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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 $L_{\rm B}$ from the blue absolute magnitude $M_{\rm B}$ using

$$L_{\rm B} = 7.81 \times 10^{34} \, \text{dex}(-0.4 \, \text{M}_{\rm B}) \, \text{erg s}^{-1},$$
 (1)

or from the in band flux derived via

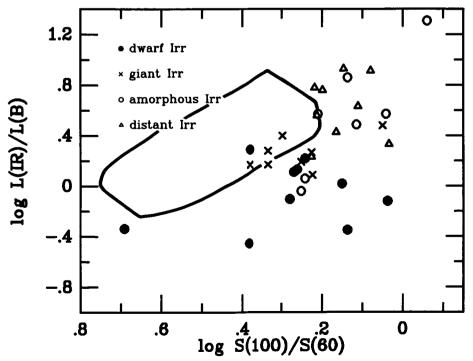
$$f_B = \int B_{\lambda} S_{\lambda}(B) d\lambda = dex (-0.4B_T - 5.19) erg s^{-1} cm^{-2},$$
 (2)

where $S_1(B)$ is the Johnson B response function.

However, the $L_{\rm B}$ 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

$$f_B^* = \lambda_B f_{\lambda}(4400 \text{ A}) \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-2}$$
 (3)

The L*B on this system are a factor of 4.5 times <u>larger</u> than the LB 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 LB systems. In fact, the irregulars cover roughly the same range in L(IR)/L(B) as the spirals when a consistent LB system is used. A corrected L(IR)/L(B) versus S(100)/S(60) plot is given below.



Carol J. Lonsdale Persson (Editor) Star Formation in Galaxies