

The Formation of Dwarf Spheroidal Galaxies



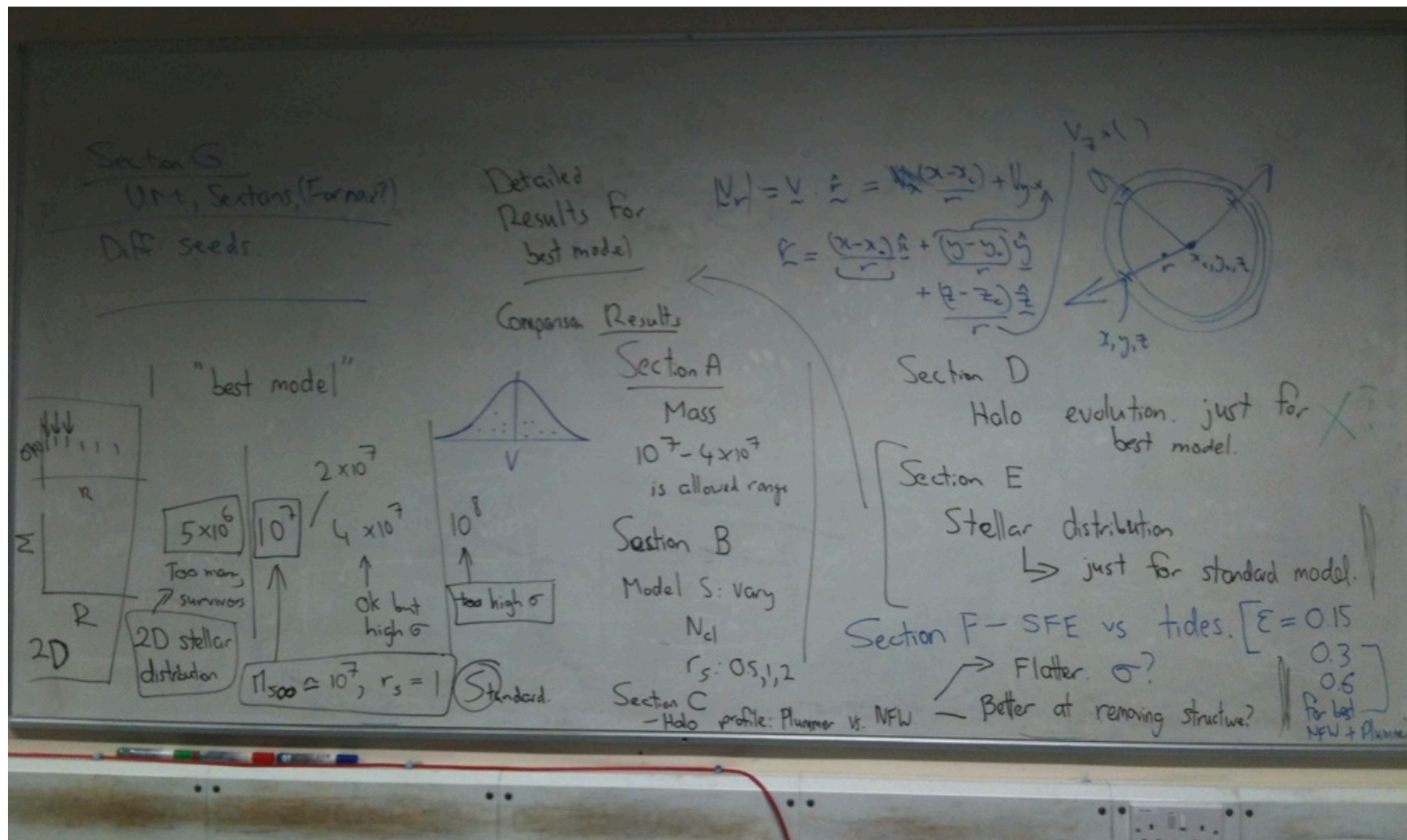
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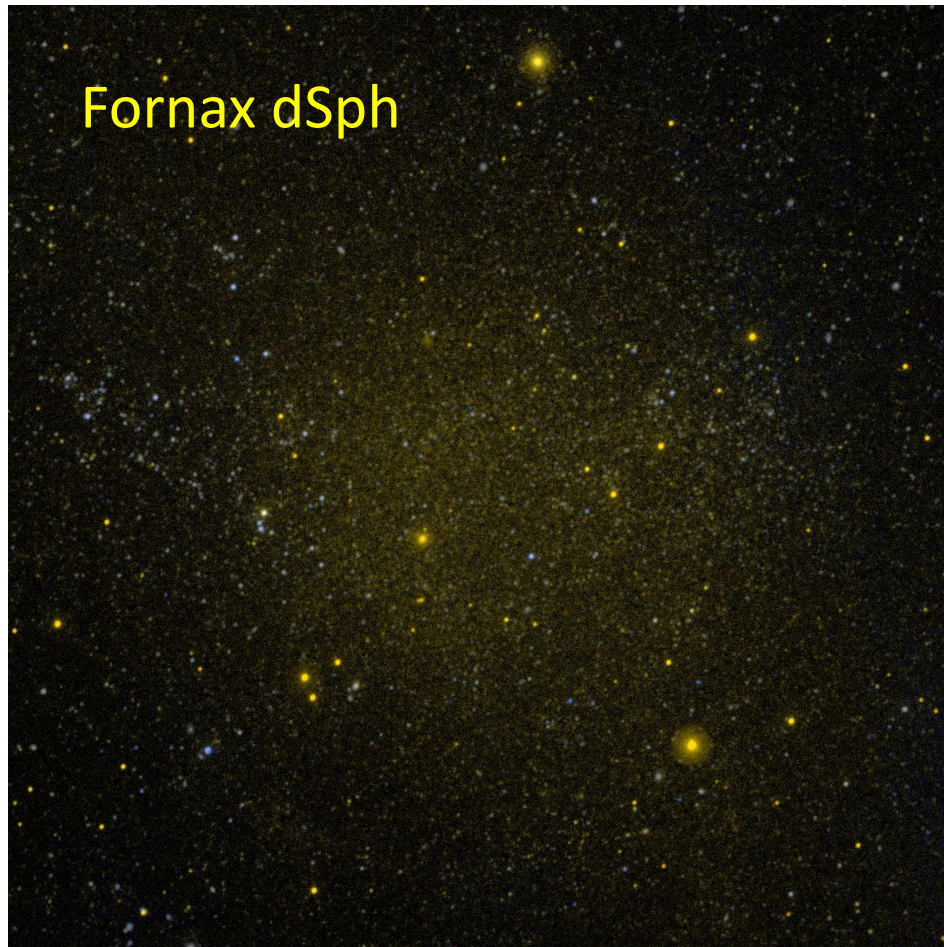
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Overview



Why study
dSph ?

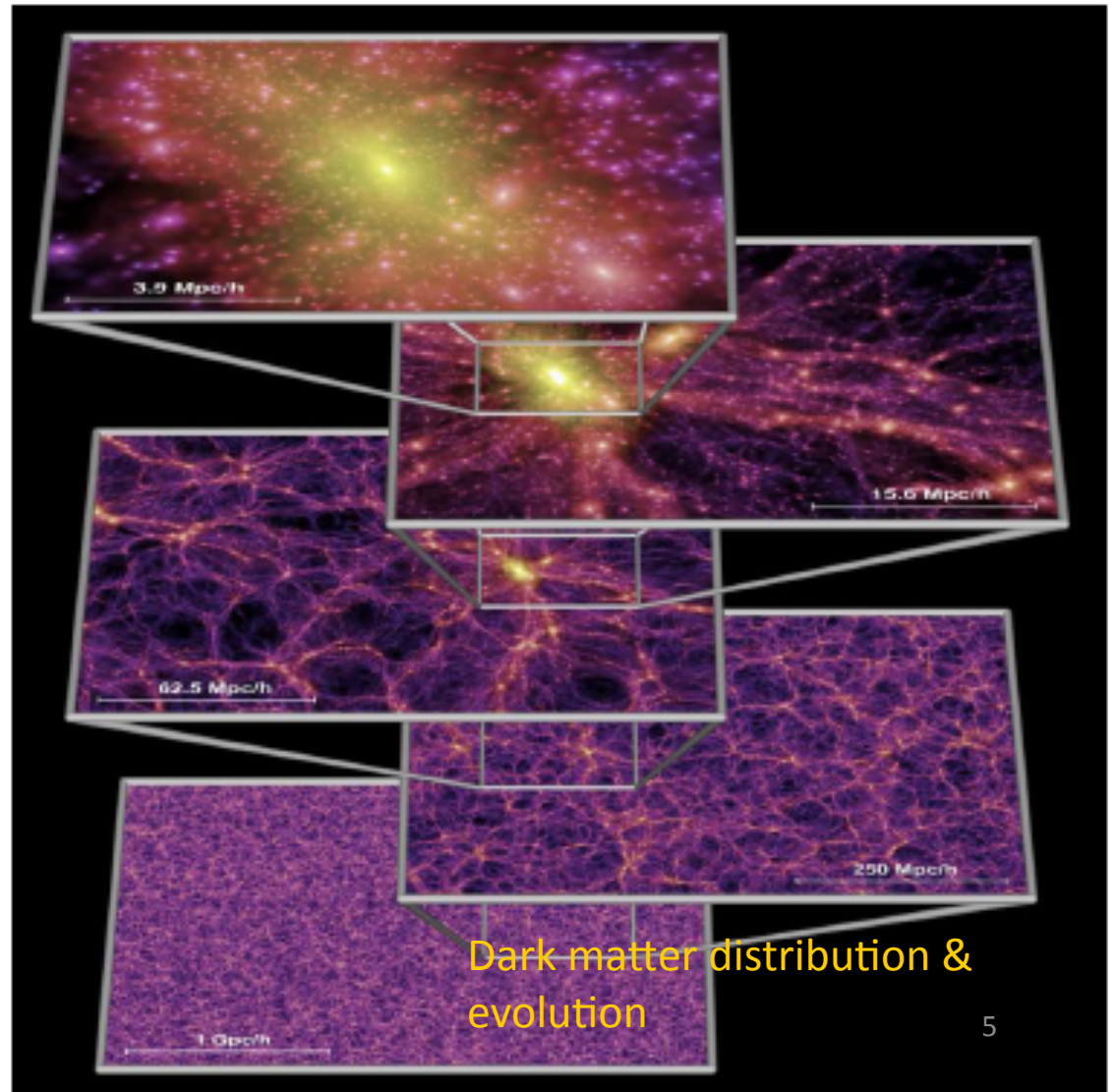


dSph are faint almost invisible blobs =
boring ???

Λ CDM Cosmology

Predicts:

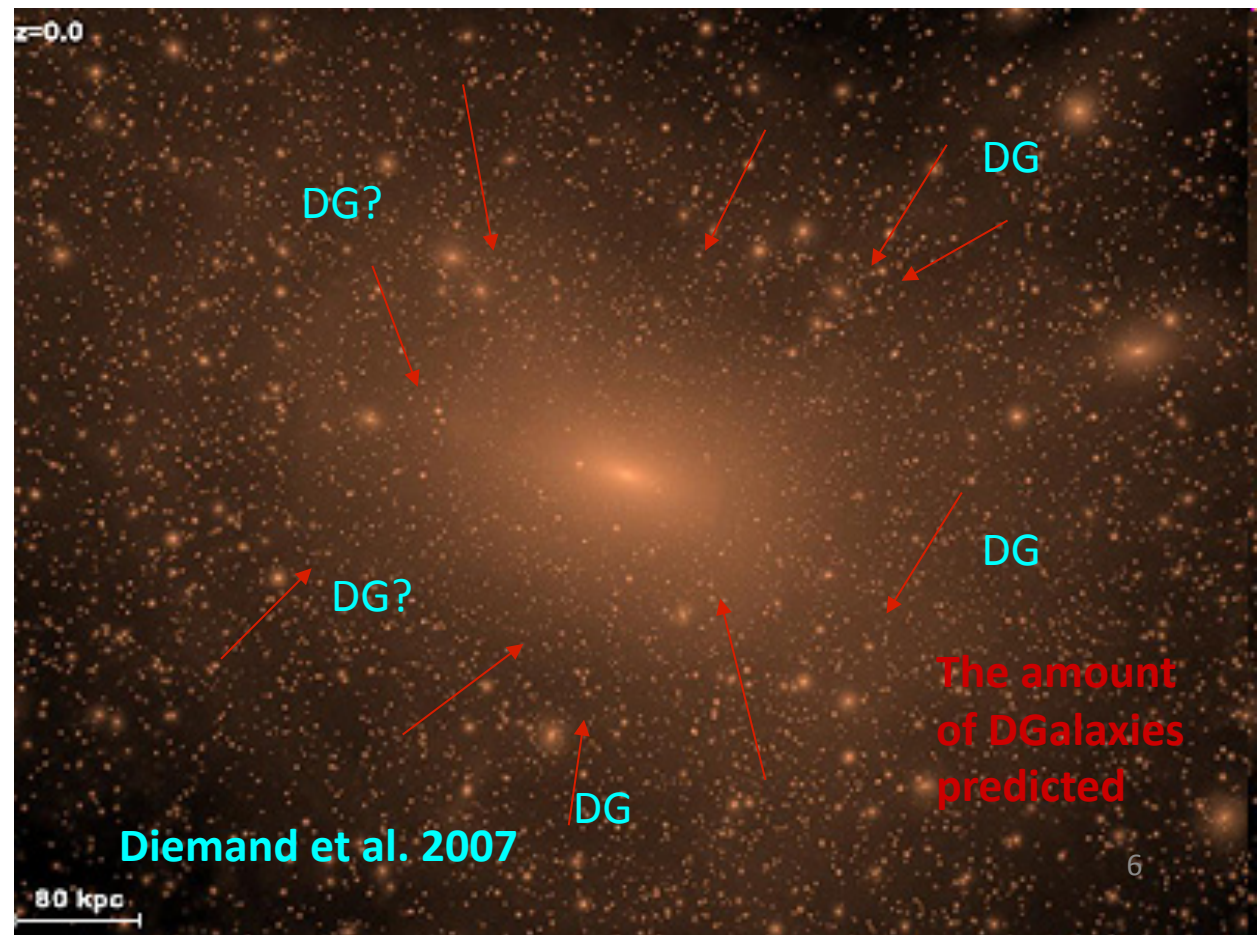
- Dwarf Galaxies form first in large quantities
- Are the basic building blocks of all larger galaxies
- Are the most dark matter dominated objects (M/L from several tens to >1000)



Problem 1 : N° of Dwarf Galaxies around Large Galaxies

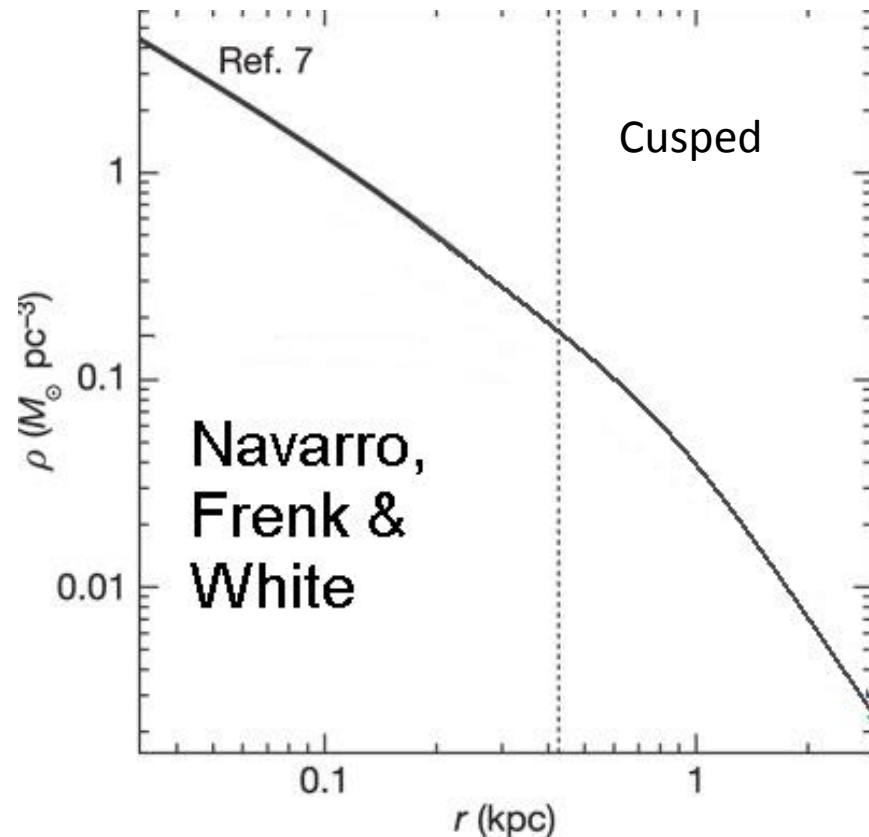
The Vía Lactea Simulation

- simulations predict thousands of dwarf galaxies around the MW
- With the detection of the faint and ultra-faint population this problem seems to be solved ?



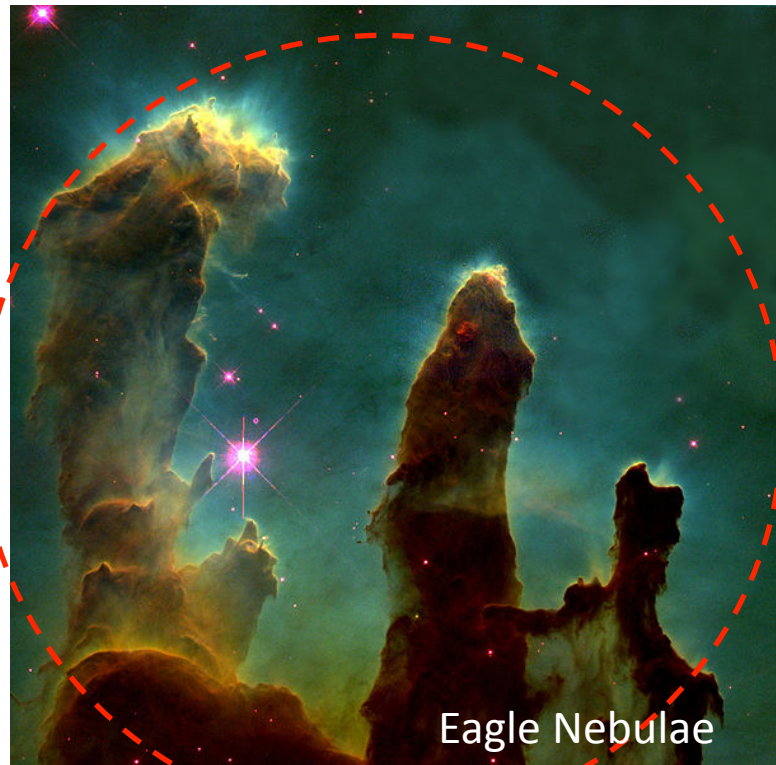
Problem 2 : Shape of the dark matter halo Cusped or Cored ?

- Λ CDM cosmology predicts cusped profiles.
- Observations favour cored profiles



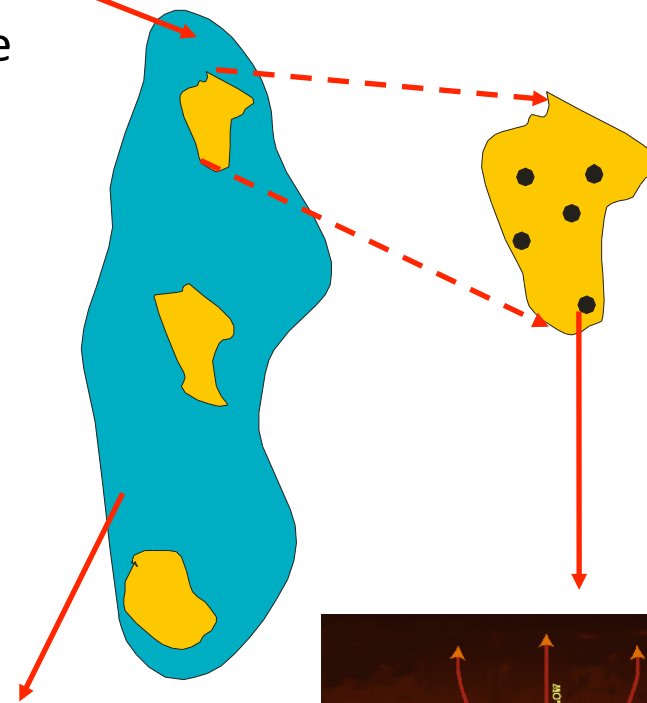
What do we
know about
star
formation ?

Star Formation & Star Clusters



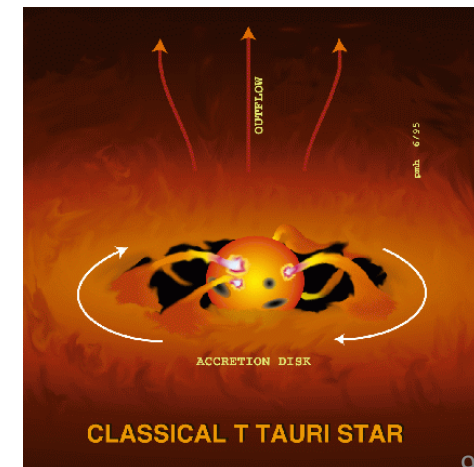
Eagle Nebulae

Cloud
core



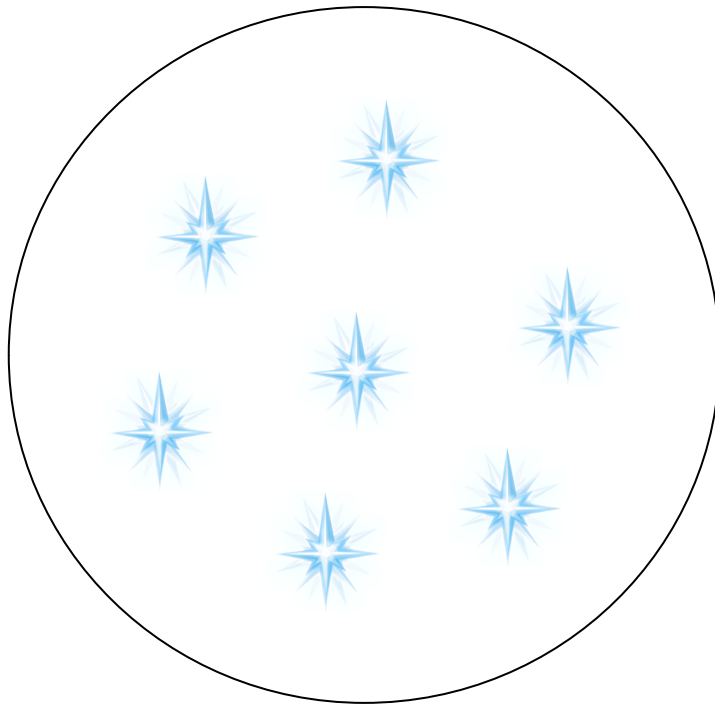
HII molecular cloud

Stars form in Star Clusters !



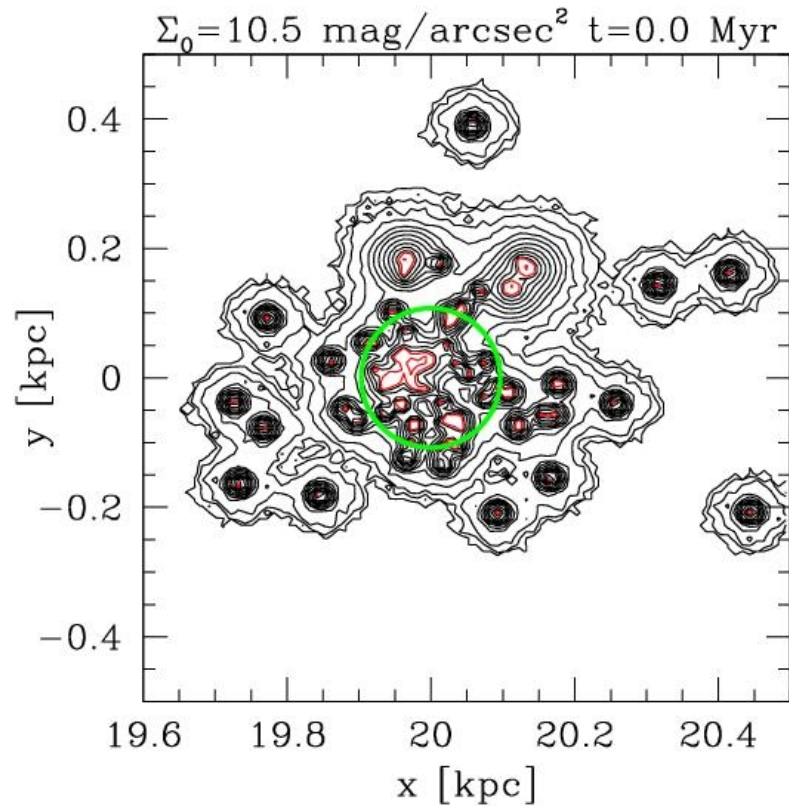
Final step of the star cluster formation

Star cluster



- Stars have formed in the embedded cluster phase
- Now the stars expell the remaining gas by stellar winds & super novae
- Leaving the cluster out of virial equilibrium and expanding
- If the SFE is around 30% the star cluster survives

Merging of Star Clusters



- The gas inside a dSph might form many star clusters
- Star clusters interact with each other and merge in the centre of the dark matter halo
- At the same time they expand and dissolve

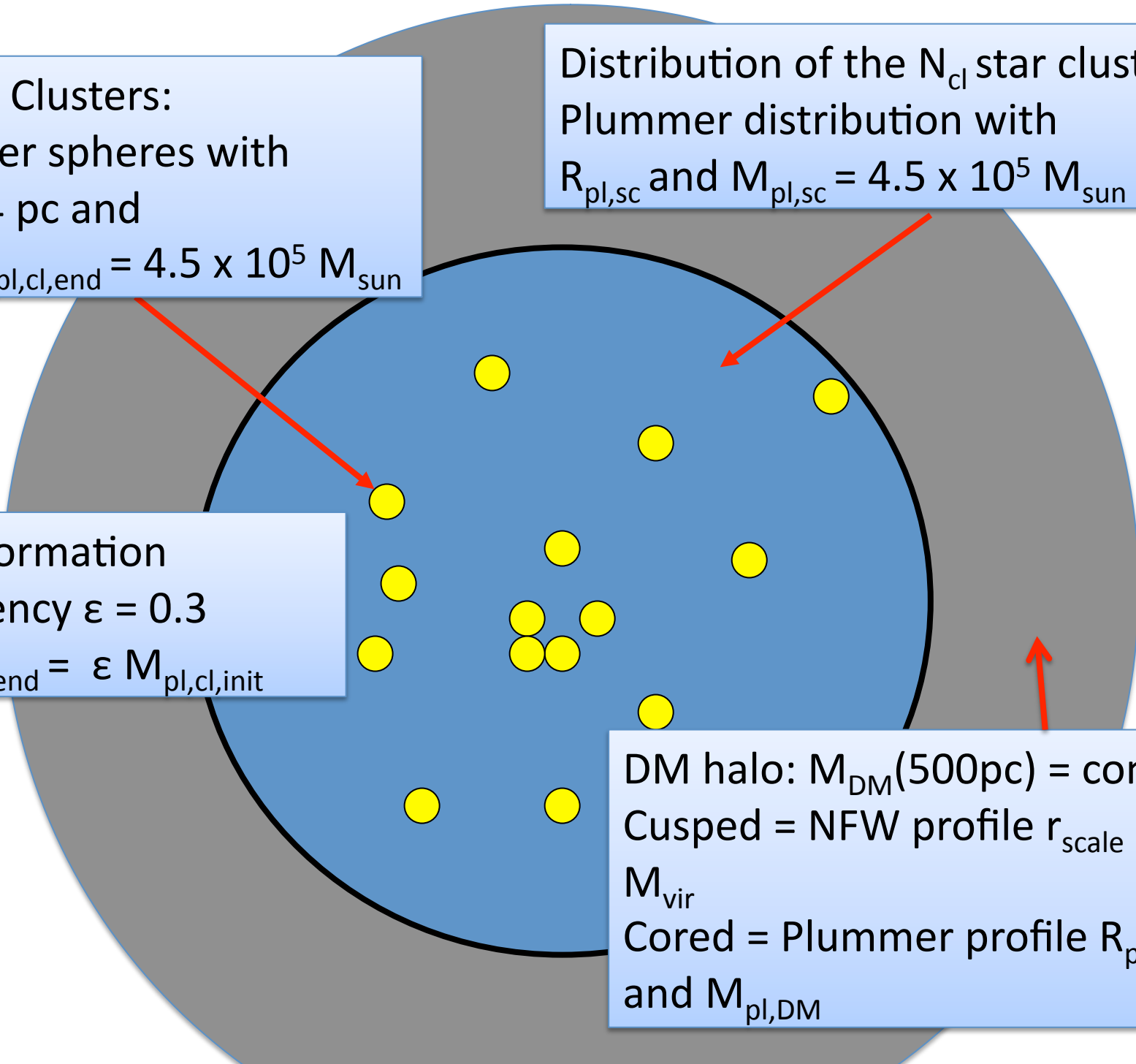
So here we
start with our
models

N_{cl} Star Clusters:
Plummer spheres with
 $R_{\text{pl,cl}} = 4 \text{ pc}$ and
 $N_{\text{cl}} \times M_{\text{pl,cl,end}} = 4.5 \times 10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$

Distribution of the N_{cl} star clusters:
Plummer distribution with
 $R_{\text{pl,sc}}$ and $M_{\text{pl,sc}} = 4.5 \times 10^5 M_{\text{sun}}$

Star formation
efficiency $\varepsilon = 0.3$
 $M_{\text{pl,cl,end}} = \varepsilon M_{\text{pl,cl,init}}$

DM halo: $M_{\text{DM}}(500\text{pc}) = \text{const.}$
Cusped = NFW profile r_{scale} and
 M_{vir}
Cored = Plummer profile $R_{\text{pl,DM}}$
and $M_{\text{pl,DM}}$

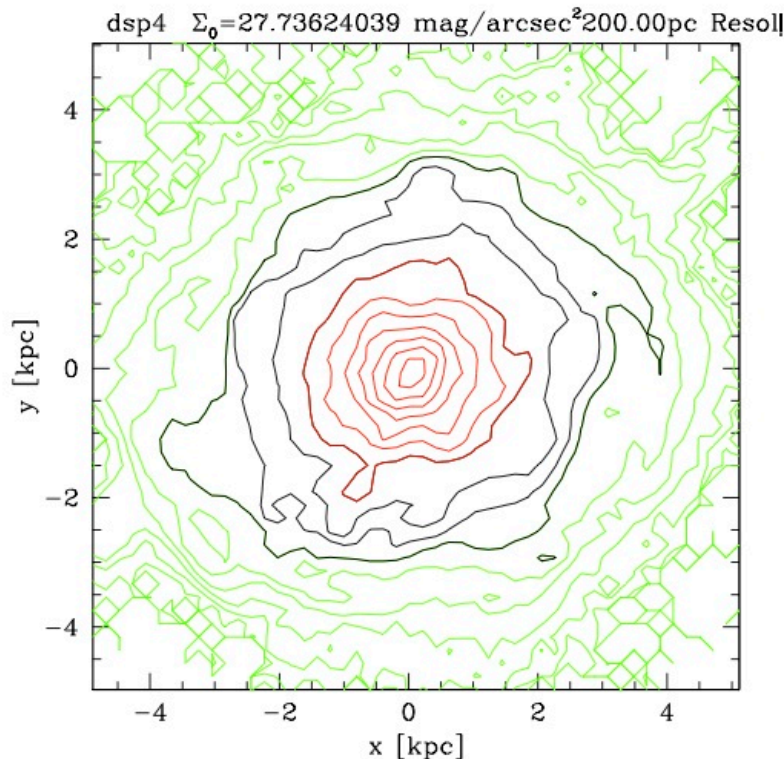


Our simulation-parameters

- $M_{\text{DM}}(500\text{pc}) = 5 \times 10^6, 10^7, 4 \times 10^7 \text{ and } 10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$
- $R_{\text{scale,DM}} = 0.25, 0.5, 1.0, 2.0 \text{ kpc}$ (Plummer or NFW)
- $R_{\text{pl,sc}} = 0.25 \text{ kpc}$
- $N_{\text{cl}} = 15 \text{ and } 30 \text{ star clusters}$
- $\varepsilon = 0.3$ (star clusters are dissolving)
- And more to come...

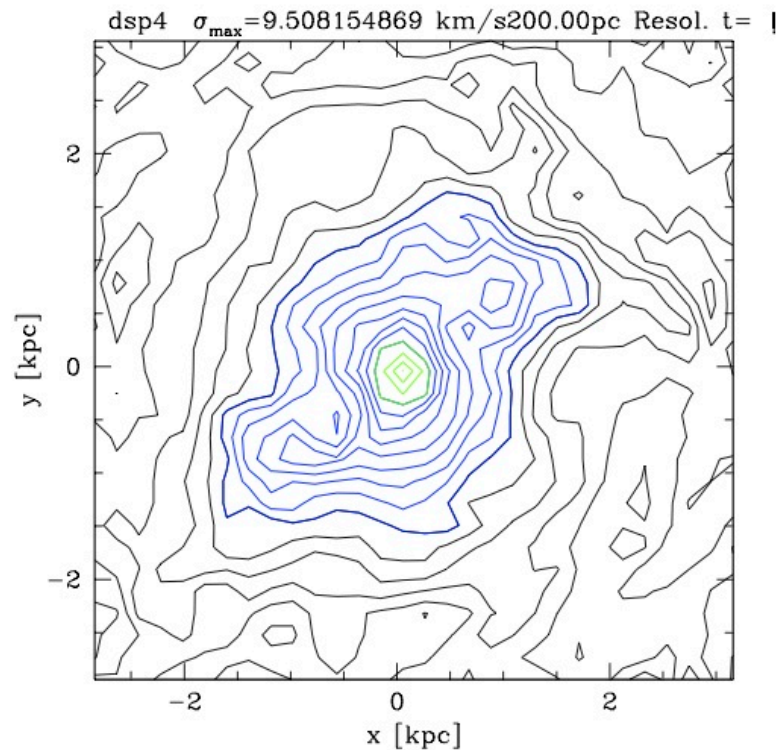
What are the
results and what
are the general
trends ?

Results



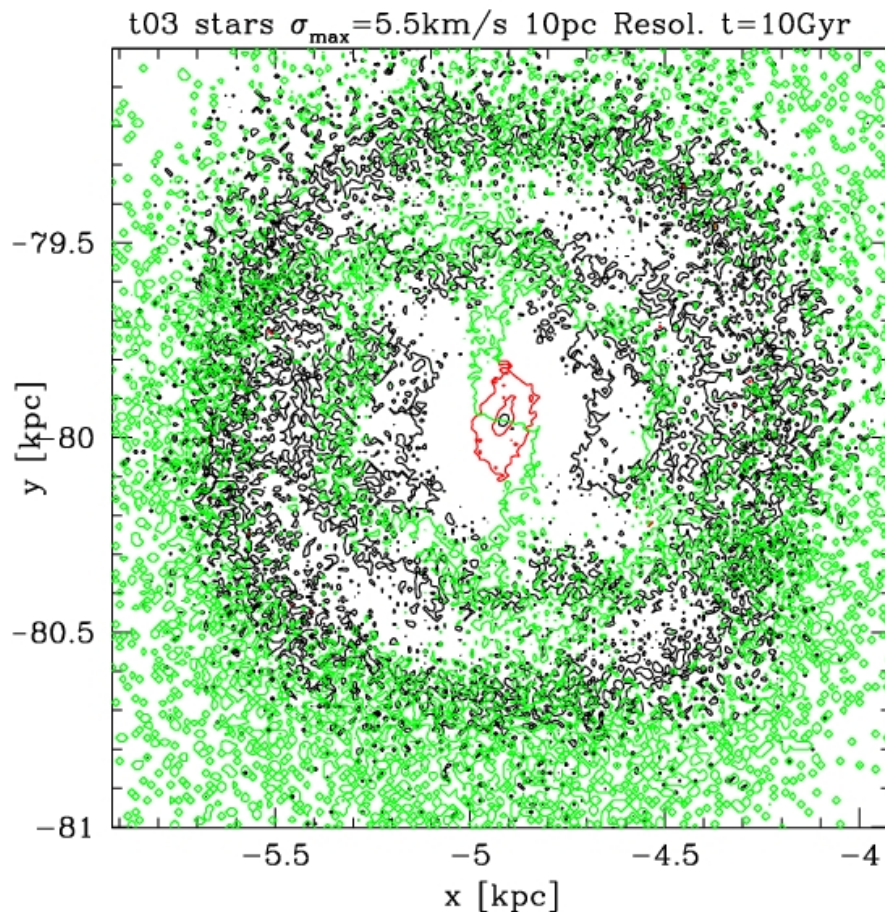
- Star clusters dissolve and form an extended luminous object which looks like a dSph galaxy
- Outer parts show faint remnants of dissolved star clusters even after 10 Gyr but these features are too faint to be observationally detectable

Results



- Velocity dispersion is similar to the ones found with dSph galaxies (around 10 km/s) and distributes a flat profile but shows some aspherical features in a 2D-plot

Results



- We also see streaming motions if we plot the 2D mean velocity calculated pixel by pixel, even after 10 Gyr of evolution
- We call these velocity signatures of the merging process “fossil remnants”

changing $M_{\text{DM}}(500\text{pc})$

- With increasing dark matter mass we see:
 - naturally an increase the velocity dispersion σ
 - A trend to more extended luminous components (larger r_s)
 - An increase in the strength of fossil remnants (has to be verified if statistically significant)

Changing $R_{\text{scale,DM}}$

- If we increase the scale-length of the dark matter halo by keeping the mass within 500 pc constant (i.e. flatter profiles) we see:
 - The velocity dispersion stays constant when using a Plummer profile
 - The velocity dispersion increases in NFW haloes
 - A small increase in fossil remnants (maybe not statistically not significant)

Changing N_{cl}

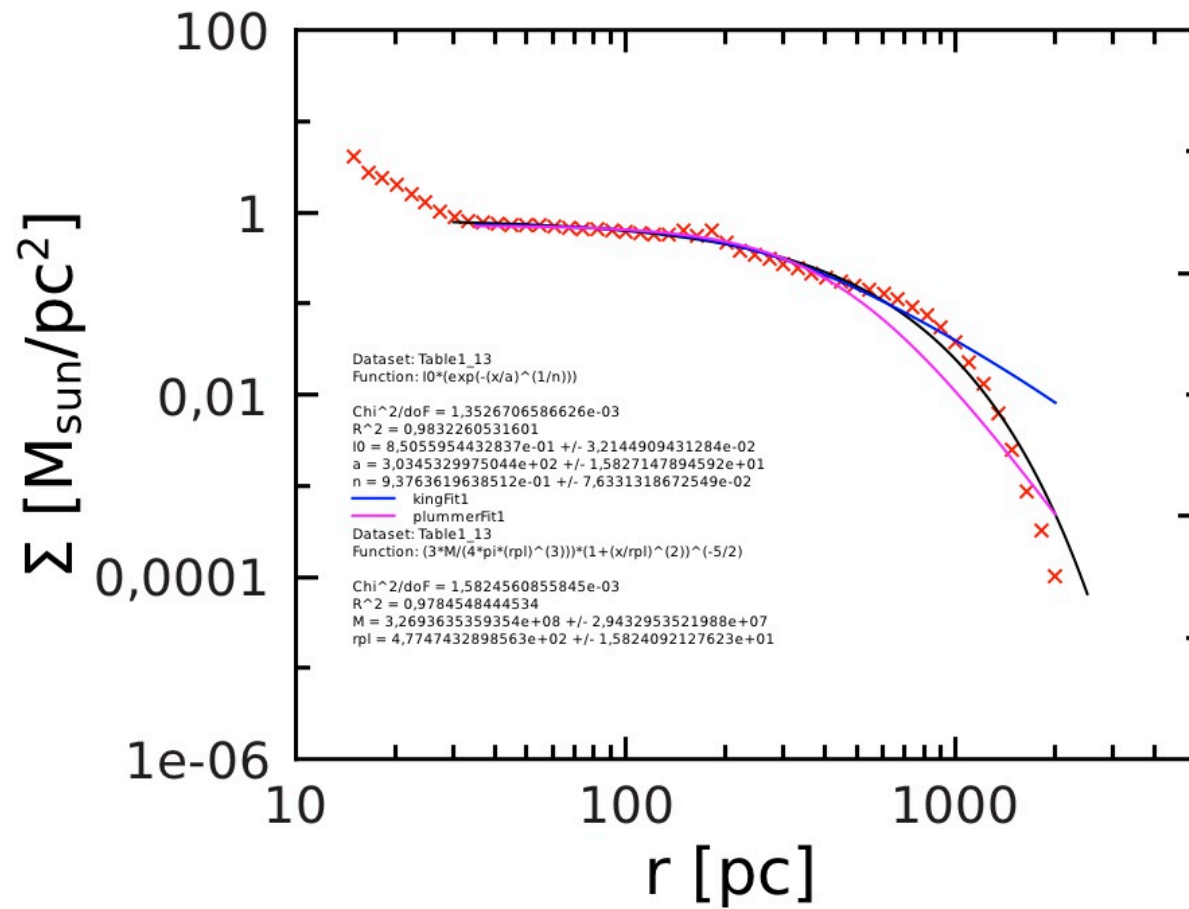
- When we distribute the luminous mass into more star clusters we see:
 - No changes in the velocity dispersions
 - A small increase in fossil remnants (maybe not statistically significant)

- If $M_{\text{DM}}(500\text{pc})$ is too high ($\sim 10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$) we see a lot of unmerged star clusters
- If $R_{\text{scale,DM}}$ is too high ($\sim 2 \text{ kpc}$) we get unmerged SC as well
- Large scale-lengths not only favour flatter velocity dispersion profiles they also favour the fossil remnants
- High DM masses favour the remnants as well
- NFW profiles erase remnants better than Plummer profiles

“Best fit model”

- To get a velocity dispersion of 10 km/s in the centre, we need less M_{DM} than observations predict: only $M_{\text{DM}}(500\text{pc}) \sim 10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$
- The velocity dispersion profile (i.e. flat profile) is best reproduced if the scale-length of the halo is 1 kpc
- Plummer and NFW fit equally well – Plummer shows more fossil remnants

One model fits Sextans



- Figures and pretty pictures are soon to be found in Assmann et al. (2011) in prep. – so please stay tuned...

Thanks!

