



Star formation in galactic context

a sub-parsec resolution model of the Milky-Way

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et al:

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• STAR FORMATION IN A NUTSHELL

GMC

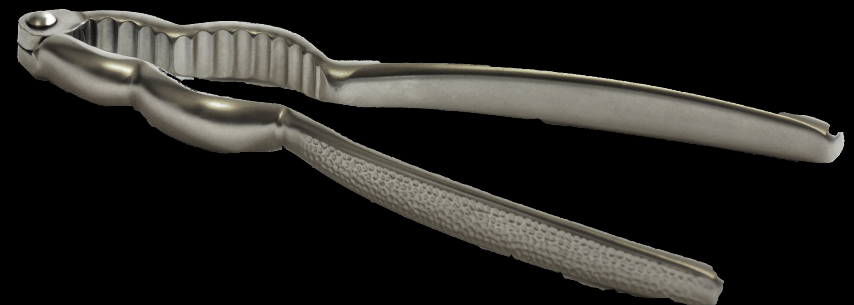
Filaments

Cores

Proto-stars

Embedded star cluster

Gas-free star cluster

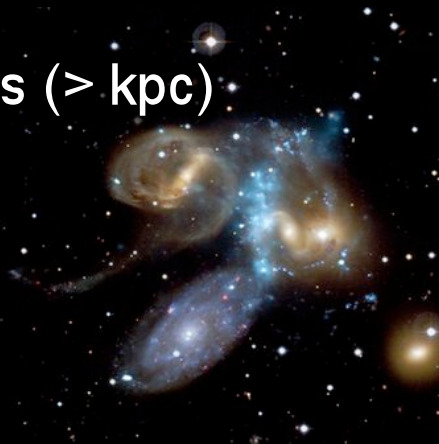


• ENTERS THE NUTCRACKER

tides
shear
density waves
2D turbulence



large scales ($> \text{kpc}$)

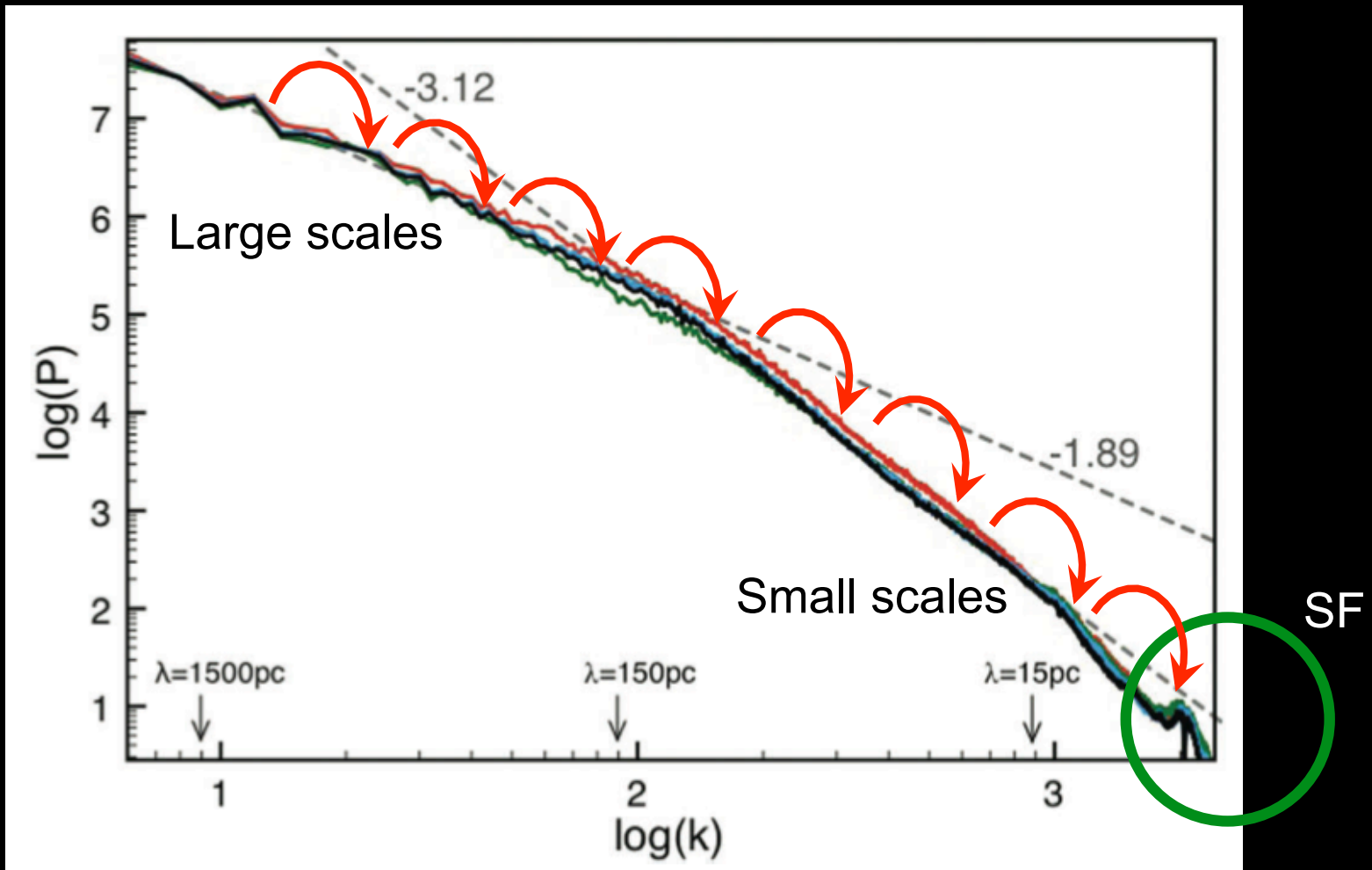


small scales ($< \text{pc}$)



fragmentation
heating (feedback)
3D turbulence
(Kolmogorov)

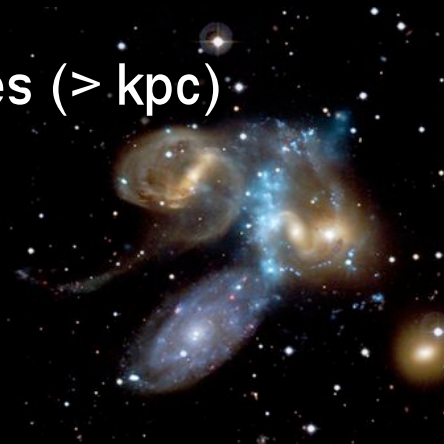
• TURBULENCE CASCADE



Bournaud et al. 2010

• ENTERS THE NUTCRACKER

tides
shear
density waves
2D turbulence



large scales (> kpc)

scale coupling

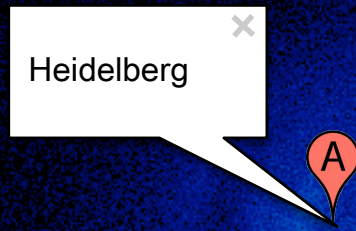


small scales (< pc)

fragmentation
heating (feedback)
3D turbulence
(Kolmogorov)

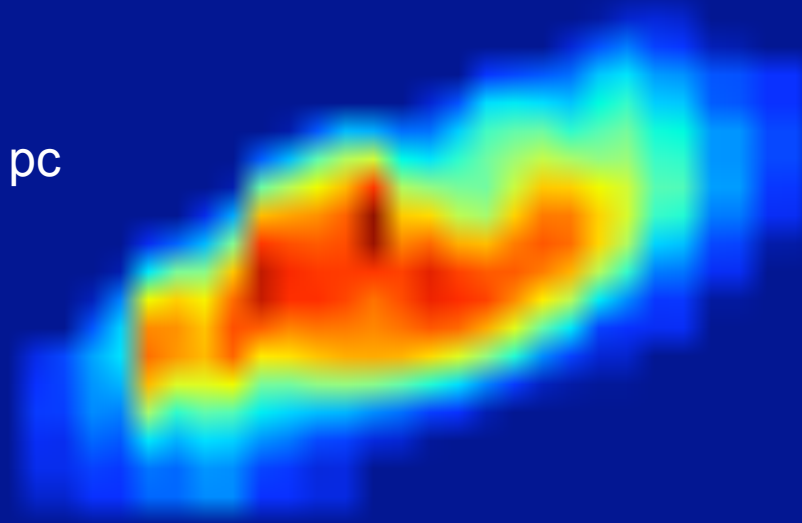
• THE GOAL

Need to resolve SF cores ($< \text{pc}$) in a galactic context (100 kpc)



0.5 pc

~ 0.1 pc * 1 pc

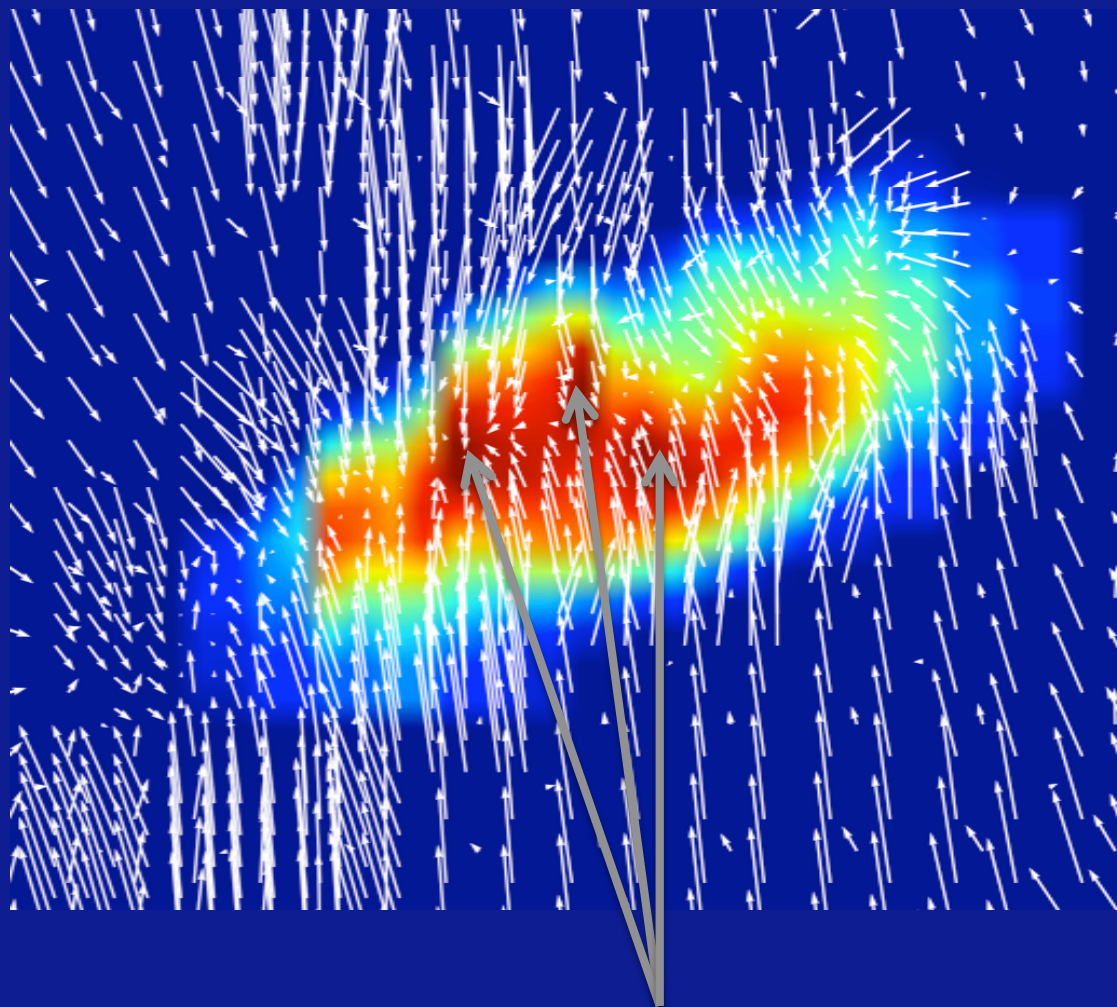


$$q = \frac{\sigma^2}{2G\mu}$$

Jeans unstable

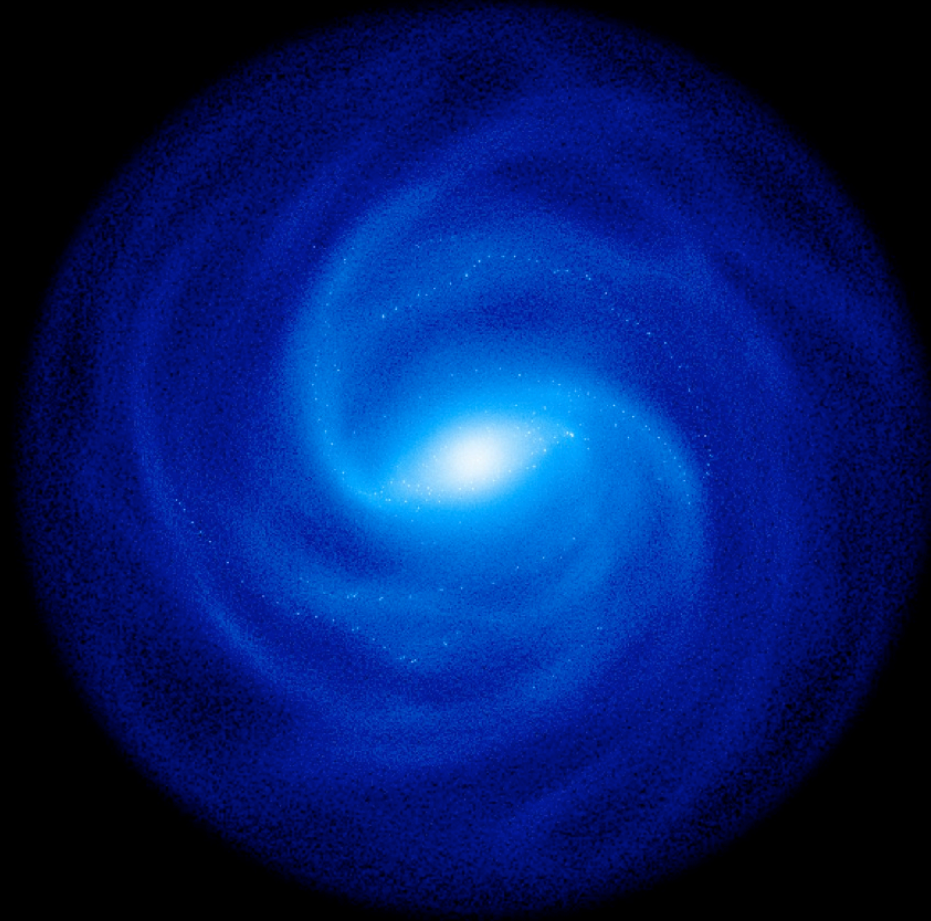
Chandrasekhar & Fermi 1953

0.5 pc



accreting (protostellar?) cores

- MILKY-WAY SIMULATION

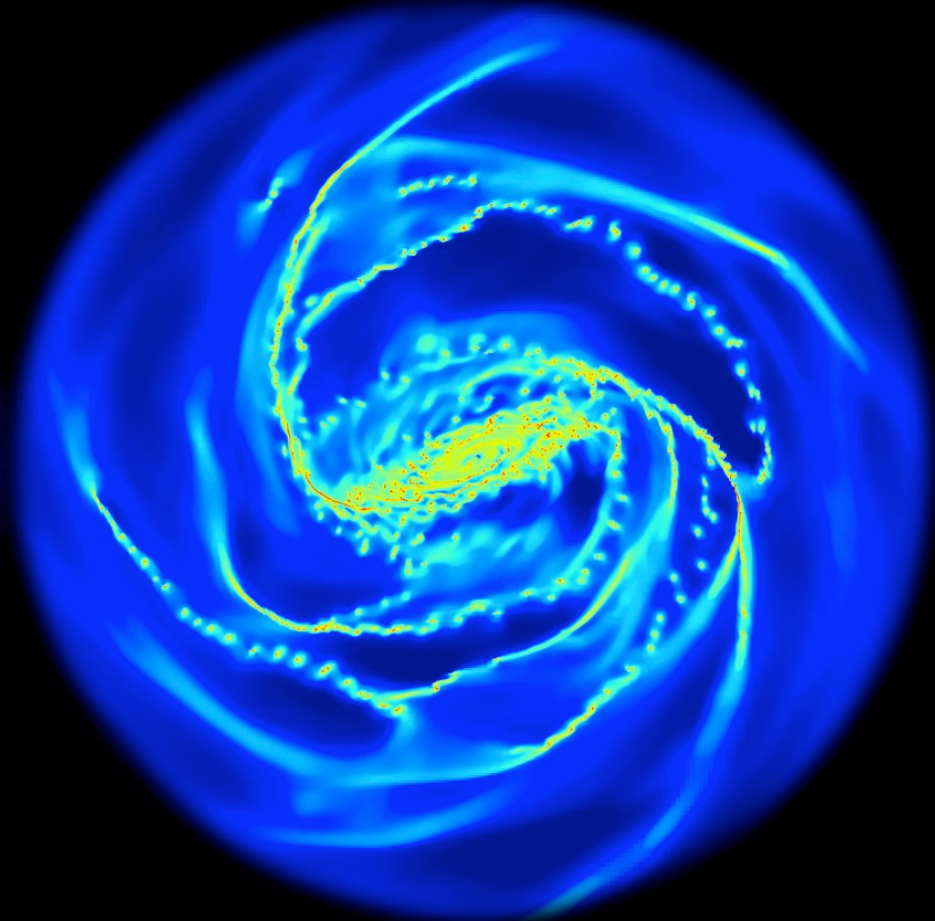


0.05 pc

14 K

0.5 km/s

30 M_⊙



turbulence cascade described down to sonic scale (0.1 - 0.05 pc)

Larson 1981

● INITIAL CONDITIONS

pyMGE

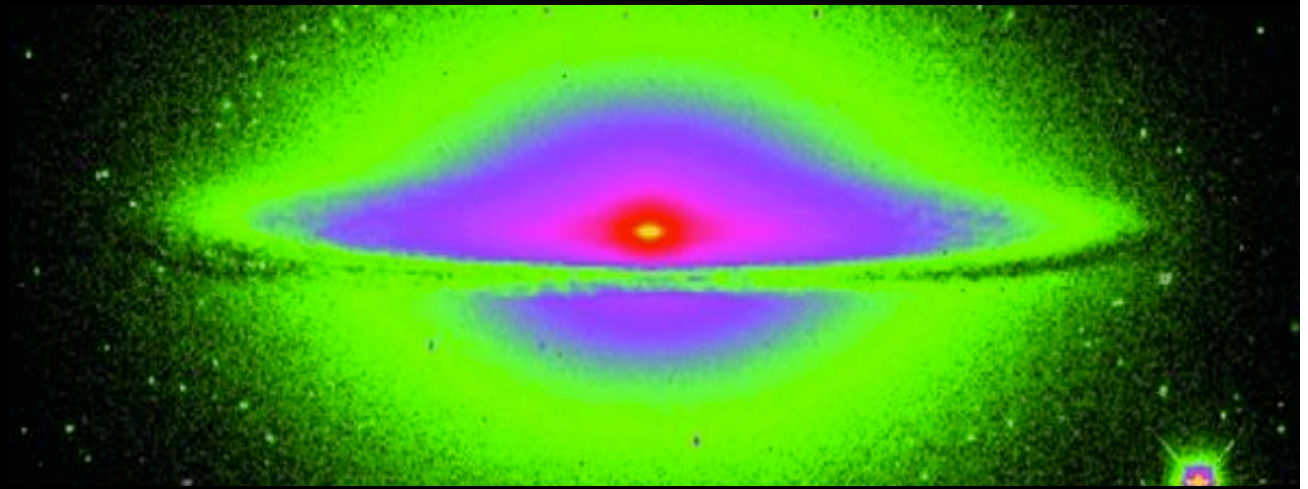
Emsellem et al. 1994
Emsellem & Renaud (in prep.)

python Multiple Gaussian Expansion

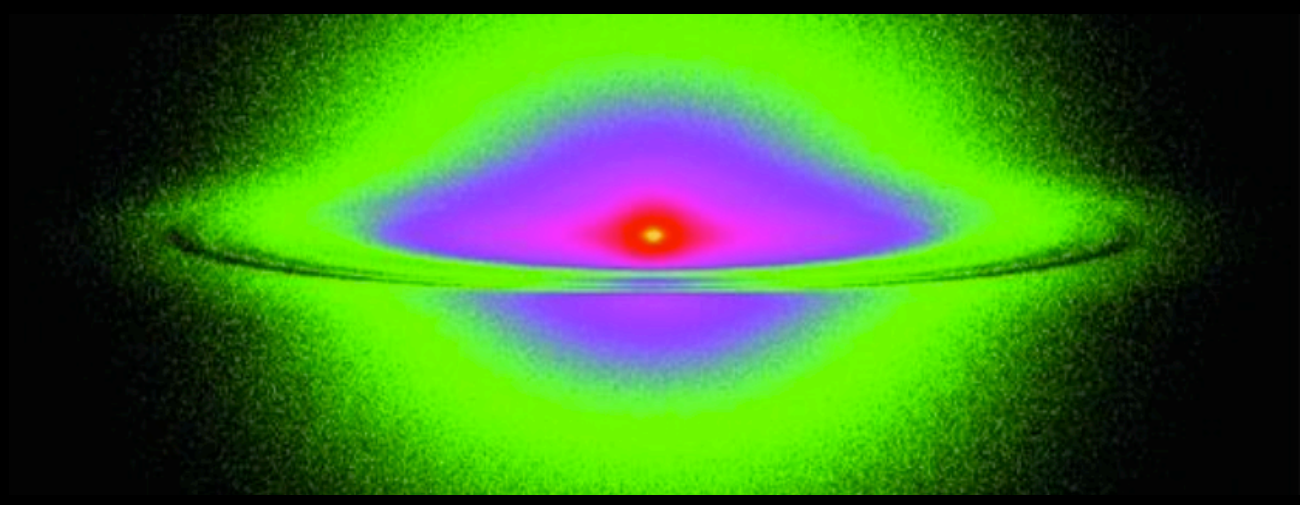
Sombrero galaxy

V-band observation

Baes et al. 2011



pyMGE model



● INITIAL CONDITIONS

Besancon model Robin et al. 2003

Dark matter halo

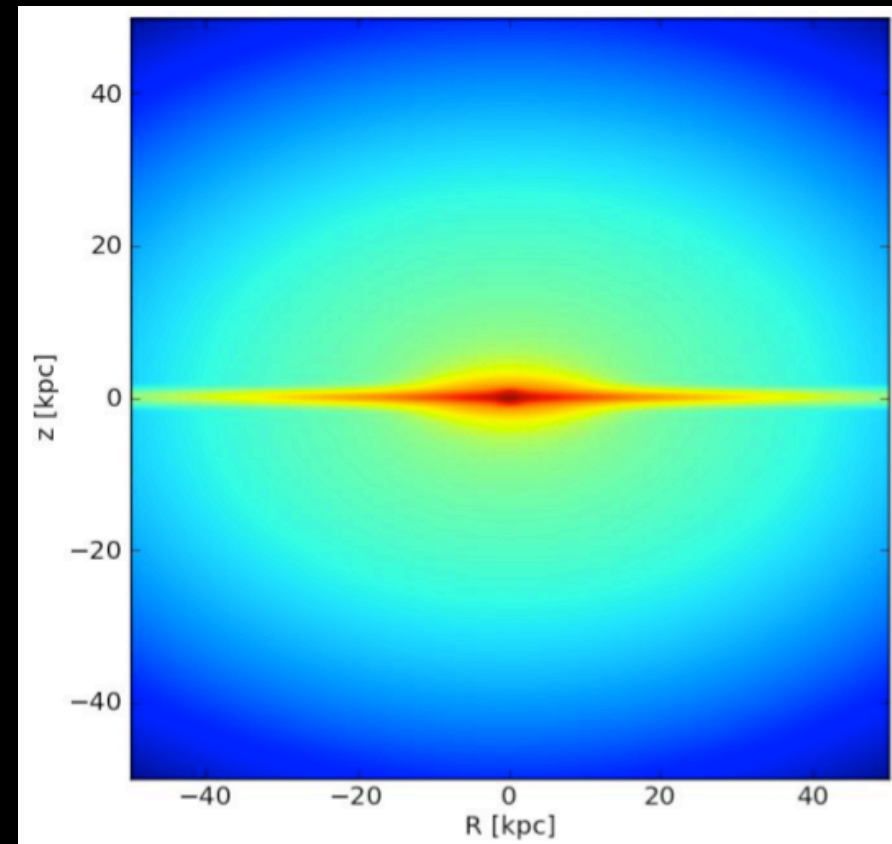
Spheroid

Bulge

Thick and thin disks

Black hole

60M particles



Gas disk: analytical setup on grid (100 kpc * 100 kpc * 100 kpc)

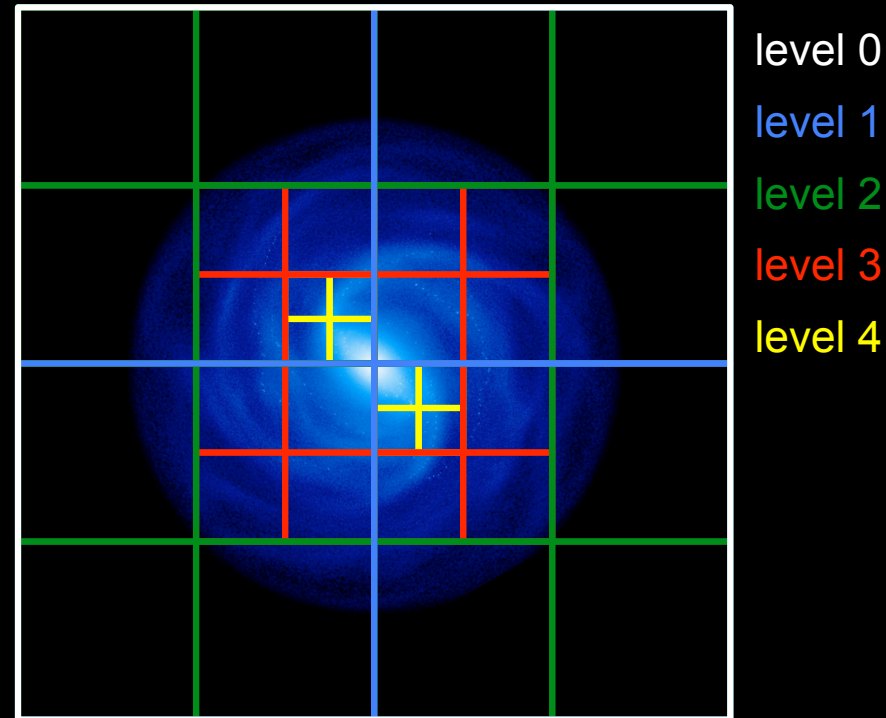
No satellites, no cold flows, no B-field

● SOFTWARE: RAMSES

RAMSES Teyssier 2002

*Résolution Adaptative sur Mailles,
Sans Efforts Surhumains*

Adaptive Mesh Refinement



Refinement on density and Jeans length

Truelove et al. 1997

• YOU USE AMR EVERYDAY!

...AND EVEN ON
YOUR IPHONE

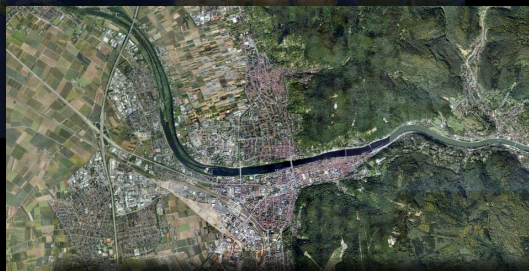
Google

Milky Way



Level 0

← Earth galaxy →



Level 12

← town molecular clouds →



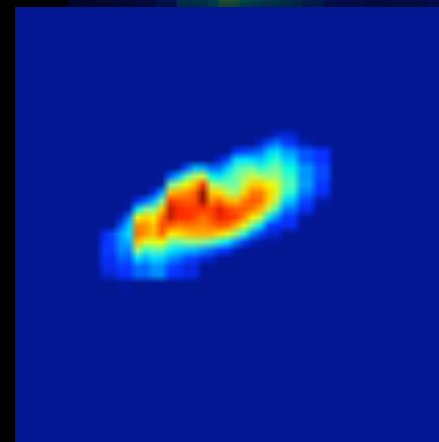
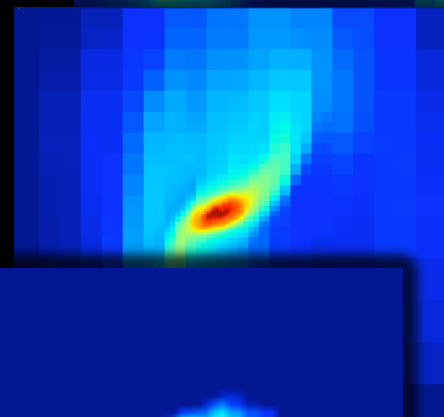
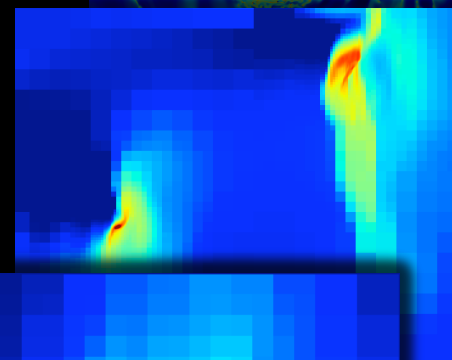
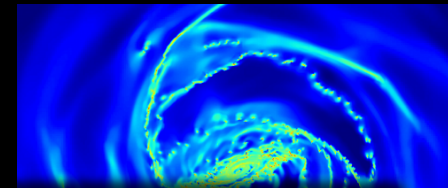
Level 18

← building filaments →

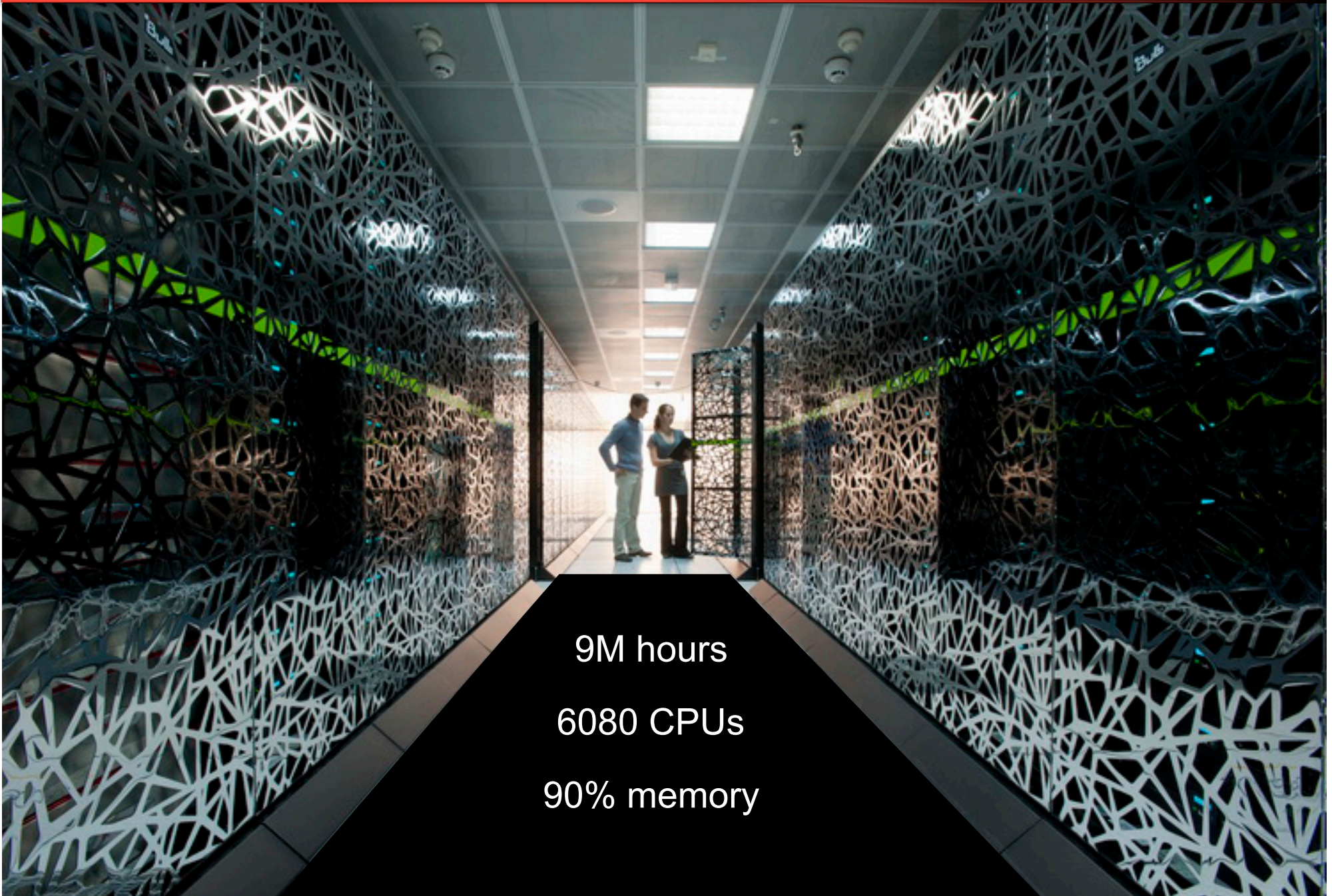
GoogleMaps limit

Level 21

cores →



● HARDWARE: CURIE



9M hours
6080 CPUs
90% memory

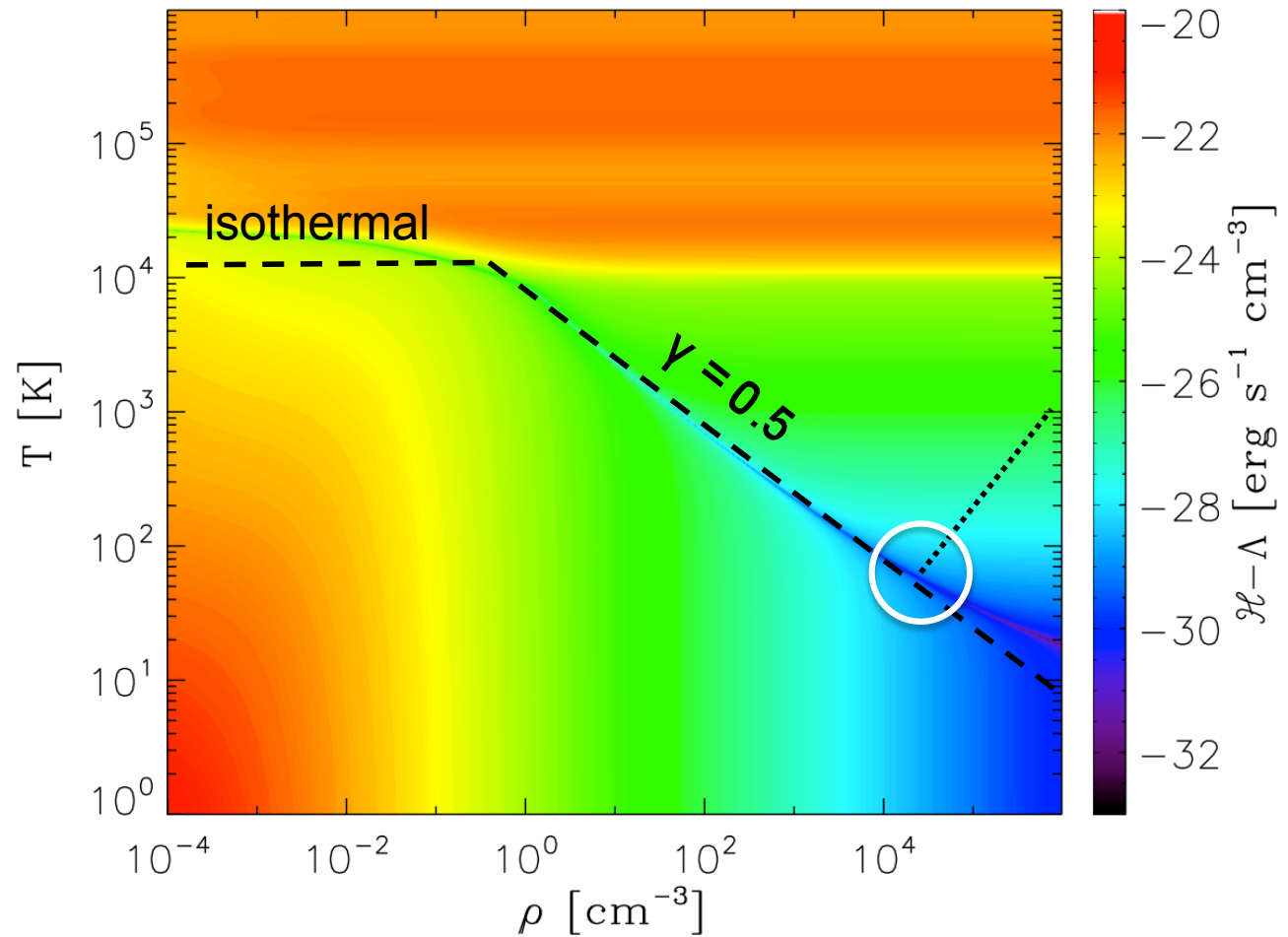
• SCIENCE INSIDE: EoS

Piecewise
polytropic EoS

Bournaud et al. 2010

+ pressure floor

Robertson & Kravtsov 2008



down to 14 K

• SCIENCE INSIDE: STAR FORMATION

Density threshold: 1000 cm^{-3}

SF law
Schmidt 1959

$$\rho_{\text{SFR}} = \epsilon \frac{\rho}{t_{\text{ff}}} \propto \epsilon \rho^{1.5}$$

Poisson distribution of mean
Katz 1992

$$\frac{\rho_{\text{SFR}}}{M_{\star}} dt$$

$$\epsilon = 0.03$$

$$M_{\star} = 160 M_{\odot}$$

● SCIENCE INSIDE: STELLAR FEEDBACK

Creation of HII photo-ionized bubbles
(thermal pressure)

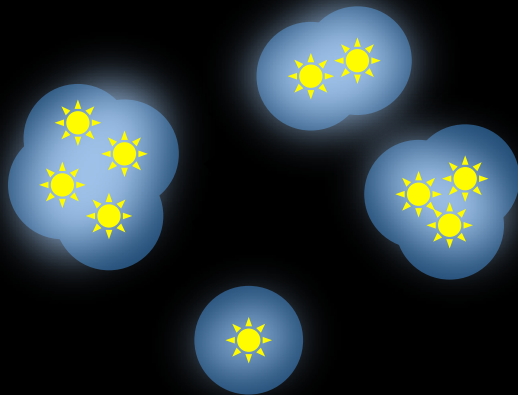
Momentum driven feedback
(radiative pressure)

Renaud & Bournaud (in prep)

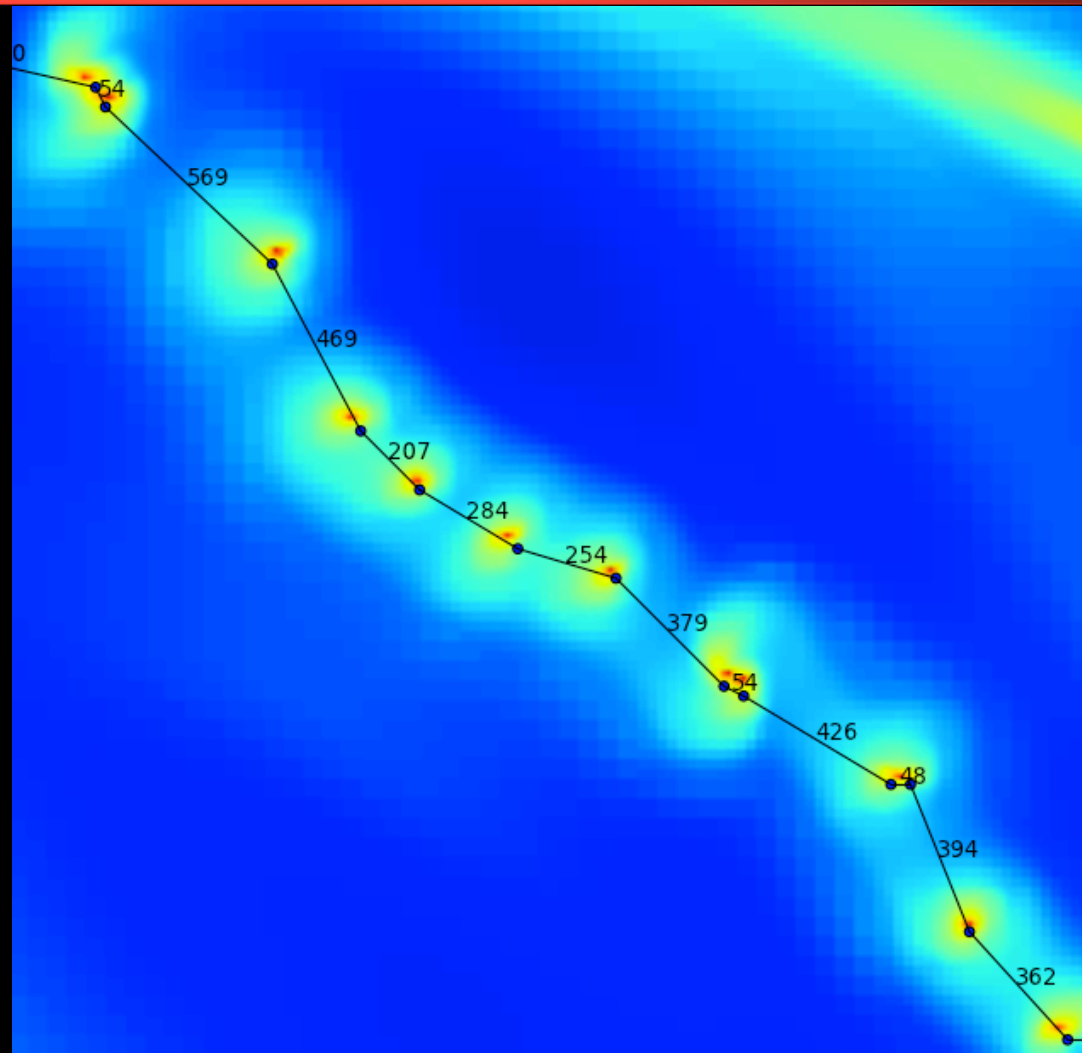
SN explosions

Dubois & Teyssier 2008

Predictive feedback
(no free parameters)



● BEADS ON A STRING



Separations correlate with FWHM

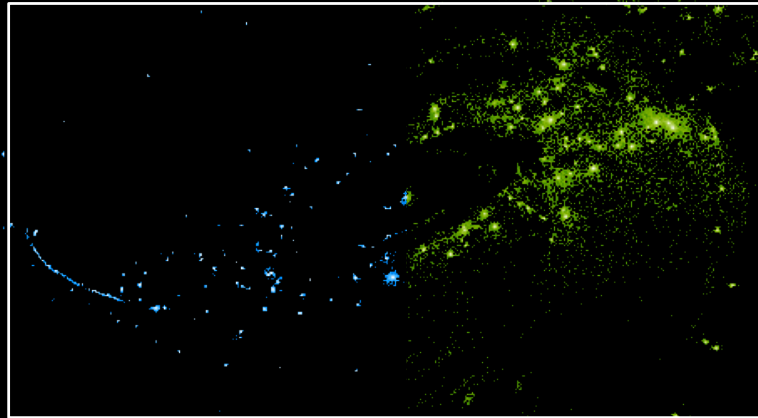
Fischera & Martin 2012

(see the talk by B. Elmegreen)

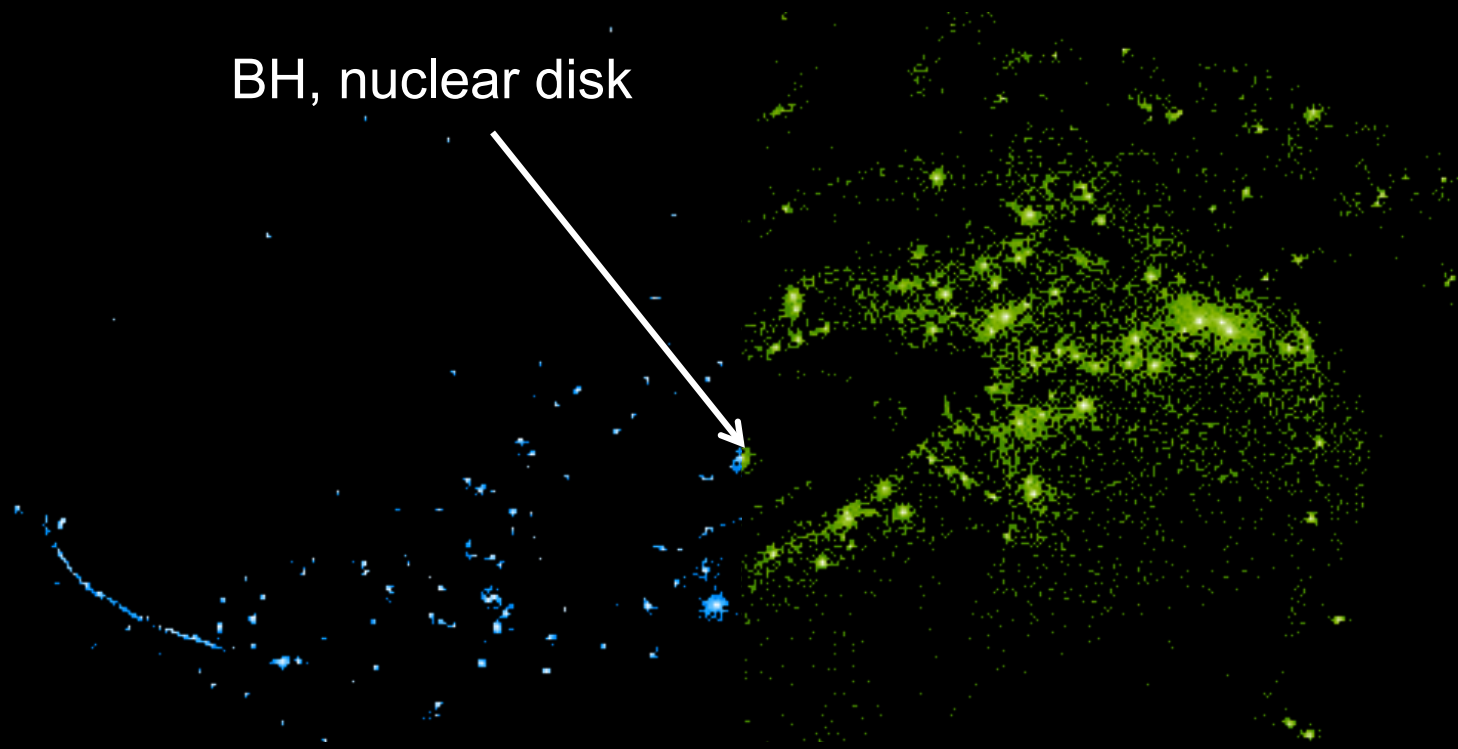
● STAR FORMATION

clustered SF

■ > 4 Myr
■ < 4 Myr



- (No) SF IN THE BAR

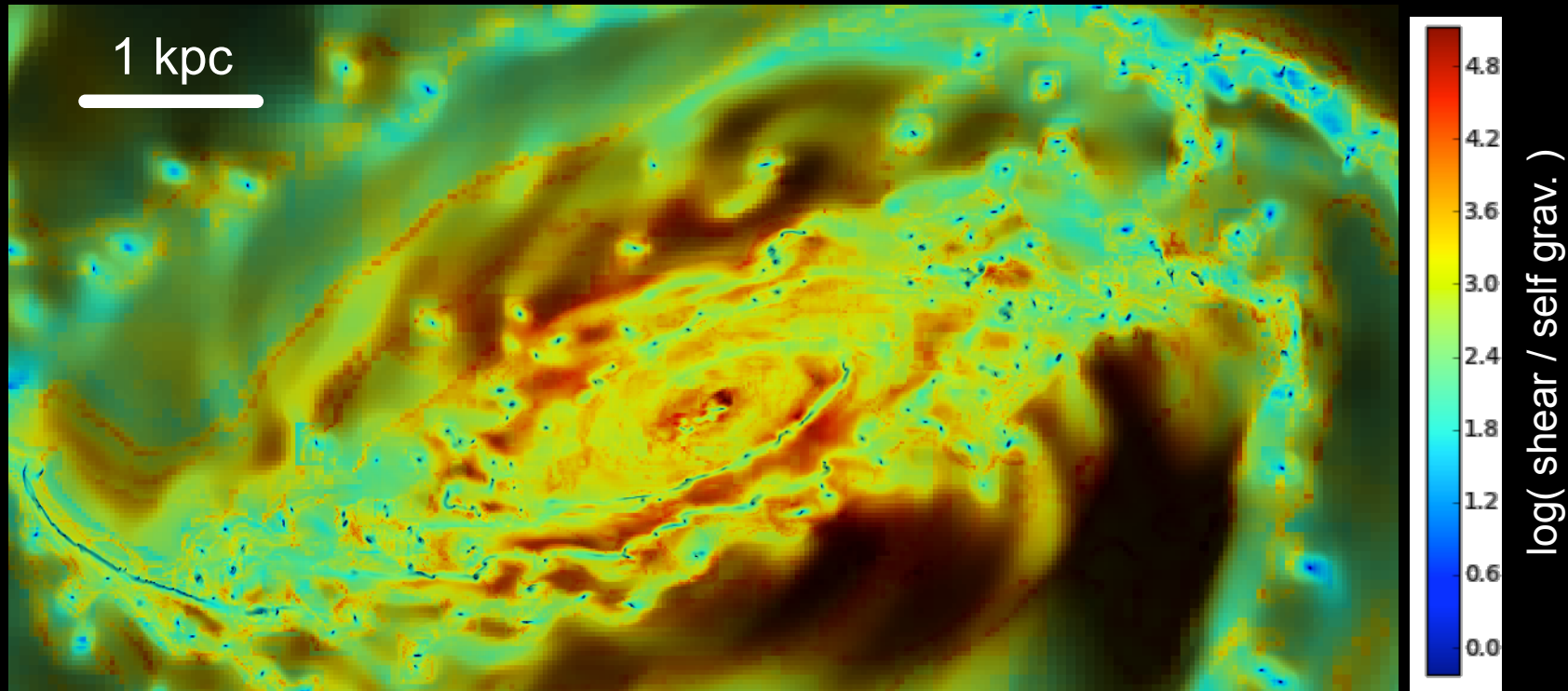


No SF *inside* the bar

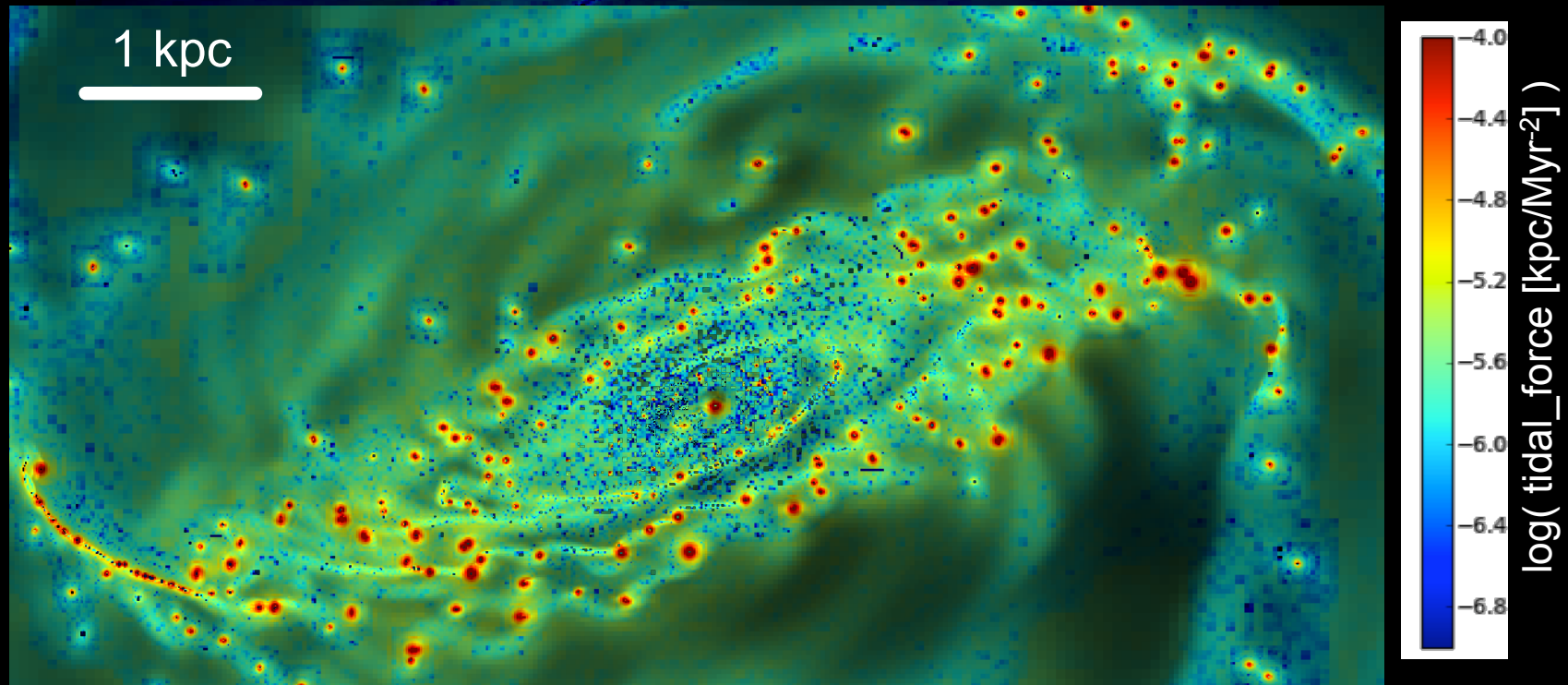
Comparable to observations

(see the talks by S. Longmore and H. Beuther)

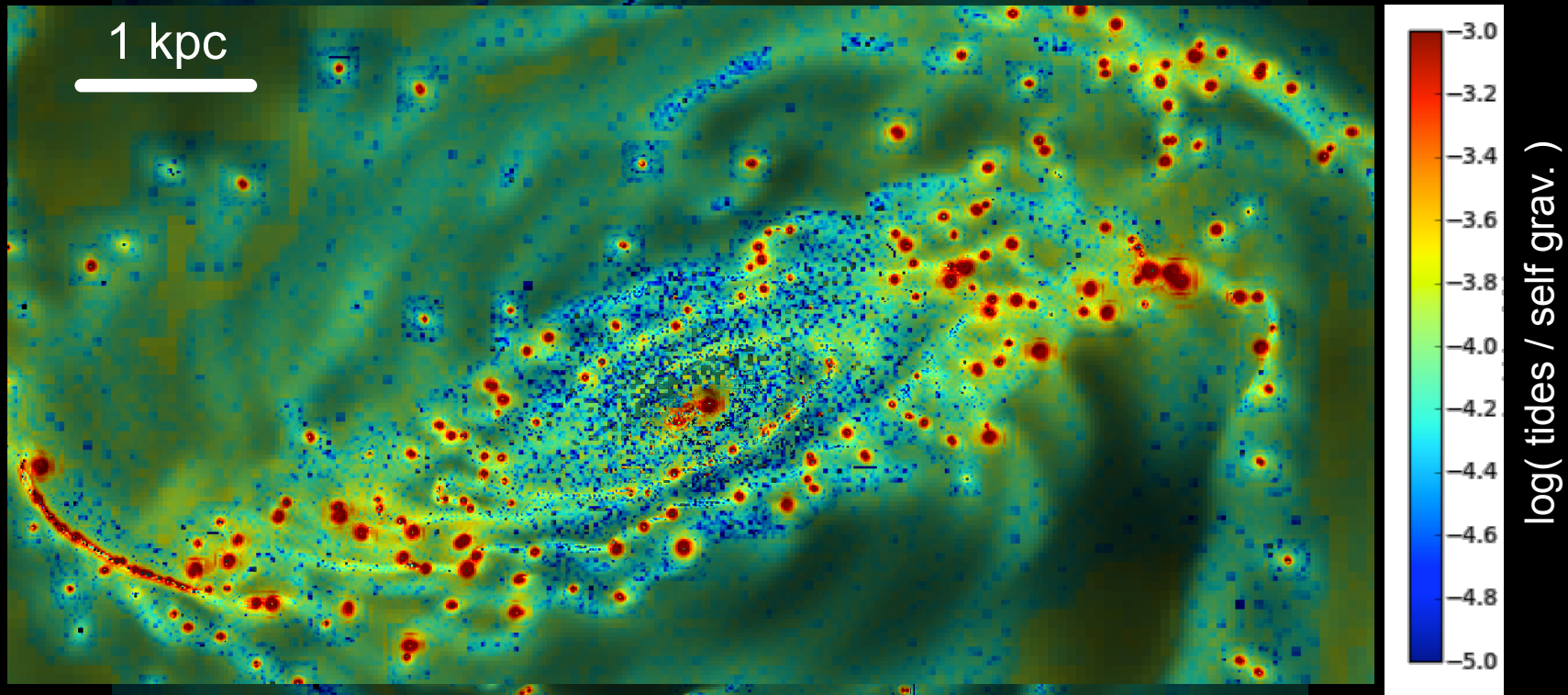
- BECAUSE OF SHEAR?



- AND WHAT ABOUT TIDES?

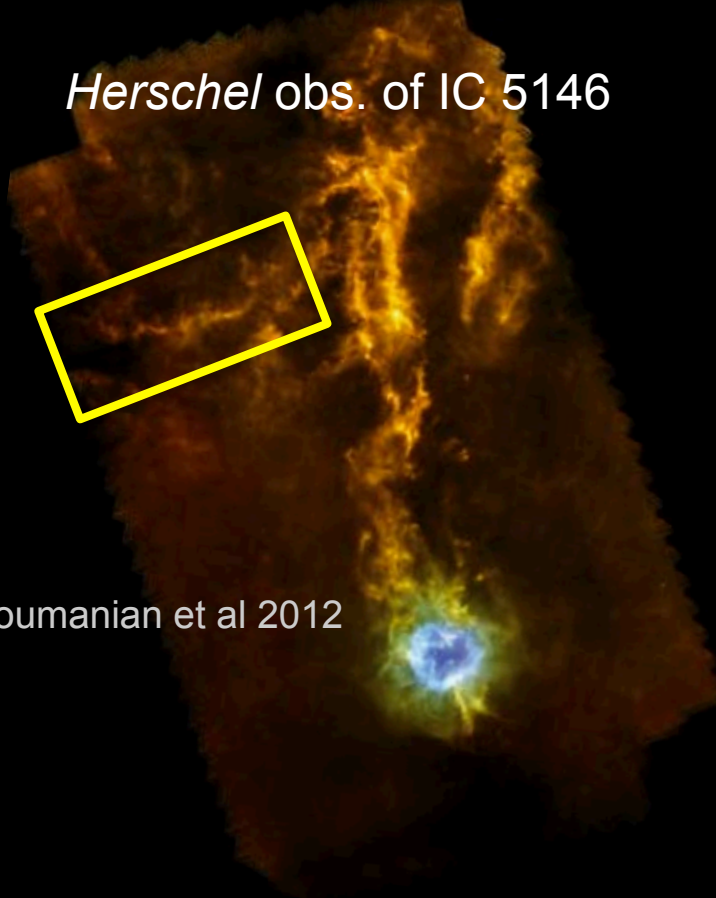


• AND WHAT ABOUT TIDES?

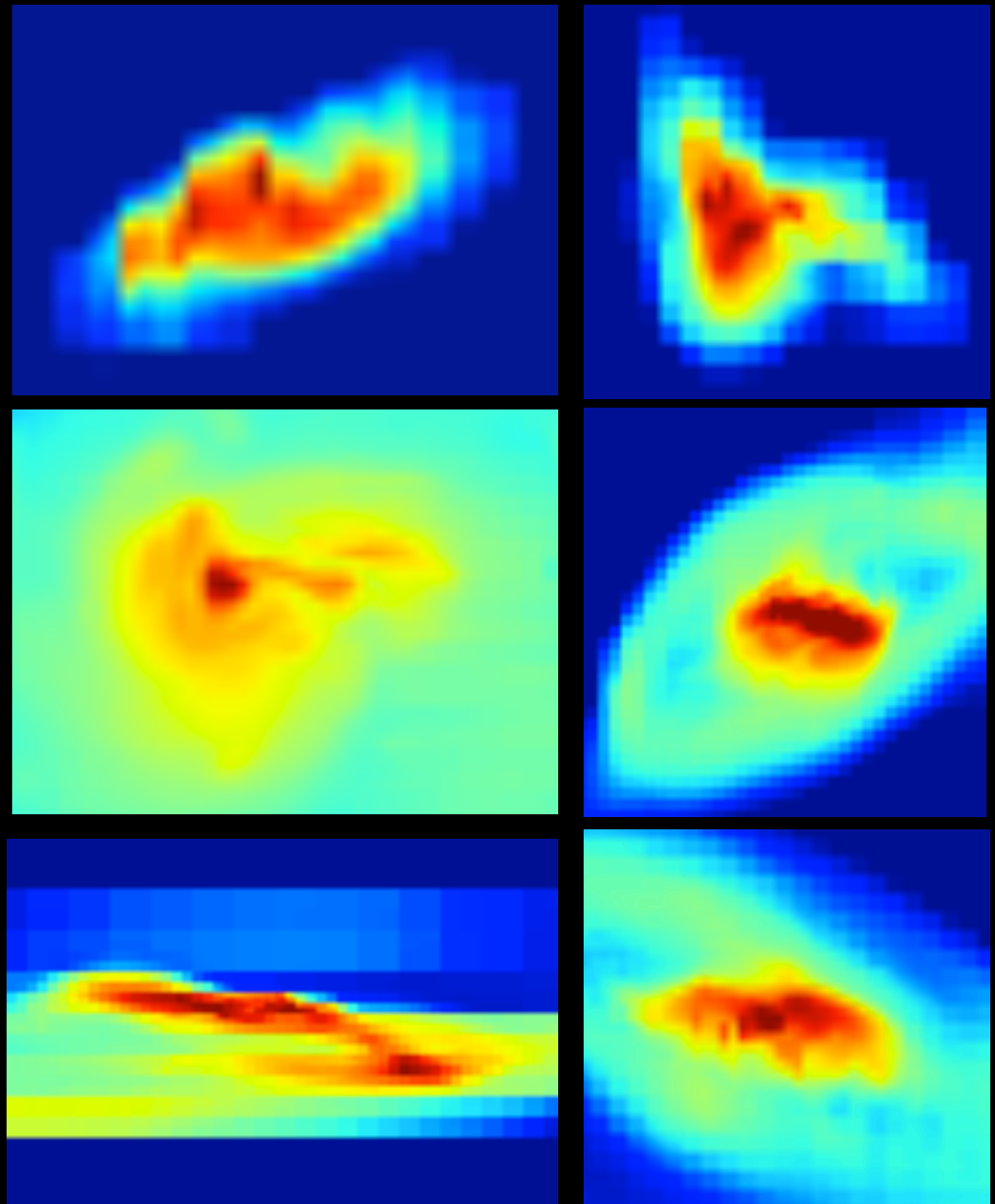


● INTERSTELLAR FILAMENTS

Herschel obs. of IC 5146



Arzoumanian et al 2012



Is magnetic field needed? No!

Padoan et al 2001
Balsara et al 2001

Fragmentation → SF cores

• CONCLUSIONS

Simulation of the MW at subparsec resolution

Turbulent cascade fully described (down to sonic scale)

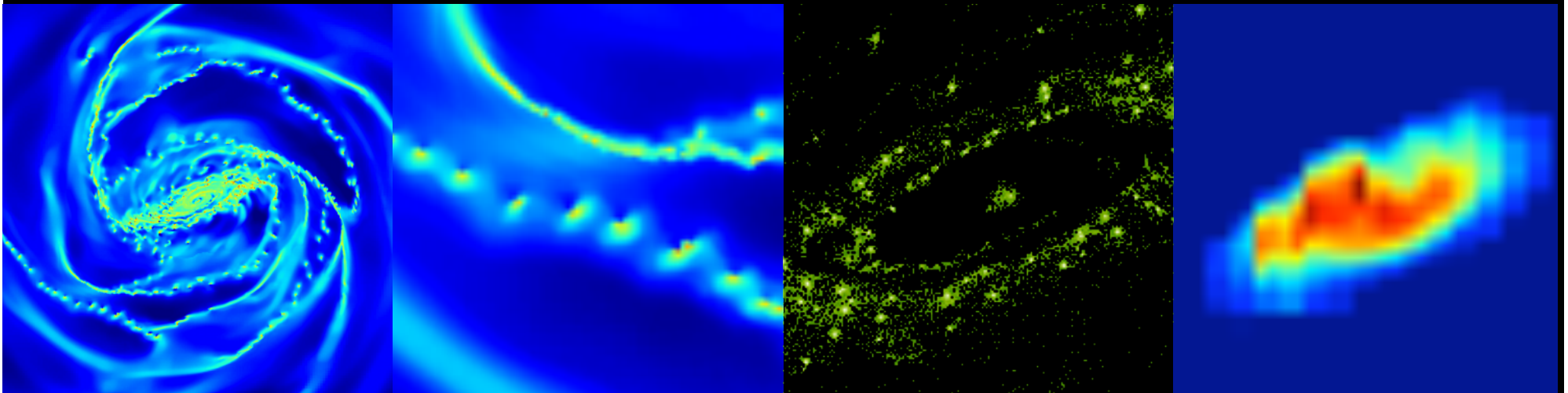
Beads on a string, clustered star formation

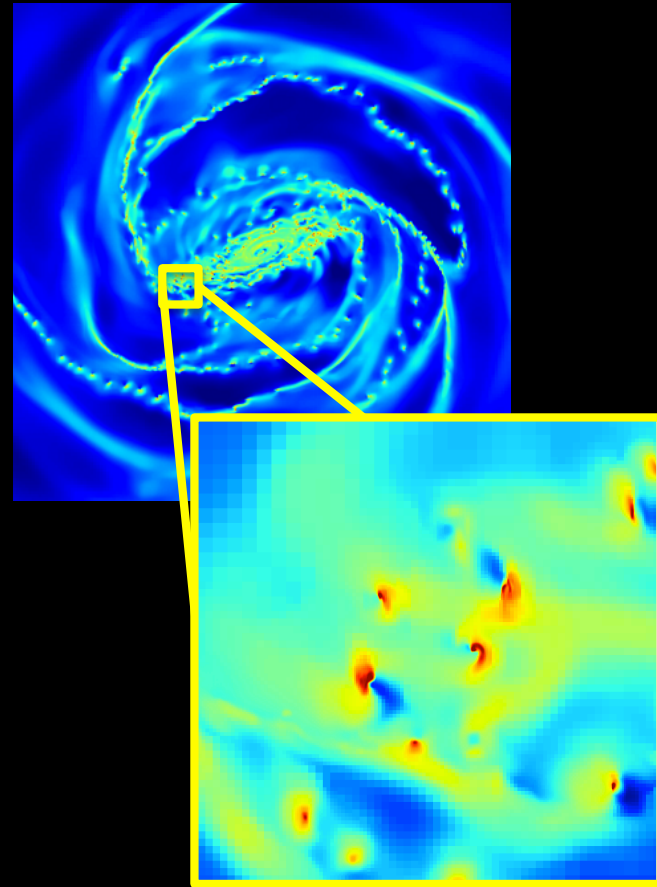
No star formation inside the bar

because of shear

Interstellar filaments formed

with no magnetic field





Fly over the (molecular) clouds

<http://irfu.cea.fr/Pisp/florent.renaud>