}_\odot$) in the cluster cores are quenched below the field level, but otherwise show no strong differential evolution relative to the field. We suggest that strangulation from the hot-cluster ICM is responsible for the lower level of SF, but that the overall evolution with time of the higher mass cluster galaxies is dominated by the same mechanism as higher mass field galaxies, i.e. mass-quenching. Lower mass galaxies ($1.3 \times 10^{10} < M_* < 6.3 \times 10^{10} \text{M}_\odot$) seem to be driving the differing evolution from the field galaxies in the cluster cores with SSFRs that begin reaching the field level at $z > 1.2$. In the outskirts, both mass bins show a more rapid evolution in the clusters than the field, with lower mass galaxies showing enhanced SF at $z = 1.4$, which may suggest that lower mass galaxies are preferentially experiencing major mergers which trigger starbursts.

(iii) We find that though the (SFR) of blue, star-forming galaxies decreases faster than blue galaxies in the field, the SSFR of blue galaxies shows the same behaviour as high-mass galaxies (suppressed below the field but with no strong differential evolution). The exception is the cluster outskirts at $z = 1.4$, where blue galaxies show enhanced SF activity. This suggests that environment could be strongly effecting the SFRs and/or stellar mass distributions of blue, star-forming galaxies in clusters.

(iv) We suggest that our results are consistent with both strangulation and RPS operating in these clusters, and increased merger activity occurring in the cluster outskirts at high redshift. Strangulation, a long time-scale process, may particularly be affecting high-mass galaxies in the cluster cores. RPS, a shorter time-scale process, may control our fraction of star-forming to quiescent galaxies, driving the trend that we see in the full cluster sample. Mergers and AGN provide a natural explanation for enhanced SF activity and quenching on short time-scales in the cluster outskirts at $z = 1.4$.

This study has probed the average SF properties of cluster galaxies relative to the field using a large cluster sample over a wide range in redshift. Individual cluster galaxy SF properties will be examined for high-redshift ($z = 1–2$) ISCS clusters using deep Herschel PACS (PI: Alexandra Pope) imaging in future work (Alberts et al., in preparation).

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APPENDIX A: DESCRIPTION OF BOÖTES SPIRE MAPS

Here, we describe our reduction of the *Herschel* SPIRE observations of the Boötes field, publicly available from HerMES (Oliver et al. 2012). The Boötes field was observed with 9 AORs in SPIRE PACS Parallel Mode between 2009 December 3 and 2010 January 1. A listing of the observation IDs can be seen in Table A1. Five of the AORs cover the central 2 square degrees of the field, while the other four AORS cover half of the full ~8 square degrees centred on 14:32:06 +34:16:48. At least two AORs overlap in each area of the map. Very few cluster galaxies are detected in the SPIRE maps; because of this, this work has focused on stacking analyses in order to probe the average SF in all cluster galaxies. We describe here additional details about the source catalogues and associated simulations in order to validate the map and flux measurements used in this study.

A1 Data reduction and catalogues

Data reduction was done using HIPE version 7 (Ott 2010). The 9 AORs were reduced separately up to level 2 following the standard pipeline with two exceptions: (1) deglitching was performed using the more advanced sigma-kappa deglitcher rather than the default wavelet deglitcher. The sigma-kappa deglitcher uses an iterative process to reject outliers after adaptive highpass filtering of the signal timeline. The final error maps were examined for bright pixels which may indicate missed glitches and the glitch mask was adjusted accordingly. (2) Due to striping in the maps, a high-order polynomial baseline removal was used instead of the default median baseline removal. Final, level 2 maps of each AOR were produced using the SPIRE CAL 7.0
tool. Astrometry corrections were derived from stacking bright MAGES 24 μm sources on the individual, reduced AORs. The stacked images were fitted with the SPIRE PSF, from which typical offsets of ~1 arcsec in RA and ~2 arcsec in Dec. were determined. Mosaicking was performed on the level 1 scans (which include deglitching) of all 9 AORs for each waveband (250, 350 and 500 μm) after the application of astrometry corrections and

### Table A1. Summary of Boötes AORs.

| ObsID      | Exposure time (s) | Operation day (OD) | RA     | Dec.    |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------|---------|
| 1342187711 | 14 809.0          | 203                | 14:32:07 | +34:16:55 |
| 1342187712 | 14 809.0          | 203                | 14:32:11 | +34:17:36 |
| 1342187713 | 14 809.0          | 203                | 14:32:09 | +34:17:28 |
| 1342188090 | 14 809.0          | 214                | 14:32:05 | +34:16:36 |
| 1342189108 | 14 374.0          | 240                | 14:32:02 | +34:19:14 |
| 1342188650 | 24 748.0          | 228                | 14:35:30 | +34:25:35 |
| 1342188651 | 24 748.0          | 228                | 14:28:42 | +34:09:38 |
| 1342188681 | 24 748.0          | 229                | 14:32:17 | +33:33:44 |
| 1342188682 | 24 748.0          | 229                | 14:31:35 | +34:59:08 |

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Table A2. SPIRE map statistics.

| Wavelength (µm) | FWHM (arcsec) | Pixel size (arcsec) pixel−1 | 5σ Depth (mJy) Inner | 5σ Depth (mJy) Outer | Confusion Noise (1σ) (mJy) | 90 per cent Comp. (UF) (mJy) Inner | 90 per cent Comp. (UF) (mJy) Outer | 90 per cent Comp. (MF) (mJy) Inner | 90 per cent Comp. (MF) (mJy) Outer |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 250 µm          | 18            | 6                           | 14.5                 | 26.5                 | 5.8                         | 20                                  | 33                                  | 18                                  | 25                                  |
| 350 µm          | 25            | 10                          | 11.5                 | 21.5                 | 6.2                         | 20                                  | 35                                  | 18                                  | 28                                  |
| 500 µm          | 36            | 14                          | 14.5                 | 26.0                 | 6.8                         | 22                                  | 35                                  | 22                                  | 28                                  |

*Nguyen et al. (2010).*

polymerase baseline removal. The error maps generated with each mosaic are the standard deviation of the data points falling into a given pixel and represent the associated instrument noise. Using the error maps, the 5σ depths of the inner (outer) portion of the 250, 350 and 500 µm maps are 14.5, 11.5 and 14.5 mJy (26.5, 21.5 and 26.0 mJy). This does not include confusion noise, which is 5.8, 6.2 and 6.8 mJy beam−1 for 250, 350 and 500 µm (Nguyen et al. 2010). These values are summarized in Table A2.

The maps were post-processed using a matched-filter technique which optimizes the S/N ratio for confusion-dominated submillimetre maps and improves source deblending by convolving the maps with a Gaussian which is narrower than the PSF of the observations (see Chapin et al. 2011). Source finding was performed by identifying local maxima in both the unfiltered (UF) and matched-filtered (MF) maps. SPIRE are normalized to have a zero mean baseline and units of Jy beam−1. This means that the flux density of the peak pixel provides an accurate estimation of the integrated flux density of a source. The instrument noise associated with each source is given by the corresponding pixel in the error map. The source detection threshold was set at 5σ, as determined by the error maps (which do not take into account confusion noise). To determine subpixel source locations, each detected source was weighed by the S/N in the surrounding pixels.

Extended sources were identified by eye and masked out if at least one axis exceeded 1.5 times the FWHM of the SPIRE beam. 13 extended sources were identified. In addition, a 4.8 square arcminute rectangular area centred on 14:33:11.8, +33:26:27 was masked in all maps due to bad pixels in the 500 µm map. Point source catalogues were generated after masking out the extended sources and bad pixel region. The 5σ catalogues for the UF maps contain 14 356, 10 641 and 3437 point sources for 250, 350 and 500 µm. The 5σ catalogues for the MF maps have 21 892, 13 692 and 5137 point sources.

A2 Completeness testing

Completeness simulations were performed on all six maps (UF and MF) for 250, 350 and 500 µm in order to quantify completeness, positional uncertainties and flux boosting. As the Herschel SPIRE PSF is nearly Gaussian, fake sources were inserted directly into the maps as Gaussians with the appropriate FWHM and with a peak value scaled to the desired flux. Inserting fake sources directly into the real map accounts for all sources of noise, including confusion noise. Given the size of the Boötes field, 100 sources can be inserted into both the inner and outer regions at a time without significantly altering the properties of the original map. We impose the restriction that no two fake sources can be placed within 100 arcsec of each other. Fake sources were given fluxes ranging from 6 to 10 mJy in steps of 2 mJy, 10 to 80 mJy in steps of 5 mJy and 100 to 200 mJy in steps of 100 mJy and placed in random positions. We generated 100 simulated maps, each with 100 fake sources in both the inner and outer regions, per flux bin per wavelength for the UF and MF maps.

In order to determine the recovery search radius, 10 000 random apertures of increasing size were placed on the UF and MF maps to find the radius at which there is a 5 per cent chance of randomly encountering a detected source in the inner region (which is more crowded due to its depth). The search radius adopted from this is 10 arcsec, 12 arcsec and 18 arcsec for 250, 350 and 500 µm for both the UF and MF maps. In the simulated maps, fake sources are then searched for using the appropriate search radius at their original location. A source is considered to be recovered if it is detected at ≥5σ and its position and flux are recorded as a function of input flux.

The 90 per cent completeness values are listed in Table A2 and an example of the completeness as a function of input flux for the 250 µm unfiltered map can be seen in Fig. A1. For fake sources which are recovered, we calculate the distance between the position at which the source is recovered and its original position and determine the probability, \(P(D > d; S)\), that a SPIRE source will be detected at a distance greater than \(D\) from its true position as a function of the source’s flux. The positional uncertainties for several source fluxes can be seen for the inner region of the 250 µm unfiltered map in Fig. A2. For a 20 mJy source, the probability that it will be detected within 7 arcsec, 8.5 arcsec and 13 arcsec for the 250, 350 and 500 µm for the UF maps and 5.5 arcsec, 8 arcsec and 12 arcsec for the MF maps is ≥90 per cent. In addition to the positional uncertainties, we quantified flux boosting across the map.

Figure A1. The completeness as a function of flux for fake sources inserted into the Boötes 250 µm UF map. The inner region (black diamonds) is approximately two times deeper than the outer region (blue triangles). The errors are Poisson errors.
due to source blending. The recovered fluxes of the fake sources were compared to their input flux as a function of input flux. We found that flux boosting is negligible for sources $\geq 20\text{ mJy}$ for all maps and rises steeply with decreasing flux.

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