ERRATUM: IRAS OBSERVATIONS OF IRREGULAR GALAXIES

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In "IRAS Observations of Irregular Galaxies" by D. Hunter **et al.** and "Measuring Star Formation Rates in Blue Galaxies" by J. Gallagher and D. Hunter in these proceedings, as well as in D. Hunter **et al.** (1986, **Ap. J.**, 303, 171), galactic blue luminosities are based on standard optical definitions. Thus we derive L_B from the blue absolute magnitude M_B using

$$L_B = 7.81\times10^{34}\ \mathrm{dex}(-0.4\ M_B)\ \mathrm{erg\ s^{-1}}, \qquad (1)$$

or from the in band flux derived via

$$f_B = \int B_\lambda S_\lambda(B)d\lambda = \mathrm{dex}\ (-0.4B_T - 5.19)\ \mathrm{erg\ s^{-1}\ cm^{-2}}, \qquad (2)$$

where $S_\lambda(B)$ is the Johnson B response function.

However, the L_B system adopted by de Jong **et al.** (1984, **Ap. J. (Letters)**, 278, L67) for spiral galaxies was based on quasi-bolometric (rather than in band) fluxes given by

$$f^*_B = \lambda_B\ f_\lambda(4400\ \mathrm{A})\ \mathrm{erg\ s^{-1}\ cm^{-2}}. \qquad (3)$$

The L^*_B on this system are a factor of 4.5 times larger than the L_B from eq. (1). Thus our statements that the L(IR)/L(B) ratios for irregular galaxies are systematically higher than those of spirals are an incorrect result of comparing data on two different L_B systems. In fact, the irregulars cover roughly the same range in L(IR)/L(B) as the spirals when a consistent L_B system is used. A corrected L(IR)/L(B) versus S(100)/S(60) plot is given below.