

chasing the first BHs with multiband observations

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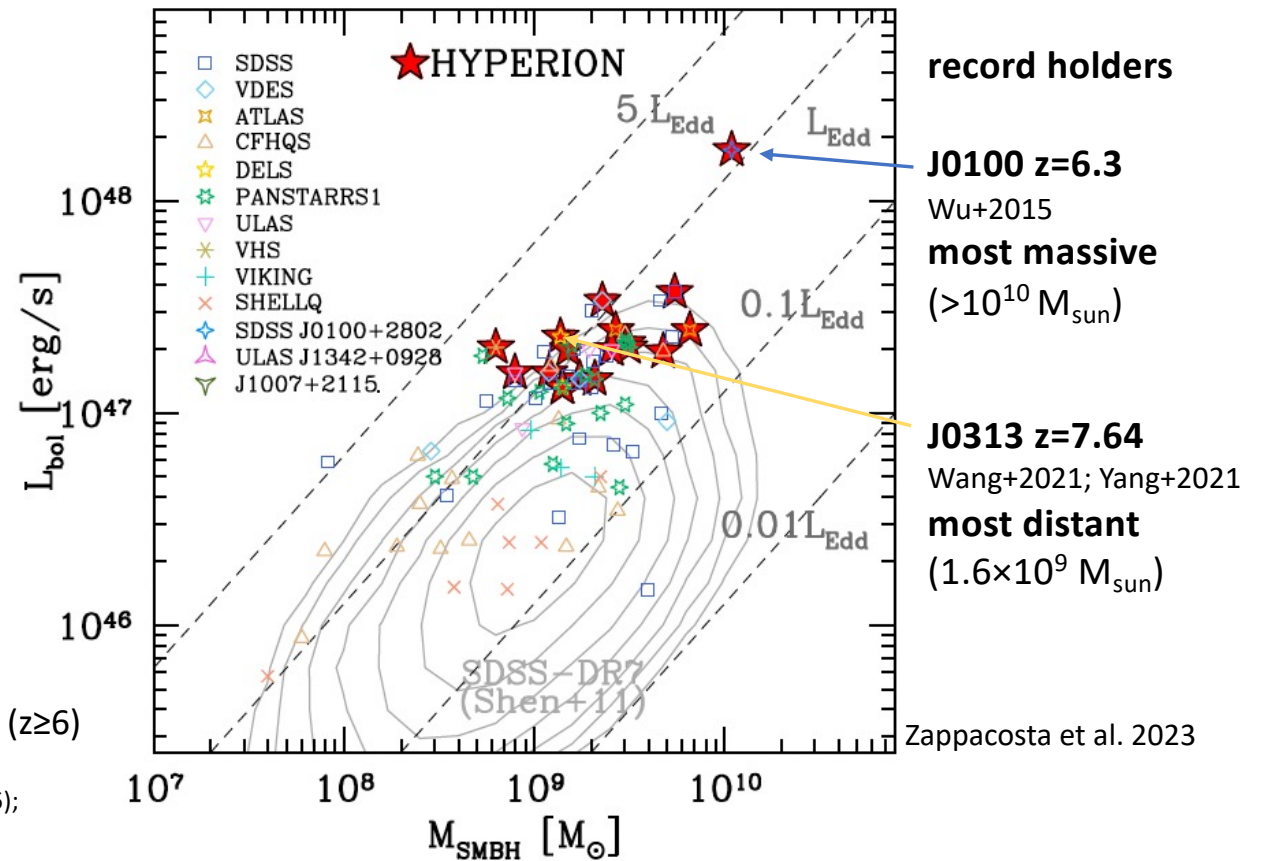
the earliest supermassive black holes

the emission from Quasars (AGN in general)
is powered by accretion onto
Supermassive Black Holes (SMBHs)
up to $10^9 - 10^{10} M_{\text{sun}}$

Hyperluminous ones ($L_{\text{bol}} > 10^{47}$ erg/s)
shine close or above the Eddington
luminosity limit (L_{Edd})

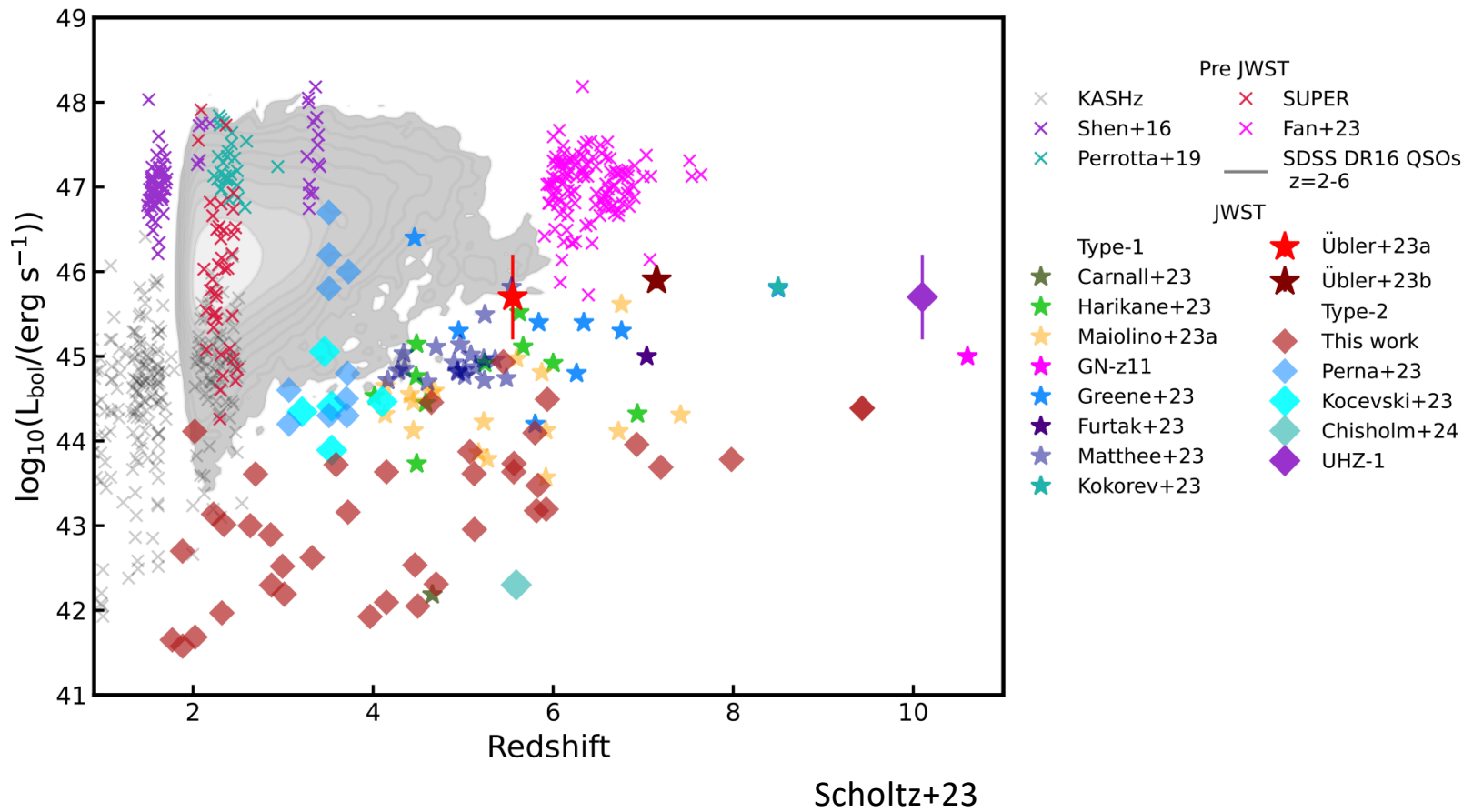
> 200 quasars observed within the first Gyr of the Universe ($z \geq 6$)

HYPERluminous quasars at the Epoch of Reionization (HYPERION)

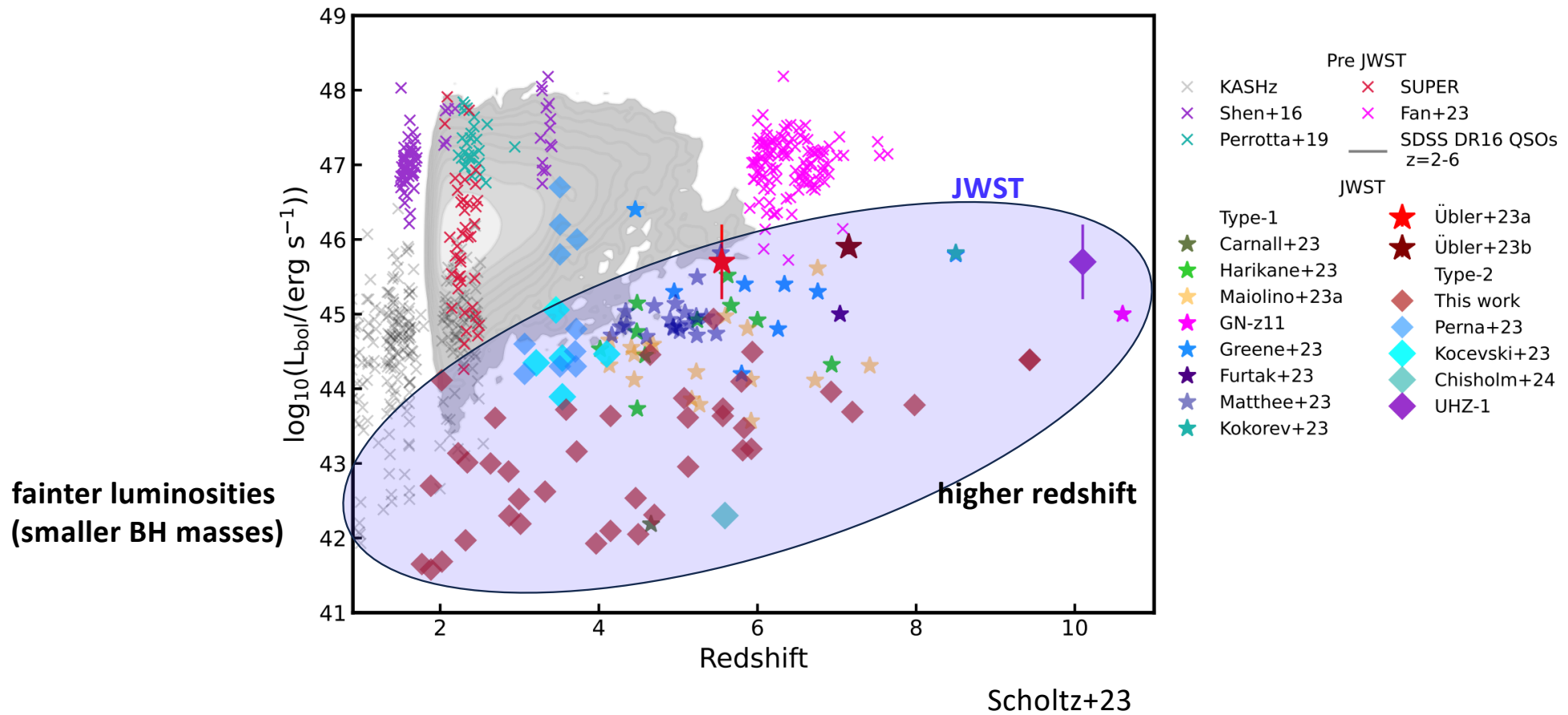


Fan et al. (1999, 2001, 2006); Mortlock et al. (2011); Bañados et al. (2016);
Wu et al. (2015); Yang et al. (2020, 2021); Mazzucchelli et al. (2017);
Matsuoka et al. (2019a,b); Reed et al. (2019); Wang et al. (2019)...

the new SMBH discovery space opened by JWST



the new SMBH discovery space opened by JWST



when do the first BHs form in the Universe?

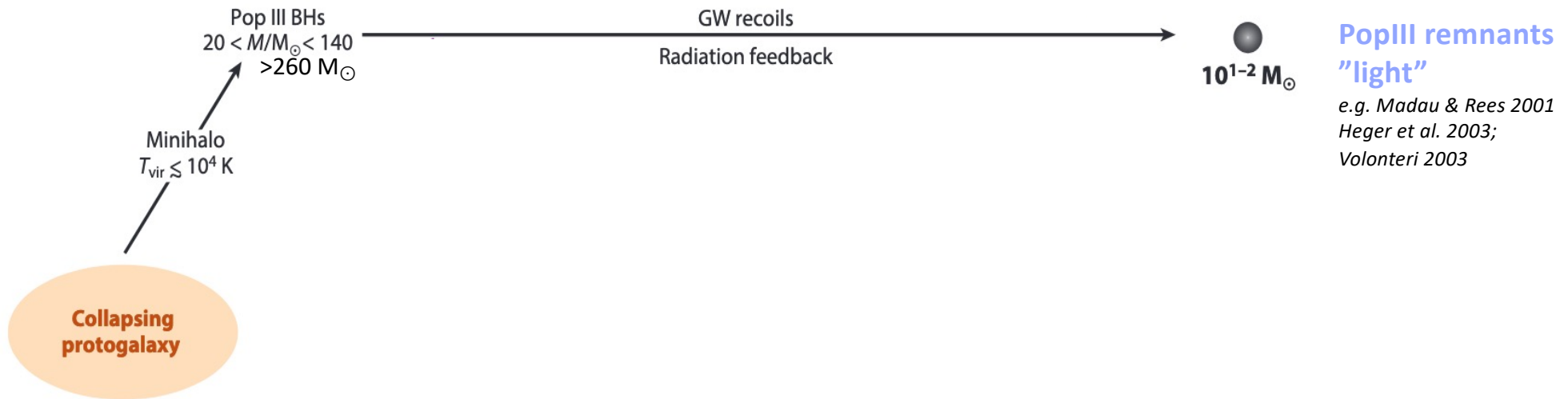
what is the mass of the first BHs?

are the BHs detected at high- z the “seeds” upon which super massive BHs form?

do the first BHs pair and merge on timescales shorter than the Hubble time?

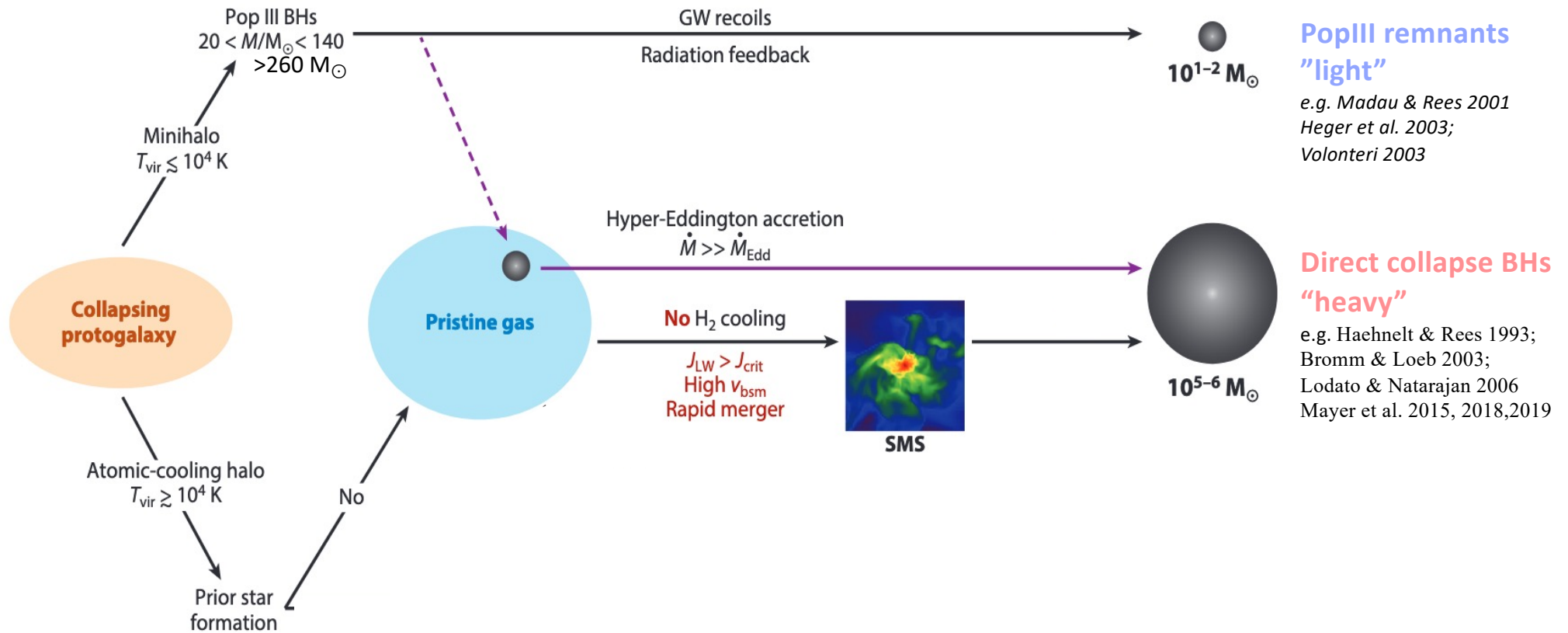
The *seeds* of the earliest SMBHs

Astrophysical BHs formation channels



The *seeds* of the earliest SMBHs

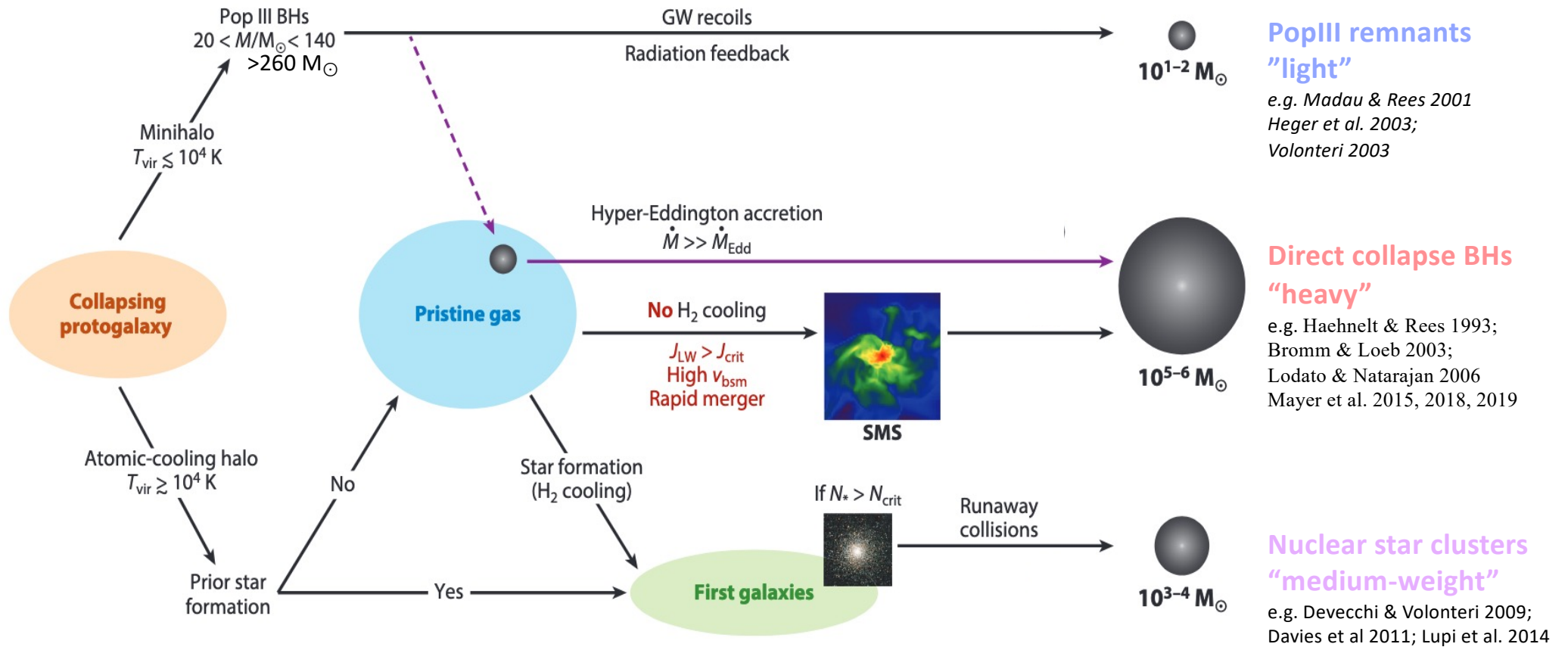
Astrophysical BHs formation channels



from Inayoshi et al. 2020

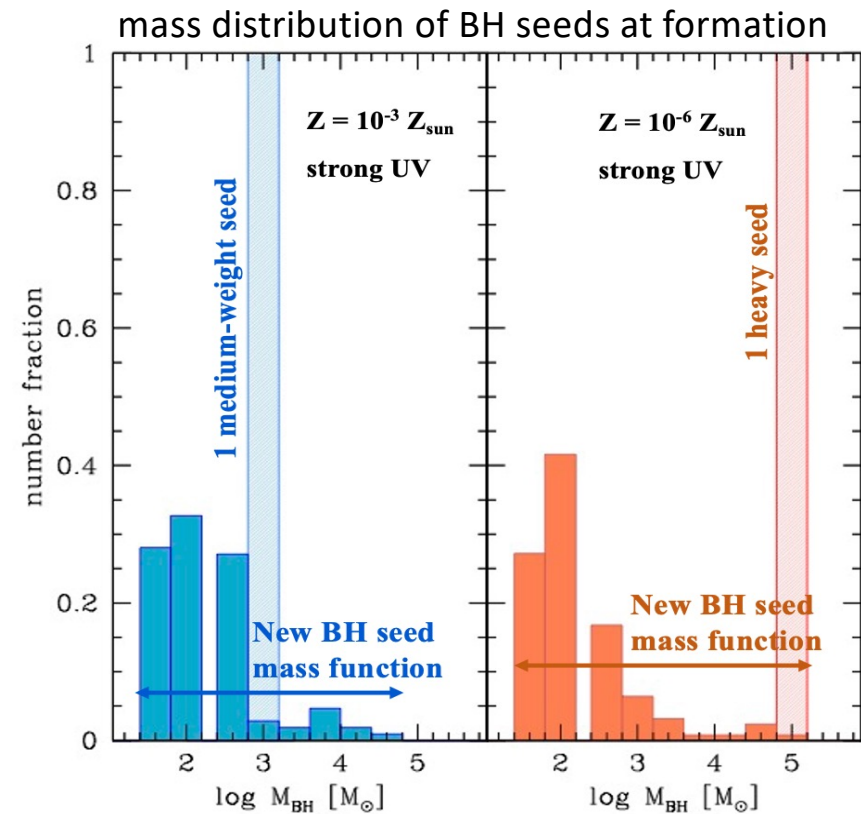
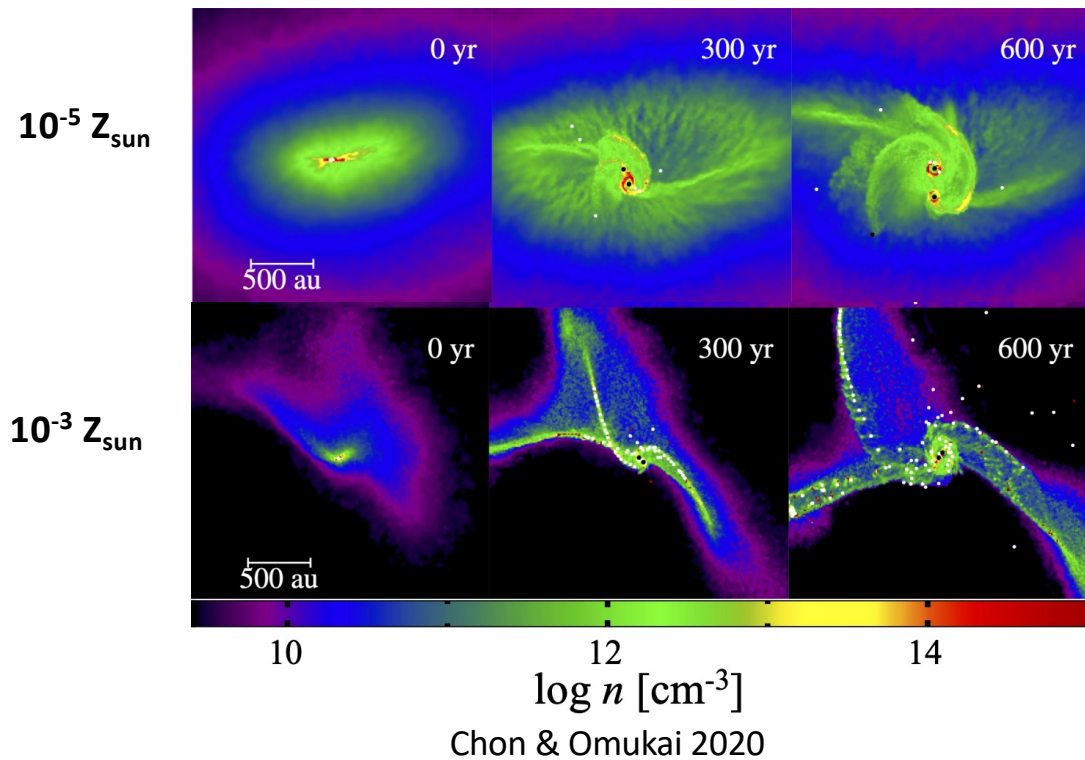
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Astrophysical BHs formation channels



from Inayoshi et al. 2020

multiple «BH seeds» forming in a single halo



in situ dynamical interactions among BH seeds may be expected

(see also Mestichelli+24 for Pop III – BHs clusters)

growing the first black hole seeds: Eddington limit

the outward radiation pressure force on the infalling gas, through electron scattering, matches the inward gravitational force at the critical accretion rate of:

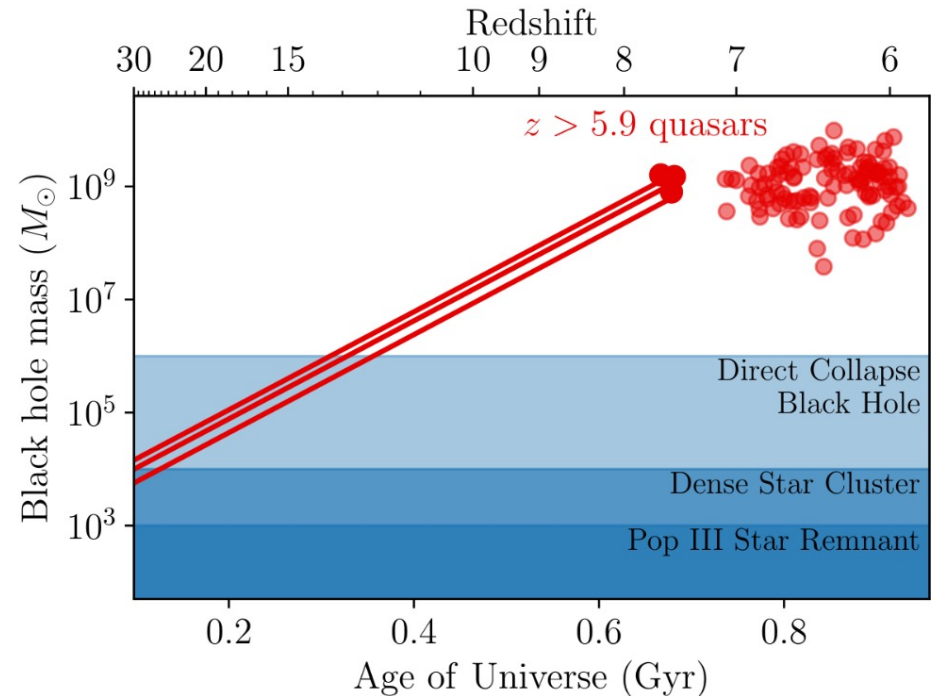
$$\dot{M}_{\text{Edd}} \equiv 10 L_{\text{Edd}}/c^2 \quad L_{\text{Edd}} = 4\pi cGM_{\bullet}/\kappa_{\text{es}}$$

$$t_{\text{grow}} \approx \frac{0.45 \epsilon}{(1 - \epsilon)f_{\text{duty}}} \ln \left(\frac{M_{\bullet}}{M_{\text{seed}}} \right) \text{ Gyr} \approx 0.81 \text{ Gyr.}$$

$$M_{\bullet} = 10^9 M_{\odot} \quad M_{\text{seed}} = 100 M_{\odot}$$

$$\epsilon = 0.1, \text{ radiative efficiency}$$

$$f_{\text{duty}} = 1, \text{ duty cycle}$$



breaking the limit: super-Eddington growth

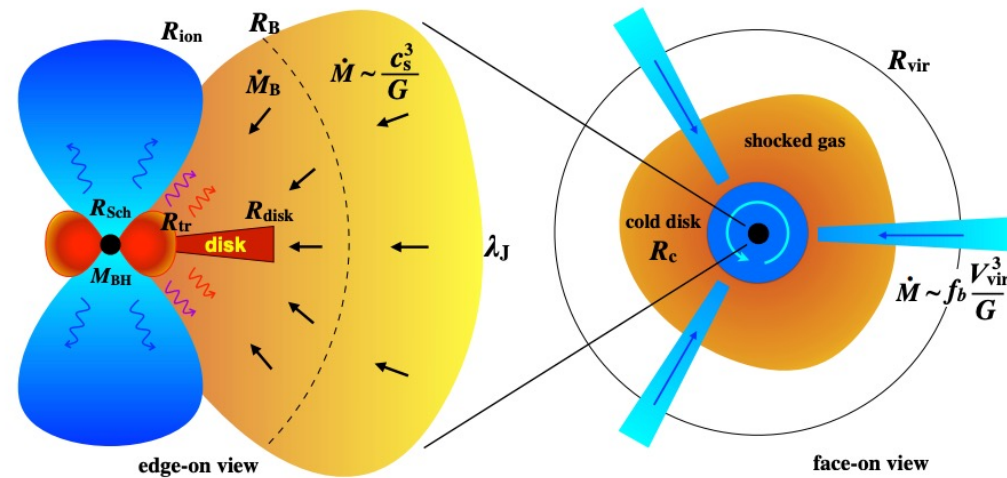
if photon diffusion timescale is longer than the advection timescales: $R_{tr} > R_{Sch}$

$$R_{tr} \equiv \frac{\kappa_{es}}{4\pi c} \dot{M}_{\bullet} = 5\dot{m} R_{Sch}$$

$$\dot{m} \equiv \dot{M}_{\bullet} / \dot{M}_{Edd}$$

$$\dot{M}_{Edd} \equiv 10 L_{Edd} / c^2$$

$$L_{Edd} = 4\pi c G M_{\bullet} / \kappa_{es}$$

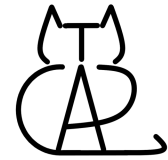


Inayoshi+2020

Begelman 1979, Abramowicz et al. 1988; Ohsuga+2005; Sadowski 2011; Sadowski+2013;
Sadowski and Narayan 2016; Jiang+2017; Inayoshi & Haiman 2016; Jjiang+2014, 2017; Takeo+2018; Madau+2014

Populations studies

The Cosmic Archaeology Tool - CAT



statistical sample of halos in a wide mass range $[10^6-10^{14}]M_{\text{sun}}$

light ($40-140 M_{\text{sun}}$ $>260M_{\text{sun}}$) and heavy ($10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$) seed formation channels

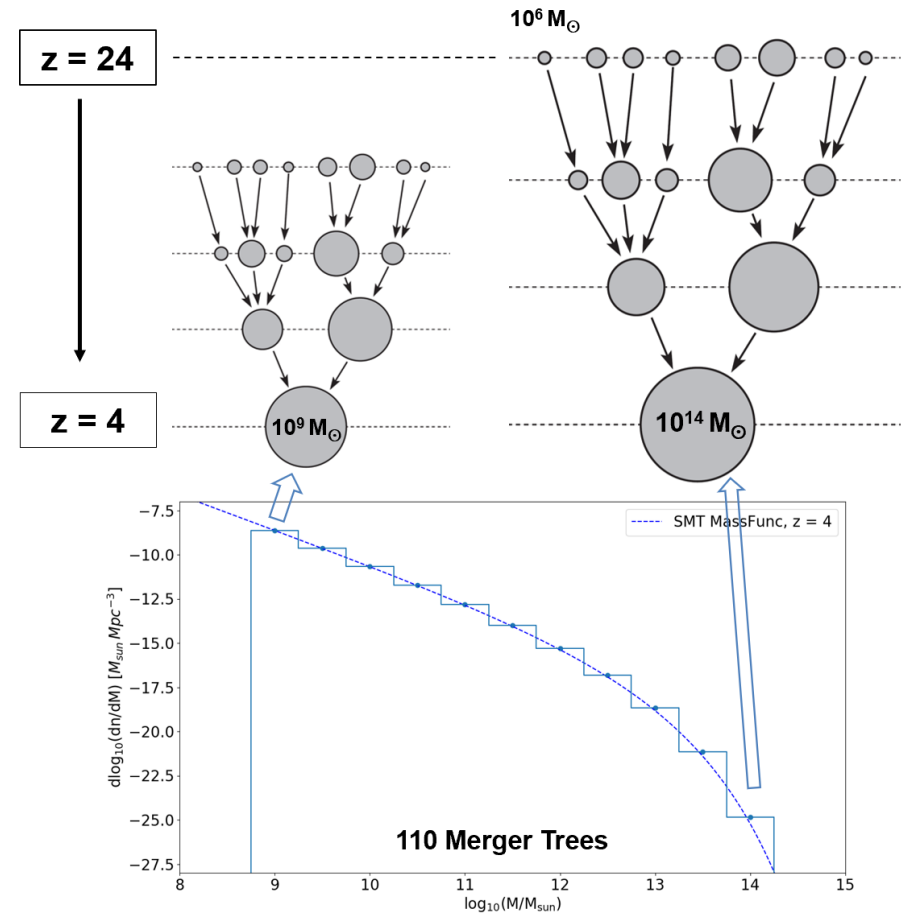
Different accretion paradigms:

- Eddington-limited Bondi accretion (ref. model)
- merger-driven super-Edd. via slim disc accretion

Model calibration

reproduce the cosmic star formation history (SFRD)

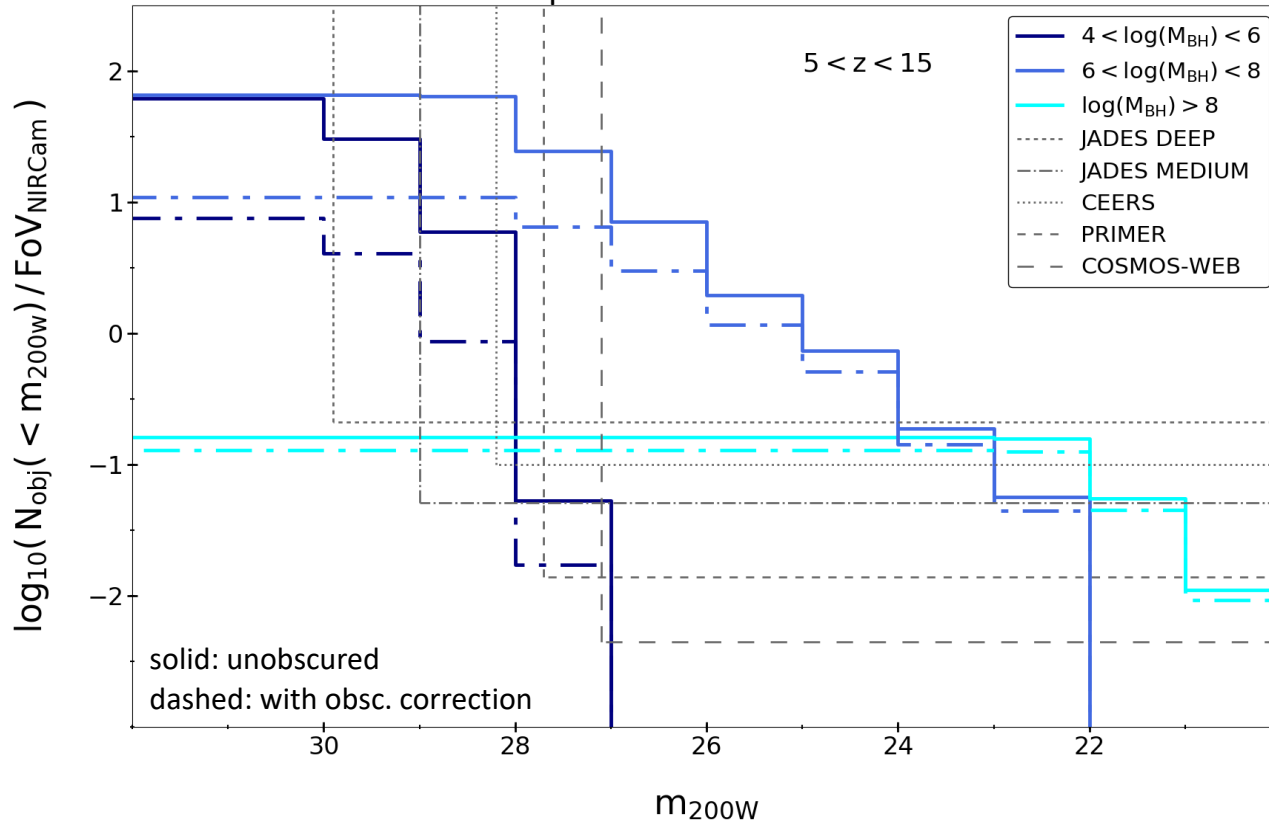
reproduce obs. properties of high-z QSOs (L_{bol} , M_{BH})



the observability of high-z AGN with JWST



AGN/galaxies properties predicted with CAT
number of observable BHs per NIRCcam FoV

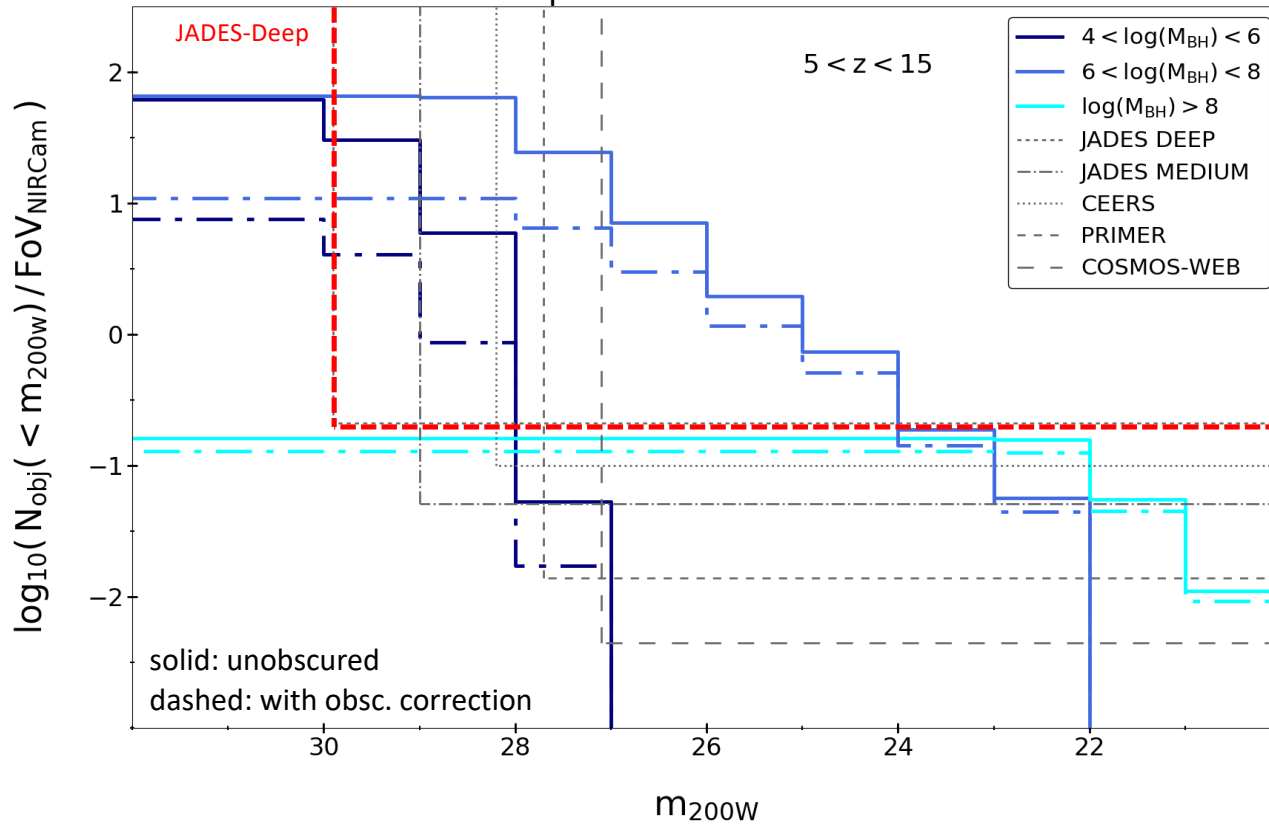


Survey	Area [arcmin ²]	limiting mag
JADES-Deep	46	29.9
JADES-Medium	190	29.0
CEERS	97	28.2
PRIMER	695	27.7
COSMOS-WEB	2180	27.1*

the observability of high-z AGN with JWST



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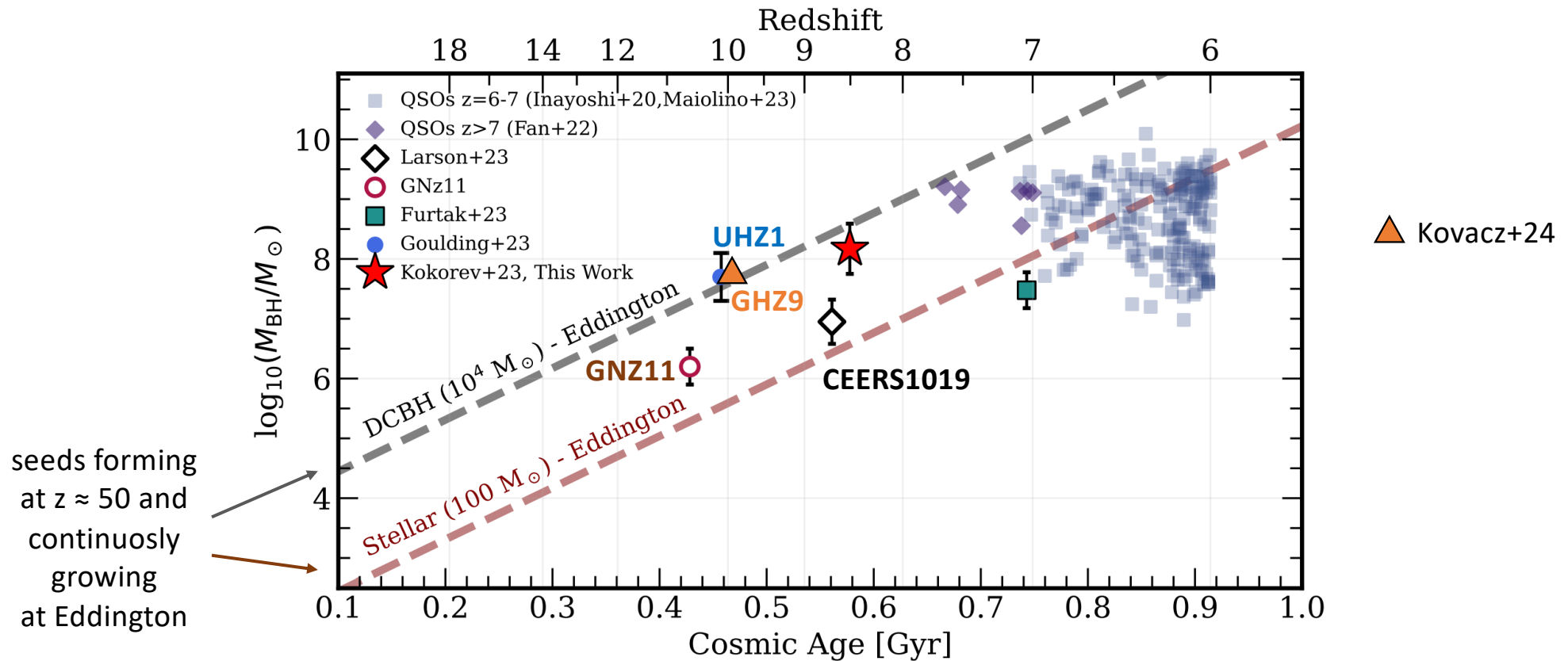


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**JADES-Deep has the sensitivity to detect
 $4 \leq \text{Log}(M_{\text{BH}}/M_{\odot}) < 6$ BHs at $z > 10$**

into a regime where BHs are expected to keep
memory of their initial seed mass
(Valiante et al. 2018a)

JWST-detected BHs at $z \approx 9 - 11$

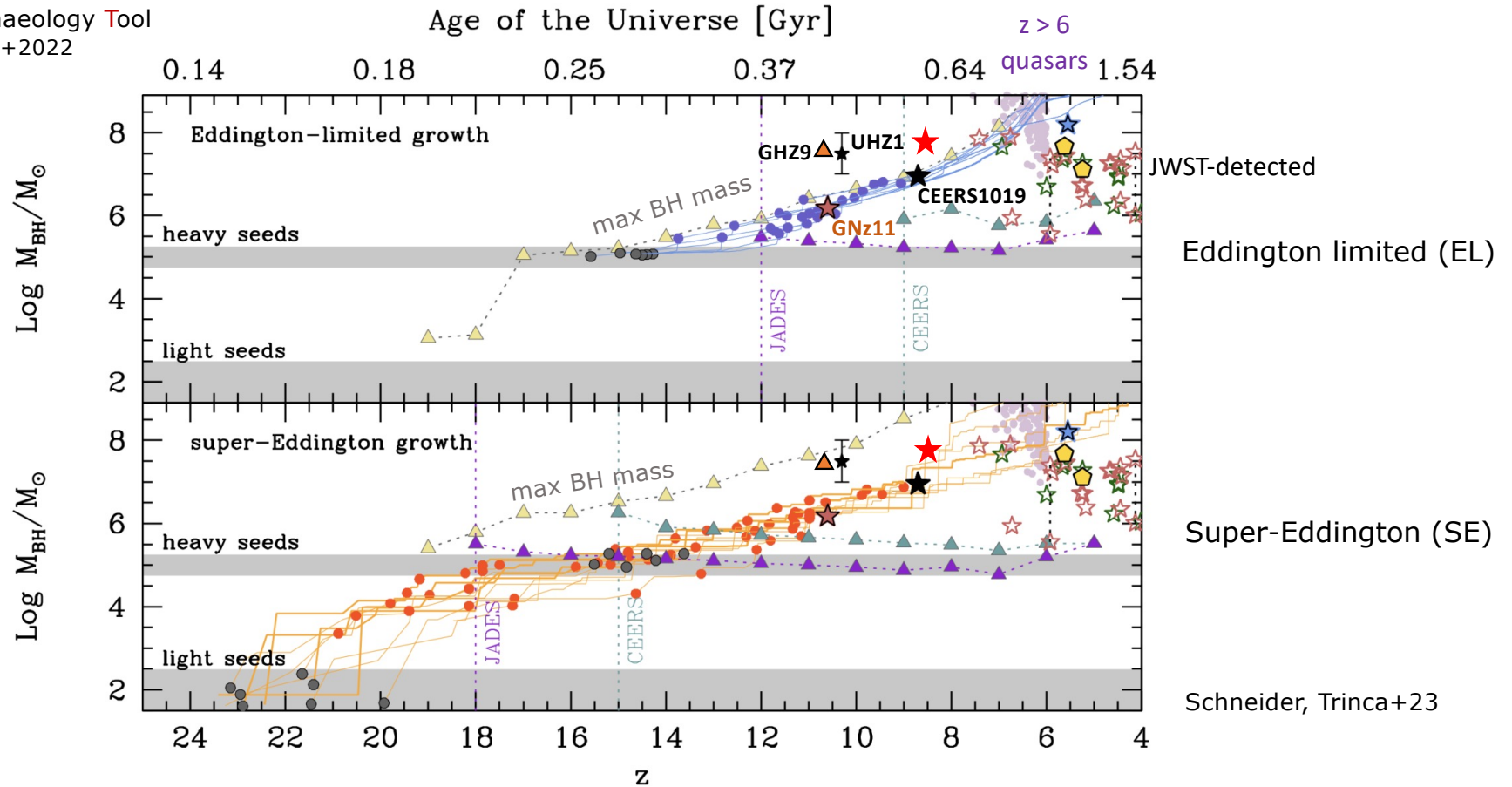


Kokorev+24

JWST-detected BHs at $z \approx 9 - 11$: implications for BH seeding and growth



Cosmic Archaeology Tool
Trinca+2022

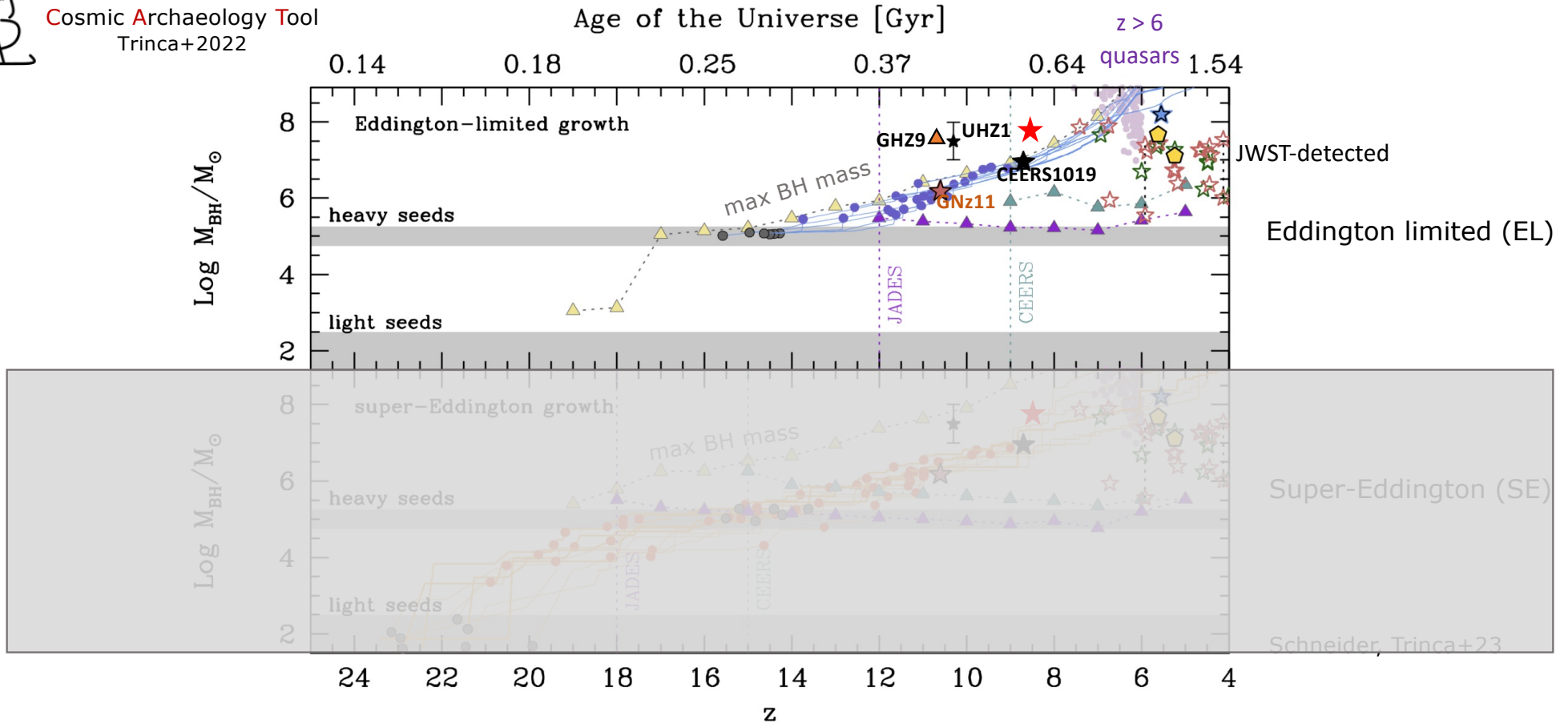


data from: Kocevski+23, Ubler+23, Harikane+23, Larson+23, Maiolino+23, Bogdan+23, Kokorev+24

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Cosmic Archaeology Tool
Trinca+2022

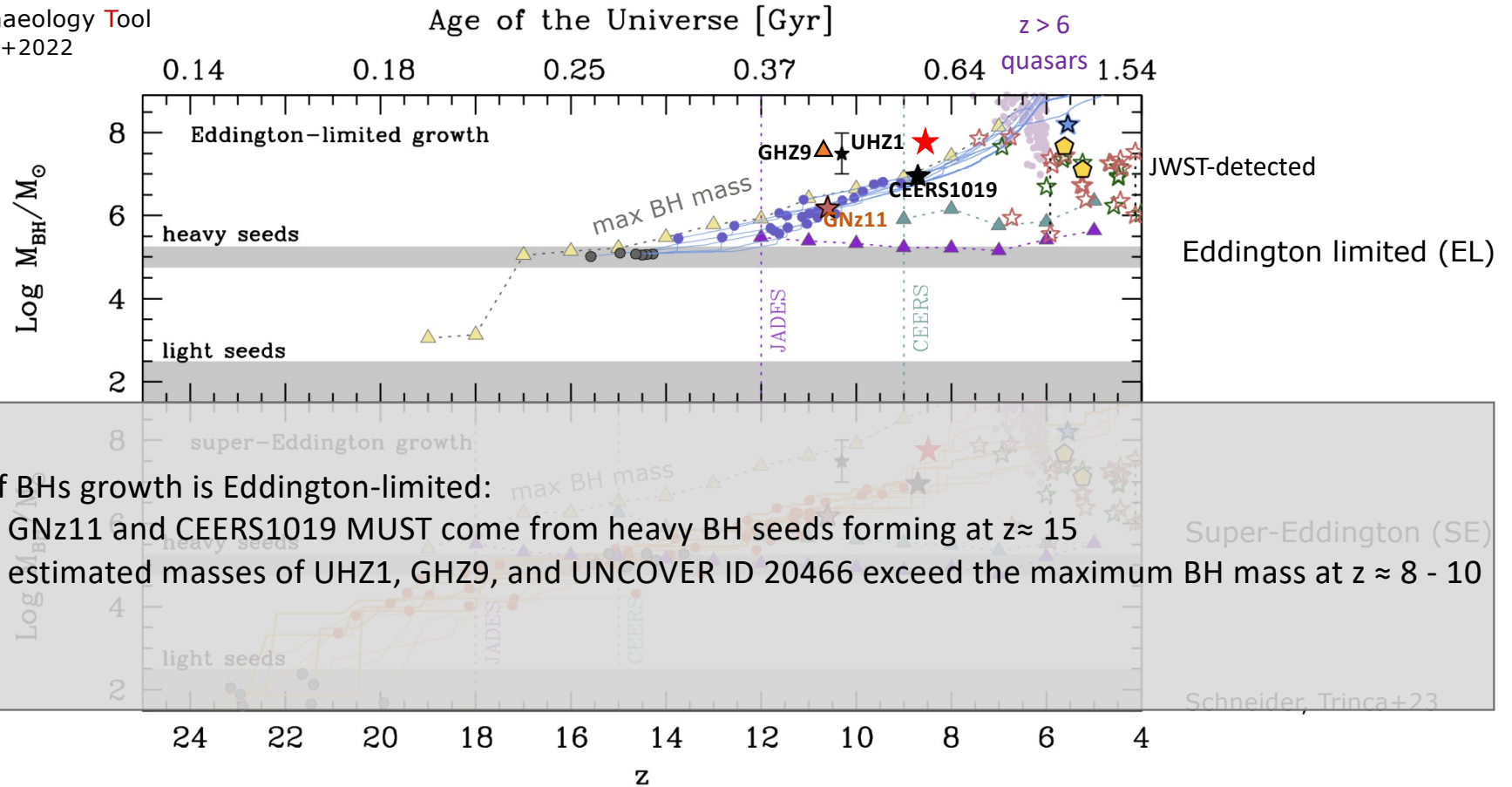


data from: Kocevski+23, Ubler+23, Harikane+23, Larson+23, Maiolino+23, Bogdan+23, Kokorev+24

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Cosmic Archaeology Tool
Trinca+2022

Age of the Universe [Gyr]

$z > 6$

0.14

0.18

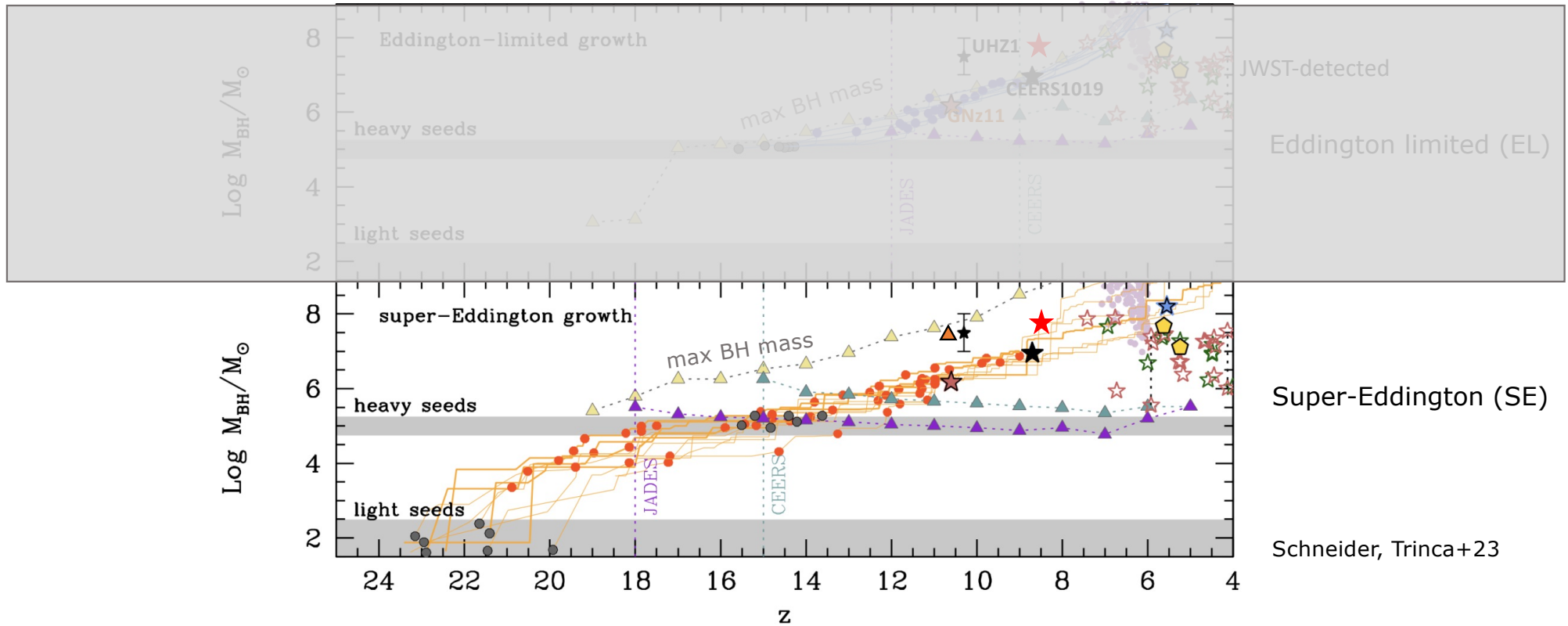
0.25

0.37

0.64

quasars

1.54



data from: Kocevski+23, Ubler+23, Harikane+23, Larson+23, Maiolino+23, Bogdan+23, Kokorev+24

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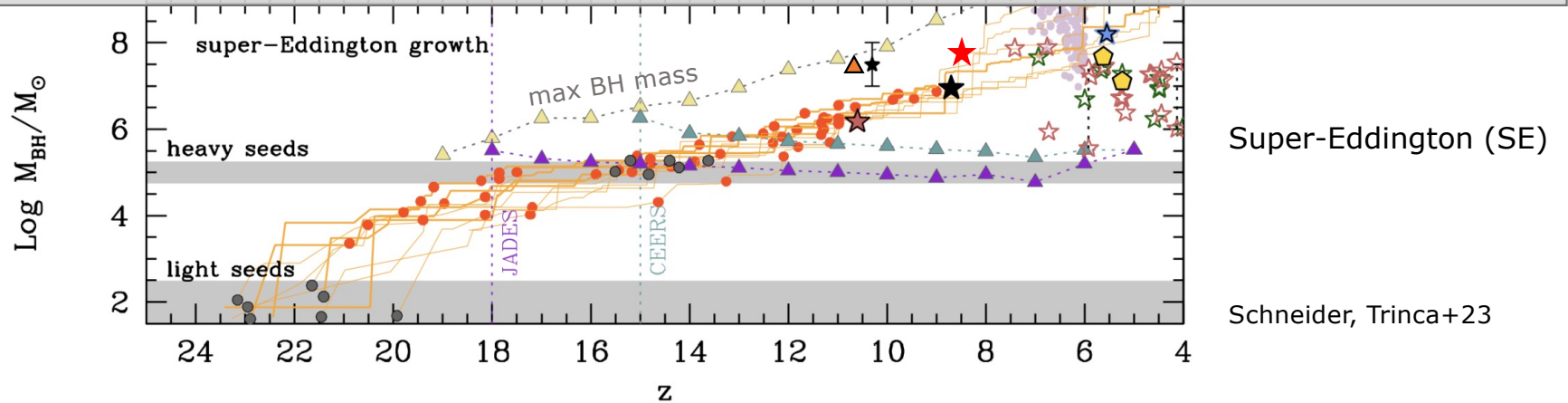
quasars

1.54

if BHs can grow at super-Eddington rates:

- GNz11 and CEERS1019 can come from light seeds forming at $z \approx 20 - 24$ or from heavy BH seeds forming at $z \approx 15$

- estimated masses of UHZ1, GHZ9, and UNCOVER ID 20466 are below the maximum BH mass at $z \approx 8 - 10$

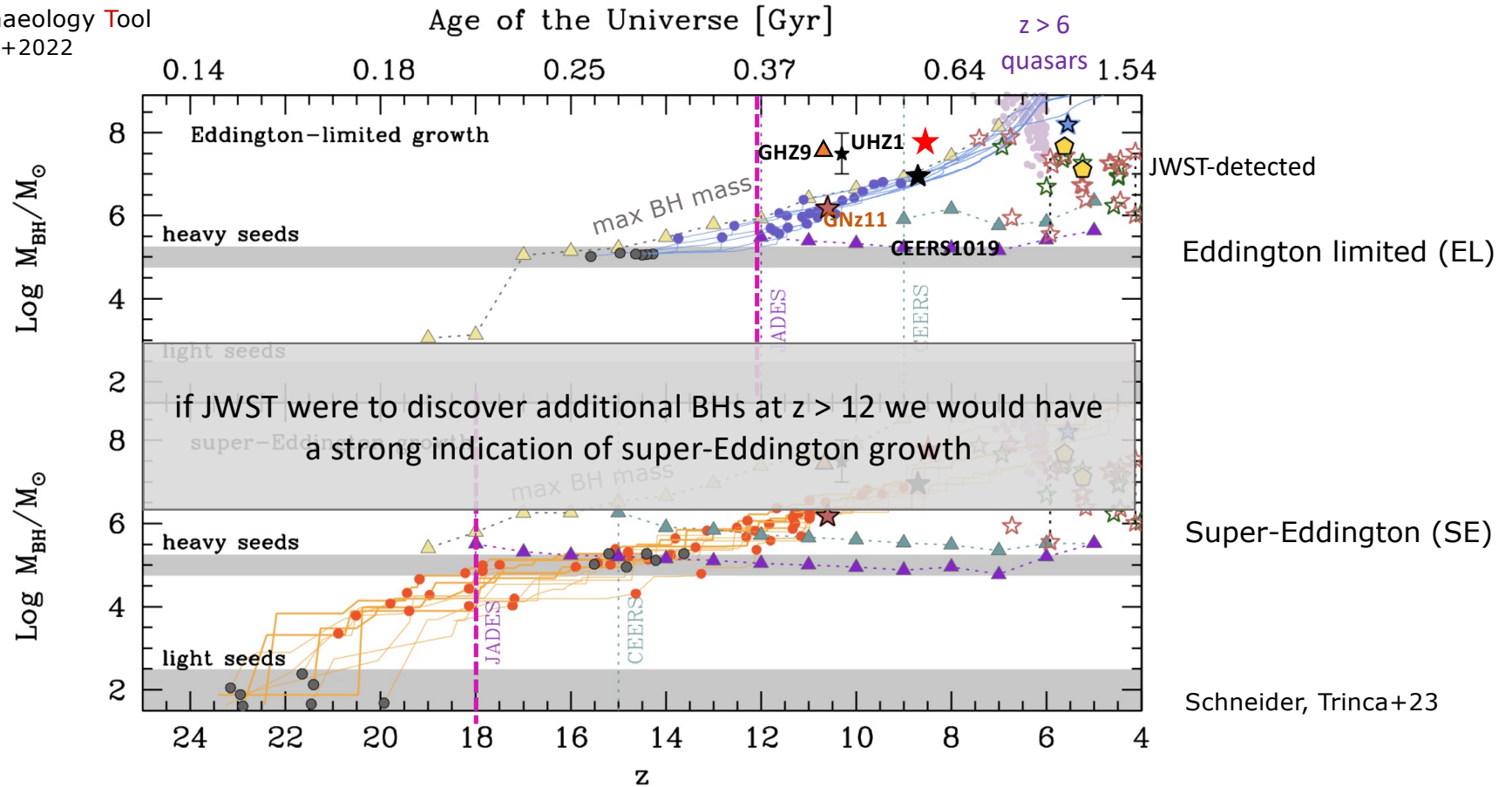


data from: Kocevski+23, Ubler+23, Harikane+23, Larson+23, Maiolino+23, Bogdan+23, Kokorev+24

JWST-detected BHs at $z \approx 9 - 11$: implications for BH seeding and growth

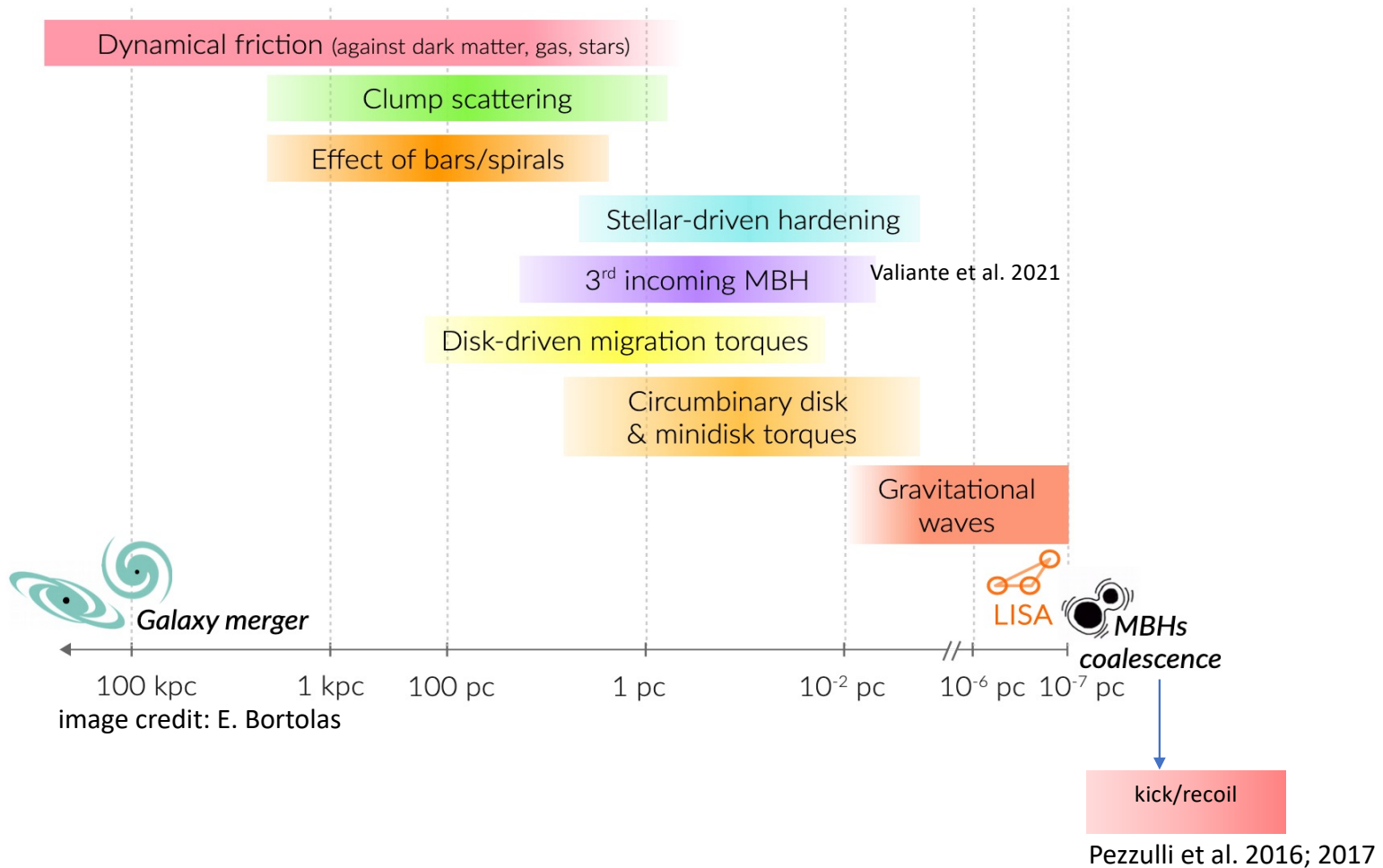


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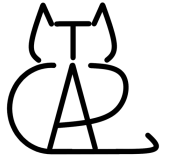


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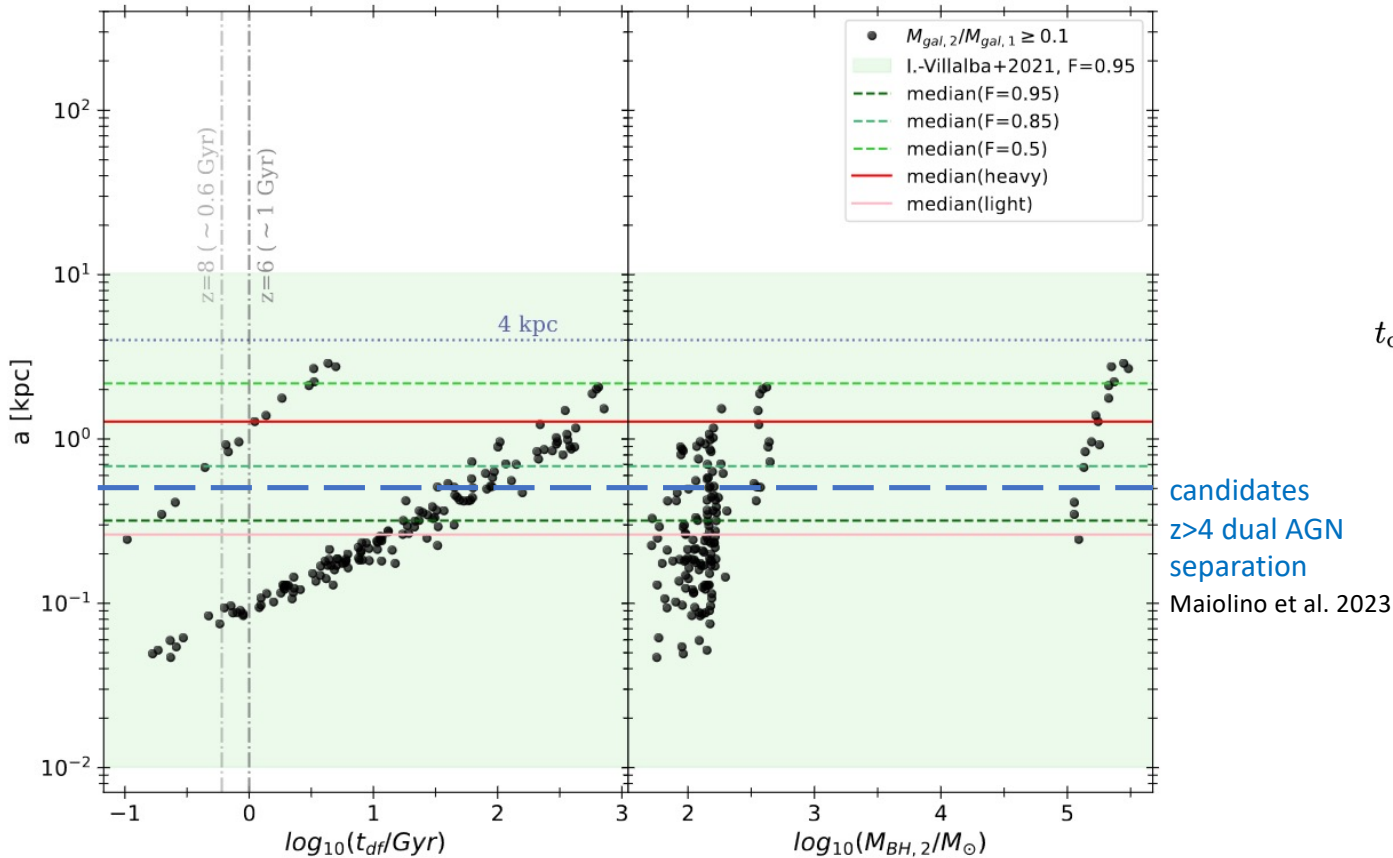
BH dynamics: timescale matters especially at high redshift



the earliest BH binaries: population studies



new features for BH dynamics: pairing+hardening phase



Trinca et al. in prep.

initial distance of "dual" BHs

$$a = f \cdot R_{\text{vir}} \quad f = 0.1$$

calibrated against hydro simulations
(Volonteri et al. 2020)

BH binary formation timescale

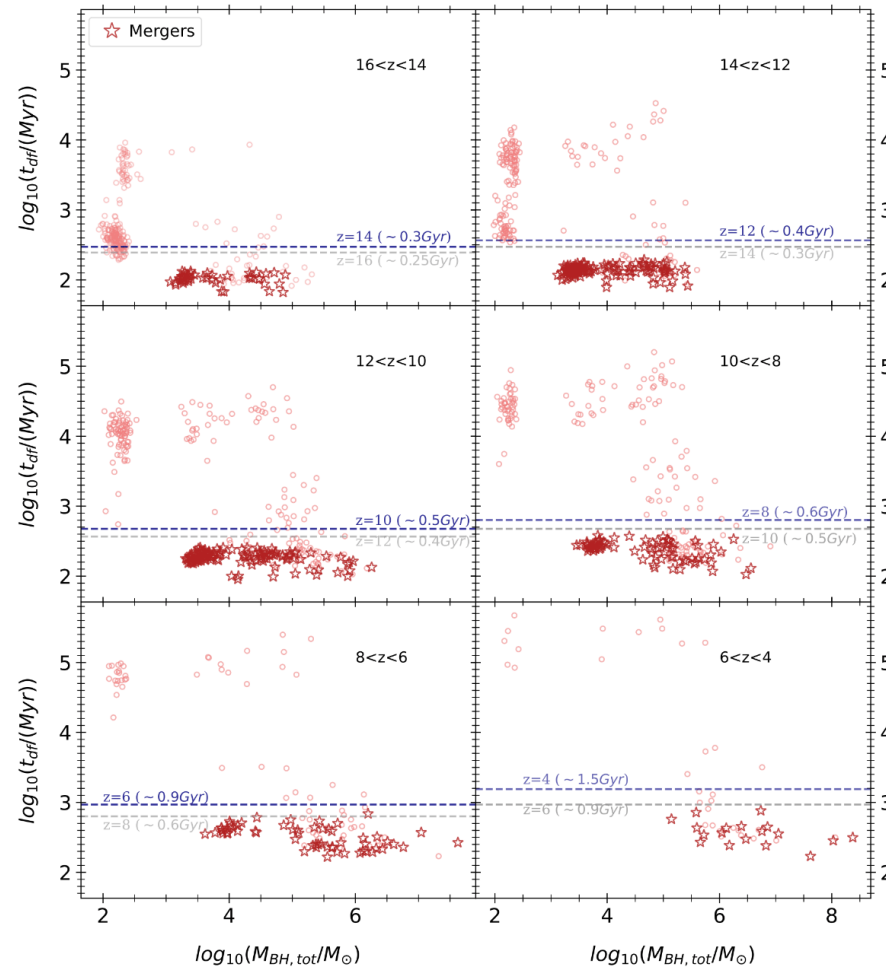
$$t_{\text{df}} = 0.67 \text{ Gyr} \left(\frac{a}{4 \text{ kpc}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\sigma}{100 \text{ km s}^{-1}} \right) \left(\frac{M_{\text{BH},2}}{10^8 M_{\odot}} \right)^{-1} \frac{1}{\Lambda}$$

In most cases BHB shrinking timescale
(<pc scales; stellar/gas hardening)

is fast: $t_{\text{hardening}} \ll t_{\text{df}}$

lower-mass secondary BHs are
closer (0.25-3 kpc) to the primary BH
wrt those with $>10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$

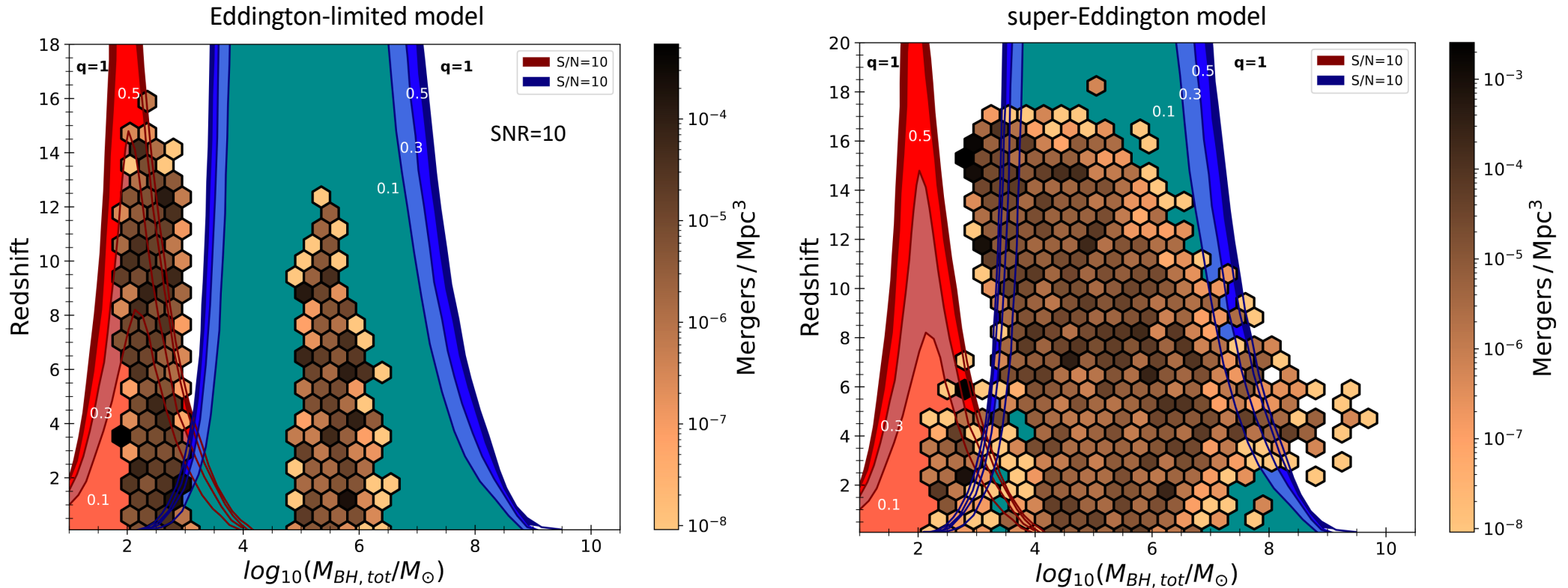
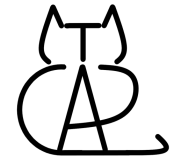
merging BHs across cosmic epochs



Trinca et al. in prep.

a population of GW sources

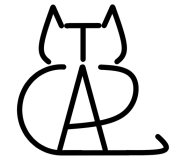
Testing prescriptions for BH dynamics: pairing+hardening phase



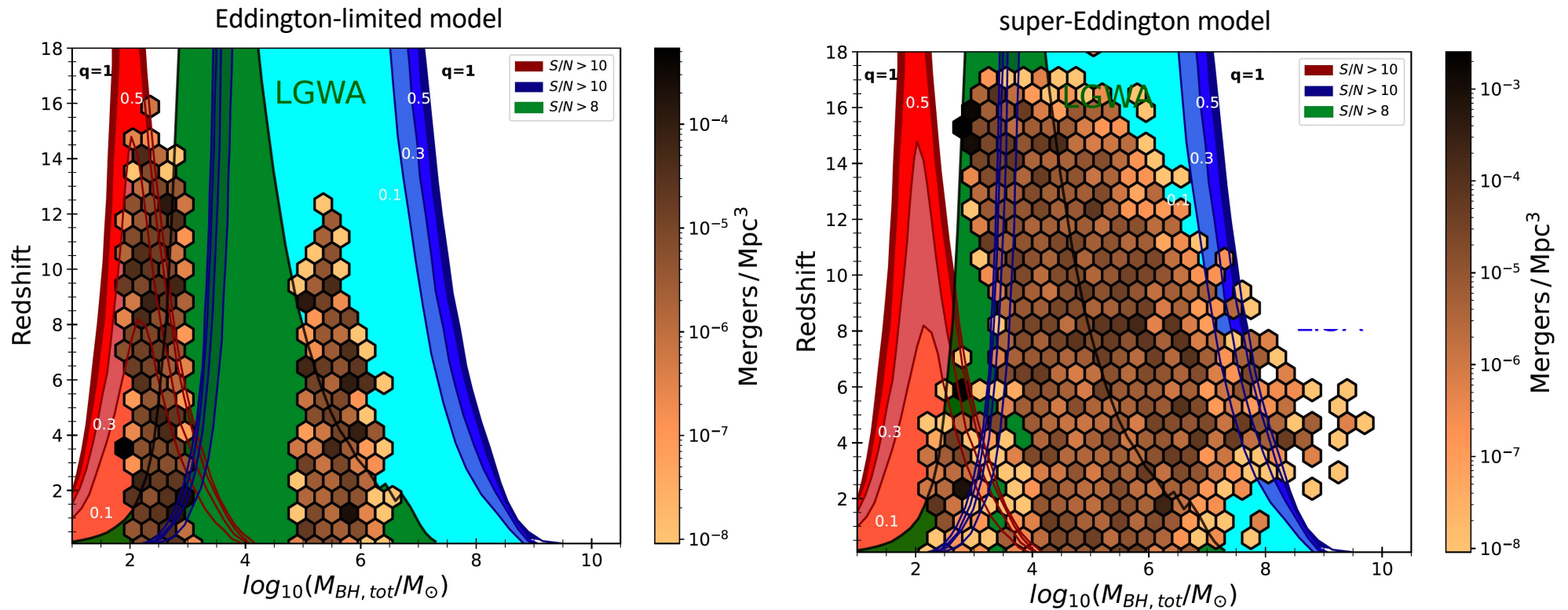
the two BH accretion regimes are expected to leave specific imprints in the properties of GW sources that would be detectable with ET and LISA

Trinca et al. in prep.; Davari et al. in prep.

a population of GW sources



Testing prescriptions for BH dynamics: pairing+hardening phase



LGWA would be sensitive to BBH coalescences from growing light BH seeds out to $z \approx 16 - 18$

Trinca et al. in prep.; Davari et al. in prep.

Summary

- Origin and growth of SMBHs at $z > 6$ is a major theoretical challenge!
- JWST is revolutionising the field with detections and fainter and more distant AGNs
- Current observations/models point to a mix of BH seed populations, whose growth can be super-Eddington
- Incredible synergy with future GW telescopes!