

From high-z protoclusters to local BCGs: Challenges for simulations

Stefano Borgani

Dept. of Physics - University of Trieste

INAF – Astronomical Observatory of Trieste

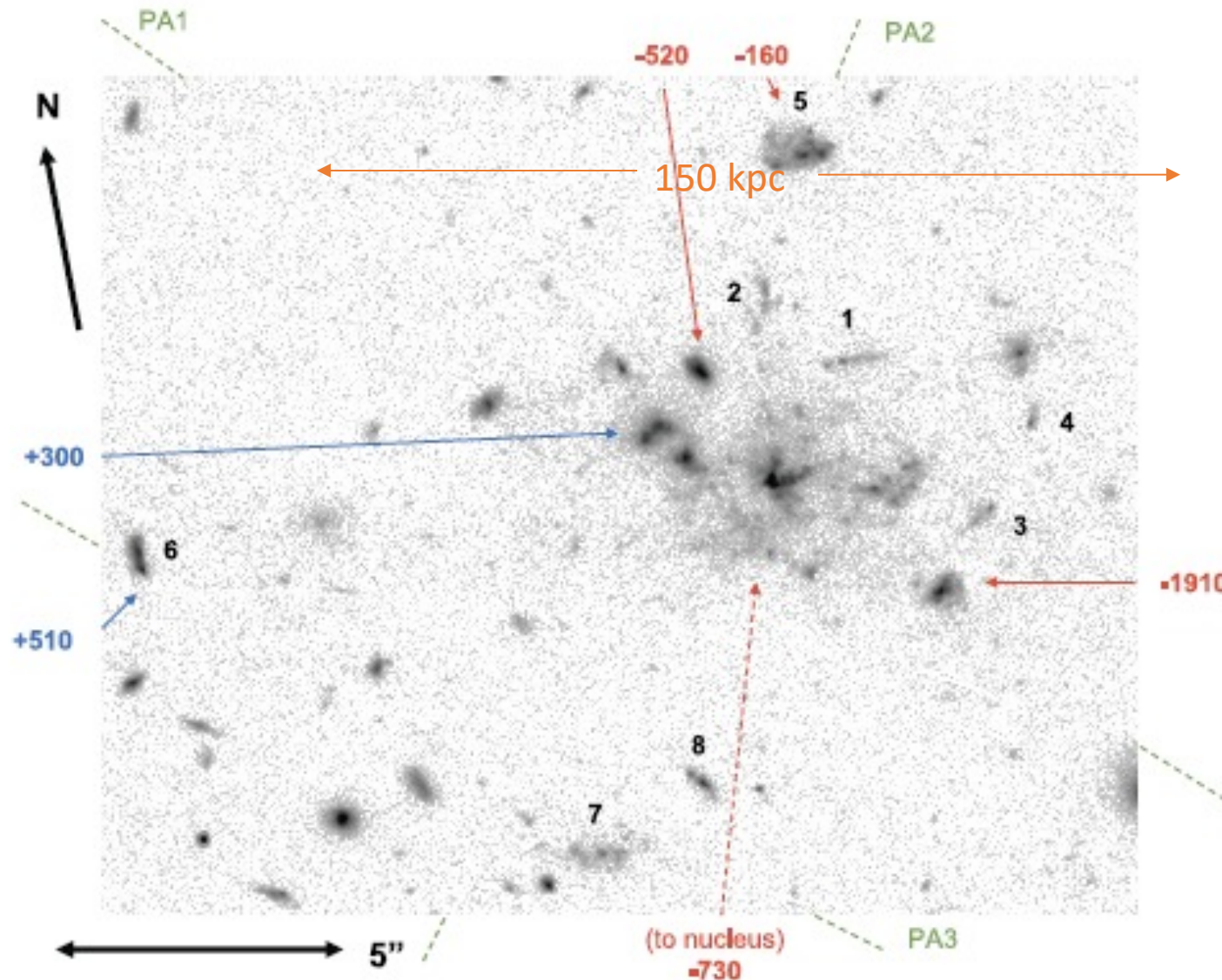
INFN – National Institute for Nuclear Physics – Trieste

ICSC - National Center for HPC, Big Data and Quantum Computing

- I. Simulating protoclusters: environment of the early BCG assembly
 - I.a Properties of the proto-ICM and their low-z fossil record
 - I.b Star formation rates in protoclusters
- II. Connecting to the properties of the low-z BCGs
 - II.a Stellar masses and SFR of BCGs
 - II.b Metal share in ICM and stars

PART 1:
Simulating Protoclusters

How does a galaxy cluster look like at $z > 2$?

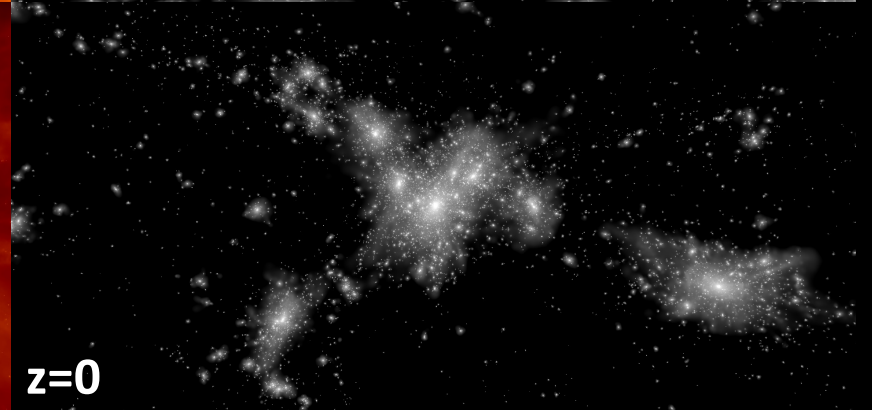
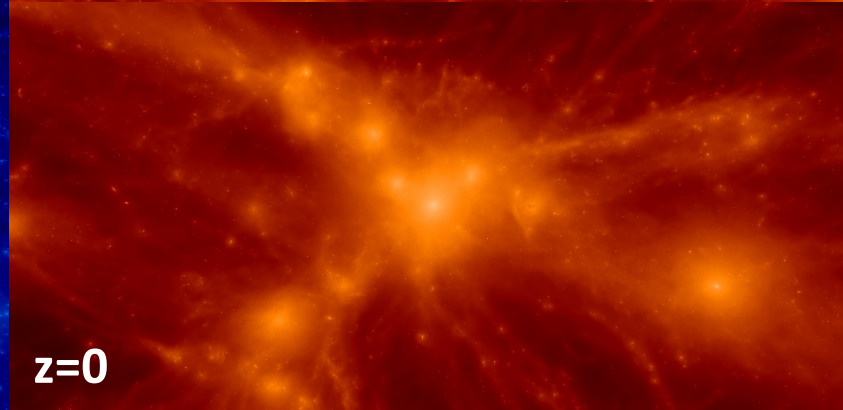
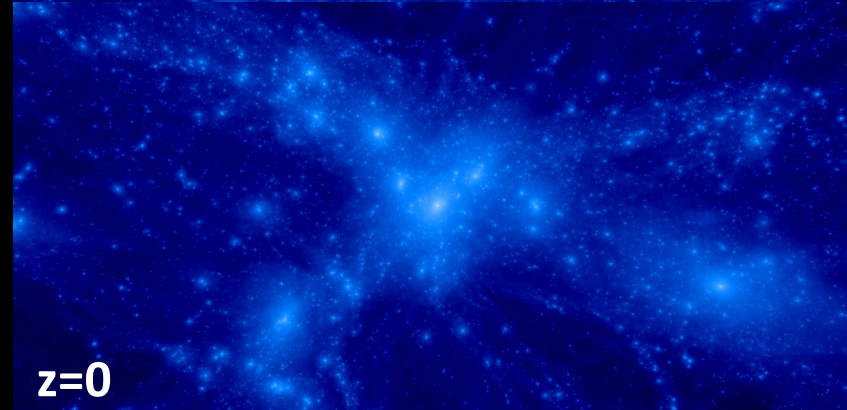
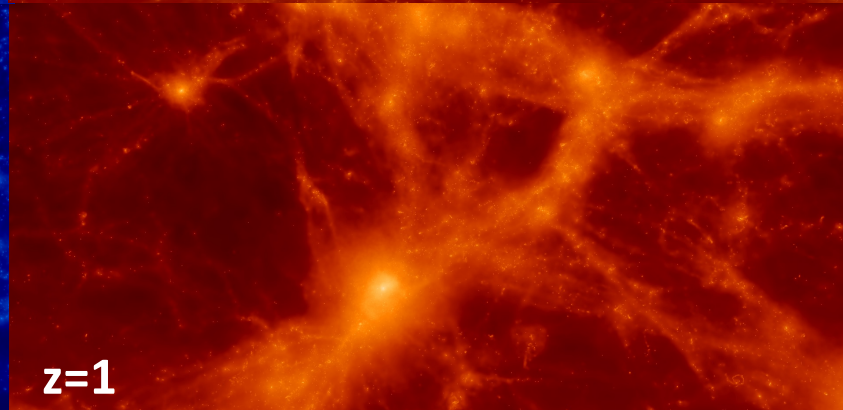
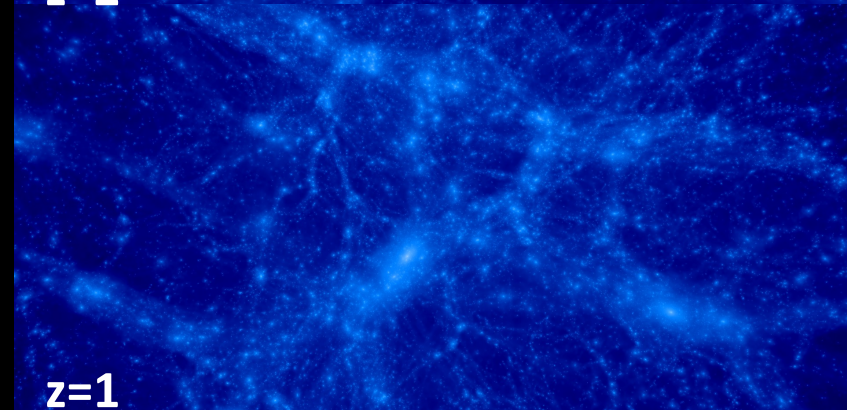
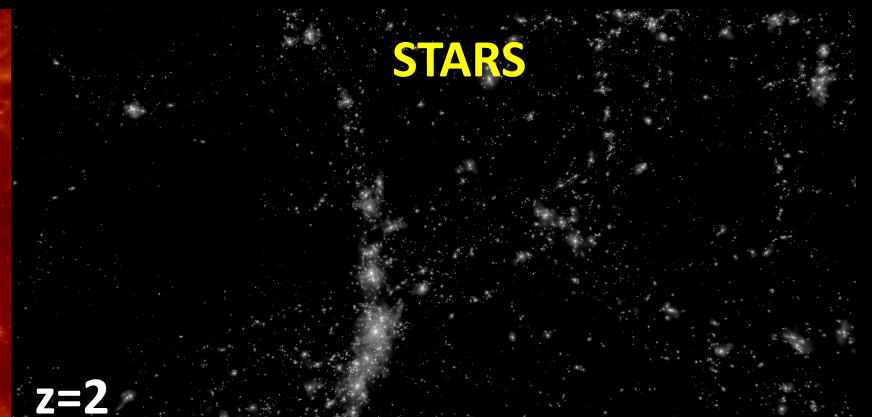
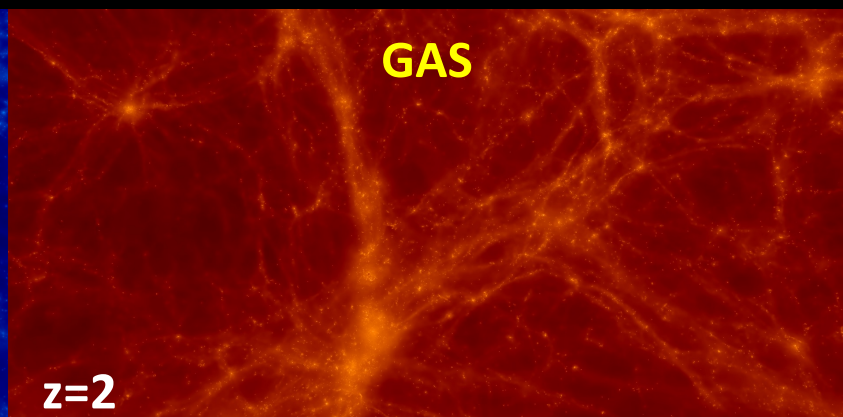
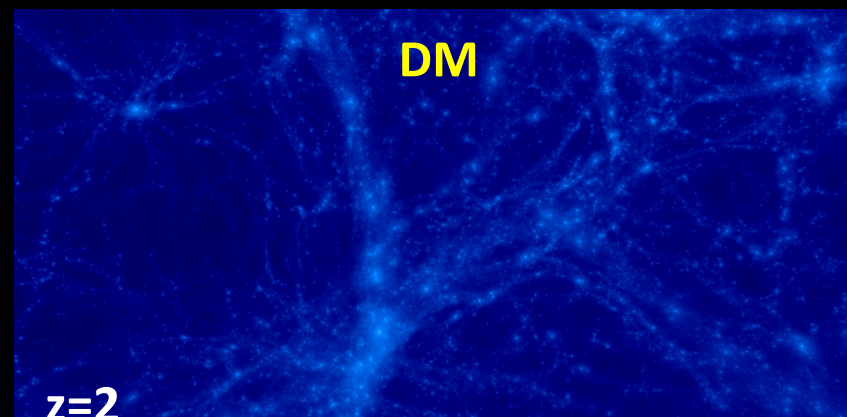


HST-ACS image of MRC 1138-262

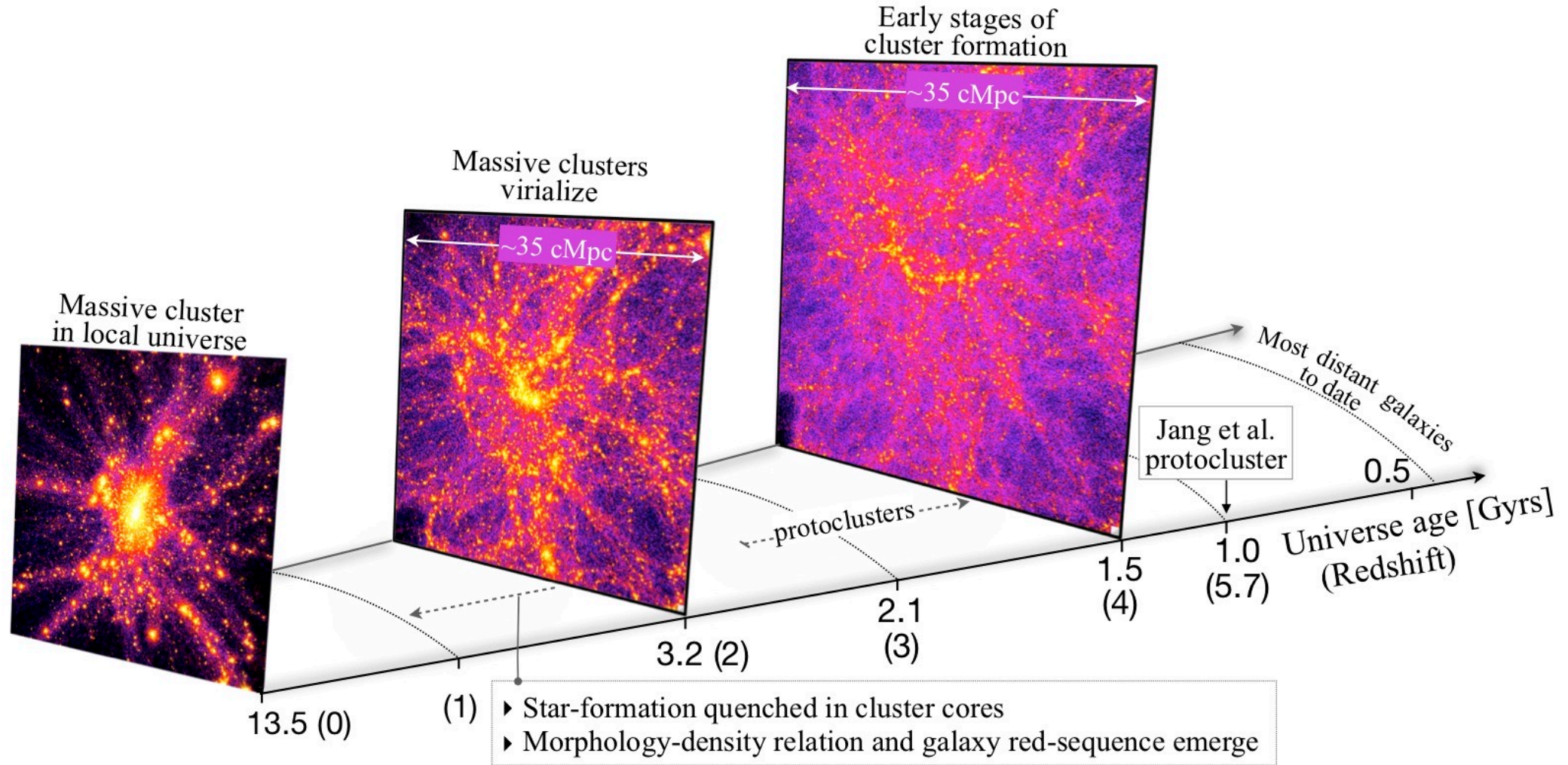
The “Spiderweb” galaxy (Miley+06)

- ➔ Complex dynamics of galaxies merging into the FR-II radio galaxy
- ➔ “Flies” moving with v_{los} of up to $\sim 10^3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$
- ➔ How typical is all this in the Λ CDM structure formation paradigm?

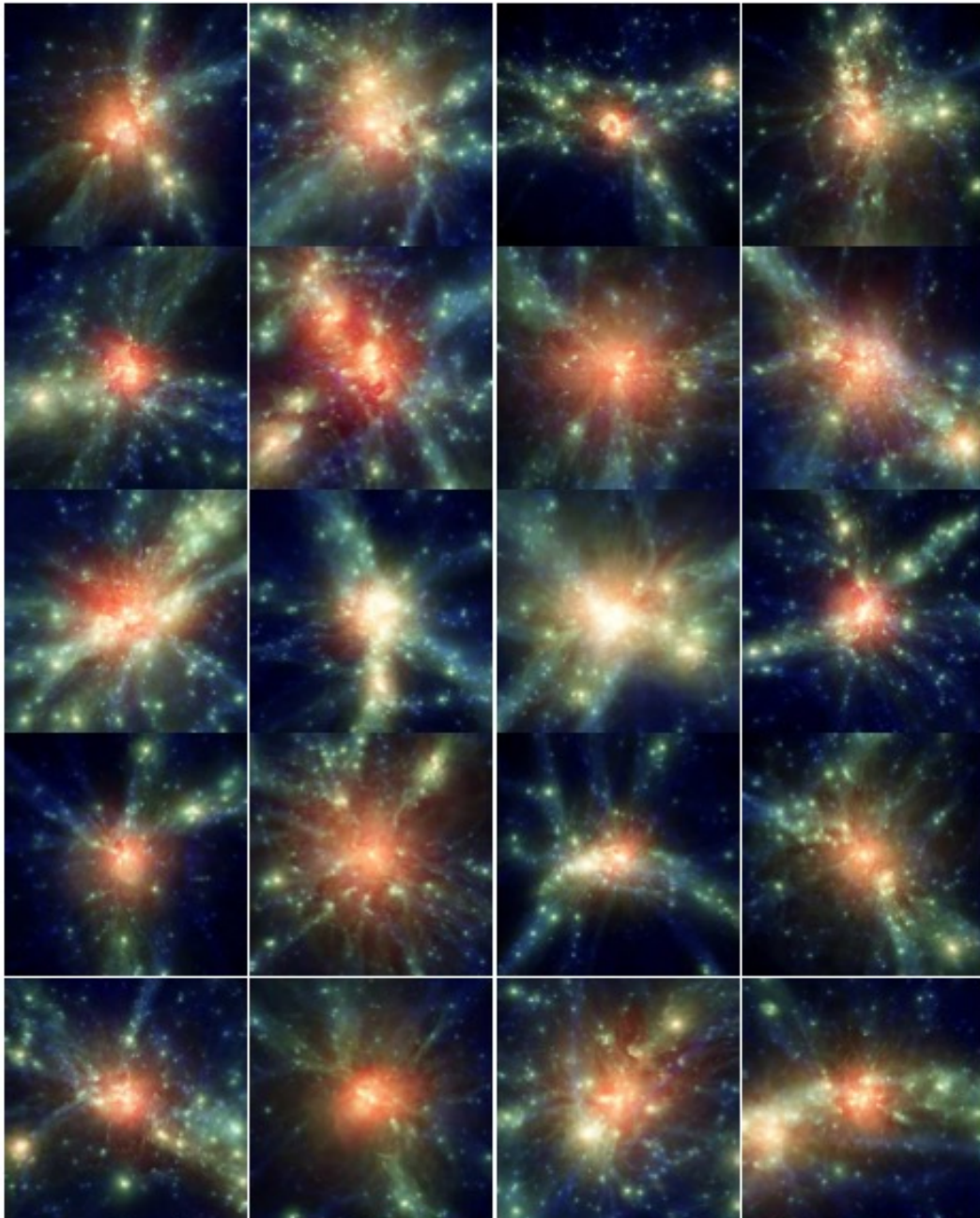
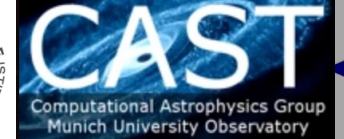
Dianoga Simulations



Courtesy of P. Rosati



The Dianoga Set with OpenGADGET3



→ 29 cluster Lagrangian regions resimulated at high resolution (Bonafede+12; Rasia+15; SB+24)

$$m_* = 2.6 \cdot 10^6 h^{-1} M_\odot ; \epsilon_* = 250 \text{ cpc}$$

OpenGADGET3 code: TreePM + SPH/MFM;

→ Hybrid MPI/OpenMP/OpenACC parallelism

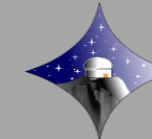
→ **Hydro-1:** SPH (Beck+16)

- Higher-order kernels, “Wake-up” for time-step of gas particles, Time-dependent artificial viscosity, Artificial conduction

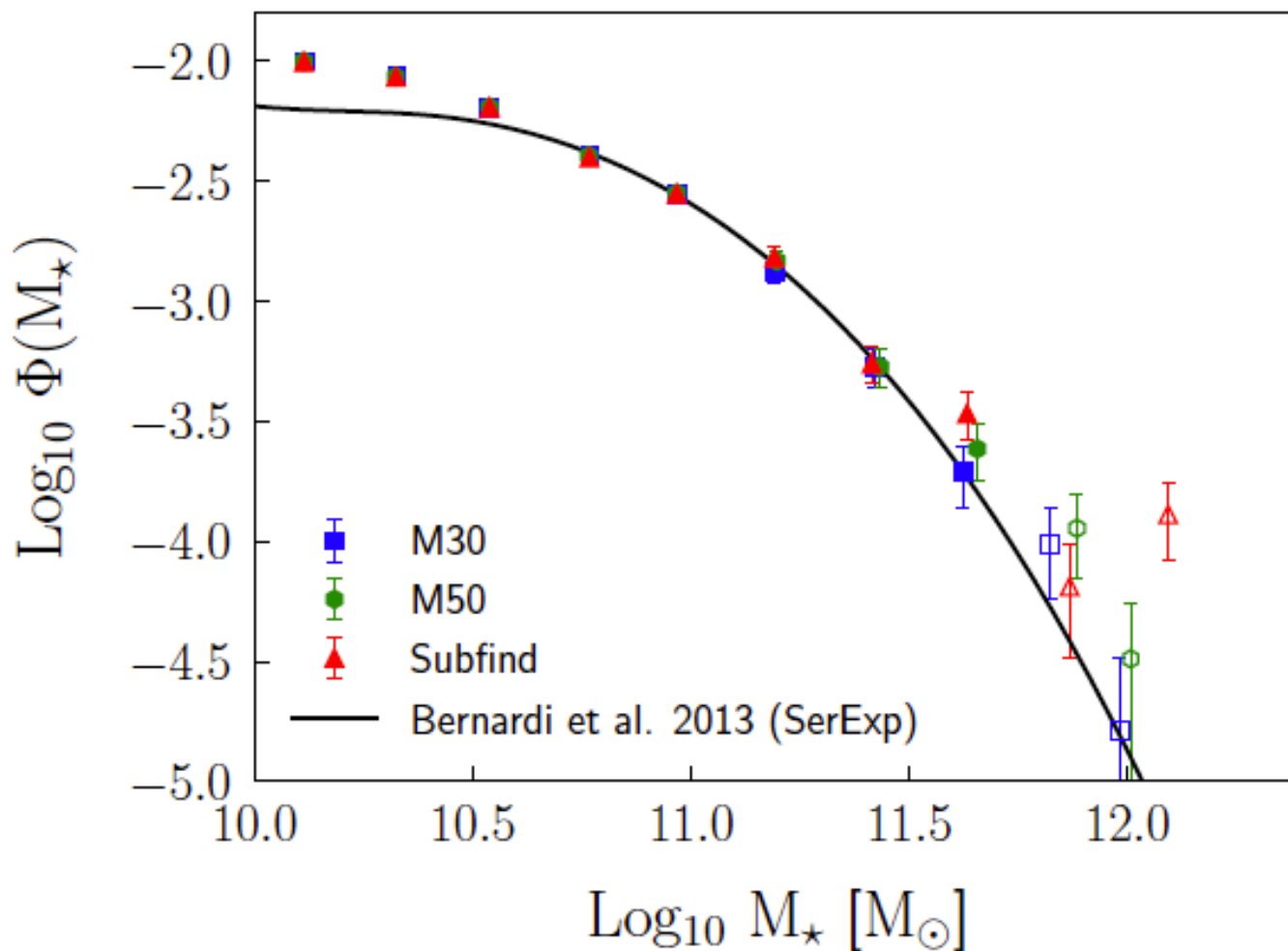
→ **Hydro-2:** MFM (Groth+23):

→ Astrophysics:

- Cooling + SF + SN feedback (Springel & Hernquist 03; Valentini+18), Chemical enrichment (Tornatore+07), AGN feedback (Fabjan+14; Steinborn+15)



(Bassini et al. 2021)

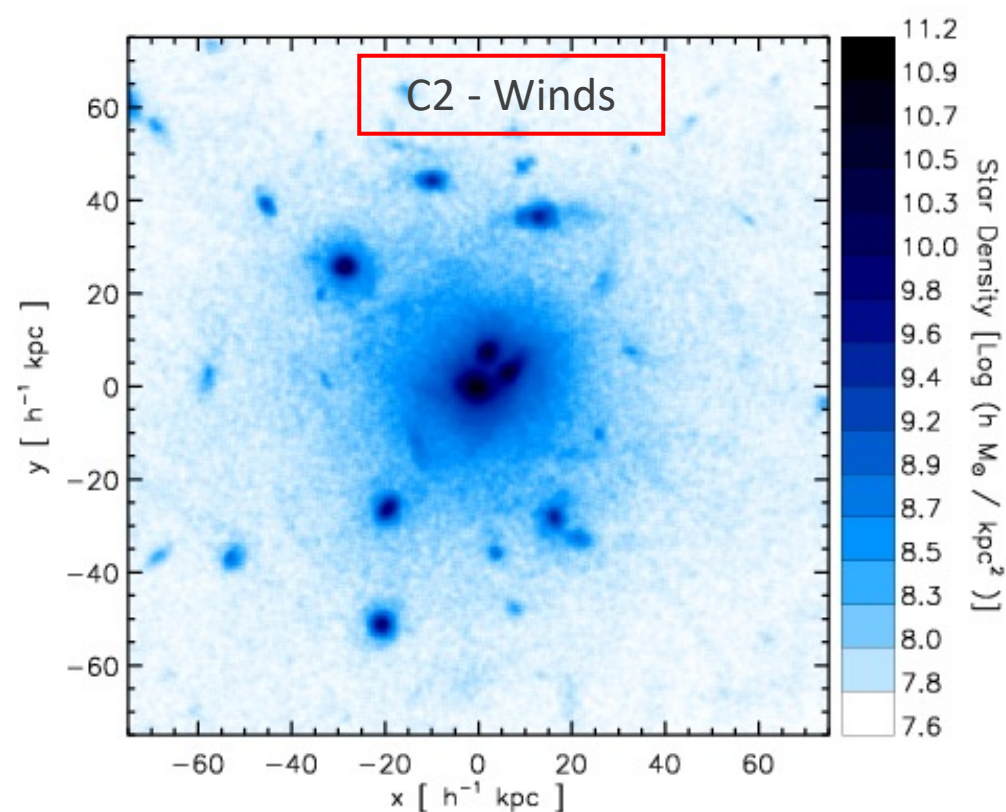
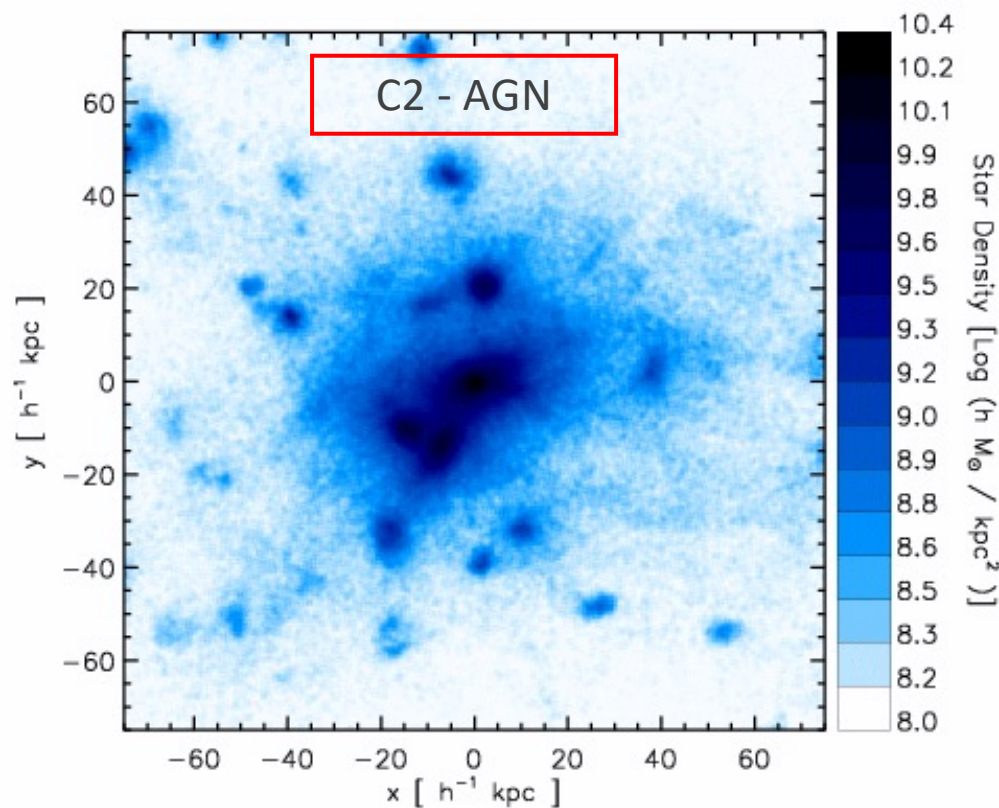


➔ Adjust the parameters of feedback to reproduce the observed scaling between SMBH masses and host stellar masses

➔ Predict the correct SMF of cluster galaxies

Simulating the formation of a proto-cluster at $z \sim 2$

Saro, SB et al. 2009



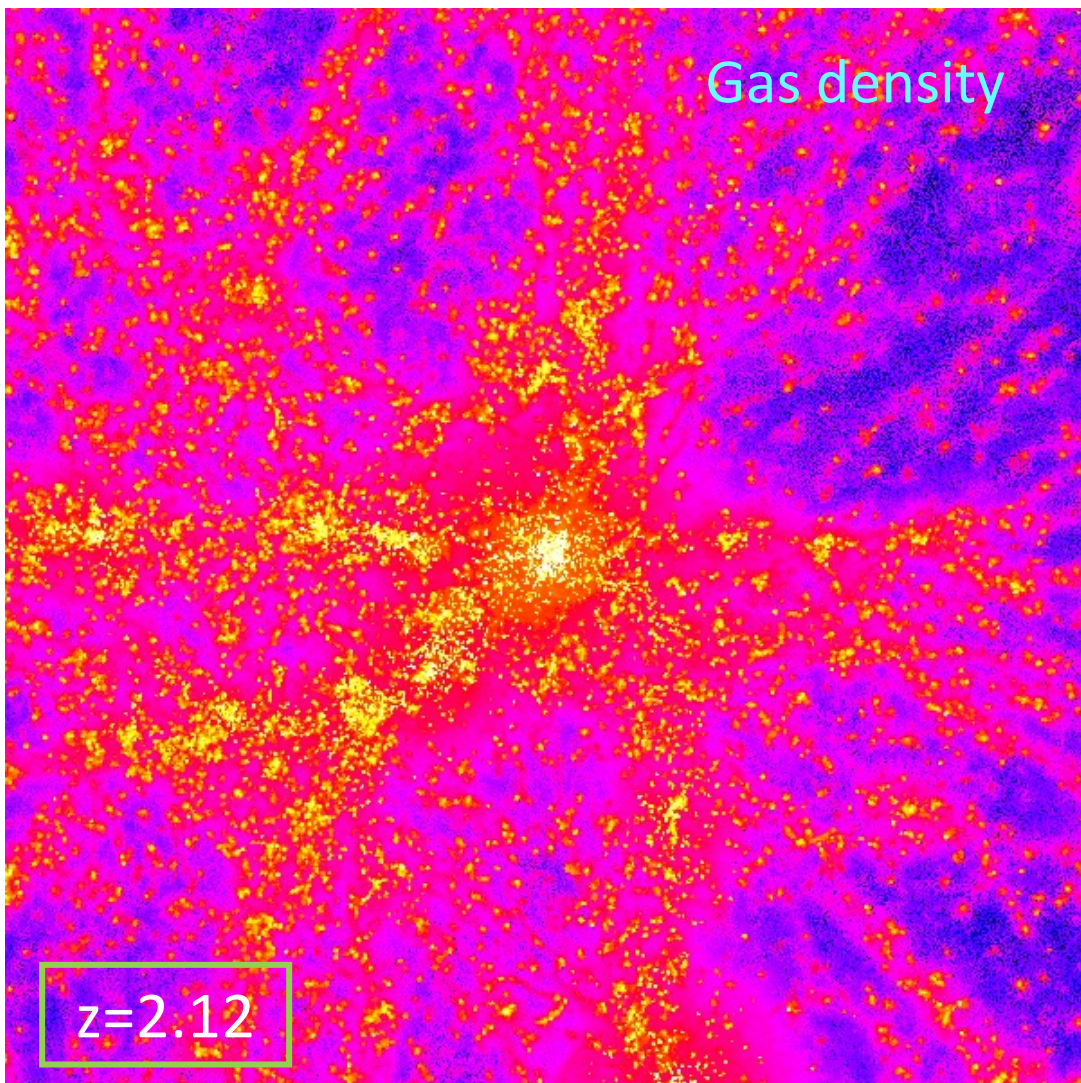
➔ SN-driven winds: $\text{SFR} \sim 1750 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

➔ + AGN feedback: $\text{SFR} \sim 1300 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$

➔ Significant amount of diffuse ICL already in place at $z=2.16$ (see talk by Nina Hatch; poster by Paola Dimauro)

Simulating the formation of a proto-cluster at $z \sim 2$

Saro, SB et al. 2009



→ Progenitor of a today massive galaxy cluster:

$$M_{200}(z=0) = 1.5 \times 10^{15} h^{-1} M_{\odot}$$

At $z=2.1$: hosting a hot, X-ray bright and metal-enriched proto-ICM:

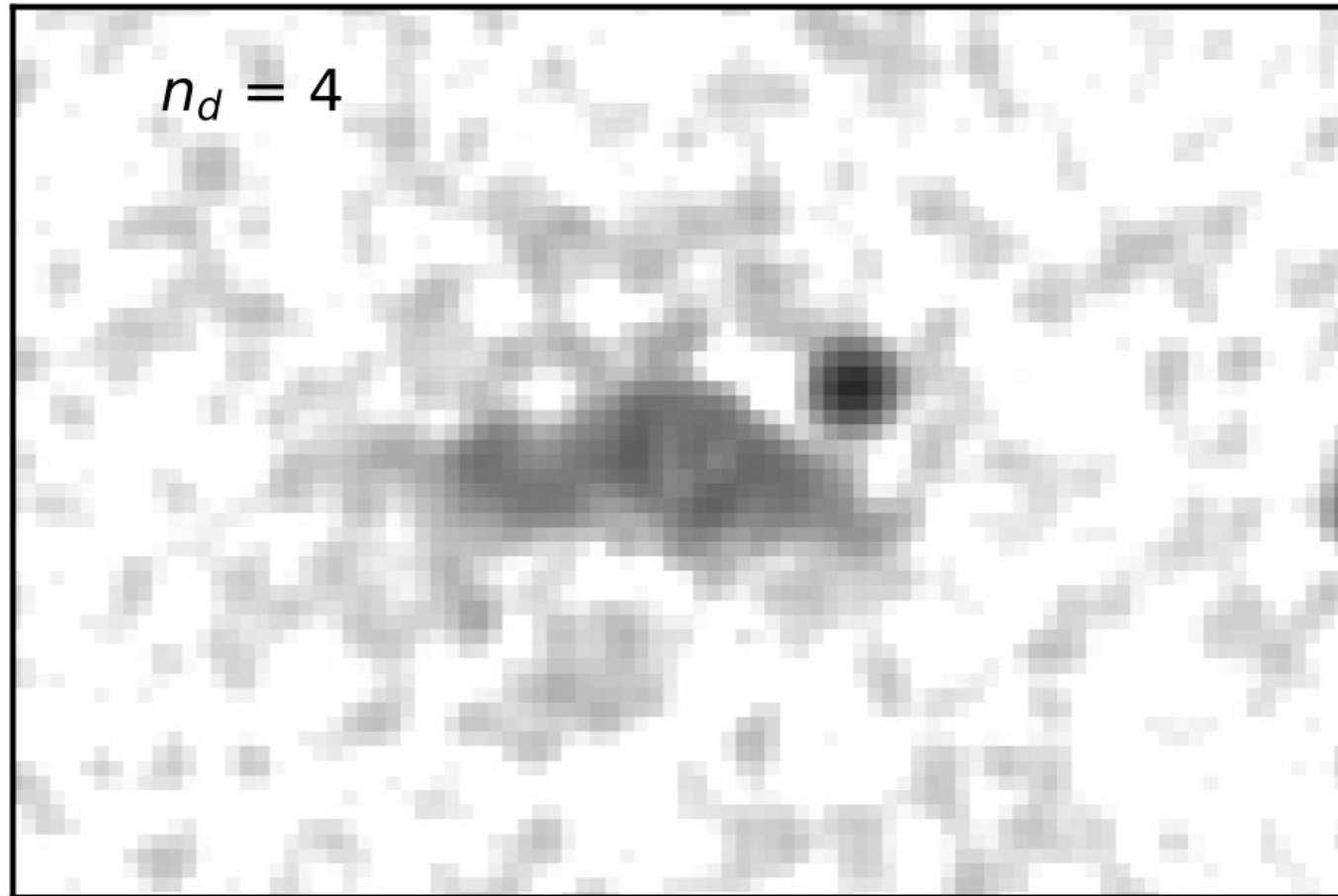
$$L_{0.5-2} = 1.4 \times 10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

$$T_x = 3.8 \text{ keV}$$

$$Z_{\text{Fe}} = 0.57 Z_{\odot}$$

A deep (700 ks) Chandra exposure on the “Spiderweb”

→ Large Chandra program (700 ks) to characterize the proto-ICM and the AGN population in the “Spiderweb” protocluster (*PI: P. Tozzi – Tozzi+2022 ; Lepore+2023*)



Predicted

$$L_{0.5-2} = 1.4 \cdot 10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

$$T_X = 3.8 \text{ keV}$$

$$Z_{\text{Fe}} = 0.57 Z_{\odot}$$

Observed

$$L_{0.5-2} = (2.0 \pm 0.5) \cdot 10^{44} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

$$T_X = 2.0^{+0.7}_{-0.4} \text{ keV}$$

$$Z_{\text{Fe}} < 1.6 Z_{\odot}$$

A high-sensitivity ALMA observation of the “Spiderweb”



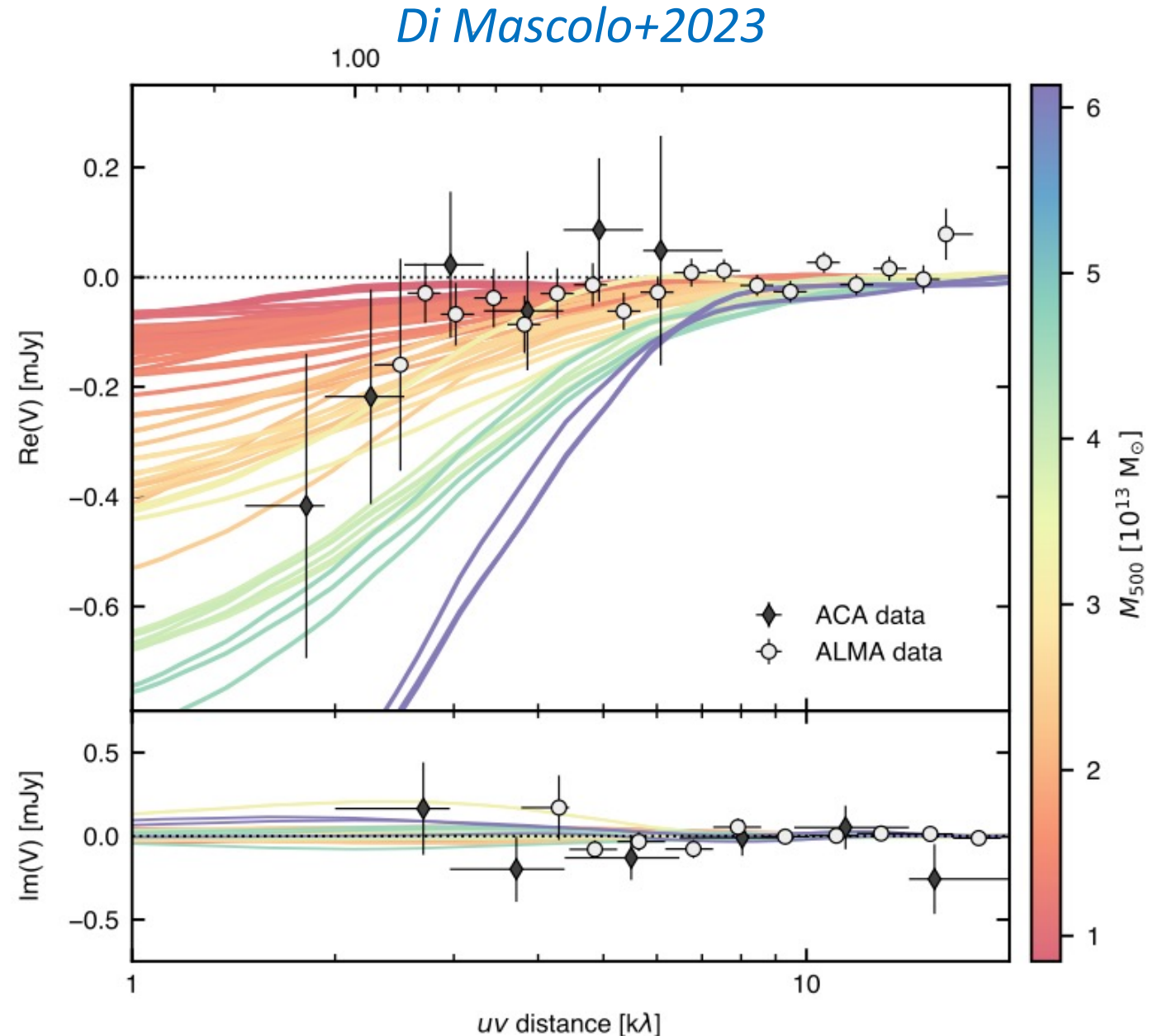
→ ALMA Cycle-6 proposal to detect the SZ signal around the Spiderweb galaxy (*PI A. Saro*)

→ ALMA+ACA observations secured the detection of the SZ signal from the proto-ICM (significance at $\approx 6\sigma$)

→ Robust evidence for a pressurized atmosphere around the Spiderweb galaxy at $z=2.16$

→ Comparison with simulations: generation of realistic mock ALMA observations

→ Consistent with being associated to a virialized halo of mass $\sim 3 \times 10^{13} M_{\odot}$



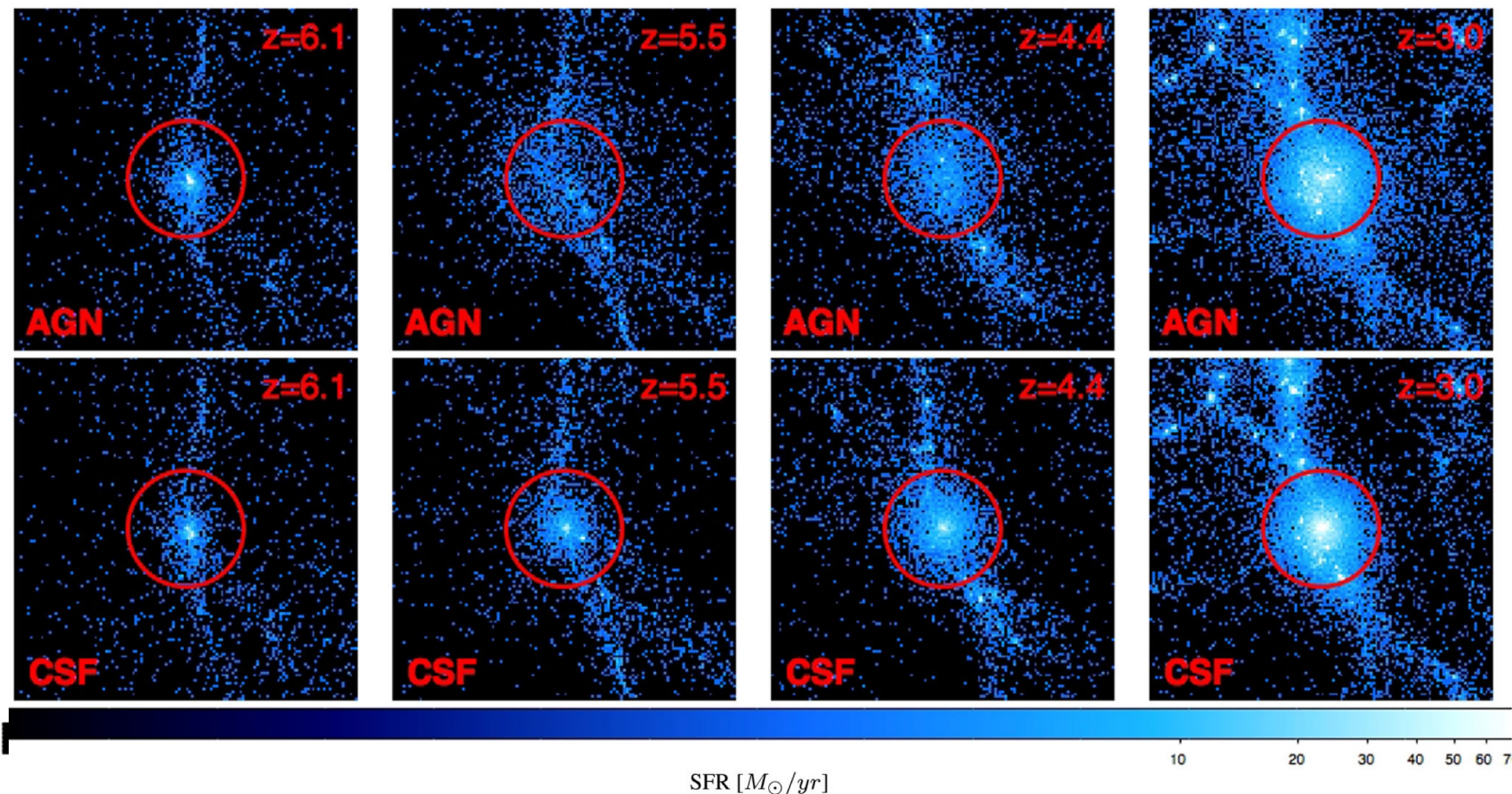
Biffi et al. 2017

AGN feedback causes:

→ More widespread IGM enrichment at high redshift

→ Suppression of star formation

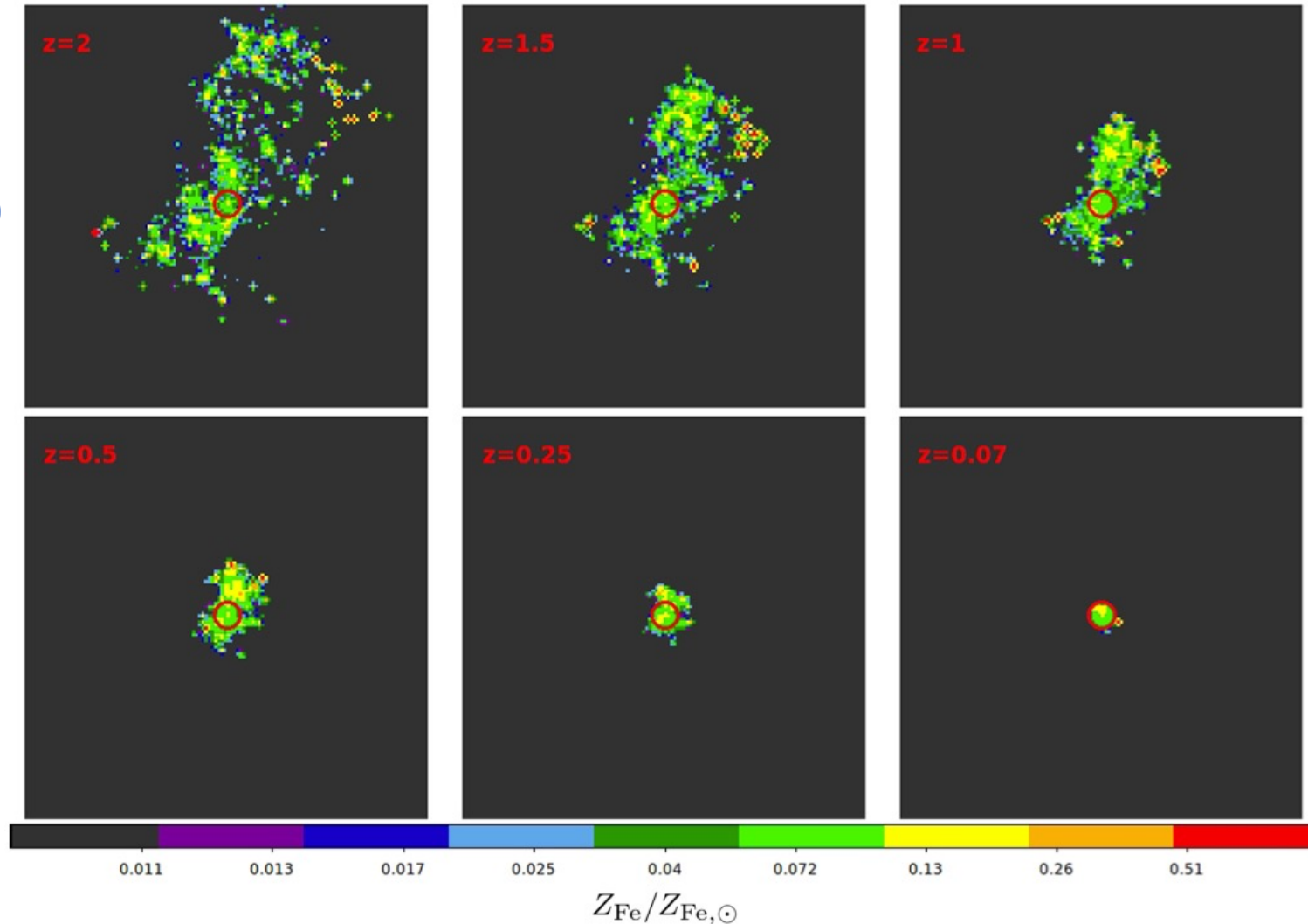
→ Many fewer metals locked back in later star formation



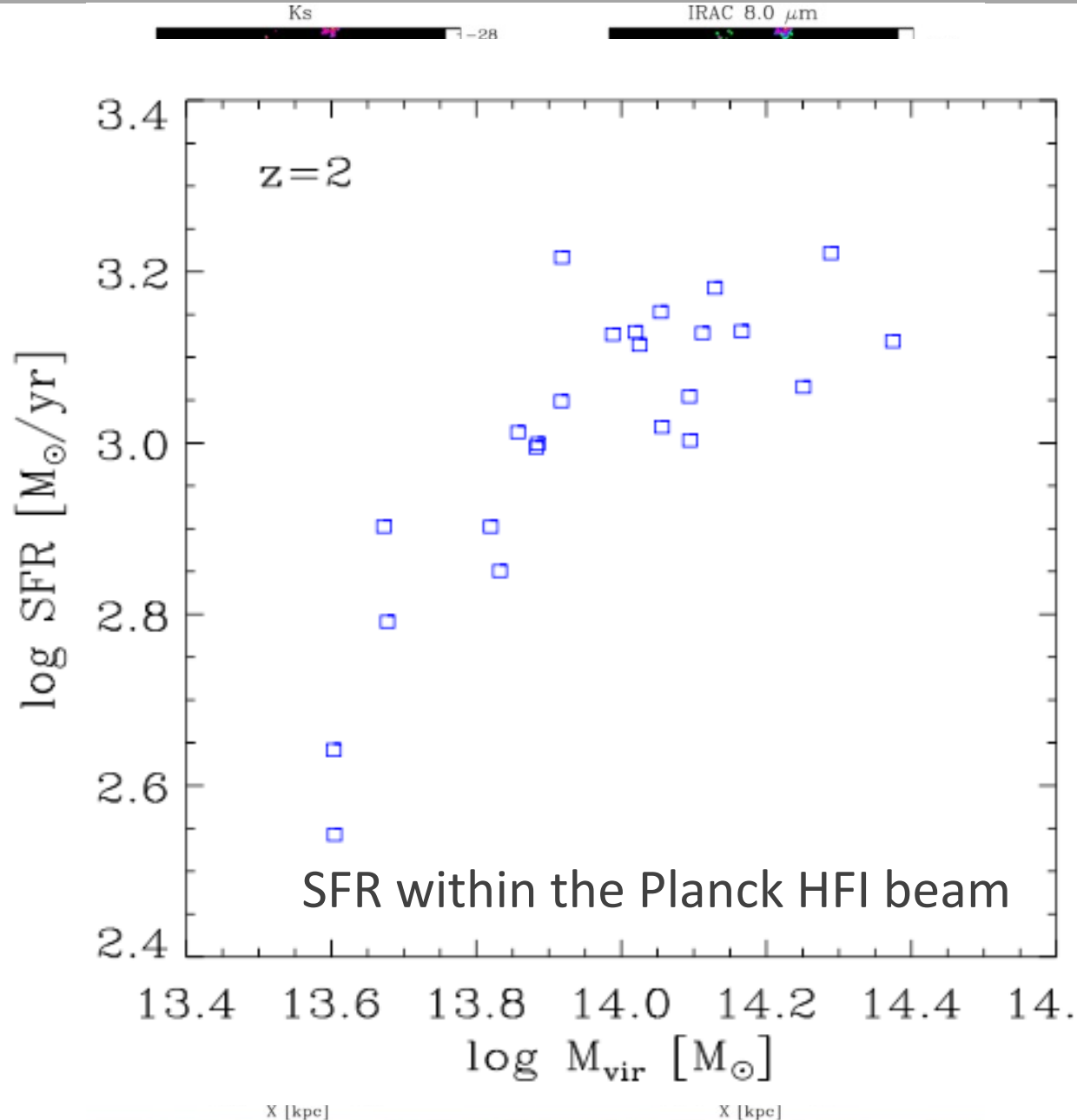
Low-z ICM metallicity as a fossil record of feedback history

Biffi et al. 2018 (see also *Fabjan+2014*, *McCarthy+2015*)

- Prediction on metallicity of ICM outskirts with AGN feedback in line with Suzaku observations ([Urban+2017](#))
- Track to $z=2$ the ICM residing in cluster outskirts ($0.8 < R/R_{\text{vir}} < 1.2$)
- Originated from diffuse and pre-enriched IGM/CGM
- Results from the action of AGN feedback



Star formation in “Planck blobs” with Herschel



Granato+2015

- Analyze progenitors of 24 clusters with $M(z=0) > 10^{15} M_{\odot}$
- Use GRASIL-3D to account for dust reprocessing
- Mock IR and sub-mm images at $z=2$

For the two observed clusters:

→ $Flux_{\text{HFI}} \sim 1200 \text{ mJy} (@857 \text{ GHz})$

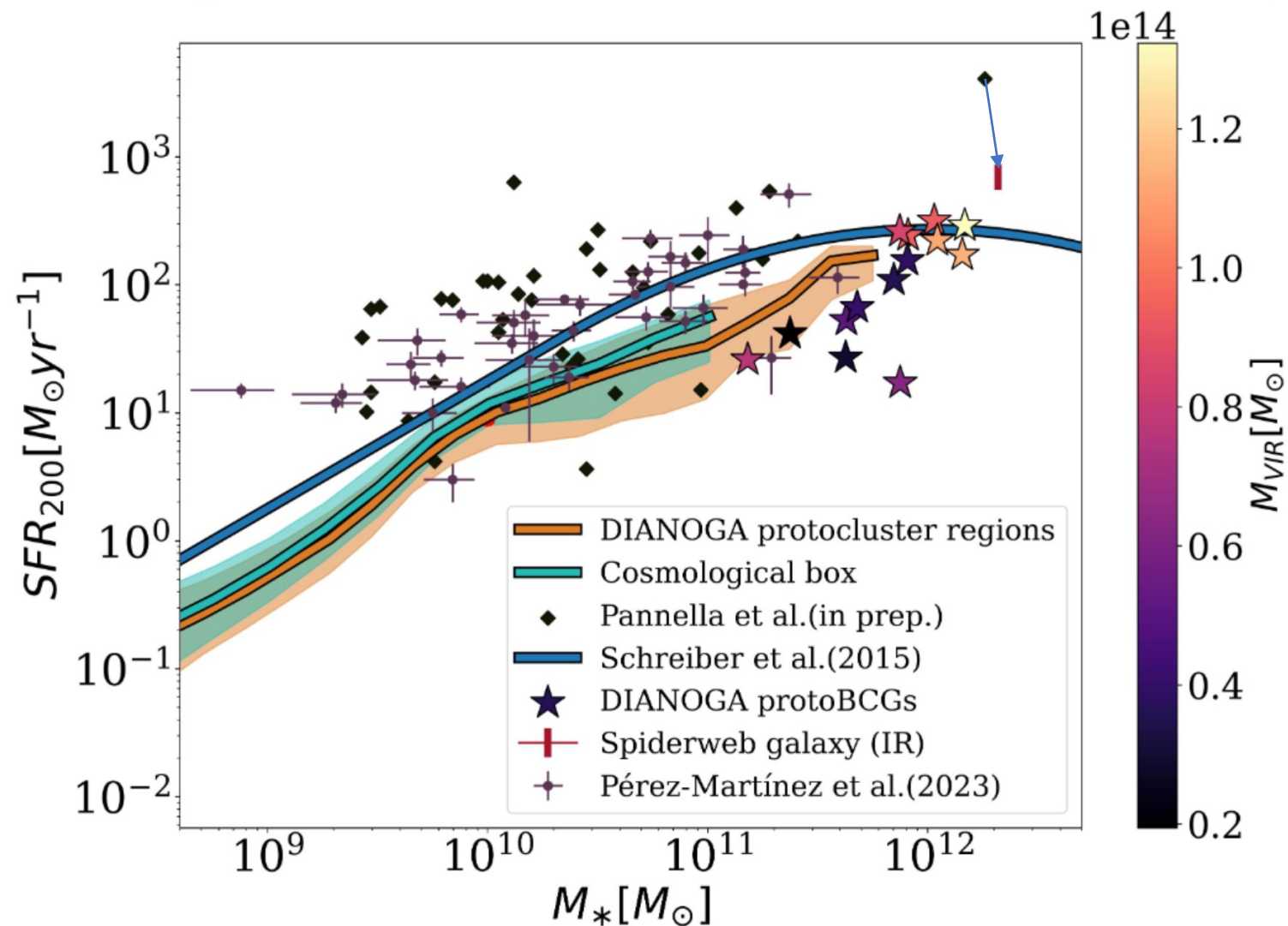
→ Far larger than obtainable from simulations

- Clemens+2014: SFR within Planck beam for two $z \sim 2$ clusters: $[2.9 - 7] \times 10^3 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$

Q: how to get such a high SFR at $z=2$, still smaller BCGs by $z=0$?

Star formation in proto-cluster regions

(Bassini et al. 2021; Esposito et al. 2024, in prep.)



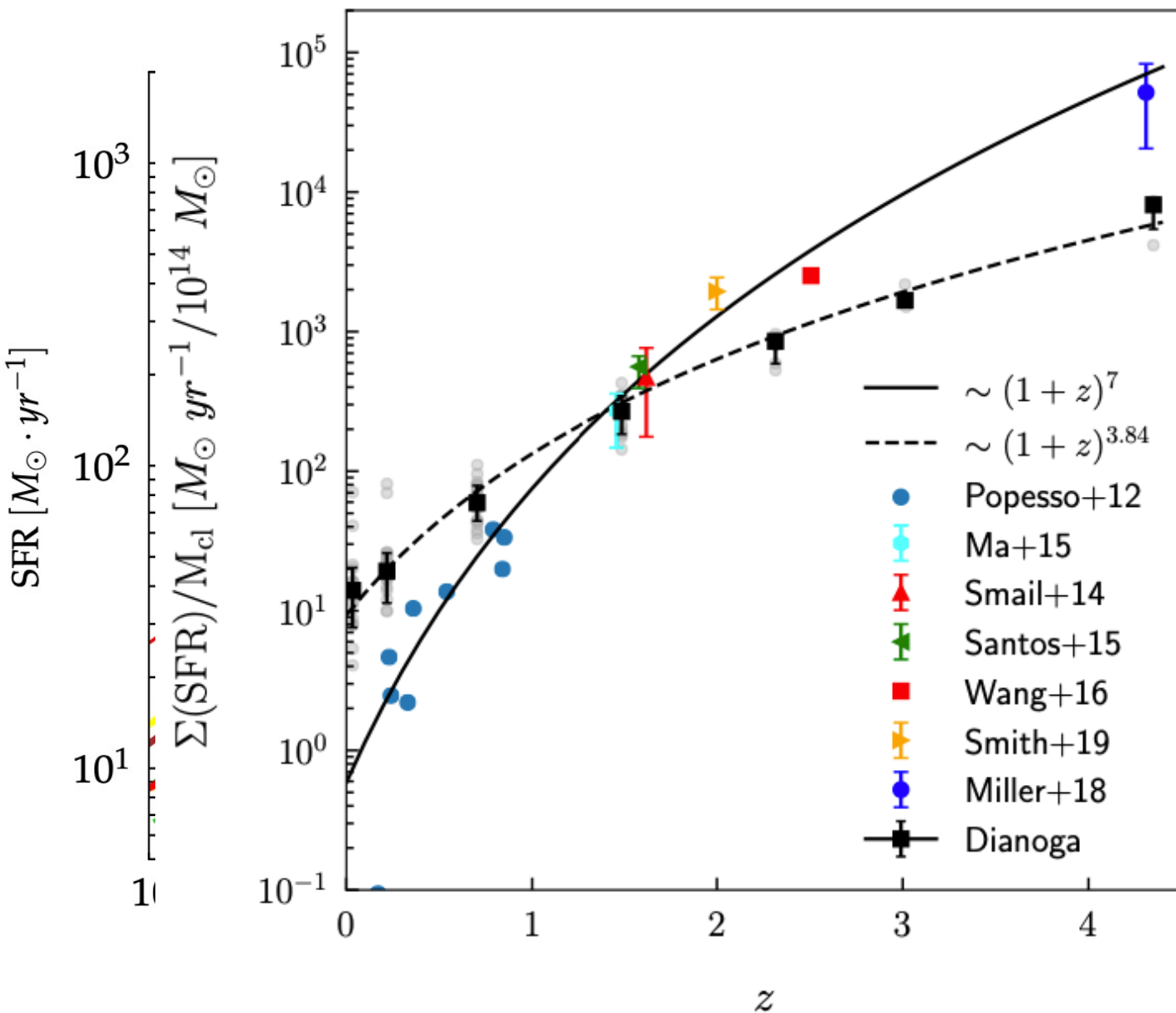
→ Model-prediction of the main sequence at $z \sim 2$ below the observed one, both in the field and in protocluster

→ Result almost independent of the adopted model of SF

→ SFR of the Spiderweb much reduced when including IR data, besides UV dust-corrected fluxes (Pannella et al. 2024, in prep)

→ "Only" a factor 2-3 above simulation predictions

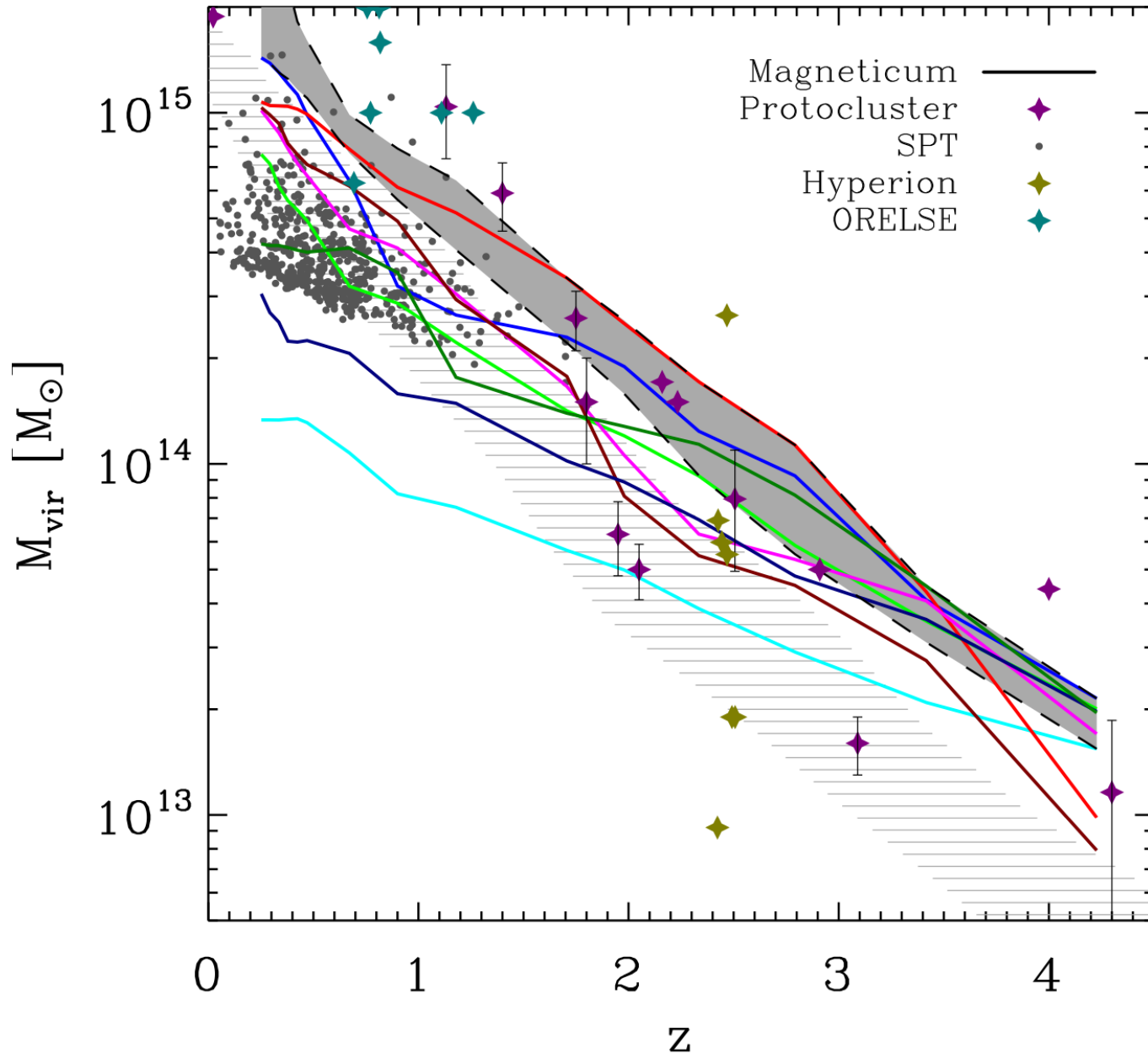
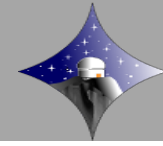
Star formation in proto-cluster regions



(Bassini et al. 2021)

- Apparently a common feature of several semi-analytical and full hydro simulations
- Observational trend for stronger SFR in (proto-)clusters at larger redshift qualitatively reproduced by simulations
- Trend in simulations weaker than observed
- Excess SF at low- z and deficit at high z

What are the descendants of high- z overdensities ?

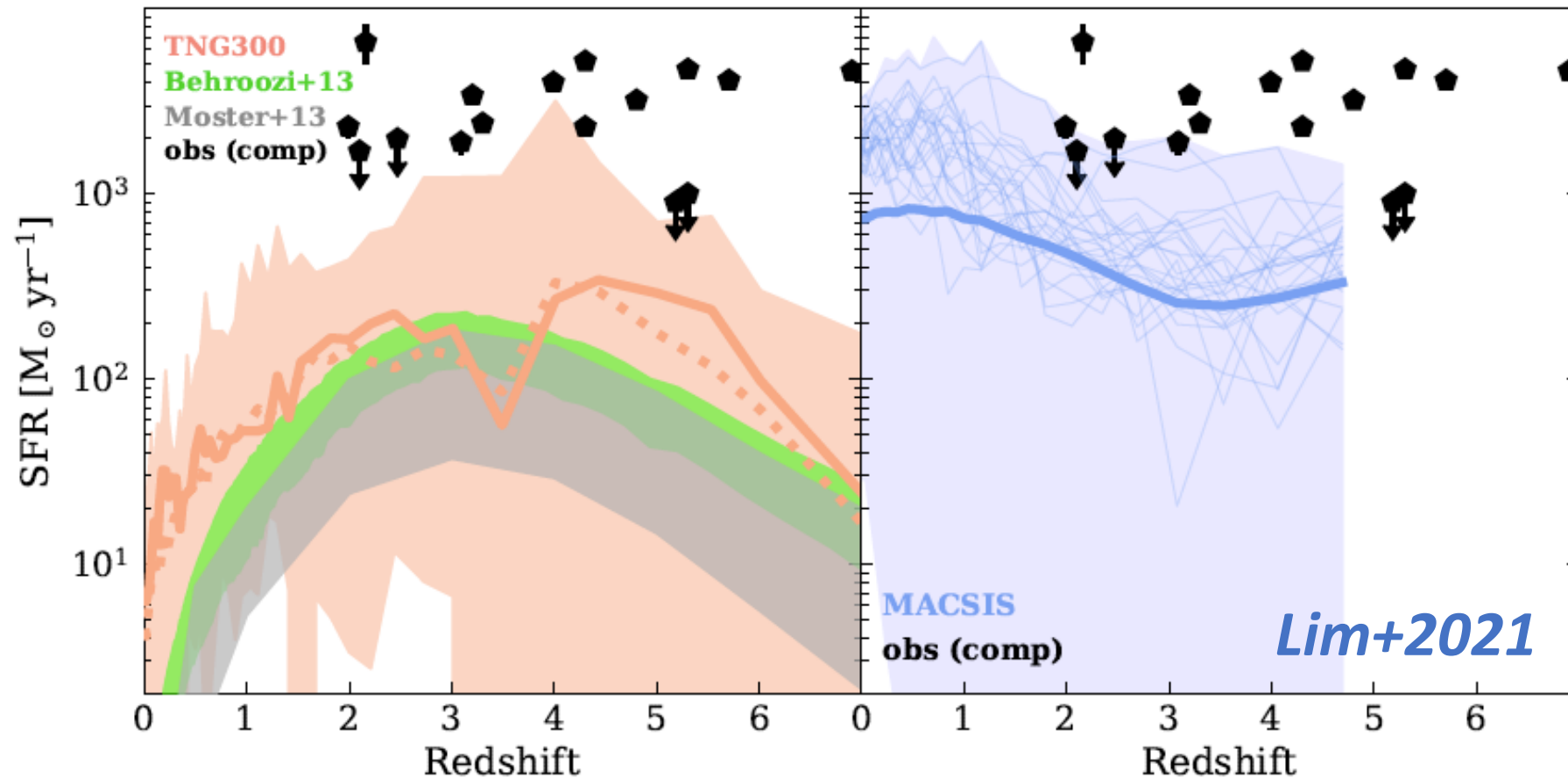


Remus+2023

Use Magnetium cosmological boxes to:

- Identify galaxy overdensities at $z=4$
 - Verify the descendants to assess whether they end-up in genuine clusters by $z=0$
- ➔ None of the most massive halos identified at $z=4.2$ ends up amongst the 15 most massive halos at $z=0.2$
- ➔ Need for a homogeneous definition of proto-clusters to compare observations and simulations

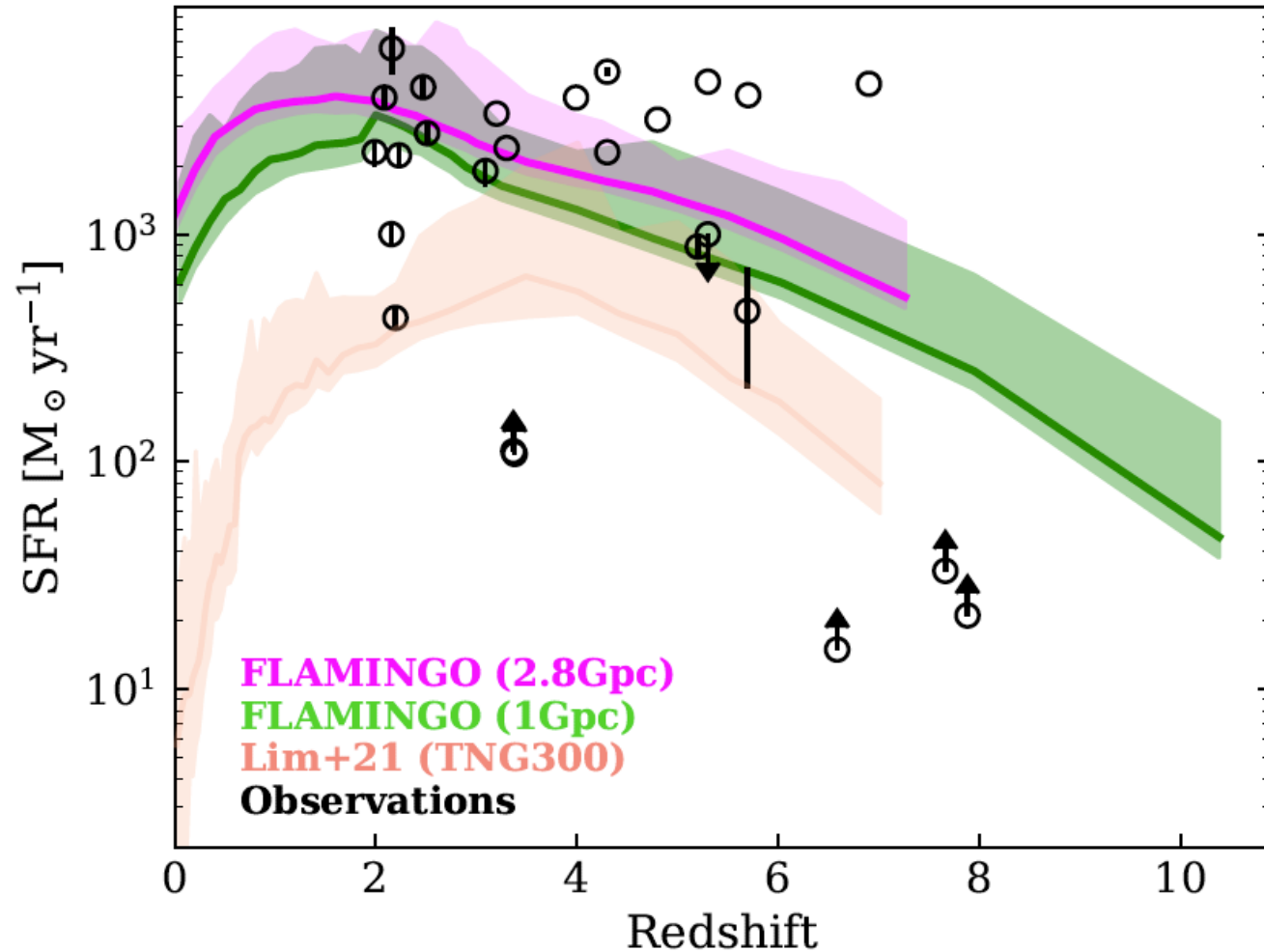
Star formation in proto-cluster regions



Comparison of TNG300 & MACSIS predictions on SFR in proto-clusters to observational data

- Model predictions ~ 1 order of magnitude below observed SFR
- Similar results for the “empirical model” by Moster+13 and Behroozi+13

Star formation in proto-cluster regions



Lim+2024

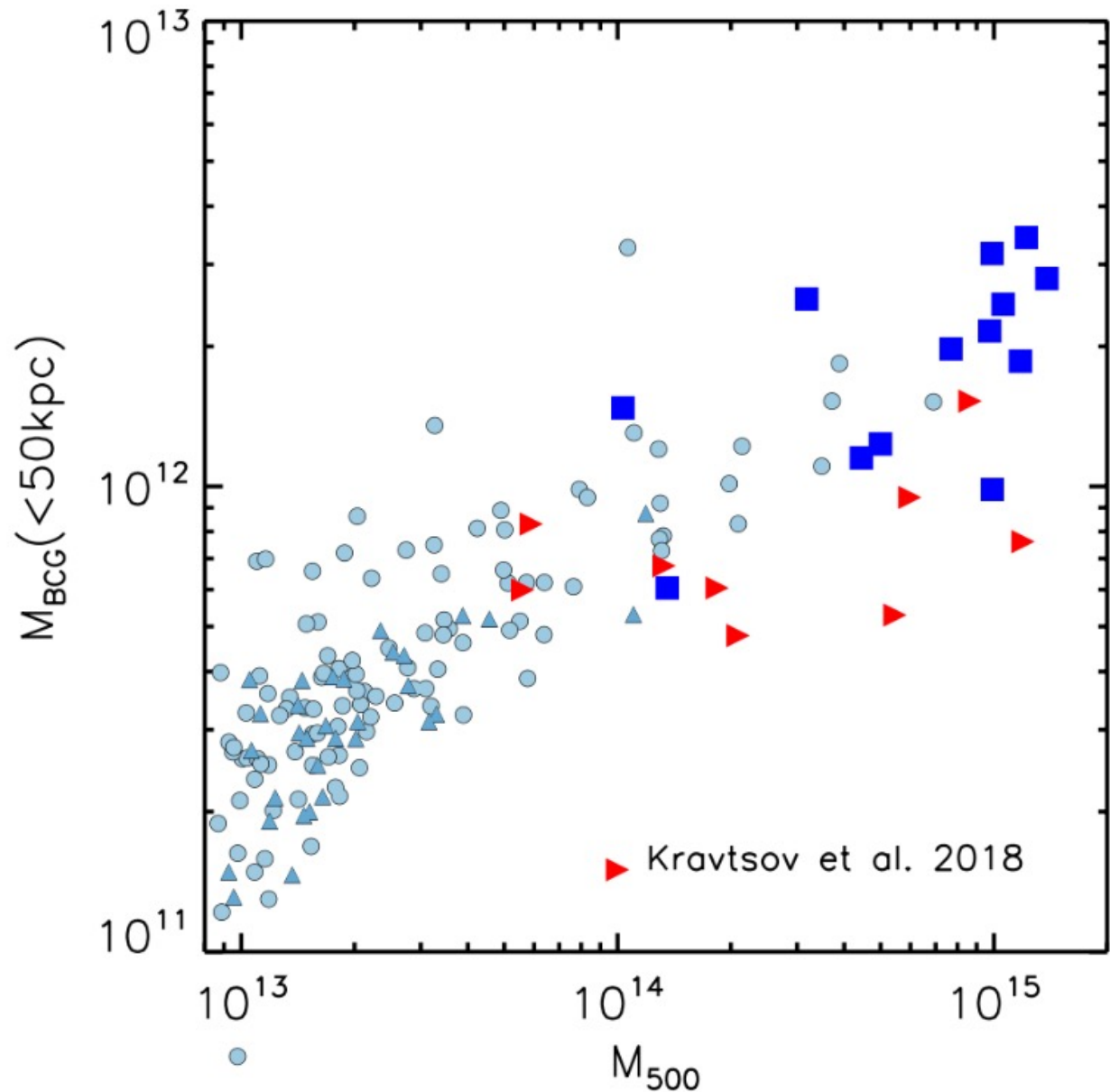
- Use FLAMINGO simulations (Schaye et al. 2023) to trace SFR in protoclusters
- Compare the **total SFR within FoF halos** to observational data
- Results in better agreement with observational data

But:

- Still low SFR at $z > 4$?
- 2dex higher SFR than TNG at $z = 0$
- What about SFR in nearby BCGs?

PART 2:
Simulating BCGs

BCG and stellar masses



→ $M_{*\text{BCG}}-M_{500}$ close to observations at low resolution (Ragone-Figueroa+2018)

→ At higher resolution different simulations all consistently predict too massive BCGs, especially in massive clusters:

Bassini+2021 – Dianoga (Gadget-3)

Bahè+2017 – Hydrangea/C-EAGLE (Gadget-3)

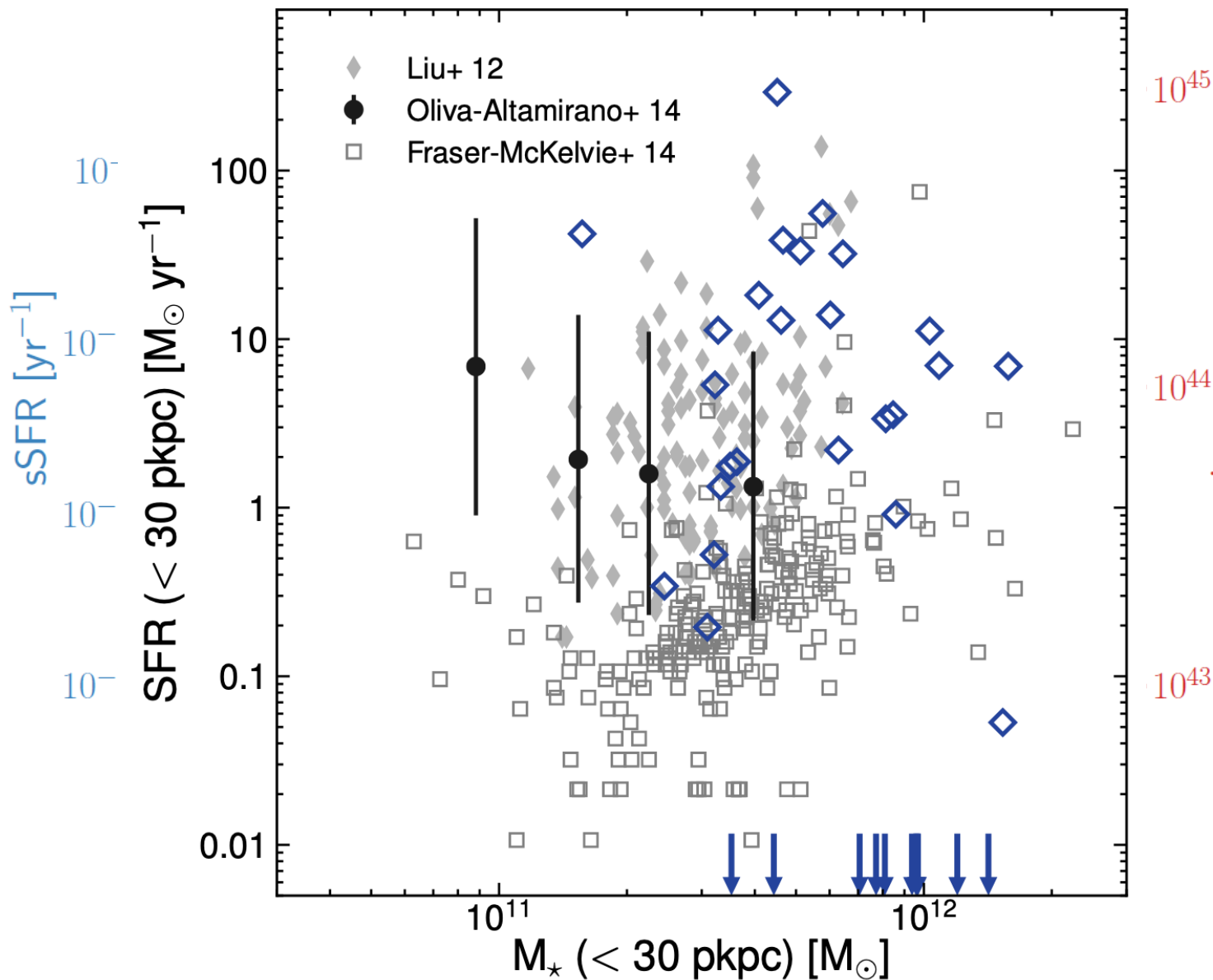
Tremmel+2019 – RomulusC (ChaNGa)

Nelson+2024 – TNG-Cluster (AREPO)

Henden+2020 – FABLE (AREPO)

→ Same result for Dianoga when further increasing mass resolution (by a factor 2.5; SB+2024)

Star formation rates in BCGs



→ Dianoga (Bassini+2021): SFR (and sSFR) in BCGs too large by ~ 1 dex

→ RomulusC (Tremmel+2019):

- simulation of a relatively poor cluster with $M_{200} \sim 10^{14} h^{-1} M_{\odot}$
- some sSFR excess below $z \sim 1.5$ ($t_{\text{Age}} \sim 4$ Gyr), despite quenching

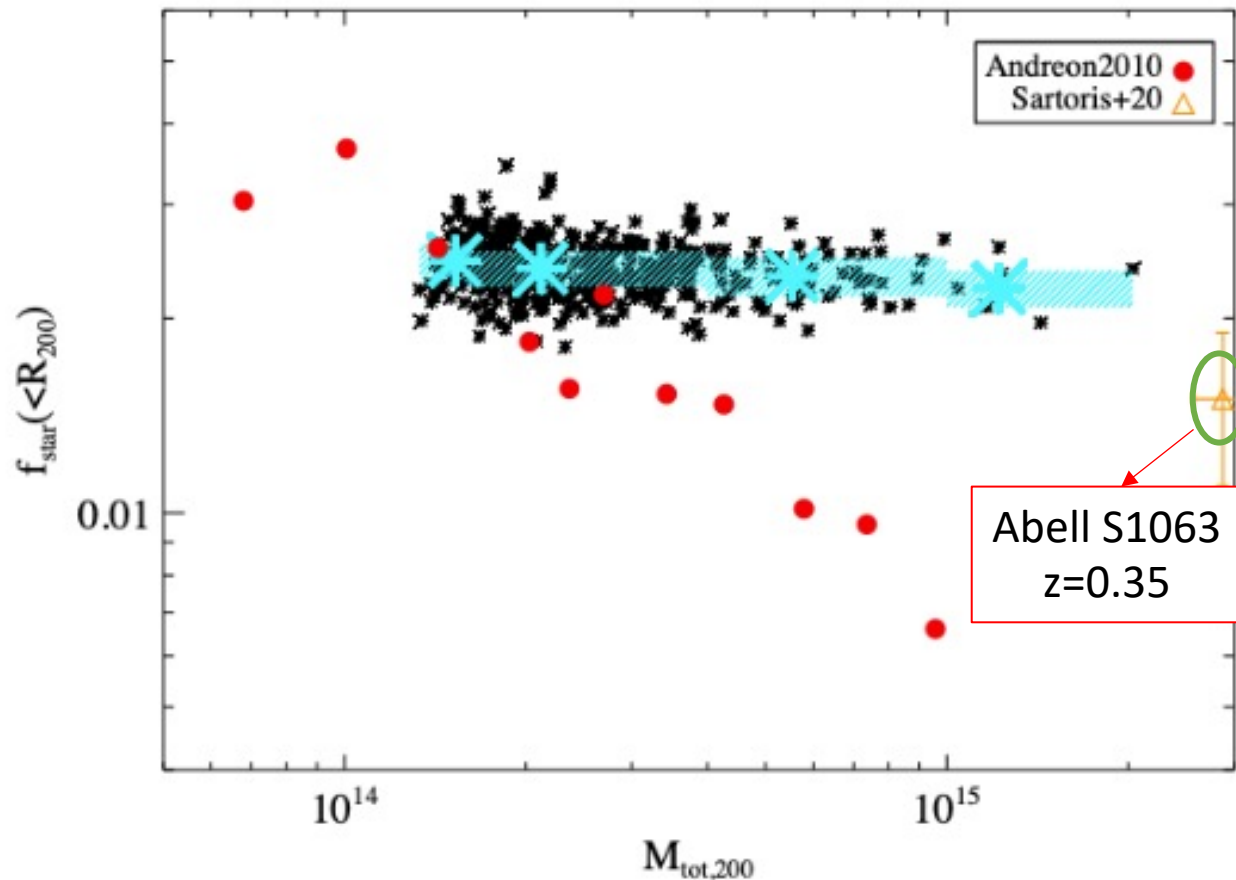
→ FABLE (Henden+2020):

- Still tendency for too large SFR at $z \sim 0.2$

Metal share in galaxy clusters

$$\mathfrak{J}_{500} \equiv \frac{M_{\text{Fe},500}}{Z_{\odot} M_{\text{star},500}}$$

Ratio between Fe diffused in the ICM and locked into stars (assumed to have solar metallicity)



Ghizzardi+2021: ICM metallicity from X-COP clusters (XMM-Newton) for which stellar metallicities are also available

- Fe-share for few clusters
- Large fraction of overall Fe budget in the diffuse gas

Biffi+2024 in prep: comparison with **Dianoga** and **Magneticum** simulations

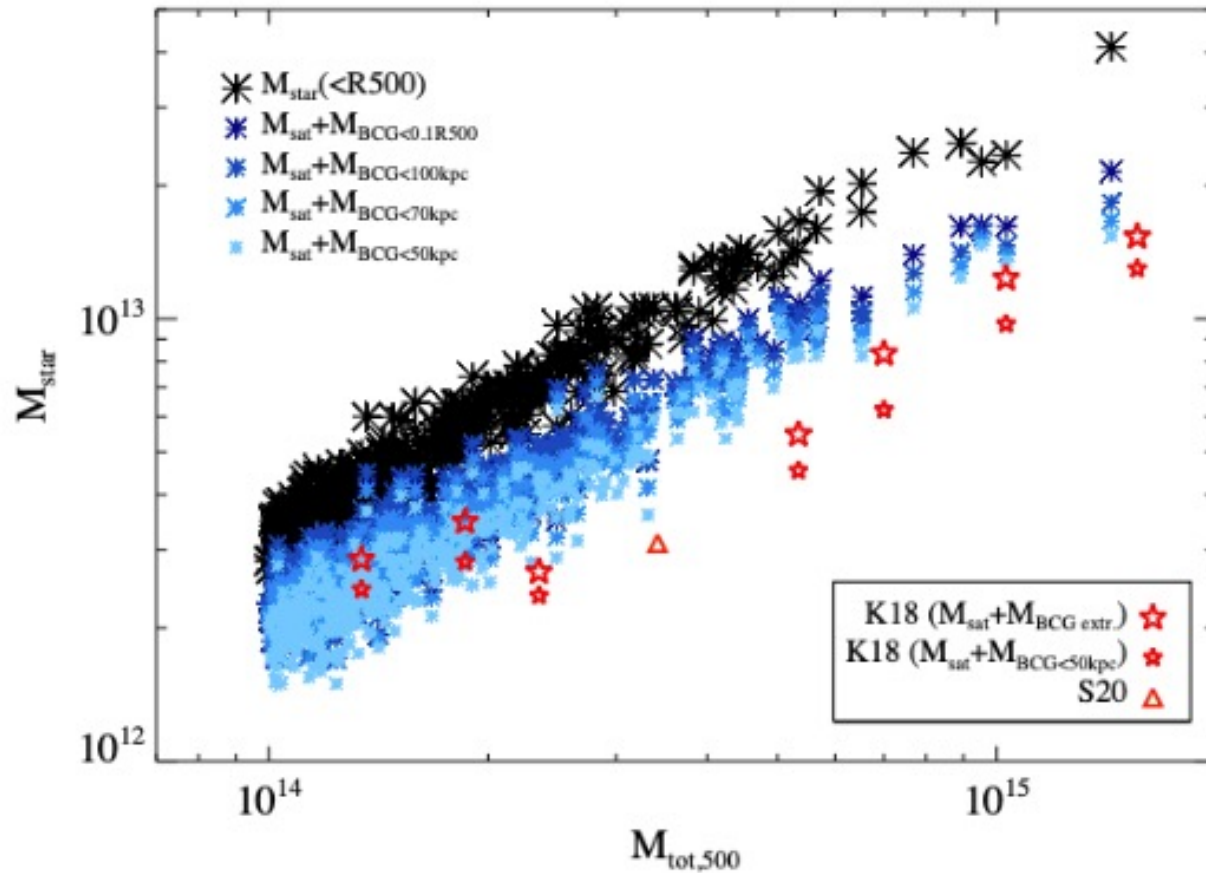
- Much lower Fe share: larger amount of Fe locked in stars
- Apparently, not an issue with the ICM Fe content: good agreement with observed $M_{\text{Fe,gas}} - M_{\text{gas},500}$ relation
- Due to excess of star formation in simulations? Quite possible, but then correct ICM Fe content just a coincidence... (see also **Molendi+2024**)

→ Important implications on feedback mechanism responsible for both circulation of metal-enriched gas and quenching of star formation in proto-cluster BCGs/massive cluster galaxies!!

Metal share in galaxy clusters

$$\mathcal{J}_{500} \equiv \frac{M_{\text{Fe},500}}{Z_{\odot} M_{\text{star},500}}$$

Ratio between Fe diffused in the ICM and locked into stars (assumed to have solar metallicity)



Ghizzardi+2021: ICM metallicity from X-COP clusters (XMM-Newton) for which stellar metallicities are also available

- Fe-share for few clusters
- Large fraction of overall Fe budget in the diffuse gas

Biffi+2024 in prep: comparison with Dianoga and Magneticum simulations

- Much lower Fe share: larger amount of Fe locked in stars
- Apparently, not an issue with the ICM Fe content: good agreement with observed $M_{\text{Fe,gas}} - M_{\text{gas},500}$ relation
- Due to excess of star formation in simulations?
- Quite possible, but then correct ICM Fe content just a coincidence...
- But no problem at the scale of poor clusters...
- Which definition of stellar mass? Within which radius? Including ICL? Down to which surface brightness?

→ Important implications on feedback mechanism responsible for both circulation of metal-enriched gas and quenching of star formation in (proto-)cluster BCGs/massive cluster galaxies!!

Conclusions



- General properties of proto-clusters correctly predicted by simulations since a long time:
 - Presence of hot (X-ray) and pressurized (SZ) proto-ICM in one proto-cluster (Spiderweb)
 - Intense star formation in assembling proto-BCGs, along with formation of an ICL component
 - Connection between high- z proto-cluster phase and low- z fossil records (*i.e. slope of ICM metallicity profiles*)

BUT:

- High level of SFR in proto-clusters is not trivial to produce in simulations (*waiting for MUPPI...*)
 - Need to quench SF in BCGs and reduce their stellar masses at low redshift (*new tests done @ 25x*)
 - Too much mass in metals predicted by simulations to be locked in stars – but ICM metallicity OK...
- Simulations need to produce bursty SF at $z = 2 - 4$, then a highly efficient feedback mechanism:
- to rapidly quench SF;
 - to circulate metals in the CGM/ICM before they are locked back in stars.

Q1: How robust is *observed stellar mass* within low- z massive clusters?

Q2: How much ICL can we reasonably think we're missing in observations?