

# Millimeter astronomy at high redshift

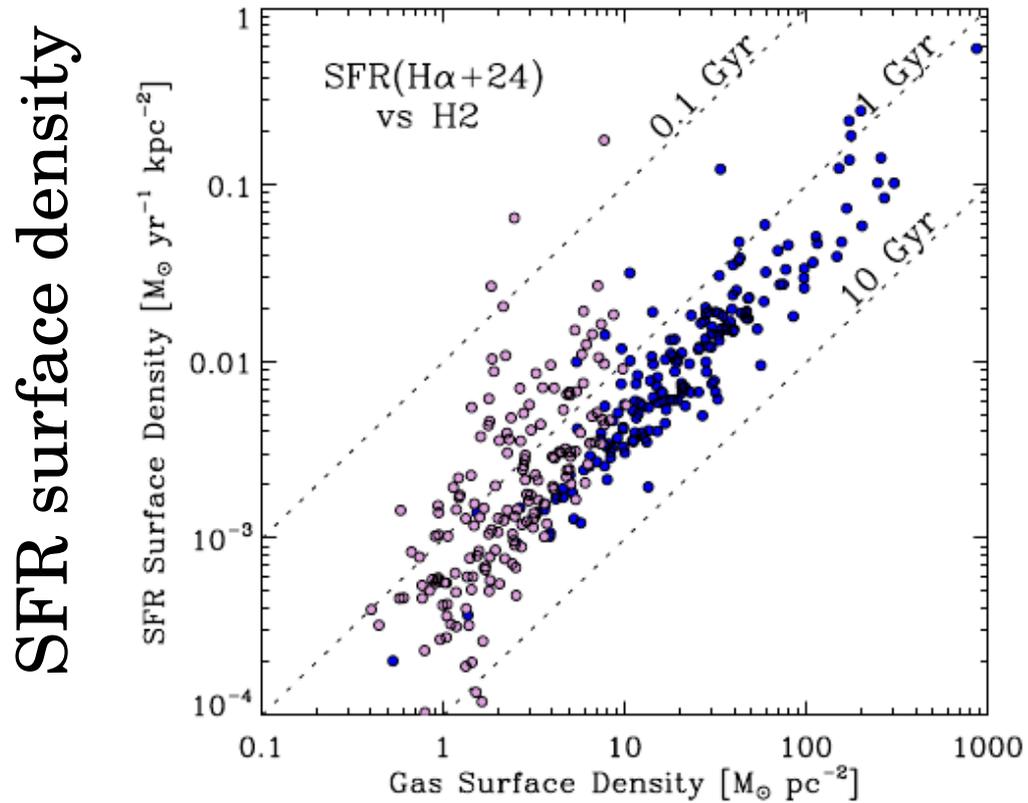
Roberto Decarli

INAF – Osservatorio Astronomico di Bologna



Gas at high redshift:  
why do we care?

# Gas = fuel for star formation



Molecular gas surface density

# Gas = fuel for BH accretion

Gas accretion accounts for the majority of local SMBH masses  
(e.g., Soltan 1982)

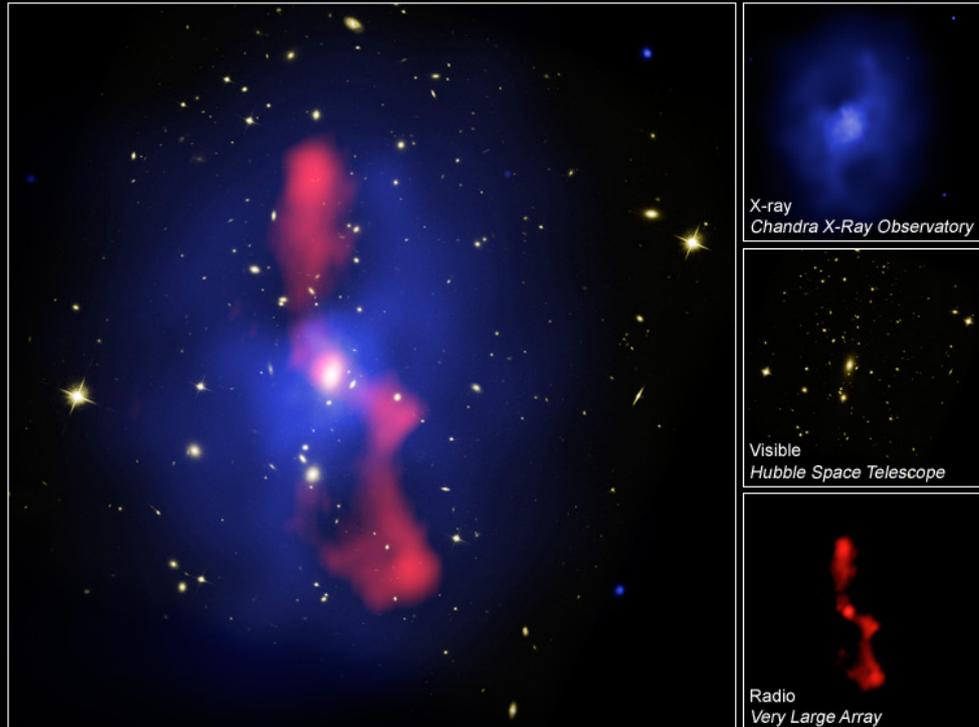


# Gas = only vehicle for feedback

SN / AGN feedback only works on gas!

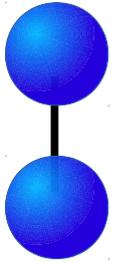
Galaxy Cluster MS 0735.6+7421

CXO • HST • VLA



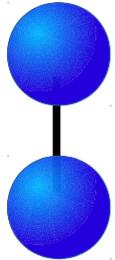
The ISM at high  $z$ :  
how do we measure it?

# Molecular Hydrogen



H<sub>2</sub>

# Molecular Hydrogen



H<sub>2</sub>

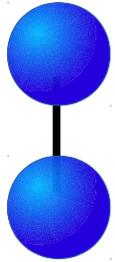
No electric dipole

Very light

→ high energy of vibrational ( $\sim \text{mass}^{-1/2}$ )  
and rotational ( $\sim \text{mass}^{-1}$ ) levels

→  $T_{\text{ex}} > 1000 \text{ K}$

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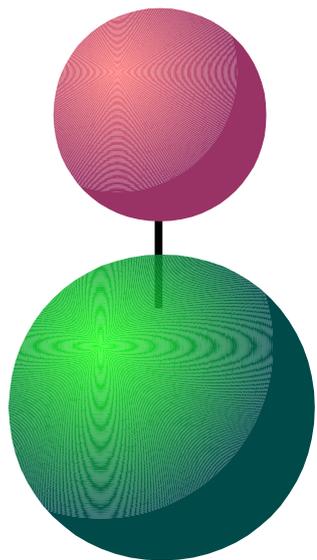
→  $T_{\text{ex}} > 1000 \text{ K}$

Emission: only in AGN, shocks, etc

Absorption: via UV pumping mechanism

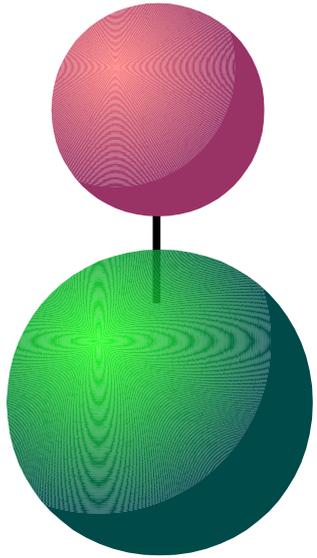
- 1) H<sub>2</sub> signal is lost in the Ly $\alpha$  forest
- 2) small impact parameter

# Carbon Monoxide



CO

# Carbon Monoxide

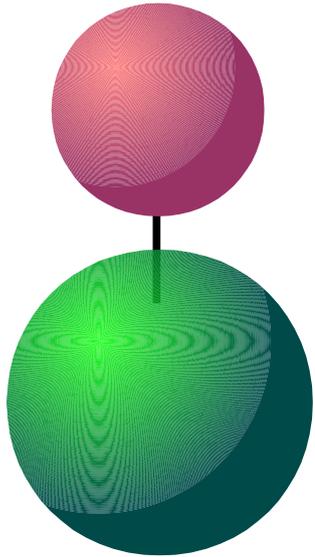


CO

Bright rotational emission lines

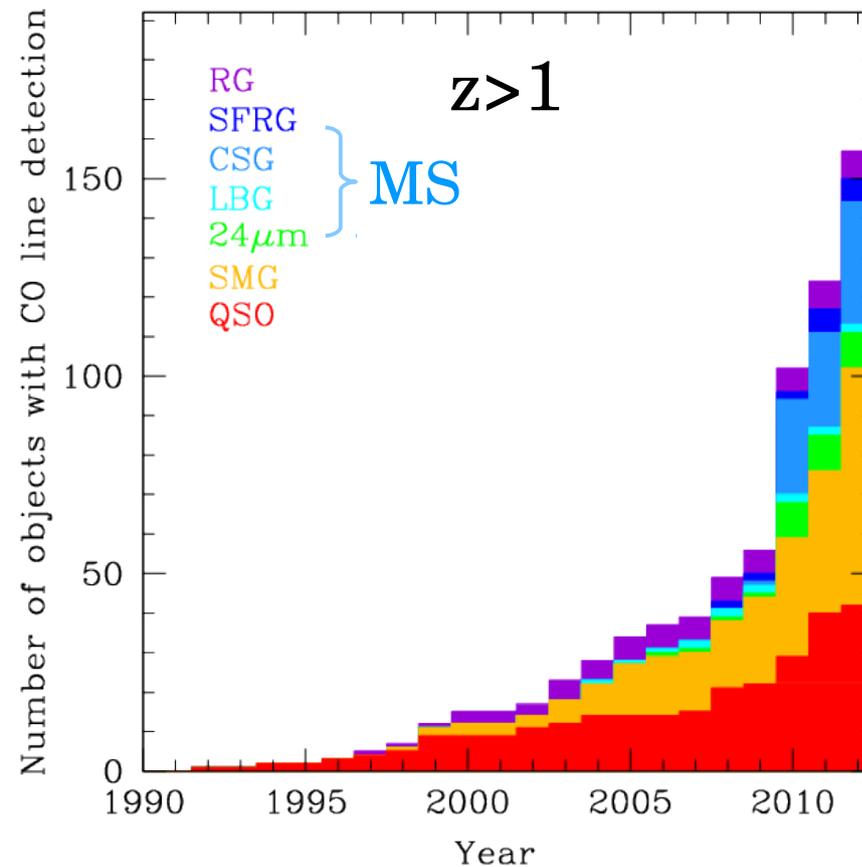
First levels have  $T_{\text{ex}} < 30$  K

# Carbon Monoxide

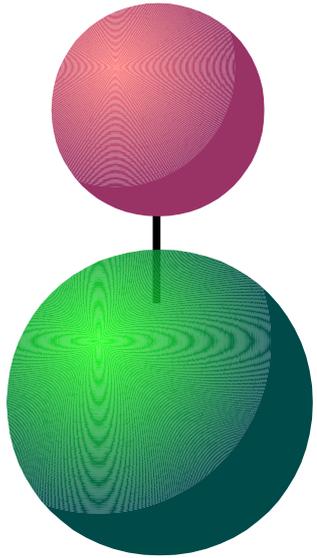


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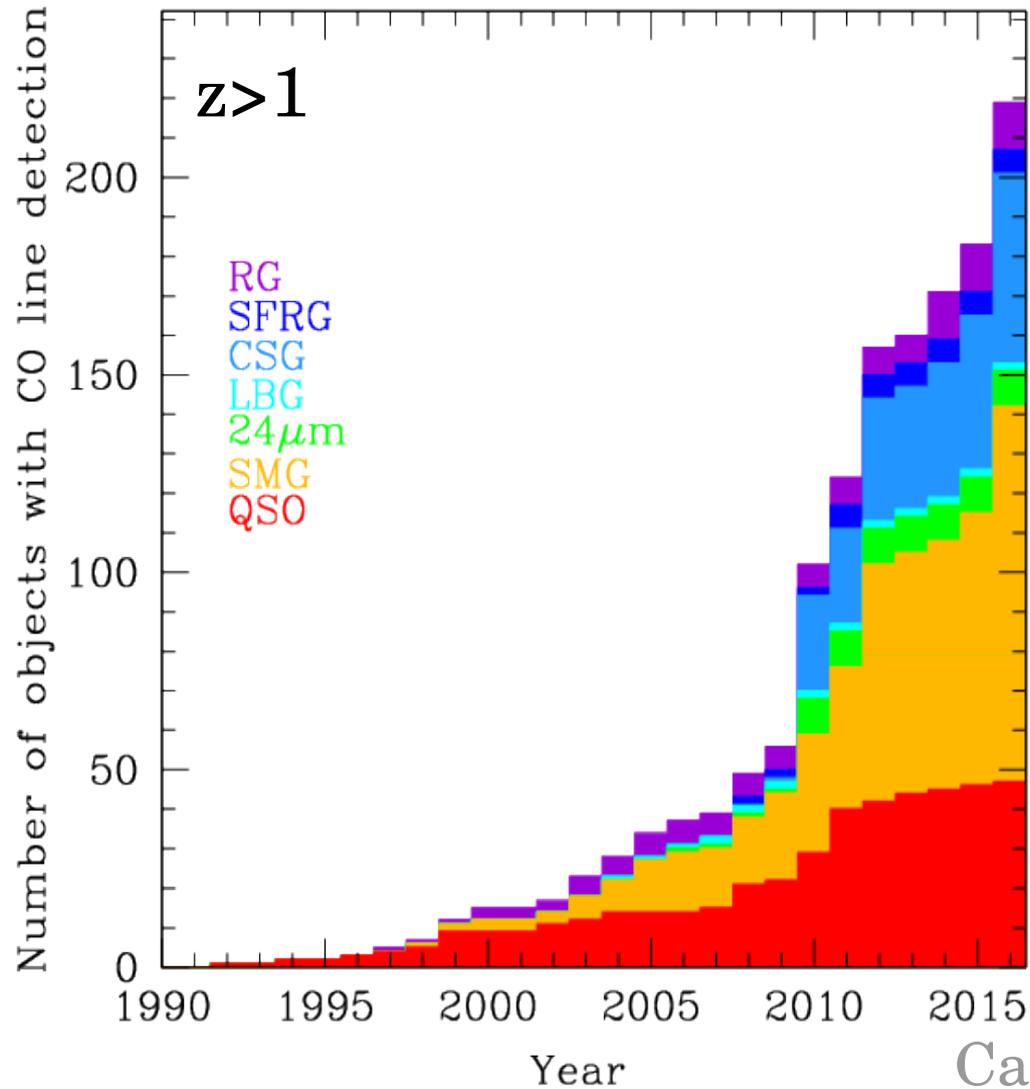
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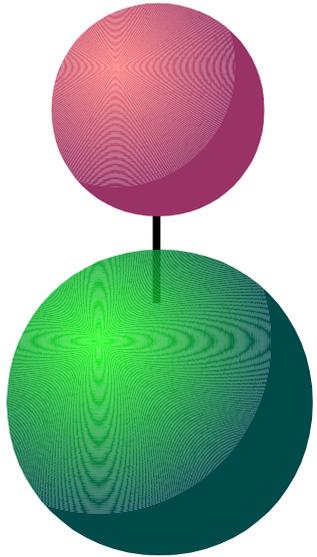
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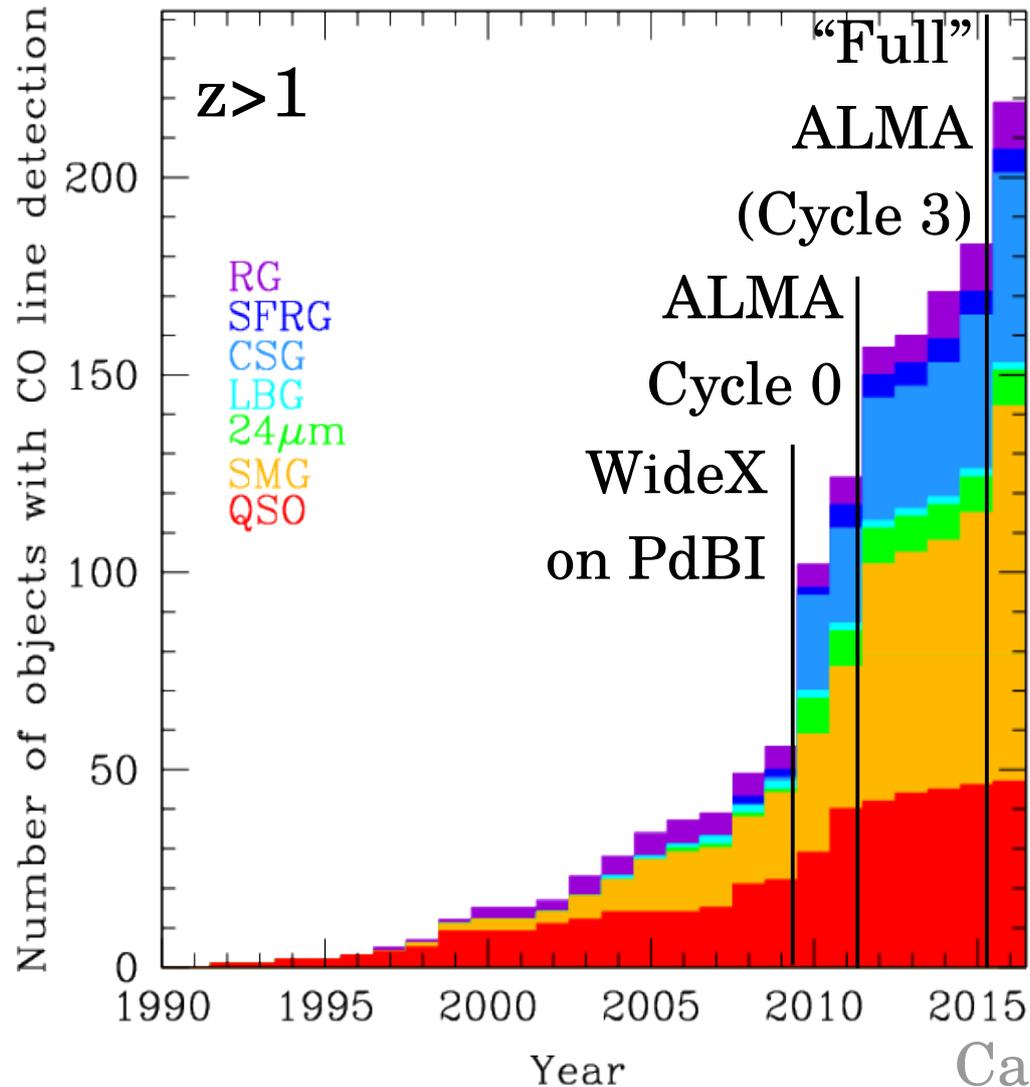
CO



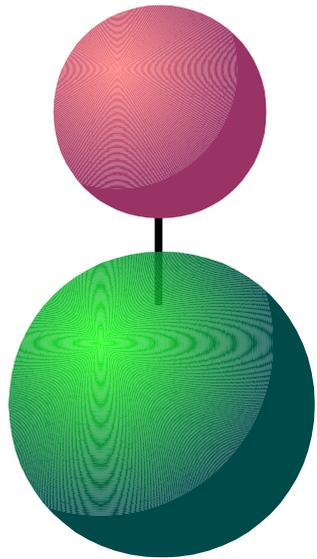
# Carbon Monoxide



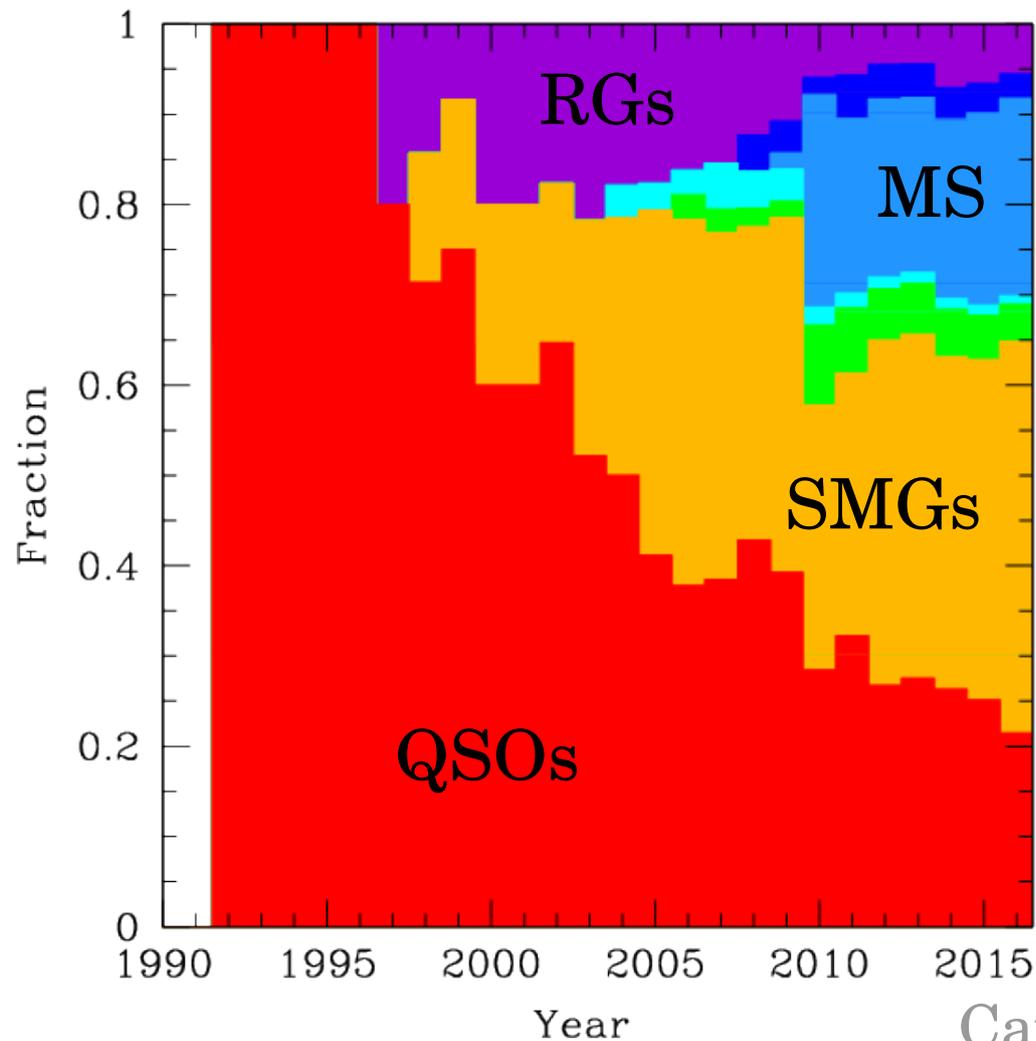
CO



# Carbon Monoxide

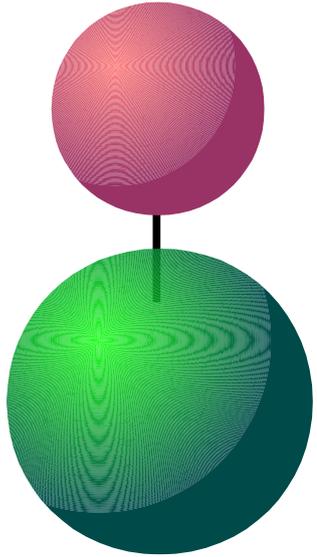


CO



“Beyond the tip of the iceberg”

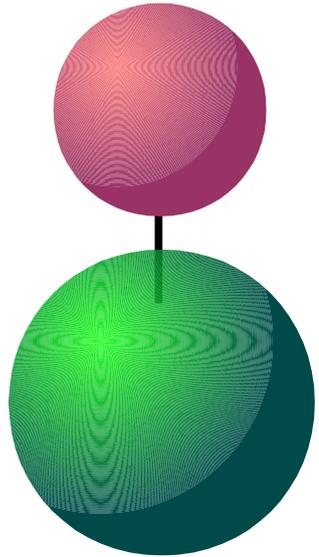
# Carbon Monoxide as H<sub>2</sub> mass tracer



CO

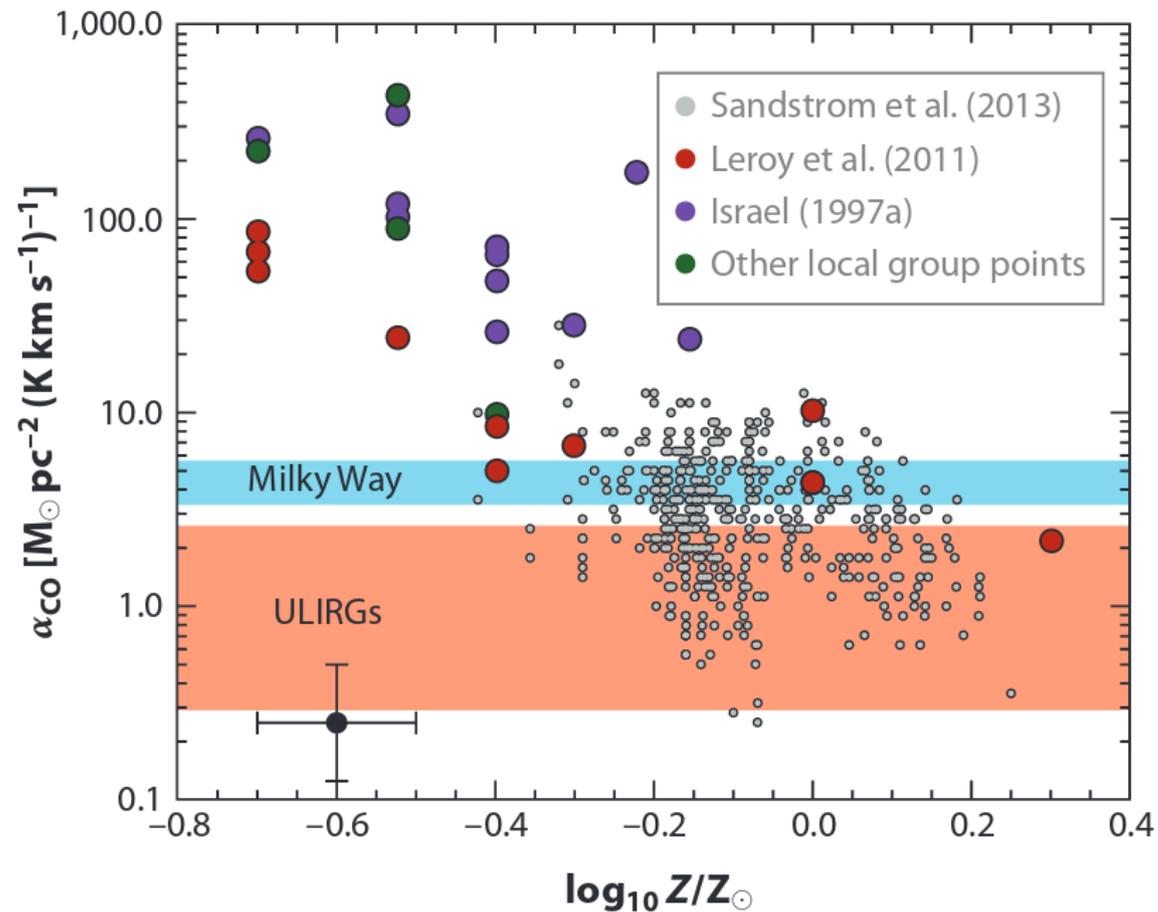
$$M(\text{H}_2) = \alpha_{\text{CO}} L'_{\text{CO}(1-0)}$$

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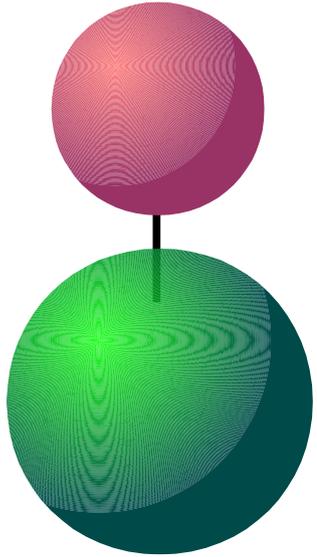


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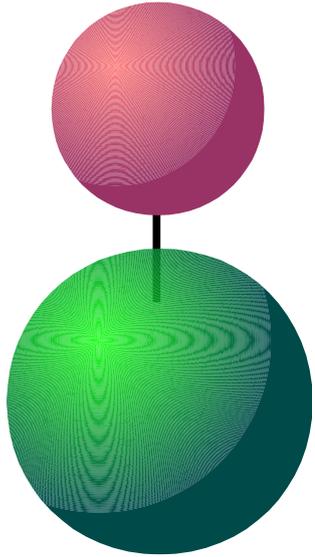


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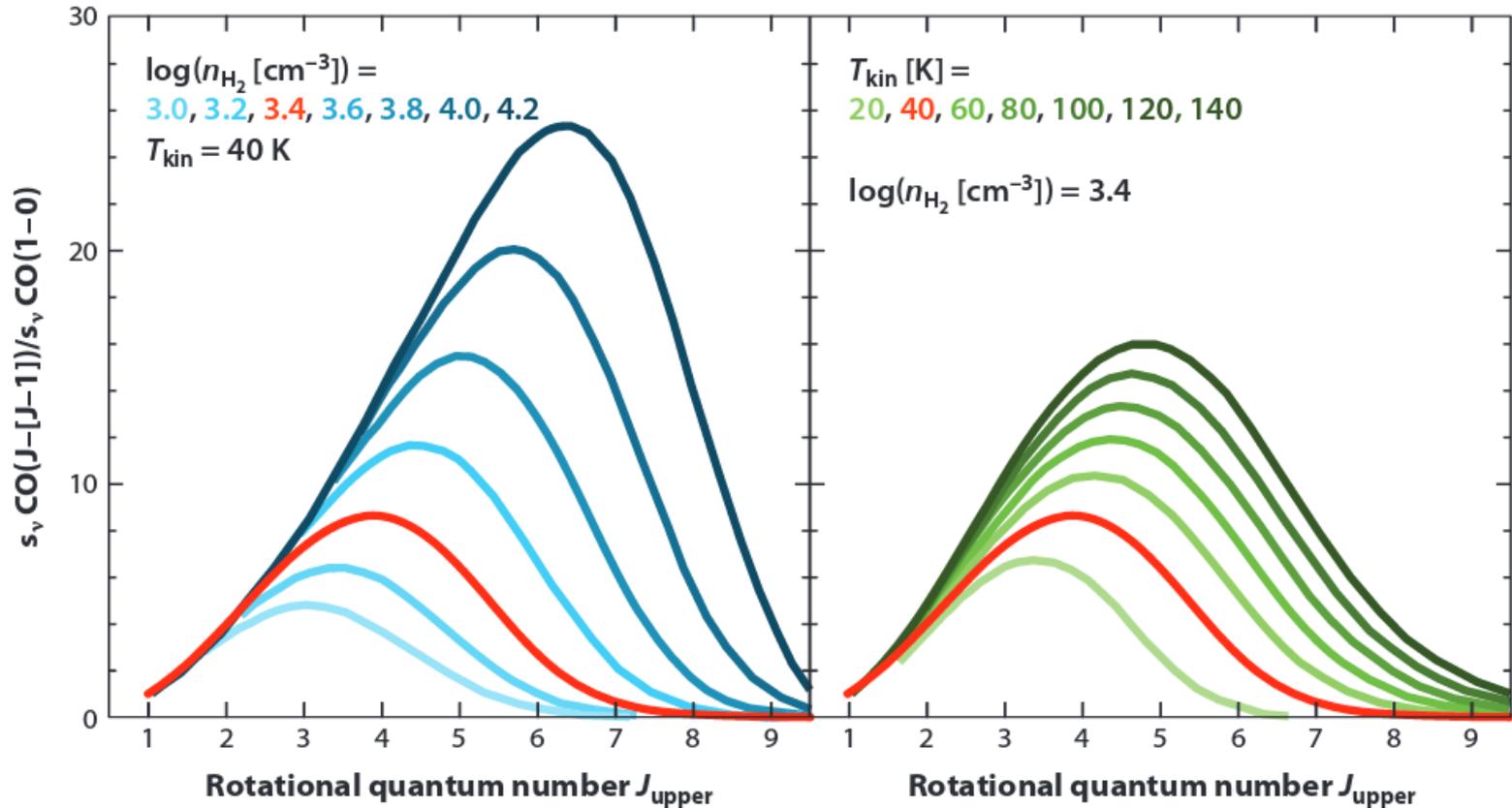
- 1) Measure  $\alpha_{\text{CO}}$  (e.g., via dynamics)
- 2) Know your galaxy! ( $Z$ ,  $L_{\text{IR}}$ )

# CO excitation



CO

$$M(\text{H}_2) = \alpha_{\text{CO}} L'_{\text{CO}(1-0)} = \alpha_{\text{CO}} R_{J_1}^{-1} L'_{\text{CO}[J-(J-1)]}$$



# Dense gas tracers

HCN, HCO<sup>+</sup>, HNC, CN, CS

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H<sub>2</sub>O

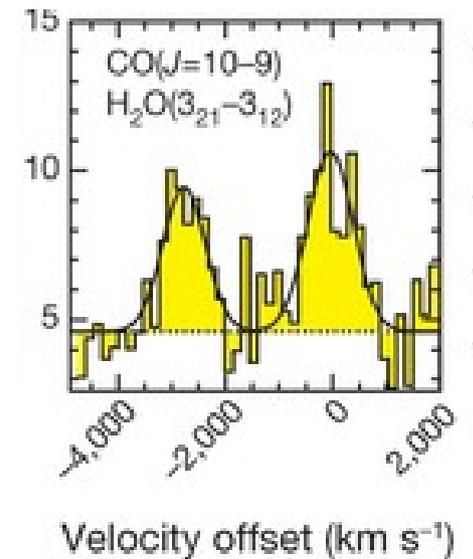
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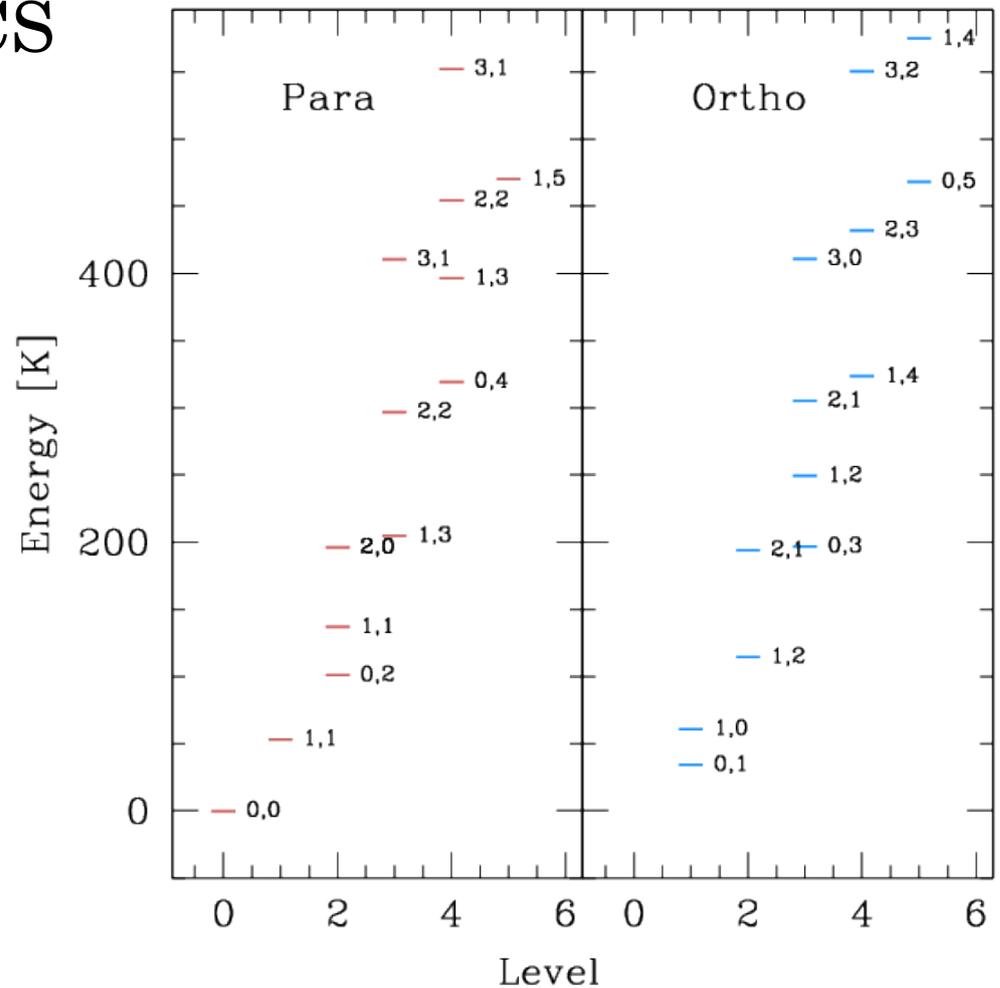
Can be brighter than CO



# Dense gas tracers

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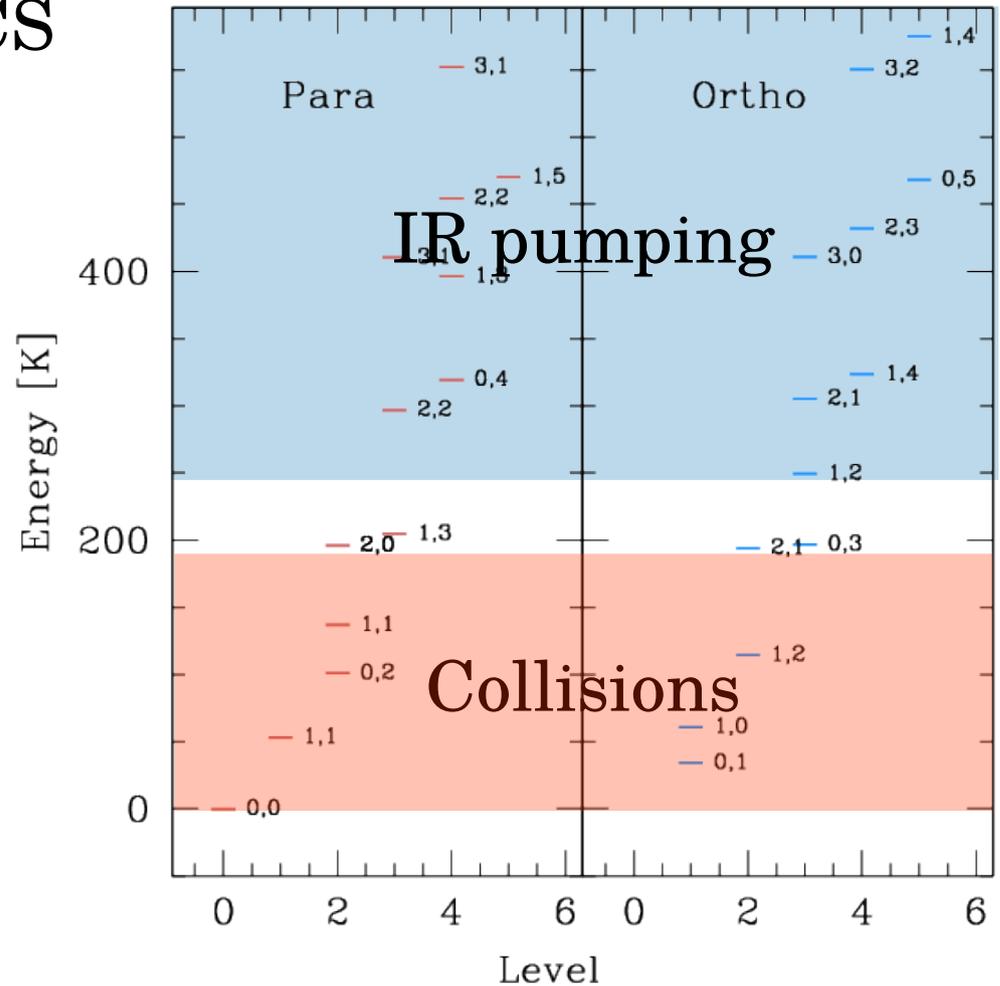
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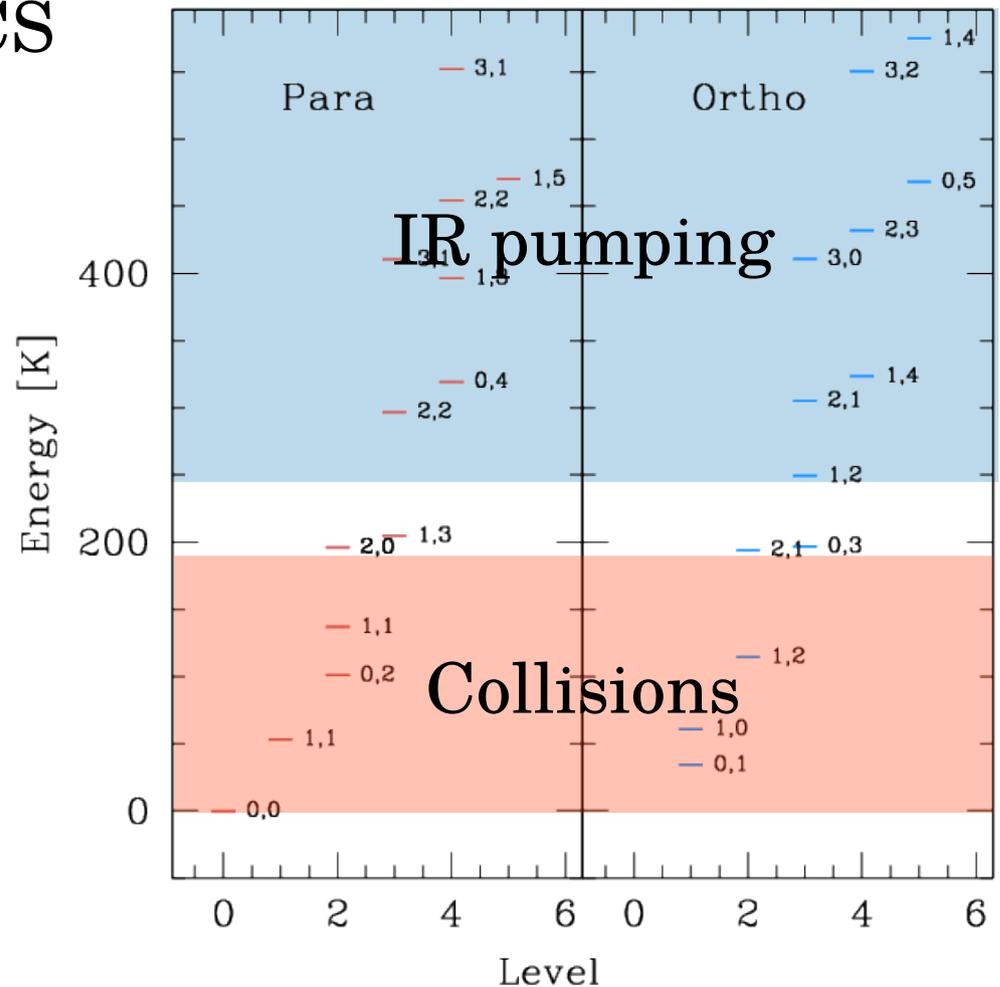


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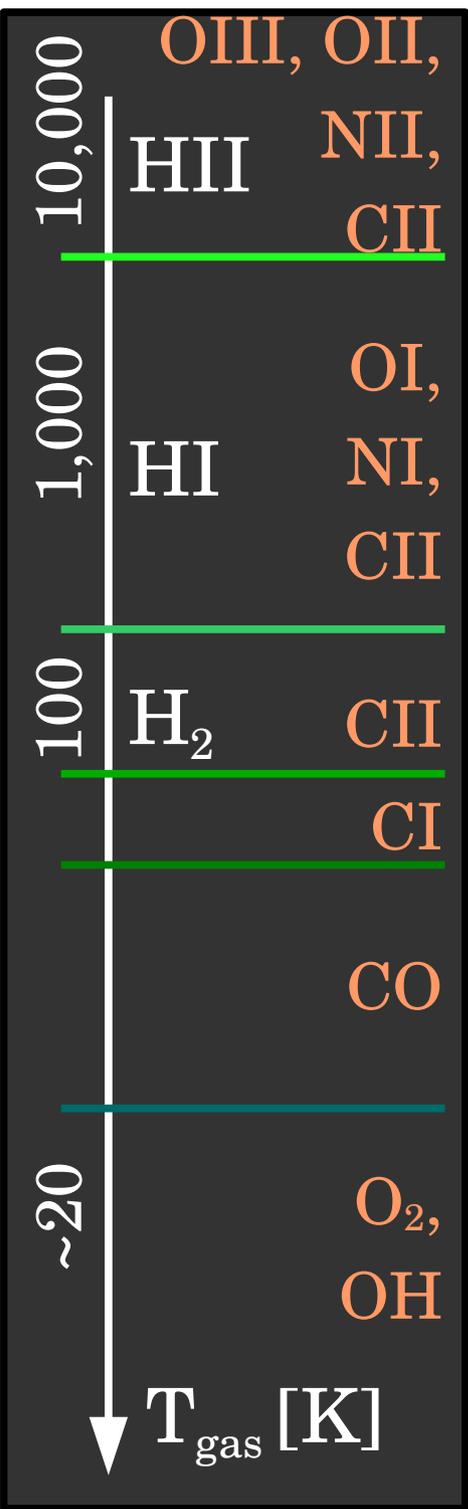
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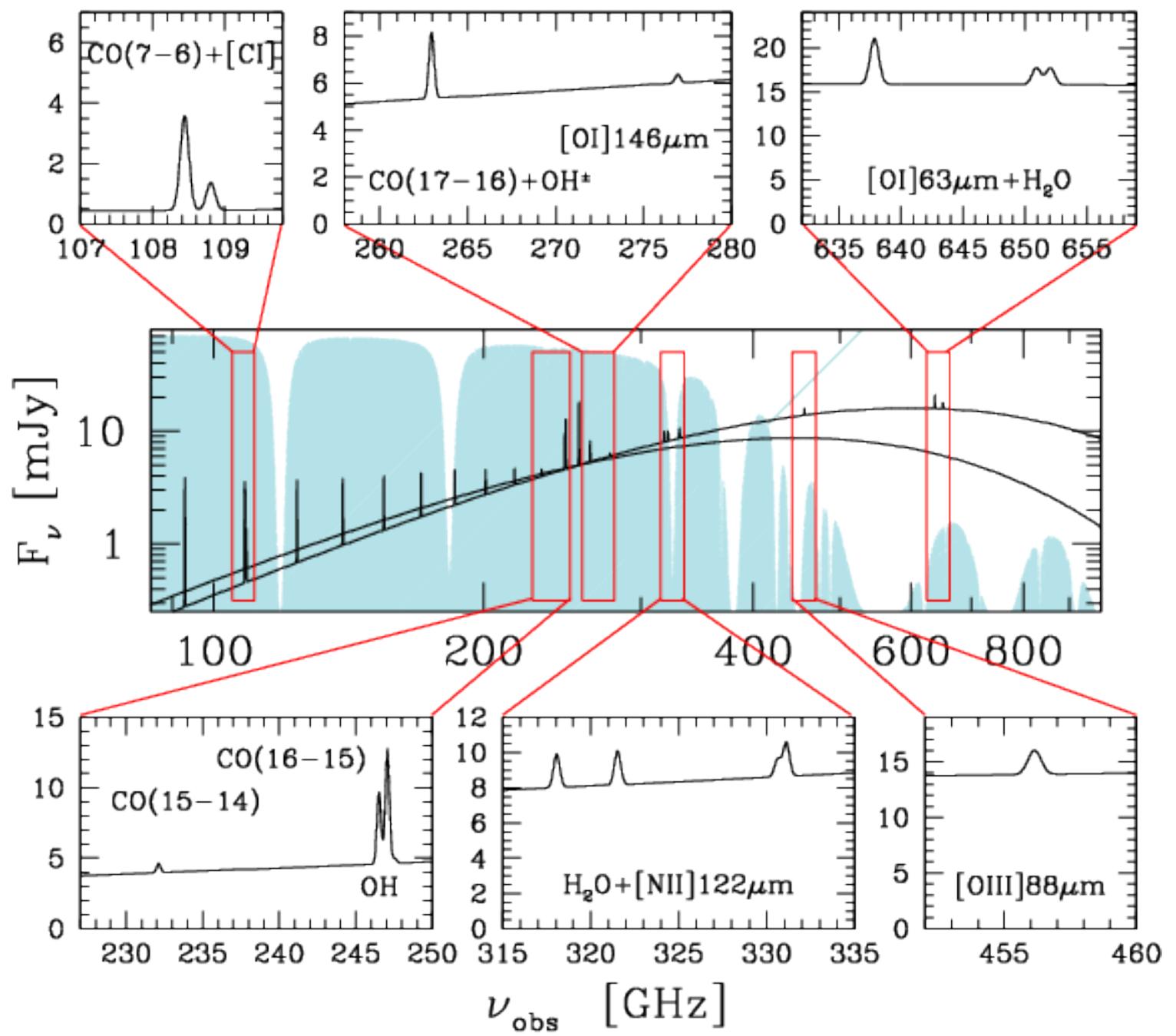
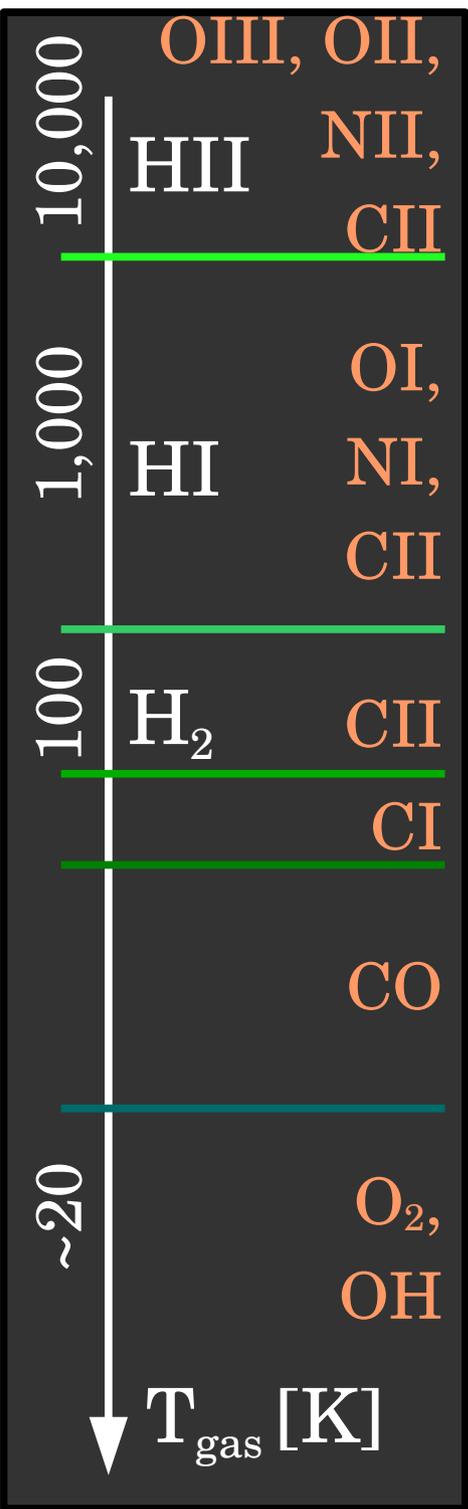
H<sub>2</sub>O

Hard to infer  
column densities

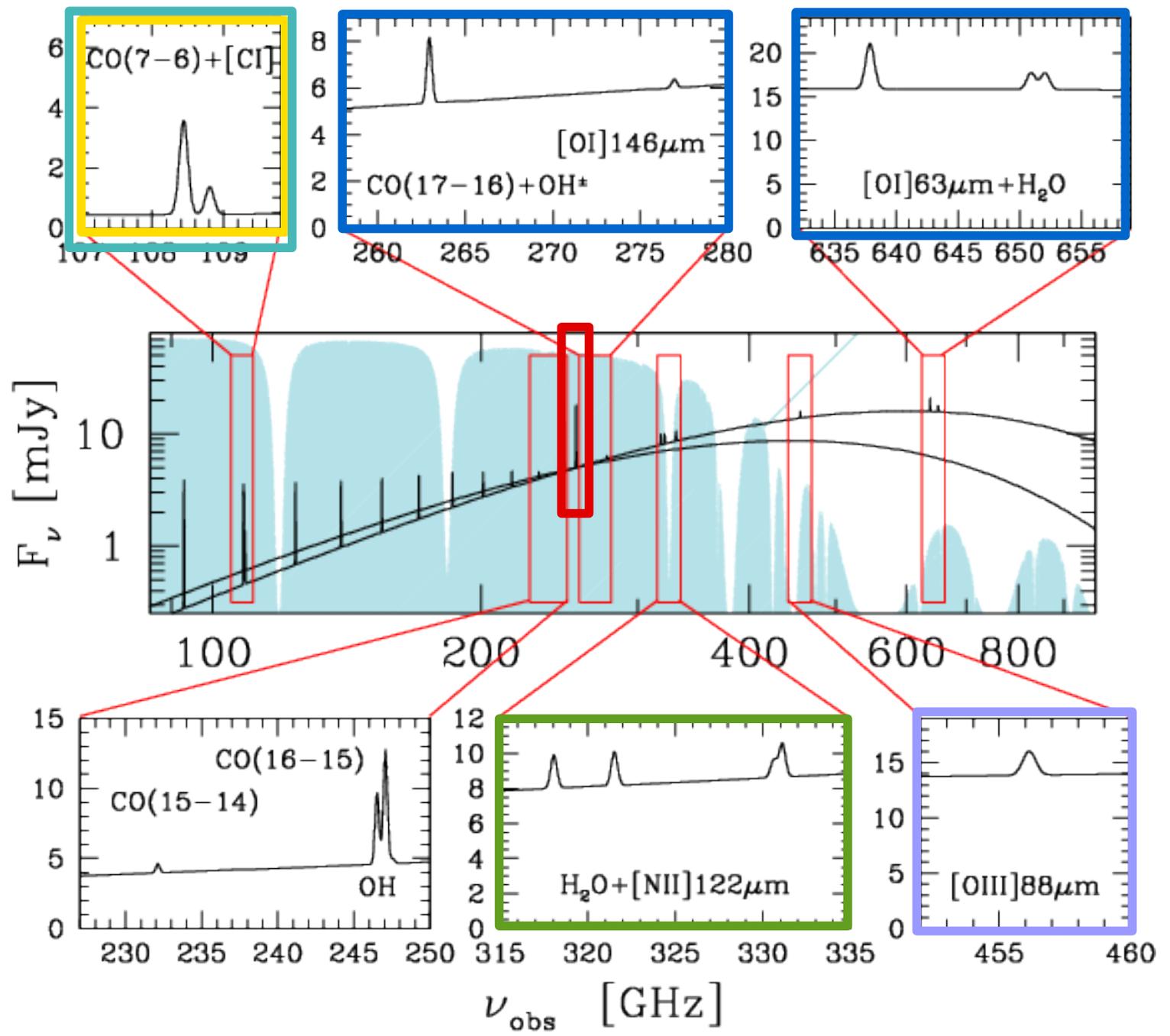
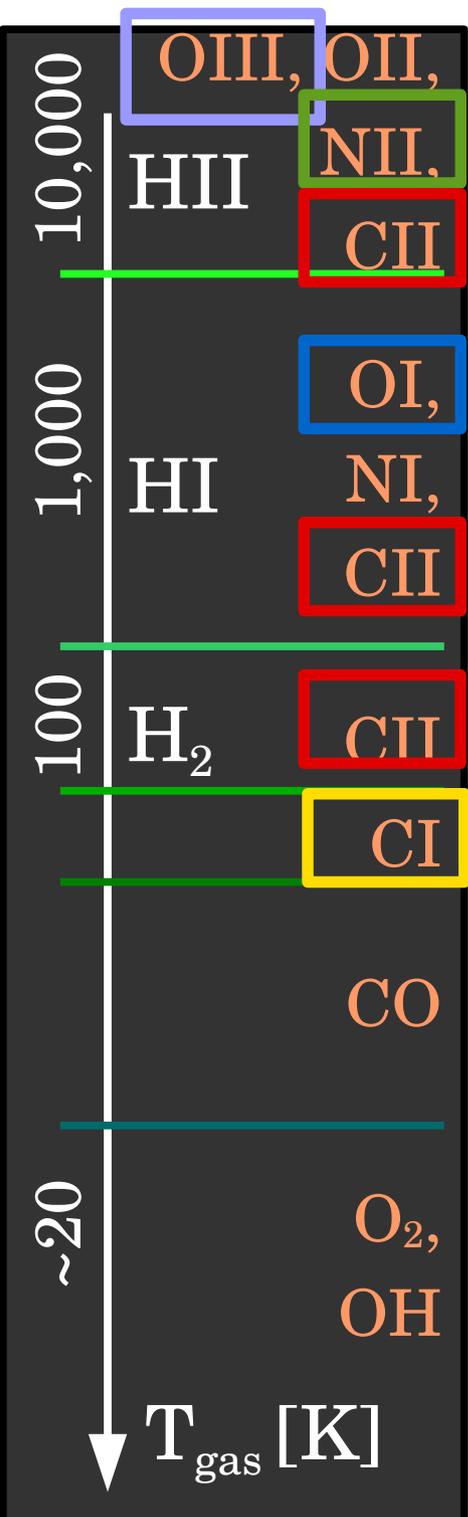


# Beyond CO: Fine structure lines





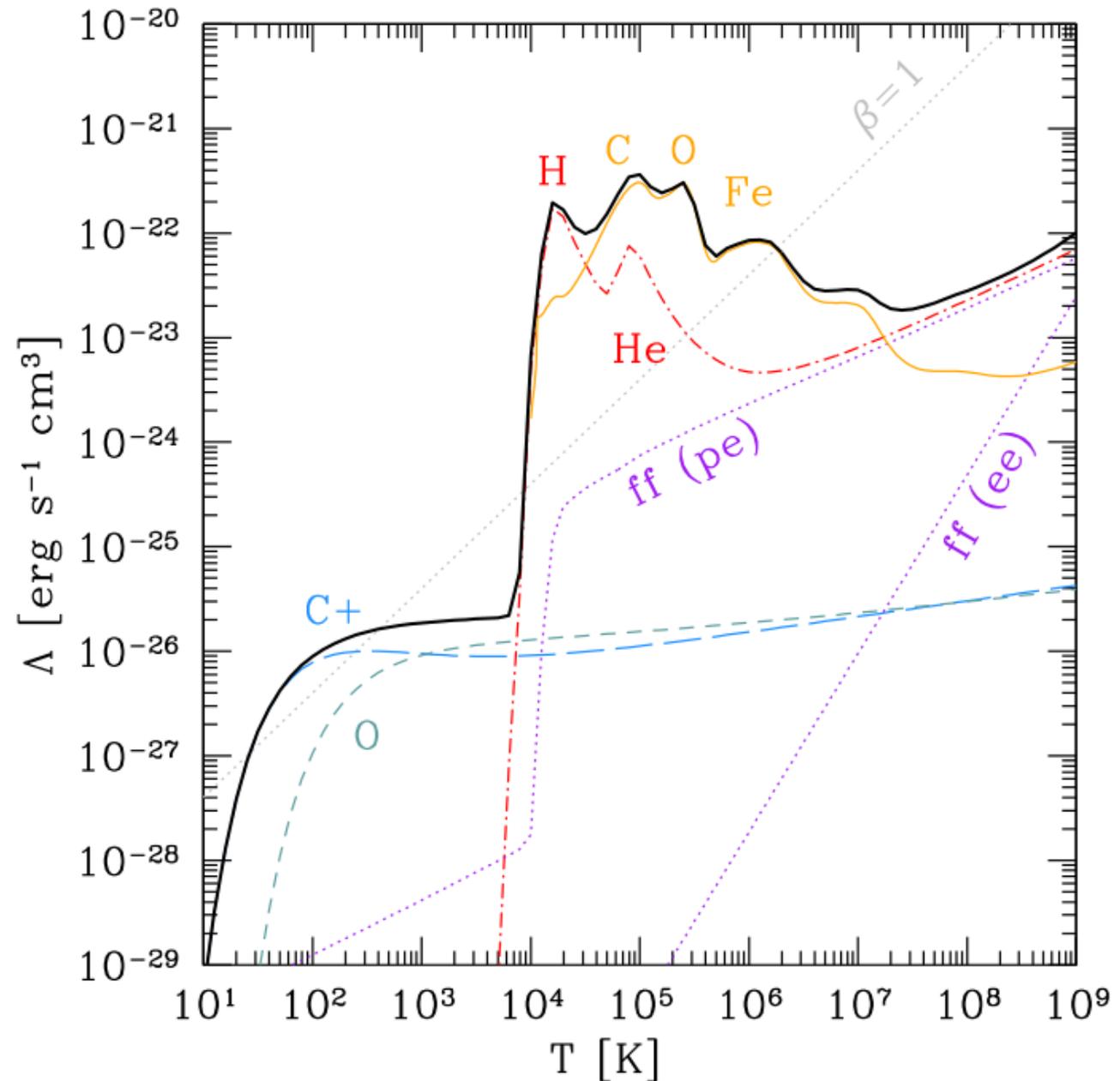
redshift=6.5



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# Beyond CO: Fine Structure Lines

[OI] 63 & [CII] 158:  
Main coolants of ISM  
at  $30 \text{ K} < T < 3000 \text{ K}$



# Beyond CO: Fine Structure Lines

[OI] 63 / [CII] 158: Abundance

[OIII] 88 / [OI] 63: Ionization state

[NII] 122 / 205: Electron density (ionized gas)

[CI] 609 / 370: Excitation temperature (molecular gas)

[CII] 158 / [NII] 205: Ionized vs neutral ISM / Metallicity

[CII] 158 / [CI] 370: X-ray vs PDR powering / Intensity radiation field

[CII] 158 / CO(7-6): Density ( $>10,000 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ )



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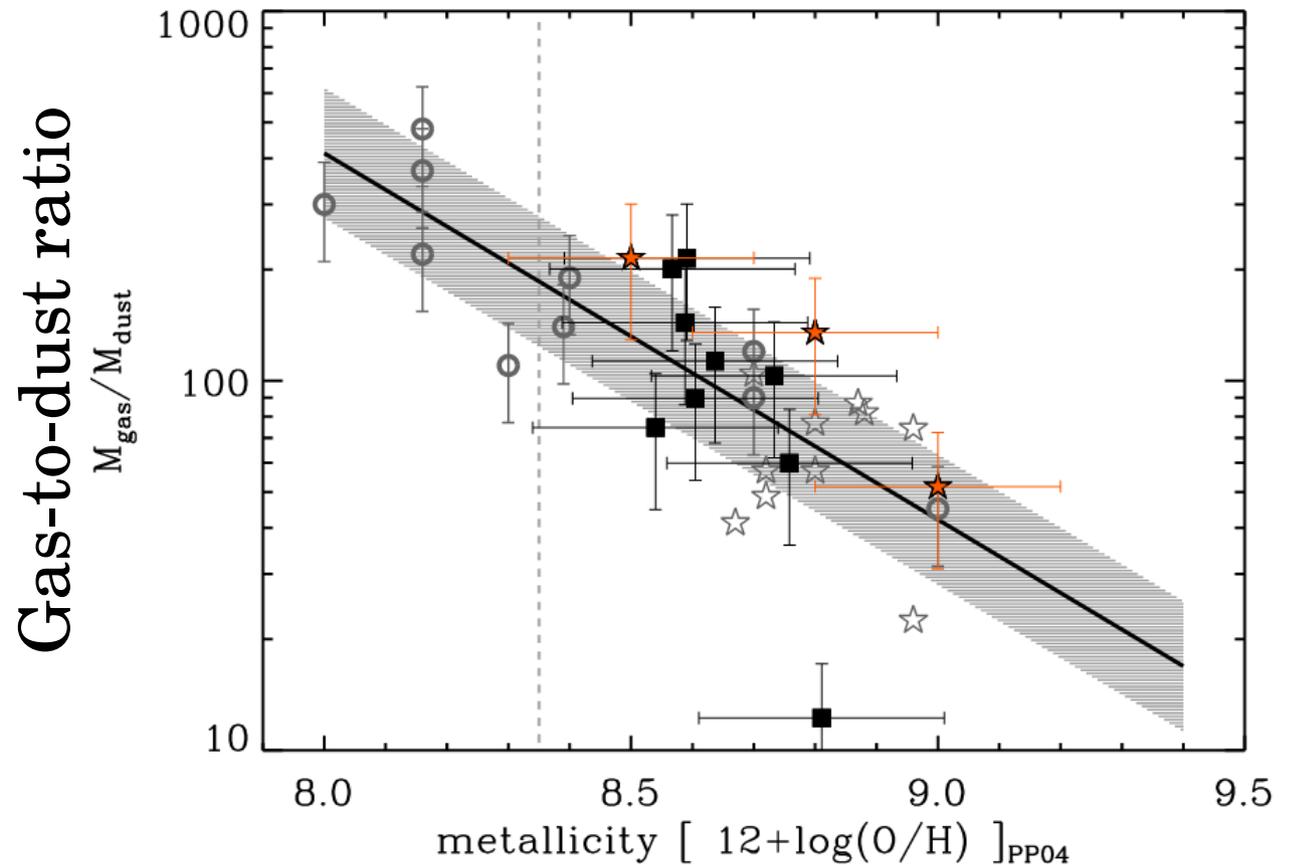
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Metallicity Magdis+12

# Indirect tracers

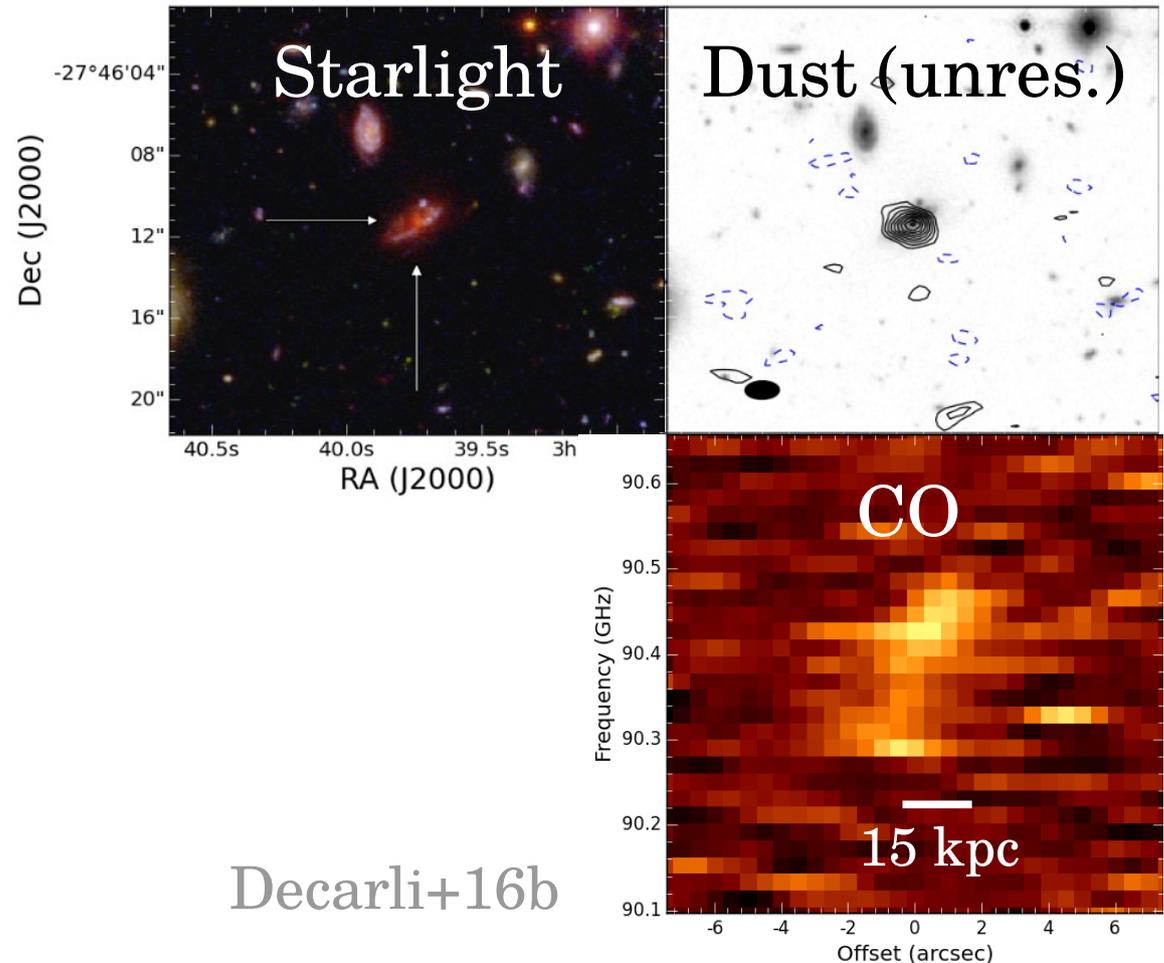
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Subtleties:  
same region?



Decarli+16b

# ISM observations at $z > 1$

# Observing “normal” $z > 1$ galaxies

Molecular surveys in (bright) Main Sequence galaxies:

PHIBSS1+2: Tacconi+10,13; Genzel+10,15; etc

Dannerbauer+09, Daddi+10, Aravena+10, ...

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**Molecular Deep Fields:**

PdBI+HDF-N: Decarli+14, Walter+14

ASPECS: Walter+16, Aravena+16b, Decarli+16ab

COLDz: Lentati+15

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**Clusters:**

Aravena+12

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**Clusters:**

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**Lenses:**

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**Continuum surveys:**

ALESS: Hodge+13, Karim+13, etc

COSMOS: Scoville+14,16

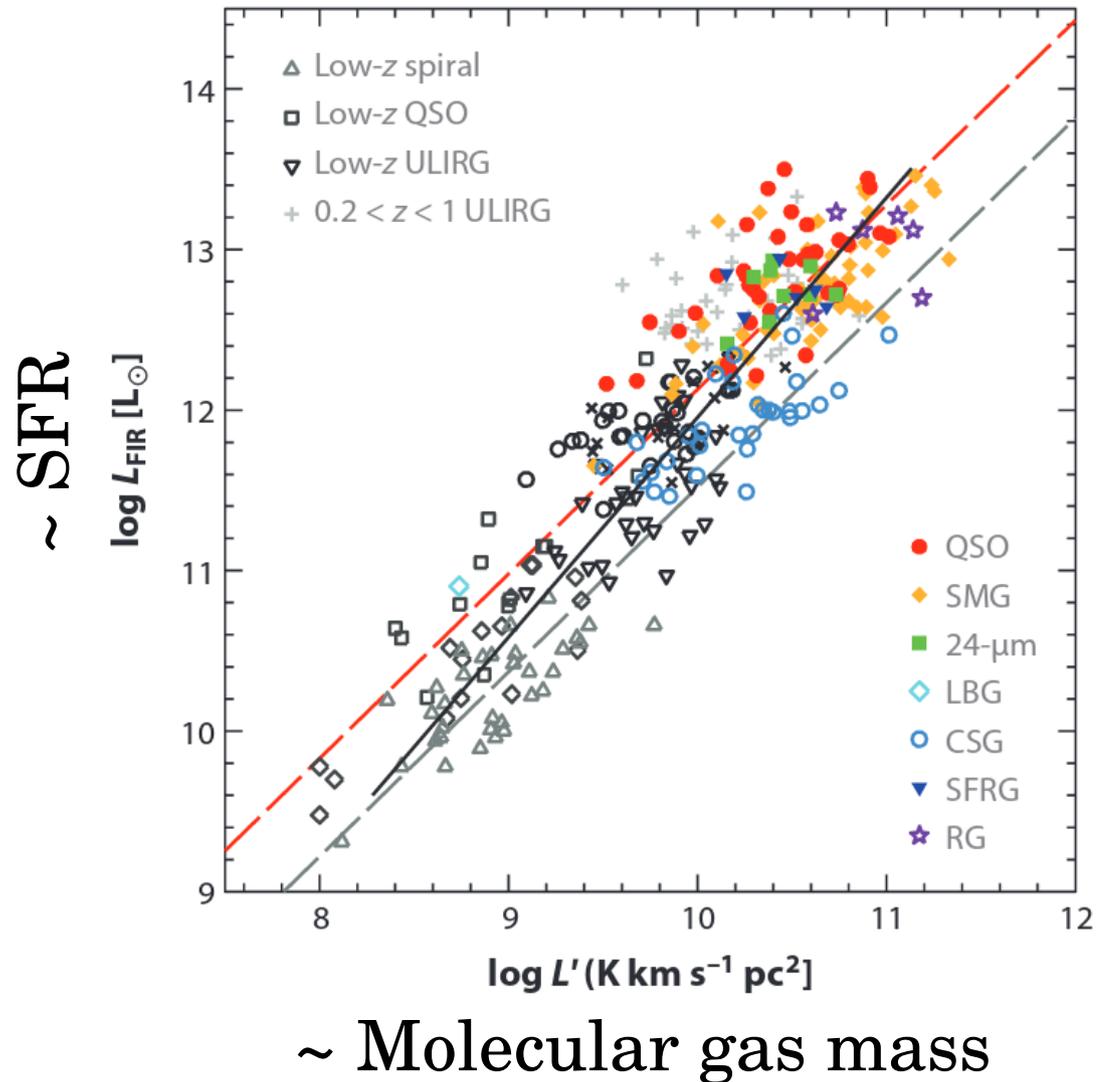
HUDF: Dunlop+16

ASPECS: Aravena+16a, Bouwens+16

Others: Fujimoto+15, ...

A few results,  
and many open issues

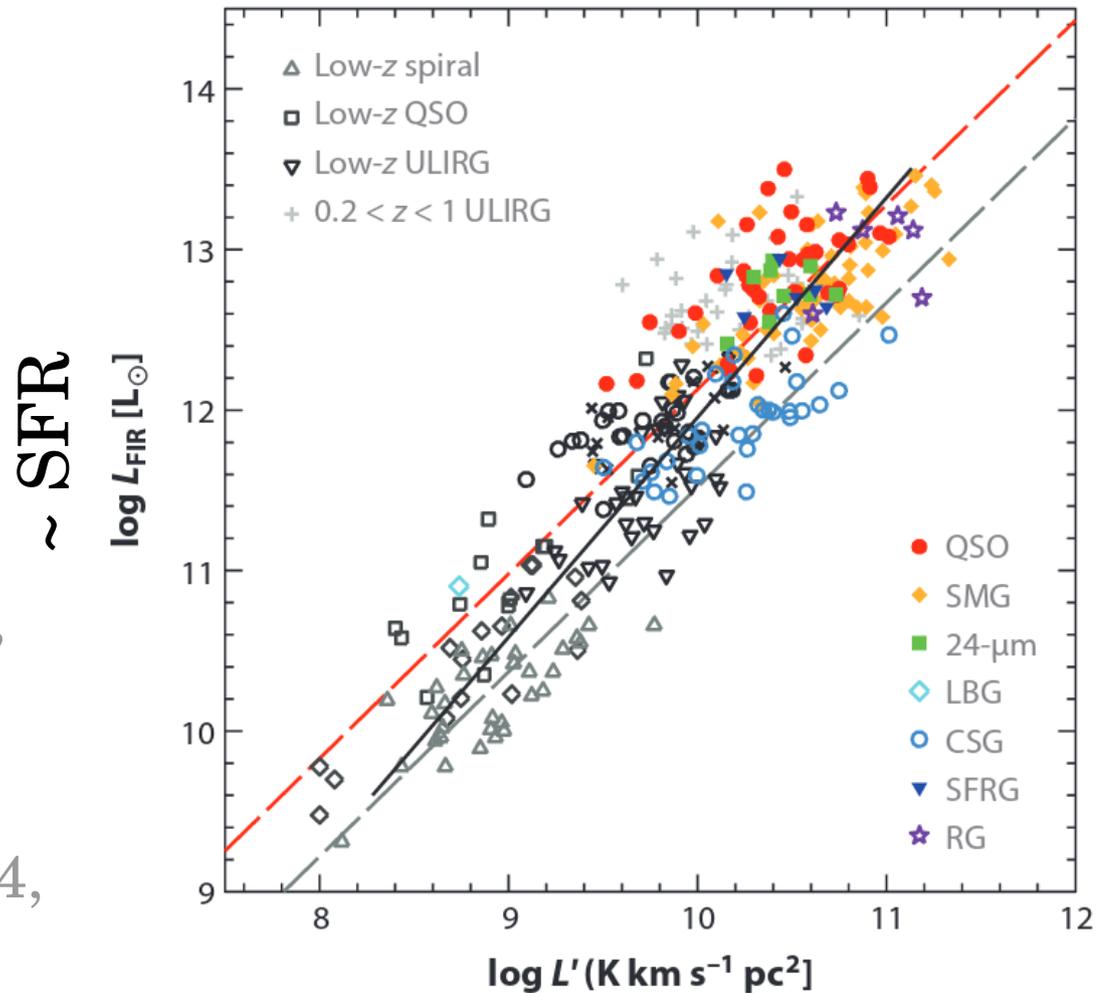
# Molecular gas and SFR



# Molecular gas and SFR

One super-linear  
relation or two  
linear sequences?

(Genzel+10,15, Daddi+10,  
Narayanan+10,  
Krumholtz+12,  
Federrath+13, Sargent+14,  
Silverman+15, Usero+15,  
Liu+15, Salim+15,  
Escala+15, ...)



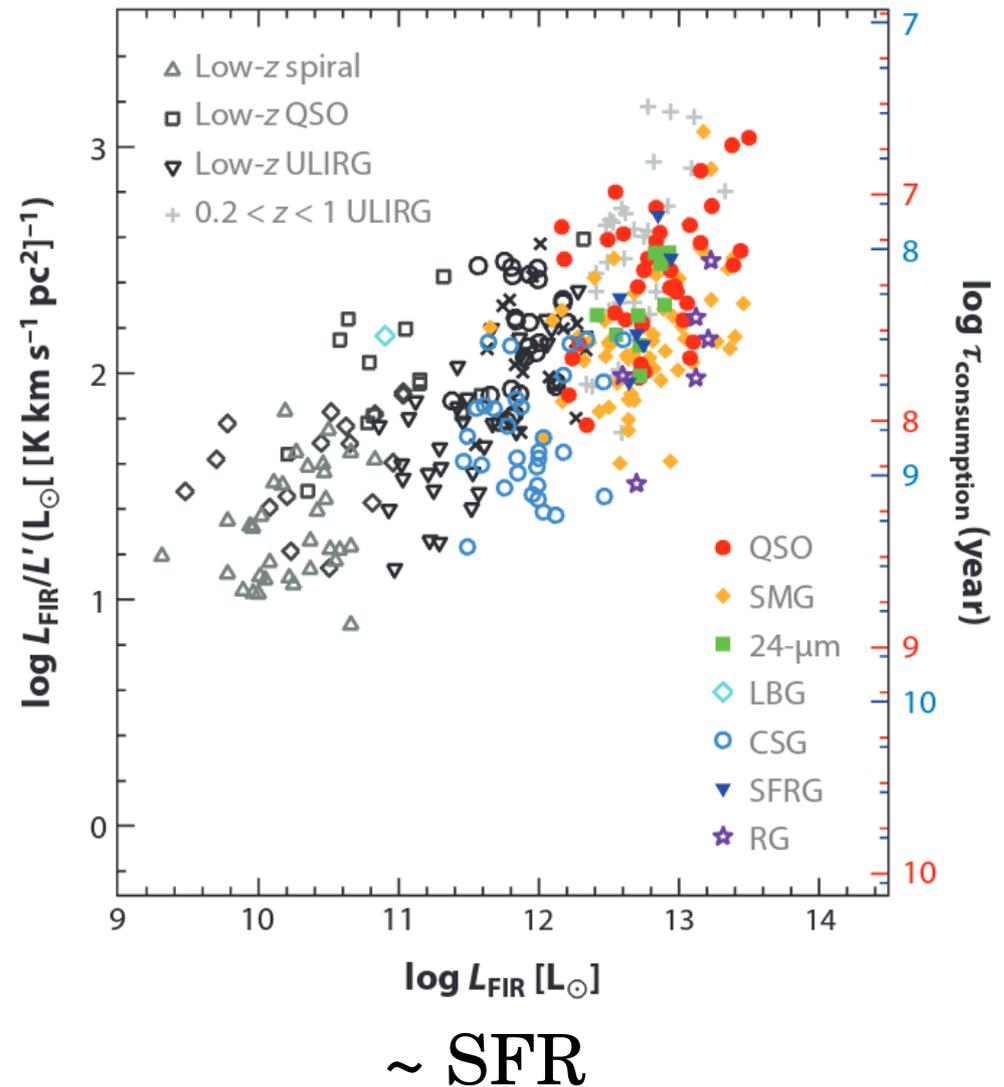
$\sim$  Molecular gas mass

# Star Formation Efficiency ...

Star Formation  
Efficiency (SFE):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SFR} / M_{\text{gas}} &= \text{SFE} \\ &= 1/t_{\text{depl}} \end{aligned}$$

Star Formation Efficiency

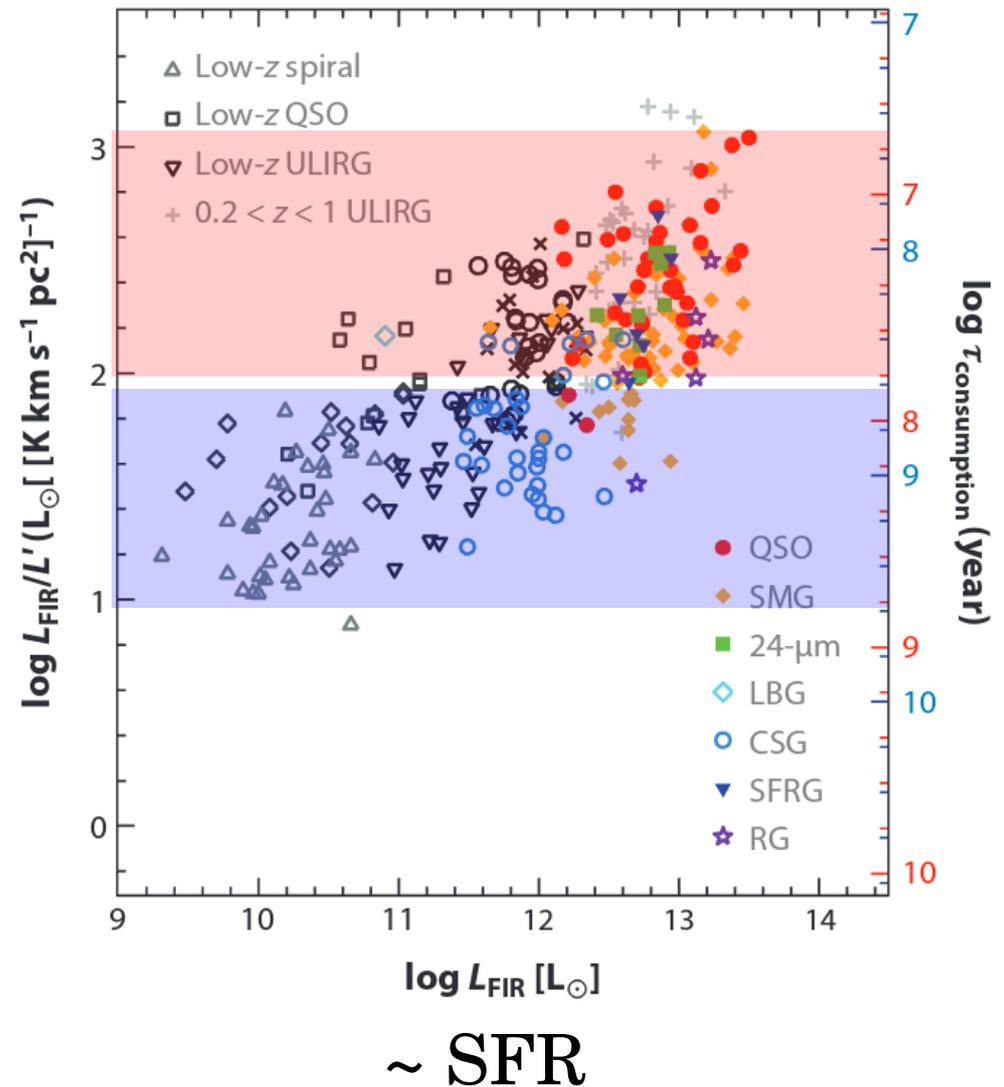


# ... and depletion time

QSOs, SMGs,  
starbursts:  
 $t_{\text{dep}} \sim 10^7 - 10^8 \text{ yr}$

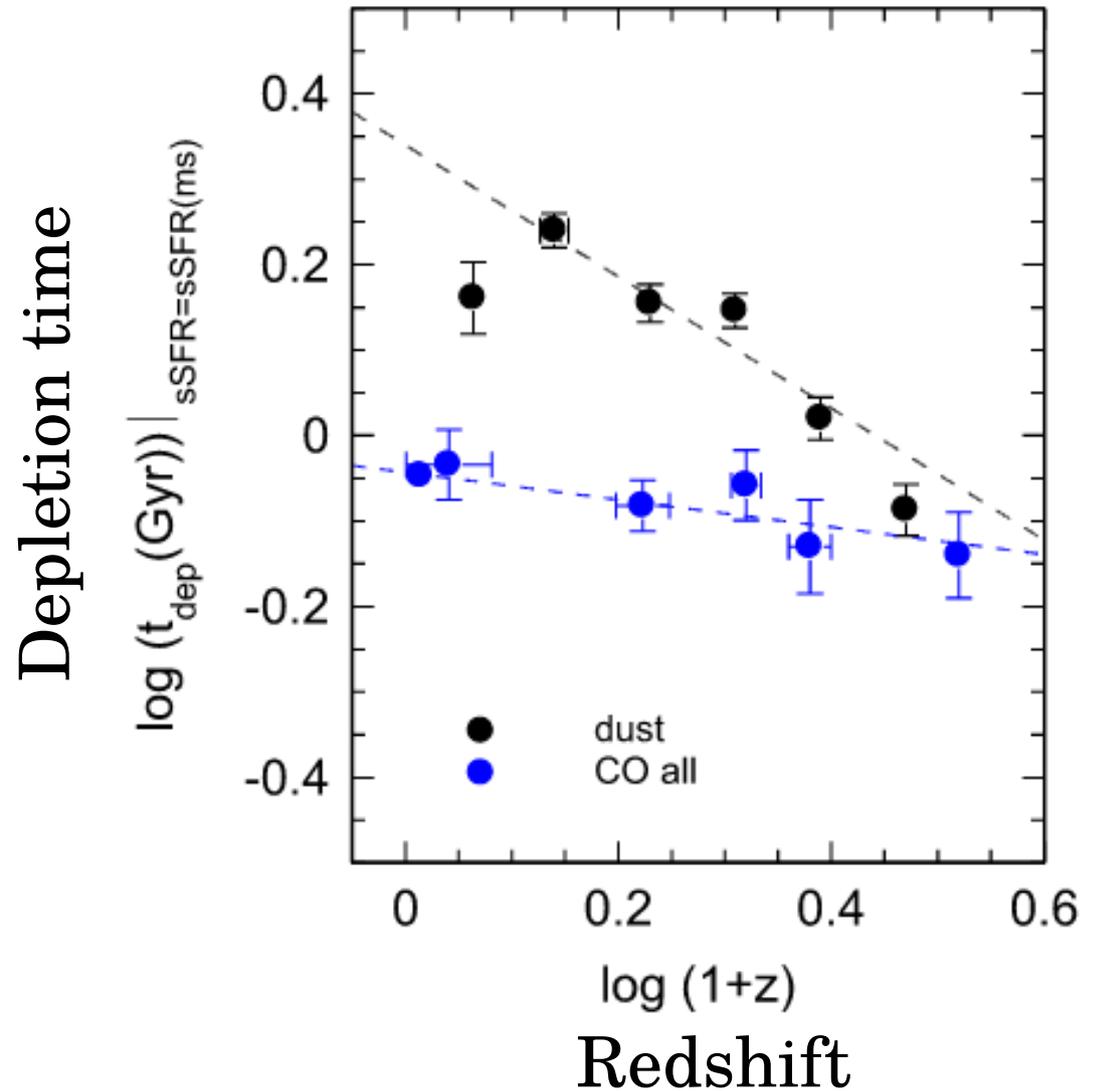
Main sequence  
galaxies:  
 $t_{\text{dep}} \sim 10^9 \text{ yr}$

Star Formation Efficiency



# Depletion time

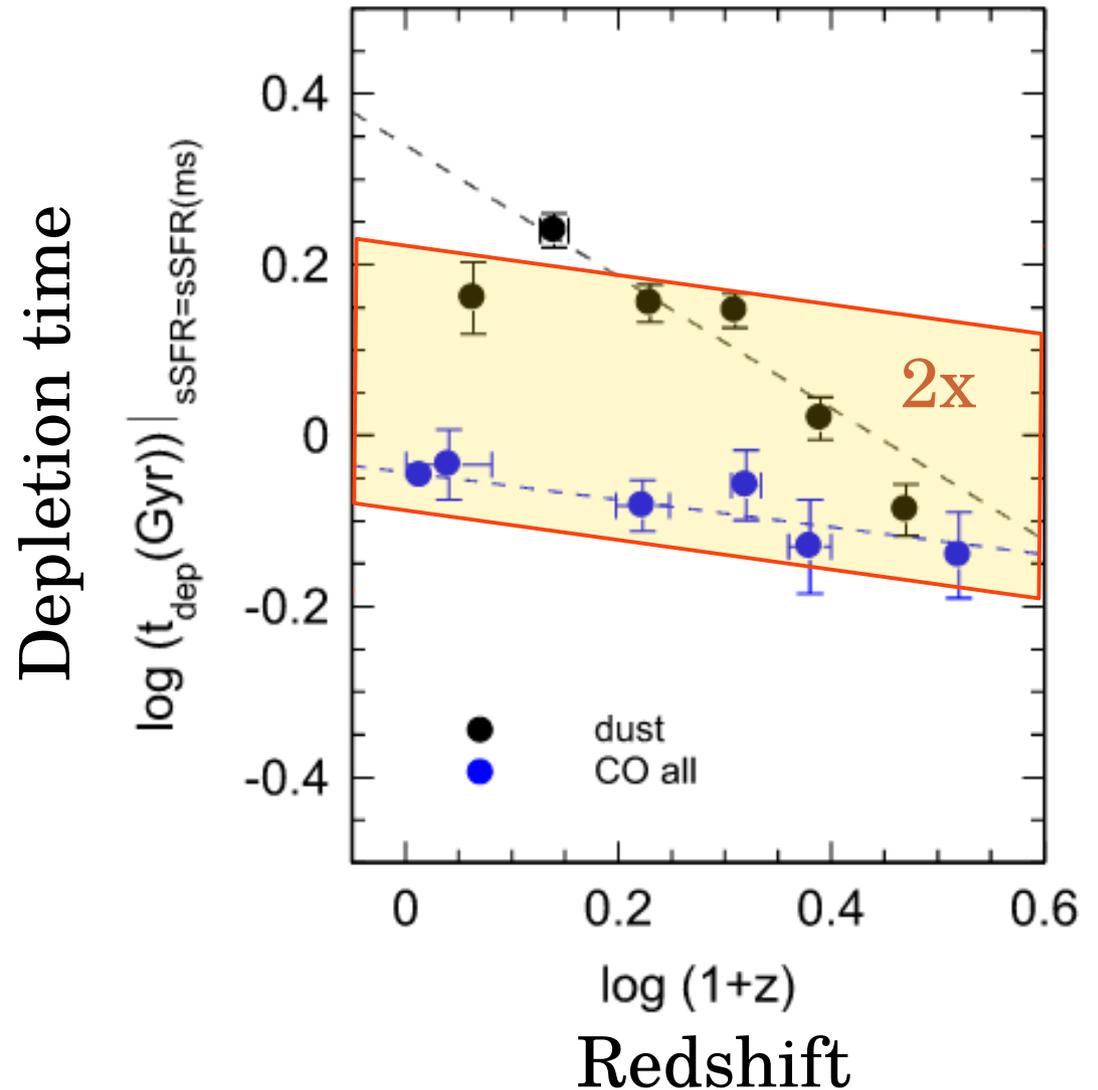
Does  $t_{\text{dep}}$  evolve?



# Depletion time

Does  $t_{\text{dep}}$  evolve?

Do different tracers tell consistent stories?



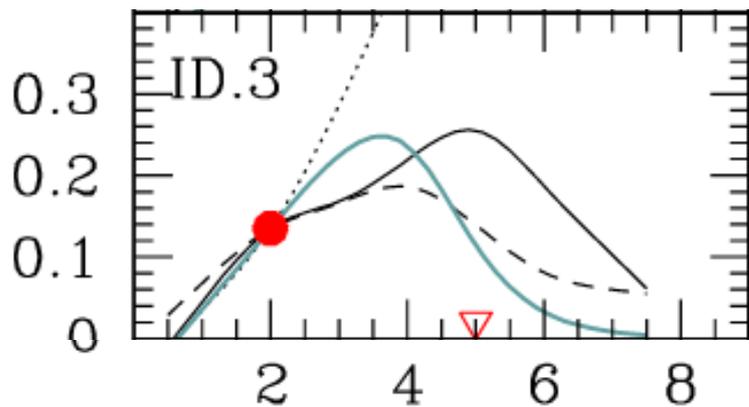
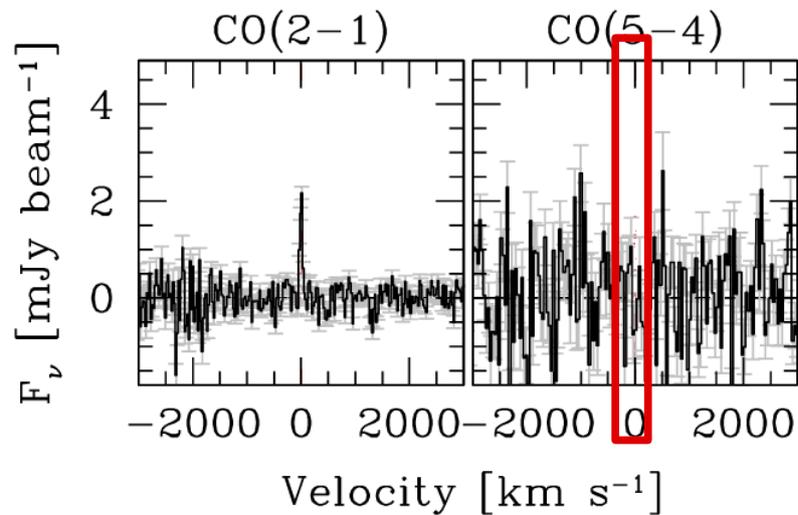
# CO excitation

MS galaxy at  $z \sim 1.4$ :

Very low CO excitation

QSO host at  $z \sim 6.4$ :

Very high CO excitation

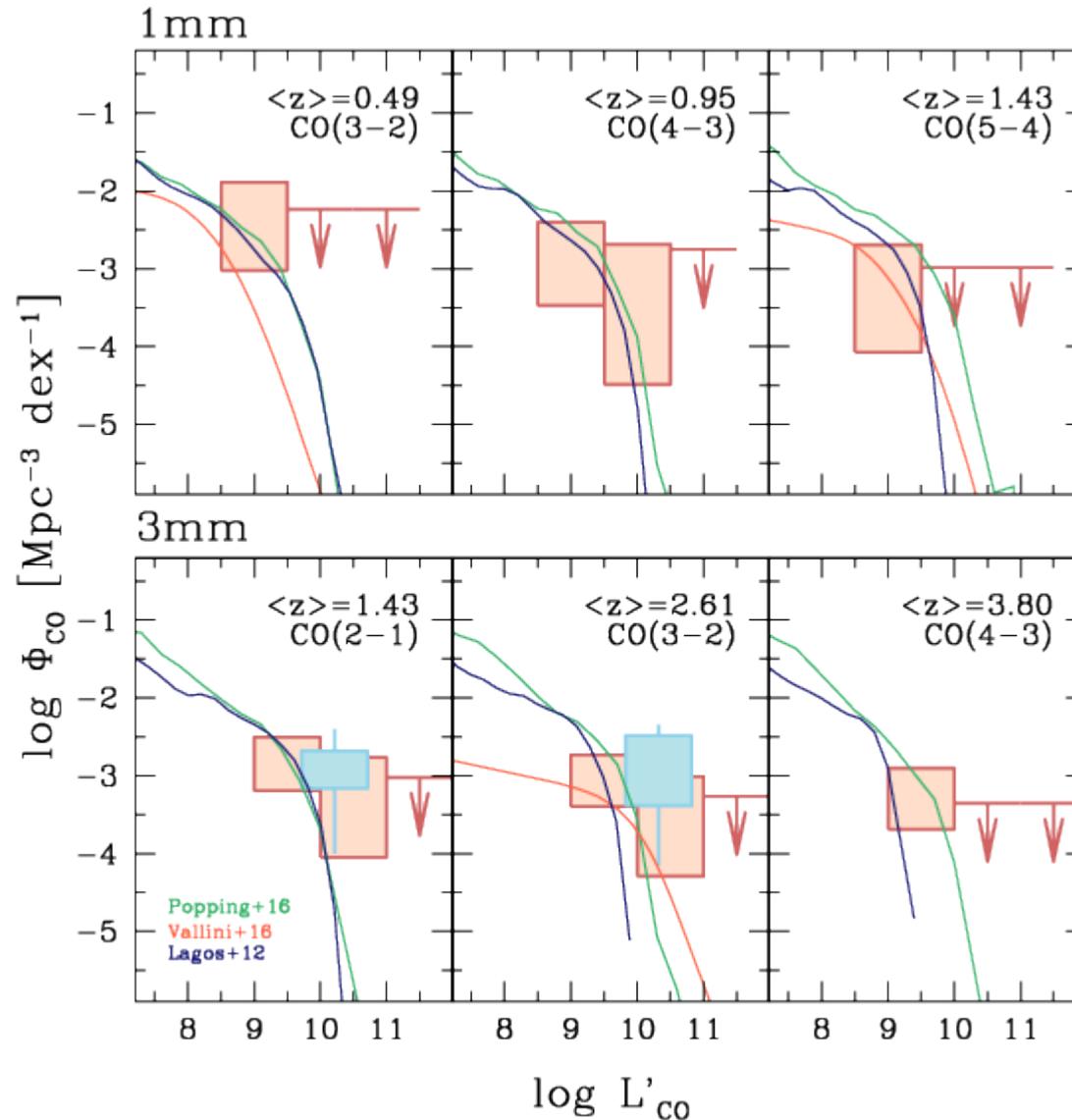


*See Simona's talk!*

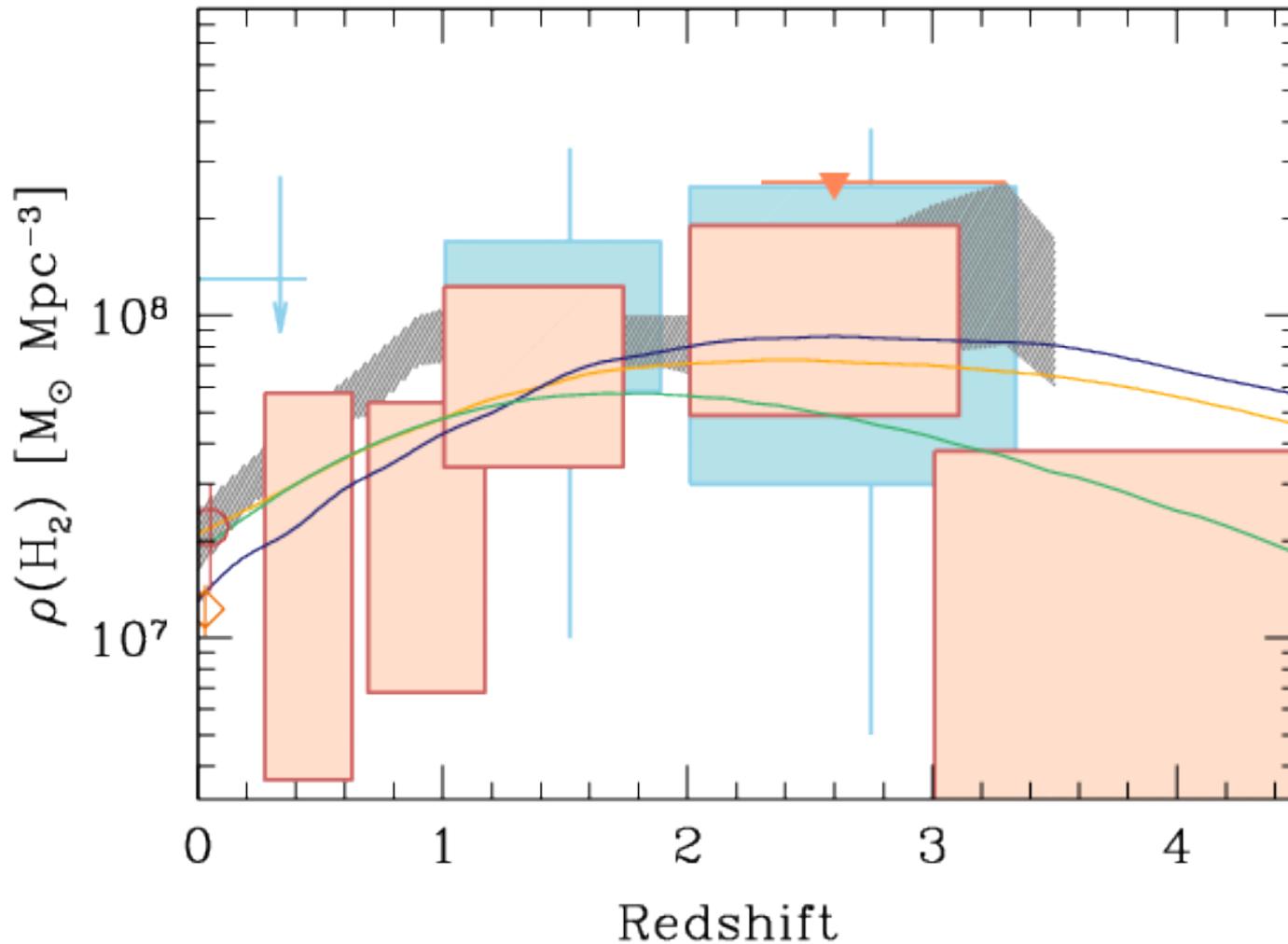
# CO luminosity functions

Lines: SAM  
predictions  
(Lagos+12,  
Popping+16)

Boxes: Obs.  
Constraints  
(Walter+14,  
ASPECS)

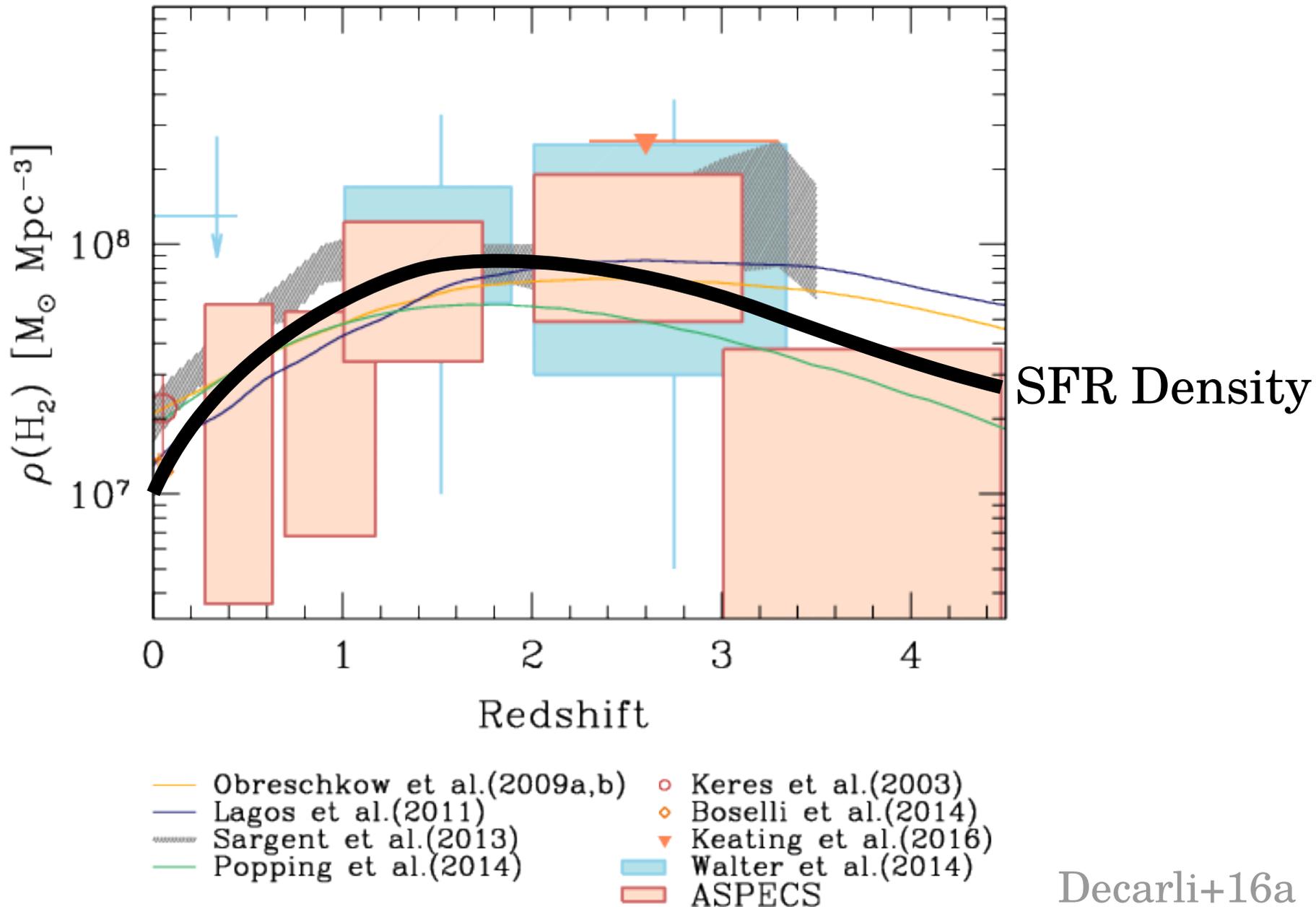


# Molecular mass budget



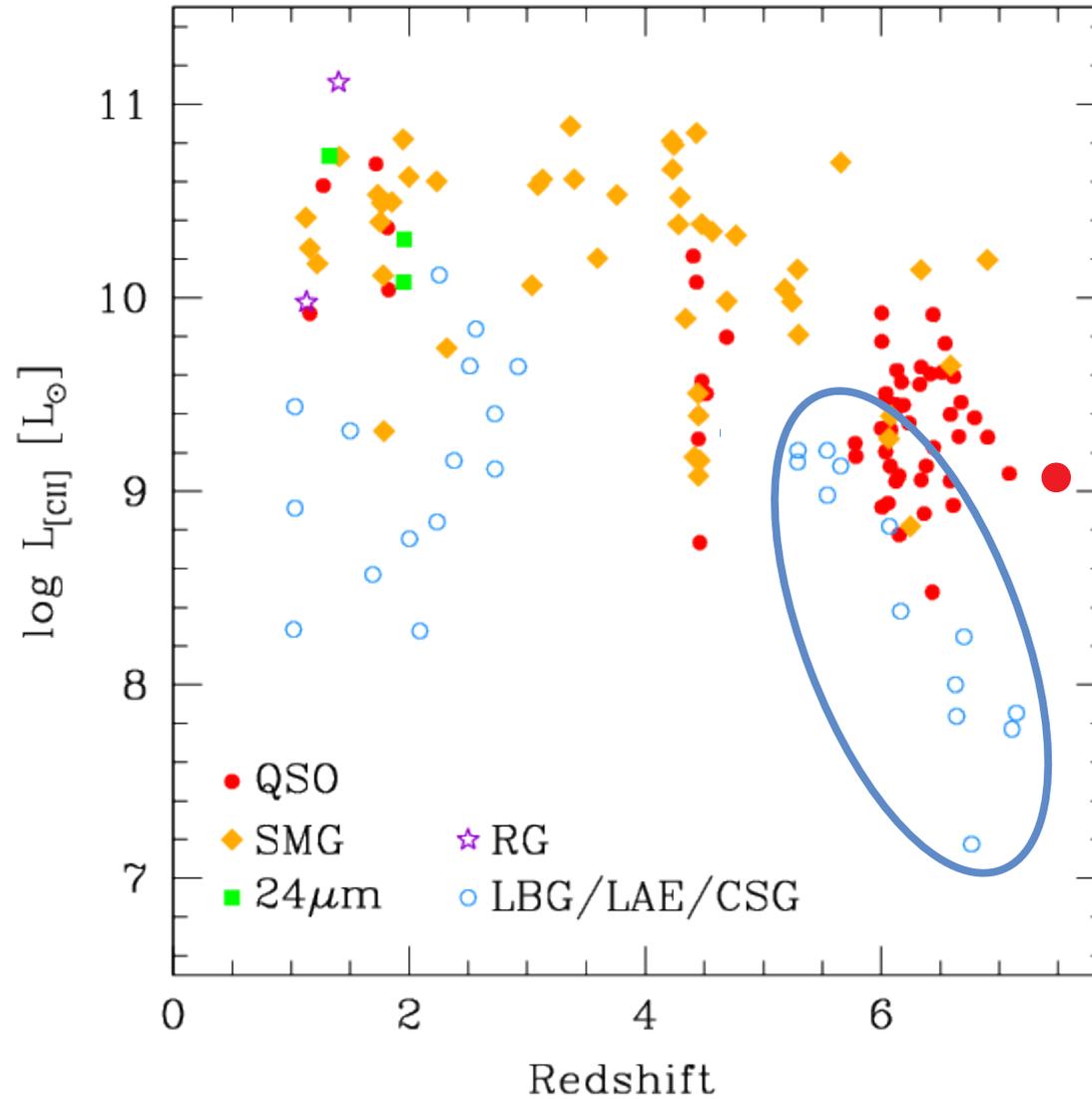
- Obreschkow et al.(2009a,b)
- Lagos et al.(2011)
- Sargent et al.(2013)
- Popping et al.(2014)
- Keres et al.(2003)
- ◇ Boselli et al.(2014)
- ▼ Keating et al.(2016)
- Walter et al.(2014)
- ASPECS

# Molecular mass budget



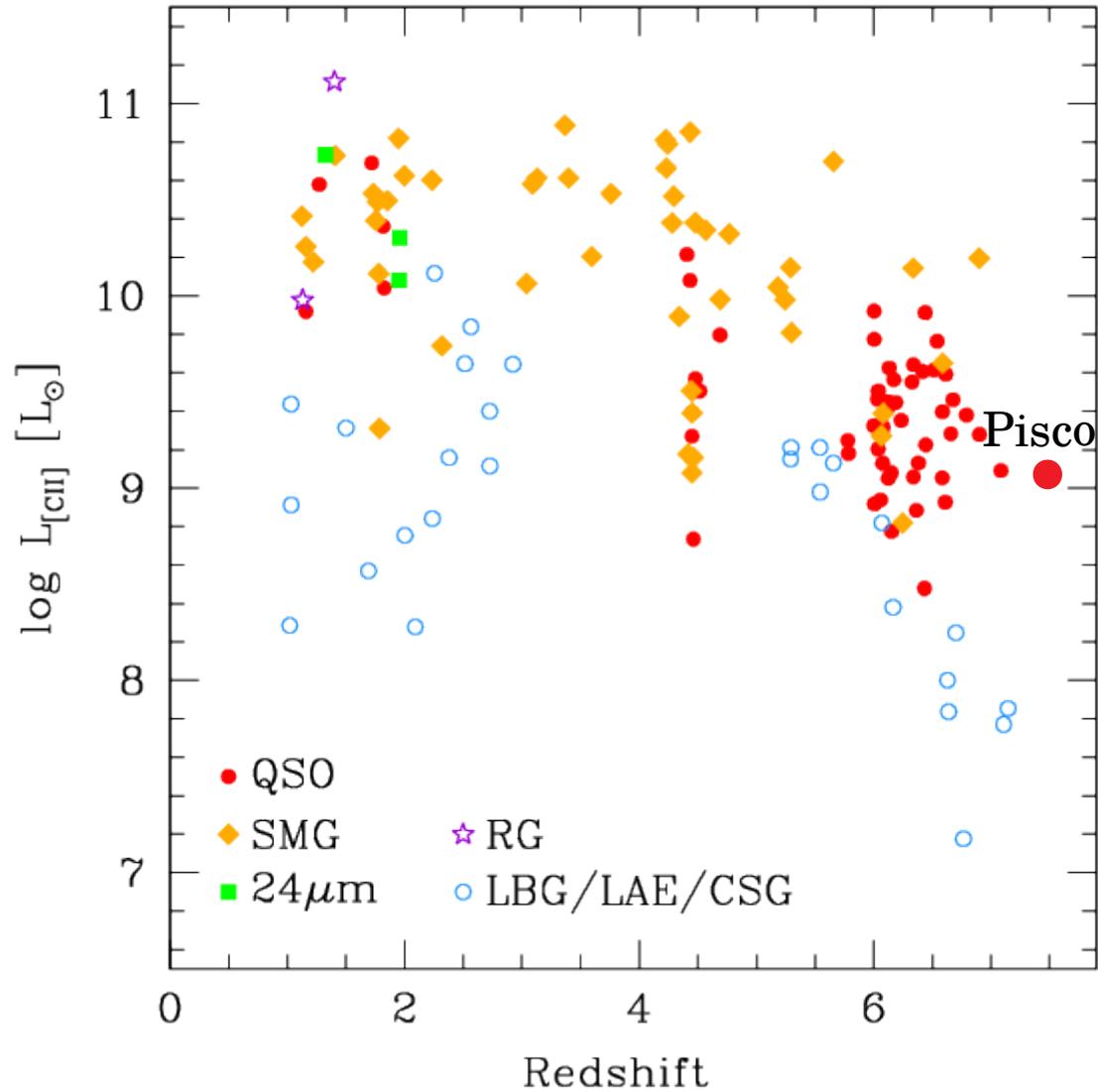


# The high-z frontier

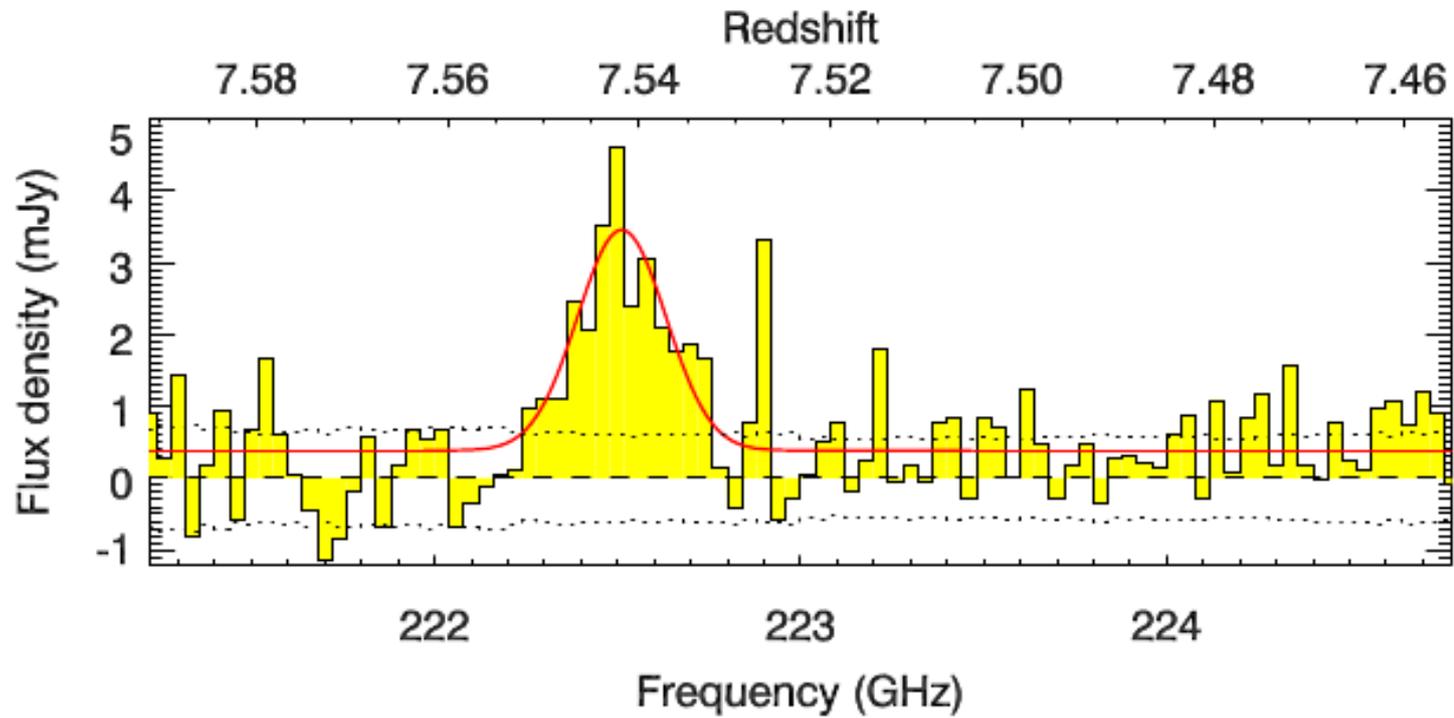




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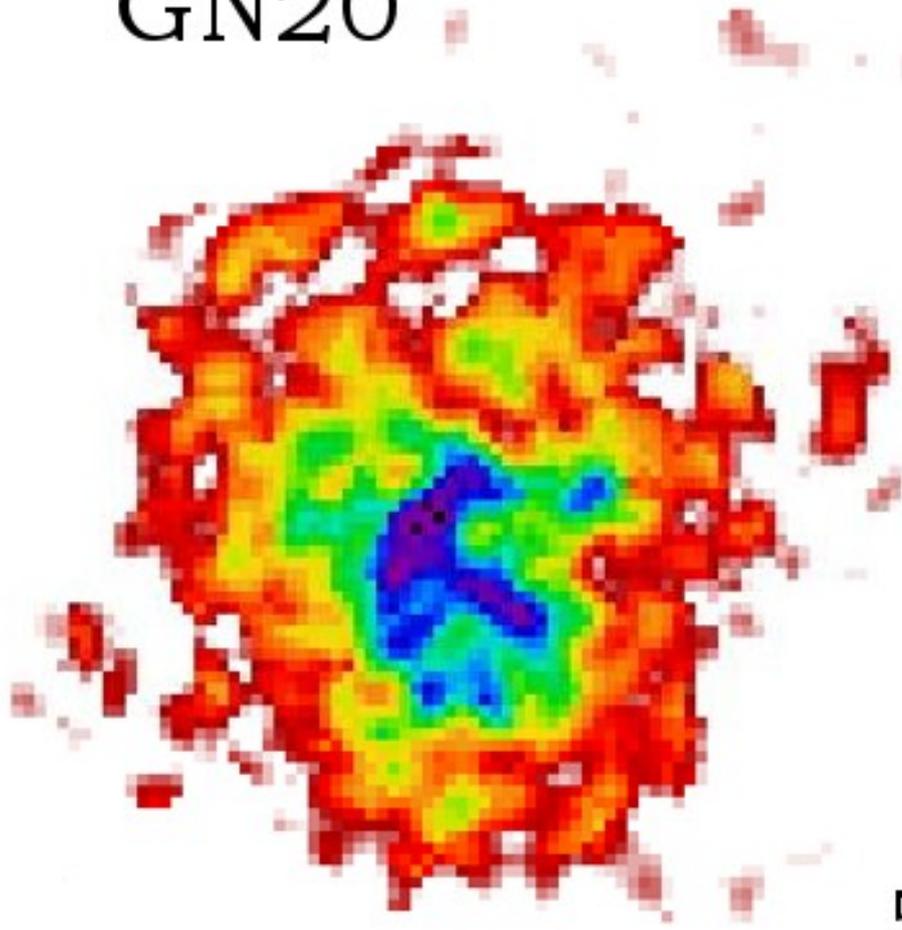
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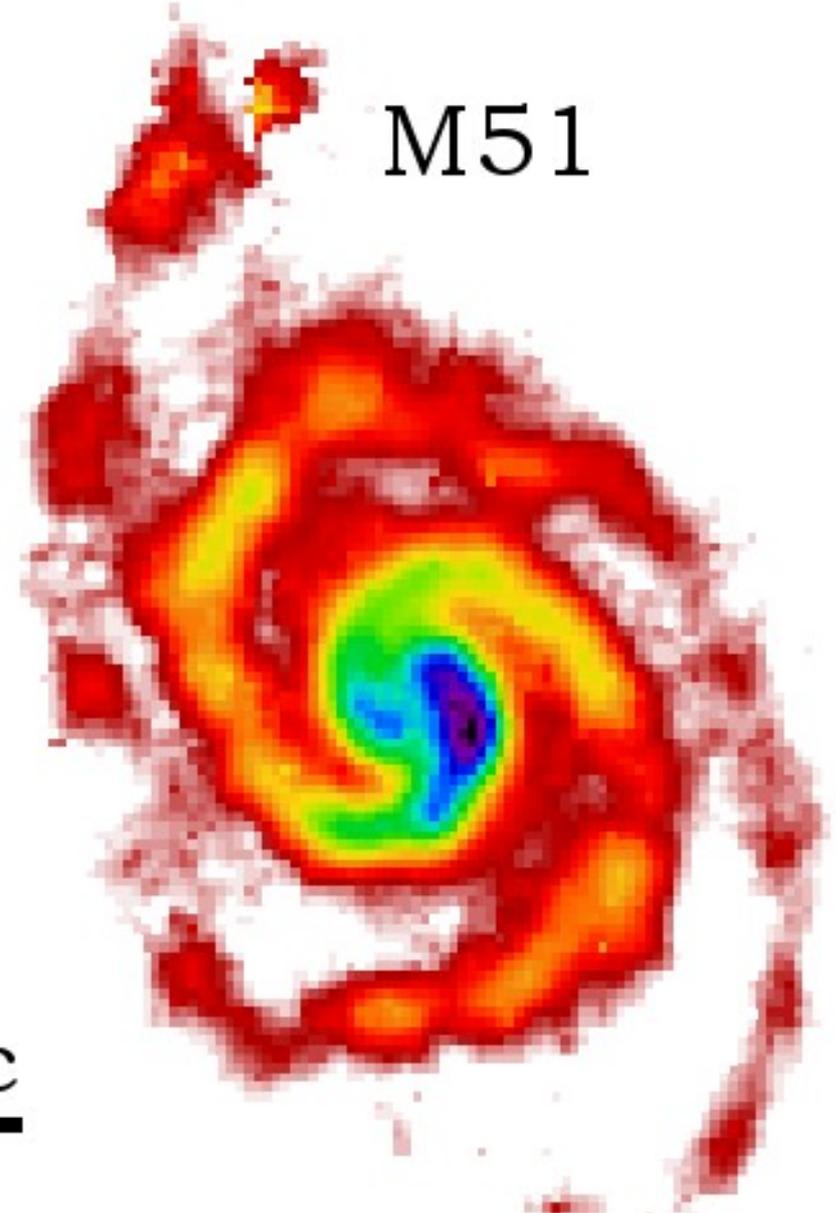
What's next?

# High resolution

GN20

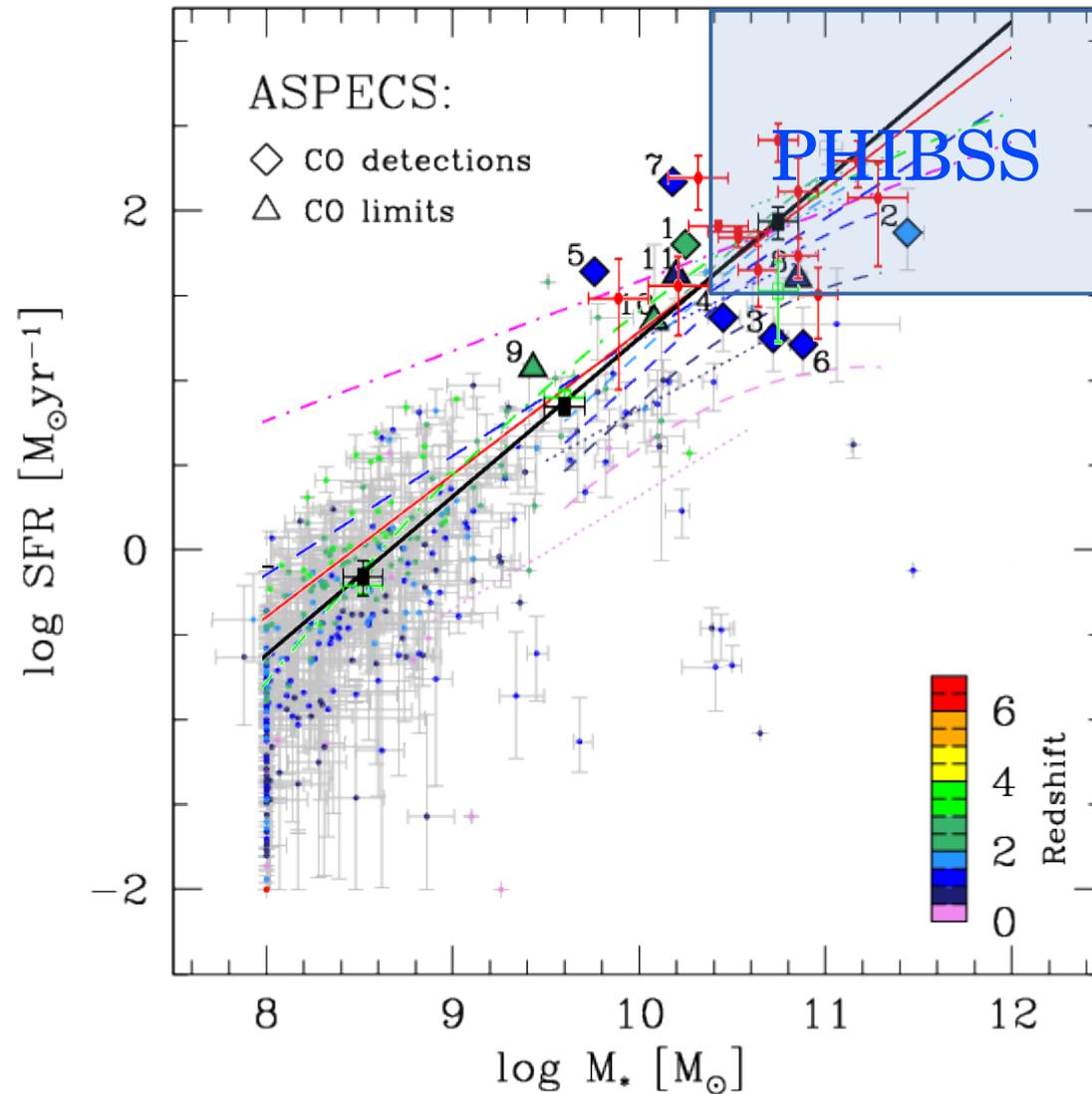


M51



5 kpc

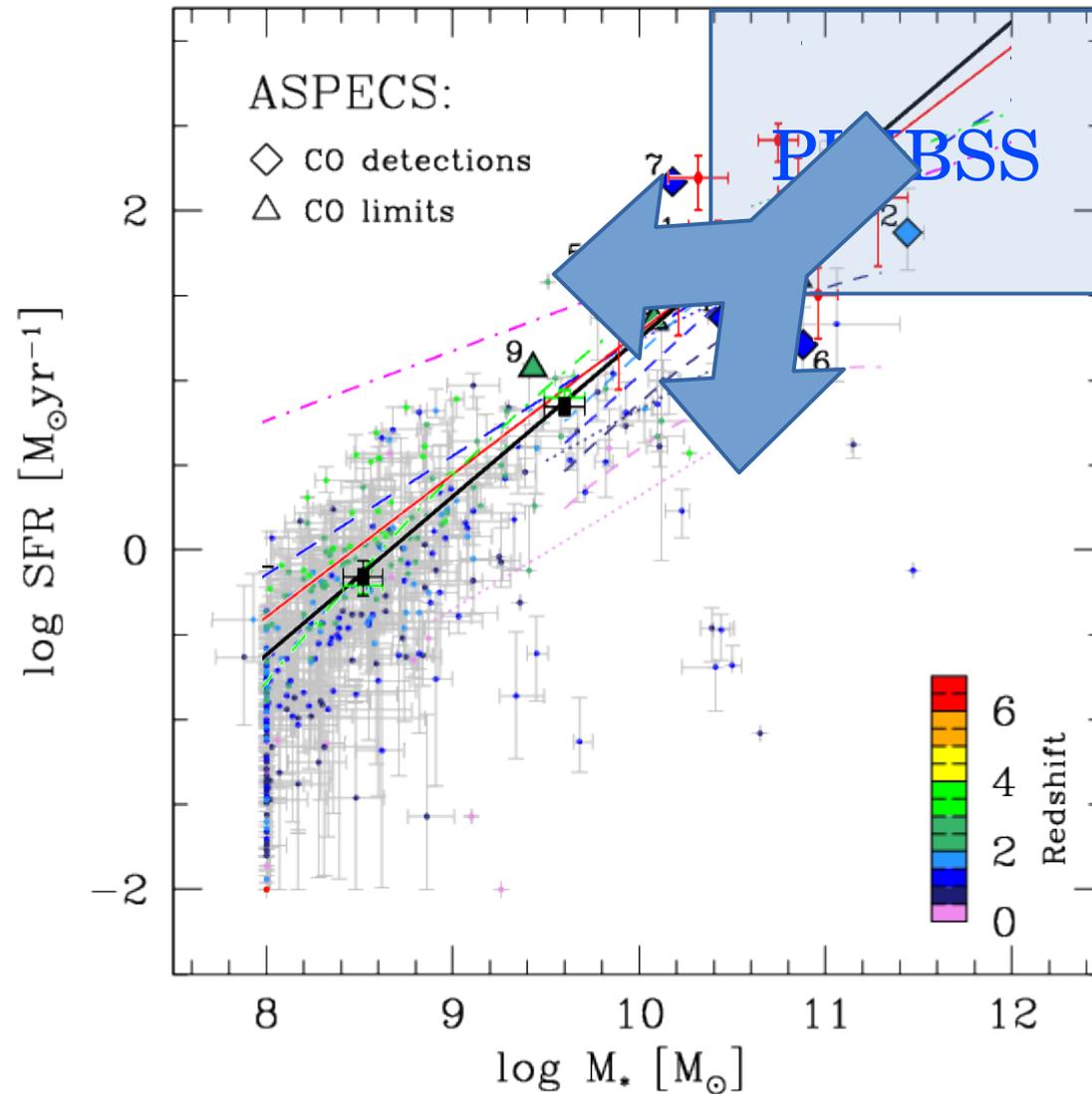
# Expanded parameter space



Decarli+16b +

Dunlop+16

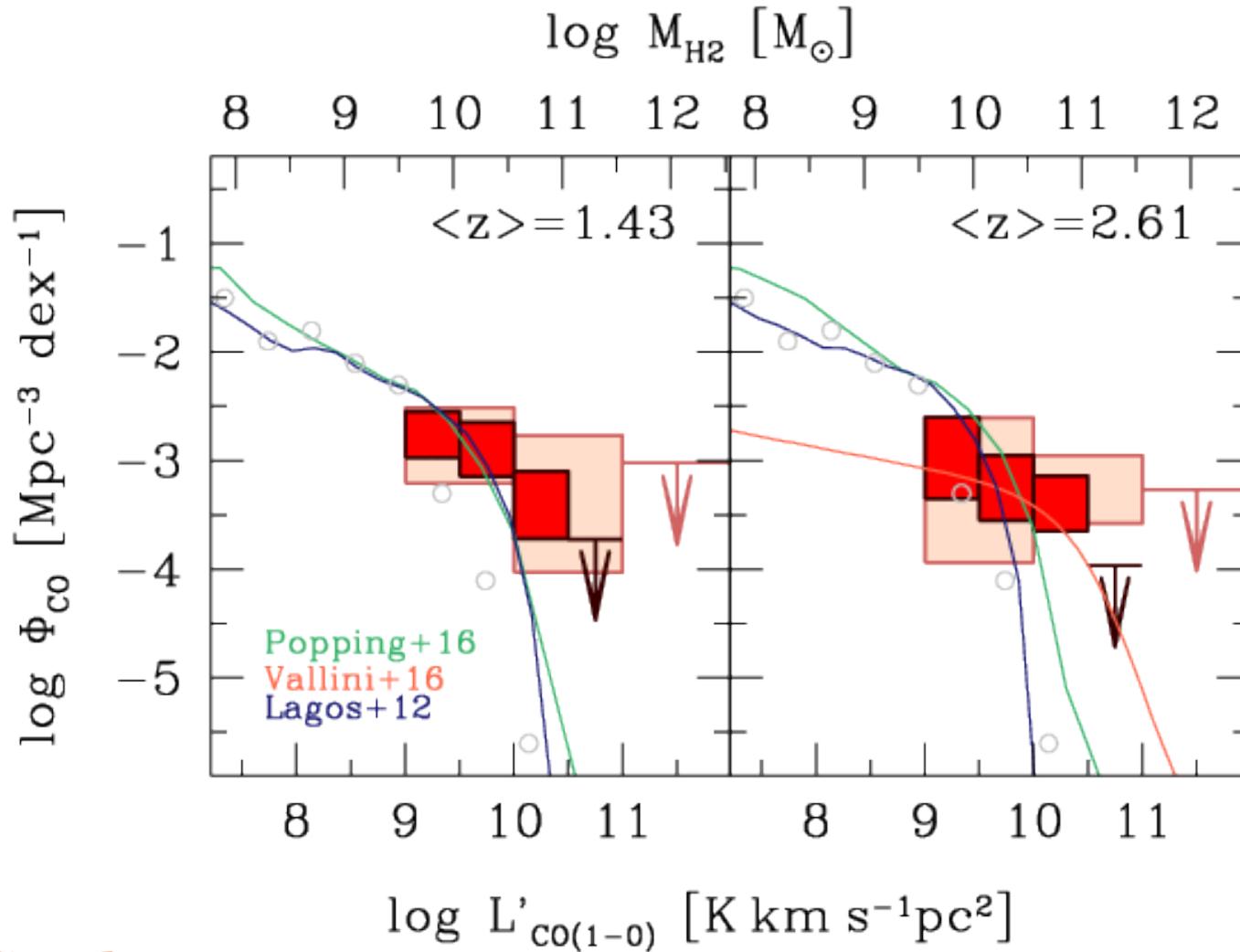
# Expanded parameter space



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# Larger samples



ASPECS Pilot

ASPECS Large Program (expected)

# (more) multi- $\lambda$ synergy



**MUSE:**

hundreds of redshifts per  
pointings, UV diagnostics

# (more) multi- $\lambda$ synergy



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**MOSFIRE, K-MOS:**

optical diagnostics,  
resolved kinematics



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**JWST:**

Precise masses,  
sensitive NIR/MIR spectroscopy

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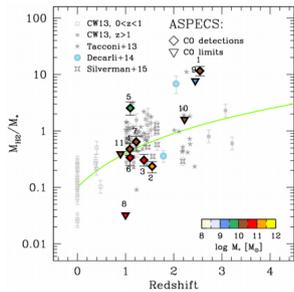


Full ALMA  
Upgraded NOEMA  
JVLA

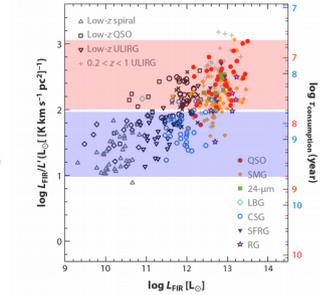
# Conclusions

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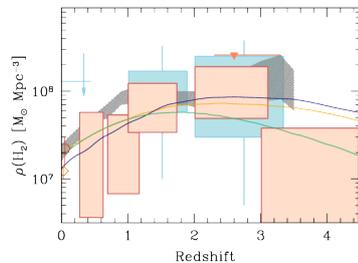
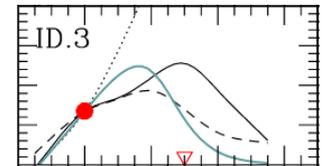
1) Main Sequence galaxies have  $t_{\text{depl}} \sim 1$  Gyr (?)



2) Molecular gas fraction is 10x higher at  $z \sim 2$



3) CO excitation is modest in MS galaxies



4) Molecular content evolves as cosmic SFR

5) ISM physics is now accessible even at the highest  $z$

Future: resolved studies, large samples, multi-tracers

