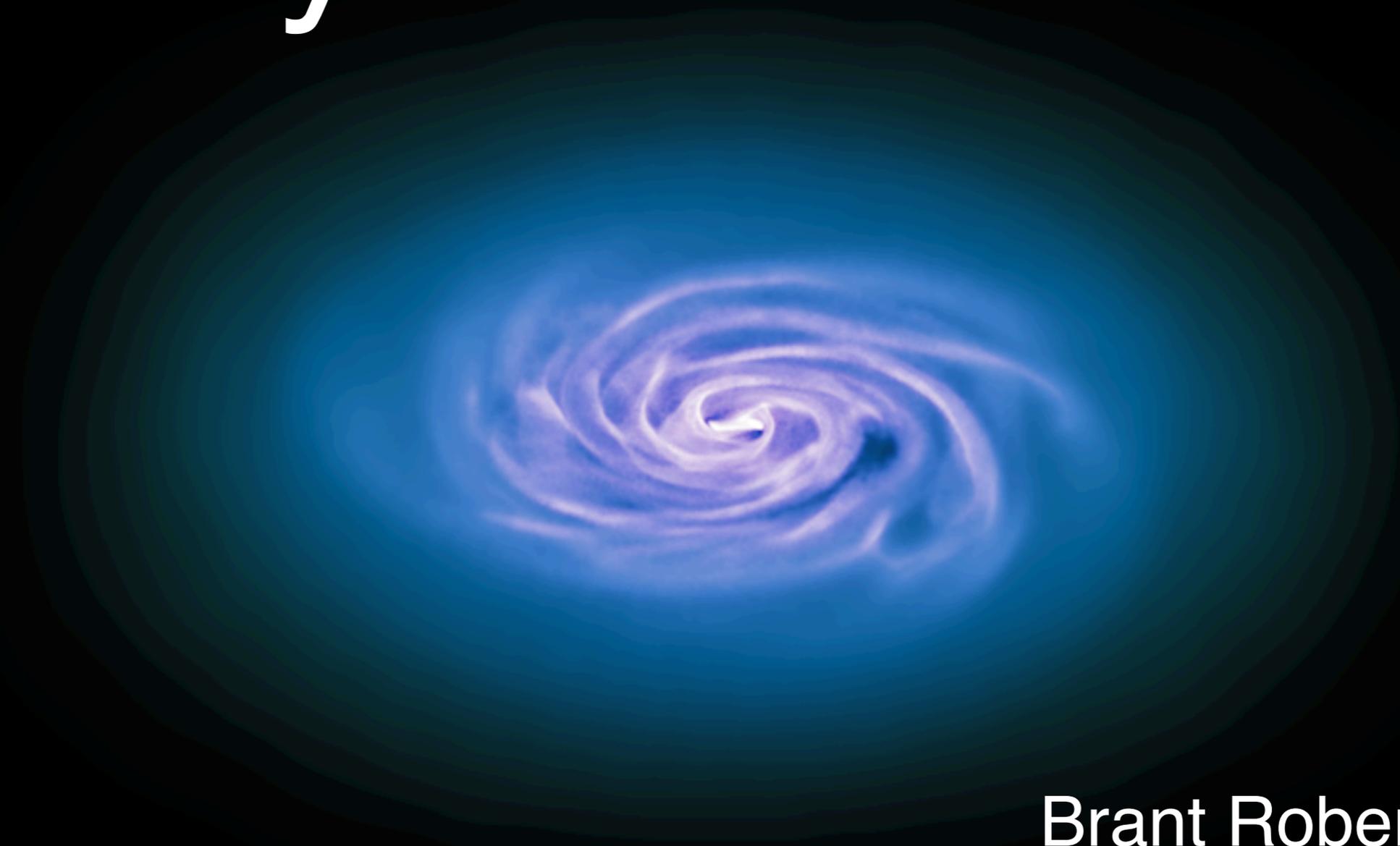


Unsolved Problems in  
Astrophysics and Cosmology:  
**Galaxy Formation**

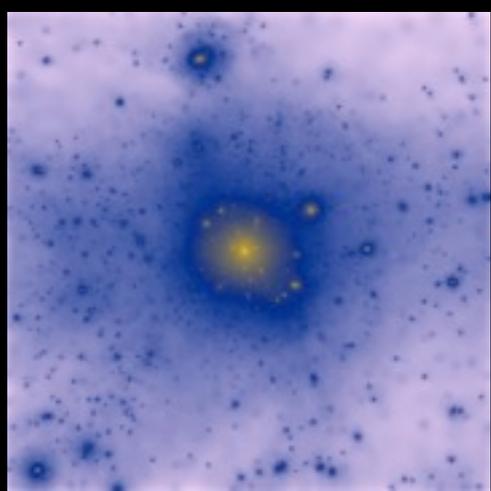


**Brant Robertson**

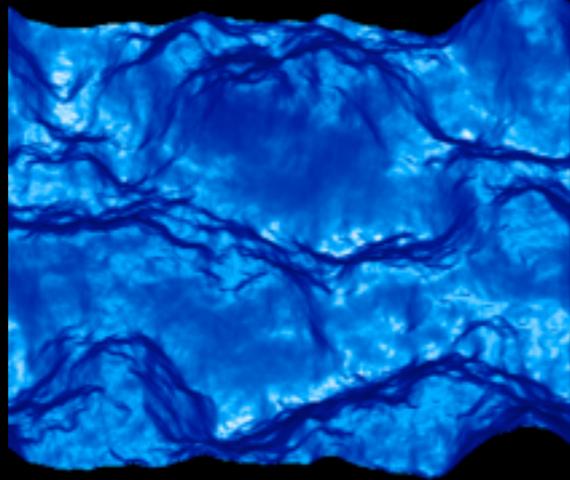
*Hubble Fellow*

California Institute of Technology

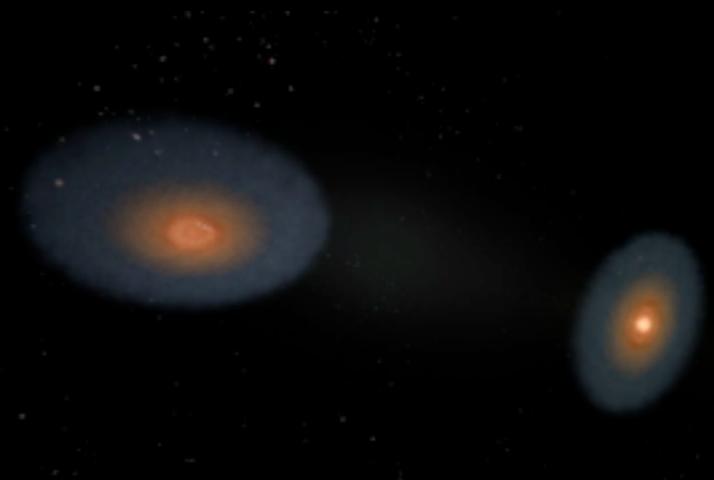
[brant@astro.caltech.edu](mailto:brant@astro.caltech.edu)



Nonlinear Dynamics



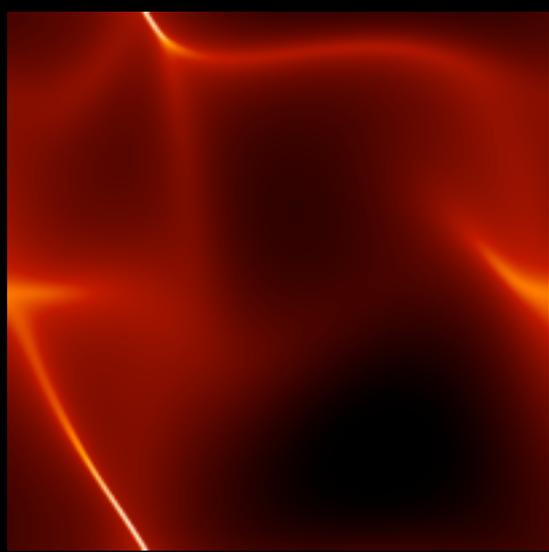
CDM Power Spectrum



AGN Feedback

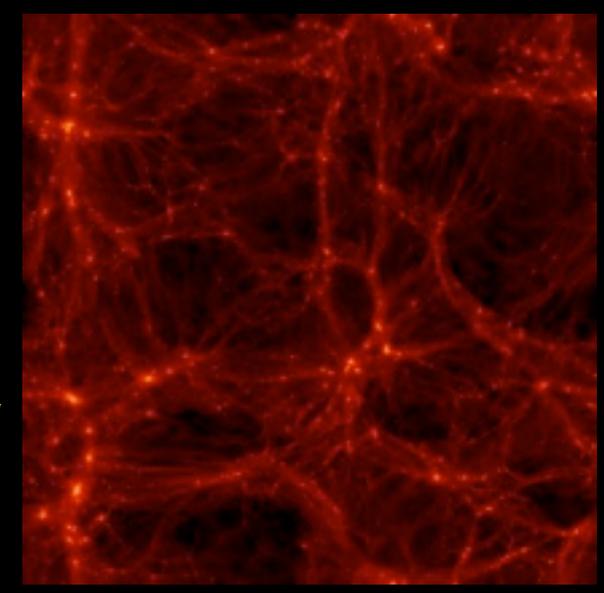


Reionization



Supersonic Turbulence

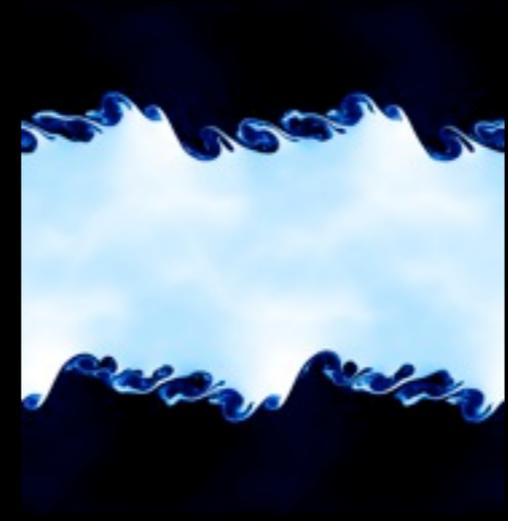
The modern theory of cosmological galaxy formation is a synthesis of many physical ideas; these are but a few salient examples. The array of operative physics makes galaxy formation a fun area to work in, but also presents a variety of unsolved problems....



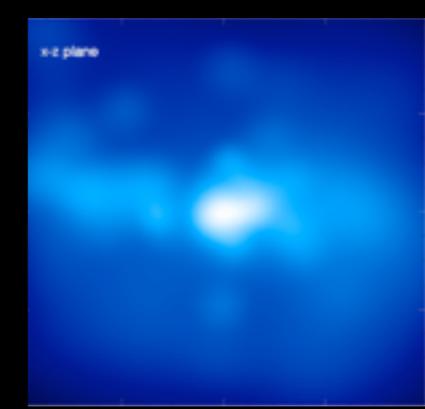
Hierarchical Clustering



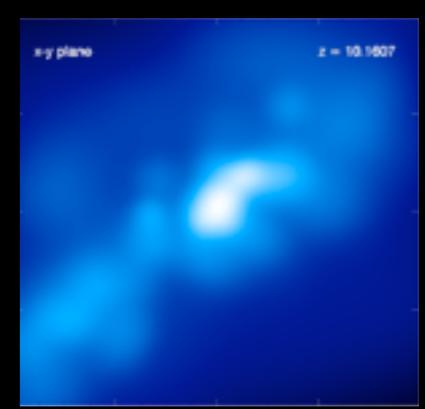
DM Particle Physics



Hydrodynamics



Molecular, Atomic, & Bremsstrahlung Cooling



Molecular, Atomic, & Bremsstrahlung Cooling

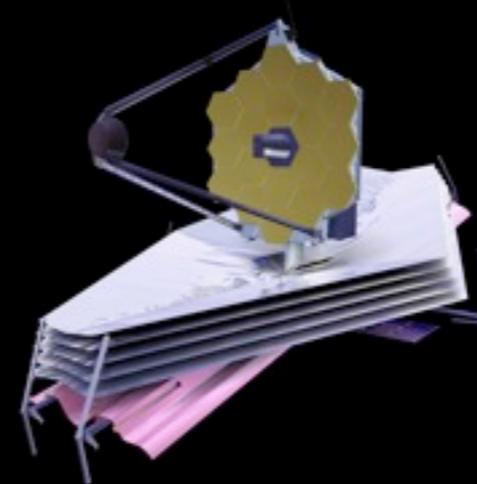


Star Formation + Supernovae Feedback

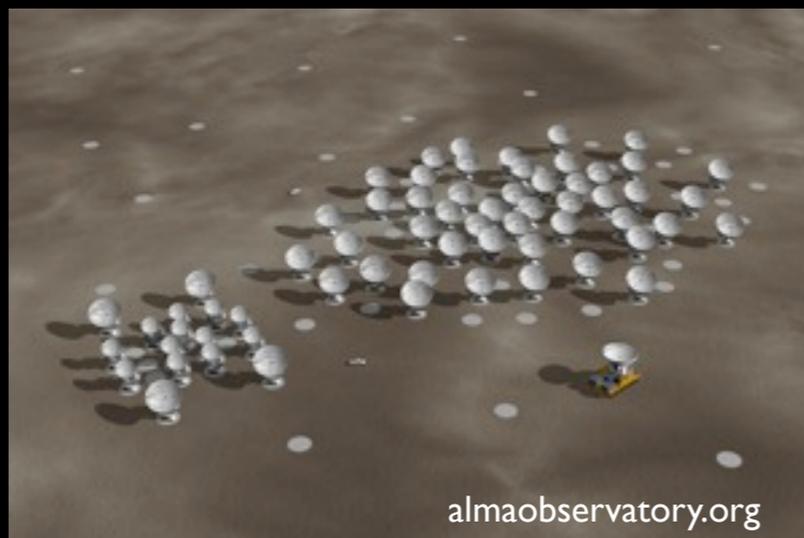
# A Transformative Decade(+) for Observational Astronomy



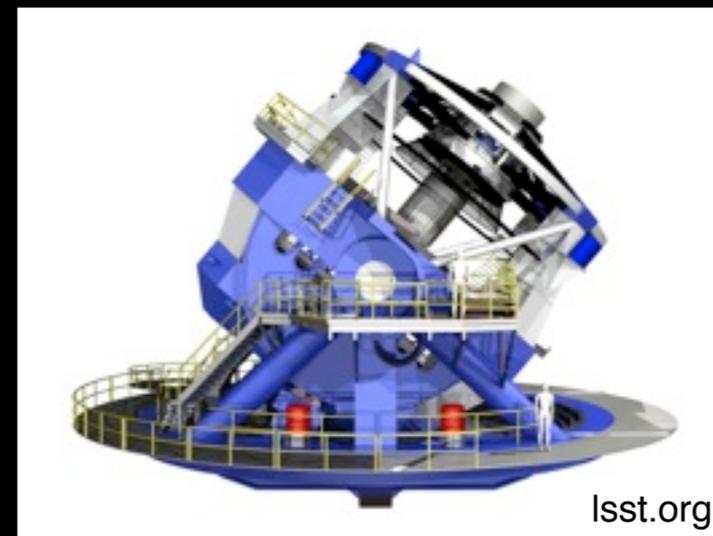
20-40m Ground-Based Telescopes



6m Space-Borne IR Telescopes



Large-Scale Radio Arrays



8m Telescope All-Sky Synoptic Surveys

# The Theory of Galaxy Formation Also Needs Transformative Improvement!



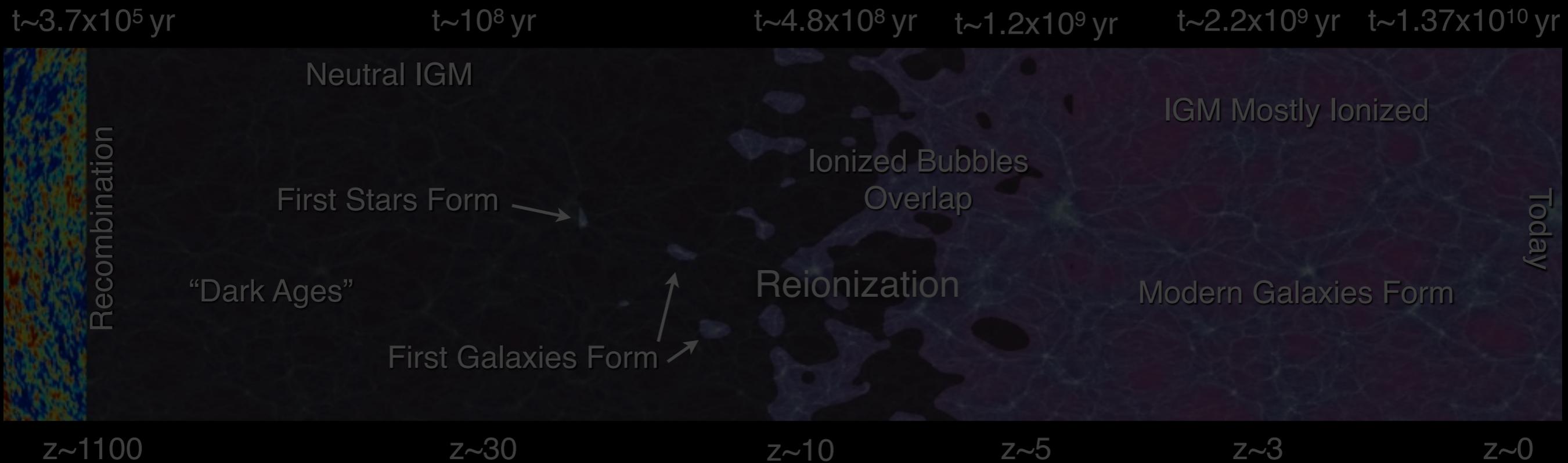
“Tremendous progress has been made over the last decade in establishing a broad cosmological framework in which galaxies and large-scale structure develop hierarchically over time, as a result of gravitational instability of material dominated by dark matter. However, there remain many unanswered questions... most of this uncertainty relates to our poor understanding of the complex baryonic processes that must be included in any successful theory of galaxy formation: cooling, star formation, feedback, merging.” - [Thirty Meter Telescope Science Case](#)

# The Theory of Galaxy Formation Also Needs Transformative Improvement!

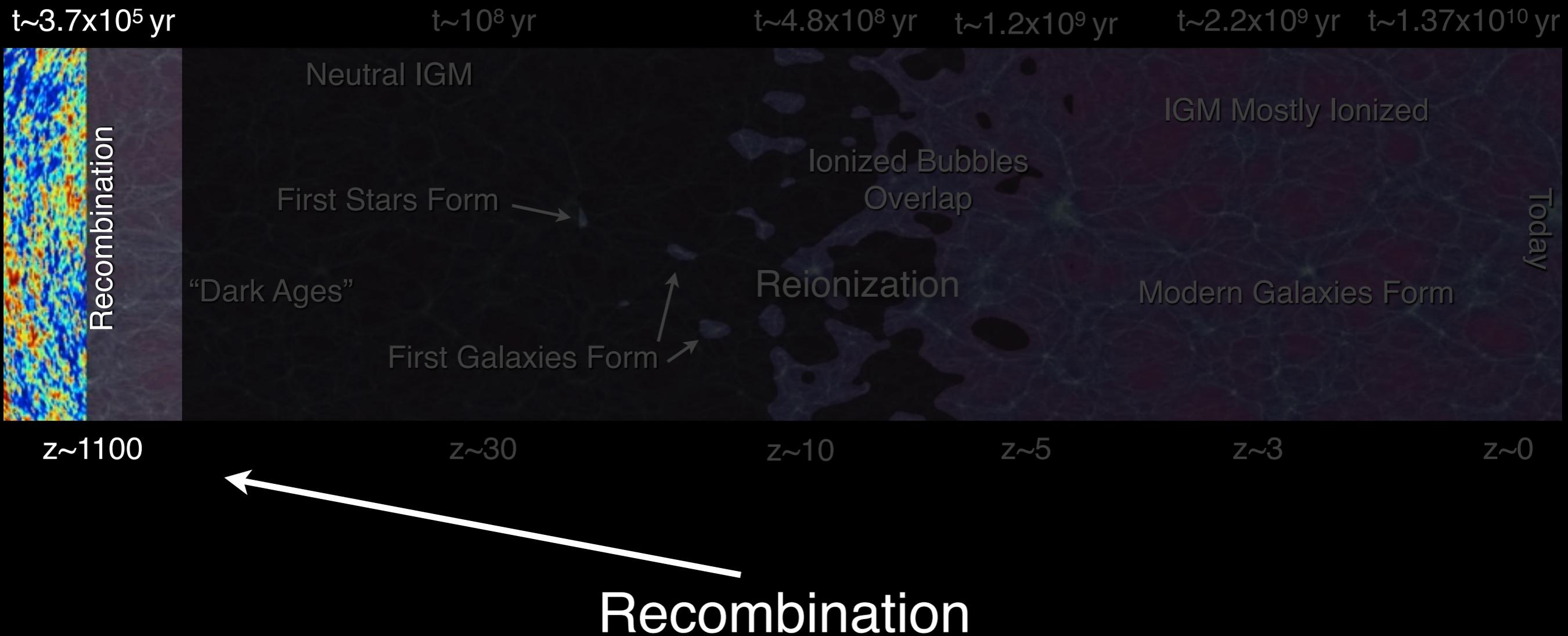


“Tremendous progress has been made over the last decade in establishing a broad cosmological framework in which galaxies and large-scale structure develop hierarchically over time, as a result of gravitational instability of material dominated by dark matter. **However, there remain many unanswered questions... most of this uncertainty relates to our poor understanding of the complex baryonic processes that must be included in any successful theory of galaxy formation: cooling, star formation, feedback, merging.**” - **Thirty Meter Telescope Science Case**

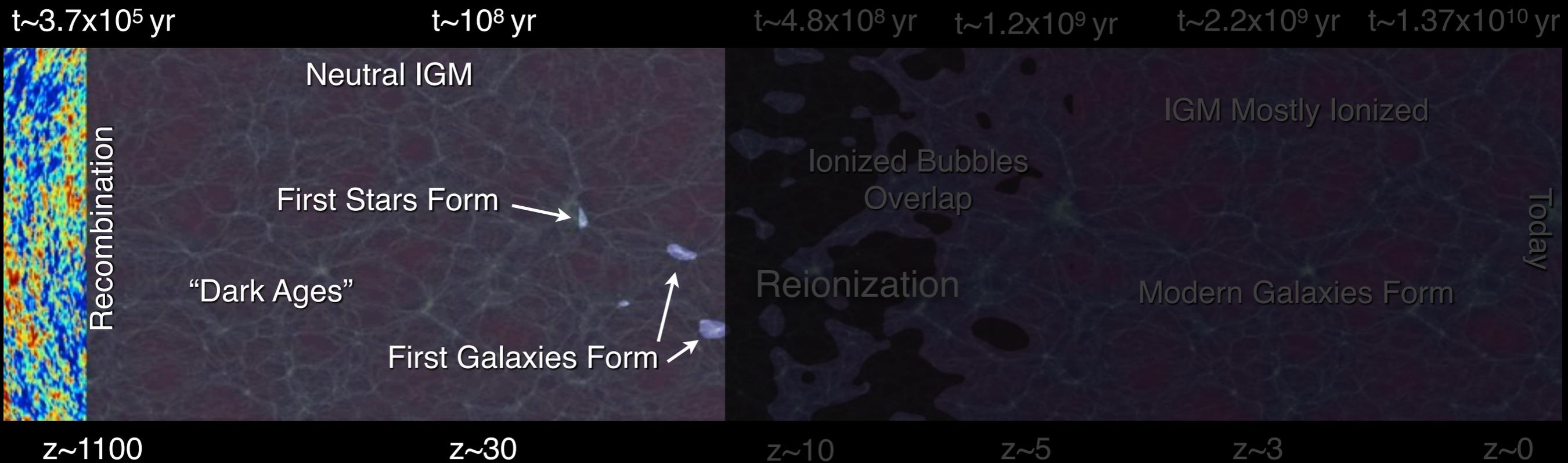
# Observable Cosmological History



# Observable Cosmological History

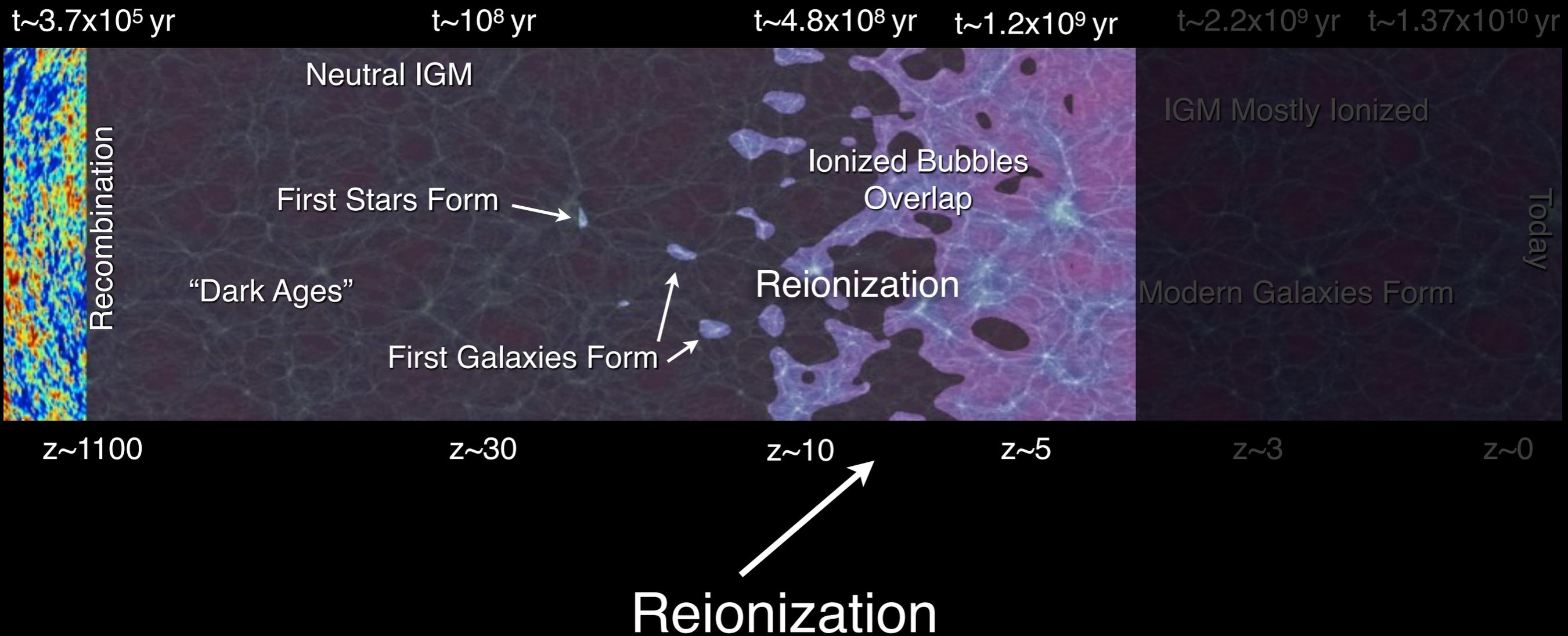


# Observable Cosmological History

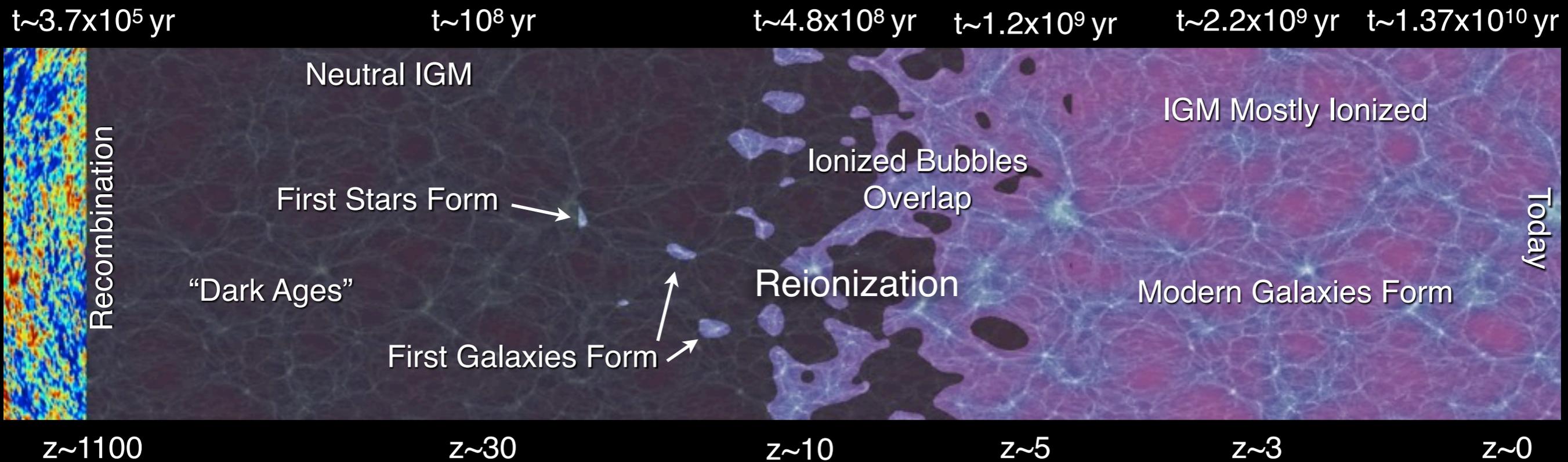


First Light / “Cosmic Dawn”

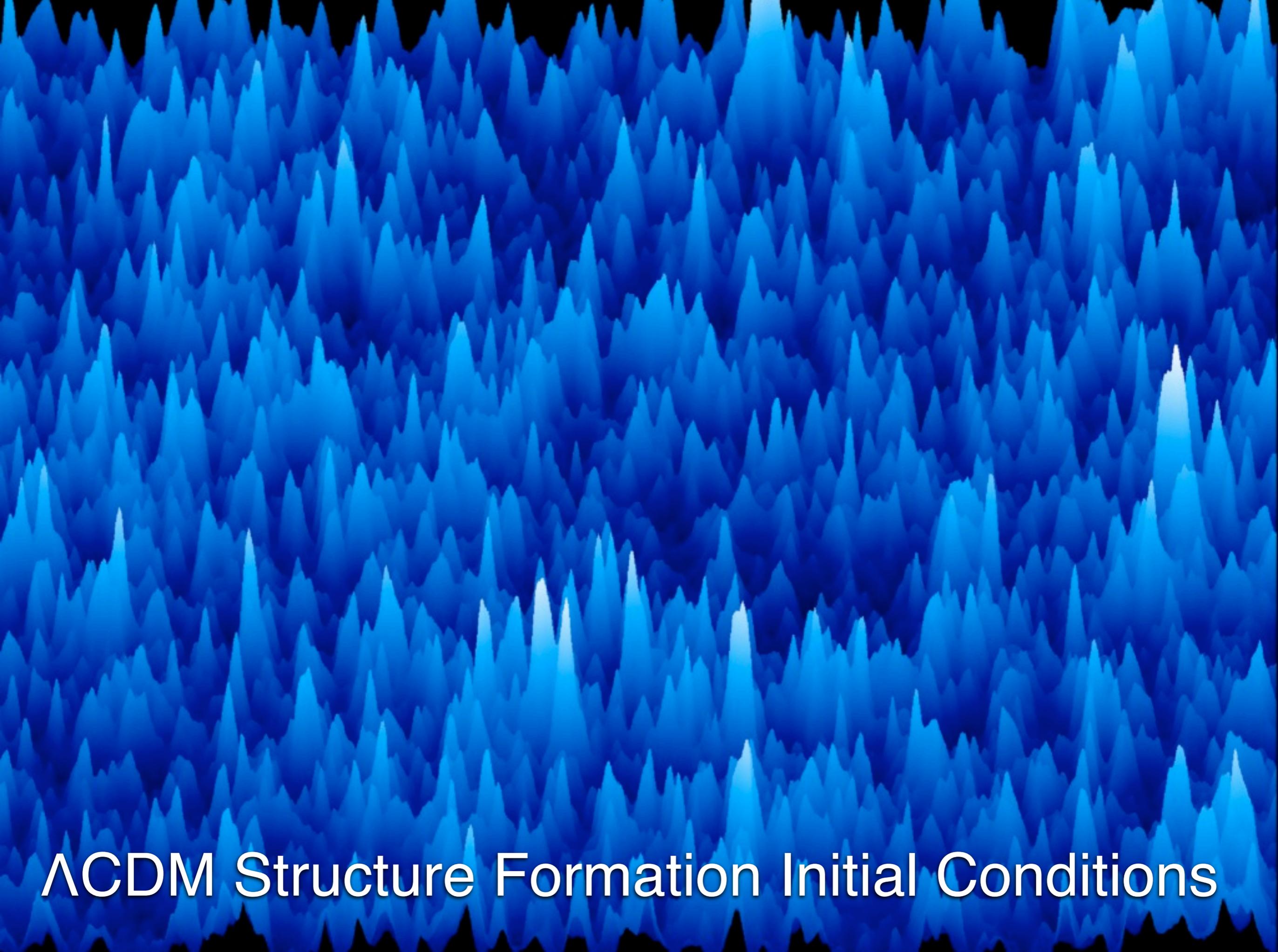
# Observable Cosmological History



# Observable Cosmological History



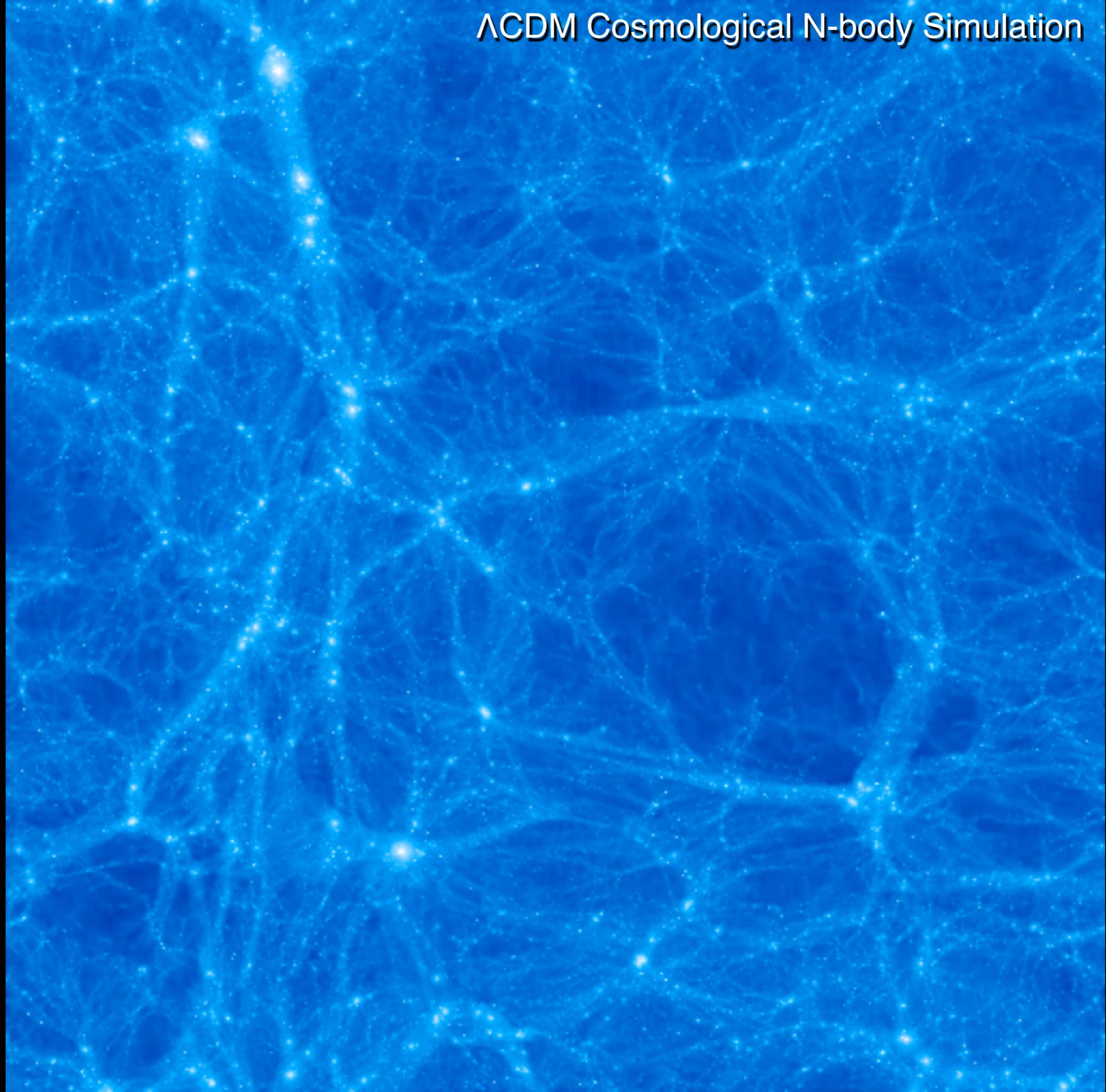
Epoch of Modern Galaxy Formation



$\Lambda$ CDM Structure Formation Initial Conditions

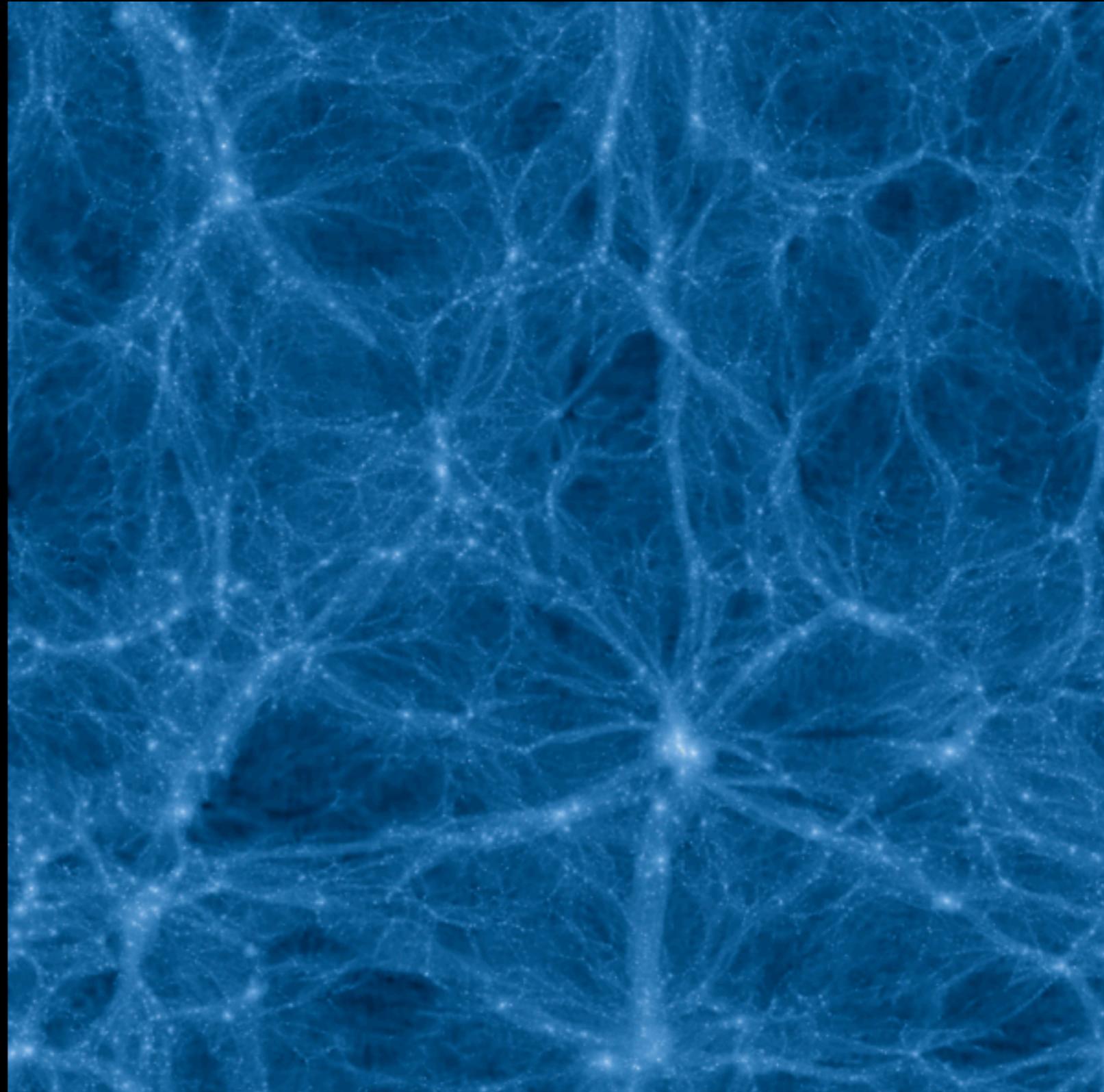
$\Lambda$ CDM Cosmological N-body Simulation

80 Mpc/h Comoving



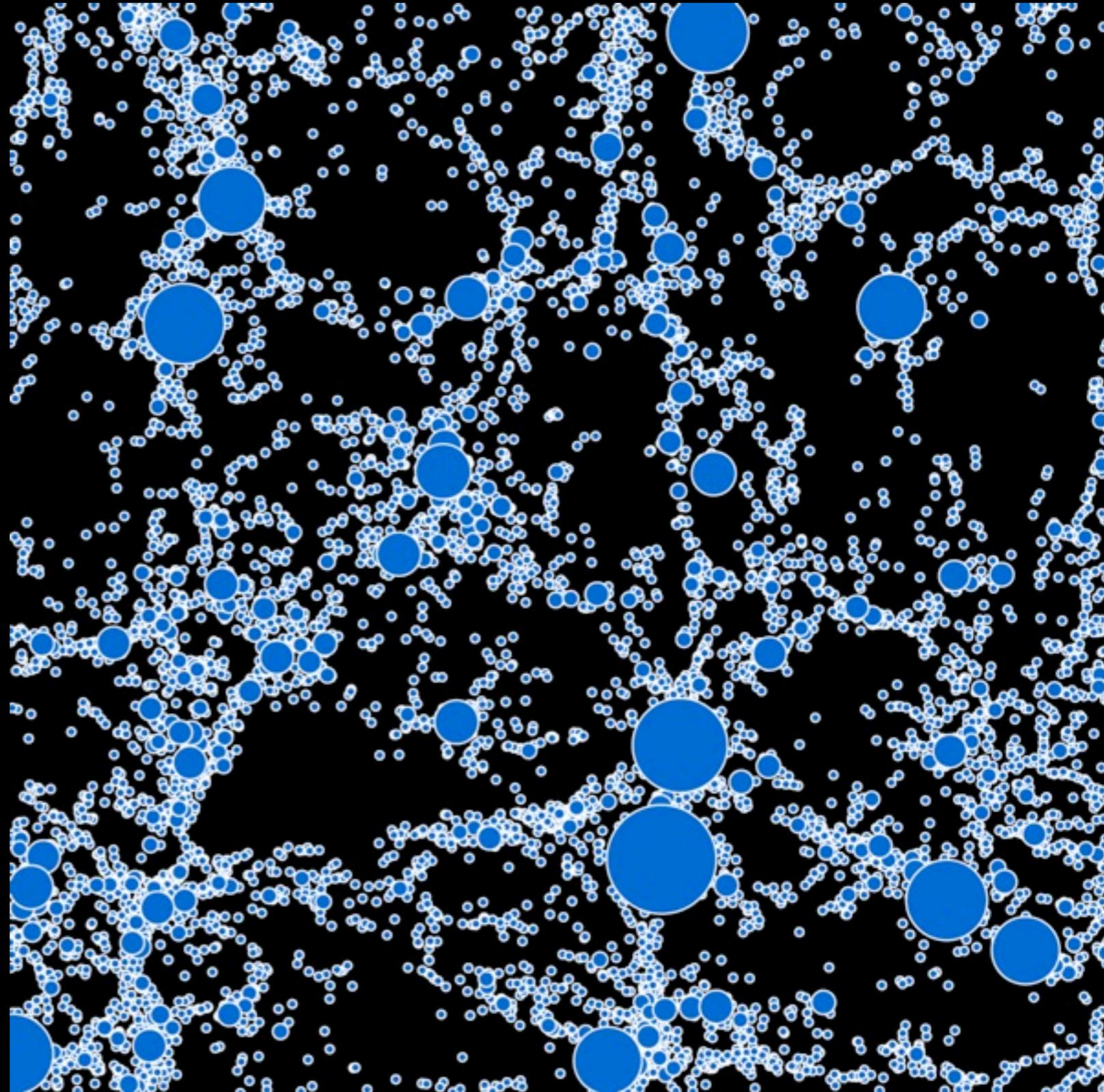
# An Overview of Galaxy Formation

Large-scale structures form in dark matter overdensities



# An Overview of Galaxy Formation

Gravitationally-bound dark matter halos (blue circles) form at the peaks of density field.



# Gas Cooling Rates

High  
↓  
Temperature  
↓  
Low

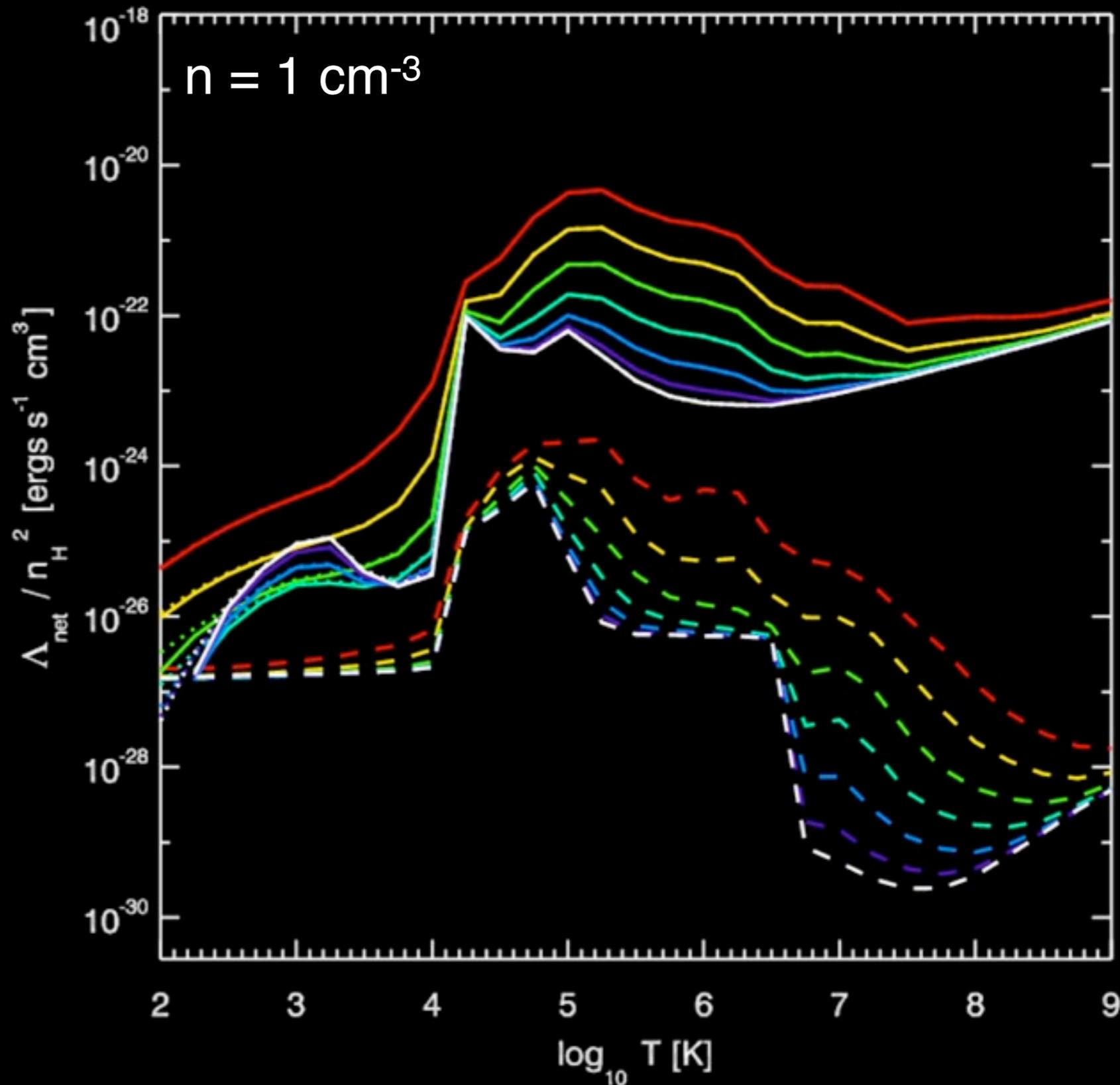
Bremsstrahlung

Metal line cooling

H+He collisional  
ionization +  
recombination

Atomic fine  
structure lines

Molecular coolants



$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = -2$

$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = -1$

$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = 0$

$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = 1$

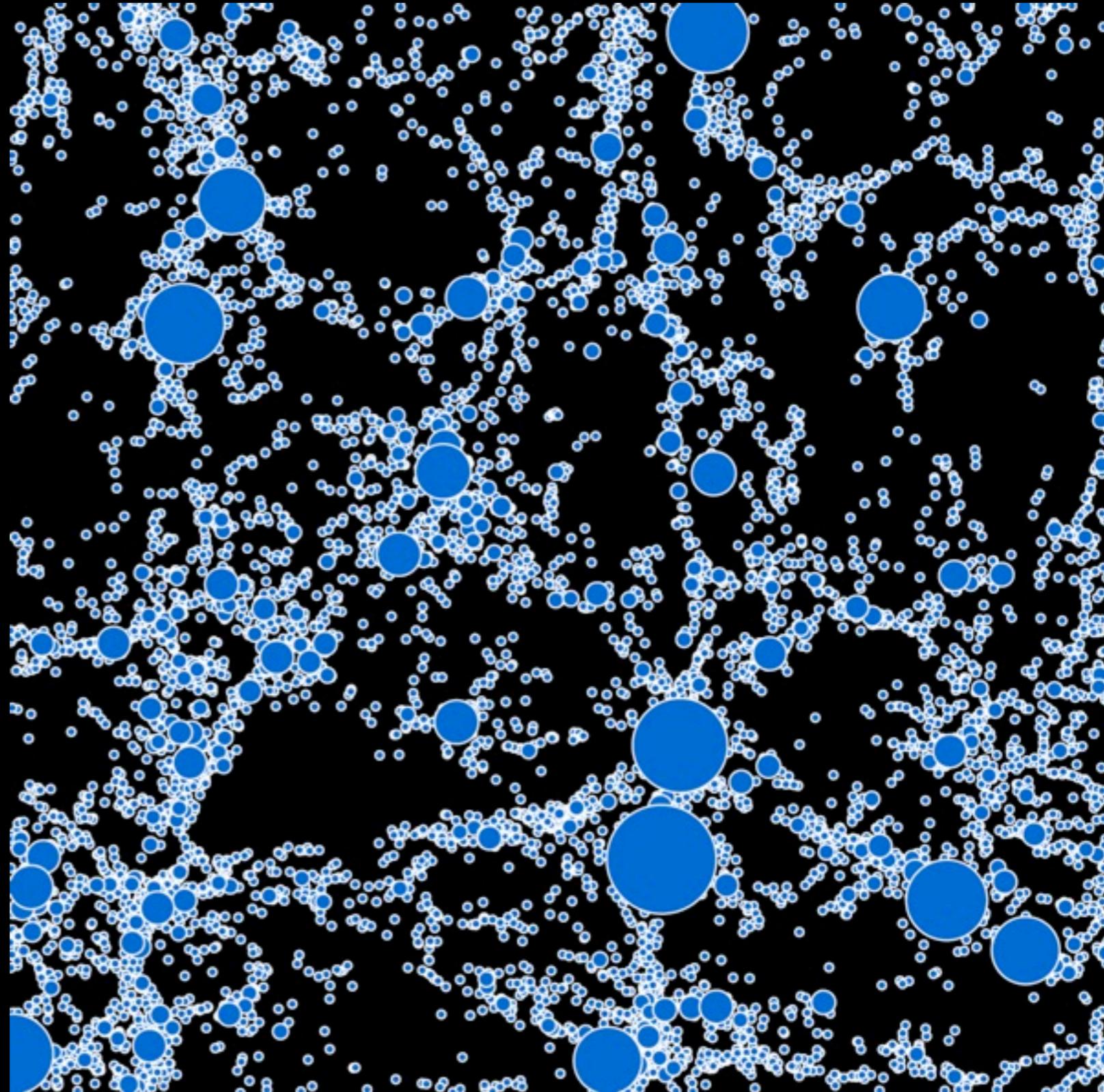
$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = -1.5$

$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = -0.5$

$\log_{10} Z/Z_{\text{sun}} = 0.5$

# An Overview of Galaxy Formation

Gas cooling allows for the formation of dense baryonic components at the centers of dark matter halos.

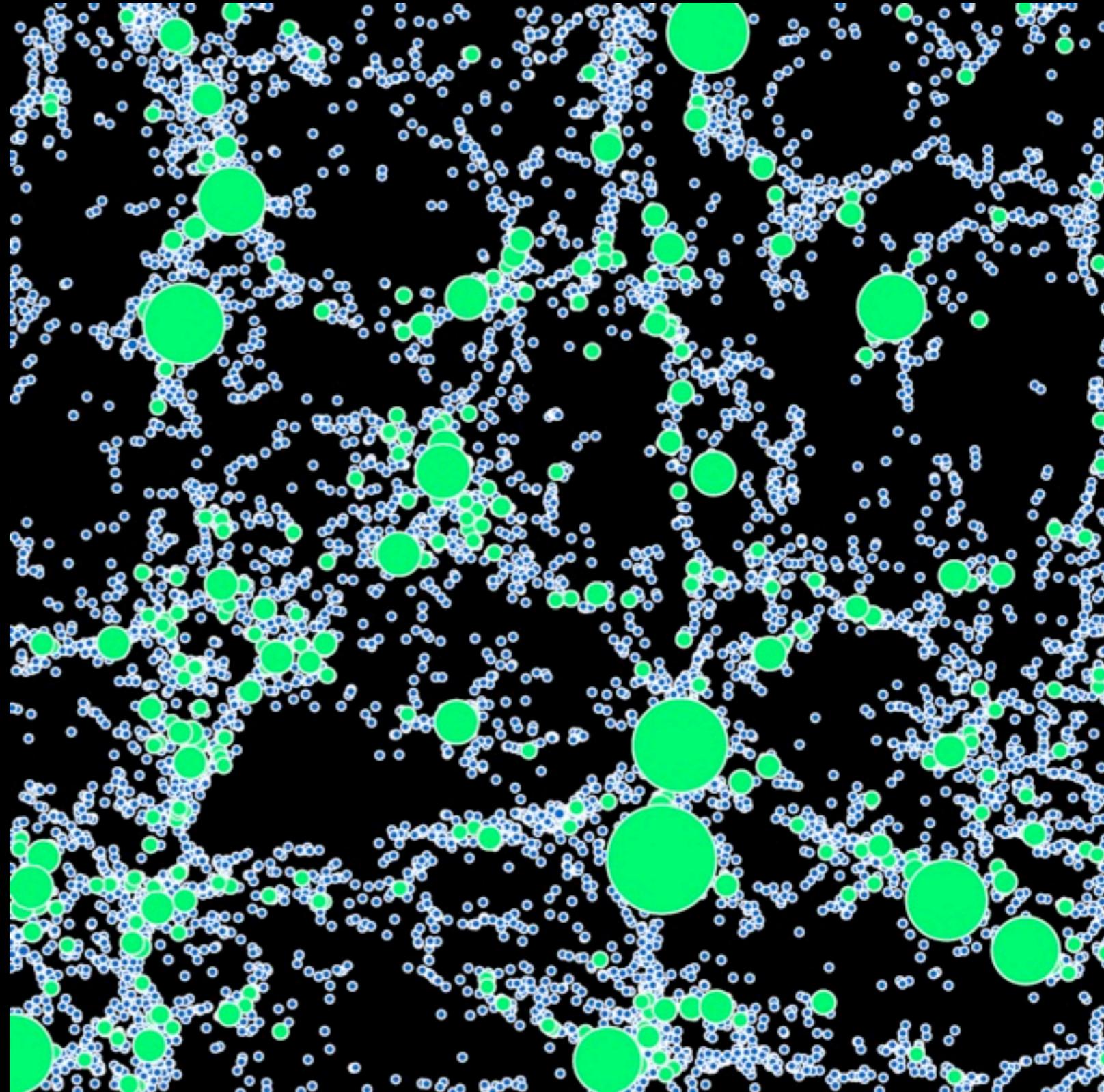


# An Overview of Galaxy Formation

Gas cooling allows for the formation of dense baryonic components at the centers of dark matter halos.

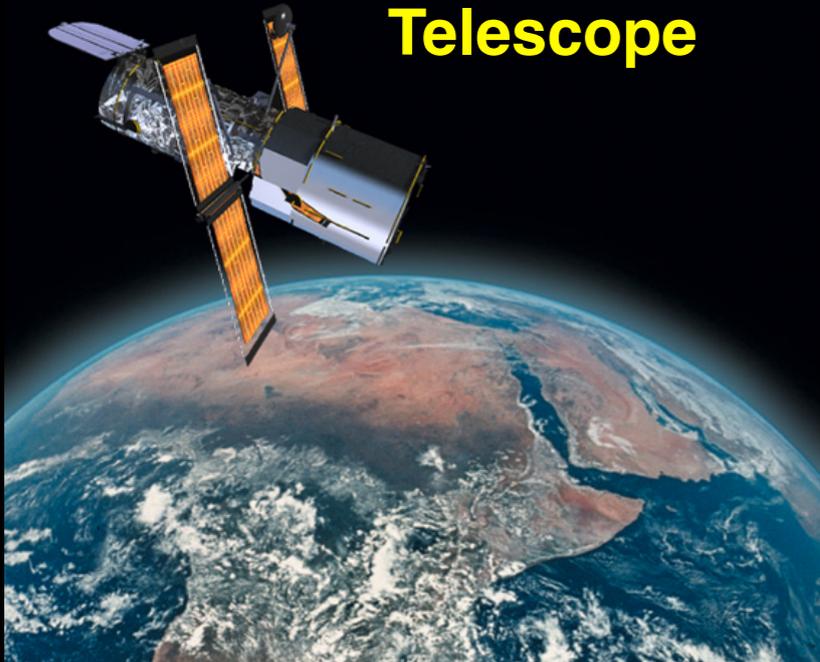
Massive dark matter halos can eventually form baryonic galaxies (green circles).

Low-mass galaxy formation suppressed  $\rightarrow$  inefficient cooling / feedback?

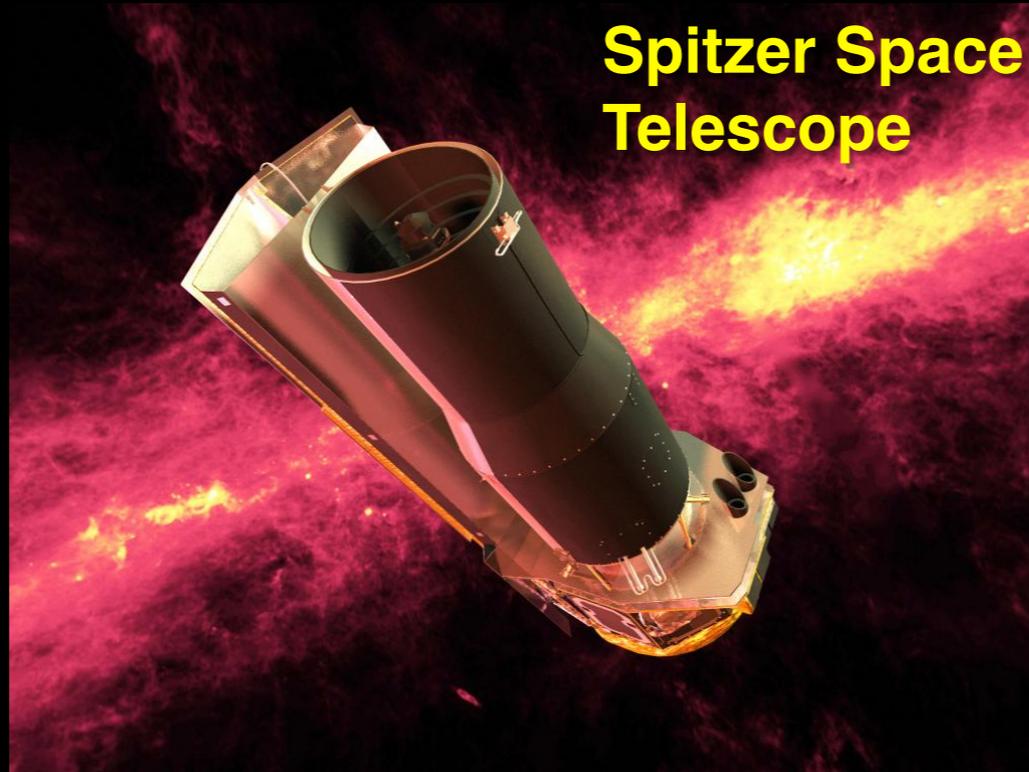


# Current Space-Based Facilities For Learning About Galaxy Formation

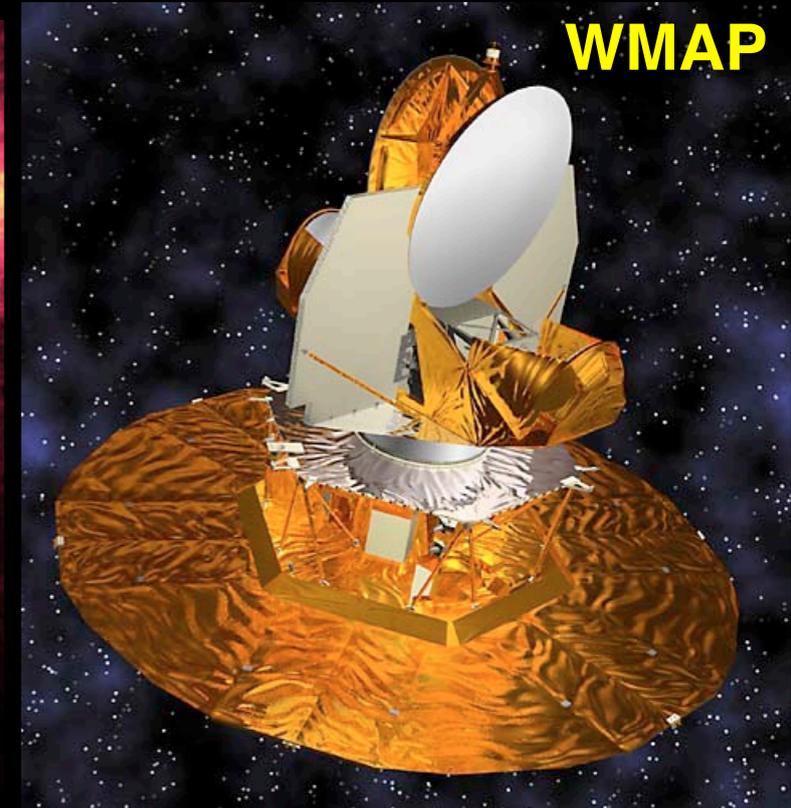
**Hubble Space  
Telescope**



**Spitzer Space  
Telescope**

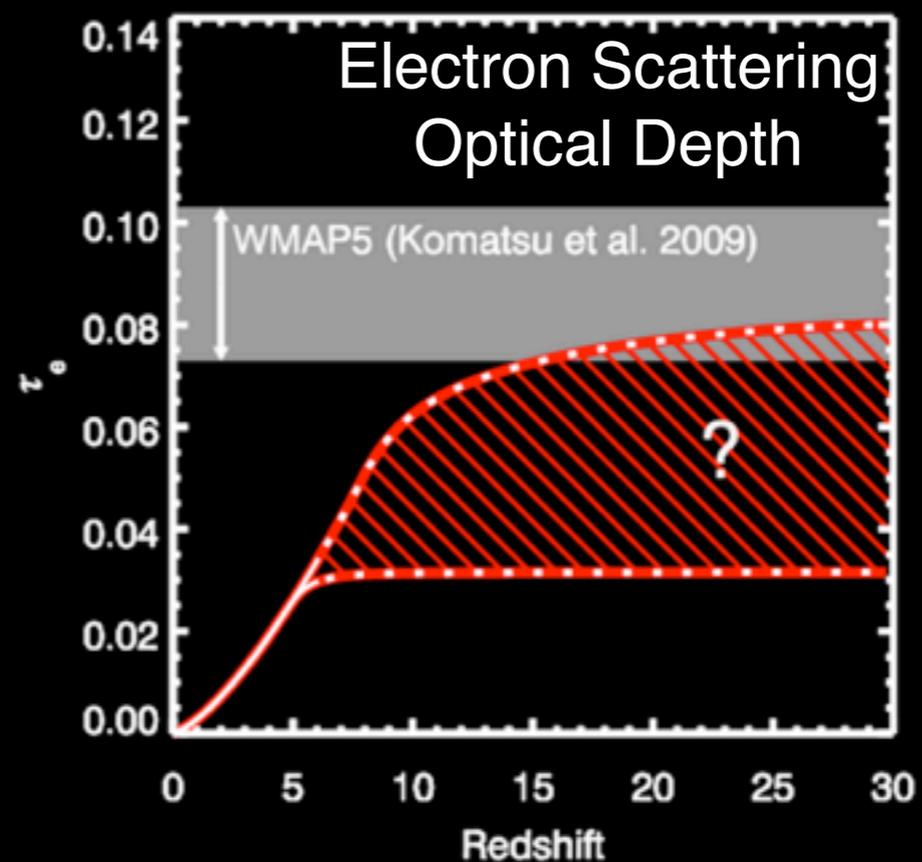
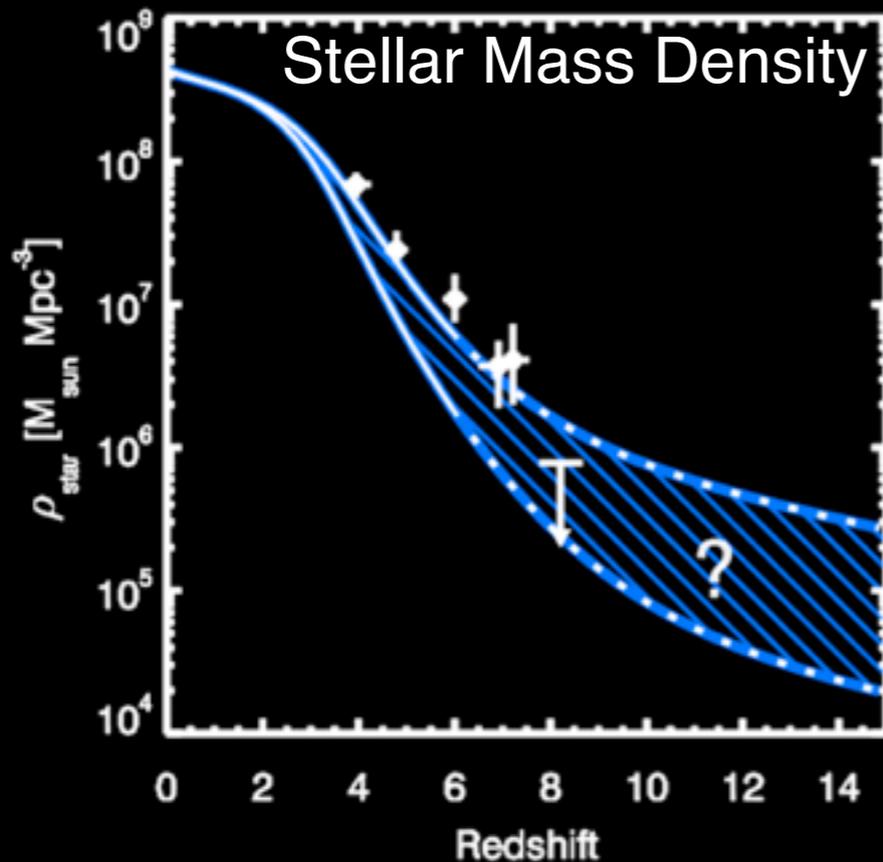
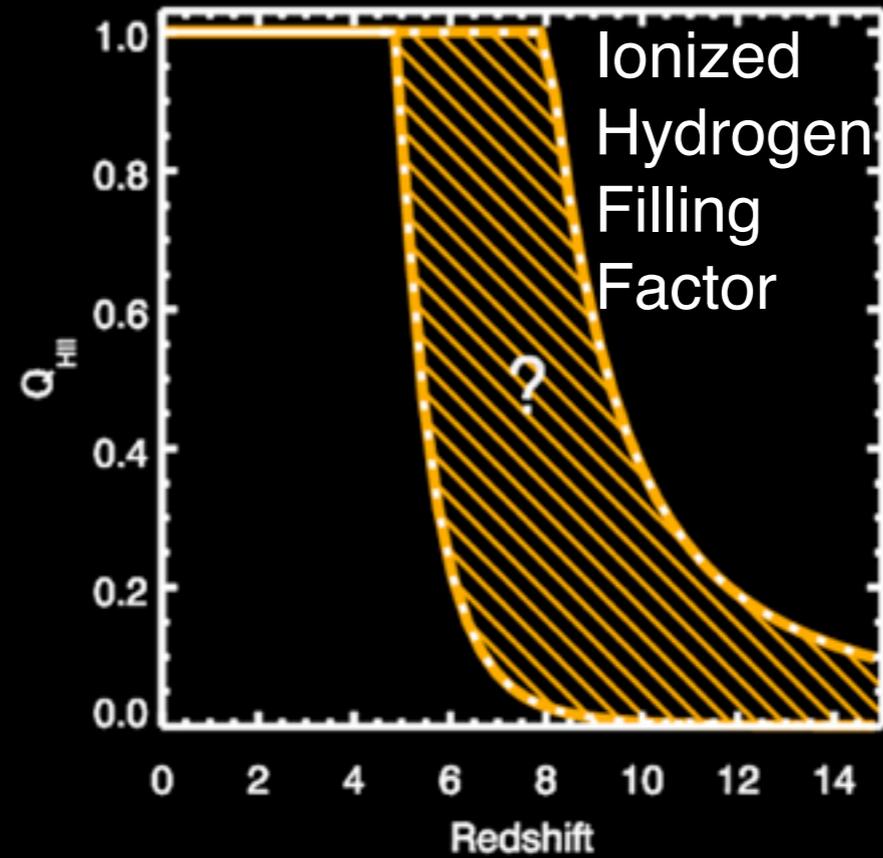
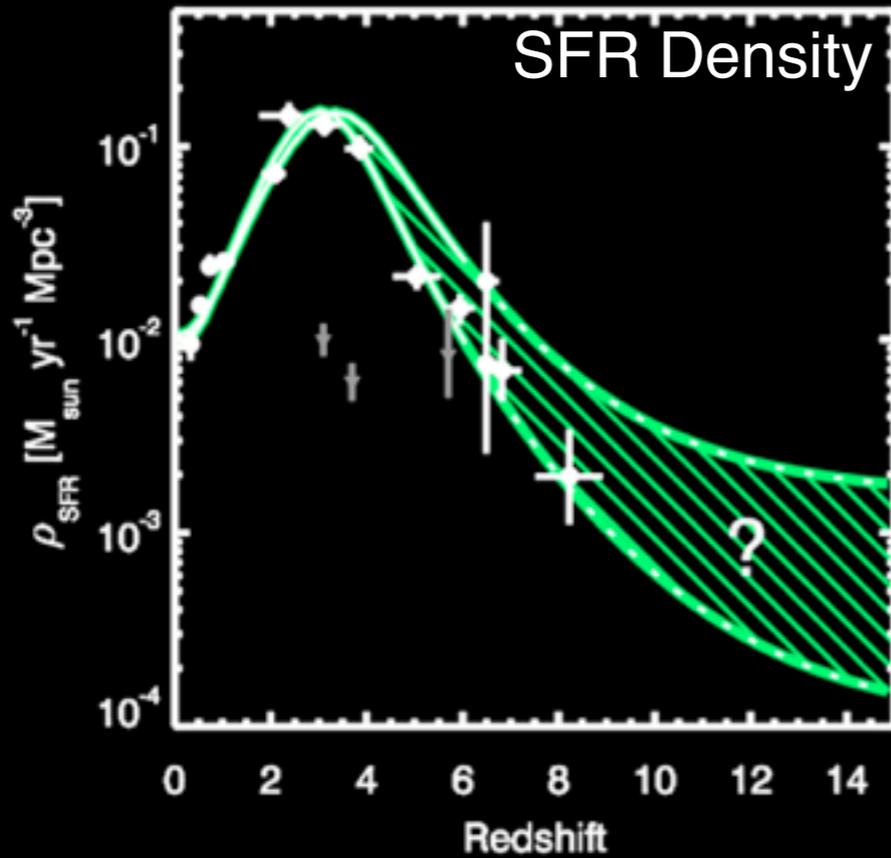


**WMAP**



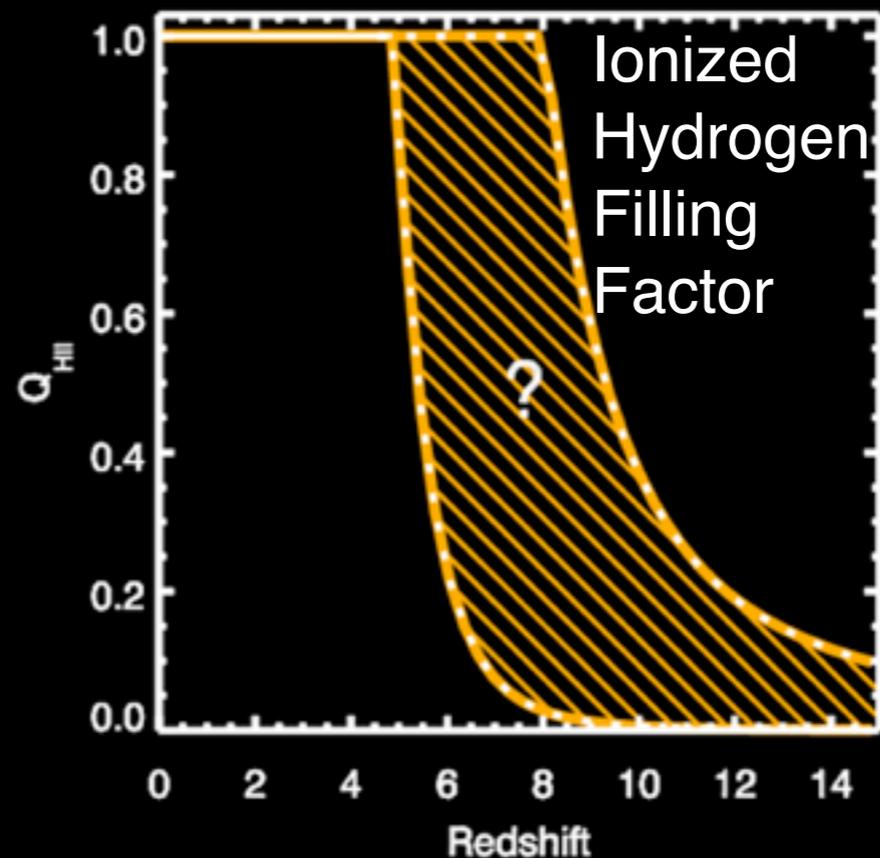
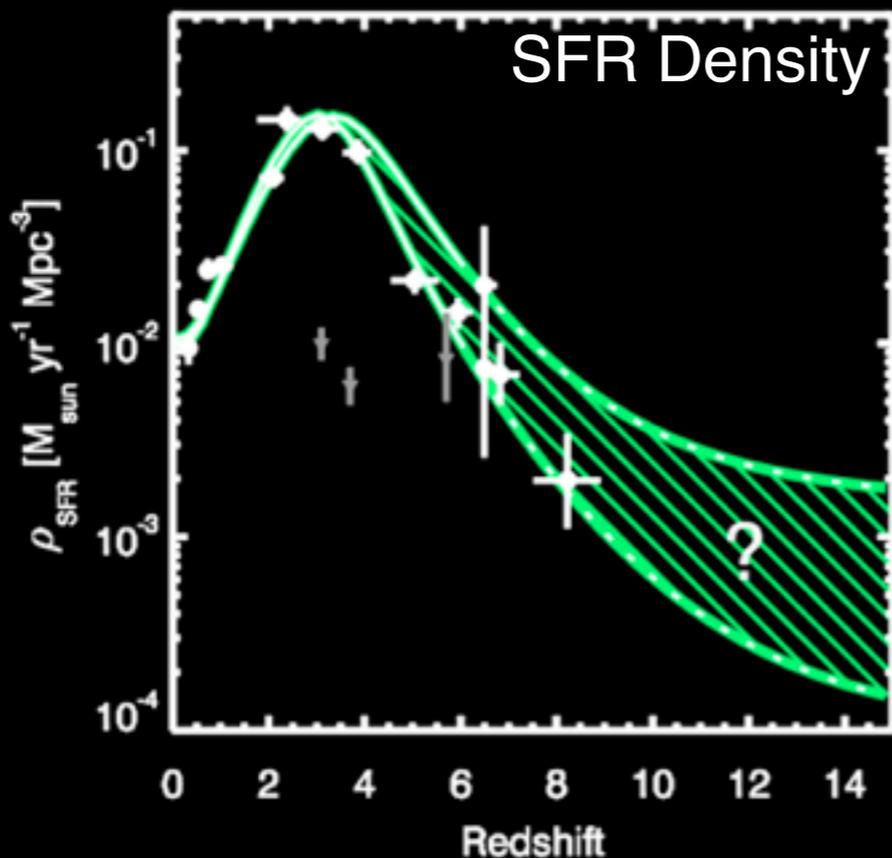
- *HST* - High-resolution imaging in near UV to near IR → discovery
- *SST* - 3.6 & 4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  photometry → stellar mass constraints
- *WMAP* - Thomson optical depth → global reionization constraint

# History of Galaxy Formation

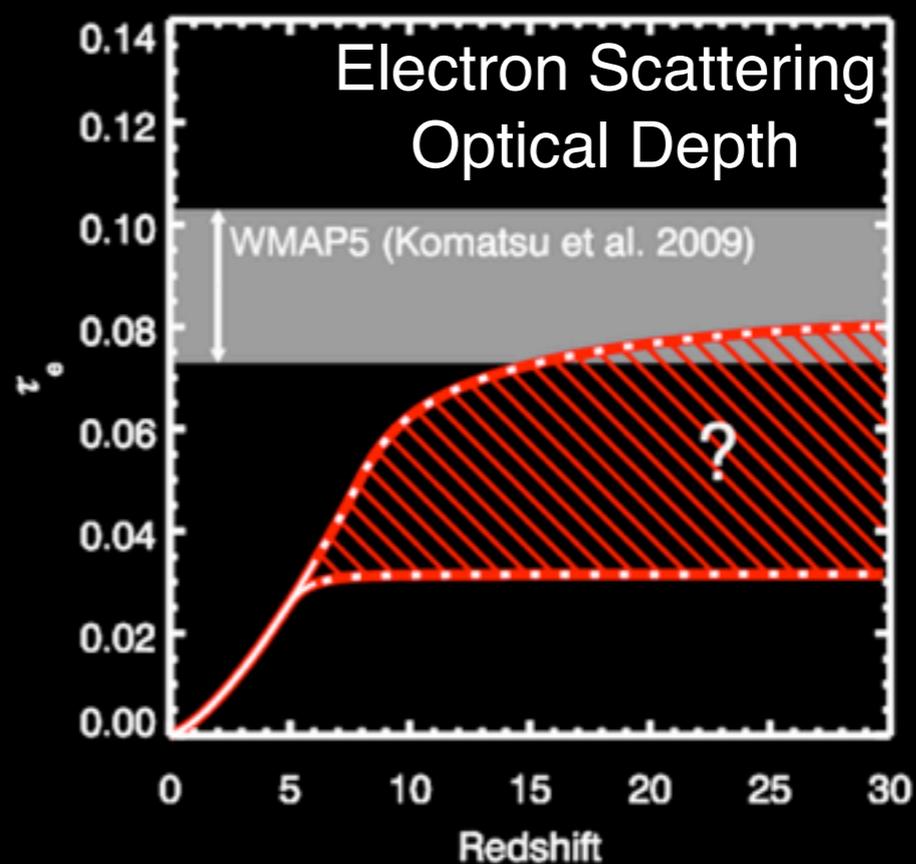
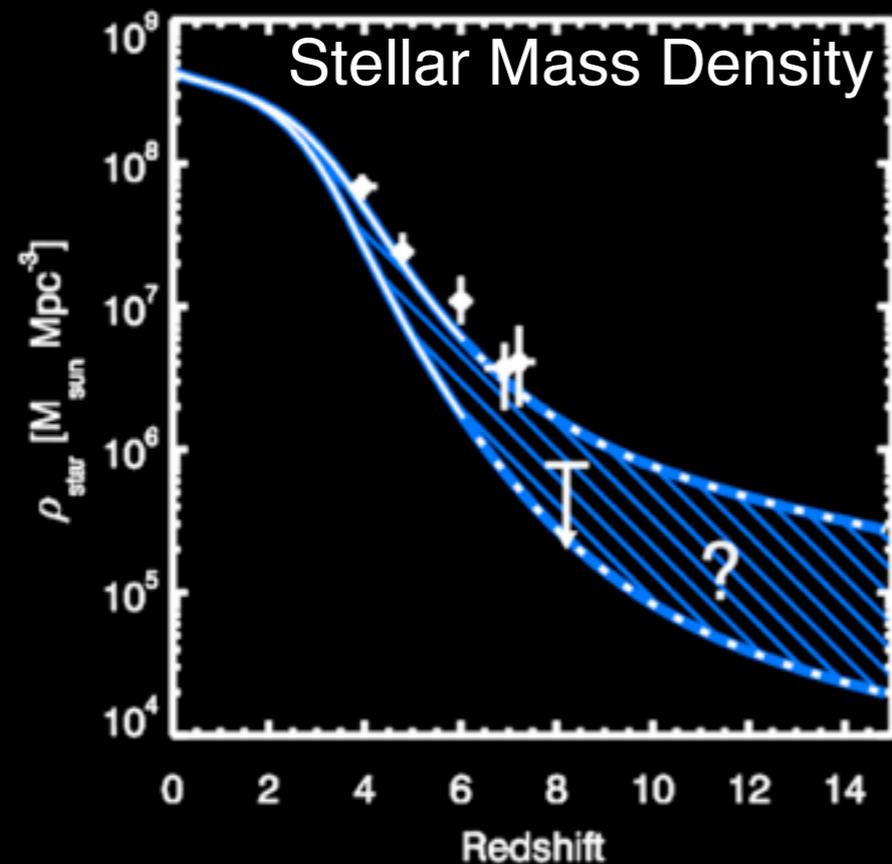
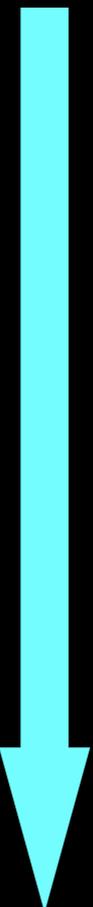


Robertson et al., *Nature*, 468, 49 (2010d)

Integrate ionizing photon production rate



Integrate star formation rate

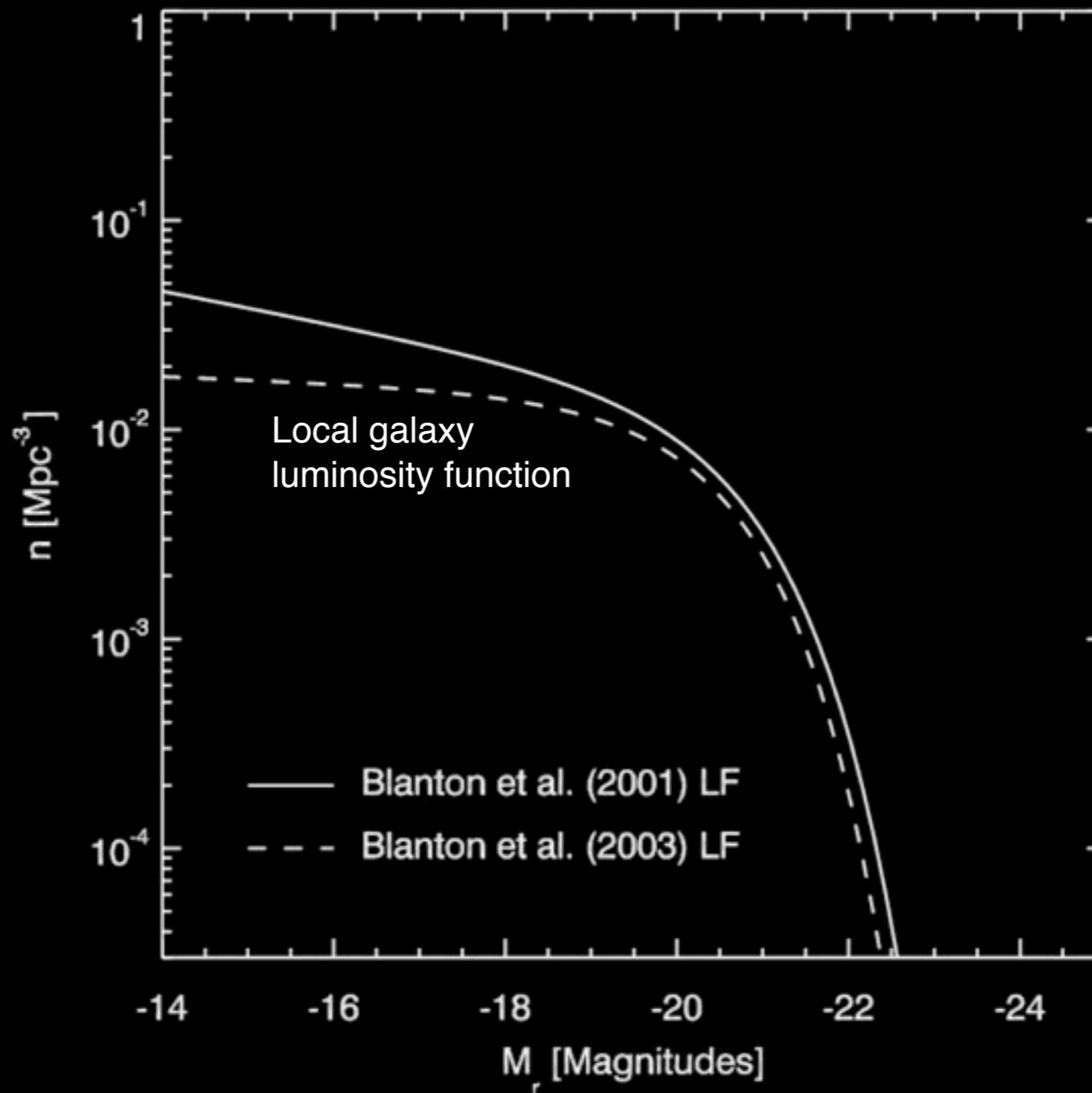


Integrate ionized path length

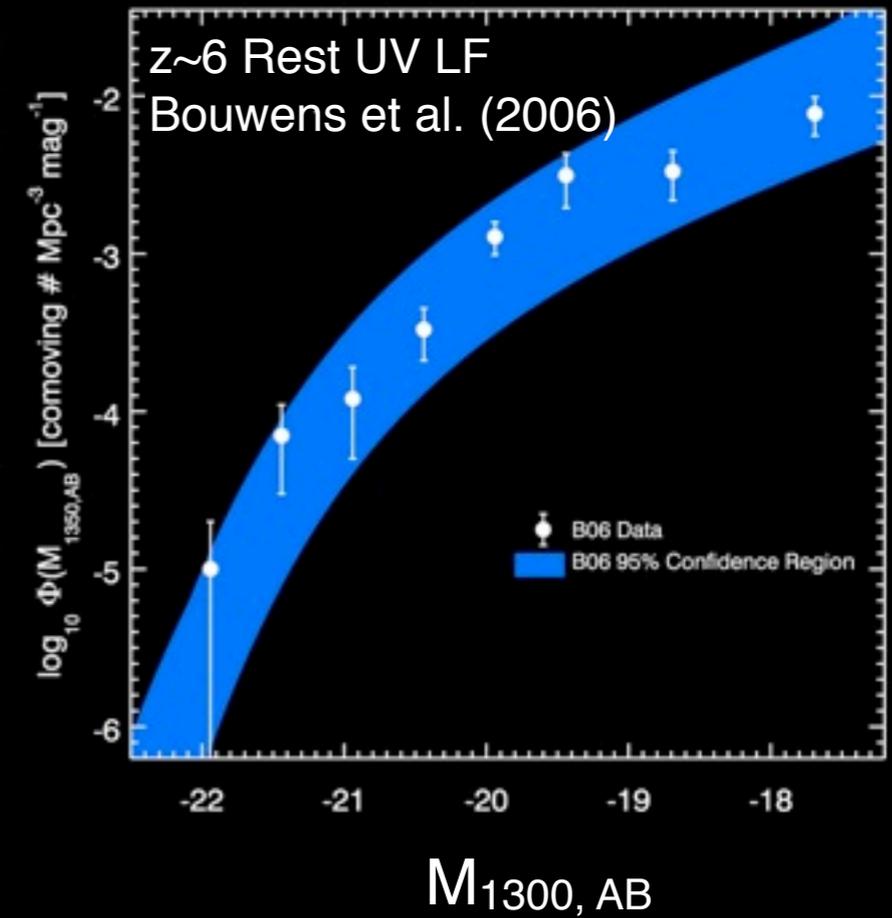
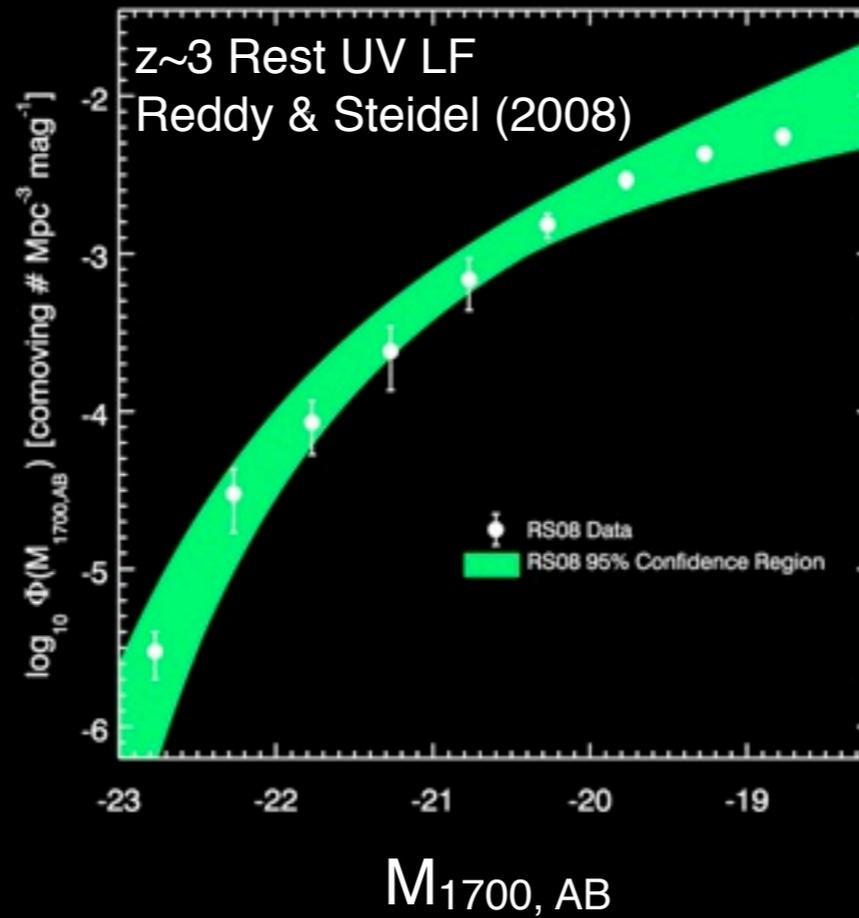
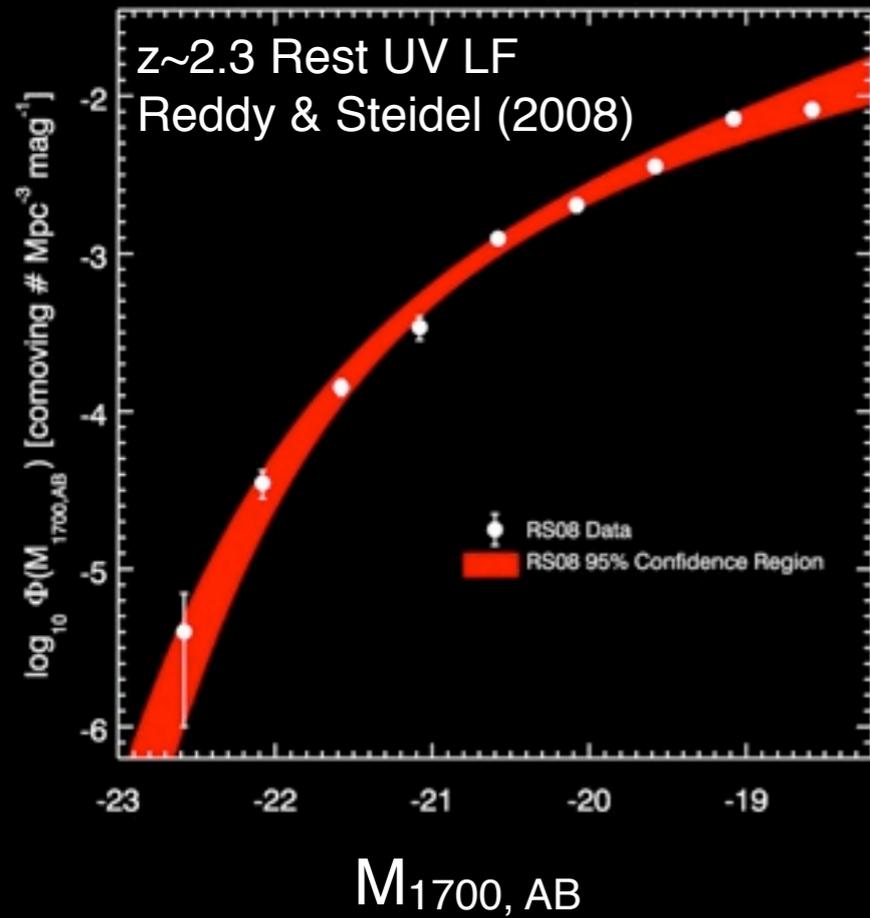


# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation

---

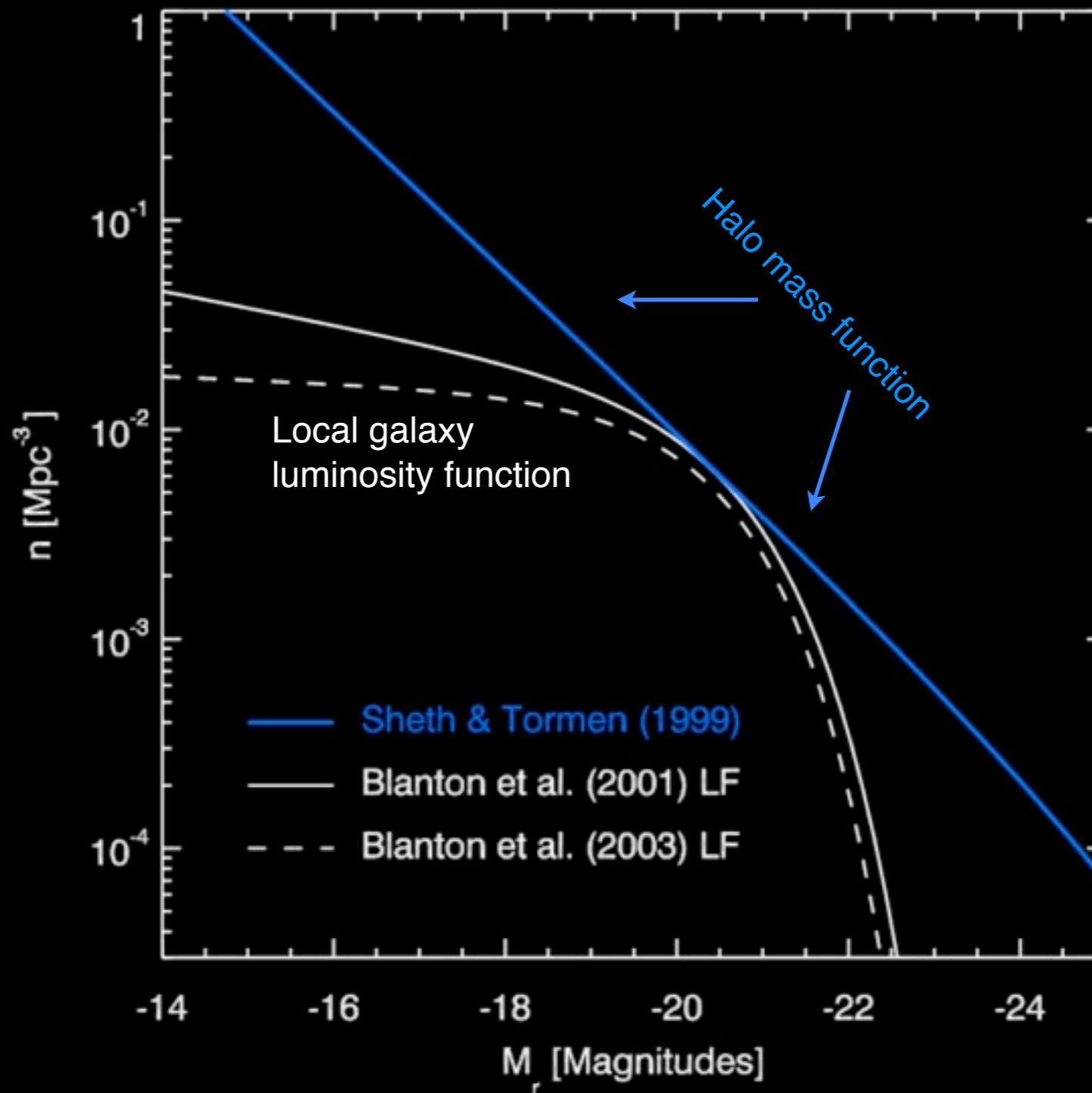


# Evolution of the Galaxy Luminosity Function



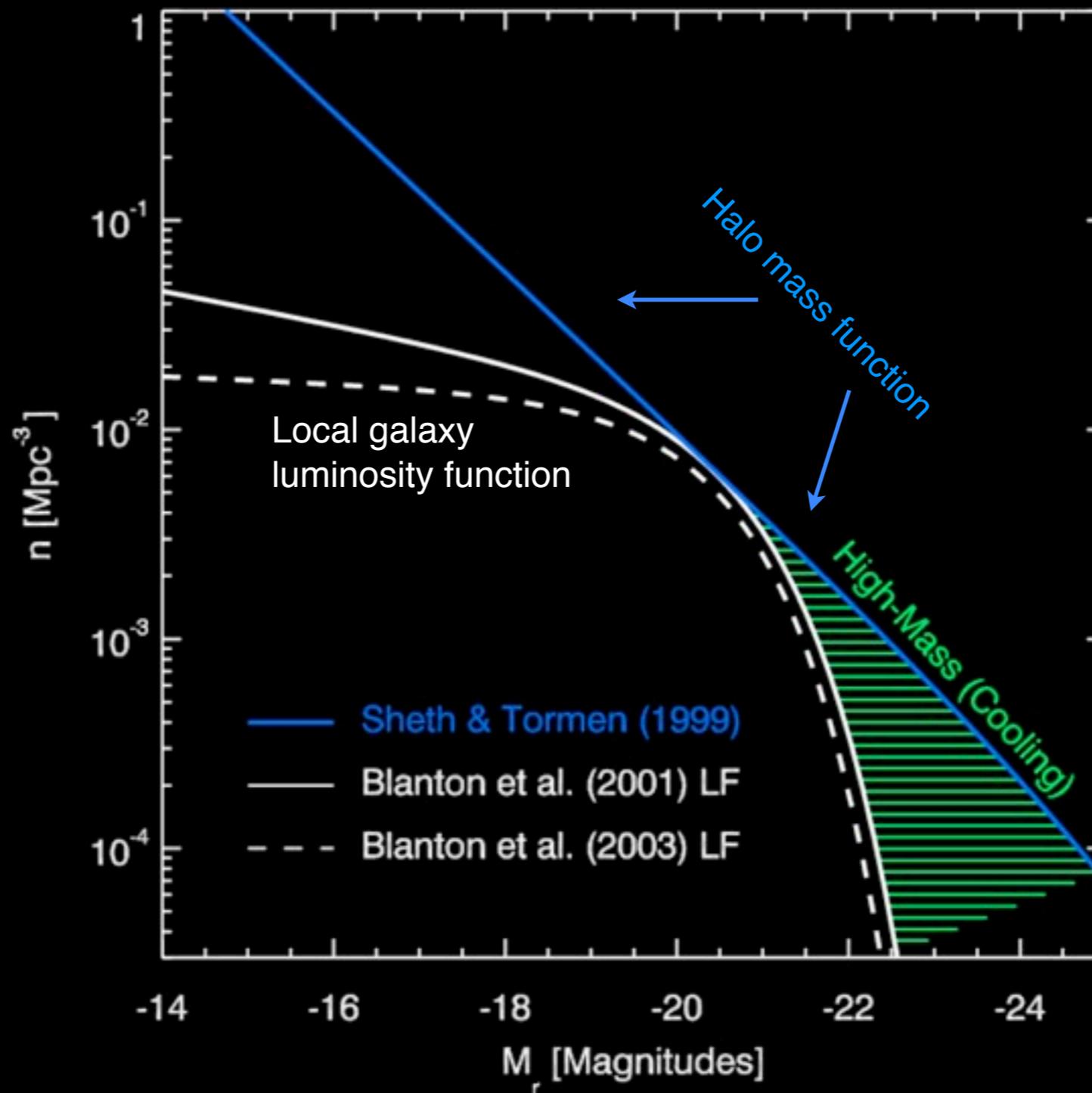
The faint-end slope gets steeper while the normalization and/or the characteristic luminosity declines.

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Mass function of dark matter halos, normalized to match abundance near  $L^*$  with constant mass-to-light ratio.

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Deficit of bright galaxies relative to massive DM halos.

Suppress gas cooling:

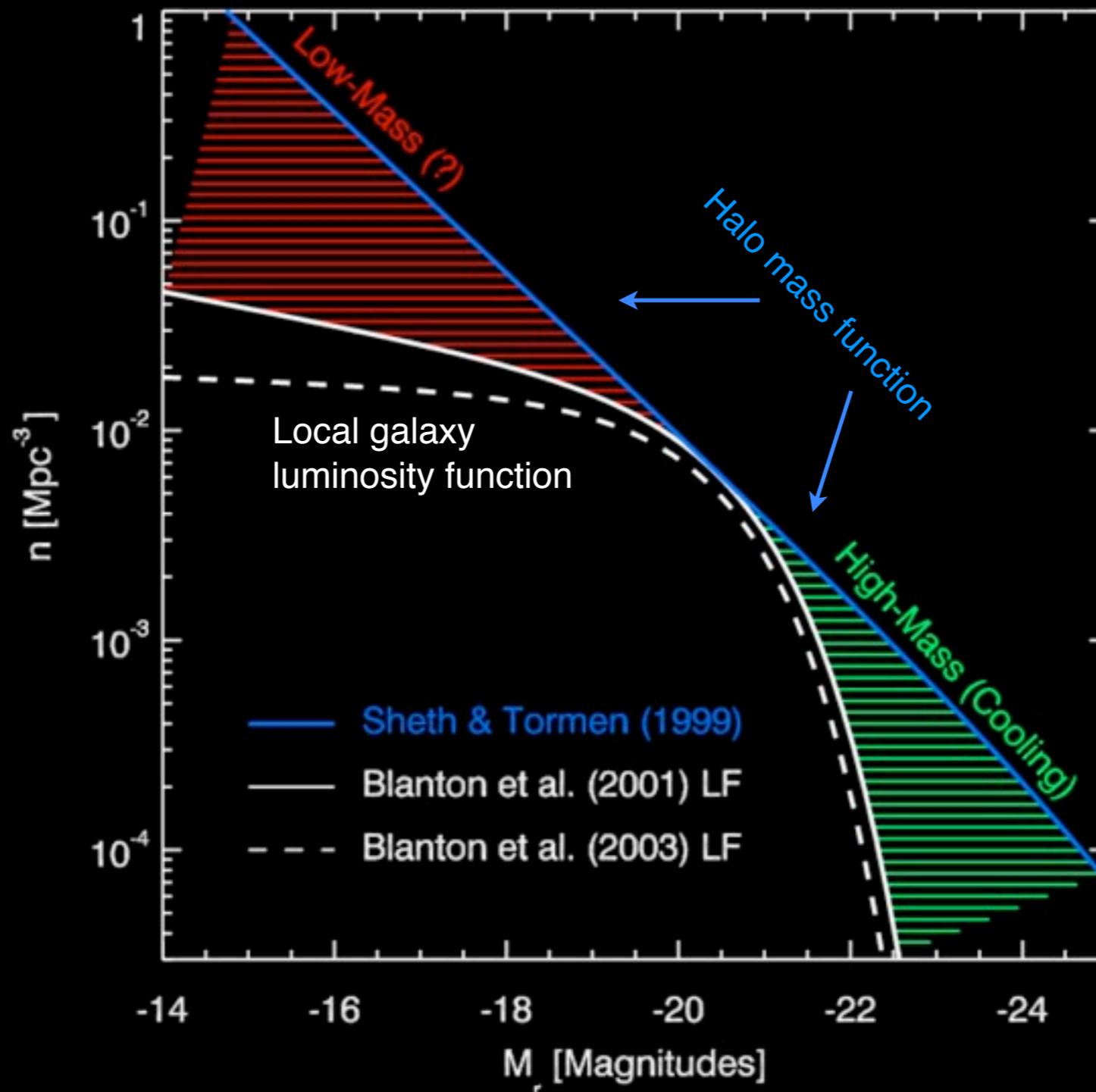
AGN?

multiphase cooling?

hot accretion / shocks?

quenching?

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Deficit of faint galaxies relative to low-mass DM halos.

Supernova-driven winds?

Photoionization?

Suppression of small-scale power?

No current method provides a convincing solution.

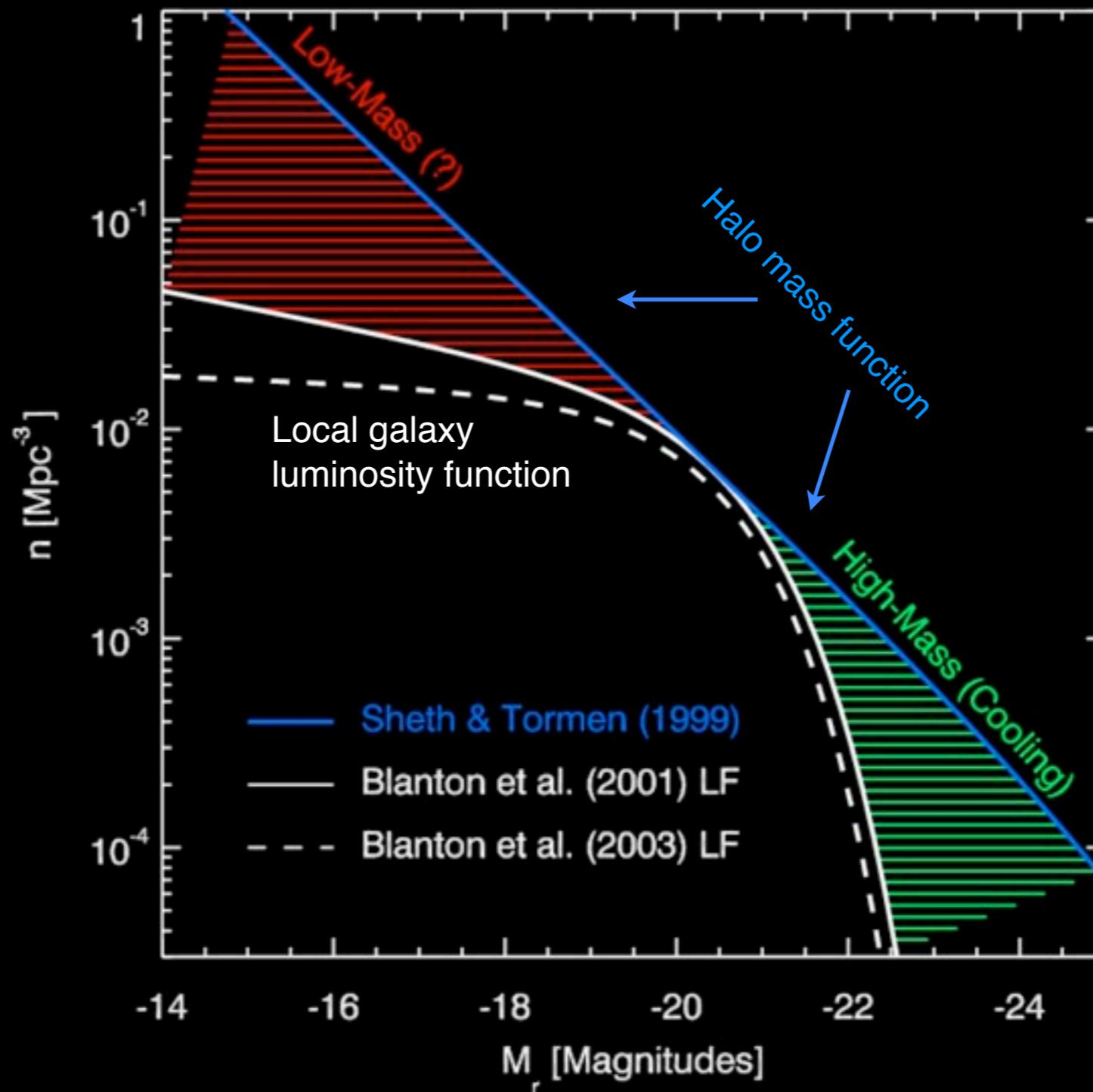


Image Credit :  
NOAO



Image Credit :  
NASA/Hubble/Chandra/Spitzer/JPL-Caltech/CXC/UofA/ESA/AURA/JHU

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Deficit of faint galaxies relative to low-mass DM halos.

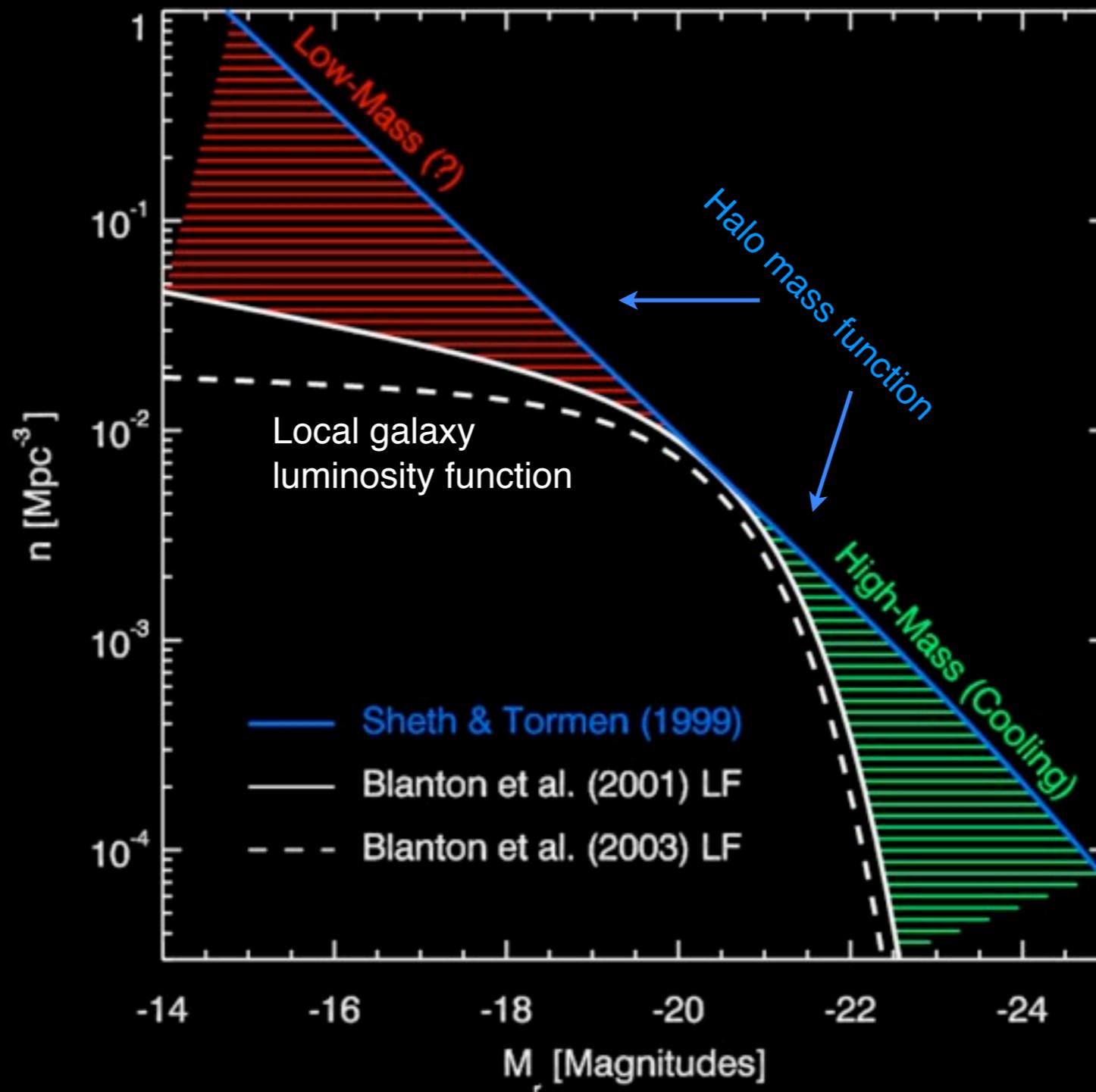
Supernova-driven winds?

Photoionization?

Suppression of small-scale power?

No current method provides a convincing solution.

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Deficit of faint galaxies relative to low-mass DM halos.

Supernova-driven winds?

Photoionization?

Suppression of small-scale power?

No current method provides a convincing solution.

Possible Key: Low-mass galaxies are **gas rich**.

# The Structural Components of Galaxies

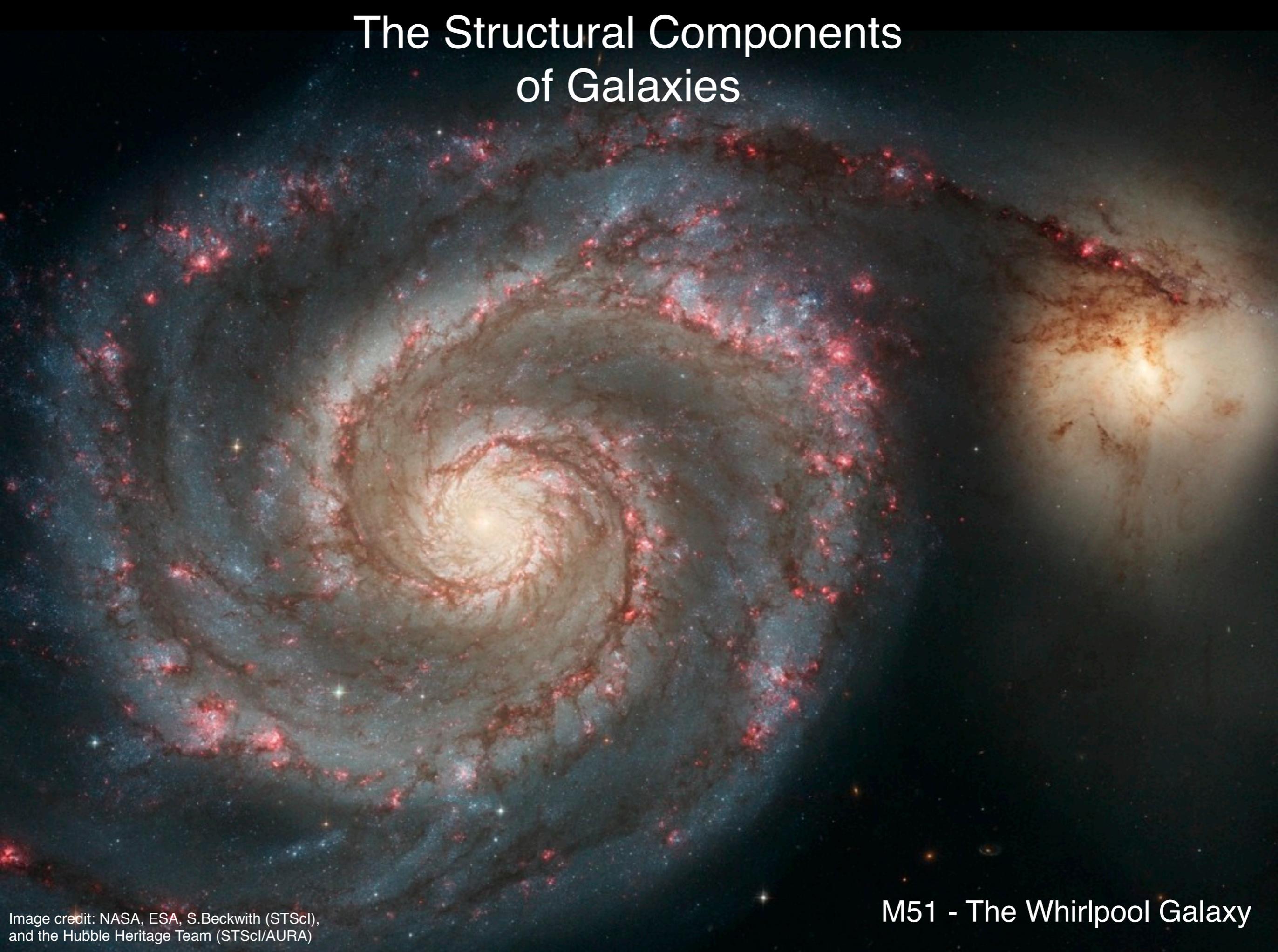


Image credit: NASA, ESA, S.Beckwith (STScI),  
and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)

M51 - The Whirlpool Galaxy

# The Structural Components of Galaxies

Stellar Halo

Disk

Mergers /  
Satellites

Supermassive  
Black Hole

Spheroid

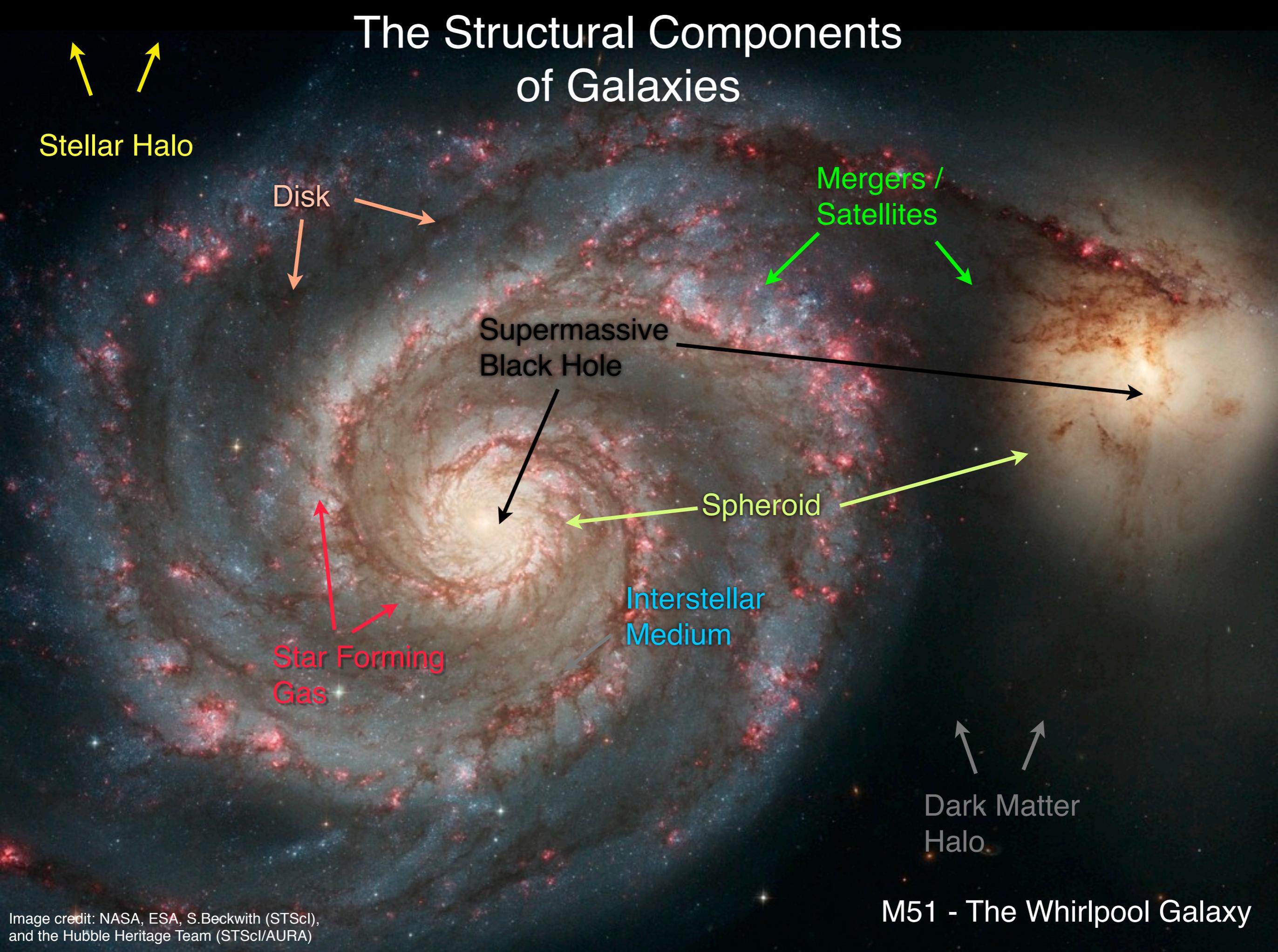
Star Forming  
Gas

Interstellar  
Medium

Dark Matter  
Halo

M51 - The Whirlpool Galaxy

Image credit: NASA, ESA, S.Beckwith (STScI), and the Hubble Heritage Team (STScI/AURA)





What are the outstanding problems?



# Galaxy Formation

Galactic Dynamics

Radiative  
Transfer

DM Physics

Star Formation  
and  
Feedback

Galaxy Formation

Structure  
Formation

Supermassive  
Black Holes

Chemical  
Enrichment

Baryonic Physics

# Galactic Dynamics

Accreted Thick Disks?  
Molecular Cloud Collisions  
Galactic Dynamo  
Morphological Transformation of Dwarfs  
Are AGN Primarily Triggered by Interactions?  
Clumpy disks at  $z \sim 2$   
Blue UV Slopes of High- $z$  Galaxies

Angular Momentum  
What Drives ISM Turbulence?  
Tidal Stripping  
Disk Heating / Gas Dissipation  
Tidal Stirring  
Molecular Photodissociation  
Tully-Fisher Relation Origin  
Did Galaxies and Evolution Reionize the Universe?

# Radiative Transfer

Observability of Gas-Inflows  
Are Submillimeter Galaxies or ULIRGs Mergers?  
Photoionization / Fossil Dwarfs  
Lyman-Break Galaxy / Lyman Alpha Emitter Connection

# DM Physics

Small-Scale Power  
Does DM Annihilation Change Halo Abundance?  
Does DM Annihilation Change Halo Properties?  
What is (are) the Dark Matter(s)?  
Dark Matter Halo Cores vs. Cusps  
Warm DM / Sterile Neutrinos?  
Dark Matter Annihilation Observability

# Star Formation and Feedback

Core Mass Function  
Schmidt-Kennicutt Relation  
Mass Loading  
Faint-End Slope

Molecular Gas Star Formation Timescale  
Radiative Coupling of Feedback vs. Mechanical Input  
Population III.?  
Wind Velocity  
Supernova Feedback  
Momentum-Driven Winds  
Galaxy Luminosity Function  
Two Supernova Ia Populations?

# Galaxy Formation

Smooth Accretion vs. Mergers  
Star Formation Efficiency in  $z \sim 1-2$  Galaxies Higher?  
SZ vs. X-ray vs. Lensing vs. Richness Cluster Mass Estimates

# Structure Formation

Color-Density Relation  
Non-Gaussianity and Cluster Abundance  
Alternative Gravity and Cluster Abundance

# Supermassive Black Holes

AGB Wind Enrichment  
Quasar Host Formation  
BH Seeds  
Final Parsec Problem?  
Black Hole Kicks / Ejections

Globular Cluster Formation  
Early Quasars / Efsthathiou & Rees  
Loss Cone Replenishment / Triaxiality  
Gas Drag on BHs?  
Multiple Globular Main Sequences  
Massive Galaxy Suppression  
Radio Mode vs. Explosive BH Feedback  
Mass Metallicity Relation

# Chemical Enrichment

Replenishment of MW Disk  
Universal Acceleration / Gas Inflow  
IGM Metallicity Filling Factor  
Dust Production  
X-Factor at  $z \sim 1-2$  / in SMGs

# Baryonic Physics

Cosmic UV Background  
Assembly Bias Observability  
Molecular Cloud Lifetimes  
Blue Cloud - Red Sequence Connection  
Hot Gas Content of Galaxies  
Ultra-Faint Dwarf Abundance  
Magnetic Fields  
Baryon Content of Galaxies  
Stellar Initial Mass Function  
Gas Cooling

Where to begin?!?

# *You* Tell Me!

The remarkable design of this meeting brings together brilliant people to solve problems.

Let me facilitate further discussions via five brief reviews of recent work by renown experts in the field:

# *You Tell Me!*

The remarkable design of this meeting brings together brilliant people to solve problems.

Let me facilitate further discussions via five brief reviews of recent work by renown experts in the field:





# Risa Wechsler

Busha, Wechsler et al., arXiv:1011.6373

Problem:

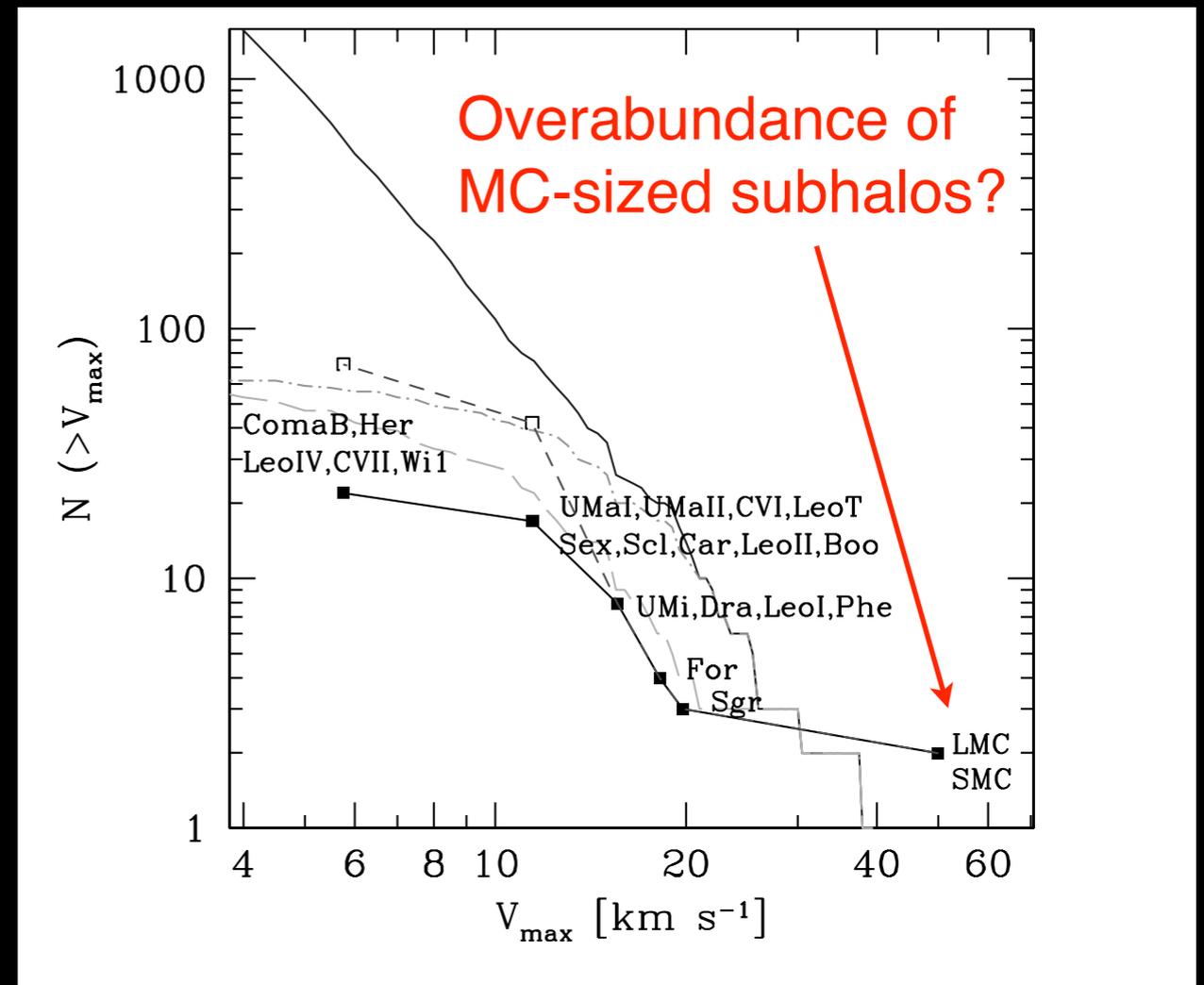
Satellite galaxy populations about the Milky Way are direct evidence of hierarchical structure formation. In contrast to the “missing satellite” problem, do simulations of Galaxy-sized halos correctly predict the abundance of massive satellites compared to the Magellanic Clouds-Milky Way system.

How unusual is the MC-MW system in the context of  $\Lambda$ CDM structure formation?



# Risa Wechsler

Busha, Wechsler et al., arXiv:1011.6373





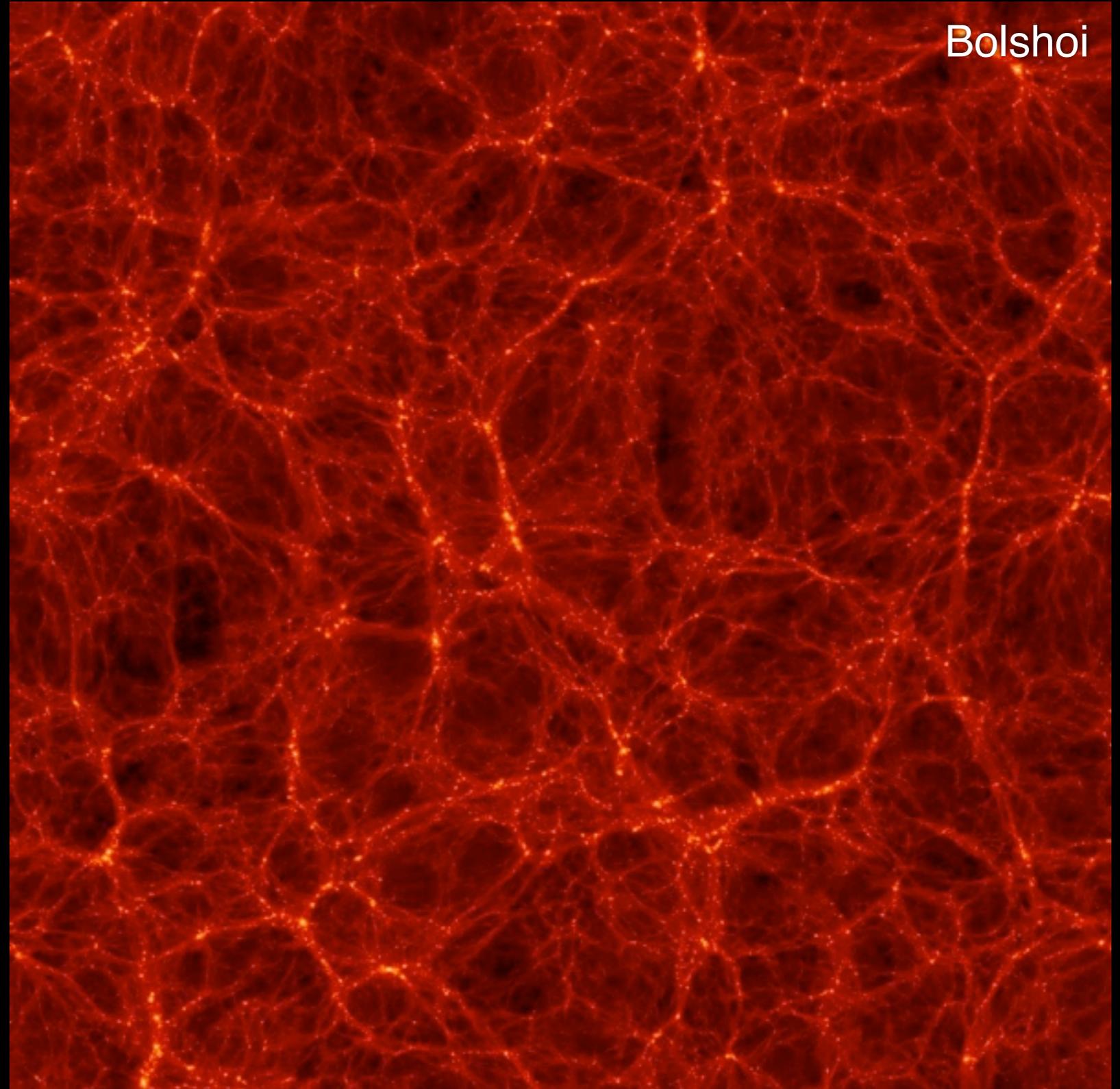
# Risa Wechsler

Busha, Wechsler et al., arXiv:1011.6373

## Methodology:

Use the Bolshoi N-body simulation ( $250 h^{-1}$  Mpc,  $2048^3$  particles,  $\sigma_8=0.82$ ) to study 36,000 MW analogues.

Apply Risa's subhalo abundance-matching (SHAM) method to assign luminosities to substructure and compare with the observed abundance of MC-MW analogues (Liu et al. 2010).



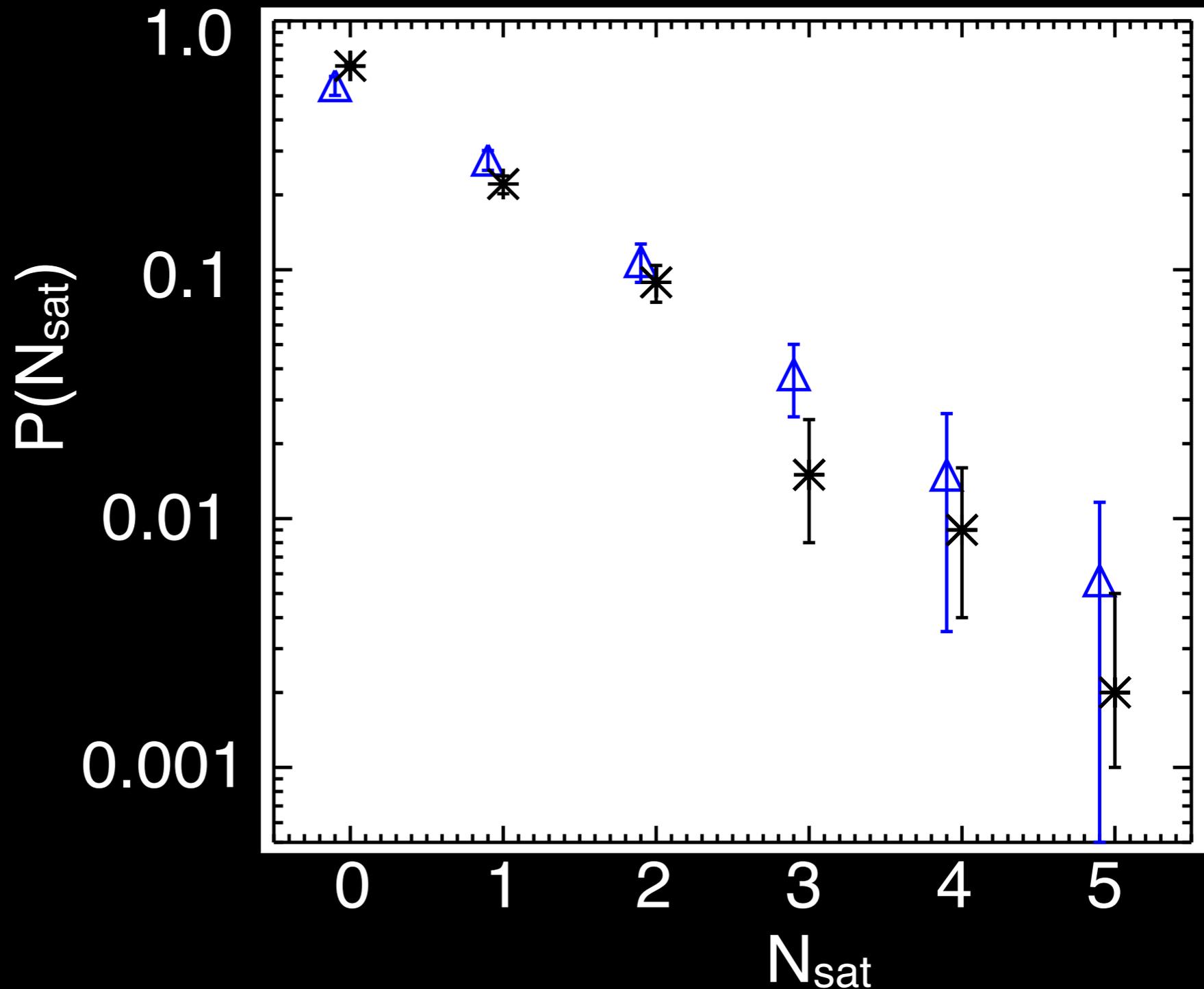


# Risa Wechsler

Busha, Wechsler et al., arXiv:1011.6373

Results:

5-10% of simulated MW halos contains 2 SMC-luminous satellites (after SHAM; see also Boylan-Kolchin et al. 2010), in agreement with observations by Liu et al. 2010.





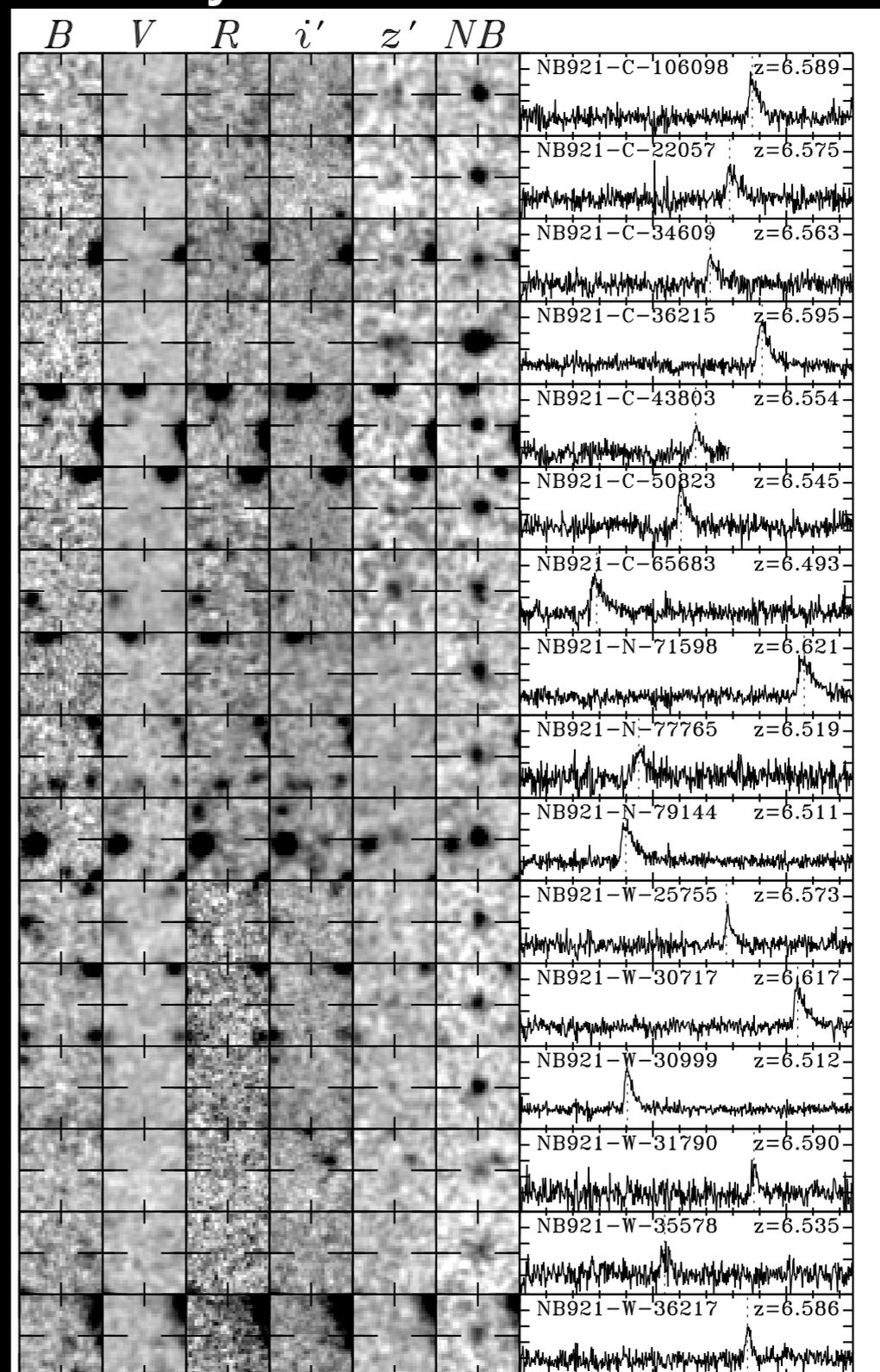
# Andrea Ferrara

Dayal and Ferrara, arXiv:1102.1726

## Lyman- $\alpha$ Emitters

Problem:

How should we interpret the properties of the most distant known Lyman- $\alpha$  emitting galaxies, and can we use their properties to learn about the ionization state of the intergalactic medium?



Ouchi et al. 2010



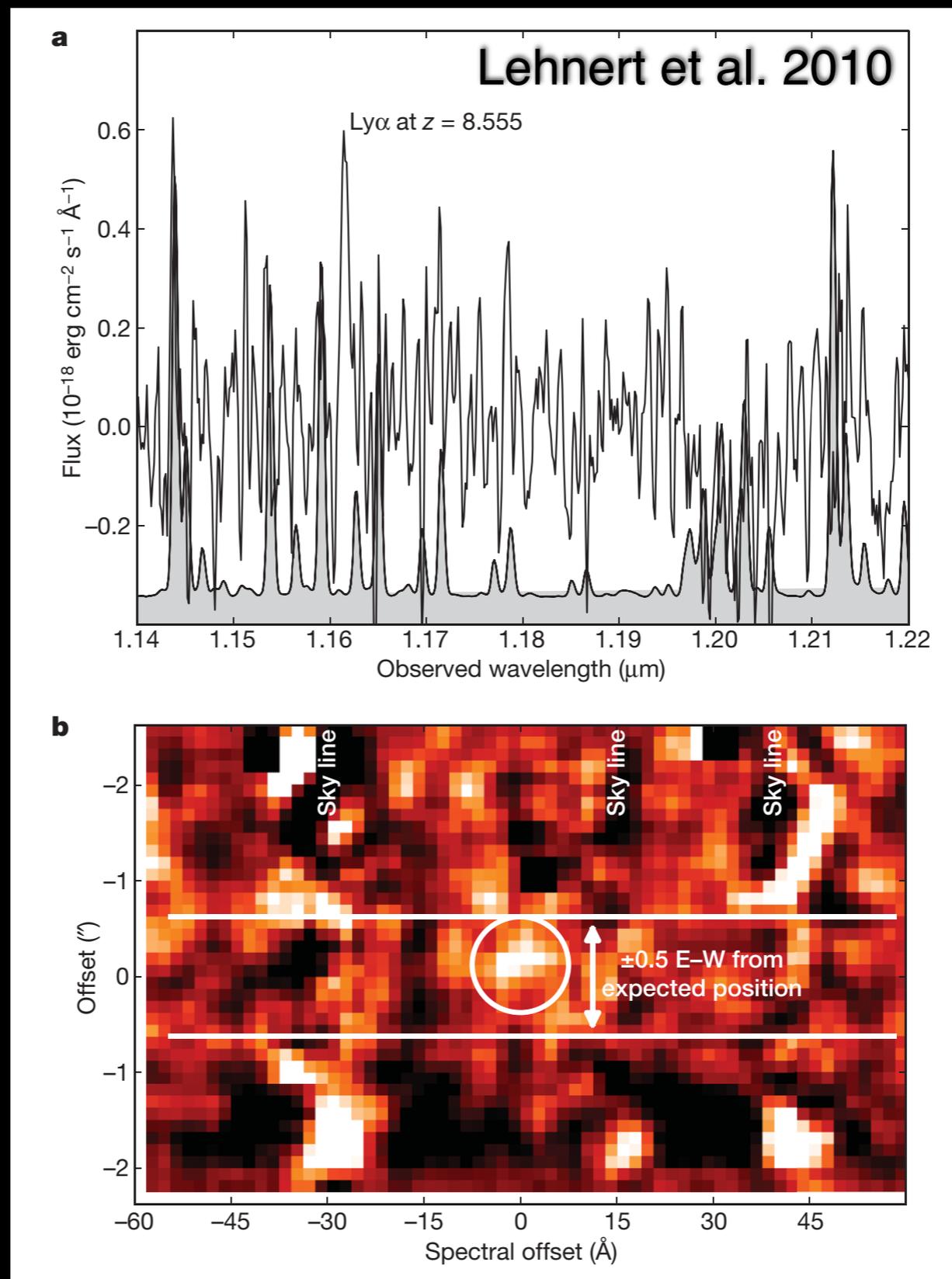
# Andrea Ferrara

Dayal and Ferrara, arXiv:1102.1726

## Background:

Lehnert et al. 2010 claimed detection of Ly $\alpha$  emission from a LBG at  $z \sim 8.6$  previously discovered in the UDF.

What does the presence of Ly $\alpha$  emission in this galaxy imply about cosmological galaxy populations and the ionization state of the IGM?





# Andrea Ferrara

Dayal and Ferrara, arXiv:1102.1726

## Methodology:

Perform a cosmological hydro simulation ( $75 h^{-1}$  Mpc,  $512^3$  DM +  $512^3$  gas particles), identify galaxies at  $z = 8.6$ .

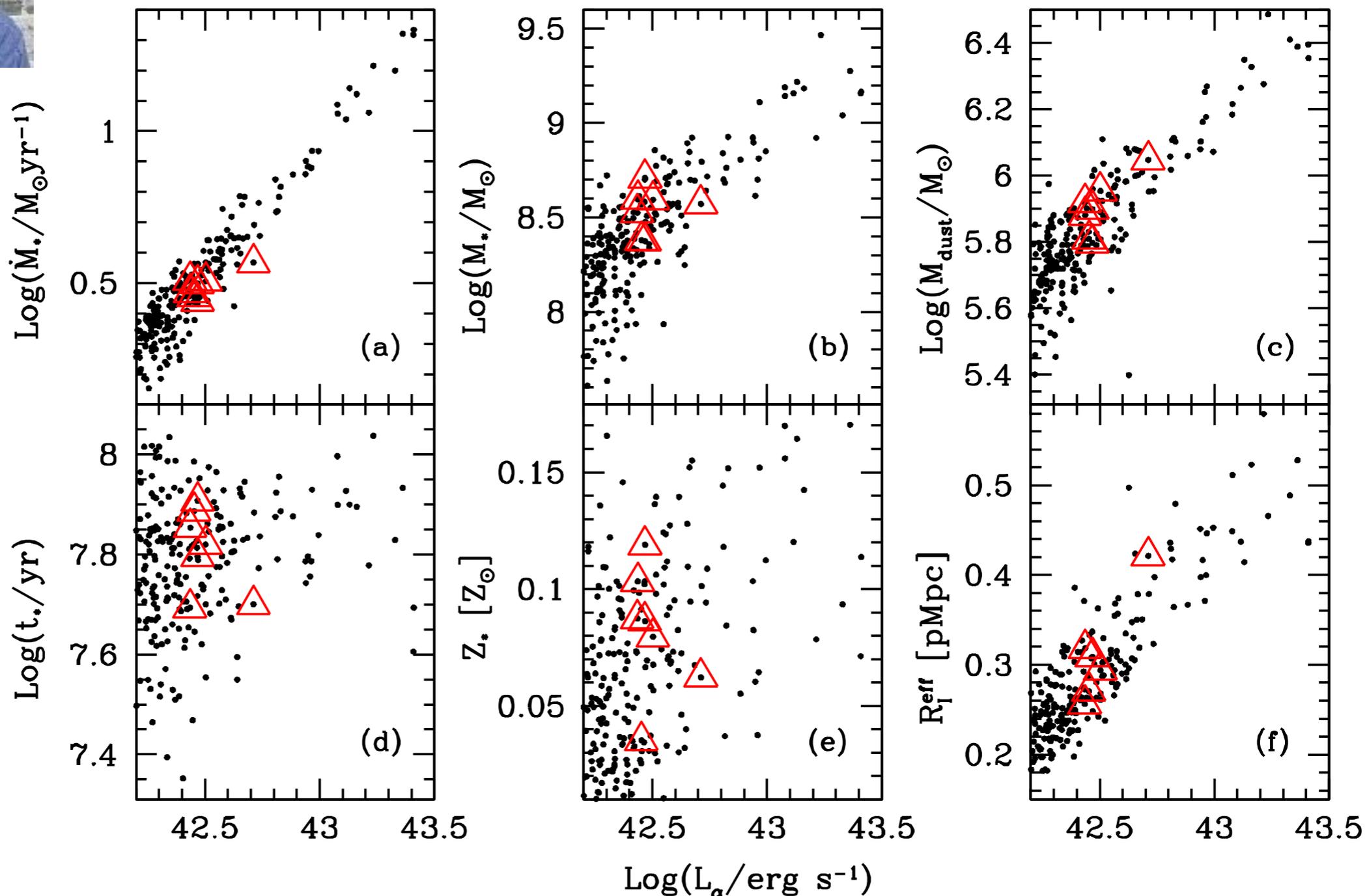
Model the production and attenuation of Ly $\alpha$  emission, accounting for different average IGM neutral fractions and locally (at least partially) ionized regions around galaxies. Find the fraction of Ly $\alpha$  photons reaching the observer.

Compare the properties of simulated Ly $\alpha$  emitting galaxies with observed LAE galaxy properties.



# Andrea Ferrara

Dayal and Ferrara, arXiv:1102.1726



Red triangles: simulated LAE galaxy properties with UV and Ly $\alpha$  properties similar to observed  $z = 8.6$  galaxies.



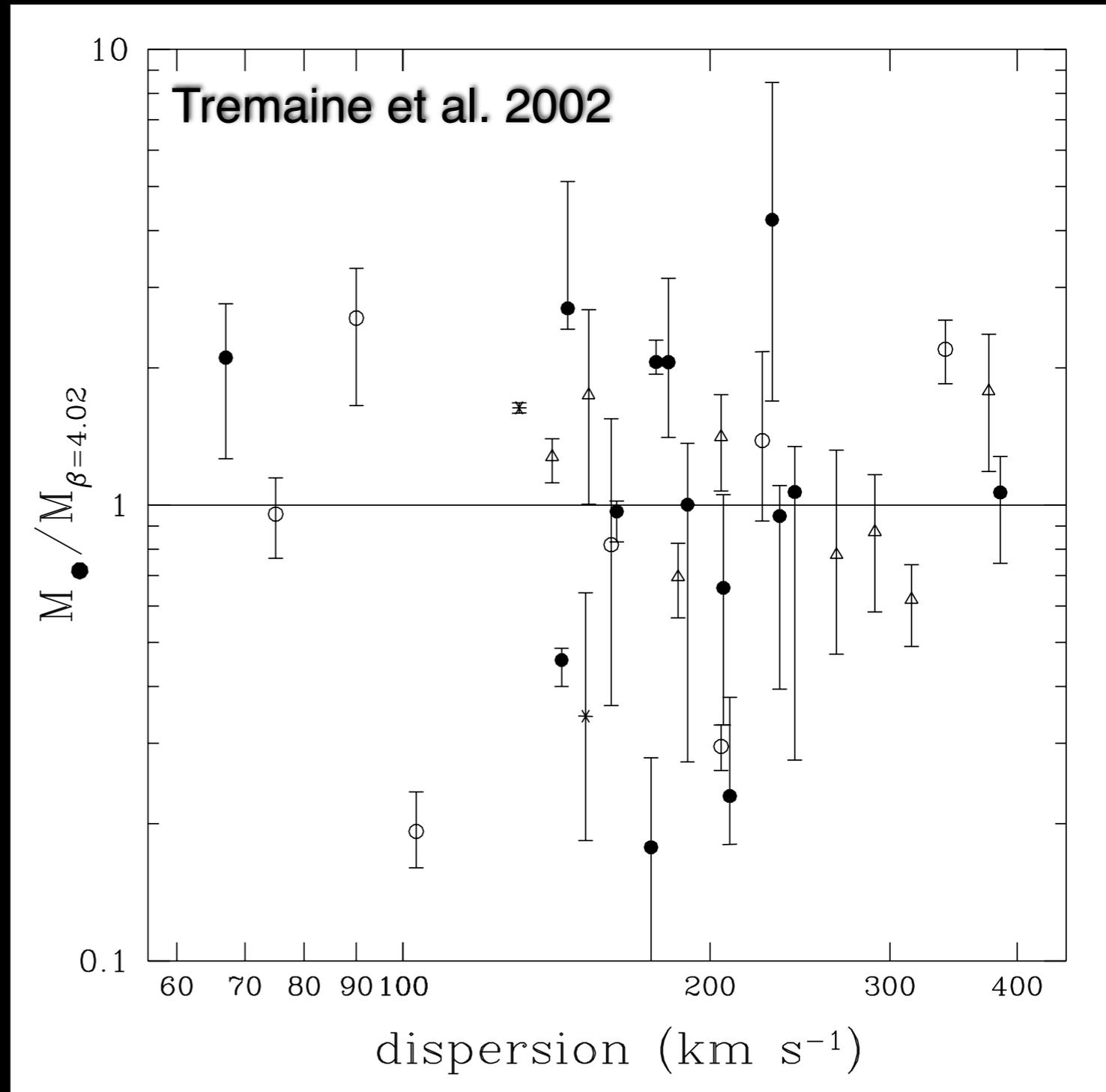
# Rachel Somerville

Somerville, MNRAS, 399, 1988 (2009)

Problem:

There are remarkable observed relationships between black hole mass, galaxy stellar mass, and velocity dispersion (Ferrarese & Merrit 2000, Gebhardt et al. 2000, Tremaine et al. 2002, Marconi & Hunt 2003, Haring and Rix 2004). The observed scatter is small (0.3 dex in  $m_{\text{BH}}$  at fixed  $\sigma$ , and 0.5 dex in  $m_{\text{BH}}$  at fixed  $L$ ).

Do these relations evolve (e.g., Peng et al. 2006, Robertson et al. 2006)?





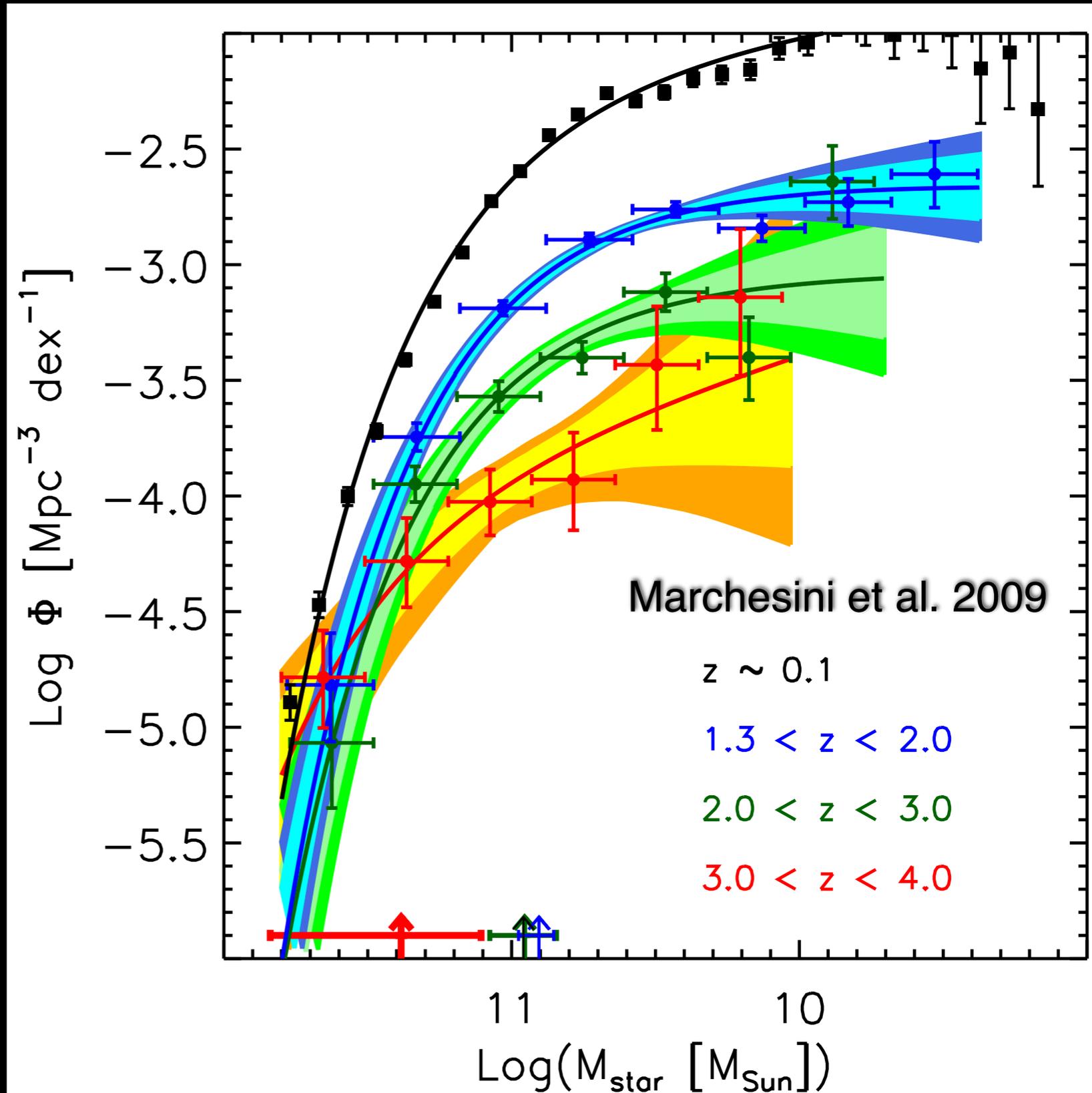
# Rachel Somerville

Somerville, MNRAS, 399, 1988 (2009)

## Methodology:

Assuming all galaxies contain BHs, combine the galaxy stellar mass function, a duty cycle, and average Eddington ratio to predict the QSO bolometric luminosity function, and compare with observations.

How much can the SMBH mass / stellar mass relation evolve without over-predicting the abundance of luminous QSOs given the observed scatter in the local relations?





# Rachel Somerville

Somerville, MNRAS, 399, 1988 (2009)

$$m_{\text{BH}}(z, m_{\text{gal}}) = \Gamma(z) m_{\text{BH}}(z=0, m_{\text{gal}}) = \Gamma(z) m_{\text{gal}}^{1.1}$$

Black hole mass                      Scaling factor                      Galaxy mass

$\Gamma(z=0)$ , how large can  $\Gamma(z=2)$  be without over-producing luminous  $z=2$  QSOs? -- bright quasars may be dominated by systems in the large-BH scatter of the distribution.



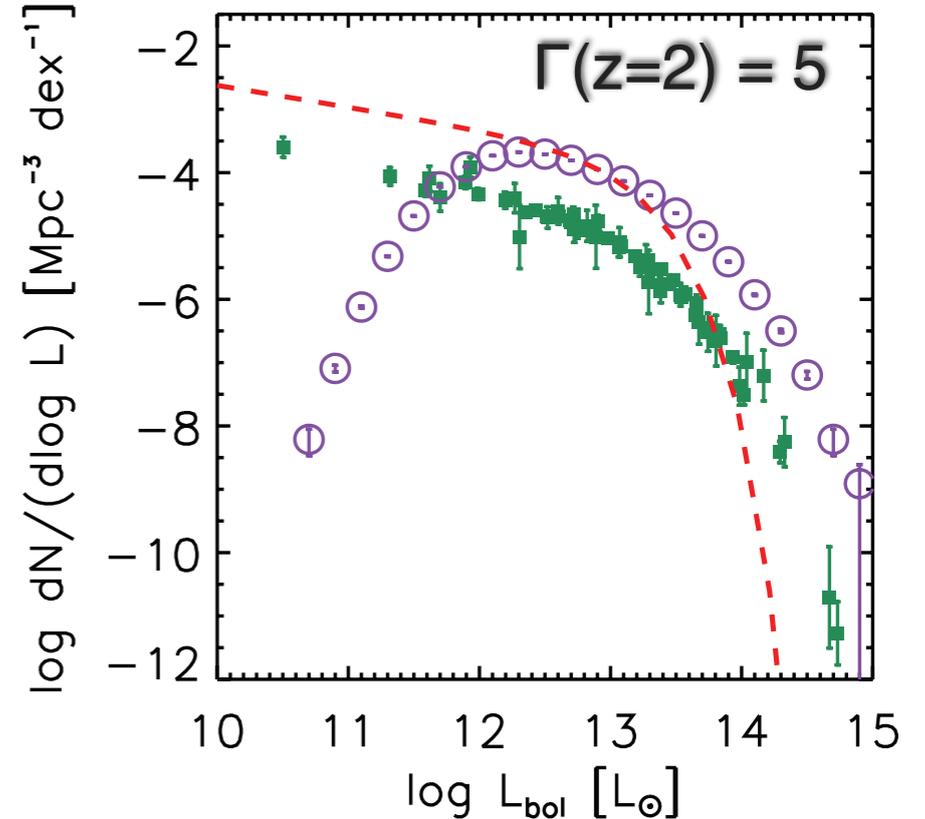
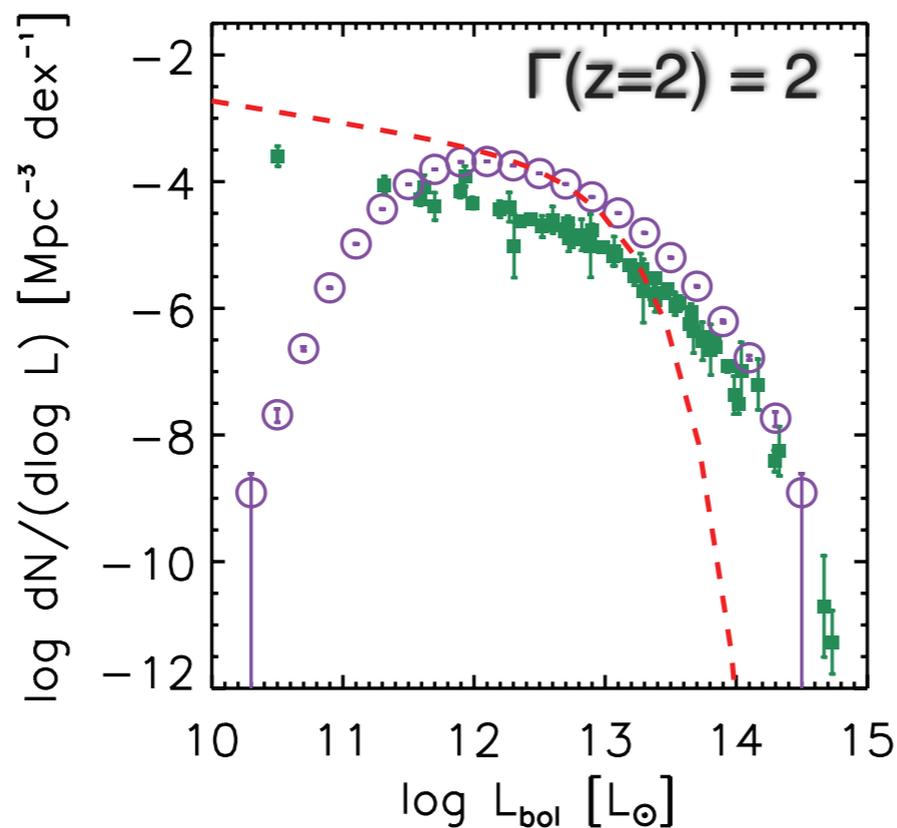
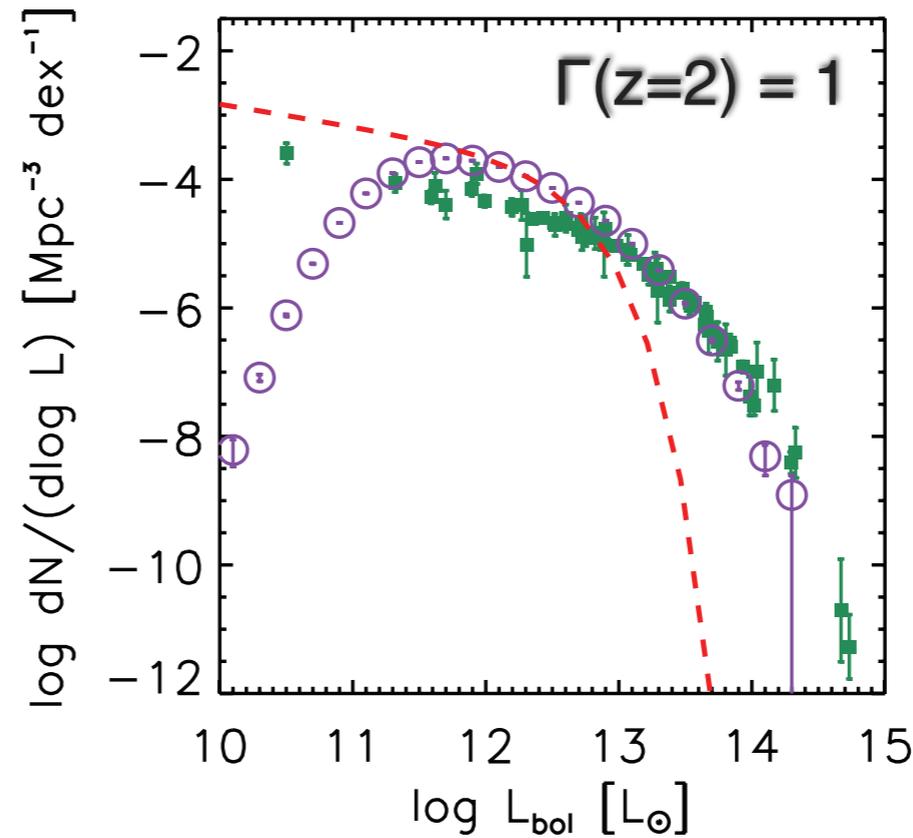
# Rachel Somerville

Somerville, MNRAS, 399, 1988 (2009)

$\sigma_{\text{BH}} = 0.3 \text{ dex}$

Results:

With scatter in the  $m_{\text{BH}}/m_{\text{gal}}$  relation, strong evolution in the ratio  $m_{\text{BH}}/m_{\text{gal}}$  would over-produce the abundance of luminous  $z \sim 2$  QSOs.





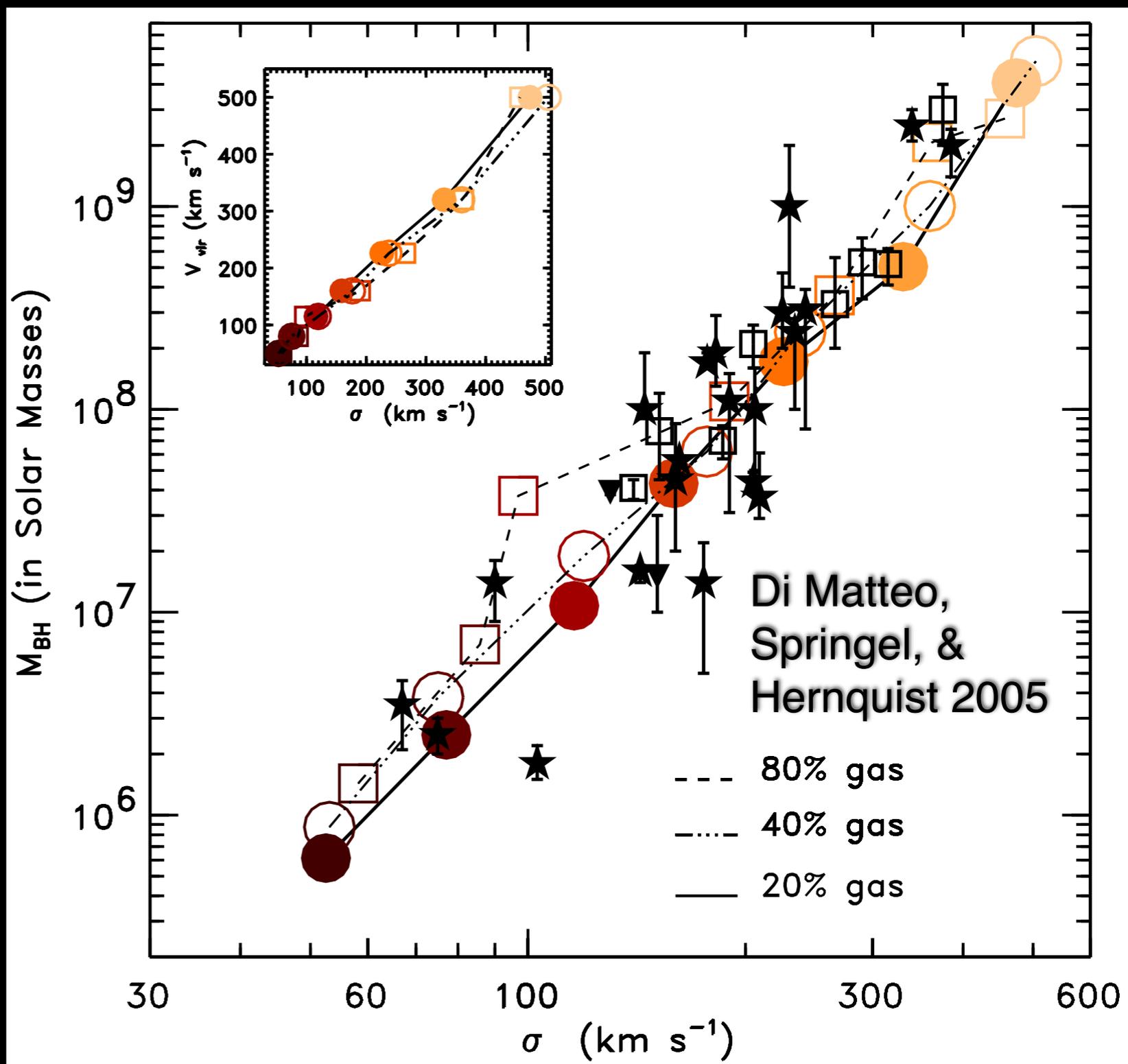
# Tiziana Di Matteo

Di Matteo et al., ApJ, 676, 33 (2008)

## Problem:

Observations suggest that the galaxy stellar and black hole components are tightly coupled. Our collective picture for galaxy formation is therefore also a picture of supermassive black hole formation.

Tiziana's famous for calculating how this coupling might arise through gas-rich galaxy mergers. How do these relations develop in a fully cosmological context?





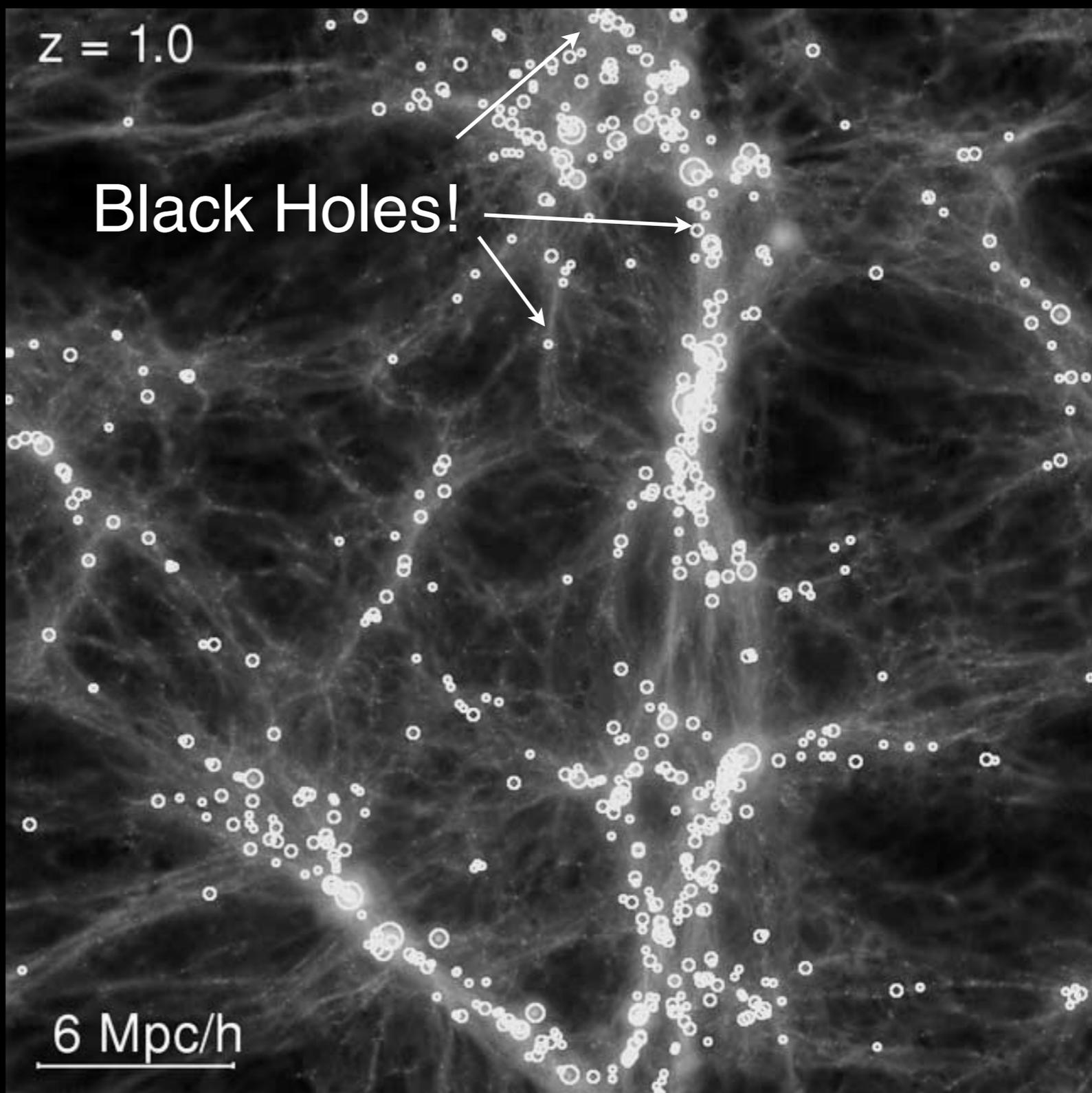
# Tiziana Di Matteo

Di Matteo et al., ApJ, 676, 33 (2008)

## Methodology:

Cosmological hydro simulations (34-50  $h^{-1}$  Mpc,  $2 \times 486^3$  particles) with galactic winds and a multiphase ISM model (Springel & Hernquist 2003), incorporating a model for growth and feedback from SMBHs (Springel et al. 2005, Di Matteo et al. 2005).

Populate growing halos above a threshold mass with a black hole seed, track the cosmological development of the SMBH population and the BH-galaxy connection.





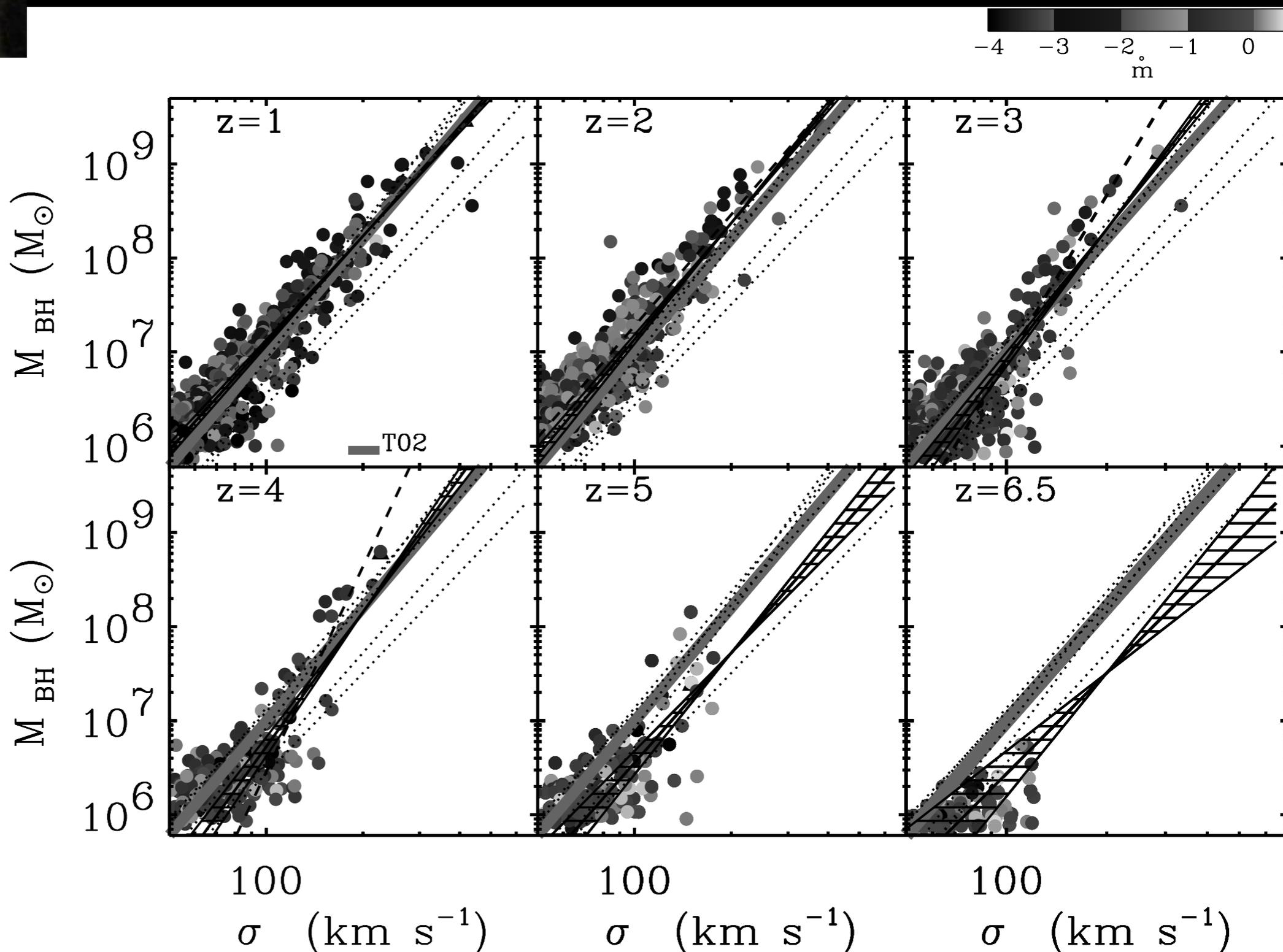
# Tiziana Di Matteo

Di Matteo et al., ApJ, 676, 33 (2008)

Results:

The black hole-galaxy mass relations are predicted to evolve gently with redshift (see also R06) -- at the massive end, systems lie above the mean  $M$ - $\sigma$  relation.

Many others!





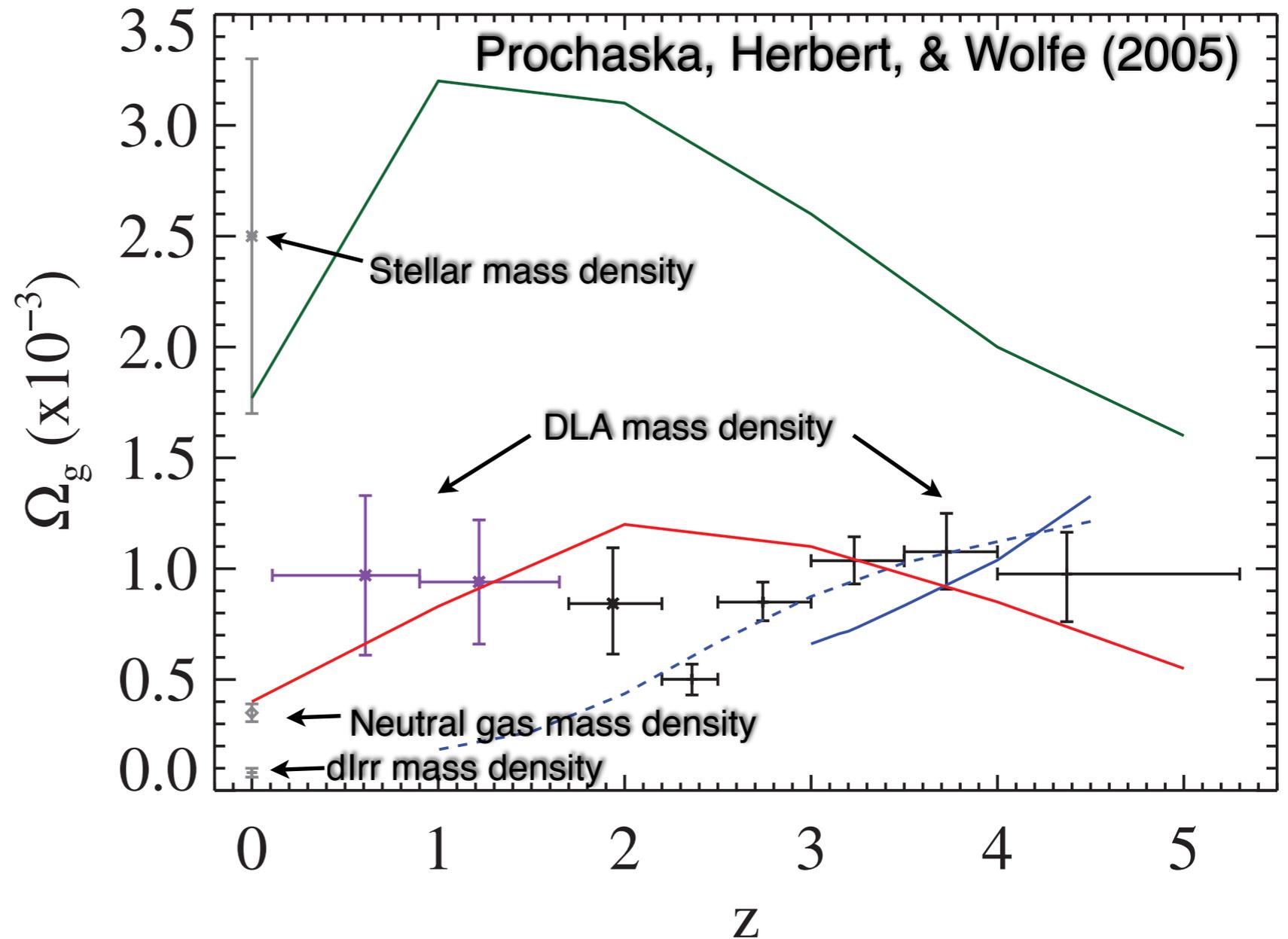
# Andrew Pontzen

Pontzen et al., MNRAS, 390, 1349 (2008)

Problem:

A significant reservoir of the neutral baryonic mass density in the universe is observationally inferred to reside in damped Ly $\alpha$  absorbers (DLAs) at  $z \sim 3$  (e.g., Wolfe/Prochaska).

How are DLAs connected to the galaxy population?



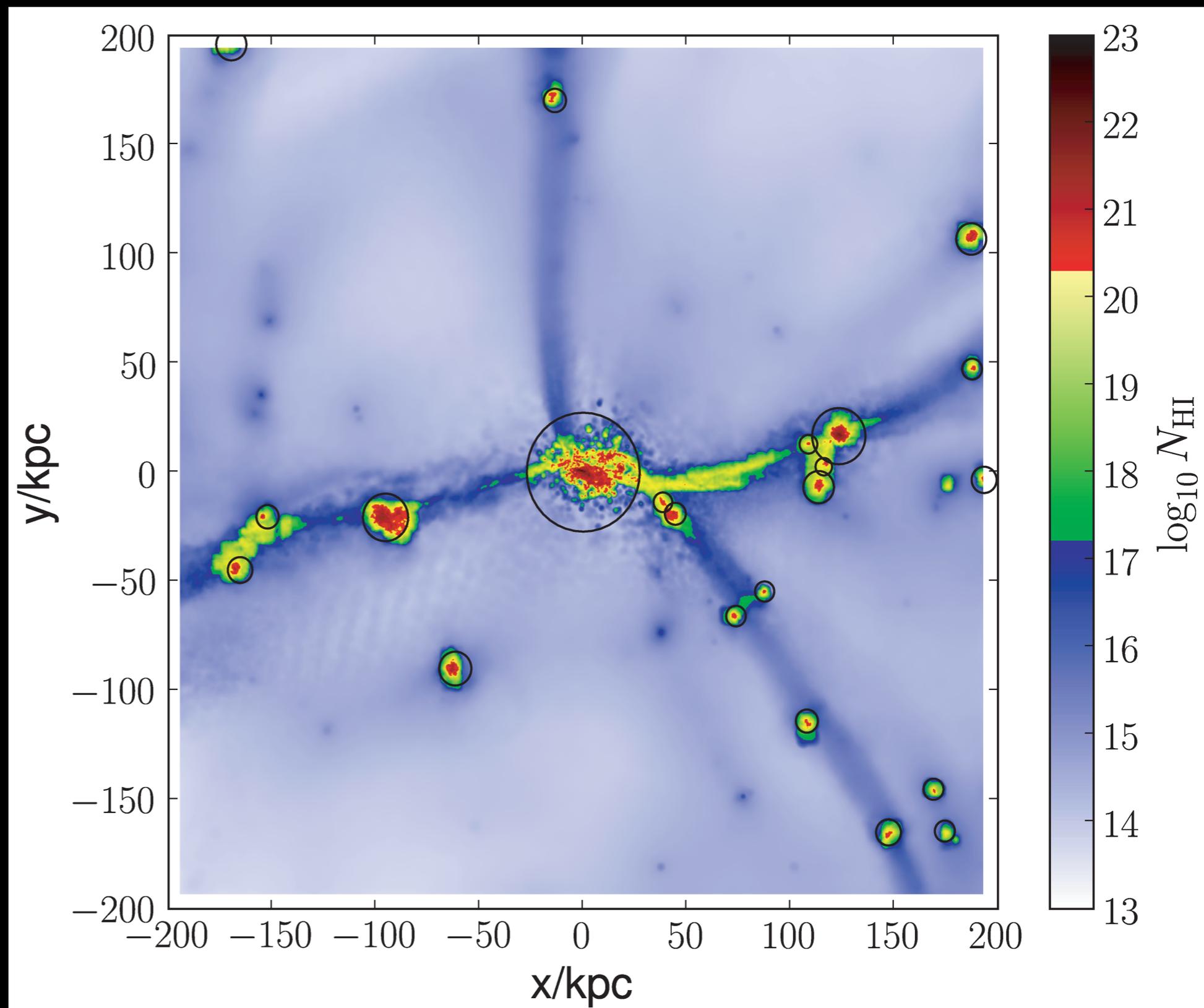


# Andrew Pontzen

Pontzen et al., MNRAS, 390, 1349 (2008)

## Methodology:

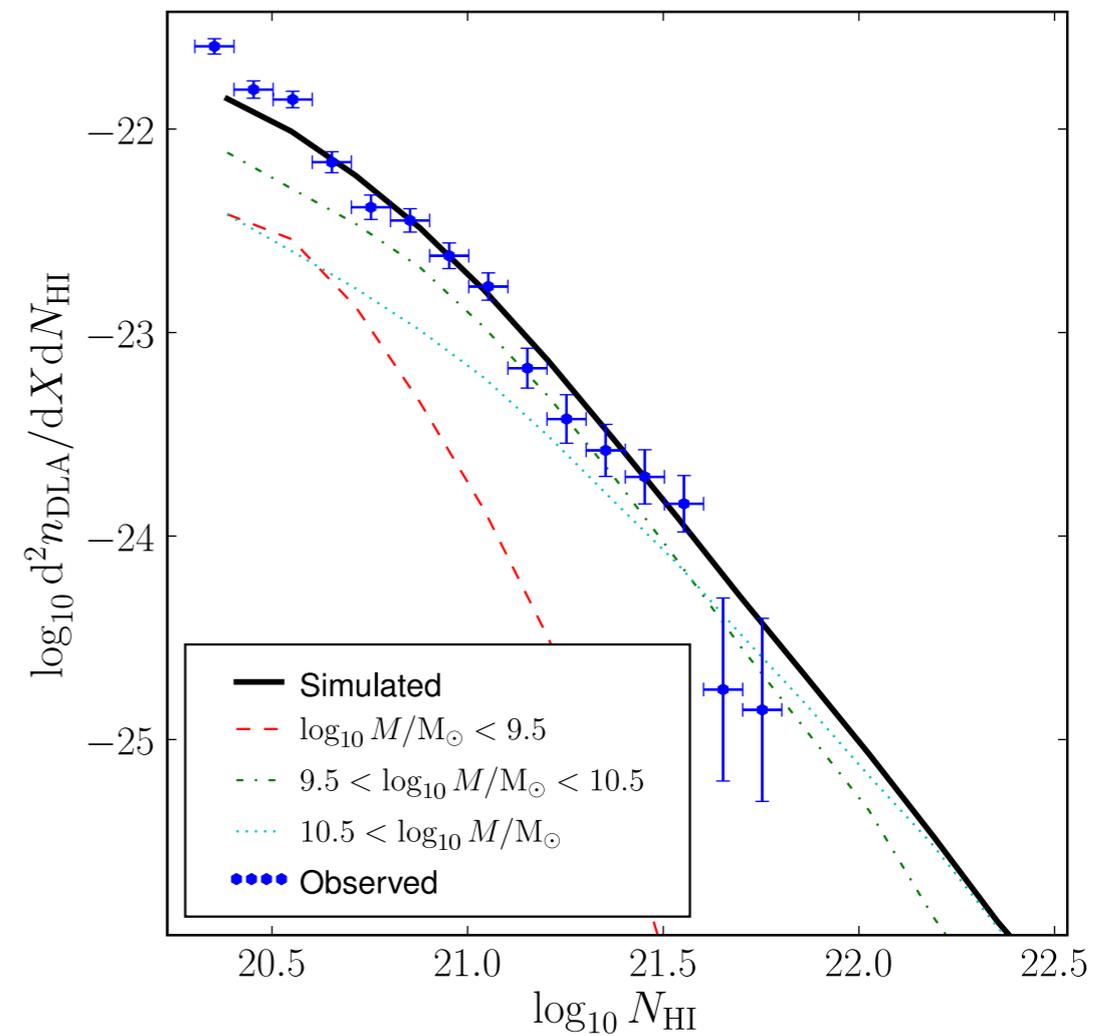
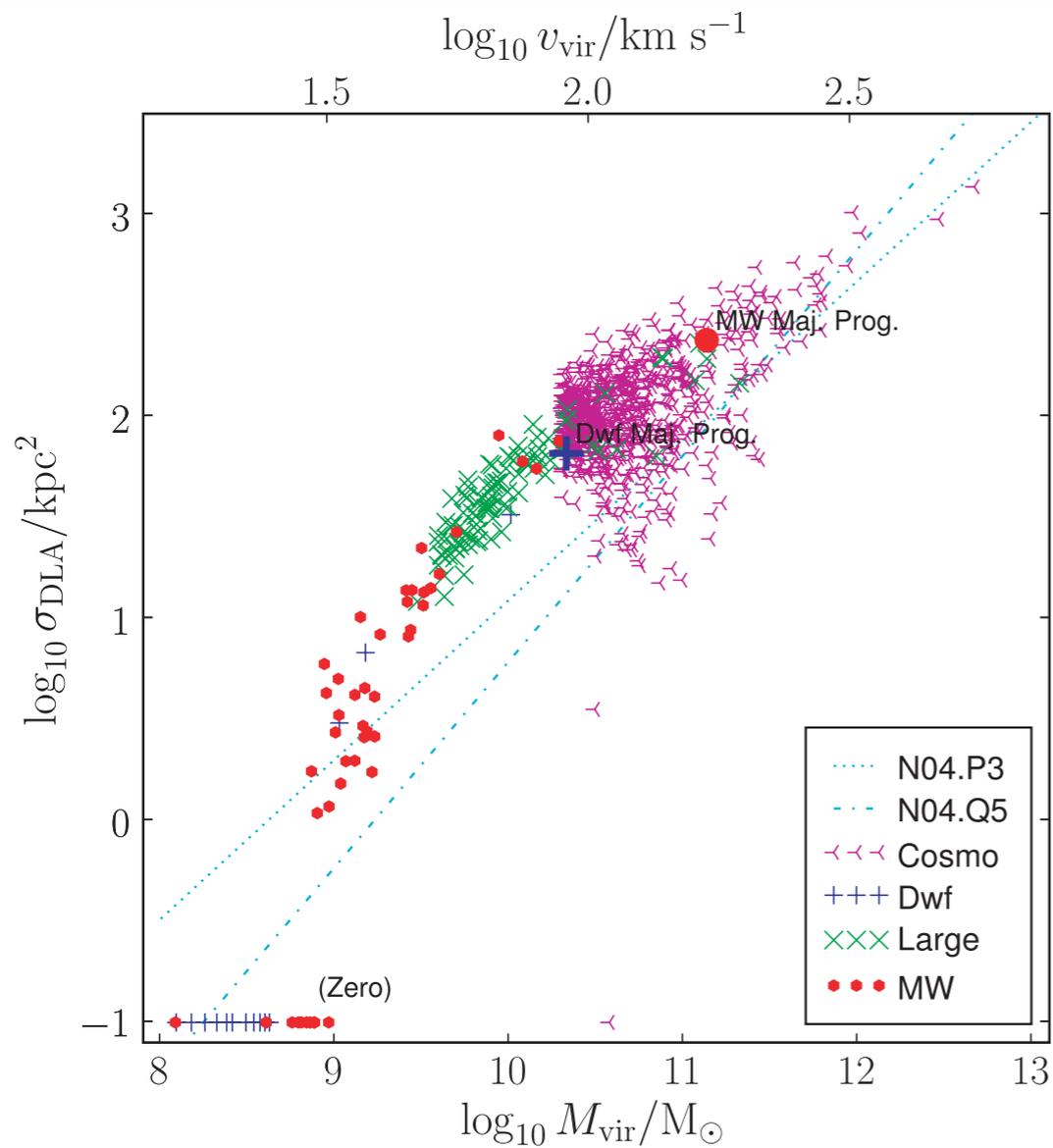
Use re-simulations of cosmological calculations to obtain high resolution (see Governato et al. 2007), then post-process the simulations using a radiative transfer scheme to capture self-shielding effects on the local ionization/ neutrality state of gas.





# Andrew Pontzen

Pontzen et al., MNRAS, 390, 1349 (2008)

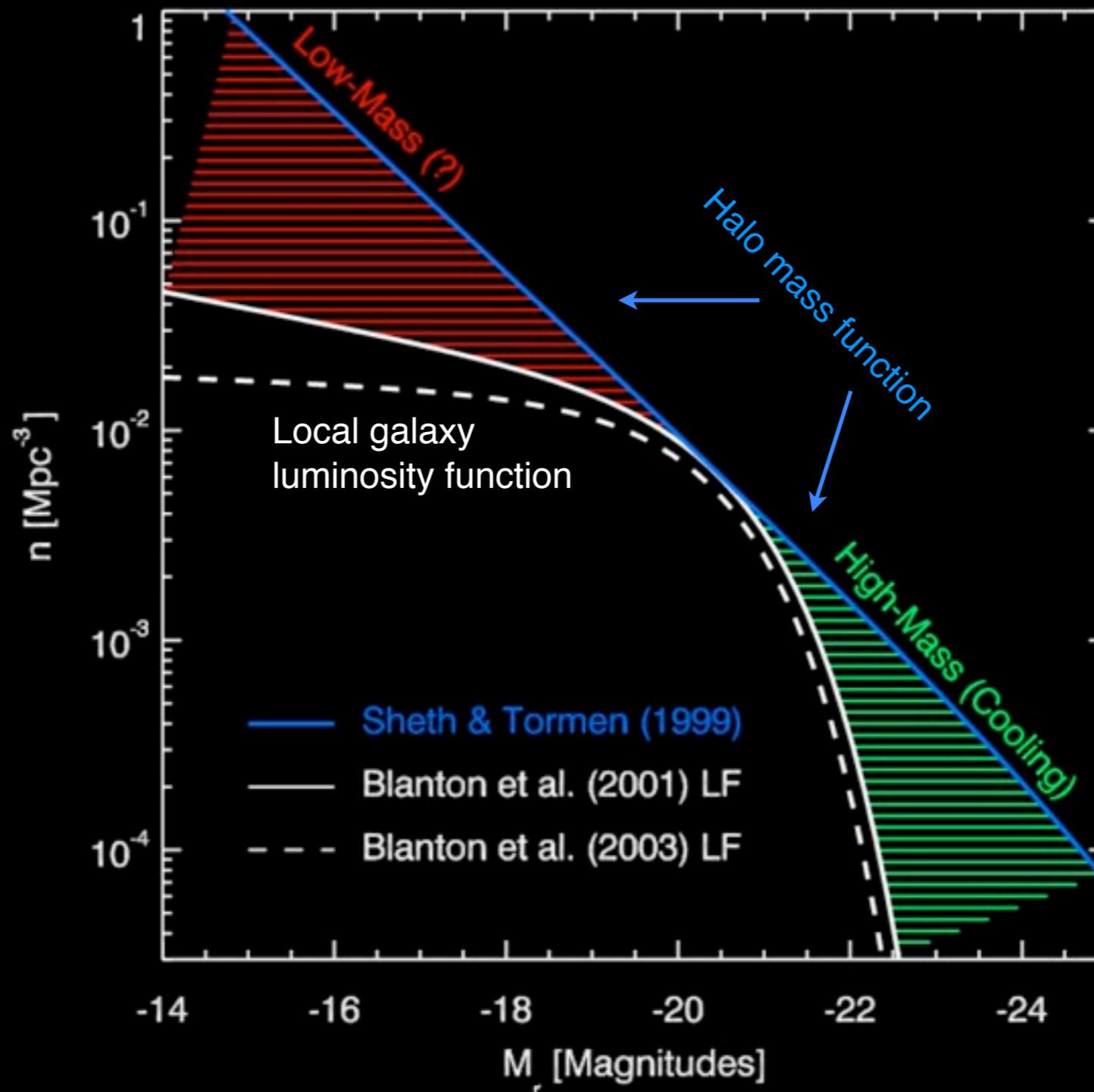


Results:

DLAs contributed by halos with  $M_{\text{vir}} > 10^9 M_{\text{sun}}$

DLA column densities reproduced!

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Deficit of faint galaxies relative to low-mass DM halos.

Supernova-driven winds?

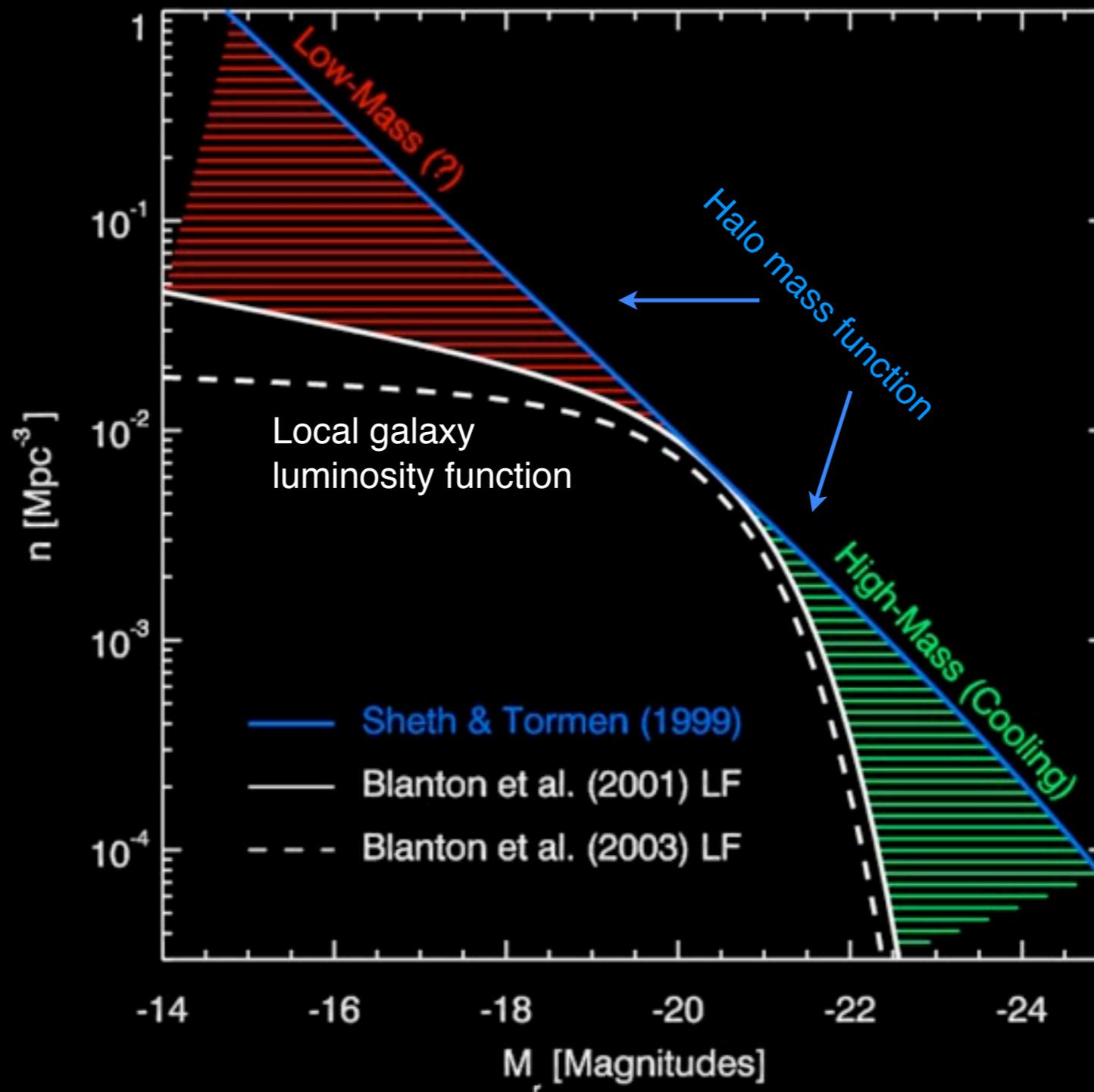
Photoionization?

Suppression of small-scale power?

*No current method provides a convincing solution.*

Possible Key: Low-mass galaxies are **gas rich**.

# A Primary Challenge for the Theory of Galaxy Formation



Deficit of faint galaxies relative to low-mass DM halos.

Supernova-driven winds?

Photoionization?

Suppression of small-scale power?

*No current method provides a convincing solution.*

Possible Key: Low-mass galaxies are **gas rich**.

How can the physics of the ISM and star formation help solve this primary challenge for the theory of galaxy formation?

# Star Formation Rates in Disks: The Standard Lore

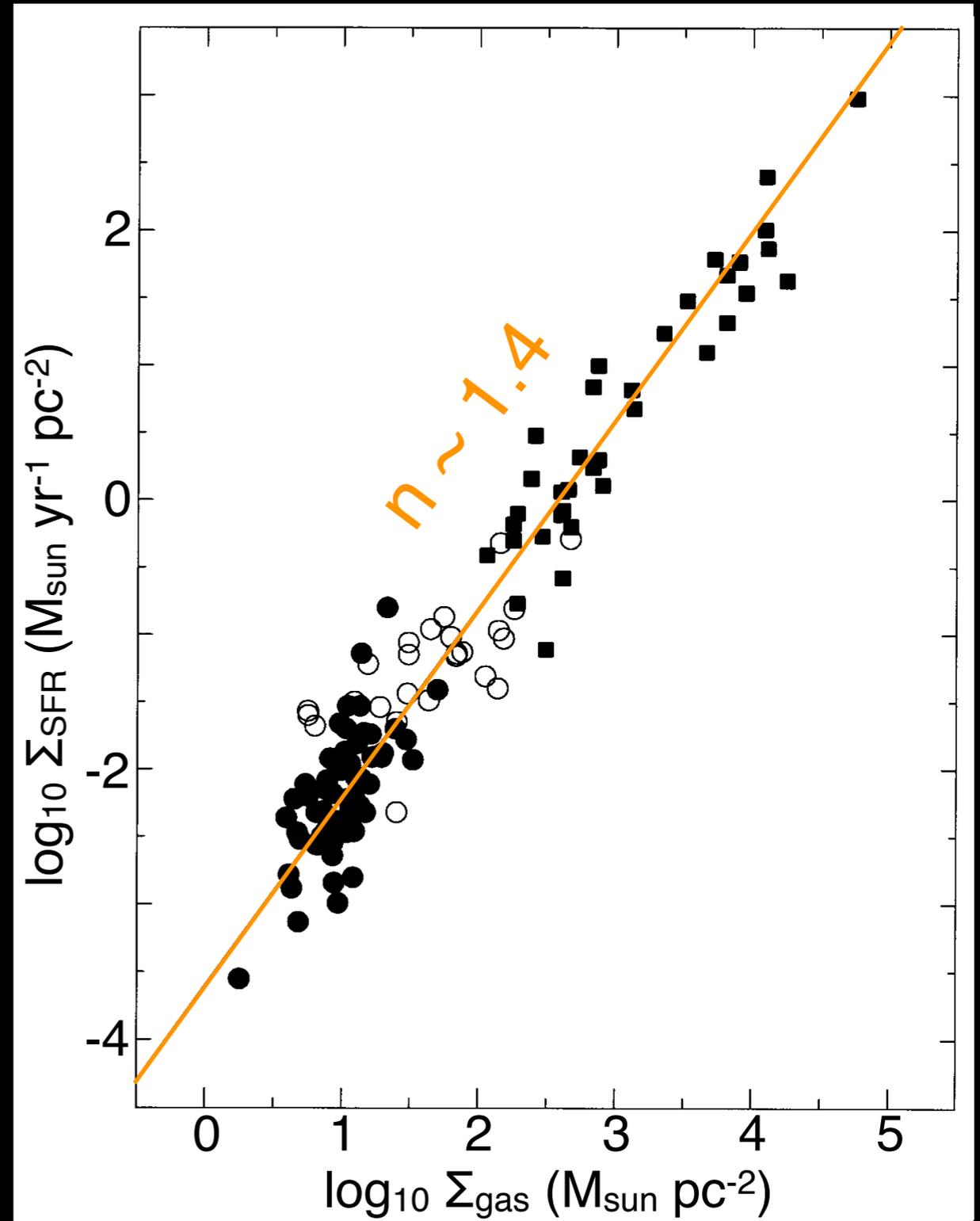
Schmidt (1959): Star formation rate scales with gas density

$$\dot{\rho}_\star \propto \rho_g^n$$

Kennicutt (1989, 1998): Star formation rate surface density scales with total gas mass surface density

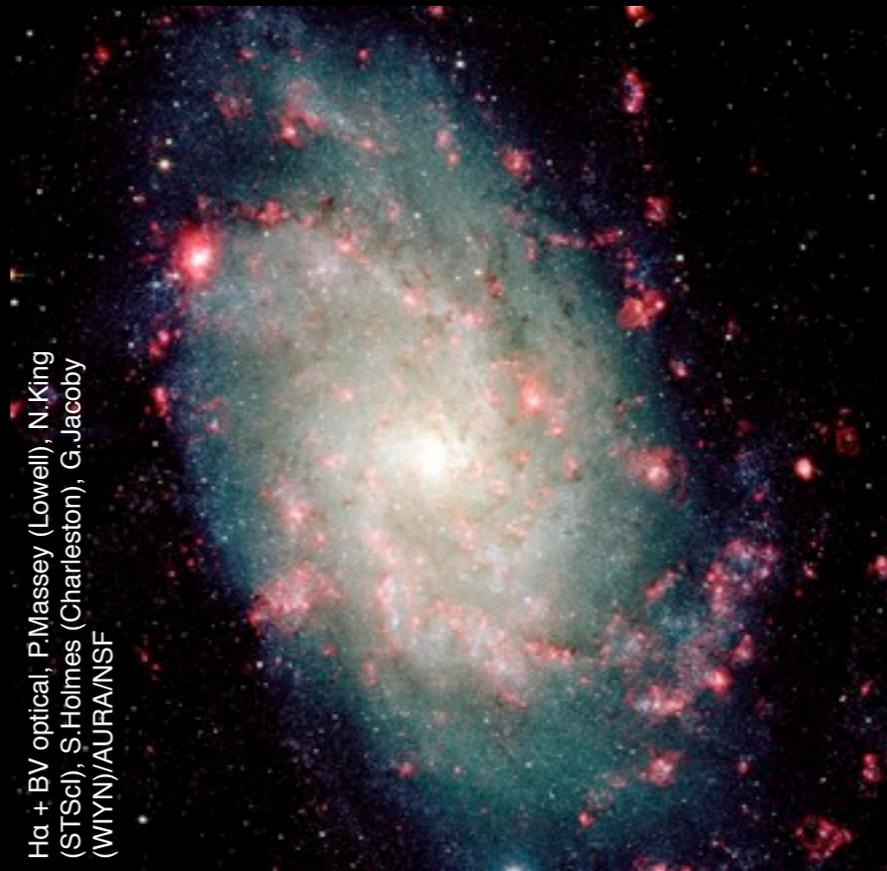
$$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} \propto \Sigma_{\text{gas}}^{1.4 \pm 0.15}$$

This scaling is the star formation prescription in almost all models of galaxy formation, starting with Larson (1969), Katz (1992), and Navarro & White (1993).



Kennicutt (1998)

# Star formation vs. gas distribution: M33



H $\alpha$  + BV optical, P.Massey (Lowell), N.King  
(STScI), S.Holmes (Charleston), G.Jacoby  
(WYNY)/AURANSF

H $\alpha$  emission  
(red) traces  
areas of active  
star formation in  
the disk of M33.

# Star formation vs. gas distribution: M33

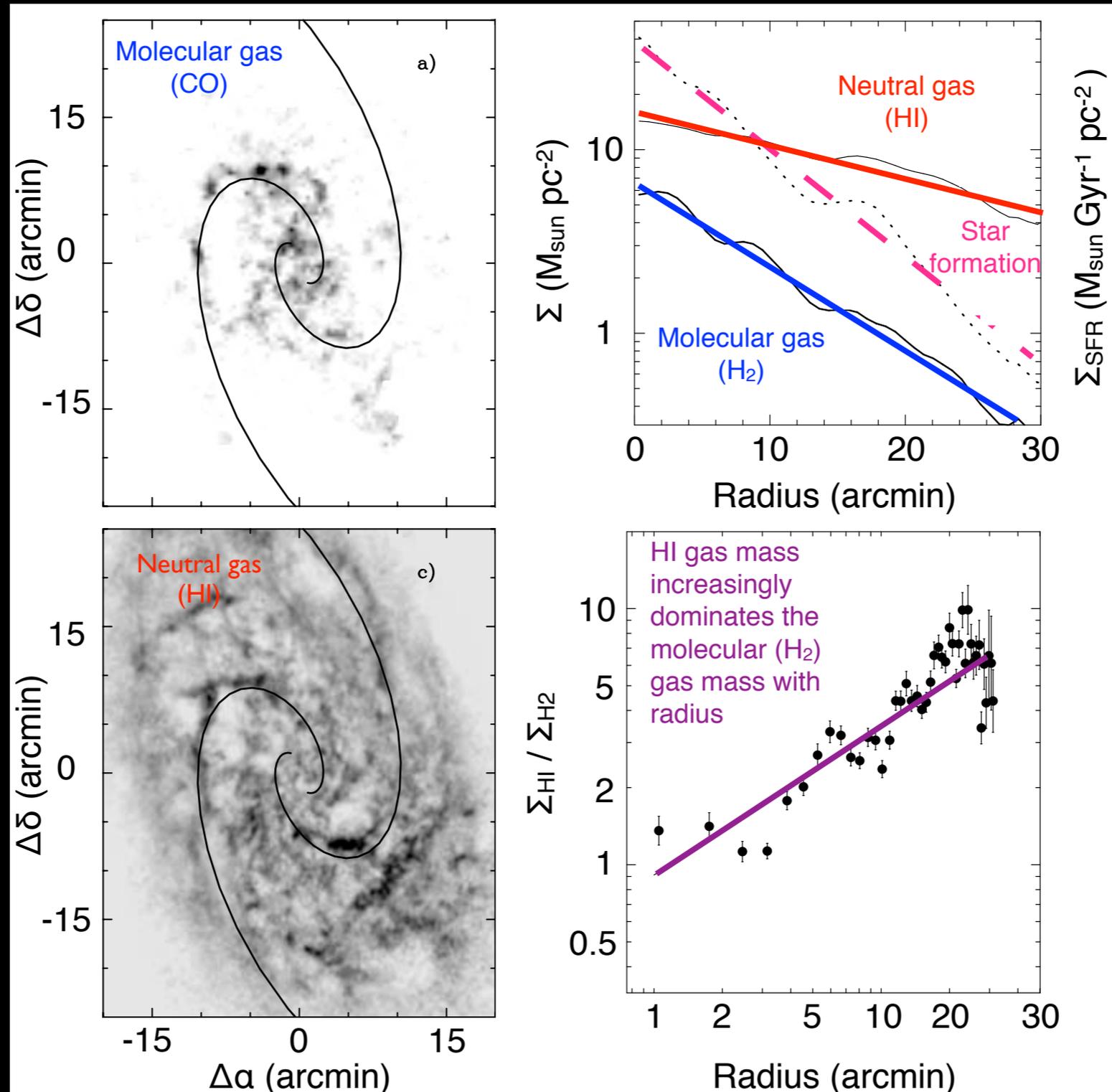


H $\alpha$  emission (red) traces areas of active star formation in the disk of M33.

The neutral HI gas (blue) in M33 is much more extended than the star formation.

Why doesn't star formation track the gas distribution?

# Star formation vs. gas distribution: M33



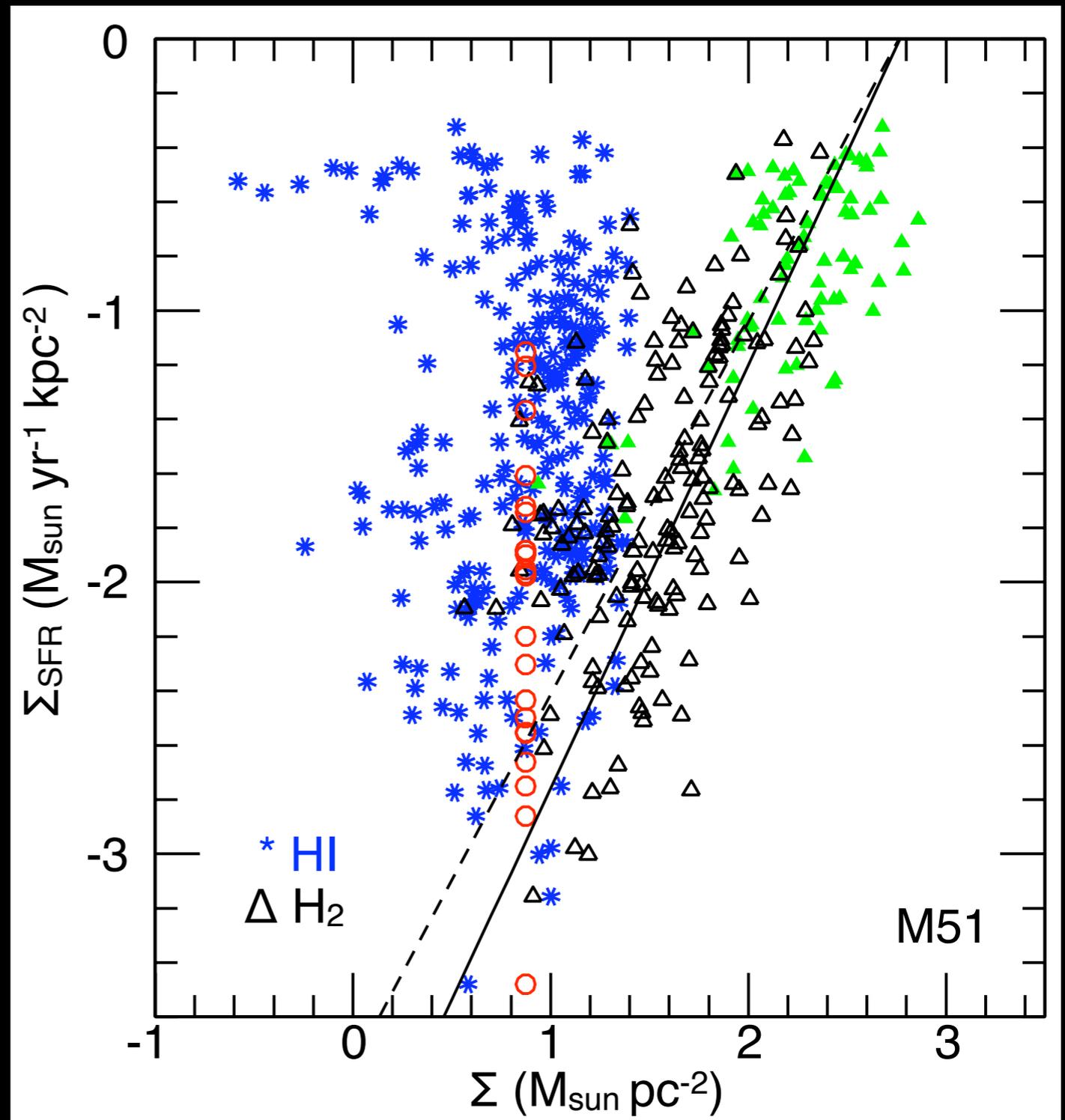
Star formation traces molecular gas better than atomic gas.

Neutral gas has a longer scale radius than molecular gas.

# Is $\dot{\rho}_\star \propto \rho_g/t_{\text{dyn}}$ the Whole Story?

Time to consider a model for star forming gas in simulations that:

- 1) Treats the microphysics of the molecular ISM
- 2) Ties the SFR to the molecular gas properties.



Kennicutt et al. (2007)

**Motivation for a new model of the molecular ISM:  
Robertson & Kravtsov (2008), ApJ, 680, 1083**

# The “Standard” ISM Model

---



# The “Standard” ISM Model

---

$10^4 \text{ K}$

- 1) Gas can cool to a minimum temperature of  $10^4 \text{ K}$ .
- 2) Star formation occurs in “dense” ( $n_{\text{H}} \gtrsim 0.1\text{-}1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ) regions.
- 3) The efficiency of star formation is normalized to match Kennicutt (1998).

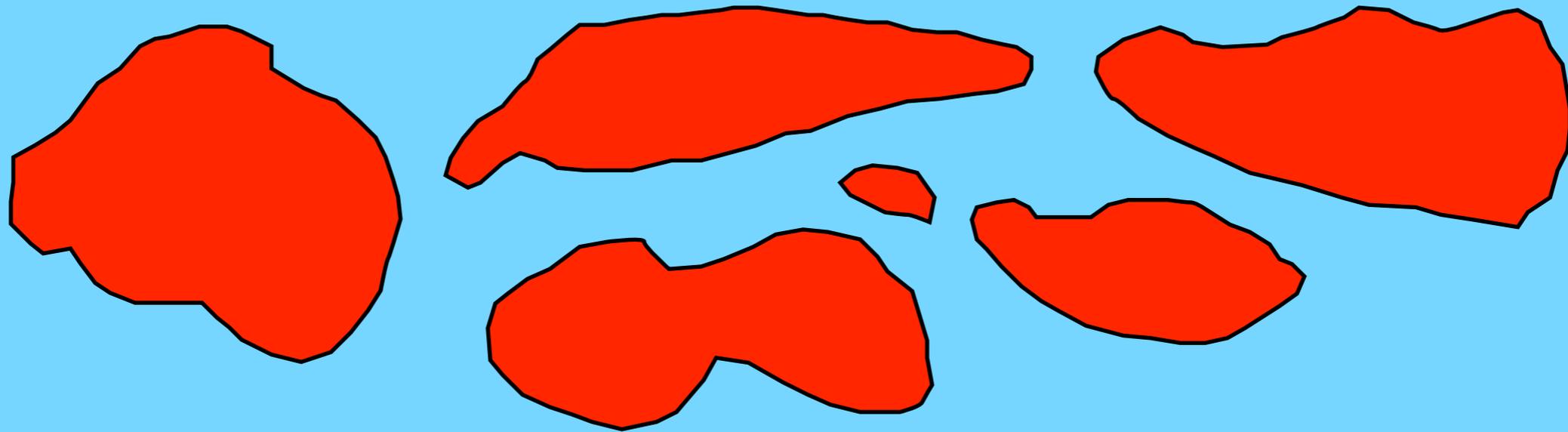
# A Cartoon of Molecular ISM Processes

---



# A Cartoon of Molecular ISM Processes

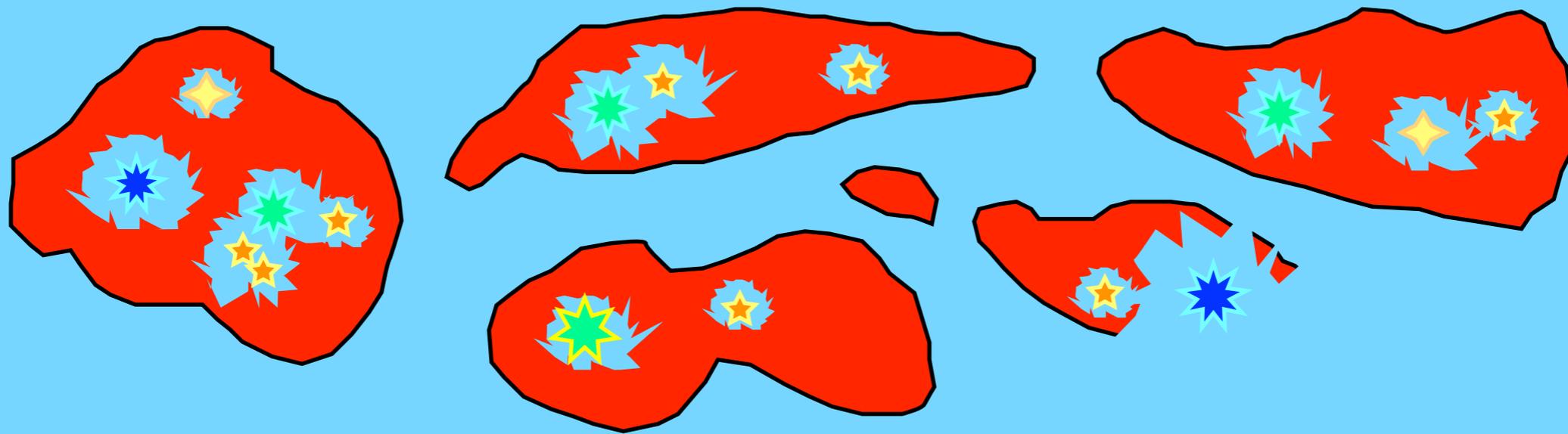
---



At sufficiently high gas densities, low-temperature coolants will allow molecular gas to condense from the hot ambient medium.

# A Cartoon of Molecular ISM Processes

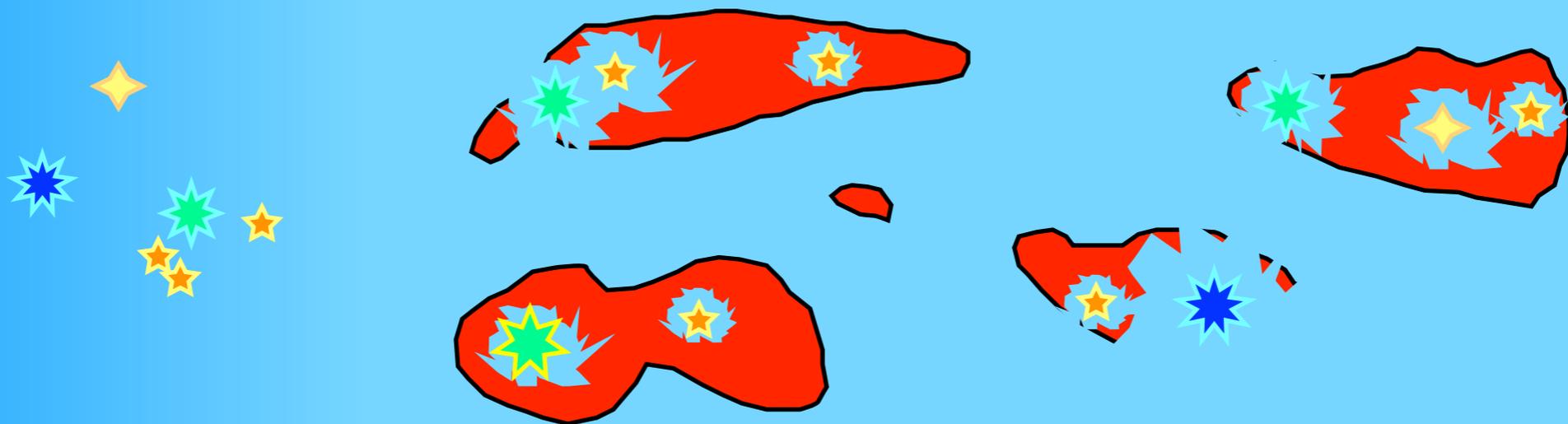
---



Stars form from the molecular clouds, and the local interstellar radiation field increases. Soft UV photons in the ISRF can begin to photodissociate and heat the molecular clouds.

# A Cartoon of Molecular ISM Processes

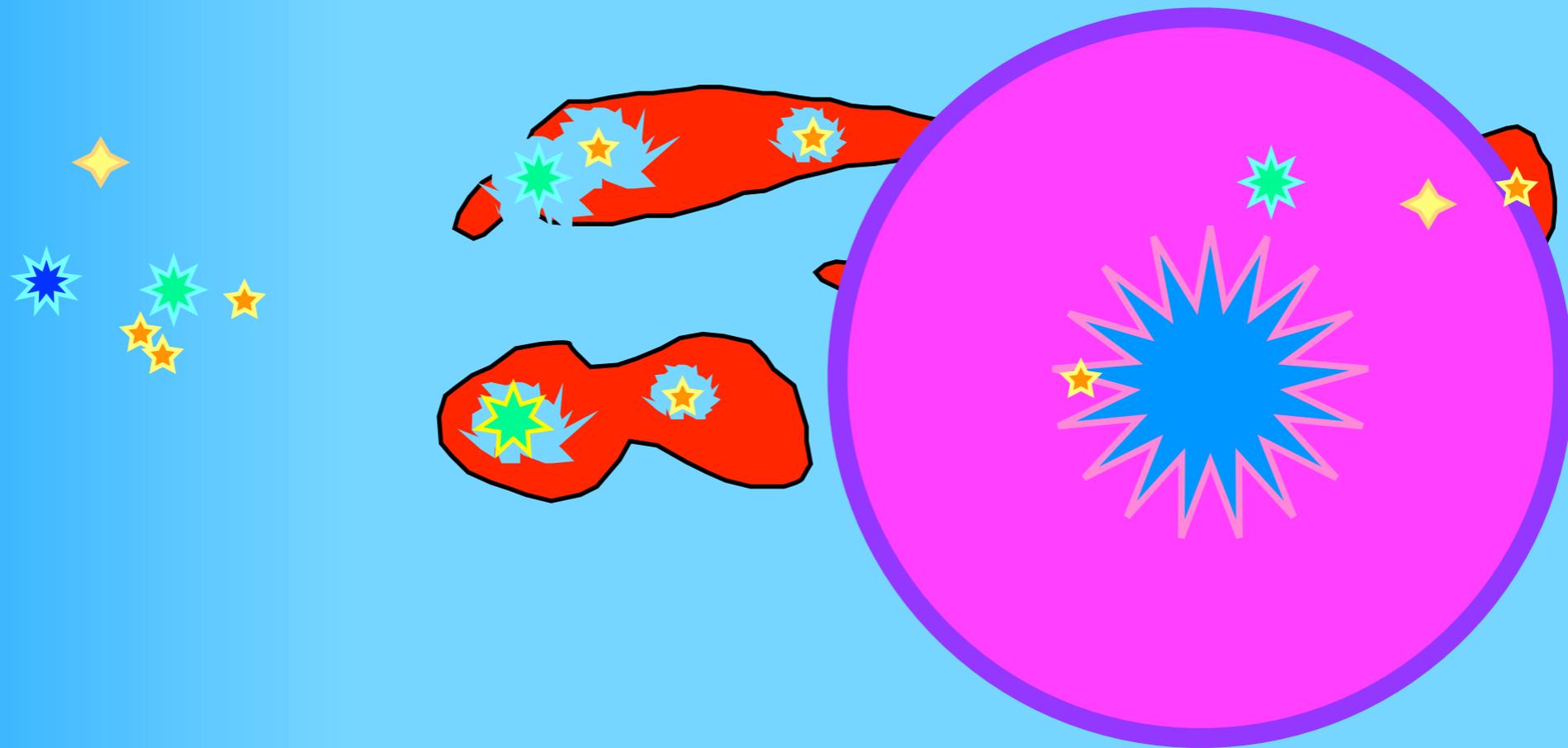
---



In the presence of an ISRF, the molecular density at moderate ISM densities is suppressed. In some regions of the ISM, the local ISRF can destroy all molecular gas, removing low-temperature coolants and increasing the gas temperature. The destruction of  $\text{H}_2$  by the ISRF acts as a feedback mechanism to regulate star formation, and is efficient even as the local cooling time is short.

# A Cartoon of Molecular ISM Processes

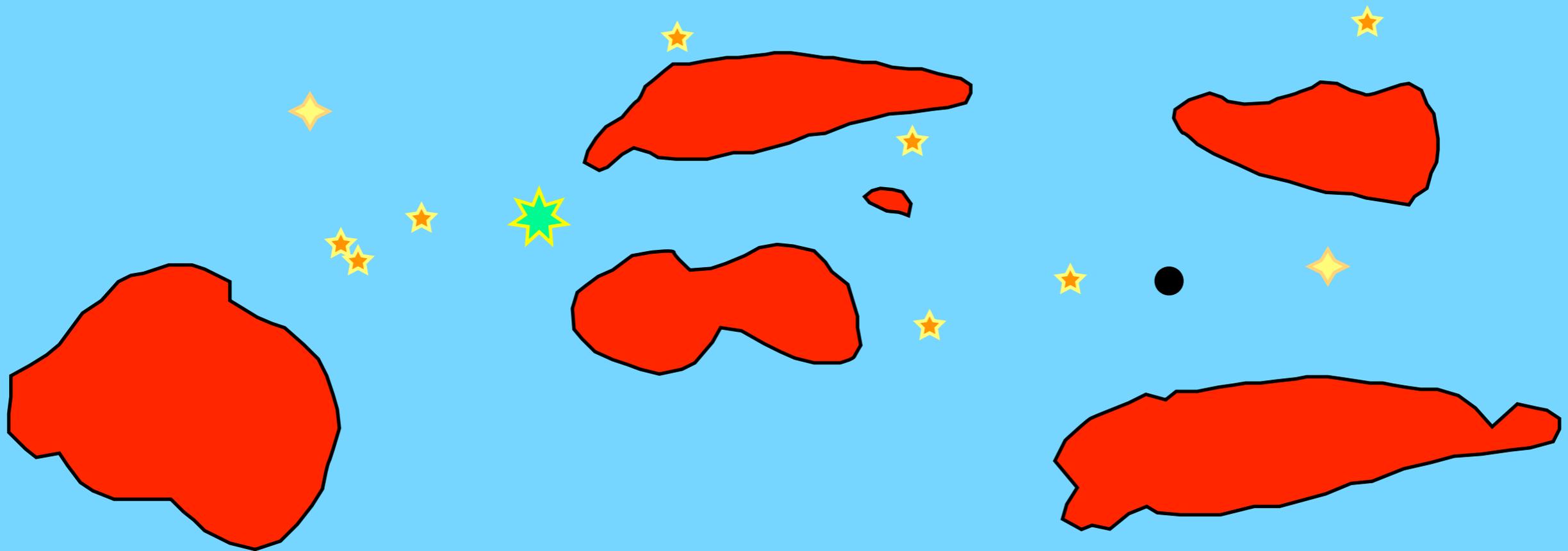
---



Additional feedback mechanisms, such as supernovae from massive stars, may still operate.

# A Cartoon of Molecular ISM Processes

---



After the young stars die the ISRF may abate, allowing the molecular ISM to reform and the star formation cycle to start again.

# A New Model for the Molecular ISM and Star Formation

---

**SFR tied to molecular density and dynamical time**

$$\dot{\rho}_{\star} = C_{\star} f_{\text{H2}} (1 - \beta) \rho_{\text{gas}}^{1.5}$$

**Molecular fraction** vs. density, T, Z, and ISRF strength

$$f_{\text{H2}} = f_{\text{H2}}(\rho_{\text{gas}}, T, Z, U_{\text{ISRF}})$$

**Interstellar radiation field** strength tracks the local SFR density

$$U_{\text{ISRF}} = U_{\odot}(\nu) \times \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}}{\Sigma_{\text{SFR},\odot}} \right)$$

ISM thermal evolution = **supernovae heating** - net atomic and molecular cooling rates

$$\rho_{\text{gas}} \frac{du}{dt} = \epsilon_{\text{SN}} \dot{\rho}_{\star} - \Lambda_{\text{net}}$$

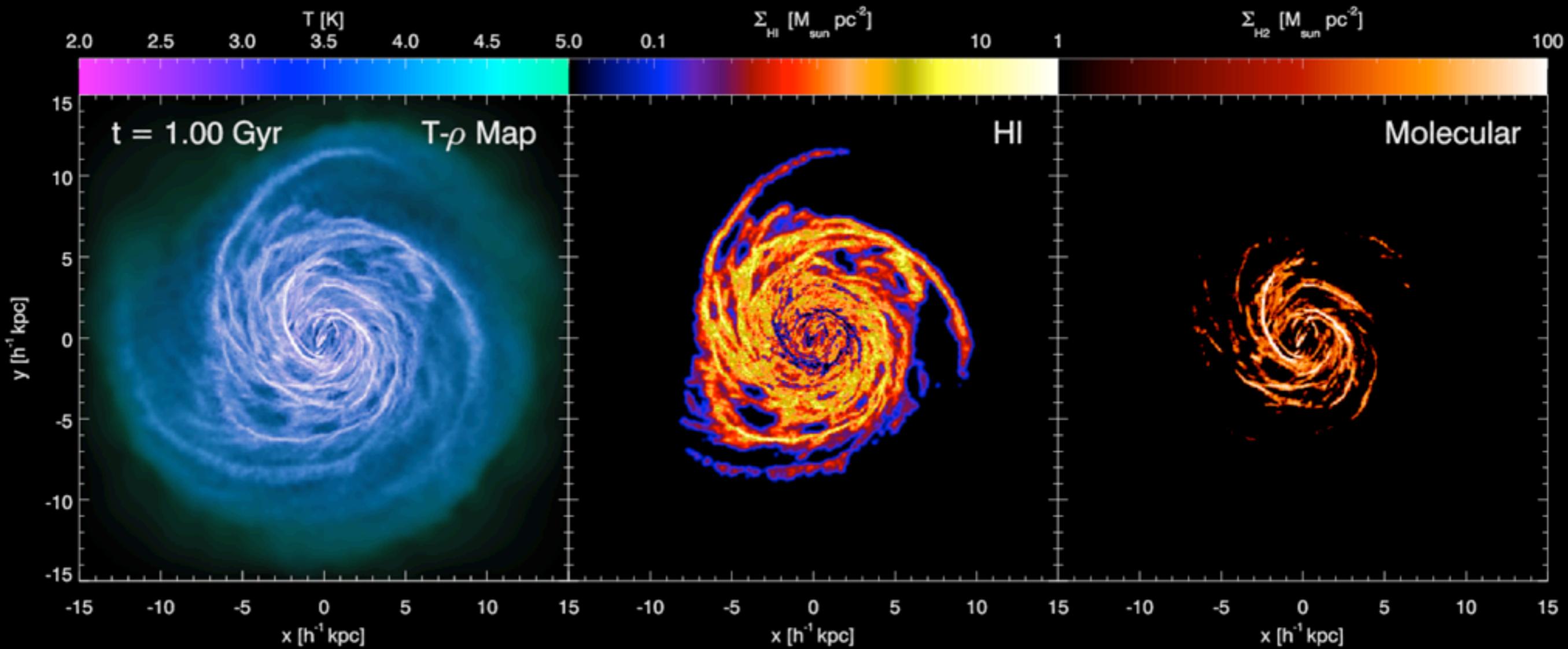
**Net atomic and molecular cooling rates** depend on density, T, Z, and ISRF strength

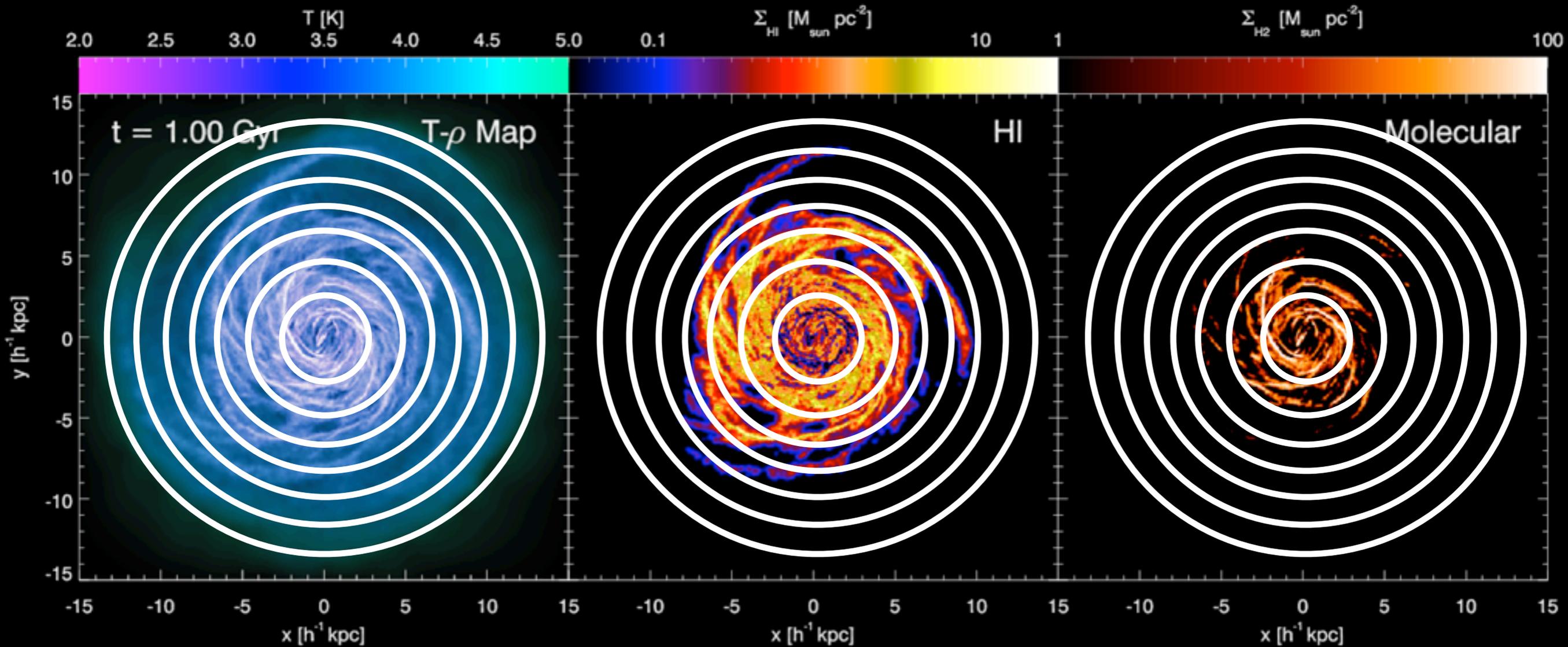
$$\Lambda_{\text{net}} = \Lambda_{\text{net}}(\rho_{\text{gas}}, T, Z, U_{\text{ISRF}})$$

**Implemented in the N-body/SPH code GADGET2**

**Robertson & Kravtsov (2008), ApJ, 680, 1083**



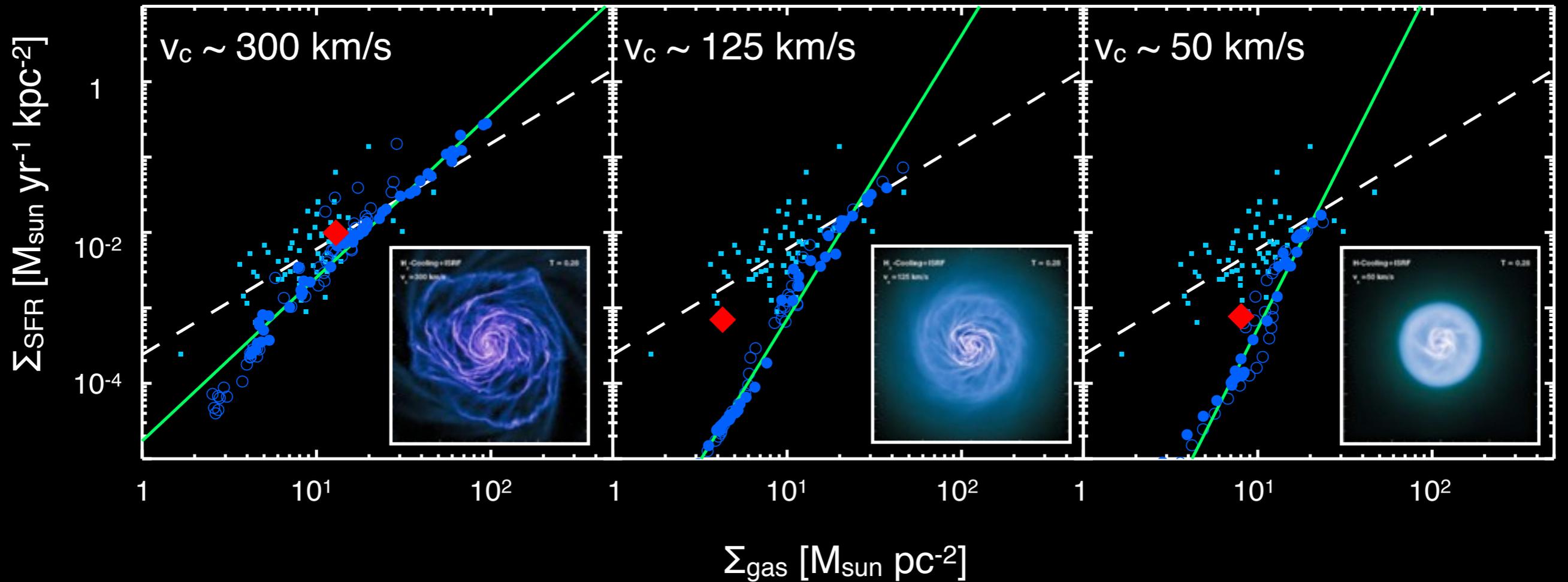




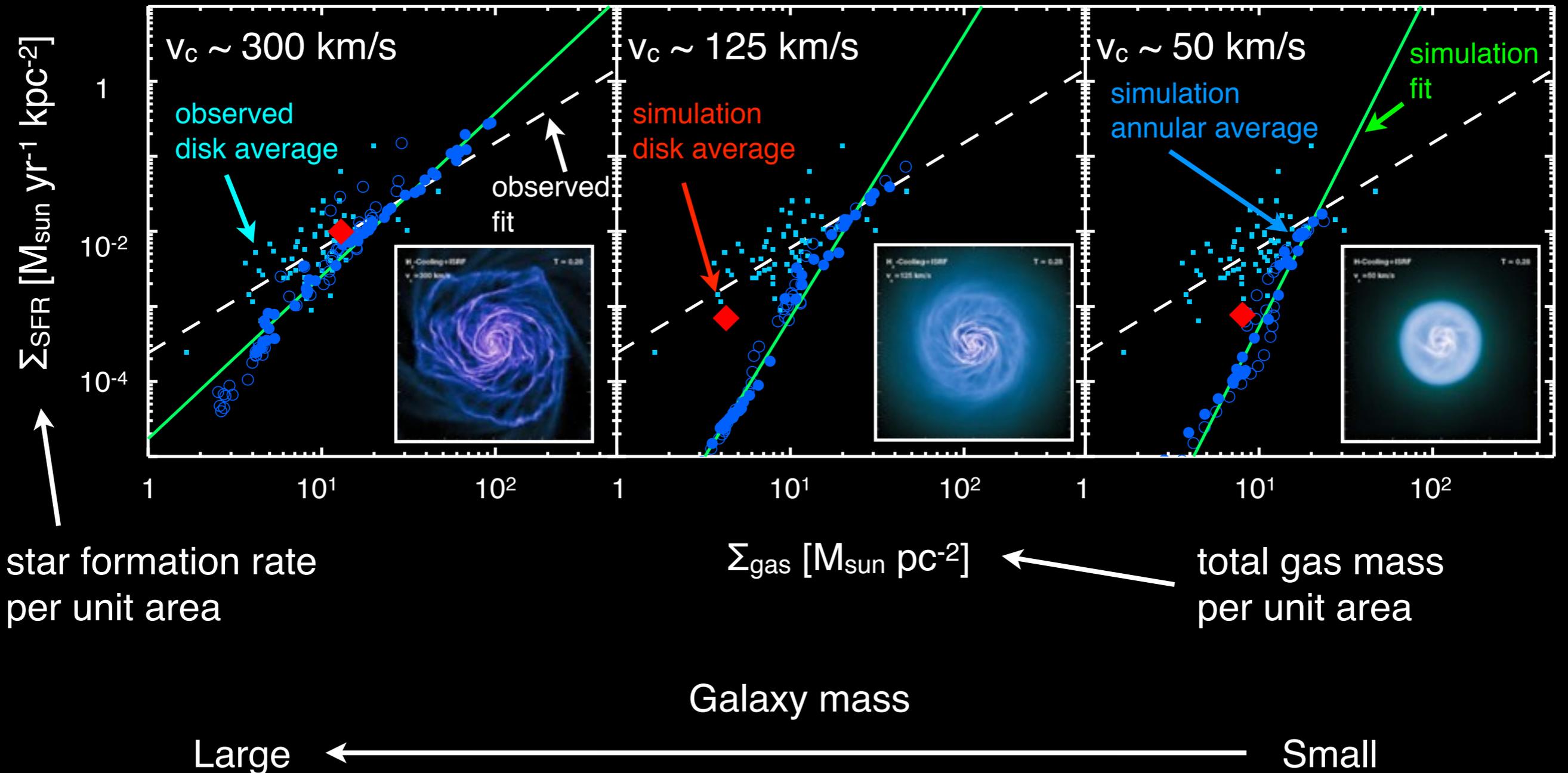
1) Measure gas and SFR properties in annuli.

2) Compare with observations.

# Results: Star Formation Efficiency vs. Galaxy Mass

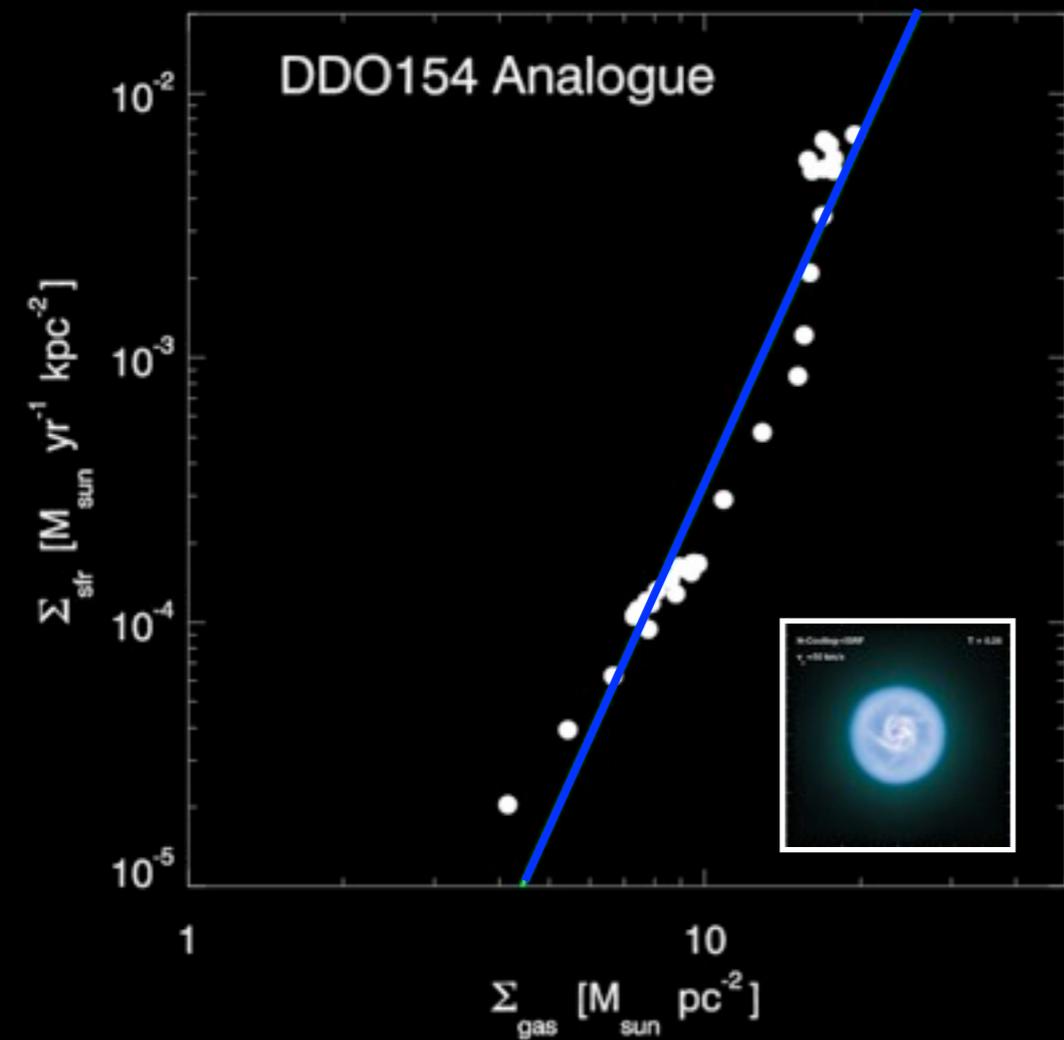


# Results: Star Formation Efficiency vs. Galaxy Mass

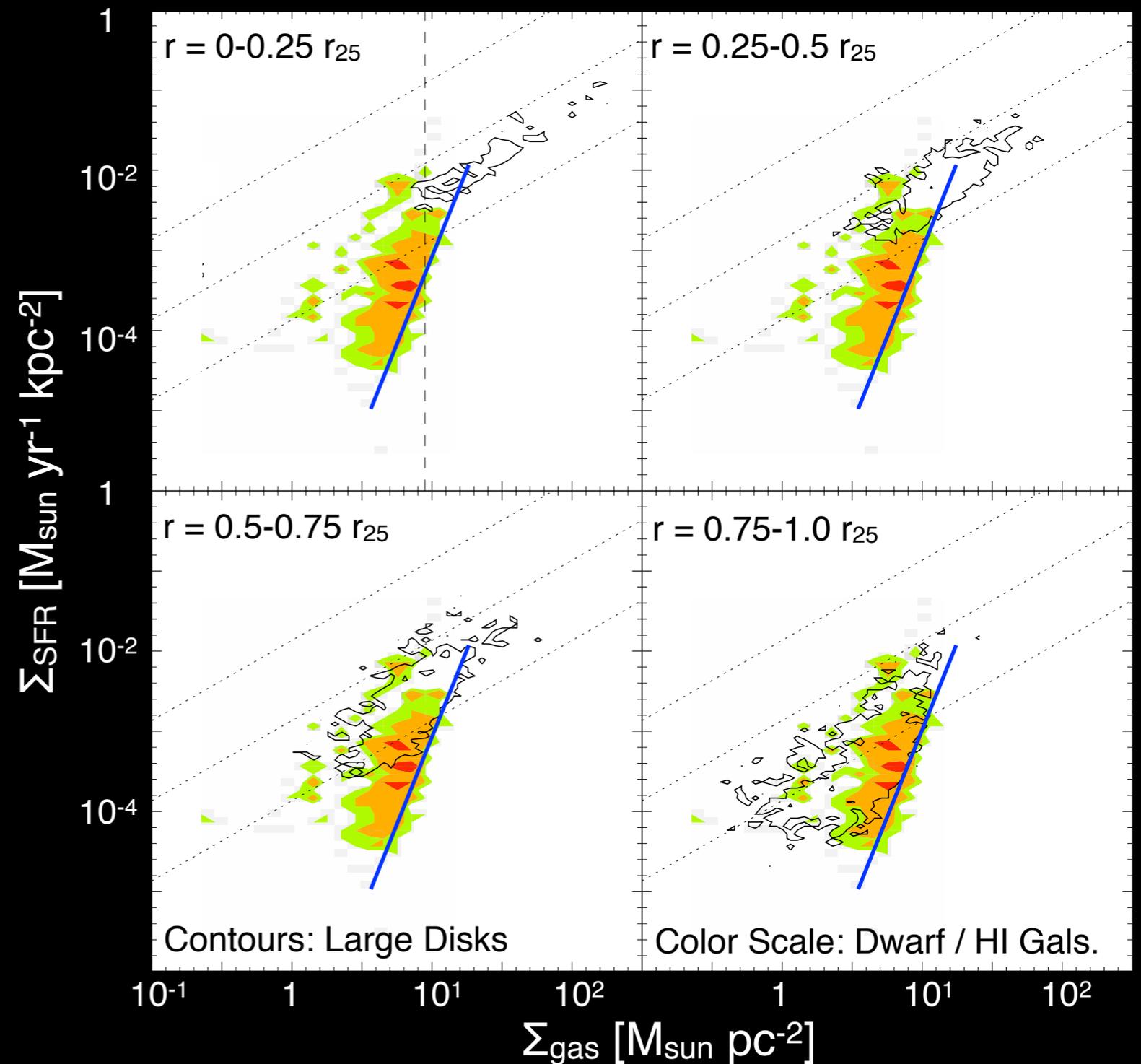


# Results: Star Formation Efficiency vs. Galaxy Mass

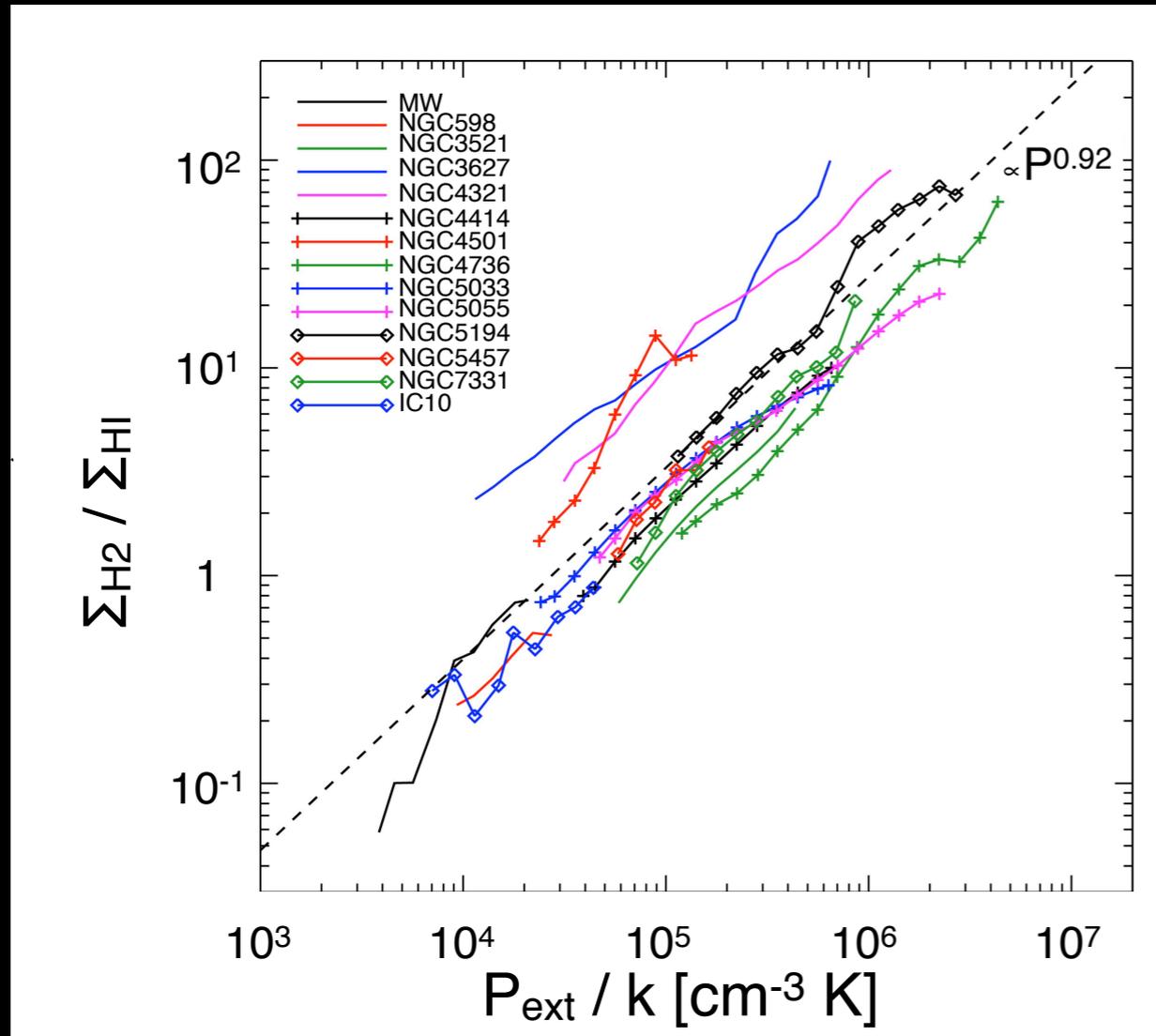
Quantitative agreement between simulations and THINGS survey.



from THINGS

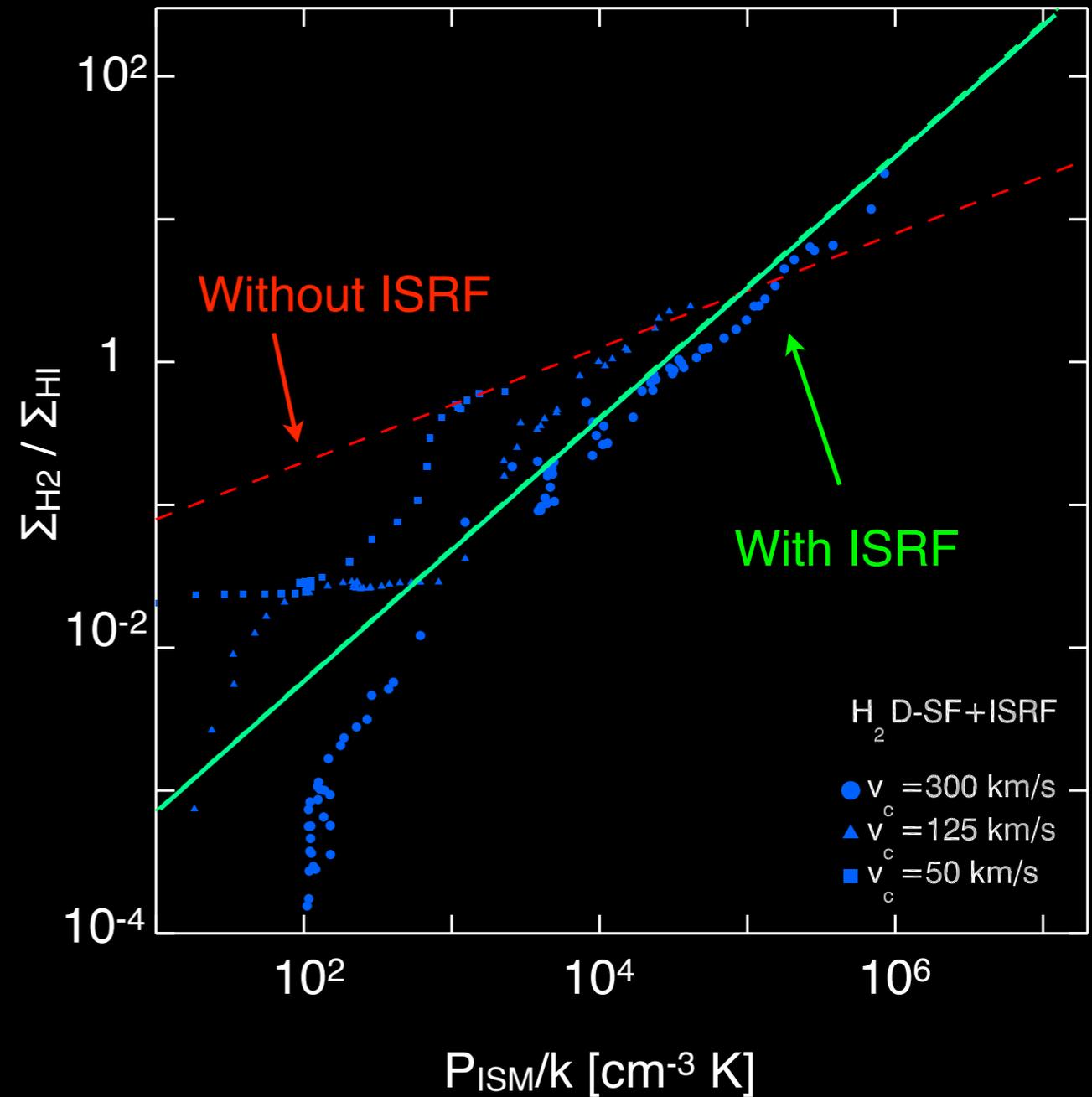


# Results: f<sub>H2</sub>-Pressure Correlation

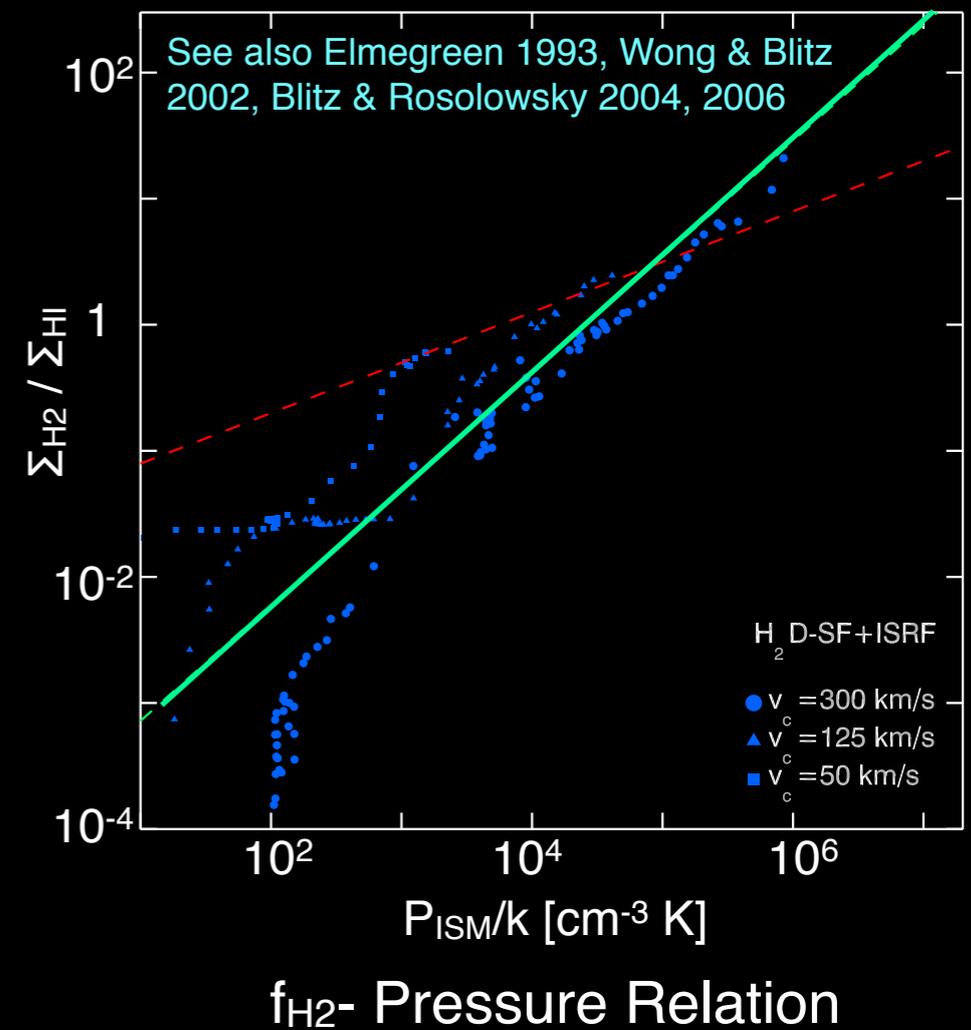
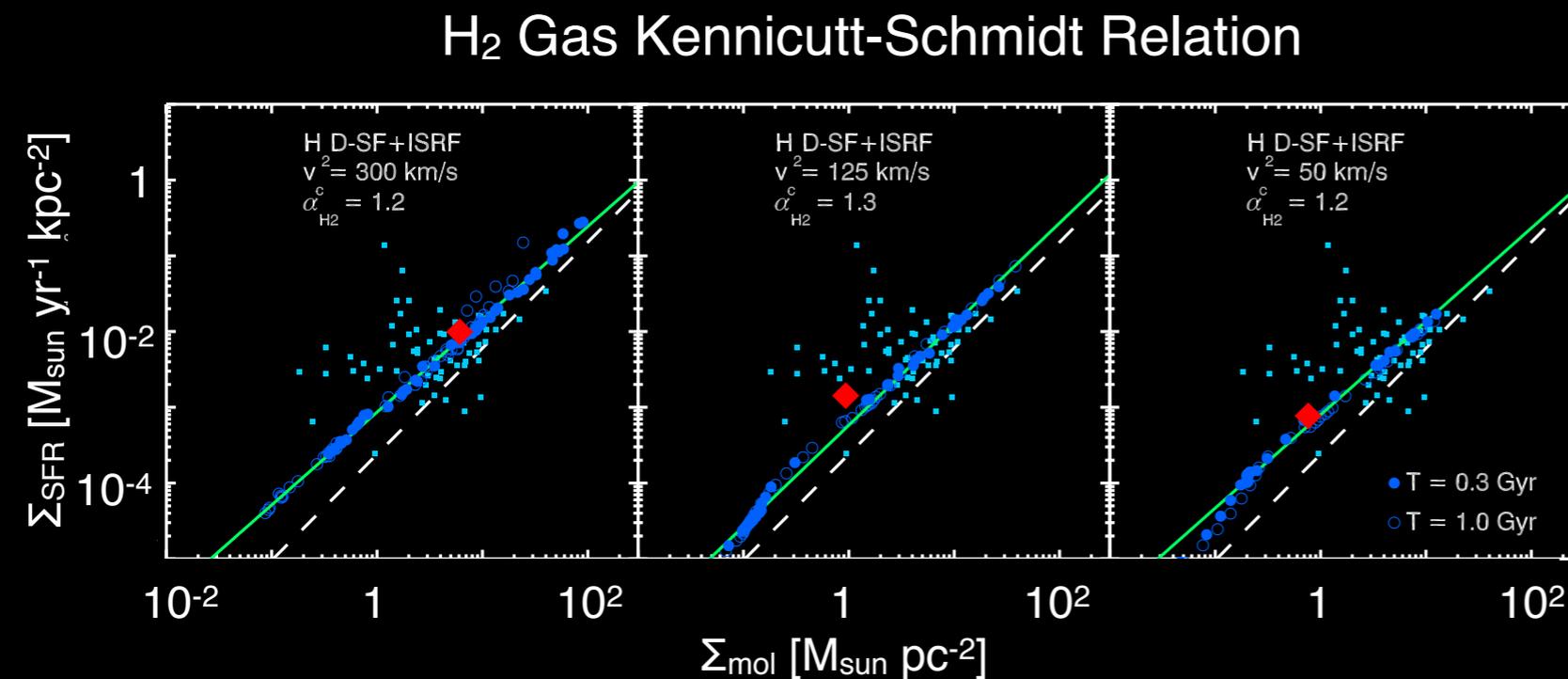
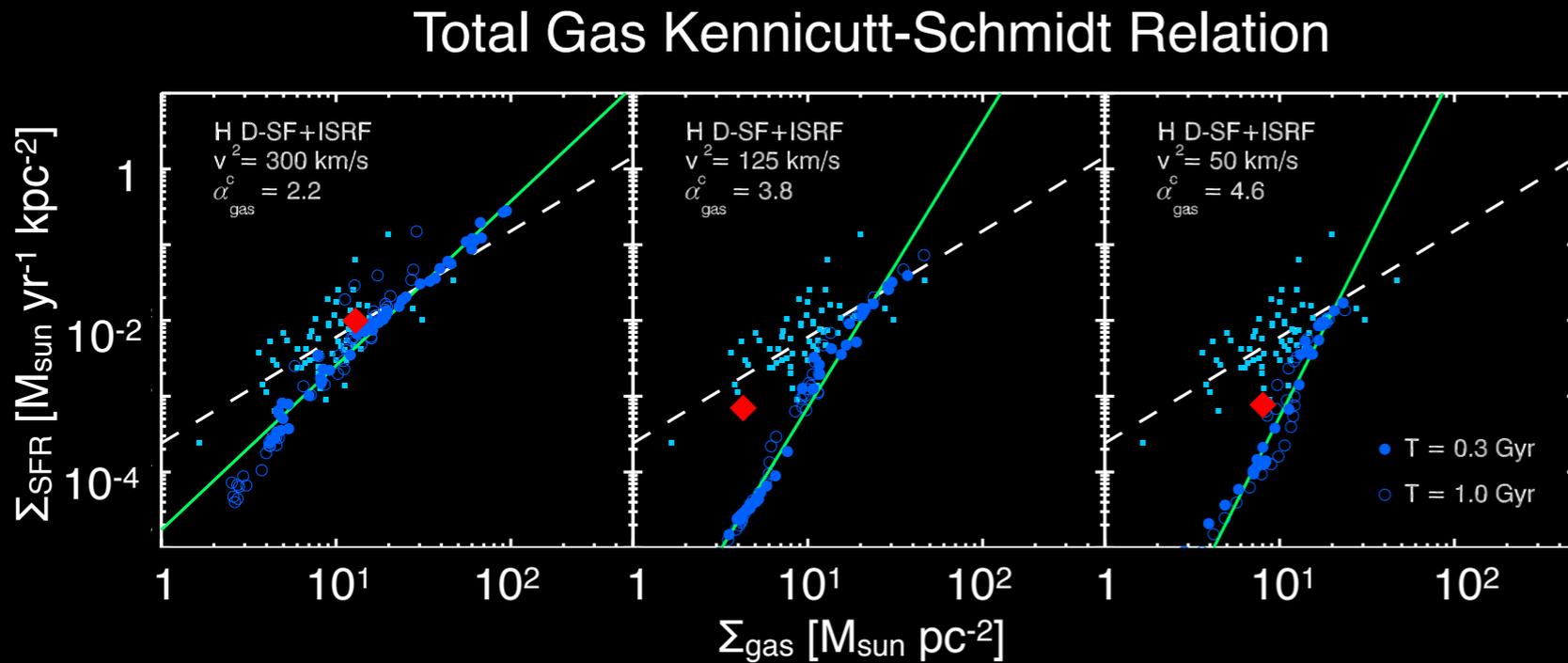


Blitz & Rosolowsky (2006)

Simulation Results:



# Results: Global Star Formation Relations in Disks

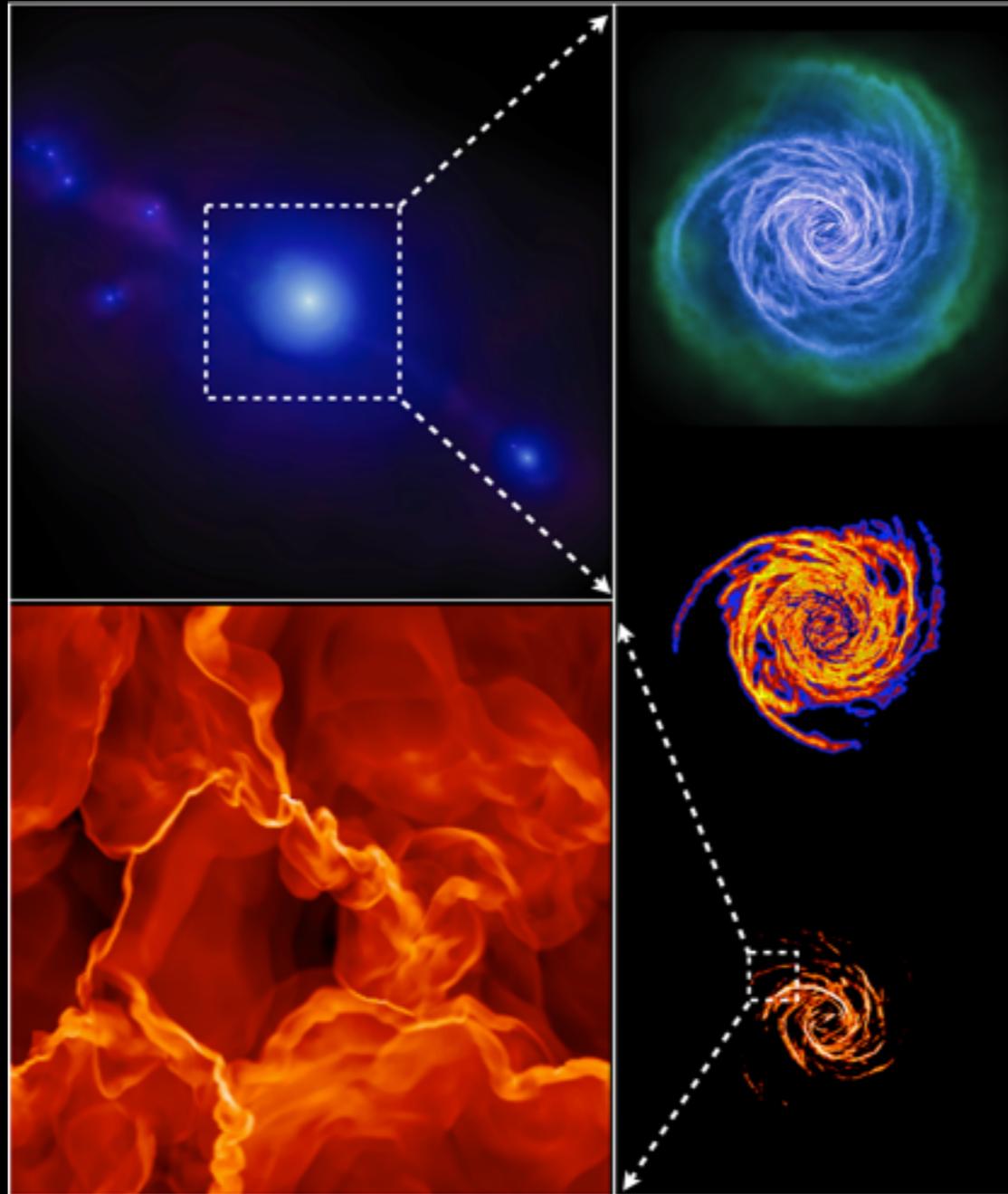


RK08 simulations match total and molecular gas Kennicutt relations, and f<sub>H2</sub>-pressure relation.

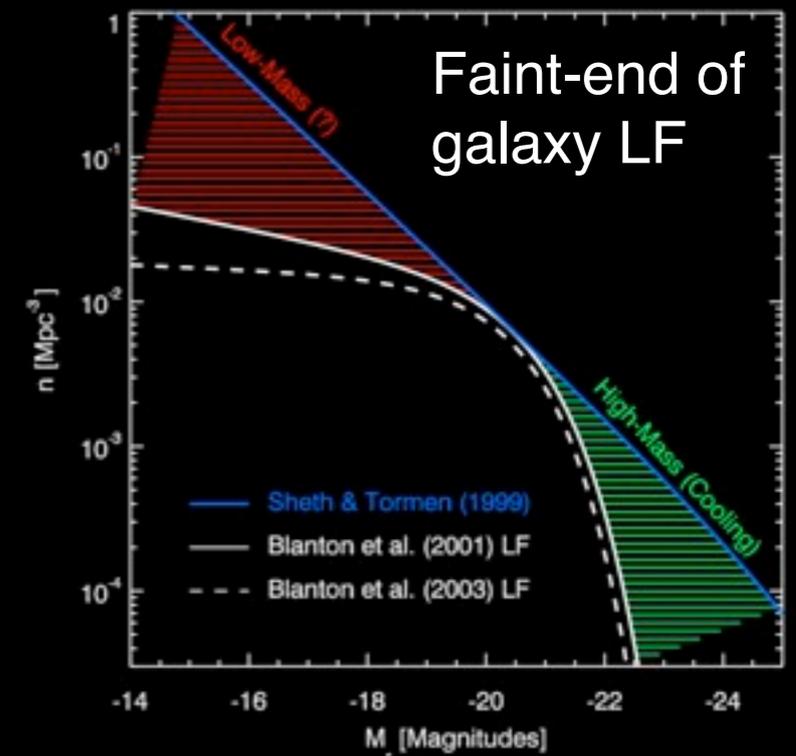
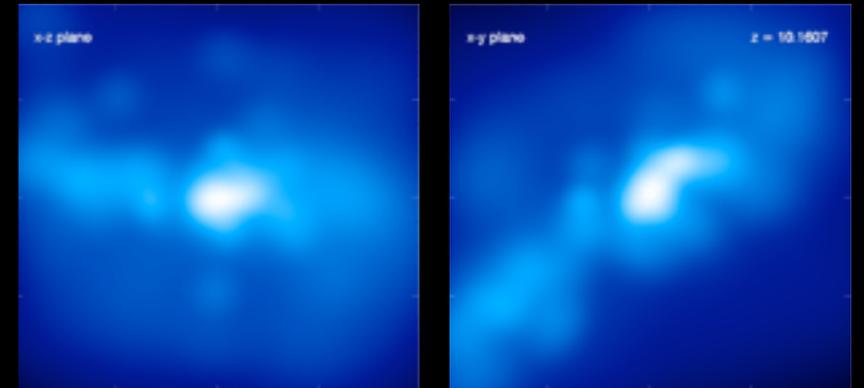
# Unsolved Problems in Galactic Star Formation

What is the interplay between cosmological gas inflow, disk dynamics, and the creation and destruction of molecular gas?

How is star formation efficiency related to supersonic turbulence?



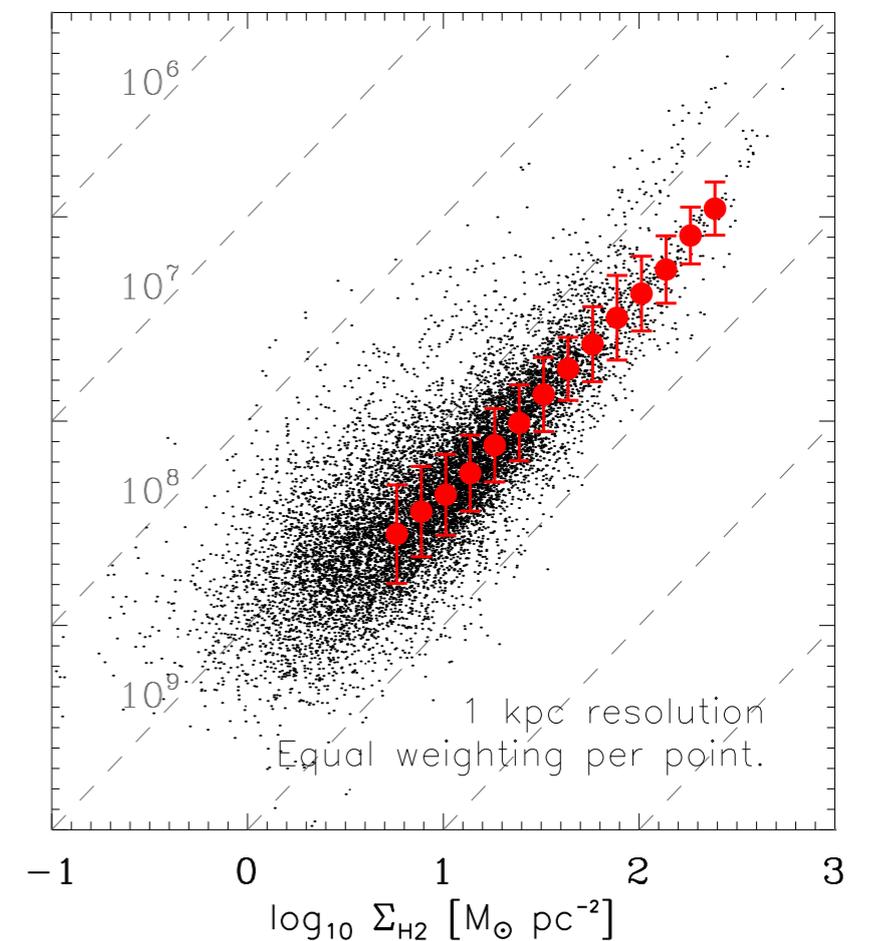
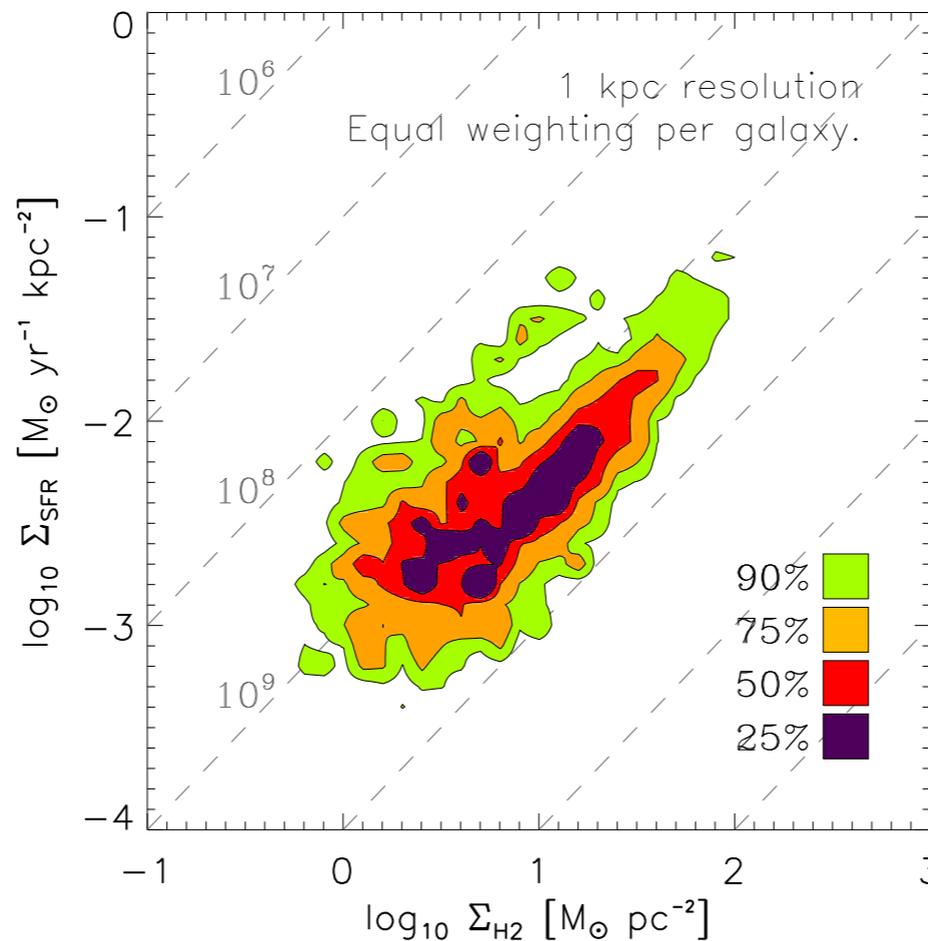
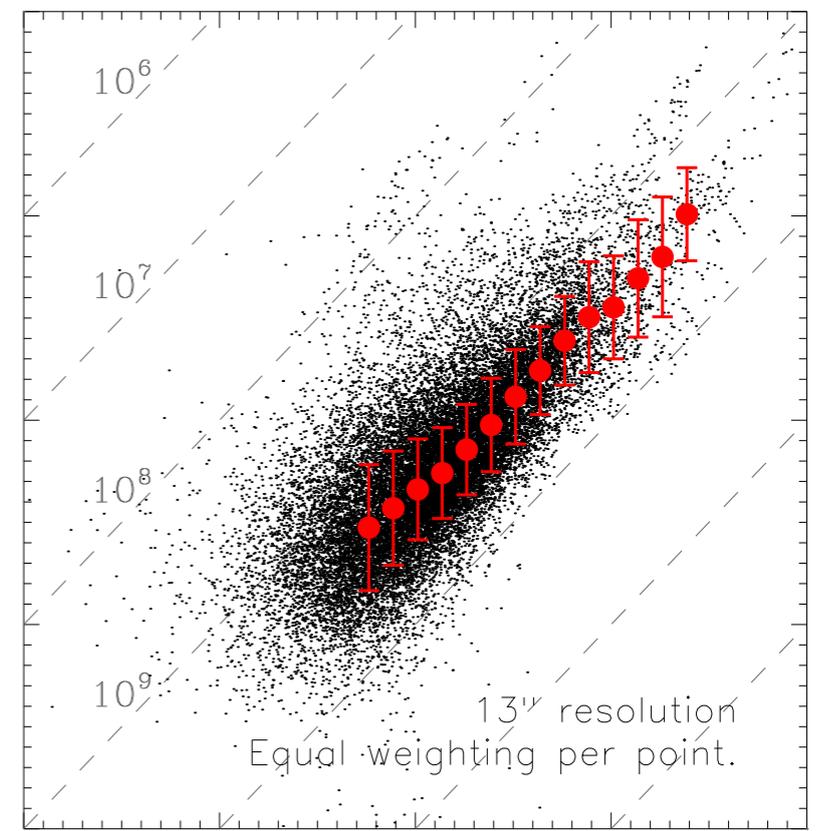
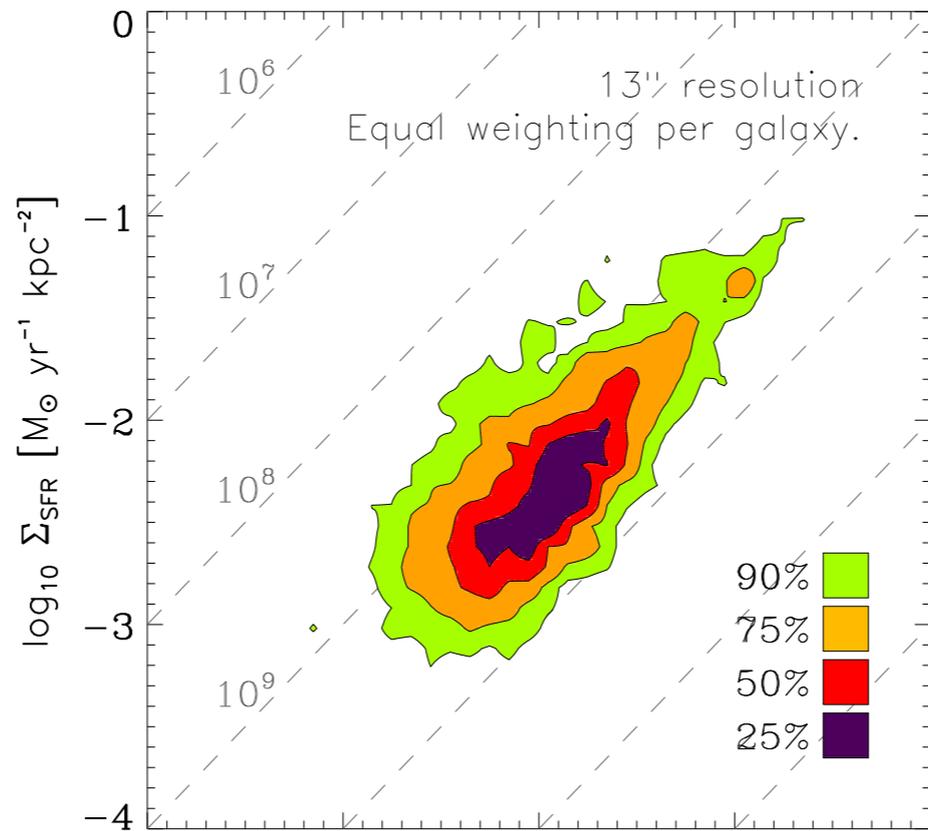
Does the regulation of star formation change galaxy morphology and LFs?



# Global Timescale for Star Formation?

Bigiel et al. 2011 report that the star formation timescale is constant and the molecular S-K relation is linear.

In galaxy formation, solved problems often become unsolved after more data are available!





# Black Hole Spins

Volonteri et al 2005  
Semi-analytical  
model of BH spin  
distribution.

Based on Extended  
Press-Schechter  
merger histories,  
analytical models  
for dynamical  
friction, gas  
accretion, and BH-  
BH mergers.

In this model, even  
radio-quiet AGN are  
rapidly spinning.

Radio luminosity is  
likely connected to  
spin and accretion  
rate.

