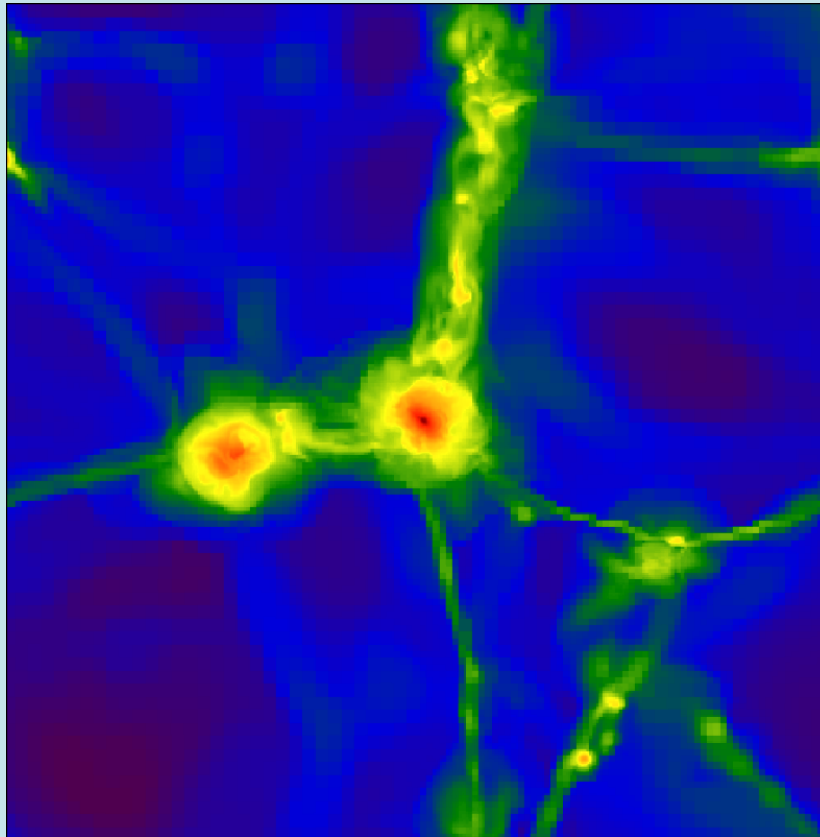


# Sowing seeds : assembling the first black holes in the early universe



Priyamvada Natarajan  
Yale University

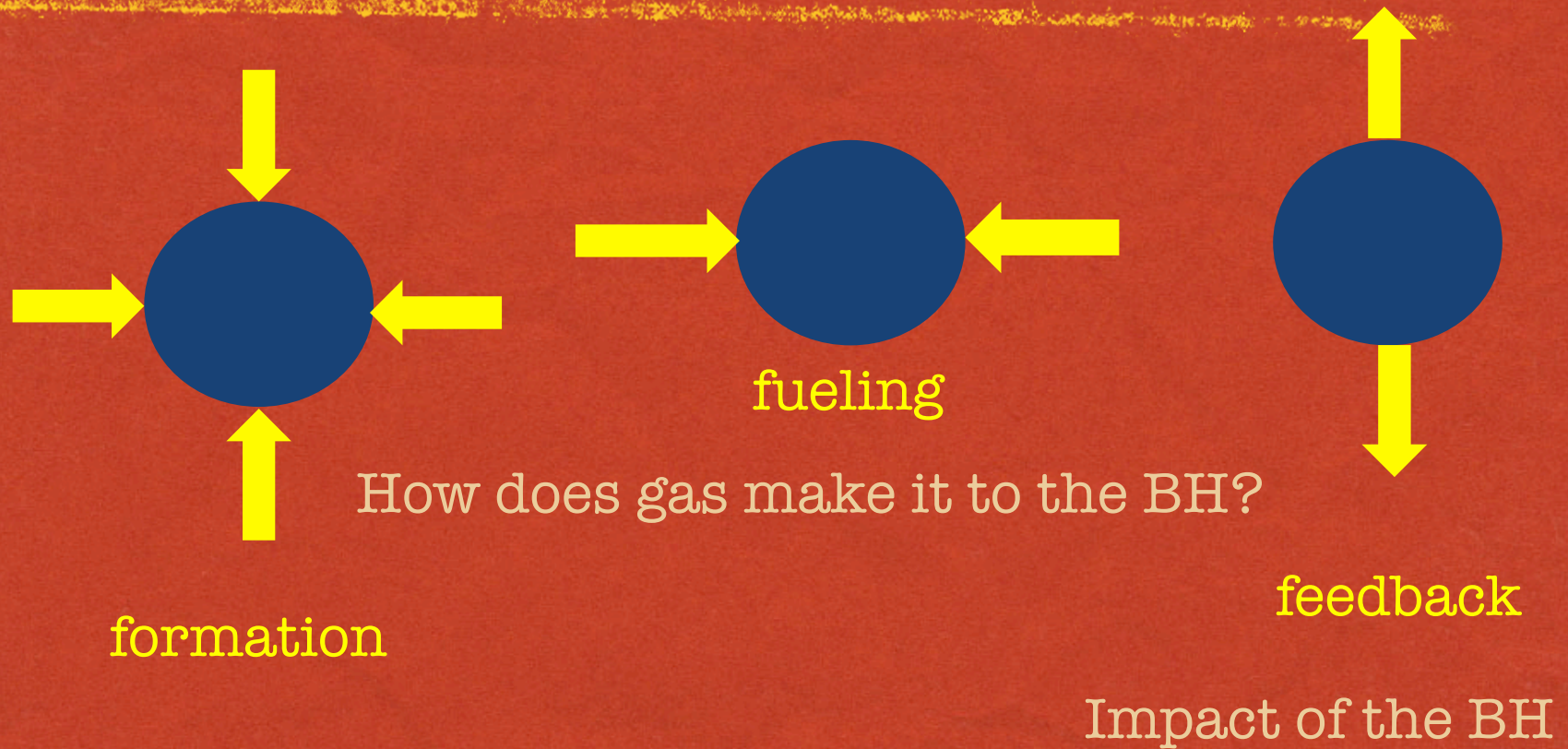
**KITP BH CONFERENCE AUGUST 5 - 10, 2013**

# Talk outline

- What do we know for certain about the growth history of BHs?
- Observational evidence for BHs at high & low  $z$
- Seeding models
- Light vs. massive seeds
- Predictions of seeding models
- Discriminating between seed models at high  $z$  and low  $z$
- Open questions and future prospects

Collaborators: Marta Volonteri, Giuseppe Lodato, Ezequiel Treister,, Britton Smith, Matt Turk, Andrew Davis, Sadegh Khochfar, Bhaskar Agarwal

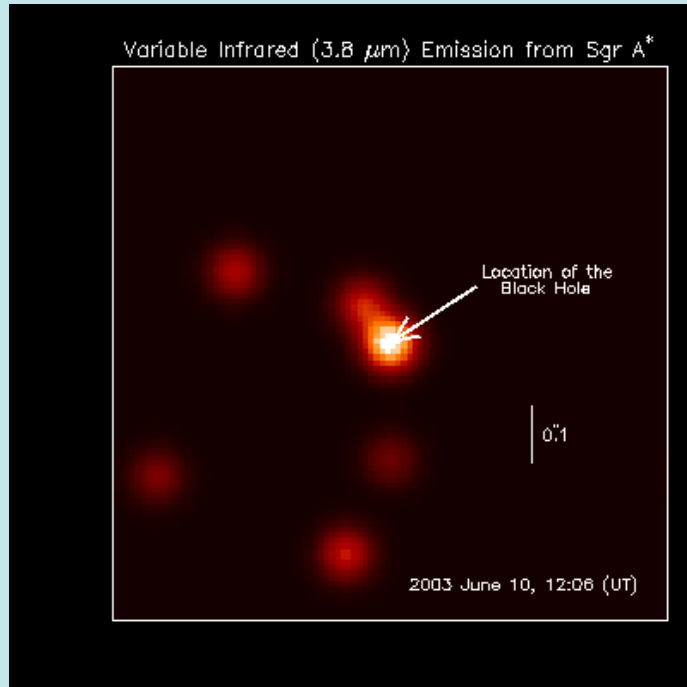
# Challenges in understanding BH accretion



How & where do seeds form?

# Astrophysical environment of BHs

Empirically, two modes of accretion seen in galactic nuclei, X-ray binaries



UCLA Galactic Center group

- radiatively inefficient accretion

e.g. Galactic Center

$$\dot{m} \equiv \dot{M} / \dot{M}_{Edd} \sim 10^{-7}$$

(Shcherbakov et al. 2010; Narayan & Yi)

Ubiquitous: fed by stellar winds,  
“hot”  $T_{ion} \sim T_{vir}$  quasi-spherical flow

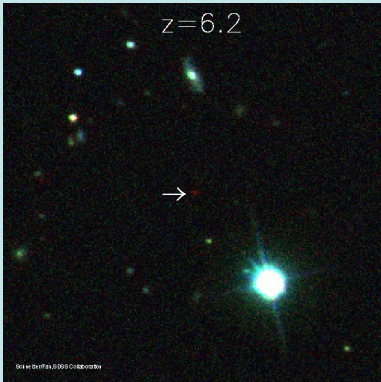
- thin disk accretion: radiatively efficient (10%) AGN mode

Feeding mechanism unclear, rare in the local Universe

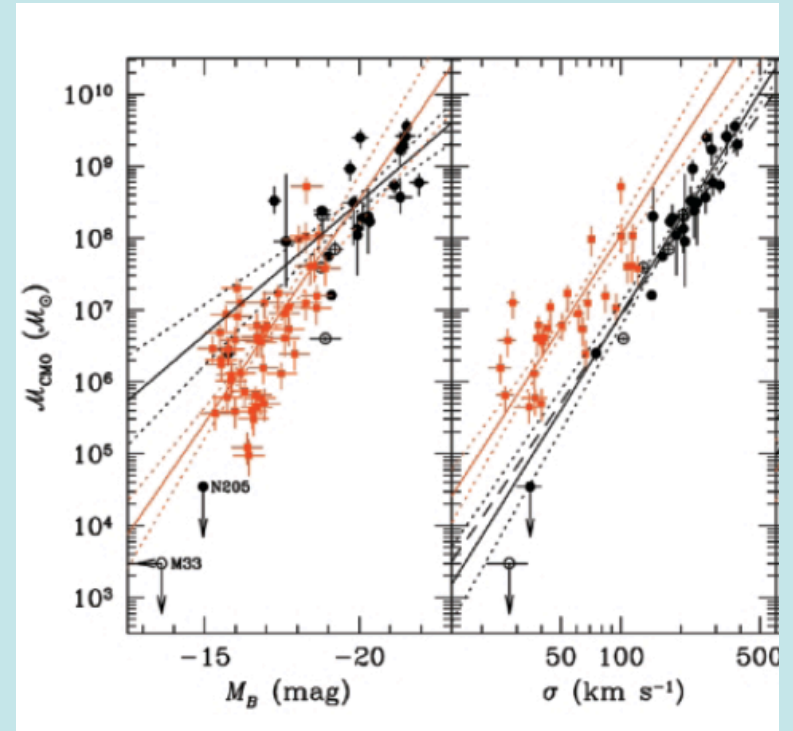
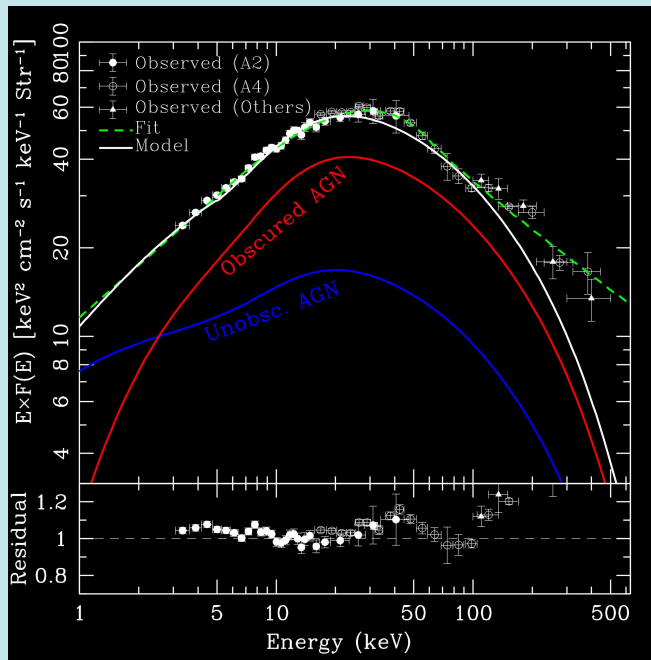
Typical merger environment *only* if thin disks **cause** or are otherwise preferentially correlated with BH coalescences

# Massive BHs in place @ high z, many in place from low z

## Abundance & LF of High redshift quasars



## XRB



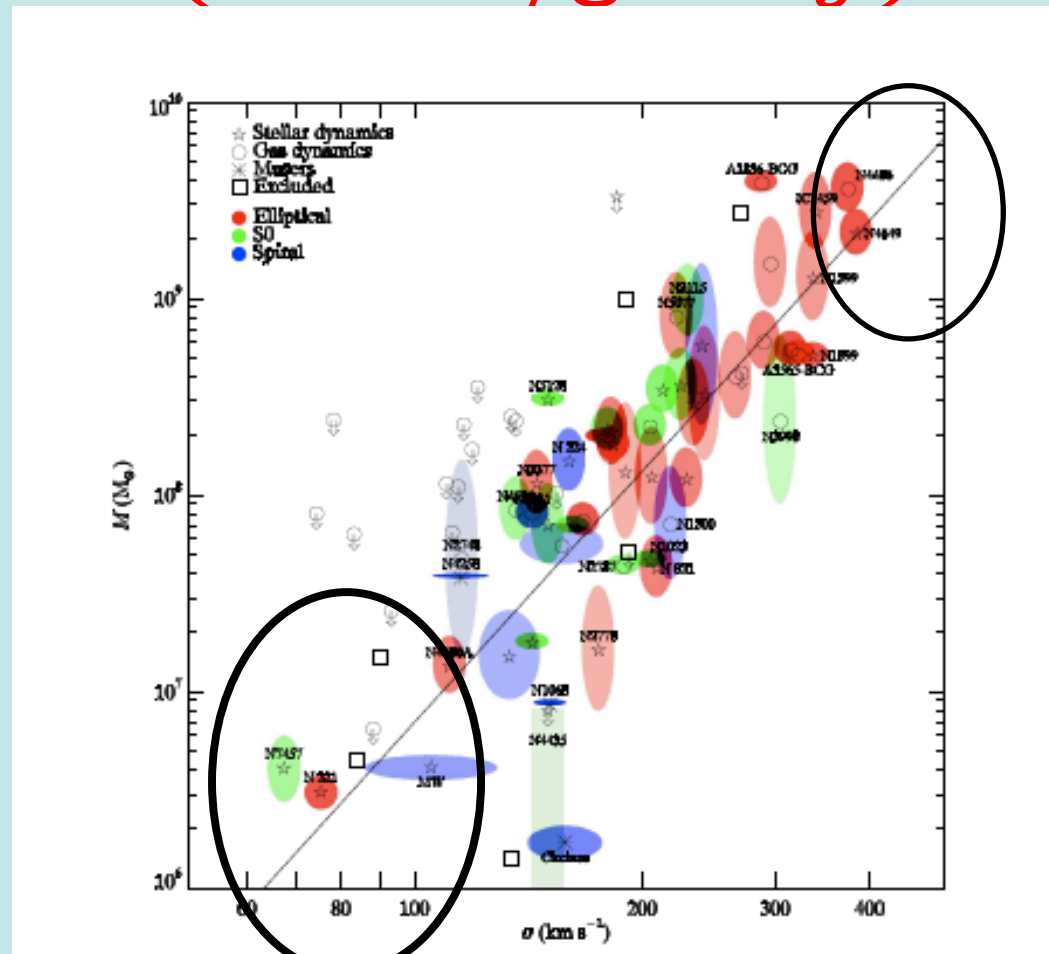
## Observational estimates of masses of central massive objects

Ferrarese+ 2006; Ferrarese & Merritt 2002; Tremaine+ 2002; Kaspi+ 2005

Census from SDSS and 2dF Fan+ 2007; Croom+ 2004

Comastri+ 1995; Ueda+ 2003; Treister & Urry 2005; Merloni+ 2004; PN & Treister 2009; Mortlock+ 2010

# The Local $M_{\text{bh}}$ -sigma relation ( $\sim 1$ -BH/galaxy)



SCATTER AT LOW MASS END, TURN-OVER AT HIGH MASS END, OUTLIERS

Gultekin+ 2010; Greene & Ho 2009, Greene+ 2011; Reines+ 2011; Lauer+ 2007; Gebhardt+ 2011; McConnell+ 2011; Bogdan+ 2012; van den Bosch+ 2012

# INFERRED MASS FUNCTIONS FOR SDSS BLQSOS $1 < z < 4.5$

10

Kelly et al.

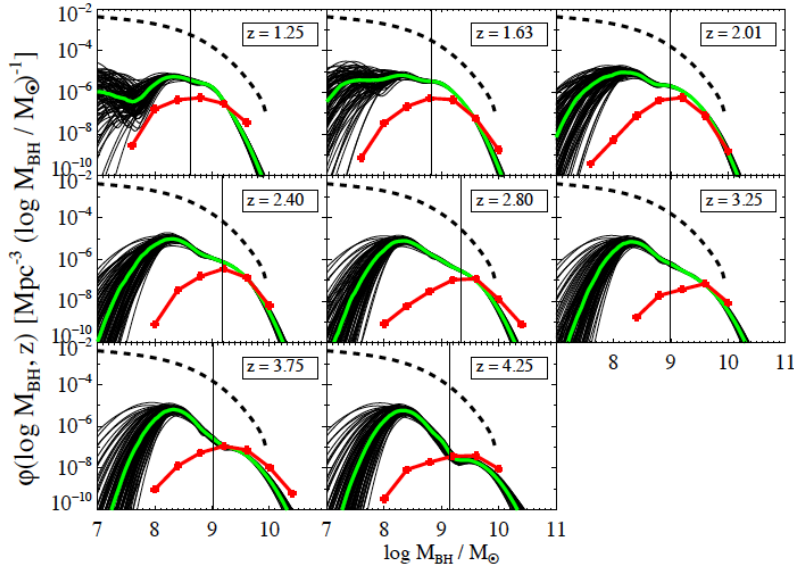
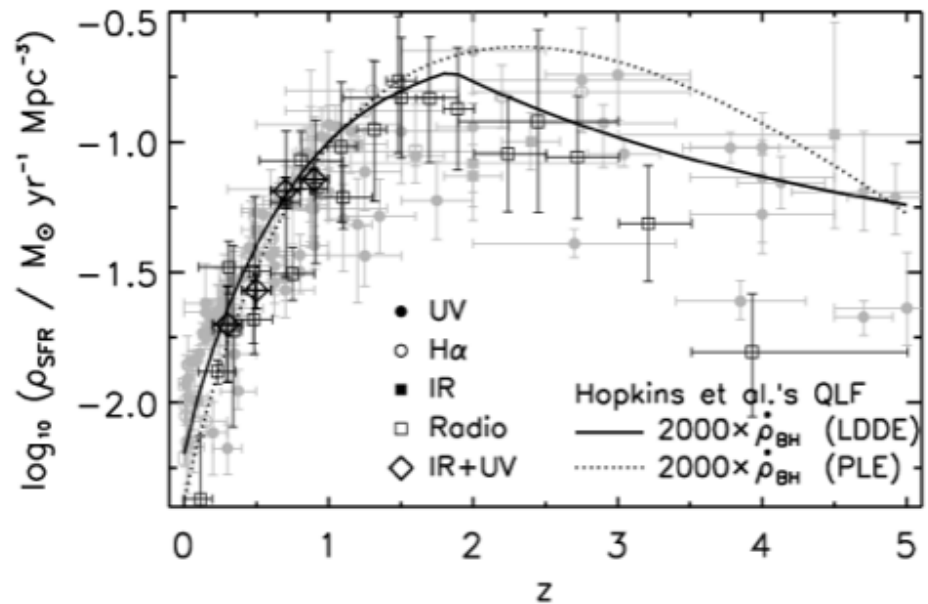


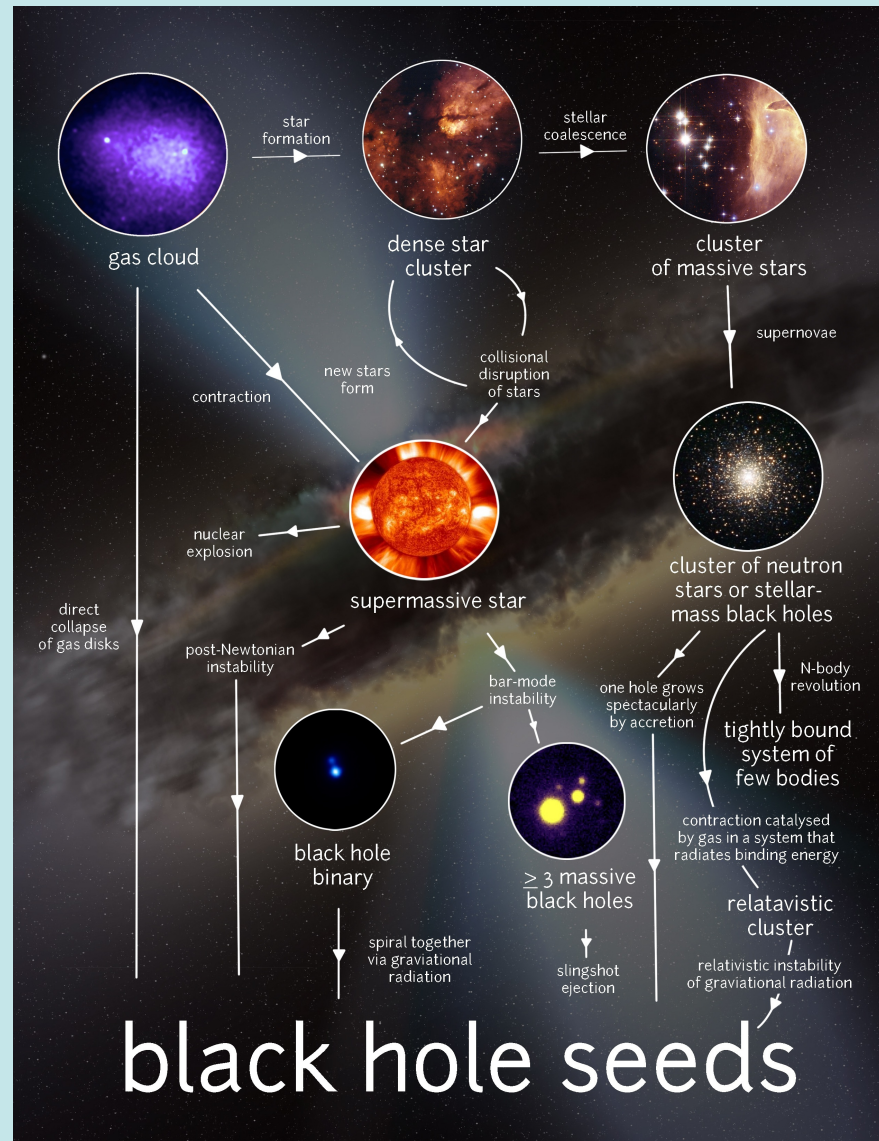
Fig. 3.— BLQSO BHM (thin solid lines) obtained using our Bayesian approach, compared with the local BHM (line), and the BHM from Vestergaard et al. (2008, solid red line with points); as in Figure 1 each thin solid line of the BHM from its probability distribution. The thick green line is the median of the BHM random draws, our 'best-fit' estimate. The vertical line marks the mass at which the SDSS DR3 sample becomes 10% complete.

Kelly et al. 2010, 2011

BHs AND STARS APPEAR  
TO GROW IN TANDEM



# Pathways to making massive BH seeds





# TWO MAIN CHANNELS

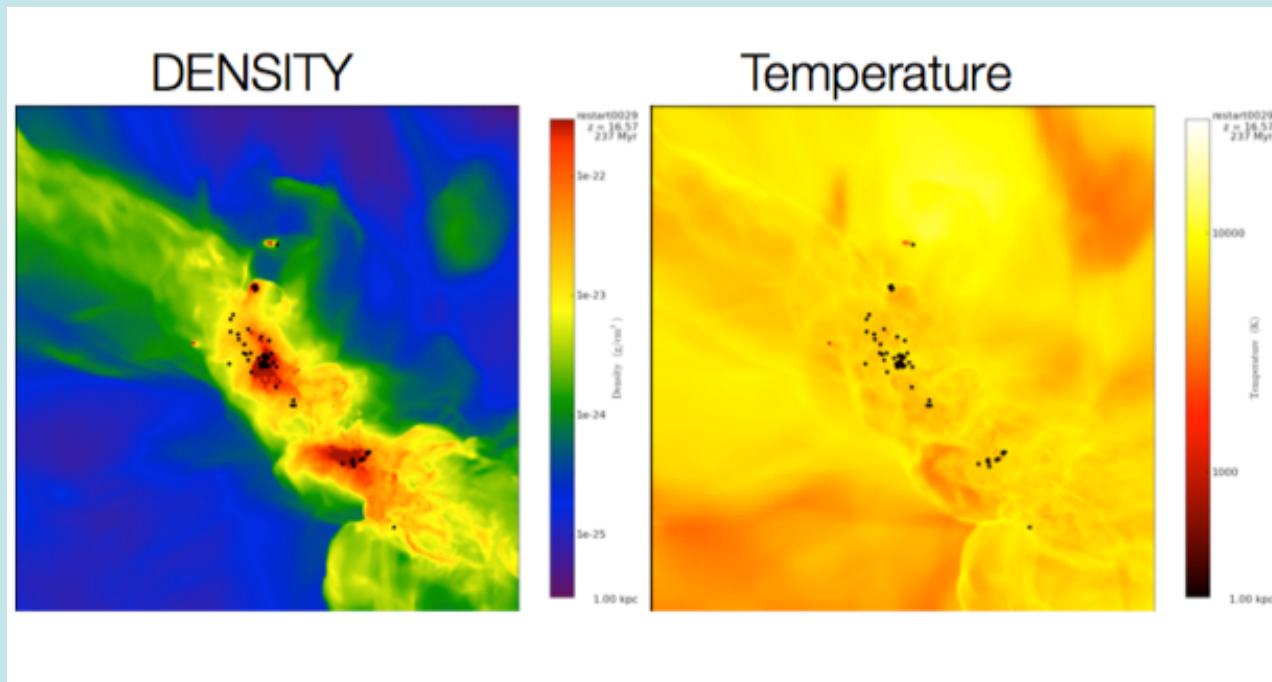
- **Pop III remnants** : Stars form, evolve and collapse
  - $M_* \sim 10^3 M_\odot$  ;  $M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10 - 10^2 M_\odot$
  
- **Direct collapse**: Massive gas cloud accumulates in nucleus
  - Supermassive star forms but never fully relaxes; keeps growing until collapse
  - $M_* > 10^6 M_\odot$  ;  $M_{\text{BH}} > 10^4 M_\odot$

# First black holes in pre-galactic CDM halos $z = 20-30$

~~$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim 100 - 500 M_{\text{sun}}$$~~

$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10 - 50 M_{\text{sun}}$$

**Pop III remnants:** Simulations suggested that the first stars were massive (Bromm+ 2002 ; Abel+ 2002; Abel+ 2000; Alvarez+ 2008) & Metal free Pop III stars with  $M > 260 M_{\text{sun}}$  leave remnant BHs with  $M_{\text{seed}} > 100 M_{\text{sun}}$  (Fryer, Woosley & Heger)

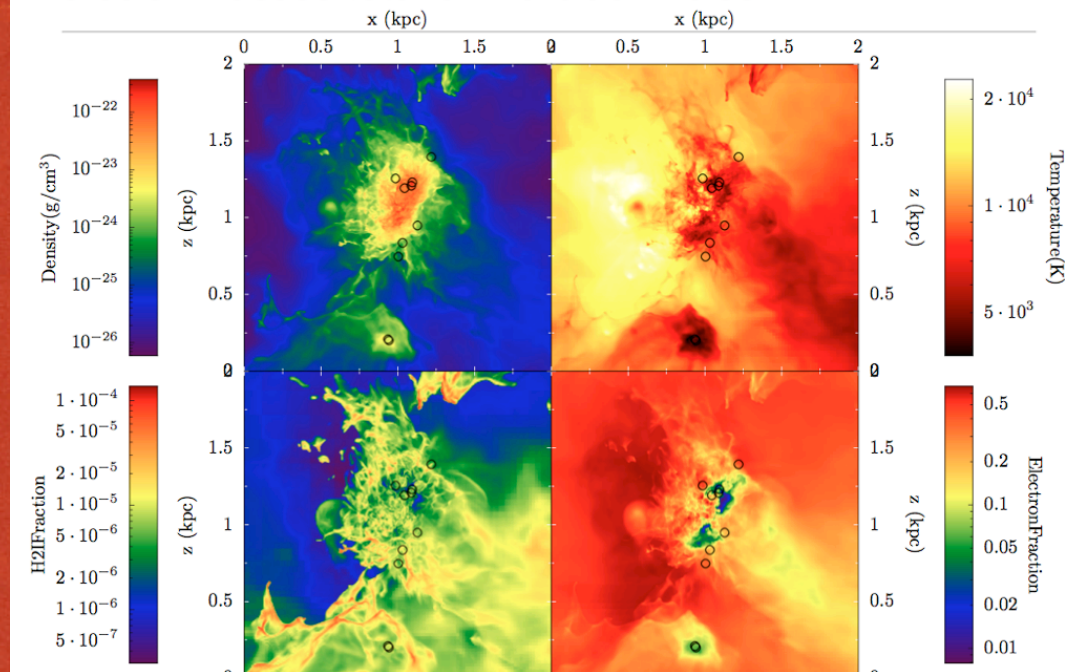


BHs simply not growing much down to  $z = 8$   
even when PopIII formation has ceased  
BHs spend almost all their time in the wrong place!

# WHY DO WE WE NEED MASSIVE SEEDS?

## Tracking the fate of Pop III remnant seeds

$z=8.2$  still no further growth. Halo:  $2 \times 10^8$  solar mass  
3 solar masses total on 25 black holes



Pop III now less massive than originally thought as fragmentation is seen in codes  
Remnant seeds less massive initially now  
BHs simply not growing much down to  $z = 8$   
even when PopIII formation has ceased  
BHs spend almost all their time in the wrong place!

# MASSIVE SEEDS

$$M_{\text{BH}} \sim 10^3 - 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$$

**Viscous transport** - efficient angular momentum transfer, suppression of fragmentation – pristine gas

formation of central concentration (Eisenstein & Loeb 1995; Koushiappas+ 2004)+ proper dynamical treatment of disk stability (Lodato & PN 2006, 2007) + Mayer+ 2010 (in mergers)

**Supermassive star** (Haehnelt & Rees 1993)

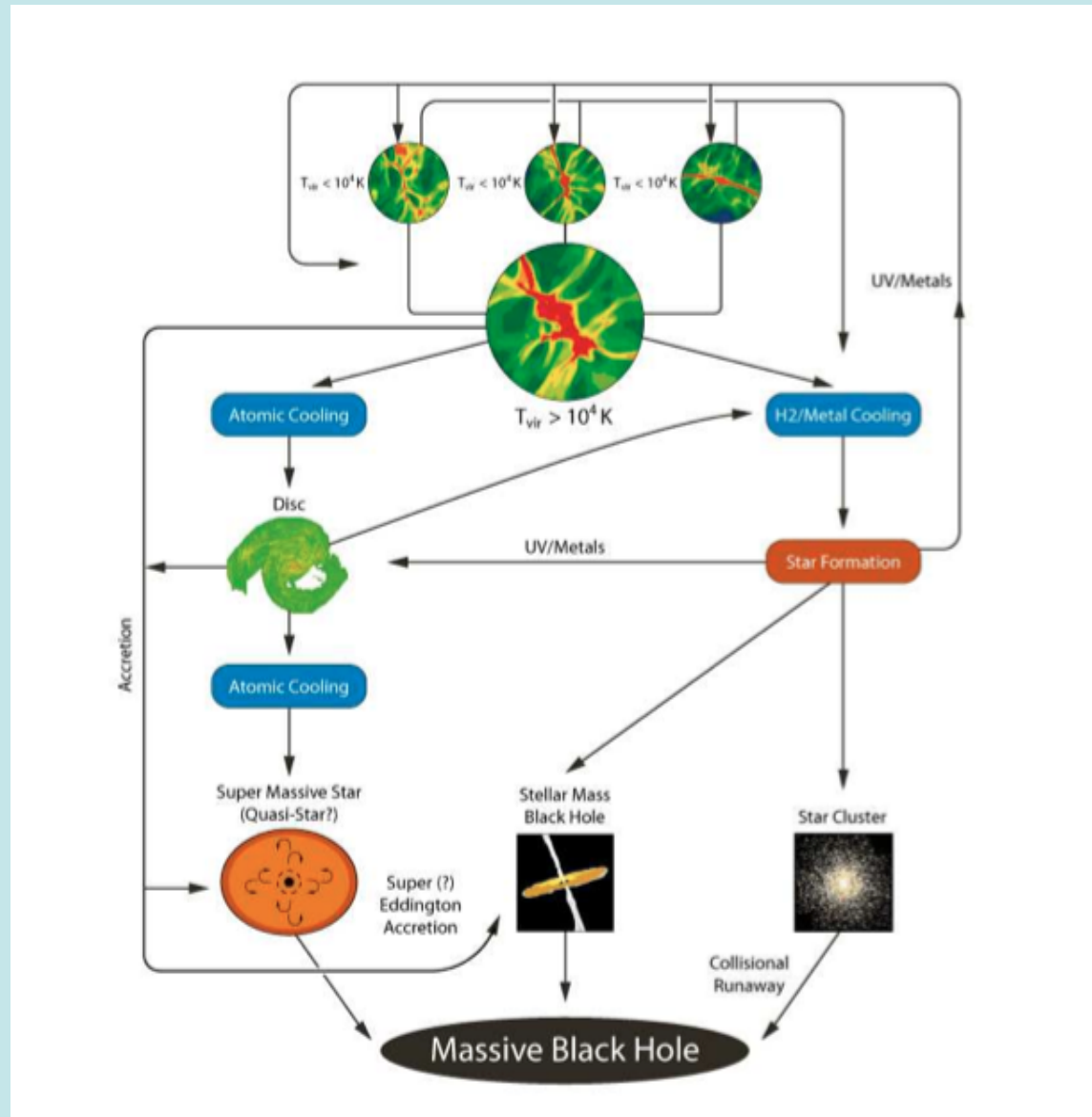
**Quasi-star** - Bar unstable self-gravitating gas + large quasi-star (Begelman 2008, 2010, 2012)

# Direct Collapse Black Holes

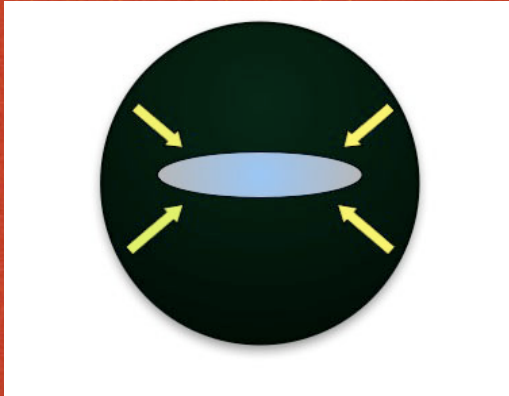
- Metal Free gas in atomic cooling halos ( $T_{\text{vir}} > 10^4 \text{ K}$ ): predominantly atomic H
- Avoid fragmentation into stars: high densities
- Prevent  $\text{H}_2$  formation (molecular hydrogen) in central region of halo
- High level of LW radiation to dissociate  $\text{H}_2$
- SMS followed by black hole of mass  $\sim 10^5 M_{\text{solar}}$

Oh & Haiman 2002; Bromm & Loeb 2003; Begelman et al. 2006; Lodato & Natarajan 2006; 2007, Spaans & Silk 2006; Volonteri+ 2008

# Gas collapse to a massive BH seed at high z

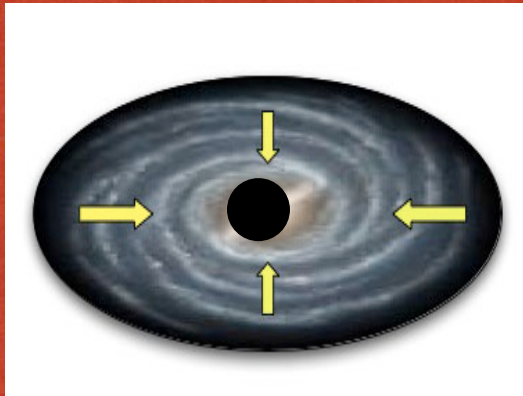
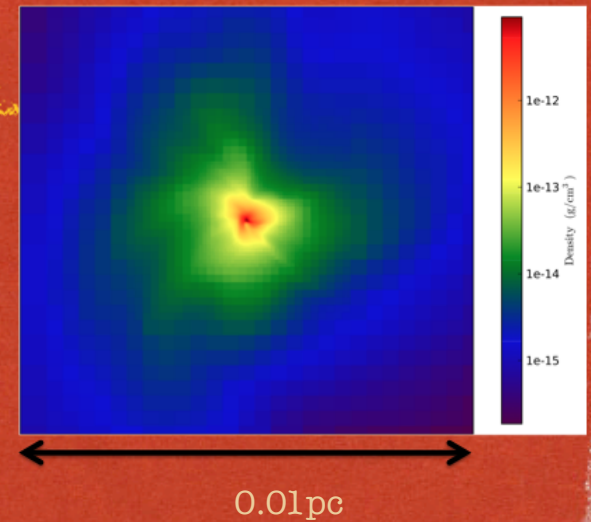


# BH seed formation at high $z$



Baryons inside DM halo collapse and form a rotating pre-galactic disc

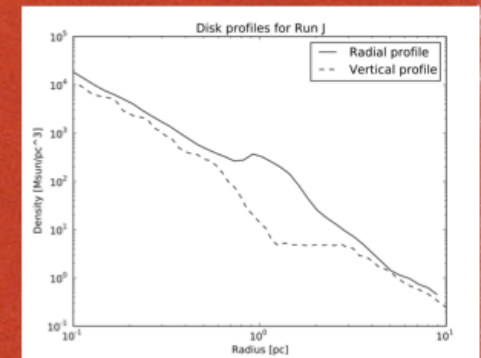
Disc becomes gravitationally unstable and accretes to the center



Angular mom of DM halo + Gas reservoir + dynamics (disc stability) + cooling

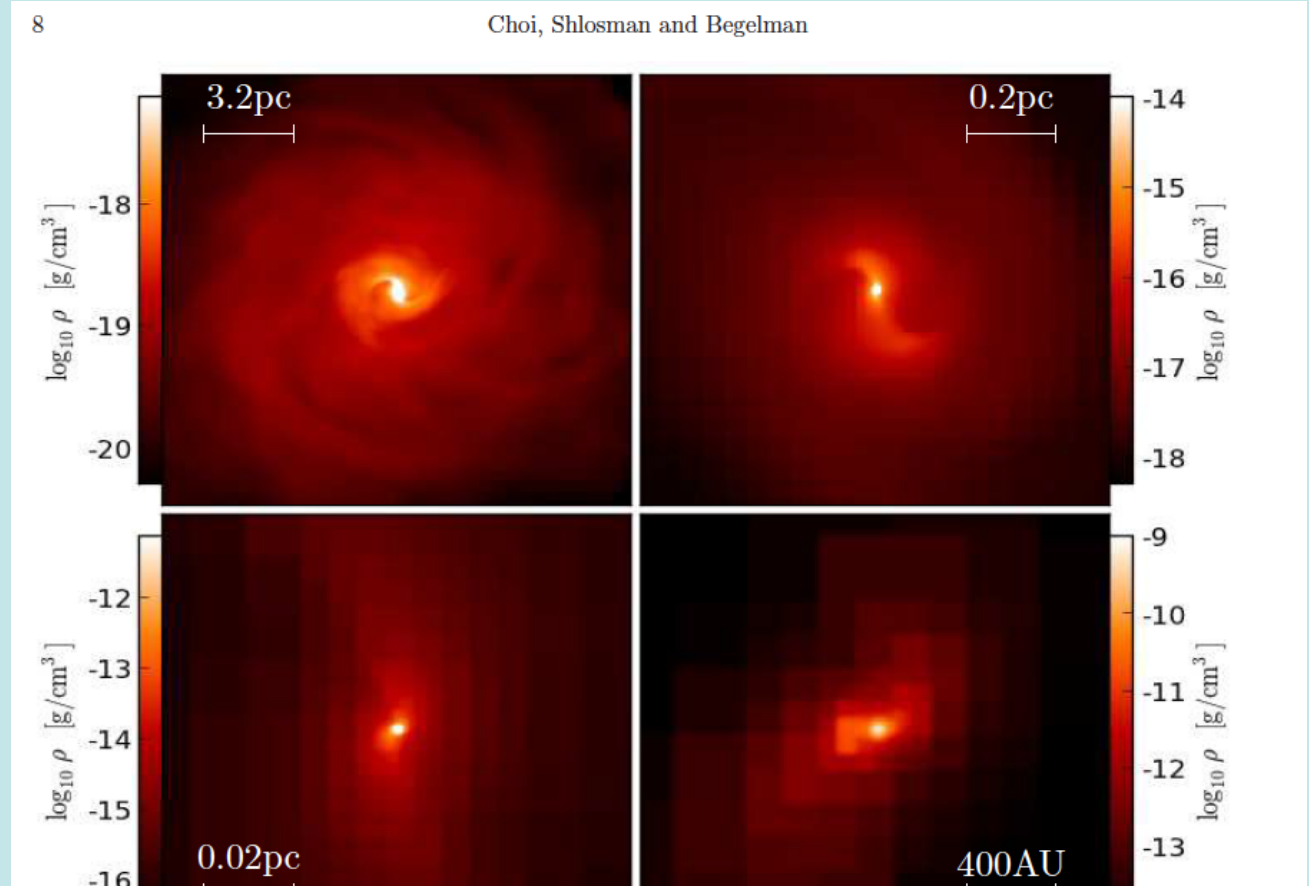
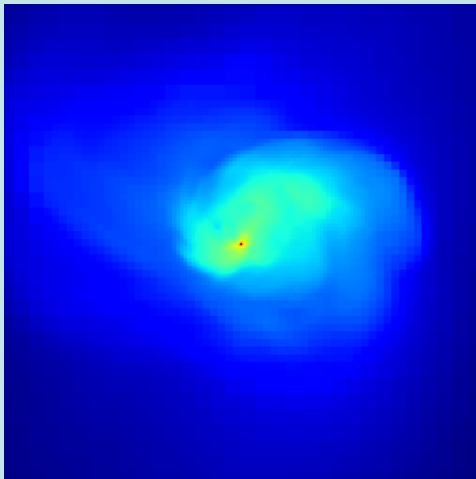
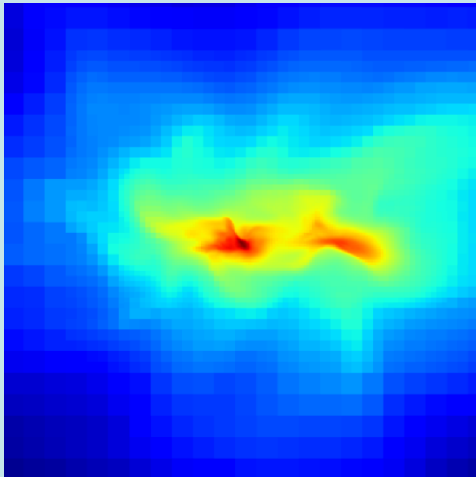


FINAL DCBH MASS



# Massive BH seed formation

## ENZO



Smith, Davis & PN 2013

see also Regan & Haehnelt 2008 (GADGET)



# Sequence of events (bypass formation of the first star!)

DM halo mass  $M$ ,  $T_{\text{vir}}$ , no metals, gas mass  $f_b M$   
hot disc  $\sim 4000$  K, cold disc  $\sim 400$  K



$T_{\text{vir}} > T_{\text{gas}}$  gas collapses and forms rotationally supported disc, disc subject to grav. instabilities, onset when Toomre  $Q_{\text{crit}} \sim 1 - 3$

**Disc evolution tussle between accretion and fragmentation**



Bars lead to redistribution of  $J$ , feed matter to center  
continues till central mass stabilizes the disc

Accumulated central mass depends on spin, halo mass,  $T_{\text{gas}}/T_{\text{vir}}$ , max. spin for which the disc is grav. Unstable, provides upper limit to  $M_{\text{BH}}$

**Initial correlation between BH and host halo properties**

# Evolution of self-gravitating discs

- Controlled mainly by two parameters:

$$Q = \frac{c_s \kappa}{\pi G \Sigma}$$

- $Q > 1$  non-self-gravitating
- $Q \sim 1$  subject to grav. instabilities

$$t_{\text{cool}} \Omega = \frac{t_{\text{cool}}}{t_{\text{dyn}}}$$

- $t_{\text{cool}}/t_{\text{dyn}} < 1$  fragmentation
- $t_{\text{cool}}/t_{\text{dyn}} > 1$  self-regulation

Zero-metallicity: long  $t_{\text{cool}} \Rightarrow$  fragmentation can be avoided

When disc self-regulated, steady ang. mom. transport, Max. mass accretion rate

$$\dot{M}_{\text{max}} = 2\alpha_{\text{crit}} \frac{c_s^3}{G}$$

$$\alpha_{\text{crit}} \sim 0.06$$

$$\dot{M}_{\text{max}} \approx 10^{-2} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

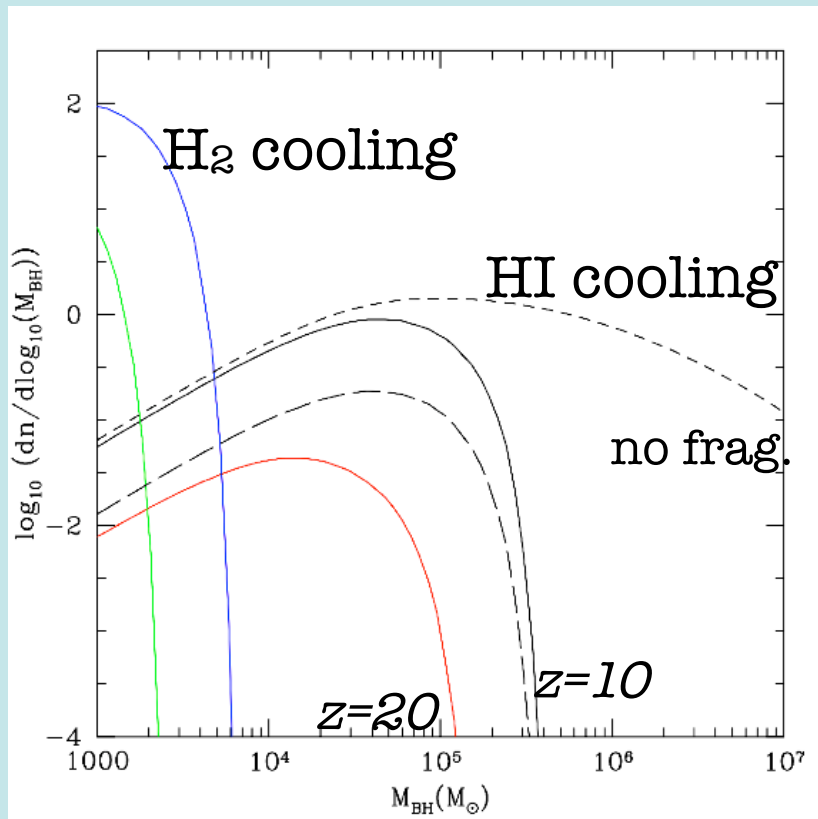
No H<sub>2</sub>

$$\dot{M}_{\text{max}} \approx 3 \cdot 10^{-4} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

H<sub>2</sub> present

# Black holes at high redshifts

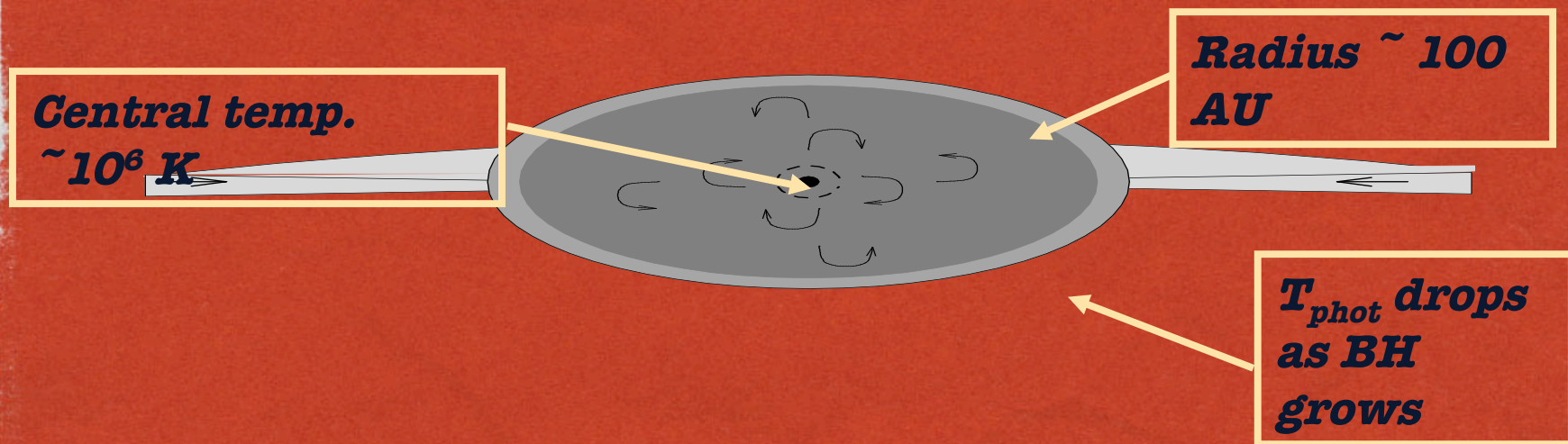
- Given the properties of DM haloes we can deduce the properties of the BH seed population:
  - Mass function of seed black holes



Sharp cut-off above  $10^5$ - $10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$   
due to fragmentation

# “QUASISTAR”

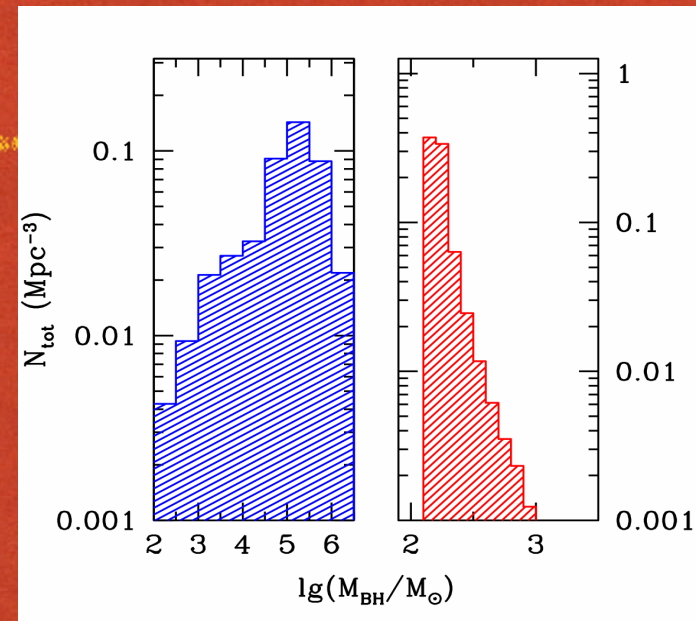
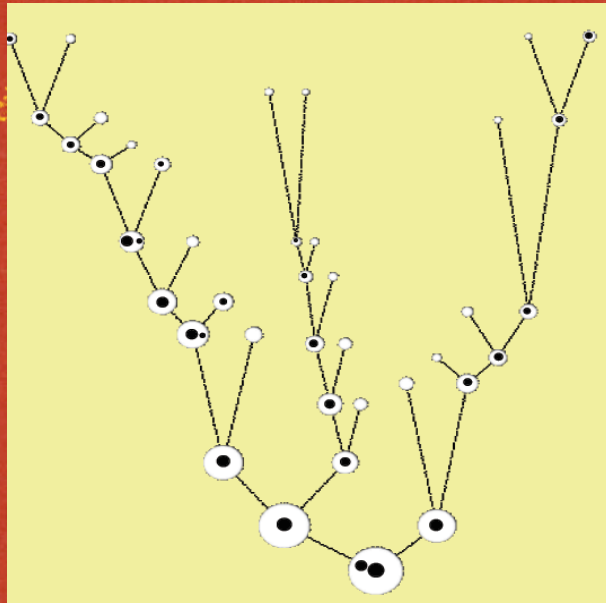
- Resembles a red giant
- Radiation-supported convective envelope
- Photospheric temperature drops as black hole grows



# Summary of the massive BH seed formation model

- Models of the dynamics of self-gravitating zero-metallicity discs in high-redshift mini-halos ( $T_{\text{vir}} \sim 10^4\text{K}$ )
- If atomic hydrogen cooling dominates, gas kept hot and fragmentation inhibited; mol H cooling curtailed by LW photons
- Spiral structure promotes accretion of large amount of mass ( $10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$ ) to the center of the protogalaxy: available for the growth of SMBH seeds
- Properties of such high mass seeds strongly depend on DM halo properties (mass, spin).
- A few percent of  $\sim 10^7$ - $10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$  DM halos at  $z=15$  form such seeds
- MF of seeds peaks at a few times  $10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$

## Merger induced accretion + CDM merger tree + seeds



Plant with IMF of seeds

Generate Monte Carlo merger trees

MBH seed formation ceases at  $z \sim 12$

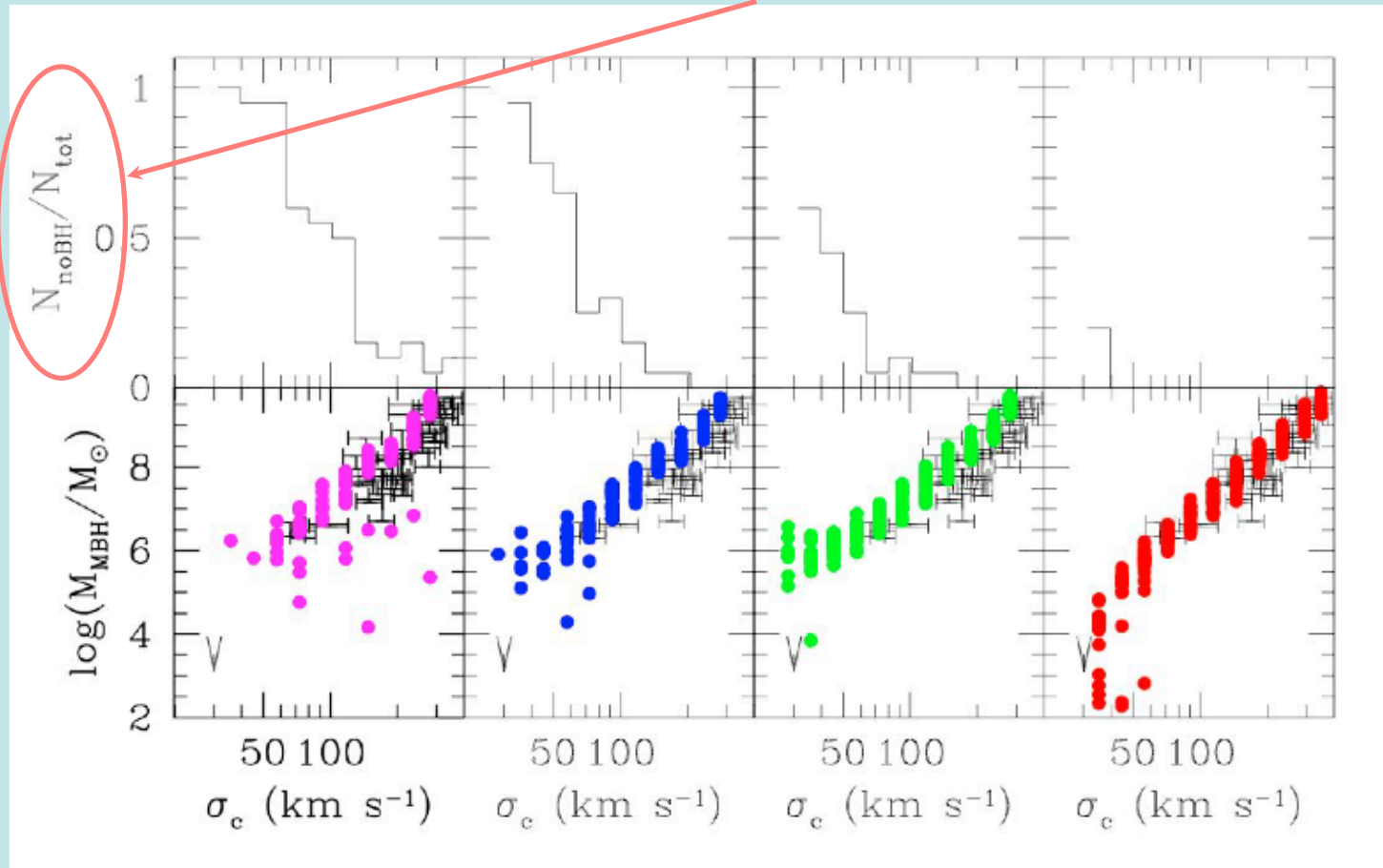
Propagate different BH seed models

Every major merger (mass ratio 1:10 or greater) induces accretion of gas

several models – fixed fraction of gas gets accreted; BH X 2; gas mass accreted scales with  $v_c$

# Evolution of massive BH seeds

Fraction of galaxies  
that do NOT  
host a SMBH



$Q_c=1$

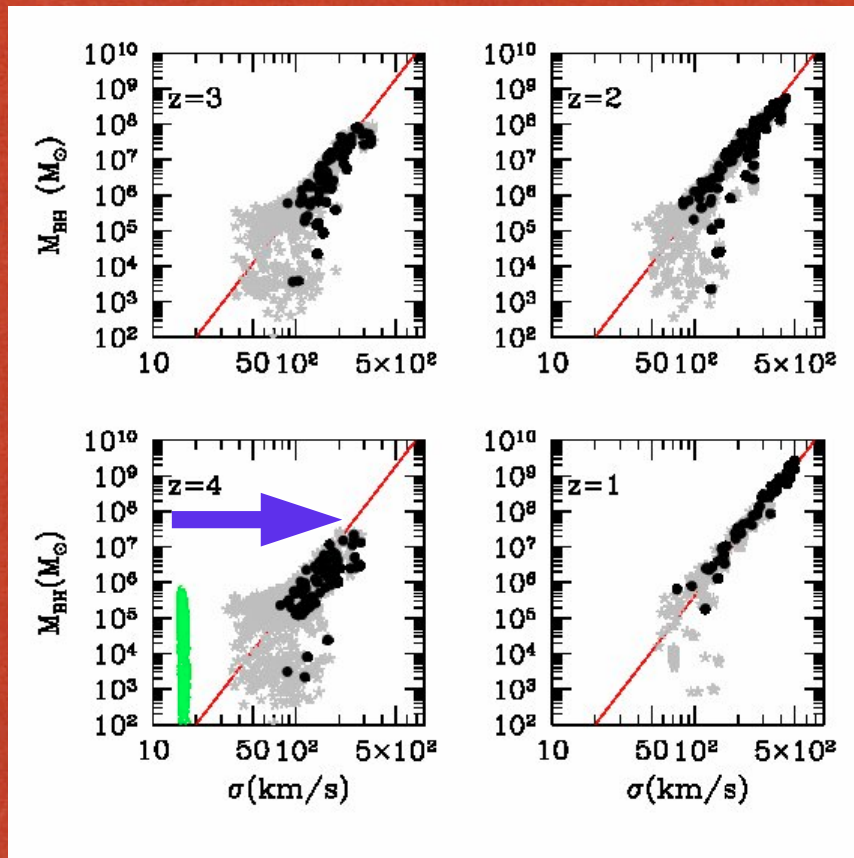
$Q_c=2$

$Q_c=3$

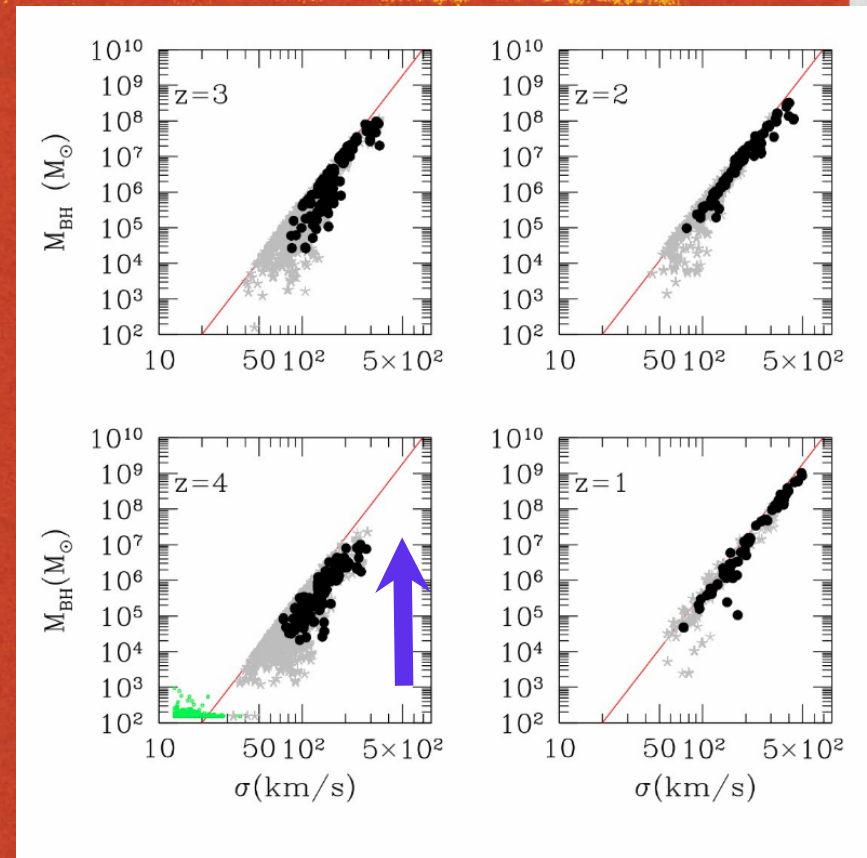
Pop III seeds

# Journey to the M–sigma relation: differences in the sequence of BH growth vs stellar mass

## Massive seeds



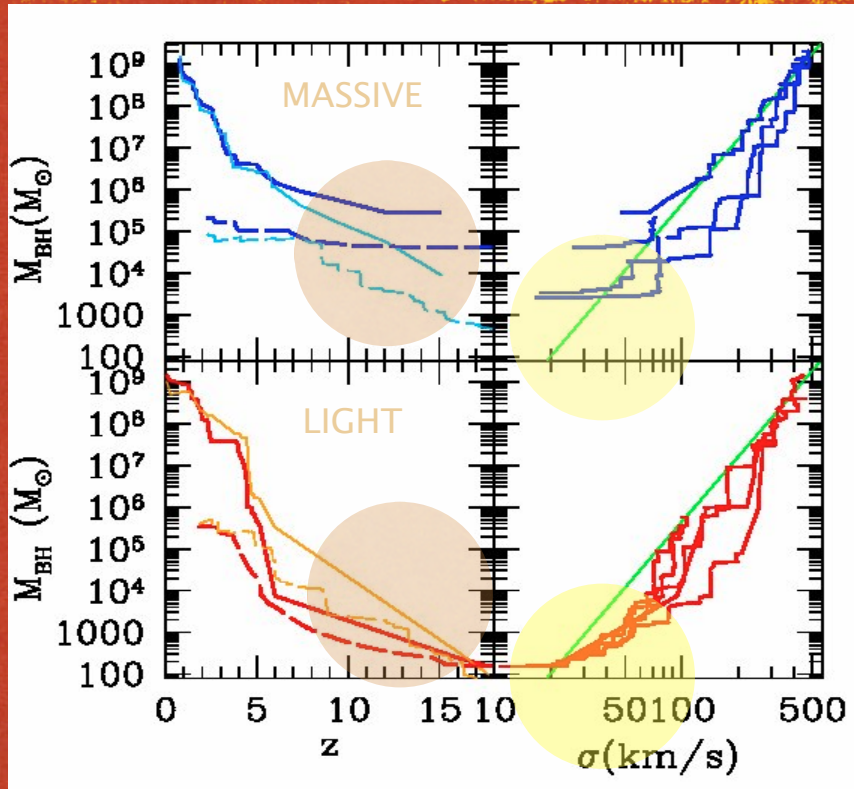
## Light seeds



NOTE in this realization the accreted mass was capped to not exceed local M–sigma



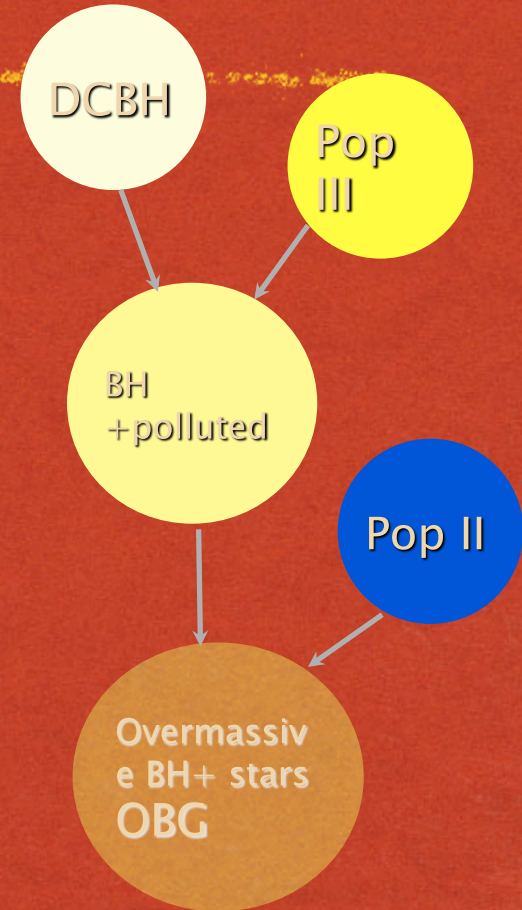
# CONSEQUENCES OF MASSIVE SEEDS: OVER- MASSIVE BHs at HIGH $z$



$z \sim 20$



$z \sim 6 - 8$

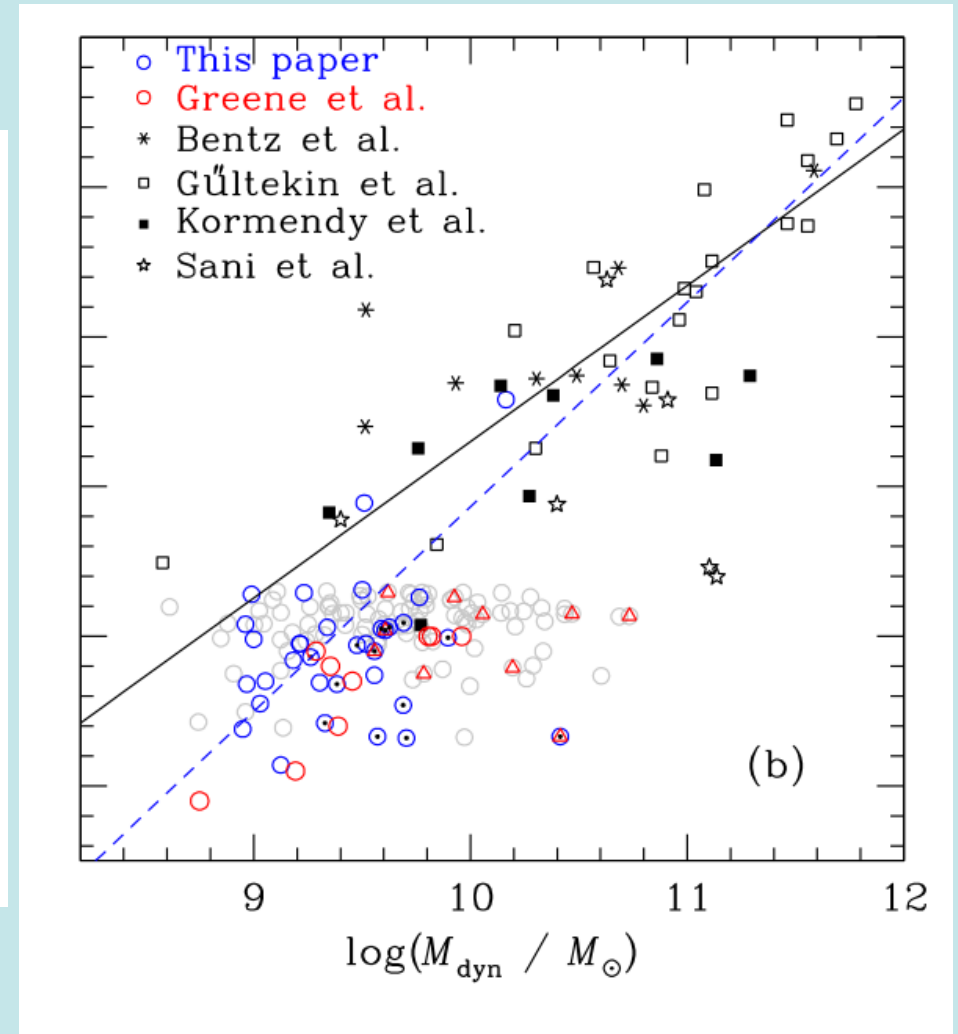
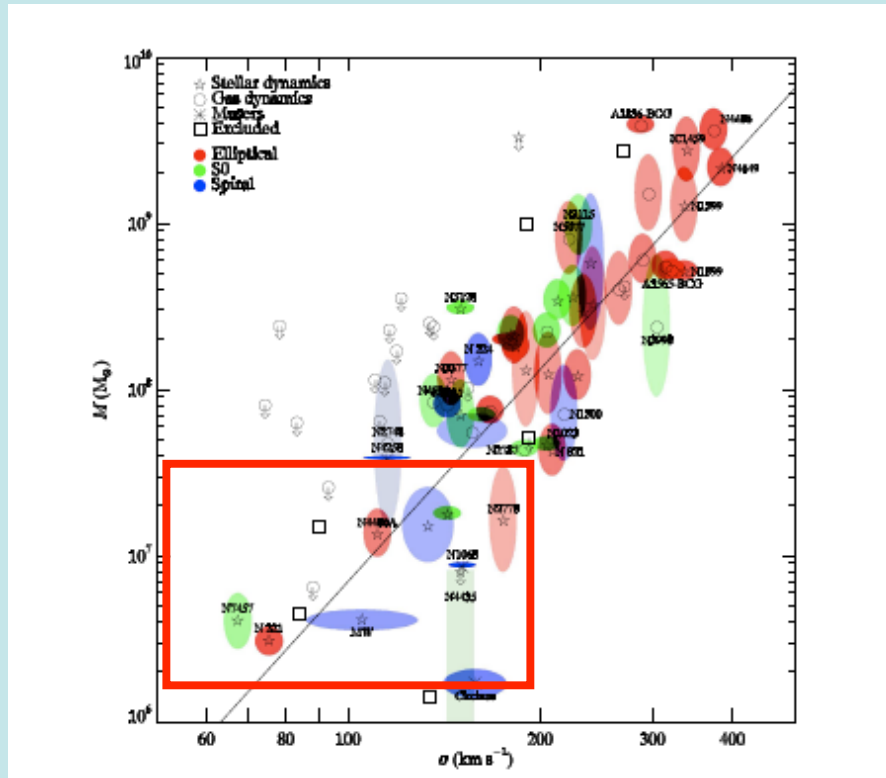


SHOULD BE OBSERVABLE AT HIGH  $z$  WITH JWST, ACCRETING BH WITH UNDERMASSIVE STELLAR POPN. Agarwal, Davis+ 2013

# Predictions from evolving massive BH seeds

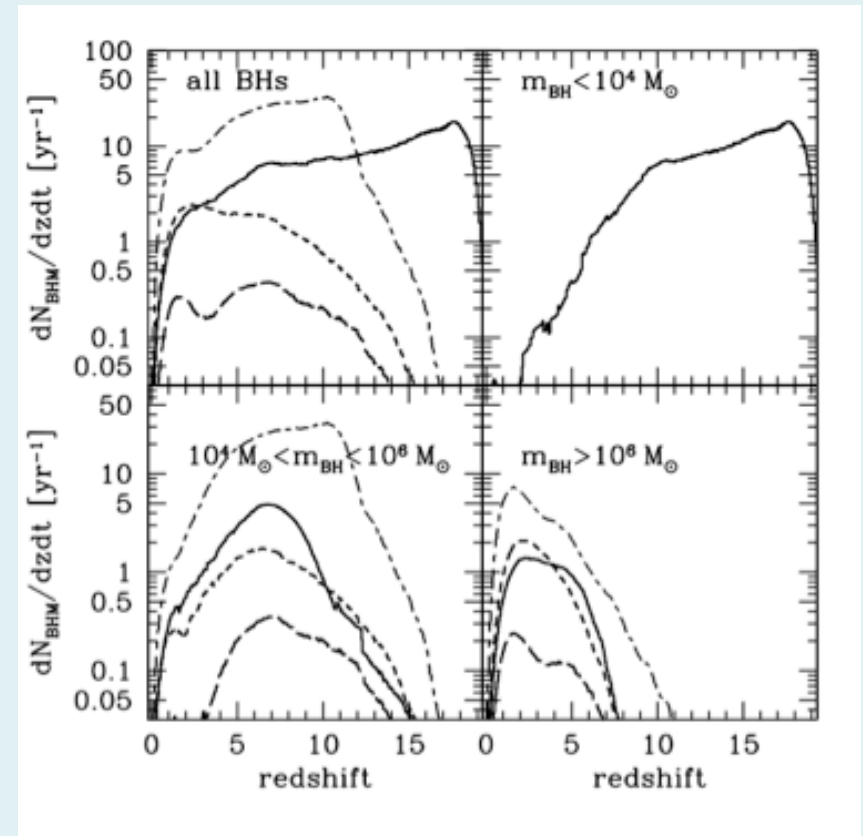
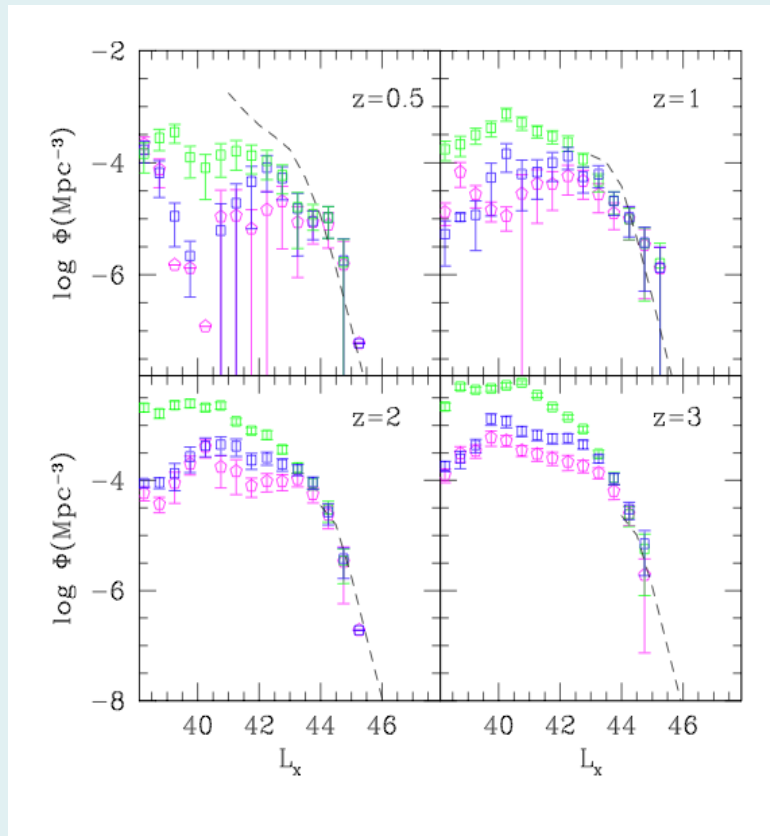
- BH occupation fraction at  $z=0$
- Massive seed models predict low occupation fraction for small galaxies (below  $\sigma \sim 50-100$  km/sec)
- Progenitors of dwarf galaxies were not massive enough to seed a BH at high redshift
- Predict deviation from  $M$ - $\sigma$  at  $z=0$  both at high and low BH mass ends
- At higher redshifts bulge growth lags behind BH growth
- Deviation at high mass end **encodes more than just the merger history** (PN & Treister 2009)
- Predict active, SMBHs in place at  $z > 8$  (Treister+ 2013)
- Consistent with recent surveys of the Virgo cluster in the optical (Decarli et al 2007) and X-ray (Gallo et al. 2008)
- Evidence gathering support from high and low  $z$

# The low mass end of the local $M_{\text{bh}}$ -sigma relation



Greene & Ho 2009; Greene+ 2011; Jiang+ 2011

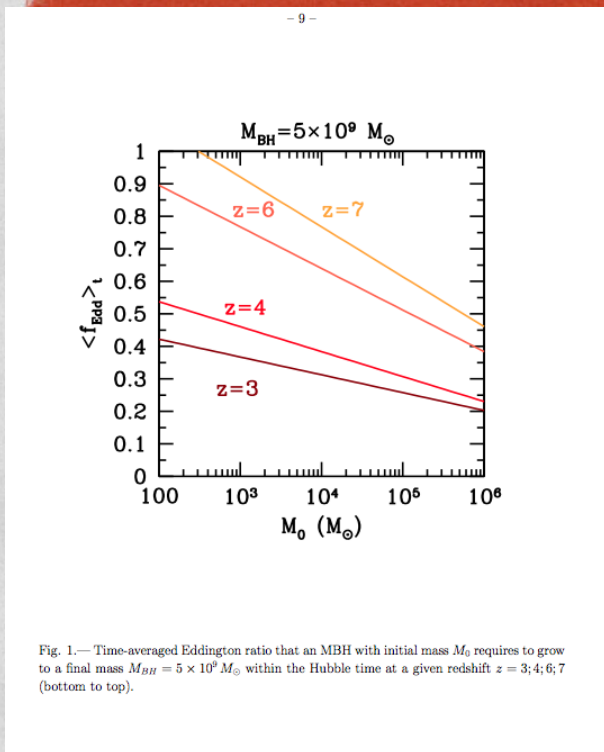
Predictions to test massive seed models:  
XLF faint end of quasars & merger rates of  
MBHBs



Volonteri & PN 2010; 2011; Sesana+ 2010

# CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR THE GROWTH OF THE MOST MASSIVE BLACK HOLES

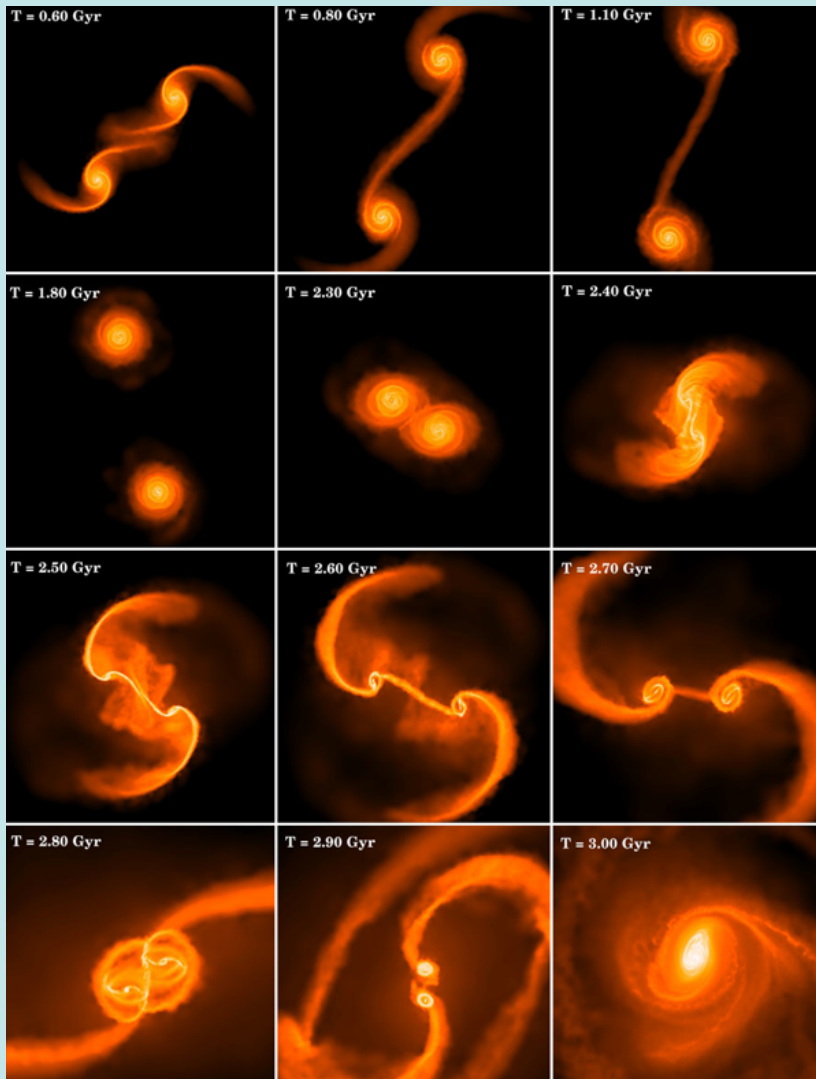
- Average Eddington rate to grow a light seed ( $\sim 100 M_{\odot}$ ) so that at  $t = 2.1 \text{ Gyr } z = 3$ , it needs to accrete continuously at  $\langle f_{\text{Edd}} \rangle \sim 0.38$  and by  $t = 1.5 \text{ Gyr } z = 4$   $\langle f_{\text{Edd}} \rangle \sim 0.54$
- For massive seeds less stringent  $\langle f_{\text{Edd}} \rangle \sim 0.27$  ( $z = 3$ ) and  $0.3$  ( $z = 4$ )



- Not for the whole population though.....

$$\dot{\rho} = \frac{\langle f_{\text{Edd}} \rangle_{t, \text{all}}}{t_{\text{Edd}}} \frac{1 - \epsilon}{\epsilon} \rho + \dot{\rho}_{\text{form}}$$

# MAKING MASSIVE SEEDS AT LATE TIMES



Simulation of gas-rich galaxy mergers with efficient and high inflow rates, results in the formation of a gravito-turbulent disk in the nuclear regions that is stable against fragmentation

Mayer+ 2010  
Dolan+ 2011

Implementation in the CDM context with a semi-analytic model

Bonoli+ 2013

## Conditions required to ASSEMBLE THE MOST MASSIVE BLACK HOLES AT ALL EPOCHS

- Massive initial BH seeds heavier than Pop III remnants at high  $z$  (trade-off between obscured growth vs. massive initial seeds)
- Brief periods of super-Eddington accretion early on
- Periods of obscured growth during merger triggered phases
- very inefficient feedback from these BHs as it stunts their growth prematurely (i.e. AGN feedback cannot be the sole mechanism of suppressing SF in massive halos)
- Long lived steady accretion mode that necessitates natural solution to the last parsec problem (steady trickle through age of universe)