

Numerical Simulations and Astrophysics

DISCUSSION

- Two major limits of our ignorance in simulations:
 - (1) Star Formation:
 - - Need \sim pc resolution to see star-forming cores
 - - Need self-consistent phase structure in simulation gas
 - - Need to understand how it depends on local density, temperature, ionization, magnetic fields, etc.

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DISCUSSION

➤ Two major limits of our ignorance in simulations:

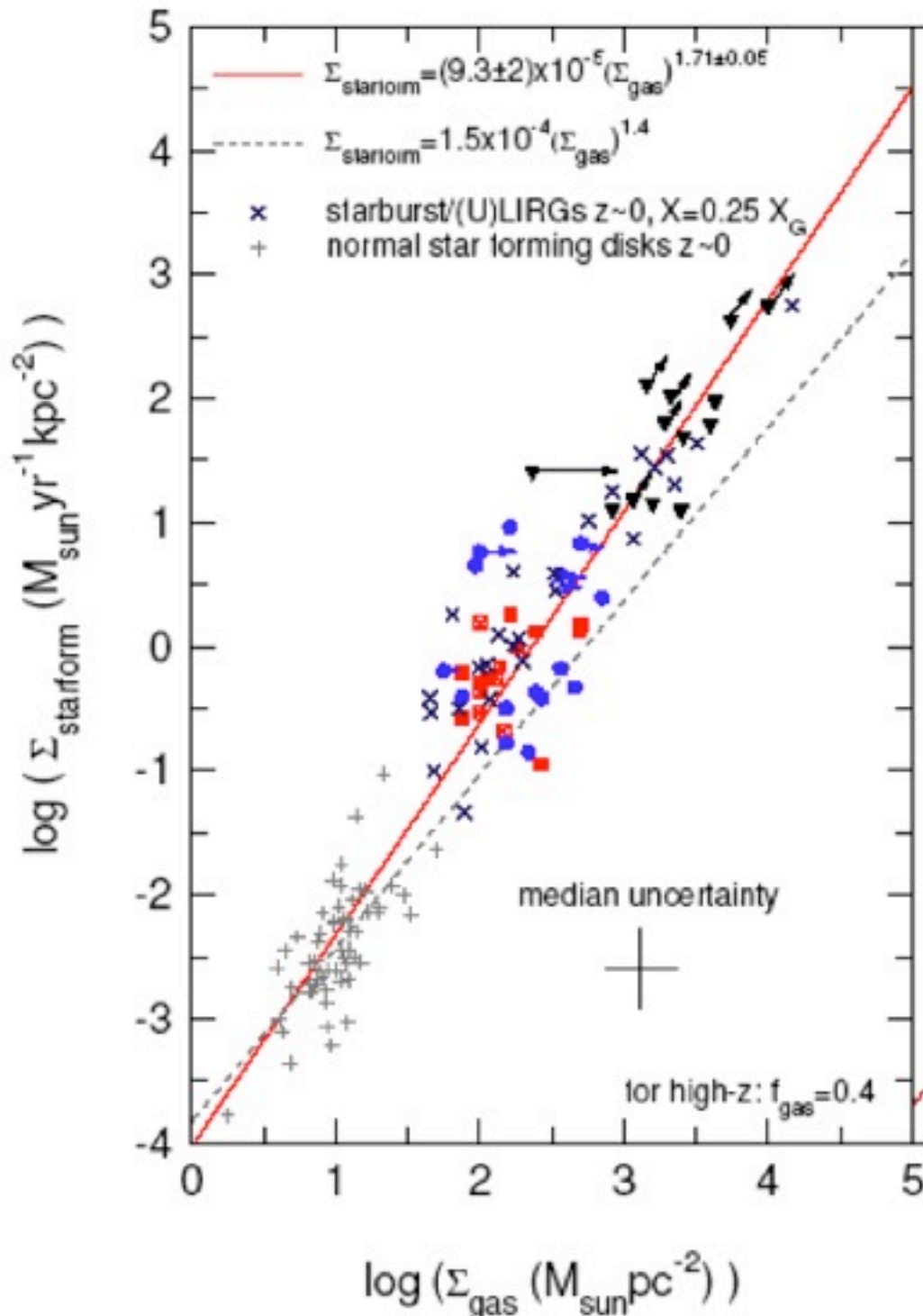
➤ (1) Star Formation:

➤ However....

Kennicutt-Schmidt Law seems to very accurately describe global SF properties

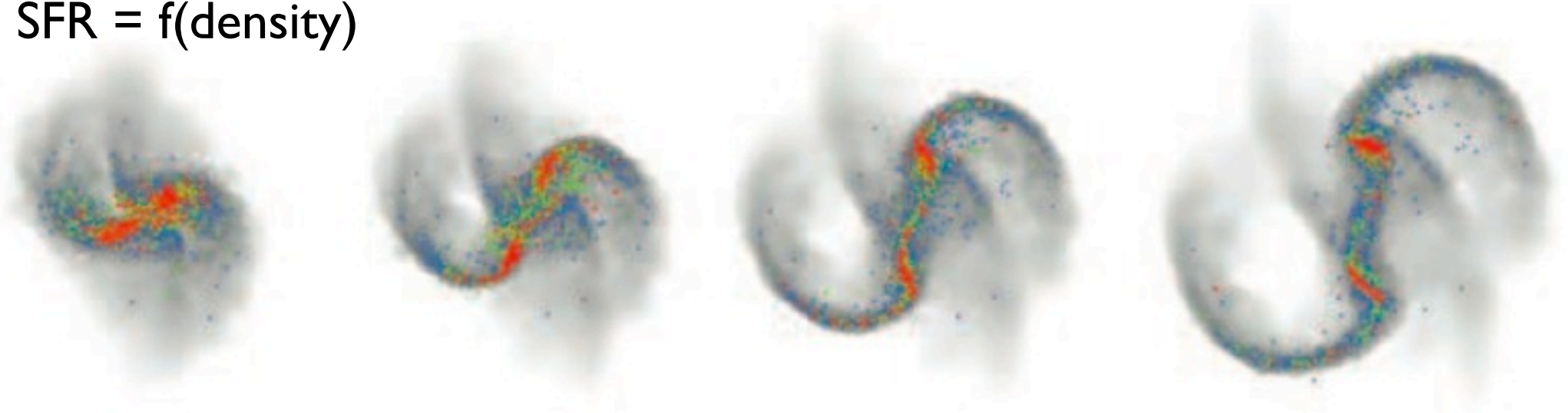
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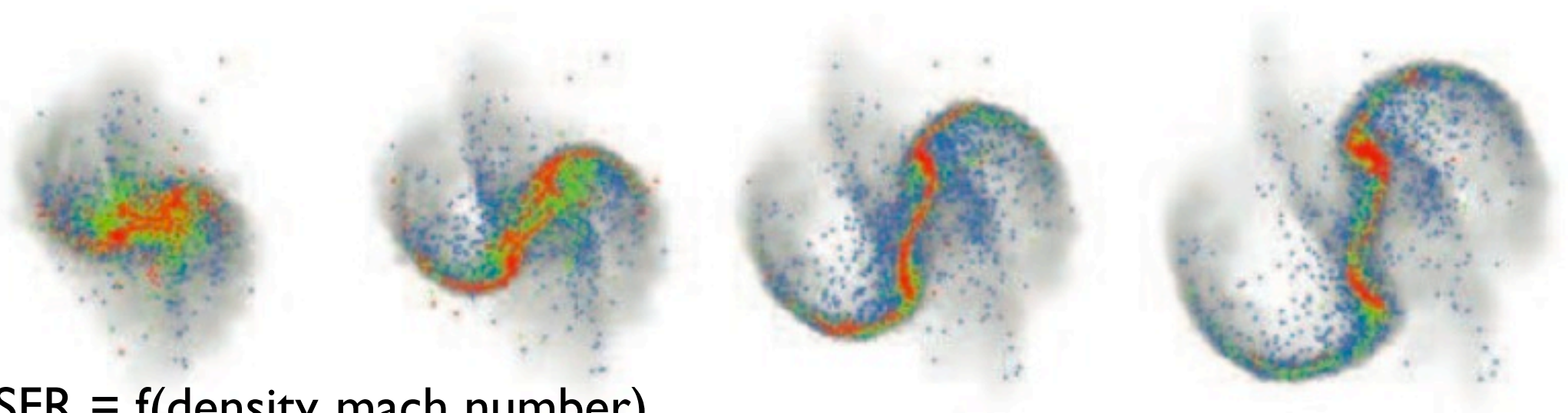


- Given that, our uncertainty is limited to details

SFR = f(density)



SFR = f(density, mach number)



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DISCUSSION

- Two major limits of our ignorance in simulations:
 - (1) Star Formation:
 - Probably ok at $>\sim 10\text{pc}$ scales
 - (2) Feedback:
 - ISM gas: pressurization/heating from winds & SNe
($\sim 10\text{pc} - 10\text{kpc}$ scale effects)
 - Starburst-driven winds:
 - Probably how *most* of the ISM gets metal-polluted
 - Involves large fraction of the mass in stars
($\sim 100\text{pc} - \text{Mpc}$ scale effects)
 - AGN:
 - Ionize & heat very large “bubbles”
 - Heat entire clusters
($\ll \text{pc} - 10\text{s of Mpc}$ scale effects)

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DISCUSSION

- Feedback energetics:
 - Binding energy of typical ($\sim L^*$) galaxy:
 $\sim (\text{a few}) * M_{\text{stars}} * V_c^2 \sim 5 * (10^{11} M_{\text{sun}}) * (200 \text{ km/s})^2 \sim 10^{59-60} \text{ erg}$
 - Supernovae: ~ 0.1 mass fraction goes SNe, each releases $\sim 10^{51}$ erg (for mean mass $\sim 8 M_{\text{sun}}$), get:
 $\sim (0.1 * M_{\text{stars}}) * (10^{51} \text{ erg} / 8 M_{\text{sun}}) \sim 10^{60} \text{ erg}$
 - AGN: couple ~ 0.05 of radiated energy (suggested by M-sigma), and radiate ~ 0.1 of accretion energy (Soltan argument), for $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 0.001 M_{\text{stars}}$ (Magorrian relation):
 $\sim 0.05 * (0.1 * M_{\text{BH}} * c^2) \sim 5 * 10^{-6} (M_{\text{stars}} * c^2) \sim 10^{60} \text{ erg}$

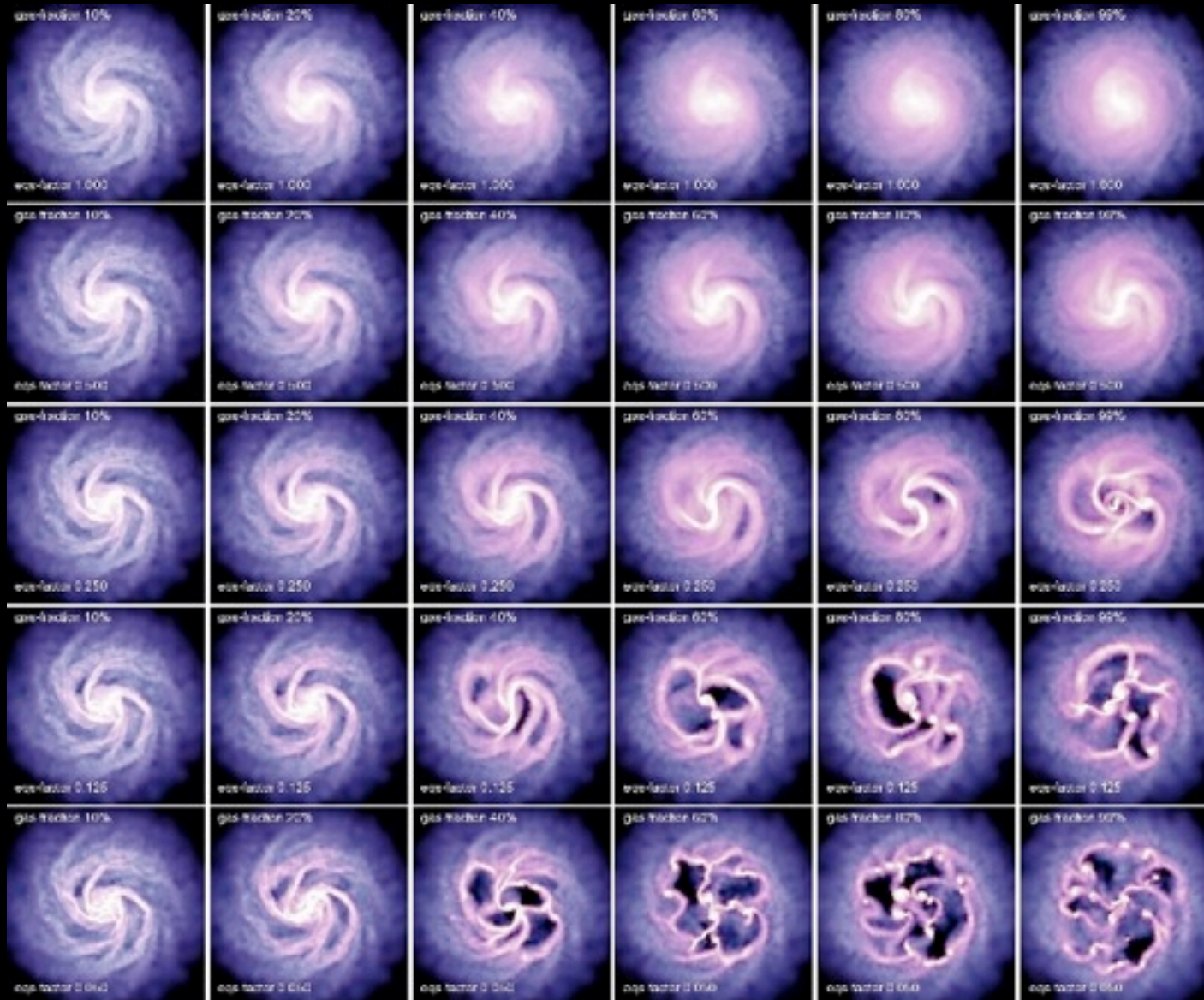
10% gas

99% gas

→
more gas

↓
softer
EOS

$\sim 10^5$ K



10^4 K

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 - (1) Star Formation:
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 - (2) Feedback:
 - ISM gas: pressurization/heating from winds & SNe
 - Starburst-driven winds
 - AGN
- Unlike star formation, we don't have a clear approximation on the scales we are interested in...