

Stellar feedback and HII regions: How stars affect their environment

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Programm



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Outline

- I. The importance of feedback
- II. Stellar feedback mechanisms
- III. Impact of feedback on GMC scales
- IV. Impact of feedback on galactic scales
- V. Conclusions/questions

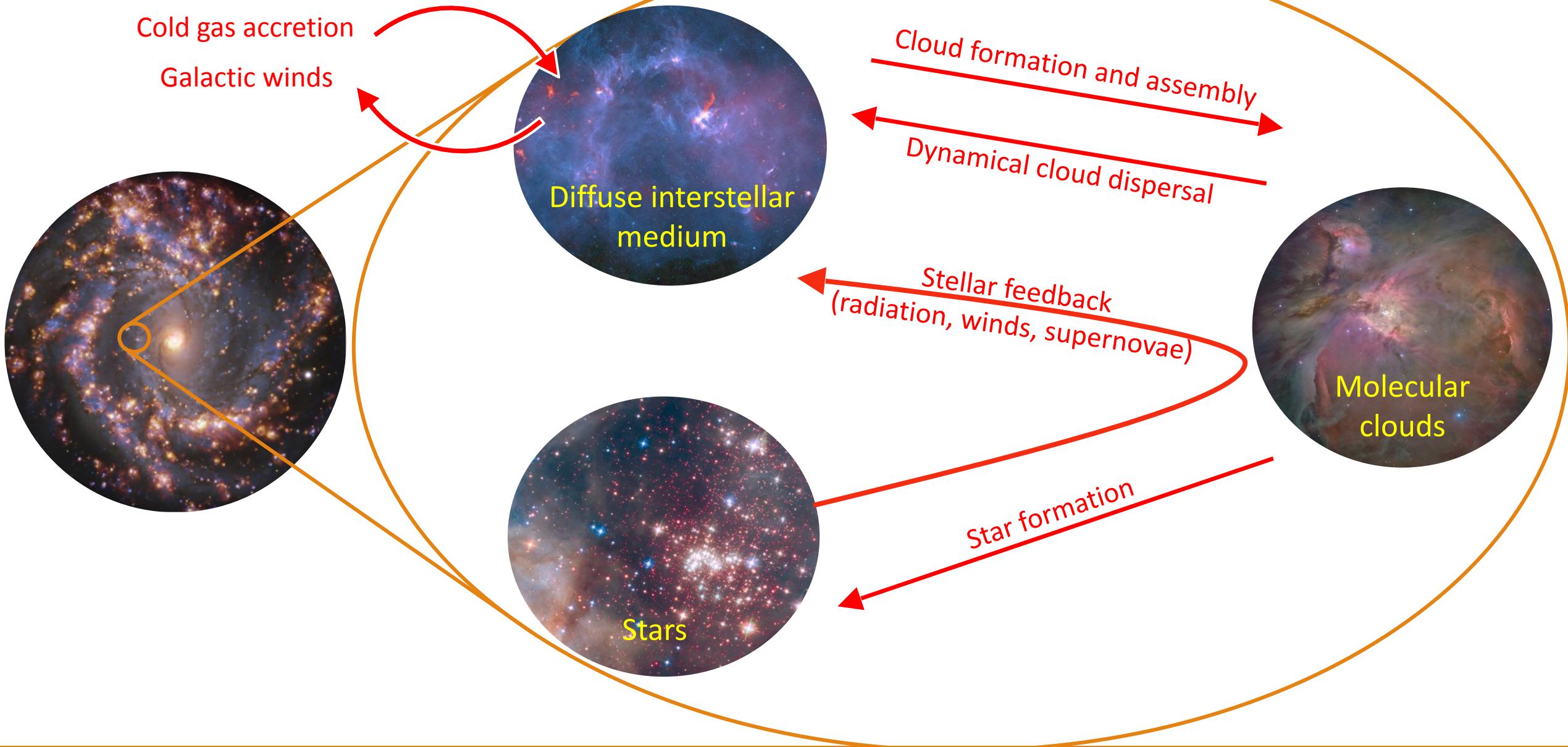
A vibrant, multi-colored nebula or galaxy cluster dominates the background of the slide. The colors range from deep reds and oranges on the left to blues and purples on the right, with numerous bright, glowing star clusters of varying sizes scattered throughout the field.

I. The importance of feedback

Feedback!



The matter cycle in galaxies



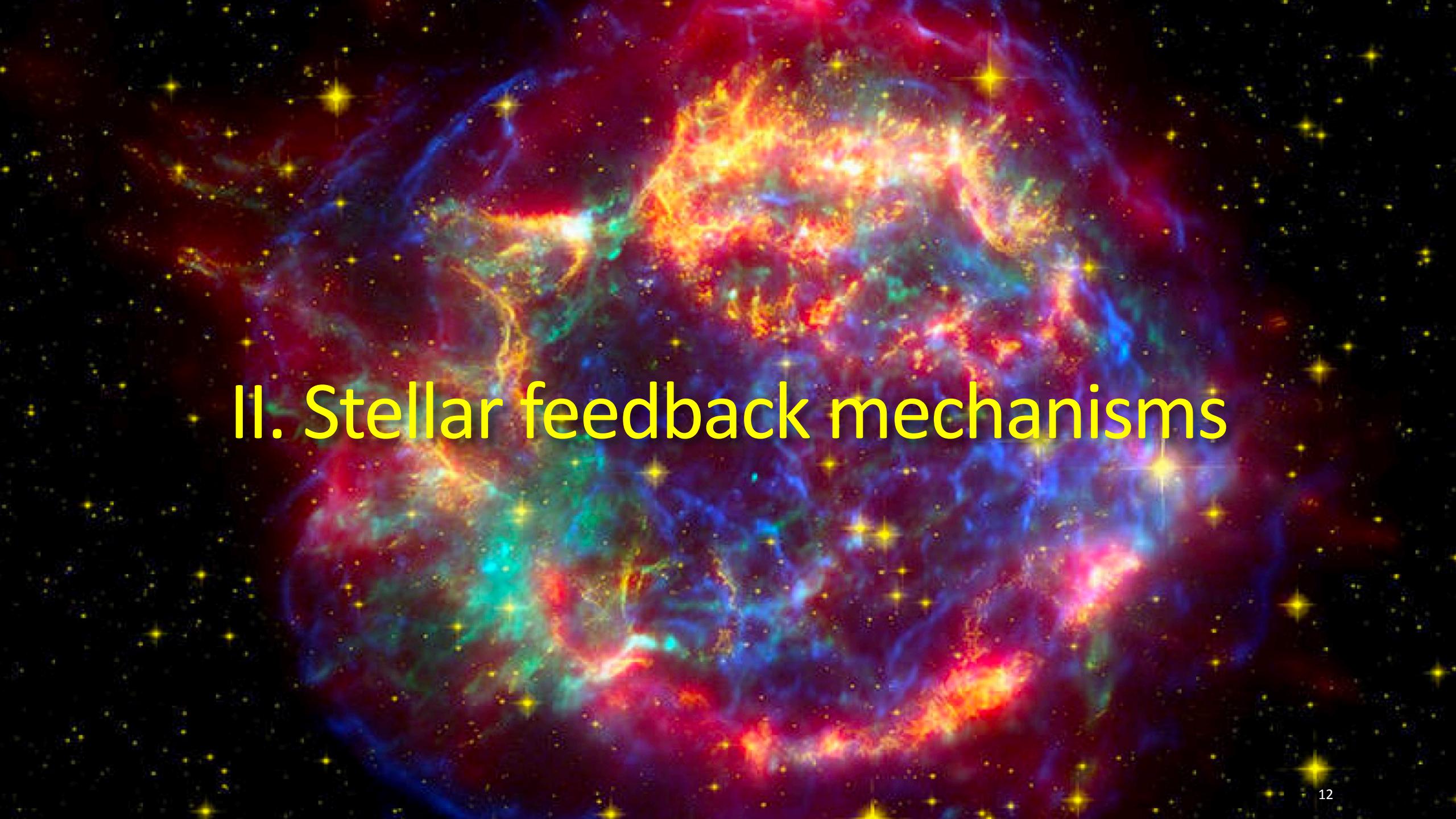
The importance of feedback

- ★ Turbulence dissipates *quickly* —> gas heating
- ★ Cooling time of the ISM is *short*
 - Without feedback: diffuse ISM —> collapse into dense clouds —> collapse into stars
- ★ *Feedback* is the reason we are not sitting in a black hole!
 - With feedback: young stars inject energy and momentum in the gas —> limit/revert collapse —> "*Self-regulation*"

The importance of feedback

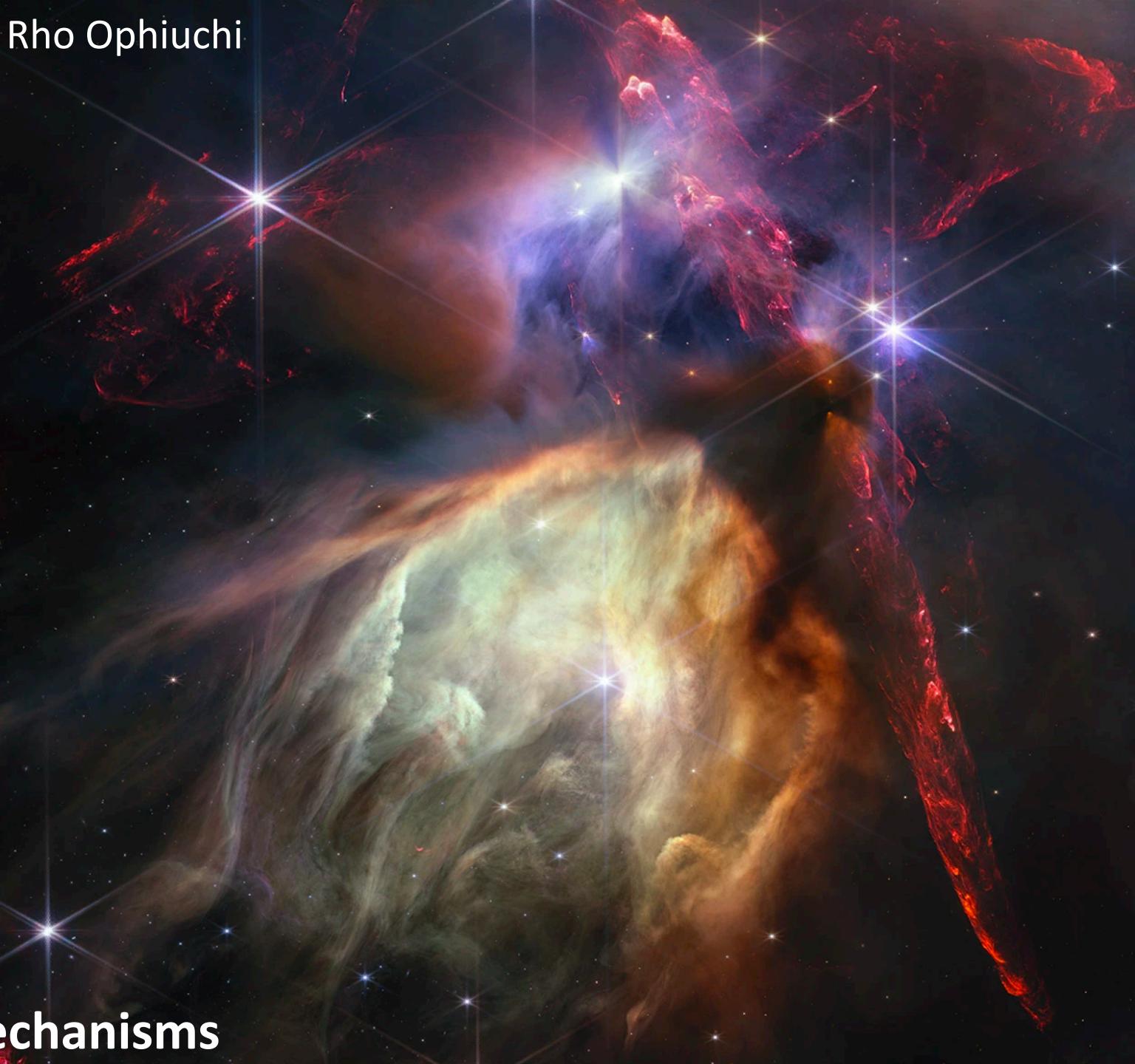
Some notes:

- ★ Turbulence creates ***structure*** in the ISM —> stars are born in a ***clustered environment***
- ★ ***Massive stars*** are important feedback sources and ***live the shortest*** —> ***fast regulation***
- ★ The effects of feedback are ***correlated in space and time***



II. Stellar feedback mechanisms

Rho Ophiuchi



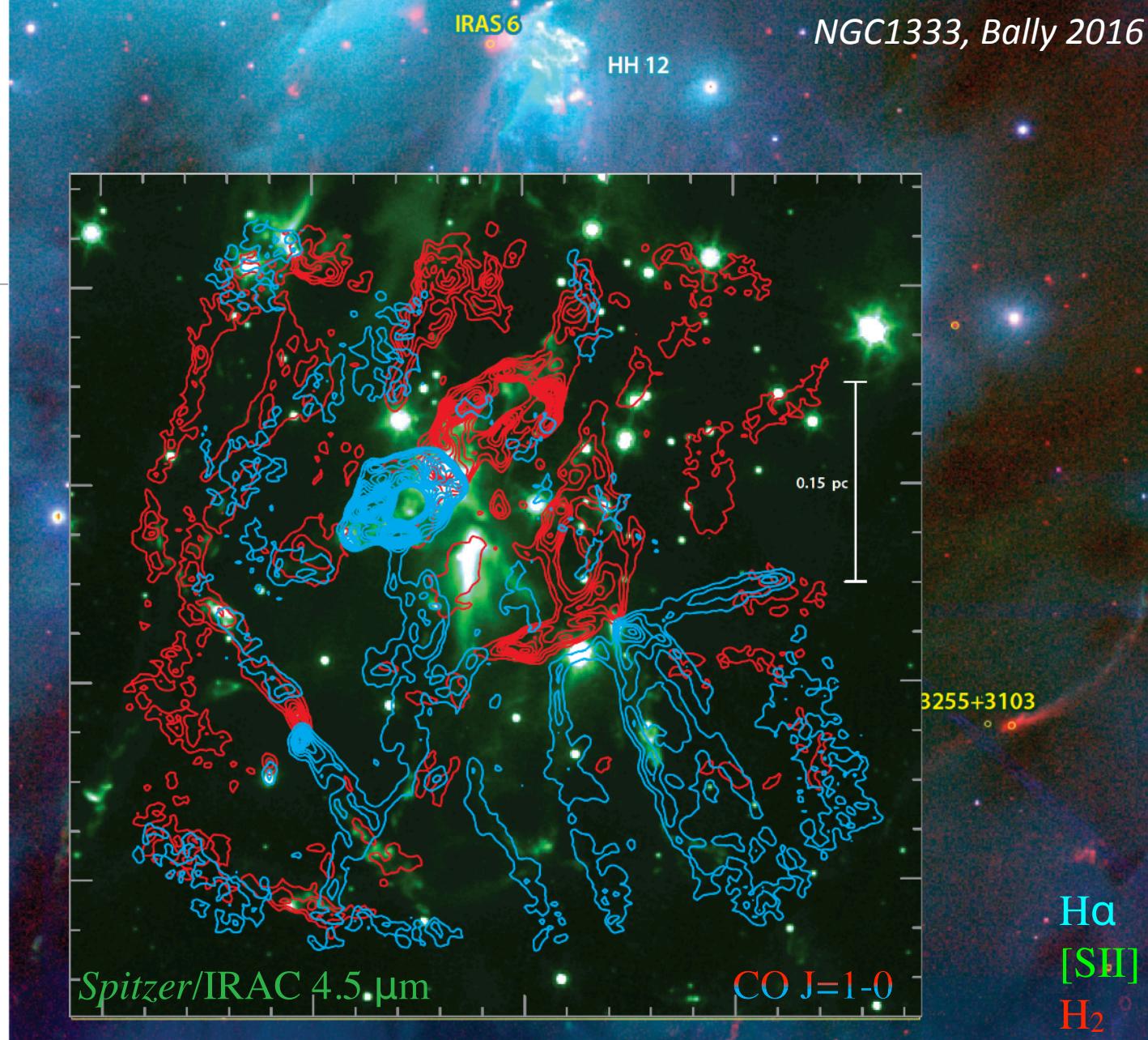
JWST/NIRCam
F187N
F200W
F335W
F444W
F470N

Stellar feedback mechanisms

- ★ ***Outflows*** disperse the natal cores of individual stars
- ★ ***Non-ionizing FUV/optical radiation*** heats the gas through the photoelectric effect
- ★ ***Ionizing EUV radiation*** photoevaporates dense material, producing high-pressure ionized gas
- ★ ***Stellar winds*** create very hot, high-pressure bubbles
- ★ ***Radiation pressure*** from (direct or indirect) momentum transfer of photons to the gas
- ★ ***Supernovae***
- ★ ***Cosmic rays*** created in SNRs

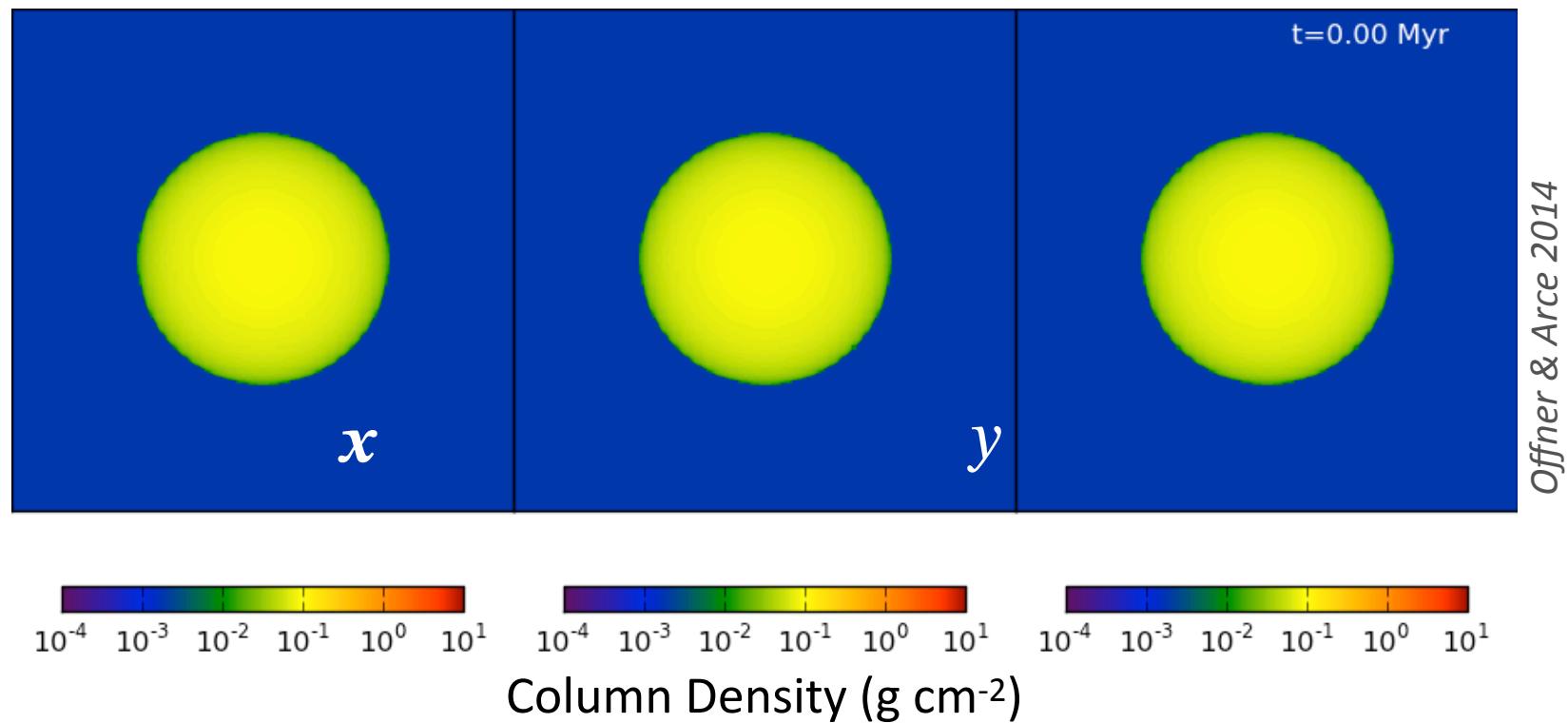
Outflows

- ★ Accreting systems with *rotation* and a *magnetic field* tend to exhibit *bipolar outflows or collimated jets*
- ★ Outflow speed for forming star:
a few km/s to over 10^3 km/s
- ★ Can generate turbulence, limit collapse rate, blow out parent cores
- ★ Generally *cannot halt star formation*
- ★ Very complete review: see **Bally 2016 (ARA&A)**



Outflows — Simulations

“Isolated” Star Forming Core

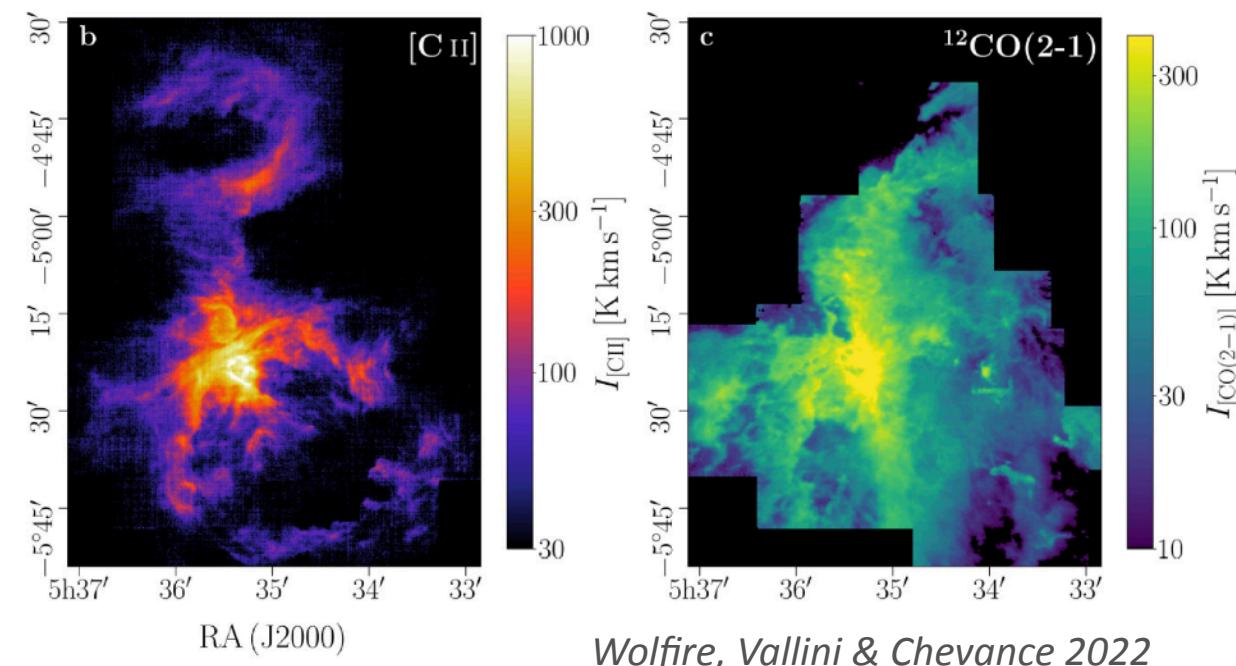


$$M_{\text{core}} = 4 M_{\odot}$$
$$L = 0.26 \text{ pc}$$

Turbulence+Radiation+Gravity+Stellar Model/Feedback

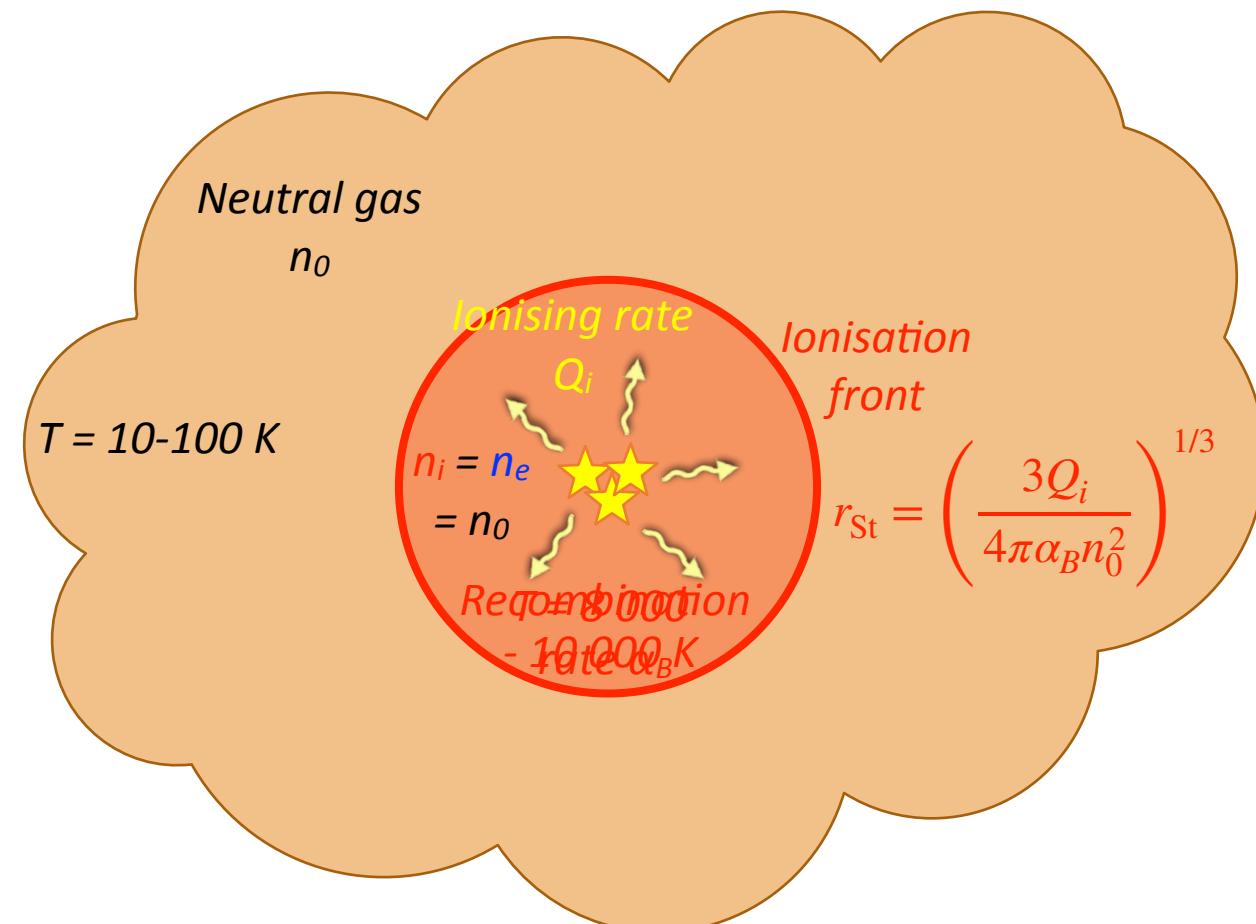
Non-ionizing radiation

- ★ Local UV (*non-ionizing*) photons from OB stars absorbed by small dust grains generates **photoelectric heating**
- ★ Important for thermal balance and chemistry in the WNM/CNM ($T \sim 100 - 8000\text{ K}$)
- ★ Deposits momentum when absorbed or scattered by dust —> **radiation pressure**



Ionising radiation

- ★ Photons > 13.6 eV from massive stars *ionise nearby gas*
- ★ For a fully sampled IFM, ionising photon rate:
 $Q_i = \Xi M_*$ with $\Xi = 3 \times 10^{13}$ photons s⁻¹ g⁻¹
- ★ Balance *ionisation/recombination* sets the
Strömgren radius: $\frac{4}{3}\pi r_{\text{St}}^3 \times n_e n_i \times \alpha_B = Q_i$
- ★ Hot gas → overpressure → expansion
- ★ Accelerated of ~ 10–30 km/s
via internal pressure gradients



Ionising radiation – timescale

- ★ Equation of motion of the swept-up shell:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{4\pi}{3} r_{\text{IF}} \rho_0 \dot{r}_{\text{IF}} \right) = 4\pi r_{\text{IF}}^2 \rho_0 c_s^2 \left(\frac{r_{\text{St}}}{r_{\text{IF}}} \right)^{3/2}$$

mass of the swept-up shell

Spitzer (1978)

Hosokawa et al. (2006)

pressure in the HII region

- ★ Solving to get radius expansion:

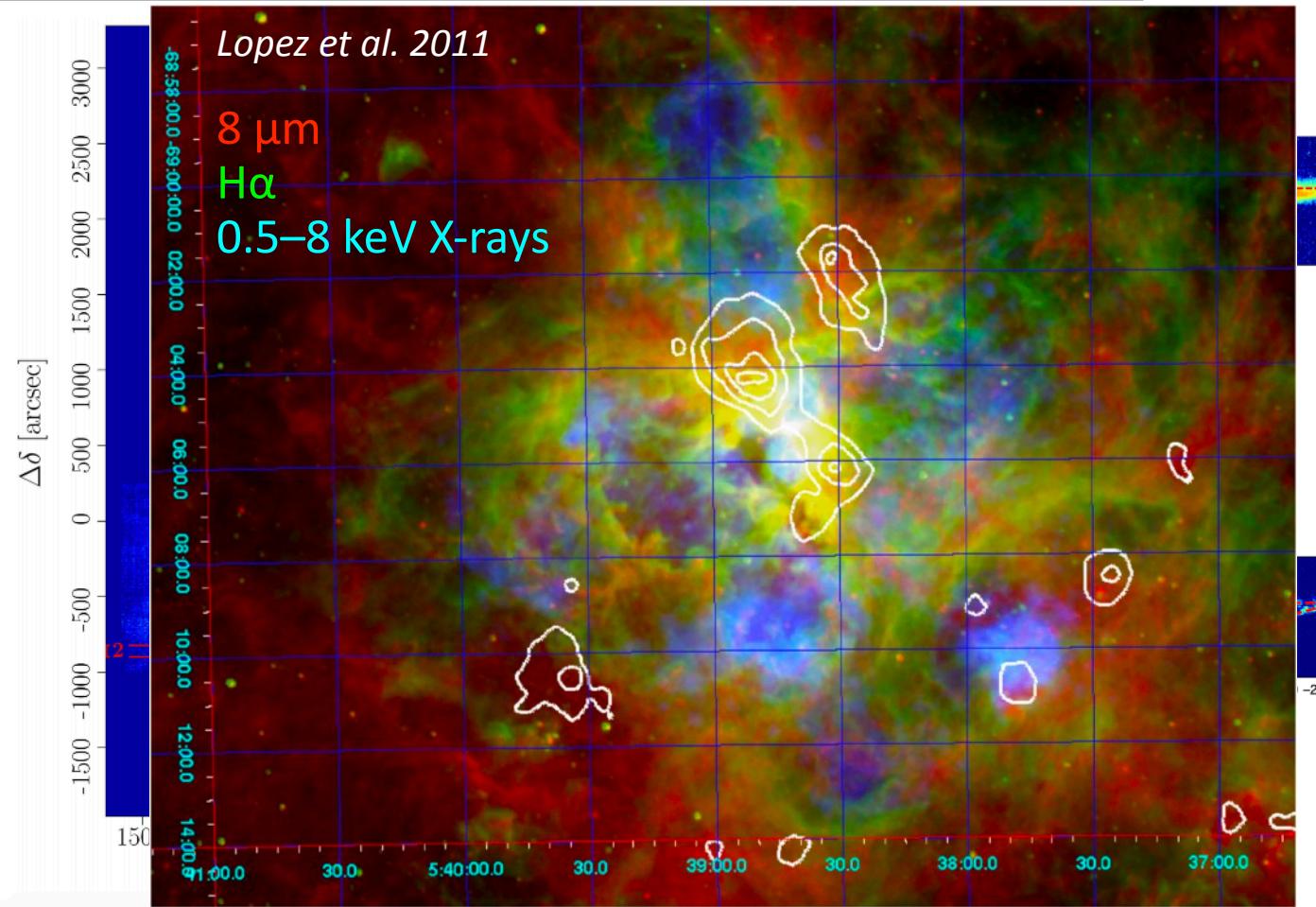
$$r_{\text{IF}}(t) = r_{\text{St}} \left(1 + \frac{7}{4} \left(\frac{4}{3} \right)^{1/2} \frac{c_s t}{r_{\text{St}}} \right)^{4/7}$$

- ★ For $r_{\text{IF}} = r_{\text{GMC}}$ at $t = t_{\text{phot}}$:

$$t_{\text{phot}} = \frac{4}{7} \left(\frac{3}{4} \right)^{1/2} \frac{r_{\text{St}}}{c_s} \left[\left(\frac{r_{\text{GMC}}}{r_{\text{St}}} \right)^{7/4} - 1 \right]$$

Stellar winds

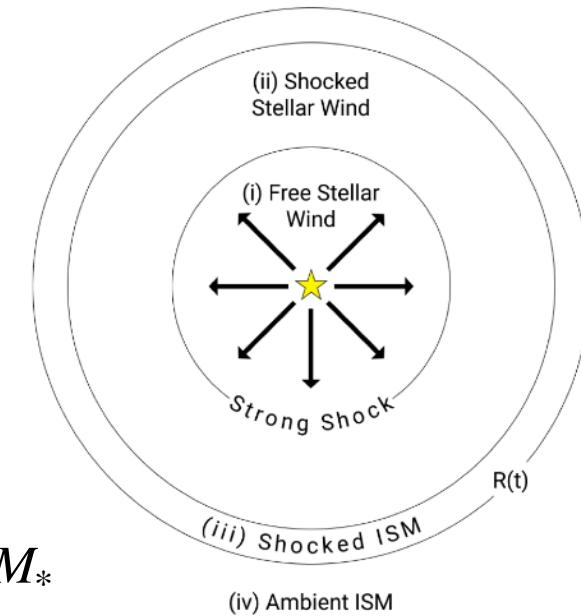
- ★ *OB stars* have very fast winds
- ★ *Shock surrounding gas* to create a high temperature ($> 10^6$ K) bubble
- ★ Mass fluxes of $10^{-5} - 10^{-4} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ at $v_0 \sim 10^3 \text{ km/s}$
- ★ See review by *Smith 2014 (ARA&A)*



Stellar winds — timescale

- ★ Energy injection rate (for a fully sampled IMF):

$$\dot{E}/M_* = L_{\text{wind}}/M_* = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M} v_{\text{wind}}^2 / M_*$$



- ★ Radius evolution of an energy-driven shock:

$$r(t) = \left(\frac{125}{154\pi} \frac{L_{\text{wind}} t^3}{\rho_{\text{GMC}}} \right)^{1/5}$$

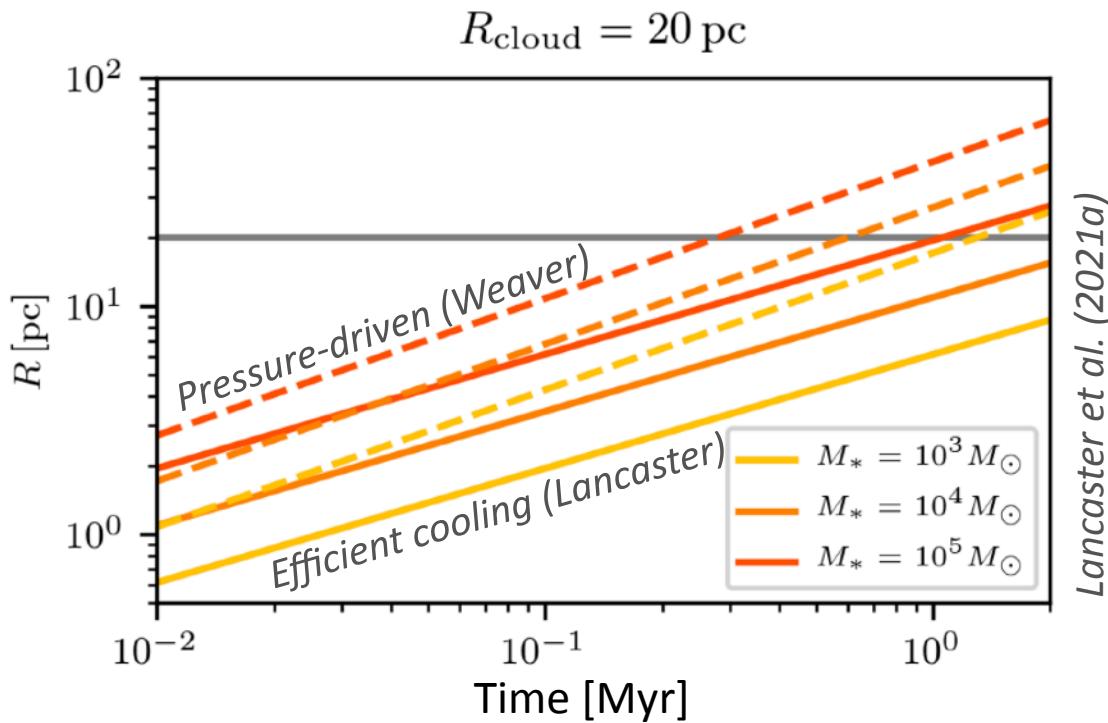
Weaver *et al.* (1977)

- ★ For $r = r_{\text{GMC}}$ at $t = t_{\text{wind}}$:

$$t_{\text{wind}} = \left(\frac{154\pi}{125} \frac{\rho_{\text{GMC}}}{L_{\text{wind}}} \right)^{1/3} r_{\text{GMC}}^{5/3}$$

Stellar winds — timescale

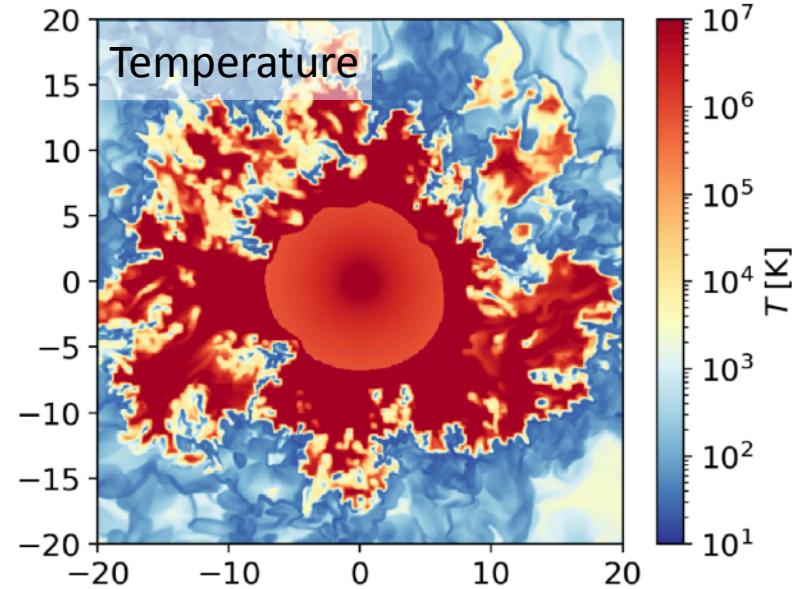
- ★ In reality, efficient turbulent mixing and cooling at the interface:



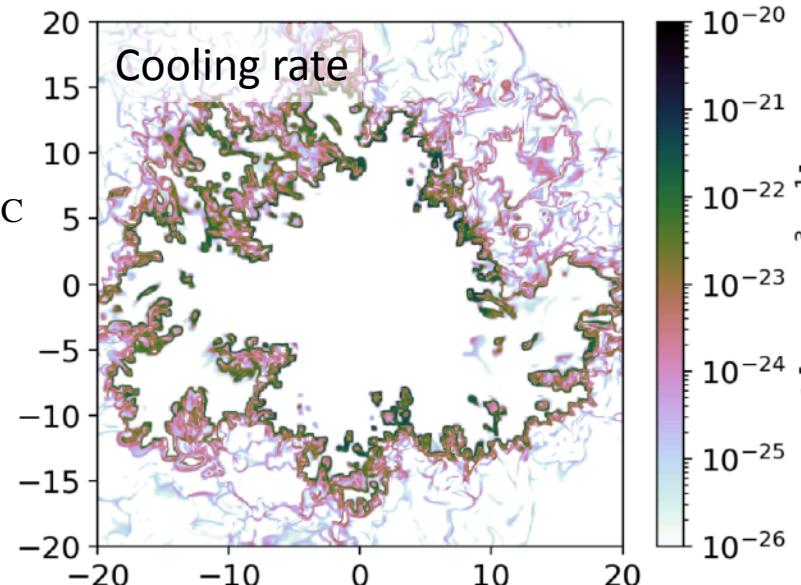
Lancaster et al. (2021a)

$$r(t) = \left(\alpha \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{wind}} v_{\text{wind}} t^2}{\bar{\rho}_{\text{GMC}}} \right)^{1/4}$$

$$t_{\text{wind}} = \left(\alpha \frac{\rho_{\text{GMC}}}{\dot{M}_{\text{wind}} v_{\text{wind}}} \right)^{1/2} r_{\text{GMC}}^2$$



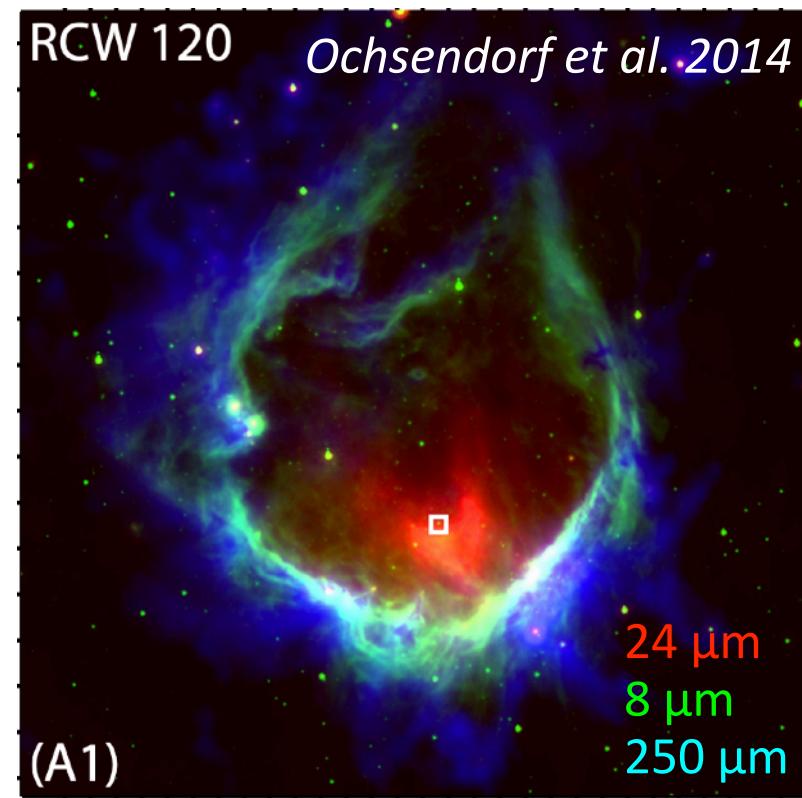
Lancaster et al. (2021b)



Radiation pressure

- ★ Photons transfer energy and **momentum** to the surrounding gas *and dust*, with $p = h\nu/c$
- ★ **Direct** absorption/scattering of photons by gas or dust
Or **indirect** after absorption by dust and reemission in IR
- ★ For a (point) source of luminosity L:
$$P_{\text{rad}}(r) = f_{\text{trap}} \frac{L}{4\pi r^2 c}$$

how much of this momentum is **actually absorbed** by the
gas (Krumholz & Matzner 2009)
- ★ Significant **only** for massive stars, **small regions with high opacity**
- ★ **Cannot halt** star formation



Radiation pressure — timescale

- ★ Radiation pressure force:

$$F_{\text{rad}} = (1 + \tau_{\text{IR}}) \frac{L_{\text{bol}}}{c}$$

bolometric luminosity
infrared optical depth

- ★ For a typical GMC:

$$\tau_{\text{IR}} = 8 \times 10^{-5} \left(\frac{\phi_{\text{tr}}}{0.2} \right) \left(\frac{T_{\text{GMC}}}{20 \text{ K}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\Sigma_{\text{GMC}}}{20 \text{ M}_\odot \text{ pc}^2} \right) \ll 1$$

Fraction of IR radiation trapped at $\tau_{\text{IR}} = 1$ from simulations (Krumholz et al. 2012)

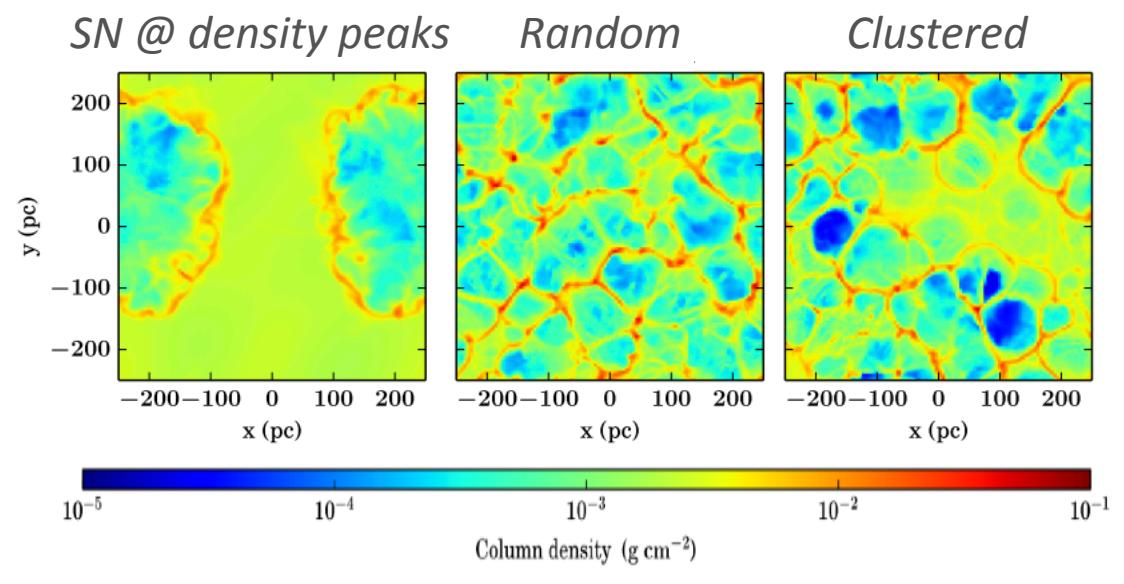
optically thin to infrared radiation

- ★ Solving the momentum equation for a constant volume density GMC, $r = r_{\text{GMC}}$ at $t = t_{\text{rad}}$

$$t_{\text{rad}} = \left(\frac{2\pi c}{3} \frac{\rho_{\text{GMC}}}{L_{\text{bol}}} \right)^{1/2} r_{\text{GMC}}^2$$

Supernovae

- ★ Largest source of ***momentum injection*** to the ISM from stellar feedback
- ★ Each supernova yields 10^{51} erg, much of which ends up as thermal energy in a hot phase with a long cooling time (hot remnant)
- ★ Drive ***turbulence*** in the molecular gas
- ★ Efficiency ***depends on the environment*** (density) and ***clustering***
- ★ ***Limited importance for halting star formation*** (time delay)

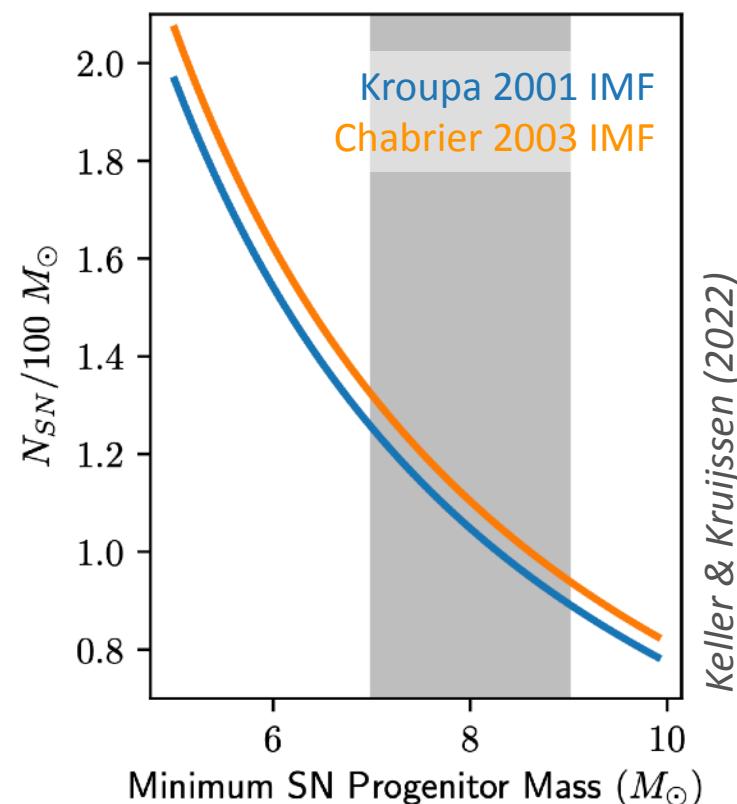


Girichidis et al. (2016)

See also: Iffrig+14, Iffrig & Hennebelle 15, C.-G. Kim & Ostriker 15, Gatte+15, Martizzi+15, Walch & Naab 15

Supernovae delay time

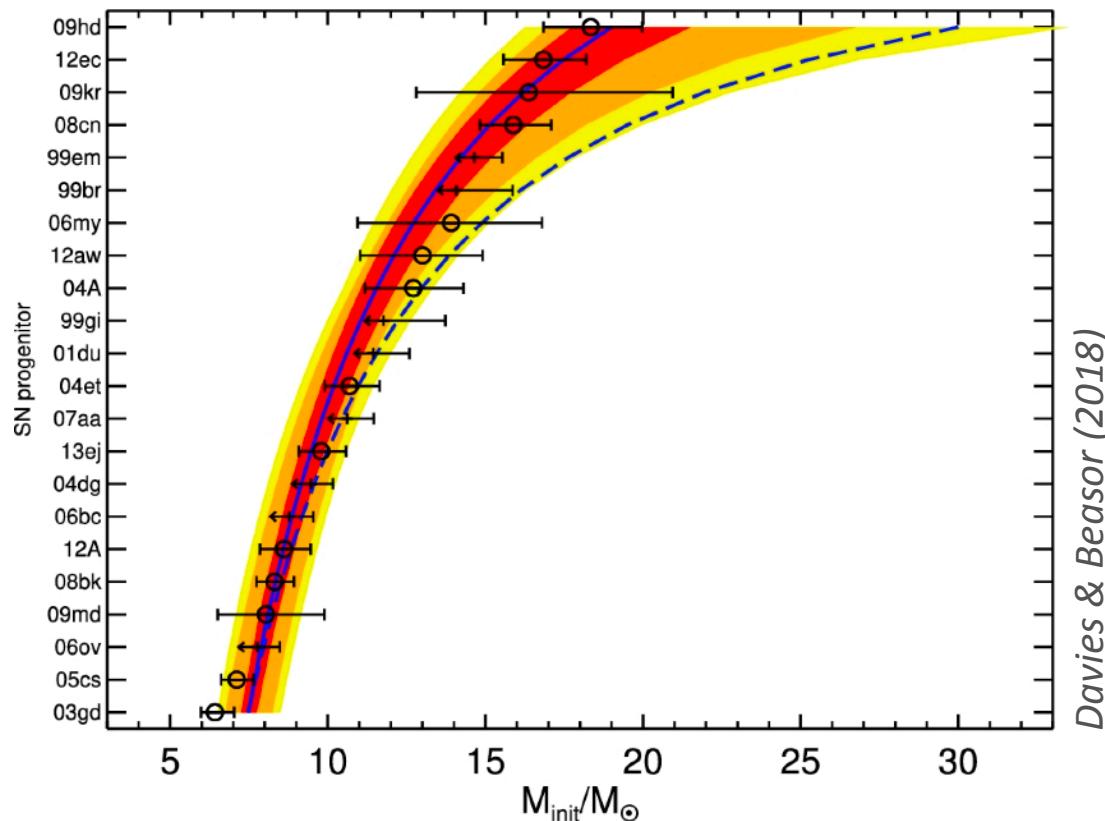
How many stars explode as SN and when?



- ★ Shape of the IMF
 - **More SNe** from *low-mass* progenitors ($\gtrsim 8 M_\odot$)

Supernovae delay time

How many stars explode as SN and when?

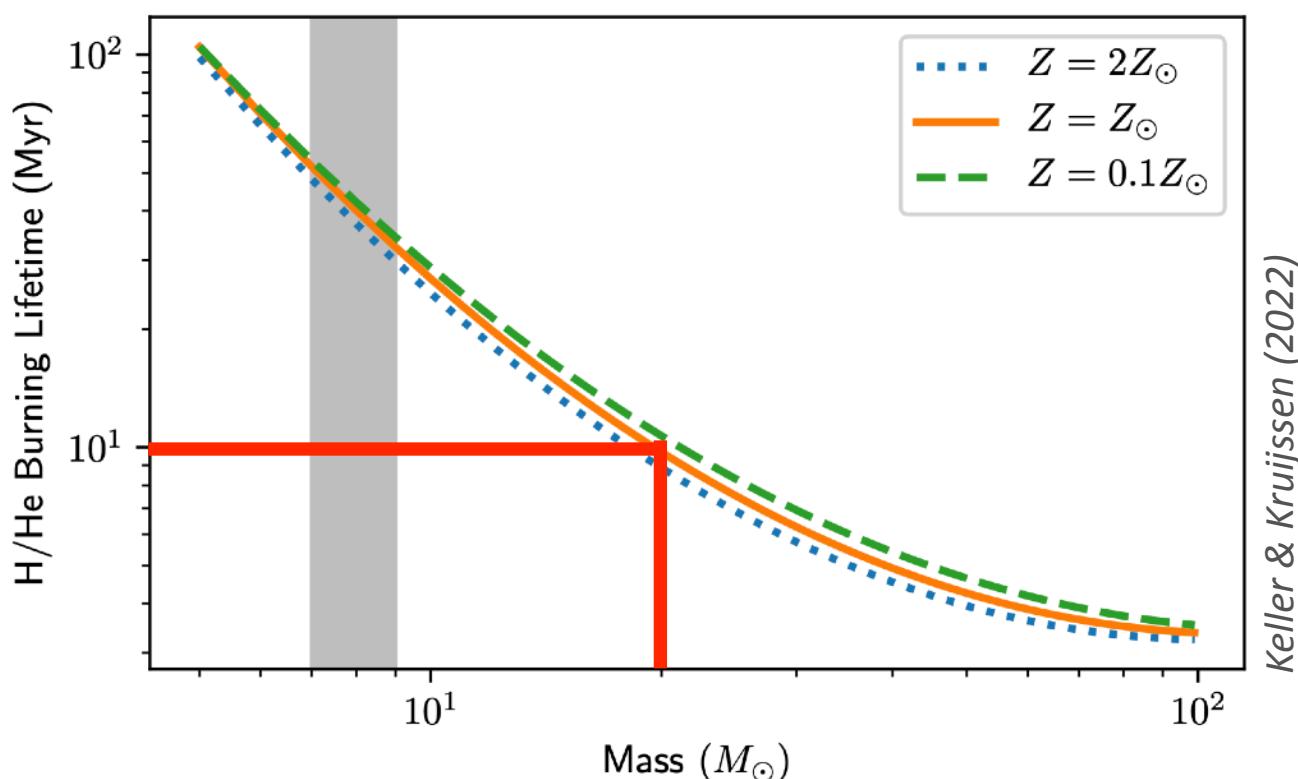


Davies & Beasor (2018)

- ★ Shape of the IMF
→ **More SNe** from *low-mass* progenitors
($\gtrsim 8 M_{\odot}$)
- ★ ‘**Failed SNe**’ for stars $\gtrsim 20 M_{\odot}$ → black holes

Supernovae delay time

How many stars explode as SN and when?



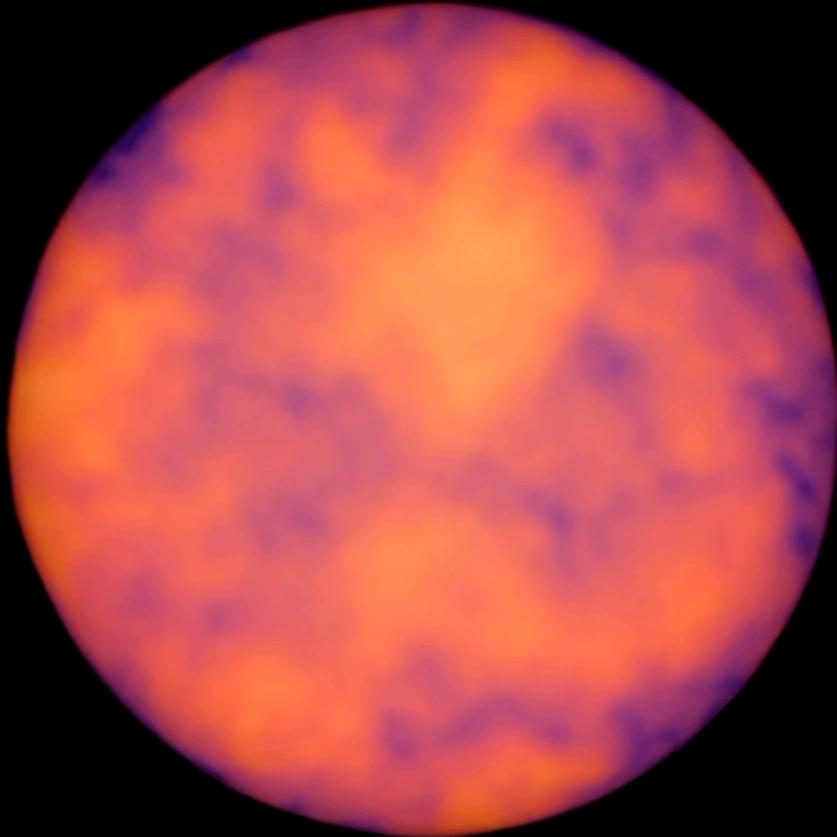
- ★ Shape of the IMF
→ **More SNe** from *low-mass* progenitors ($\gtrsim 8 M_{\odot}$)
- ★ '**Failed SNe**' for stars $\gtrsim 20 M_{\odot}$ → black holes
- ★ **First SN** after $\gtrsim (3-)10 M_{\odot}$

Stellar feedback mechanisms

- ★ ***Outflows*** disperse the natal cores of individual stars
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$$M_0 = 2 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}$$

$$R_0 = 10 \text{ pc}$$



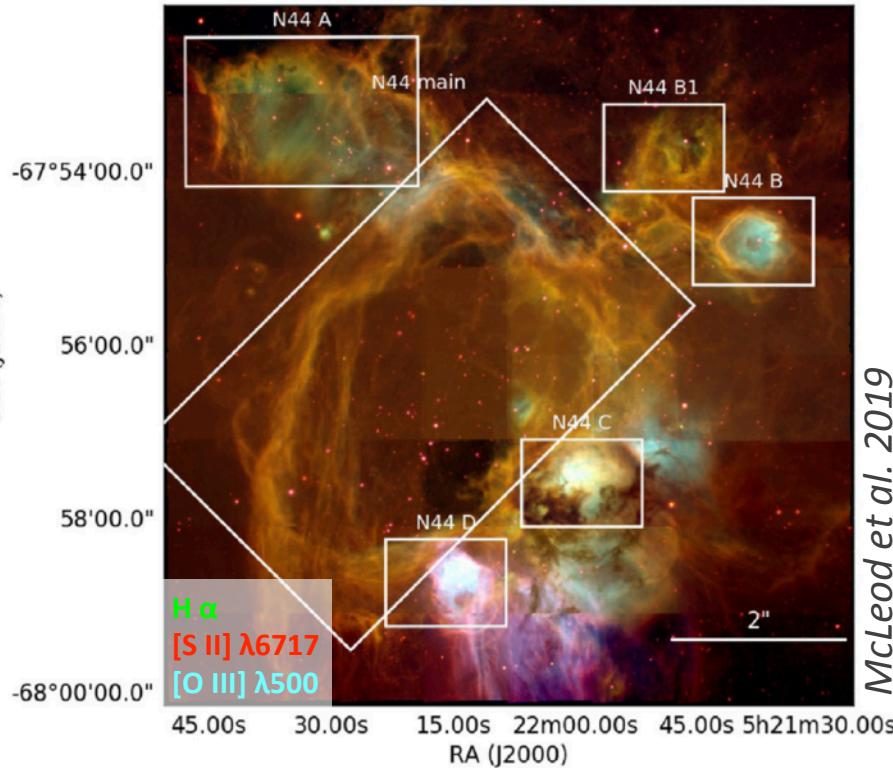
A vibrant, multi-colored nebula against a dark background, illustrating a star-forming region.

III. Impact of feedback on GMC scales

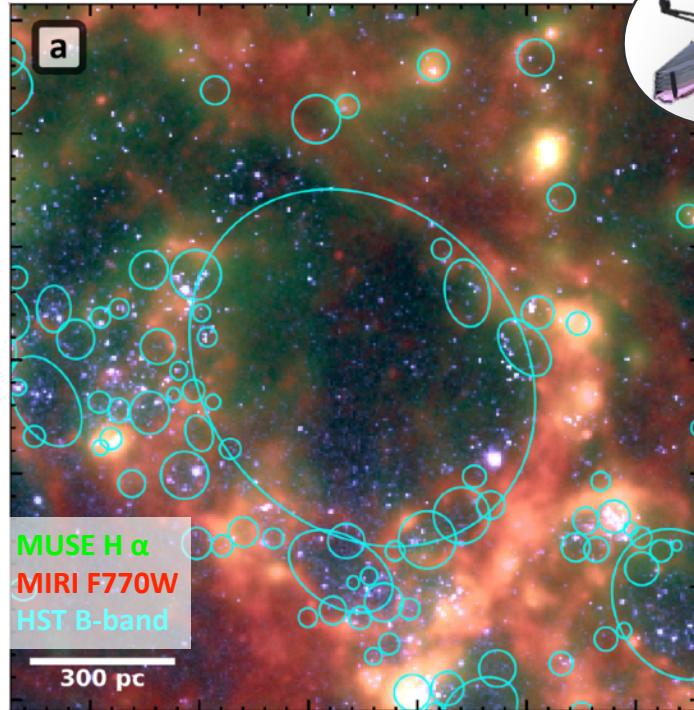
How do (massive) stars impact their surrounding?

- ★ Heat and ionise the gas
- ★ Disrupt GMCs
- ★ Limit star formation efficiency
- ★ Impact the IMF

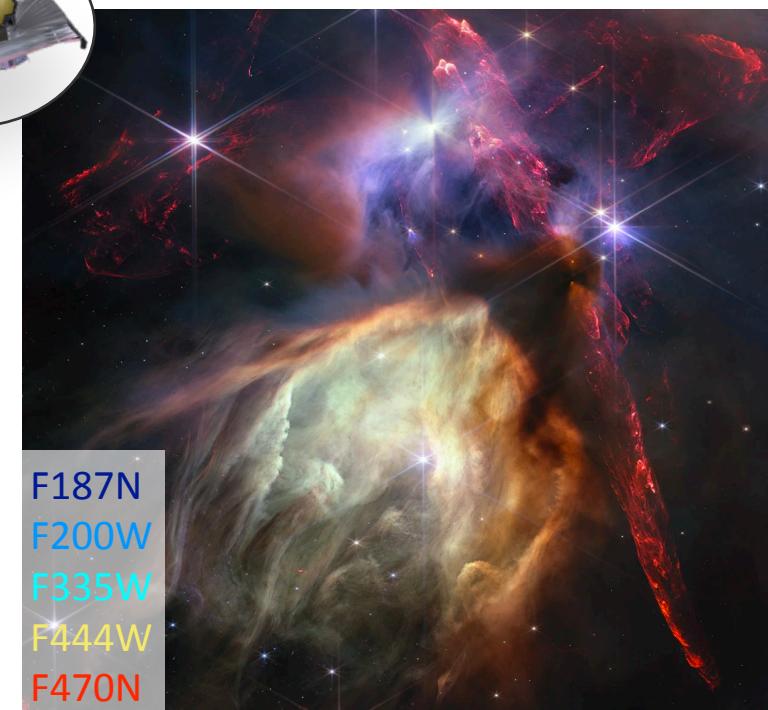
Heating, ionising and expelling the gas – Recent observations



McLeod et al. 2019



Watkins et al. 2023



How do (massive) stars impact their surrounding?

- ★ Heat and ionise the gas
- ★ Disrupt GMCs
- ★ Limit star formation efficiency
- ★ Impact the IMF

How does stellar feedback regulate star formation?
→ How **fast** are GMCs dispersed after star formation?
(efficiency)

How fast are GMCs dispersed by FB?

Molecular cloud lifecycle (e.g. lifetime) is a long-standing problem:



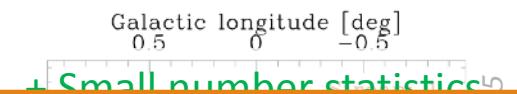
> 100 Myr?



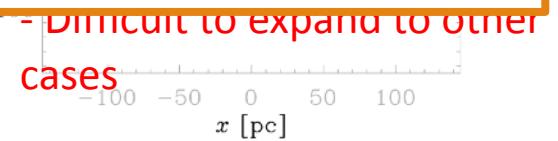
10-50 Myr?



~ 1 Myr?



Unclear if variety is *physical* or comes from *differences in experiment design and subjective cloud classification*, often requiring to resolve clouds.



Molecular clouds between galactic arms

Scoville & Hersh 79, Scoville & Wilson 04, Koda+09

Classification of clouds

Elmegreen 00, Hartmann+01, Engargiola+03,
Kawamura+09, Meidt+15

Gas orbiting the centre of our Galaxy

Kruijssen+15, Henshaw+16b, Barnes+17, Jeffreson+18b

Measuring Myr timescales — How?

Do clouds live for much longer than massive stars or for a similar timescale?

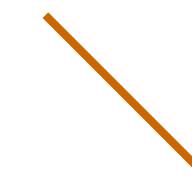
***Quasi-equilibrium* or *rapid cycling*?**

(clouds form stars for many dynamical times)

(clouds are destroyed by massive stars)



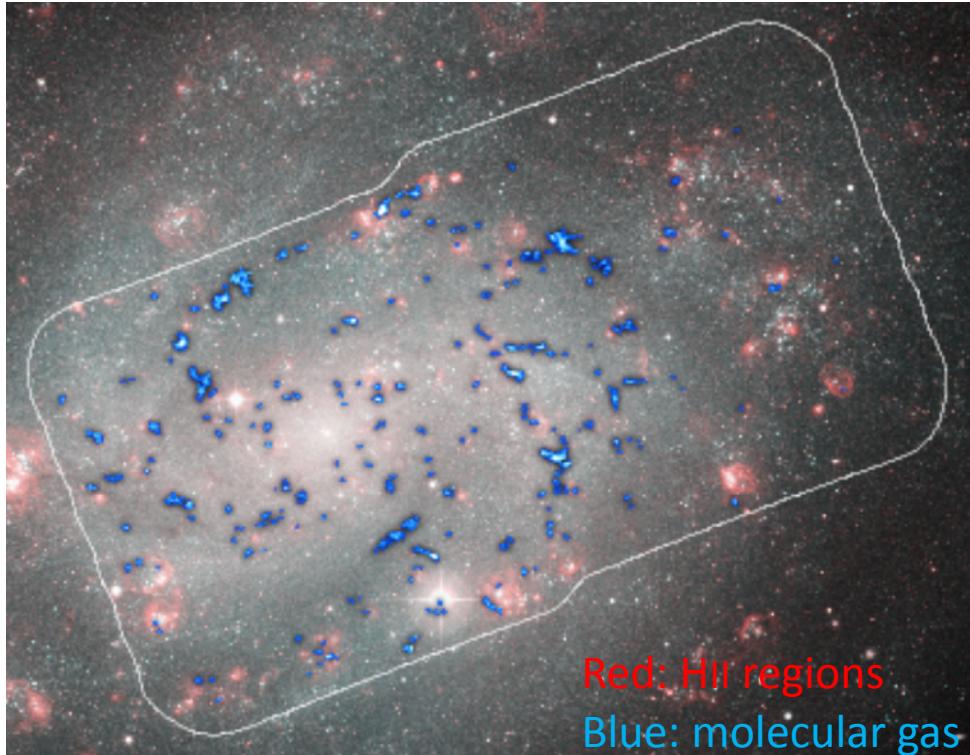
Gas and young stars
correlated on small scales



Gas and young stars
decorrelate on small scales

Measuring Myr timescales — How?

Small-scale variations of gas-to-SFR ratio reflect underlying timeline (*Kruijssen & Longmore 2014, Kruijssen et al. 2018*)



Gas and young stars **decorrelate** on small scales



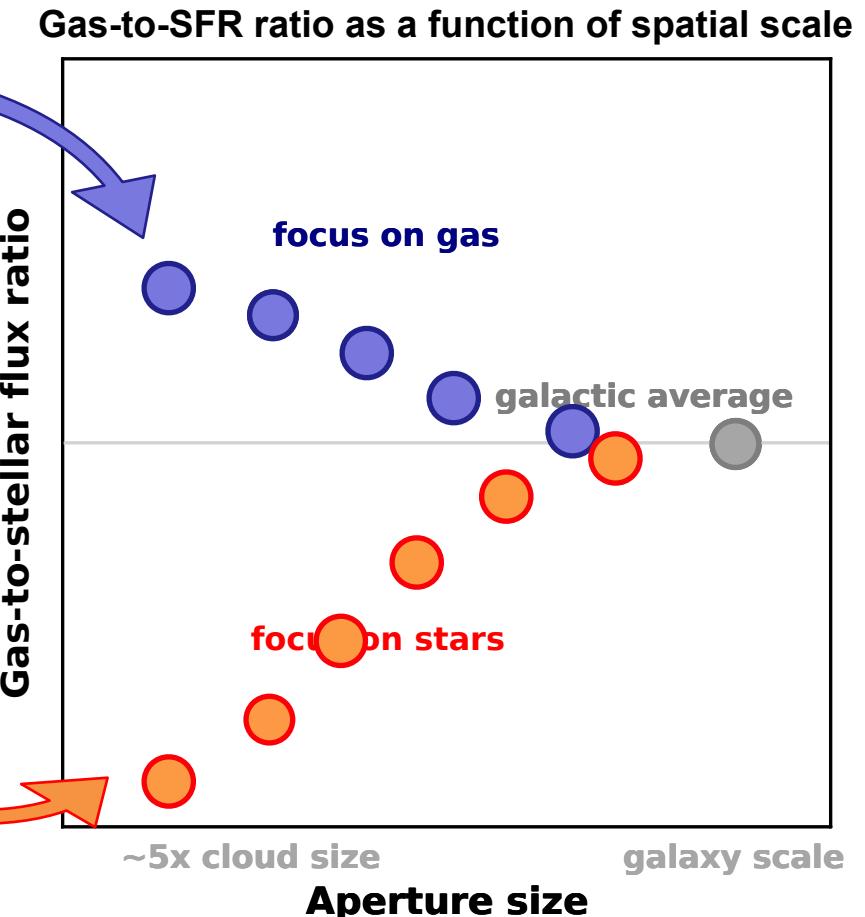
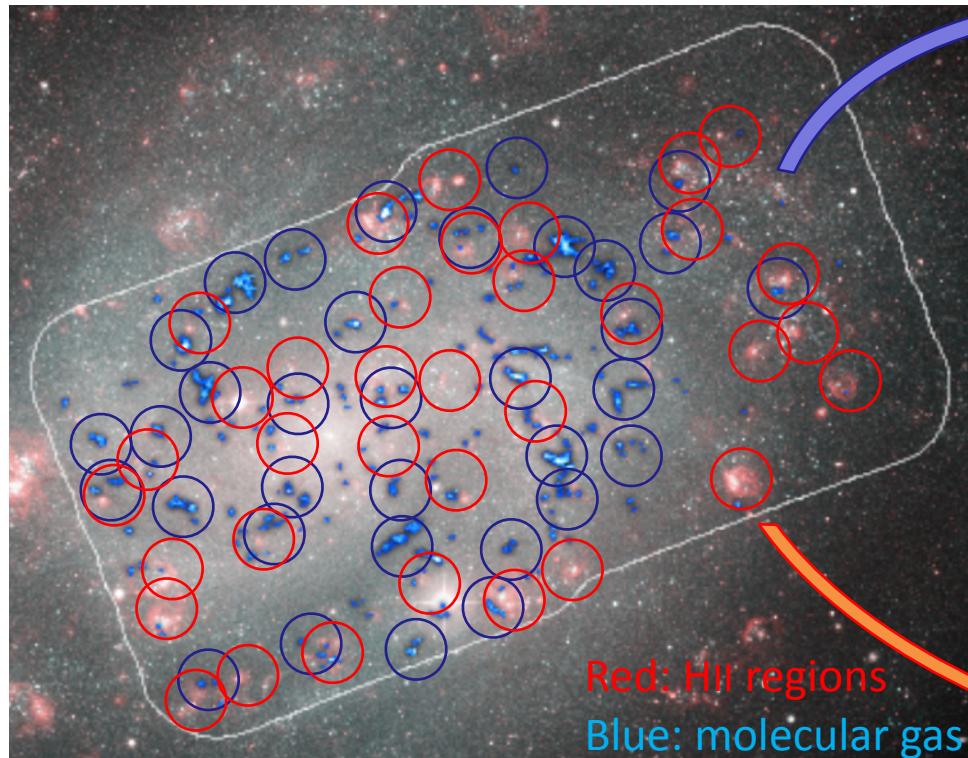
Rapid cycling



How can we **quantify**
this decorrelation/this timeline?

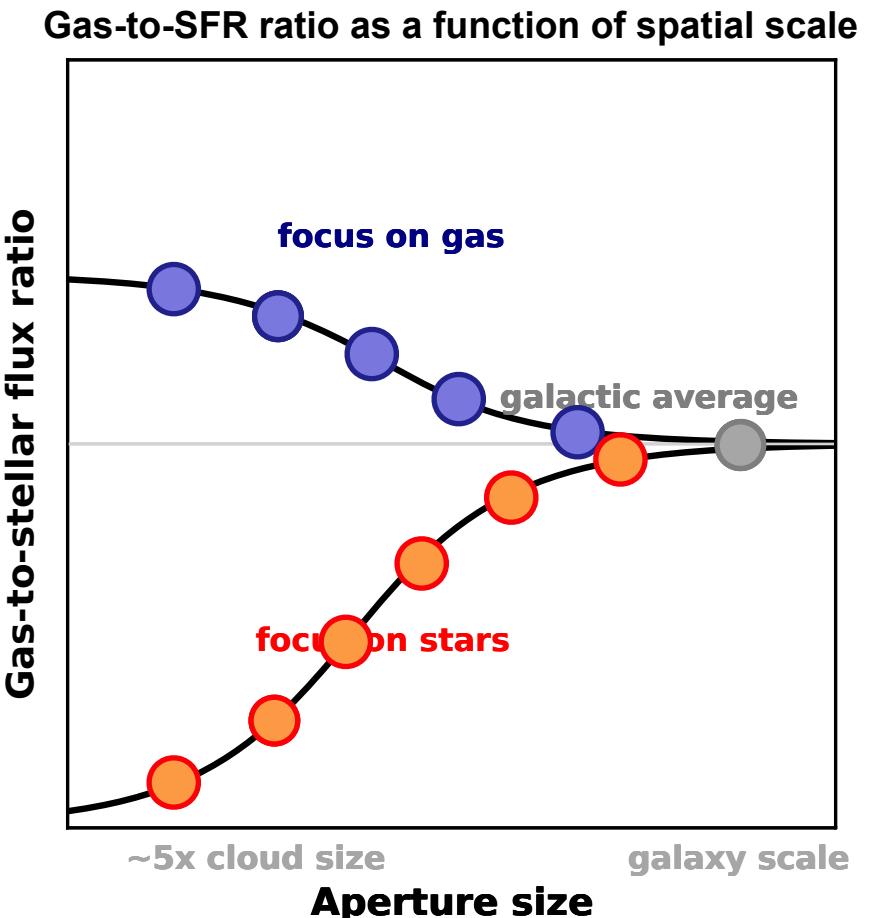
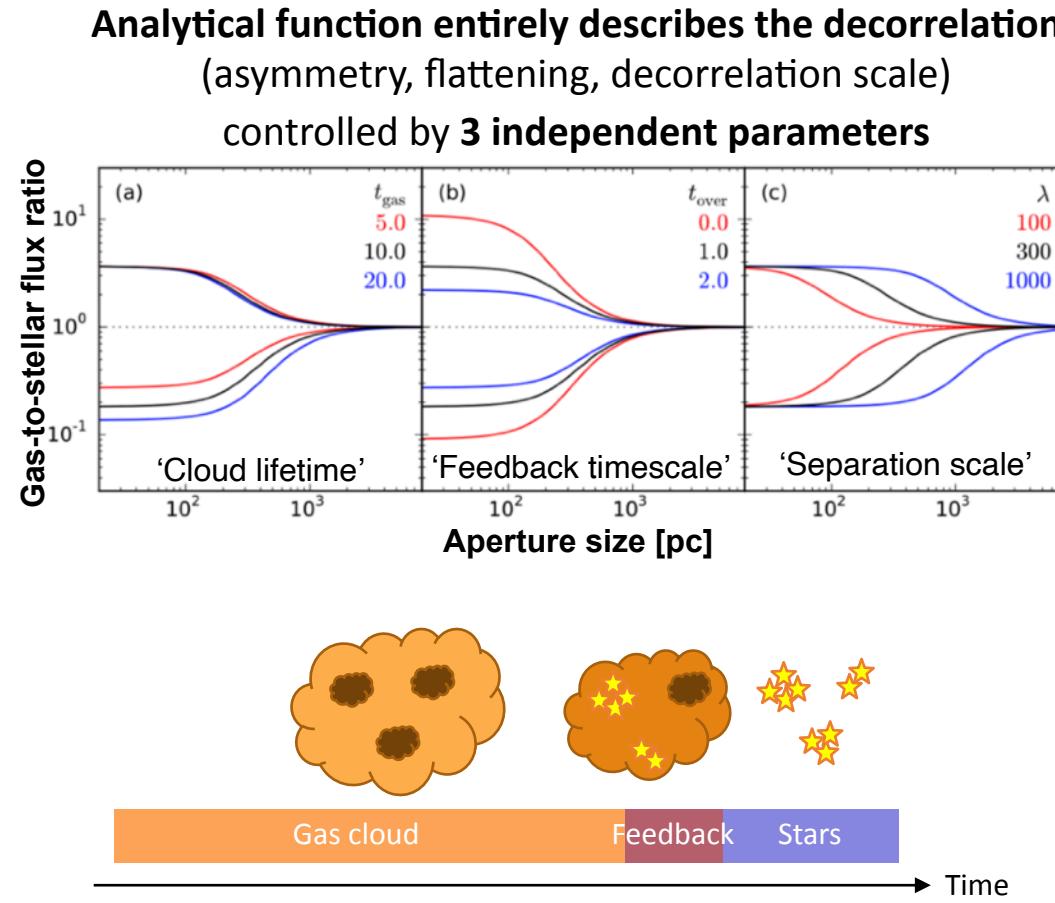
Measuring Myr timescales – How?

Small-scale variations of gas-to-SFR ratio reflect underlying timeline (*Kruijssen & Longmore 2014, Kruijssen et al. 2018*)

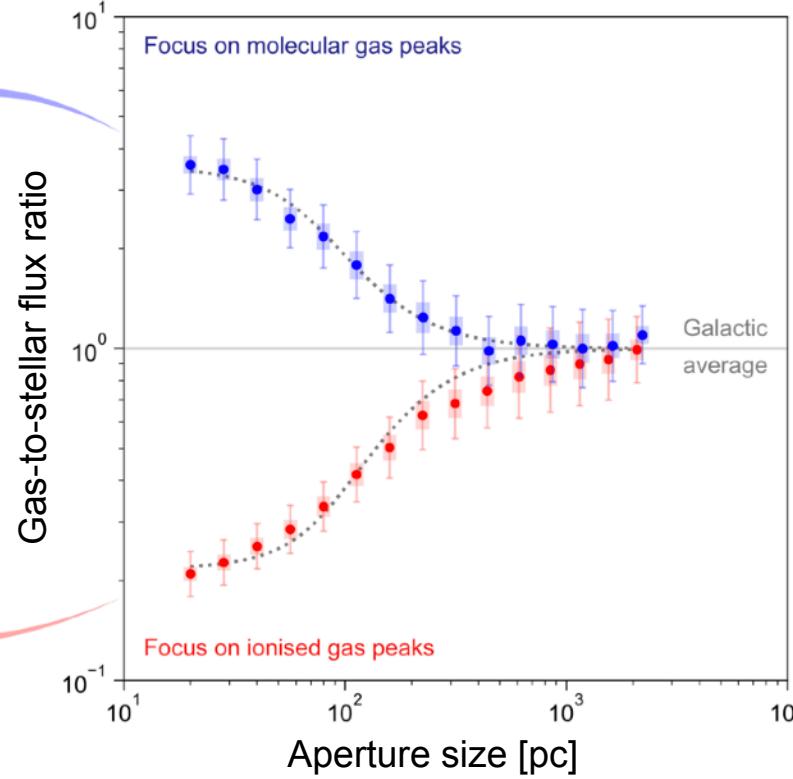
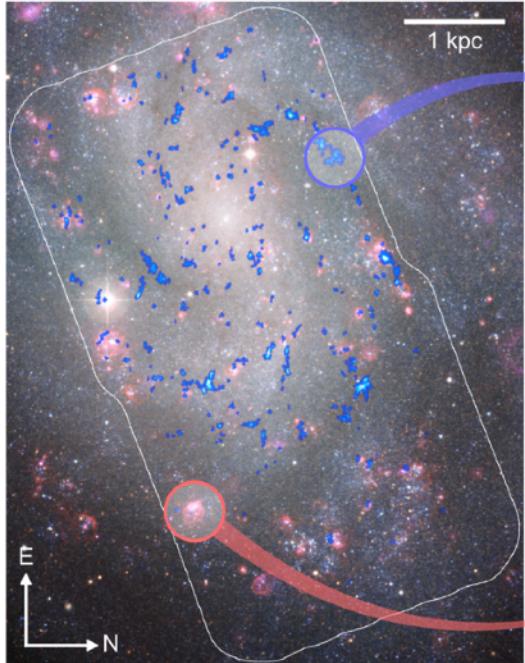


Measuring Myr timescales – How?

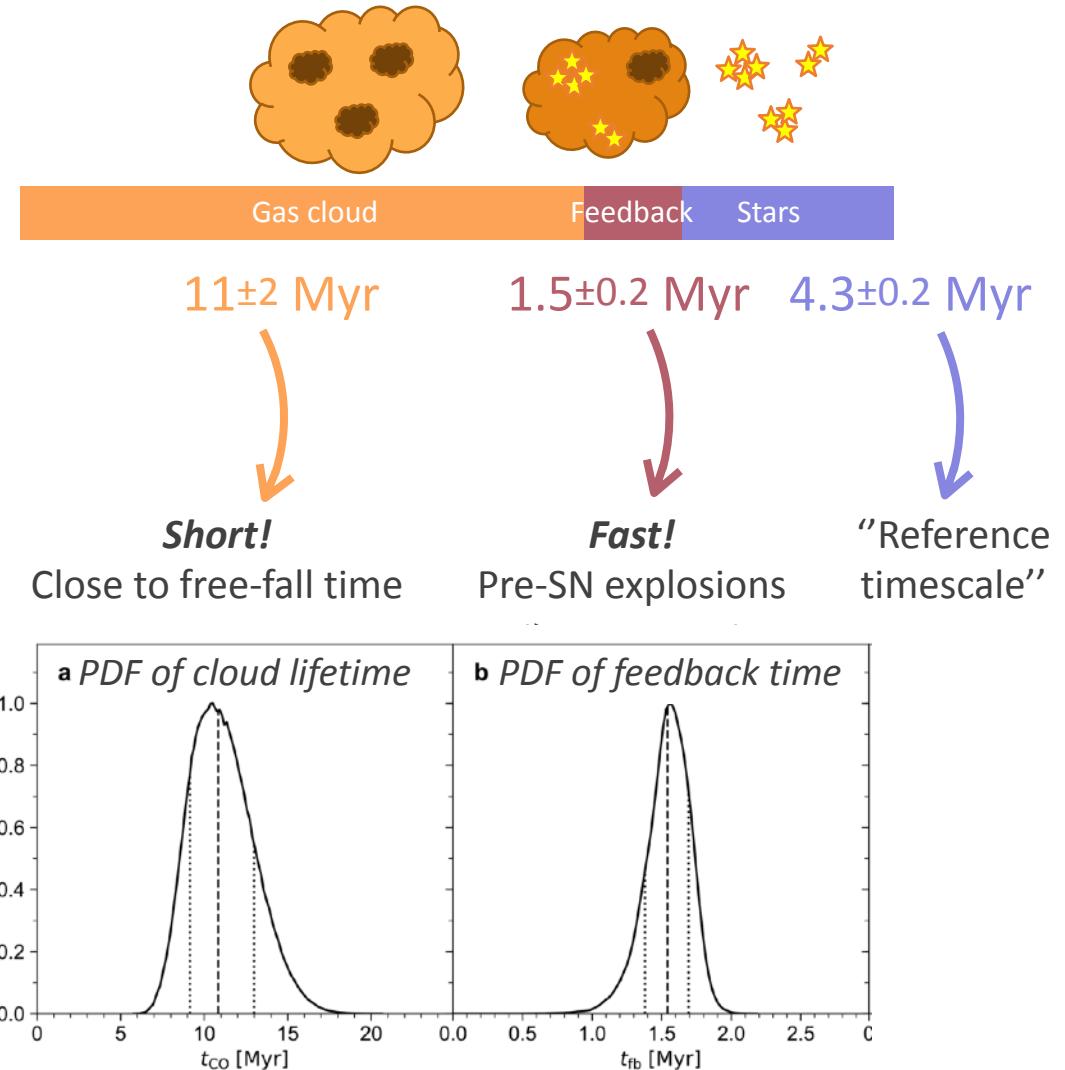
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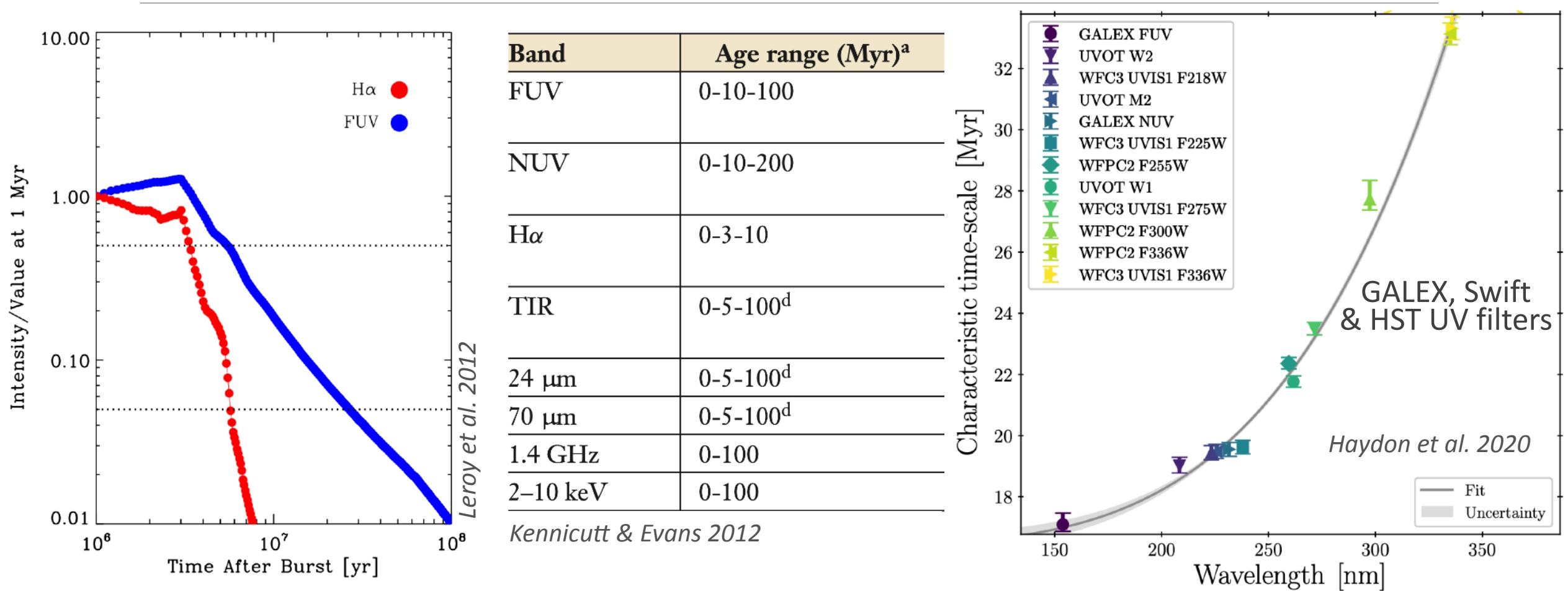
Application to an example — NGC300



Kruijssen, Schruba, Chevance et al., 2019, Nature



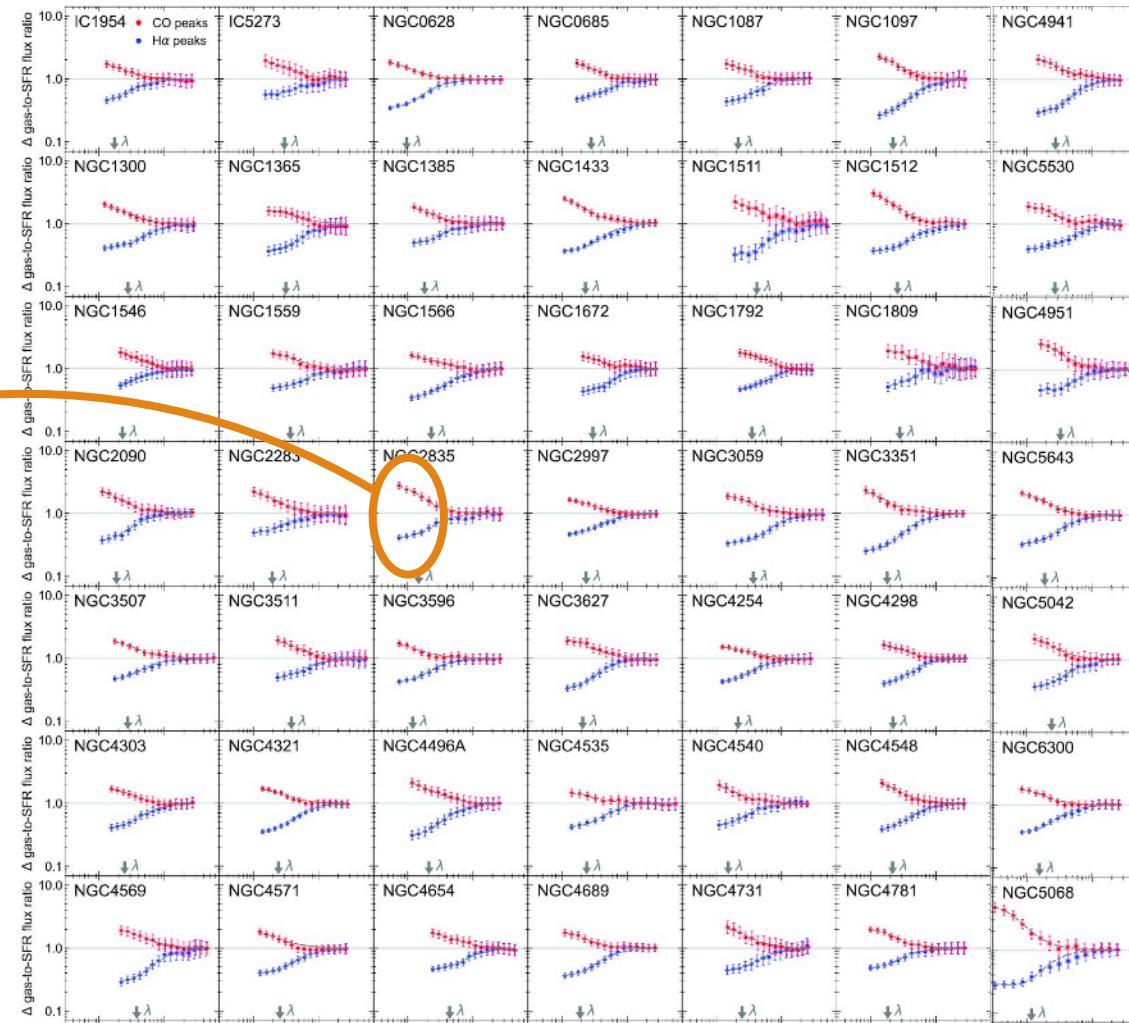
Tracing *past* star formation



How do (massive) stars impact their surrounding?

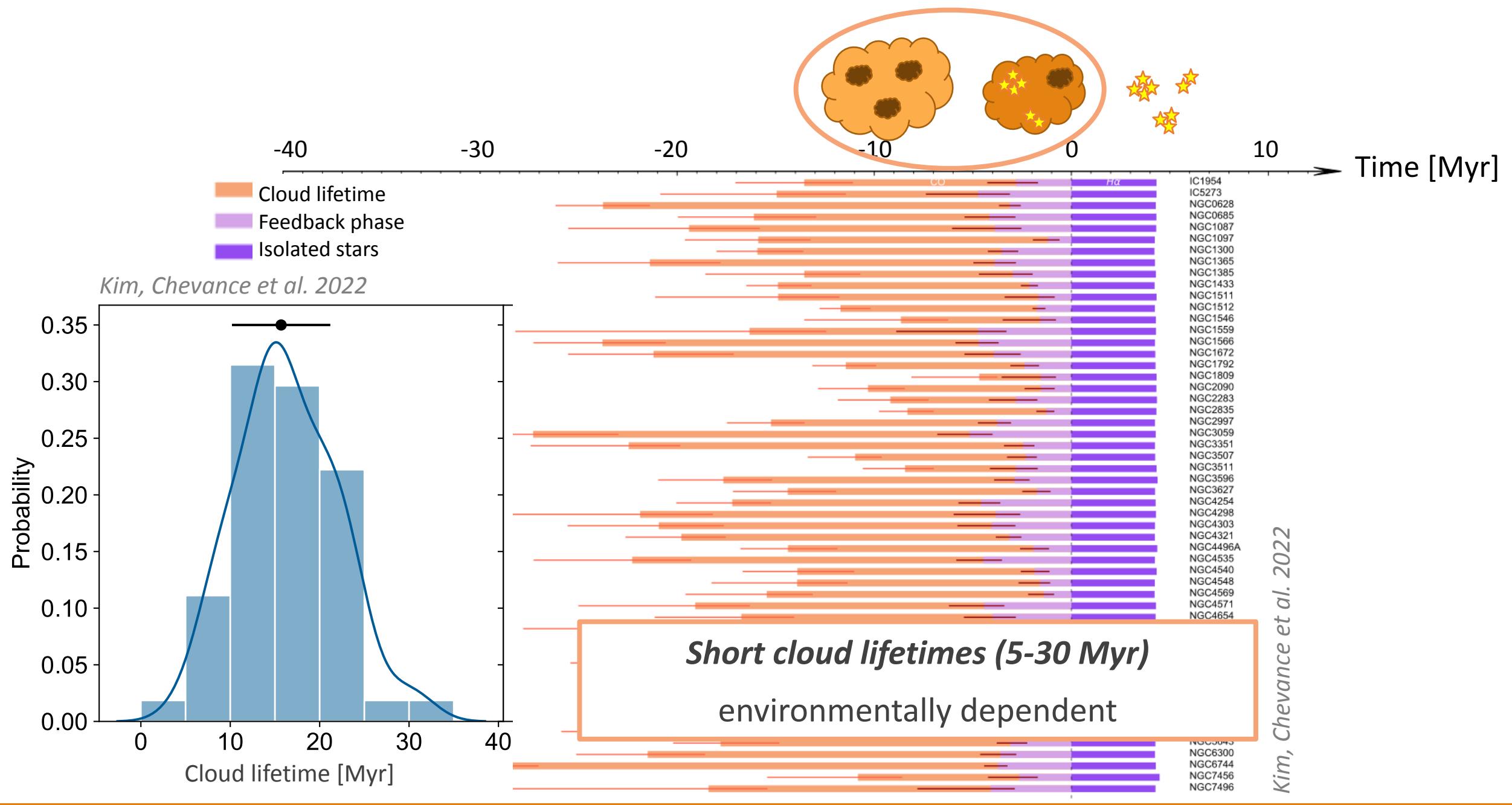
- ★ Heat and ionise the gas
- ★ Disrupt GMCs
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- ★ Impact the IMF

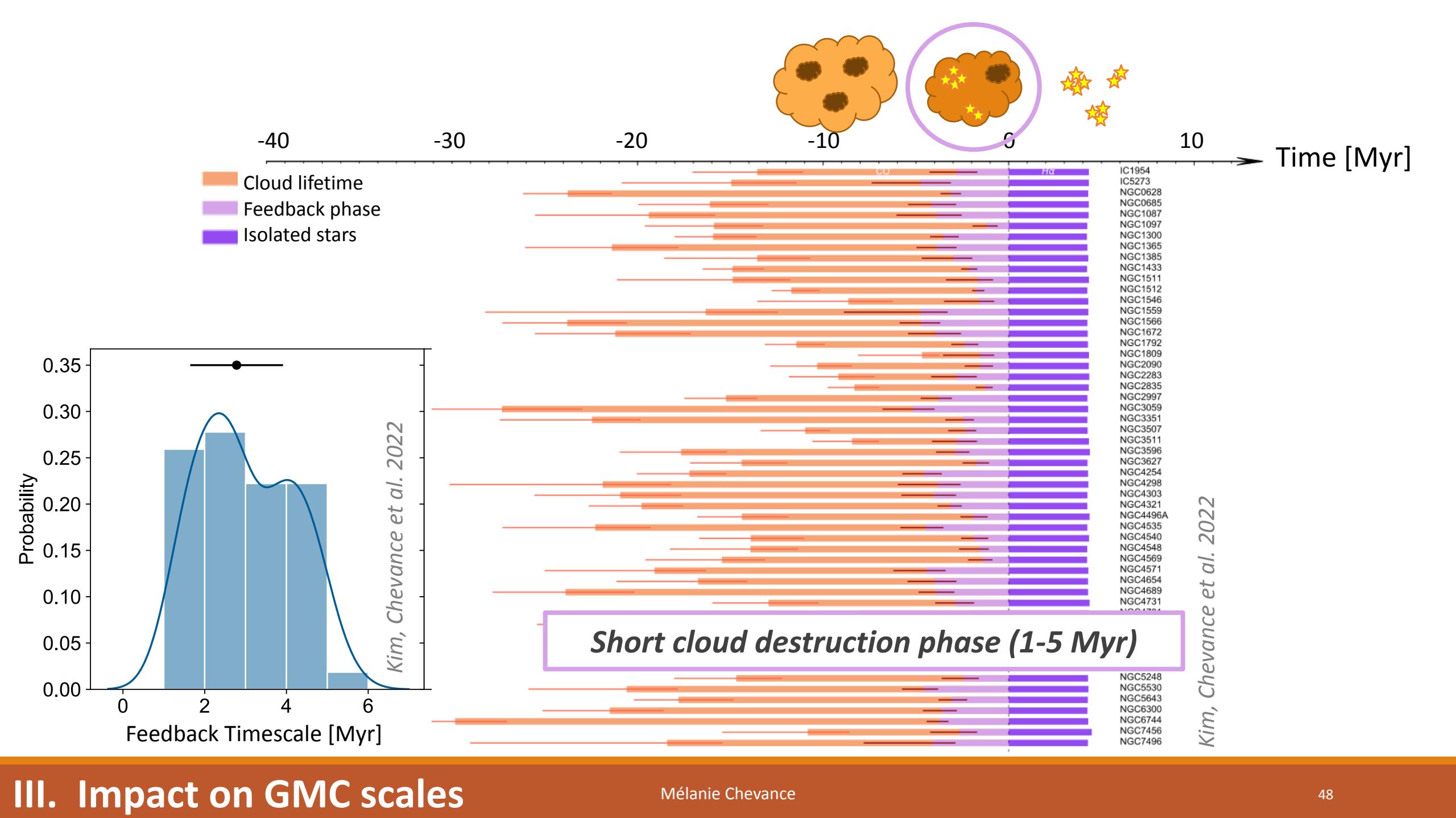
Cloud evolutionary cycle in the Phangs galaxies



Universal decorrelation:
Rapid cycling between
cold gas and young stars

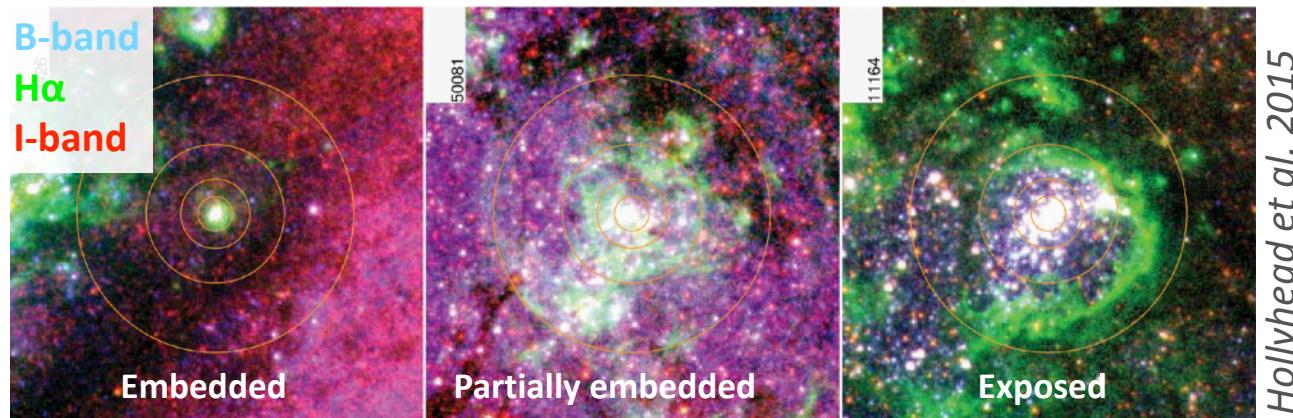
Kim, Chevance et al. 2022





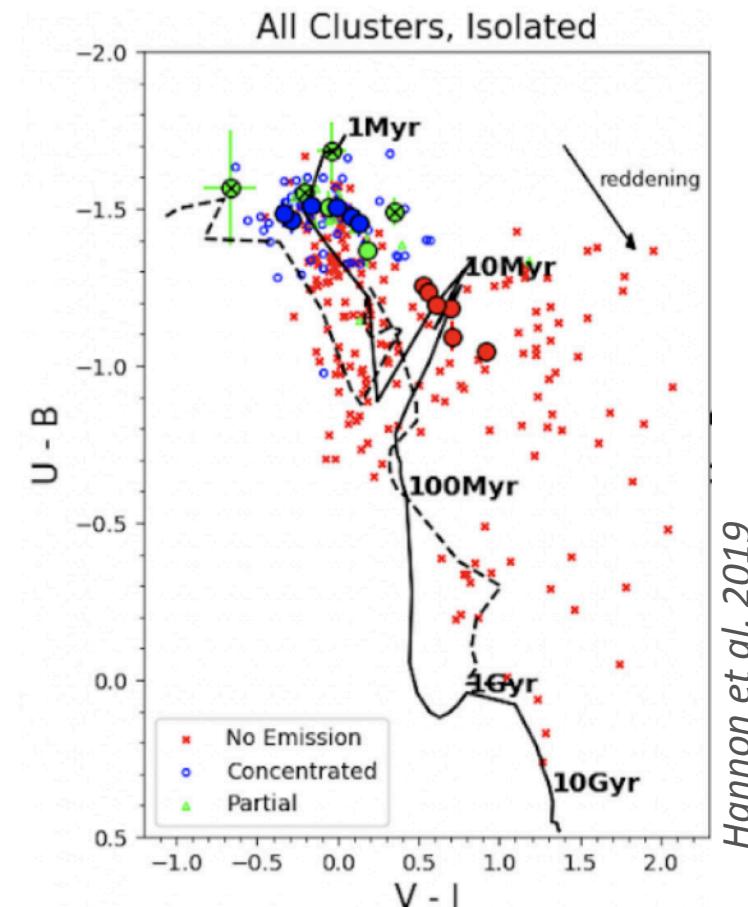
Rapid cloud destruction

From resolving young stellar clusters



Hollyhead et al. 2015

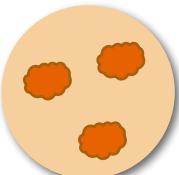
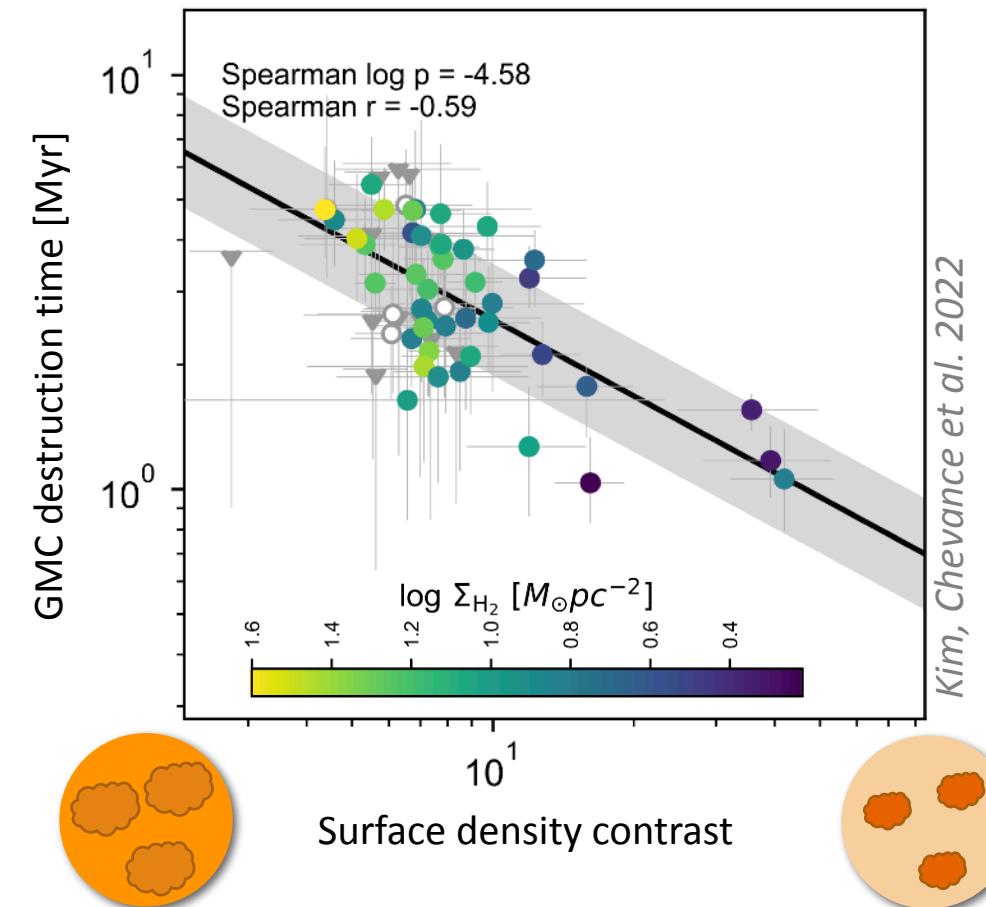
- ★ Young clusters are found to be ***gas-free after 3-5 Myr***
Whitmore et al. 2014, Hollyhead et al. 2015, Grasha et al. 2018, 2019, Hannon et al. 2019, Messa et al. 2021
- ⚠ Requires ***resolving and age dating young clusters***: limited sample
Antennae, M83, NGC 7793, M51, NGC 4395, NGC 1313



Hannon et al. 2019

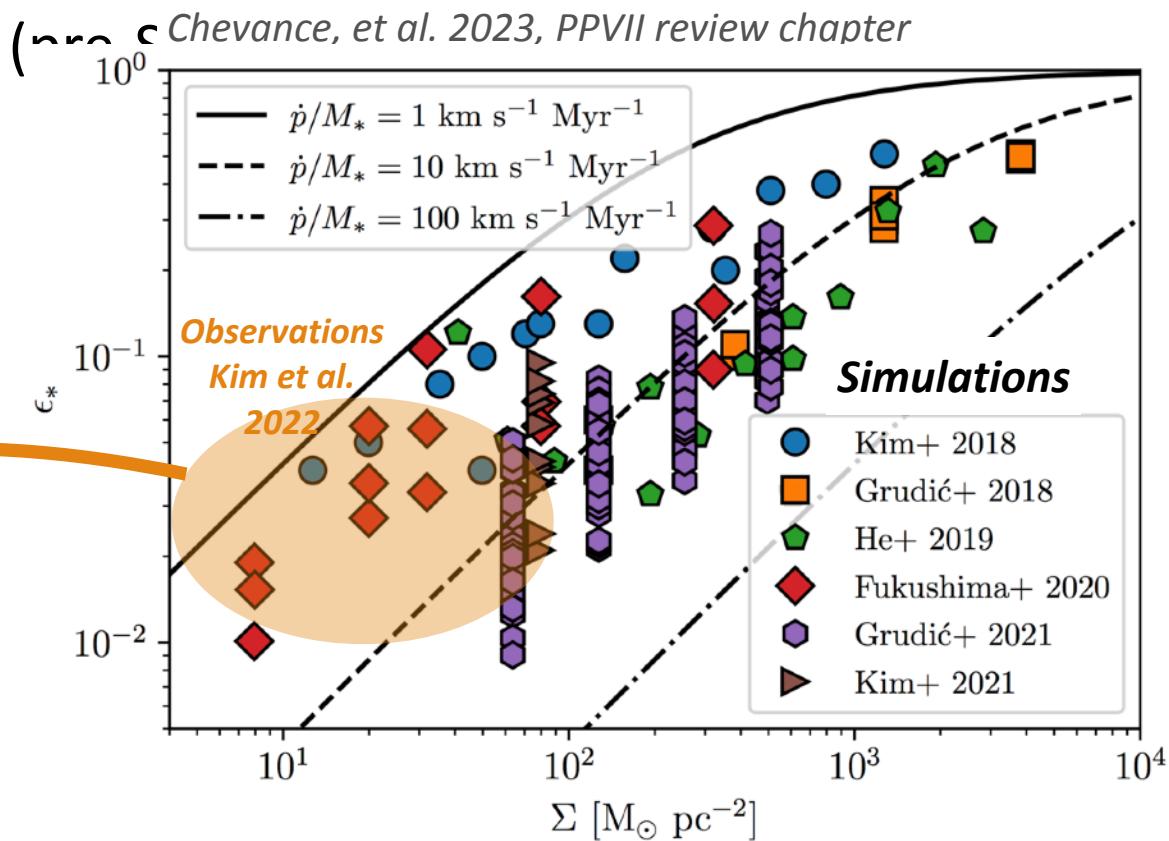
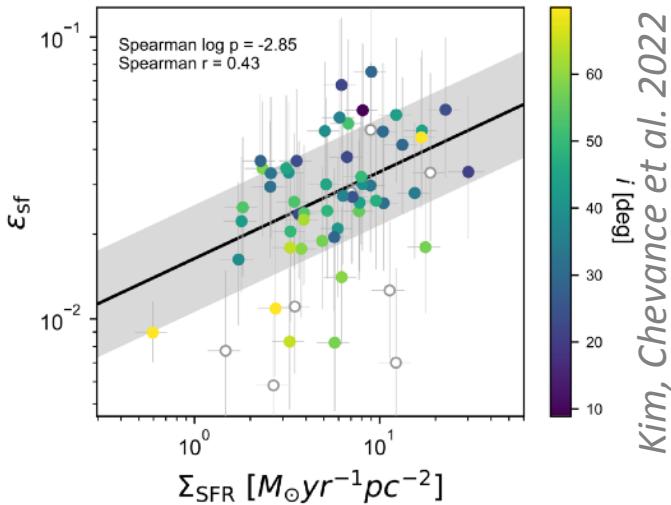
Rapid cloud destruction by stellar feedback

- ★ Molecular cloud disrupted within 1-5 Myr (pre- \star)
- ★ Environmentally dependant timescale



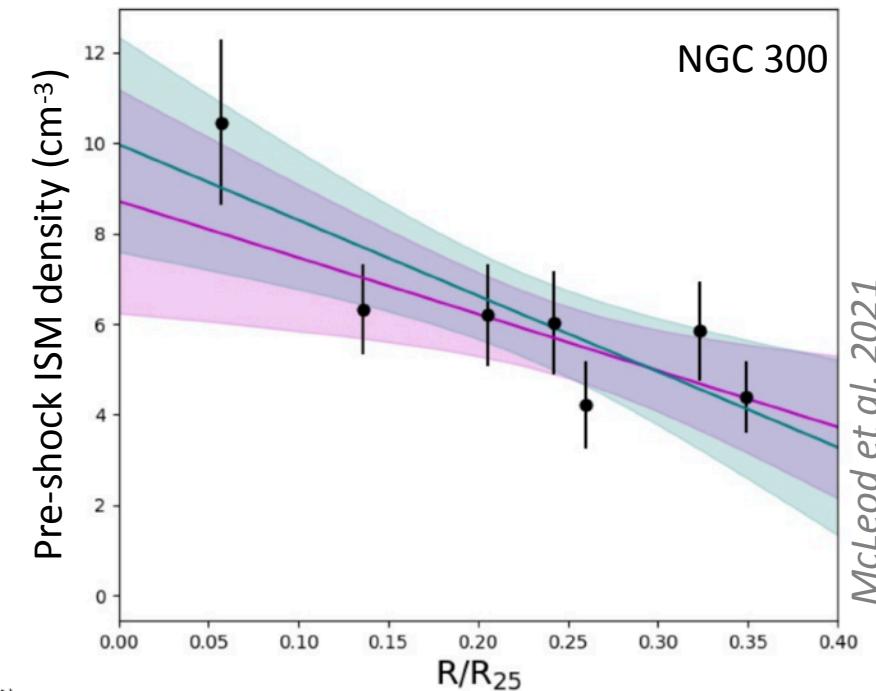
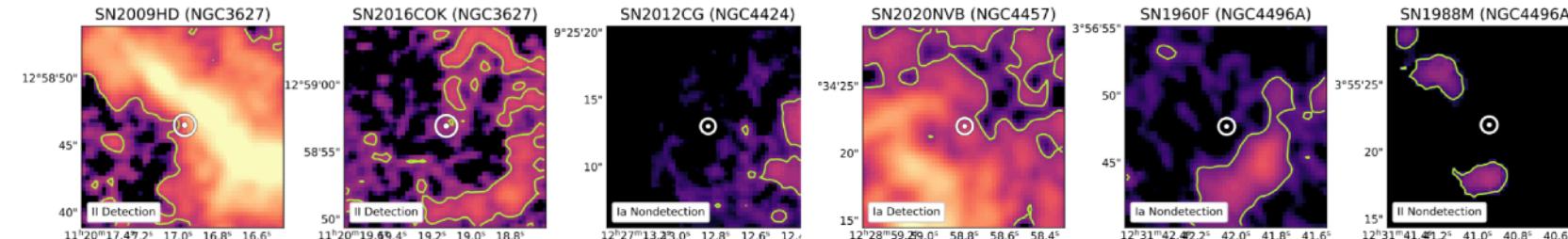
Rapid cloud destruction by stellar feedback

- ★ Molecular cloud disrupted within 1-5 Myr ($\sim \epsilon^*$)
- ★ Environmentally dependant timescale
- ★ Limits star formation efficiency



Rapid cloud destruction by stellar feedback

- ★ Molecular cloud disrupted within 1-5 Myr (pre-SN)
- ★ Environmentally dependant timescale
- ★ Limits star formation efficiency
- ★ Early (pre-SN) feedback pre-processes the medium



Mayker et al. (2023)

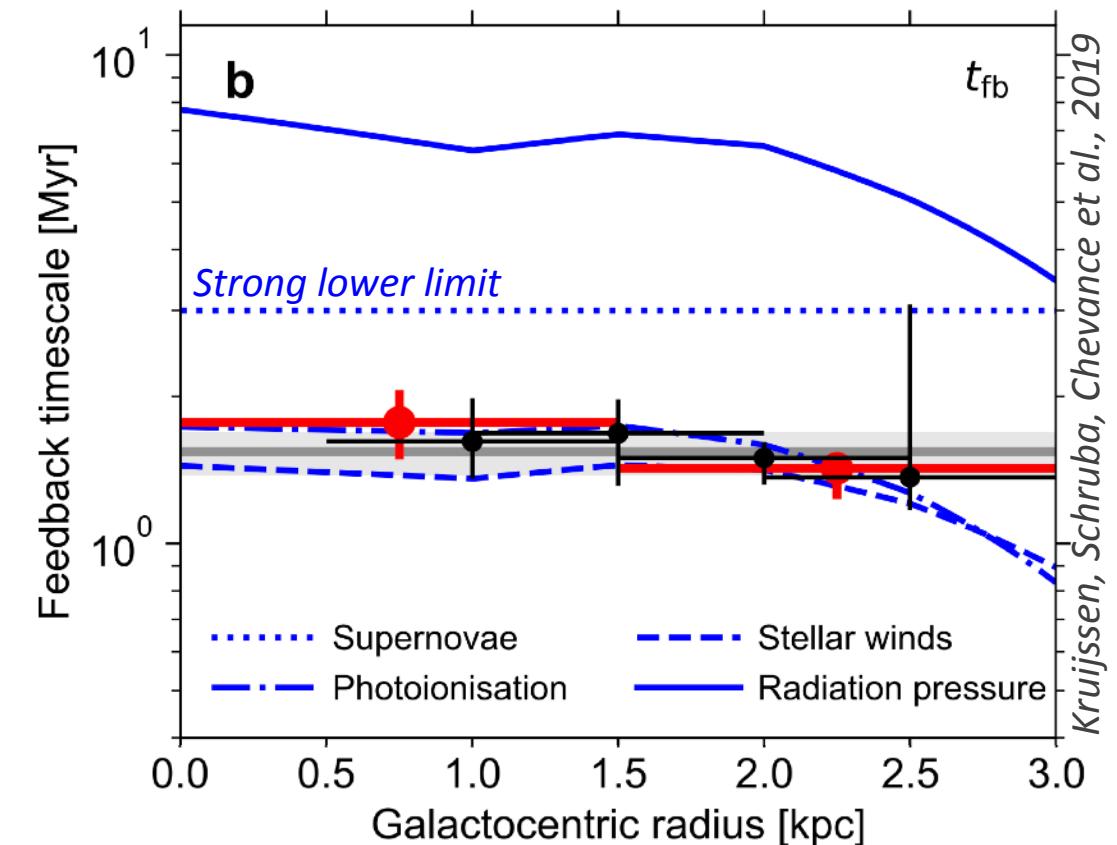
63 SNe in 31 galaxies

→ rarely correspond to the CO peak

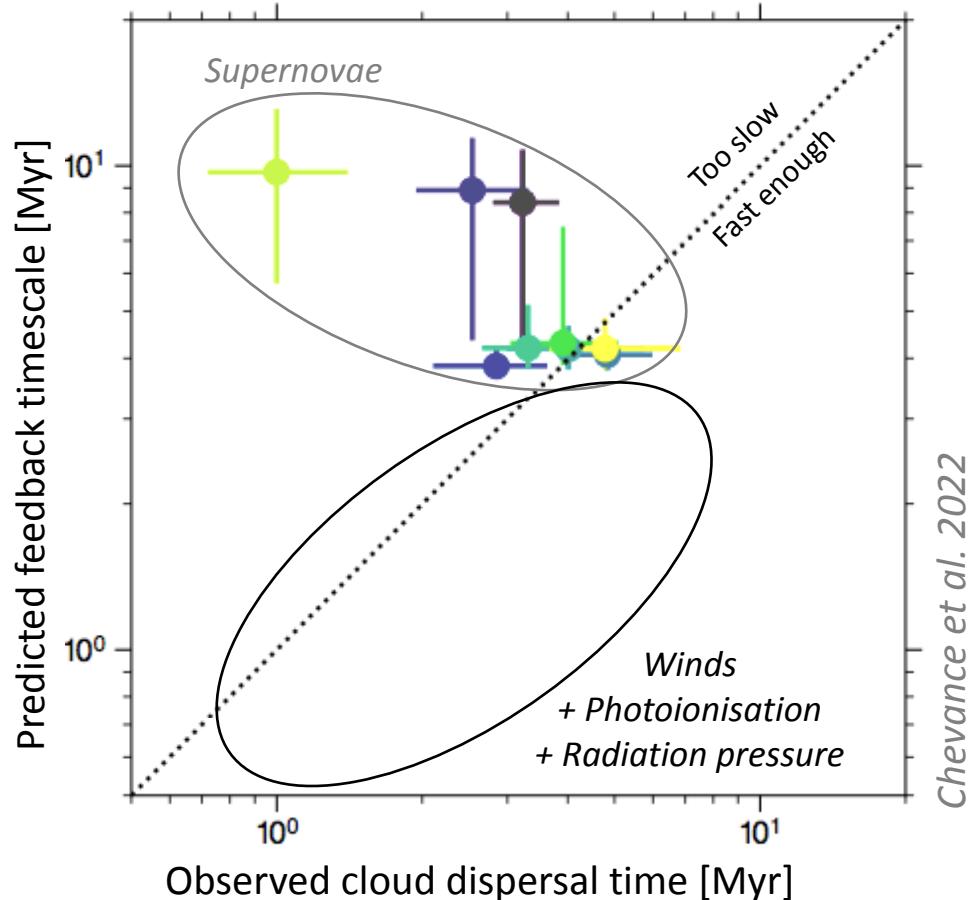
What limits the star formation efficiency? What feedback mechanisms can disperse the gas so quickly?

- Jets and outflows (disperse **cores**, not GMCs)

- Act on different timescales*
- Supernovae
 $\sim 3 - 15$ Myr
 - Ionizing EUV radiation
$$t_{phot} = \frac{4}{7} \left(\frac{3}{4} \right)^{1/2} \frac{r_{\text{Strömgren}}}{c_s} \left[\left(\frac{r_{\text{GMC}}}{r_{\text{Strömgren}}} \right)^{7/4} - 1 \right]$$
 - Stellar winds
$$t_{wind} = \left(\frac{154\pi}{125} \frac{\rho_{\text{GMC}}}{L_{\text{wind}}} \right)^{1/3} r_{\text{GMC}}^{5/3}$$
 - Radiation pressure
$$t_{rad} = \left(\frac{2\pi c}{3} \frac{\rho_{\text{GMC}}}{L_{\text{bol}}} \right)^{1/2} r_{\text{GMC}}^2$$



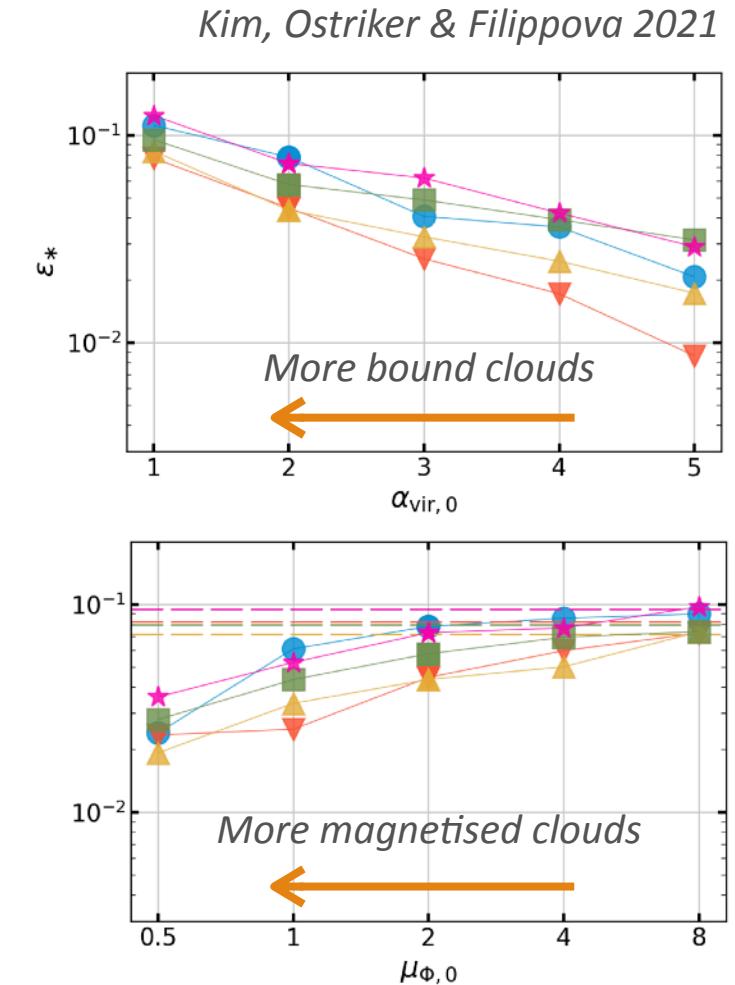
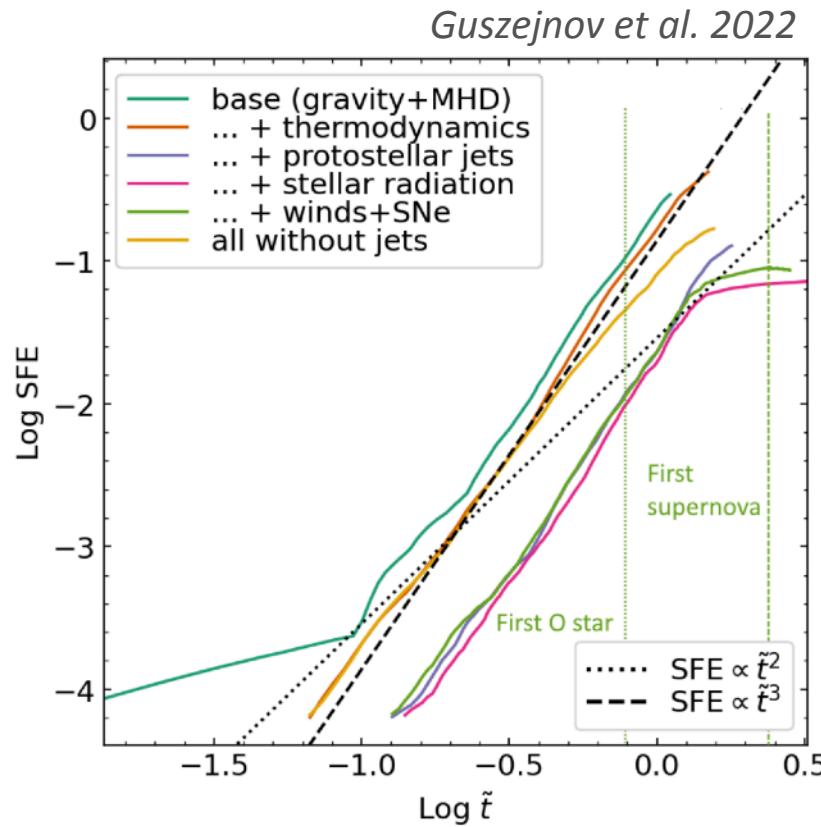
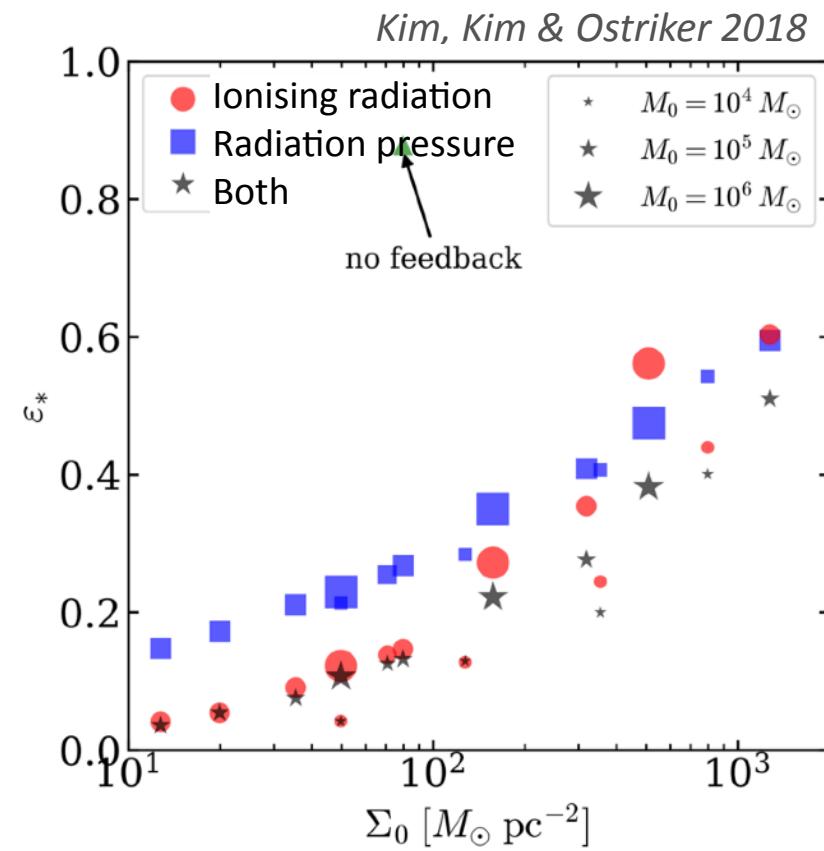
What limits the star formation efficiency? *What feedback mechanisms can disperse the gas so quickly?*



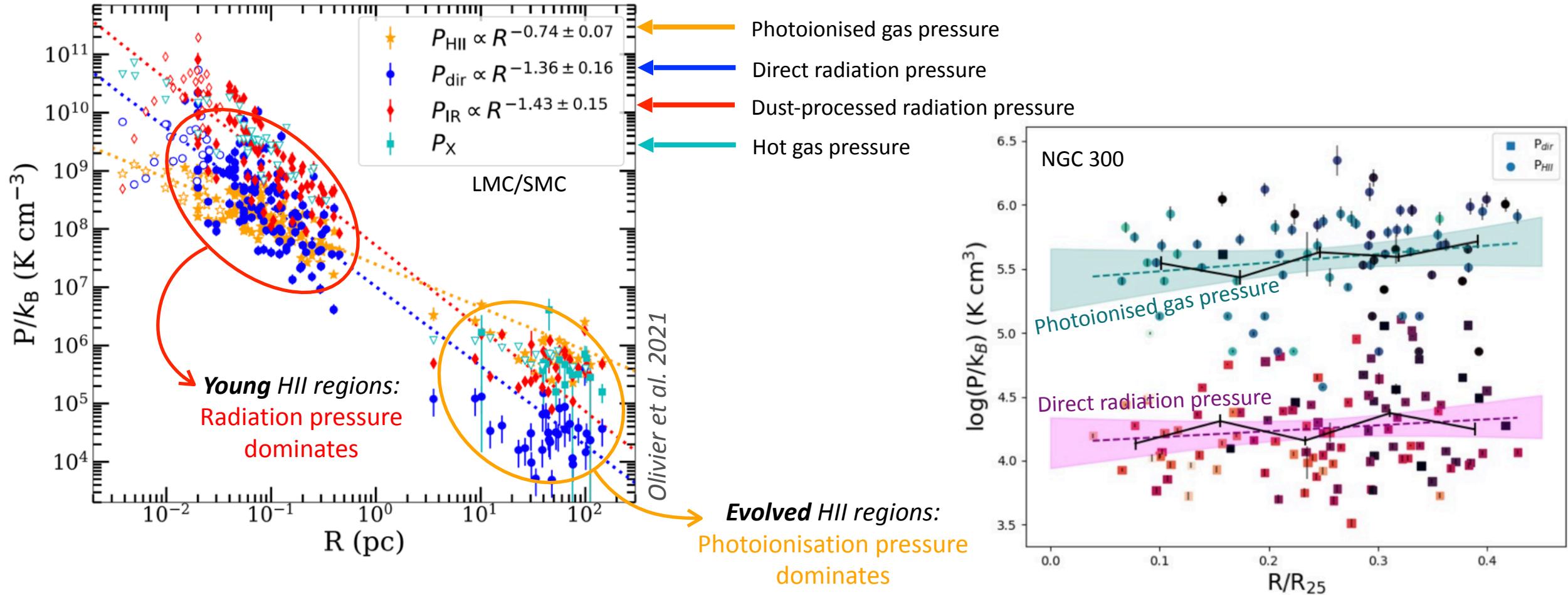
Chevance et al. 2022

- **Pre-supernova** mechanisms play an important role in dispersing the clouds.
- Their **coupling efficiency** with the surrounding gas is **not 100%**.

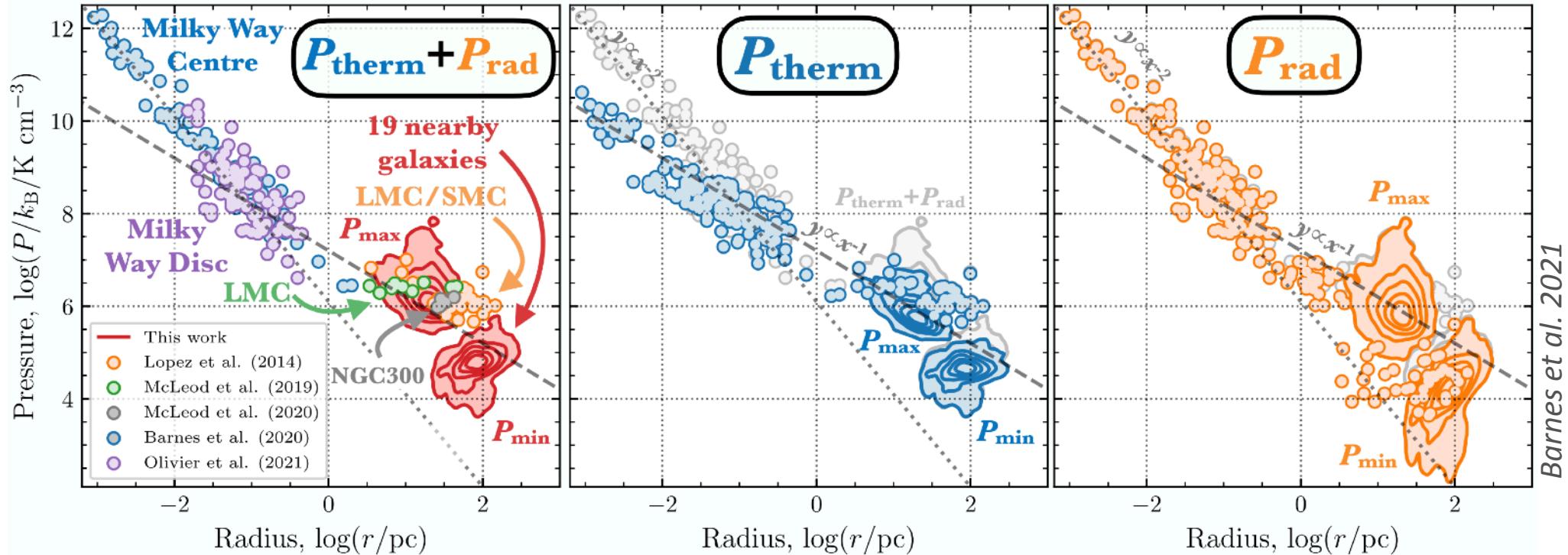
What limits the star formation efficiency? What feedback mechanisms can disperse the gas so quickly?



Dominant feedback mechanism depends on *evolutionary stage* and *environment*

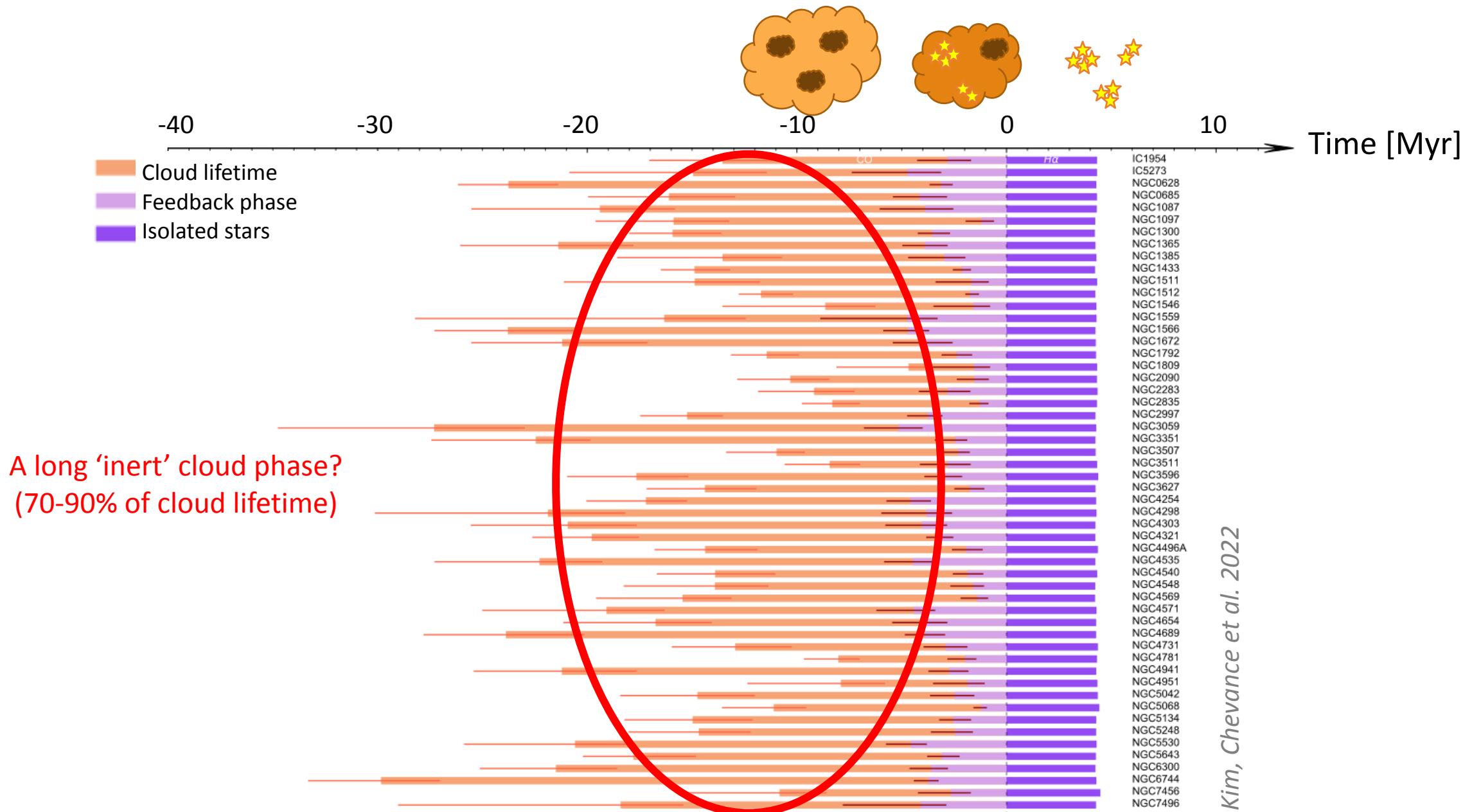


Dominant feedback mechanism depends on *evolutionary stage* and *environment*

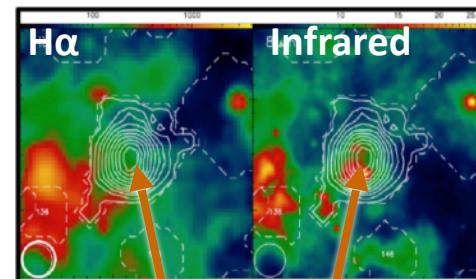
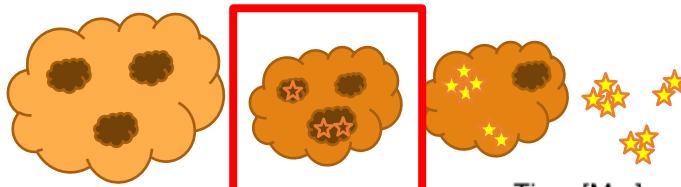


Caveats:

- Different observational tracers in different studies/environments
- Unresolved HII regions in nearby galaxies
- JWST for heated dust pressure in nearby galaxies

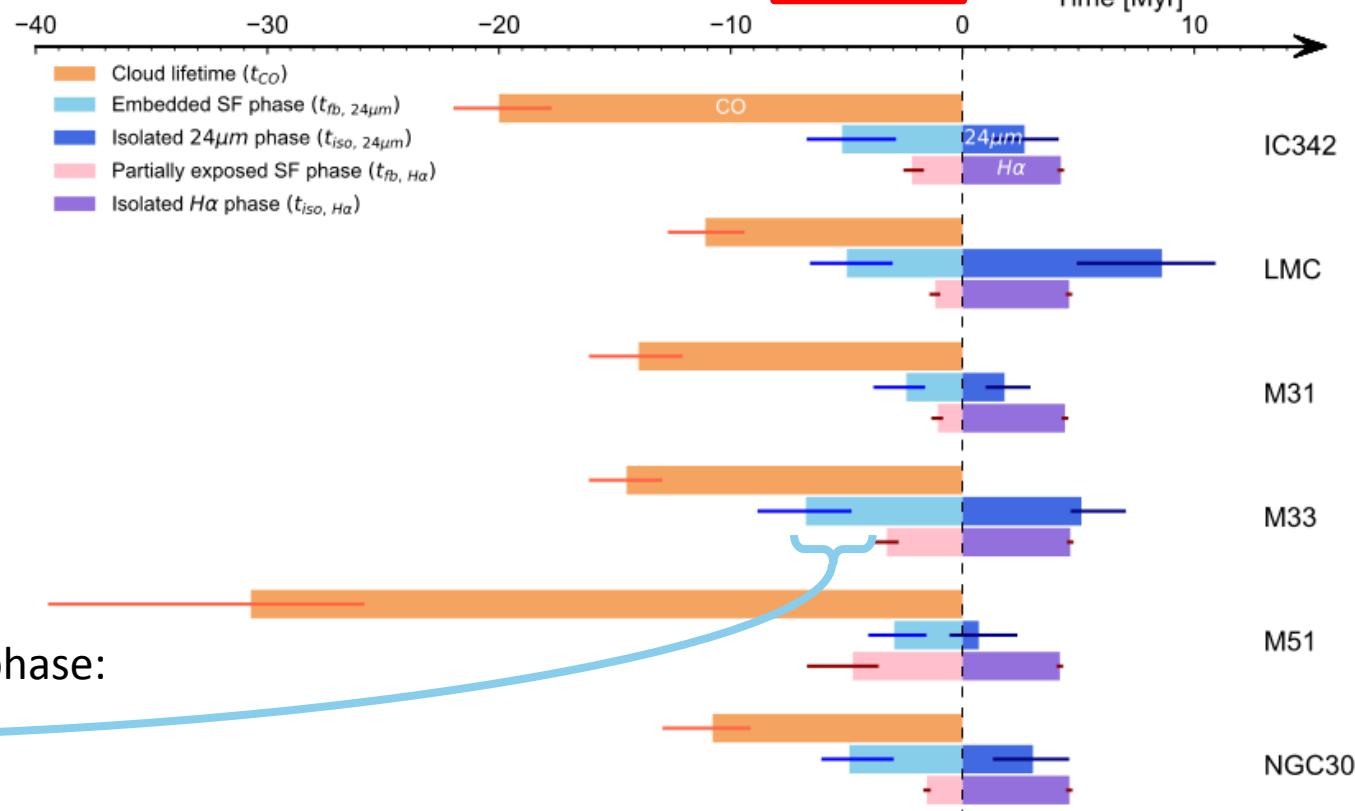


Refining the gas expulsion process



Corbelli et al. 2017

Embedded young stars

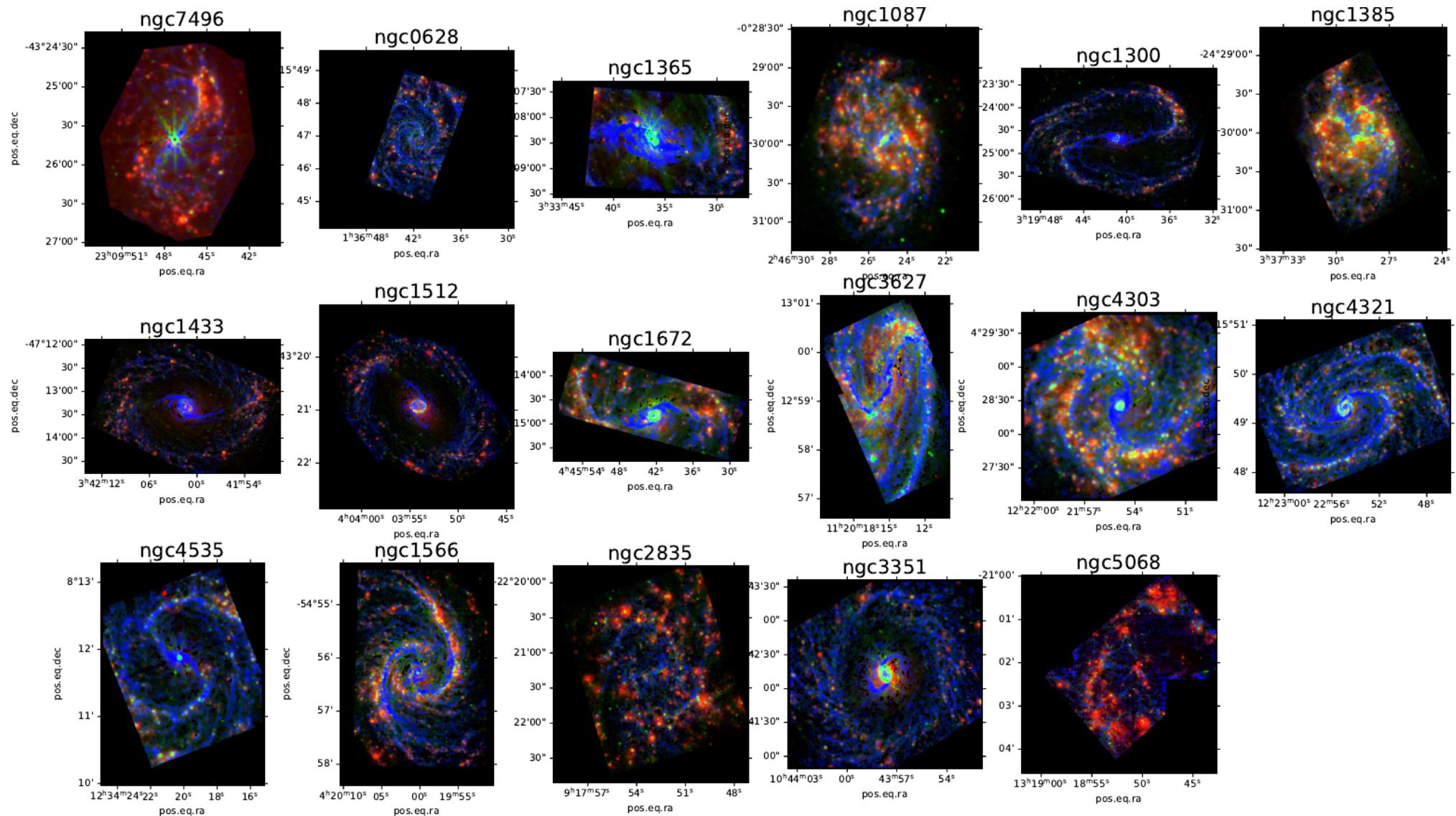


Kim, Chevance et al. 2021

Heavily obscured star formation phase:

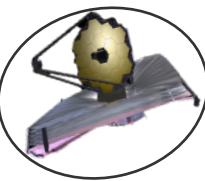
1.4-3.8 Myr

➤ Pre-James Webb Space Telescope: 6 galaxies

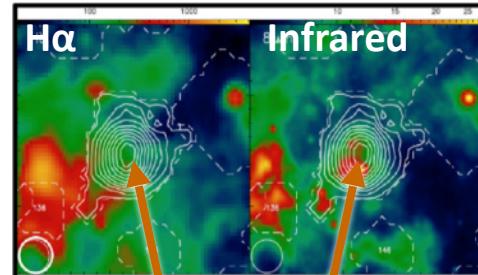


ALMA CO(2-1)
H α
JWST/MIRI 21 μ m

- Pre-James Webb Space Telescope: 6 galaxies
- Now: ongoing JWST Large Programme for **19 additional galaxies**
- approved JWST Large Programme for **55 additional galaxies**

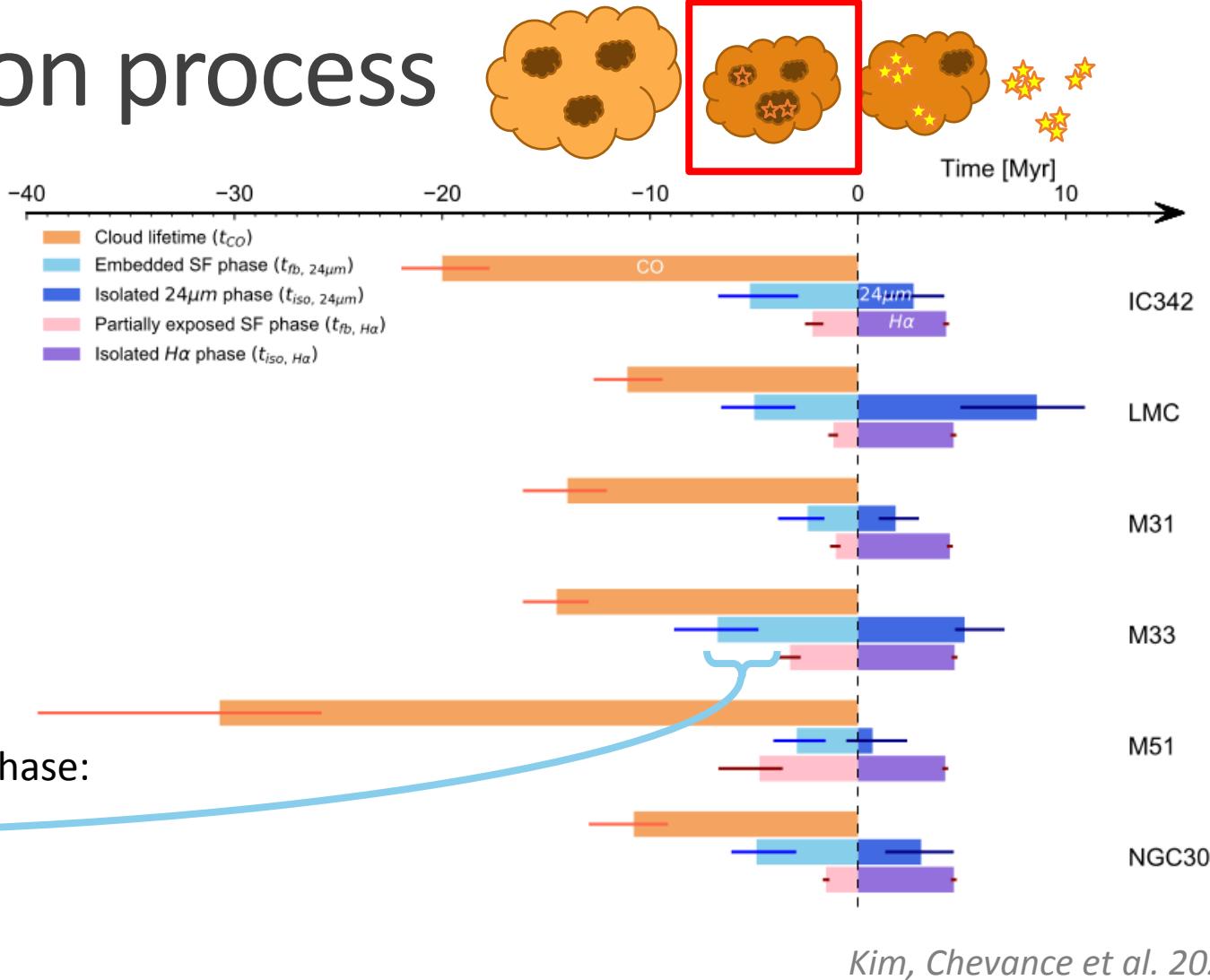


Refining the gas expulsion process



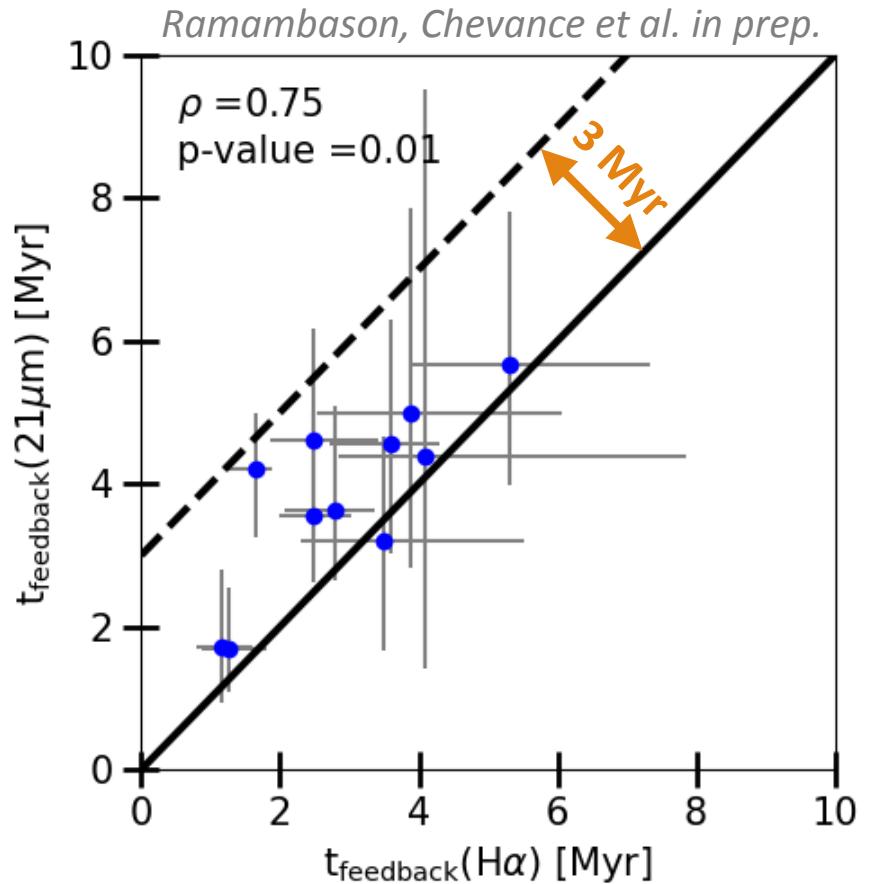
Corbelli et al. 2017

Embedded young stars



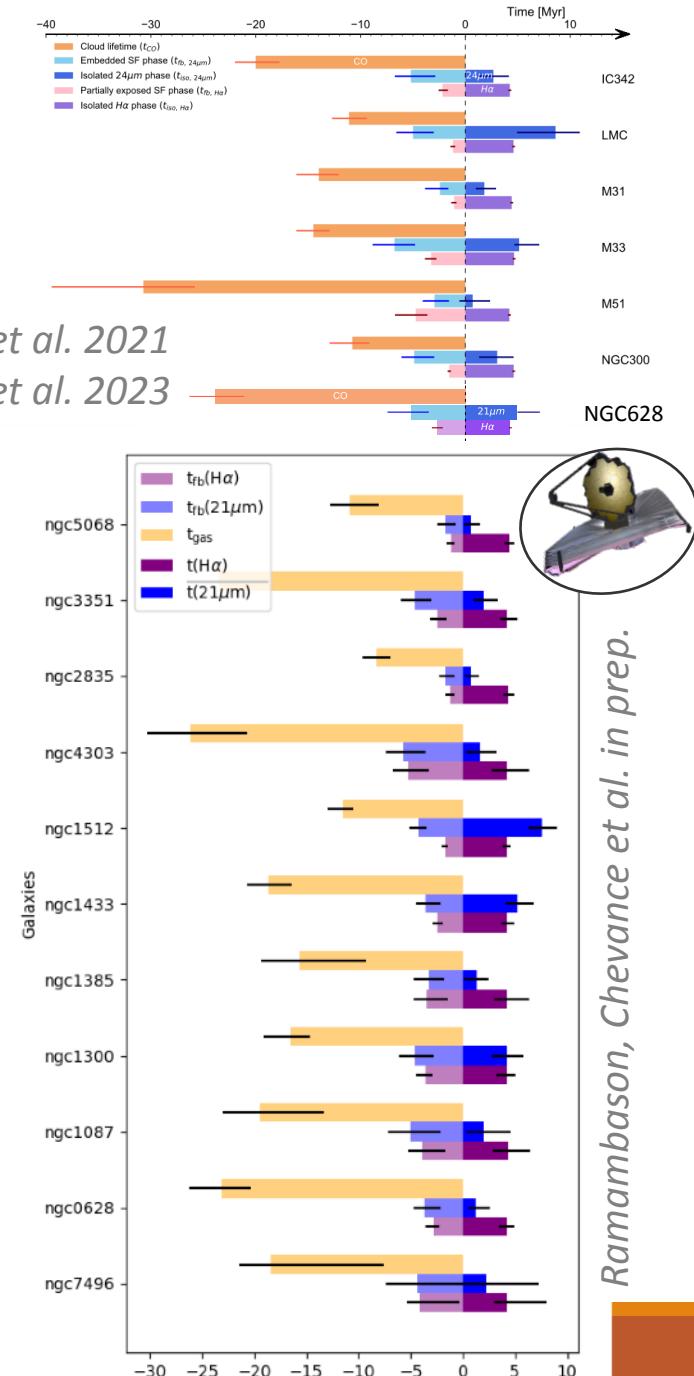
➤ Pre-James Webb Space Telescope: 6 galaxies

Refining the gas expulsion process

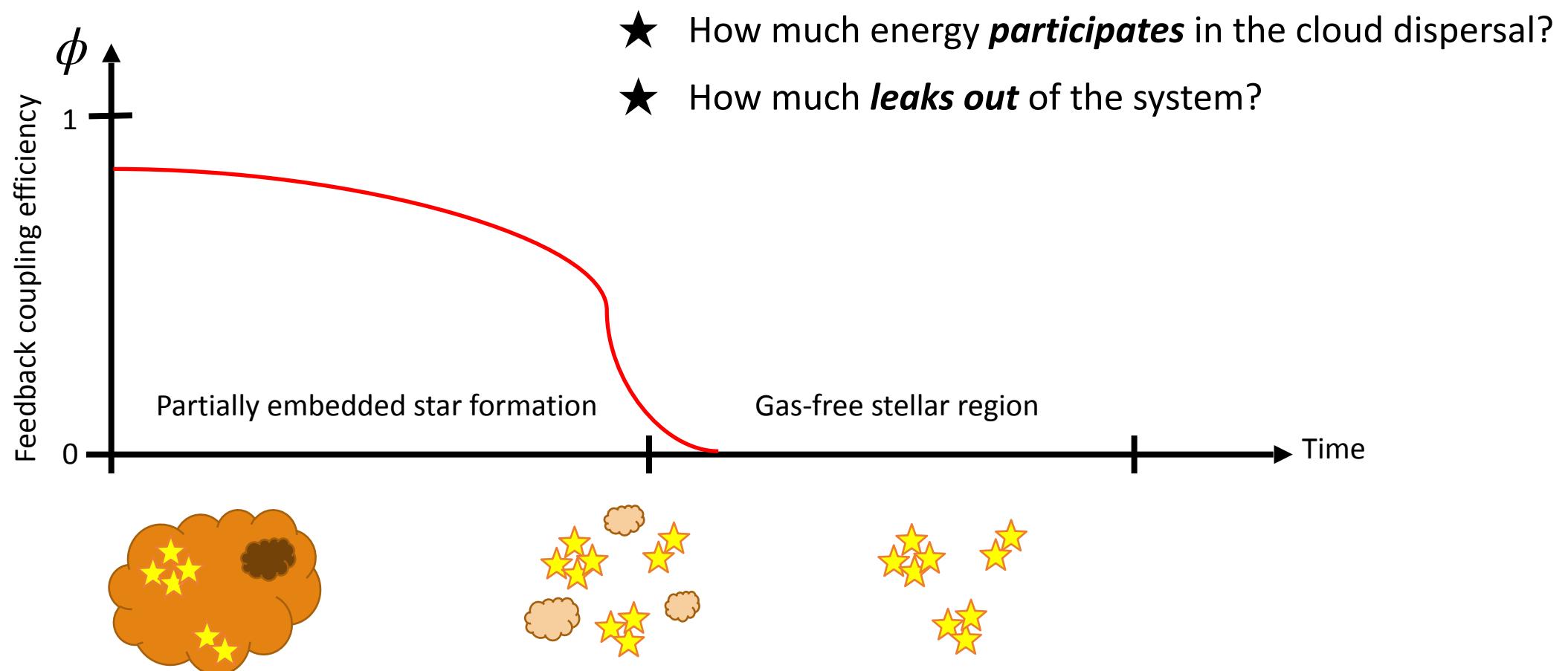


★ Deeply embedded stars (invisible in H α) for ***at most 3 Myr***

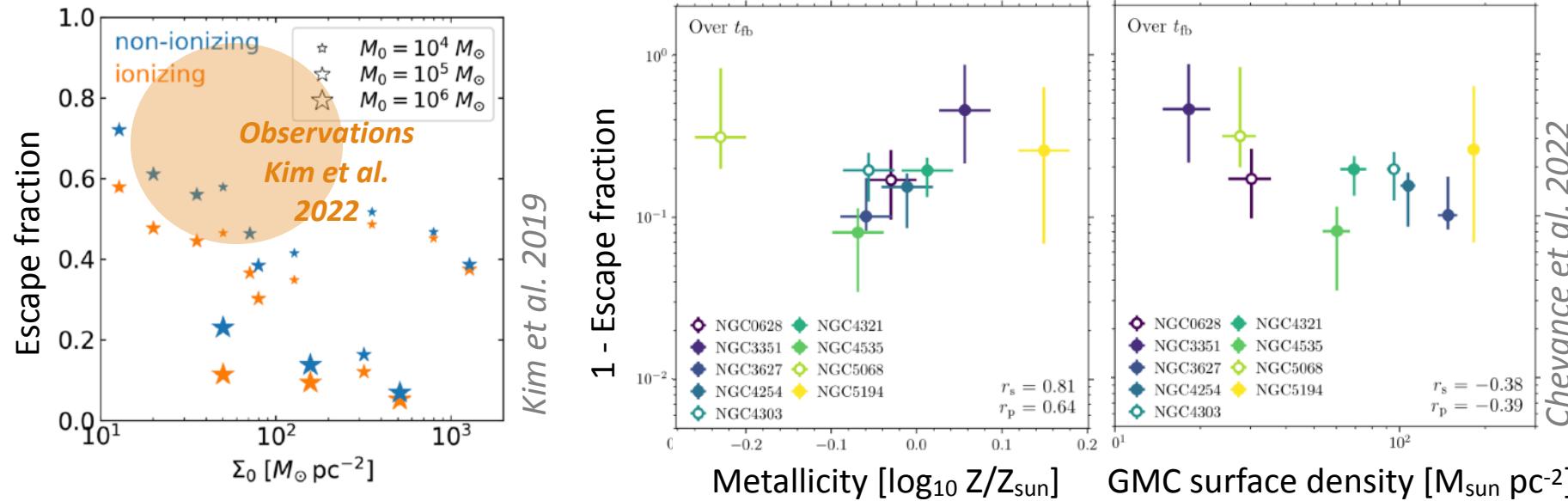
Kim, Chevance et al. 2021
Kim, Chevance et al. 2023



Feedback coupling efficiency — Escape fraction



Feedback coupling efficiency — Escape fraction

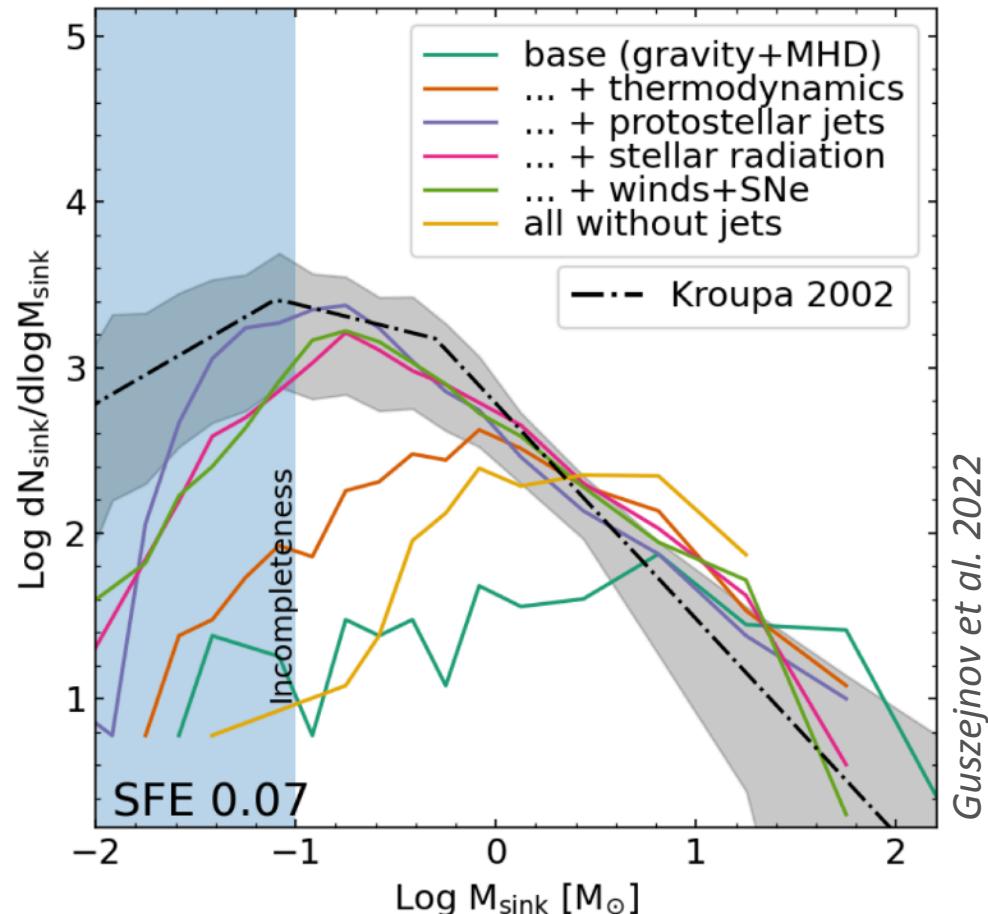


- ★ Feedback coupling efficiencies of a few %, qualitatively similar to simulations (e.g. Howard et al. 2018, Kim et al. 2019, Rahner et al. 2019, Pellegrini et al. 2020)
- ★ Explain (at least partially) observed diffuse ionised hydrogen emission throughout galaxies (e.g. Poetrodjojo et al. 2019, Lucas et al. 2020)
- ★ Environmental dependence: more porous gas at low metallicities (e.g. Petitpas & Wilson 1998; Lebouteiller et al. 2012; Cormier et al. 2015; Chevance et al. 2016; Kimm et al. 2019, Ramambason et al. submitted)
- ★ Energy losses: photon leakage (rather than radiative cooling) likely dominates

How do (massive) stars impact their surrounding?

- ★ Heat and ionise the gas
- ★ Disrupt GMCs
- ★ Limit star formation efficiency
- ★ Impact the IMF

Impact on the IMF



- ★ **Protostellar jets** reduce stellar mass scales by:
 - directly removing accreted material
 - disrupting the accretion flow around stars
- ★ They cannot prevent the most massive stars from undergoing runaway accretion
- ★ **Radiation, winds and SN** have little direct effect on the IMF (prevent runaway accretion of massive stars)



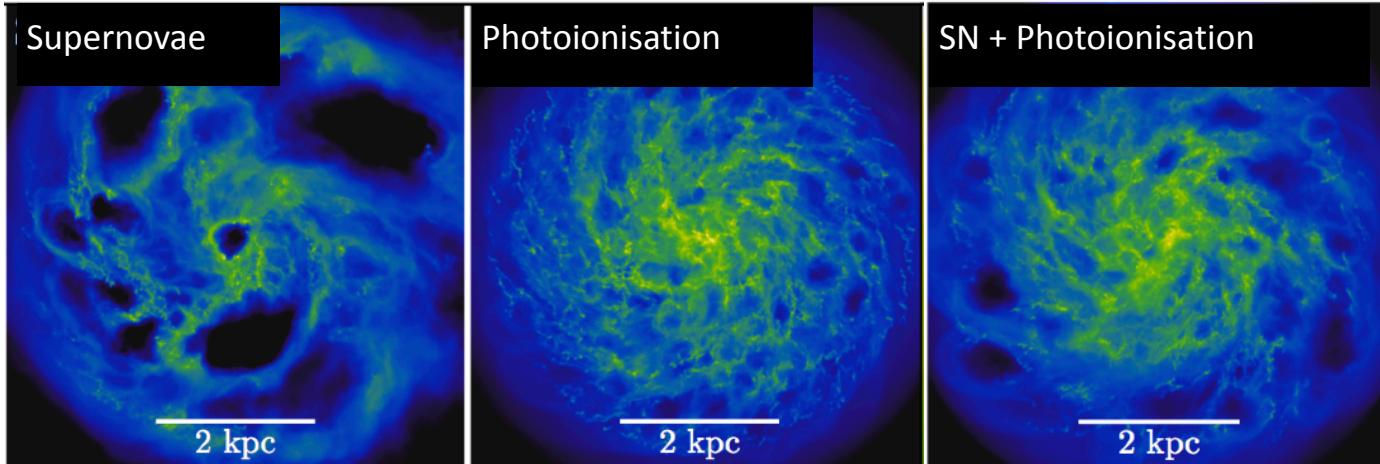
IV. Impact of feedback on galactic scales

Is the galaxy at large modified by these small-scale feedback mechanisms? (*i.e. do we care?*)

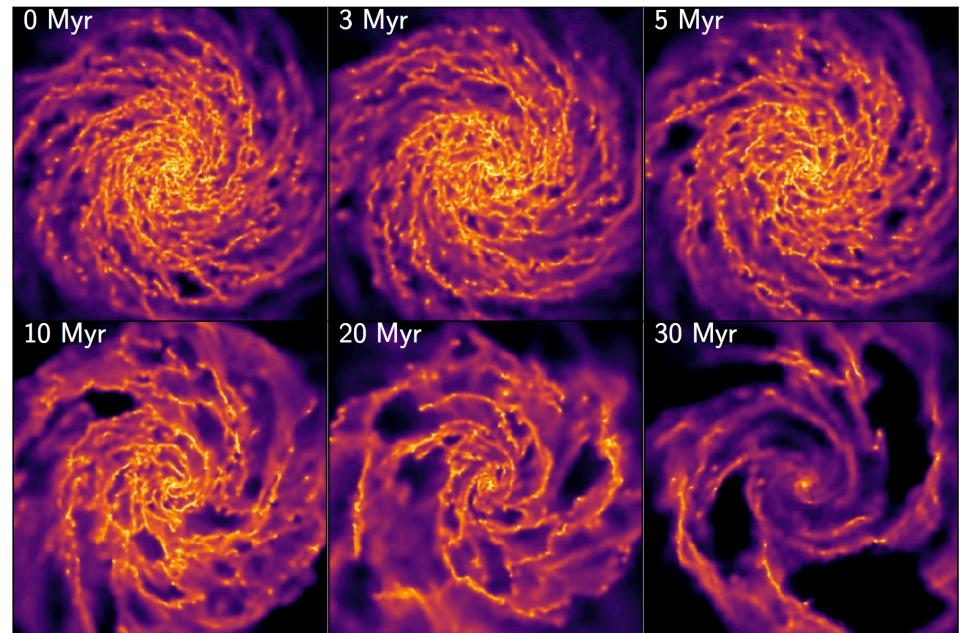
Yes!

Galaxy simulations with identical initial conditions

different feedback mechanisms



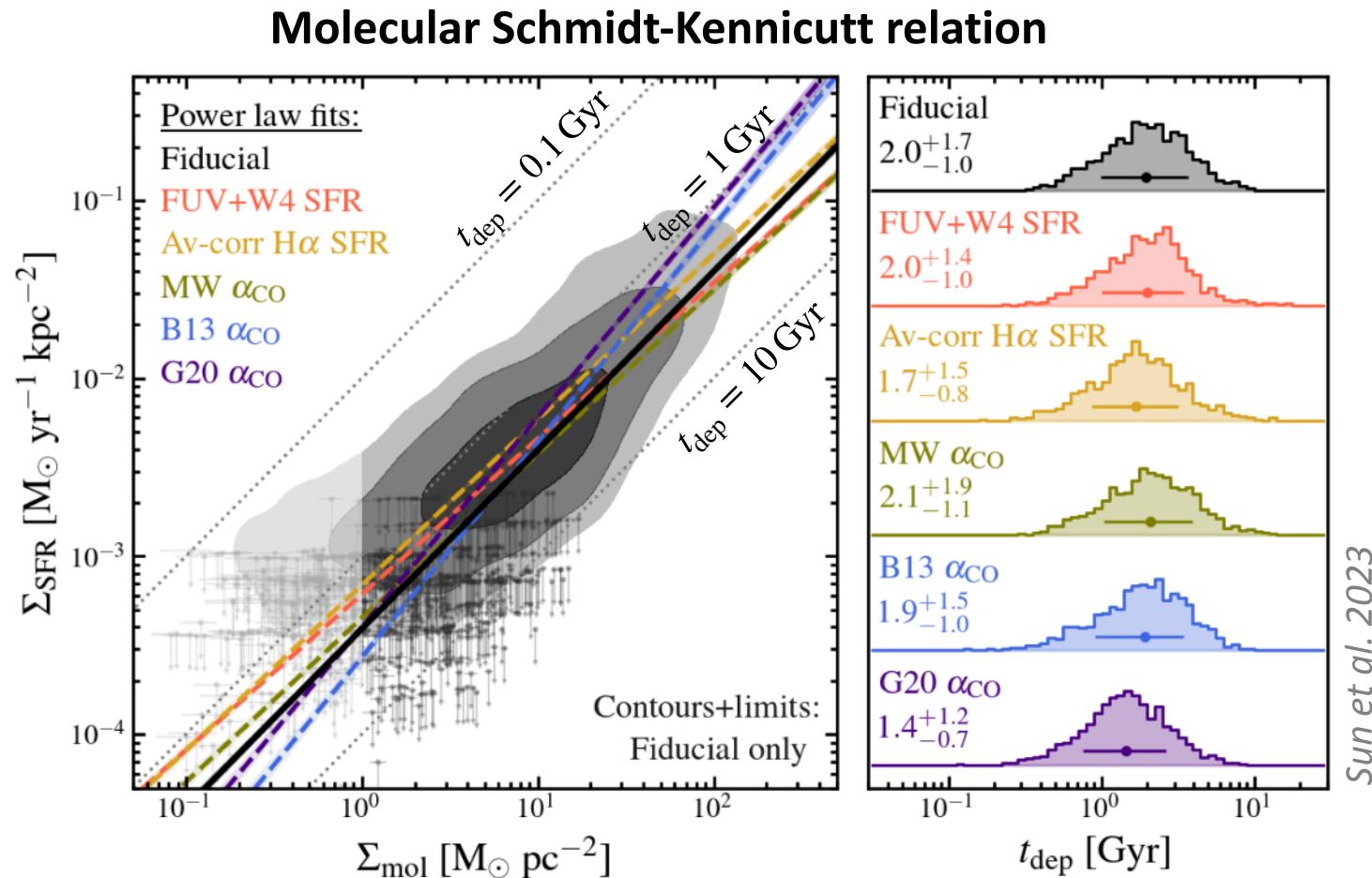
different SN delay time



Impact of feedback on galactic scales

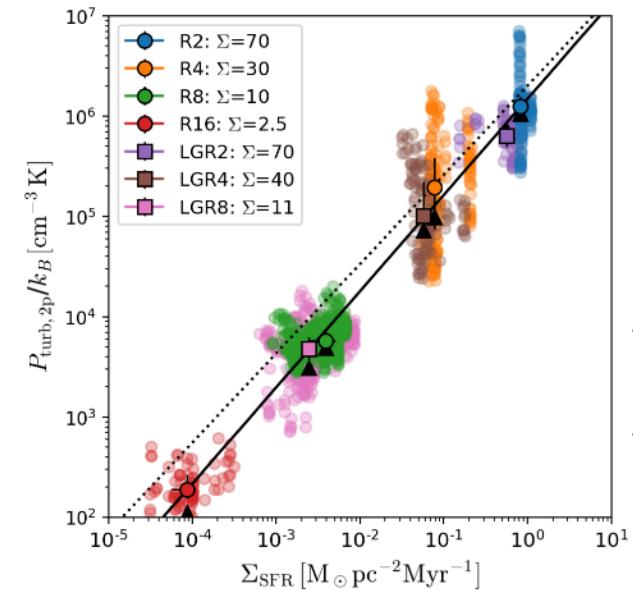
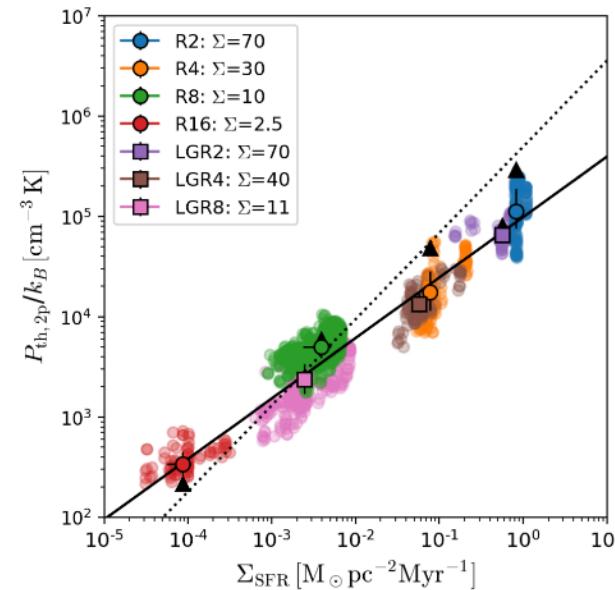
- ★ Limits SF efficiency —> *regulates SFR*
- ★ Changes the *morphology* of galaxies at large
- ★ Regulates *galactic outflows*

Self-regulated star formation model



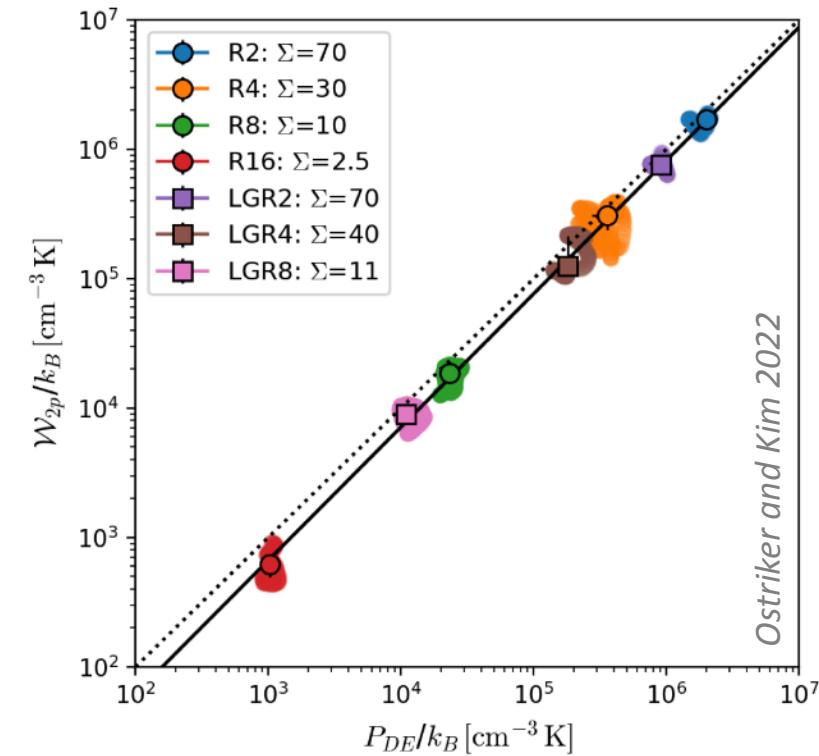
Self-regulated star formation model

- ★ Galactic disk = system in equilibrium (*Ostriker et al. 2010, Ostriker & Shetty 2011*)
—> sum of **turbulent+thermal+magnetic** (+cosmic ray+radiation) terms balance ISM weight
- ★ Turbulence dissipation and radiation cooling **must to be compensated**
- ★ Star formation is a **source of energy and momentum** via stellar and supernovae feedback
—> prevents collapse

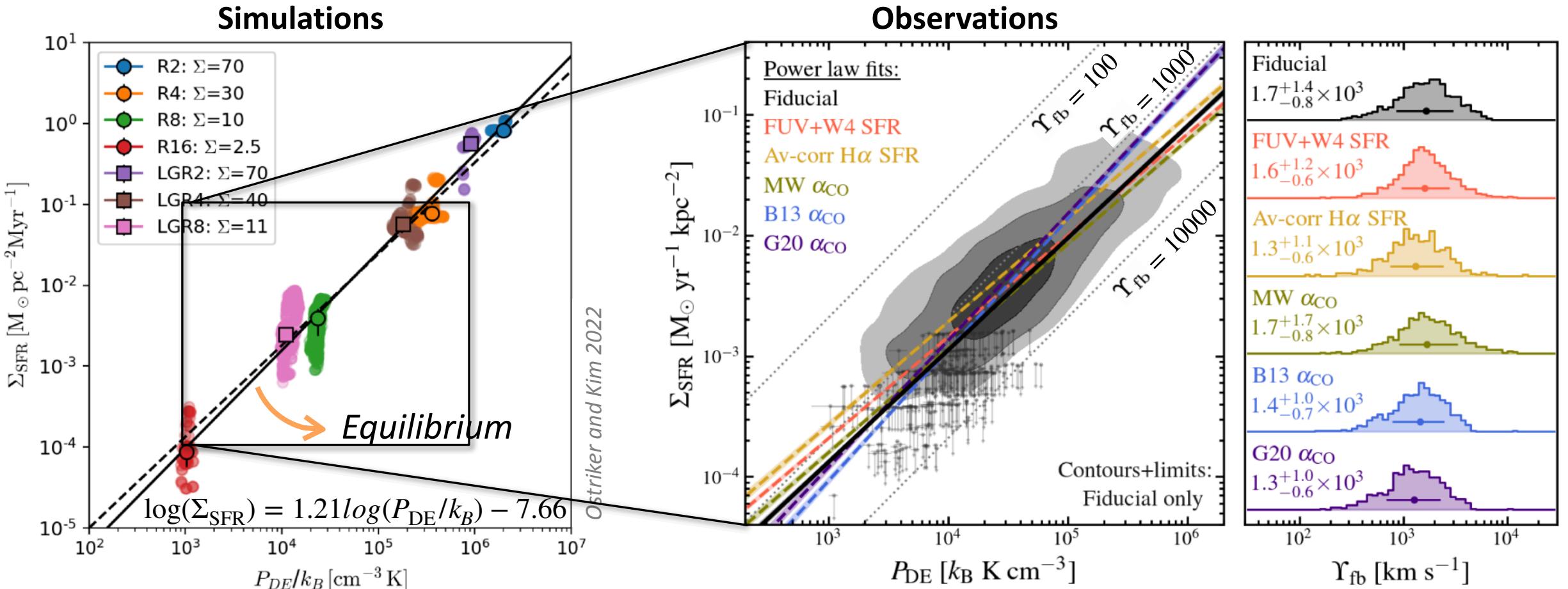


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- ★ Turbulence dissipation and radiation cooling **must to be compensated**
- ★ Star formation is a **source of energy and momentum** via stellar and supernovae feedback
—> prevents collapse
- ★ Local SFR **required** to keep the ISM in a long-term equilibrium set by the weight of the ISM
—> $\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} \propto$ weight of the ISM per unit area (= **dynamical equilibrium pressure P_{DE}**)
- ★ **Feedback yield:** $Y_{\text{FB}} = P_{\text{DE}}/\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}$
(also see Ostriker & Kim 2022)



Self-regulated star formation model

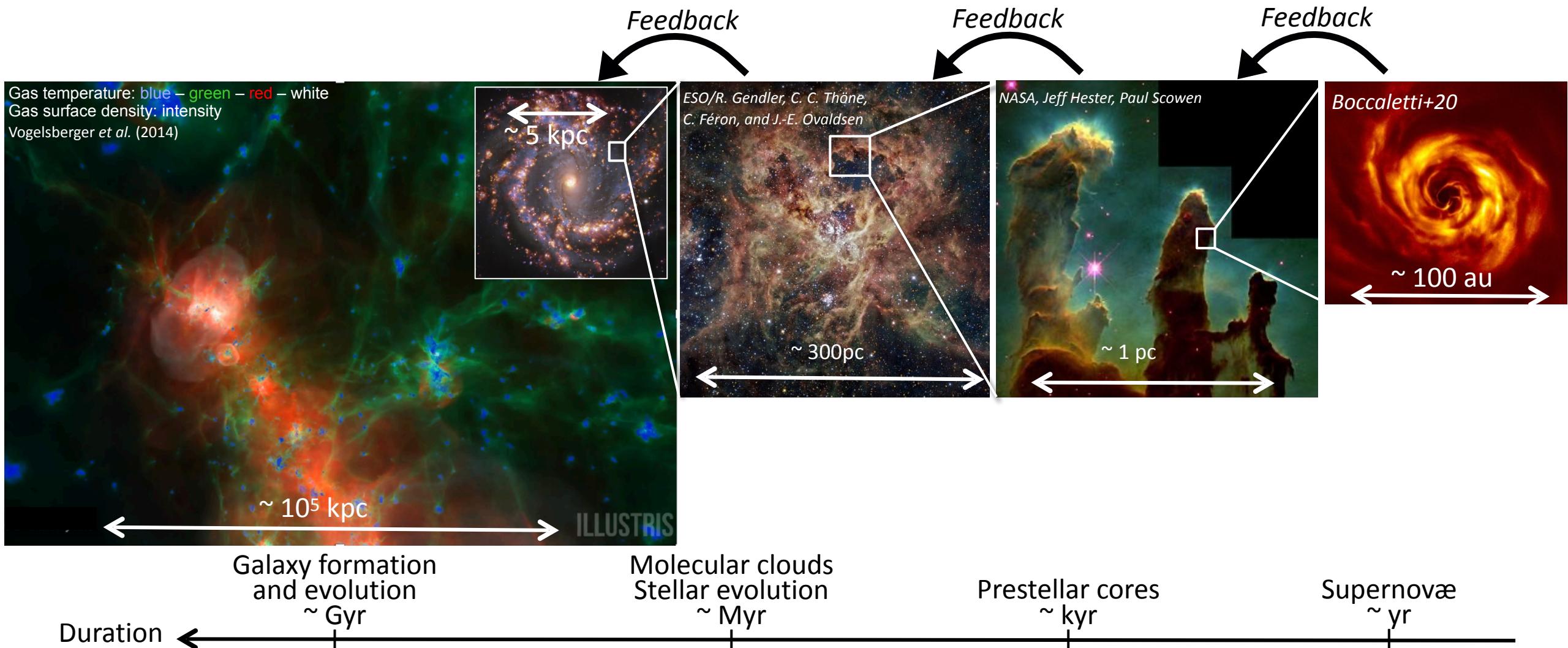


Impact of feedback on galactic scales

- ★ Limits SF efficiency —> *regulates SFR*
- ★ Changes the *morphology* of galaxies at large
- ★ Regulates *galactic outflows*

Including stellar feedback in galaxy formation and evolution simulations

Challenge: The range of ***temporal and spatial scales is so large***,
that models and simulations require ***sub-resolution prescriptions***

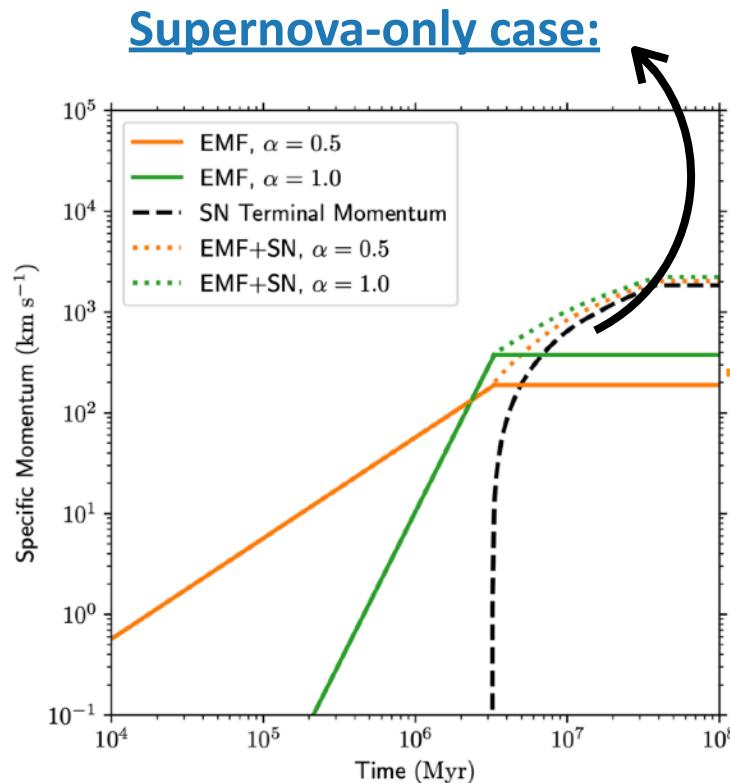


Including stellar feedback in galaxy formation and evolution simulations

- ★ Tuning the (*many*) free parameters
- ★ Using the results of small-scale simulations
- ★ Using empirical results from observations

Impact of the details of stellar feedback modelling on global galactic properties

The '*Empirically Motivated Physics*' suite of simulations adopts an **empirically-motivated feedback model**



Empirically-motivated feedback case:

Early stellar feedback:
Specific terminal momentum set by **measured quantities**:

$$P(t_{FB}) = \alpha \frac{r_{cl}(1 - \varepsilon_{SF})}{\varepsilon_{SF} t_{FB}} \quad \alpha \in [0.5; 1]$$

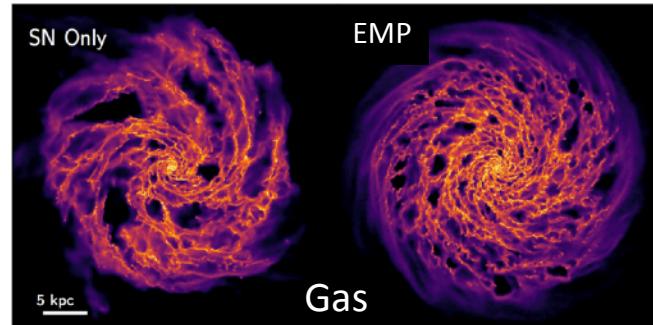
Injected momentum as a function of time follows
from self-similarity:

$$P(t) = \alpha \frac{r_{cl}(1 - \varepsilon_{SF})}{\varepsilon_{SF} t_{FB}} \left(\frac{t}{t_{FB}} \right)^{4\alpha-1}$$

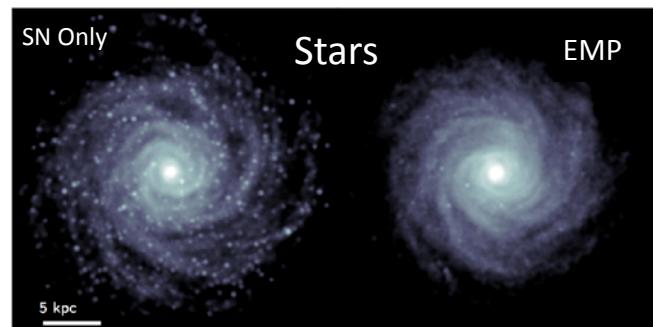
Impact of the details of stellar feedback modelling on global galactic properties

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Supernova-only case:



Empirically-motivated feedback case:

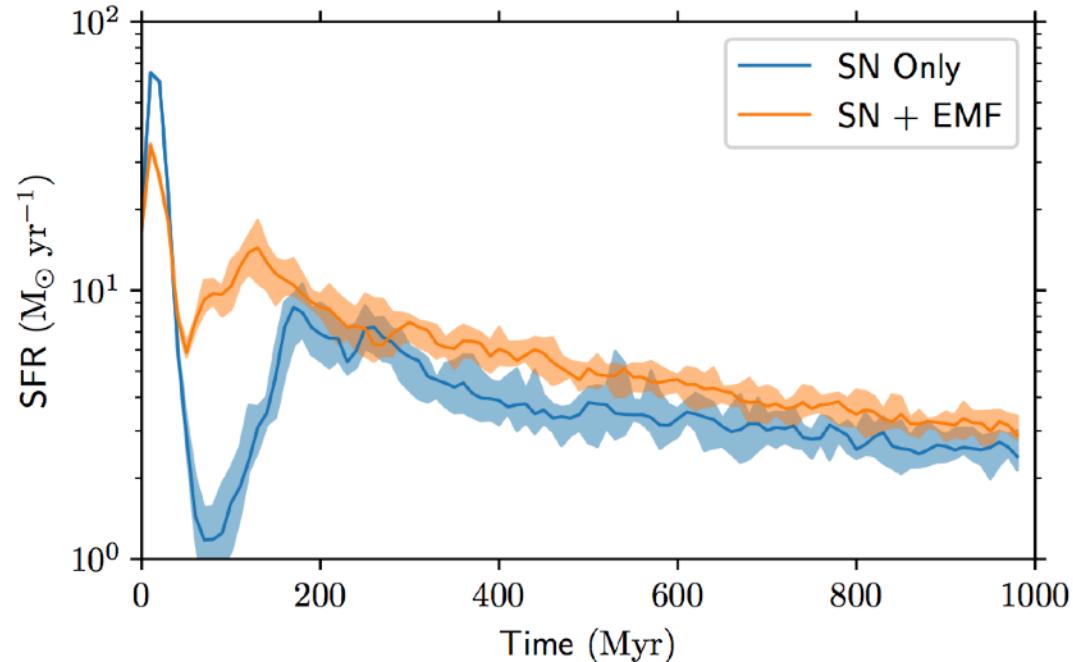


Smoothen discs in the *EMP model* compared to *SN-only model*

Impact of the details of stellar feedback modelling on global galactic properties

The '*Empirically Motivated Physics*' suite of simulations adopts an **empirically-motivated feedback model**

Supernova-only case:



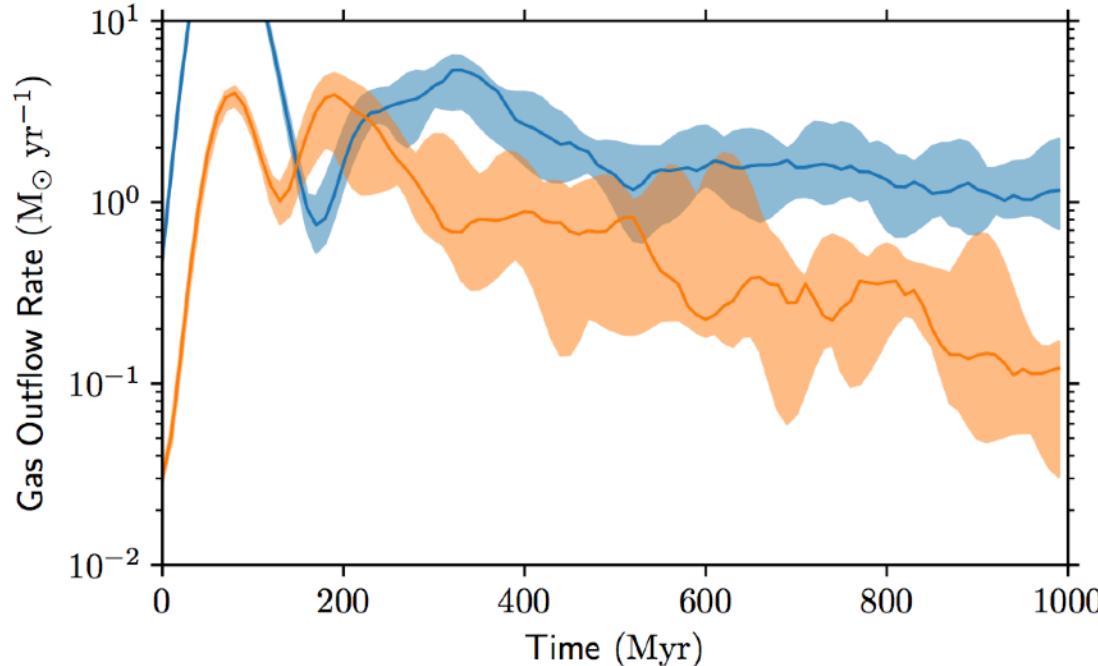
Empirically-motivated feedback case:

SFR and Schmidt-Kennicutt relation consistent with observations

Impact of the details of stellar feedback modelling on global galactic properties

The '*Empirically Motivated Physics*' suite of simulations adopts an **empirically-motivated feedback model**

Supernova-only case:



Empirically-motivated feedback case:

Weaker outflows in the *EMP* model compared to *SN-only* model

Impact of feedback

On GMC scales:

- ★ Heat and ionise the gas
- ★ Disrupt GMCs
- ★ Limit star formation efficiency
- ★ Impact the IMF

On galactic scales:

- ★ Limits SF efficiency —> ***regulates SFR***
- ★ Changes the ***morphology*** of galaxies at large
- ★ Regulates ***galactic outflows***

Major open questions

Fundamental physics question:

- ★ ***What is the deposition rate of mass, energy and momentum by feedback as a function of time, space and environment?***

Steps needed to address this overarching question:

- ★ What is (are) the dominant feedback mechanism(s) as a function of evolutionary age and environment?
- ★ How do the different feedback mechanisms interact with each other?
- ★ How do feedback mechanisms couple across all spatial scales, from single star formation to entire galaxies?
- ★ How do we capture all of these processes in simulations? Is there a theory of everything or will we always need multiple models?
- ★ How do magnetic fields affect the deposition of mass, energy and momentum by feedback?

References

Books and General Reviews:

- **Krumholz et al.**, *PPVI*, 2014
- **Dale**, *New Astronomy reviews*, 2015
- **Krumholz**, *Star Formation* (esp. Chapter 7), 2017
- **Girichidis et al.**, *Space Science Reviews*, 2020
- **Rosen et al.**, *Space Science Reviews*, 2020
- **Chevance et al.**, *PPVII*, 2023