

Sweating the small stuff: Or how I learned to START worrying and love the smallest galaxies

Coral Wheeler
Caltech
[@coralrosew](#)

Phil Hopkins (Caltech)
Ivanna Escala (Caltech)
Evan Kirby (Caltech)
Mike Boylan-Kolchin (UT Austin)
Shea Garrison-Kimmel (Caltech)
Olivier Dore (Caltech)

Jose Oñorbe (MPIA)
Oliver Elbert (UCI)
Alex Fitts (UT Austin)
James Bullock (UCI)
FIRE Collaboration

Why sweat the small stuff?

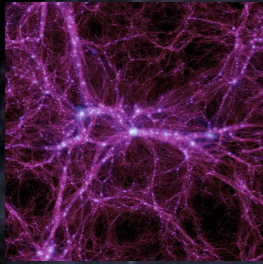


Dwarf galaxies are the building blocks of more massive galaxies

Why sweat the small stuff?

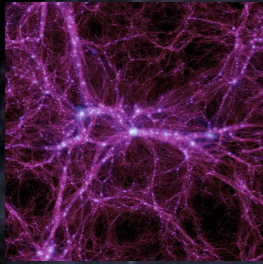


Why sweat the small stuff?

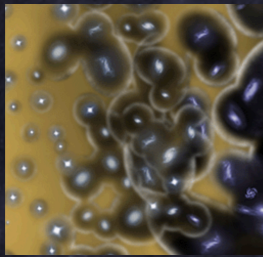


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

Why sweat the small stuff?

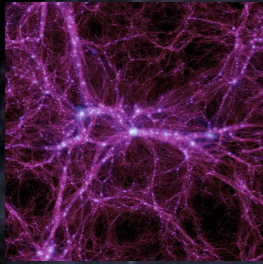


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

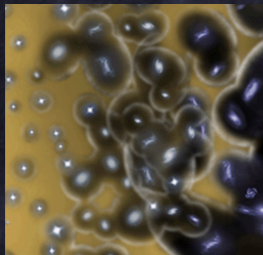


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization

Why sweat the small stuff?



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

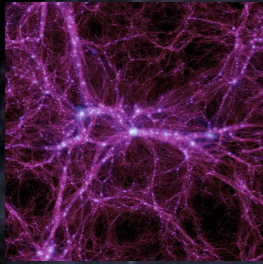


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization

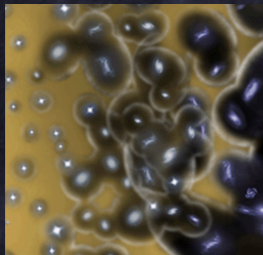


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about star formation and feedback

Why sweat the small stuff?



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization

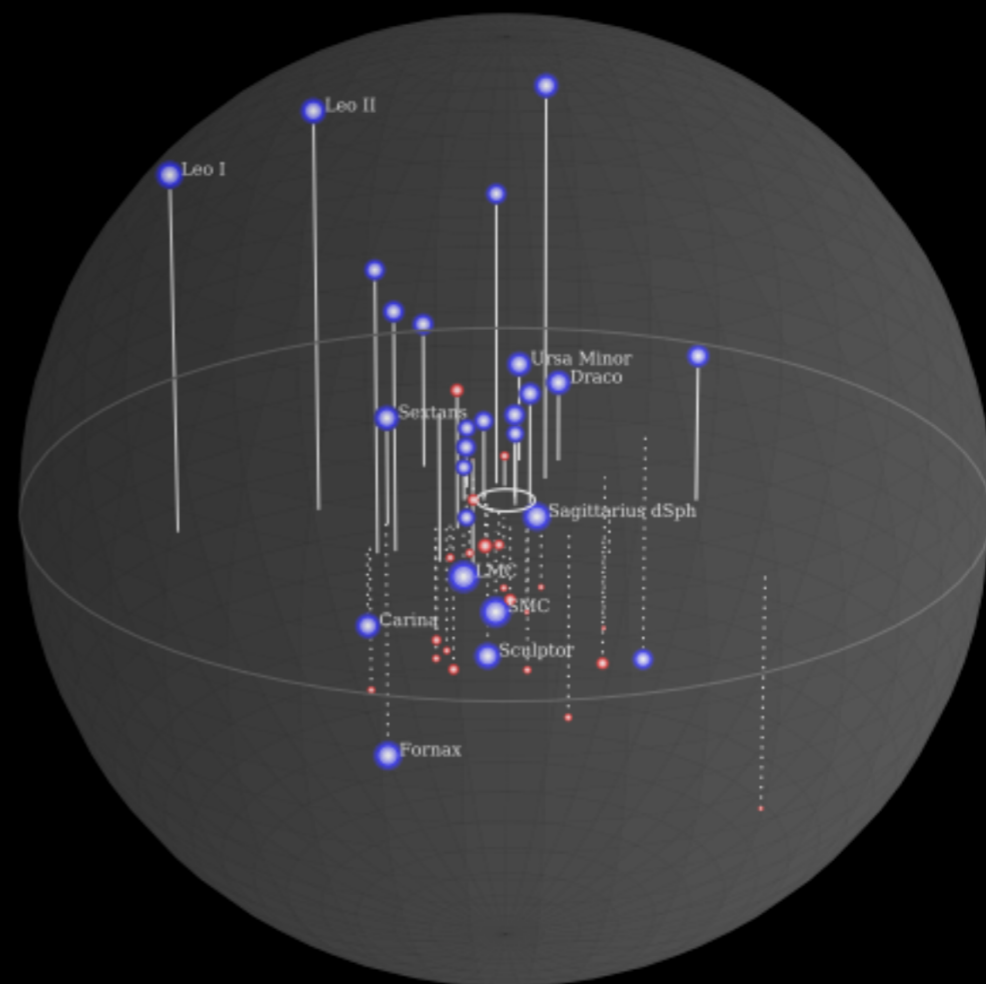


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about star formation and feedback

1000s of dark matter subhalos



~ 50 dwarf satellite galaxies

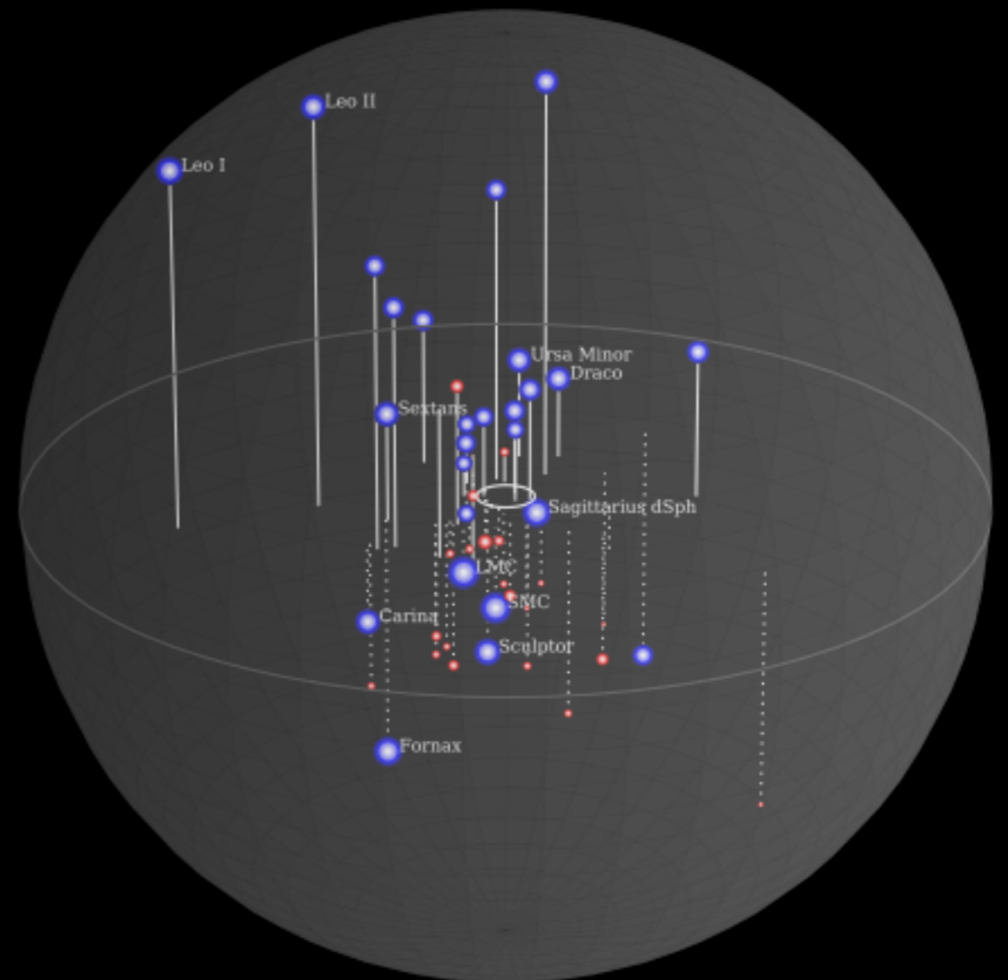


Pawlowski/Bullock/Boylan-Kolchin

1000s of dark matter subhalos

~ 50 dwarf satellite galaxies

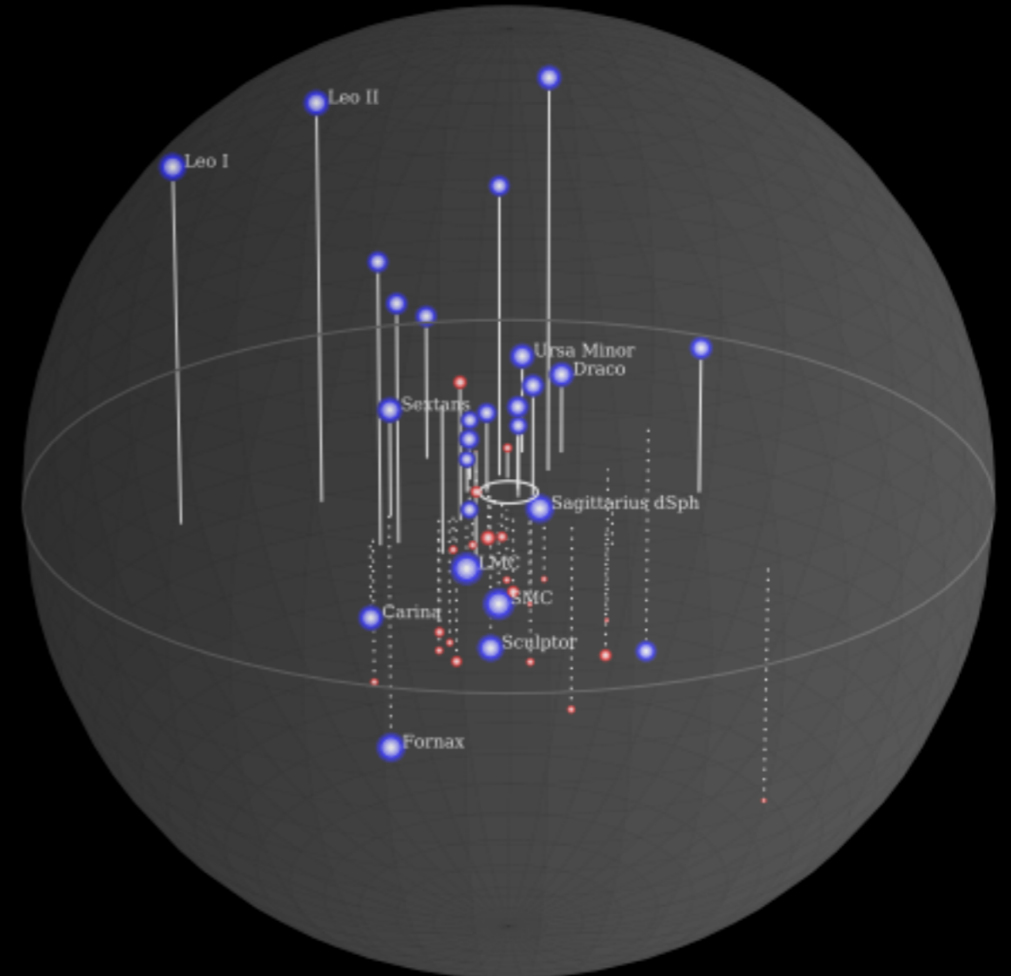
MSP: Missing Satellites Problem



Pawlowski/Bullock/Boylan-Kolchin

1000s of dark matter subhalos ~ 50 dwarf satellite galaxies

MSP: Missing Satellites Problem



Pawlowski/Bullock/Boylan-Kolchin

“If I ever hear anyone mention the missing satellites problem again, I’ll leave the room” - Carlos Frenk

Missing Satellites Problem solved to $M^* \sim 10^5 M_\odot$

Bright Dwarfs:

$$M_\star \approx 10^8 M_\odot$$

$$M_{\text{vir}} \approx 10^{11} M_\odot$$

Classical Dwarfs:

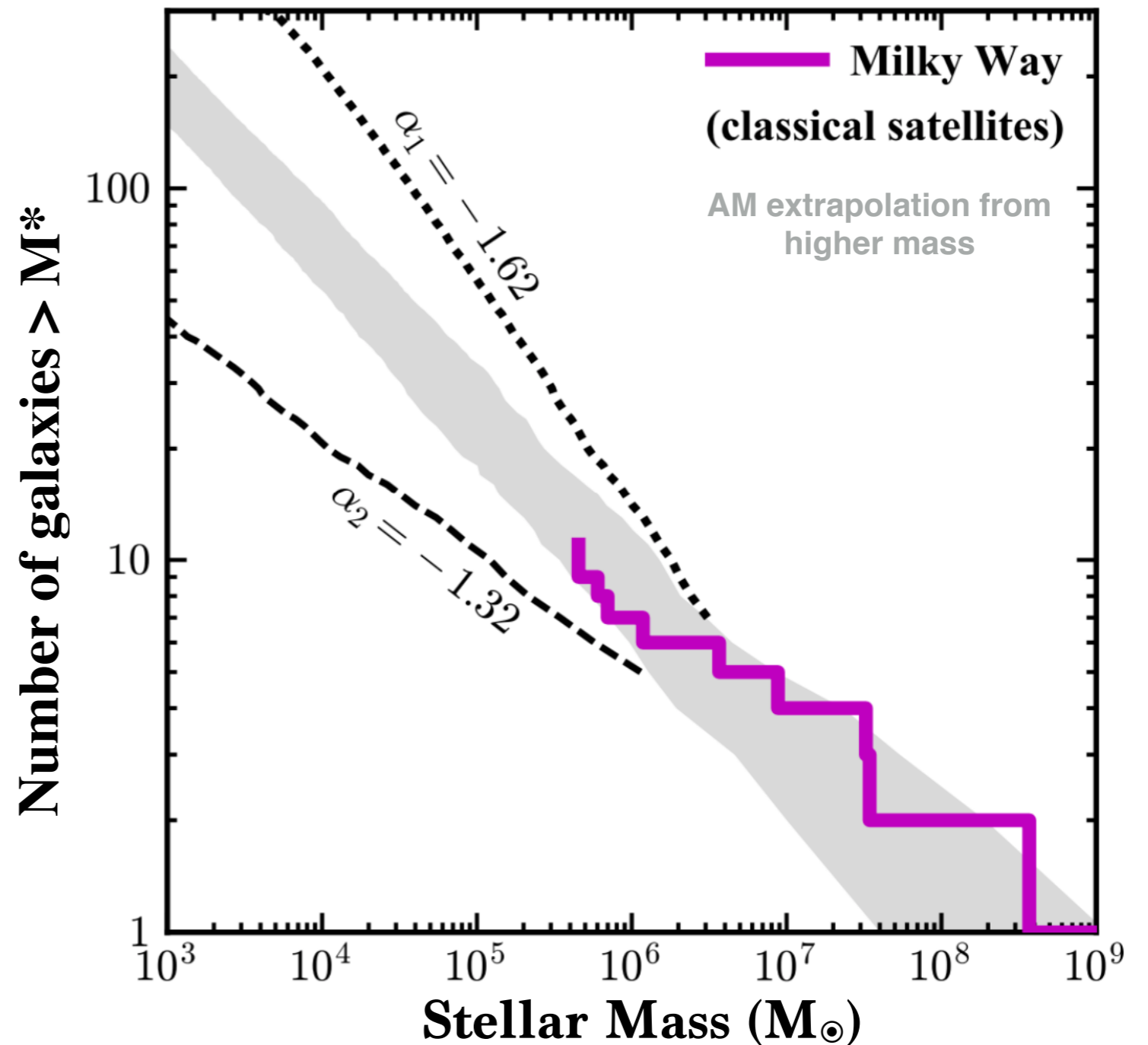
$$M_\star \approx 10^6 M_\odot$$

$$M_{\text{vir}} \approx 10^{10} M_\odot$$

Ultra-faint Dwarfs:

$$M_\star \approx 10^4 M_\odot$$

$$M_{\text{vir}} \approx 10^9 M_\odot$$



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

MSP: Missing Satellites Problem: why are there so few Galactic satellites?

Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

MSP: Missing Satellites Problem: why are there so few Galactic satellites?

LCDM solution: something prevents small halos from forming galaxies, or can't see them

CDM



Lovell et al. 2011

Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

MSP: Missing Satellites Problem: why are there so few Galactic satellites?

LCDM solution: something prevents small halos from forming galaxies, or can't see them

CDM



What is the minimum mass for galaxy formation predicted in Λ – CDM ?

Lovell et al. 2011

Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

MSP: Missing Satellites Problem: why are there so few Galactic satellites?

LCDM solution: something prevents small halos from forming galaxies, or can't see them

Alternative solution: Dark matter particle is warmer, so small halos themselves do not exist

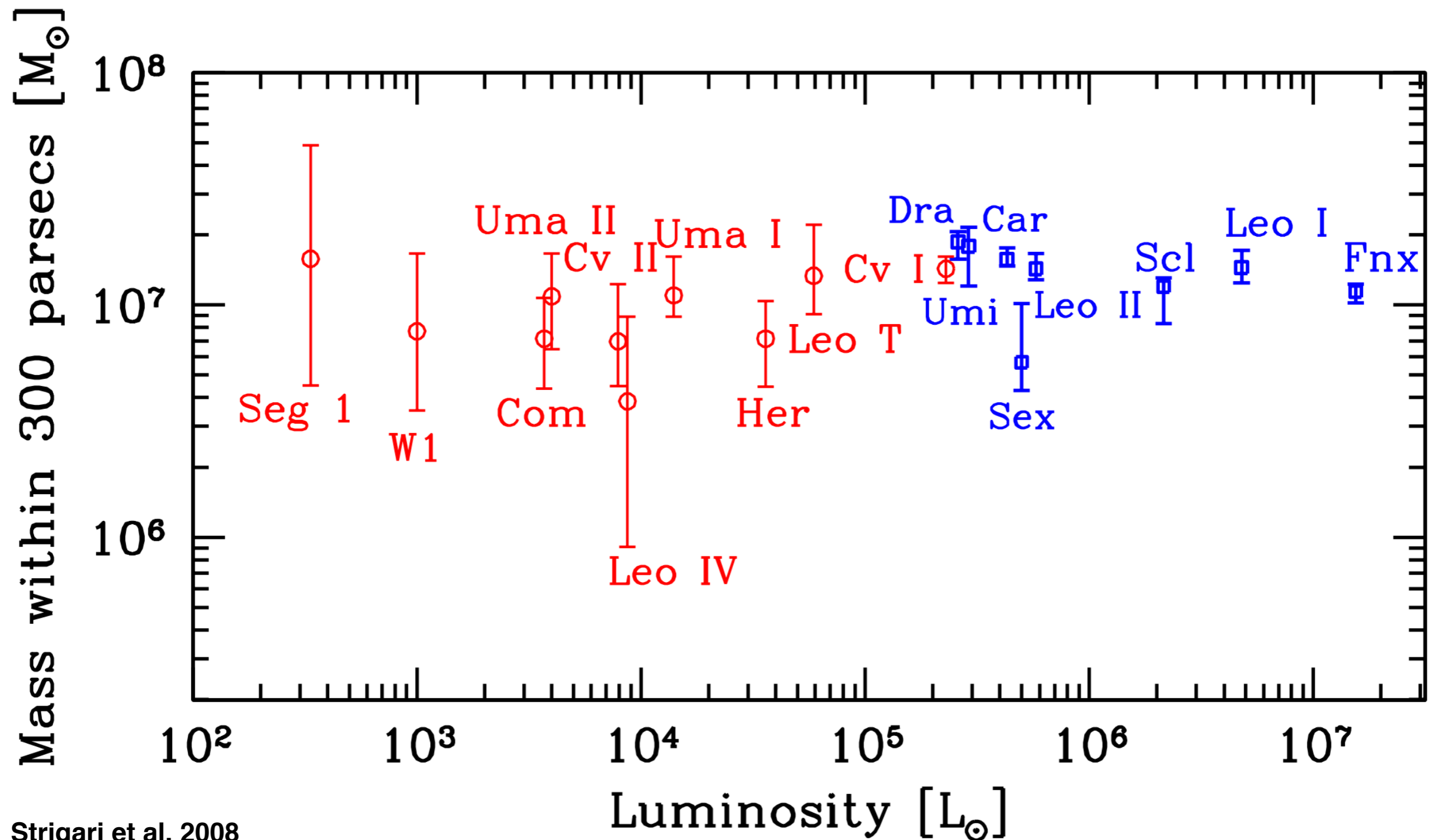
CDM

WDM

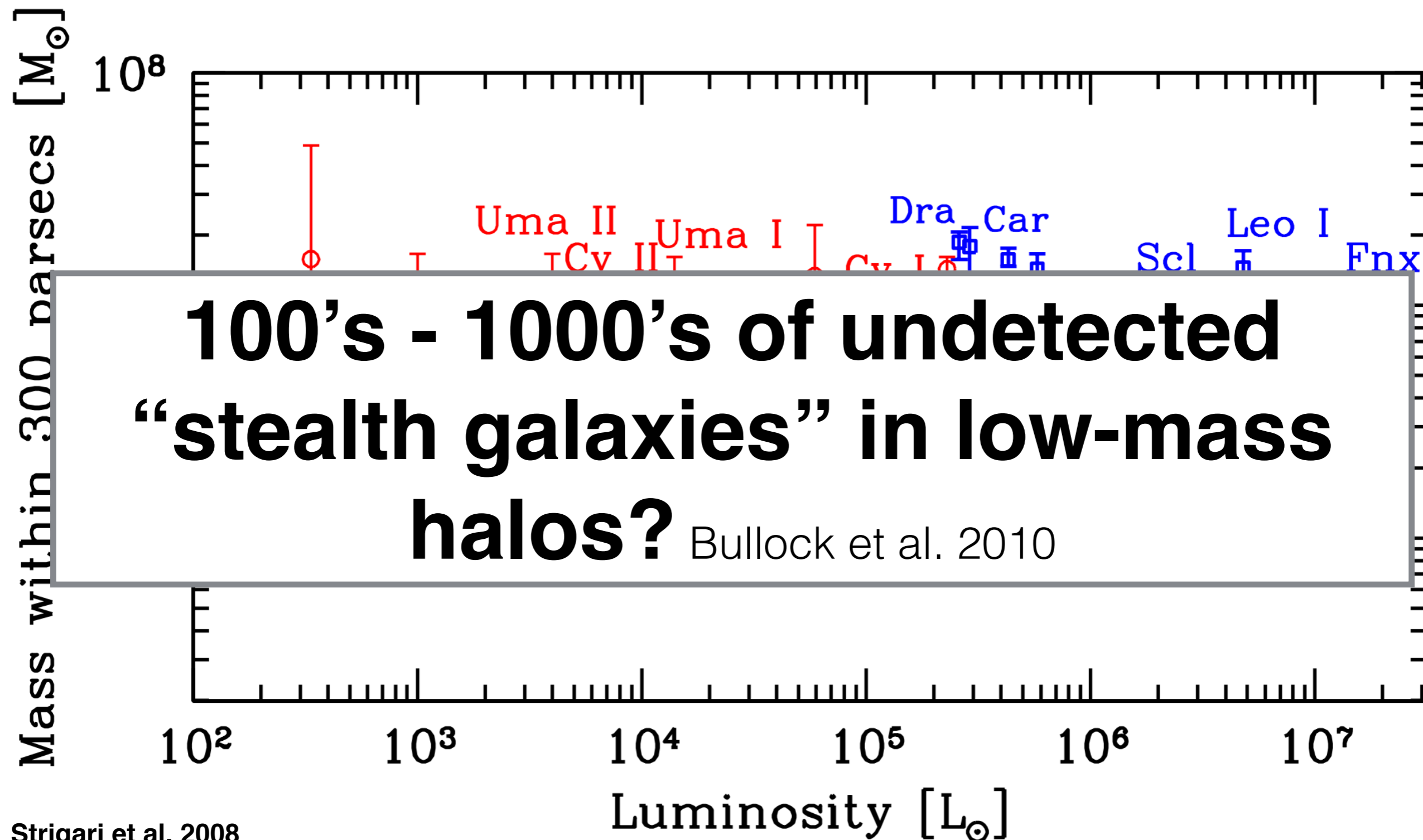
Lovell et al. 2011

What is the minimum mass for galaxy formation predicted in Λ – CDM ?

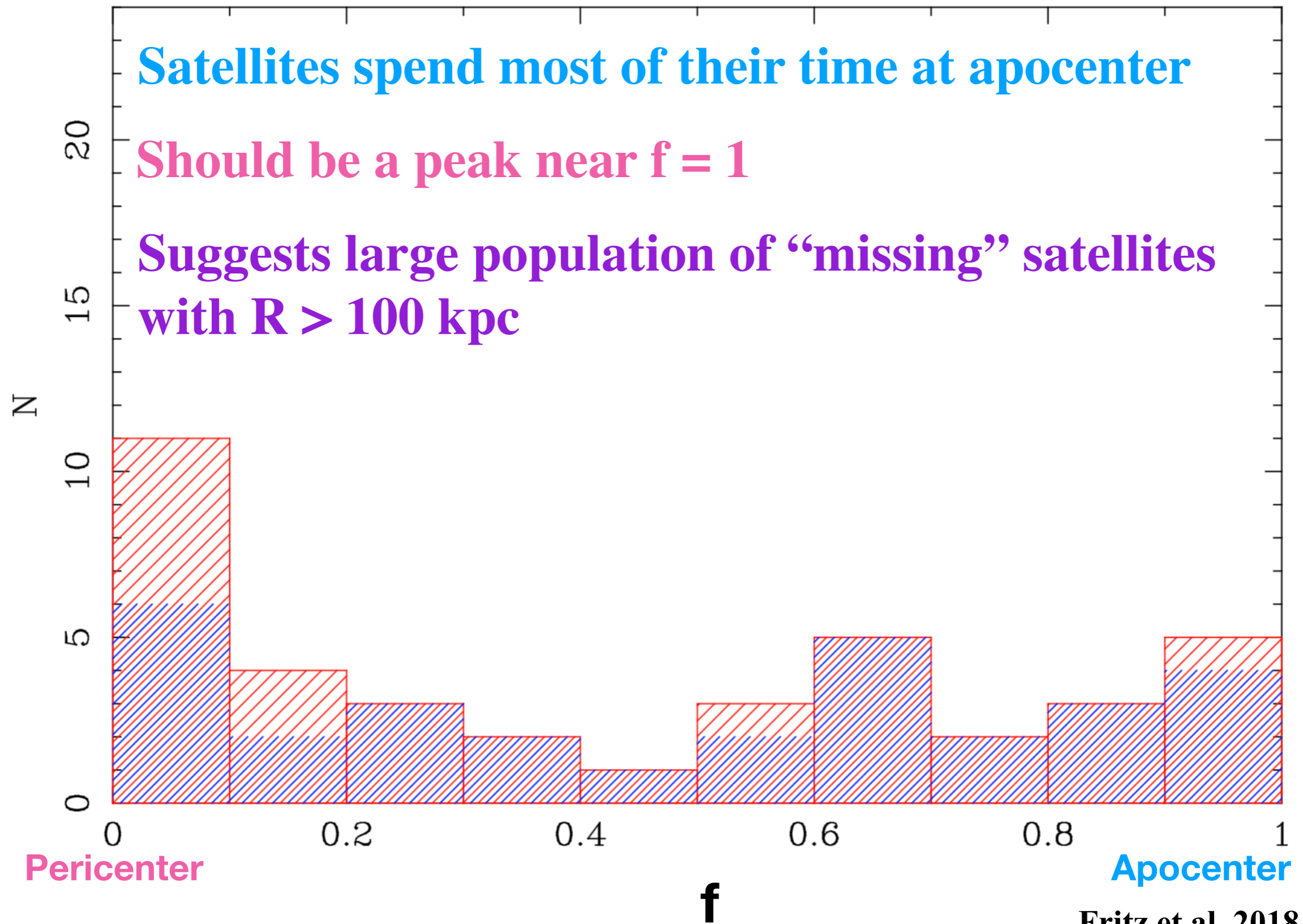
Dwarfs with luminosities over nearly 5 orders of magnitude occupy halos of strikingly similar mass: $\sim 3 \times 10^9 M_\odot$



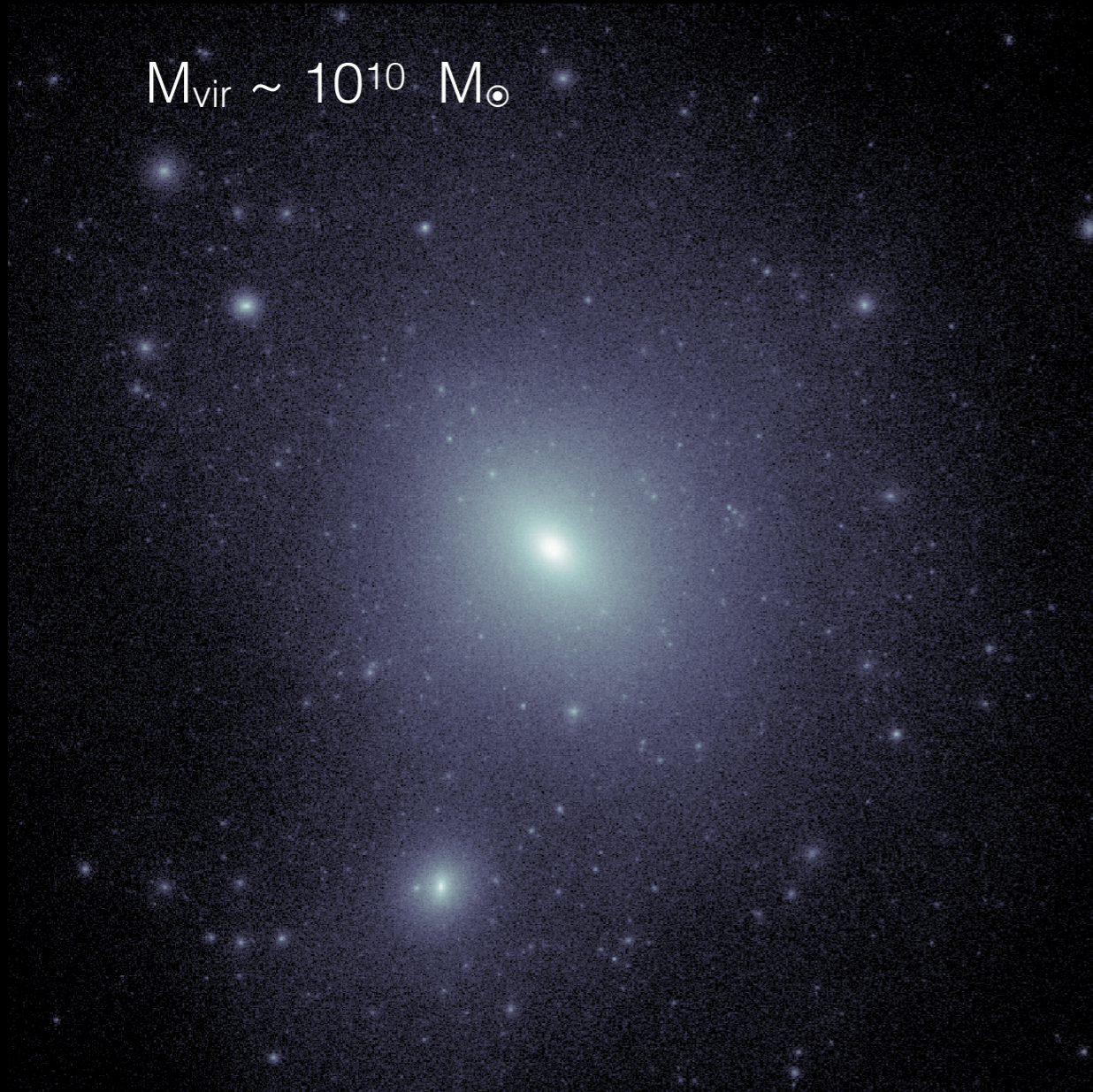
Selection Effect?



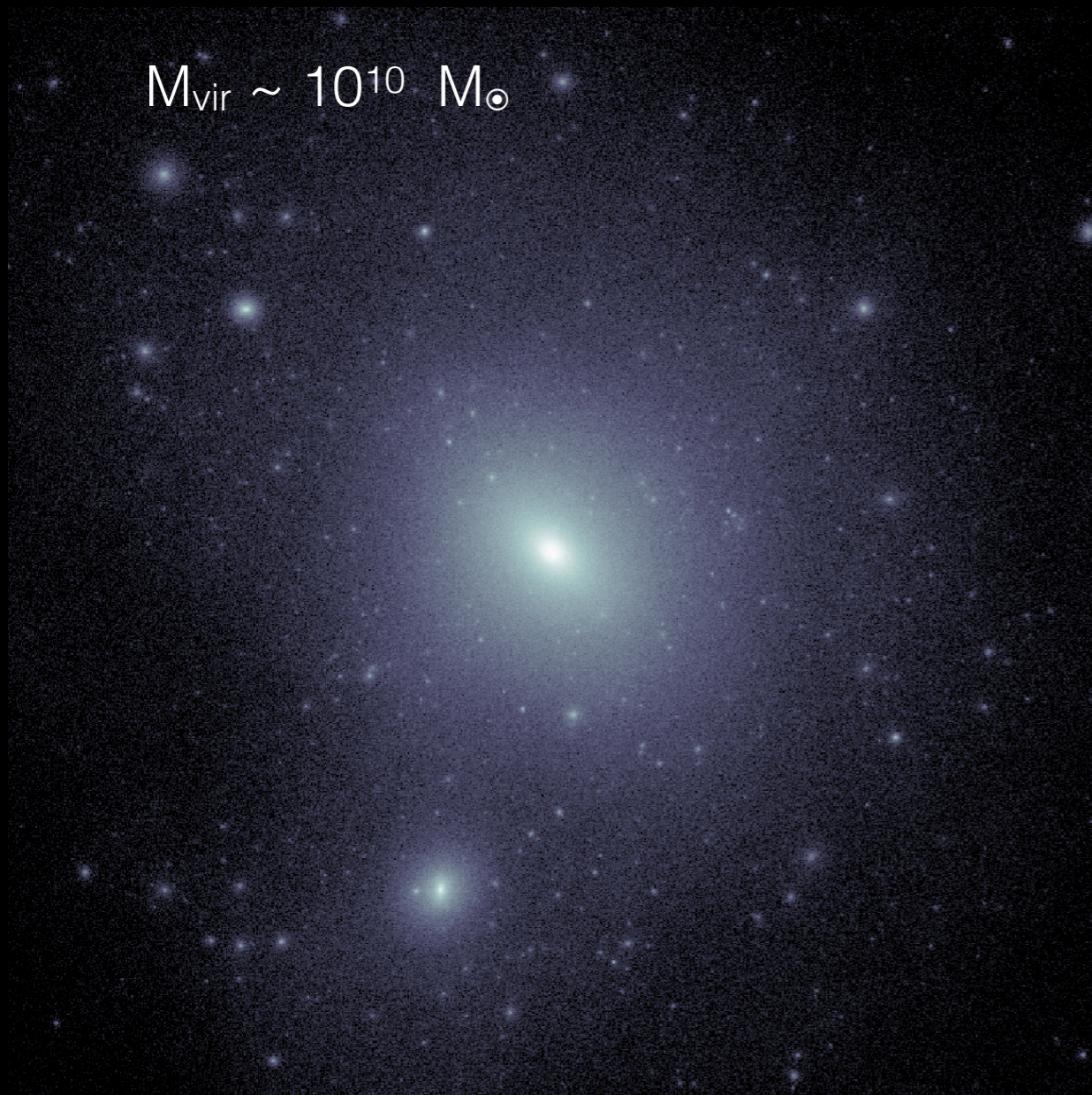
Gaia and the Missing Satellites Problem



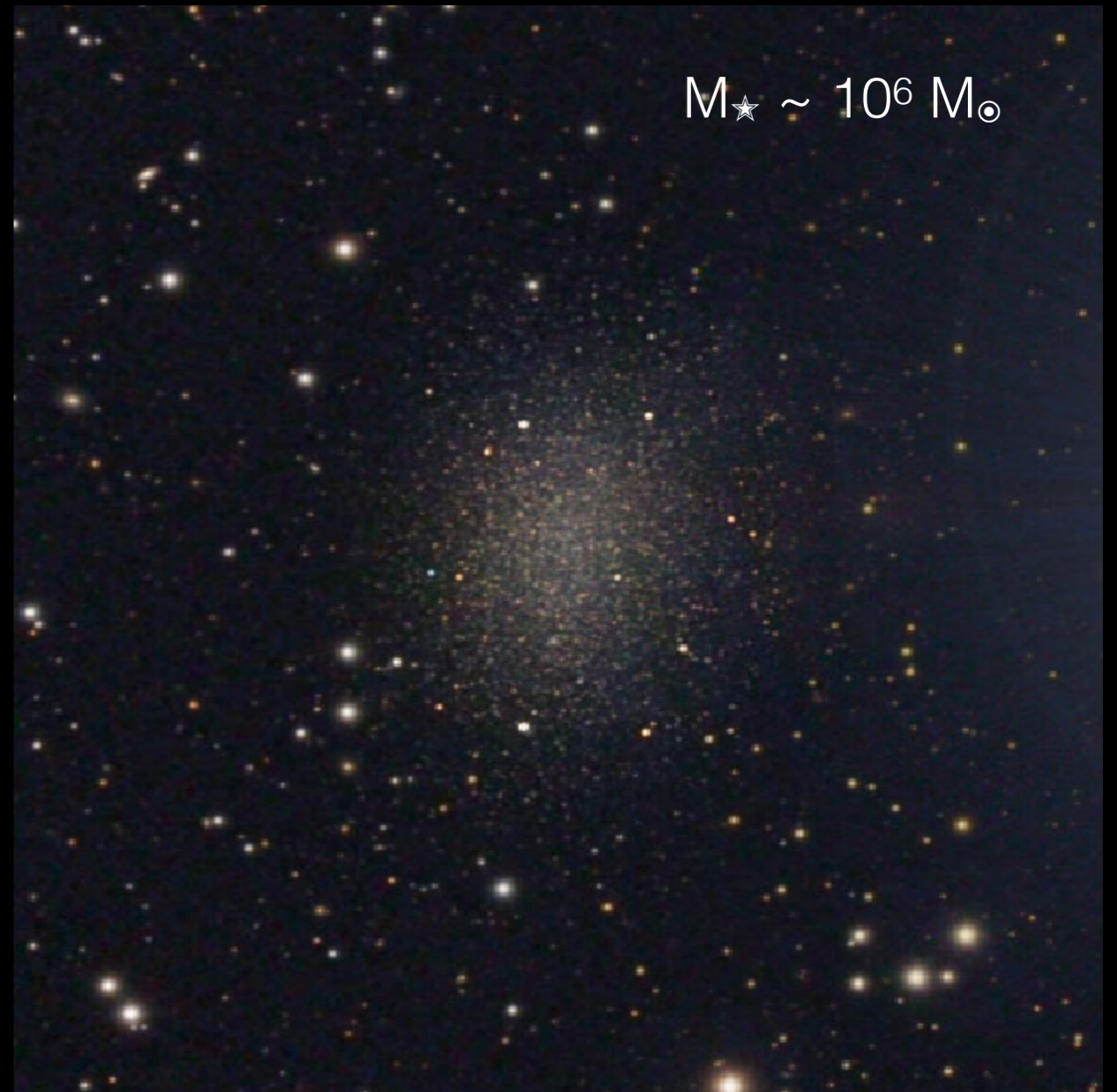
$M_{\text{vir}} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$

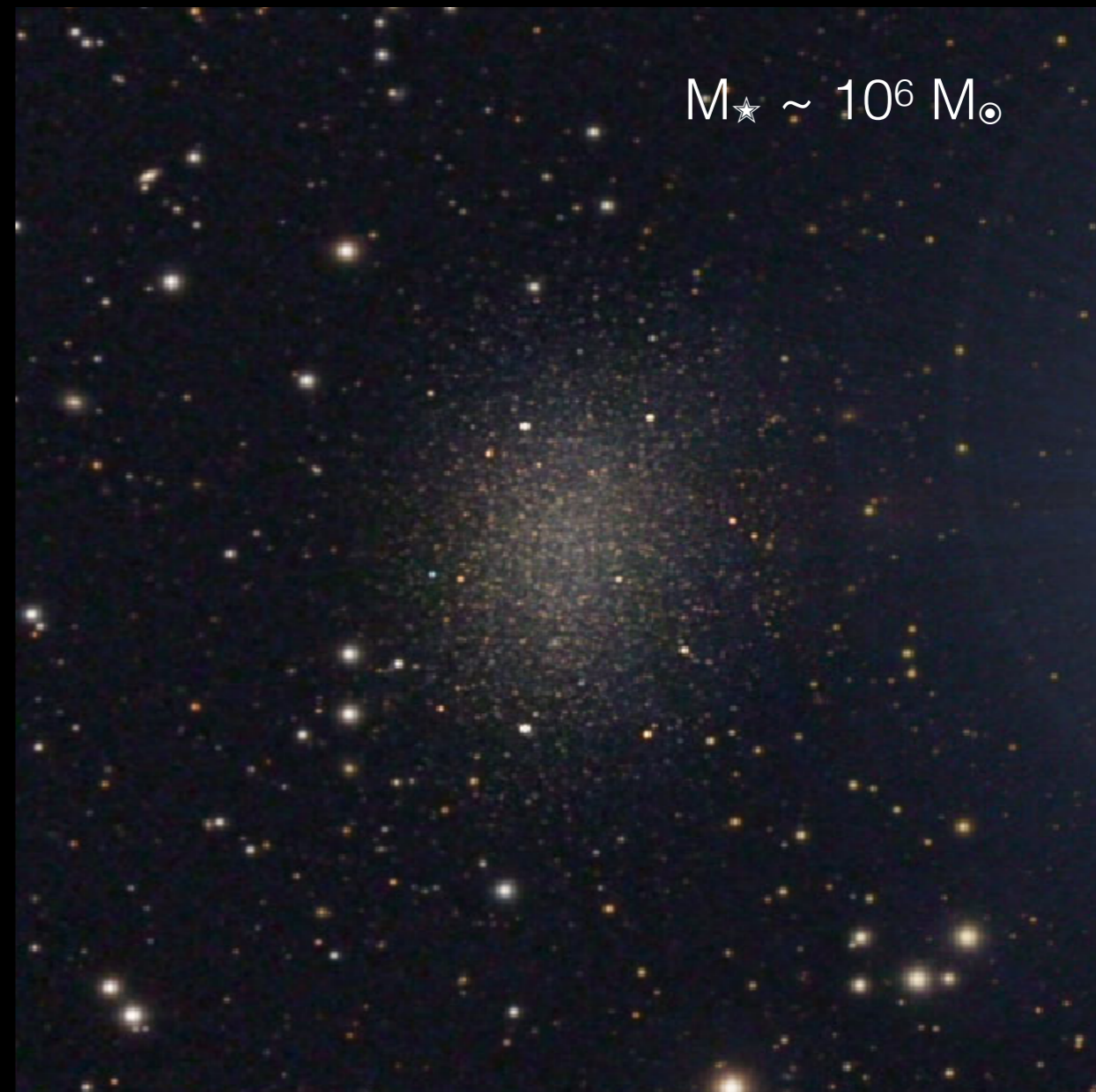
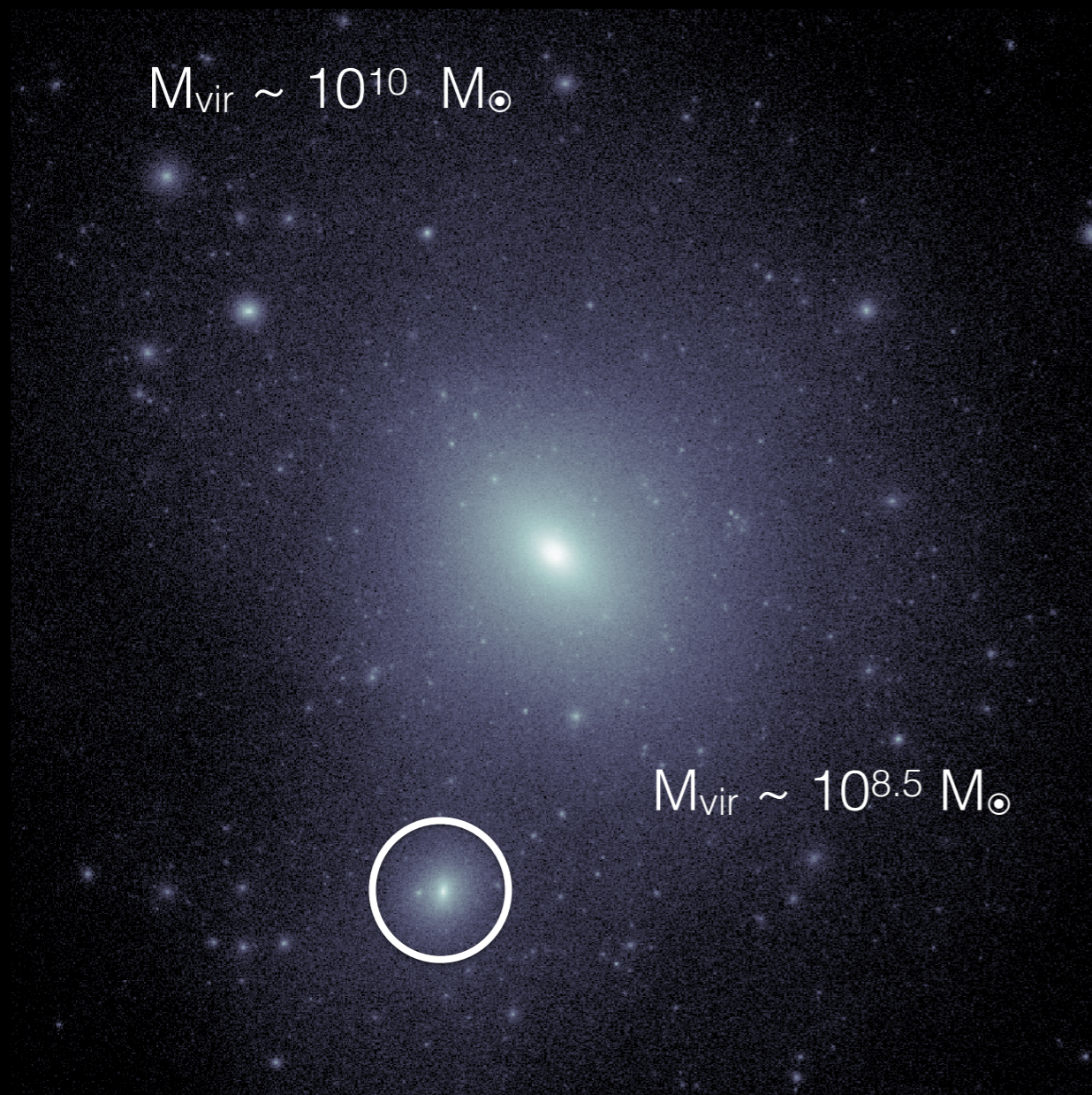


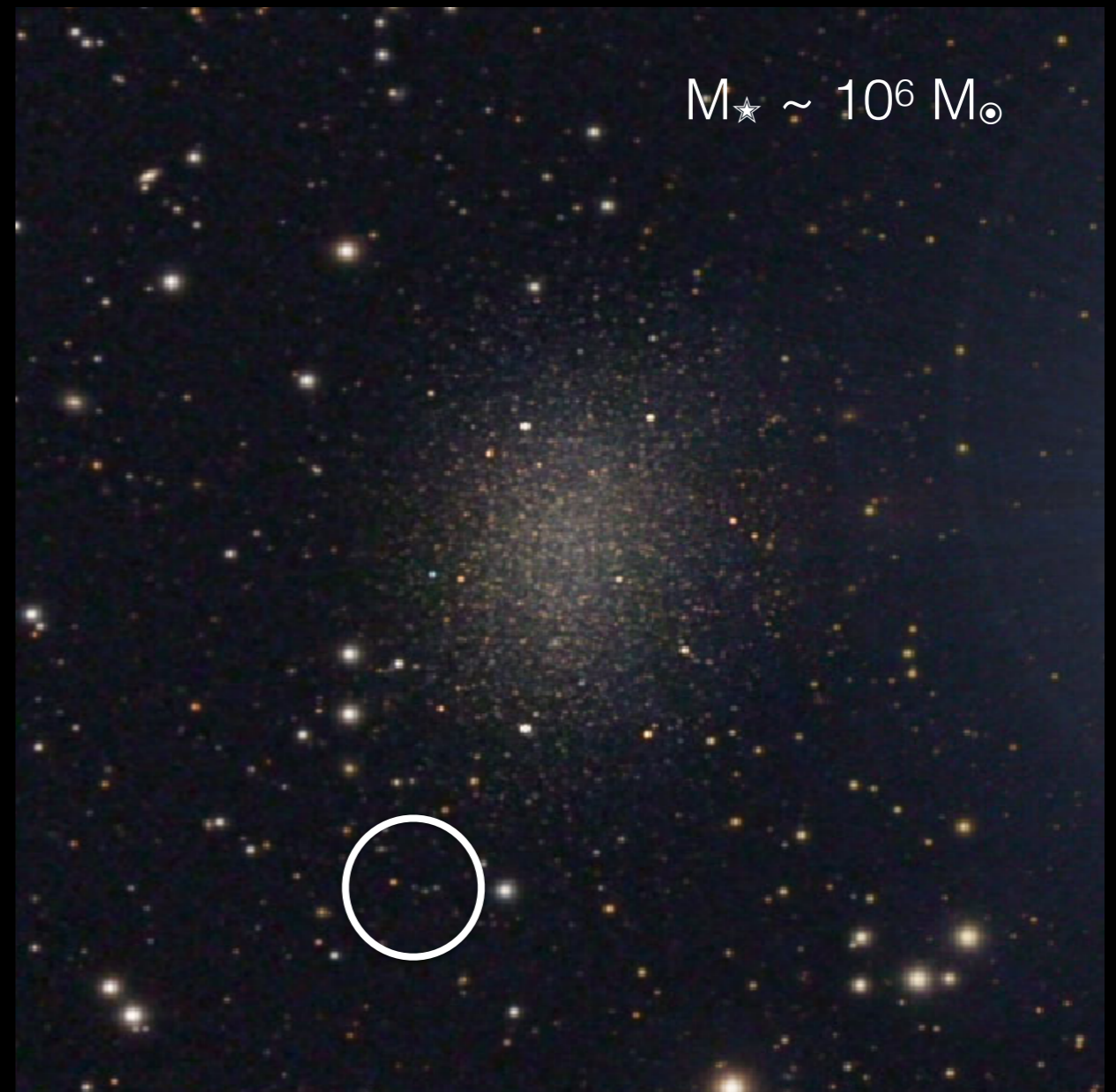
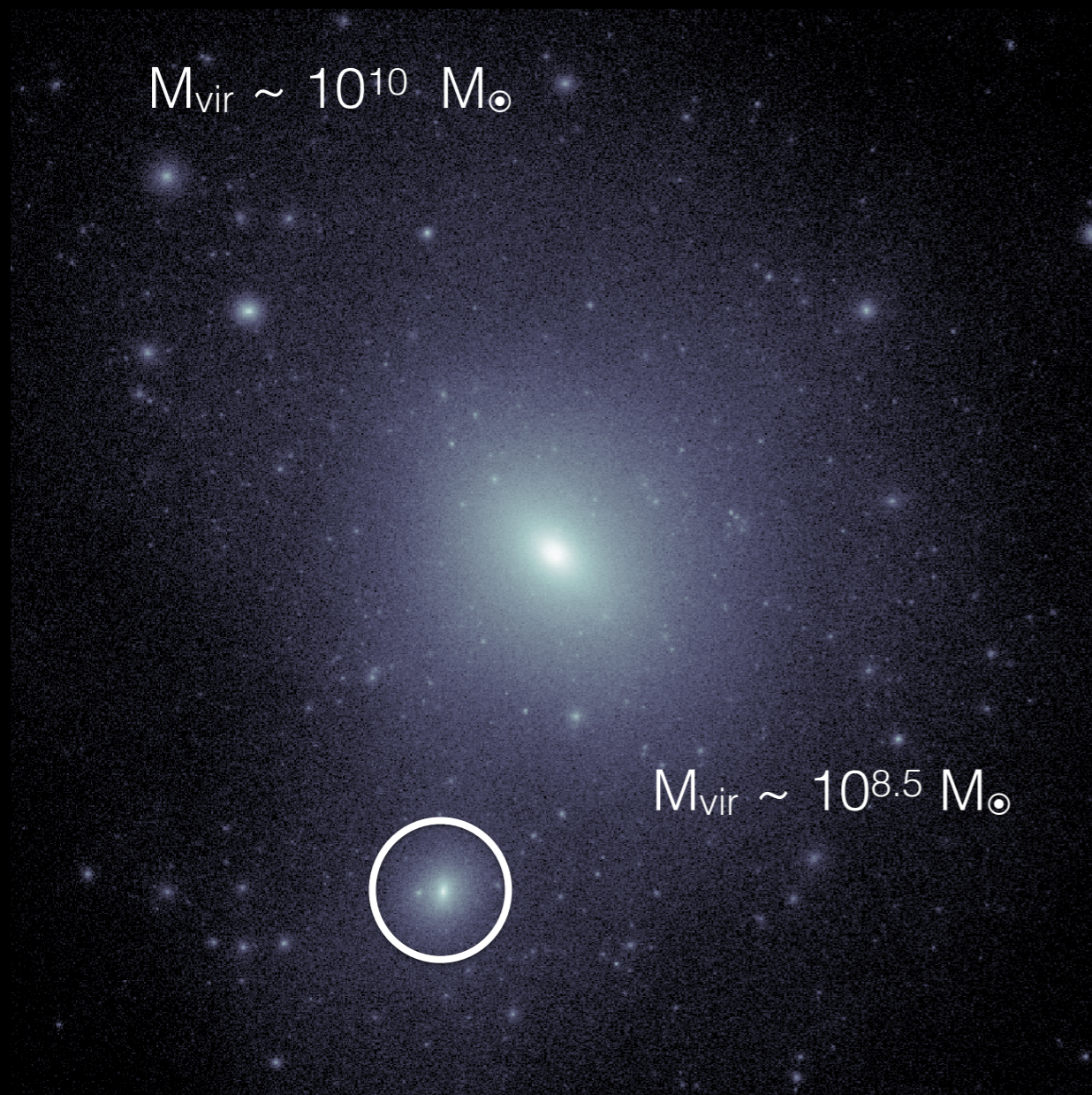
$M_{\text{vir}} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$



$M_{\star} \sim 10^6 M_{\odot}$







DWARF GALAXIES ON FIRE

“Feedback In Realistic Environments”

Hopkins et al. 2014
Wheeler et al. 2015
Wheeler et al. 2018b



Radiation pressure



Stellar winds

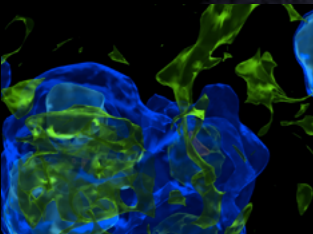
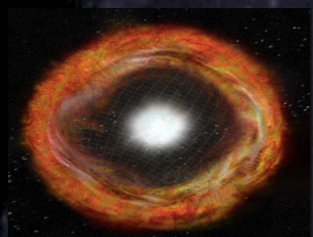
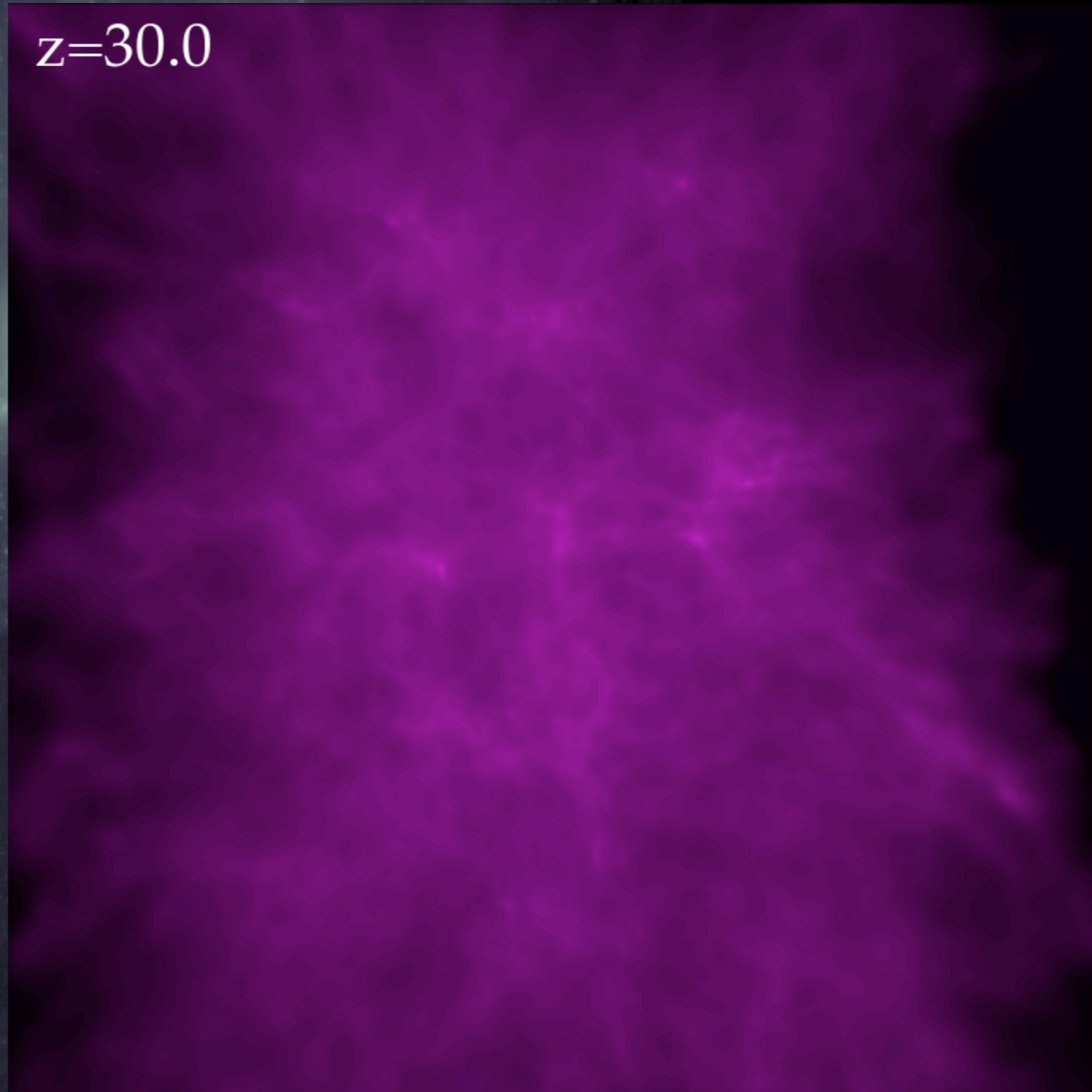


Photo-Ionization



Supernovae Type I
and II



$z=30.0$

NEUTRAL GAS

IONIZED GAS

HOT GAS

DWARF GALAXIES ON FIRE

“Feedback In Realistic Environments”

Hopkins et al. 2014
Wheeler et al. 2015
Wheeler et al. 2018b



Radiation pressure



Stellar winds

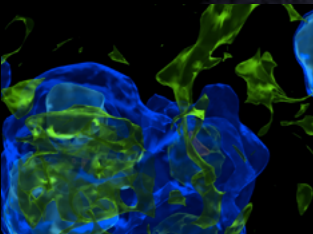
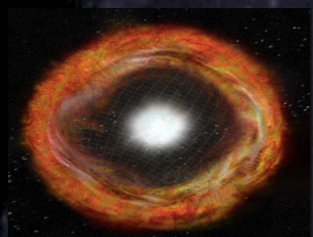
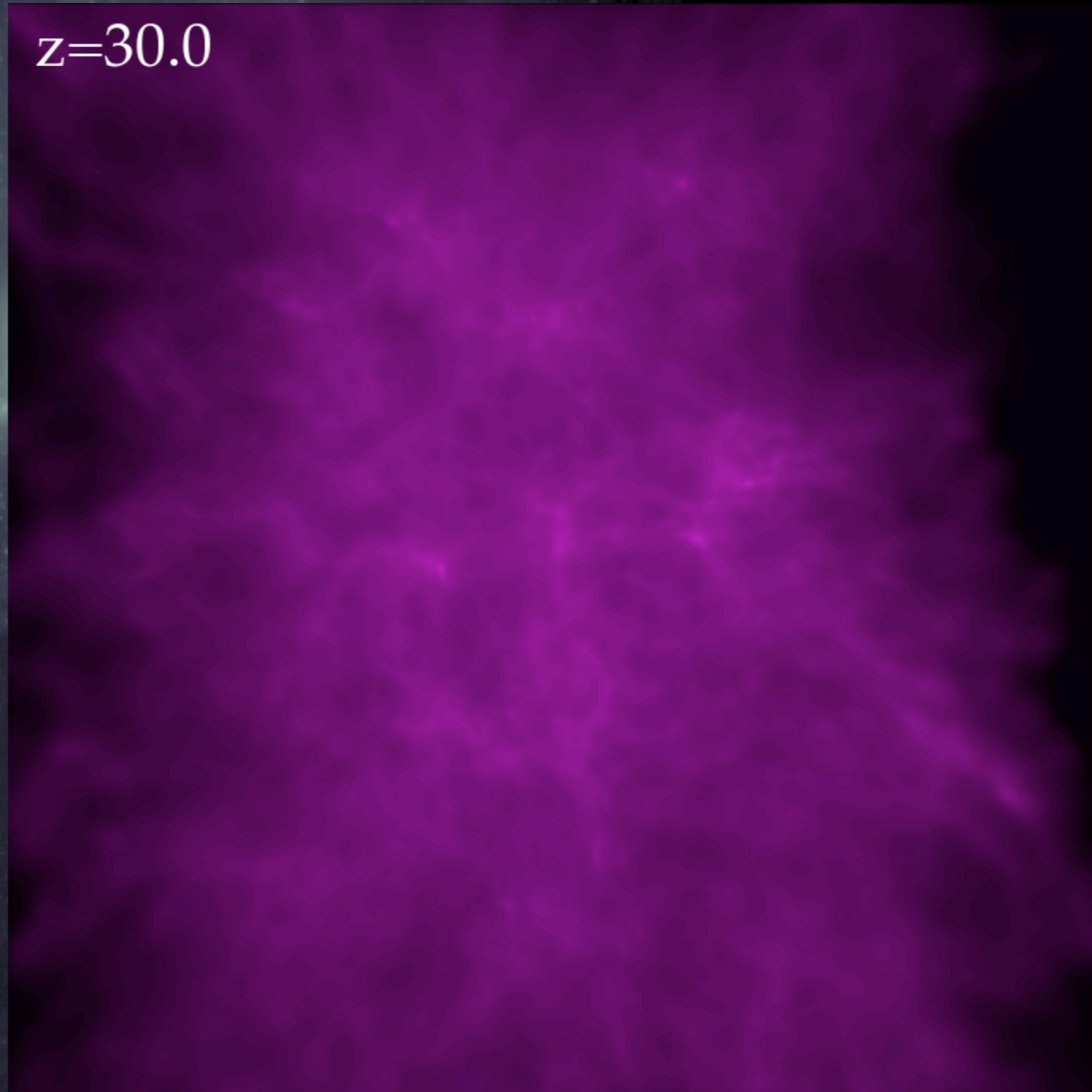


Photo-ionization



Supernovae Type I
and II



NEUTRAL GAS

IONIZED GAS

HOT GAS

DWARF GALAXIES ON FIRE

“Feedback In Realistic Environments”

Hopkins et al. 2014
Wheeler et al. 2015
Wheeler et al. 2018b

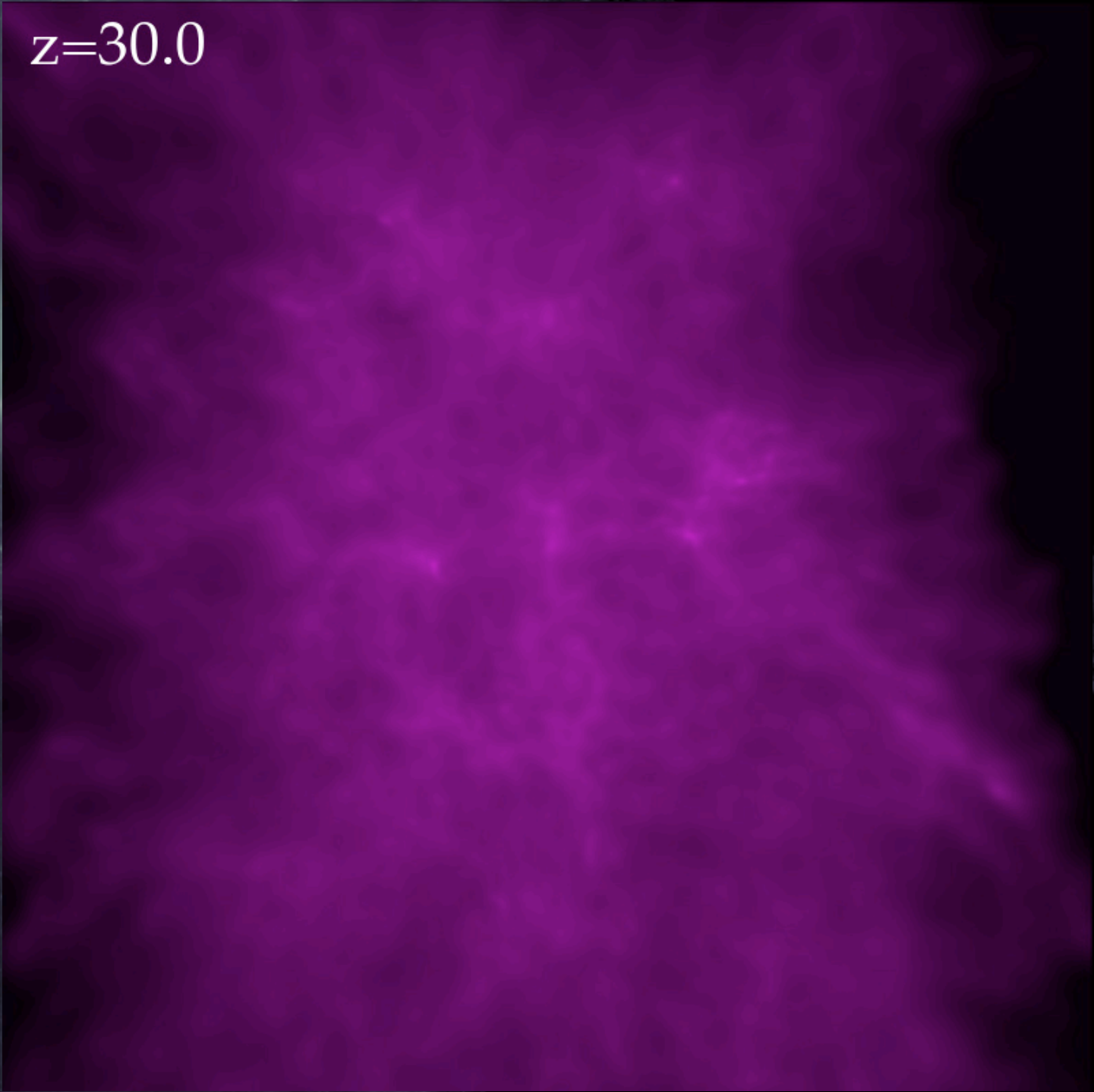
Typical (pre-FIRE) resolution:

DM particle mass = $10^5 M_{\odot}$

Star particle mass $\sim 10^4 M_{\odot}$

Spatial resolution = 100pc

$z=30.0$



arXiv:1812.02749

NEUTRAL GAS

IONIZED GAS

HOT GAS

DWARF GALAXIES ON FIRE

“Feedback In Realistic Environments”

Hopkins et al. 2014
Wheeler et al. 2015
Wheeler et al. 2018b

Typical (pre-FIRE) resolution:

DM particle mass = $10^5 M_{\odot}$

Star particle mass $\sim 10^4 M_{\odot}$

Spatial resolution = 100pc

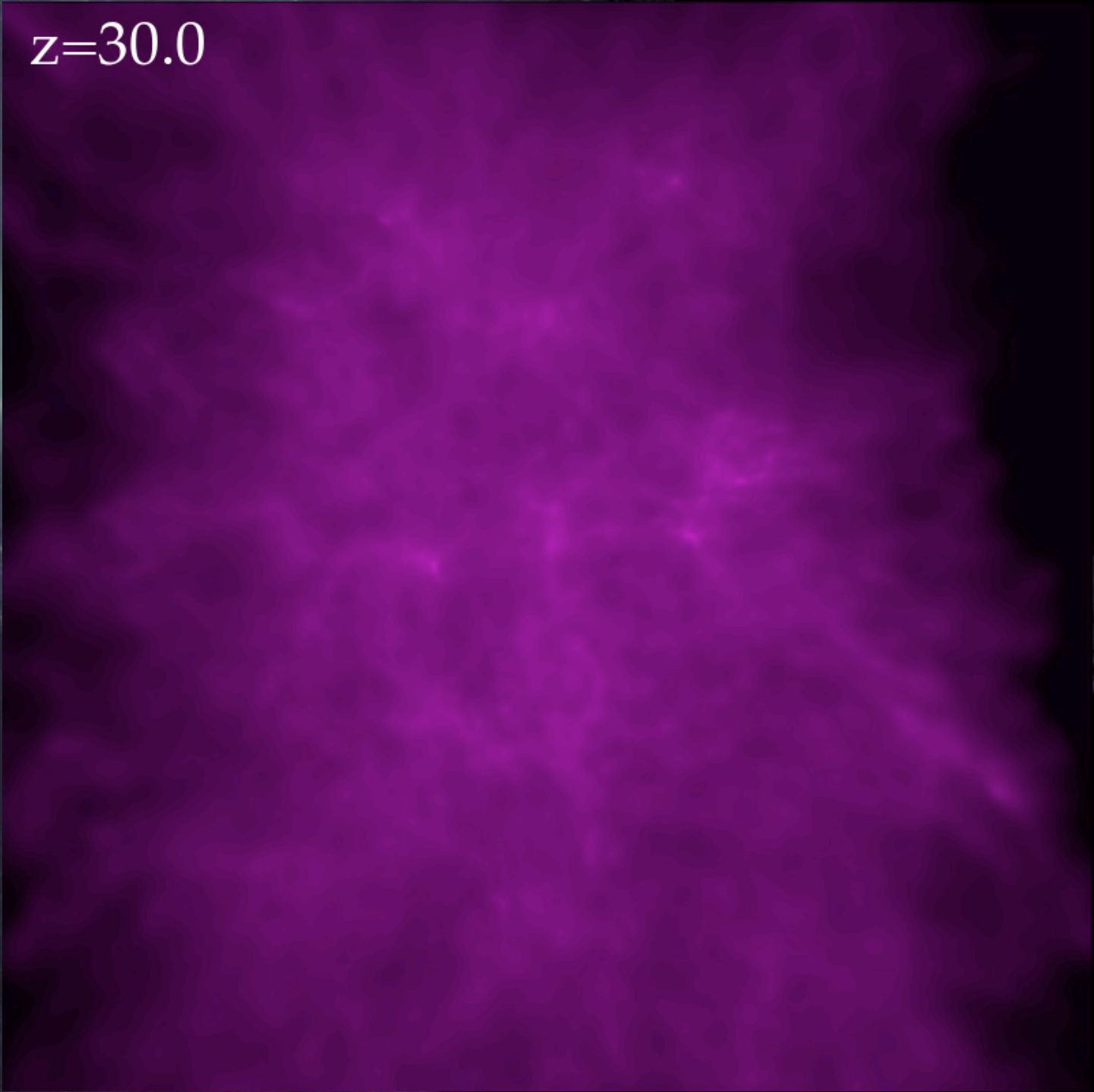
High Resolution (Wheeler 2015):

DM particle mass = 1300 M_{\odot}

Star particle mass $\sim 250 M_{\odot}$

Spatial resolution = 1pc

$z=30.0$



arXiv:1812.02749

NEUTRAL GAS

IONIZED GAS

HOT GAS

DWARF GALAXIES ON FIRE

“Feedback In Realistic Environments”

Hopkins et al. 2014
Wheeler et al. 2015
Wheeler et al. 2018b

Typical (pre-FIRE) resolution:

DM particle mass = $10^5 M_{\odot}$

Star particle mass $\sim 10^4 M_{\odot}$

Spatial resolution = 100pc

High Resolution (Wheeler 2015):

DM particle mass = 1300 M_{\odot}

Star particle mass $\sim 250 M_{\odot}$

Spatial resolution = 1pc

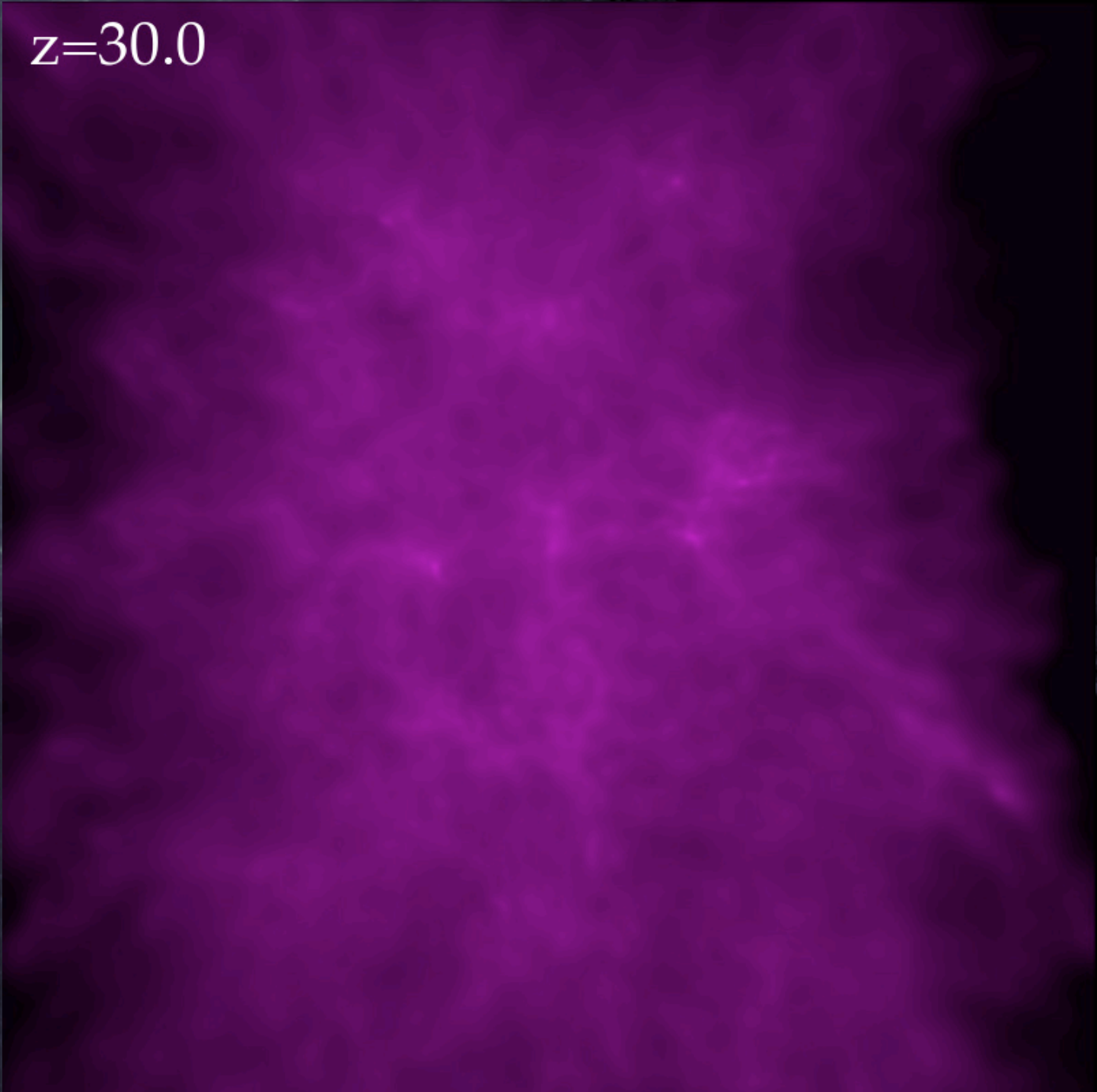
Highest Resolution (Wheeler 2018):

DM particle mass = 160 M_{\odot}

Star particle mass $\sim 30 M_{\odot}$

Spatial resolution = 0.1-0.4pc

$z=30.0$



arXiv:1812.02749

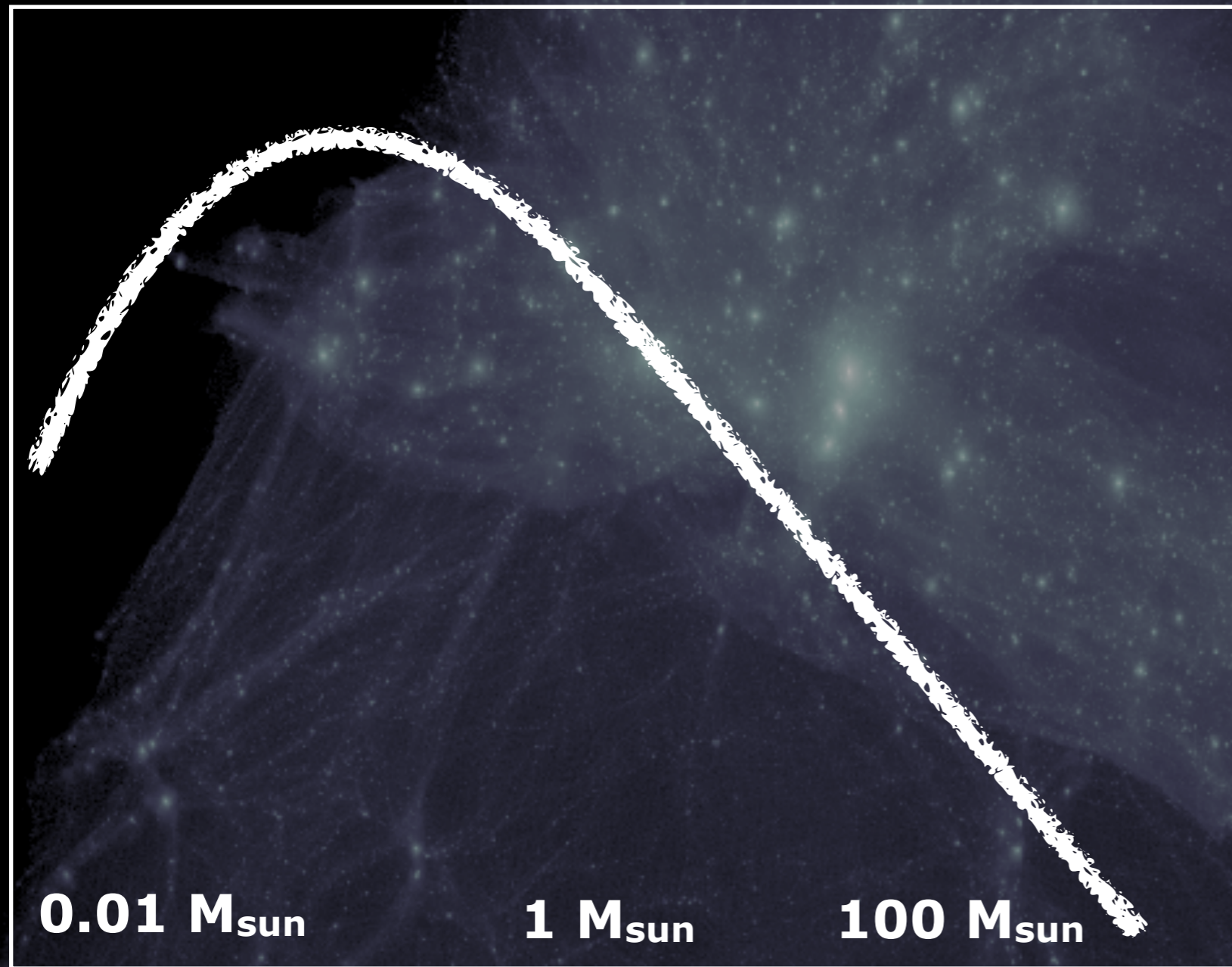
NEUTRAL GAS

IONIZED GAS

HOT GAS

Trouble with High Resolution: IMF Sampling

Massive star particle
treated as single stellar
population with
Kroupa 2001 IMF



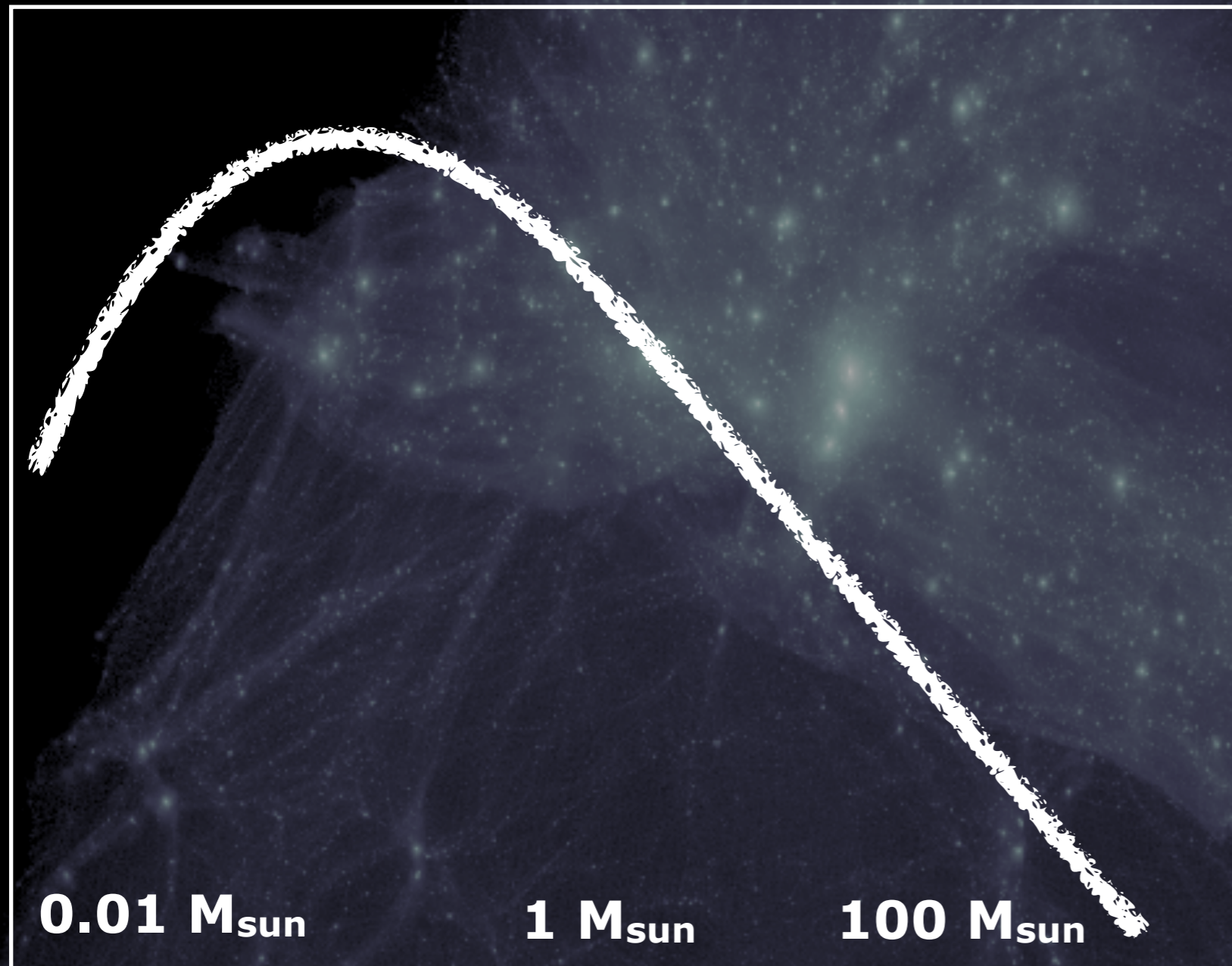
Kroupa 2001

log Mass of Stars

Trouble with High Resolution: IMF Sampling

Massive star particle treated as single stellar population with Kroupa 2001 IMF

Star particles $< \sim 100 M_{\text{sun}}$ can no longer represent complete stellar population

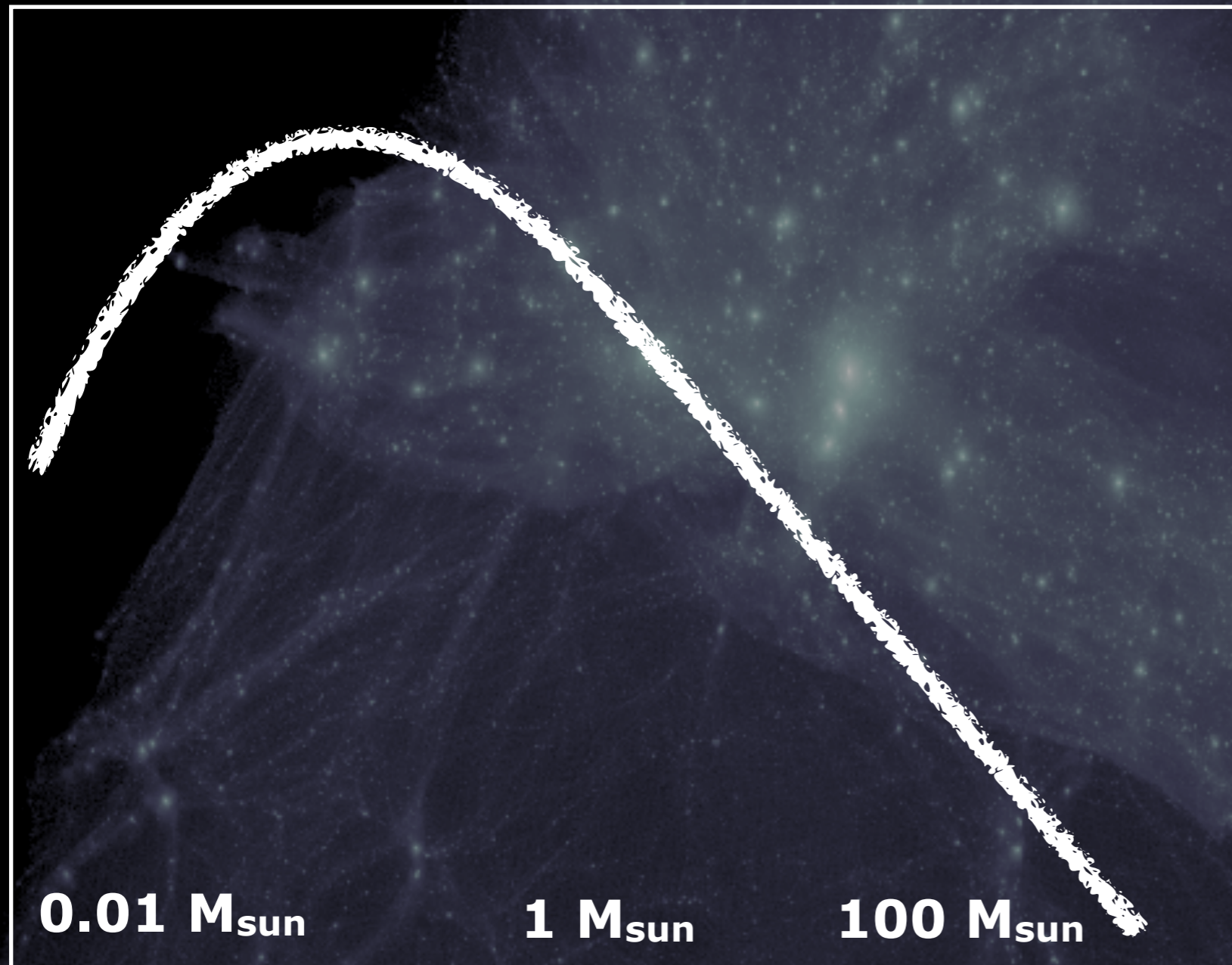


Kroupa 2001

log Mass of Stars

Trouble with High Resolution: IMF Sampling

log Number of Stars



Kroupa 2001

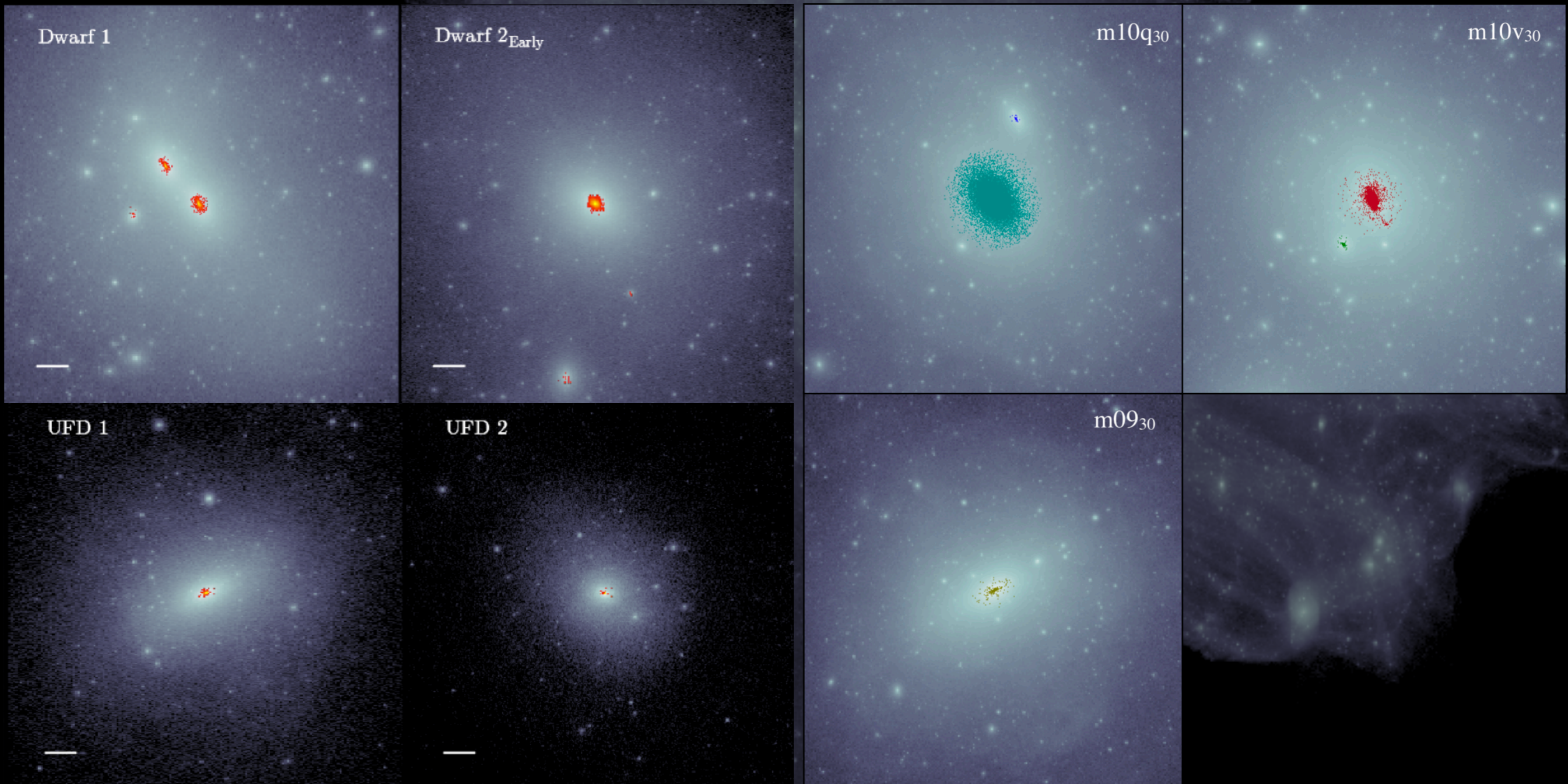
log Mass of Stars

Massive star particle treated as single stellar population with Kroupa 2001 IMF

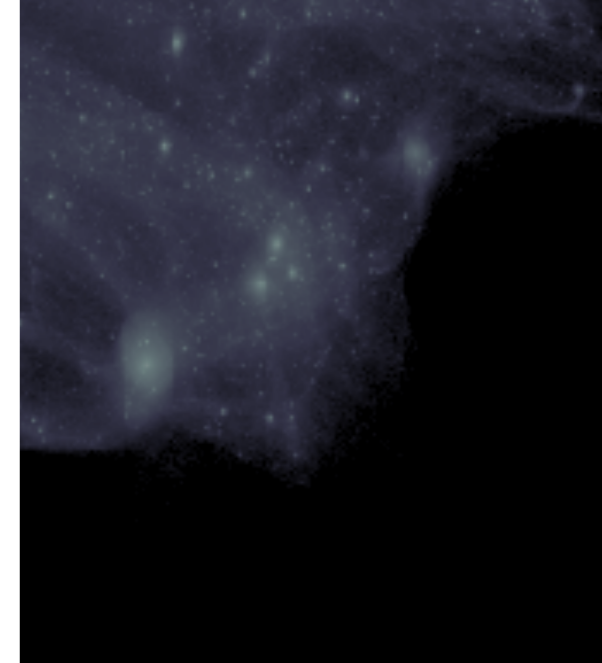
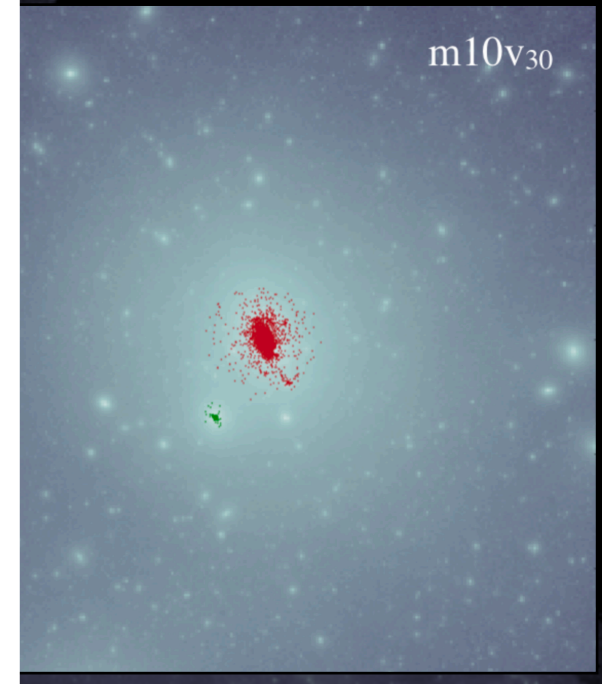
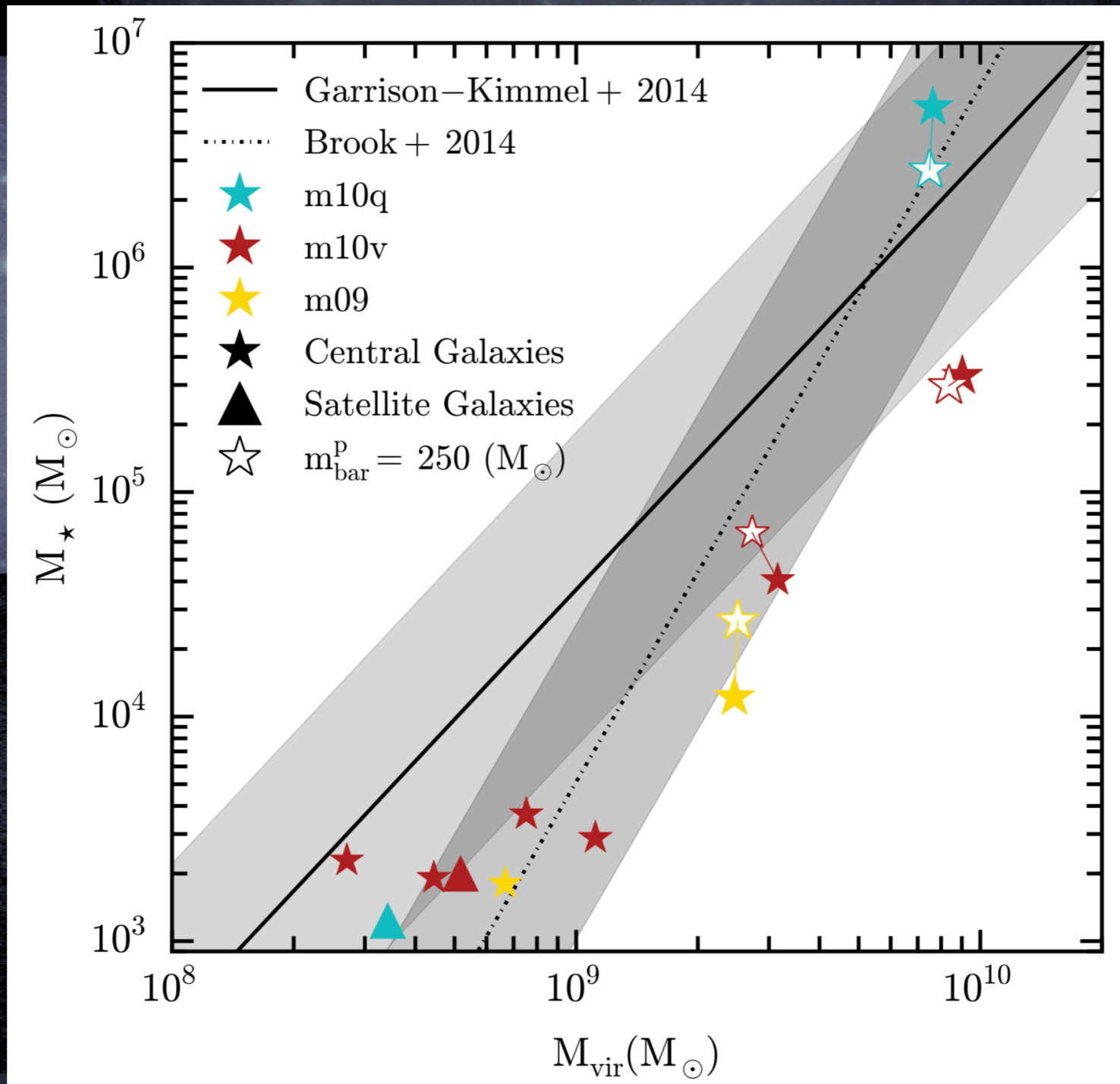
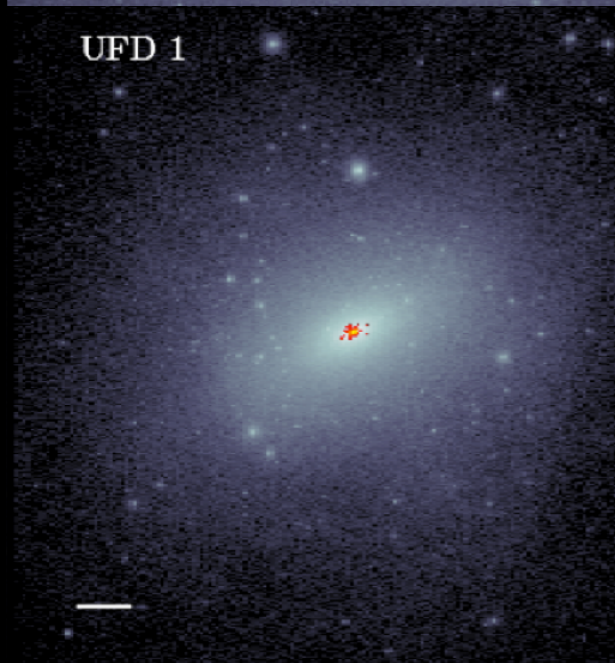
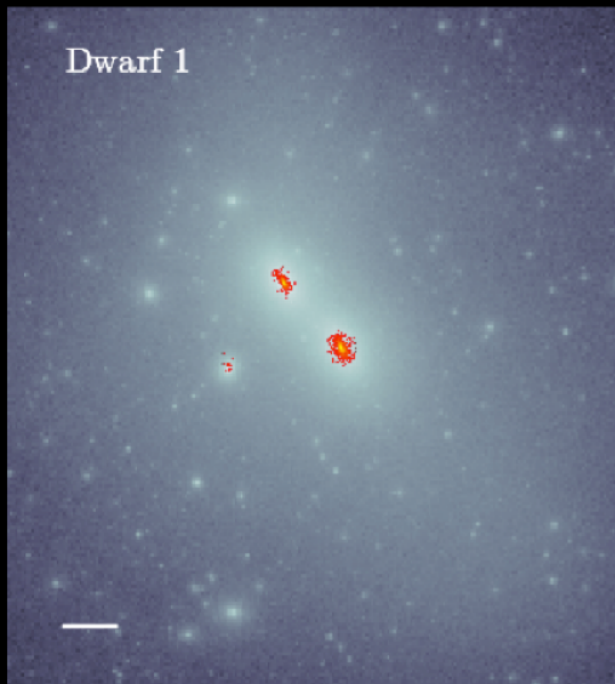
Star particles $< \sim 100 M_{\text{sun}}$ can no longer represent complete stellar population

Must stochastically sample IMF, allowing small fraction of particles to represent a discrete integer number of massive stars

Prediction: Galaxies in all halos with $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$

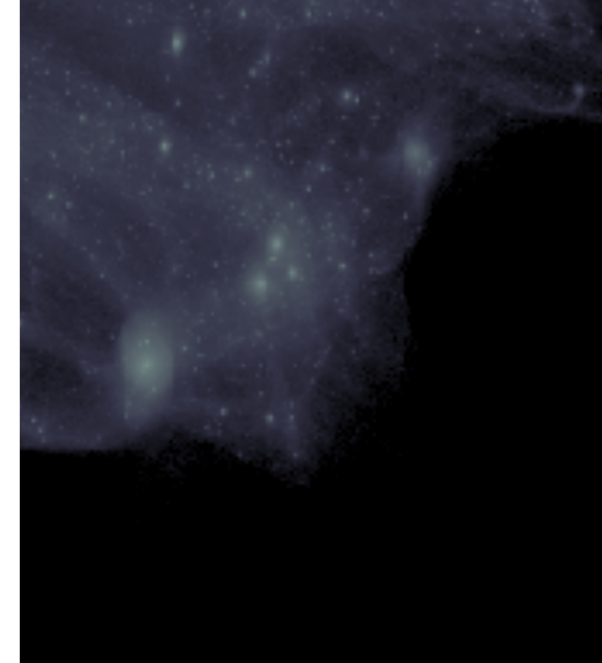
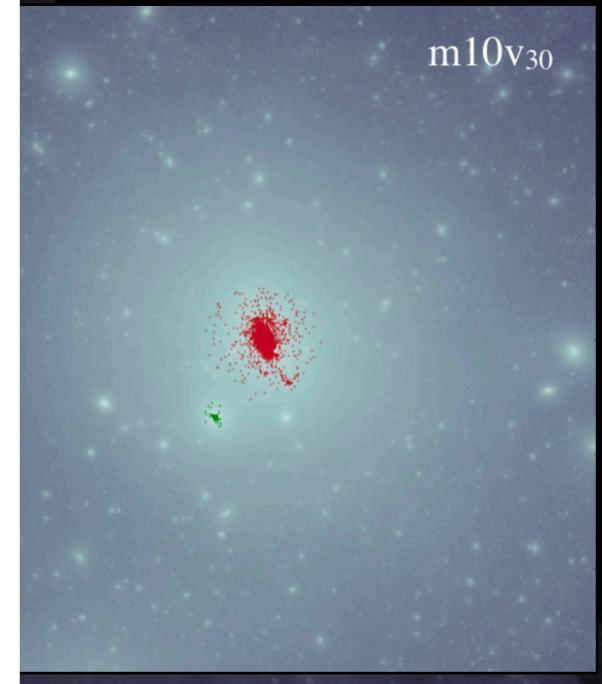
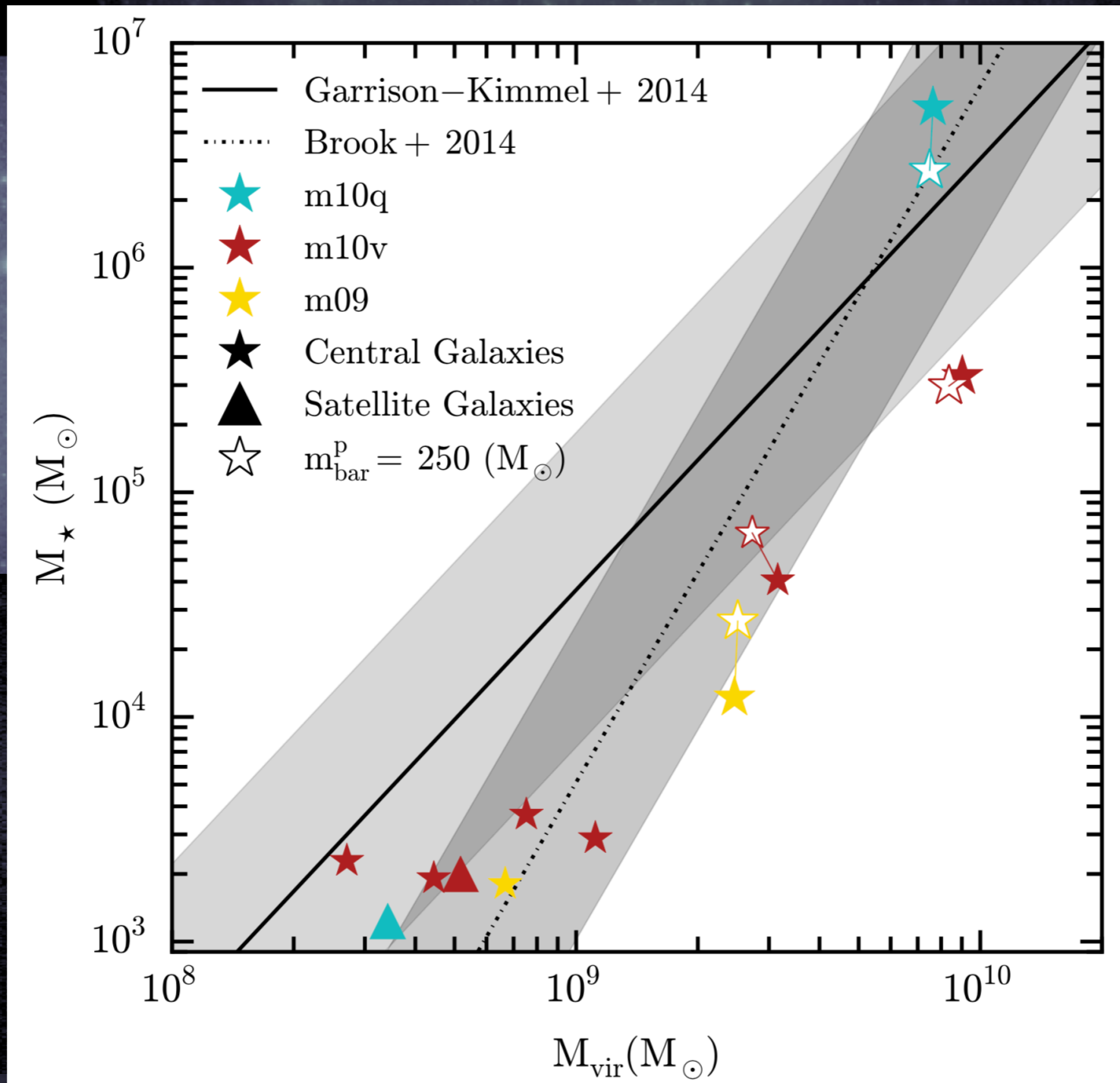
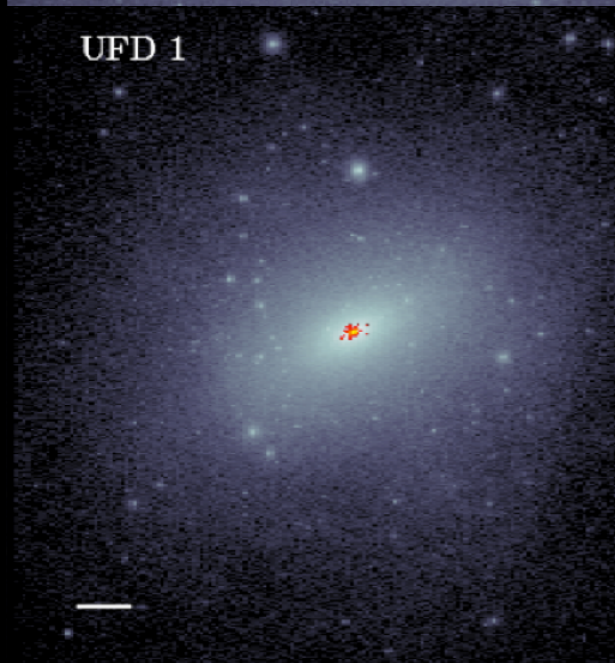
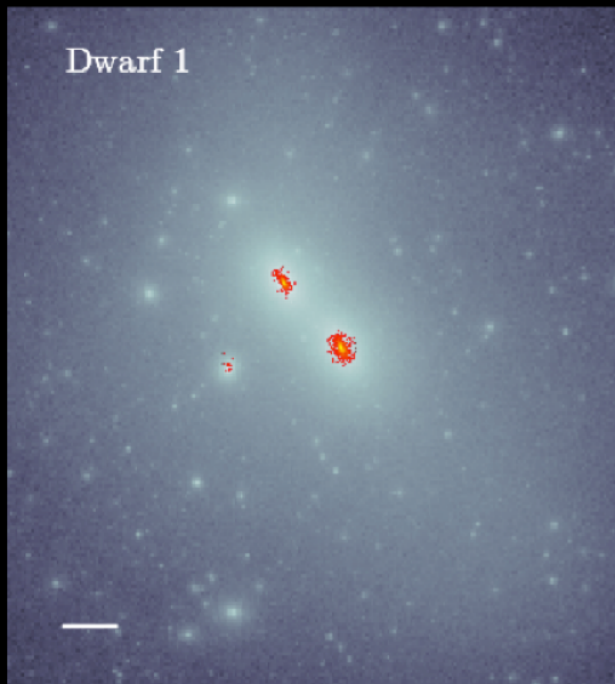


Prediction: Galaxies in all halos with $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$



Prediction: Galaxies in all halos with $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$

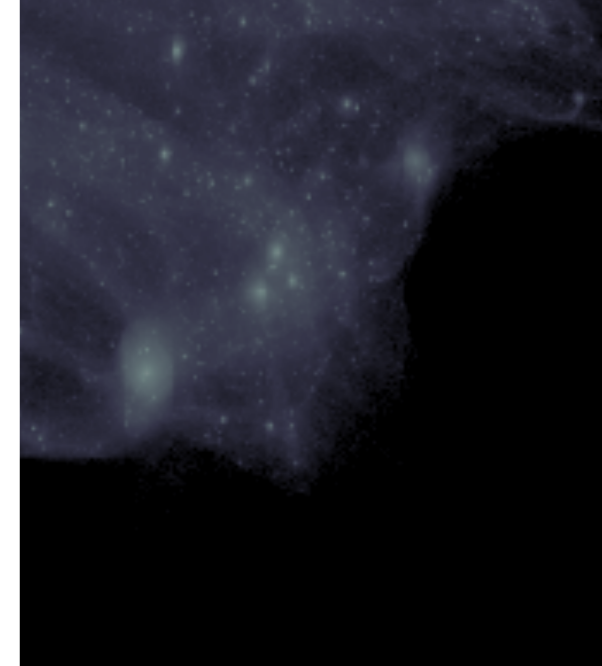
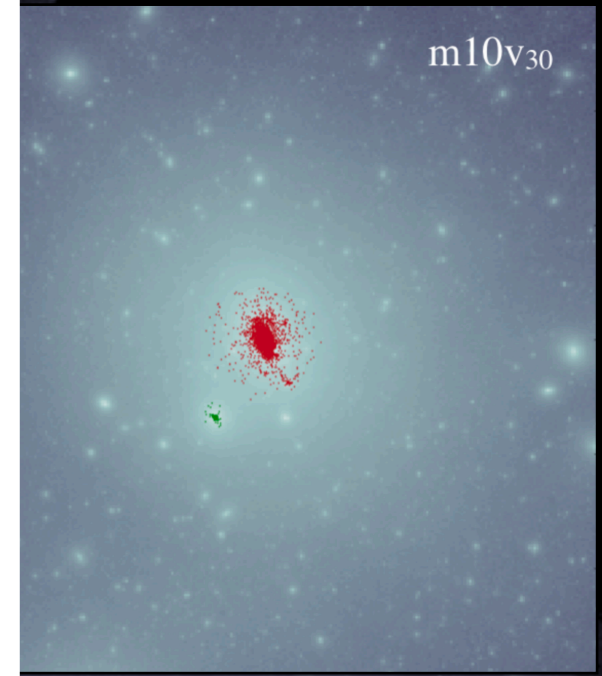
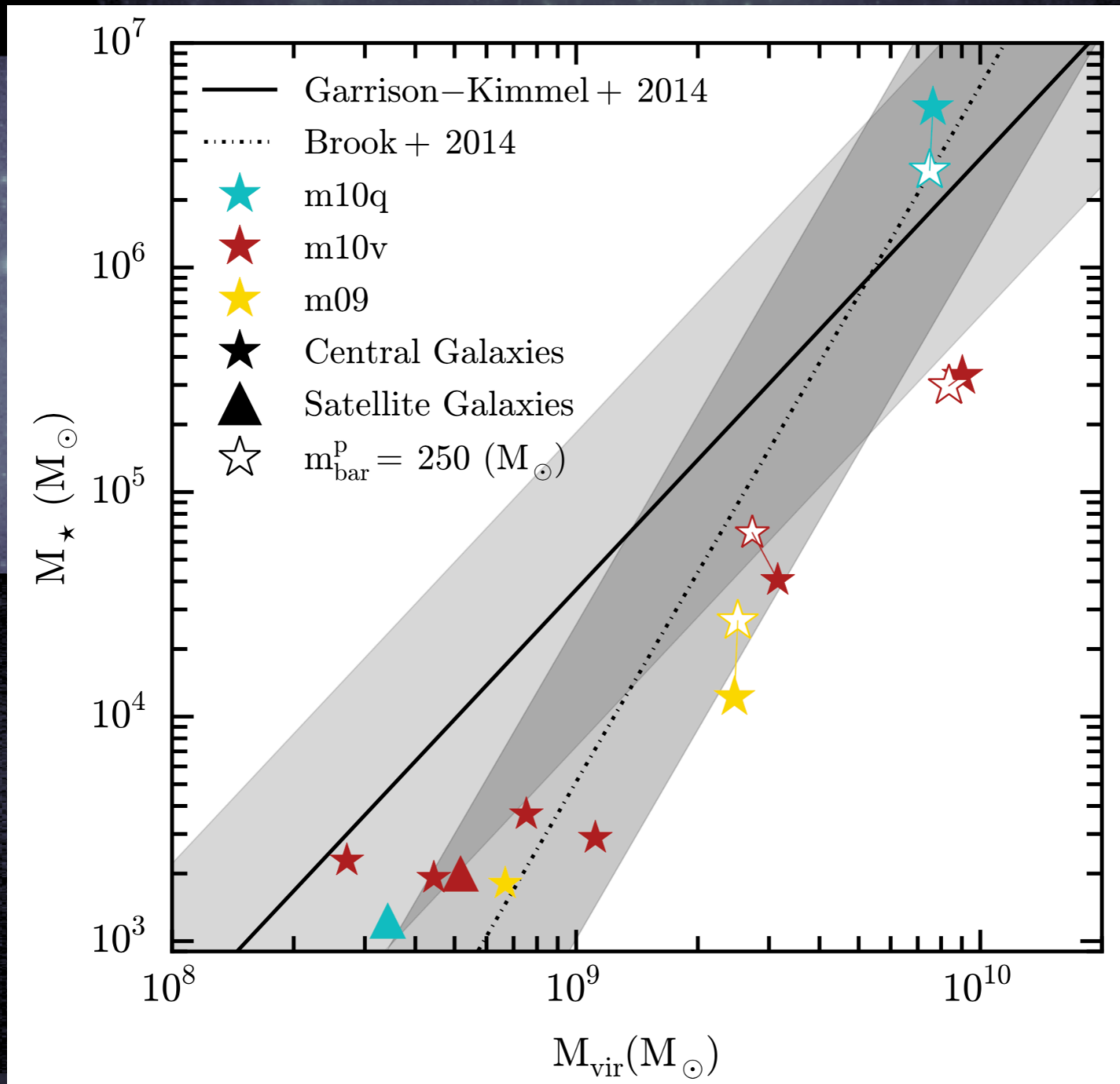
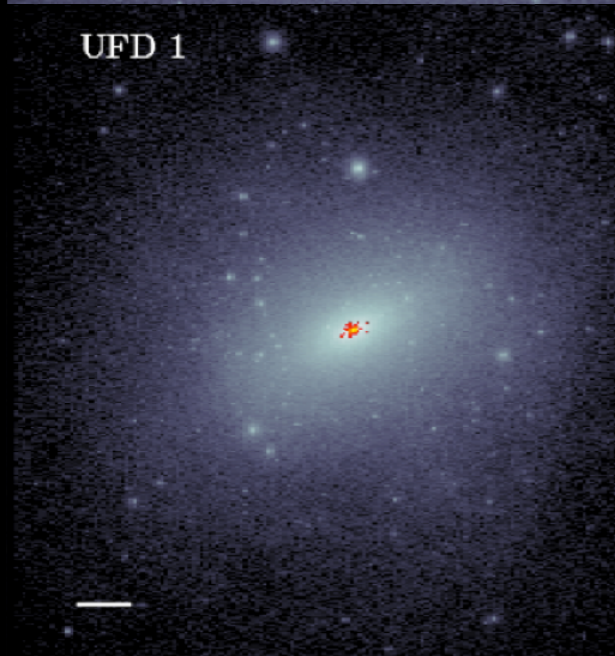
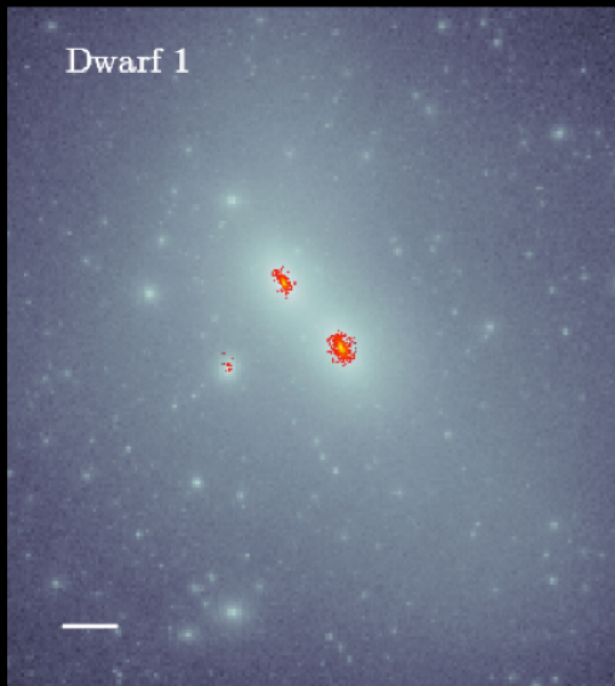
Testable prediction: Isolated classical dwarfs have their own ultra-faint satellites



Prediction: Galaxies in all halos with $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$

Testable prediction: Isolated classical dwarfs have their own ultra-faint satellites

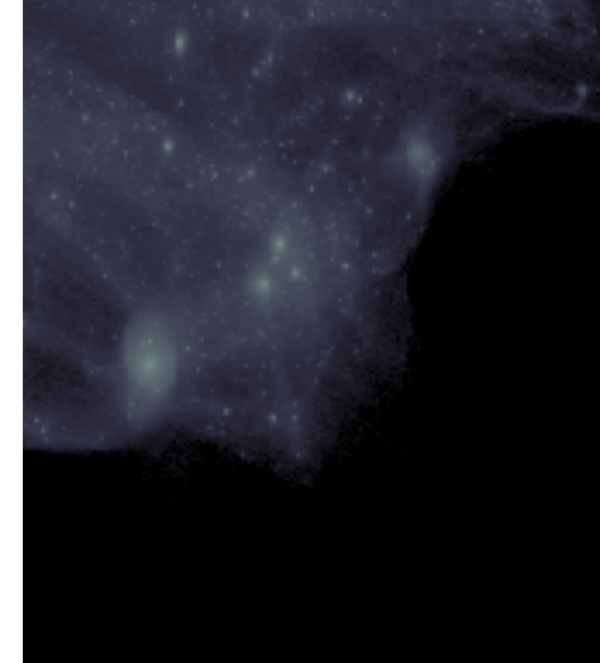
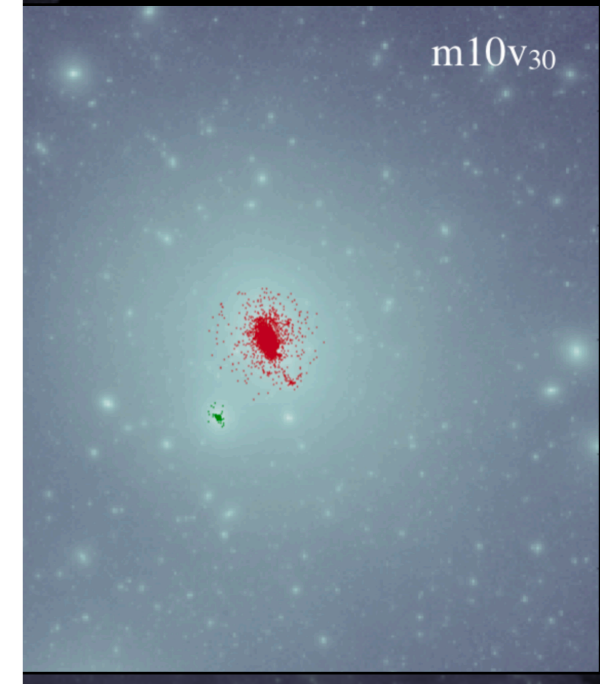
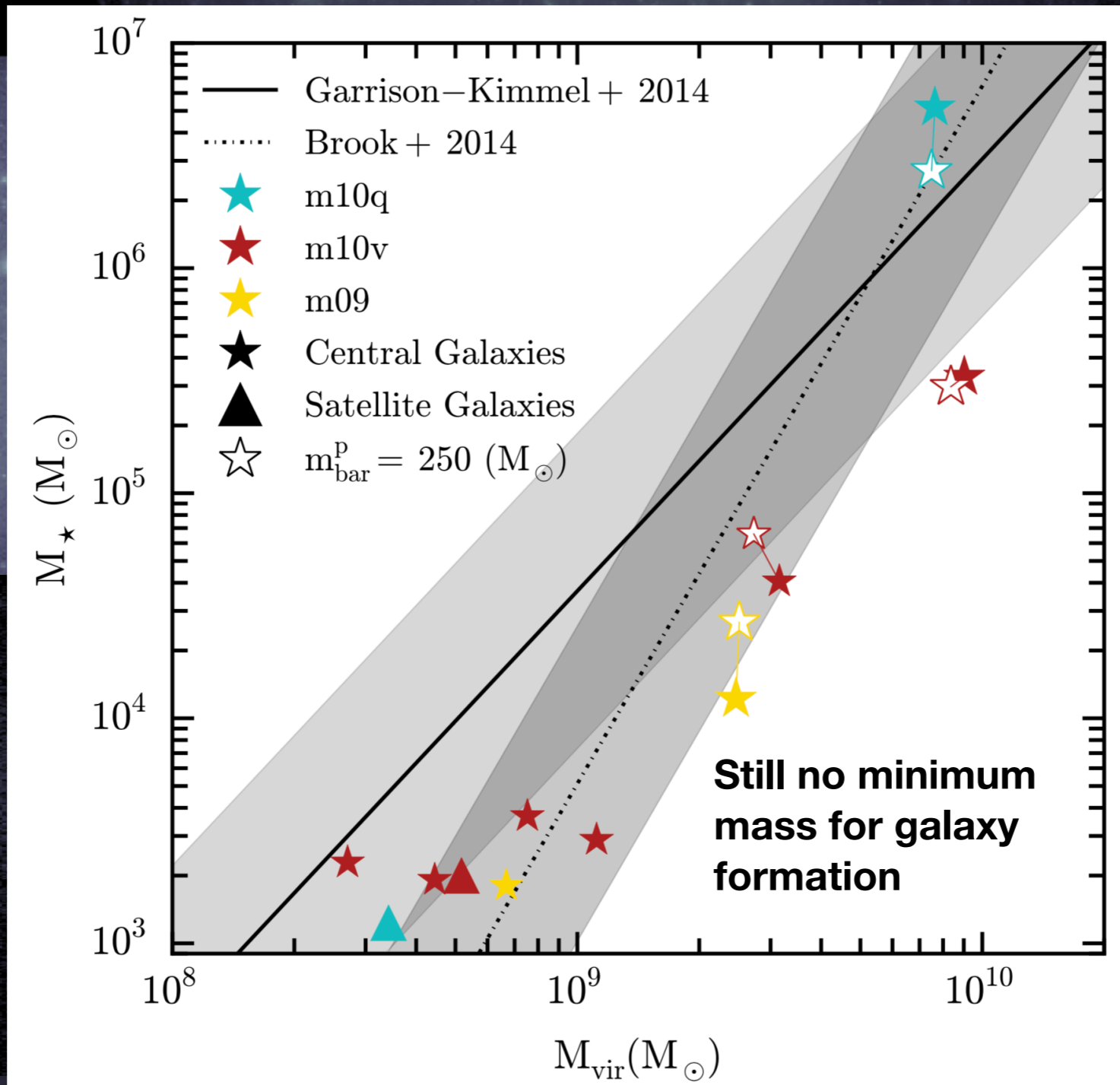
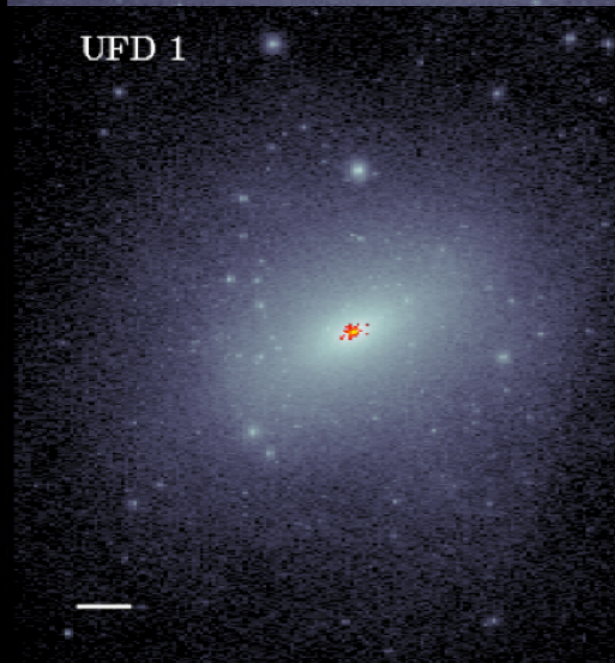
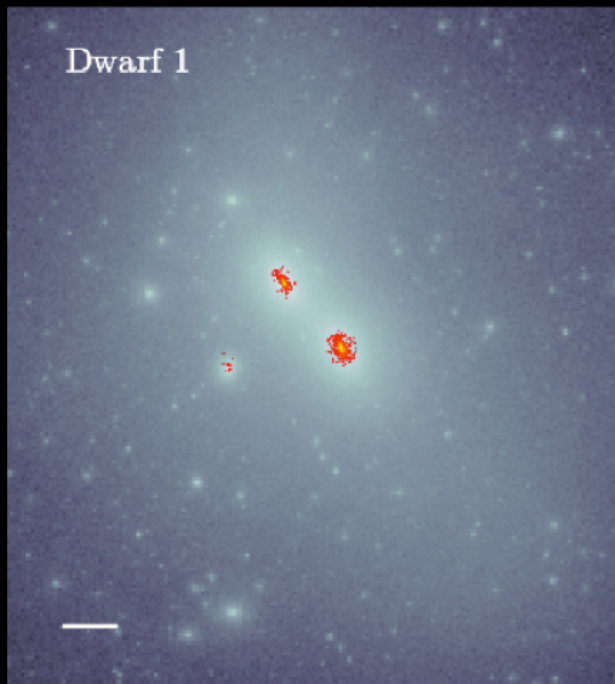
Testable prediction: should be ubiquitous in the field - 100s around the MW!



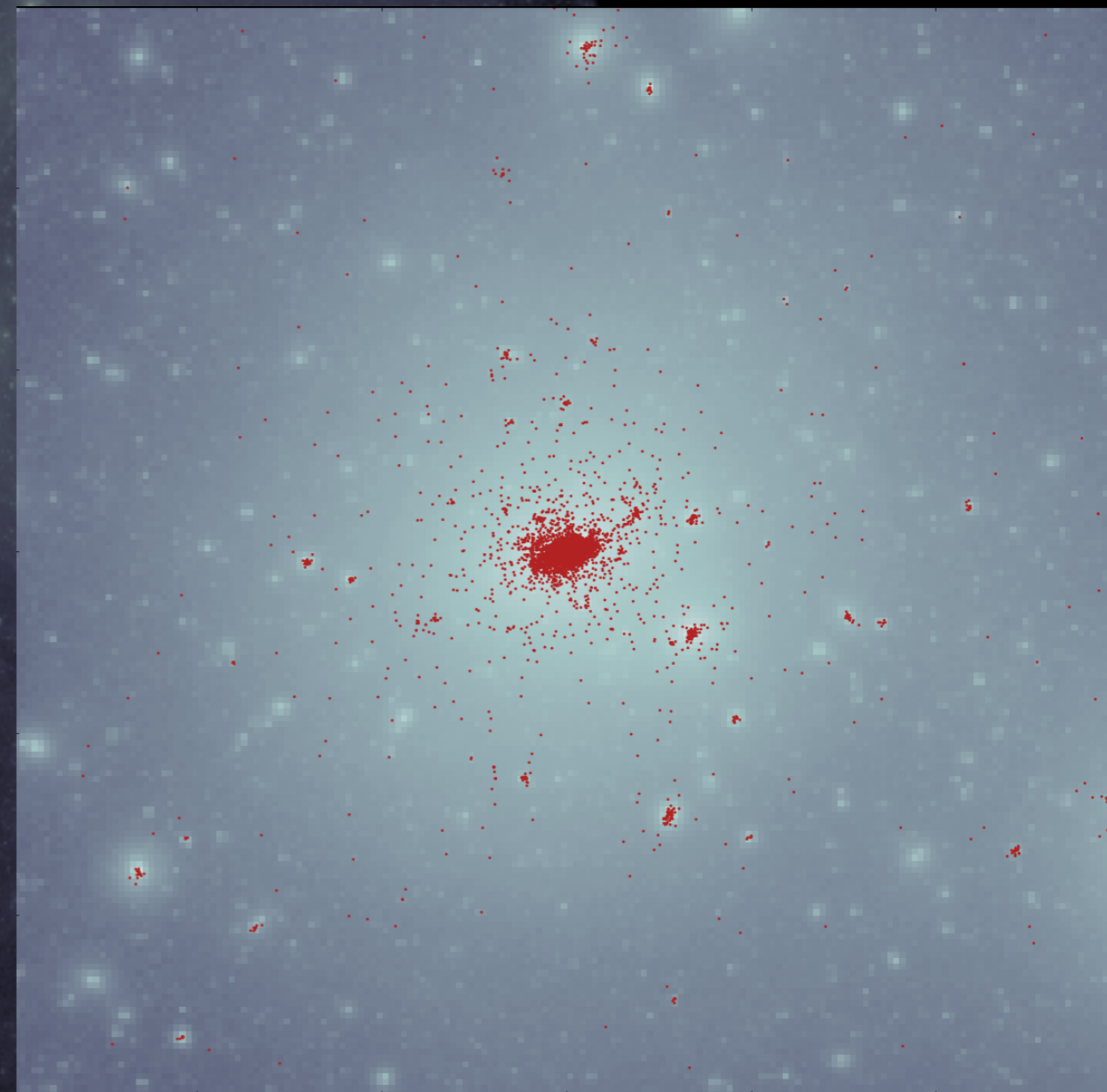
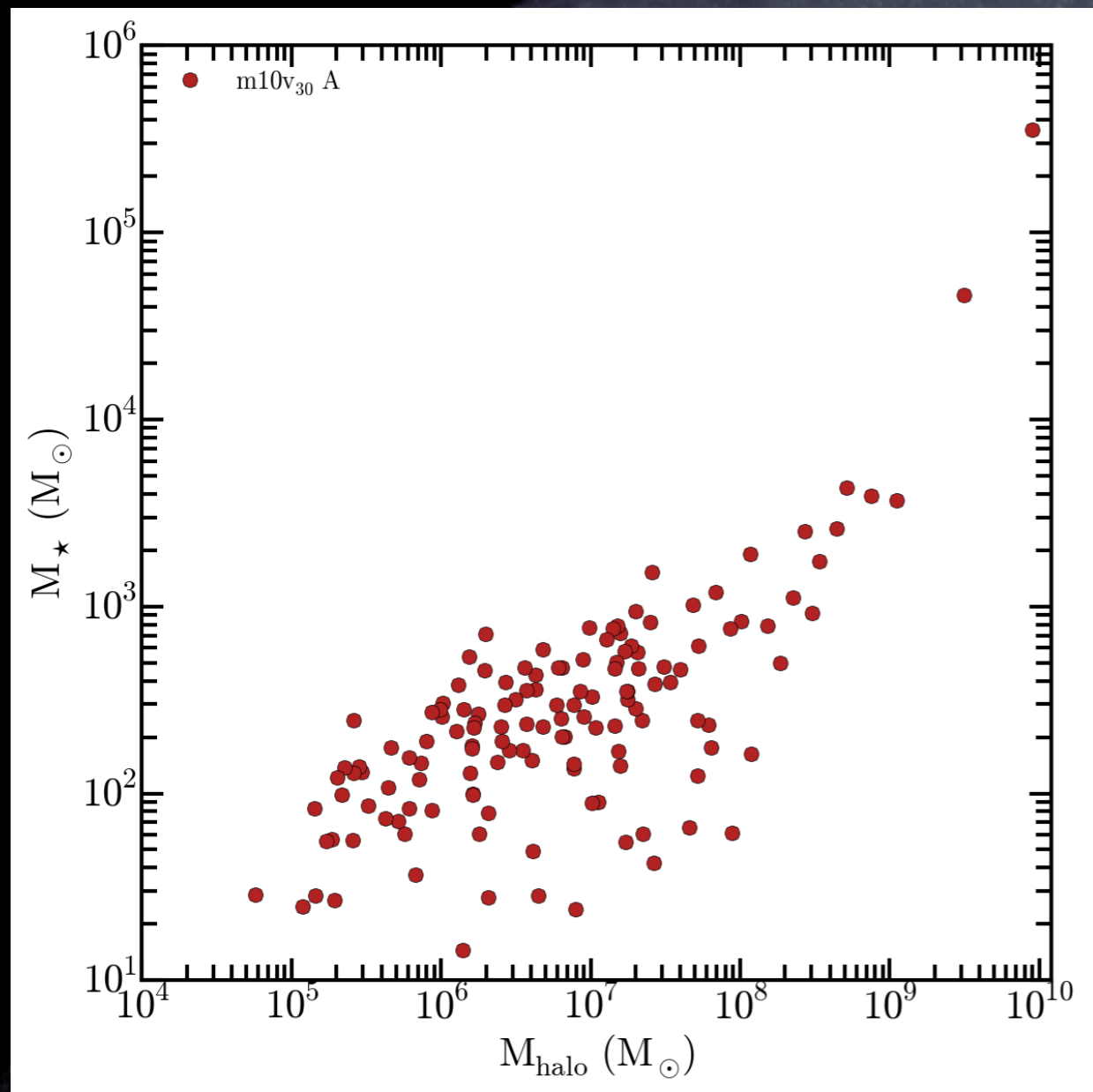
Prediction: Galaxies in all halos with $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$

Testable prediction: Isolated classical dwarfs have their own ultra-faint satellites

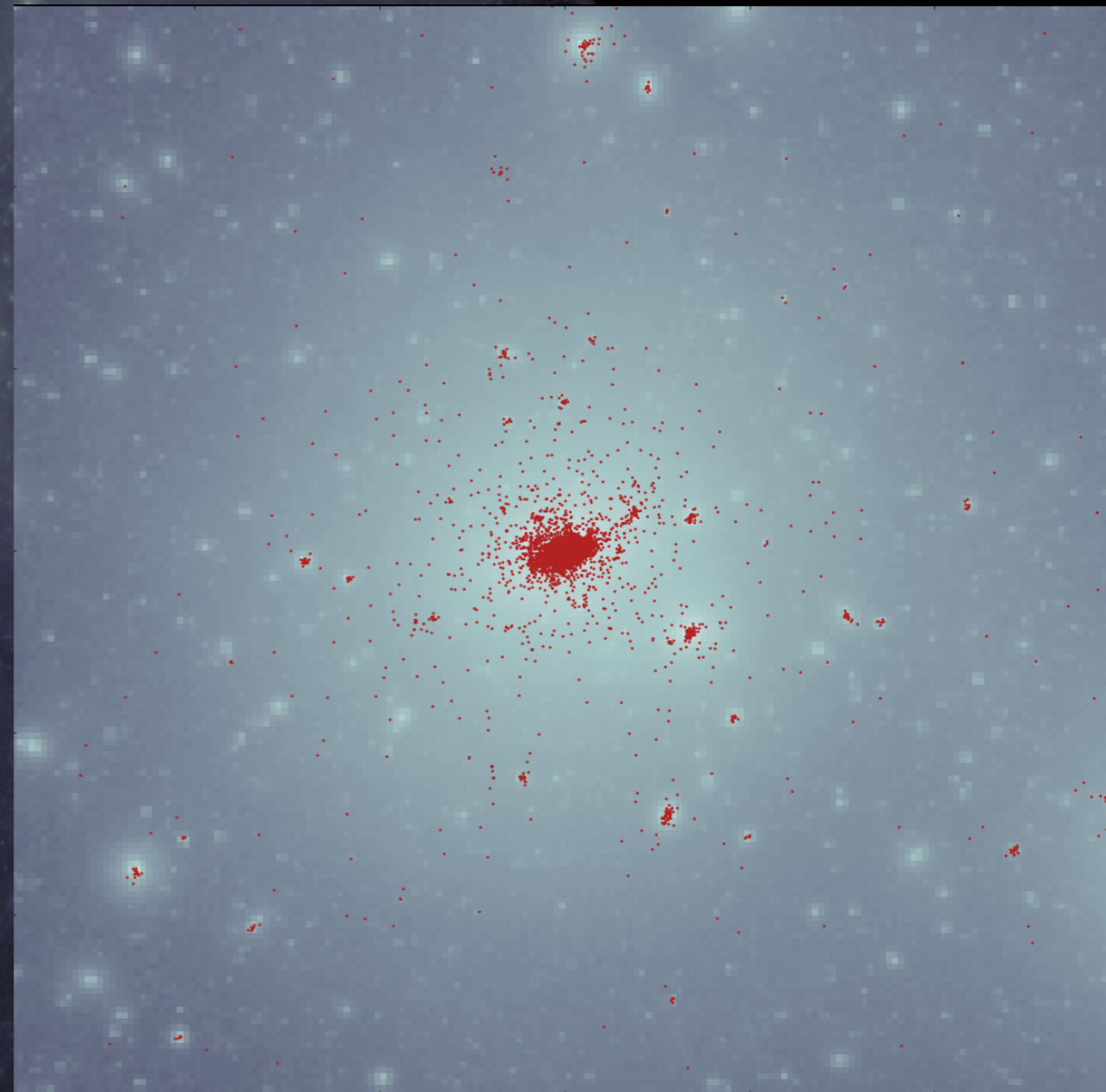
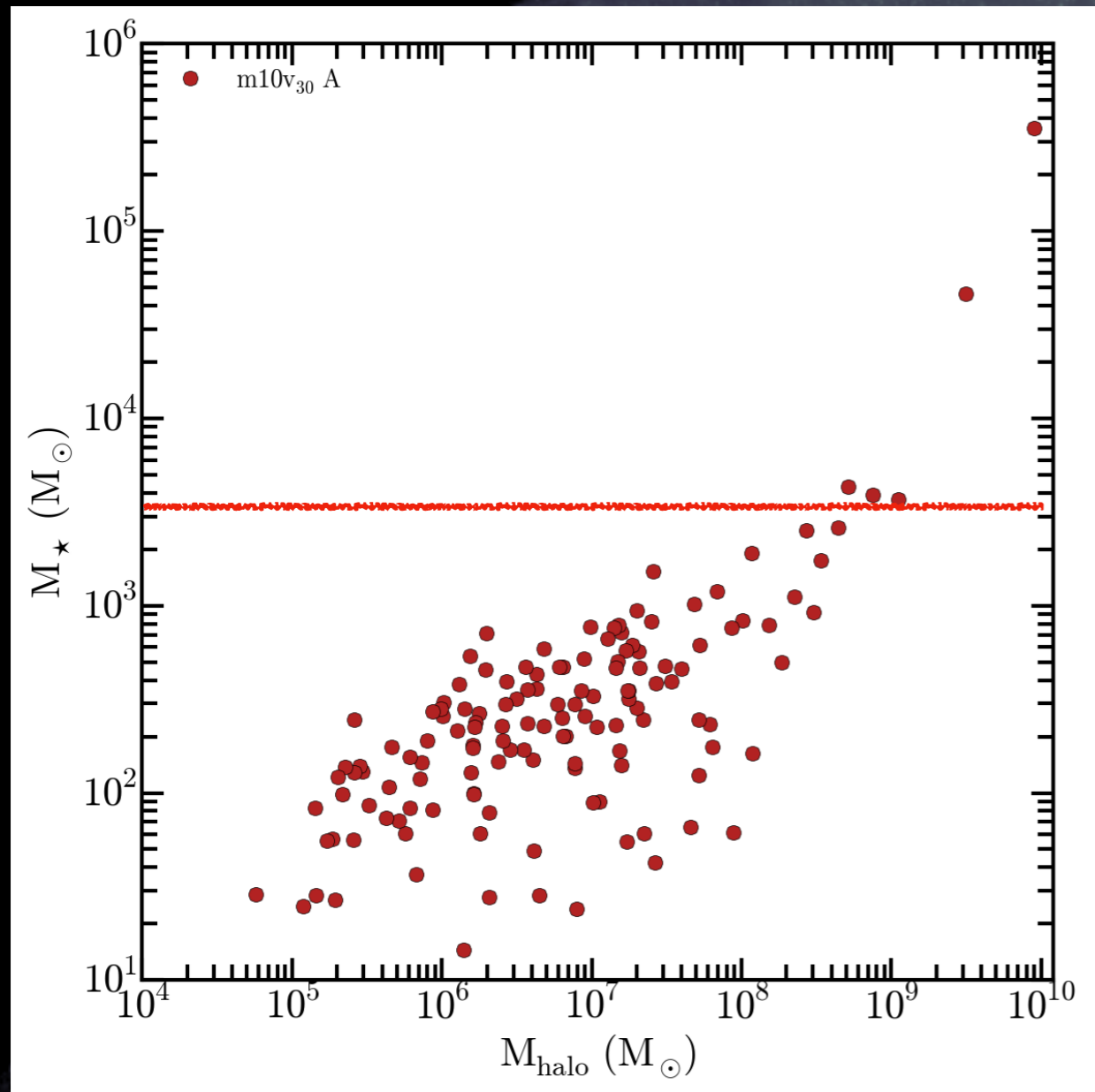
Testable prediction: should be ubiquitous in the field - 100s around the MW!



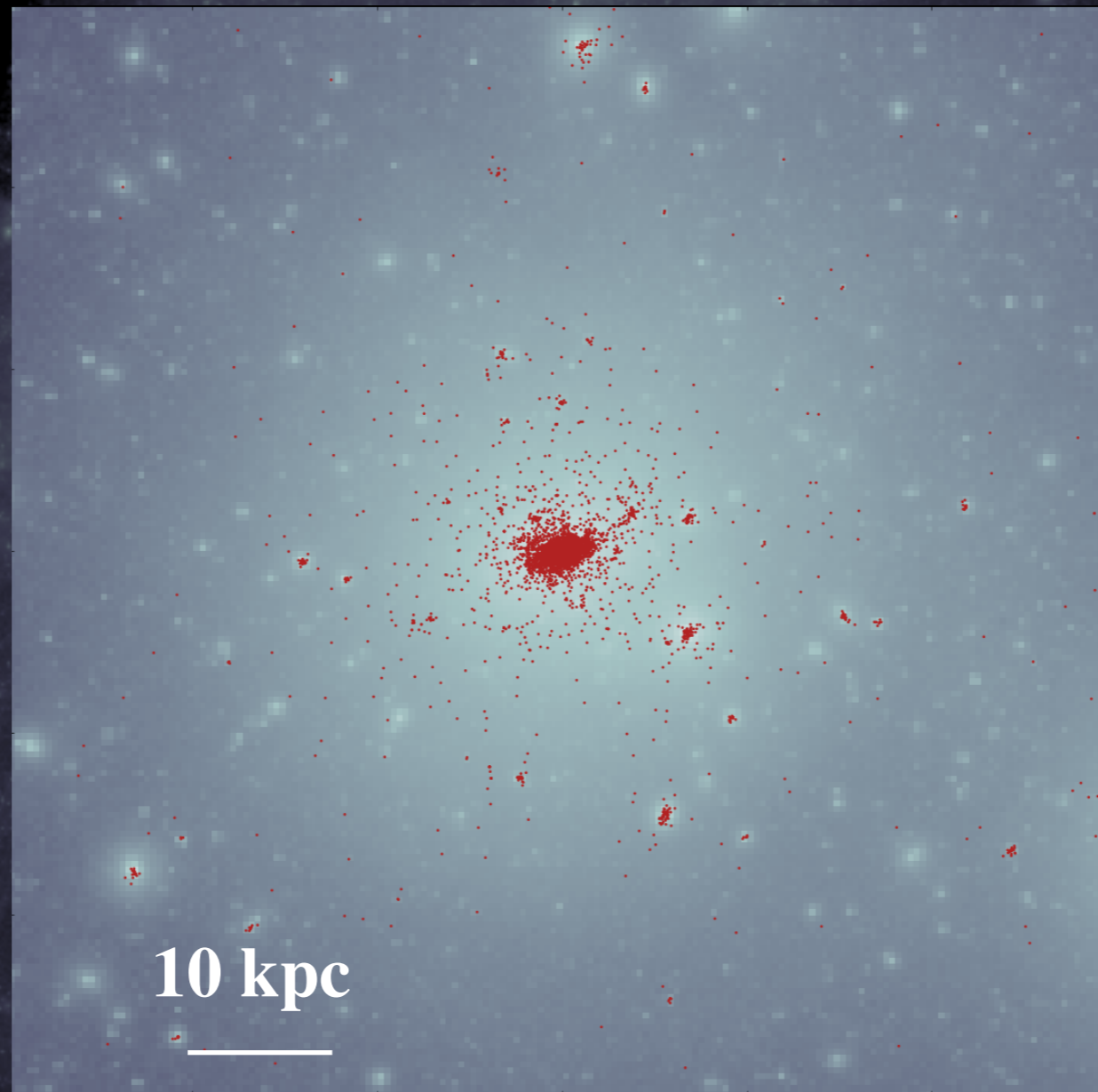
Future Work: lower particle count limit



Future Work: lower particle count limit



Future Work: lower particle count limit



$z=0.00$

10 kpc

credit: Garrison-Kimmel

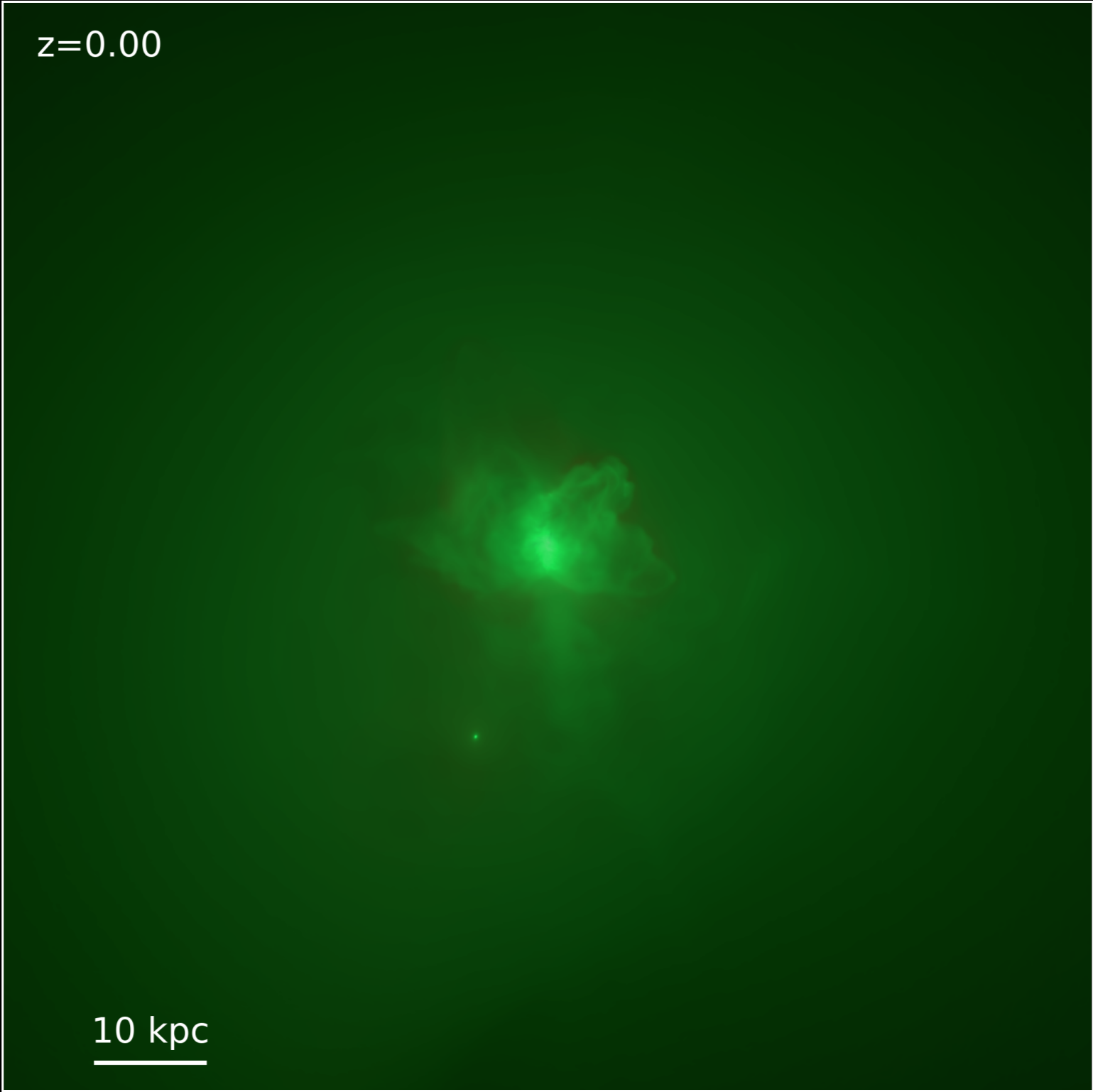
$z=0.00$

10 kpc



credit: Garrison-Kimmel

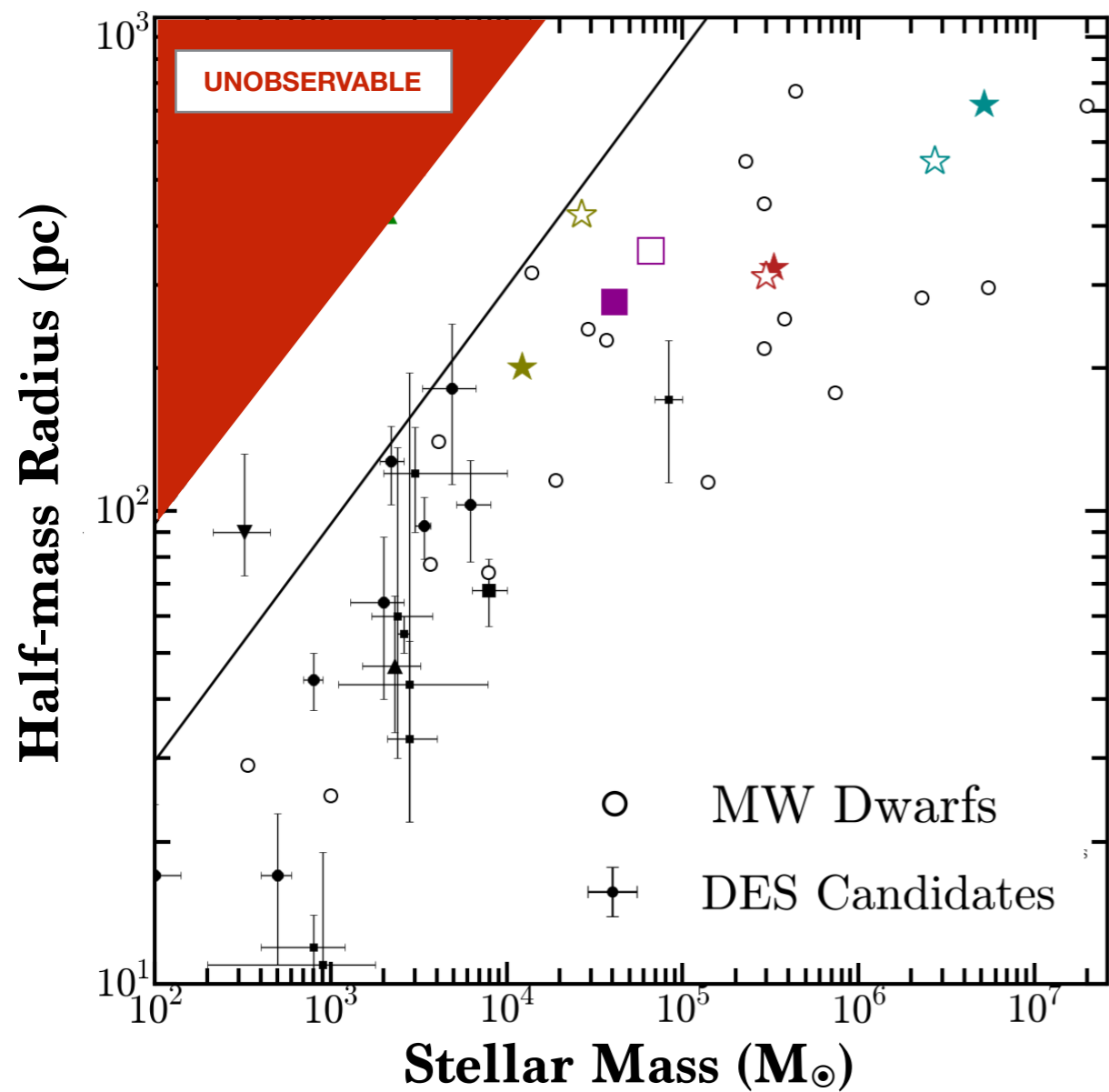
$z=0.00$



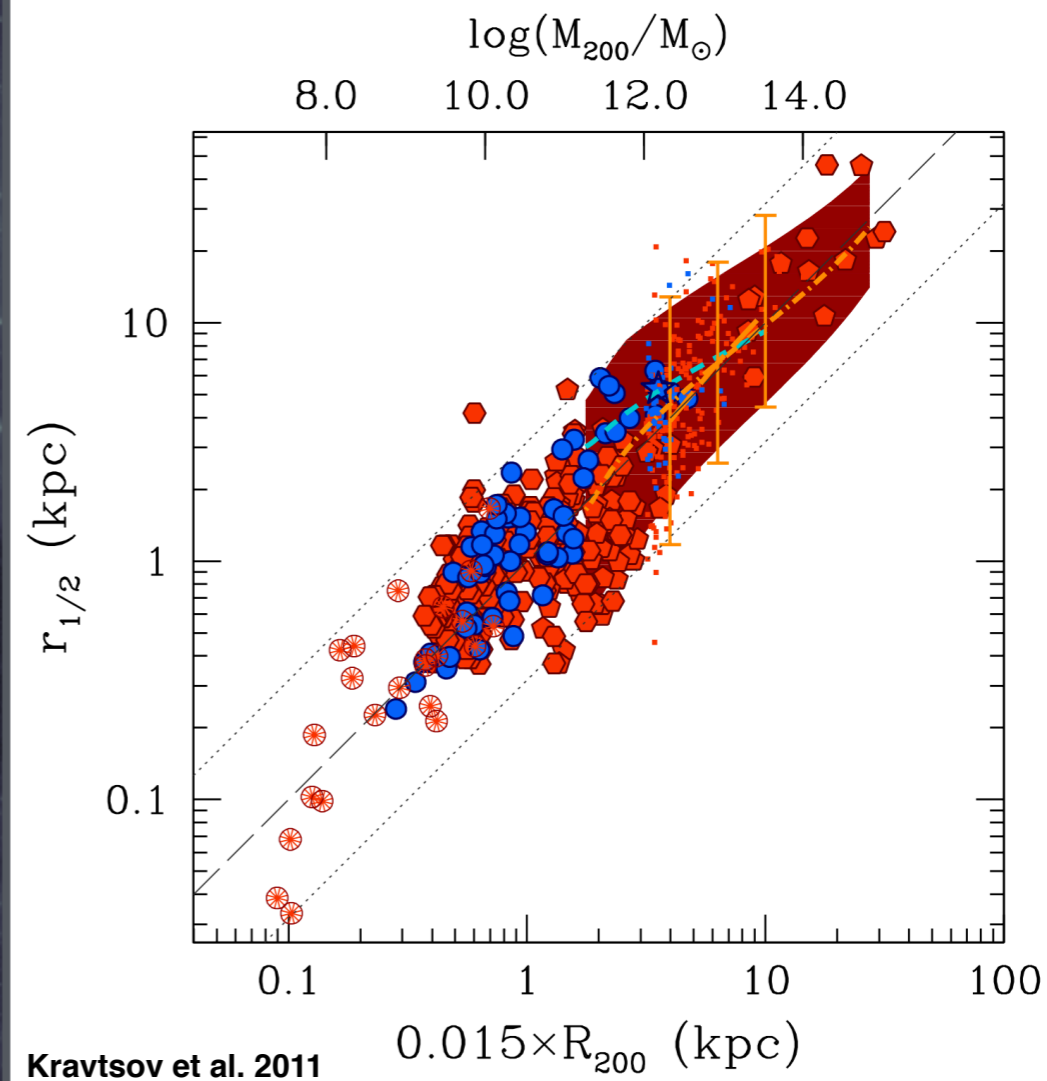
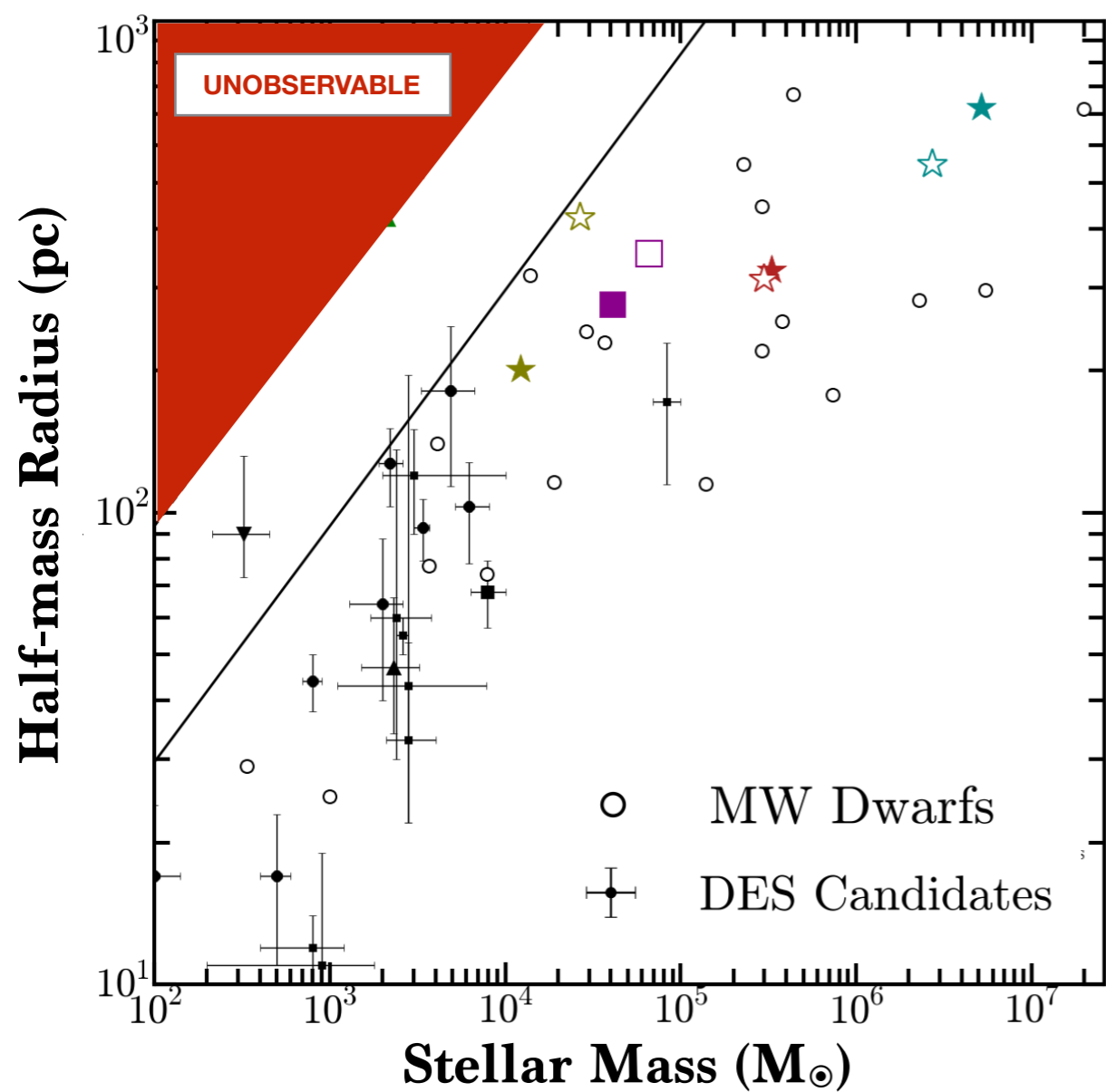
10 kpc

credit: Garrison-Kimmel

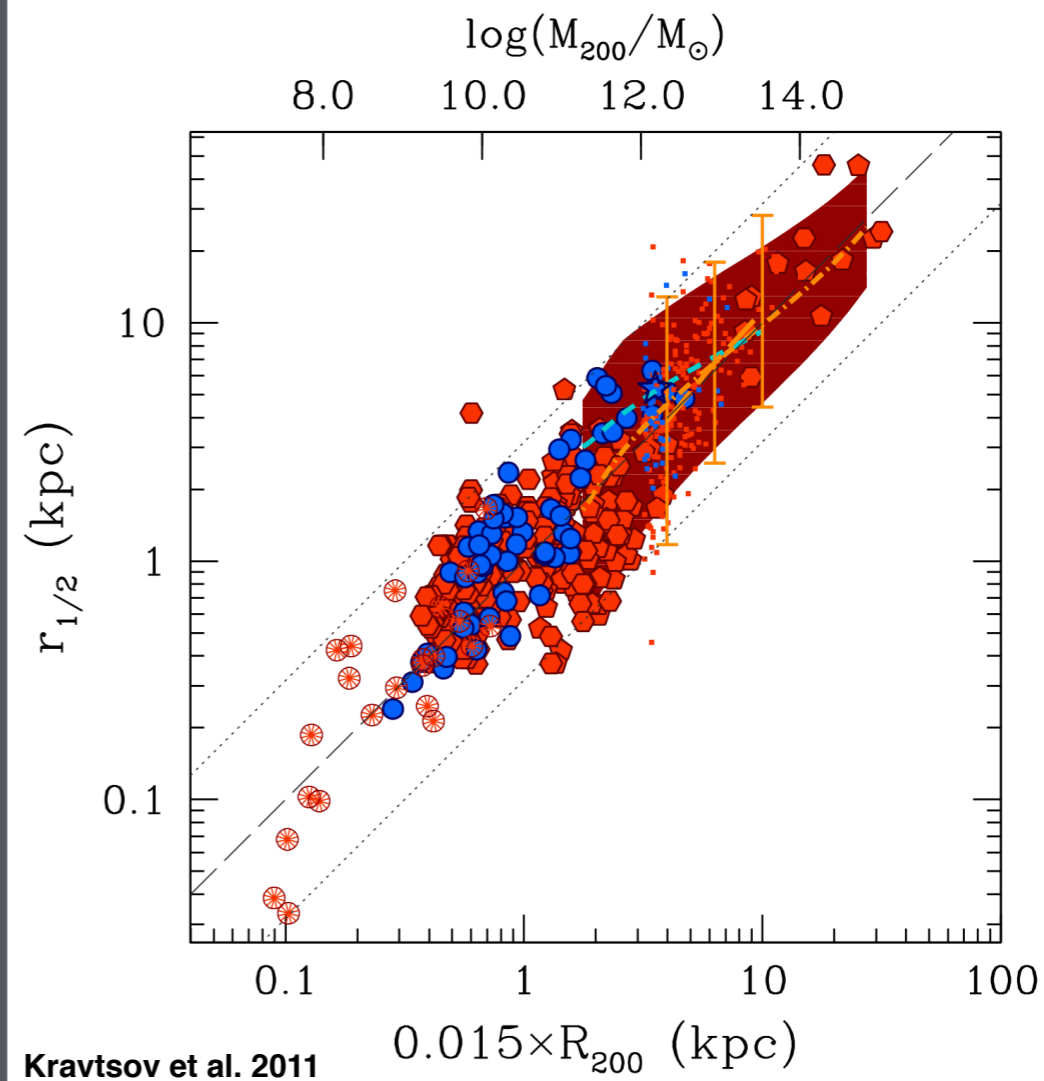
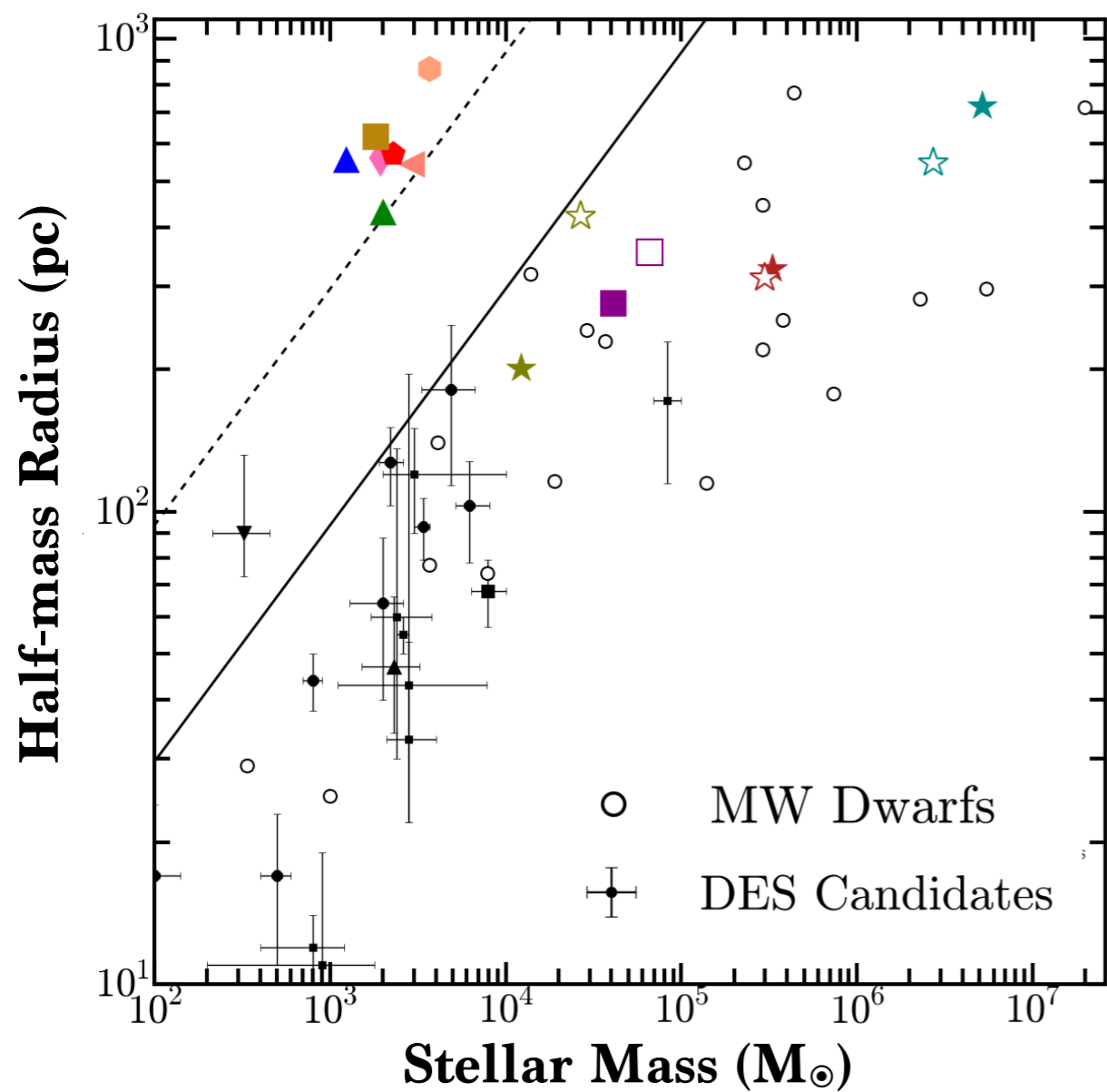
Higher mass dwarfs match observations



Higher mass dwarfs match observations

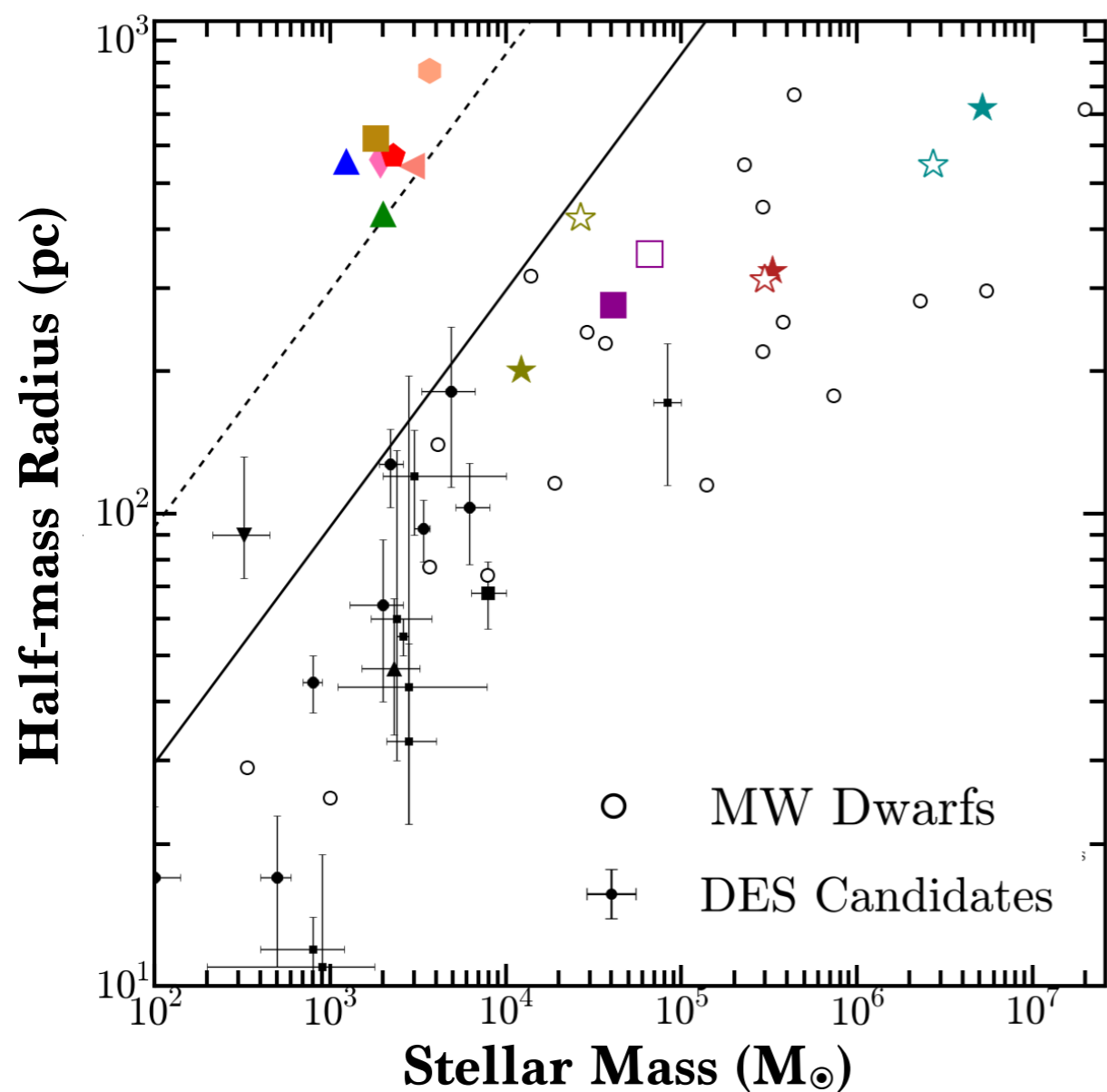


Higher mass dwarfs match observations

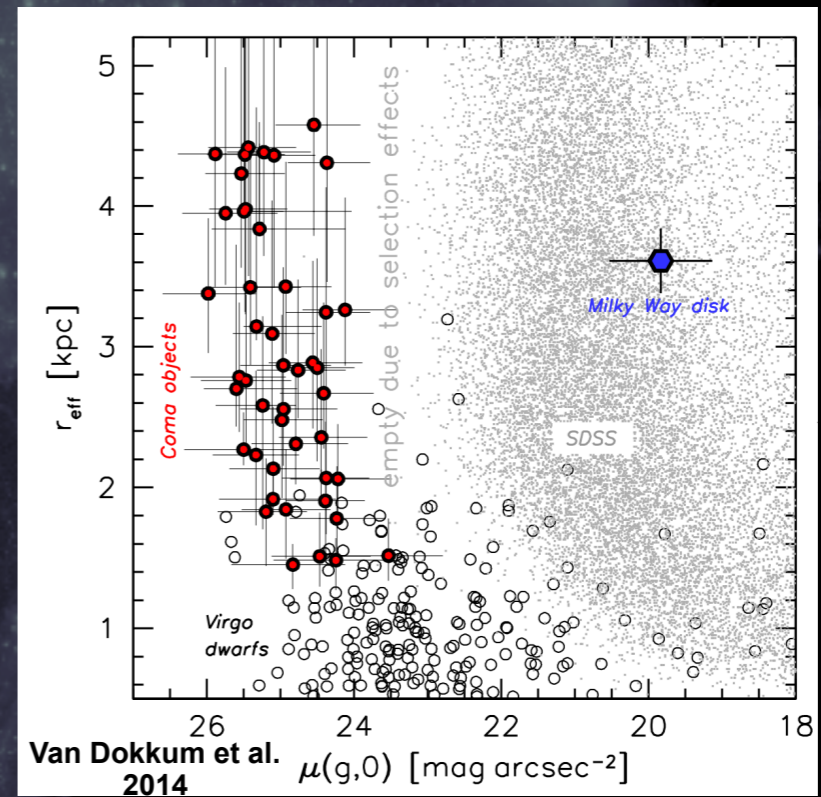
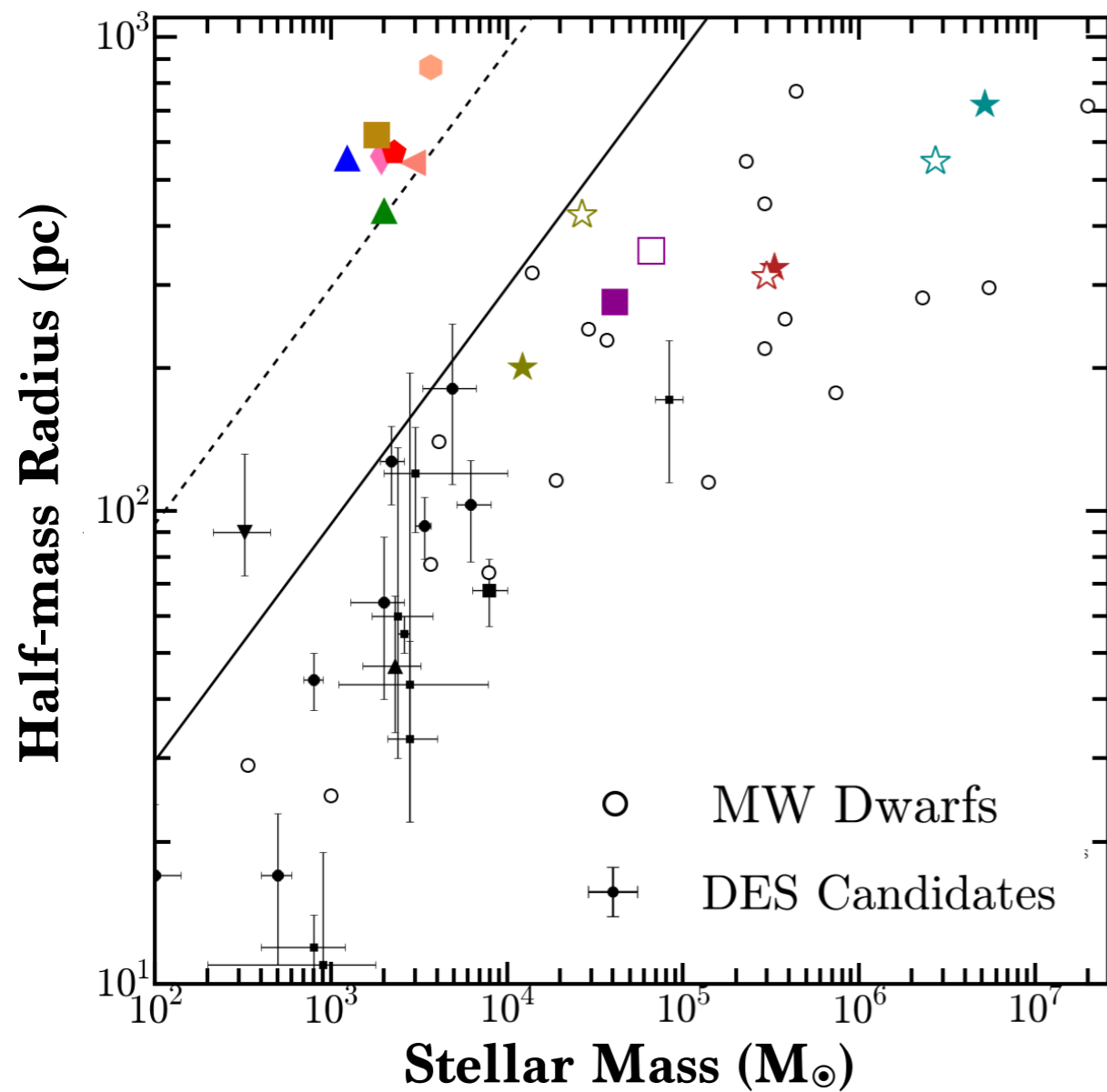


Higher mass dwarfs match observations

Testable prediction: many UFDs have extremely low SB -> Stealth galaxies!

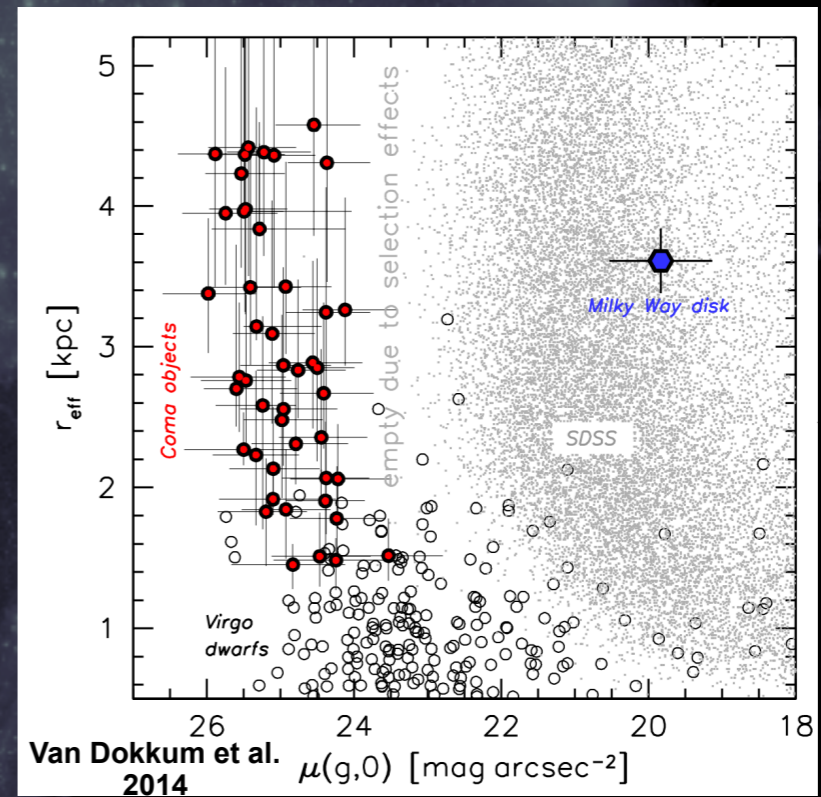
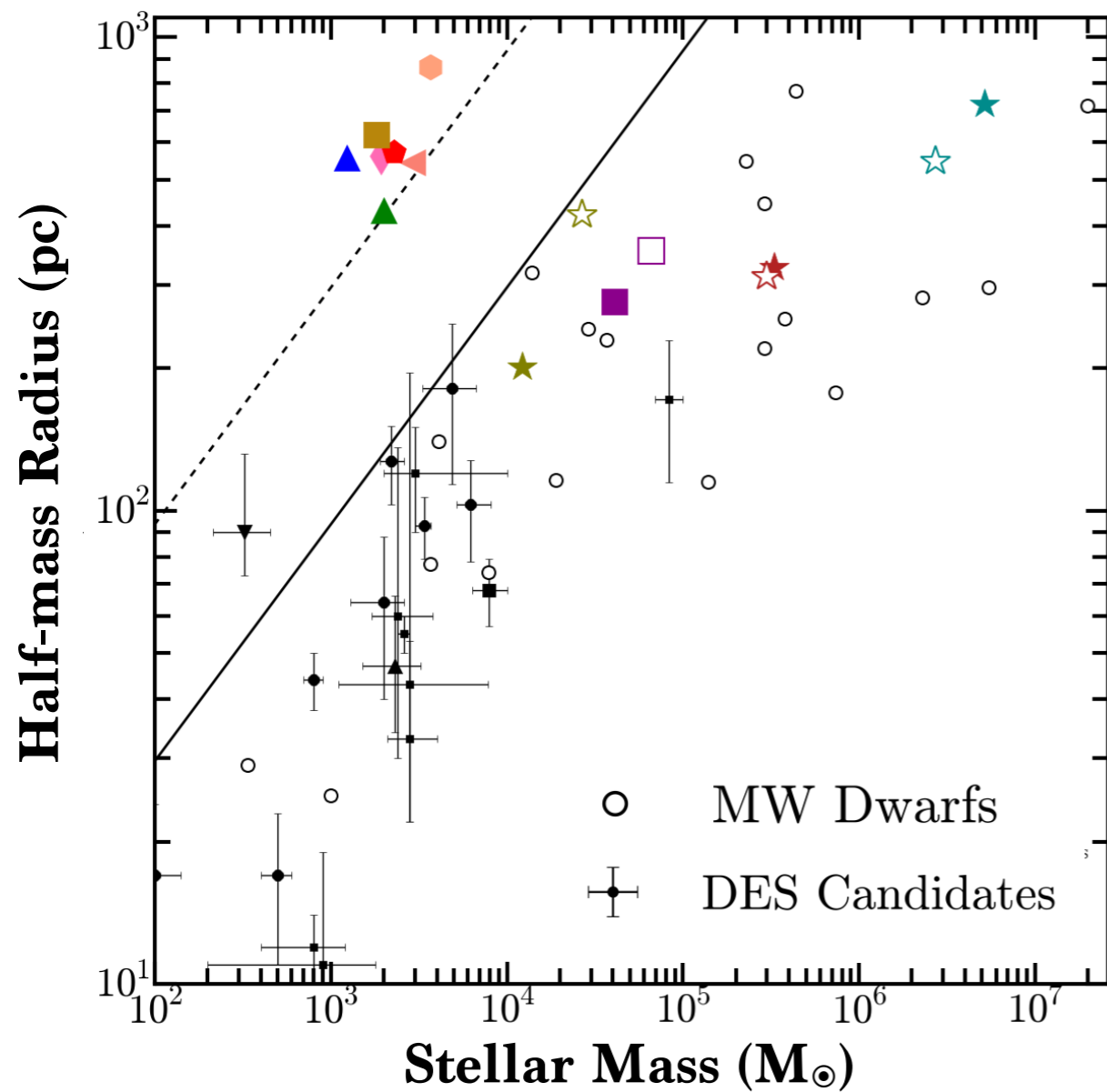


Many new objects at low SB discovered



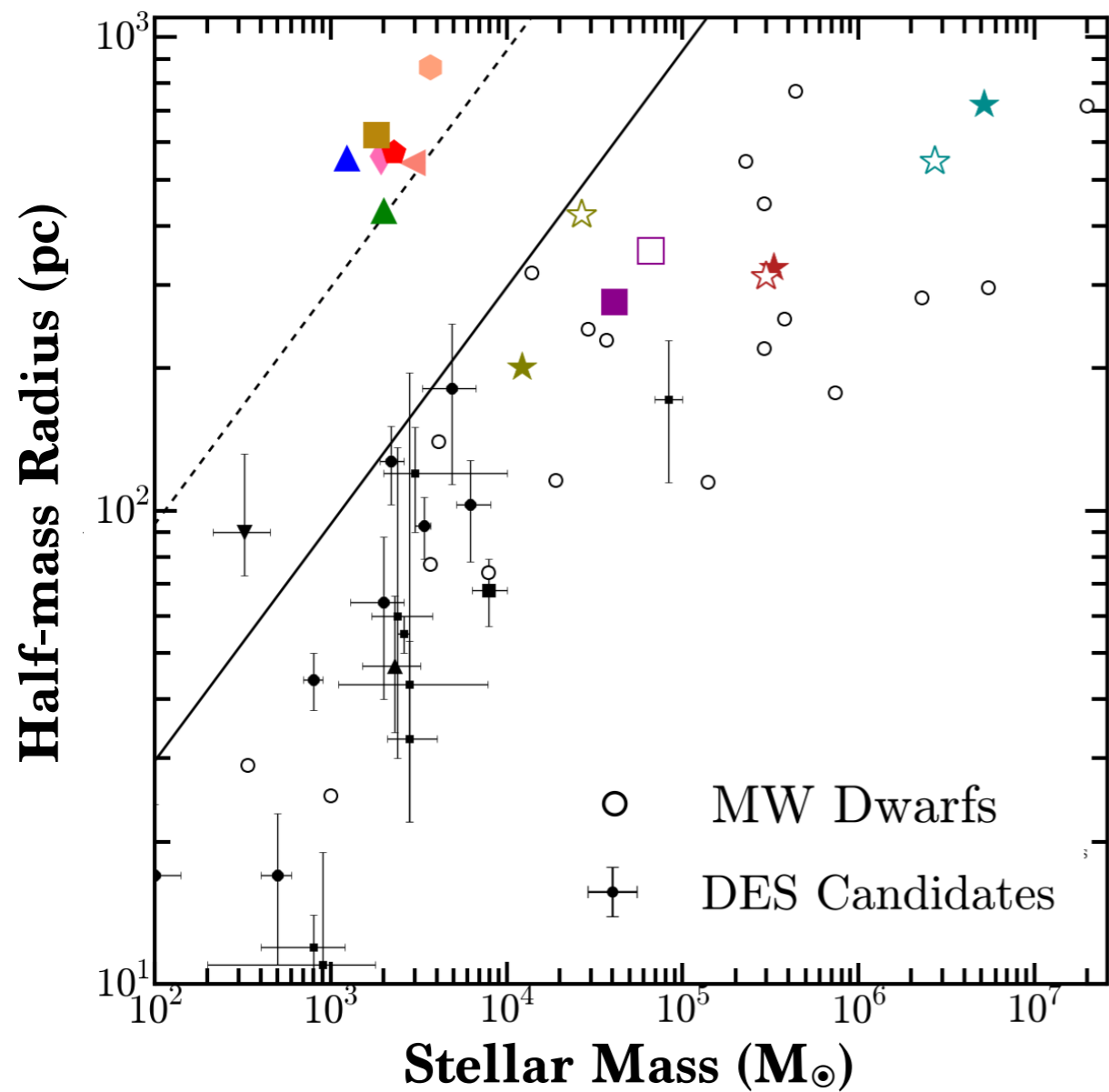
Many new objects at low SB discovered

★ Antlia 2



Many new objects at low SB discovered

★ Antlia 2

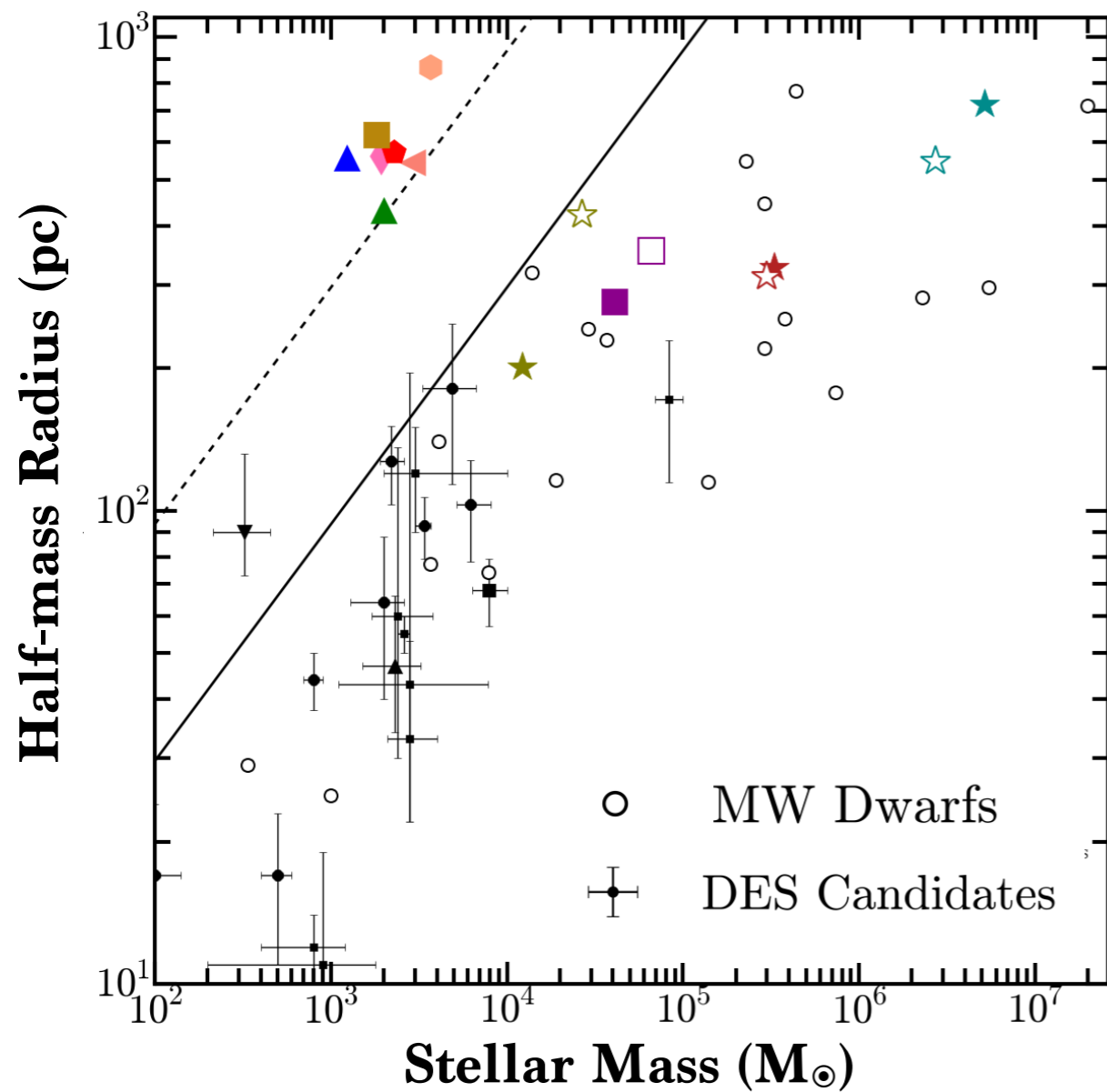


Surface Brightness

Radius

Many new objects at low SB discovered

★ Antlia 2



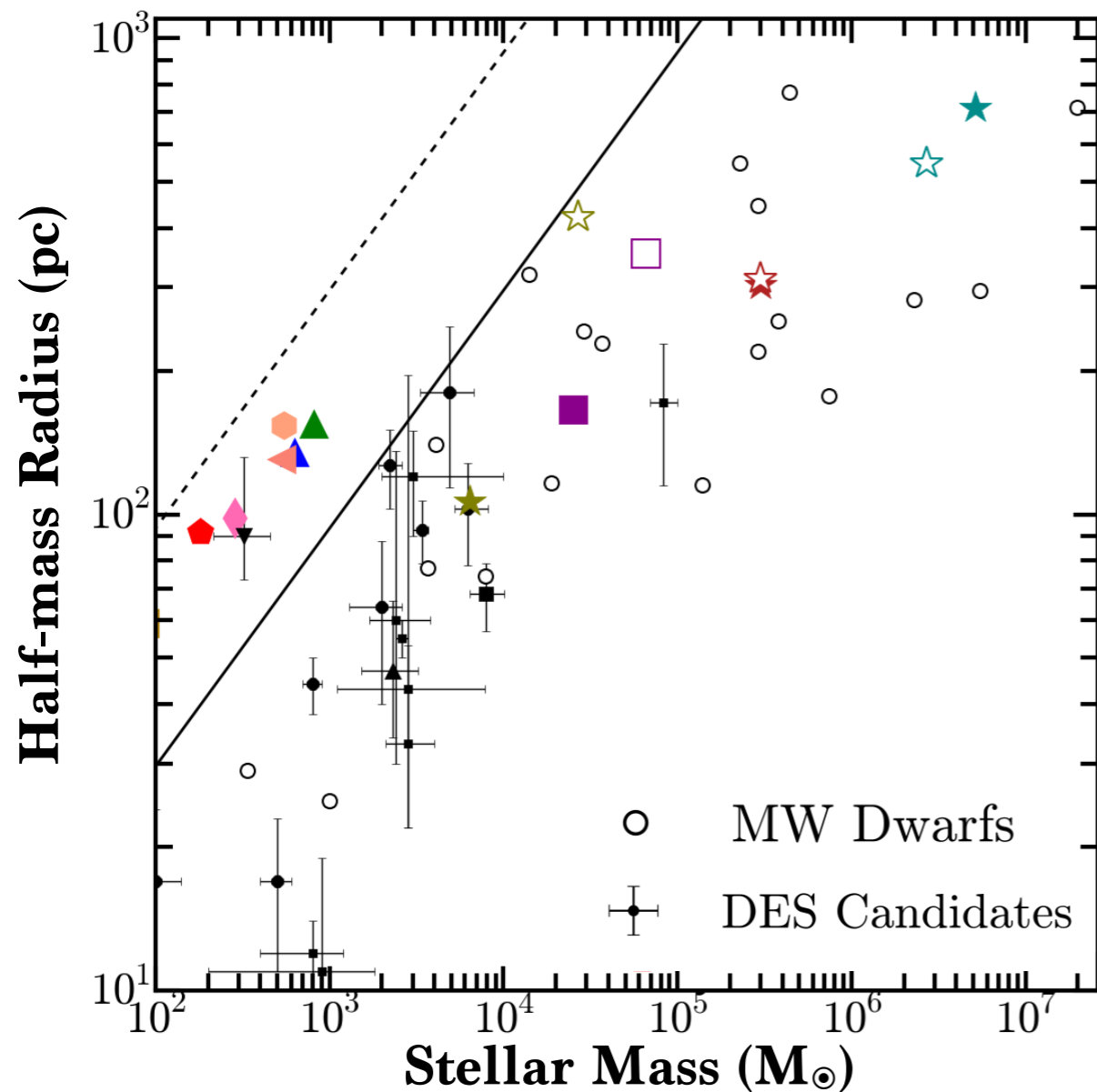
Surface Brightness

30 mag/arcsec² For $M^* > 1e4 M_{\text{sun}}$
32.3 mag/arcsec² For $M^* < 1e4 M_{\text{sun}}$

Radius

Many new objects at low SB discovered

★ Antlia 2



Surface Brightness

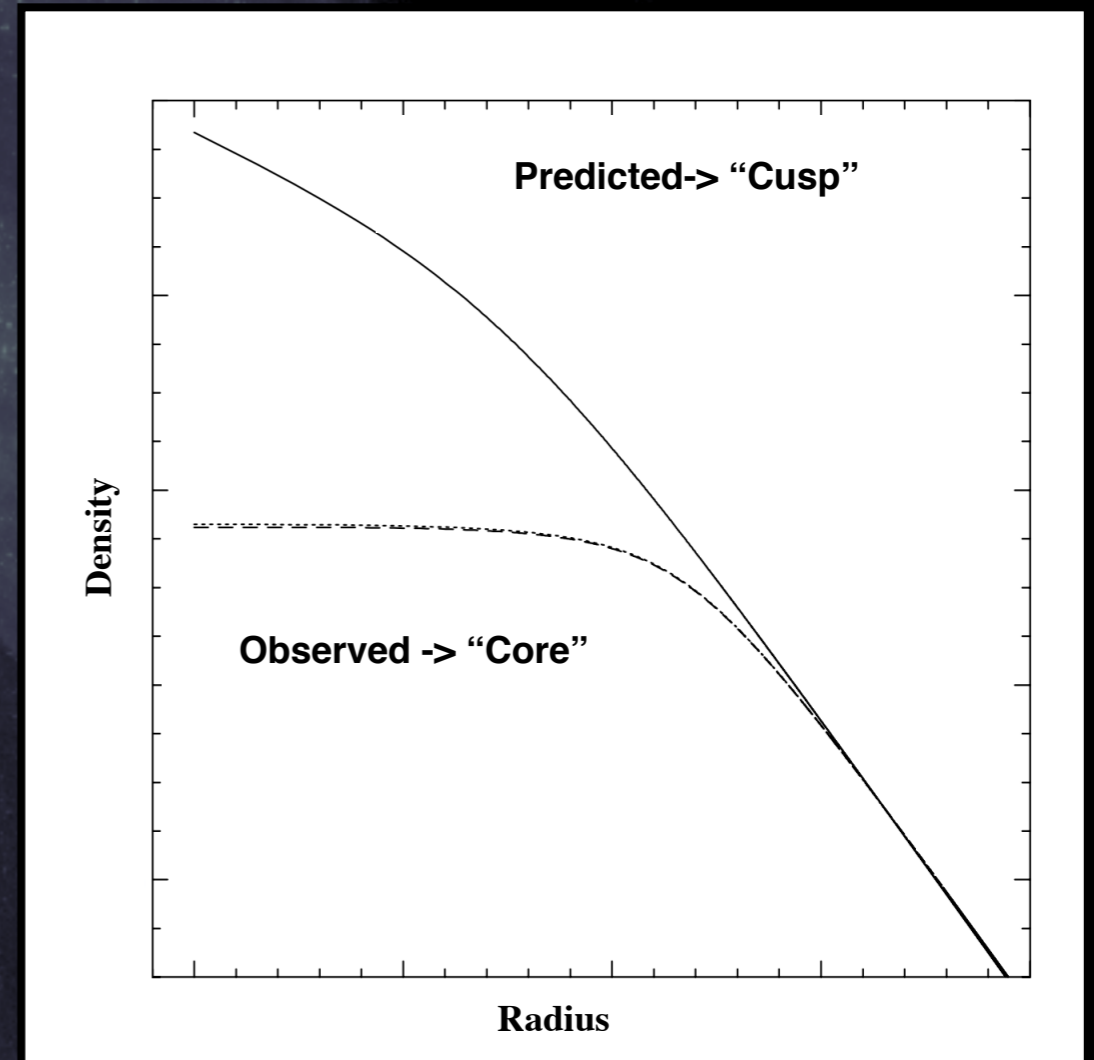
30 mag/arcsec² For $M^* > 1e4 M_{\text{sun}}$
32.3 mag/arcsec² For $M^* < 1e4 M_{\text{sun}}$

Radius

Could some of the DES dwarfs actually be more massive and have undetected stellar halos beyond observational limits?

Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

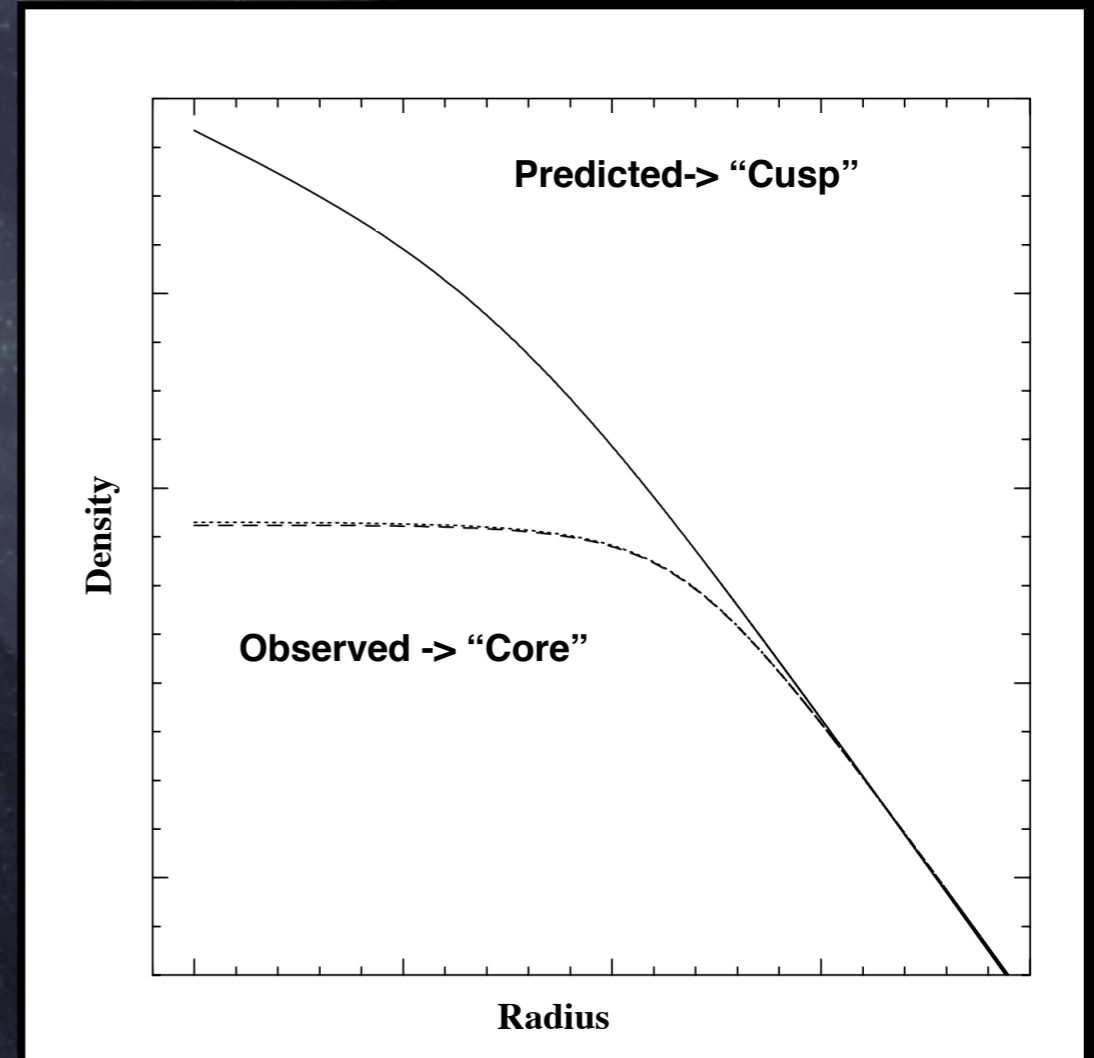
CCC: Dark matter-only simulations predict steep central “cusp”, while some dwarf galaxies have instead a flatter “core”



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

CCC: Dark matter-only simulations predict steep central “cusp”, while some dwarf galaxies have instead a flatter “core”

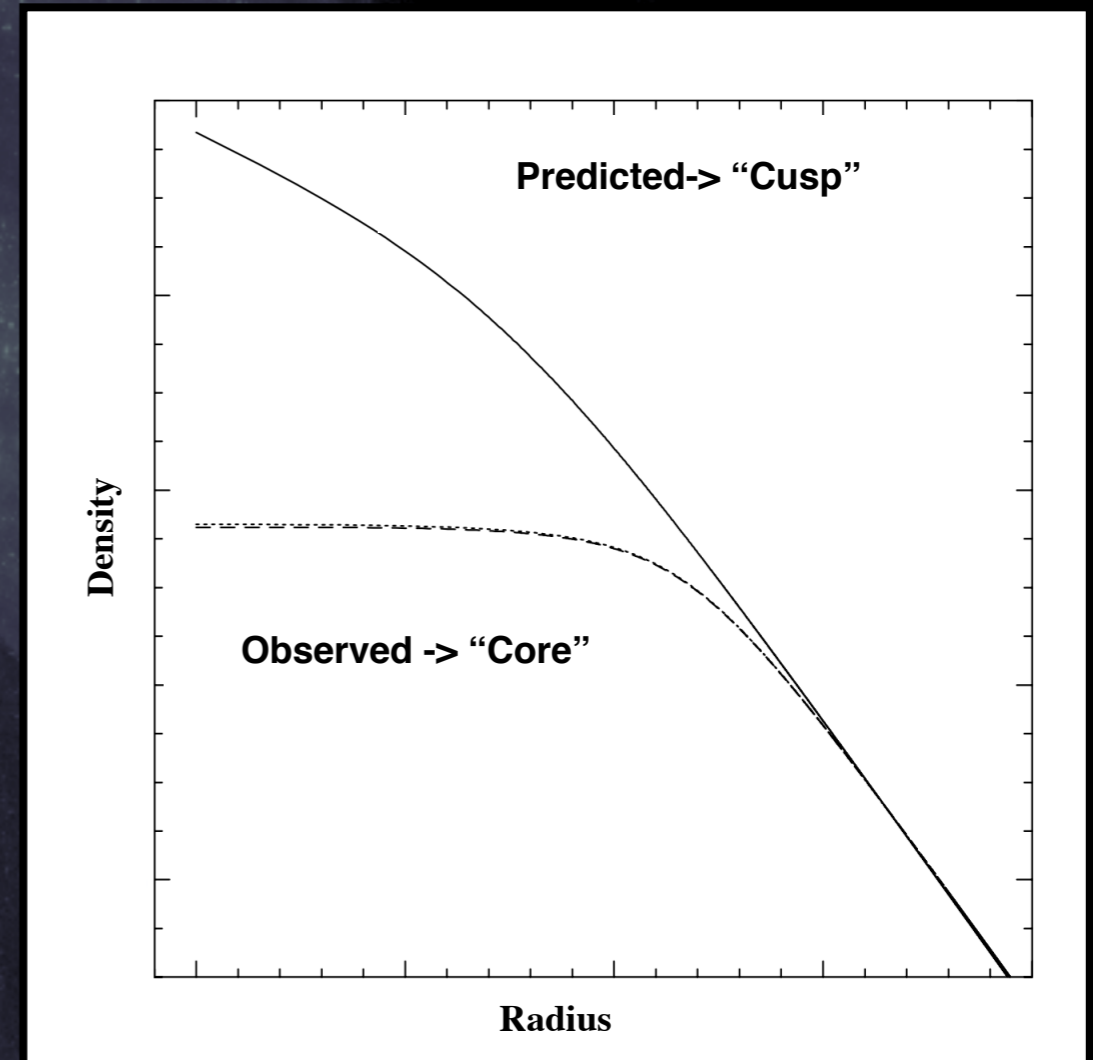
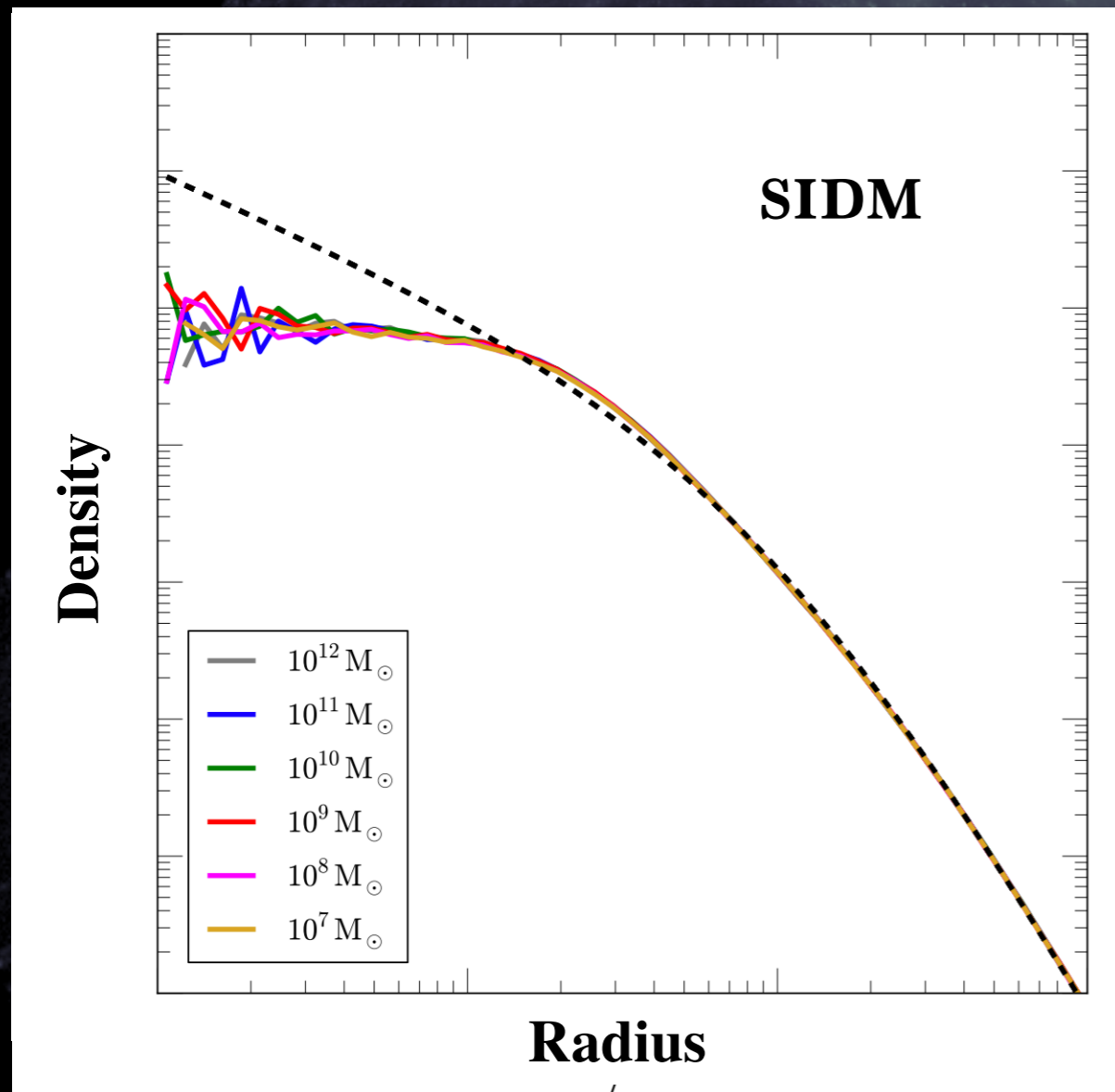
LCDM solution: something heats up dark matter in dwarf galaxies



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

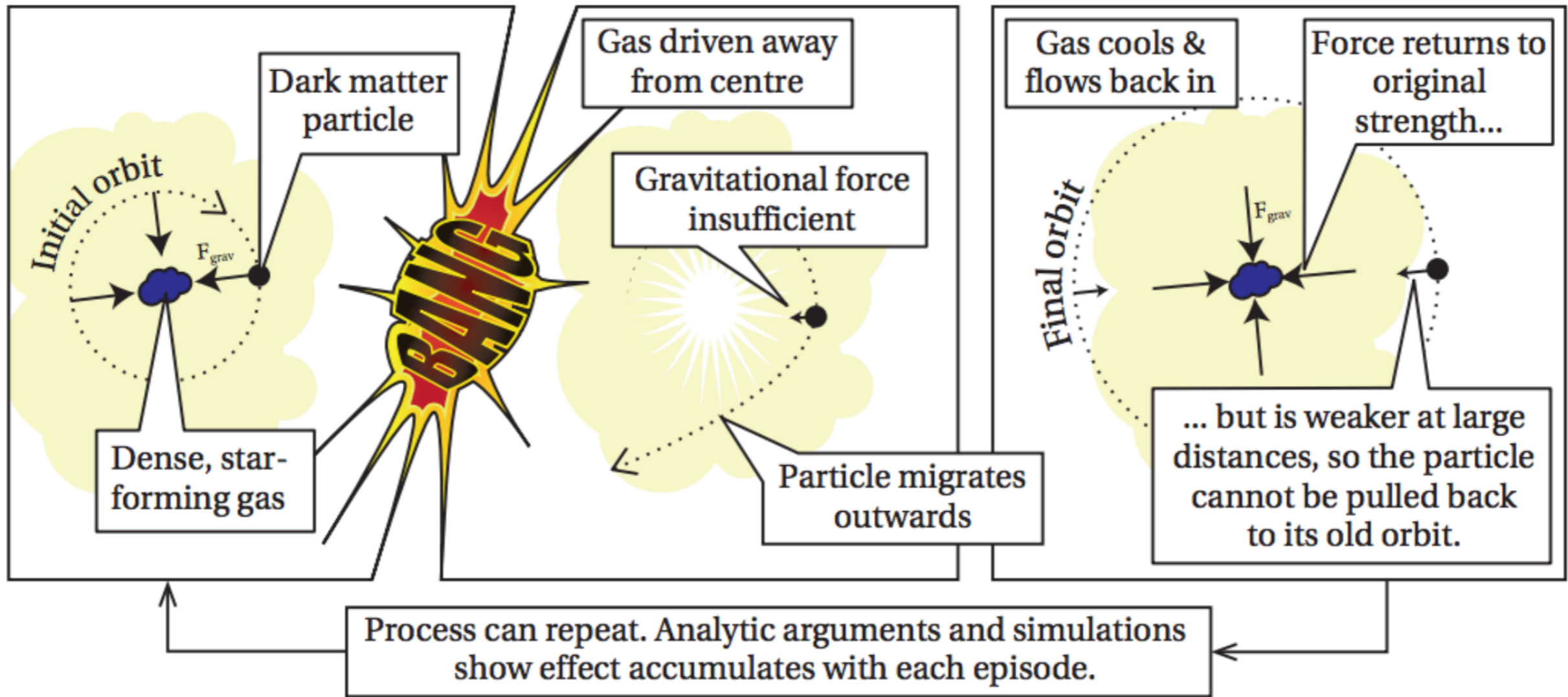
CCC: Dark matter-only simulations predict steep central “cusp”, while some dwarf galaxies have instead a flatter “core”

LCDM solution: something heats up dark matter in dwarf galaxies



Alternative solution: Dark matter particle has some self-interaction cross section

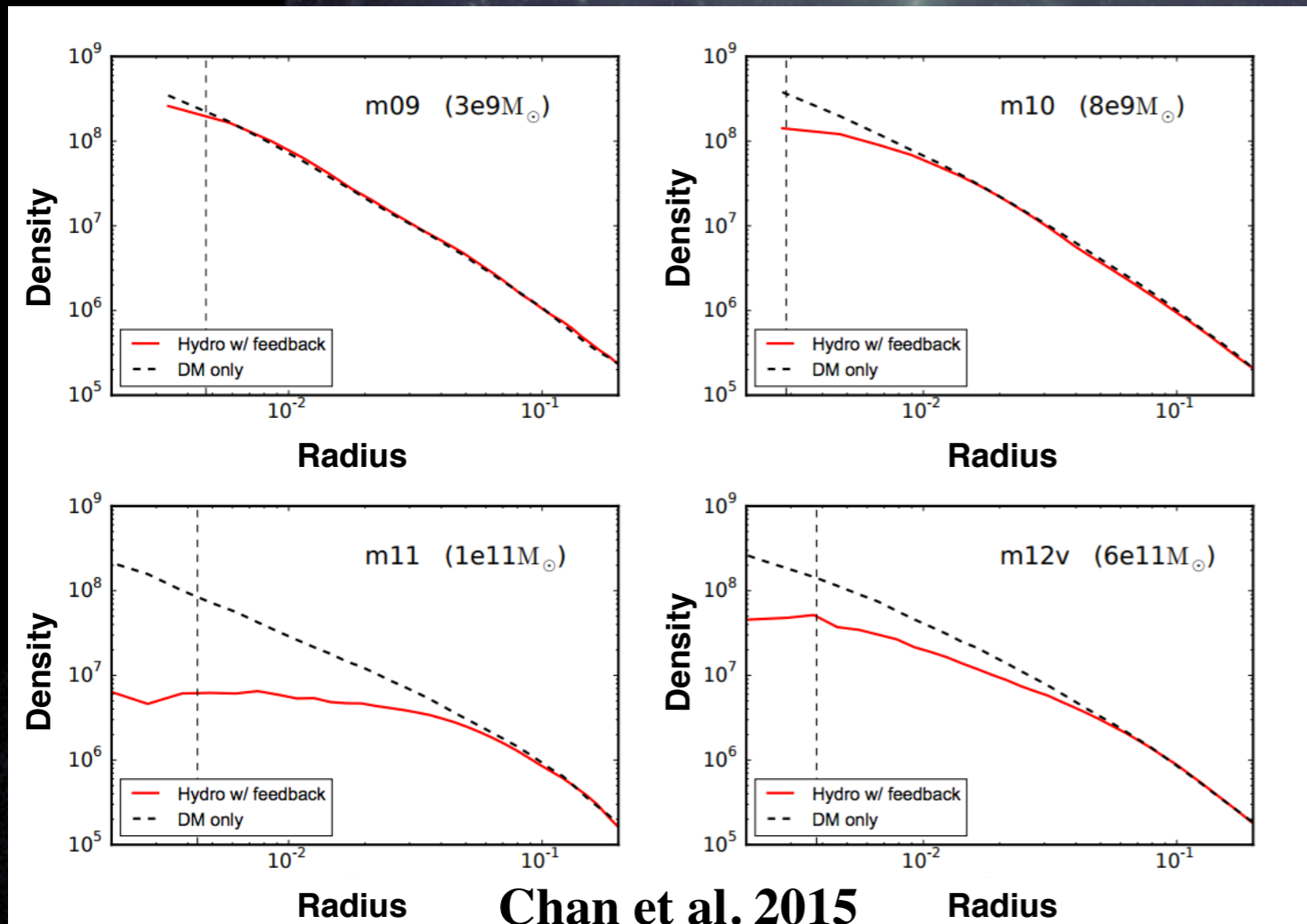
How the galaxy effects dark matter through feedback



$M_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$ at transition from inefficient to efficient core formation

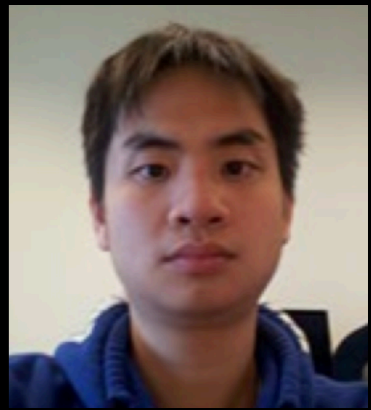


TK Chan (UCSD)

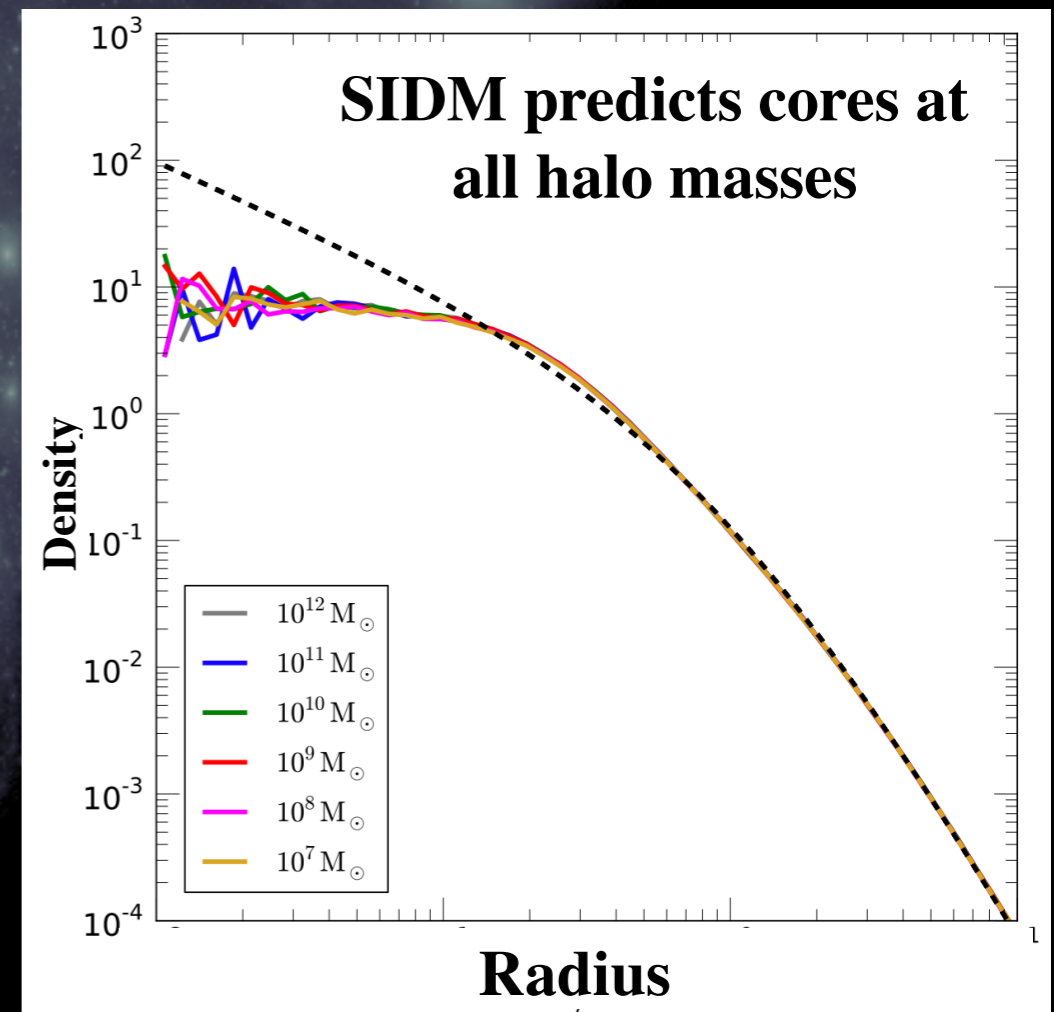
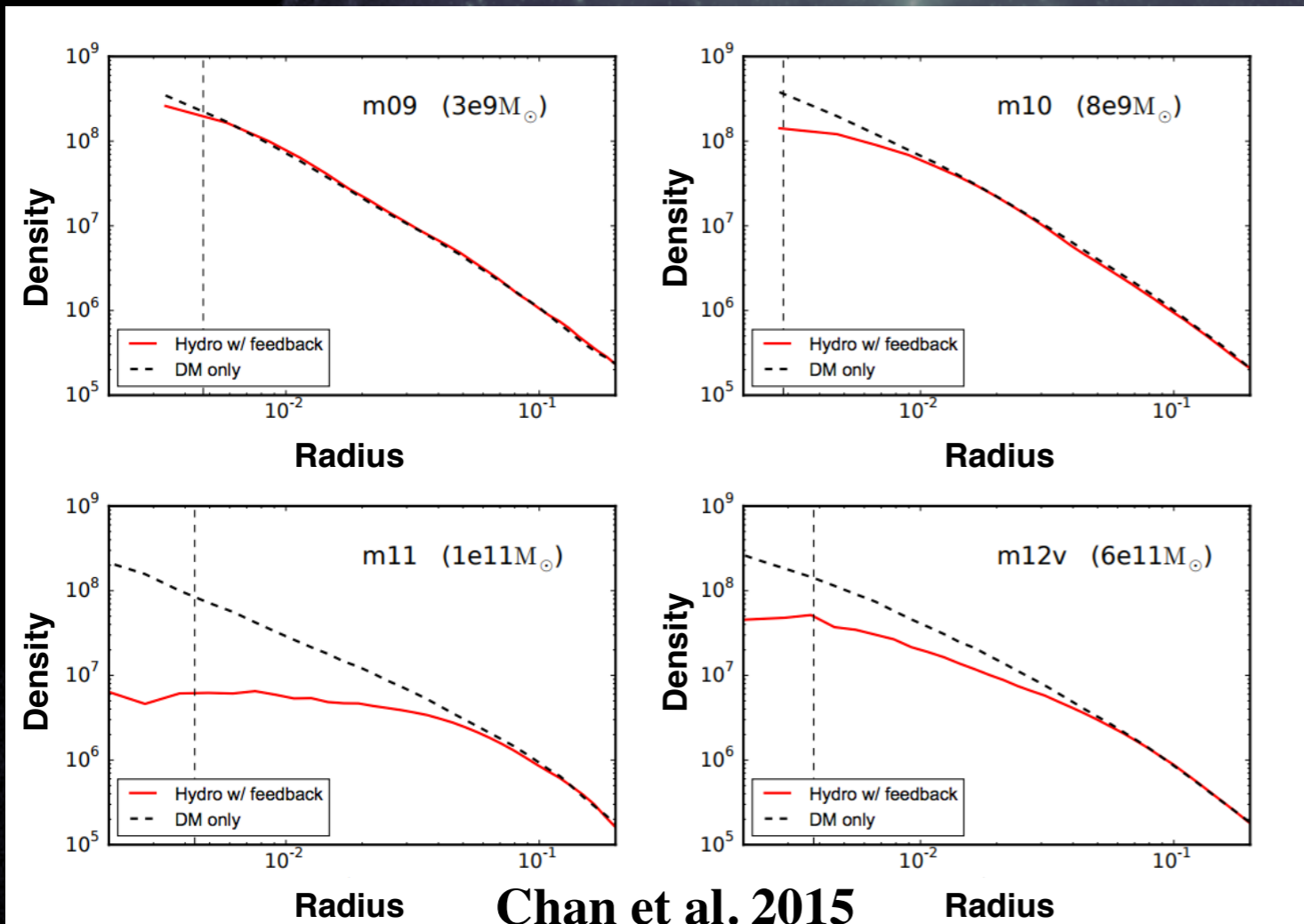


No cores predicted in ultra-faint dwarfs

$M_{\text{DM}} \sim 10^{10} M_{\odot}$ at transition from inefficient to efficient core formation



TK Chan (UCSD)



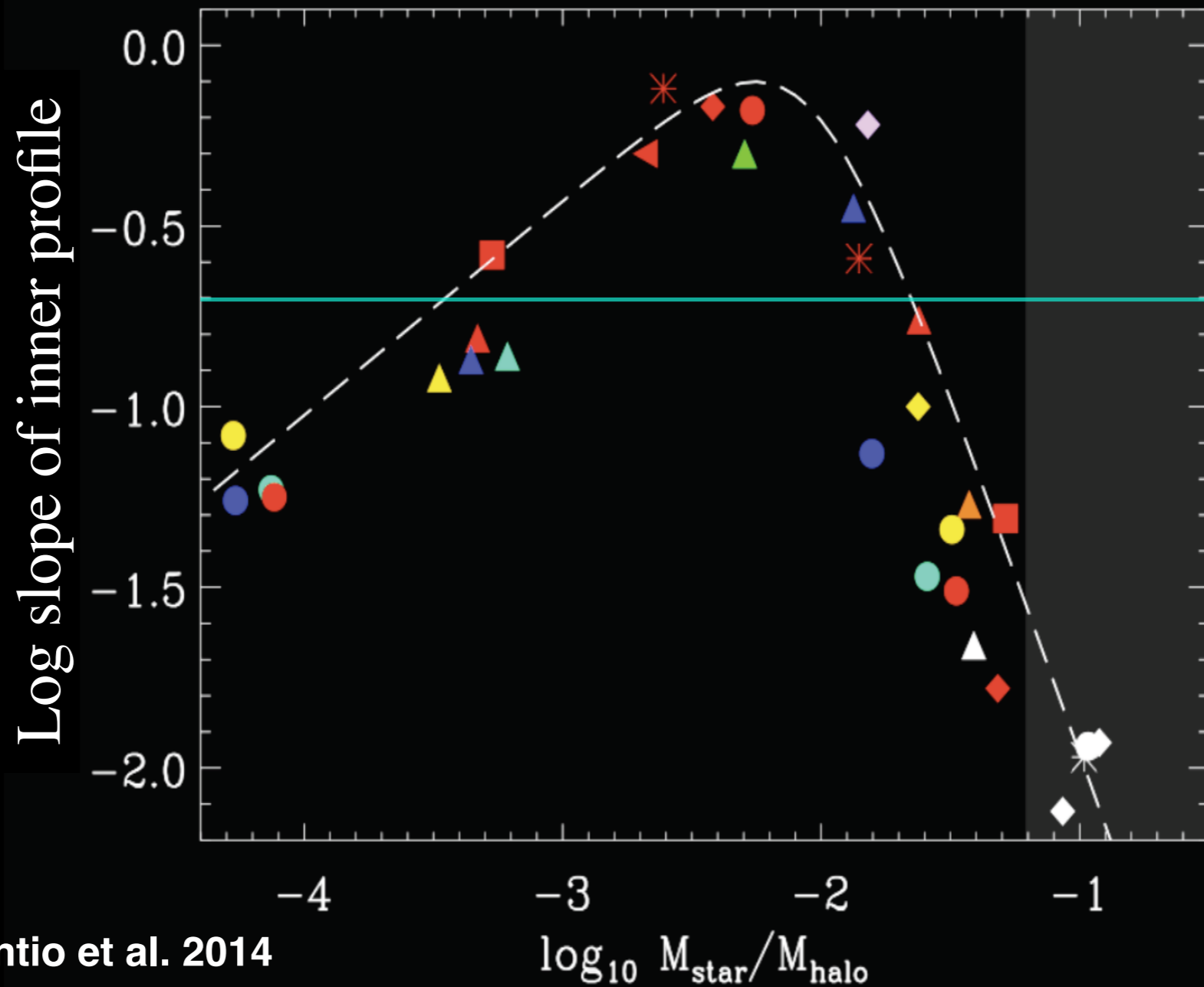
Vogelsberger et al. 2012

No cores predicted in ultra-faint dwarfs

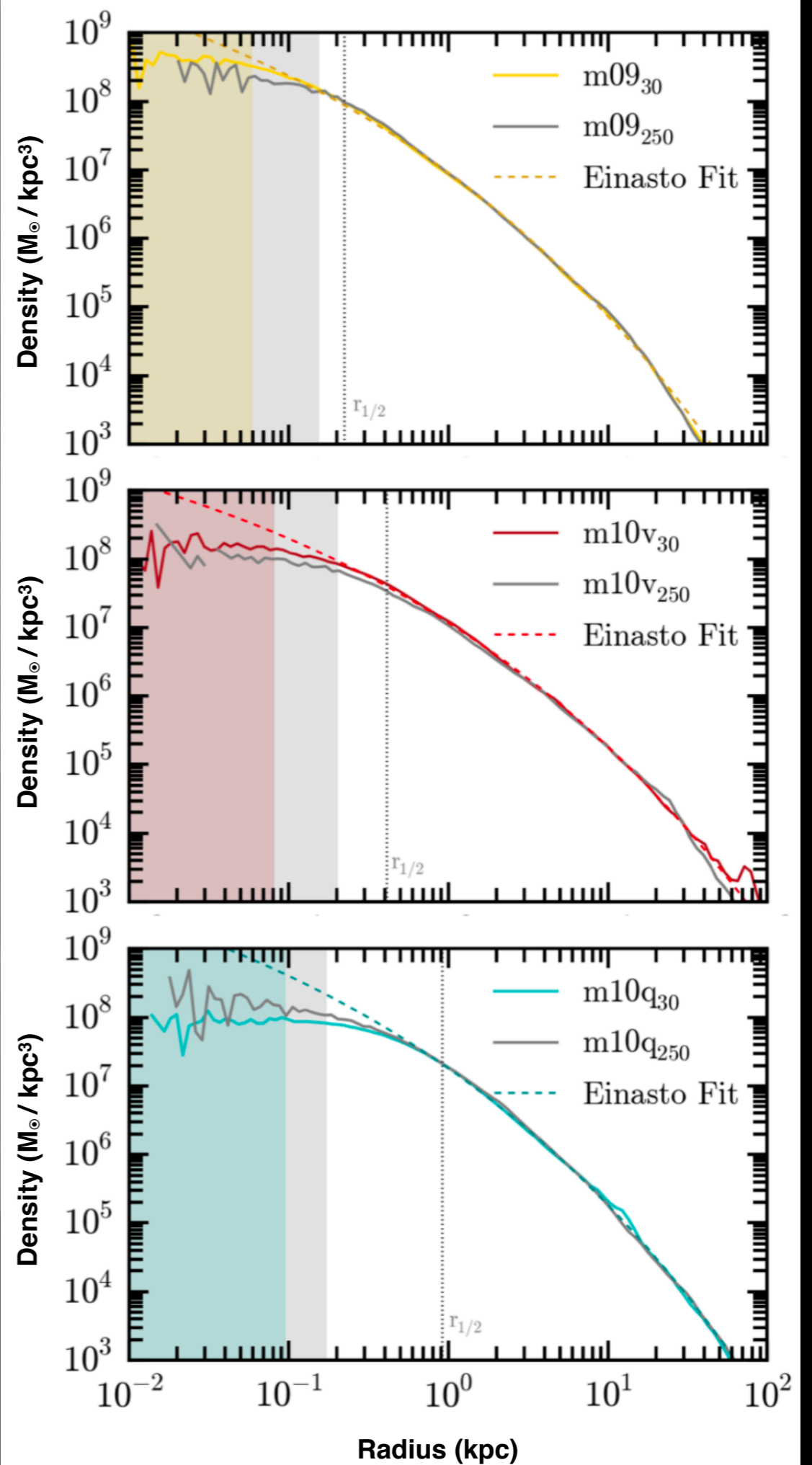
Feedback can create “cores” for range of M^*/M_{halo}

Core

Cusp

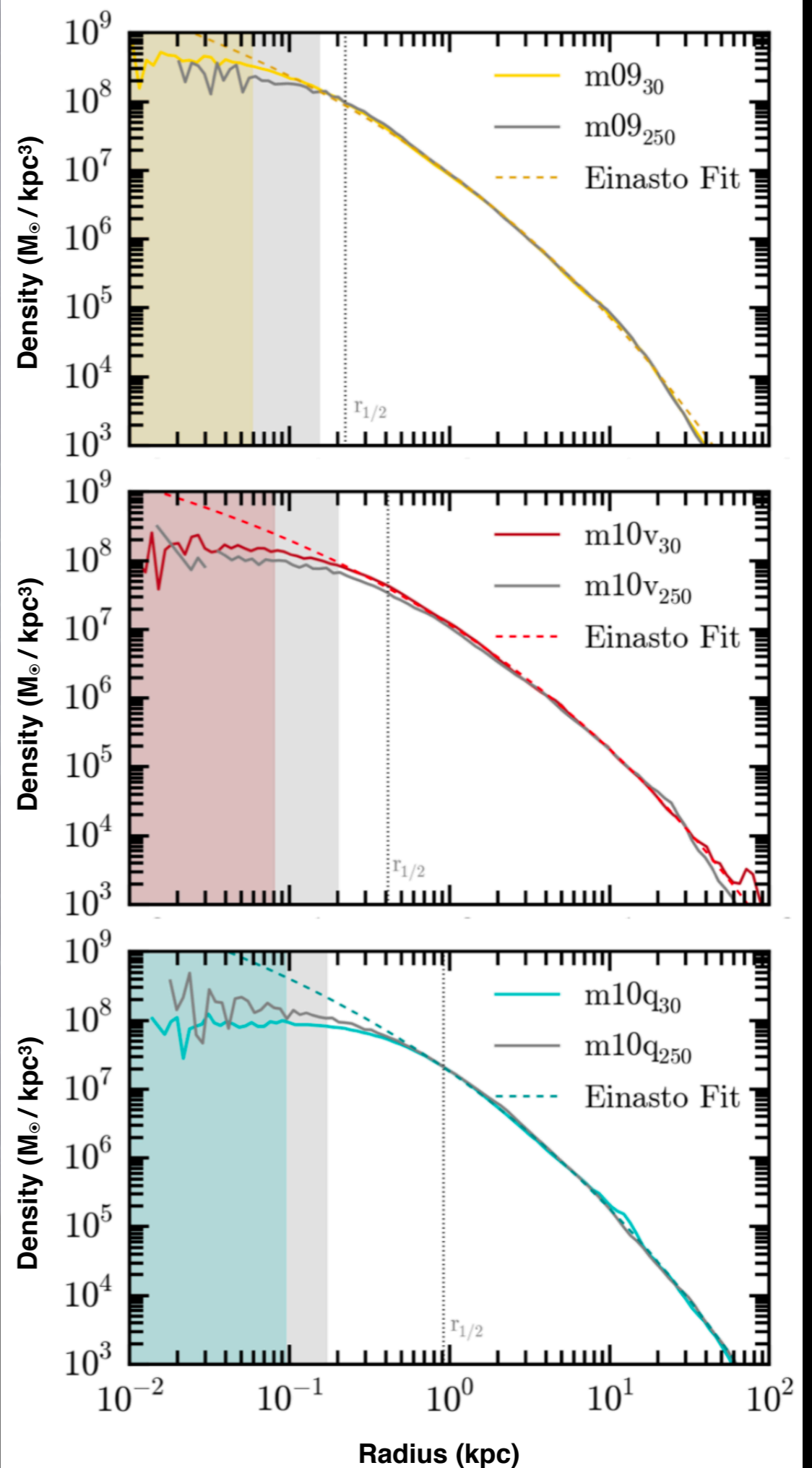


Cores in dwarfs



Cores in dwarfs

**~300pc core exists
in our one galaxy
with $M_{\star}/M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{-3}$**



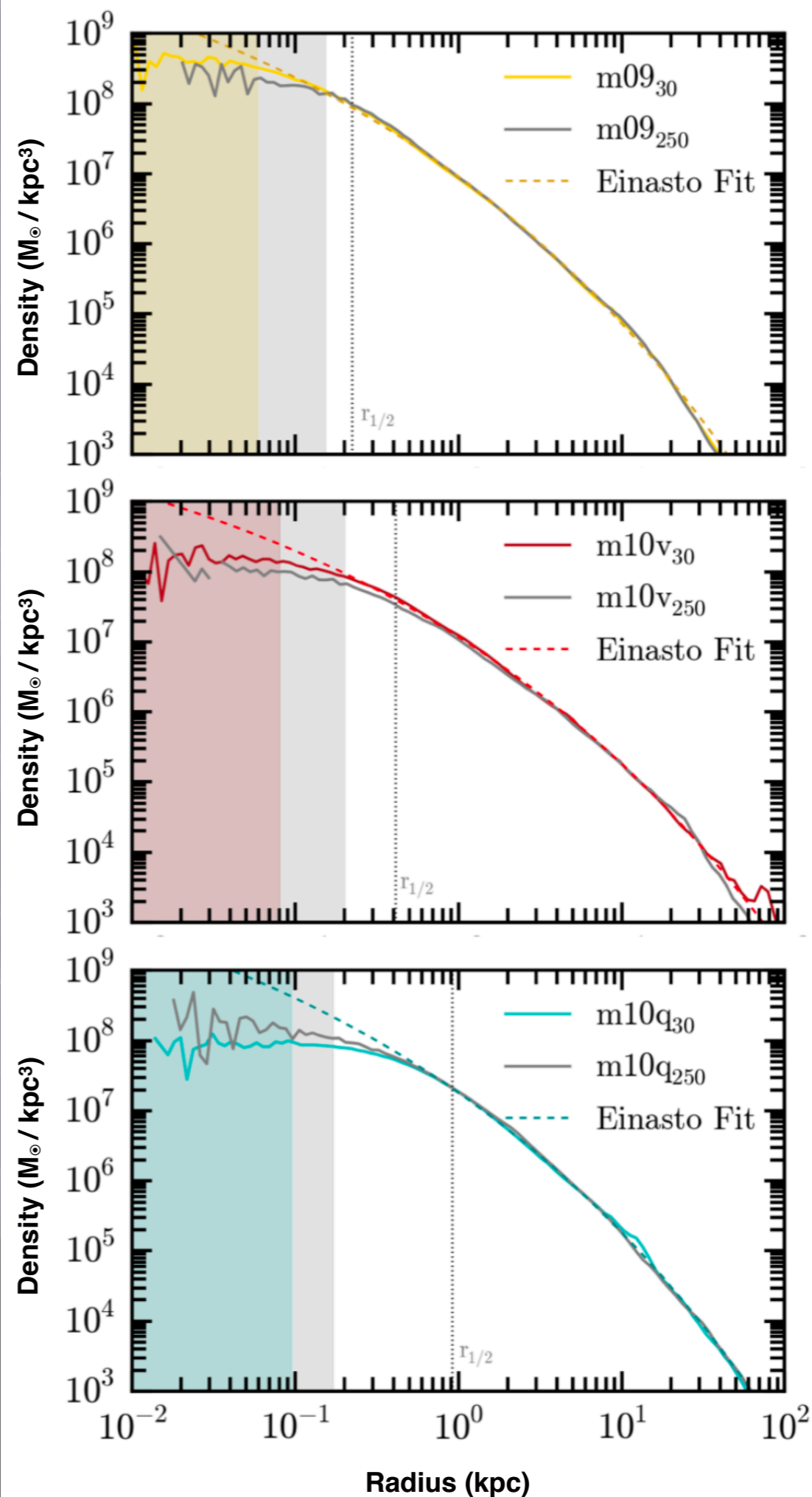
Cores in dwarfs

Cusps down to
at least 100pc in
all galaxies with

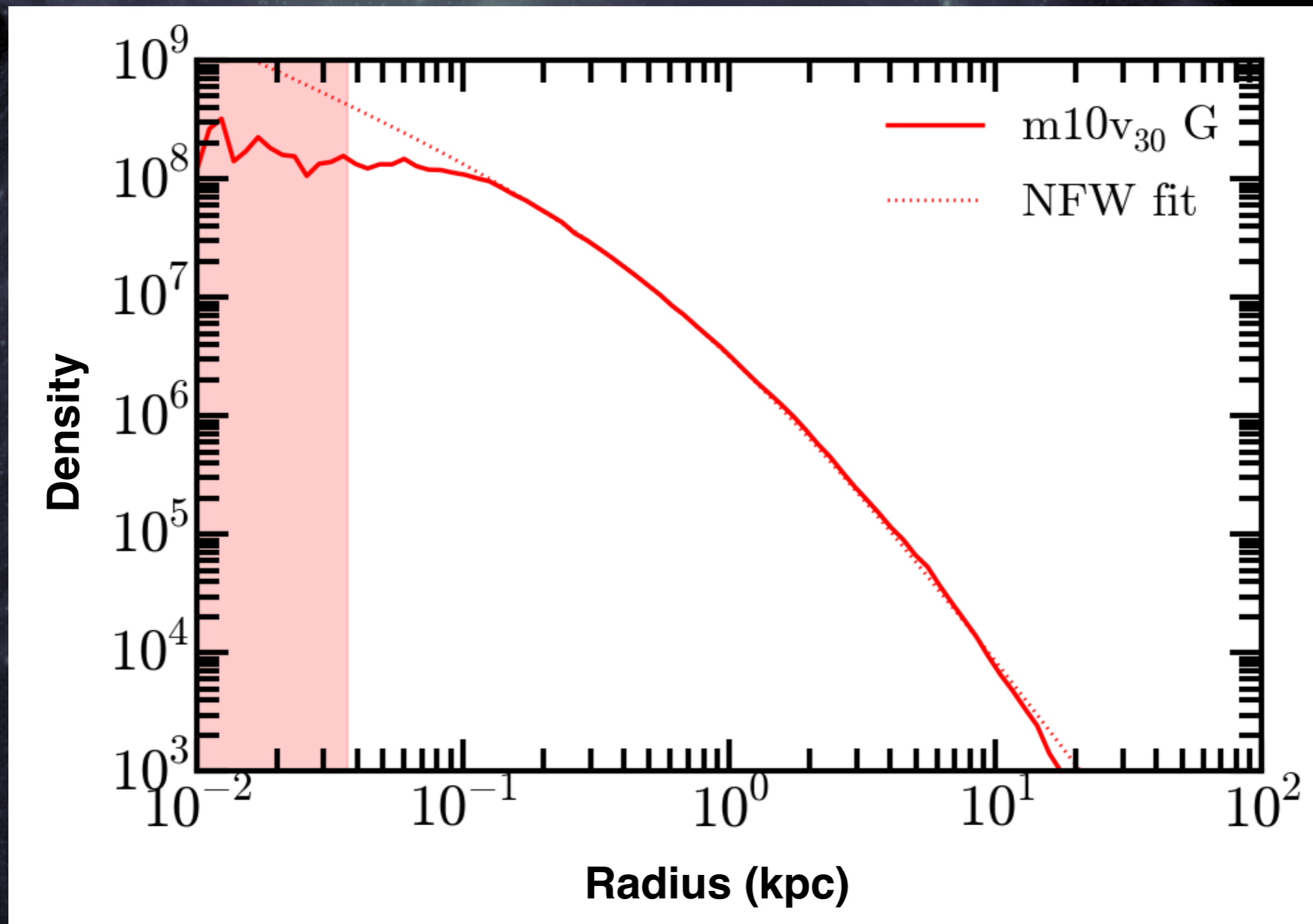
$$M_{\star}/M_{\text{halo}} < 10^{-4}$$

~300pc core exists
in our one galaxy

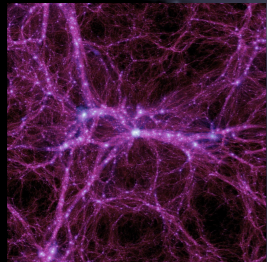
with $M_{\star}/M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{-3}$



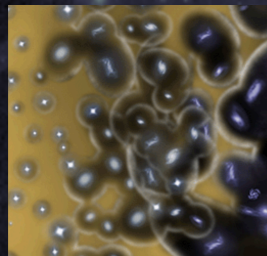
**At high resolution, small core visible in some UFDs
-> 100 pc-scale cores won't break LCDM**



Why sweat the small stuff?



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter

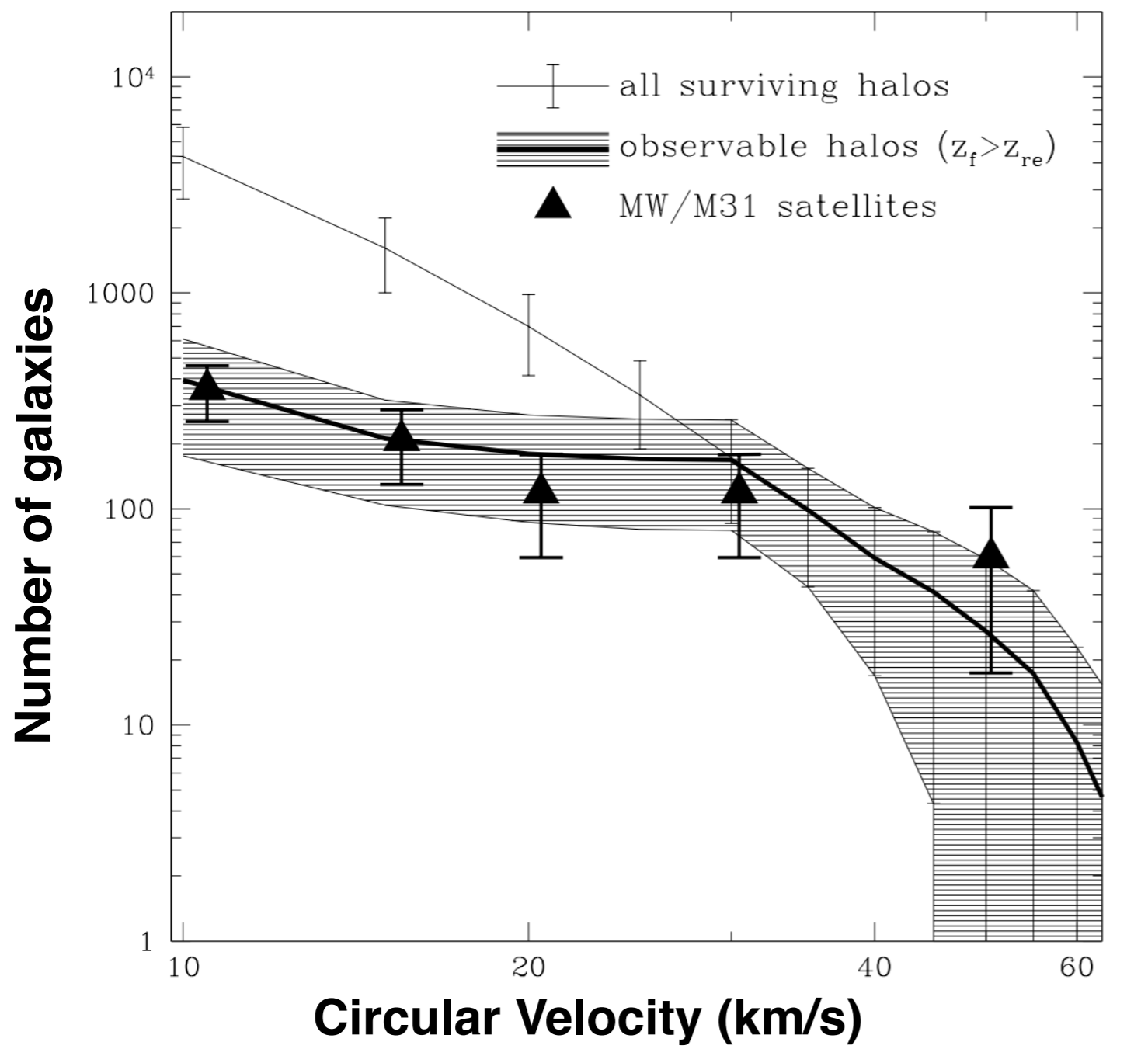


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization

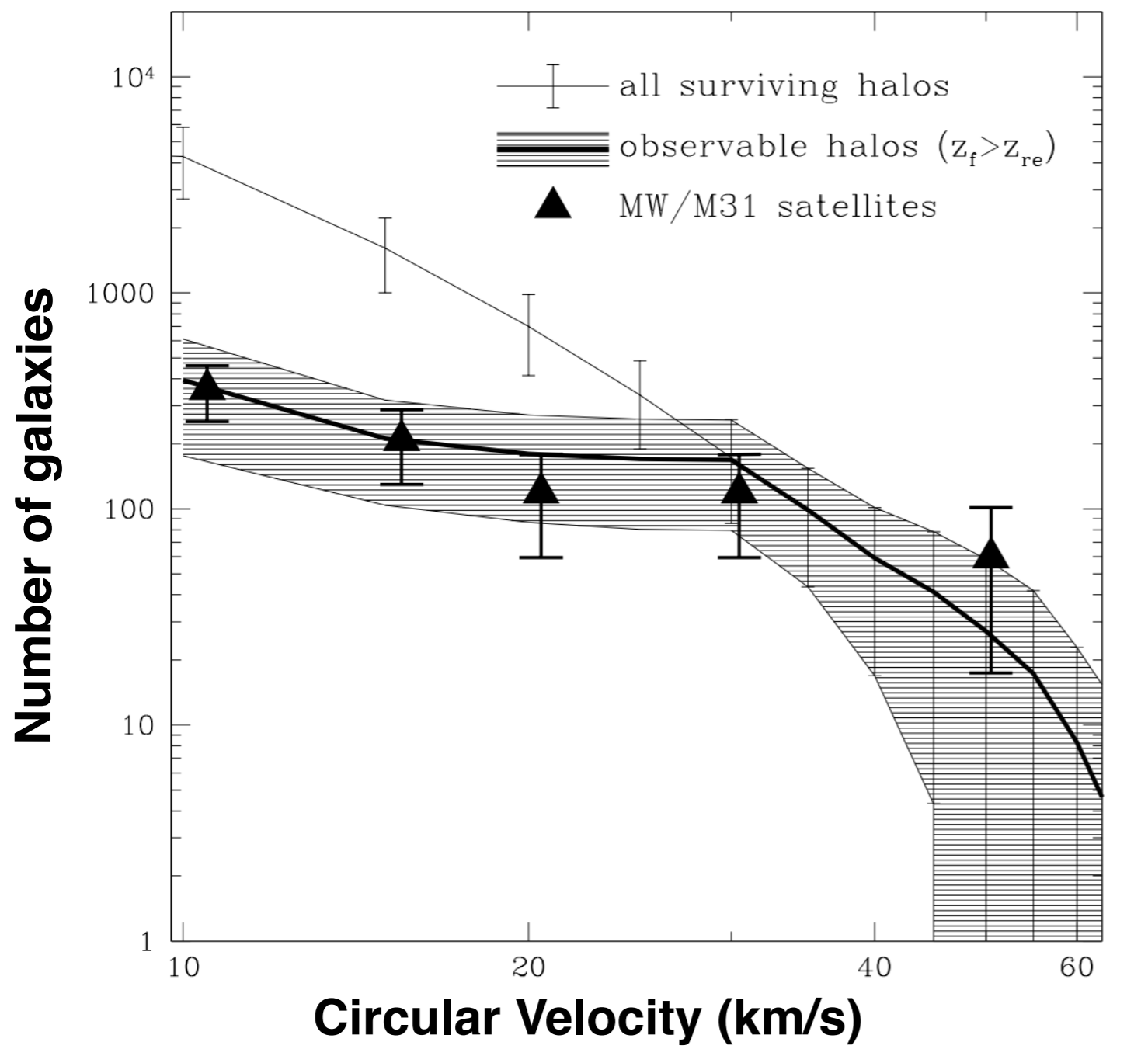


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about star formation and feedback

Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization

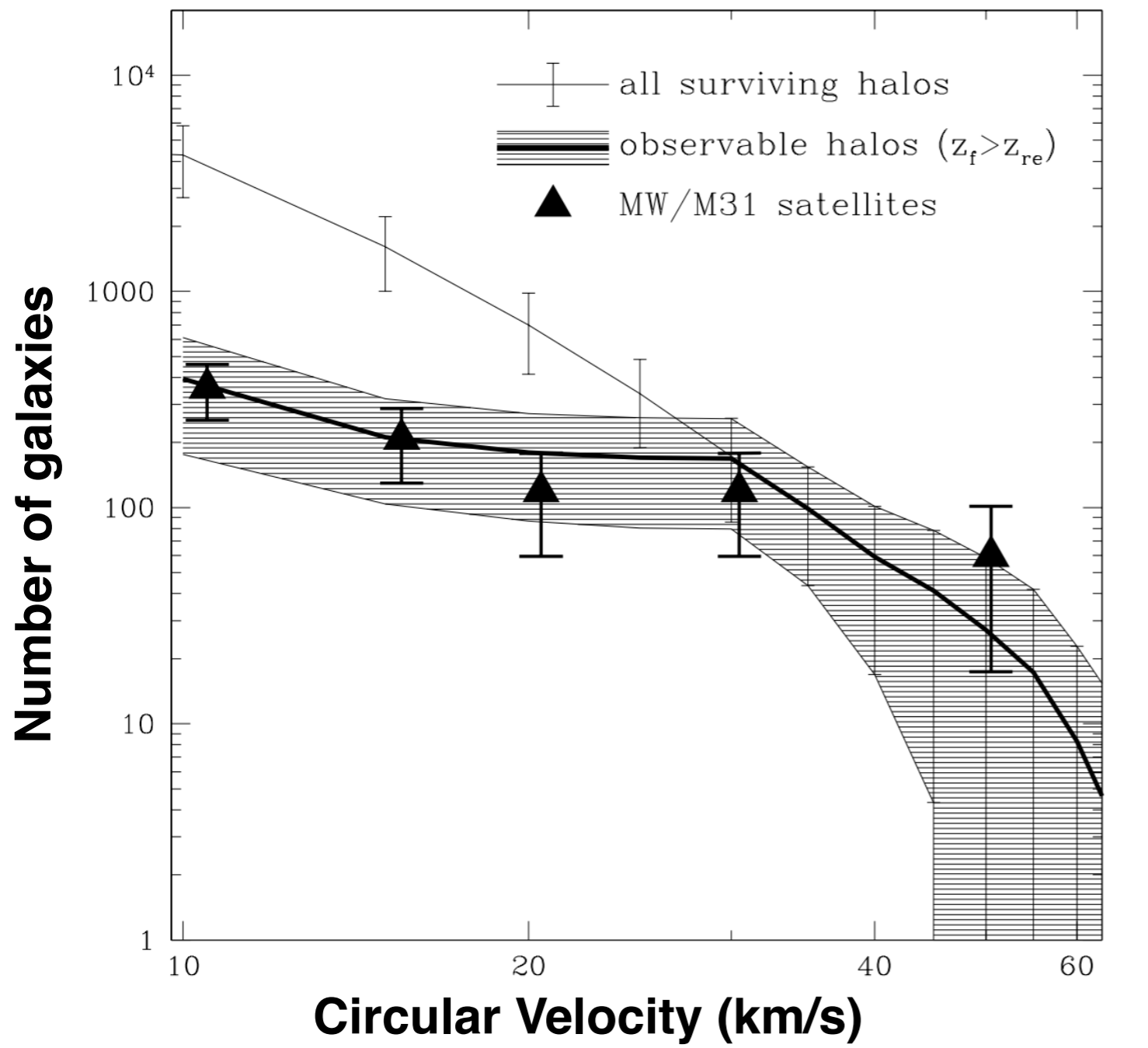


Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization



Cosmic reionization prevents smallest halos from forming stars

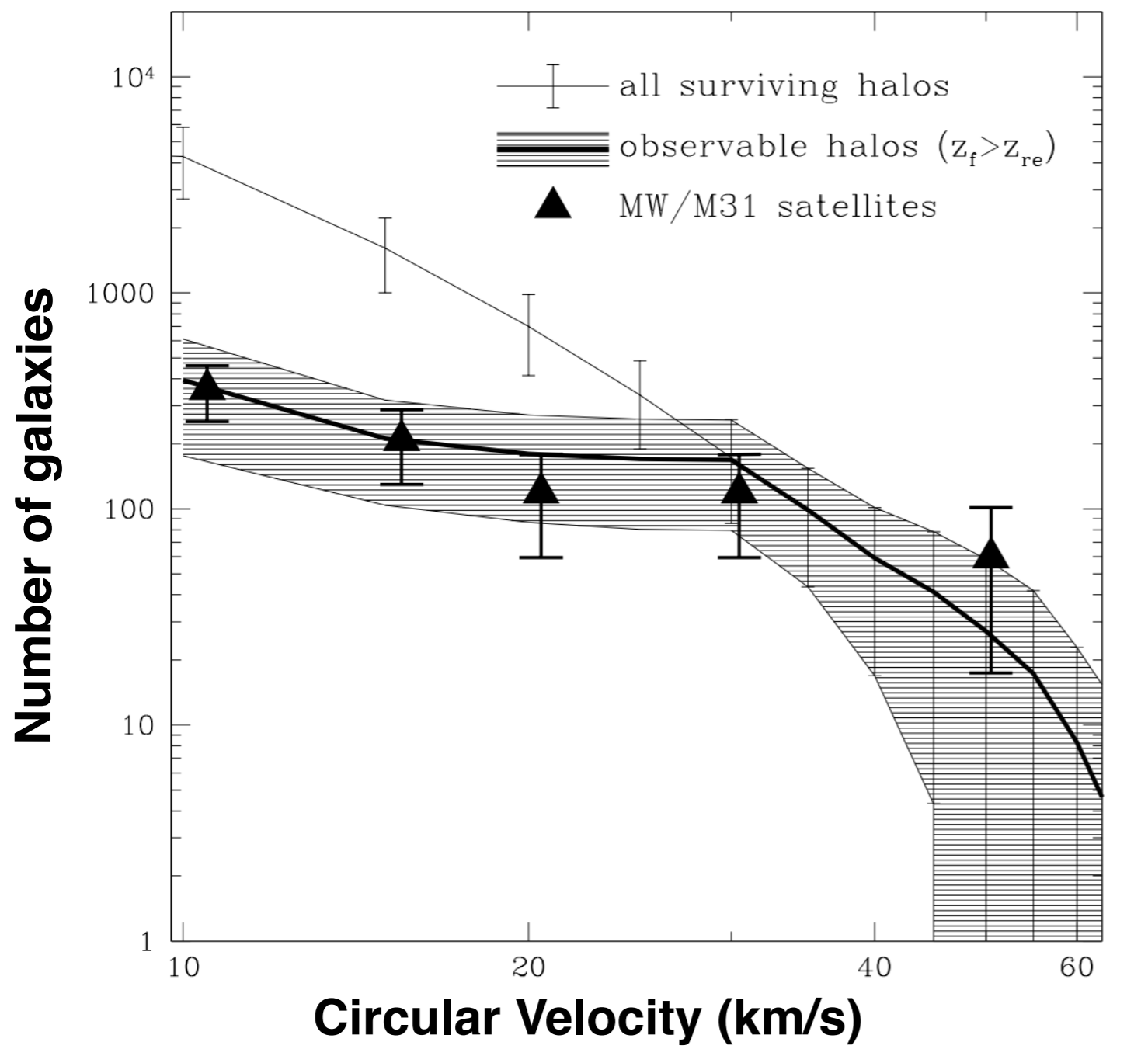
Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization



Cosmic reionization prevents smallest halos from forming stars

This may help “solve” the missing satellites problem

Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization

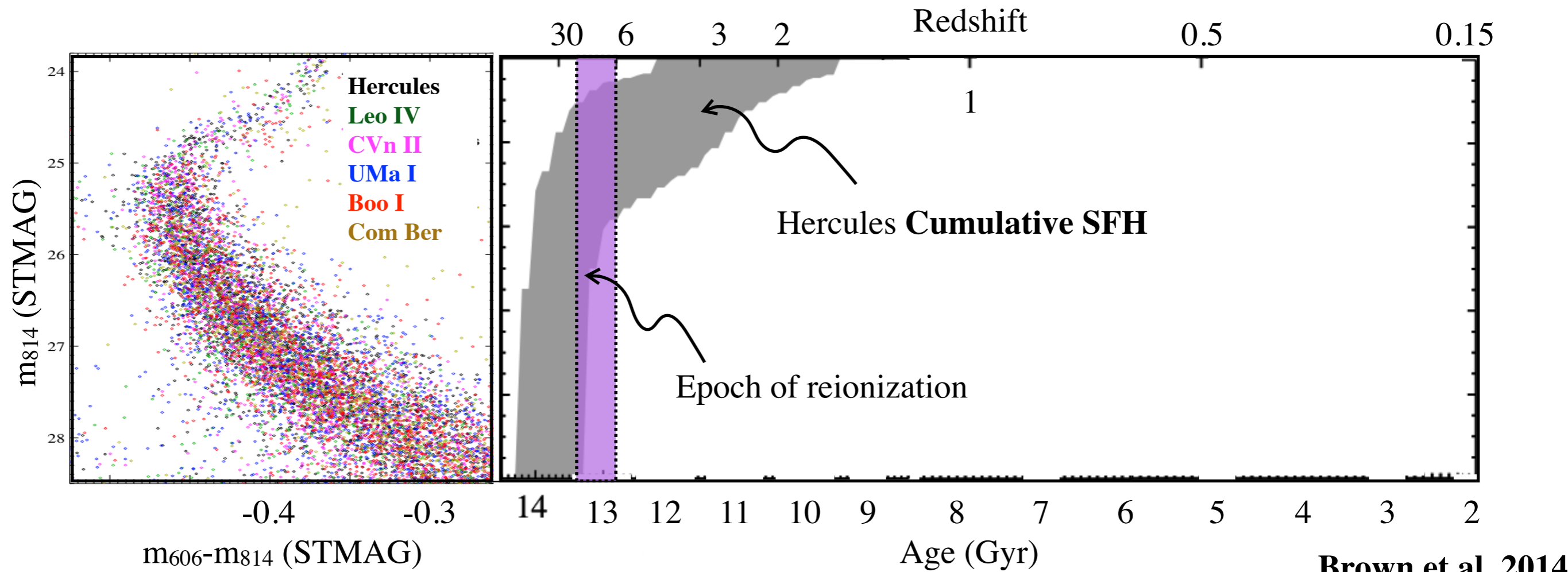


Cosmic reionization prevents smallest halos from forming stars

This may help “solve” the missing satellites problem

What effect does it have on existing galaxies?

Ultra-faint MW sats have ancient stellar populations



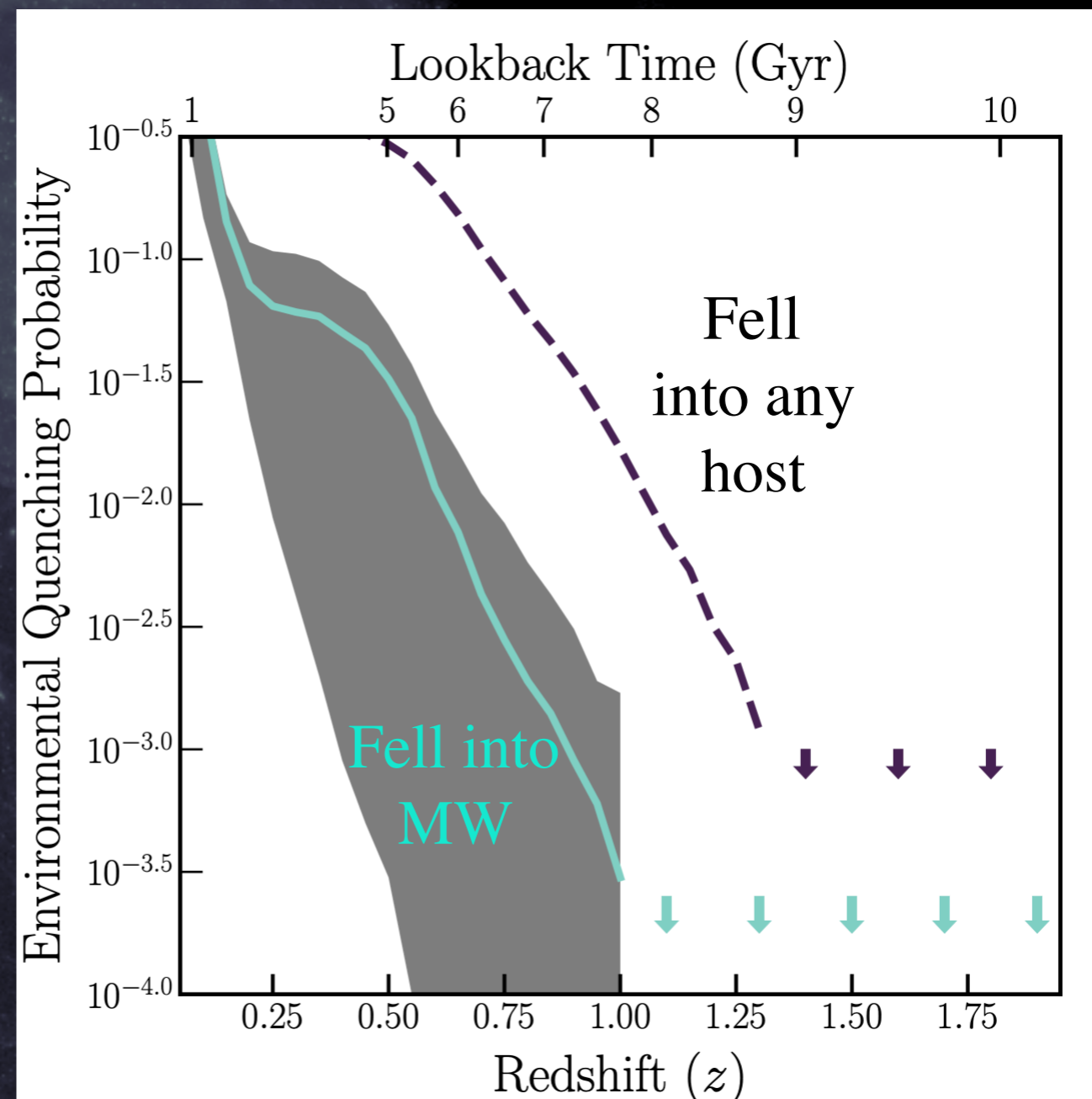
Reionization or infall?

Unlikely all UFDs fell into Milky Way by $z=1$

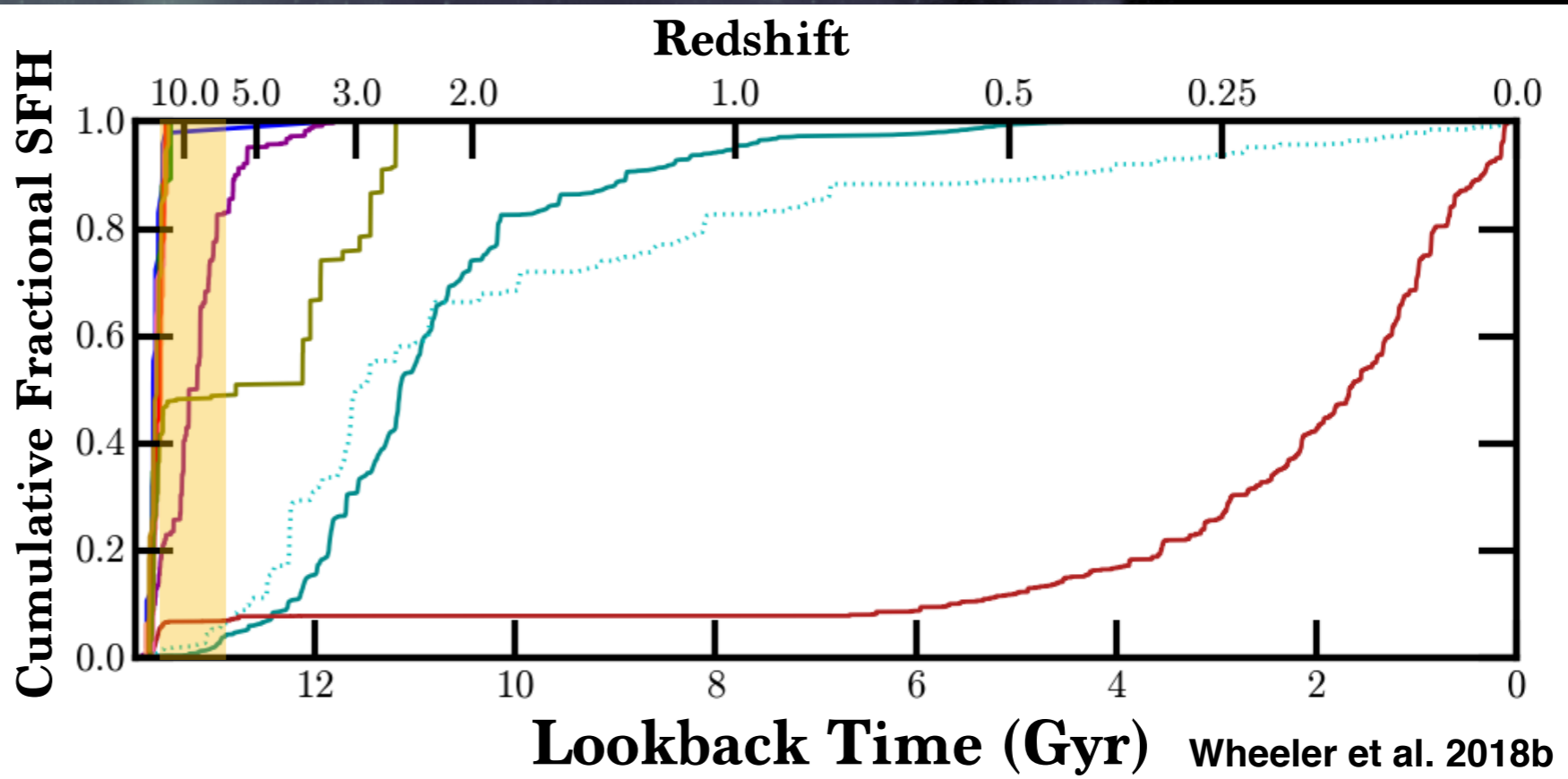
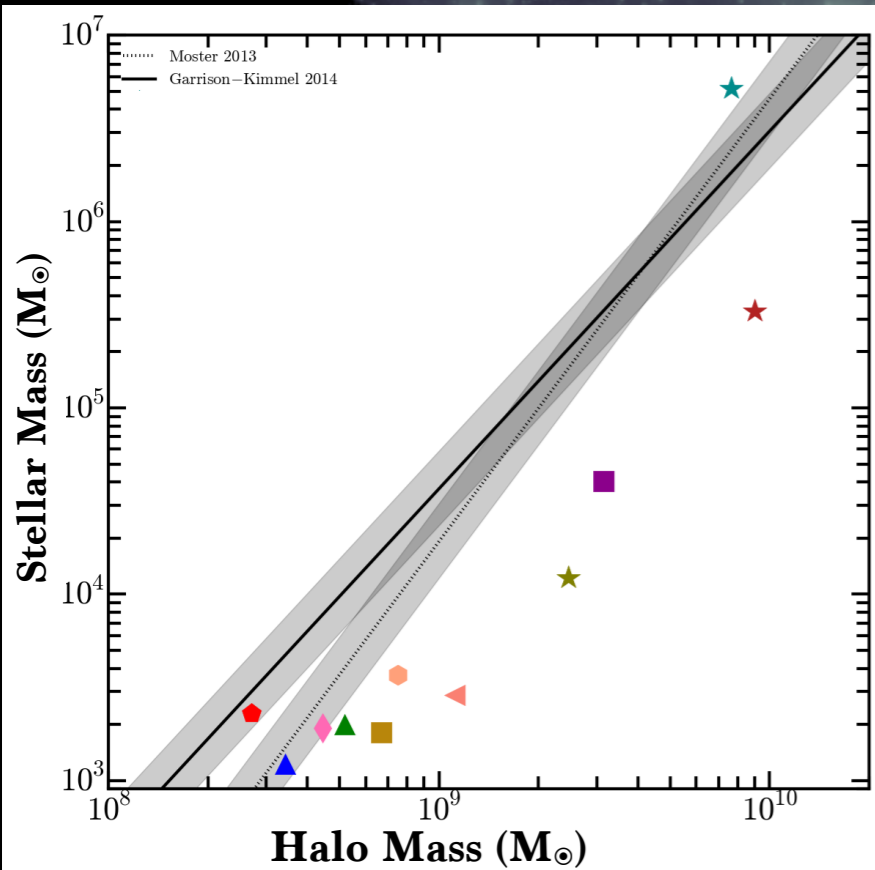


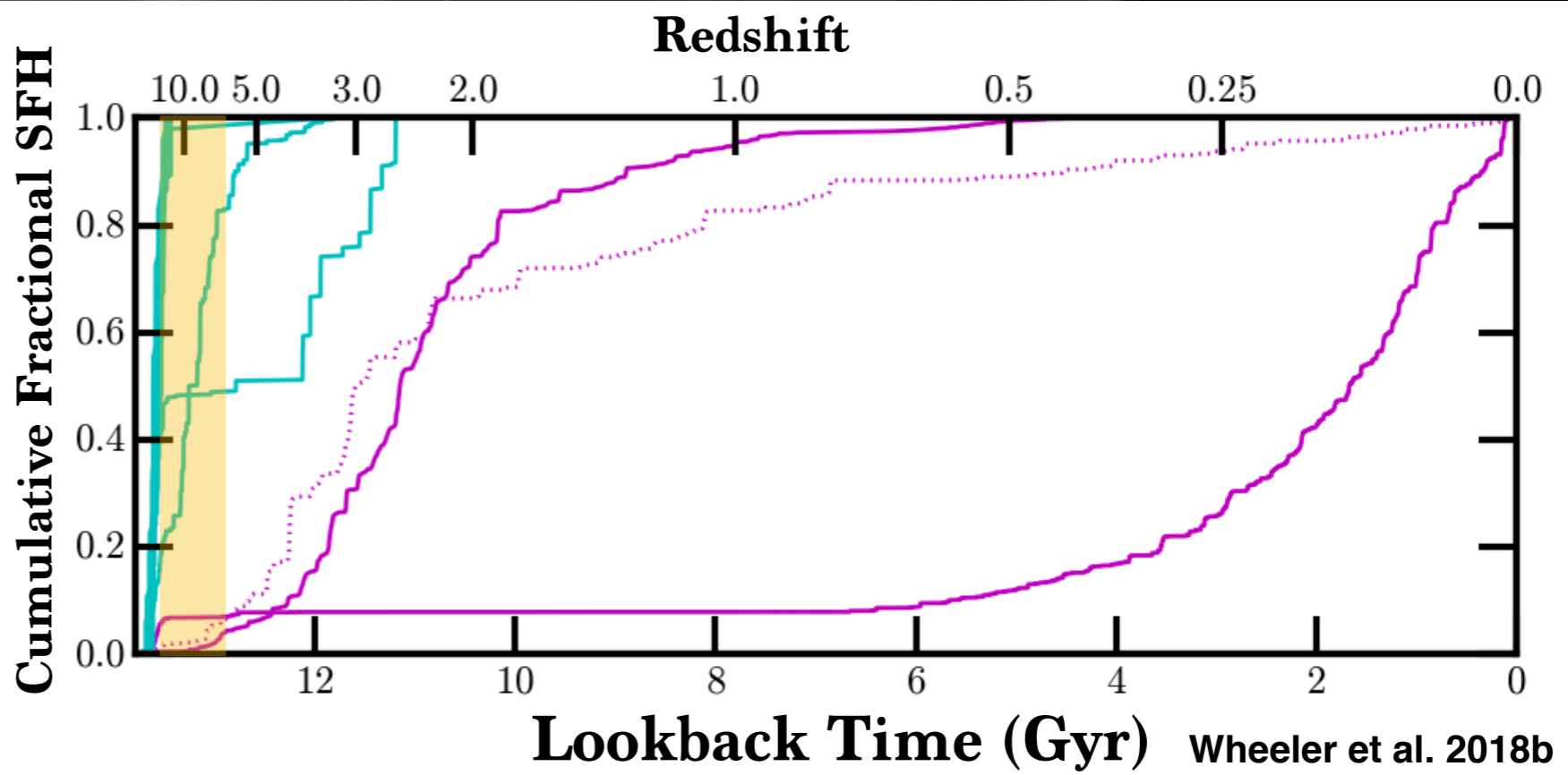
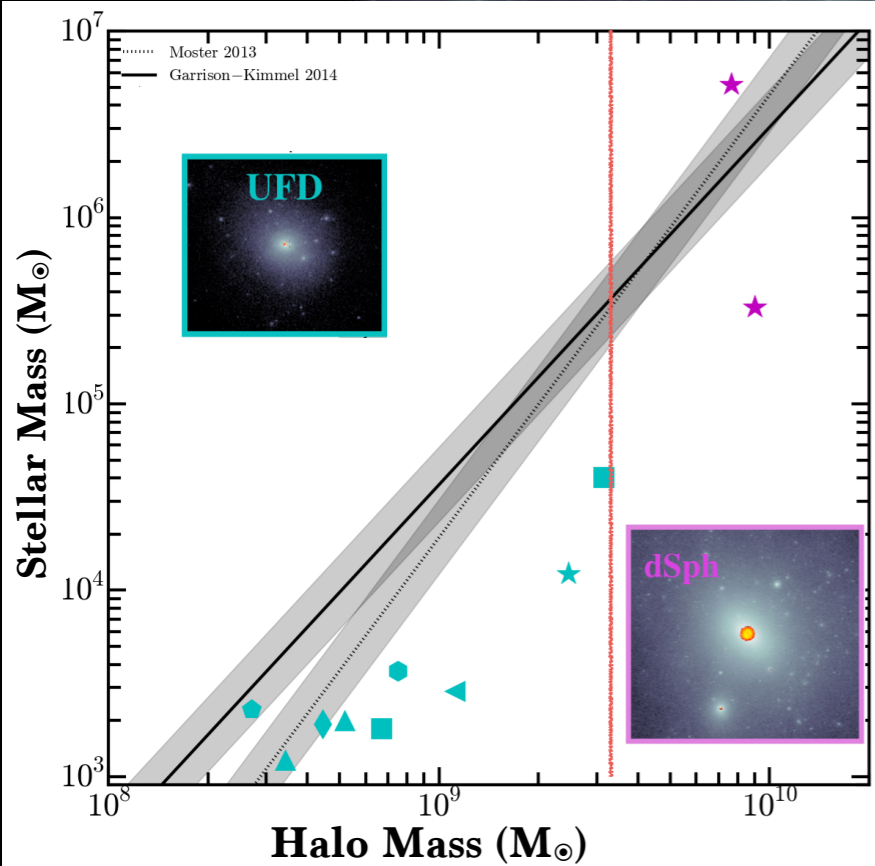
Katy Rodriguez-Wimberly (UCI)

Less than 1% probability that all 6 Brown et al. UFDs quenched by infall

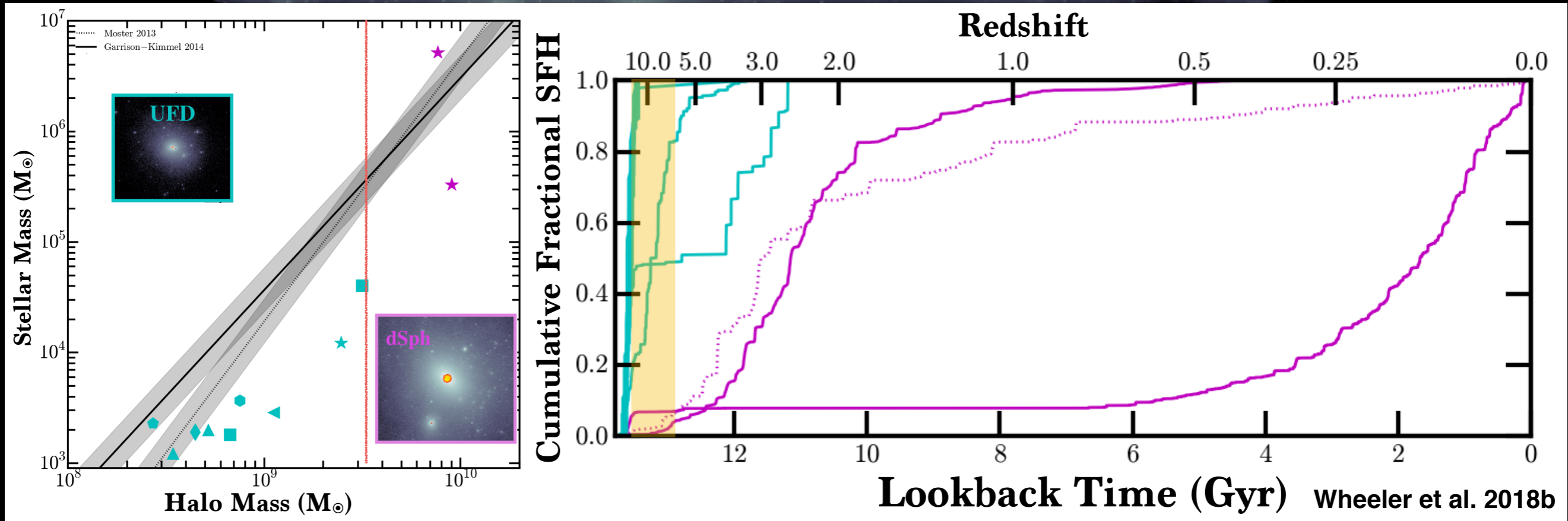


Rodriguez-Wimberly et al. 2018



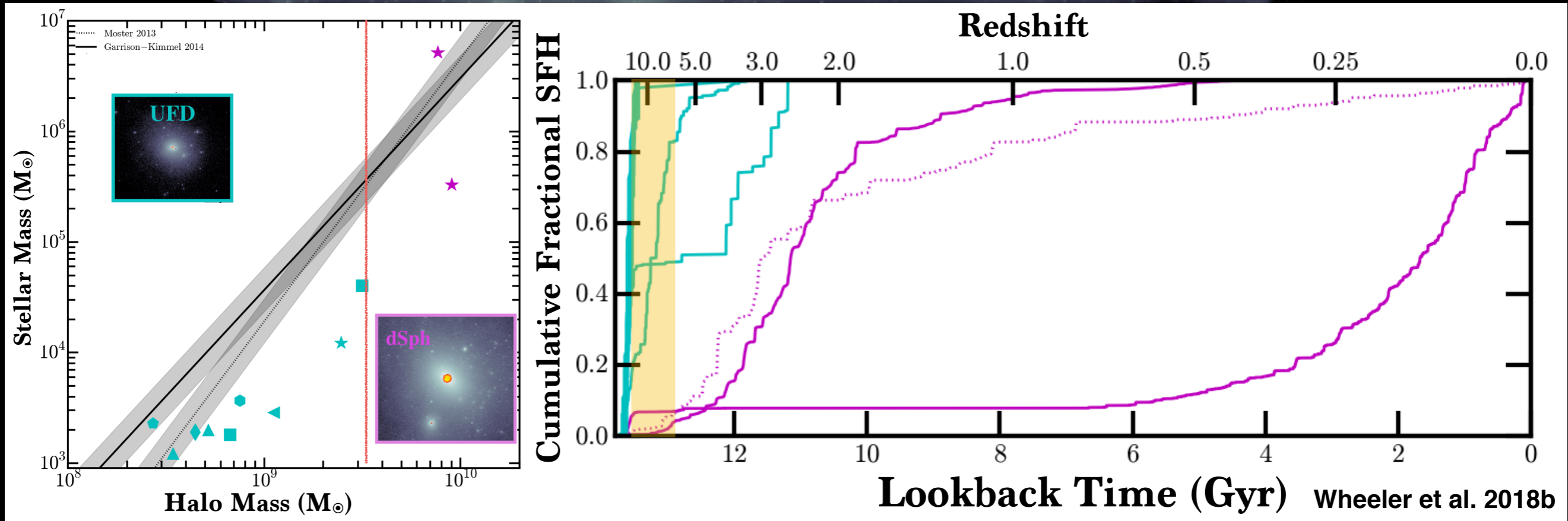


Simulated UFDs all have SF shut down by $z=2$



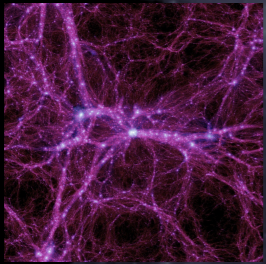
Wheeler et al. 2018b

Simulated UFDs all have SF shut down by $z=2$

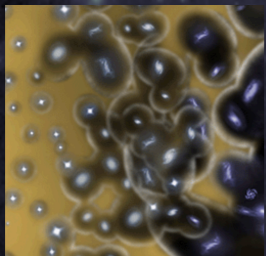


Testable prediction: All UFDs, whether satellites or isolated, will have uniformly ancient stellar populations

Why sweat the small stuff?



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about dark matter



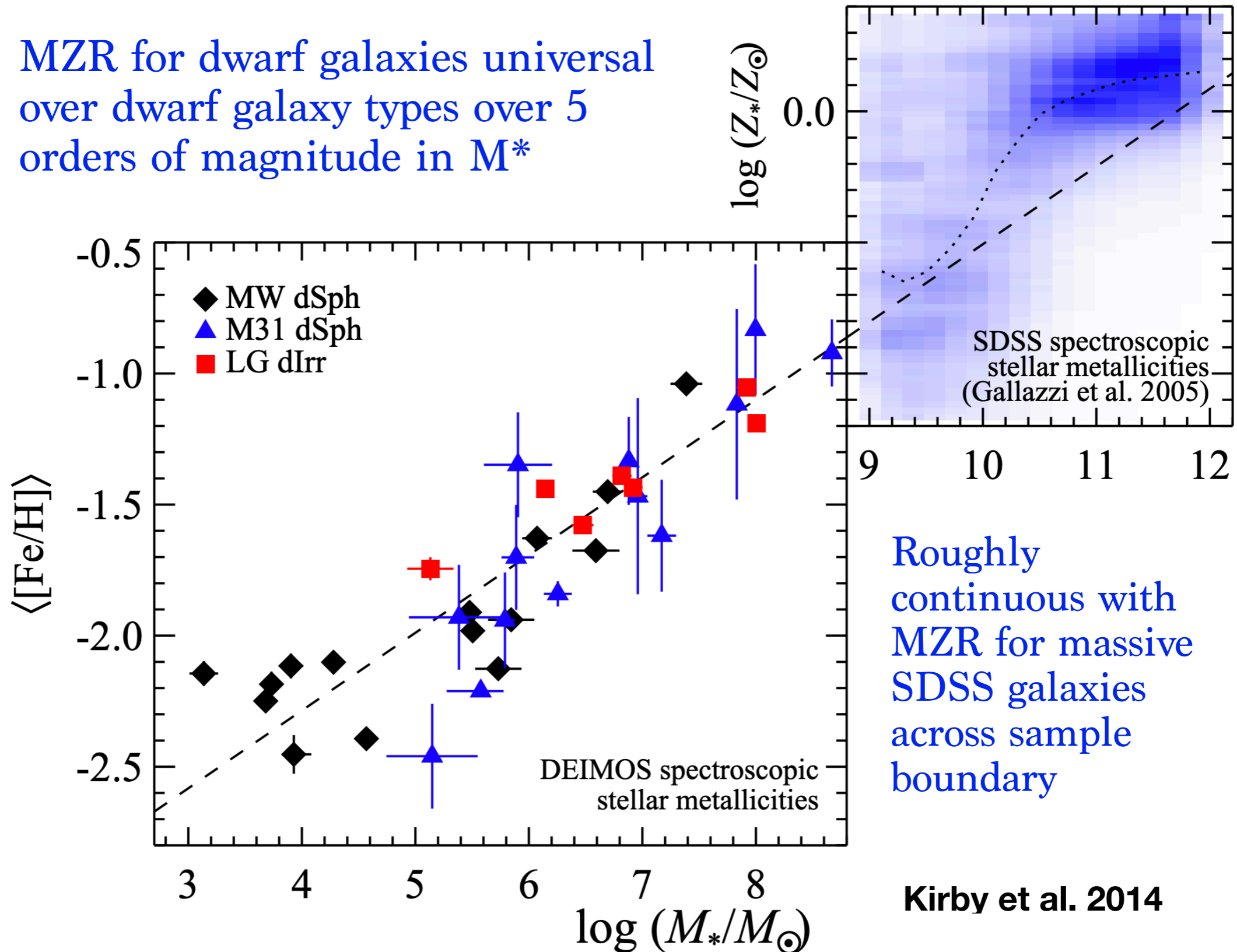
Dwarf galaxies can teach us about reionization



Dwarf galaxies can teach us about star formation and feedback

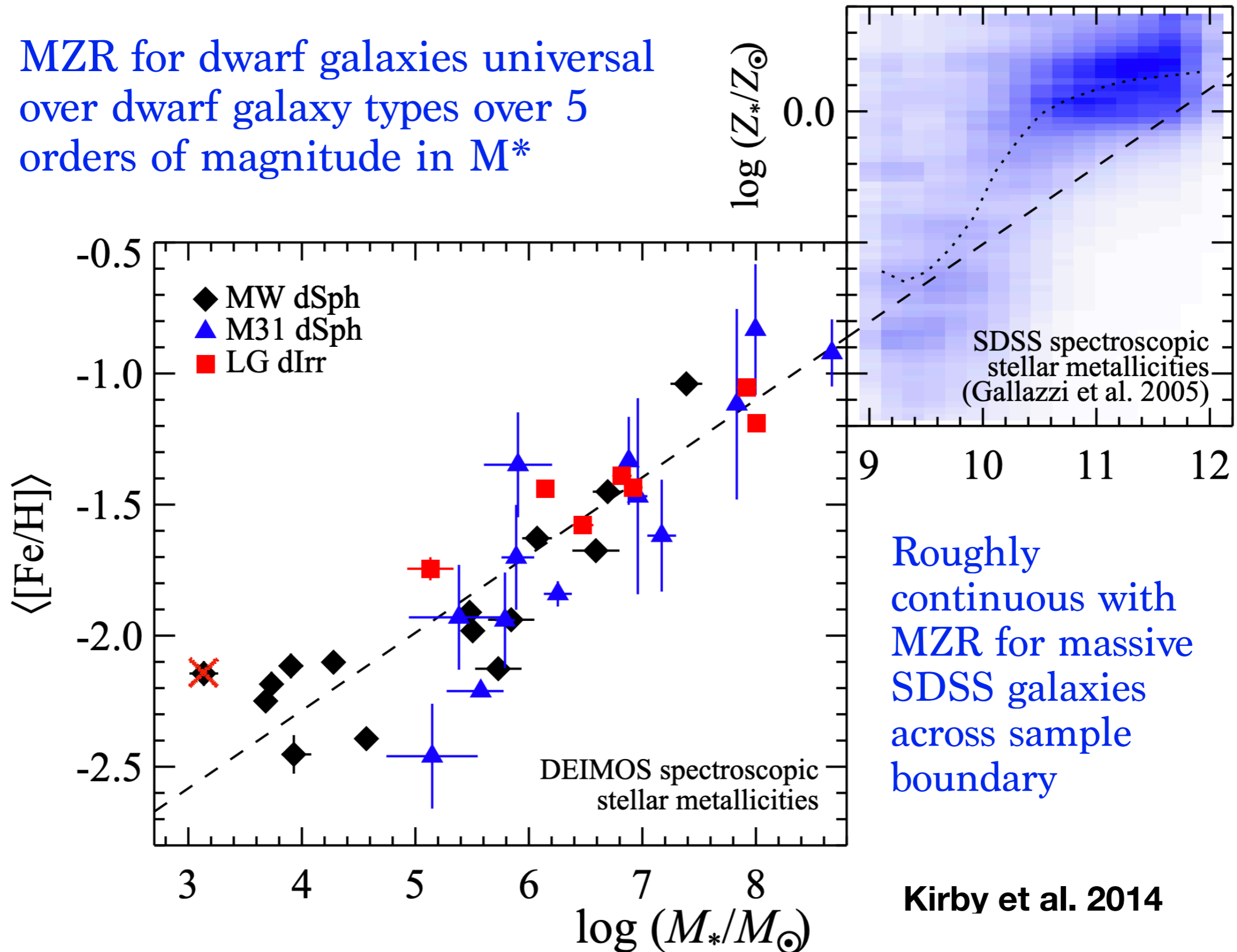
Universal Mass Metallicity Relation For Dwarfs?

MZR for dwarf galaxies universal over dwarf galaxy types over 5 orders of magnitude in M^*



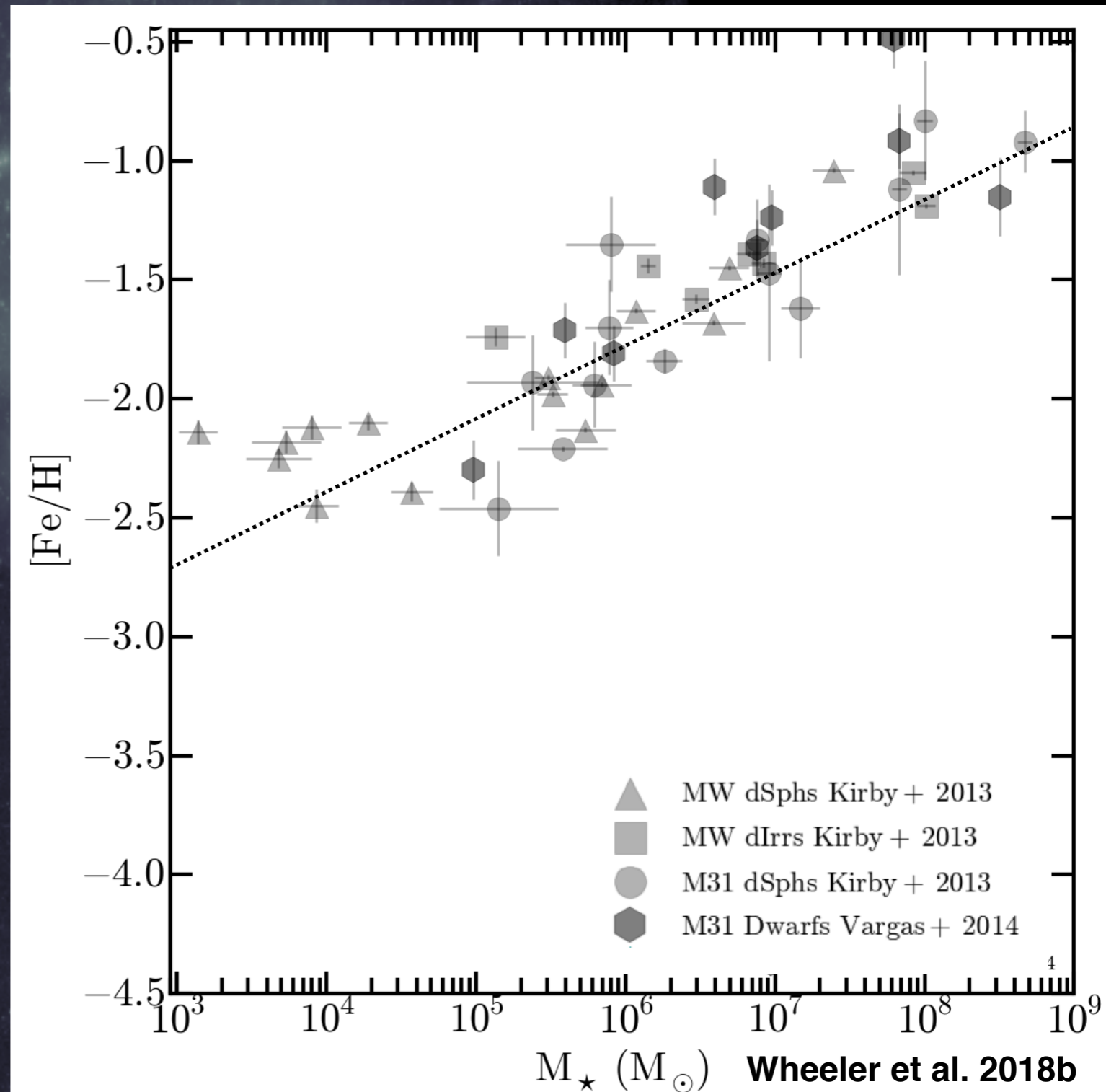
Universal Mass Metallicity Relation For Dwarfs?

MZR for dwarf galaxies universal over dwarf galaxy types over 5 orders of magnitude in M^*



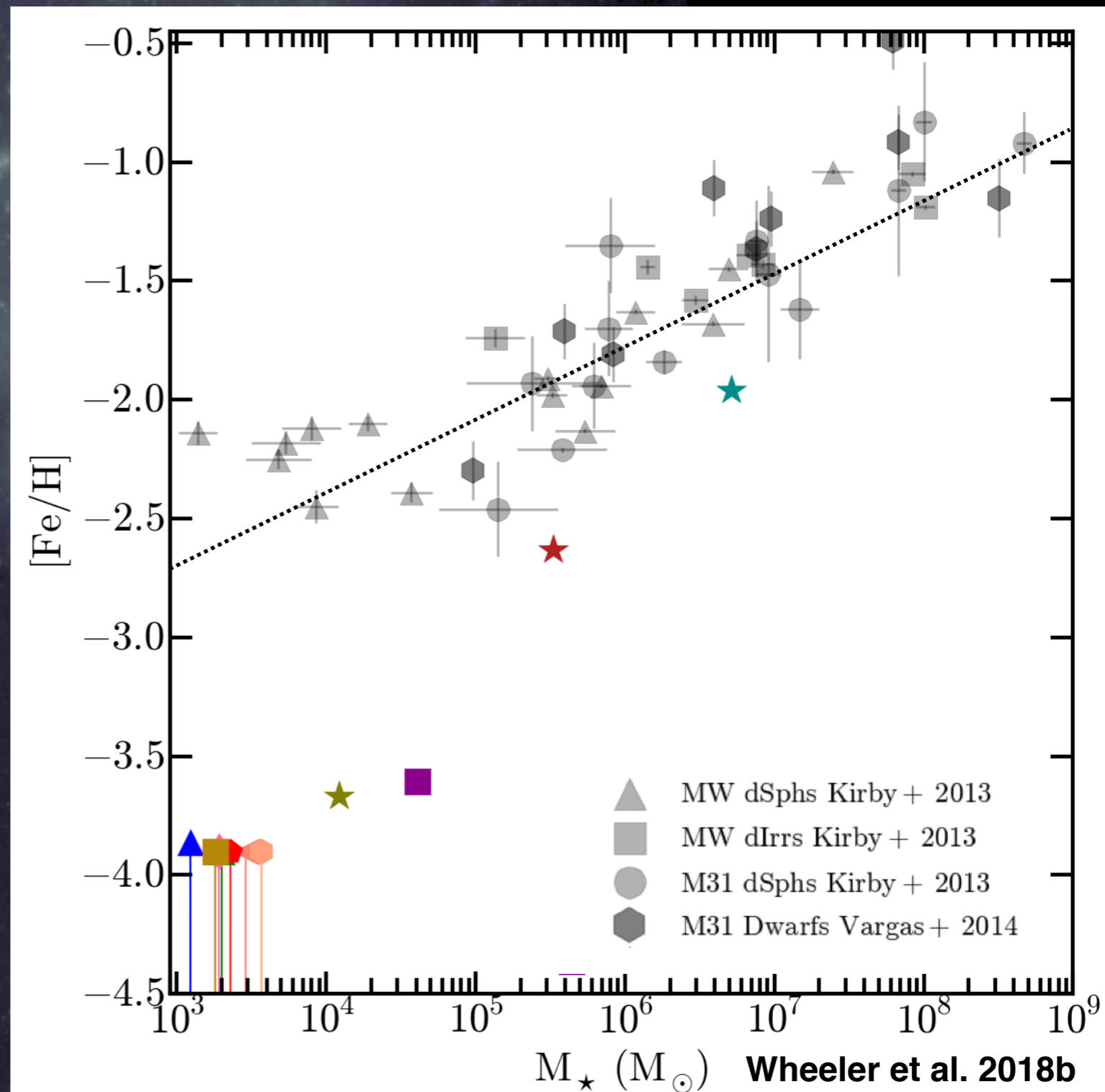
Mass Metallicity Relation

- Observations may suggest universal MZR at low masses, or possible flattening



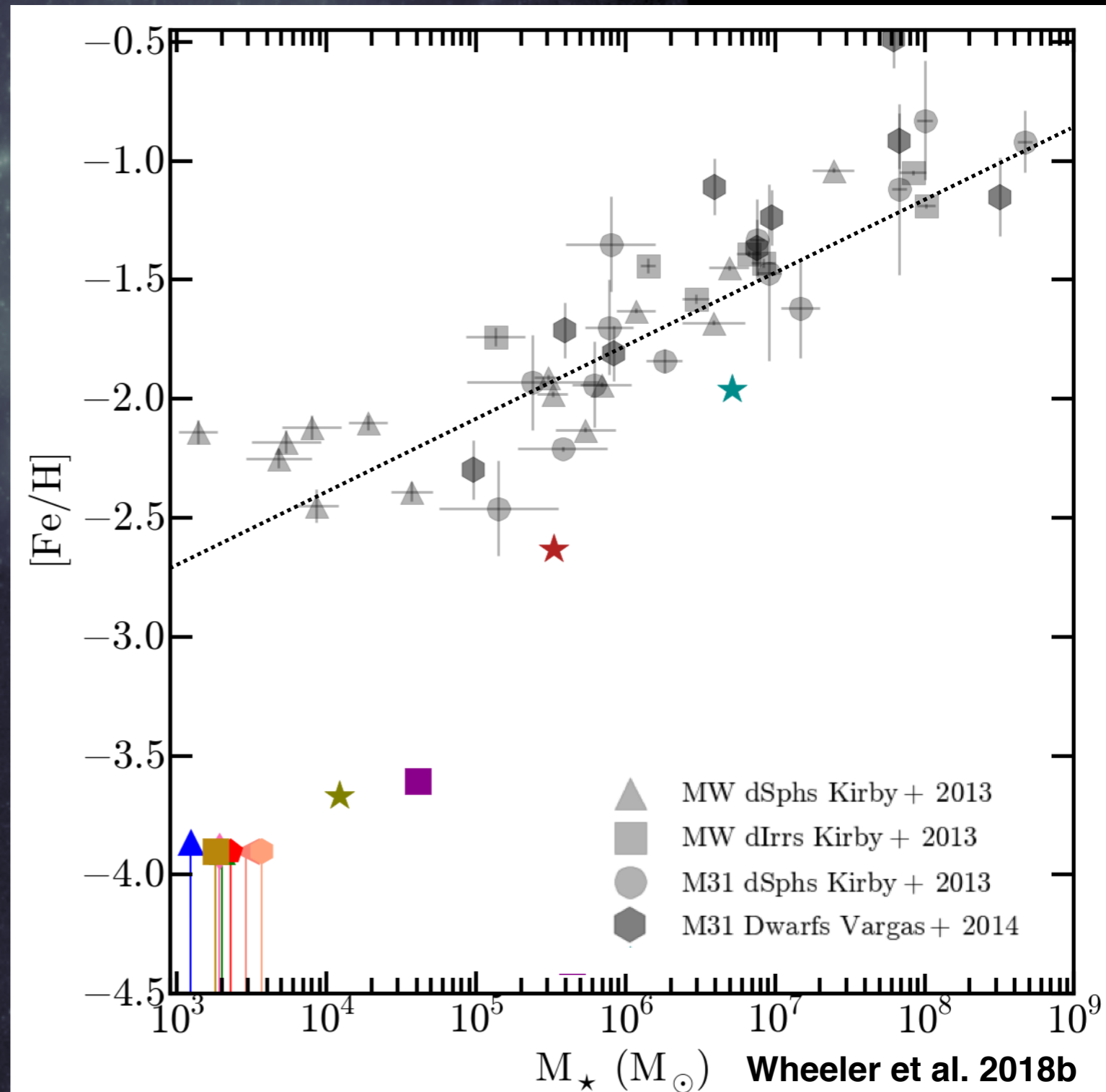
Mass Metallicity Relation

- Observations may suggest universal MZR at low masses, or possible flattening
- First time highly resolved galaxies plotted at this low of mass - **Yikes!**

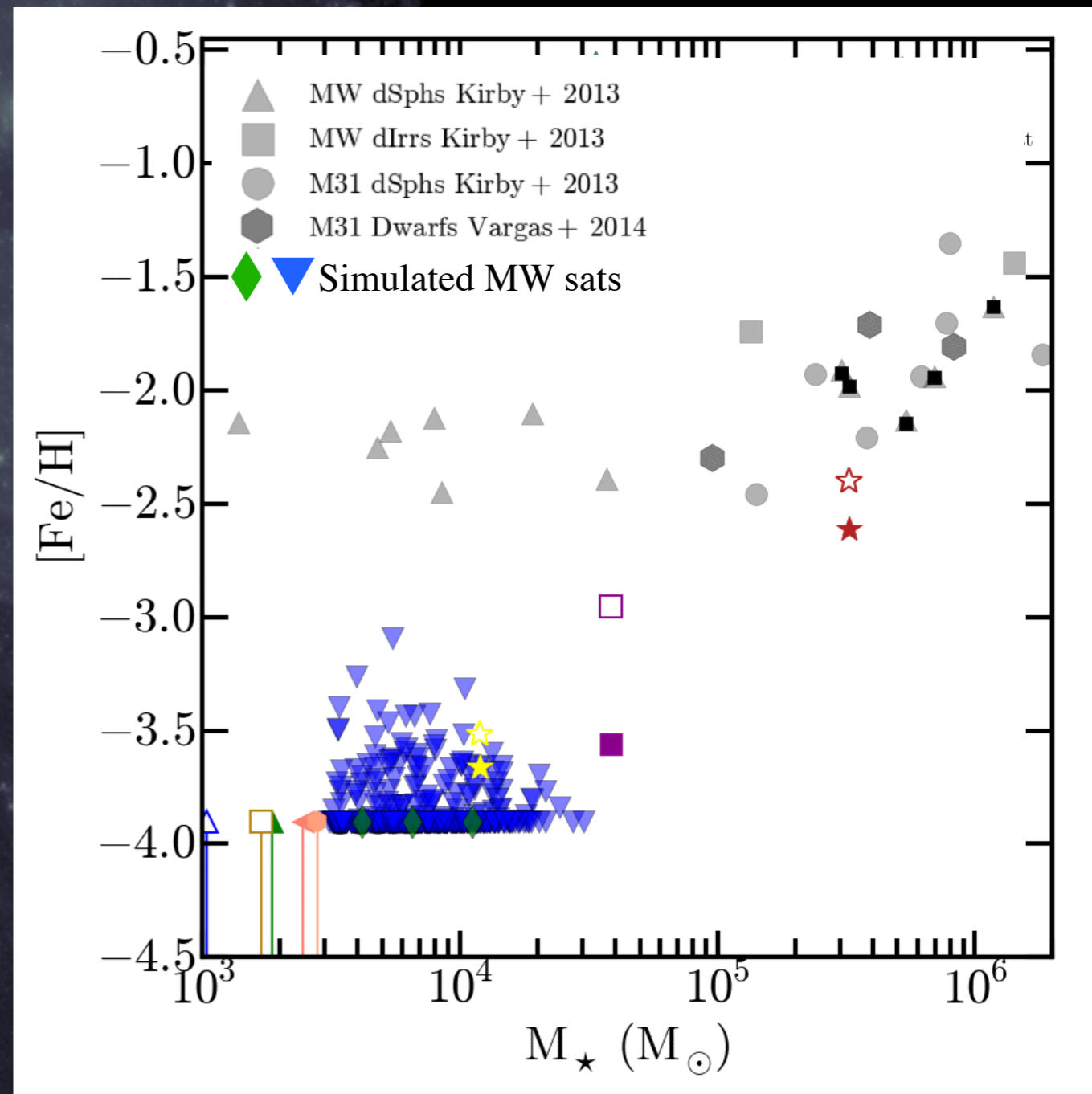


Mass Metallicity Relation

- Observations may suggest universal MZR at low masses, or possible flattening
- First time highly resolved galaxies plotted at this low of mass - **Yikes!**
- At lowest masses, offset only a few SNe
- Missing physics in sims? Pop III enrichment, yield tables? MW nearby?

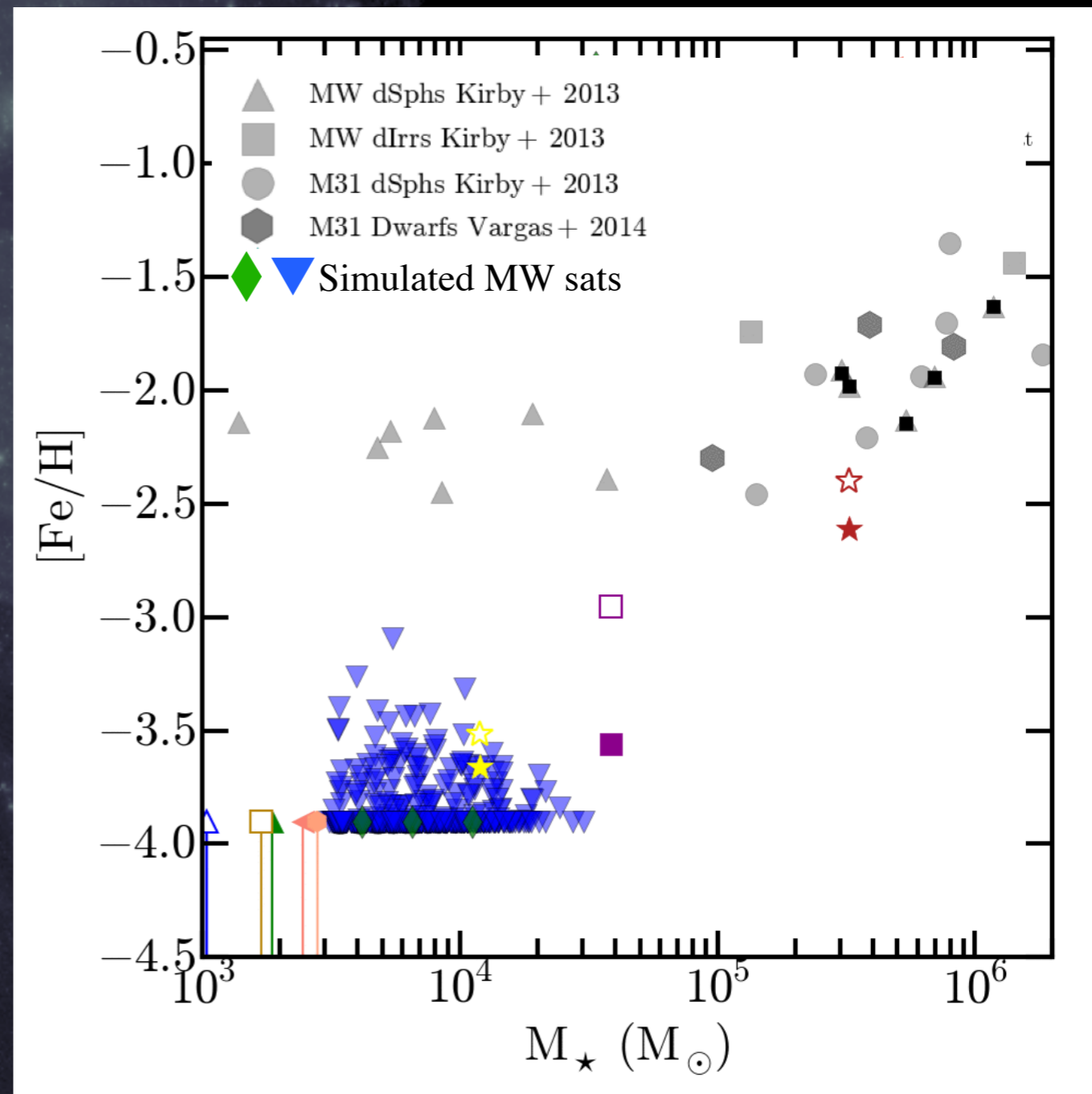


Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?



Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?

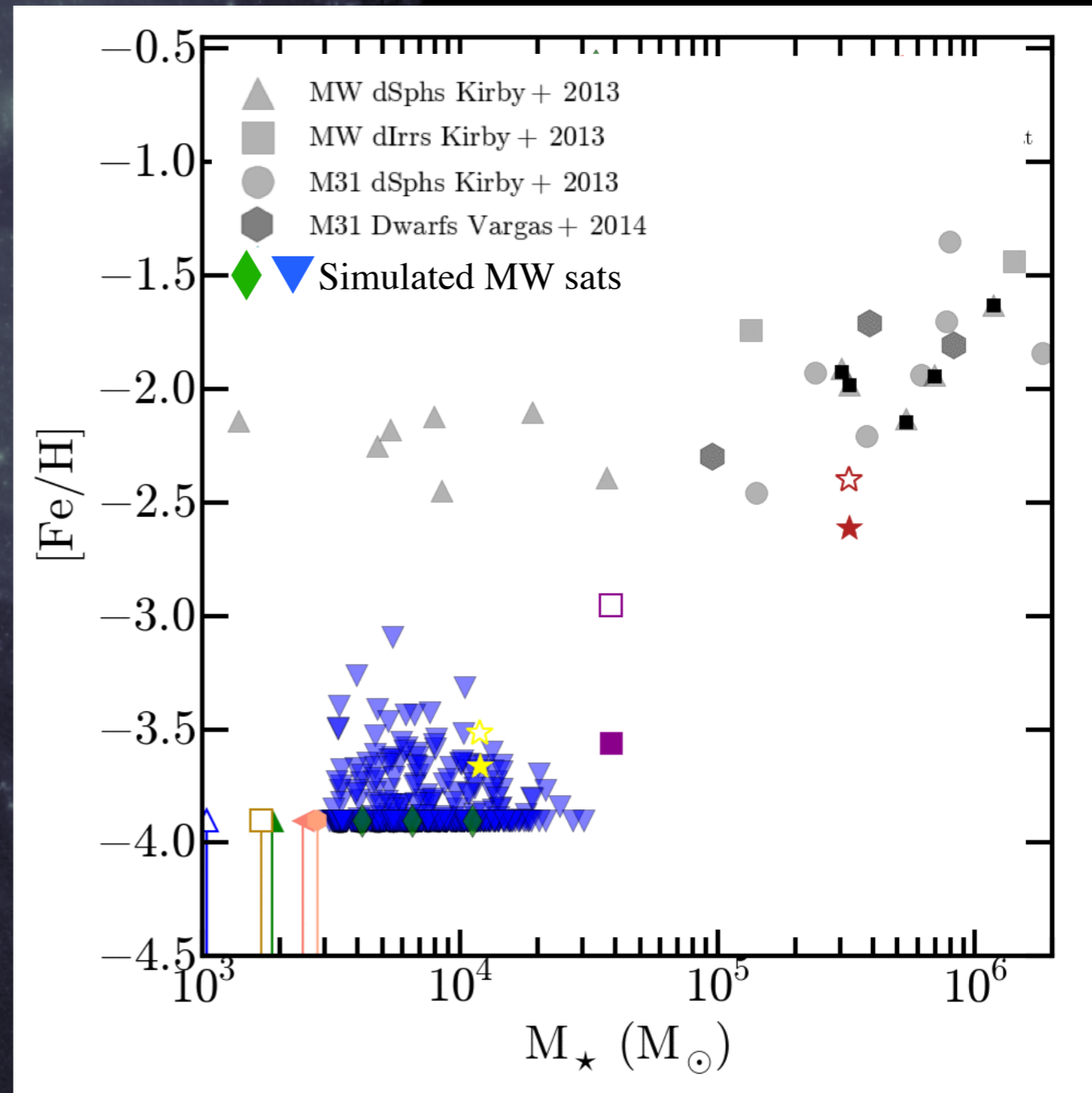
Ran two MW-sims with
 $m_{\text{bar}} = 880 M_{\odot}$ to $z \sim 4.5$



Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?

Ran two MW-sims with
 $m_{\text{bar}} = 880 M_{\odot}$ to $z \sim 4.5$

Look at galaxies that form
100% of their stars by $z =$
9,8,7,6,5

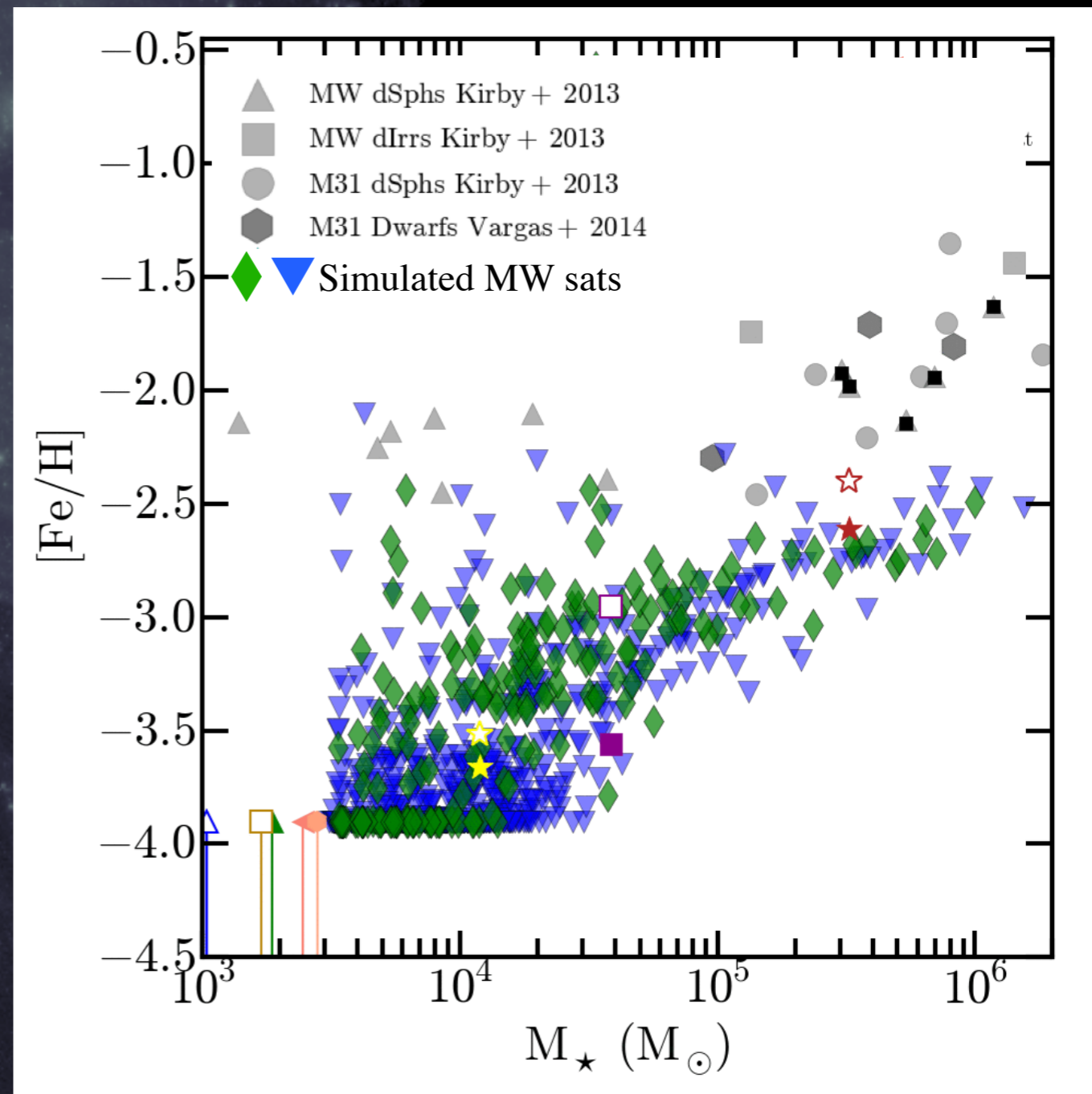


Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?

Ran two MW-sims with
 $m_{\text{bar}} = 880 M_{\odot}$ to $z \sim 4.5$

Look at galaxies that form
100% of their stars by $z = 9, 8, 7, 6, 5$

By $z = 5$, some UFDs
enriched to observed levels



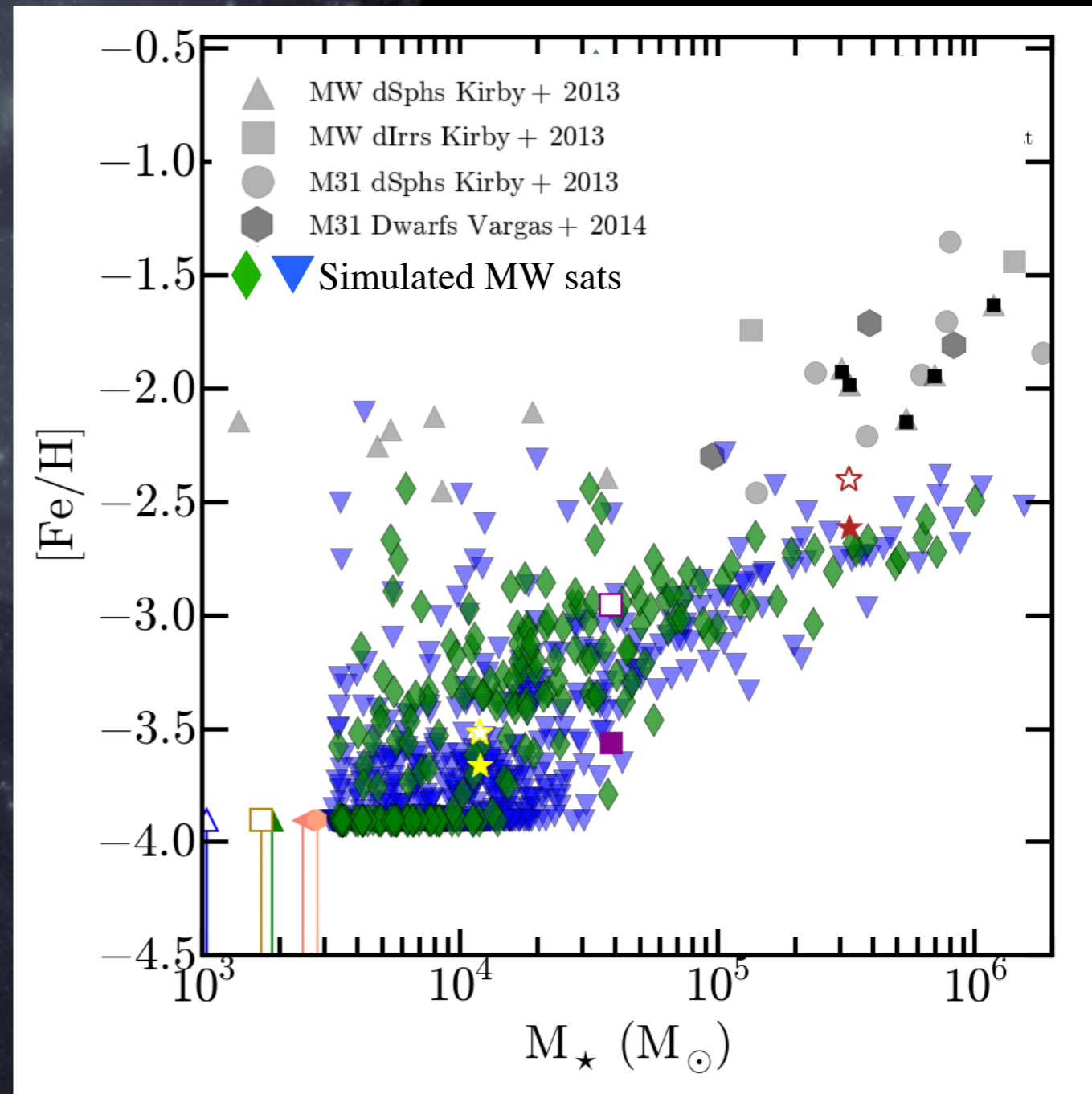
Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?

Ran two MW-sims with
 $m_{\text{bar}} = 880 M_{\odot}$ to $z \sim 4.5$

Look at galaxies that form
100% of their stars by $z = 9, 8, 7, 6, 5$

By $z = 5$, some UFDs
enriched to observed levels

But not massive dwarfs - may
signal serious problem with
Type II yield tables or lack of
Pop III SF



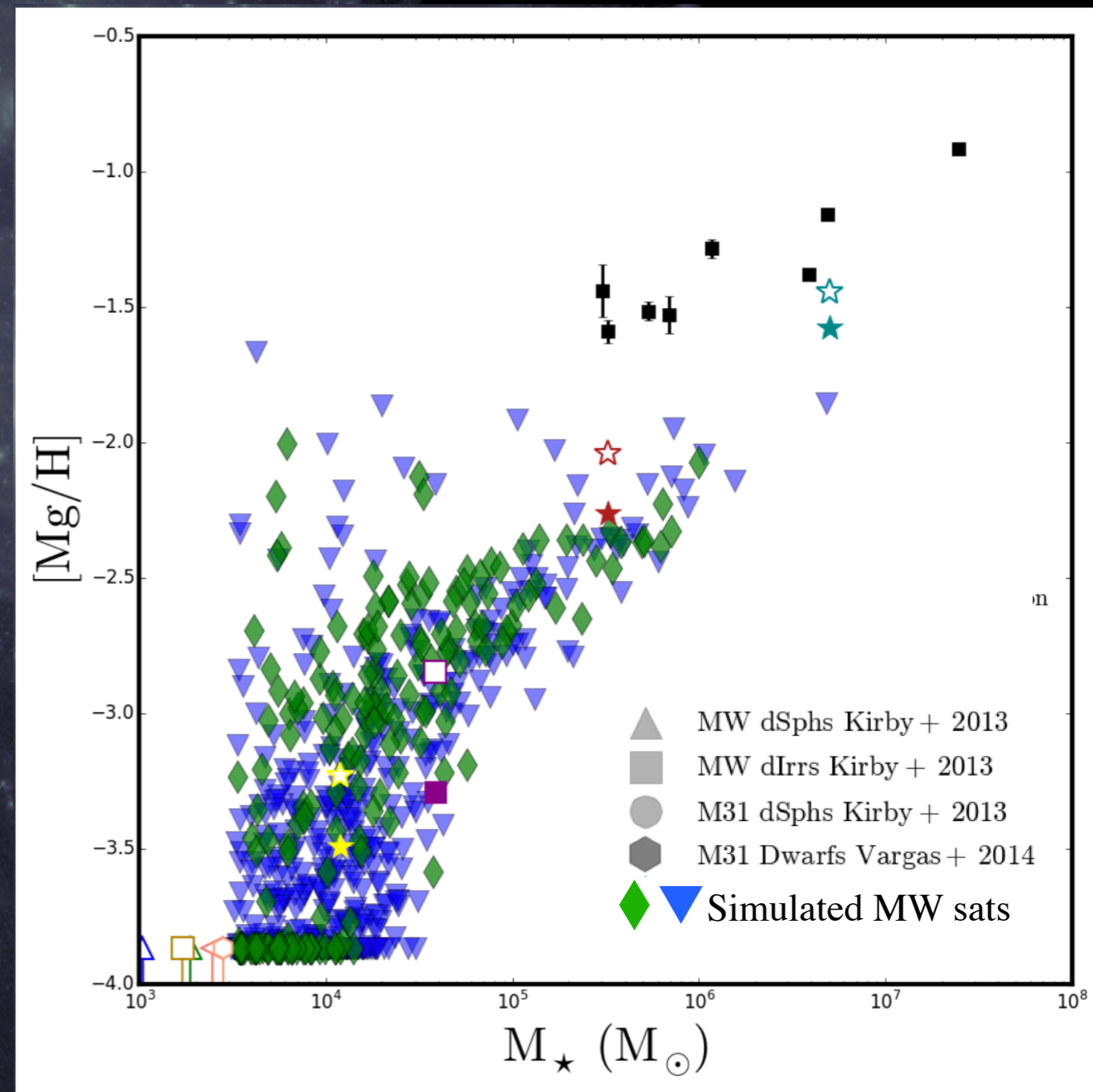
Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?

Ran two MW-sims with
 $m_{\text{bar}} = 880 M_{\odot}$ to $z \sim 4.5$

Look at galaxies that form
100% of their stars by $z = 9, 8, 7, 6, 5$

By $z = 5$, some UFDs
enriched to observed levels

But not massive dwarfs - may
signal serious problem with
Type II yield tables or lack of
Pop III SF



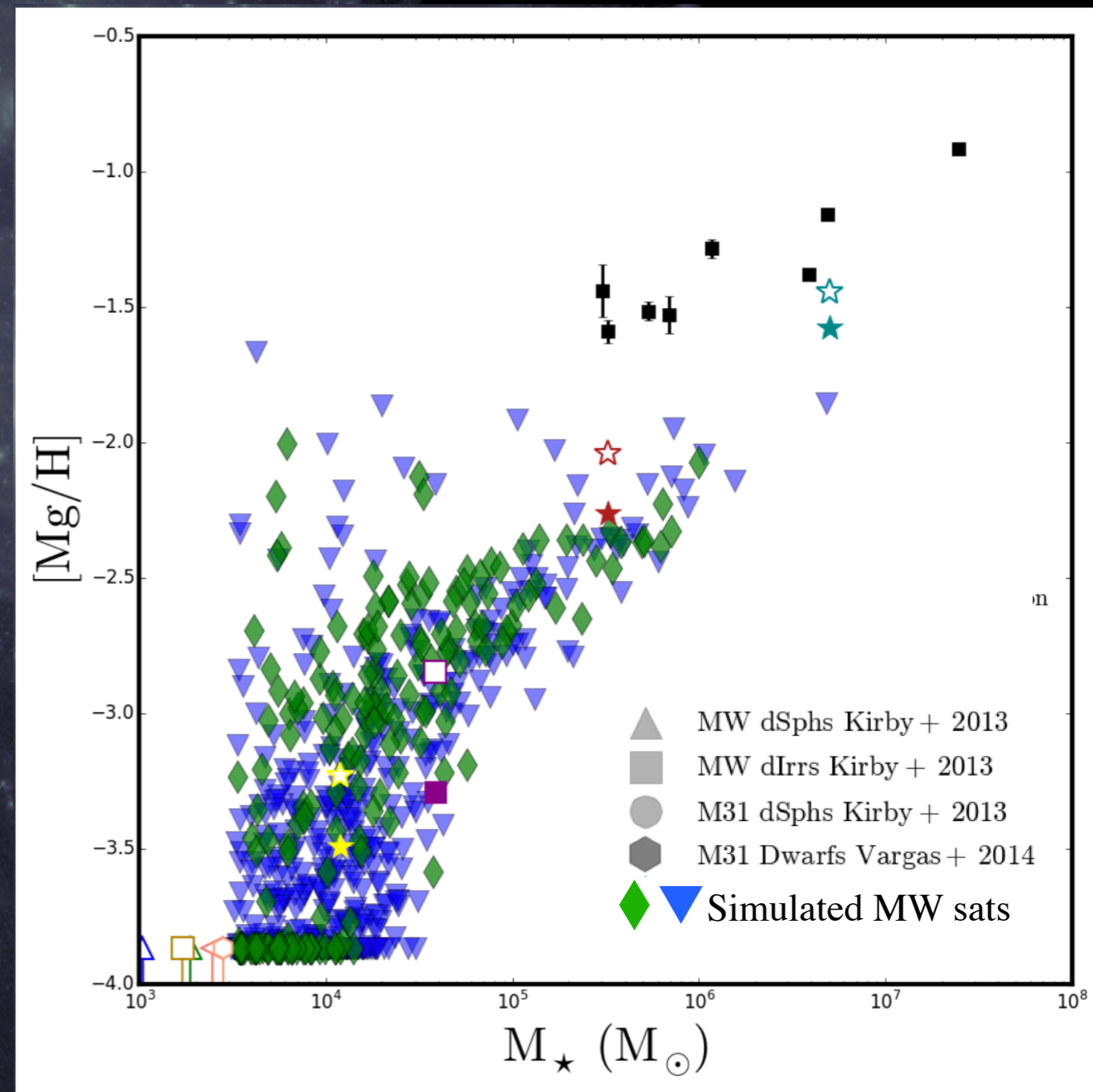
Can presence of a massive neighbor enrich UFDs?

Ran two MW-sims with
 $m_{\text{bar}} = 880 M_{\odot}$ to $z \sim 4.5$

Look at galaxies that form
100% of their stars by $z = 9, 8, 7, 6, 5$

By $z = 5$, some UFDs
enriched to observed levels

But not massive dwarfs - may
signal serious problem with
Type II yield tables or lack of
Pop III SF



Testable prediction(?) Isolate UFDs will have higher $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ than sats

Conclusions



Conclusions

- Using the highest resolution cosmological simulations (run to $z=0$) to date, we predict UFDs form in all DM halos $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$, including as sats of dwarfs

Conclusions

- Using the highest resolution cosmological simulations (run to $z=0$) to date, we predict UFDs form in all DM halos $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$, including as sats of dwarfs
- **No prediction** for minimum halo mass for galaxy formation

Conclusions

- Using the highest resolution cosmological simulations (run to $z=0$) to date, we predict UFDs form in all DM halos $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$, including as sats of dwarfs
- **No prediction** for minimum halo mass for galaxy formation
- These objects have extremely **low surface brightnesses** and so may only be visible with the next generation telescopes

Conclusions

- Using the highest resolution cosmological simulations (run to $z=0$) to date, we predict UFDs form in all DM halos $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$, including as sats of dwarfs
- **No prediction** for minimum halo mass for galaxy formation
- These objects have extremely **low surface brightnesses** and so may only be visible with the next generation telescopes
- Baryonic effects can create **cores in halos with $10^{10} M_{\odot} < M_{\text{vir}} < \text{few} \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$** , and only tiny cores in UFDs (if any)

Conclusions

- Using the highest resolution cosmological simulations (run to $z=0$) to date, we predict UFDs form in all DM halos $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$, including as sats of dwarfs
- **No prediction** for minimum halo mass for galaxy formation
- These objects have extremely **low surface brightnesses** and so may only be visible with the next generation telescopes
- Baryonic effects can create **cores in halos with $10^{10} M_{\odot} < M_{\text{vir}} < \text{few} \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$** , and only tiny cores in UFDs (if any)
- Galaxies in DM halos with $M_{\text{halo}} \lesssim 3 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$ have uniformly ancient stellar pops, suggesting **quenching due to reionization**

Conclusions

- Using the highest resolution cosmological simulations (run to $z=0$) to date, we predict UFDs form in all DM halos $M_{\text{halo}} > 5 \times 10^8 M_{\odot}$, including as sats of dwarfs
- **No prediction** for minimum halo mass for galaxy formation
- These objects have extremely **low surface brightnesses** and so may only be visible with the next generation telescopes
- Baryonic effects can create **cores in halos with $10^{10} M_{\odot} < M_{\text{vir}} < \text{few} \times 10^{11} M_{\odot}$** , and only tiny cores in UFDs (if any)
- Galaxies in DM halos with $M_{\text{halo}} \lesssim 3 \times 10^9 M_{\odot}$ have uniformly ancient stellar pops, suggesting **quenching due to reionization**
- MZR at extremely low mass deviates from observations. For lowest mass UFDs, likely **need a massive neighbor**. More work needed at higher mass - better **Type II SNe** yields? **Pop III** star formation?



Thanks!