

# The Cosmic Dispersion Measure of Fast Radio Bursts using the EAGLE Simulations

## Adam Batten

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ECR Astronomers in Australia Seminar Series

2021-05-27

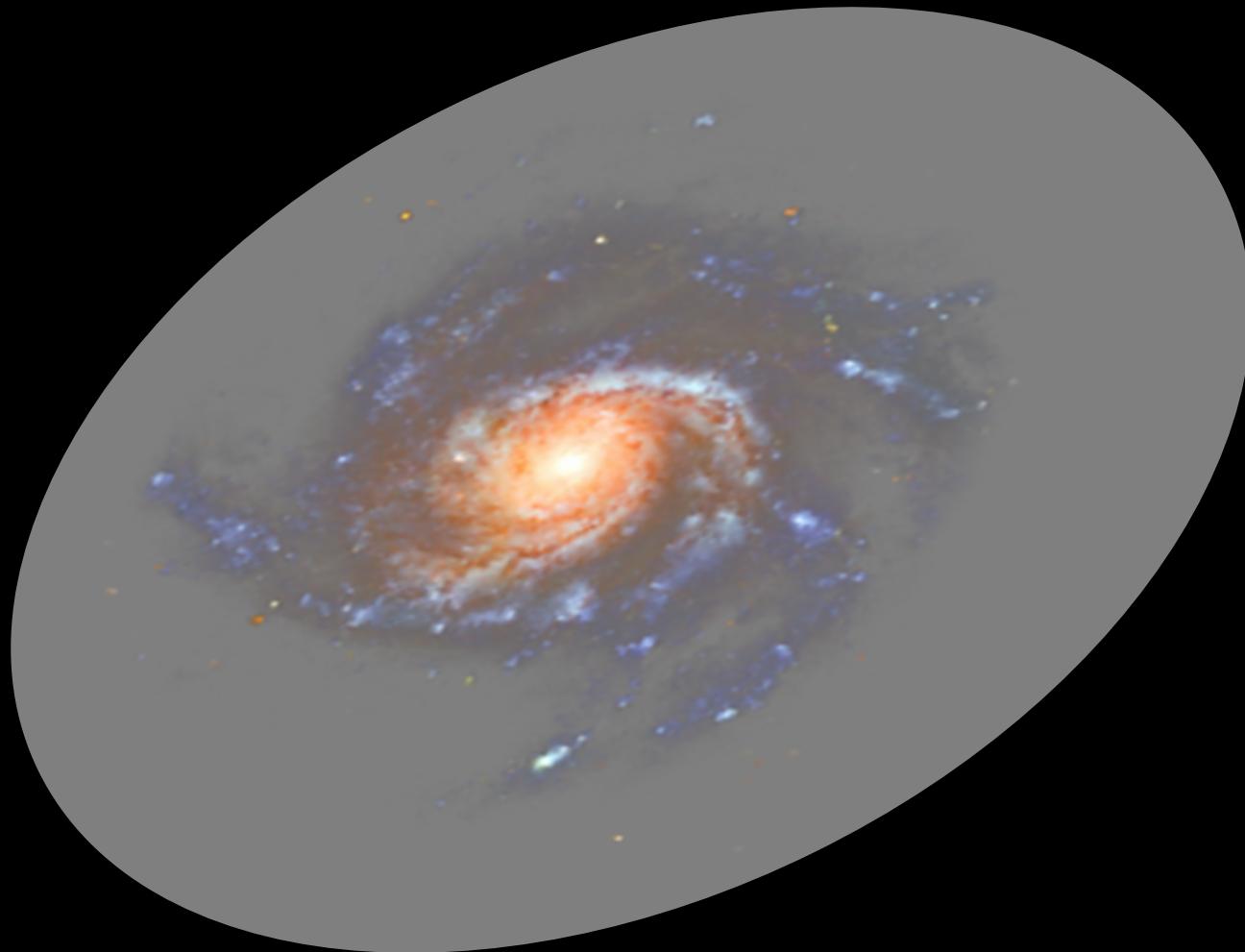


ASTRO 3D

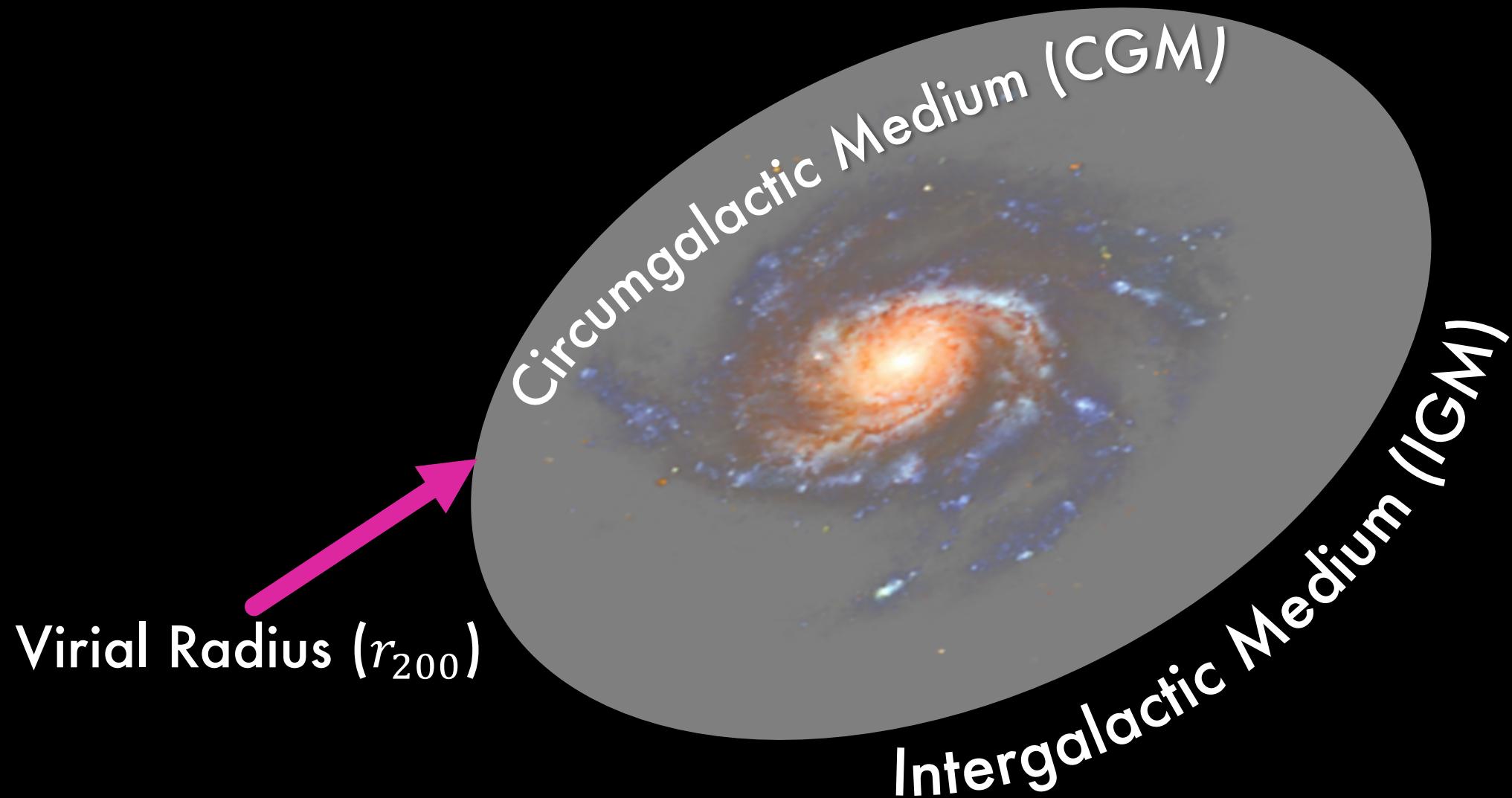
SWIN  
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NE

Centre for  
Astrophysics and  
Supercomputing

# What is the Intergalactic Medium?



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Tumlinson et al. (2017)

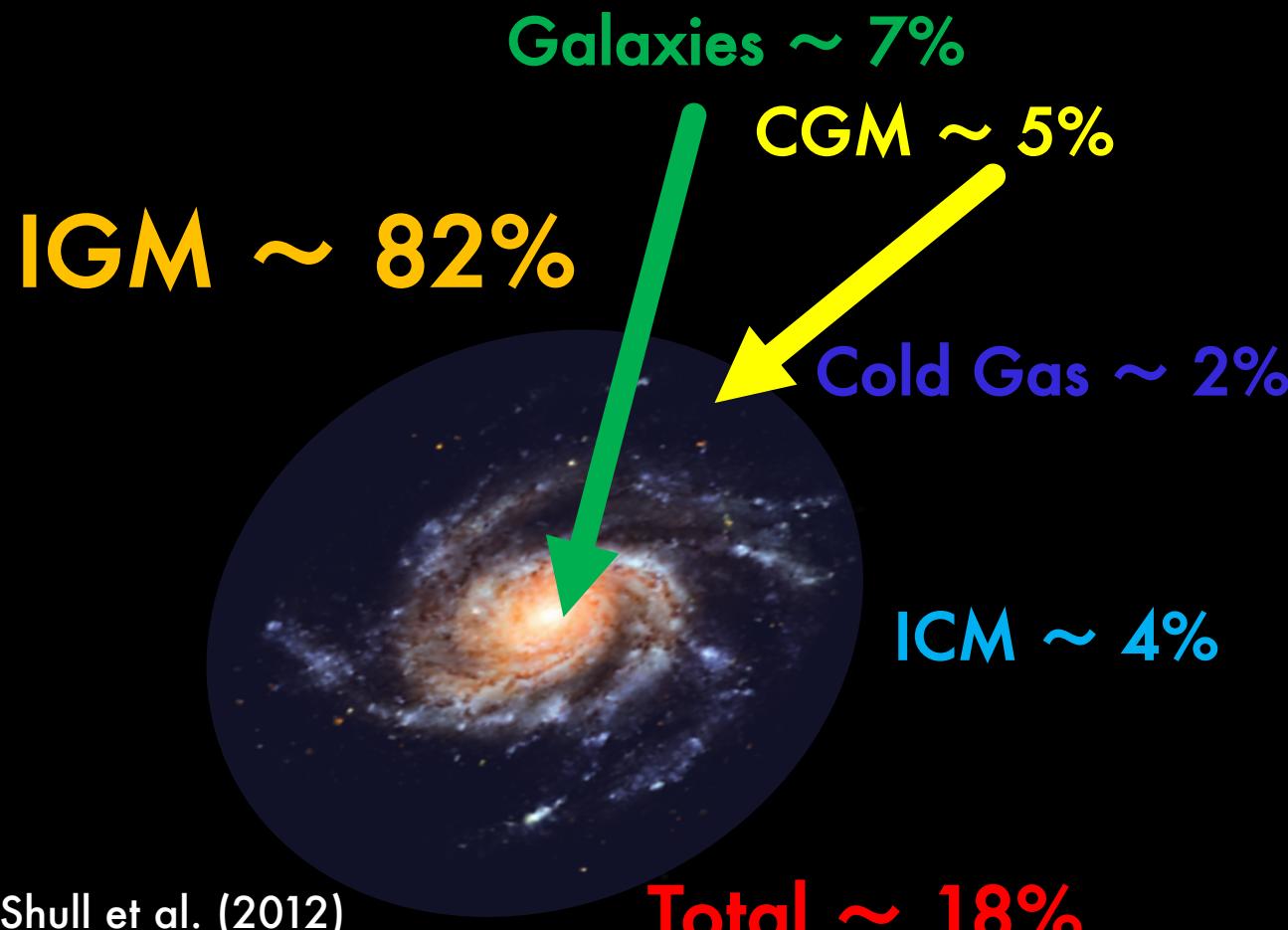
# Why Do We Care About the Intergalactic Medium?

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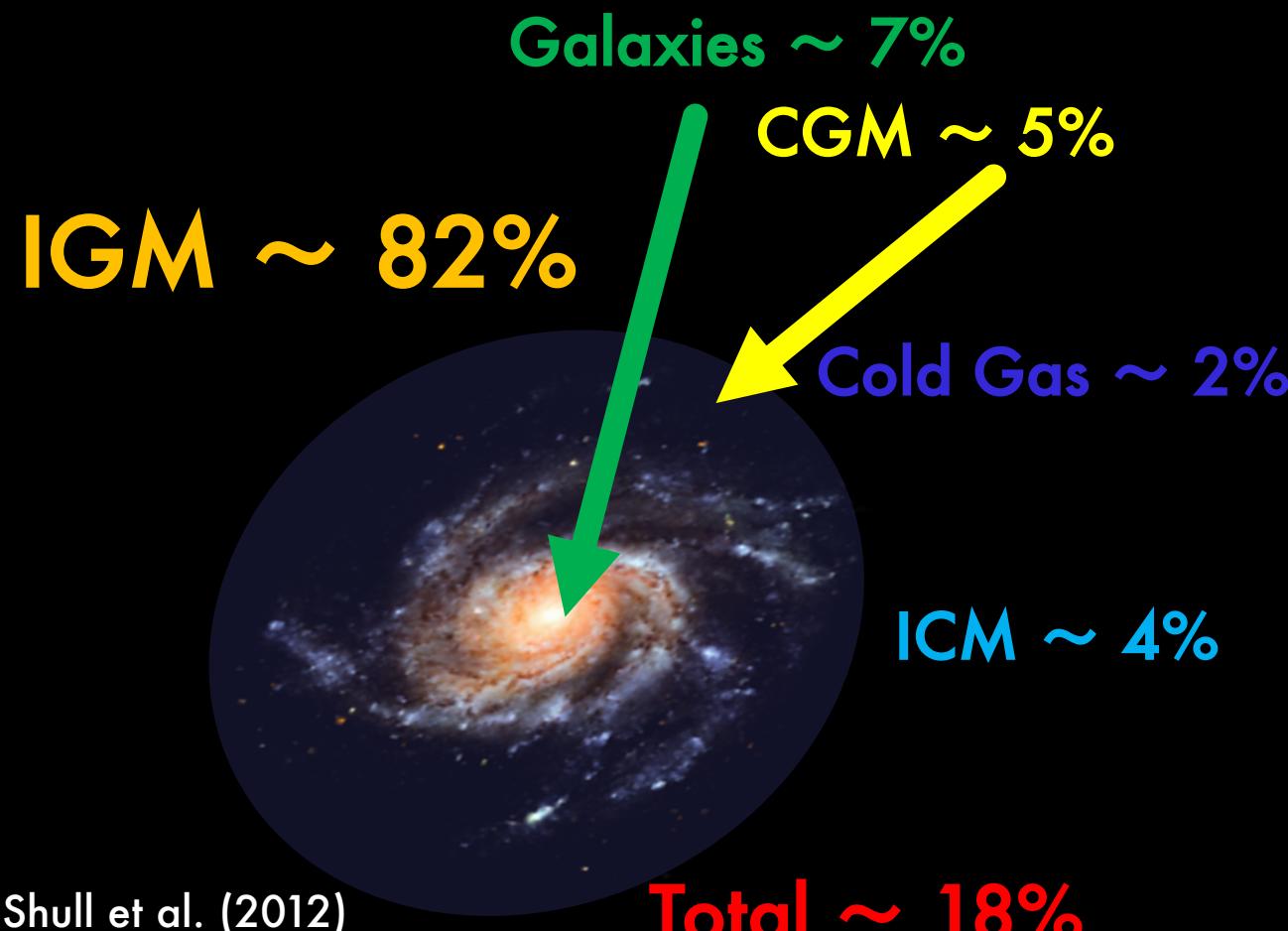
1. The IGM contains most of the baryonic matter

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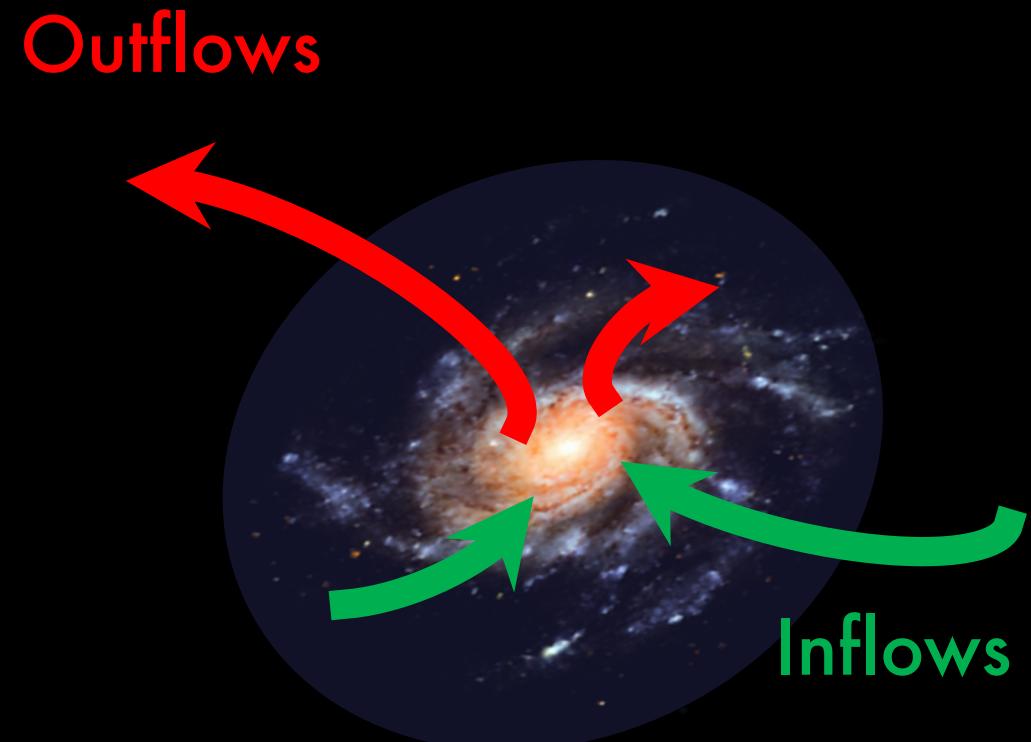
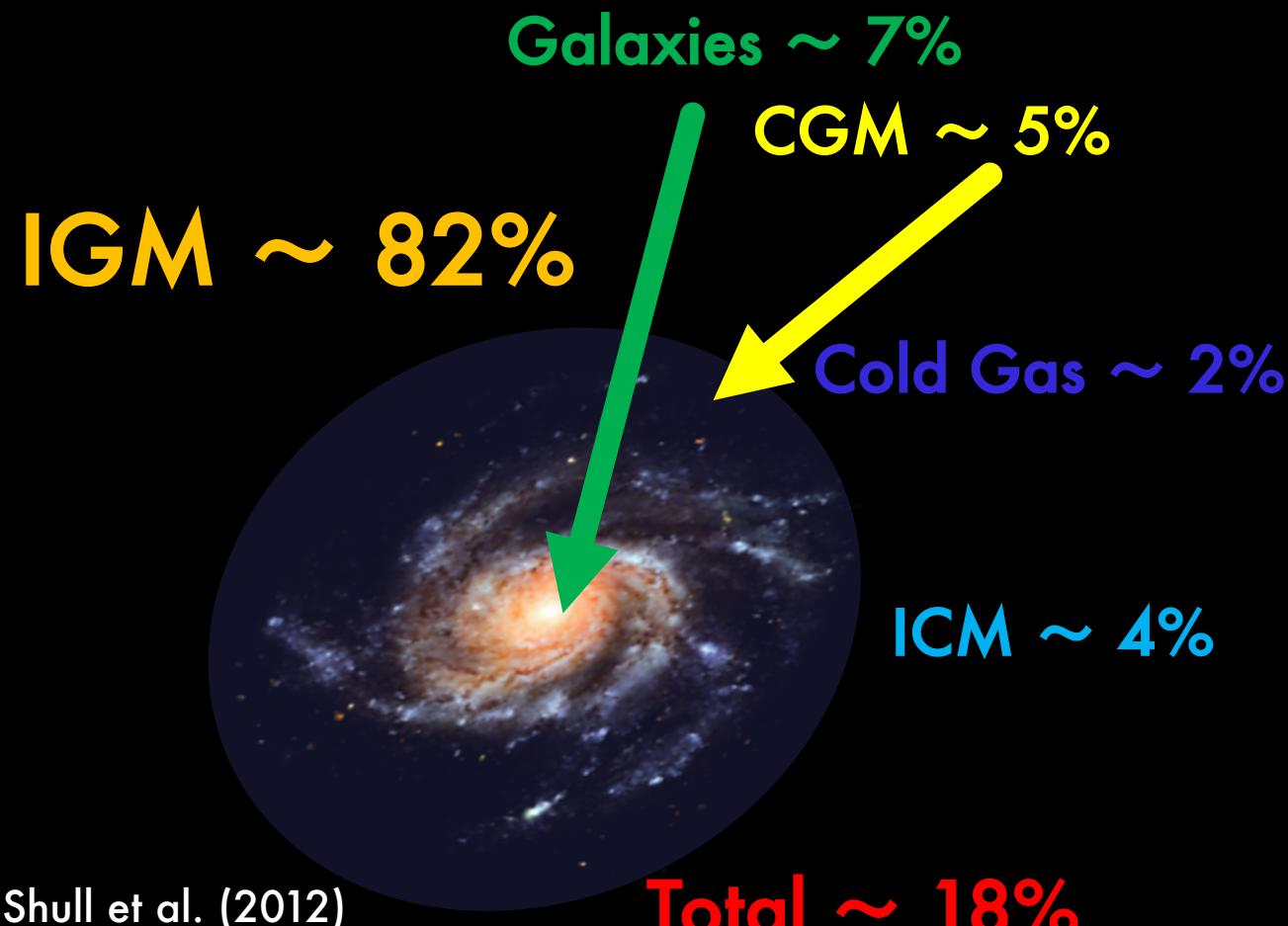
# Why Do We Care About the Intergalactic Medium?



1. The IGM contains most of the baryonic matter

2. Galaxies and the IGM evolve together

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# Problems Observing the Intergalactic Medium

- Density  $\sim 1$  particle per cubic meter
- Temperature  $\sim 1 \times 10^6$  K

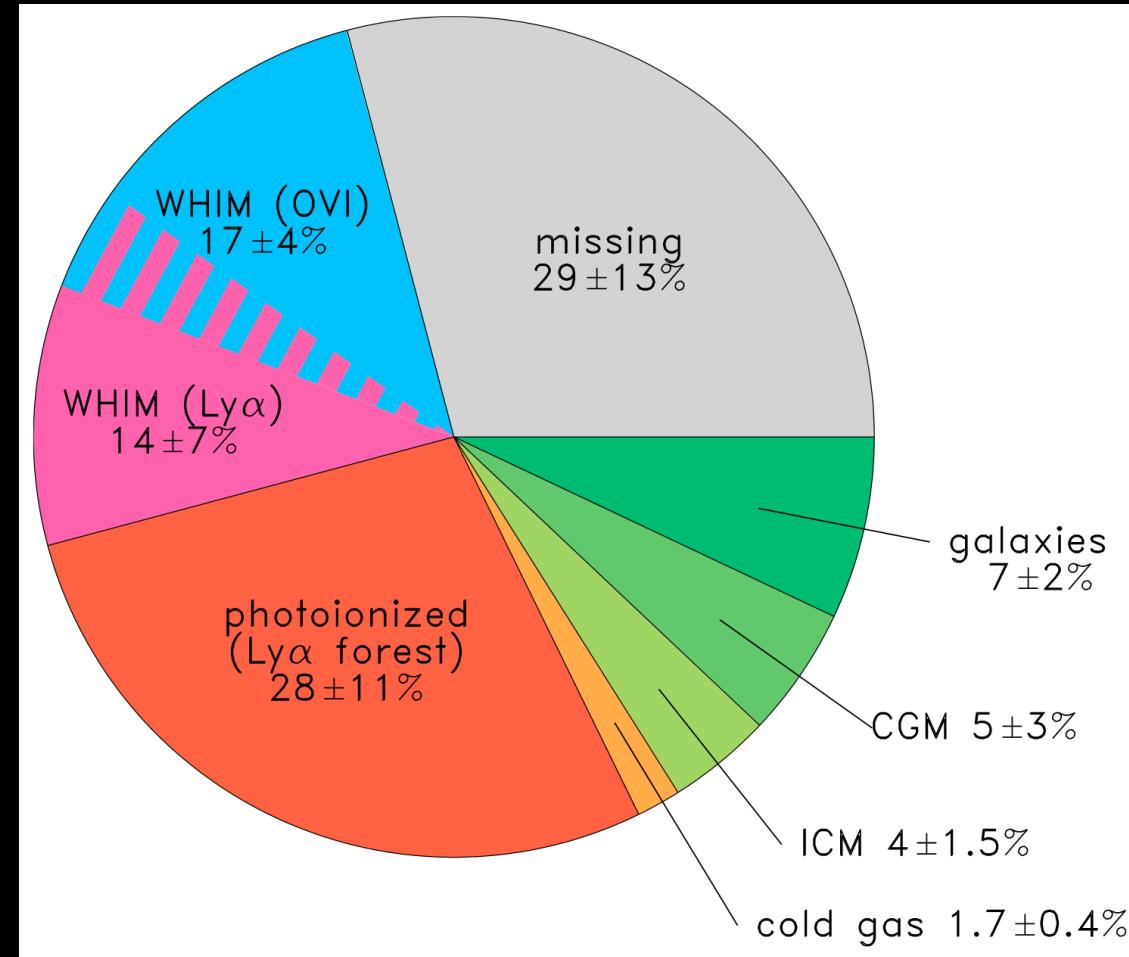
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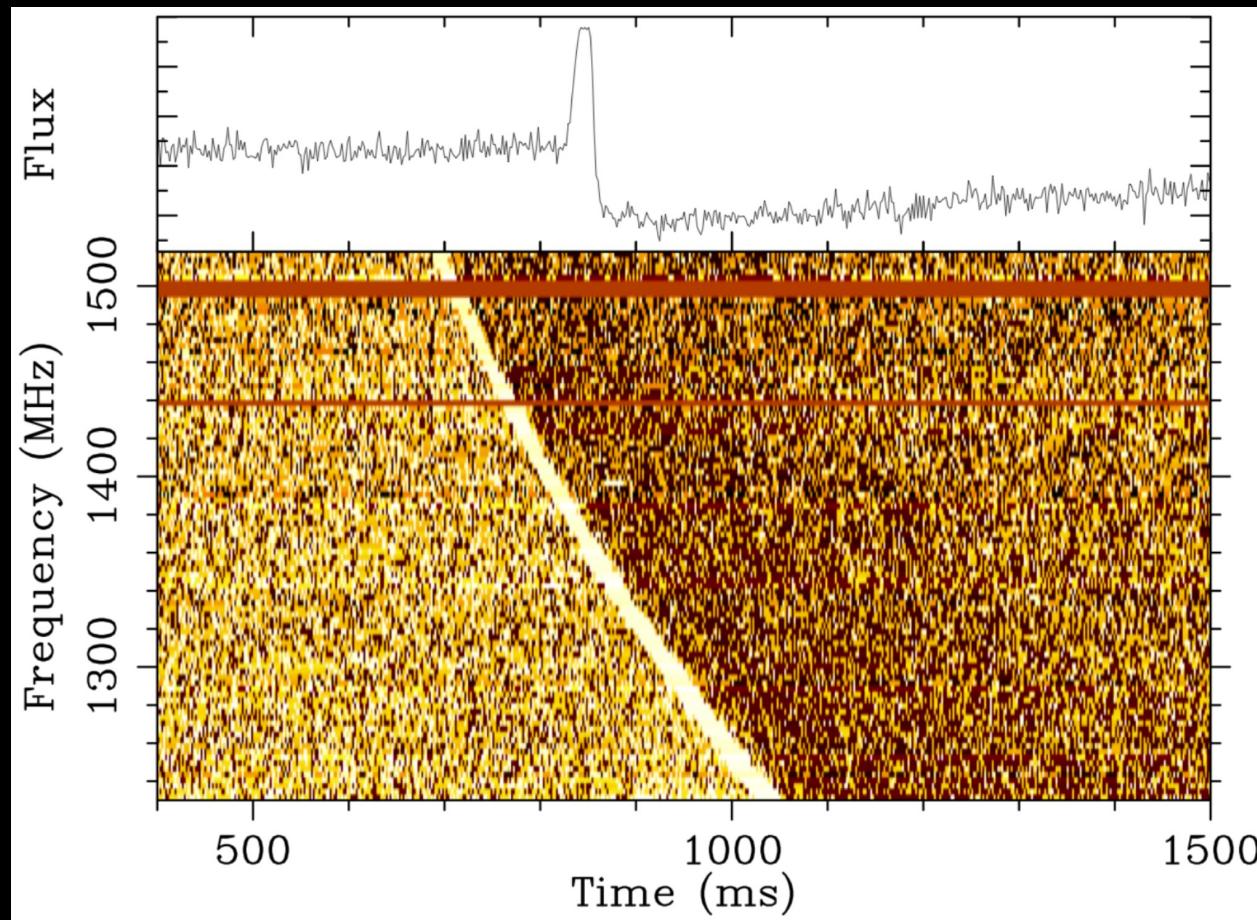
**The Missing Baryon Problem:**  
~ 30% of baryons at low redshift appear to be missing!



Shull et al. (2012)

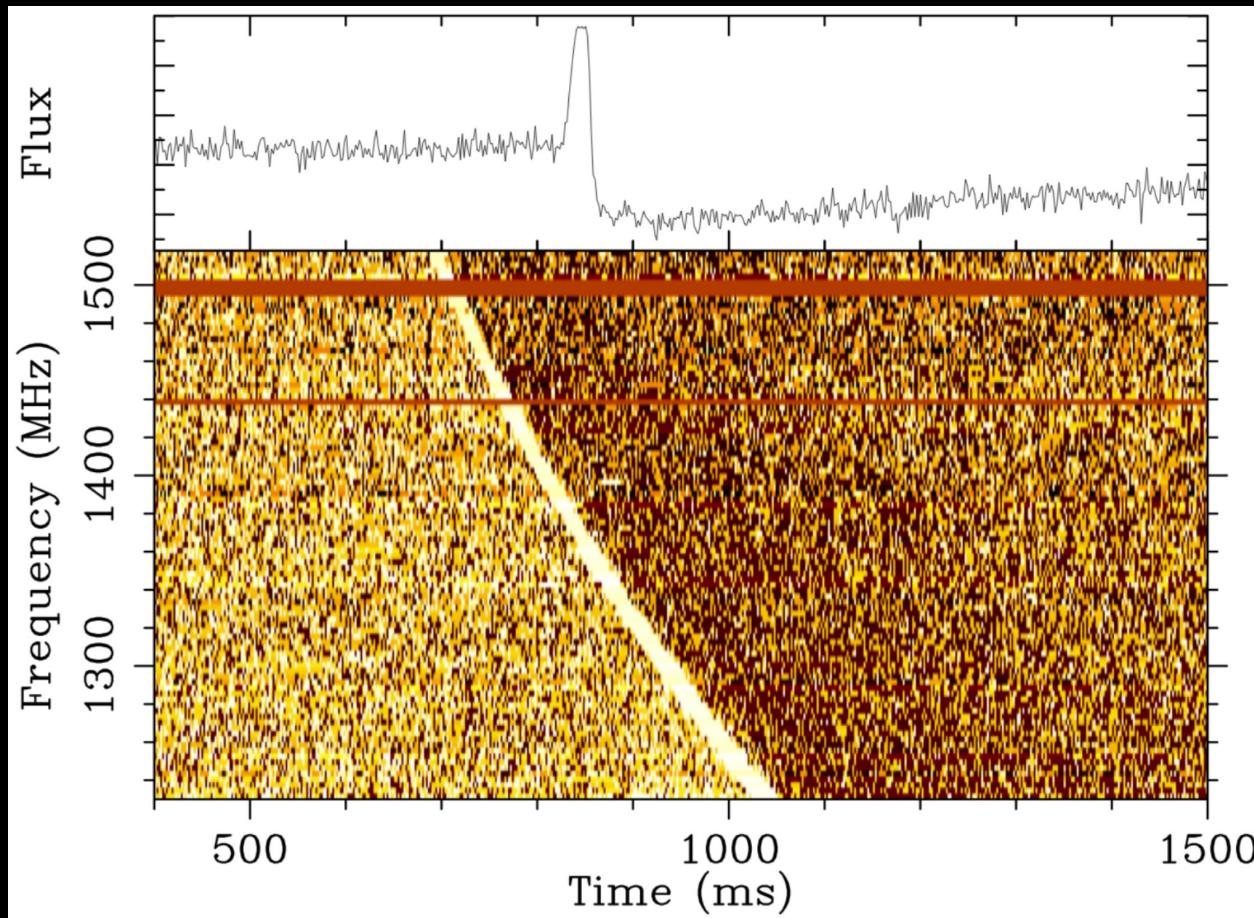
# How do Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) help?

Lorimer et al. (2007)  
Petroff et al. (2019)

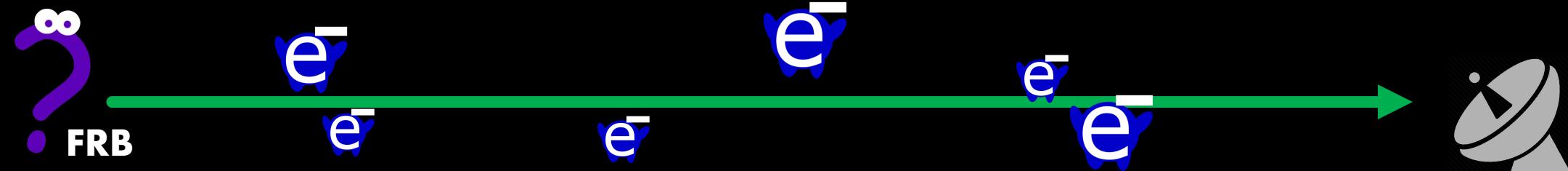


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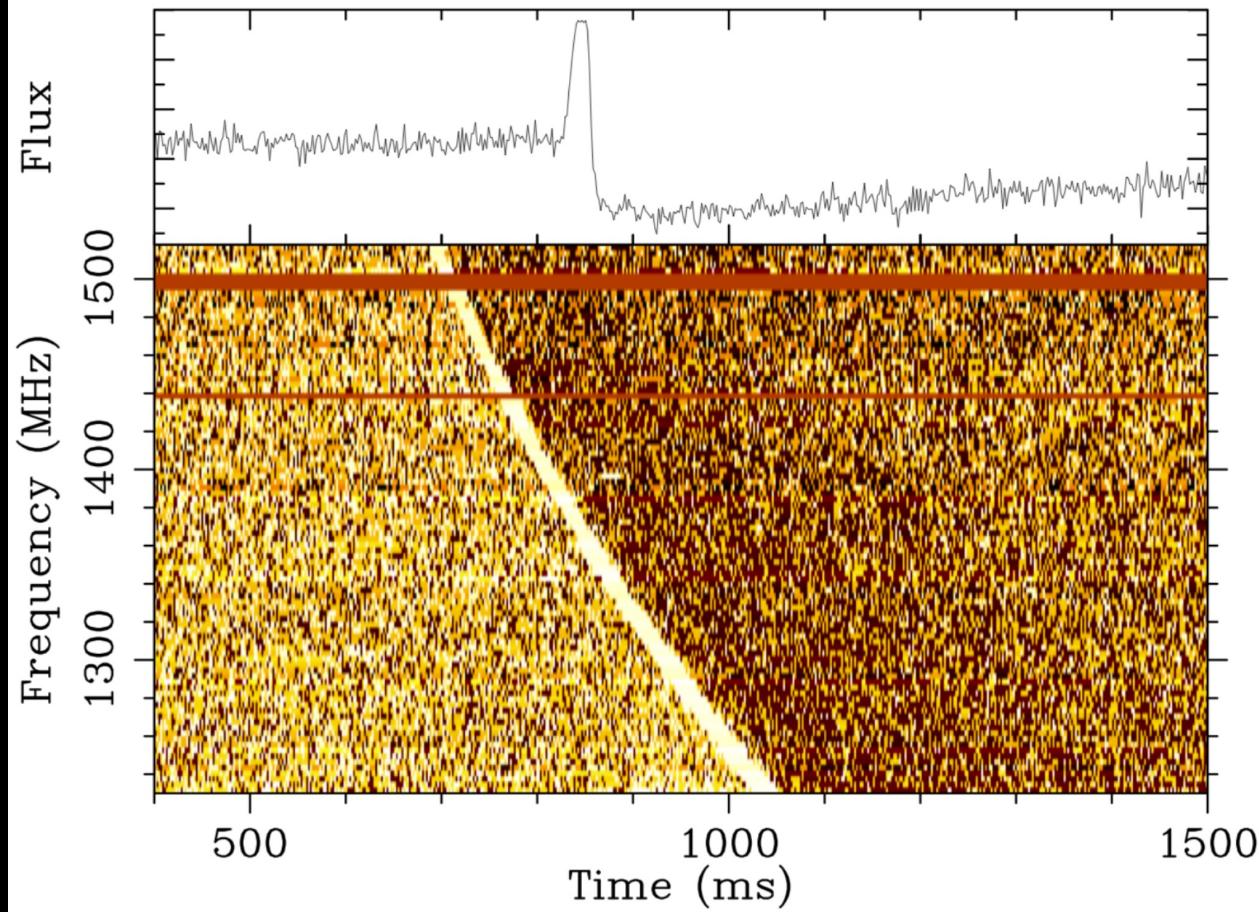


$$t = k\nu^{-2} \int_0^d n_e \, dl$$



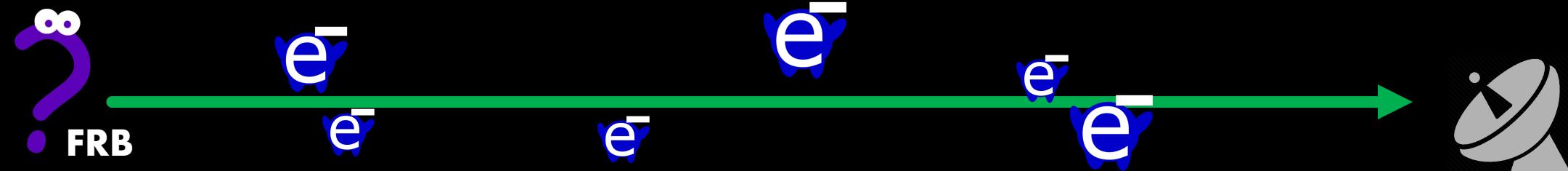
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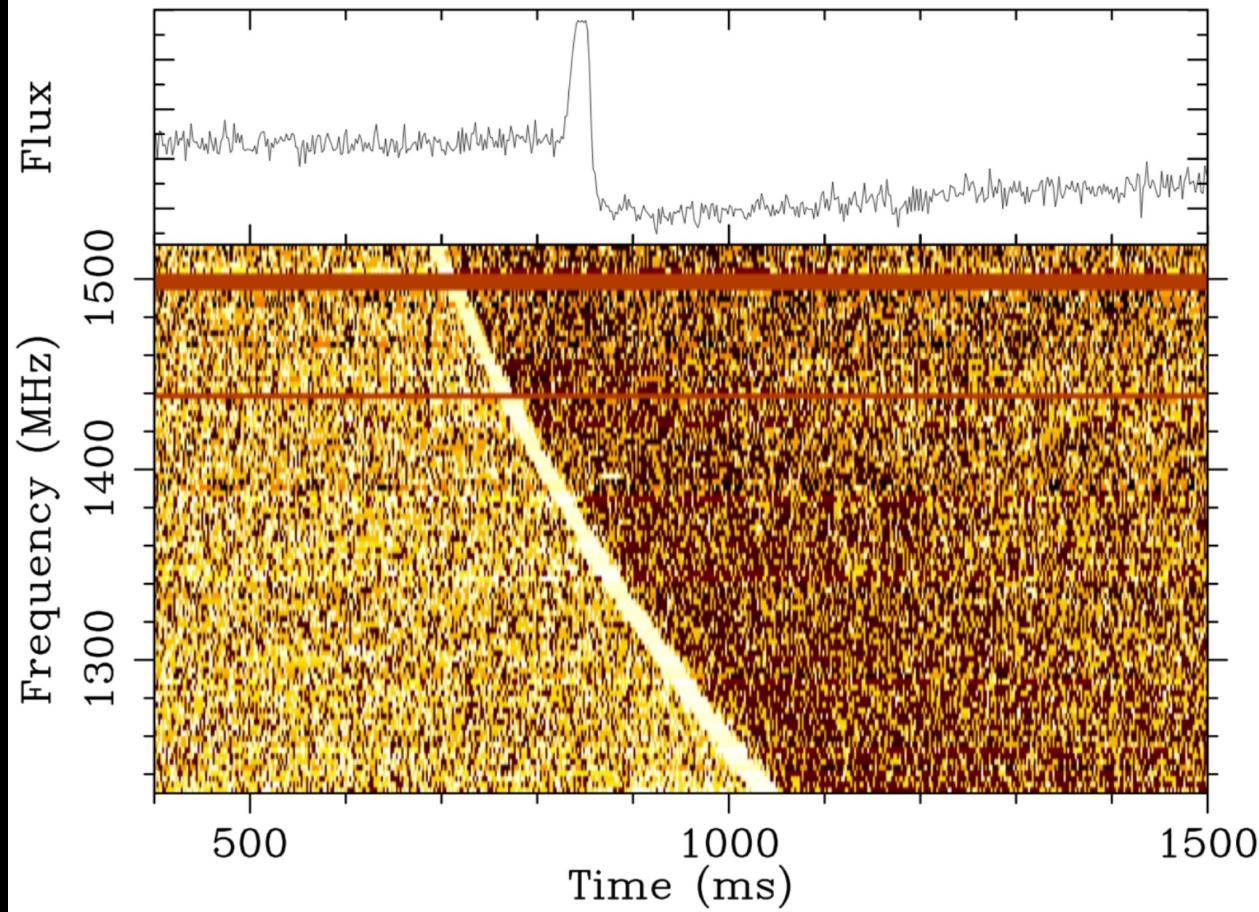
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Electron  
number  
density



# How do Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) help?

Lorimer et al. (2007)  
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$$t = k \nu^{-2} \int_0^d n_e \, dl$$

Frequency

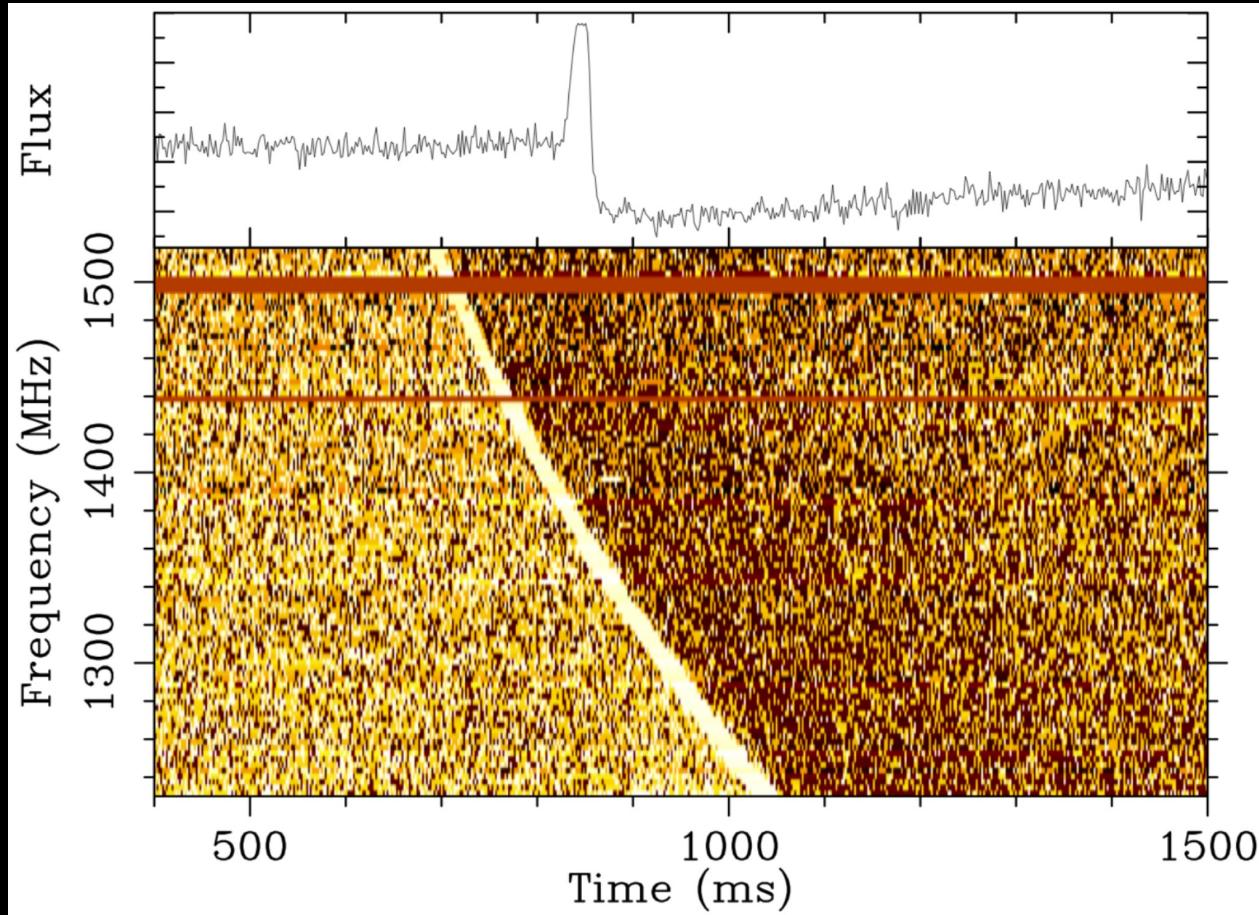
Electron number density

Diagram illustrating the dispersion measure (DM) equation. The equation is  $t = k \nu^{-2} \int_0^d n_e \, dl$ . A green arrow points upwards from the  $\nu^{-2}$  term to the word "Frequency". A pink arrow points downwards from the  $n_e$  term to the text "Electron number density".



# How do Fast Radio Bursts (FRBs) help?

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Constant

$$t = k \nu^{-2}$$

Frequency

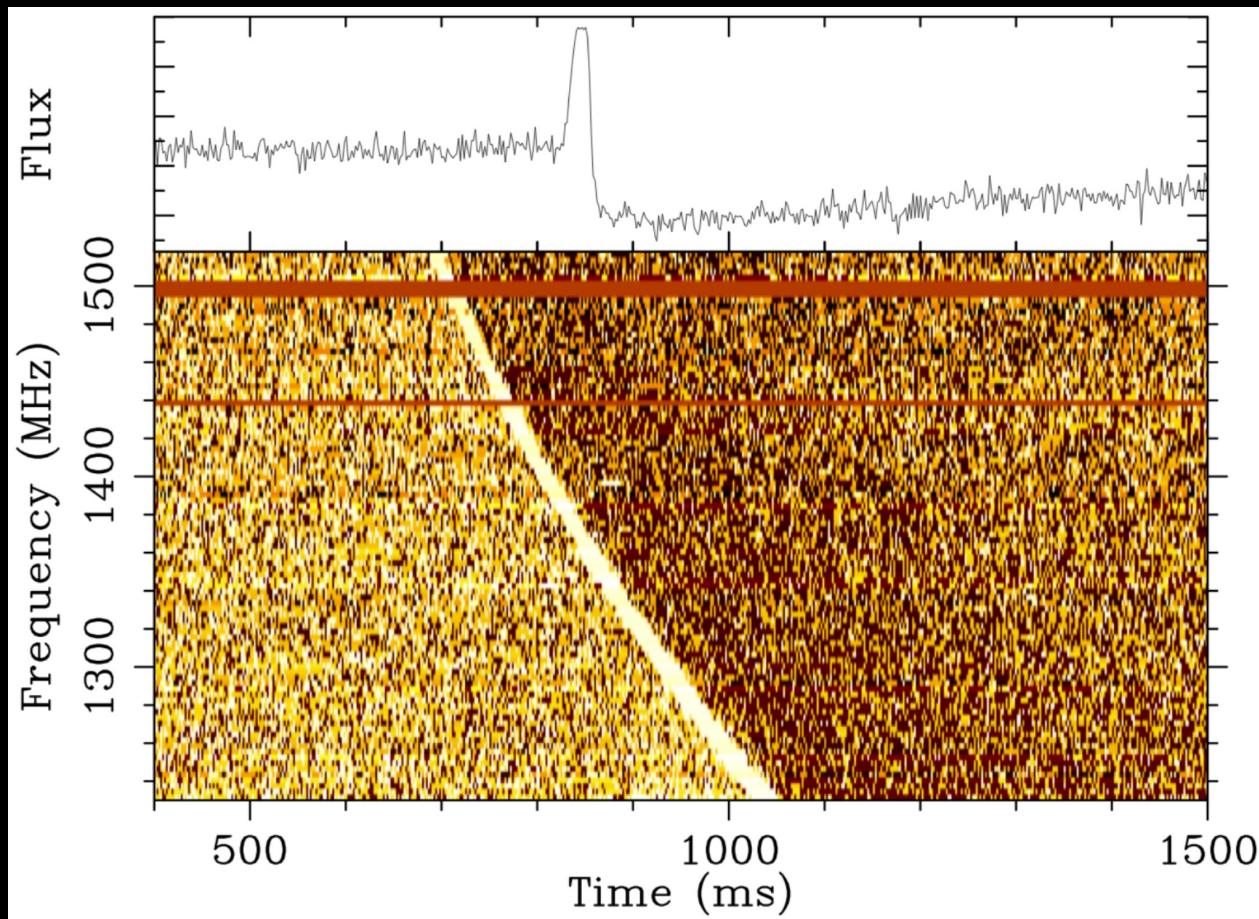
$$\int_0^d n_e \, dl$$

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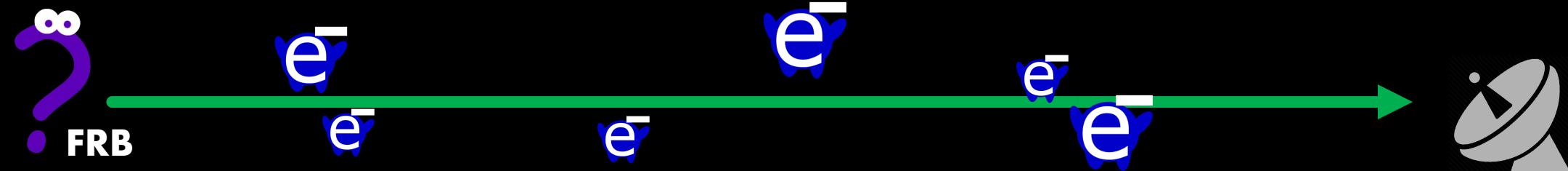


Constant

$$t = k \nu^{-2} \int_0^d n_e \, dl$$

Frequency

$$\text{DM} = \int_0^d n_e \, dl$$



$$DM = DM_{MW} + DM_{cosmic}(z) + \frac{DM_{Host}}{1+z}$$

$$\text{DM} = \text{DM}_{\text{MW}} + \text{DM}_{\text{cosmic}}(z) + \frac{\text{DM}_{\text{Host}}}{1+z}$$

Milky Way

↓

Host Galaxy/Local Environment

↓

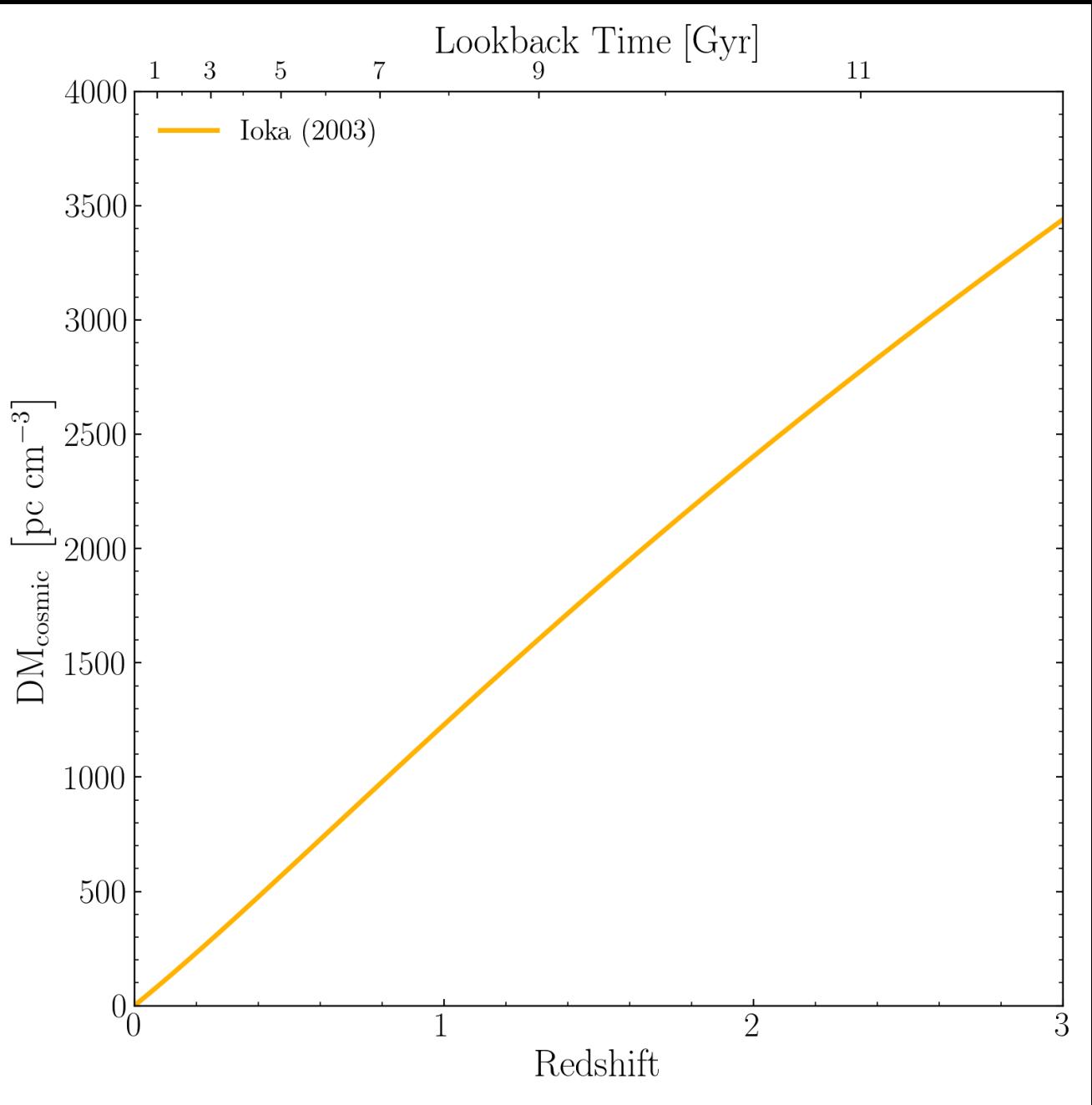
$$\text{DM}_{\text{cosmic}}(z) = \text{DM}_{\text{IGM}}(z) + \text{DM}_{\text{CGM, Interlopers}}$$

↑

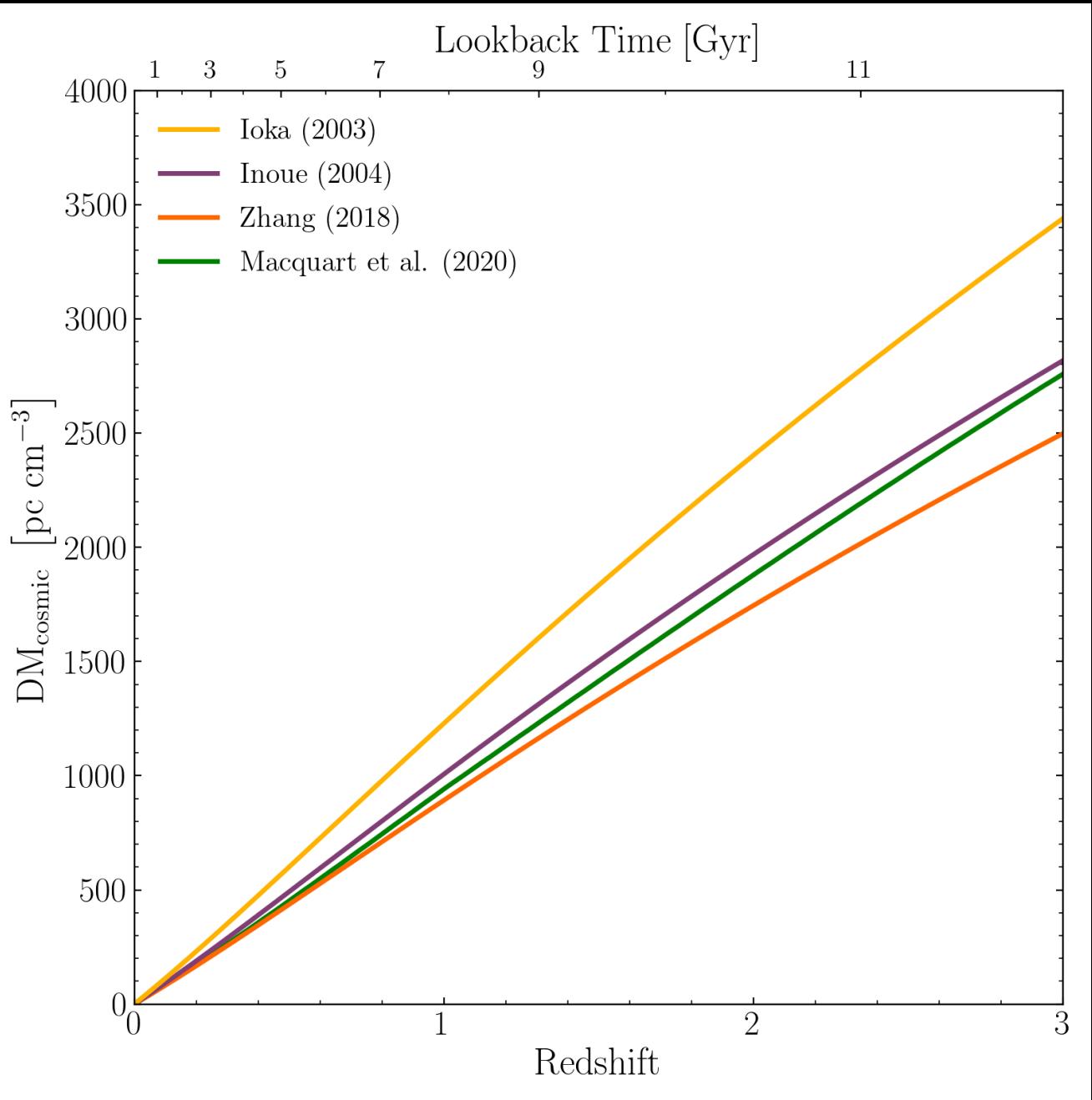
Intergalactic Medium

↑

The CGM of Galaxies along the line-of-sight



Ioka (2003) [Analytic]

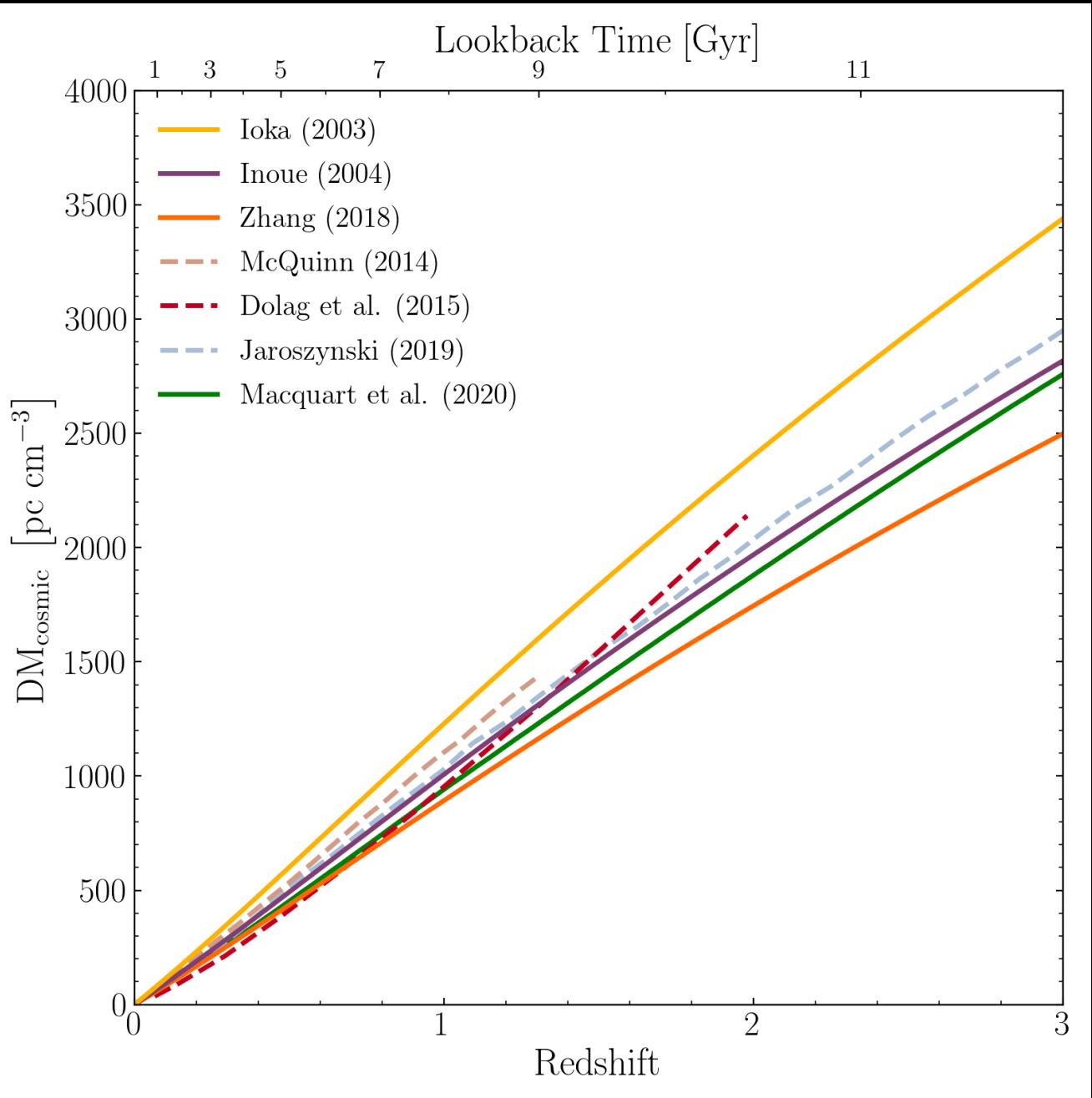


Ioka (2003) [Analytic]

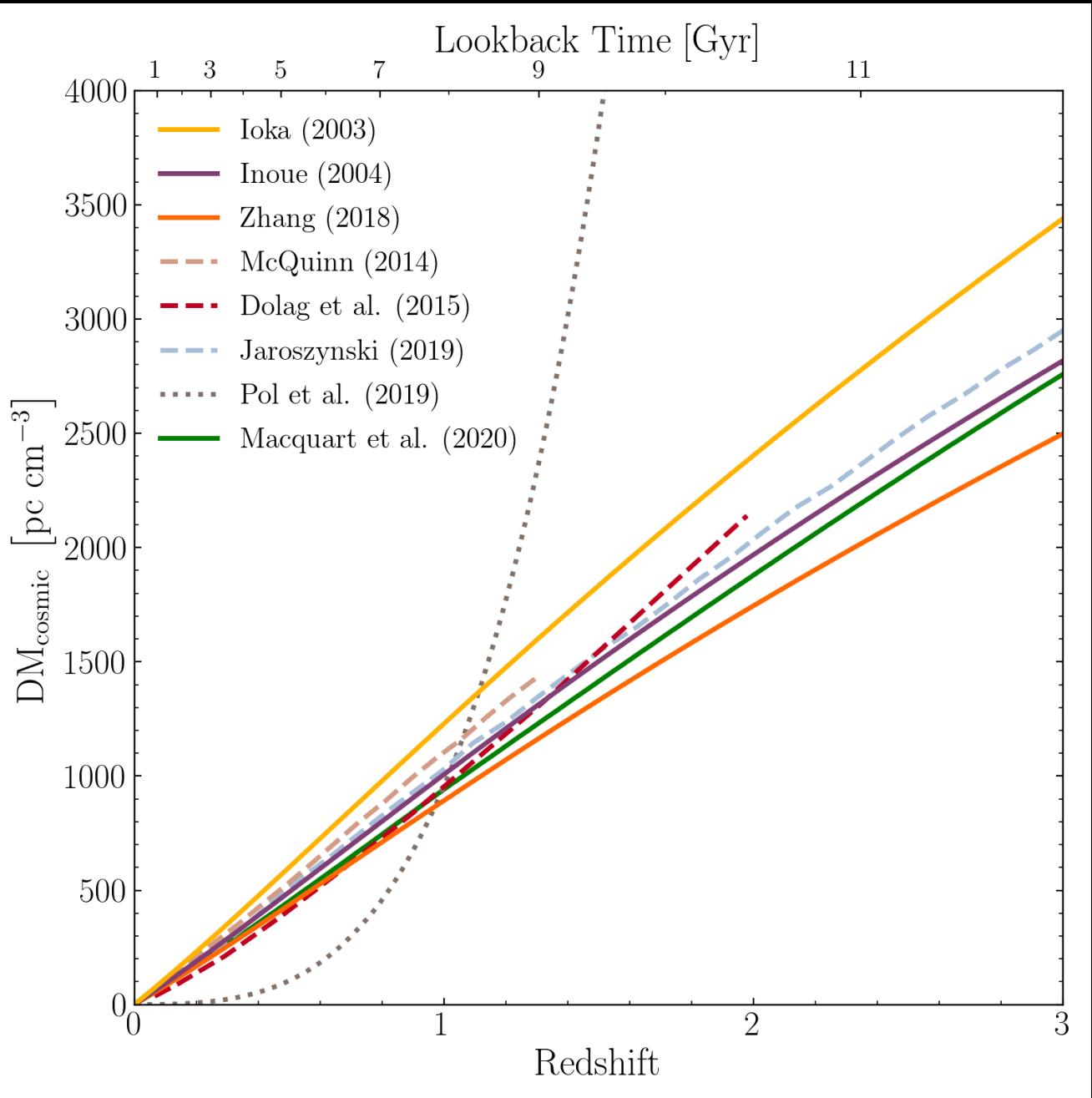
Inoue (2004) [Analytic]

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Macquart+(2020) [Analytic]

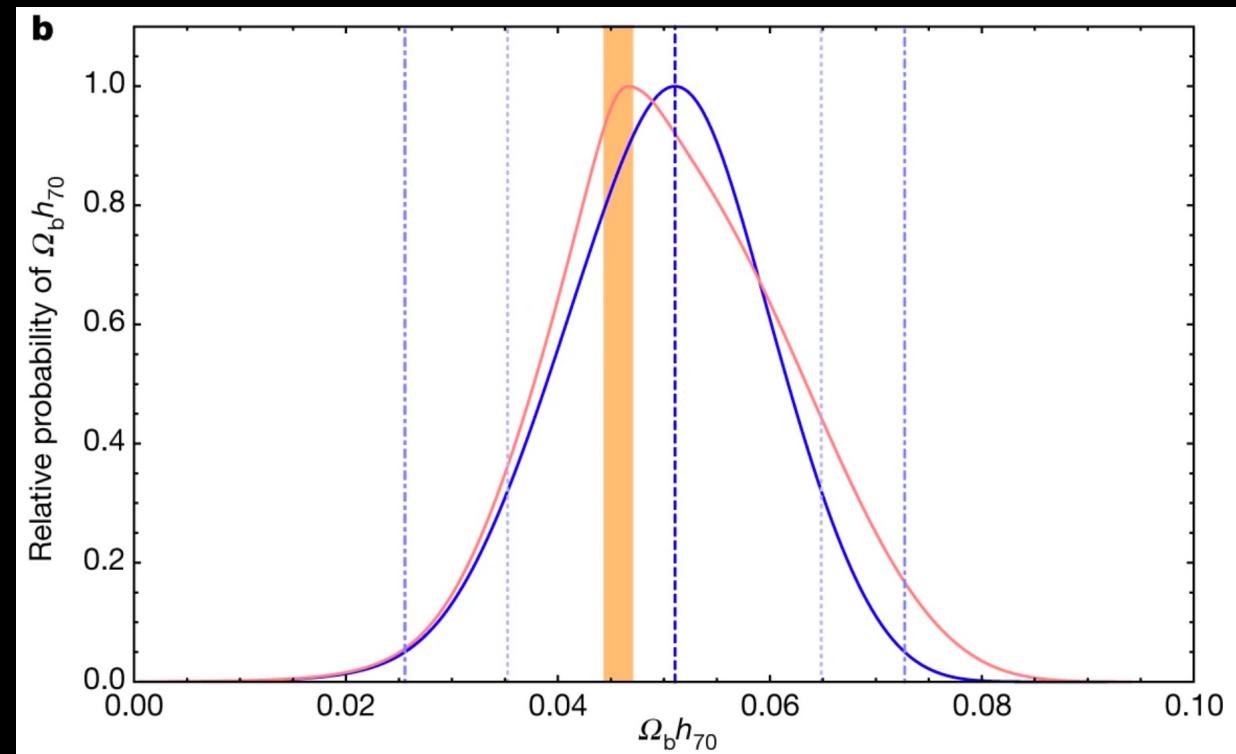
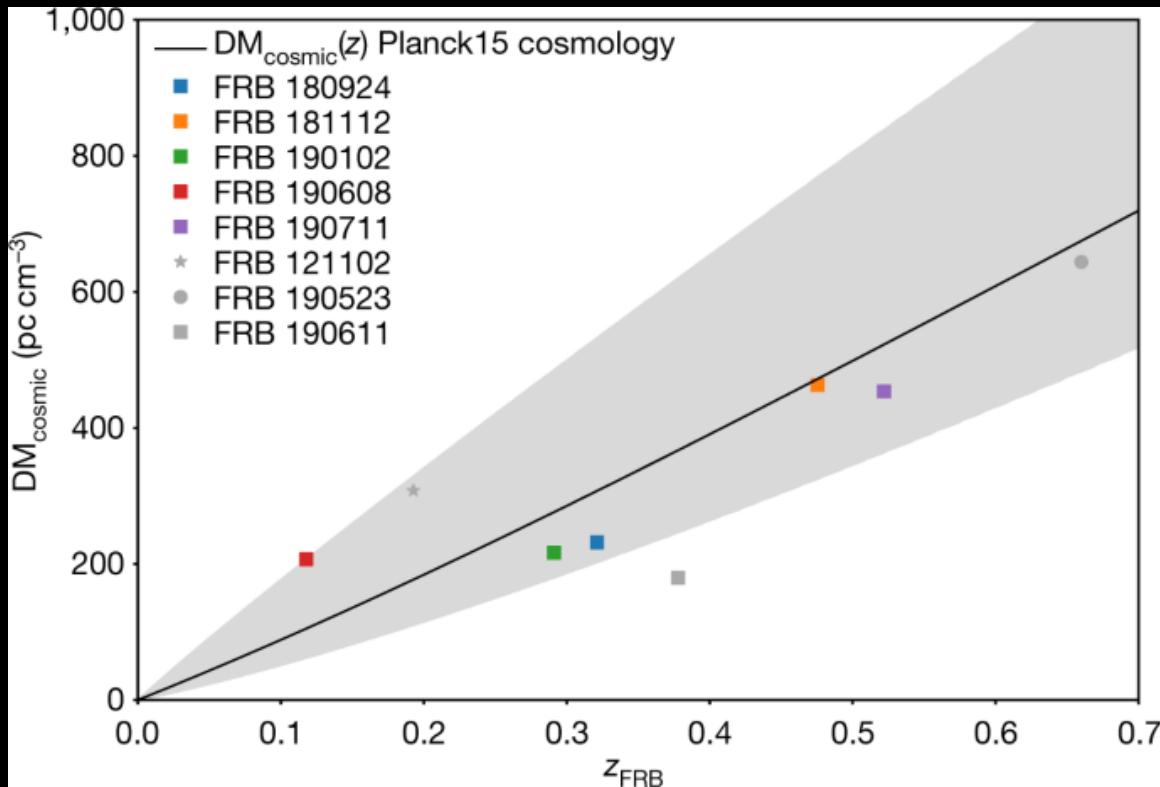


Ioka (2003)	[Analytic]
Inoue (2004)	[Analytic]
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McQuinn (2014)	[Analytic+Hydro]
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Pol+(2019) ["Semi-Analytic"; MICE]	
Macquart+(2020)	[Analytic]

# FRBs and the Missing Baryon Problem



# Batten et al. 2021a (arxiv:2011.14547)

## The Cosmic Dispersion Measure in the EAGLE Simulations

Adam J. Batten,<sup>1,2</sup> Alan R. Duffy,<sup>1,2</sup> Natasha A. Wijers,<sup>3</sup> Vivek Gupta,<sup>1</sup> Chris Flynn,<sup>1</sup> Joop Schaye,<sup>3</sup> Emma Ryan-Weber<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Centre for Astrophysics and Supercomputing, Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Victoria 3122, Australia*

<sup>2</sup>*ARC Centre of Excellence for All Sky Astrophysics in 3 Dimensions (ASTRO 3D)*

<sup>3</sup>*Sterrewacht, Leiden University, Niels Bohrweg 2, 2333 CA Leiden, The Netherlands*

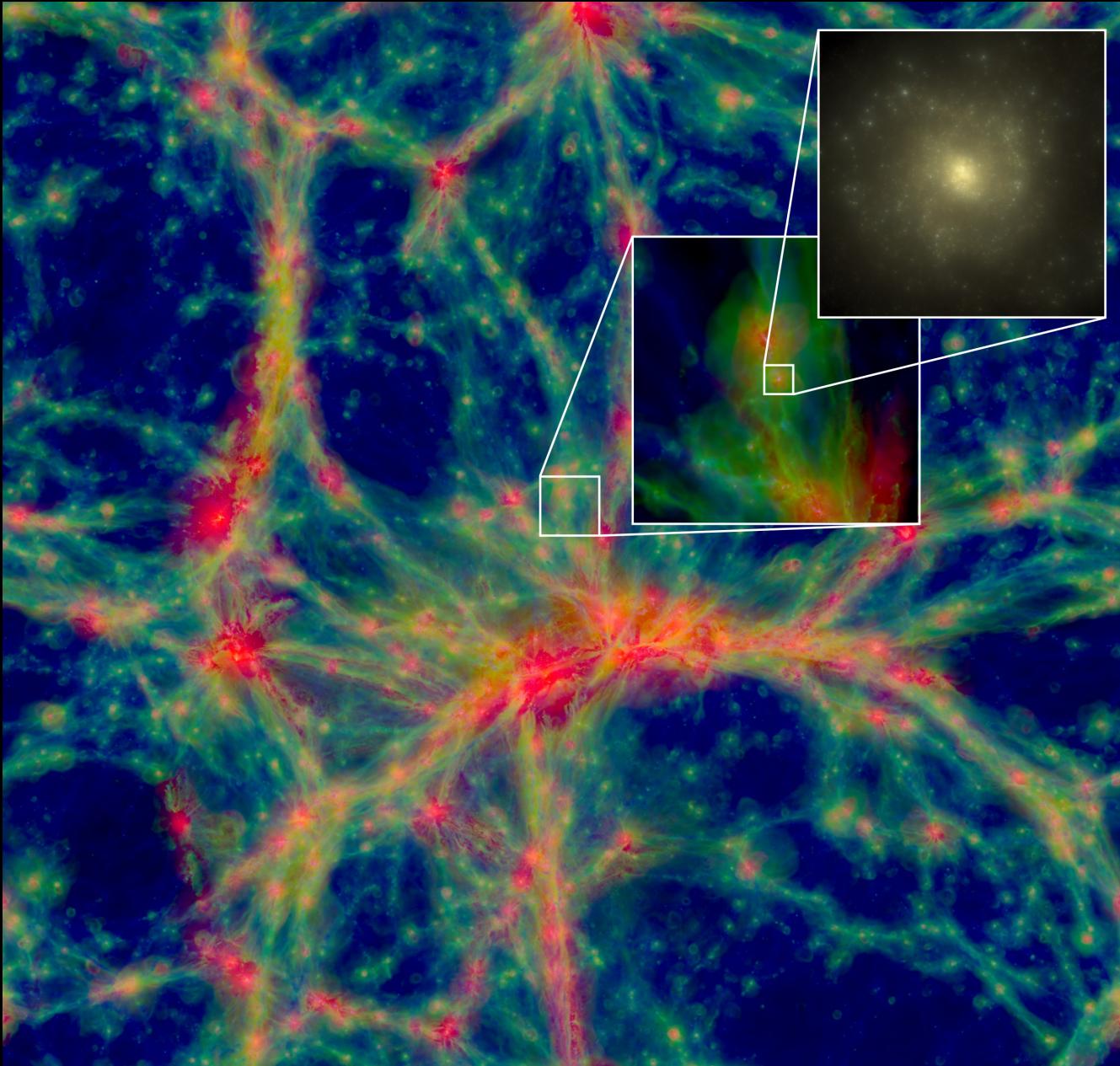
Accepted XXX. Received YYY; in original form ZZZ

### ABSTRACT

The dispersion measure (DM) of fast radio bursts (FRBs) provides a unique way to probe ionised baryons in the intergalactic medium (IGM). Cosmological models with different parameters lead to different DM-redshift (DM –  $z$ ) relations. Additionally, the over/under-dense regions in the IGM and the circumgalactic medium of intervening galaxies lead to scatter around the mean DM –  $z$  relations. We have used the Evolution and Assembly of GaLaxies and their Environments (EAGLE) simulations to measure the mean DM –  $z$  relation and the scatter around it using over one billion lines-of-sight between redshifts  $0 < z < 3$ . We investigated two techniques to estimate line-of-sight DM: ‘pixel scrambling’ and ‘box transformations’. We find that using box transformations (a technique from the literature) causes strong correlations due to repeated replication of structure. Comparing a linear and non-linear model, we find that the non-linear model with cosmological parameters, provides a better fit to the DM –  $z$  relation. The differences between these models are the most significant at low redshifts ( $z < 0.5$ ). The scatter around the DM –  $z$  relation is highly asymmetric, especially at low redshift ( $z < 0.5$ ), and becomes more Gaussian as redshift approaches  $z \sim 3$ , the limit of this study. The increase in Gaussianity with redshift is indicative of the large scale structures that is better probed with longer lines-of-sight. The minimum simulation size suitable for investigations into the scatter around the DM –  $z$  relation is 100 comoving Mpc. The DM –  $z$  relation measured in EAGLE is available with an easy-to-use python interface in the open-source FRB redshift estimation package FRUITBAT.

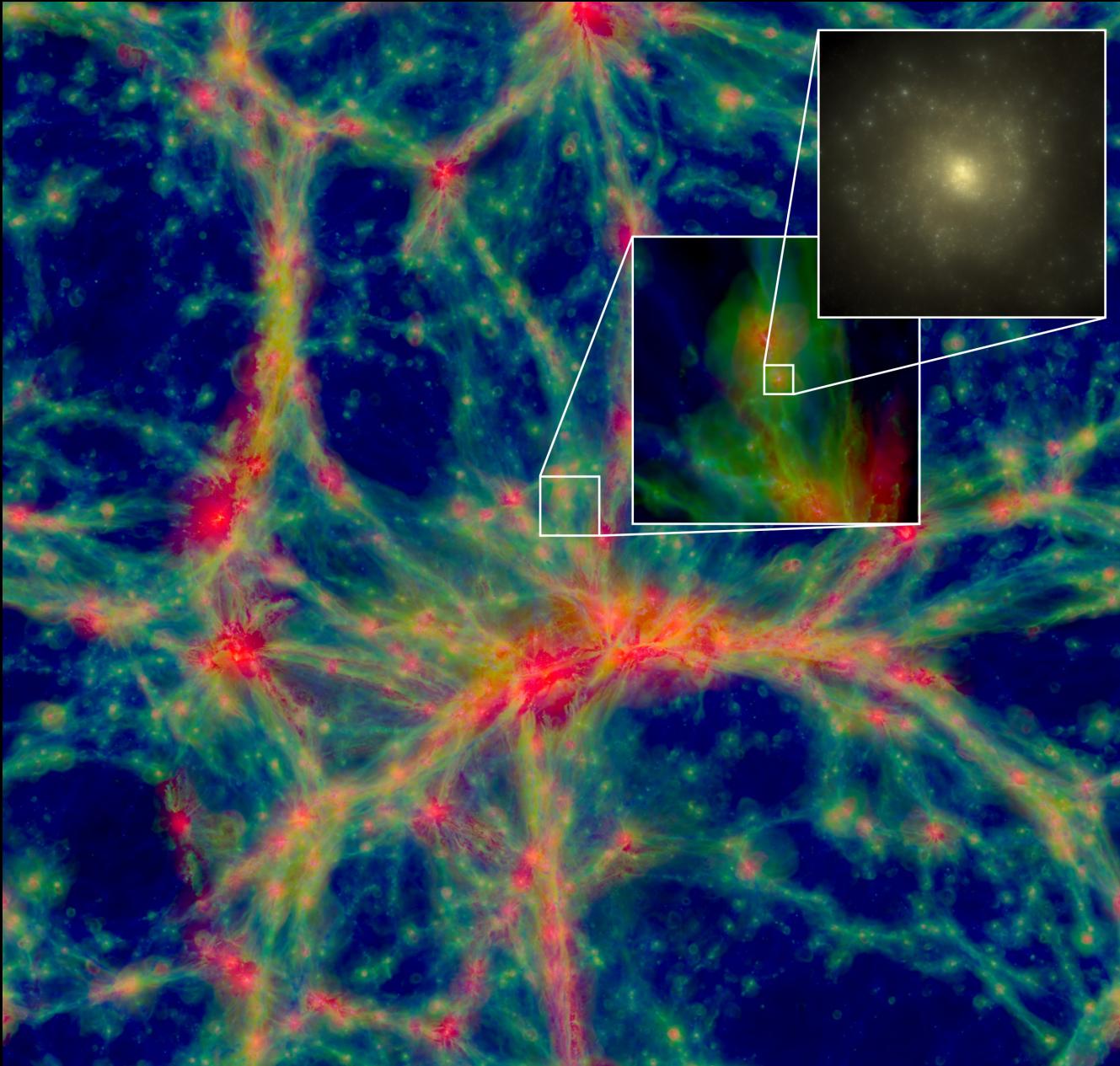
**Key words:** intergalactic medium – hydrodynamics – methods: numerical – radio continuum: general

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# EAGLE Simulations

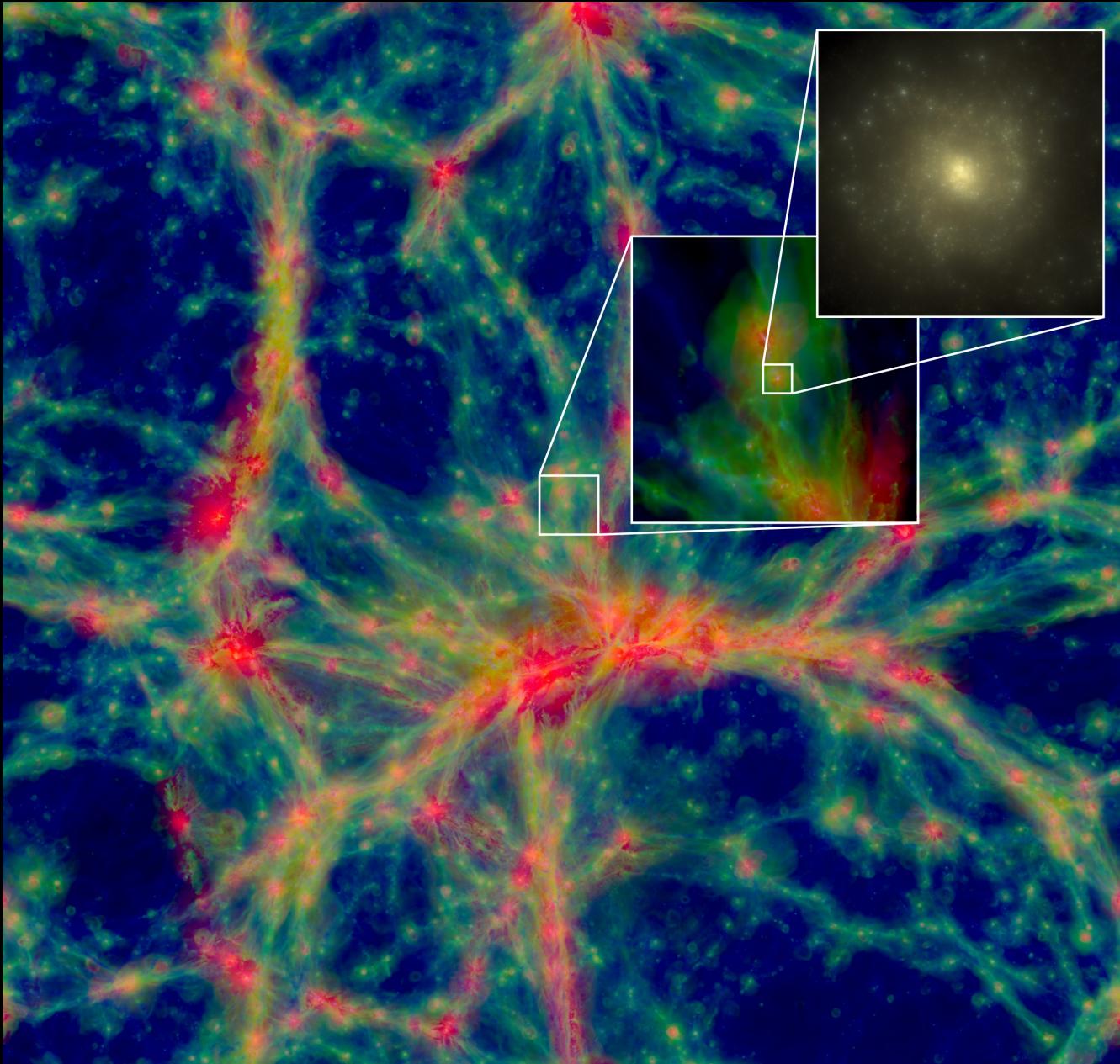
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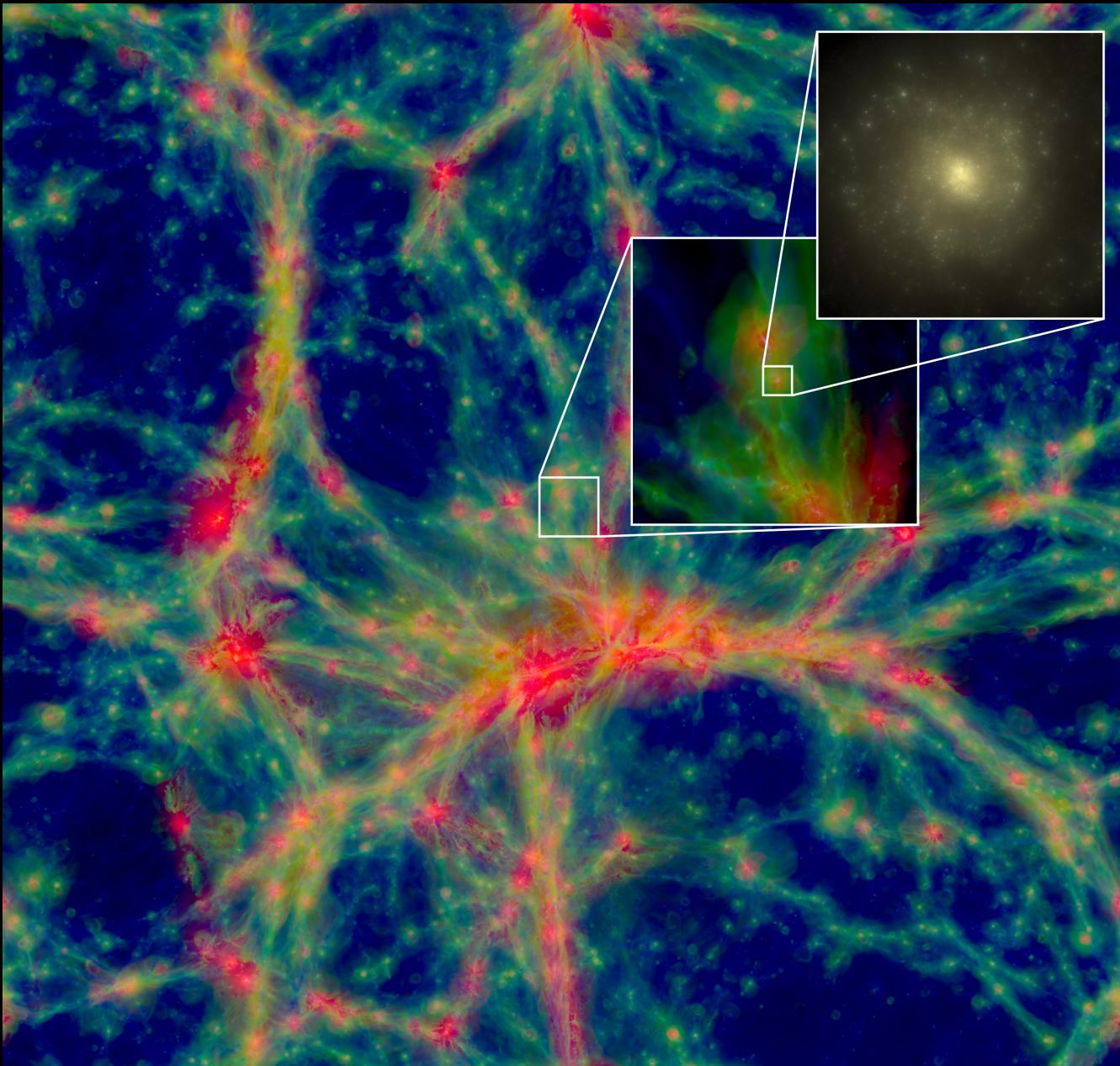
- Hydrodynamics + Nbody
- Large cosmological volume (100 cMpc)
- Redshift range ( $z \sim 127$  to  $z = 0$ )



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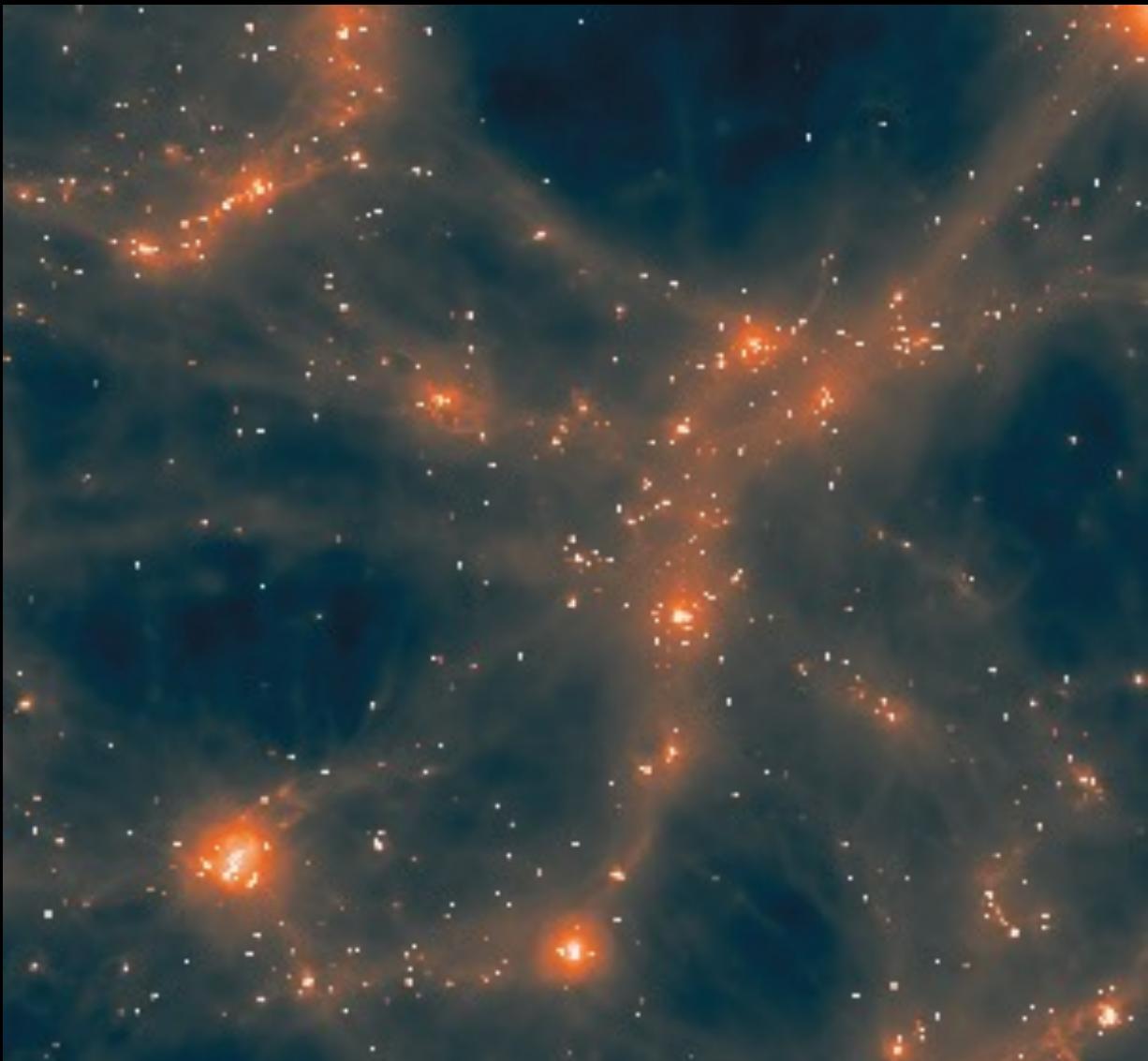
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- HM12 UV Ionising Background
- Galactic Winds: Star formation & AGN



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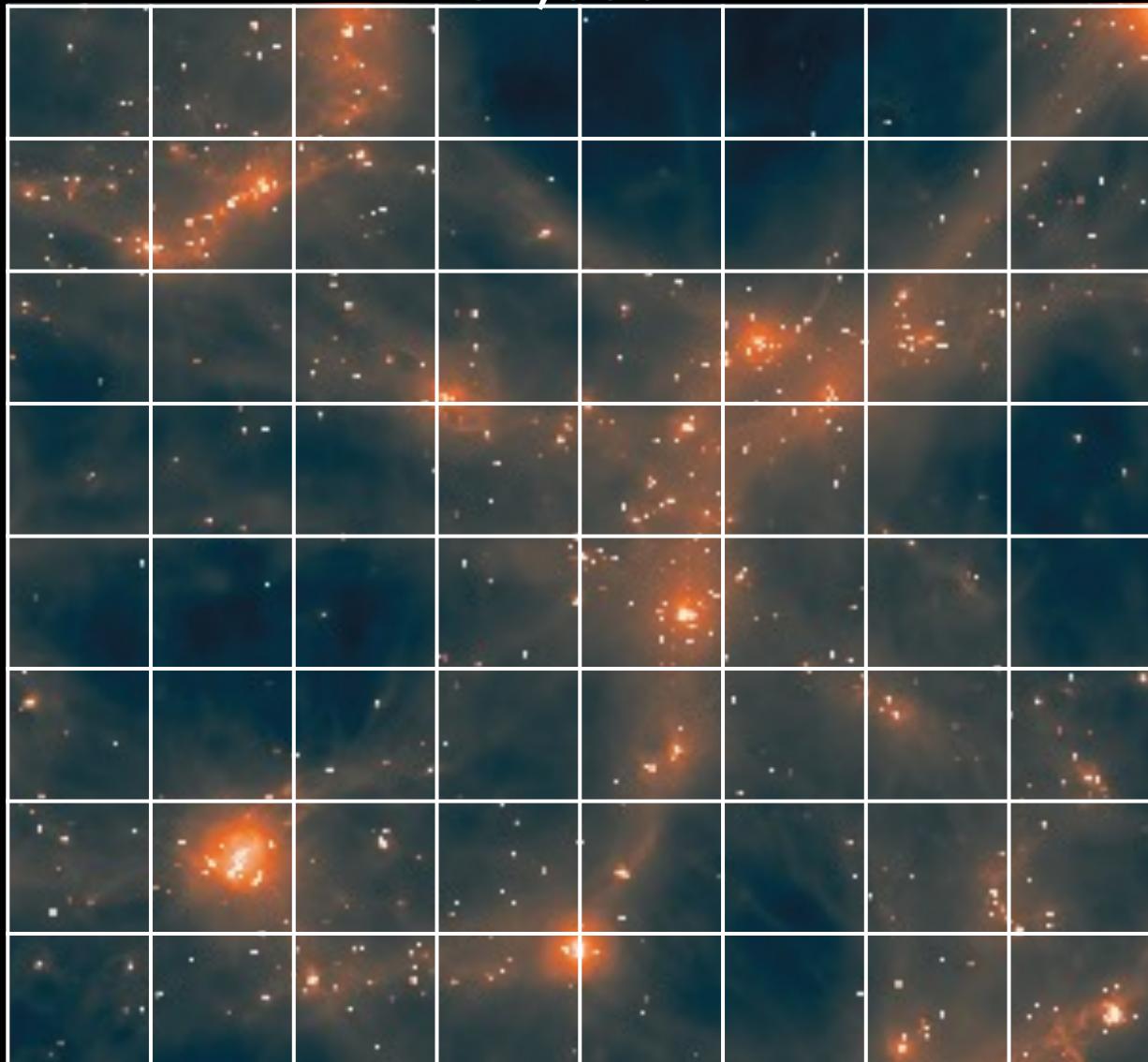
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- Abundances for 11 different elements.
- HM12 UV Ionising Background
- Galactic Winds: Star formation & AGN
- Resolution:  $\sim 0.7$  ckpc
- Particle Masses:  $\sim 10^6 M_\odot$



EAGLE Simulations

32,000

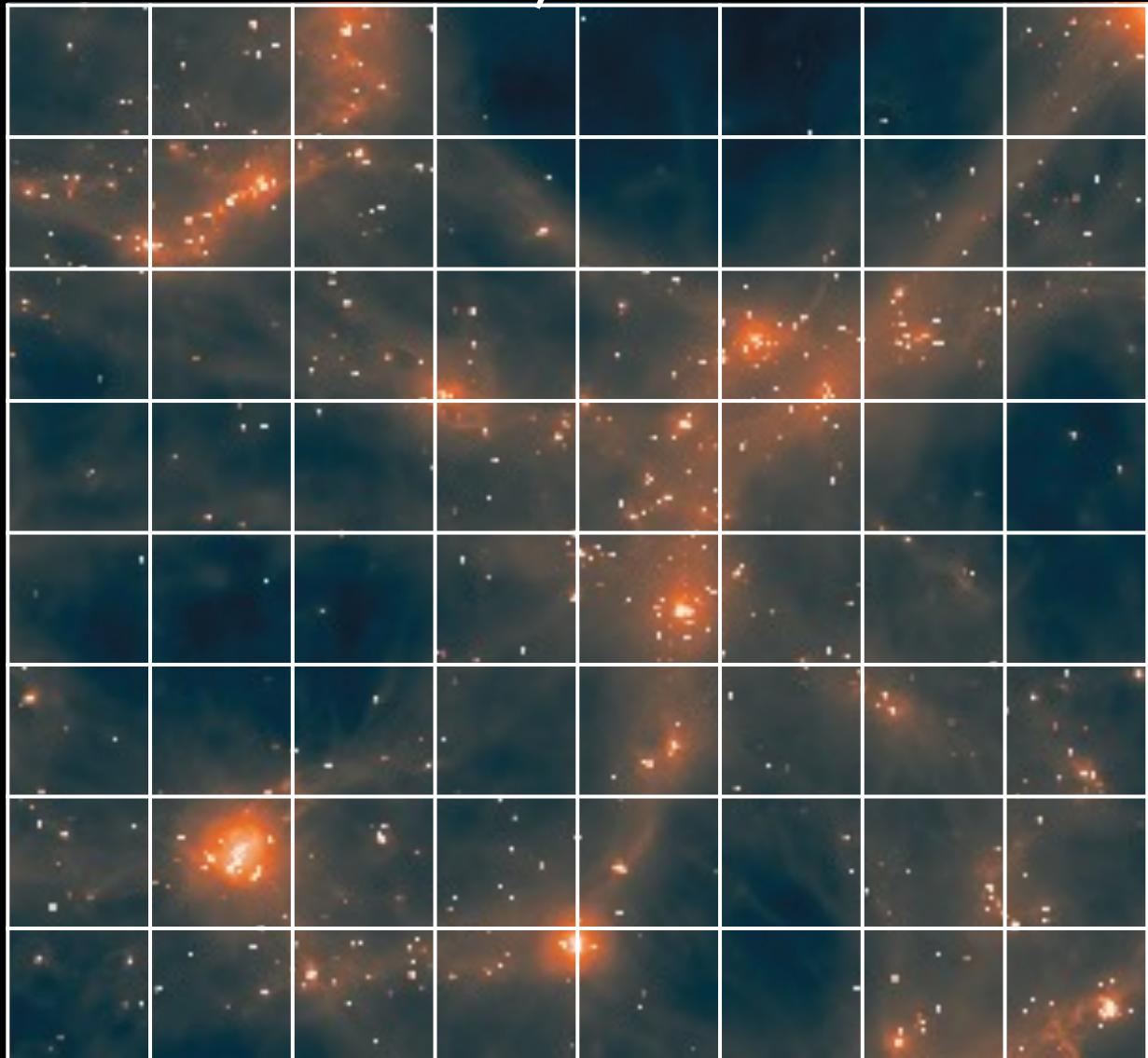


# EAGLE Simulations

- Divide cube into columns

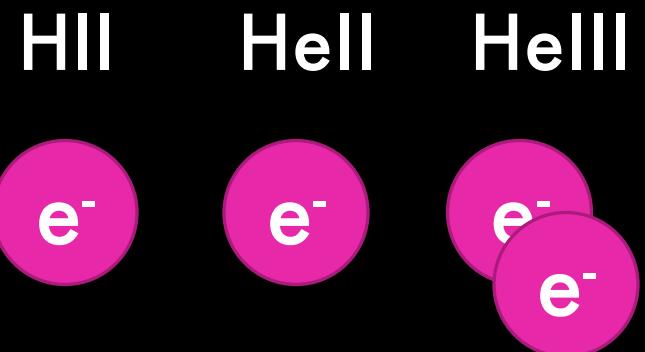
32,000

32,000

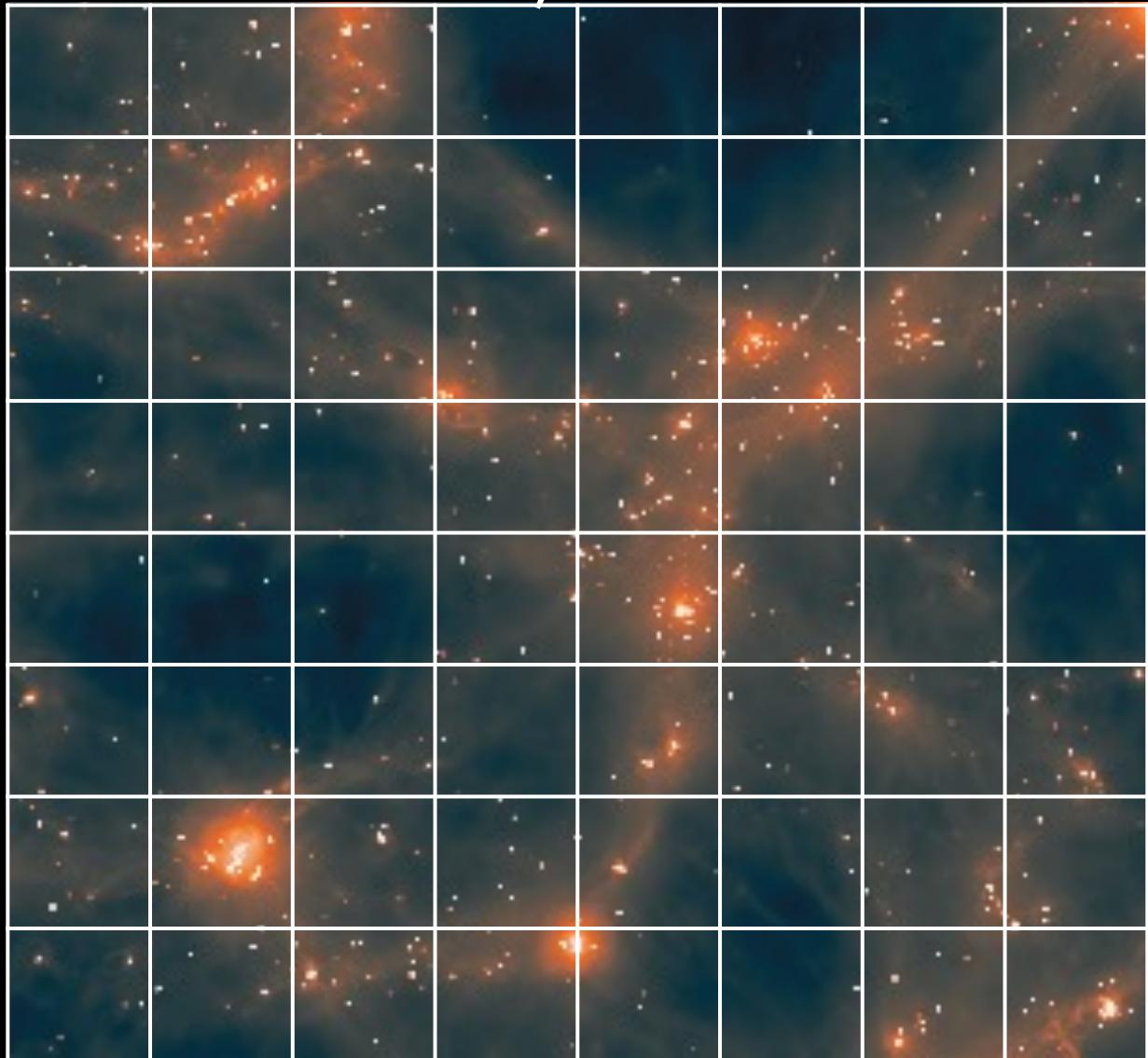


# EAGLE Simulations

- Divide cube into columns
- Calculate column densities
  - Rahmati et al. (2013) (SS)
  - Wijers et al. (2019)

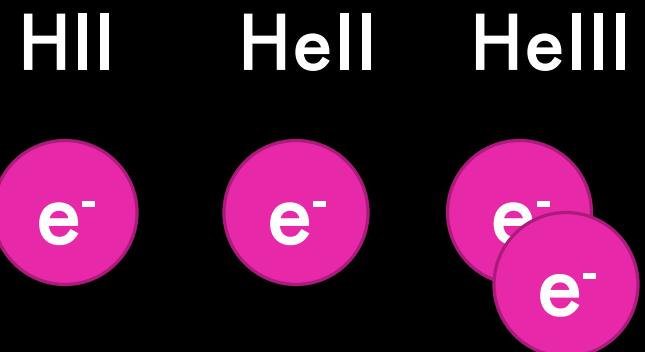


32,000

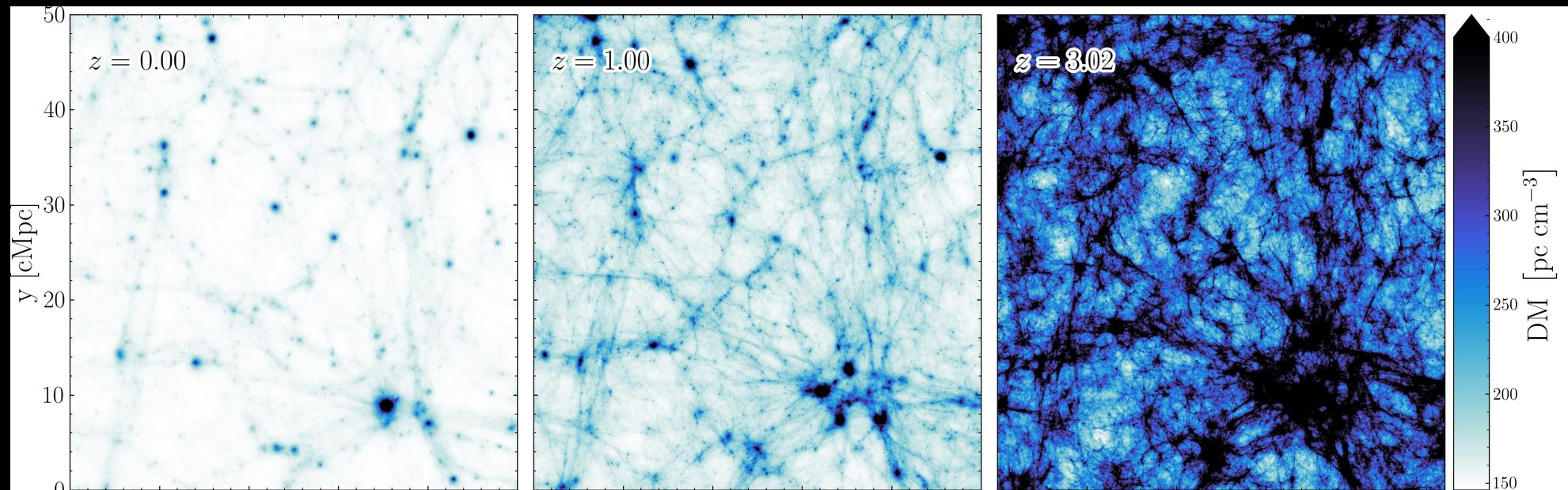


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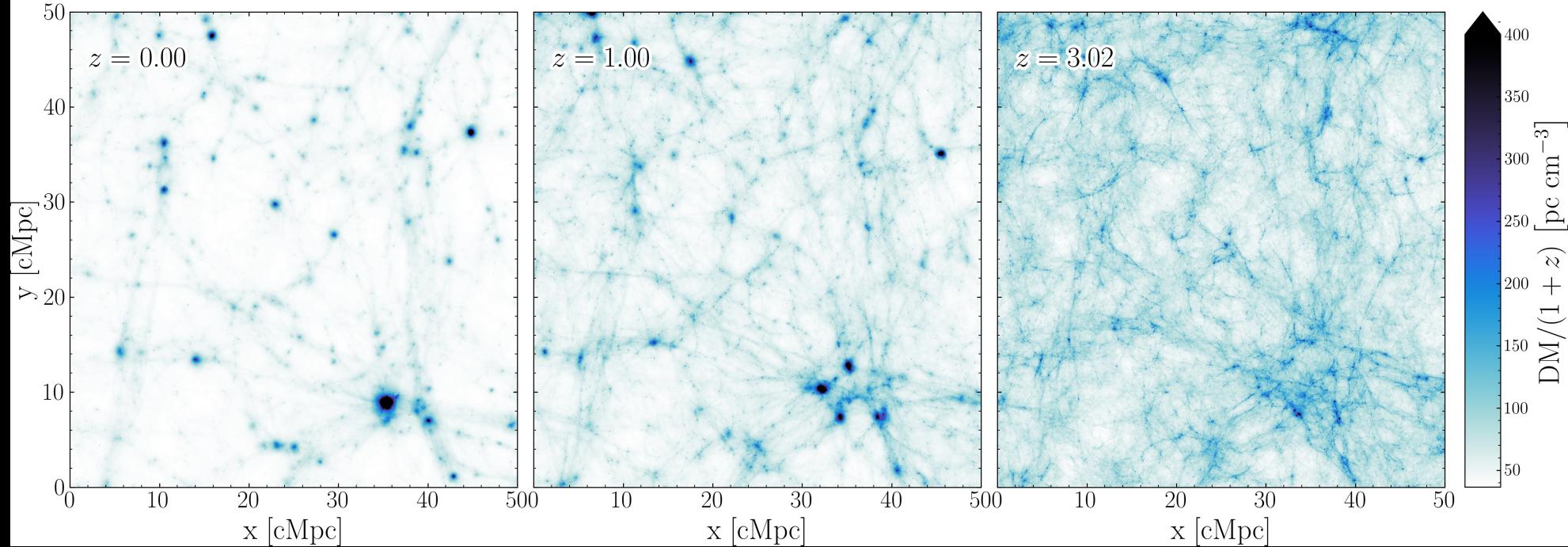
- Divide cube into columns
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- Convert column densities to units of  $\text{pc cm}^{-3}$

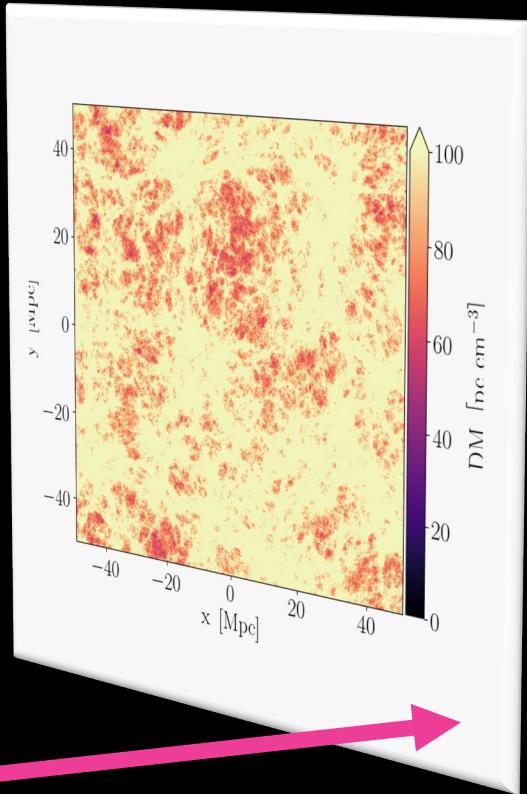
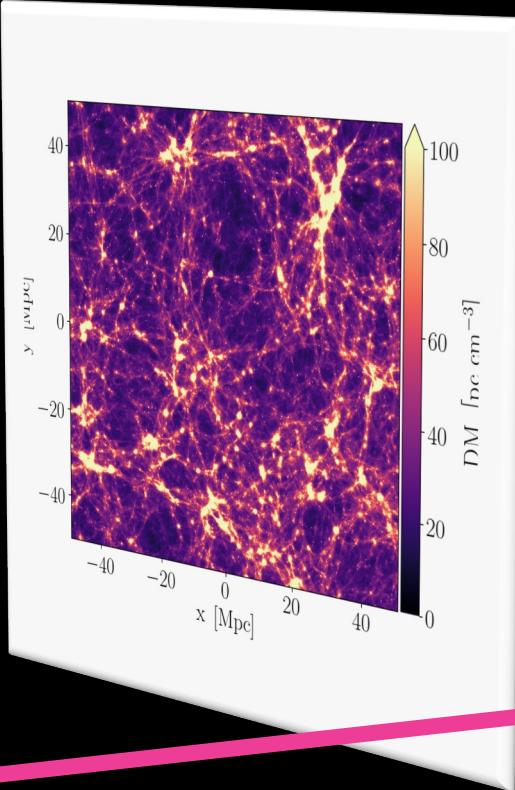
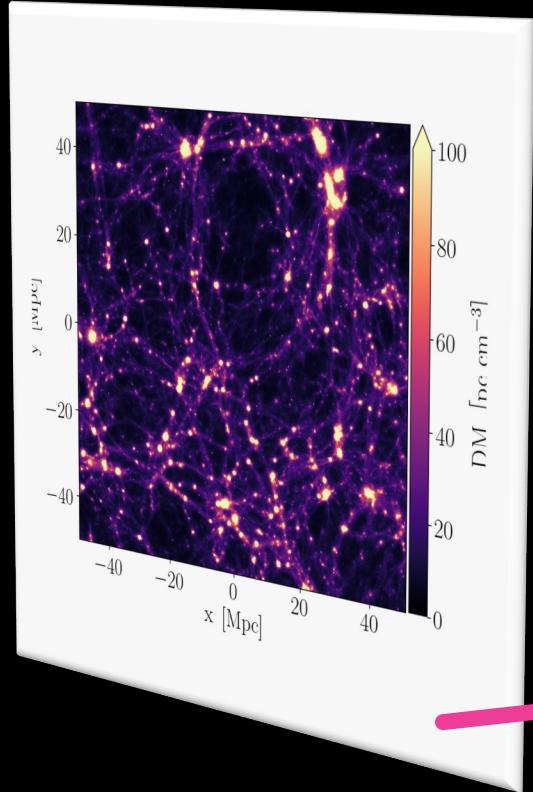


Local  
Observer



$z = 0$   
Observer

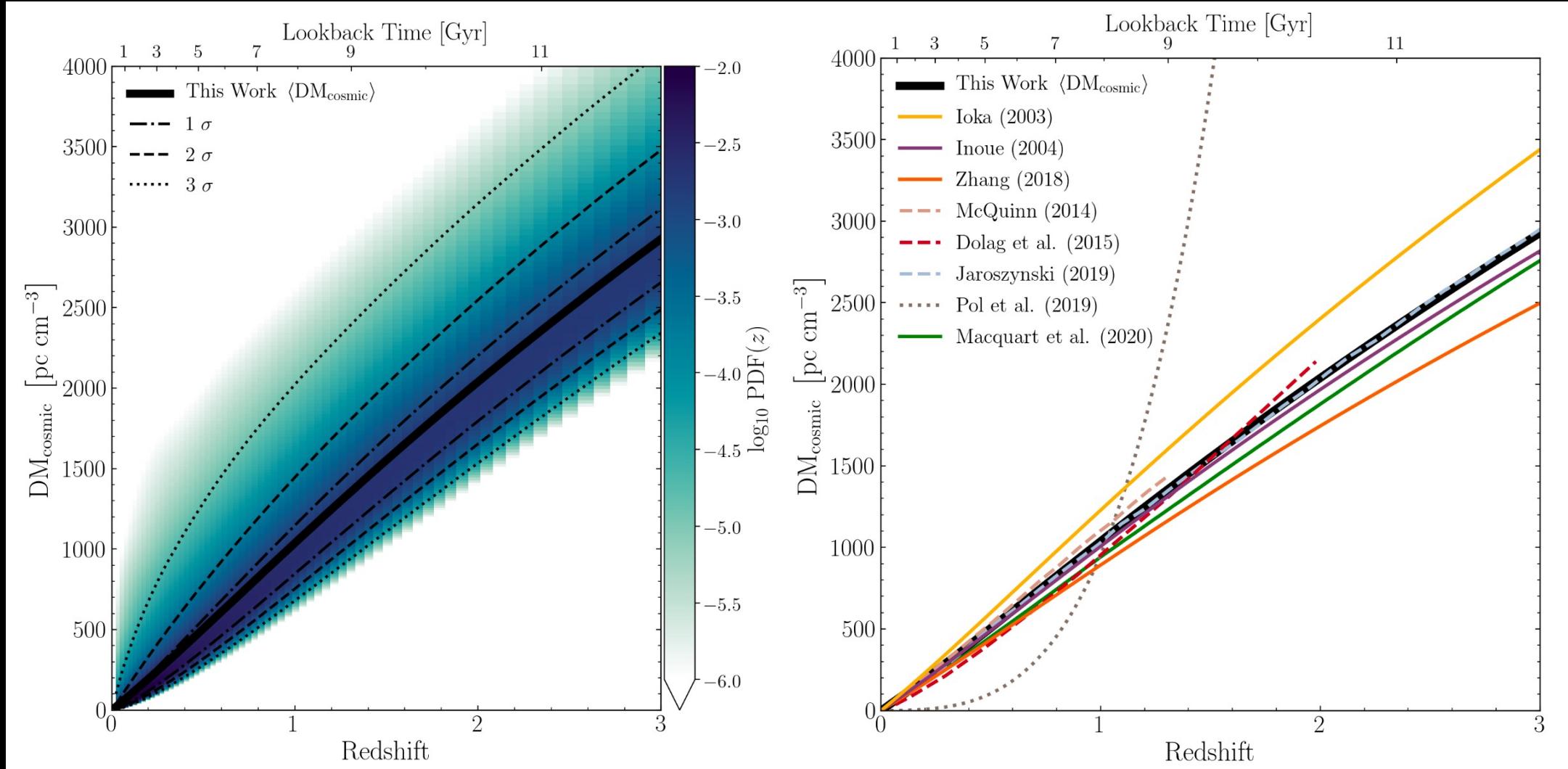


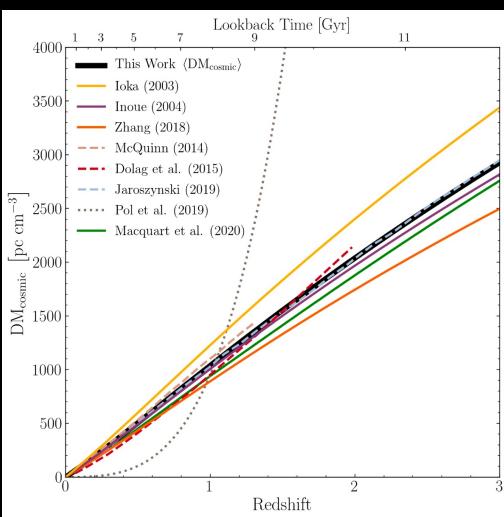
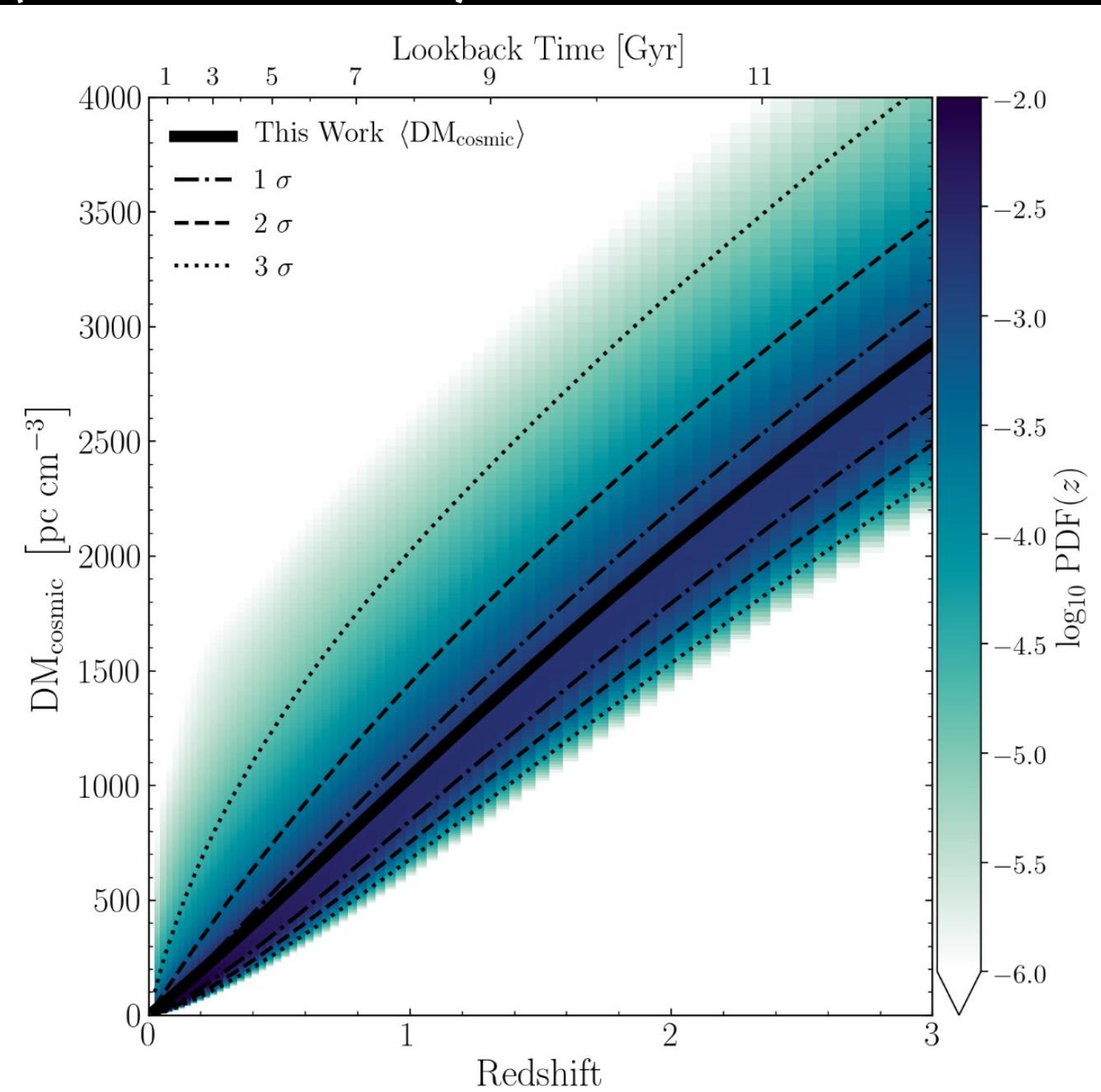


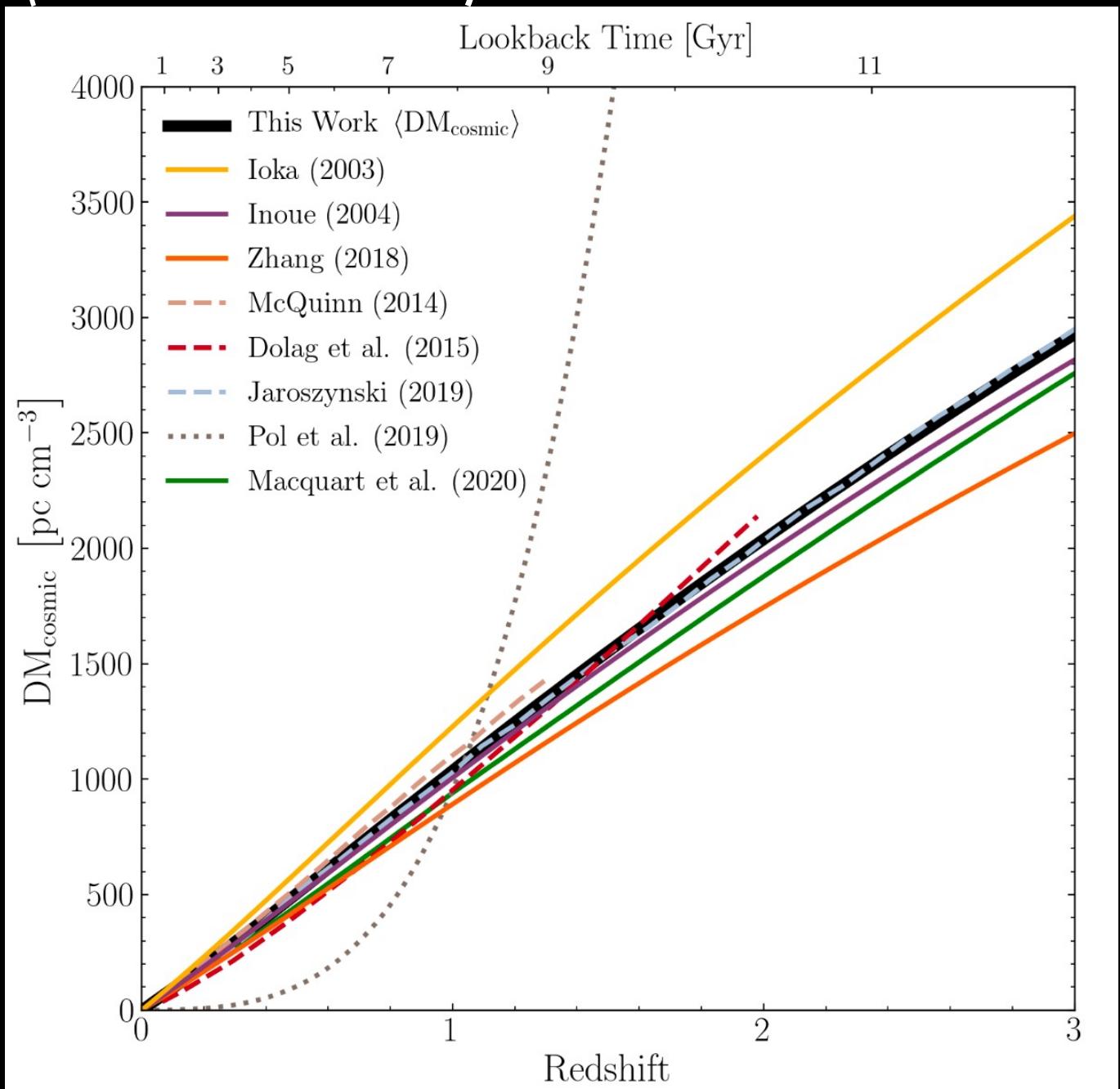
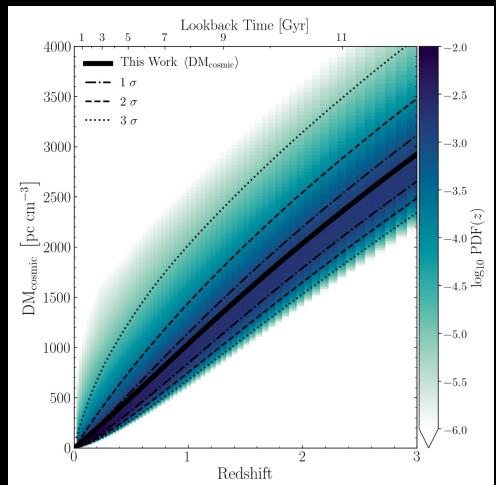
Increasing Redshift

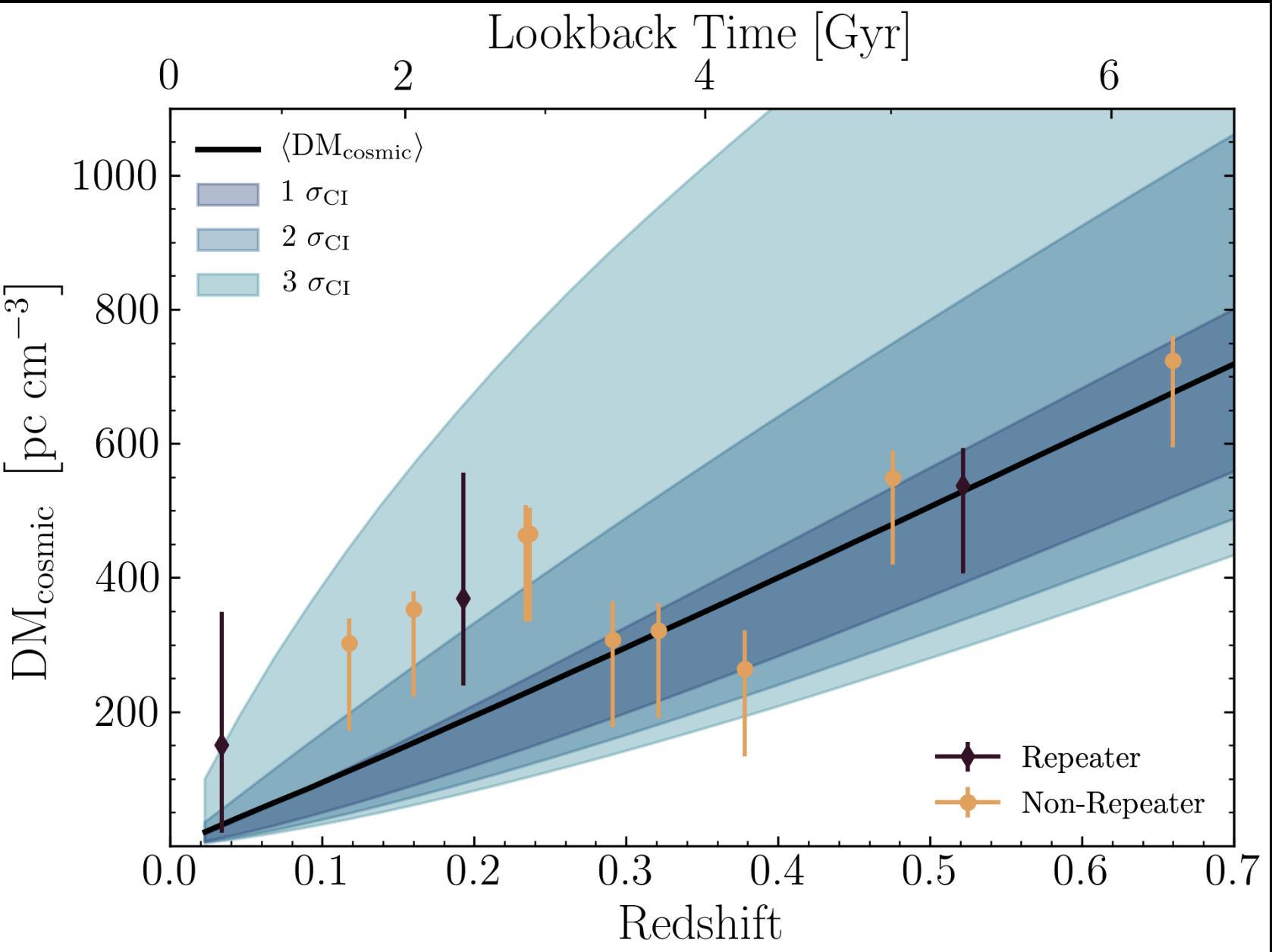


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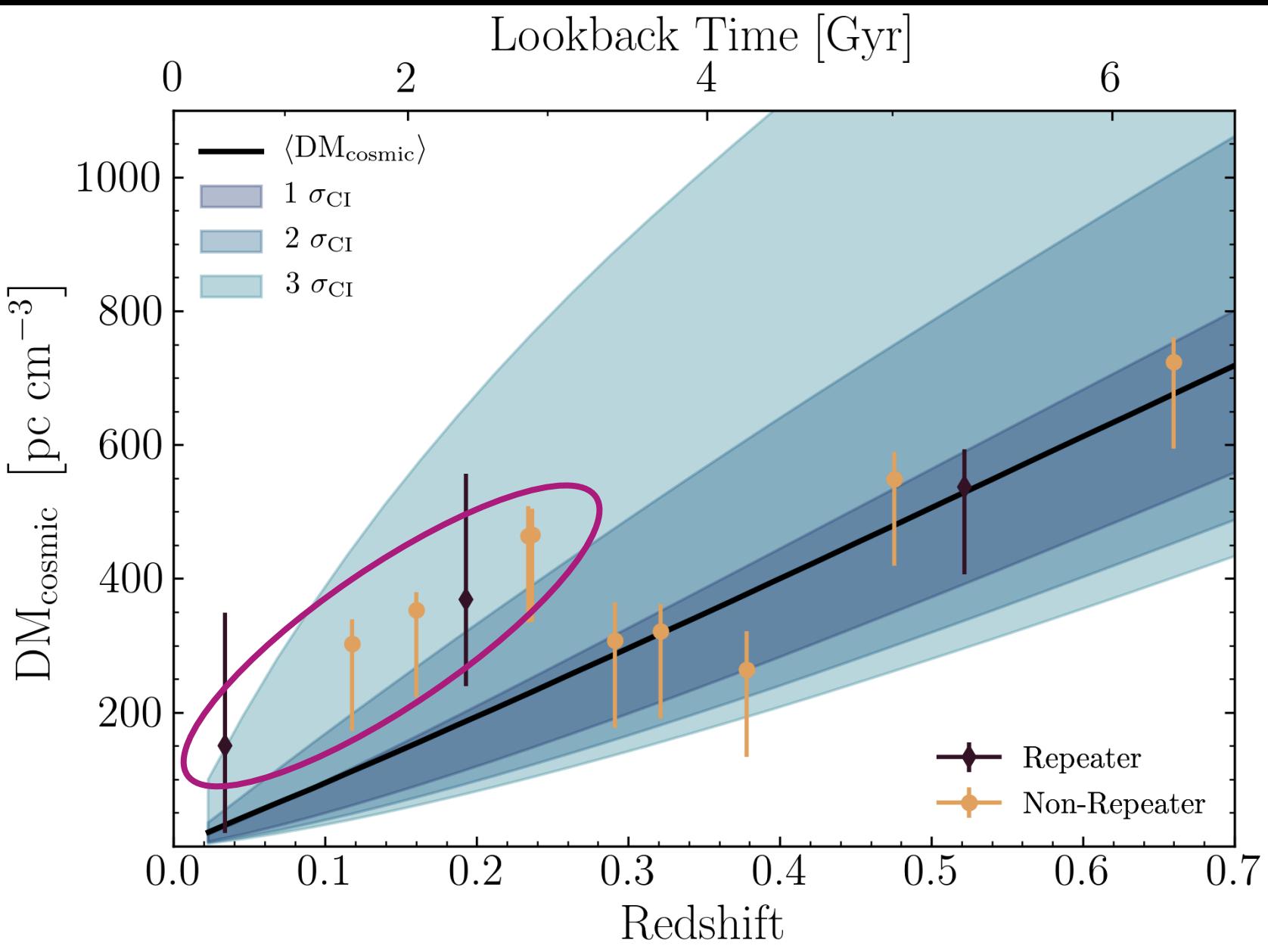


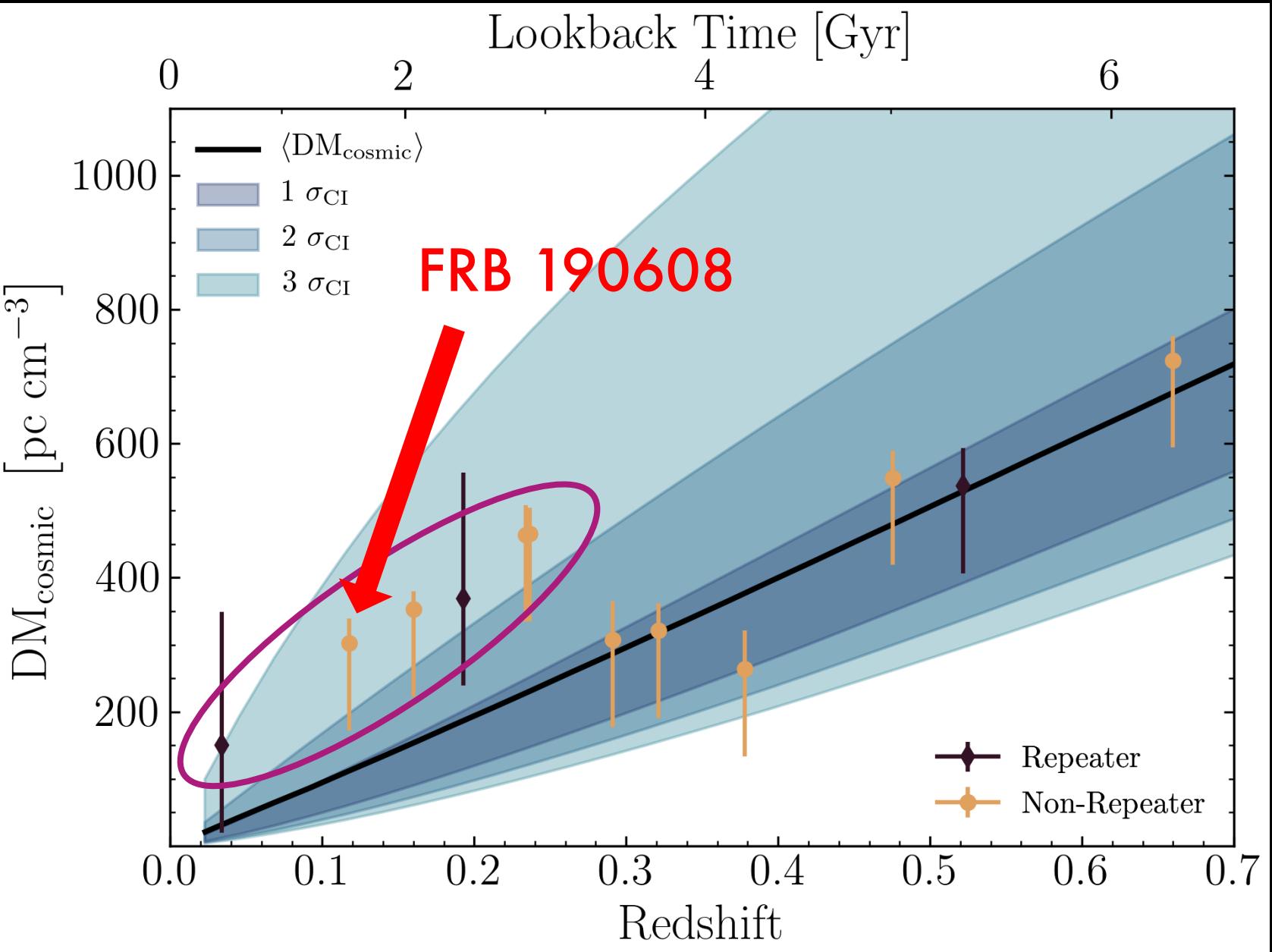




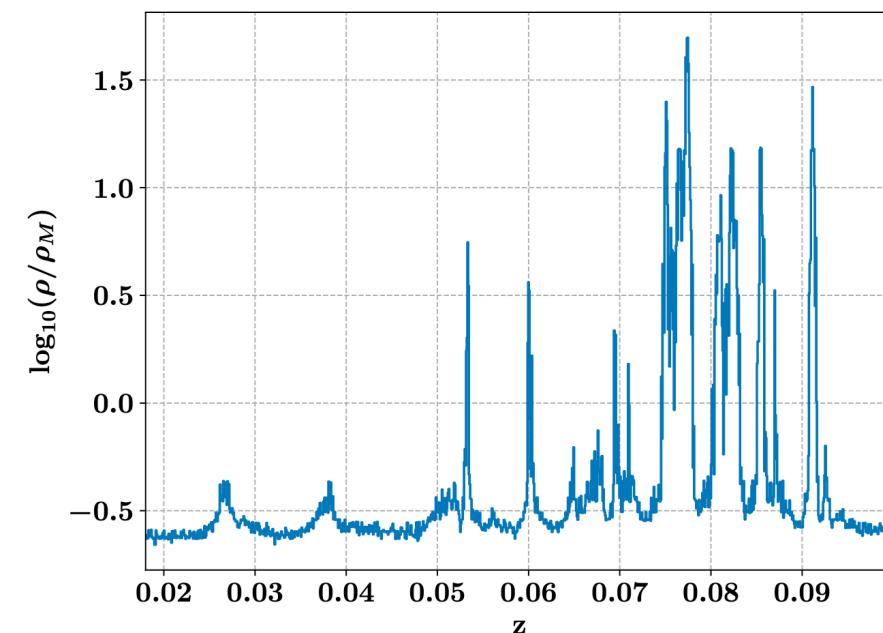


The  $\text{DM}_{\text{cosmic}}$  of most FRBs at low redshift appear to be  $2 - 3\sigma$  sigma above the mean.

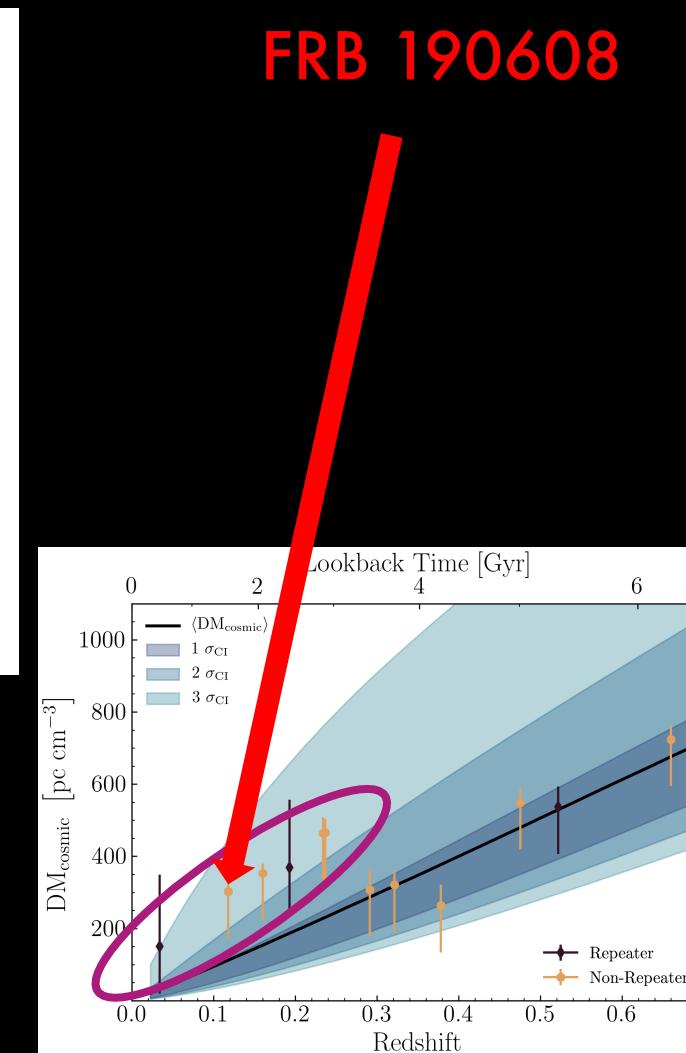
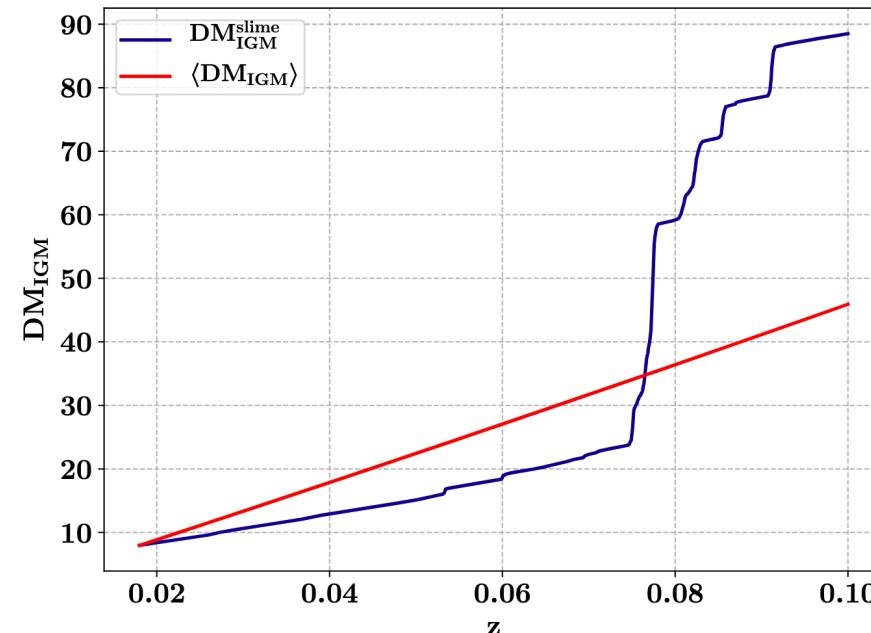




# IGM Density Reconstruction Towards FRB 190608

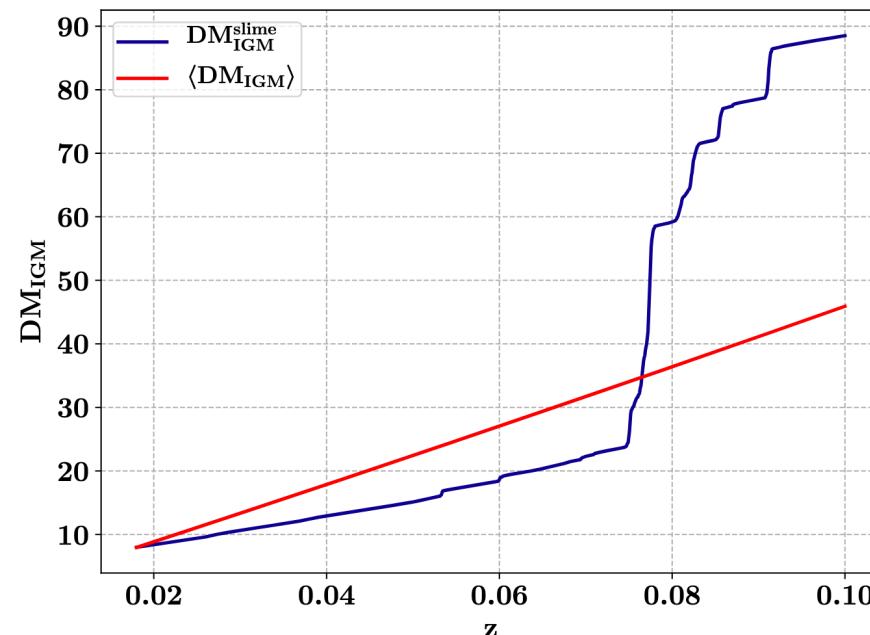
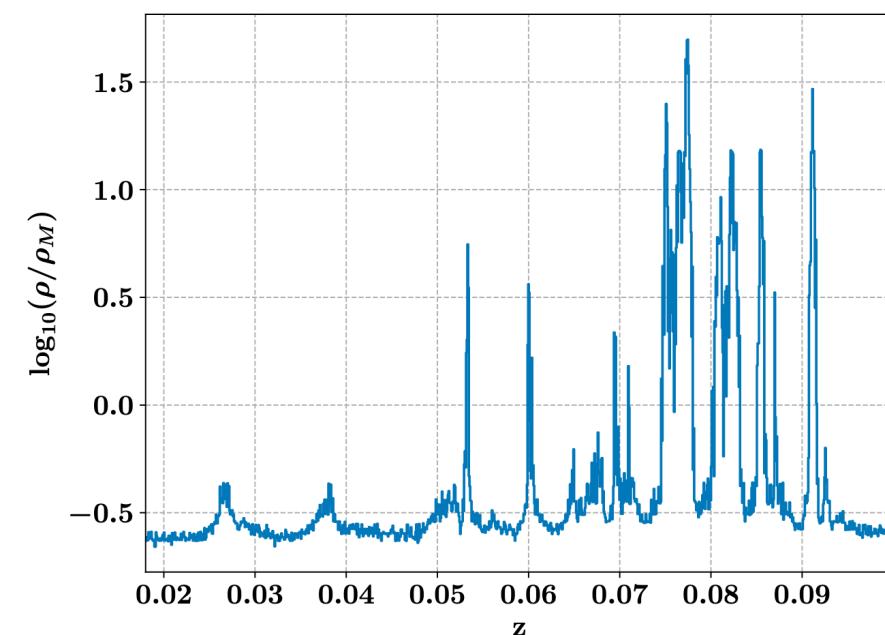


Simha et. al 2020



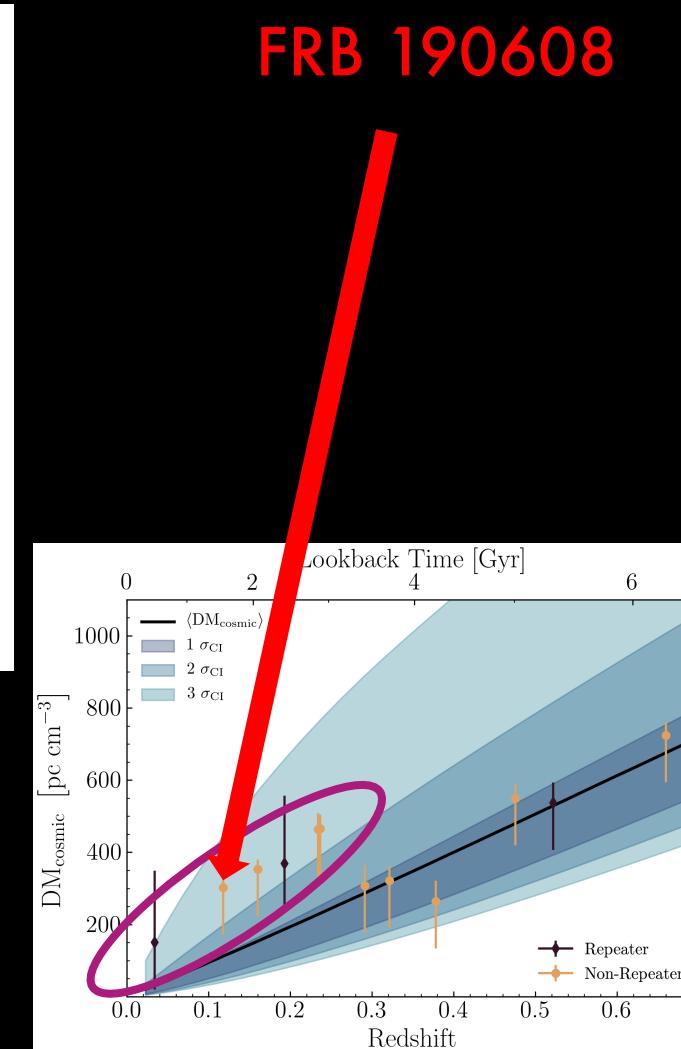
FRB 190608

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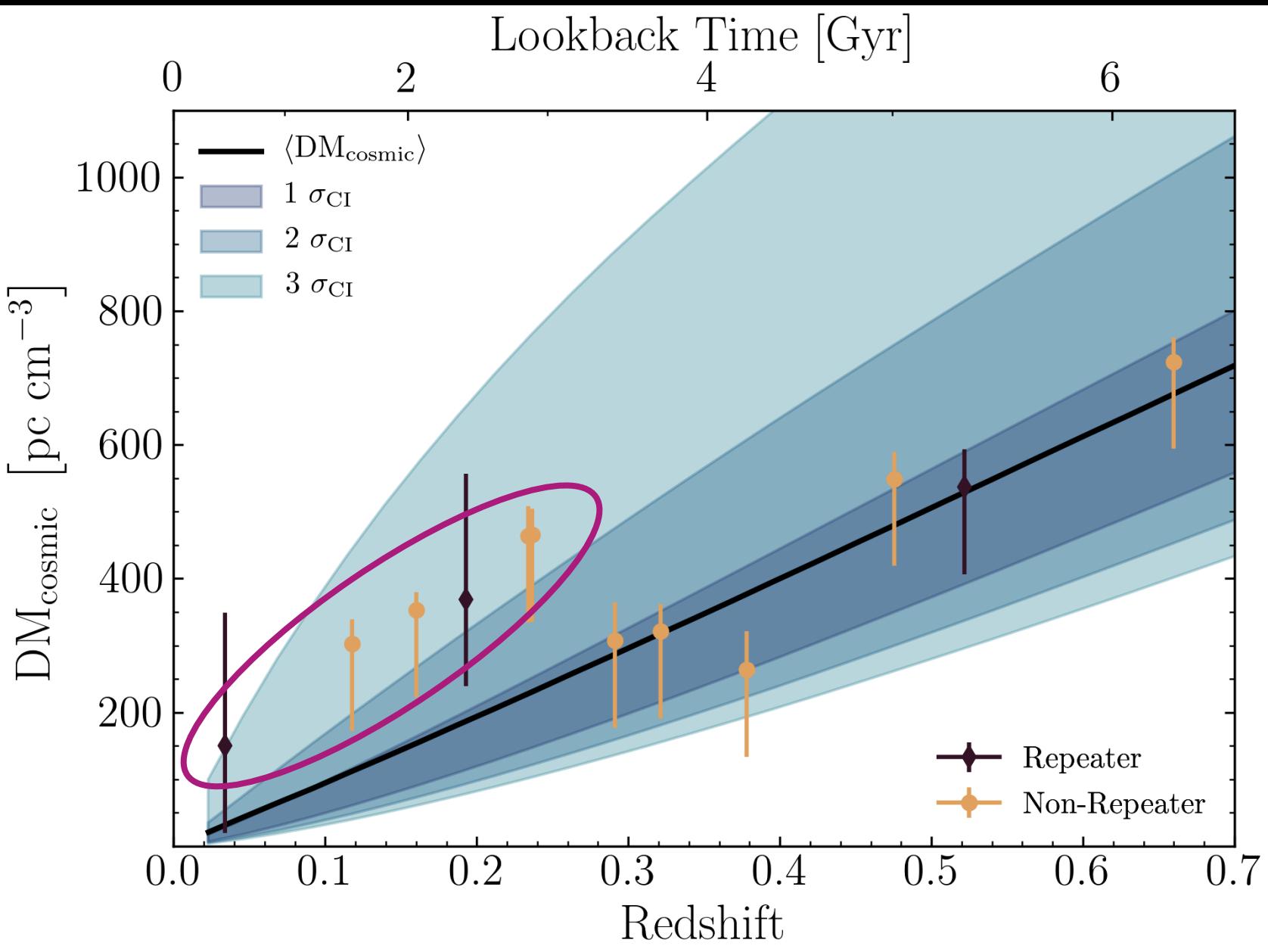
Simha et. al 2020

*FRB 190608 intersects overdense IGM filaments along the line of sight!*

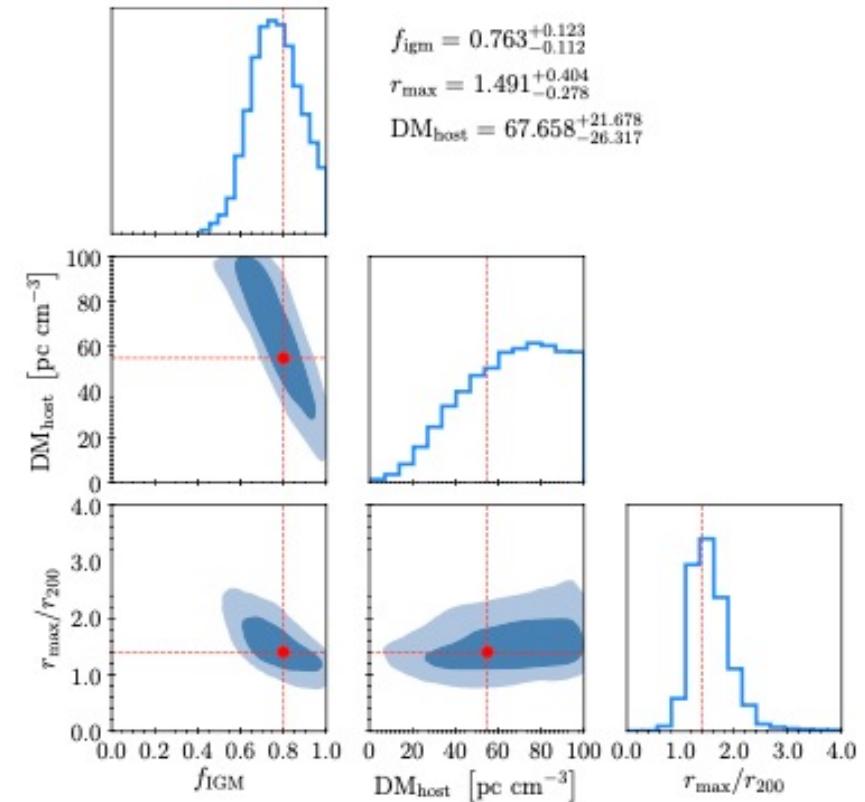
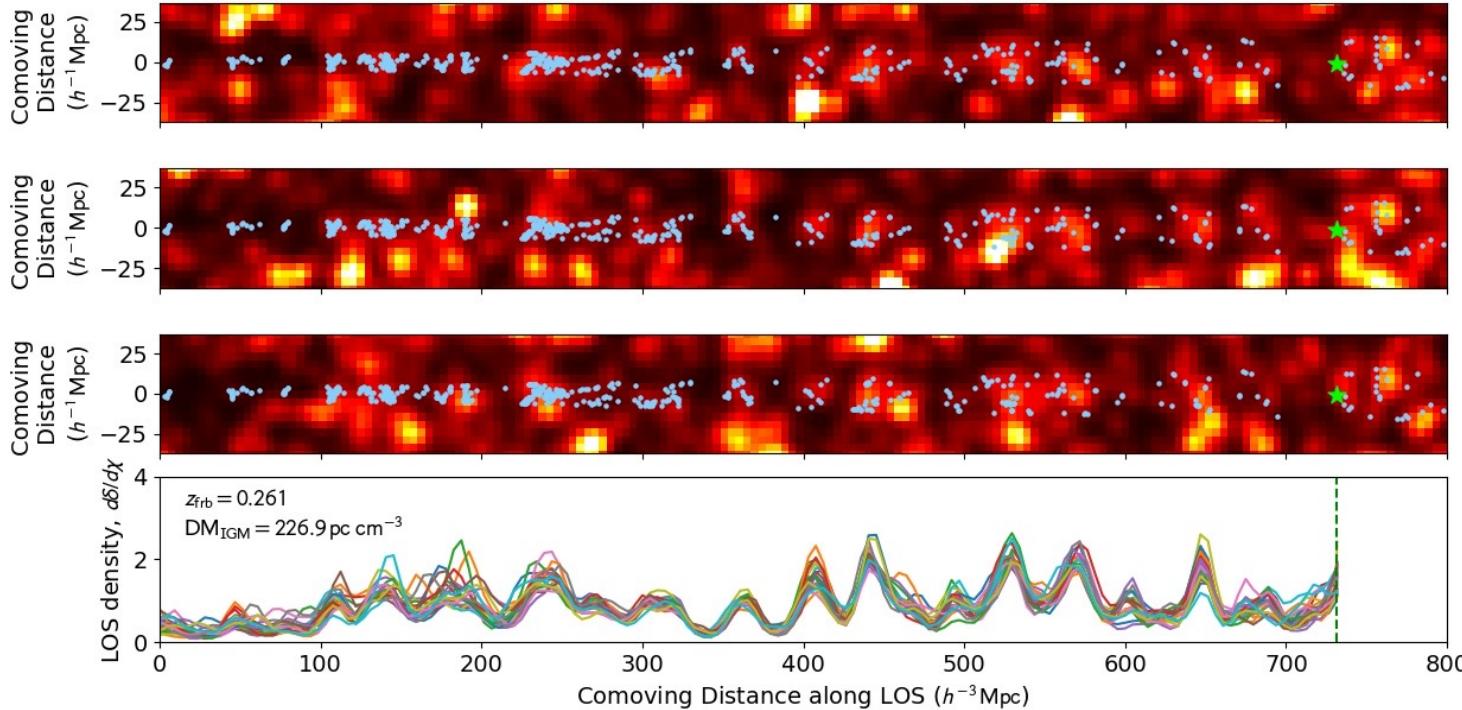


FRB 190608

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# Mapping Foreground Large Scale Structure in FRB Fields



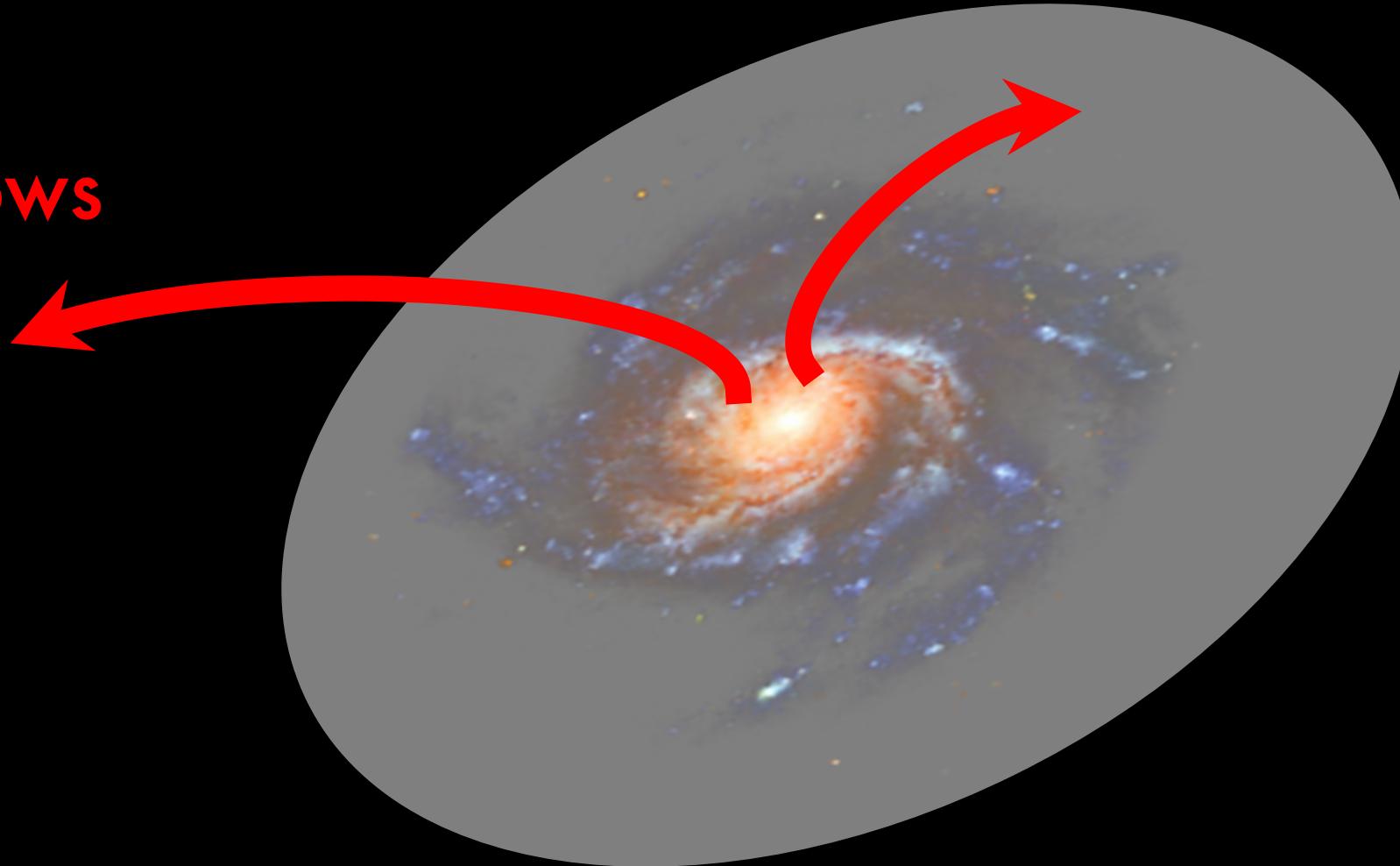
Credit: KG Lee

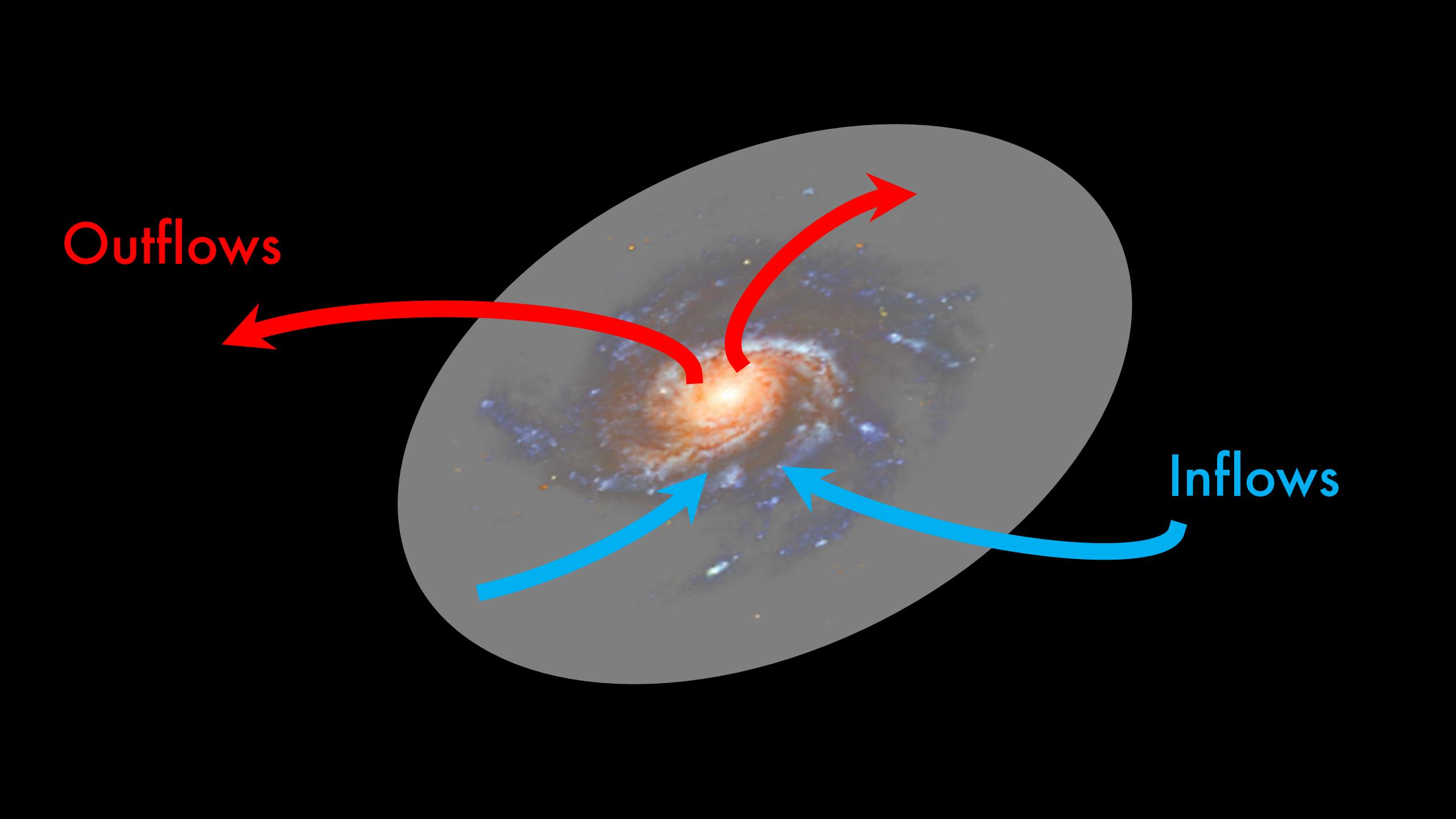
Using 2df on the AAT to follow up these FRBs and perform IGM reconstructions.

# FRBs as Probes of Galaxy Feedback

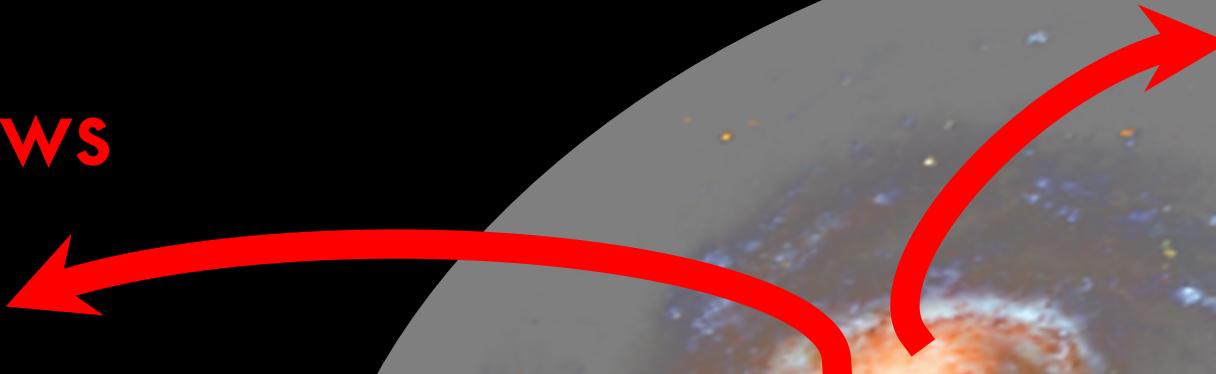


**Outflows**





**Outflows**

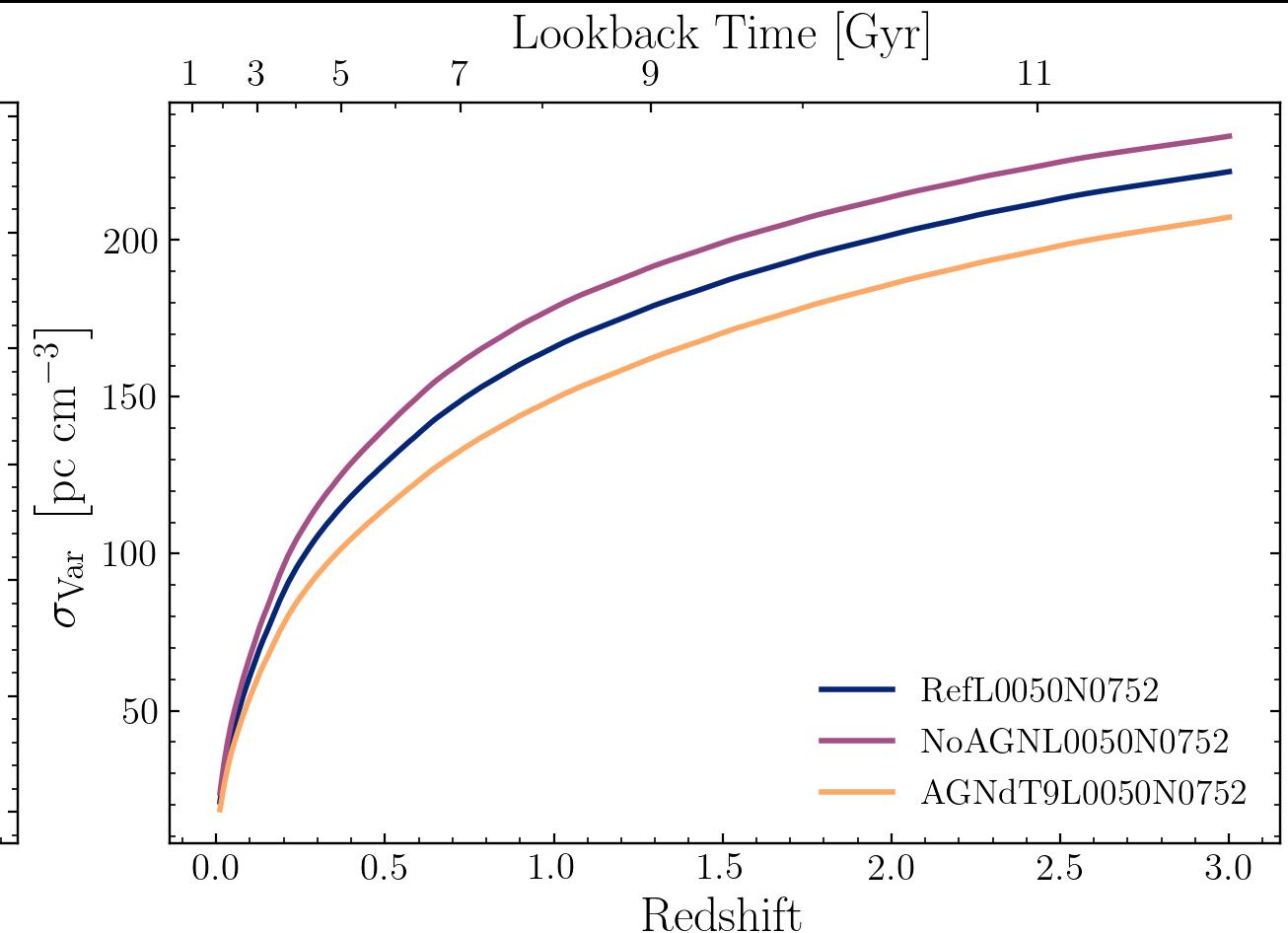
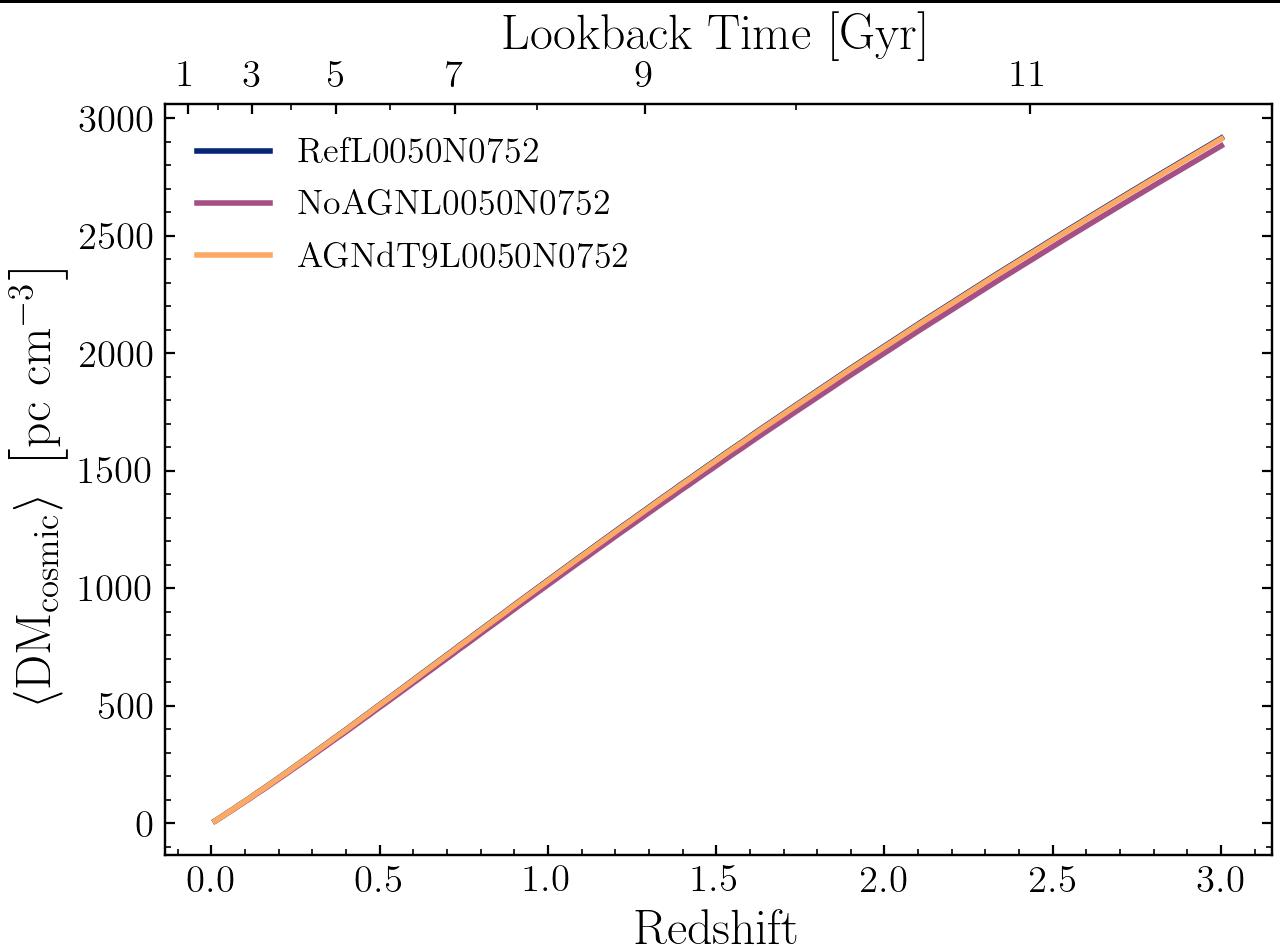


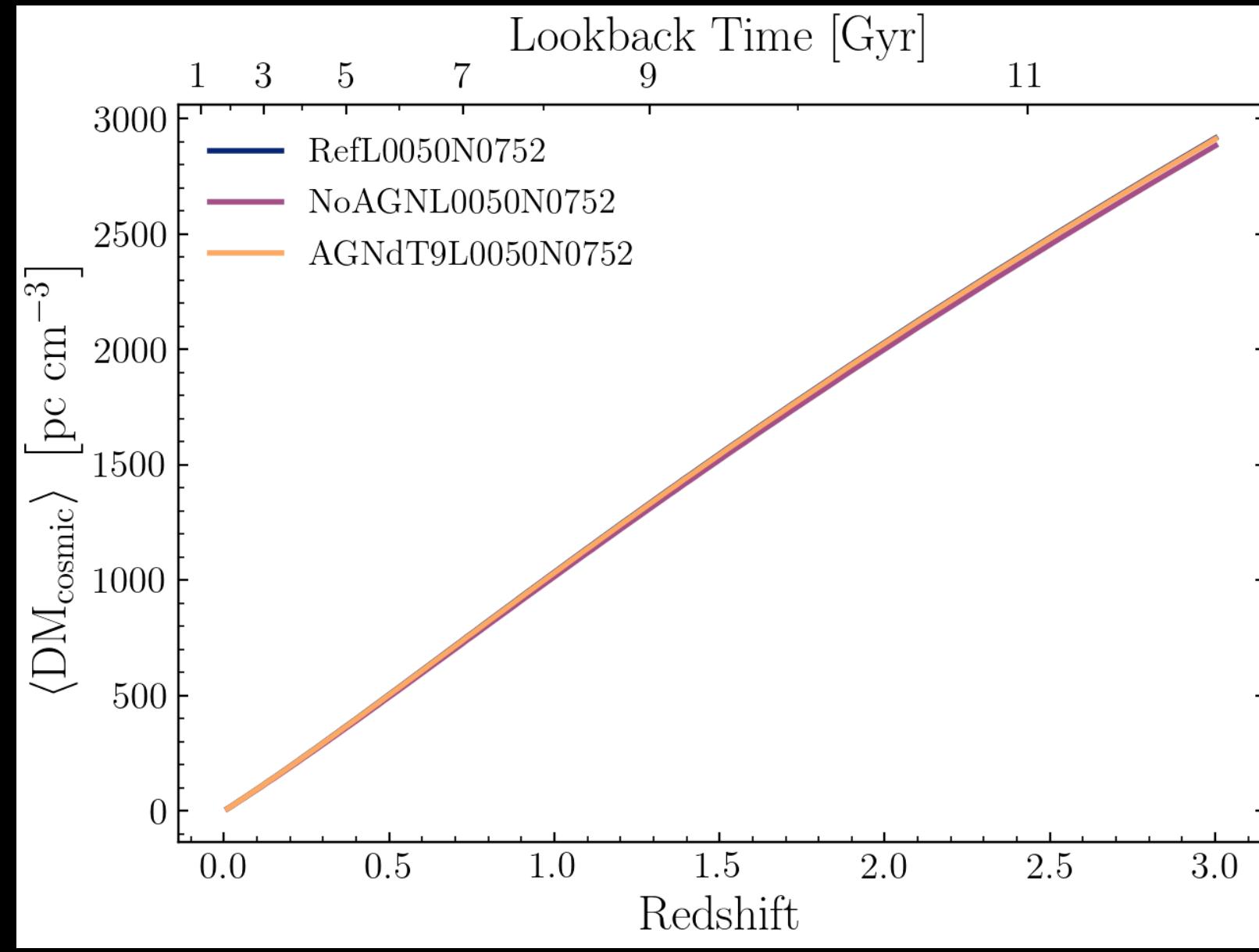
**Inflows**



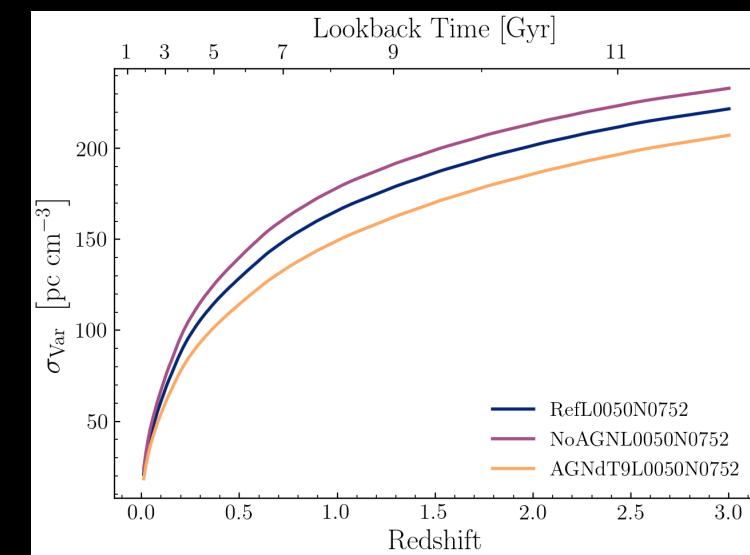
# EAGLE Simulations

- ❖ RefL0050N0752      Reference Simulation
- ❖ NoAGN                  No Active Galactic Nuclei
- ❖ AGNdT9                More Efficient AGN Feedback

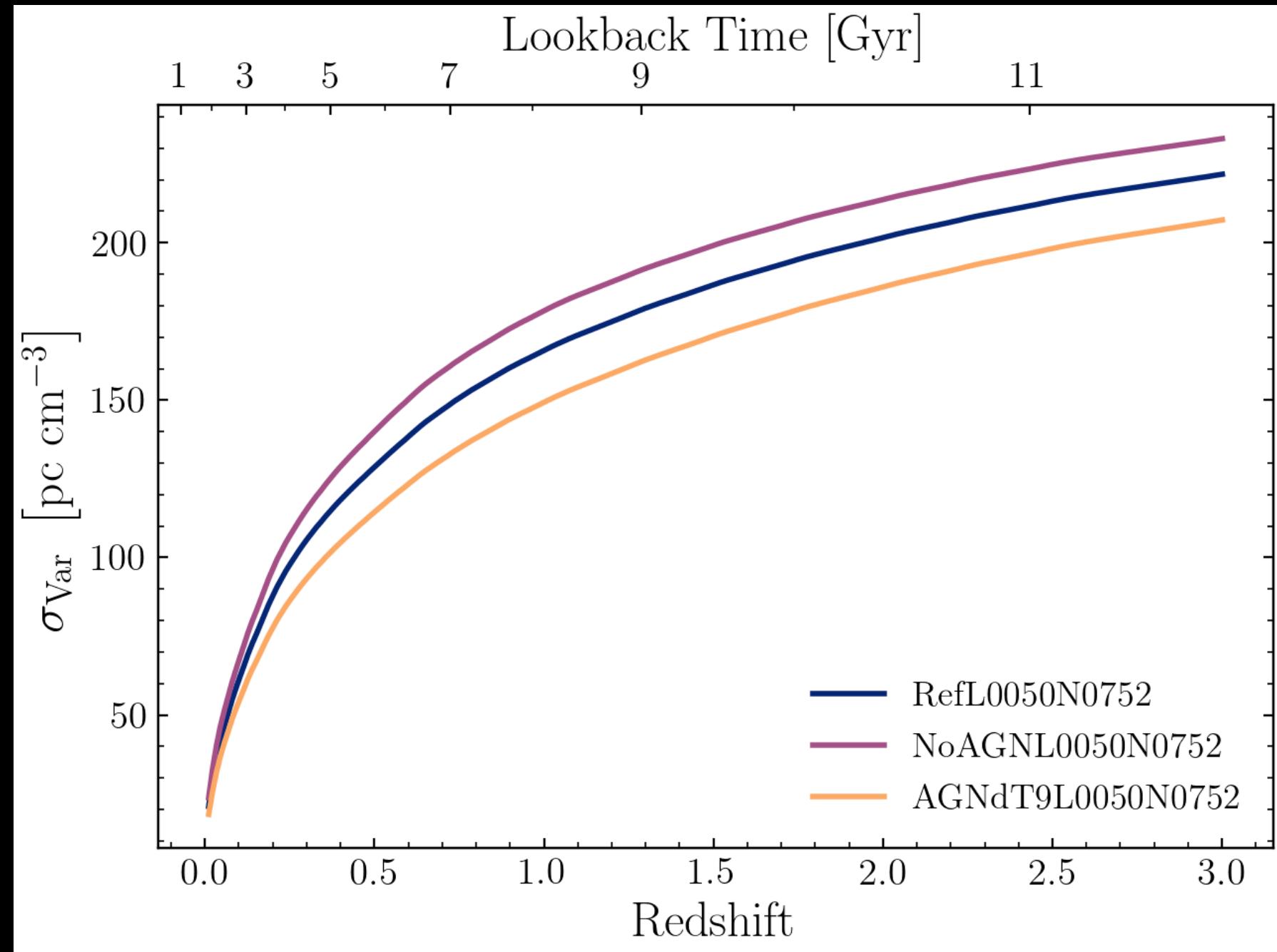
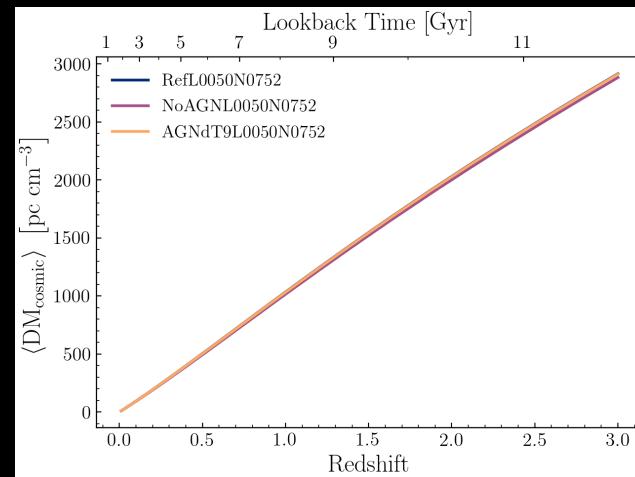




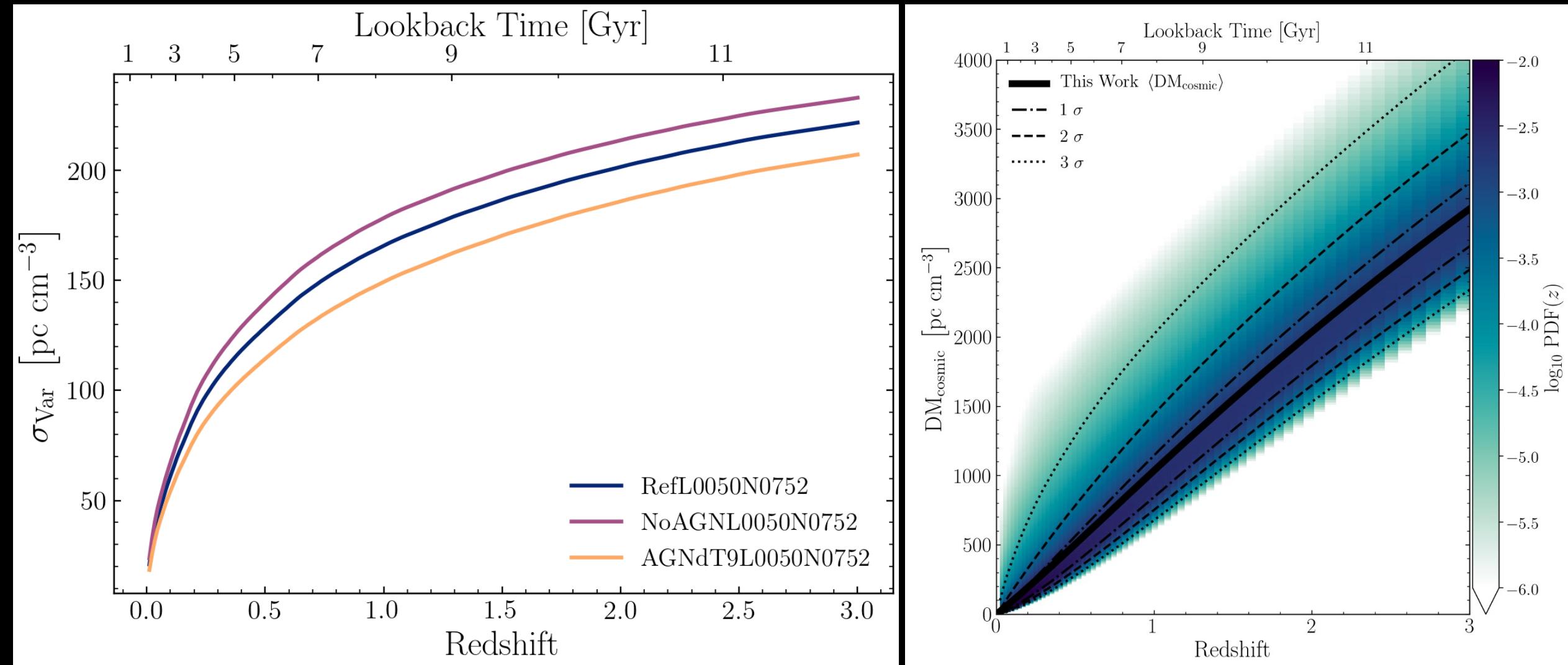
Mean DM-z Relation  
extremely robust to  
changes in galaxy  
feedback!



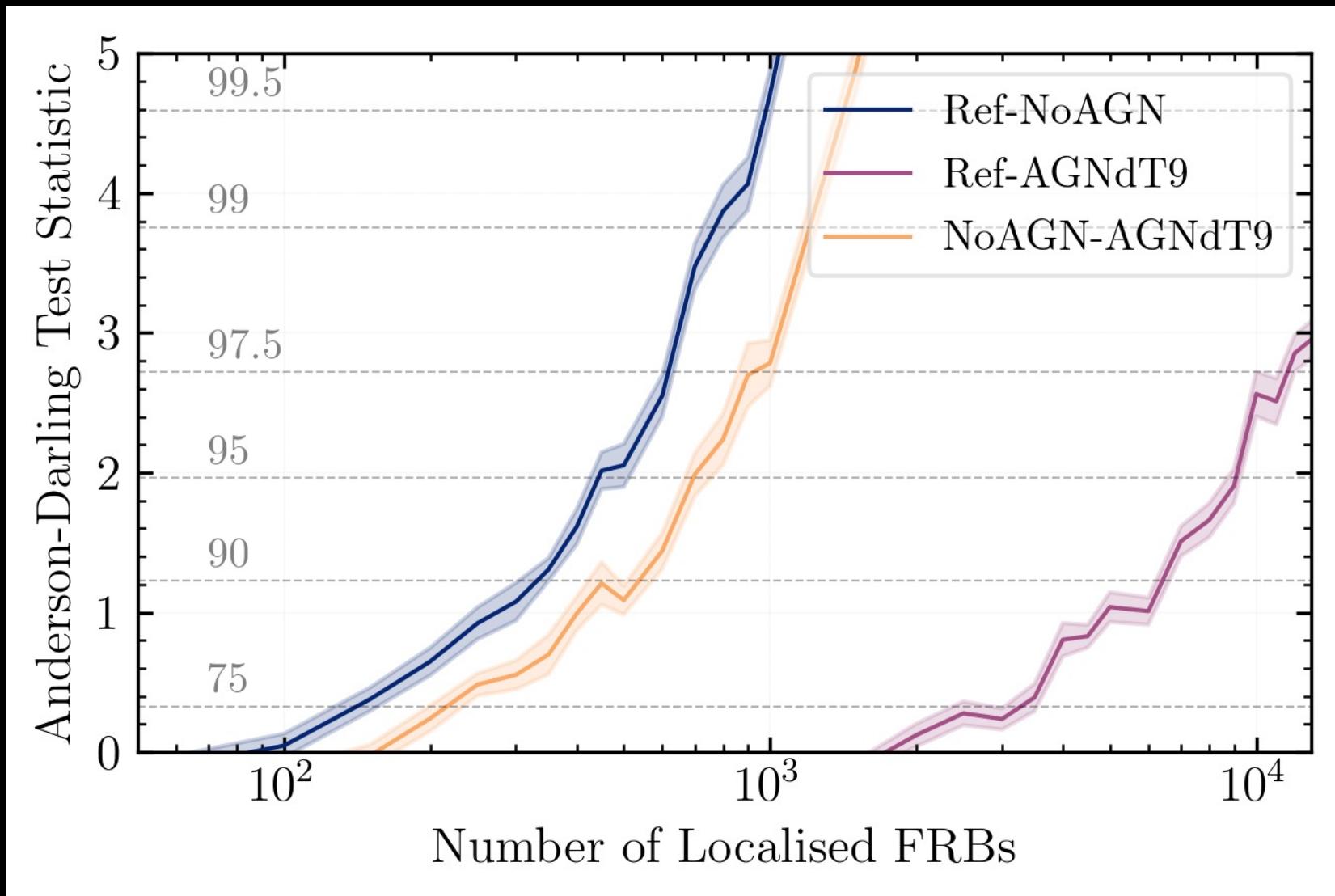
Main difference  
between models is  
in the standard  
deviation around  
the mean!



# How many localized FRBs do we need?



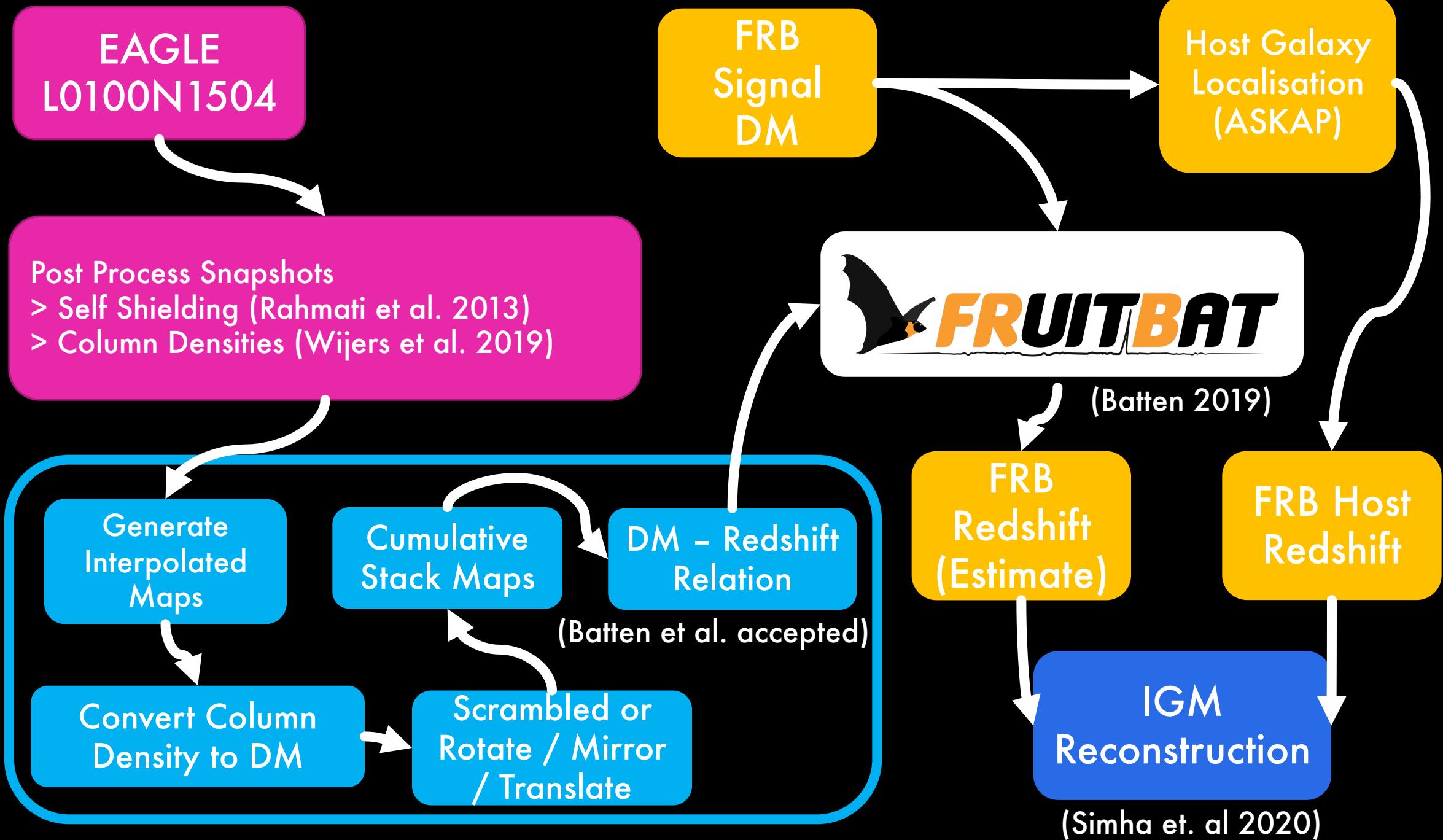
# How many localized FRBs do we need?



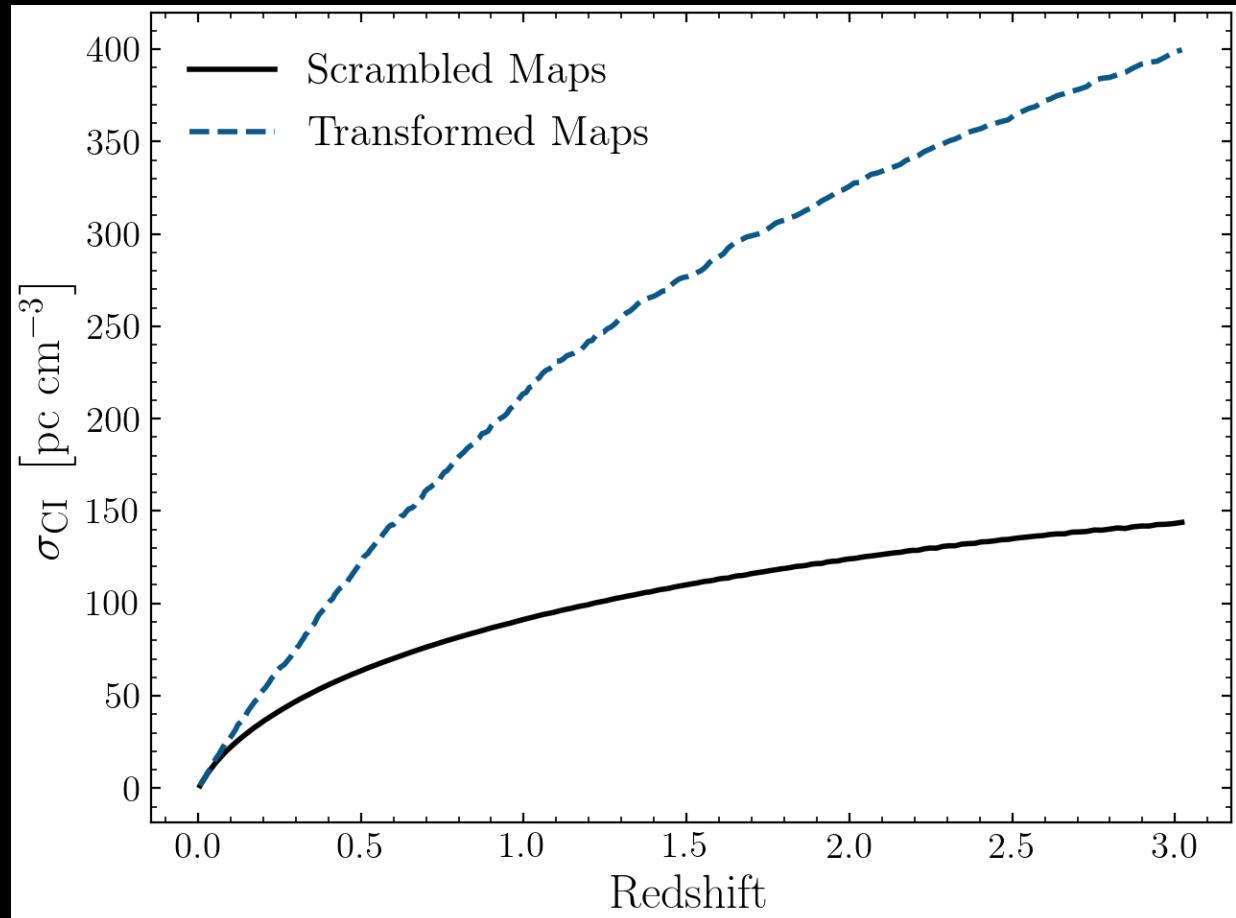
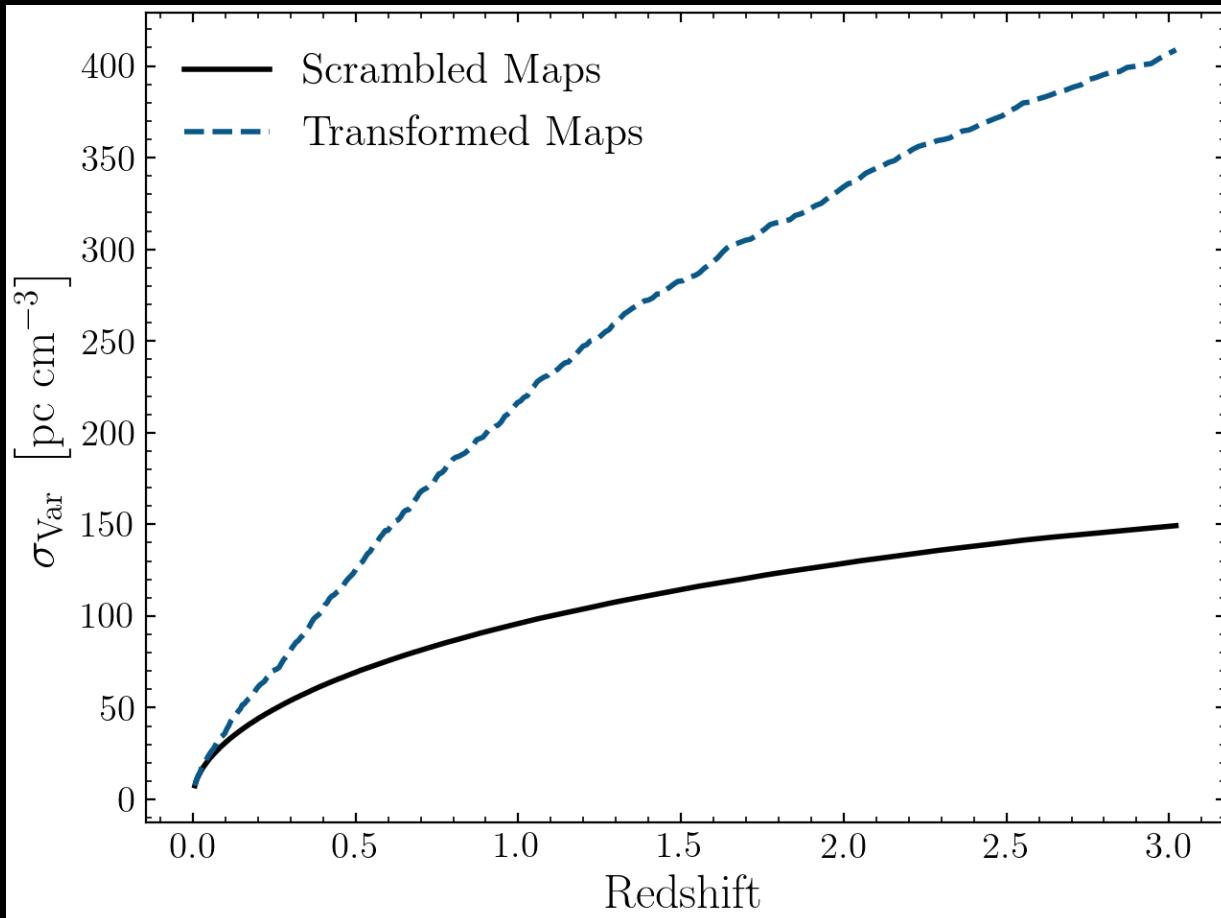
(Between redshift  $z = 0.5 - 1$ )

# Summary:

- Fast Radio Bursts provide a unique new way to probe the electron/baryon distribution in the IGM.
- Batten+2021a: *The Cosmic Dispersion Measure in EAGLE* (arxiv:2011.14547)
  - ➔ I used the EAGLE simulations to calculate DM-z relation and the scatter around it.
  - ➔ Large scatter around relation, with extremely skewed PDFs at low redshifts.
  - ➔ Most low redshift FRBs lie in the  $2 - 3\sigma$  confidence intervals.
  - ➔ Indicates intersection with IGM filaments, or possibly high host/source contributions.
- Batten+ *in prep.*: *Galaxy Feedback and the Dispersion Measure of FRBs*
  - ➔ The mean DM-z relation is very robust against different galaxy feedback.
  - ➔ It appears that the scatter around the DM-z relation might be able to probe galaxy feedback.
  - ➔ Would need approximately 9000 localized FRBs between  $z = 0.5 - 1$  to constrain galaxy feedback.
  - ➔ Need more large box simulations required with different galaxy feedback prescriptions.



# RefL0025N0752



# RefL0100N1504

