

Numerics, Resolution, Physics

Towards Predictive Galaxy Formation Simulations

Phil Hopkins
Caltech

Numerical Methods

(aka: why did we switch from SPH?)

Tree-SPH

Gadget

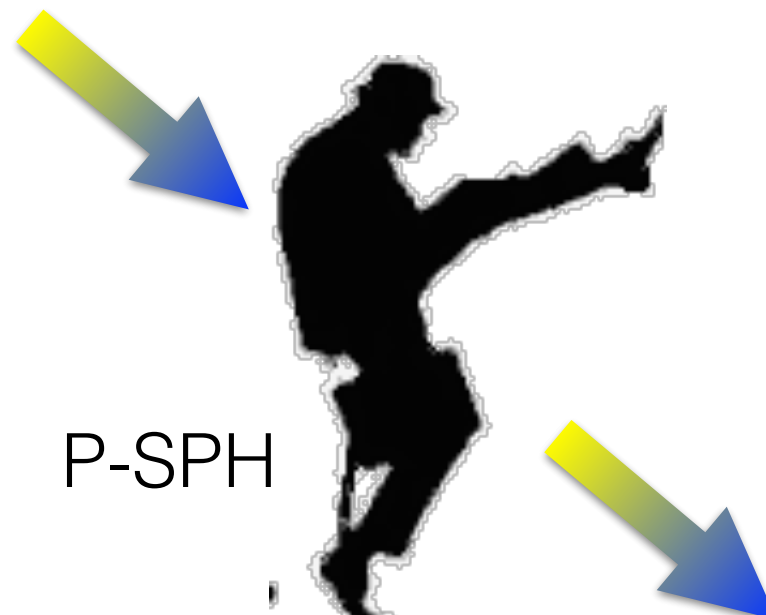
Gadget-3

P-SPH

AREPO

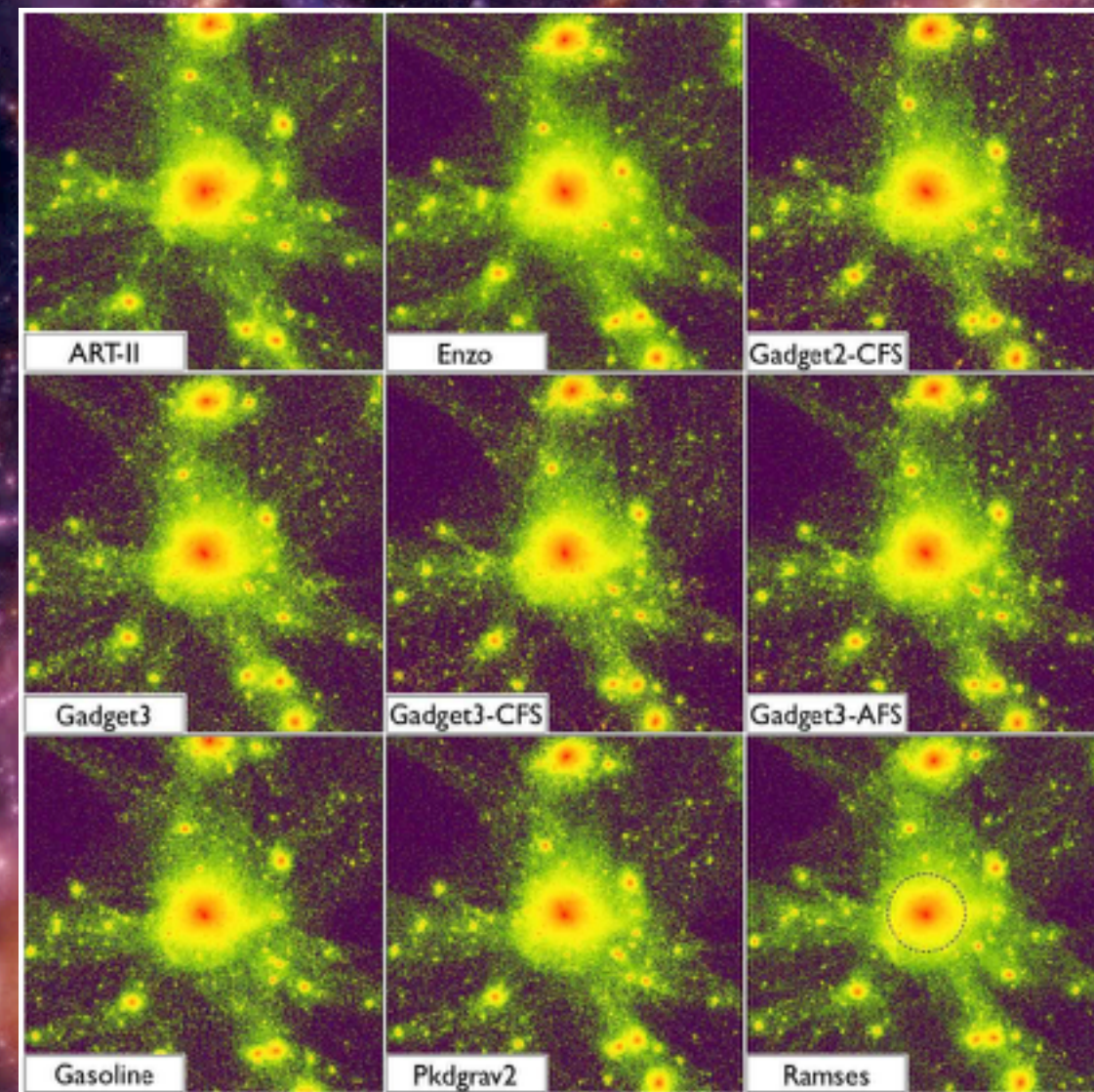
GIZMO

The Evolution of Code....



Gravity (Large Scales):
Looks Pretty Good!

Kim et al. 2013 (AGORA Collaboration)



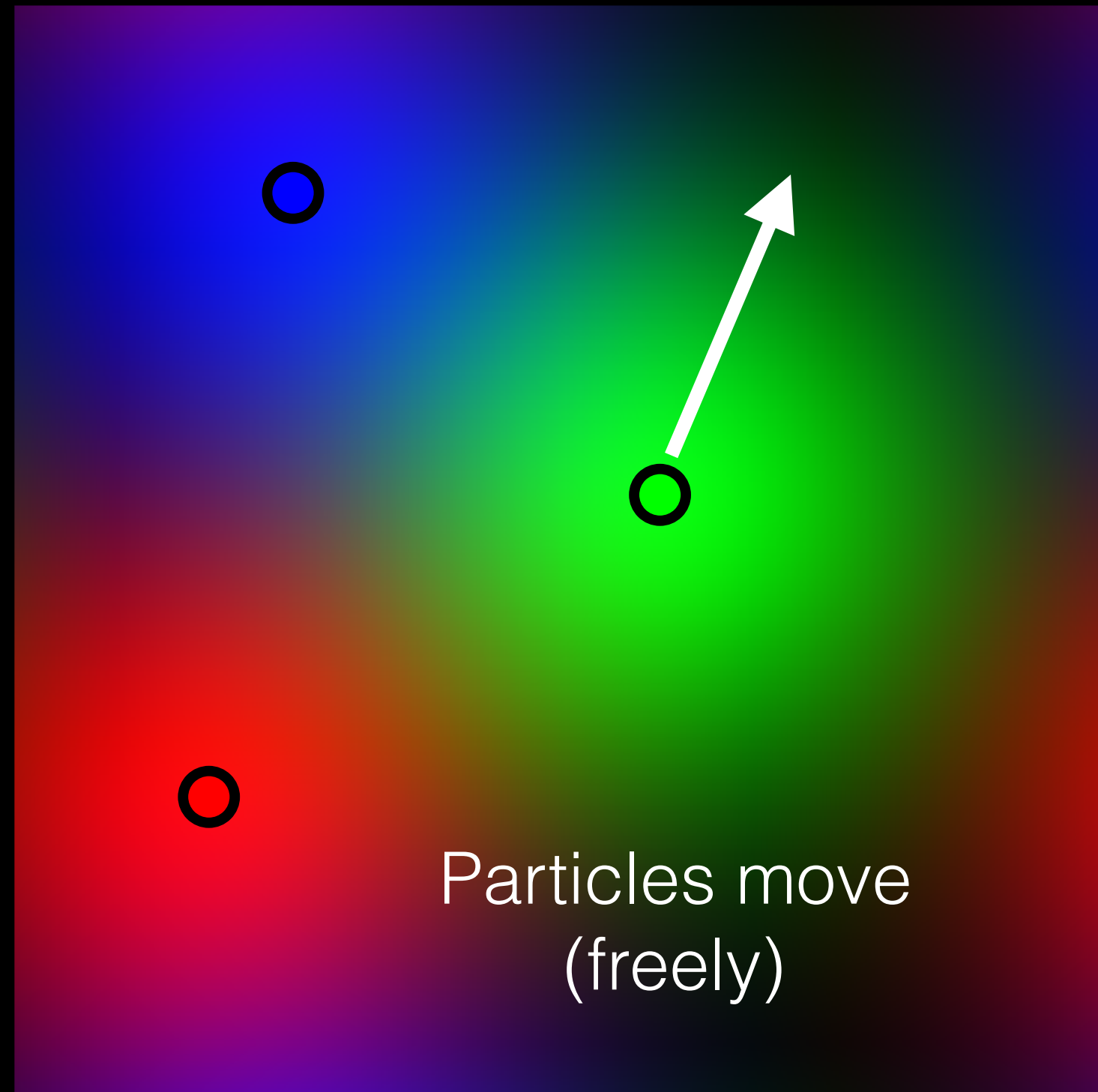
Challenge:

POPULAR METHODS FOR
HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS

Lucy 77, Gingold & Monaghan 77
Reviews by: Springel 11, Price 12

Smoothed-Particle Hydrodynamics

- Lagrangian, adaptive,
simple, conservative



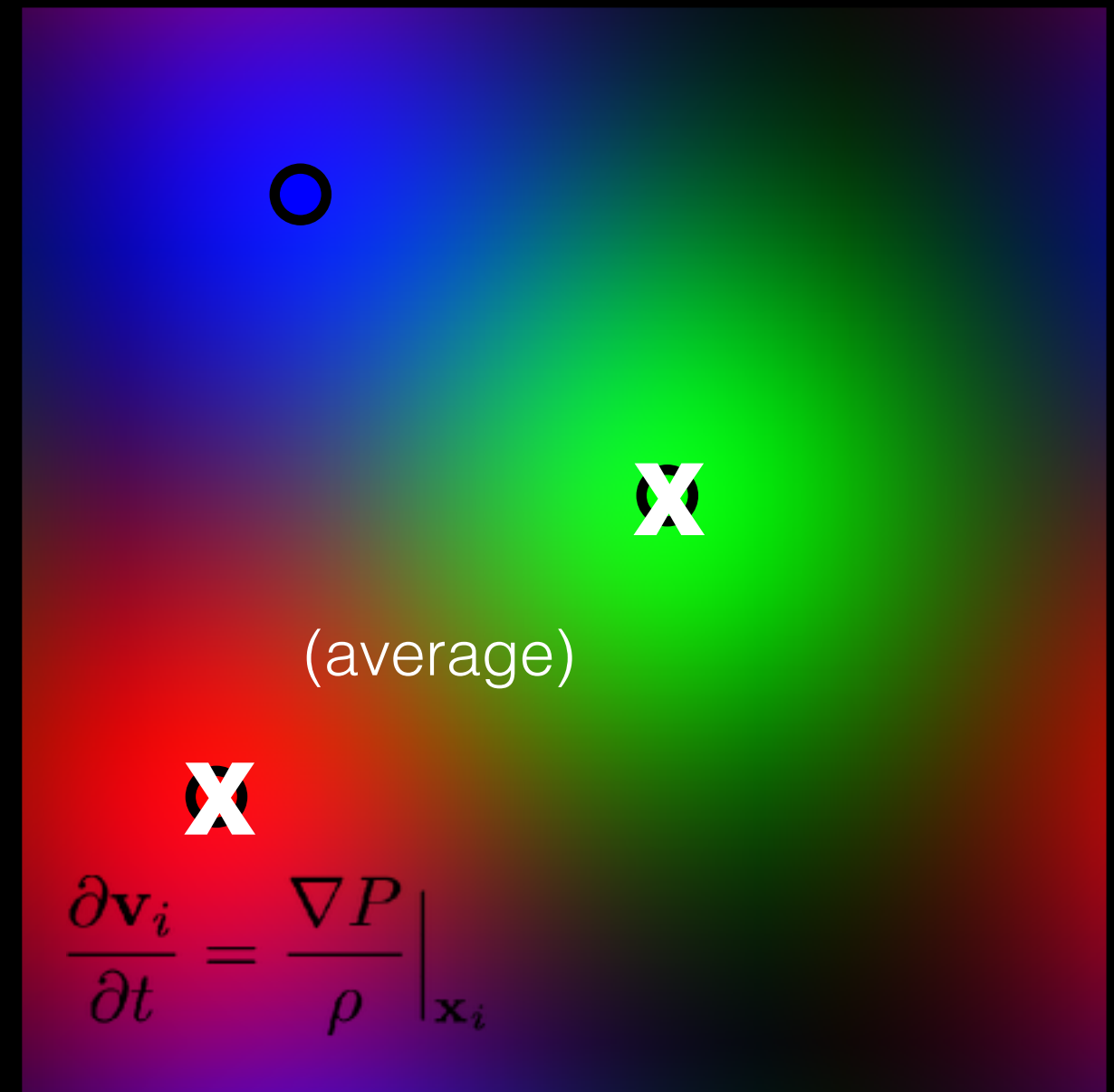
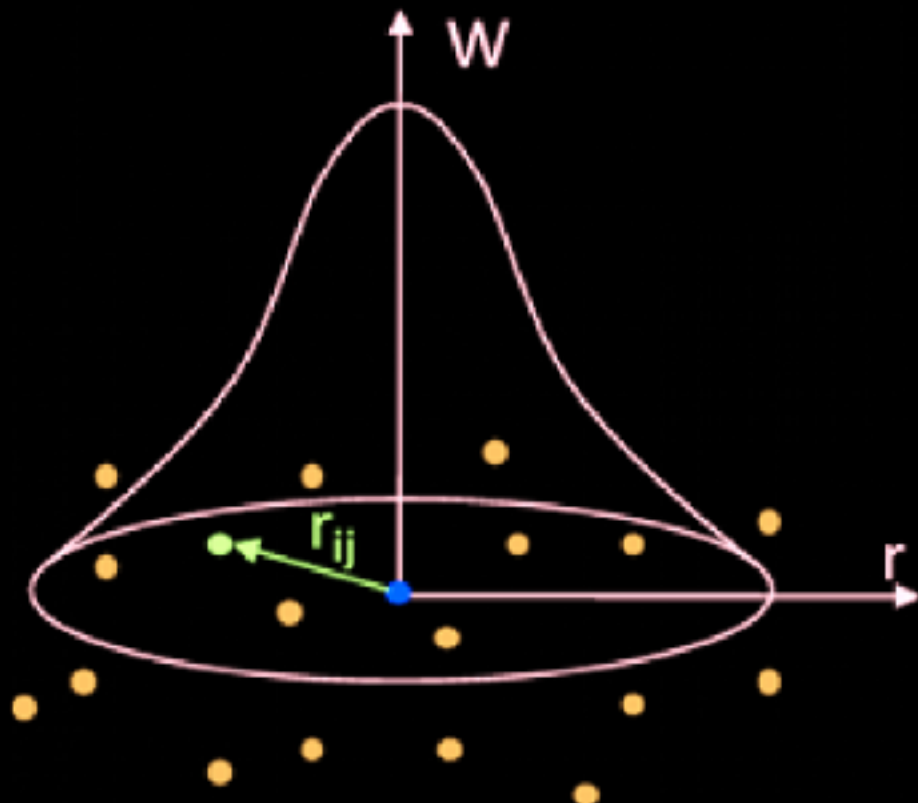
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Smoothed-Particle Hydrodynamics

- No volume partition: point-like particles smoothed into fields [ok in “continuum limit”]



- Solve EOM at particle locations (stabilize with artificial diffusion)

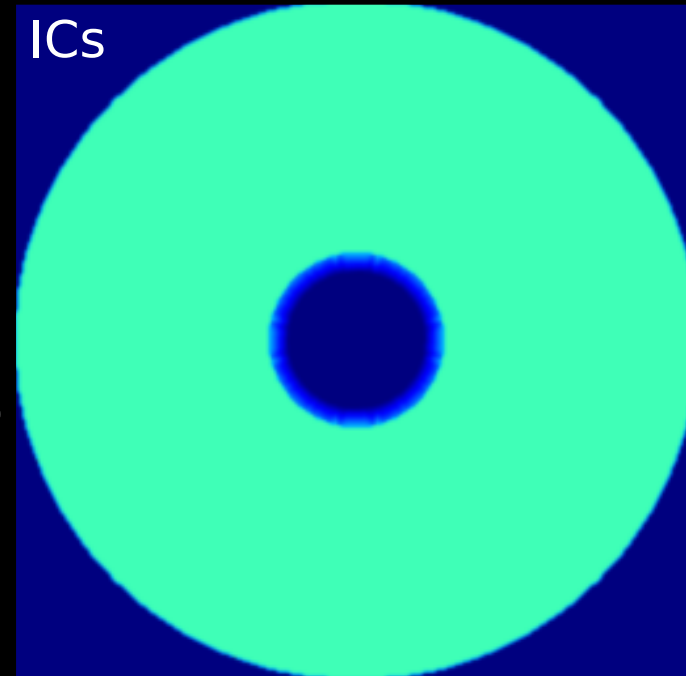
Challenge:

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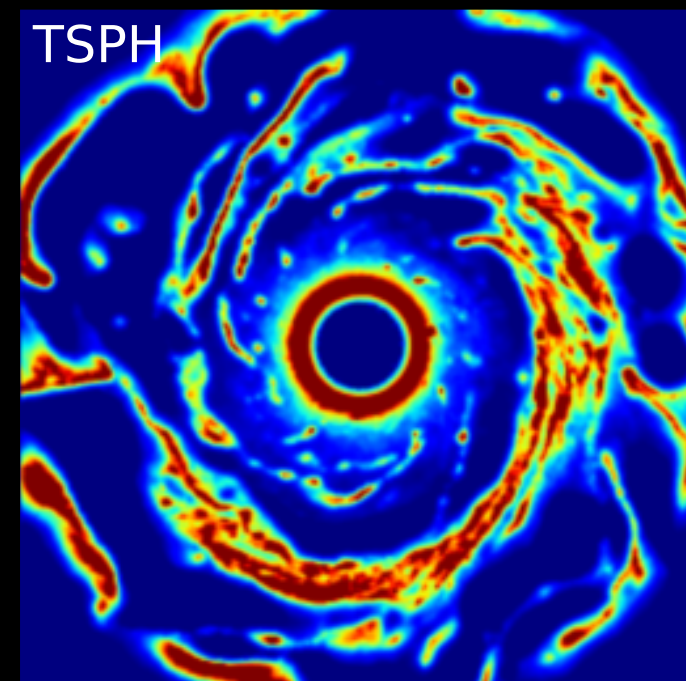
Smoothed-Particle Hydrodynamics

- Lagrangian, adaptive, simple, conservative
- Artificial diffusion terms:
 - excess diffusion, viscosity

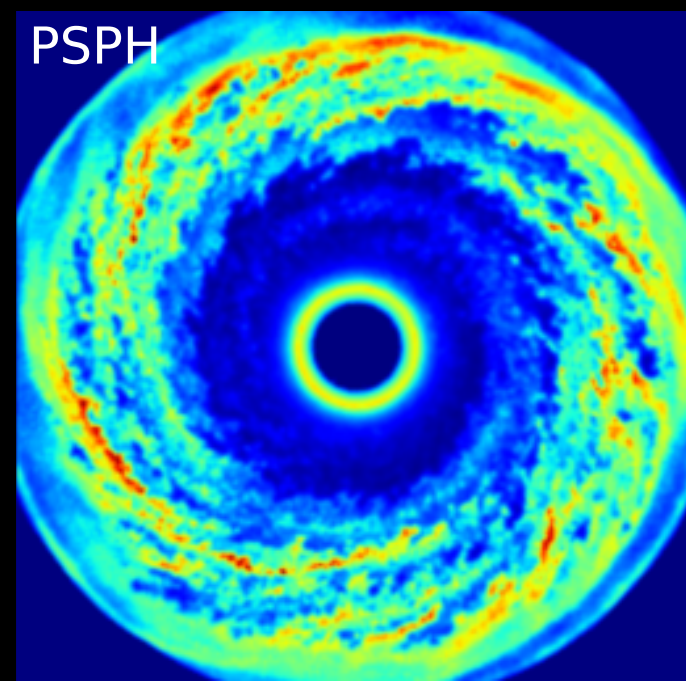
Keplerian disk/ring
(should conserve ICs)



“old” SPH
(Springel 02)
(after 20 orbits)



“new” SPH
(Hopkins 13)



Challenge:

POPULAR METHODS FOR HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS

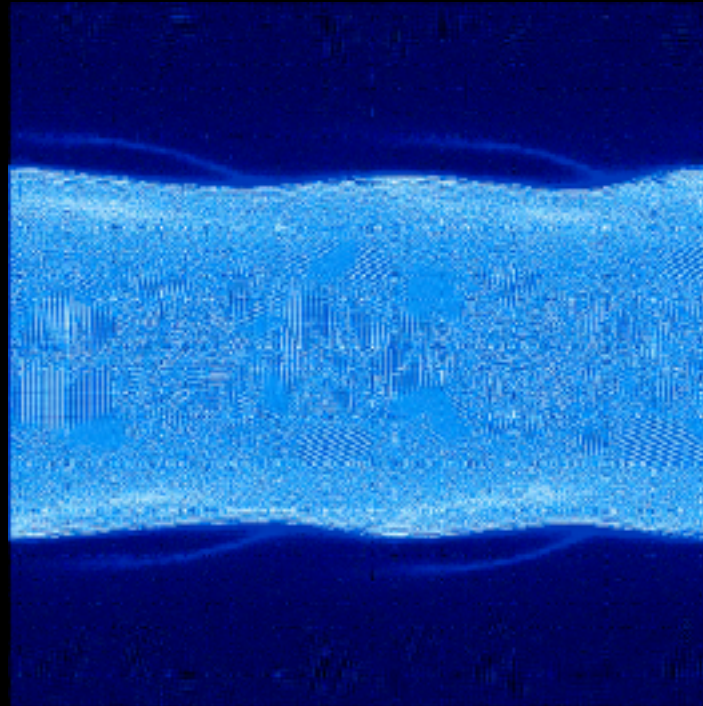
- **“Traditional SPH”**

- GADGET/(old)GASOLINE
- ~32 neighbors (cubic spline)
- constant artificial viscosity
- “density” formulation

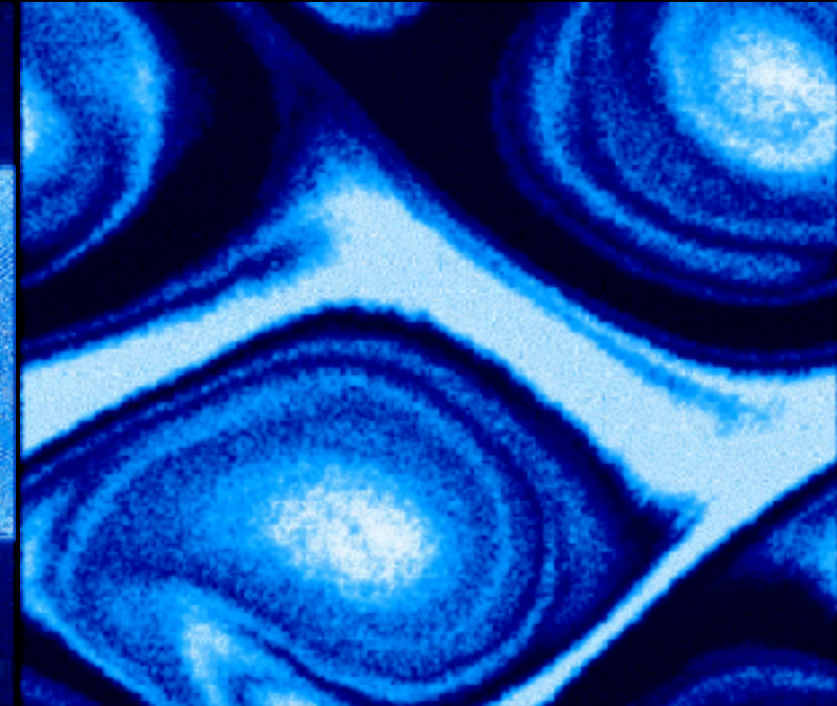
- **“Modern SPH”**

- P-SPH/SPHS/PHANTOM
- ~128-500 neighbors (alt. kernels)
(many people: Read, Dehnen)
- high-order switches
(Cullen+Dehnen)
- “pressure” formulation
(Hopkins, Saitoh+Makino)
- artificial diffusion for entropy
(Price, Wadsley)

Kelvin-Helmholtz Instabilities

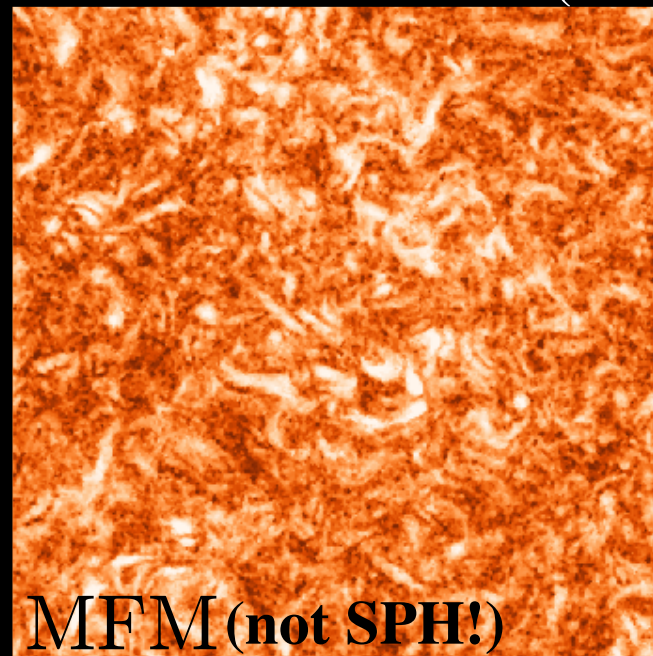


“old” SPH
(Springel 02)

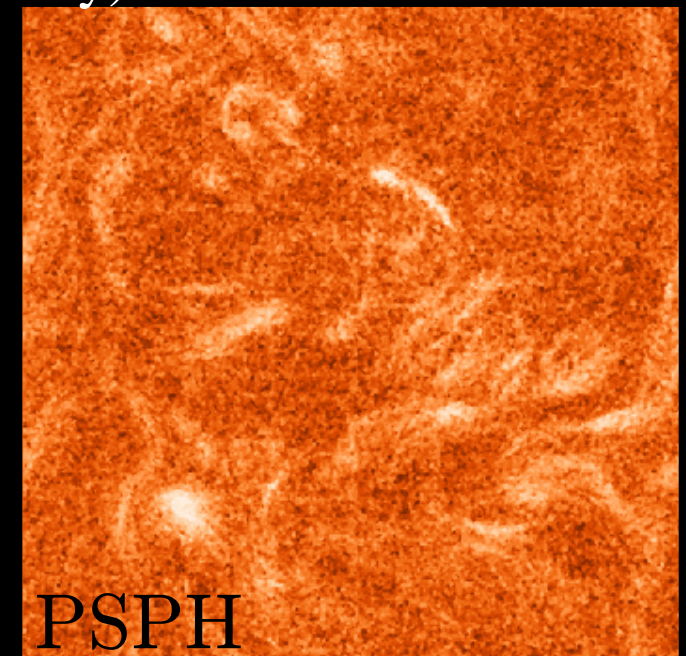


“new” SPH (PSPH)
(Hopkins '13): >>100 neighbors

Sub-sonic turbulence (vorticity)



MFEM (not SPH!)

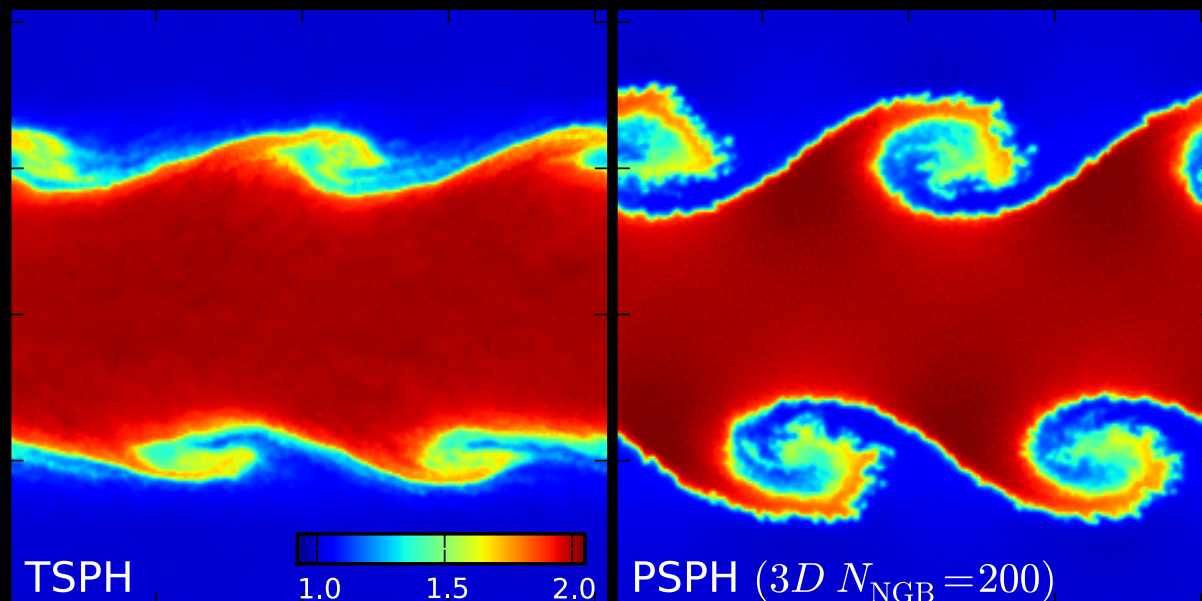


PSPH

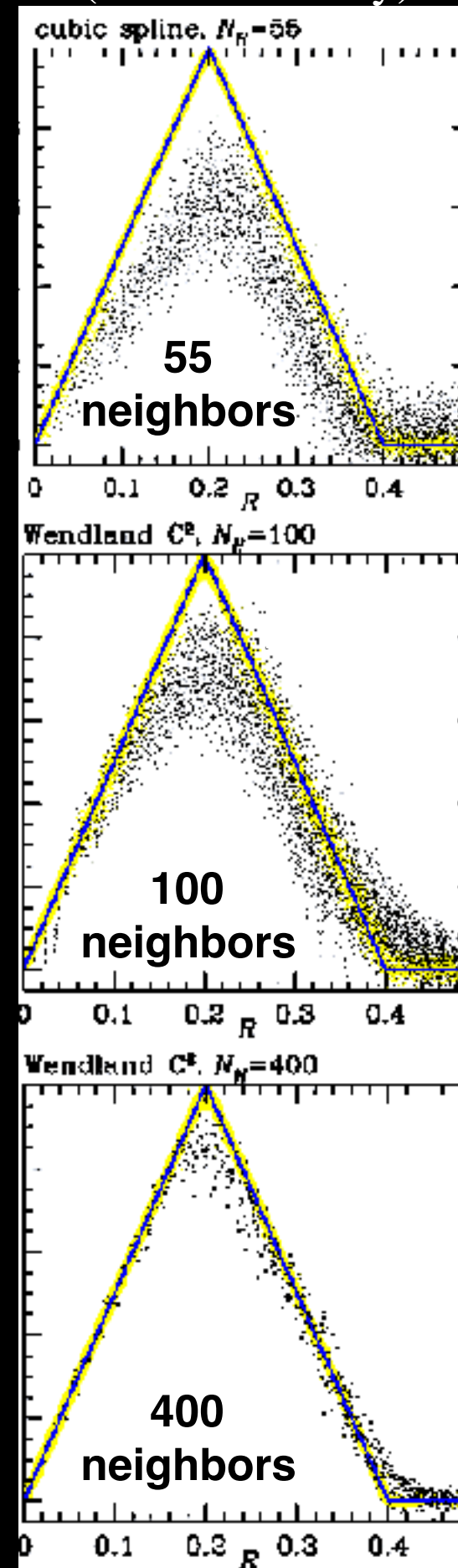
Challenge:

POPULAR METHODS FOR HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS

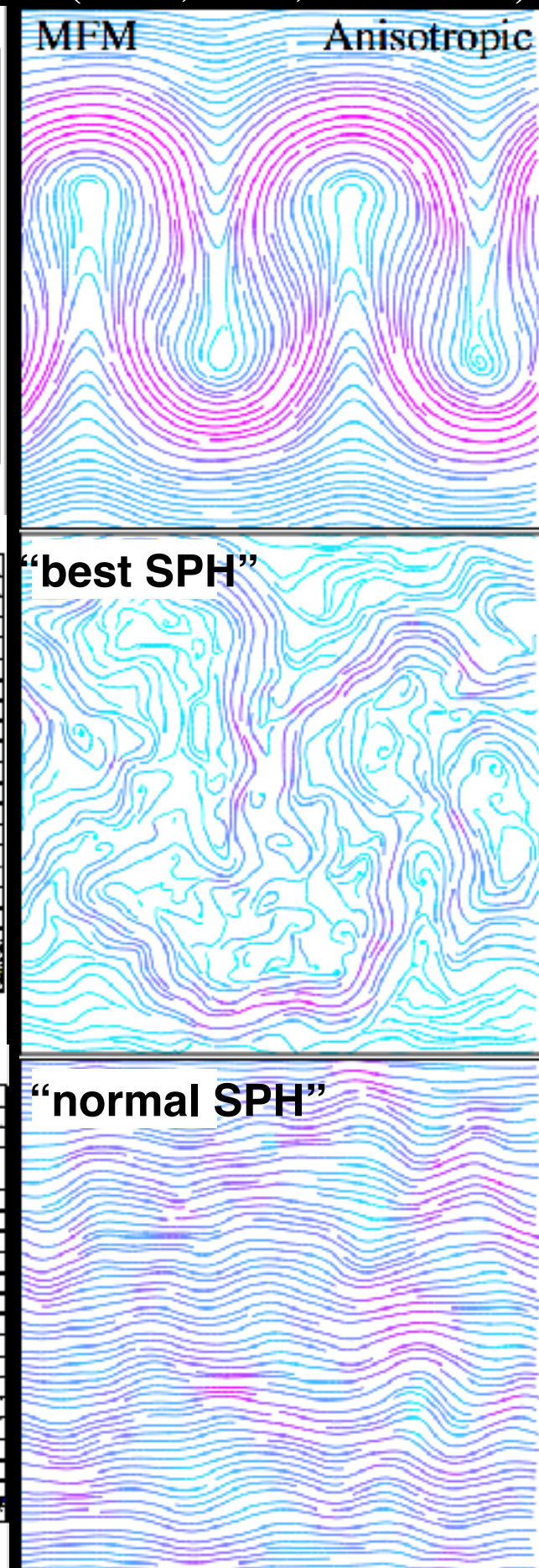
- Fundamental low-order errors:
 - converge slowly: “beat down” by increasing kernel size, but this is *not efficient!*
- MHD & anisotropic diffusion operators ill-posed



Gresho vortex
(Dehnen & Aly)



Anisotropic Conduction
(MTI, HBI, Hall MRI)

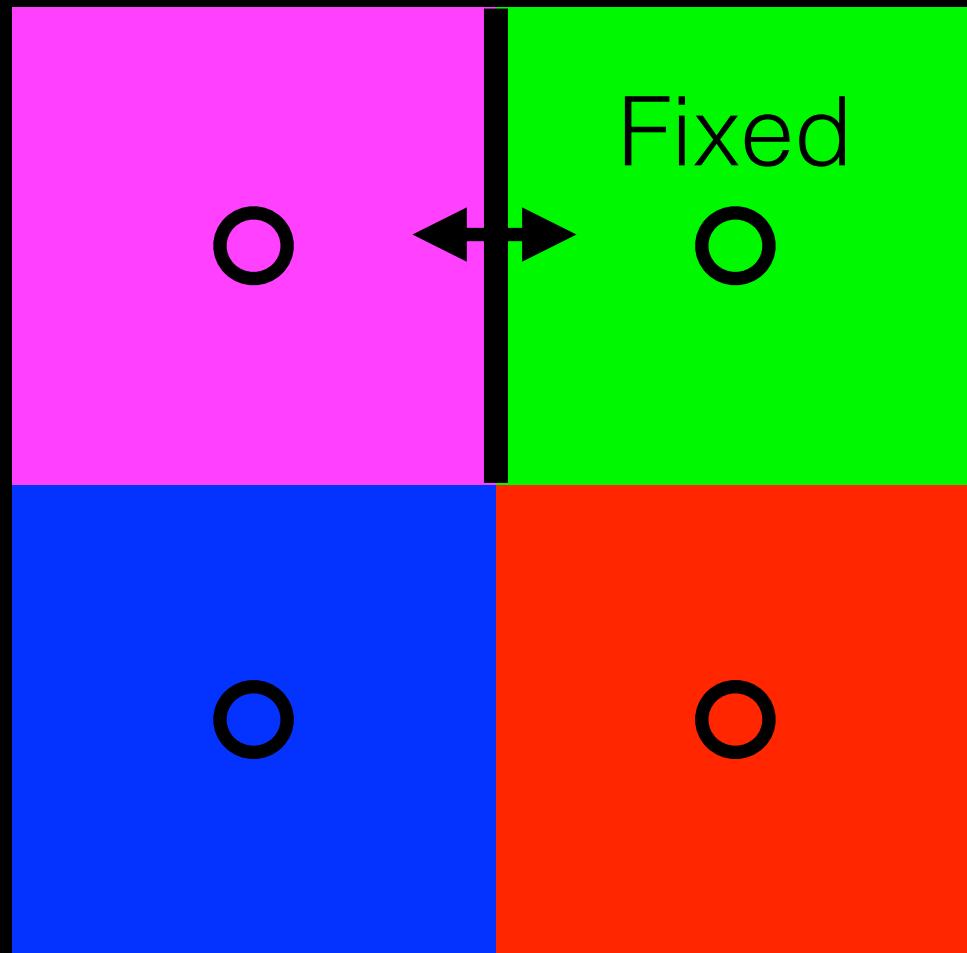


Challenge:

POPULAR METHODS FOR
HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS

Berger & Colella 89 (& others)
Reviews by: Teyssier 14

Adaptive Mesh Refinement

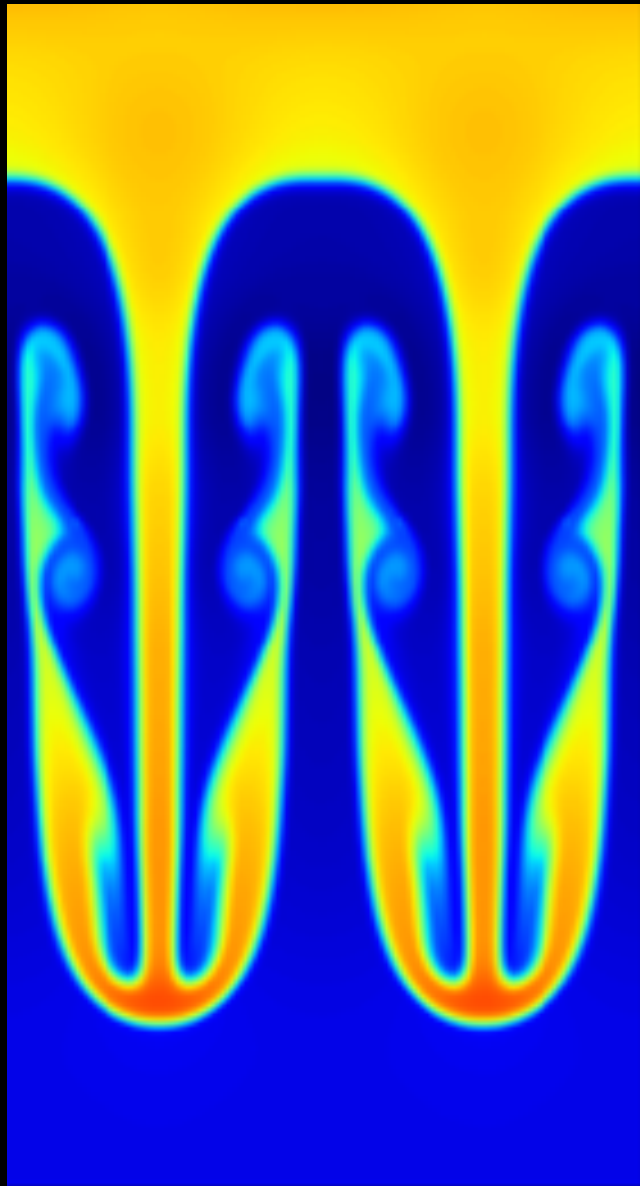


- Eulerian, well-studied, high-order
- Each cell carries conserved quantities inside volume V_i
- Solve Riemann problem between geometric faces

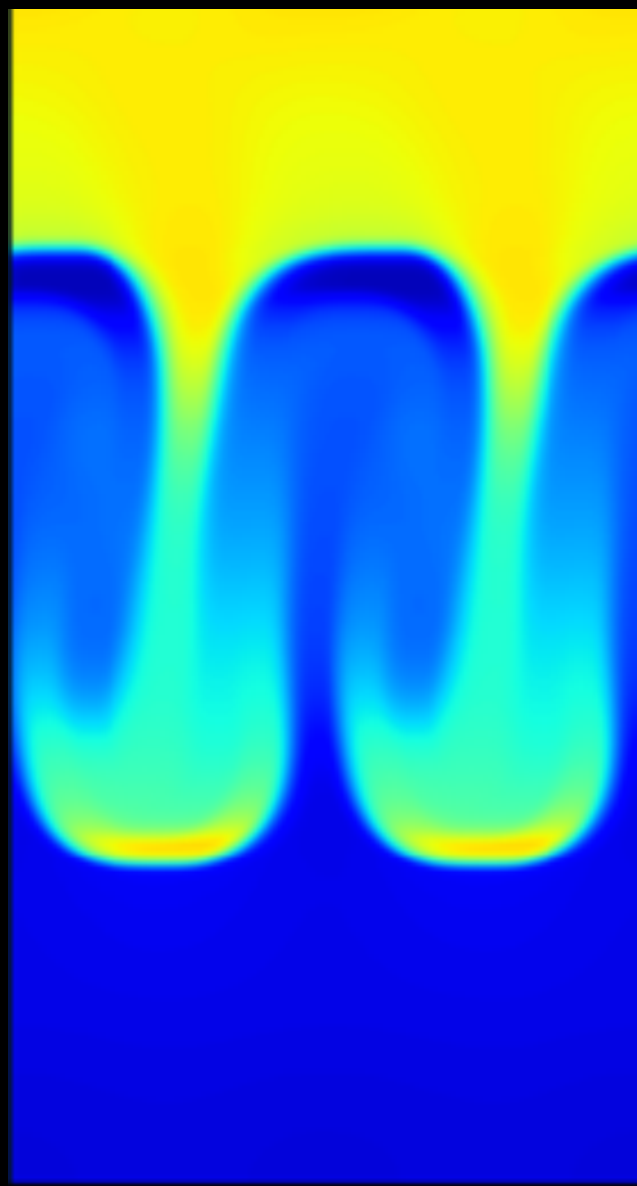
Adaptive Mesh Refinement (AMR)

CHALLENGE: POPULAR METHODS HAVE PROBLEMS

Rayleigh-Taylor instability
(AMR, 256^2)



(no bulk motion)

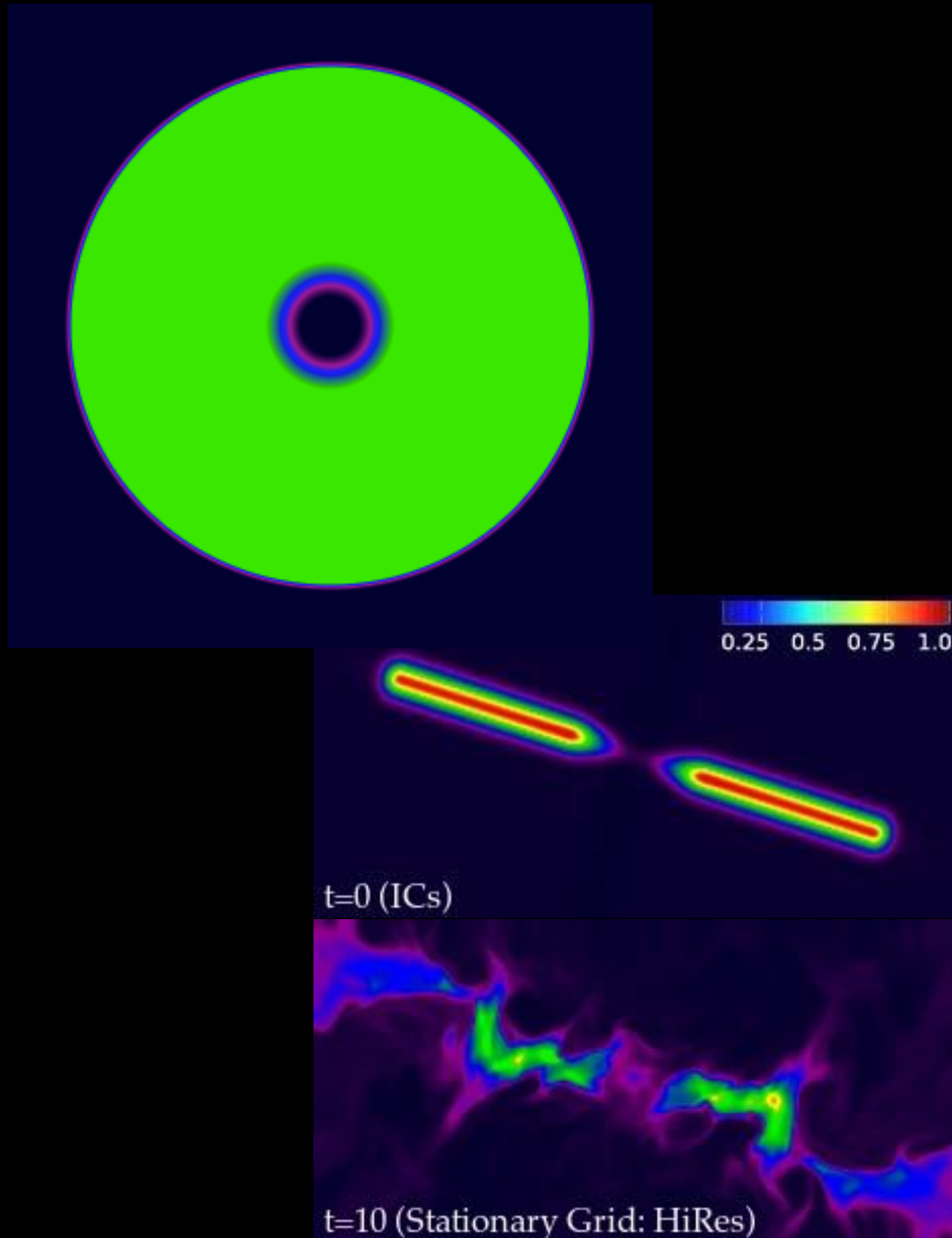


Mach 5 boost

- Eulerian, well-studied, high-order
- Excessive mixing/diffusion when fluid moves over cells

Adaptive Mesh Refinement (AMR)

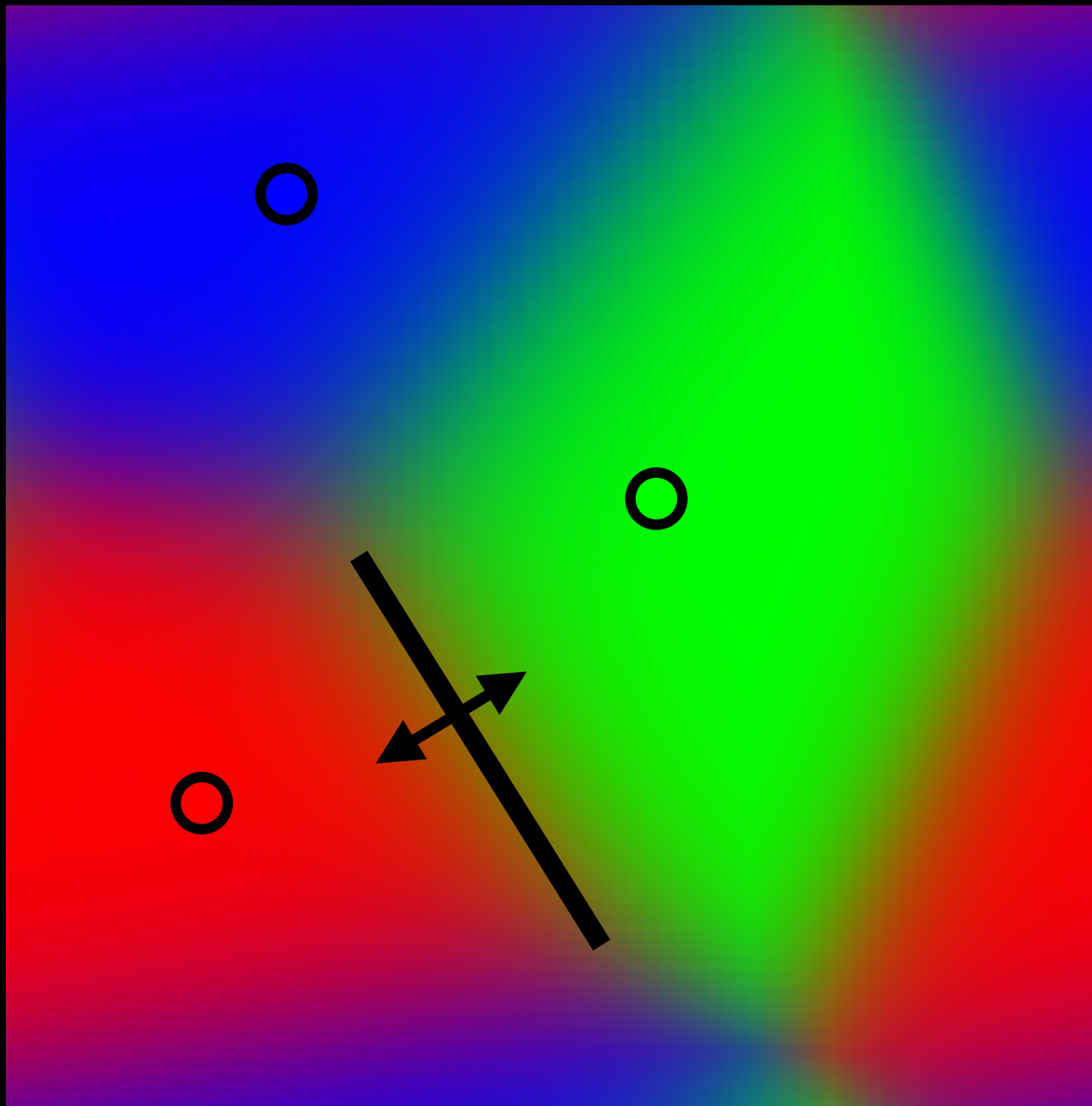
CHALLENGE: POPULAR METHODS HAVE PROBLEMS



- Eulerian, well-studied, high-order
- Excessive mixing/diffusion when fluid moves over cells
- Geometric effects:
 - carbuncle instability (shocks)
 - loss of angular momentum
 - grid-alignment (disks)
- Also “beaten down” with resolution, but *expensive*
 - Hahn '10: $\gg 512^2$ resolution to avoid grid-alignment

Challenge:

POPULAR METHODS FOR
HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS



New Methods Combine (some) Advantages of Both

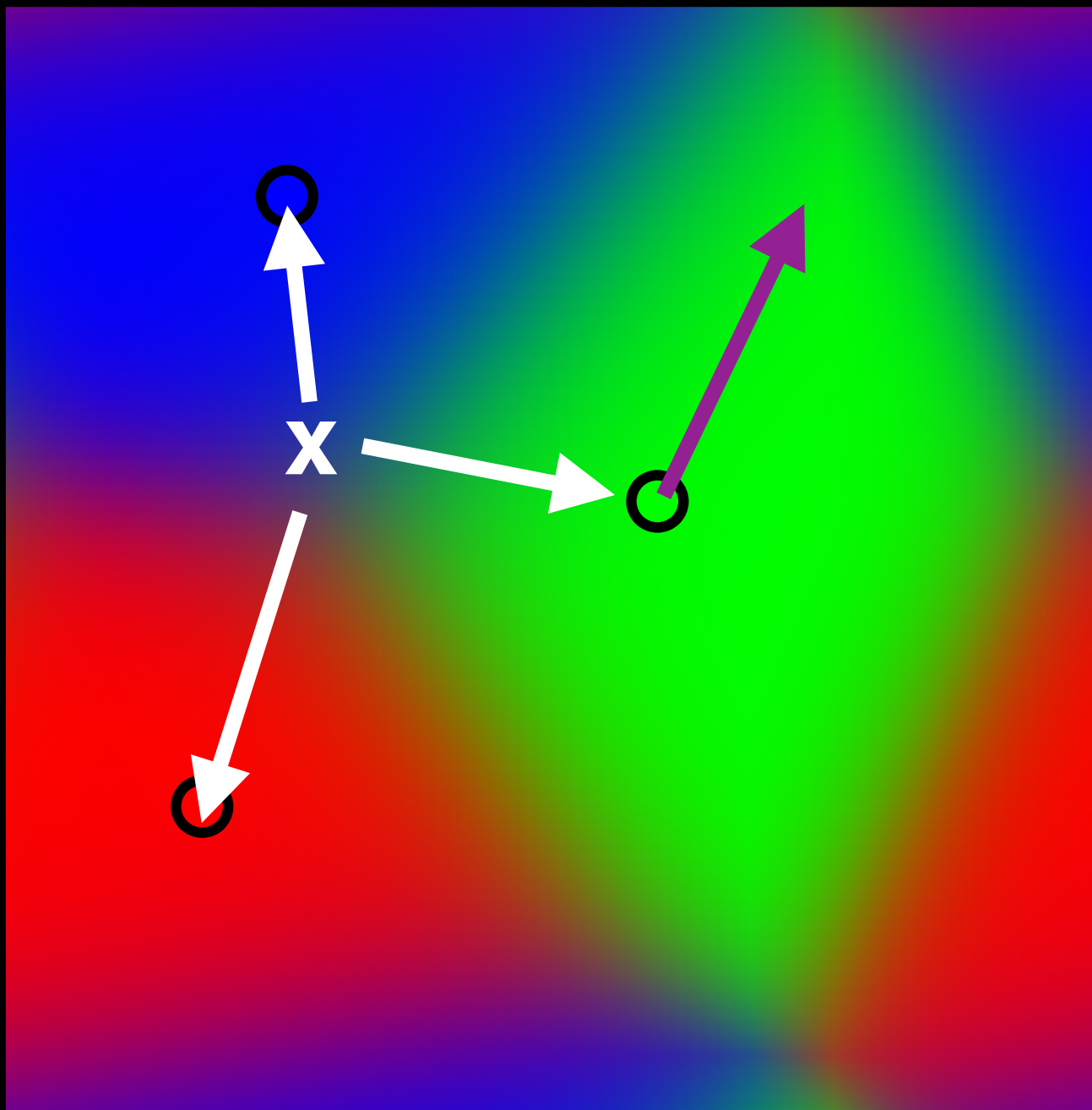
- Moving-meshes (AREPO), meshless finite-volume (GIZMO), high-order ALE methods
- Move with flow, no preferred geometry, but also accurate, high-order, and shock-capturing
- Less well-tested !

AREPO: Springel 2010

TESS/DISCO: Duffel 2011

FVMHD3D: Gaburov 2012

GIZMO: Hopkins 2015 (arXiv:1409.7395)

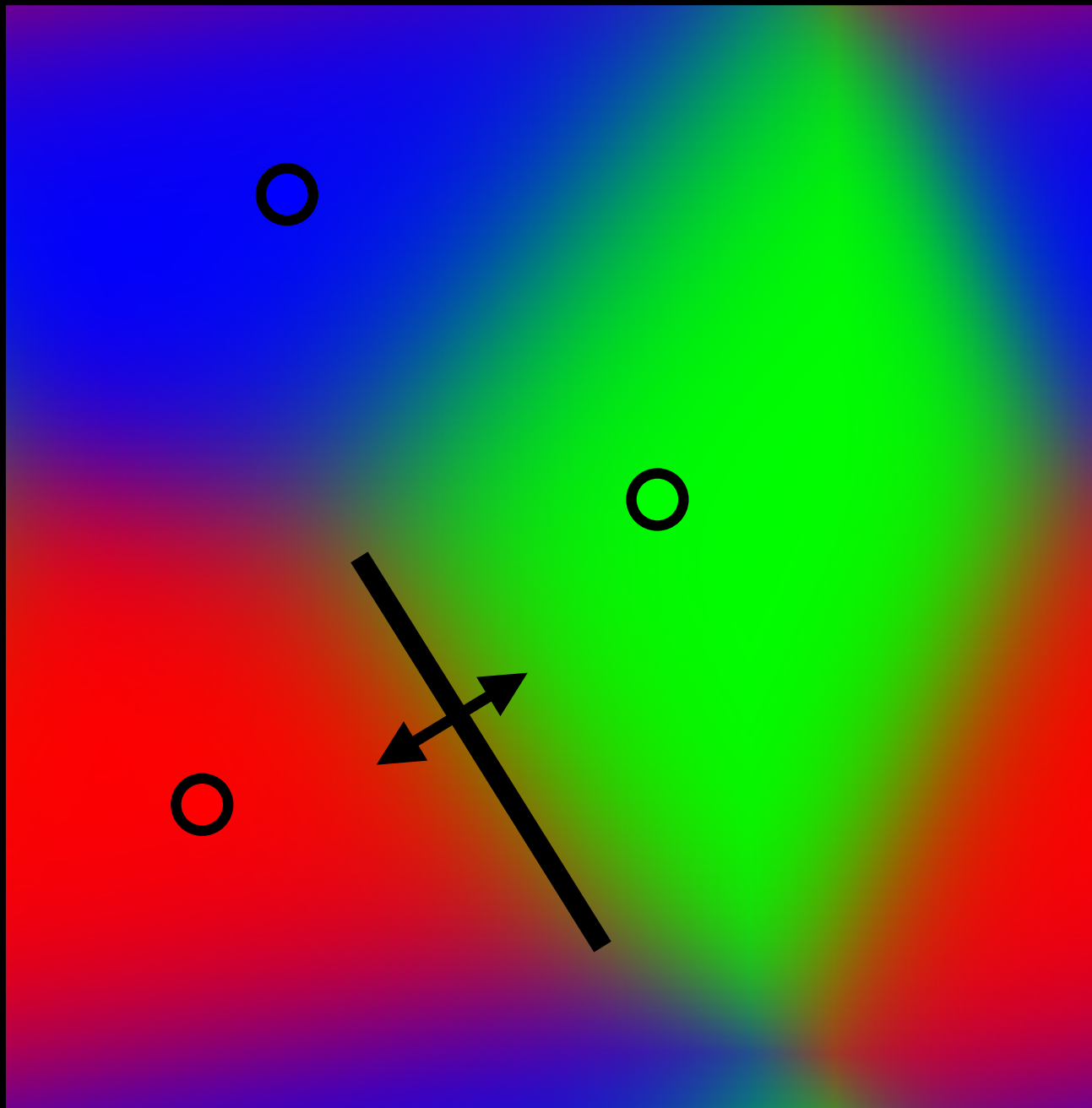
Challenge:POPULAR METHODS FOR
HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS

- Mesh-generating points move (if desired)
- Volume is “partitioned” with a continuous kernel (MFM/MFV) or step function (moving-mesh)

$$d\text{Vol}_{i,j,k} = d^3\mathbf{x} \frac{W(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_{i,j,k})}{\sum W_{i,j,k}}$$

Challenge:

POPULAR METHODS FOR
HYDRODYNAMICS HAVE PROBLEMS



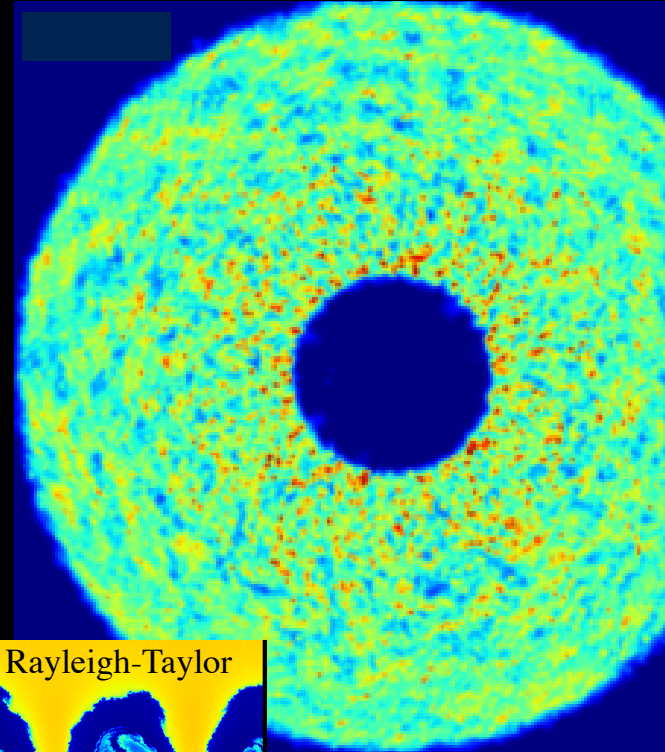
- Integrate EOM over volume:
equivalent to Riemann problem
at “effective face” (quadrature)

$$\Delta m_i = \int_{\text{vol}} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} d^3 \mathbf{x} = - \int_{\text{vol}} \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) d^3 \mathbf{x}$$

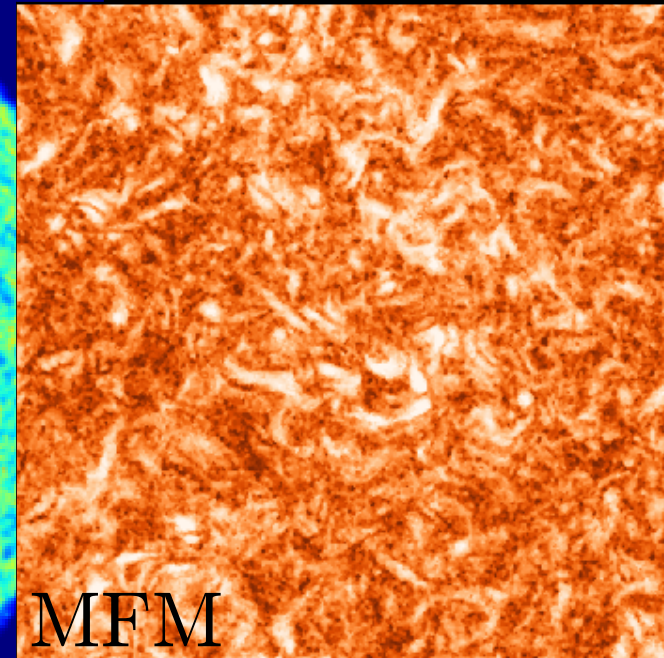
New Methods Combine (some) Advantages of Both: (BUT REMAIN LESS WELL-TESTED)

- Moving-meshes (AREPO), meshless finite-volume (GIZMO), high-order ALE methods
- Move with flow, no preferred geometry, but also accurate, high-order, and shock-capturing
- Grid noise is more severe

GIZMO: disk after 100 orbits

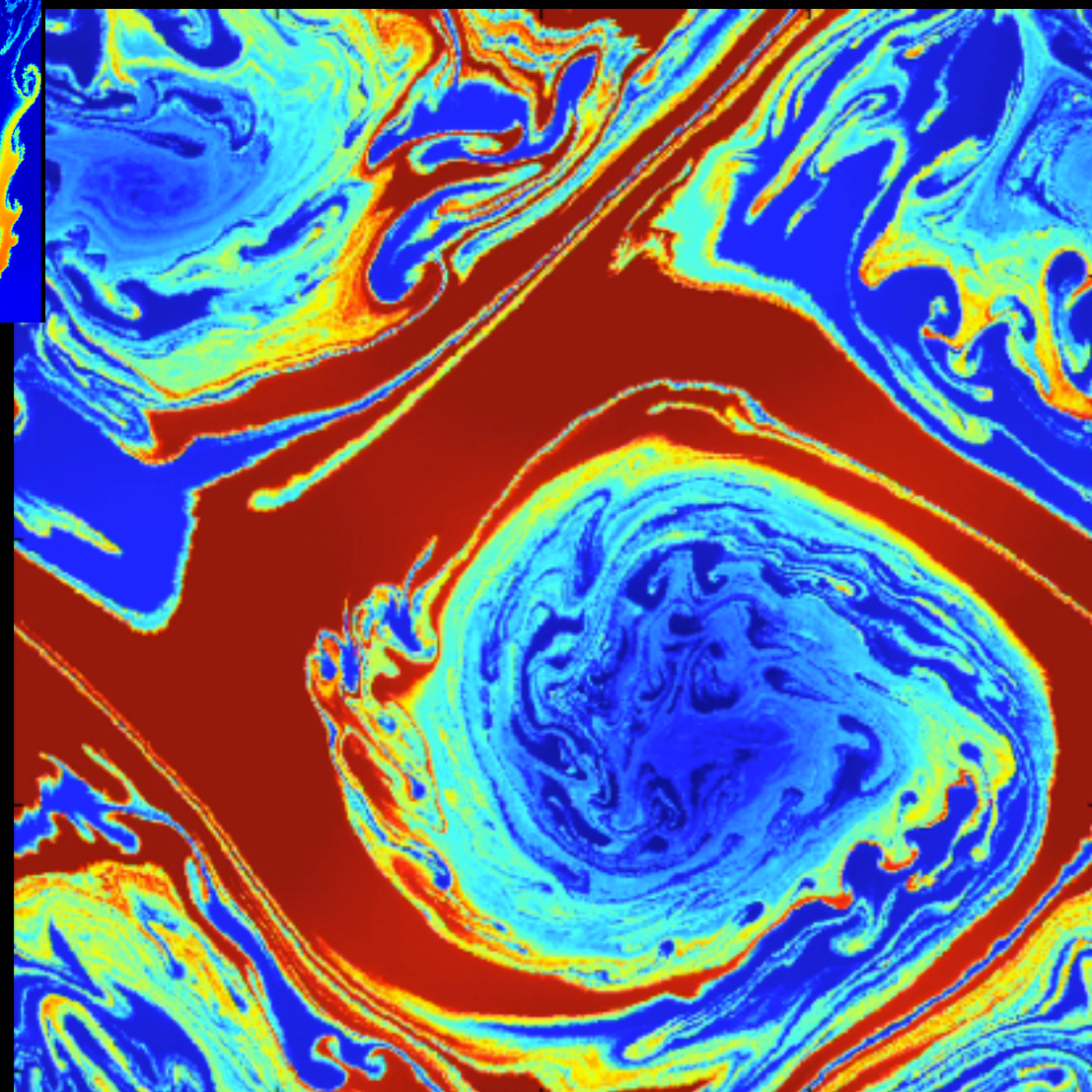
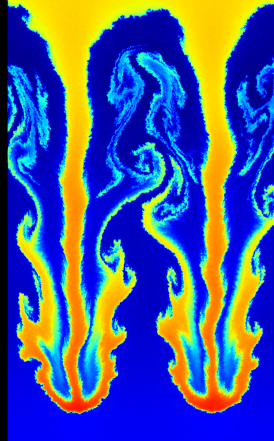


sub-sonic turbulence



MFM

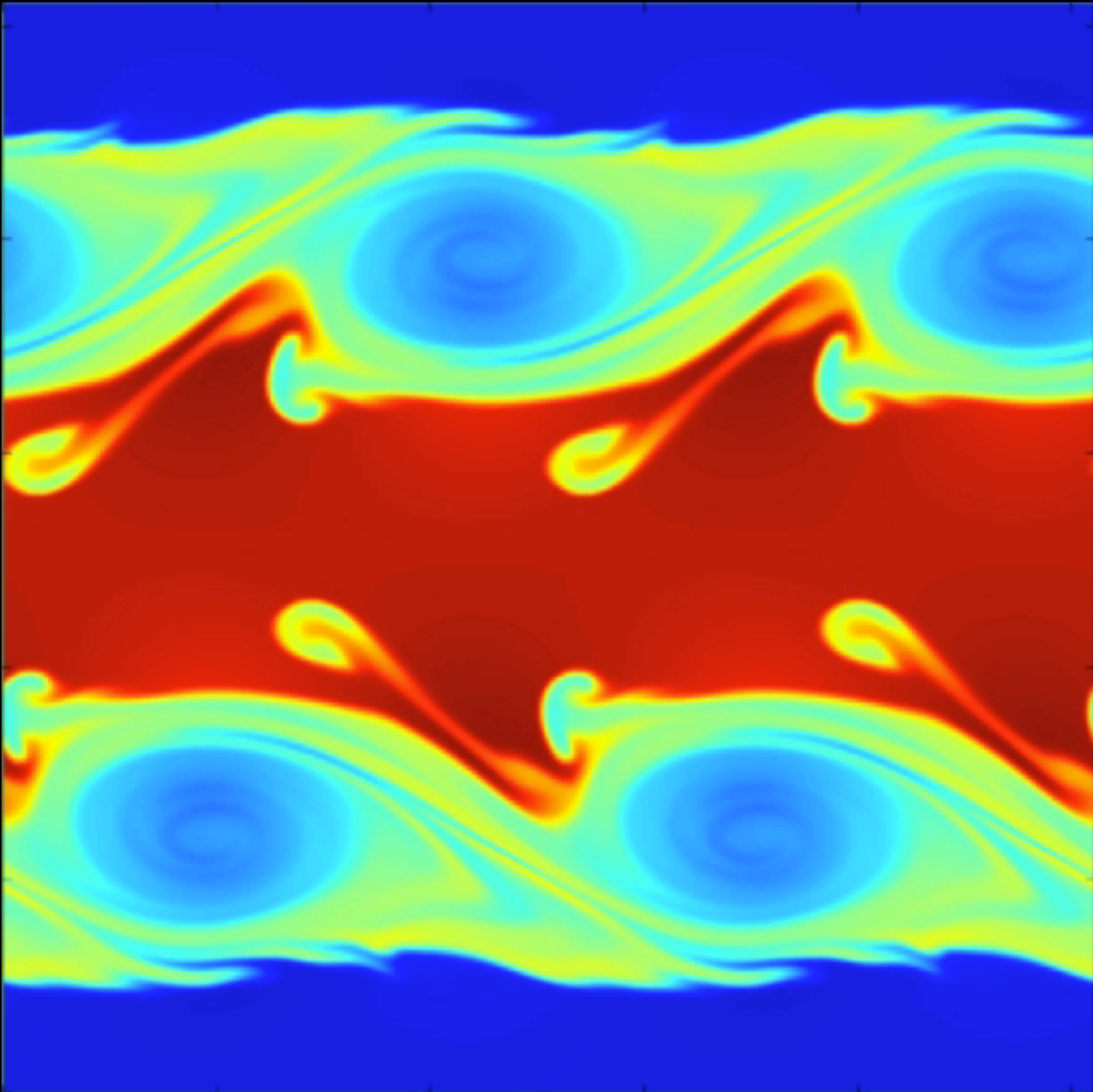
Rayleigh-Taylor



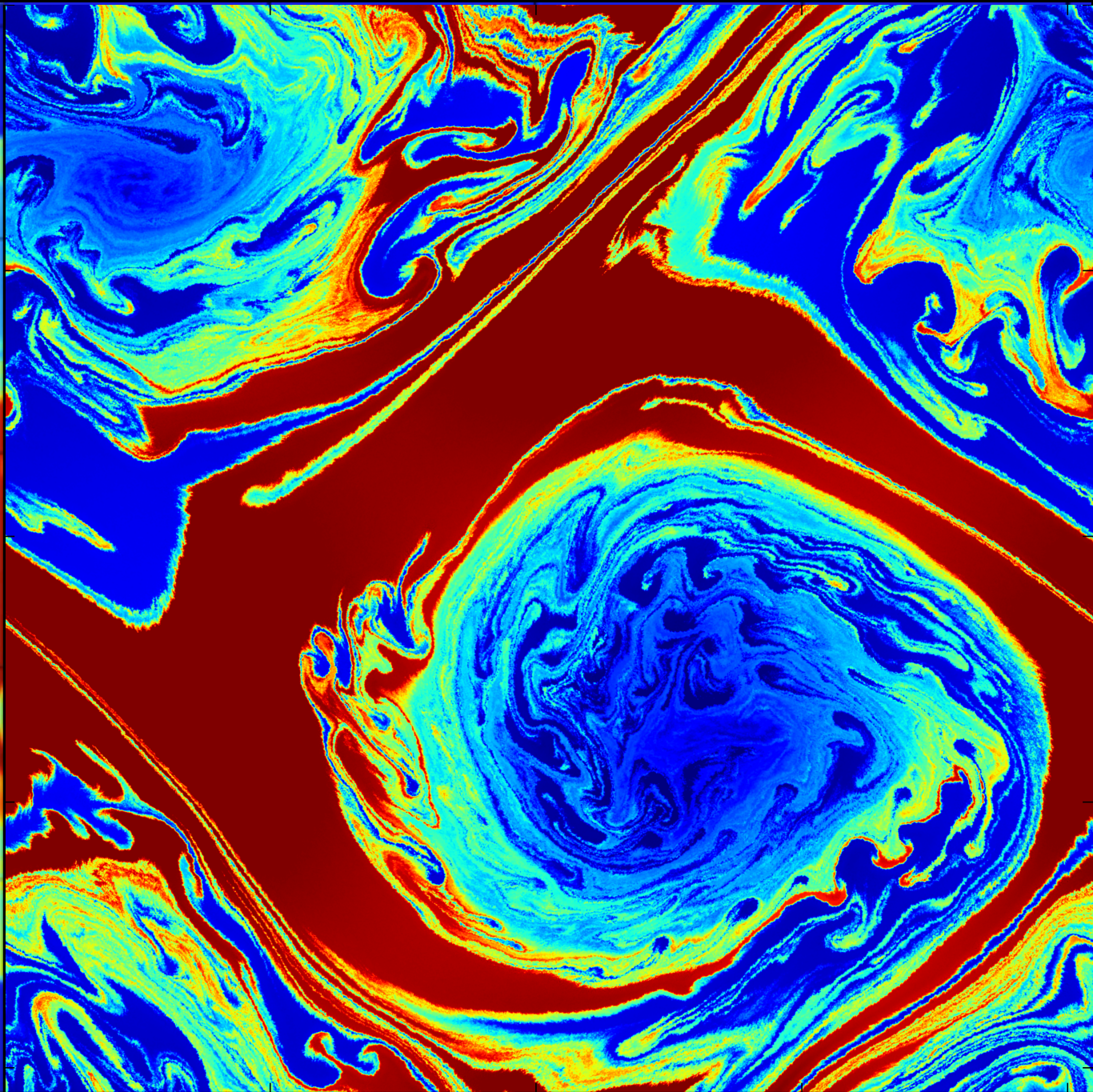
AREPO: Springel 2010
TESS/DISCO: Duffel 2011
FVMHD3D: Gaburov 2012
GIZMO: Hopkins 2015

GIZMO: New Meshless Methods & Fluid Mixing

(www.tapir.caltech.edu/~phopkins)



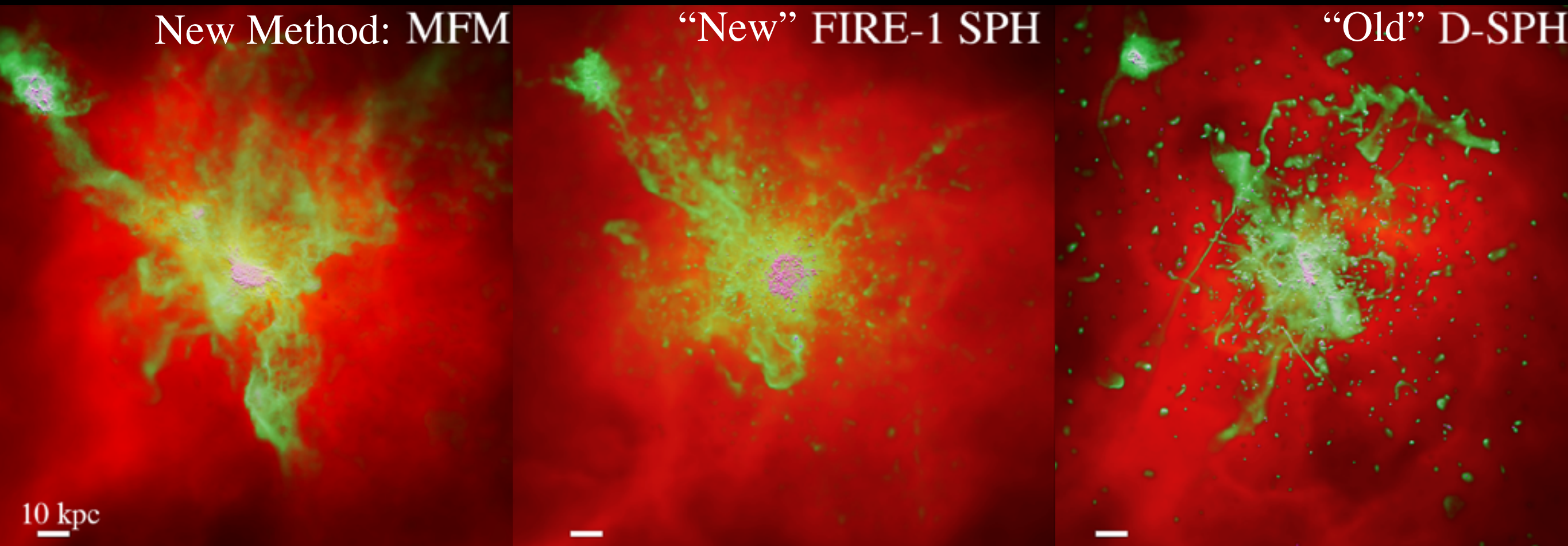
Cartesian Grid



Meshless Finite Volume

Getting the Hydro Right Can Matter

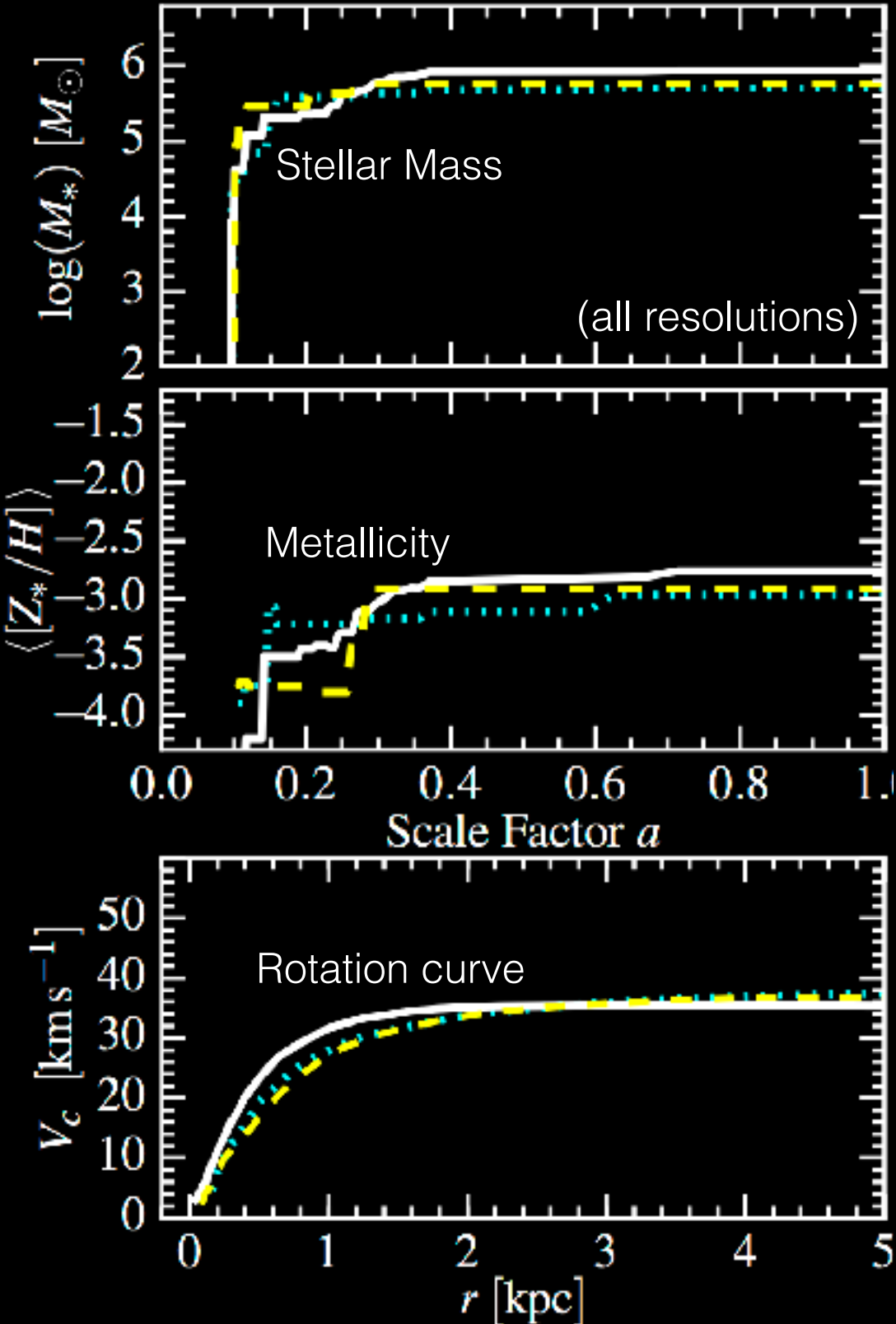
BUT IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT



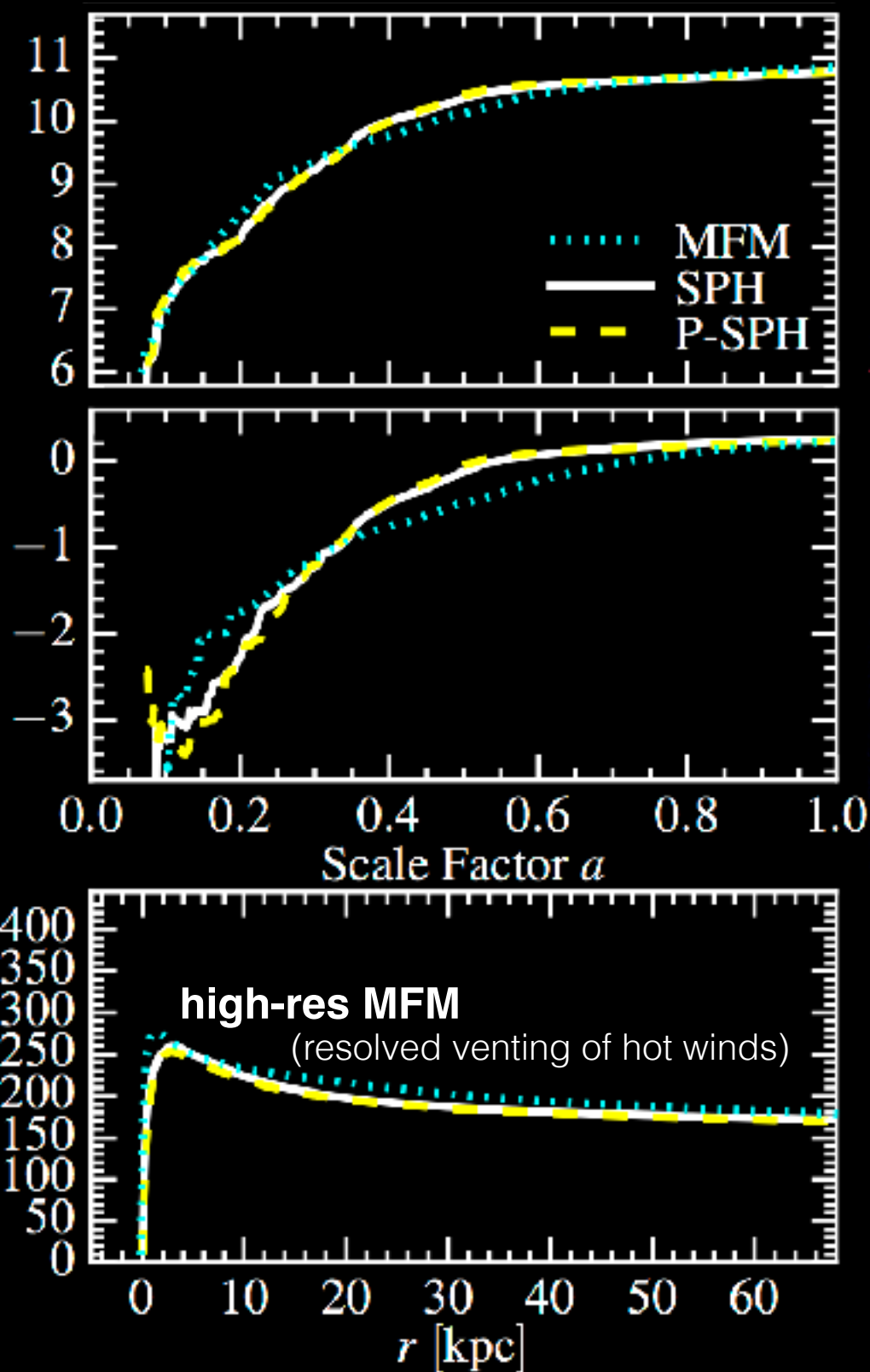
Getting the Hydro Right Can Matter

DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT

Dwarfs (“cold mode”):
no effects

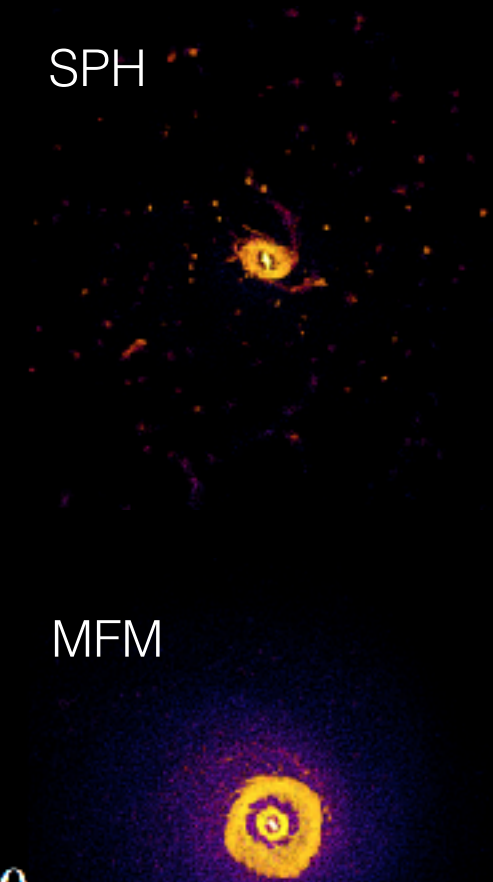


Massive Galaxies (“hot mode”):
cooling & wind “venting”



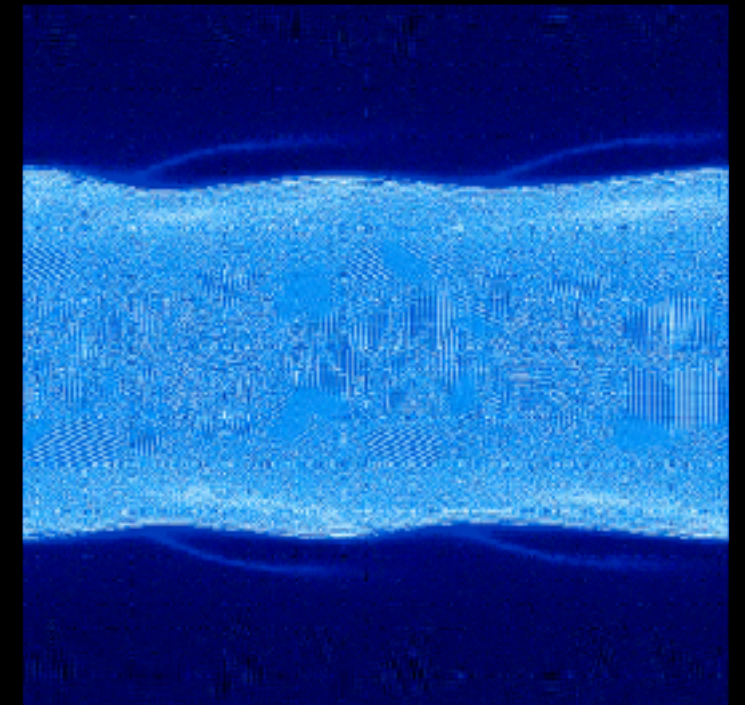
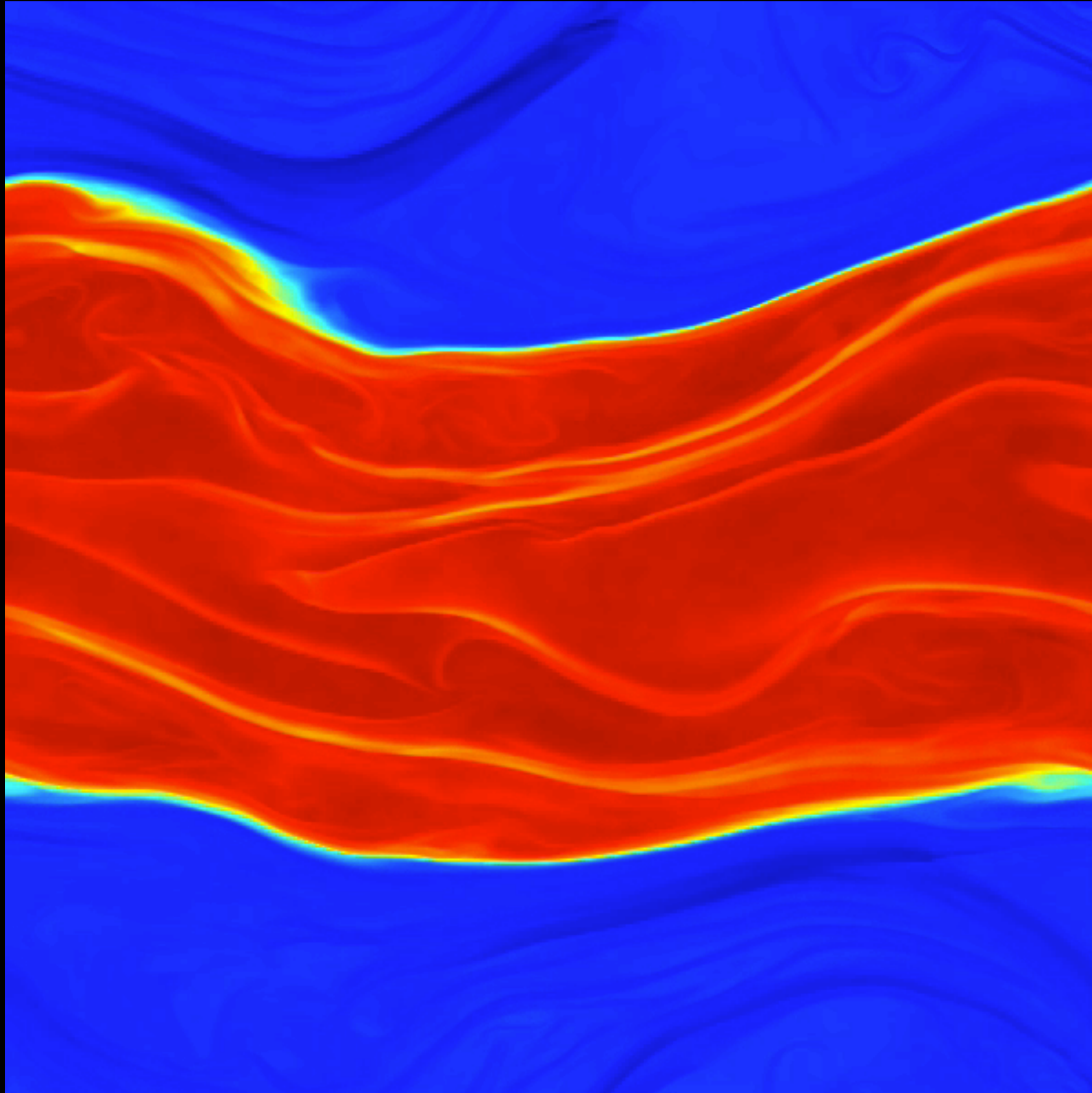
SPH

MFM



A Caution: You can get the “right” answer for the wrong reasons

DON'T MISTAKE NUMERICAL PRECISION FOR PHYSICAL ACCURACY

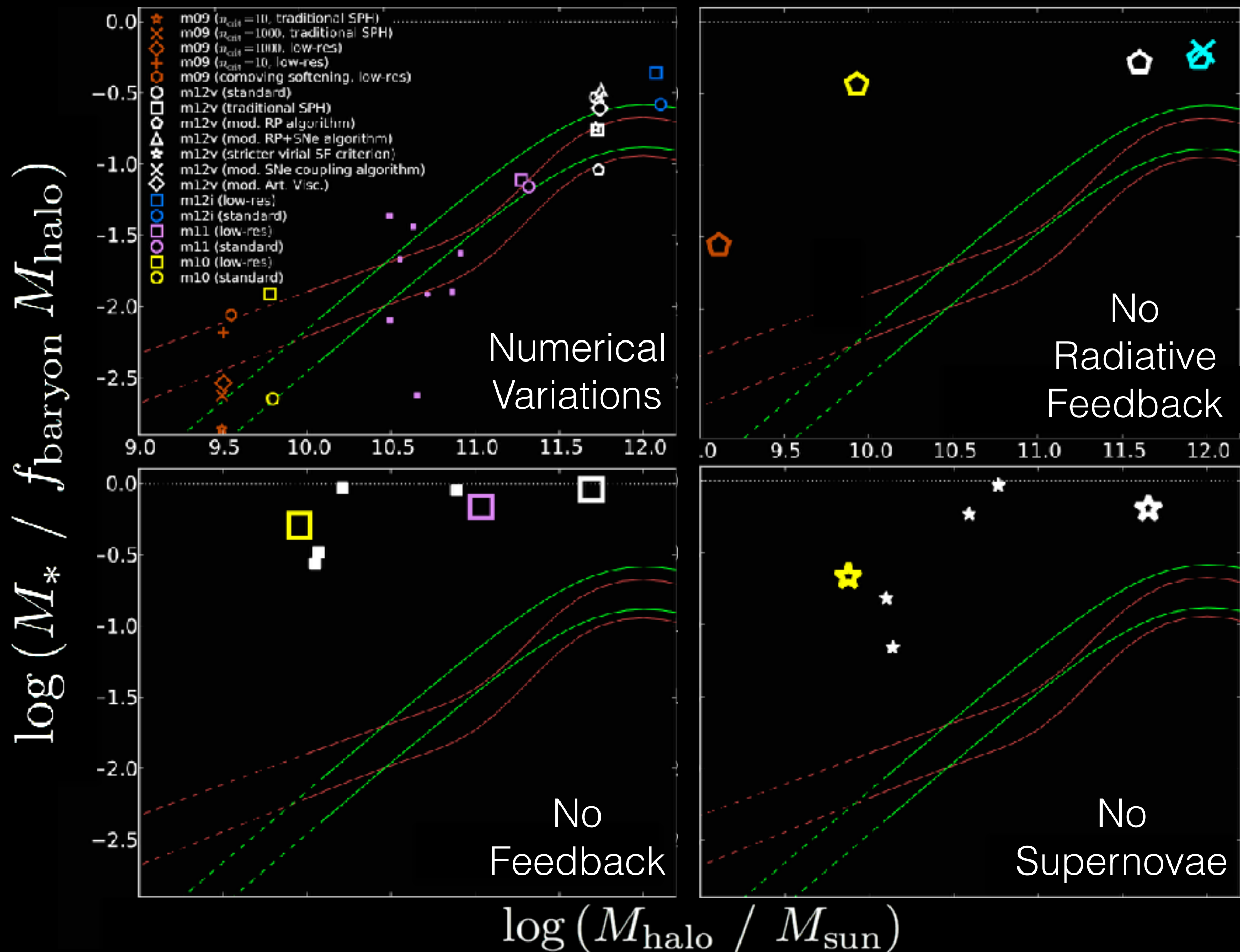


“old” SPH
(Springel 02)

Magnetic KH
(Equipartition field)
with a “good” code

Getting the Hydro Right Can Matter

DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU CARE ABOUT

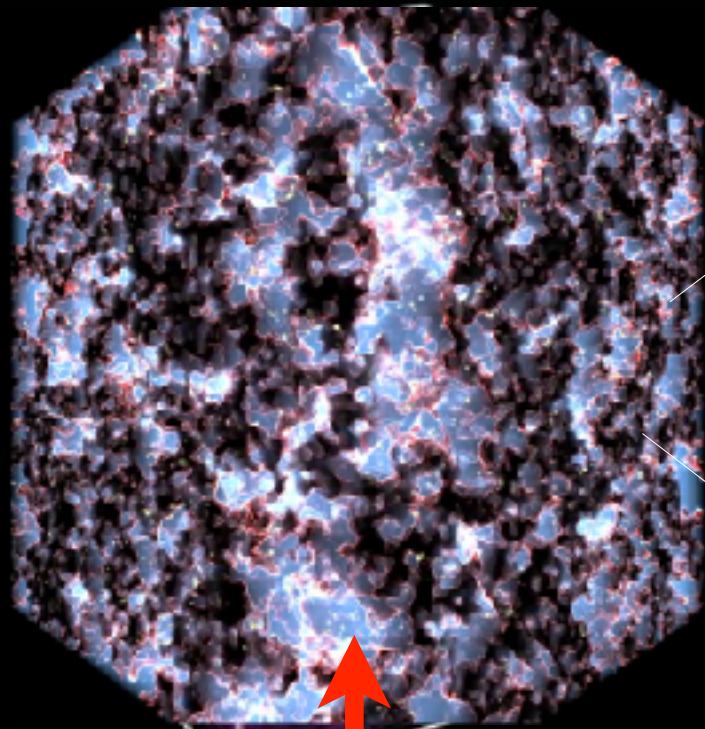


Resolution

(how to get more of it)

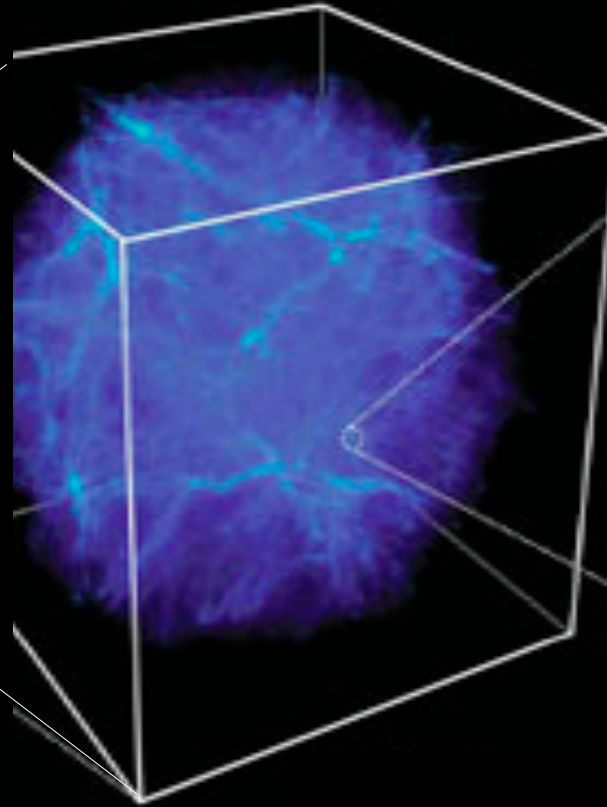
$\sim 10^{10}$ pc

Hubble volume



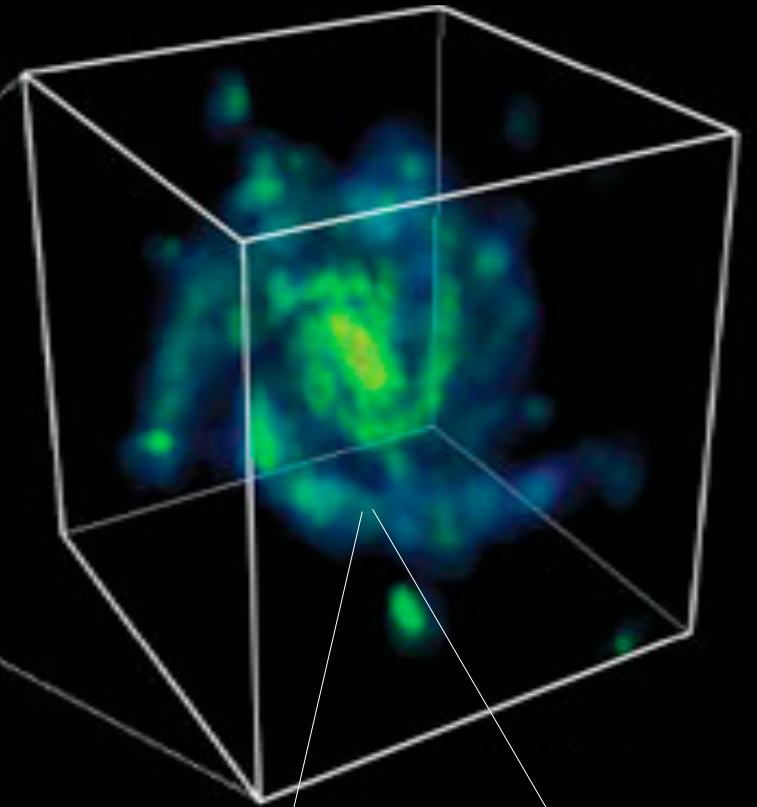
$\sim 10^7 - 10^8$ pc

Clusters, Large-scale structure



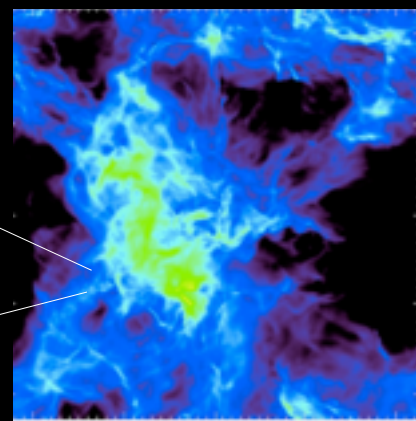
$\sim 10^4 - 5$ pc

Galaxy



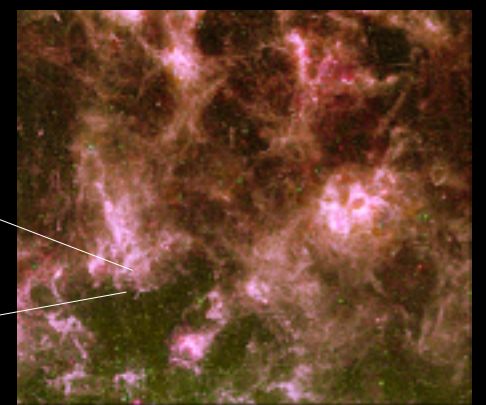
$\sim 10^{-5}$ pc

Stars, protostellar disks



$\sim 10^{-2} - 10^0$ pc

Cores, clusters,
Supernovae blastwaves



$\sim 10^1 - 10^2$ pc

Molecular clouds,
Star-Forming Regions

Previous “State of the Art”

Resolution:

~kpc

$\sim 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$

Interstellar Medium:
single, ideal fluid

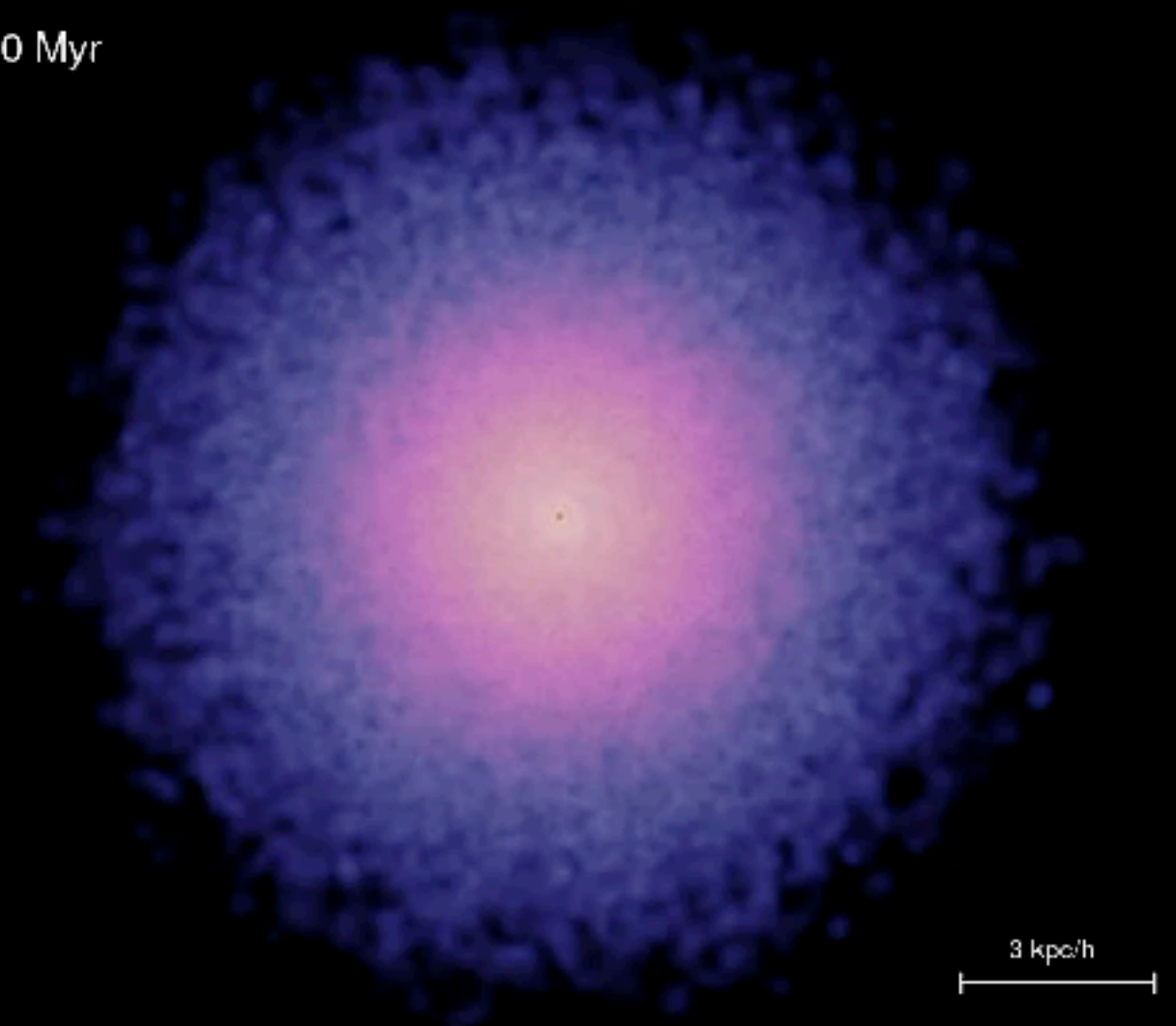
Winds?

“sub-grid” (cheat a bit)

- turn off cooling
- throw out mass “by hand”

$$M_{\text{wind}} = (\text{fudge}) \times M_{\text{stars}}$$

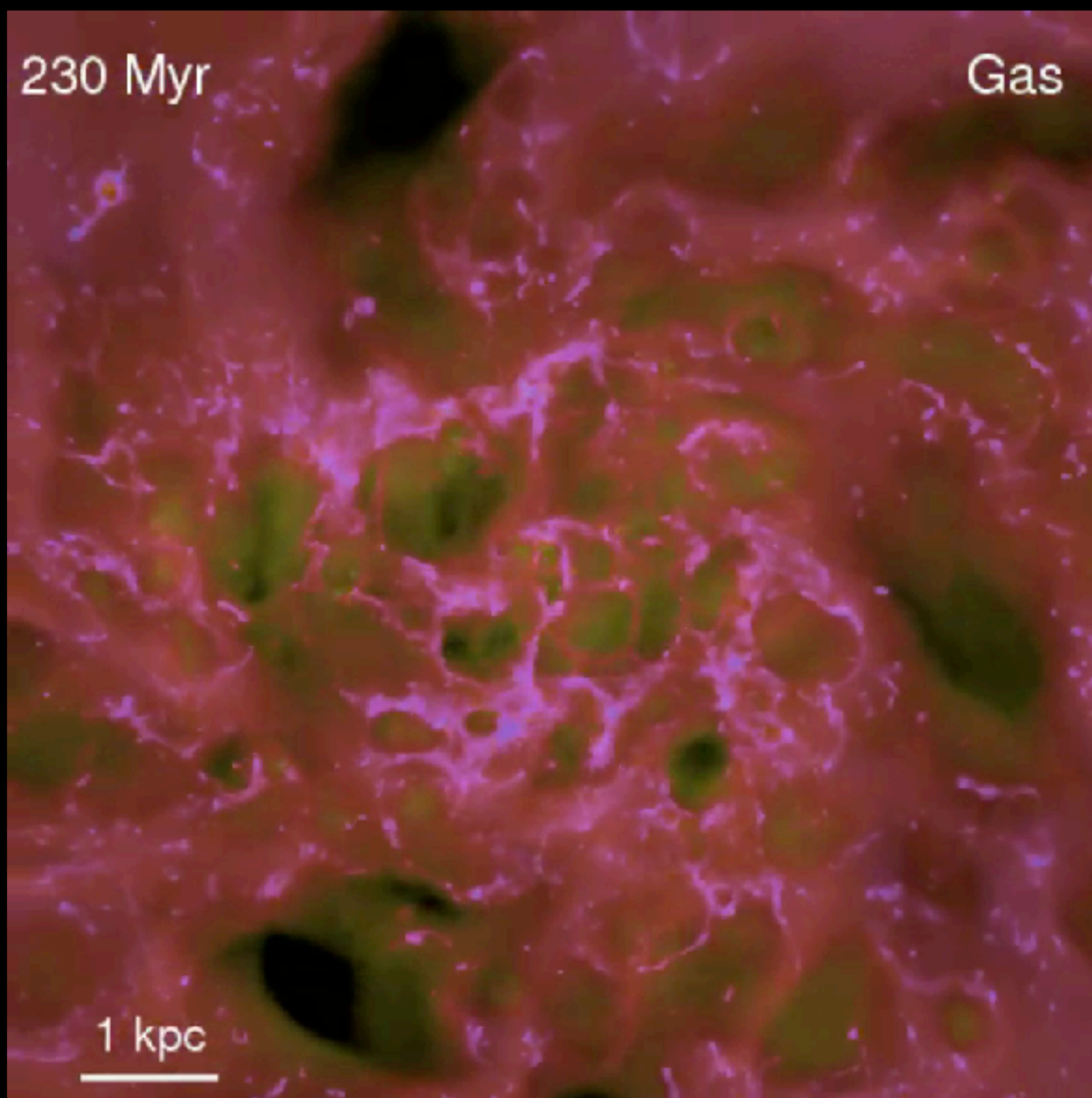
T = 0 Myr



e.g. “Illustris”, “OWLS”, “EAGLE”,
...anything I wrote before 2012...

The FIRE Project

Feedback In Realistic Environments



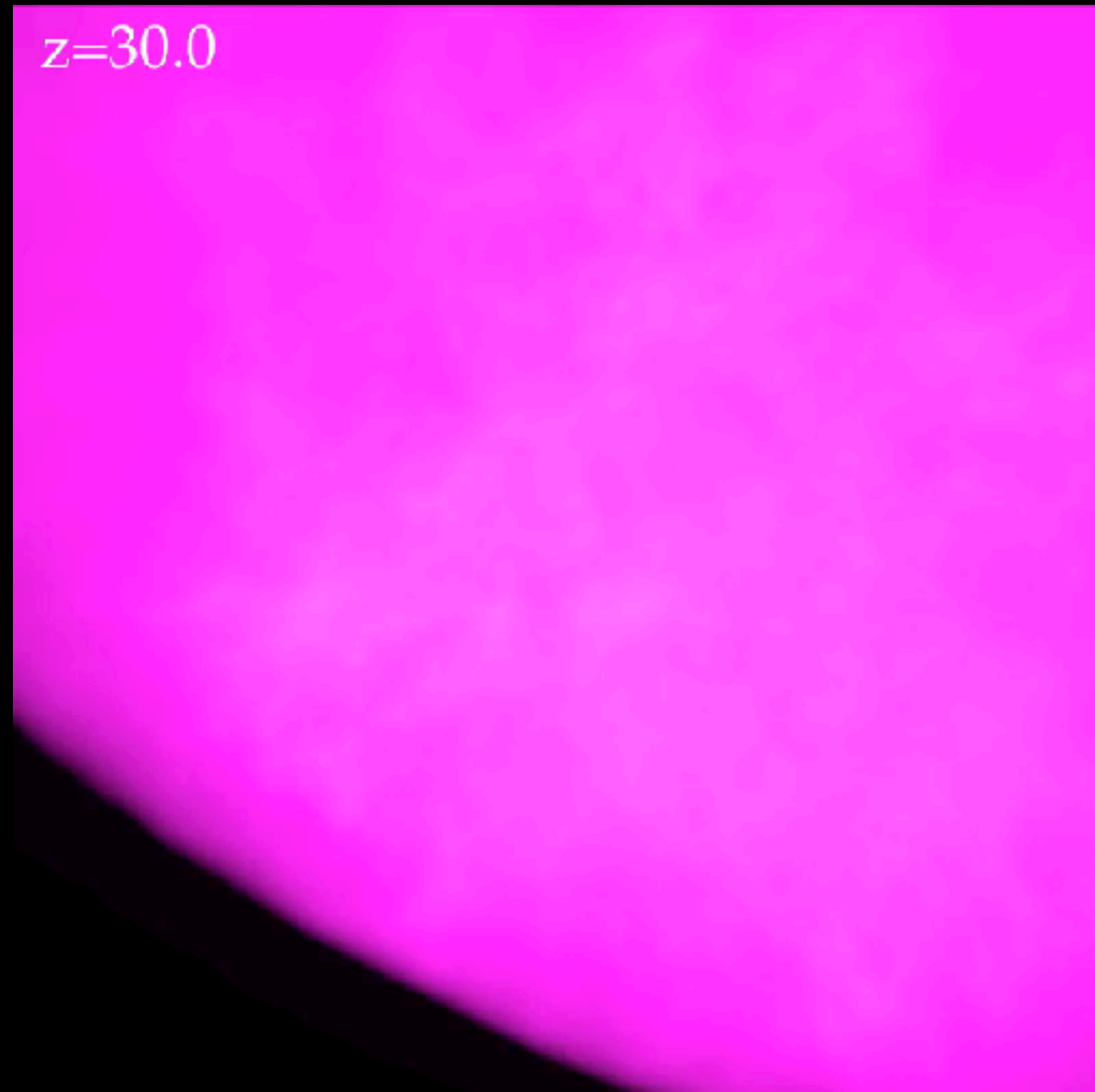
Yellow: hot ($>10^6$ K) Pink: warm (ionized, $\sim 10^4$ K) Blue: cold (neutral <10 -8000 K)

- Resolution \sim pc
Cooling & Chemistry $\sim 10 - 10^{10}$ K
- Feedback:
 - SNe (II & Ia)
 - Stellar Winds (O/B & AGB)
 - Photoionization (HII regions)
& Photo-electric (dust)
 - Radiation Pressure (IR & UV)
- now with...
 - Magnetic fields
 - Anisotropic
conduction & viscosity
 - Cosmic rays

$z=30.0$

10 kpc

$z=30.0$



Stars (Hubble image):

Blue: Young star clusters

Red: Dust extinction

Gas: Magenta: cold ($< 10^4 K$)

Green: warm (ionized)

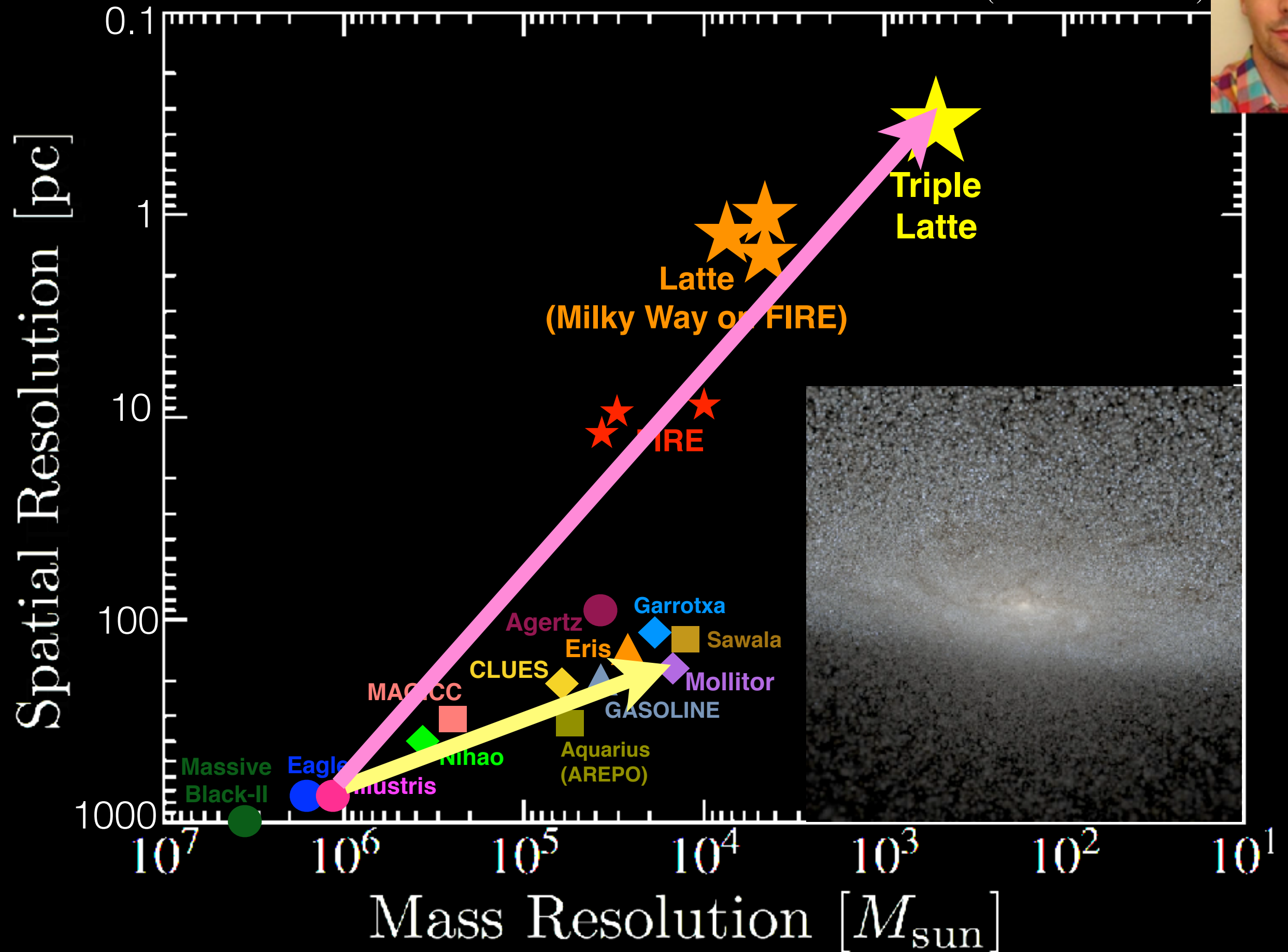
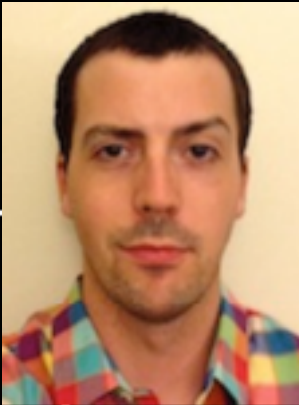
Red: hot ($> 10^6 K$)

The Future is Now

ALGORITHMIC BREAKTHROUGHS ENABLE NEW PHYSICS

Andrew
Wetzel

(arXiv:1602.05957)

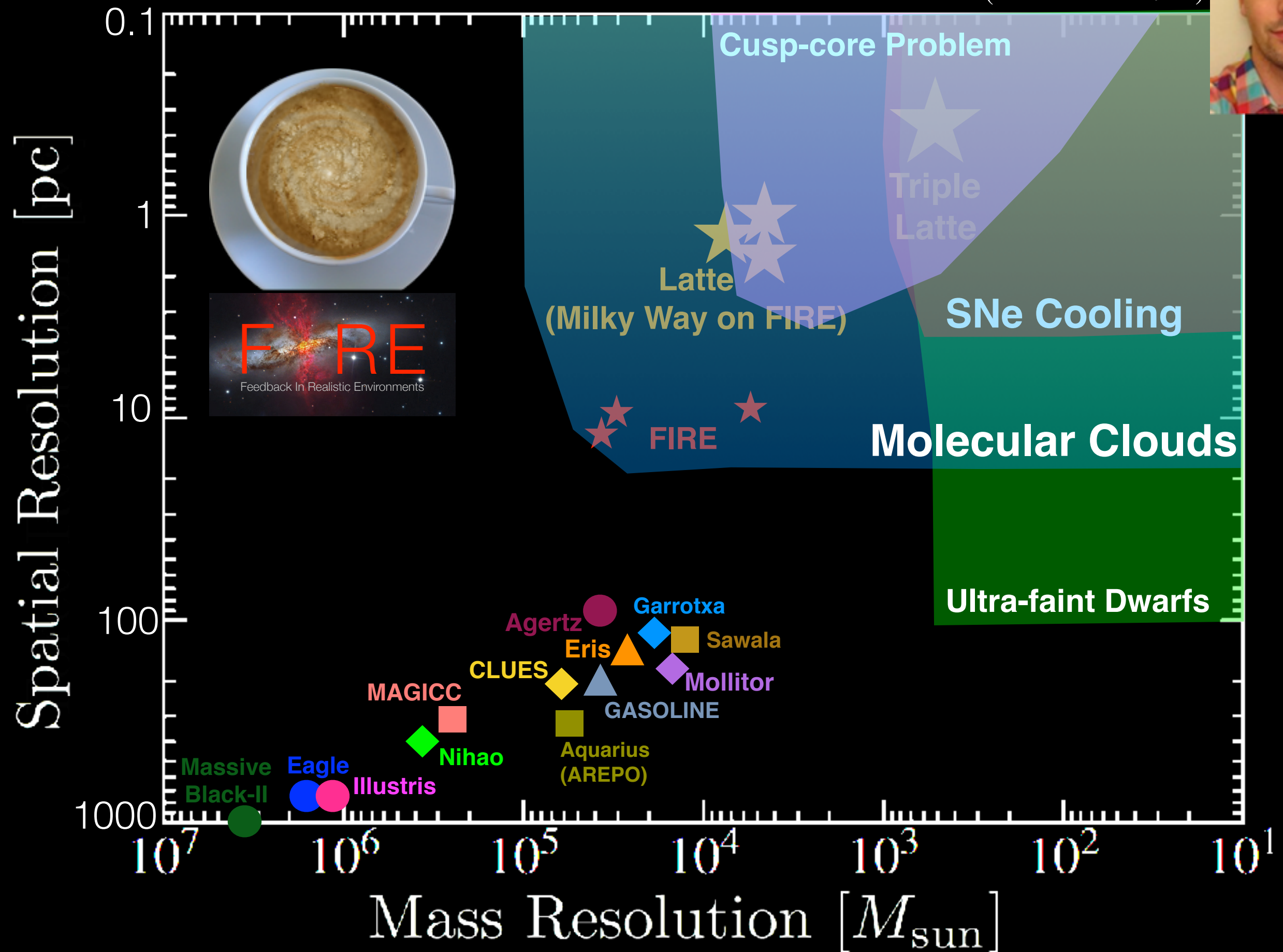
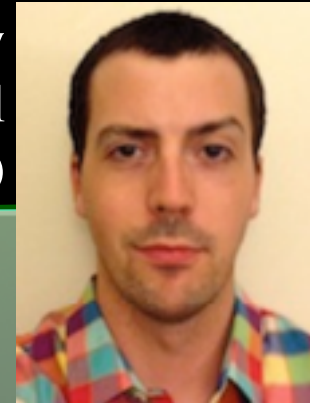


The Future is Now

NEW PHYSICS AT NEW SCALES

Andrew
Wetzel

(arXiv:1602.05957)



Physics

(a question of philosophy)

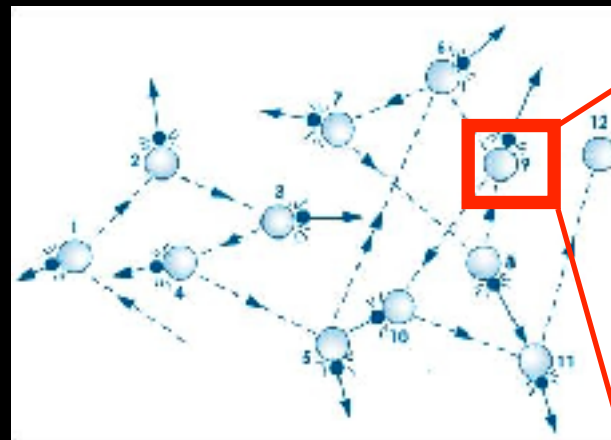
Everything is sub-grid

Hydrodynamics



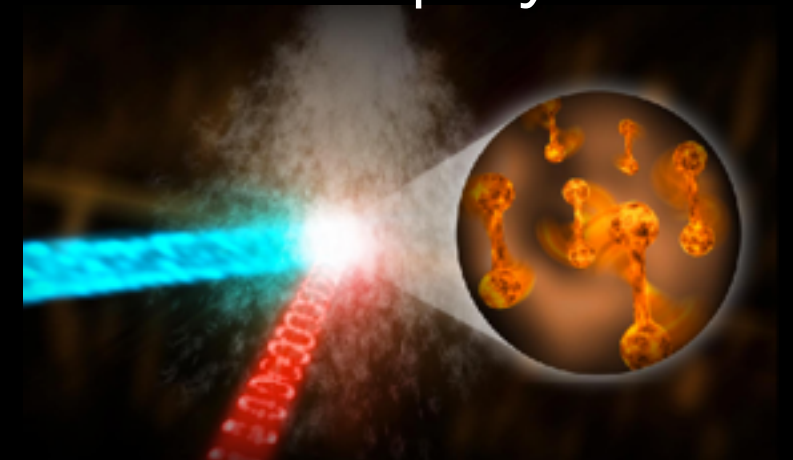
$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}$$

Statistical mechanics



$$\begin{aligned} Q(t) = & f[t; g[Q]] - f^{(0)}[t; g^{(0)}[Q]] \\ & + \epsilon \left(\int ds \frac{\delta f^{(0)}(t)}{\delta g^{(0)}(s)} g^{(1)}[s; Q] + f^{(1)}[t; g^{(0)}[Q]] \right) \\ & + \epsilon^2 \left(\int ds \frac{\delta f^{(0)}(t)}{\delta g^{(0)}(s)} g^{(2)}[s; Q] \right. \\ & + \frac{1}{2} \int ds ds' \frac{\delta^2 f^{(0)}(t)}{\delta g^{(0)}(s) \delta g^{(0)}(s')} g^{(1)}[s; Q] g^{(1)}[s'; Q] \\ & \left. + \int ds \frac{\delta f^{(1)}(t)}{\delta g^{(0)}(s)} g^{(1)}[s; Q] + f^{(2)}[t; g^{(0)}[Q]] \right) + O(\epsilon^3) \end{aligned}$$

Particle physics



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{GWS} = & \sum_f (\bar{\Psi}_f (i\gamma^\mu \partial_\mu - m_f) \Psi_f - c Q_f \bar{\Psi}_f \gamma^\mu \Psi_f A_\mu) + \\ & + \frac{g}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_i (\bar{a}_L^i \gamma^\mu b_L^i W_\mu^+ + \bar{b}_L^i \gamma^\mu a_L^i W_\mu^-) + \frac{g}{2c_w} \sum_f \bar{\Psi}_f \gamma^\mu (I_f^3 - 2s_w^2 Q_f - I_f^3 \gamma_5) \Psi_f Z_\mu + \\ & - \frac{1}{4} |\partial_\mu A_\nu - \partial_\nu A_\mu - ic(W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ - W_\mu^+ W_\nu^-)|^2 - \frac{1}{2} |\partial_\mu W_\nu^+ - \partial_\nu W_\mu^+ + \\ & - ic(W_\mu^+ A_\nu - W_\nu^+ A_\mu) + ig' c_w (W_\mu^+ Z_\nu - W_\nu^+ Z_\mu)|^2 + \\ & - \frac{1}{4} |\partial_\mu Z_\nu - \partial_\nu Z_\mu + ig' c_w (W_\mu^- W_\nu^+ - W_\mu^+ W_\nu^-)|^2 + \\ & - \frac{1}{2} M_\eta^2 \eta^2 - \frac{g M_\eta^2}{8 M_W} \eta^3 - \frac{g'^2 M_\eta^2}{32 M_W} \eta^4 + |M_W W_\mu^+ + \frac{g}{2} \eta W_\mu^+|^2 + \\ & + \frac{1}{2} |\partial_\mu \eta + i M_Z Z_\mu + \frac{ig}{2c_w} \eta Z_\mu|^2 - \sum_f \frac{g}{2 M_W} \frac{m_f}{2} \bar{\Psi}_f \Psi_f \eta \end{aligned}$$

2 philosophies of sub-grid:

- 1. Parameterize unknowns, marginalize over them (fit to observations)
 - bias in BAO/LSS cosmology
 - MCMC SAMs / Illustris/Eagle philosophy
- 2. Derive from theory/observations on small scales, after “smoothing”
 - (magneto) hydrodynamics
 - FIRE philosophy: $M_{\text{wind}} = (\text{whatever the input physics predicts})$

Example: Supernovae

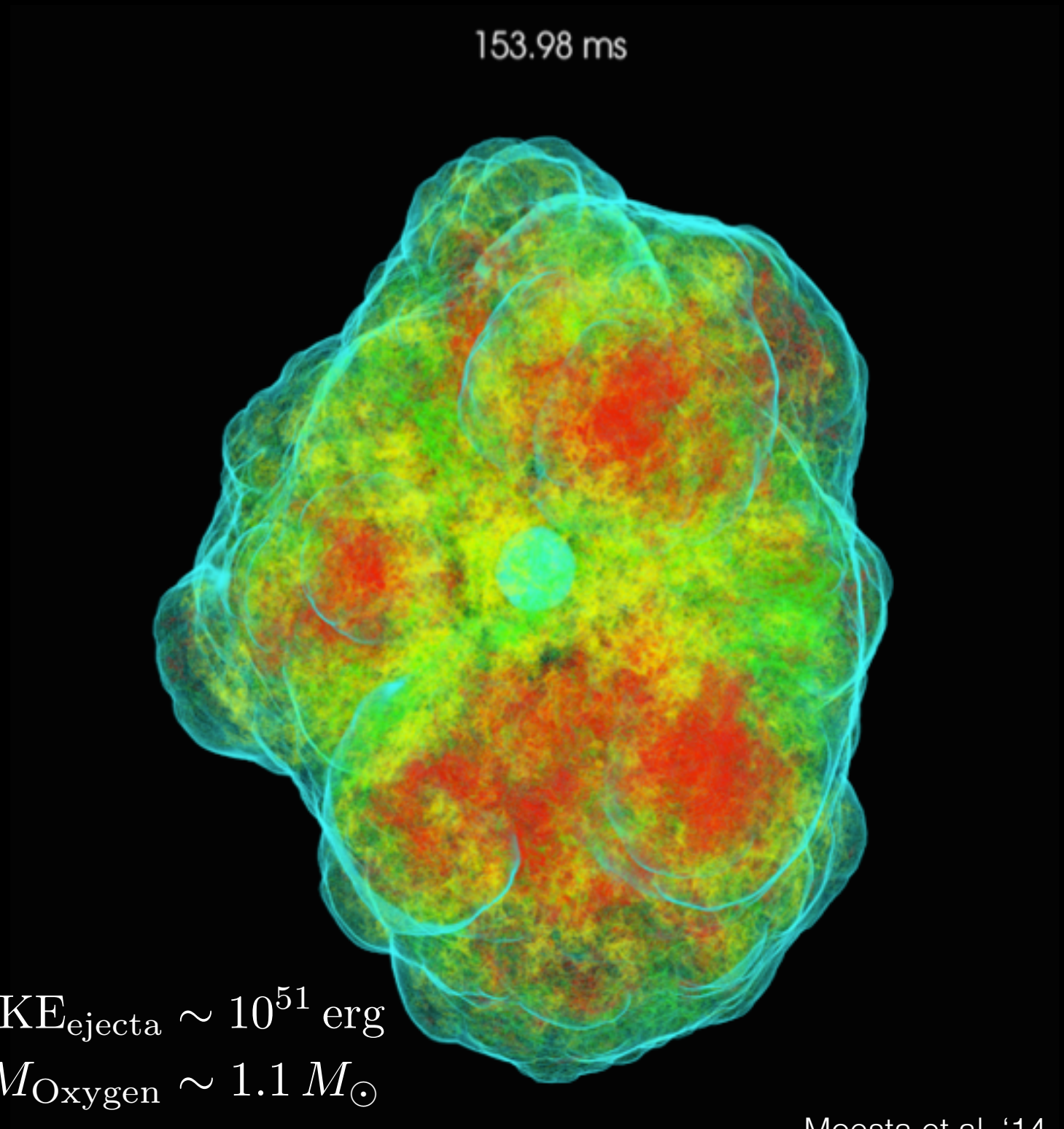
(building up a sub-grid model)

Example: SNe

Resolution:

$$m_i < 10^{-6} M_{\odot}$$

Predict: Explosion



Sub-grid physics:

- (magneto) hydrodynamics
- nuclear Rx rates
- neutrino transfer

Example: SNe

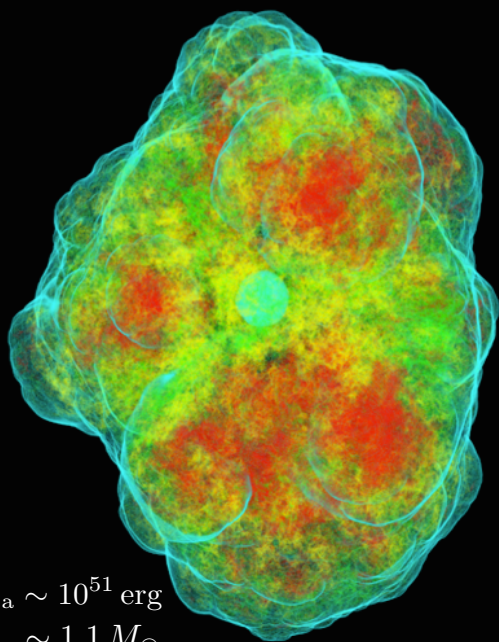
Resolution:

$$m_i \sim 1 - 100 M_{\odot}$$

Sub-grid physics:

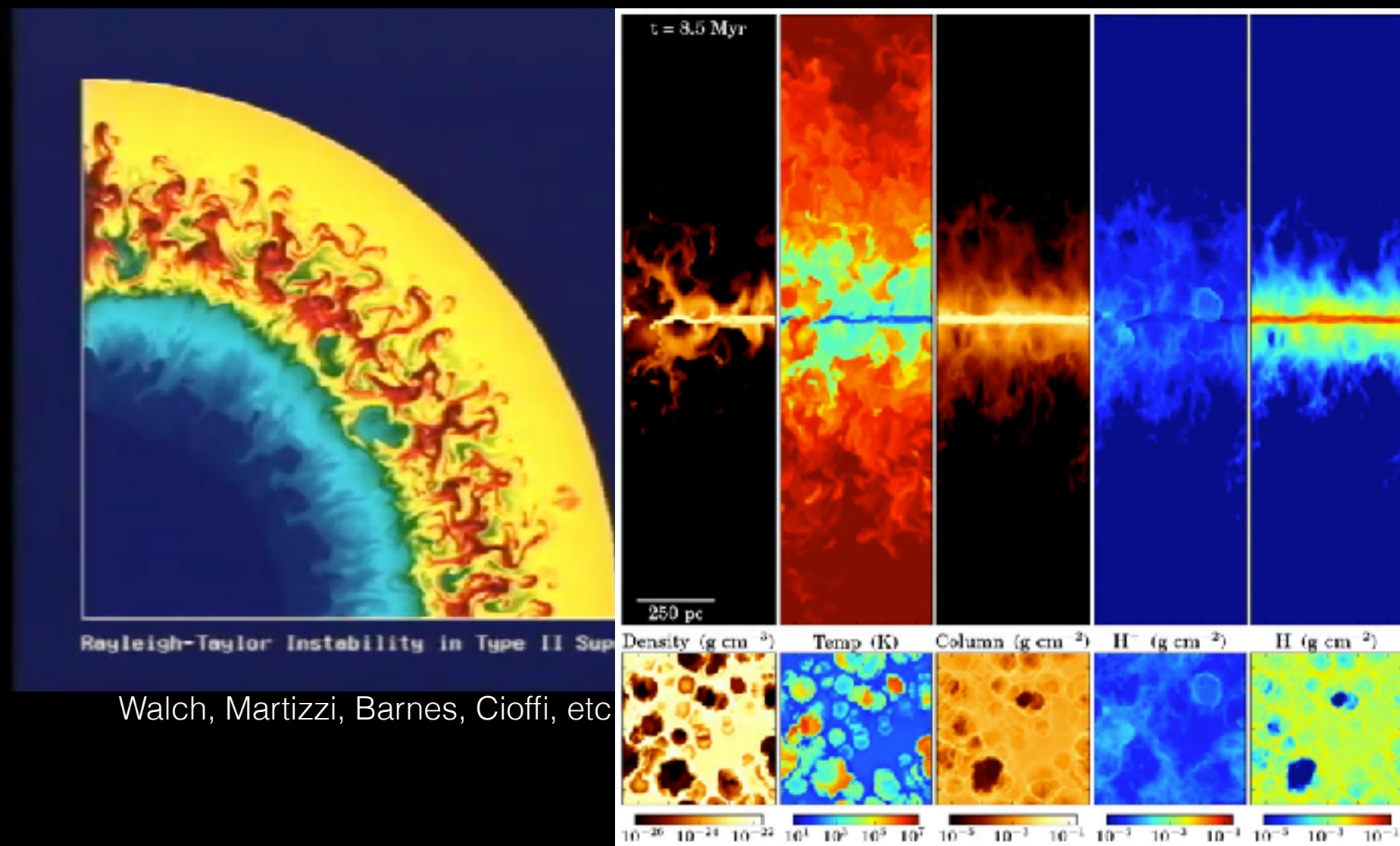
- SNe explosion
- ejecta energy, yields

153.98 ms



$KE_{\text{ejecta}} \sim 10^{51} \text{ erg}$
 $M_{\text{Oxygen}} \sim 1.1 M_{\odot}$
...

Predict: Blastwave Evolution/ISM Interaction



End of energy-to-momentum (single SNe):

$$M_{\text{snowplow, final}} \sim 3000 M_{\odot}$$

Final momentum:

$$\langle M_s v_s \rangle_{\text{final, SNr}} \sim 10^{5.5} M_{\odot} \frac{\text{km}}{\text{s}}$$



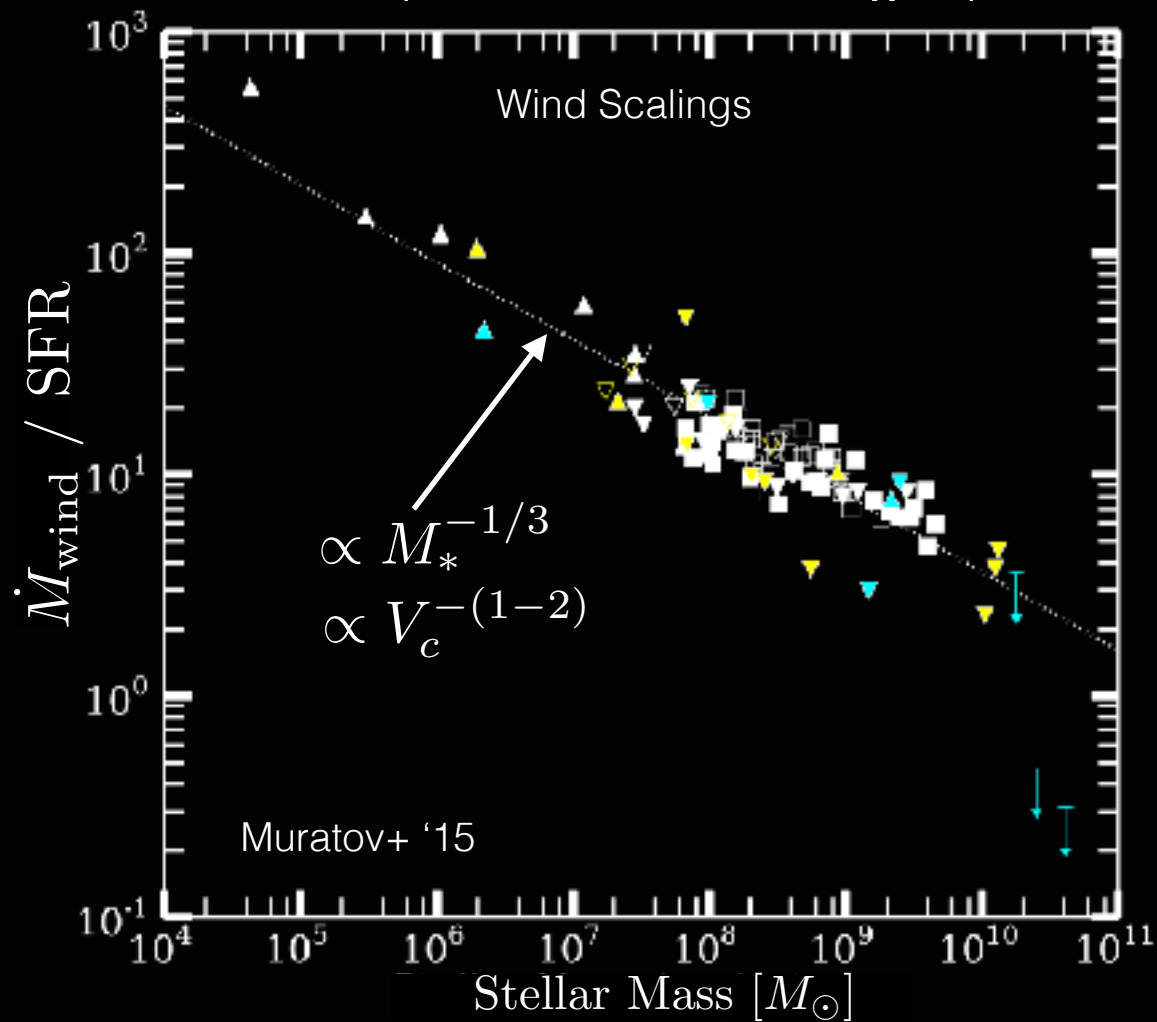
Example: SNe

Resolution:

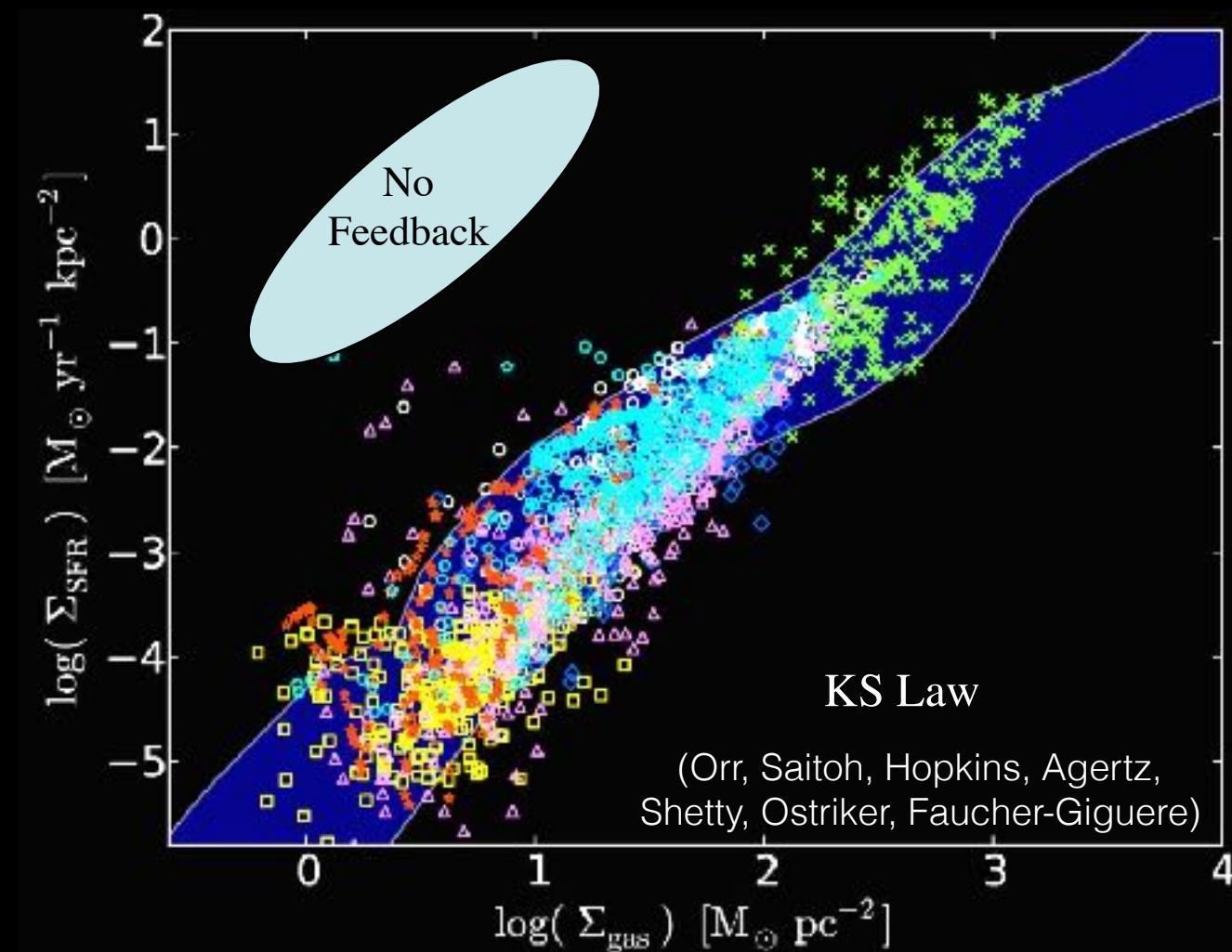
$$m_i \sim 10^{2-4} M_{\odot}$$

Sub-grid physics:

- single SNr evolution
- stellar evolution (rates)
- ~~SFR (dense molecular gas)~~



Predict: Overlap: super-bubbles & winds



FIRE

Example: SNe

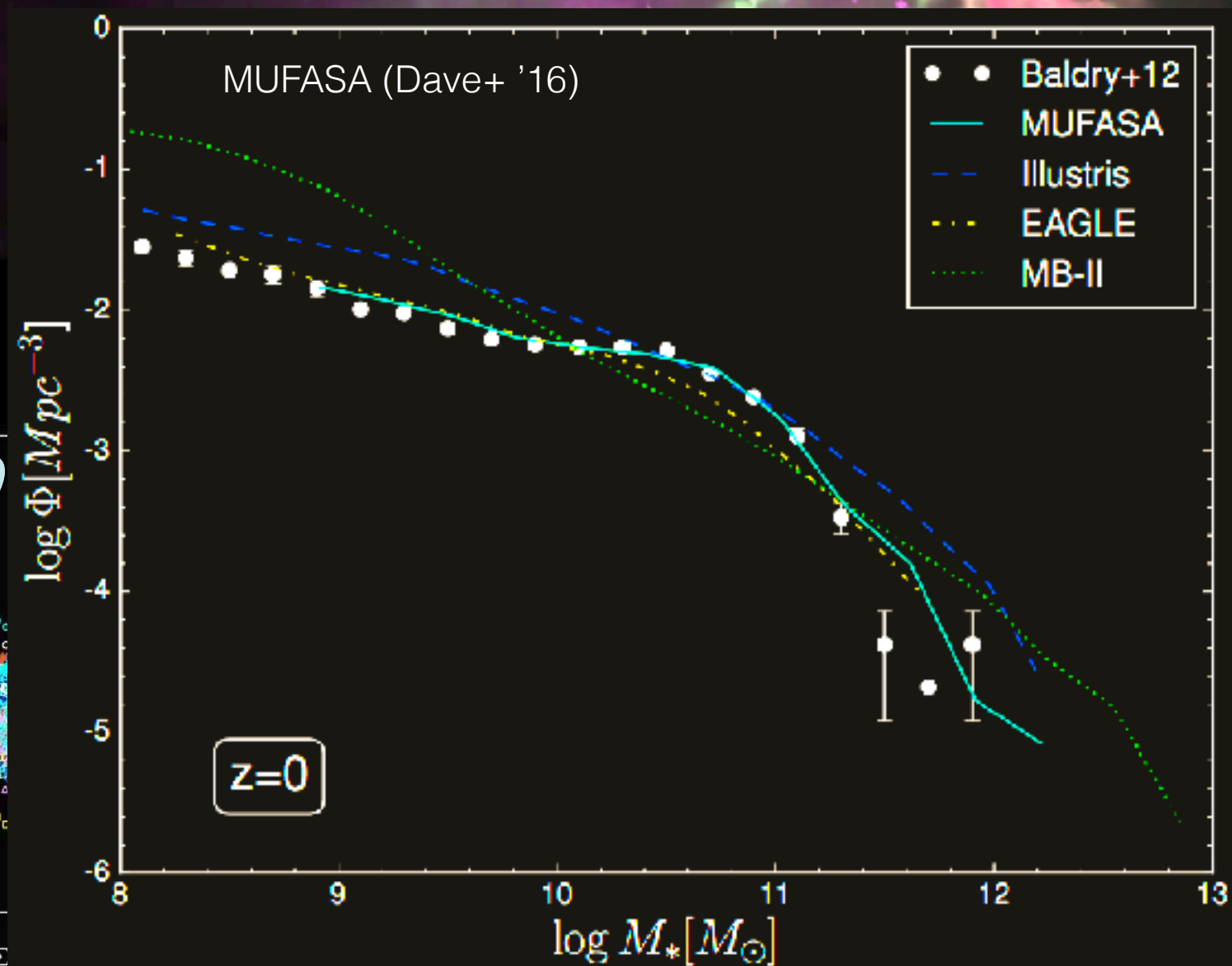
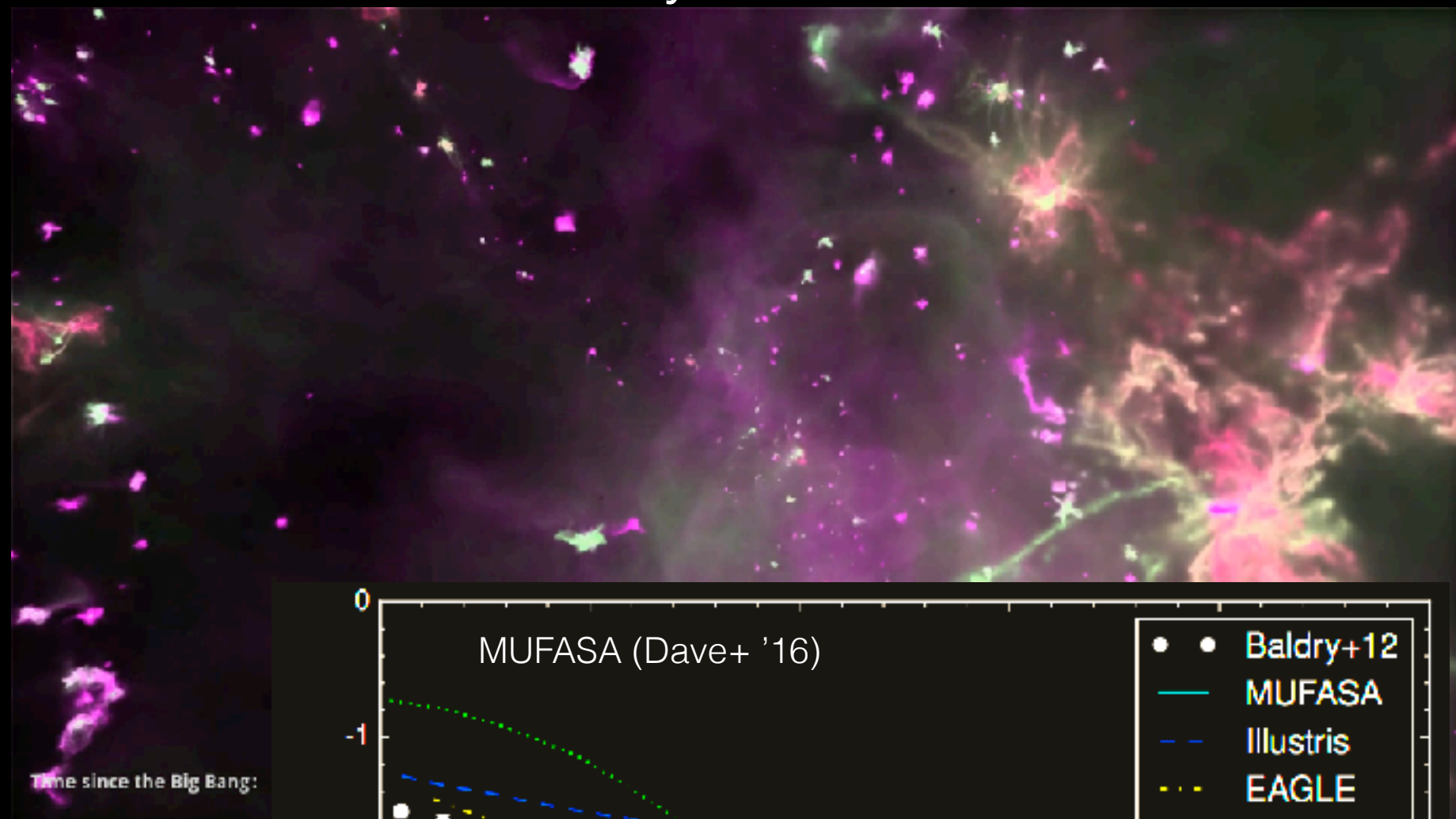
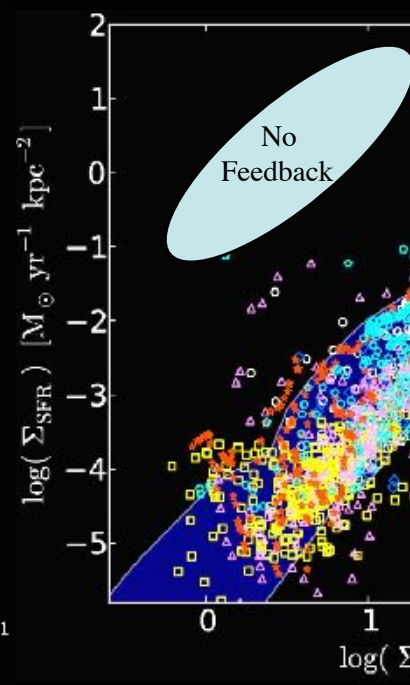
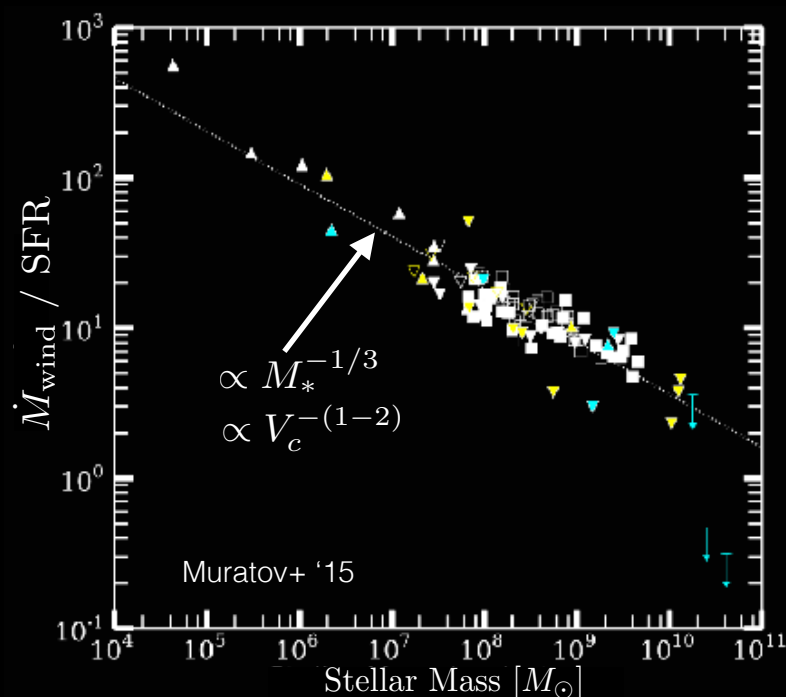
Predict: Galaxy SFHs, IGM enrichment

Resolution:

$$m_i \gtrsim 10^6 M_\odot$$

Sub-grid physics:

- SFR (kpc/low density gas)
- wind scalings (galaxy-scale)

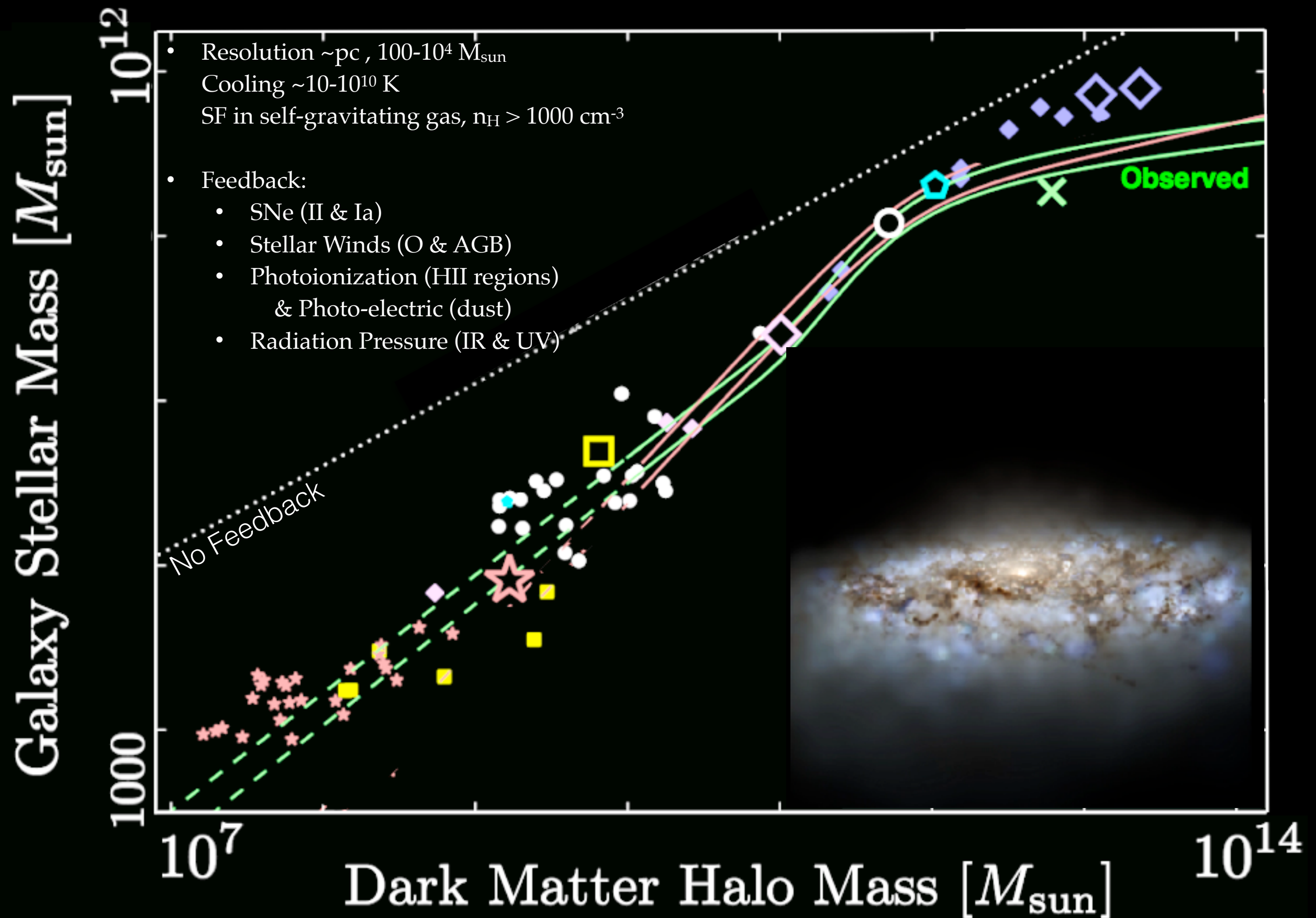


It Works!

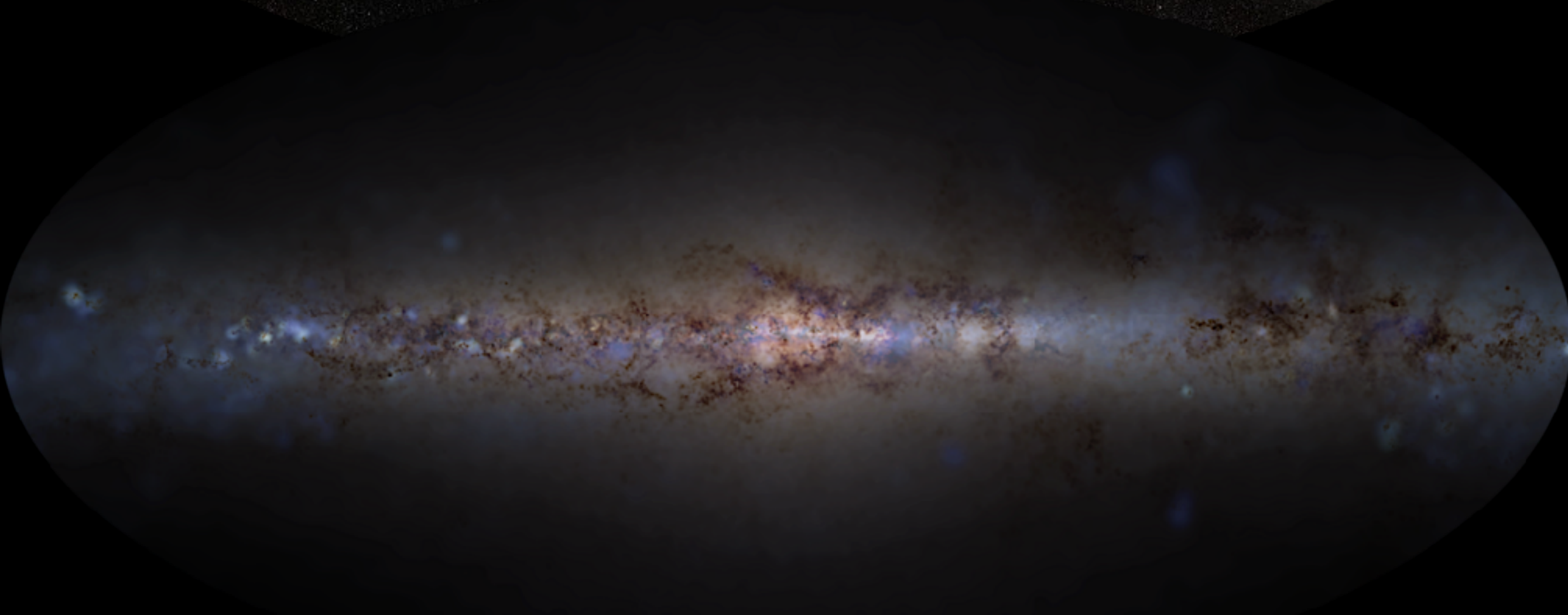
PFH et al.

(arXiv:1311.2073)

THIS APPROACH IS PRODUCING REALISTIC GALAXIES



The Milky Way



Failures No More

FEEDBACK EXPLAINS WHY SATELLITES ARE “MISSING”

Andrew

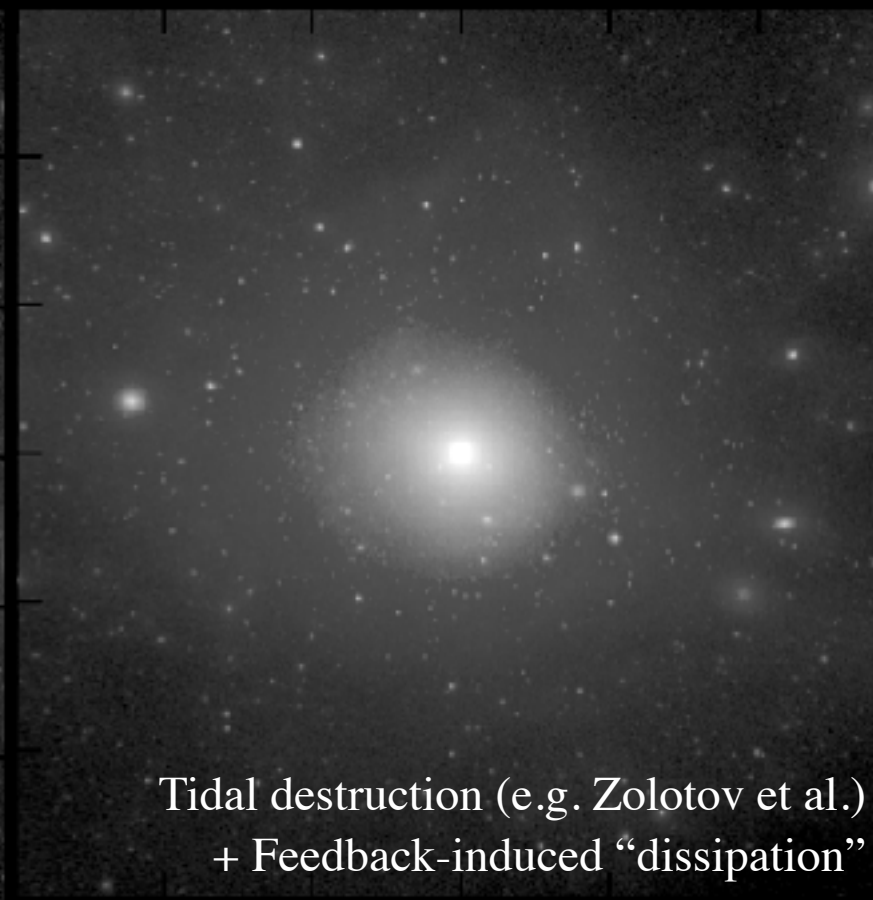
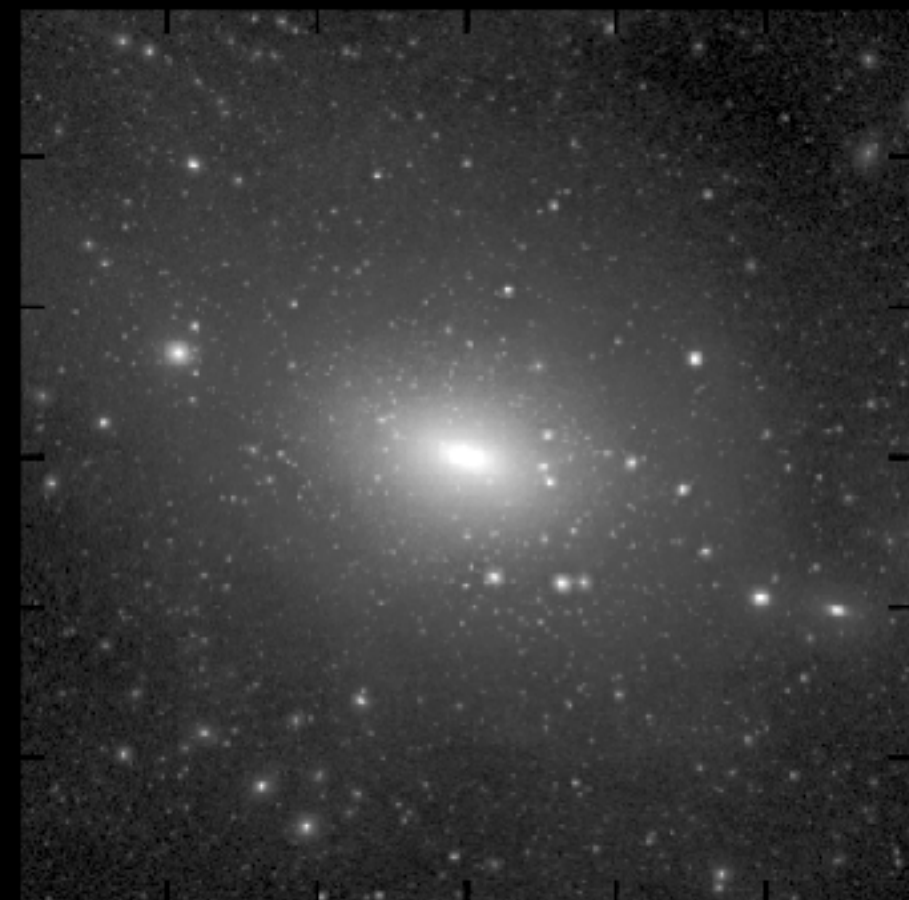
Wetzel

(arXiv:1602.05957)

Dark matter only simulation
(dark matter)

+ baryons & feedback
(dark matter)

+ baryons & feedback
(stars)



Tidal destruction (e.g. Zolotov et al.)
+ Feedback-induced “dissipation”

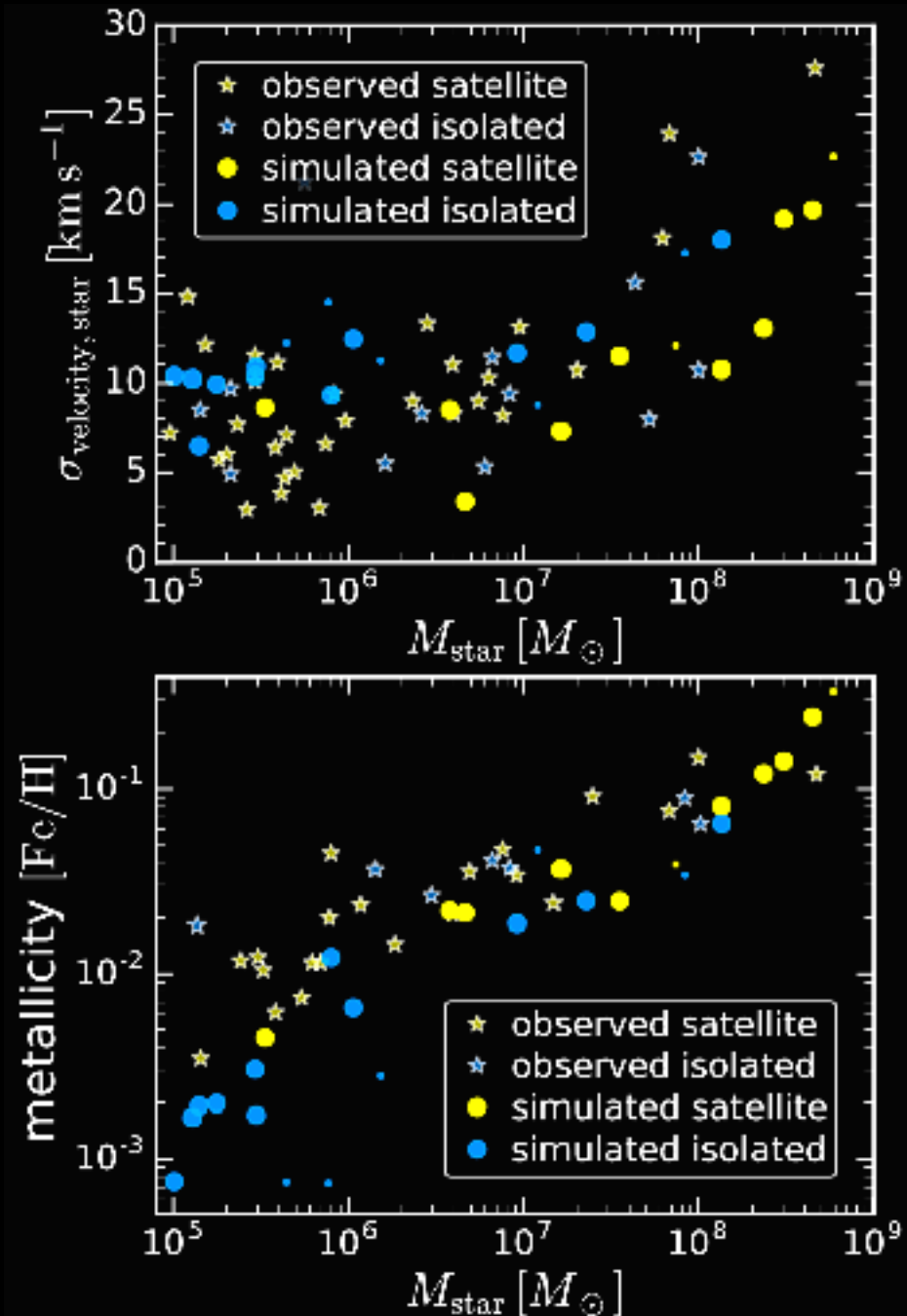
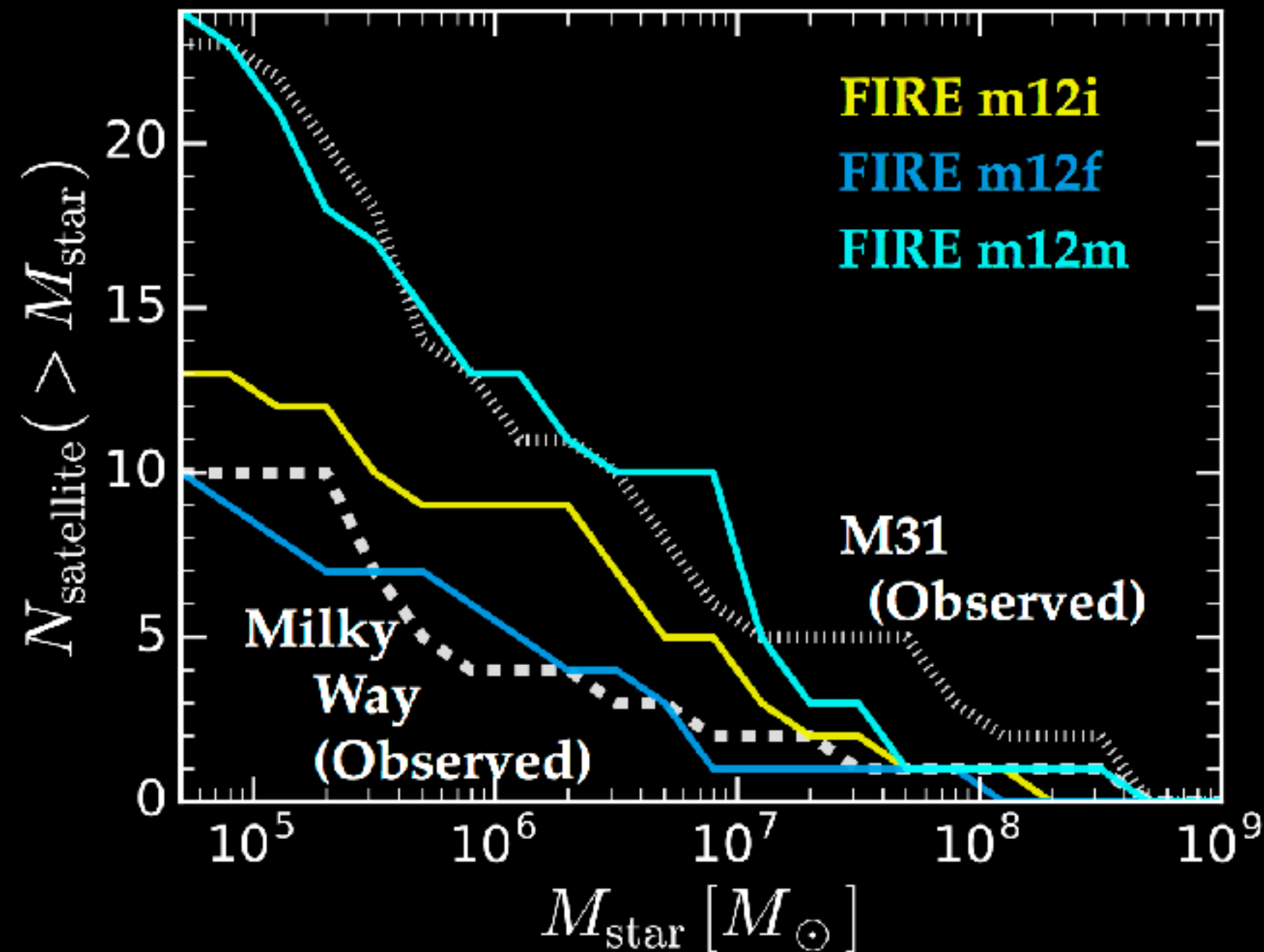
600 kpc





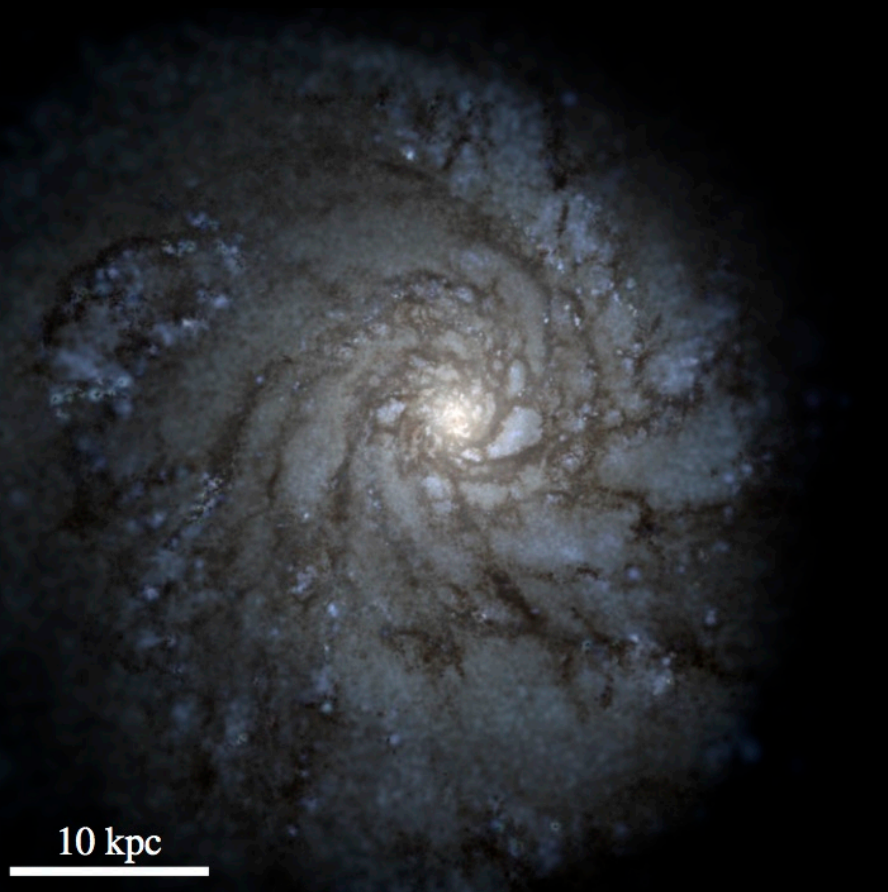
Failures No More

FEEDBACK SUPPRESSES STAR FORMATION AND DENSITIES

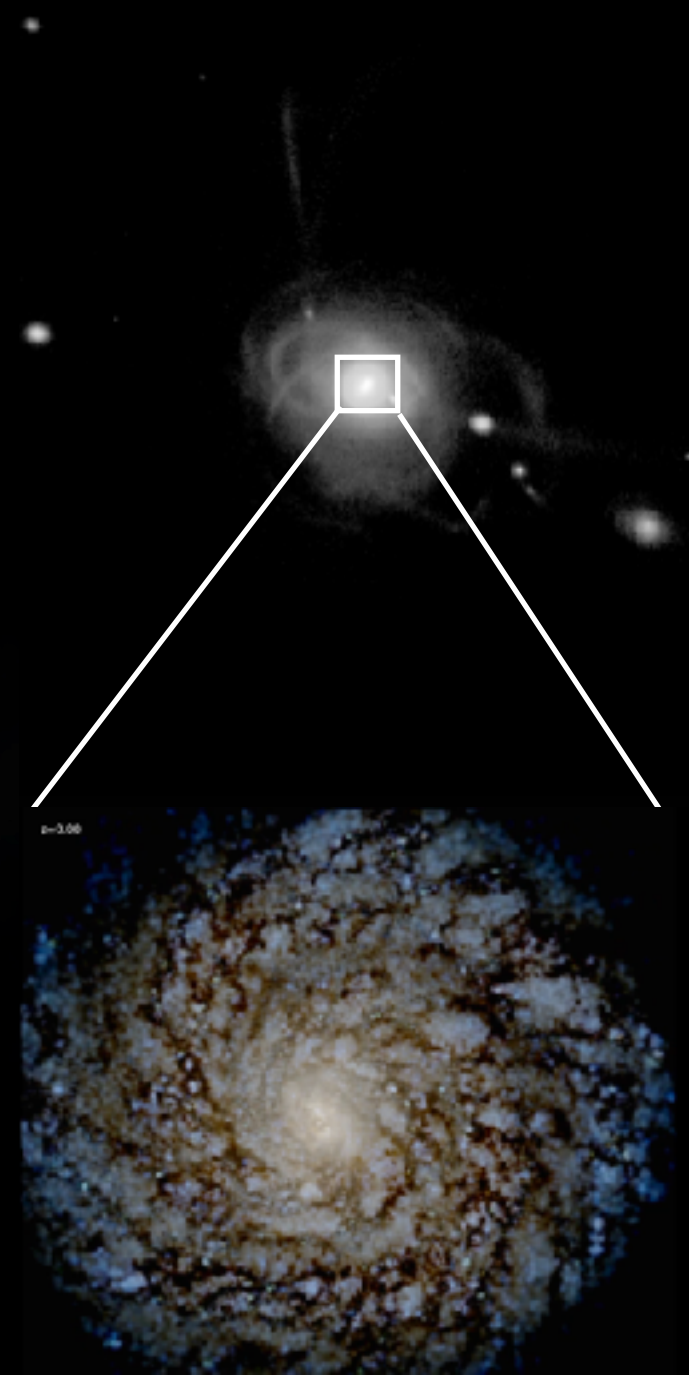
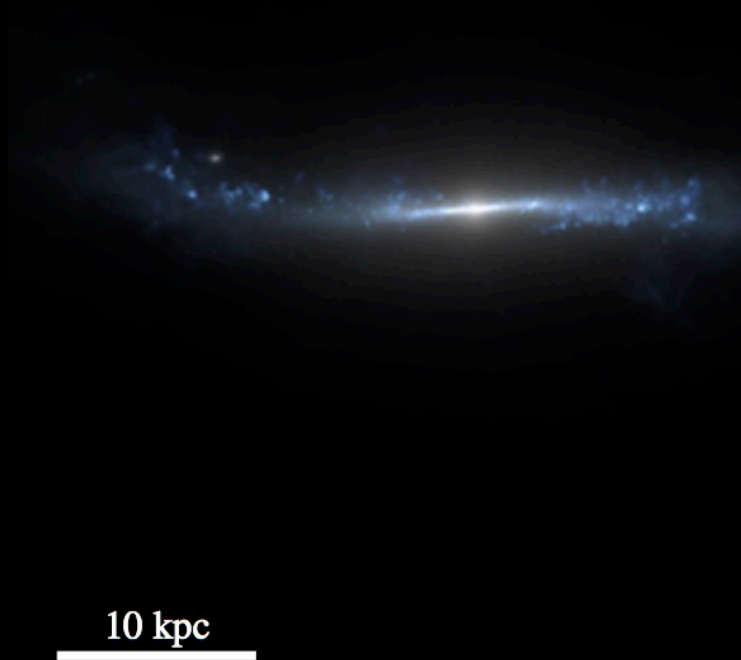
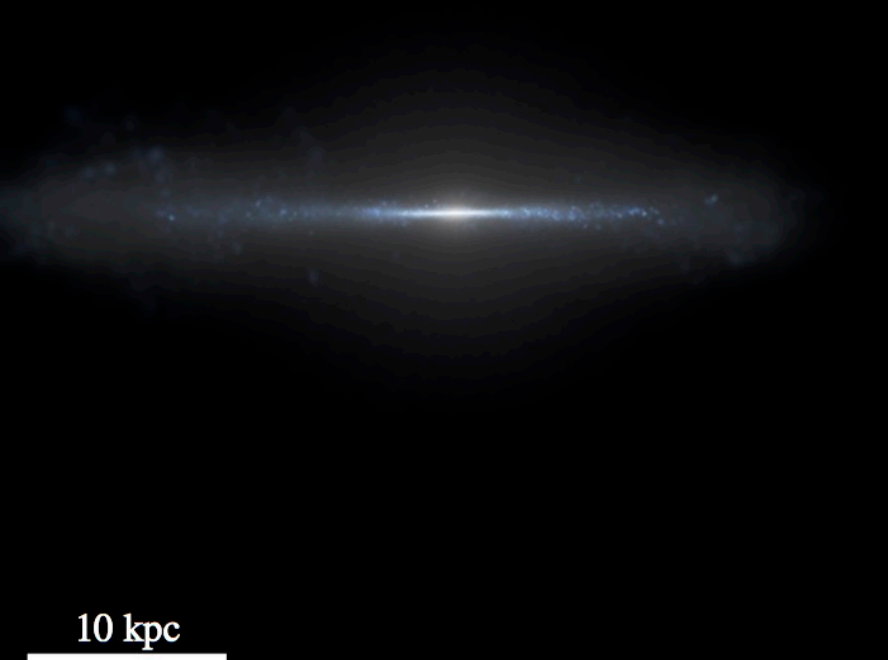


Thin Disks Emerge Naturally

Garrison-Kimmel
et al., in prep

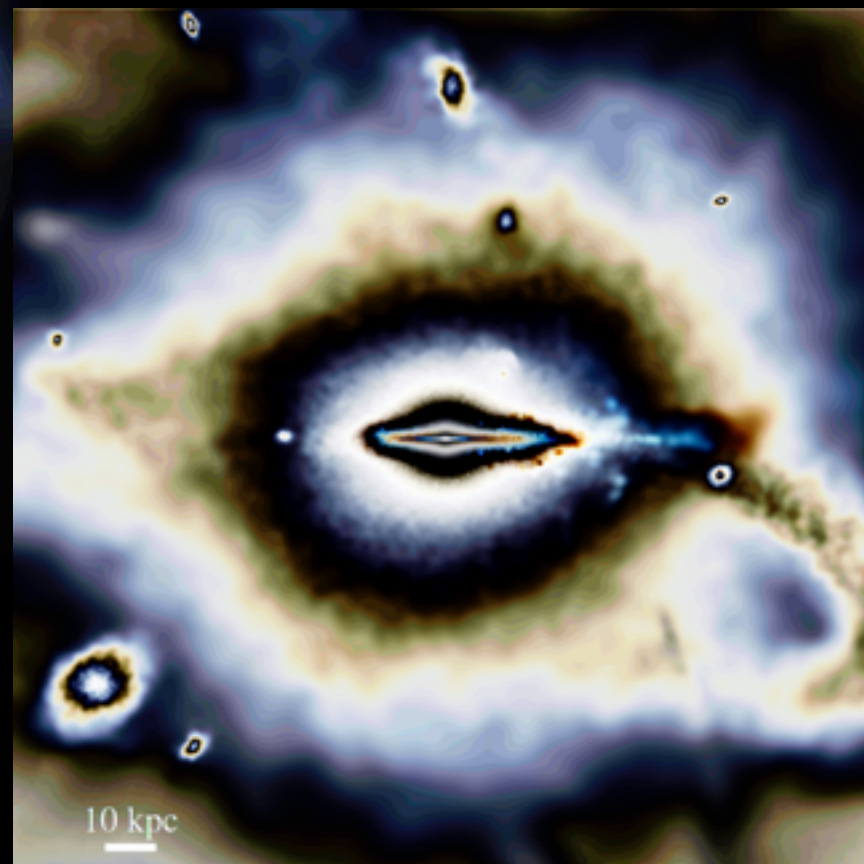
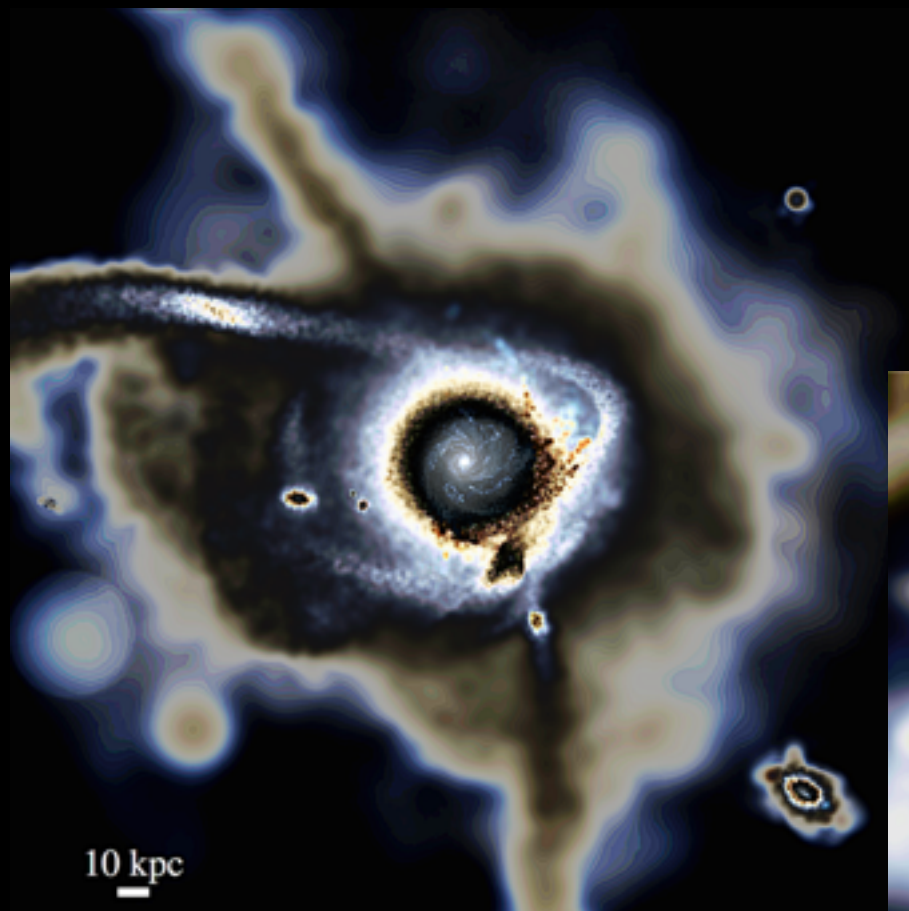


+ baryons & feedback
(stars)



Halo Structure

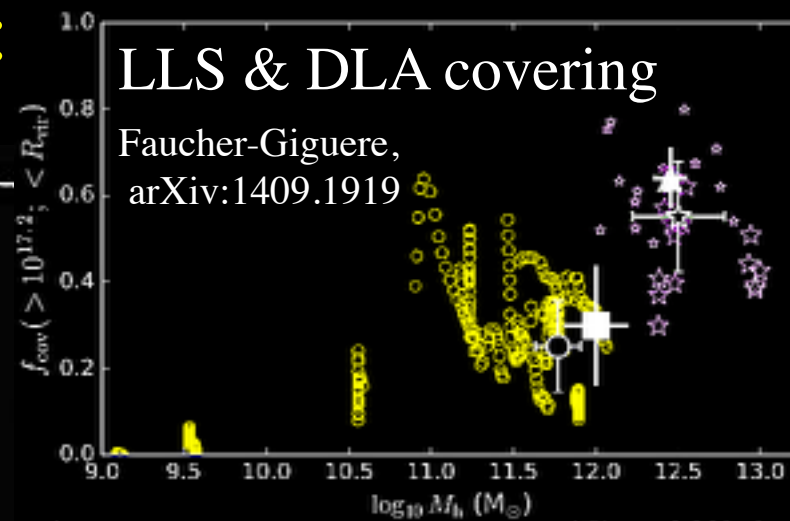
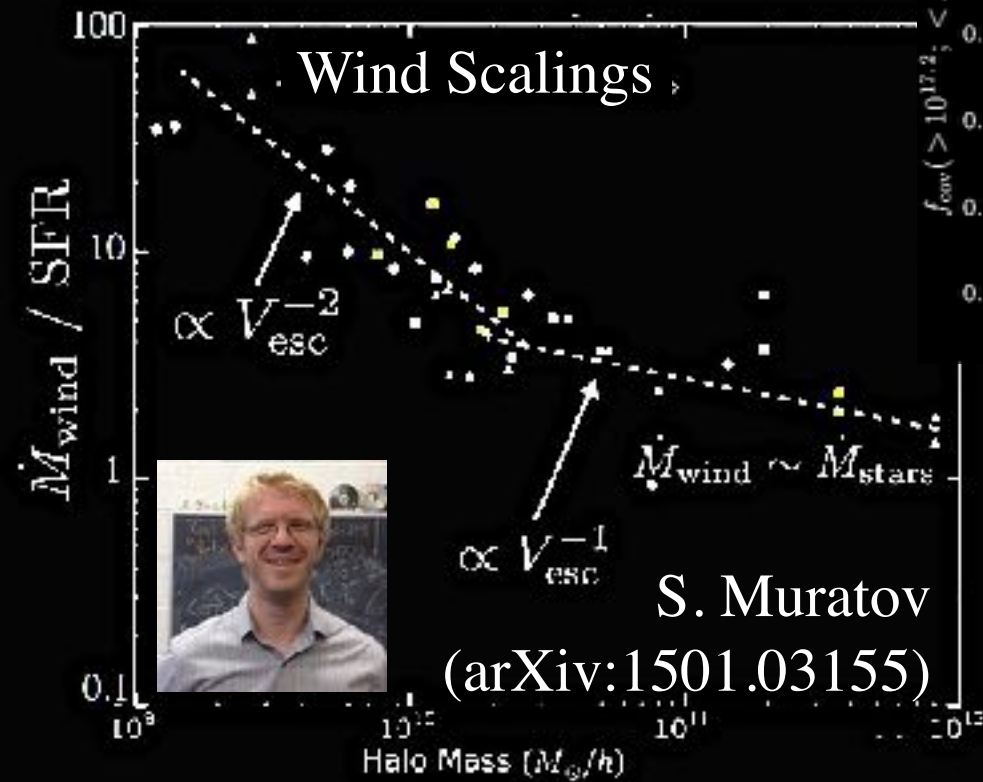
A NEW GENERATION OF MODELS FOR STELLAR STRUCTURE SURVEYS



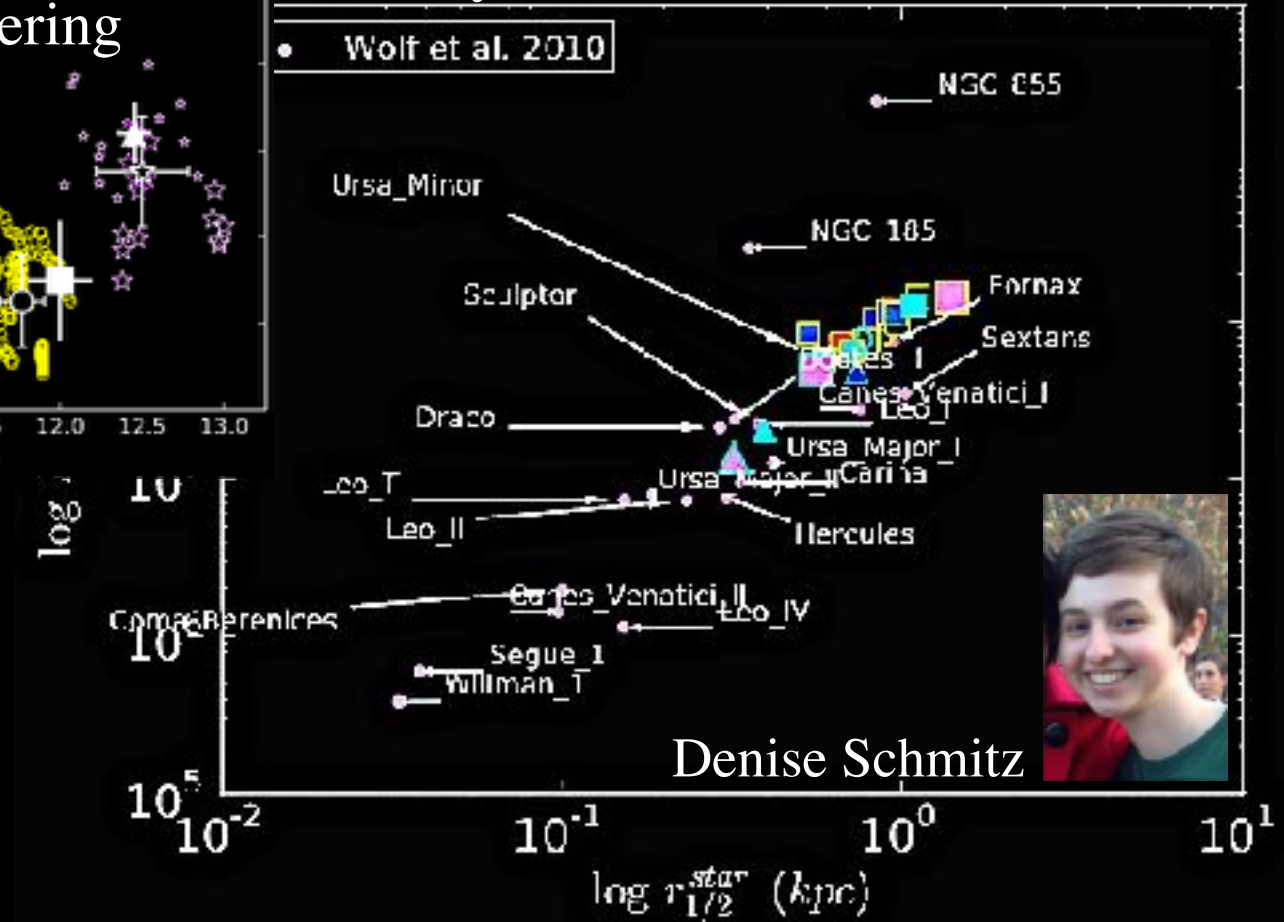
Sanderson et
al. (in prep)



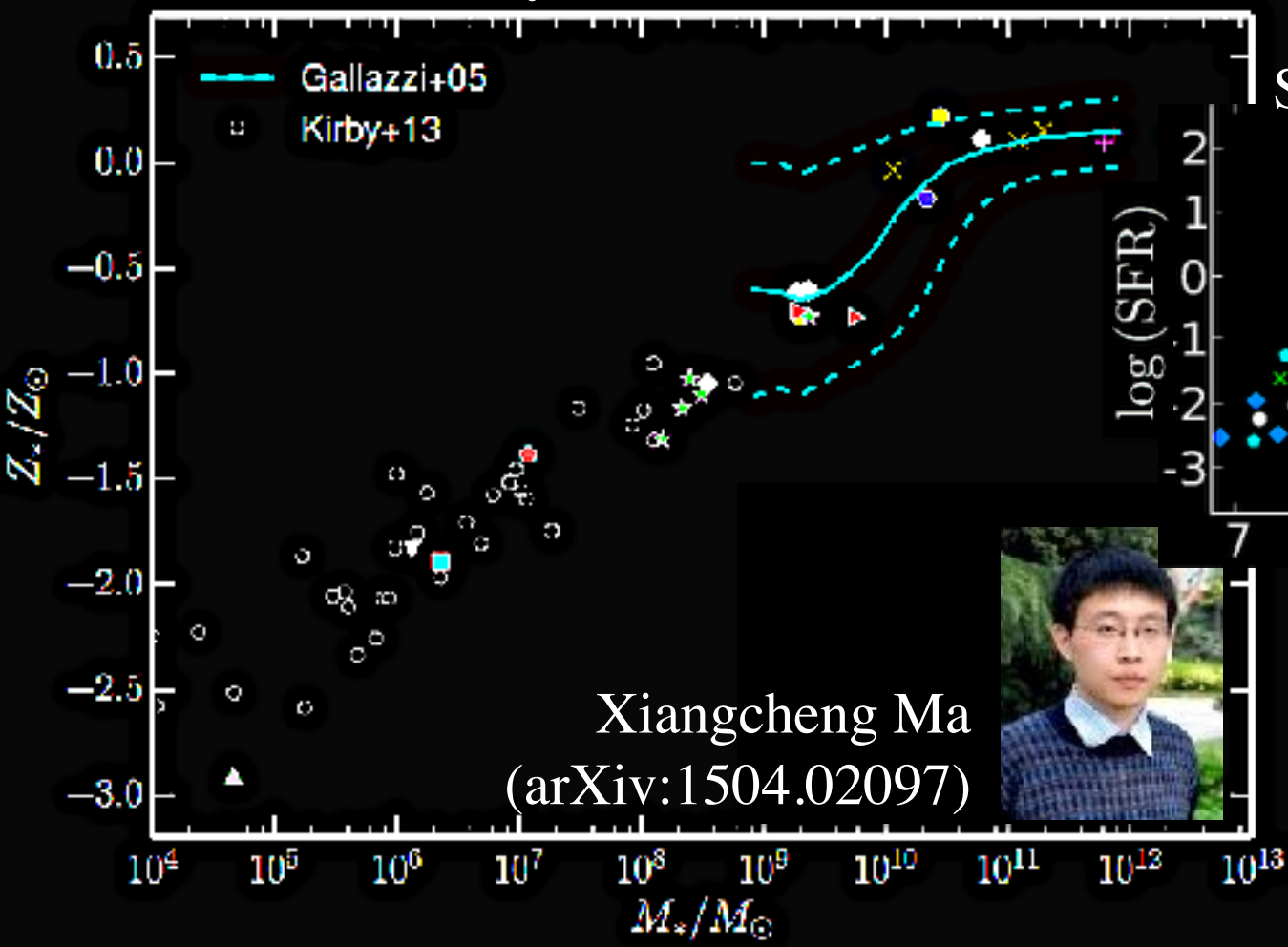
Galaxy Scaling Relations:



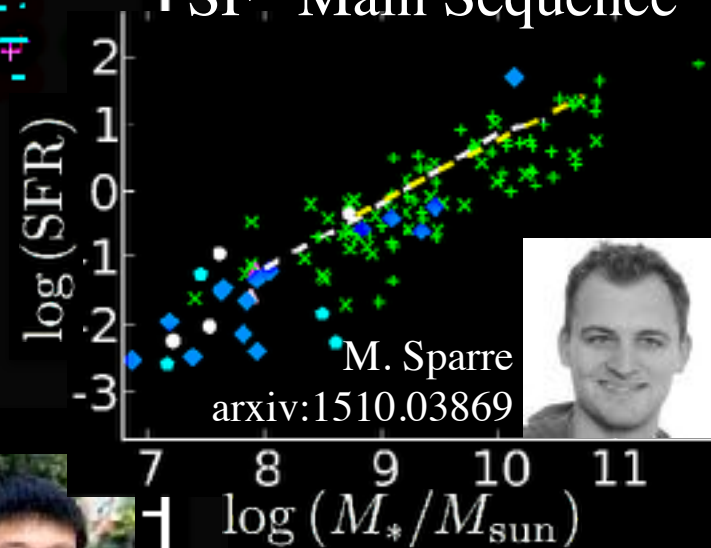
Tully-Fisher & Size-Mass Relation



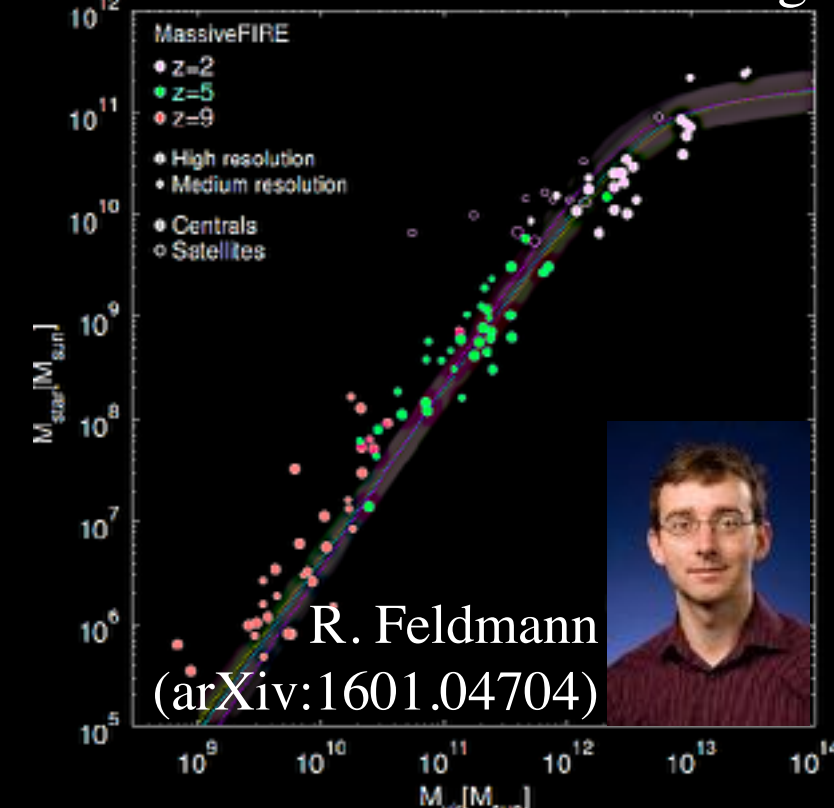
Mass-Metallicity Relation



SF “Main Sequence”



Abundance Matching

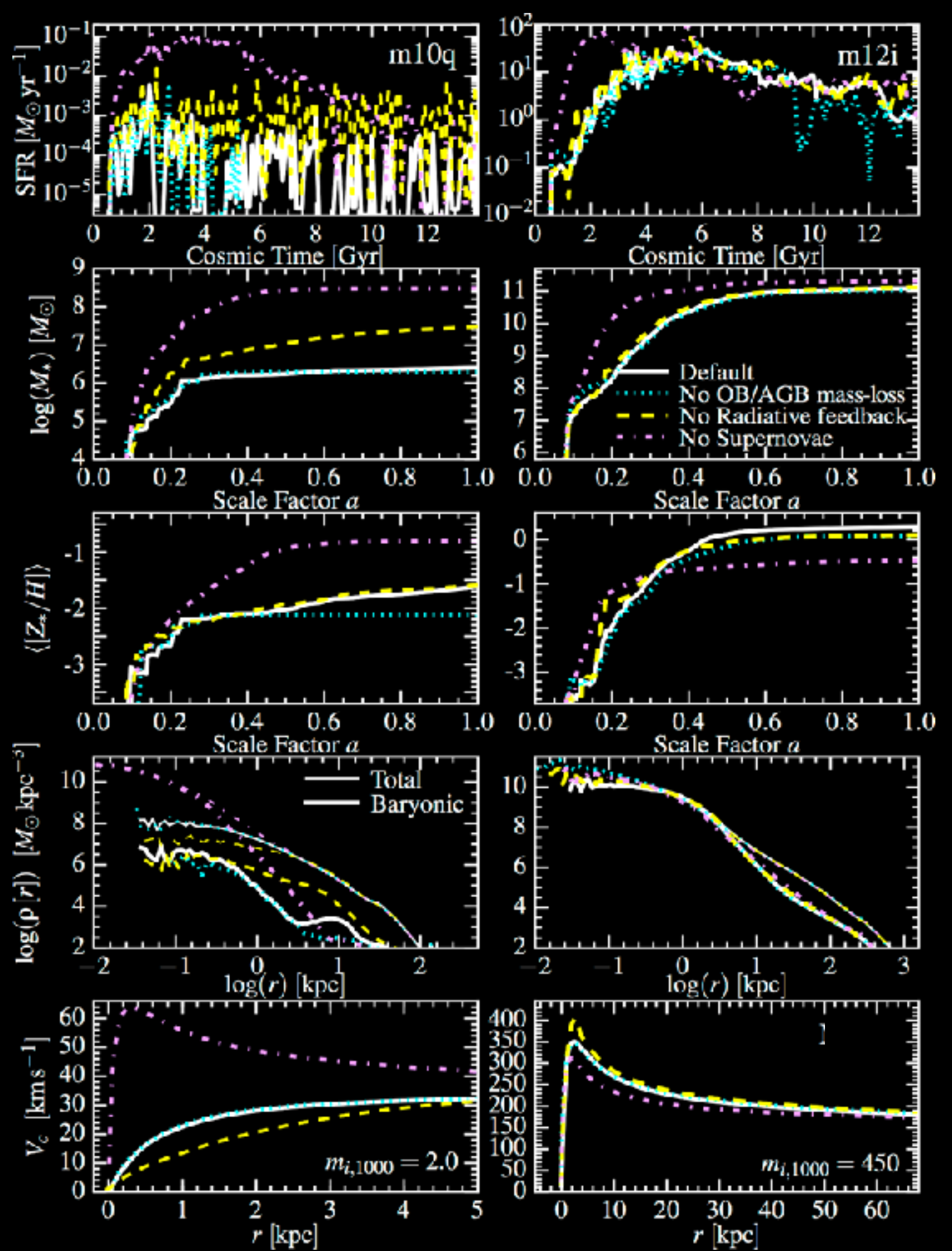


What Matters?

(depends 100% on *what you care about predicting*)

Feedback Matters!

OBVIOUSLY!

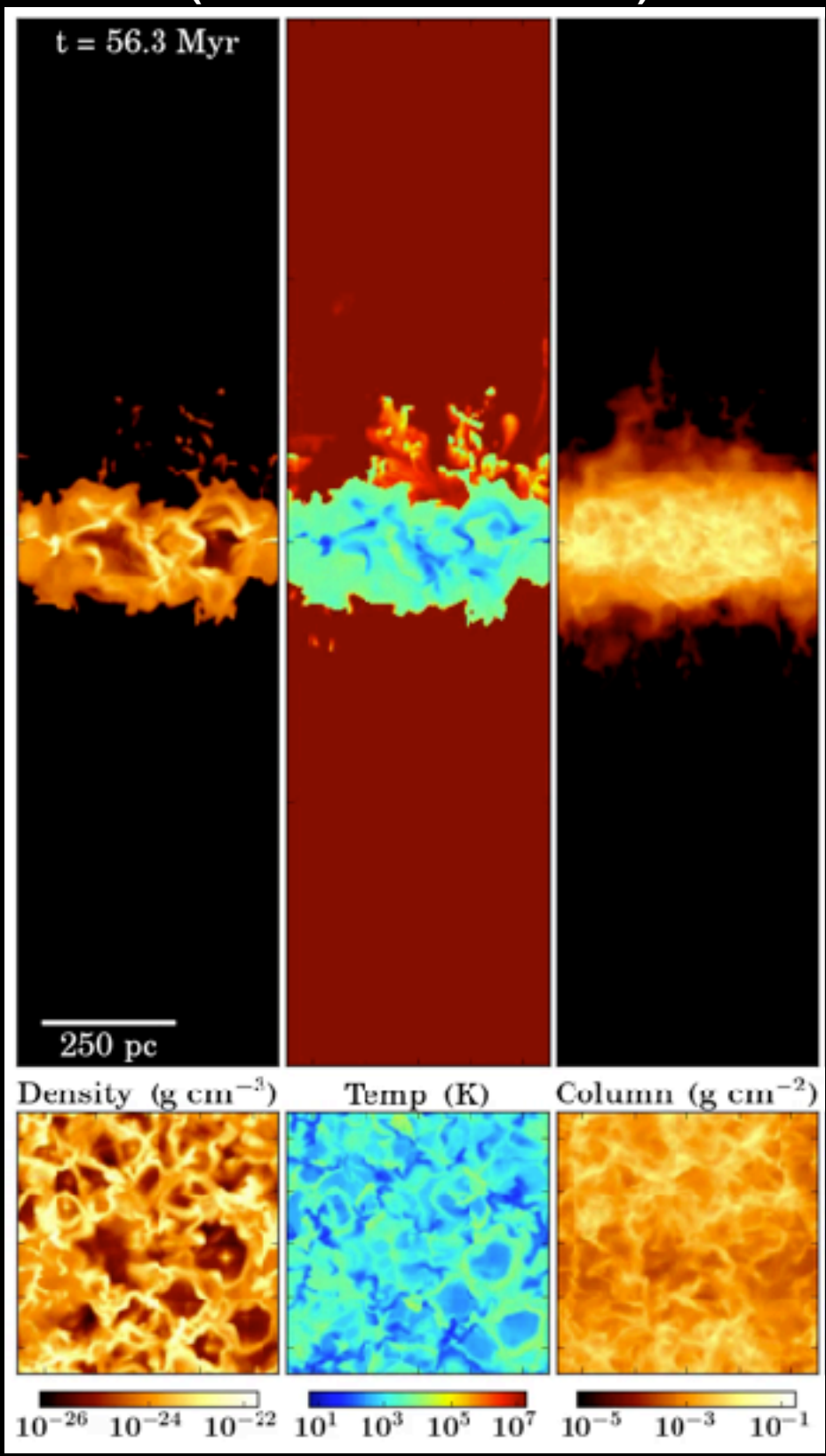


Doing the “sub-grid” right can matter

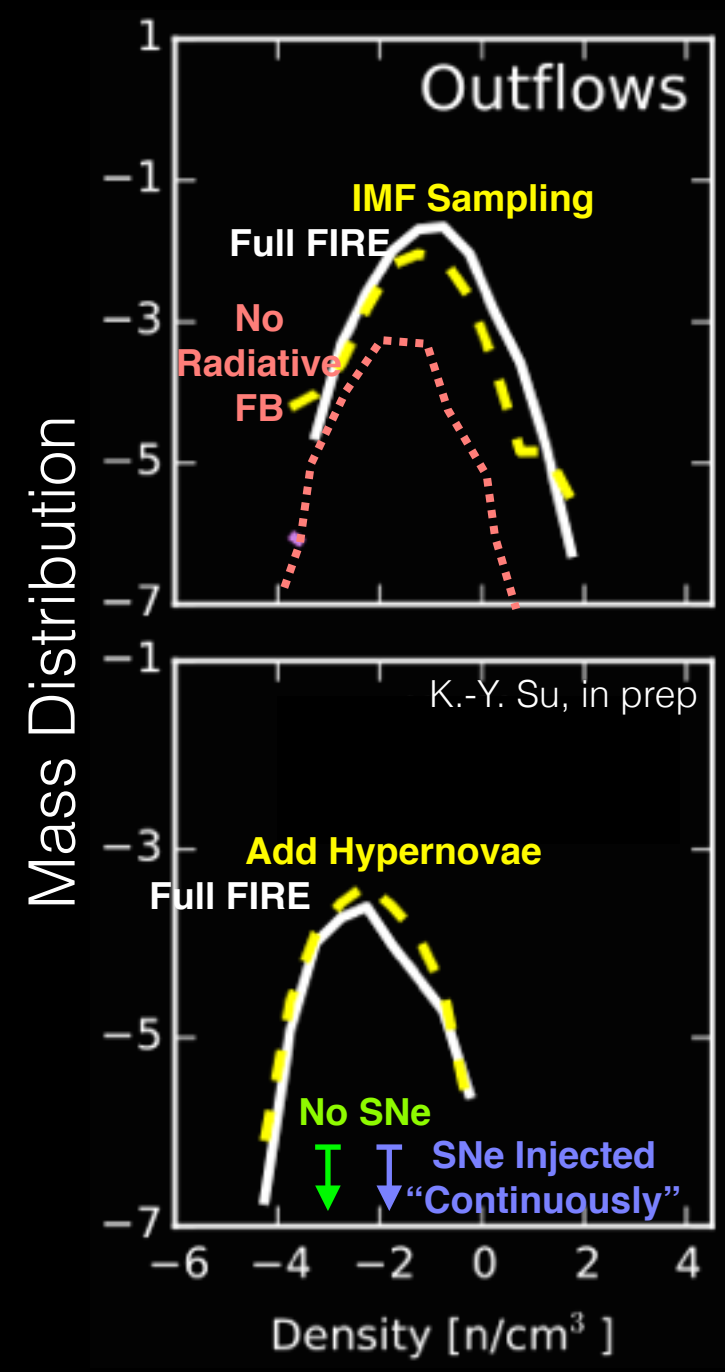
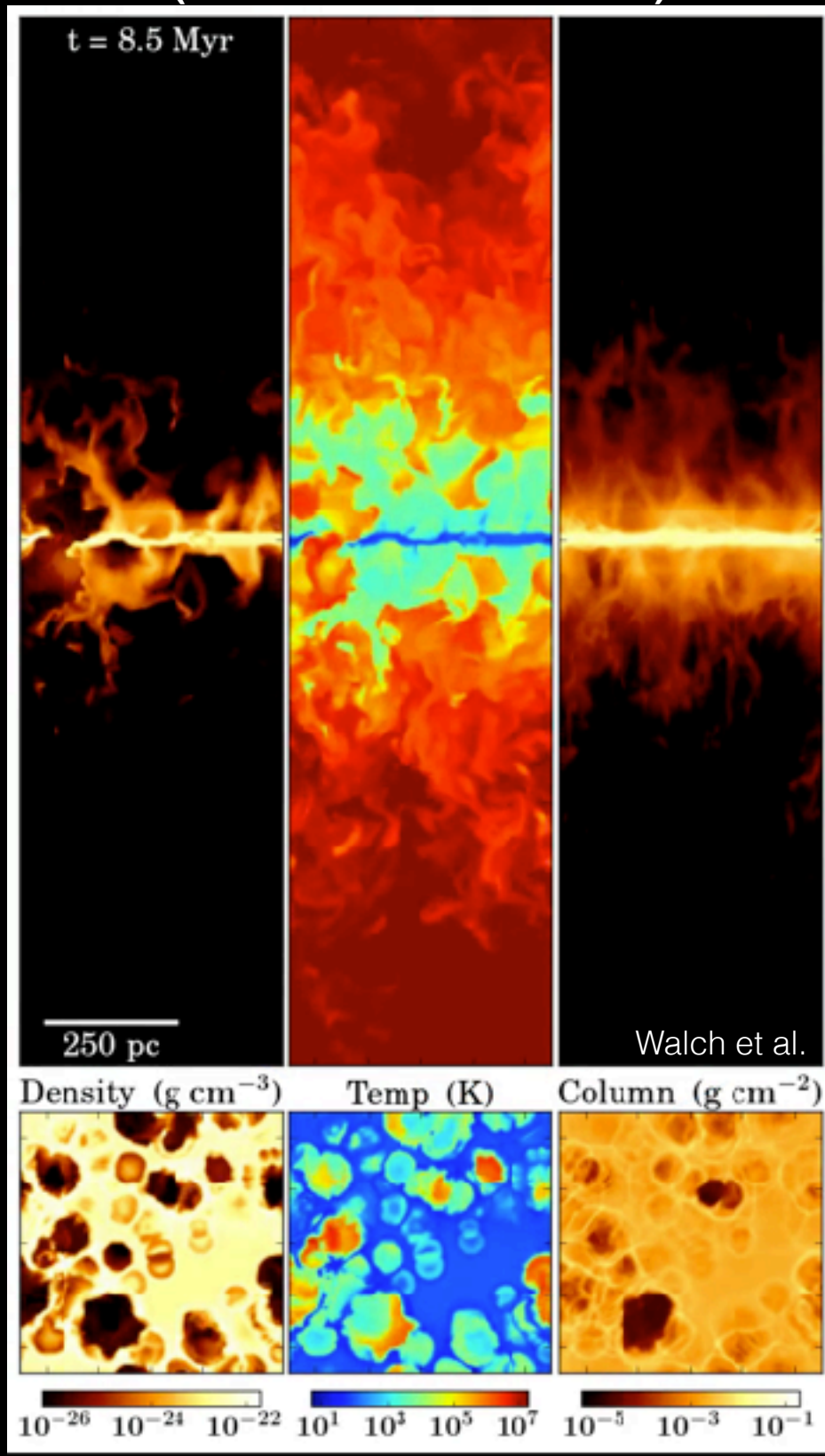
IF RESOLVE DENSE GAS, NEED PHYSICS FOR IT!

Murray+, Martizzi+,
Walch+, Barnes+
Hopkins+, Hayward+,
Shetty+, Hennebelle+

SNe Explode in Density Peaks
(no radiative feedback)



SNe Clustered & Off-Peak
(with radiative feedback)

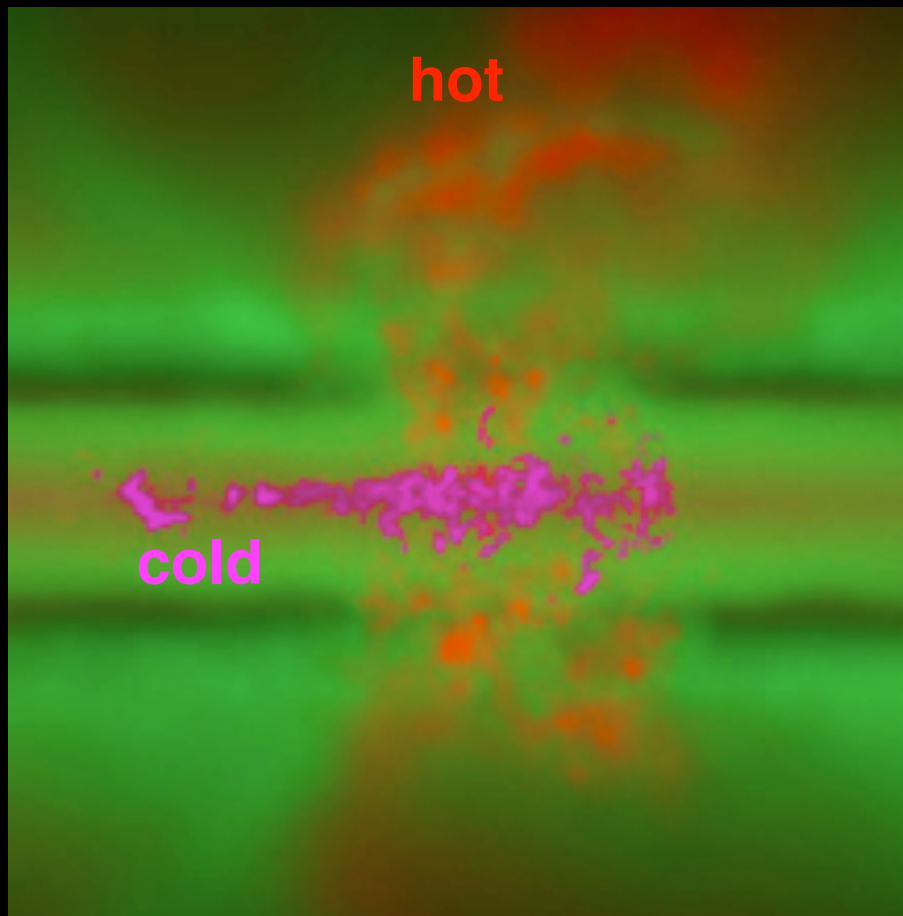


Doing the “sub-grid” right can matter

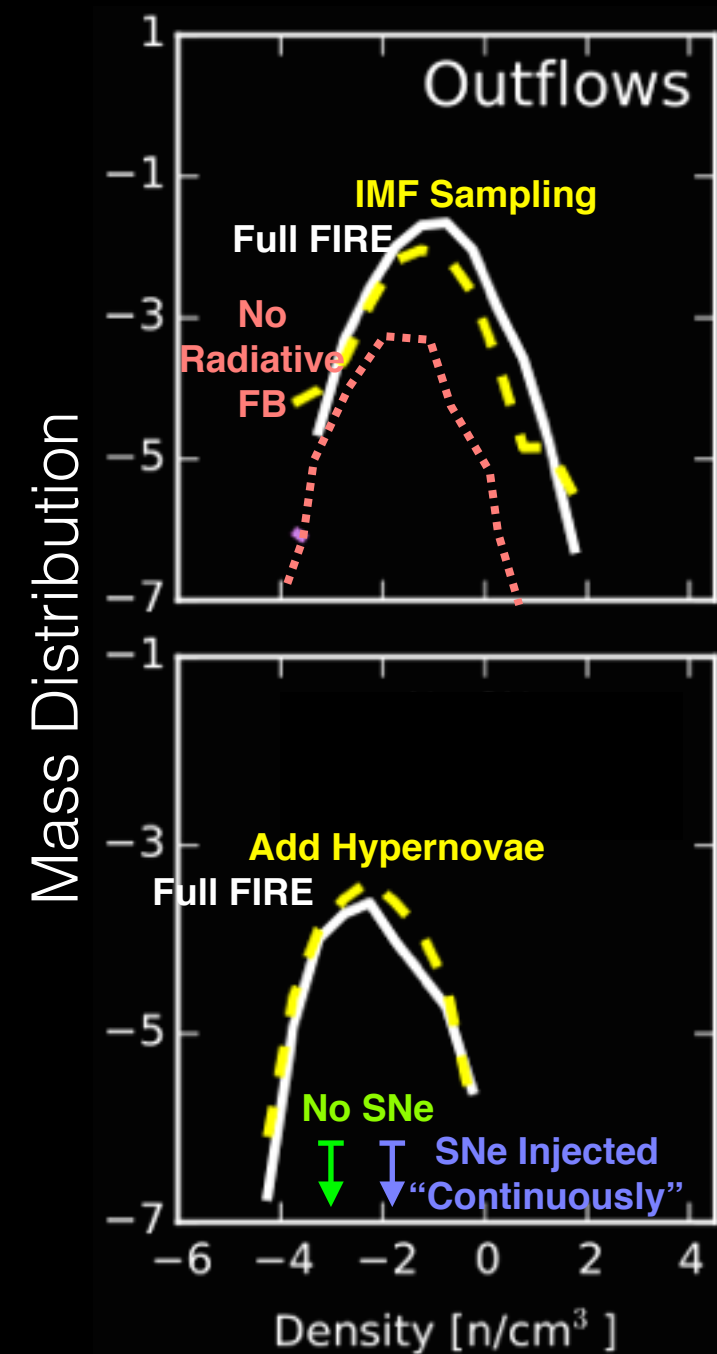
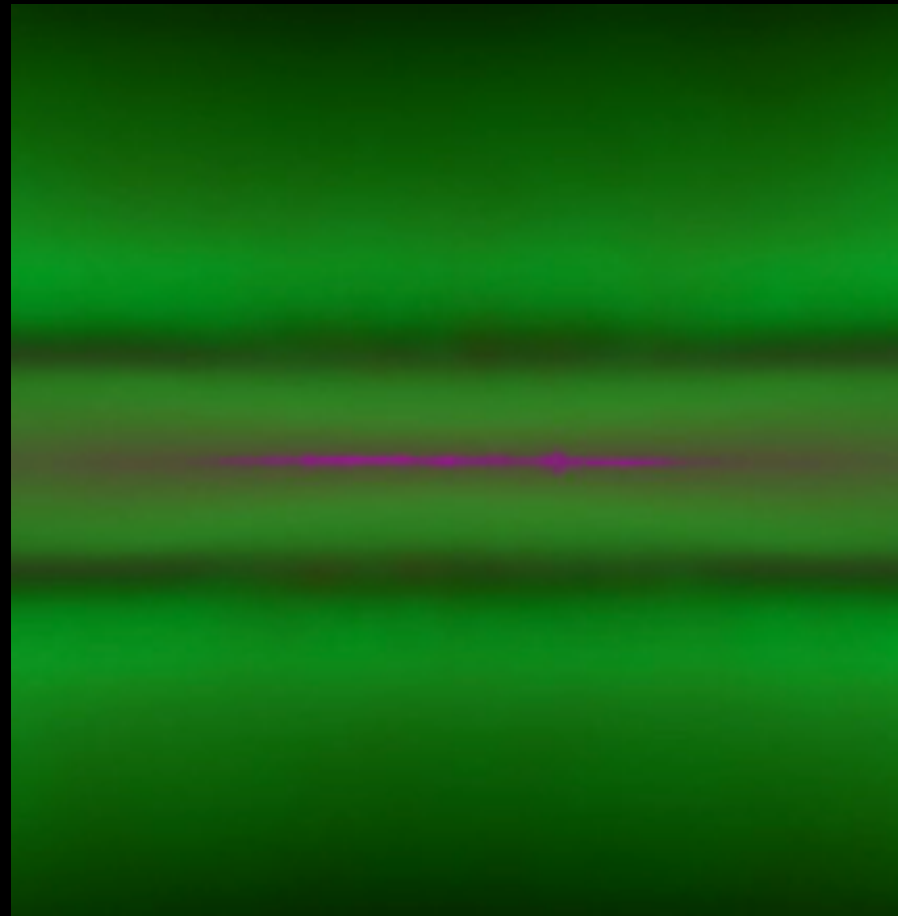
IF RESOLVE BUBBLES, NEED PHYSICS FOR IT!

Klessen+, Ostriker+
Hopkins+
K.-Y. Su, in prep

Treat each SNe explicitly
following resolved explosion



Continuously dump
thermal energy \sim SFR





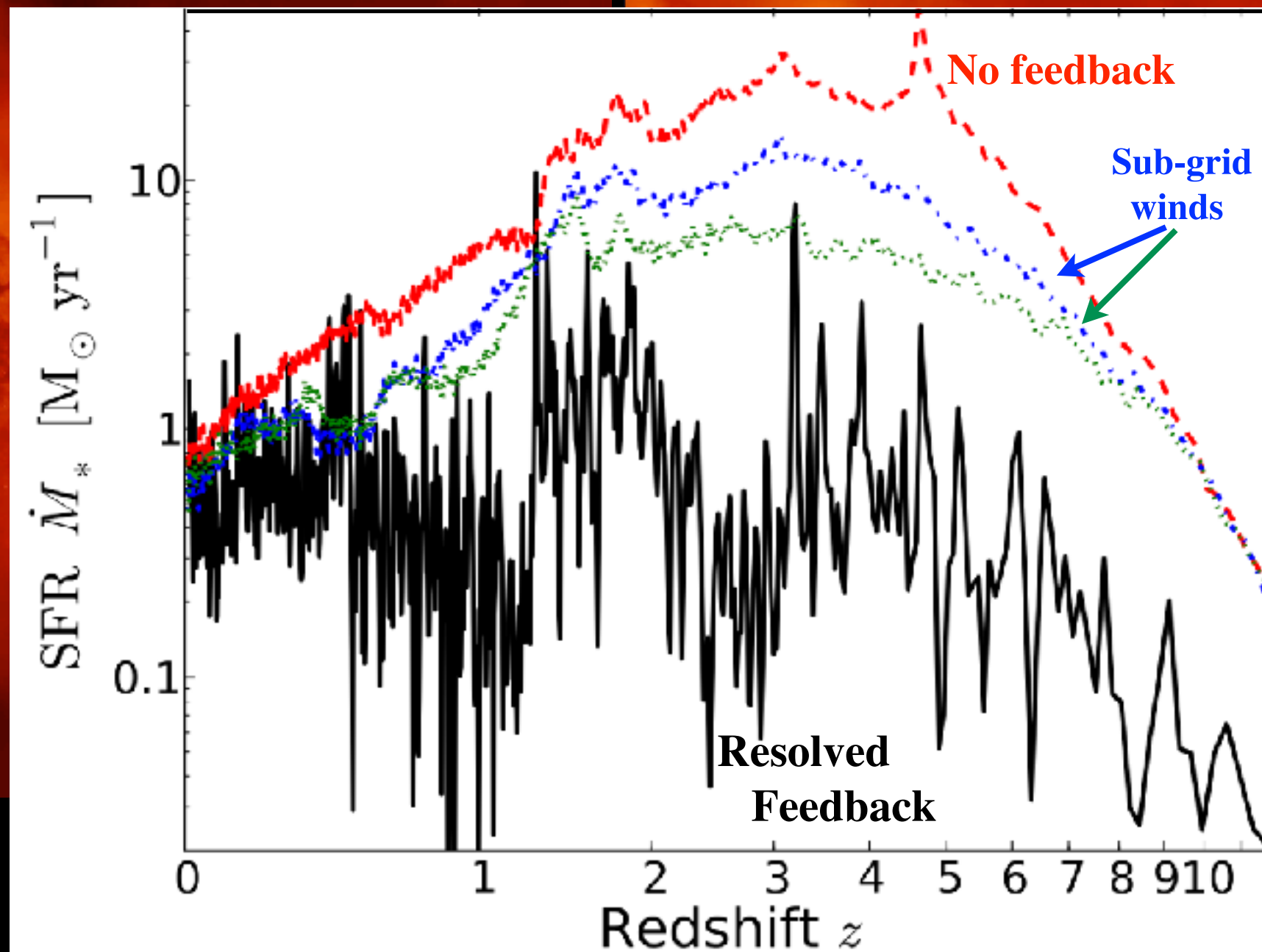
Doing the “sub-grid” right can matter

DANGERS OF ONLY FITTING MASSES

Proto-Milky Way: Gas Temperature:

Simple Sub-Grid ($\dot{M}_{\text{wind}} = \eta \dot{M}_*$)

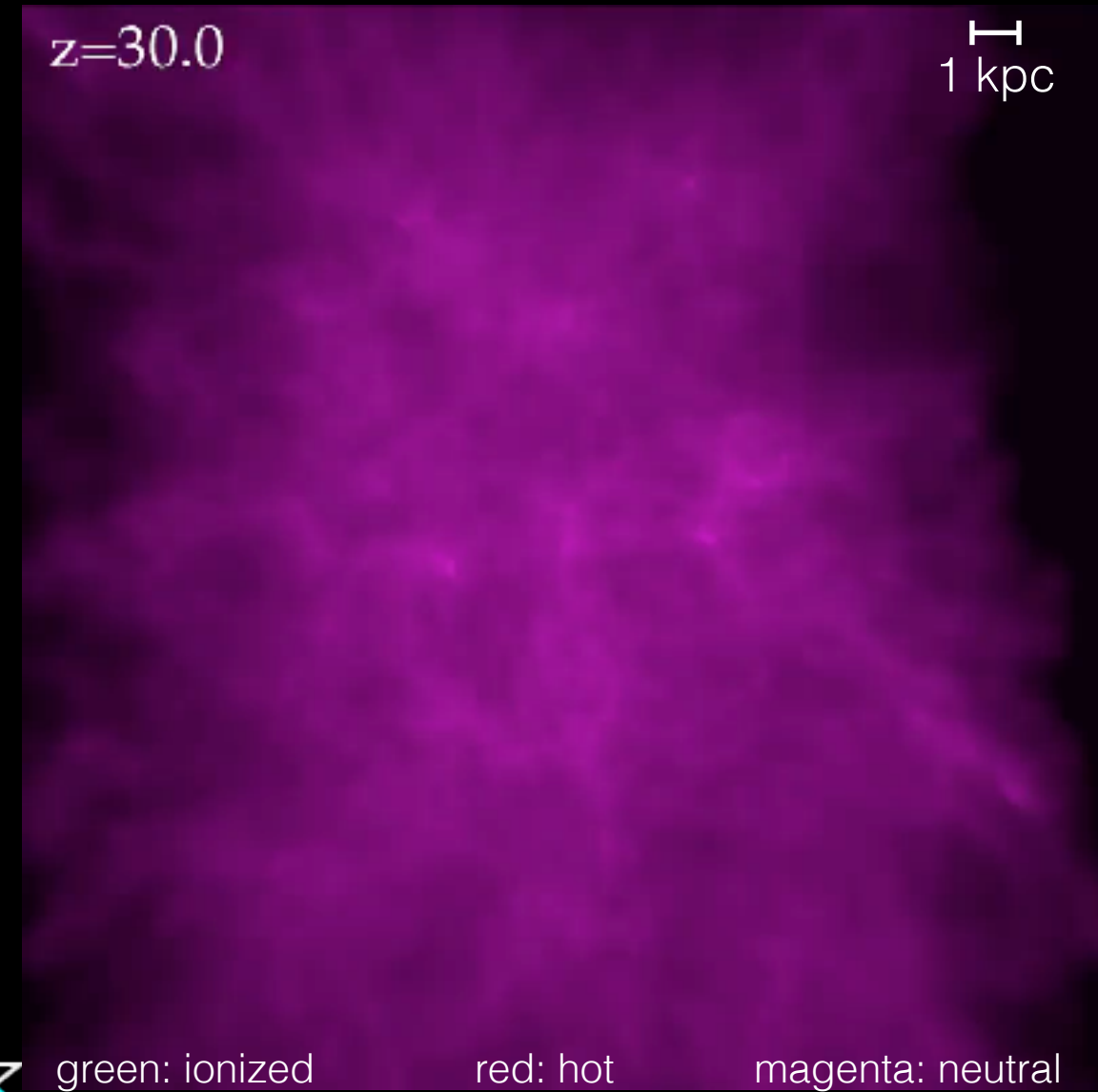
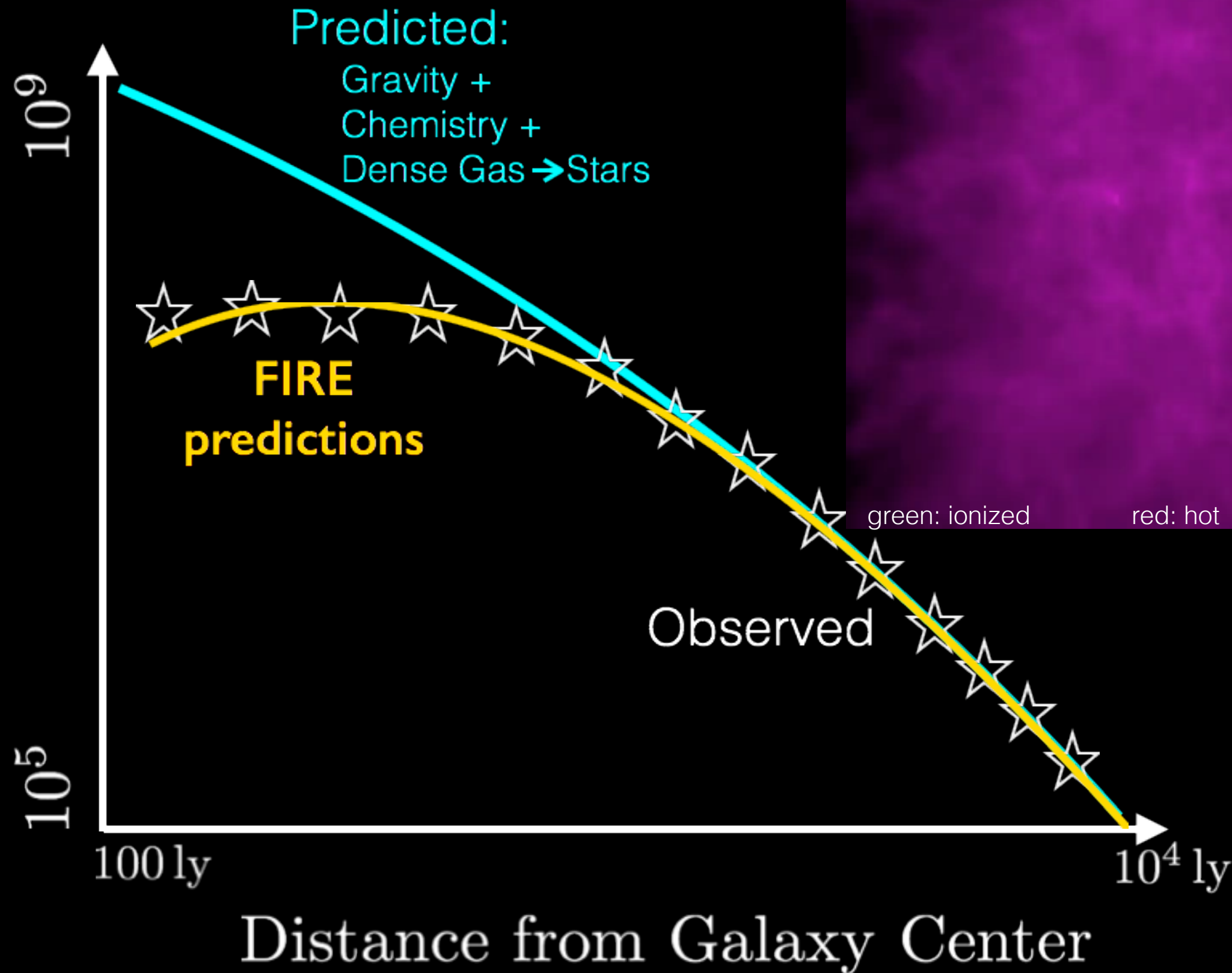
Following Full Feedback



Feedback Saves Cold Dark Matter?

NO EXOTIC PHYSICS NECESSARY

Density of Dark Matter



Onorbe et al.
([arXiv:1502.02036](#))

Chan et al.
([arXiv:1507.02282](#))

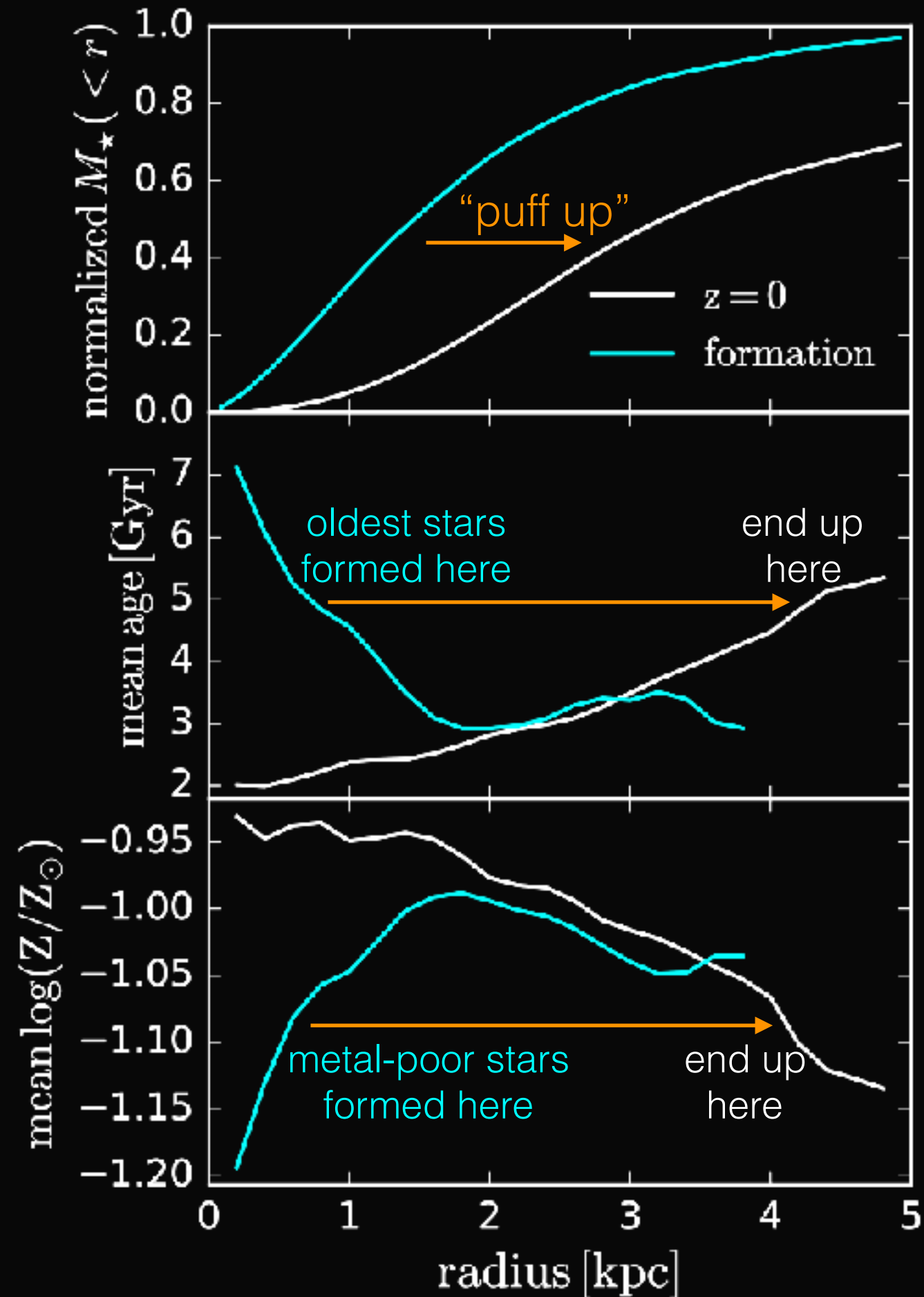
Wheeler et al.
([arXiv:1504.02466](#))

Direct Consequences for Structure

BURSTY SF = STARS MIXED, JUST LIKE DM

K. El-Badry, arXiv:1512.01235

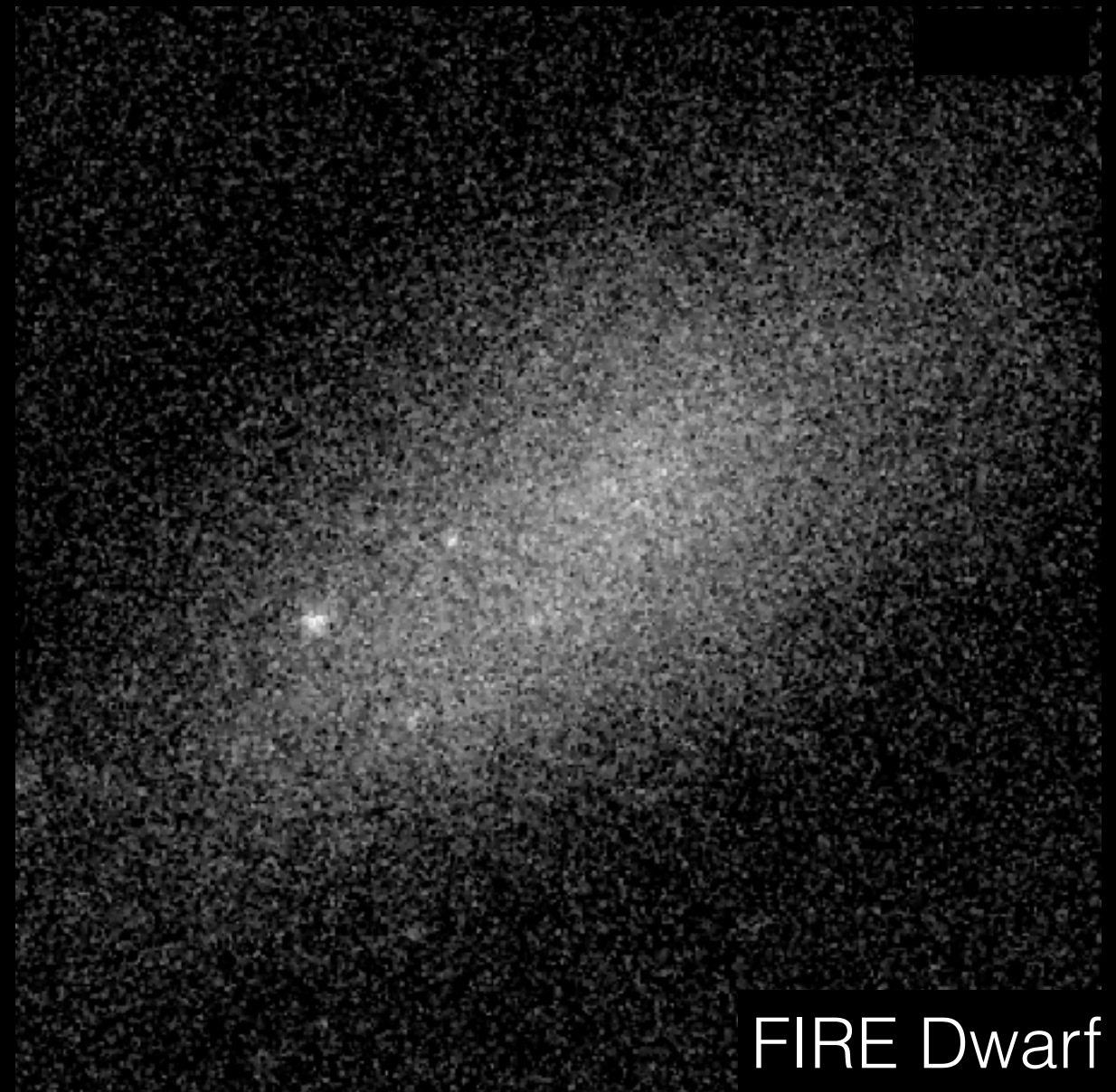
- If DM orbits perturbed, stars are too!
 - Radial anisotropy
 - Gradients “wiped out”
 - Galactic radii *oscillate*



Predicts New Classes of Galaxies

ULTRA-DIFFUSE SYSTEMS: THE NEW “NORMAL”

K. El-Badry
(arXiv:1512.01235)
+ TK Chan (prep)



Resolution: Needs to Match Your Physics!

DIFFERENT PREDICTIONS REQUIRE DIFFERENT RESOLUTION

Fragmentation / GMCs / Dense Gas:

$$m_i \lesssim 10^5 M_\odot \ll M_{\text{Toomre}}$$

$$\epsilon_{\text{grav}}^{\text{min}} \ll 100 \text{ pc [guaranteed if adaptive]}$$

Super-bubbles / overlaps / chimneys:

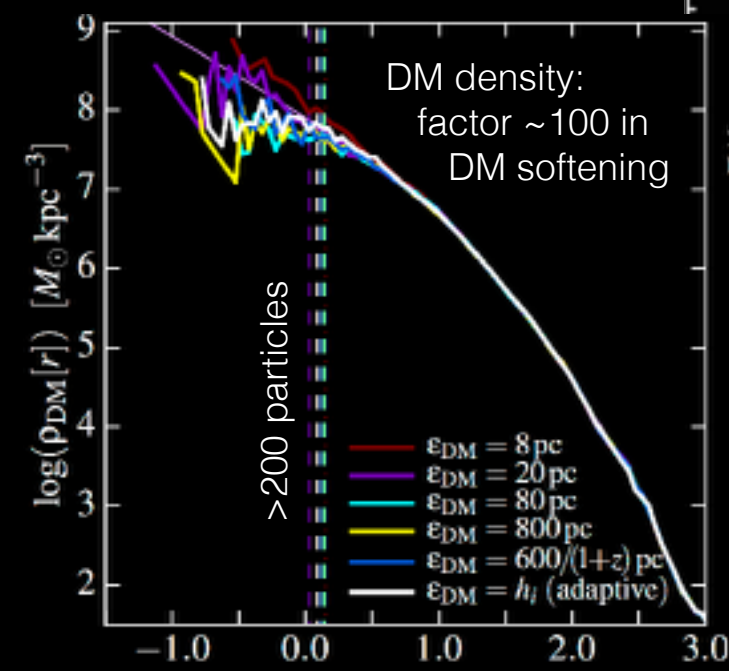
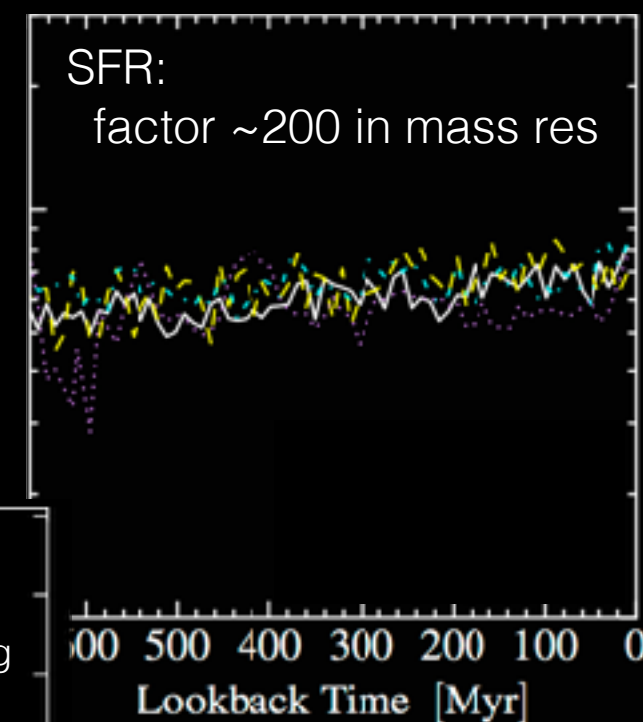
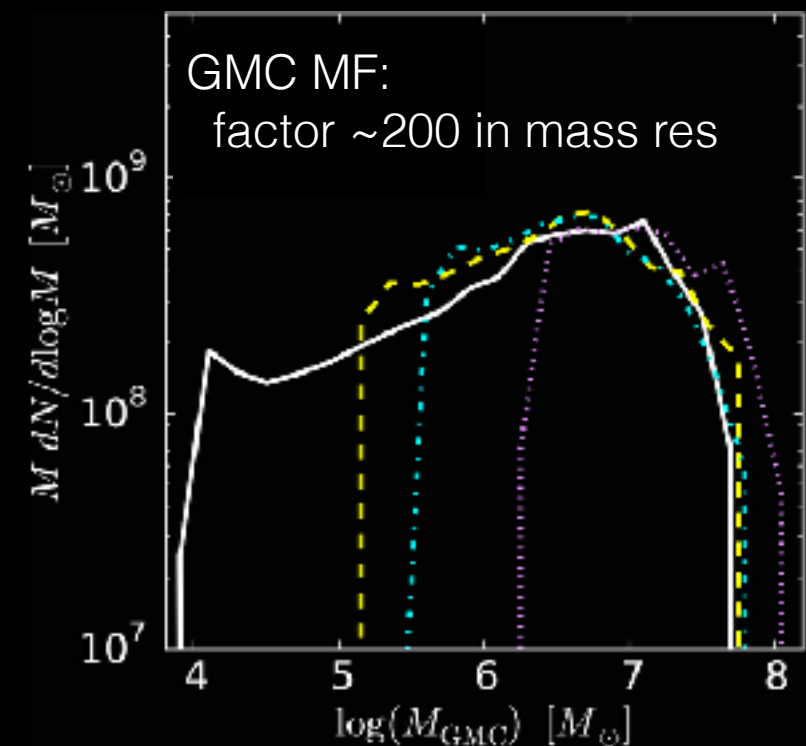
$$m_i \lesssim 10^5 M_\odot \ll M_{\text{Bubble}}$$

Individual SNe (no sub-grid SNe momentum):

$$m_i \lesssim 10^3 M_\odot \ll M_{\text{Cooling}}$$

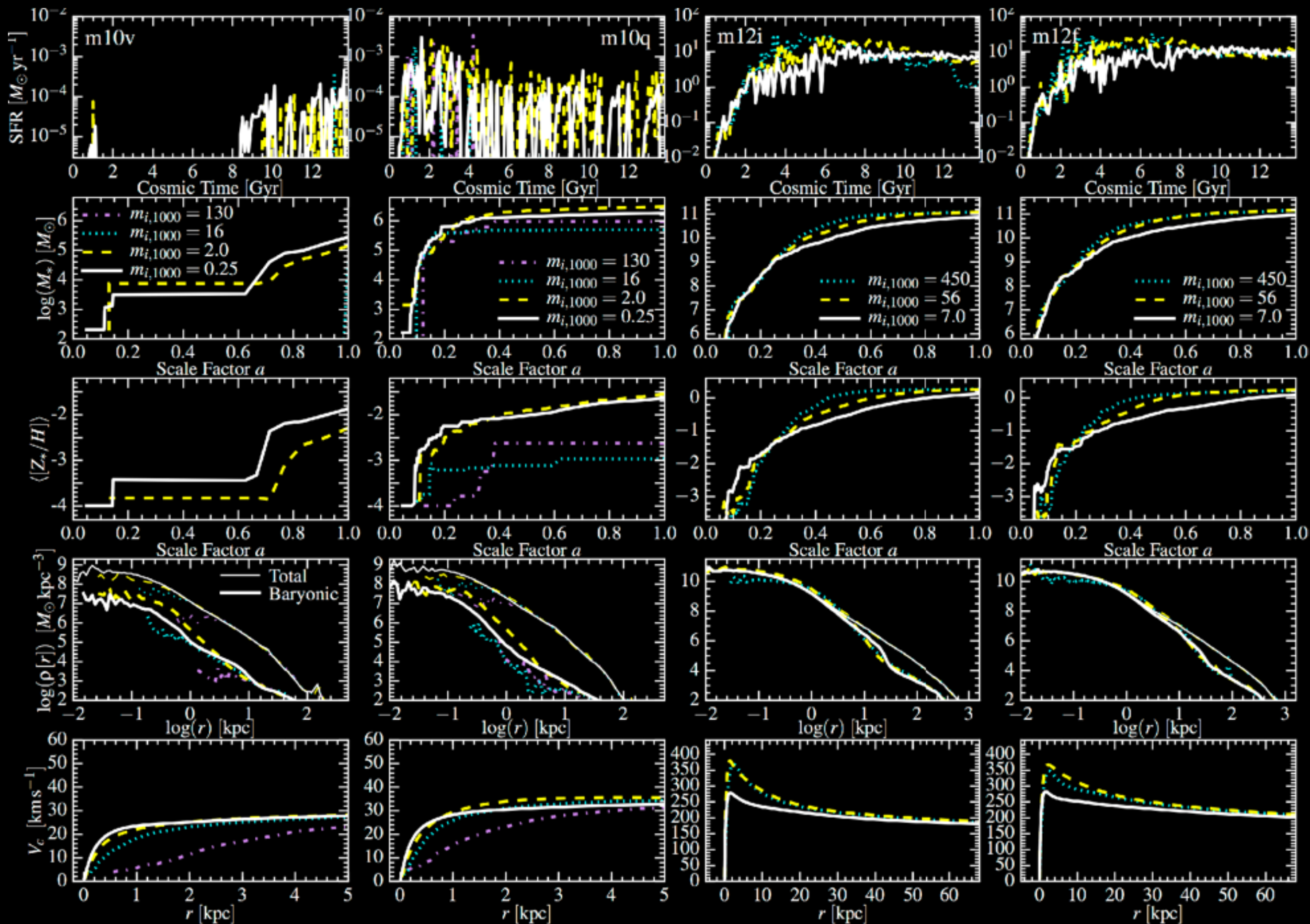
Dwarf galaxy “bursty-ness”:

$$m_i \lesssim 10^{-6} M_{\text{halo}}$$



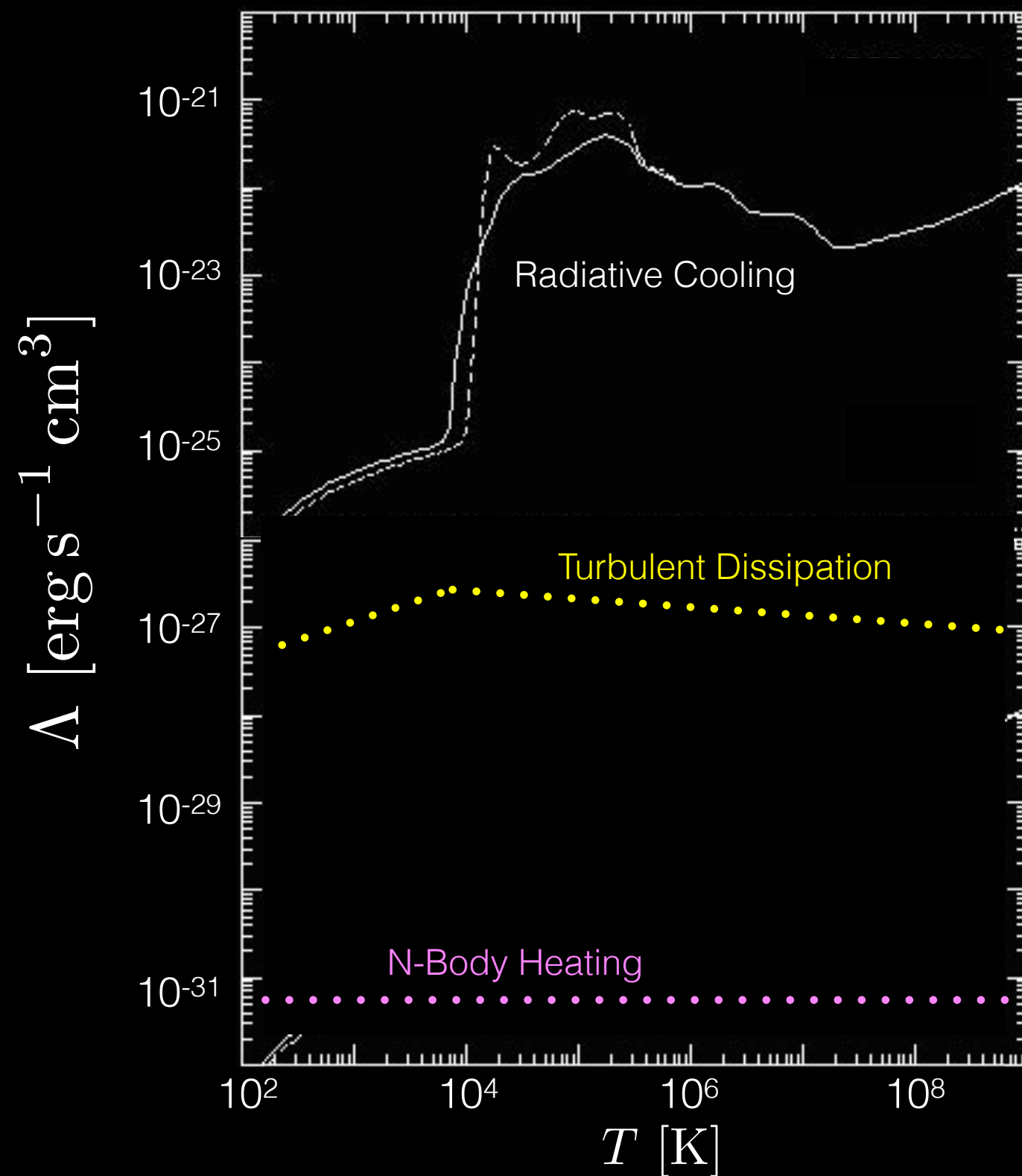
Resolution: Needs to Match Your Physics!

DIFFERENT PREDICTIONS REQUIRE DIFFERENT RESOLUTION



N-Body Heating is Totally Negligible

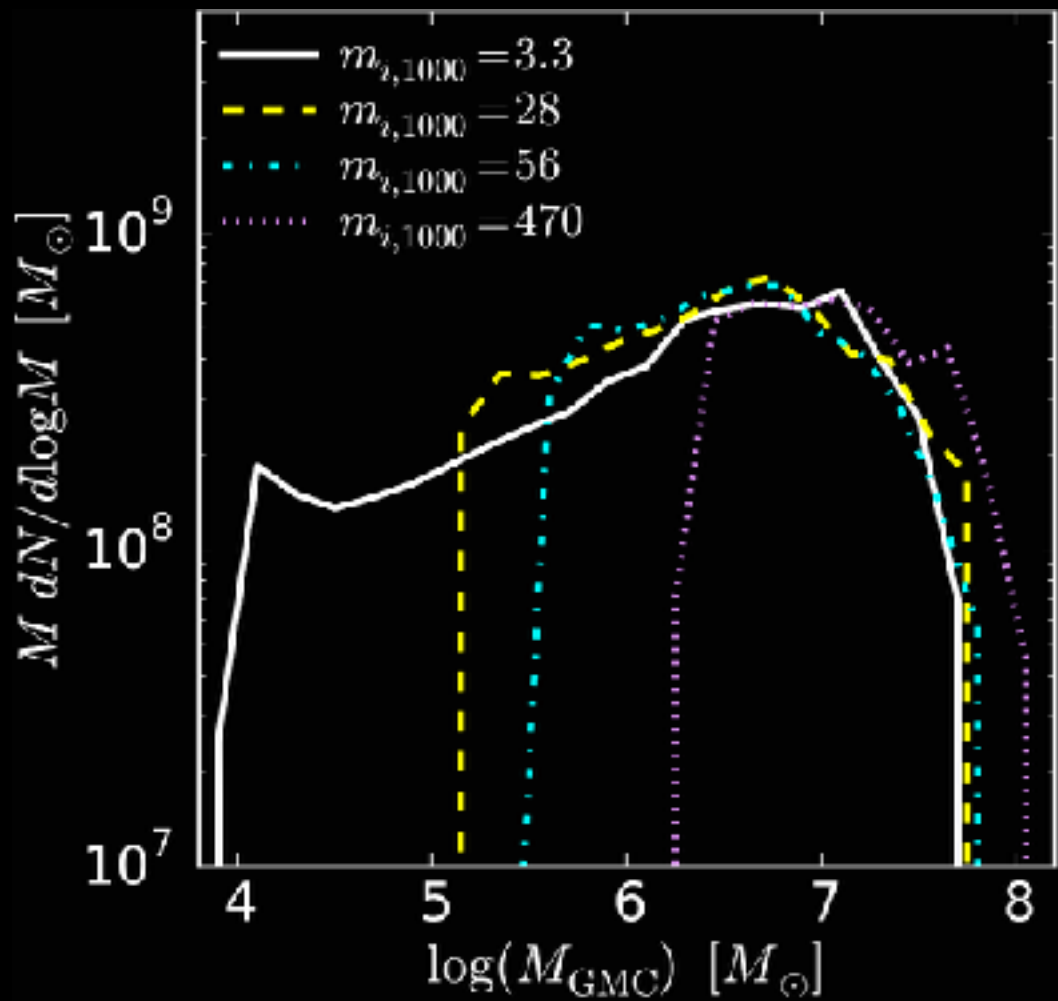
EVEN FOR EXTREME SOFTENINGS



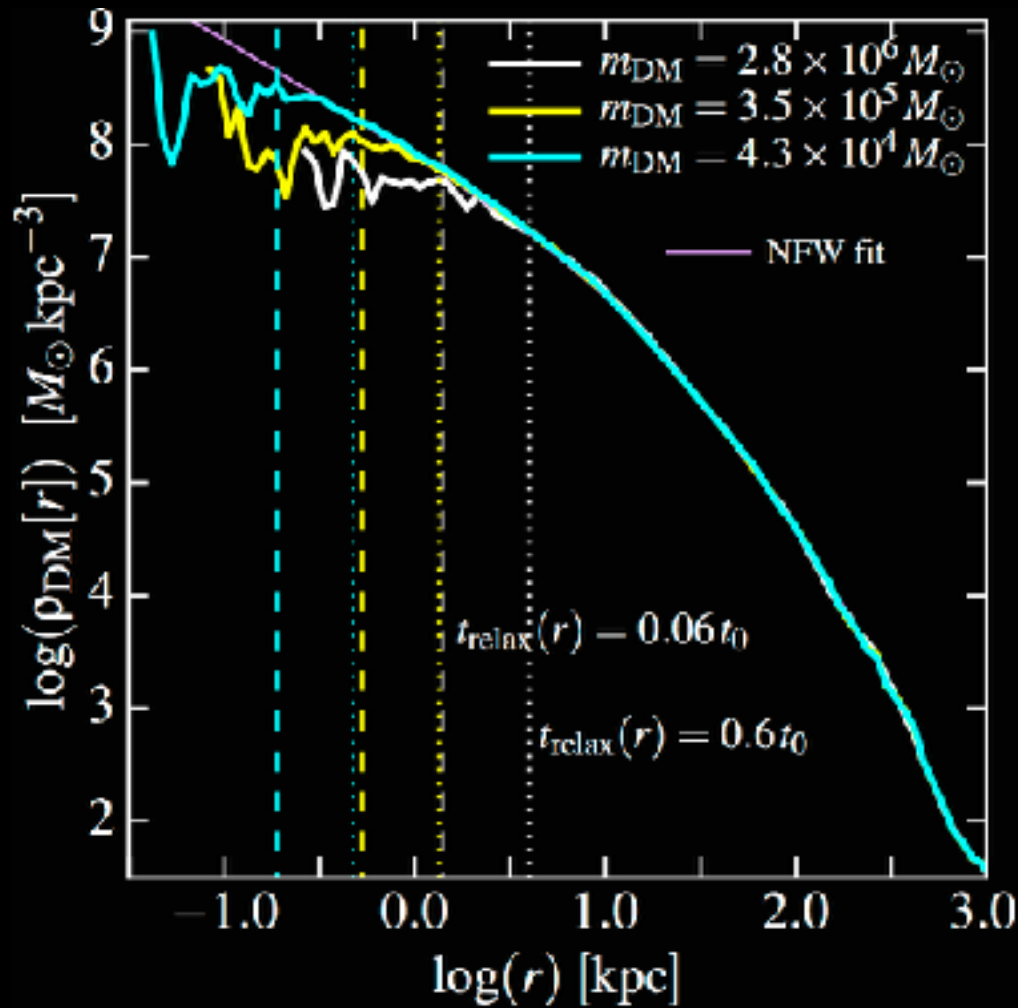
Resolution: Needs to Match Your Physics!

DIFFERENT PREDICTIONS REQUIRE DIFFERENT RESOLUTION

Fragmentation / GMC MF / clump existence:
<10 particles/clump



Mass profiles: < 200 particles



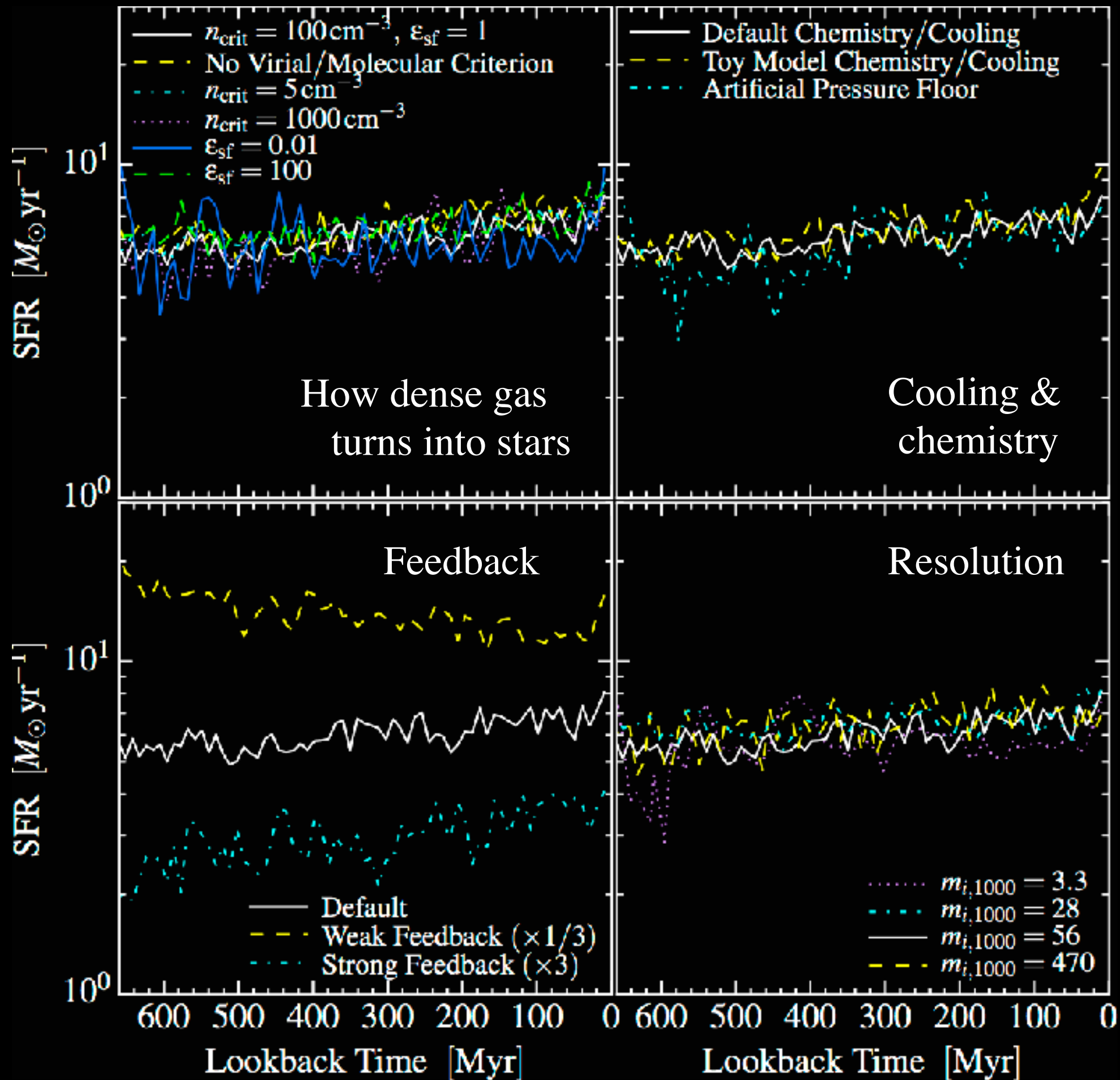
What Doesn't Matter?

(depends 100% on *what you care about predicting*)

(Galactic) Star Formation Rates are *INDEPENDENT* of how stars form!



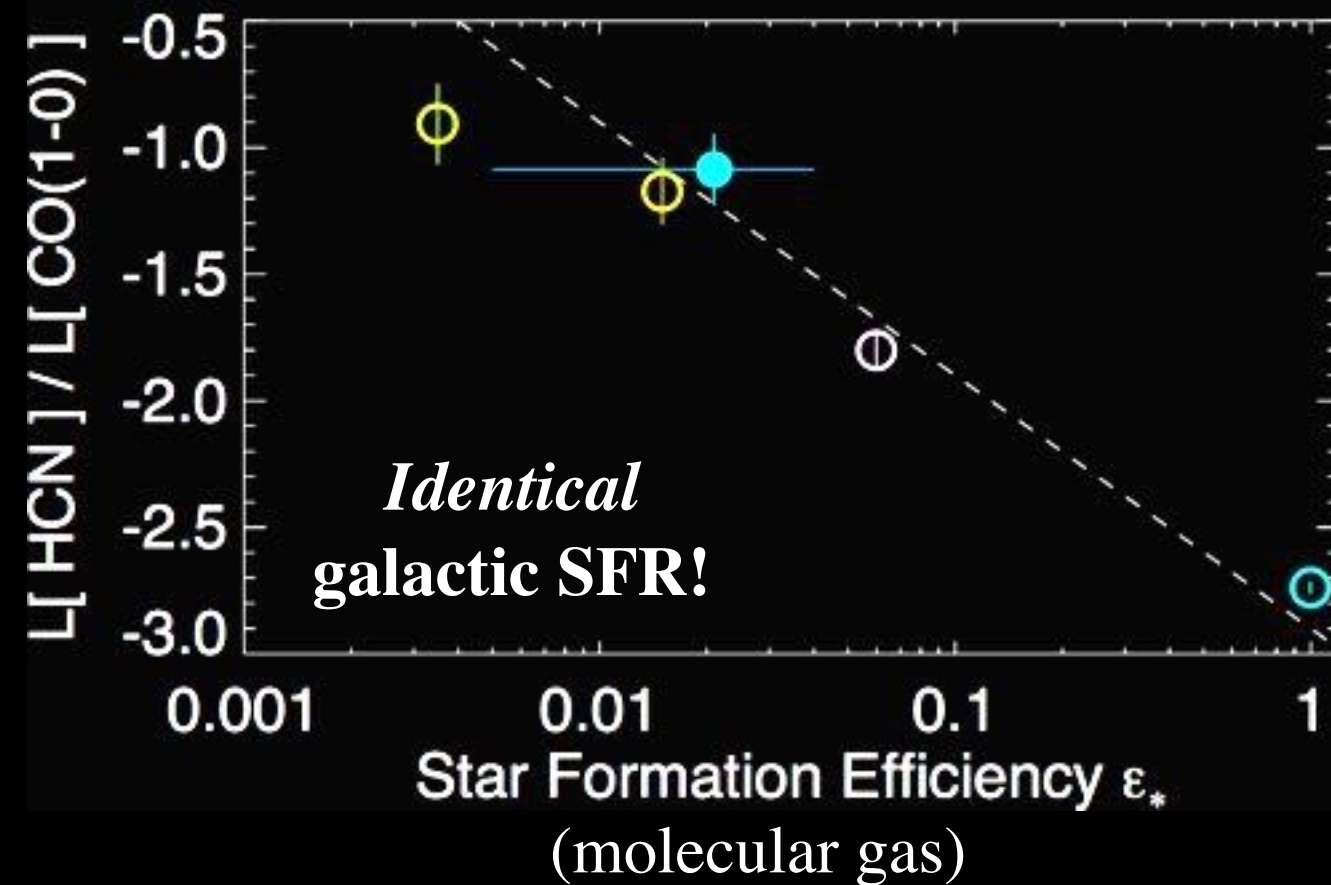
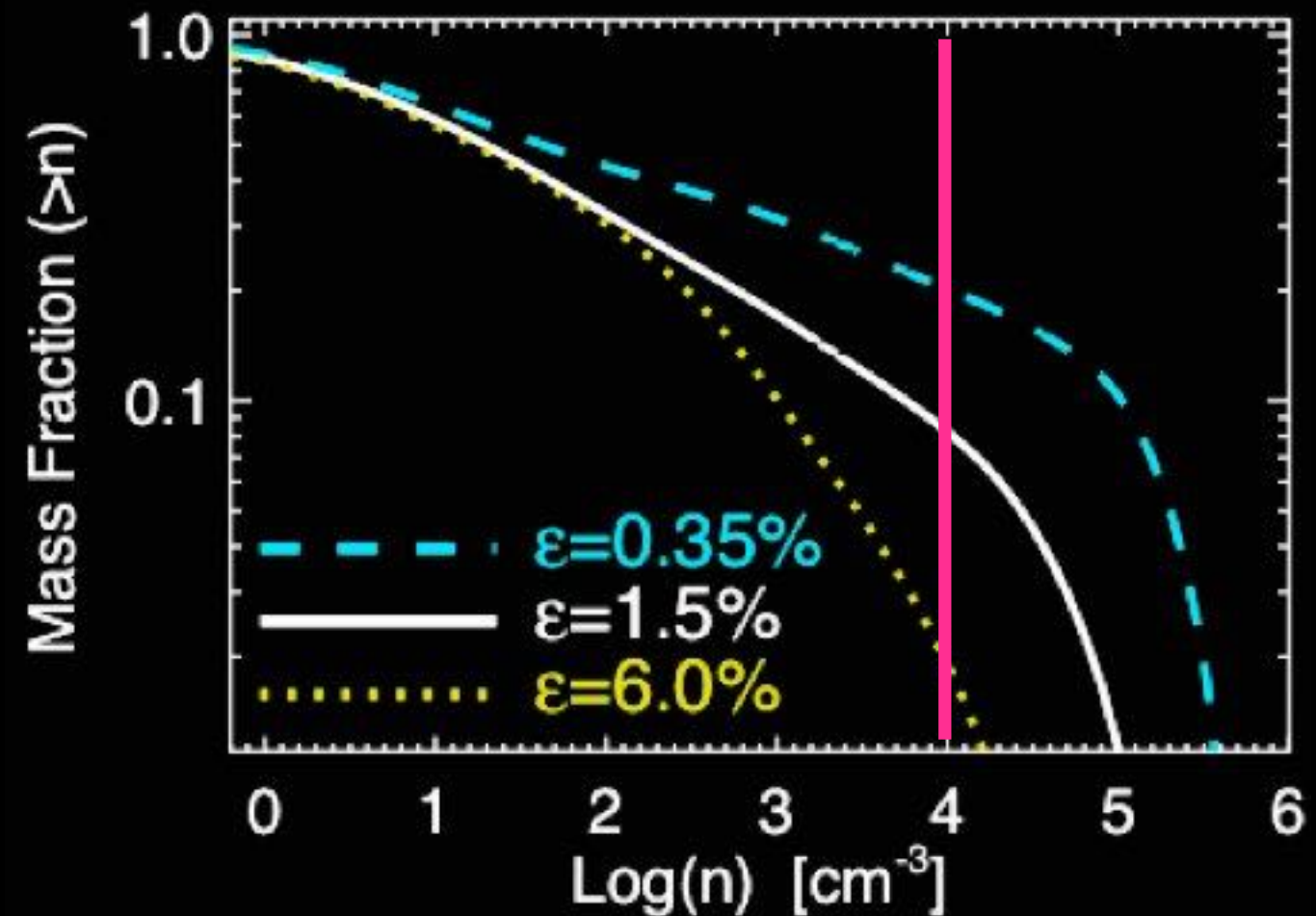
Matt Orr (in prep)
Saitoh+ 11
Hopkins+ 11,12,14
Agertz+14



Dense Gas *Does* Change

SELF-REGULATES TO “NEEDED” SFR LEVEL

Efficiency (SF per t_{dyn}) in *dense* gas



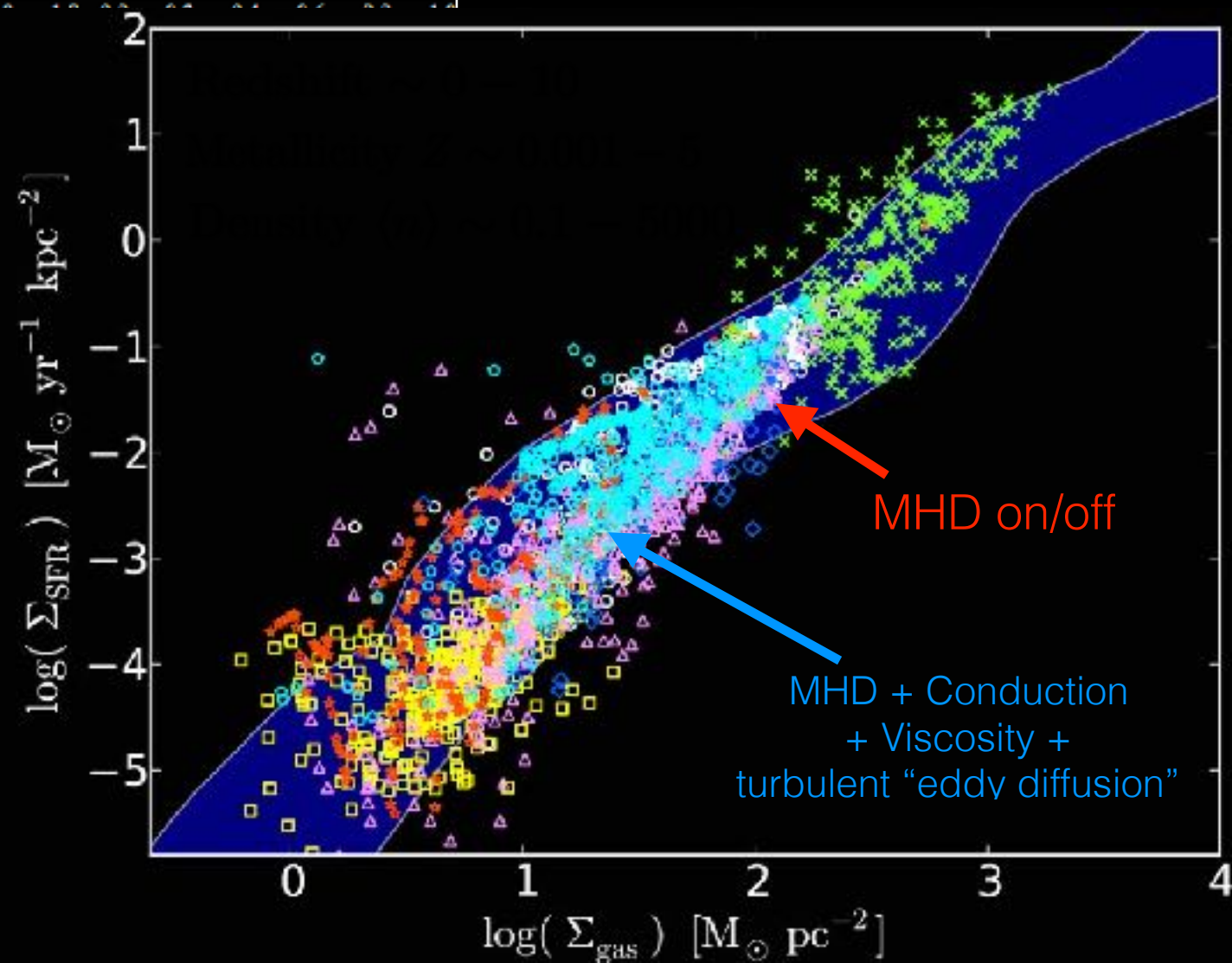
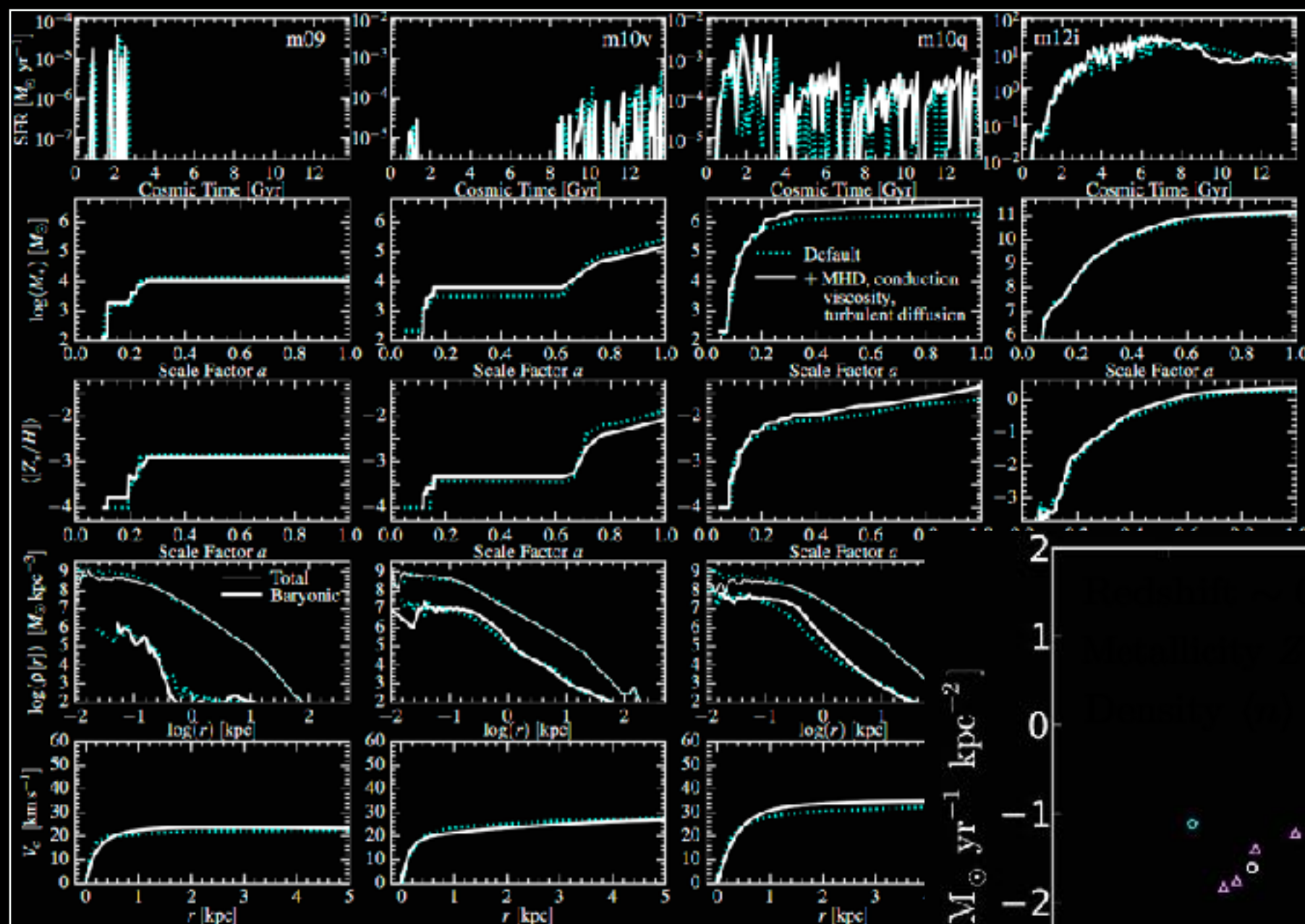
Matt Orr (in prep)
Hopkins+ 11,12,14
Shetty+ 14
Narayanan+ 13





Galaxy SFRs (sub-L*) independent of MHD+diffusion

MAY NOT APPLY TO COOLING IN HOT HALOS!

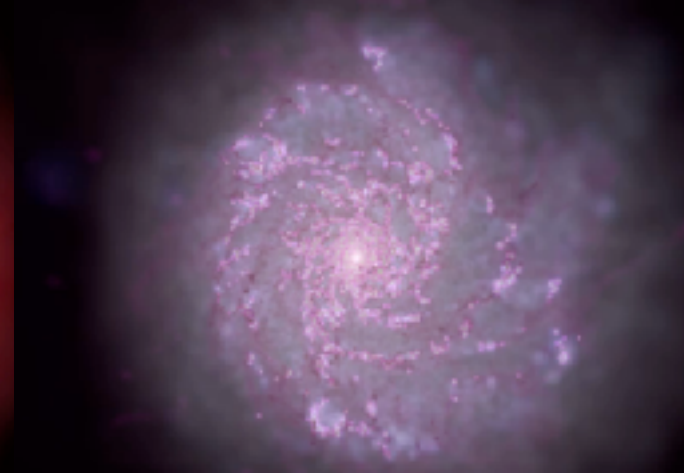
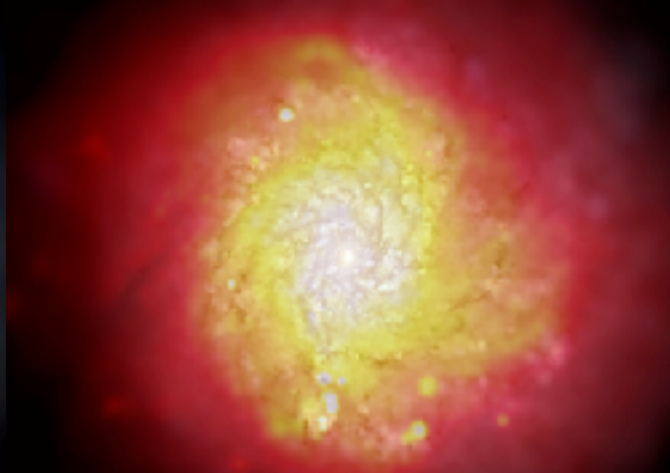
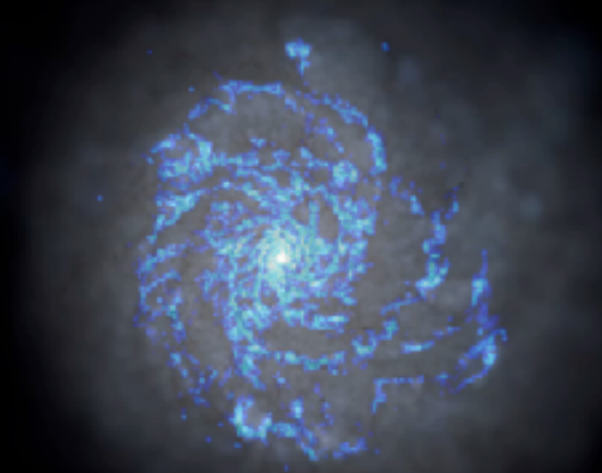
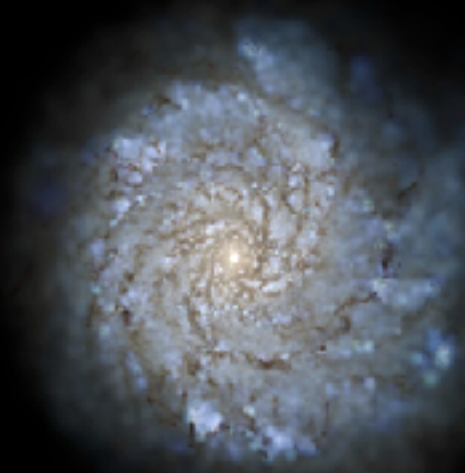


Observed Starlight

Molecular

X-Rays

Star Formation



➤ Numerics can be important

- SPH: is high N_{NGB} worth it? MHD, conduction, RT, issues: significant differences in “hot halos”
- Quasi-Lagrangian schemes: “grid noise” at very low Mach numbers (<0.01)
- *Physics* usually dominates

➤ Everything is sub-grid: but there are “good” and “bad” models, and different philosophies

- FIRE: trying to “build up” from small scales: works surprisingly well!
- Need resolution to match your physics, but also need *physics* to match your resolution (no meaning in resolving scales you don’t have the physics for)

➤ What is needed? Depends 100% on what you want to predict

- Resolve dense gas: resolve fragmentation (Toomre), *physics* for GMC destruction (radiative FB)
- Resolve SNe overlaps/bubbles: need to treat them explicitly, account for unresolved cooling
- SFR surprisingly insensitive to small-scale SF physics, MHD, diffusion: *feedback* dominates