

# The Role of Turbulence, Magnetic Fields and Feedback for Star Formation

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*SFDE – 8 Aug 2017*



Australian Government  
Australian Research Council



Australian  
National  
University

Optical

M51: The Whirlpool Galaxy

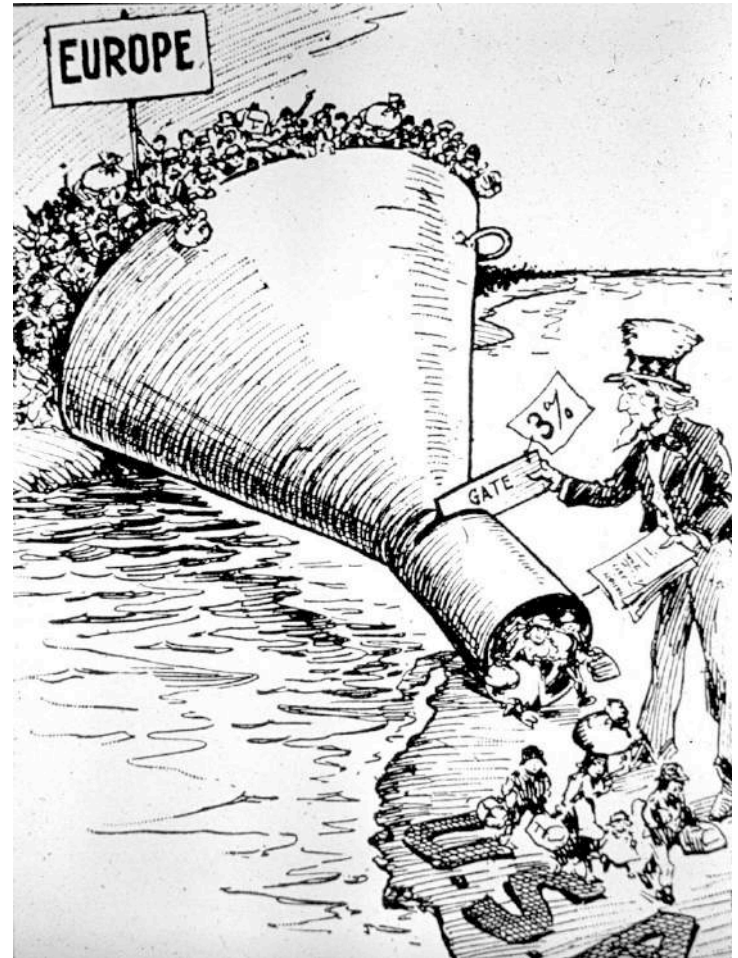
Infrared



# Star Formation is messy.

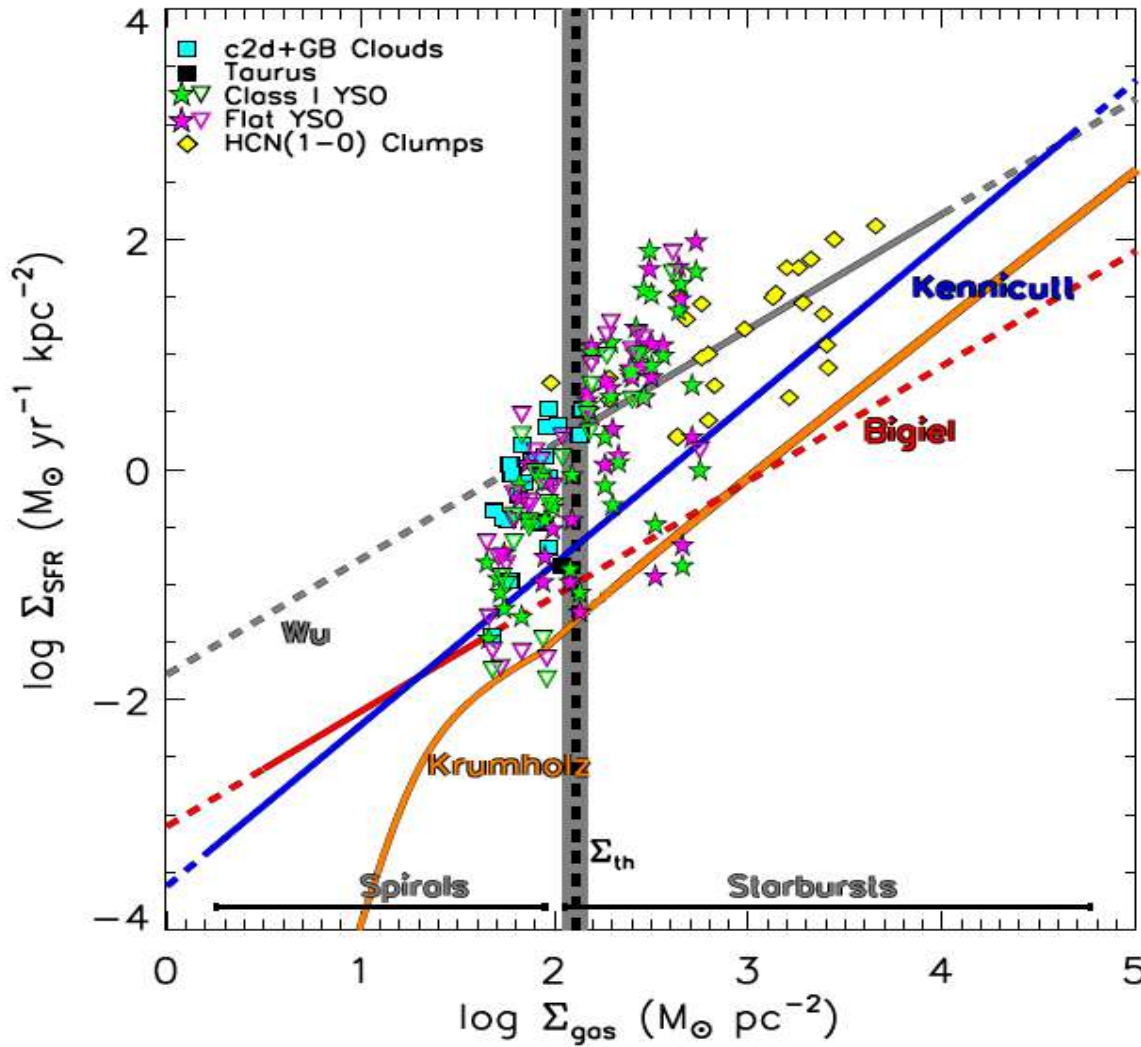


# Star Formation is Inefficient. - Why?



# Universal star formation “law”?

Star Formation Rate (SFR)



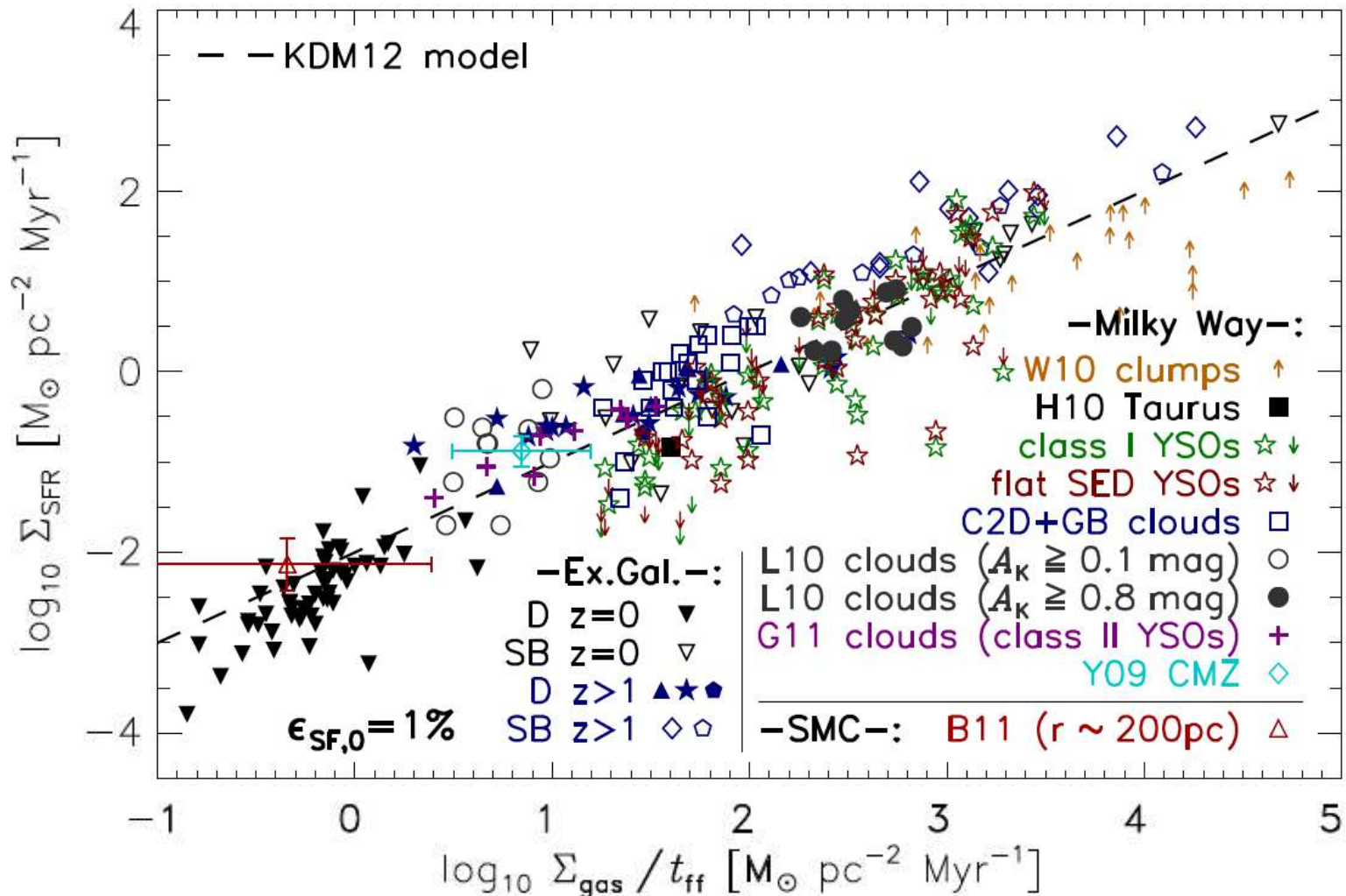
Scatter?



**Turbulence**

(Heiderman et al. 2010; Lada et al. 2010; Gutermuth et al. 2011; Kennicutt & Evans 2012)

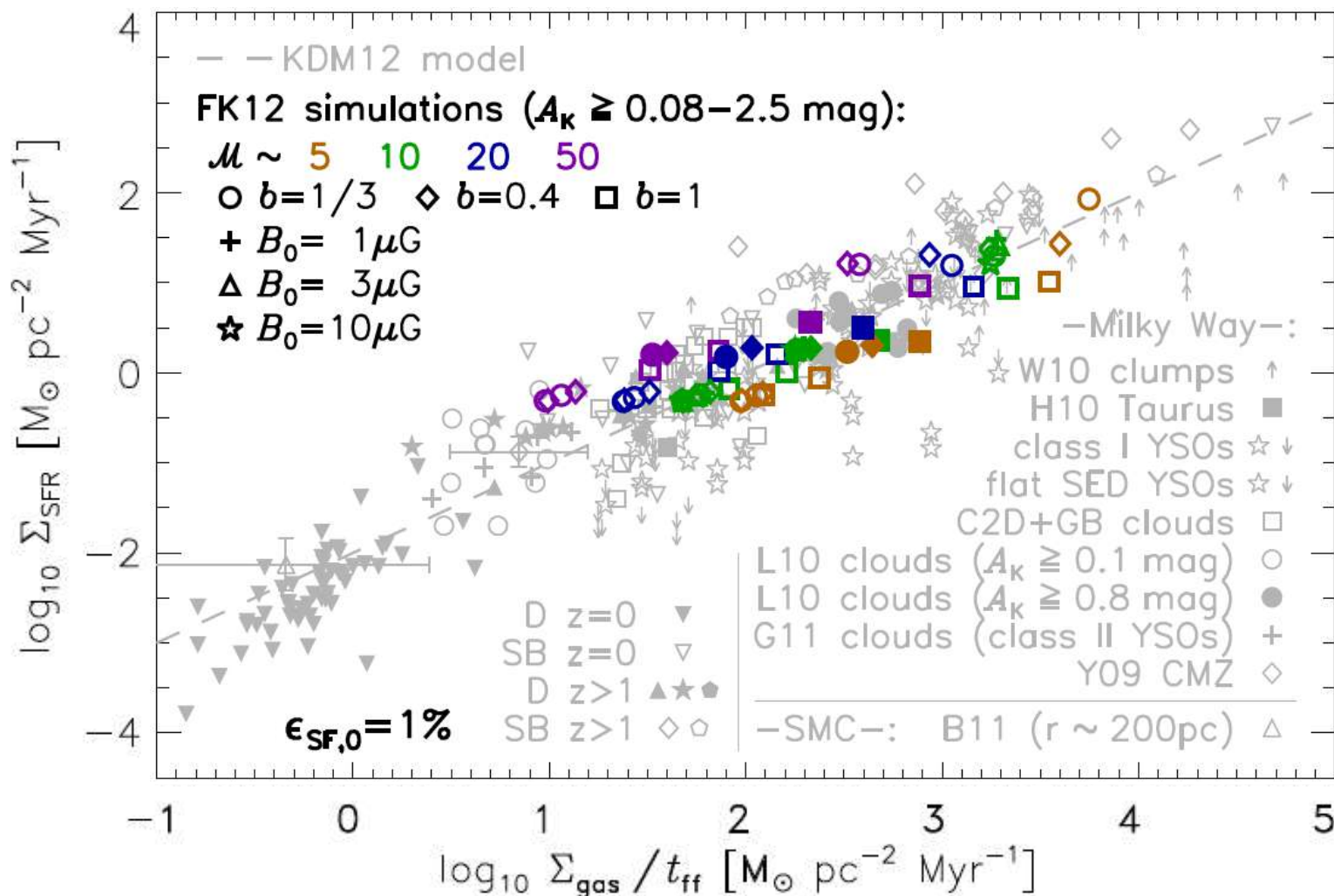
# Physical Variations in the Star Formation Law → Turbulence



→ Scatter/Non-Universality caused by variations of the Turbulence (Mach number, Driving, Virial parameter)



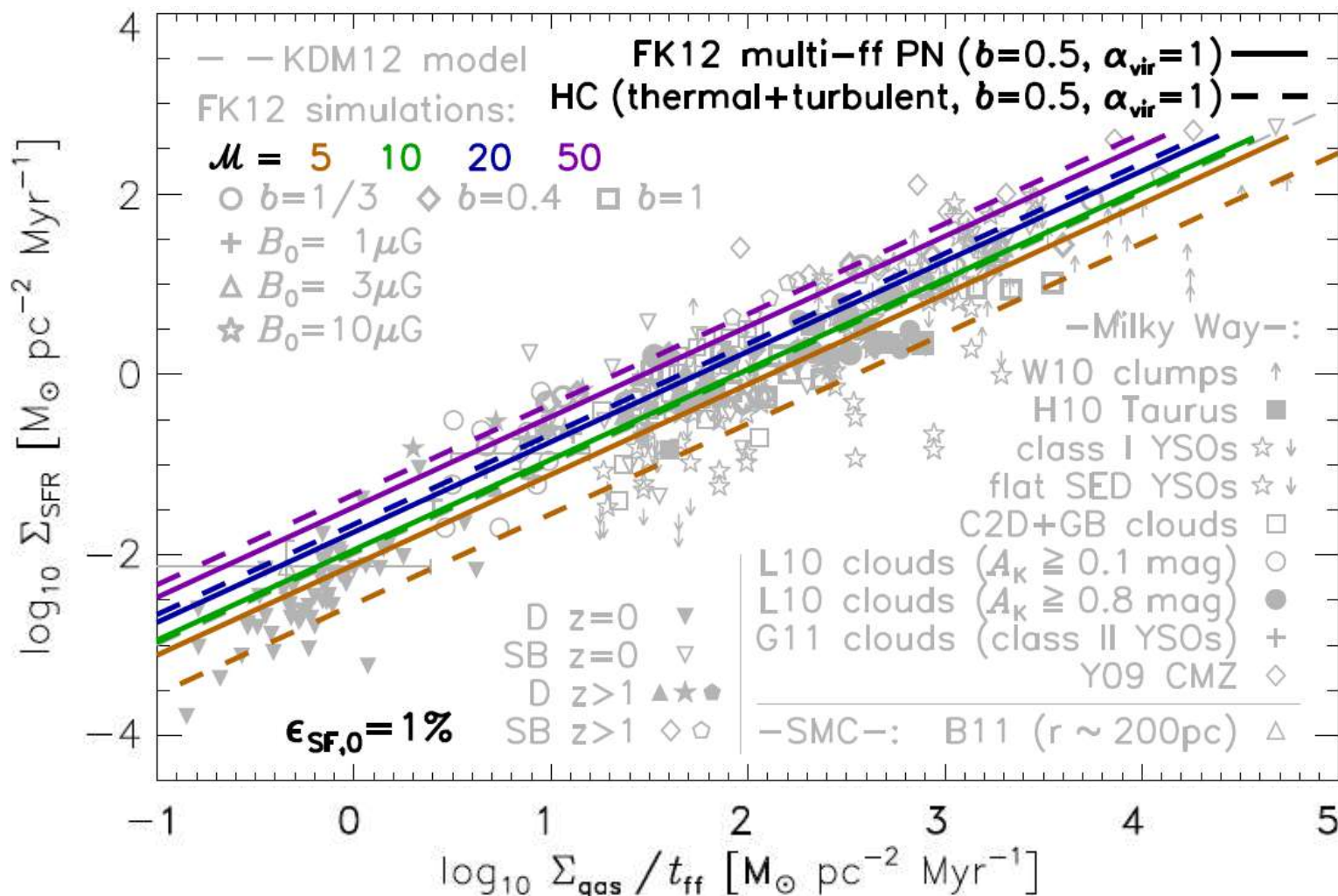
# Physical Variations in the Star Formation Law → Turbulence



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(Mach number, Driving, Virial parameter)



# Physical Variations in the Star Formation Law → Turbulence

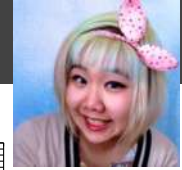


→ Scatter/Non-Universality caused by variations of the Turbulence (Mach number, Driving, Virial parameter)

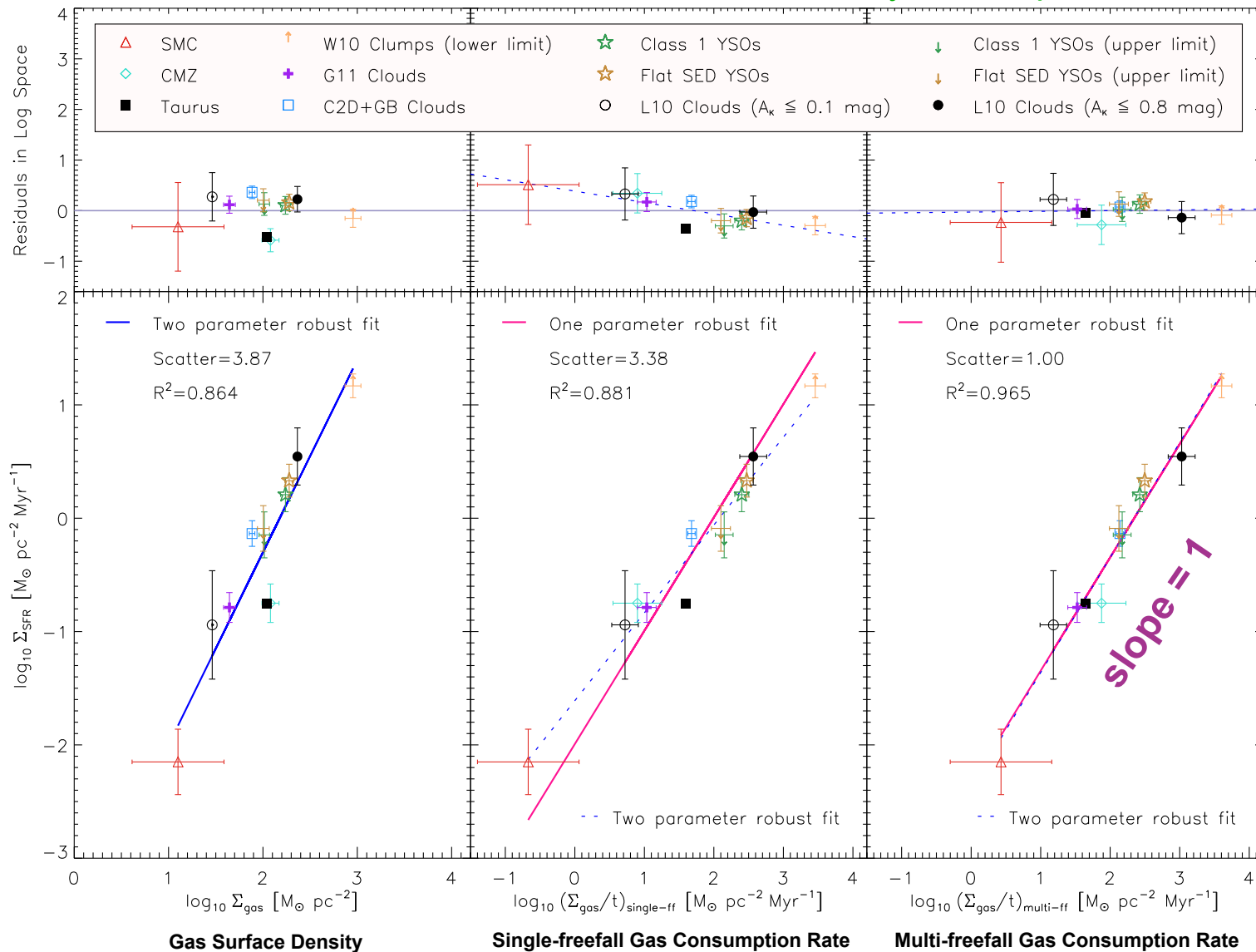


# A Multi-Freefall Star Formation Law

Salim, Federrath, Kewley 2015, ApJL 806, L36



Star Formation Rate Surface Density





# Turbulence is key for Star Formation

(Federrath & Klessen 2012; Federrath et al. 2016)

**Turbulence** → **Stars** → **Feedback**

**Magnetic Fields**

**Dynamics  
(shear)**

**Turbulence driven by**

- Shear
- Jets / Outflows
- Cloud-cloud collisions
- Winds / Ionization fronts
- Spiral-arm compression
- Supernova explosions
- Gravity / Accretion

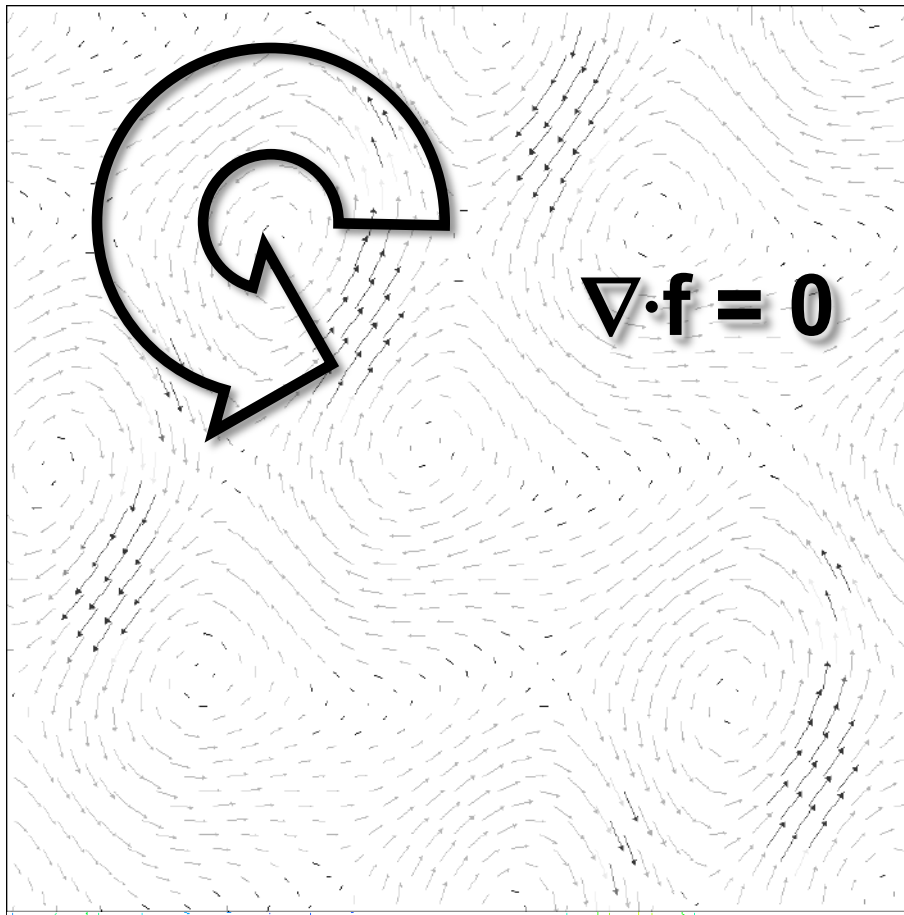
**Solenoidal**

**Compressive**

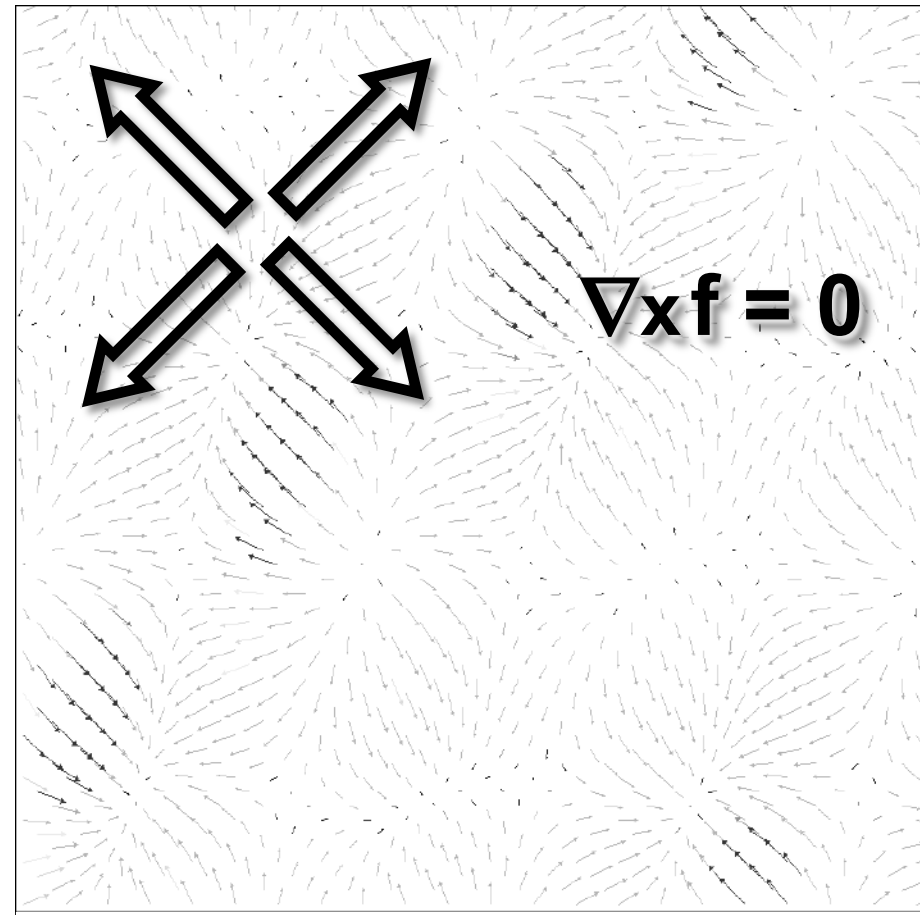
# Turbulence driving – solenoidal versus compressive

**Star Formation depends on how turbulence is driven**

**Solenoidal driving**



**Compressive driving**



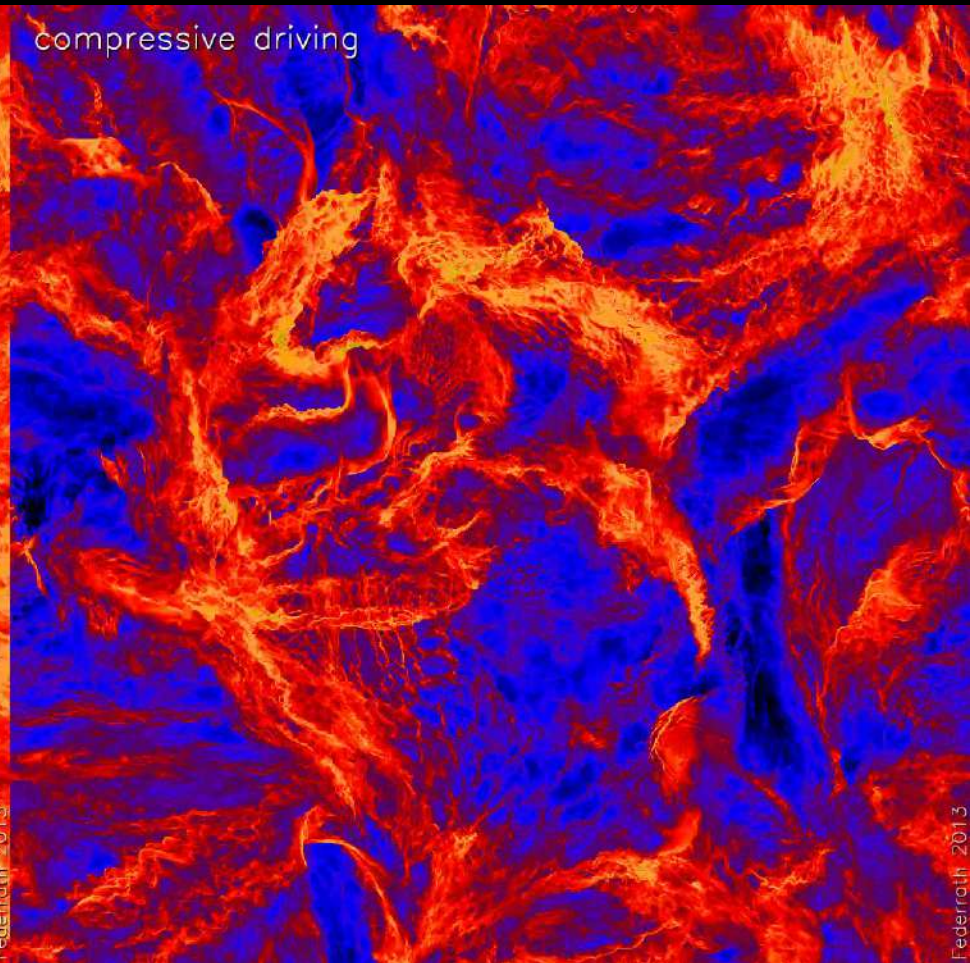
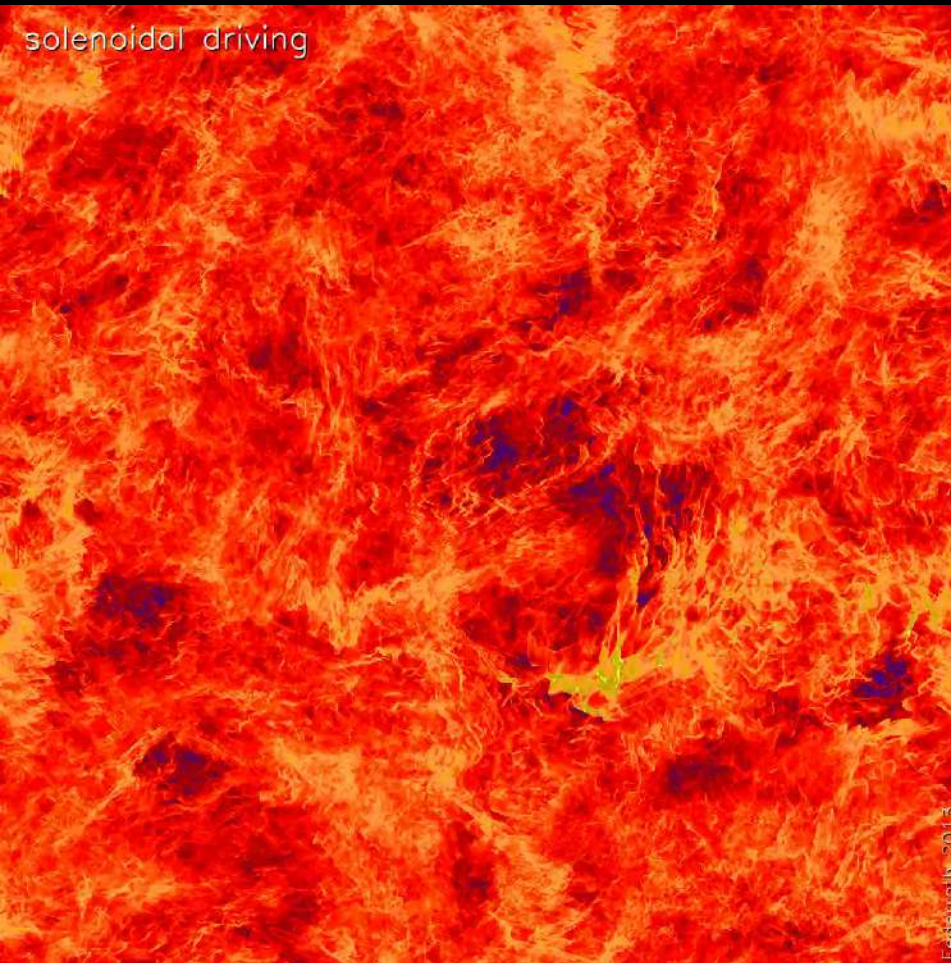


# Turbulence driving – solenoidal versus compressive

Movies available: <http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/supersonic/supersonic.html>

solenoidal driving

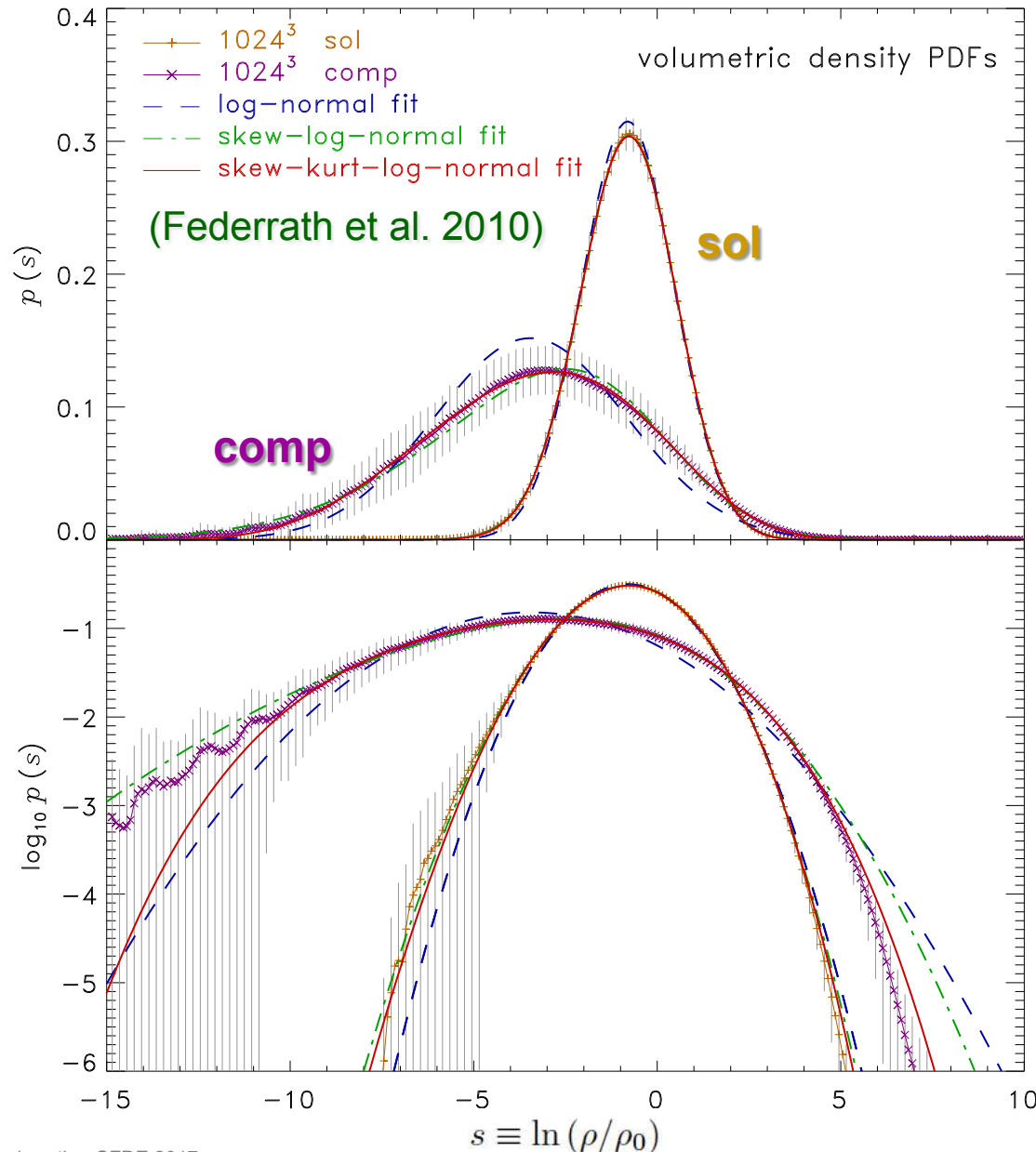
compressive driving



Compressive driving produces stronger shocks and density enhancements

(Federath 2013, MNRAS 436, 1245: Supersonic turbulence @  $4096^3$  grid cells)

# The density PDF → Star Formation



## Density PDF

log-normal:

$$p_s ds = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_s^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{(s - \langle s \rangle)^2}{2\sigma_s^2}\right] ds$$

$$s \equiv \ln(\rho/\rho_0)$$

Vazquez-Semadeni (1994); Padoan et al. (1997);  
Ostriker et al. (2001); Hopkins (2013)

$$\sigma_s^2 = \ln(1 + b^2 \mathcal{M}^2)$$



**b = 1/3 (sol)**

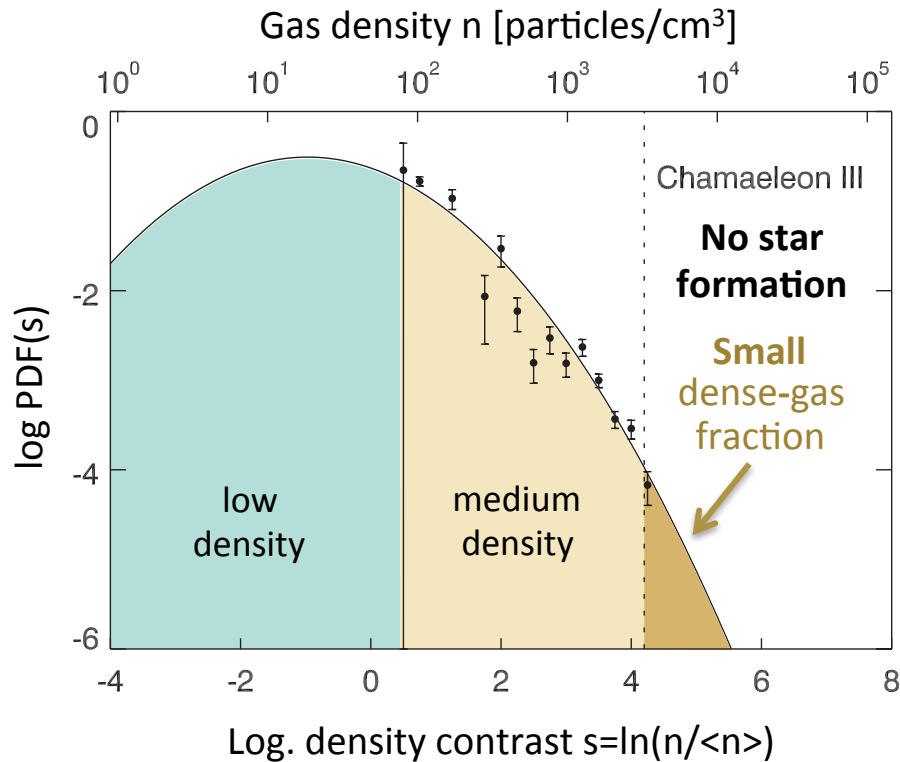
**b = 1 (comp)**

Federrath et al. (2008, 2010);  
Price et al. (2011); Konstandin et al. (2012);  
Molina et al. (2012); Federrath & Banerjee  
(2015); Nolan et al. (2015)

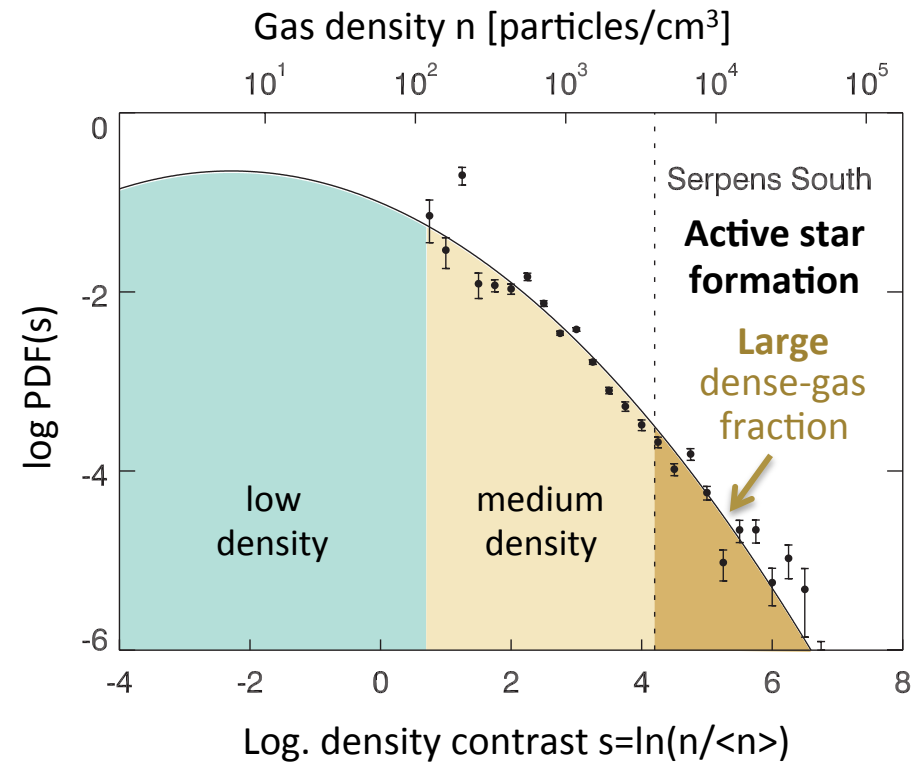


# The density PDF $\rightarrow$ Star Formation

## No star formation



## Active star formation



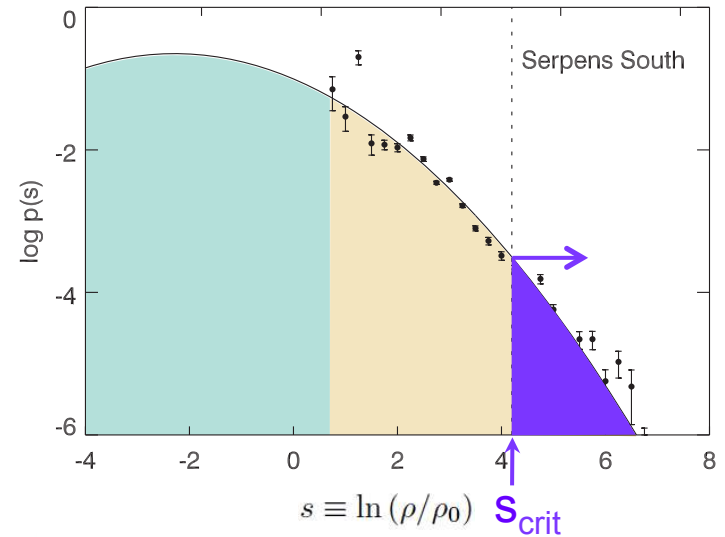
Kainulainen, Federrath, Henning (2014, *Science*)

## Statistical Theory for the Star Formation Rate:

SFR ~ Mass/time

freefall time    mass fraction

$$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}} = \epsilon \int_{s_{\text{crit}}}^{\infty} \overbrace{\frac{t_{\text{ff}}(\rho_0)}{t_{\text{ff}}(\rho)}}^{\text{freefall time}} \overbrace{\frac{\rho}{\rho_0}}^{\text{mass fraction}} p(s) ds$$



Hennebelle & Chabrier (2011) : “multi-freefall model”



## Statistical Theory for the Star Formation Rate:

**SFR ~ Mass/time**

**freefall time fraction**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SFR}_{\text{ff}} &= \epsilon \int_{s_{\text{crit}}}^{\infty} \overbrace{\frac{t_{\text{ff}}(\rho_0)}{t_{\text{ff}}(\rho)}}^{\text{freefall time}} \overbrace{\frac{\rho}{\rho_0}}^{\text{mass fraction}} p(s) \, ds = \epsilon \int_{s_{\text{crit}}}^{\infty} \exp\left(\frac{3}{2}s\right) p(s) \, ds \\ &= \frac{\epsilon}{2} \exp\left(\frac{3}{8}\sigma_s^2\right) \left[ 1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma_s^2 - s_{\text{crit}}}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_s^2}\right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$p(s) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_s^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(s - s_0)^2}{2\sigma_s^2}\right)$$

$$s = \ln(\rho/\rho_0) \quad t_{\text{ff}}(\rho) = \left(\frac{3\pi}{32G\rho}\right)^{1/2}$$

Hennebelle & Chabrier (2011) : “multi-freefall model”

## Statistical Theory for the Star Formation Rate:

**SFR ~ Mass/time**      **freefall time**      **mass fraction**

$$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}} = \epsilon \int_{s_{\text{crit}}}^{\infty} \frac{t_{\text{ff}}(\rho_0)}{t_{\text{ff}}(\rho)} \frac{\rho}{\rho_0} p(s) ds = \epsilon \int_{s_{\text{crit}}}^{\infty} \exp\left(\frac{3}{2}s\right) p(s) ds$$

$$= \frac{\epsilon}{2} \exp\left(\frac{3}{8}\sigma_s^2\right) \left[ 1 + \text{erf}\left(\frac{\sigma_s^2 - s_{\text{crit}}}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_s^2}\right) \right]$$

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Hennebelle & Chabrier (2011): "multi-freefall model"

$$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}} = \text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}(\alpha_{\text{vir}}, b, \mathcal{M}, \beta)$$

$2E_{\text{kin}}/E_{\text{grav}}$

forcing

Mach number

plasma  $\beta = P_{\text{th}}/P_{\text{mag}}$

**MAGNETIC FIELD:**  $P_{\text{th}} \rightarrow P_{\text{th}} + P_{\text{mag}}$

From sonic and Jeans scales:

$$s_{\text{crit}} \propto \ln\left(\alpha_{\text{vir}} \mathcal{M}^2 \frac{\beta}{\beta + 1}\right)$$

(Krumholz+McKee 2005; Padoan+Nordlund 2011)

$$\sigma_s^2 = \ln\left(1 + b^2 \mathcal{M}^2 \frac{\beta}{\beta + 1}\right)$$

(Federrath+2008; Molina+2012)

Federrath & Klessen (2012)



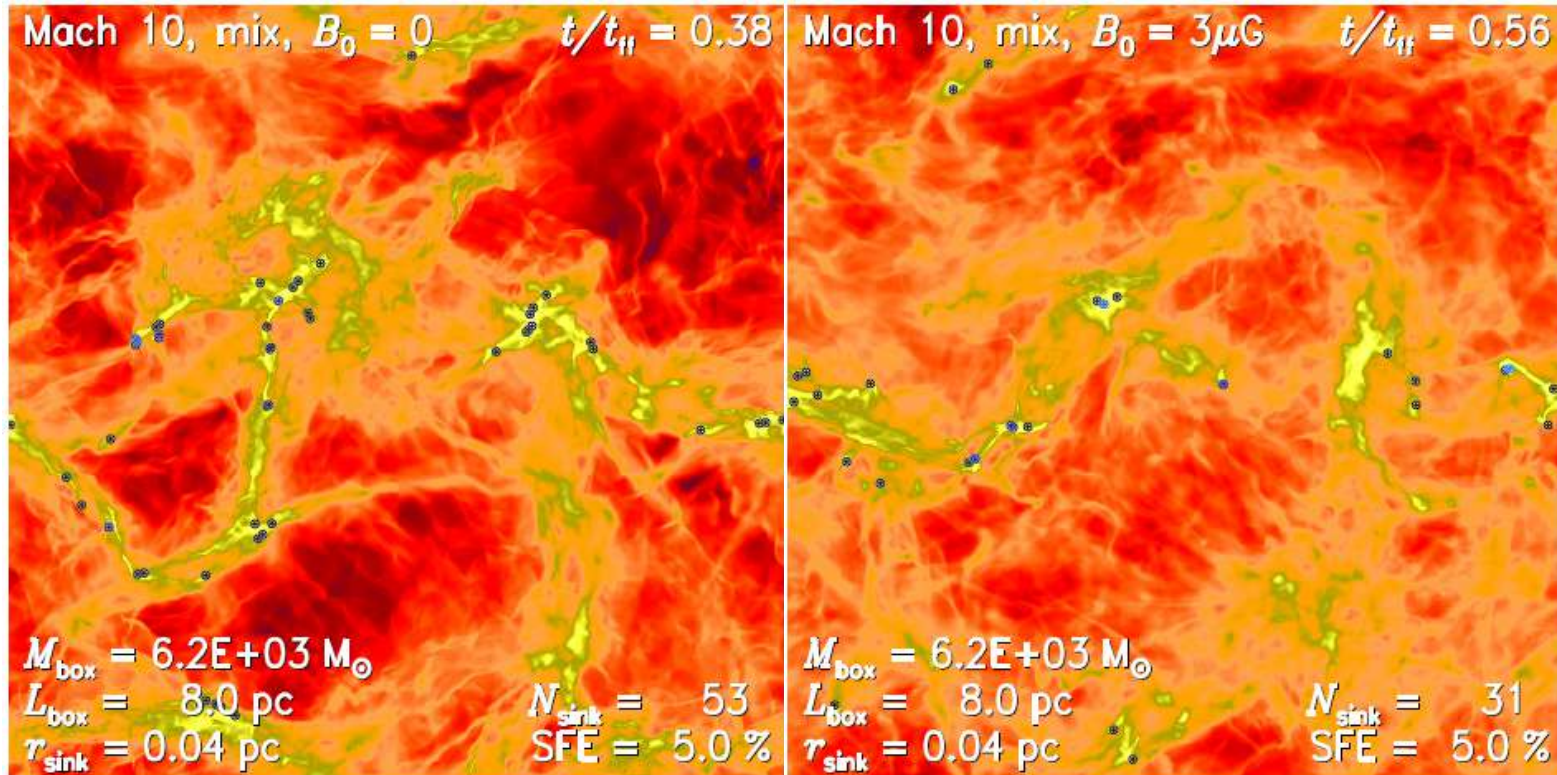
# The Star Formation Rate – Magnetic fields

## Numerical Test for Mach 10 with mixed forcing

Movies available: <http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/sfr/sfr.html>

$B=0$  ( $M_A = \infty$ ,  $\beta = \infty$ )

$B=3\mu\text{G}$  ( $M_A=2.7$ ,  $\beta = 0.2$ )



$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}$  (simulation) = **0.46**      **x0.63**

$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}$  (simulation) = **0.29**

$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}$  (theory) = **0.45**      **x0.40**

$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}$  (theory) = **0.18**

**Magnetic field reduces SFR and fragmentation (by factor ~2).**

Padoan & Nordlund (2011); Padoan et al. (2012); Federrath & Klessen (2012)

# Density PDF $\rightarrow$ Star Formation Rate

$$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}} = \text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}(\alpha_{\text{vir}}, b, \mathcal{M})$$

$$2E_{\text{kin}}/E_{\text{grav}}$$

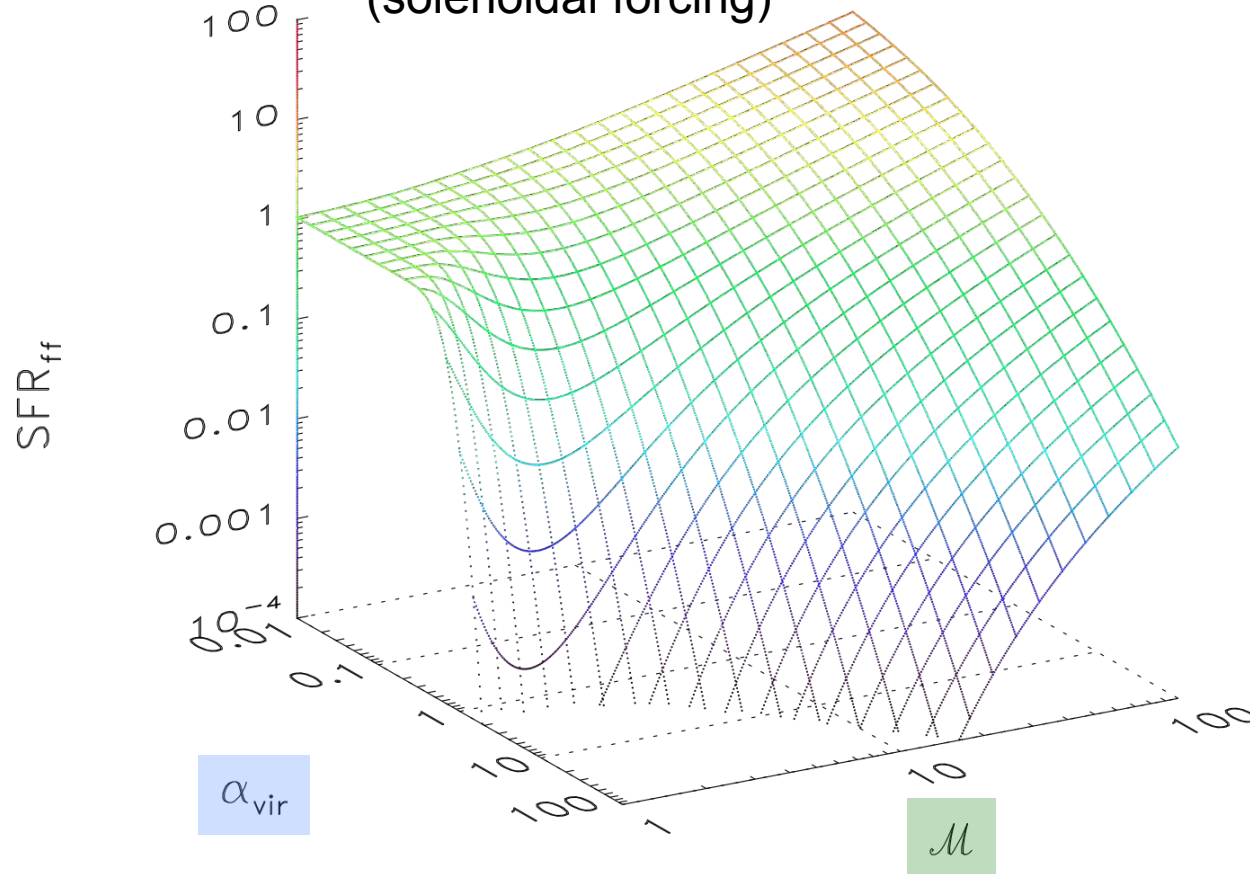
forcing

Mach number

forcing parameter ( $b=0.33$ )

multi-freefall

(solenoidal forcing)



# Density PDF $\rightarrow$ Star Formation Rate

$$\text{SFR}_{\text{ff}} = \text{SFR}_{\text{ff}}(\alpha_{\text{vir}}, b, \mathcal{M})$$

$$2E_{\text{kin}}/E_{\text{grav}}$$

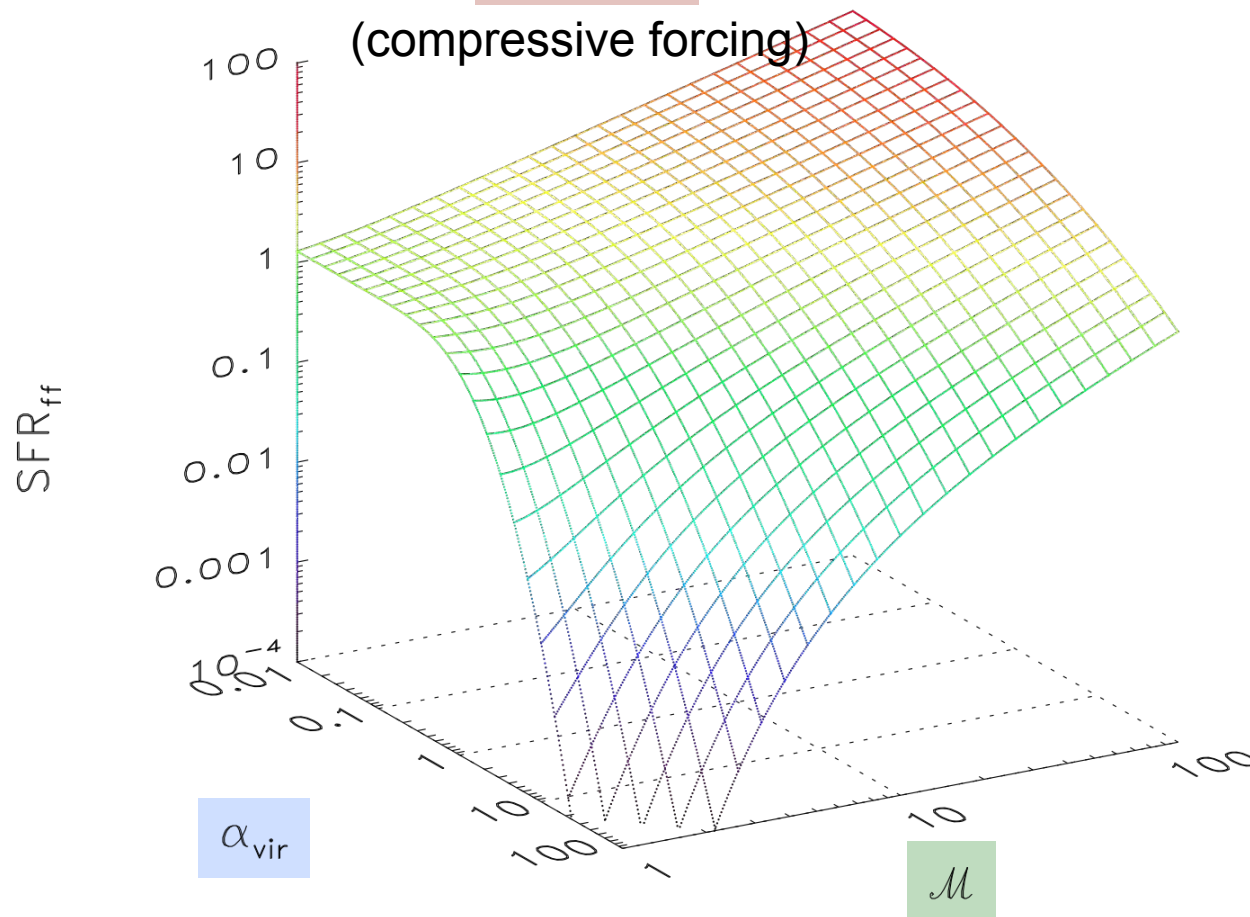
forcing

Mach number

forcing parameter ( $b=1.00$ )

multi-freefall

(compressive forcing)





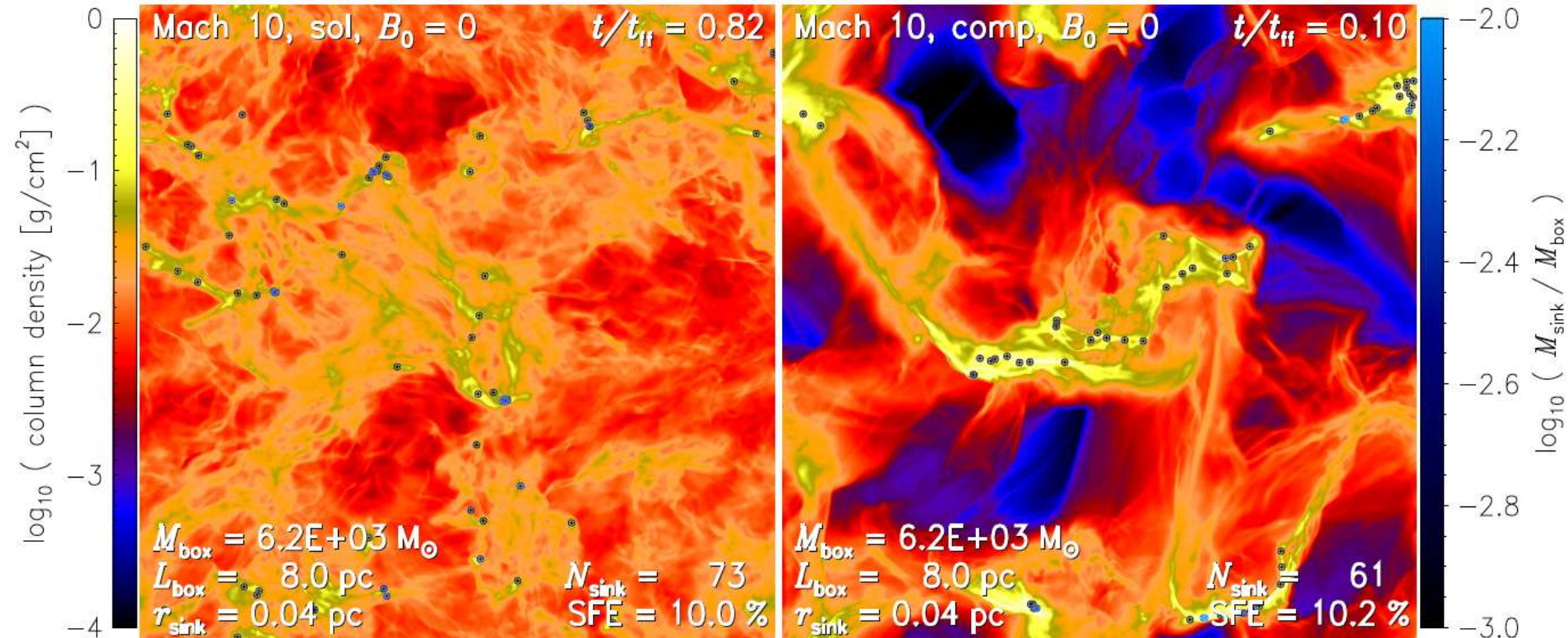
# Density PDF $\rightarrow$ Star Formation Rate

## Numerical Test for Mach 10 and $\alpha_{\text{vir}} \sim 1$

Movies available: <http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/sfr/sfr.html>

Solenoidal Forcing ( $b=1/3$ )

Compressive Forcing ( $b=1$ )



SFR<sub>ff</sub> (simulation) = **0.14** **x20**

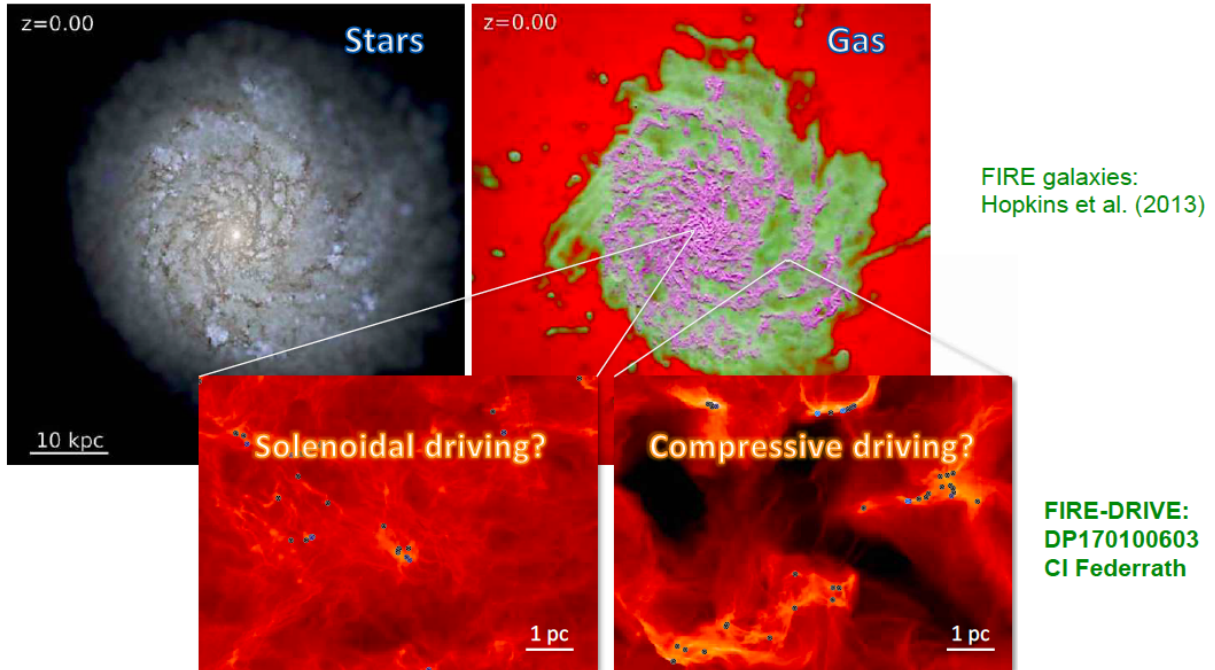
SFR<sub>ff</sub> (theory) = **0.15** **x15**

SFR<sub>ff</sub> (simulation) = **2.8**

SFR<sub>ff</sub> (theory) = **2.3**

Turbulence driving is a key parameter for star formation

# Driving of turbulence in different galactic environments

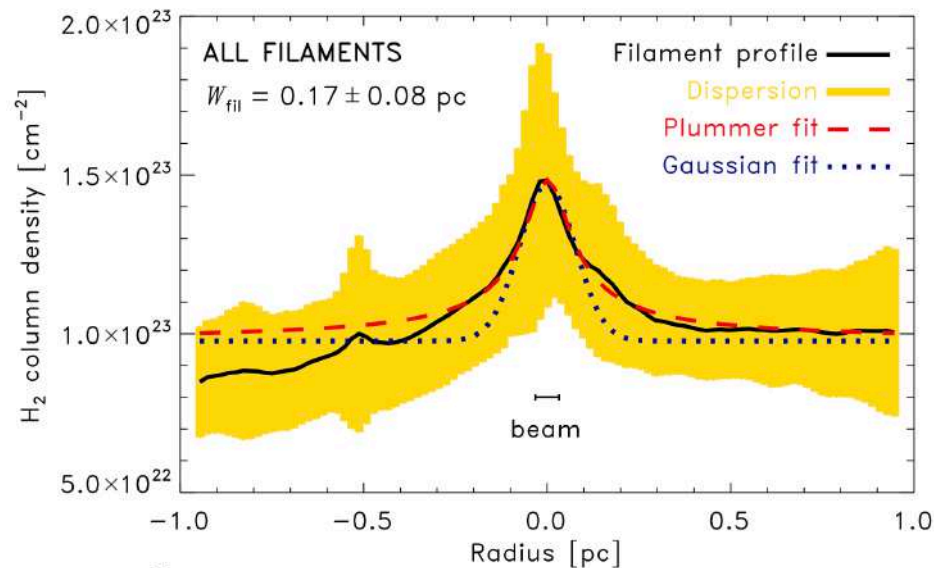
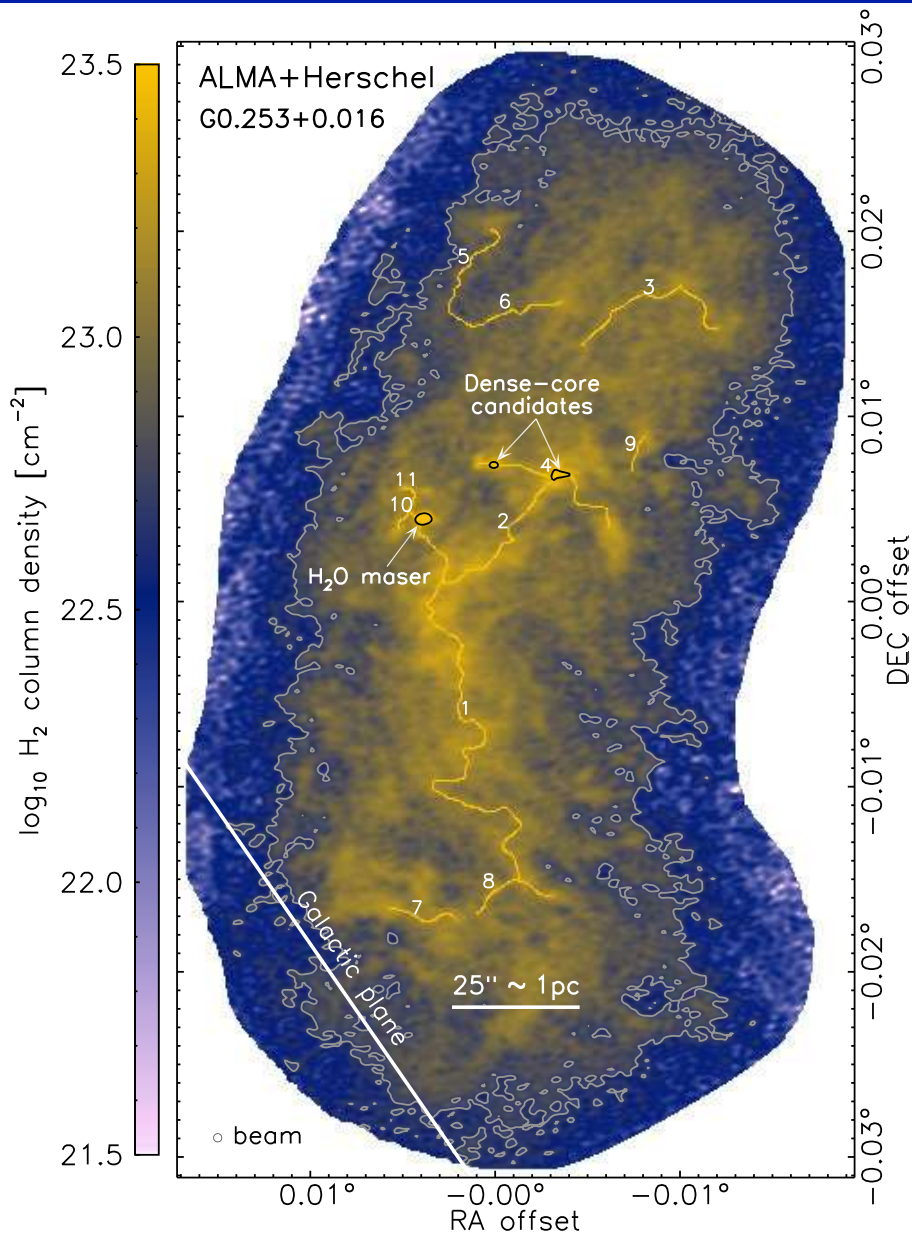


**Determine the driving in Galactic Centre (Federrath et al. 2016) vs. Galactic Disc**

→ Recently applied to SAMI galaxy survey (Federrath et al. 2017, MNRAS 468, 3965, Zhou et al. 2017, in press)

$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2}$$

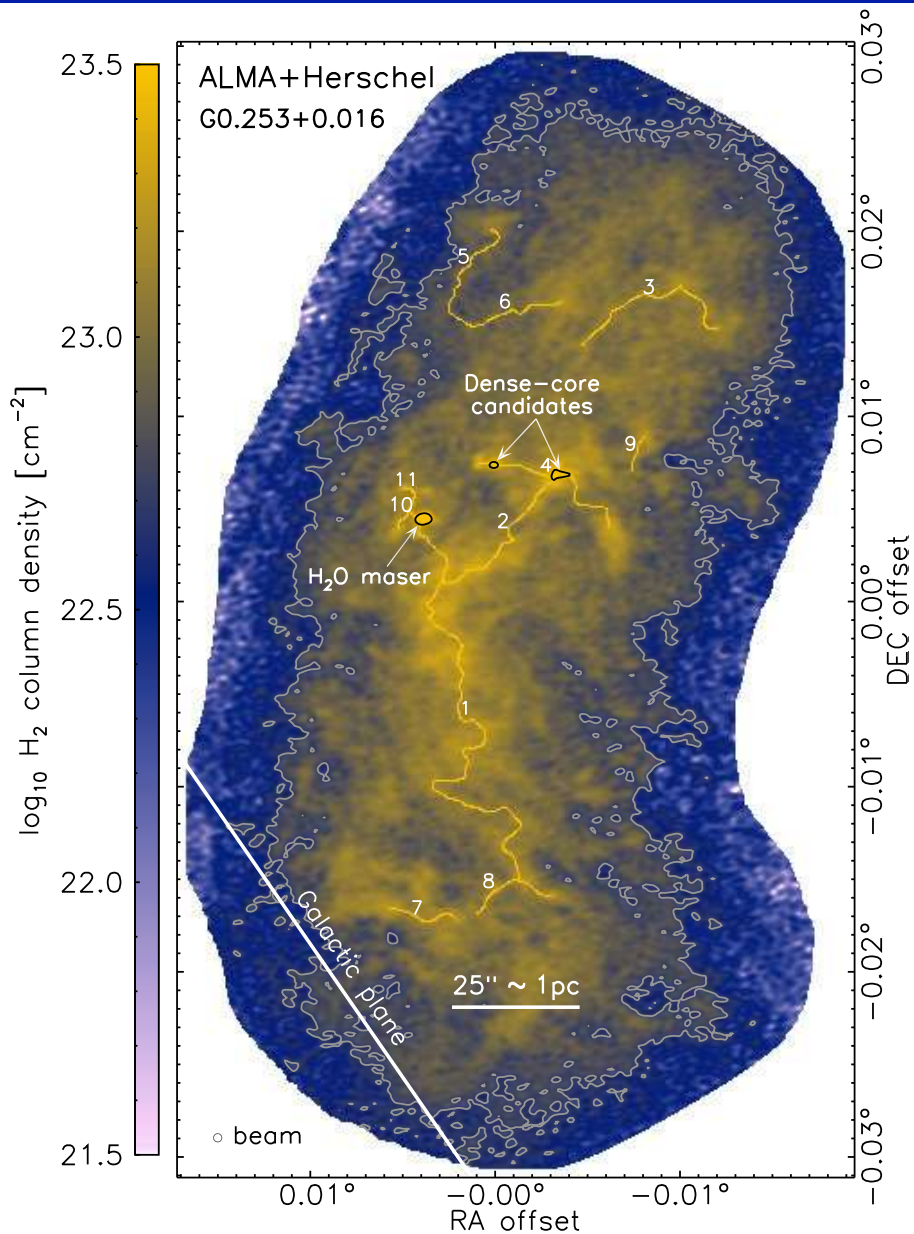
# Brick (CMZ) – 1. Density PDF



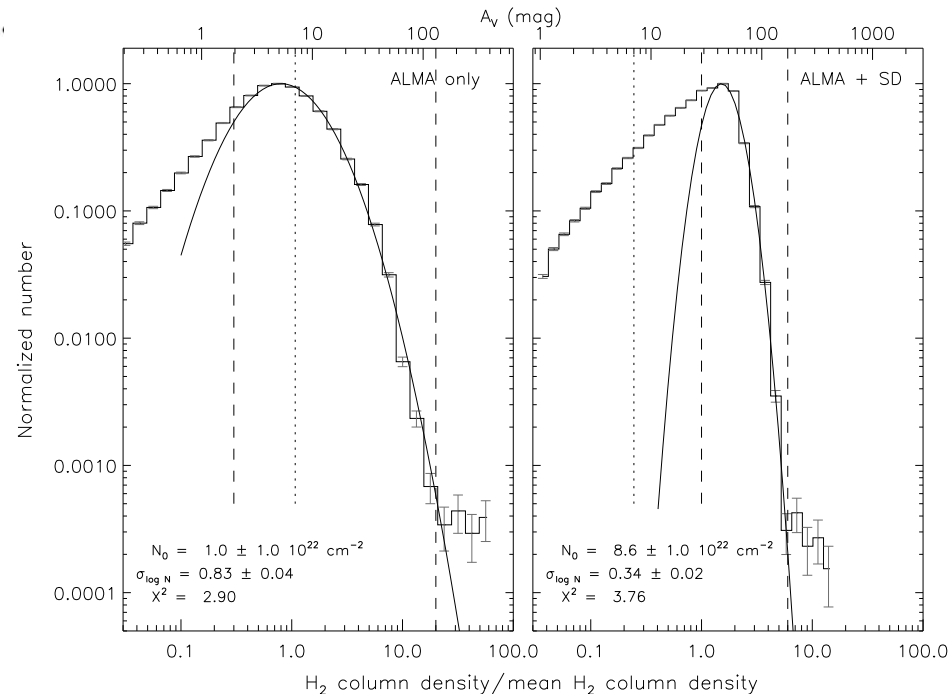


$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2}$$

# Brick (CMZ) – 1. Density PDF



## Column density PDF



(Rathborne et al. 2014)

→ 2D density dispersion  $\sigma_{N/N_0} = 0.35 \pm 0.02$

Using 2D-to-3D conversion method by Brunt et al. (2010):

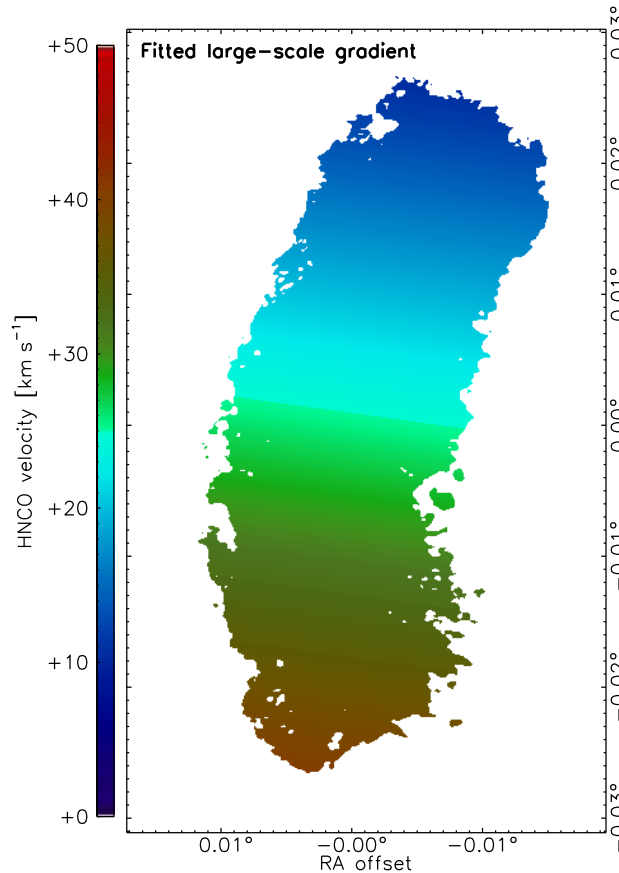
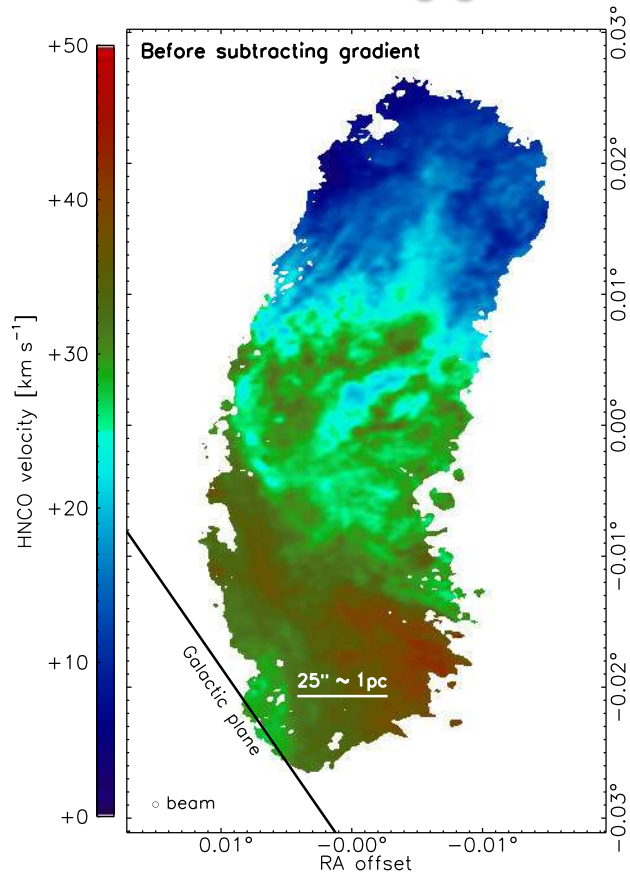
→ 3D density dispersion  $\sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} = 1.3 \pm 0.5$

Federrath et al. (2016)

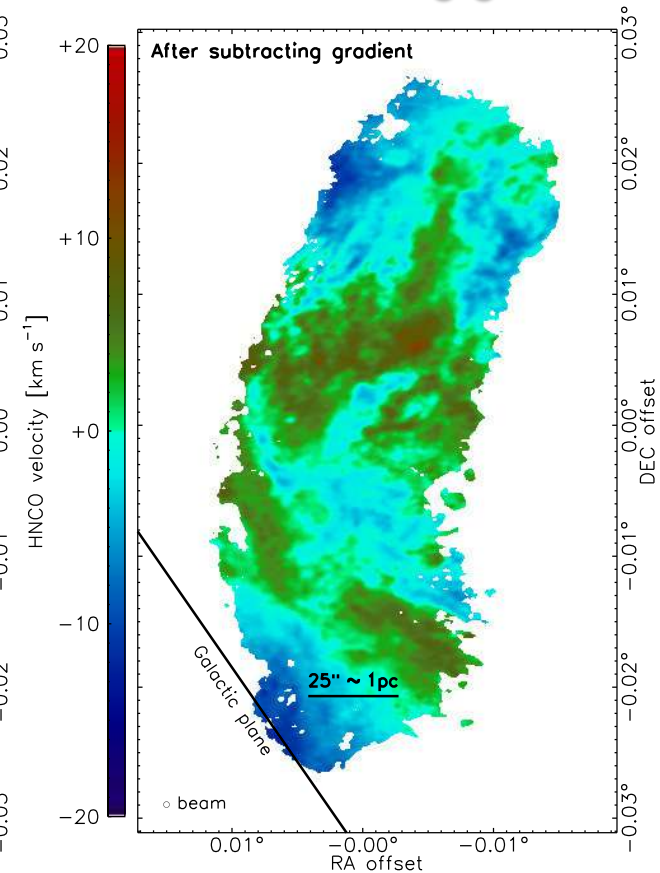
$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2}$$

# Brick (CMZ) – 2. Mach number

Before subtracting gradient



After subtracting gradient

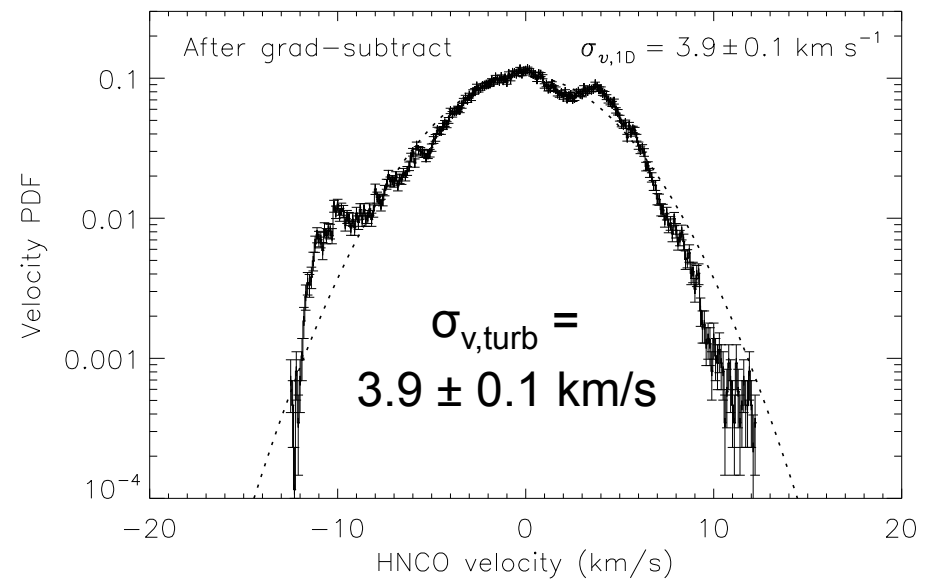
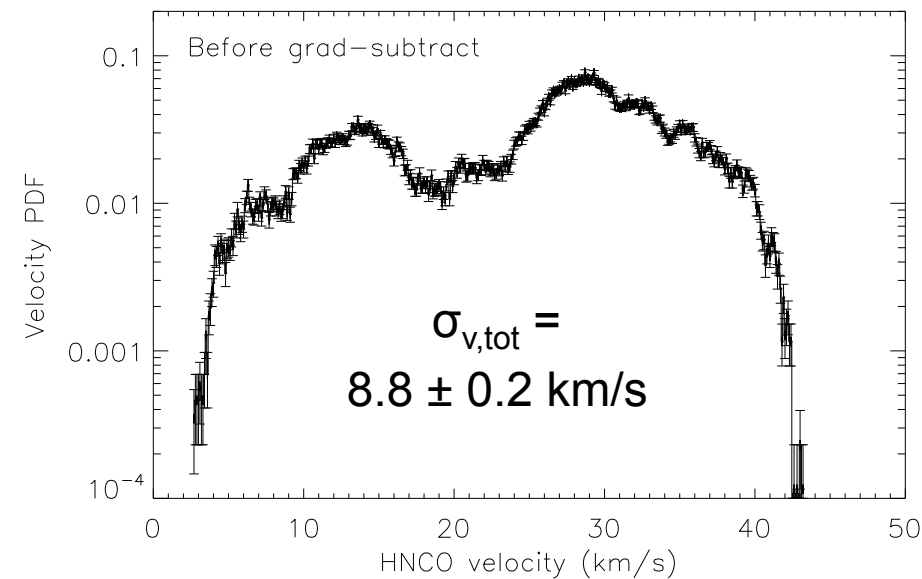
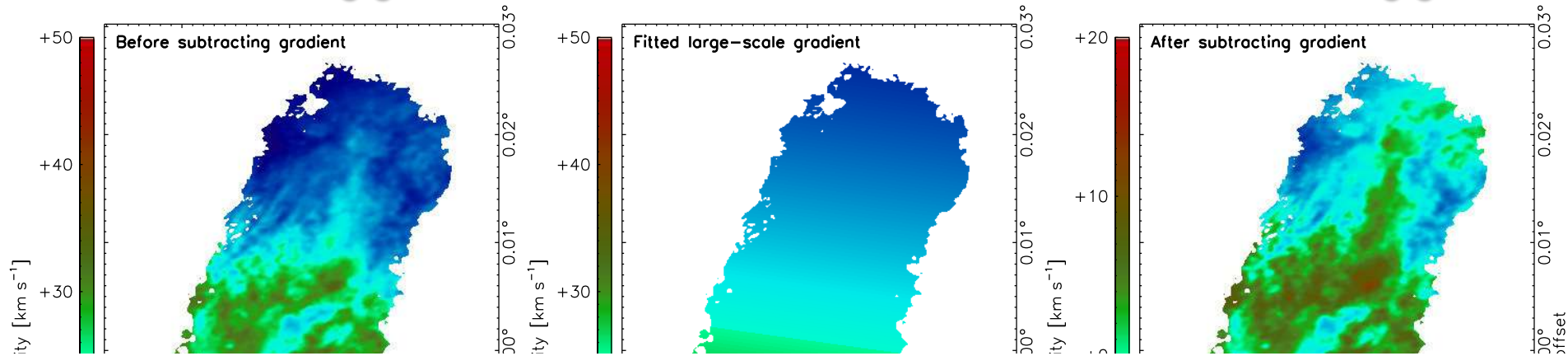


$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2}$$

# Brick (CMZ) – 2. Mach number

Before subtracting gradient

After subtracting gradient



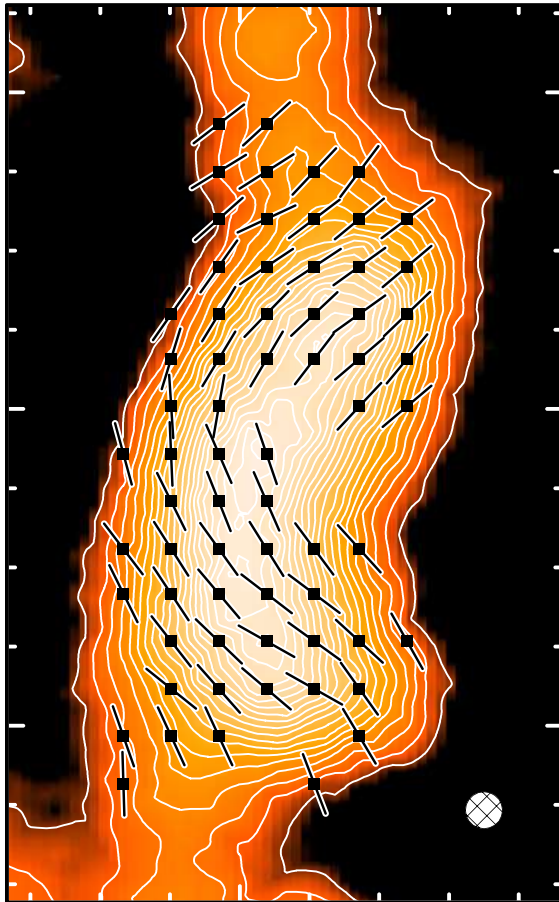
→ 1D turbulent velocity dispersion  $3.9 \pm 0.1 \text{ km/s}$  → **3D turbulent Mach number  $11 \pm 3$**



$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2}$$

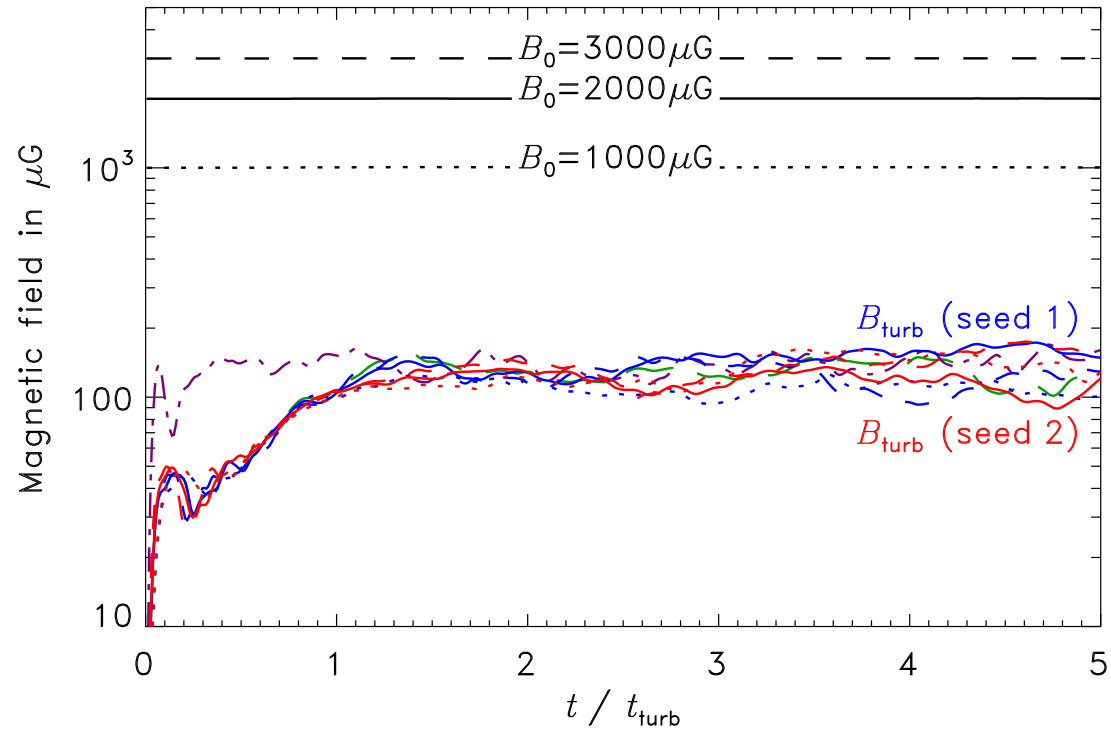
# Brick (CMZ) – 3. Magnetic field

Ordered (large-scale)  $B_0$



Pillai, Kauffmann, et al. (2015)

Un-ordered (turbulent)  $B_{\text{turb}}$



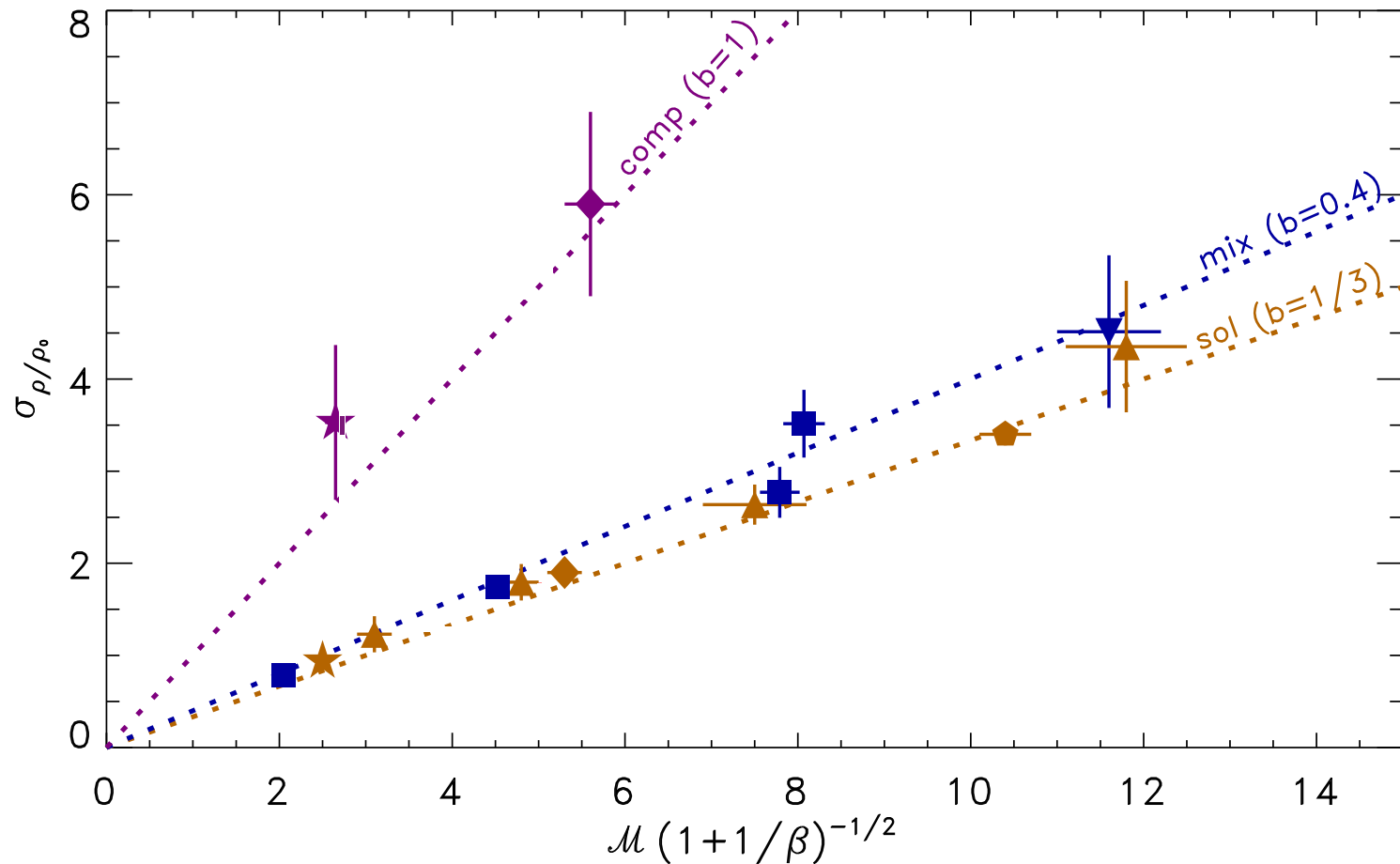
→  $B_{\text{turb}} \approx 1/10 B_0 \approx 130 \pm 50 \mu\text{G}$

→ **turbulent plasma  $\beta \approx 0.34$**

Federrath et al. (2016)

# Brick (Central Molecular Zone) – Turbulence driving

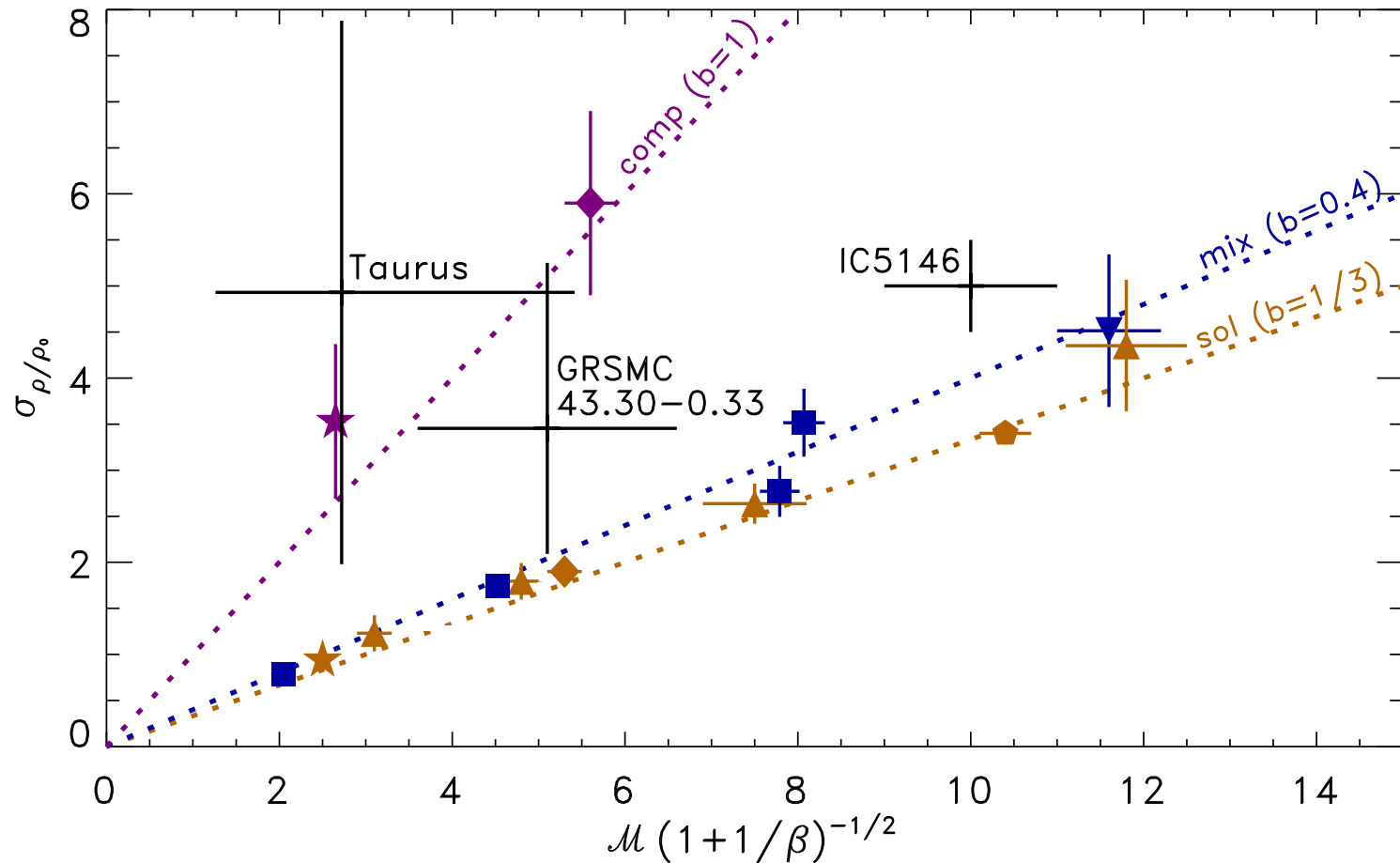
$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2} = 0.22 \pm 0.12$$



→ Solenoidal driving of the turbulence in the Brick (most likely *shear*)

# Brick (Central Molecular Zone) – Turbulence driving

$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2} = 0.22 \pm 0.12$$

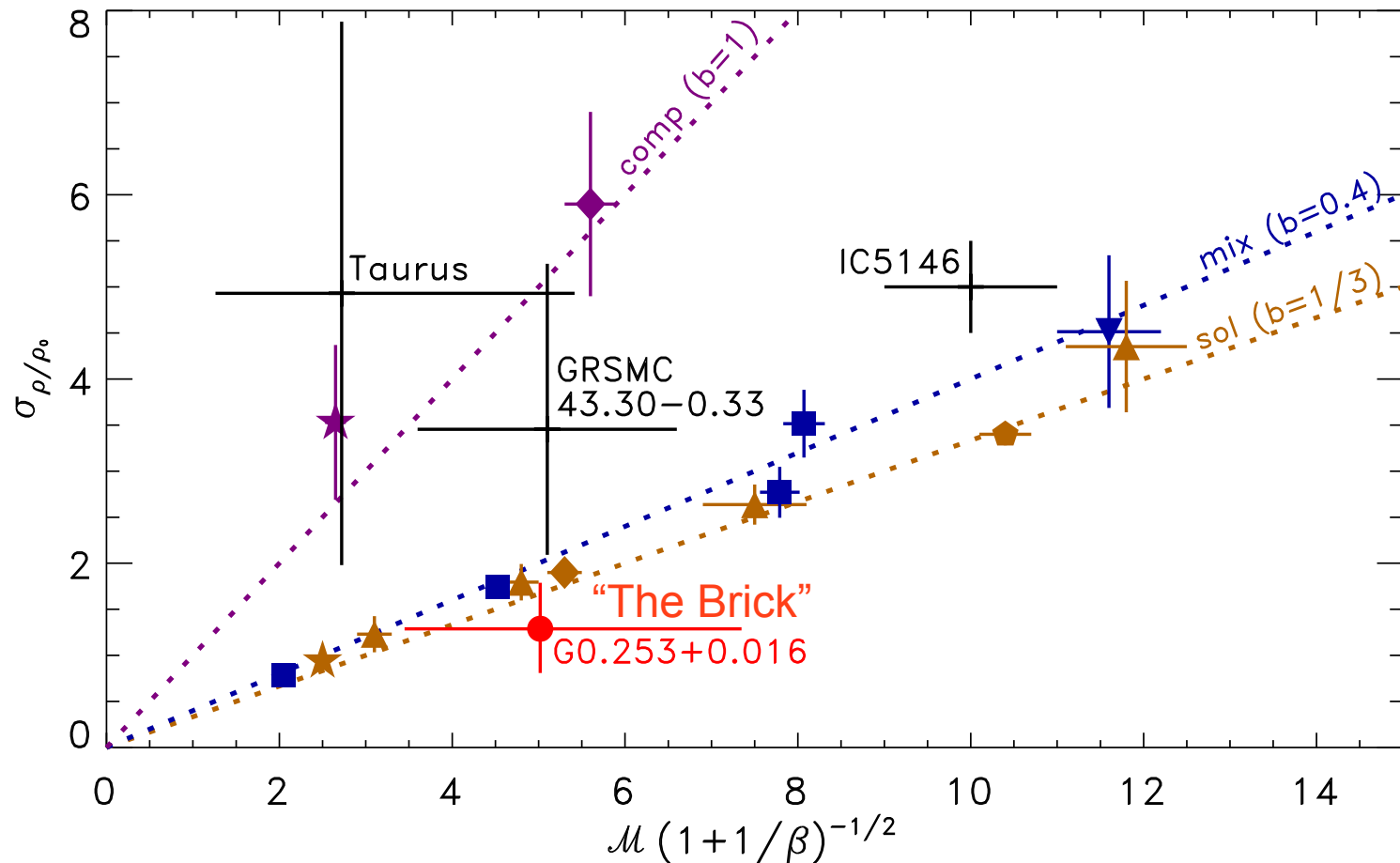


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# Brick (Central Molecular Zone) – Turbulence driving

$$b = \sigma_{\rho/\rho_0} \mathcal{M}^{-1} (1 + \beta^{-1})^{1/2} = 0.22 \pm 0.12$$



→ Solenoidal driving of the turbulence in the Brick (most likely *shear*)

# Brick (Central Molecular Zone) – Star formation

## Implications for Star Formation in Different Environments (SFDE)

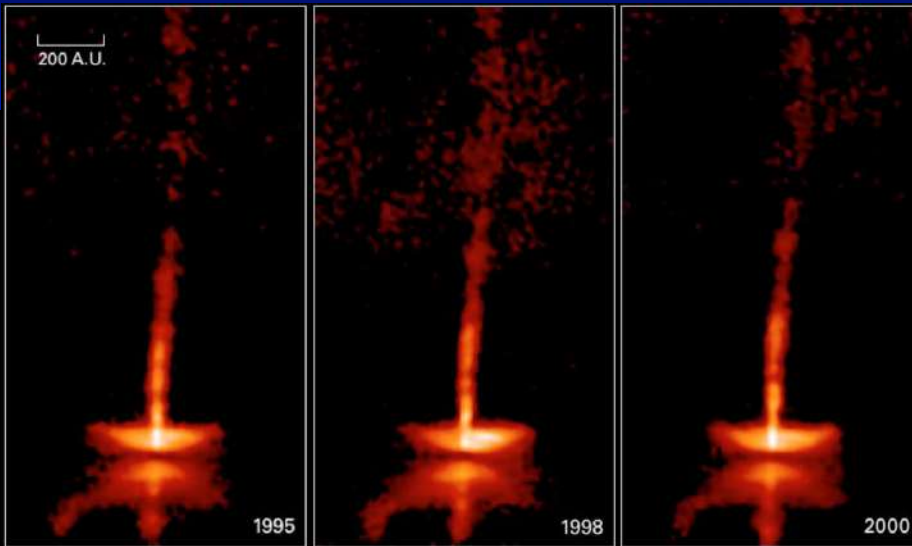
→ Theoretical prediction for SFR in Brick with measured  $b = 0.22$ :

$$\text{SFR} = (1.1 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{-2} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

Later measured for Brick:  $\text{SFR} = 0.7 \times 10^{-2} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  (Barnes et al. (2017))

If driving parameter  $b$  were 0.5 (as in many nearby clouds),  
then SFR would be factor 7 higher!

# Jet/Outflow Feedback



**The Dynamic HH 30 Disk and Jet**

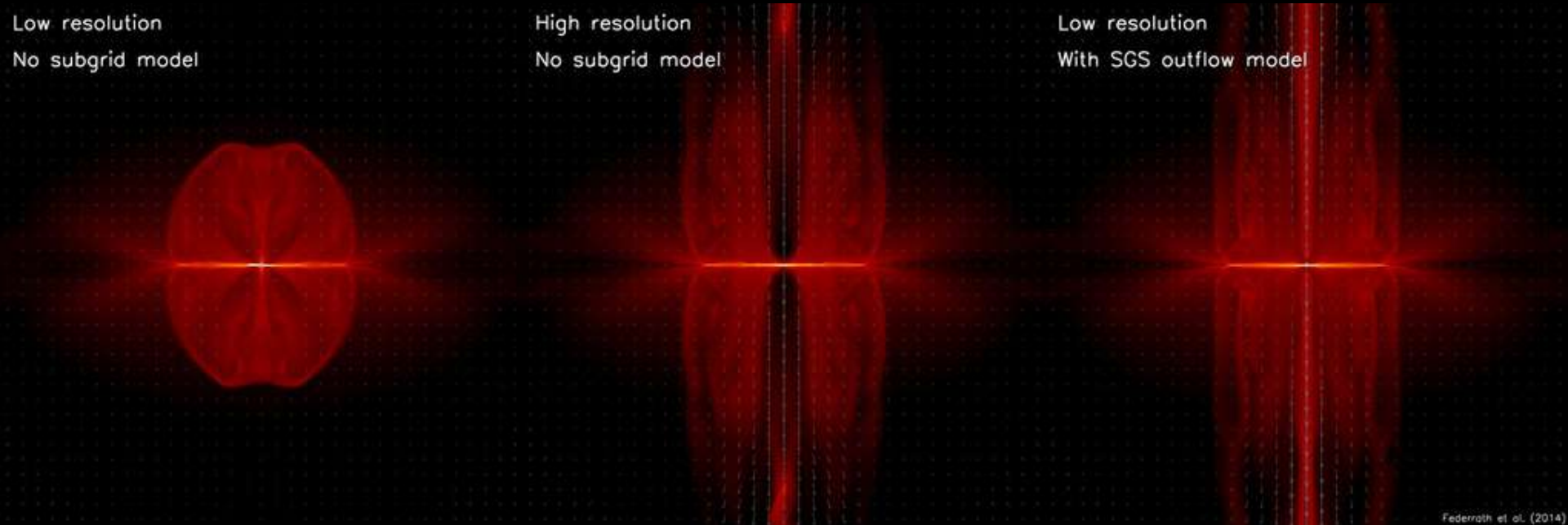
NASA and A. Watson (Instituto de Astronomía, UNAM, Mexico) • STScI-PRC00-32b

HST • WFPC2

Low resolution  
No subgrid model

High resolution  
No subgrid model

Low resolution  
With SGS outflow model



Federrath et al. (2014)

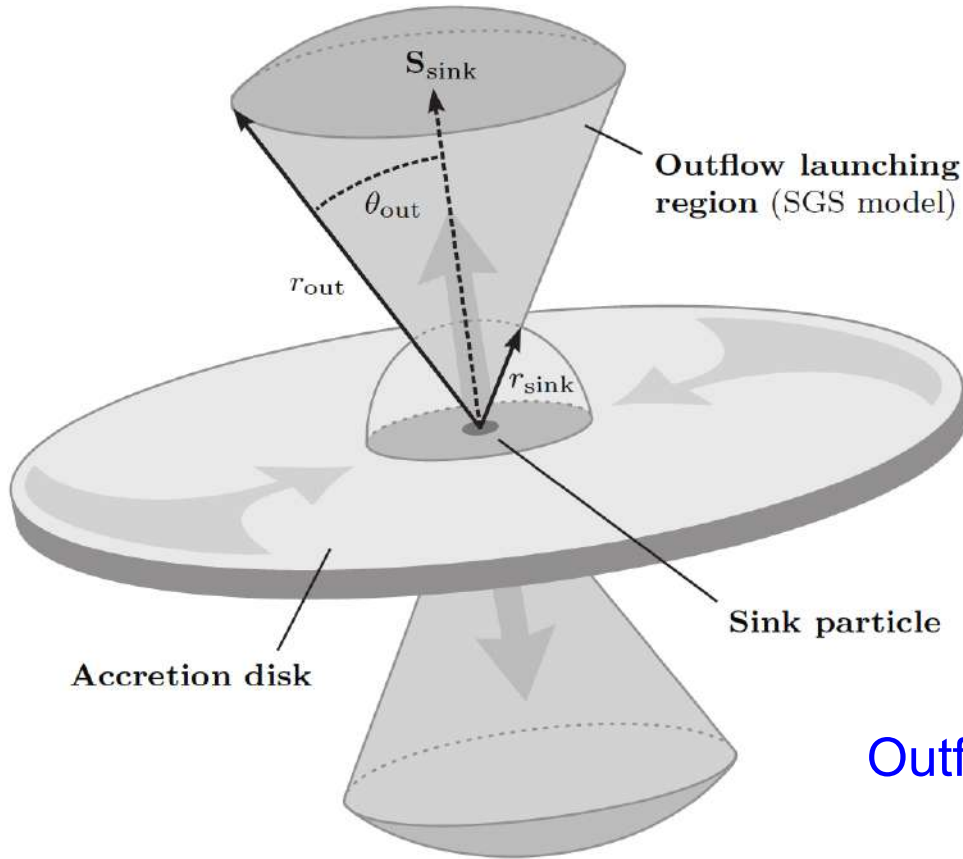
Movies available: [https://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/outflow\\_model/outflow\\_model.html](https://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/outflow_model/outflow_model.html)

Federrath et al. 2014, ApJ 790, 128



# Jet Feedback Subgrid Model

Federrath et al. 2014, ApJ 790, 128



List of SGS outflow parameters.

SGS Parameter	Symbol	Default	Reference
Outflow Opening Angle	$\theta_{\text{out}}$	$30^\circ$	[1]
Mass Transfer Fraction	$f_m$	0.3	[2]
Jet Speed Normalization <sup>a</sup>	$ \mathbf{V}_{\text{out}} $	$100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$	[3]
Angular Momentum Fraction	$f_a$	0.9	[4]
Outflow Radius	$r_{\text{out}}$	$16 \Delta x$	Section 4

**Notes.** <sup>a</sup> The outflow velocities are dynamically computed according to the Kepler speed at the footpoint of the jet,  $|\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}| = 100 \text{ km s}^{-1} (M_{\text{sink}}/0.5 M_\odot)^{1/2}$  (see Equation 13).  
References: [1] Blandford & Payne (1982); Appenzeller & Mundt (1989); Camenzind (1990); [2] Hartmann & Calvet (1995); Calvet (1998); Tomisaka (1998); Bacciotti et al. (2002); Tomisaka (2002); Lee et al. (2006); Cabrit et al. (2007); Lee et al. (2007); Hennebelle & Fromang (2008); Duffin & Pudritz (2009); Bacciotti et al. (2011); Price et al. (2012); Seifried et al. (2012); [3] Herbig (1962); Snell et al. (1980); Blandford & Payne (1982); Draine (1983); Uchida & Shibata (1985); Shibata & Uchida (1985, 1986); Pudritz & Norman (1986); Wardle & Königl (1993); Bacciotti et al. (2000); Königl & Pudritz (2000); Bacciotti et al. (2002); Banerjee & Pudritz (2006); Machida et al. (2008); [4] Pelletier & Pudritz (1992); Bacciotti et al. (2002); Banerjee & Pudritz (2006); Hennebelle & Fromang (2008).

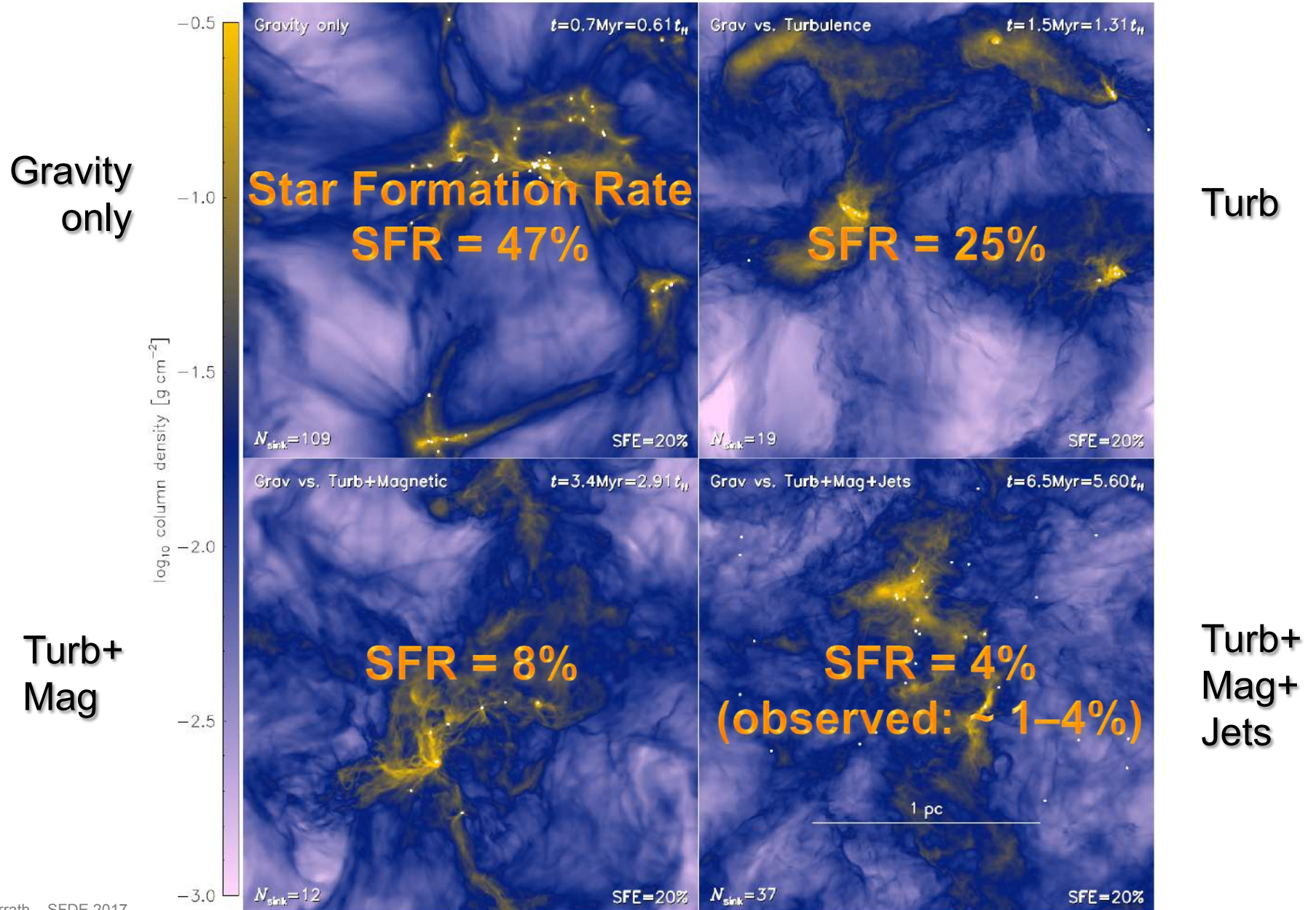
Outflow mass: 
$$M_{\text{out}} = f_m \dot{M}_{\text{acc}} \Delta t$$

Outflow velocity: 
$$|\mathbf{V}_{\text{out}}| = \left( \frac{GM_{\text{sink}}}{10 R_\odot} \right)^{1/2} = 100 \text{ km s}^{-1} \left( \frac{M_{\text{sink}}}{0.5 M_\odot} \right)^{1/2}$$

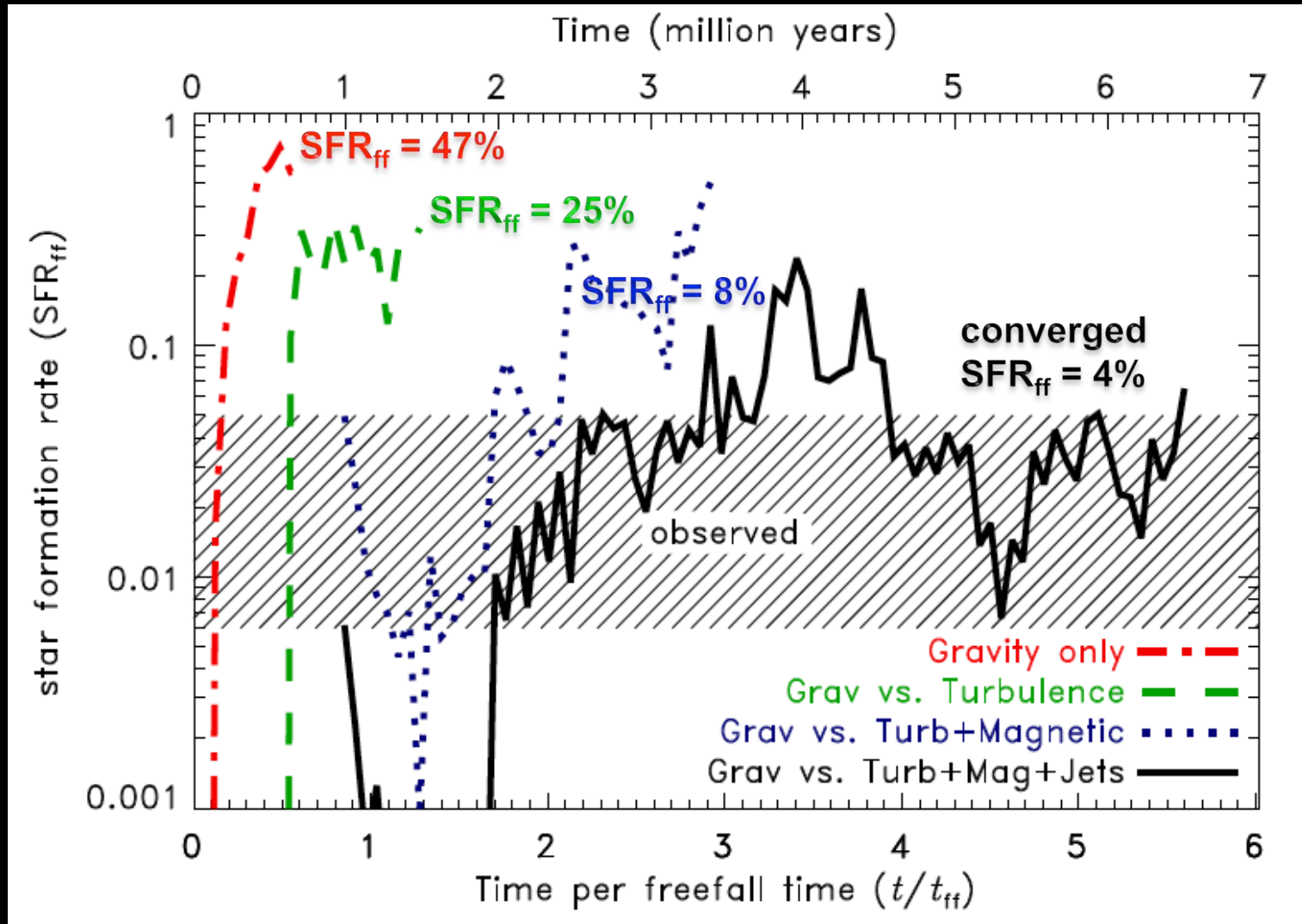
Outflow angular momentum: 
$$\mathbf{L}_{\text{out}} = f_a (\mathbf{S}'_{\text{sink}} - \mathbf{S}_{\text{sink}}) \cdot \mathbf{S}'_{\text{sink}} / |\mathbf{S}'_{\text{sink}}|$$

# Why is Star Formation is so Inefficient?

Movies available: [http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/ineff\\_sf/ineff\\_sf.html](http://www.mso.anu.edu.au/~chfeder/pubs/ineff_sf/ineff_sf.html)



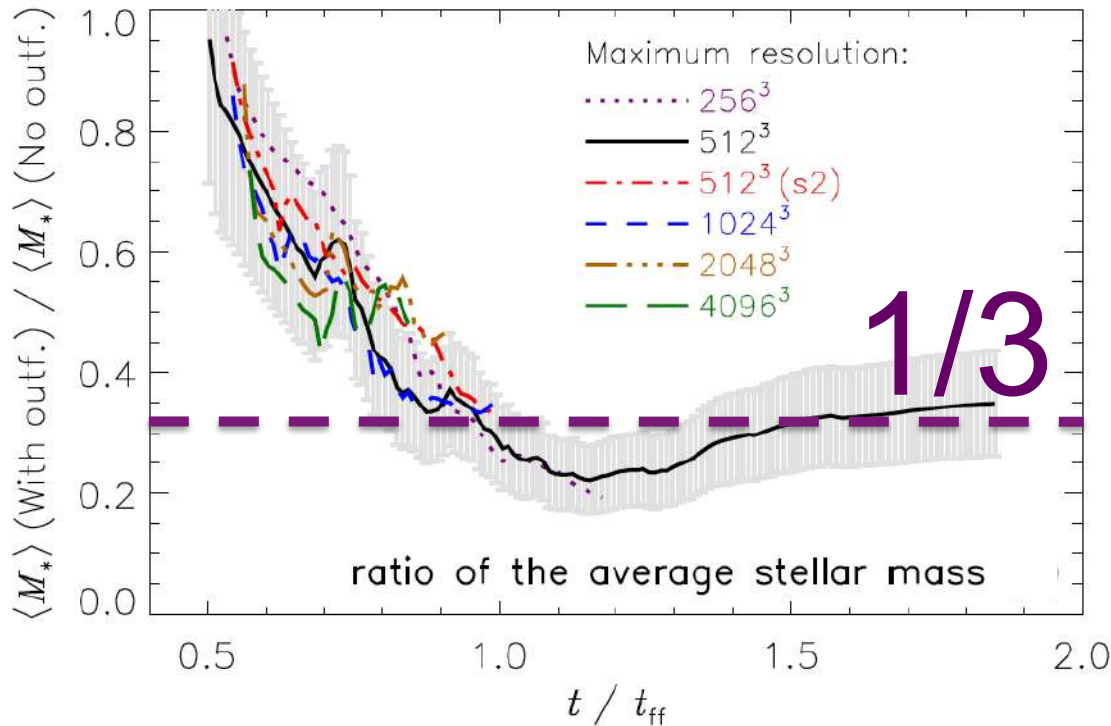
# Star Formation is Inefficient



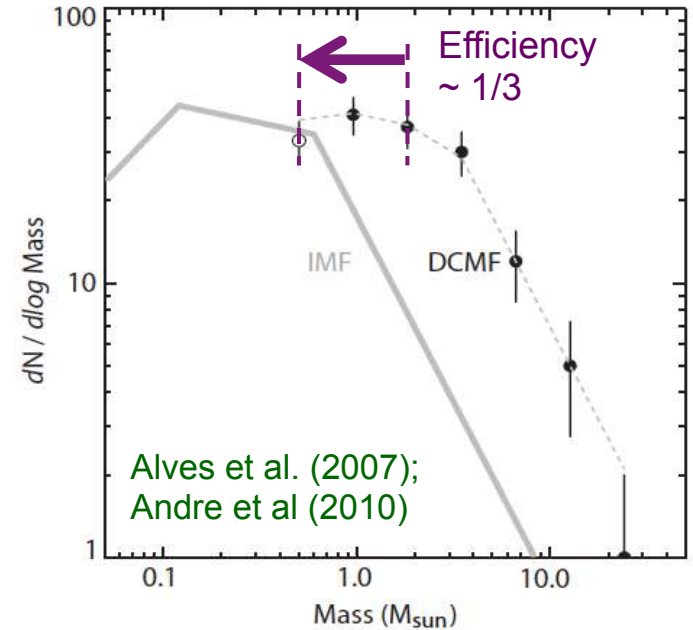
Only the combination of turbulence, magnetic fields and feedback gives realistic SFR



# Implications for the stellar initial mass function (IMF)



Federrath et al. 2014, ApJ 790, 128

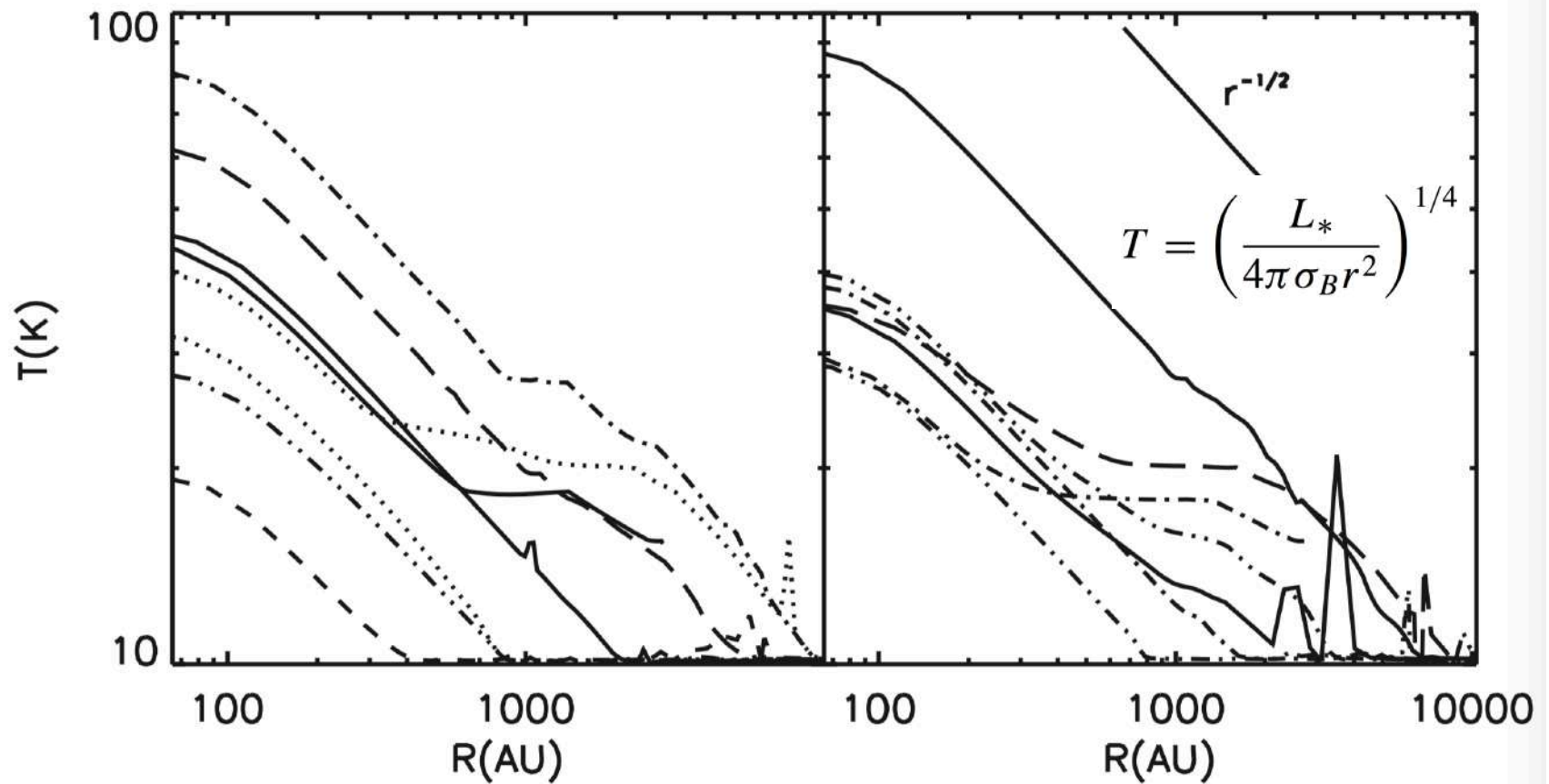


Outflow/Jet feedback reduces average star mass by factor  $\sim 3 \rightarrow$  IMF!

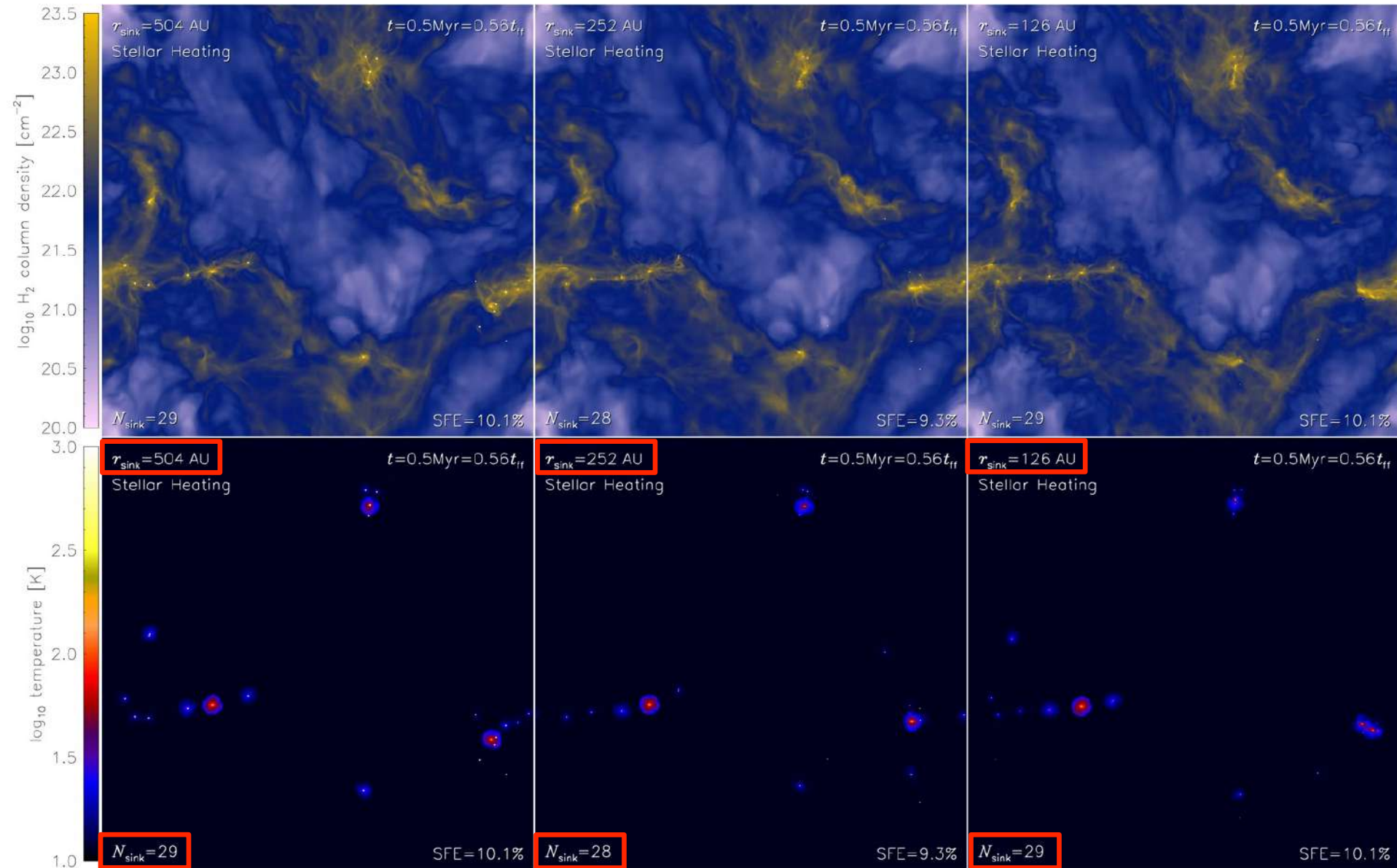
...but, IMF also needs stellar heating feedback!

Proto-/stellar evolution → accretion/stellar luminosity → heating

Offner et al. (2009)



# A simple radiation feedback model



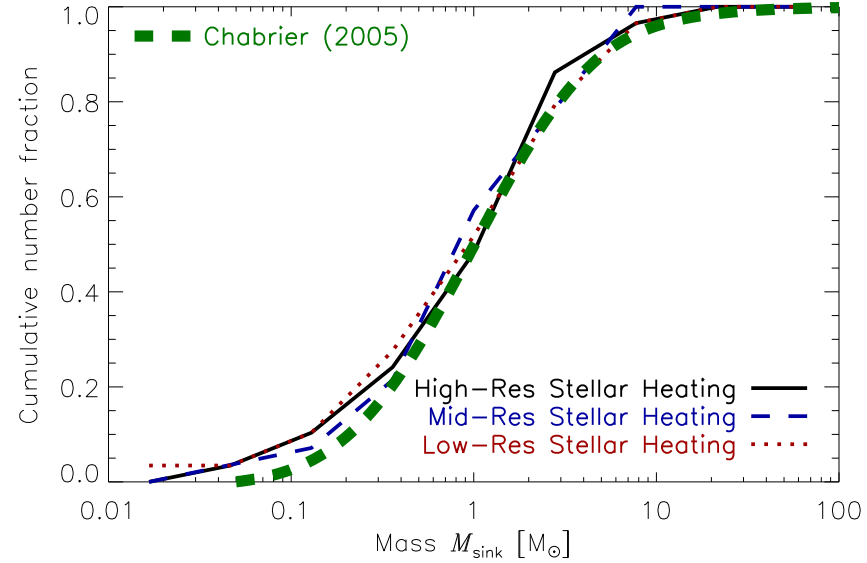
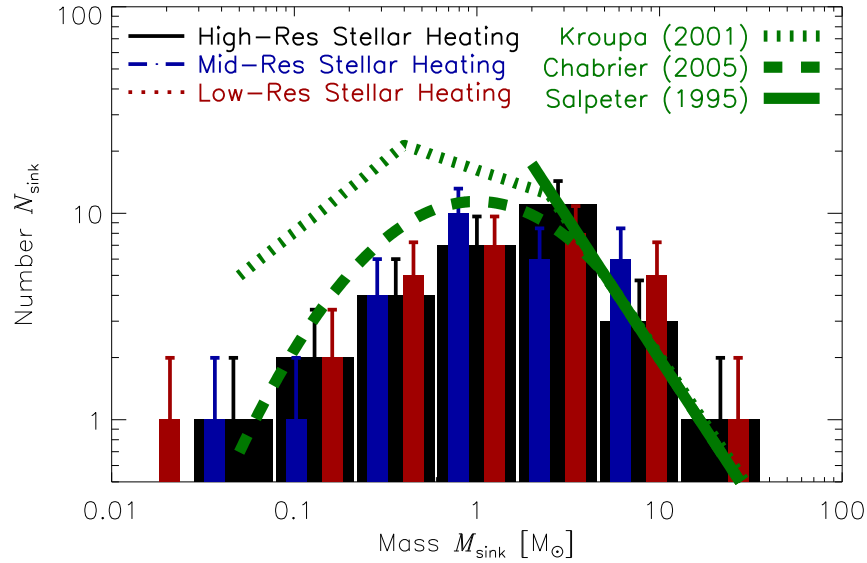
(Federrath, Krumholz, Hopkins 2017)

Increasing resolution  $\rightarrow$  convergence  $\rightarrow$

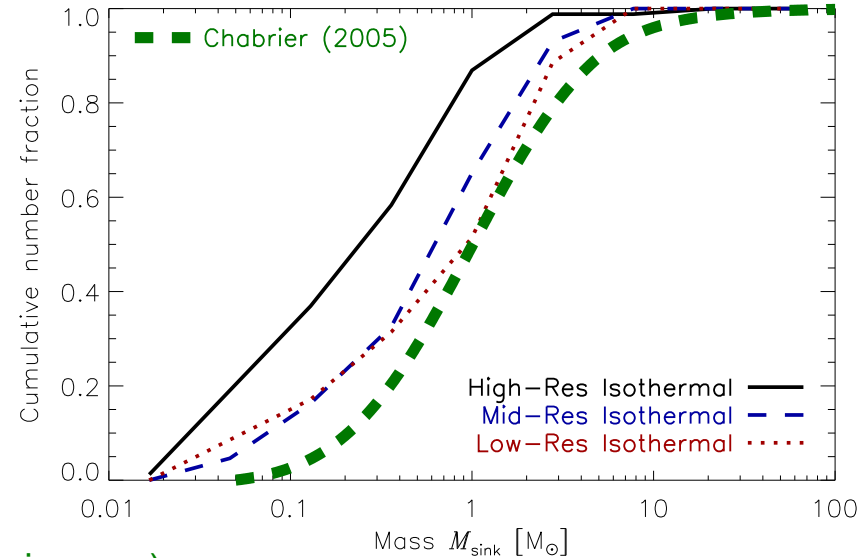
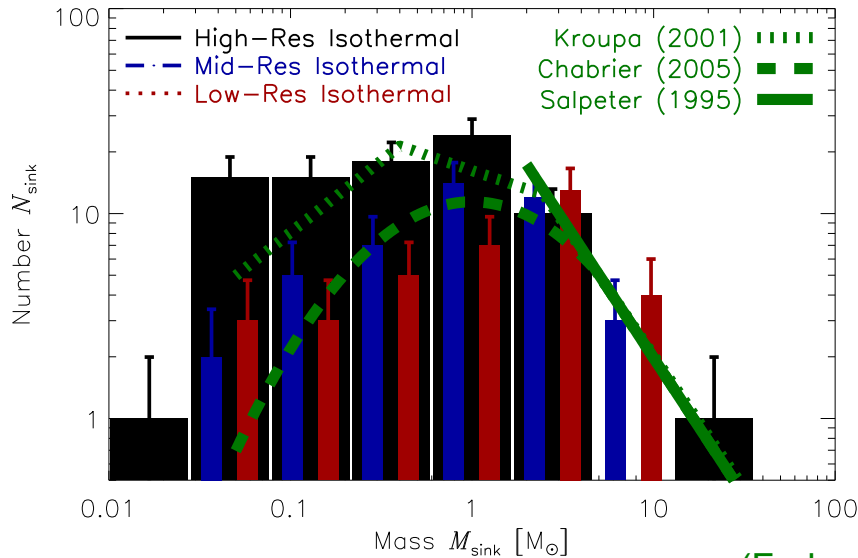


# Radiation feedback → Converging on the IMF

## Stellar Heating Feedback



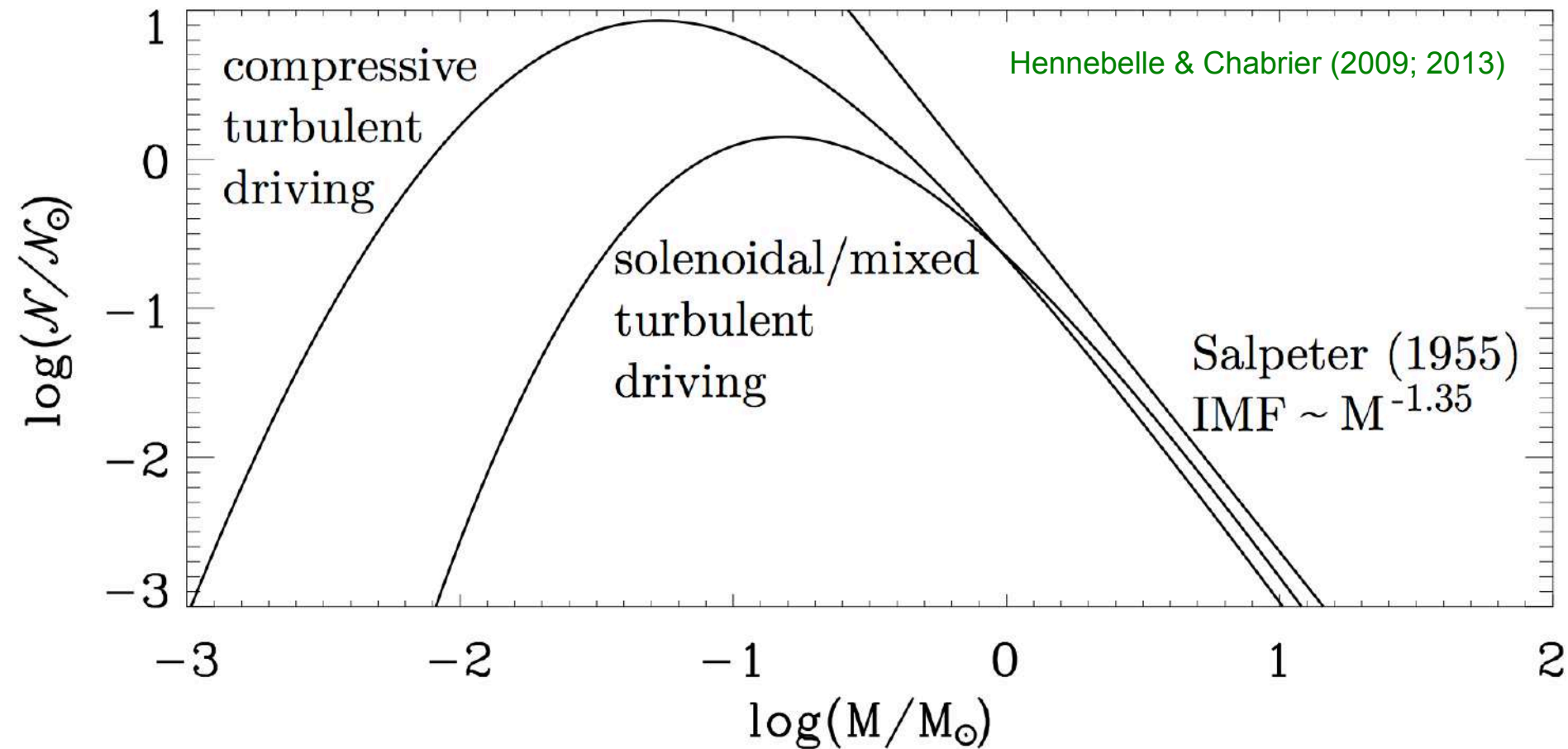
## Isothermal Equation of State



(Federrath et al., in prep.)

# A new calibrated radiation feedback model → IMF

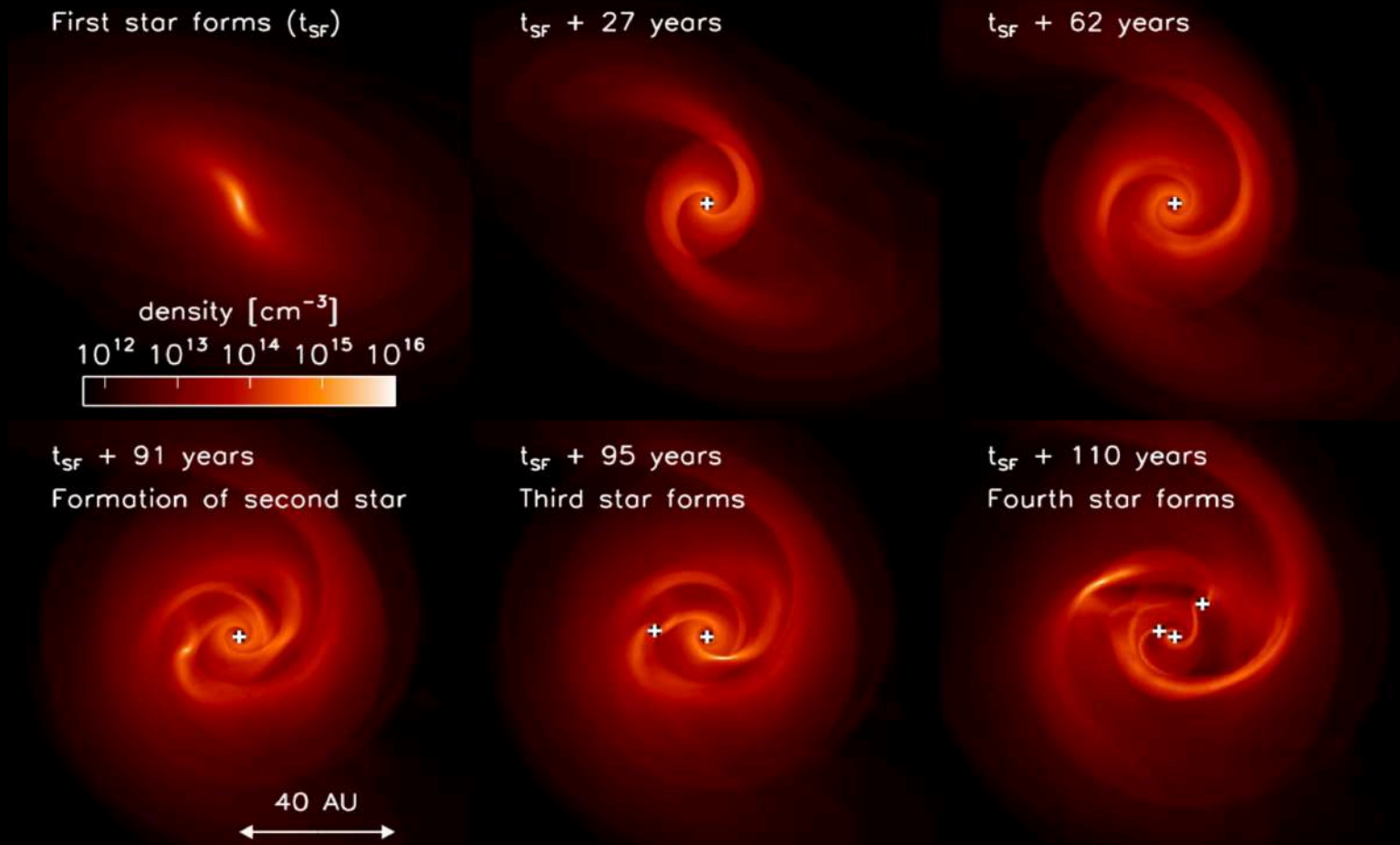
Theoretical prediction:



→ We can determine the IMF

# Primordial Star Formation (IMF of Population III Stars)

Clark et al. 2011, Science



Important physics missing: no magnetic fields, no jet feedback

→ **Our simulation methods allow us to predict the Pop III IMF**

→ Indirect constraints on Pop III IMF: e.g., [Norris et al. \(2013\)](#)

and near future observations with **LSST, JWST, GMT, E-ELT**



# Conclusions and new challenges

## 1) Star Formation is **complex and inefficient** →

Only the combination of

Turbulence + Magnetic Fields + Feedback

gives realistic (observed) SFRs

## 2) Measured **turbulence driving parameter** in *The Brick (CMZ)*

→ Solenoidal driving (probably caused by shear) may explain low SFR

(predicted SFR  $\approx 0.01 M_{\odot}/\text{yr} \approx 4\%$  per freefall time)

## 3) Importance of magnetic fields and feedback for the IMF:

Determine the **Initial Mass Function (IMF)** of Stars

→ Necessary physics:

**turbulence, magnetic fields, jet feedback and radiation feedback**

...probably relevant also for **Population III IMF**

The End.