

# Variations of the Stellar Initial Mass Function in Semi-Analytic Models

**Fabio Fontanot**

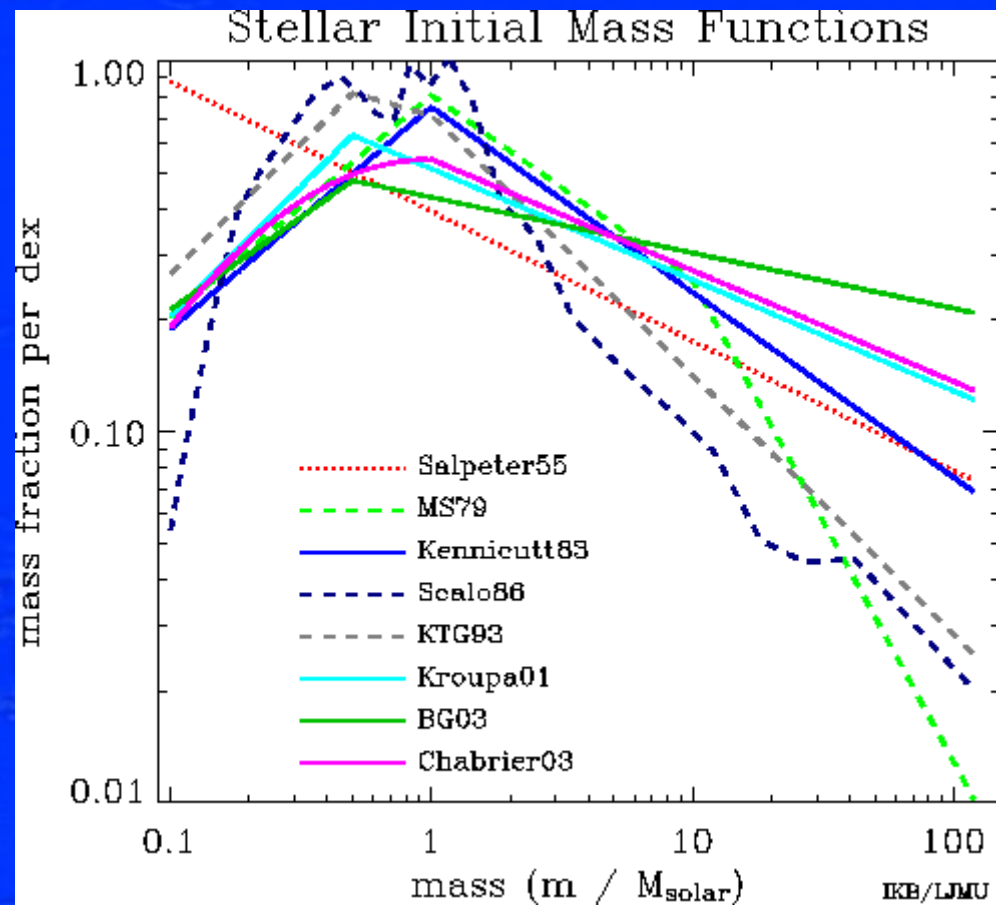
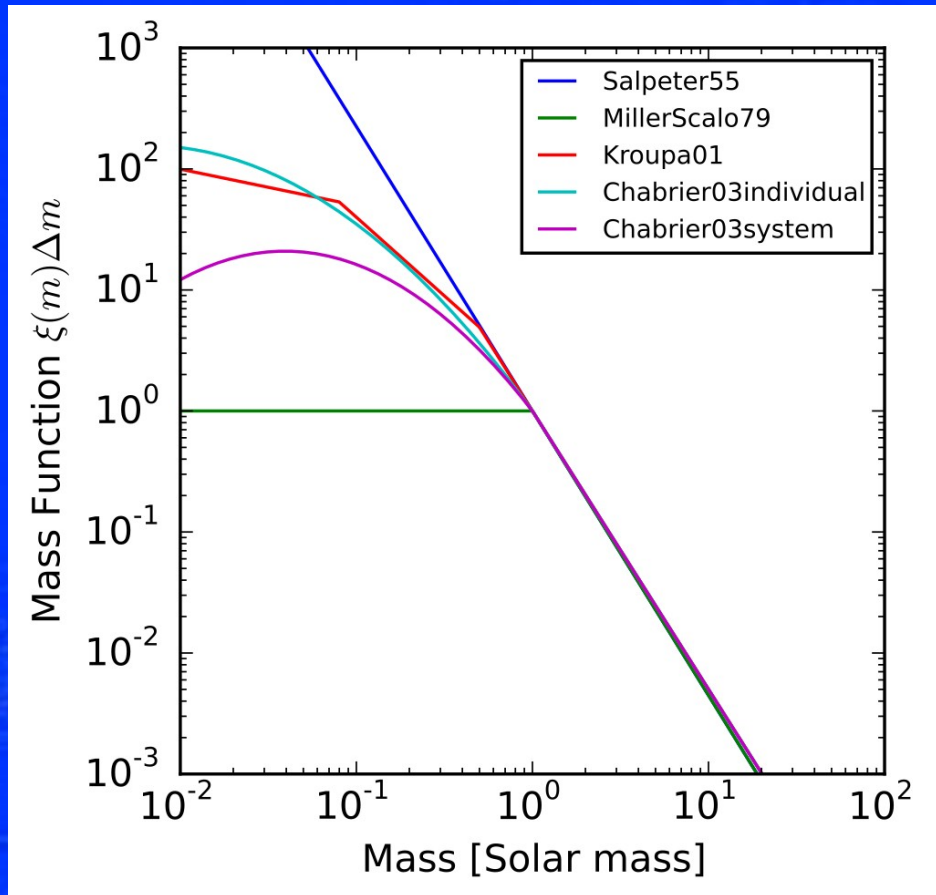
in collaboration with

**F. La Barbera – R. Cecchi – G. De Lucia – L. Xie – M. Hirschmann  
G. Bruzual – S. Charlot – A. Vazdekis**

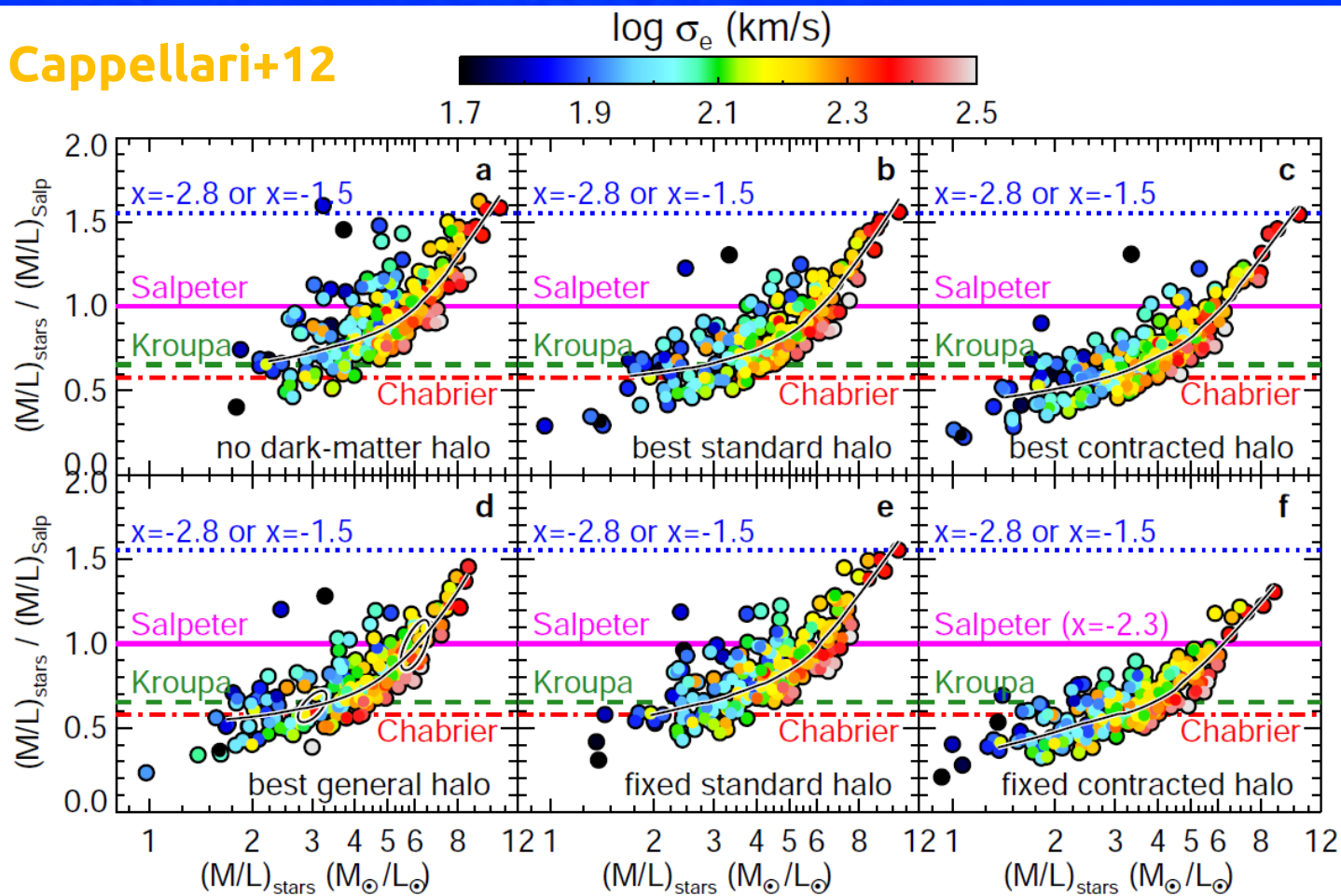


**IFPU 10/10/23**

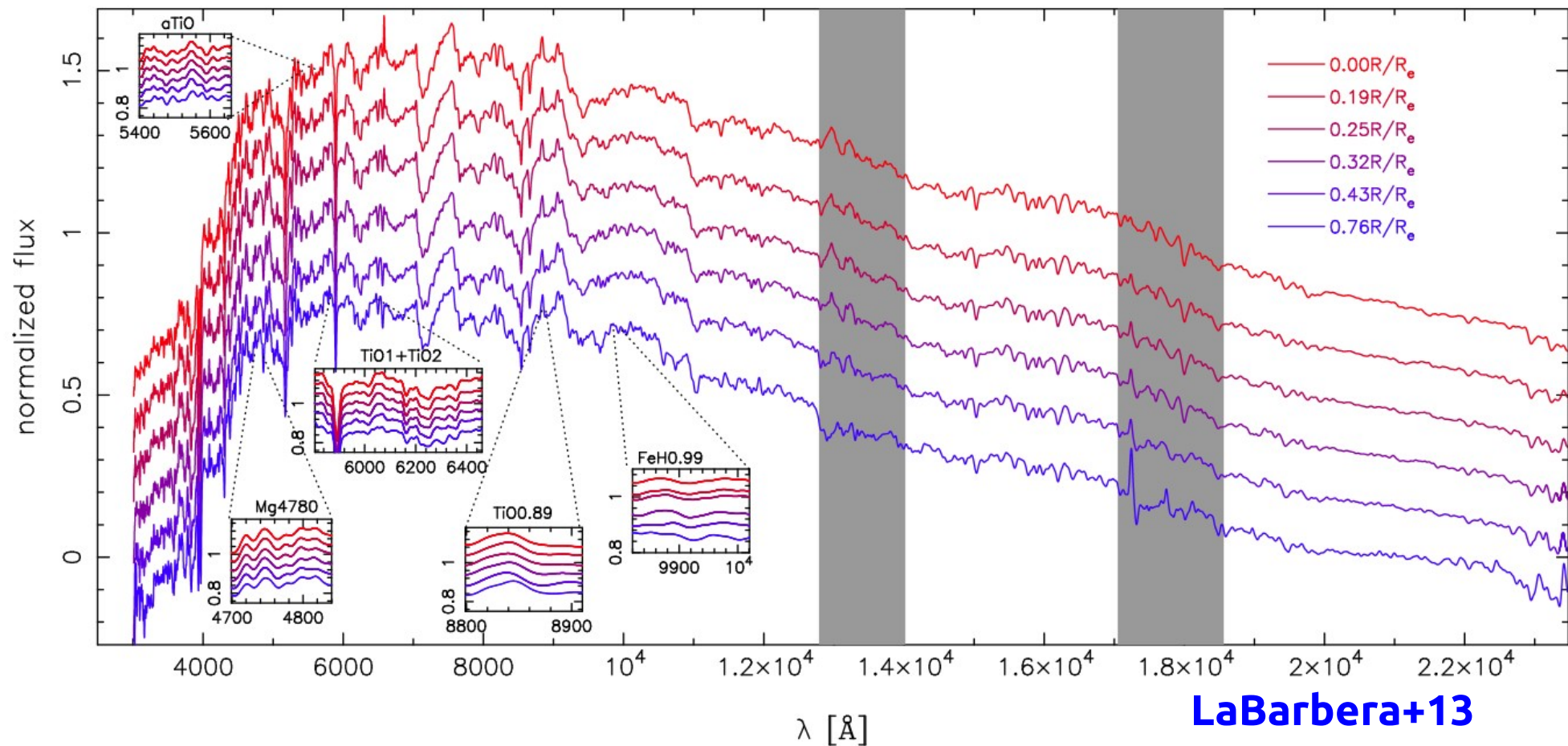
# Universal IMF ?

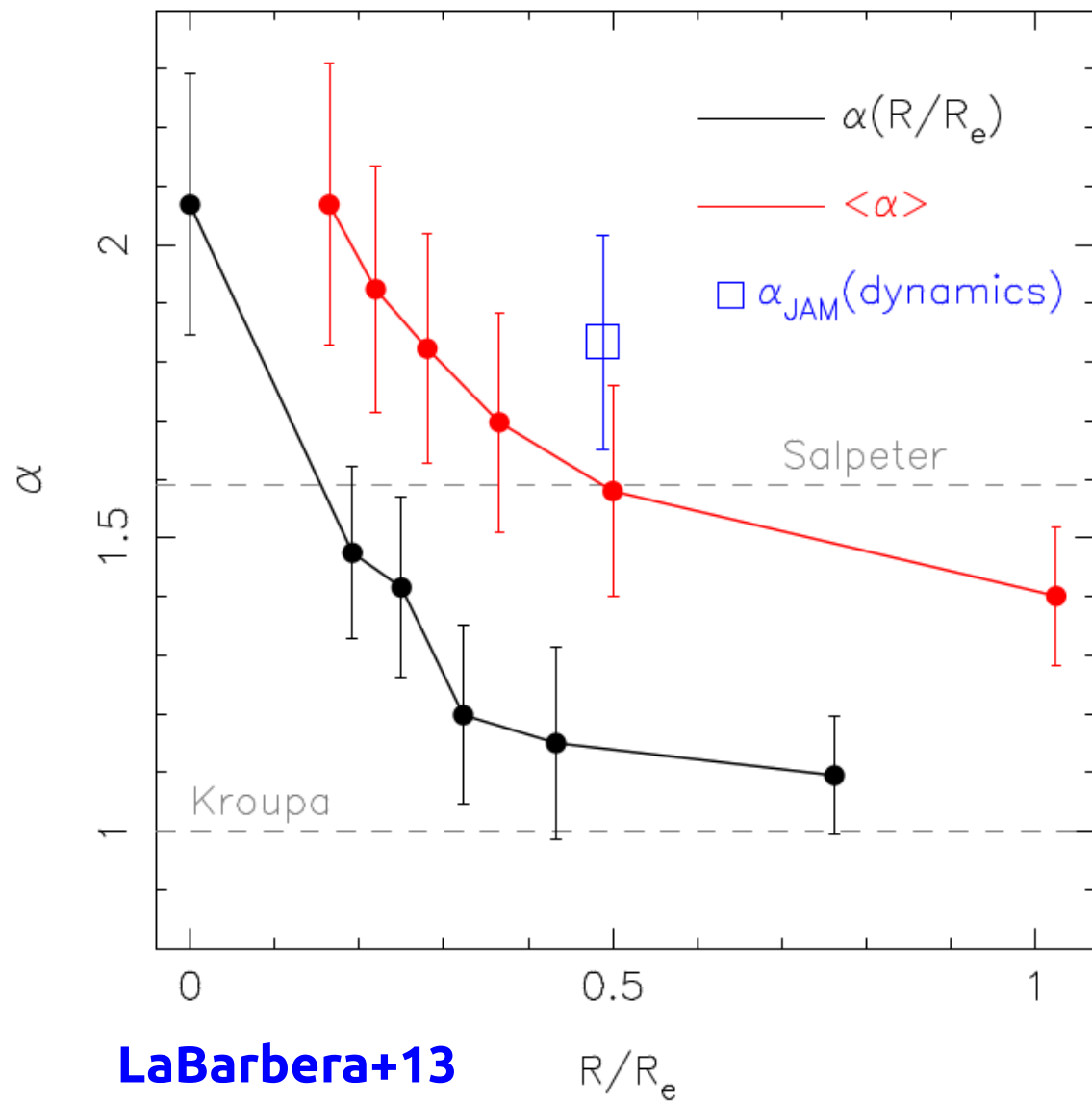


# Variable IMF: Observations (dynamical)



# Variable IMF: Observations (Spectroscopy again)

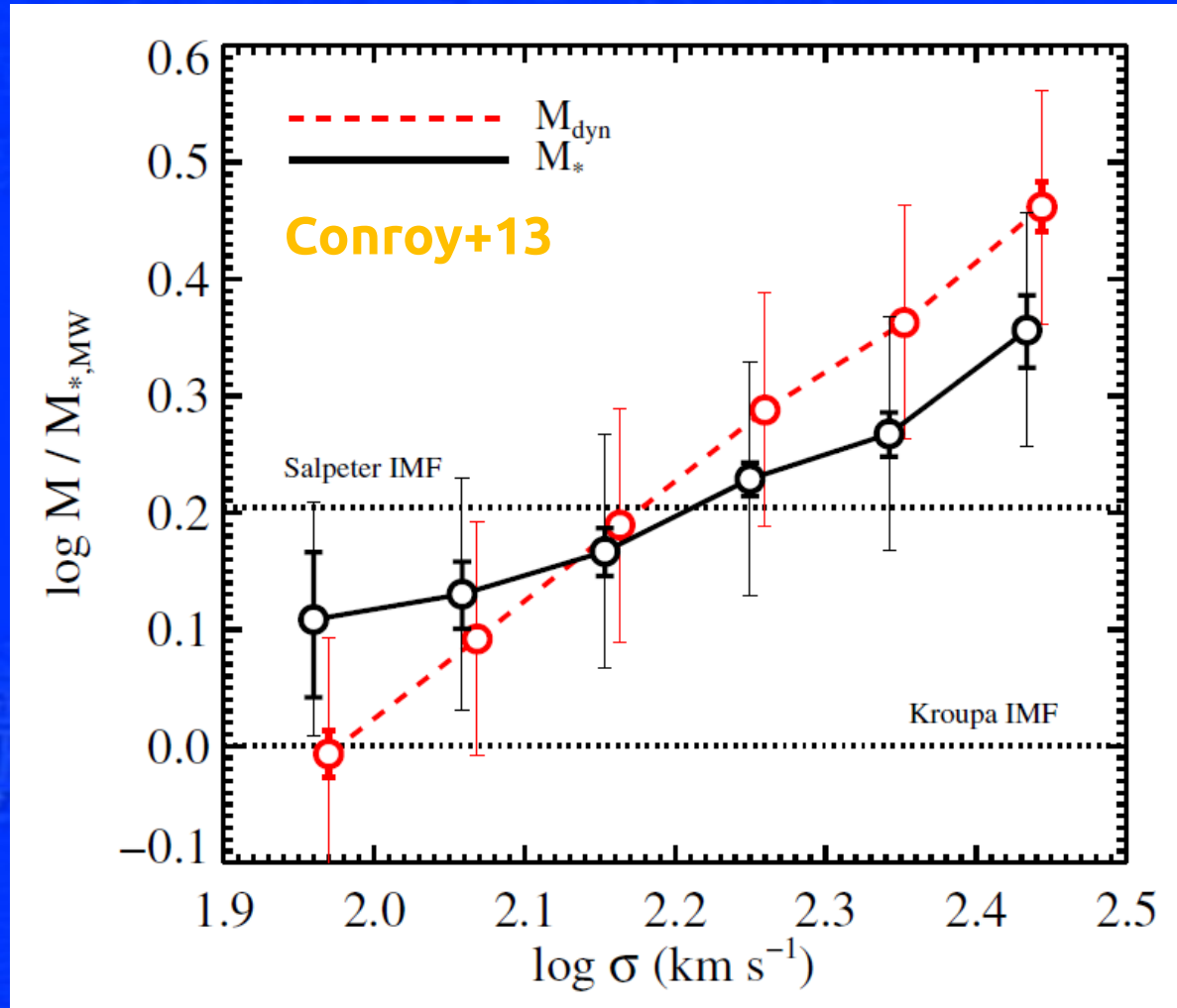




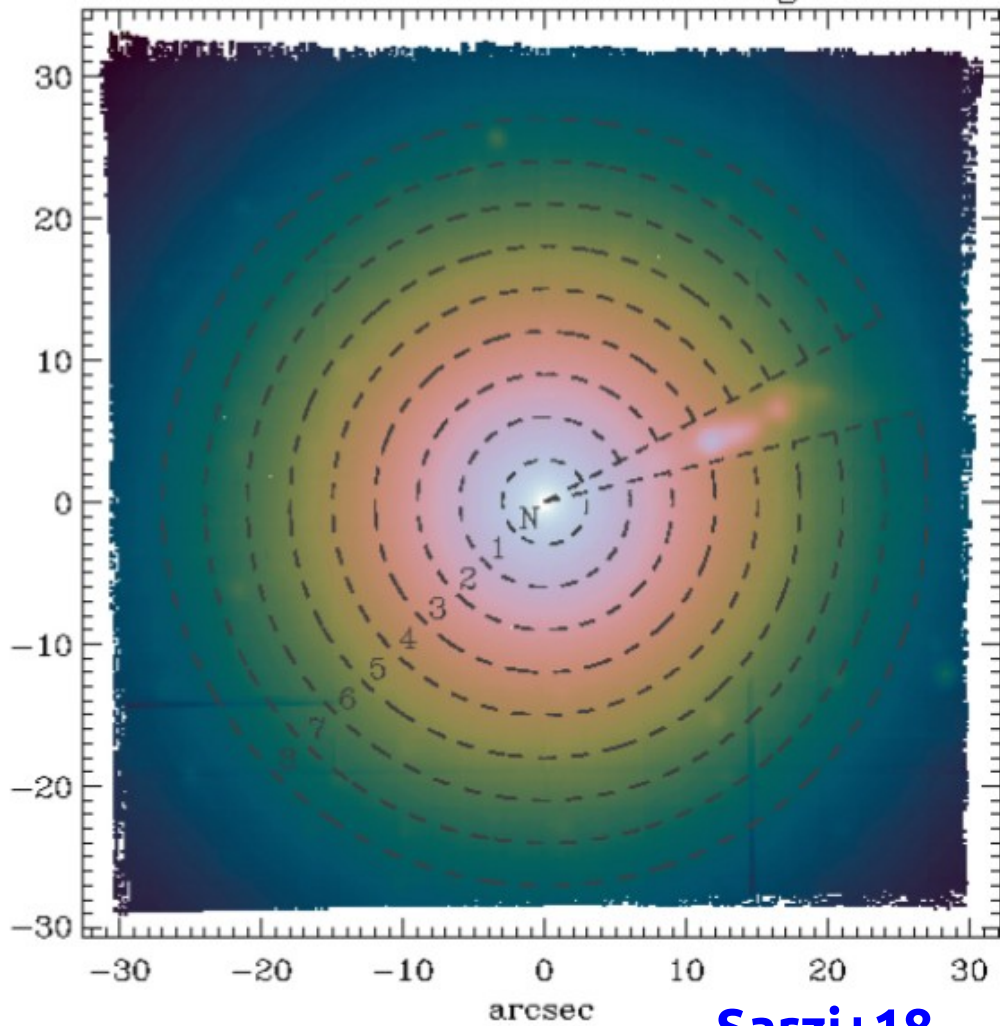
LaBarbera+13

$R/R_e$

# Variable IMF: Observations (Spectroscopic)



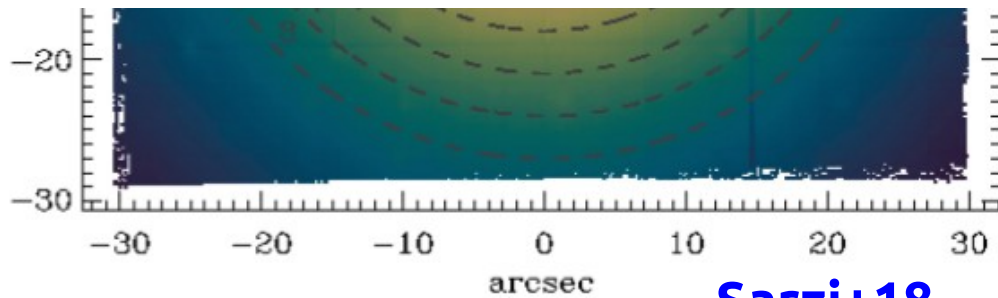
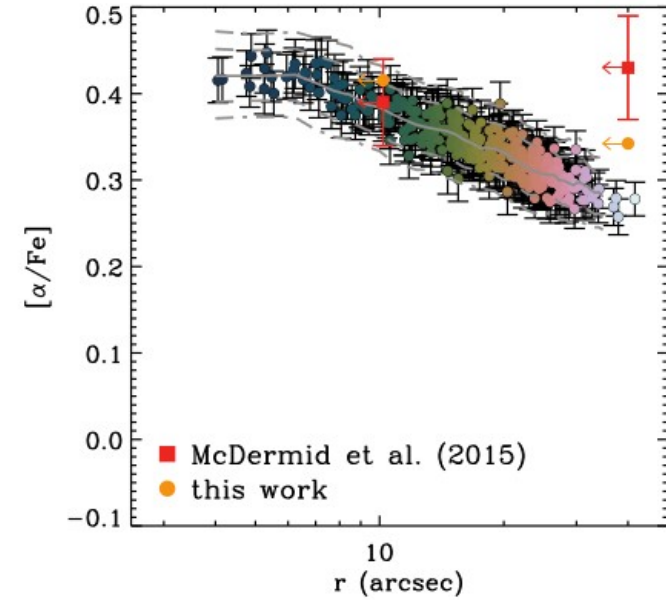
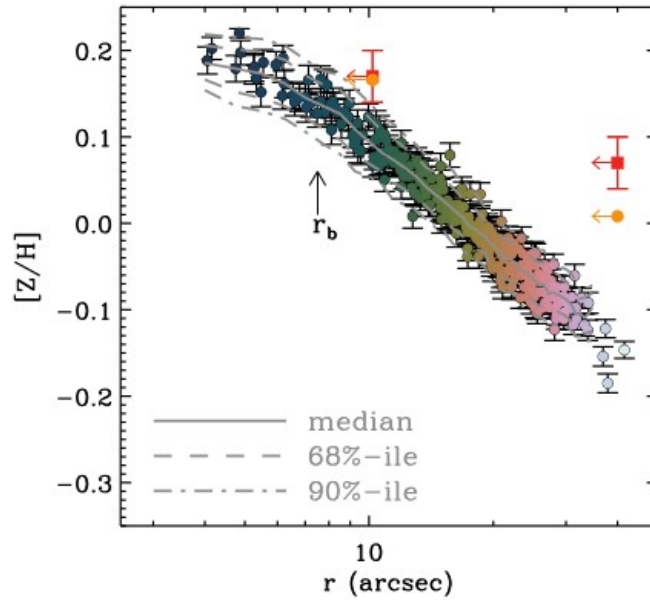
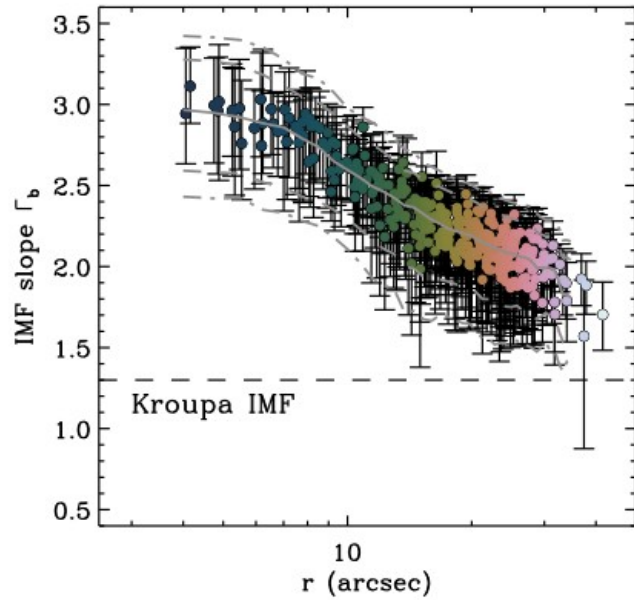
MUSE reconstructed image



**Sarzi+18**



# MUSE reconstructed image



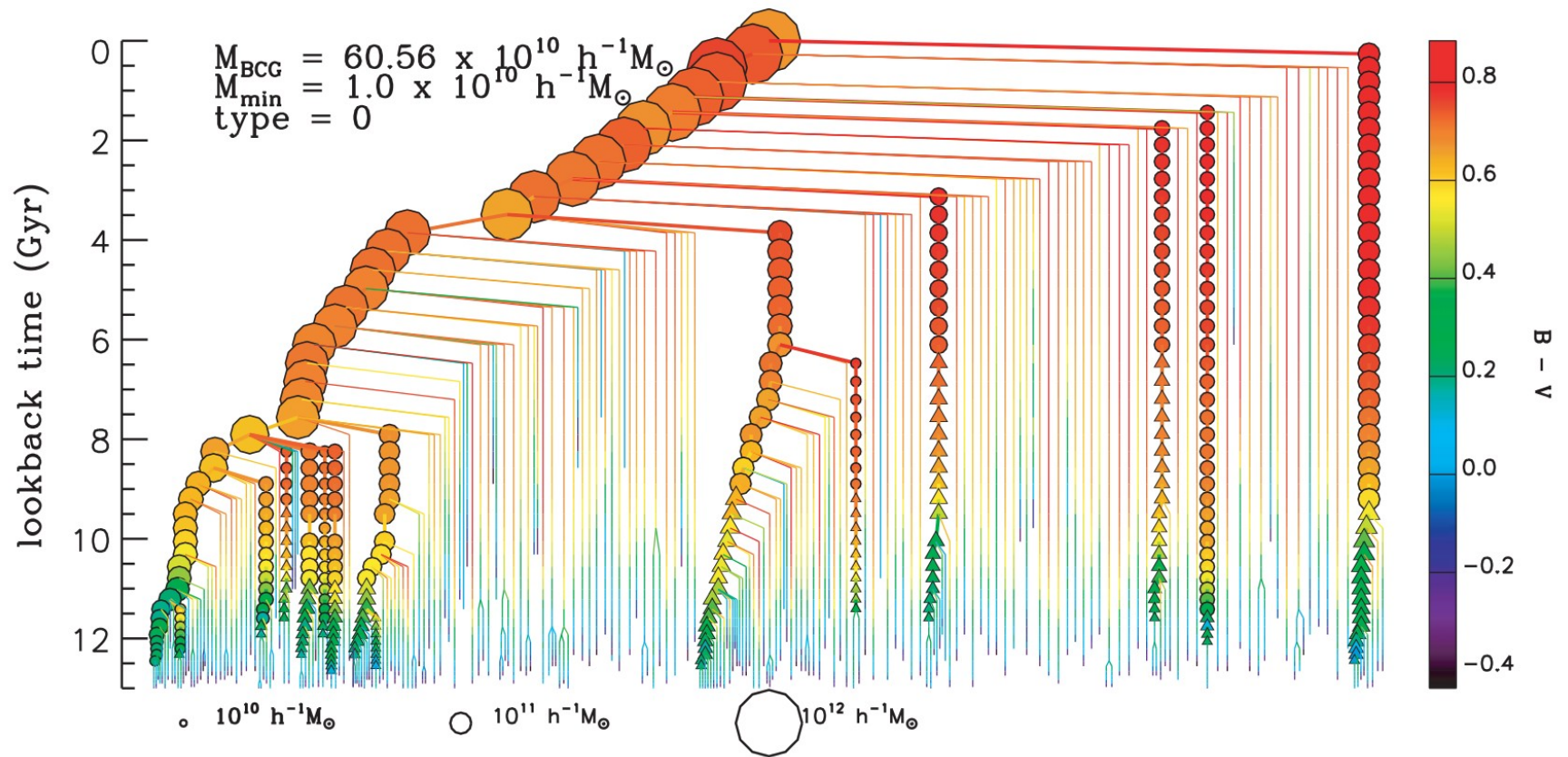
Sarzi+18



# Strategy

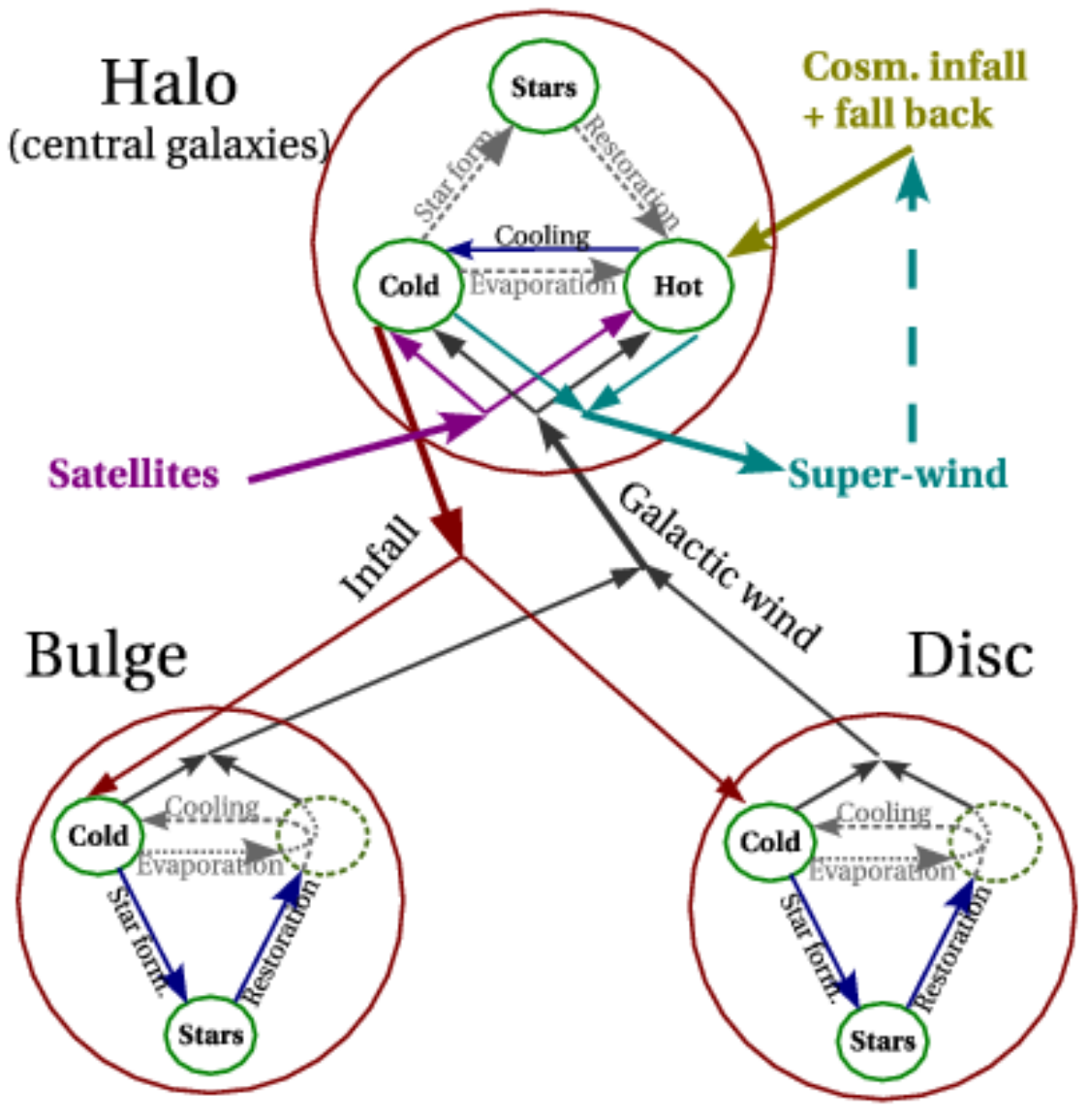
- Variable IMF prescription has been implemented into the **GA**laxy **E**volution and **A**ssembly (**GAEA**) semi-analytic code

# GAEA semi-analytic model



**SAMs are a fast tool to solve the complex interplay of physical processes at an affordable computational costs, but relying on a statistical approach.**

Halo  
(central galaxies)



Cosm. infall  
+ fall back

Satellites

Super-wind

Infall

Galactic wind

Bulge

Disc

Cold

Stars

Cold

Hot

Cold

Cold

Stars

Stars

Cooling

Evaporation

Star form.

Restoration

Stars

Star form

Restoration

Cooling

Evaporation

Cooling

Evaporation

Star form.

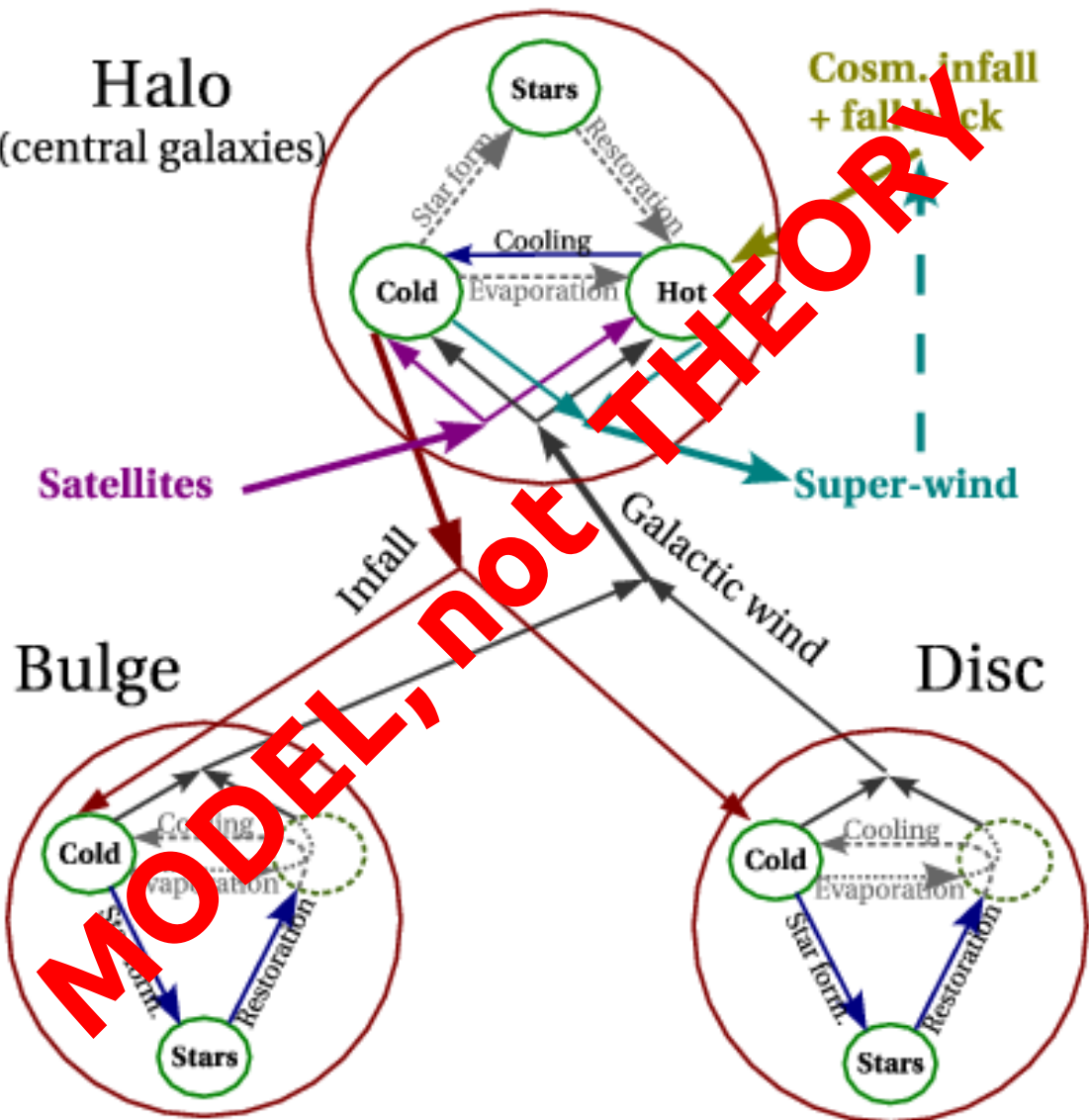
Restoration

Stars

Stars

Halo  
(central galaxies)

Cosm. infall  
+ fallback



**MODEL, not THEORY**

Satellites

Super-wind

Infall

Galactic wind

Bulge

Disc

Cold

Cold

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Star form.

Star form.

Restoration

Restoration

Stars

Stars

# Strategy

- **Variable IMF prescription has been implemented into the **GA**laxy **E**volution and **A**ssembly (**GAEA**) semi-analytic code**
- **Intrinsic properties cannot be compared directly with observational estimates**

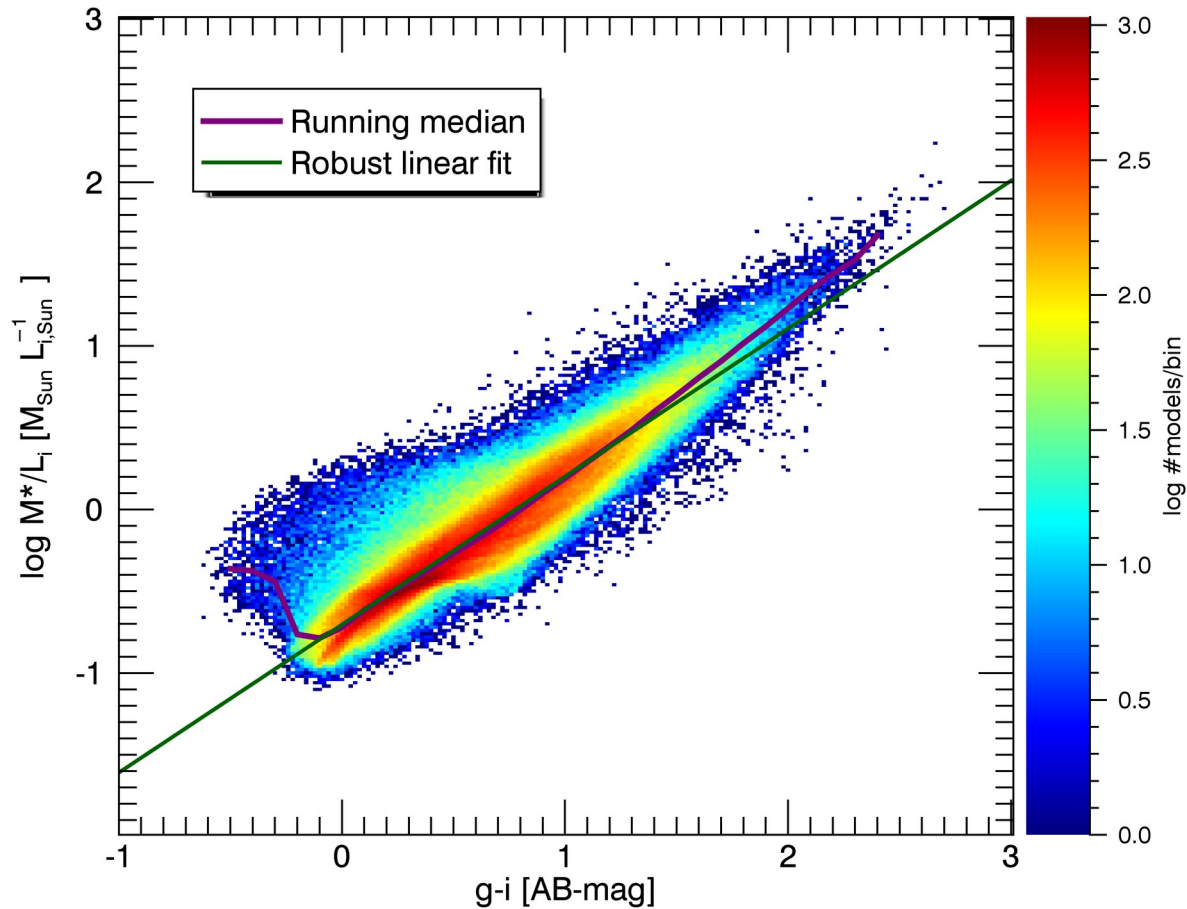
# Strategy

- **Variable IMF prescription has been implemented into the **GA**laxy **E**volution and **A**ssembly (**GAEA**) semi-analytic code**
- **Intrinsic properties cannot be compared directly with observational estimates**
- **We derive self-consistent synthetic photometry to compare**
  - **Intrinsic Galaxy Properties**

# Strategy

- **Variable IMF prescription has been implemented into the **GA**laxy **E**volution and **A**ssembly (**GAEA**) semi-analytic code**
- **Intrinsic properties cannot be compared directly with observational estimates**
- **We derive self-consistent synthetic photometry to compare**
  - **Intrinsic Galaxy Properties**
  - **Photometrically derived Galaxy Properties** (“What an observer would estimated from synthetic photometry assuming universal IMF”)

# Intrinsic properties cannot be compared directly with observational estimates



Zibetti+17

$$\log \Upsilon_i = v(g - i) + \delta$$





# Strategy

- **Variable IMF prescription has been implemented into the **GA**laxy **E**volution and **A**ssembly (**GAEA**) semi-analytic code**
- **Intrinsic properties cannot be compared directly with observational estimates**
- **We derive self-consistent synthetic photometry to compare**
  - **Intrinsic Galaxy Properties**
  - **Photometrically derived Galaxy Properties**
  - **Synthetic SEDs (MILES SSPs in variable IMF)**

# **The Problem: which kind of variable IMF?**

# Variable IMF 1

➤ **IGIMF = Integrated Galaxy-Wide IMF** WeidnerKroupa13 Kroupa13

➤ **Based on a limited number of *axioms***

1) **Universal IMF for individual MCs** →

**Kroupa IMF**

2) **High-mass end evolution** →

$$\alpha_3 = \begin{cases} 2.35 & \rho_{cl} < 9.5 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}/pc^3 \\ 1.86 - 0.43 \log(\frac{\rho_{cl}}{10^4}) & \rho_{cl} \geq 9.5 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}/pc^3 \end{cases}$$

3) **MC core density** →

$$\log \rho_{cl} = 0.61 \log M_{cl} + 2.85$$

4) **MCMF** →

$$\varphi_{CL}(M_{cl}) \propto M_{cl}^{-\beta},$$

5) **Power-law index** →

$$\beta = \begin{cases} 2 & SFR < 1 M_{\odot}/yr \\ -1.06 \log SFR + 2 & SFR \geq 1 M_{\odot}/yr \end{cases}$$

6) **Maximum MC mass** →

$$\log M_{cl}^{\max} = 0.746 \log SFR + 4.93.$$

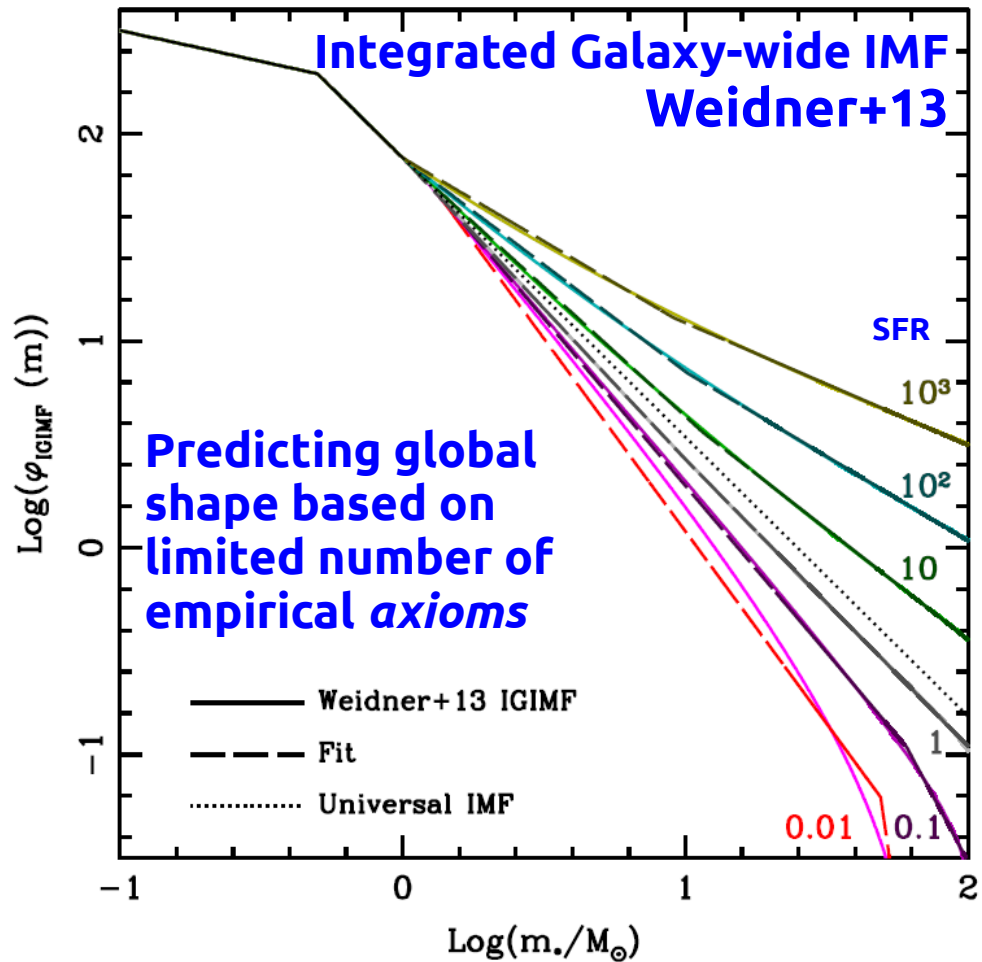
7) **Maximum stellar mass** →

$$\log m_{\star}^{\max} = 2.56 \log M_{cl} \times [3.82^{9.17} + (\log M_{cl})^{9.17}]^{1/9.17} - 0.38.$$

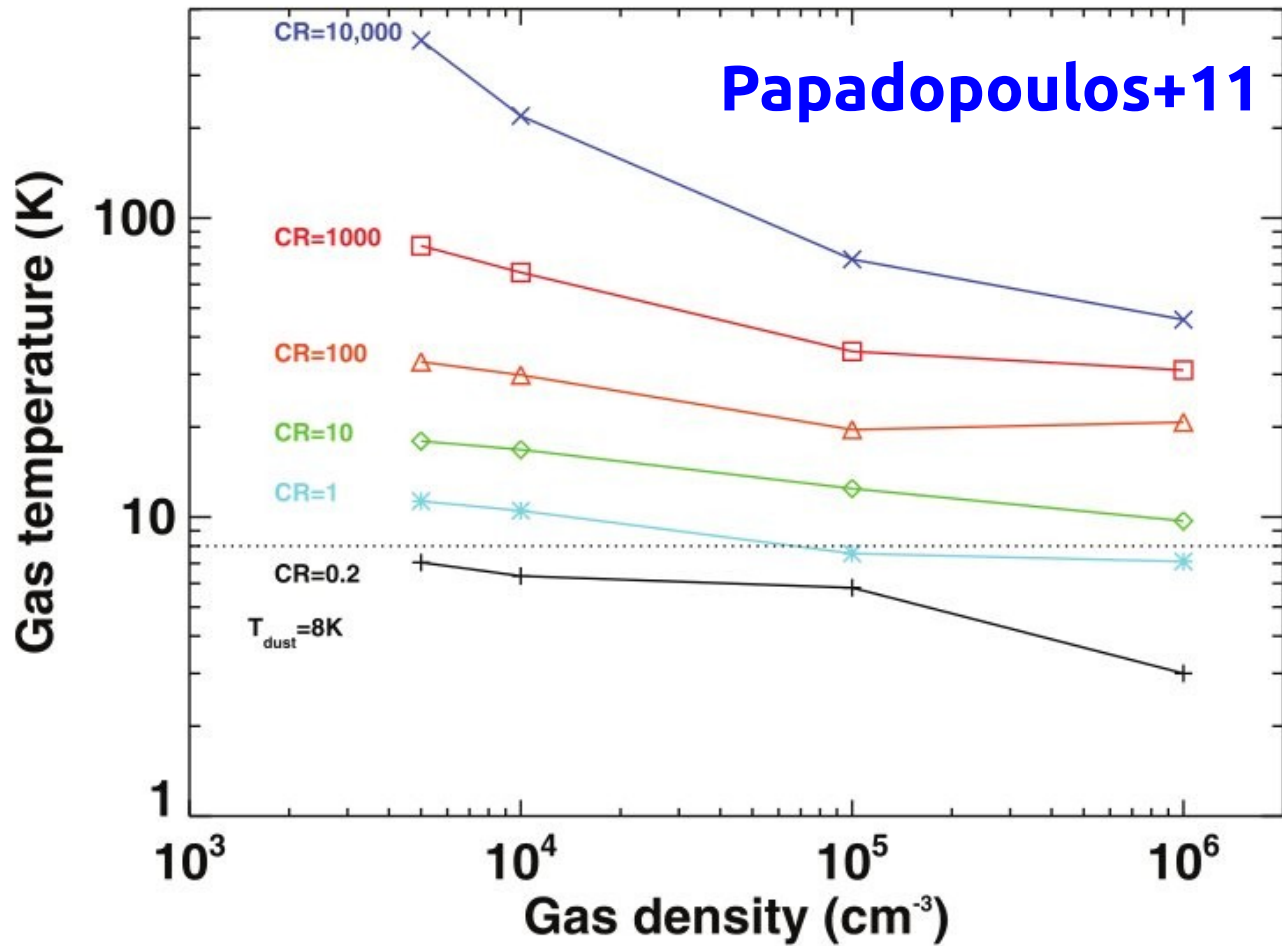
➤ **Estimate of IGIMF as a function of SFR**

$$\varphi_{IGIMF}(m) = \int_{M_{cl}^{\min}}^{M_{cl}^{\max}} \varphi_{\star}(m \leq m_{\star}^{\max}(M_{cl})) \varphi_{CL}(M_{cl}) dM_{cl}$$

# Variable IMF: Theory

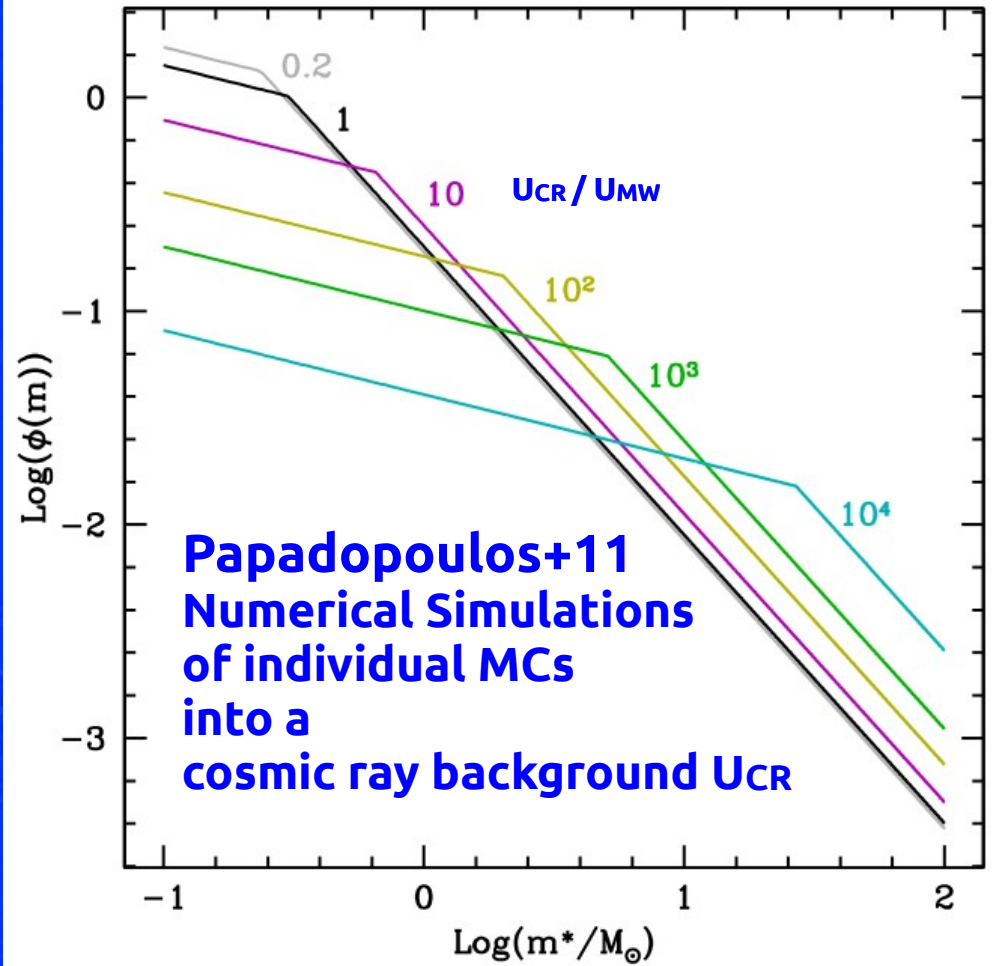
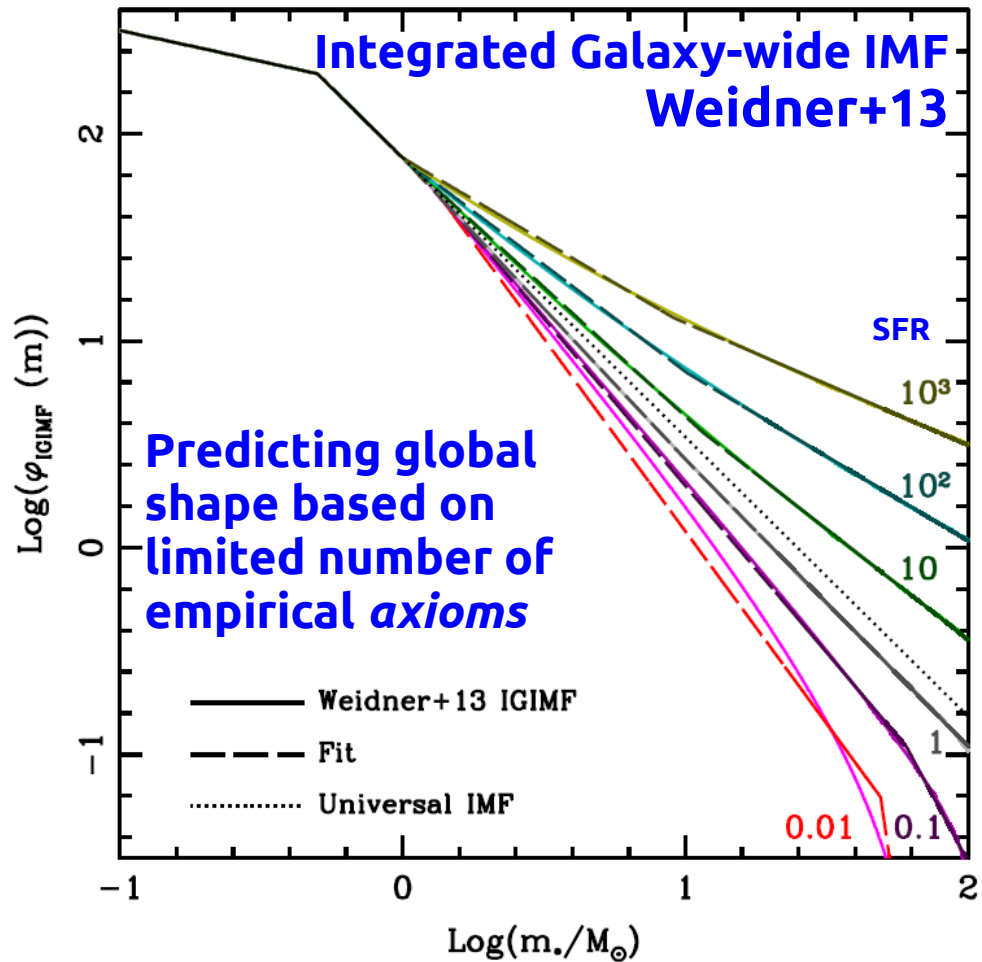


# Variable IMF 2

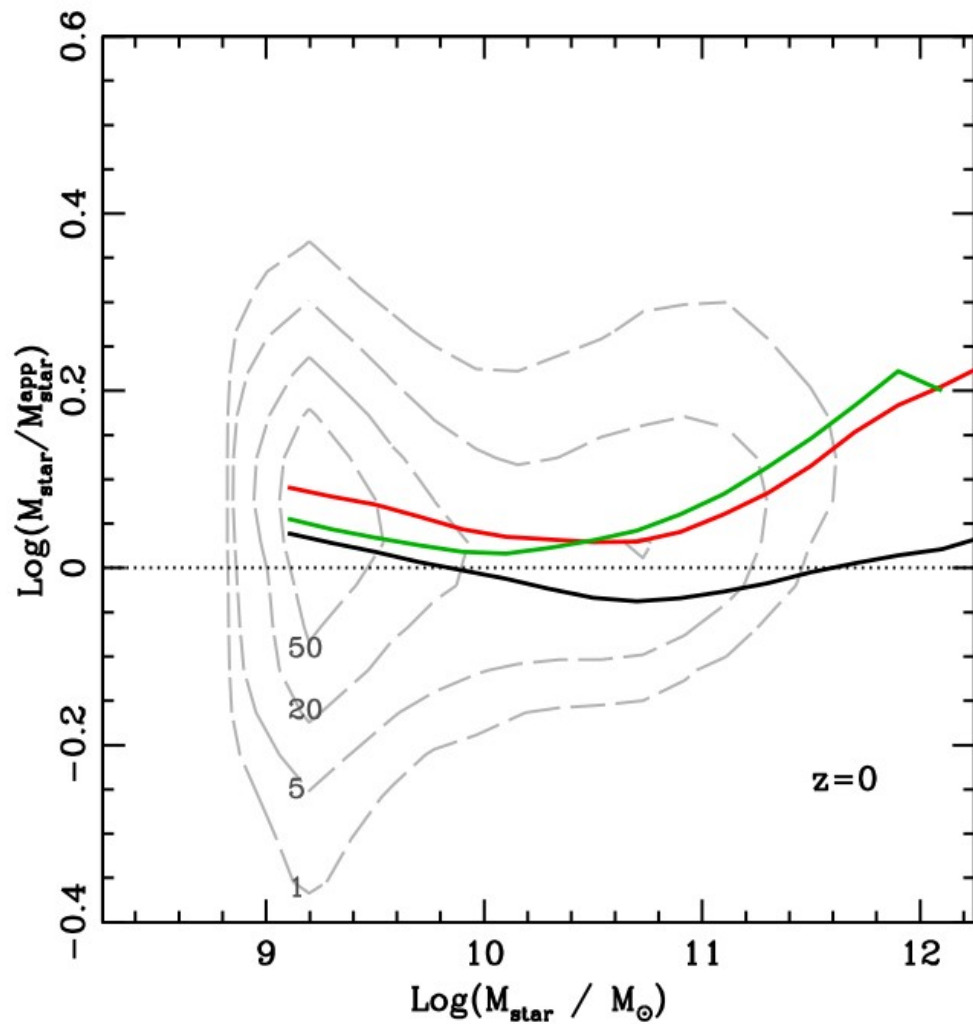
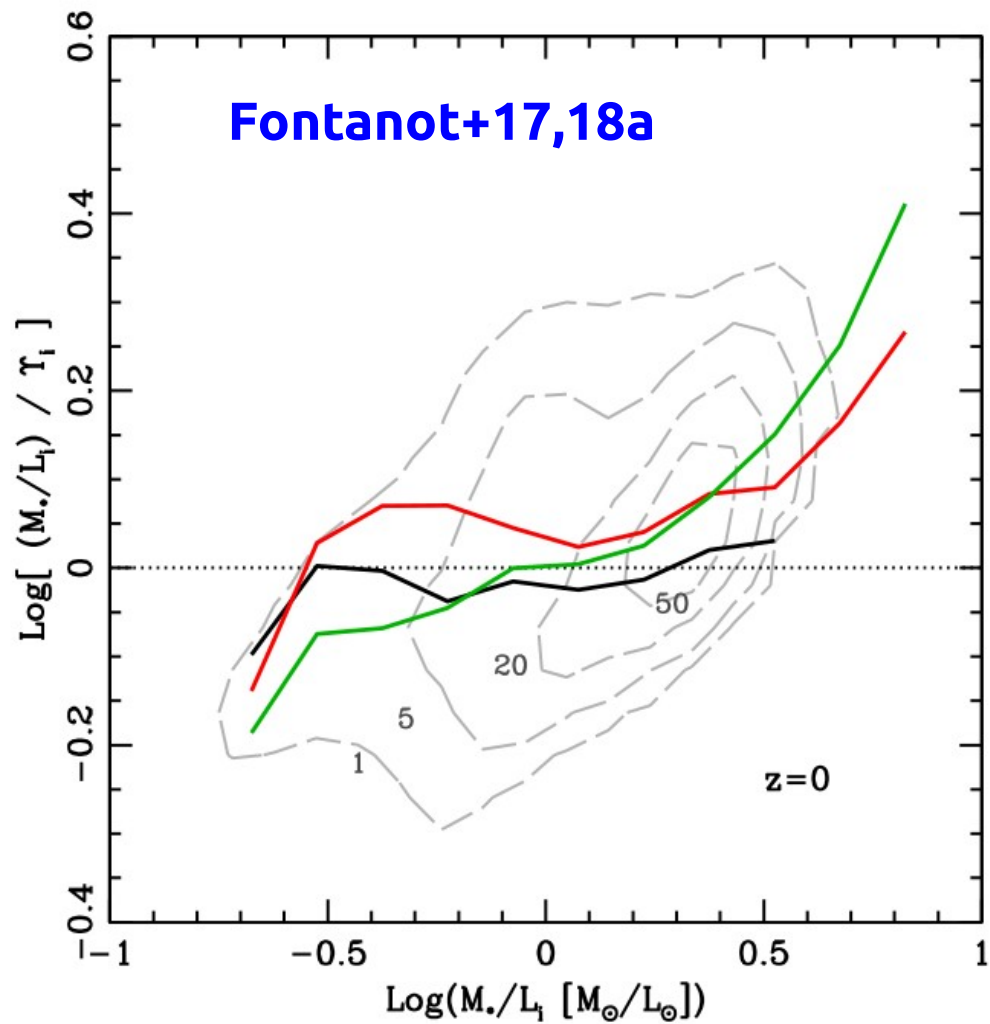


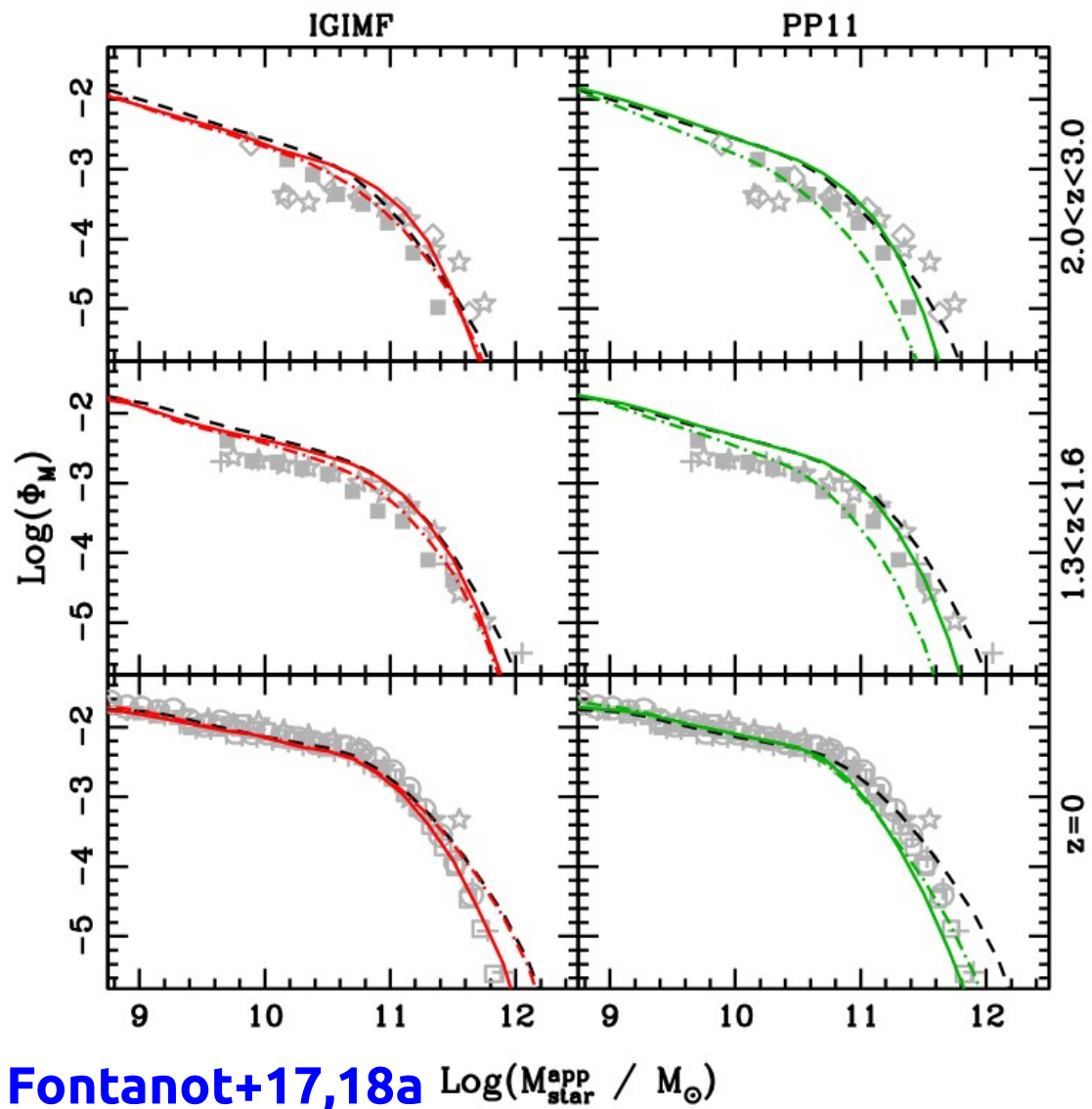
$$M_J^{(c)} = \left( \frac{k_B T_k}{G \mu m_{\text{H}_2}} \right)^{3/2} \rho_c^{-1/2}$$
$$= 0.9 \left( \frac{T_k}{10 \text{ K}} \right)^{3/2} \left[ \frac{n_c(\text{H}_2)}{10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}} \right]^{-1/2} M_\odot,$$

# Variable IMF: Theory



Fontanot+17,18a

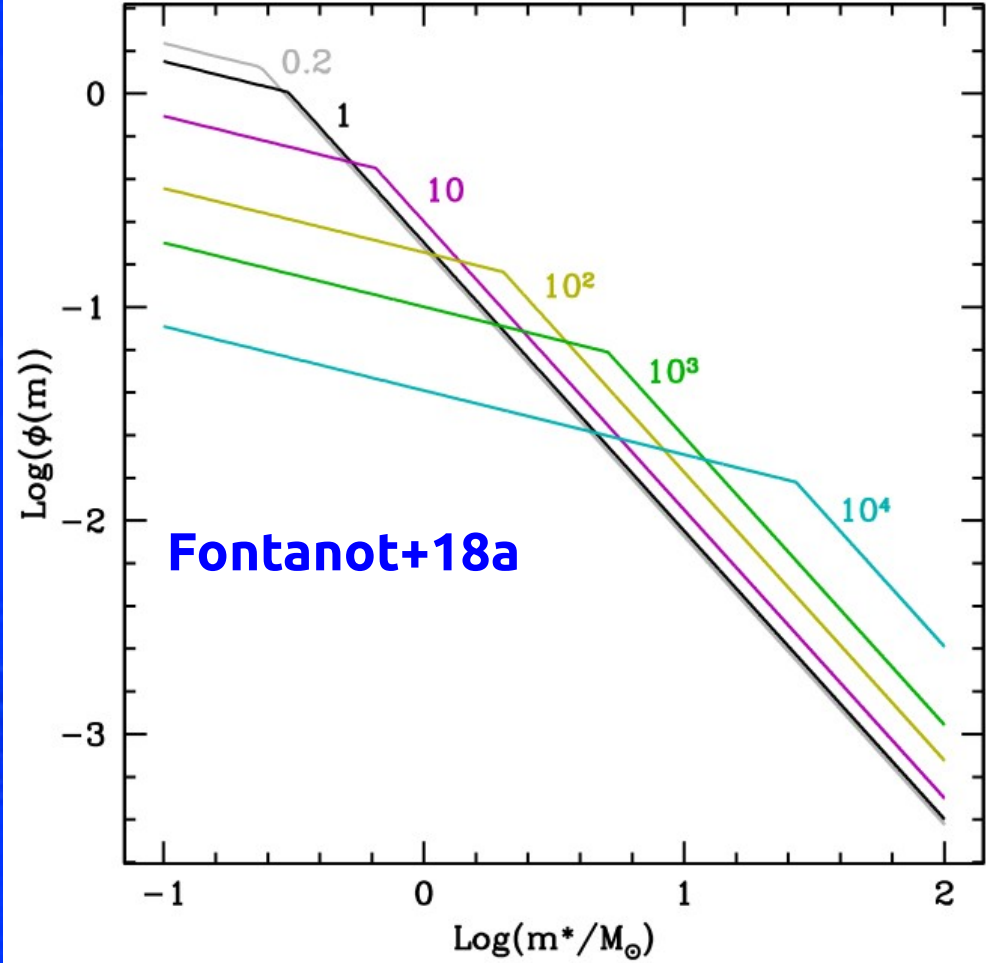
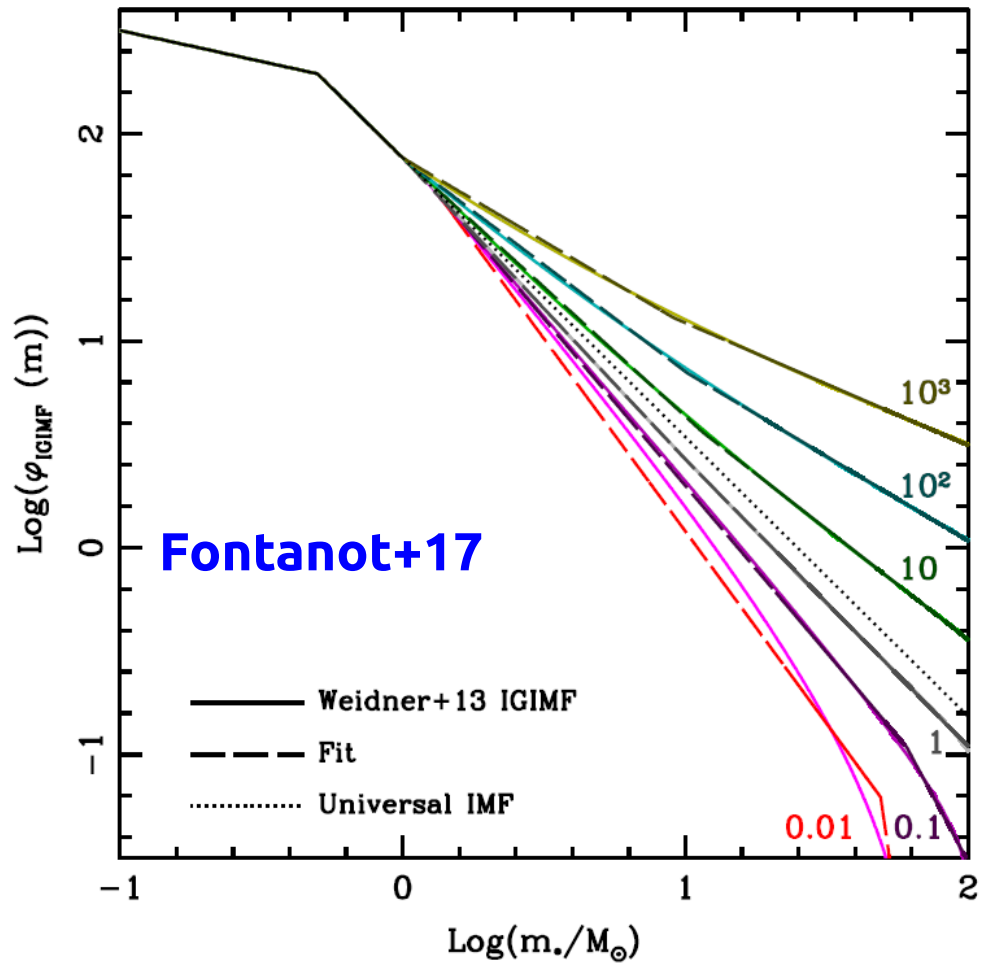




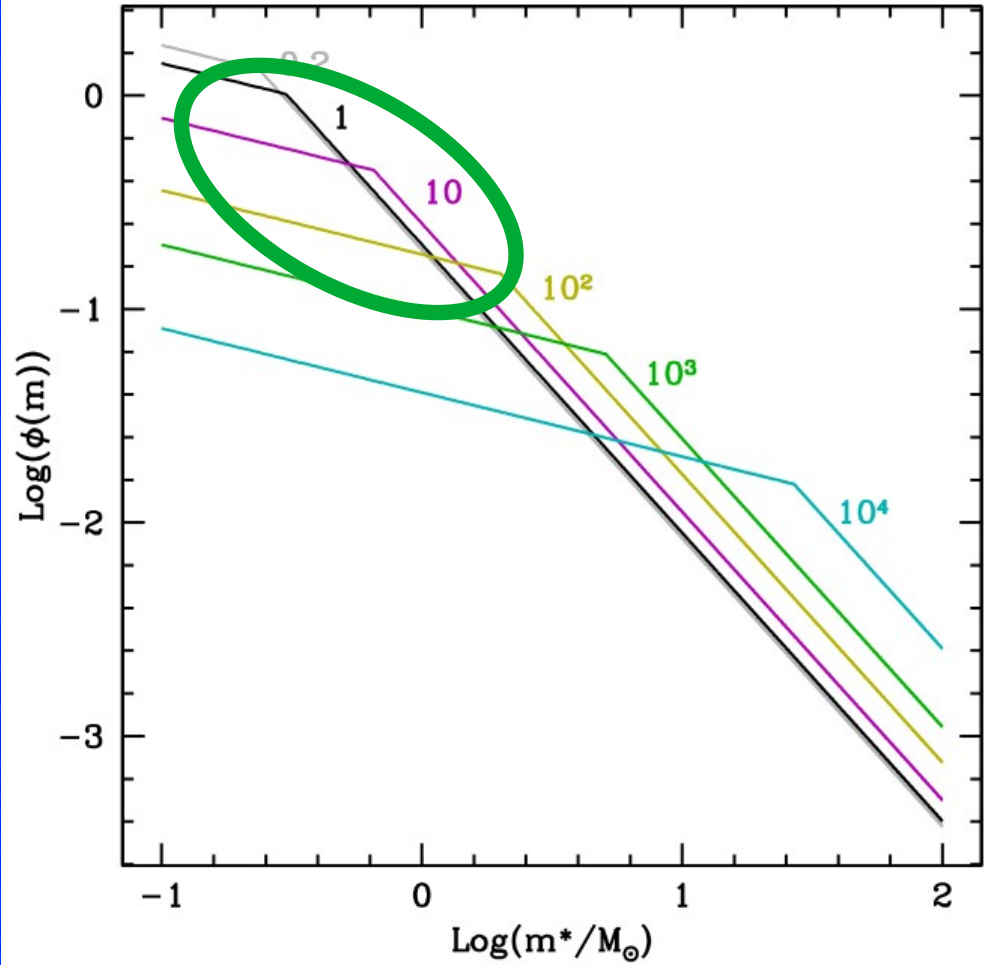
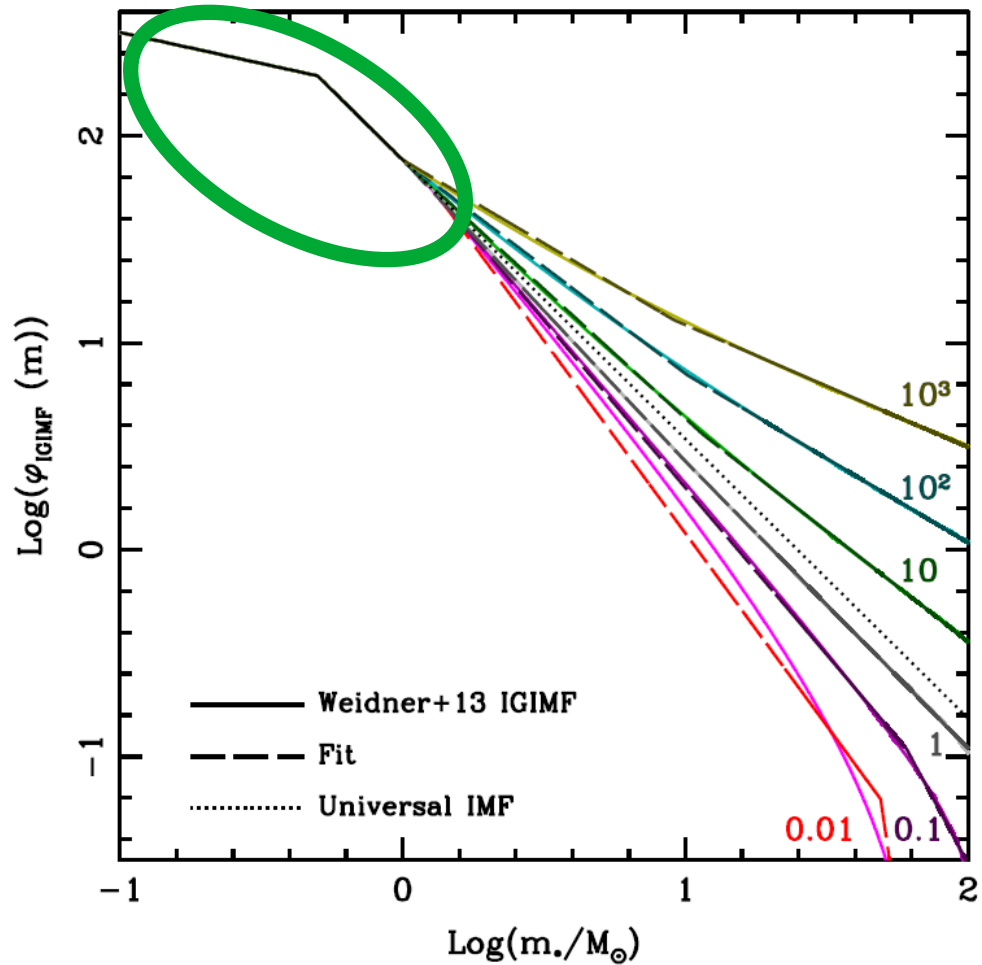
Fontanot+17,18a  $\text{Log}(M_{\text{star}}^{\text{app}} / M_{\odot})$



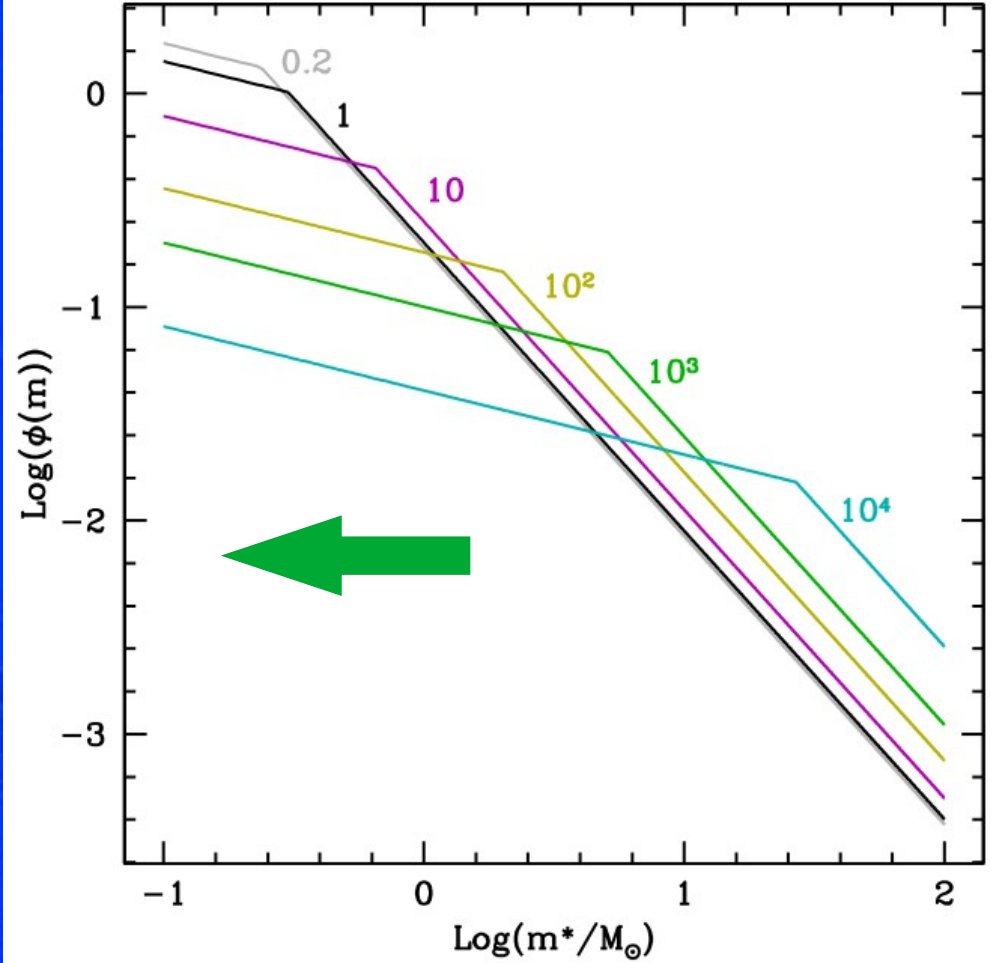
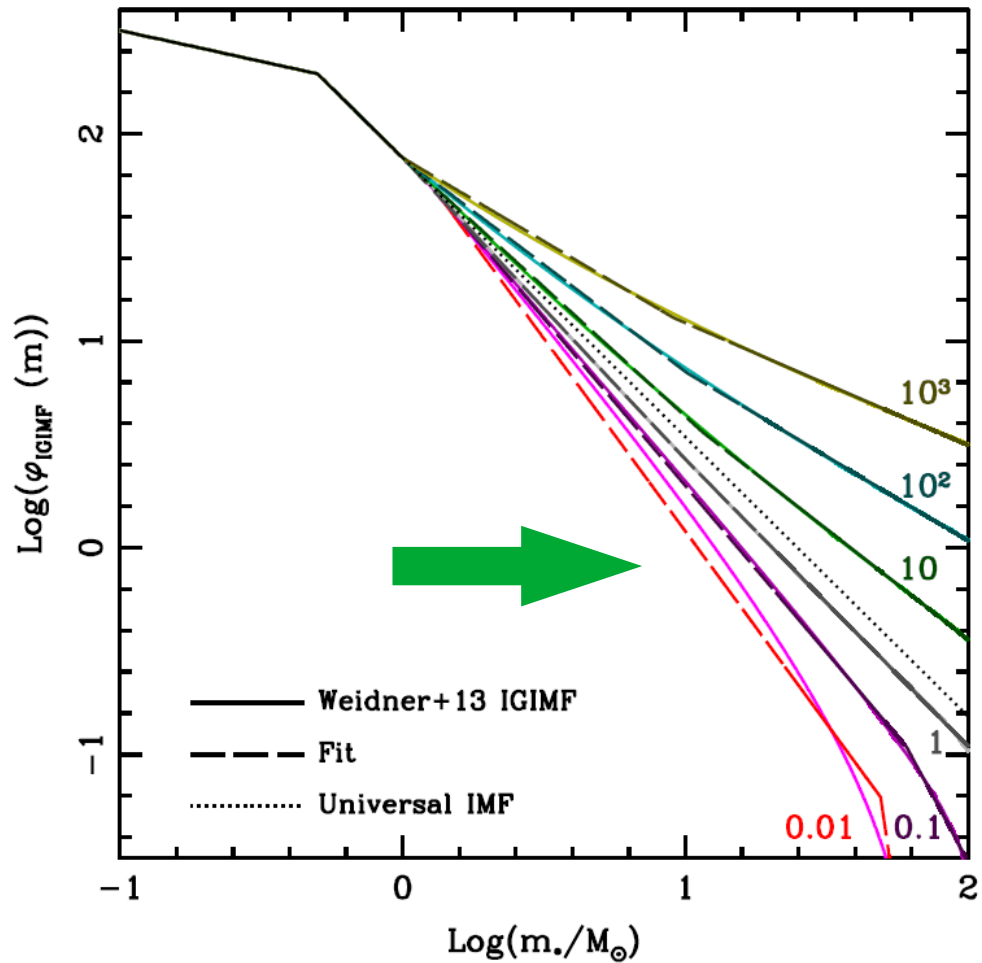
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← PP11

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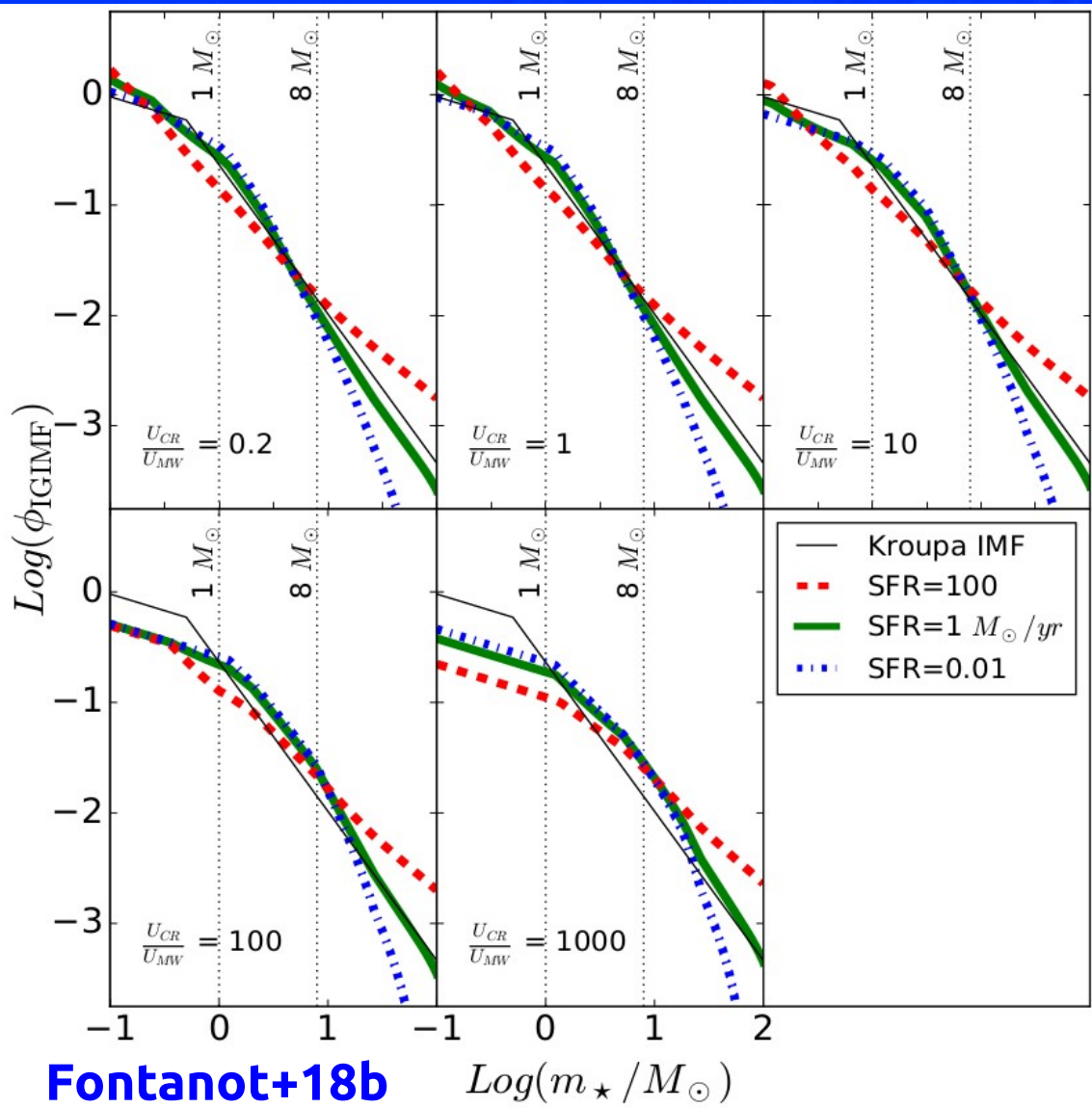
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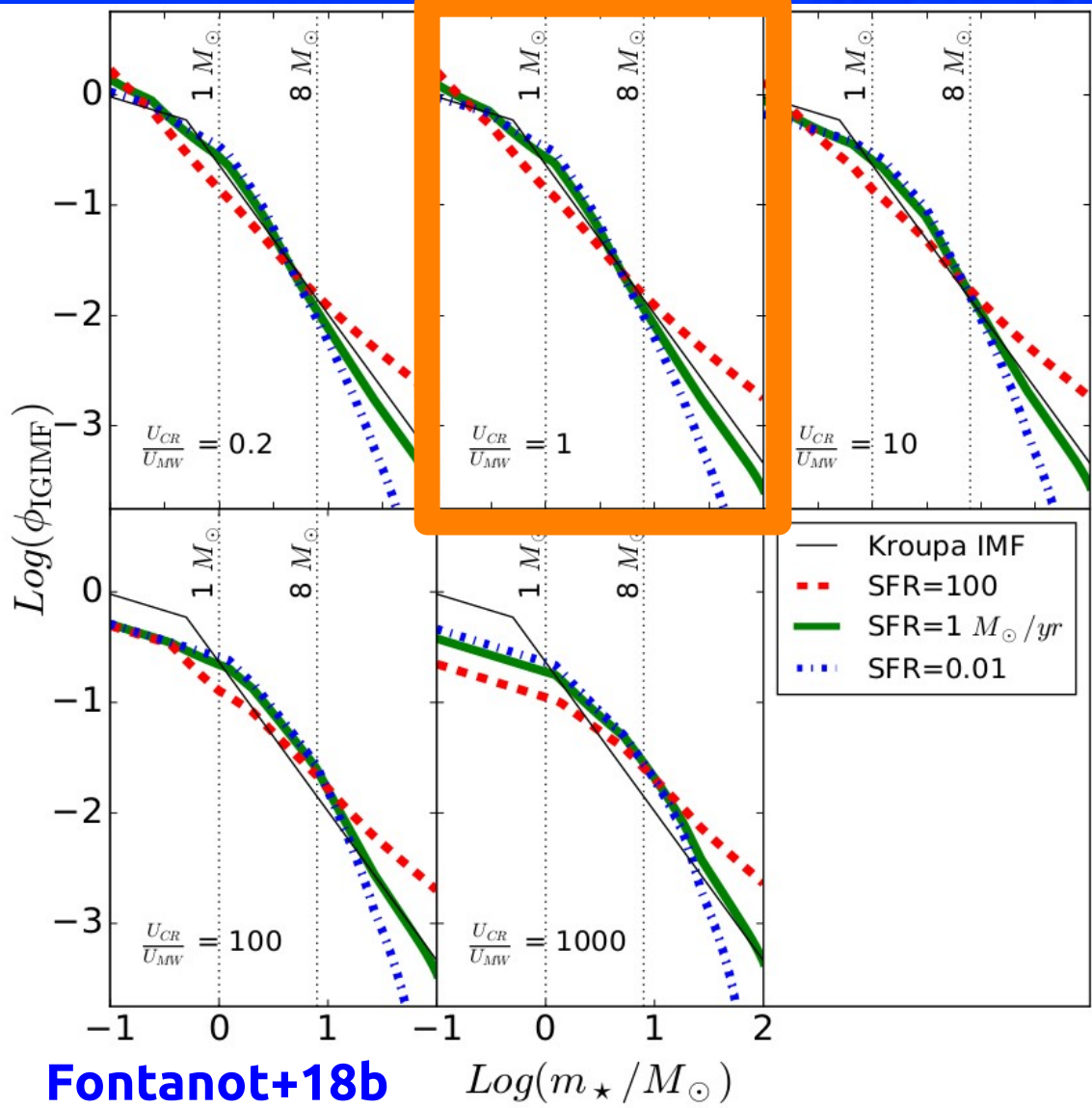
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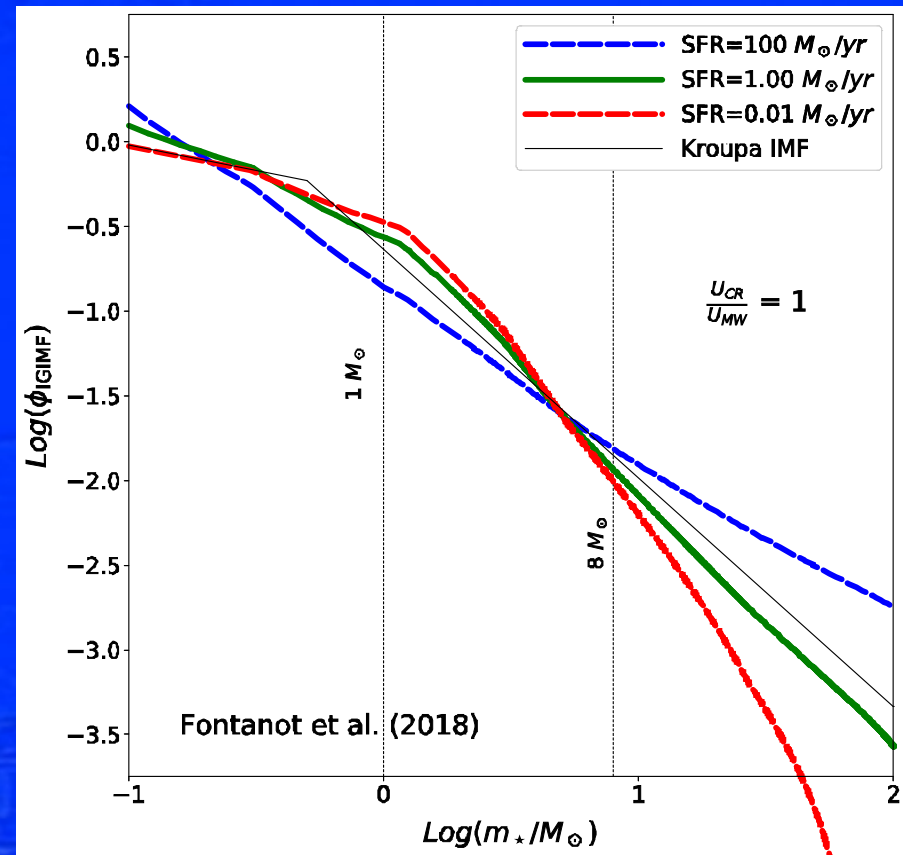
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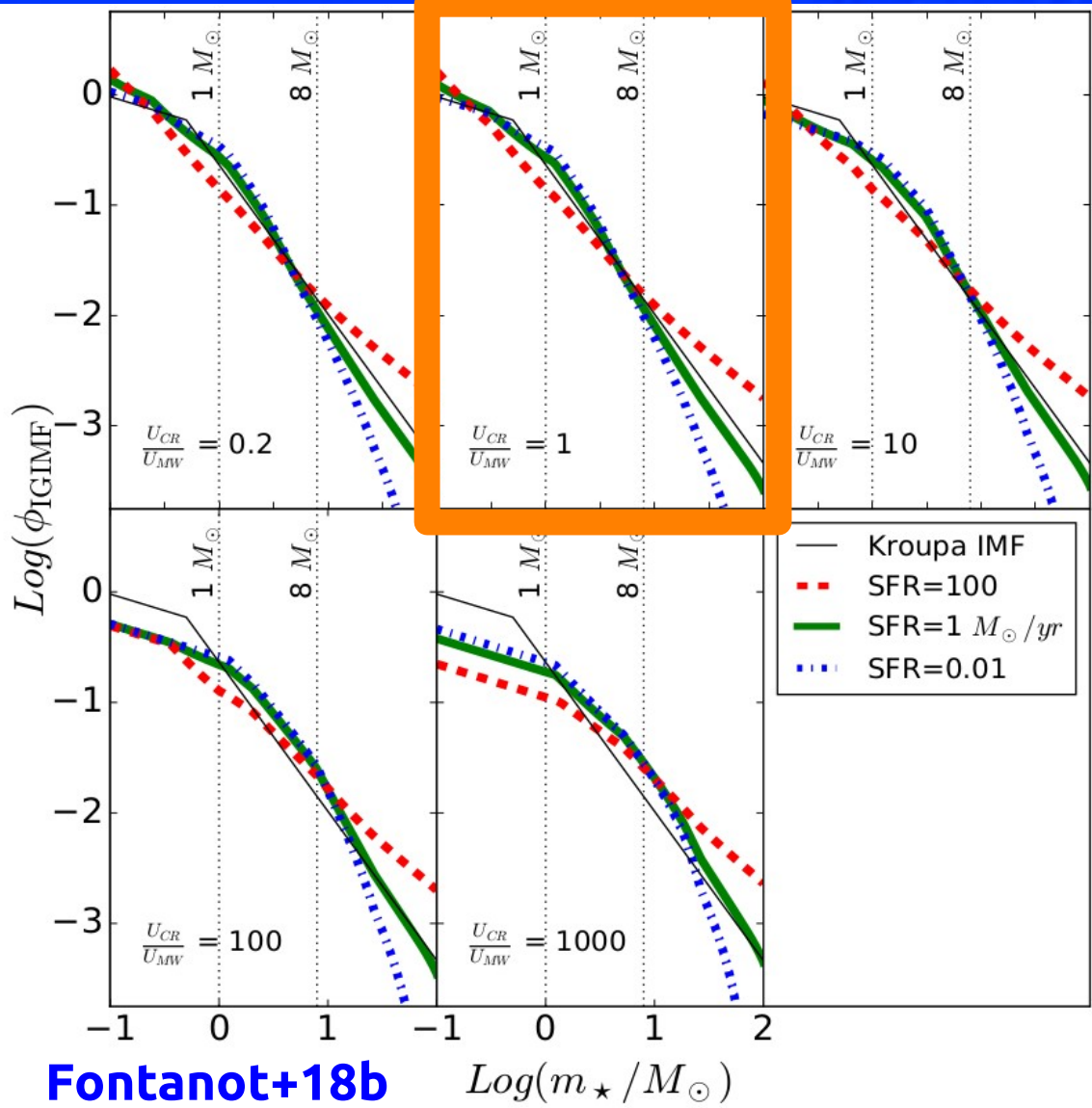




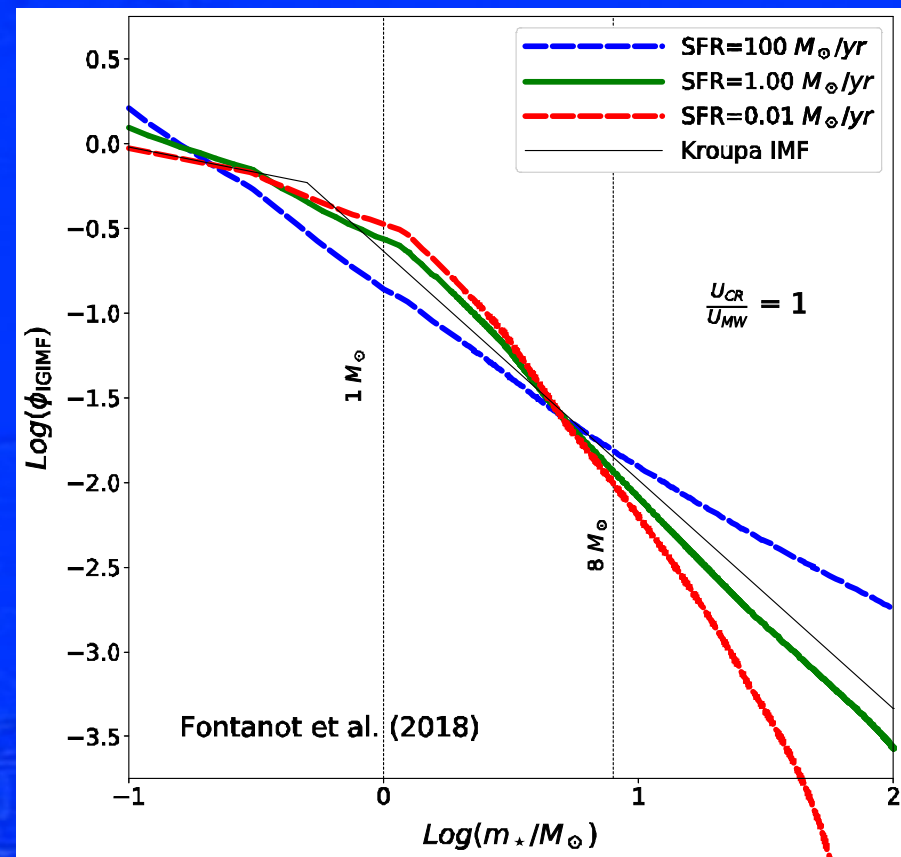
Fontanot+18b

$Log(m_{\star}/M_{\odot})$

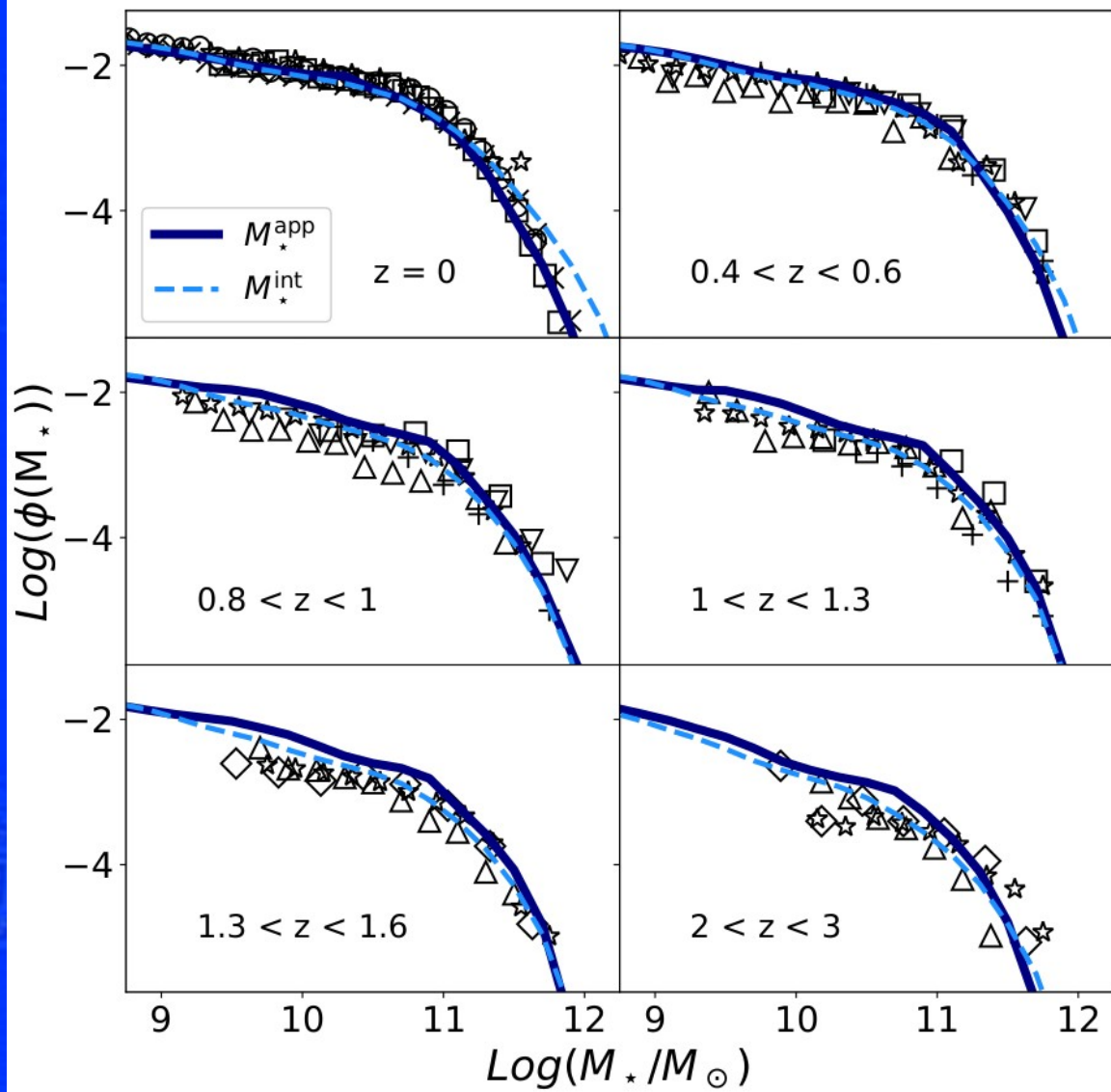




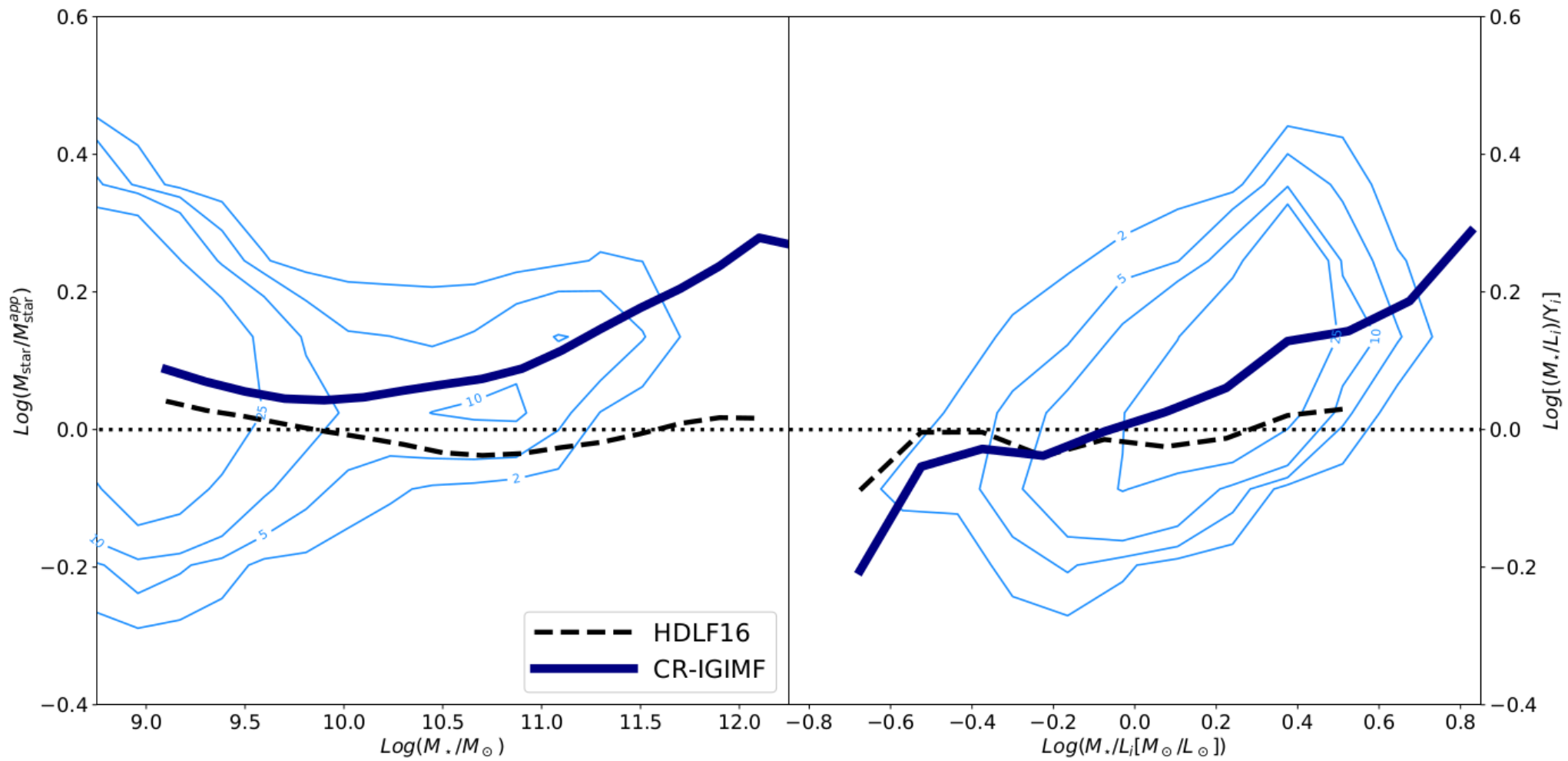
Fontanot+18b

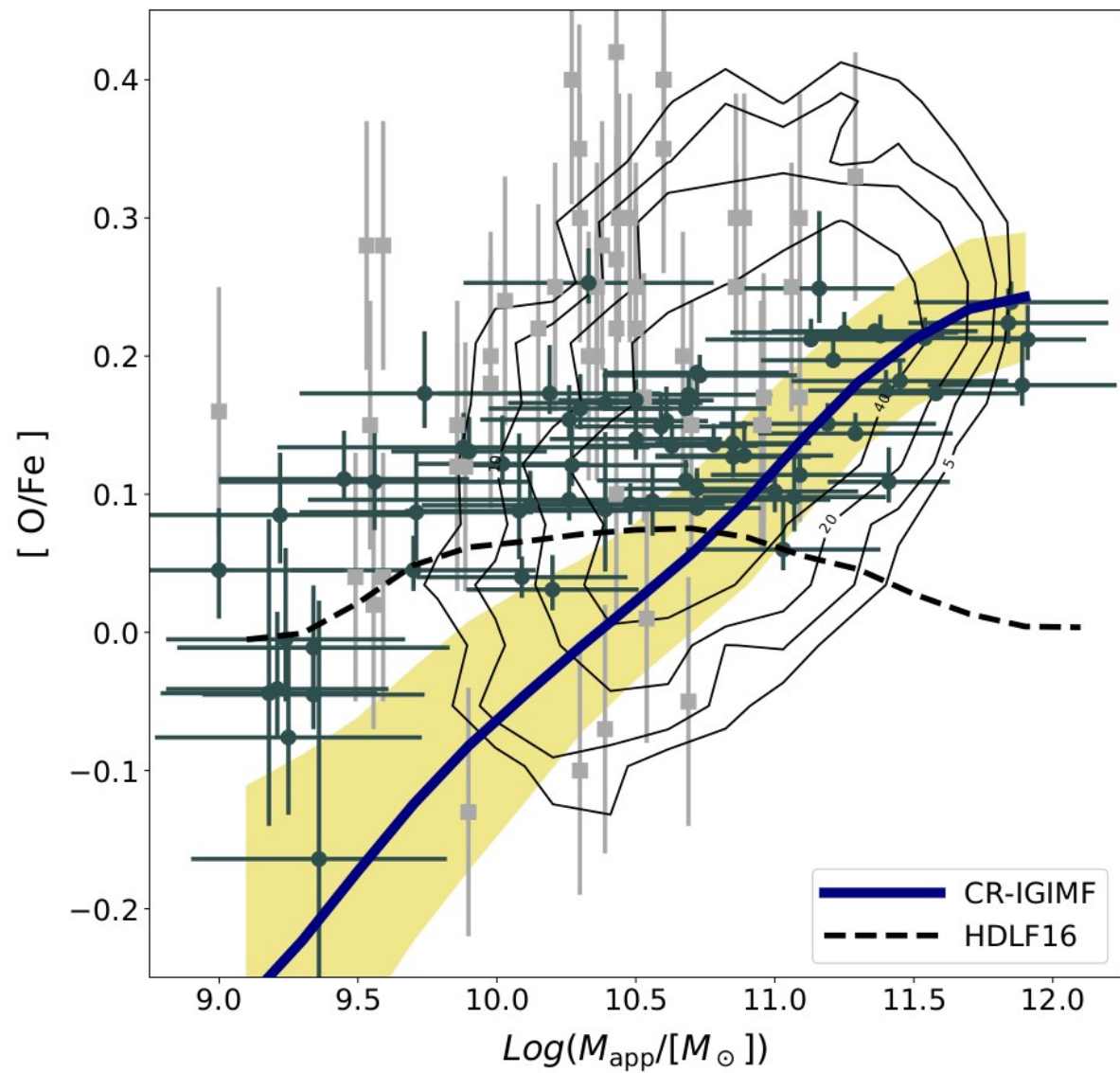


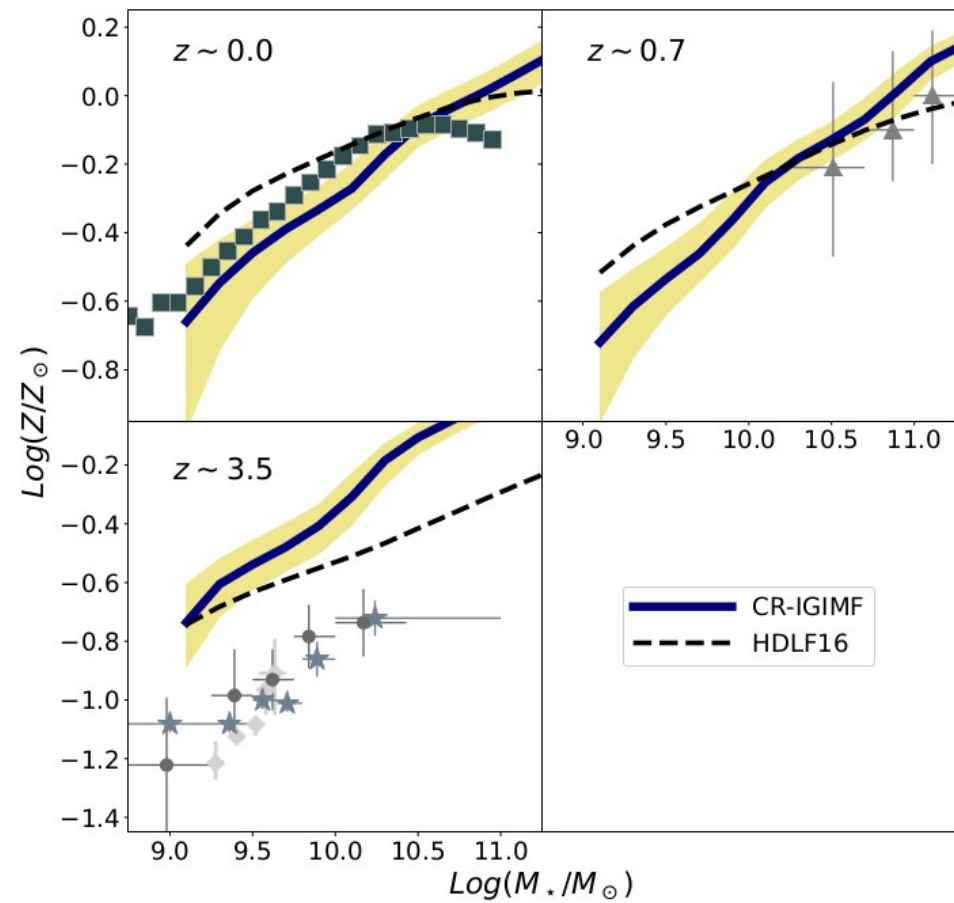
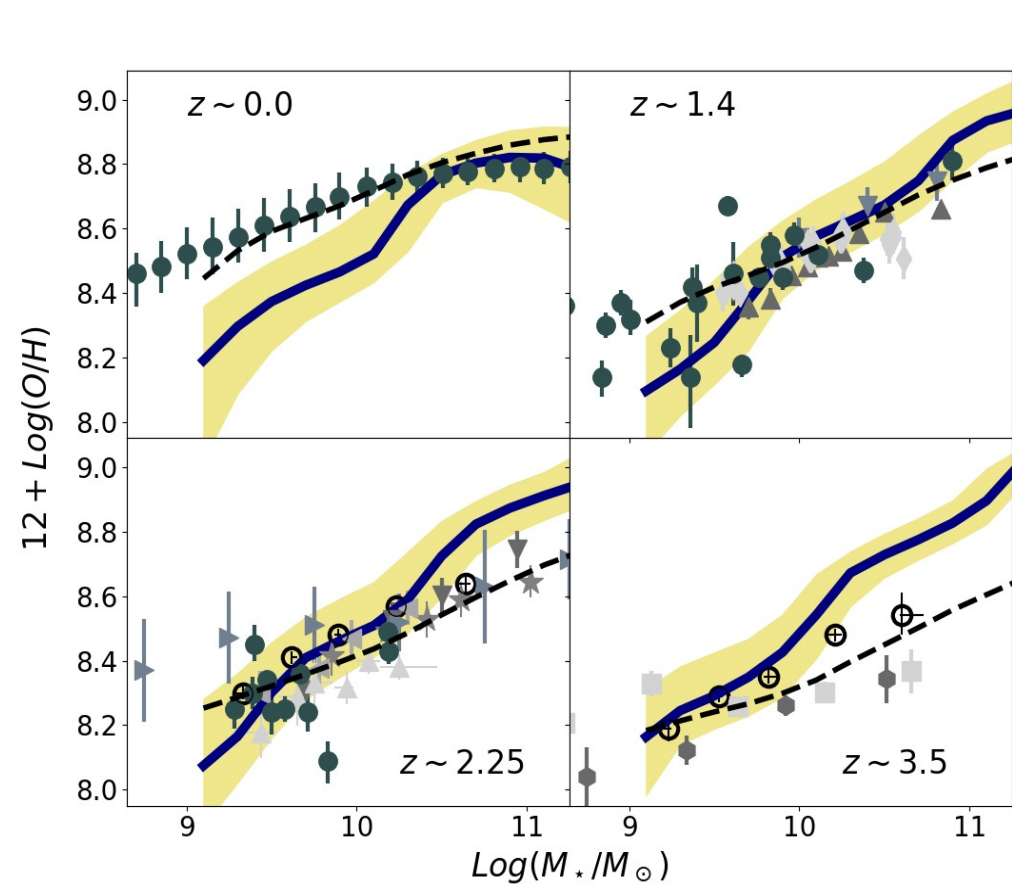
see also Jerabkova+18

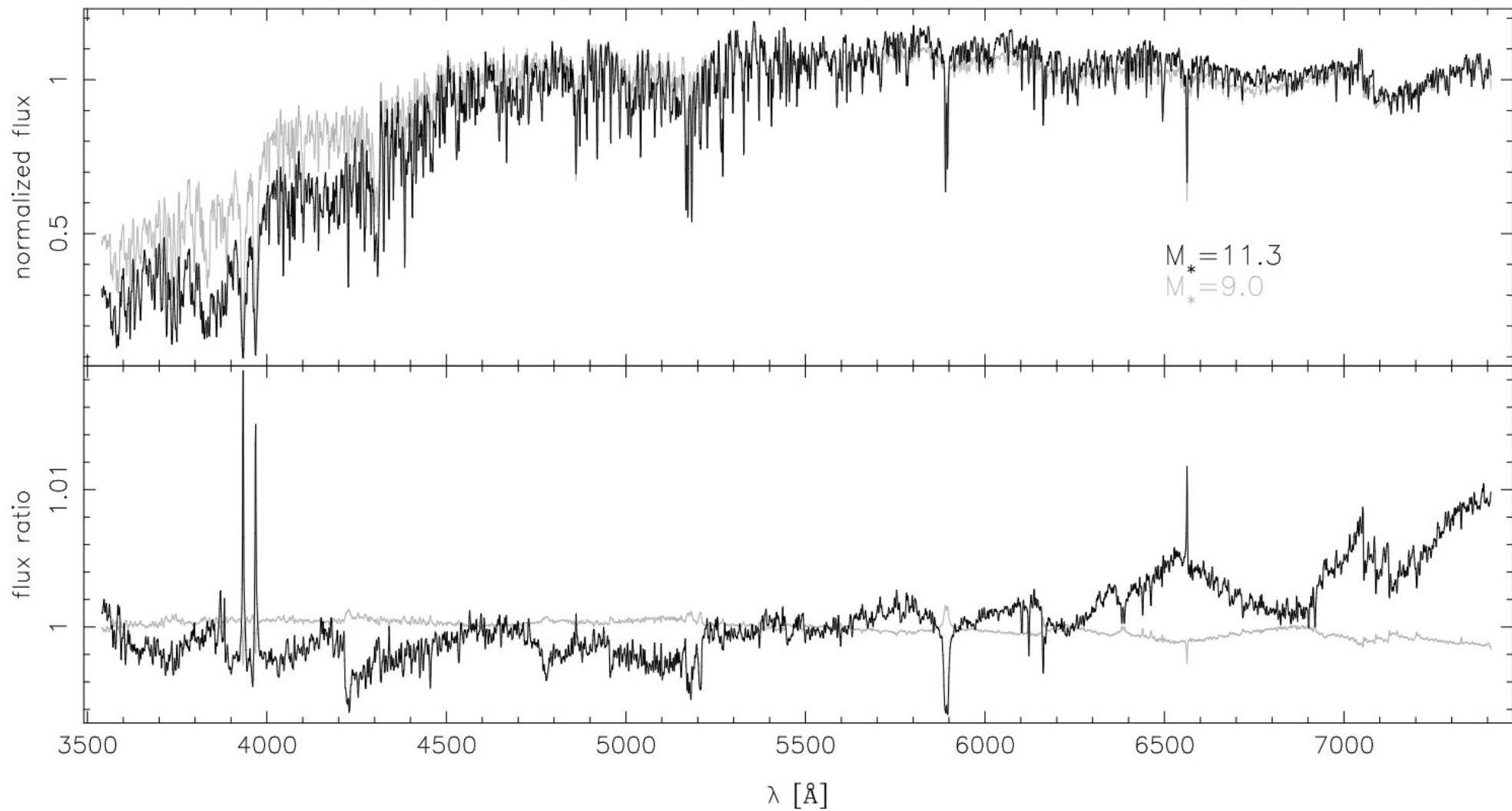


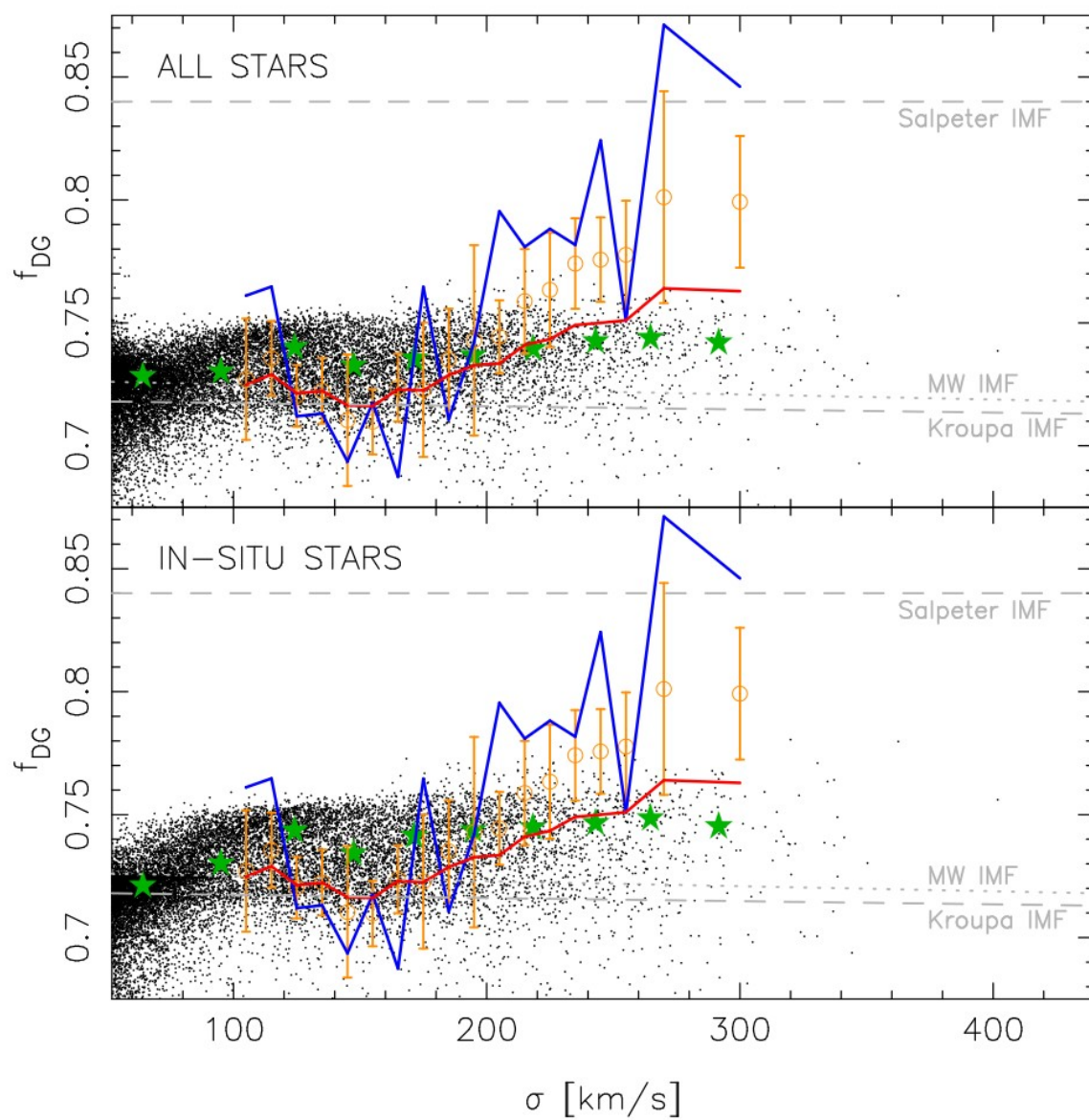


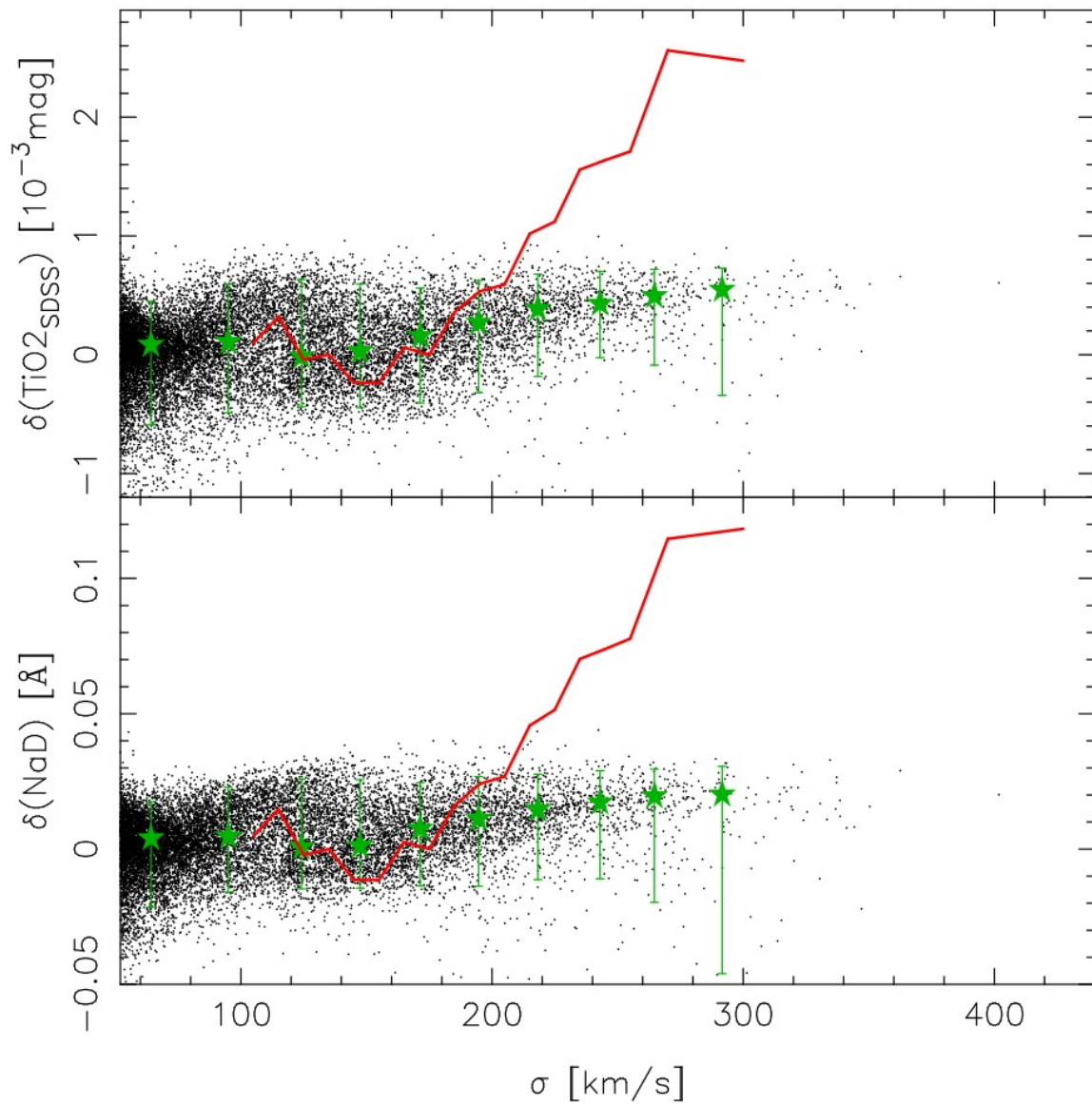












# Conclusions

- **Variable IMF prescriptions in SAMs are a tool to interpret dynamical & spectral deviations from universal IMF**
  - **Easy way to test (different) IMF variability as a function of galaxy physical properties and/or redshift**
- **Dual IMF deviations from MW-like at the high- & low-mass end are required to explain at the same time the chemical, dynamical and spectroscopic observations**
  - **Intrinsic Galaxy Properties might be drastically different from photometrically estimated values**