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*Knut and Alice
Wallenberg
Foundation*

WHEN (AND WHY) HAS THE
MILKY WAY STOPPED FORMING
MASSIVE CLUSTERS?

WITH

FLOOR VAN DONKELAAR, LUND → ZÜRICH

TIMMY EJDETJÄRN, LUND → STOCKHOLM

ÁLVARO SEGOVIA OTERO, LUND

OSCAR AGERTZ, LUND

ALESSANDRO ROMEO, CHALMERS

AND THE VINTERGATAN TEAM

JUSTIN READ, NILS RYDE, ERIC ANDERSSON, THOMAS BENSBY, MARTIN REY, DIANE FEUILLET

WHERE ARE THE YOUNG MASSIVE CLUSTERS?

Florent Renaud
@renaudflo

in the local Universe

Galactic centers
e.g. Neumayer et al. (2020)



Starbursts
e.g. Adamo et al. (2011)



Gas-rich dwarf galaxies
e.g. Hunter et al. (2016), Cook et al. (2019)



WHERE ARE THE YOUNG MASSIVE CLUSTERS?

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in the Milky Way



Arches National Park, Utah
Last Friday, around 3 am (-12°C, 10°F)

WHERE ARE THE YOUNG MASSIVE CLUSTERS?

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in the Milky Way

Galactic center

e.g. Bland-Hawthorn & Gerhard (2016)



Infalling dwarf satellites

e.g. Minniti et al. (2021), Piatti et al. (2021)



Tip of the bar?

Nguyen-Luong et al. (2013)



IN WHICH CONDITIONS DO MASSIVE CLUSTERS FORM?

Florent Renaud
@renaudflo

in the local Universe

Galactic centers



Starbursts



Gas-rich dwarfs



repeated fueling of gas and stars
e.g. Guillard et al. (2016)

shocks + tidal compression
Jog & Solomon (1992), Renaud et al. (2014)

galaxy-driven over-densities
e.g. Renaud et al. (2015)

in the Milky Way

Galactic center



Infalling dwarfs



Tip of the bar



The Milky Way is not an efficient factory of massive clusters
anymore...

THEN, WHERE DO THE 150+ (OLD) GLOBULAR CLUSTERS COME FROM?

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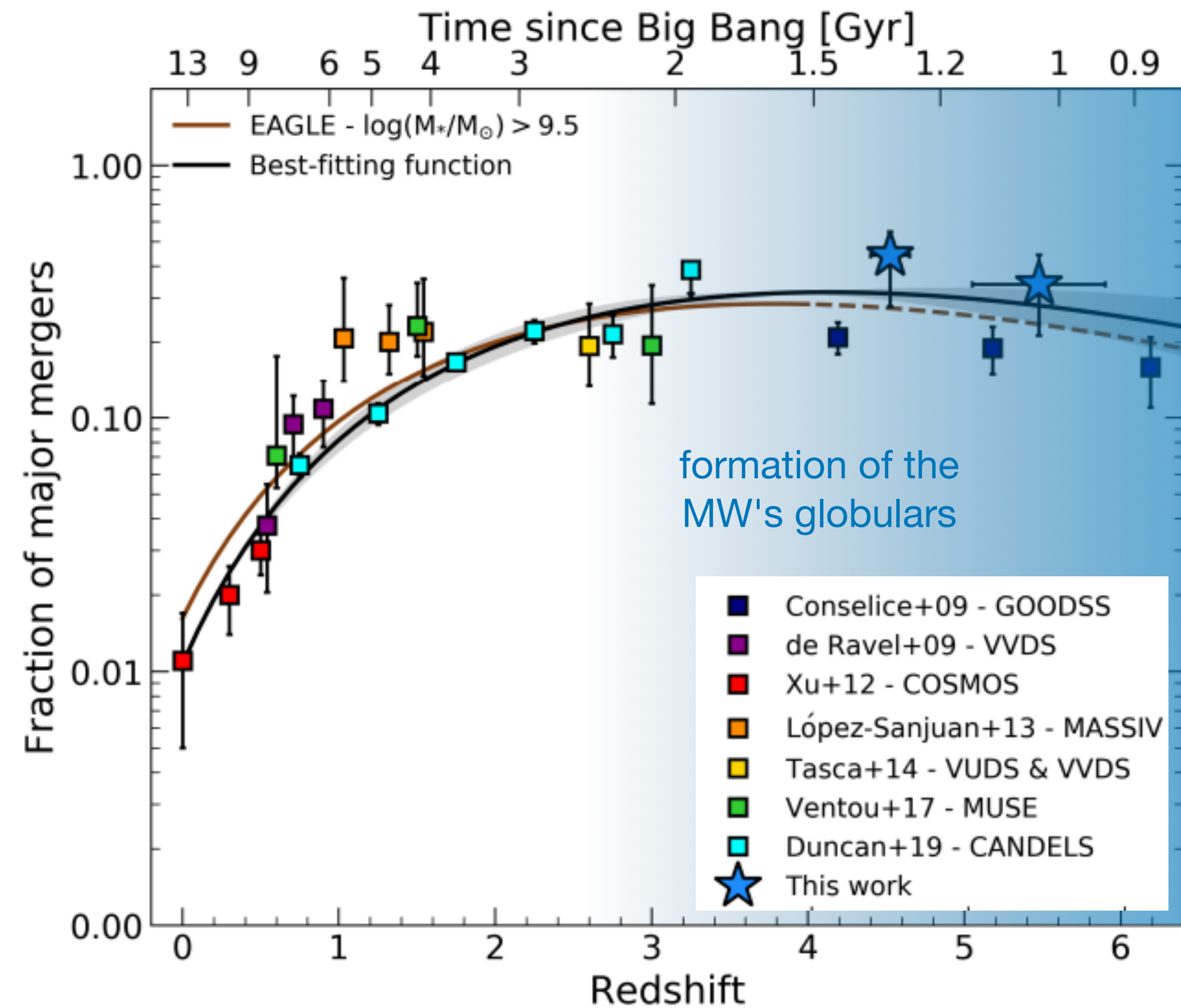
Accretion

e.g. Renaud et al. (2017), Li et al. (2017),
Reinas-Campos et al. (2019)

In situ formation at high redshift

- more frequent mergers
 - ... but not necessarily more starbursts
e.g. Lofthouse et al. (2017)
- early phase of galaxy formation
 - higher gas fraction
 - stronger turbulence
 - higher (but steady) SFR

Romano et al. (2021)

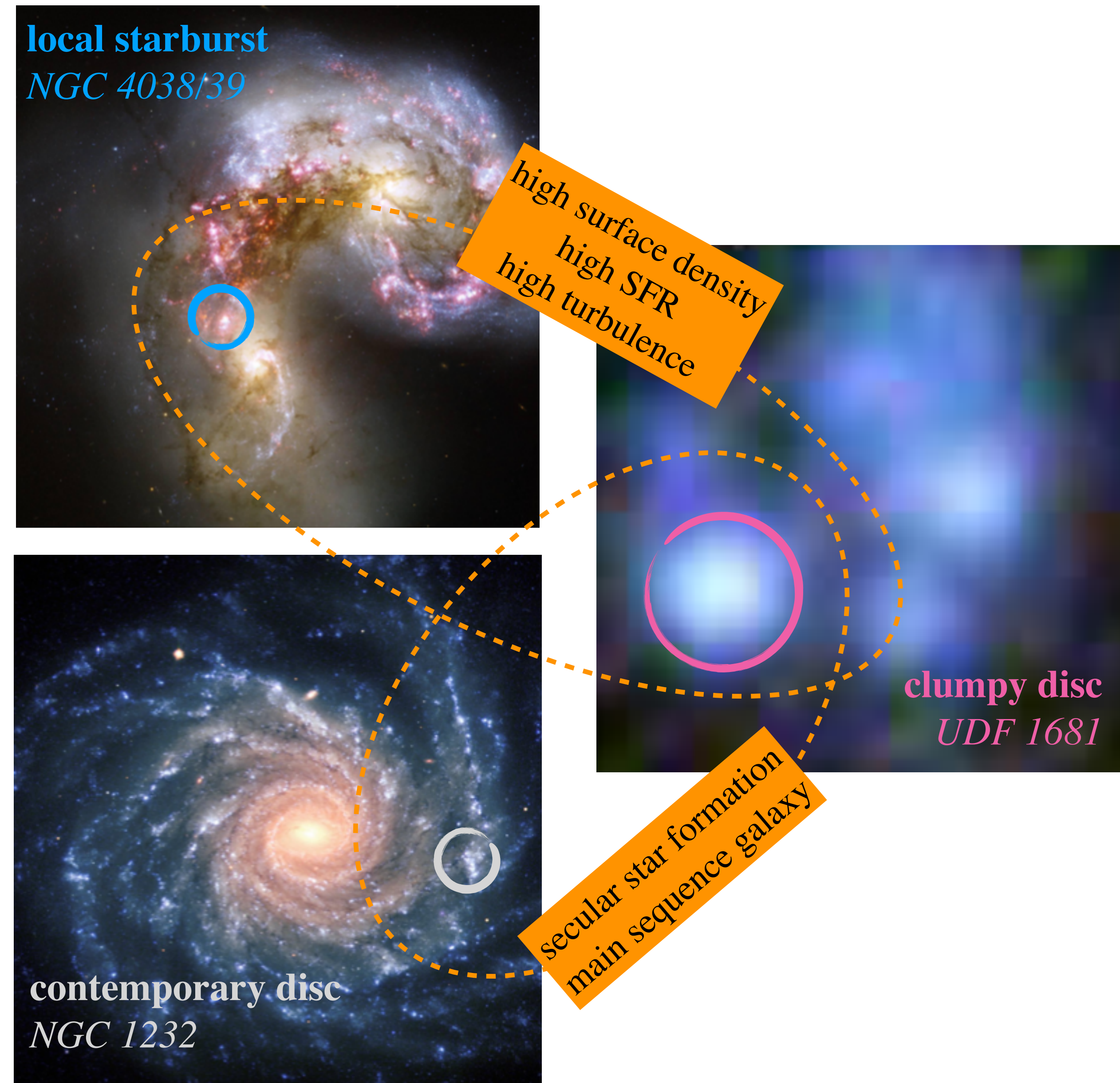


Most of disc galaxies at $z \gtrsim 1$ have
huge star forming gas clumps ($\sim 10^{8-9} M_{\odot}$)
Guo et al. (2015)
but see Huertas-Company (2020) about sub-clumps

Clumps are found in galaxies with
high gas fractions:

$$f_{\text{gas}} = \frac{M_{\text{gas}}}{M_{\text{gas}} + M_{\star}}$$

see also Wuyts et al. (2012), Zanella et al. (2015), Dessauges-Zavadsky et al. (2019), Huertas-Company (2020), and many more...



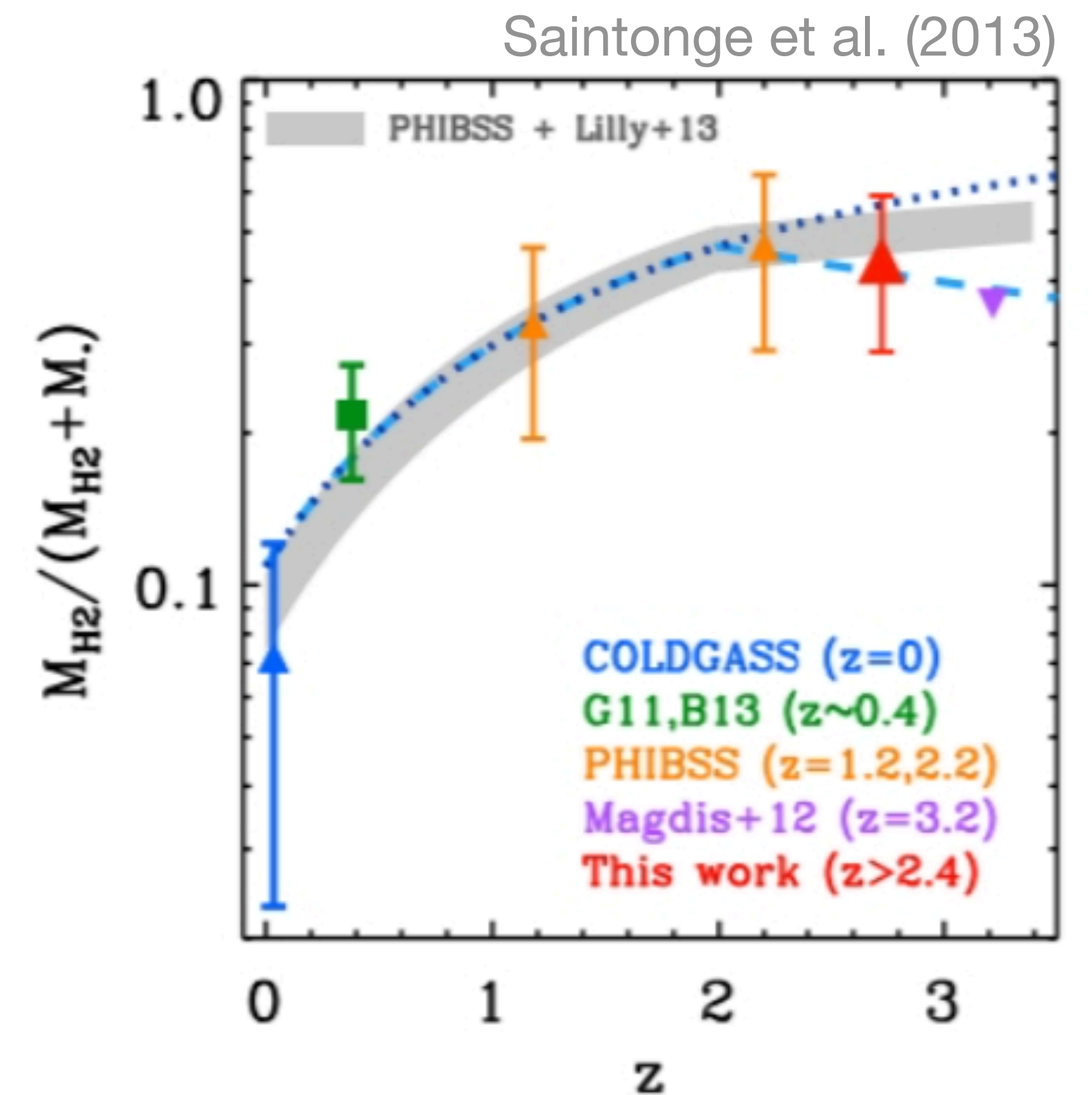
The gas fraction in discs evolves with redshift

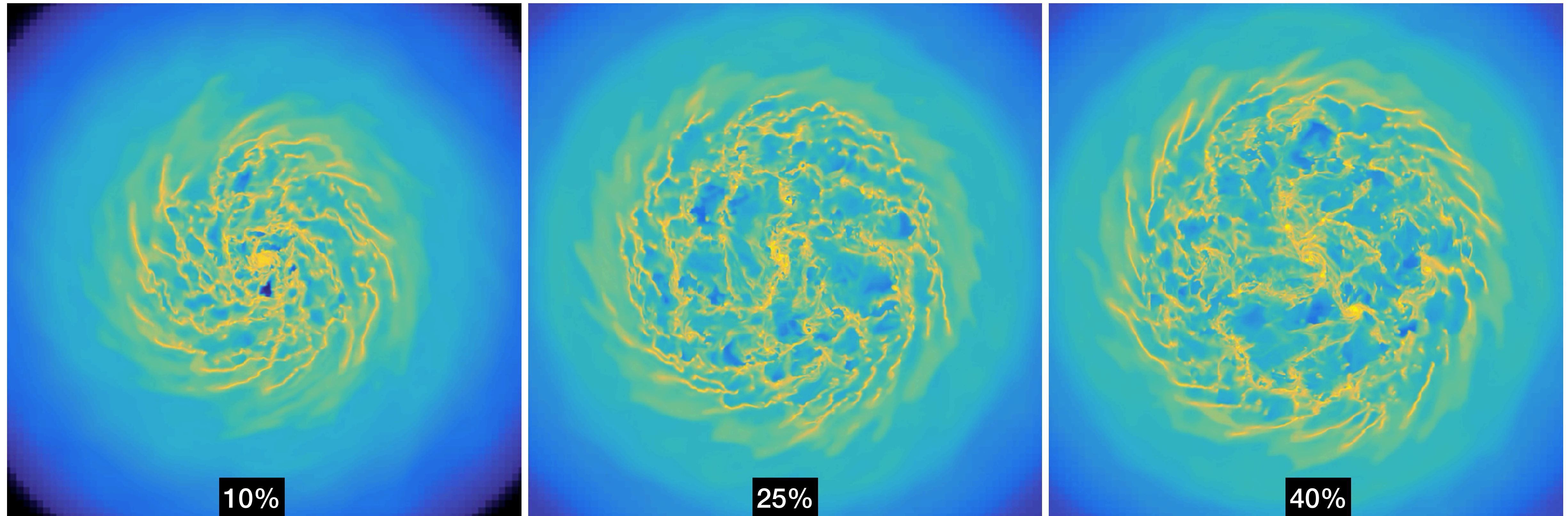
Most (if not all) Milky Way-likes have had a clumpy phase

Guo et al. (2015)

Massive clumps are natural sites for the formation of massive clusters

- massive
- large
- turbulent
- could be dynamically ejected in a thick disc / spheroid





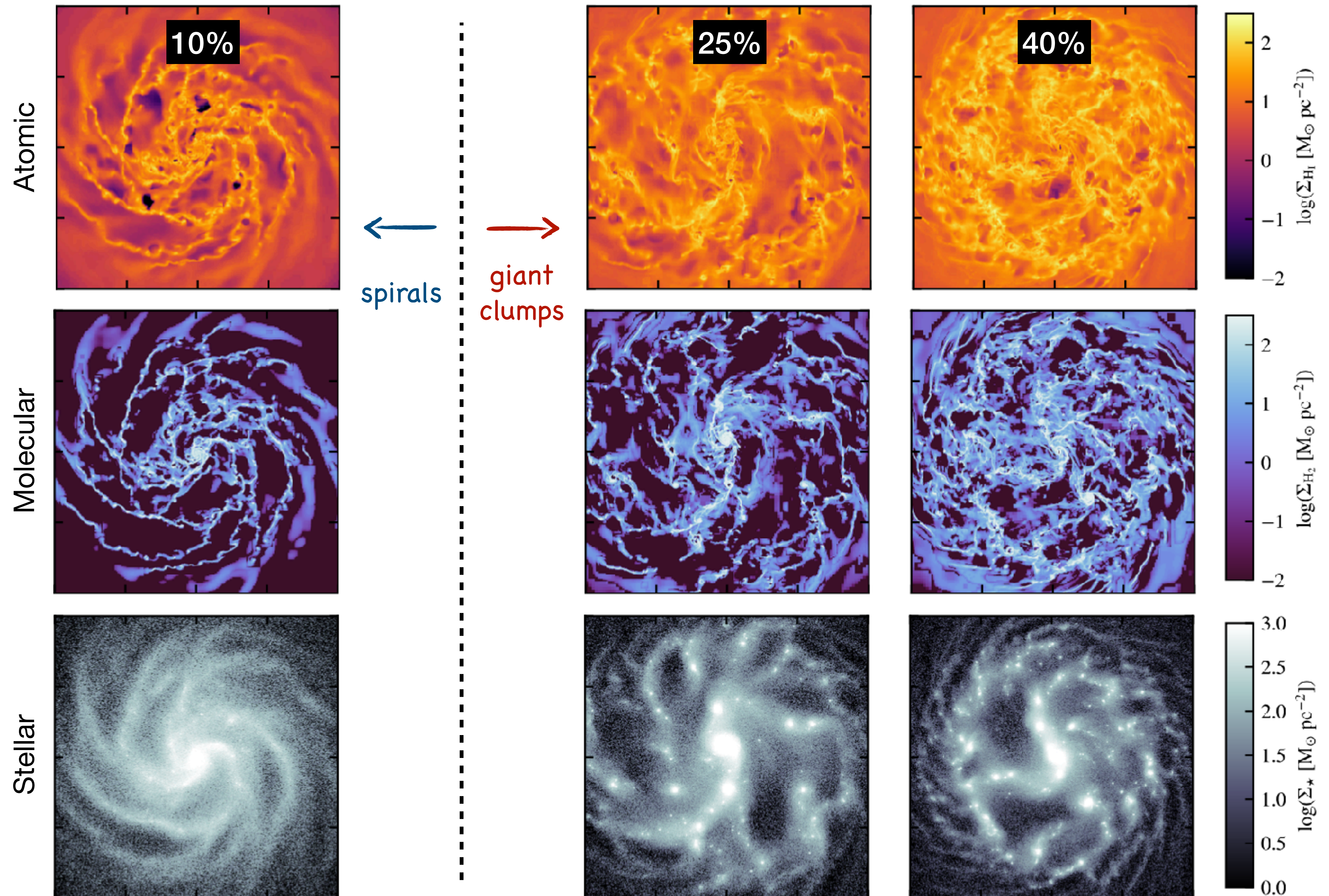
Simulation suite of isolated galaxies

RAMSES, 12 pc resolution, heating, cooling, star formation, winds, radiative feedback, SNe Ia + II

Teyssier (2002), Agertz et al. (2021)

Several models, exact same initial conditions, except the gas fraction

Structure changes
at $f_{\text{gas}} \approx 20\%$



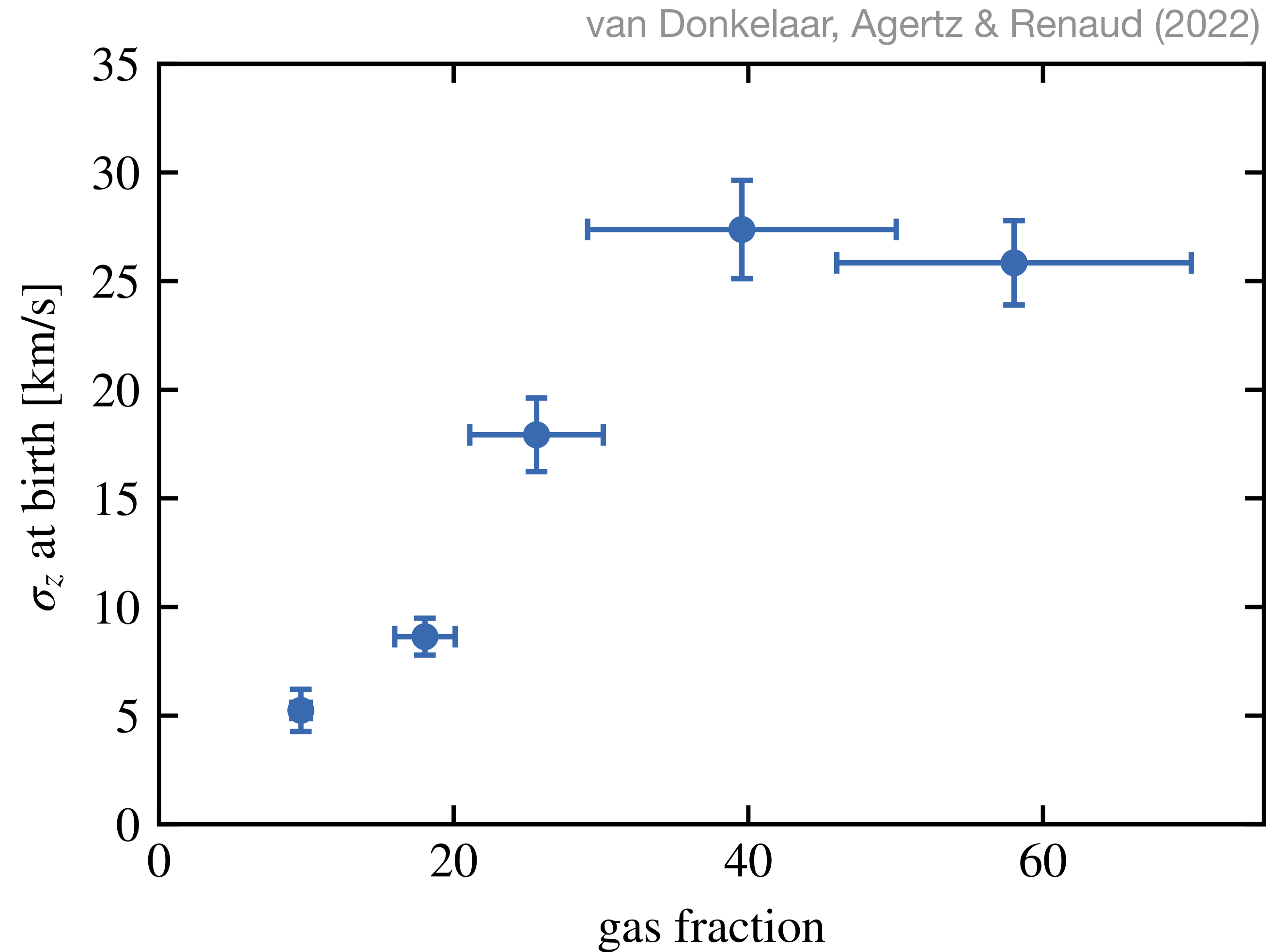
THE TRANSITION AT 20% IS ALSO SEEN IN KINEMATICS!

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Gas rich (clumpy) discs provide a high velocity dispersion to young stars...

...but only at $f_{\text{gas}} \gtrsim 20\%$

see Floor's talk on Friday



Using the Romeo & Falstad (2013) framework

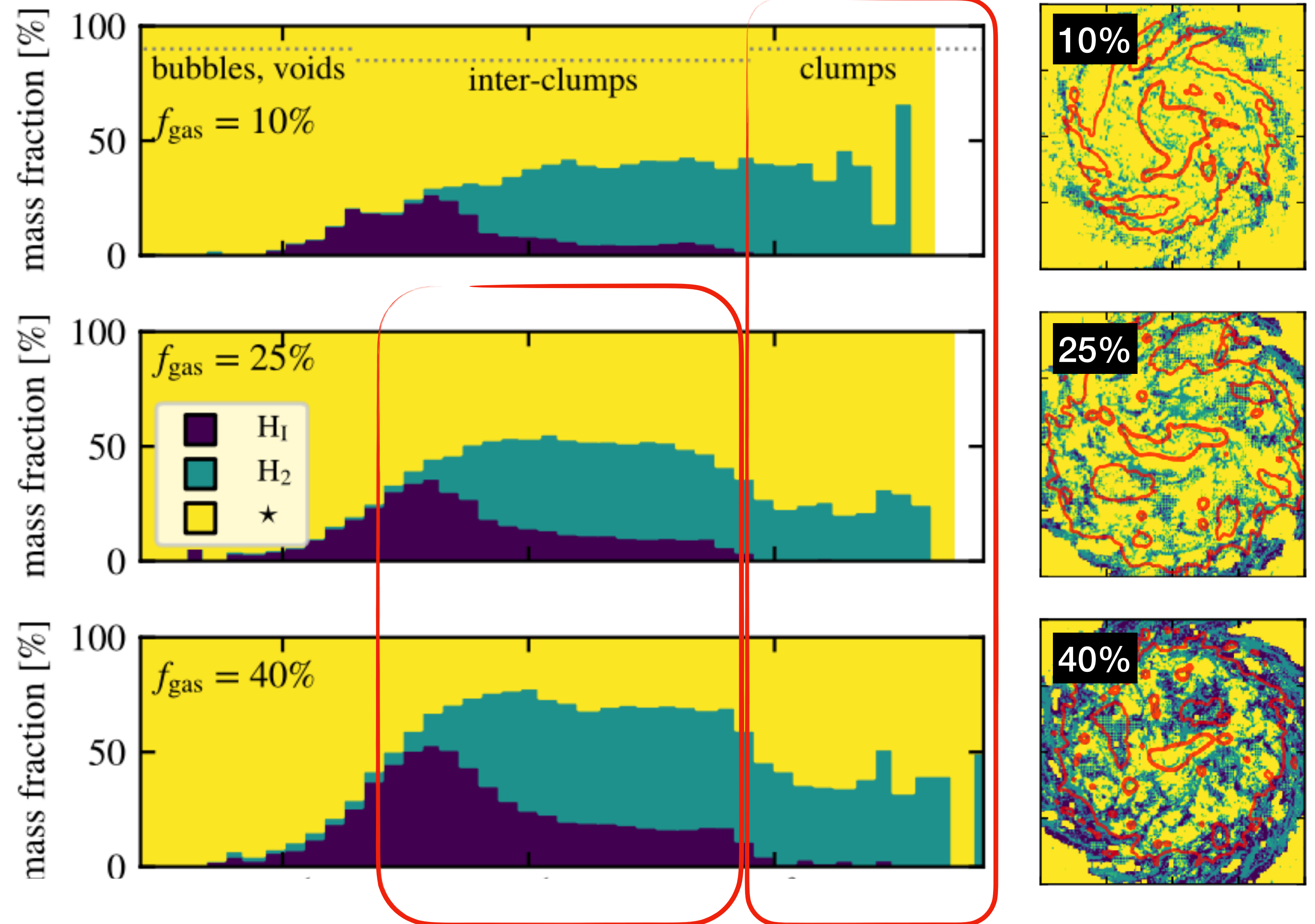
Gas takes the dominant role in the inter-clump medium
i.e. for the assembly of the clumps

The gaseous phase sets the formation of the clumps

Stars dominate *within* clumps

Stellar feedback increases the turbulence support
(doesn't affect the stars much)

Renaud, Romeo & Agertz (2021)



Change of slope at $\sim 100 - 200$ pc

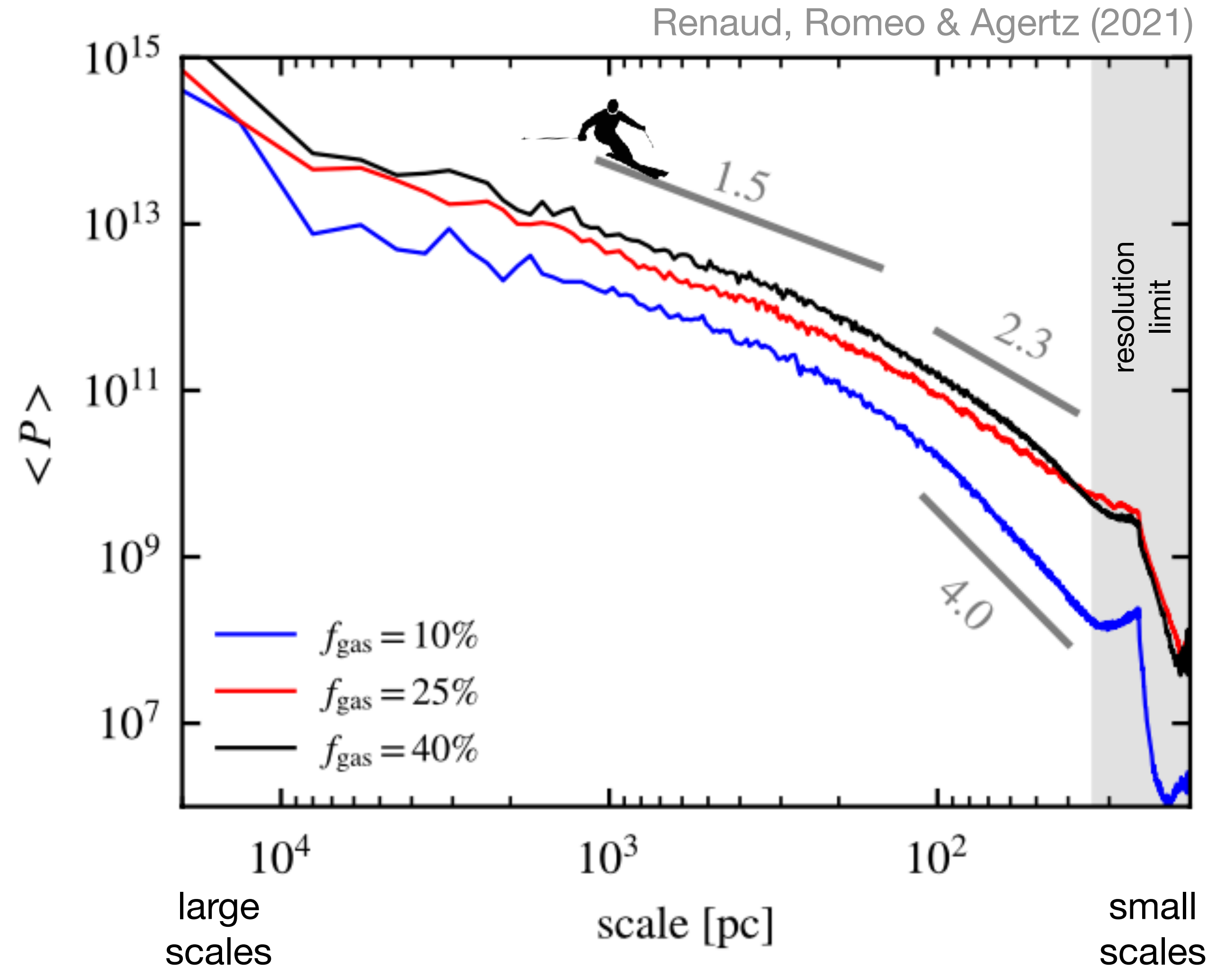
Partly caused by the transition
from 2D to 3D turbulence
(i.e. within the disc scaleheight)

Dutta et al. (2009), Renaud et al. (2013)

But divergence between the 3 cases...

Transition from disc-instabilities (Toomre-like)
to clump-instabilities, but only at high f_{gas}

Ask me for details



INTRINSIC EVOLUTION OF THE MILKY WAY

- Gas plays a less and less important role in disc dynamics
- The regime of instabilities shifts from clump-dominated to disc-dominated
- The star formation activity calms down

see also Clarke et al. (2019), Khoperskov et al. (2021)

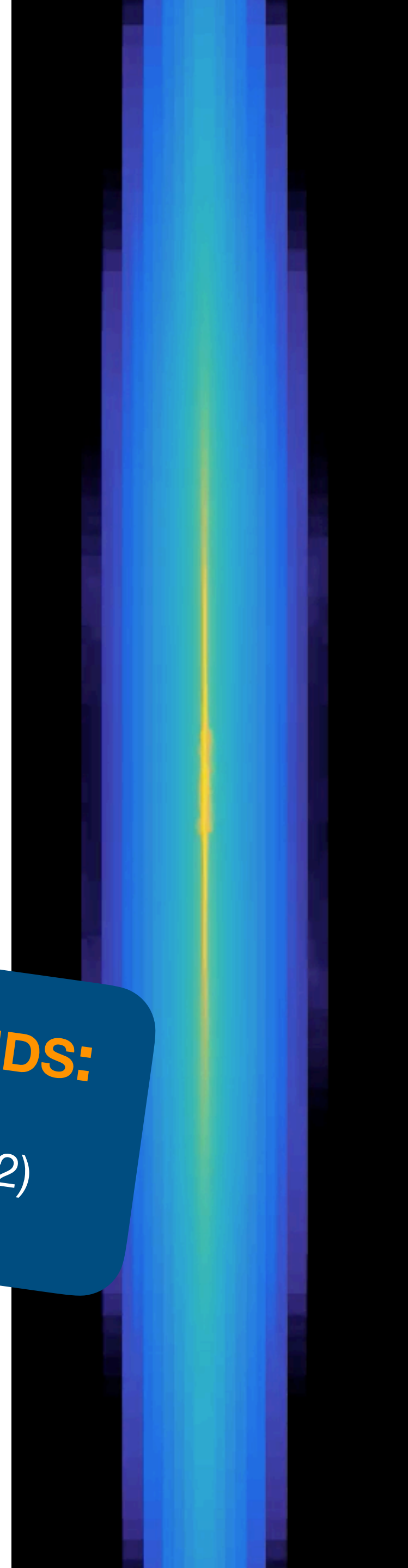
- Massive clumps stop being formed
→ no more formation sites for massive clusters

in an isolated galaxy

but ... the Milky Way is not isolated ...

FROM GIANT CLUMPS TO CLOUDS:

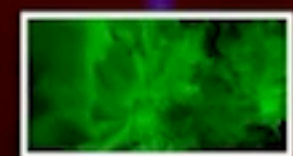
I: RENAUD, ROMEO & AGERTZ (2021)
II: VAN DONKELAAR, AGERTZ & RENAUD (2022)
III: EJDETJÄRN ET AL. (2022)



VINTERGATAN

Agertz, Renaud et al. (2021)
Renaud, Agertz et al. (2021a,b)

MILKY WAY



IRON



STARS



GAS



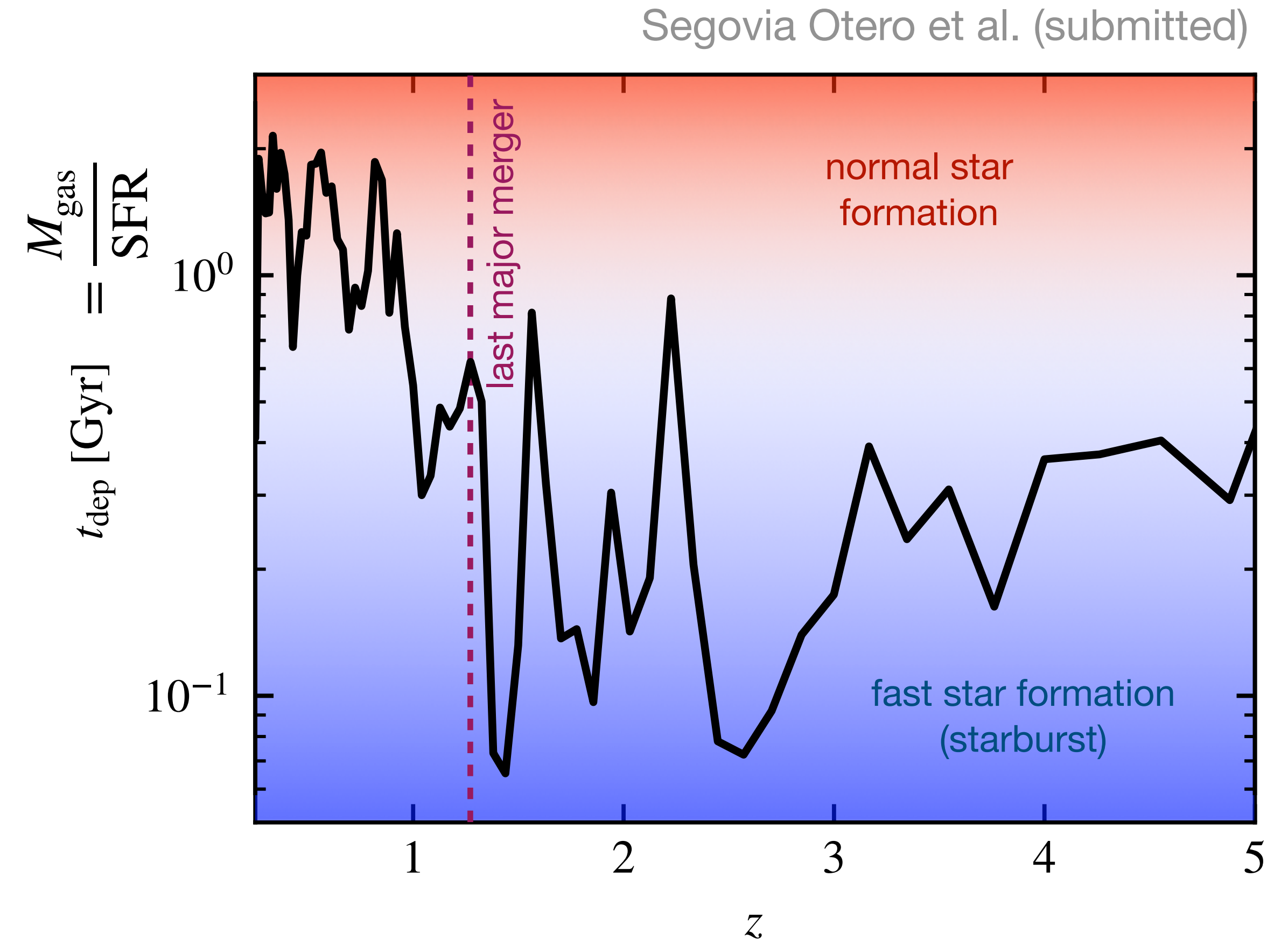
DARK MATTER

$z = 6$

12.9 GYR AGO

After the last major merger:

- less tidal stirring
- less large-scale injection of turbulence
- less star formation
- slower star formation (longer depletion times)
- slower replenishment of the gas reservoir



The Milky Way stopped hosting the conditions for the formation of massive clusters because of the decrease of its gas fraction, *and* the end of the merger phase.

For details, see:

- isolated galaxies: FROM CLUMPS TO CLOUDS
RENAUD, ROMEO & AGERTZ (2021)
VAN DONKELAAR, AGERTZ & RENAUD (2022)
EJDETJÄRN ET AL. (2022)
- in cosmological context: VINTERGATAN
AGERTZ, RENAUD ET AL. (2021)
RENAUD, AGERTZ ET AL. (2021A,B)
SEGOVIA OTERO, AGERTZ & RENAUD (2022)