

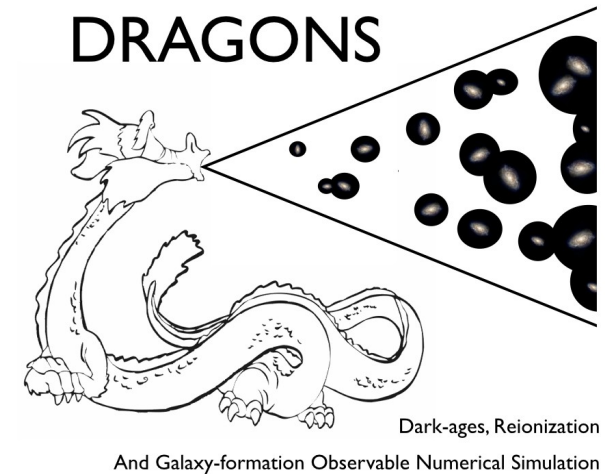
# Cosmic Dawn at high-latitudes

## JWST bright galaxies at $z > 12$ : a signature from Pop. III star formation?

with Prof. Stuart Wyithe, Dr. Yuxiang Qin and Dr. Balu Sreedhar



# ASTRO 3D



# First stars... What?

## Population III stars

- **Pristine chemical composition**

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- **Pristine chemical composition**

Little to no metals! → Below critical metallicity ( $Z_{\text{crit}}$ )

# First stars... What?

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- **Pristine chemical composition**

Little to no metals!

$$Z_{\text{crit}} = 10^{-4} Z_{\text{sol}}$$

# First stars... What?

## Population III stars

- **Pristine chemical composition**

- Metallicity  $< Z_{\text{crit}}$  → Population III star
- Metallicity  $\geq Z_{\text{crit}}$  → Population II/I star

# First stars... What?

## Population III stars

- **Pristine chemical composition**
- **Often form in the first structures (aka minihalos)**

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**Initial mass?**

**How efficiently gas is converted into stars?**



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**How efficiently gas is converted into stars?**

**Simulations!!**



# First stars... What?

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└── Large uncertainties on their **parameters**

→ Generally more massive

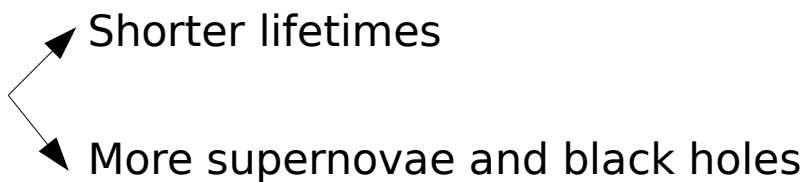
- ↗ Shorter lifetimes
- ↘ More supernovae and black holes

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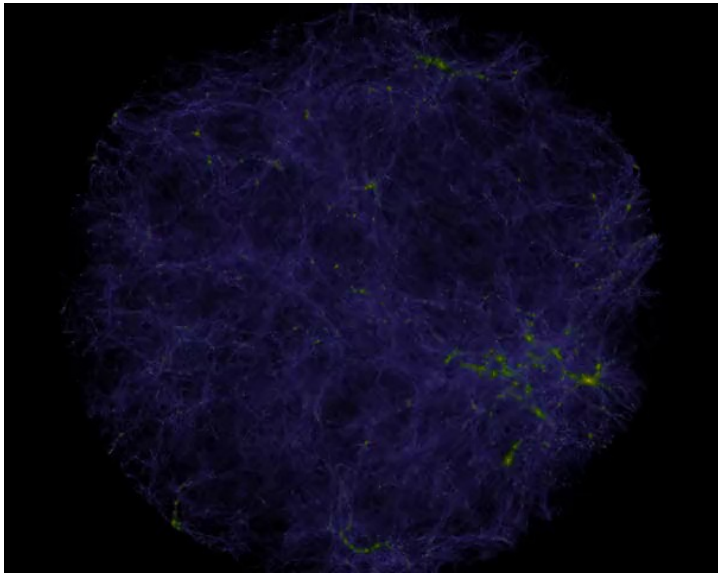
→ Generally more massive 

- Shorter lifetimes
- More supernovae and black holes

→ Pristine gas is less efficient to form stars → star formation efficiency is lower

# Meraxes

**MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation**



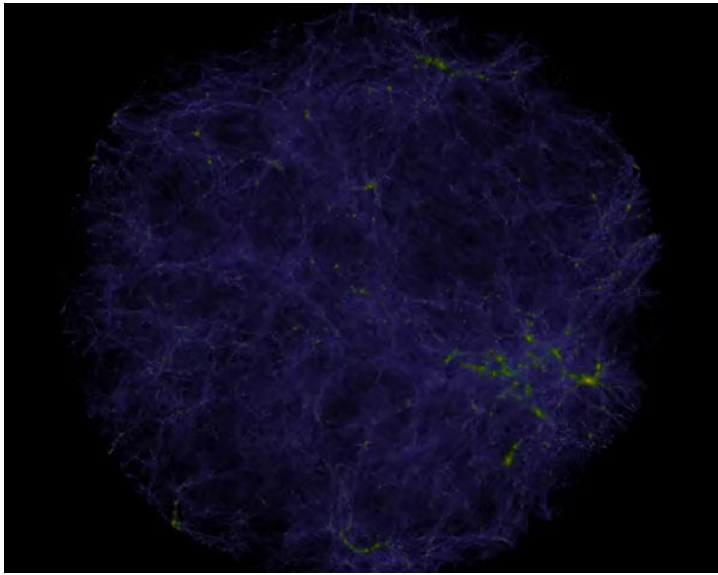
**N-body simulation**



**Physics of galaxy formation**

# Meraxes

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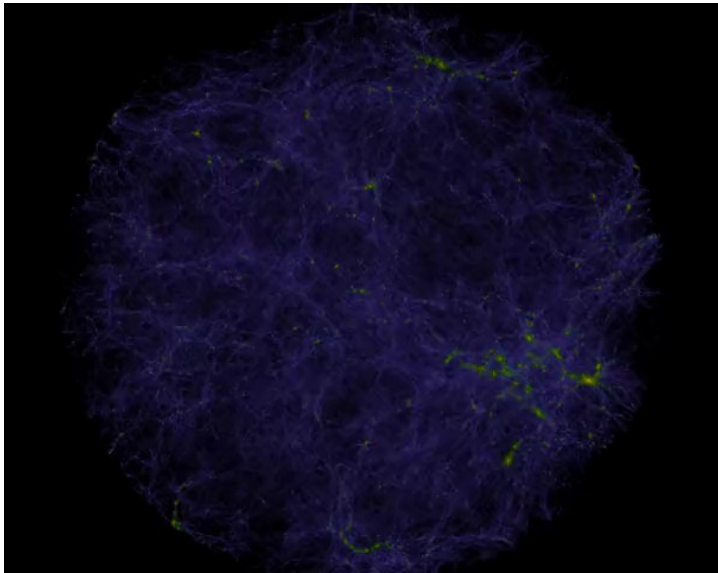


**N-body simulation**

- **Information on the spatial location of dark matter halos**

# Meraxes

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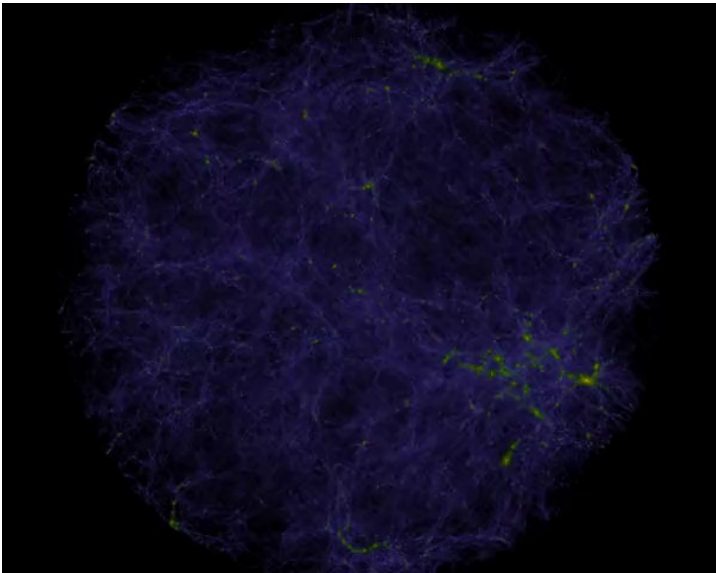


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- **Information on the spatial location of dark matter halos**
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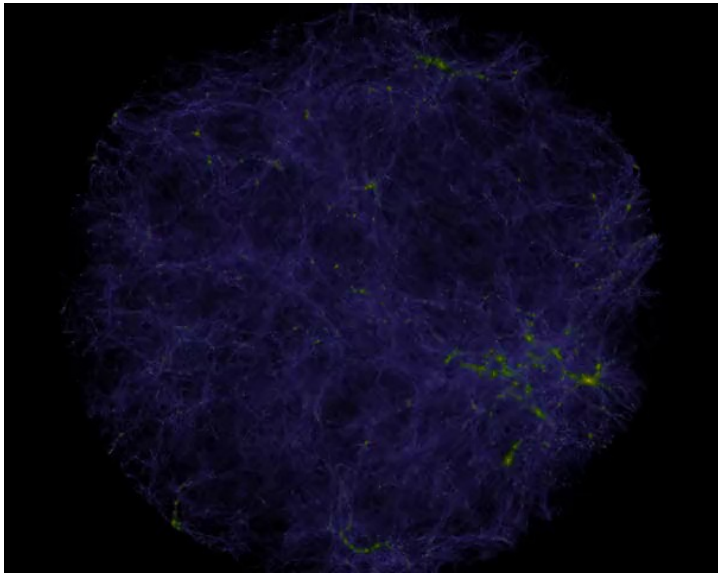


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# Meraxes

## **MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation**



**N-body simulation**

- **Information on the spatial location of dark matter halos**
- **Can resolve all dark matter halos down to few  $10^5$  solar masses (we can resolve all minihalos!)**
- **10 cMpc/h on a side (quite small!)**
- **From  $z = 30$  to  $z = 5$ .**



# Meraxes

**MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation**

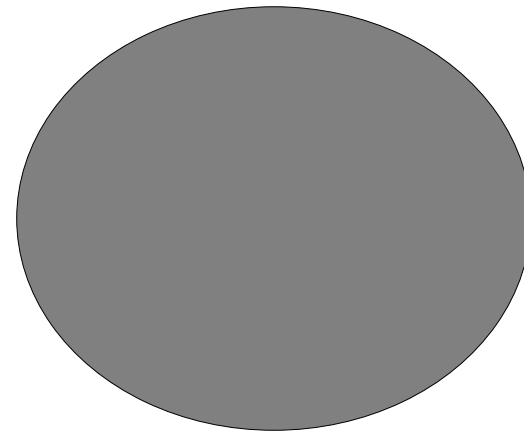


**Physics of galaxy formation**

# Meraxes

## **MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation**

**Physics of galaxy formation:**



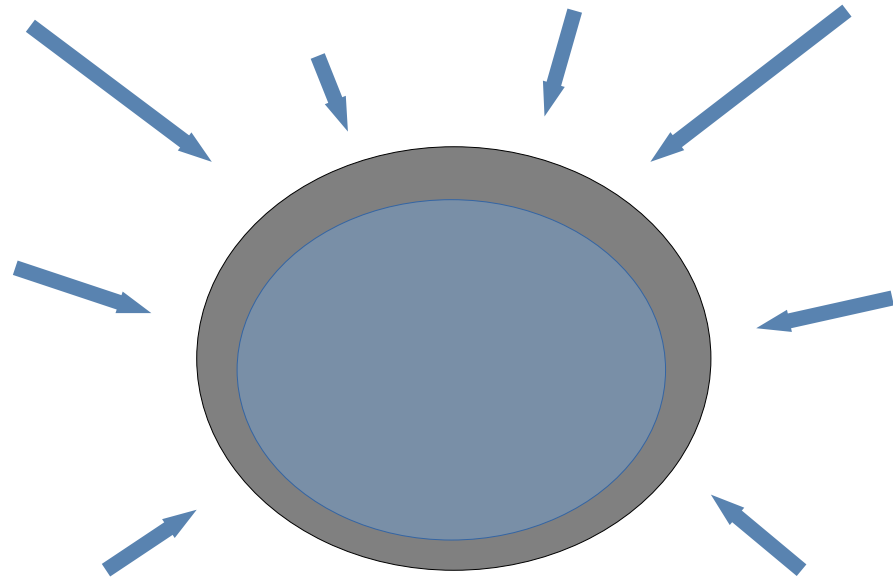
I am a dark matter halo!

# Meraxes

## **MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation**

**Physics of galaxy formation:**

**1) Gas Infall**



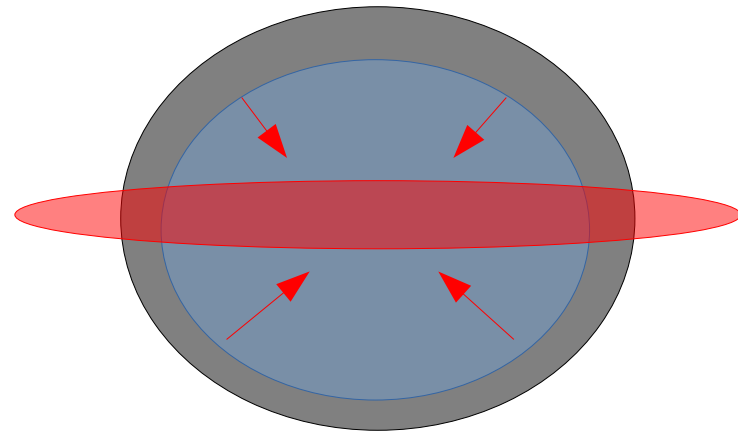
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## **MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation**

**Physics of galaxy formation:**

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**2) Gas Cooling (including H<sub>2</sub>)**

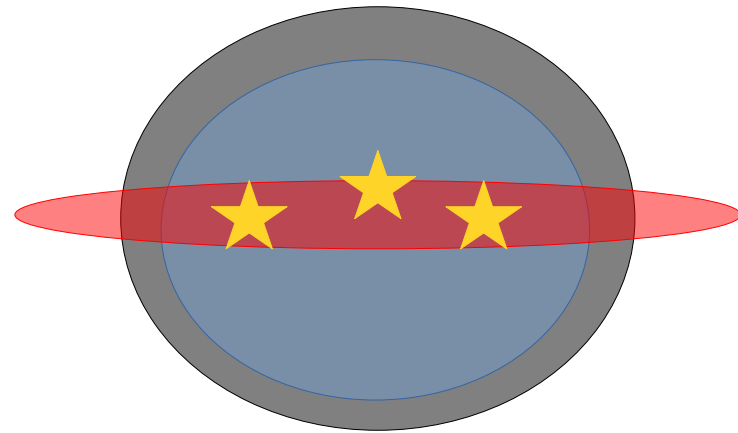


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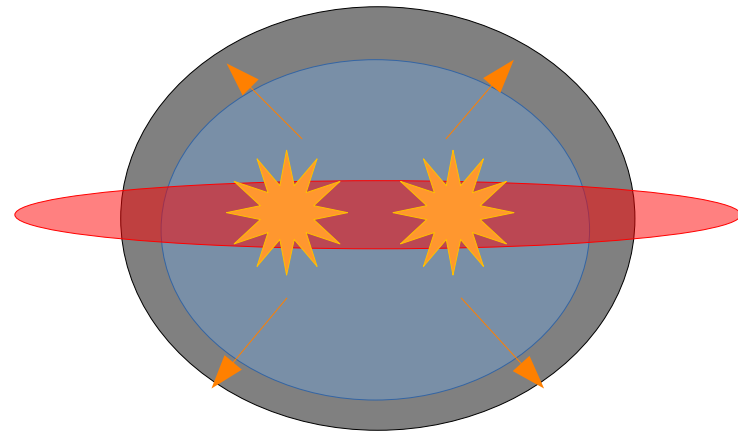


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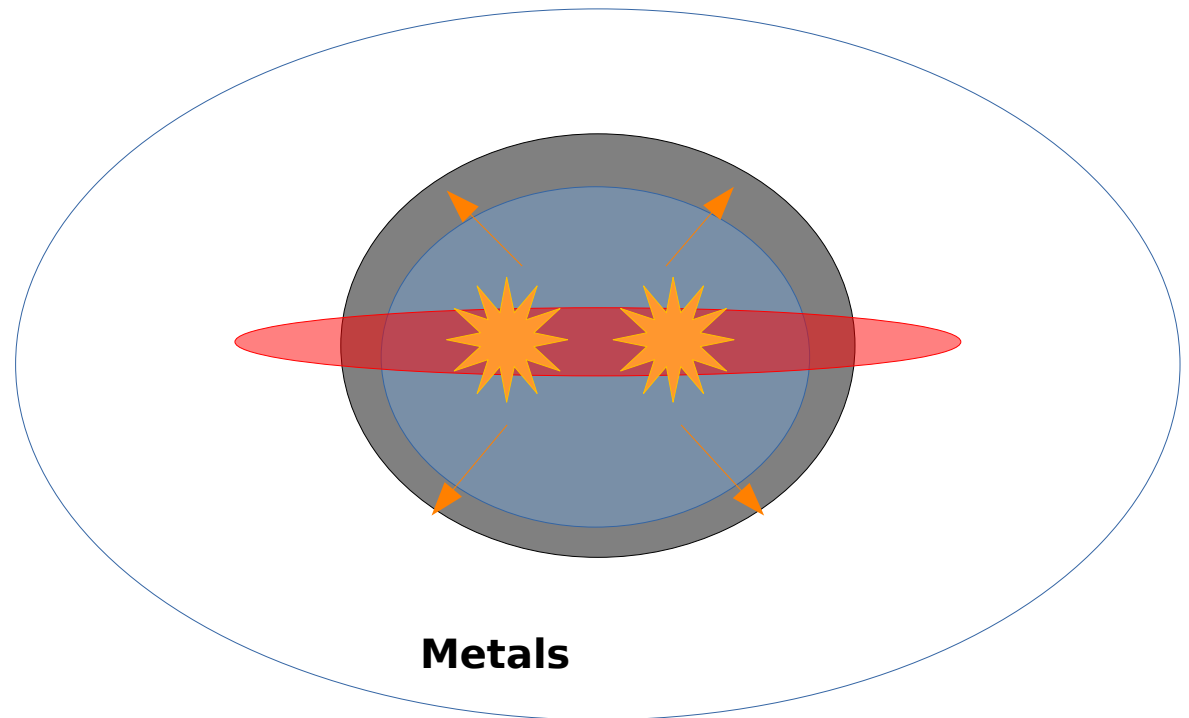


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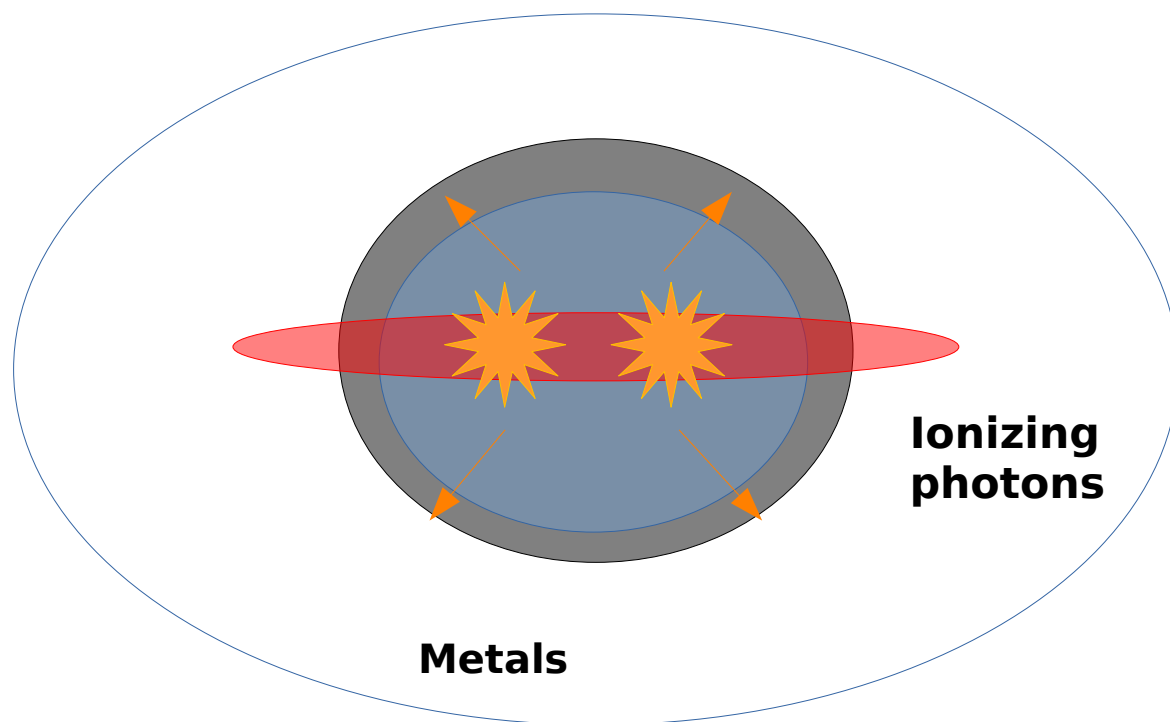


# Meraxes

## **MERAXES:** a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation *and reionization*

### Physics of galaxy formation:

- 1) Gas Infall
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- 5) Metallicity evolution of the Intergalactic medium (IGM)
- 6) Compute reionization (ionizing photons etc.)



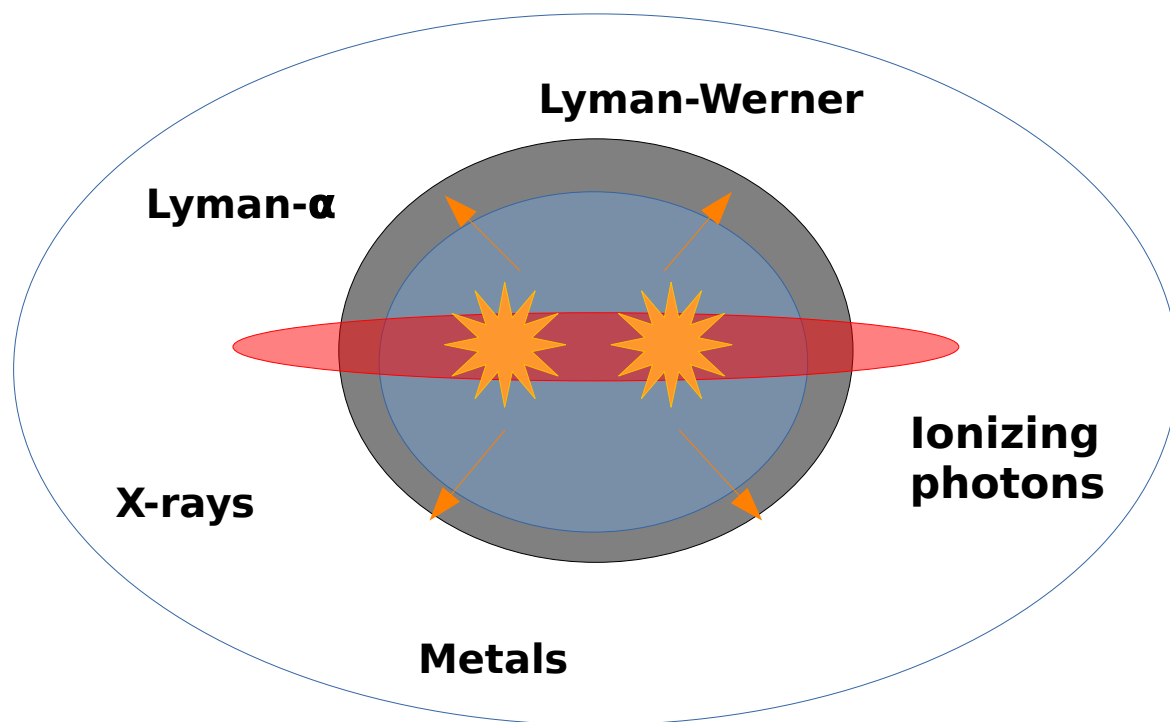


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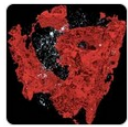
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- 6) Compute reionization (ionizing photons etc.)
- 7) Compute radiative backgrounds



# Meraxes

## MERAXES: a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation *and reionization*

### First public release!



#### Meraxes Devs

Developers of the Meraxes semi-analytic galaxy formation model

Follow

README.md

### Welcome to meraxes-devs

*The home of the Meraxes semi-analytic model and associated projects.*

 **Meraxes**

The Meraxes model itself.

 **Dragons**

A Python package for reading and processing Meraxes output.

 **Sector**

Construct spectral energy distributions (SEDs) from star formation and metallicity histories.  
Used by Meraxes internally, but can also be used separately.

View as: Public

You are viewing the README and pinned repositories as a public user.

#### People



#### Top languages

C  Python



# Pop. III star formation in Meraxes

**MERAXES:** a semi-analytical model of galaxy formation *and reionization*

Physics of galaxy formation:

- 1) Gas Infall
- 2) Gas Cooling
- 3) Star Formation → Pop. III stars

Pop. III properties (IMF, SF efficiency... )



Free parameters, we can change these each run!

# Pop. III star formation in Meraxes

## **MERAXES: a semi-an *reionization***

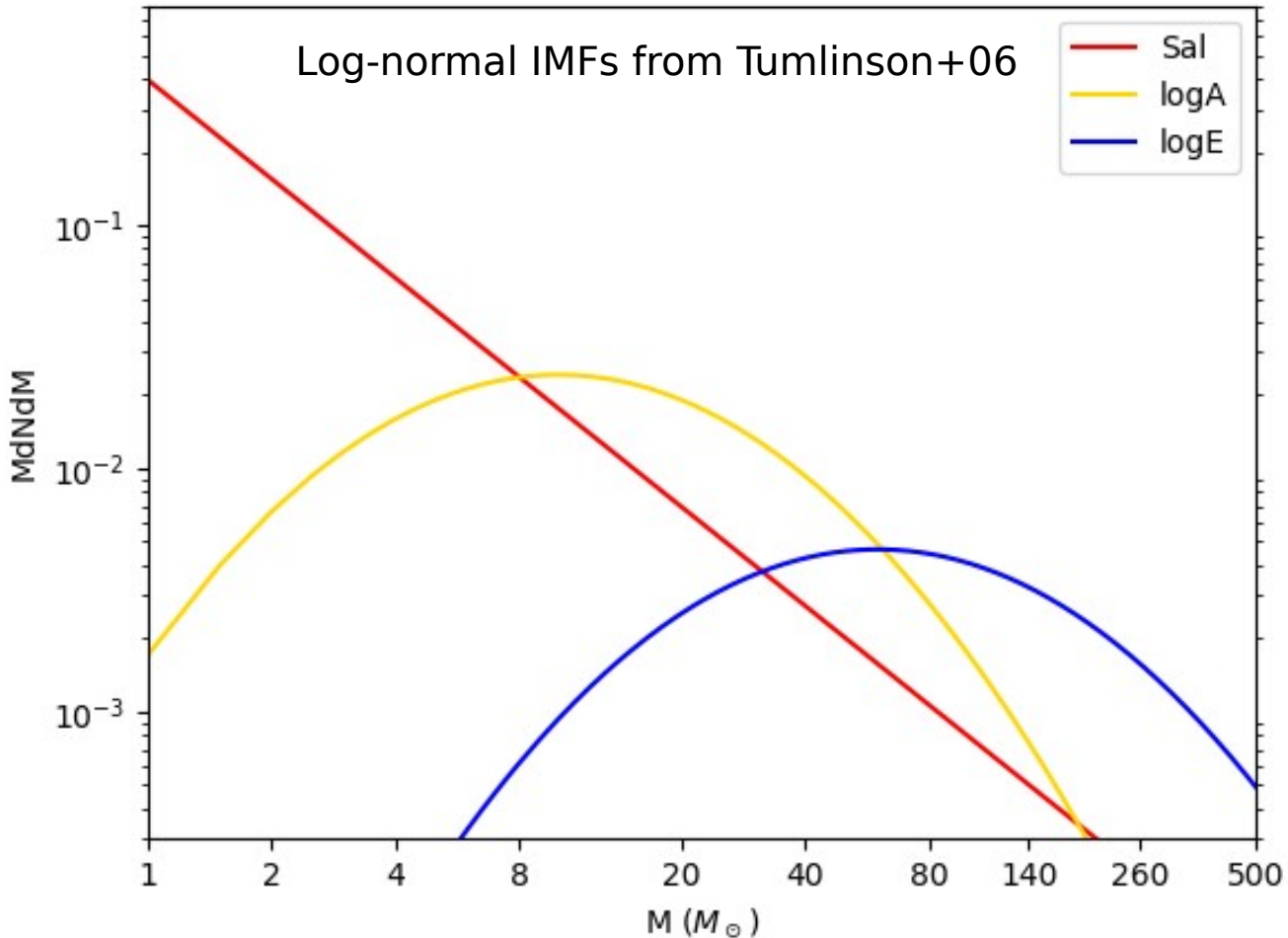
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**Pop. III IMF**

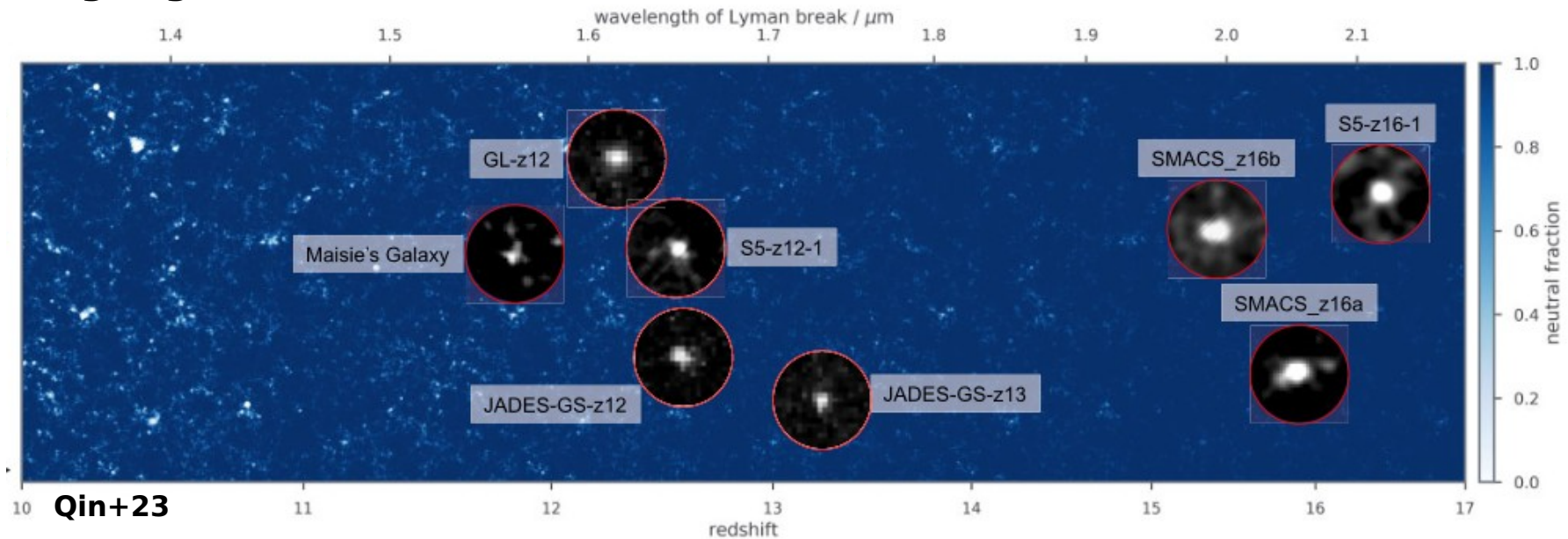


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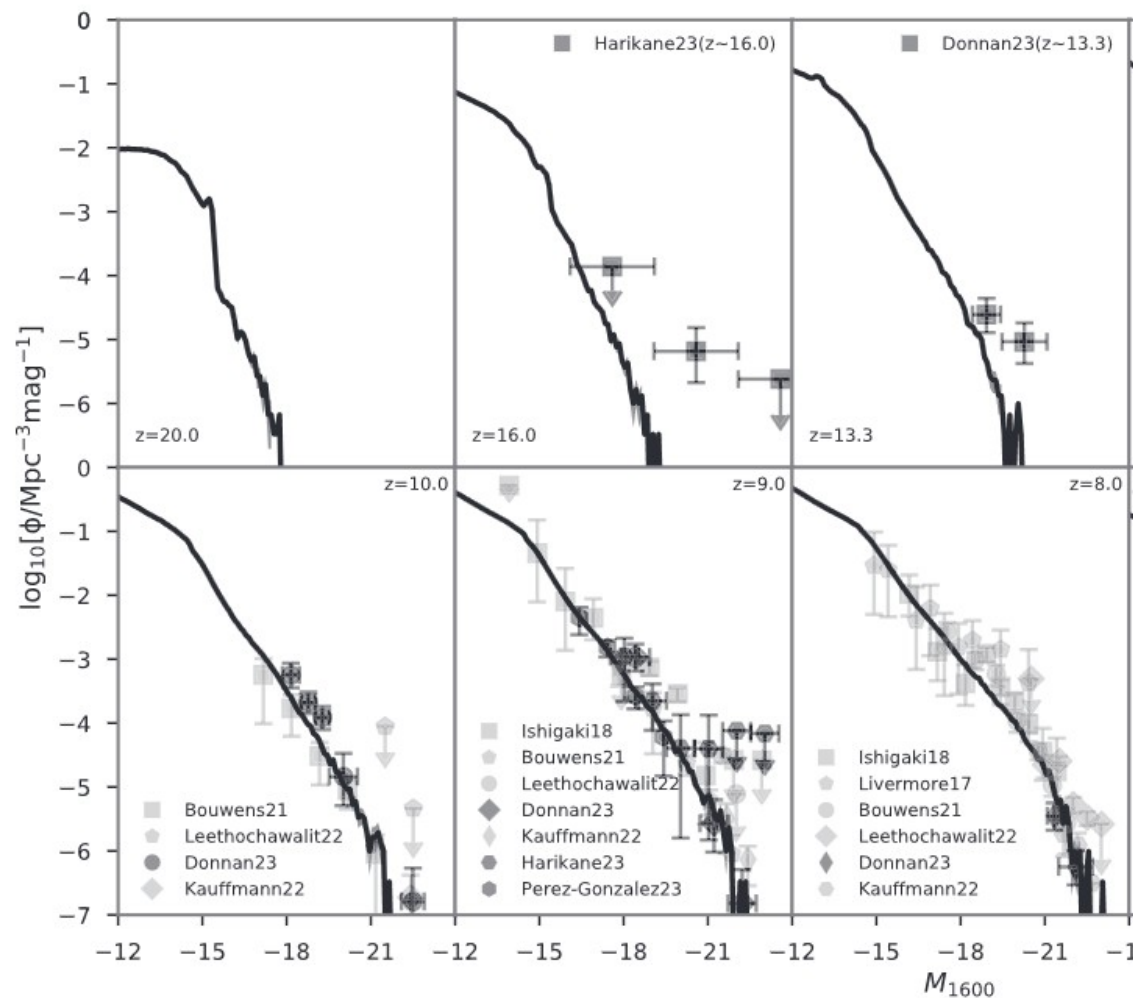
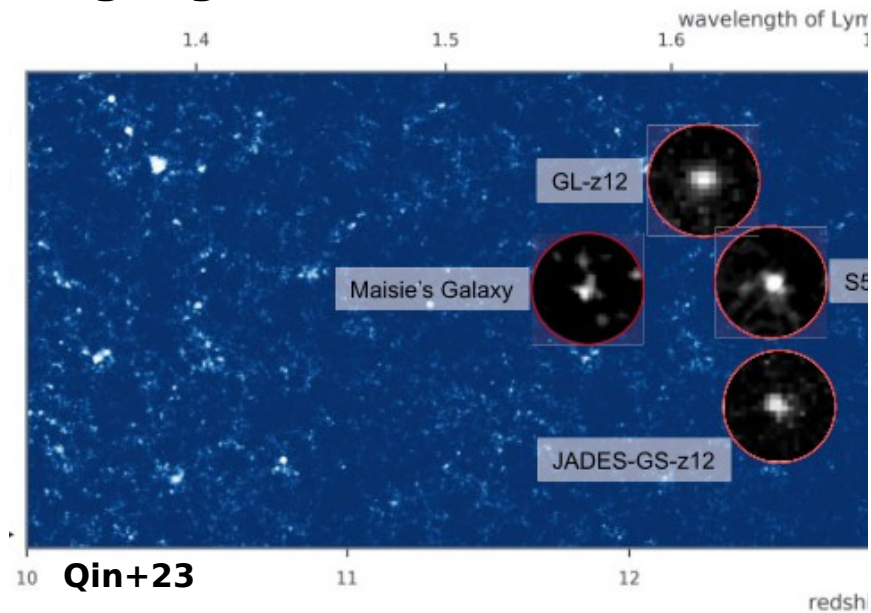
# Too many, too bright

## Bright galaxies at $z > 10$



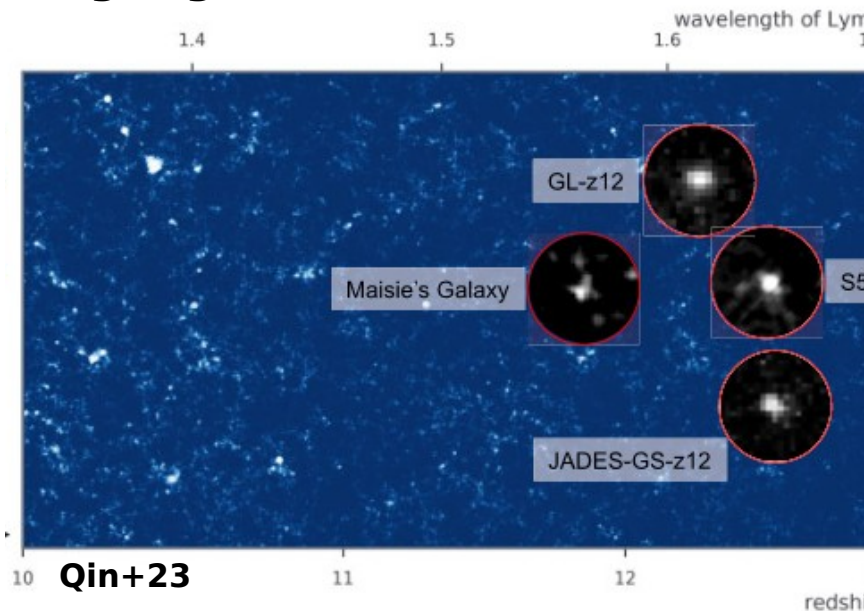
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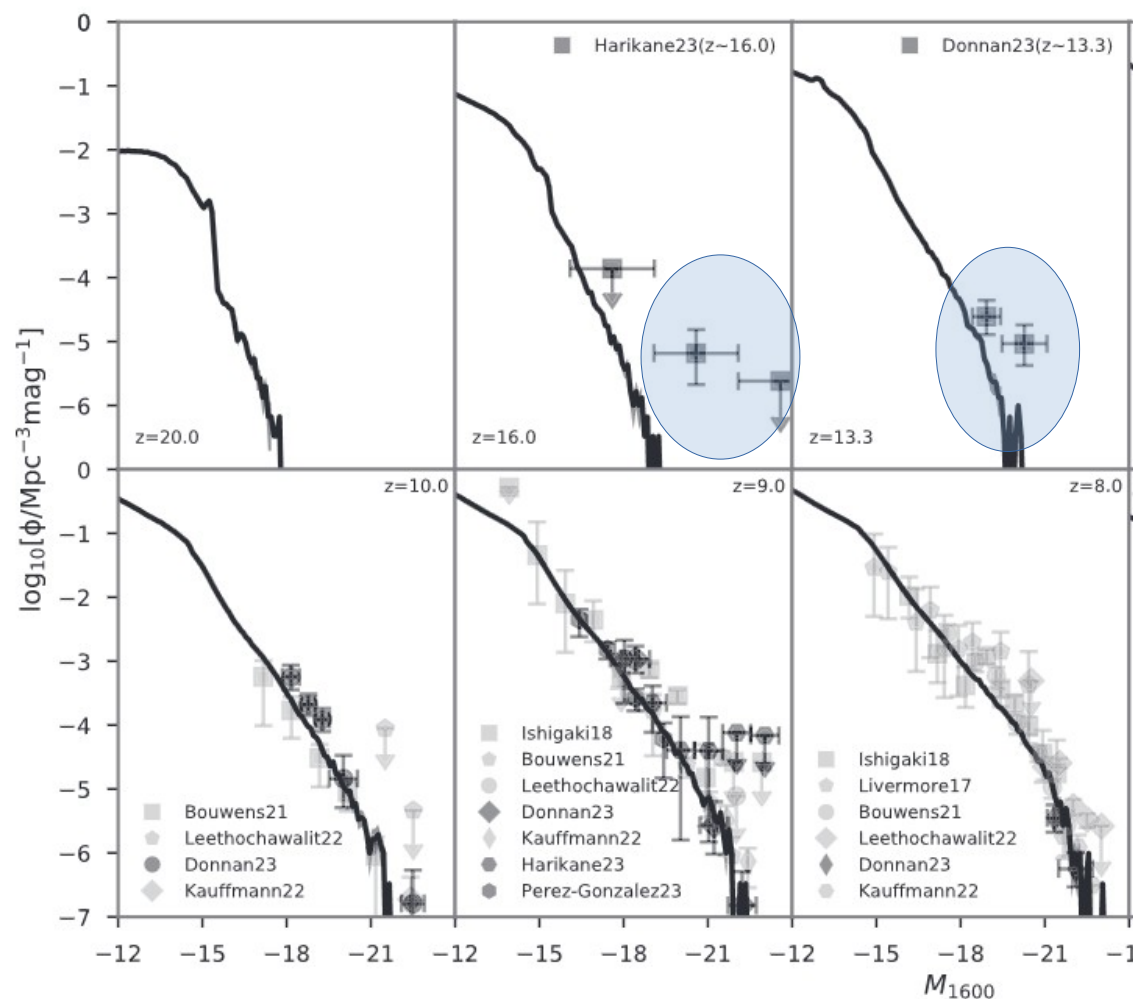


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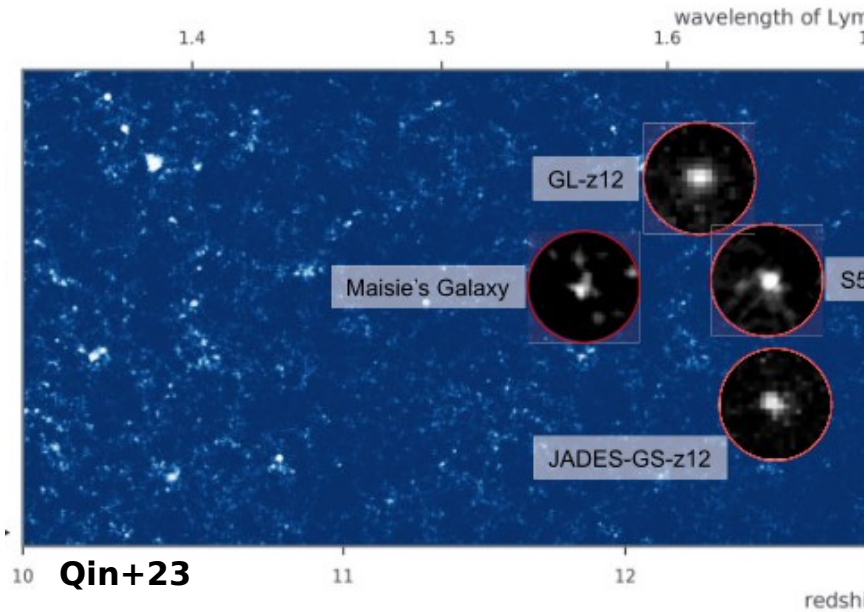


## Excess of bright galaxies at $z \geq 12$



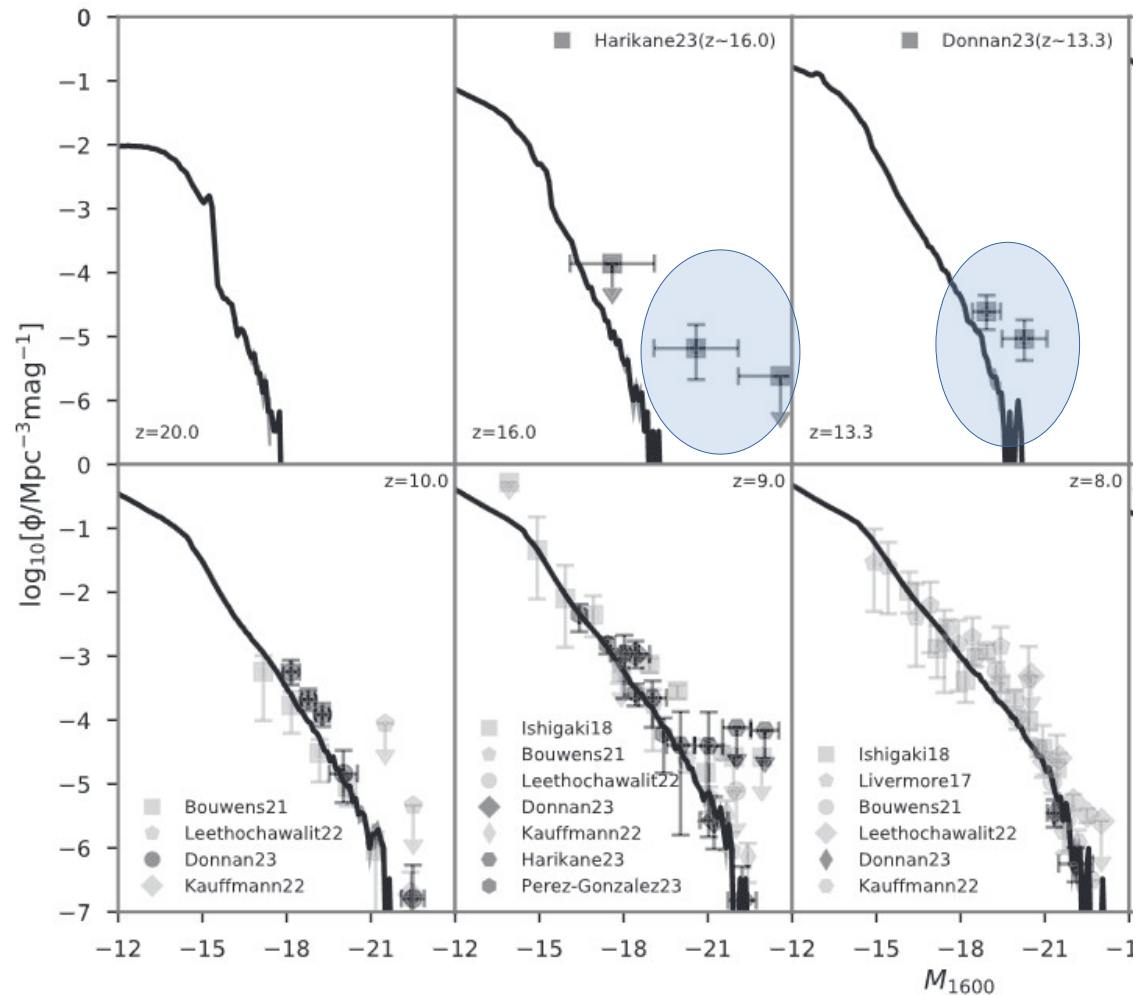
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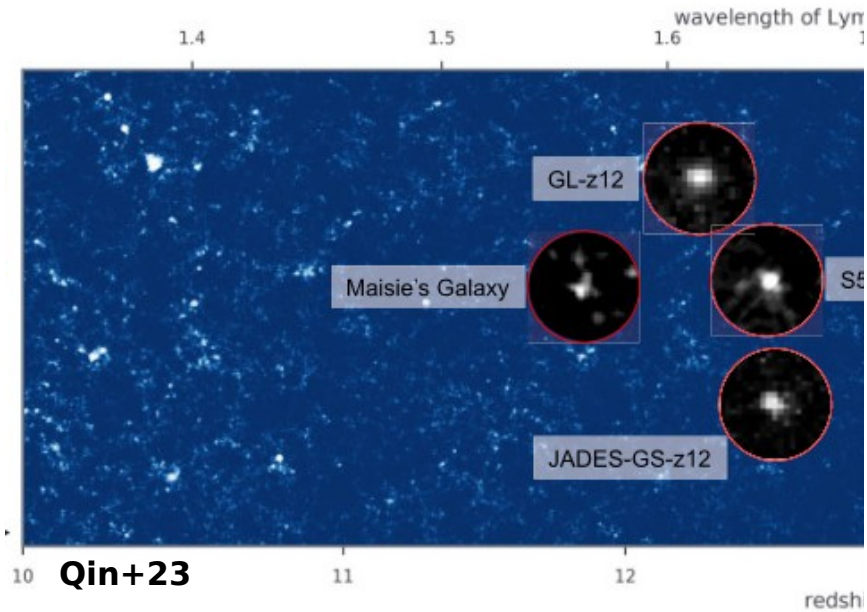
- Increase SF efficiency





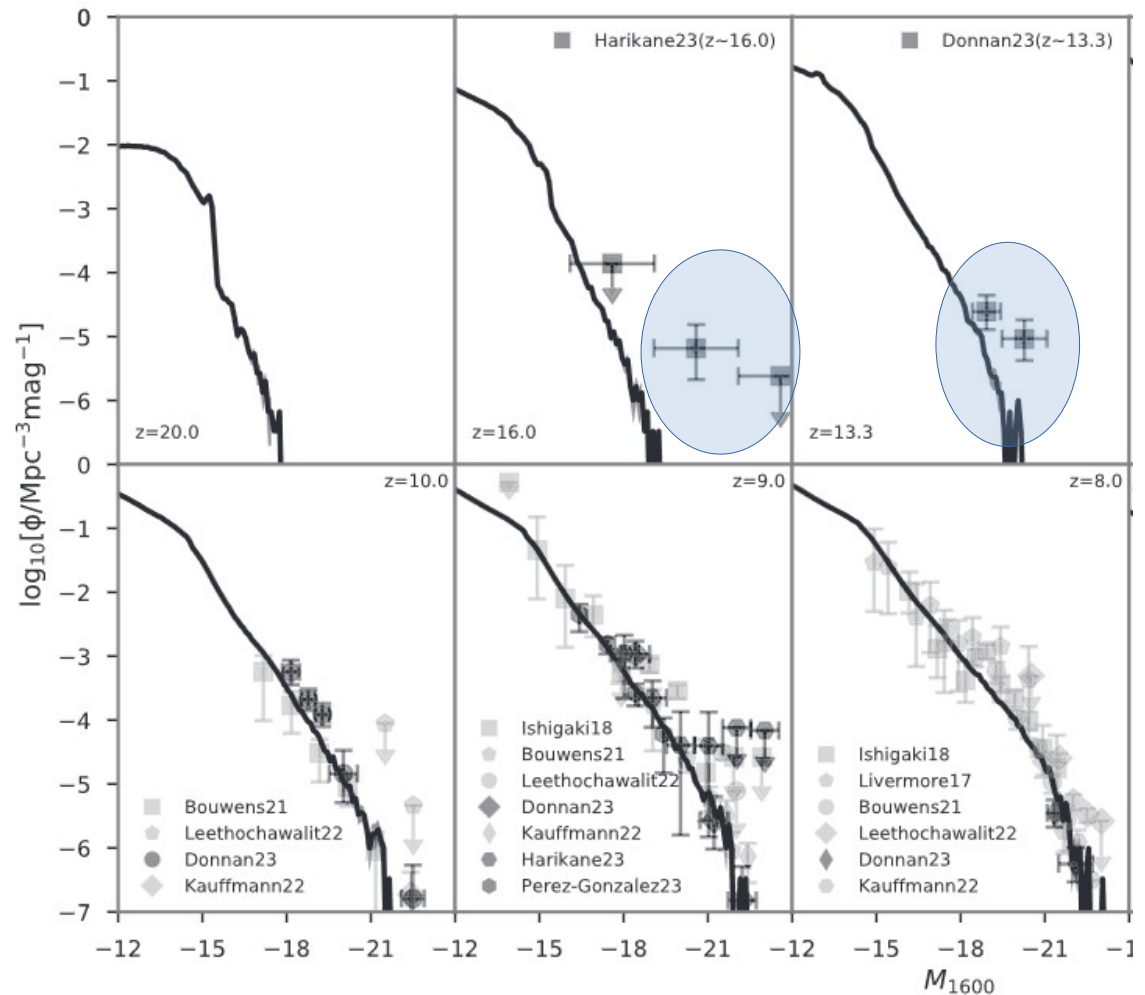
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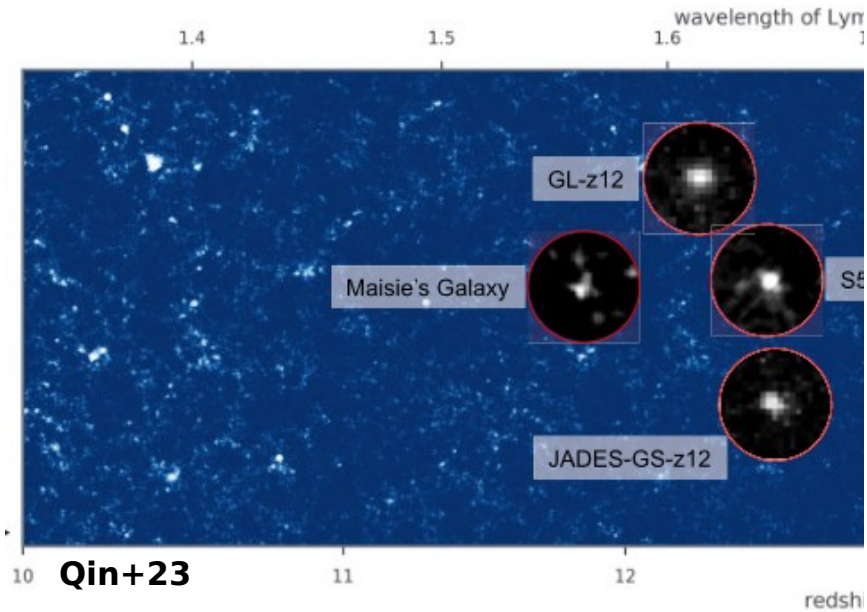
## Excess of bright galaxies at $z \geq 12$

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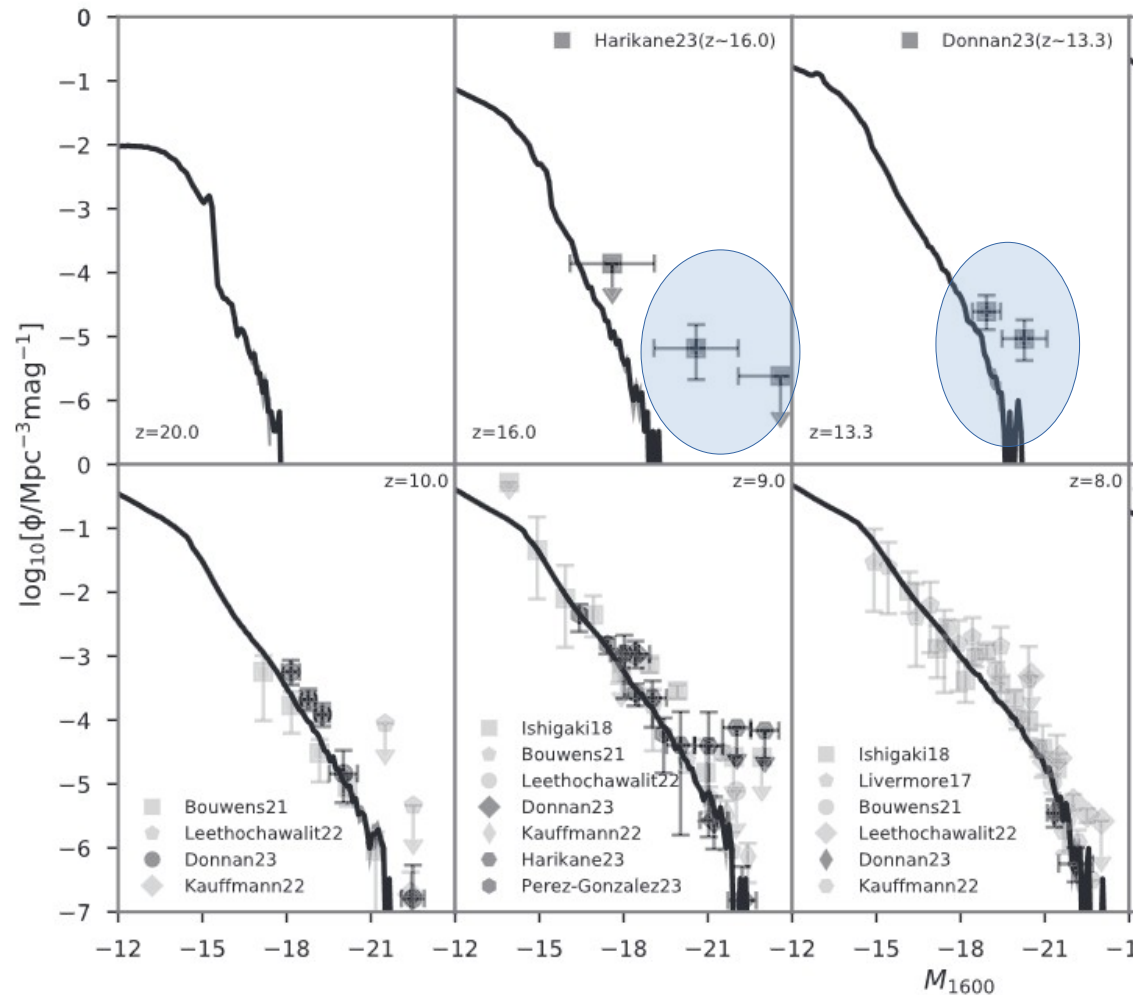
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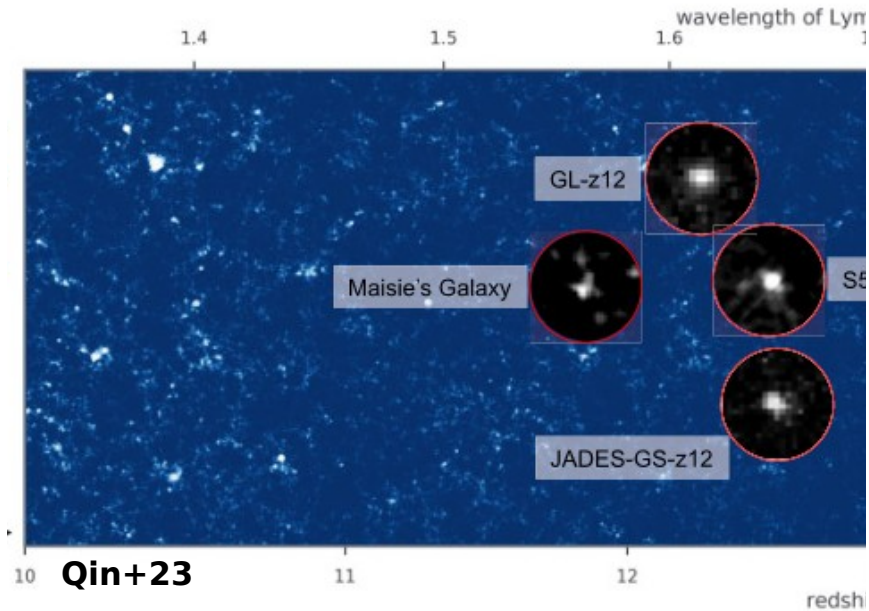
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- Increase SF efficiency
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- Tension with  $\Lambda$ CDM model



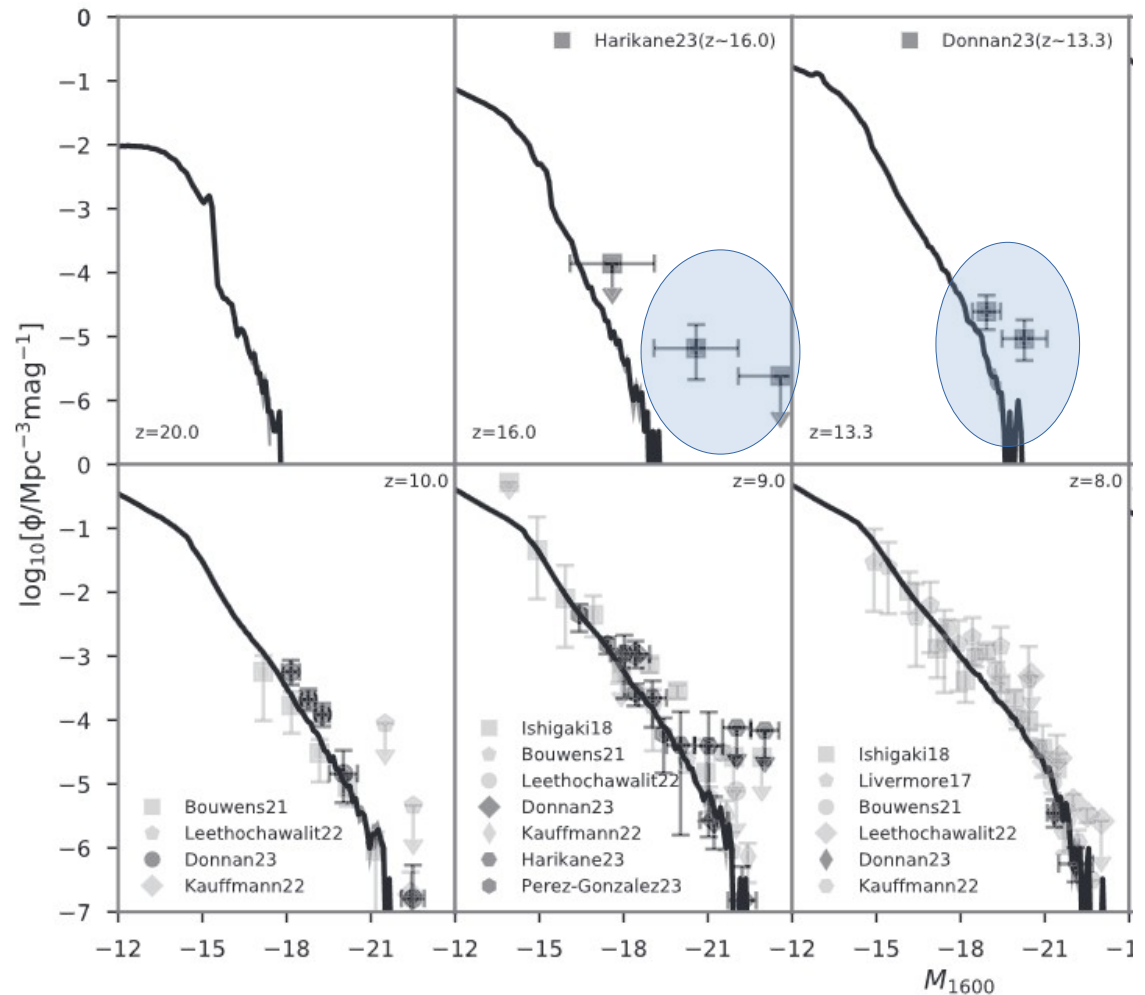
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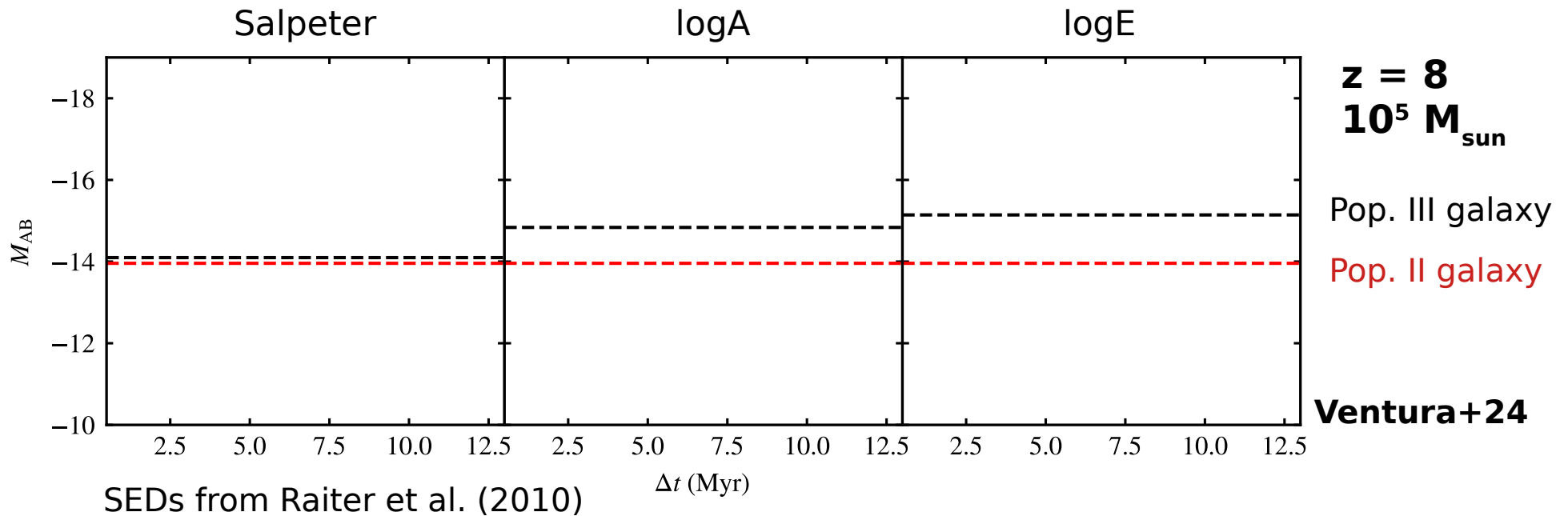


## Excess of bright galaxies at $z \geq 12$

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- **Pop. III galaxies**

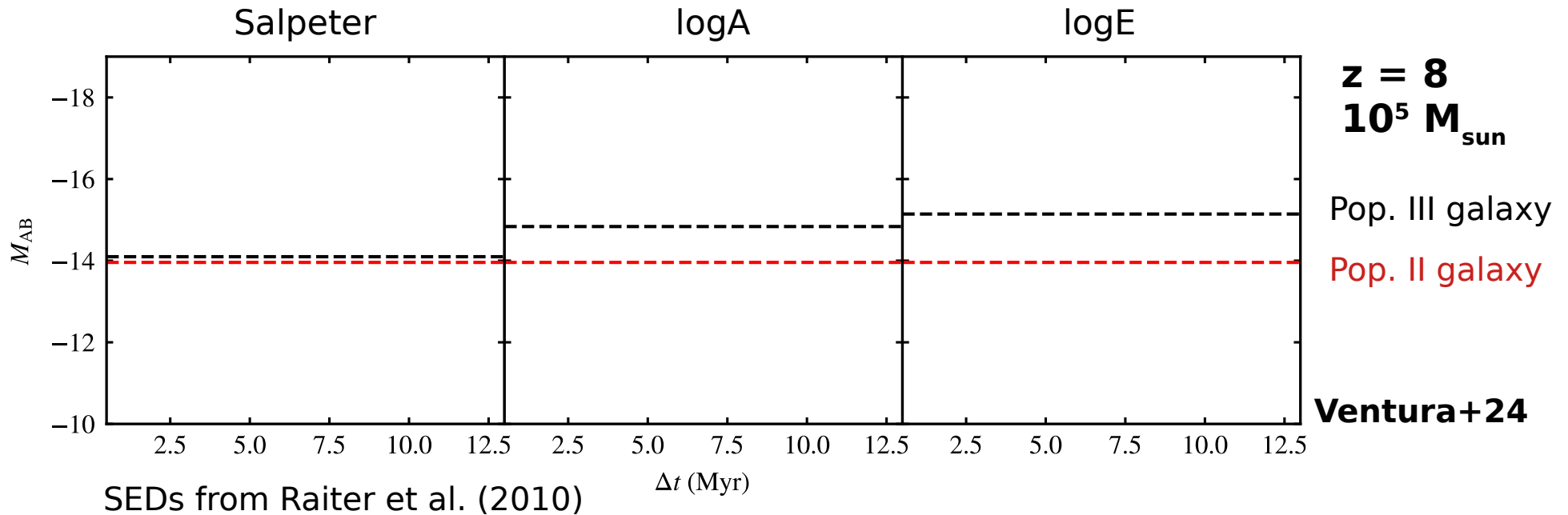


# Luminosity of a Pop. III galaxy



Assuming Pop. III stars form **continuously** throughout the snapshot:

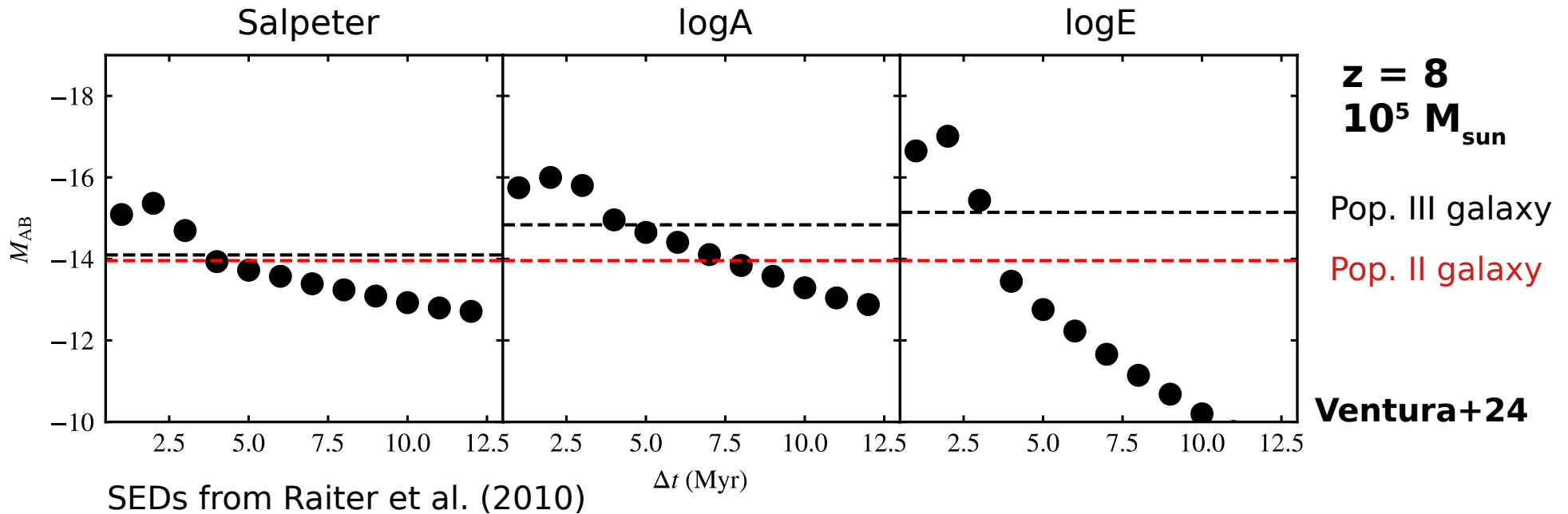
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- **Pop. III** galaxies can be  **$\geq 1$  mag brighter** than **Pop. II** galaxies

# Luminosity of a Pop. III galaxy



Assuming Pop. III stars form **continuously** throughout the snapshot:

- **Pop. III** galaxies can be  **$\geq 1$  mag brighter** than **Pop. II** galaxies

Assuming Pop. III stars form **in a single burst** at the beginning of the snapshot:

- **Pop. III** galaxies can be **up to 3 mag brighter** than **Pop. II** galaxies

**Let's go back**

**JWST bright galaxies at  $z > 12$ :  
can we explain these with  
Pop. III star formation?**

Let's go back

**NO\***

\* Unless...



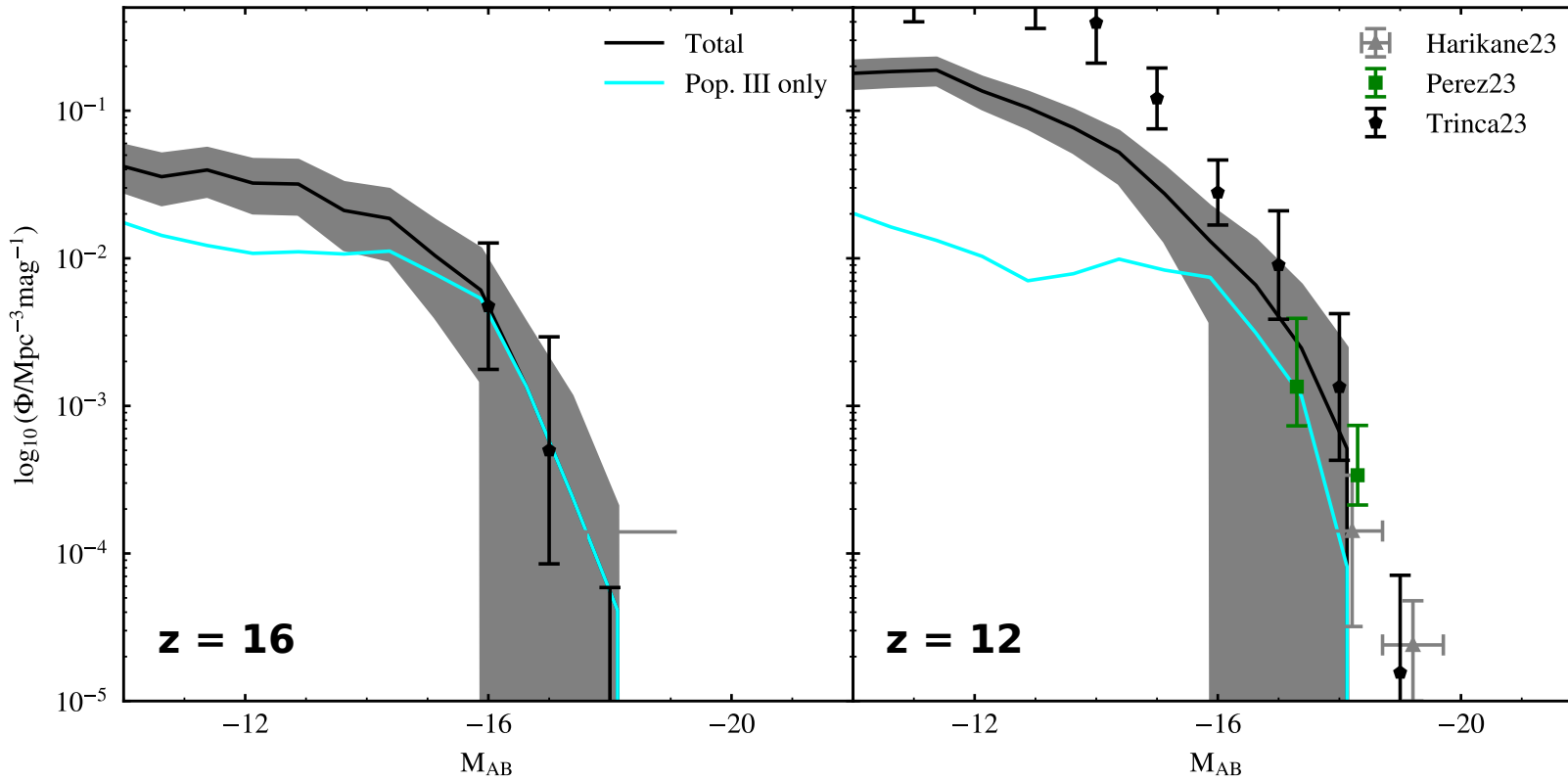
# Impact on the UV luminosity function

**logE IMF**

**Pop.III SF occurs in  
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**Pop. III SF  
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# Impact on the UV luminosity function



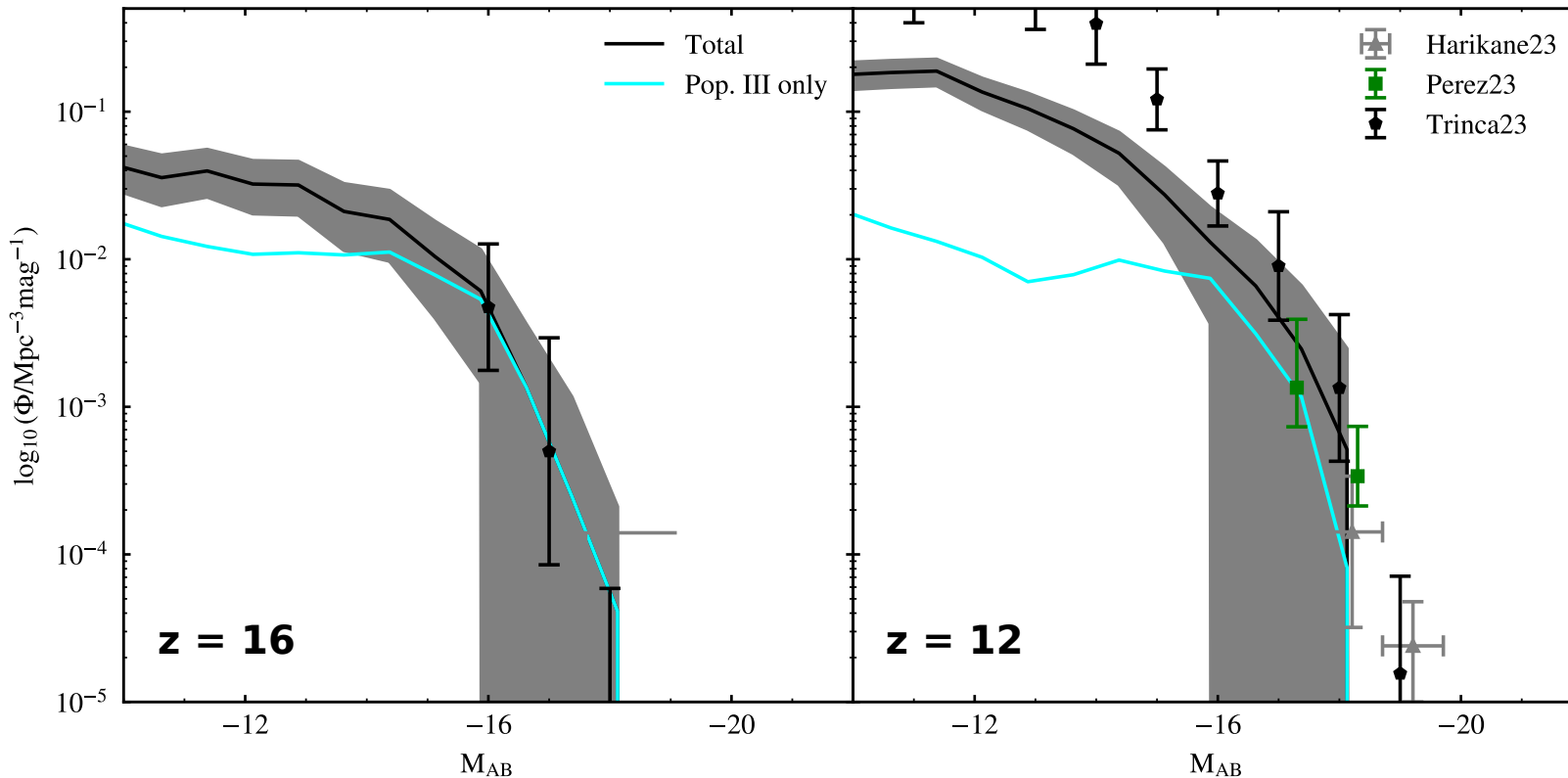
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Adapted from **Ventura et al. (2024)**

# Impact on the UV luminosity function



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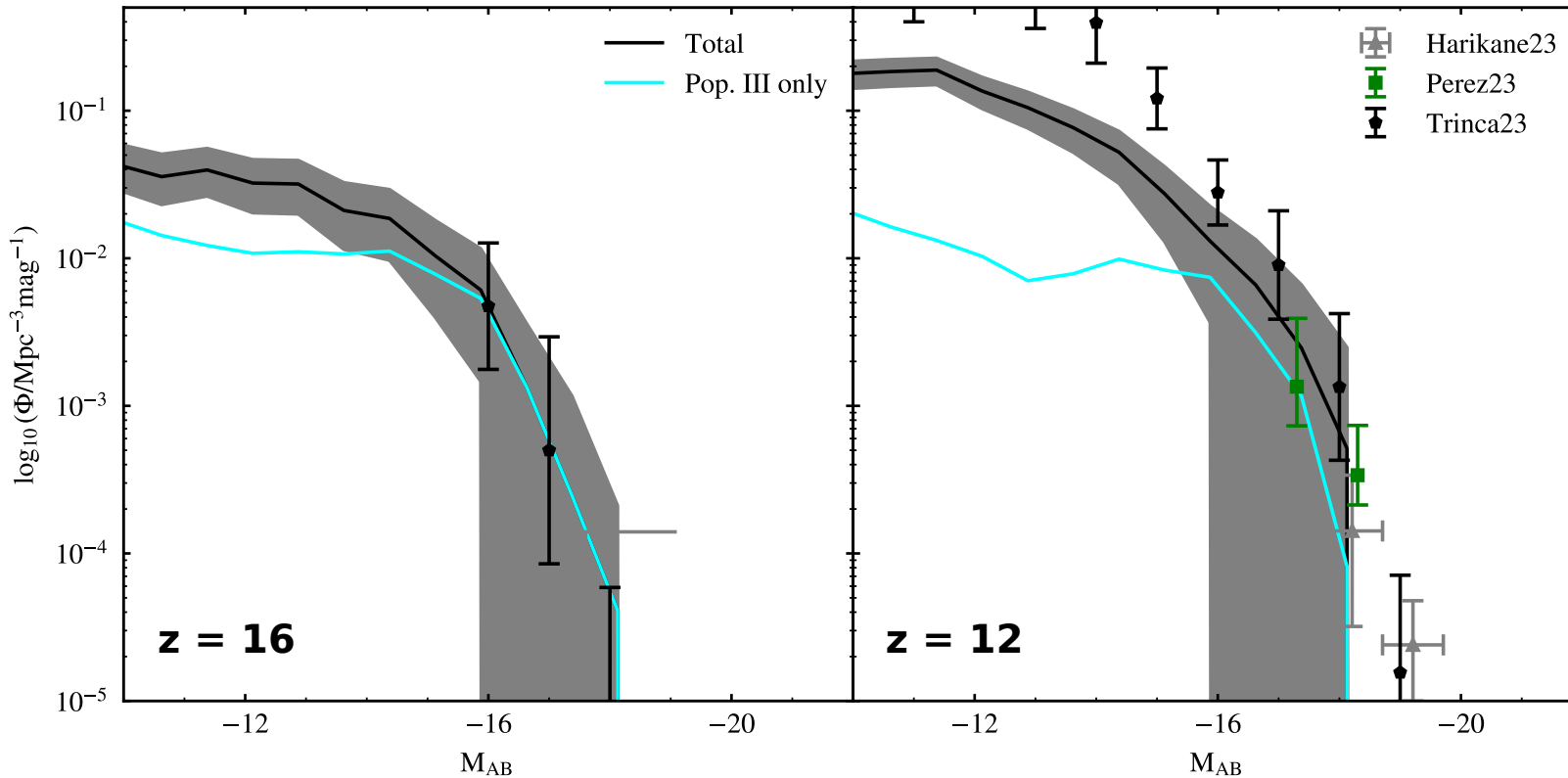
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- At  $z = 16$  the brightest galaxies are Pop. III galaxies.

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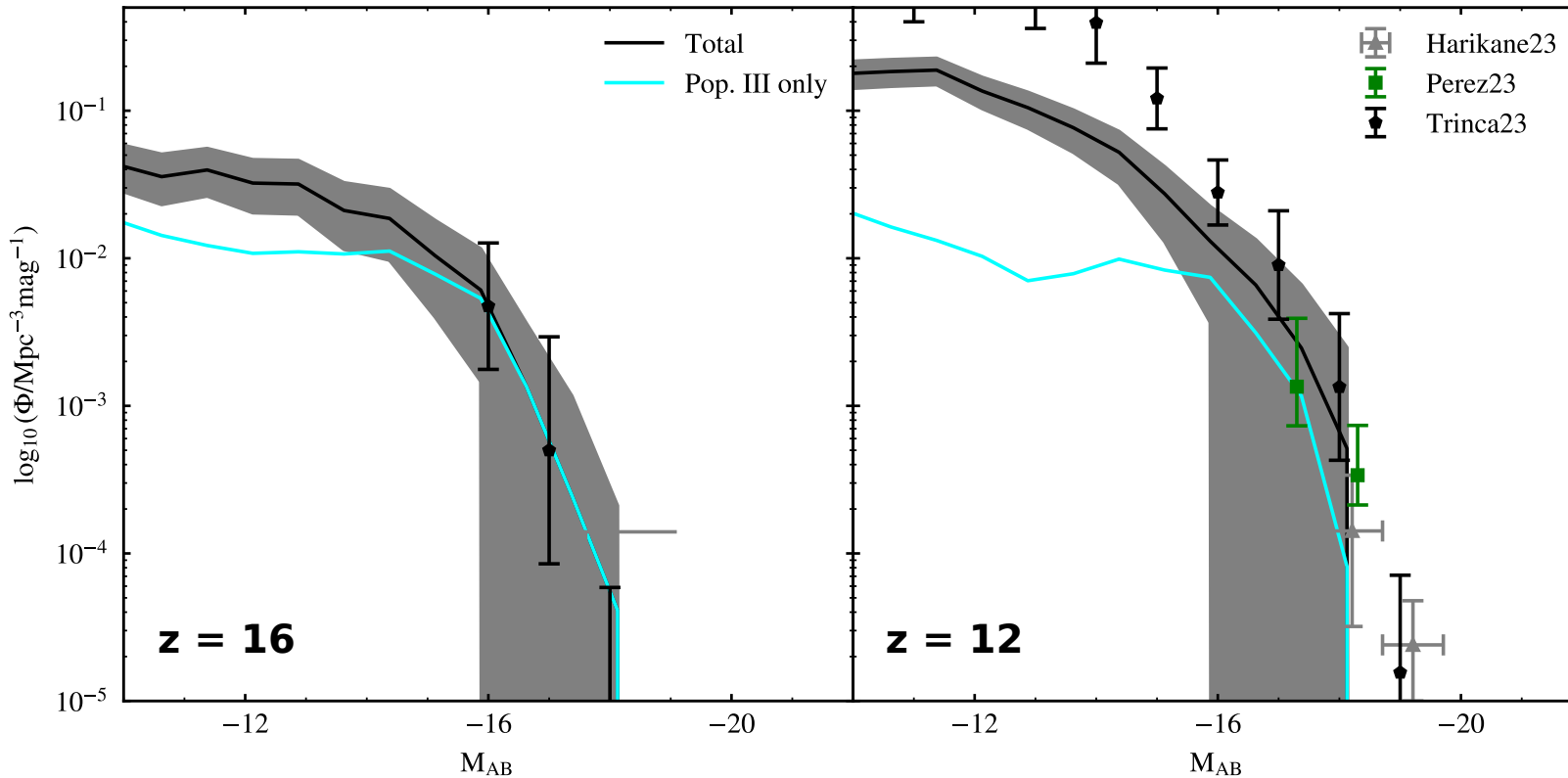
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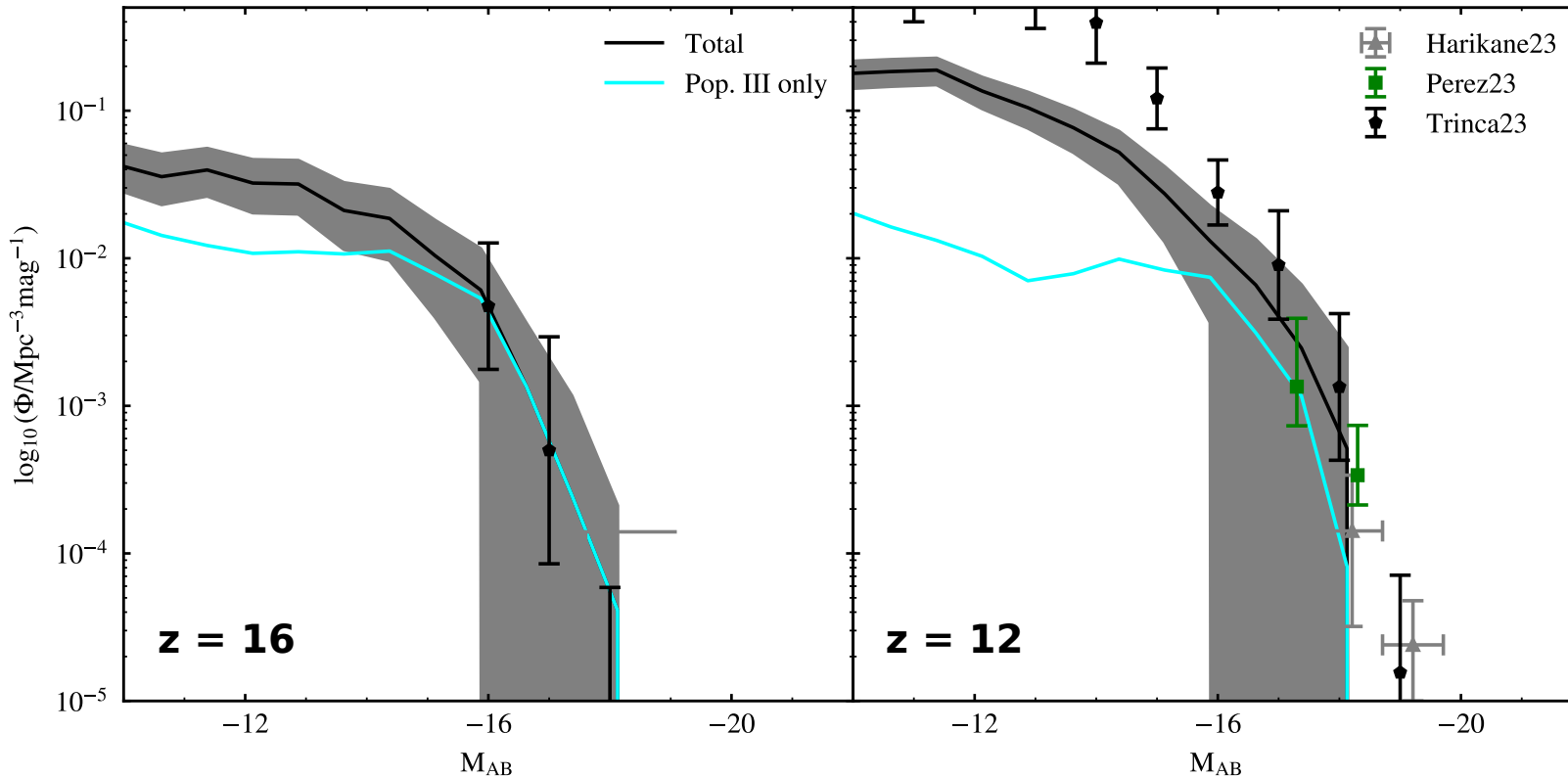
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- Both models consistent with observations at  $z < 12$

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Adapted from  
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- At  $z = 16$  the brightest galaxies are Pop. III galaxies.
- At  $z = 12$ , some of the brightest galaxies are Pop.III galaxies.
- Both models consistent with observations at  $z < 12$
- Need for a larger box!

# Conclusions

**We effectively implemented Population III star formation in MERAXES which is now publicly available:**

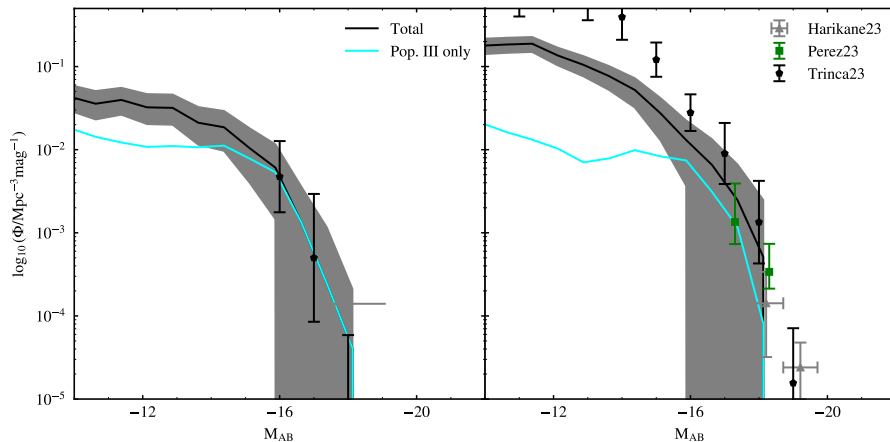


# Conclusions

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**Pop. III galaxies with a top-heavy IMF, might explain the abundance of very bright galaxies at  $z > 12$  without requiring extreme physics:**



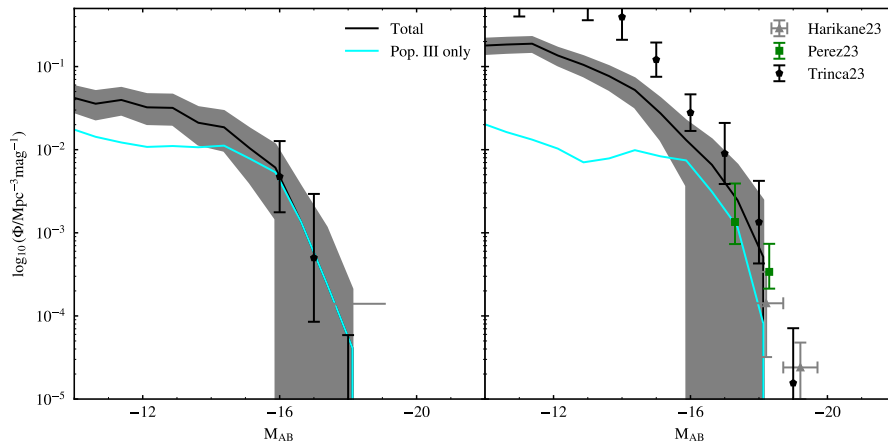


# Conclusions

**We effectively implemented Population III star formation in MERAXES which is now publicly available:**



**Pop. III galaxies with a top-heavy IMF, might explain the abundance of very bright galaxies at  $z > 12$  without requiring extreme physics:**



*Need to extend for larger volumes!*

# Cosmic Dawn at High Latitudes

Here for a cool paper.



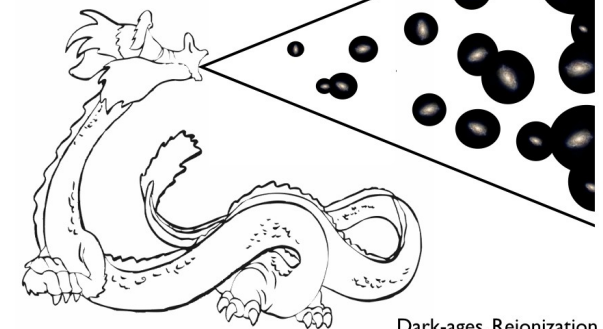
## Thank you!

Check me out!  
I am a dragon!



# ASTRO 3D

## DRAGONS



Dark-ages, Reionization  
And Galaxy-formation Observable Numerical Simulation