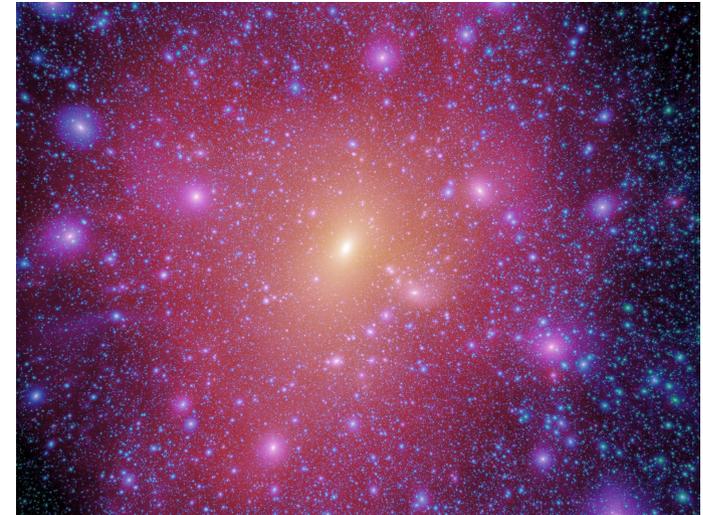
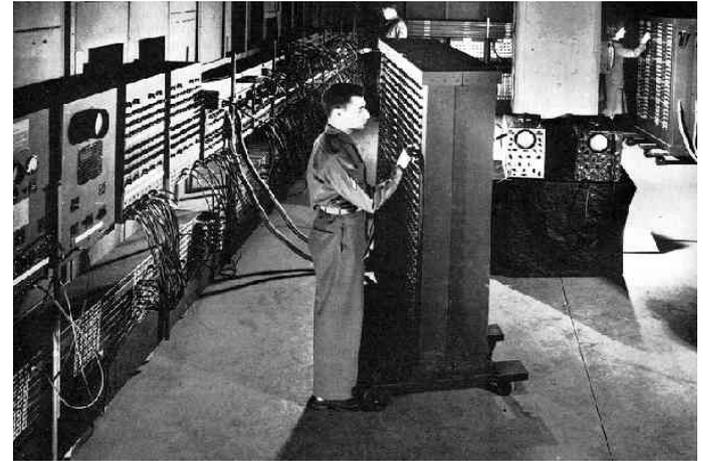


# Cosmological Simulations

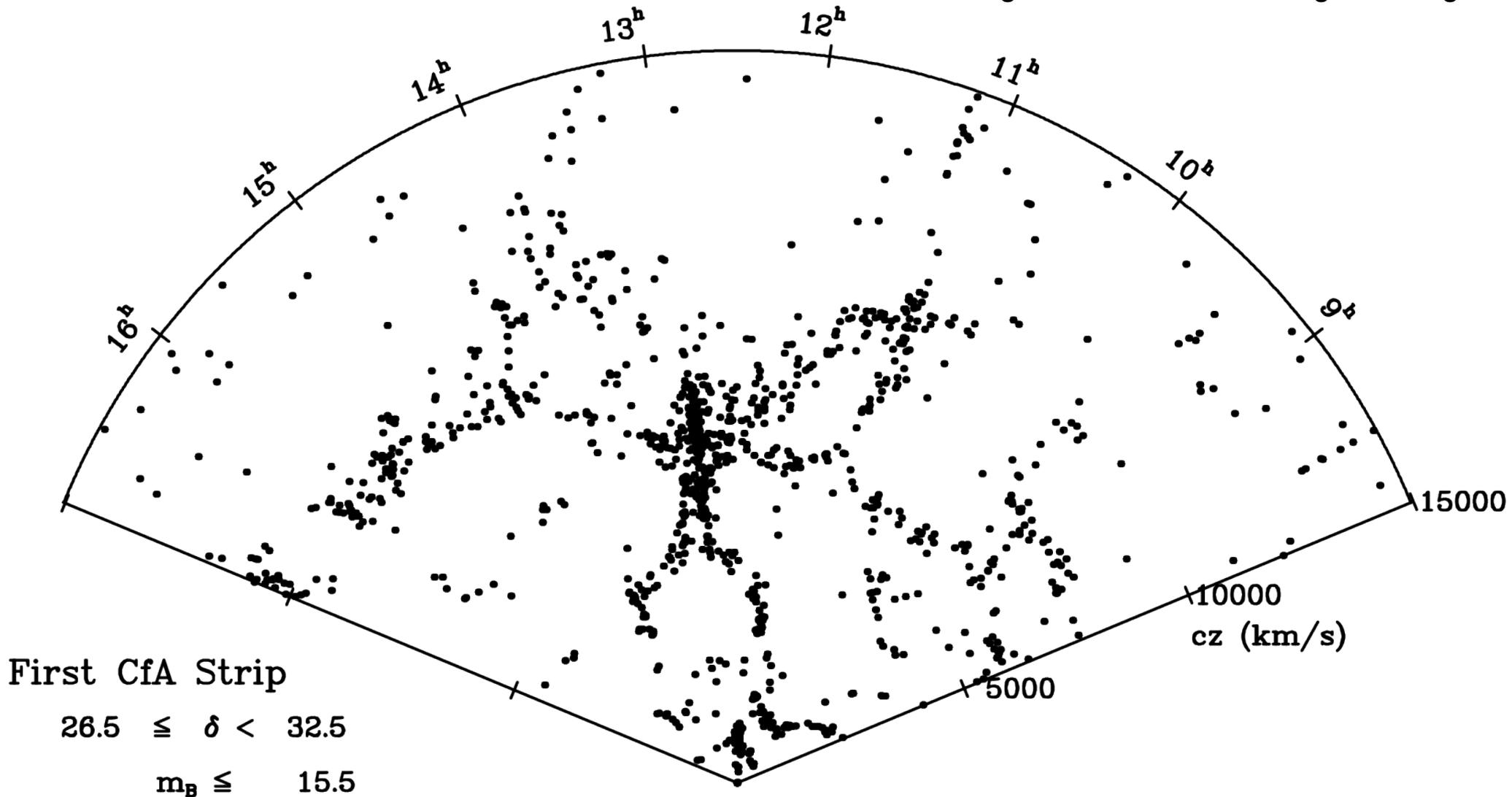
Volker Springel

- ▶ Simulation predictions for the dark sector of  $\Lambda$ CDM
- ▶ Can we falsify  $\Lambda$ CDM with simulations?
- ▶ Exaflop computing
- ▶ Beyond the dark sector: Hydrodynamic simulations
- ▶ Challenges for galaxy formation simulations



# The first slice in the CfA redshift survey

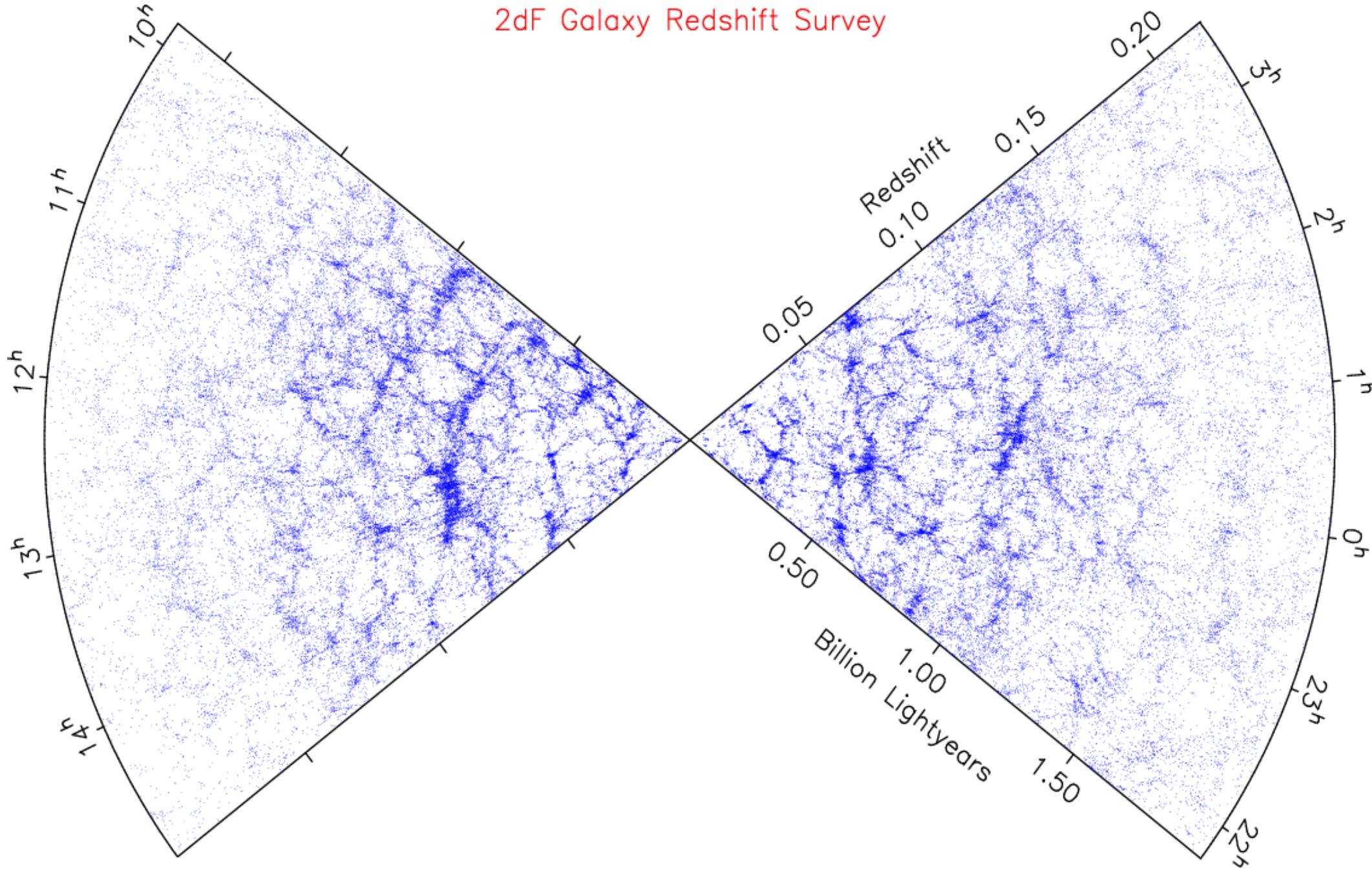
1100 galaxies in a wedge,  
6 degrees wide and 110 degrees long



de Lapparent, Geller, Huchra (1986)

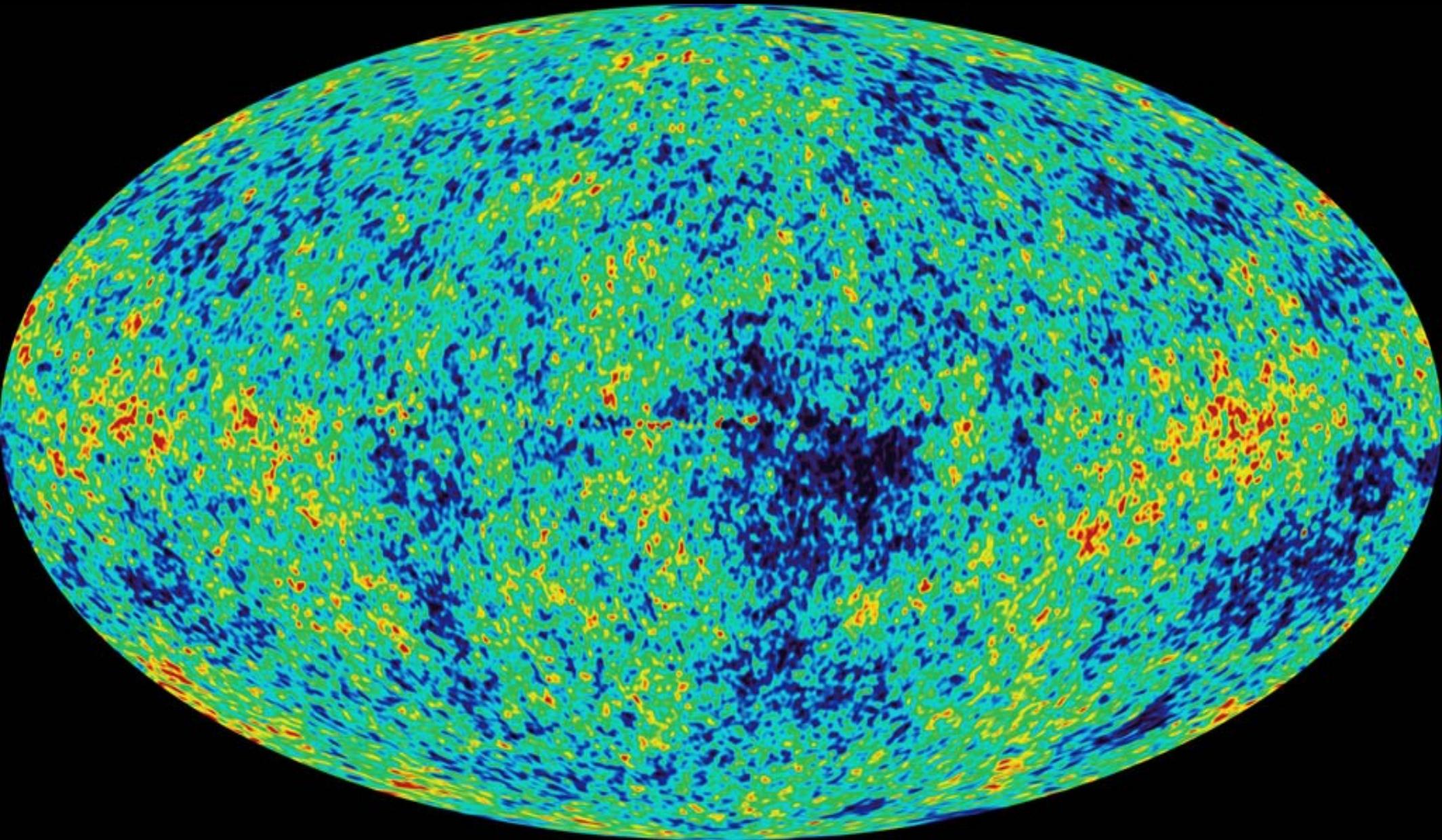
# Current galaxy redshift surveys map the Universe with several hundred thousand galaxies

## 2dF Galaxy Redshift Survey



The initial conditions for cosmic structure formation are directly observable

THE MICROWAVE SKY



WMAP Science Team (2003, 2006, 2008, 2010)

# The basic dynamics of structure formation in the **dark matter**

## BASIC EQUATIONS AND THEIR DISCRETIZATION

### Gravitation

(Newtonian approximation to GR in an expanding space-time)



Dark matter is collisionless



Monte-Carlo integration as **N-body System**



3N **coupled**, non-linear differential equations of second order

### Friedmann-Lemaitre model

$$H(a) = H_0 \sqrt{a^{-3}\Omega_0 + a^{-2}(1 - \Omega_0 - \Omega_\Lambda) + \Omega_\Lambda}$$

### Collisionless Boltzmann equation with self-gravity

$$\frac{df}{dt} \equiv \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} - \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \mathbf{r}} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{v}} = 0$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi(\mathbf{r}, t) = 4\pi G \int f(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{v}, t) d\mathbf{v}$$

### Hamiltonian dynamics in expanding space-time

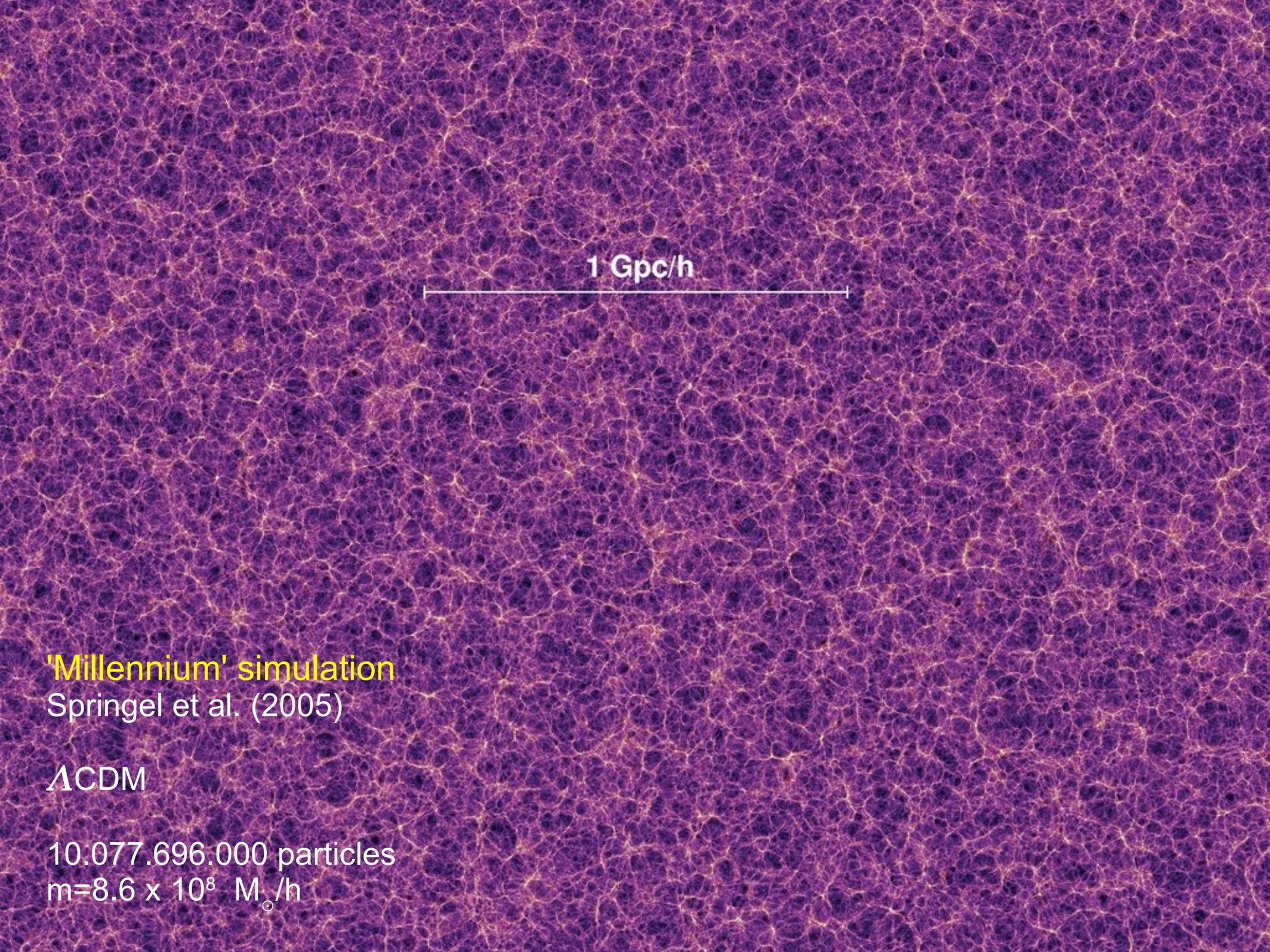
$$H = \sum_i \frac{\mathbf{p}_i^2}{2m_i a(t)^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{ij} \frac{m_i m_j \varphi(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)}{a(t)}$$

$$\nabla^2 \varphi(\mathbf{x}) = 4\pi G \left[ -\frac{1}{L^3} + \sum_n \tilde{\delta}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{n}L) \right]$$



### Problems:

- N is very large
- All equations are coupled with each other

A visualization of the cosmic web from the Millennium simulation, showing a dense network of dark matter filaments and clusters. The filaments are colored in shades of purple and blue, with brighter yellow and orange spots indicating galaxy clusters. A horizontal scale bar is located in the upper middle part of the image.

1 Gpc/h

'Millennium' simulation

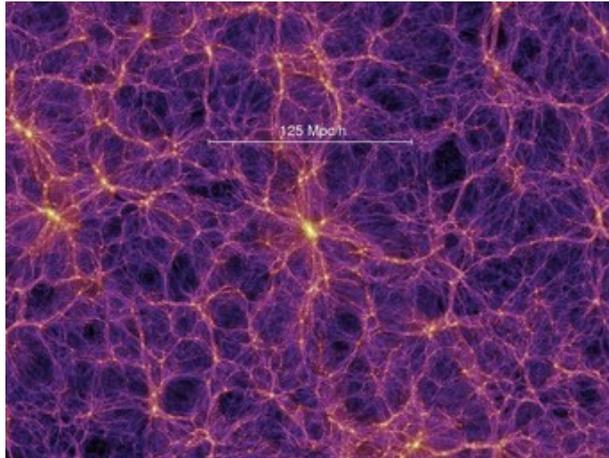
Springel et al. (2005)

$\Lambda$ CDM

10,077,696,000 particles

$m = 8.6 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}/h$

# Why are **cosmological simulations** of structure formation useful for studying the dark universe?



**Simulations are the theoretical tool of choice for calculations in the non-linear regime.**

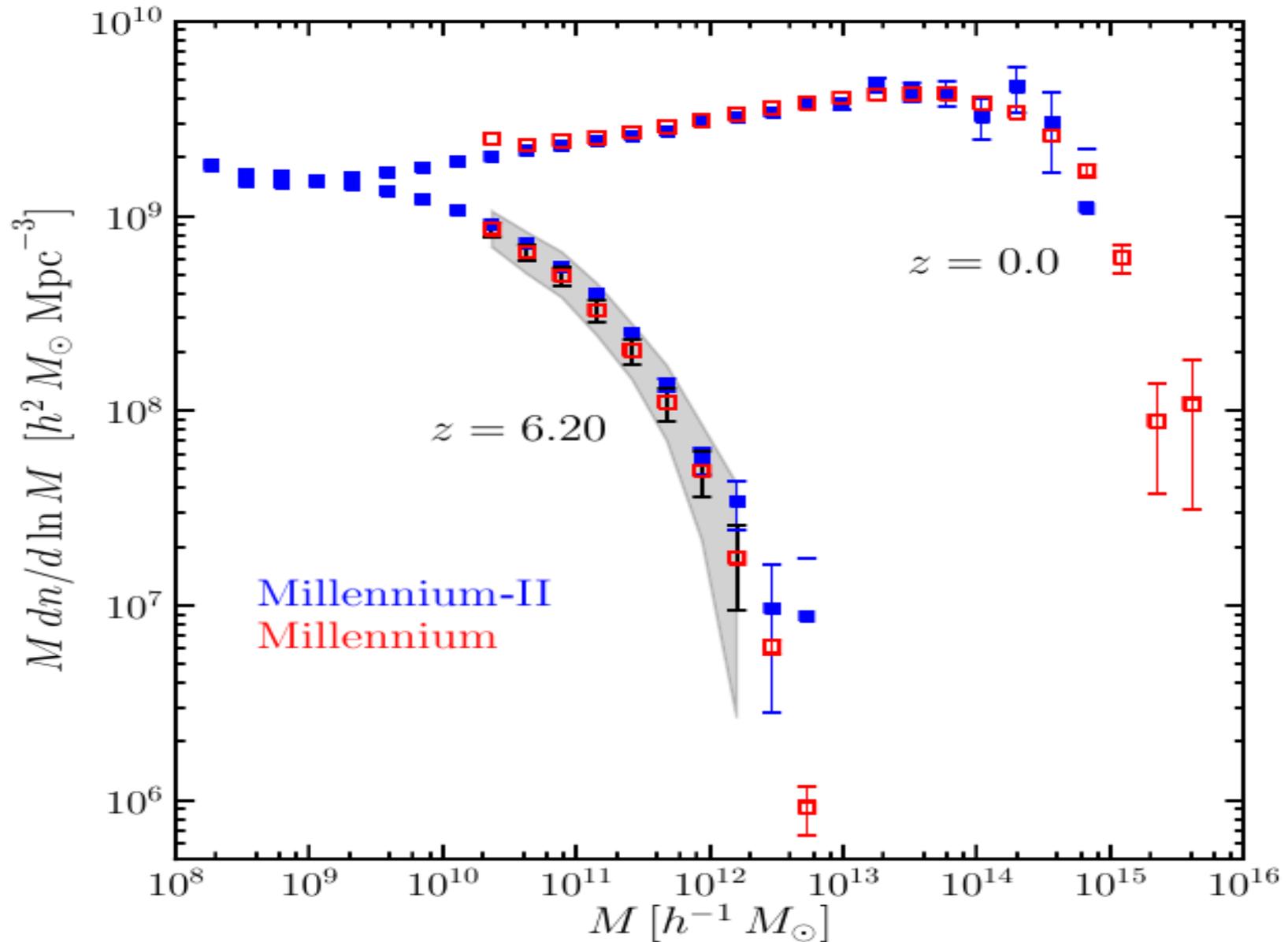
**They connect the (simple) cosmological initial conditions with the (complex) present-day universe.**

## **Predictions from N-body simulations:**

- Abundance of objects (as a function of mass and time)
- Their spatial distribution
- Internal structure of halos (e.g. density profiles, spin)
- Mean formation epochs
- Merger rates
- Detailed dark matter distribution on large *and* fairly small scales
- Galaxy formation models
- Gravitational lensing
- Baryonic acoustic oscillations in the matter distribution
- Integrated Sachs-Wolfe effect
- Dark matter annihilation rate
- Morphology of large-scale structure (“cosmic web”)
- ....

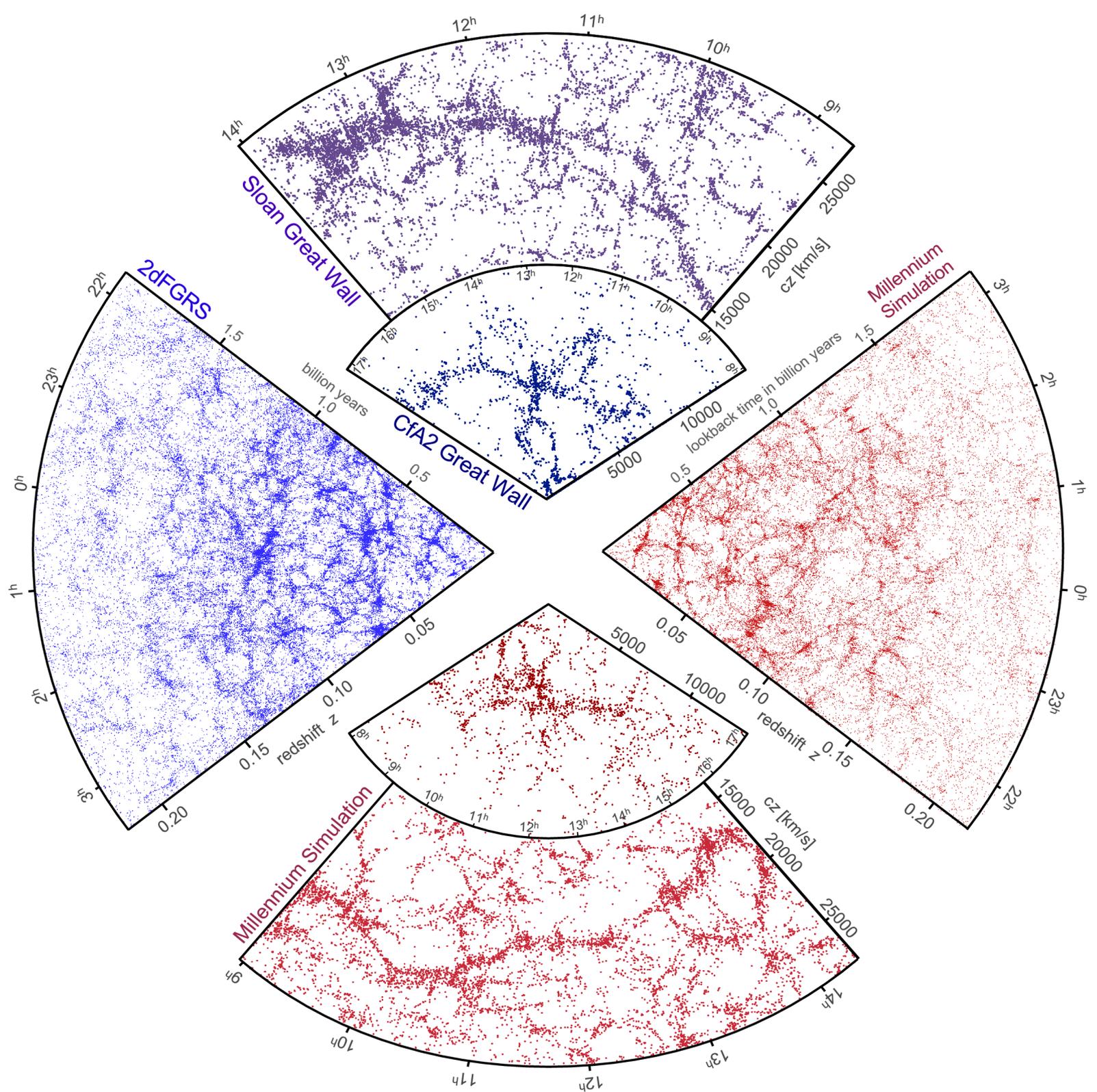
Simulations provide accurate measurements for halo abundance as a function of time

### CONVERGENCE RESULTS FOR HALO ABUNDANCE



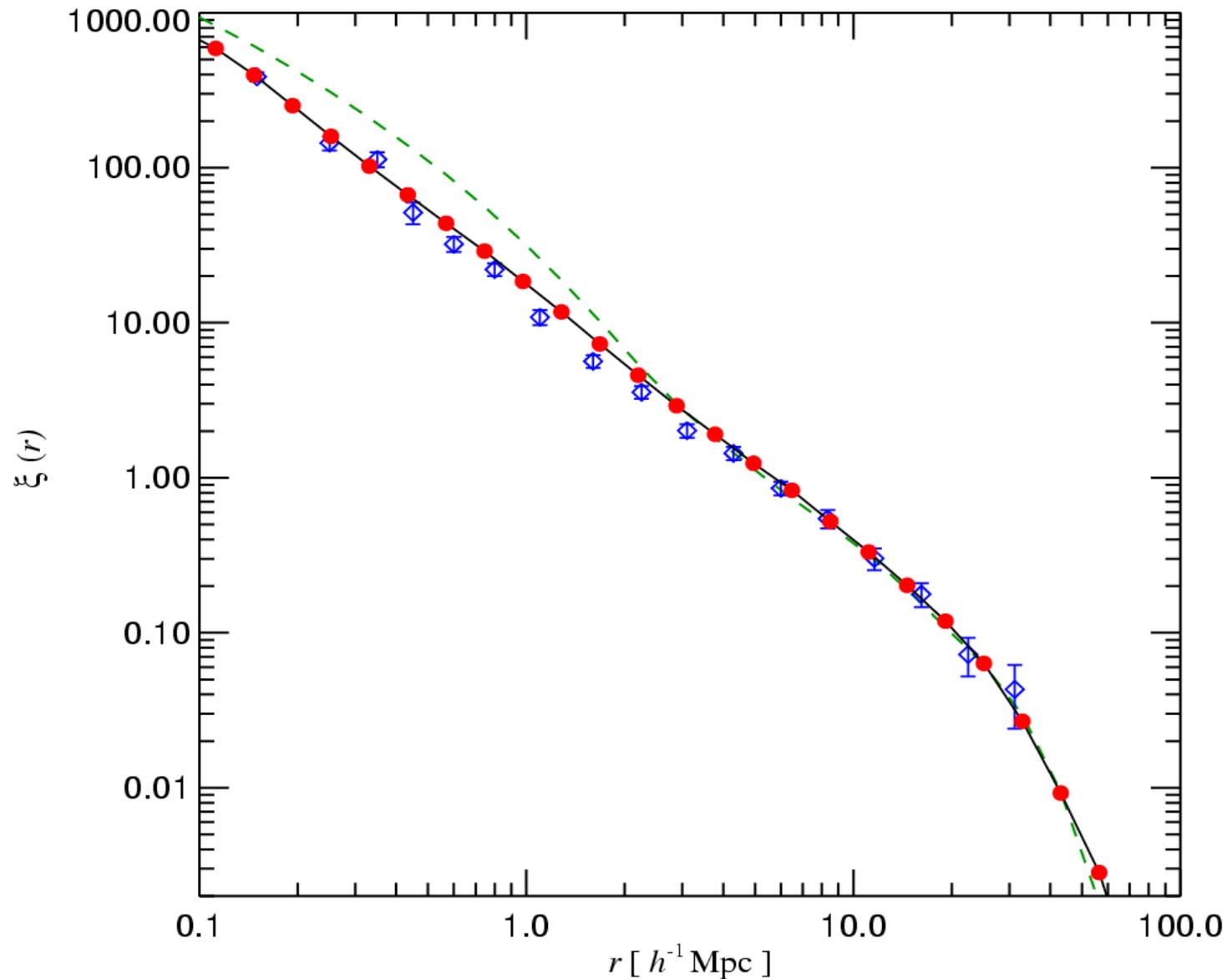
# Simulated and observed large-scale structure in the galaxy distribution

**MOCK PIE  
DIAGRAMS  
COMPARED TO  
SDSS, 2DFGRS,  
AND CFA-2**



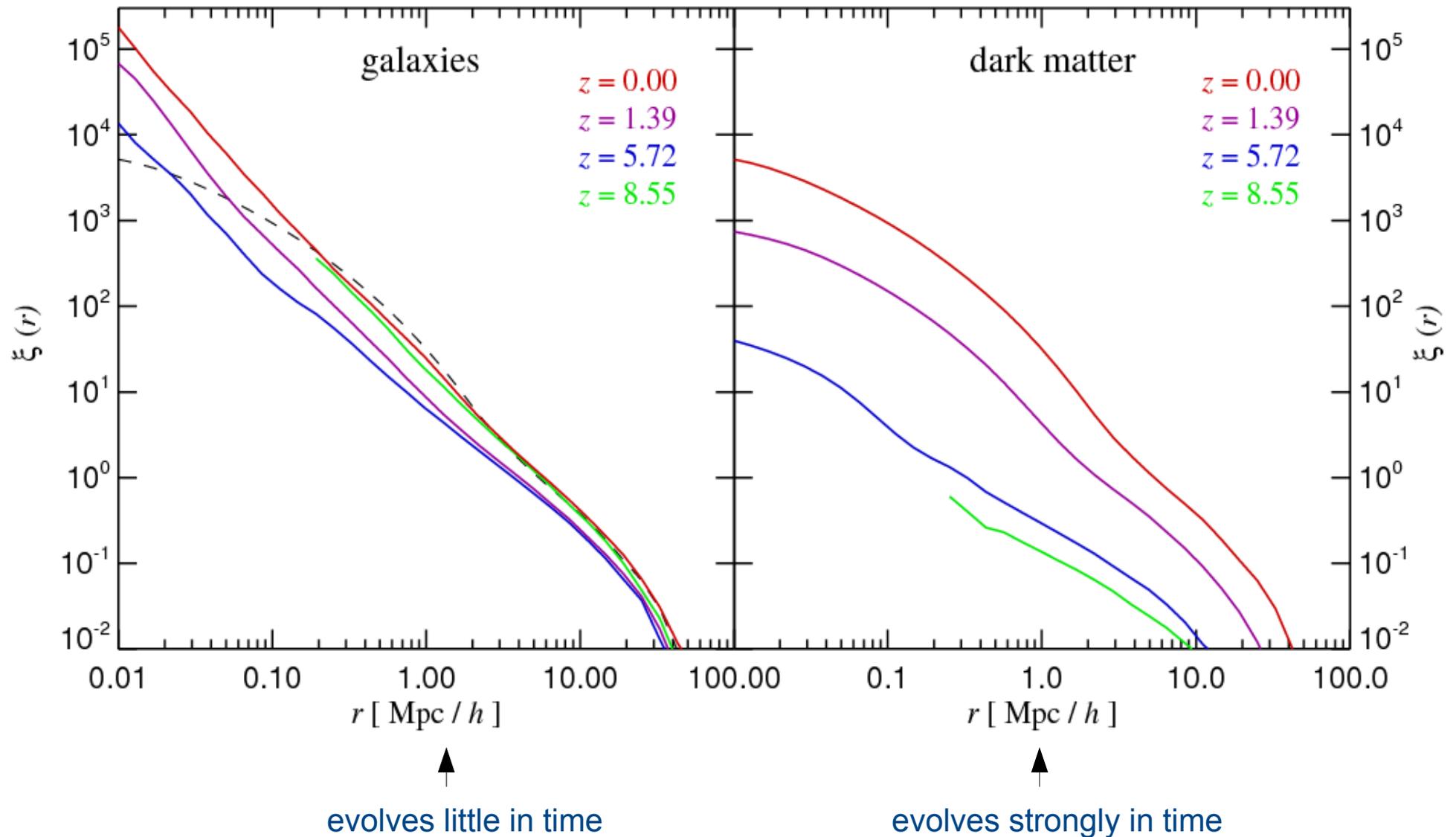
The two-point correlation function of galaxies in the Millennium run is a very good power law

GALAXY TWO-POINT FUNCTION COMPARED WITH **2dFGRS**



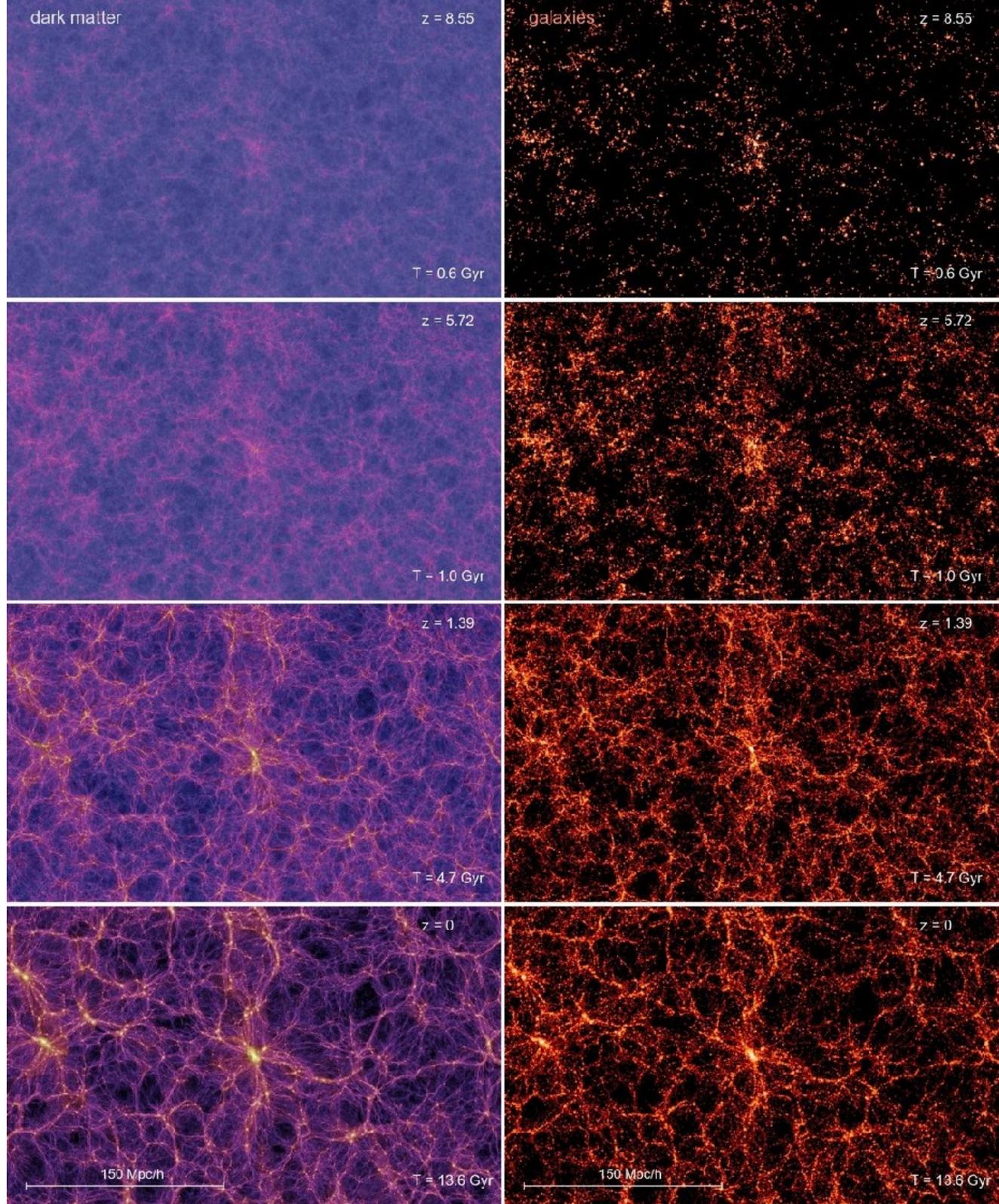
The galaxy distribution is **biased** with respect to the mass distribution

**GALAXY AND MASS CLUSTERING AT DIFFERENT EPOCHS**



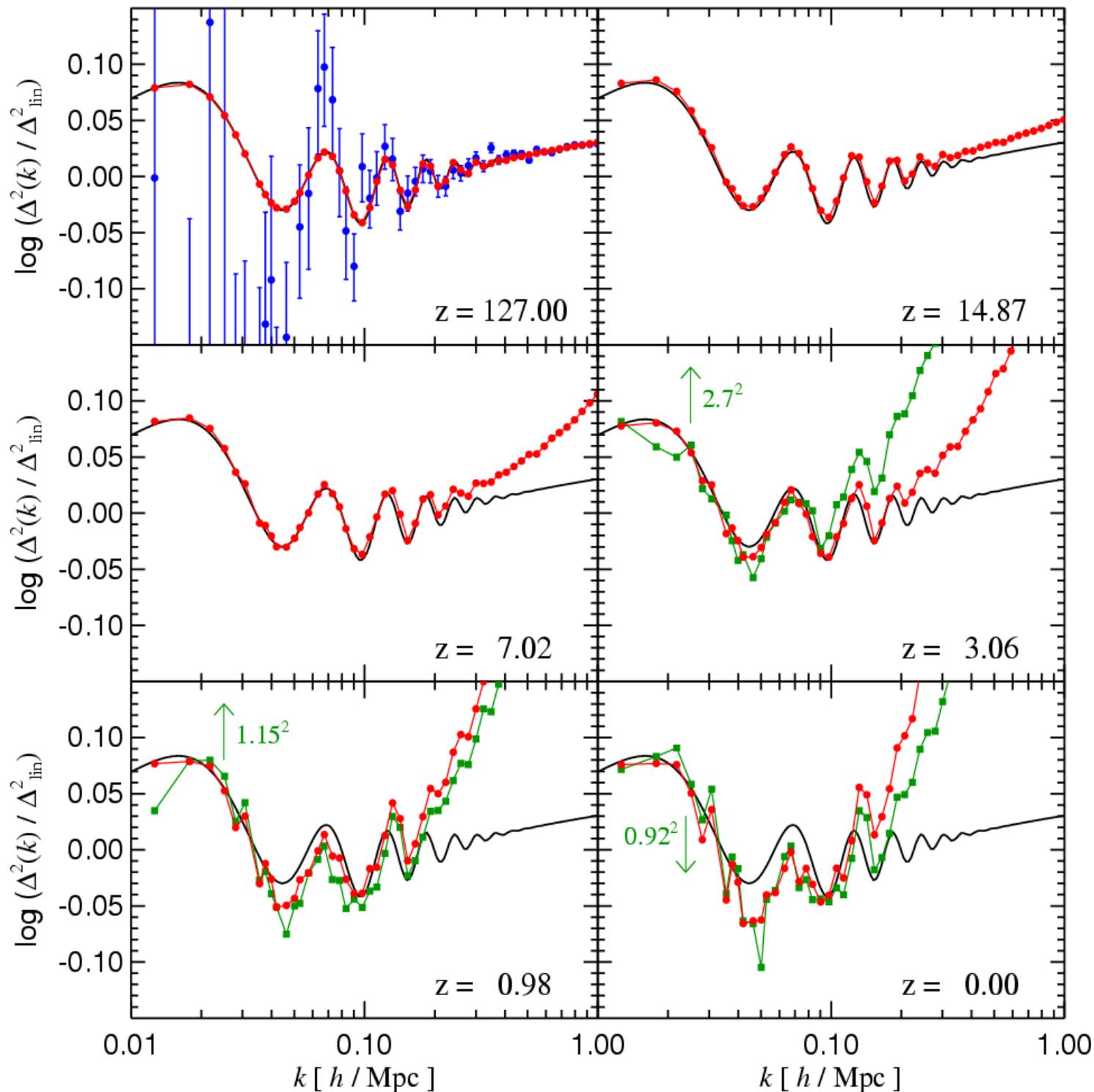
The large-scale clustering pattern of halos and galaxies is already imprinted on the initial conditions

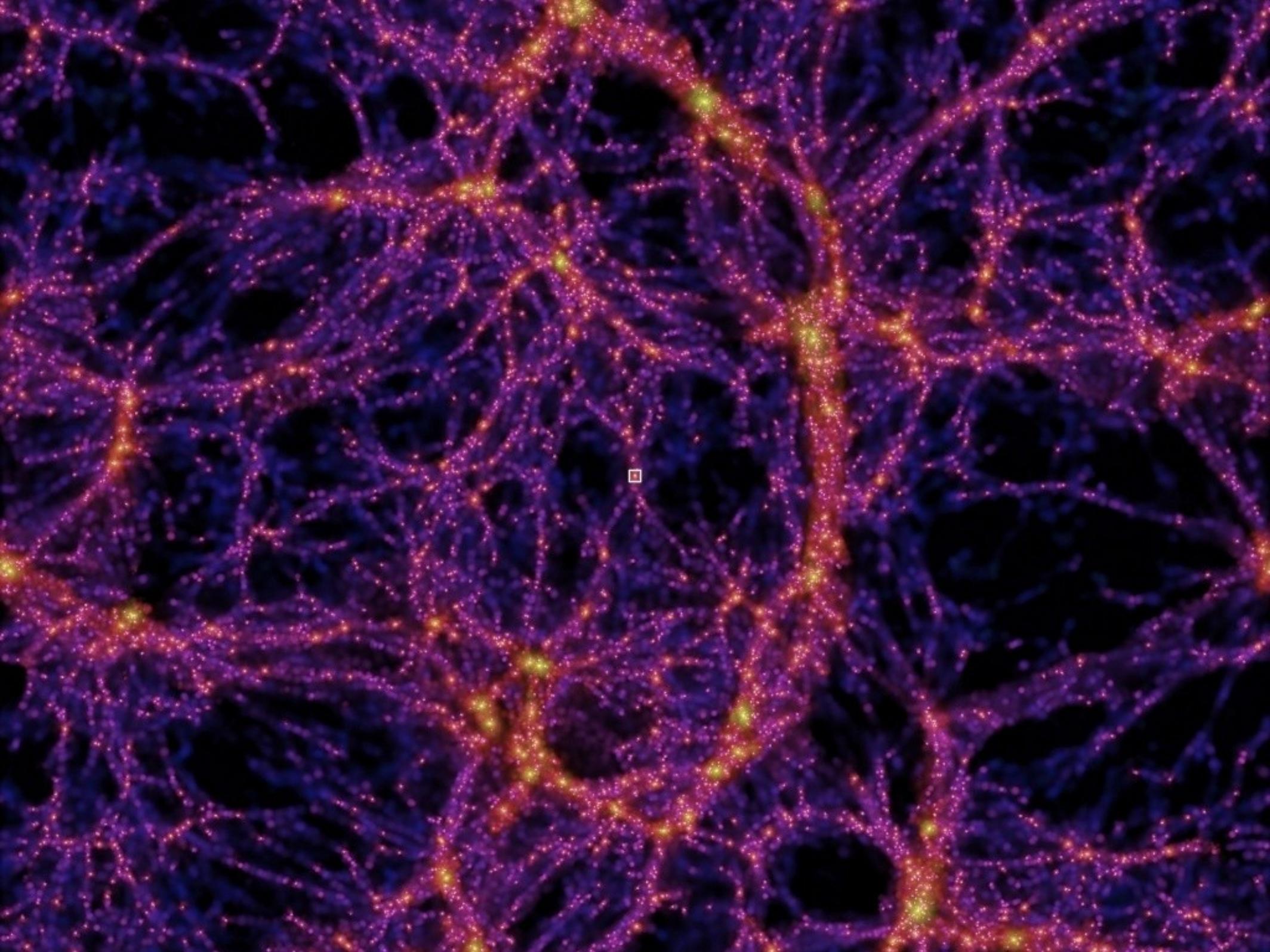
**TIME EVOLUTION OF THE MATTER AND GALAXY DISTRIBUTION**



The baryonic wiggles remain visible in the galaxy distribution down to low redshift and may serve as a "standard ruler" to constrain dark energy

**DARK MATTER AND GALAXY POWER SPECTRA FROM THE MILLENNIUM SIMULATION IN THE REGION OF THE WIGGLES**







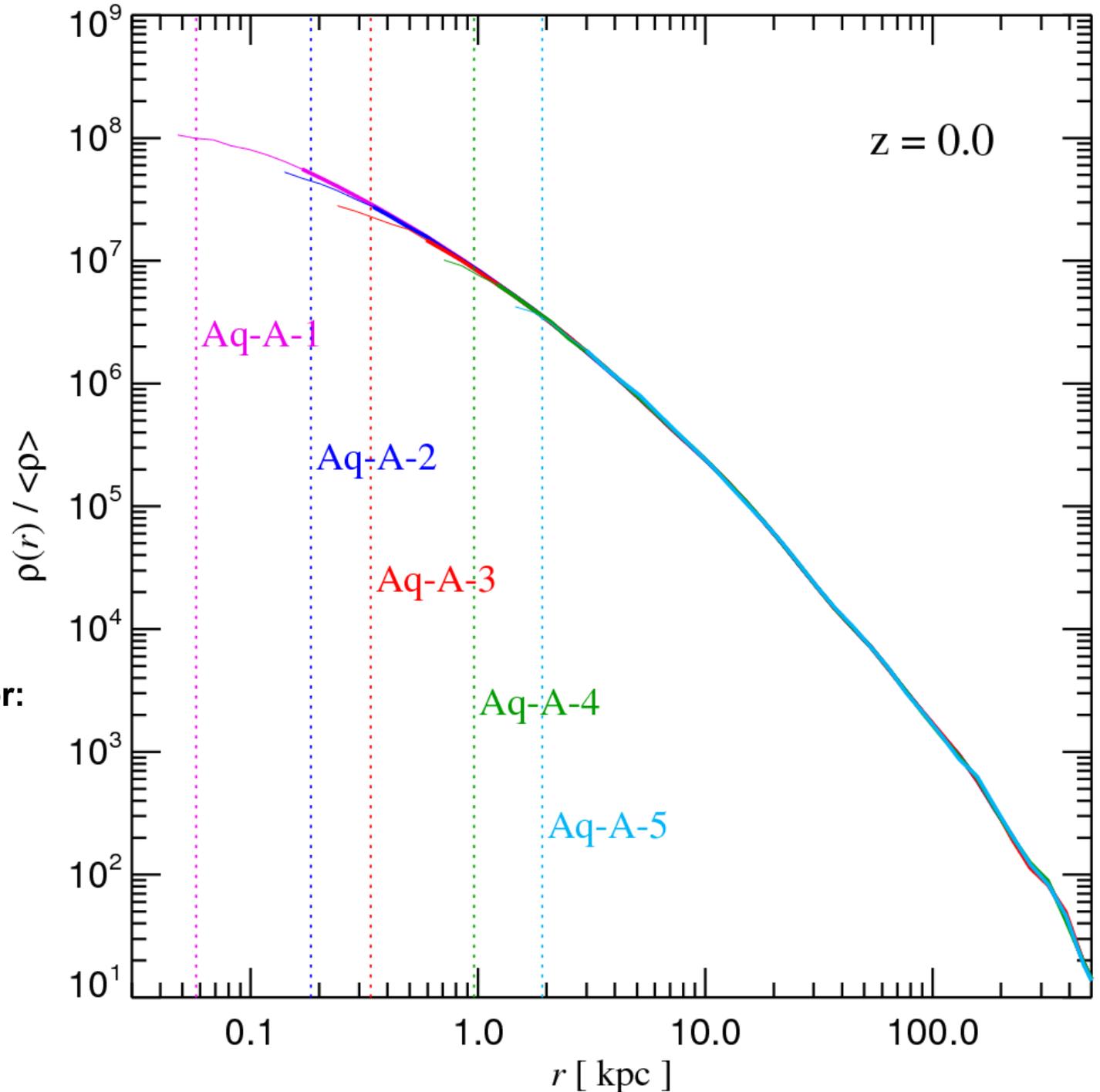
# Structure of the central cusp

Spherically averaged density profiles of dark matter halos have a nearly universal shape

**DENSITY PROFILE AS A FUNCTION OF RADIUS**

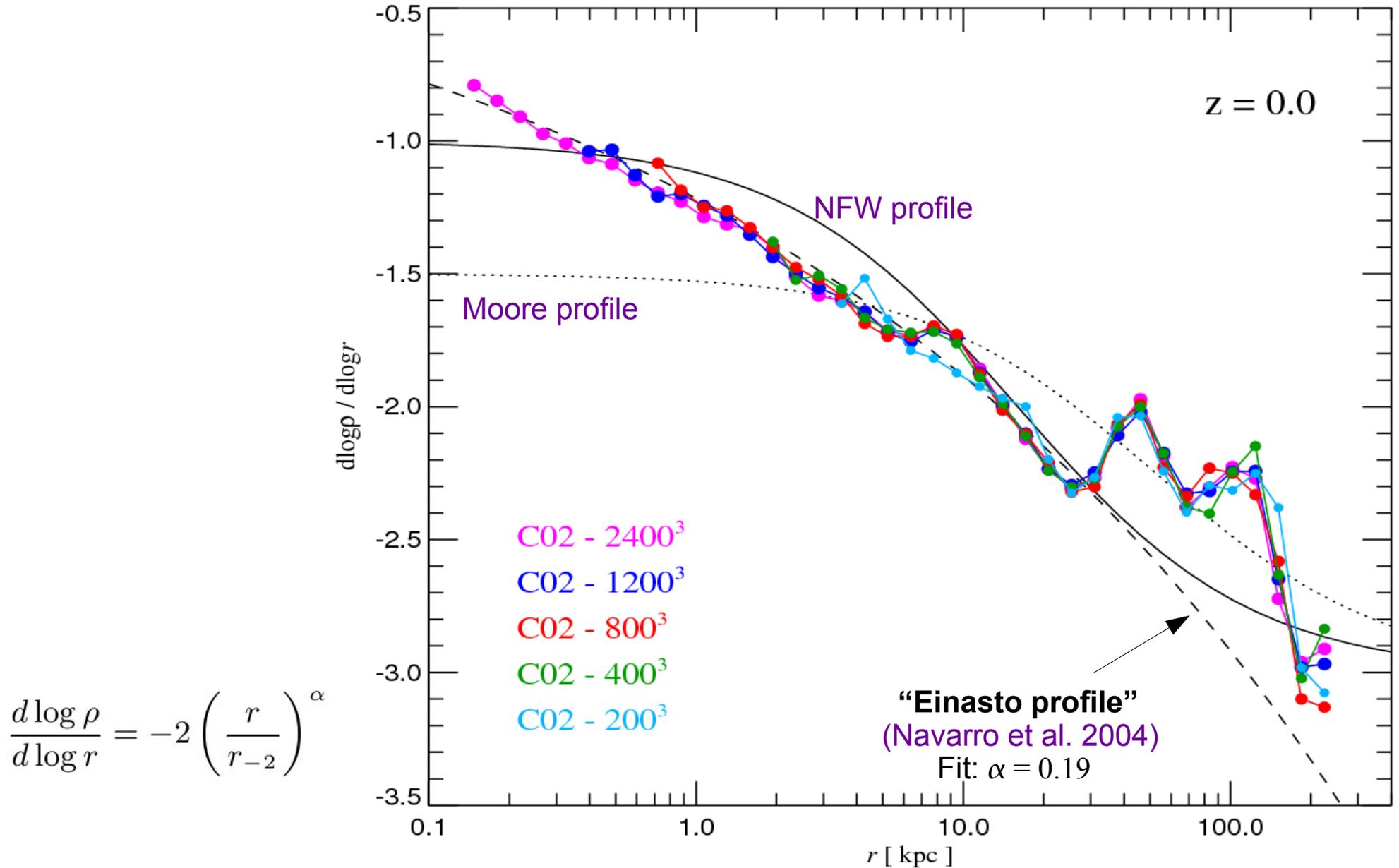
**Fundamental importance for:**

- Rotation curve of galaxies
- Internal structure of galaxy clusters
- Gravitational lensing
- DM annihilation
- Galaxy mergers



The logarithmic slope of the density profile does not show asymptotic behavior towards the core

### SLOPE OF THE DENSITY PROFILE AS A FUNCTION OF RADIUS



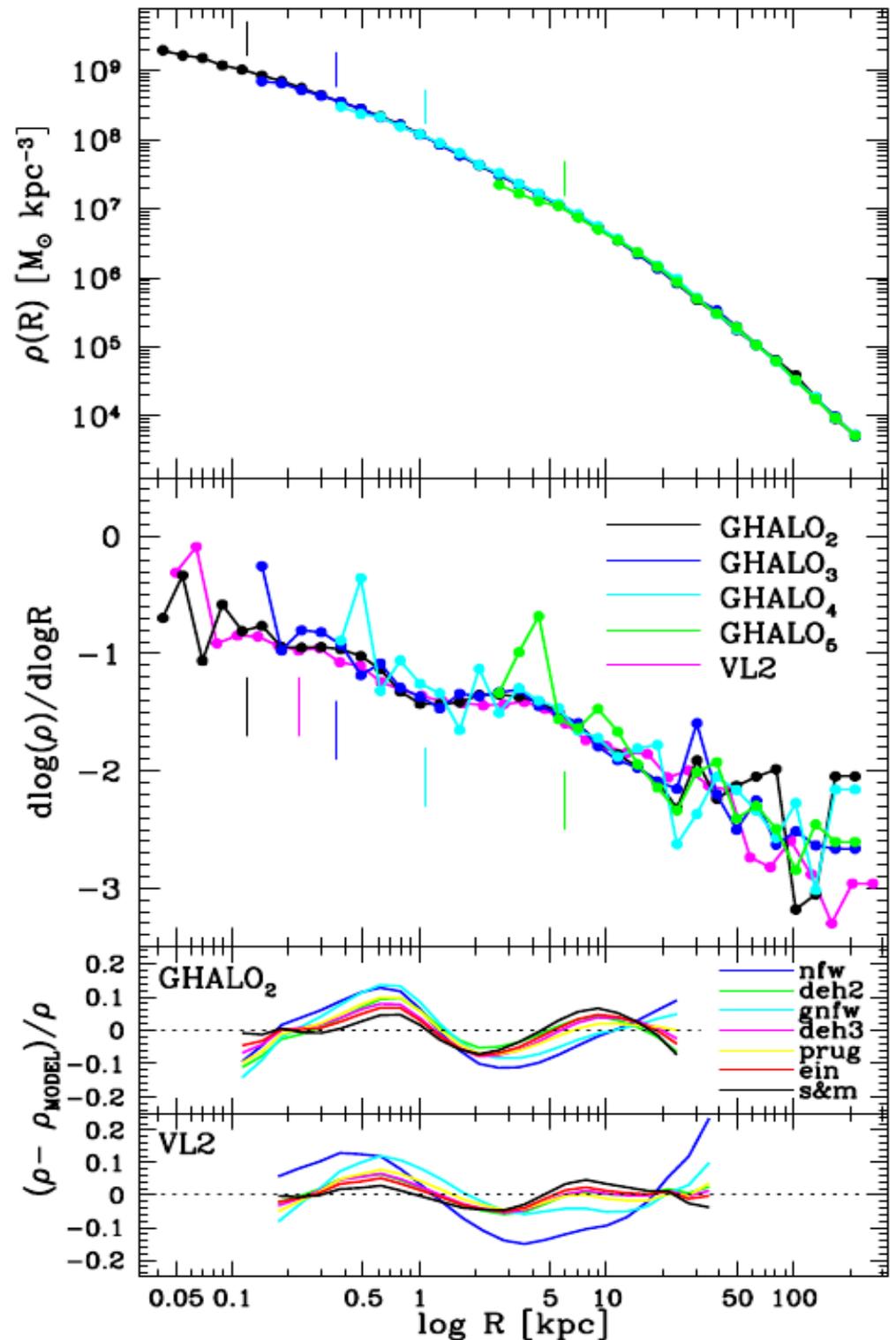
A consensus on the central structure of the cups seems to be emerging

## RECENT RESULTS FROM THE 'GHALO' SIMULATION OF THE ZURICH GROUP

Stadel et al. (2009)

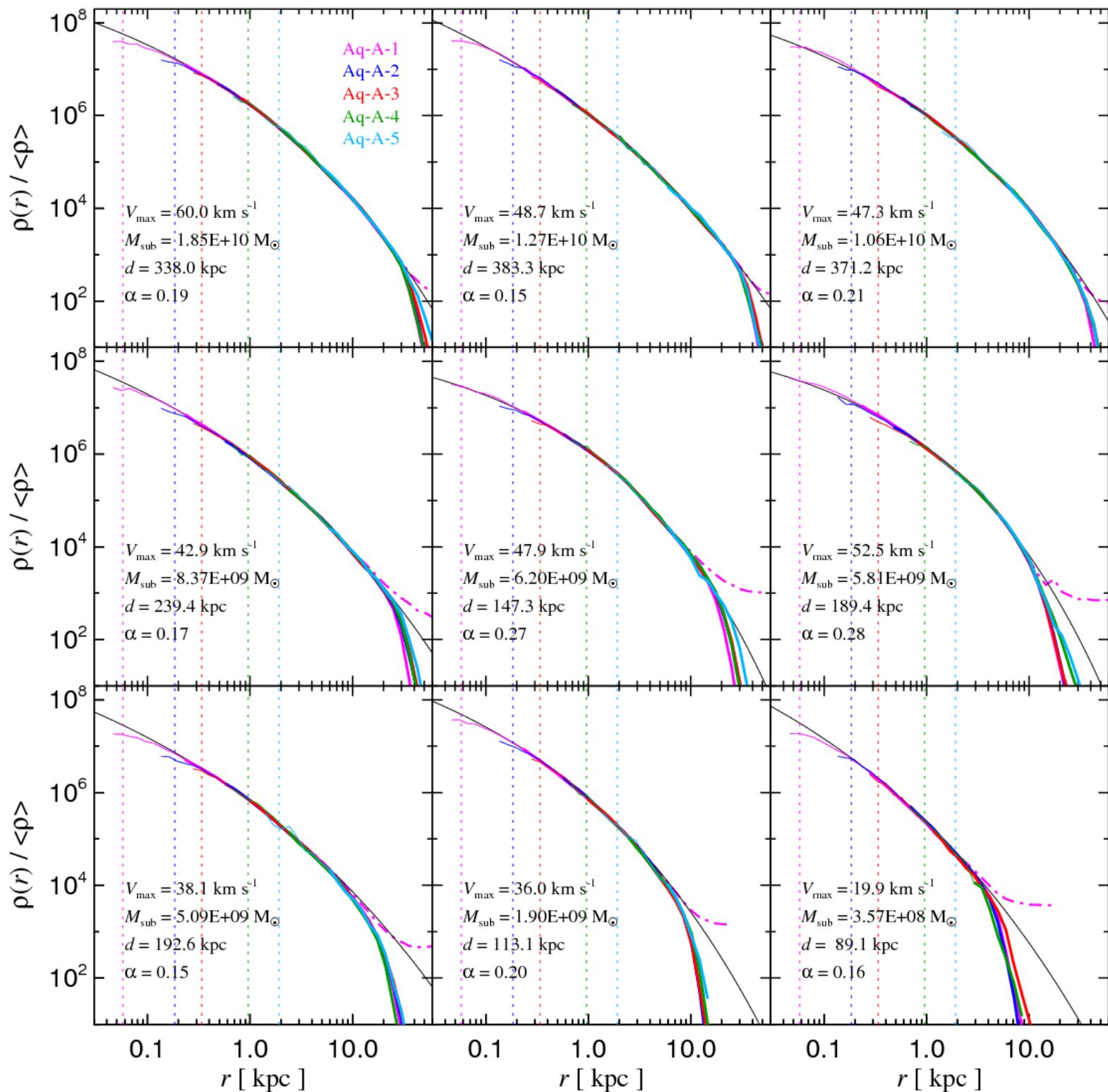
*“The logarithmic slope of the radial density profile is close to a power law, gradually turning over to a slope of -0.8 at our innermost resolved point.”*

*“The Einasto profile also provides an excellent fit to the density profiles of the two simulations.”*



Our simulations allow us to study the convergence of **subhalo density profiles**

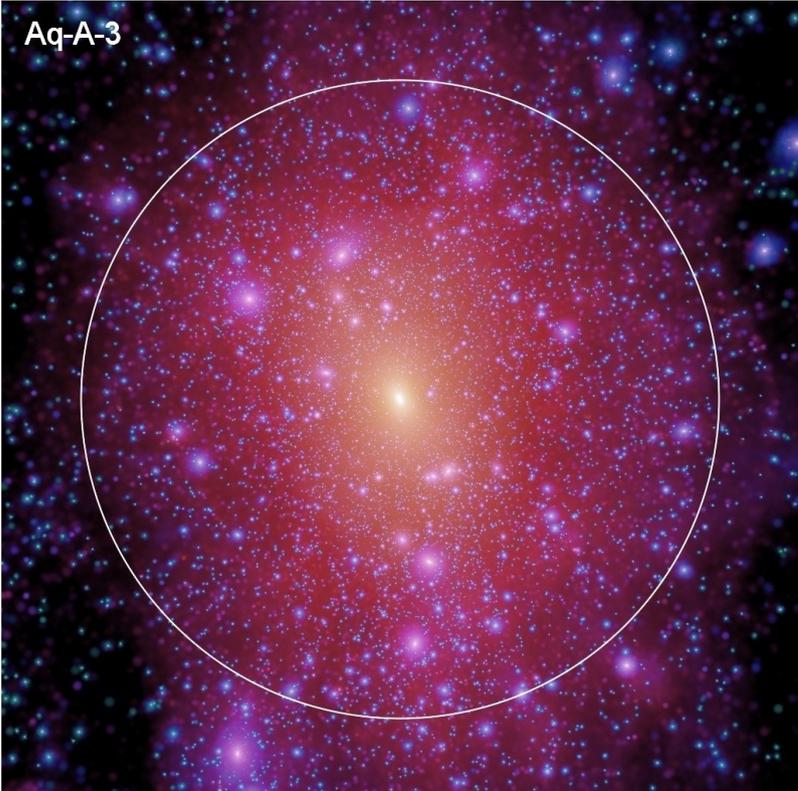
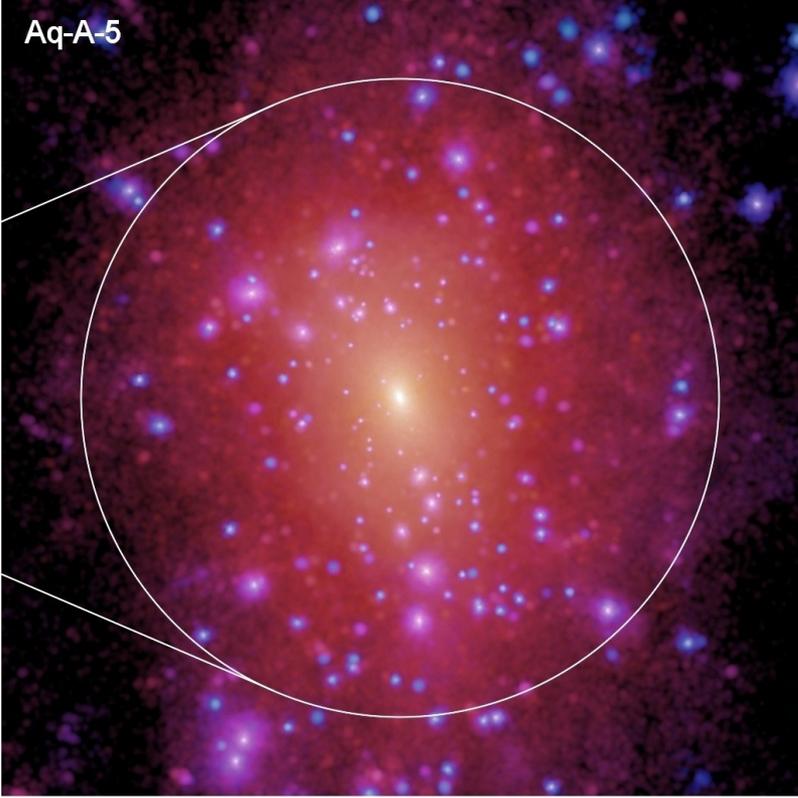
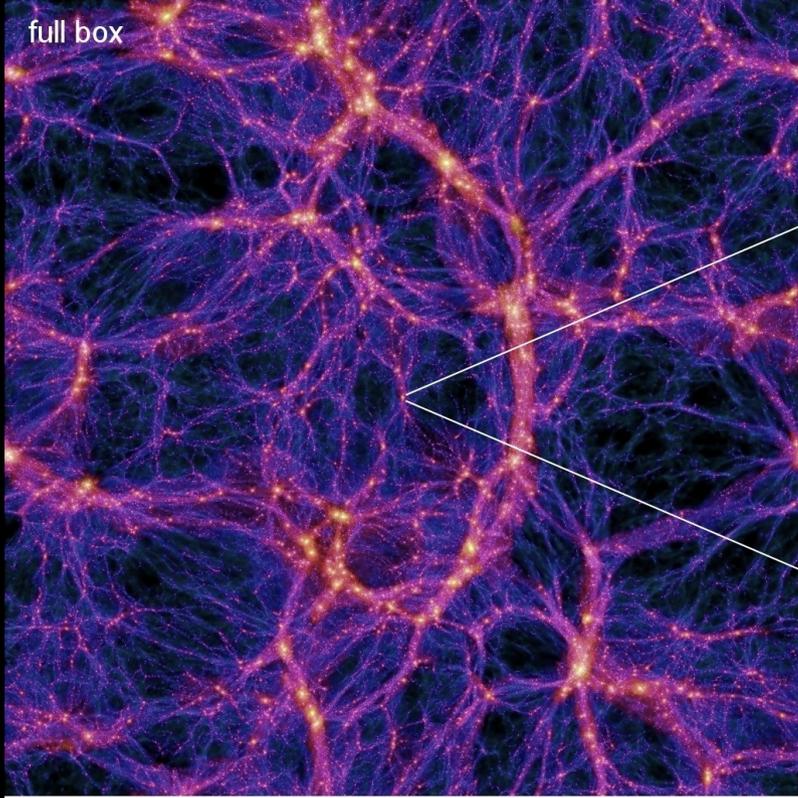
**SPHERICALLY AVERAGED DENSITY PROFILES IN THE AQ-A HALO AT DIFFERENT RESOLUTION**



# Dark matter substructure

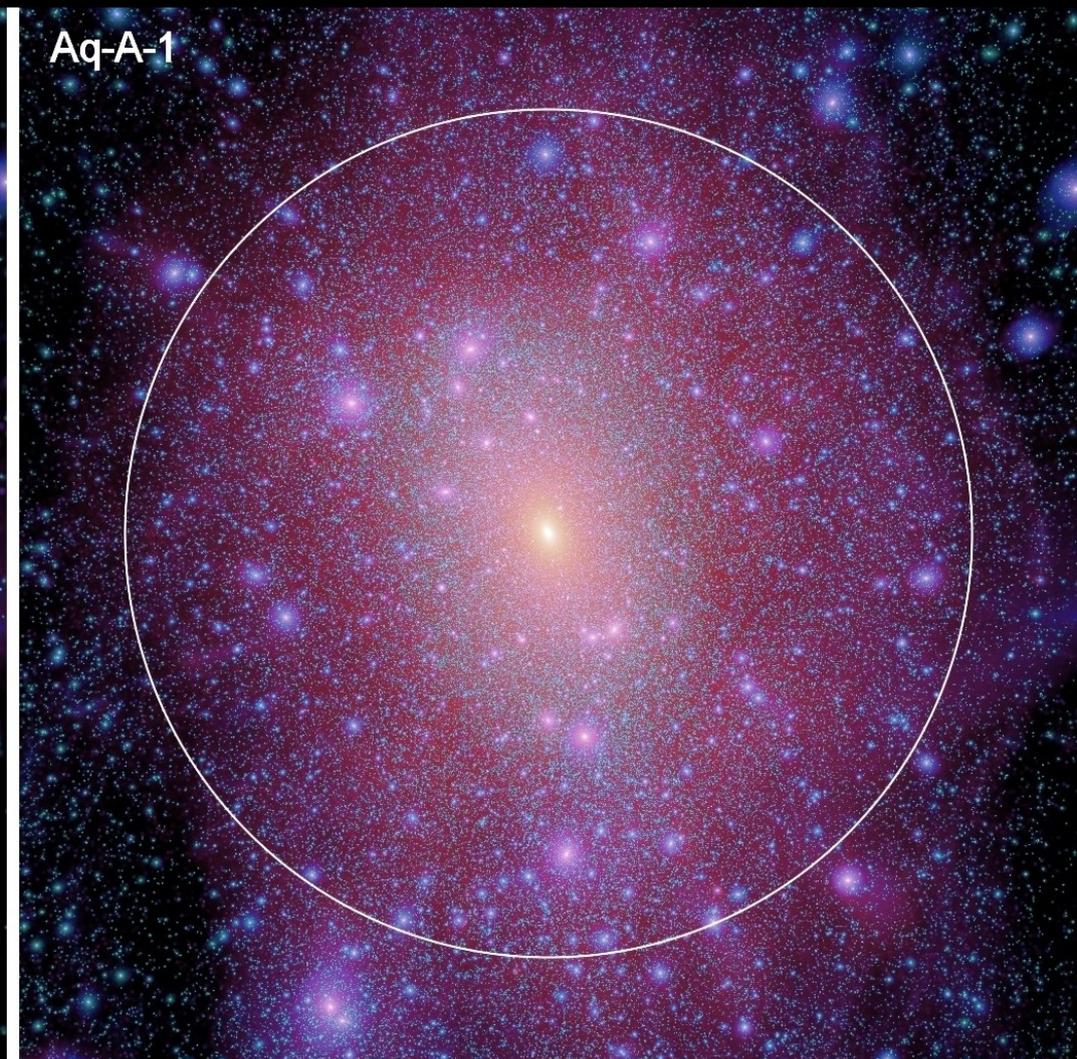
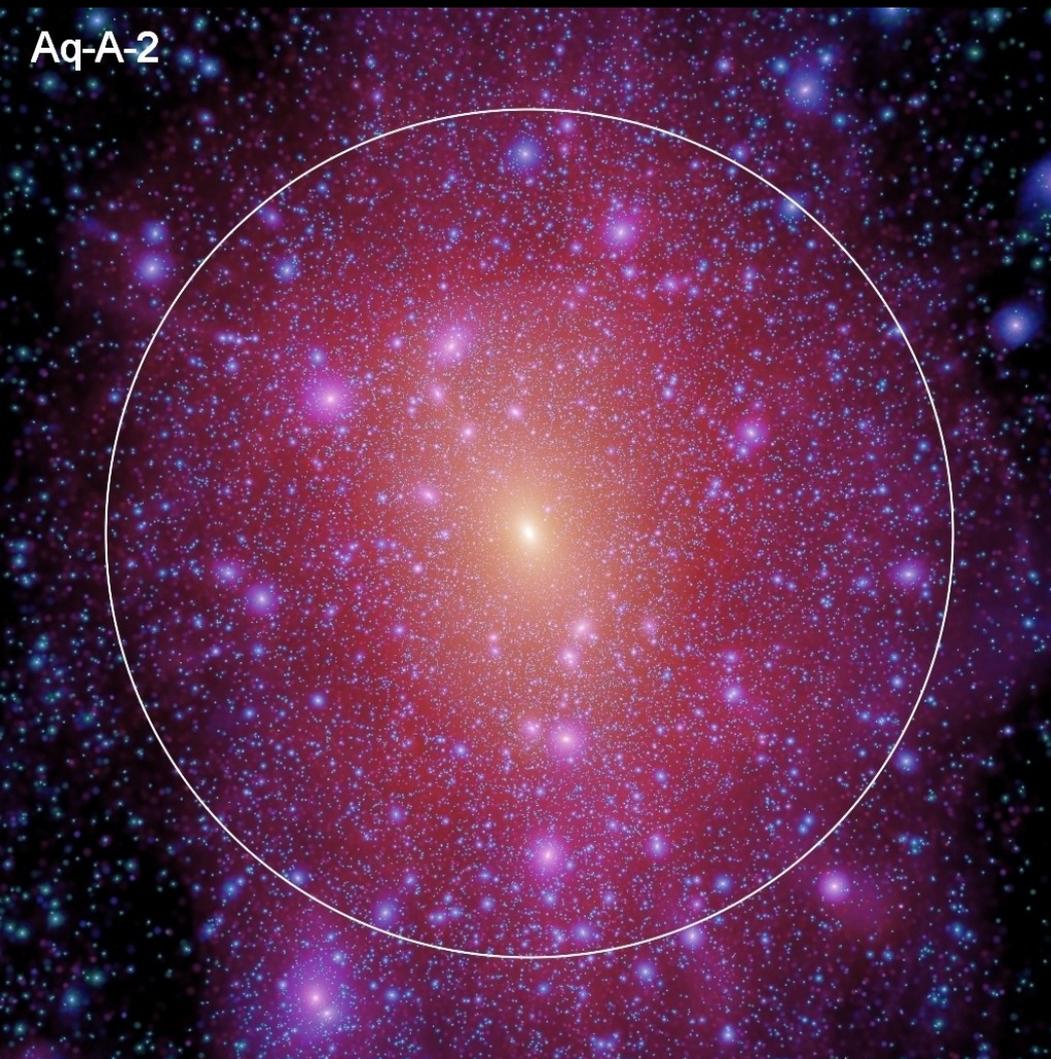
Zooming in on dark matter halos reveals a huge abundance of dark matter substructure

DARK MATTER DISTRIBUTION IN A MILKY WAY SIZED HALO AT DIFFERENT RESOLUTION



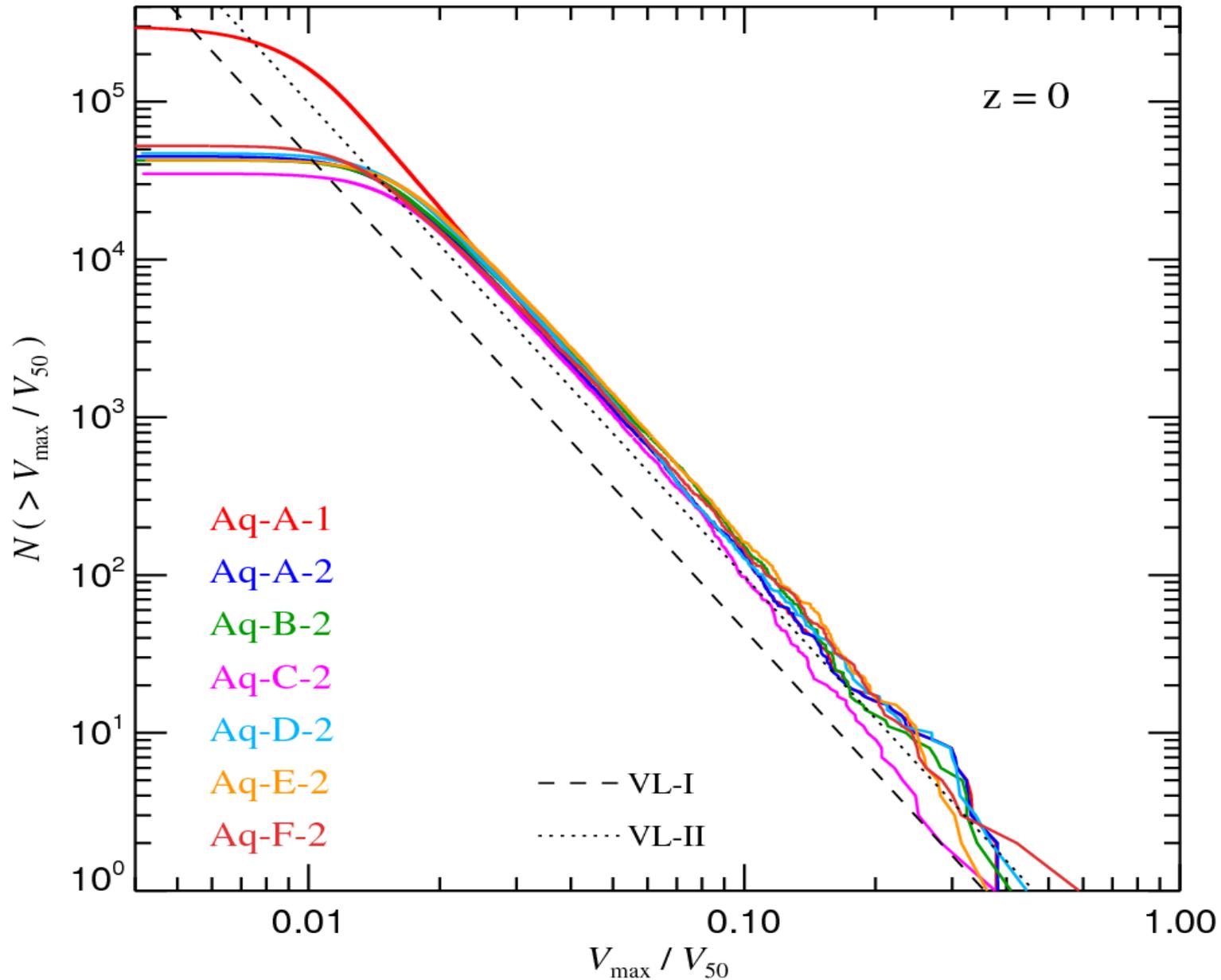
# Zooming in on dark matter halos reveals a huge abundance of dark matter substructure

DARK MATTER IN A MILKY WAY SIZED HALO AT ULTRA-HIGH RESOLUTION



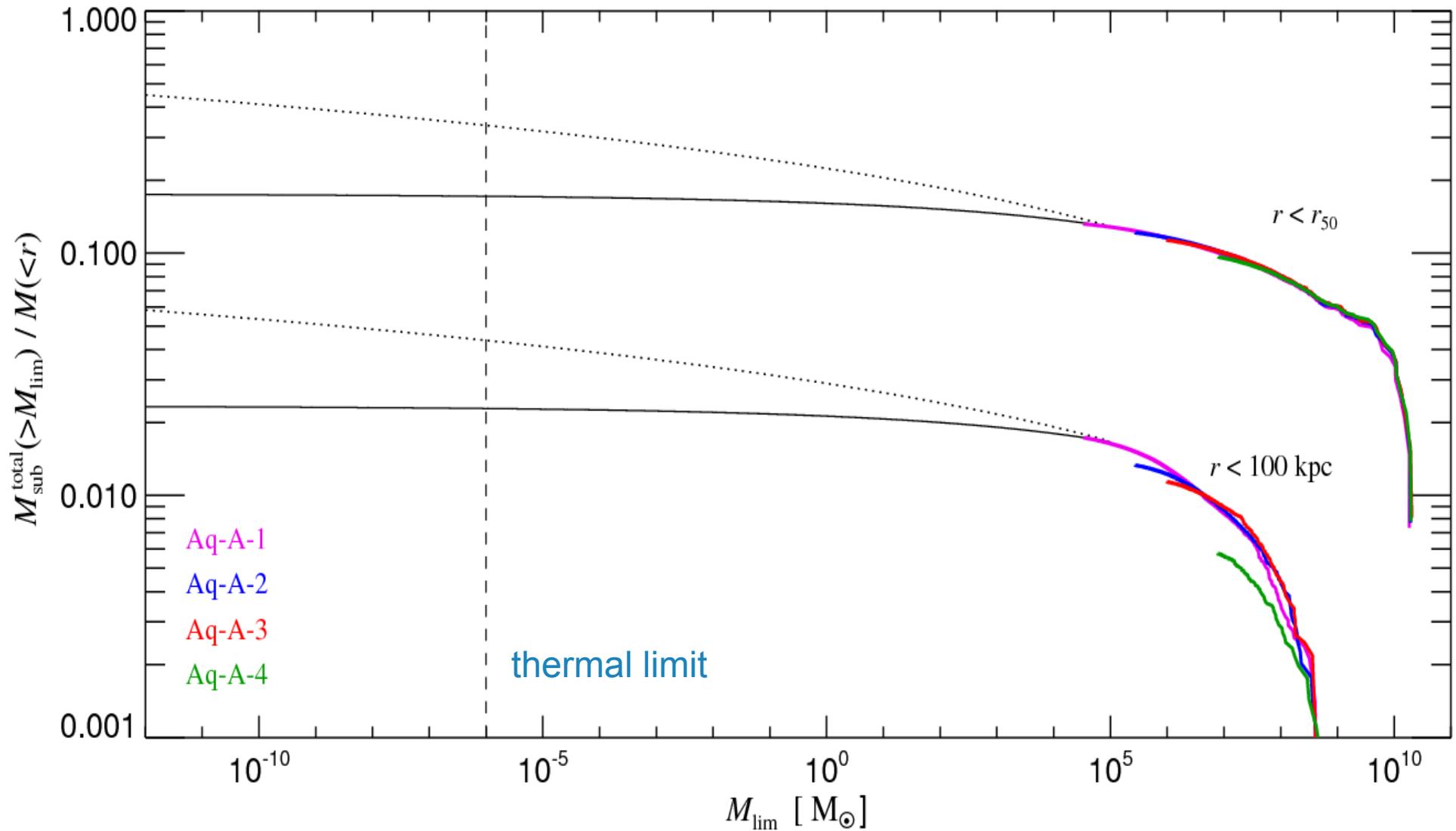
The subhalo abundance per unit halo mass is surprisingly uniform

**VELOCITY FUNCTION IN OUR DIFFERENT HALOS**



The cumulative mass fraction in **resolved substructures** reaches about 12-13%, we expect up to ~18% down to the thermal limit

**FRACTION OF MASS IN SUBSTRUCTURES AS A FUNCTION OF MASS LIMIT**



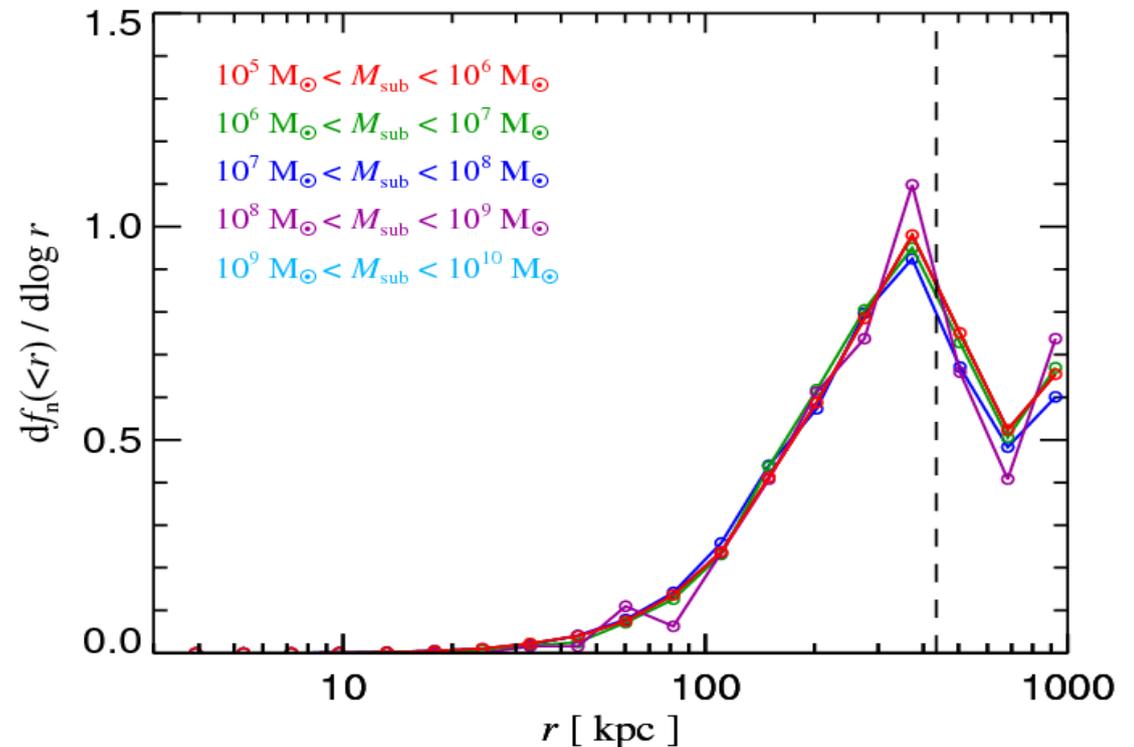
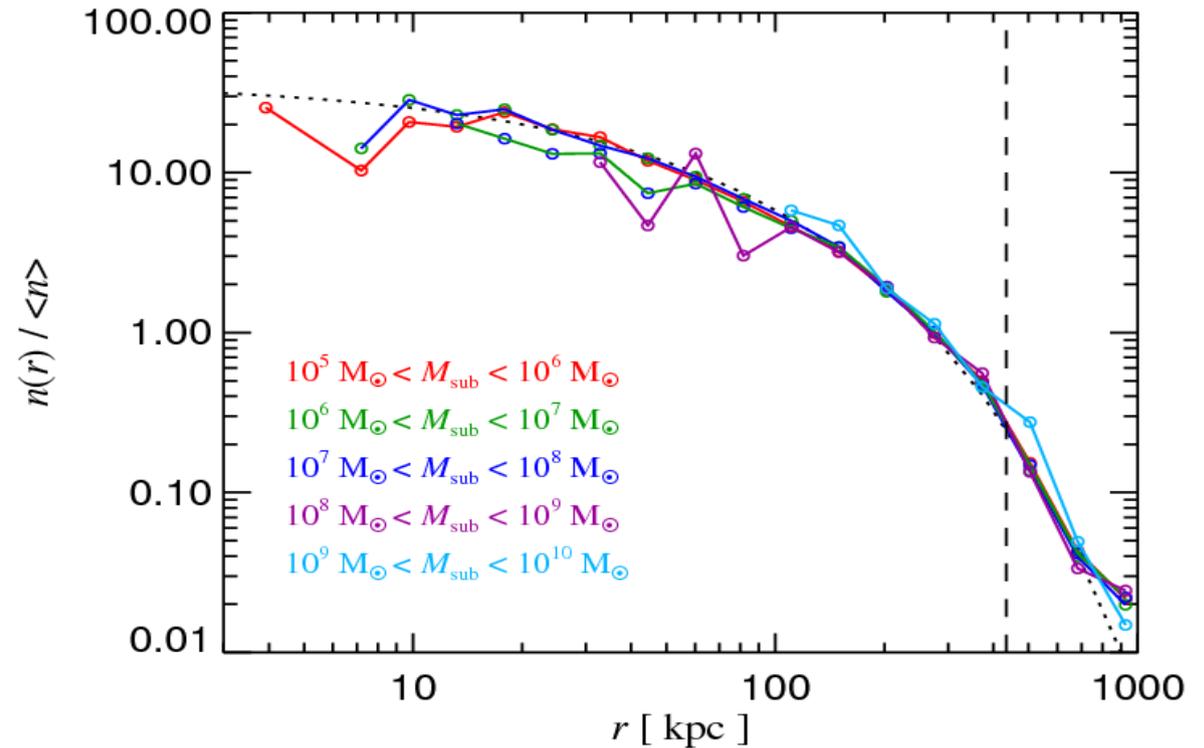
The radial distribution of substructures is strongly antibiased relative to all dark matter, and independent of subhalo mass

### RADIAL SUBSTRUCTURE DISTRIBUTION IN Aq-A-1

Most subhalos are at large radii, subhalos are more effectively destroyed near the centre

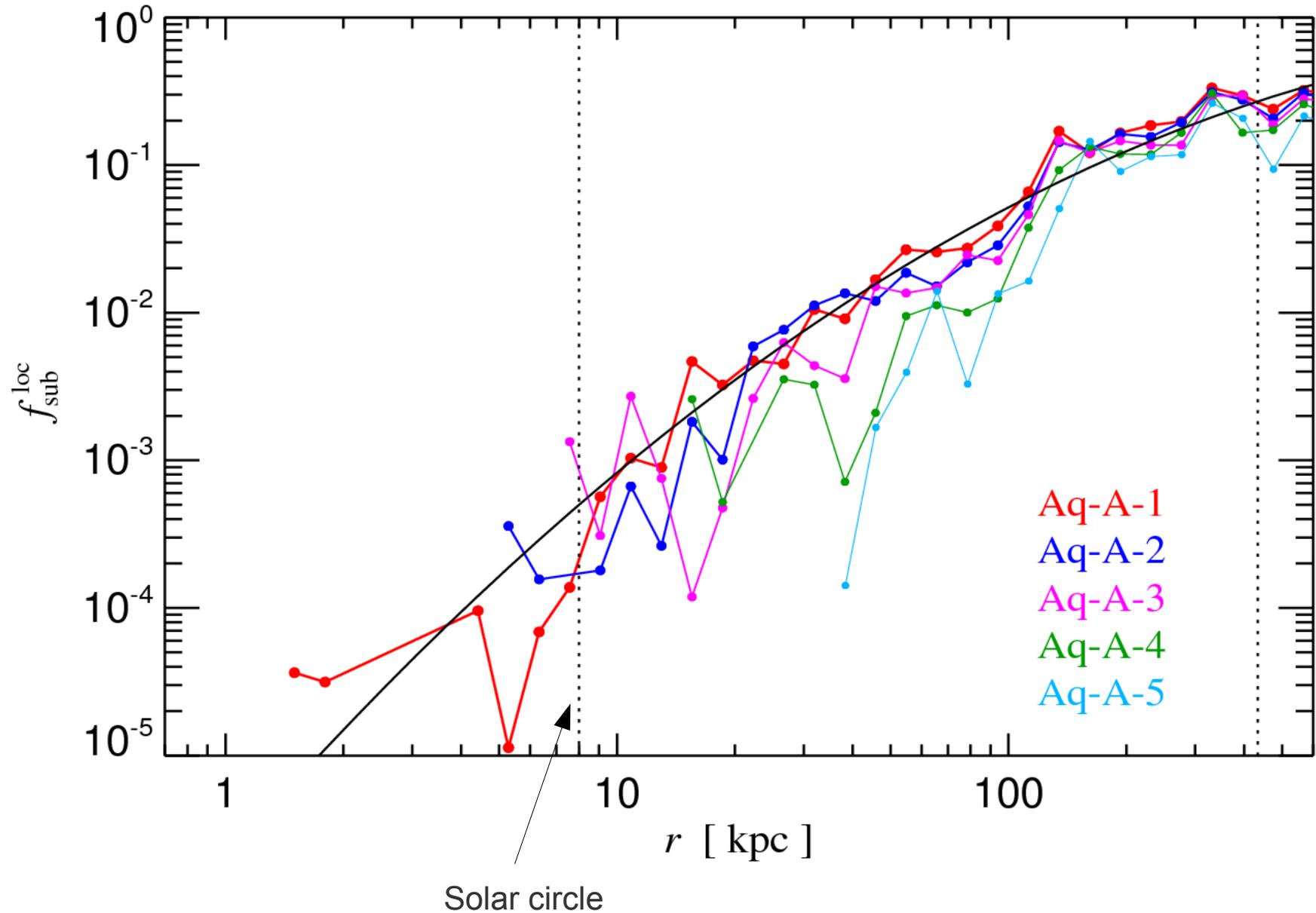
Subhalos are far from the Sun

see also Diemand et al. (2007, 2008)



# The local mass fraction in substructures is a strong function of radius

## MASS FRACTION IN SUBSTRUCTURES AS A FUNCTION OF RADIUS IN HALO AQ-A

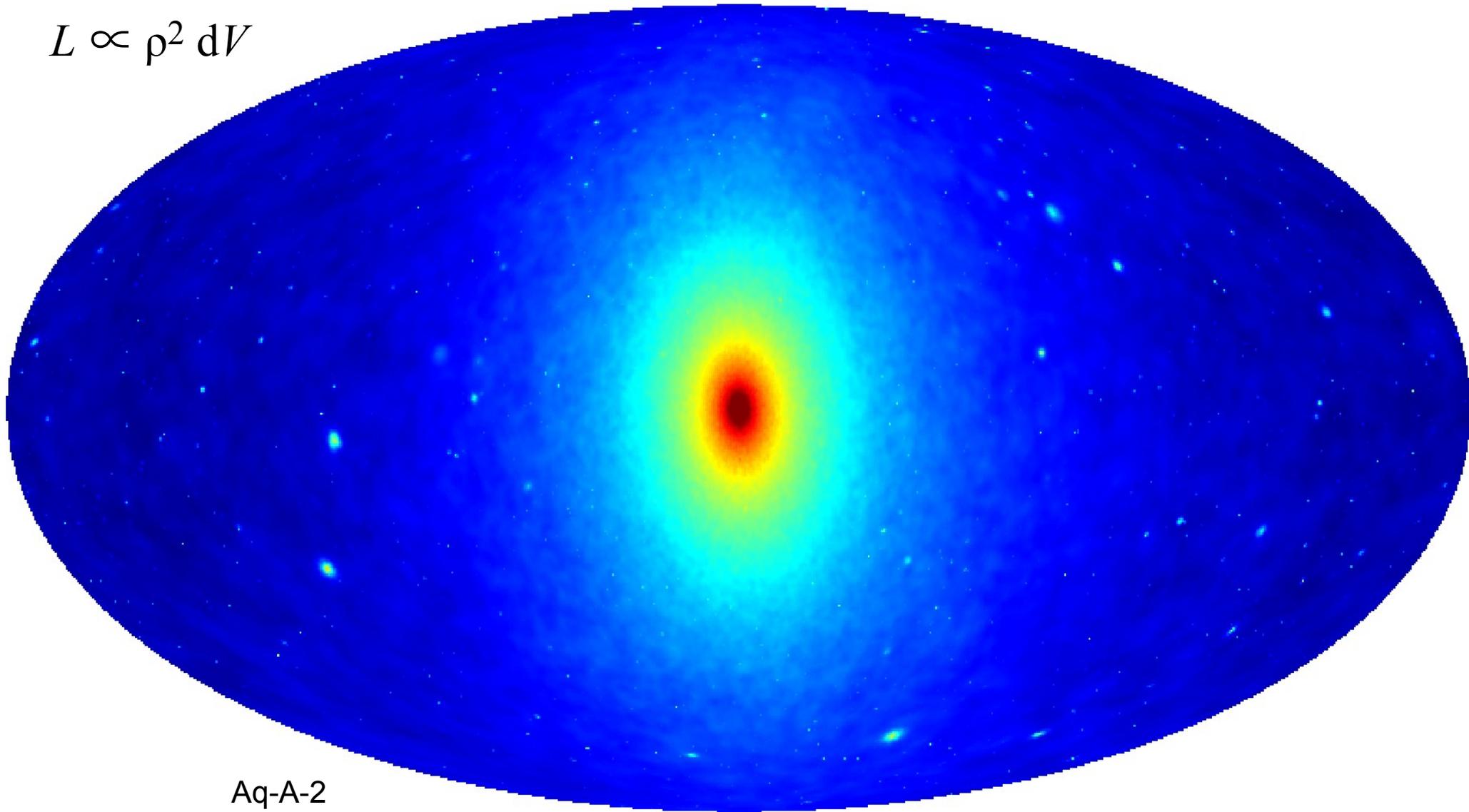


# Dark matter annihilation predictions

Is the dark matter annihilation flux boosted significantly by dark matter substructures?

**SIMULATED ALL-SKY MAP OF THE DM ANNIHILATION FLUX AROUND THE SUN IN THE MILKY WAY**

$$L \propto \rho^2 dV$$

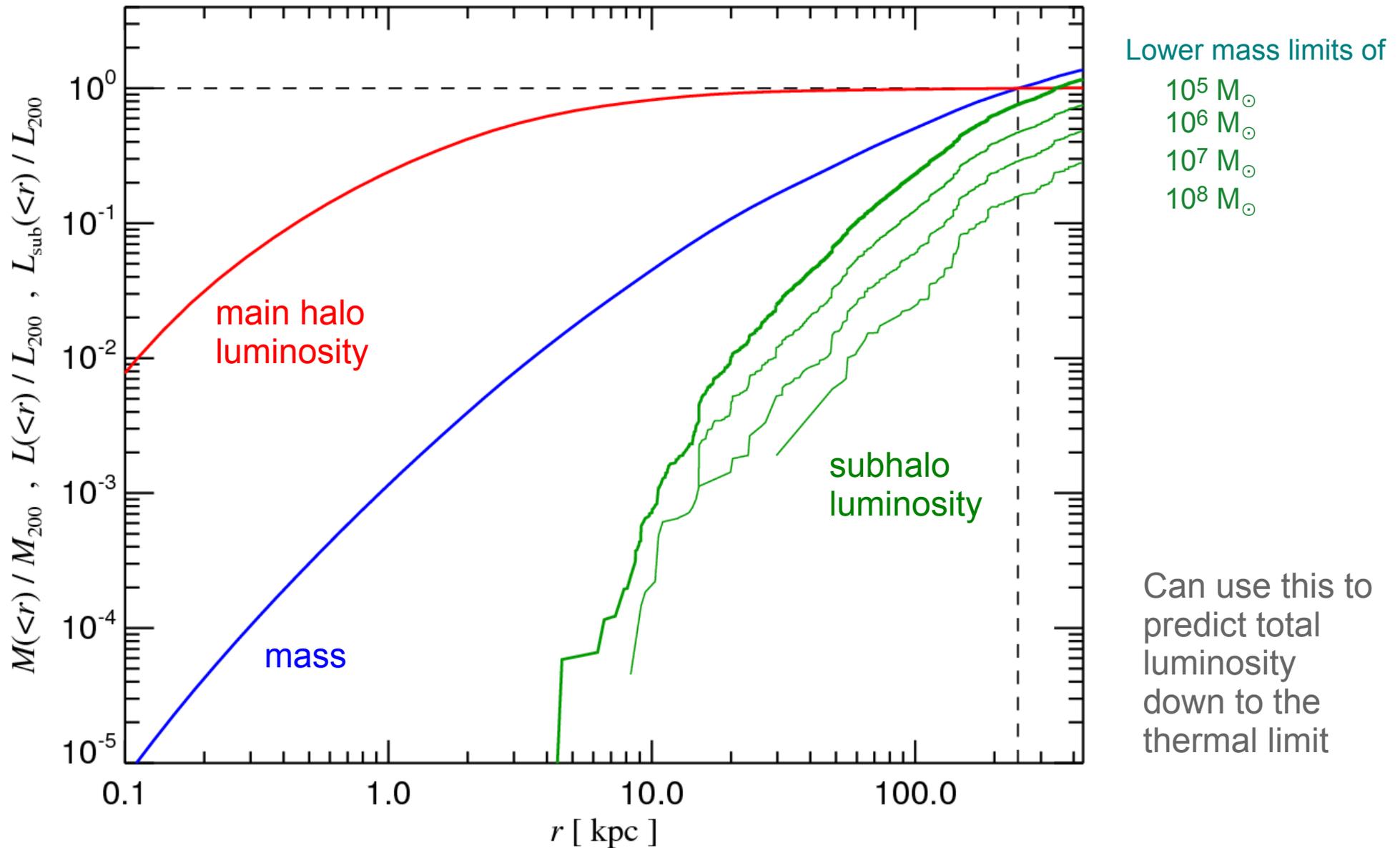


Aq-A-2

14.  17.  $\text{Log} (M_{\text{sun}}^2 \text{ kpc}^{-5} \text{ sr}^{-1})$

The annihilation luminosity from main halo and subhalos has a very different radial distribution

THE RELATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF MASS, MAIN HALO, AND SUBHALO LUMINOSITY

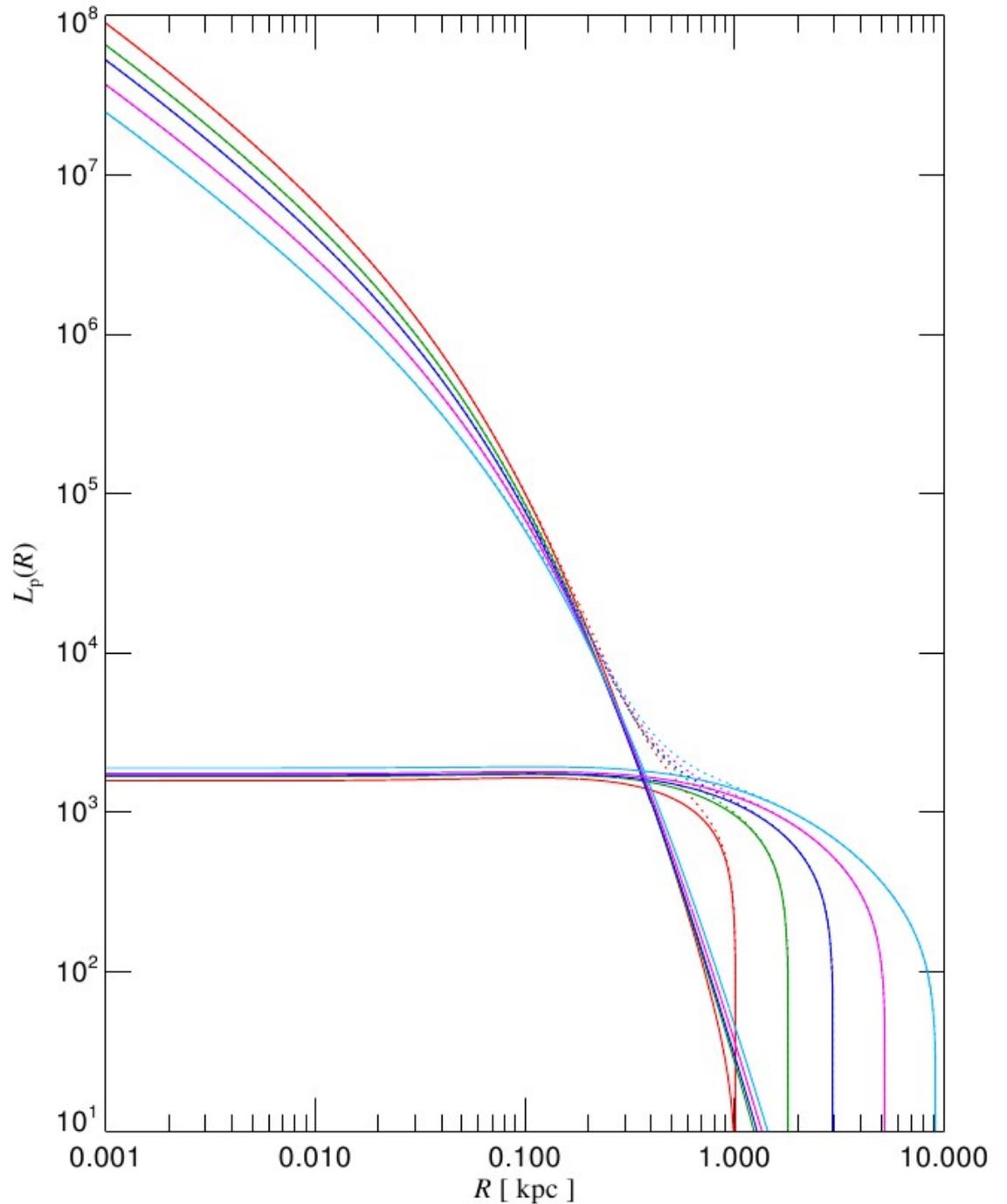


Surface brightness profile of a typical subhalo with  $V_{\max}=10$  km/s at different distances from the galactic center

**SURFACE BRIGHTNESS PROFILE OF DIFFERENT SUBHALO COMPONENTS**

The sub-sub component appears as a (extended) “disk” on the sky

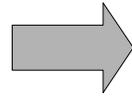
The central surface brightness of the smooth component actually increases with smaller distance (because the concentration increases)



# Dark matter annihilation can be best discovered with an optimal filter against a bright background

## THE SIGNAL-TO-NOISE FOR DETECTION WITH AN OPTIMAL FILTER

The optimal filter is proportional to the signal



$$S/N = \sqrt{\tau A_{\text{eff}}} \left[ \int \frac{n_{\gamma}^2(\theta, \phi)}{n_{\gamma}(\theta, \phi) + b_{\gamma}(\theta, \phi)} d\Omega \right]^{1/2}$$

signal

background noise

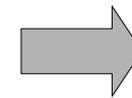
The background dominates, then:

Main halo's smooth component:

$$(S/N)_{\text{MainSm}} = f_{\text{MainSm}} \left[ \frac{\tau A_{\text{eff}}}{b_{\gamma}} \right]^{1/2} \frac{F}{\theta_h}$$

Subhalo's smooth component:

$$(S/N)_{\text{SubSm}} = f_{\text{SubSm}} \left( \frac{\theta_h}{\theta_{\text{psf}}} \right) \left[ \frac{\tau A_{\text{eff}}}{b_{\gamma}(\vec{\alpha})} \right]^{1/2} \frac{F}{(\theta_h^2 + \theta_{\text{psf}}^2)^{1/2}}$$



$$S/N \sim F / \theta$$

$$S/N \sim L / r_h d$$

Sub-substructure of a subhalo:

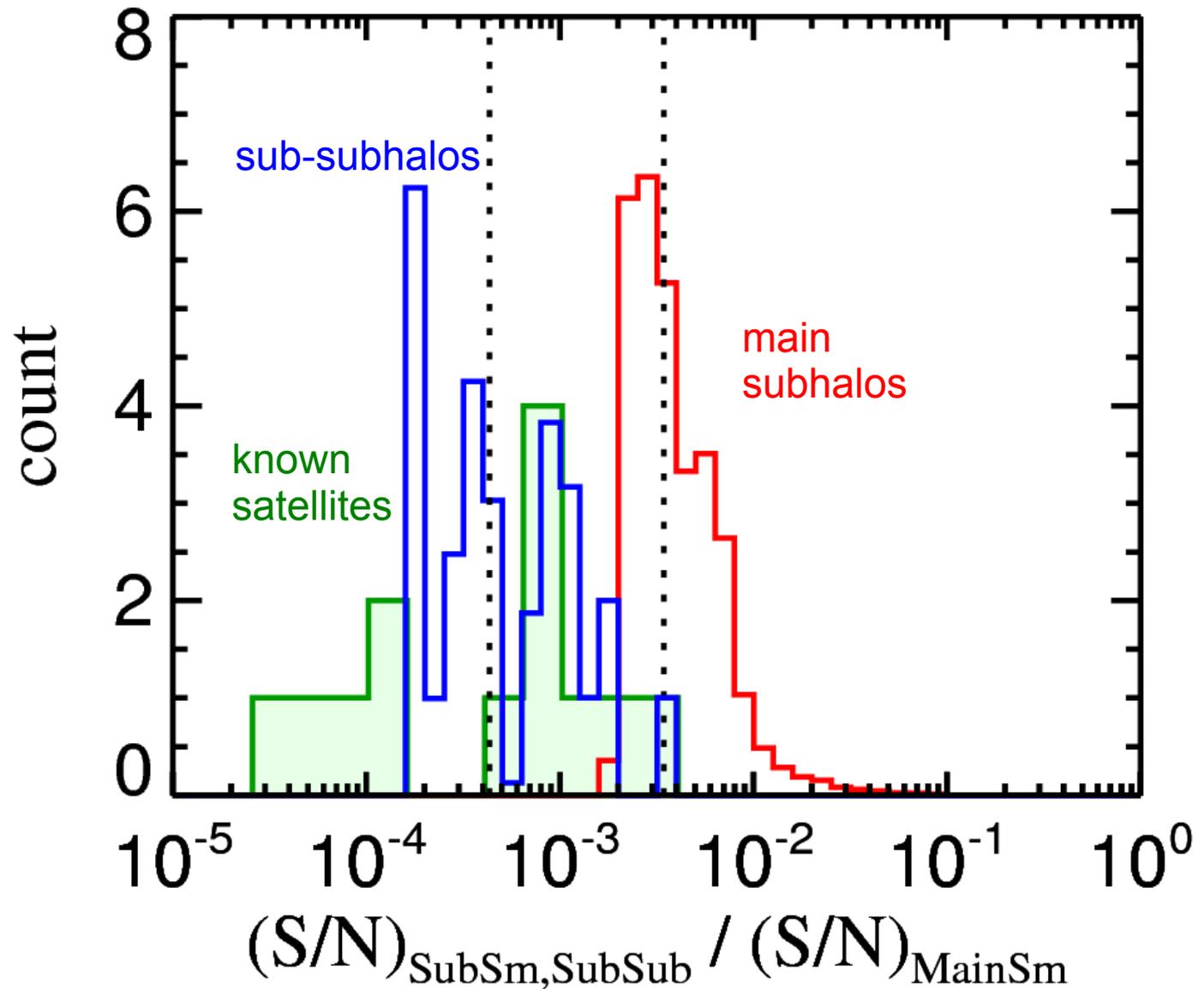
$$(S/N)_{\text{SubSub}} = f_{\text{SubSub}} \left( \frac{\theta_h}{\theta_{\text{psf}}} \right) \left[ \frac{\tau A_{\text{eff}}}{b_{\gamma}(\vec{\alpha})} \right]^{1/2} \frac{F}{(\theta_h^2 + \theta_{\text{psf}}^2)^{1/2}}$$

# Detectability of different annihilation emission components in the Milky Way

S/N for detecting subhalos in units of that for the main halo

30 highest S/N objects, assuming the use of optimal filters

$$S/N \propto C V_{\max}^4 / (r_{\text{half}}^2 d)$$



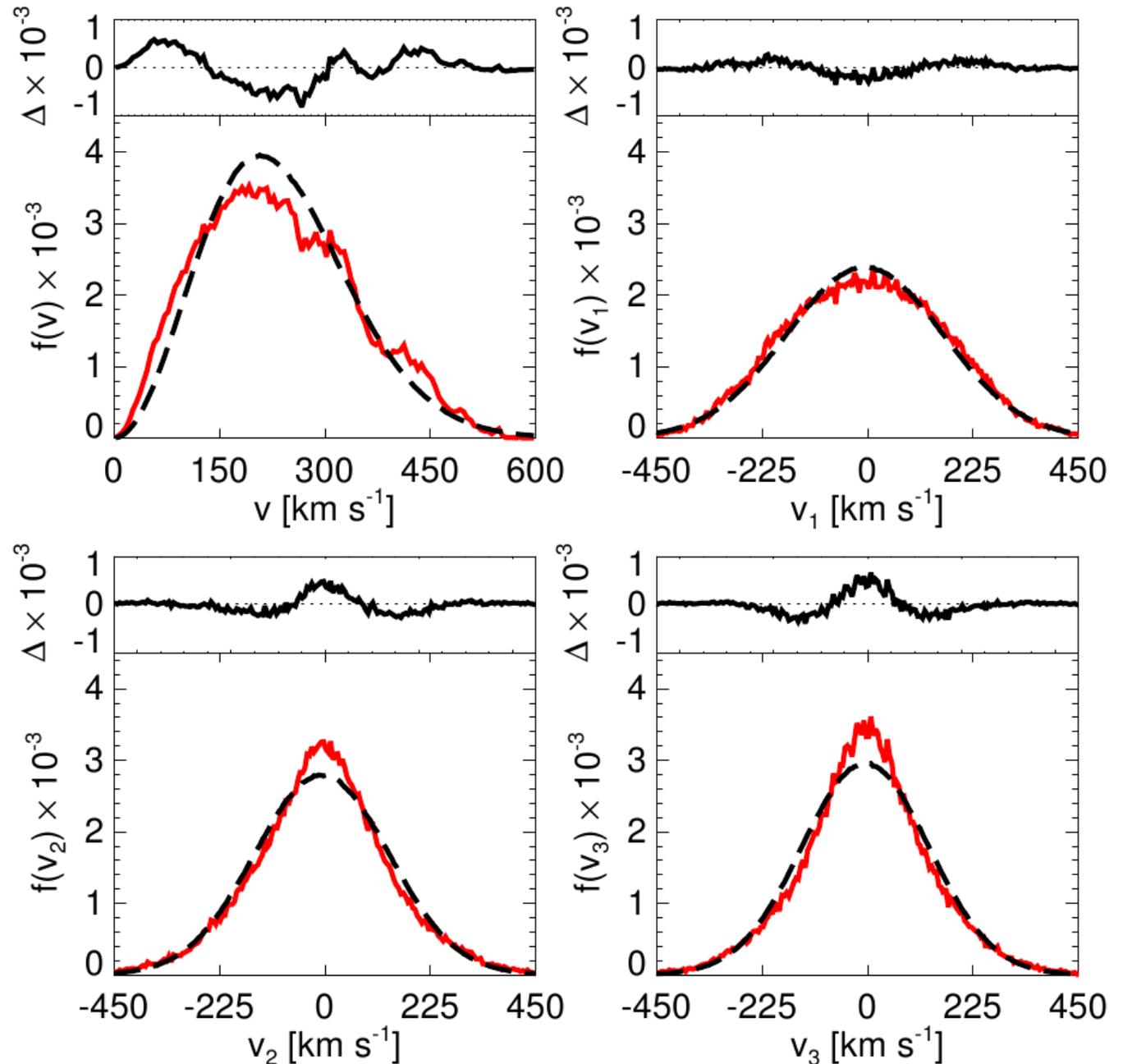
Highest S/N subhalos have 1% of S/N of main halo

Highest S/N subhalos have 10 times S/N of known satellites

Substructure of subhalos has no influence on detectability

The velocity distribution of dark matter at the Sun's position shows residual structure

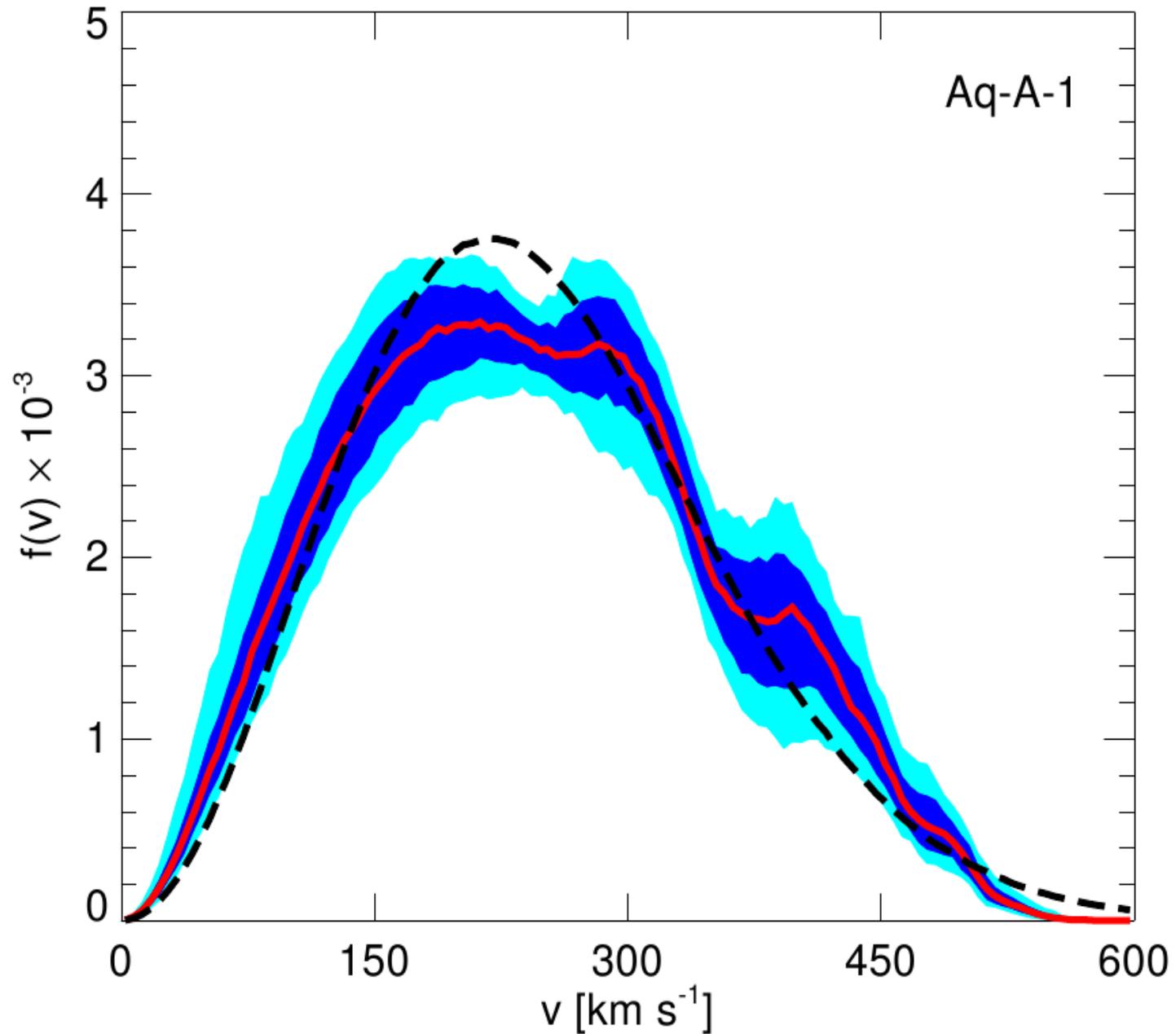
**DISTRIBUTION OF VELOCITY COMPONENTS AND VELOCITY MODULUS**



Vogelsberger et al. (2009)

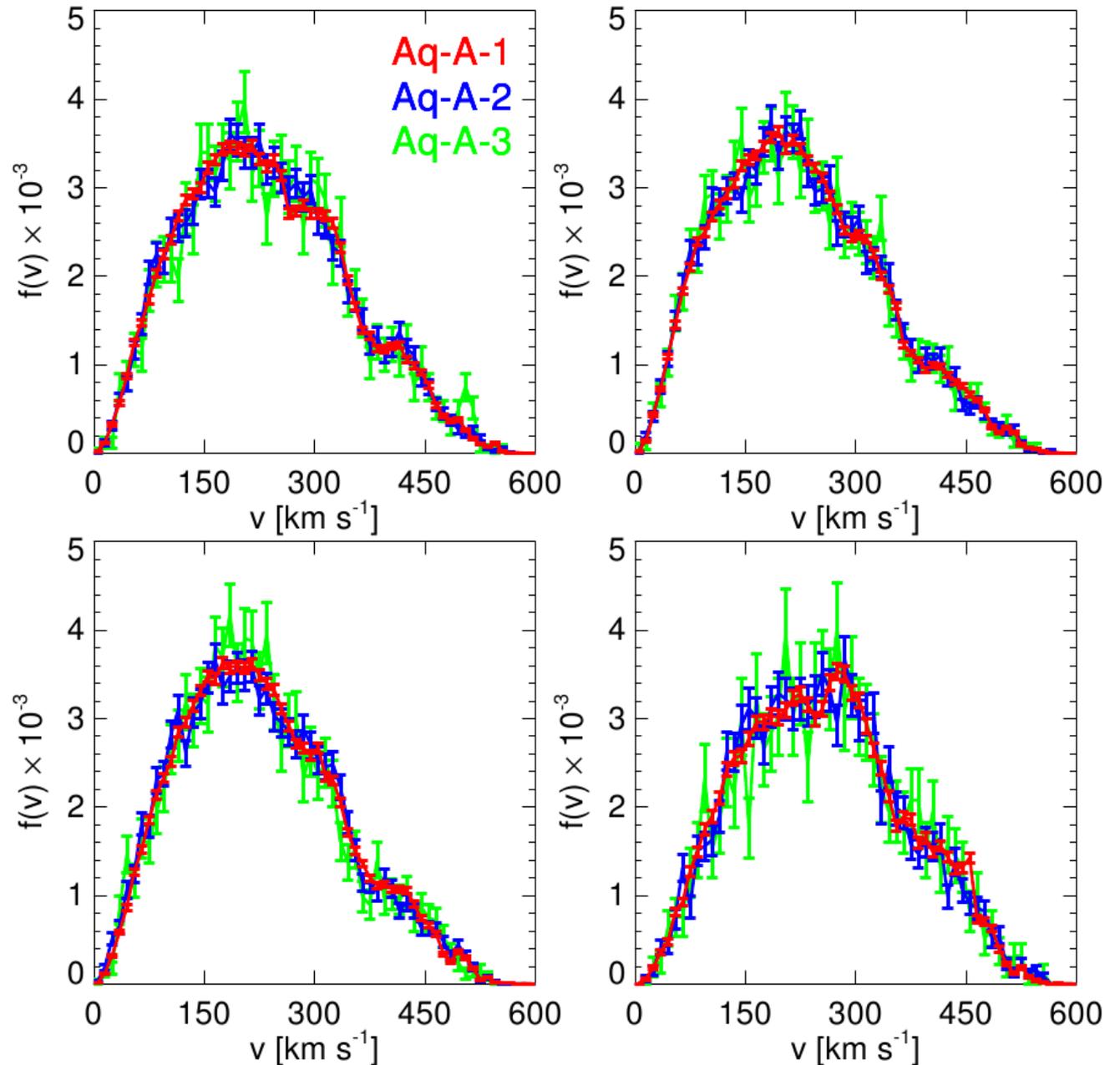
# Wiggles in the distribution of the modulus of the velocity point to residual structure in energy space

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE VELOCITY MODULUS



The wiggles are the same in well-separated boxes at the same radial distance, and are reproduced in simulations of different resolution

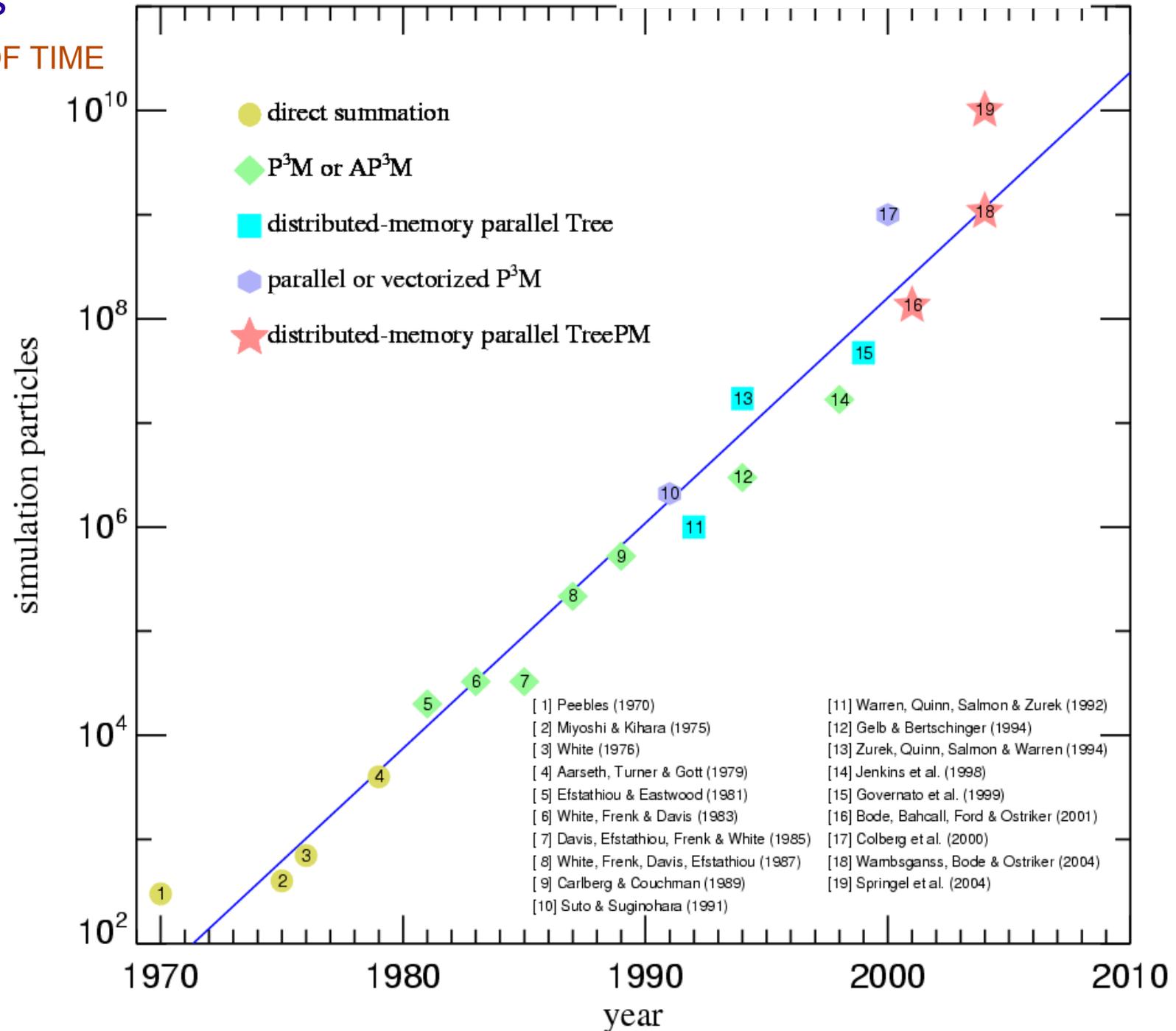
**DISTRIBUTION OF THE VELOCITY MODULUS IN DIFFERENT WELL-SEPARATED BOXES**



# Cosmological N-body simulations have grown rapidly last four decades

## "N" AS A FUNCTION OF TIME

- ▶ Computers double their speed every 18 months (Moore's law)
- ▶ N-body simulations have doubled their size every 16-17 months
- ▶ Recently, growth has accelerated further.  
The Millennium Run should have become possible in 2010 – we have done it in 2004 !



# Millennium-XXL

Largest N-body  
simulation ever

**303 billion particles**

$L = 3 \text{ Gpc}/h$

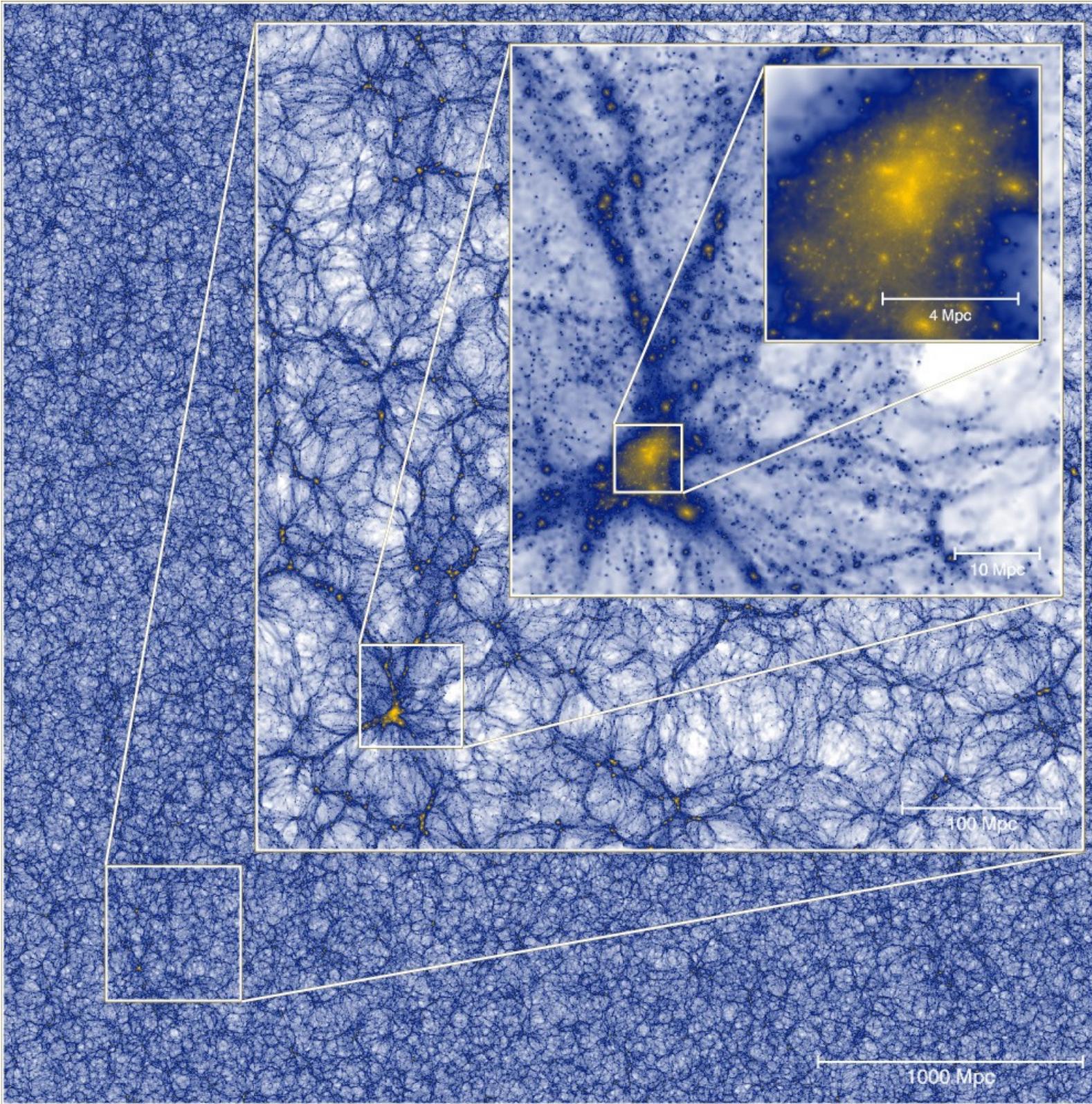
~700 million halos  
at  $z=0$

~25 billion (sub)halos  
in merger trees

$m_p = 6.1 \times 10^9 M_\odot/h$

12288 cores,  
30 TB RAM on  
Supercomputer  
JuRoPa in Juelich

2.7 million CPU-hours



# Are the presently known high-mass clusters still consistent with $\Lambda$ CDM?

## CLUSTER MASS FOR GIVEN ABUNDANCE AS A FUNCTION OF TIME

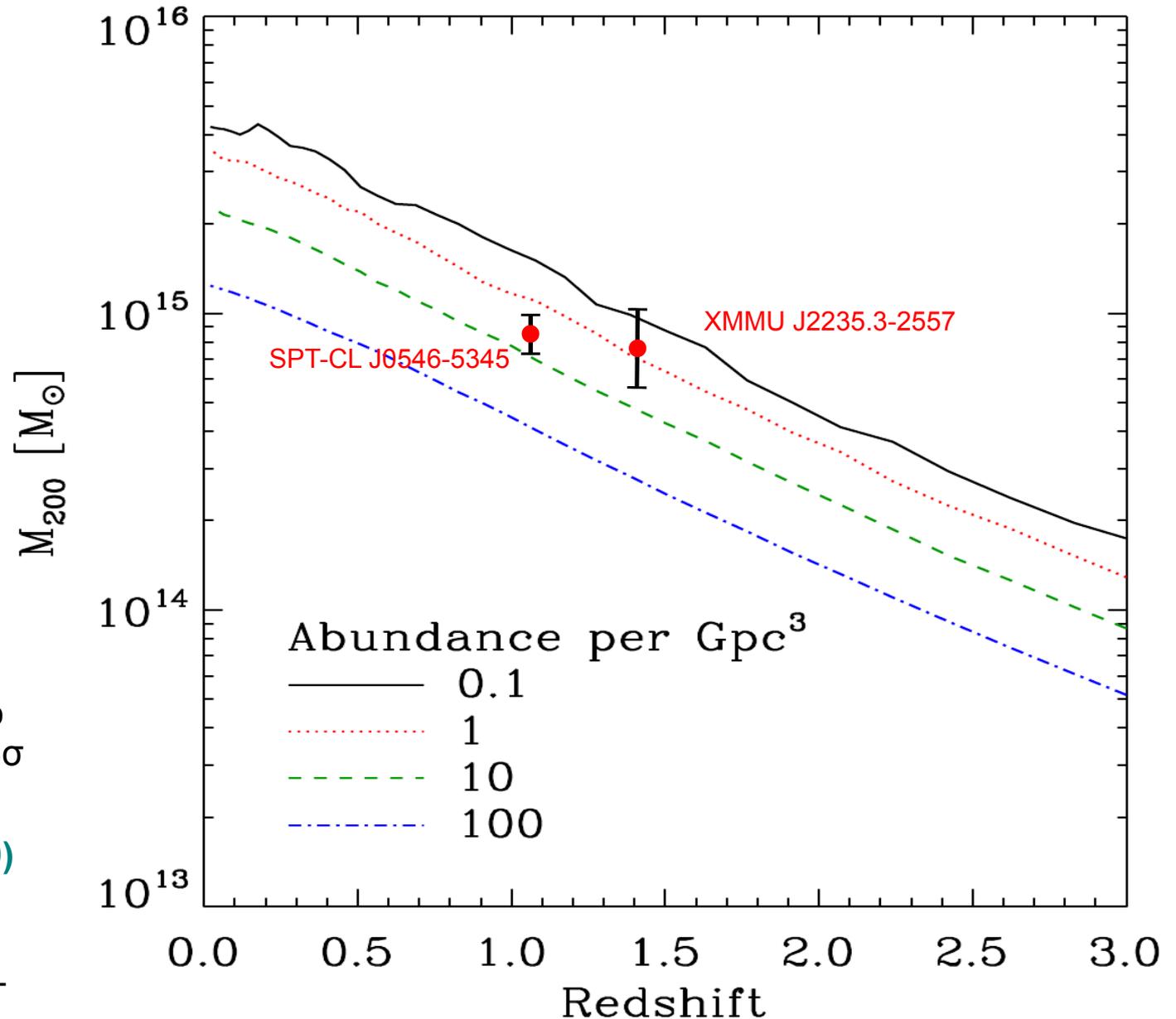
**Detection of one violating cluster would invalidate  $\Lambda$ CDM**

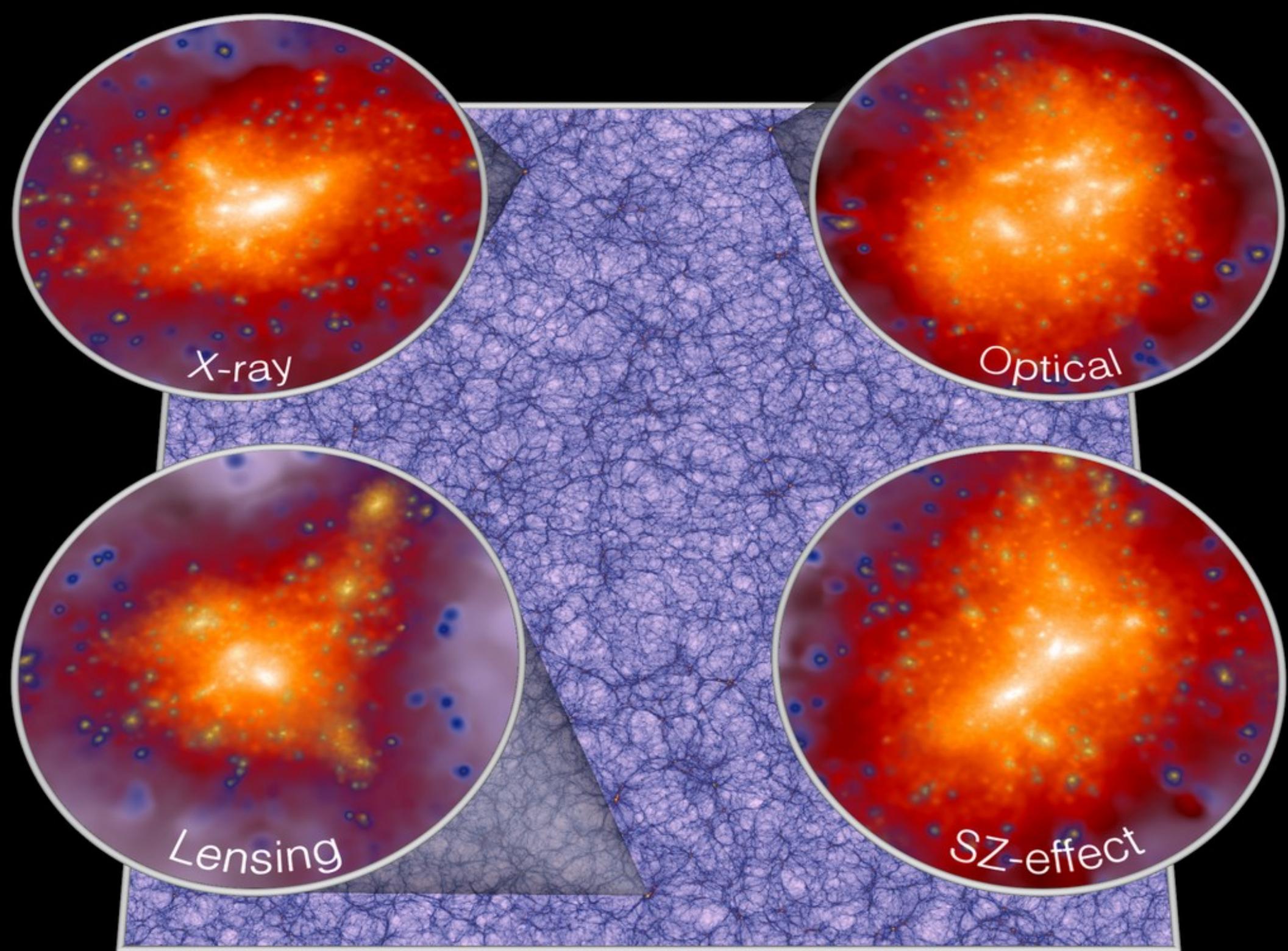
**Holz & Perlmutter (2010)**

argued XMMU J2235.3-2557 to be inconsistent with  $\Lambda$ CDM at  $3\sigma$

**Boyle, Jiminez & Verde (2010)**

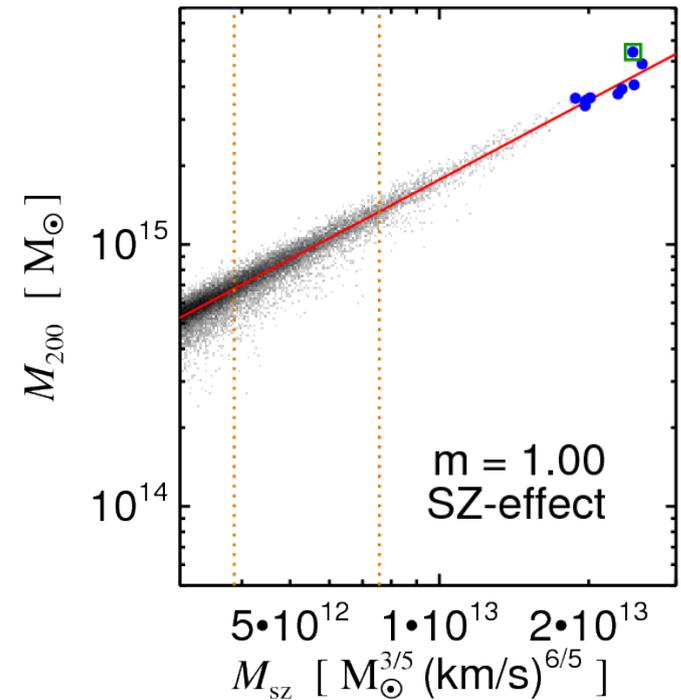
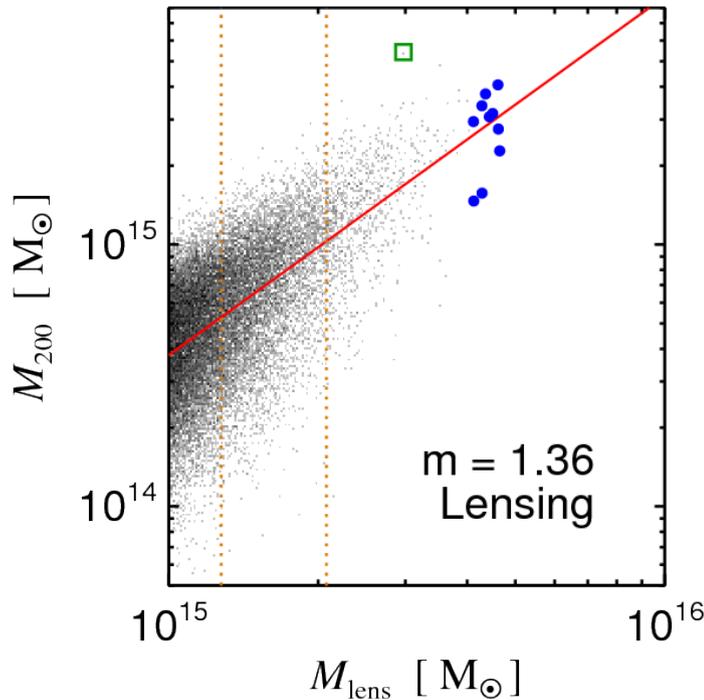
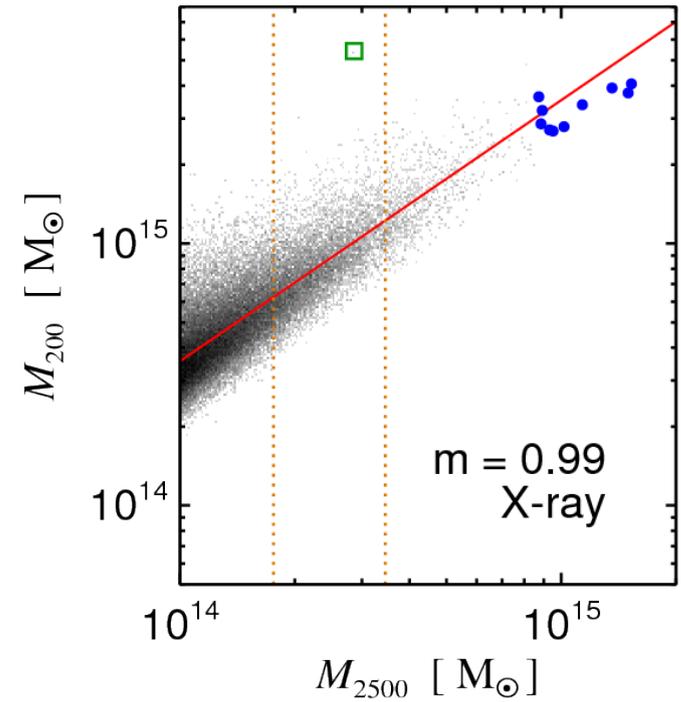
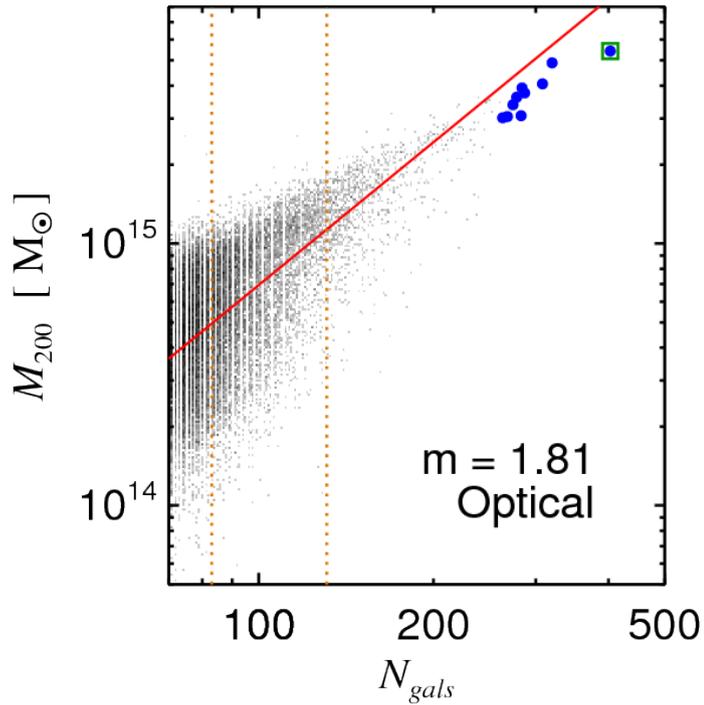
argue that  $\sigma_8$  would have to be  $\sim 4\sigma$  higher to accommodate massive clusters. Suggest non-Gaussian ICs as a solution.





# Diversity in the Extreme

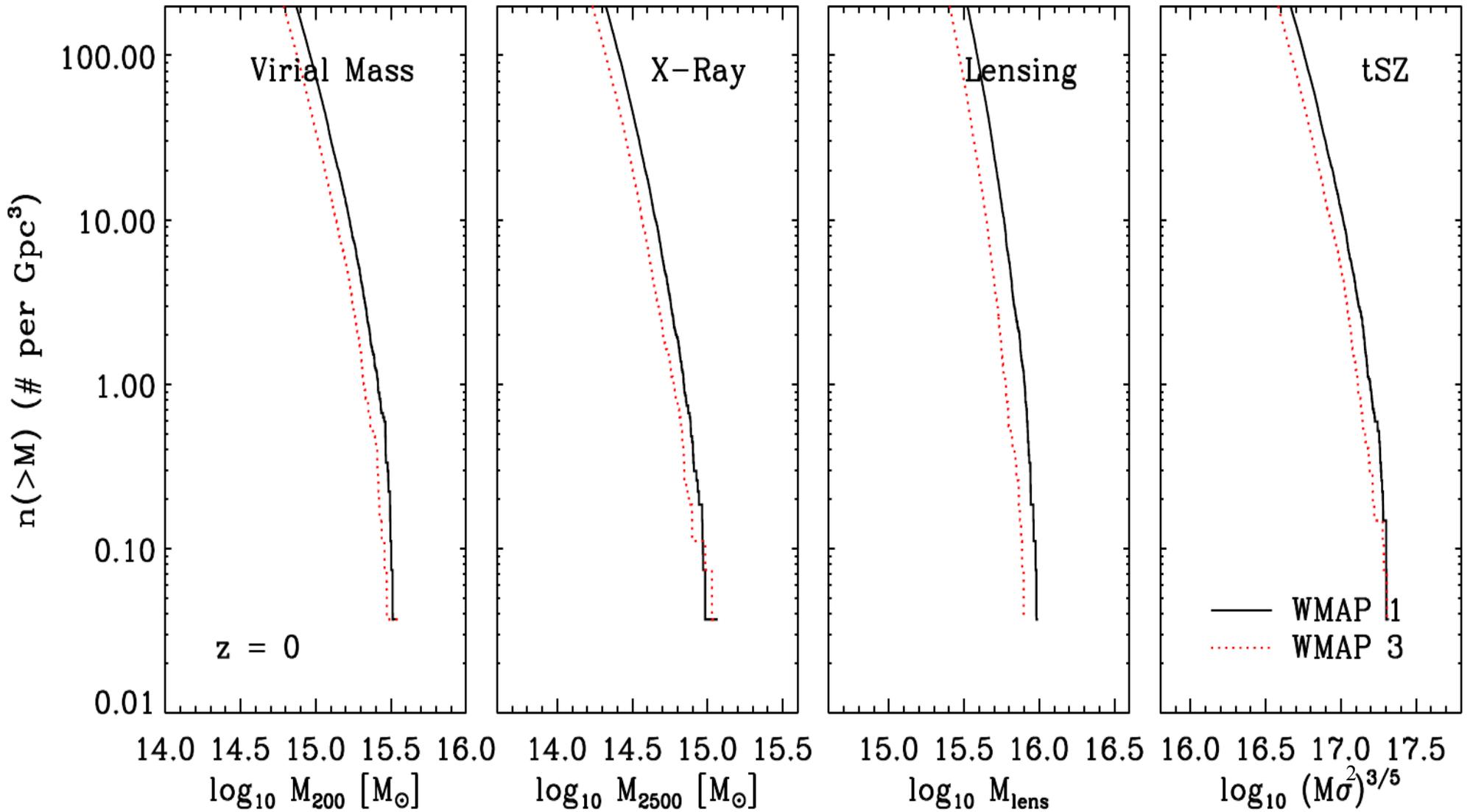
THE MOST MASSIVE AND RAREST CLUSTERS FOLLOW THE SCALING RELATIONS EXPECTED FROM MORE ABUNDANT SMALLER SYSTEMS



So far reported massive clusters not in conflict with  $\Lambda$ CDM (yet)

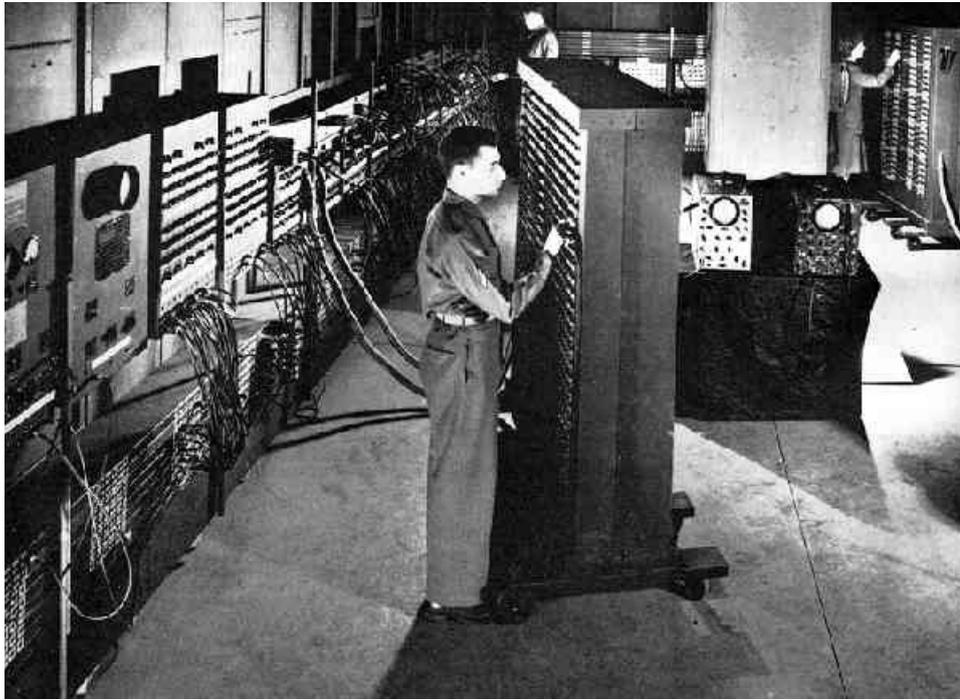
The existence of a firm upper limit for the properties of clusters is a strong and falsifiable prediction of  $\Lambda$ CDM

### ABUNDANCE OF CLUSTERS USING DIFFERENT OBSERVATIONAL PROBES

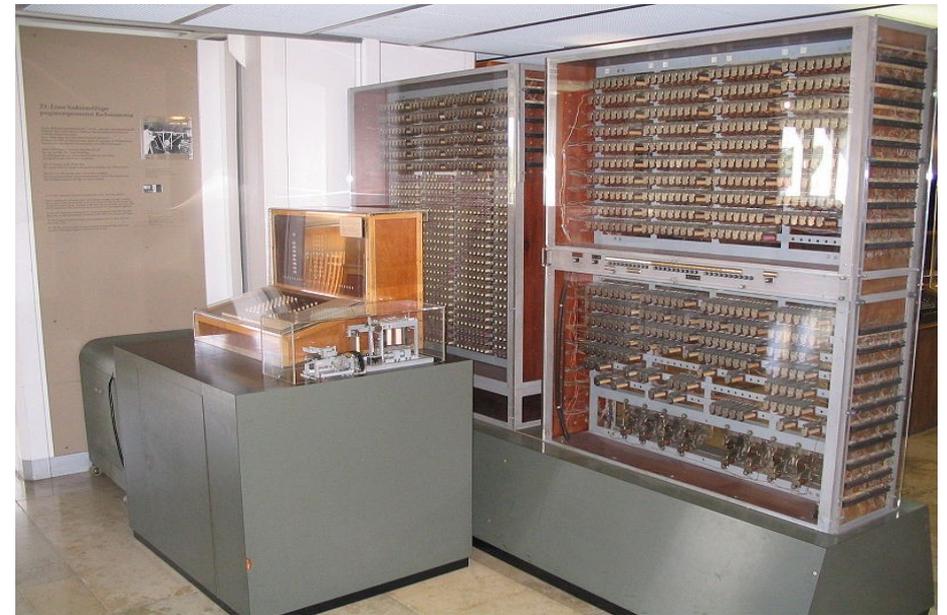


—► no objects above these limits should be detectable by any technique

# Trouble ahead in the Exaflop regime



**ENIAC, 1946**



**Zuse Z3, 1941**

**Performance: ~ 1000 Flops**

# Jaguar: Department of Energy Leadership computer Designed for science from the ground up



Peak performance	1.645 petaflops
System memory	362 terabytes <b>HUGE!</b>
Disk space	10.7 petabytes
Disk bandwidth	240 gigabytes/second
Interconnect BW	532 terabytes/second
Number cores	181504

60 years later -  
 $10^{12}$  times faster

Currently the fastest supercomputers carry out about ~1 Petaflop, which are one thousand billion floating point operations per second

10<sup>18</sup>

in

2018

How long would the Millennium-XXL take on a Exaflop Supercomputer at peak performance?

15 min

One of the main problems:

*Power Consumption*

Petaflop Computer: **6 MW**

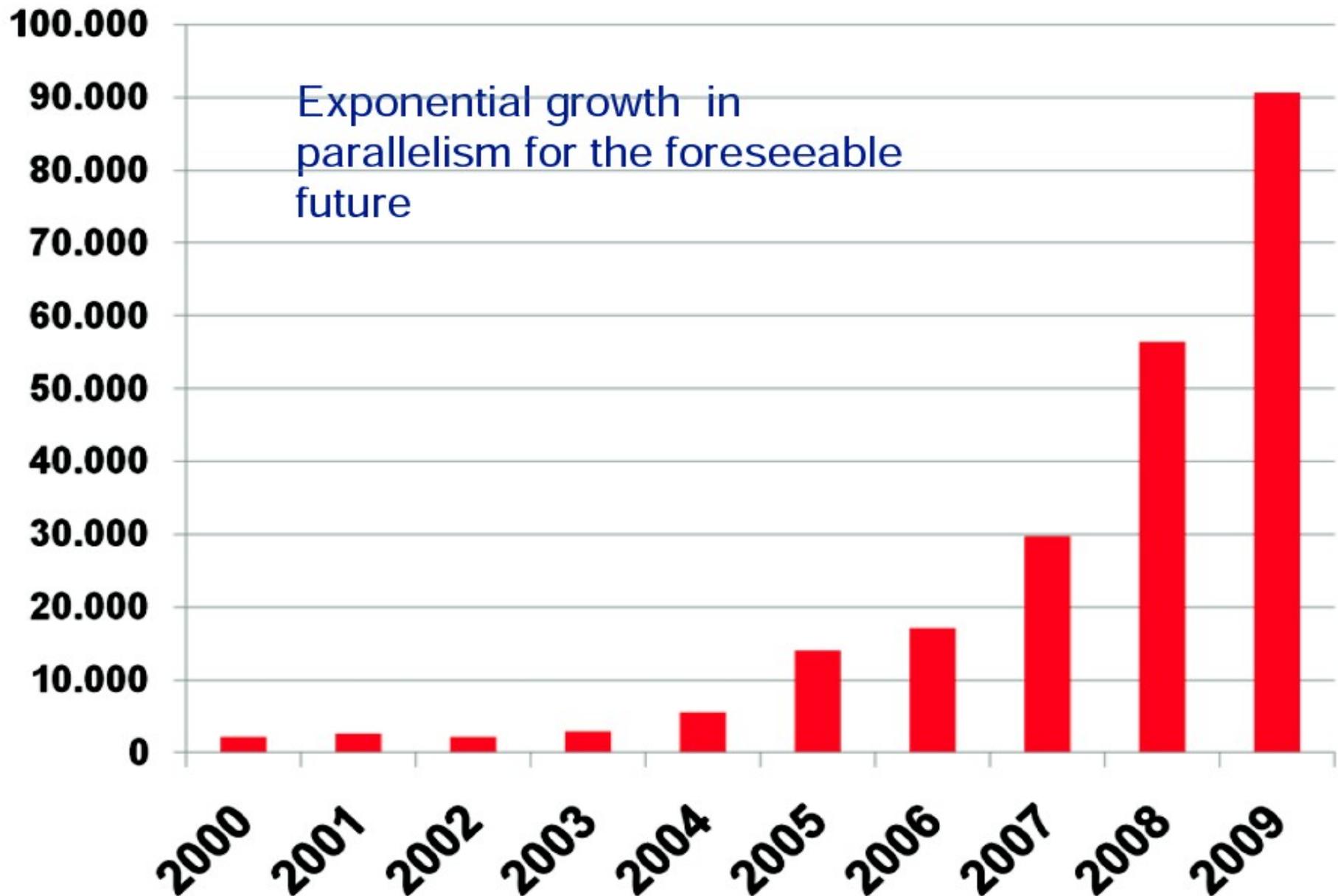
Exaflop Computer: ~ **GW ?**

Need to get this down to **20-40 MW**



The number of cores on the top supercomputers grows exponentially

**EXTREME GROWTH OF PARALLELISM**



# Challenges in exascale computing

## CAN WE HAVE THE CAKE AND EAT IT?

- ▶ Memory per core decreasing.
- ▶ Applications need to deal with multiple hierarchies of memory.  
(especially on GPU-accelerated or hybrid systems)
- ▶ On systems with  $>10^6$  cores, need fault-tolerant algorithms and codes.  
(resilience has to be built into simulation codes)
- ▶ Cost of data access relative to floating point ops drastically increasing.  
Typical astrophysics codes run only at  $\sim 10\%$  of the peak performance – and its getting worse with time.

***None of our existing codes will survive and run on exascale platforms.***

***Astrophysics may be left behind in using these systems.***

# Hydrodynamical simulations

# Dynamics of structure formation in baryonic matter

## BASIC EQUATIONS

Astrophysical plasmas are extremely thin, with (usually) negligible viscosity

### Euler equations of inviscid ideal gas dynamics

$$\frac{\partial \rho_c}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{a} \nabla_c (\rho_c \mathbf{v}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial (\rho_c \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{a} \nabla_c [(\rho_c \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}^T + P_c) \mathbf{v}] = -H(a) \rho_c \mathbf{v} - \frac{\rho_c}{a^2} \nabla_c \Phi_c$$

$$\frac{\partial (\rho_c e)}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{a} \nabla_c [(\rho_c e + P_c) \mathbf{v}] = -2H(a) \rho_c e - \frac{\rho_c \mathbf{v}}{a^2} \nabla_c \Phi_c$$

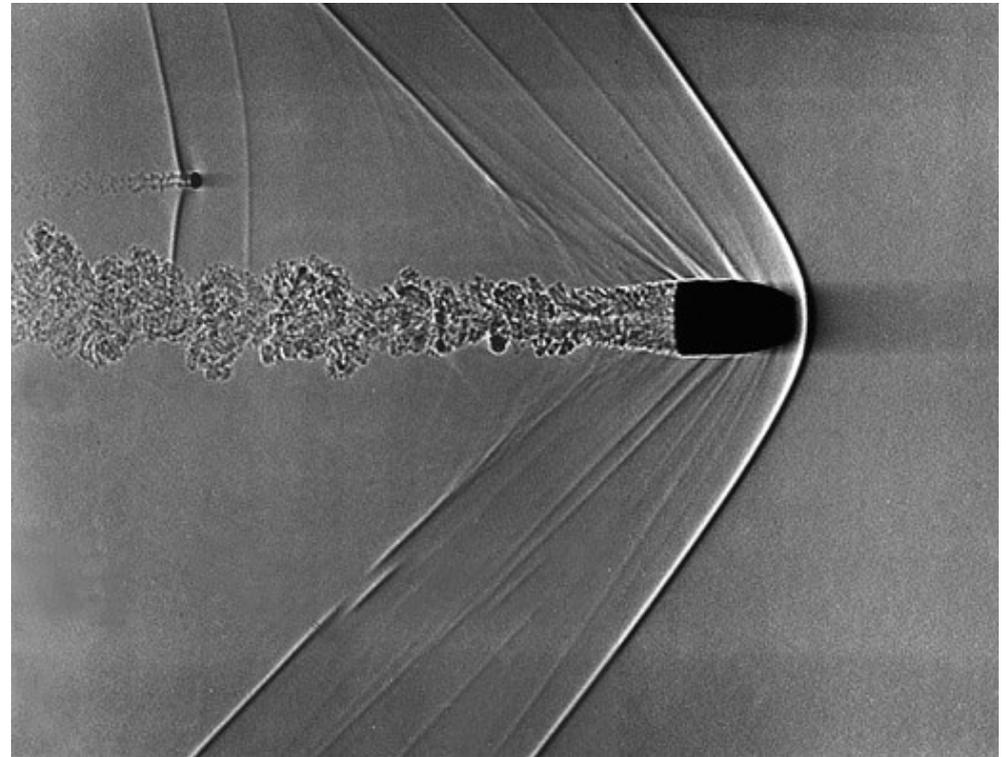
$$\nabla_c^2 \Phi_c = 4\pi G [\rho_c(\mathbf{x}) - \bar{\rho}_c]$$

### Important hydrodynamical processes

Shock waves  
Turbulence  
Radiative transfer  
Magnetic fields  
Star formation  
Supernova explosions  
Black holes, etc...

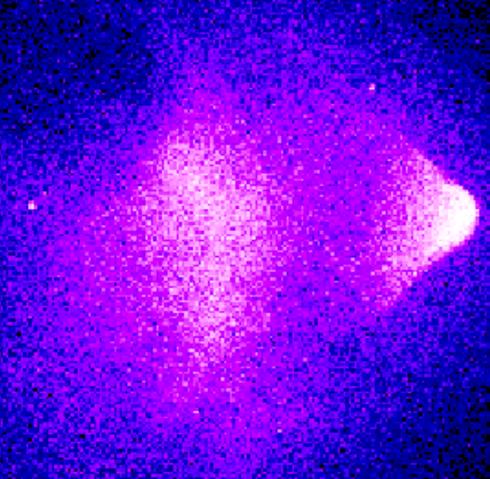
# Supersonic motion creates shock waves

## SHOCK WAVES OF A BULLET TRAVELLING IN AIR



1E 0657-56

500 ks  $z=0.3$

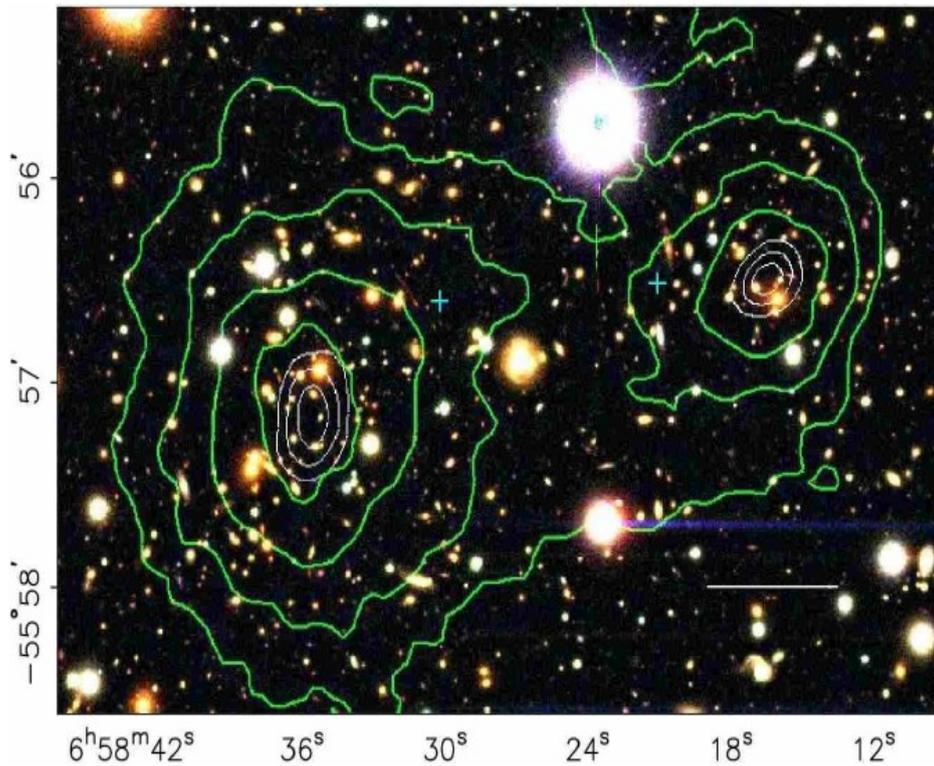


# Weak lensing mass reconstructions have confirmed an offset between mass peaks and X-ray emission

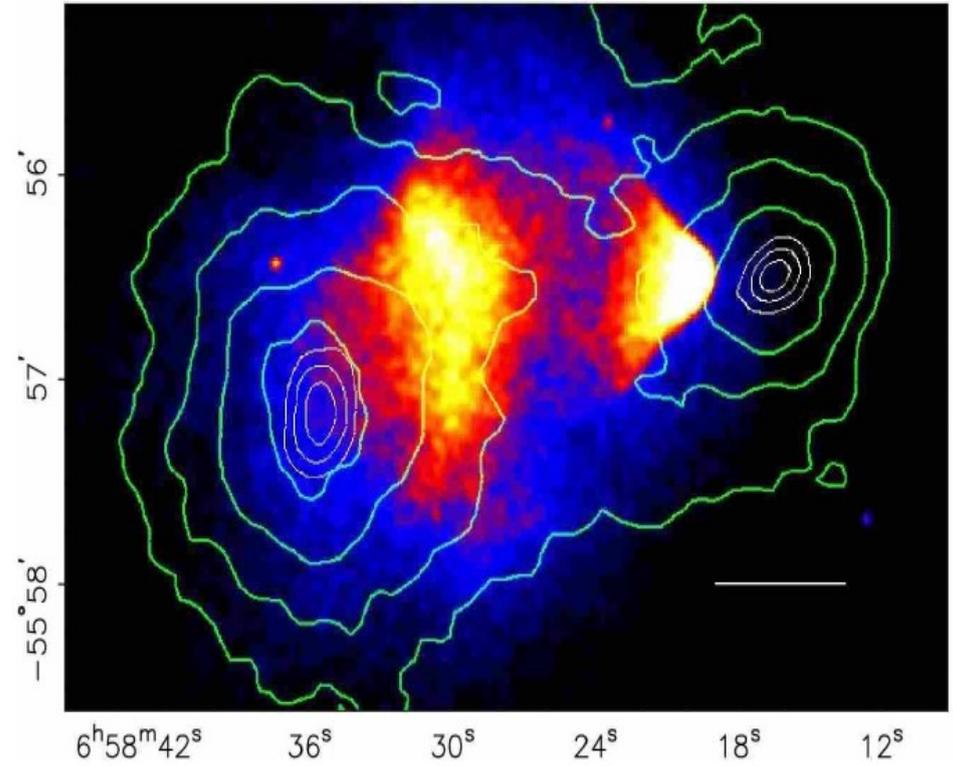
## MASS CONTOURS FROM LENSING COMPARED TO X-RAY EMISSION

Clowe et al. (2006)

Magellan Optical Image



500 ksec Chandra exposure



weak lensing mass contours overlaid

NASA Press Release Aug 21, 2006:

## 1E 0657-56: NASA Finds Direct Proof of Dark Matter



Fitting the density jump in the X-ray surface brightness profile allows a measurement of the shock's Mach number

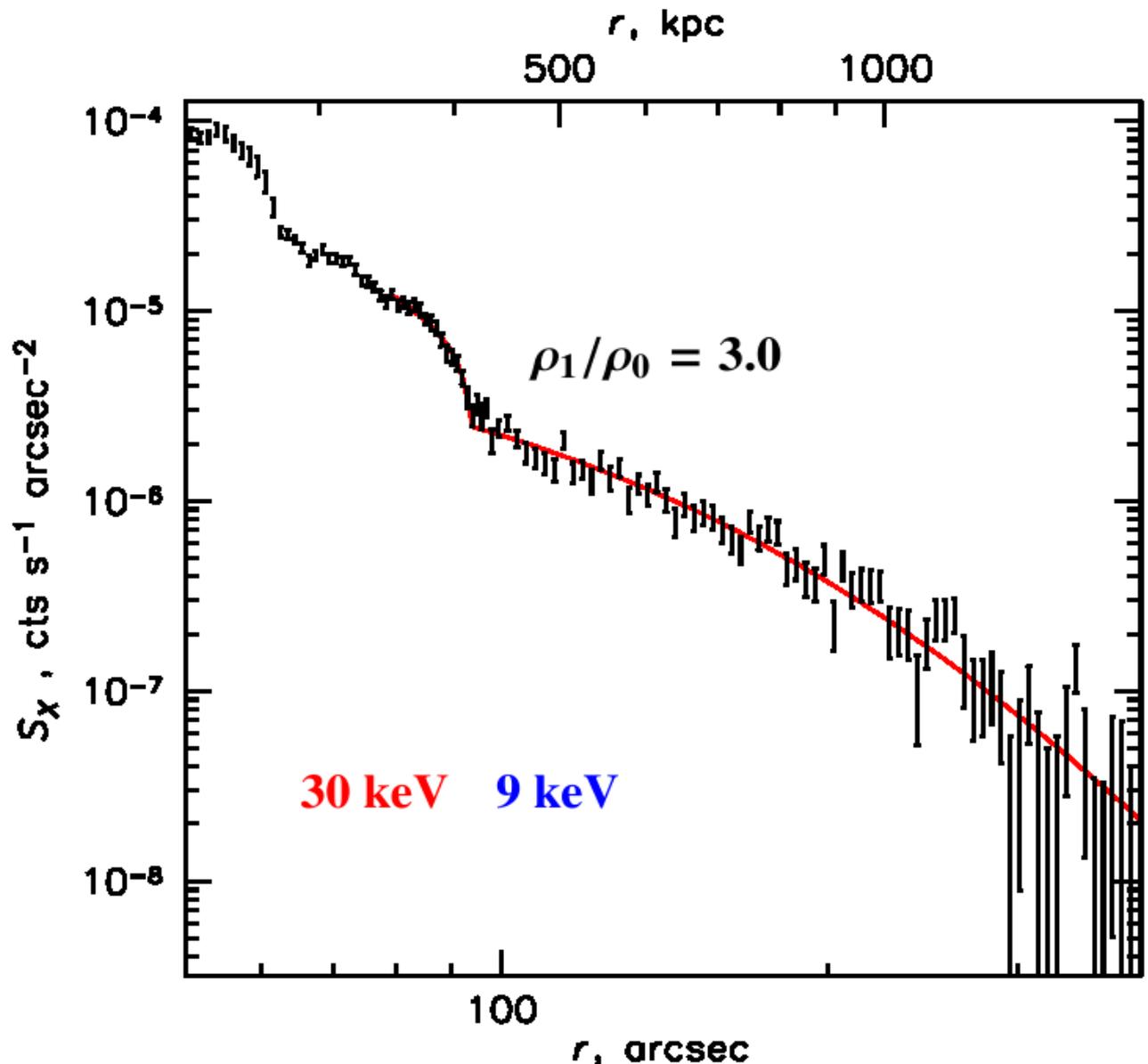
### X-RAY SURFACE BRIGHTNESS PROFILE

Markevitch et al. (2006)

shock strength:  
 **$M = 3.0 \pm 0.4$**

shock velocity:  
 **$v_s = 4700 \text{ km/s}$**

Usually, shock velocity  
has been identified with  
velocity of the bullet.



# How rare is the bullet cluster?

## DISTRIBUTION OF VELOCITIES OF THE MOST MASSIVE SUBSTRUCTURE IN THE MILLENNIUM RUN

### Hayashi & White (2006)

Adopted mass model from Clowe et al. (2004):

NFW-Halo with:

$$M_{200} = 2.96 \times 10^{15} M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{200} = 2.25 \text{ Mpc}$$

$$V_{200} = 2380 \text{ km/sec}$$

$$V_{\text{shock}} = 4500 \text{ km/sec}$$

$$V_{\text{sub}}/V_{\text{shock}} = 1.9 \quad \text{chance: } 10^{-2}$$

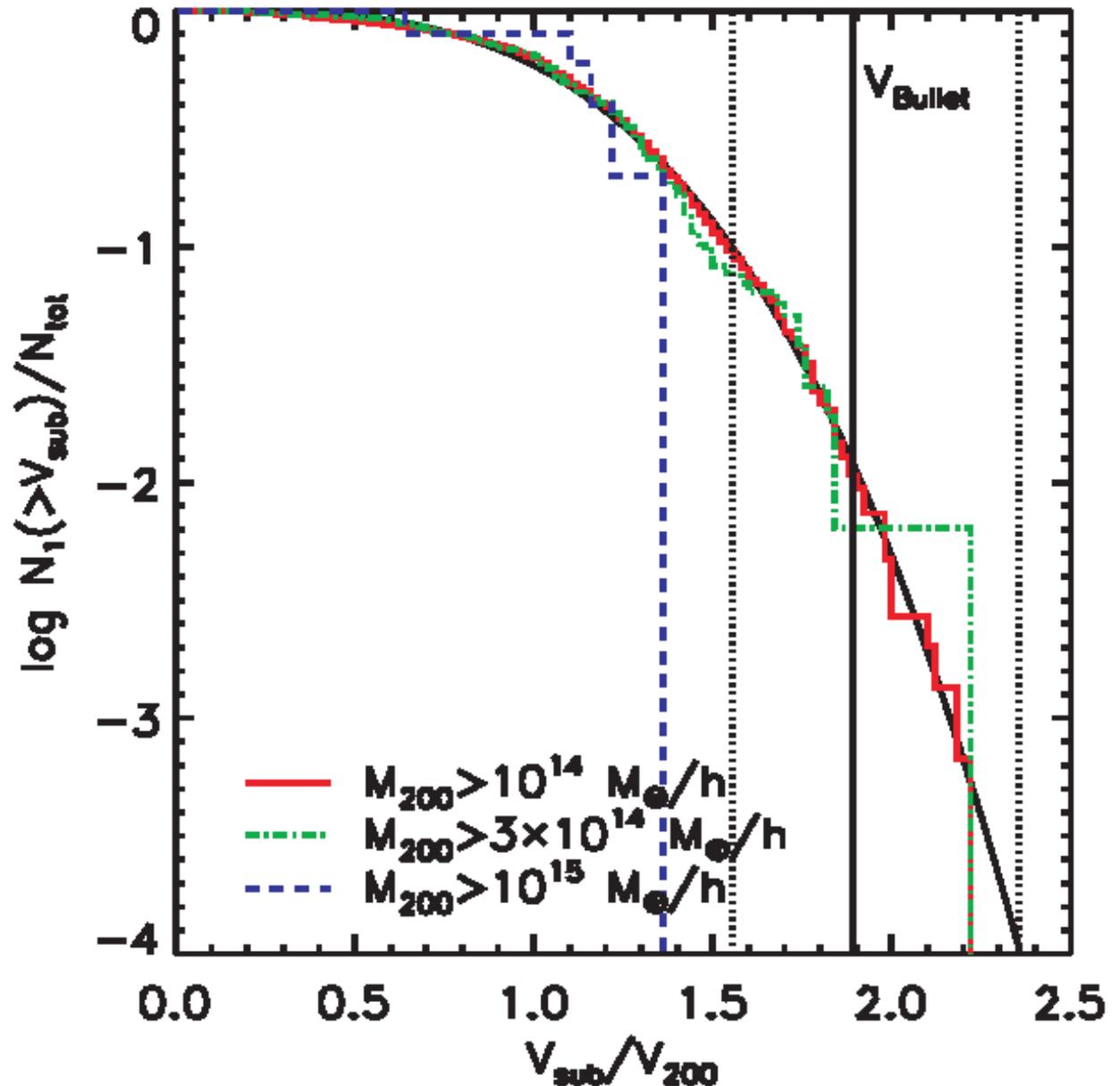
But, revised data from Clowe et al. (2006) and Markevitch et al. (2006):

$$M_{200} = 1.5 \times 10^{15} M_{\odot}$$

$$V_{200} = 1680 \text{ km/sec}$$

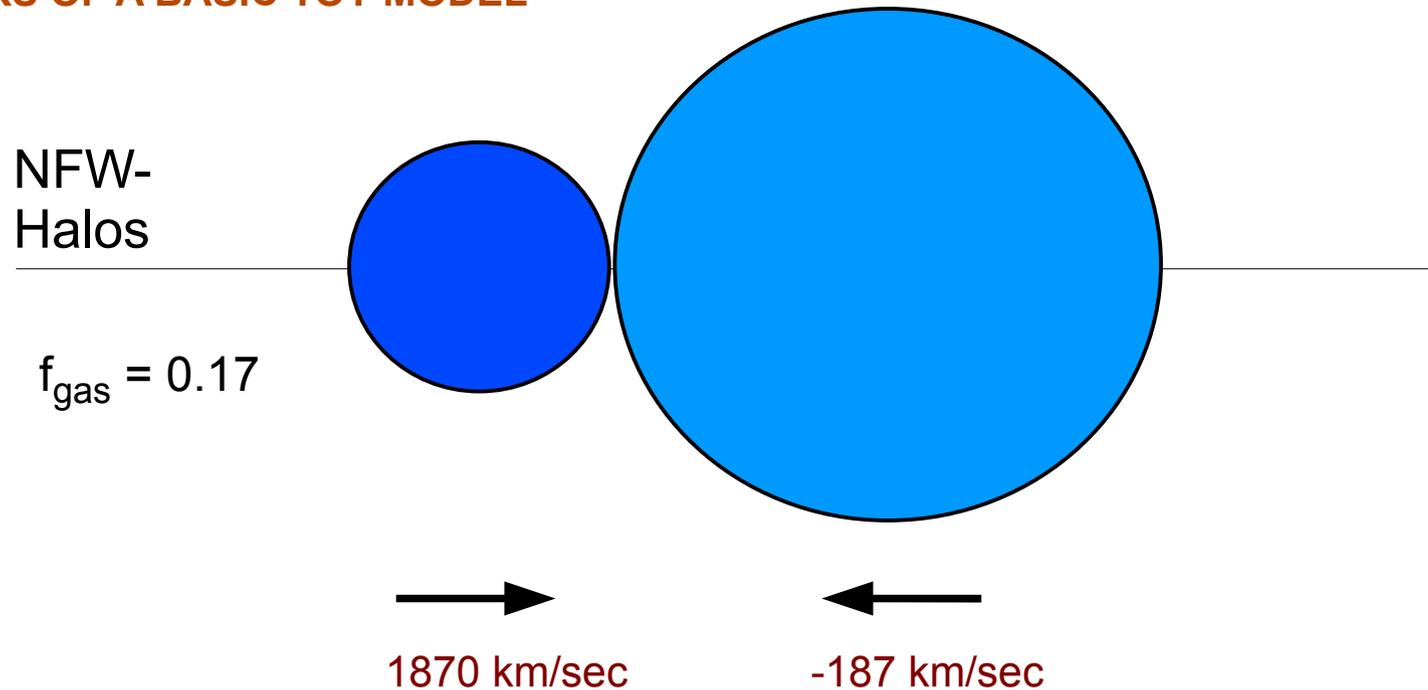
$$V_{\text{shock}} = 4740 \text{ km/sec}$$

$$V_{\text{sub}}/V_{\text{shock}} = 2.8 \quad \text{chance: } 10^{-7}$$



# A simple toy merger model of two NFW halos on a zero-energy collision orbit

## PARAMETERS OF A BASIC TOY MODEL



Mass model from Clowe et al. (2006):

$$M_{200} = 1.5 \times 10^{14} M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{200} = 1.1 \text{ Mpc}$$

$$c = 7.2$$

$$V_{200} = 780 \text{ km/sec}$$

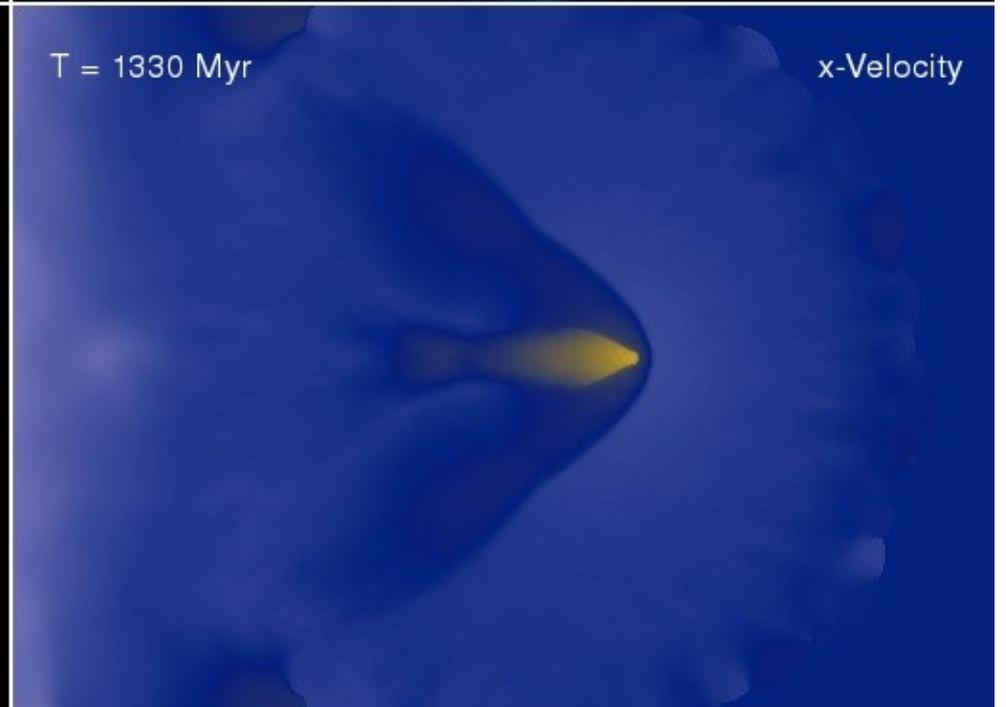
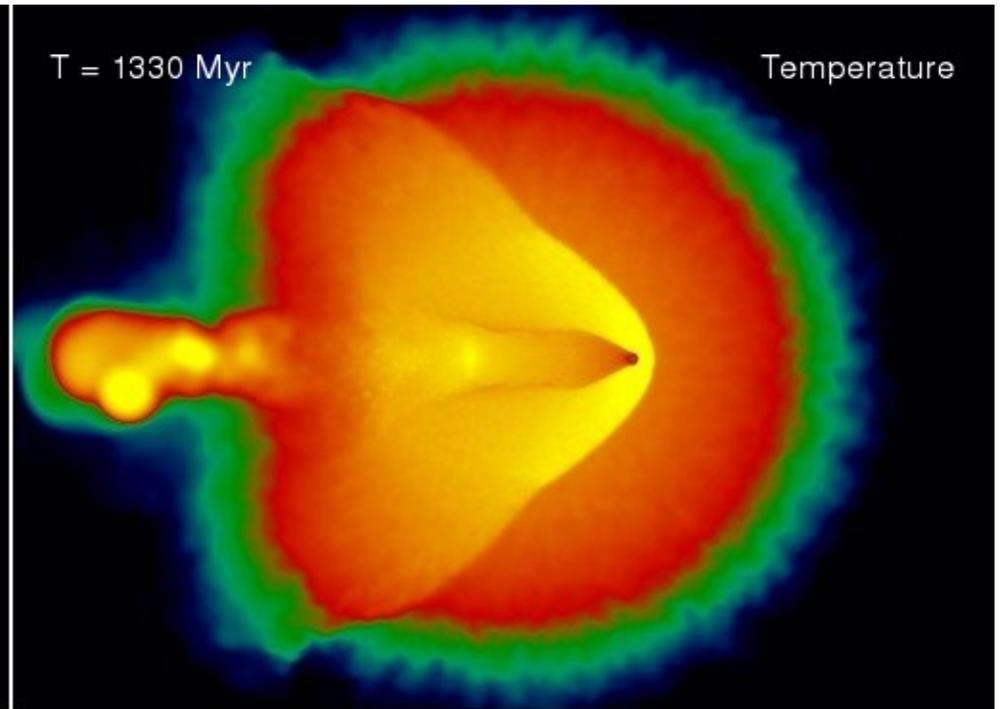
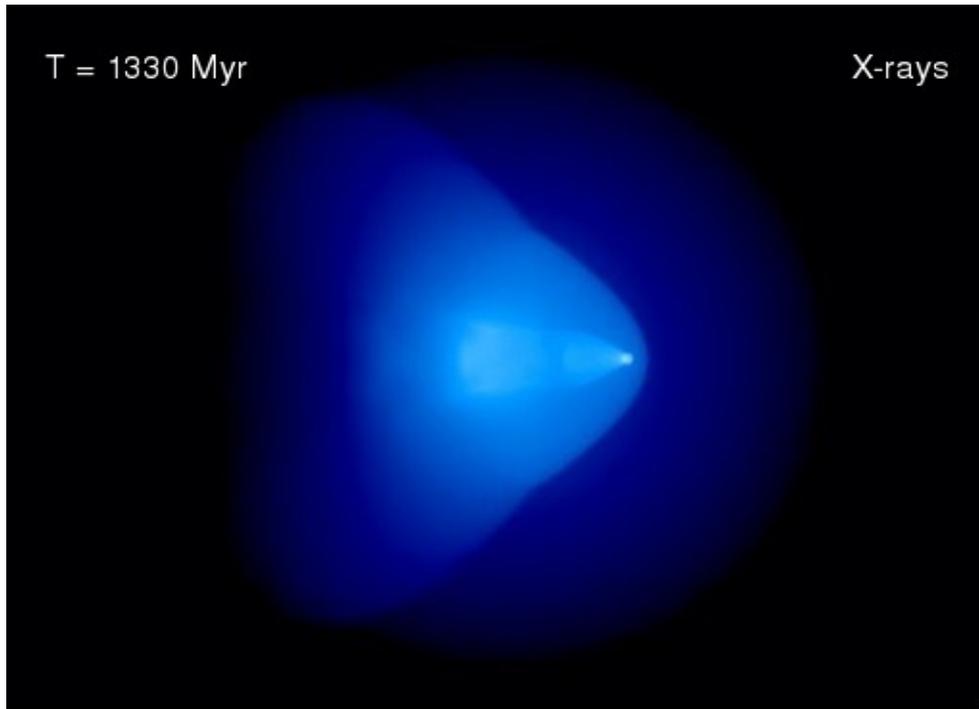
$$M_{200} = 1.5 \times 10^{15} M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{200} = 2.3 \text{ Mpc}$$

$$c = 2.0$$

$$V_{200} = 1680 \text{ km/sec}$$

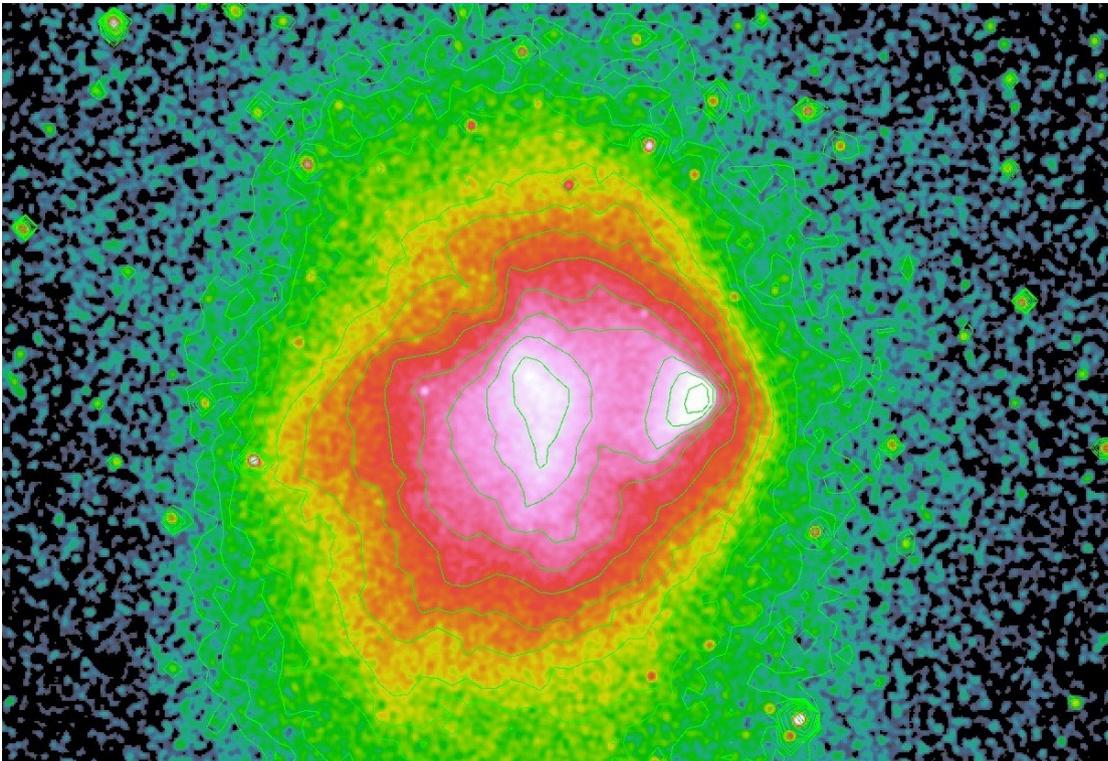
# VIDEO OF THE TIME EVOLUTION OF A SIMPLE BULLET CLUSTER MODEL



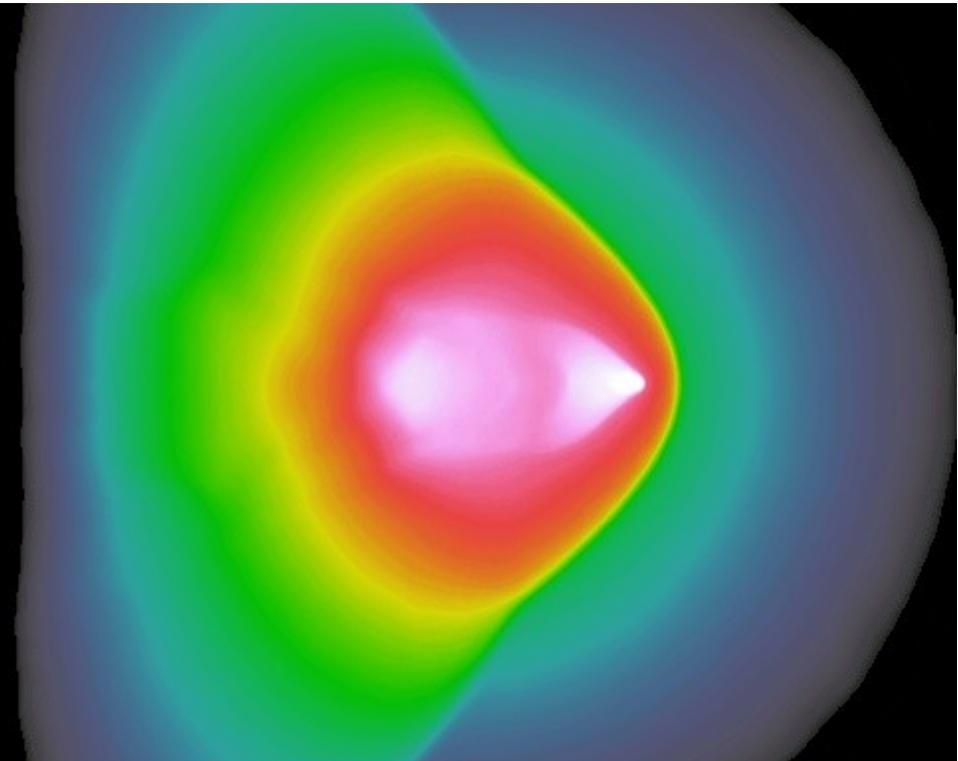
Drawing the observed X-ray map and the simulation images with the same color-scale simplifies the comparison

**SIMULATED X-RAY MAP COMPARED TO OBSERVATION**

Candra 500 ks image

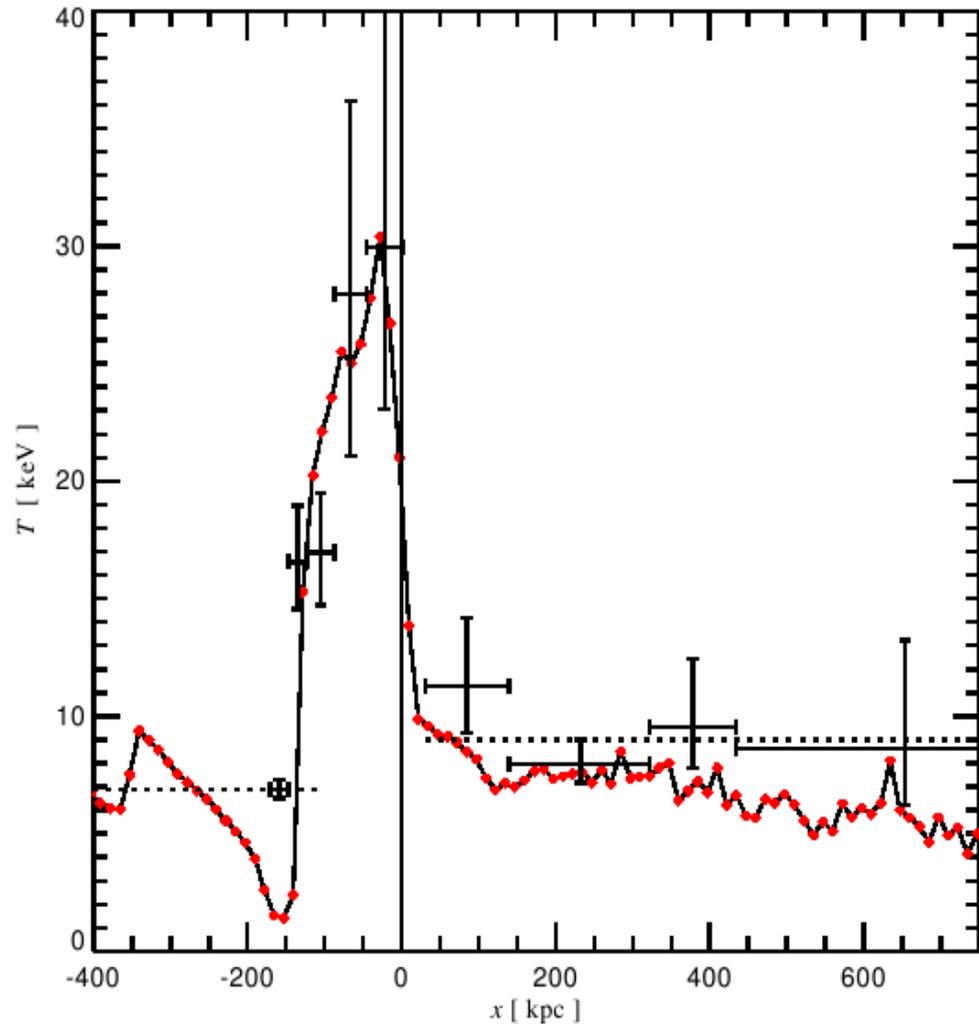


bullet cluster simulation

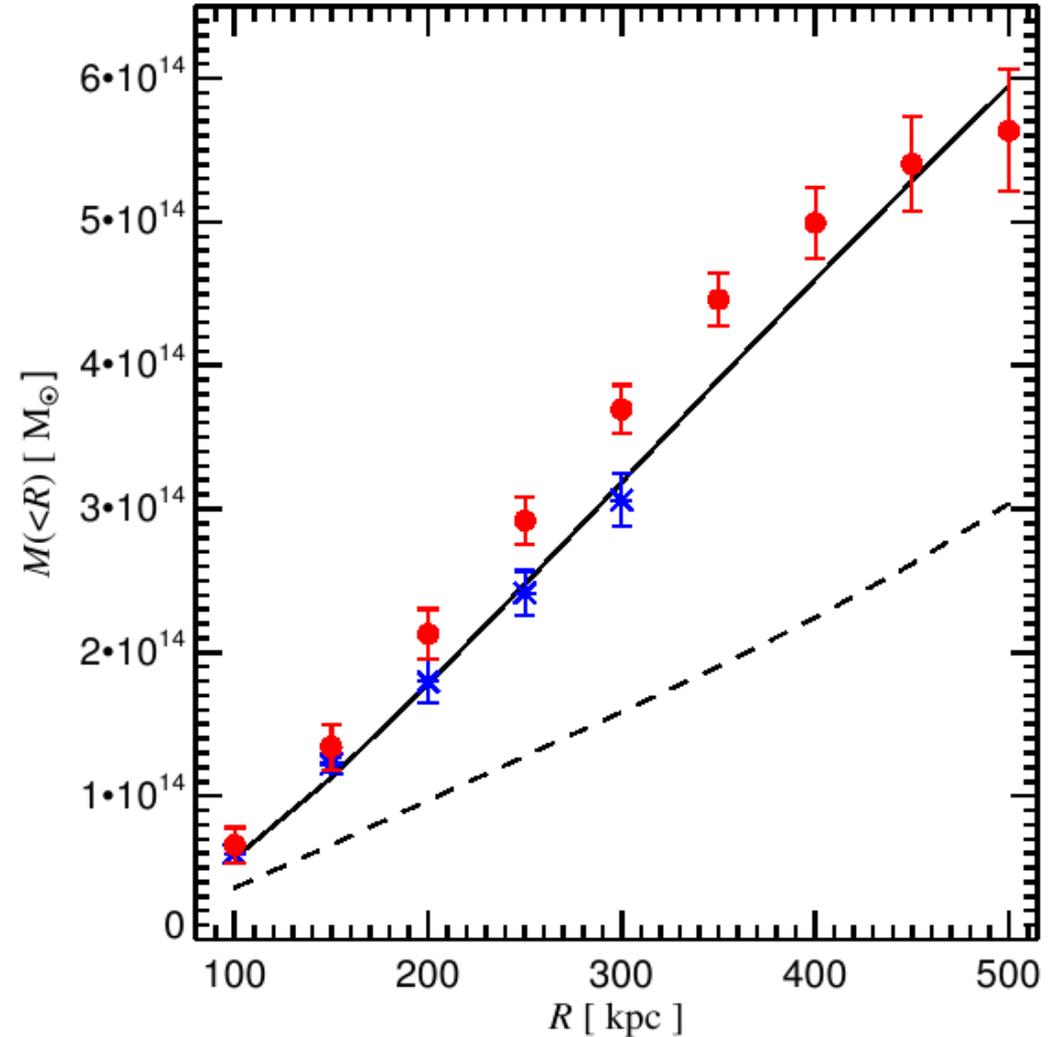


The model also matches the observed temperature and mass profiles

**COMPARISON OF SIMULATED TEMPERATURE AND MASS PROFILE WITH OBSERVATIONS**



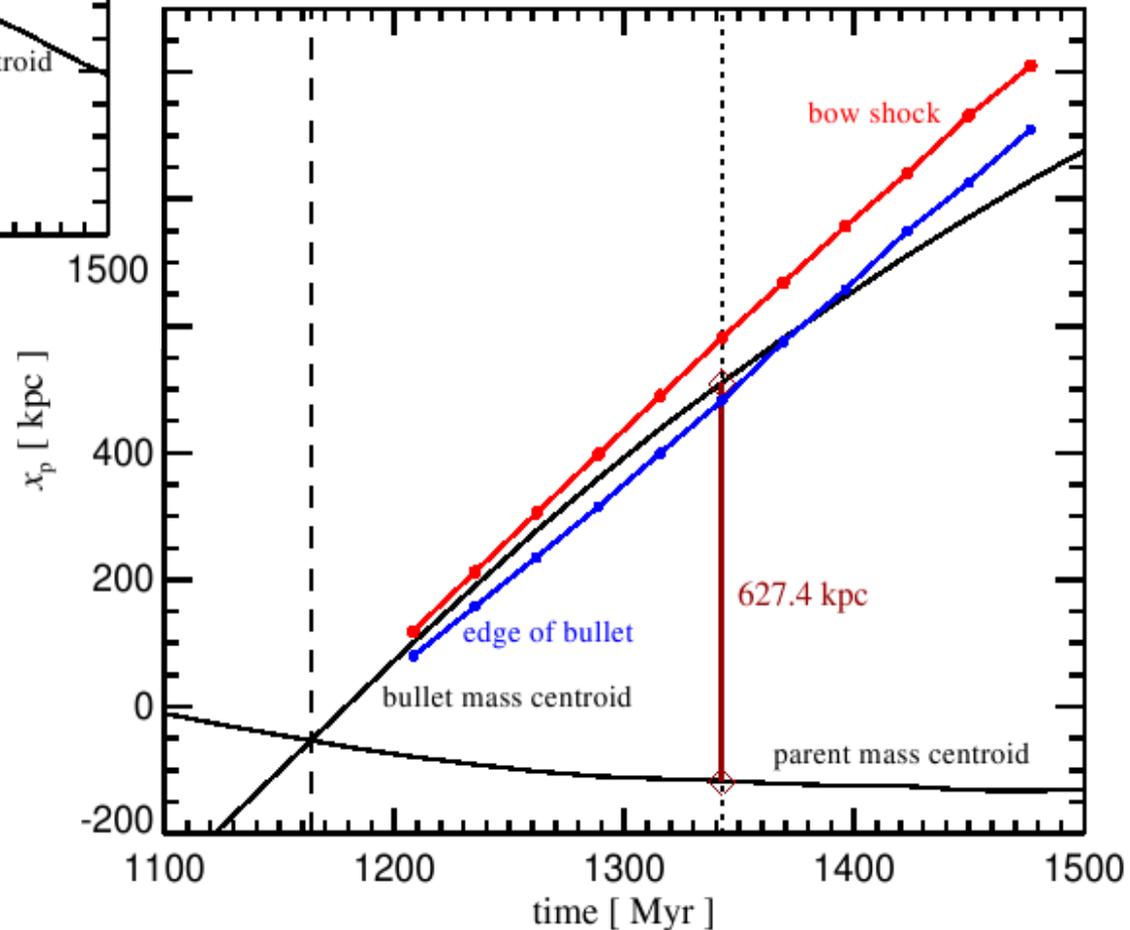
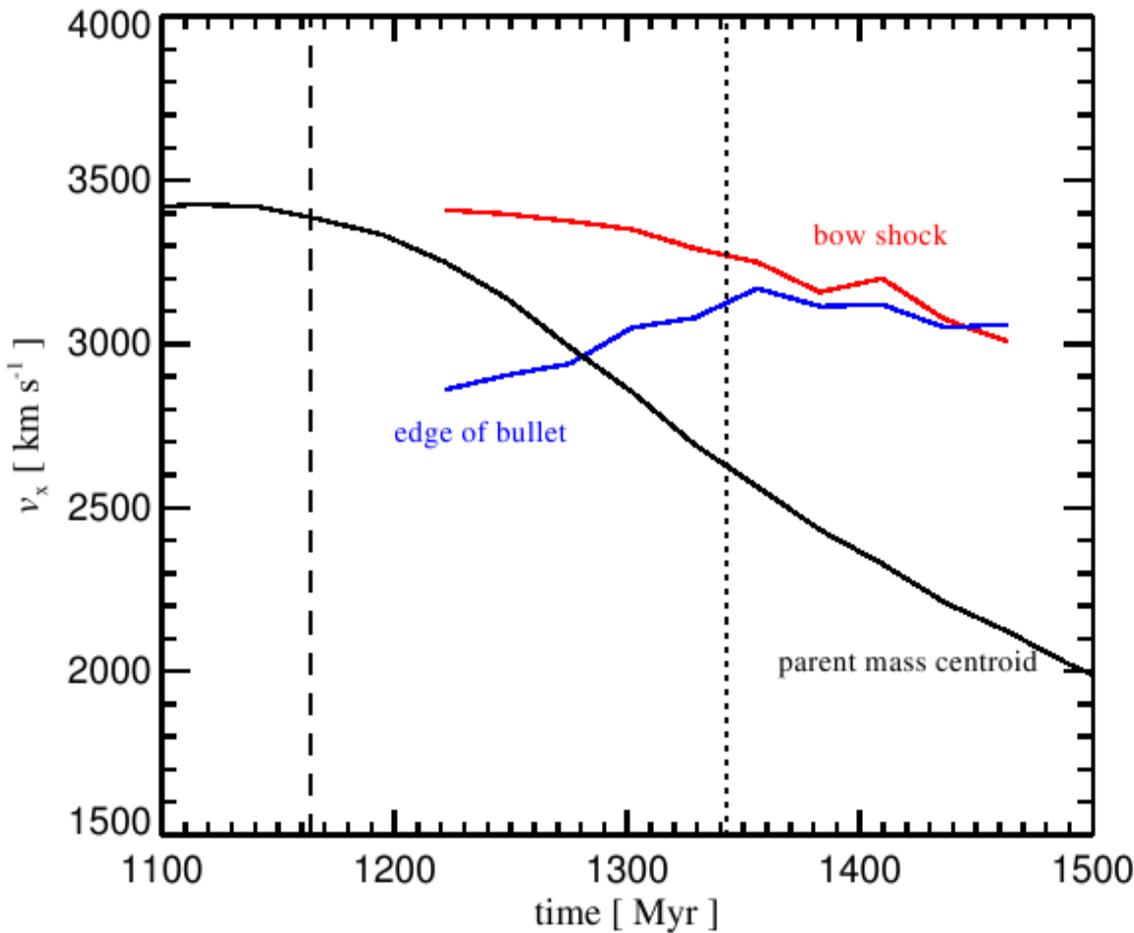
Data from **Markevitch et al. (2006)**



Data from **Bradac et al. (2006)**

Despite a shock speed of  $\sim 4500$  km/s, the bullet moves considerably slower

**VELOCITIES AND POSITIONS OF MAIN BULLET CLUSTER FEATURES AS A FUNCTION OF TIME**



Shock speed: 4500 km/s

Pre-shock infall: -1100 km/s

Shock speed  
relative to bullet: -800 km/s

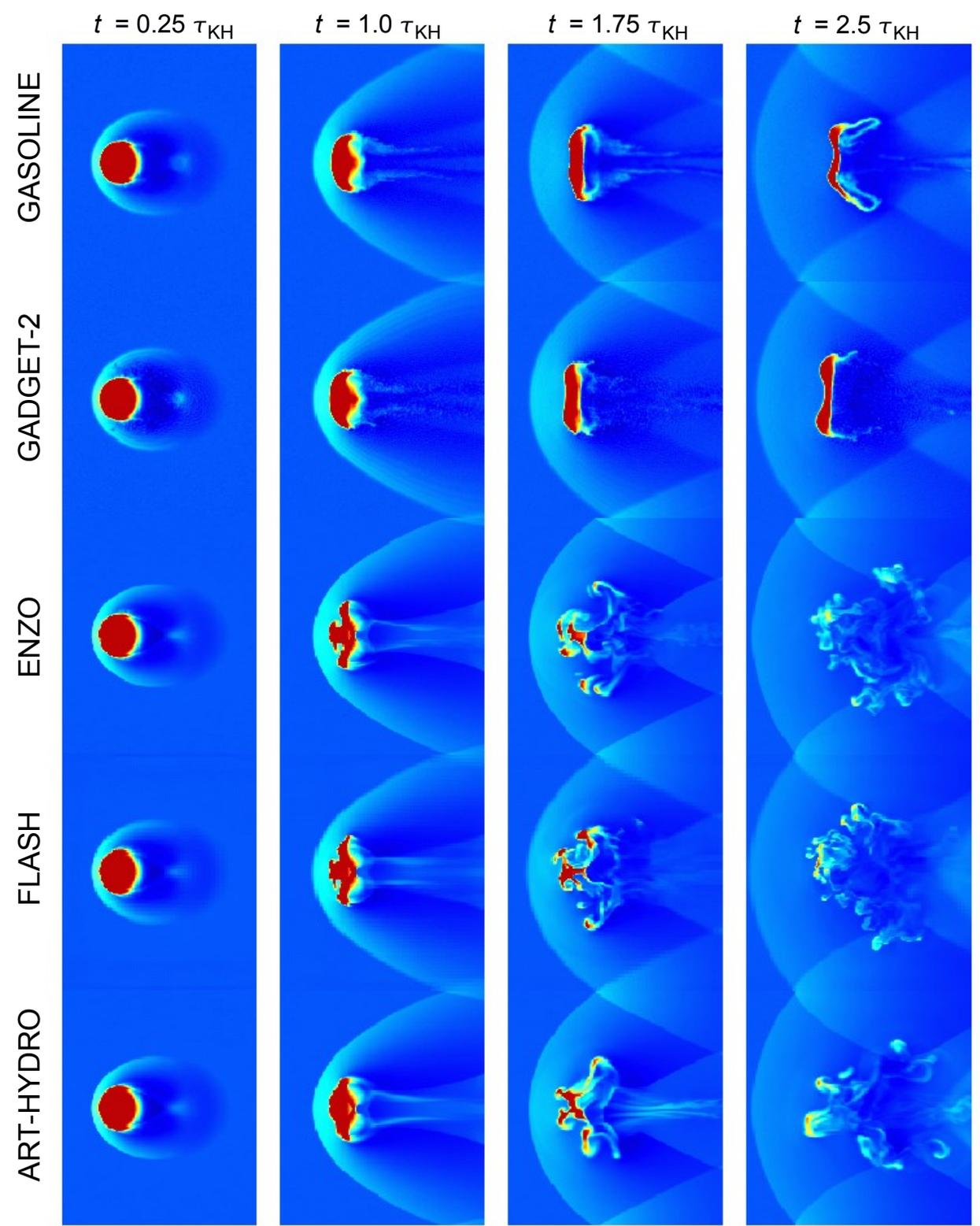
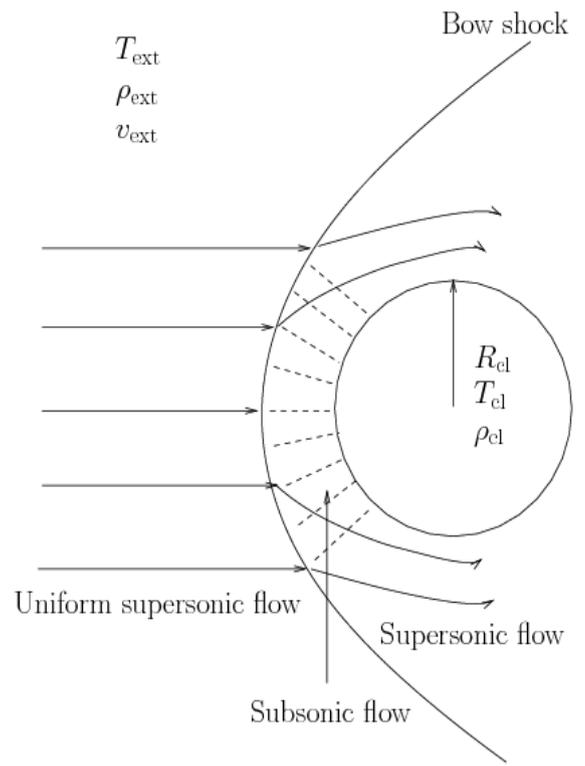
---

**Speed of bullet: 2600 km/s**

# Uncertainties and errors in hydrodynamical numerical techniques

# A cloud moving through ambient gas shows markedly different long-term behavior in SPH and Eulerian mesh codes

## DISRUPTION OF A CLOUD BY KELVIN-HELMHOLTZ INSTABILITIES

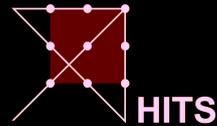


Agertz et al. (2007)

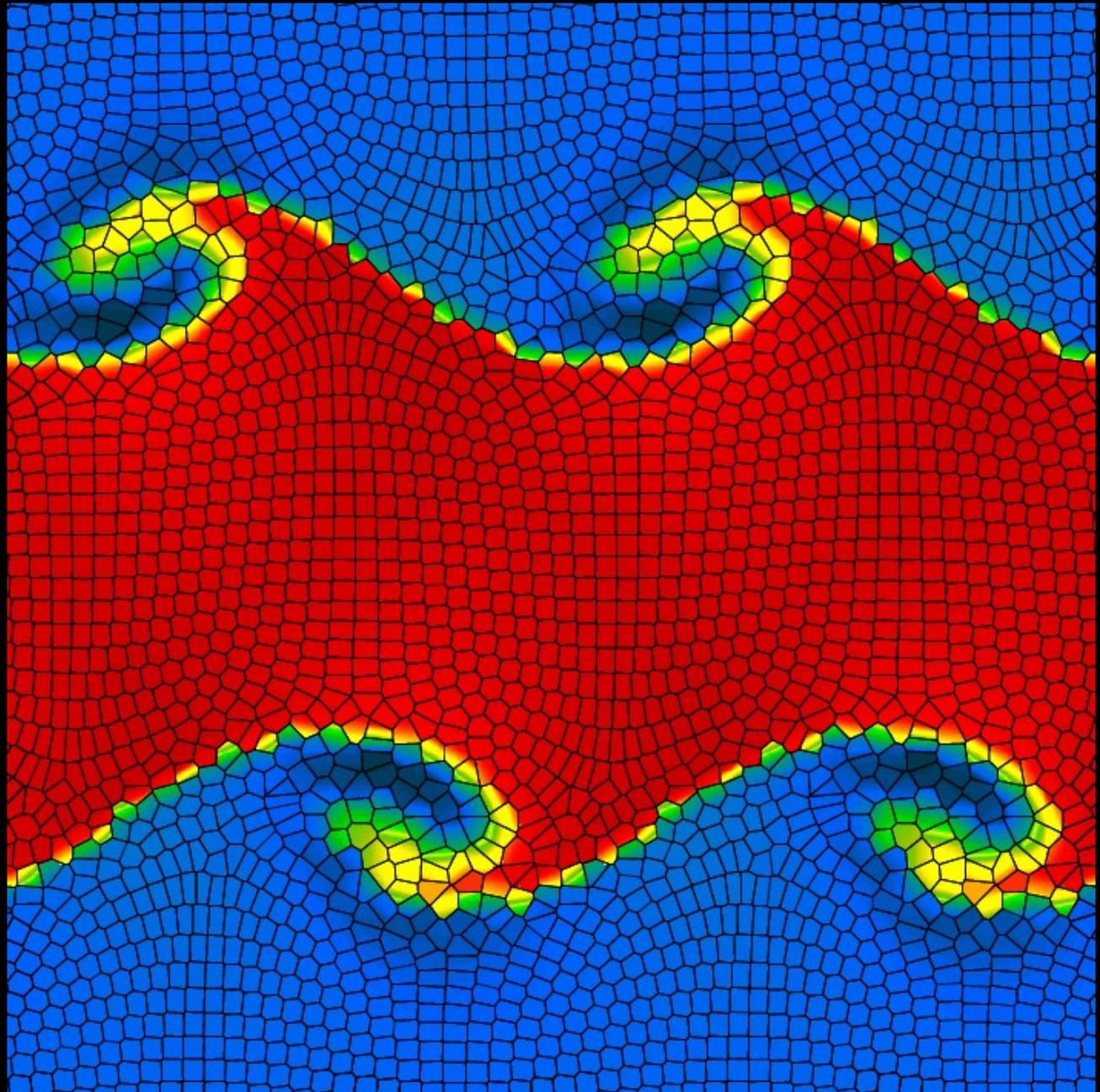
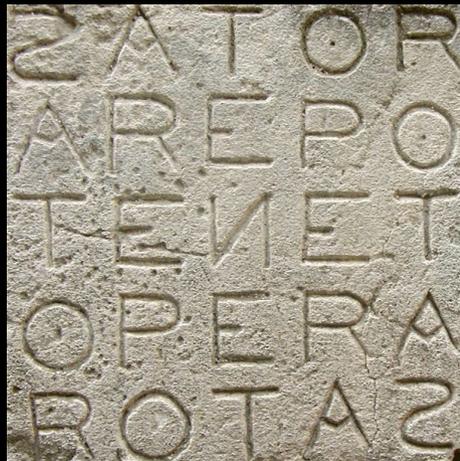
# Moving-mesh hydrodynamics with AREPO

Volker Springel

Heidelberg Institute for  
Theoretical Studies



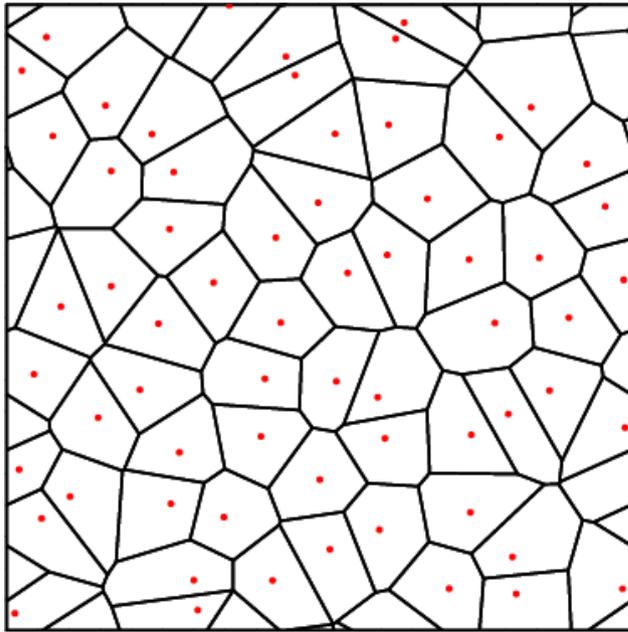
UNIVERSITÄT  
HEIDELBERG



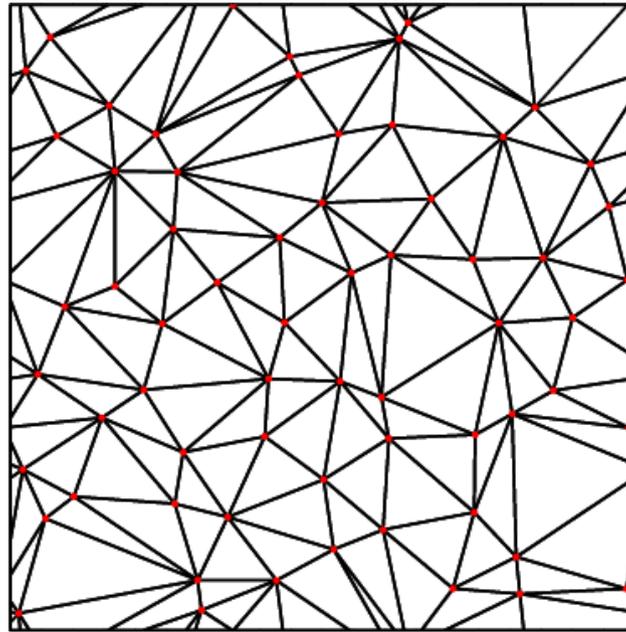
# Voronoi and Delaunay tessellations provide unique partitions of space based on a given sample of mesh-generating points

## BASIC PROPERTIES OF VORONOI AND DELAUNAY MESHES

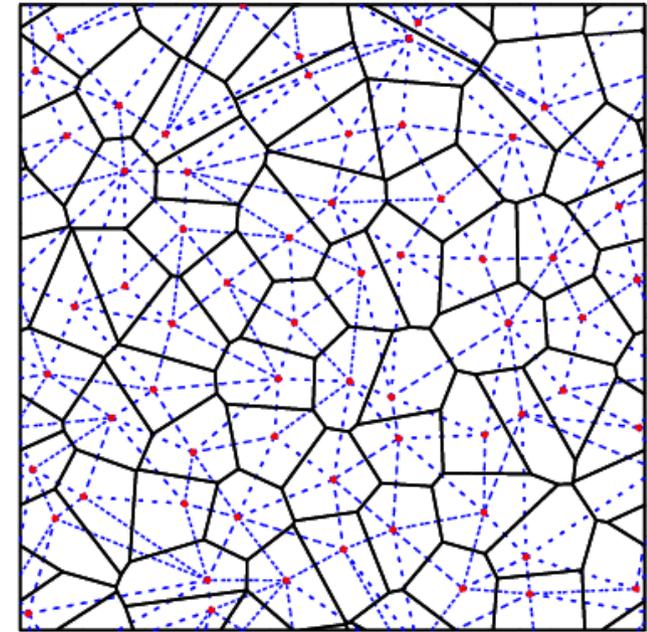
Voronoi mesh



Delaunay triangulation



both shown together



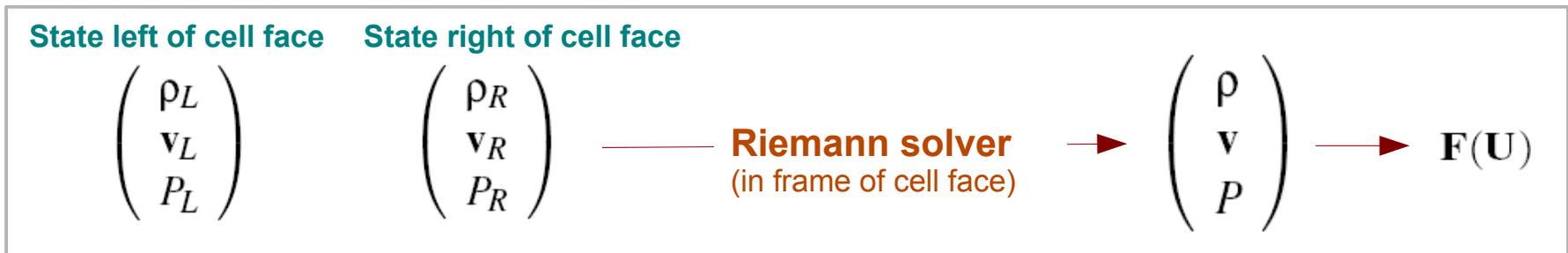
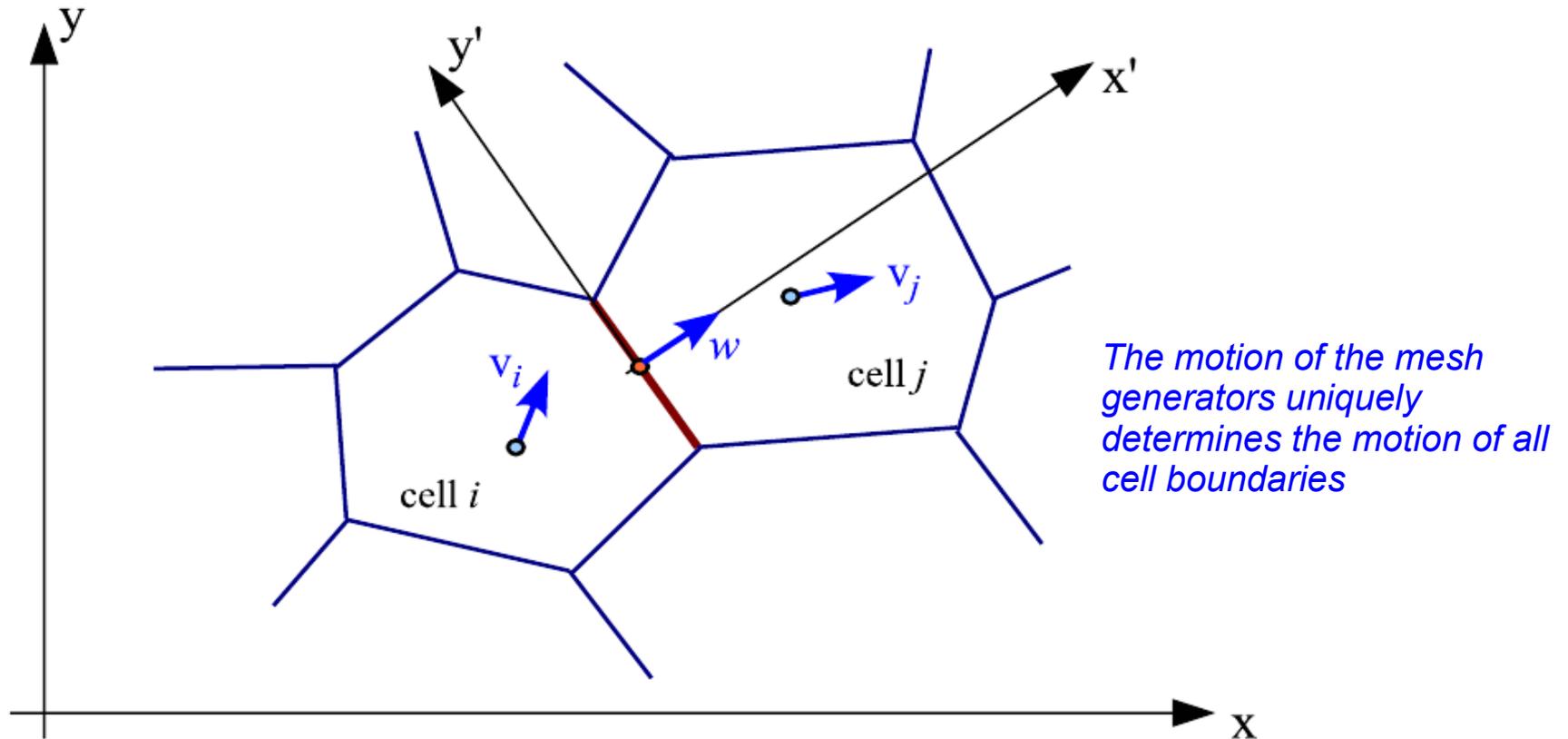
Each Voronoi cell contains the **space closest** to its generating point

The Delaunay triangulation contains only triangles with an **empty circumcircle**. The Delaunay triangulation maximizes the minimum angle occurring among all triangles.

The centres of the circumcircles of the Delaunay triangles are the vertices of the Voronoi mesh. In fact, the two tessellations are the topological **dual graph** to each other.

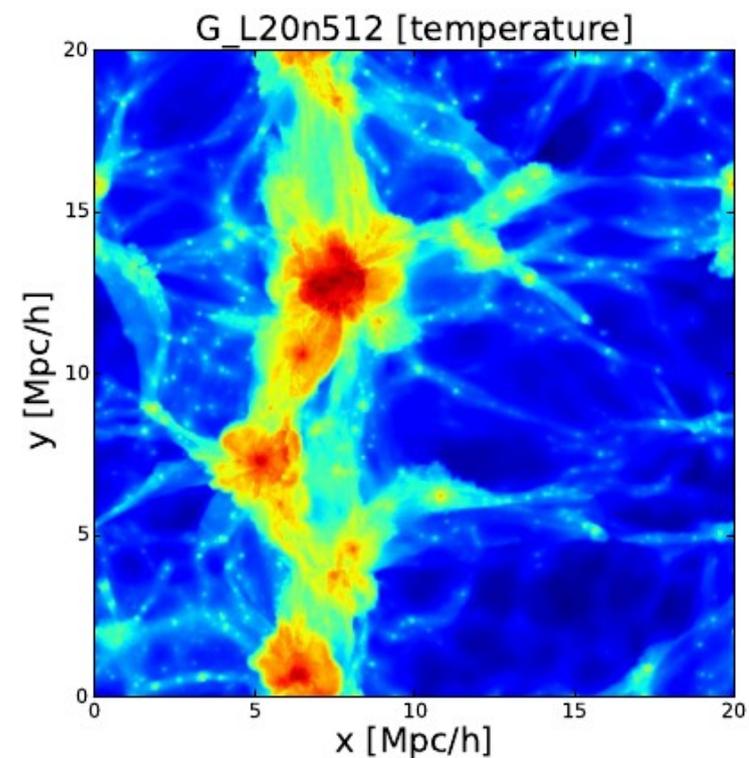
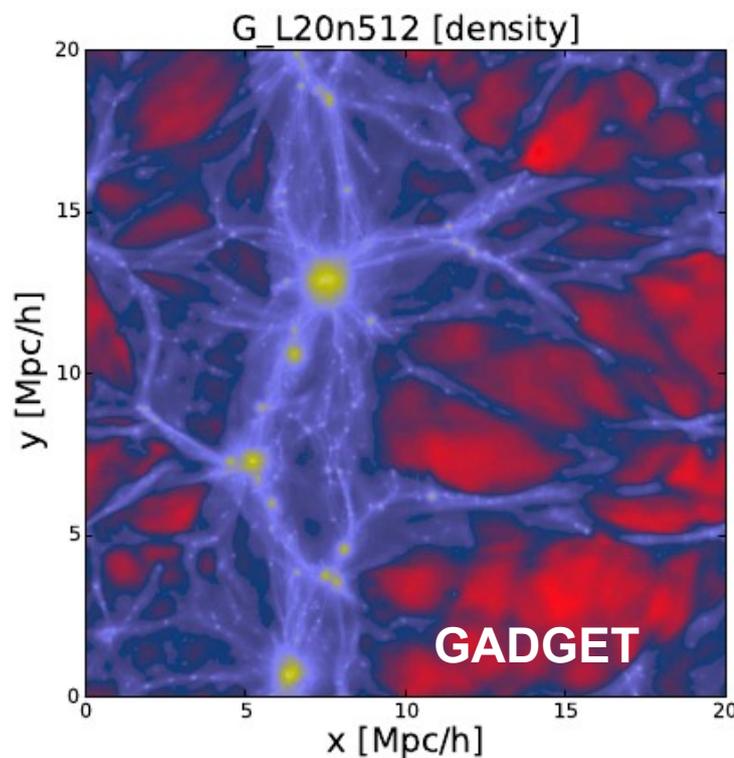
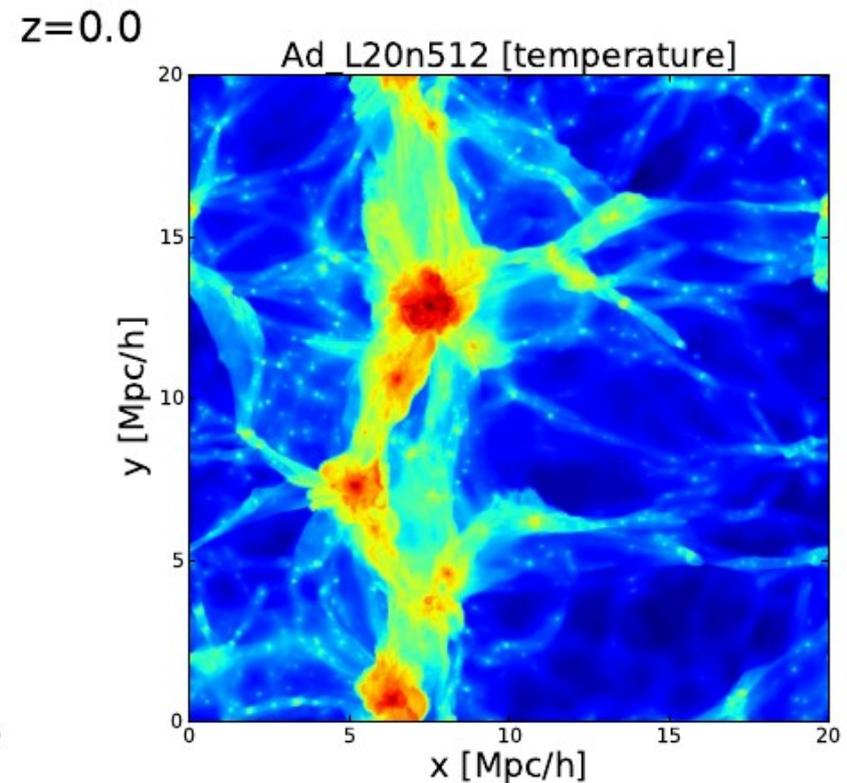
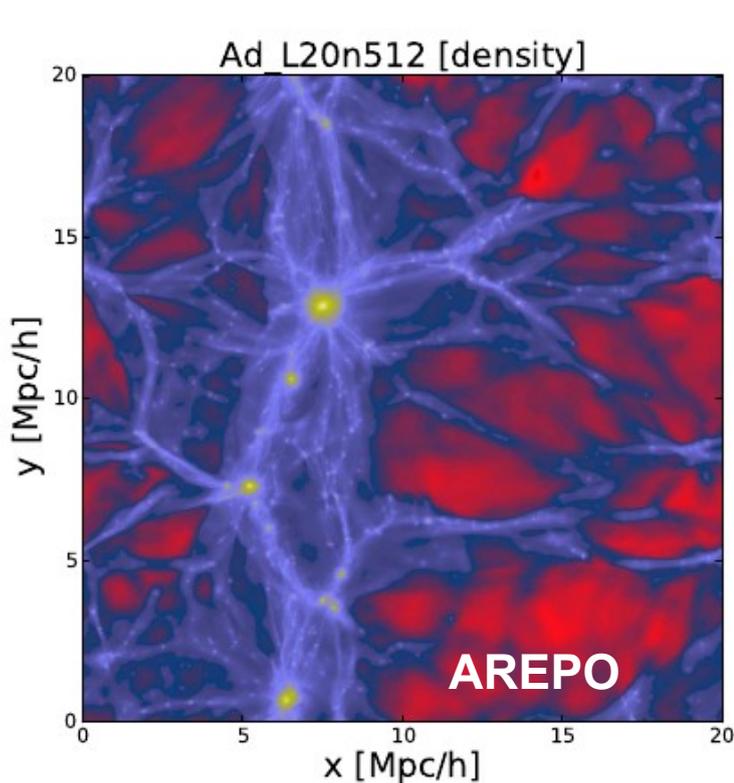
The fluxes are calculated with an exact Riemann solver in the frame of the moving cell boundary

**SKETCH OF THE FLUX CALCULATION**



On large scales, the code produces very similar results as standard SPH techniques

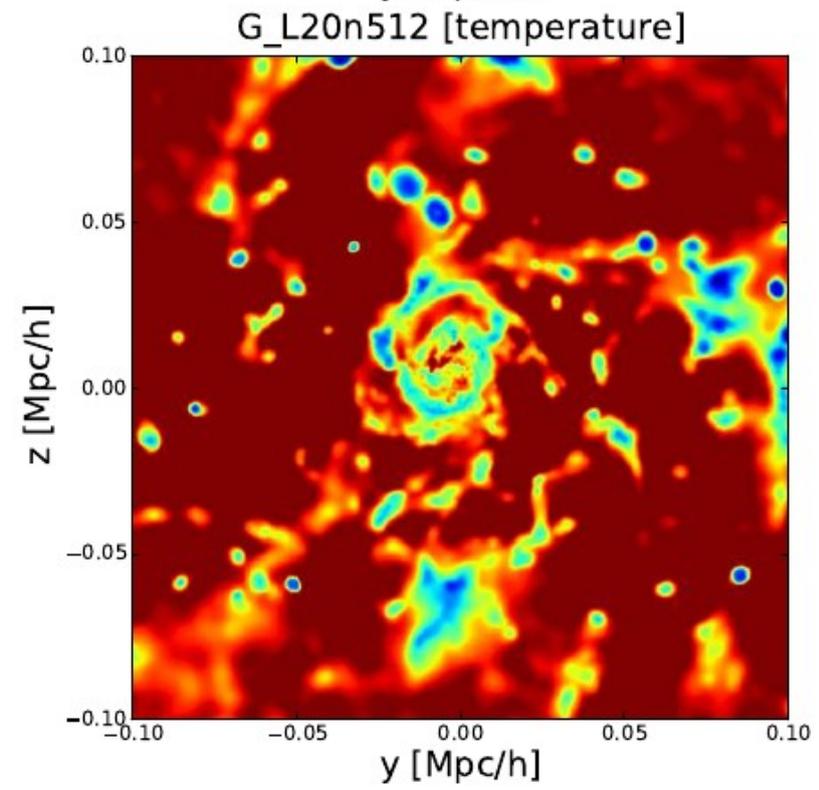
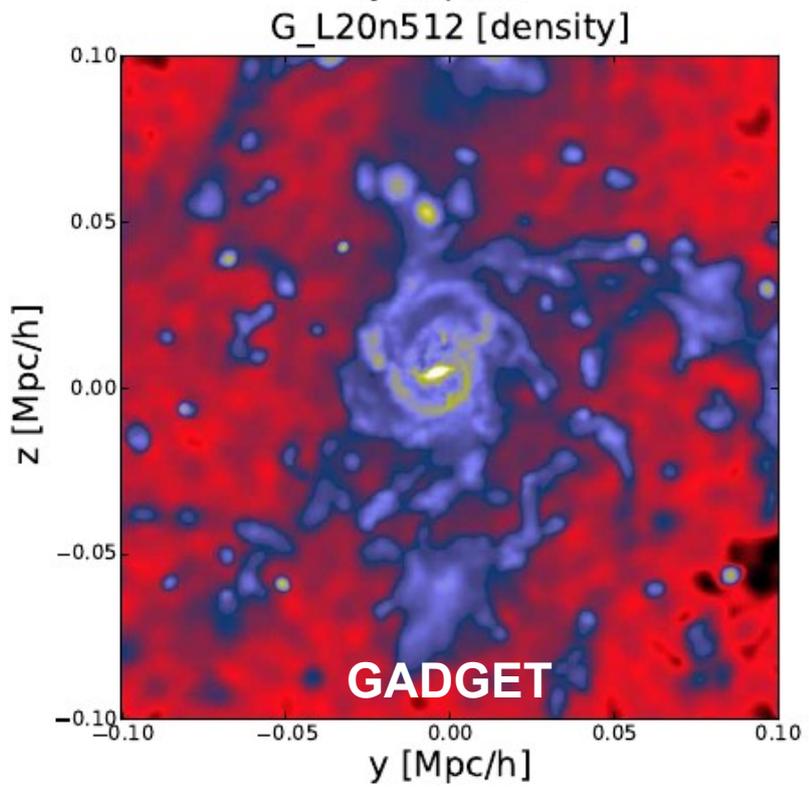
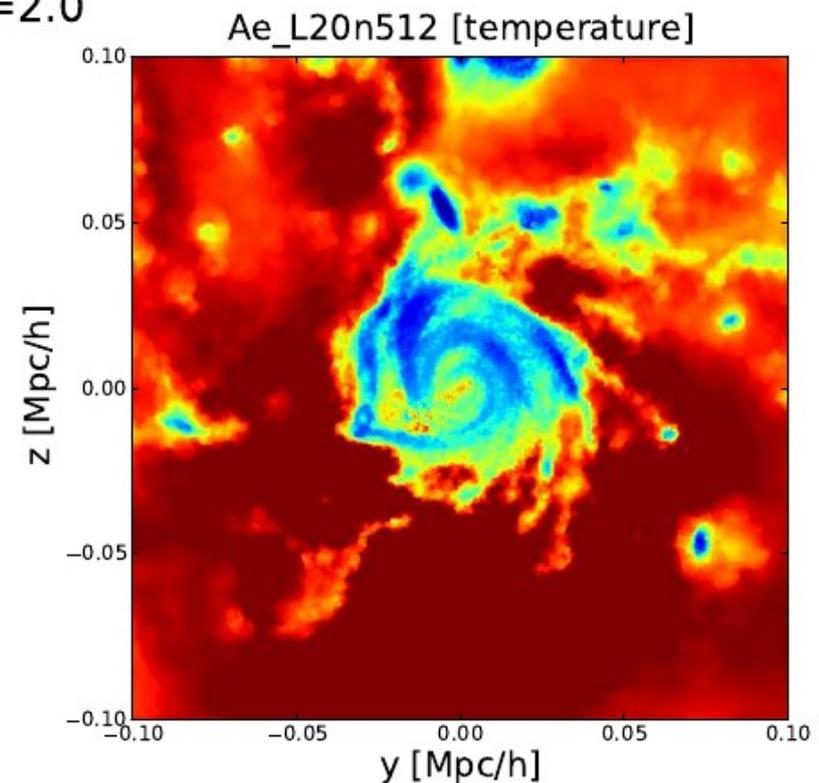
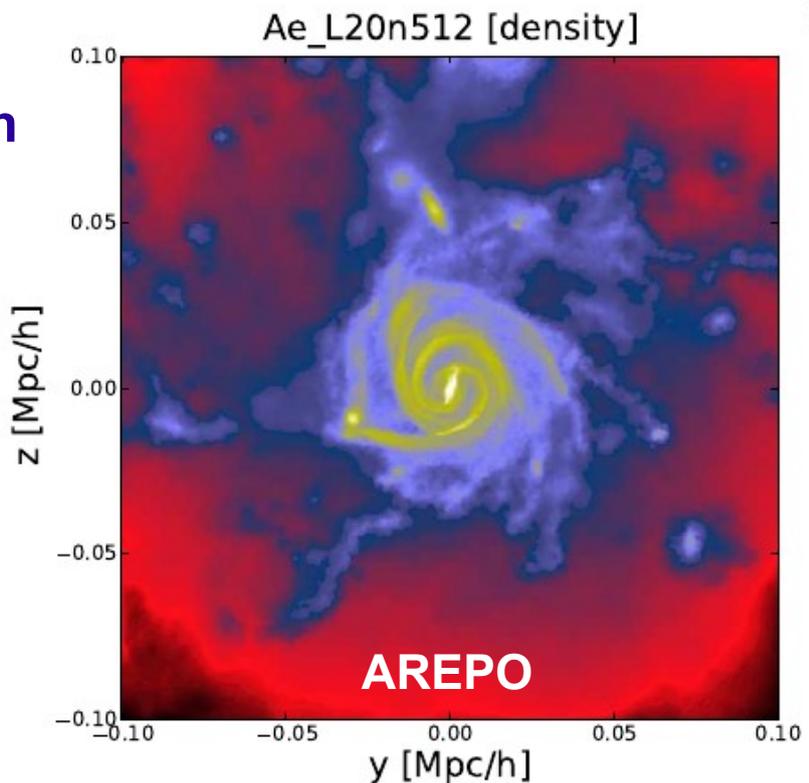
GAS AND TEMPERATURE FIELDS IN A COSMOLOGICAL HYDRODYNAMIC SIMULATION



**AREPO**  
produces much  
better galaxy  
morphologies  
than SPH for  
identical initial  
conditions

**GAS AND  
TEMPERATURE  
FIELDS IN A  
COSMOLOGICAL  
HYDRODYNAMIC  
SIMULATION**

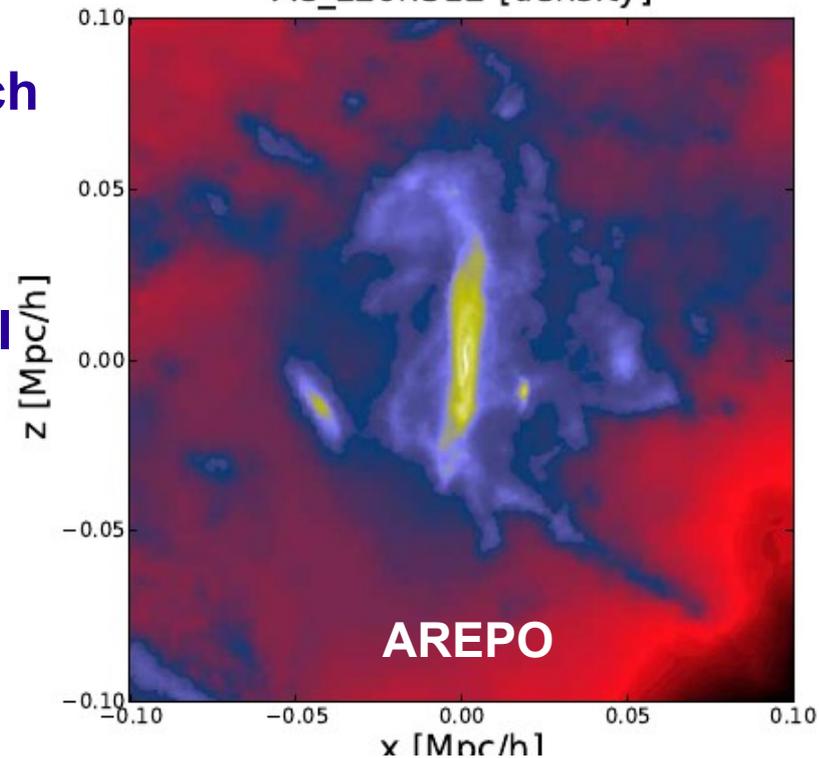
$z=2.0$



**AREPO**  
produces much  
better galaxy  
morphologies  
than SPH for  
identical initial  
conditions

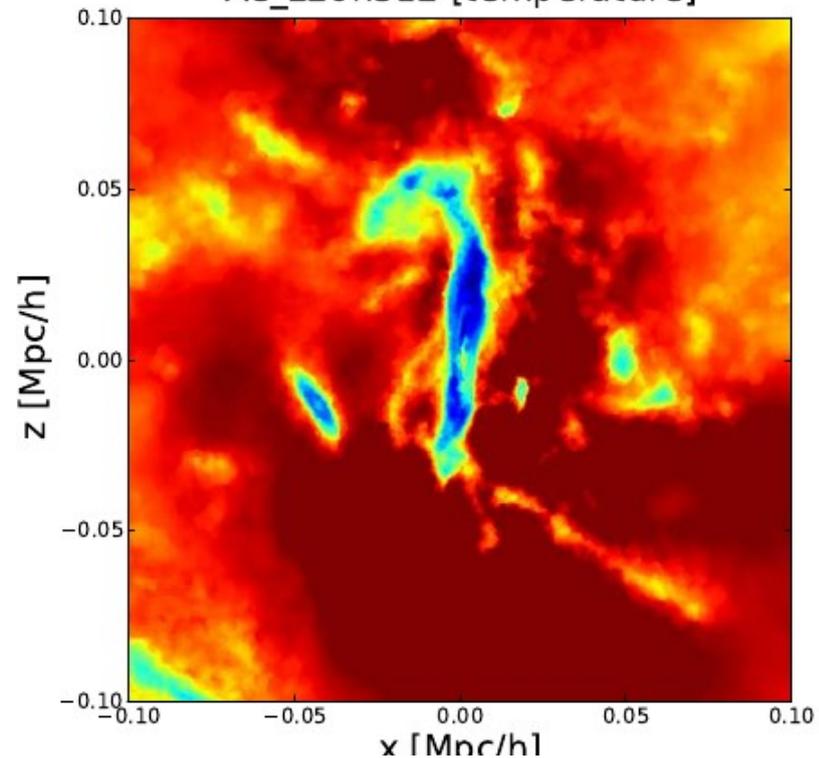
**GAS AND  
TEMPERATURE  
FIELDS IN A  
COSMOLOGICAL  
HYDRODYNAMIC  
SIMULATION**

Ae\_L20n512 [density]

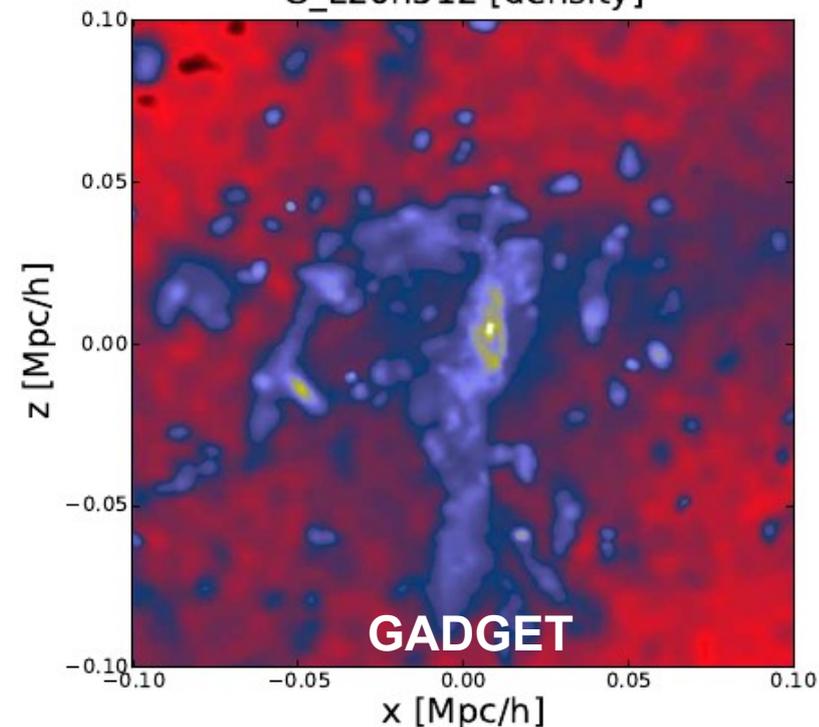


$z=2.0$

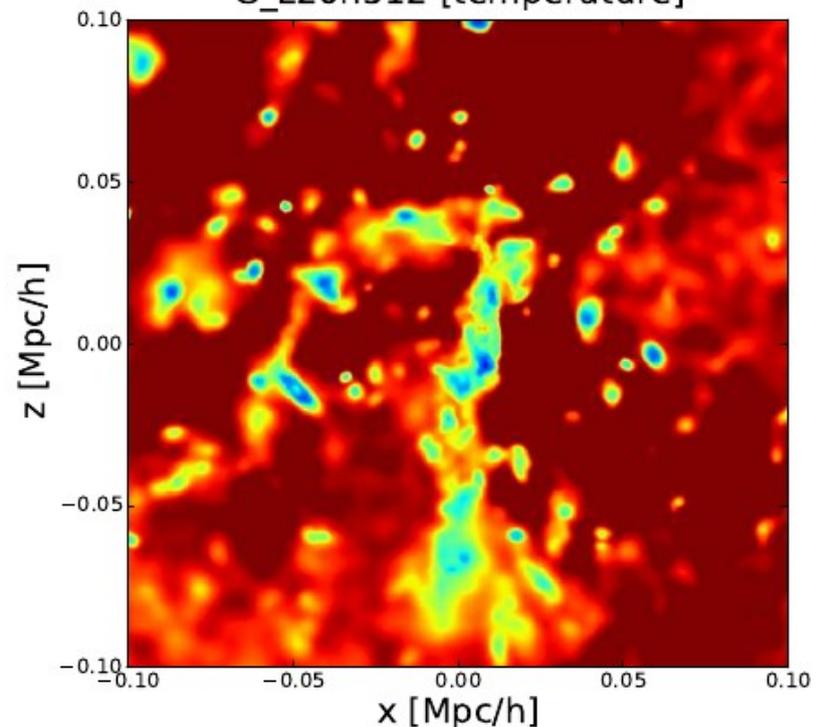
Ae\_L20n512 [temperature]



G\_L20n512 [density]

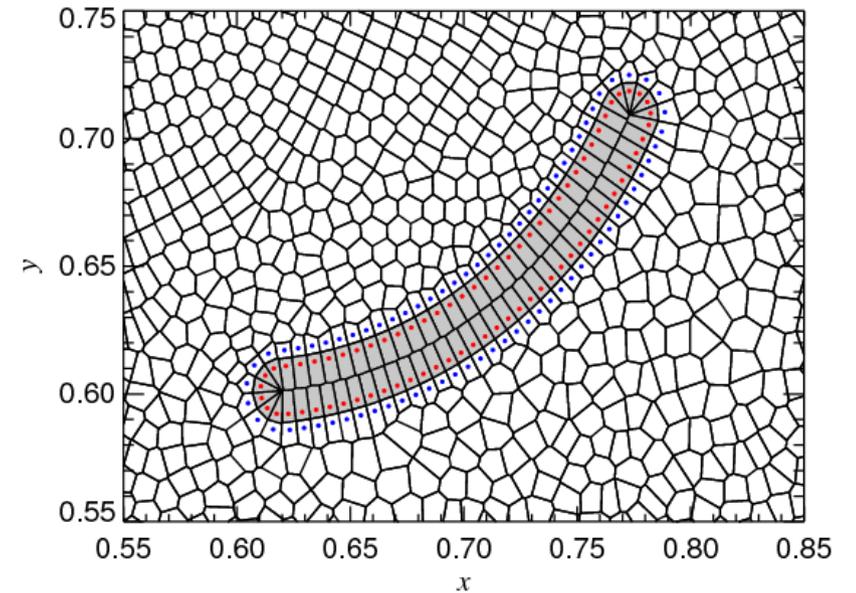
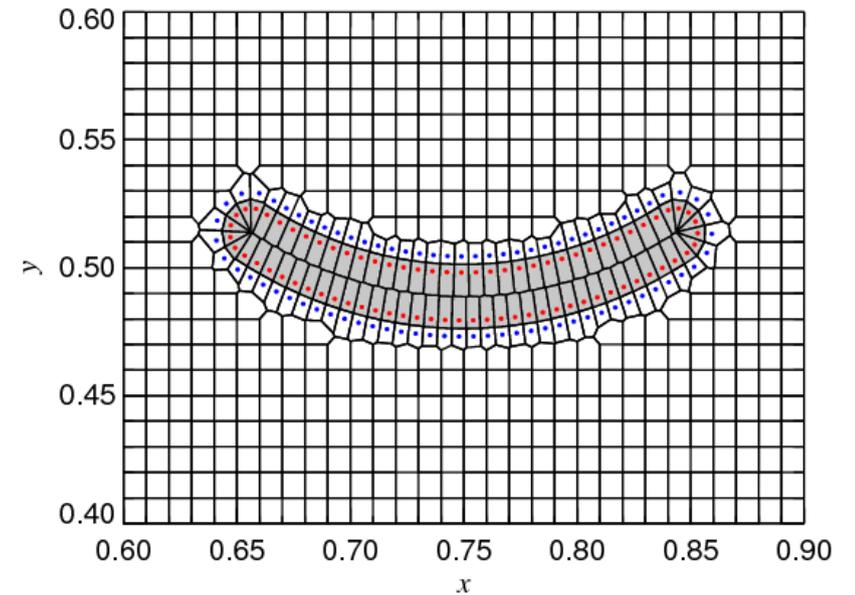
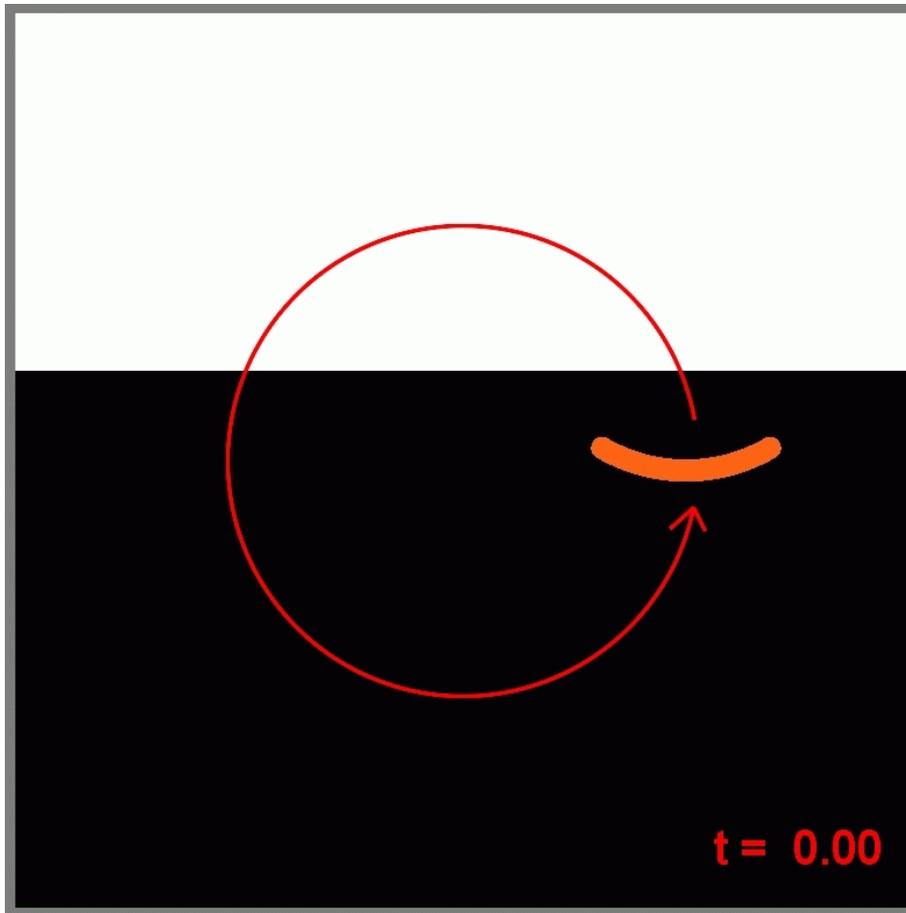


G\_L20n512 [temperature]

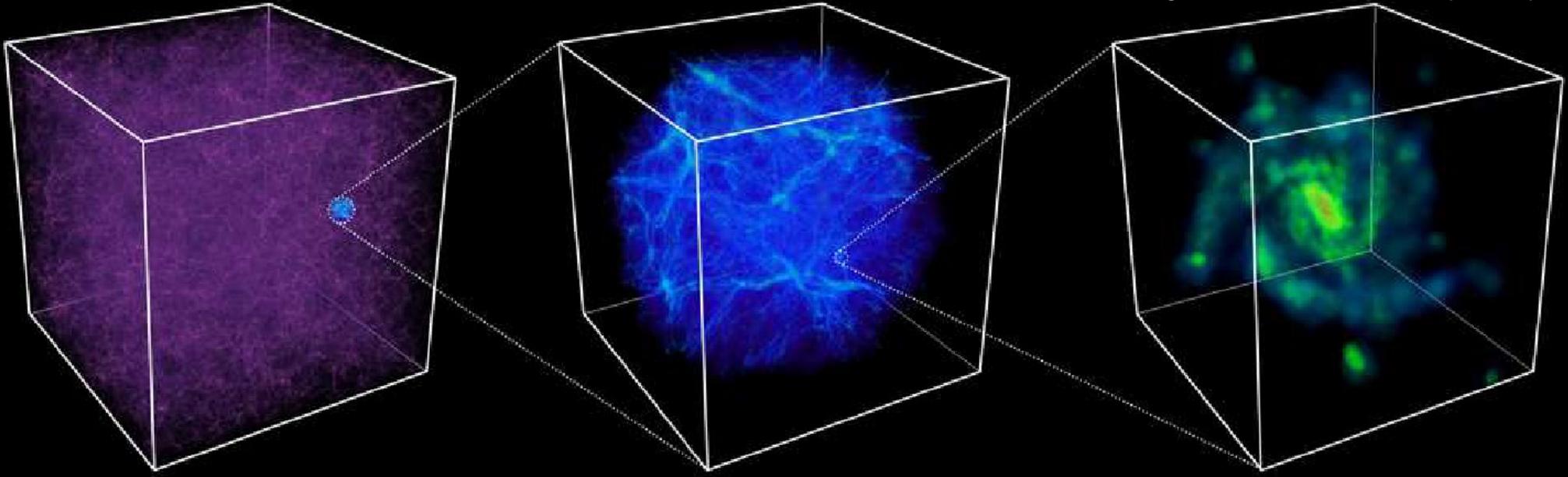


The moving-mesh approach can also be used to realize arbitrarily shaped, moving boundaries

### STIRRING A COFFEE MUG



# The challenge to simulate galaxy formation

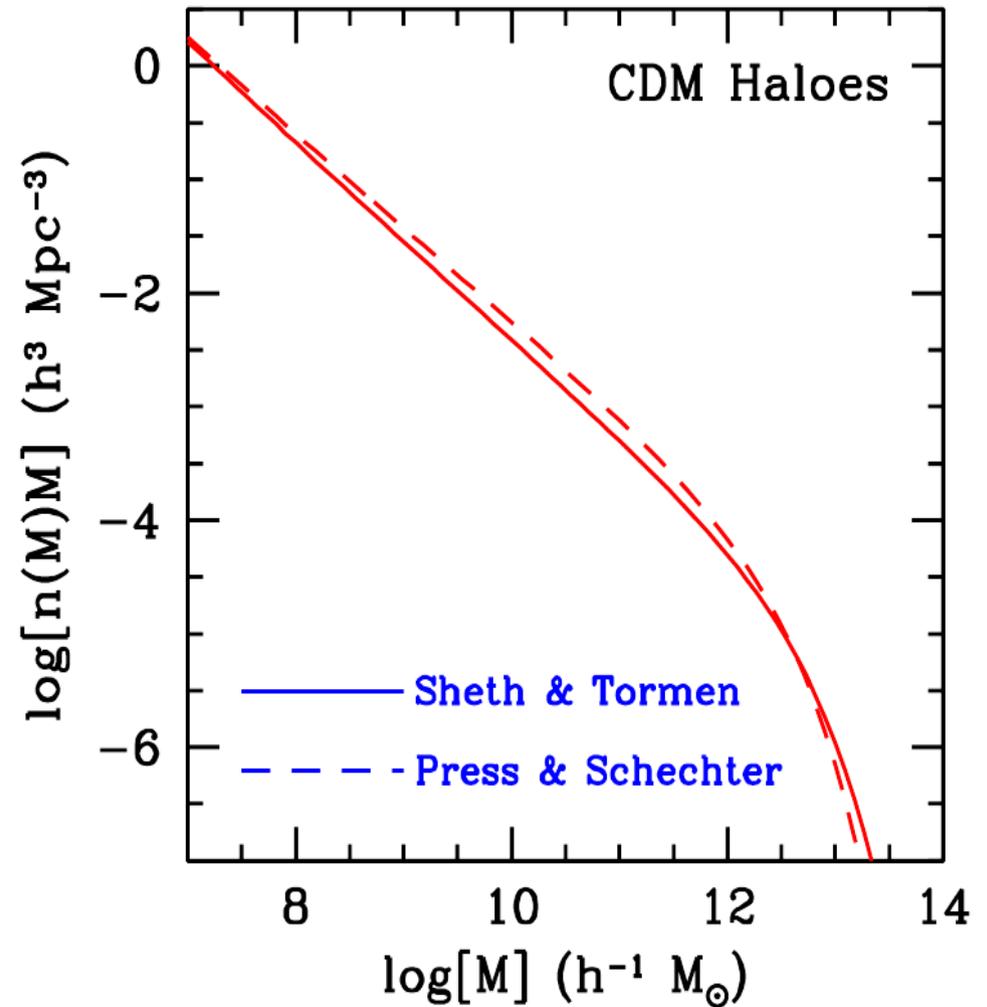
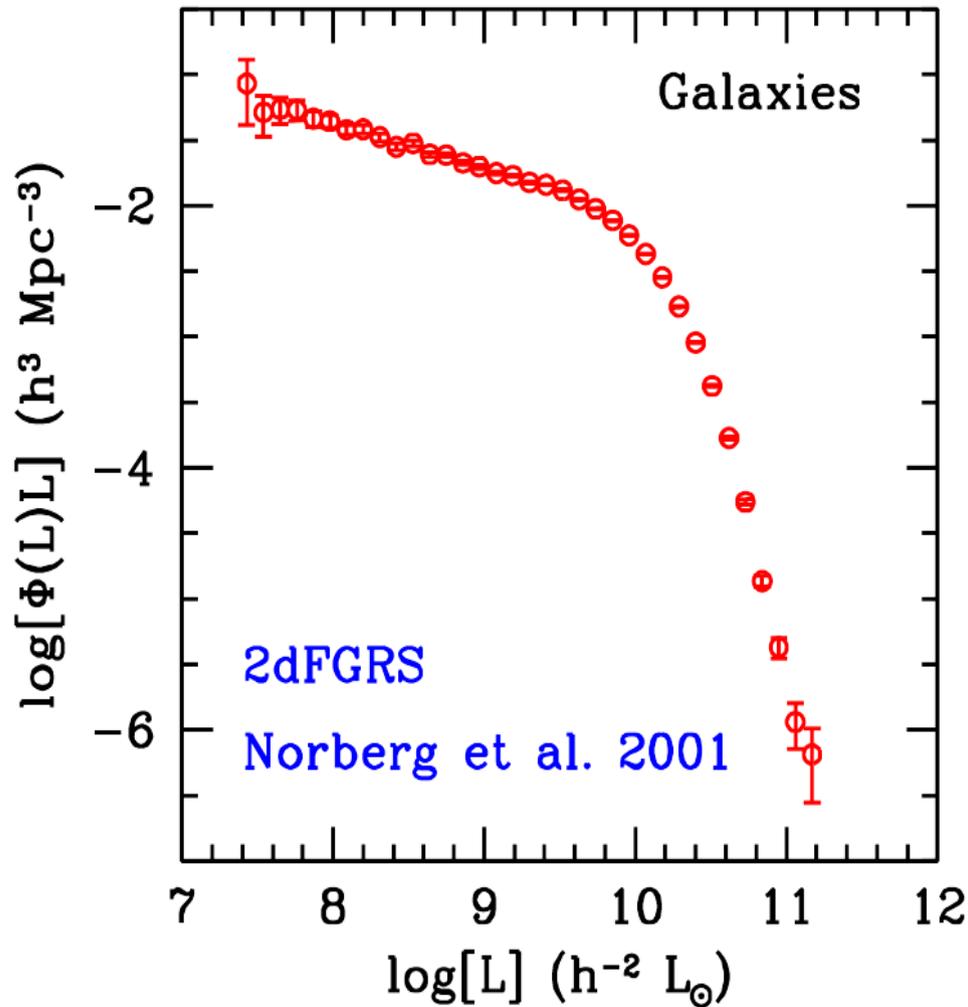


## Hydrodynamical simulations aim to predict:

- Morphology of galaxies
- Fate of the diffuse gas, WHIM, metal enrichment
- X-ray atmospheres in halos
- Turbulence in halos and accretion shocks
- Large-scale regulation of star formation in galaxies through feedback processes from stars and black holes
- Transport processes (e.g. conduction)
- Radiative transfer
- Dynamical transformations (e.g. ram-pressure stripping)
- Magnetic fields

A long standing issue in galaxy formation theory: The shapes of the CDM halo mass function and the galaxy luminosity function are very different

**THE OBSERVED LF COMPARED TO THE SHAPE OF THE CDM HALO MASS FUNCTION**



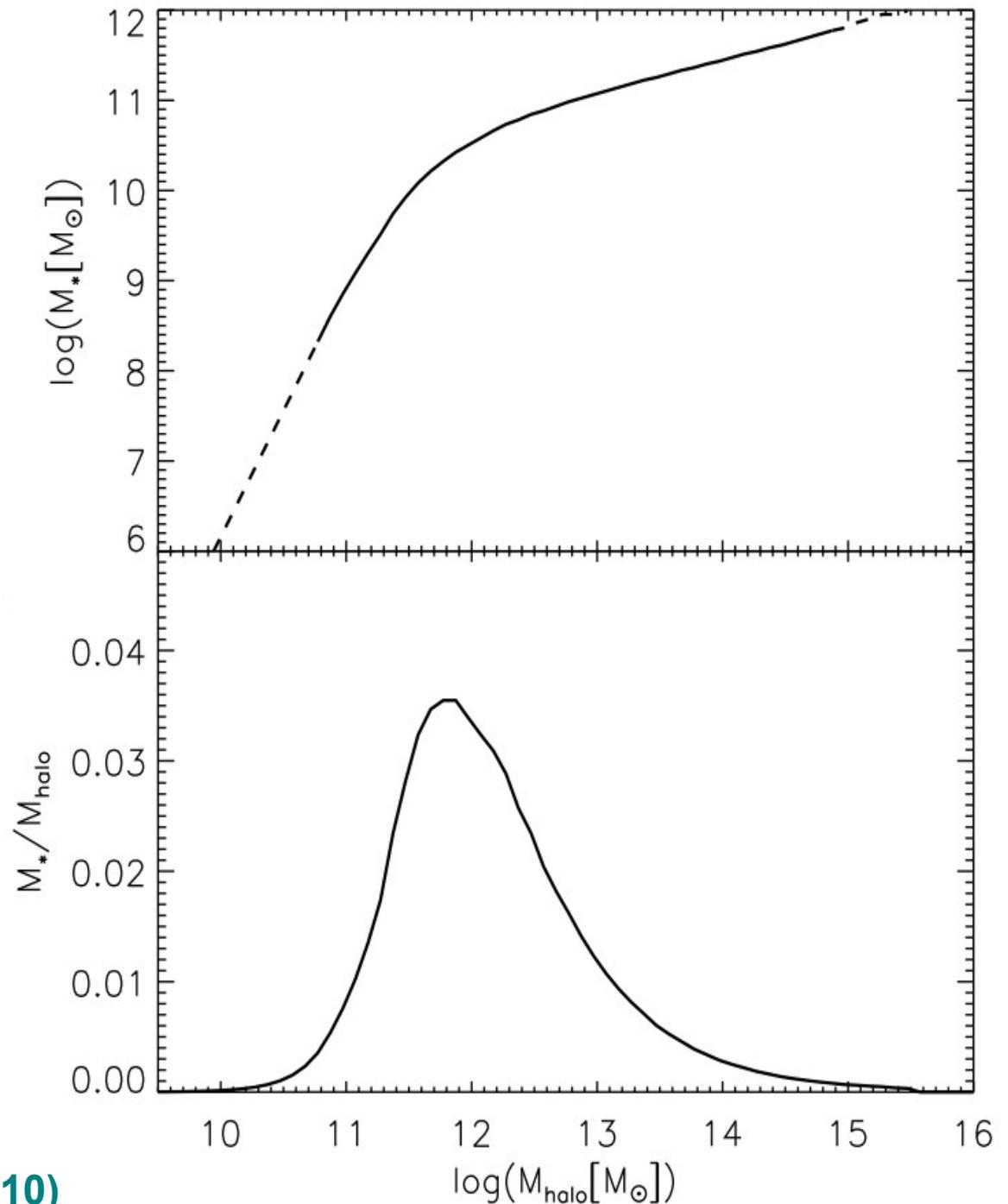
van den Bosch et al. (2004)

Abundance matching  
gives the expected halo  
mass – stellar mass  
relation in  $\Lambda$ CDM

**STELLAR MASSES FROM  
SDSS/DR7 MATCHED TO  $\Lambda$ CDM  
SIMULATION EXPECTATIONS**

**Assumption:**

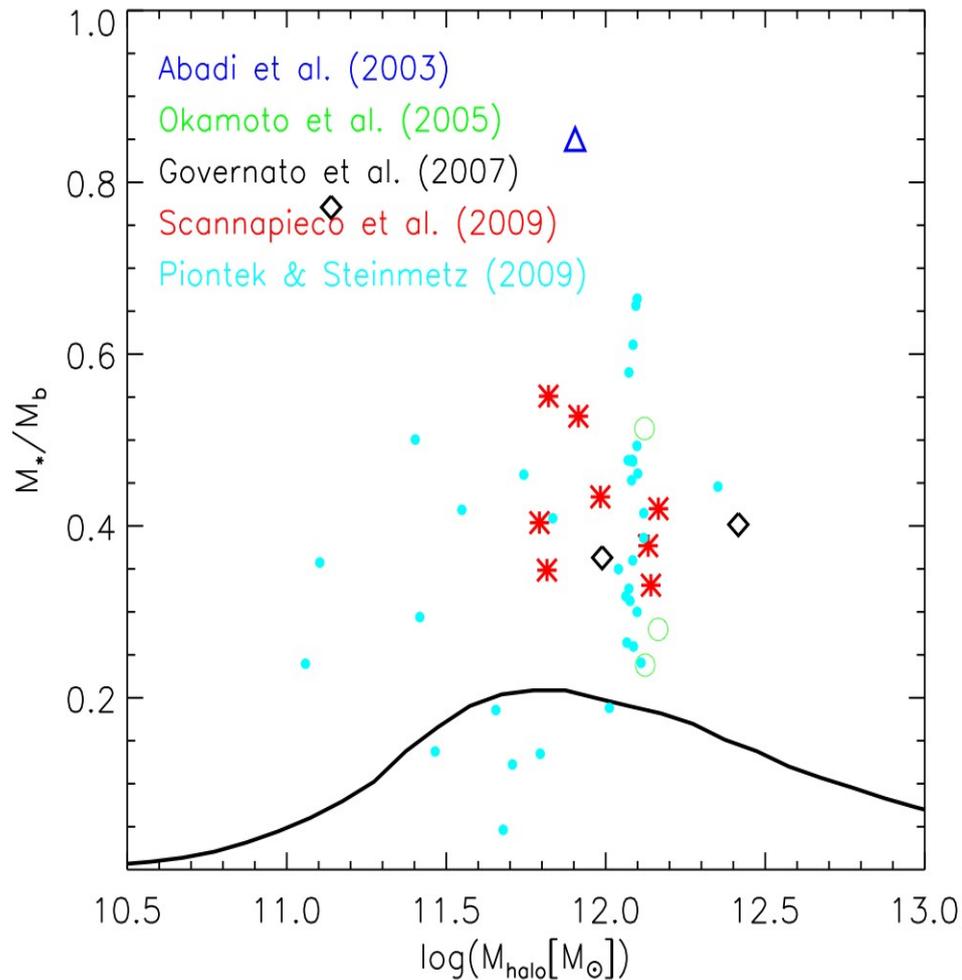
Stellar mass is monotonically  
increasing with halo mass



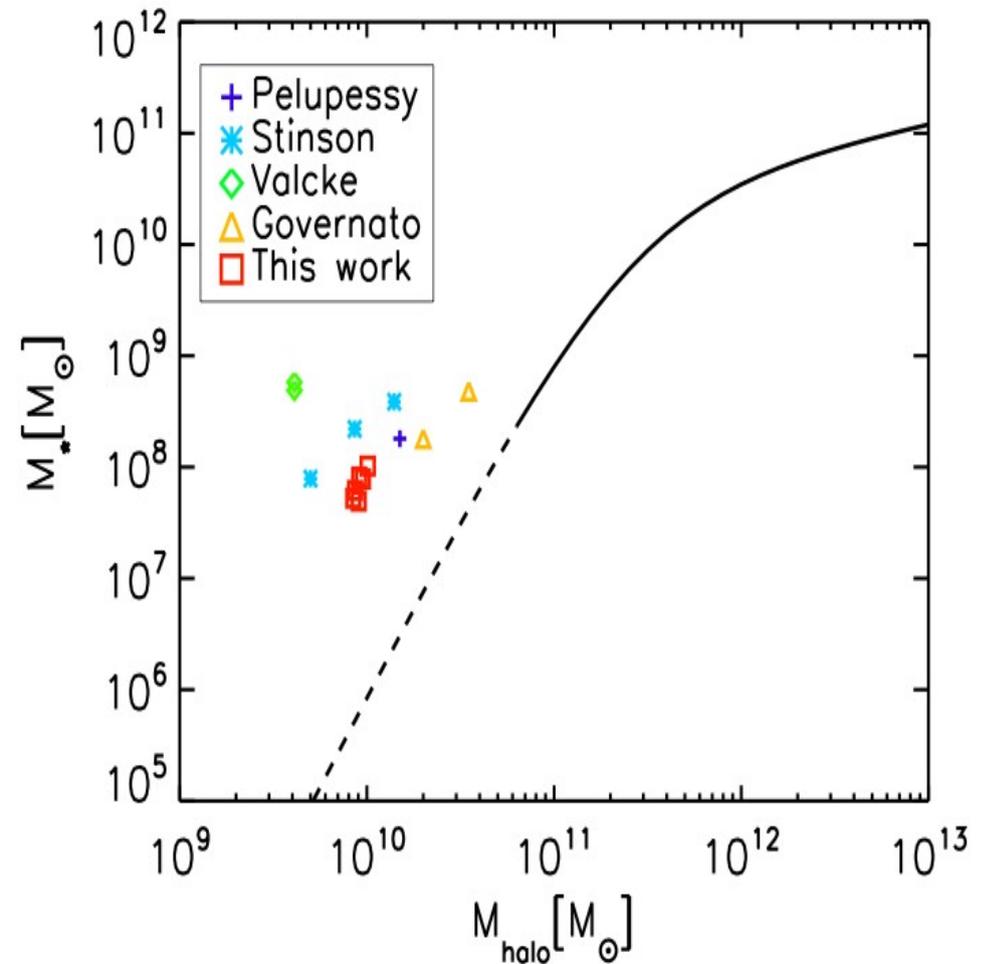
**Guo, White & Boylan-Kolchin (2010)**

# Current cosmological hydrodynamic simulations have trouble to explain such a low galaxy formation efficiency

## GALAXY FORMATION EFFICIENCY AS A FUNCTION OF HALO MASS



Guo, White & Boylan-Kolchin (2010)



Sawala & White (2010)

## Summary points

- Direct numerical simulations have become indispensable for studying the **non-linear growth of structures** in  $\Lambda$ CDM cosmologies.
- Current numerical techniques allow high-resolution simulations with an unprecedented dynamic range.  
**One presently reaches  $N > 10^{11}$ , with a dynamic range of  $10^5 - 10^7$  in 3D.**
- The future observation of a **sufficiently massive cluster** may easily rule out the  $\Lambda$ CDM model. The predicted satellite population may still be in **tension** with the observations.
- **Understanding galaxy formation** physics remains a **serious challenge** in  $\Lambda$ CDM, both at the faint and the bright end.
- **Radiative magneto-hydrodynamics codes** that follow structure formation still in their infancy.
- **Exaflop computers** arrive at the end of the decade, but it is highly questionable whether astrophysics can use them at scale.

## Discussion points

Future codes cannot be written by lonely graduate students any more...

*They require large, interdisciplinary teams with sustained funding.*

### Biggest challenges in arriving at better codes for galaxy formation:

- **Cope with huge dynamic range in time and space.**
- **Avoid work-load imbalance losses when on  $10^3$  to  $10^7$  cores.**
- **Code validation.**
- **Simulation data management.**
- **Dragging bright physics students into computational cosmology.**