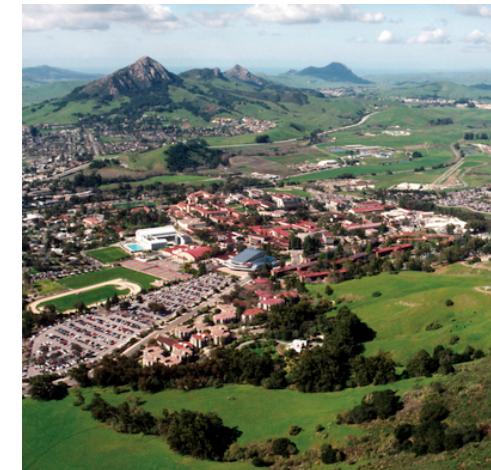


# The Co-Evolution of Black Holes and their Host Galaxies



Dr. Vardha N. Bennert

Assistant Professor



California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo

Thanks to:

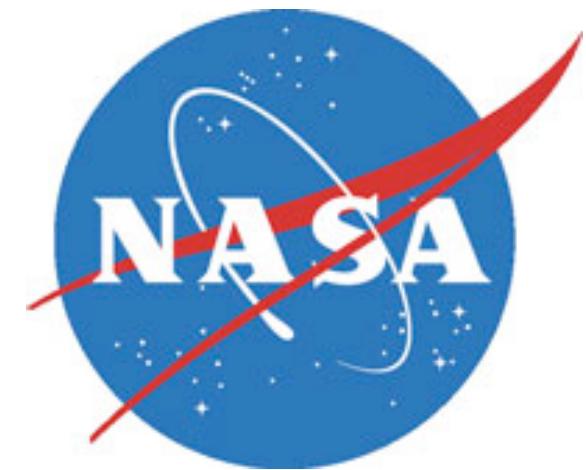
Tommaso Treu, Matthew W. Auger, Chelsea E. Harris (UCSB)

Jong-Hak Woo (Seoul National University), Matthew A. Malkan (UCLA),  
Alexander Le Bris (U. Paul Sabatier, France), Sarah Gallagher (UWO Canada),

Roger D. Blandford (Stanford)



And to:



The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

## Intro I: Galaxies



<http://www.ifa.hawaii.edu/users/tully/outreach/movie.html>

# Hubble Ultra Deep Field



Deepest image of Universe  
ever taken

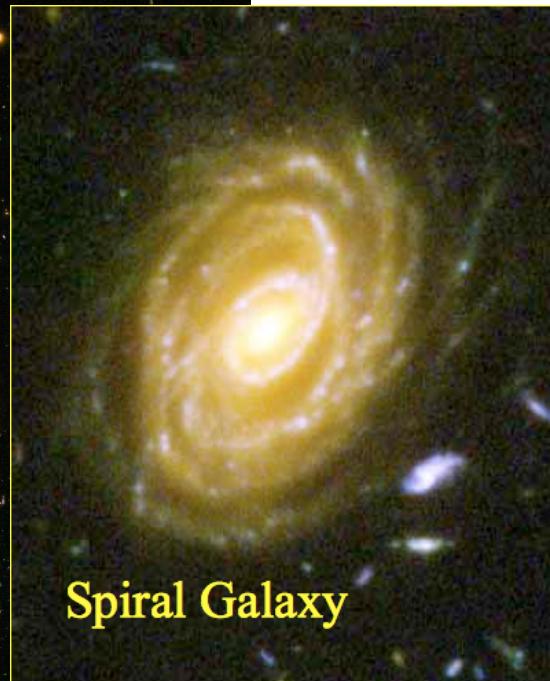
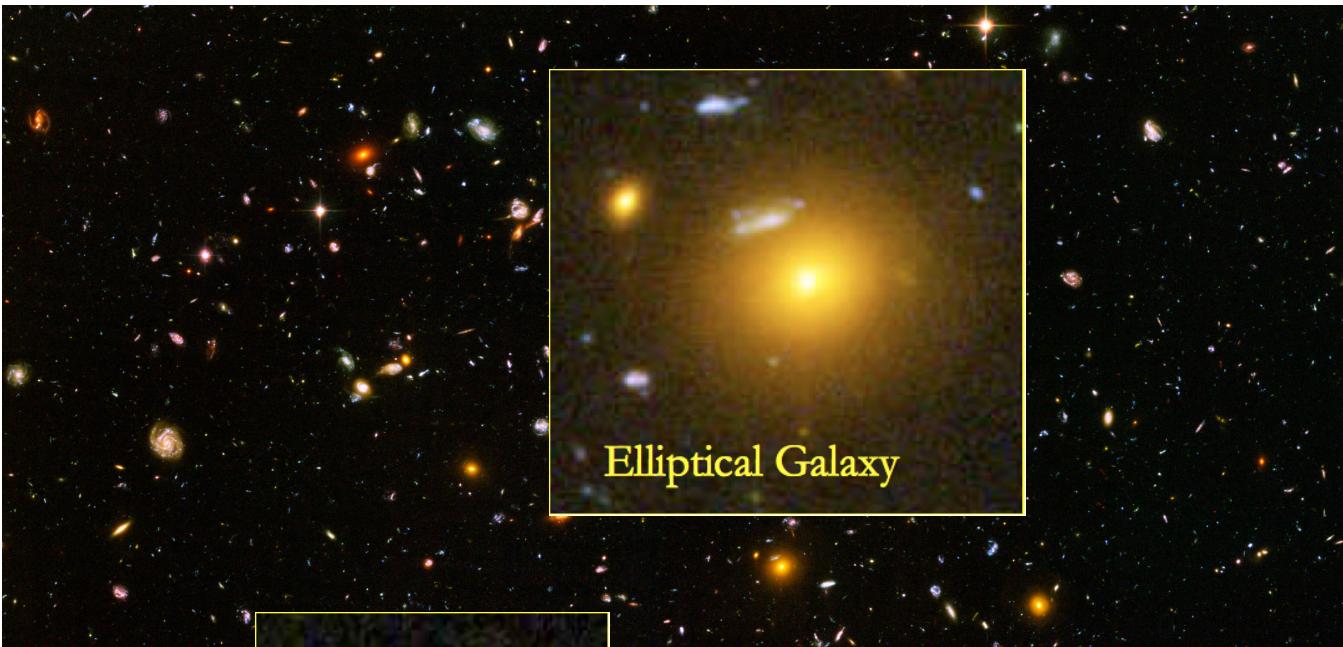
11 days with Hubble

Almost every blob: galaxy  
~10,000 galaxies

Tiny size!

Extrapolate:  
>100 bio. galaxies  
in Universe!

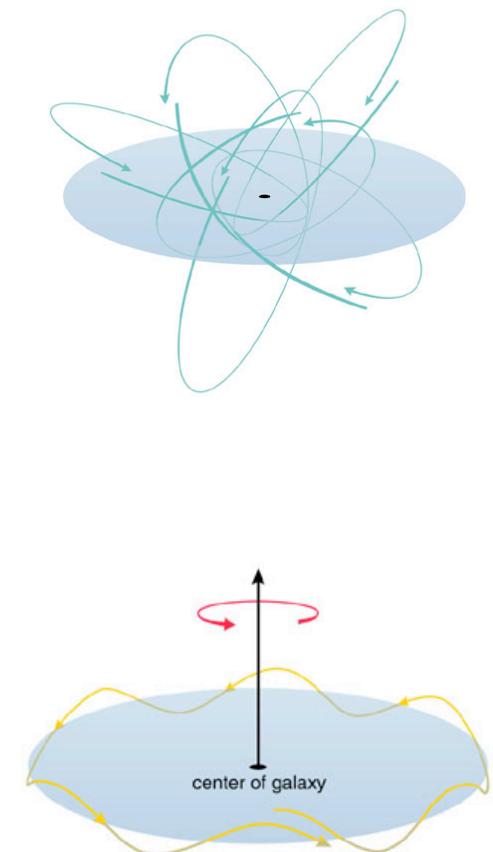
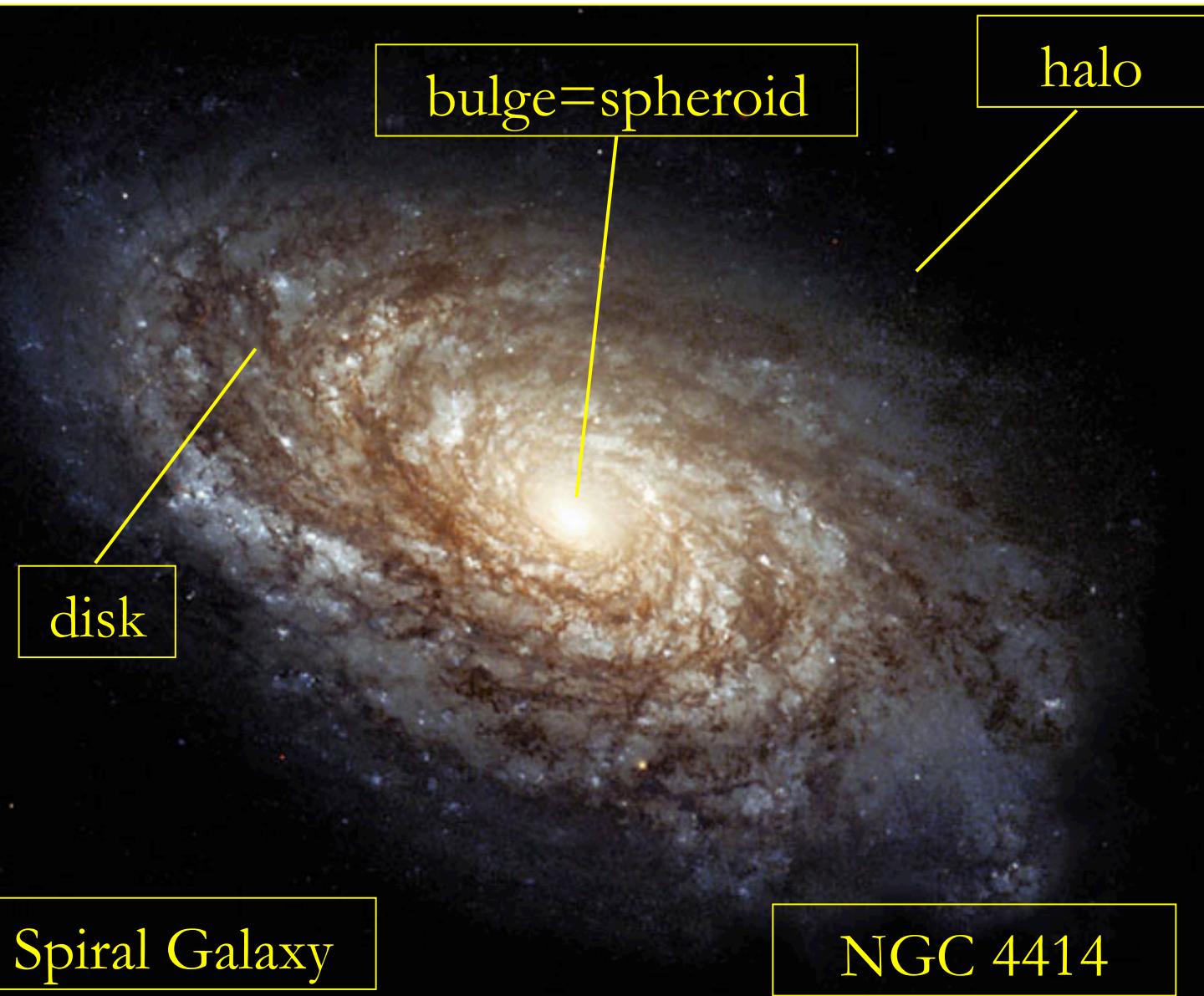
# Galaxies come in different shapes and sizes



# Spiral galaxies

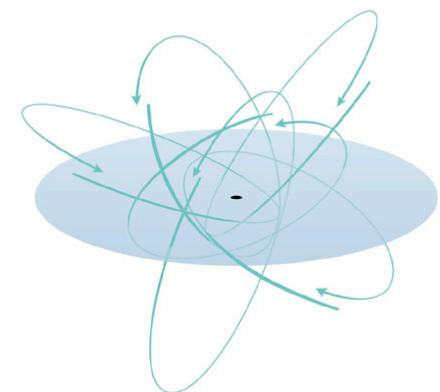
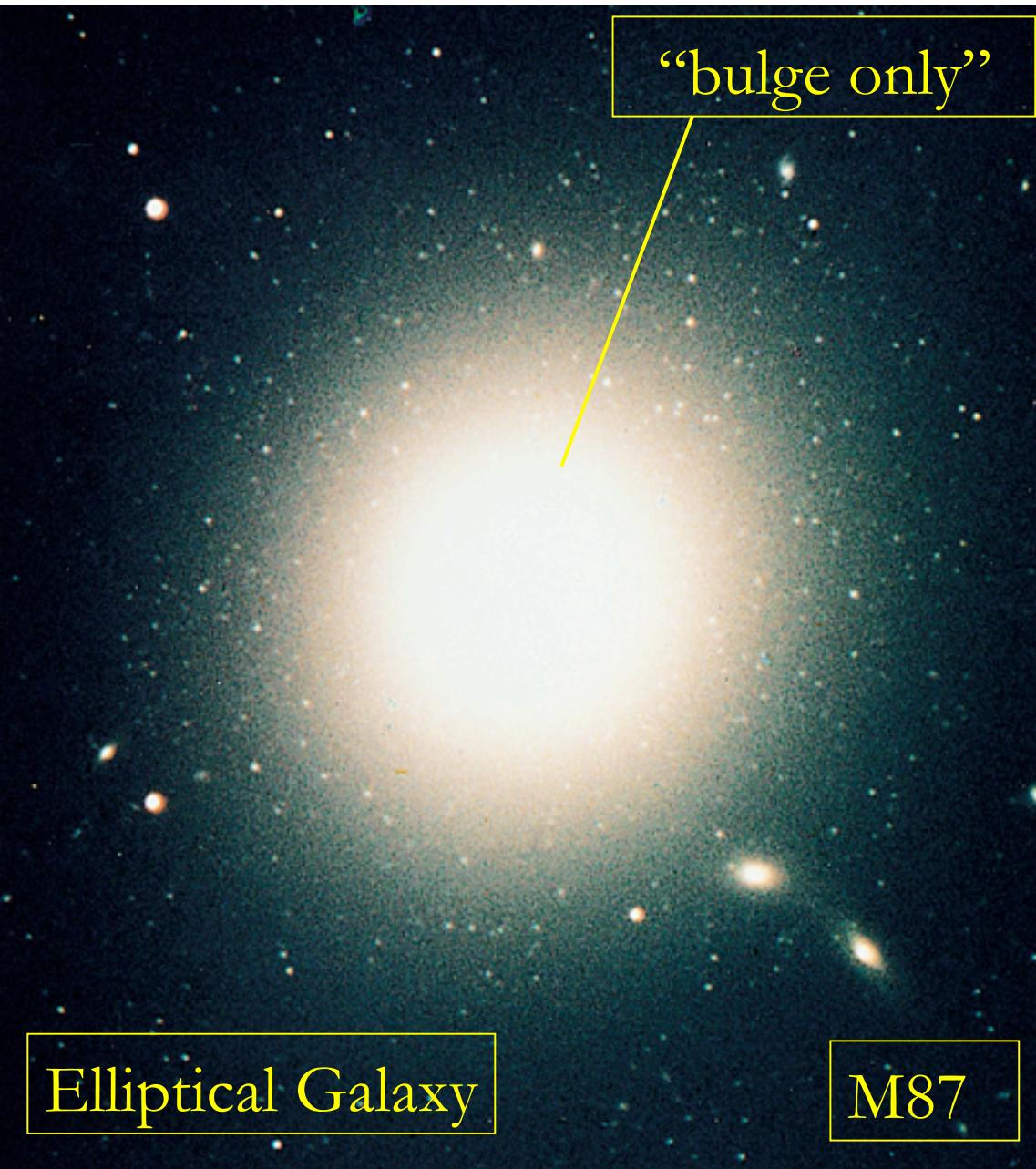
Gas & dust: starformation

Most common in local Universe

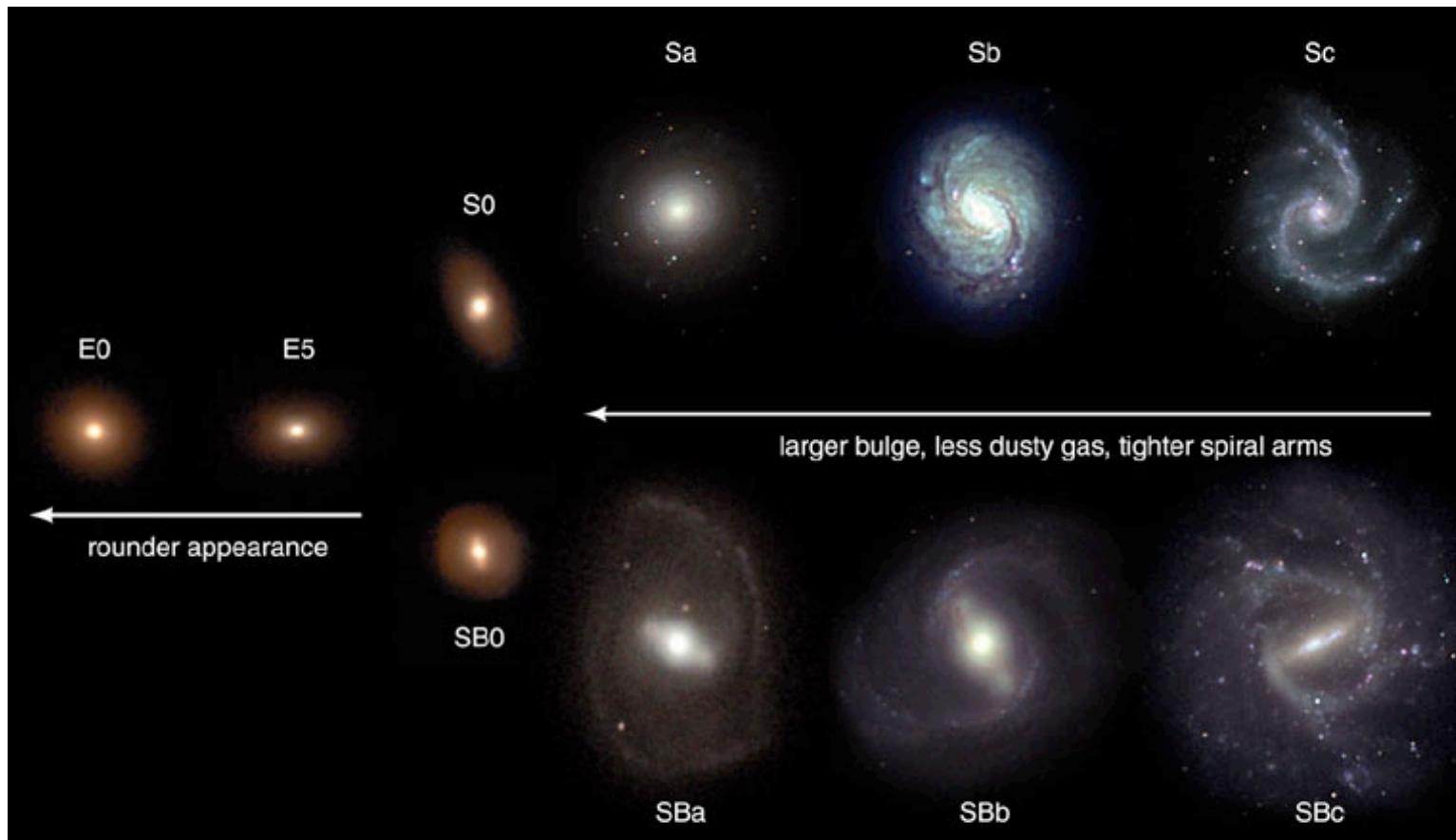


# Elliptical galaxies

Little gas/dust: no starformation



# Hubble's tuning fork



Spheroid  
dominates

Disk  
dominates

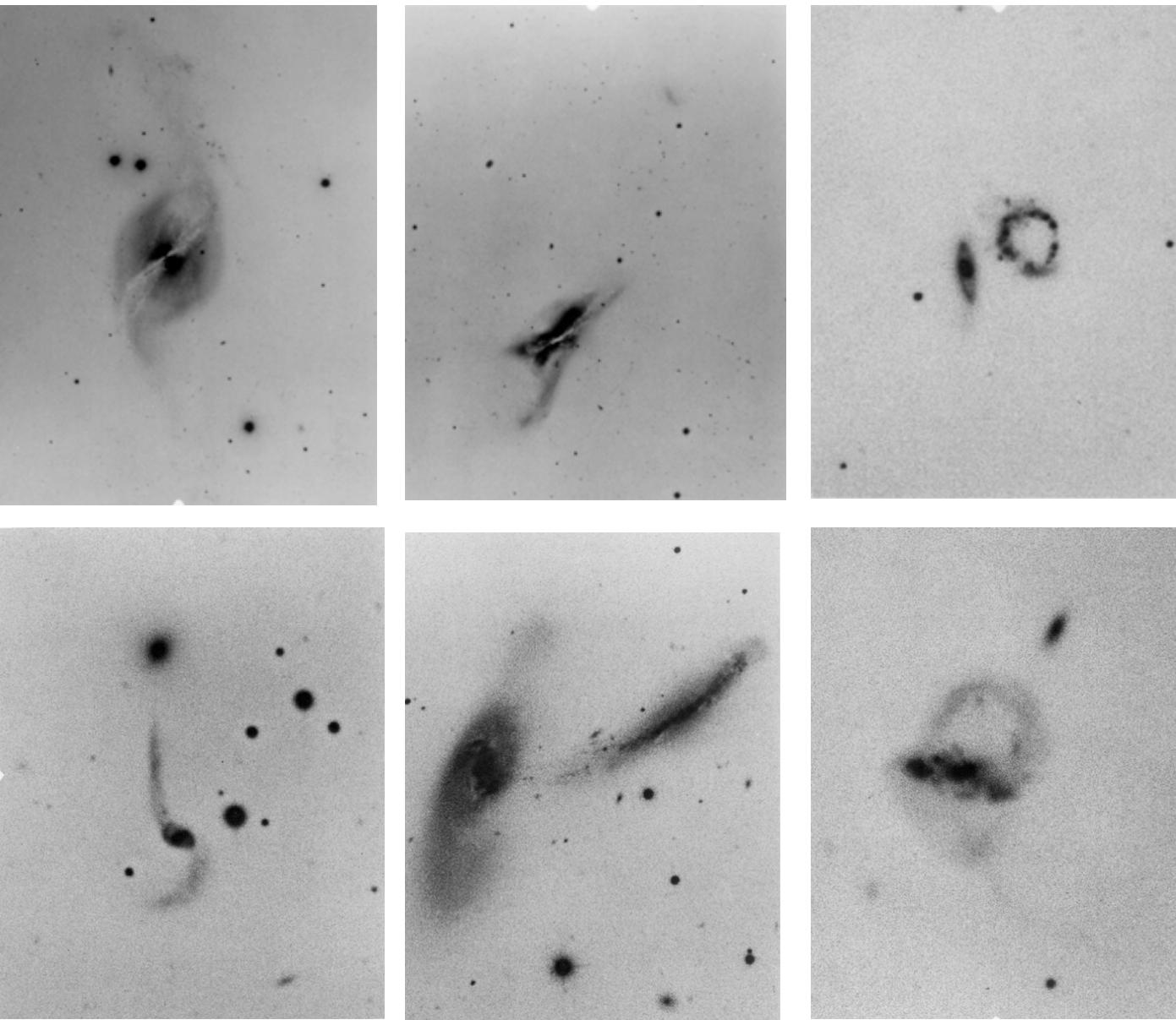
# Irregular galaxies



Irregular Galaxy

Large Magellanic Cloud

# Arp's *Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies* (1966)

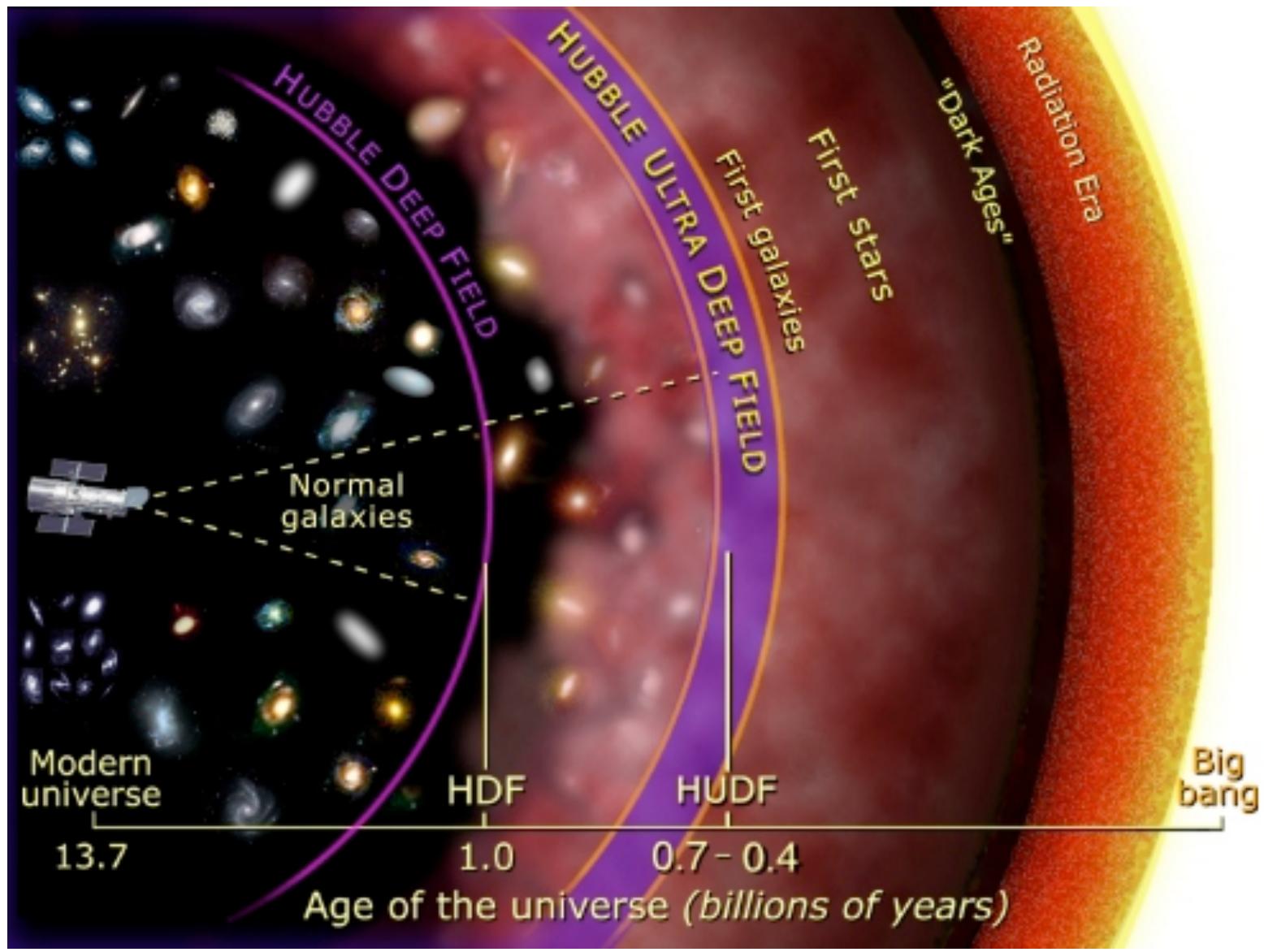


Halton Arp, Caltech  
(1927–present)

Palomar telescope, Southern California

# Telescopes are time machines

Irregulars more common in earlier Universe

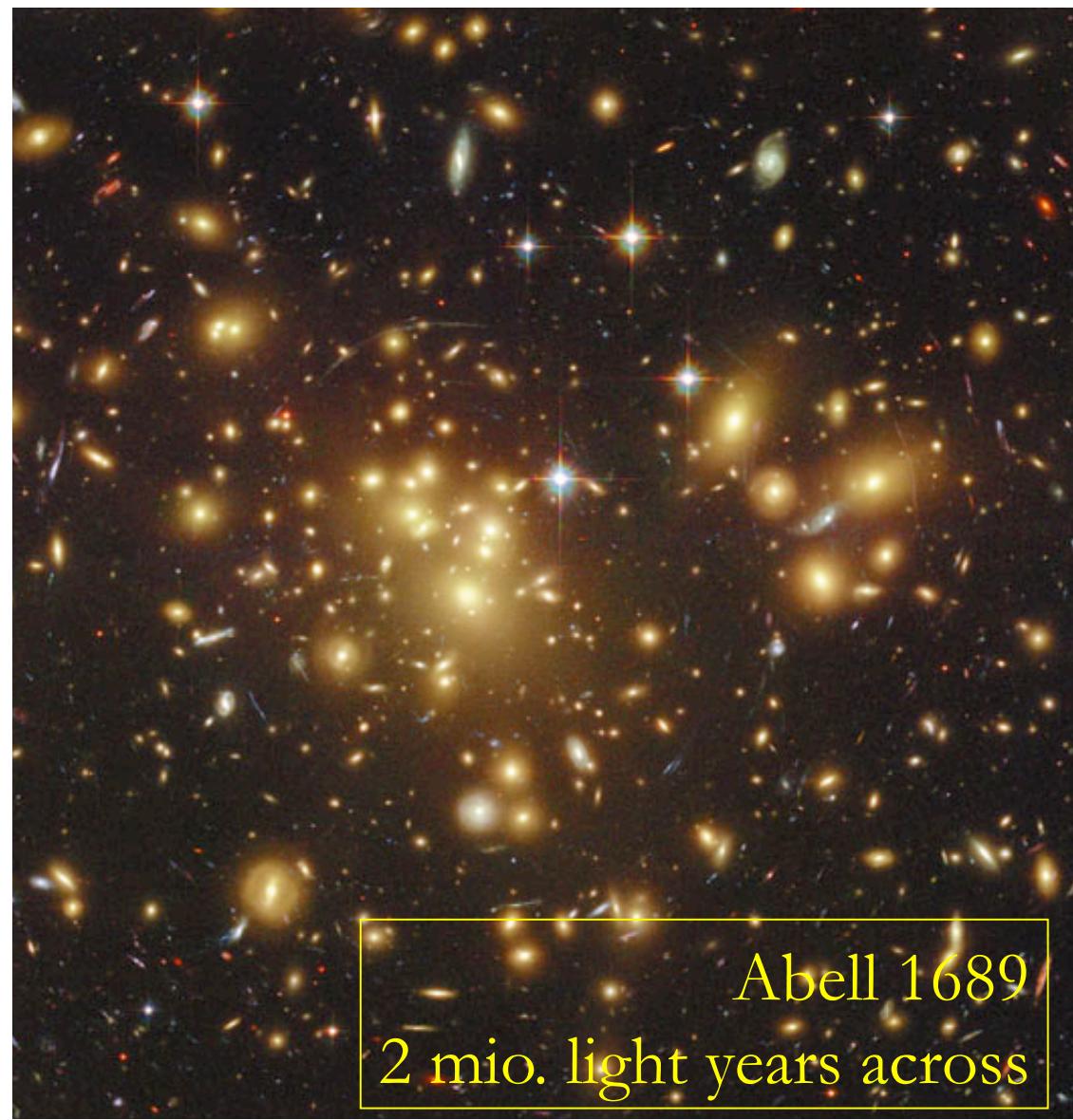
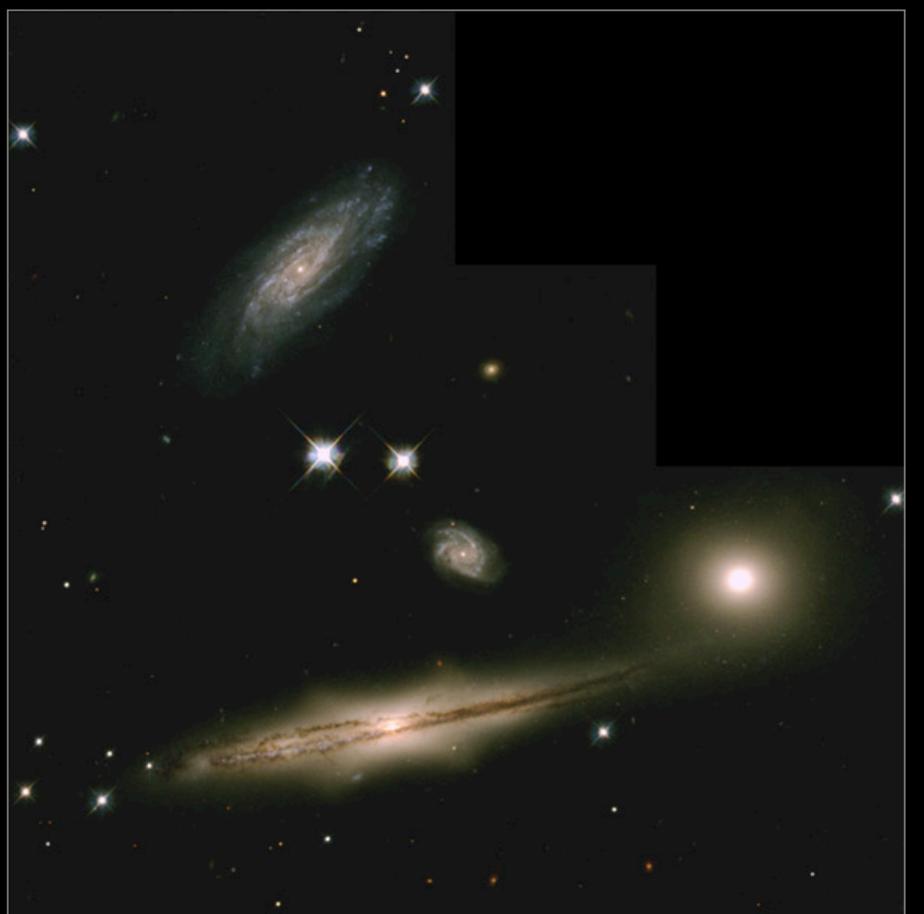


# Galaxies live in groups and clusters

Ellipticals more common in clusters

Giant ellipticals in center

Hickson Compact Group 87



Abell 1689  
2 mio. light years across

# Galaxy interactions

If sun = grapefruit:

next star = grapefruit

New York

If Milkyway = grapefruit:

Andromeda = grapefruit

In the first row!

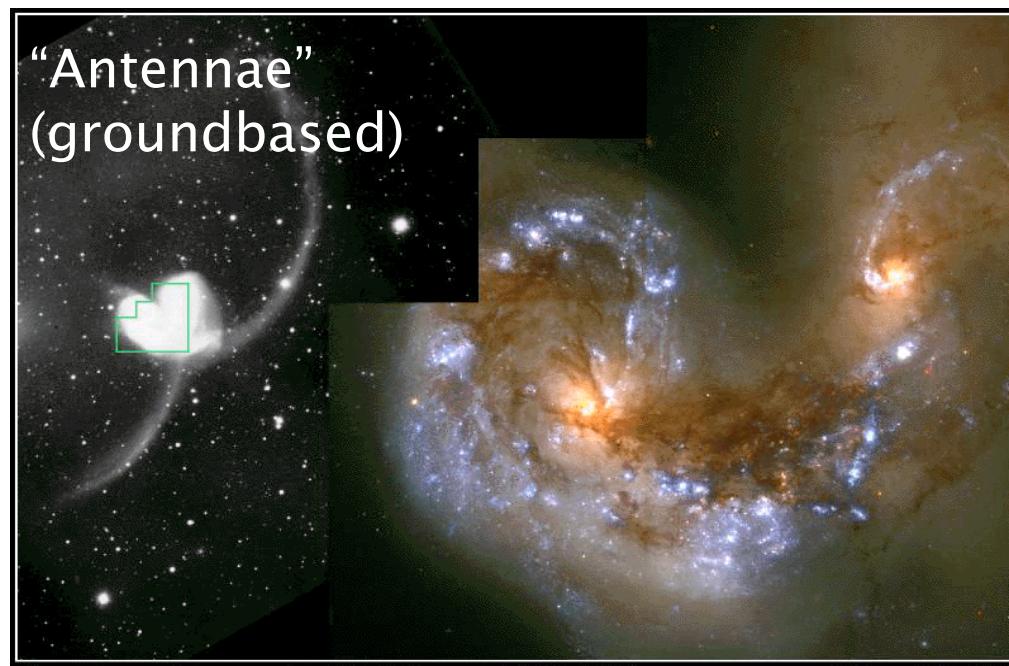
# Galaxy interactions

Galaxies interact, merge

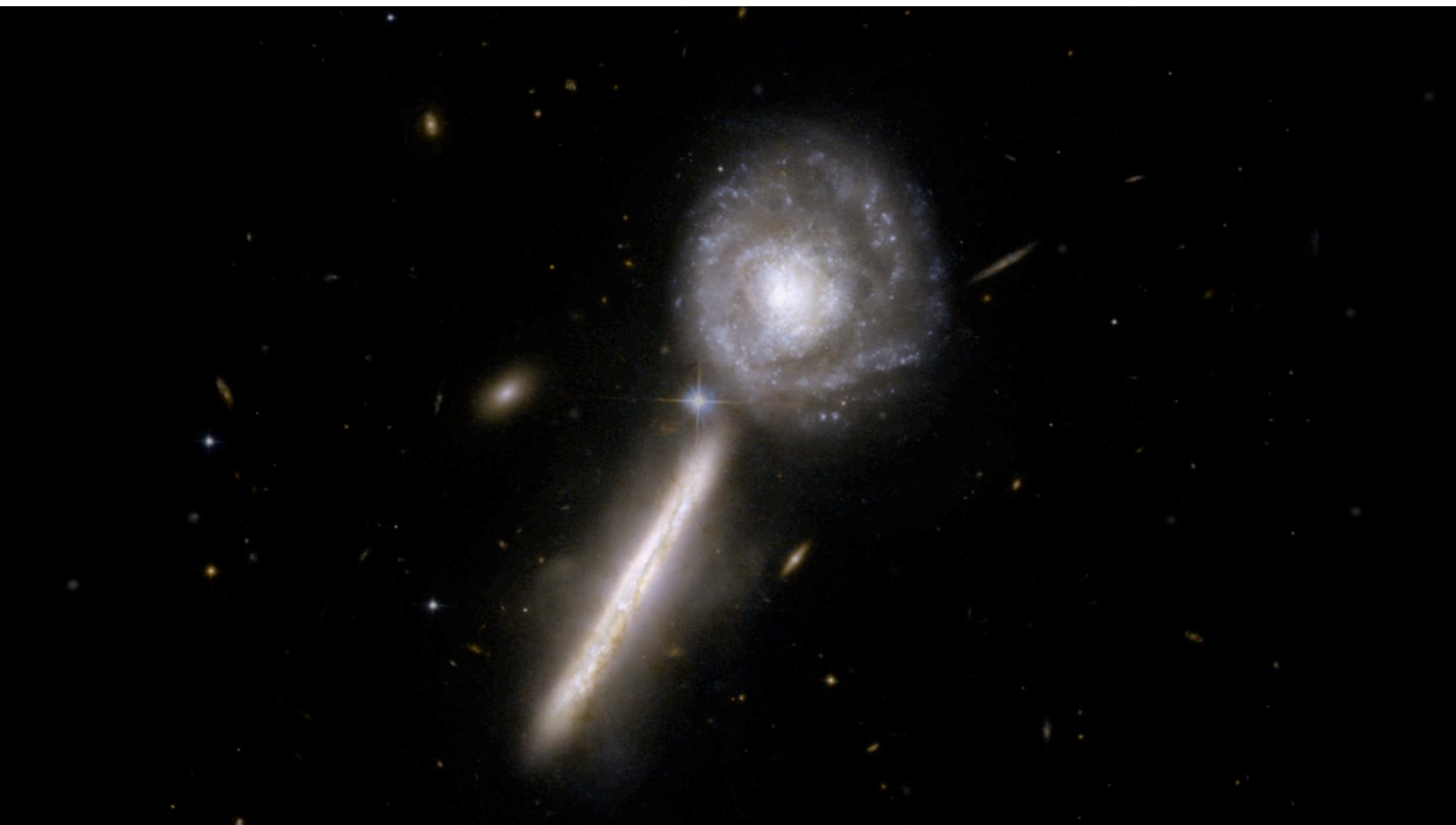
More frequent in earlier Universe –  
galaxies closer together (more irregulars)

Collisions take hundreds of millions of years – snapshot only

Computer simulations



# Galaxy interactions



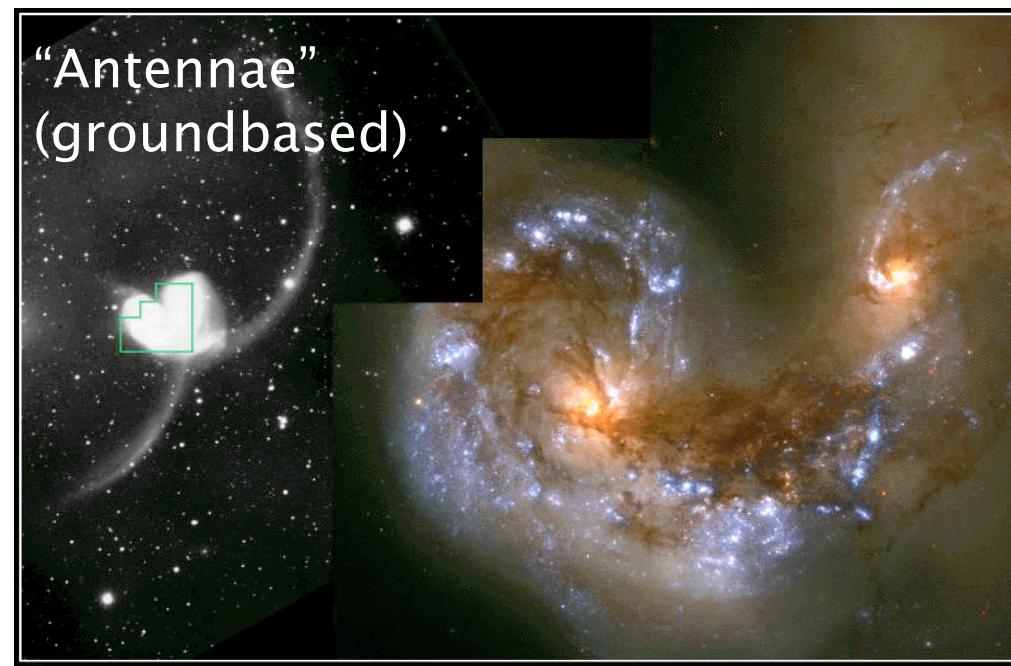
# Galaxy interactions

Ellipticals formed by mergers of spirals

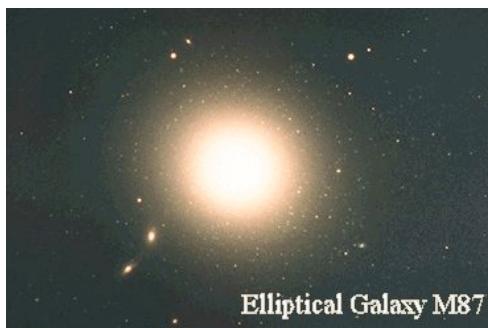
Tidal forces tear apart disks, randomize orbits

Gas forms new stars until used up/blown out

In center of dense clusters: giant ellipticals, galaxy cannibalism



# A simple equation

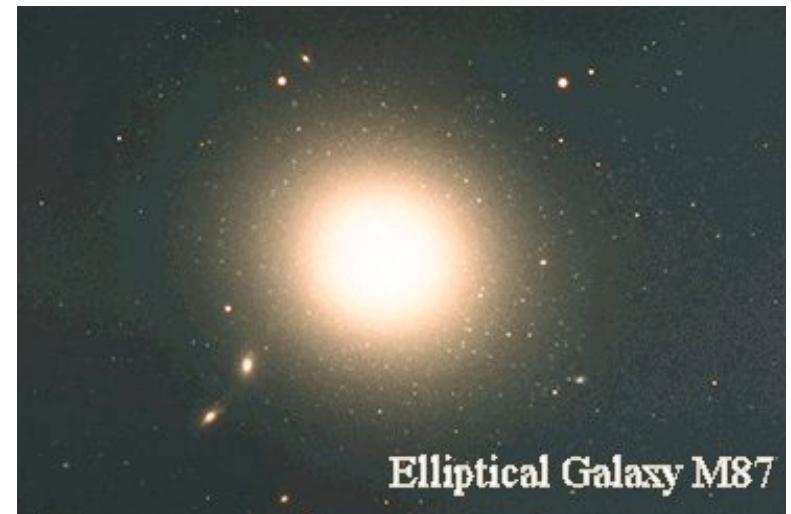


+



Andromeda

$$\left. \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} =$$



Elliptical Galaxy M87

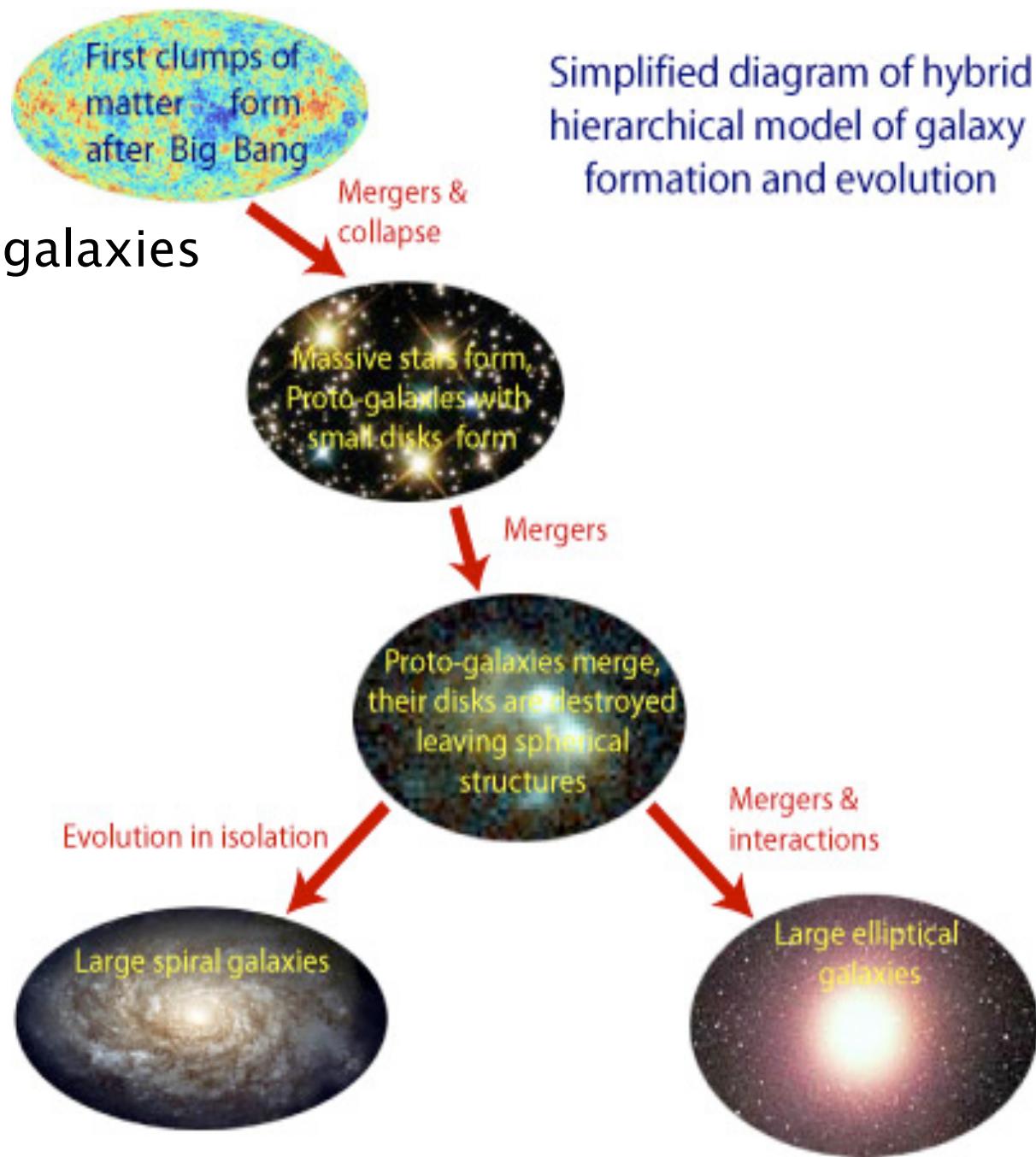


+



# Galaxy formation and evolution

Hierarchical cosmology:  
big galaxy today  
= hundreds of smaller proto-galaxies



# The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

## Intro II: Black Holes – Theory

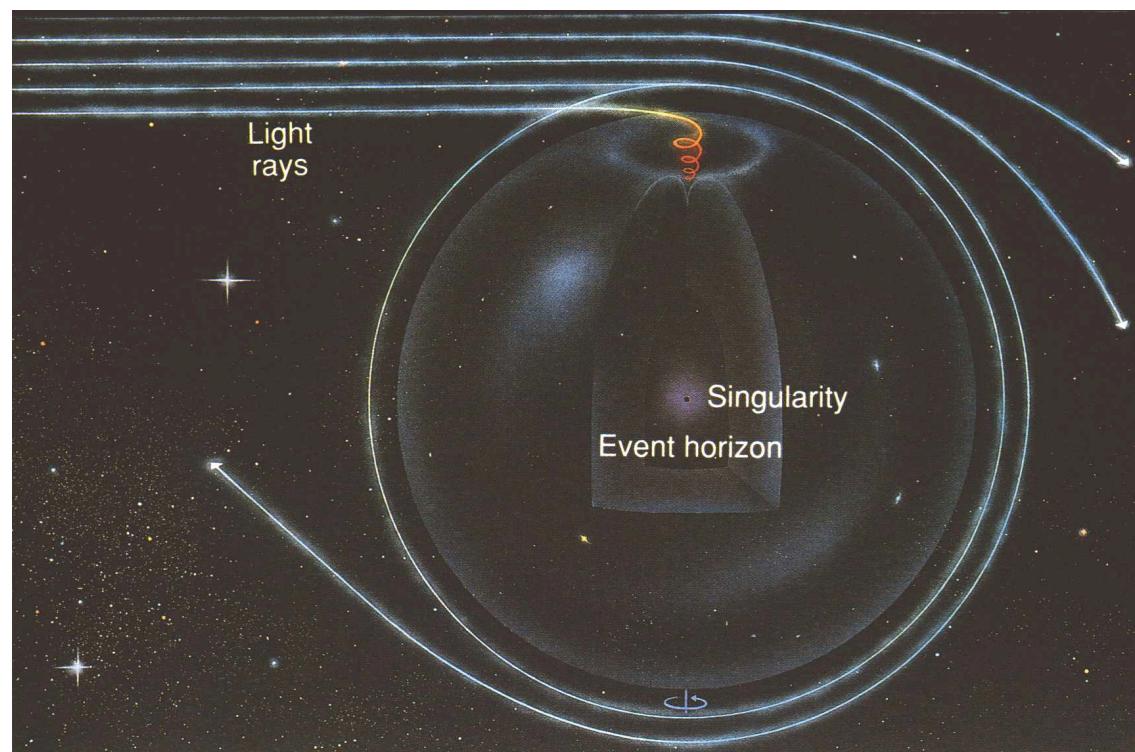
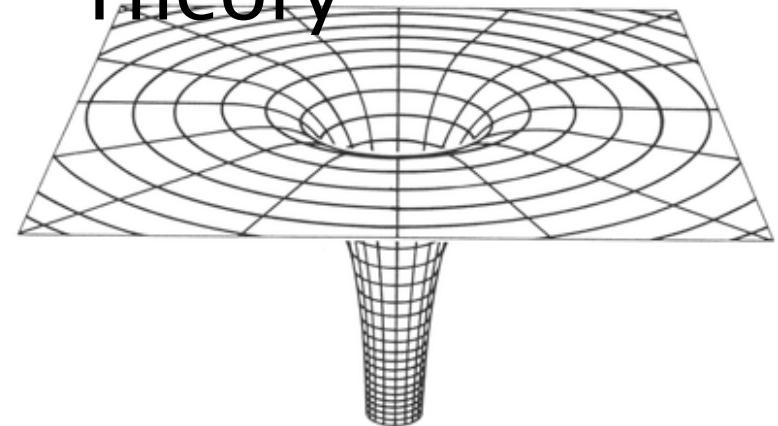
Predicted by Einstein's Relativity Theory

So massive that not even light can escape

But: BHs don't suck!

End state of very massive star

Large range of masses





# Black holes – observations

Stars orbit Galactic Center

Keplerian motion  
(like planets in solar system)

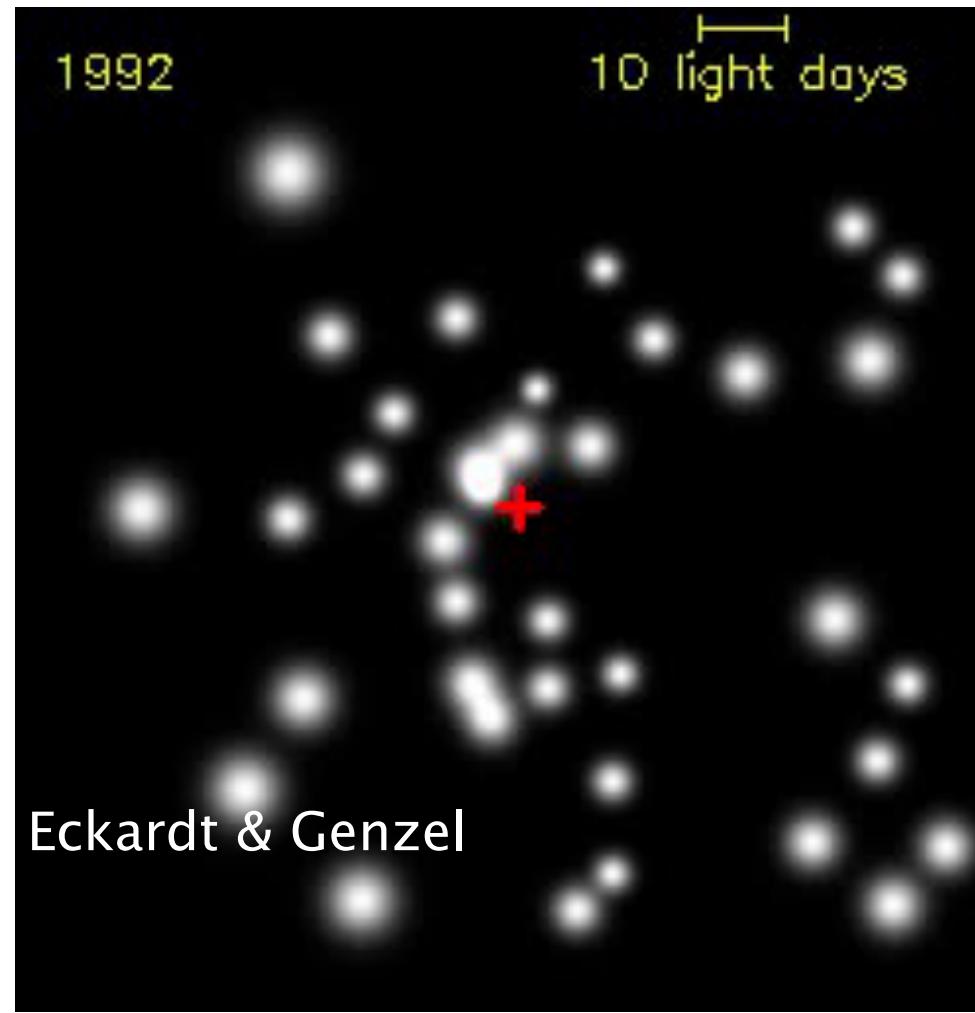
Calculate central mass:  $M=v^2r/G$   
~4 million solar masses

Region: hardly larger than solar system

Dark

Best evidence of very massive Black Hole

Black Hole:  
best explanation of massive object  
that still remains unseen



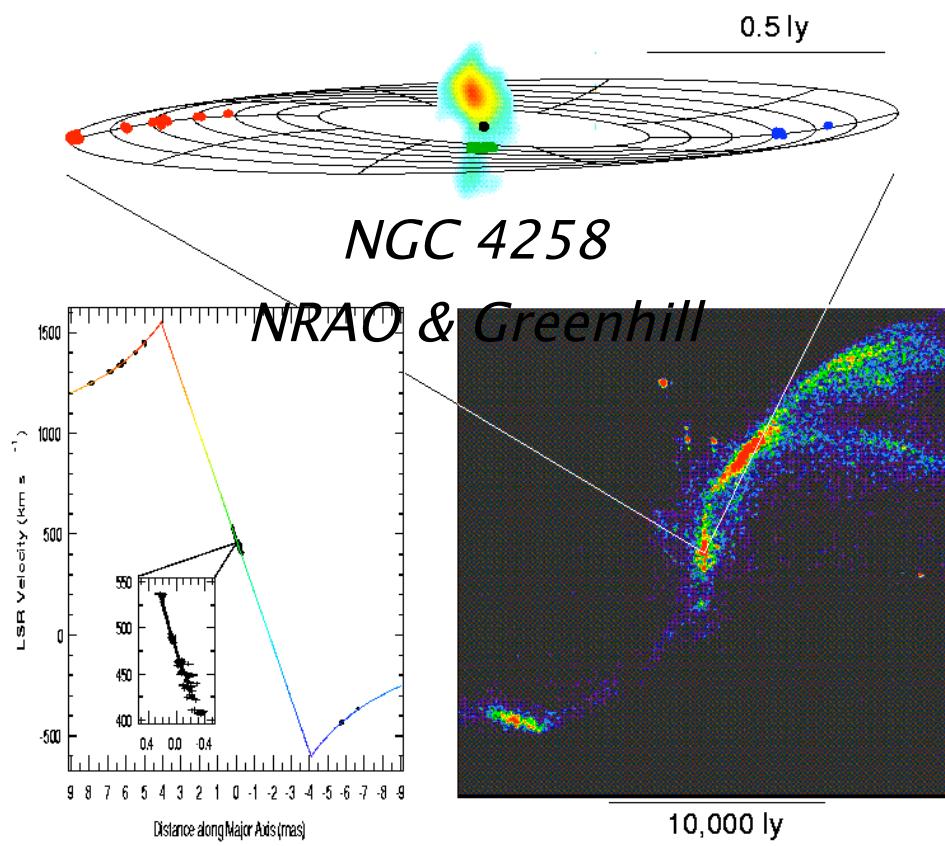
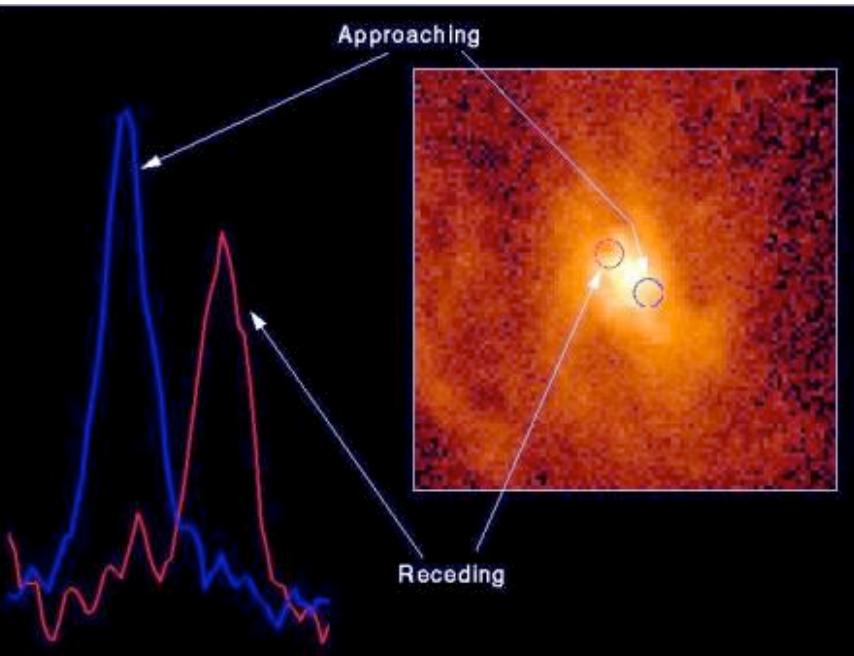
# Black holes – observations

Weighing black holes:  
motion of stars and gas („Doppler shift“)



Black holes in all galaxies (with bulge)?

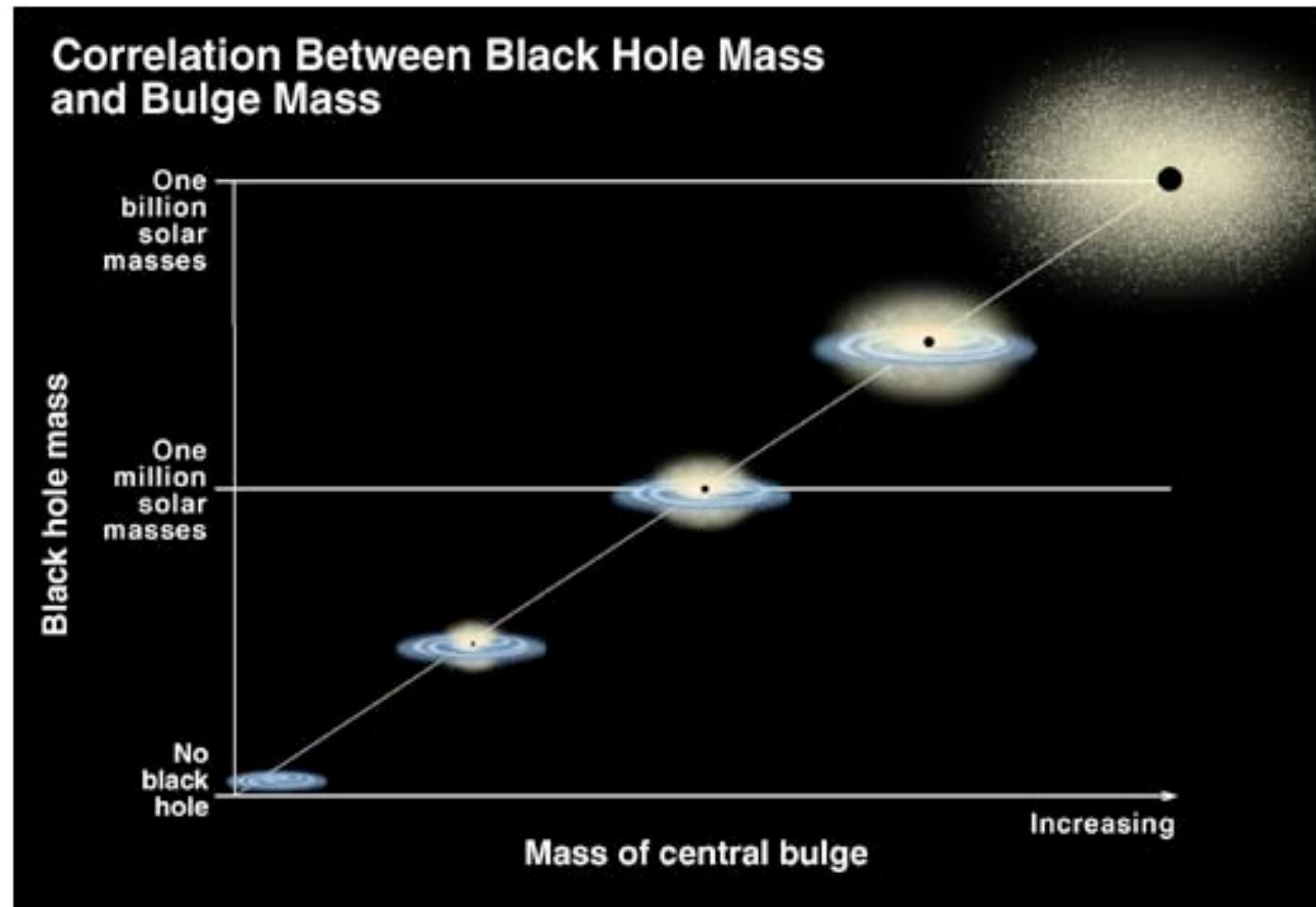
M87 (HST)



# The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

In local Universe:

Mass of BH  $\sim 0.2\%$  of mass of stars in bulge!



# The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

Why are masses of black holes and their host galaxy bulge related?

Very different scales involved:

Size of bulge ~ 1000 times gravitational sphere of influence of BH

Suggests that formation and evolution of BHs & hosts are linked!

Chicken-and-egg-problem:

What was first, the BH or the galaxy?



# The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

Why are masses of black holes and their host galaxy bulge related?

Very different scales involved:

Size of bulge  $\sim$  1000 times gravitational sphere of influence of BH

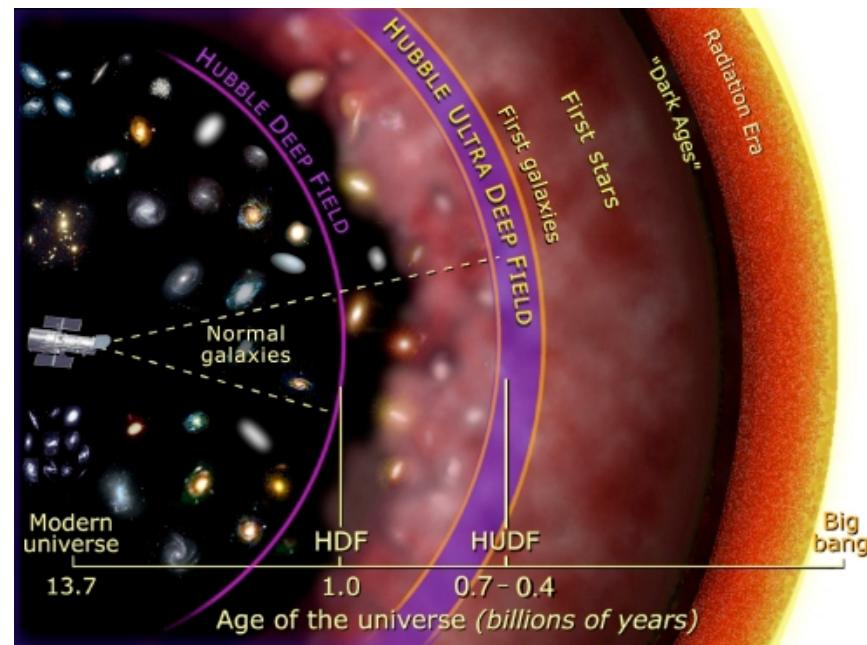
Suggests that formation and evolution of BHs & hosts are linked!

Chicken-and-egg-problem:

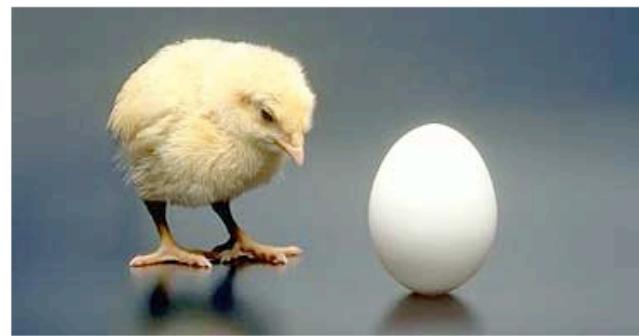
What was first, the BH or the galaxy?

Idea:

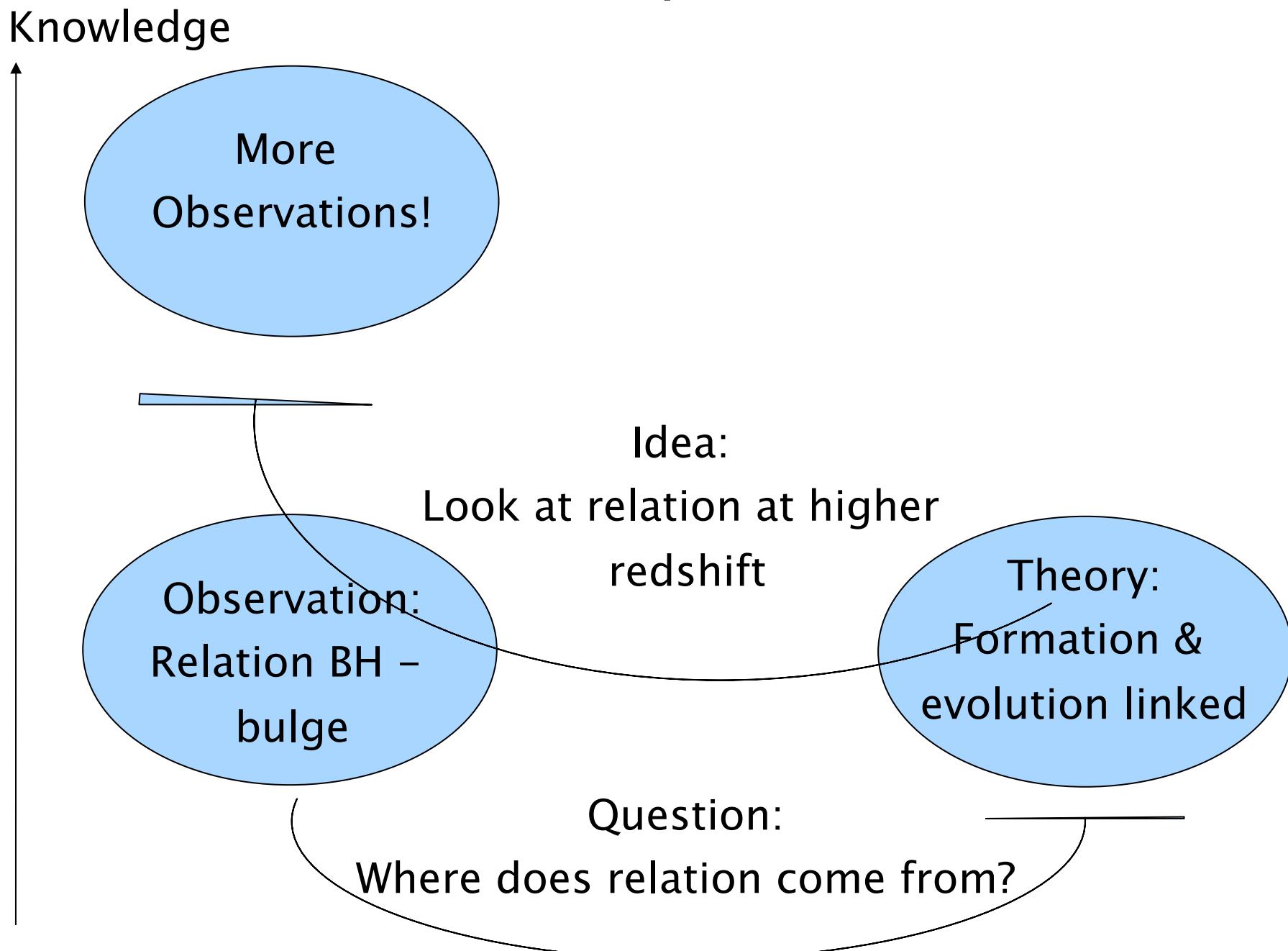
Look at evolution with time



# What was first?



# The natural ~~cycle~~ of science spiral



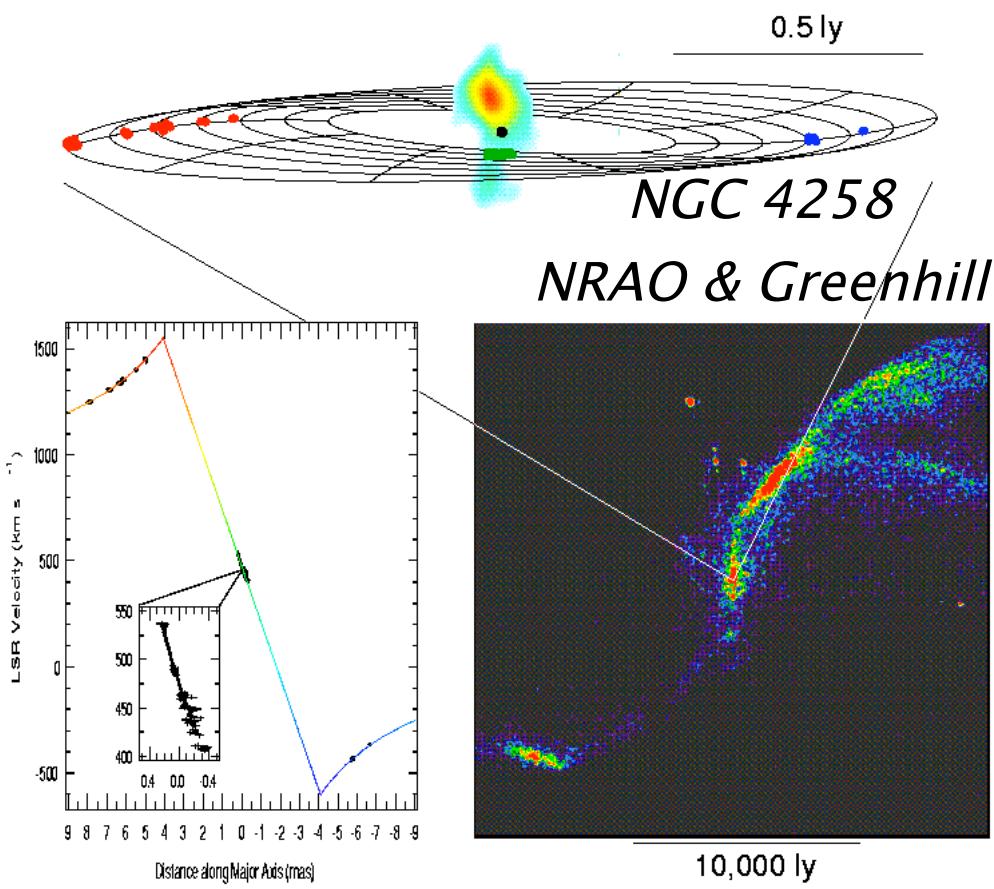
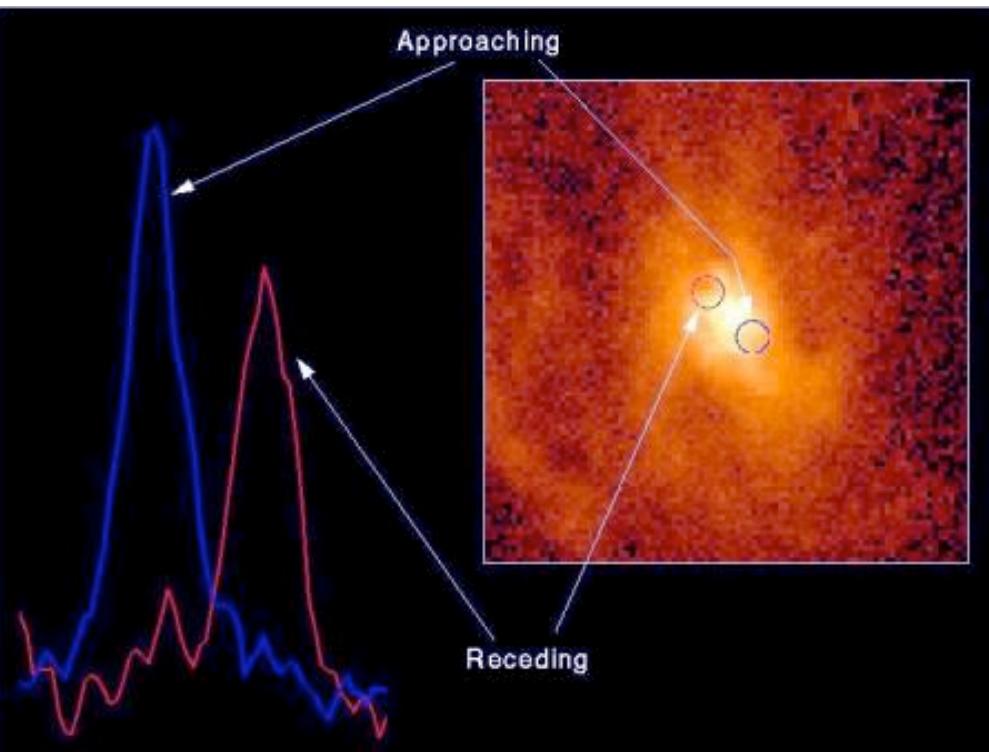
# The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

Problem:

How to weigh BHs?

Resolve gravitational BH sphere of influence

Limited to local Universe



# Intermission: Active galaxies

Luminosity:

Center as bright as whole galaxy

Detected out to large distances (more common)

Size:

Not resolved on images

Rapid variability (weeks) – light week across

(Sun – closest star: ~4 light years)

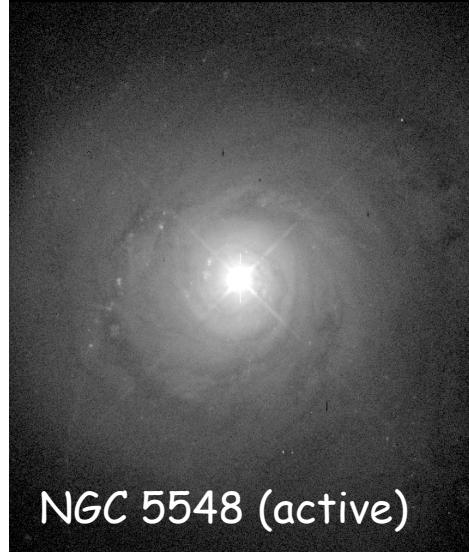
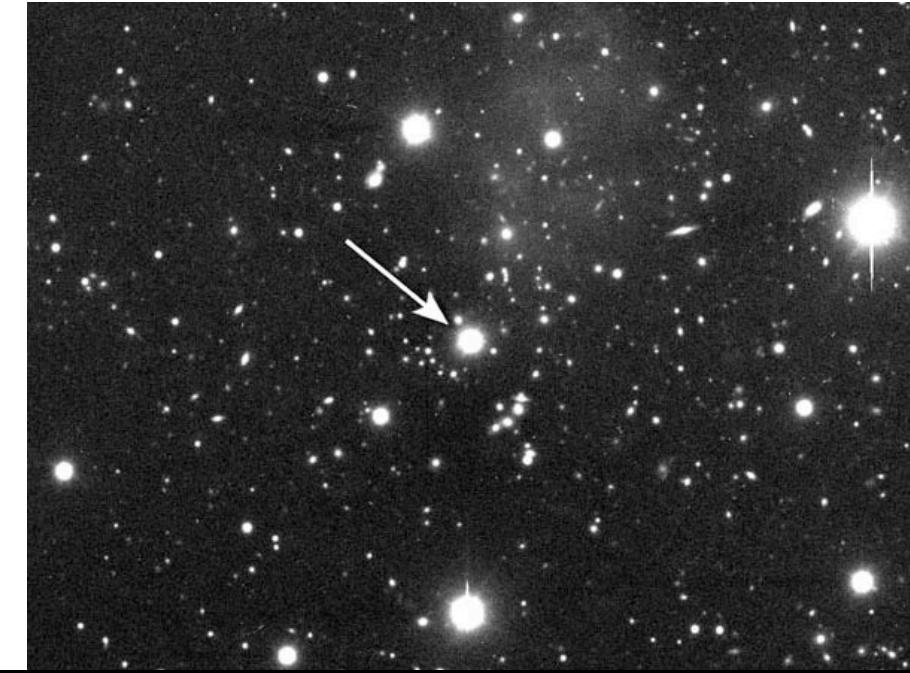
How is large luminosity produced on small scales?

# Intermission: Active galaxies

QSOs: Quasi-stellar objects  
look like stars

„Twinkle, twinkle quasi-star  
Biggest puzzle from afar  
How unlike the other ones  
Brighter than a billion suns  
Twinkle, twinkle, quasi-star  
How I wonder what you are”  
(George Gamov 1964)

Particularly bright AGNs  
Can be found to very great distances



NGC 5548 (active)



NGC 3277 (not active)

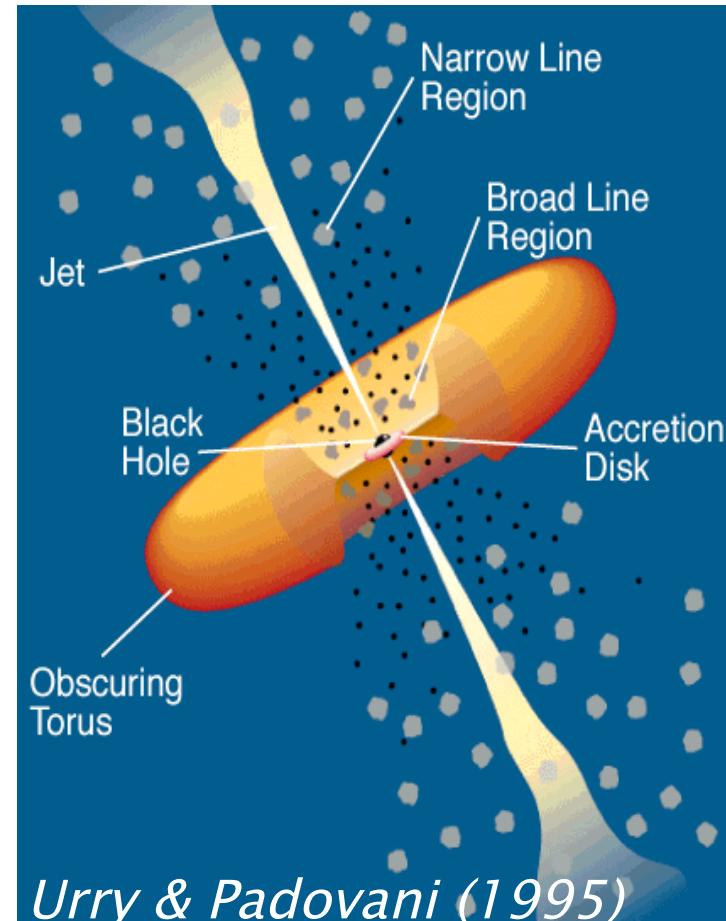
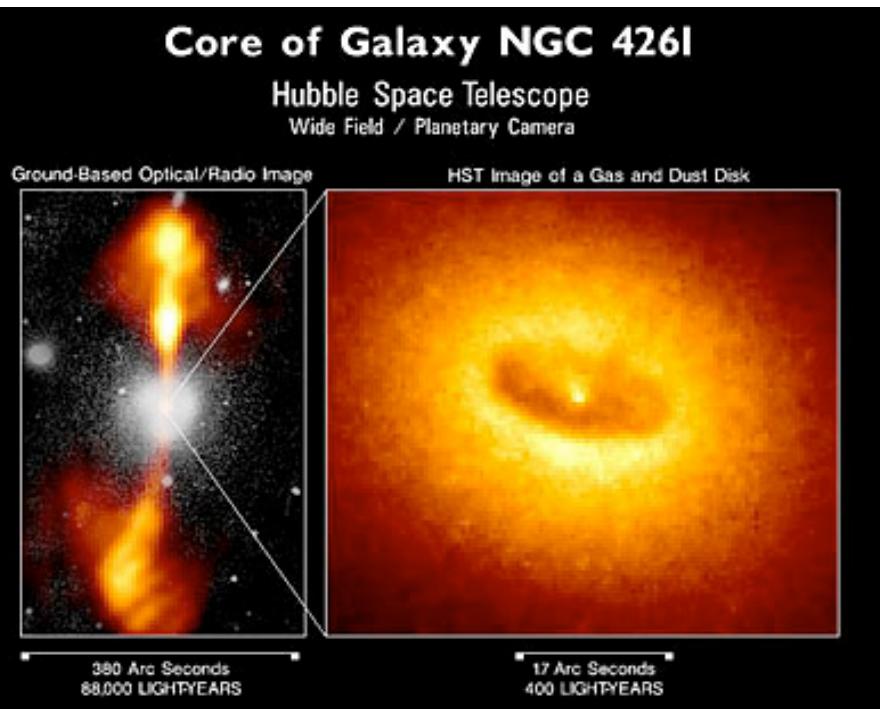
# Intermission: Active galaxies

Accreting black holes!

Accretion: accumulation of gas & dust ( $\sim 1$  solar mass/year)

Matter falls into BH through accretion disk

Gravitational potential energy transformed  
into light

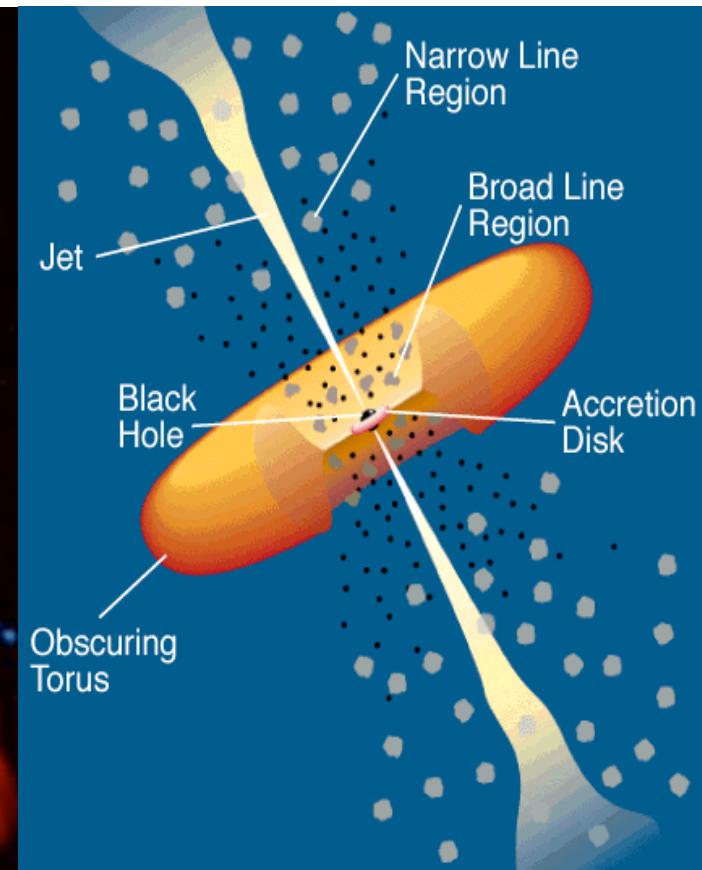
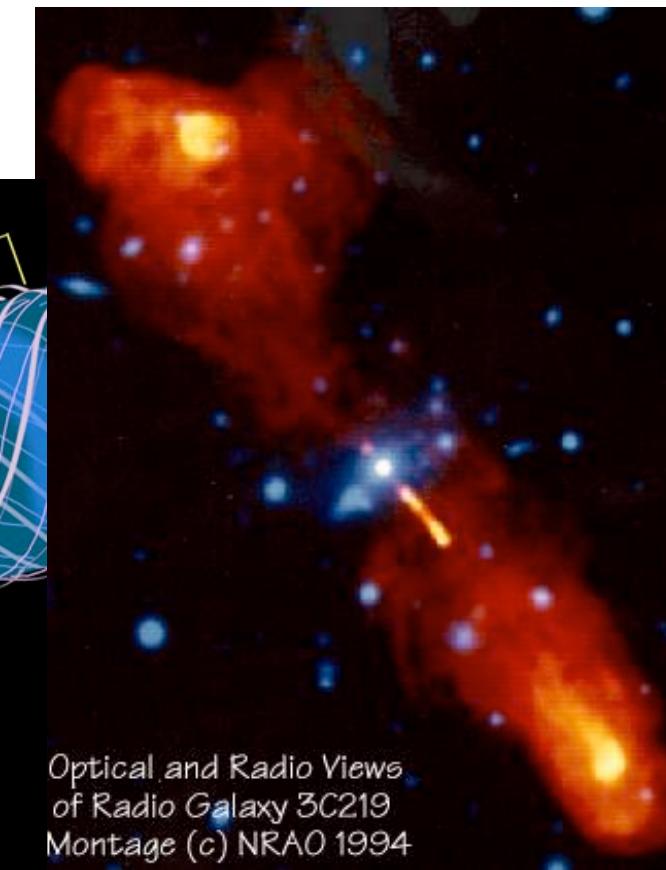
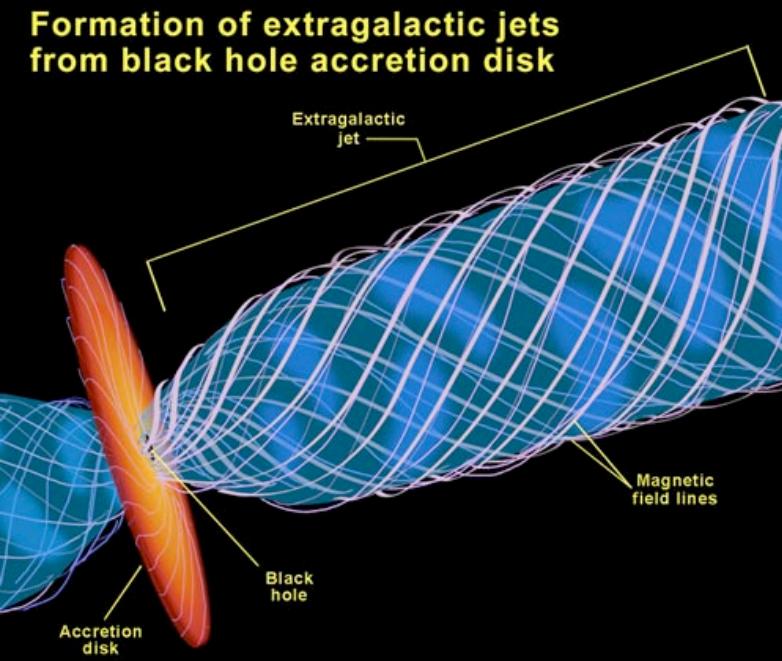
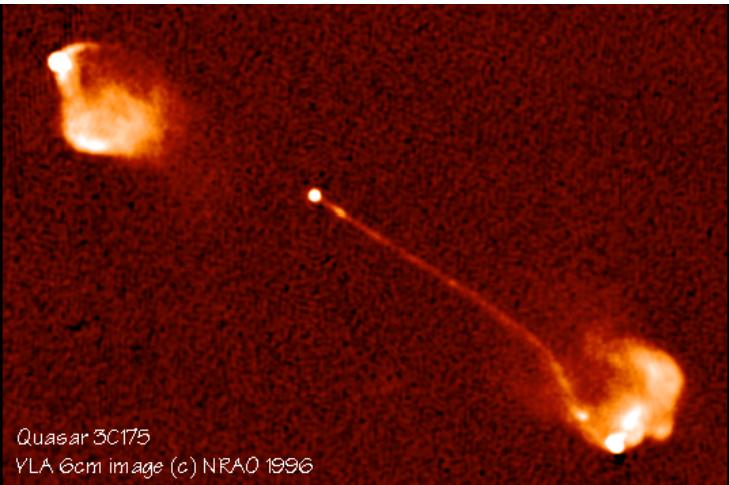


# Intermission: Active galaxies – jets

„Feedback“

BH regulates its own growth?

Regulates bulge growth by quenching  
starformation?



# Why are some galaxies active and others are not?

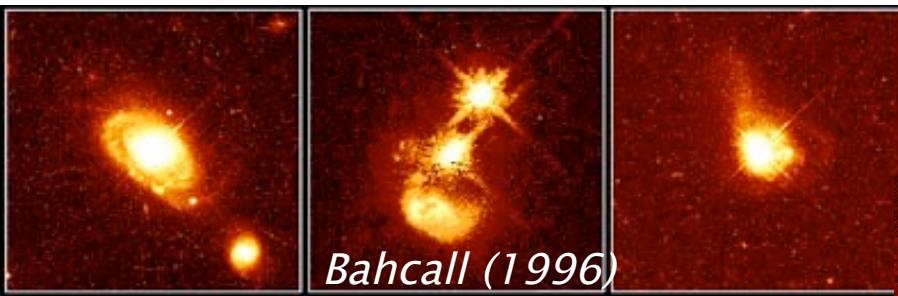
Presence of BH not enough (Milkyway is “dormant”)

Galaxy interactions & mergers?

Phase in the evolution of galaxies?

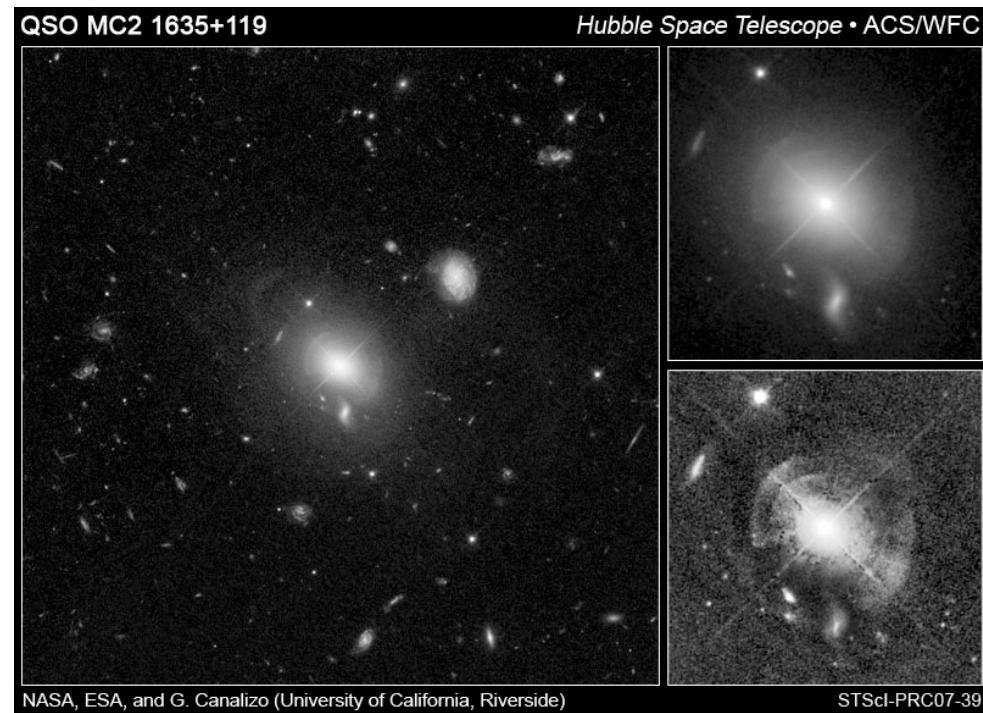
Evolutionary sequence:

Merger → starburst → QSO → Elliptical



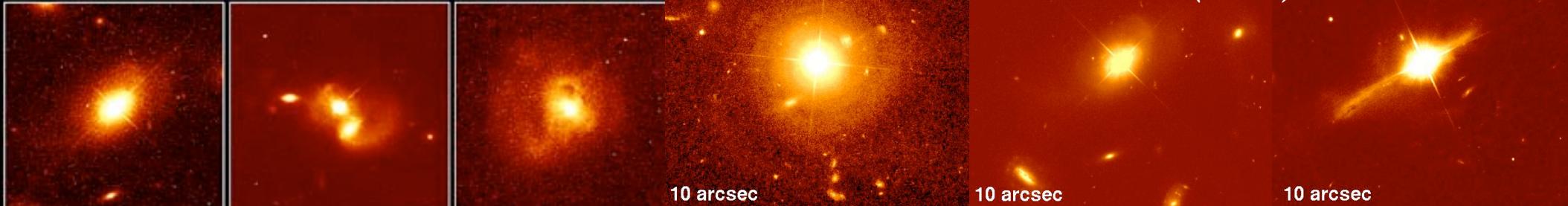
PKS 0736+01

10 arcsec

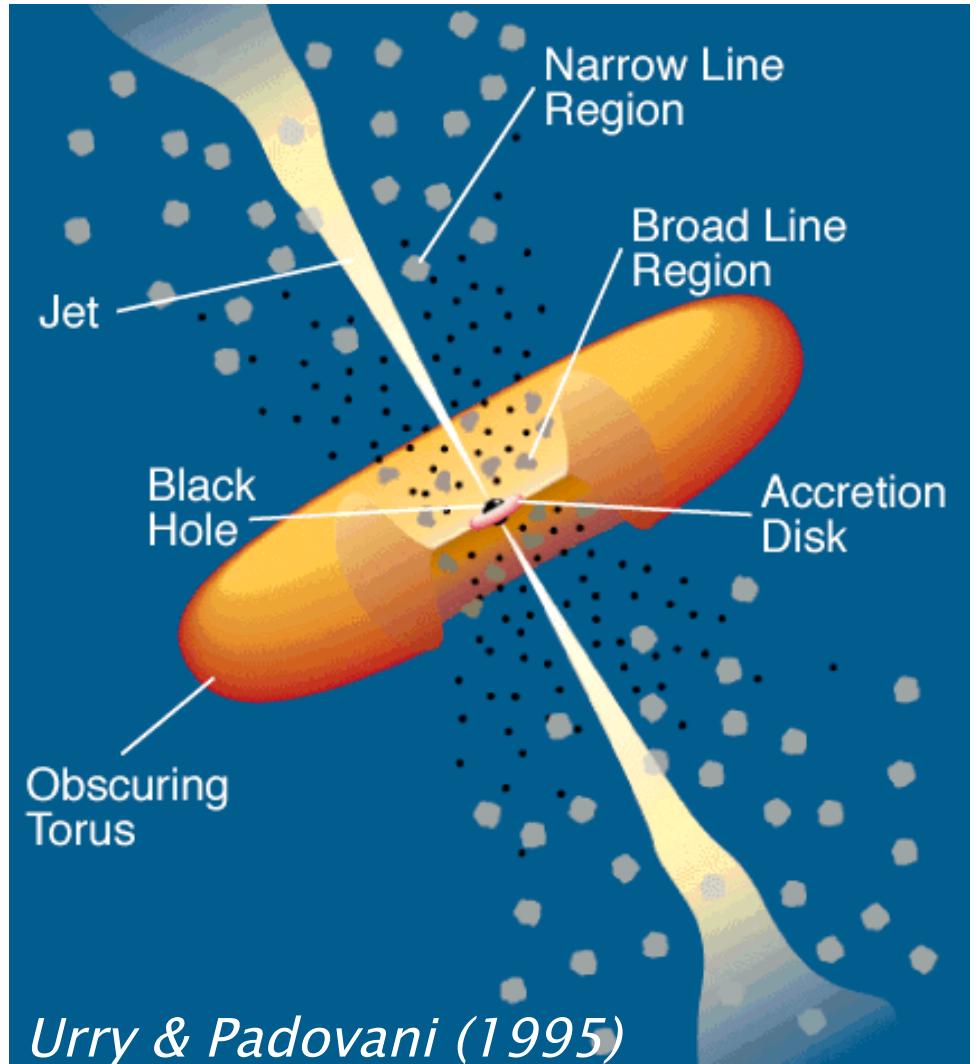
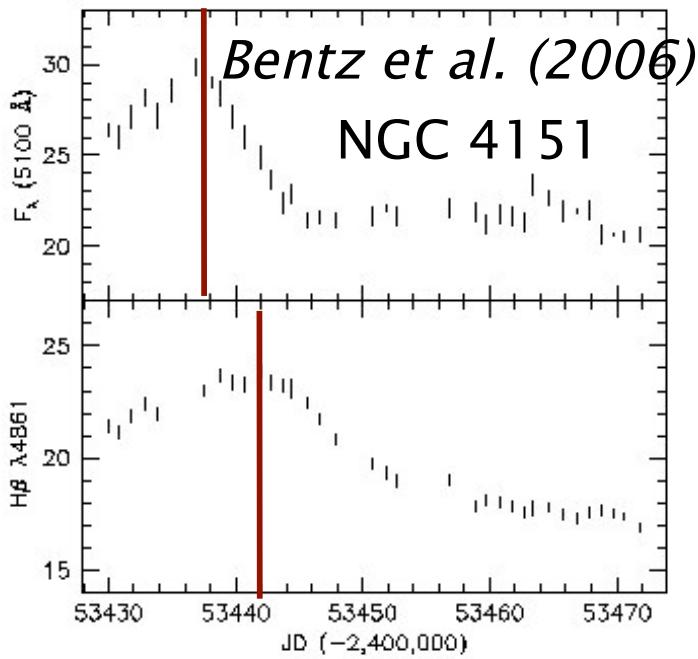
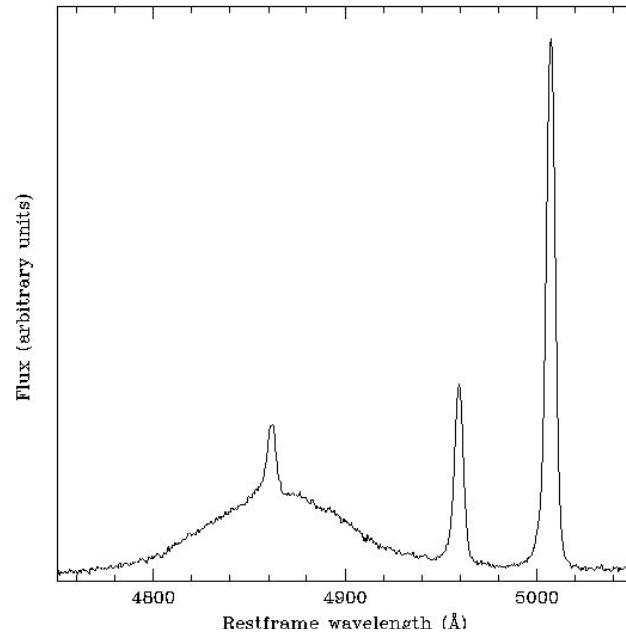


Bennert et al. (2008)

10 arcsec



# Black holes on a „scale“: reverberation mapping



$$M_{\text{BH}} \propto \frac{R_{\text{BLR}} \cdot v_{\text{BLR}}^2}{G}$$

# Black holes on a „scale“: reverberation mapping

Resolve BH sphere of influence in time!

Time consuming

~36 objects until 2008

+9 Lick AGN monitoring program 2008

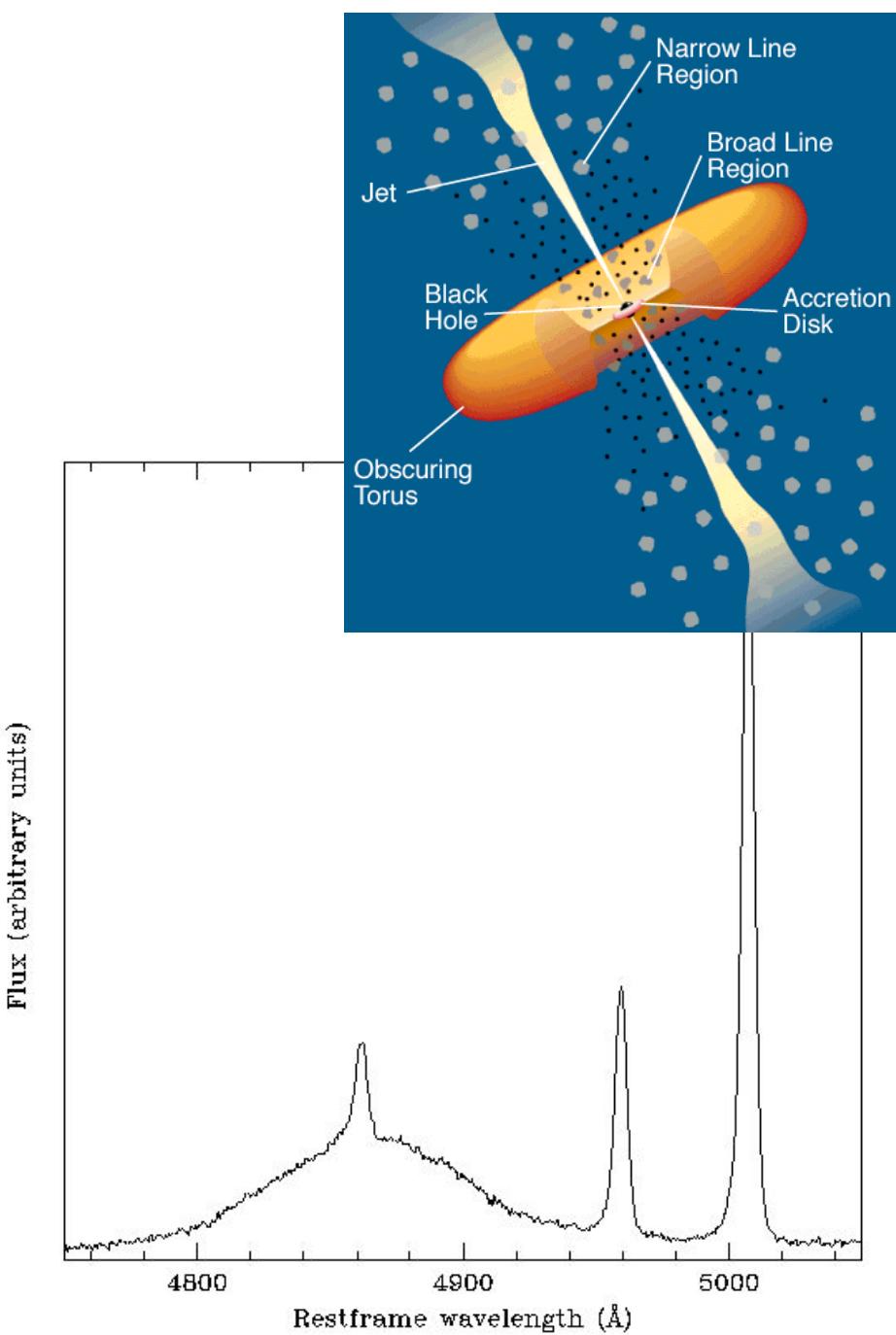
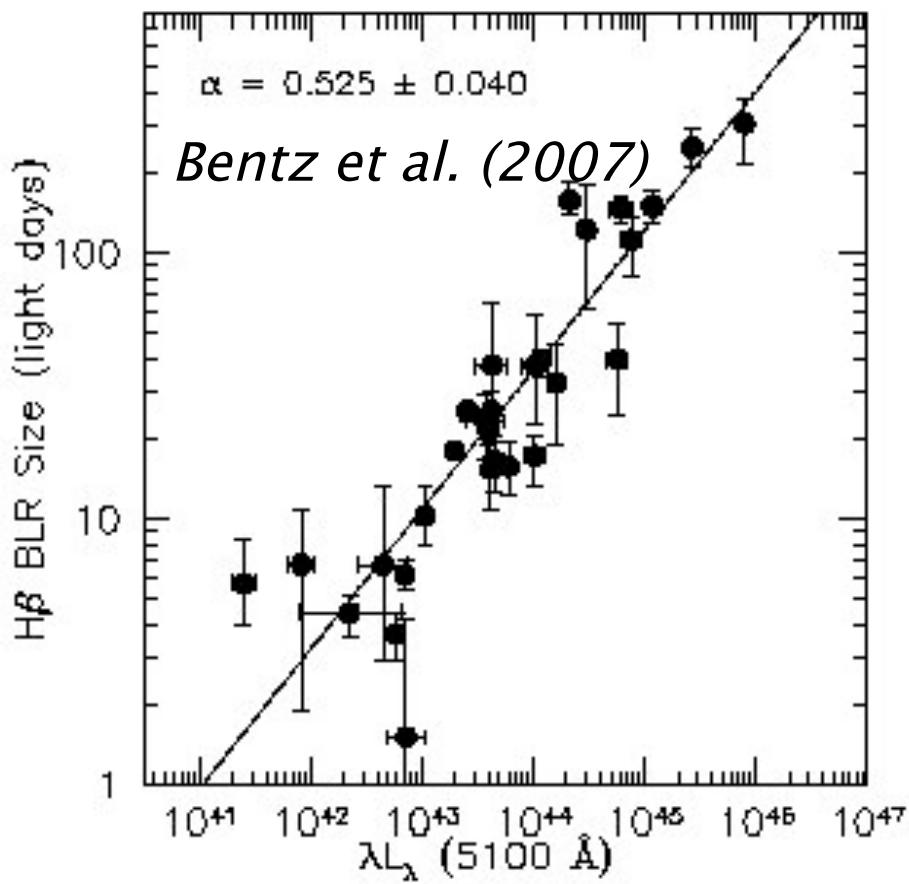
+~10 Lick AGN monitoring porgam 2011



# Black holes on a „scale“: reverberation mapping

BLR size-luminosity relation

$$M_{\text{BH}} \propto \frac{L_{5100}^{0.5} \cdot v_{\text{BLR}}^2}{G}$$



# The co-evolution of black holes and their host galaxies

## My current research

Use active galaxies!

Selected from Sloan Digital Sky Survey

(2.5m telescope in NM, 8 years: deep, multi-color images of  $\frac{1}{4}$  of sky)

Broad H $\beta$

40 objects, lookback time  $\sim$  4–6 bio. years

HST images:

Spheroid luminosity

Keck spectroscopy:

M(BH)

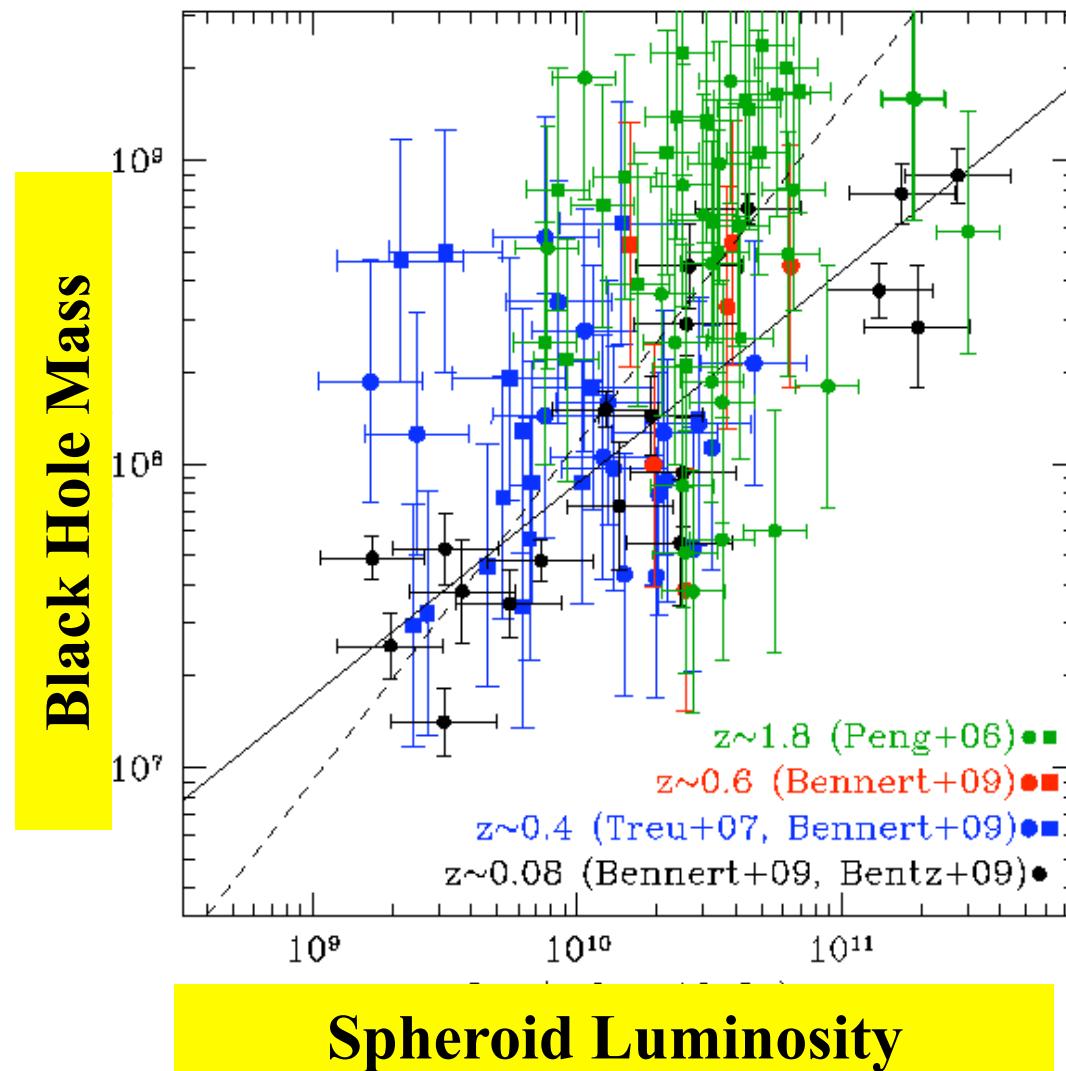


# Where is the relation?!

# Scatter larger

Relation does not exist at earlier times yet? Only end-product?

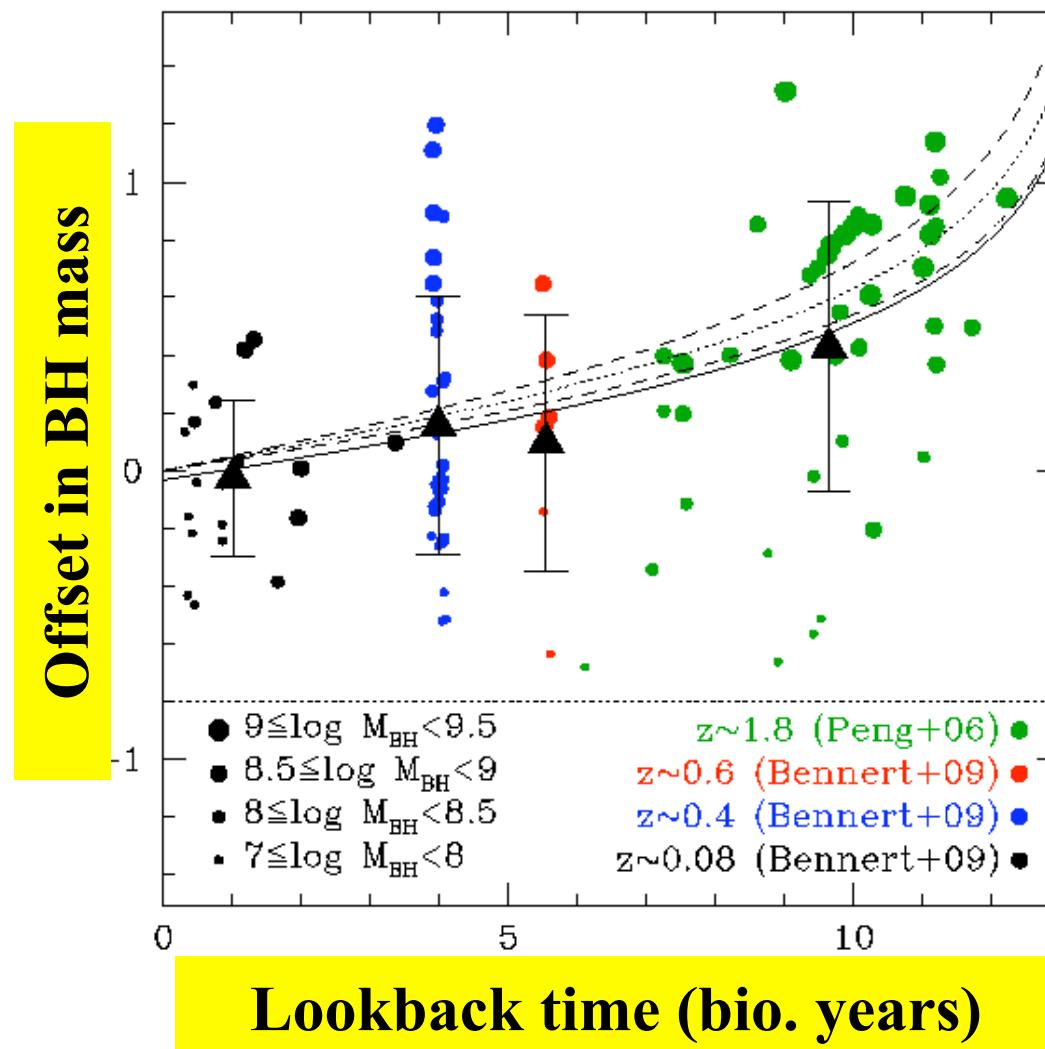
## BH growth precedes bulge assembly



# Where is the relation?!

BH growth precedes bulge assembly

Evolution mass dependent?

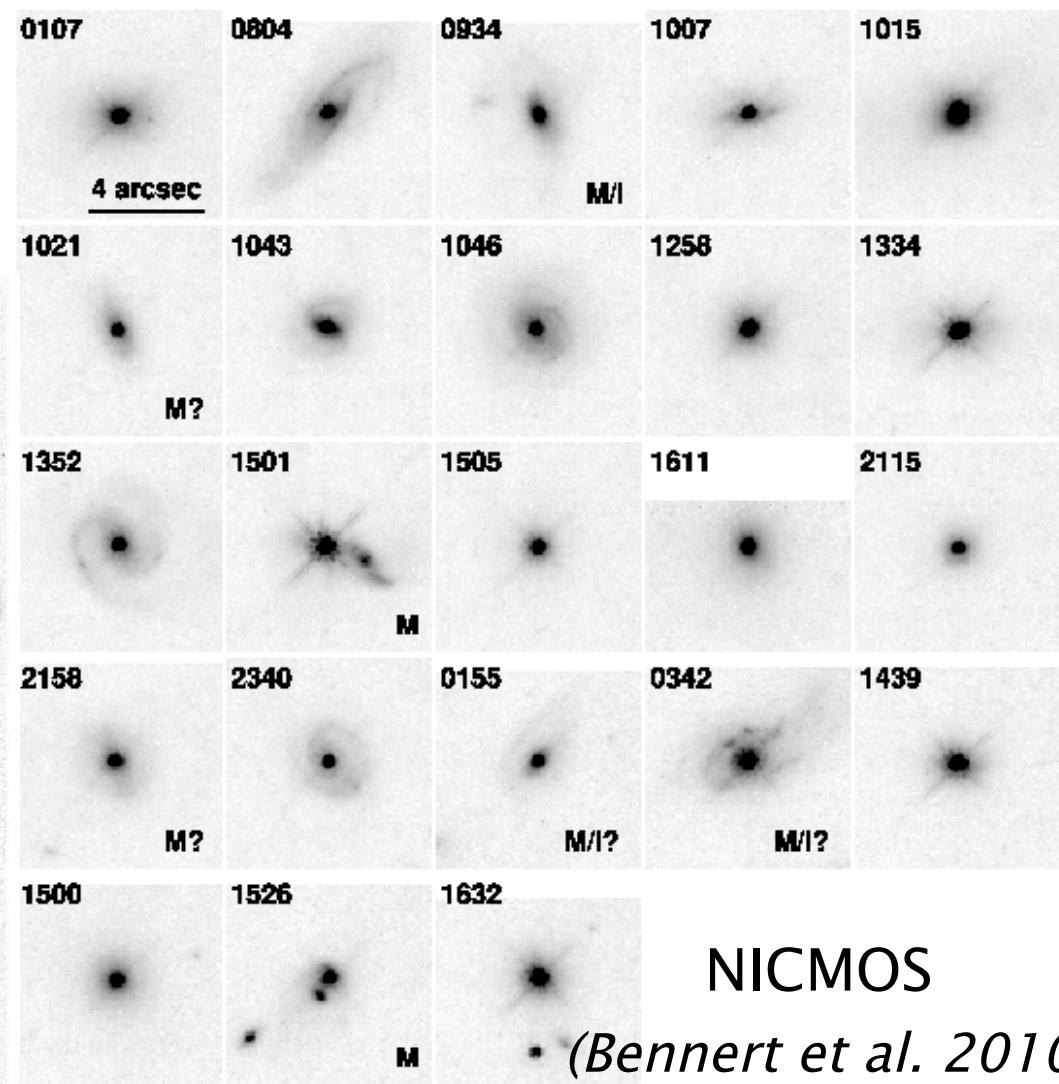
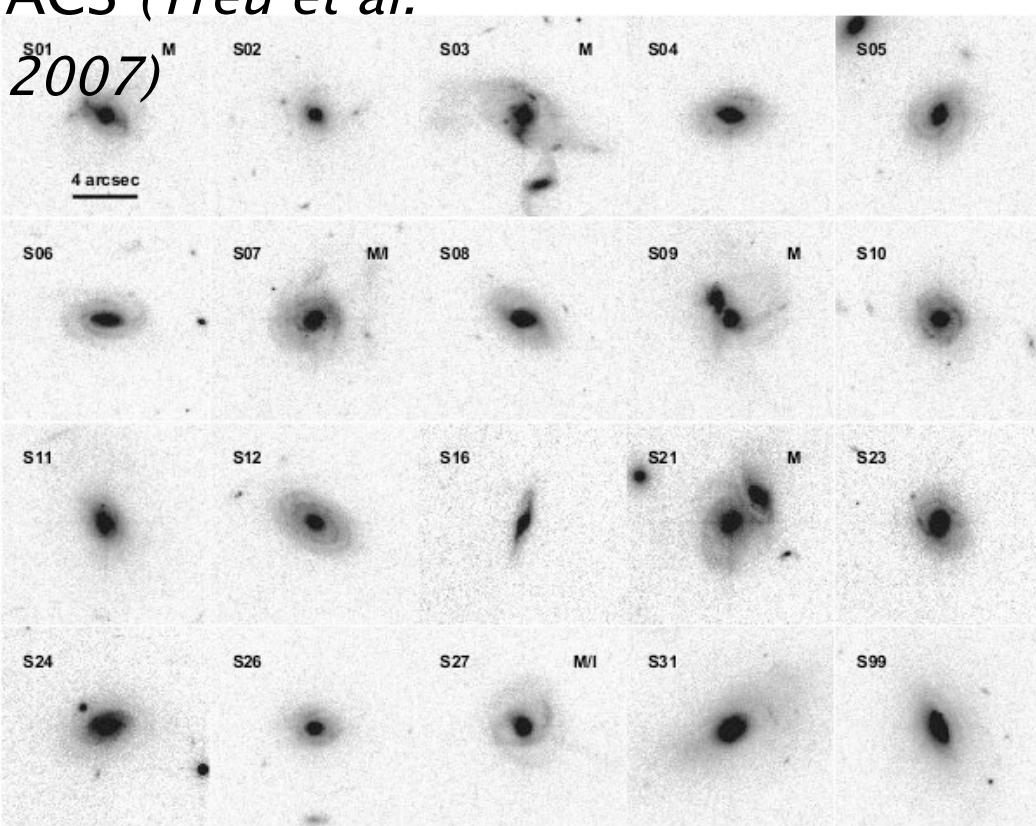


# BH is first – bulge needs to catch up!

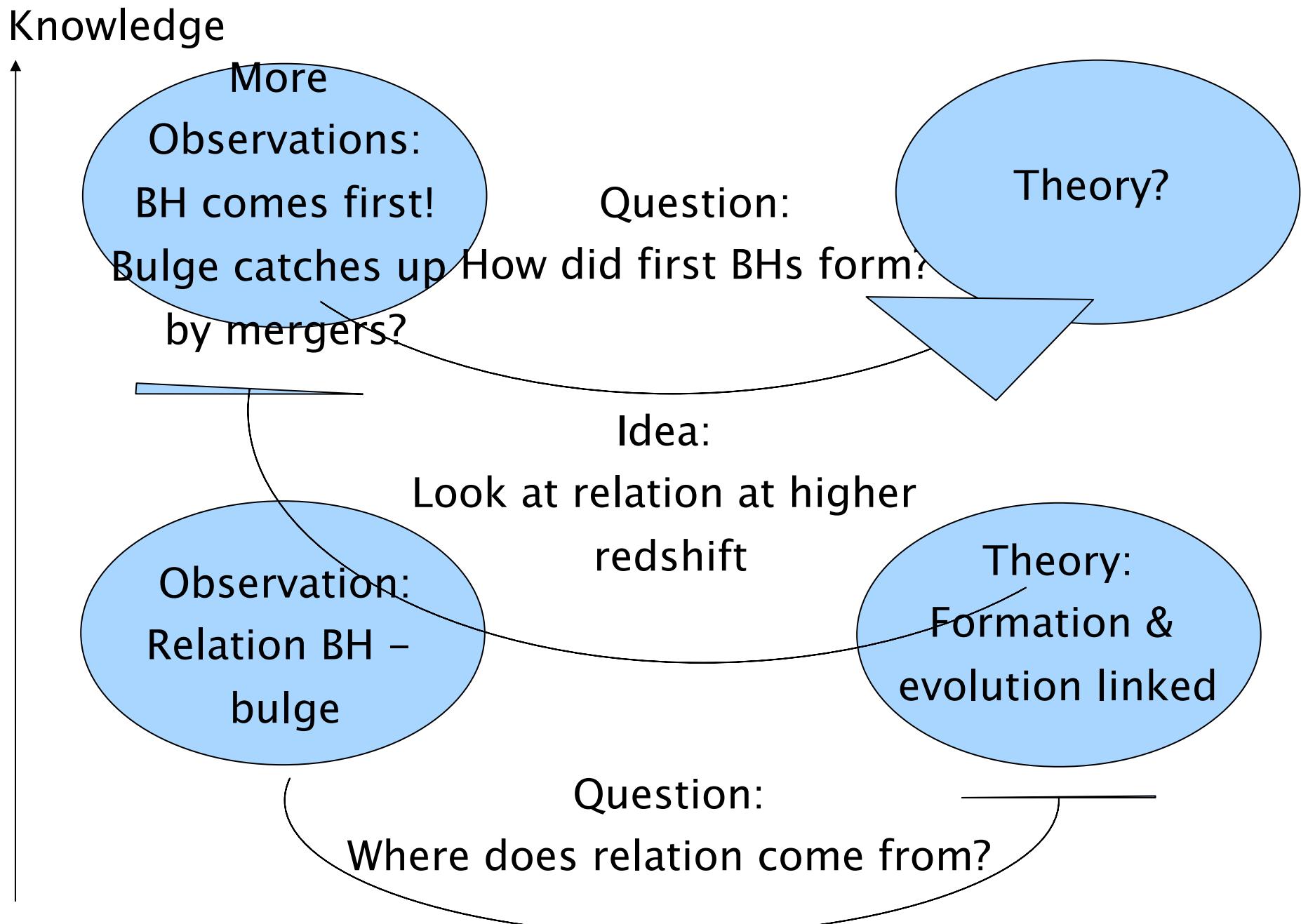
How?

Mergers?

ACS (*Treu et al.*  
2007)



# The natural cycle of science spiral



# To do (theory): formation of black holes

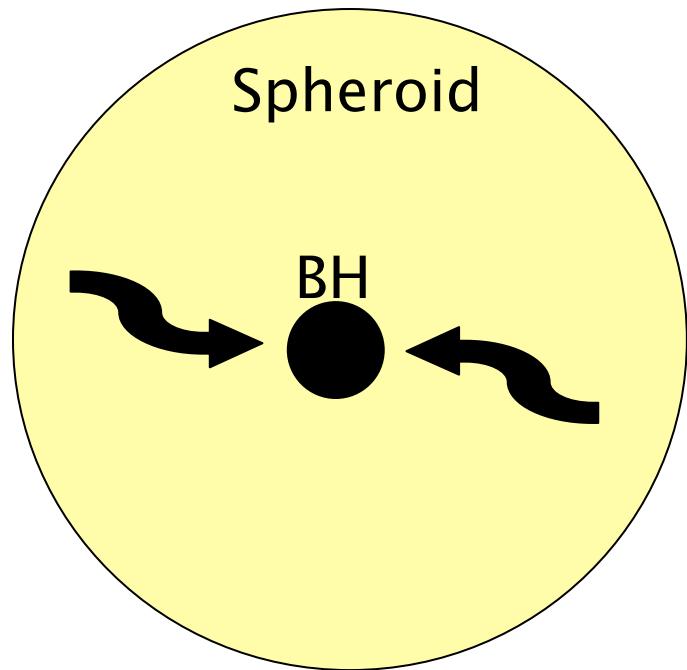
First QSOs: Universe was ~1 bio. years old

BH grows by accretion

But: what are “seed” BHs?

- remnants of the first generation of stars?
- formed out of gas at center of proto-galactic cloud?

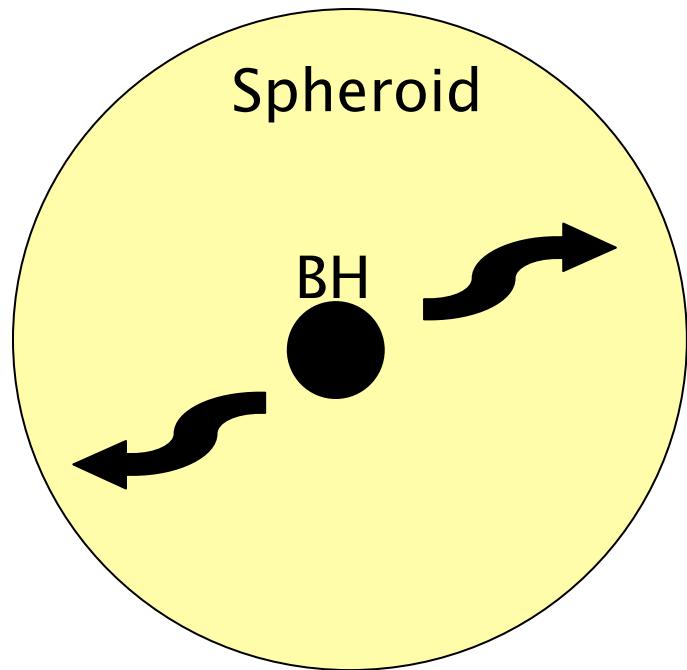
# Putting it all together



Ageing of stellar pop. ( $L$  decreases)

Accretion onto BH: active phase  
 $M(BH)$  can only increase

# Putting it all together



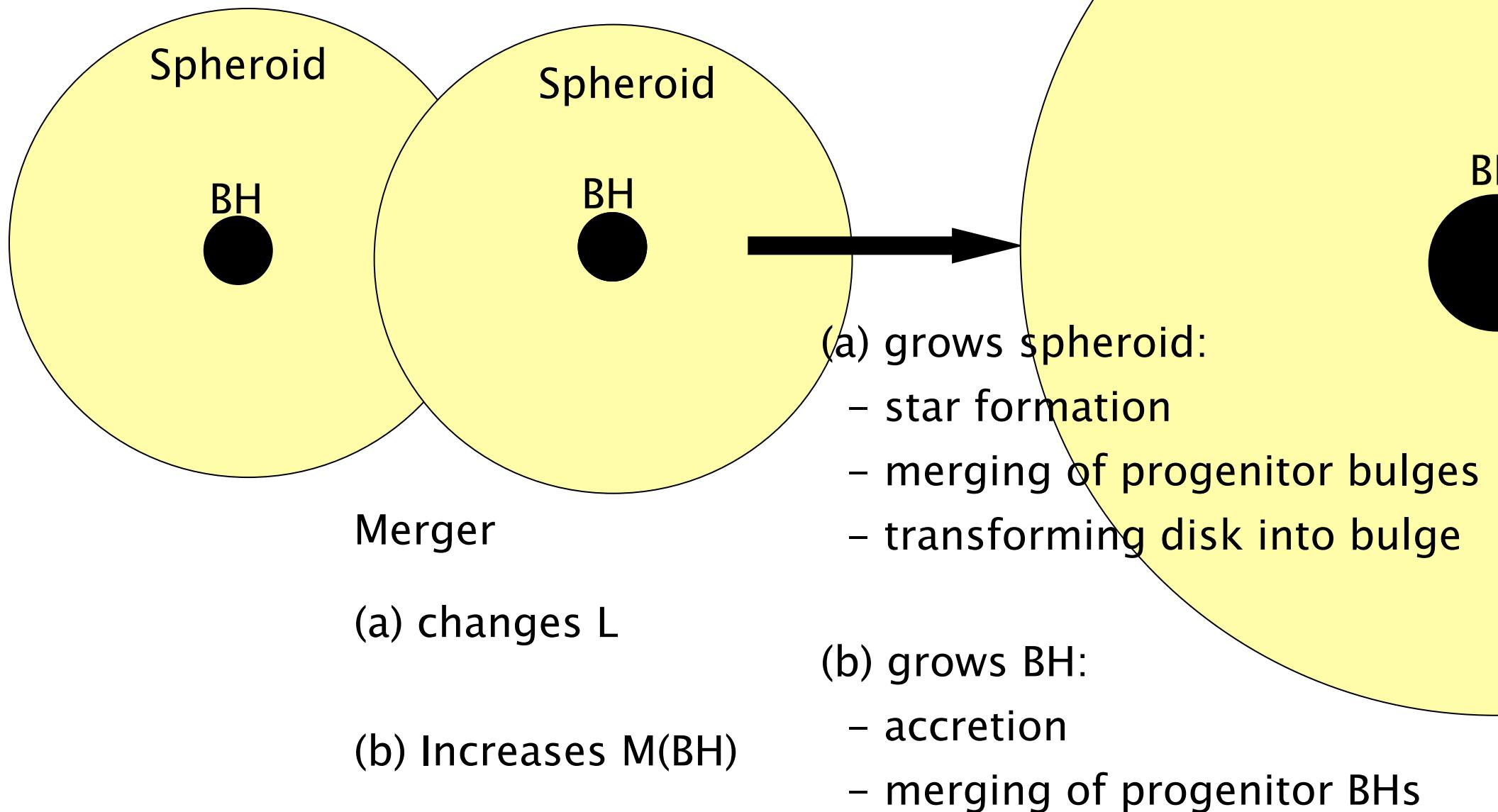
Spheroid

Ageing of stellar pop. ( $L$  decreases)

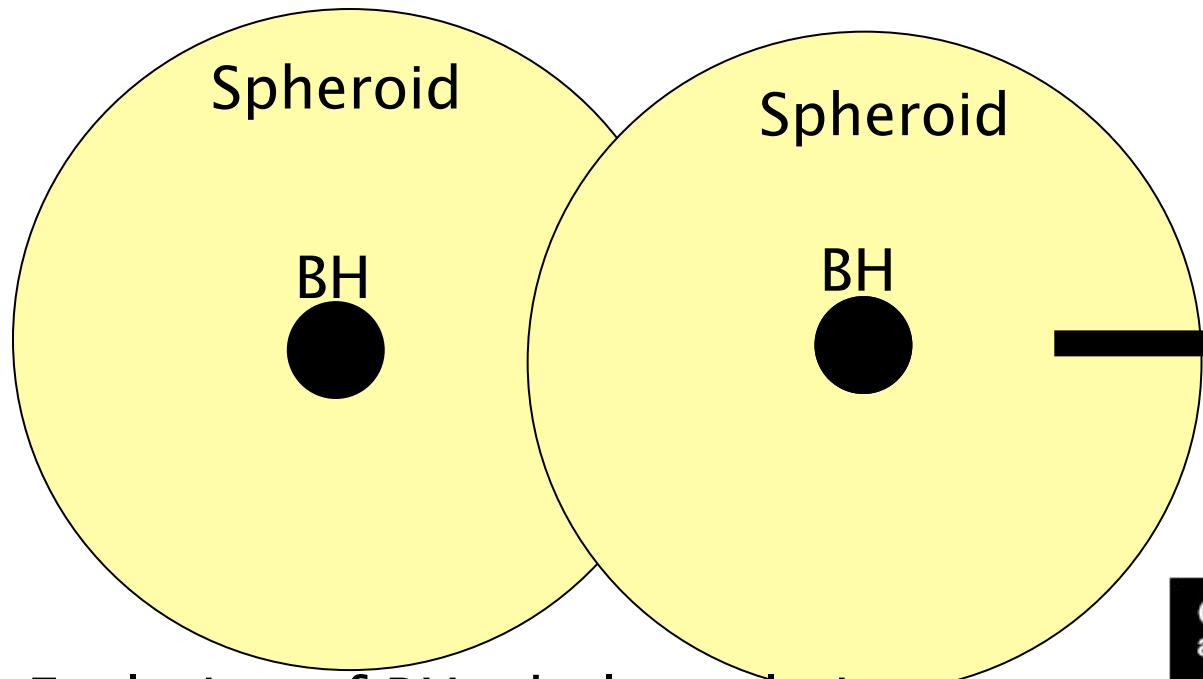
Accretion onto BH: active phase  
 $M(BH)$  can only increase

Feedback from BH (e.g. jets):  
quenches star formation in bulge  
( $L$  decreases)

# Putting it all together



# Putting it all together

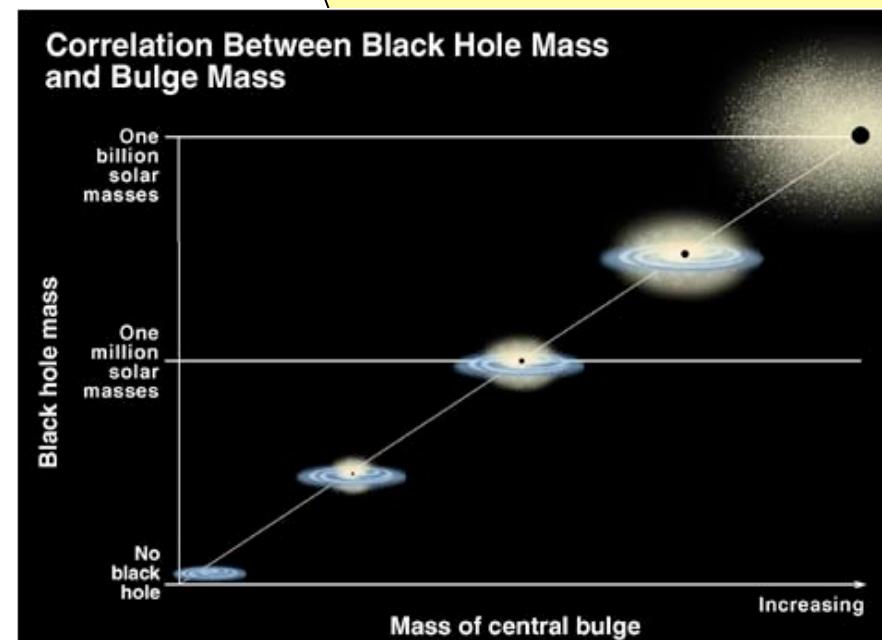


Evolution of BH - bulge relation

depends on:

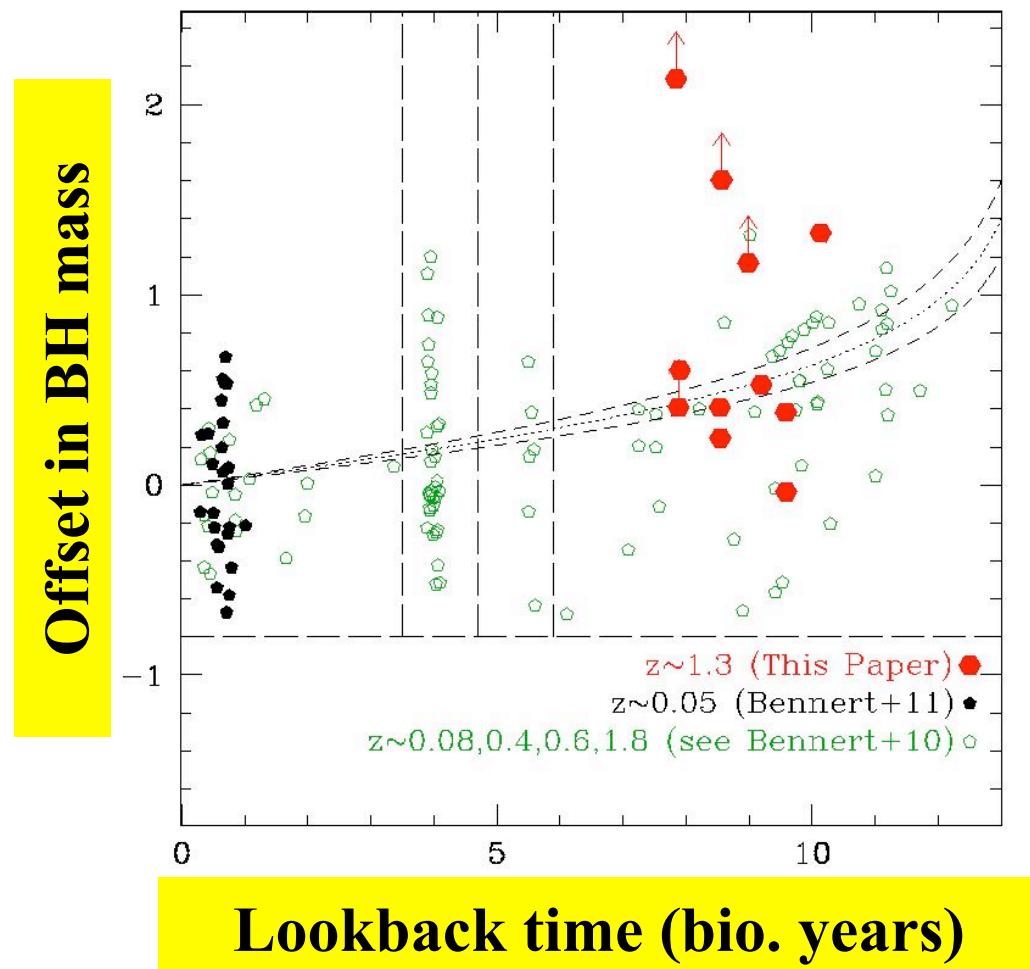
- relative timing of processes
- type of merger

Explains observed large scatter?



# Work in progress

Test result “BH comes first” for larger and more distant sample  
*(Bennert et al. 2011, submitted)*



# Work in progress

Test result “BH comes first” for larger and more distant sample  
*(Bennert et al. 2011, submitted)*

Understand local relations better:  
Creating a local baseline of the BH mass scaling relations  
100 AGNs in local Universe  
Keck spectra and SDSS images  
*(Bennert et al. 2011; Harris et al. 2011, in prep.)*

Rebecca Rosen (CalPoly): measure BH masses!



# Future

HST proposals (images: archival for high z – accepted  
snapshot for local sample – to be submitted Feb 2012)

VLT/Keck proposals (spectra for high z – accepted)

Use SDSS to study larger local sample

CFHT proposal (groundbased NIR images, submitted)