

The binary-host connection: Astrophysics of gravitational wave binaries

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Collaborators: Maya Fishbach, Daniel Holz, Risa Wechsler, Zhanpei Fang

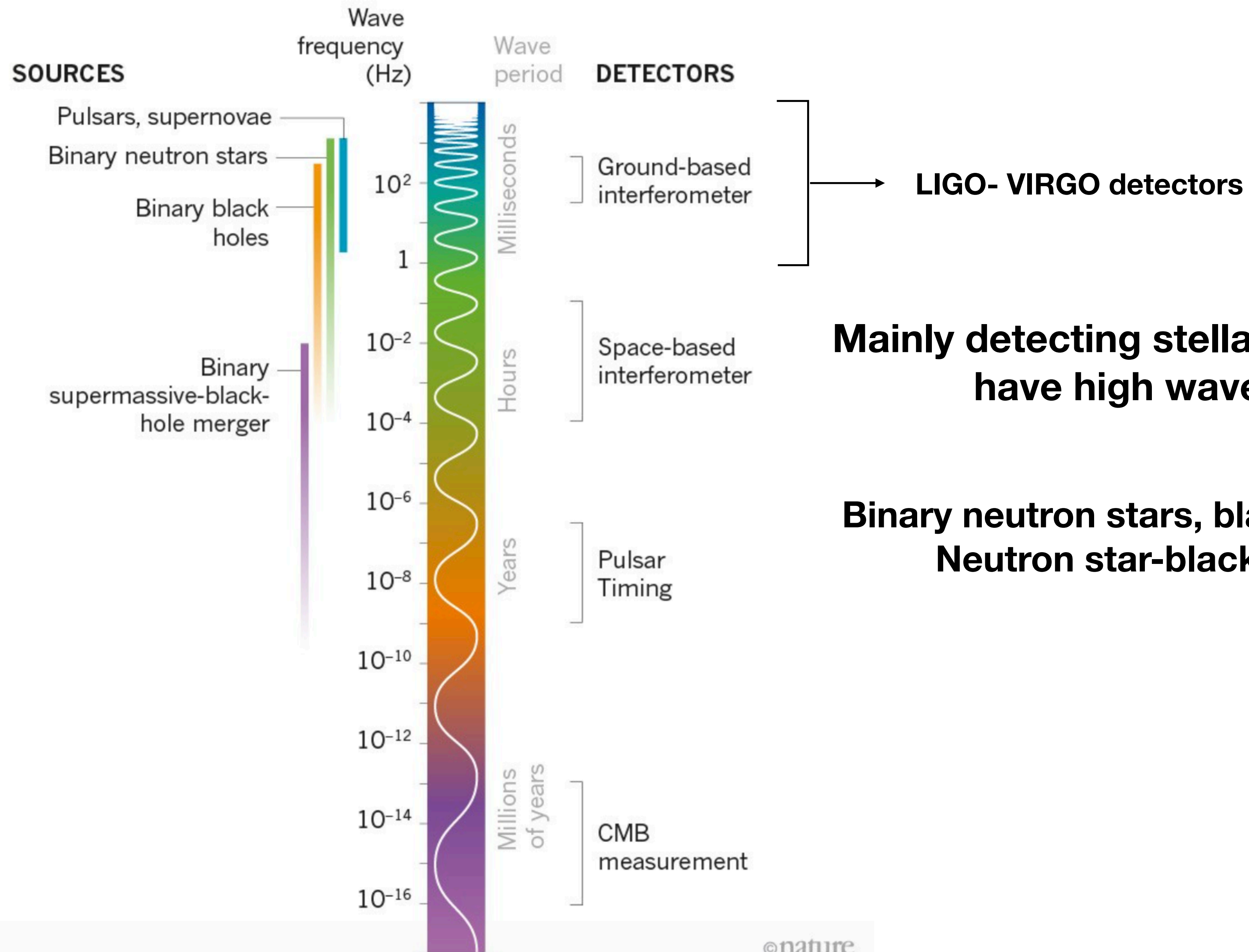
Gravitational Wave detectors have opened a new window to the universe

MAP OF GROUND-BASED INTERFEROMETERS

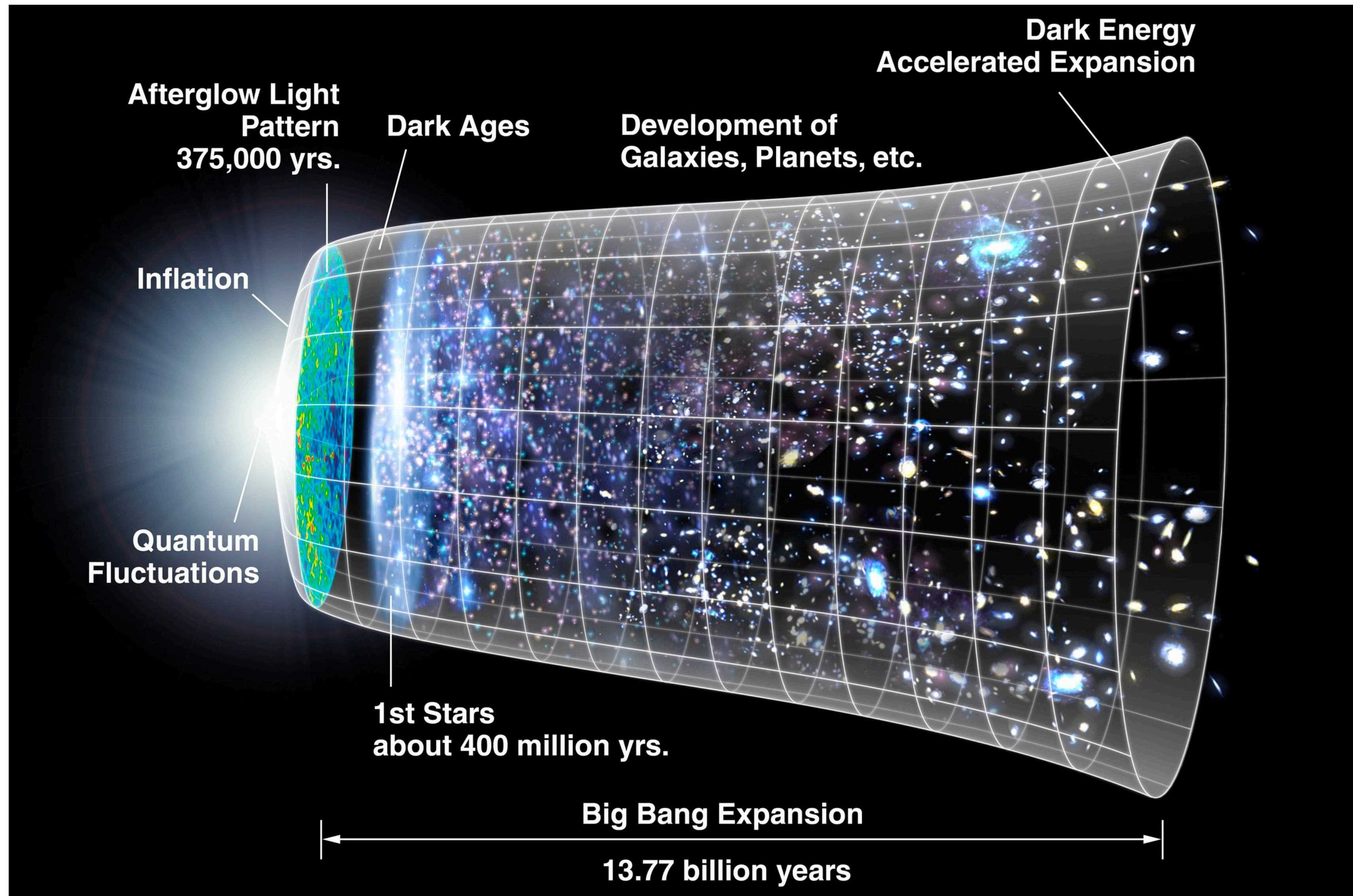
● Existing ● Planned ○ Proposed (arm length in km)



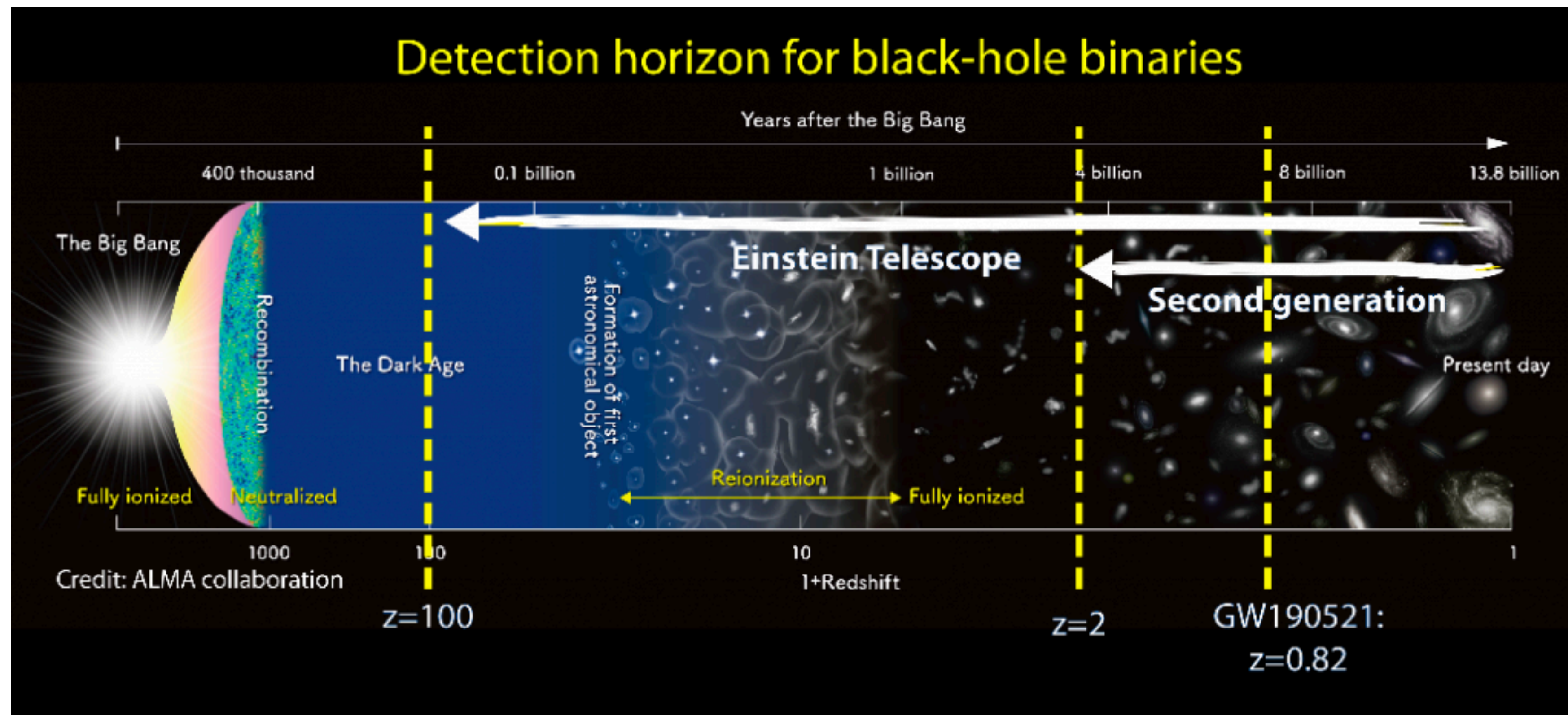
Gravitational Wave detectors



Evolution of stars through the history of the universe



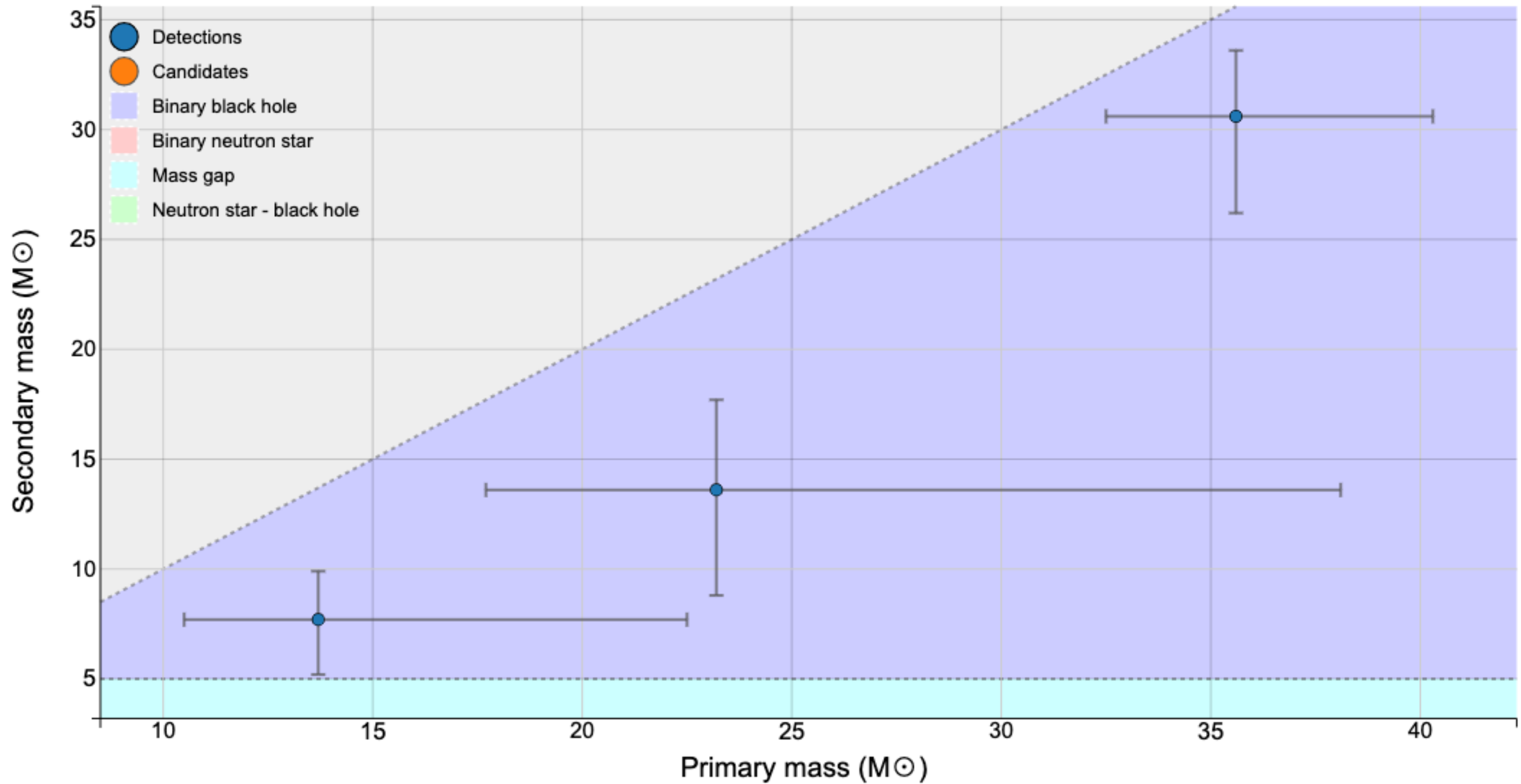
Evolution of stars through the history of the universe



<https://optics.org/news/11/9/30>

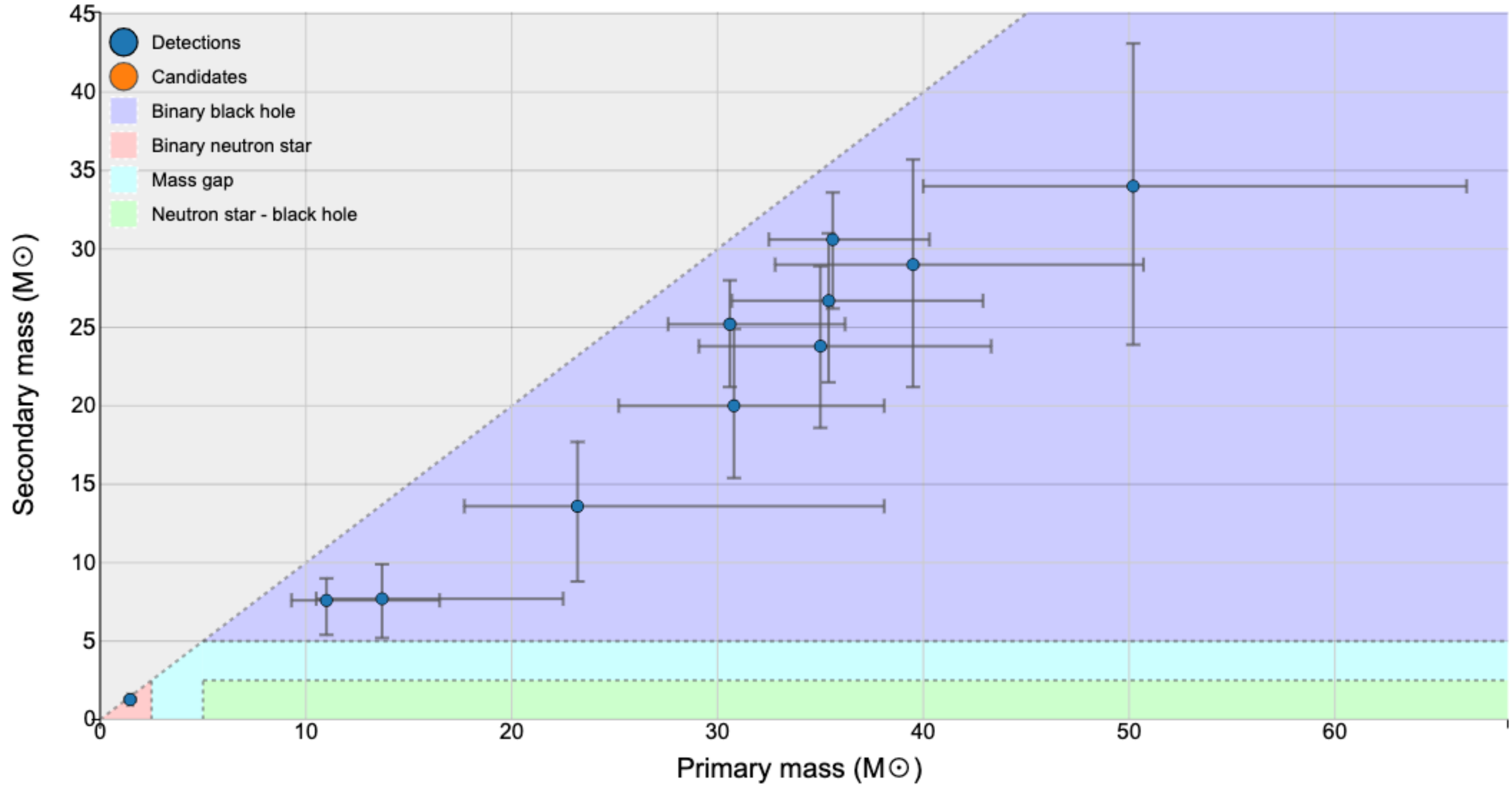
Second generation and future proposed detectors will be probing the first stars in the universe out to distant redshifts

LIGO-VIRGO 01



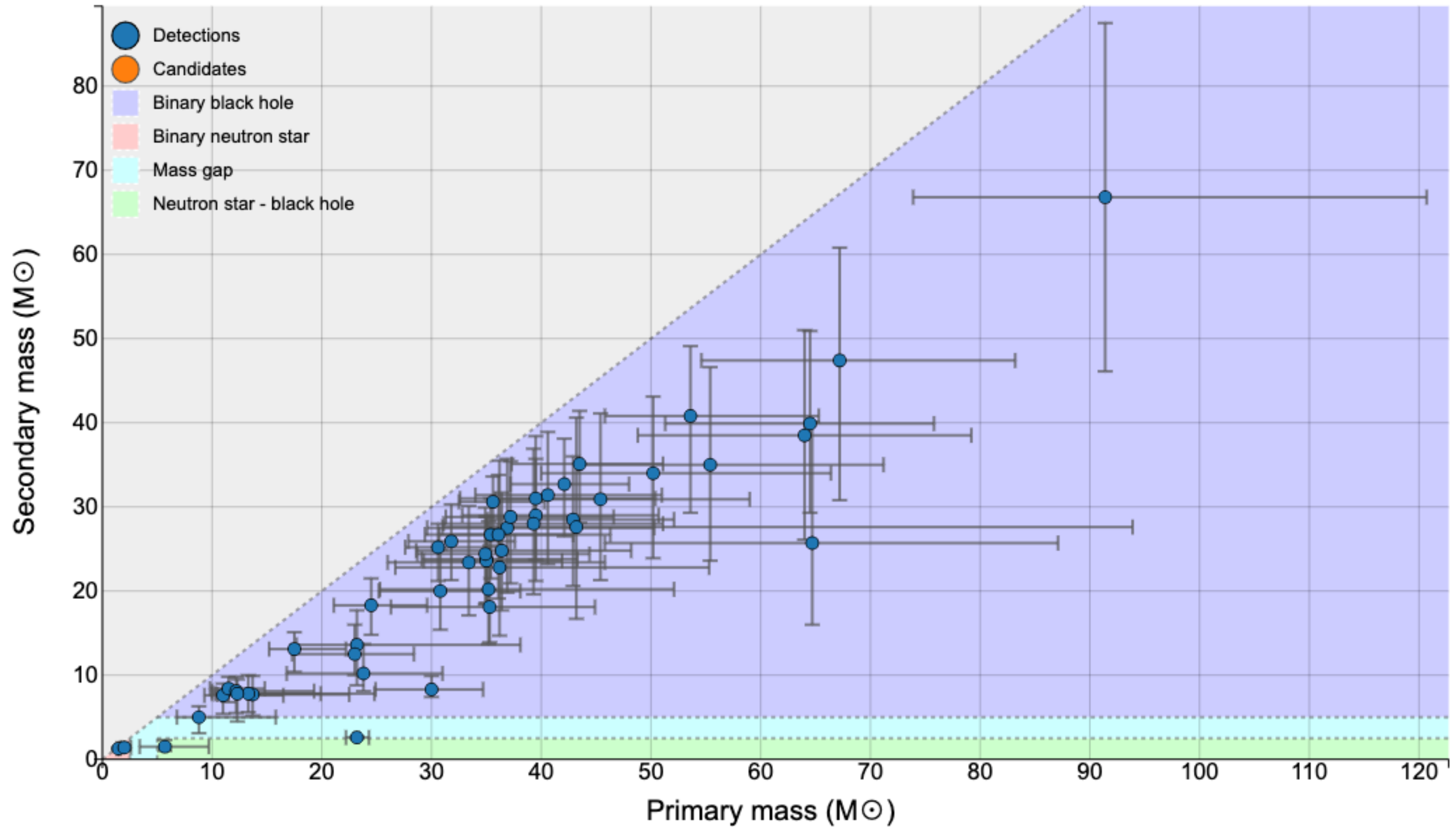
credit: <https://www.ligo.org/detections/>

LIGO-VIRGO O1+O2



credit: <https://www.ligo.org/detections/>

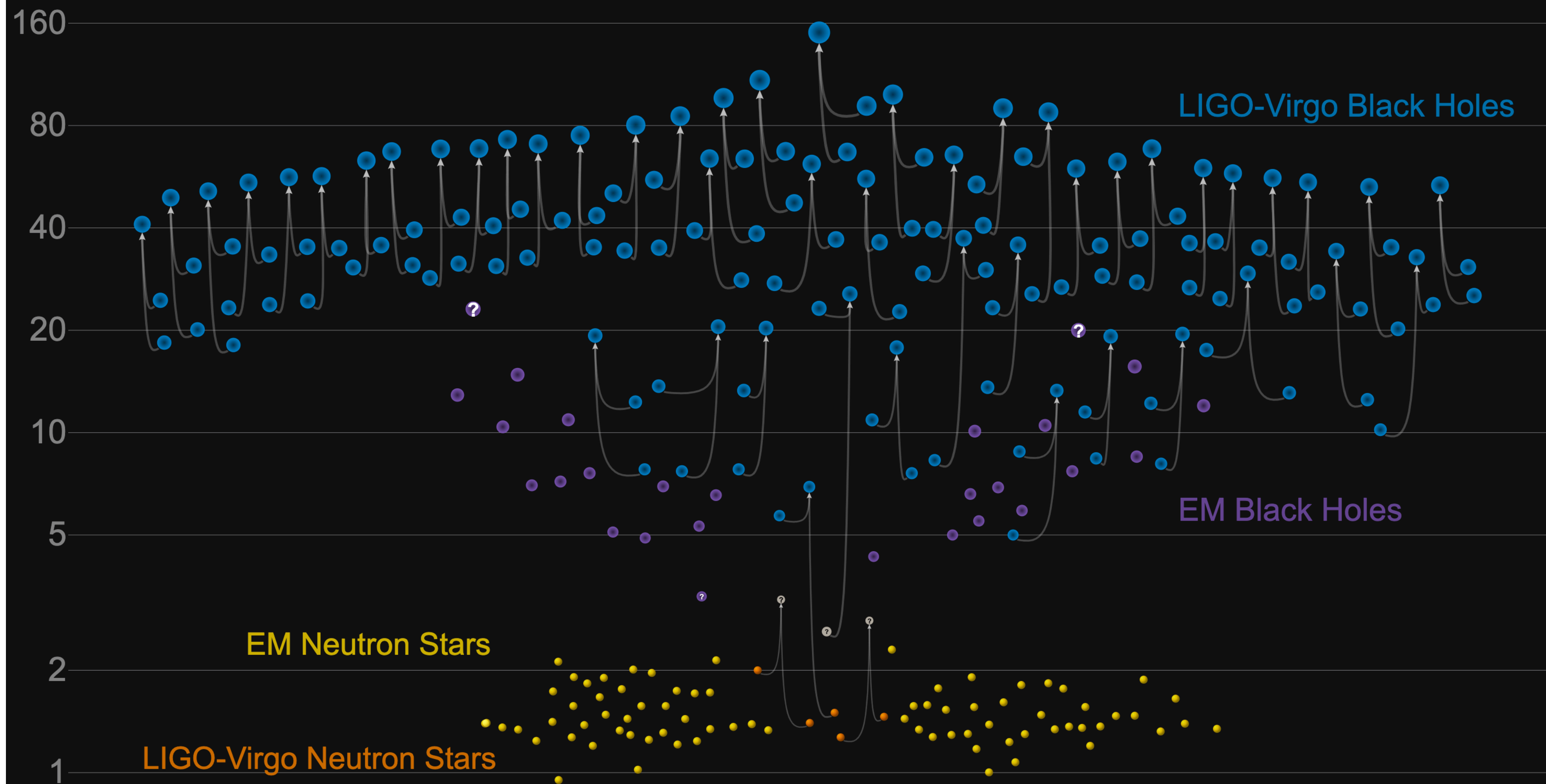
LIGO-VIRGO O1+O2+O3



credit: <https://www.ligo.org/detections/>

The binary zoo from LIGO-VIRGO collaboration

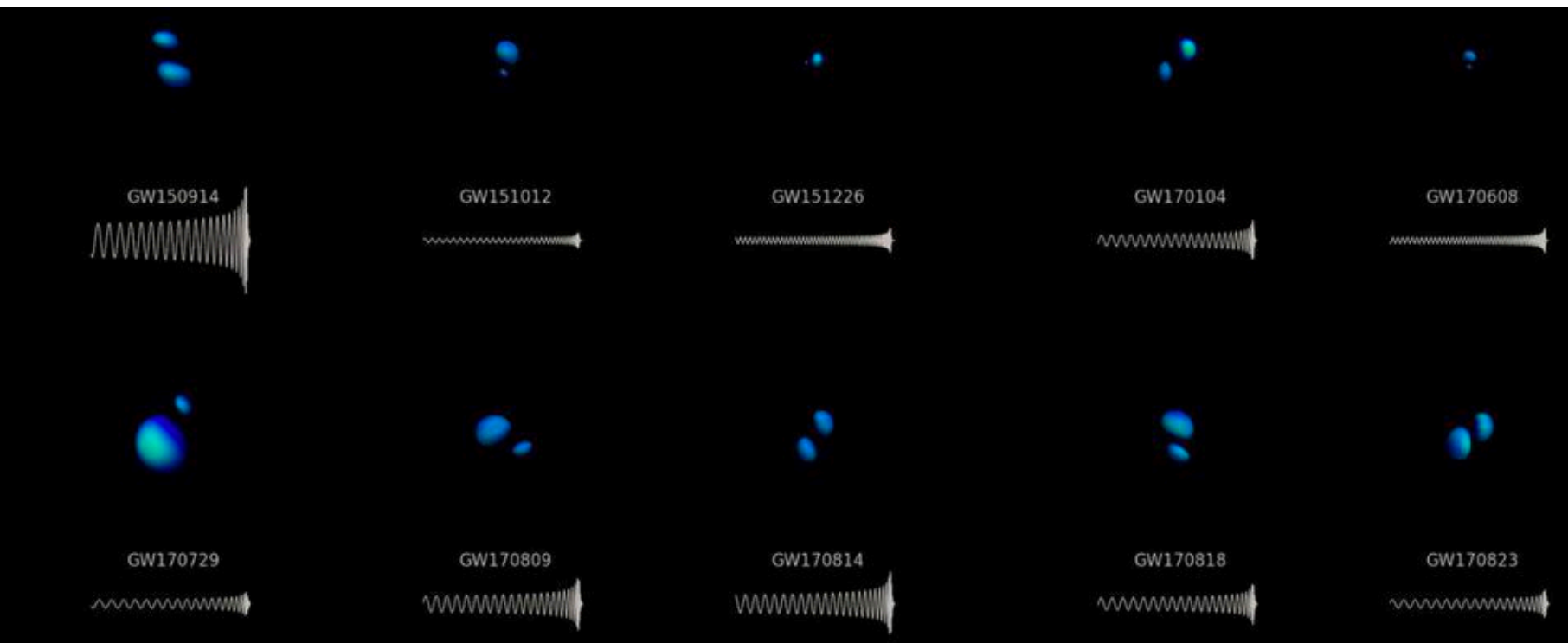
Masses in the Stellar Graveyard *in Solar Masses*



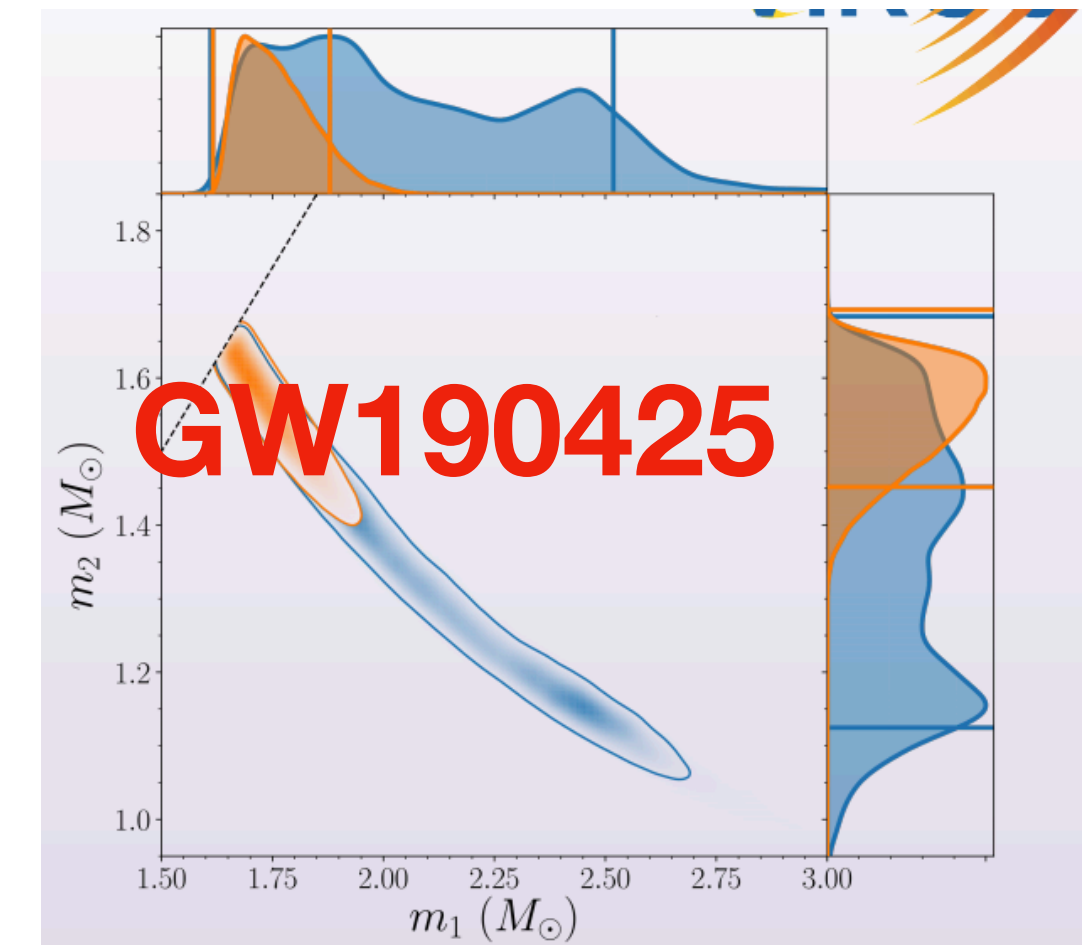
GWTC-2 plot v1.0

LIGO-Virgo | Frank Elavsky, Aaron Geller | Northwestern

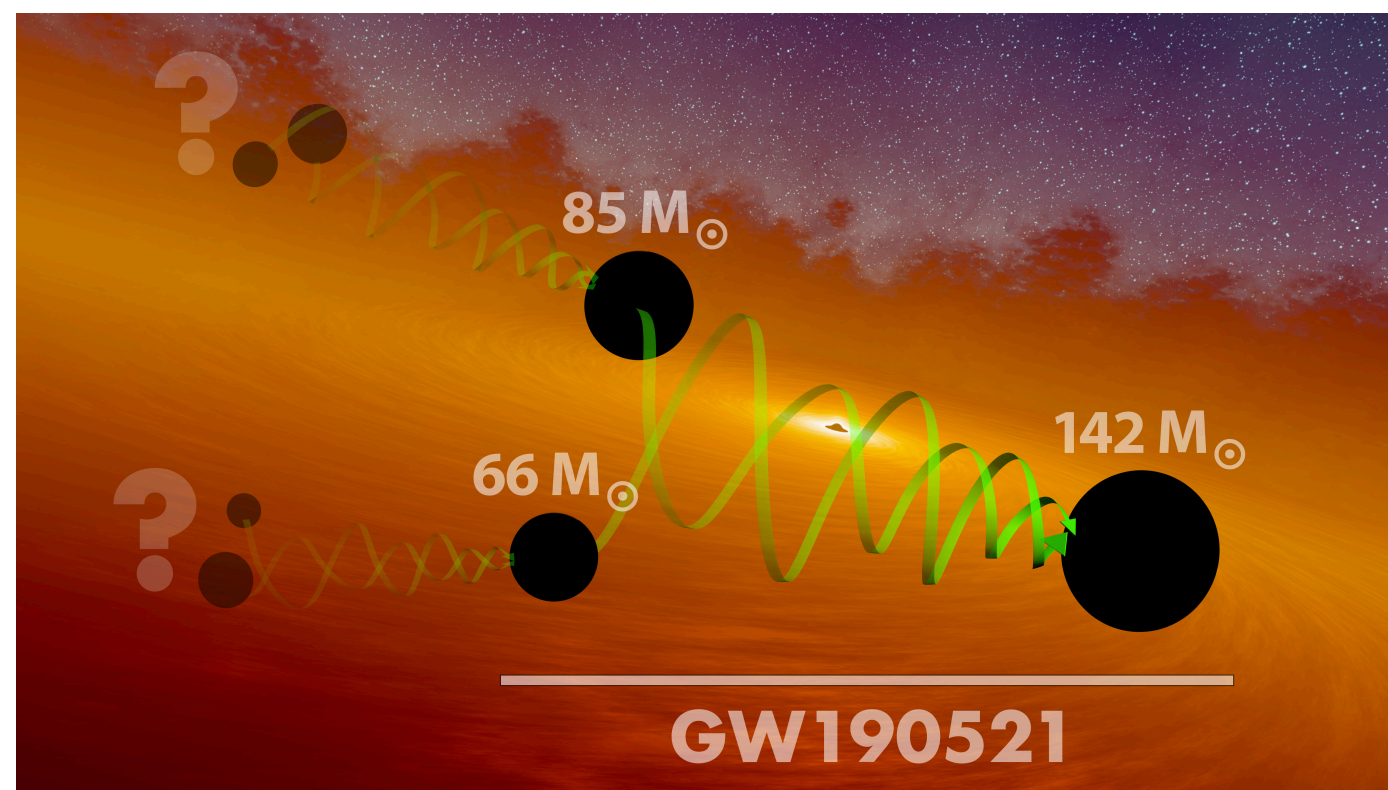
All kinds of diverse, interesting inhabitants in our universe!



First electromagnetic wave counterpart!



No such pair of light NS known in the local galaxy



GW190821

(intermediate mass black hole, individual components in the mass gap)



GW190814: heaviest neutron star or lightest black hole? In August 2019, the LIGO-Virgo gravitational-wave network witnessed the merger of a black hole with 23 times the mass of our sun and a binary companion 2.6 times the mass of the sun. Scientists do not know if the companion was a neutron star or a black hole, but either way it set a record as being either the heaviest known neutron star or the lightest known black hole. [Image credit: LIGO/Caltech/MIT/R. Hurt (IPAC).]

Largest known NS or lightest BH?

credit: <https://www.ligo.org/detections/>

Different formation scenarios of compact object binaries

Isolated scenarios -

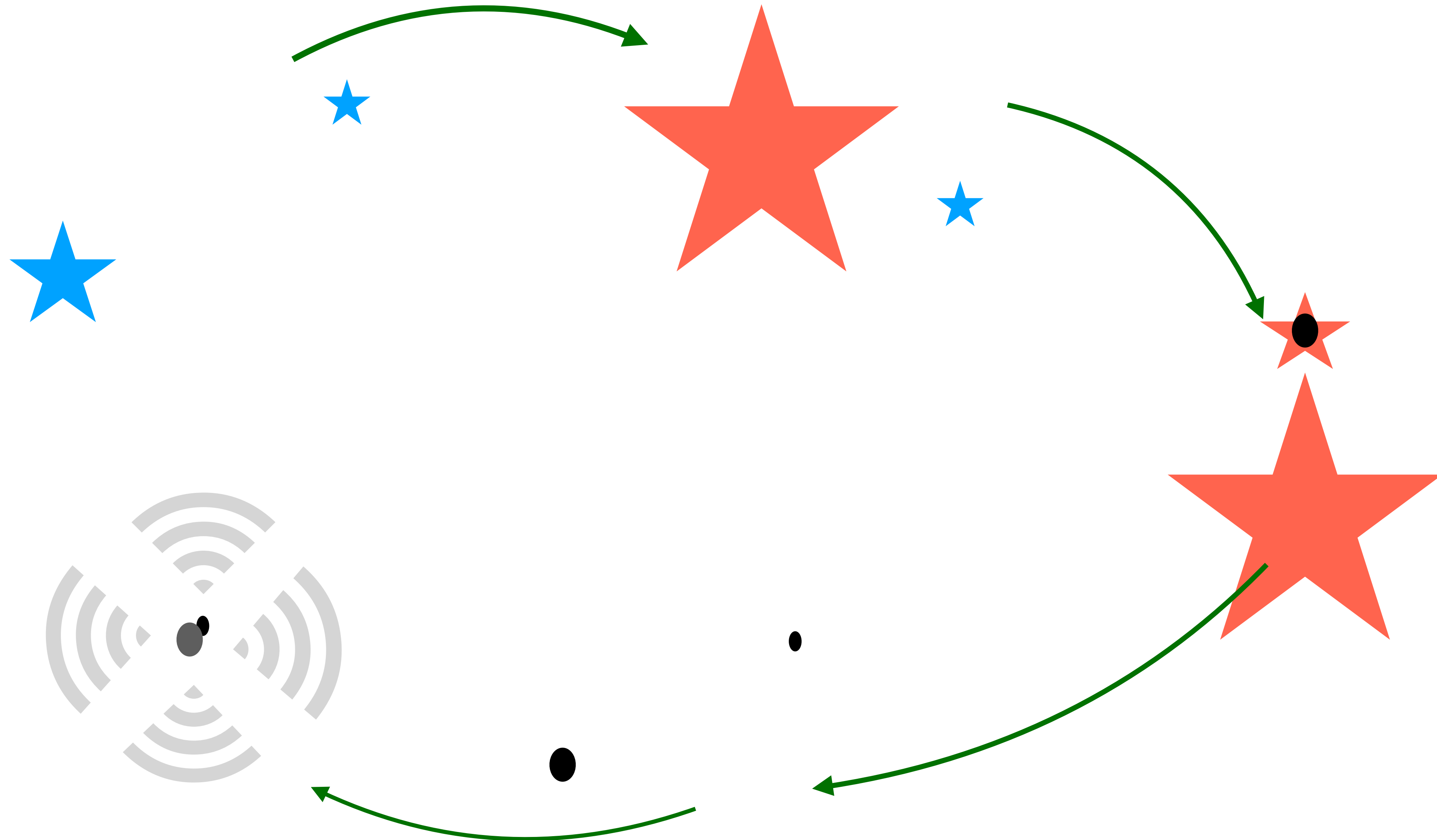
Common envelope

Homogenous evolution

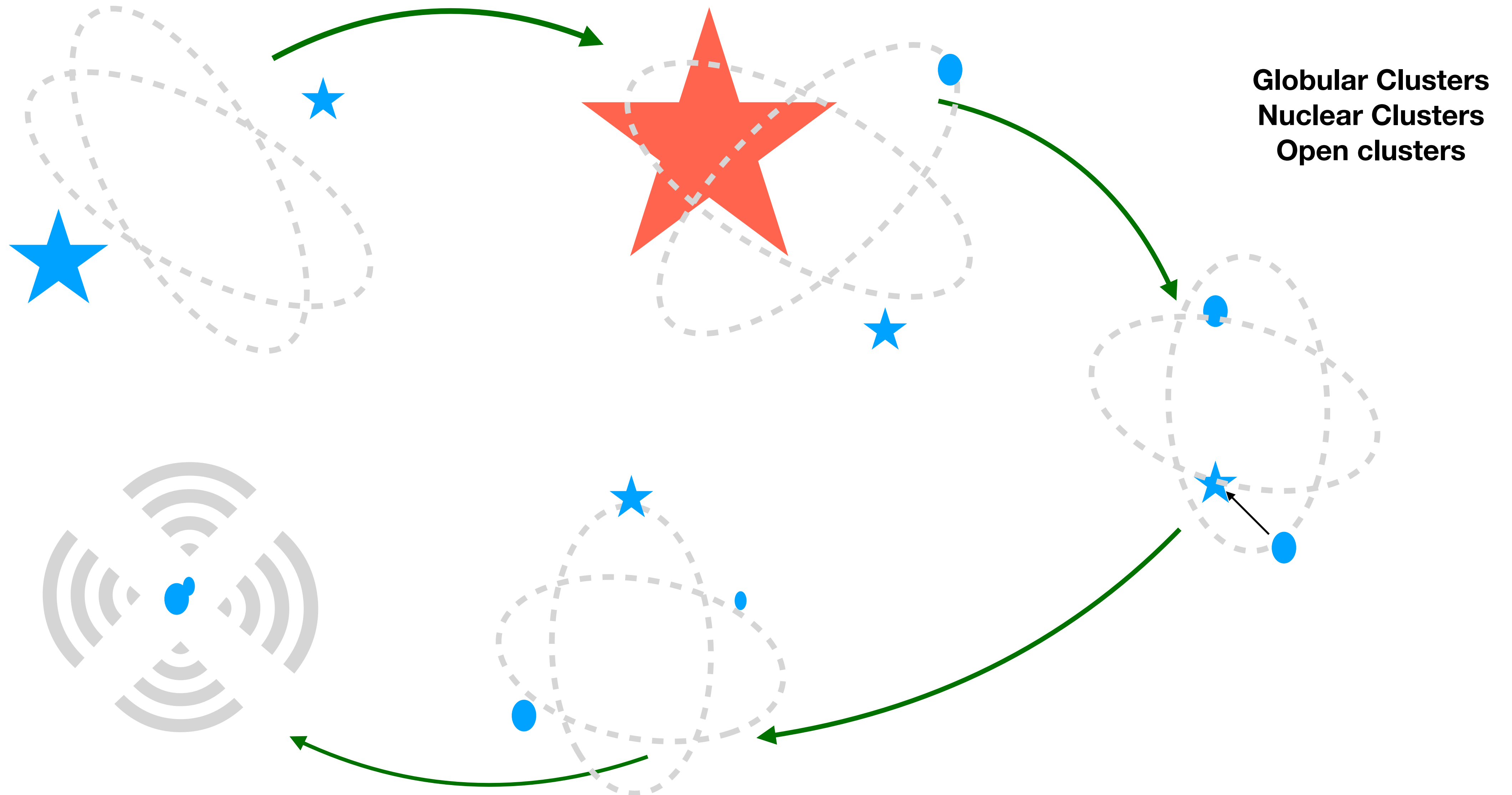
Dynamic formation in dense clusters -

Orbital captures in globular clusters, stellar clusters, nuclear star clusters

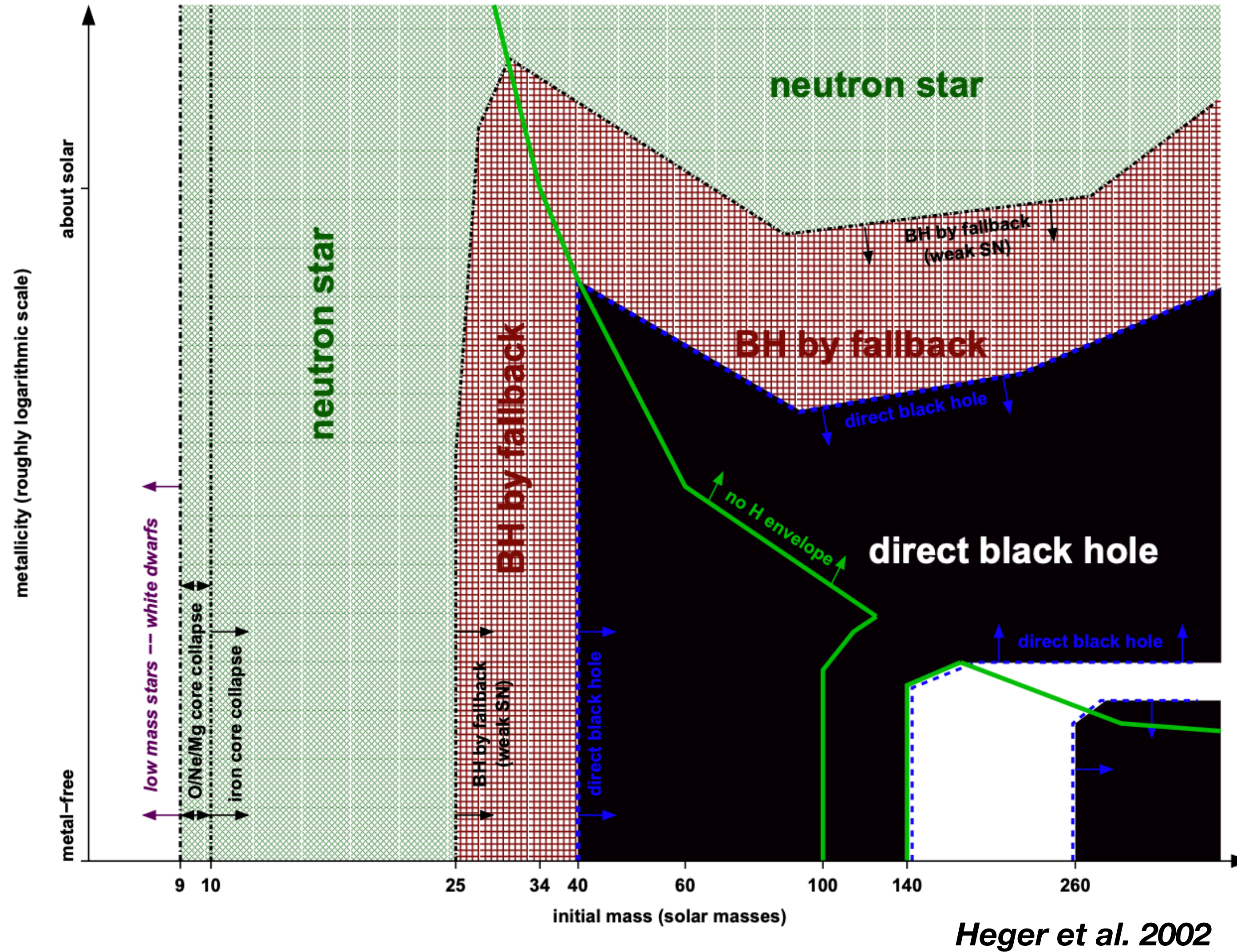
Isolated scenario - Common scenario for neutron star mergers



Dynamical interactions - Common scenario for BBHs

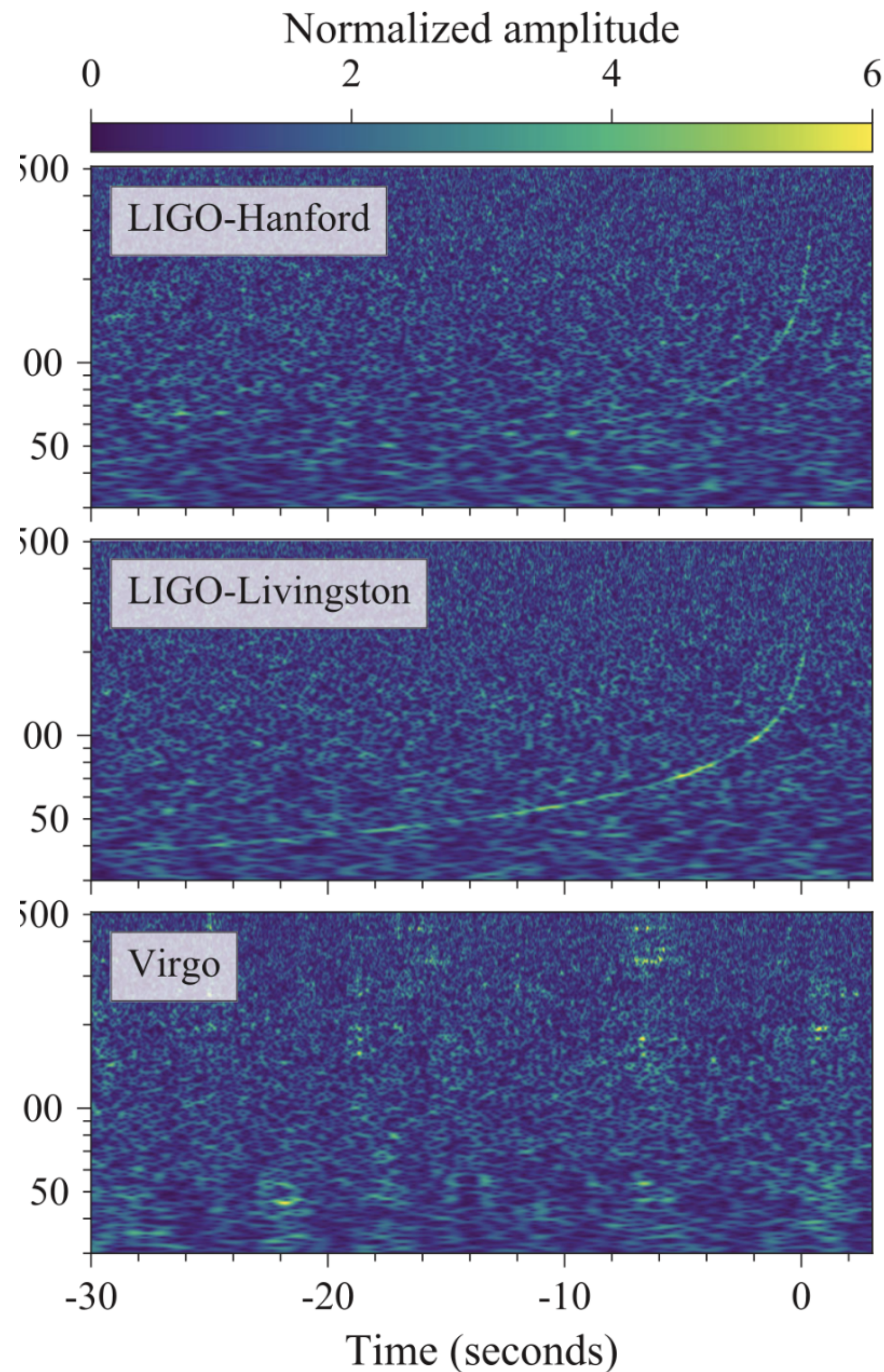


How stars end their lives depend intimately on their environment



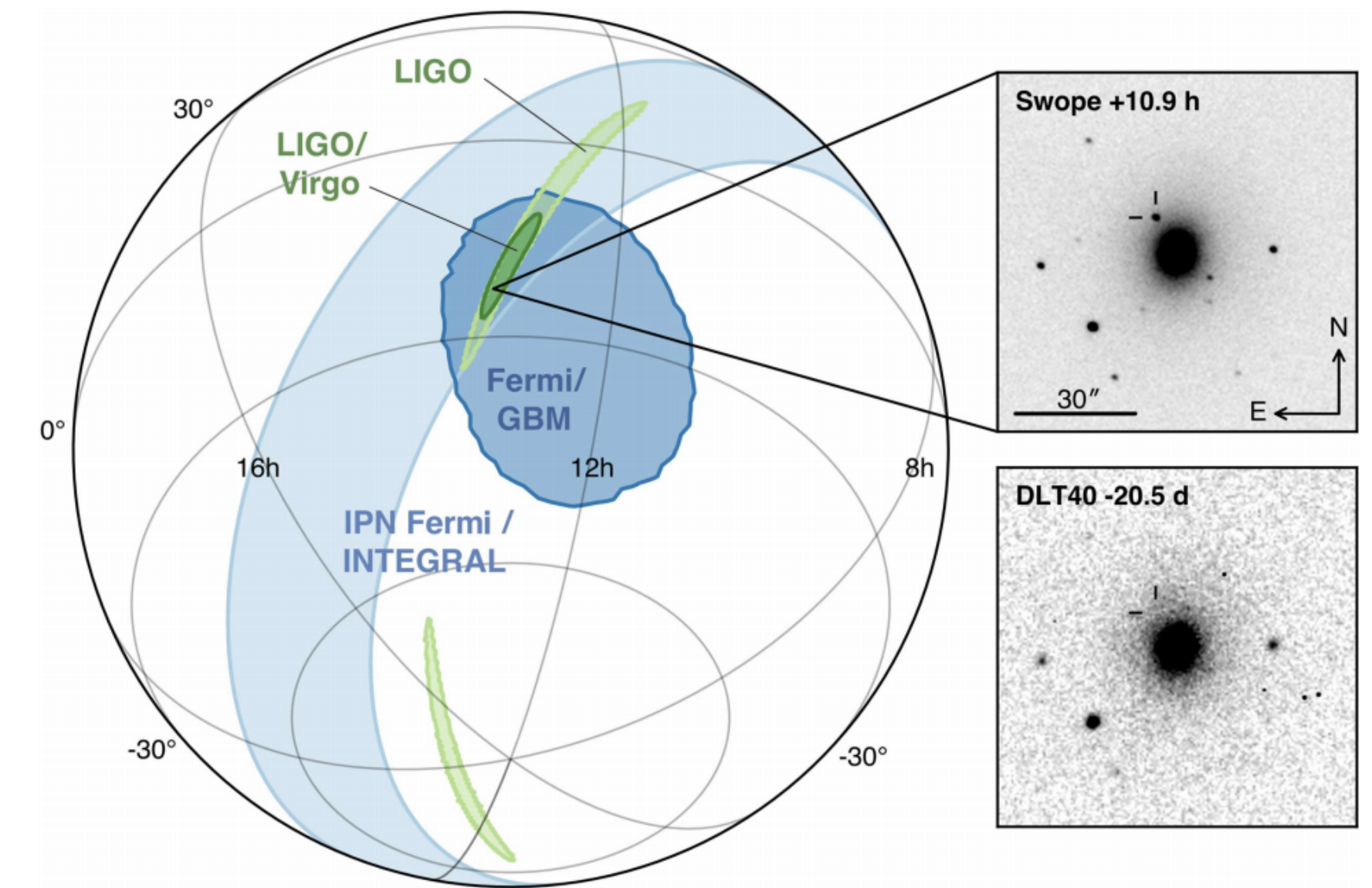
Stellar evolution depends on many factors where they form

A Gravitational Wave event with an electromagnetic counterpart



Abott et al. 2017

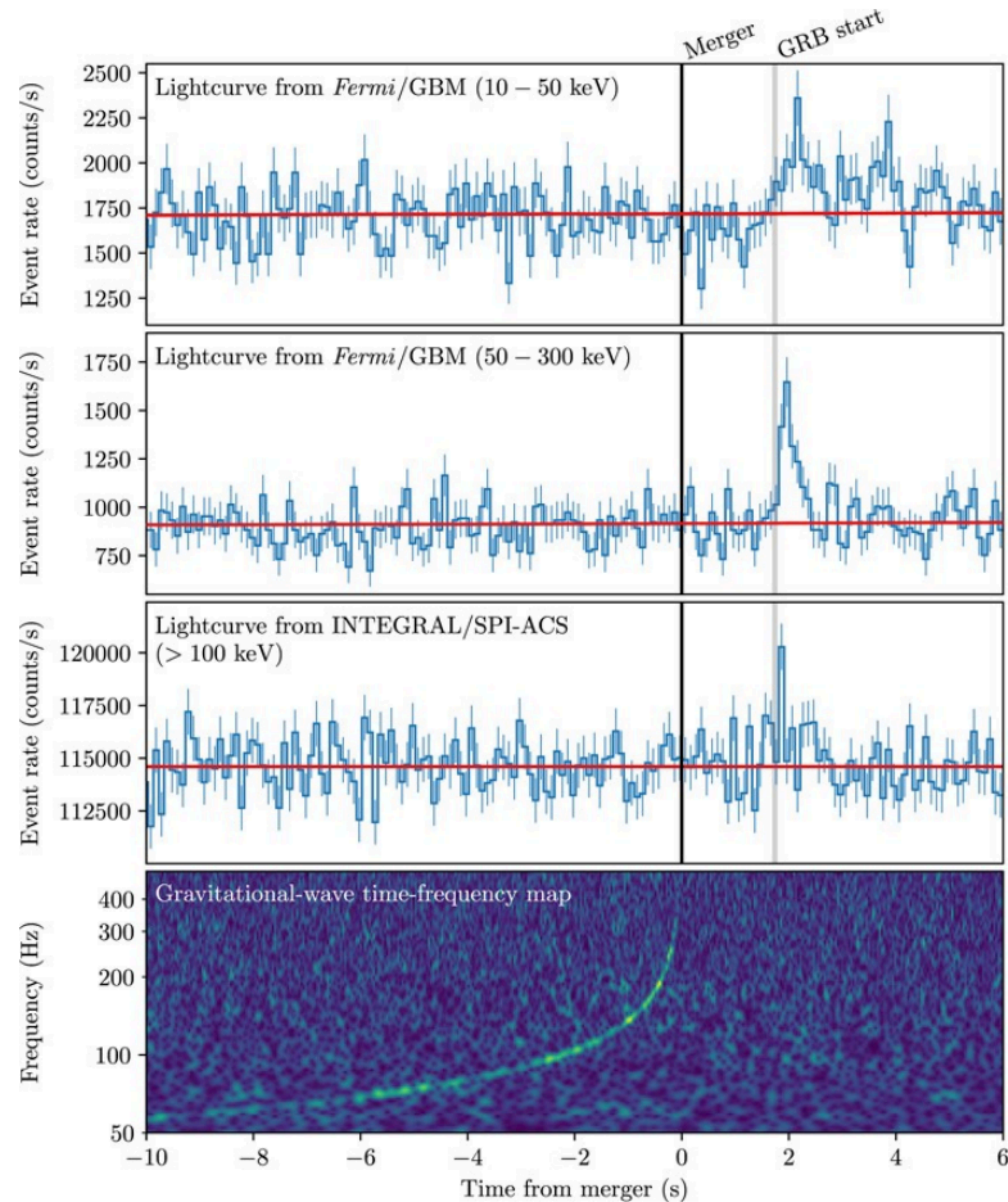
GW170817



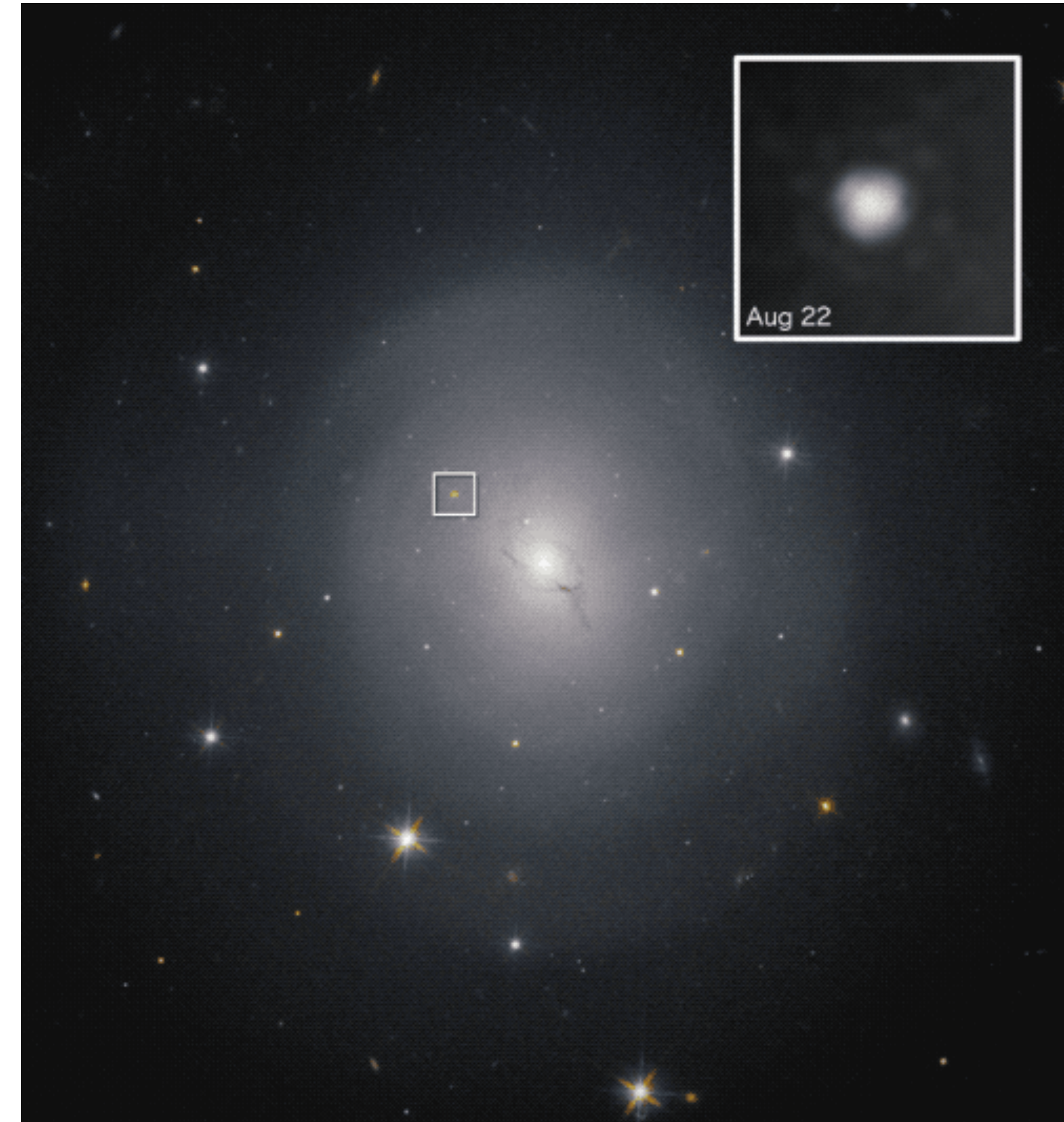
- First binary neutron star merger that was detected with a counterpart
- Total mass of 2.74 Msun
- 40 Mpc h^{-1}

This event was observed nearly throughout the electromagnetic spectrum

For the first time we glimpsed into the host galaxy of the merger



Abott et al. 2017, Goldstein et al. 2017



NGC4993

The event was observed across the electromagnetic spectrum!

Followed by a short GRB after ~ 1.7 seconds

Binary systems evolve within cosmic structure and co-evolve with galaxies through cosmic time



Credit: ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO), Alves et al.



Hubble: NGC3147



Credit: ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO), Alves et al.



Credit: ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO), Alves et al.



Hubble: NGC3147



Abell cluster



Hubble: NGC3147



Abell cluster



Credit: ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO), Alves et al.

credit: Hubble/ESA

Binary systems co-evolve with the structure in the universe

Relevant timescales :

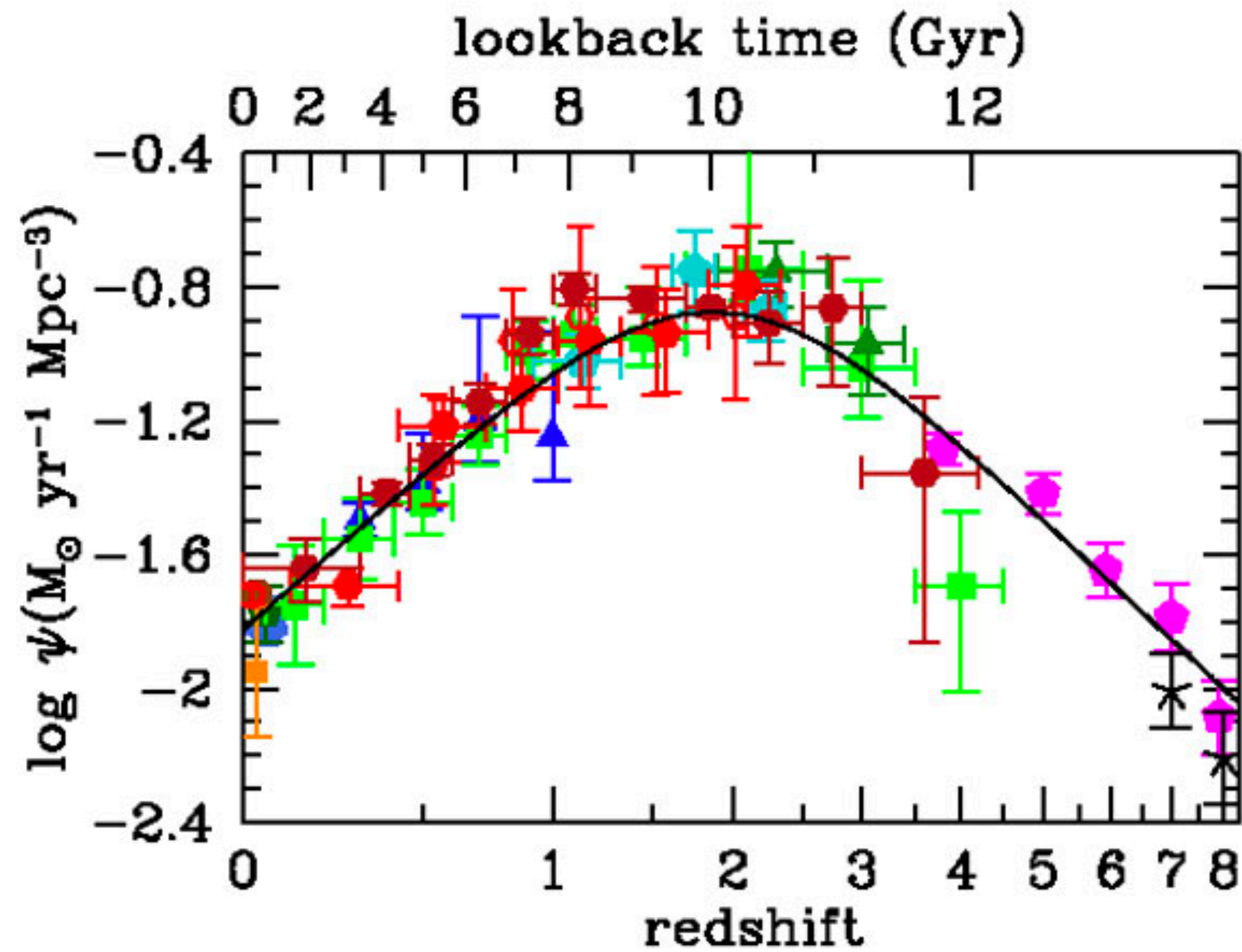
Formation time: When do these systems form

Merger times: When do they merge?



Host galaxies can evolve significantly

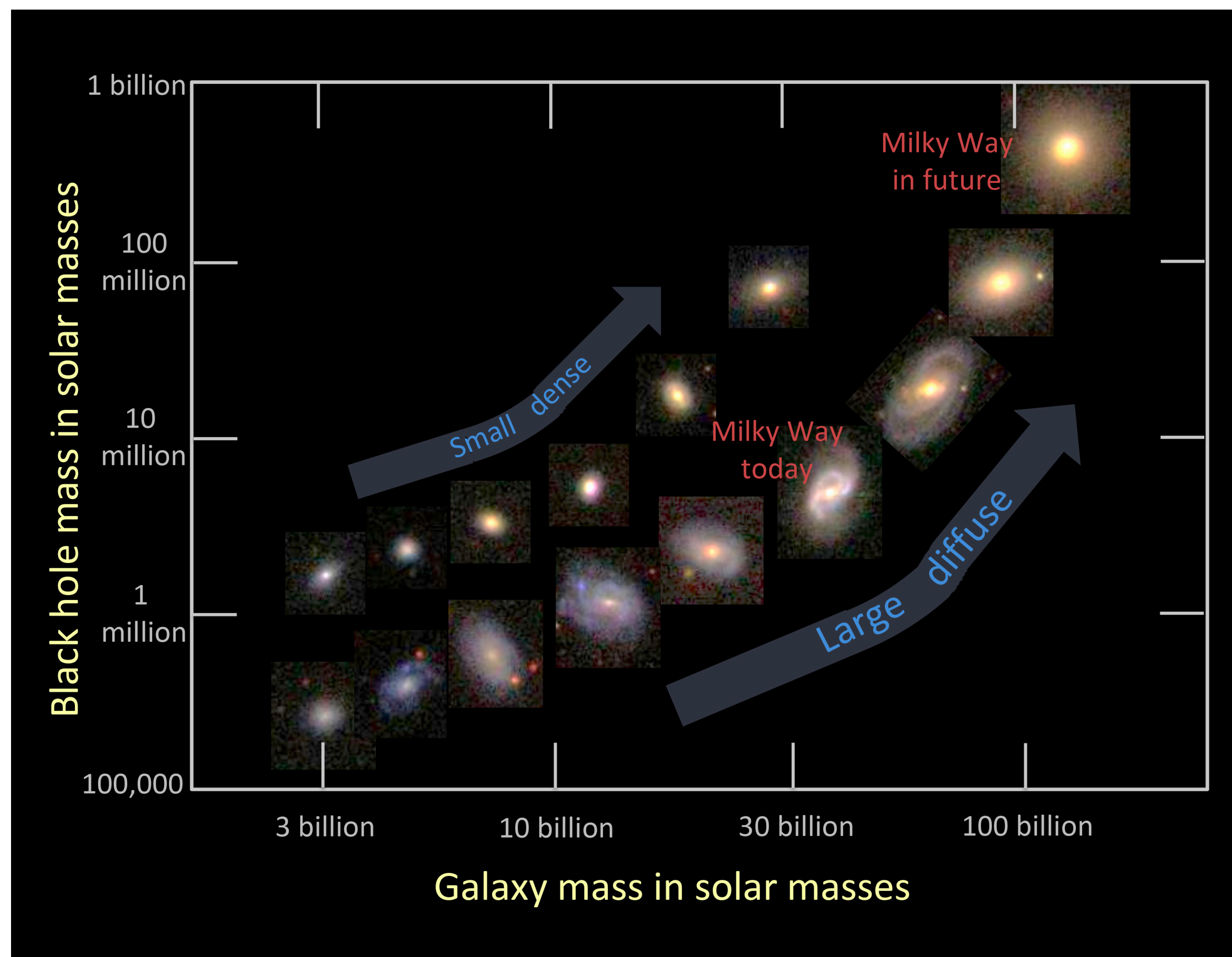
If timescales are of \sim Hubble time



Star formation history of the universe

Madau et al. 2014

Galaxies evolve from being blue, star-forming and spiral to red, quiescent and elliptical



The galaxies where the binaries **form** can be very different from where they **merge**

Properties of the hosts, therefore encode information about the binary evolution

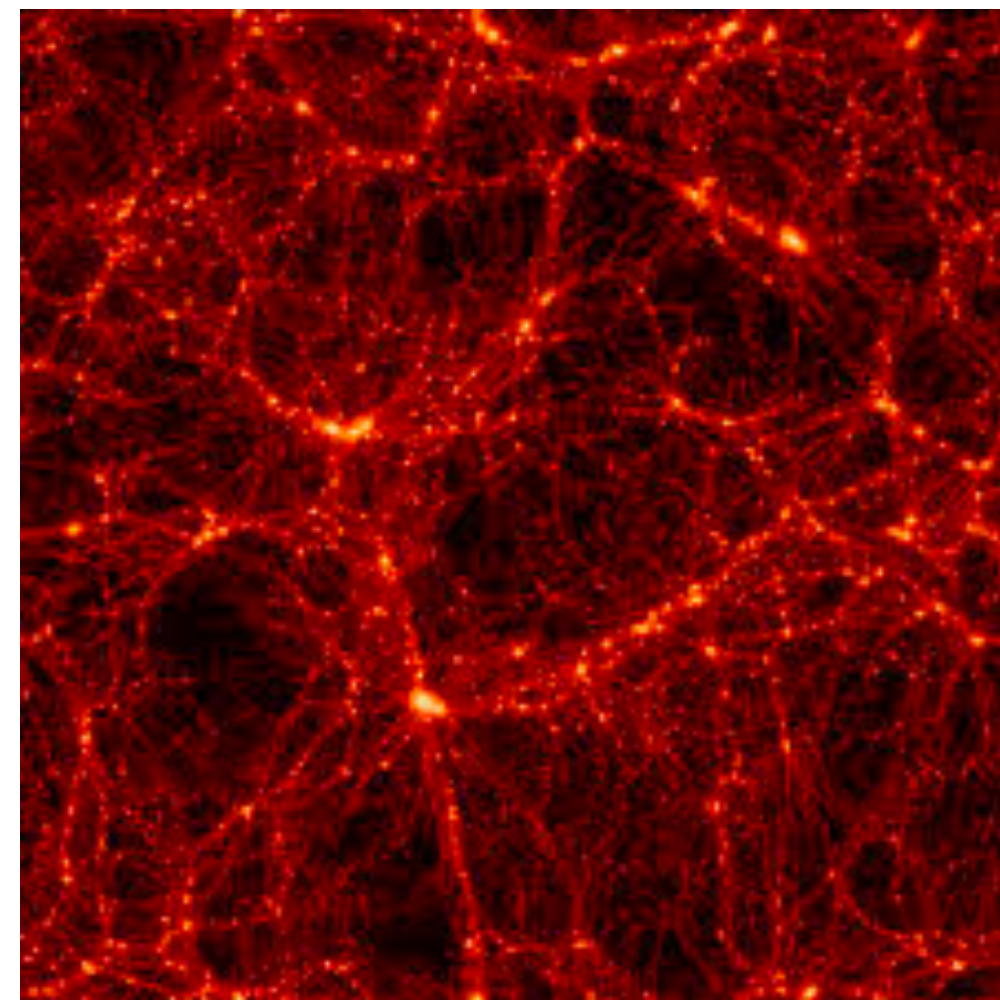
What do the properties of the host galaxies tell us about the underlying binaries?

Galaxy properties like its **age, color, star-formation rate, stellar mass** and their evolution through time depend often depend on the underlying cosmic web and its evolution



They are often time driven by mergers, environments, AGNs deeply connected to cosmological evolution of structure

Modeling Binary evolution in a Cosmological Volume

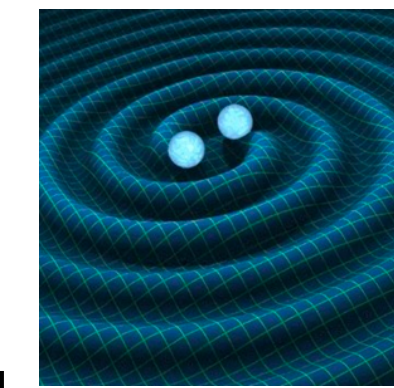


DM-only simulation

→
**Semi-analytic
Modelling**



→
Simple modelling



The binary–host connection: astrophysics of gravitational wave binaries from their host galaxy properties

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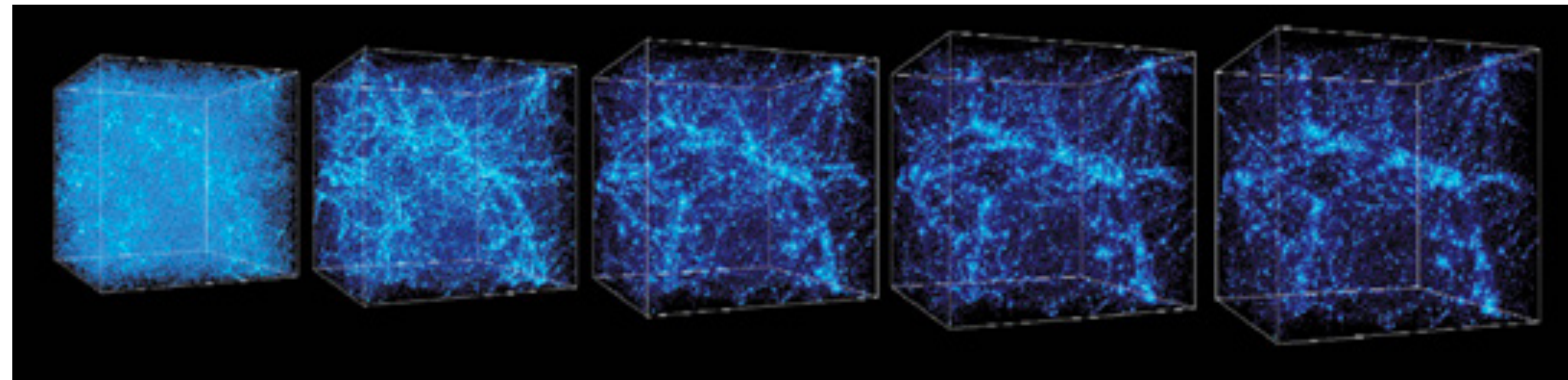
UNIVERSE MACHINE SIMULATIONS

Behroozi et al. 2018

- Populates a dark-matter only simulation with galaxies.
- Based on semi-empirical model that parametrizes the correlation between the star-formation rate of a galaxy and the properties of its parent halo,

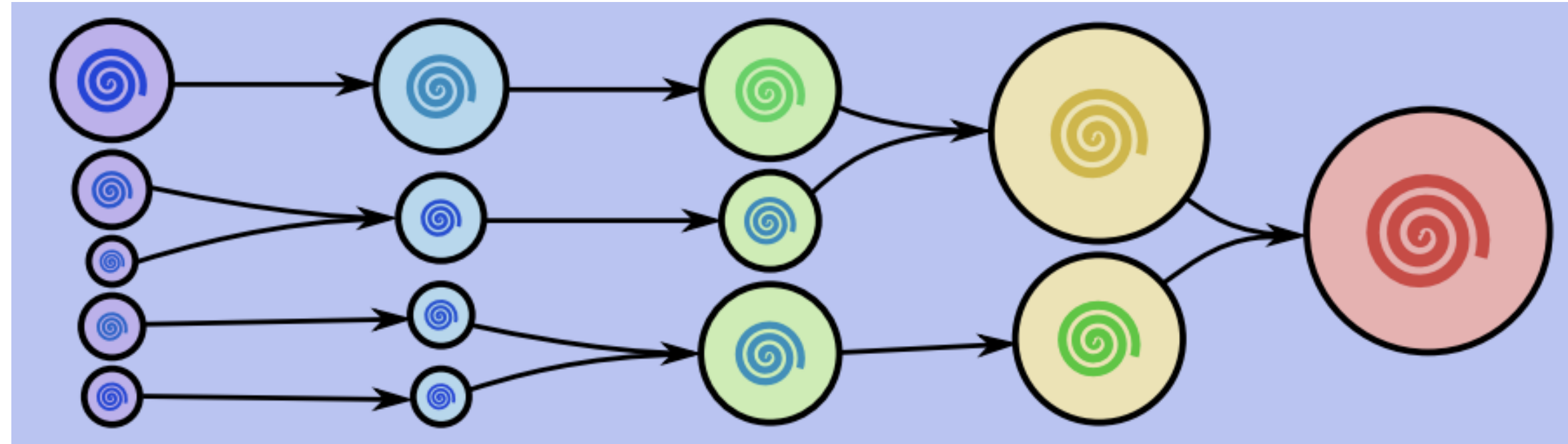
$$SFR = f(M_h, dM_h/dt, z)$$

- 43 parameter model
- Bolshoi simulations
- 2048^3 particles
- 250 Mpc/h volume



Bolshoi simulation 2010

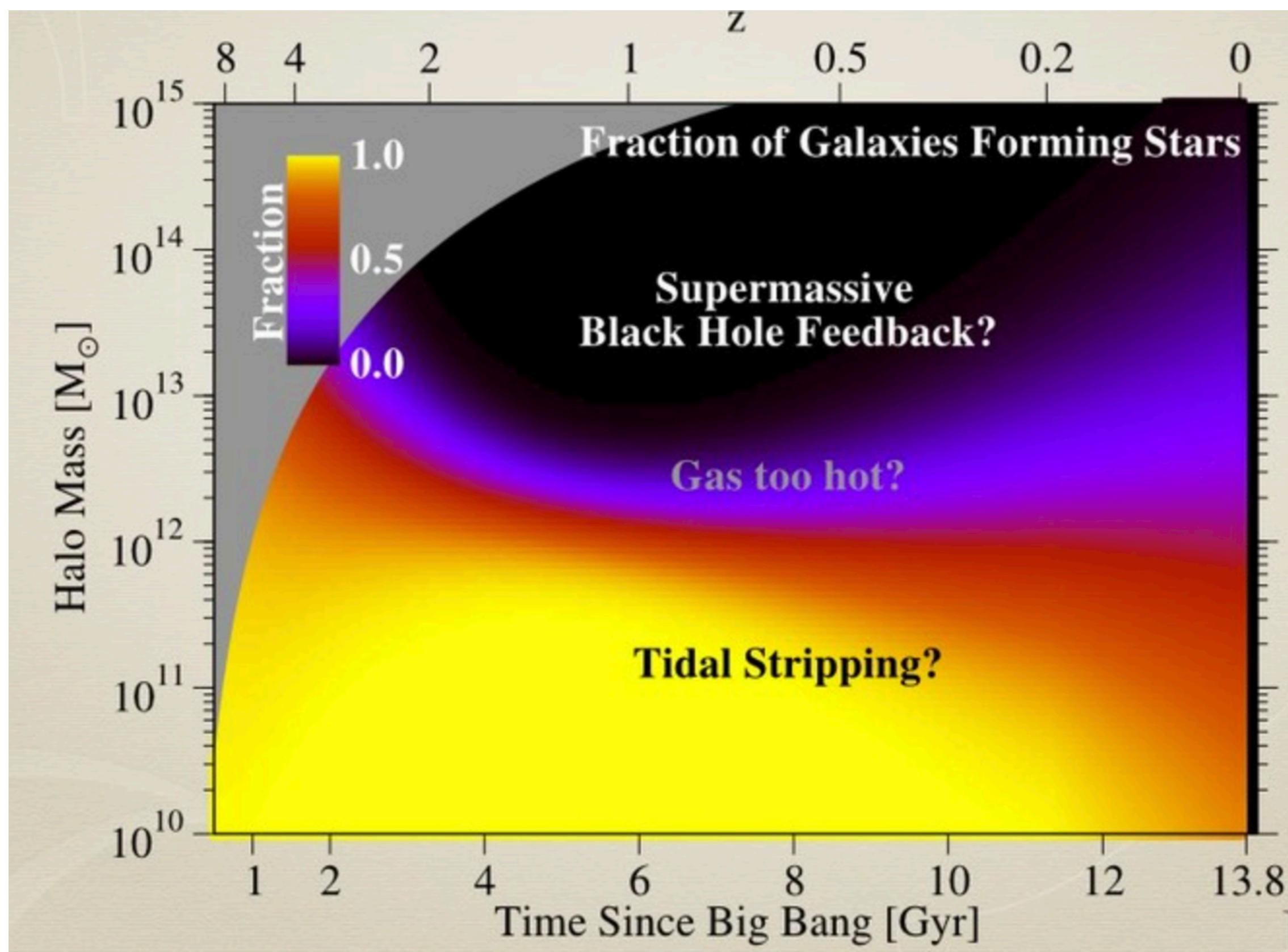
Maps the merger history of cosmic structure (dark matter halos) to galaxy star-formation evolution



Type	Redshifts	Primarily Constrains
Stellar mass functions ^a	0 – 4	SFR– v_{Mpeak} relation
Cosmic star formation rates ^a	0 – 10	SFR– v_{Mpeak} relation
Specific star formation rates ^a	0 – 8	SFR– v_{Mpeak} relation
UV luminosity functions	4 – 10	SFR– v_{Mpeak} relation
Quenched fractions ^a	0 – 4	Quenching– v_{Mpeak} relation
Autocorrelation functions for quenched/SF/all galaxies from SDSS ^b	~0	Quenching/assembly history correlation
Cross-correlation functions for galaxies from SDSS ^b	~0	Satellite disruption
Autocorrelation functions for quenched/SF galaxies from PRIMUS ^a	~0.5	Quenching/assembly history correlation
Quenched fraction of primary galaxies as a function of neighbour density ^b	~0	Quenching/assembly history correlation
Median UV–stellar mass relations ^b	4 – 8	Systematic stellar mass biases
IRX–UV relations	4 – 7	Dust

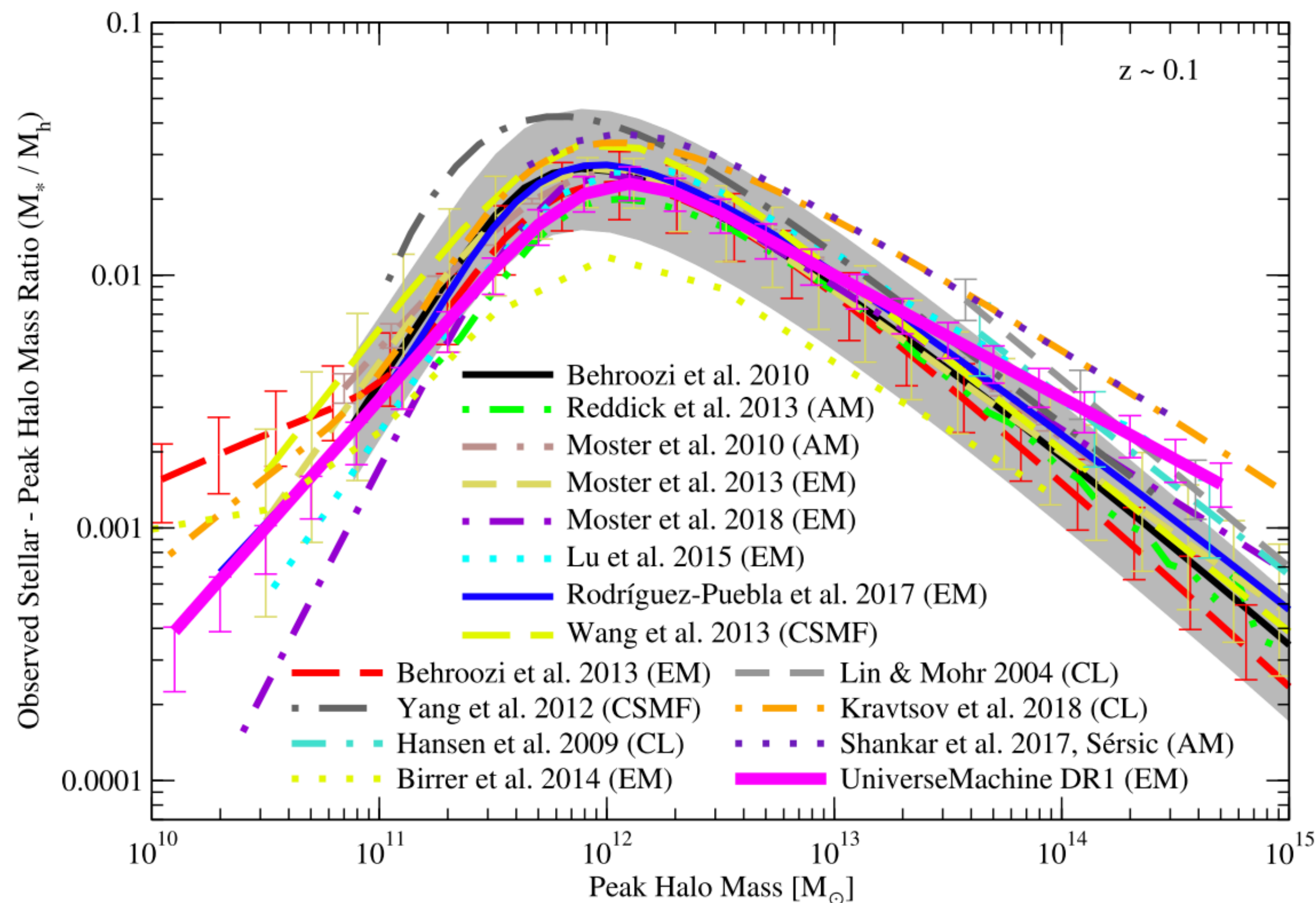
Set of observations that is used to constrain the model

UNIVERSEMACHINE Simulations



Behroozi et al. 2018

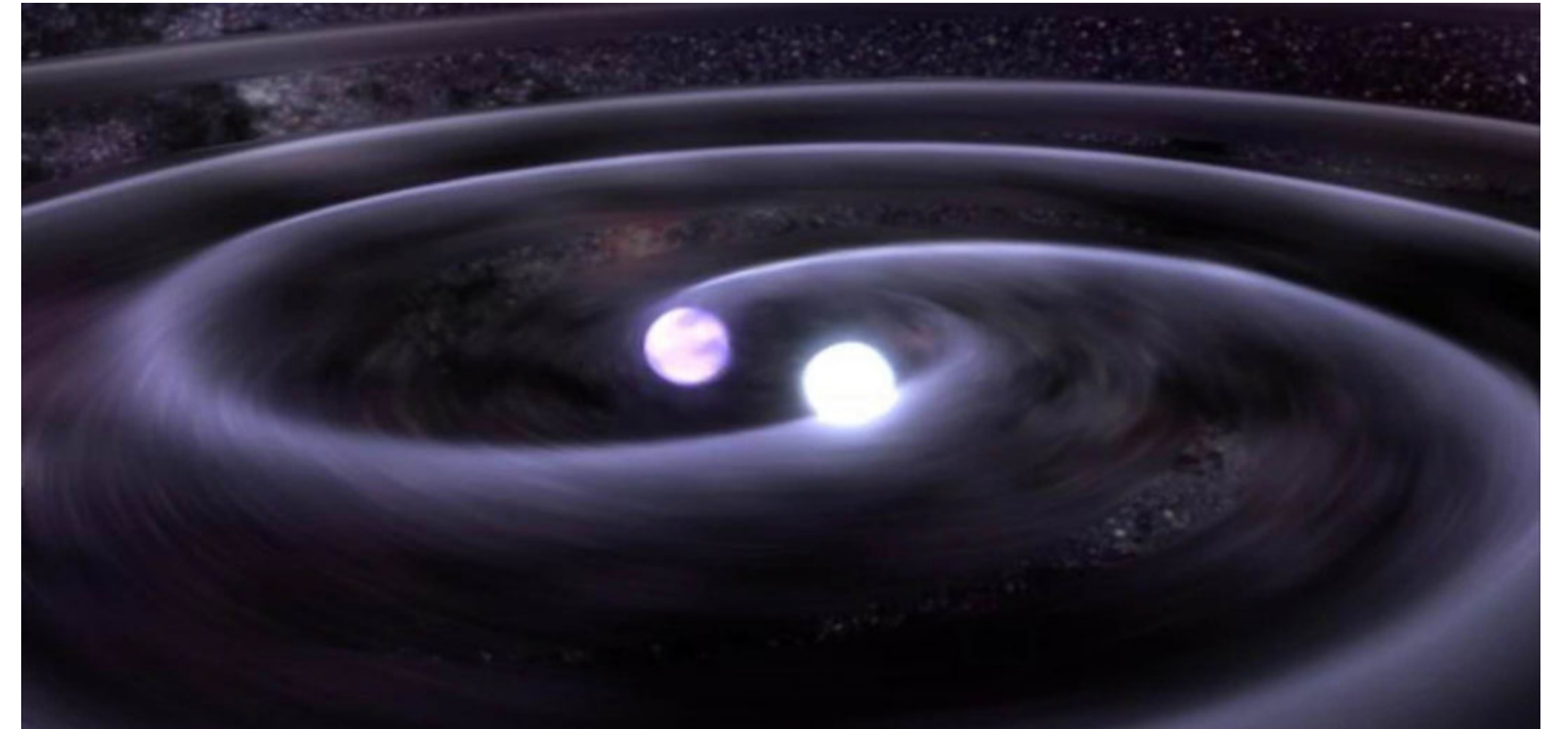
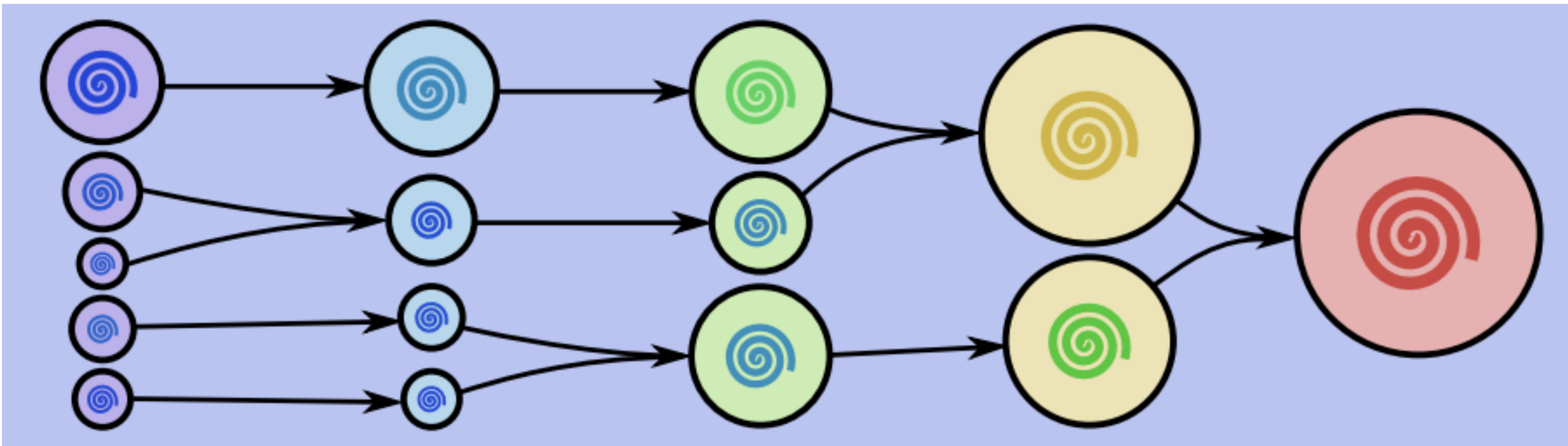
Fraction of galaxies forming stars at a given halo mass



Behroozi et al. 2018

Stellar mass halo mass relation at z=0

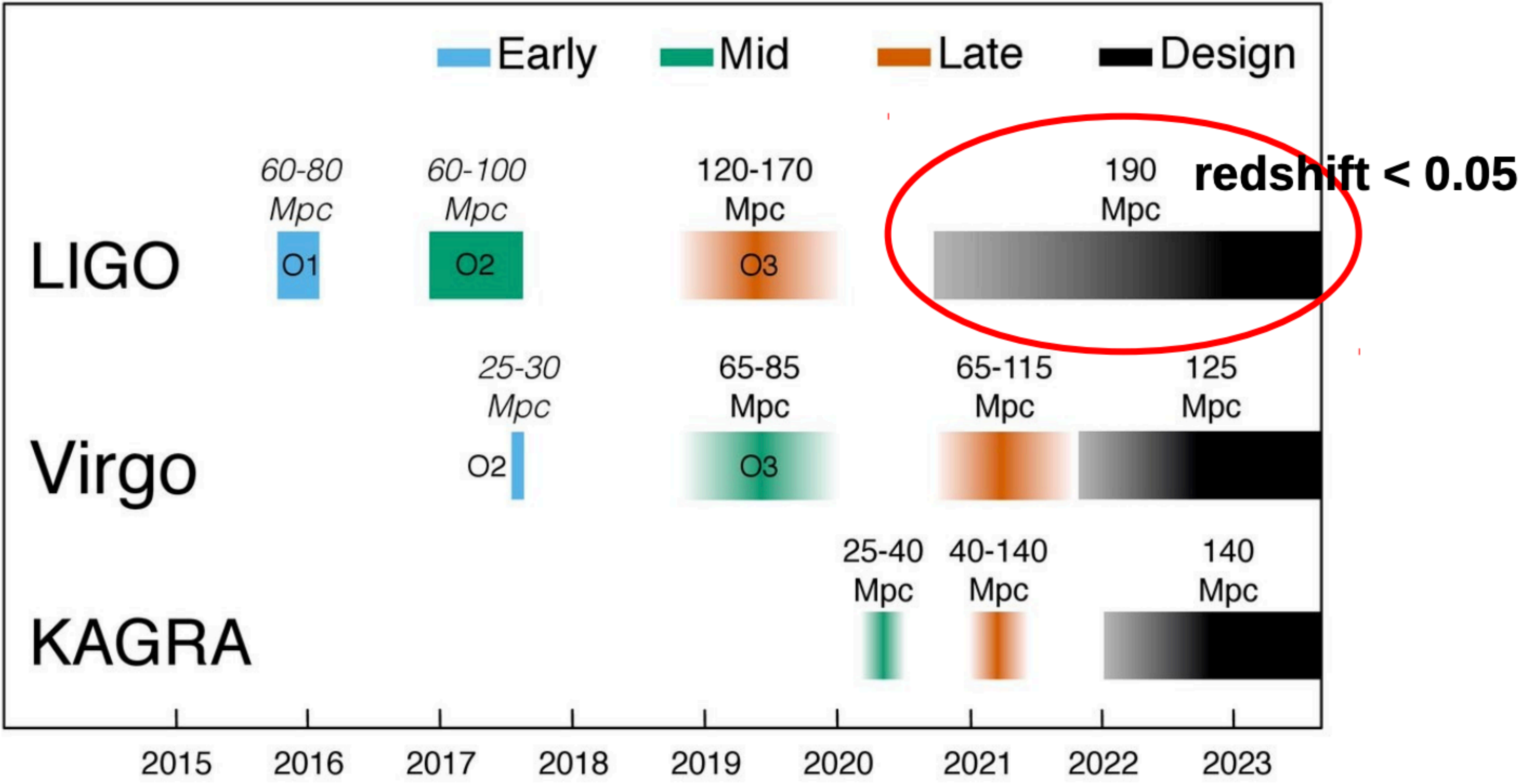
Populate the Universe Machine simulations with binaries



(i) Populate simulations with a merger time model for isolated binary evolution (NS-NS)

(ii) Simple questions about how the distribution of host galaxies change if binaries trace different galaxy properties

Focussing on low redshift NS-NS mergers where we are most likely to see a counterpart



Credits: LVC

Binary formation is tied to the star-formation rate of the galaxy



Characterized by a merger time distribution

$$dP/dt \propto (t - t_d)^{-\alpha}$$

Merger time corresponds to the time elapsed between **formation of the binary system and eventual merger.**

Power-law distribution is expected from the distribution of initial orbital separations of binary systems.

How does the delay-time distribution effect the observed properties of the host galaxies?

$$\mathcal{R}(z_f) = \lambda \int_0^{t(z_f)} \frac{dP}{dt} (t_f - t) \Psi_g(t) dt$$

$\Psi_g(t)$ Star-formation history - Number of stars formed per year

$\frac{dP}{dt}$ Delay time distribution

Merger rate of binaries for a given galaxy in the simulation

Star formation history depends on the evolution of the galaxy in the cosmic web

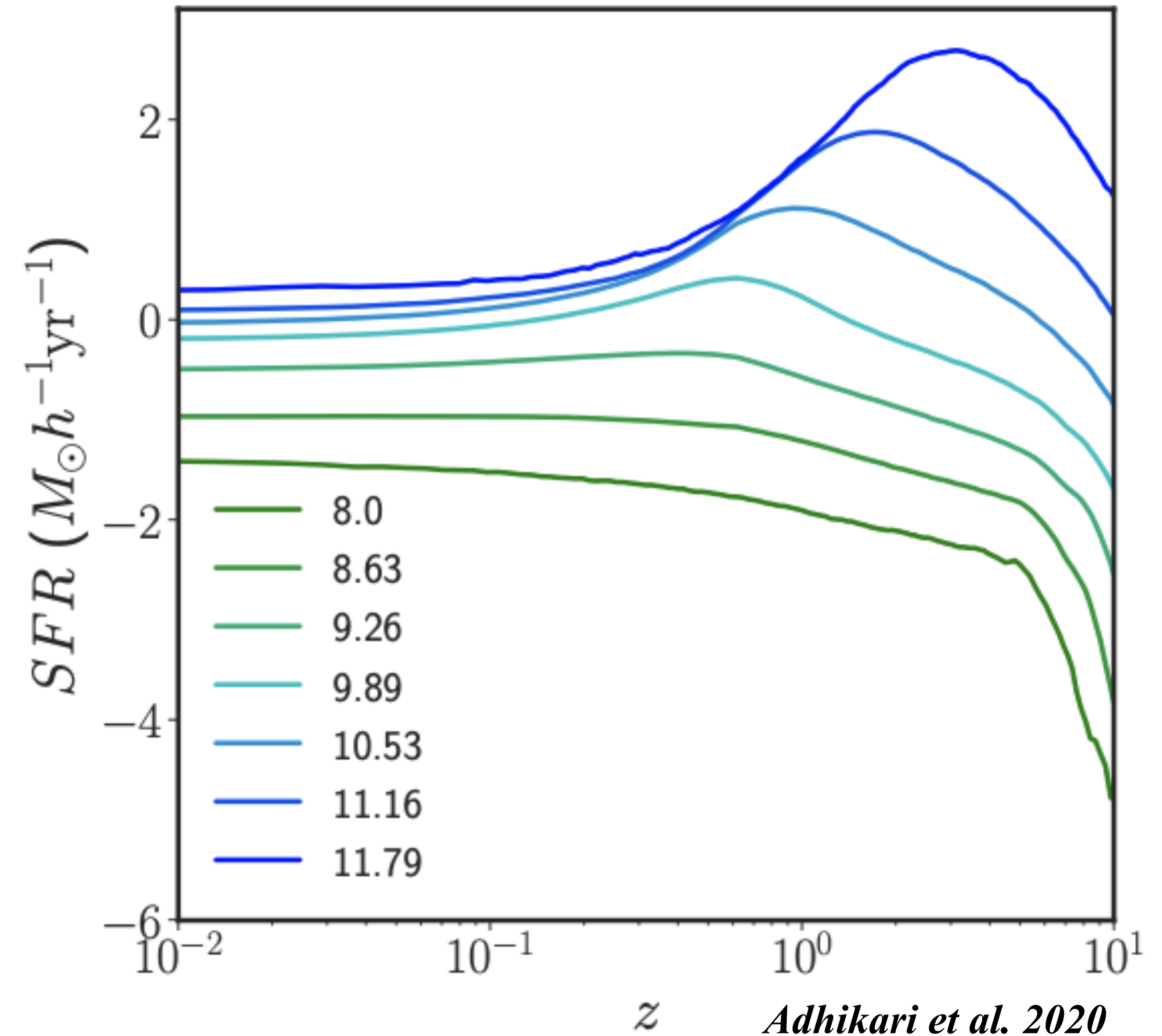
The total merger rate density in the universe is given by the convolution of $R(z_f)$ with the halo mass function $\Phi(M)(\Phi(L))$

Populate the Universe Machine simulations with binaries

- Universe Machine provides galaxy properties
 - Star formation history of each galaxy in the volume and its evolution.
- Assign a merger rate to every galaxy based on delay time distribution.
- Vary the parameters to see the different galaxy distributions.

delay time - t_d

Slope of distribution - α



Star formation history in different stellar mass bins

Galaxy properties at redshift $z = 0$

Massive galaxies reach the peak of their SFRs earlier in time \rightarrow more likely to form most binary systems then.

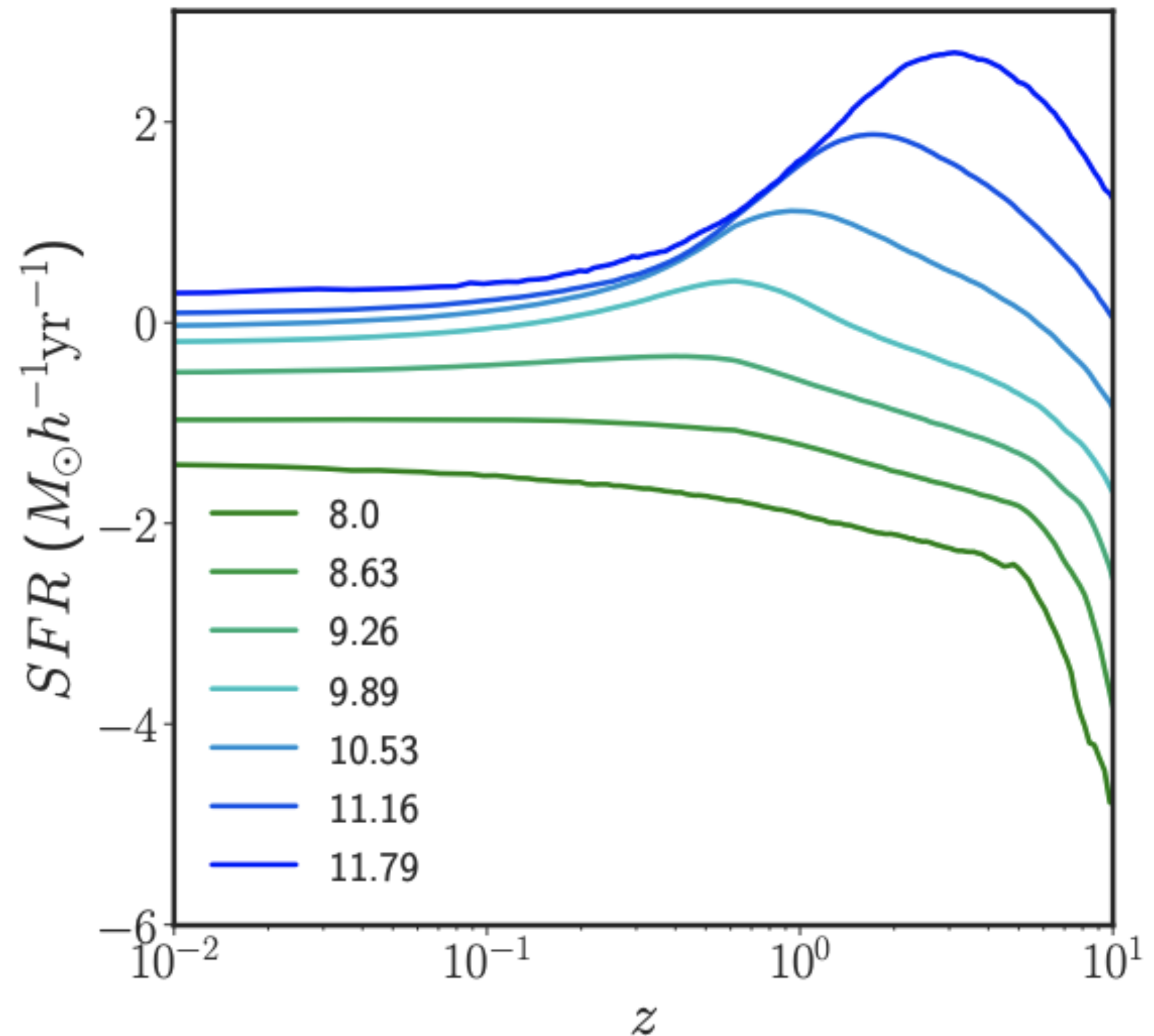
Blue, star-forming galaxies are still forming new massive stars

Stellar mass

specific Star-formation rate/ color

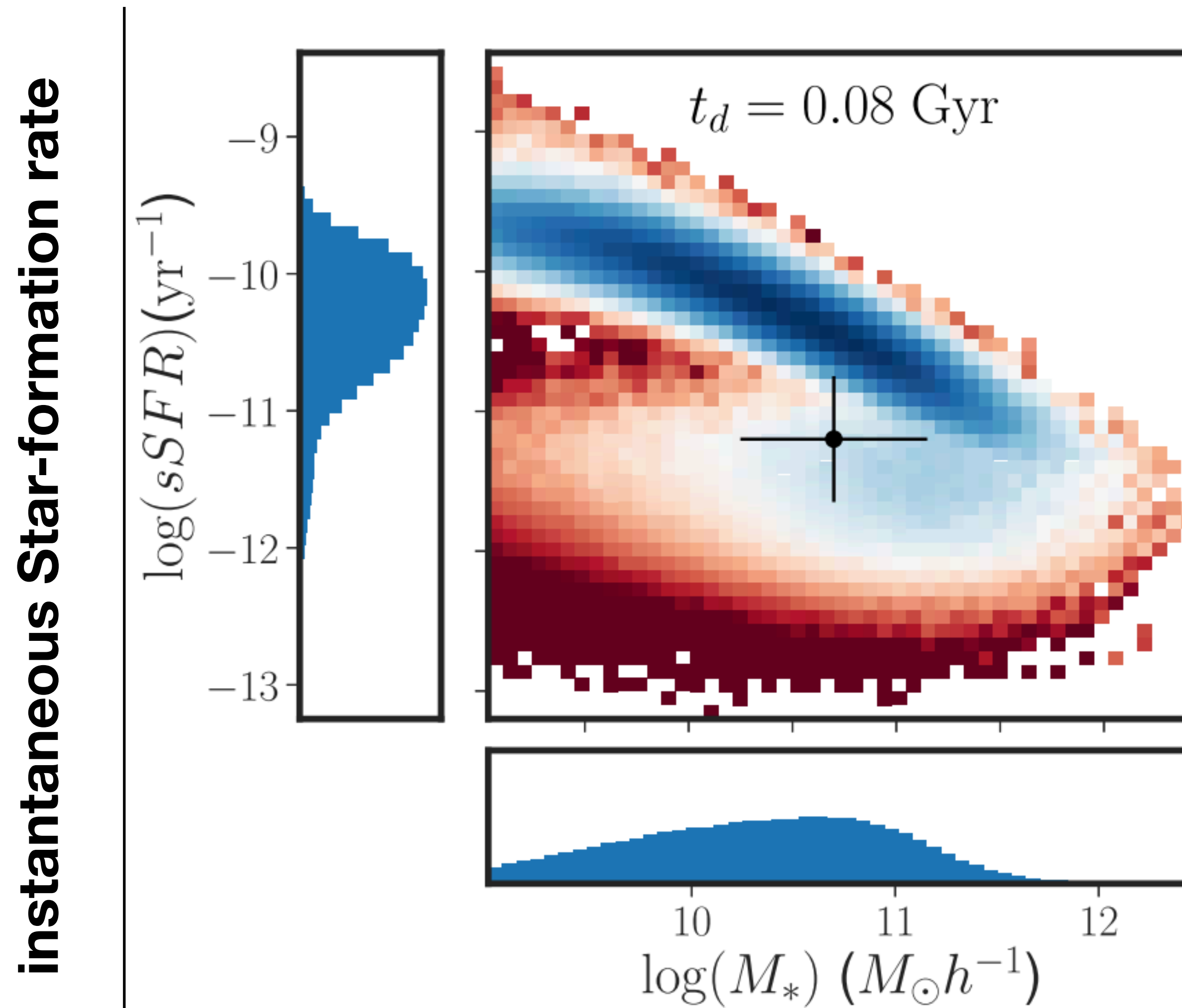
Local Density

Halo Mass



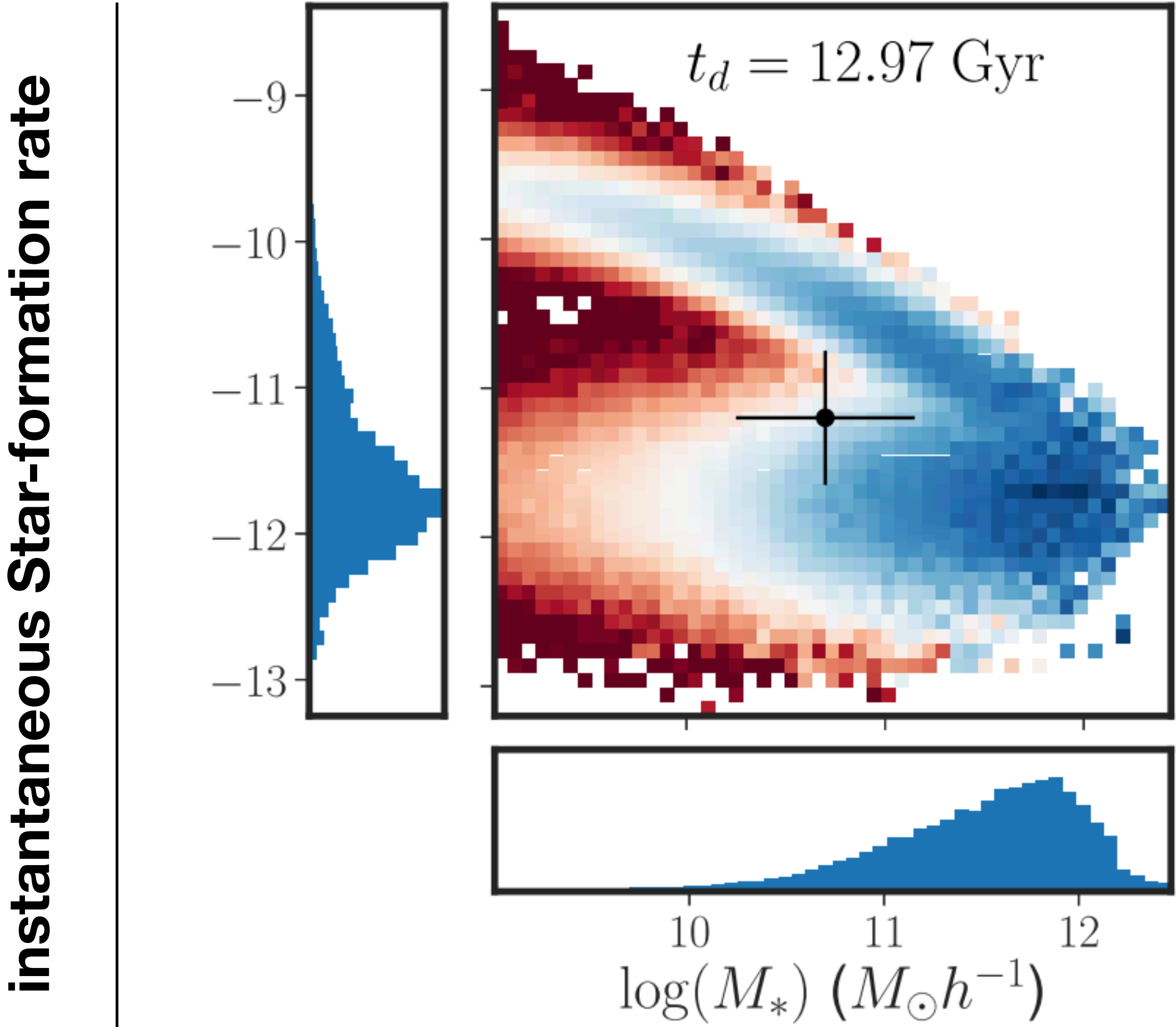
Adhikari et al. 2020

How does the star-formation rate and stellar mass of observed galaxies change?



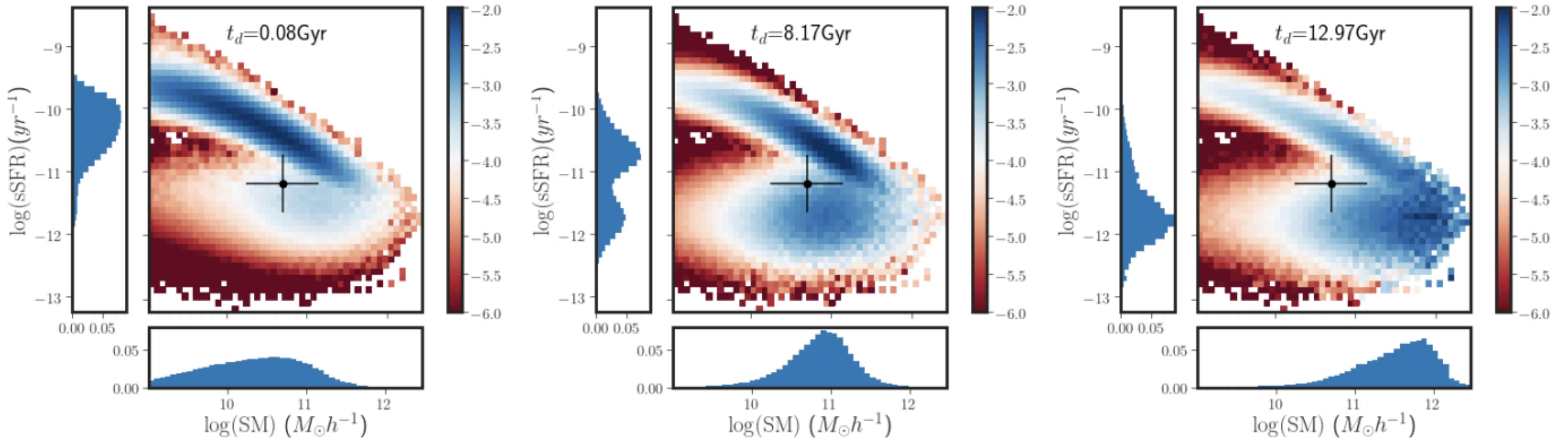
Short delay time
If mergers take place preferentially in the universe where most of the star-formation is going on \rightarrow short delay time

How does the star-formation rate and stellar mass of observed galaxies change?



Long delay time
If mergers take place preferentially in the universe where most of the stellar mass is- massive galaxies -> long delay time

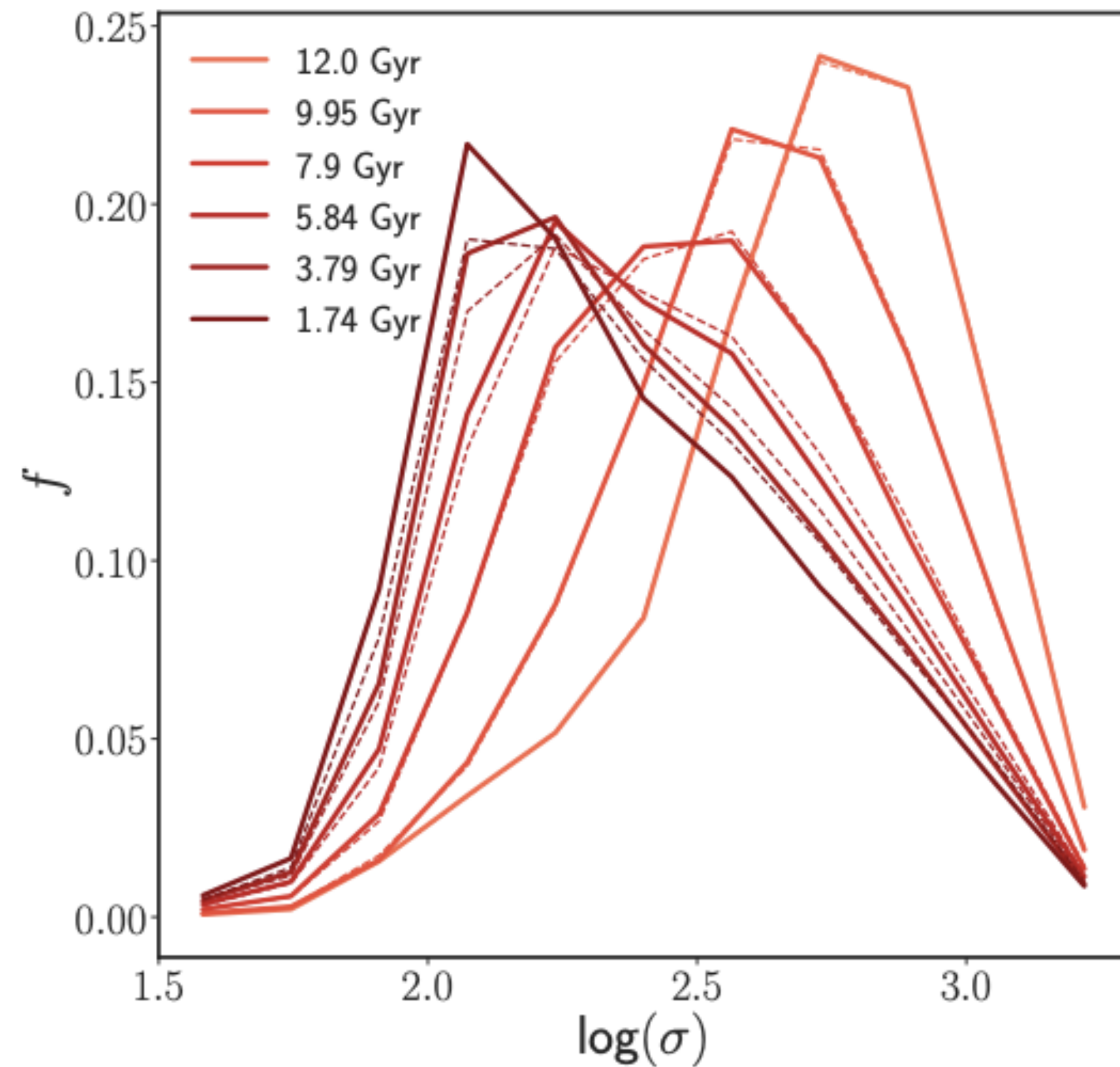
Populate Universe machine galaxies with Merger rates by integrating their star-formation histories



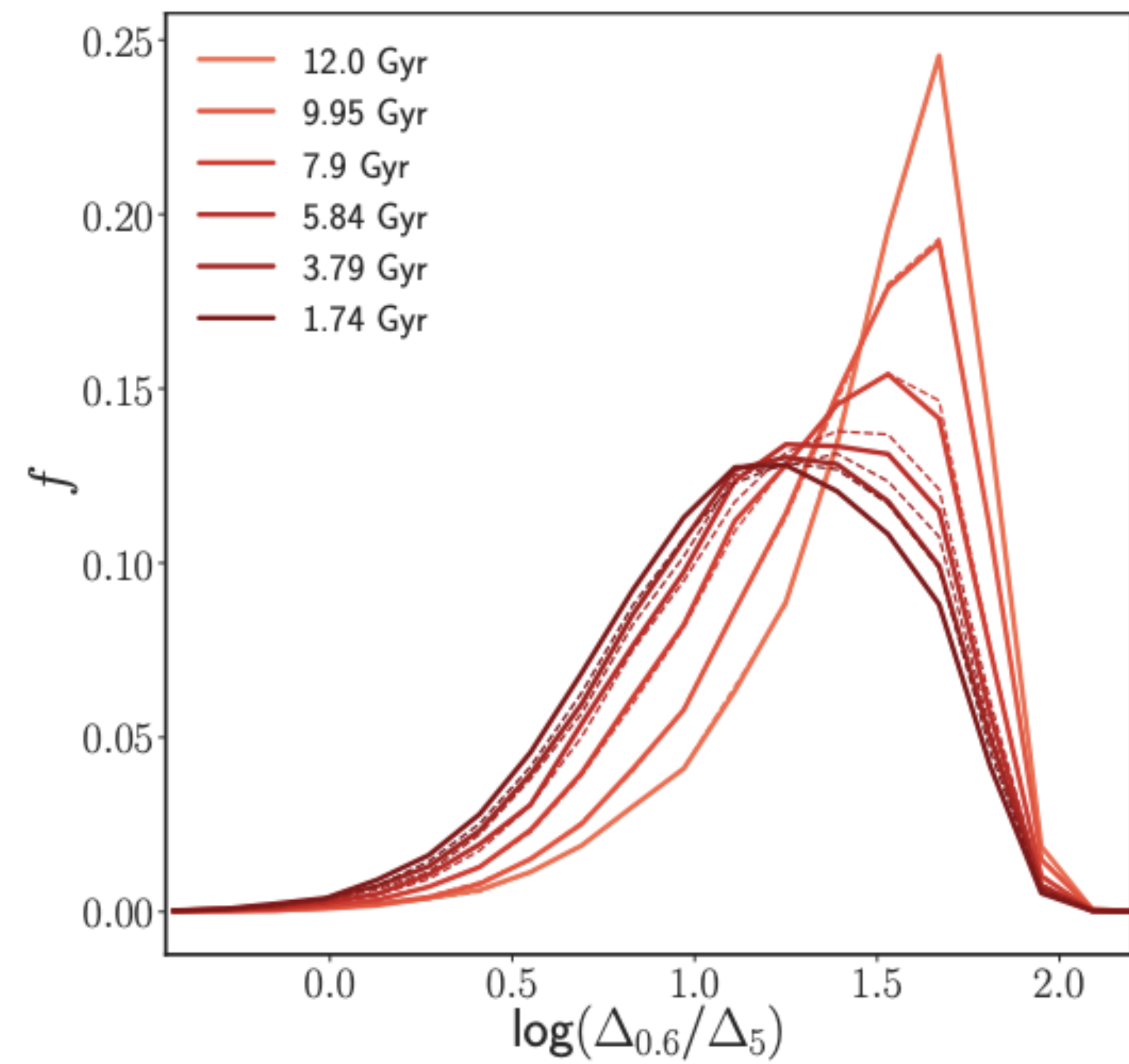
Adhikari et al. 2020

Different delay time predict different distribution of galaxy properties

Properties of their host dark matter halos and local environments



halo velocity dispersion

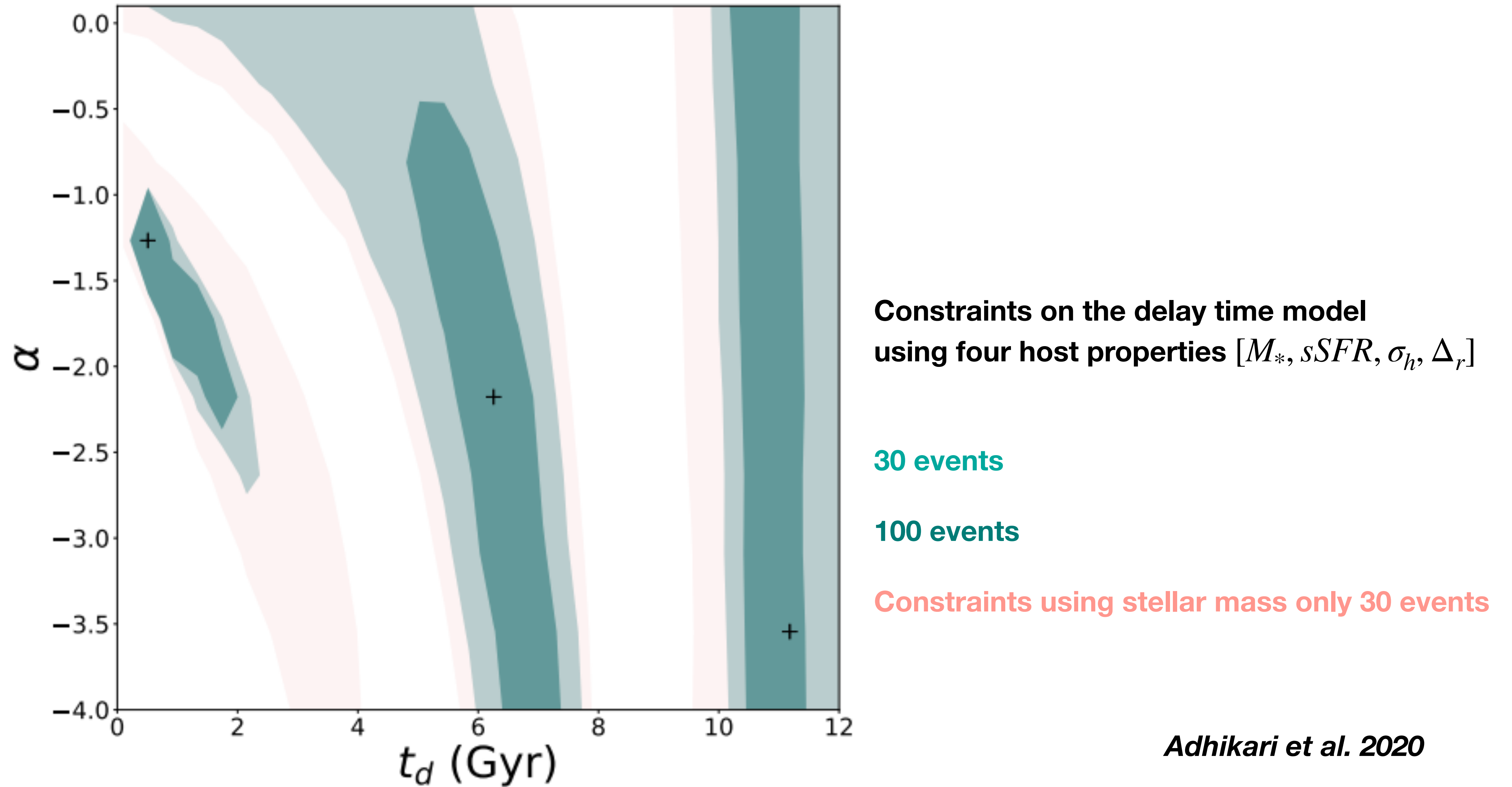


local density ratio

Adhikari et al. 2020

Long delay times trace higher halo masses and events which are in dense environments locally.

Constraining delay time models with galaxy properties



Light blue shade shows constraints from 30 events using SM, SFR, HM and density

(i) simple questions about how the distribution of observed host galaxies change

What happens if binary mergers trace galaxy properties like...

If black hole mergers happen in globular clusters



Galaxy Stellar Mass
Galaxy Halo Mass
Star-formation rate

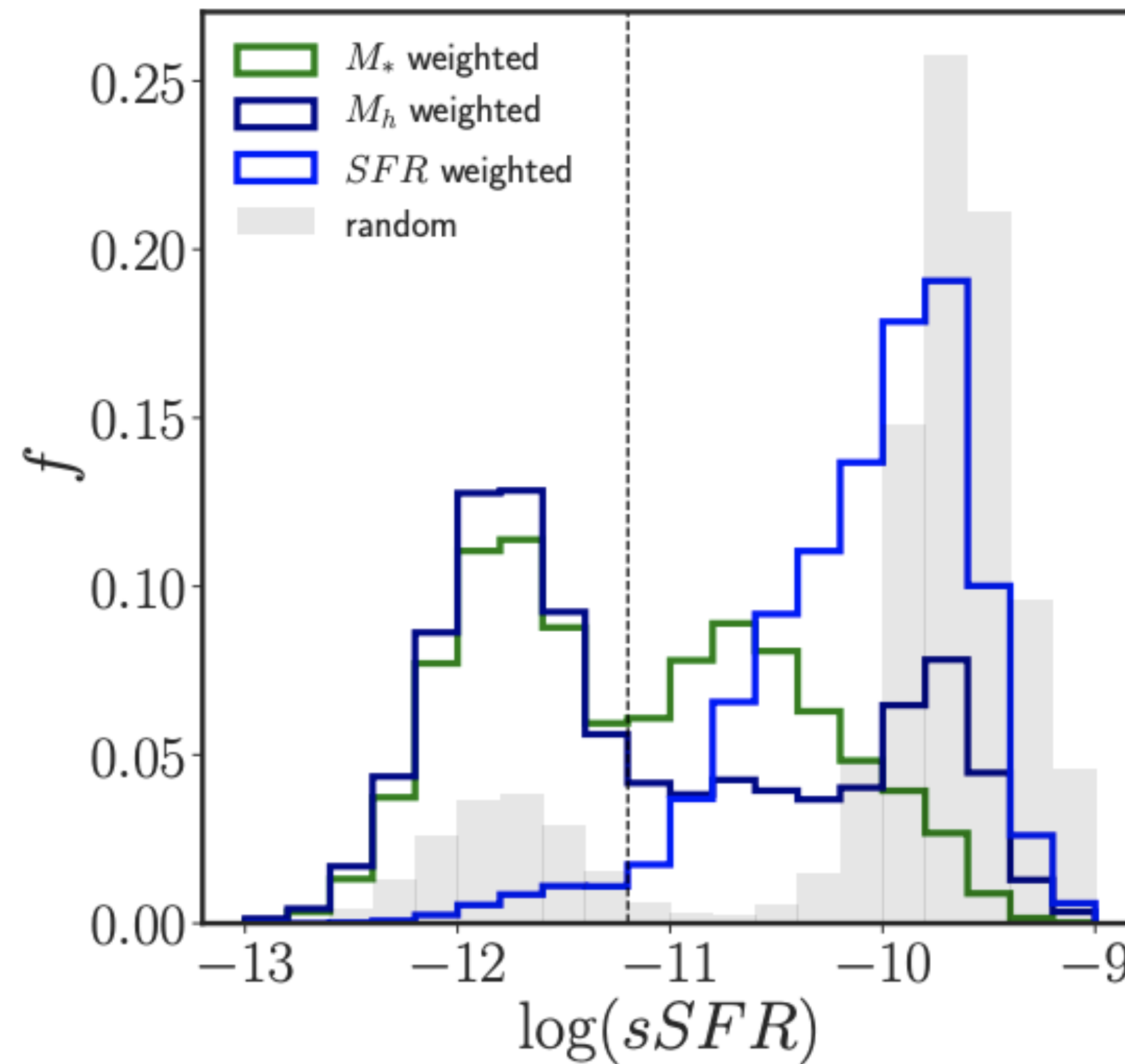
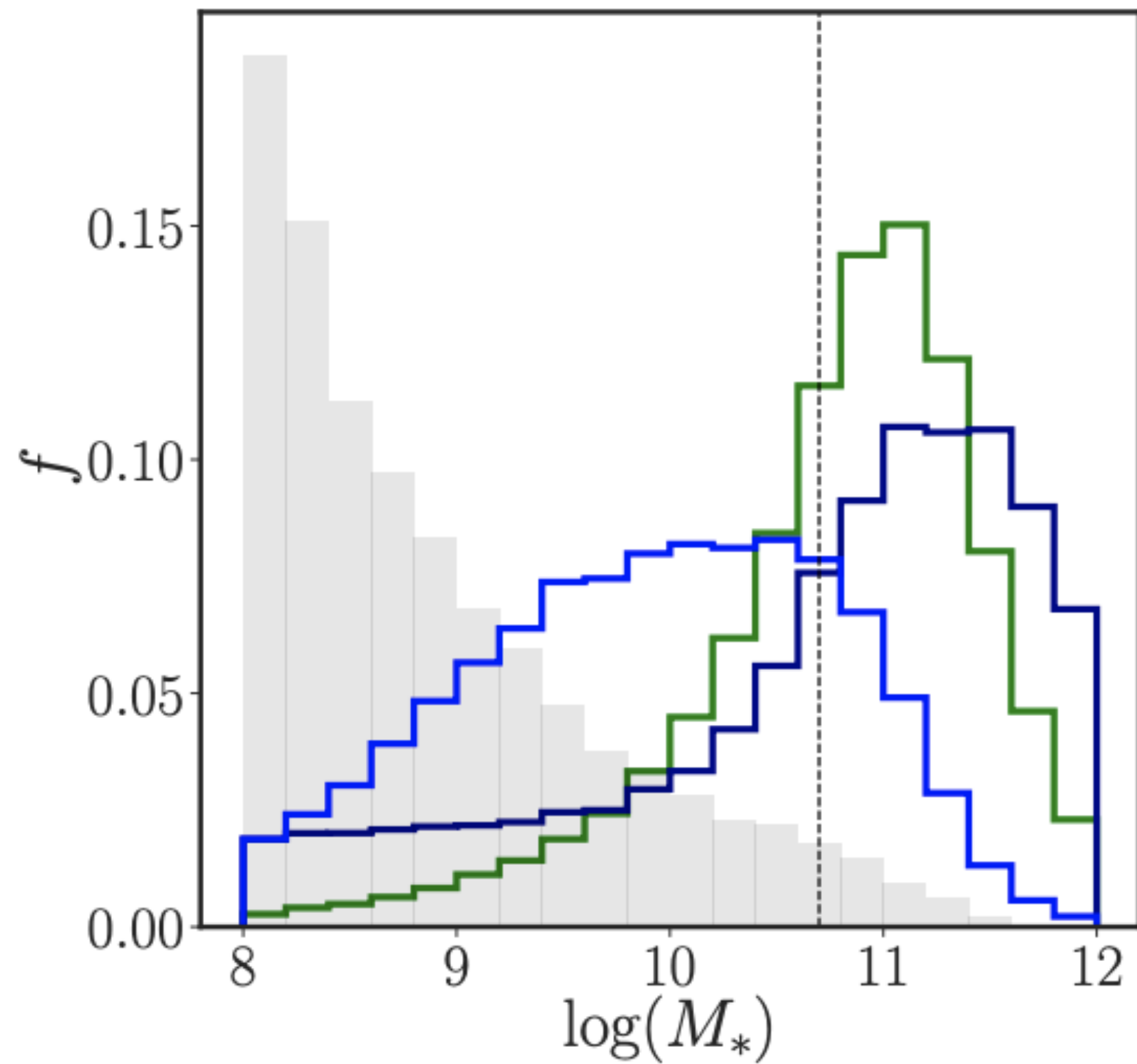
Random Sample

SM - traces long delay times, massive galaxies

SFR - traces short delay times

Halo mass- Traces formation in globular clusters (the number of GCs trace total halo mass as opposed to galaxy stellar mass)

(i) simple questions about how the distribution of observed host galaxies change



What happens if binary mergers trace galaxy properties like...

Galaxy Stellar Mass

Galaxy Halo Mass

Star-formation rate

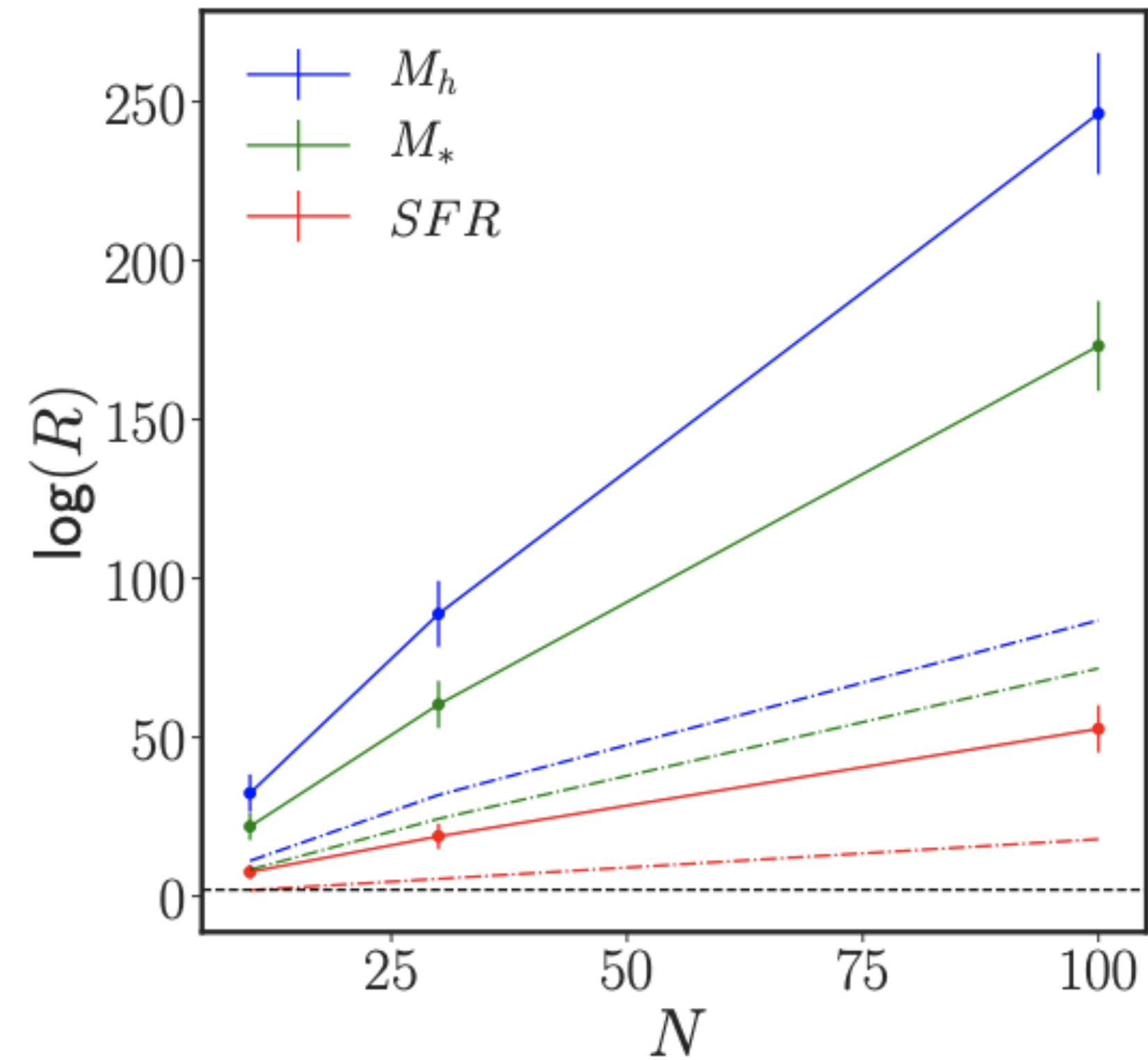
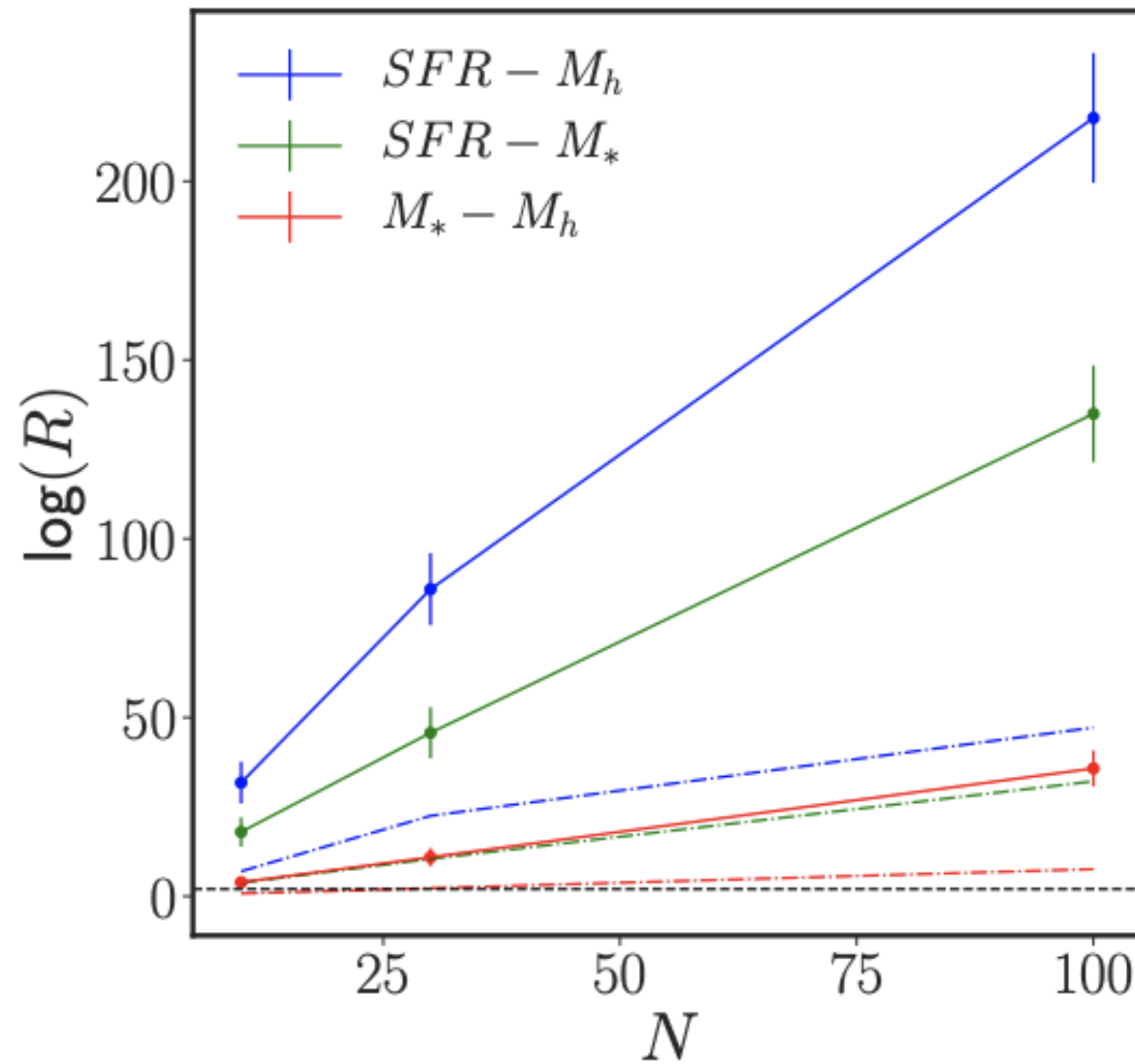
Random Sample

Adhikari et al. 2020

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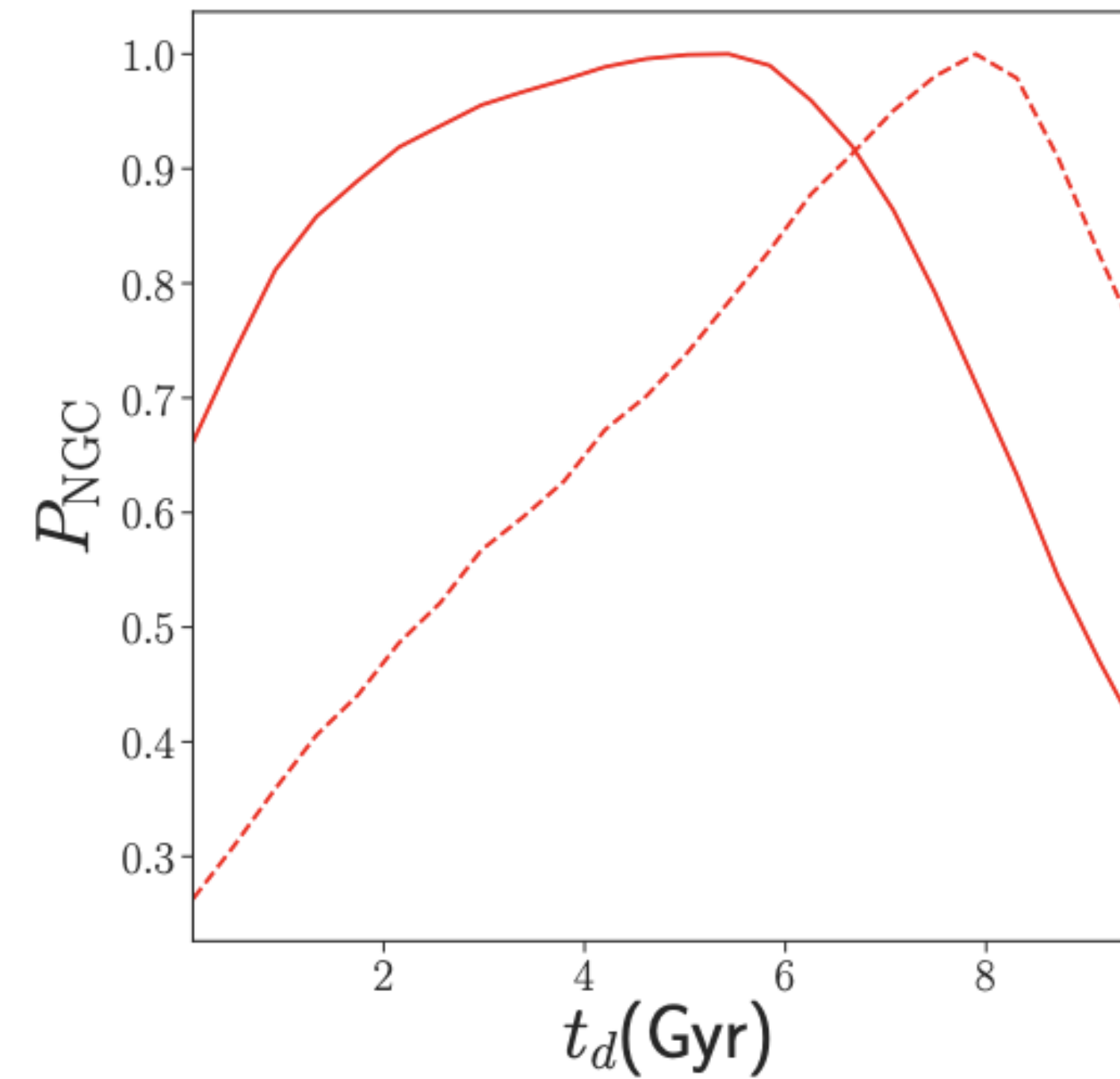
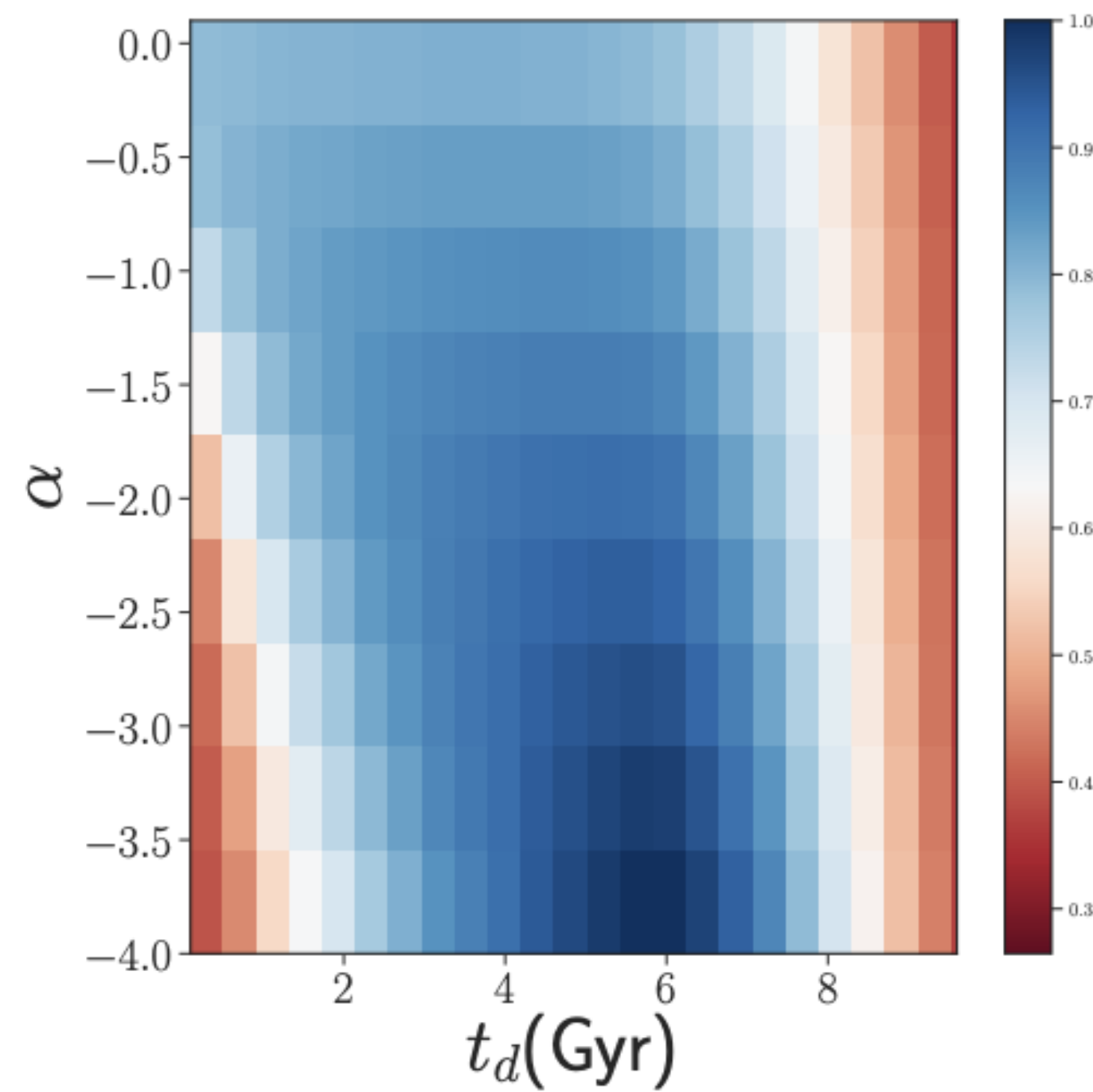


Adhikari et al. 2020

Distributions are significantly different that a few 10s of events can distinguish between the inherent formation channels.

~order of 100 events are required to distingusing between mixture models.

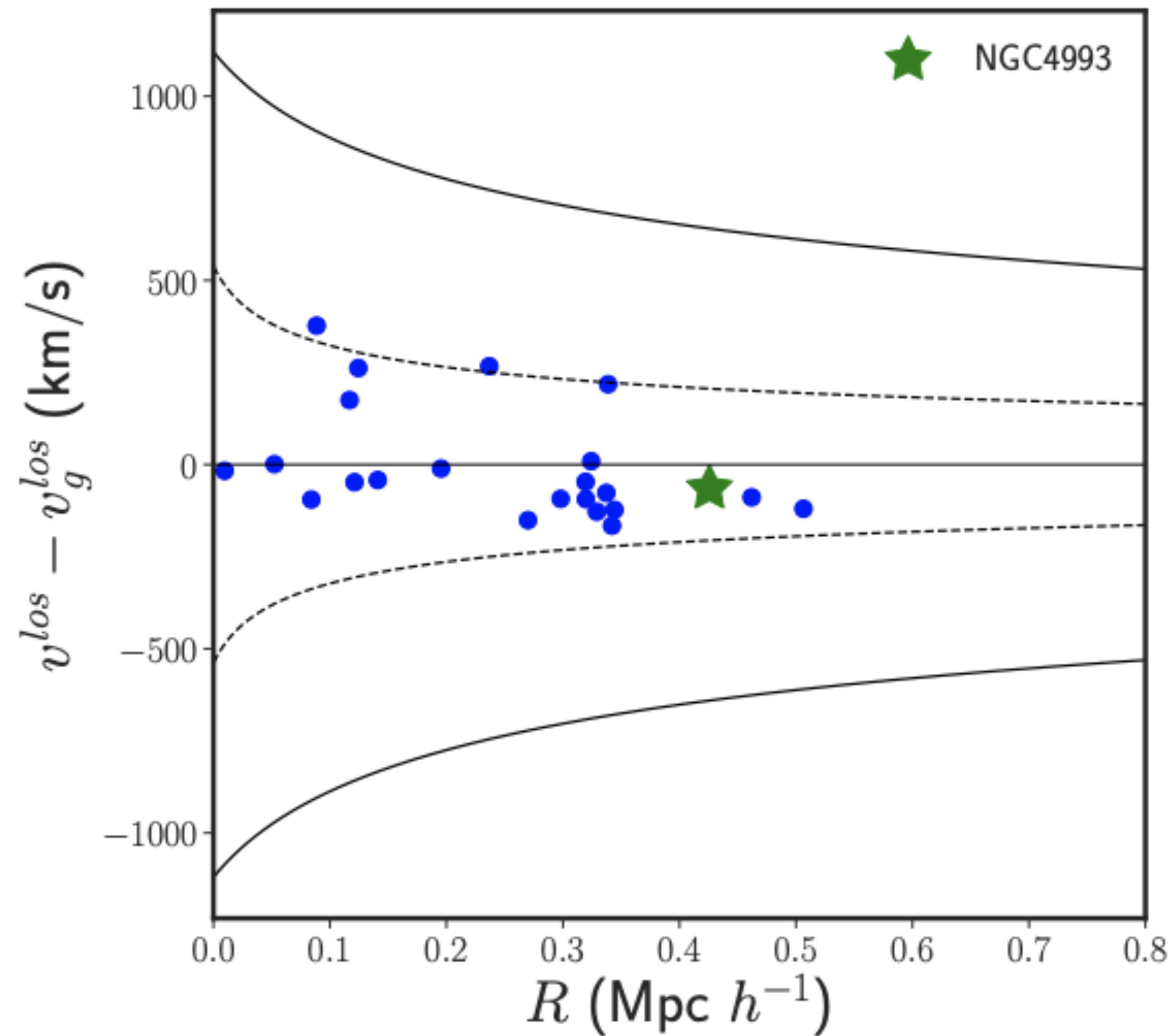
Some things we learnt about NGC 4993



Adhikari et al. 2020

It prefers a long delay time given its stellar mass and star-formation rate

Some things we learnt about NGC 4993



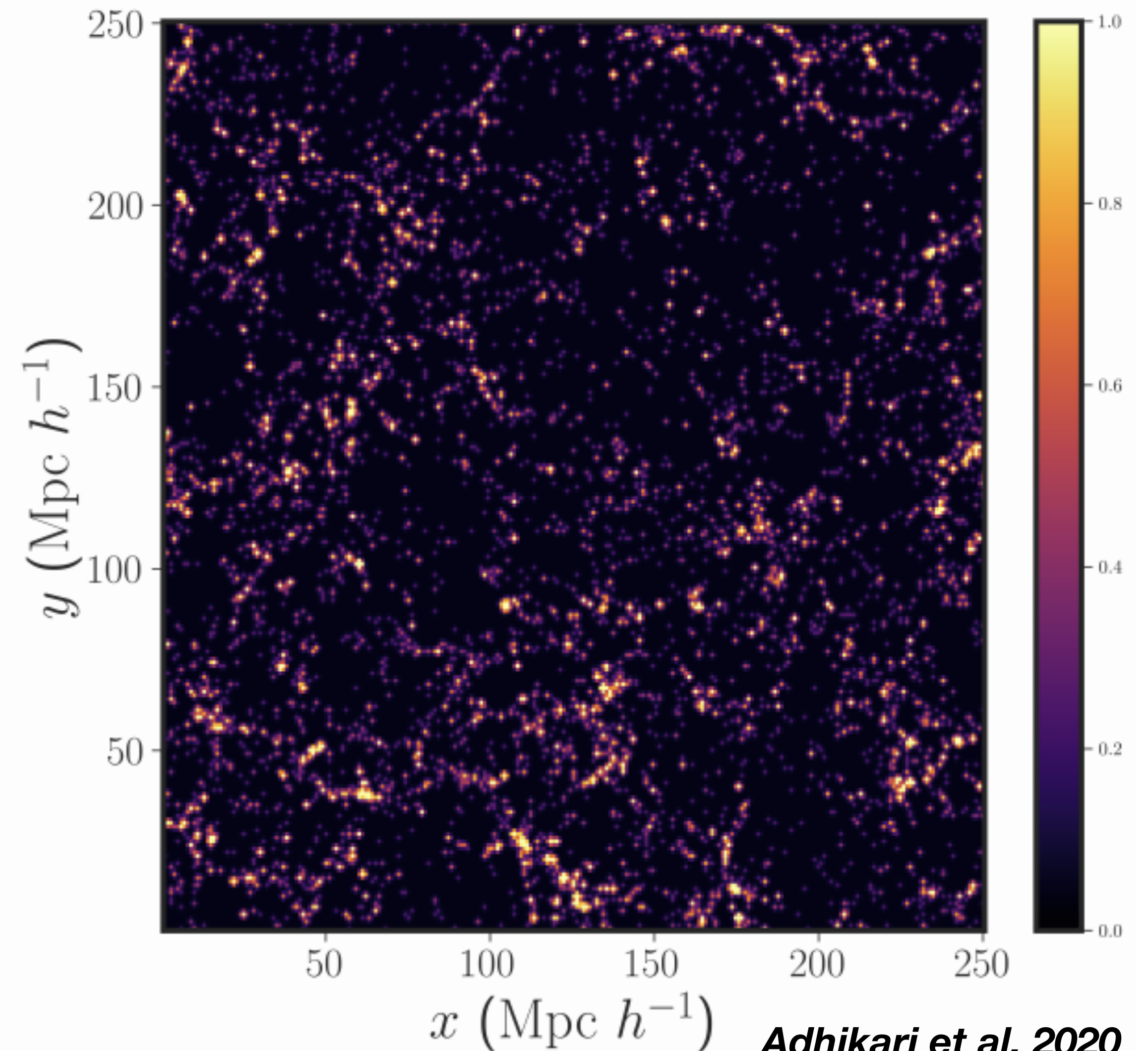
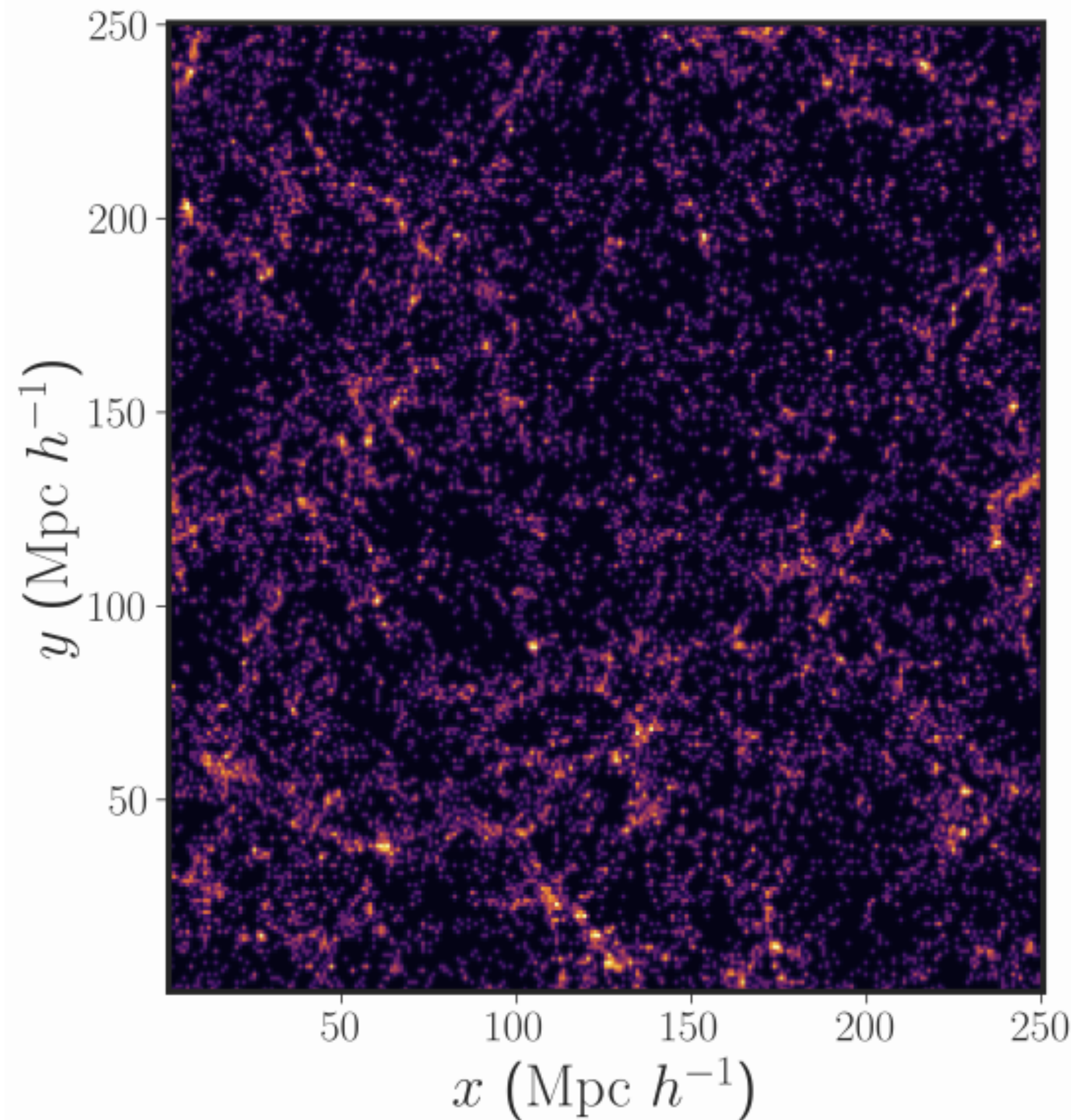
Not clear if NGC 4993 is a satellite galaxy or a central. The velocity dispersion of the purported group is more consistent with being a 10^{12} object

Delay time distributions strongly affect clustering properties

Clustering of events in the sky

Short delay time

Long delay time



Adhikari et al. 2020

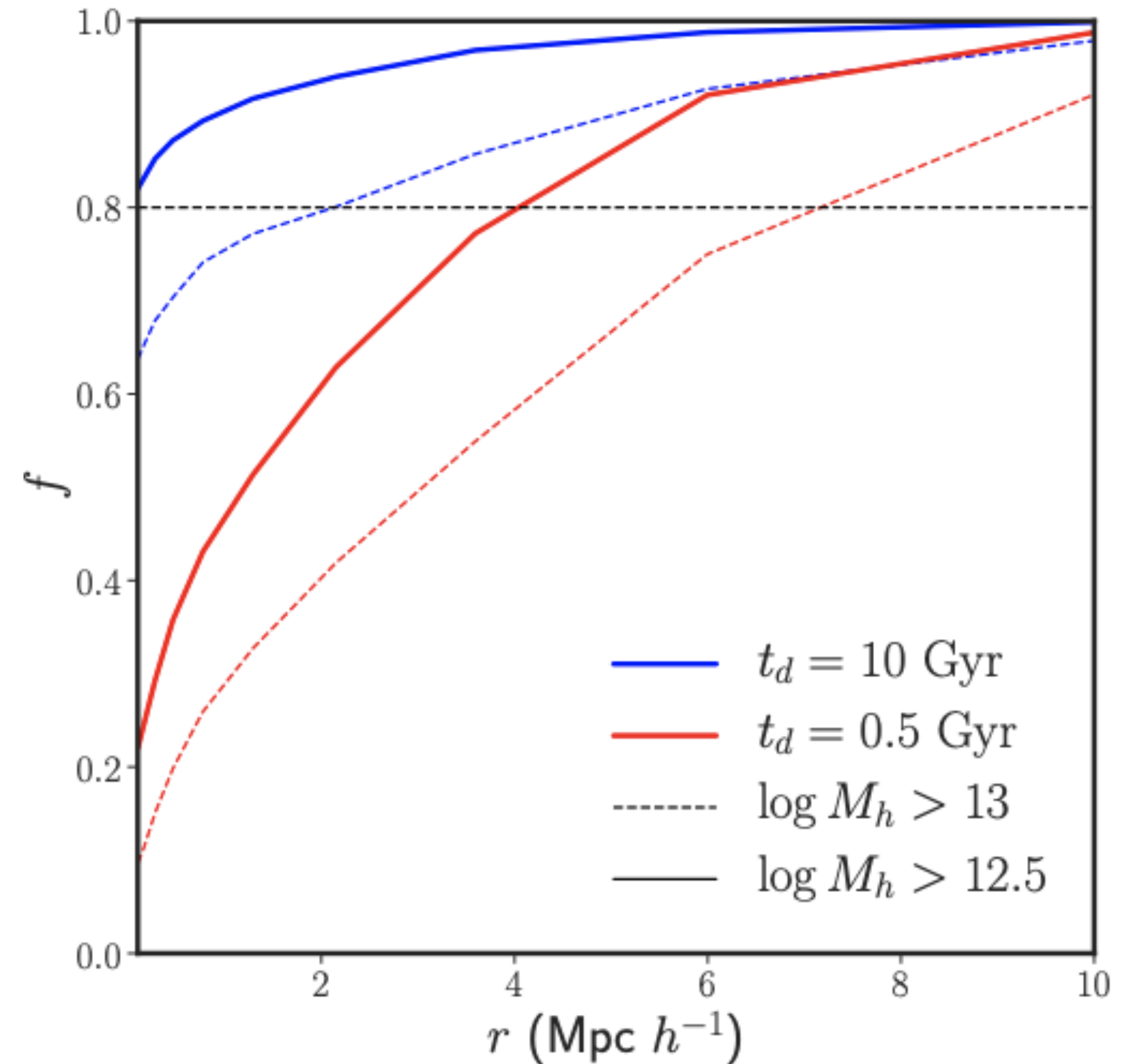
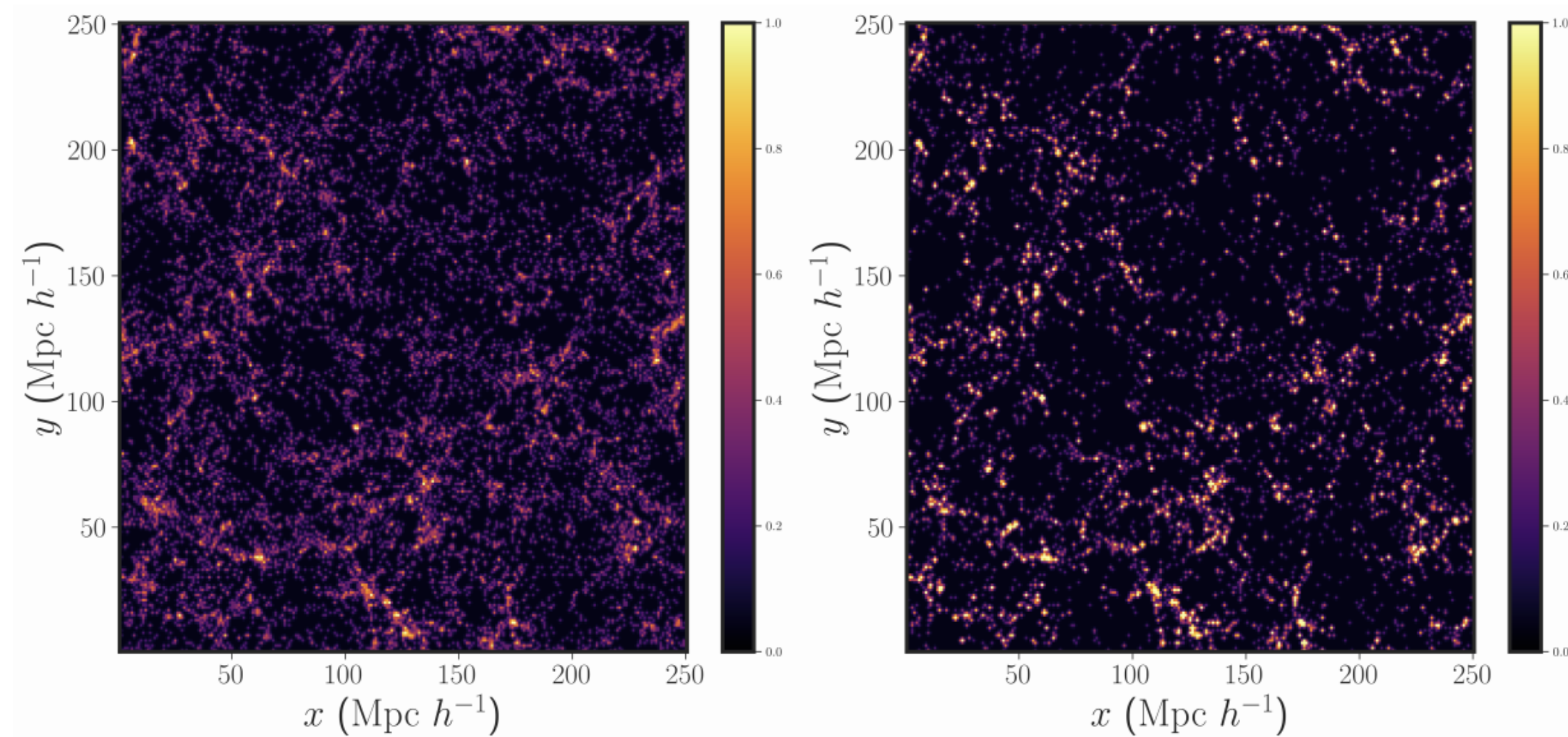
If binaries merge soon after birth, they are more clustered than random, mostly live in Milkyway like galaxies

If binaries merge after long delay, they are more likely to be in clumps, near groups and massive clusters

Can we optimize search strategies?

Currently we only use stellar mass to assign likelihood to a host galaxy
Can we do better?

If the underlying population has long delay times, we expect the events to be clustered in the local universe. We can look for counterparts near massive groups.



Adhikari et al. 2020

The future is exciting!

We are only begun scraping the surface

- **In the future - Develop light cones for gravitational wave events**
- **Include priors on merger time distributions**
- **Develop models to assign host probabilities based on galaxy properties**
- **Metallicity evolution to incorporate BBHs**
- **Cross-correlation studies**



PBH clumps - source: quanta magazine

In Summary - The future is exciting

- The interplay of galaxy evolution and binaries will teach us about the underlying astrophysics!
- Understanding these connections help us better predict hosts of mergers. Helping localize events.
- Host galaxy properties, including stellar mass, sfr, the parent halo mass, local clustering of galaxies contain important information about the evolution of binaries.
- Can distinguish simple models and formation channels with an order of a 10 events.
- Understanding the host properties can also help survey strategies to look for EM counterparts or to probabilistically determine cosmology from GW events.