

# Constraints on the Evolution of Supermassive Black Holes

Jorge Moreno (Sissa)

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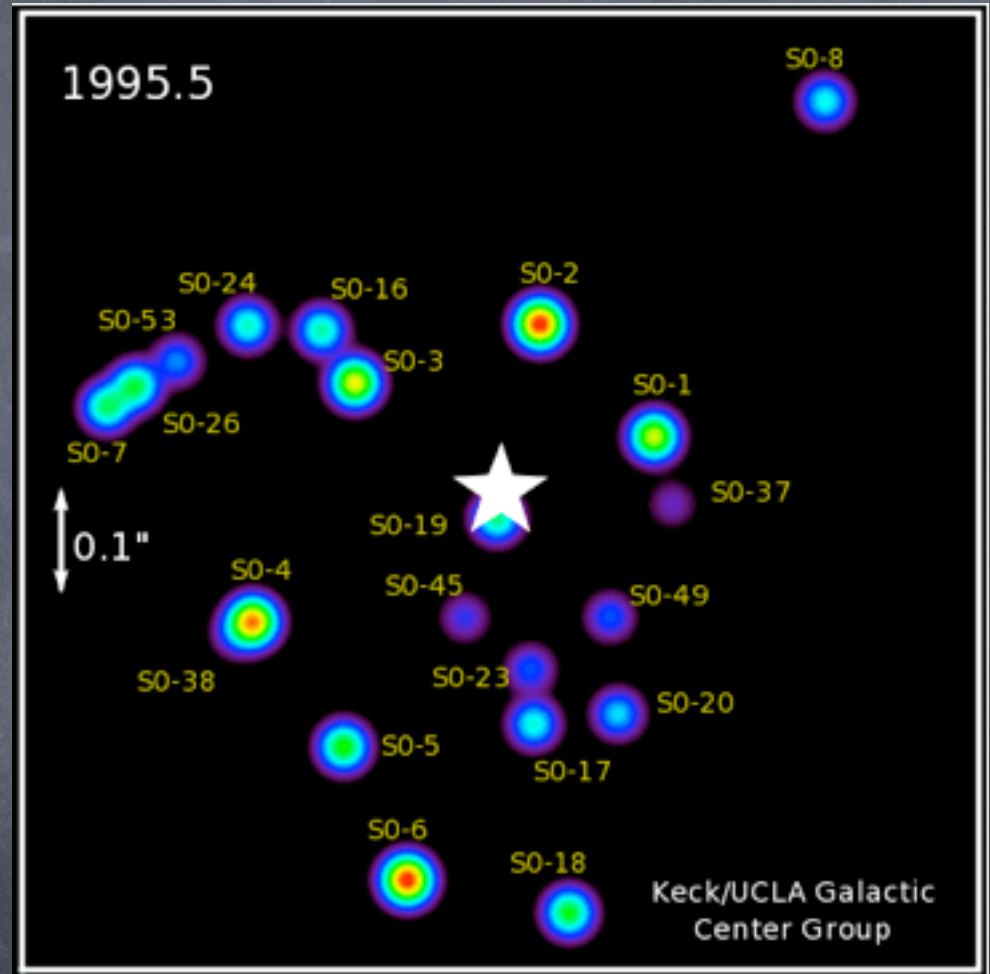
<http://people.sissa.it/~jmoreno/>

# Today's Menu

- Intro: Things you should know
- A simple framework: Our work
- Observational constraints: Our results
- Final remarks: What did we learn?

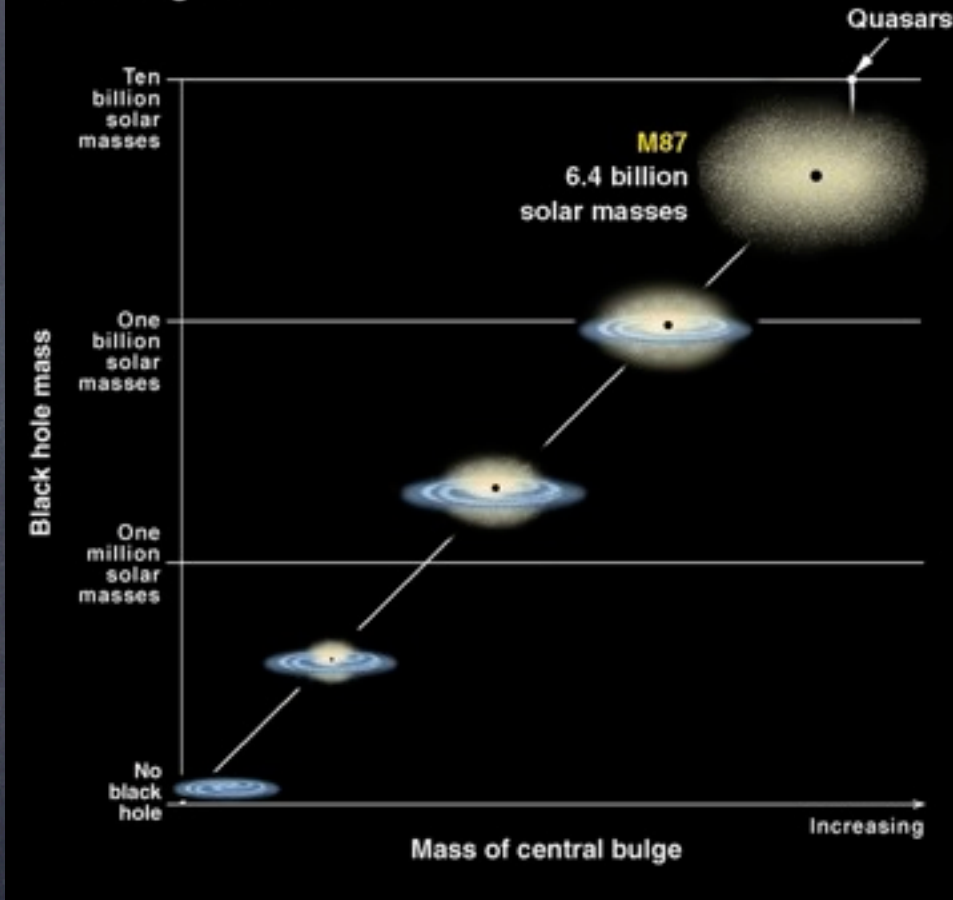
# I. Intro: Stuff you should know...

1. Supermassive  
Black Holes  
at the **centres**  
of massive  
galaxies.



Credit: Andrea Ghez (UCLA)

## Correlation Between Black Hole Mass and Bulge Mass



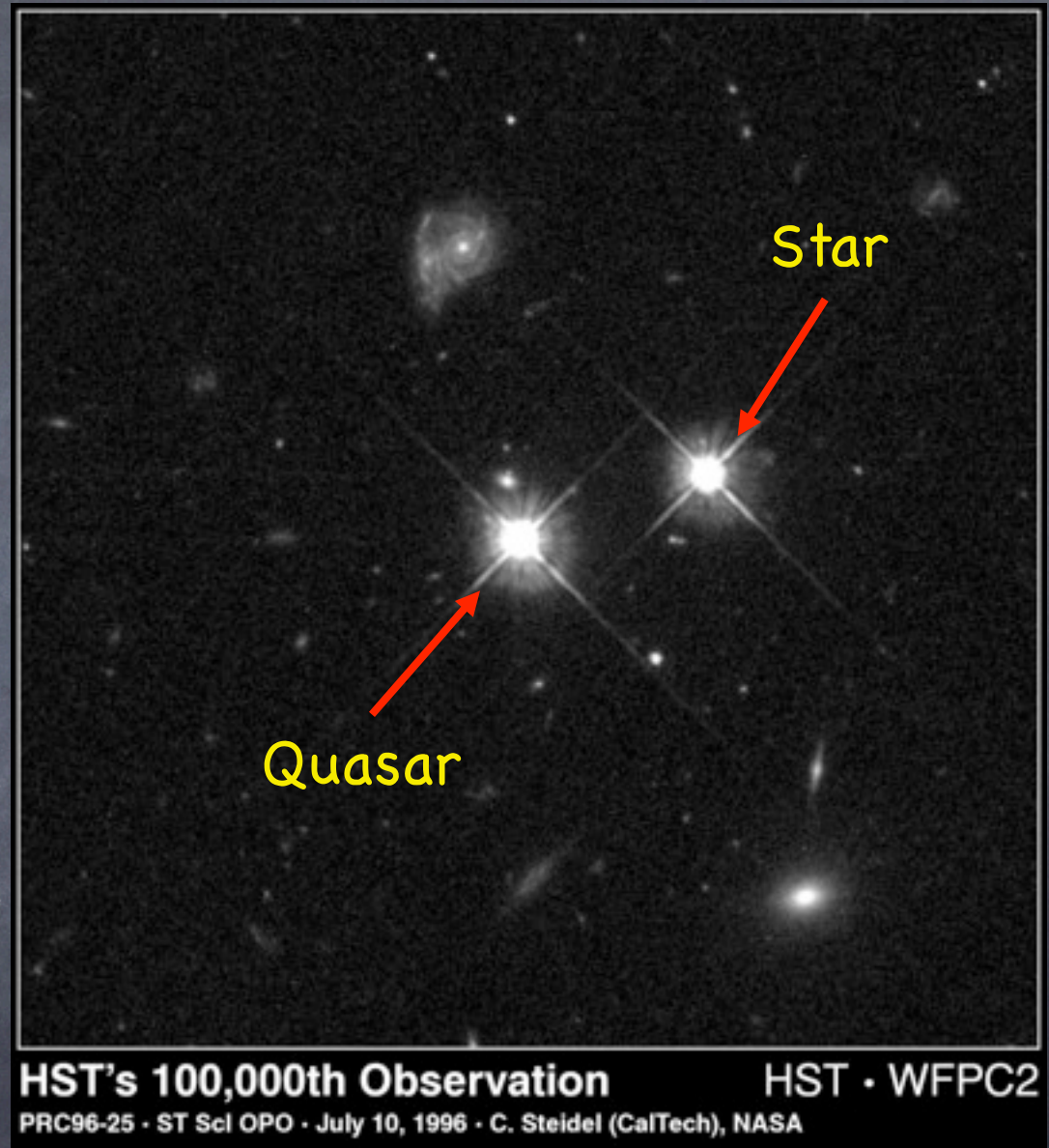
Credit: Tim Jones (UT Austin)

2. Supermassive  
Black Holes  
correlated with  
host galaxies!

### 3. Quasars:

Distant galaxies  
with extremely  
luminous nuclei

--> progenitors  
of today's  
massive galaxies

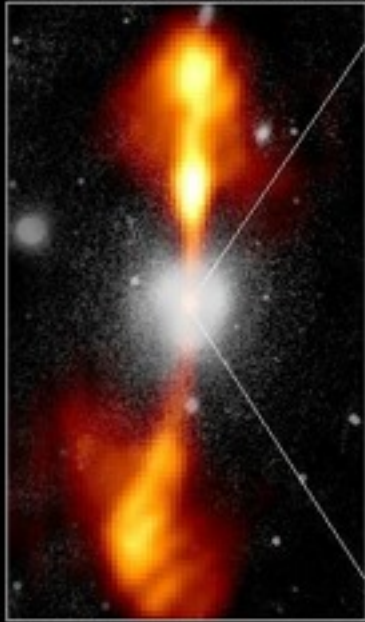


Credit: Charles Steidel (Caltech)

## Core of Galaxy NGC 4261

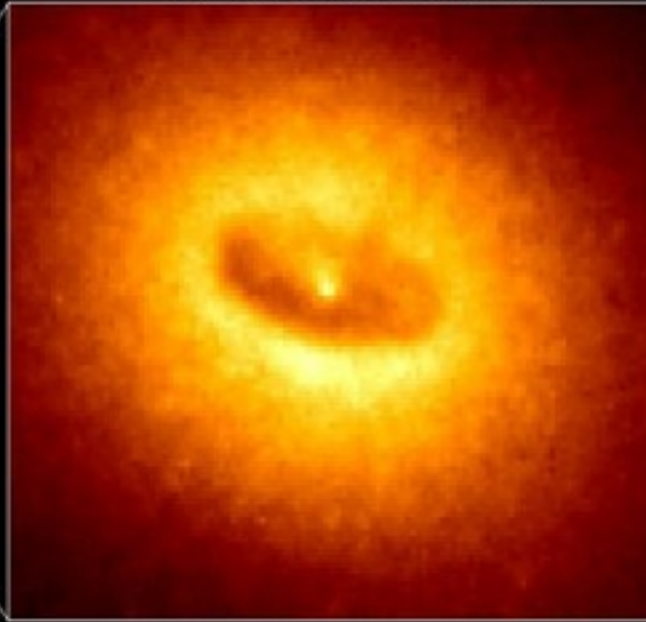
Hubble Space Telescope  
Wide Field / Planetary Camera

Ground-Based Optical/Radio Image



380 Arc Seconds  
88,000 LIGHTYEARS

HST Image of a Gas and Dust Disk



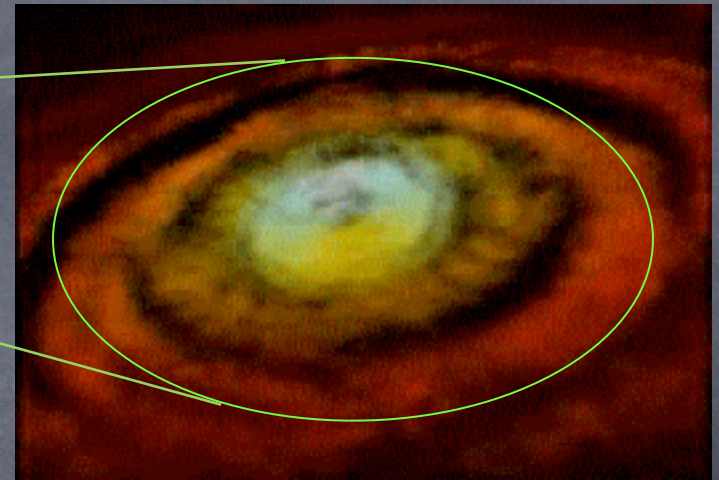
17 Arc Seconds  
400 LIGHTYEARS

4. **Quasars:**  
Supermassive  
Black Holes  
having dinner!

--> progenitors  
of today's  
dormant SMBHs

Credit: Walter Jaffe (Leiden/JHU/STScI/NASA)

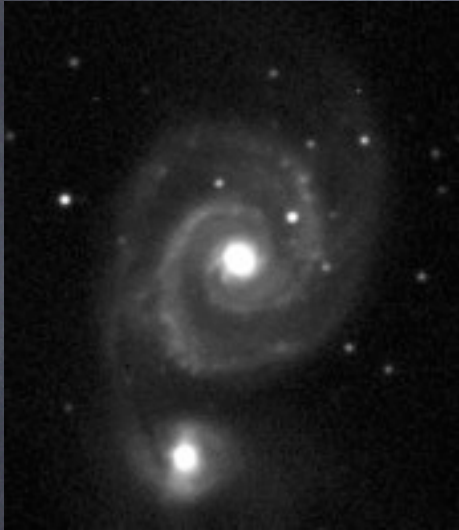
# But how do we feed the monster?



Credit: Hayden Planetarium

Credit: John Biretta (STScI)

## 5. Galaxy mergers: an efficient way to feed the black hole (trigger quasar activity)

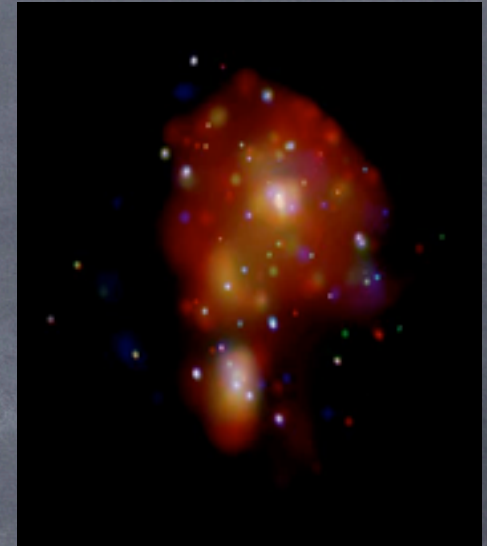


Credit: Jorge Moreno  
(SISSA/Hopkins Obs)

M51



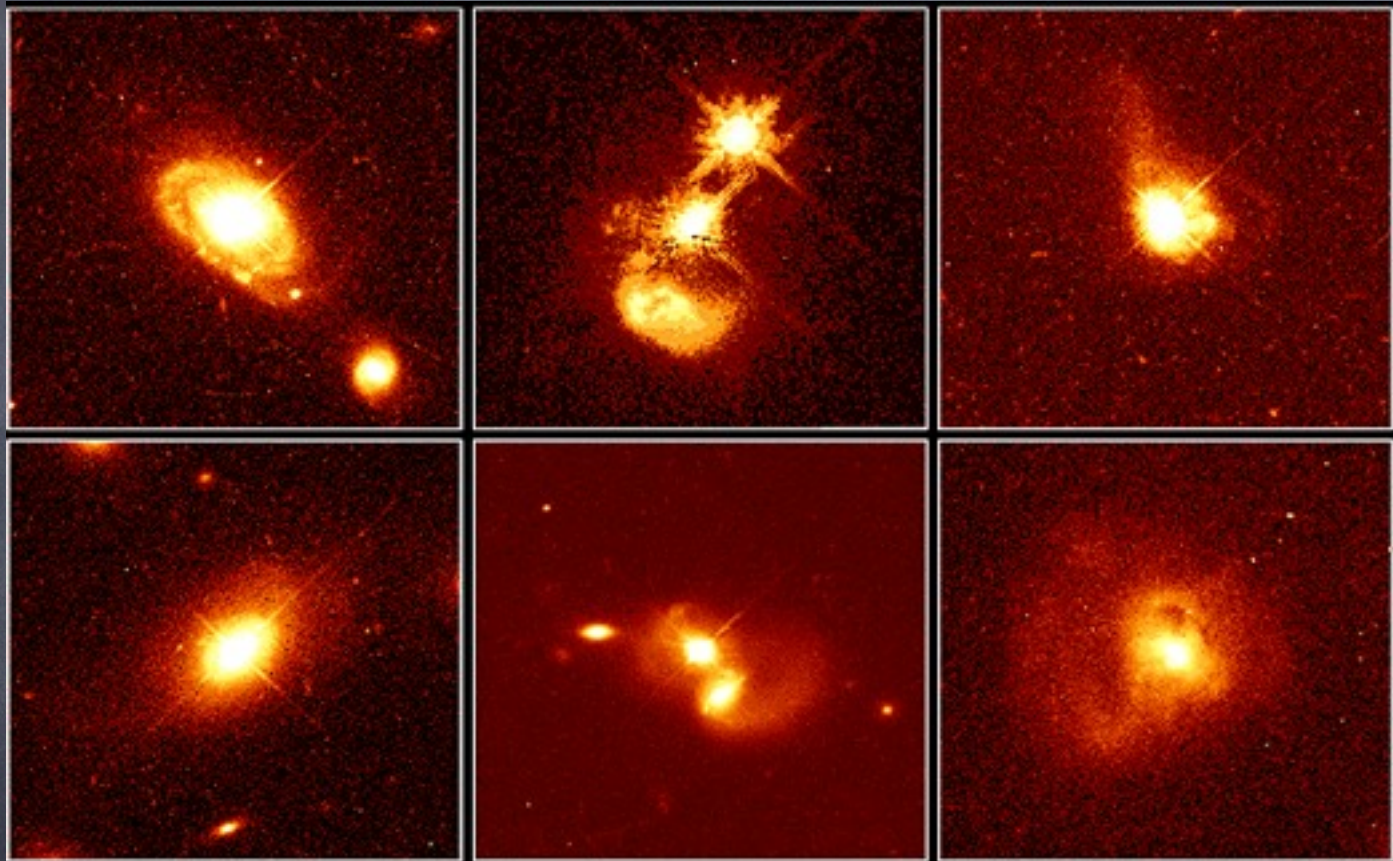
Credit: Steven Beckwith  
(STScI/HST)



Credit: Andrew Wilson  
(Maryland/STScI/Chandra)



# Merging galaxies $\leftrightarrow$ Quasars



**Quasar Host Galaxies**

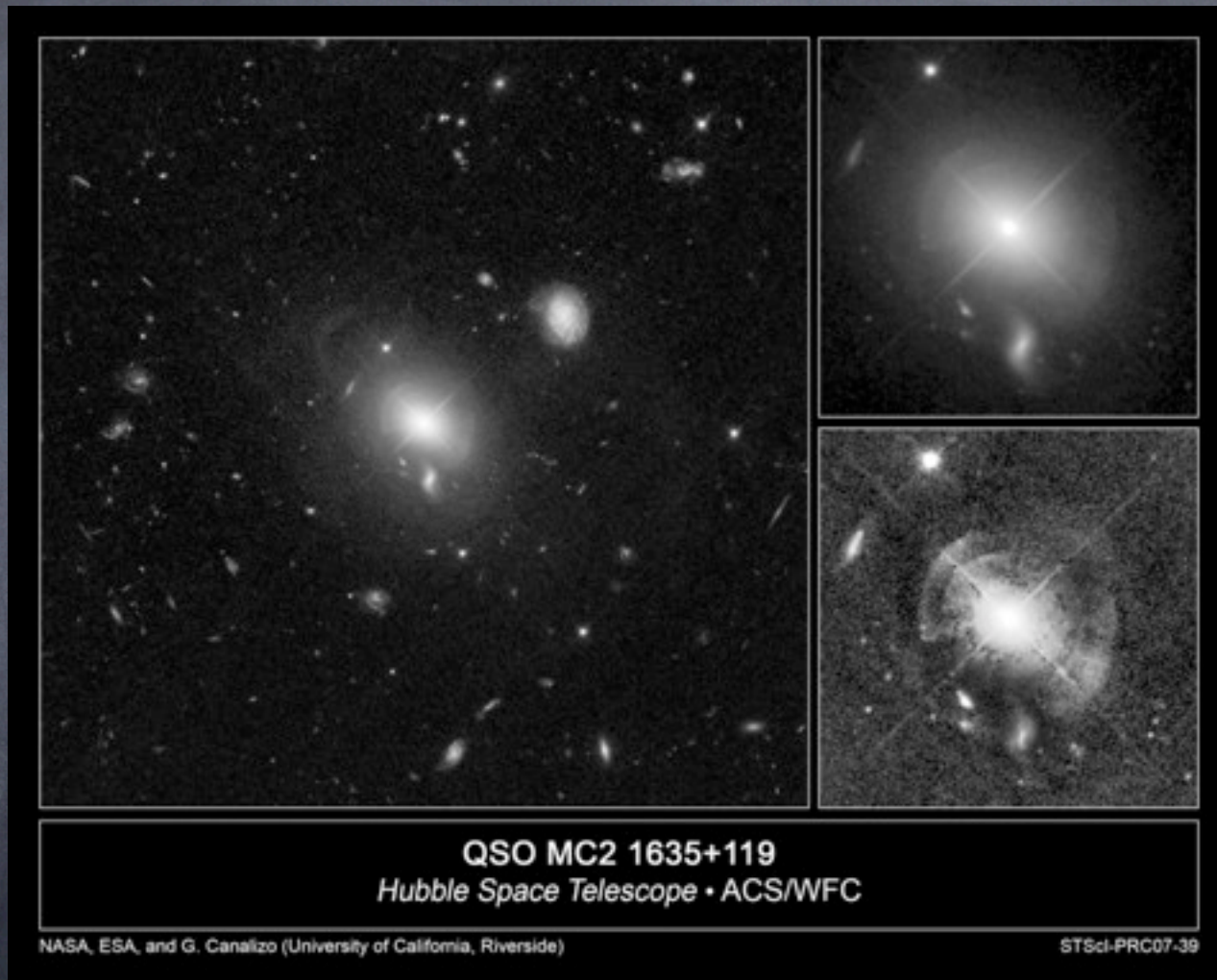
PRC96-35a • ST ScI OPO • November 19, 1996

J. Bahcall (Institute for Advanced Study), M. Disney (University of Wales) and NASA

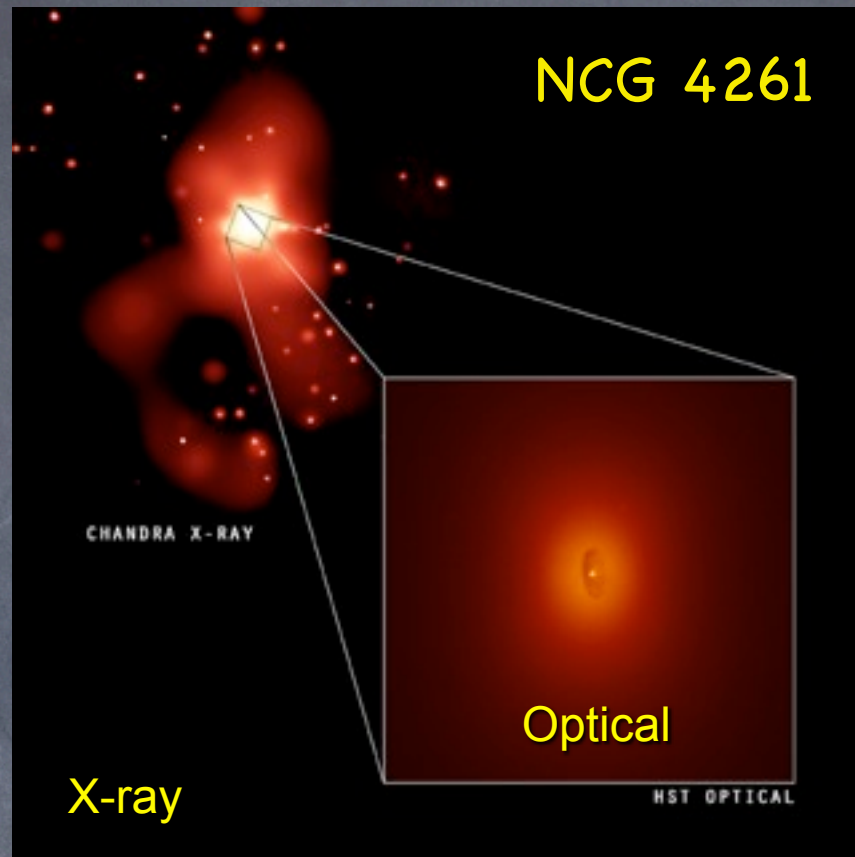
**HST • WFPC2**

Credit: John Bahcall (IAS) & Mike Disney (Wales)

# Quasars in “relaxed” galaxies --> features due to a recent merger!



Credit: Gabriella Canalizo (UCR) & Nicola Bennert (UCSB)



Credit: Andrea Zezas (Crete/NASA/CXC/DSS)

Galaxy Merger --> Quasar  
--> Supermassive Black Hole

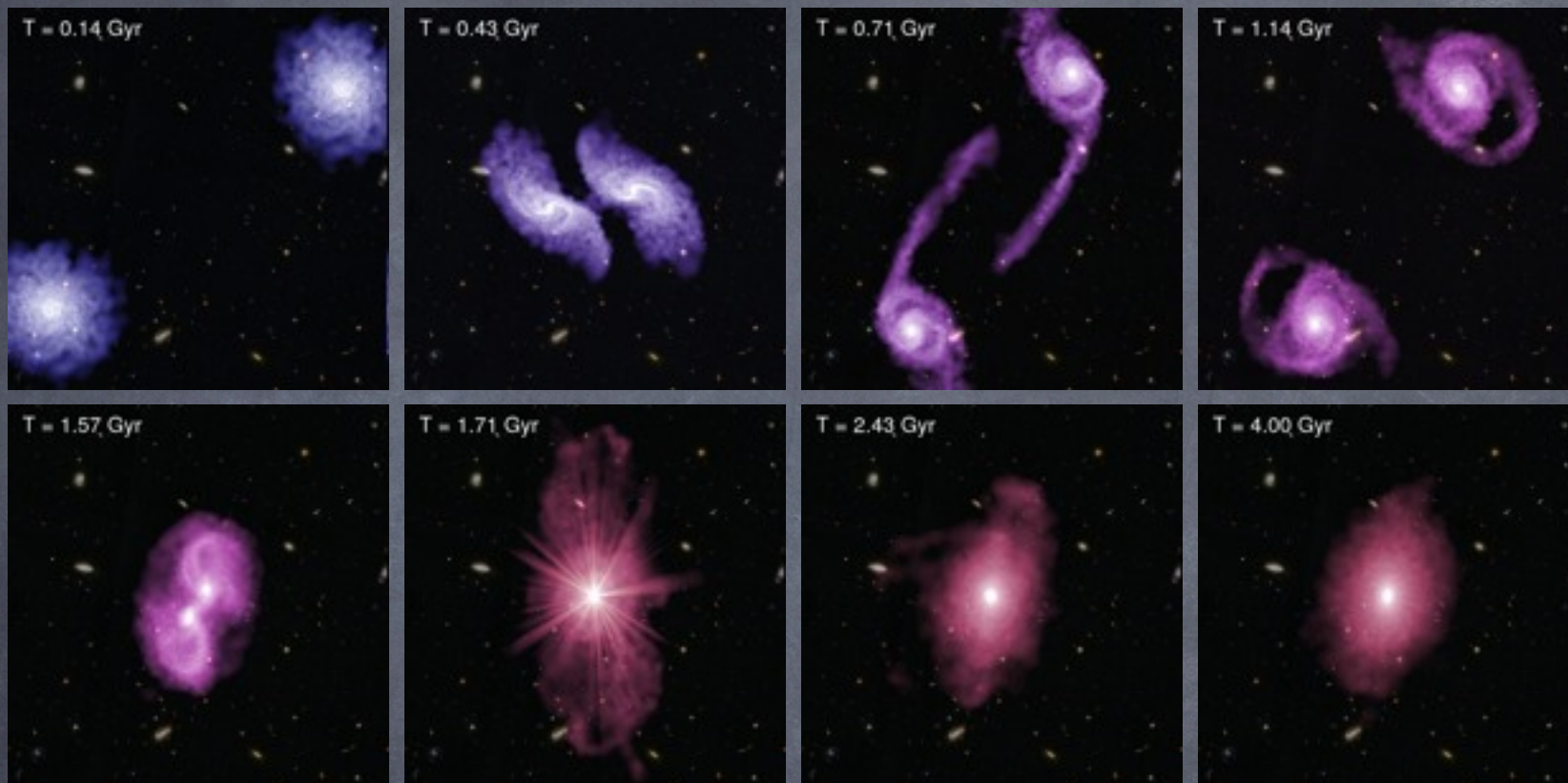
# So far

- Supermassive Black Holes at galaxy centres
- **Quasars**: SMBHs accreting gas
- **Galaxy Mergers** --> Quasar Activation
- Galaxy Formation <--> Black Hole Evolution
- Simple Picture:  
Galaxy Mergers --> Quasars --> SMBHs

## II. How do we model all this?



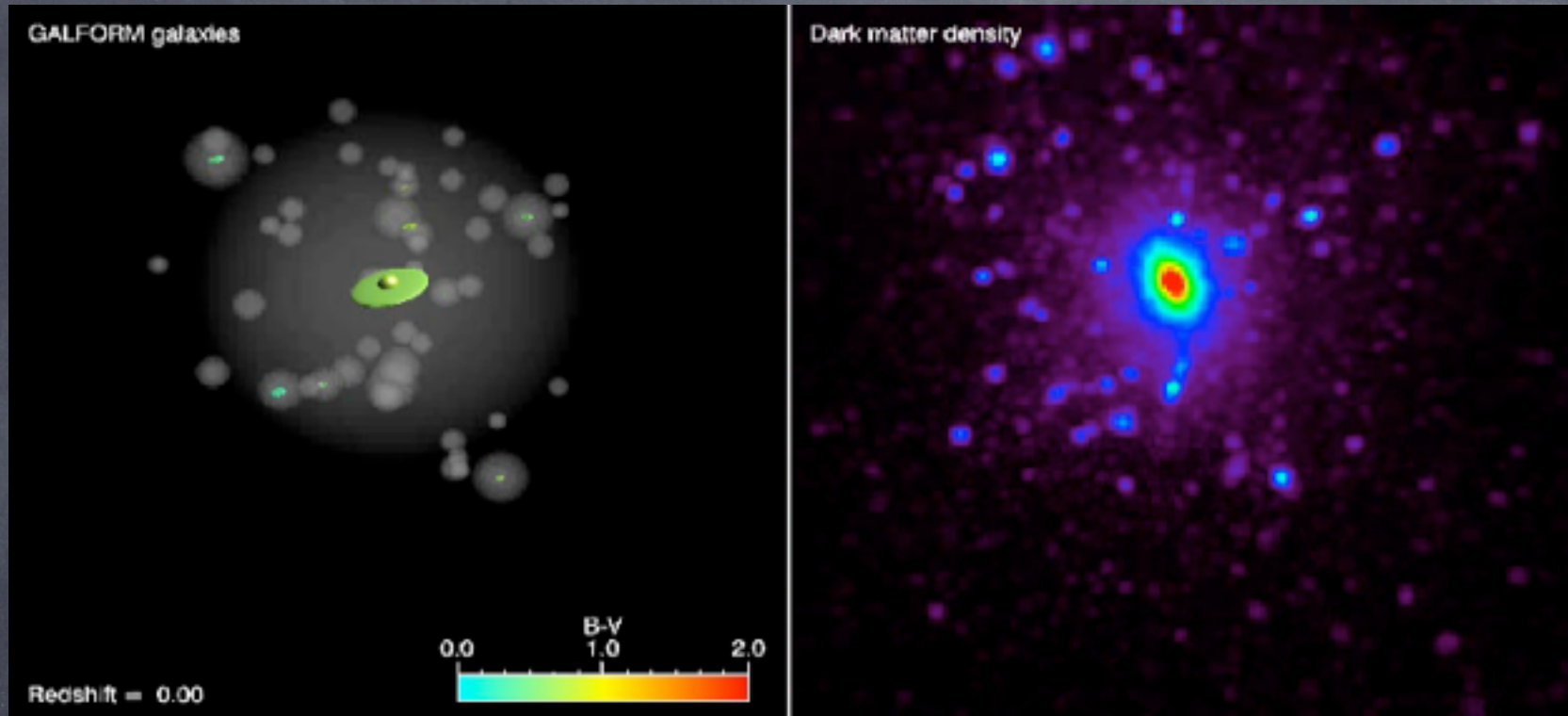
# Method I: Hydro simulations



Credit: T.J. Cox (Carnegie), Phil Hopkins (UC Berkeley), etc.

See also: Works by di Matteo et. al.,  
Schaye et. al.,  
deBuhr et. al.,  
Mayer et. al., etc.

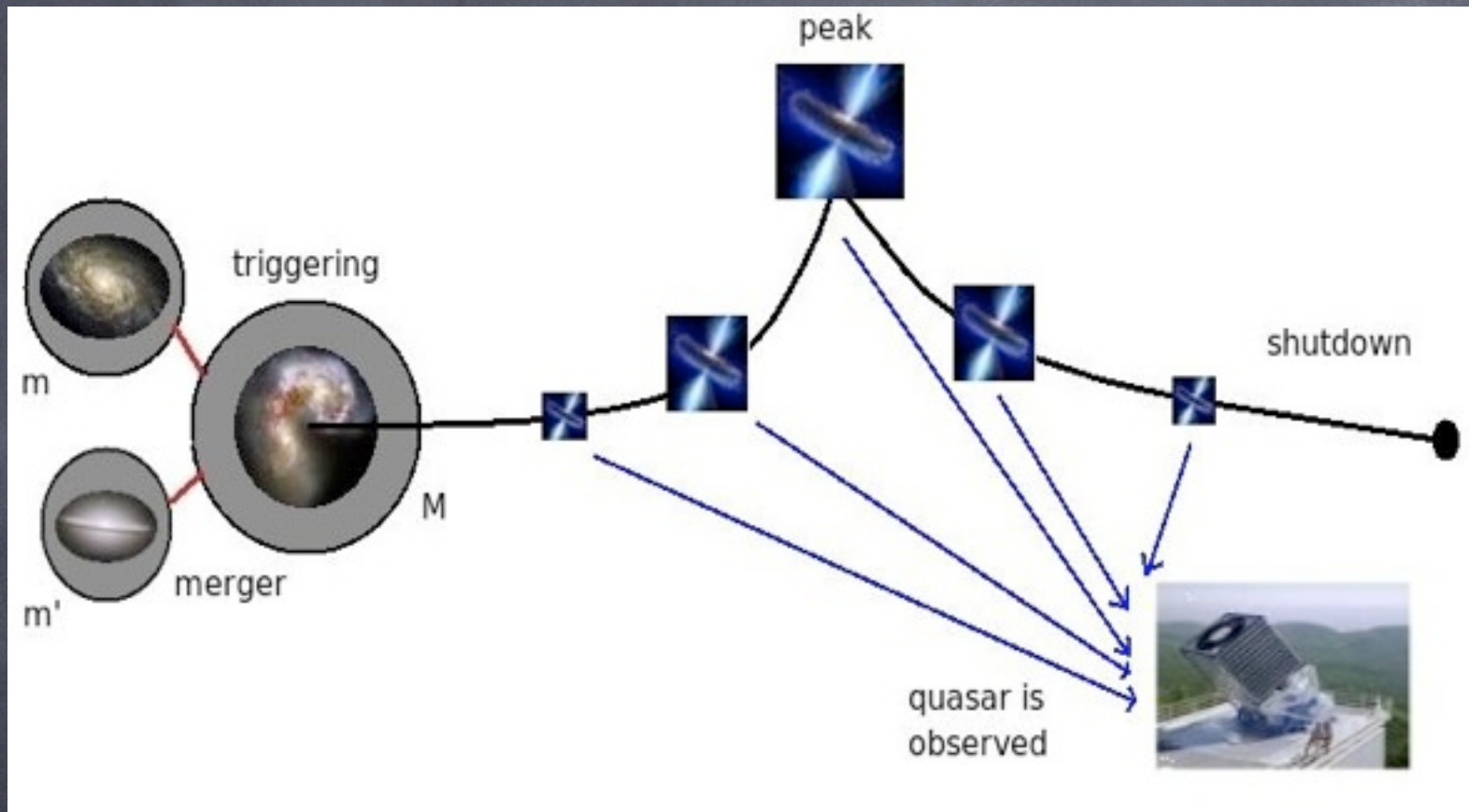
# Method II: Semi-Analytic Models



Credit: Andrew Benson (Caltech)

See also: Works by Croton, de Lucia, et. al.,  
Volonteri et. al.,  
Granato, Cook et. al.,  
Monaco, Fontanot et. al., etc.

# Method III: Analytic Models (our work!)



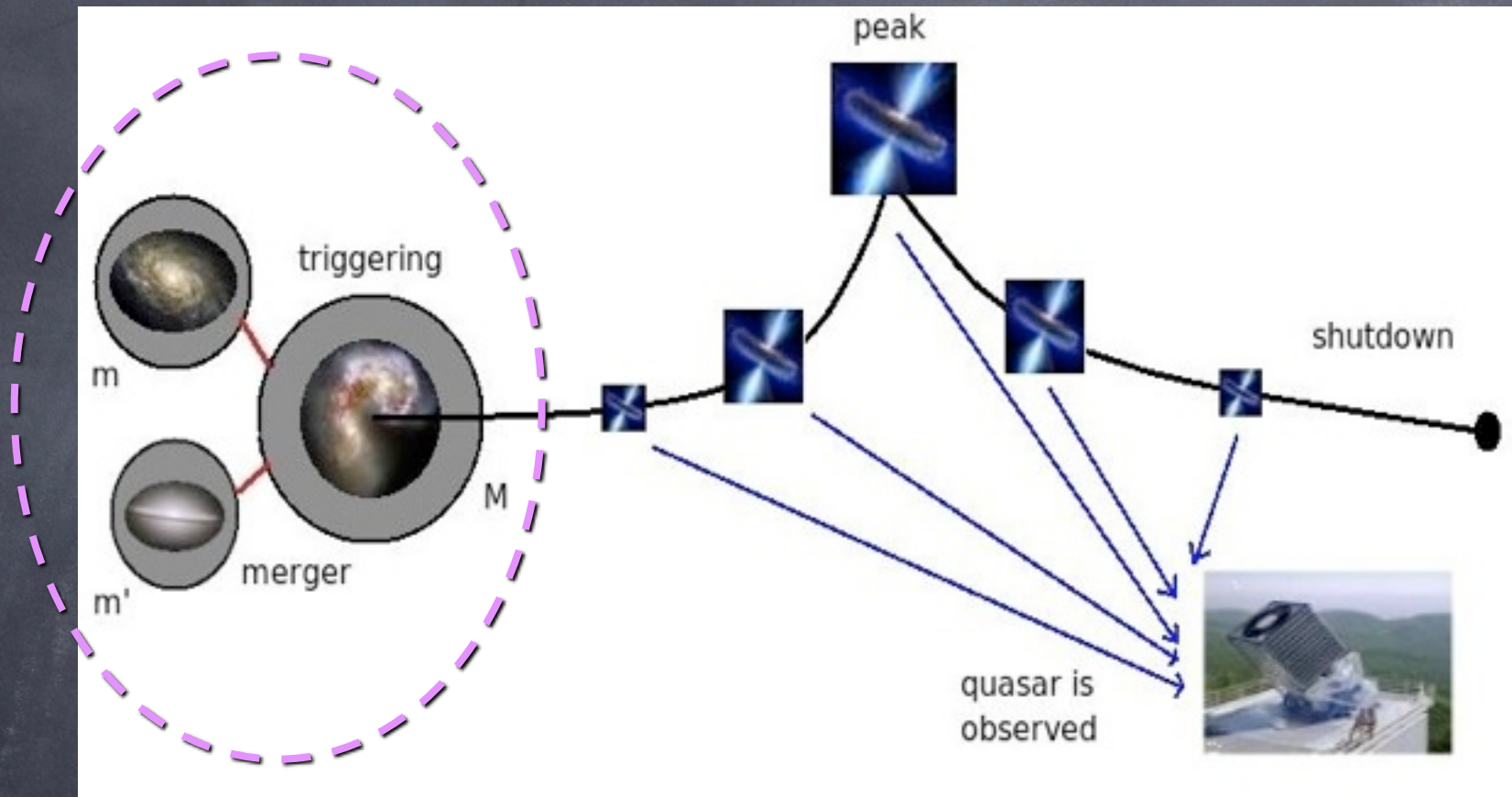
Halo merger rate

Quasar light curve

See also: Works by Wyithe & Loeb,  
Granato, Lapi, Danese et. al.,  
Scannapieco & Oh, etc.



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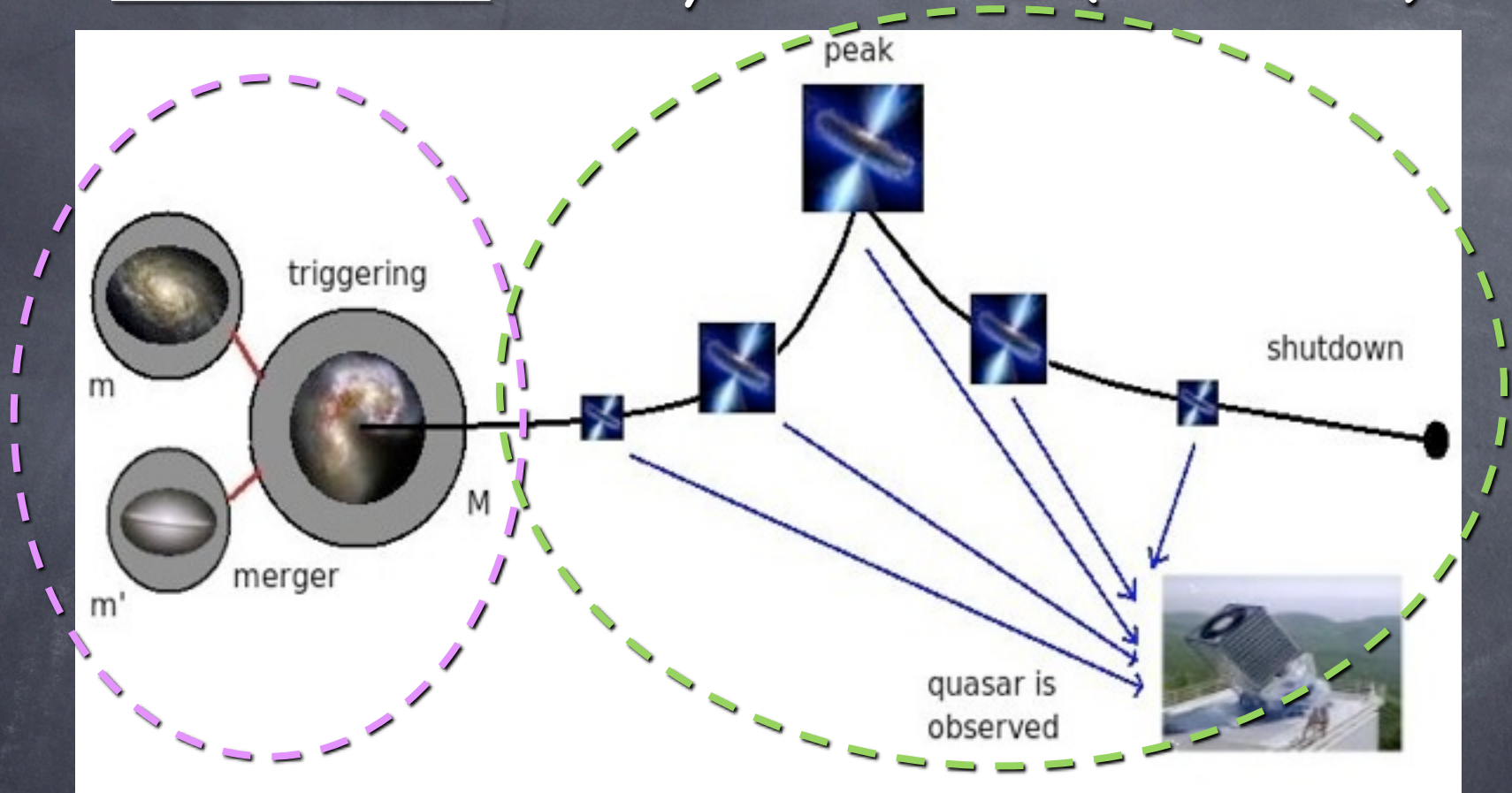


Halo merger rate

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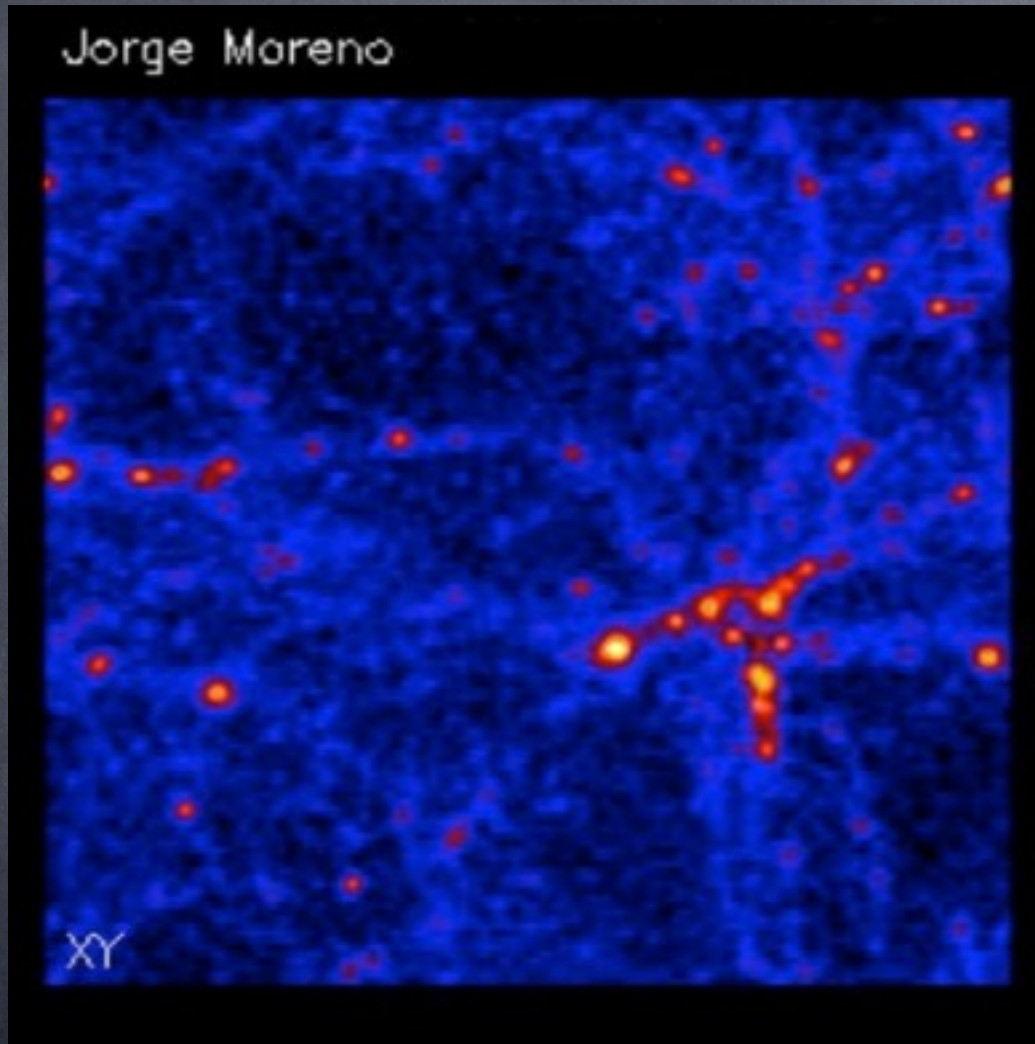


Halo merger rate

Quasar light curve

See also: Works by Wyithe & Loeb,  
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# Cosmological Simulations --> Halo Growth



Merger  
Histories

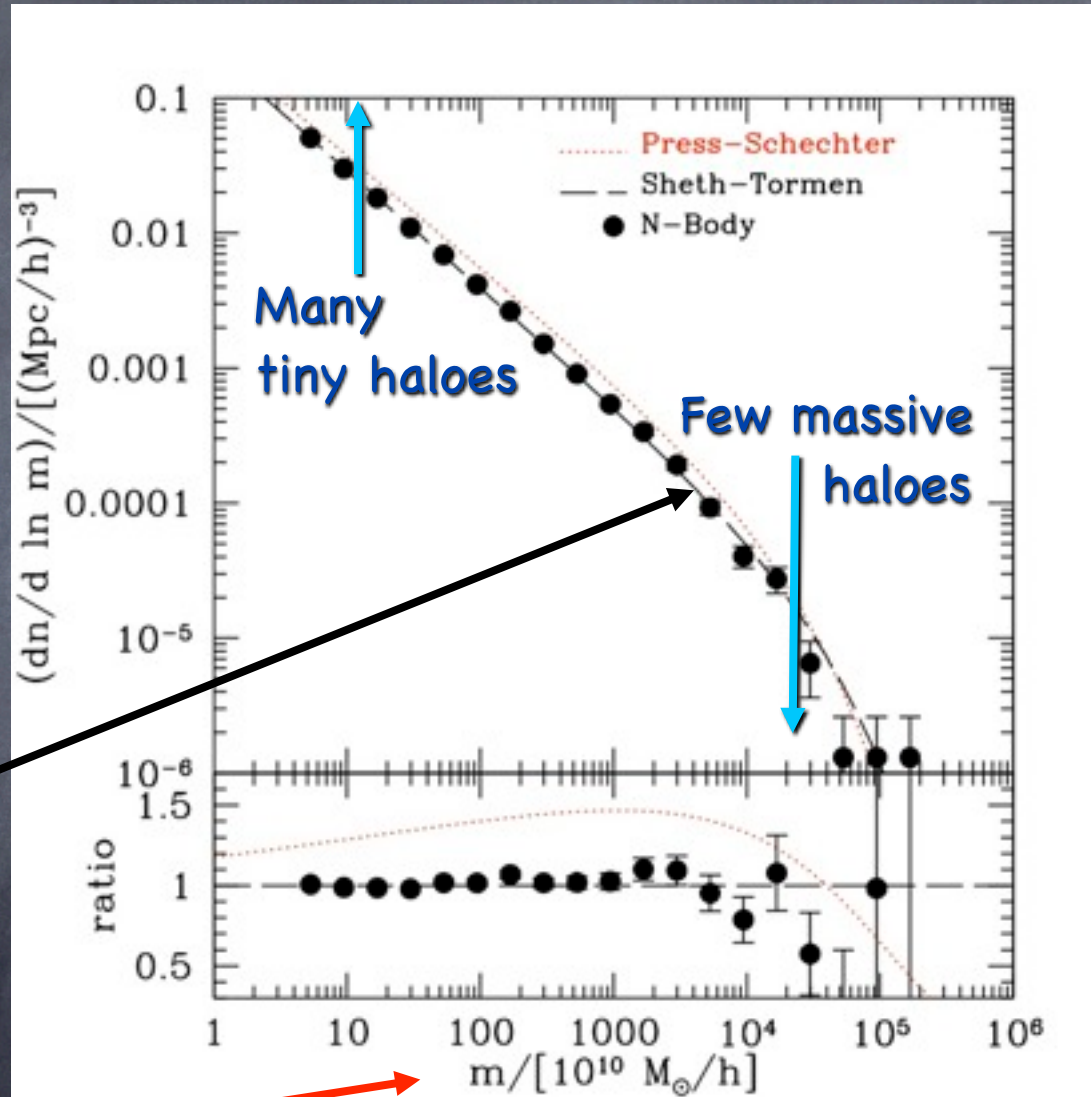
Halo Mass  
Function

Halo Merger  
Rate

Credit: Jorge Moreno (SISSA/Gadget-2)

# Halo Mass Function

Number of haloes of mass  $m$  per unit volume



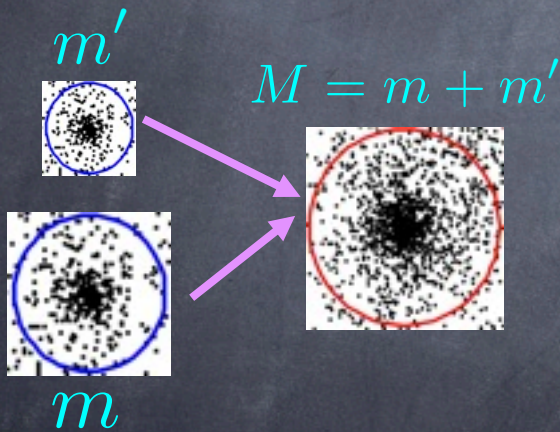
Sheth-Tormen fit

Halo mass

Credit: Moreno et. al. (2009)

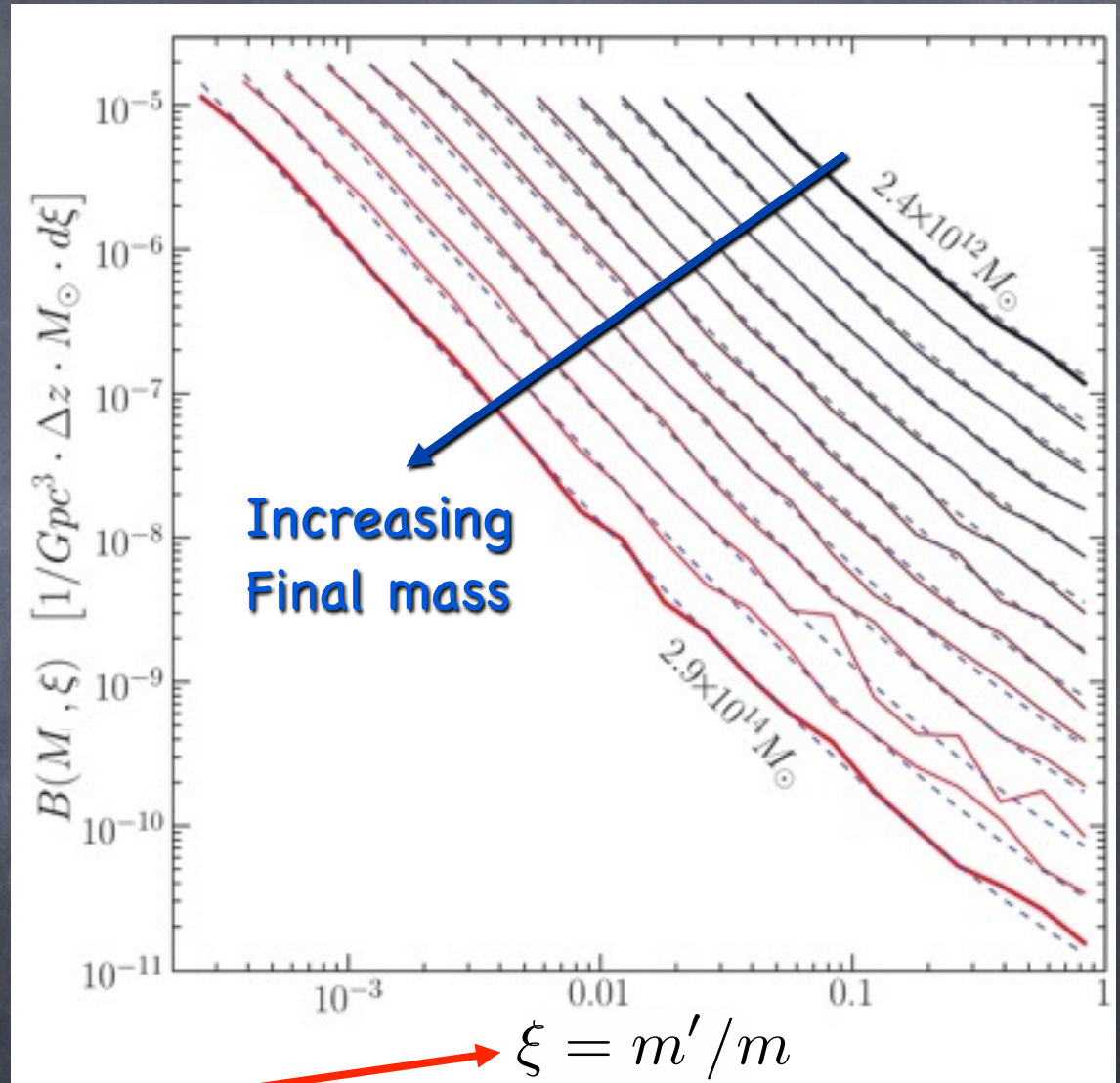
# Halo Merger Rate

Halo merger rate per unit volume



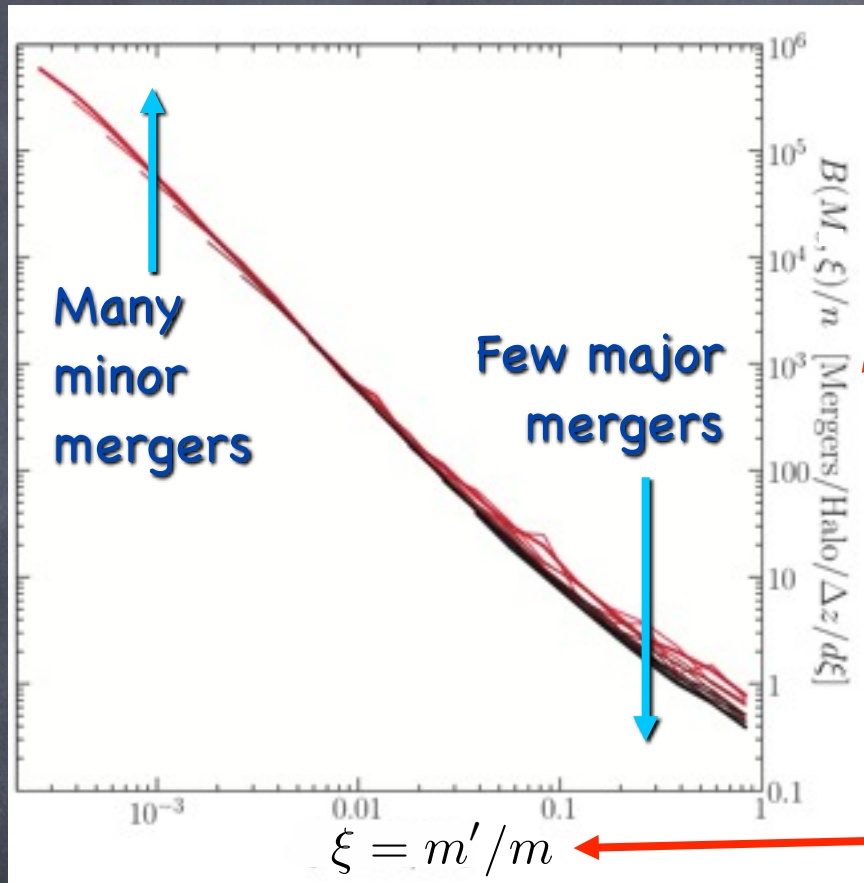
$$\xi = m' / m$$

Mass ratio



Credit: Fakhouri & Ma (2008)

# Universal Merger Rate / Halo



Merger rate  
per unit halo  
per unit  
volume

$$B/n$$

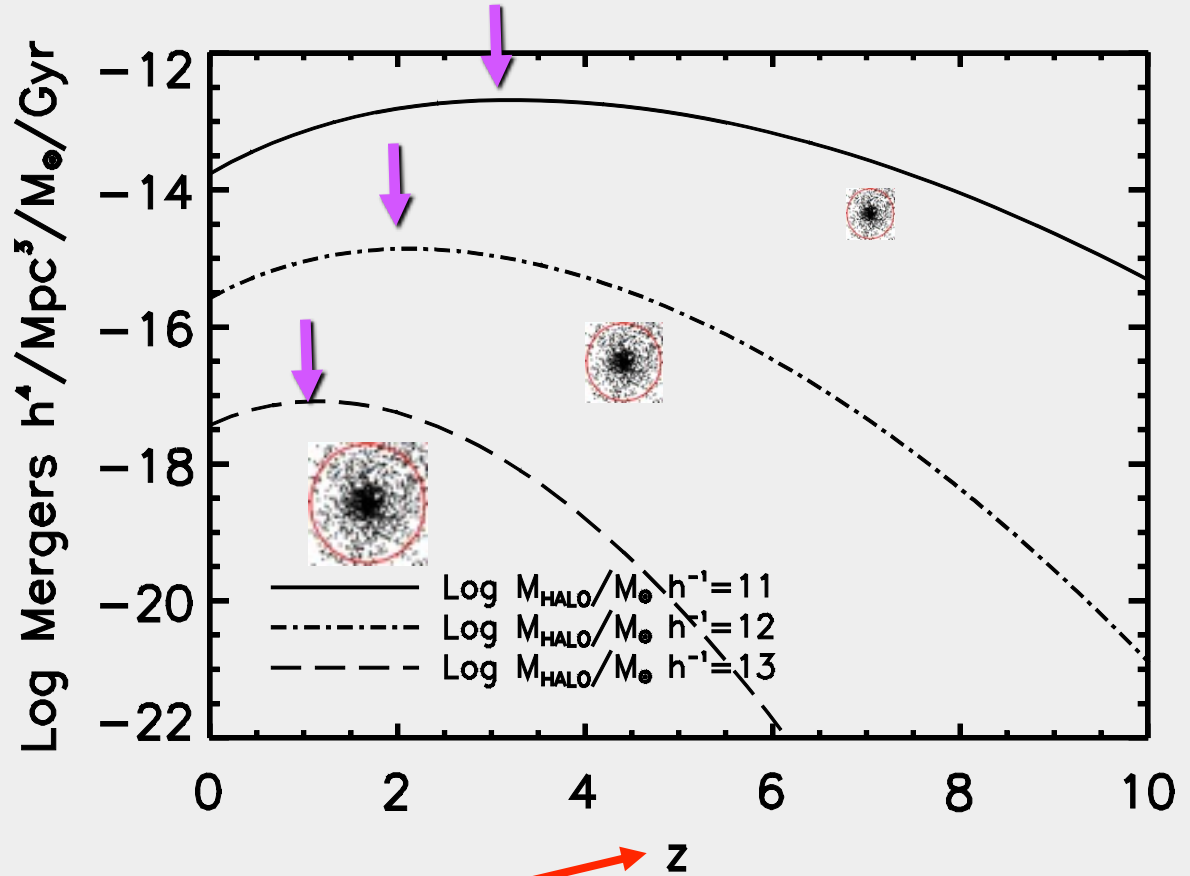
Mass ratio

Credit: Fakhouri & Ma (2008)



# Merger Rate Evolution

Major merger rate per unit volume



Redshift

Credit: Fakhouri & Ma (2008)

# So far

- 1st Ingredient:

Analytic Merger Rate:

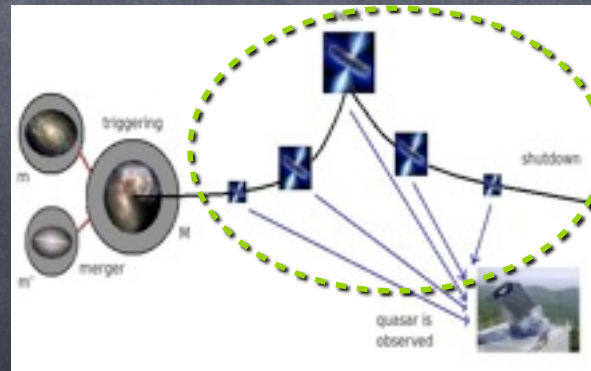
$$B = (B/n) \times n$$

Fakhouri-Ma

Sheth-Tormen

- Few **major** mergers, many **minor** mergers
- Massive haloes form **late**, tiny ones form **early**

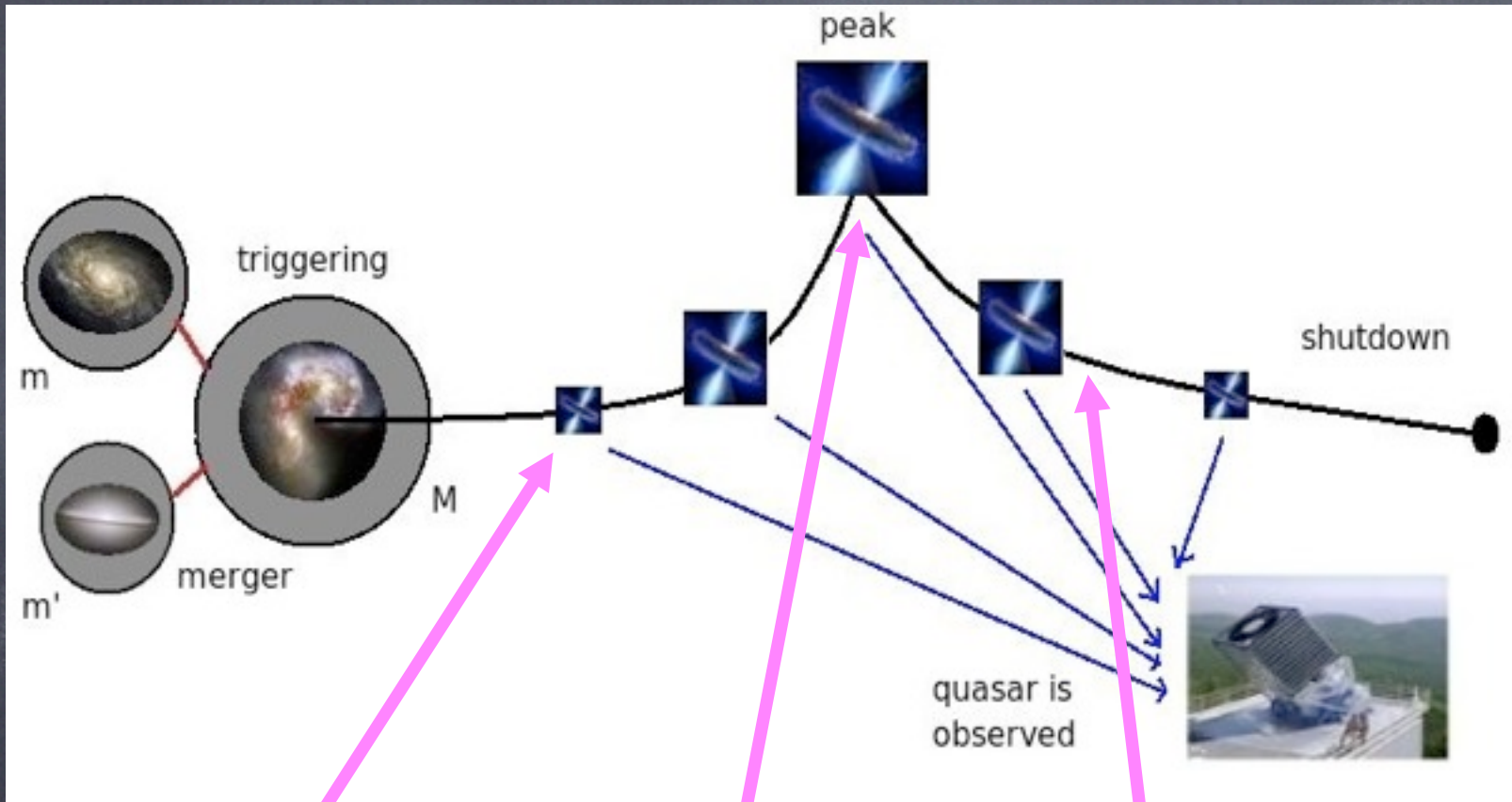
- 2nd Ingredient:



The Light Curve!



# The Light Curve



Ascending  
phase

Peak

Descending  
phase

# A simple model

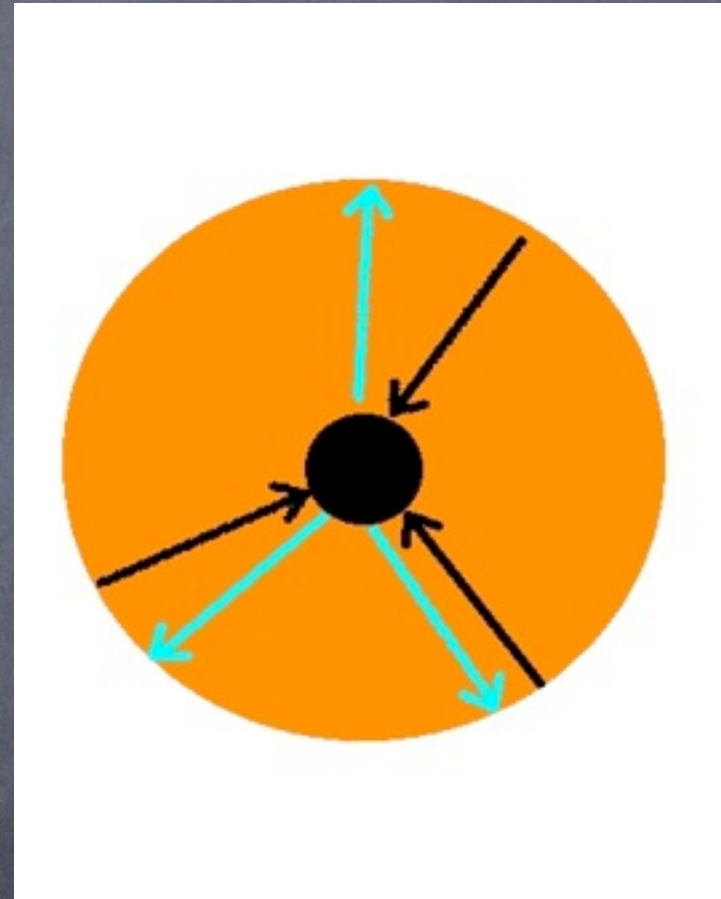
$$F_{\text{rad}} = F_{\text{grav}}$$

$$\rightarrow L_{\text{Edd}} \propto M_{\text{BH}}$$

$$L = \lambda L_{\text{Edd}}$$

$\lambda$  Eddington Ratio

$$L \propto M_{\text{BH}}$$



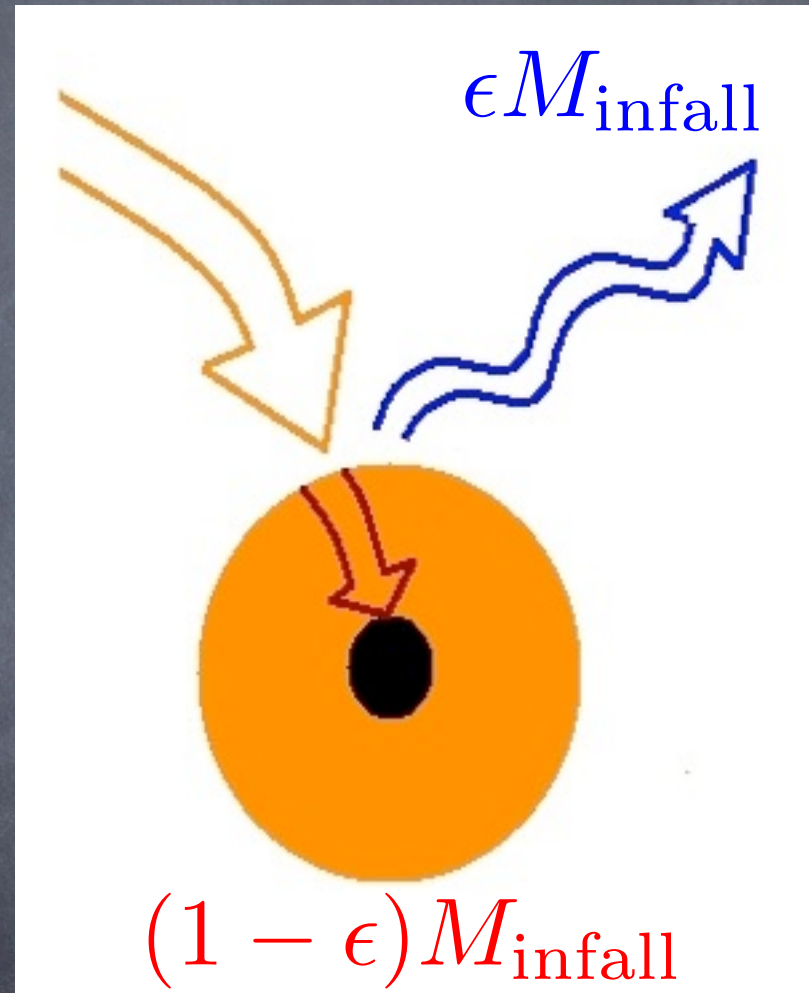
# A simple model

$M_{\text{infall}}$

$$L = \epsilon \dot{M}_{\text{infall}} c^2$$

↑ Radiative Efficiency

$$L \propto \dot{M}_{\text{BH}}$$

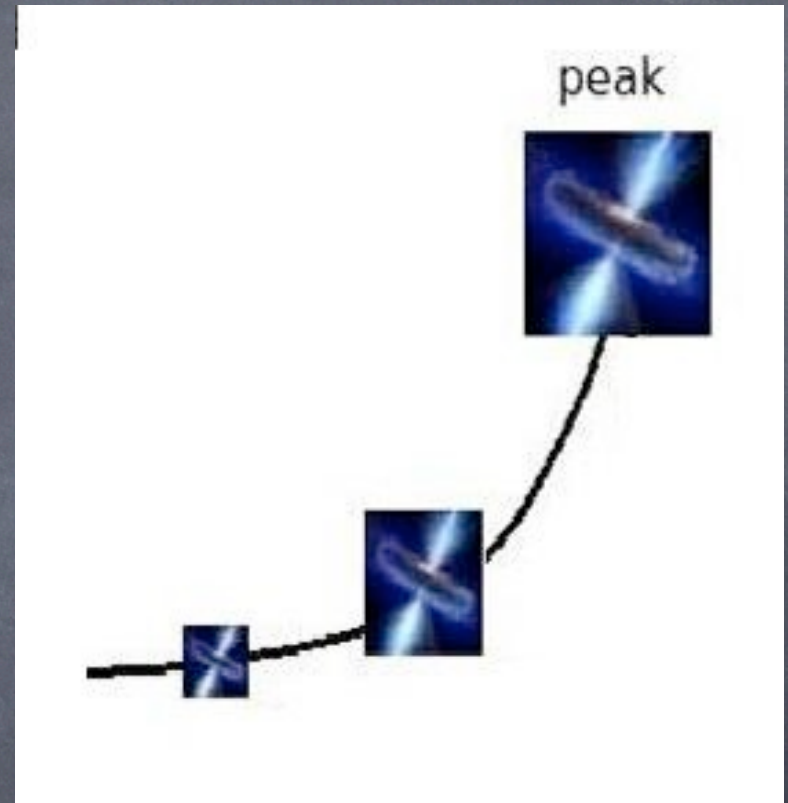


# The Ascending Phase

$$L \propto M_{\text{BH}}$$

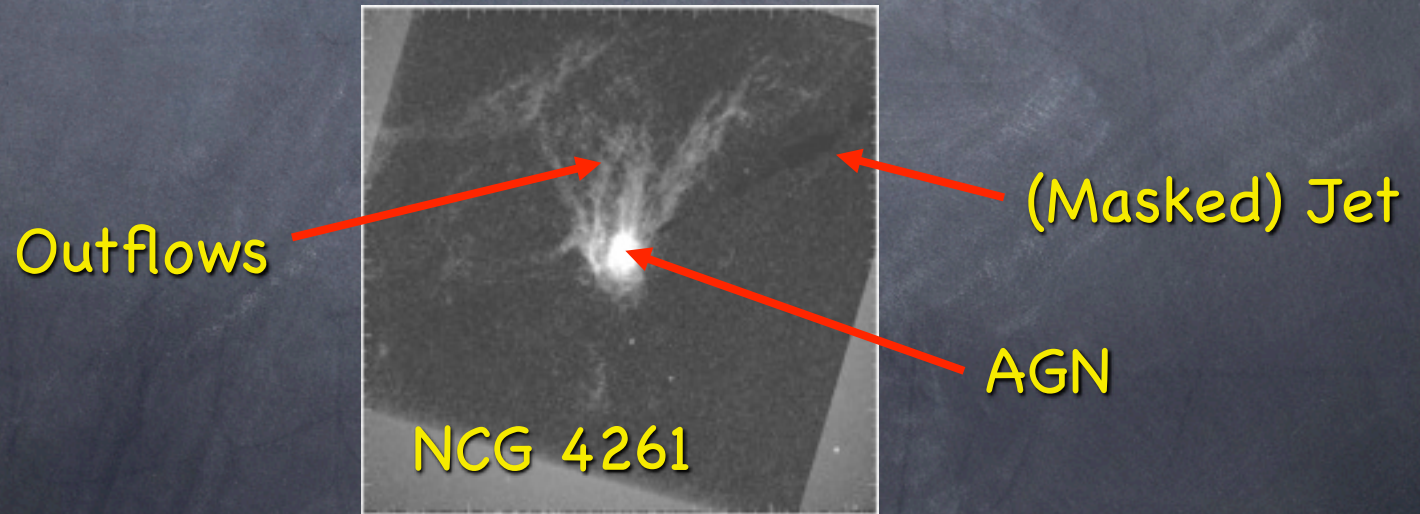
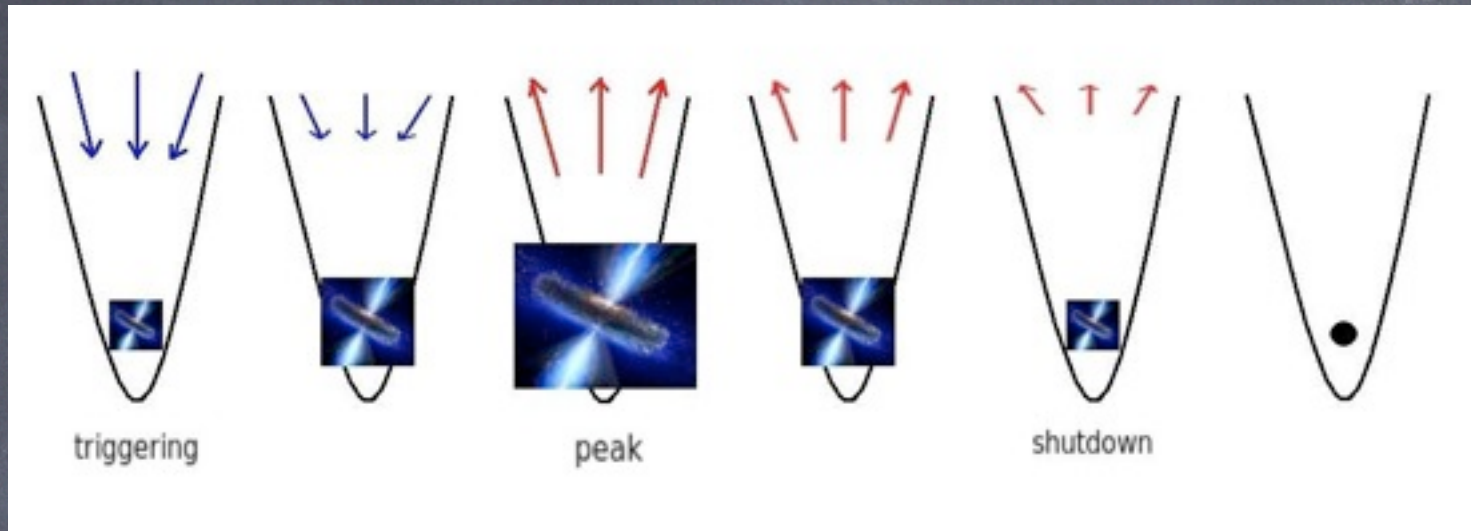
$$L \propto \dot{M}_{\text{BH}}$$

$$\rightarrow M_{\text{BH}} \propto \dot{M}_{\text{BH}}$$



$$M_{\text{BH}}(t), L(t) \propto \exp(t/t_{\text{ef}})$$

# The Peak



Credit: Ford & Tsvetanov (1998)

# Self Regulation (AGN Feedback)

$$L_{\text{peak}} \propto M_{\text{Halo}}^{5/3} (1+z)^{5/2}$$

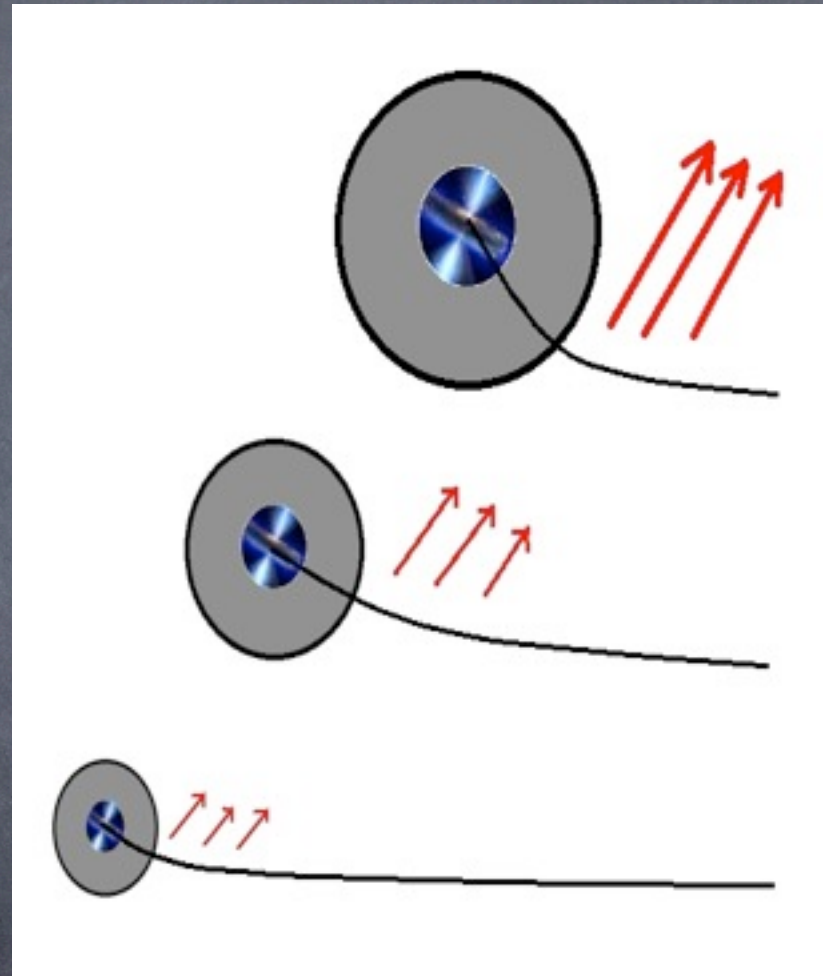


Wyithe & Loeb (2003)

# The Descending Phase

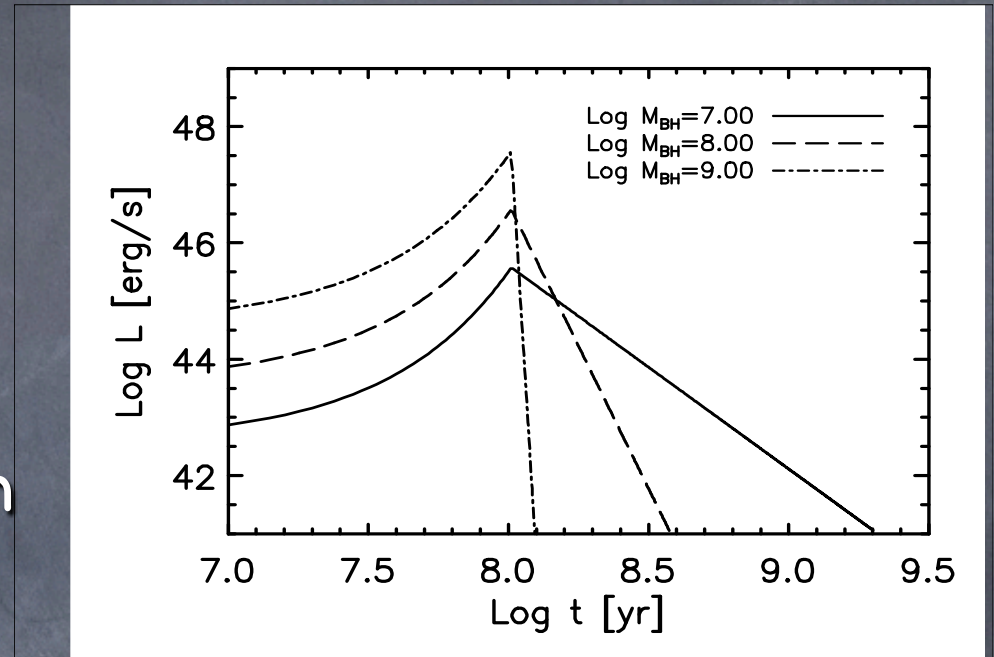
$$L \propto t^{-\alpha}$$

$$\alpha = \alpha(M_{\text{Halo}})$$



# So far

- The Light Curve:
- **Ascending phase:**  
exponential growth
- **Peak:**  
self-regulated
- **Descending phase:**  
mass-dependent



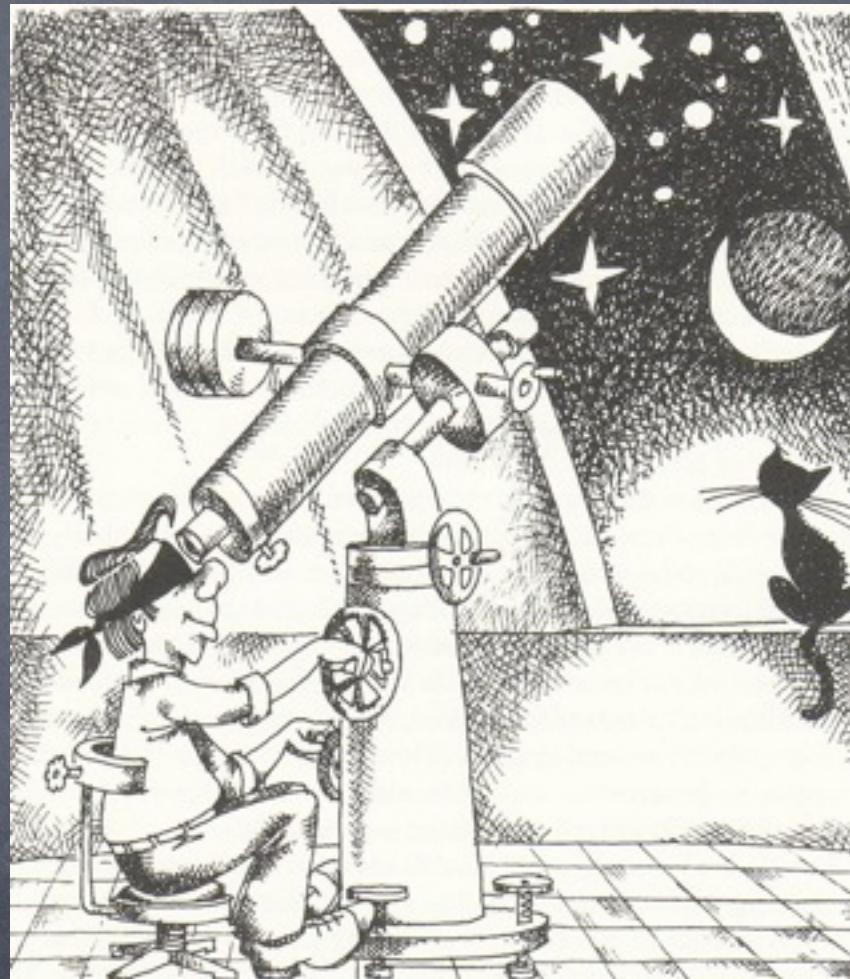


# III. Results

## • Science Goals:

1. Luminosity Function  
at all redshifts
2. Clustering  
at all redshifts

**Formidable Task!**



# Reference Model

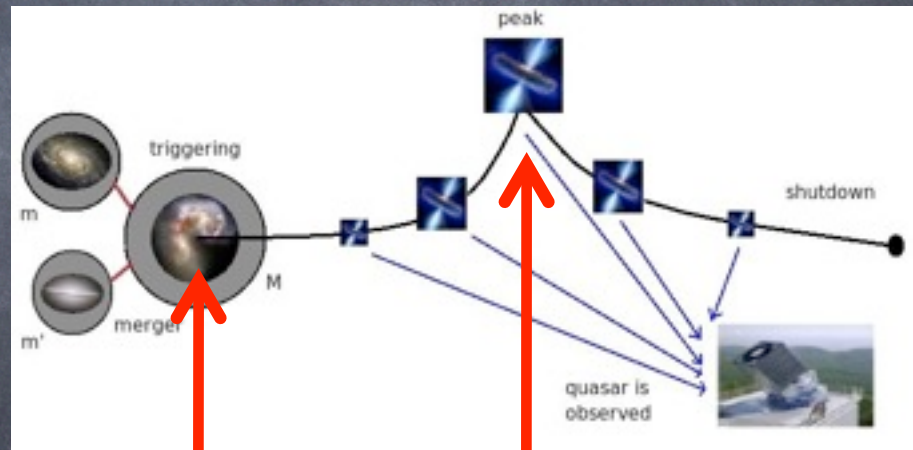
- Only major mergers:  $\xi = m'/m \geq 1/4$
- Range of host halo masses:

$$10^{11.5} M_{\odot} < M_{\text{Halo}} < 10^{13} M_{\odot}$$

- Short time delays:

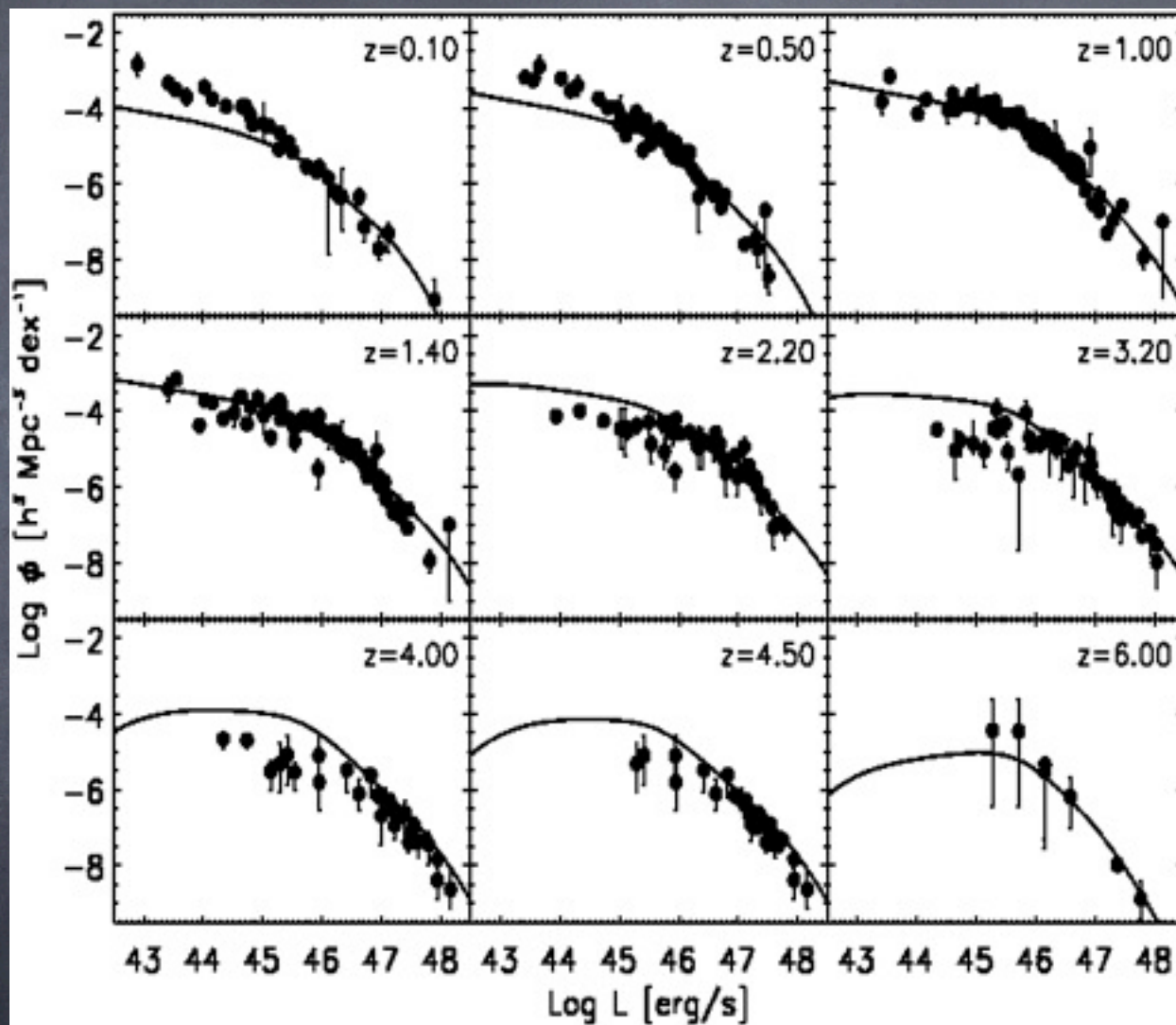
$$M_{\text{BH, seed}} = \frac{M_{\text{BH, peak}}}{\mu_{\text{BH}}}$$

→  $t_{\text{delay}}$  is fixed

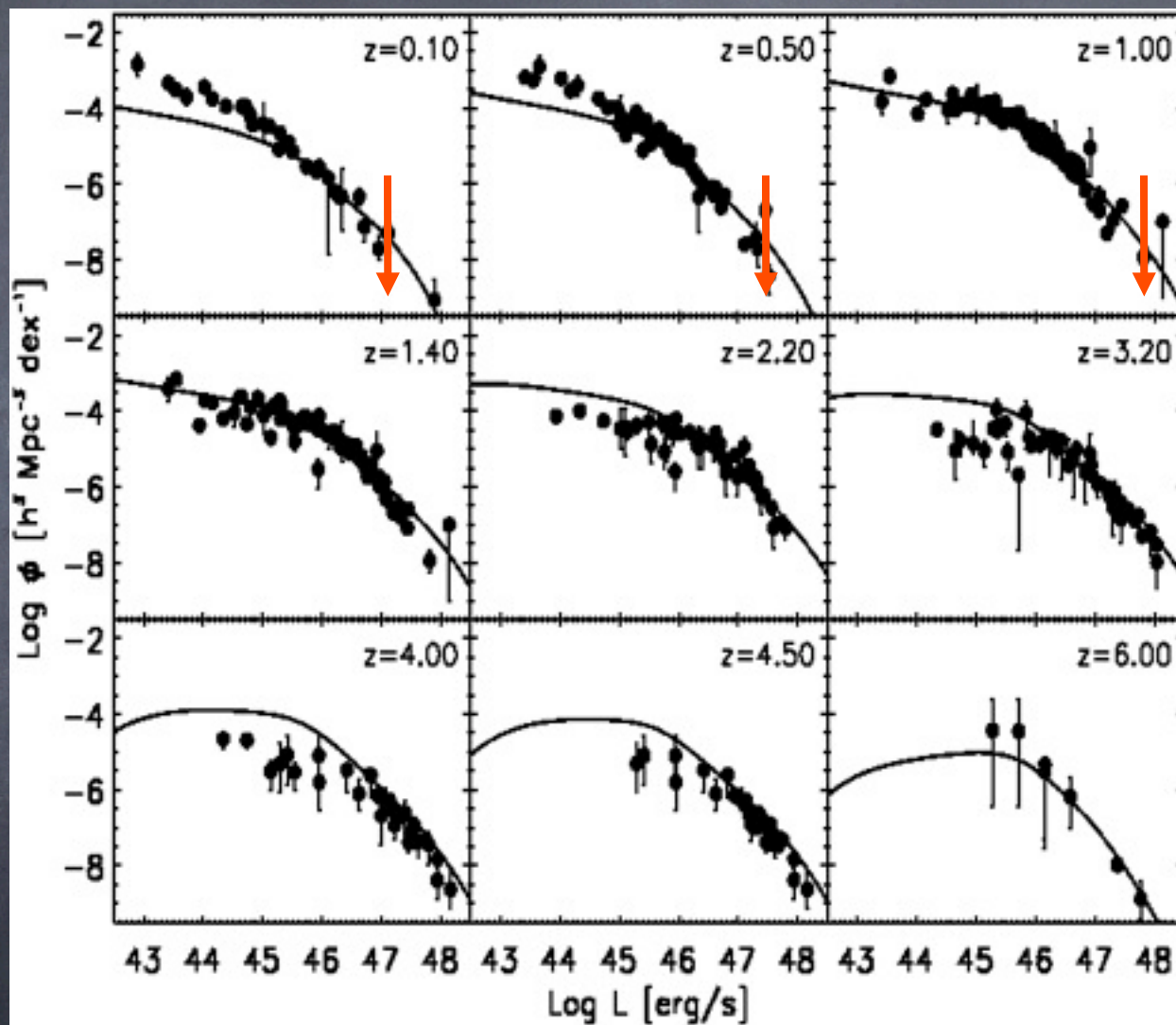


$$t_{\text{delay}} = t_{\text{peak}} - t_{\text{triggering}}$$

# The Luminosity Function



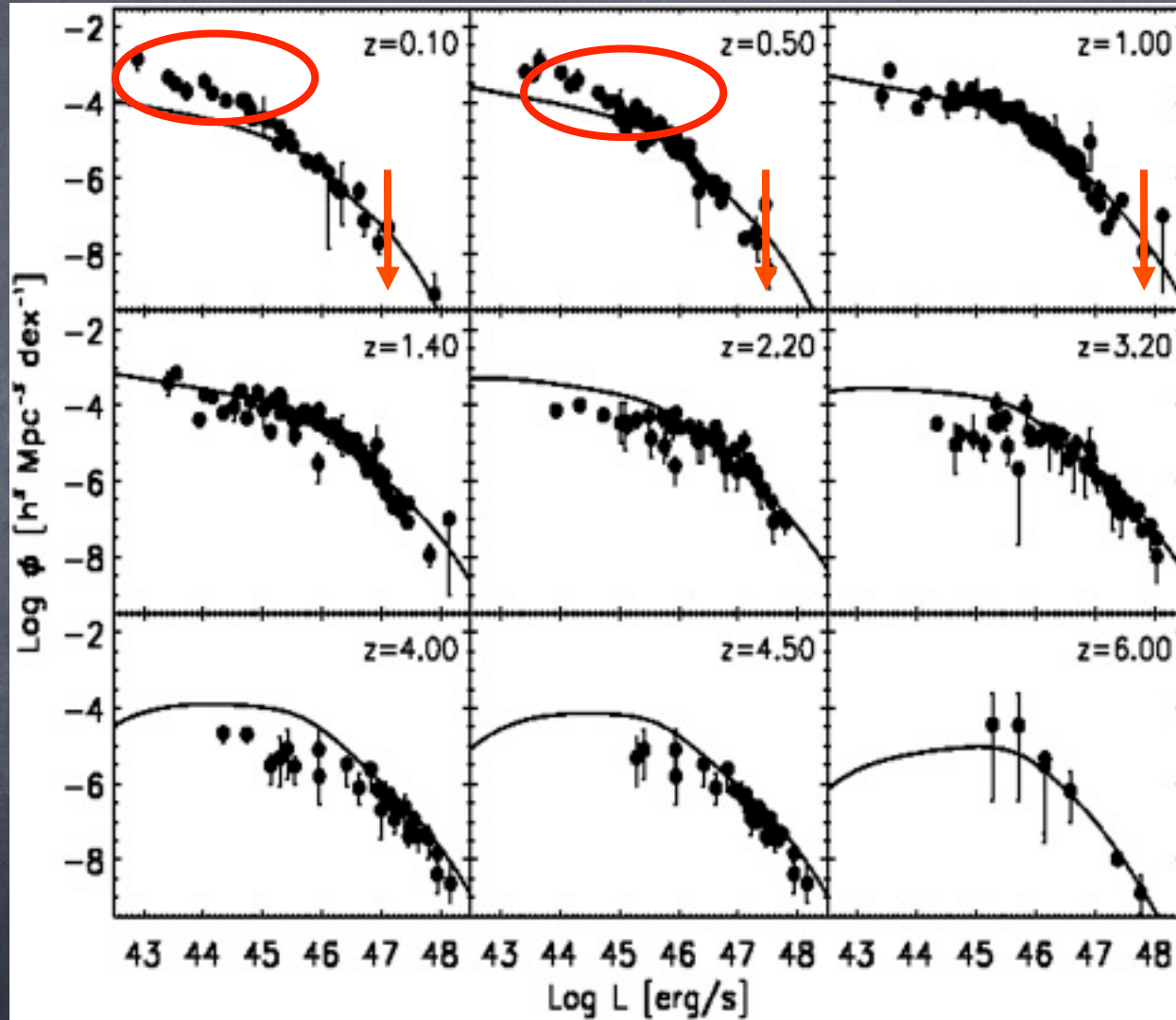
# The Luminosity Function



Bright end  
Works!

# The Luminosity Function

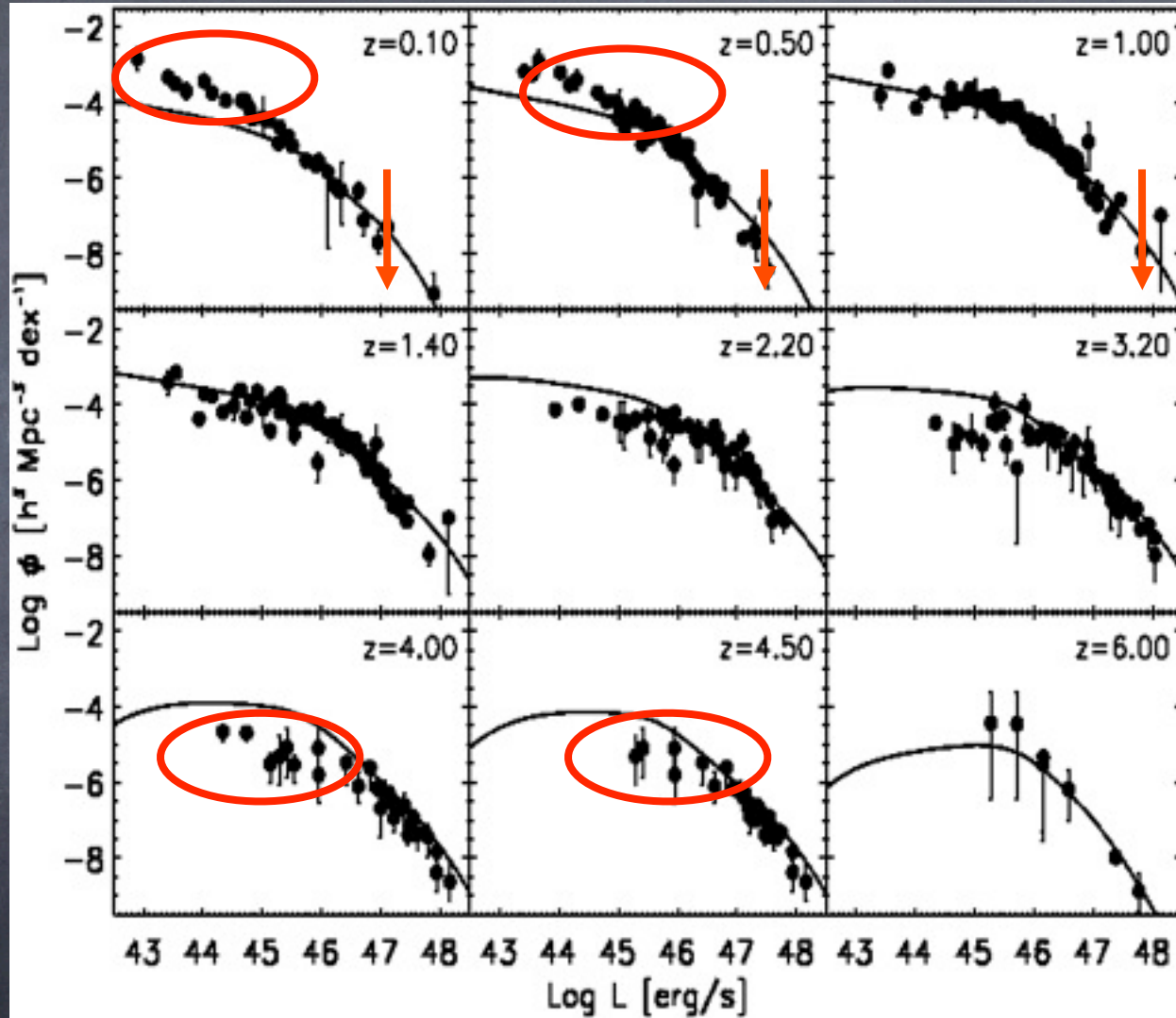
Not enough  
faint AGNs



Bright end  
Works!

# The Luminosity Function

Not enough  
faint AGNs

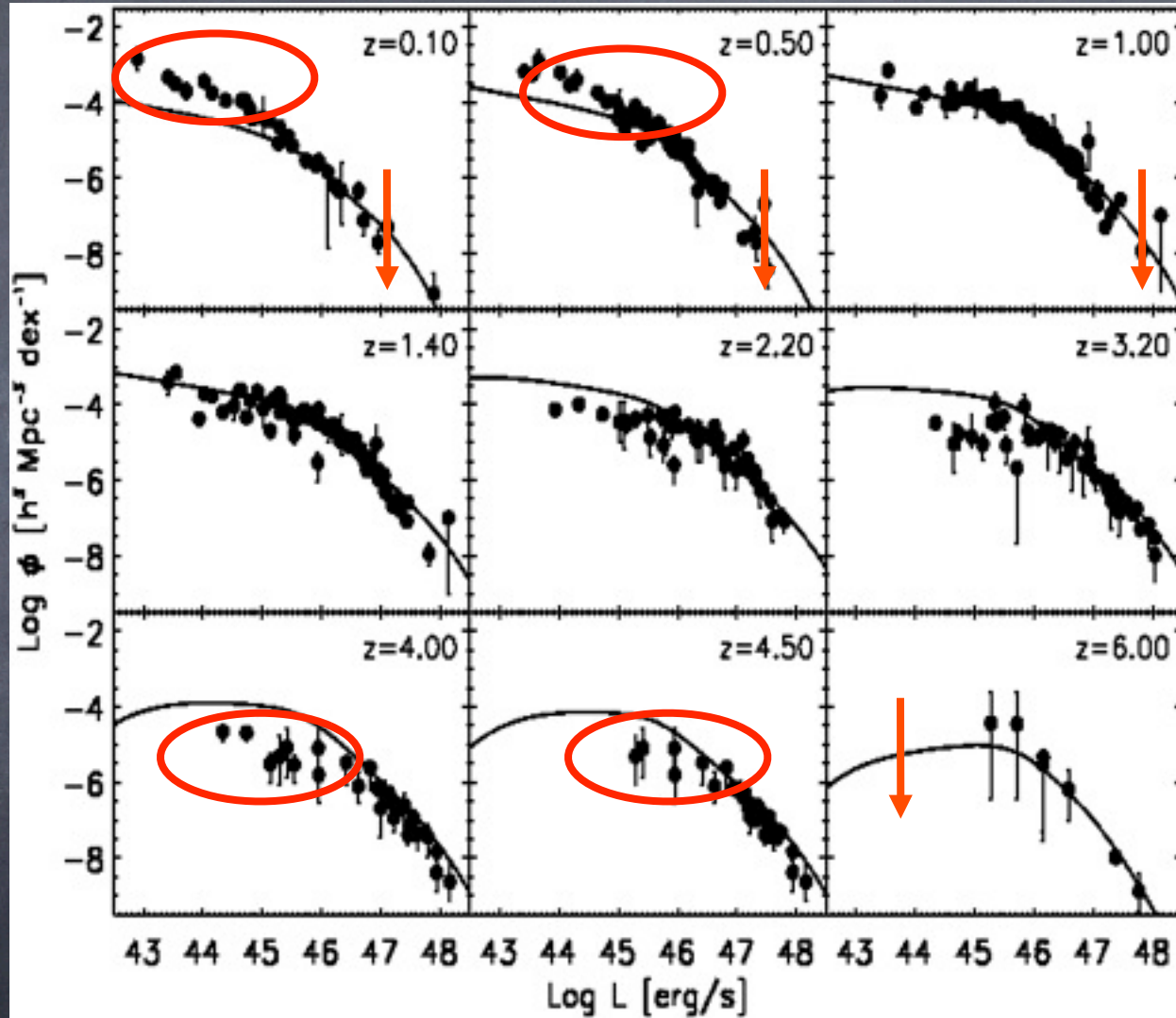


Bright end  
Works!

Too many  
faint AGNs

# The Luminosity Function

Not enough faint AGNs

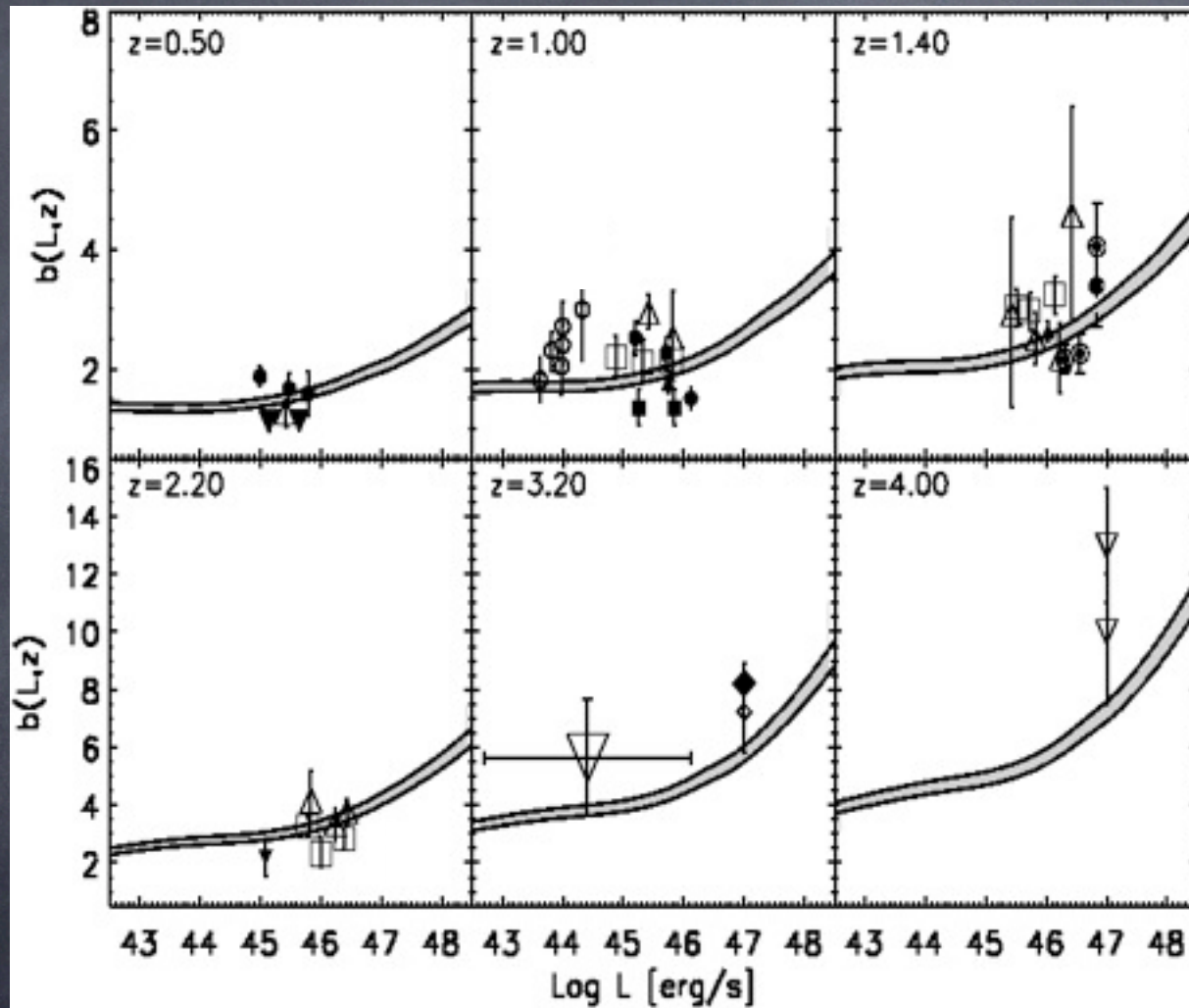


Bright end Works!

Too many faint AGNs

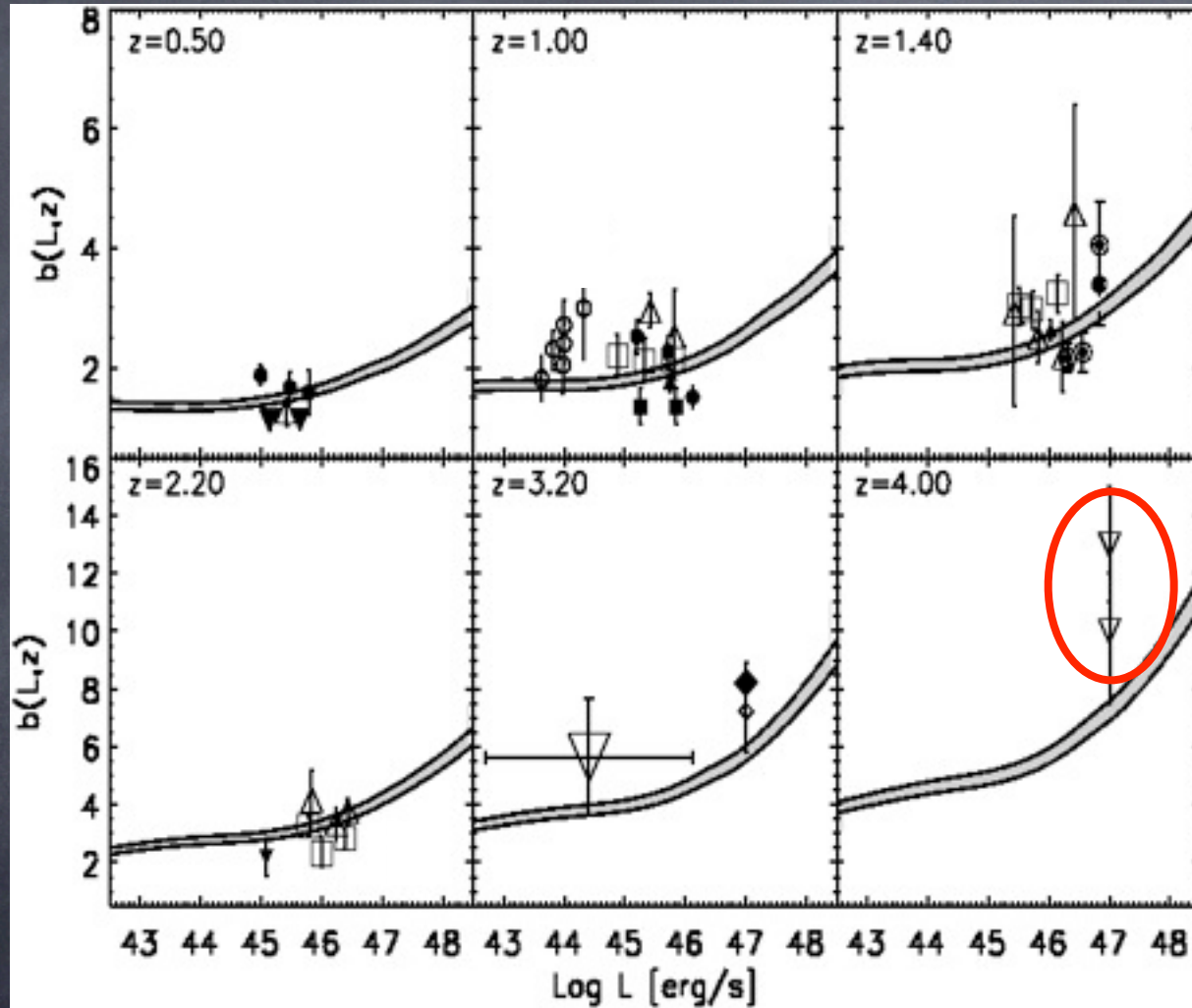
New prediction!

# Quasar Clustering (the bias)





# Quasar Clustering (the bias)

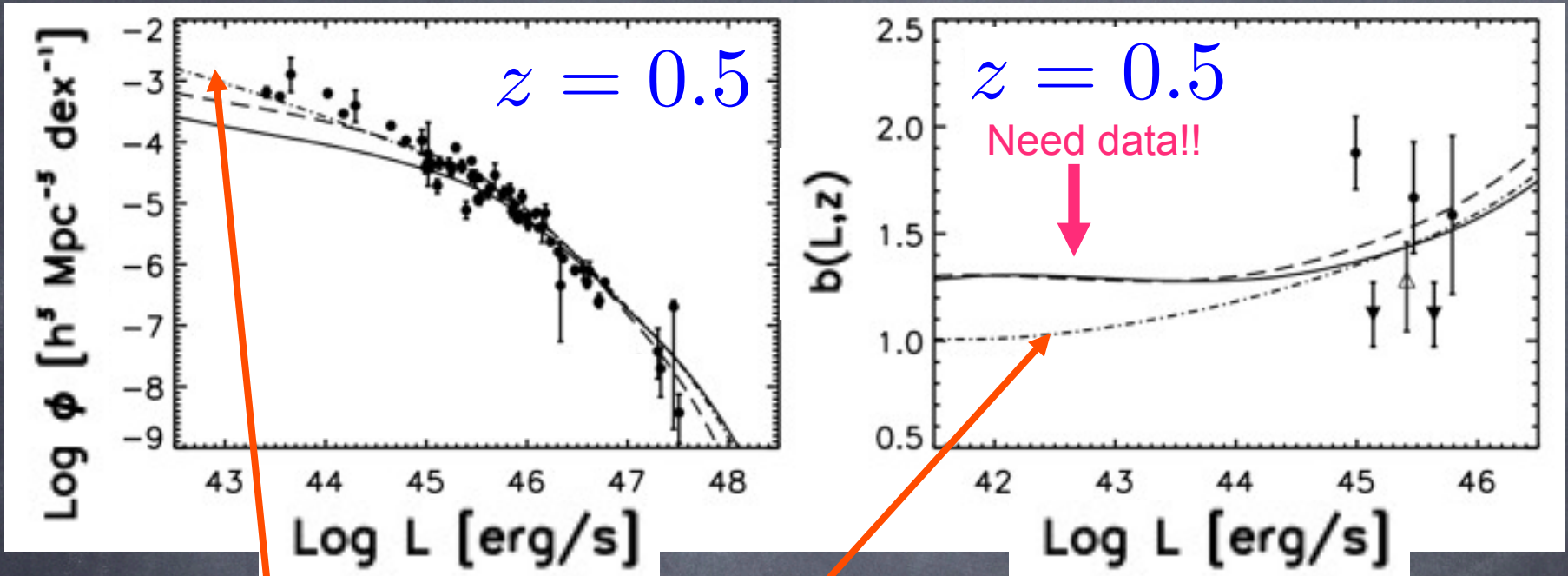


Very biased  
bright quasars!

## Alternative Models

- **Smaller** halo host masses?
- **Long-lived** quasars?
  - Massive BH seeds?
  - Super-Eddington Accretion?
- Include **minor** mergers / secular agents?
- Additional Help:
  - X-ray Counts
  - Black Hole Mass Function

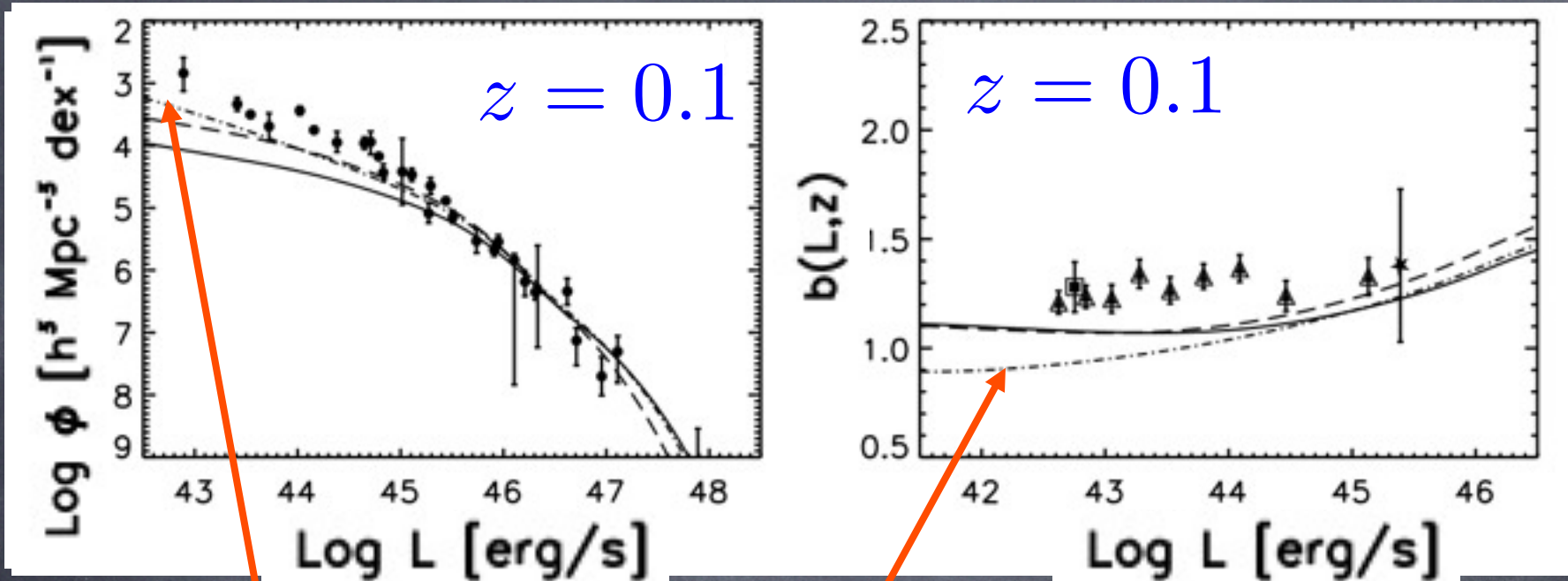
# Testing models with small host haloes



Small host model

At low  $z$ : we cannot tell!!

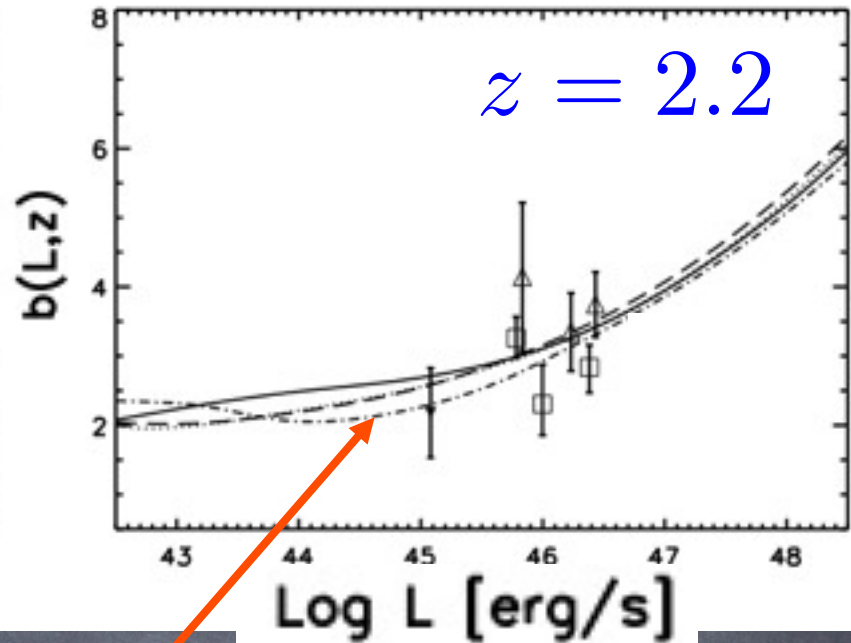
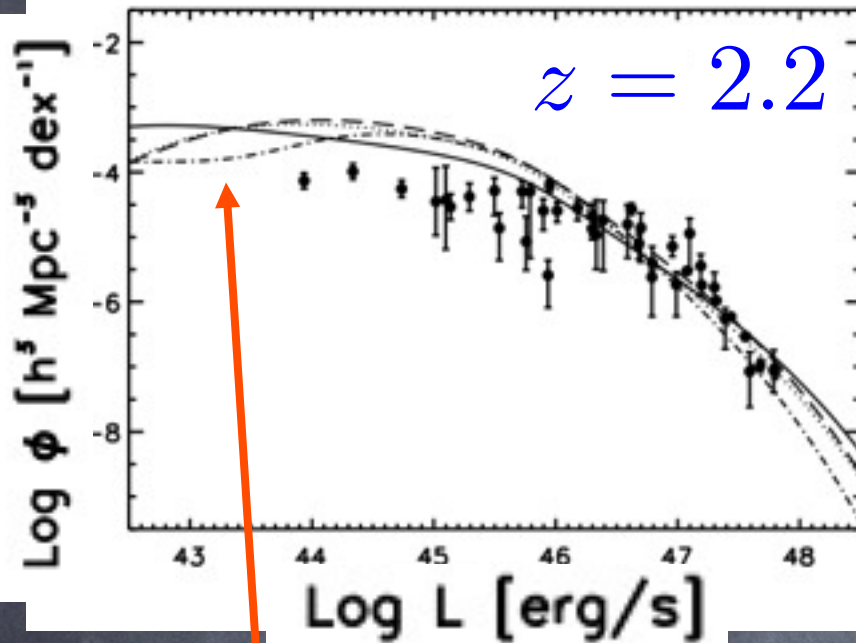
# Testing models with small host haloes



Small host model

At very low  $z$ : small host model ruled out!!

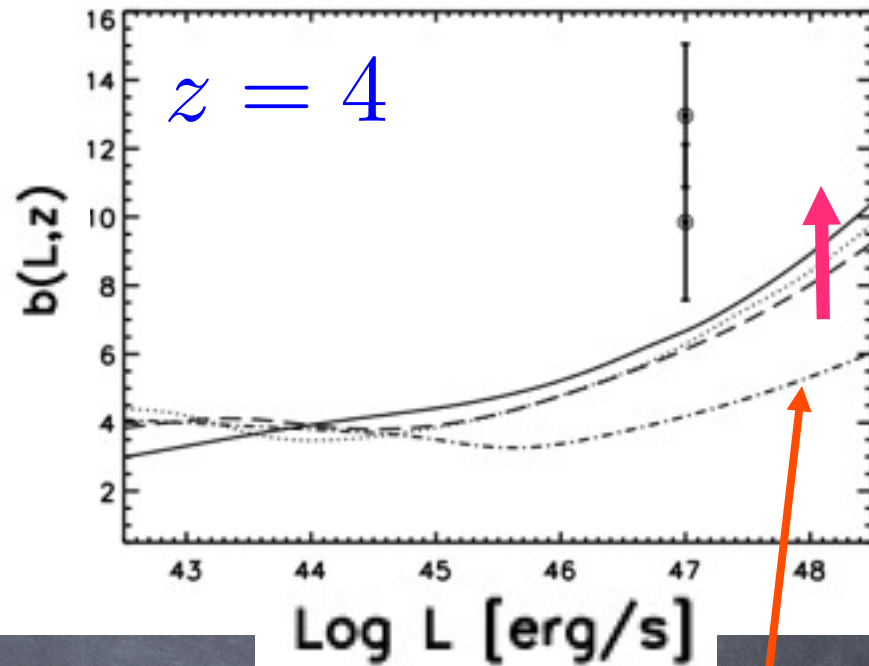
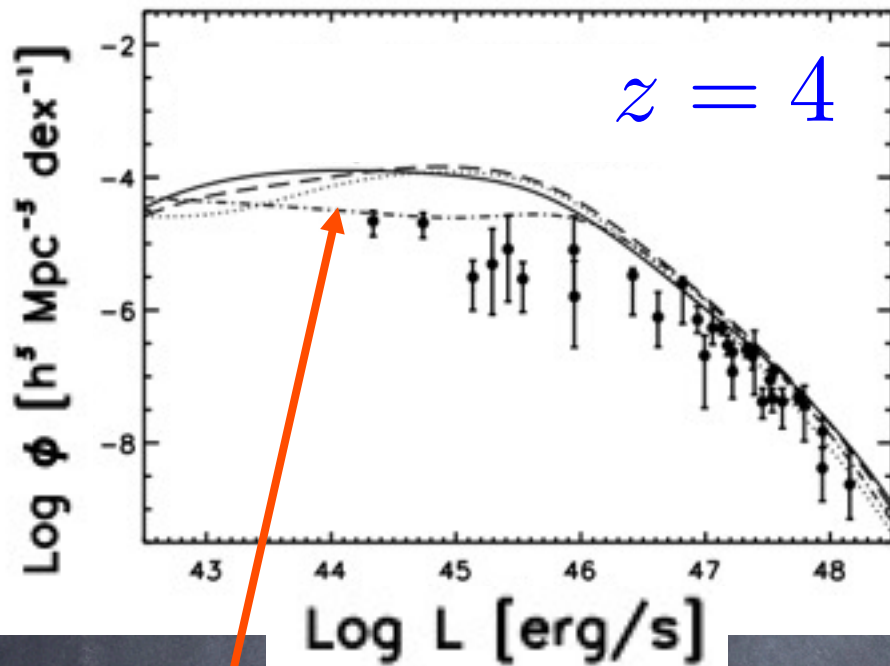
# Testing long-lived Models



Long-delay model

At intermediate  $z$ : we cannot tell!

# Testing long-lived Models

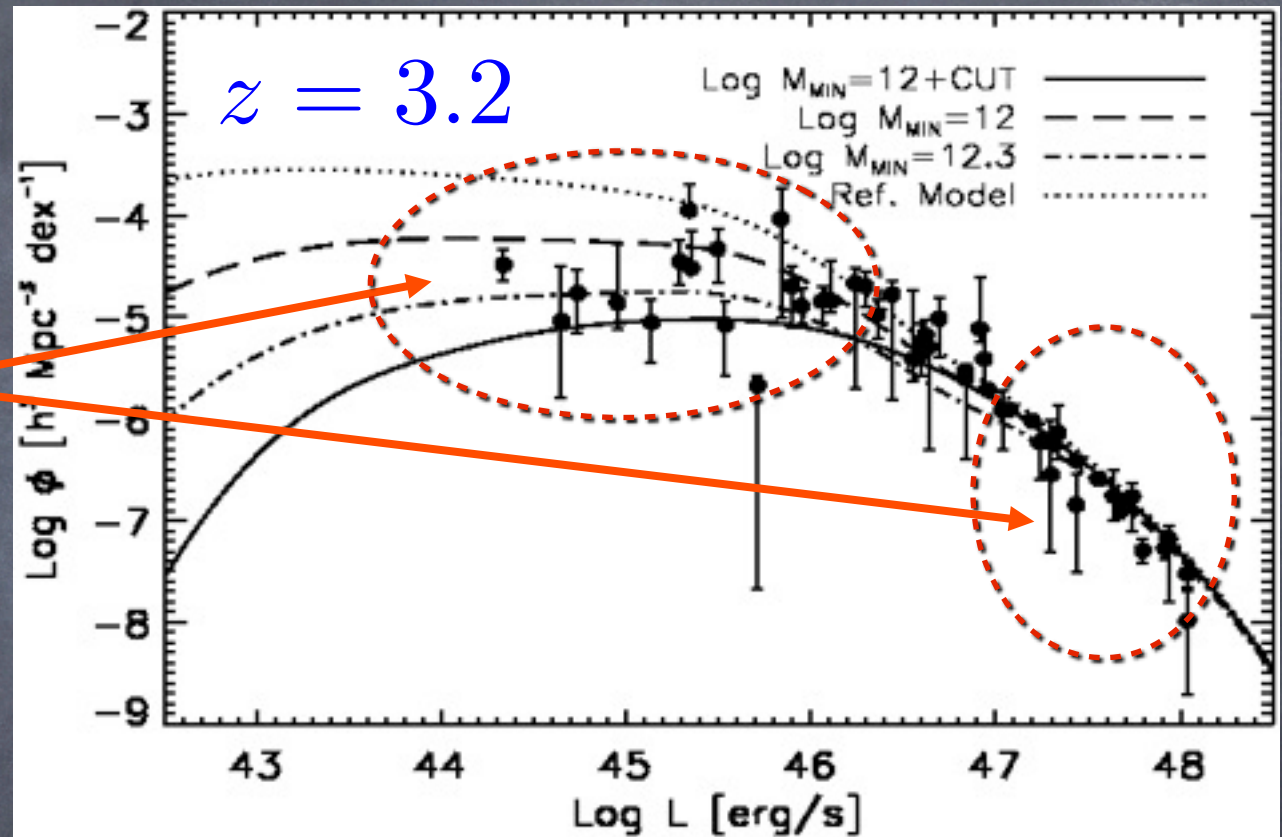


Long-delay model

At high  $z$ : long-delay model ruled out!!

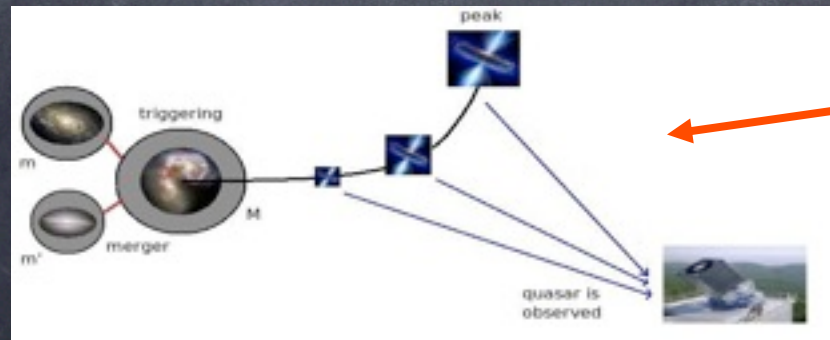
$$t_{\text{delay}} \lesssim 100 \text{ Myr}$$

# Faint & Bright Quasars at High $z$



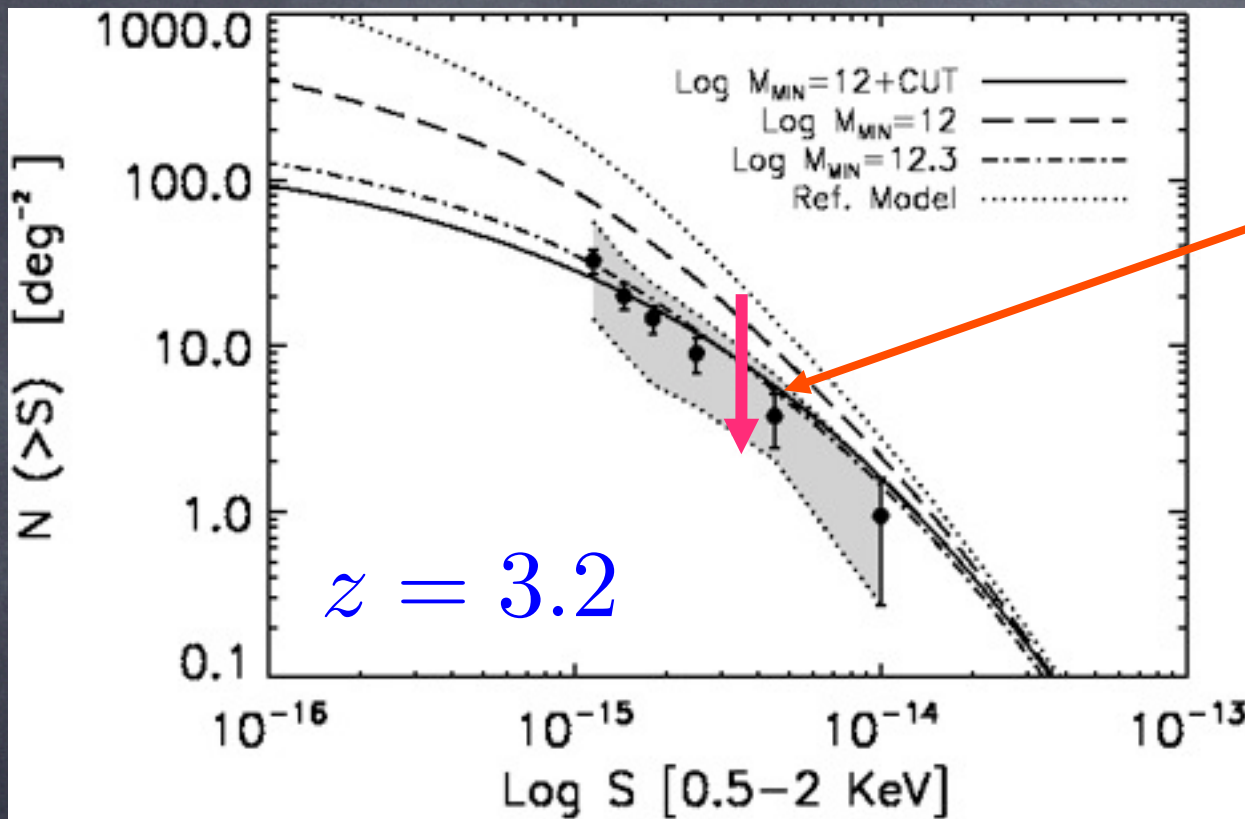
Data cannot tell!!

CUT model:



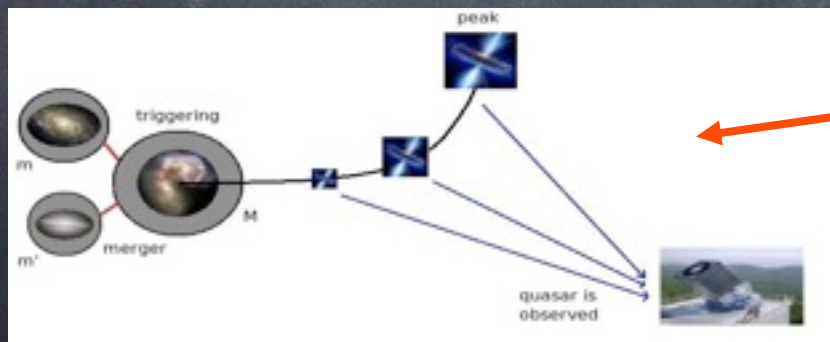
No descending phase!

# X-ray Counts at High z



Very massive hosts OR no descending phase (CUT) preferred!

CUT model:



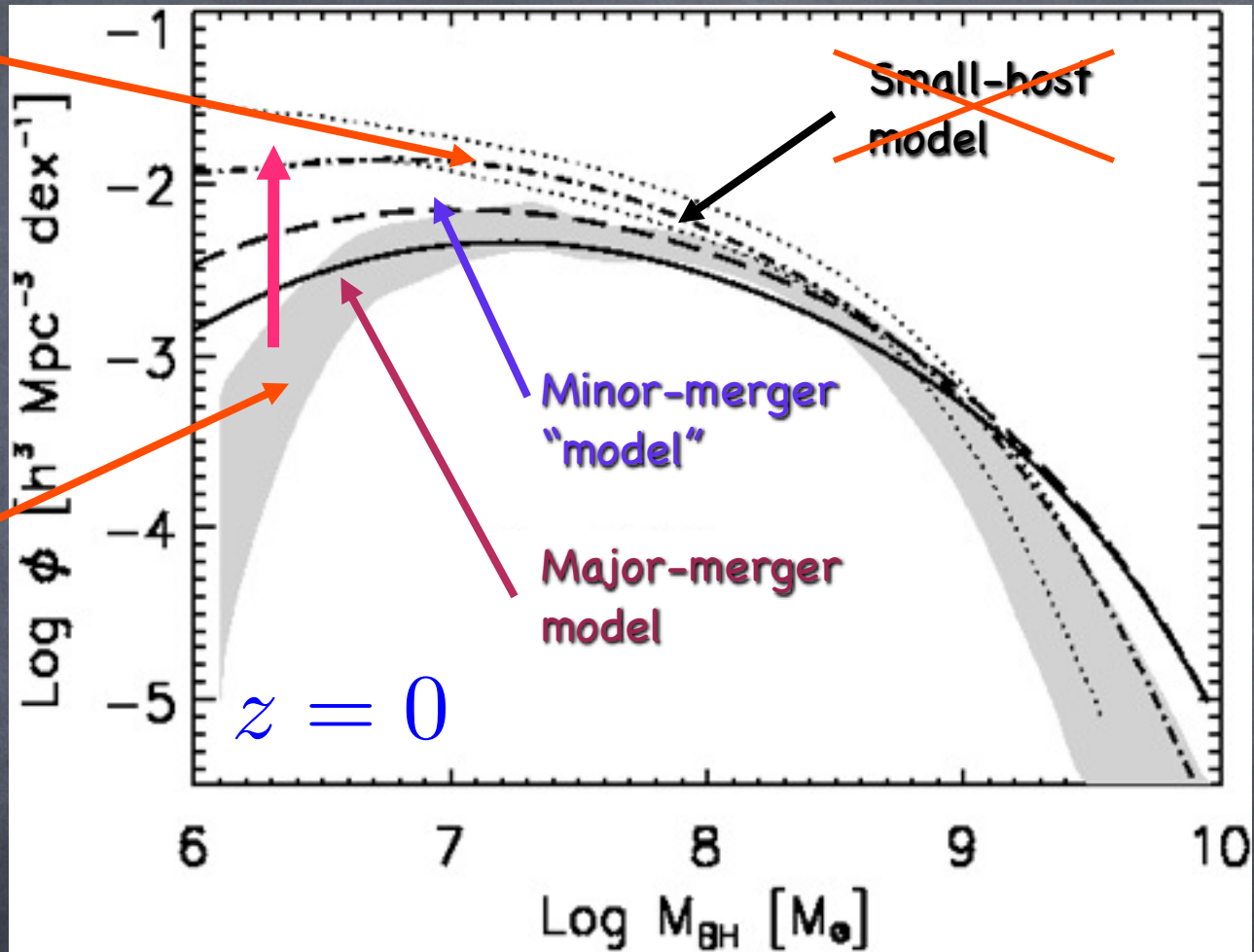
No descending phase!



# Local Black Hole Mass Function

All BHs  
(Shankar & Ferrarese, 2009)

BHs in  
early types  
(Sheth et. al.,  
2003 +  
Tundo et. al.  
2007)



Major mergers --> BHs in early type  
Minor mergers --> not enough for all BHs

# Summary: Data Constrains

- Low z bias --> Quasars live in massive hosts
- High z bias --> Quasars have short lives!

$$t_{\text{delay}} \lesssim 100 \text{ Myr}$$

- High z X-ray counts
  - > Quasars in massive hosts
  - \*OR\* No descending phase (CUT)
- BH mass function:
  - > Major mergers -> early types
  - > Minor mergers: not enough

# IV. Things you should take home...

- Picture: Galaxy Mergers → Quasars → SMBHs
- Analytic framework:
  1. Halo major merger rate
  2. Quasar light curves
- Observations: Quasars: short lives & massive hosts  
Major mergers → BHs in early types
- Puzzles: small BHs in late types, faint low-z AGNs  
----> secular processes?

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- Picture: Galaxy Mergers → Quasars → SMBHs
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Thank you! Any questions?

