

SMBH Growth in Massive Galaxies at Cosmic Dawn

James Sunseri, Zachary Andalman, Romain Teyssier



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James Sunseri

PhD Candidate - Y3



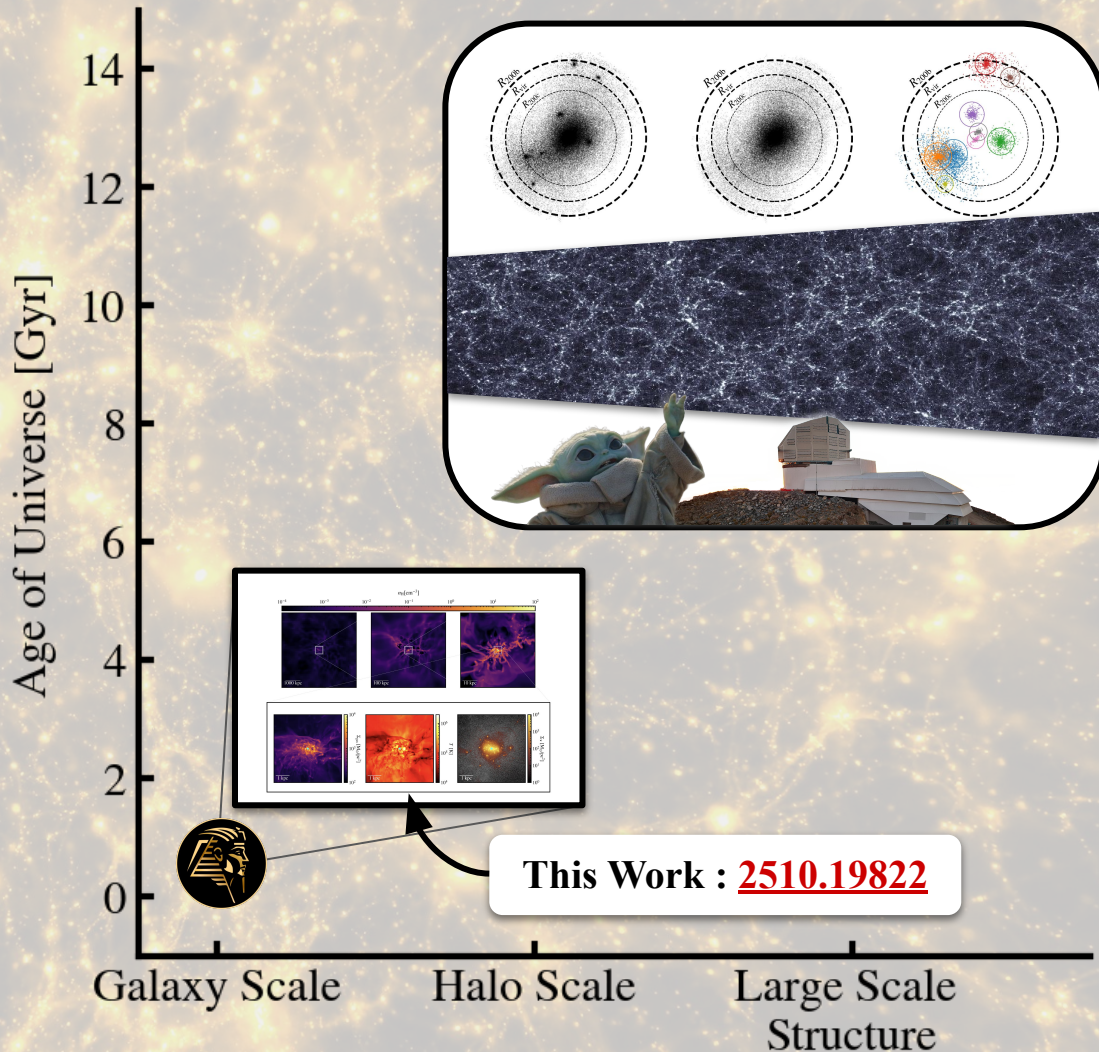
Advisor

Romain Teyssier

I'm developing the next generation of tools for simulating **halo scale observables on-the-fly**. I aim to study **baryonic feedback** across a large range of scales and epochs.



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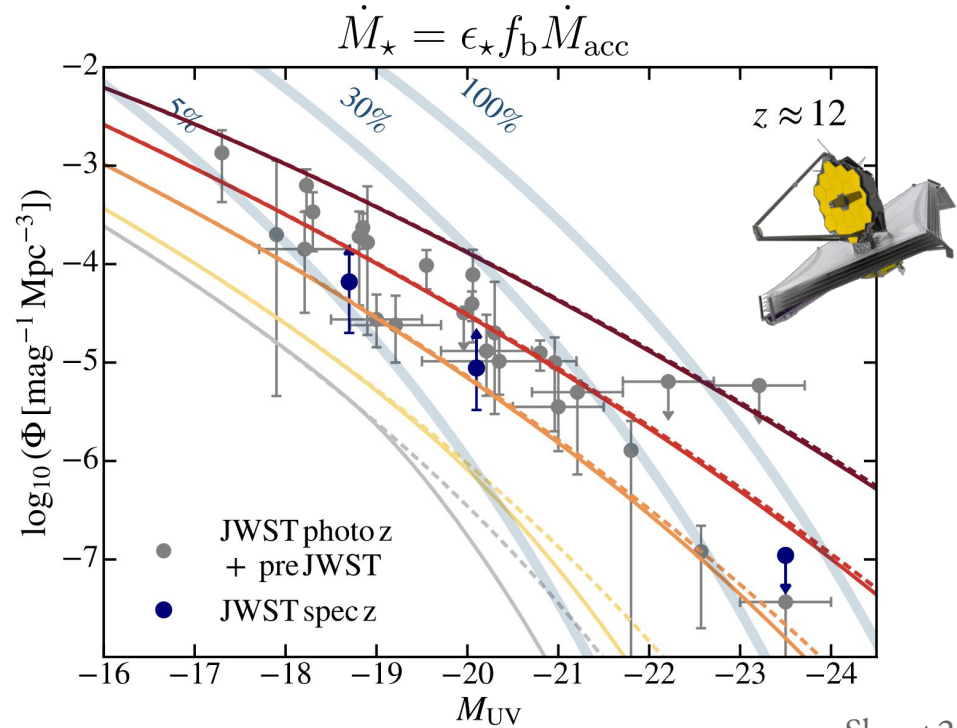


What has JWST seen so far?

- Plethora of Massive Cosmic Dawn Galaxies (MDGs) with

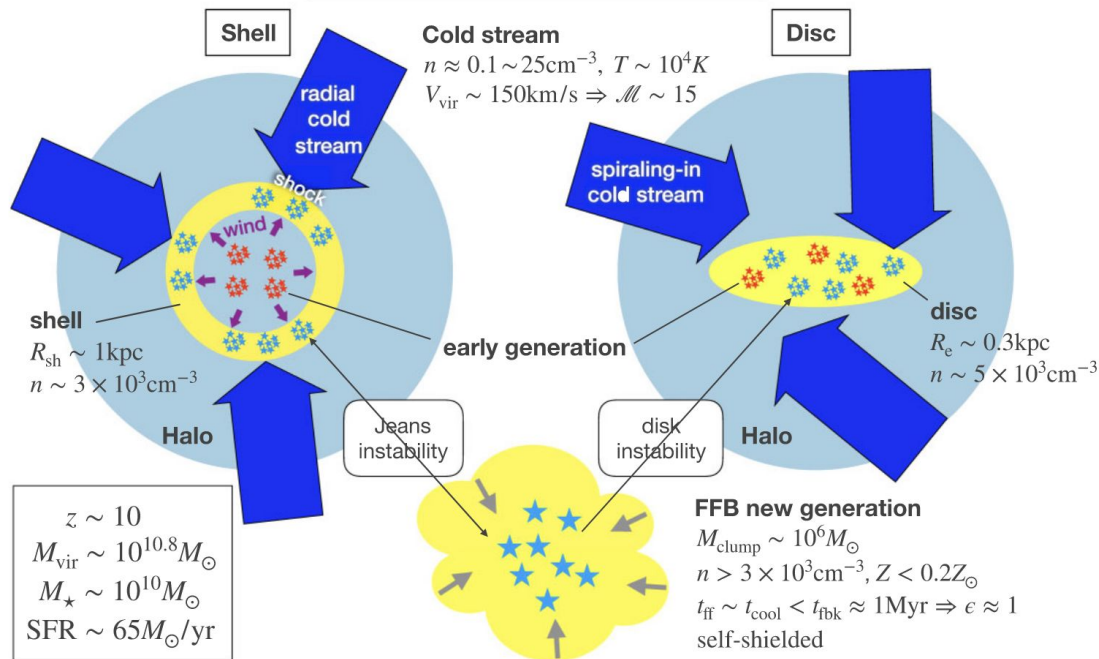
$$M_{\star} \gtrsim 10^8 M_{\odot} \quad \dot{M}_{\star} \gtrsim 1 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

- So massive that they are inconsistent with expectations
- Inferred UV Luminosity Function (UVLF) suggests ~10-30% of baryons must be converted into stars
- Typical Star Formation Efficiency (SFE) in the local universe is $\lesssim 5\%$



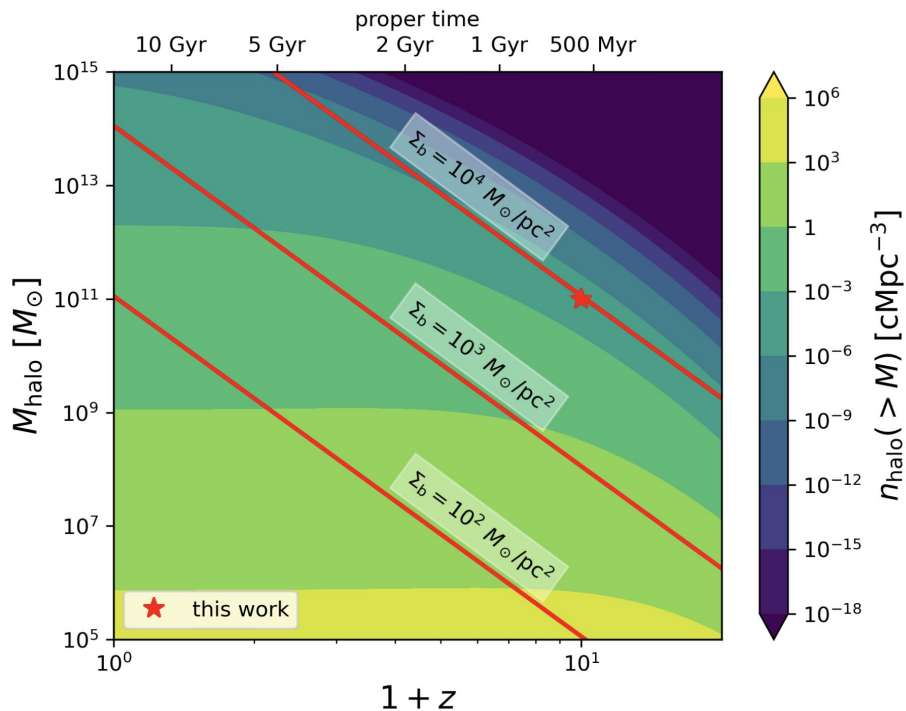
Shen+23

What if Star Formation was Intrinsically Efficient?



Dekel+23

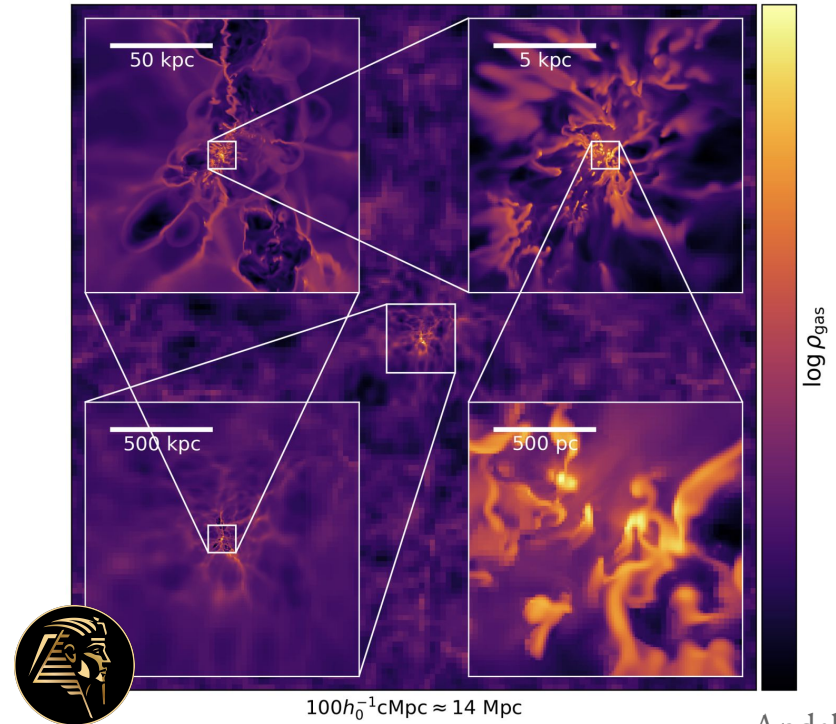
What if Star Formation was Intrinsically Efficient?



Andalman+25

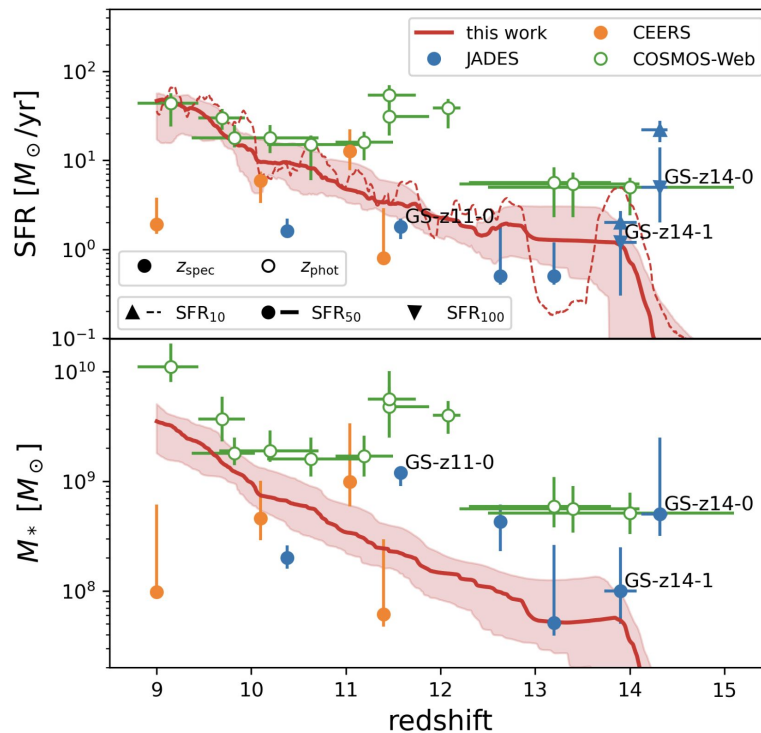
Simulating a Massive Cosmic Dawn Galaxy (MDG)

- **Resolution:** $\Delta x = 10 \text{ pc}$, $V = (100 h^{-1} \text{ cMpc})^3$
- **Halo:** $10^{11} M_{\text{sun}}$ by $z \sim 9$
- **Star Formation**
 - Multi-Freefall Model w/ Subgrid Turbulence (no fixed SFE)
- **Stellar Feedback**
 - Photoionization Feedback (Thermal Energy Injection)
 - Type II SNe Feedback (Momentum and/or Energy Injection)



Andalman+25

Simulating a Massive Cosmic Dawn Galaxy (MDG)



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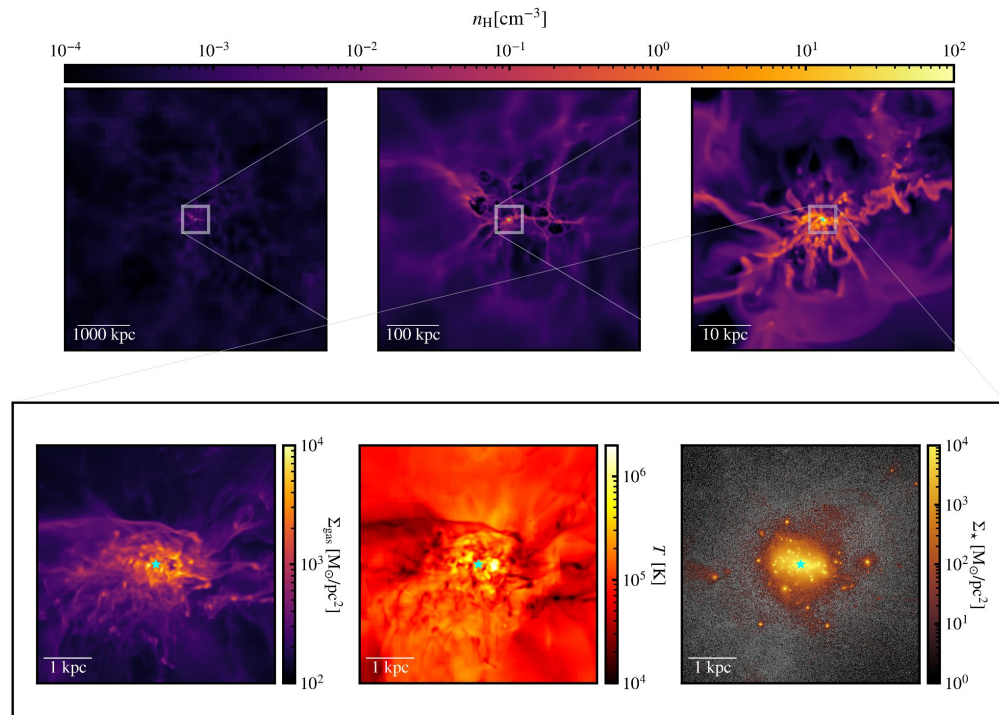
Simulating SMBHs in MDGs

- **Formation:** On-the-fly clump finder PHEW requires clump of $10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$ in gas and stars and $10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$ in dark matter
- **Accretion:** boosted Bondi-Hoyle-Lyttleton subgrid model with (super-)Eddington limit

$$\dot{M}_{\text{BH}} = \min \left[\dot{M}_{\text{bondi}}, \lambda_{\text{edd}} \dot{M}_{\text{edd}} \right]$$

- **Feedback:** Isotropic thermal energy injection, “quasar mode”

$$L_{\text{AGN}} = \epsilon_r \epsilon_c \dot{M}_{\text{BH}} c^2$$



Suite of Numerical Experiments

Run Name	AGN Feedback	Seed Mass [M_{\odot}]	λ_{edd}	Stellar Feedback
Fiducial_Andalman+25	N/A	N/A	N/A	Fiducial
super_edd_AGN	Yes	10^4	3	Fiducial
super_edd_no_AGN	No	10^4	3	Fiducial
no_edd_AGN	Yes	10^4	∞	Fiducial
no_edd_no_AGN	No	10^4	∞	Fiducial
edд_AGN	Yes	10^4	1	Fiducial
edд_no_AGN	No	10^4	1	Fiducial
high_seed_edд_AGN	Yes	10^5	1	Fiducial
high_seed_edд_no_AGN	No	10^5	1	Fiducial
low_stellar_edд_AGN	Yes	10^4	1	Low
low_stellar_edд_no_AGN	No	10^4	1	Low

SMBH Growth in the MDG Environment

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Ask me about these after the talk if you're interested!

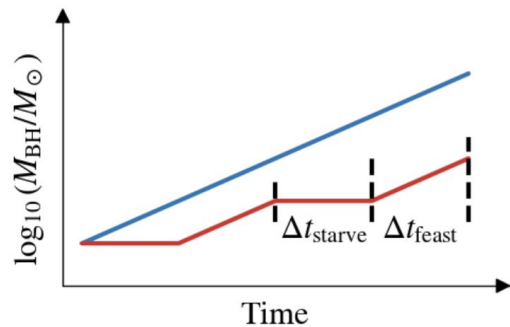
Impact on the Host Galaxy

comparisons to
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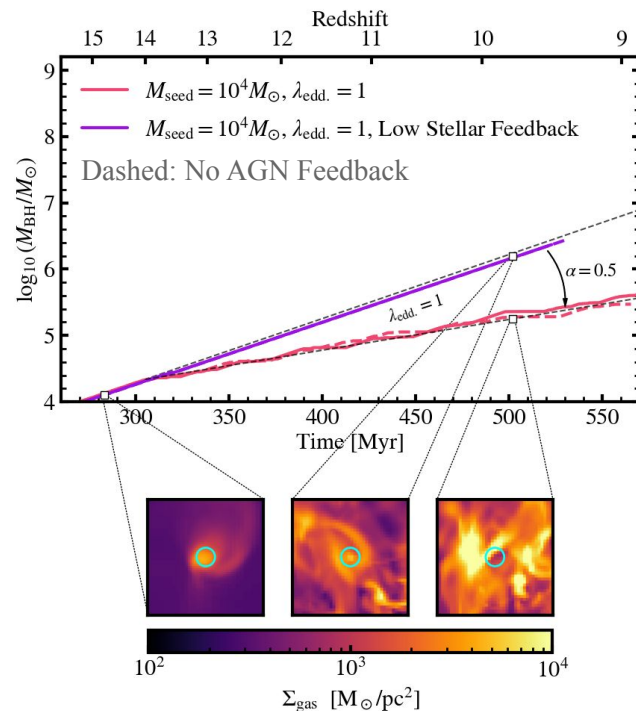


SMBH Growth in the MDG Environment

- Stellar feedback seeds a turbulent-multiphase interstellar medium (ISM) with cold-dense patches ($n \sim 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$) and hot-diffuse pockets ($n \sim 10 \text{ cm}^{-3}$)
- The SMBH grows in bursts of maximal Eddington accretion as it plunges into cold-dense patches of the ISM (feast modes)



SMBH is starved $\sim 50\%$ of the time!



SMBH Growth in the MDG Environment

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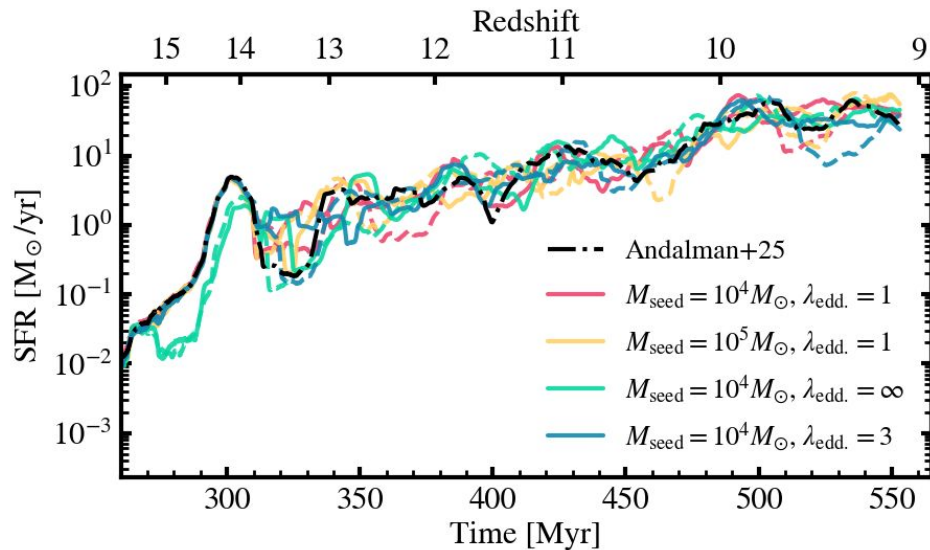
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How is the galaxy impacted by the SMBH

- We see no evidence of galaxy scale quenching!
- At Cosmic Dawn, halo growth is exponential and rapid (growth timescale comparable to the Salpeter timescale)
- Halo growth is so fast that any gas heated by AGN feedback is immediately smothered and replaced with cold-dense gas from cosmic filaments
- Constant supply of cold gas sustains the SFR in the disk of the galaxy



Conclusions

- Stellar feedback creates a turbulent-multiphase ISM which stochastically starves the SMBH $\sim 50\%$ of the time in the bursty epoch.



- We see no quenching from AGN feedback. This is due to the fact that halo growth is fast enough to replace any gas heated or accreted by the SMBH.

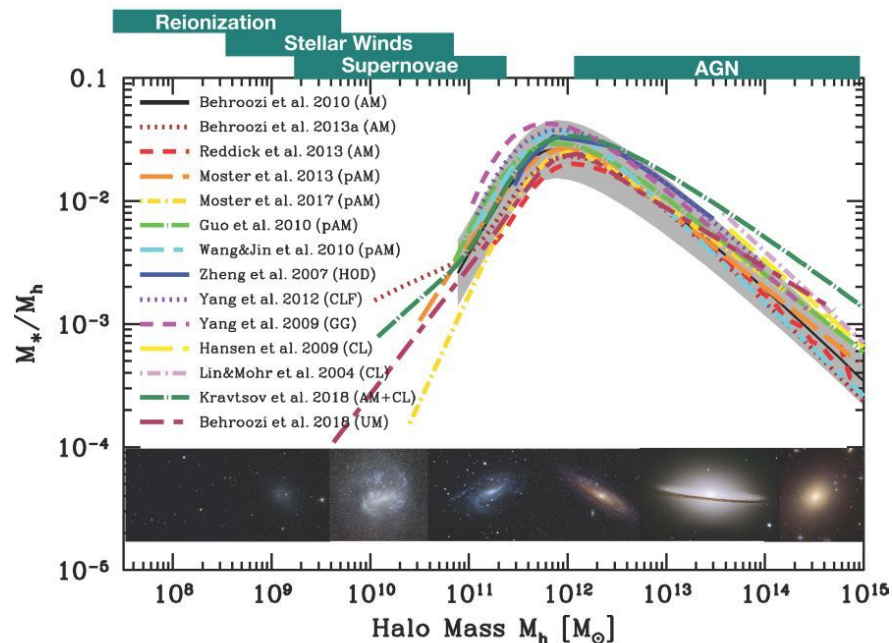
- The SMBH must be some massive enough, fast enough (feeding or accretion) to maintain self-regulation.



- ... with a efficiency ϵ_c ... WST

Extra Slides

Galaxy - SMBH Coevolution



- SMBHs are known to play a key role in suppressing star formation in massive galaxies
- MDGs evolve into the most massive galaxies
 - $M_{\text{halo}} \gtrsim 10^{13} M_\odot$ by $z = 0$
- We might expect AGN feedback to suppress SFR in MDGs at Cosmic Dawn

Wechsler & Tinker 18

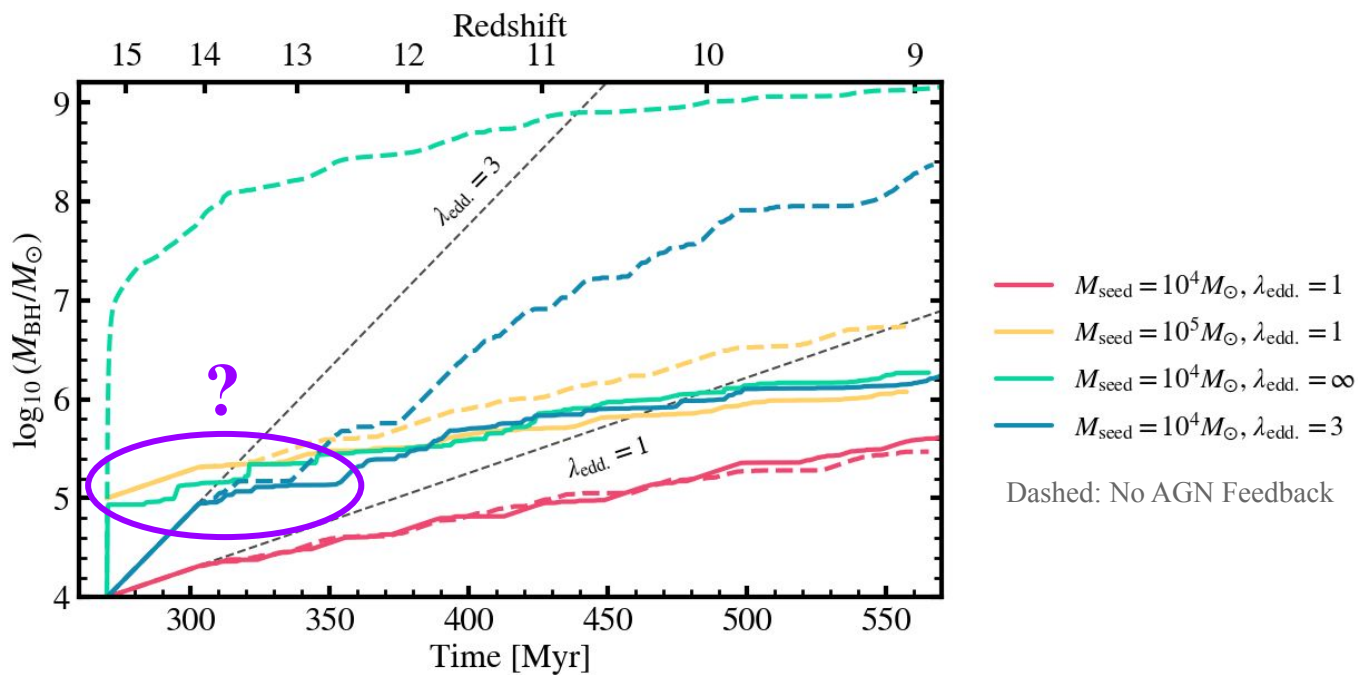
**SMBH Growth in the
MDG Environment**

**To Self-Regulate or Not
to Self-Regulate**

**Impact on the Host
Galaxy**

**Comparisons to
Observations**

To Self-Regulate or Not to Self-Regulate

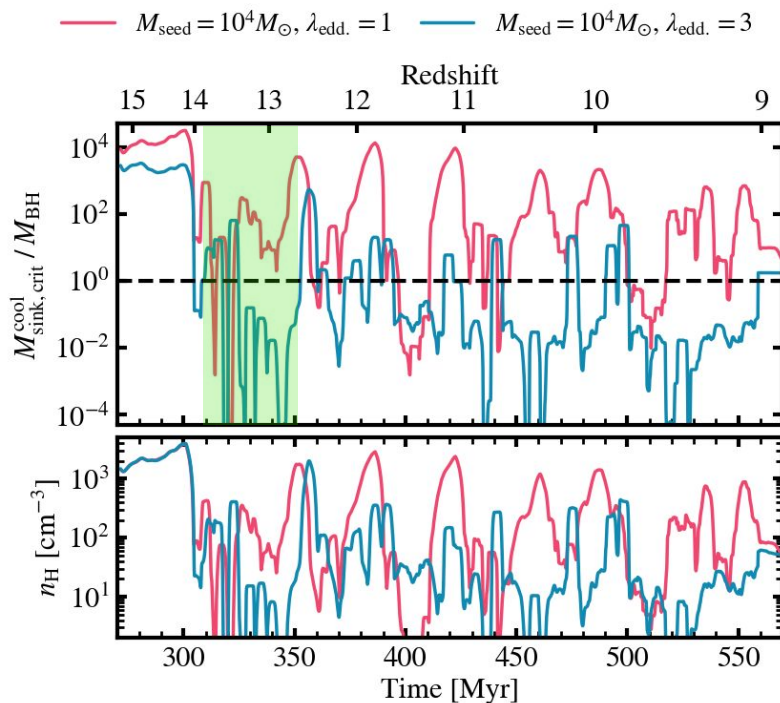


What's Going On?

$$\rho \frac{d\epsilon}{dt} = \underbrace{\frac{L_{\text{AGN}}}{V_{\text{sink}}}}_{\text{AGN Heating}} - \underbrace{n_{\text{H}}^2 \Lambda(T, Z)}_{\text{Cooling}}$$

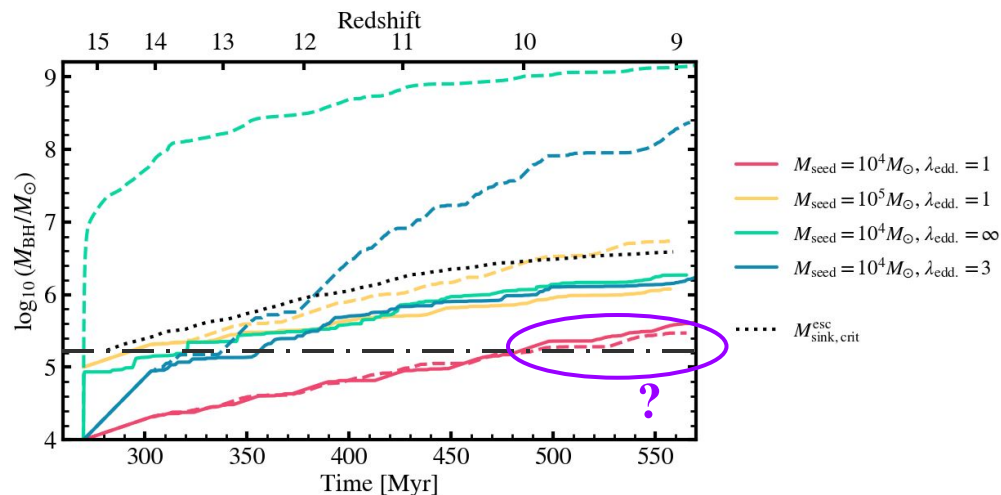
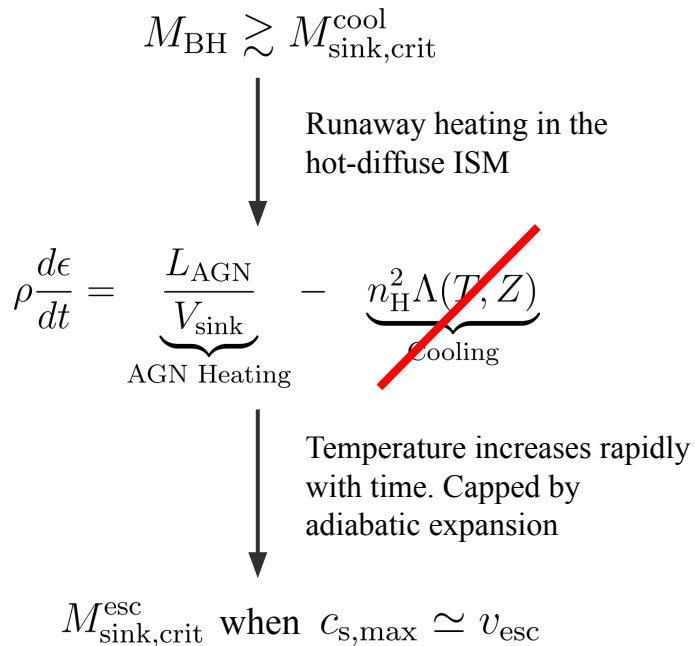
AGN Heating balances Cooling

$$M_{\text{sink,crit}}^{\text{cool}} \approx \frac{2 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}}{\lambda_{\text{edd.}}} \left(\frac{n_{\text{H}}}{10 \text{ cm}^{-3}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{Z}{Z_{\odot}} \right) \left(\frac{r_{\text{sink}}}{40 \text{ pc}} \right)^3$$



Biernacki+17

What's Going On?



Caveat: Both critical masses are resolution dependent quantities and can be tuned

Missing the Train of Self-Regulation

- If the SMBH fails to achieve self-regulation at Cosmic Dawn, it will be forced to wait until a later time ($z \sim 6$)
- Halo grows exponentially \rightarrow exponential metal enrichment

$$\dot{Z} \propto \dot{M}_\star \propto \dot{M}_{\text{halo}}$$

- Secular evolution of the critical cooling mass is dictated by the exponential growth of the halo

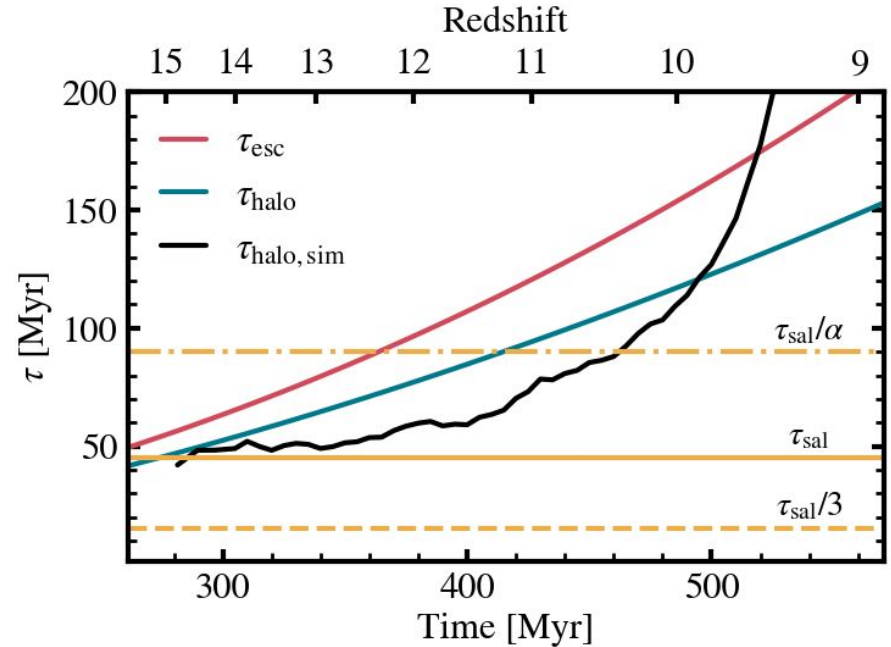
$$\left. \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{sink,crit}}^{\text{cool}}}{M_{\text{sink,crit}}^{\text{cool}}} \right|_{n_{\text{H}}} = \frac{\dot{Z}}{Z} \approx \frac{1}{\tau_{\text{halo}}}$$



$$\dot{M} = M/\tau \rightarrow M \propto e^{t/\tau}$$

Missing the Train of Self-Regulation

- If $\tau_{\text{halo}} < \tau_{\text{sal.}}/\alpha\lambda_{\text{edd}}$, then the SMBH is not capable of surpassing the critical cooling mass (due to metal enrichment)
- The self-regulated critical mass grows exponentially, but slower than the critical cooling mass due to cosmological expansion impacting halo size
- Then at later time $\rightarrow M_{\text{sink,crit}}^{\text{cool}} > M_{\text{sink,crit}}^{\text{esc}}$ meaning the SMBH that fails to self-regulate at Cosmic Dawn can end up more massive by $z \sim 6$



**SMBH Growth in the
MDG Environment**

**To Self-Regulate or Not
to Self-Regulate**

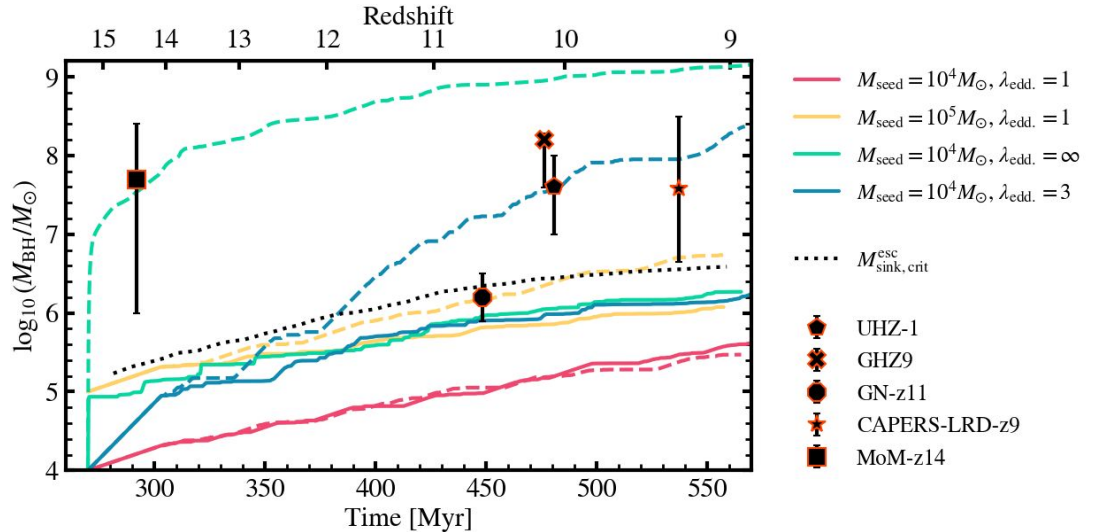
**Impact on the Host
Galaxy**

**Comparisons to
Observations**

Comparisons to SMBH Mass Estimates

- Best match to observations is the blue-dashed simulation: marginally super-Eddington with no AGN feedback
- At fixed resolution and radiative efficiency, $\epsilon_c \sim 0.15\%$ is required to have self-regulated SMBHs comparable to observations

$$\circ \quad M_{\text{sink,crit}}^{\text{esc}} \propto \frac{r_{\text{sink}}}{\sqrt{\epsilon_c \epsilon_r}}$$



Comparisons in the $M_{\text{BH}} - M_{\star}$ Plane

- Best match to observations is the blue-dashed simulation: marginally super-Eddington with no AGN feedback
- Rapid rightward movement which slows around $z \sim 13-14$.
- Only super-Eddington growth with no AGN feedback is capable of upward movement into the overmassive *JWST* AGN population.
- Halo growth slows as simulations approach local relations

