



Illustris  
simulation

# The AGN population across cosmic time with Athena

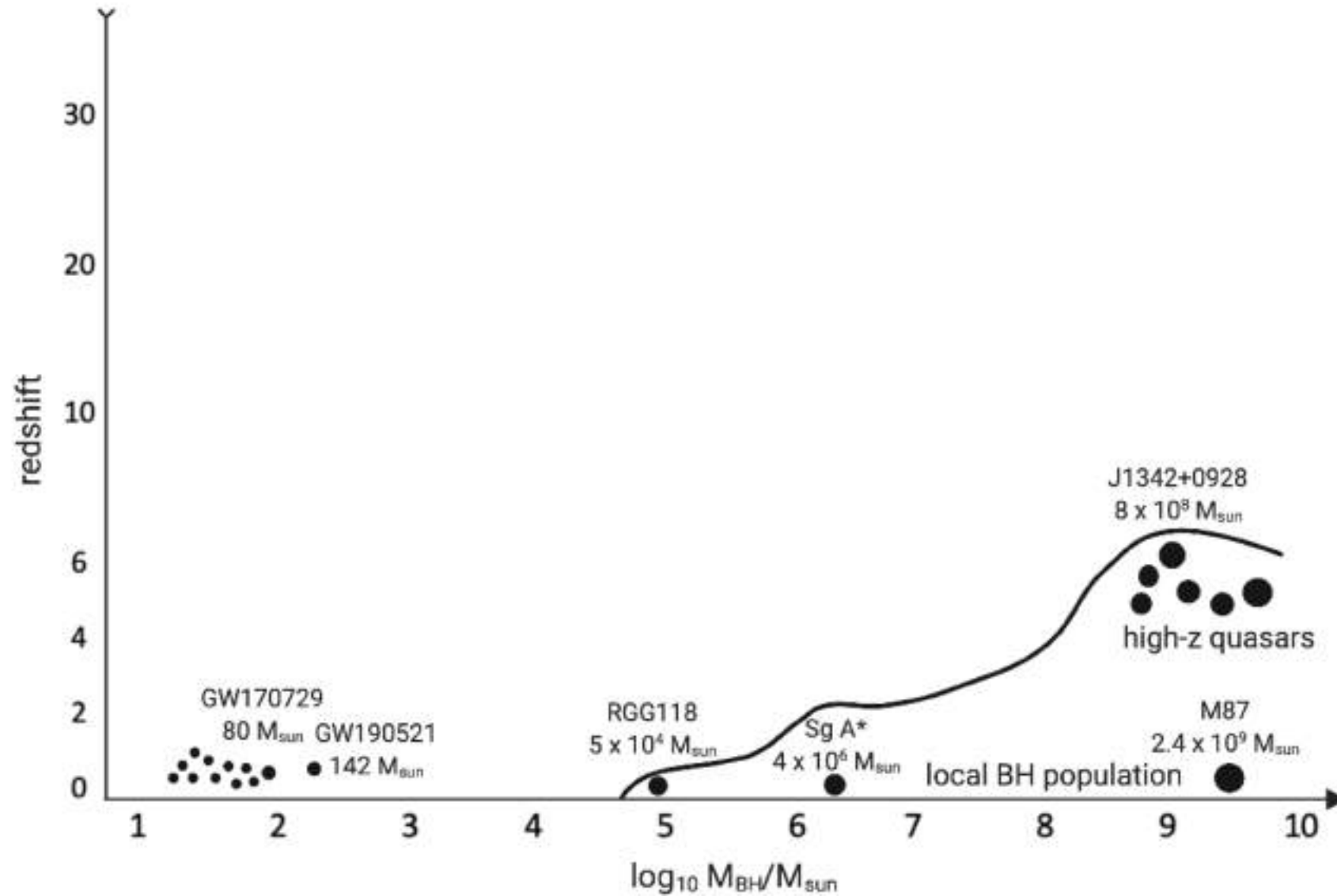
[2021MNRAS.503.1940H](#) [2022MNRAS.509.3015H](#)

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Heidelberg, Germany*

*Athena X-ray Advances: ASST & ACO Science Webinars, April 2022*

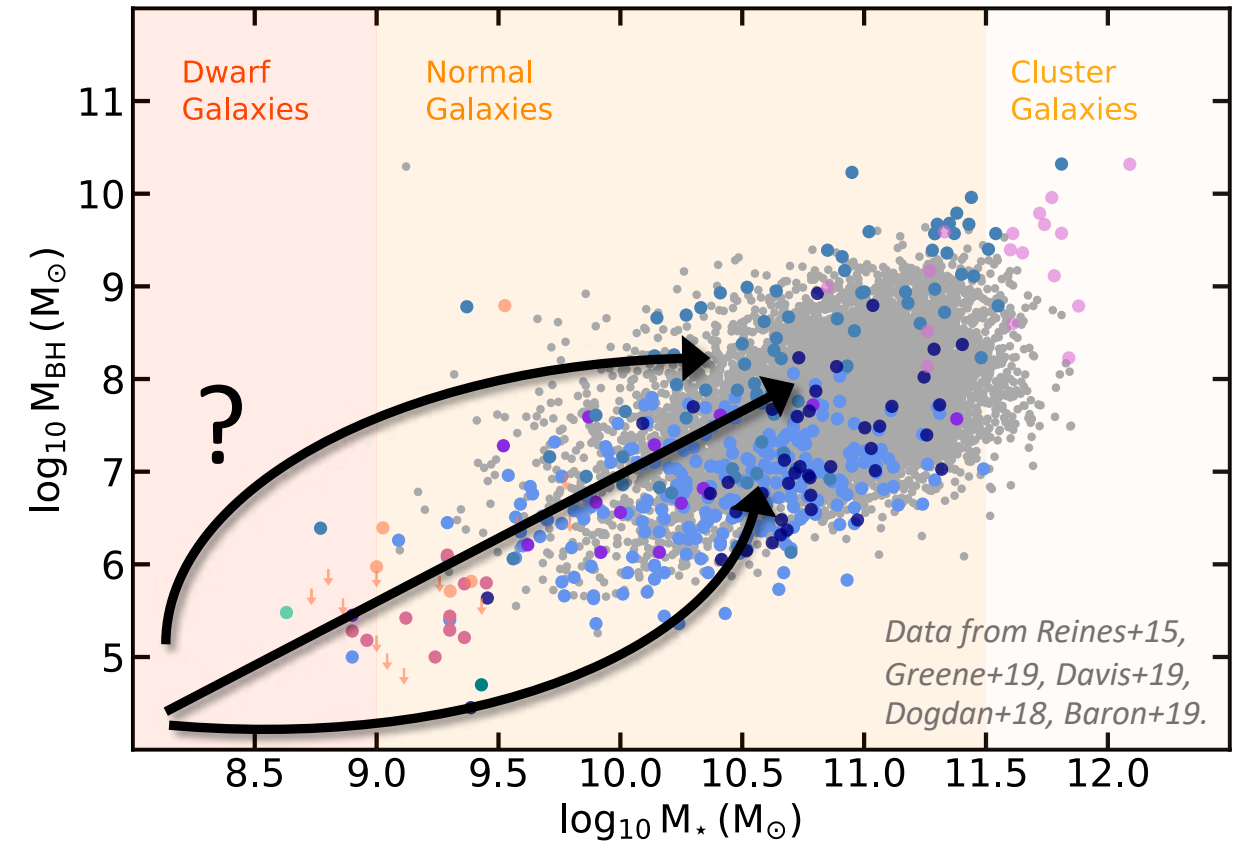
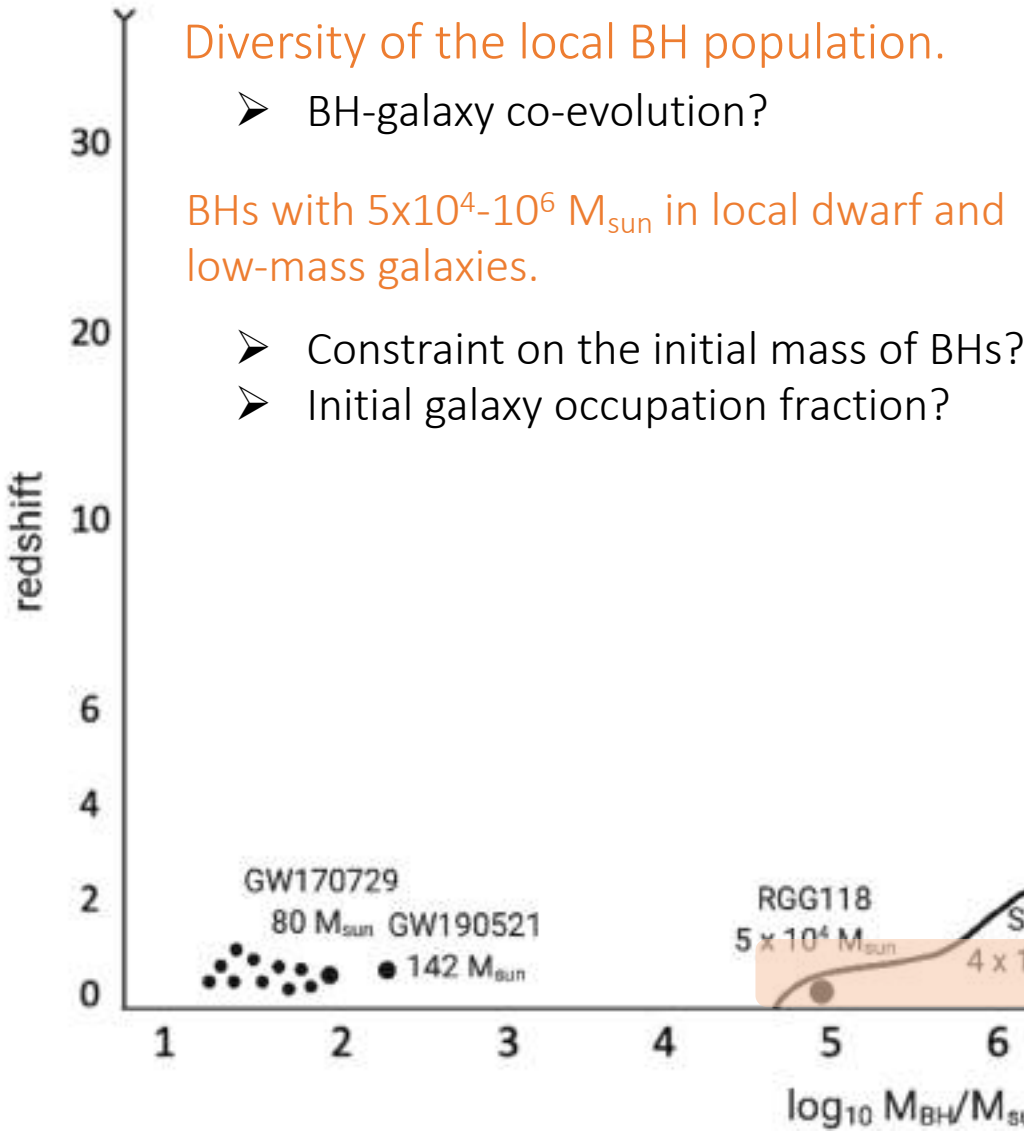


# Population of massive black holes



Electromagnetic  
detections of BHs  
as of today.

# Population of massive black holes

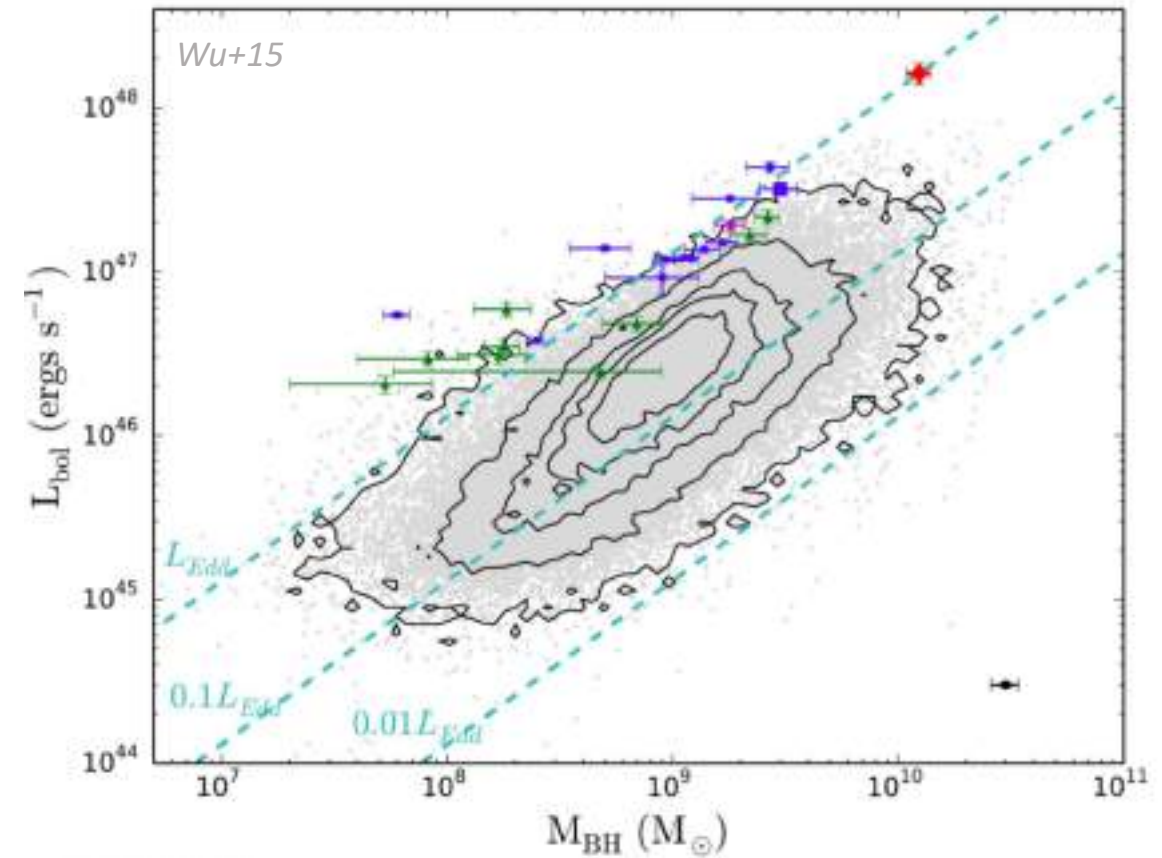
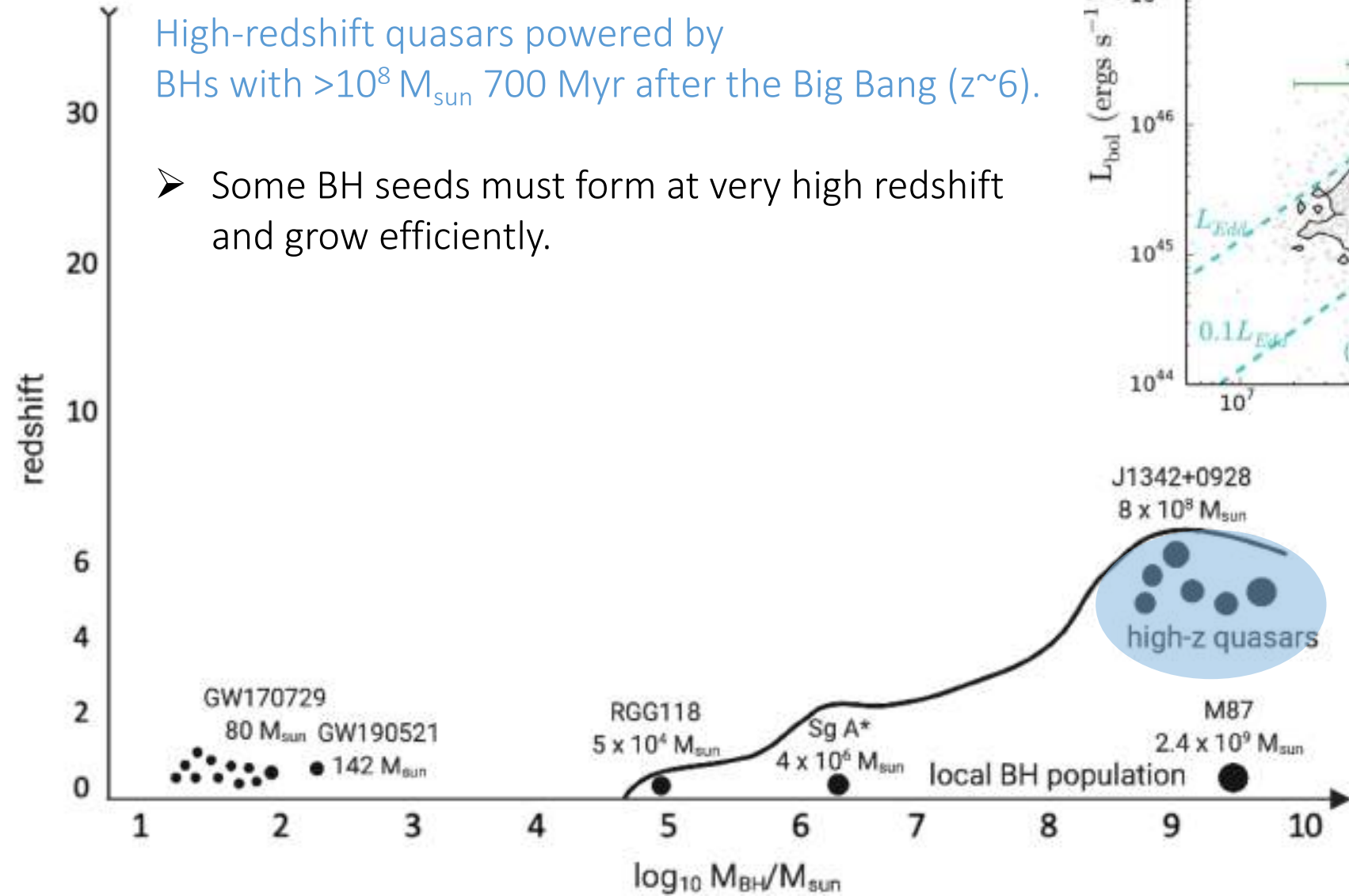


Greene & Ho04, Gallo+08  
 Dong, Greene & Ho12,  
 Aird+12,+18  
 Reines, Greene, Geha13,  
 Schramm & Silverman13  
 Reines+15, Miller+15,  
 Baldassare+16, Pardo+16,  
 Mezcua+16,+18, Chilingarian+18.

# Population of massive black holes

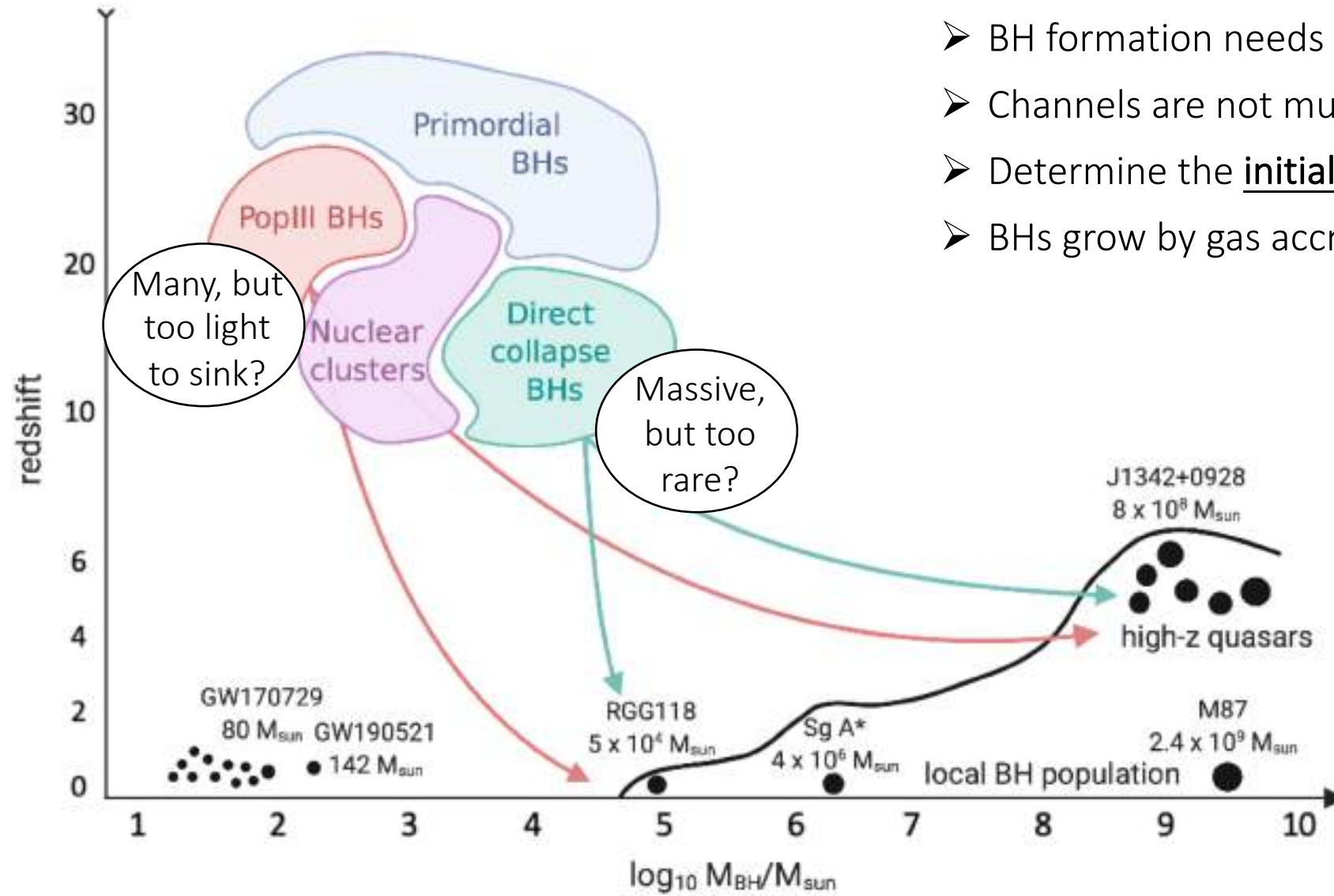
High-redshift quasars powered by BHs with  $>10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$  700 Myr after the Big Bang ( $z \sim 6$ ).

- Some BH seeds must form at very high redshift and grow efficiently.



Dietrich, Hamman04  
Willott+07, Shields+06,  
Riechers+09,  
Fan+11, Jiang+07,  
Mortlock+11, Kurk+07,  
Maiolino+07, Wang+10,  
Willott+11, DeRosa+11,  
Wu+15, Matsuoka+16,  
Bañados+18, Onoue+19,  
Yang+20, Wang+21.

# Population of massive black holes

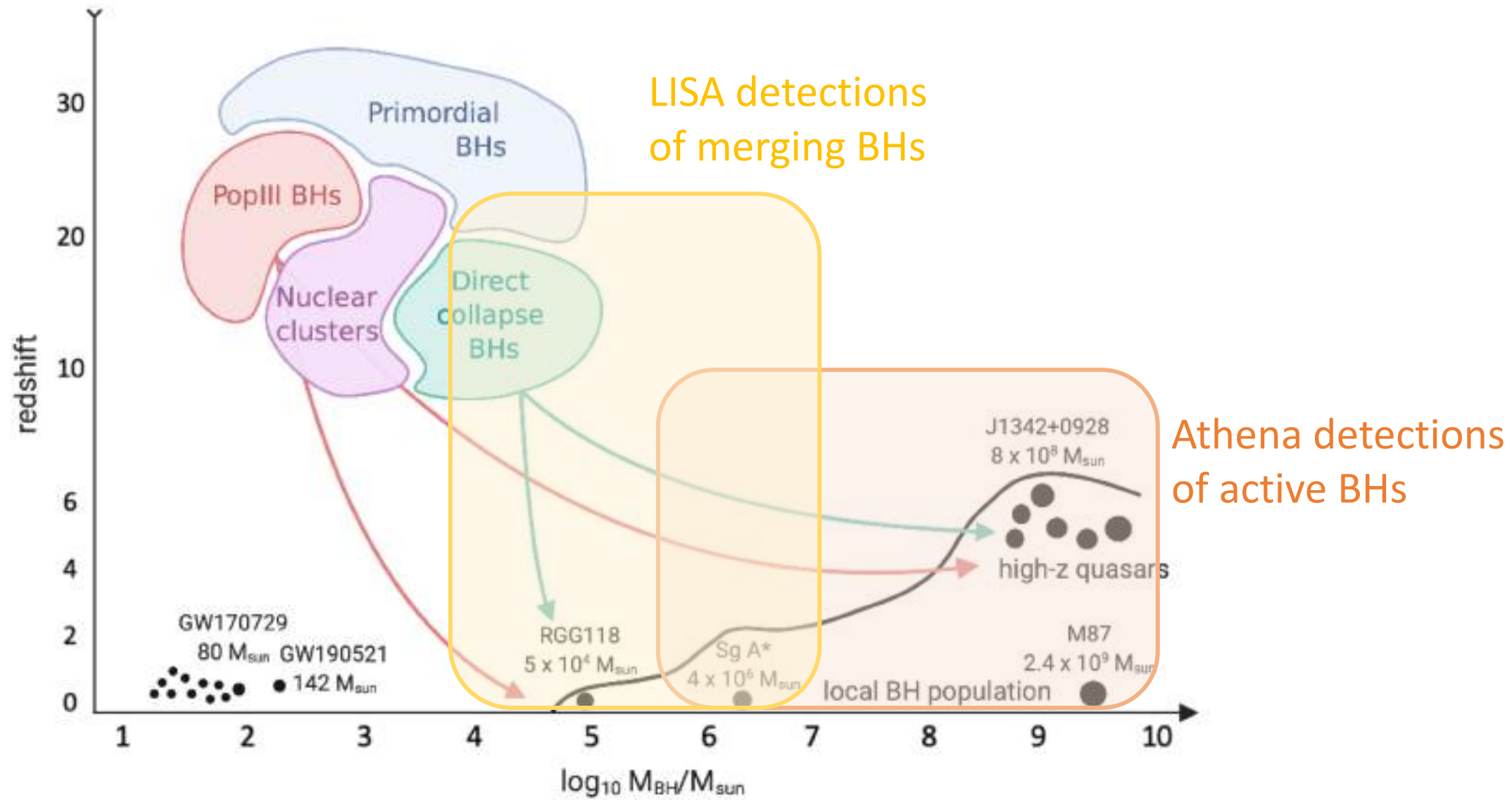


- BH formation needs to explain BH diversity.
- Channels are not mutually exclusive.
- Determine the initial mass and abundance of BHs.
- BHs grow by gas accretion and BH mergers.

Volonteri, MH, Colpi 2021  
(Nature Physics Review)

Rees 78, Loeb & Rasio 94, Madau & Rees 01, Bromm & Loeb 03, Volonteri, Haardt, Madau 03, Spaans & Silk 06, Begelman+06, Lodato & Natarajan+06,07, Omukai, Schneider & Haiman 08, Devecchi & Volonteri 09, Regan & Haehnelt 09, Shang, Bryan, Haiman 10, Latif+13, Agarwal+12,14, Visbal+14+18, Katz, Sijacki & Haehnelt 15, Wise+19, Inayoshi+20, Lupi+21, Habouzit+16a,16b,17.

# Population of massive black holes





# Large-scale cosmological hydrodynamical simulations to study galaxy formation

## Resolution

Dark matter resolution  $6 \times 10^6 - 10^8 M_{\text{sun}}$ .  
Baryonic resolution  $10^6 - 10^7 M_{\text{sun}}$ .  
Spatial resolution 1-2 ckpc.  
Box side length 100-300 cMpc.  
Run down to  $z=0$ .

## Subgrid physics

Cooling + UV background.  
Star formation.  
Supernova feedback / Metal enrichment.  
BH physics.

BH  
formation

In massive halos/galaxies.  
Fixed BH initial mass.  
 $M_{\text{BH}} = 10^4 - 10^6 M_{\odot}$

BH  
growth

BH mergers,  
gas accretion via Bondi formalism.

AGN  
feedback

Injection of energy that couples to the gas.  
 $\dot{E}_{\text{AGN}} = \epsilon_f \epsilon_r \dot{M}_{\text{BH}} c^2$



*Di Matteo+08+17, Dubois+14,+15, Genel+14, Vogelsberger+14, Hirschmann+14, Sijacki+15, Schay+15, Rosas-Guevara+15+16, Volonteri+16, Habouzit+17, Tremmel+17, McAlpine+17+18, Weinberger+17,+18, Pillepich+18,19, Davé+19, Thomas+19, Ni+22.*

# Large-scale cosmological hydrodynamical simulations to study galaxy formation

## AGN luminosity

- $\dot{M}_{\text{BH}} (\text{M}_{\odot}/\text{yr}) \longrightarrow L_{\text{bol}}, L_{2-10 \text{ keV}} (\text{erg/s})$
- AGN obscuration is done post-processing, but remains one of the biggest unknown.
- AGN short timescale variability is not captured by the simulations.



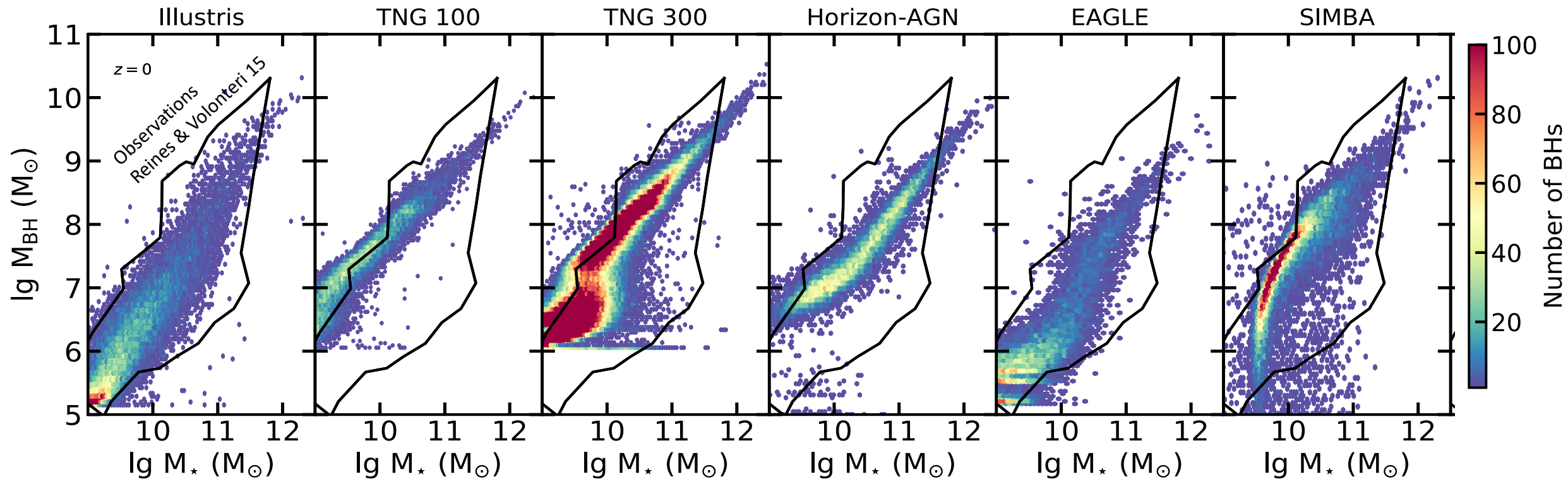


Simulated population of galaxies in good agreement with observations  
(e.g., star-forming main sequence, galaxy morphologies, sizes, quenched galaxies).

Are the simulated BHs  
in good agreement  
with observations ?

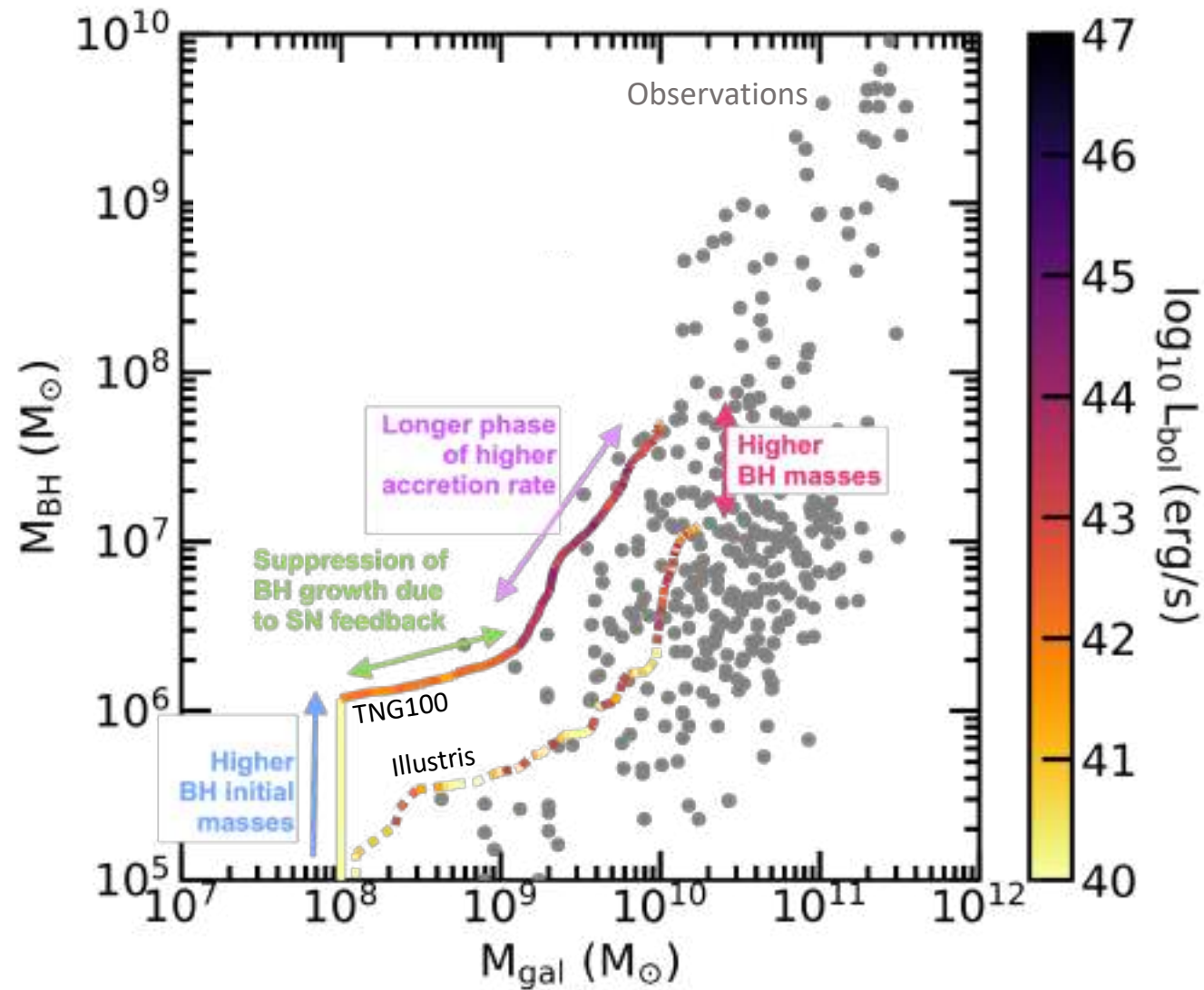
*Habouzit+21*

*Haidar, MH+22*

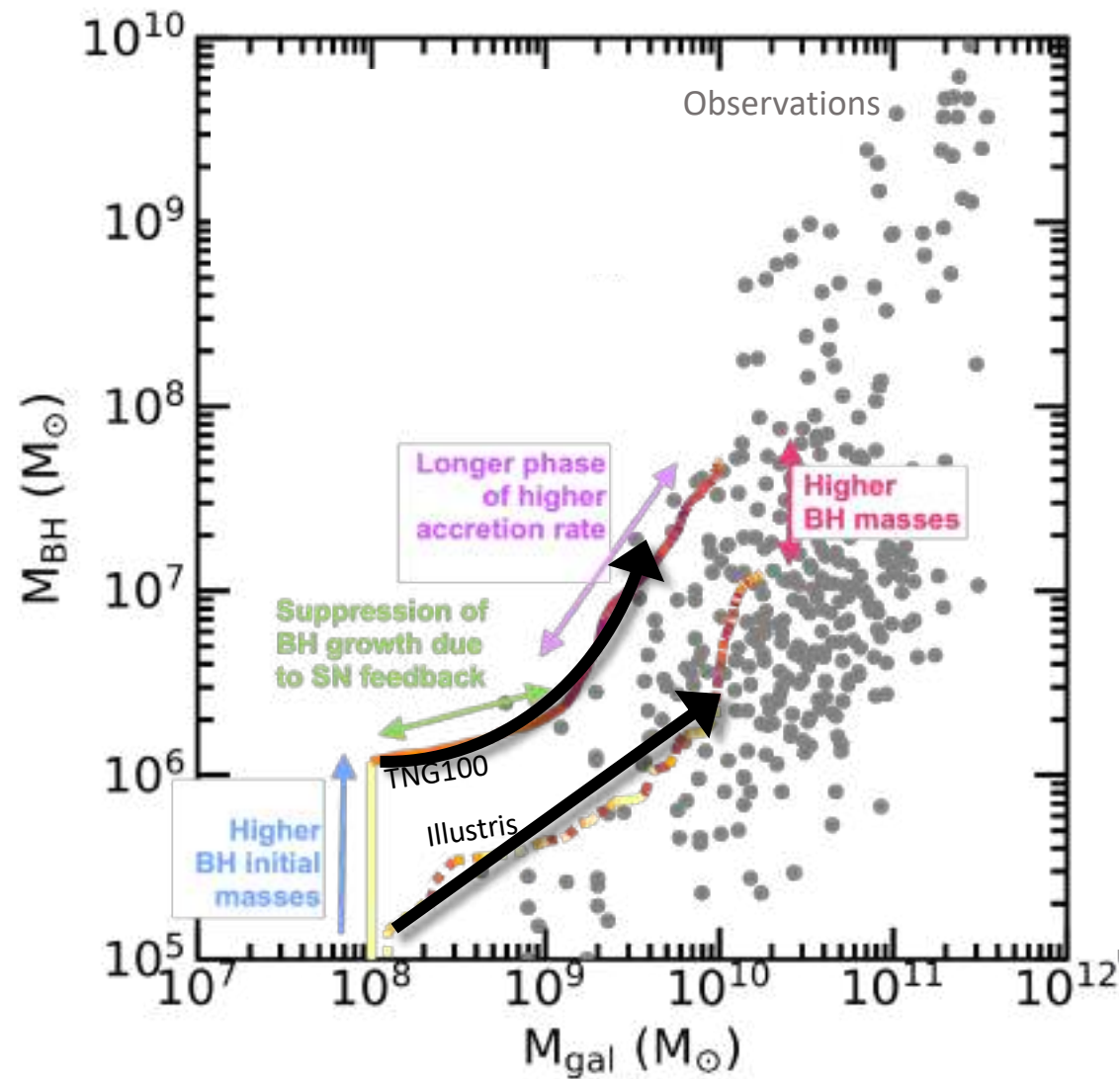


Broad agreement at  $z=0$  with observations, but tighter relations in simulations.





BH and galaxy subgrid physics strongly impact the BH and galaxy co-evolution and the number of AGN.



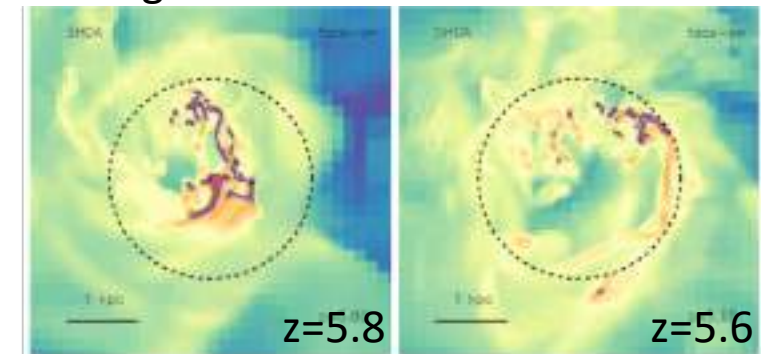
*Dubois+15*

Set of high-resolution zoom-in simulations.

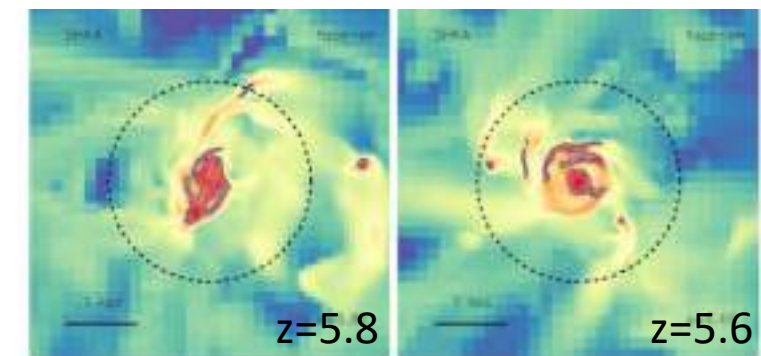
Dark matter resolution  $2 \times 10^5 M_{\odot}$ .

Spatial resolution  $\sim 10\text{-}35$  pc.

Strong SN feedback



Weaker SN feedback



BH and galaxy subgrid physics strongly impact the BH and galaxy co-evolution and the number of AGN.



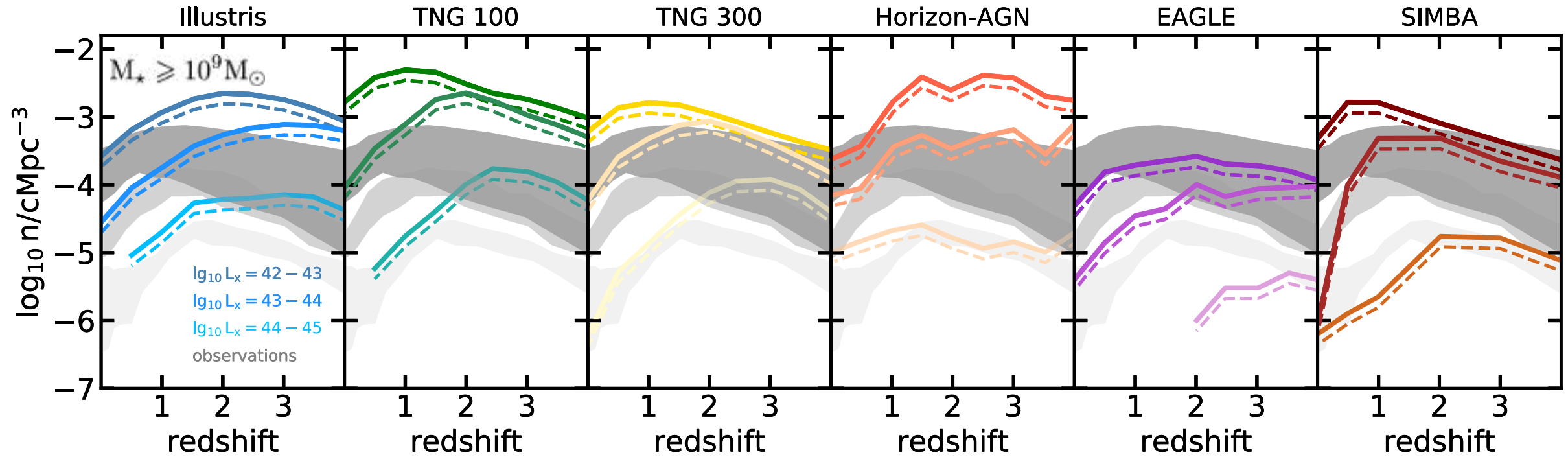
Is the AGN population produced by  
large-scale cosmological simulations  
in good agreement with current observations?

No calibration with AGN properties.  
→ predictions from the simulations!

# AGN population in simulations (2-10 keV luminosity)

Melanie Habouzit

*Habouzit+22a, see also Rosas-Guevara+16 for EAGLE*



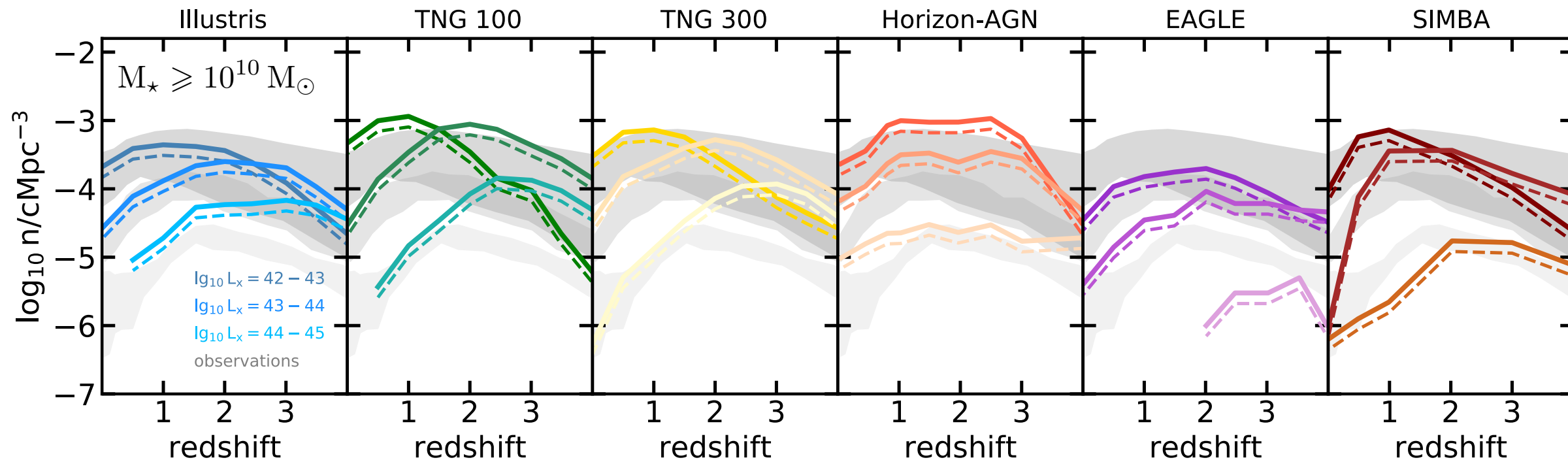
- Shaded regions combine the observational constraints of *Ueda+14*, *Aird+15*, *Buchner+15*.
- Simulations produce different populations of AGN.
- Have a hard time reproducing both the *faint & bright* and *low-z & high-z* AGN number densities.



# AGN population in simulations (2-10 keV luminosity)

Melanie Habouzit

*Habouzit+22a, see also Rosas-Guevara+16 for EAGLE*



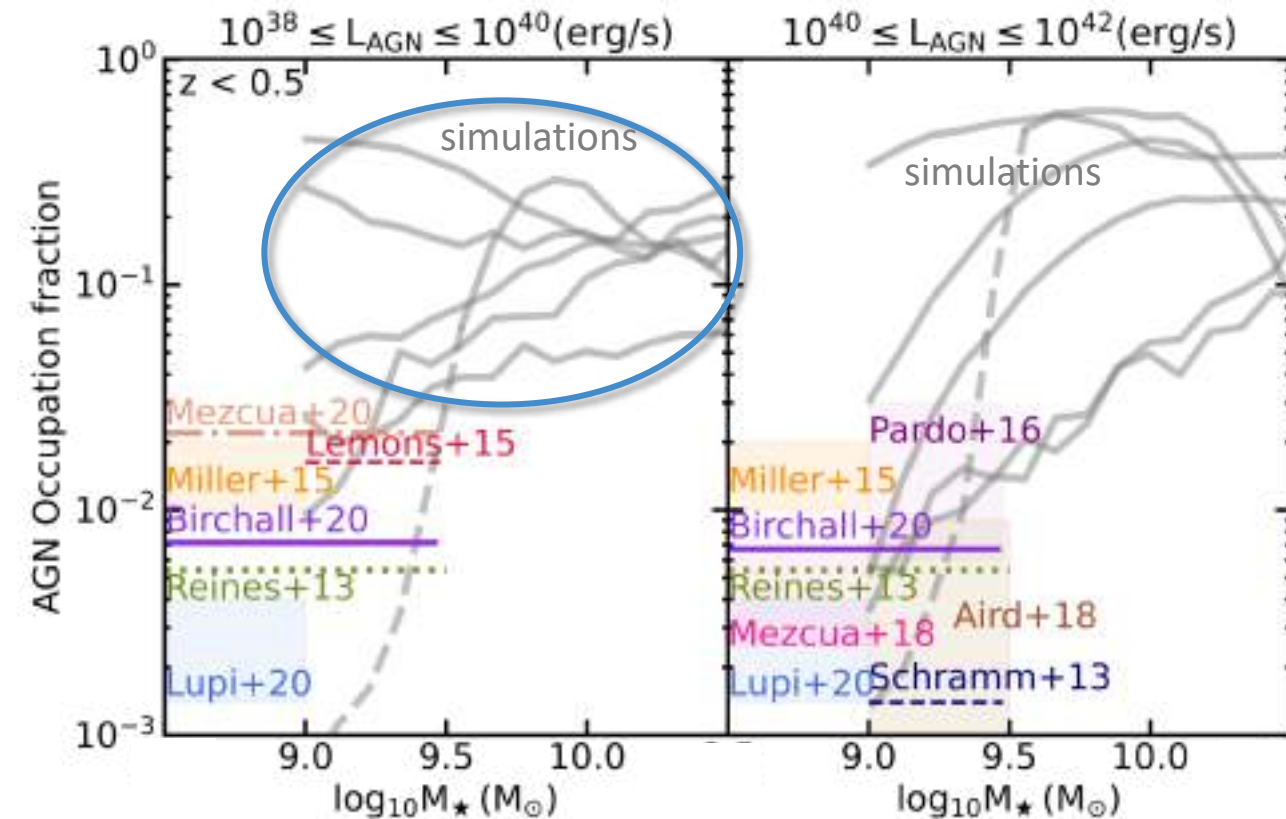
- Shaded regions combine the observational constraints of *Ueda+14*, *Aird+15*, *Buchner+15*.
- Simulations produce different populations of AGN.
- Have a hard time reproducing both the *faint & bright* and *low-z & high-z* AGN number densities.
- Too many AGN in low-mass galaxies? Too weak SN feedback?

## Low-mass local galaxies:

higher AGN fractions compared to observations.

- too weak SN feedback?
- too massive BHs?

*Houda Haidar, MH+22 (see also Koudmani+21)*

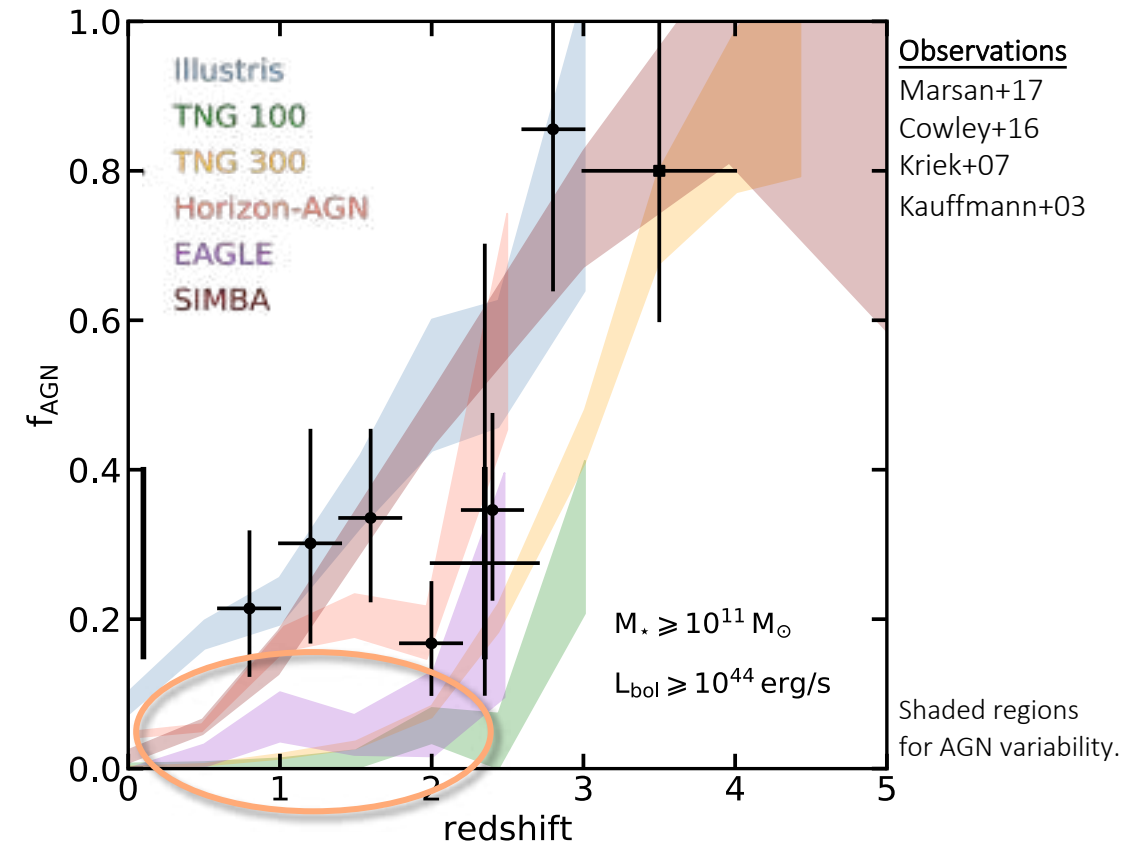


## Massive low-redshift galaxies:

lower AGN fractions compared to observations.

- too strong AGN feedback?

*Habouzit+22a, Habouzit+19a.*

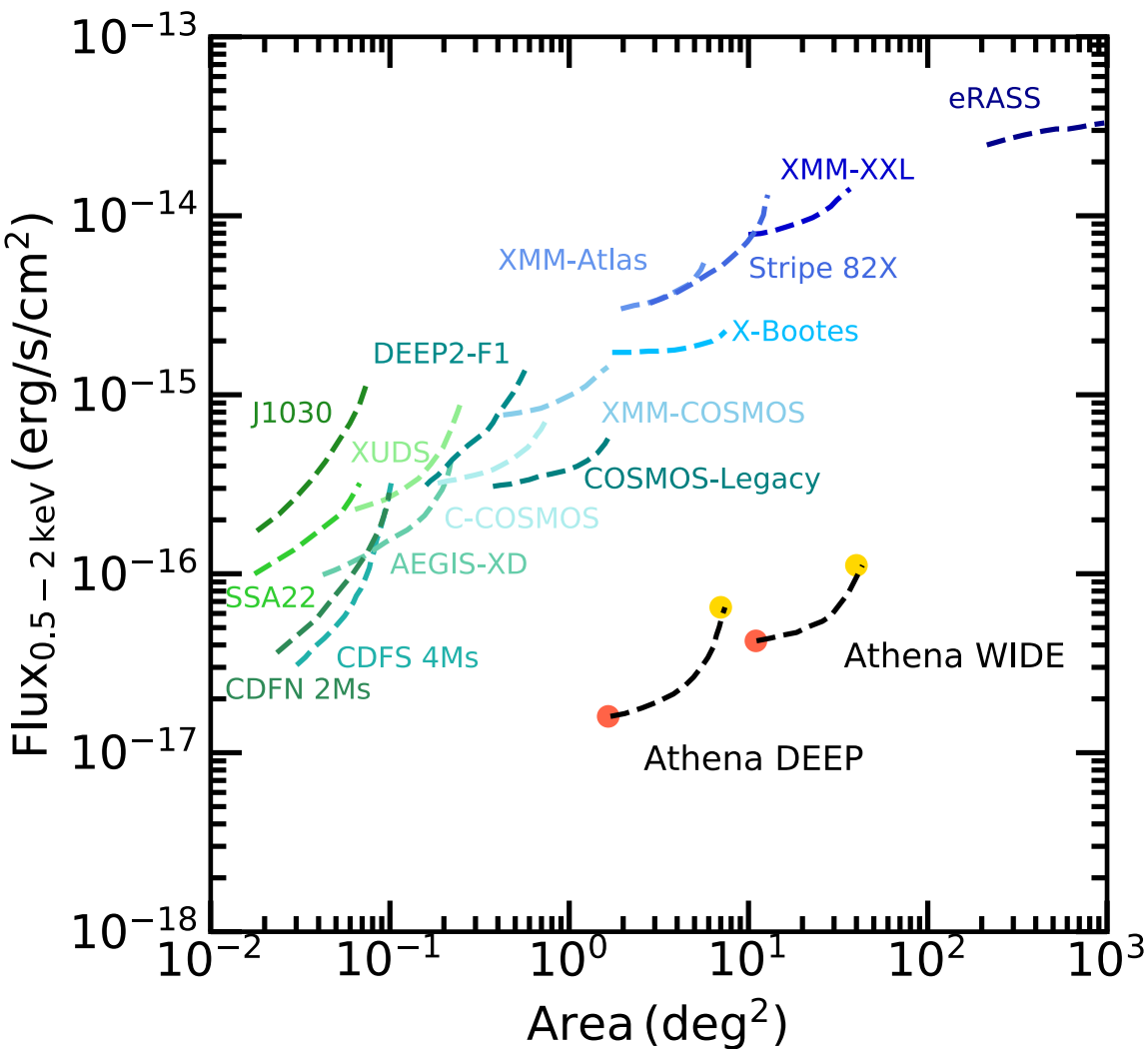


Some discrepancies between the observed  
and simulated populations of BHs and AGN.

Comparing all the state-of-the-art simulations allows us  
to capture modeling uncertainties  
and to assess their impact on AGN predictions.

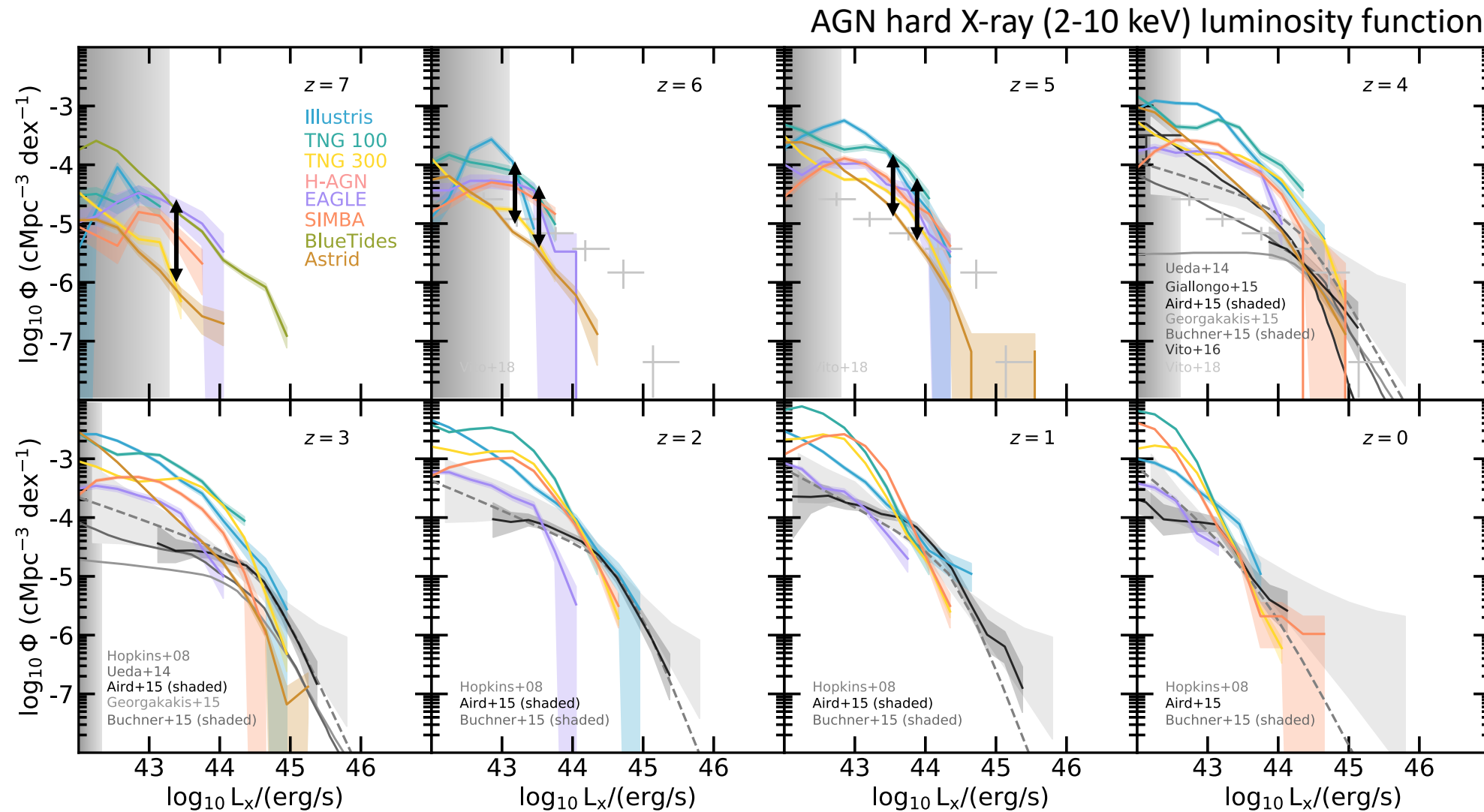
Needed to maximize the  
scientific return of Athena.





Surveys	Area (deg <sup>2</sup> )	<i>F</i> (erg/s/cm <sup>2</sup> )
Athena DEEP	5.28	1.6 – 6.5 × 10 <sup>-17</sup>
Athena WIDE	47.52	4.2 – 11. × 10 <sup>-17</sup>

- 1/ How much of the AGN luminosity distribution will cover Athena?
- 2/ What BH population power the AGN detectable by Athena?
- 3/ In which galaxies are located these AGN?



➤ Athena will observe a significant fraction of the AGN population across cosmic time.

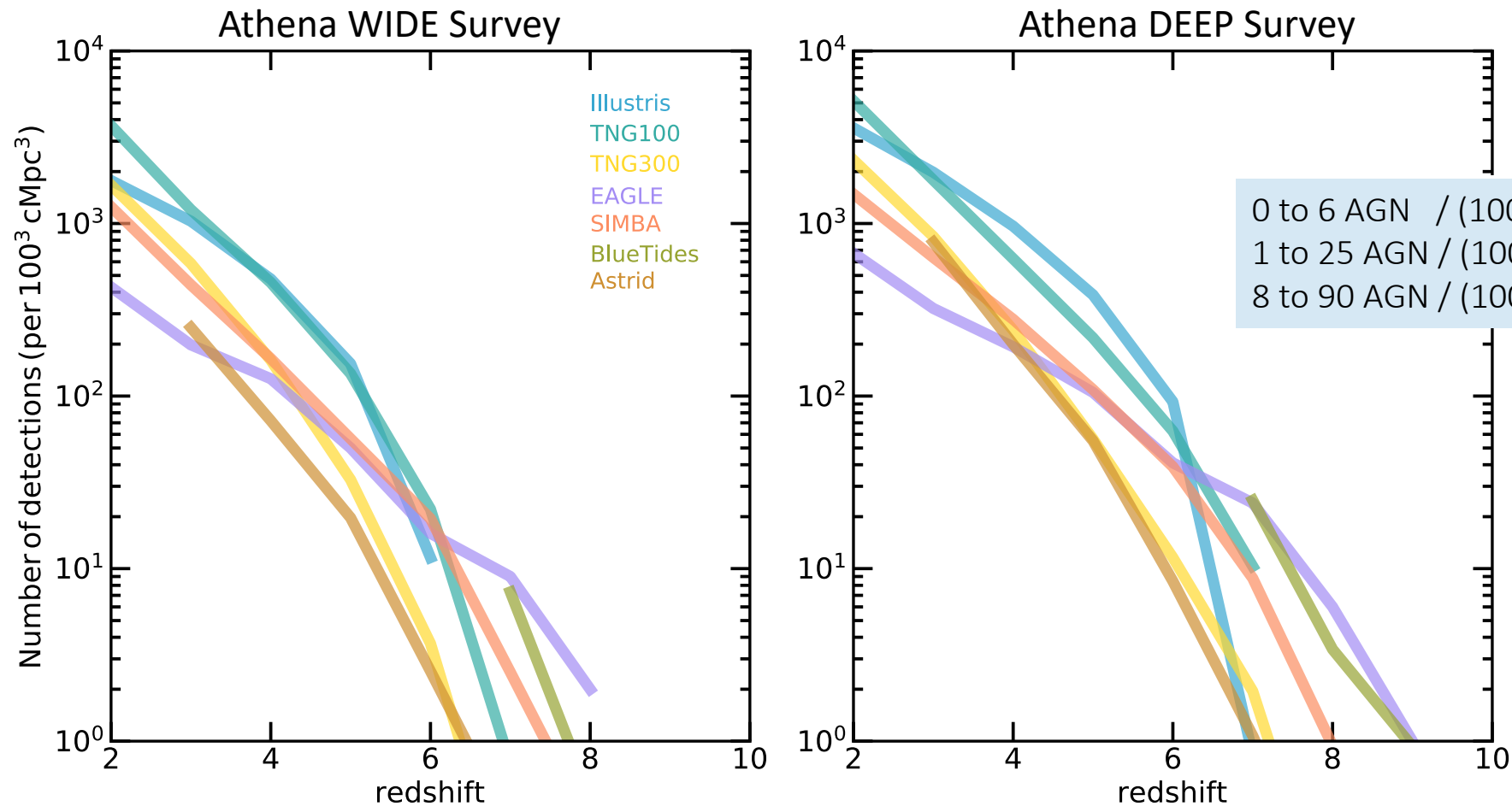
# The Athena AGN population

Melanie Habouzit

*Habouzit (in prep)*

*see also Marchesi+20*

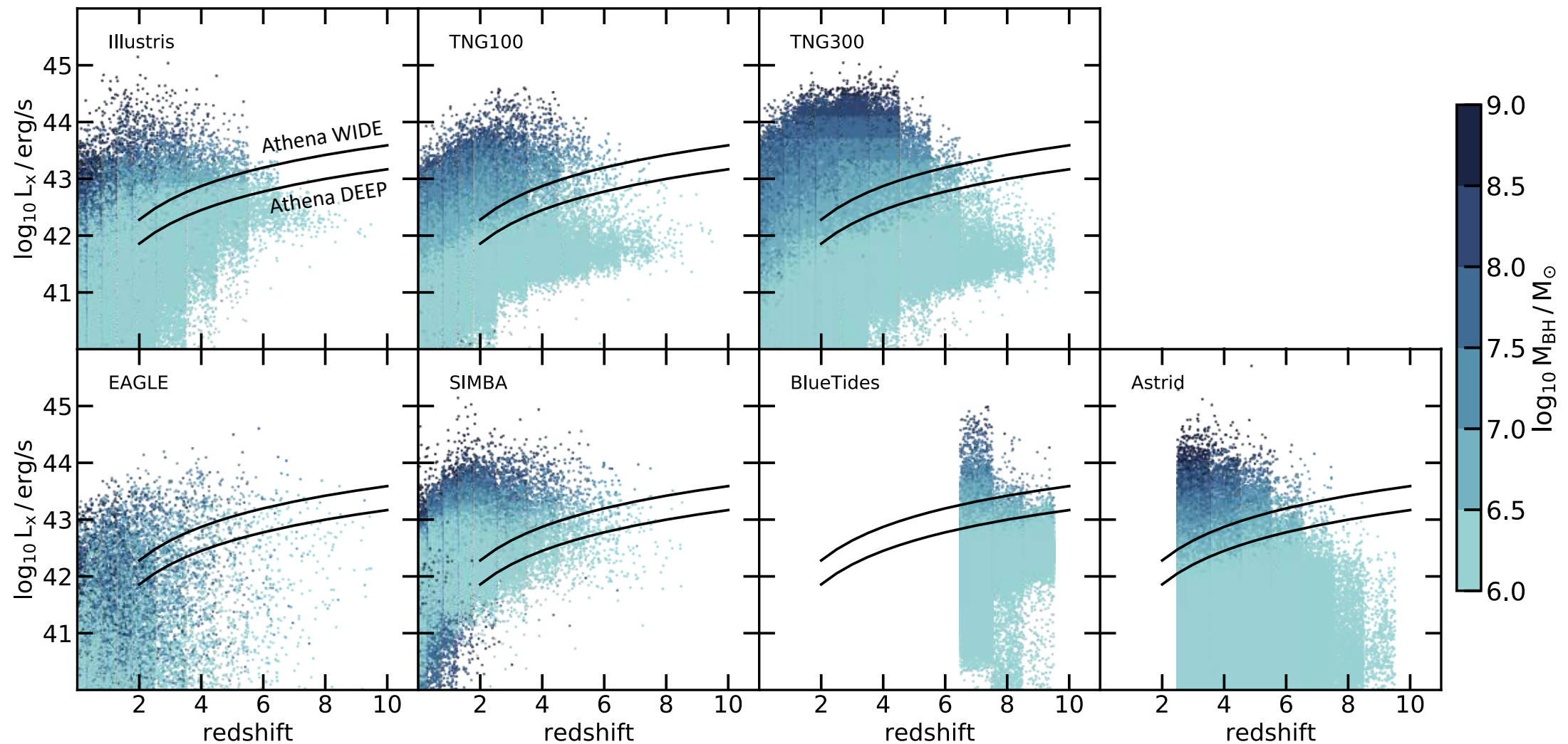
*Habouzit+22a for AGN obscuration uncertainty (0.5 dex)*



➤ Likely enough detections to disentangle the simulations with Athena.

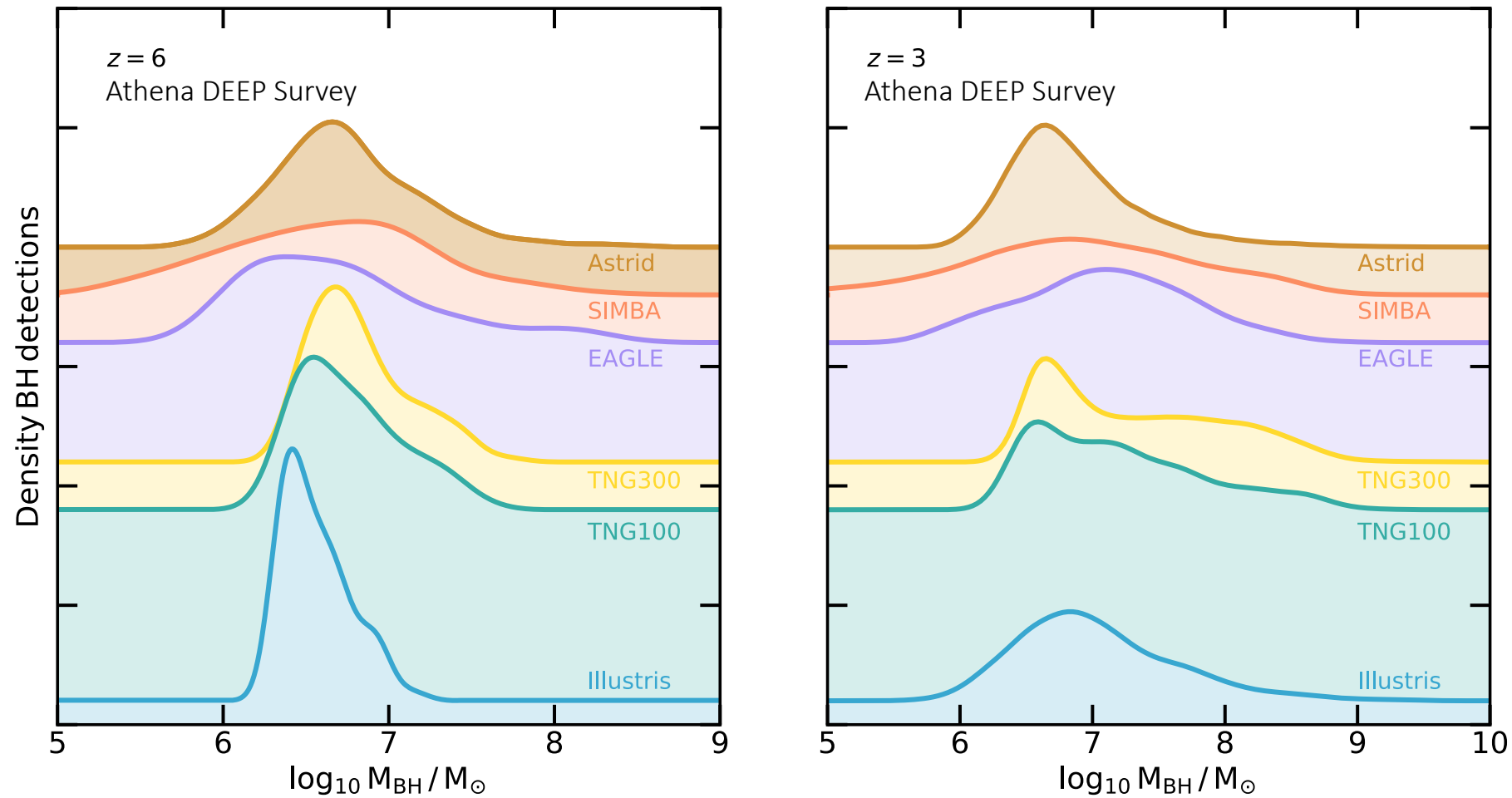


*Habouzit (in prep)*



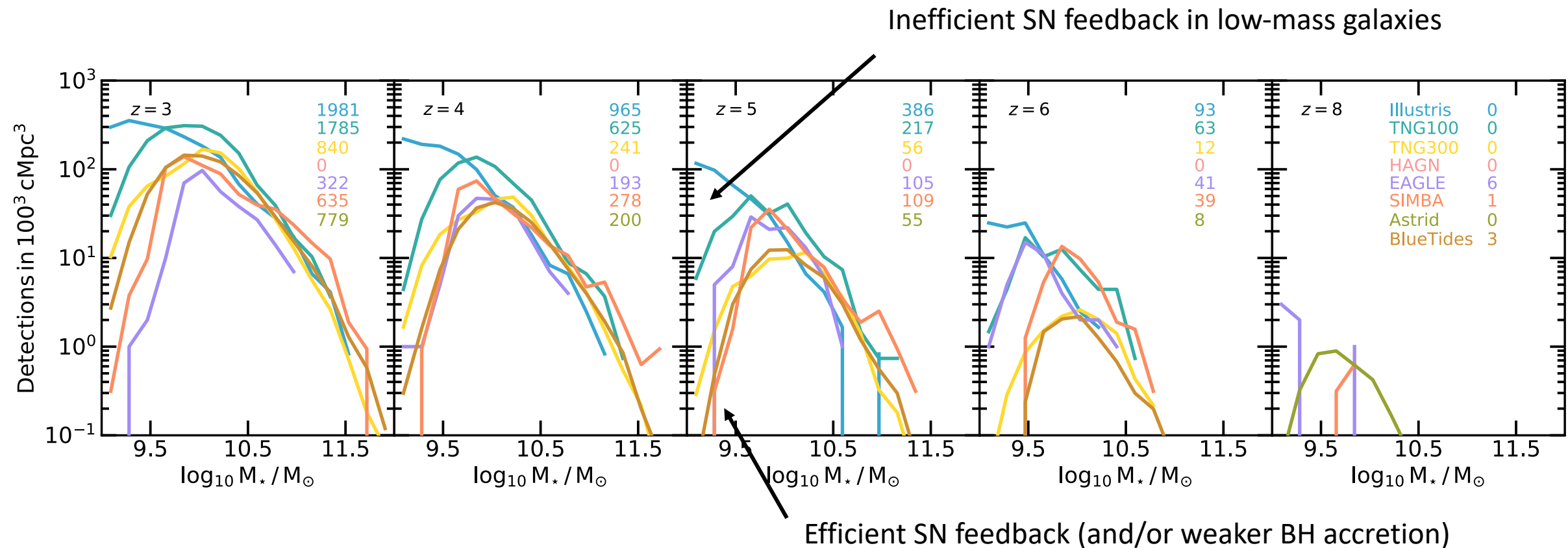
- At high redshift, Athena will detect BHs with  $M_{\text{BH}} > 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$  (DEEP survey) and  $>10^{6.5} M_{\text{sun}}$  (WIDE survey).
- Athena will miss the newly formed BHs with  $M_{\text{BH}} < 10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$ .

*Habouzit (in prep)*



➤ Differences among the simulations on the population of BHs to be discovered.

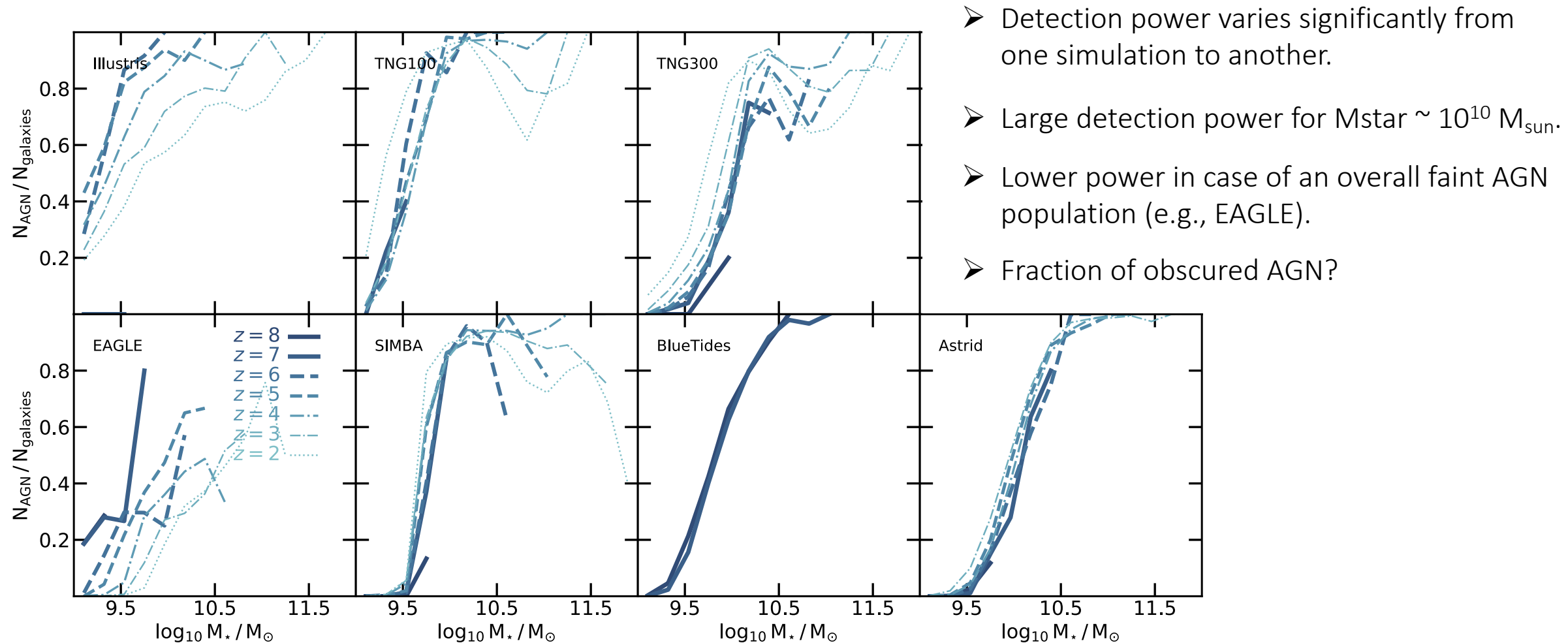
*Habouzit (in prep)*



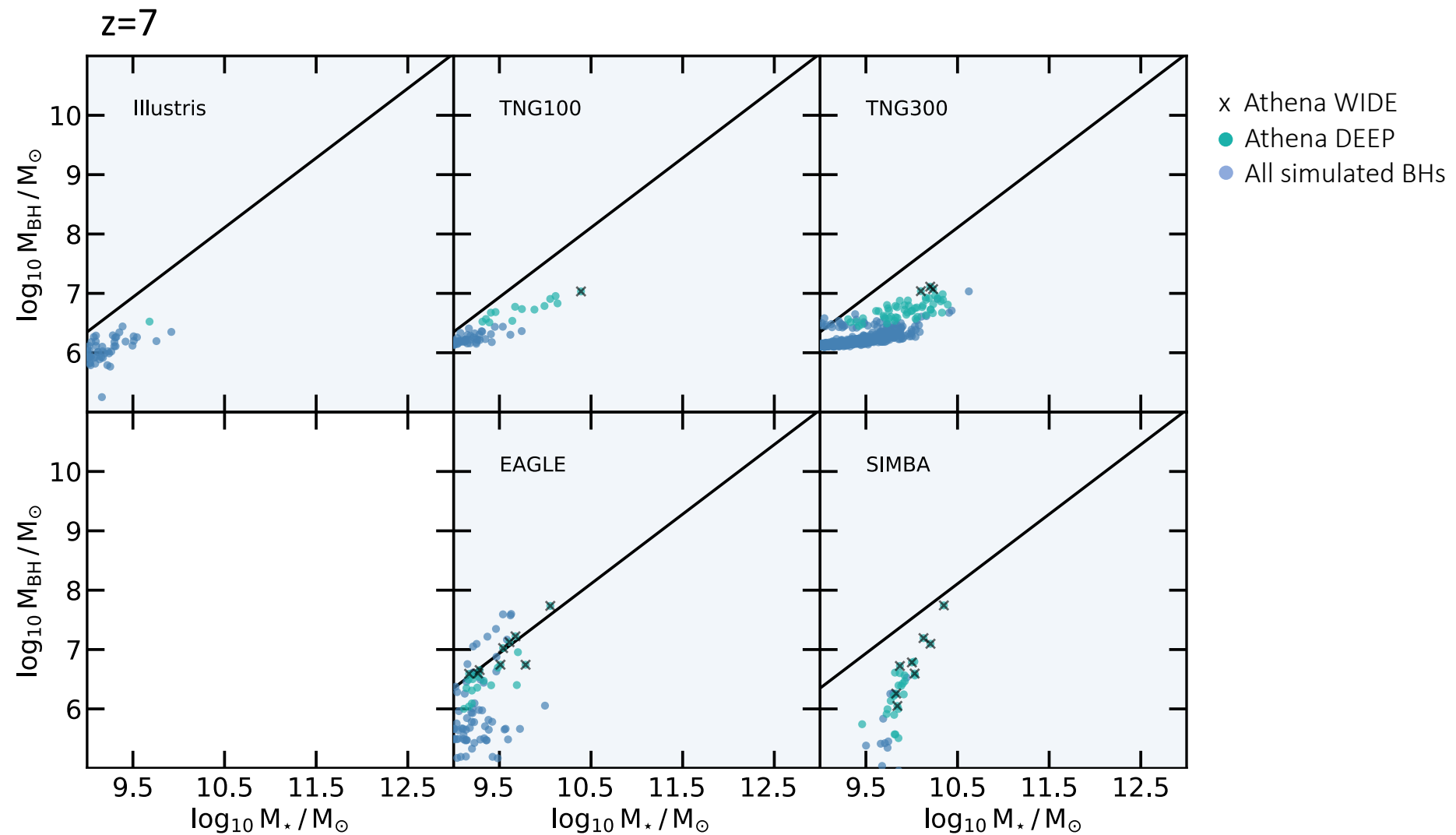
- Athena will mostly detect AGN in galaxies with  $10^{9.5} < M_{\text{star}} < 10^{10.5} M_{\text{sun}}$ .
- More detections in low-mass galaxies ( $M_{\text{star}} < 10^{9.5} M_{\text{sun}}$ ) if SN feedback is relatively inefficient at quenching BH growth.
- Athena will constrain a combination of BH/galaxy physics (BH formation efficiency, BH accretion, SN feedback).



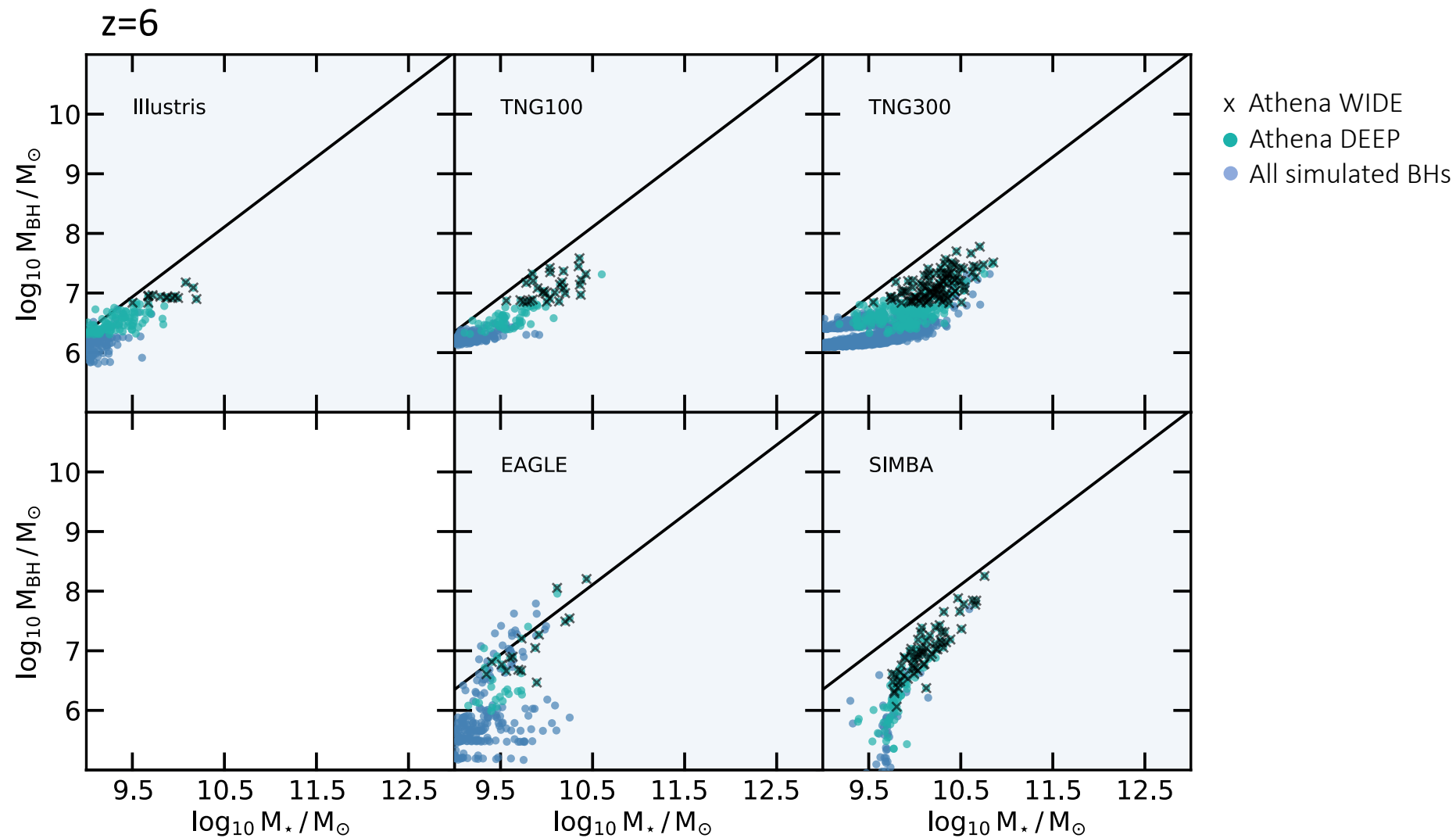
Detection power = Number of detectable AGN / Total number of galaxies in Mstar bins.



*Habouzit (in prep)*



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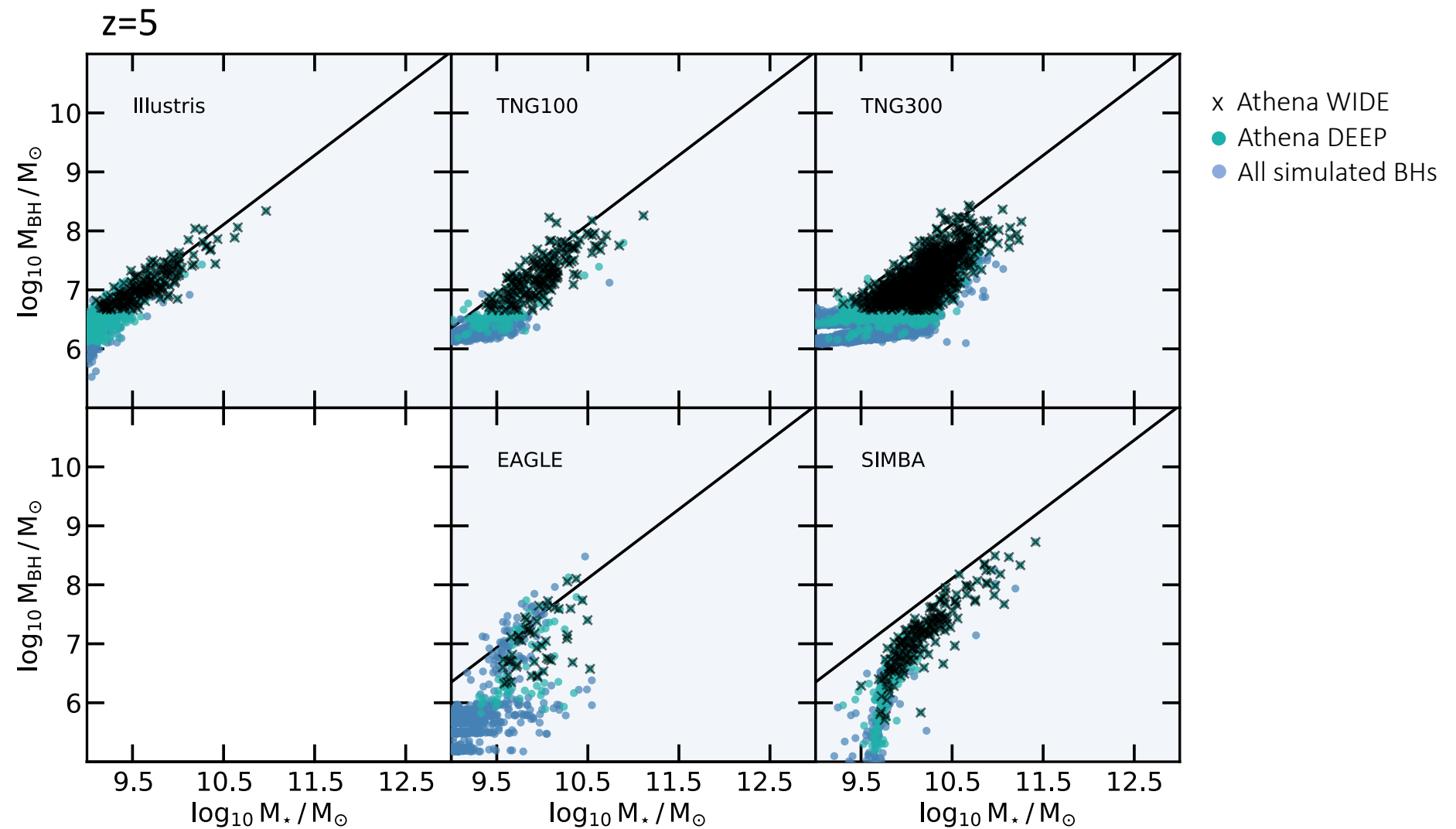




# The Athena AGN population

Melanie Habouzit

*Habouzit (in prep)*



## Large-scale cosmological hydrodynamical simulations

[2021MNRAS.503.1940H](#)

[2022MNRAS.509.3015H](#)

- To study BH evolution and interplay with host galaxies.
- Produce different populations of BHs and AGN.
- Not always in agreement with current observations.
- Key to prepare new observational missions and later maximize their scientific return.

## The Athena mission

[2022MNRAS.509.3015H](#)

[Habouzit \(in prep\)](#)

- Will observe a significant fraction of the simulated AGN populations.
- Mostly BHs with  $>10^6 M_{\text{sun}}$  in galaxies with  $M_{\text{star}} \sim 10^{10} M_{\text{sun}}$ .
- Missing newly formed and lower-mass BHs.
- Will detect AGN in galaxies of  $M_{\text{star}} = 10^9 - 10^{10} M_{\text{sun}}$  if SN feedback is relatively inefficient at quenching BH growth.
- Good understanding of the  $M_{\text{BH}}-M_{\text{star}}$  relation if we get the properties of the host galaxies.