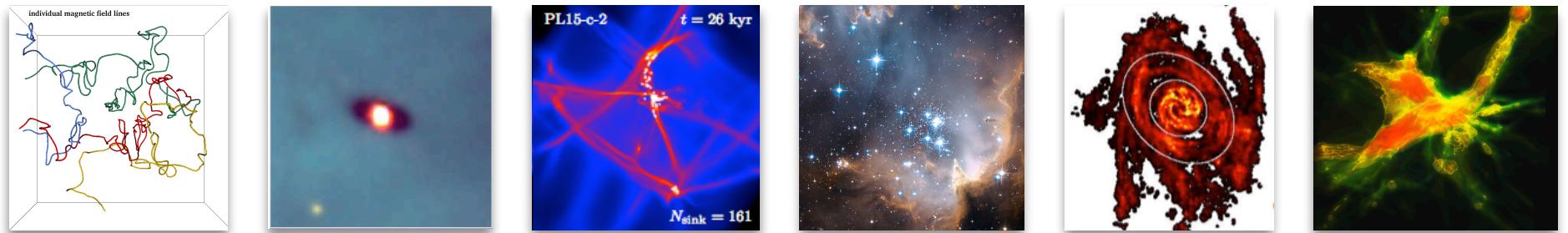


# From Molecular Clouds to Star Formation

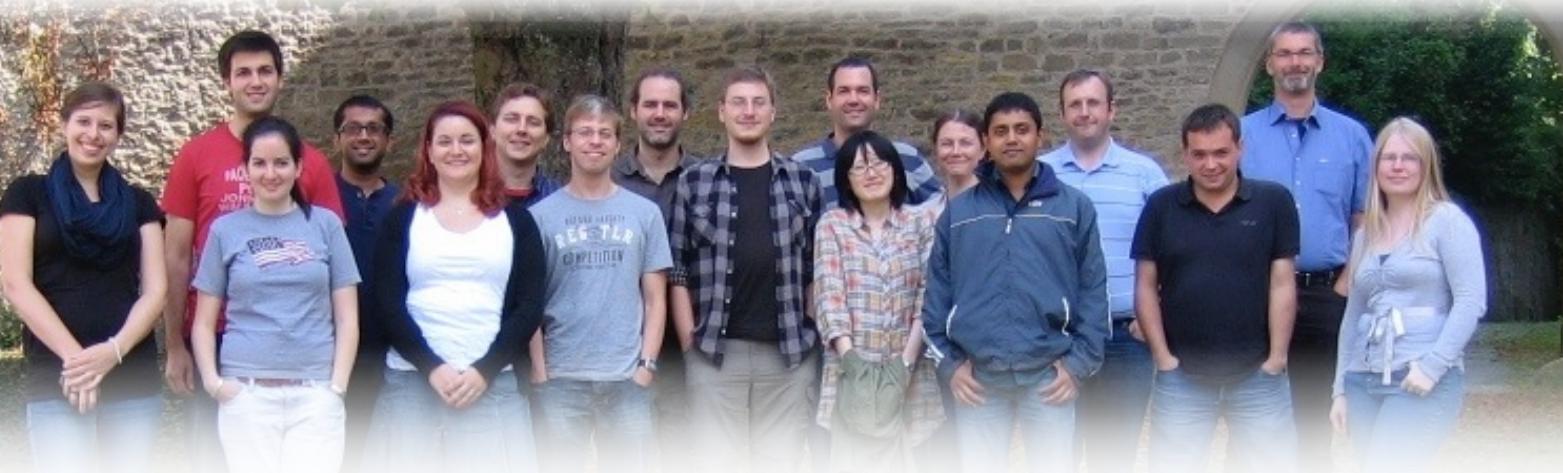


Ralf Klessen

Universität Heidelberg, Zentrum für Astronomie  
Institut für Theoretische Astrophysik



# thanks to ...



... people in the star formation group at Heidelberg University:

Christian Baczyński, Erik Bertram, Frank Bigiel, Andre Bubel, Diane Cormier, Volker Gaibler, Simon Glover, Dimitrious Gouliermis, Tilman Hartwig, Juan Ibanez, Christoph Klein, Lukas Konstandin, Mei Sasaki, Jennifer Schober, Rahul Shetty, Rowan Smith, László Szűcs

... former group members:

Robi Banerjee, Ingo Berentzen, Paul Clark, Christoph Federrath, Philipp Girichidis, Thomas Greif, Milica Micic, Thomas Peters, Dominik Schleicher, Stefan Schmeja, Sharanya Sur, ...

... many collaborators abroad!



Deutsche  
Forschungsgemeinschaft  
**DFG**

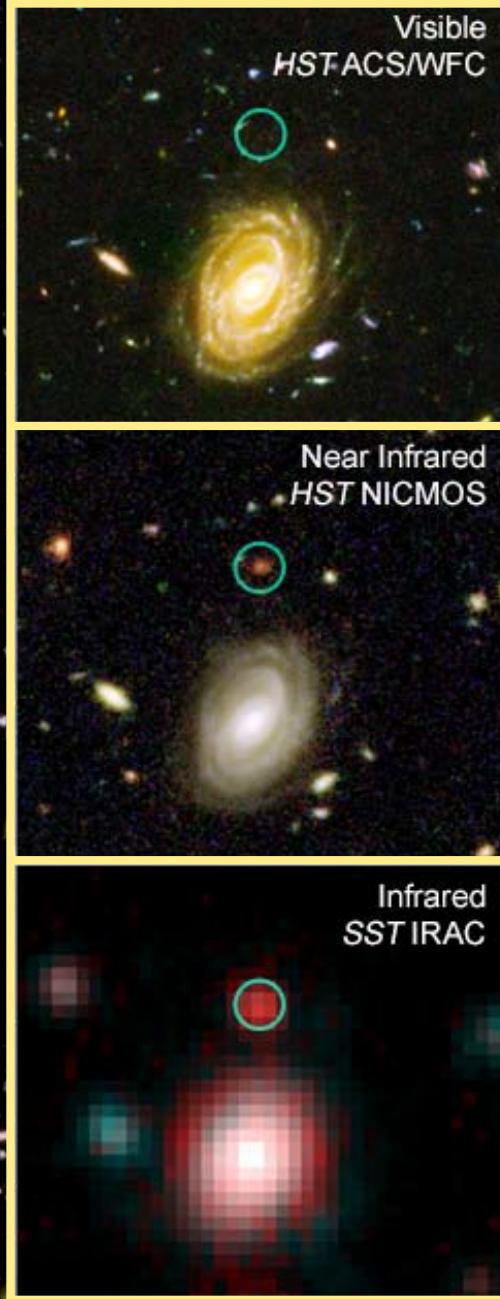


BADEN-  
**WÜRTTEMBERG**  
STIFTUNG  
Wir stiften Zukunft

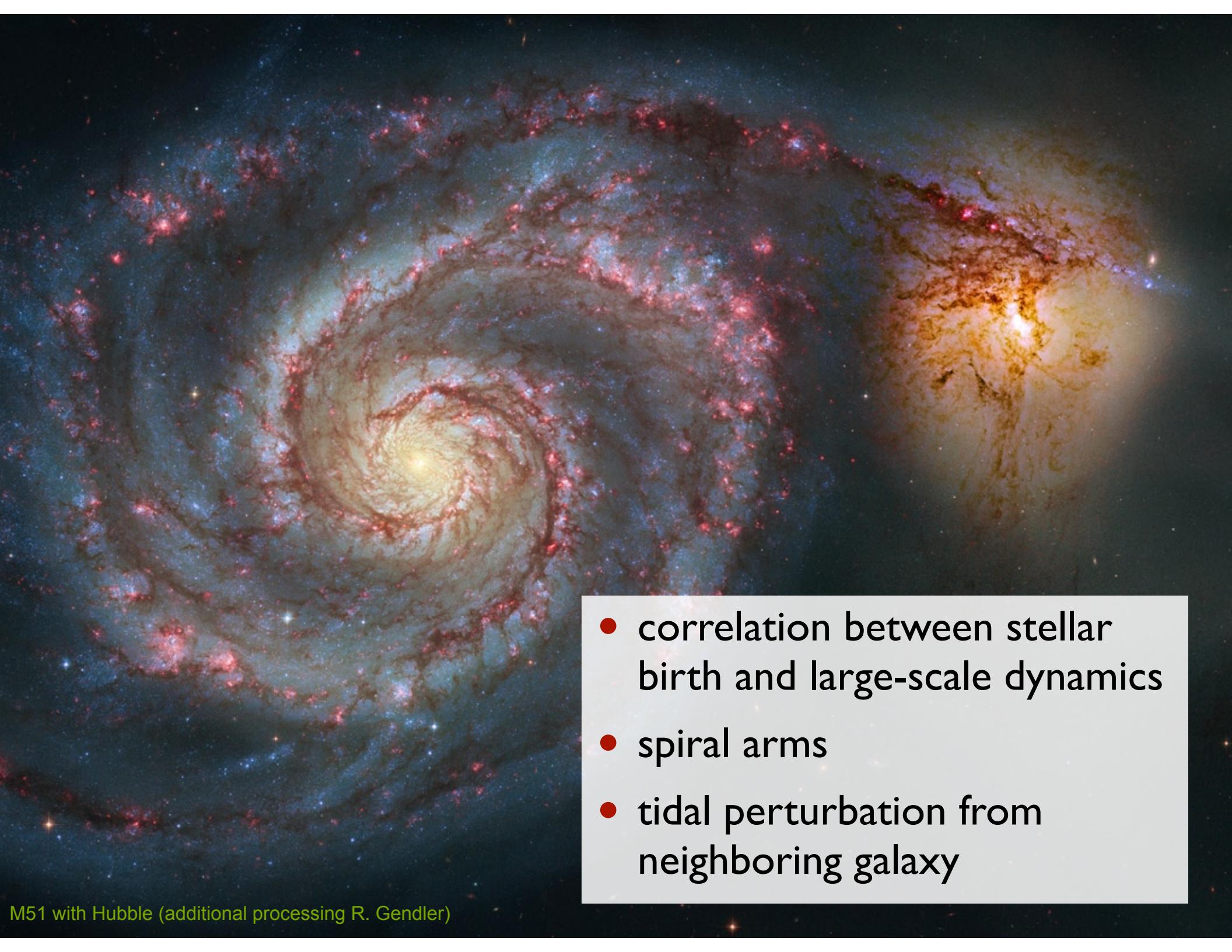


European  
Research  
Council

phenomenology

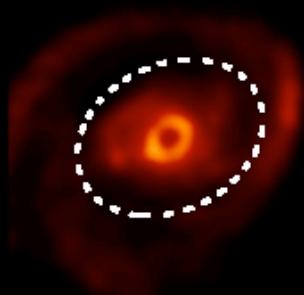


- star formation sets in very early after the big bang
- stars always form in galaxies and protogalaxies
- we cannot see the first generation of stars, but maybe the second one

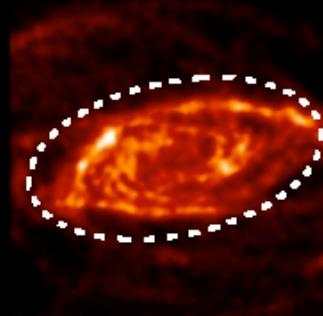


- correlation between stellar birth and large-scale dynamics
- spiral arms
- tidal perturbation from neighboring galaxy

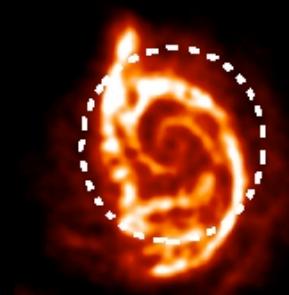
NGC 4736



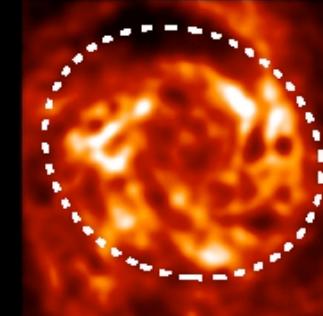
NGC 5055



NGC 5194

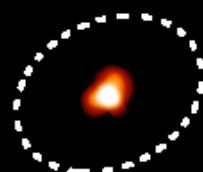


NGC 6946

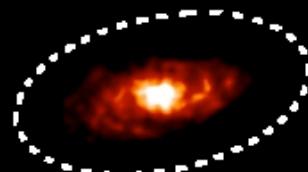


atomic  
hydrogen

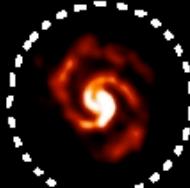
NGC 4736



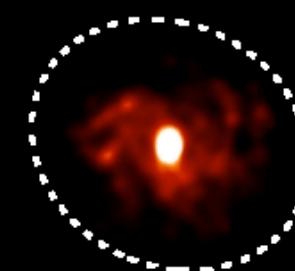
NGC 5055



NGC 5194



NGC 6946

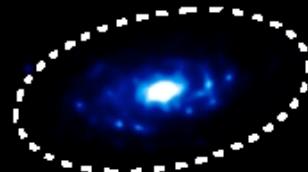


molecular  
hydrogen

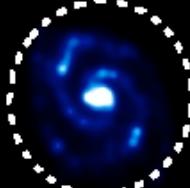
NGC 4736



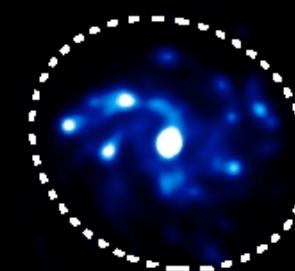
NGC 5055



NGC 5194

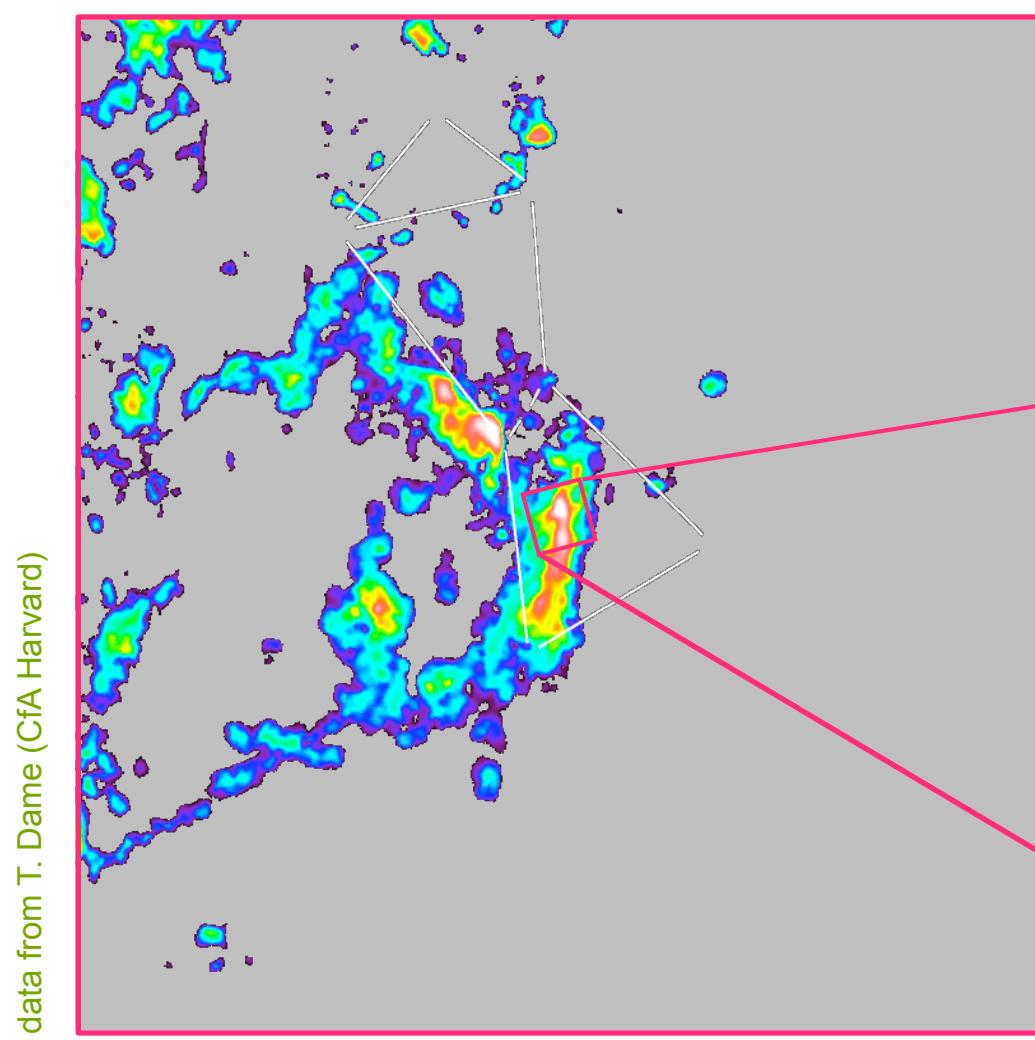
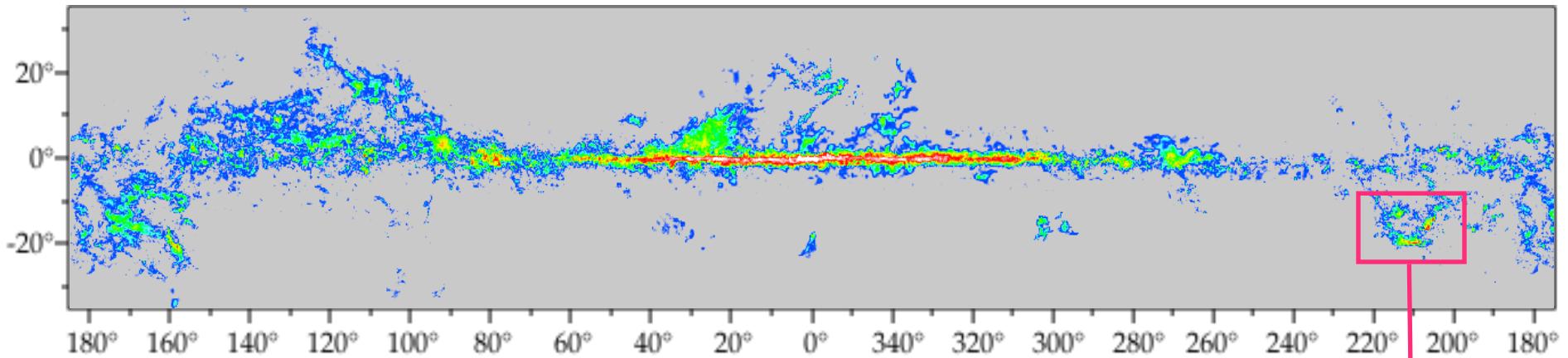


NGC 6946

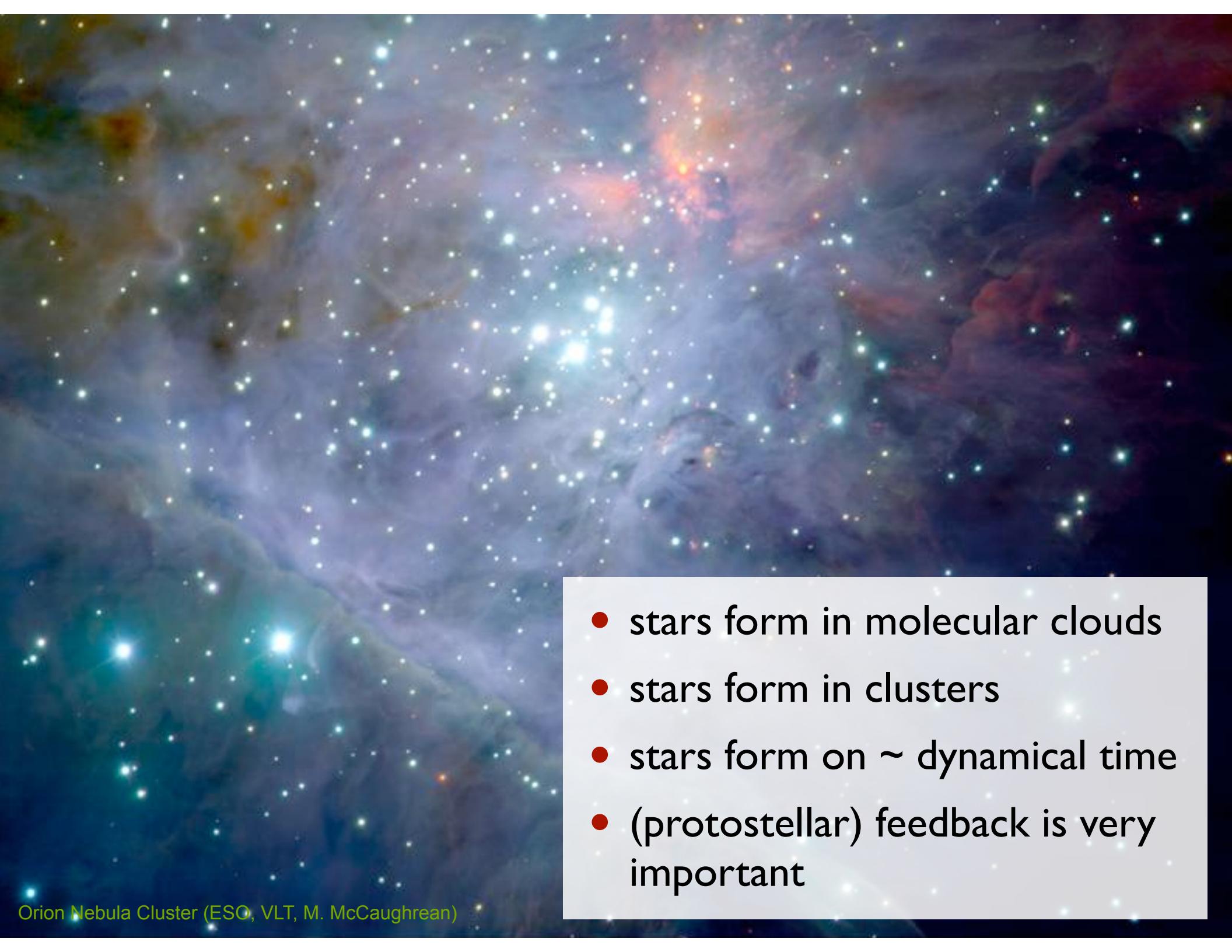


star  
formation

- HI gas more extended
- H<sub>2</sub> and SF well correlated

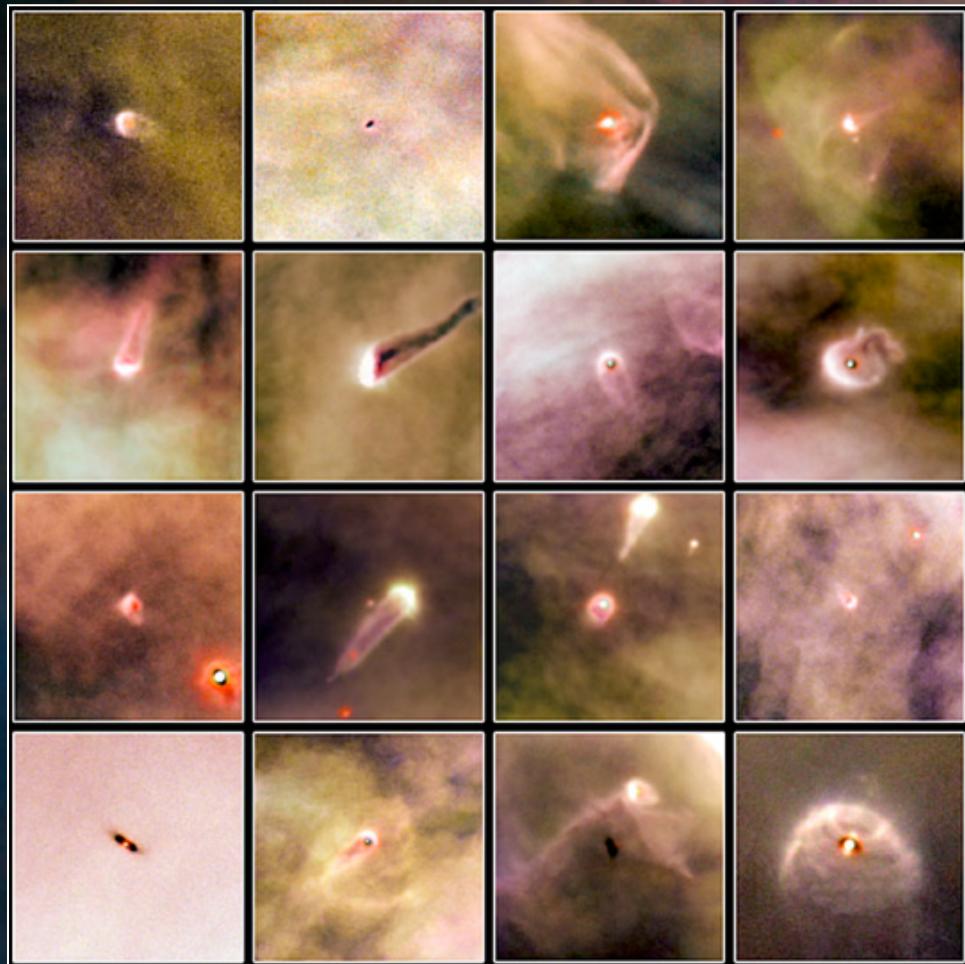


Orion Nebula Cluster (ESO, VLT,  
M. McCaughrean)



- stars form in molecular clouds
- stars form in clusters
- stars form on  $\sim$  dynamical time
- (protostellar) feedback is very important

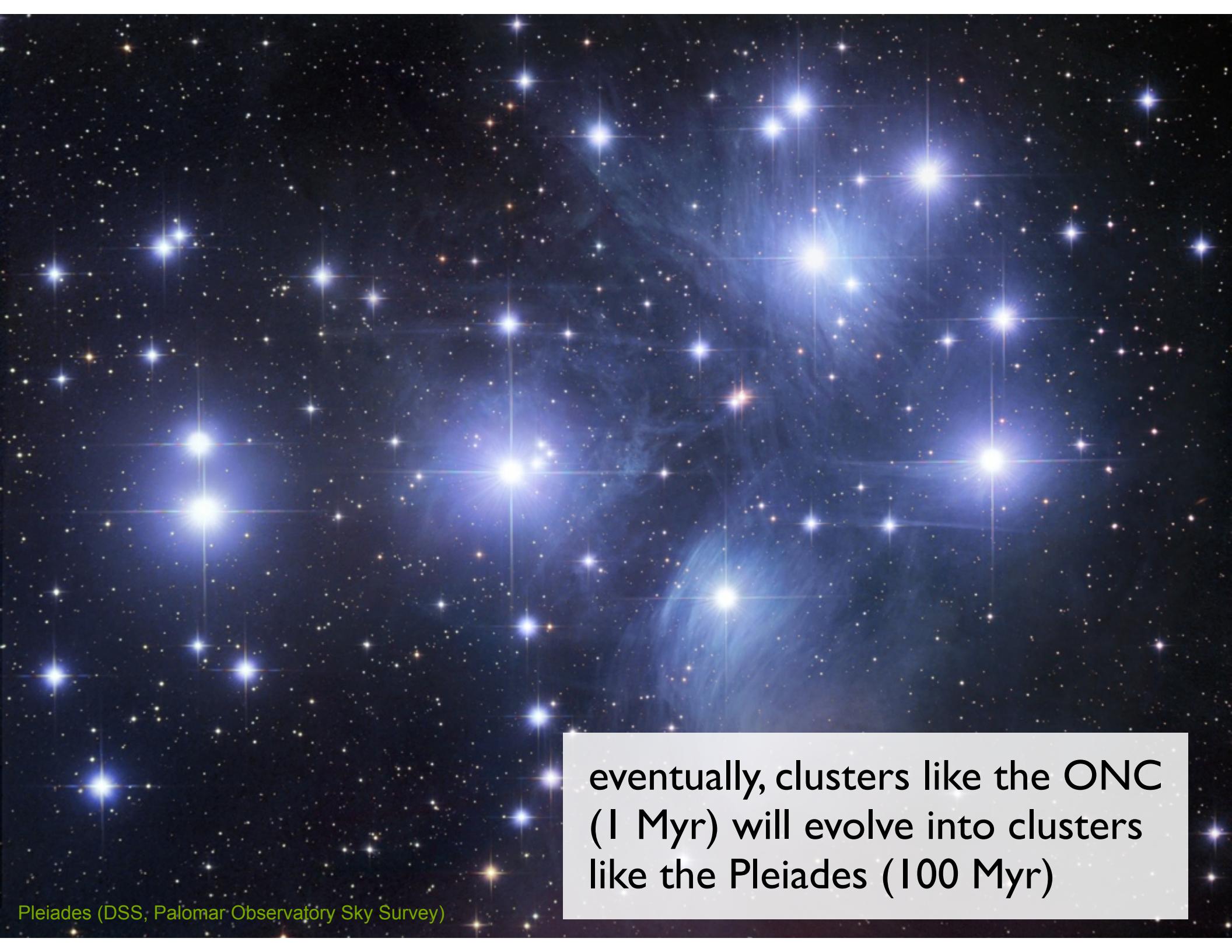
Orion Nebula Cluster (ESO, VLT, M. McCaughrean)



- strong feedback: UV radiation from  $\Theta$  IC Orionis affects star formation on all cluster scales



Trapezium stars in the center of the ONC (HST, Johnstone et al. 1998)



eventually, clusters like the ONC  
(1 Myr) will evolve into clusters  
like the Pleiades (100 Myr)

theoretical  
approach

decrease in spatial scale / increase in density



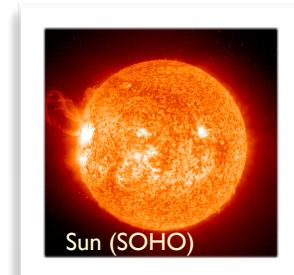
Andromeda (R. Gendler)



NGC 602 in LMC (Hubble)



Proplyd in Orion (Hubble)



Sun (SOHO)



Earth

- **density**
  - density of ISM: few particles per cm<sup>3</sup>
  - density of molecular cloud: few 100 particles per cm<sup>3</sup>
  - density of Sun: 1.4 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- **spatial scale**
  - size of molecular cloud: few 10s of pc
  - size of young cluster: ~ 1 pc
  - size of Sun:  $1.4 \times 10^{10}$  cm

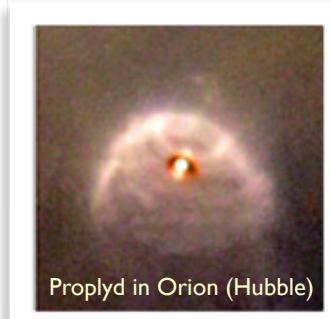
decrease in spatial scale / increase in density



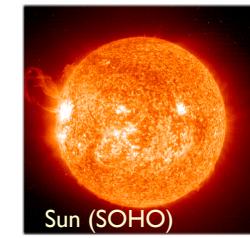
Andromeda (R. Gendler)



NGC 602 in LMC (Hubble)



Proplyd in Orion (Hubble)



Sun (SOHO)



Earth

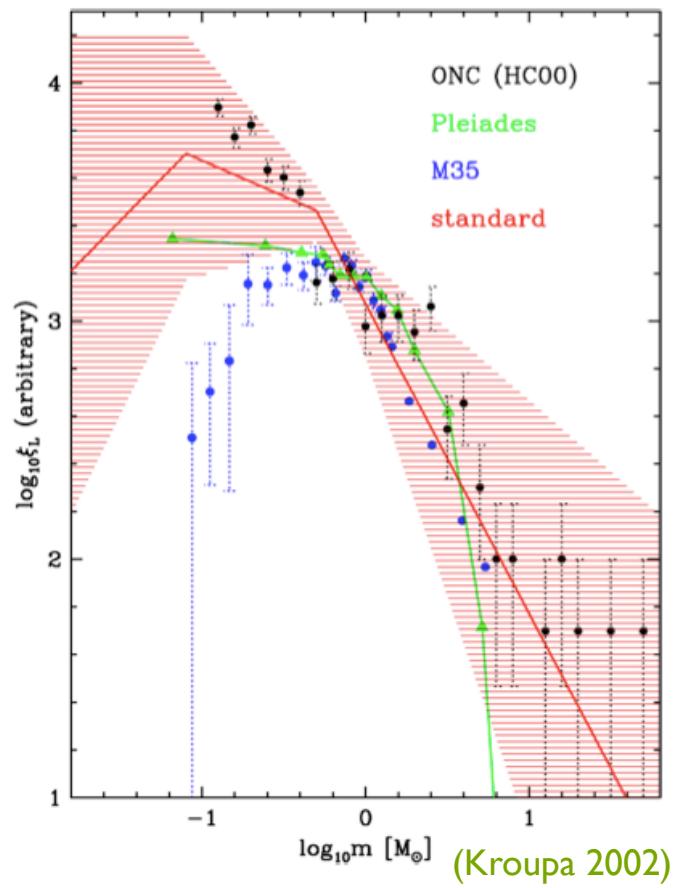
- contracting force
  - only force that can do this compression is **GRAVITY**
- opposing forces
  - there are several processes that can oppose gravity
  - **GAS PRESSURE**
  - **TURBULENCE**
  - **MAGNETIC FIELDS**
  - **RADIATION PRESSURE**

Modern star formation theory is based on the complex interplay between *all* these processes.

from clouds  
to stars

# stellar mass function

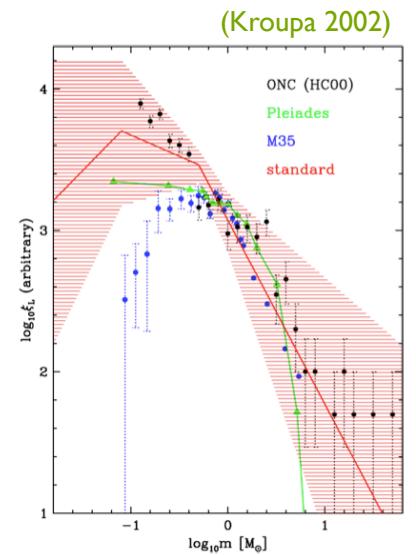
stars seem to follow a universal  
mass function at birth --> IMF



Orion, NGC 3603, 30 Doradus  
(Zinnecker & Yorke 2007)

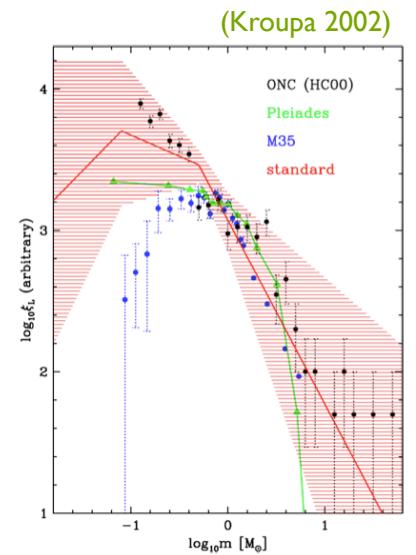
# stellar masses

- distribution of stellar masses depends on
  - turbulent initial conditions  
--> mass spectrum of prestellar cloud cores
  - collapse and interaction of prestellar cores  
--> accretion and N-body effects
  - thermodynamic properties of gas  
--> balance between heating and cooling  
--> EOS (determines which cores go into collapse)
  - (proto) stellar feedback terminates star formation  
ionizing radiation, bipolar outflows, winds, SN

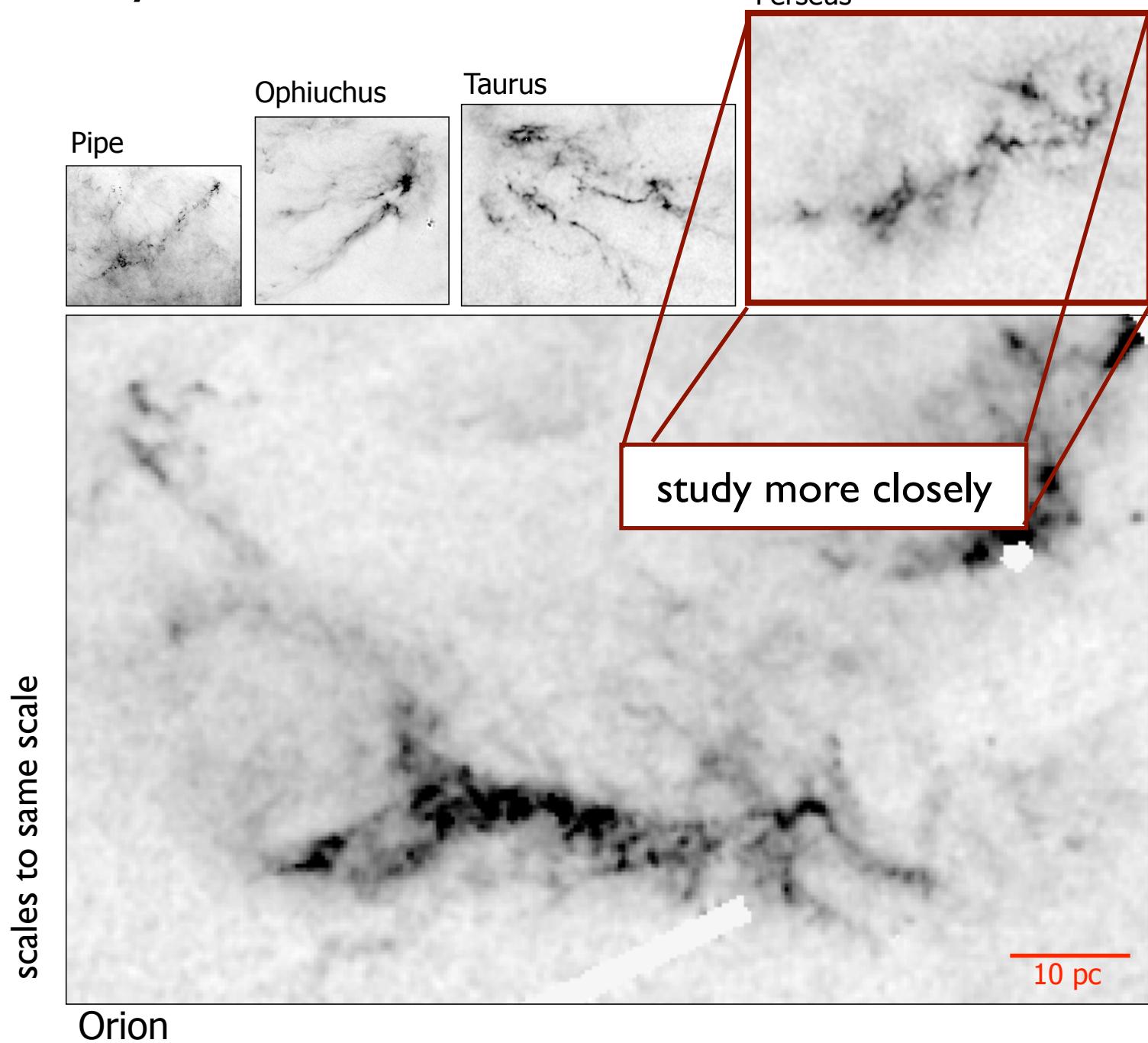


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# nearby molecular clouds



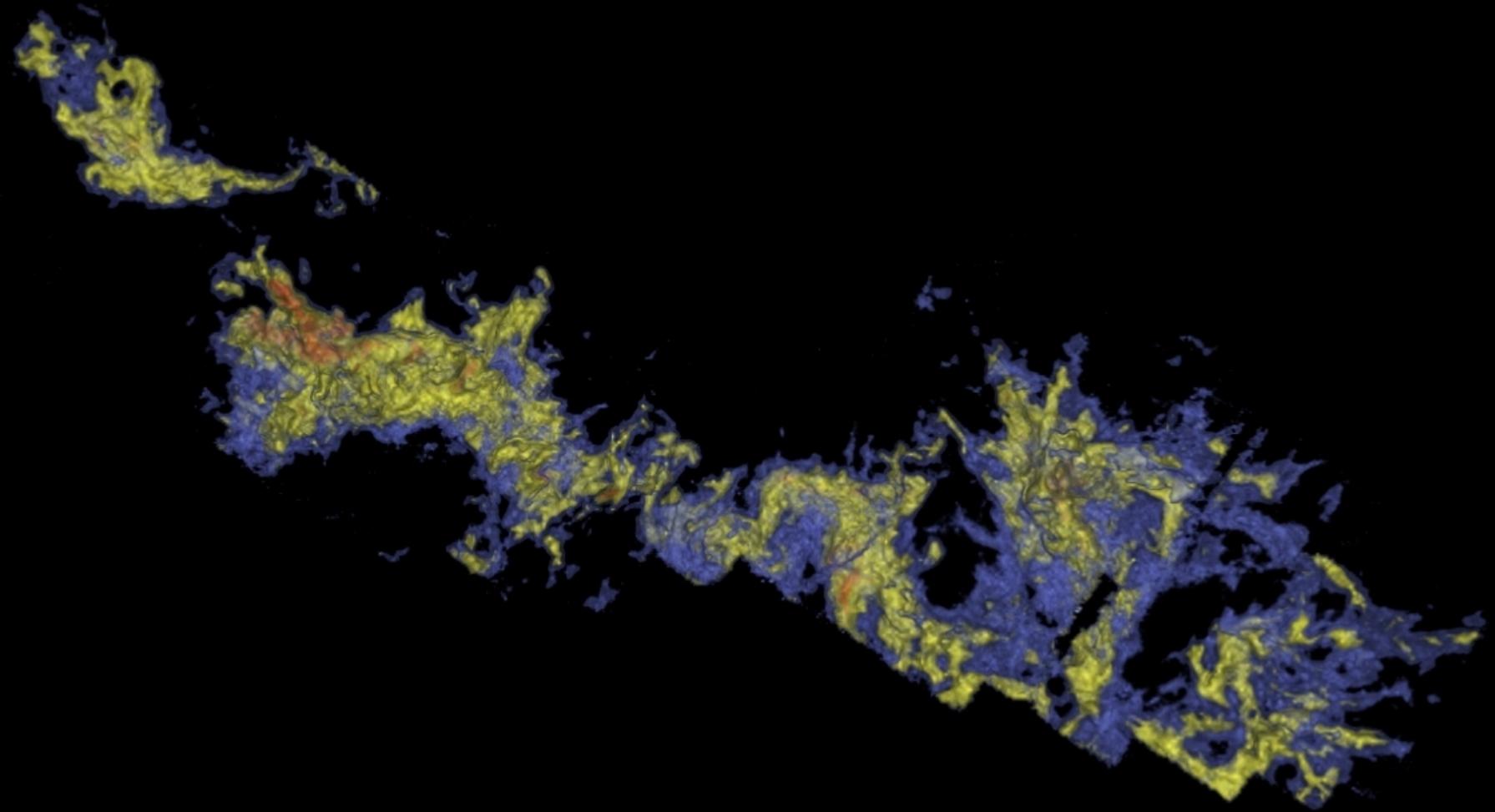
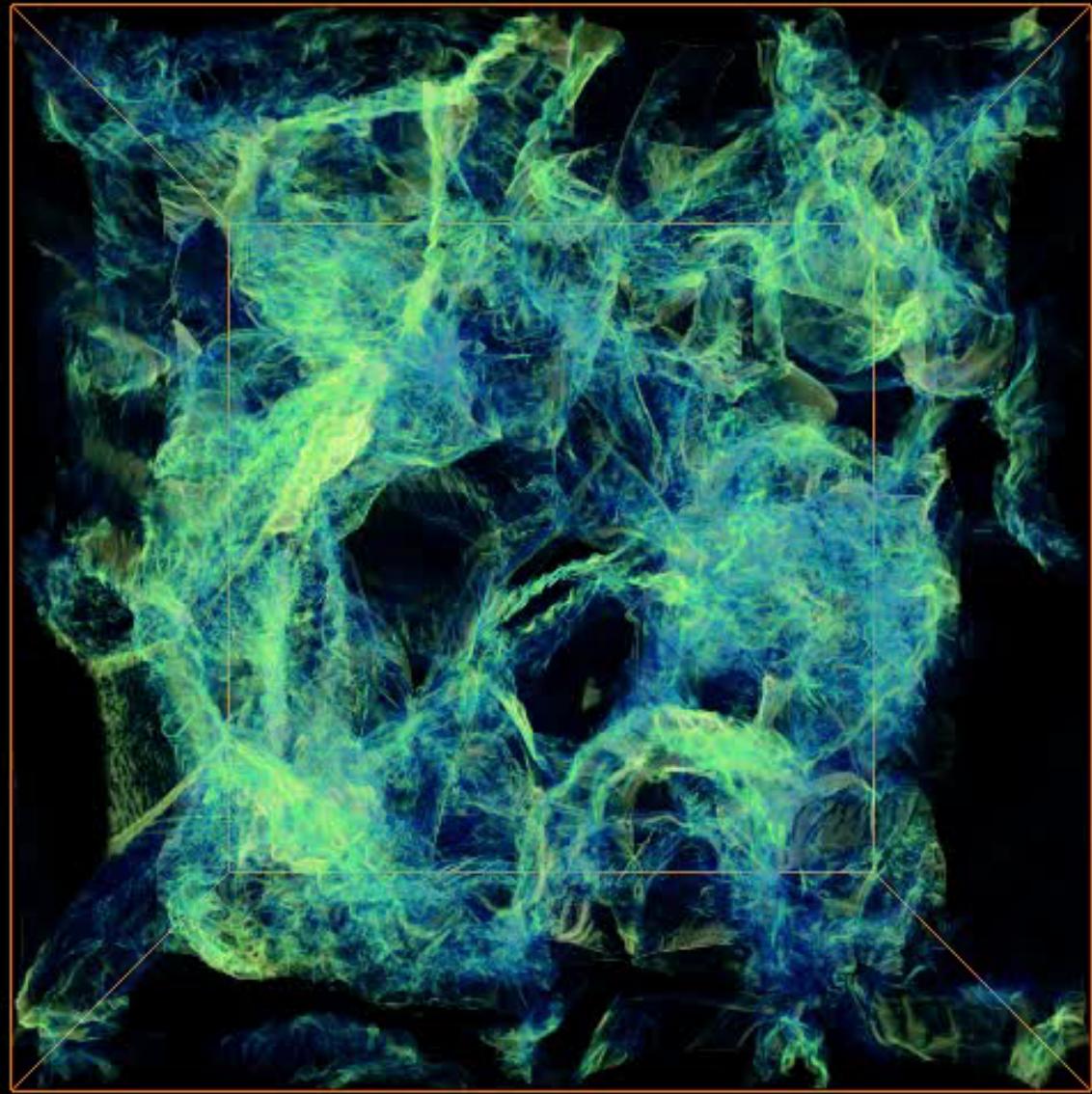


image from Alyssa Goodman: COMPLETE survey



Schmidt et al. (2009, A&A, 494, 127)



# example: model of Orion cloud

„model“ of Orion cloud:

15.000.000 SPH particles,

$10^4 M_{\text{sun}}$  in 10 pc, mass resolution

$0,02 M_{\text{sun}}$ , forms  $\sim 2.500$

„stars“ (sink particles)

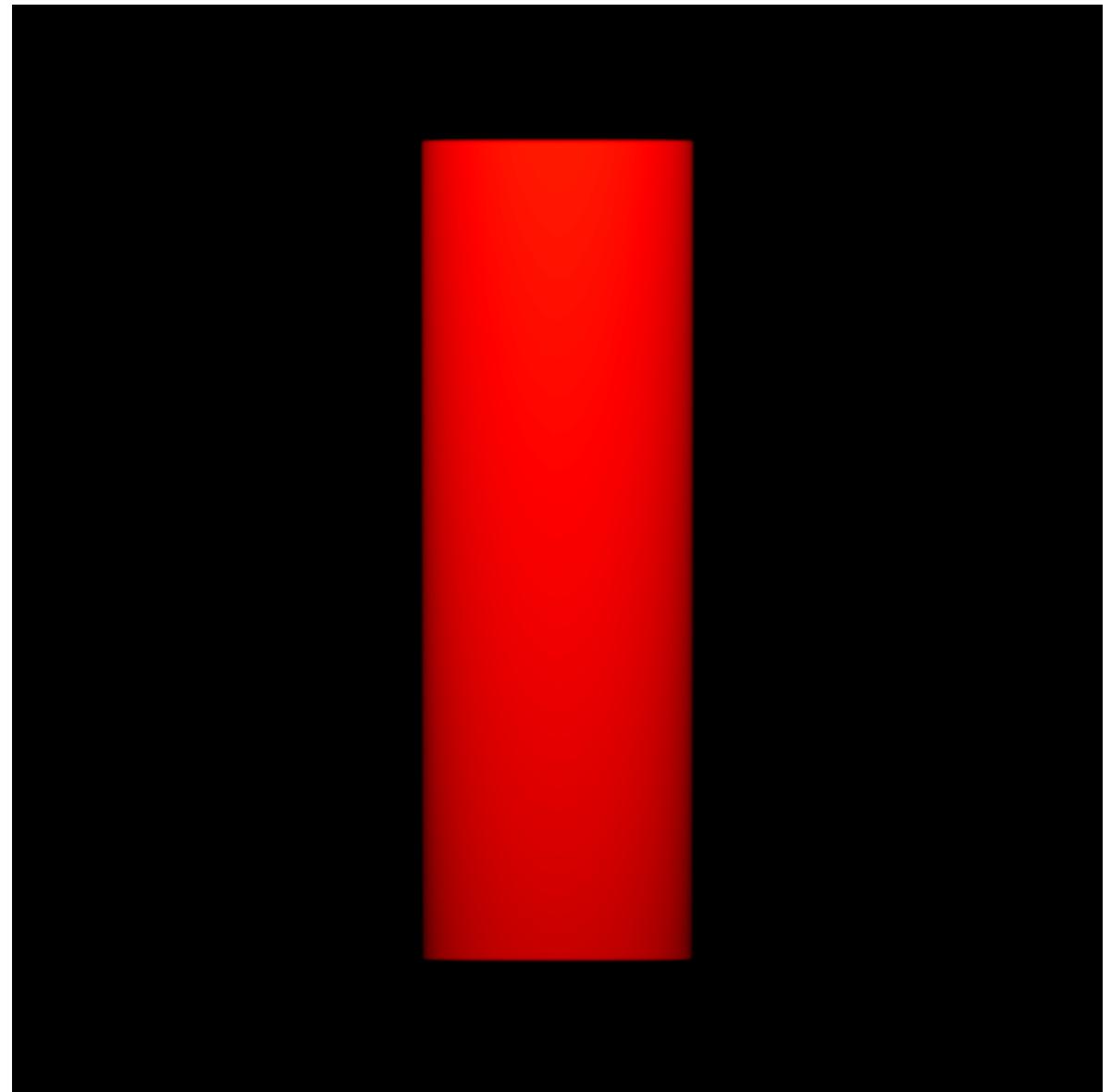
isothermal EOS, top bound, bottom  
unbound

has clustered as well as distributed  
„star“ formation

efficiency varies from 1% to 20%

develops full IMF

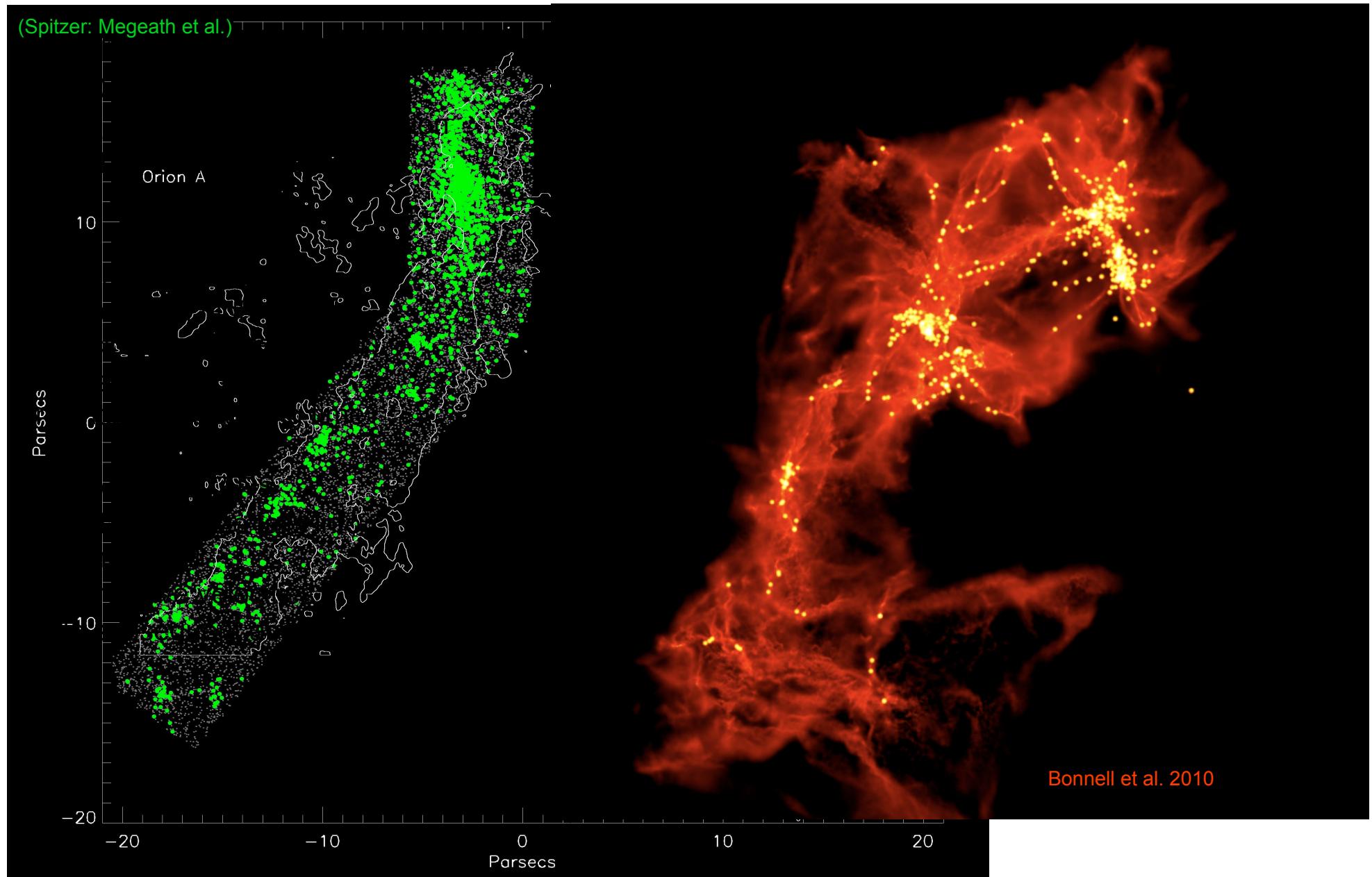
(distribution of sink particle masses)



(Bonnell, Smith, Clark, & Bate 2010, MNRAS, 410, 2339)



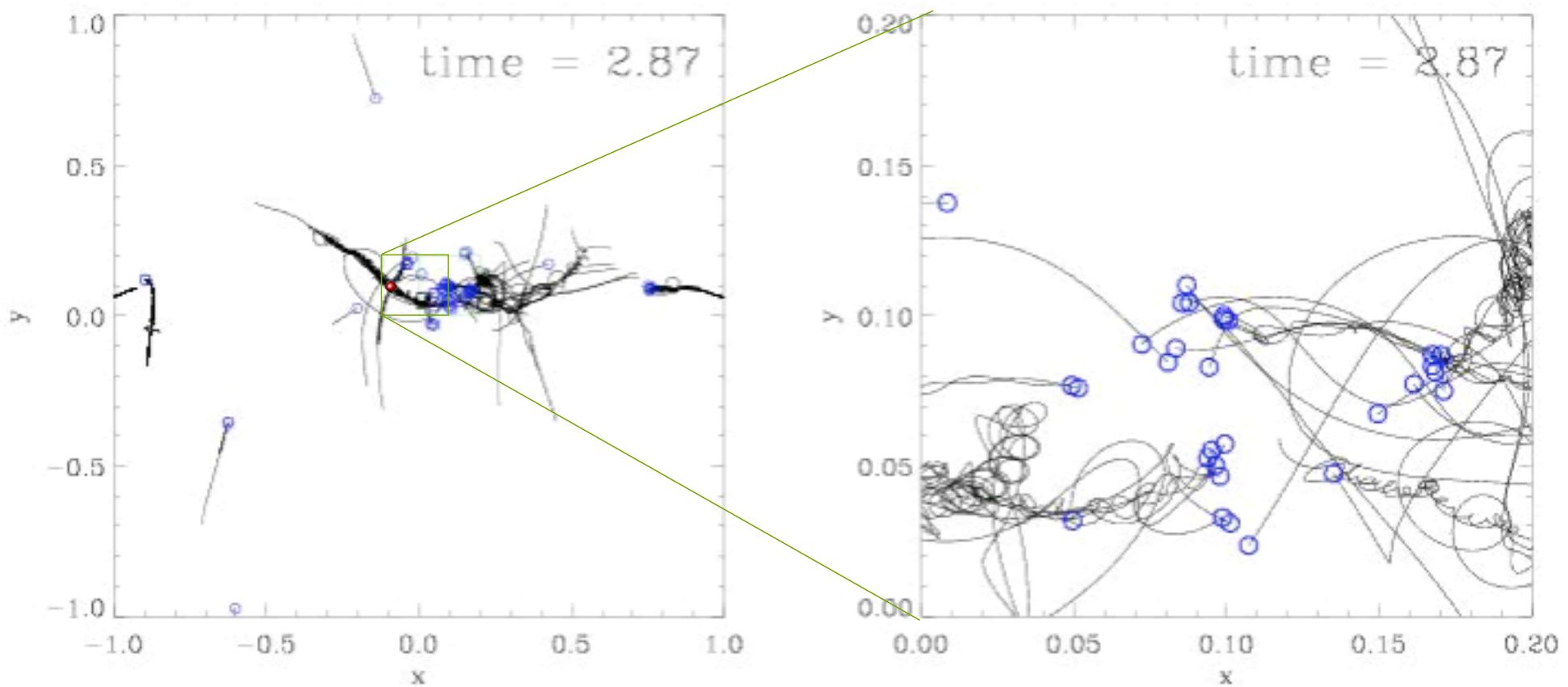
# example: model of Orion cloud





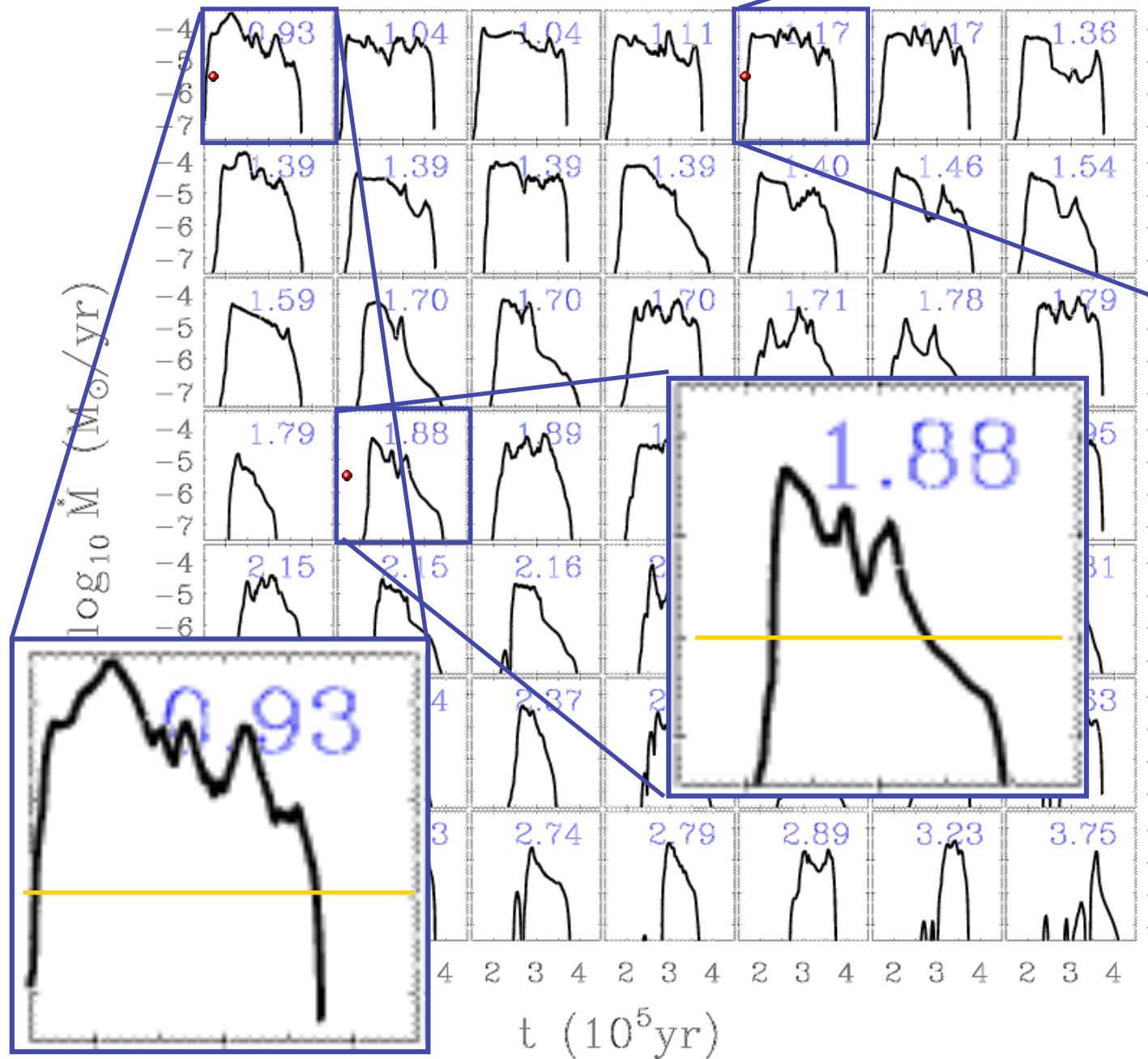
# Dynamics of nascent star cluster

in dense clusters protostellar interaction may be come important!



Trajectories of protostars in a nascent dense cluster created by gravoturbulent fragmentation  
(from Klessen & Burkert 2000, ApJS, 128, 287)

# accretion rates in cluster

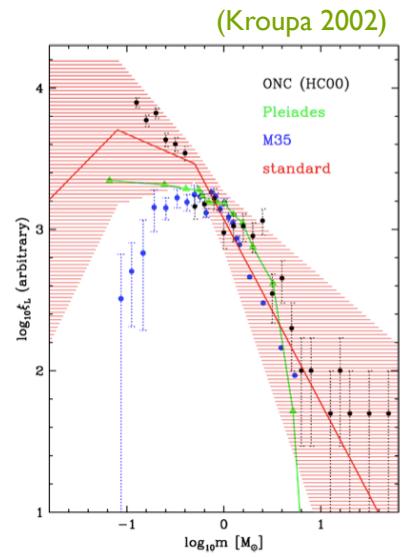


Mass accretion rates *vary with time* and are strongly influenced by the cluster environment.

(Klessen 2001, ApJ, 550, L77;  
also Schmeja & Klessen,  
2004, A&A, 419, 405)

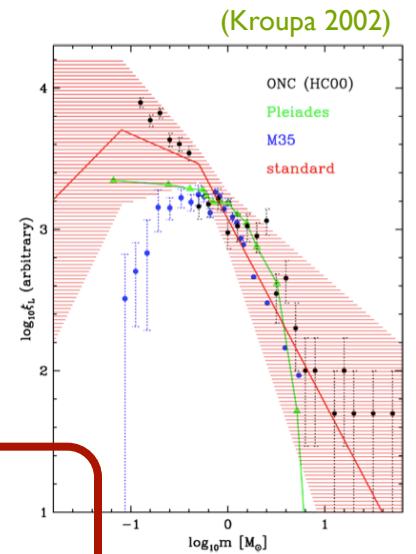
# stellar mass function

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# stellar mass function

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application to early star formation

# thermodynamics & fragmentation

degree of fragmentation depends on *EOS*!

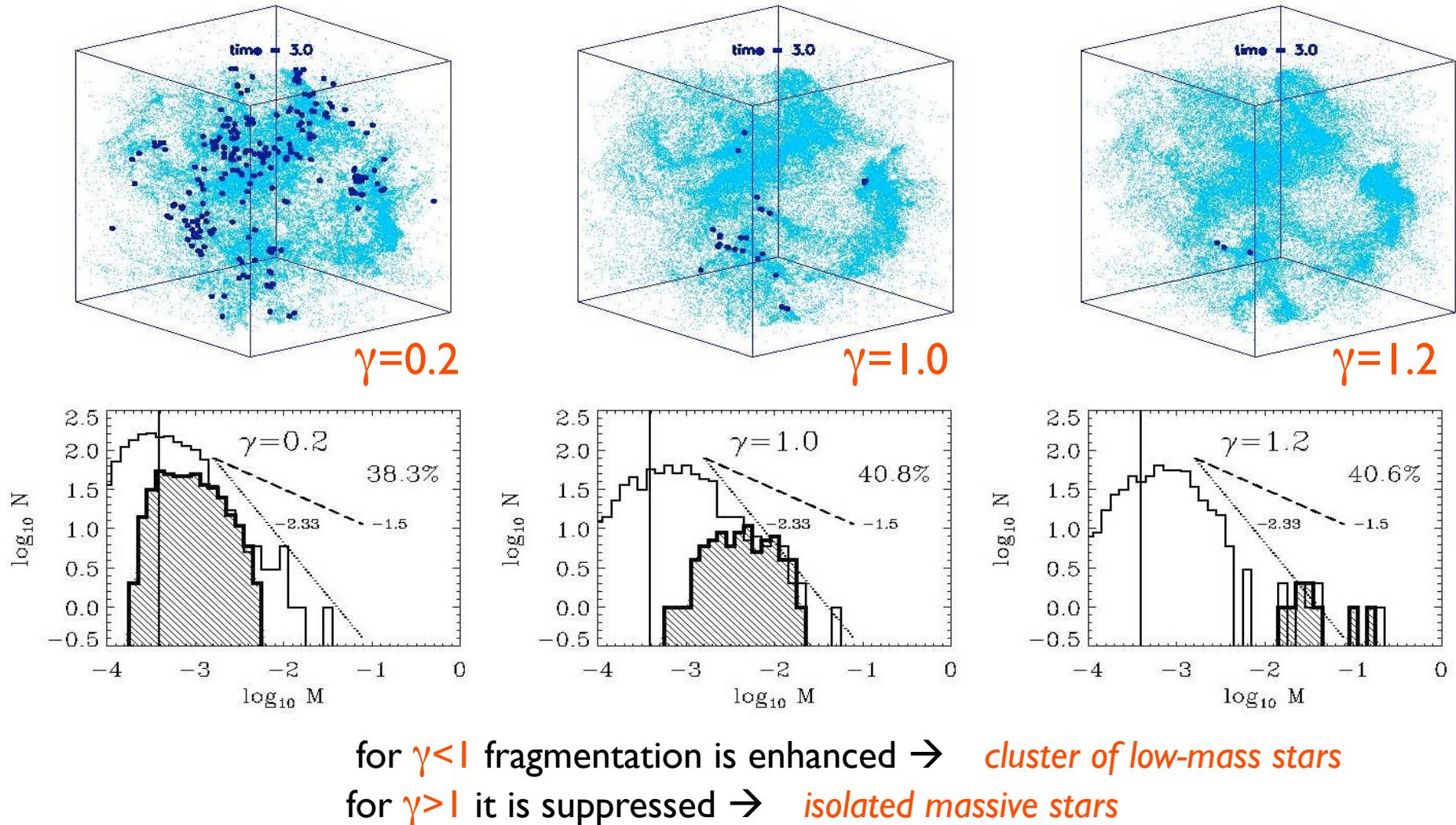
polytropic EOS:  $p \propto \rho^\gamma$

$\gamma < 1$ : dense cluster of low-mass stars

$\gamma > 1$ : isolated high-mass stars

(see Li et al. 2003; also Kawachi & Hanawa 1998, Larson 2003)

# dependency on EOS

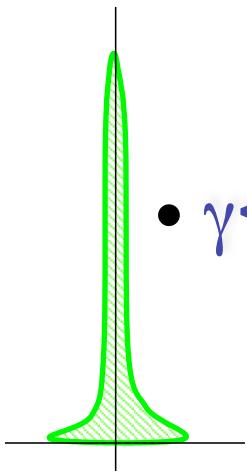


(from Li, Klessen, & Mac Low 2003, ApJ, 592, 975)

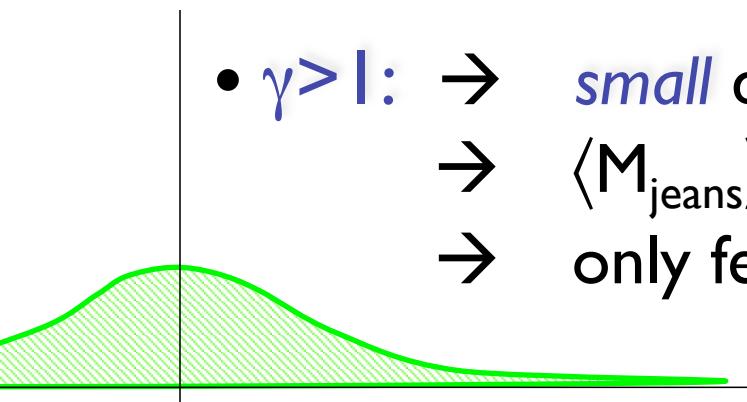
# how does that work?

$$(1) \ p \propto \rho^\gamma \rightarrow \rho \propto p^{1/\gamma}$$

$$(2) \ M_{\text{jeans}} \propto \gamma^{3/2} p^{(3\gamma-4)/2}$$

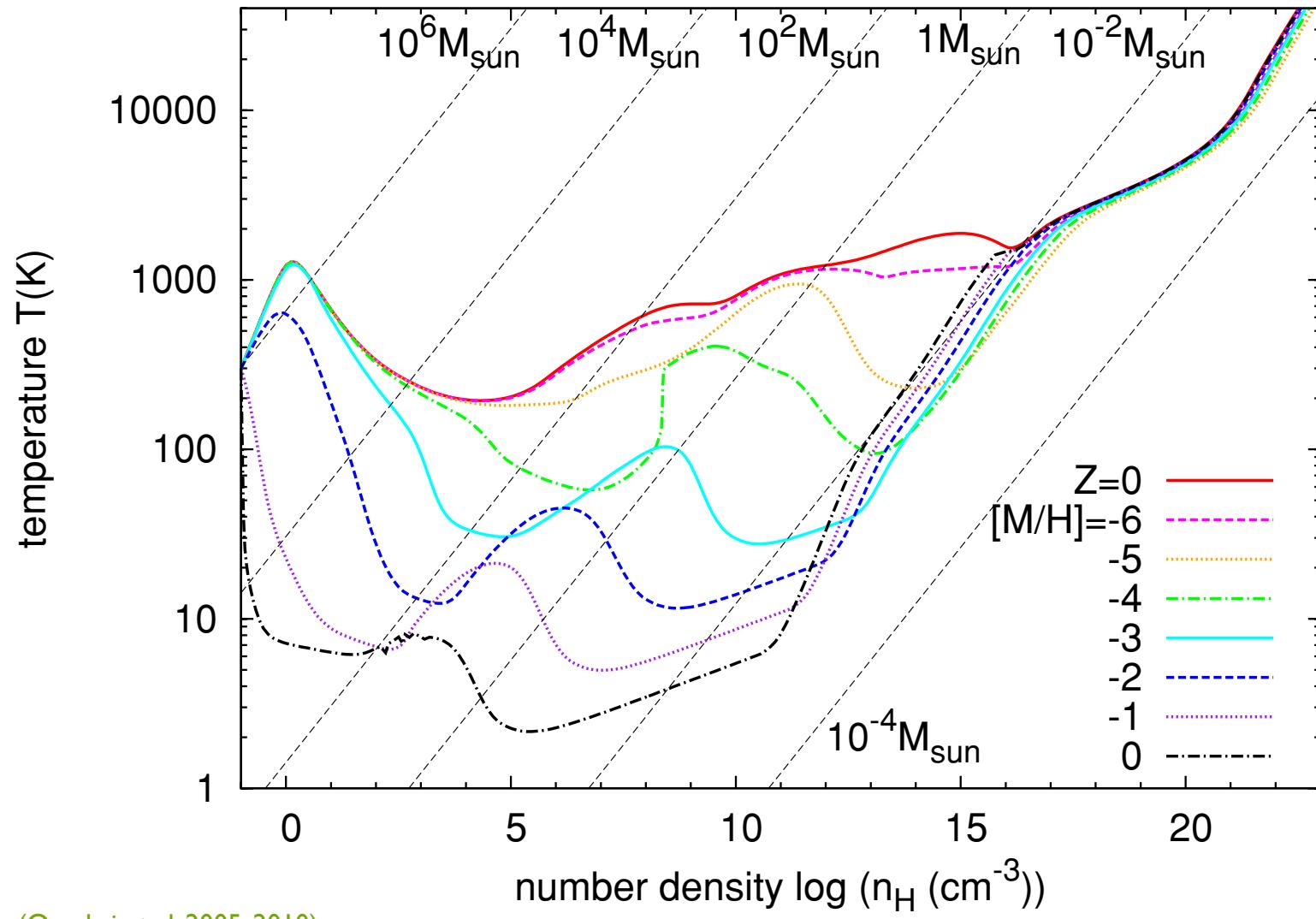


- $\gamma < 1$ : → *large* density excursion for given pressure  
→  $\langle M_{\text{jeans}} \rangle$  becomes small  
→ number of fluctuations with  $M > M_{\text{jeans}}$  is large

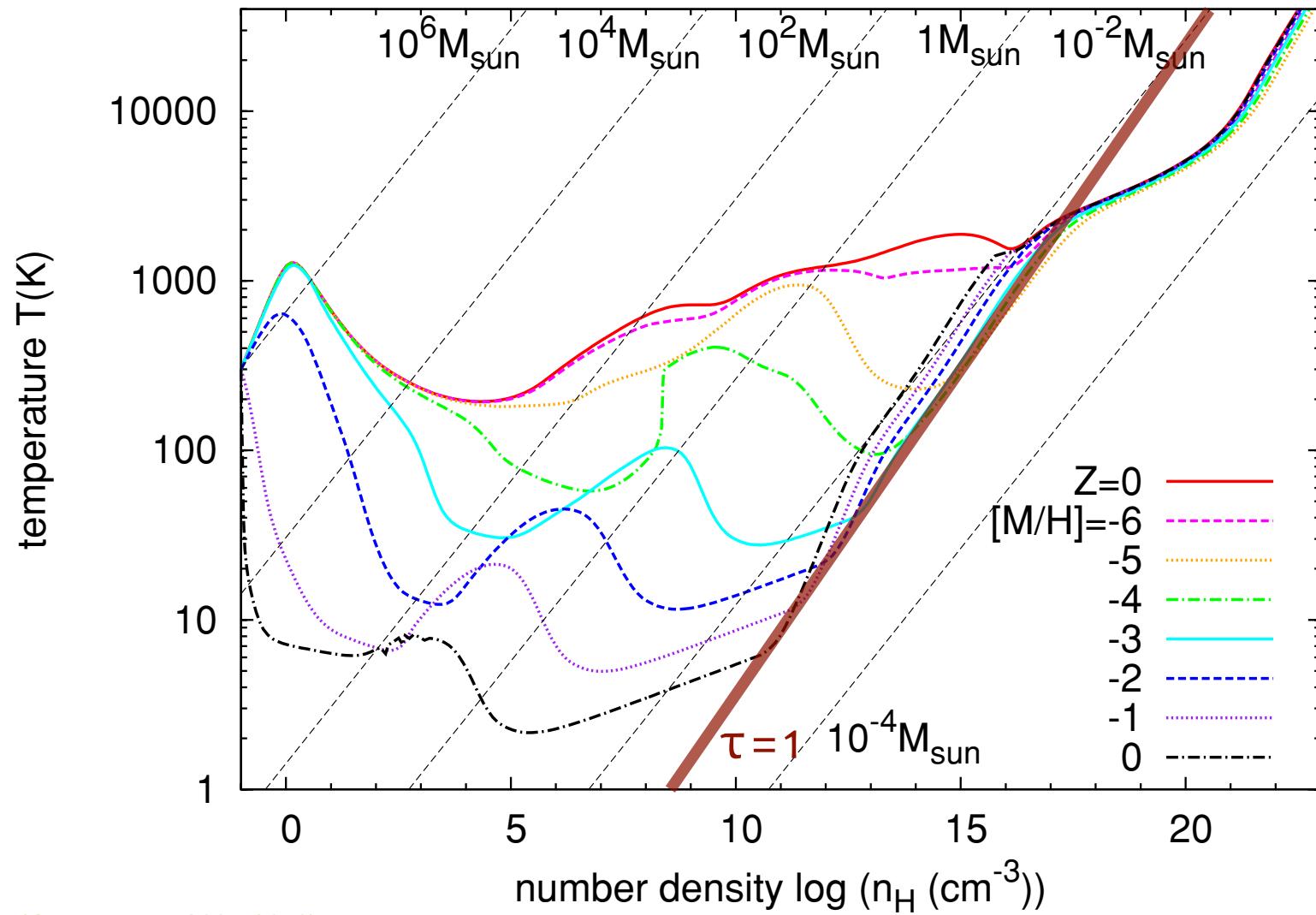


- $\gamma > 1$ : → *small* density excursion for given pressure  
→  $\langle M_{\text{jeans}} \rangle$  is large  
→ only few and massive clumps exceed  $M_{\text{jeans}}$

# EOS as function of metallicity

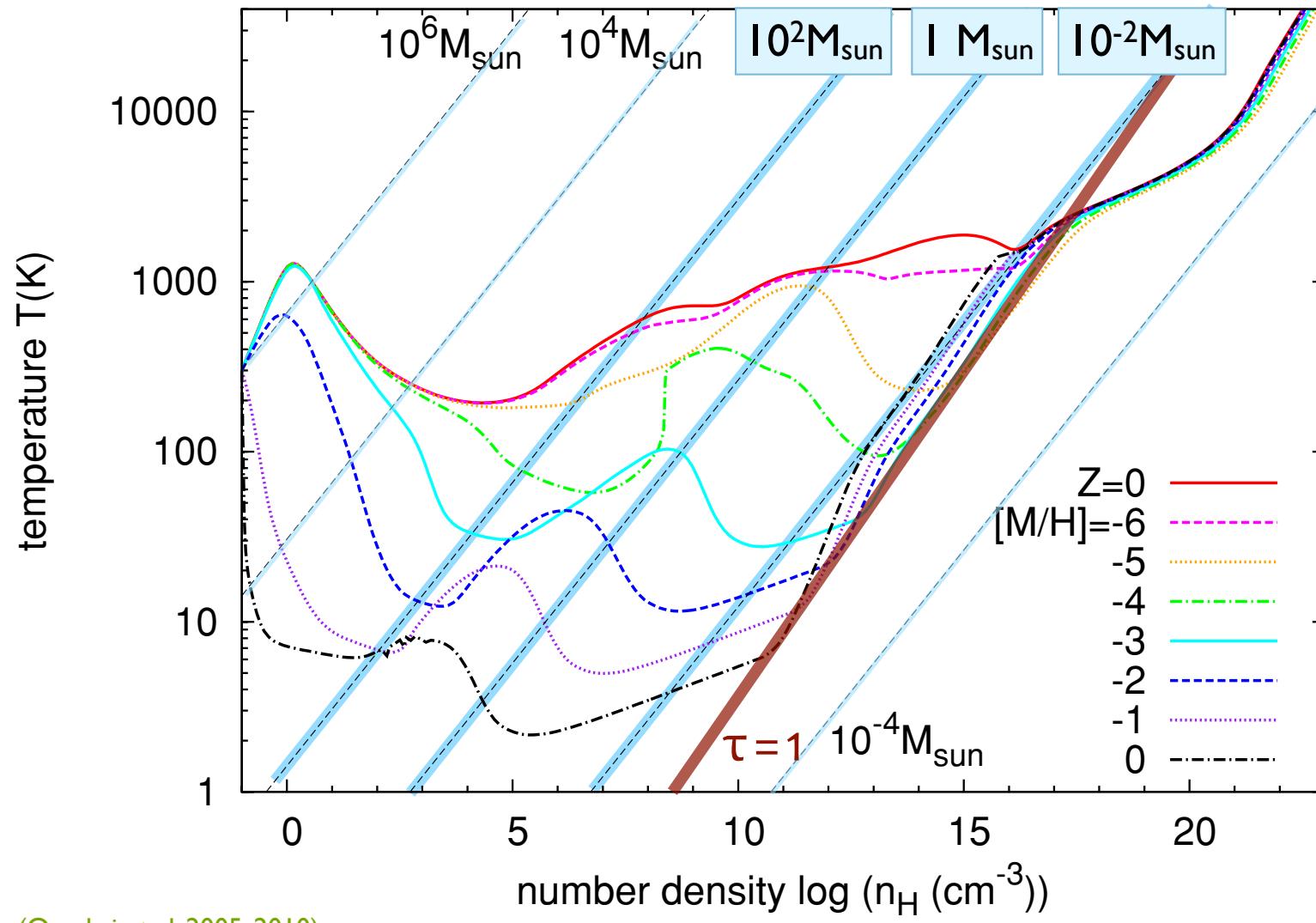


# EOS as function of metallicity



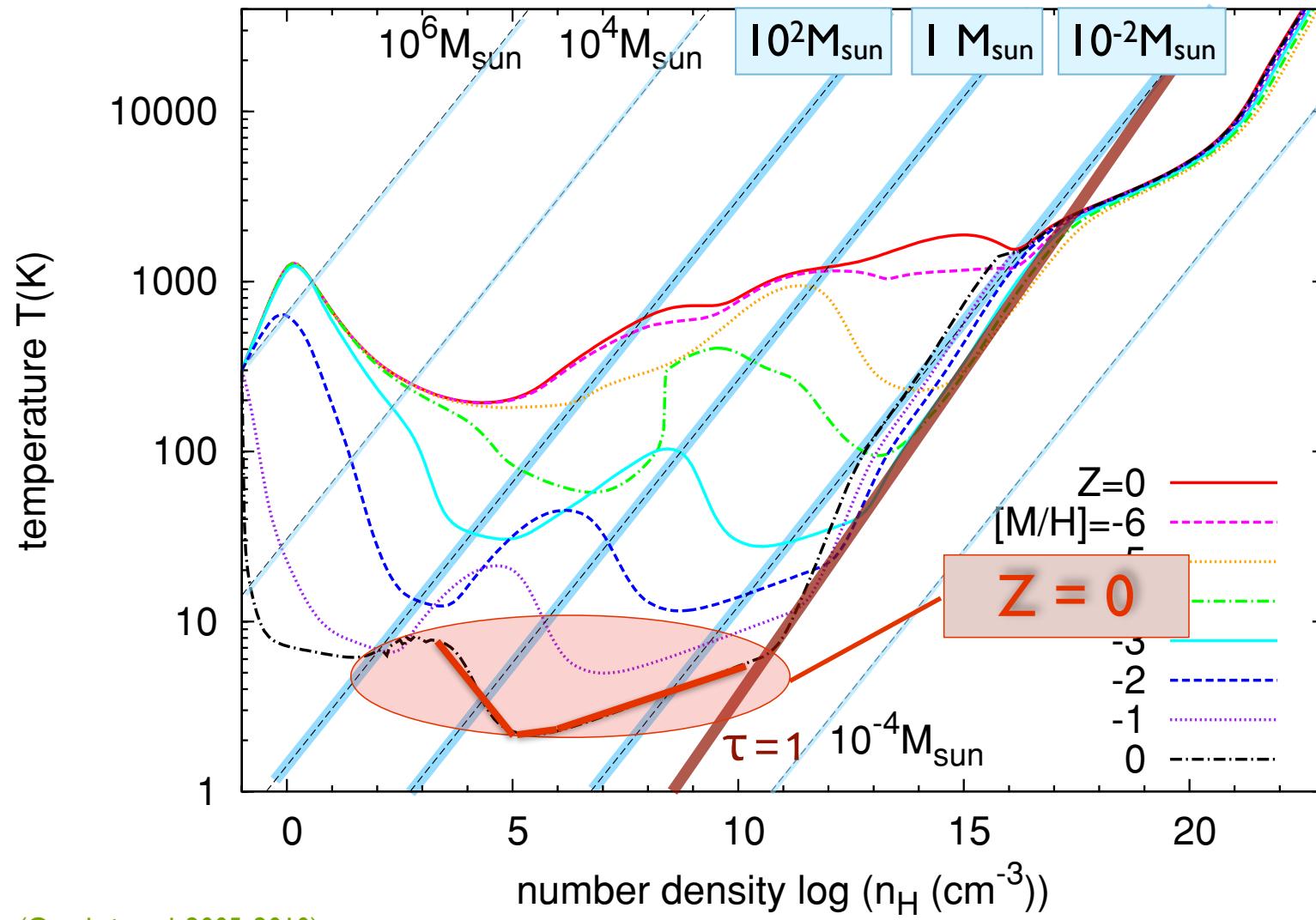
(Omukai et al. 2005, 2010)

# EOS as function of metallicity



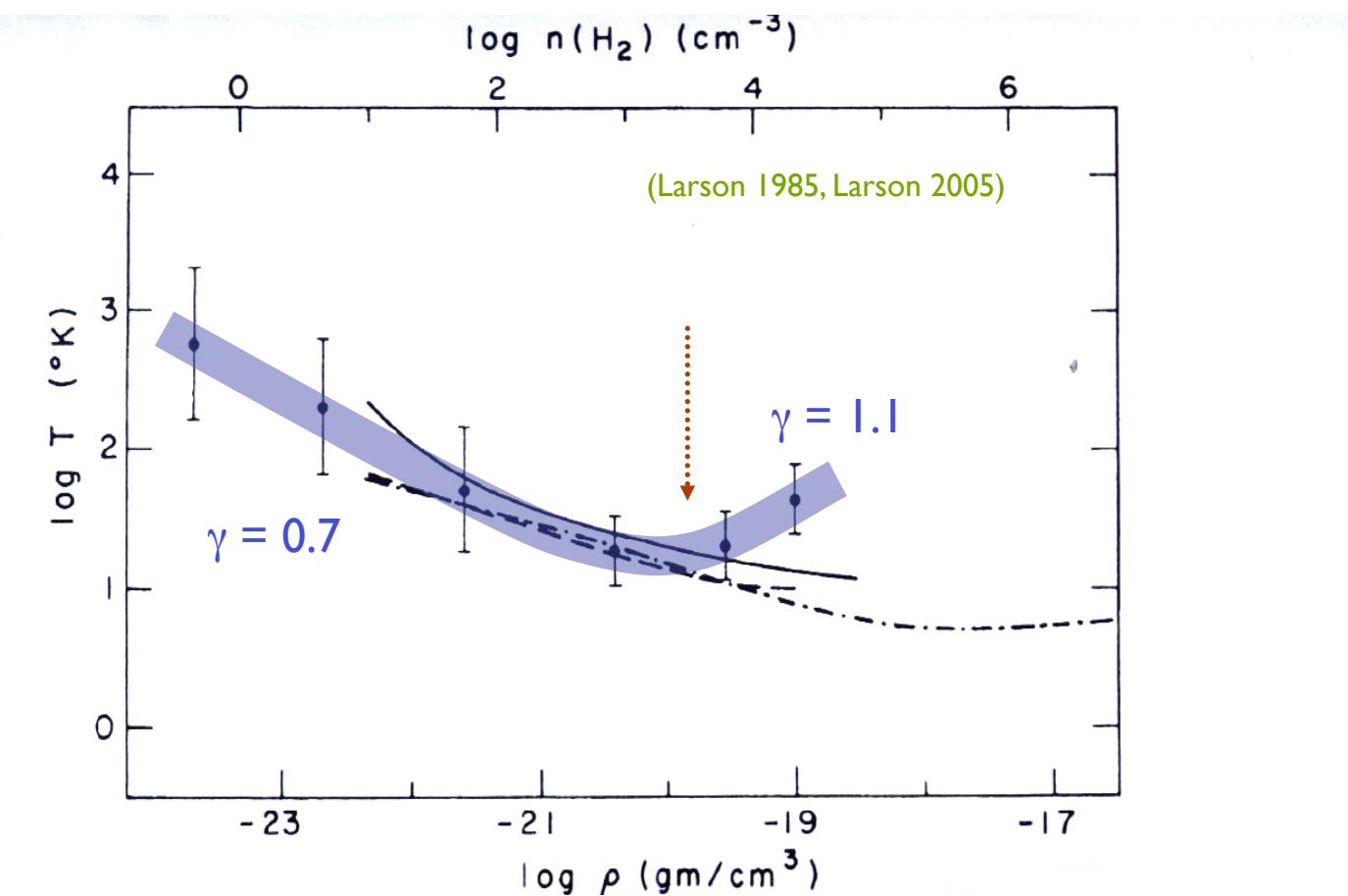
(Omukai et al. 2005, 2010)

# EOS as function of metallicity

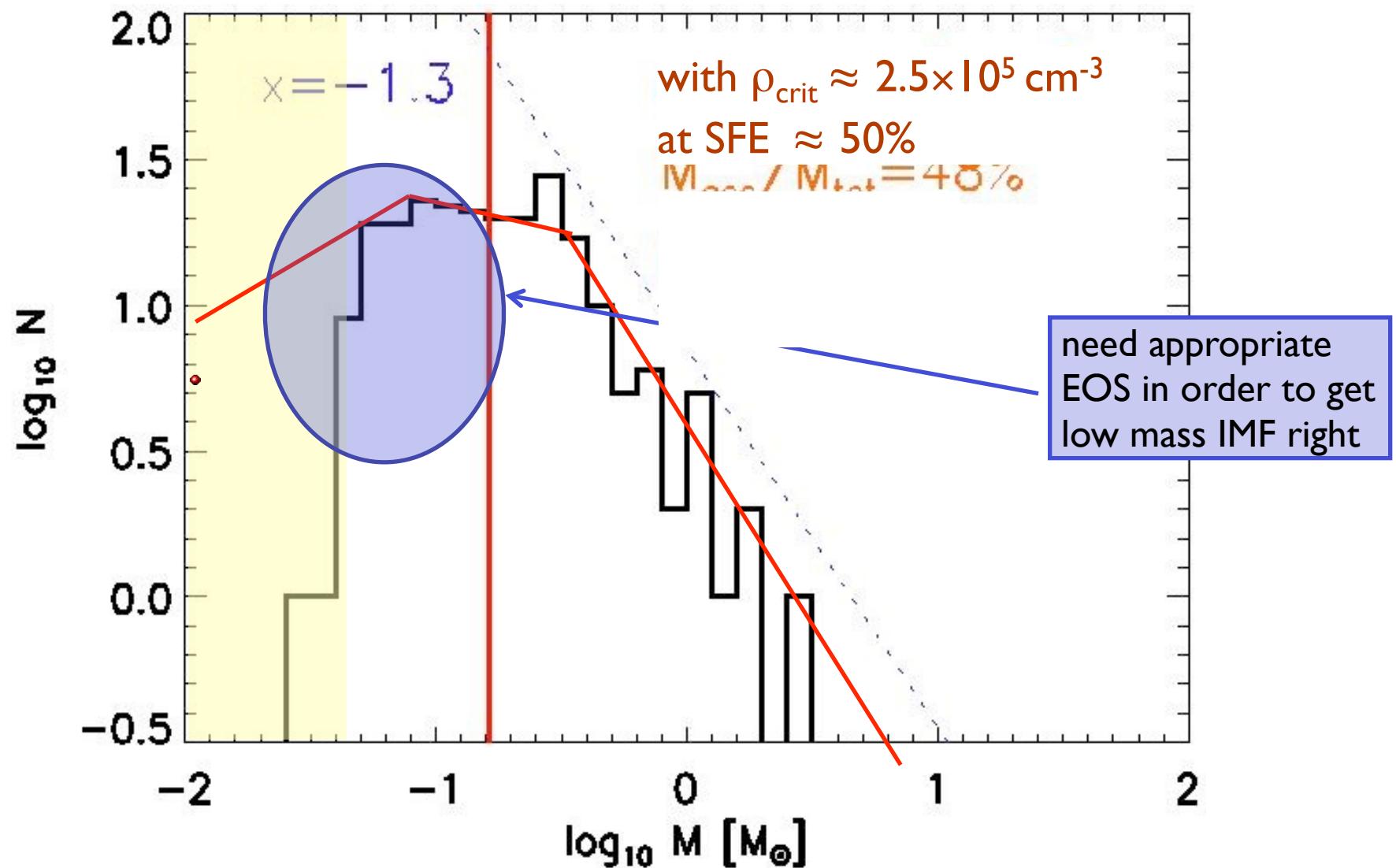


(Omukai et al. 2005, 2010)

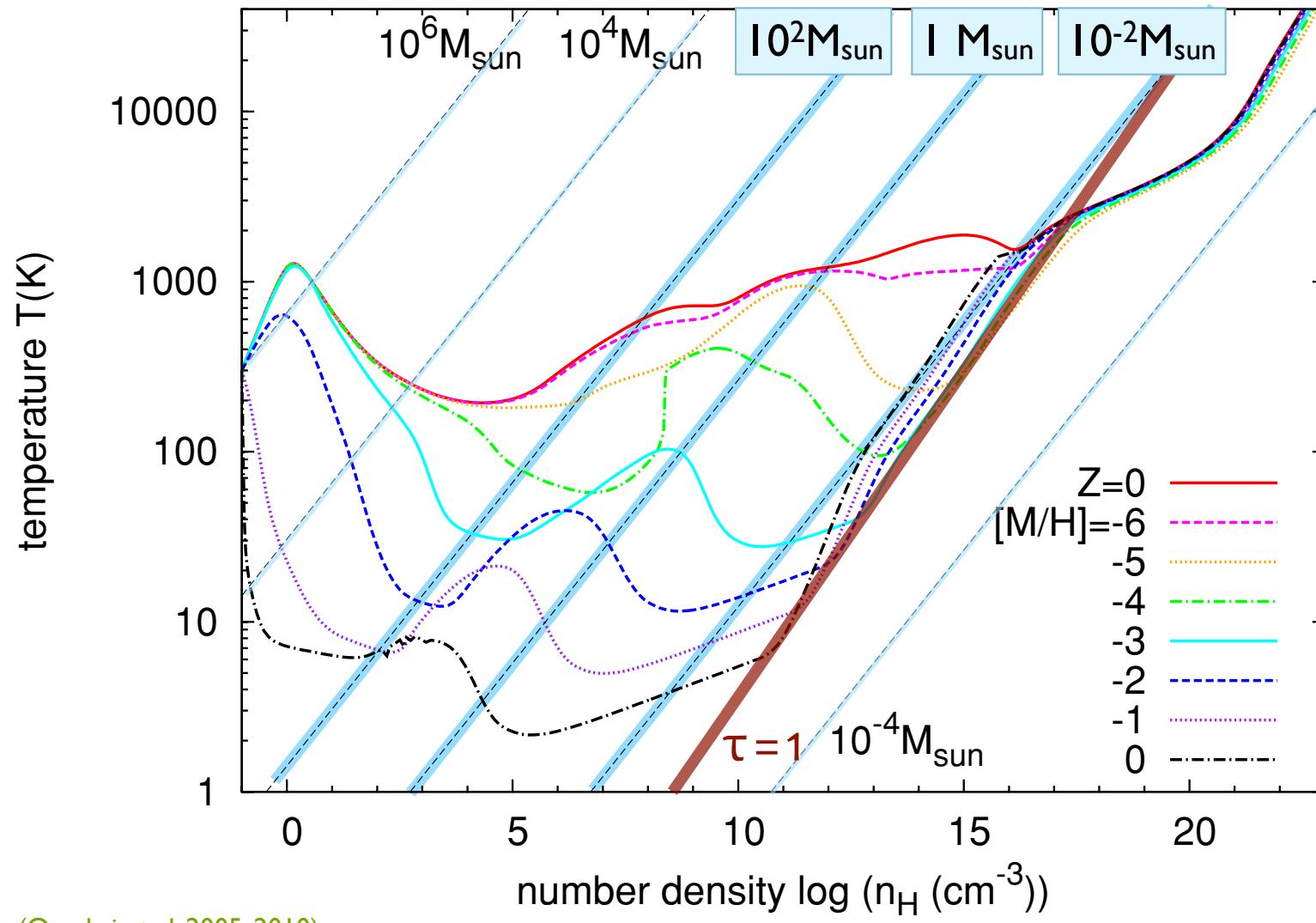
# present-day star formation



# IMF in nearby molecular clouds

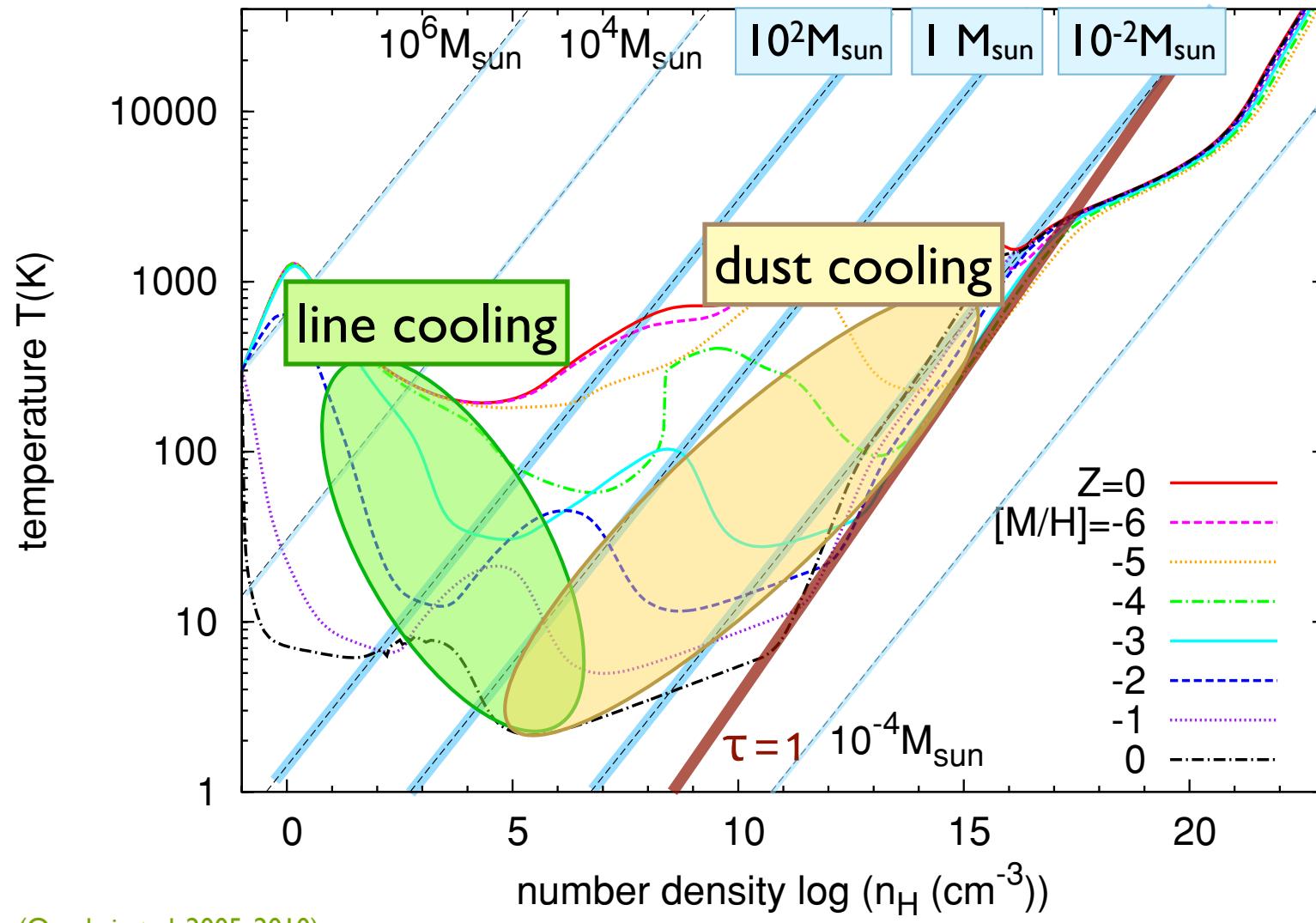


# EOS as function of metallicity



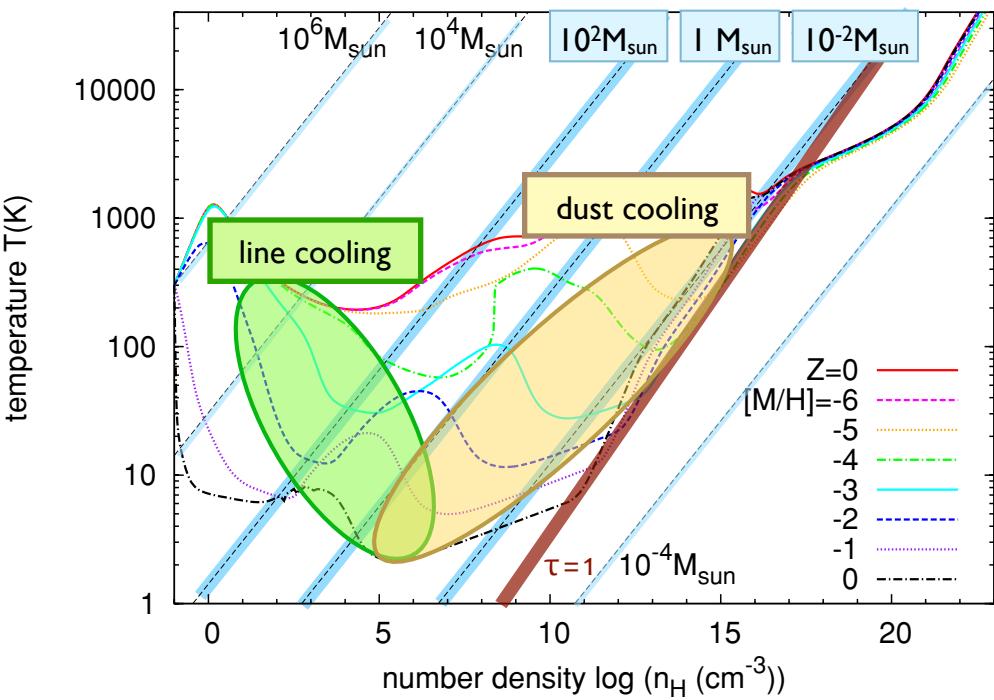
(Omukai et al. 2005, 2010)

# EOS as function of metallicity



(Omukai et al. 2005, 2010)

# transition: Pop III to Pop II.5

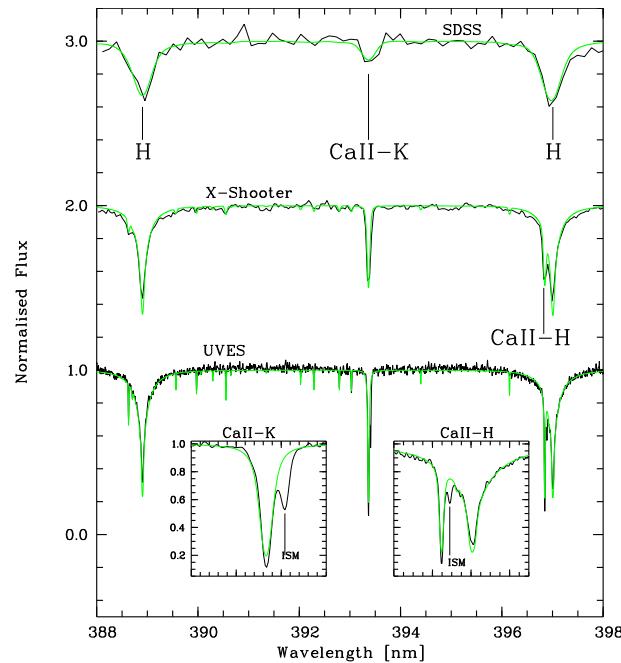


two competing models:

- cooling due to atomic fine-structure lines ( $Z > 10^{-3.5} Z_{\text{sun}}$ )
- cooling due to coupling between gas and dust ( $Z > 10^{-5...-6} Z_{\text{sun}}$ )
- which one explains origin of extremely metal-poor stars?  
NB: lines would only make very massive stars, with  $M > \text{few } \times 10 M_{\text{sun}}$ .

(Omukai et al. 2005, 2010)

# transition: Pop III to Pop II.5



## SDSS J1029151+172927

- is first ultra metal-poor star with  $Z \sim 10^{-4.5} Z_{\text{sun}}$  for all metals seen (Fe, C, N, etc.)  
[see Caffau et al. 2011]
- this is in regime, where metal-lines cannot provide cooling  
[e.g. Schneider et al. 2011, 2012, Klessen et al. 2012]

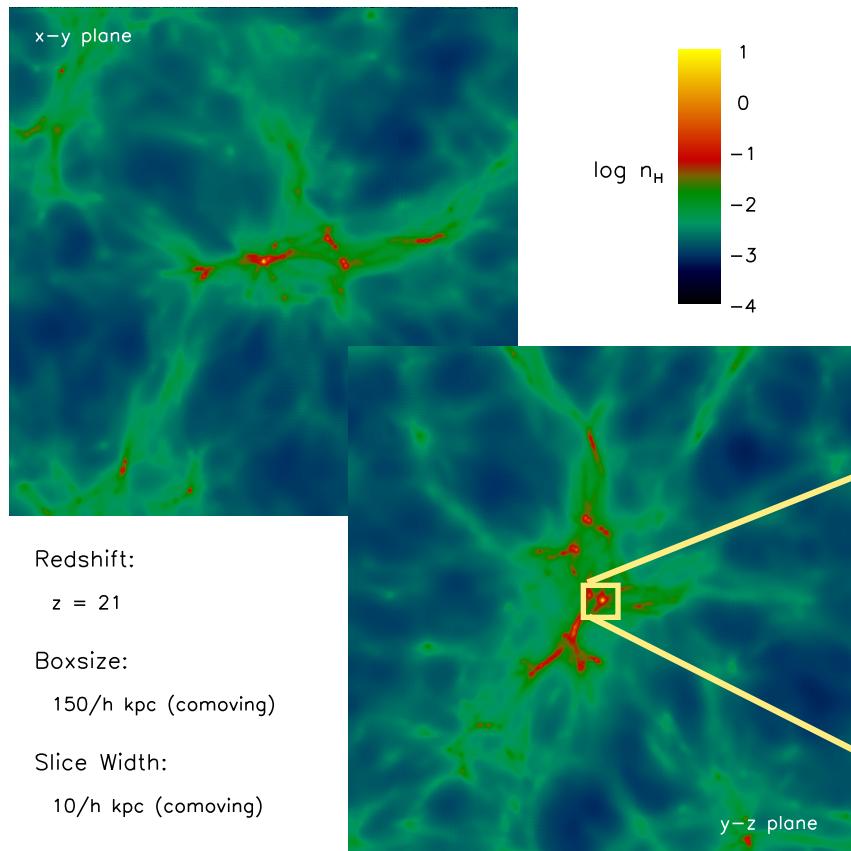
- new ESO large program to find more of these stars (120h x-shooter, 30h UVES)  
[PI E. Caffau]

Element		$[X/H]_{\text{ID}}$		N lines	$S_H$	$A(X)_{\odot}$	
	+3Dcor.	+NLTE cor.	+ 3D cor + NLTE cor				
C	$\leq -3.8$	$\leq -4.5$		G-band	8.50		
N	$\leq -4.1$	$\leq -5.0$		NH-band	7.86		
Mg I	$-4.71 \pm 0.11$	$-4.68 \pm 0.11$	$-4.52 \pm 0.11$	$-4.49 \pm 0.12$	5	0.1	7.54
Si I	-4.27	-4.30	-3.93	-3.96	1	0.1	7.52
Ca I	-4.72	-4.82	-4.44	-4.54	1	0.1	6.33
Ca II	$-4.81 \pm 0.11$	$-4.93 \pm 0.03$	$-5.02 \pm 0.02$	$-5.15 \pm 0.09$	3	0.1	6.33
Ti II	$-4.75 \pm 0.18$	$-4.83 \pm 0.16$	$-4.76 \pm 0.18$	$-4.84 \pm 0.16$	6	1.0	4.90
Fe I	$-4.73 \pm 0.13$	$-5.02 \pm 0.10$	$-4.60 \pm 0.13$	$-4.89 \pm 0.10$	43	1.0	7.52
Ni I	$-4.55 \pm 0.14$	$-4.90 \pm 0.11$			10		6.23
Sr II	$\leq -5.10$	$\leq -5.25$	$\leq -4.94$	$\leq -5.09$	1	0.01	2.92

(Caffau et al. 2011, 2012)

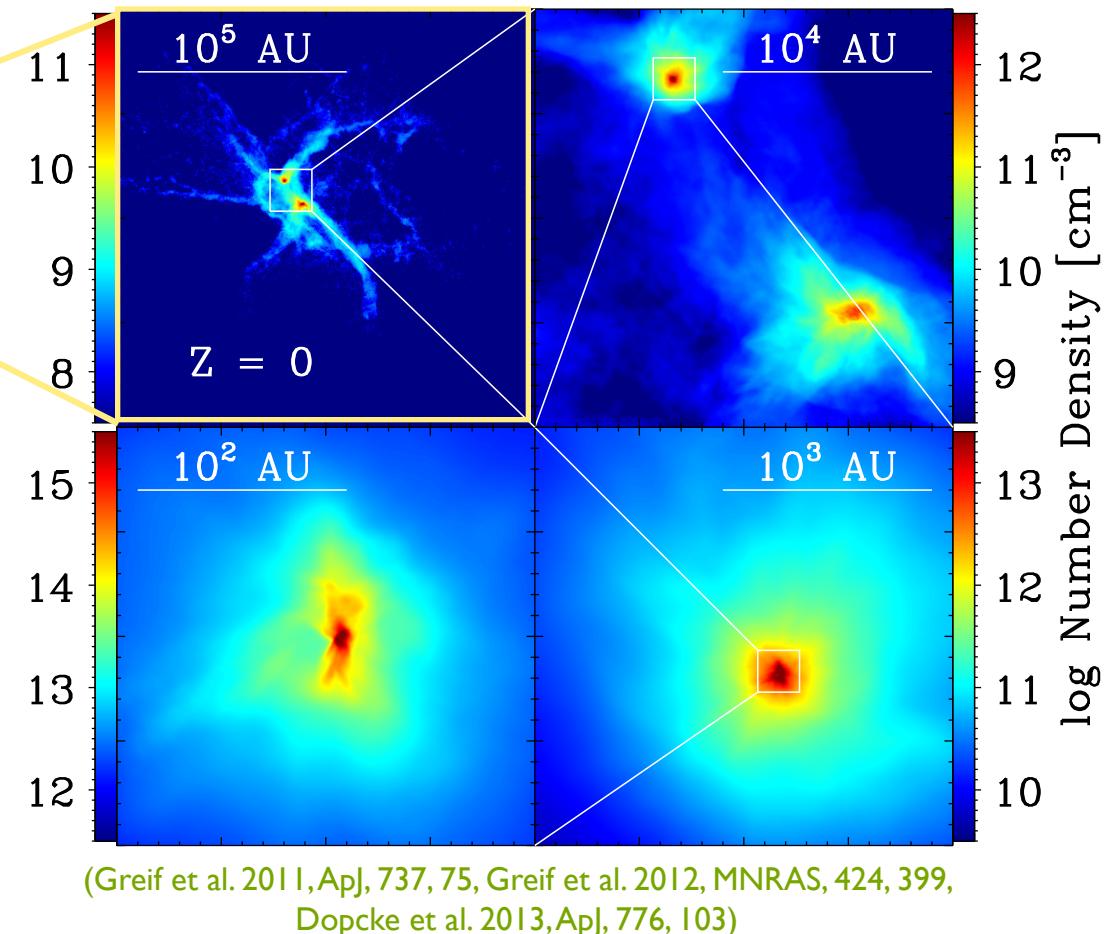
(Schneider et al. 2011, 2012, Klessen et al. 2012)

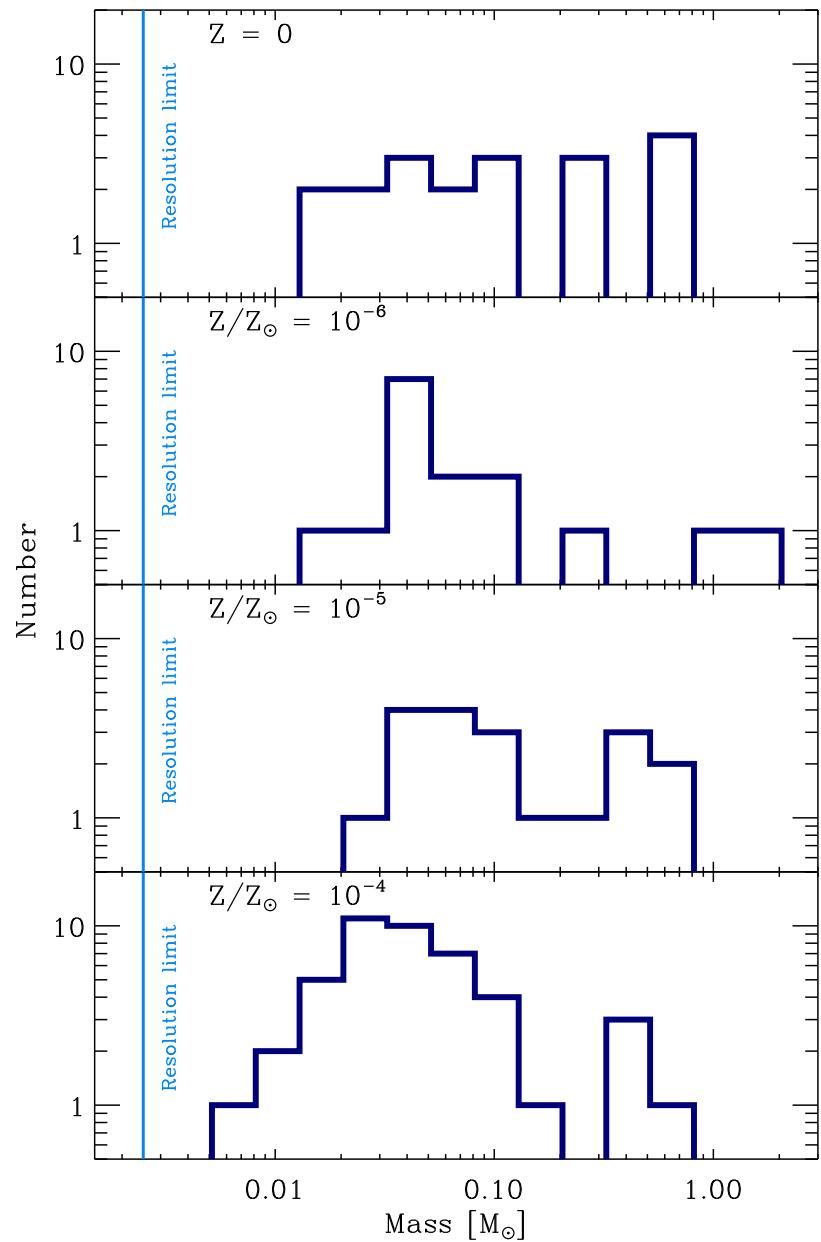
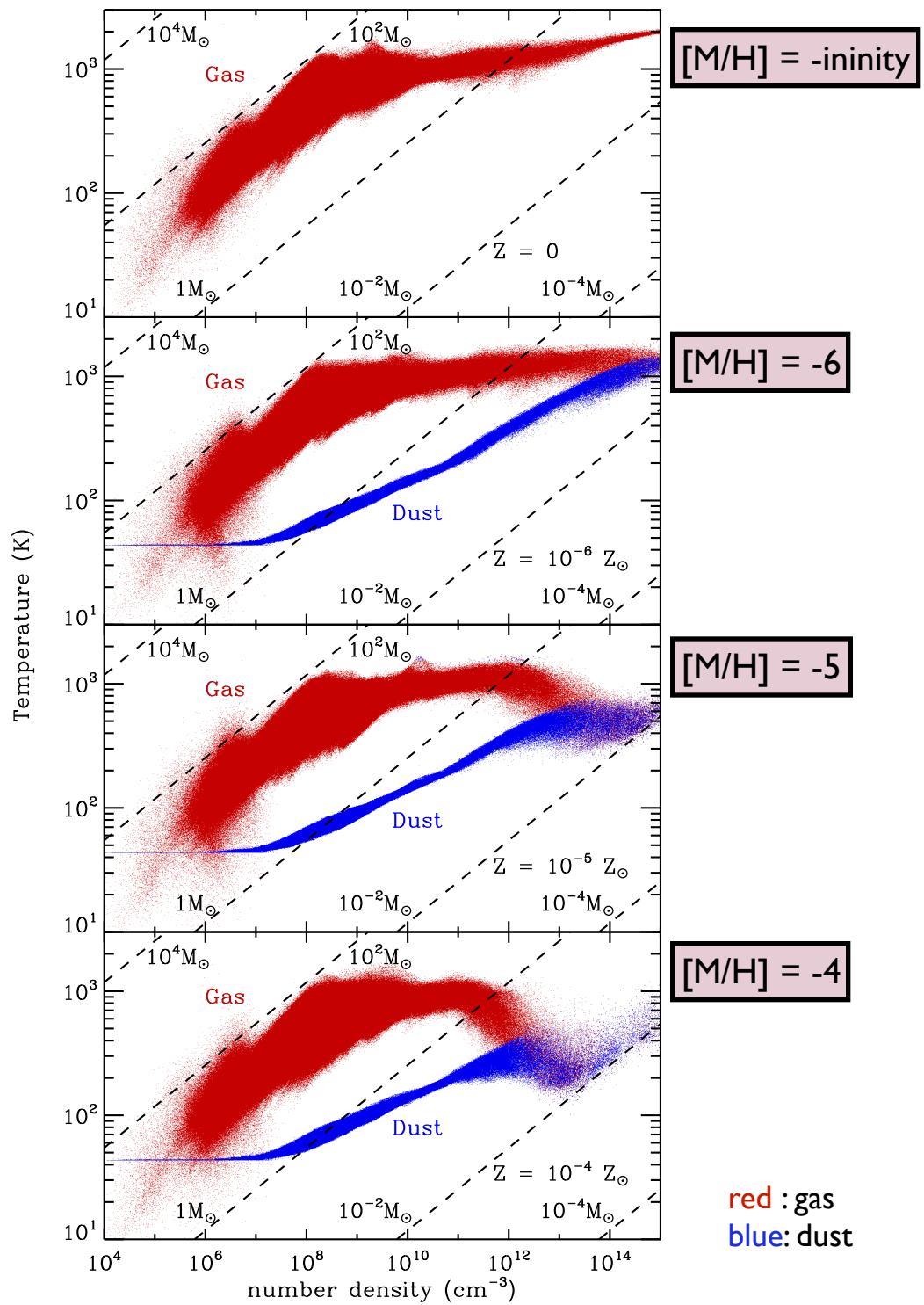
# modeling the formation of the first/second stars



(Greif et al., 2007, ApJ, 670, 1)

successive zoom-in calculation from cosmological initial conditions (using SPH and new grid-code AREPO)

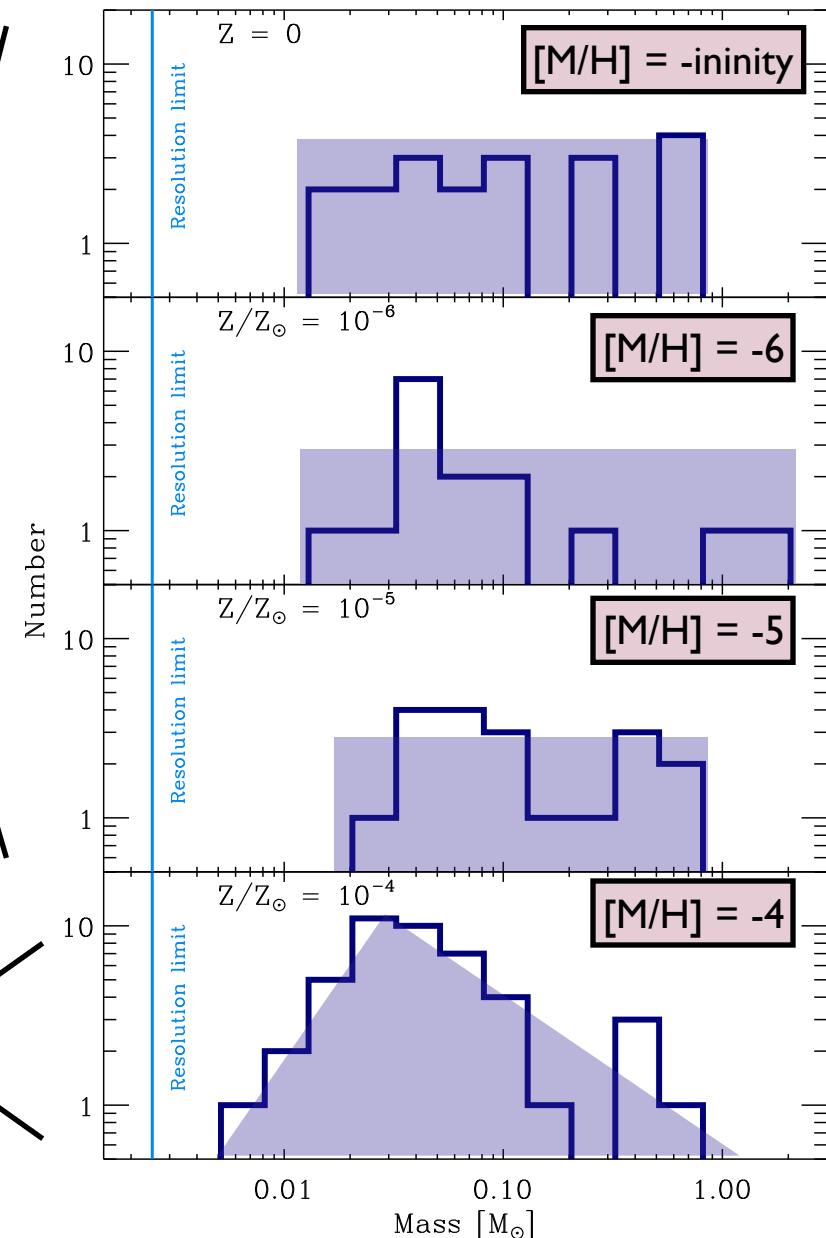




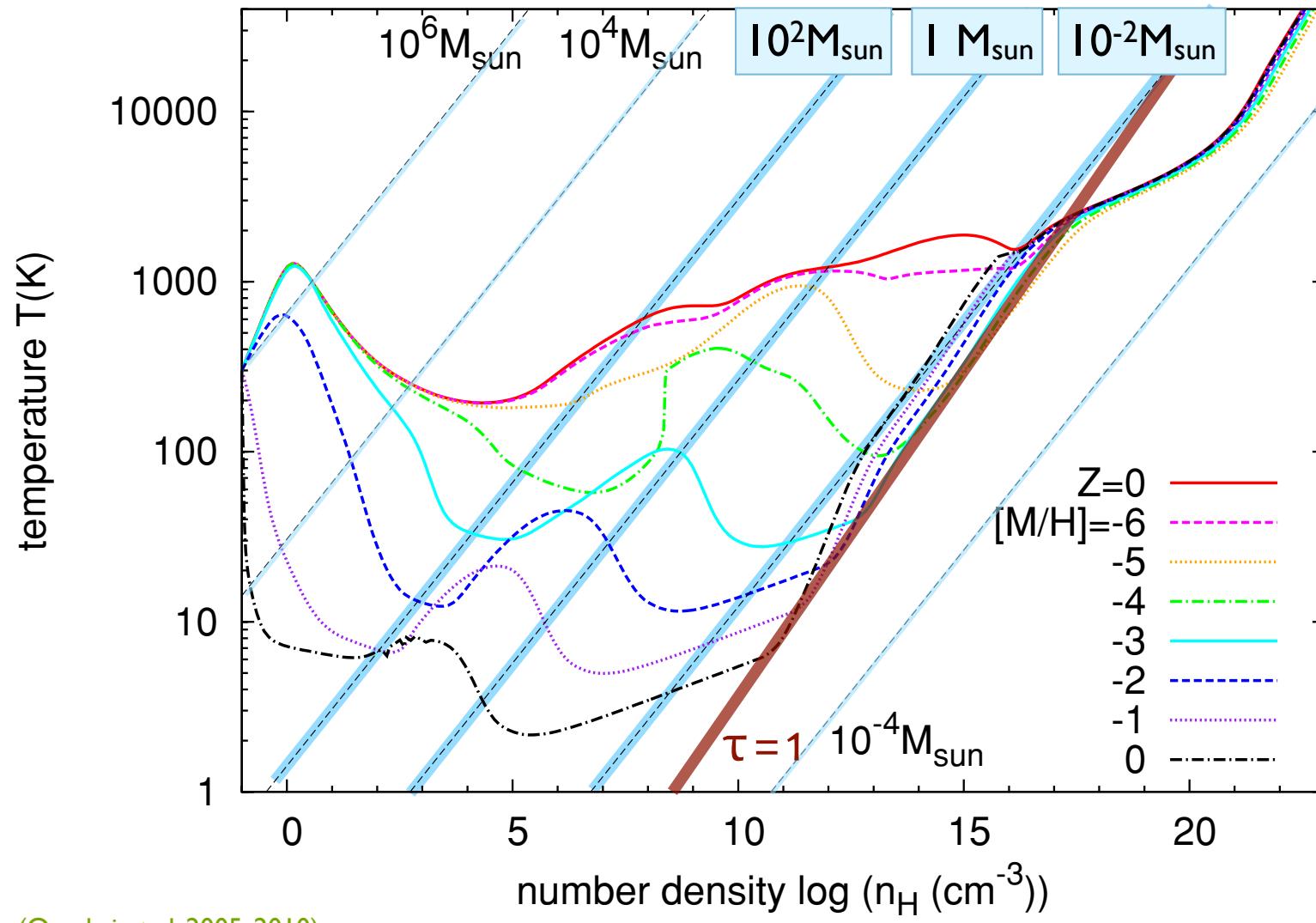
hints for differences  
in mass spectrum

disk fragmentation mode

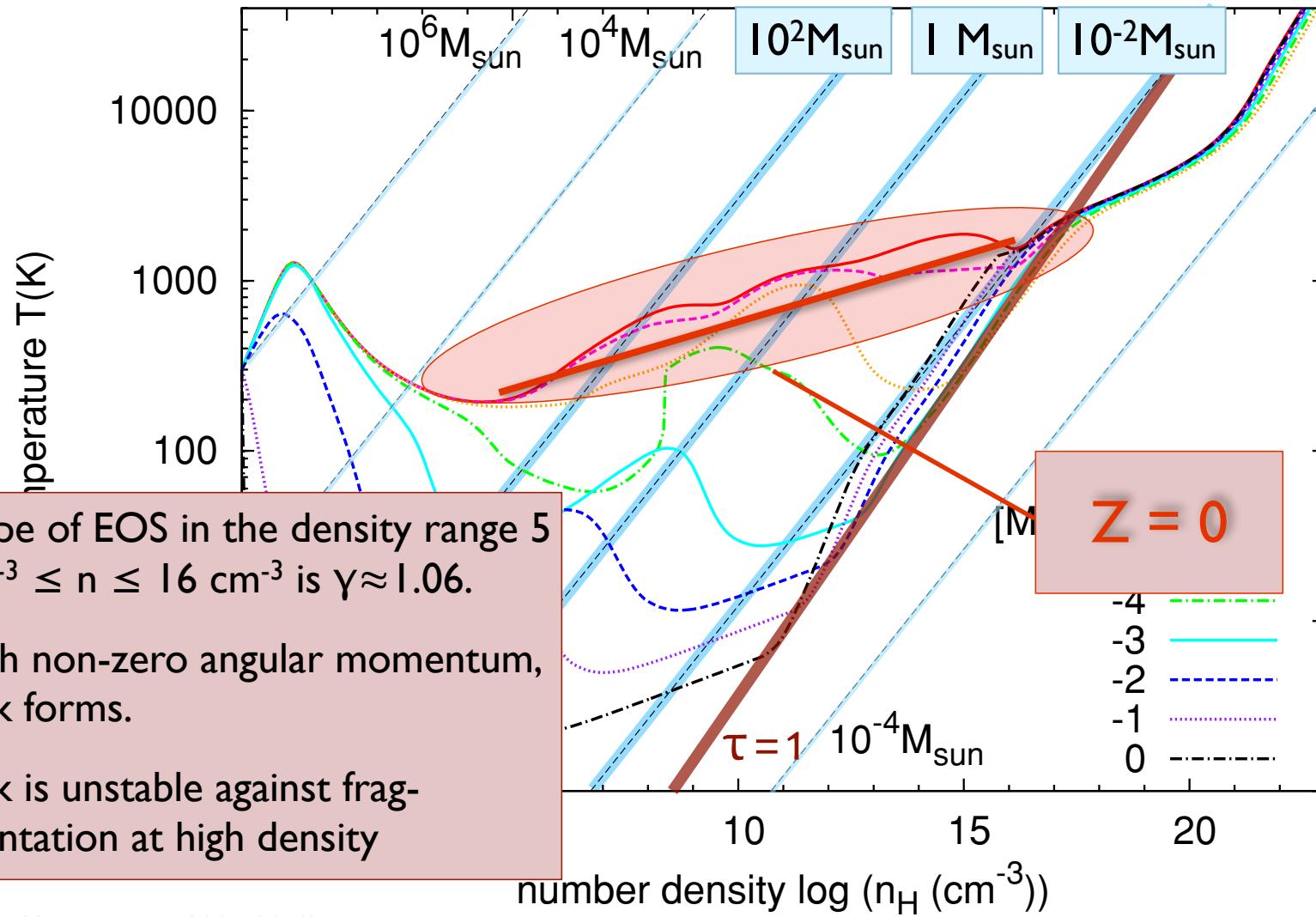
gravoturbulent fragmentation mode



# EOS as function of metallicity



# EOS as function of metallicity



detailed look at accretion disk

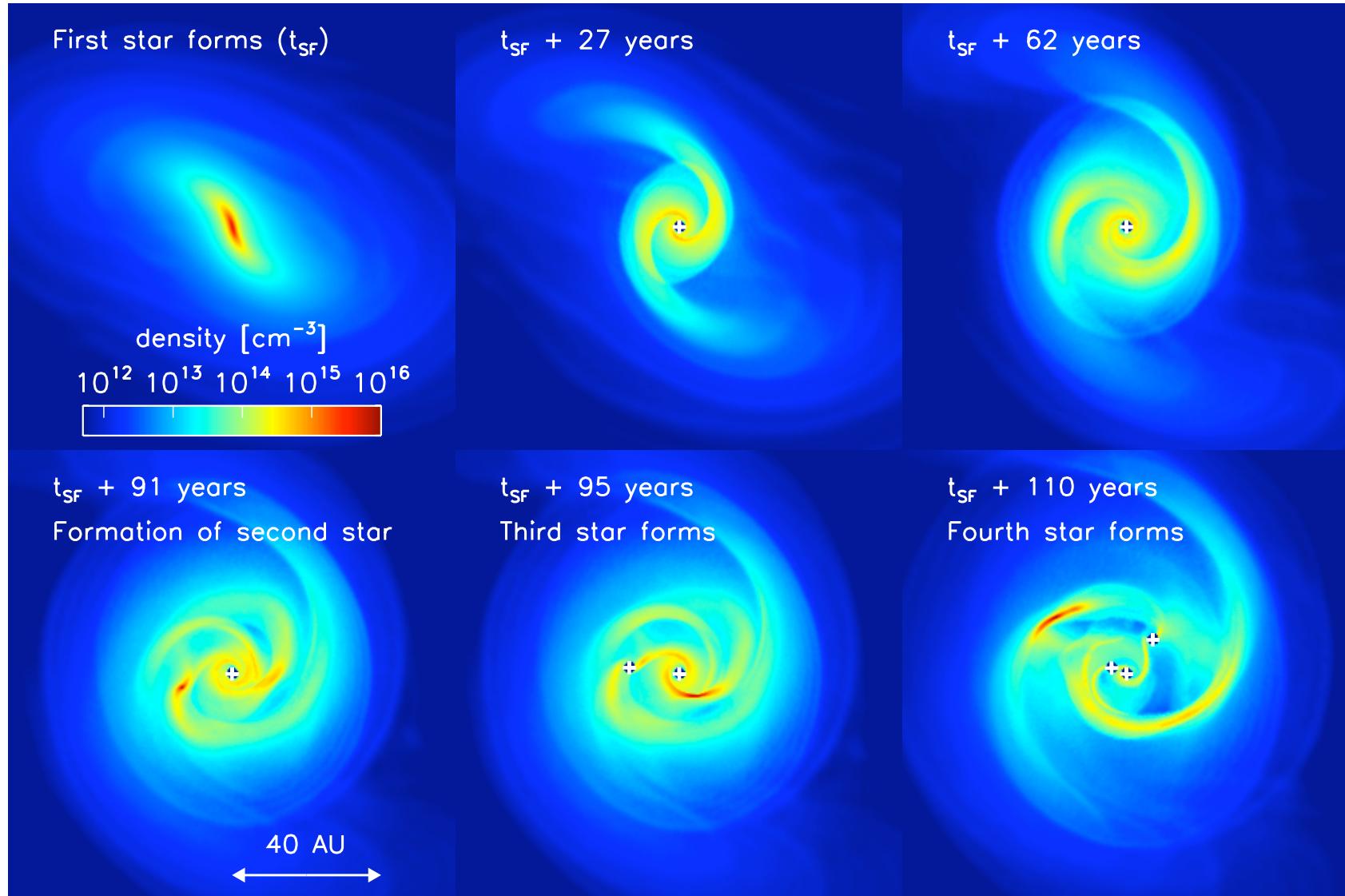
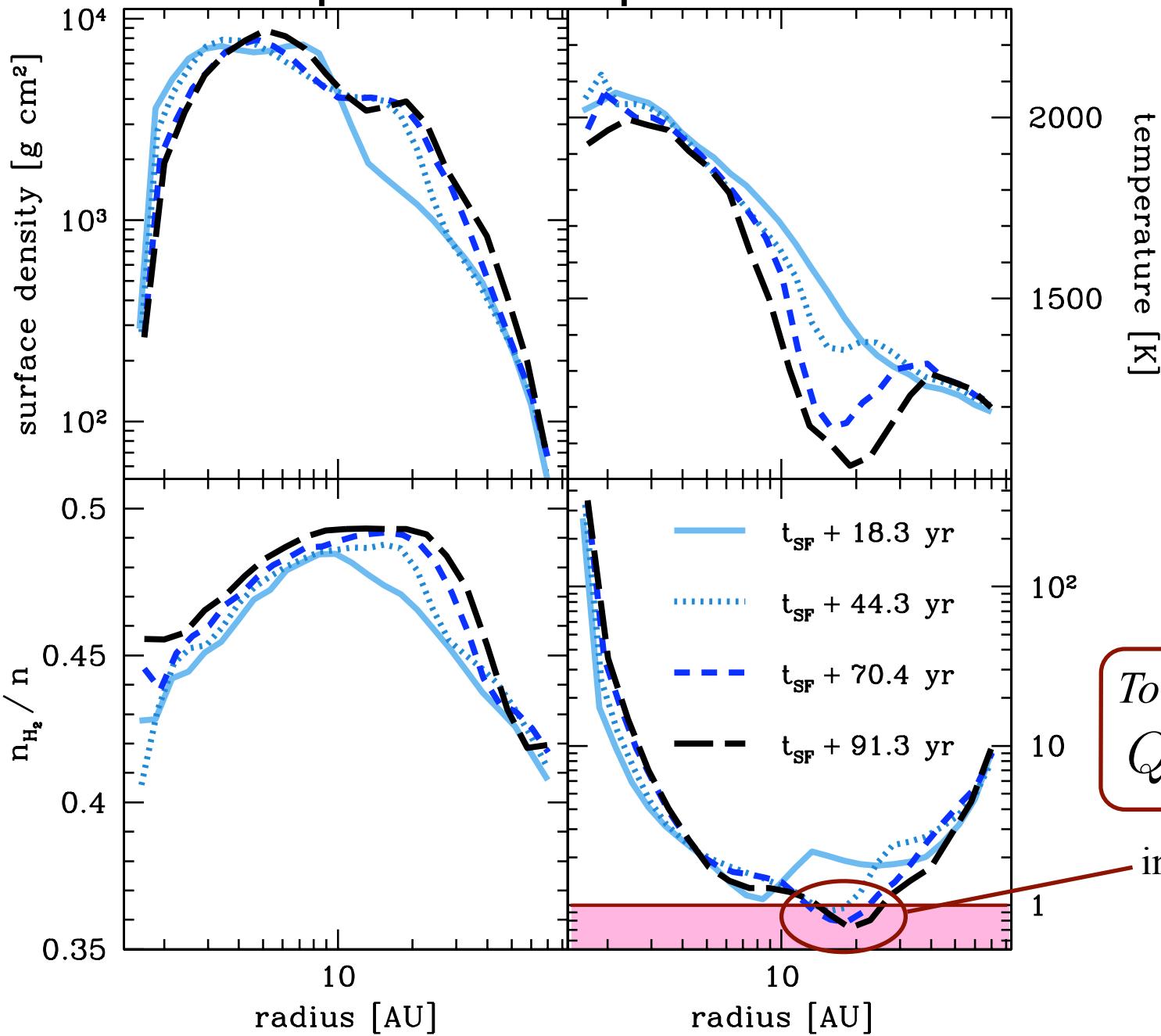


Figure 1: Density evolution in a 120 AU region around the first protostar, showing the build-up of the protostellar disk and its eventual fragmentation. We also see ‘wakes’ in the low-density regions, produced by the previous passage of the spiral arms.

# important disk parameters

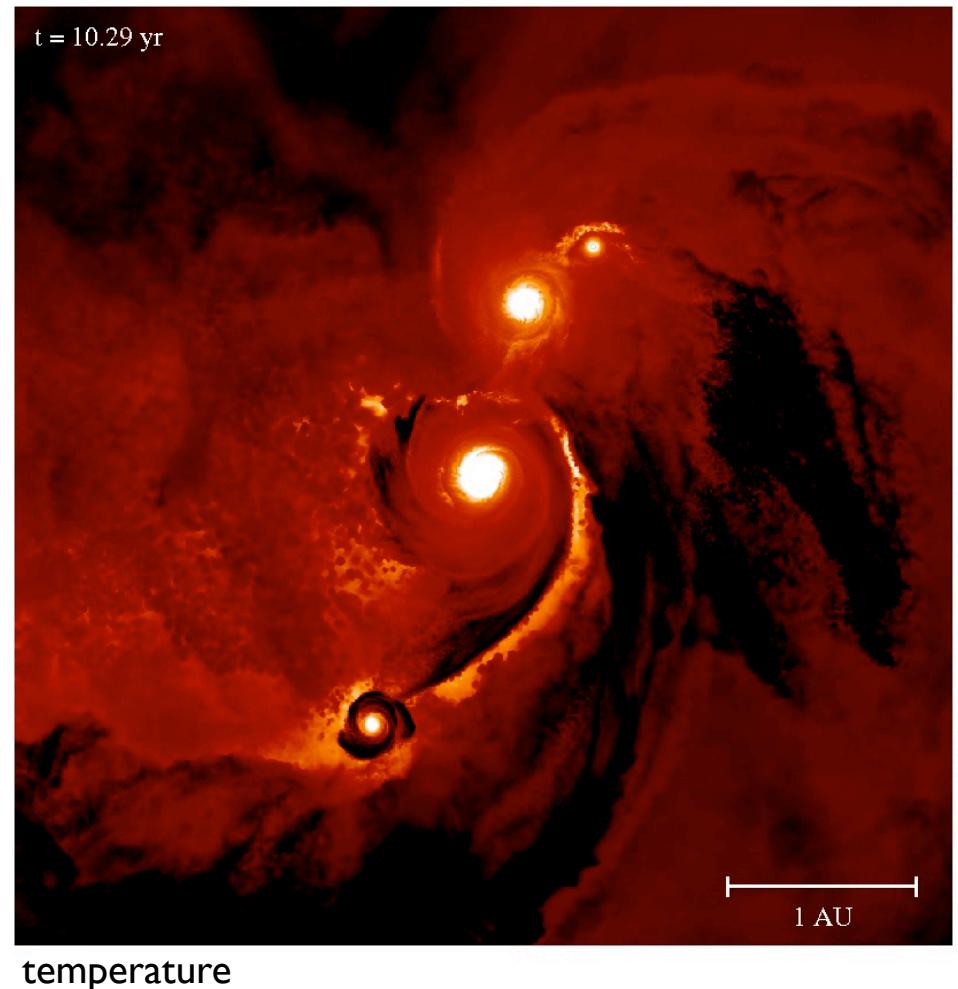
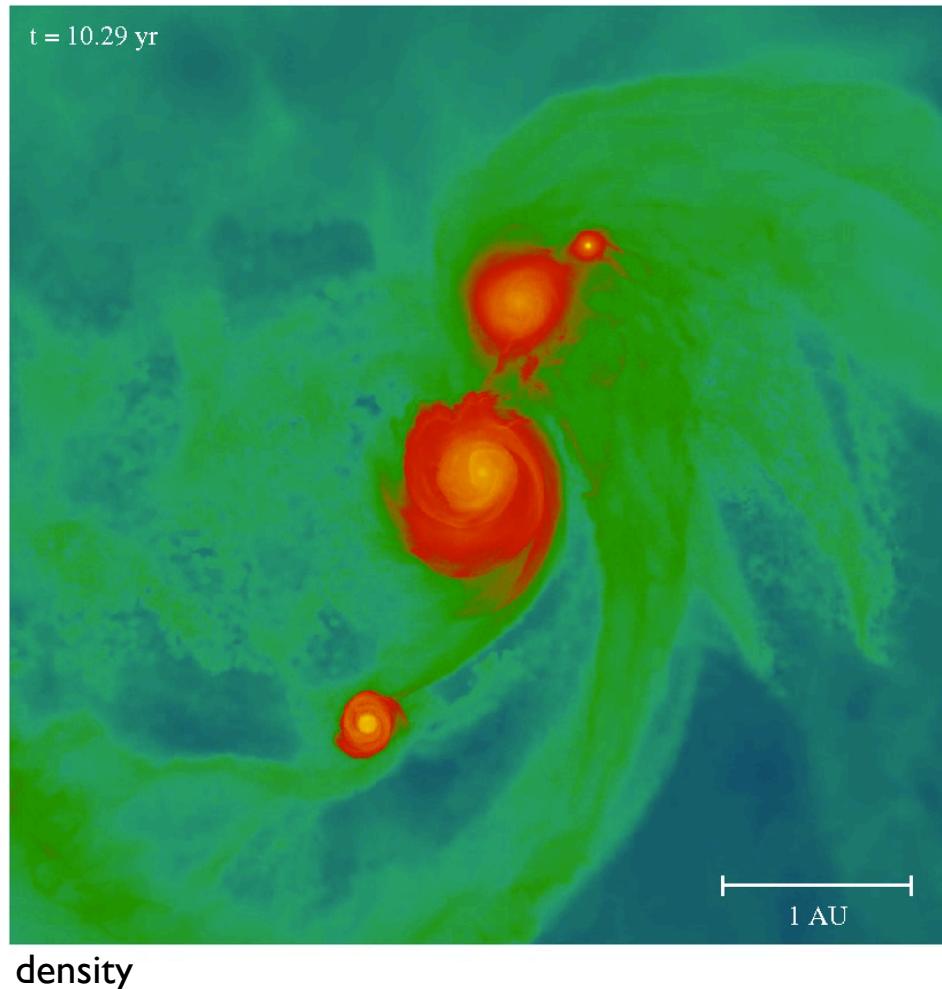


Toomre  $Q$ :

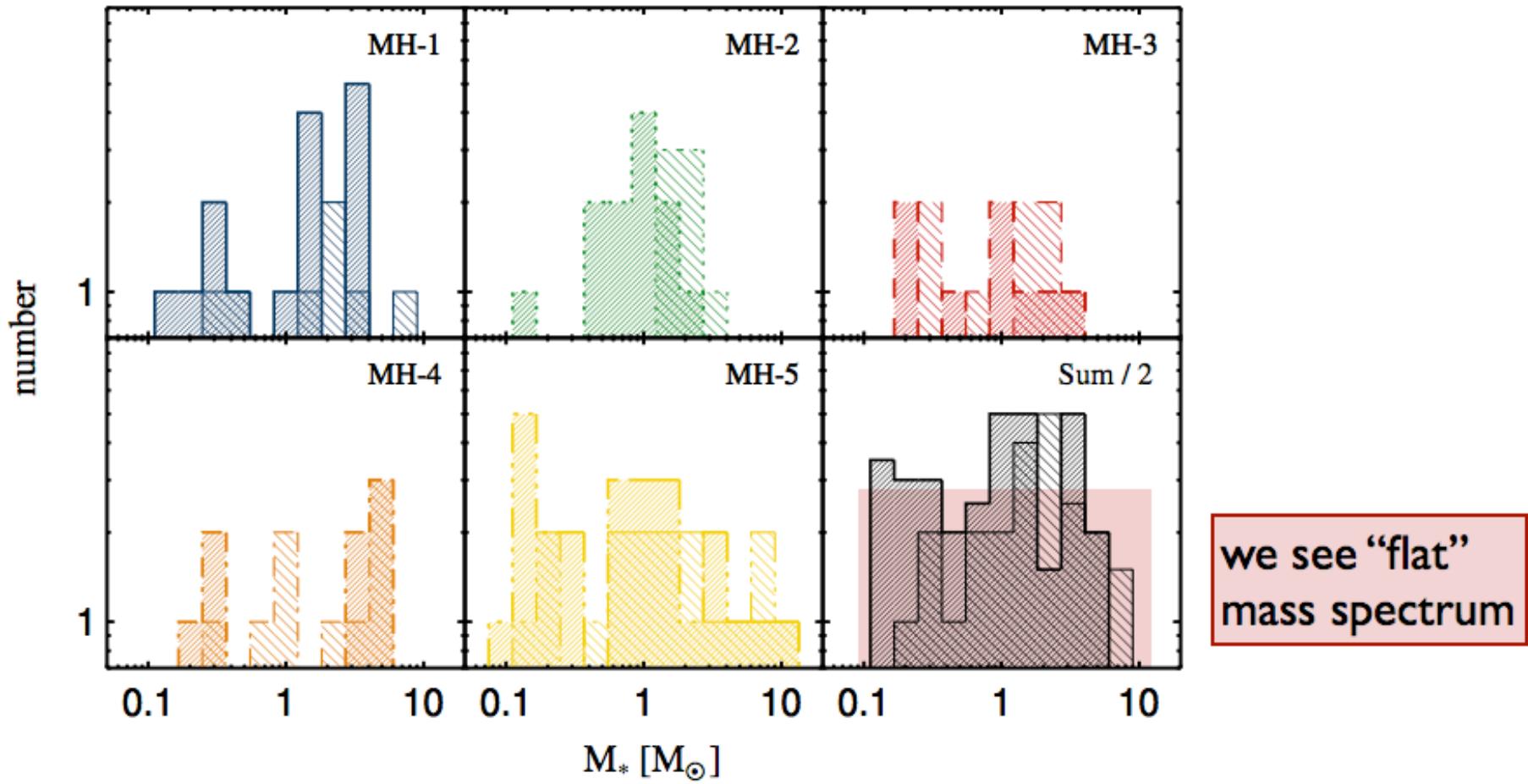
$$Q = c_s \kappa / \pi G \Sigma$$

instability for  $Q < 1$

Most recent calculations:  
fully sink-less simulations, following the disk build-up over  $\sim 10$  years  
(resolving the protostars - first cores - down to  $10^5$  km  $\sim 0.01 R_\odot$ )

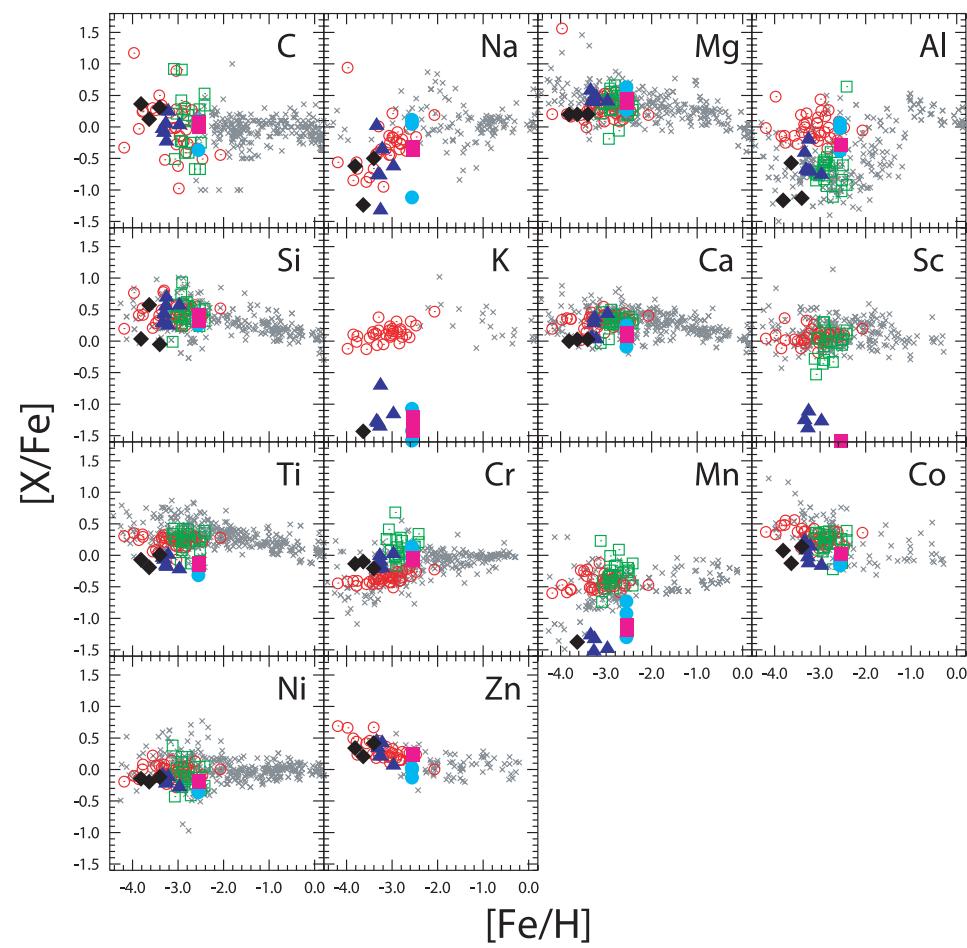
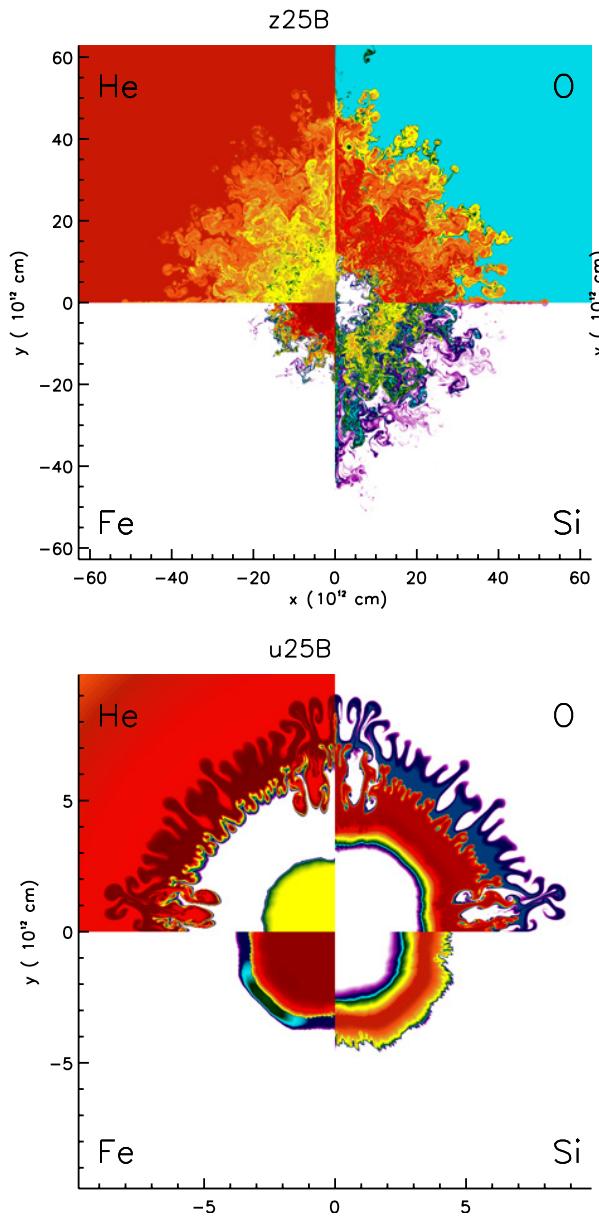


# expected mass spectrum



# expected mass spectrum

- expected IMF is flat and covers a wide range of masses
- implications
  - because slope  $> -2$ , most mass is in massive objects as predicted by most previous calculations
  - most high-mass Pop III stars should be in *binary systems*  
--> source of *high-redshift gamma-ray bursts*
  - because of ejection, some *low-mass objects* ( $< 0.8 M_{\odot}$ ) might have survived until today and could potentially be found in the Milky Way
- consistent with abundance patterns found in second generation stars

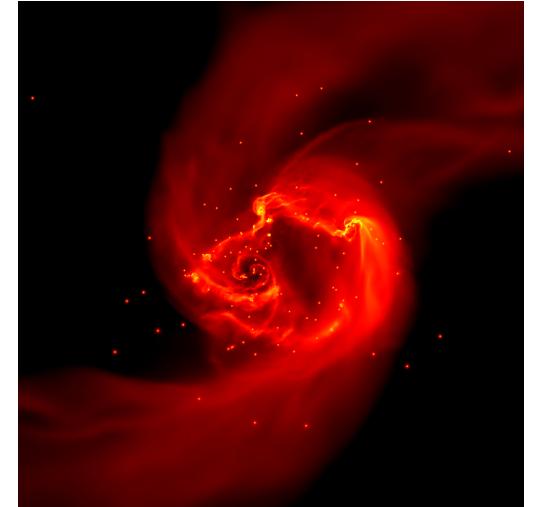


The metallicities of extremely metal-poor stars in the halo are consistent with the yields of core-collapse supernovae, i.e. progenitor stars with 20 - 40 M $\odot$

(e.g. Tominaga et al. 2007, Izutani et al. 2009, Joggerst et al. 2009, 2010)

# primordial star formation

- just like in present-day SF, we expect
  - *turbulence*
  - *thermodynamics* (*i.e. heating vs. cooling*)
  - *feedback*
  - *magnetic fields*to influence first star formation.
- masses of first stars still *uncertain*, but we expect a *wide mass range* with *typical masses* of several *10s of M<sub>⦿</sub>*
- disks unstable: first stars in *binaries* or *part of small clusters*
- current frontier: include *feedback* and *magnetic fields* and possibly *dark matter annihilation...*



# reducing fragmentation

- from present-day star formation theory we know, that
  - magnetic fields: Peters et al. 2011, Seifried et al. 2012, Hennebelle et al. 2011
  - accretion heating: Peters et al. 2010, Krumholz et al. 2009, Kuipers et al. 2011can influence the fragmentation behavior.
- in the context of Pop III
  - radiation: Hosokawa et al. 2012, Stacy et al. 2012a
  - magnetic fields: Turk et al. 2012, but see also Bovino et al. 2013  
Schleicher et al. 2010, Sur et al. 2010, Federrath et al. 2011, Schober et al. 2012ab, 2013
- all these will reduce degree of fragmentation  
(but not by much, see Rowan Smith et al. 2011, 2012, at least for accretion heating)
- DM annihilation might become important for disk dynamics and fragmentation (Ripamonti et al. 2011, Stacy et al. 2012b, Rowan Smith et al. 2012)



Carina with HST

Star formation is intrinsically a multi-scale and multi-physics problem.  
Many different processes need to be considered simultaneously.



Carina with HST

Star formation is intrinsically a multi-scale and multi-physics problem. Many different processes need to be considered simultaneously.

- stars form from the  
of competing processes (such as  
**pressure, CR pressure,**)
- **thermodynamic properties**  
in the star formation process
- detailed studies require the  
**physical processes**
- star formation is  
poorly understood
- **primordial star formation**  
star formation