

# *Stellar populations and star clusters as galactic building blocks*

## *Lecture 3 The IGIMF and implications*

*Selected Chapters on Astrophysics*

Charles University, Praha,  
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Pavel Kroupa  
*Argelander Institute for Astronomy  
(AIfA)  
University of Bonn*

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### *Lecture 1 :*

The stellar IMF : solar neighbourhood as average IMF  
theoretical expectations : a *variable IMF*

### *Lecture 2 :*

The stellar IMF : constraints from star-forming events :  
*a non-varying IMF ?*

### *Lecture 3 :*

The integrated galactic initial mass function (IGIMF) : a new theory  
How to calculate the stellar population of a galaxy, and implications.

### *Lecture 4 :*

The stellar binary population: deriving the birth distribution functions  
Binary dynamical population synthesis: the stellar populations of galaxies

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# The IMF is the key to our understanding of the matter cycle in the Universe.

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Counting stars  $\Rightarrow$  LF  $\Rightarrow$  PDMF  $\Rightarrow$  IMF

**Remember :**

$$\Psi(M_V) = -\frac{dm}{dM_V} \xi(m)$$

+ binaries  
+ main sequence stars

corrections for  
stellar  
evolution

✓ peak in LF  $\Rightarrow$   $m-M_V$  relation

✓ nearby LF  $\neq$  distant LF

? MW-field (Scalo) IMF index  
 $\neq$  star-cluster/association (Salpeter/Massey) IMF index

✓ star-formation theory (*Jeans-mass vs self-regulation*):

- expect IMF variation with density and metallicity
- ? - unable to account for IMF shape

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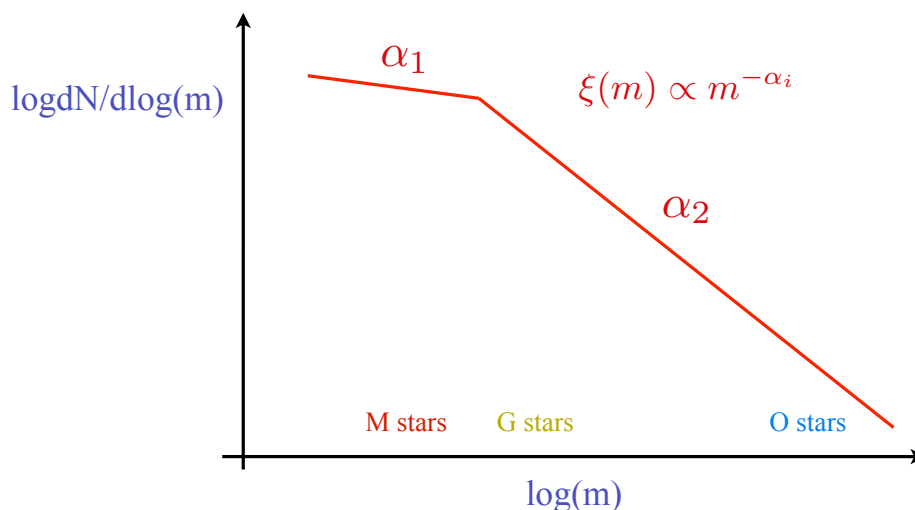
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## Recap

**IMF** = the distribution of stellar masses  
born together.

$\xi(m) dm = dN = \text{Nr. of stars in interval } [m, m + dm]$



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*Observations*  
of well-resolved populations  
show  
the IMF to be universal !

(except under extreme conditions - see Lecture II)

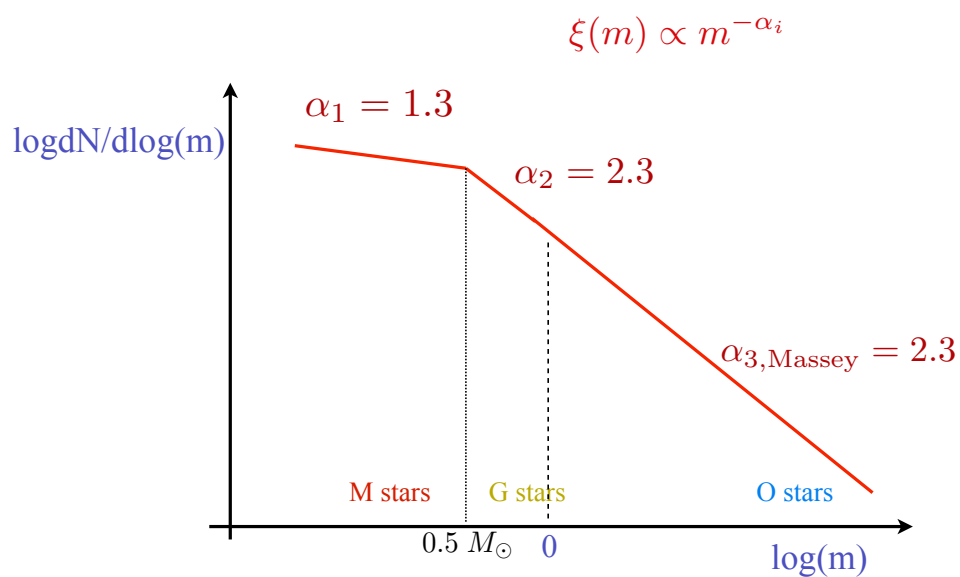
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→ universal “canonical” *two-part* power-law IMF :



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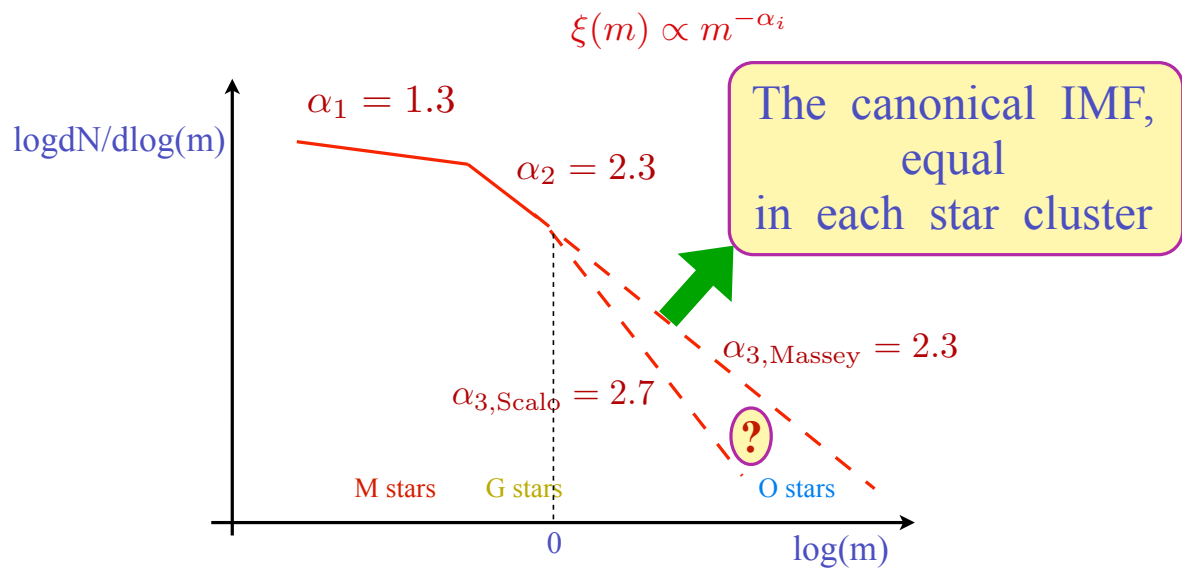
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## Return to the Scalo / Massey-Salpeter discrepancy :



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## back to Problem 2:

(see Lecture I)

The stellar IMF in the  
*Galactic-field*  
and in  
*OB associations/star clusters*  
are not equal.

$$\alpha_3 = 2.7$$

$$\alpha_3 = 2.3$$

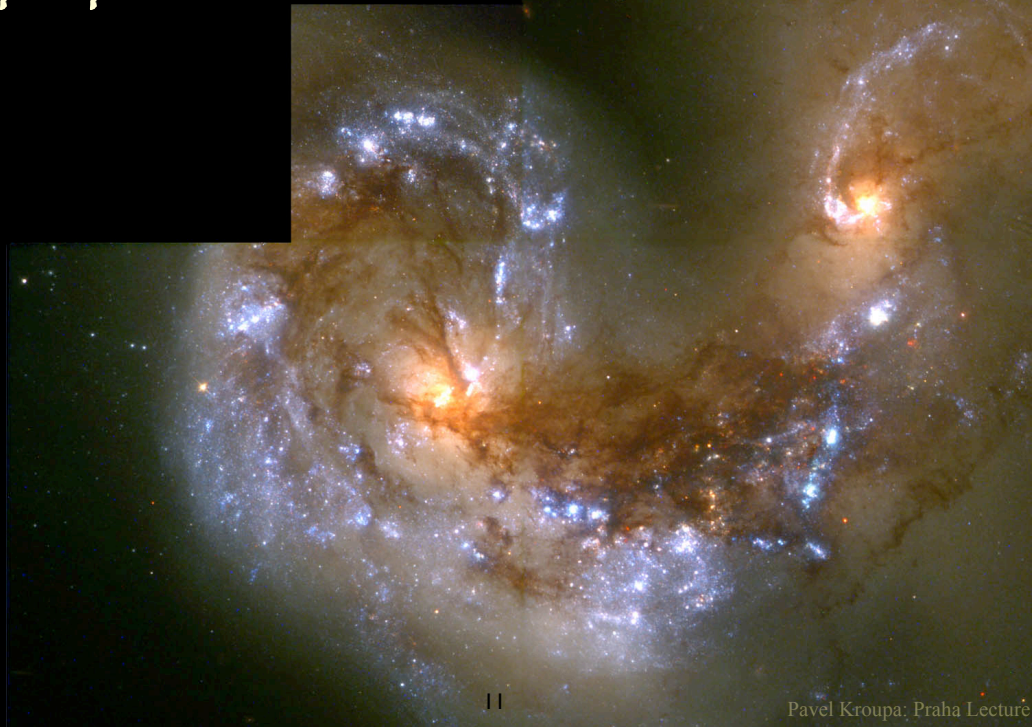
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# Composite stellar populations

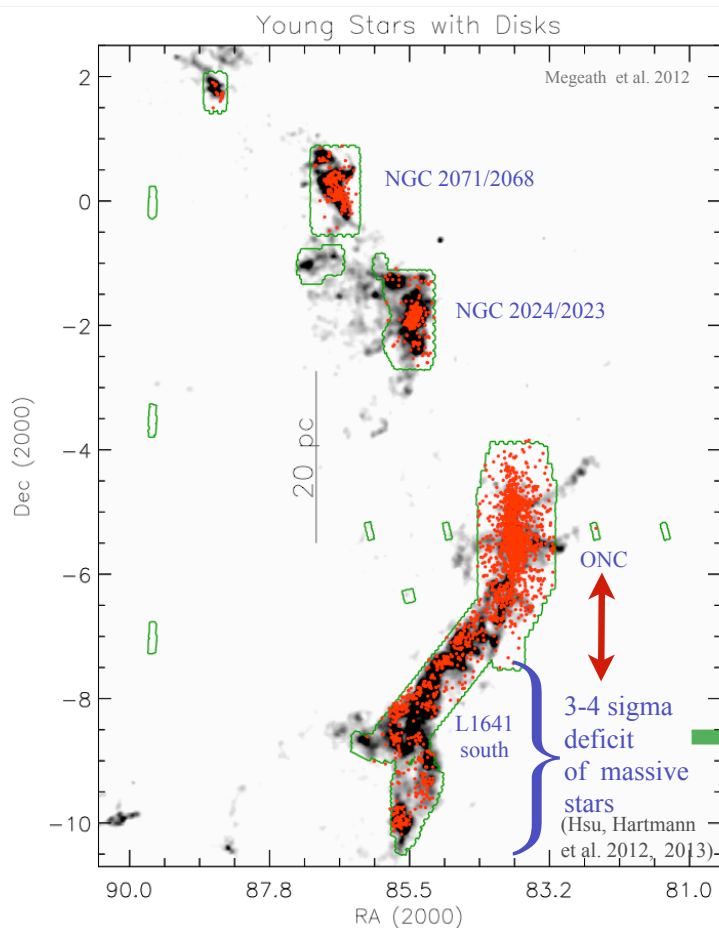


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## Clustered star formation

(see also Lada & Lada 2003)

and  
lack of O stars :

Many small / low-mass groups or clusters do not yield the same IMF as one massive cluster



stochastic IMF in each group disfavoured.

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# Composite Stellar Populations

Stars form in clusters (Lada & Lada 2003).

Thus, the Integrated Galactic IMF follows from

$$\xi_{\text{IGIMF}}(m, t) = \int_{M_{\text{ecl}, \min}}^{M_{\text{ecl}, \max}(SFR(t))} \underbrace{\xi(m \leq m_{\max}(M_{\text{ecl}}))}_{\text{adding-up all IMFs in all clusters!}} \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

Kroupa & Weidner (2003); Weidner & Kroupa (2005, 2006)



*adding-up* all IMFs  
in all clusters !

Vanbeveren (1982)

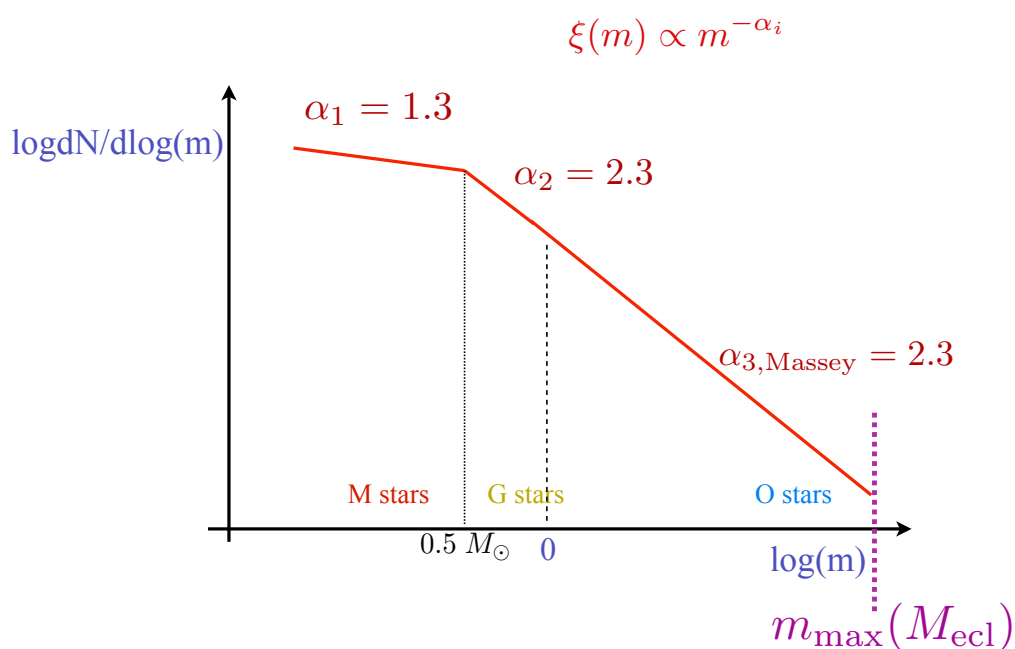
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The universal “canonical” *two-part* power-law IMF :



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# Composite Stellar Populations

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$$\xi_{\text{IGIMF}}(m, t) = \int_{M_{\text{ecl}, \min}}^{M_{\text{ecl}, \max}(SFR(t))} \xi(m \leq m_{\max}(M_{\text{ecl}})) \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

Kroupa & Weidner (2003), Weidner & Kroupa (2005, 2006)

**The embedded-cluster MF (ECMF)**

$\xi_{\text{ecl}} \propto M_{\text{ecl}}^{-\beta}$ ;  $\beta \approx 2 - 2.4$  *solar-neighbourhood* few  $10 M_{\odot} - 1000 M_{\odot}$   
(Lada & Lada 2003)

*LMC & SMC*  $10^3 M_{\odot} - 10^4 M_{\odot}$   
(Hunter et al. 2003)

*Antennae*  $10^4 M_{\odot} - 10^6 M_{\odot}$   
(Zhang & Fall 1999)

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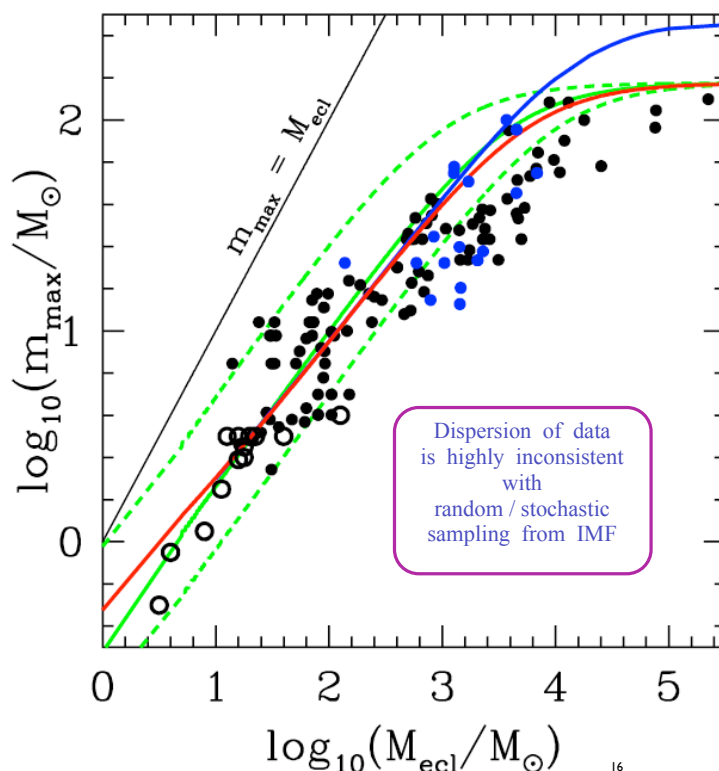
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## The $m_{\max}(M_{\text{ecl}})$ relation

Weidner & Kroupa 2005, 2006;  
Weidner et al. 2010, 2013; Kroupa et al. 2013;  
Kirk & Myers, 2010, 2012; Hsu, Hartmann et al. 2012, 2013;  
Megeath et al. 2015



$m_{\max}^* = 300 M_{\odot}$

$m_{\max}^* = 150 M_{\odot}$  *physical upper mass limit?*

(Weidner & Kroupa 2004;  
Figer 2005;  
Oey & Clarke 2005,  
Koen 2006;  
Maiz Appellaniz et al. 2007)

$$1 = \int_{m_{\max}}^{m_{\max}^*} \xi(m) dm$$

$$M_{\text{ecl}} = \int_{m_1}^{m_{\max}} m \xi(m) dm$$

→  $m_{\max} = \text{fn}(M_{\text{ecl}})$   
an  $m_{\max} - M_{\text{ecl}}$  relation

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# Composite Stellar Populations

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Kroupa & Weidner (2003); Weidner & Kroupa (2005)

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## Correlated star formation events building up a galaxy

(i.e. embedded clusters = building blocks; Kroupa, 2005ESASP.576..629K)

The total mass in stars formed in a galaxy over time  $\delta t$  is  $M_{\text{tot}} = SFR \times \delta t$

But 
$$M_{\text{tot}} = \int_{M_{\text{ecl}, \min}}^{M_{\text{ecl}, \max}} \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) M_{\text{ecl}} dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

For  $M_{\text{ecl}, \min} = 5 M_{\odot}$  and with 
$$1 = \int_{M_{\text{ecl}, \min}}^{M_{\text{ecl}, \max}} \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

where  $M_{\text{ecl}, \max} \approx 10^7 M_{\odot}$

Thus 
$$M_{\text{ecl}, \max} = \text{fn}(SFR)$$

## What is $\delta t$ ?

The galaxy-wide time-scale of transforming the ISM via molecular clouds into a new stellar population (Egusa et al. 2004; 2009).

Disappearance of large molecular clouds around young star clusters (Leisawitz 1989).

(see also Schulz et al. 2015)



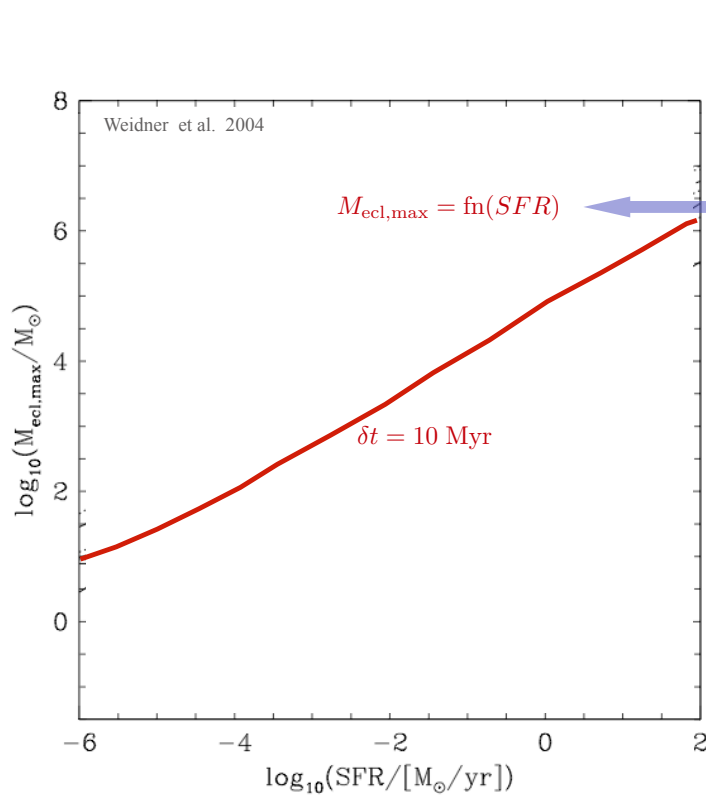
$$\delta t \approx 10 \text{ Myr}$$

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$$M_{\text{tot}} = \text{SFR} \times \delta t$$

$$M_{\text{tot}} = \int_{M_{\text{ecl,min}}}^{M_{\text{ecl,max}}} \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) M_{\text{ecl}} dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

$$1 = \int_{M_{\text{ecl,max}}}^{M_{\text{ecl,max}^*}} \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

$$\delta t = 10 \text{ Myr}$$

$$M_{\text{ecl,min}} = 5 M_{\odot}$$

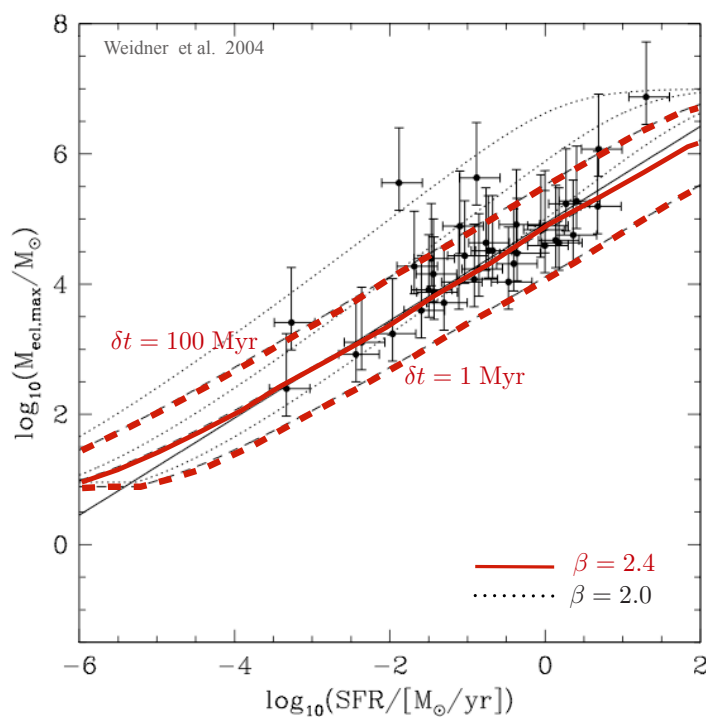
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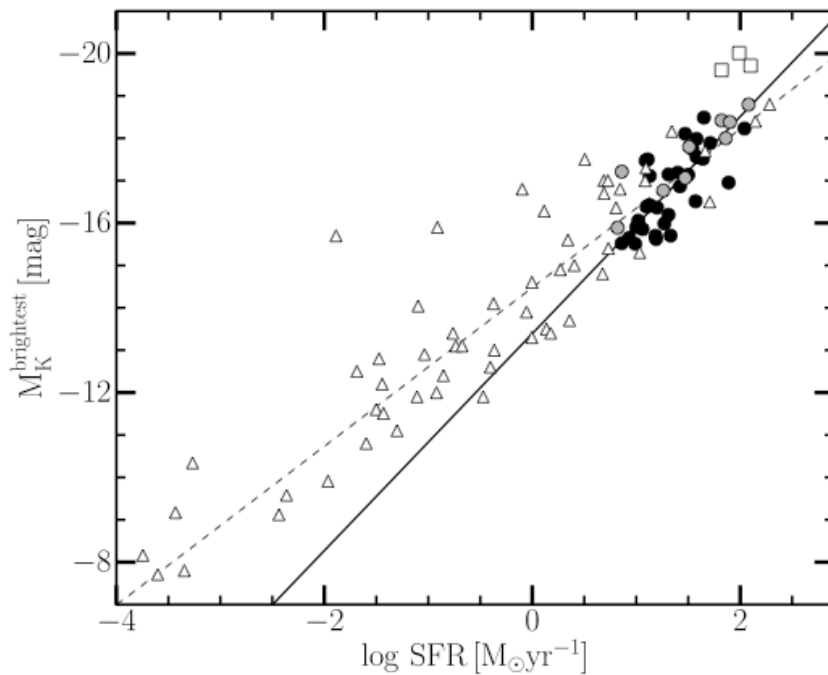
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Randriamanakoto,  
Escala, et al. 2013,

"In particular, the scatter in the relation is smaller than expected from pure random sampling strongly suggesting physical constraints."

**Figure 4.**  $M_K^{\text{brightest}}$ –SFR relation with data from literature (the triangles; Adamo et al. 2011 and references therein) added to the present work (symbols as in Figure 1). The solid line is our best fit of Equation (3) and the dashed line is the fit from Weidner et al. (2004) to the optical V-band data after a constant  $V - K = 2$  conversion.

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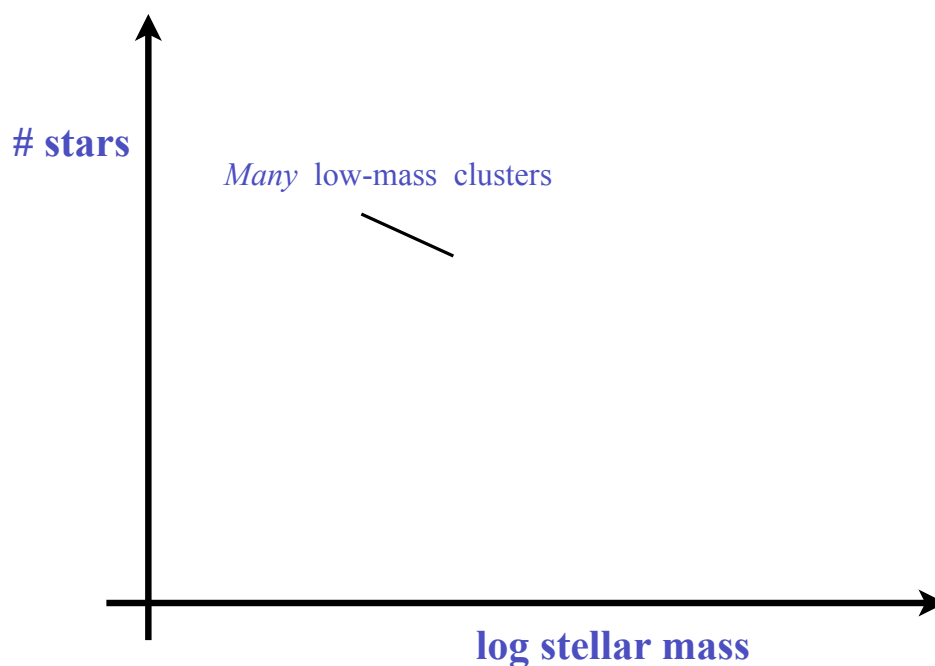
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$$IGIMF = \sum \text{ of IMFs (in all CSFEs/ embedded clusters)}$$

Why is the IGIMF different to the IMF ?



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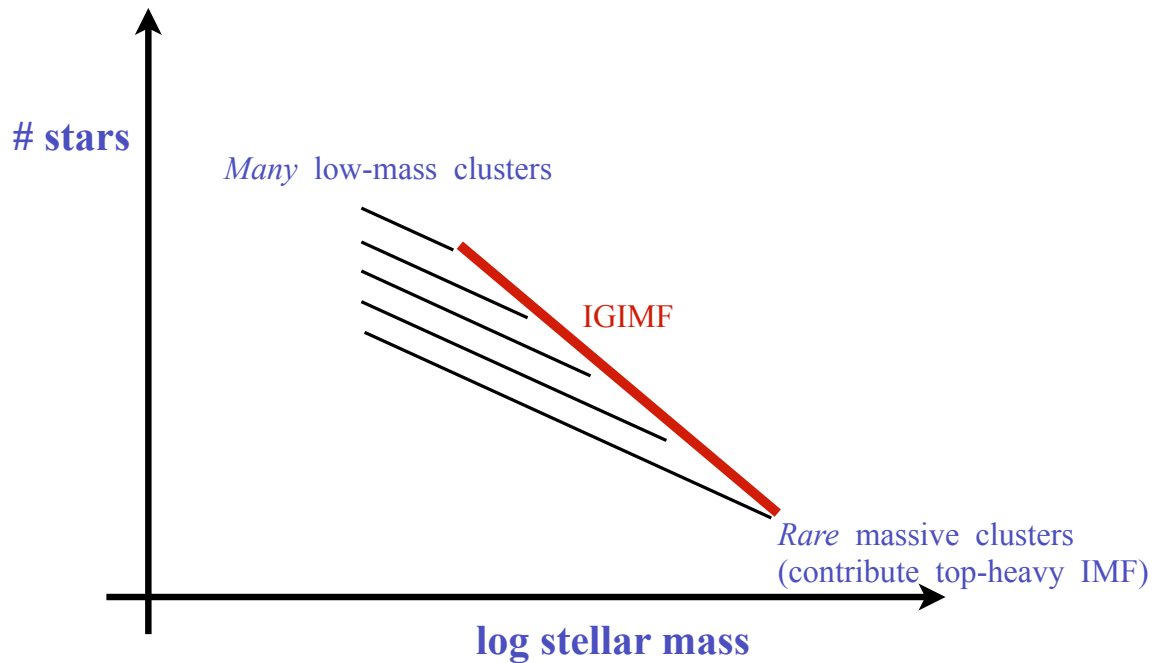
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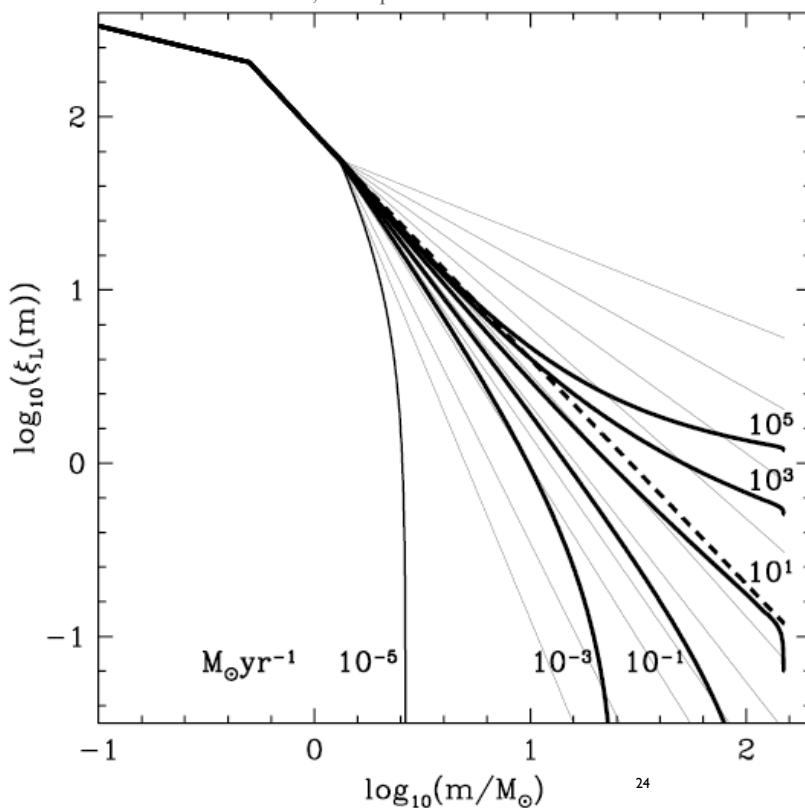
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$$\xi_{IGIMF}(m, t) = \int_{M_{ecl,min}}^{M_{ecl,max}(SFR(t))} \xi(m \leq m_{max}(M_{ecl})) \xi_{ecl}(M_{ecl}) dM_{ecl}$$

Weidner et al. 2013; Kroupa et al. 2013



*The IGIMF for galaxies with different SFRs*

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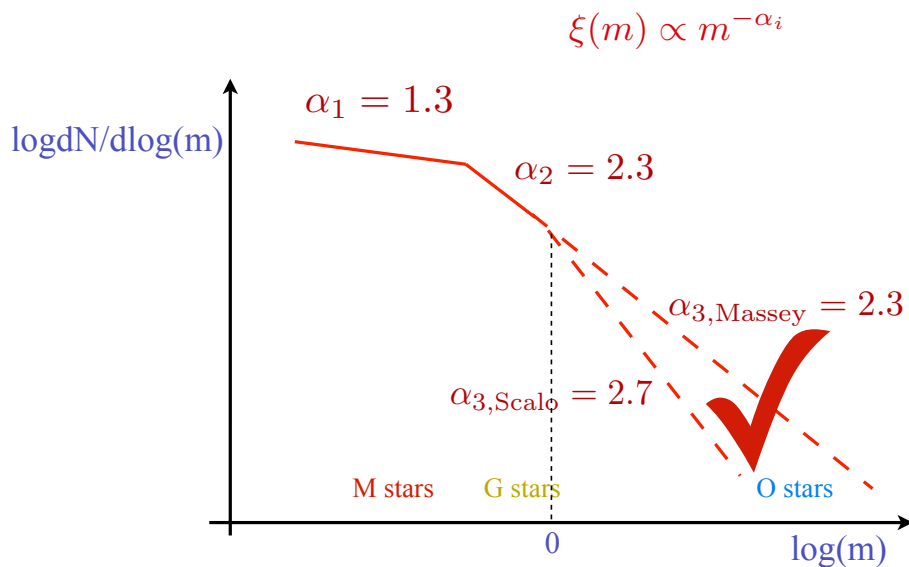
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## Return to the Scalo / Massey-Salpeter discrepancy :



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## Recall:

Salpeter/Massey :  $\alpha_3 = 2.3$  for individual clusters and OB associations

*but*

Scalo :  $\alpha_3 = 2.7$  from Galactic-field star-counts

## Independent evidence :

Tinsley 1980

Kennicutt 1983

Portinari et al. 2000

Romano et al. 2005

$$2.5 \lesssim \alpha_3 \lesssim 2.7$$

based on *spectro-photometric*  
and/or  
*chemical-evolution* modelling  
of the MW disk.

Reid et al. 2002 :  $\alpha_3 = 2.5 - 2.8$  from Galactic-field star counts.

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Composite stellar populations have a steeper IMF than the stellar IMF :

*Further observational evidence for steep galaxy-wide massive star IMF*

MW disk :  $\alpha = 2.5 - 2.7$  (Kennicutt 198n; Scalo 1986; Reid et al. 2002)

LSBs : bottom heavy IMF (Lee et al. 2005, MNRAS)

Dwarf NGC4214 :  $\alpha > 2.8$  (Ubeda et al. 2007, AJ)

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Counting stars  $\Rightarrow$  LF  $\Rightarrow$  PDMF  $\Rightarrow$  IMF

**Remember :**

$$\Psi(M_V) = -\frac{dm}{dM_V} \xi(m)$$

+ binaries  
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corrections for stellar evolution

✓ peak in LF  $\Rightarrow m-M_V$  relation

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## *The IGIMF theory :*

Natural explanation of the  
difference between the Scalo  
field IMF ( $\alpha \approx 2.7$ ) and the  
stellar IMF ( $\alpha \approx 2.3$ ).

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Composite stellar populations can  
have a steeper IMF than  
the stellar IMF:

## *Further observational verification ?*

Use **H $\alpha$  flux** to measure the number of  $m > 10 M_{\odot}$  stars forming.  
(see further below)

Use **broad-band colours** to measure the number of  $m < 10 M_{\odot}$  stars forming.



Observational constraints on the IMF in galaxies.  
(based on the method by Kennicutt 1983)

That is, use the count of ionising photons relative to bulk (optical) photons to estimate the slope of the galaxy-wide IMF (i.e. of the IGIMF):

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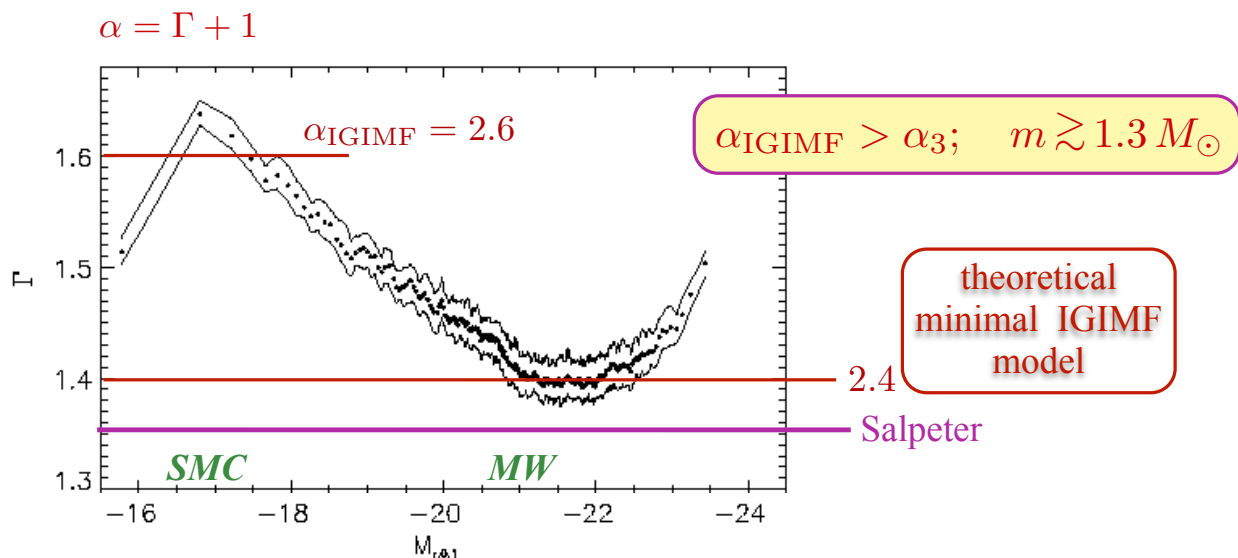
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## *Further observational verification ?*



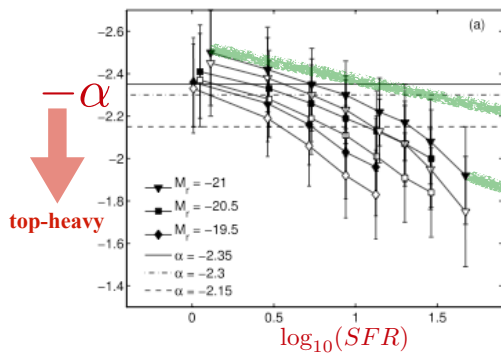
140 000 SDSS galaxies : Hoversten & Glazebrook (2007)

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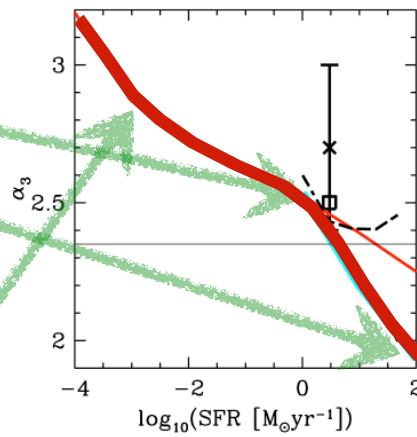
Very comparable / consistent results by

Hoversten E. A., Glazebrook K., 2008, ApJ, 675, 163

Meurer G. R. et al., 2009, ApJ, 695, 765

Lee, J. C. et al., 2009, ApJ, 706, 599

IGIMF theory



Weidner  
et al. 2013

E galaxies  
formed with  
top-heavy IMFs

confirming Matteucci (1994) !  
and see recent work by Vazdekis

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# Some implications

## The mass-metallicity relation

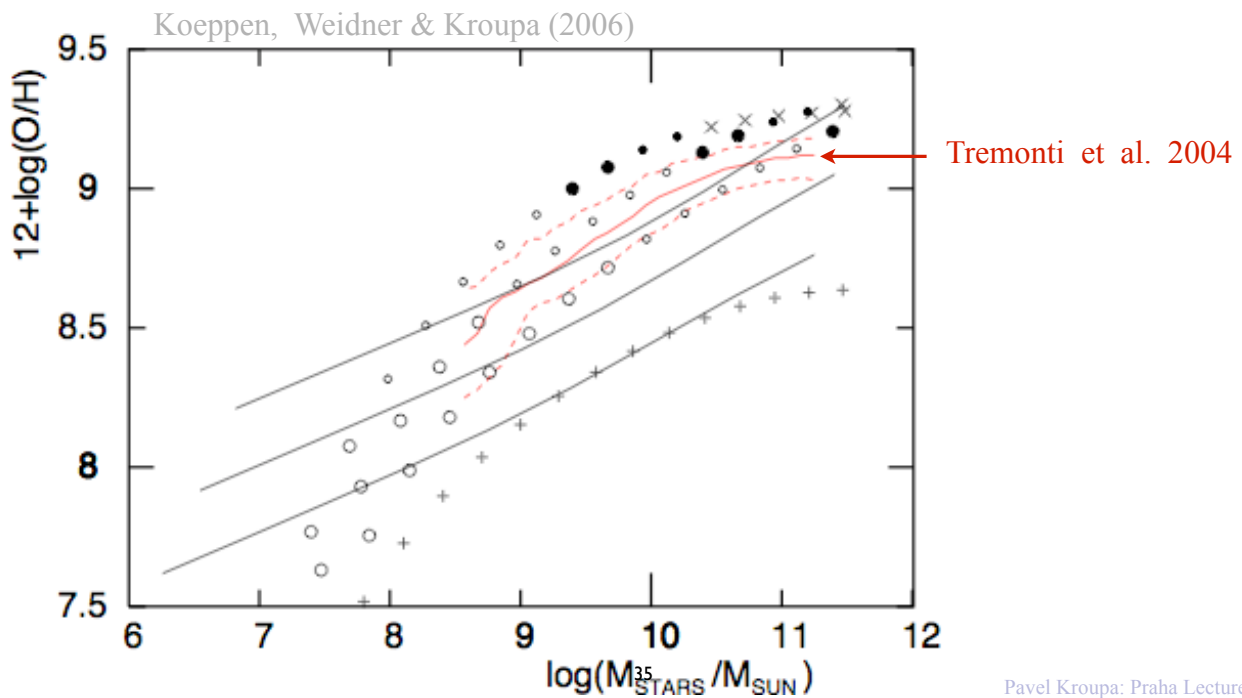
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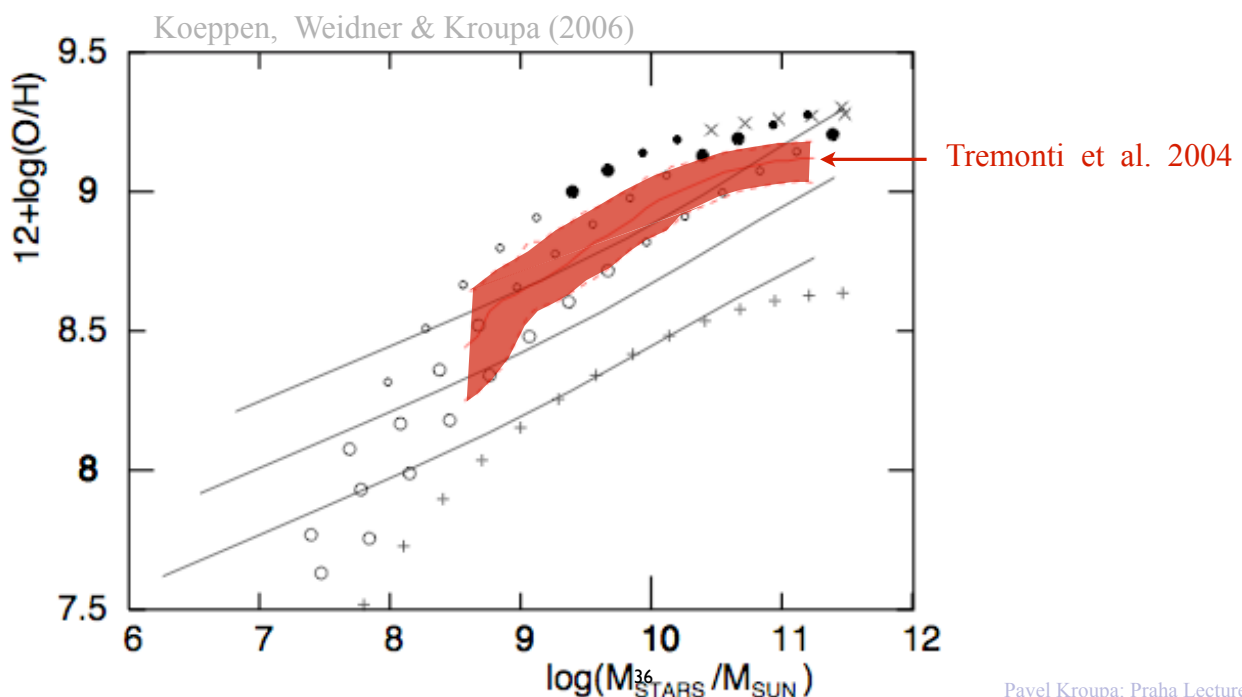
The **IGIMF theory** naturally accounts for the *observed mass-metallicity relation* of galaxies !



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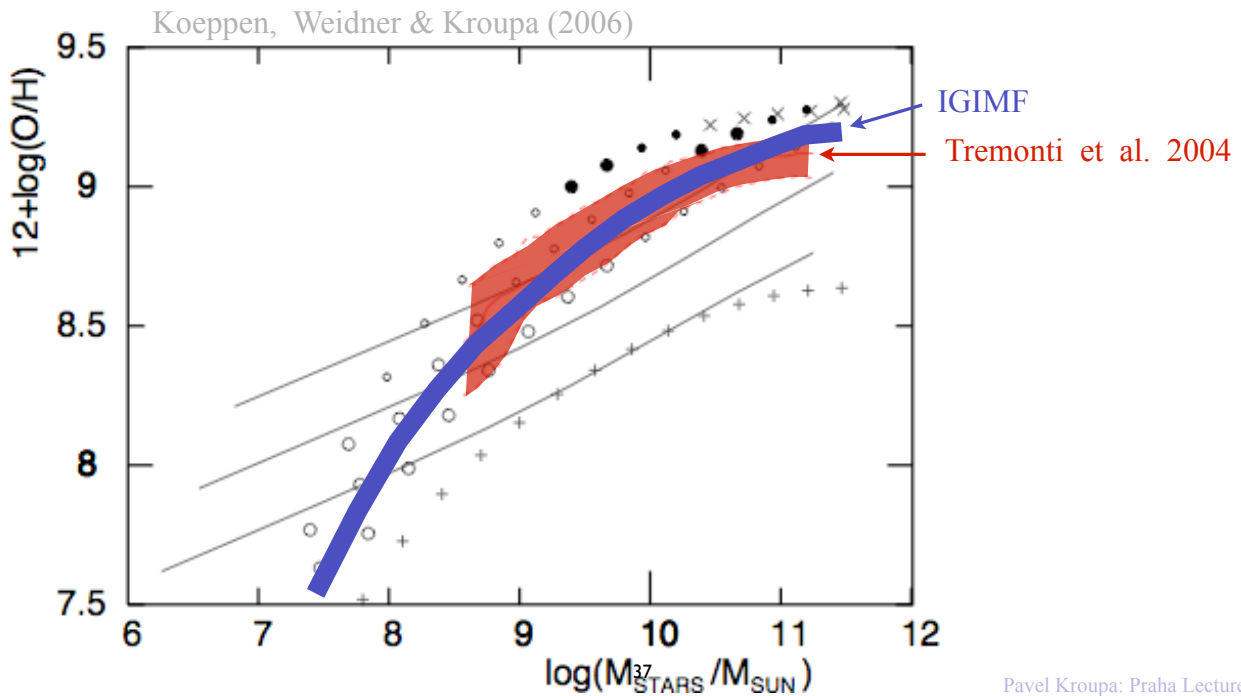
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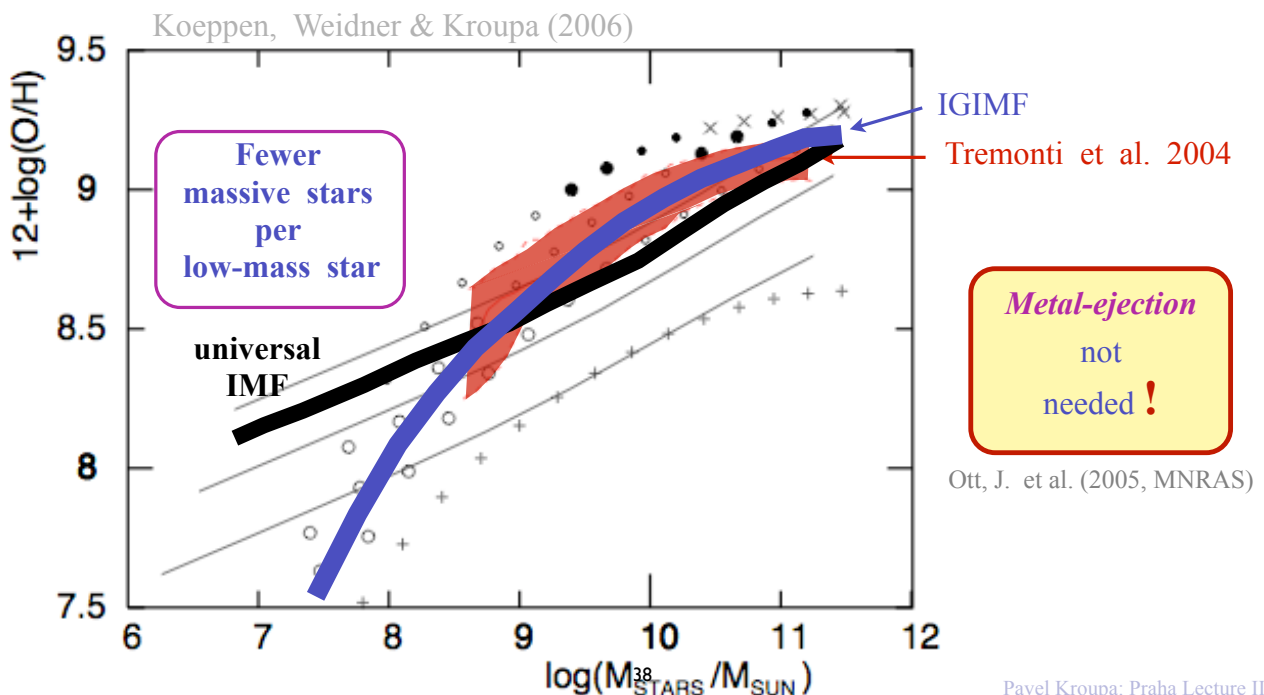
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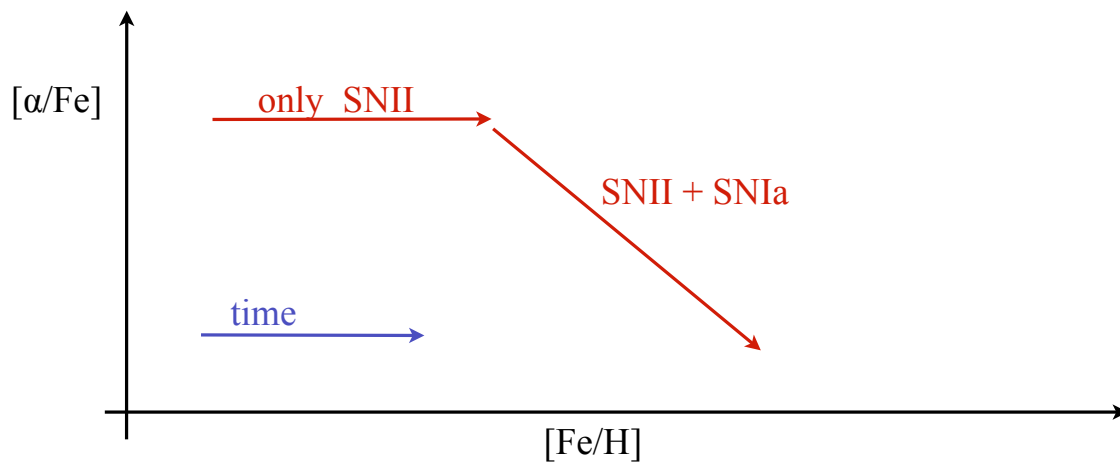
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## Chemical evolution of the interstellar medium (ISM) of a galaxy from which new stars form :

"alpha elements" (e.g. O, Mg) are injected into the inter stellar medium by **SNII** explosions.

**Fe** is injected into the inter stellar medium by **SNII** and **SNIa** explosions.

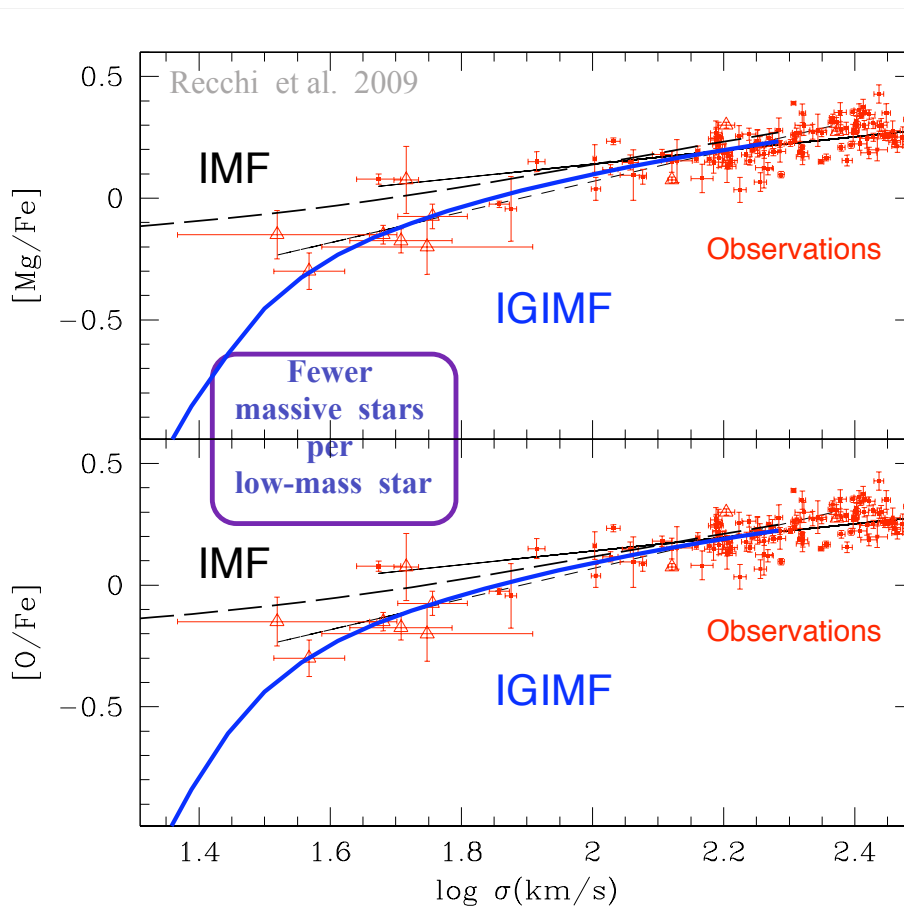


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The **IGIMF** theory naturally accounts for the *observed*  $[\alpha/\text{Fe}] - \sigma$  relation of galaxies !

- Thomas et al. (2005)
- △ Samson & Northeast (2008)

*Metal-ejection* not needed !

Ott, J. et al. (2005, MNRAS)

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# *The IGIMF theory :*

Natural explanation of the  
mass-metallicity relation  
of galaxies.

## Some implications

The H $\alpha$  vs UV flux  
of galaxies



Kennicutt et al. (1994)

### SFR relation

( for a pure Salpeter power-law IMF betw. 0.1 and 100 Msun )

$$\text{SFR}(\text{total}) = \frac{L_{\text{H}\alpha}}{1.26 \times 10^{41} \text{ erg s}^{-1}} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}. \quad (14)$$

$$SFR \propto L_{\text{H}\alpha} \text{ always for all galaxies}$$

$$L_{\text{H}\alpha} = \mu 3.0207 \times 10^{-12} \text{ erg } N_{\text{ion}}/\delta t, \quad (3)$$

$$N_{\text{ion},\delta t} = \int_{m_{\text{low}}}^{m_{\text{max}}} \xi \text{ IMF}(m) N_{\text{ion},\delta t}(m) dm, \quad (2)$$

$$\mu = 1 \quad (\text{Pflamm-Altenburg et al. 2007})$$

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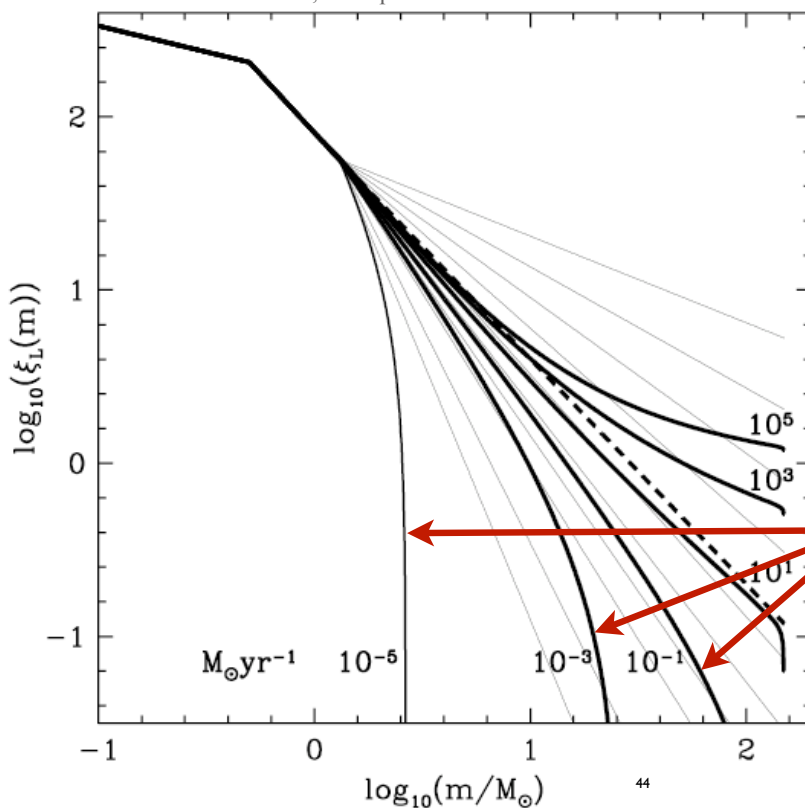
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$$\xi_{\text{IGIMF}}(m, t) = \int_{M_{\text{ecl},\text{min}}}^{M_{\text{ecl},\text{max}}(\text{SFR}(t))} \xi(m \leq m_{\text{max}}(M_{\text{ecl}})) \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

Weidner et al. 2013; Kroupa et al. 2013



*The IGIMF for galaxies with different SFRs*

*Expect :*

IGIMF slope  $\uparrow$  with SFR  $\downarrow$

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## A further observational test

UV flux is sensitive to intermediate-mass stars with ages from 0 to 100 Myr.

A UV luminosity is therefore proportional to the SFR :  $SFR_{UV} \propto L_{UV}$   
(Pflamm-Altenburg, Weidner & Kroupa 2009, submitted)

H $\alpha$  luminosity is sensitive to massive stars ( $m > 10 M_{\odot}$ ) with life-times of a few Myr.

**If** the IMF=IGIMF and if it is invariant with the SFR  
(the classical, Kennicutt case), then expect

$$\frac{SFR_{H\alpha}}{SFR_{UV}} = \text{const with } SFR$$

**If** the IMF $\neq$ IGIMF and if it varies with the SFR  
(the IGIMF-theory case), then expect

$$\frac{SFR_{H\alpha}}{SFR_{UV}} \downarrow \text{ for } SFR \downarrow$$

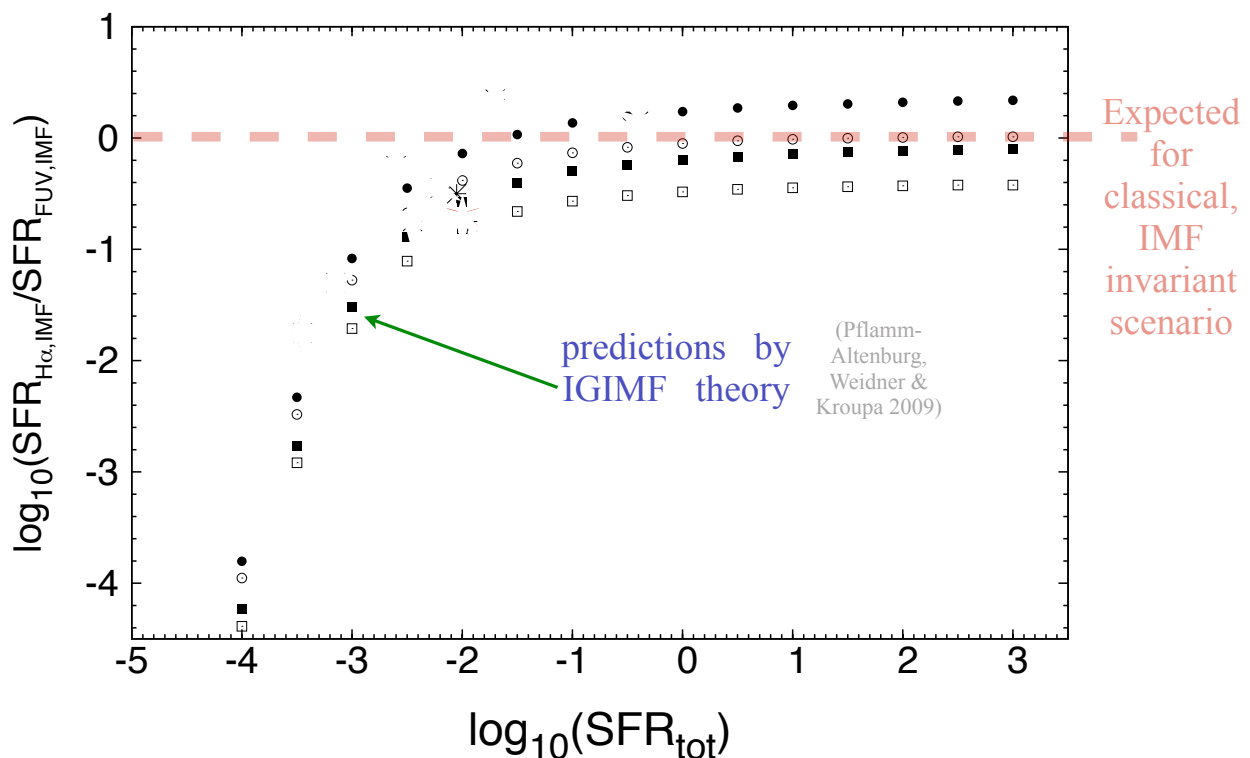
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## A further observational test



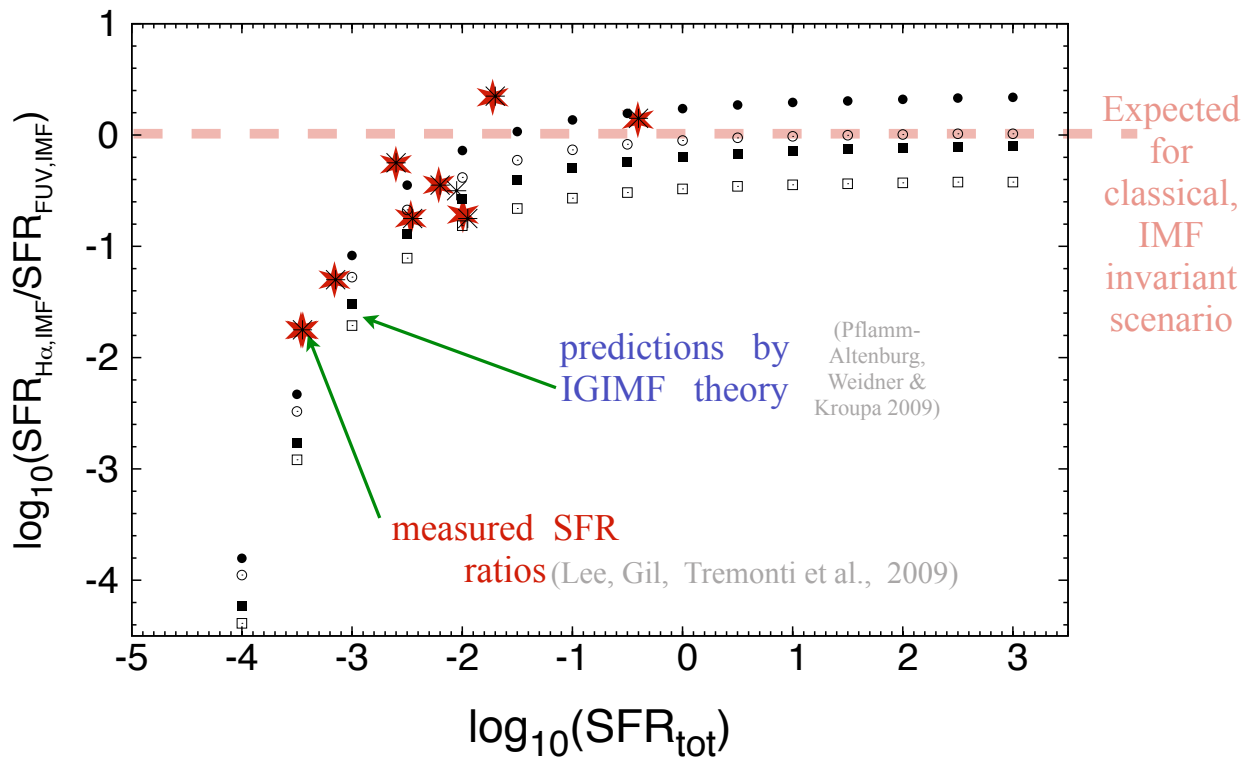
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## A further observational test



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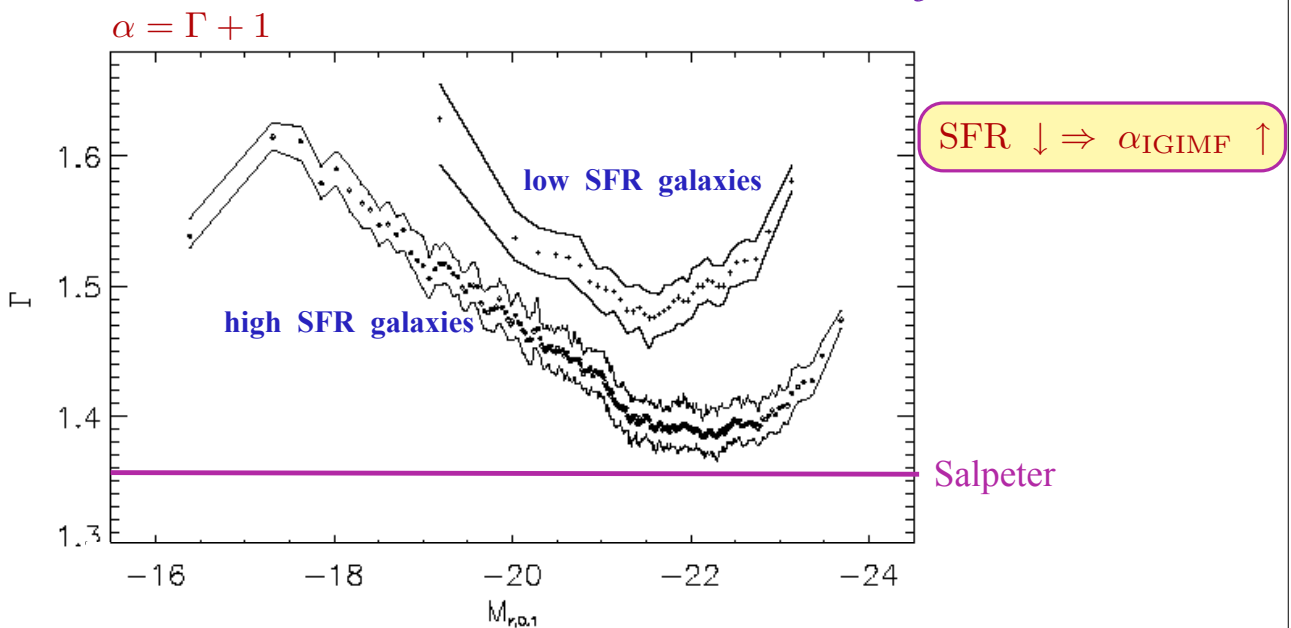
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Composite stellar populations have a steeper IMF than the stellar IMF:

**Observational verification !!**



140 000 SDSS galaxies : Hoversten & Glazebrook (2007)

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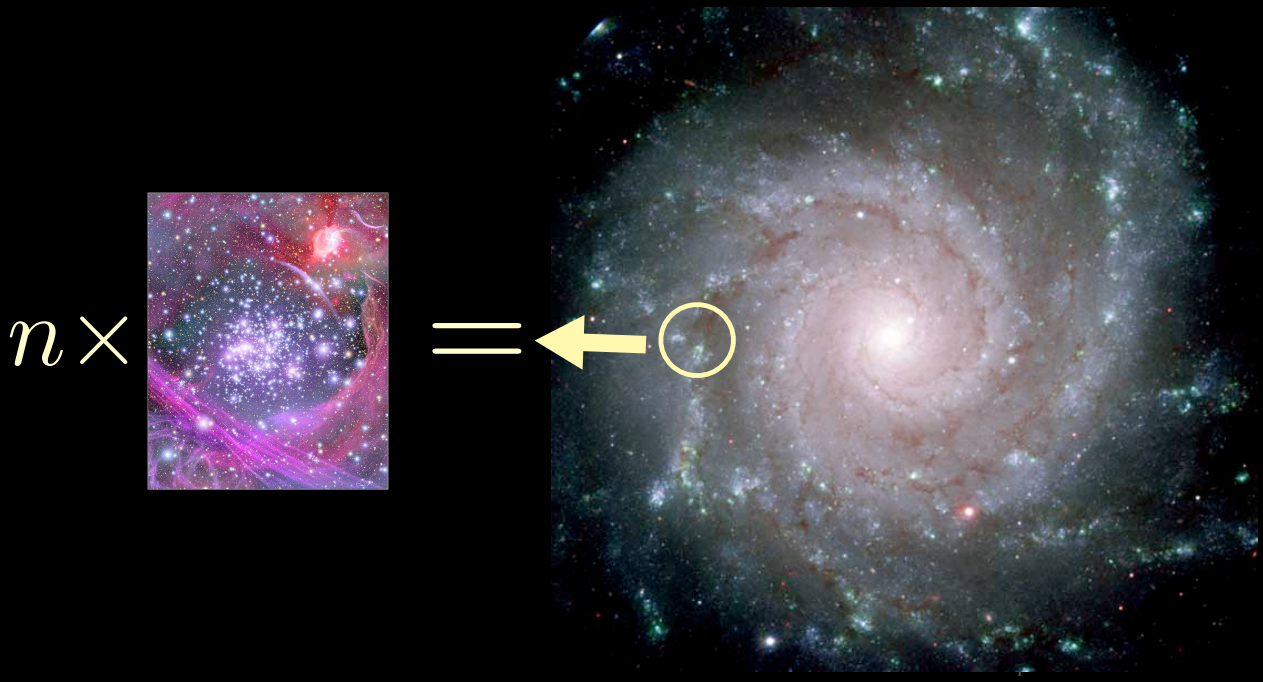
The *IGIMF theory*  
appears to be affirmed  
by observation.

**Todo :** compute  $H\alpha$  / UV flux ratio for  
galaxies with high SFRs.

## Some implications

The radial cutoff  
in  $H\alpha$ /UV ratio  
in disk galaxies

# The local IGIMF and the radial star-formation cutoff in disk galaxies



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## *Express the IGIMF in terms of local quantities :*

(Pflamm-Altenburg & Kroupa 2008)

$$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}}(x, y) = A \Sigma_{\text{gas}}^n(x, y), \quad n = 1 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(local Schmidt law,} \\ \text{based on UV GALEX data)} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(Boissier et al.} \\ \text{2007; Zasov et} \\ \text{al. 2005)} \end{array}$$

$$A^{-1} = 3 \text{ Gyr}$$

$$M_{\text{ecl,max,loc}}(x, y) = M_{\text{ecl,max}} \left( \frac{\Sigma_{\text{gas}}(x, y)}{\Sigma_{\text{gas,0}}} \right)^\gamma, \quad \gamma = 3/2 \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{(ansatz - less} \\ \text{massive clusters} \\ \text{further out)} \end{array}$$

$$\xi_{\text{LECMF}}(M_{\text{ecl}}, x, y) = \frac{dN_{\text{ecl}}}{dM_{\text{ecl}} dx dy}$$

$$\xi_{\text{LIGIMF}}(m, x, y) = \int_{M_{\text{ecl,min}}}^{M_{\text{ecl,max,loc}}(x, y)} \xi_{M_{\text{ecl}}}(m) \xi_{\text{LECMF}}(M_{\text{ecl}}, x, y) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

= the local IGIMF = LIGIMF

...and study the emission of H $\alpha$  photons  
as a function of  
local gas density and galactocentric radius...

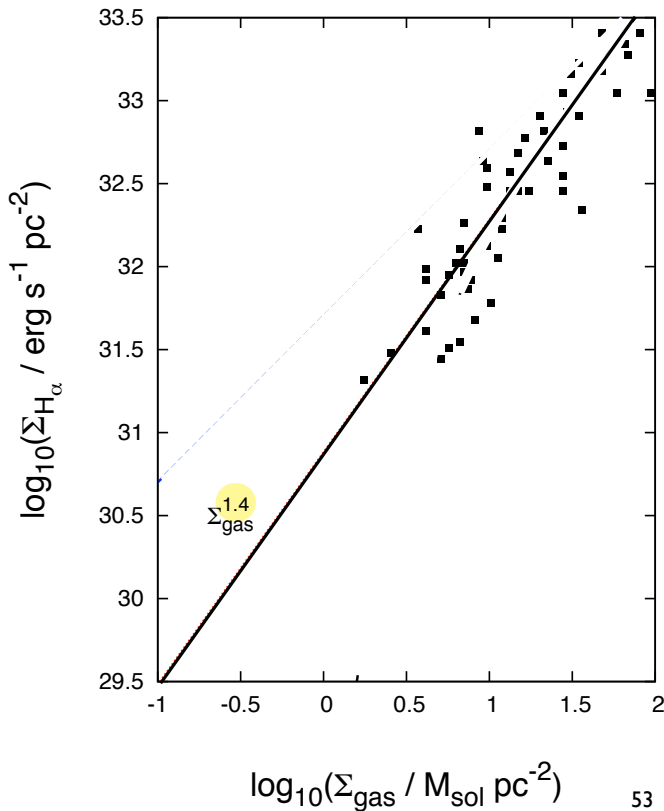
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*According to classical scenario  
(universal IMF=invariant IGIMF) :*



- H $\alpha$  surface luminosity vs local gas density at different radii in 7 disk galaxies .  
(Kennicutt '89 [data], '94, '98 [relation])

H $\alpha$  emission scales with number of O stars, and IMF non-varying

→  $L_{H\alpha} \propto SFR$

Measure H $\alpha$  surface luminosity density and surface gas mass density.

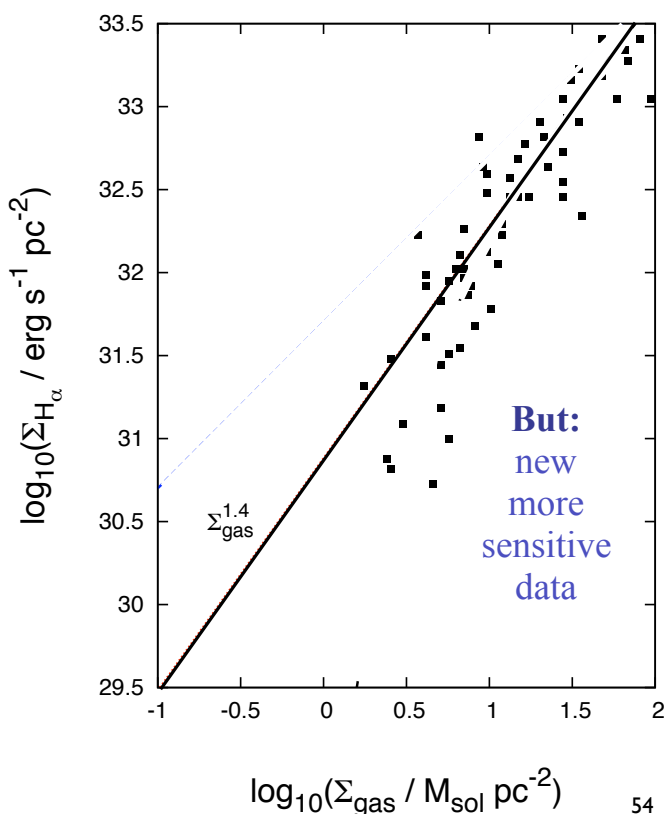
→  $\Sigma_{SFR,H\alpha} \propto \Sigma_{H\alpha} \propto \Sigma_{gas}^{1.4}$   
The Kennicutt SFR law.

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*According to classical scenario  
(universal IMF=invariant IGIMF) :*



- H $\alpha$  surface luminosity vs local gas density at different radii in 7 disk galaxies .  
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H $\alpha$  emission scales with number of O stars, and IMF non-varying

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Measure H $\alpha$  surface luminosity density and surface gas mass density.

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The Kennicutt SFR law.

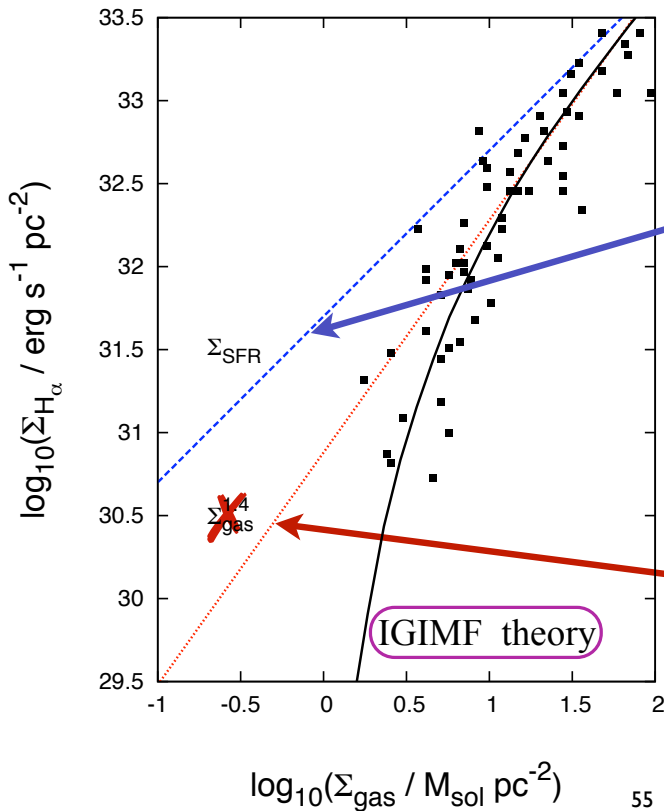
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## Express the IGIMF in terms of local quantities :

(Pflamm-Altenburg & Kroupa 2008)



- H $\alpha$  surface luminosity vs local gas density at different radii in 7 disk galaxies.

(Kennicutt '89 [data], '94, '98 [relation])

True underlying SF density law :

$$\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} = \frac{1}{3 \text{ Gyr}} \Sigma_{\text{gas}} \quad \checkmark$$

converted to H $\alpha$  surface luminosity using standard (but wrong) linear (Kennicutt) H $\alpha$ -SFR relation.

H $\alpha$  -  $\Sigma_{\text{gas}}$  relation based on standard (but wrong) Kennicutt SFR law  $\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} = A \Sigma_{\text{gas}}^{1.4}$  ;   
 it is a good (but wrong) fit to the bright data. ✗

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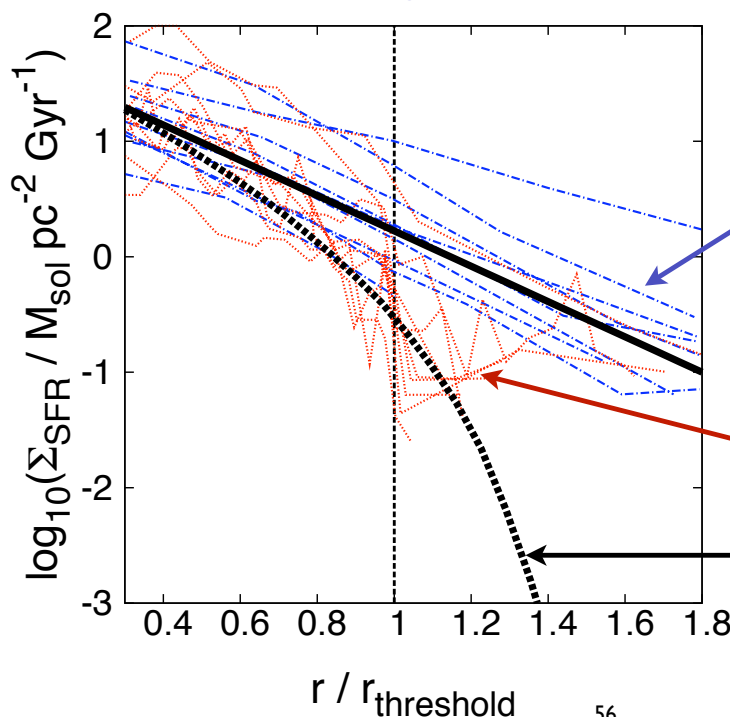
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## Express the IGIMF in terms of local quantities :

(Pflamm-Altenburg & Kroupa 2008)

9 observed disk galaxies :



SFR density from UV flux  
(Boissier et al. 2007)

(UV flux generated by intermediate-mass stars with ages 0-100 Myr, i.e. not sensitive to O stars only !)

SFR density from H $\alpha$  flux  
(Martin & Kennicutt 2001)

LIGIMF-theoretical  
H $\alpha$  flux based on true law  
 $\Sigma_{\text{SFR}} = A \Sigma_{\text{gas}}$

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## *The IGIMF theory :*

H $\alpha$  cutoff accounted for naturally.

$$\text{True is } \Sigma_{\text{SFR}} = \frac{1}{3 \text{ Gyr}} \Sigma_{\text{gas}}$$

(i.e no radial cutoff in SF).

*Theoretical models :*

a threshold for star formation

à la H $\alpha$  cutoff

***does not exist !***

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## Some implications

The stellar-mass buildup times  
of dwarf galaxies

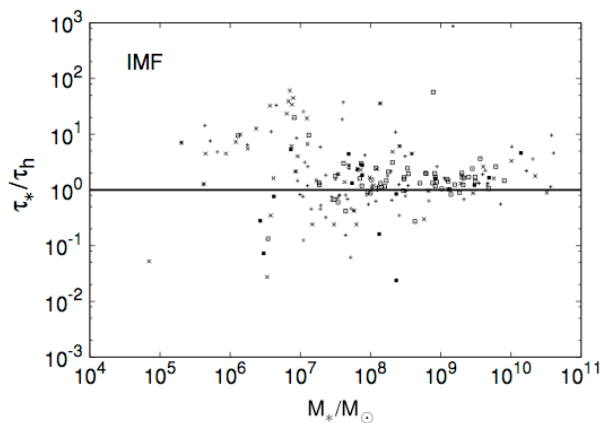
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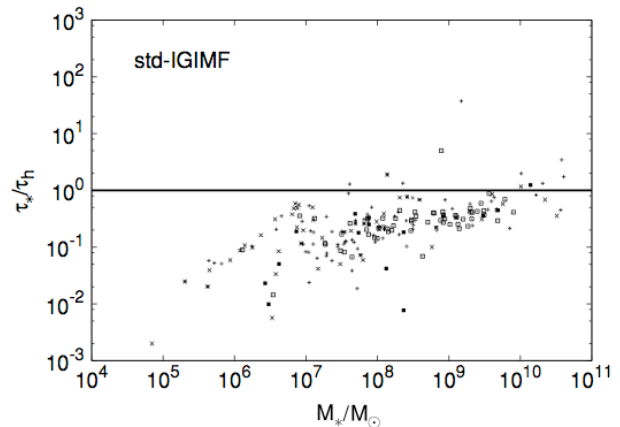
58

If dwarf galaxies would have as low SFRs as are implied by the standard theory (Kennicutt), then their blue-band luminosities are too high.



**Figure 10.** Stellar-mass buildup timescale in units of the Hubble time,  $\tau_h = 13.7$  Gyr, in dependence of the total stellar mass derived from the blue luminosity for a constant galaxy-wide IMF. Note that the buildup times for dwarf star-forming galaxies are longer than the ones for large disk galaxies. This implies that the SFRs of dwarf galaxies must have decreased faster over cosmic time than the SFRs of large disk galaxies. This is in contradiction to the finding of downsizing according to which the SFRs of large disk galaxies must have decreased faster over cosmic time than the SFRs of dwarf galaxies. The symbols are the same as in Figure 2.

Pflamm-Altenburg & Kroupa 2009, ApJ



**Figure 11.** Same as Figure 10 but for the standard IGIMF. Note that the stellar-mass buildup times, which result from SFR calculations in the IGIMF context, decrease with decreasing galaxy mass. This suggests that the SFR may have been increasing slightly with time for dwarf galaxies or that they were forming stars over a more recent epoch while for massive disk galaxies the SFHs may be constant, which is in agreement with downsizing. The symbols are the same as in Figure 2.

Within the *IGIMF theory*  
(fewer massive stars at low SFRs)  
can the stellar masses of dwarf  
galaxies be formed within a Hubble  
time.

# Some implications

The gas-consumption time-scales  
and  
implications for the  
matter cycle

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## The traditional view :

Dwarf galaxies as  
modest consumers

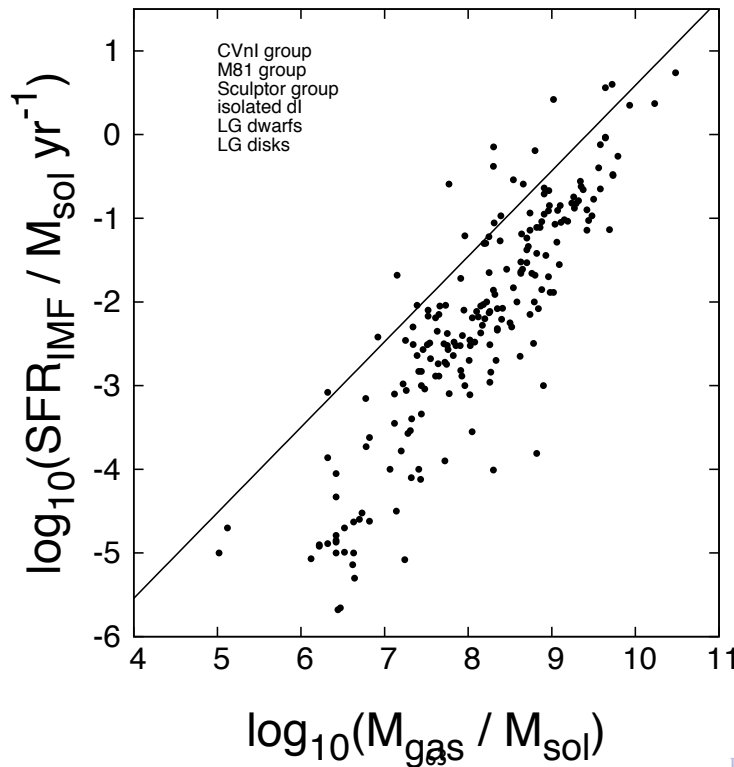
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# *SFR vs gas mass : traditional*

(using linear Kennicutt relation to convert H $\alpha$  flux to SFR.)



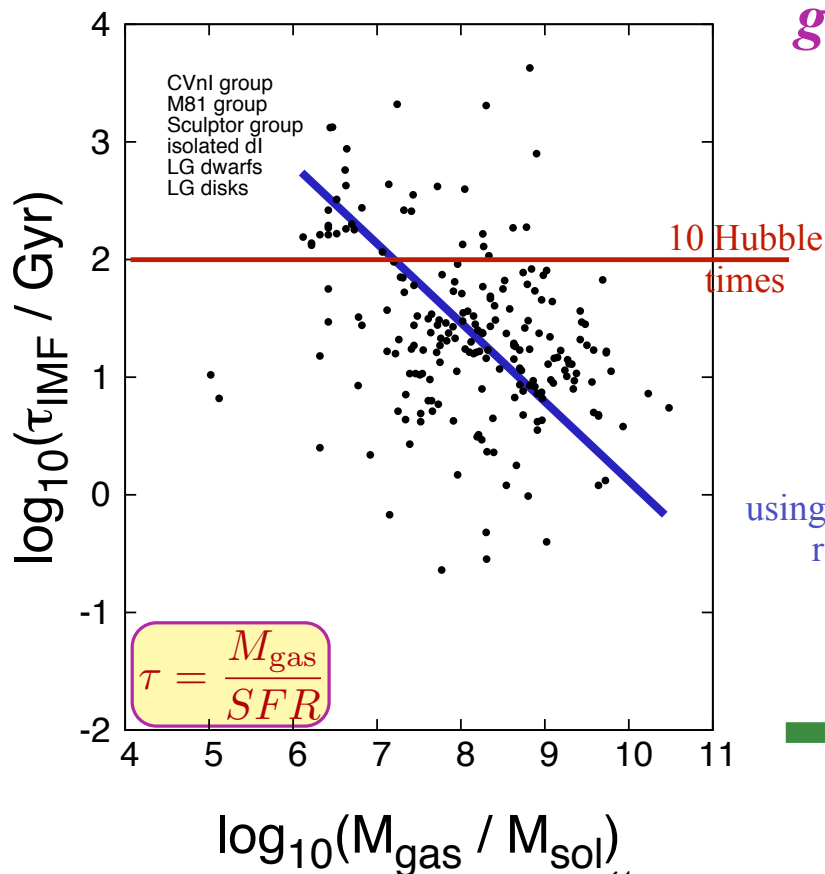
Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner &  
Kroupa (2007);  
Pflamm-Altenburg  
& Kroupa (2008)

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Pflamm-Altenburg, Weidner & Kroupa (2007); Pflamm-A. & Kroupa (2008)



*gas-consumption  
time scale  
vs  
gas mass*

using Kennicutt  
relation

~~Dwarf galaxies  
consume their gas  
very carefully,  
very slowly!~~

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# According to the IGIMF theory:

Dwarf galaxies as  
insatiable consumers

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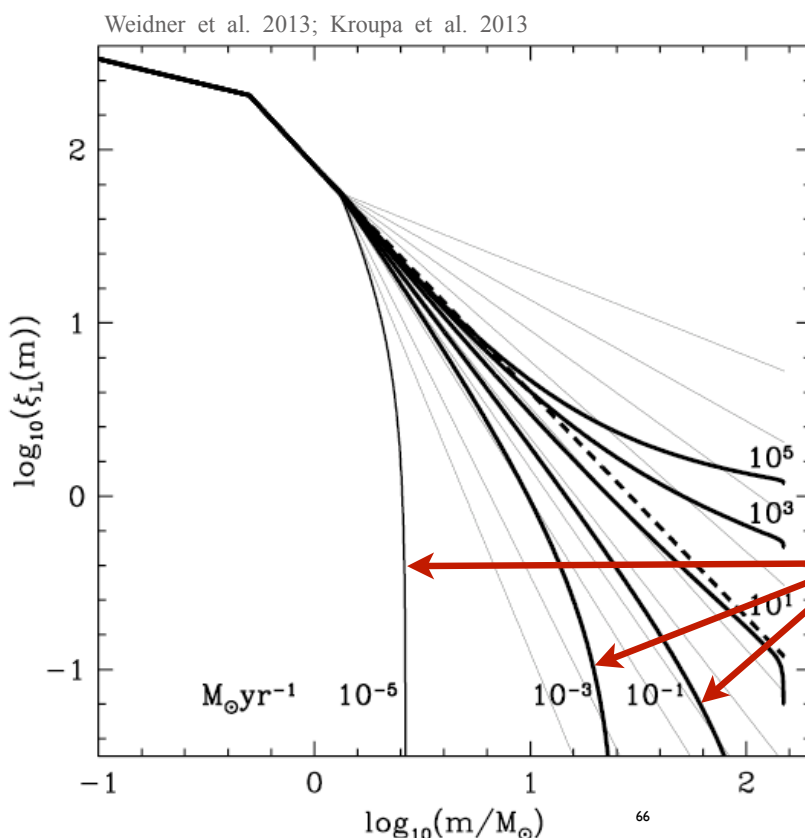
$$\xi_{\text{IGIMF}}(m, t) = \int_{M_{\text{ecl}, \text{min}}}^{M_{\text{ecl}, \text{max}}(\text{SFR}(t))} \xi(m \leq m_{\text{max}}(M_{\text{ecl}})) \xi_{\text{ecl}}(M_{\text{ecl}}) dM_{\text{ecl}}$$

Back to  
the  
integrated-  
galaxy  
view.

The IGIMF  
has  
fewer ionising  
photons !

Expect :

IGIMF slope  $\uparrow$  with  
SFR  $\downarrow$

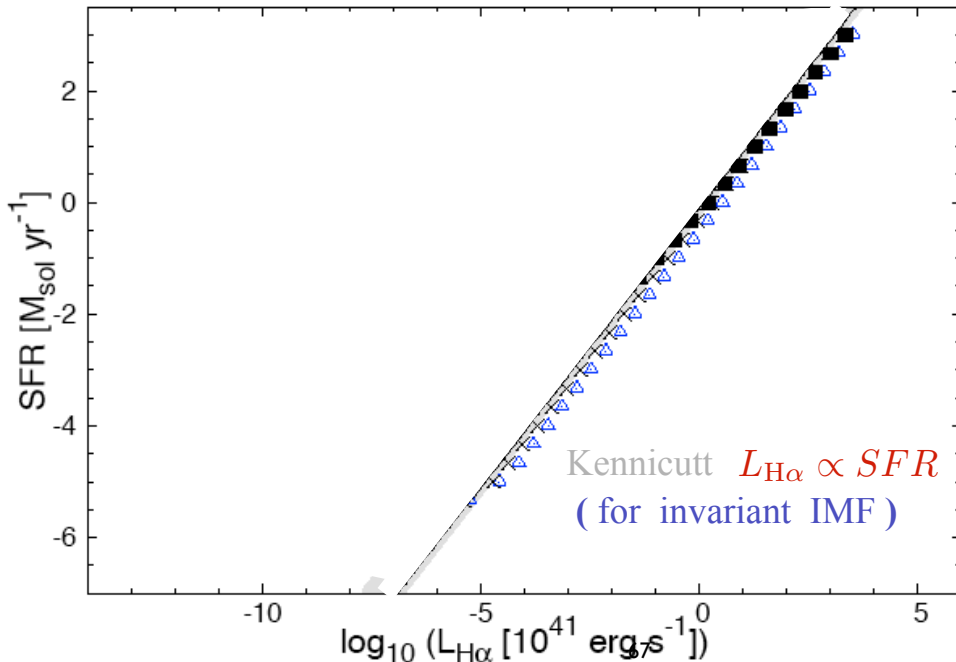


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The *variable IGIMF notion* → revision of the  $L_{H\alpha} - SFR$  relation (the Kennicutt relation) !



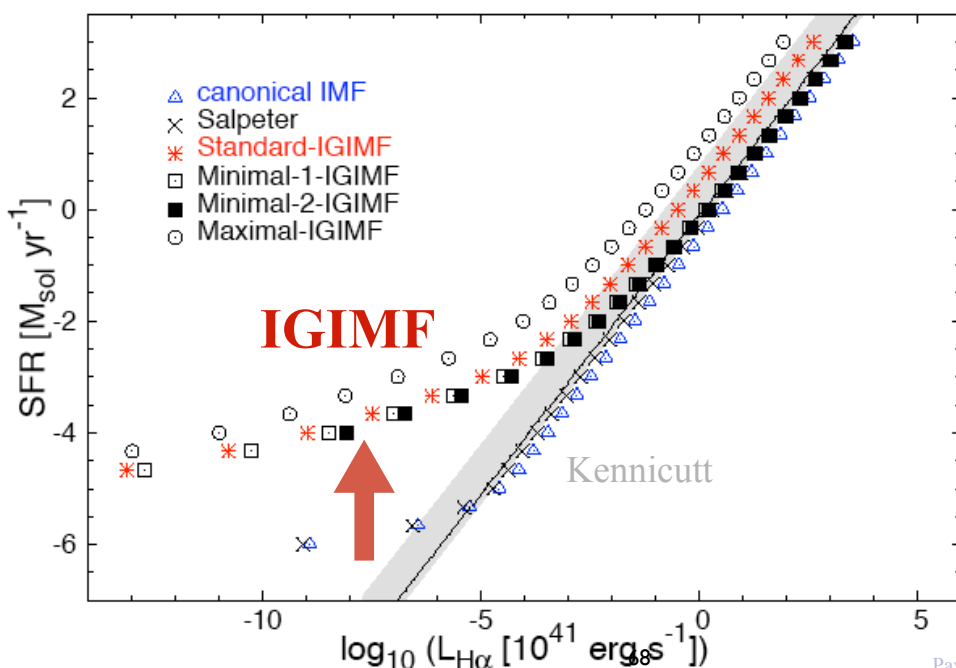
Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner & Kroupa  
(2007)

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The *variable IGIMF notion* → revision of the  $L_{H\alpha} - SFR$  relation (the Kennicutt relation) !



Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner & Kroupa  
(2007)

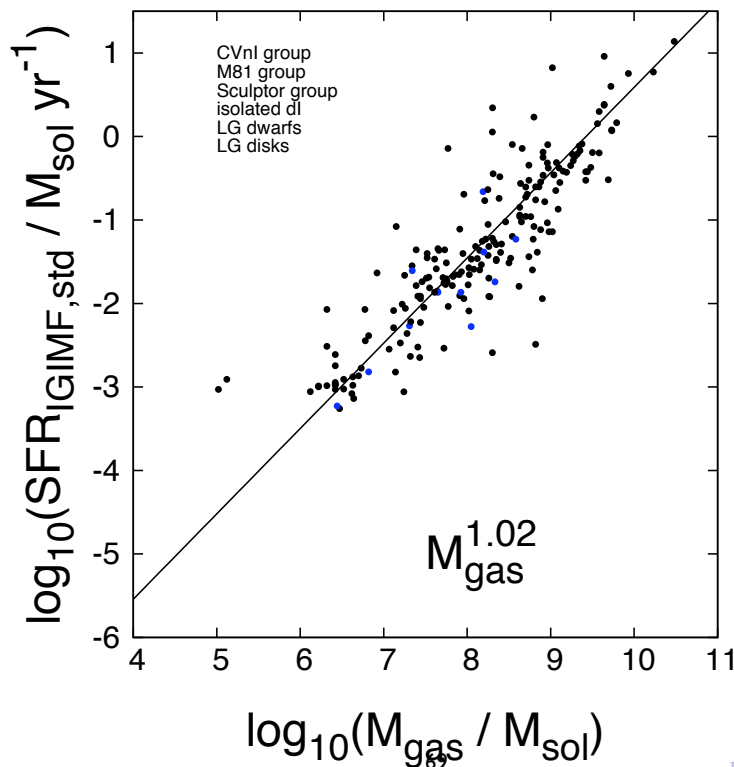
Deficit of  
massive stars in  
the IGIMF

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## *SFR vs gas mass : new* (using IGIMF theory)



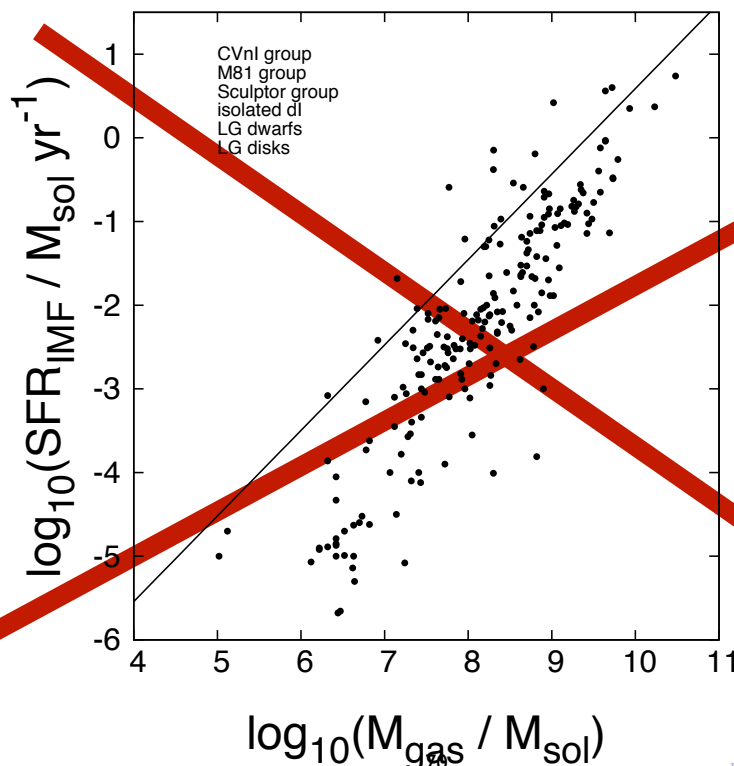
Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner &  
Kroupa (2007);  
Pflamm-Altenburg  
& Kroupa (2008)

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## *SFR vs gas mass : traditional (again)* (using linear Kennicutt relation to convert $\text{H}\alpha$ flux to SFR.)



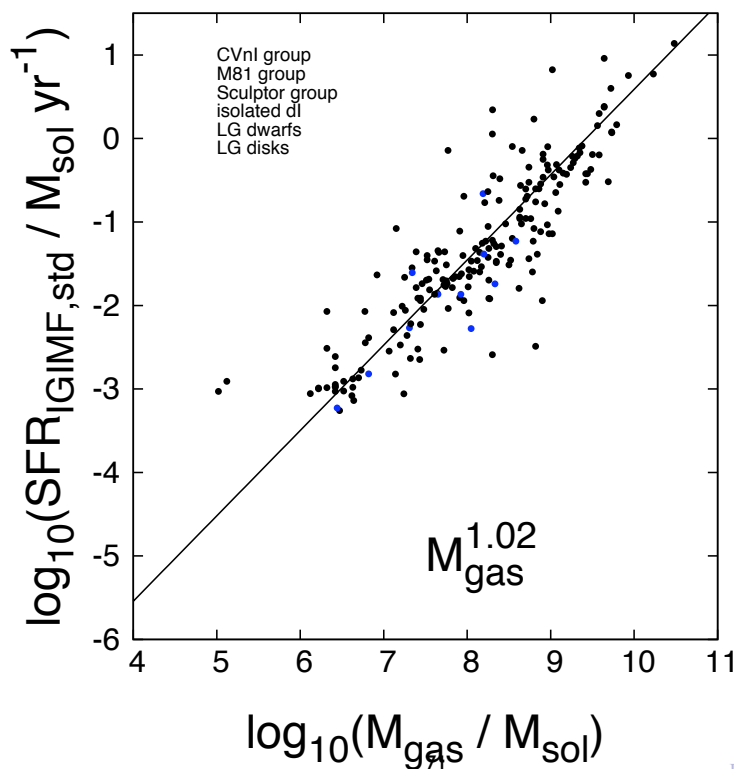
Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner &  
Kroupa (2007);  
Pflamm-Altenburg  
& Kroupa (2008)

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# *SFR vs gas mass : new (again)* (using IGIMF theory)



Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner &  
Kroupa (2007);  
Pflamm-Altenburg  
& Kroupa (2008)

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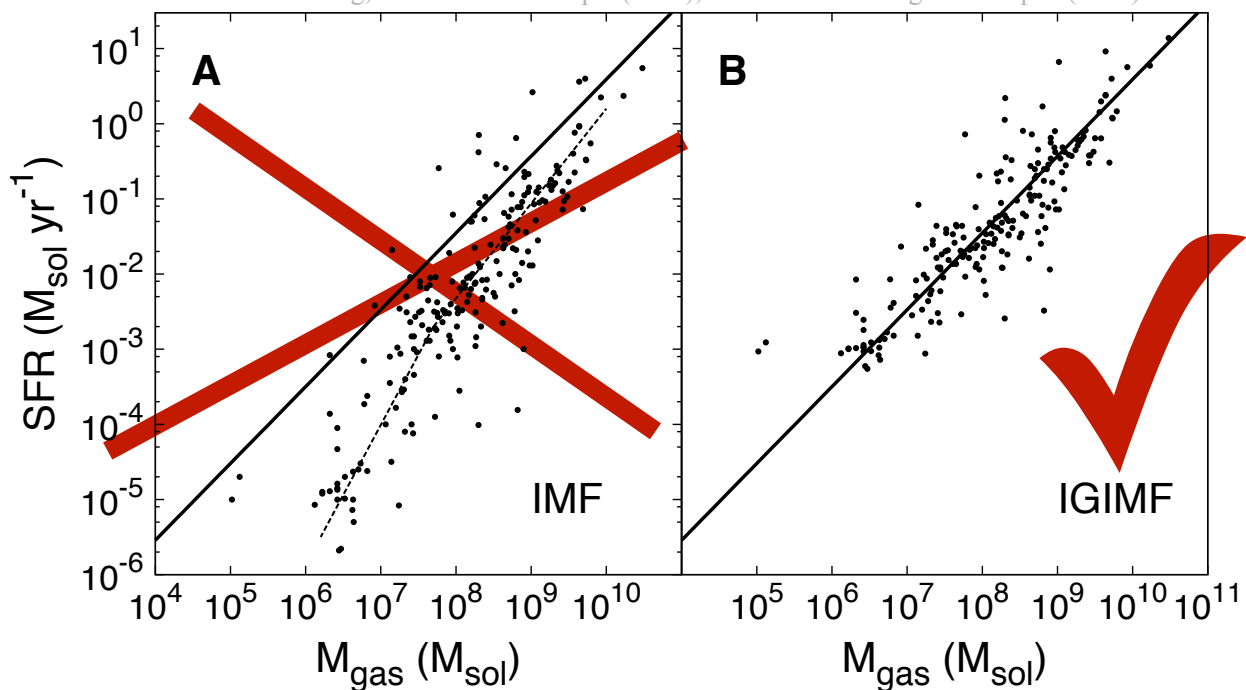
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# *SFR vs gas mass :*

(traditional: invariant IMF) (using IGIMF theory)

Pflamm-Altenburg, Weidner & Kroupa (2007); Pflamm-Altenburg & Kroupa (2009)



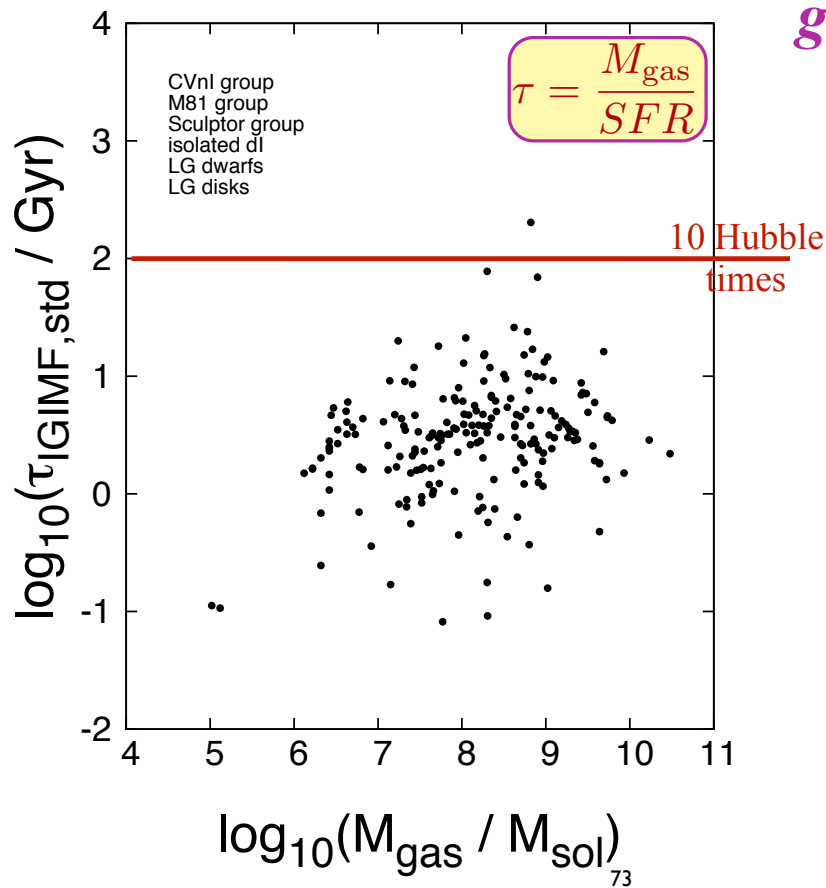
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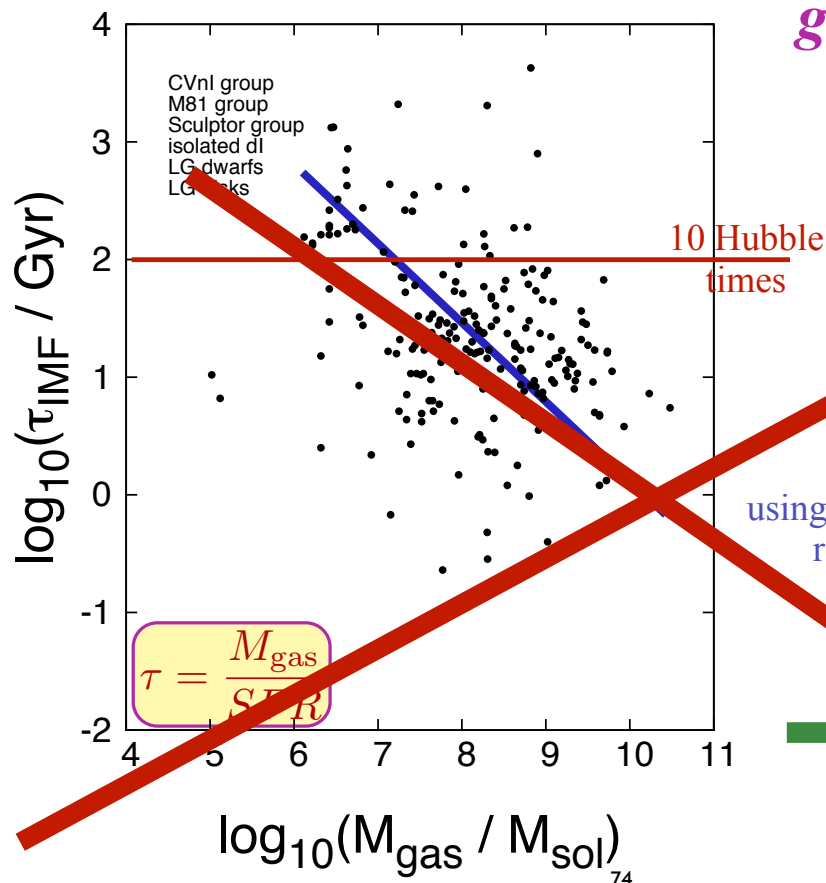
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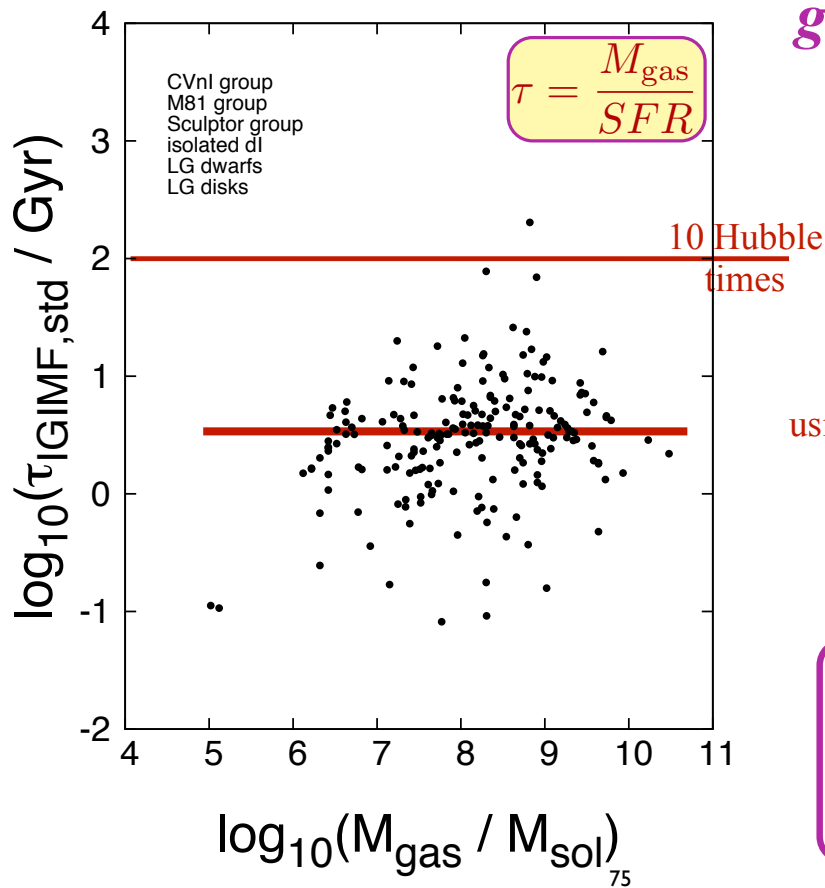
*gas-consumption  
time scale  
vs  
gas mass*



*gas-consumption  
time scale  
vs  
gas mass*

using Kennicutt  
relation

Dwarf galaxies  
consume their gas  
very carefully,  
very slowly !



*gas-consumption  
time scale  
vs  
gas mass*

using IGIMF  
theory



IGIMF theory



constant  
gas depletion  
time-scale !

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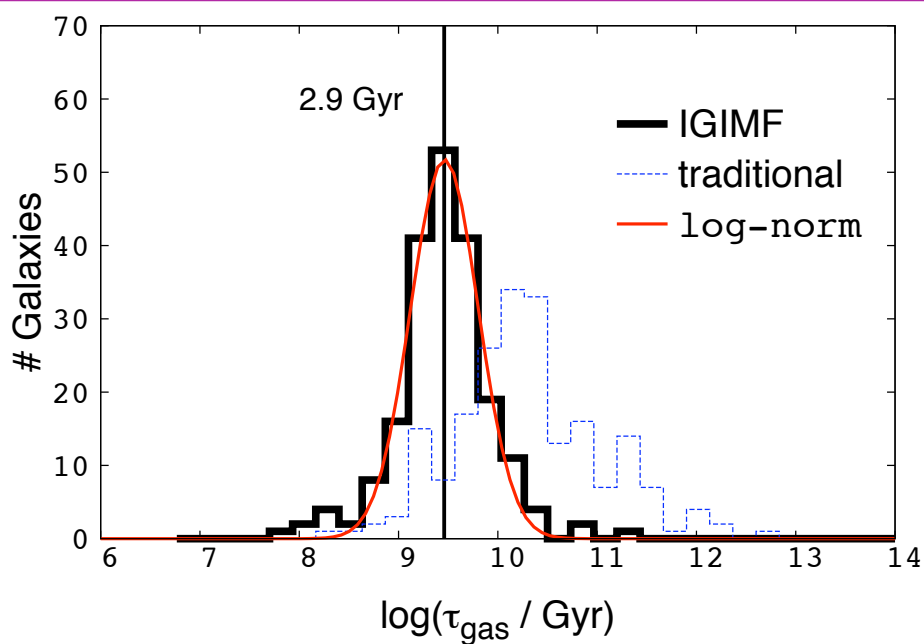
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IGIMF theory



constant  
gas depletion  
time-scale !

for galaxies with  
 $10^5 \lesssim \frac{M_{\text{gas}}}{M_{\odot}} \lesssim 10^{11}$



Pflamm-  
Altenburg,  
Weidner &  
Kroupa  
(2007);  
Pflamm-A. &  
Kroupa  
(2008)

for all late-type galaxies  $10^6 \lesssim \frac{M_{\text{gas}}}{M_{\odot}} \lesssim 10^{11}$  2.9 Gyr ?

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$$SFR = \frac{1}{3 \text{ Gyr}} M_{\text{neutral gas}}$$

Pflamm-Altenburg,  
Weidner &  
Kroupa  
(2007);  
Pflamm-A. &  
Kroupa  
(2008)

*i.e.* every 10 Myr a galaxy transforms  
0.3 % of its neutral gas mass  
into stellar mass.

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*But*

where is all the star-forming gas  
coming from  
at just the right rate ?

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## Further work is required

These are possible research projects.

- Unify the local and the galaxy-wide / global IGIMFs (theoretical) .
- Compute H $\alpha$ /UV flux ratios, photometric properties and M/L ratios of galaxies with different SFRs and SFHs (theoretical)
- Test IGIMF theory via direct counts of O stars in nearby dwarf galaxies with low SFRs (see predictions in Weidner et al. 2013) :

**Table 3.** The expected number of O and B stars in a galaxy in dependence of the SFR of the galaxy. Columns 2 and 3 are the expected number of O and B stars for the canonical invariant IMF between the mass limits of 0.1 and 100  $M_{\odot}$ . Columns 4–9 are the numbers for three different IGIMF models. Columns 4 and 5 are for IGIMF model I with constant  $\alpha_3 = 2.35$  for the IMF and constant  $\beta = 2$  for the ECMF. In columns 6 and 7 are the IGIMF model II that are top-heavy because  $\alpha_3 = \text{fn}(\rho_{\text{ecf}})$  as described by equation (2). And for columns 8 and 9 (model III),  $\alpha_3$  varies as for columns 6 and 7 but also  $\beta = \text{fn}(\text{SFR})$ . In columns 4, 6 and 8 the B star numbers are given in fractions of column 2, while in columns 5, 7 and 9 the O star numbers are given in fractions of column 3. In order to, for example, calculate the actual number of expected O stars for IGIMF I with constant  $\alpha_3$  and  $\beta$  for a SFR of 1  $M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$  the 32 313 expected O stars from the canonical IMF have to be multiplied by 0.51 and therefore only 16 157 O stars are to be expected.

SFR ( $M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ ) (1)	B 3–18 $M_{\odot}$	O 18+ $M_{\odot}$	B 3–18 $M_{\odot}$	O 18+ $M_{\odot}$	B 3–18 $M_{\odot}$	O 18+ $M_{\odot}$	B 3–18 $M_{\odot}$	O 18+ $M_{\odot}$
			$\alpha_3 = 2.35$	$\alpha_3 = 2.35$	$\alpha_3 = \text{fn}(\rho_{\text{ecf}})$	$\alpha_3 = \text{fn}(\rho_{\text{ecf}})$	$\alpha_3 = \text{fn}(\rho_{\text{ecf}})$	$\alpha_3 = \text{fn}(\rho_{\text{ecf}})$
			$\beta = 2$	$\beta = 2$	$\beta = 2$	$\beta = 2$	$\beta = \text{fn}(\text{SFR})$	$\beta = \text{fn}(\text{SFR})$
	IMF	IMF	IGIMF I	IGIMF I	IGIMF II	IGIMF II	IGIMF III	IGIMF III
	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
$10^{-5}$	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$10^{-4}$	36	3	0.55	0	0.55	0	0.55	0
$10^{-3}$	356	31	0.66	0.04	0.66	0.04	0.66	0.04
$10^{-2}$	3559	313	0.77	0.25	0.77	0.25	0.77	0.25
$10^{-1}$	35 594	3135	0.83	0.40	0.83	0.40	0.83	0.40
$10^0$	355 939	31 347	0.86	0.51	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.58</b>	<b>0.87</b>	<b>0.55</b>
$10^1$	3559 386	313 472	0.88	0.58	<b>0.90</b>	<b>0.88</b>	<b>1.06</b>	<b>1.31</b>
$10^2$	35 593 862	3134 724	0.90	0.64	<b>0.89</b>	<b>1.22</b>	<b>1.02</b>	<b>2.17</b>
$10^3$	355 938 622	31 347 240	0.91	0.68	<b>0.84</b>	<b>1.54</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>2.57</b>
$10^4$	3559 386 217	313 472 403	0.92	0.71	<b>0.79</b>	<b>1.80</b>	<b>0.82</b>	<b>2.84</b>

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END of Lecture 3