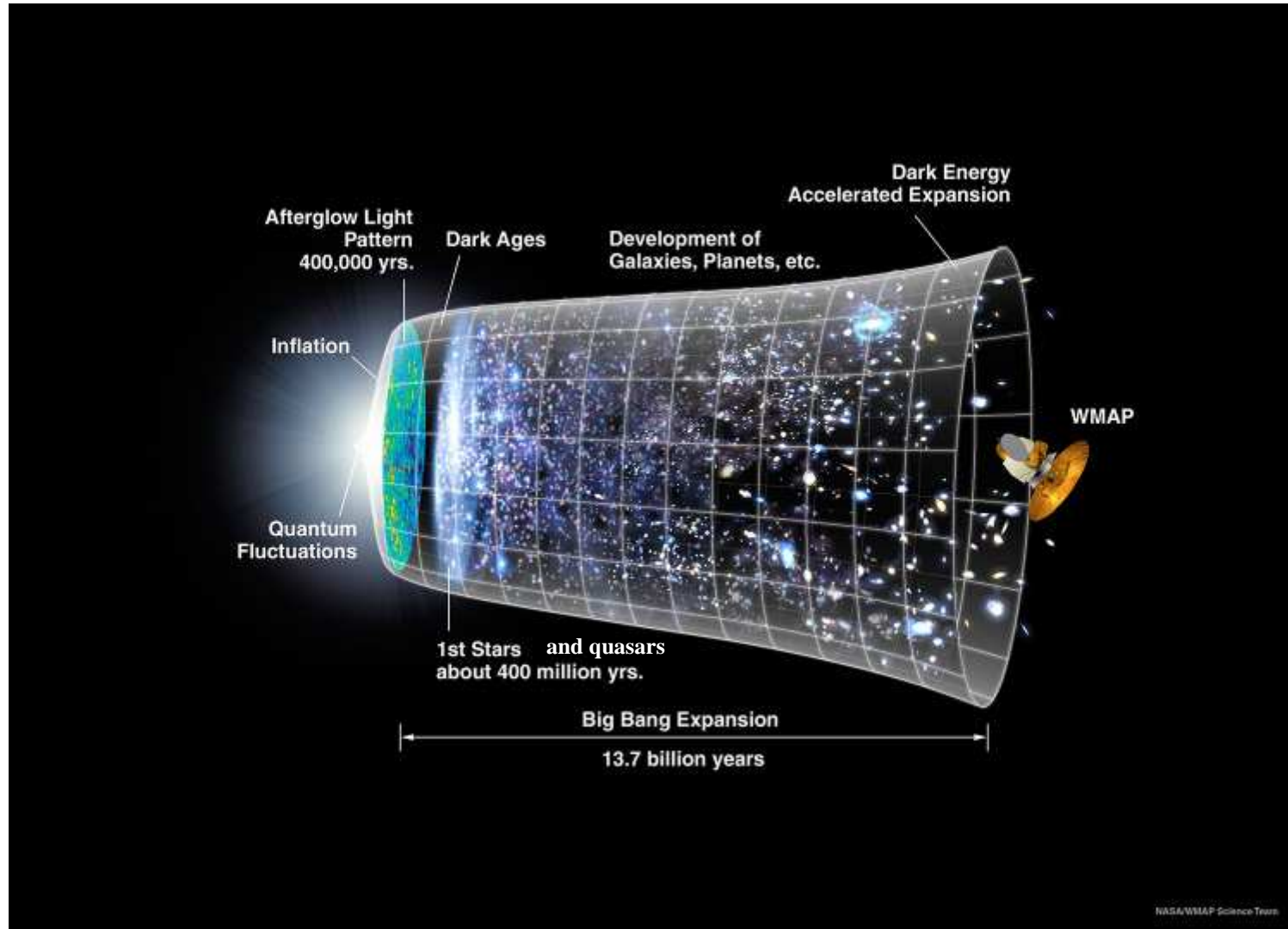


*Starbursting infancy of galaxies  
their massive black-holes  
and the history of star formation in the Universe*

*Alain Omont, Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris  
CNRS & Université Paris 6*



**Understanding the history of the Universe**  
*and even that the Universe has an history*  
**is probably the major achievement of astronomy in XXth Century**



*Starbursting infancy of galaxies  
their massive black-holes  
History of star formation in the Universe*

*This talk  
bridging the gap between*

*Popular talk on*

**Astronomical revolutions in XXth Century**

*and*

*my personal research on*

**Hyper-luminous starbursts and AGN at high redshift**

**With emphasis on physics**

## *Astronomical revolutions in XXth Century*

### *Five major breakthroughs :*

- **Emergence of the notion de galaxies 1920**
- **Expansion of the Universe → Big Bang model 1930 – 1960 ..**
- *Understanding how stars work  
and make chemical elements 1940 - 1950*
- *Unveiling the world of high energies and most extreme objects:  
supernovae ; quasars-black holes, etc. 1915 - 1960*
- Exploration of Solar System 1960 ....  
Discovery of exo-planets. 1995

→ → **Questions for the XXI<sup>th</sup> Century**

*Back to a century ago, ~1900*

➤ After three centuries of consolidation of the scientific revolution

▪ **End of geocentrism :**

- \* The Earth moves around the Sun and is not the center of the World; it is just a planet among others
- \* The Sun is just a star among millions of others
- \* There could be other inhabited worlds ?

▪ Findings and triumphs of **classical physics**,

- \* from the laws of mechanics (Galileo,-Newton : 17th Century)
- \* to those of electricity, optics, thermodynamics (→ 19th Century)

➤ Motors of astronomical discoveries in the XXth Century

- Fantastic **technology** bonds en avant
- Quantum (microphysics) et relativity revolutions in **physics**

→ → *five major breakthroughs*

## *Astronomical revolutions in XXth Century : initial state*

### **GLIMPSE AT ASTRONOMY IN 1900**

- Exquisite refinements of the mechanics of Solar System → Neptun discovery
  - Major achievements in the exploration of the world of stars and their physics
  - Well formulated questions about planets, comets, plurality of the Worlds ...
- → *but unavoidable shortsight, deadends, and amazing limitations ...*

## GLIMPSE AT ASTRONOMY IN 1900

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→ *but unavoidable shortsight, deadends, and amazing limitations ...*

- Limited physics → impossible of :
  - understanding the source energy of stars, the Earth age and thus the Sun age
  - a fortiori imagining the most extreme objects of modern astronomy
  - → **No idea about actual scales of time and energy**
- Notion of galaxy not yet established
  - apparent dimension of the Univers a million times smaller than in reality

→ *Terribly poor vision of the Universe compared to ours*



*Motors of astronomical révolutions in XXth Century*

## **Prodigious technology progress**

**Telescopes and optics**

**From photographic plates to enormous arrays of electronic detectors**



# ESO/VLT Paranal Chile

4 x 8m telescopes



## Major astronomical sites of early XXIth Century: Mauna Kea Hawai



*Motors of astronomical revolutions in XXth Century*

## **Prodigious technology progress**

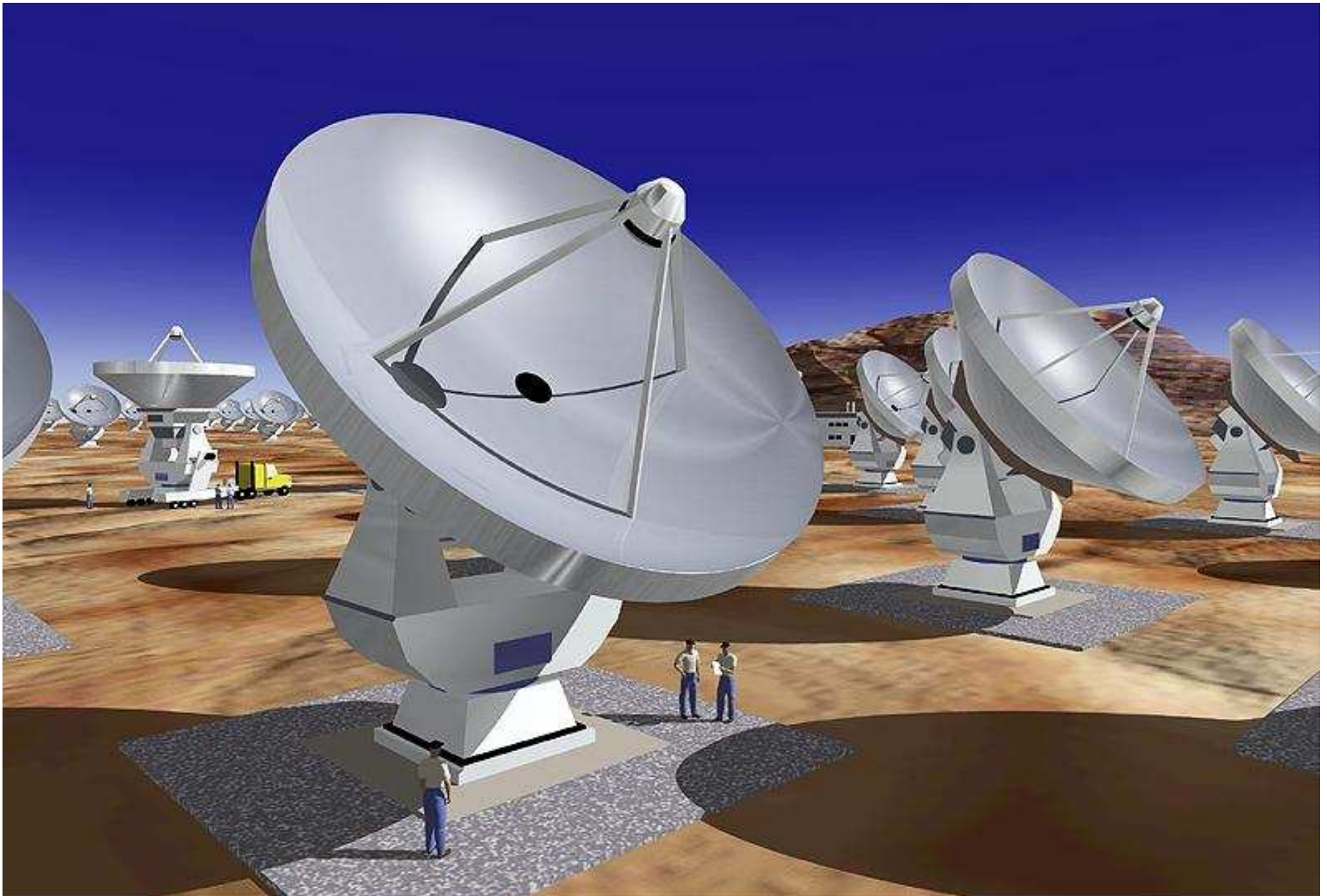
**Telescopes and optics**

**From photographic plates to enormous arrays of electronic detectors**

**Opening of new spectral domains :**

**- Radioastronomy**

## Submillimeter array ALMA, Chajnantor Chili about 2012



*Motors of astronomical revolutions in XXth Century*

**Prodigious technology progress**

**Telescopes and optics**

**From photographic plates to enormous arrays of electronic detectors**

**Opening of new spectral domains :**

**- Radioastronomy**

**- Space :**

**\* Telescopes rid of Earth atmosphere absorption and perturbations**

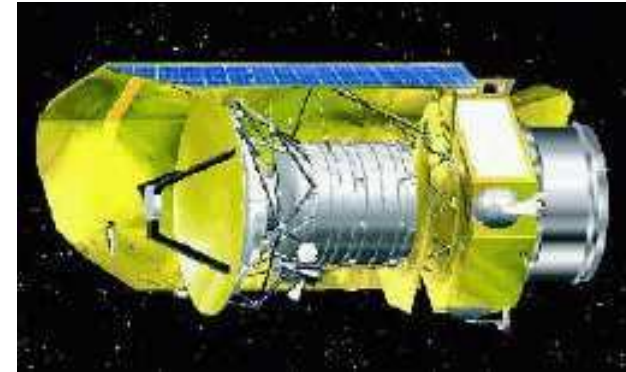
**→ infrared, UV, X-rays, gamma-rays**

# Space telescopes and probes

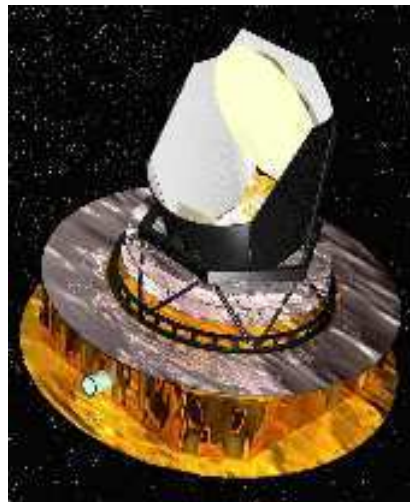
Hubble



Herschel 2008



Planck 2008



Rosetta 2004-



Darwin about 2020





## *Motors of astronomical revolutions in XXth Century*

### **Prodigious technology progress**

#### **Telescopes and optics**

**From photographic plates to enormous arrays of electronic detectors**

#### **Opening of new spectral domains :**

**- Radioastronomy**

**- Space :**

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**\* In situ exploration of Solar System**



## *Motors of astronomical revolutions in XXth Century*

### **Prodigious technology progress**

#### **Telescopes and optics**

**From photographic plates to enormous arrays of electronic detectors**

**Opening of new spectral domains :**

**- Radioastronomy**

**- Space :**

**\* Telescopes rid of Earth atmosphere absorption and perturbations**

**→ infrared, UV, X-rays, gamma-rays**

**\* In situ exploration of Solar System**

#### **Exponential growth of computing power**

**→ Handling and processing huge amounts of data. Sophisticated data analysis**

*Motors of astronomical revolutions in XXth Century*

*Consequences of* **Physics revolutions in early XXth Century**

**Quantum** physics :

- Has allowed a very complete understanding of **stars**, their physics and evolution (*1940-1950*)
- Underlies **ALL** modern astrophysics

**Relativity:** physics of high energies and gravitation

- **Cosmology:** Big Bang, inflation, dark matter, dark energy, etc.
- **Gravitational lensing**
- **Black Holes; neutron stars; gravitational waves**
- **High energy astrophysics:**
  - **Cosmic rays**
  - **Radio jets; quasars**
  - **Supernovae; gamma-ray bursts**
  - **X-rays, gamma-rays, neutrinos**

*Five major breakthroughs:*

*Stars:*

*Most familiar astronomical objects: night sky, Sun*

*Most of visible light in the Universe*

*Most of nucleosynthesis*

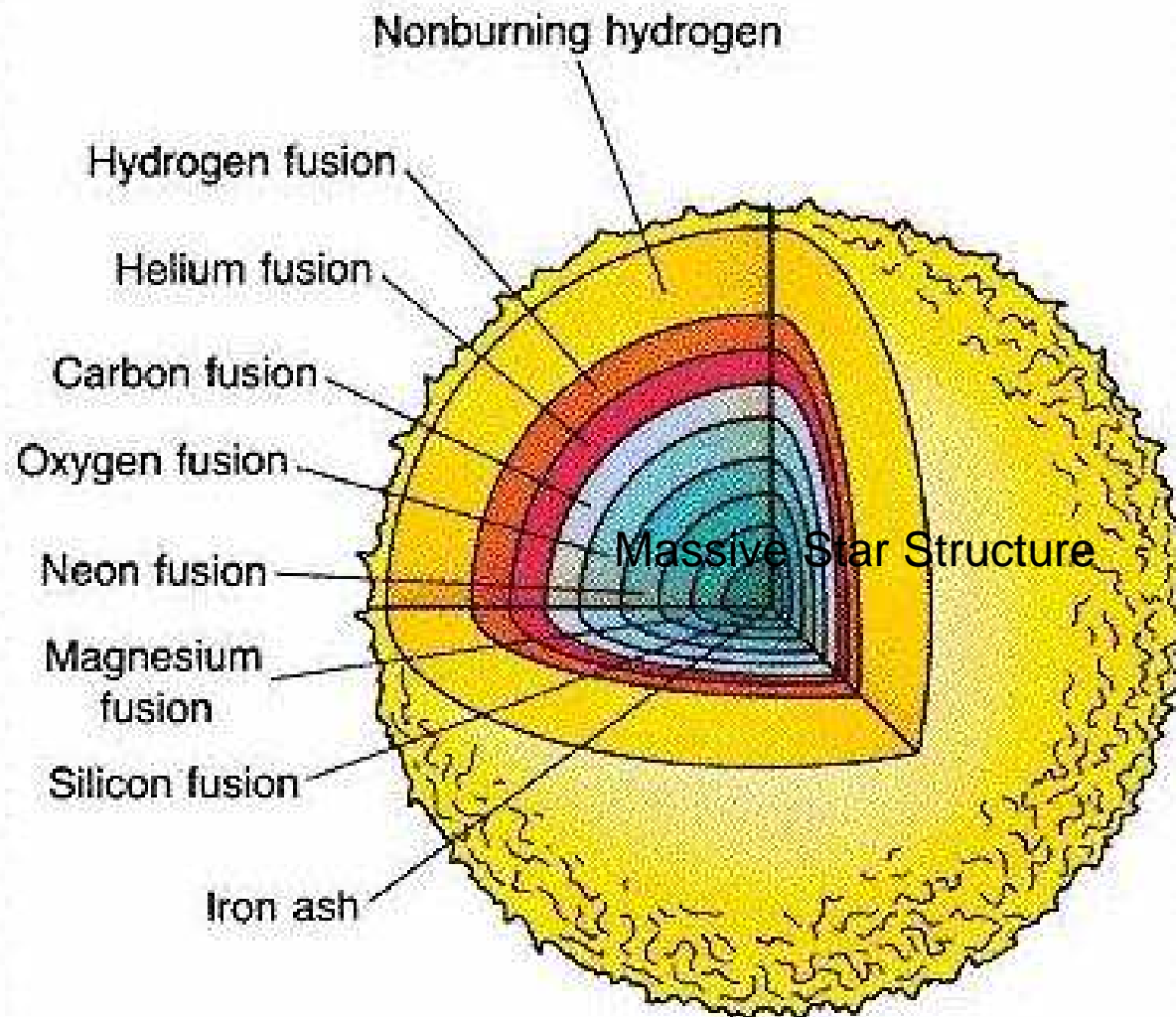
## 1. Physics and evolution of stars(1940-1950)

→ synthesis of atoms of chemical elements

*Comprehensive theory of stars and the origin of atoms: a monument of XXth Century:*

- Relatively simple thermal machines (spheres of very hot gas)
- Nuclear furnaces in their core (10 million K)  
Regulated **nuclear** reactions ( $4\ ^1\text{H} \rightarrow\ ^4\text{He}$ ) (*neutrino emission*)  
Synthesis of chemical elements ( $3\ ^4\text{He} \rightarrow\ ^{12}\text{C}$ , etc.)
- Sophisticated comprehensive models  
(*difficulties with convection, rotation, MHD, mass-loss, oscillations, etc.*)
- → Detailed understanding of evolution and **age** of stars (*billions of years*)

## Sketch of a very massive star close to explode as a supernova



# LIFE and DEATH OF STARS

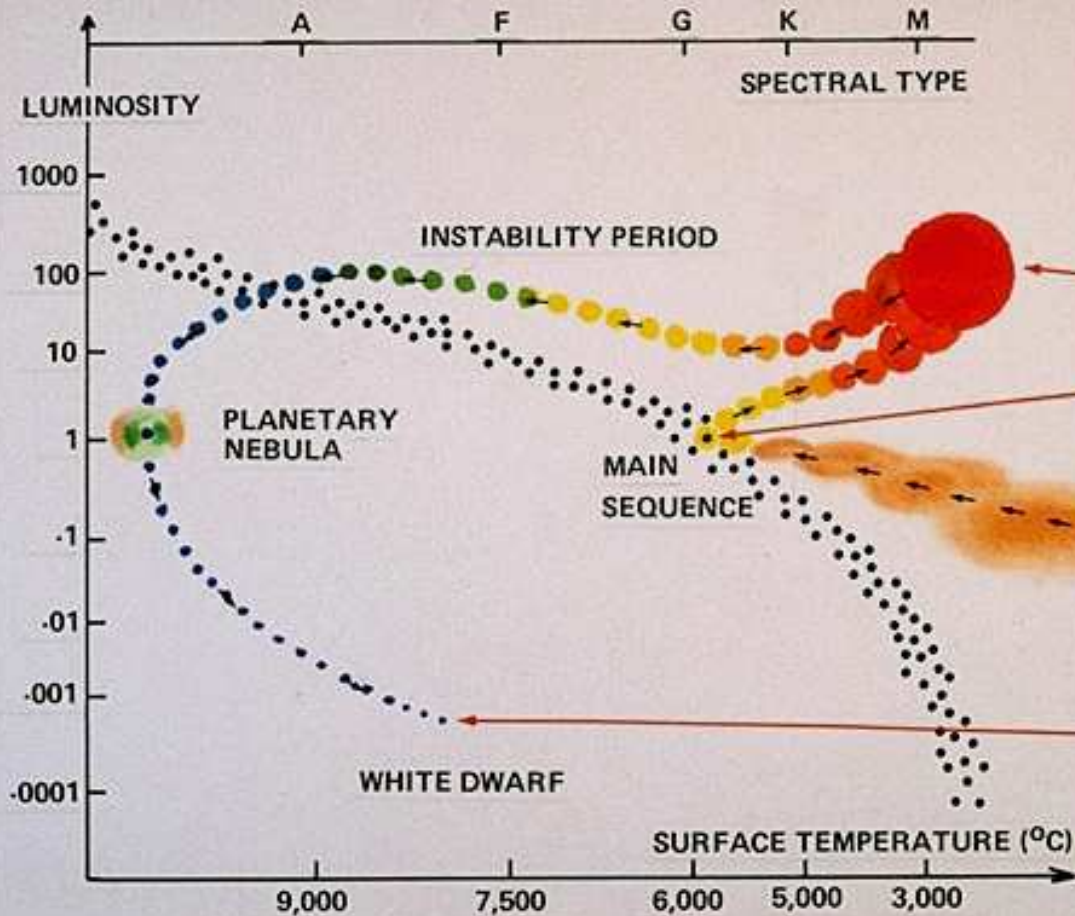
- Quick formation from gravitational collapse of a condensation of Interstellar gas
- Long **stable**, well regulated stage of hydrogen combustion (~9 billion years for the Sun)
- Enflure in red giant
- Final «**explosion**» either mild (planetary nebulae)  
or very violent (supernovae,  $\gamma$ -ray burst) (*very difficult physics*)
- «**Remnant**» either compact (white dwarf)  
or very compact (neutron star (*pulsars*)  $\rightarrow$  *strange star, black-hole*)

Massive stars are **hyperluminous** and have a very short lifetime

Small stars live very long

$\rightarrow$  Brown dwarfs: aborted stars, too small to initiate Hydrogen burning

# Life of a Star The Mass of the Sun

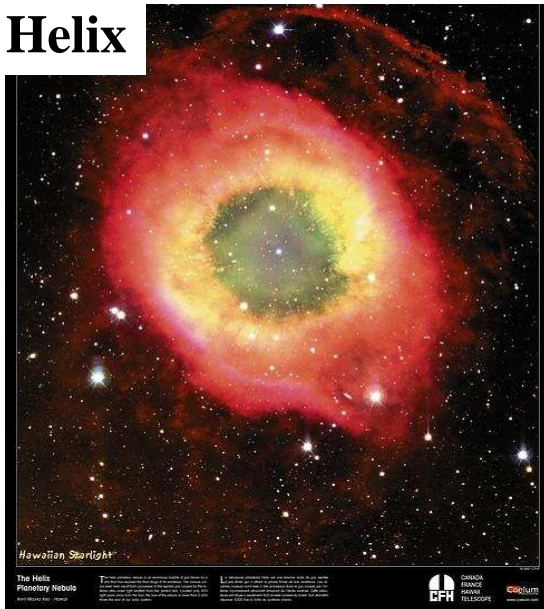


## COMPARISON OF SIZES

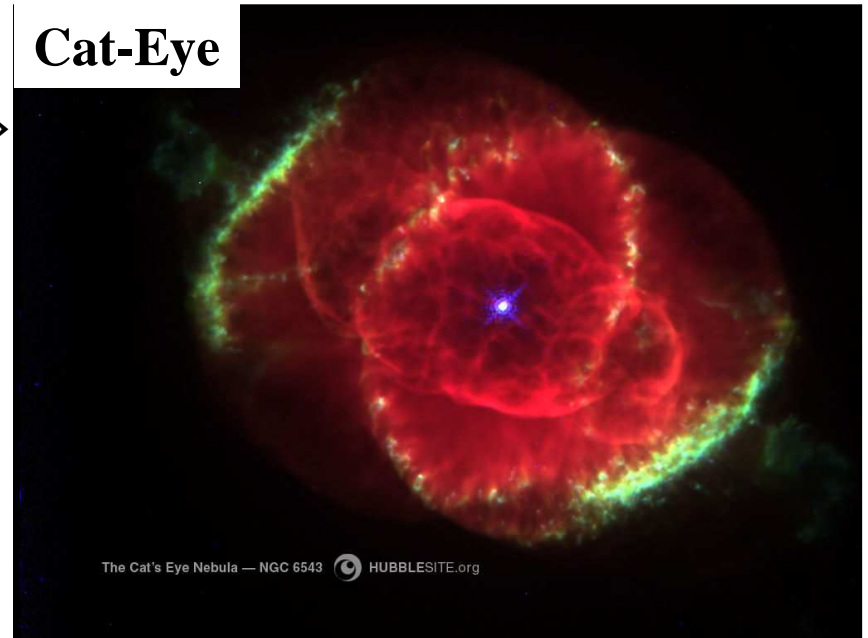




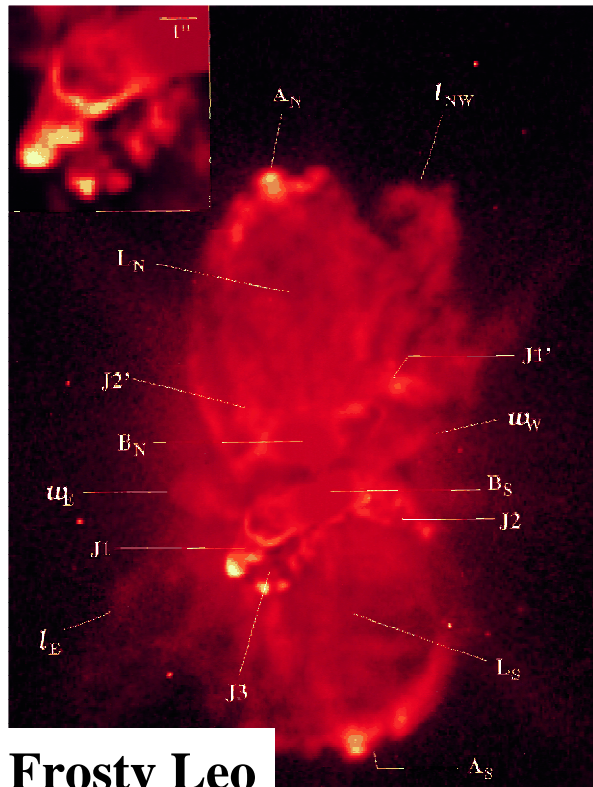
**Helix**



**Cat-Eye**



« Planetary »  
Nebulae



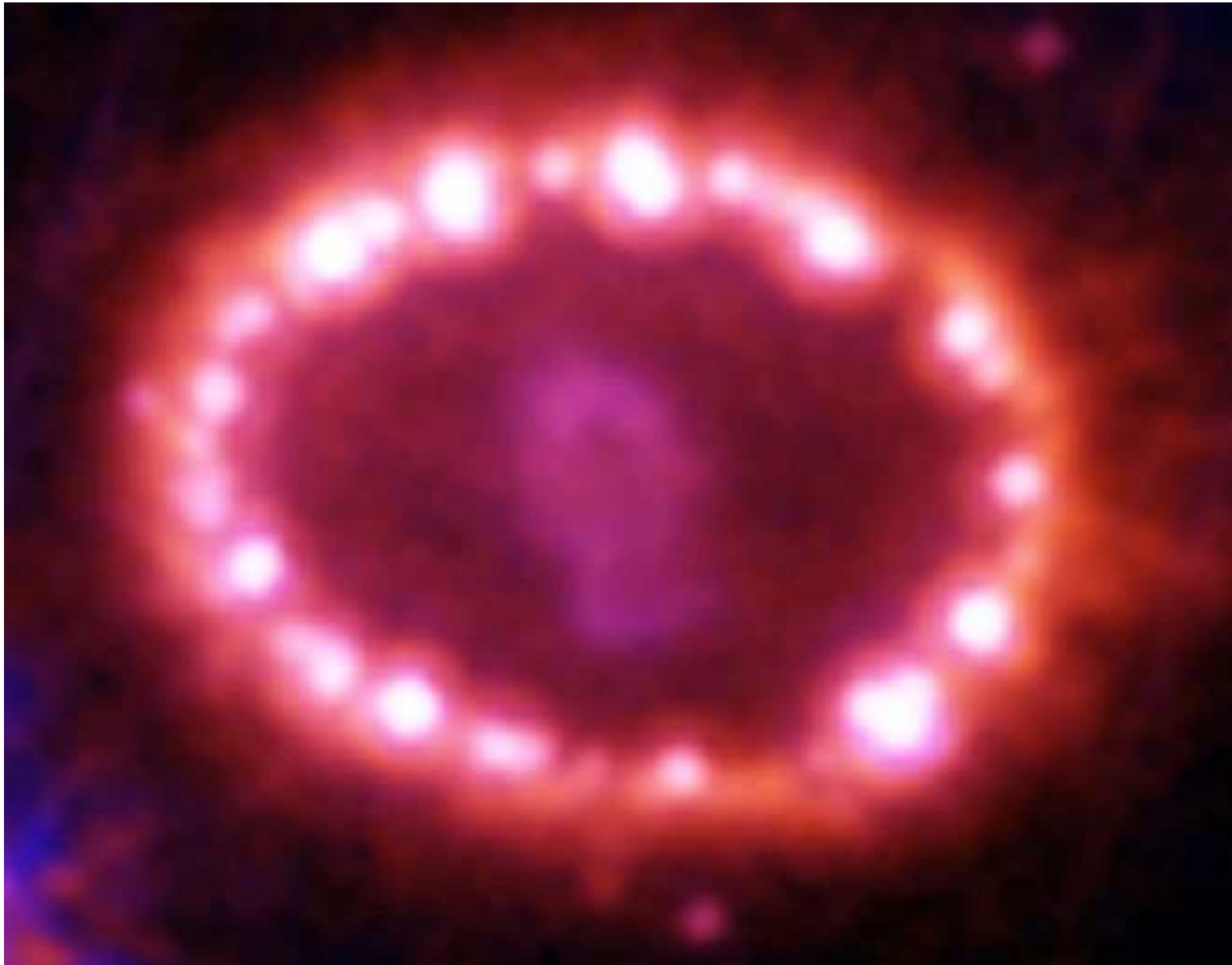
**Frosty Leo**



**V838...**



Recent view of the shell around the 1987 supernova



## Crab Nebula

Filamentary  
in expansion  
around a pulsar  
(neutron star)

Created by the  
bright supernova  
observed in 1064



*Five major breakthroughs:*

## **2. Emergence of the notion of galaxies, their interstellar medium and their world**

- **Accepted very late, only about 1920**

Up to this epoch, the universe of astronomers was limited to what is presently known as our galaxy, the Milky Way

- **Elementary bricks of the Universe**
- **The Milky Way**
- **Evolving systems, different classes**

# Our Galaxy, the Milky Way

## Archetype of spiral galaxies

*The Milky Way in a glimpse:*

- **100-200 billion stars**  
**bound** by forces of gravitational attraction  
practically point objects at galactic scales
- **~10% of gas** (mostly hydrogen: H, H<sub>2</sub>, H<sup>+</sup>)  
(+ **~0.1% of dust** (which completely screen the inner regions of the Galactic disk))
- **Mysterious dark matter**, significantly more massive than the total mass of stars
- **Overall rotation** (~100 km/s → period a few 100 million years)  
**Very flat Disk**, especially for the gas  
**Luminous spiral arms** (young stars); bar  
**‘Spherical’ Halo** of dark matter and a few old stars, plus central bulge of stars

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**Very flat Disk**, especially for the gas  
**Luminous spiral arms** (young stars); bar  
**'Spherical' Halo** of dark matter and a few old stars, plus central bulge of stars
- Much is expected from **GAIA**, space astrometry European mission (2012-2017):  
**Distance & velocity of >10<sup>9</sup> stars** → stellar populations, MW history, dark matter

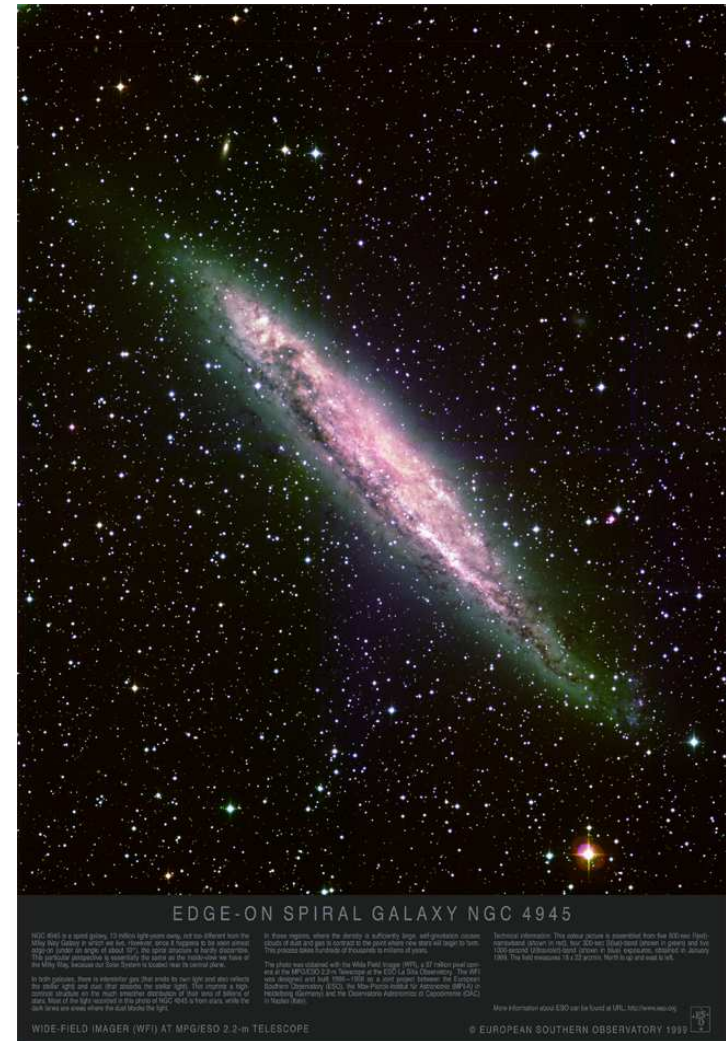


# Spiral galaxies

M51



Andromeda



## The Milky Way seen in infrared

e

Infrared radiation is little absorbed by dust and gives a faithful image of the distribution of infrared luminous concentrated in the disk and in the Galactic bulge around the Galactic Center





# The evolving world of galaxies

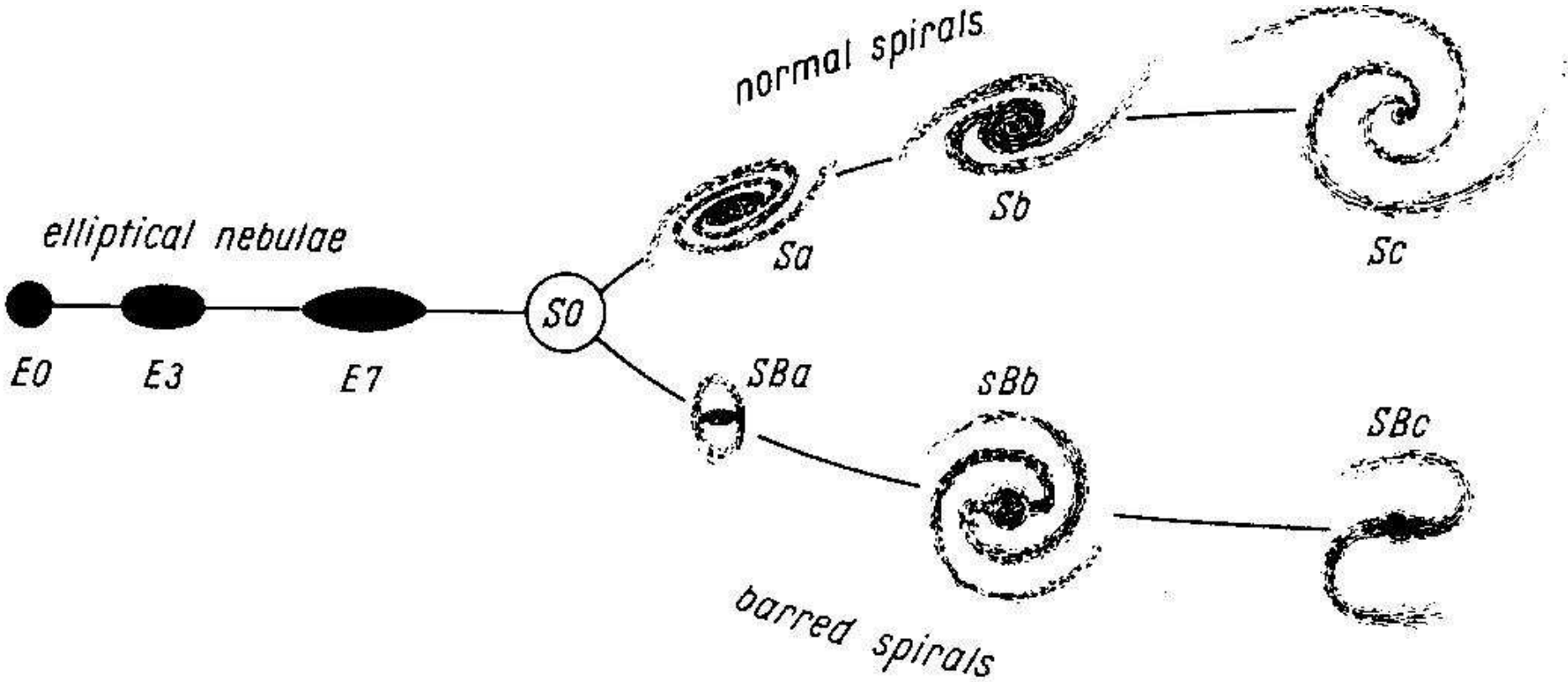
## ✓ Complex interplay between stars and the interstellar medium:

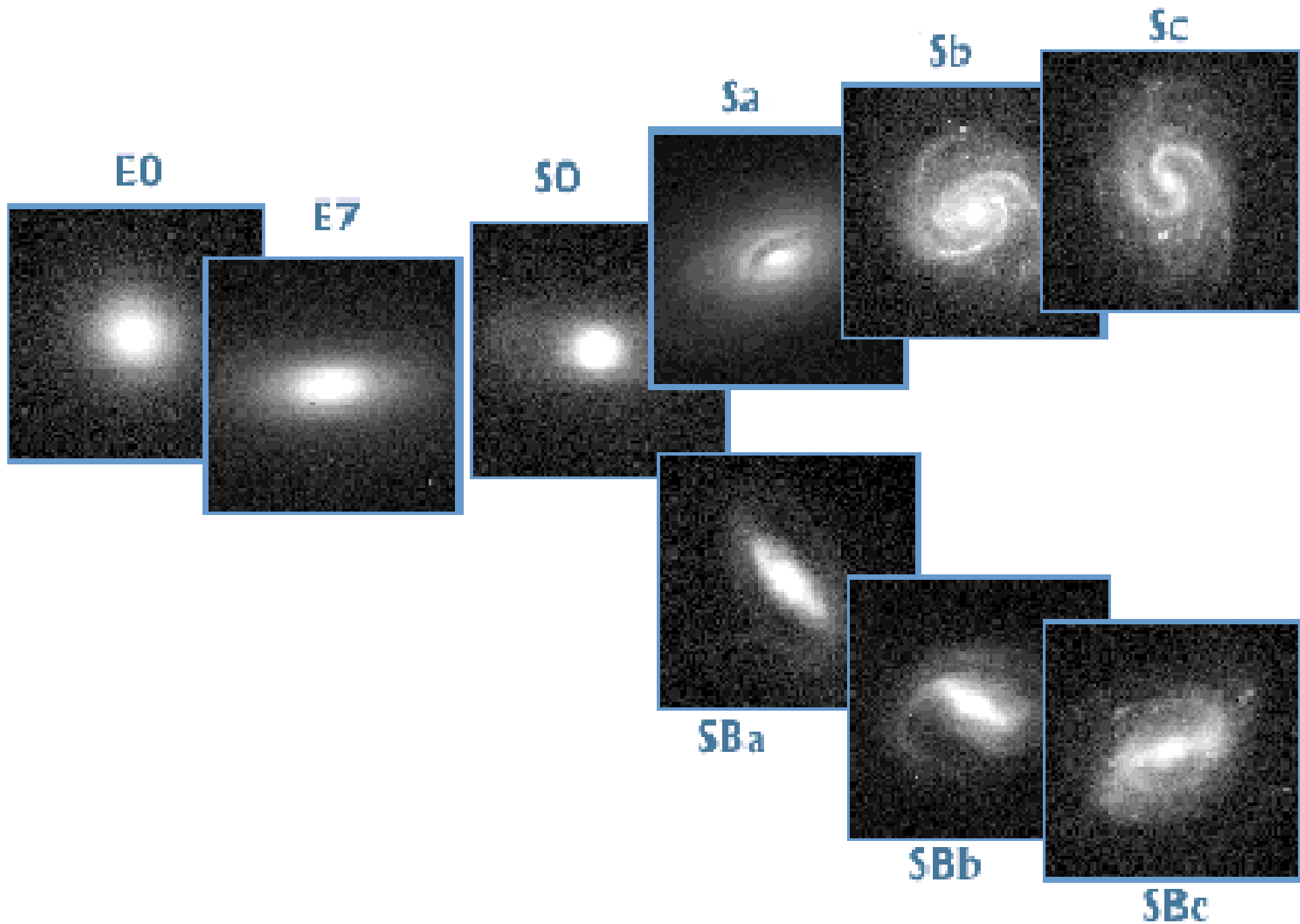
- Star formation from the gas as long as available:  
~1 MSun per year presently in the Milky Way
- Return of gas enriched in heavy elements (mostly towards the end of star lives)
- **Evolution in:** proportion of gas, galactic structure, abundance of chemical elements

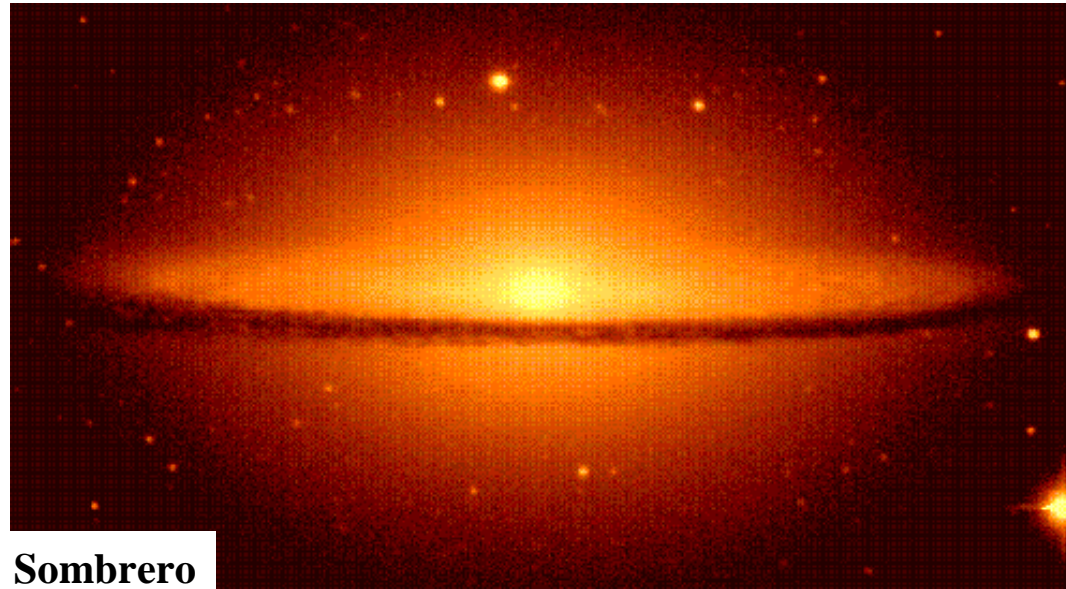
## ✓ Complex formation of galaxies:

- Initial formation of dark matter spherical halos by gravitational collapse
- Further condensation of the gas in the center of the halos, possibly flattened in disk if fast rotation
- Then star formation, with initial strong starbursts
- But also collisions/mergings of galaxies (frequent in the young Universe)  
→ Strong perturbations ; new starbursts  
(e.g. merging Milky Way-Andromeda in a few billion years)

# Classification sketch of galaxies







**Sombrero**



**Elliptical galaxy**

**AAT 60**



**Centaurus A**

*Five major breakthroughs:*

### **3. Emergence of a global model (cosmological) of Universe**

#### **3.1 The Universe at large, **uniformity****

**One now knows that the visible part of the Universe contains hundreds billion of galaxies**

**At very large scale (much larger than galaxy clusters), galaxies are distributed in a remarkably uniform way in average, perfectly identical in all directions**

**→ The Universe is uniform, it has no centre, no edge and is probably infinite**

**→ Great simplicity: the global state of the Univers and its history, i.e. the objects of Cosmology, depend only on a few parameters. They are rather well known today**

*Five major breakthroughs:*

### 3. Emergence of a global model (**cosmological**) of Universe

#### 3.2 Expansion of the Universe → Big Bang model

The discovery by **Hubble** in the 1920's of the recession (flight) of the galaxies, with  $v=Hd$ , is among the most important ones of the century

**It implies an initial state extremely dense and hot, in expansion**

→ **Big Bang model**

**Initial homogeneous mixture of elementary particles (quarks, etc.)**

**Cooling:**

→ protons, electrons, photons, neutrinos, neutrons

→ gas of hydrogen and helium

→ stars and galaxies (*more or less distributed in groups, clusters and large structures*)

## Sketch of the current « standard » cosmological model

Very precise ; results from the combination and crosschecks of a number of data of various origin, derived from immense efforts in the recent years

Broad agreement (e.g. WMAP 2006):

Age of the Universe ~**13.7 billion** years

The Universe is practically « flat » : light propagates in straight line

It is apparently made of three « components » :

Ordinary matter (atoms) « baryons » :	~4% (only ~1% in stars/galaxies)
Dark matter	~22%
« Dark energy »	~74%

The precise nature, and even concept, of dark matter and especially dark energy remains unknown

It seems well established that there was an initial phase of « inflation » when the dimensions of the Universe breathtakingly increased

There is a very close relationship between particle **physics** and Big Bang cosmology, especially in the inflation phase, with possible questioning about space extra-dimensions, topology, etc.

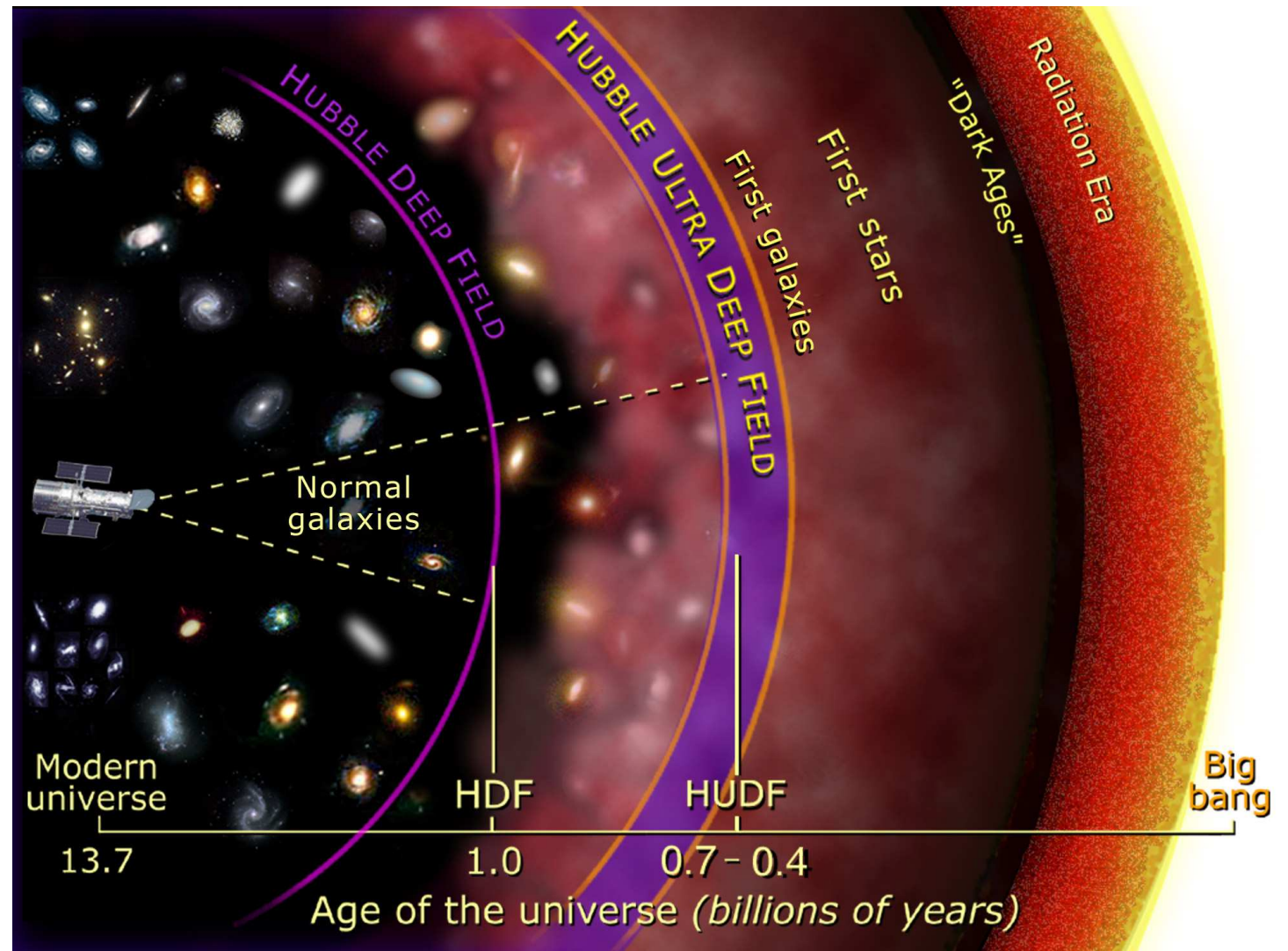
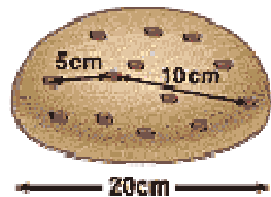


# Science Case

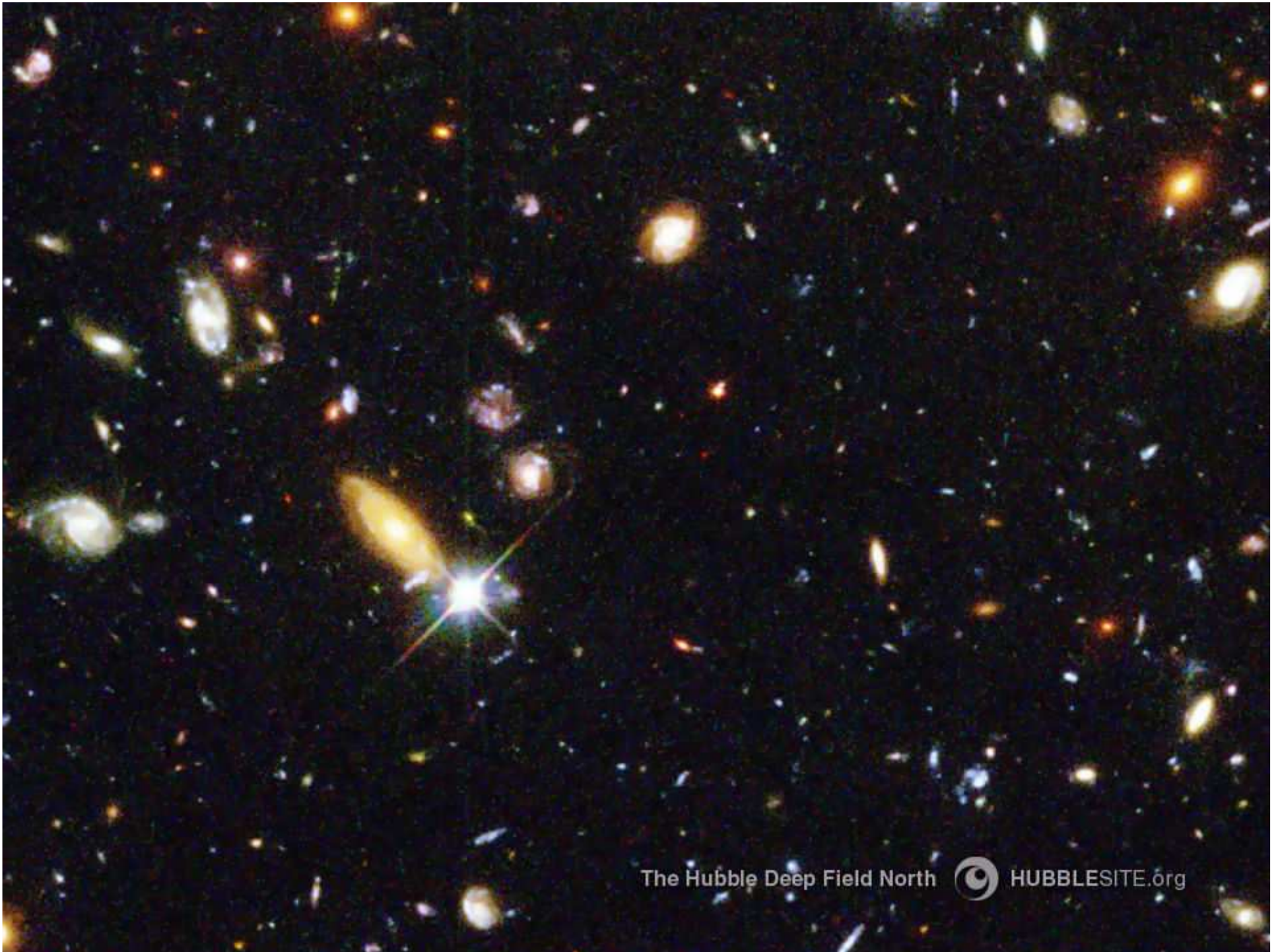
## Primary science case:


- Measurement of the **dark energy** equation of state parameter ( $w_0$ ) and its evolution ( $w_a$ ) from  $z=0$  to 1, with a joint precision better than 5% and 20%, respectively.
  - Is it a cosmological constant ( $w=-1$ )? Is it dynamical vacuum energy ( $w_a \neq 0$ )?
- Measurement of statistics of the **dark matter** distribution and its evolution from  $z = 0$  to 1 from linear to non-linear scales (power spectrum, high order correlation functions)
  - Is Dark Matter cold? Does it interact via gravity only?
- Constraints on **initial conditions** via the reconstruction of the primordial power spectrum
  - Is there a special scale in the early universe? Is inflation correct

# Sketch of Universe History



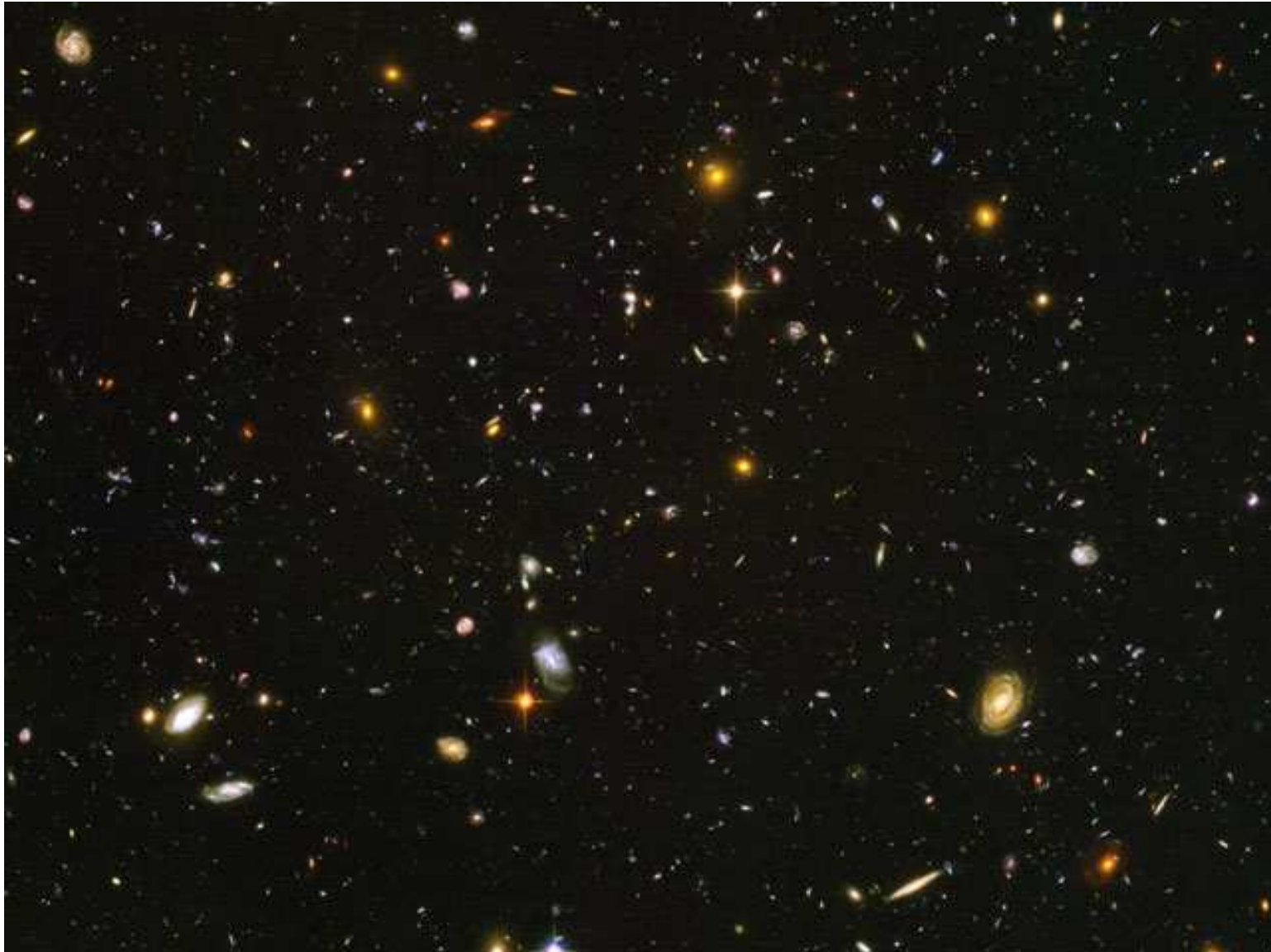




The Hubble Deep Field North  [HUBBLESITE.org](https://hubblesite.org)

Since a few years, we are able to currently detect galaxies extremely distant in space and time (more than ten billion years) and thus directly observe the main phases of star formation in galaxies similar to the Milky Way, in particular the violent initial starbursts

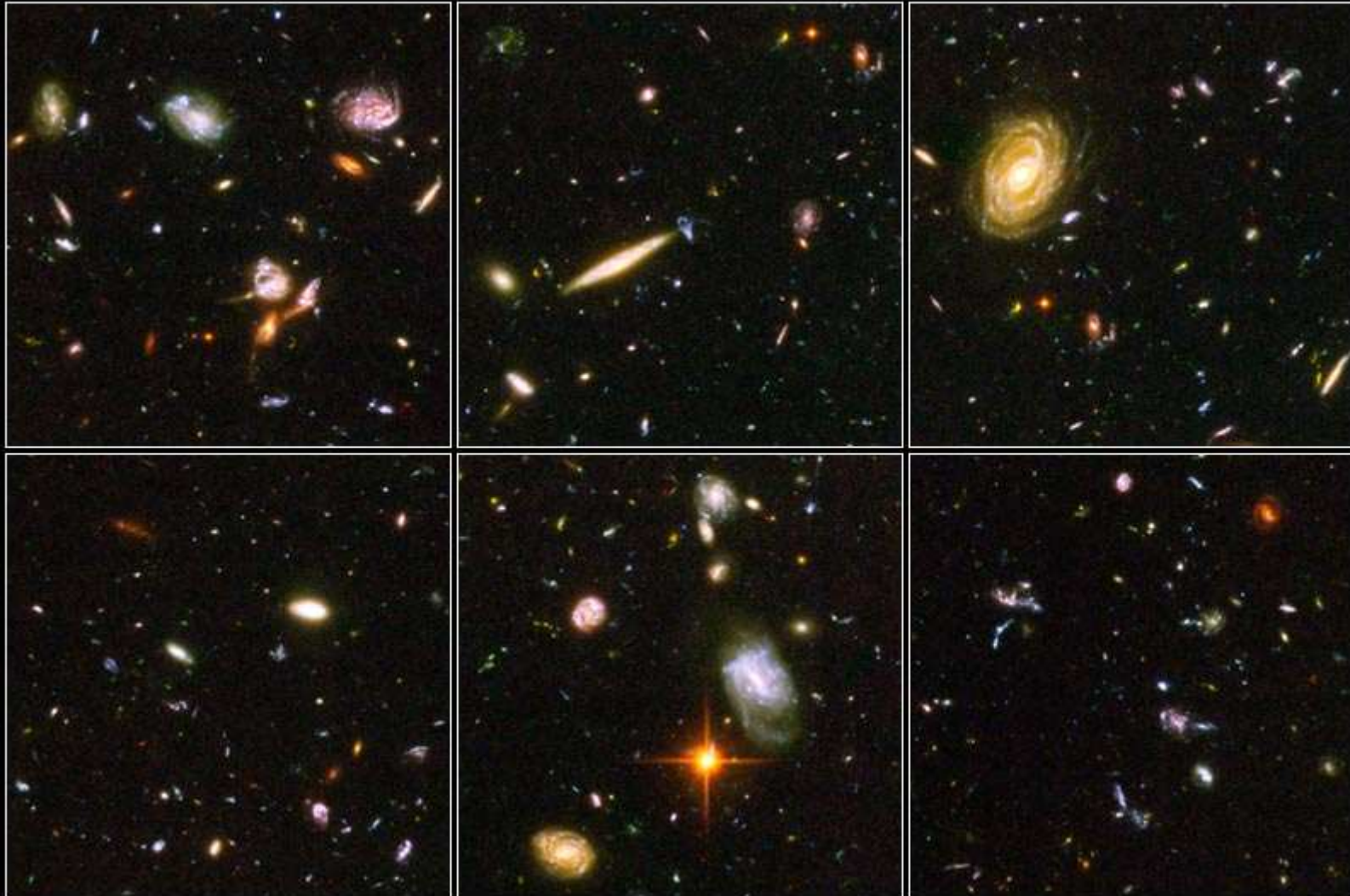
**Hubble  
Ultra  
Deep  
Field**





Hubble Ultra Deep Field Details

HST ■ ACS

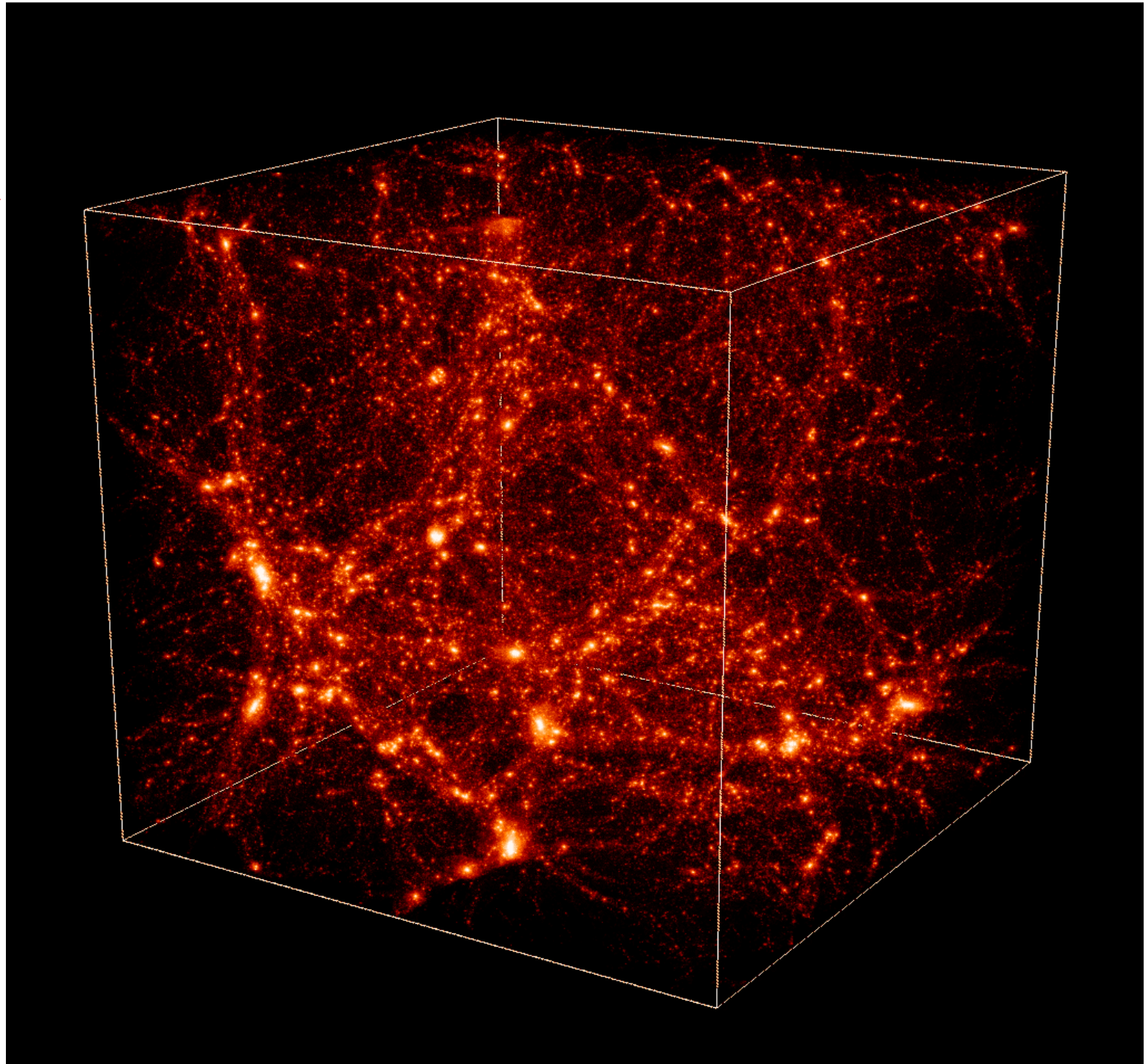


NASA, ESA, S. Beckwith (STScI) and The HUDF Team

STScI-PRC04-07c



**Model of the  
filament structure  
of the distribution  
of galaxies in the  
Universe at scale  
of 300 million  
light-year**



*Five major breakthroughs:*

## **4. The violent Univers , at physics frontiers**

**Revelation of energy sources infinitely more powerful than stars:**

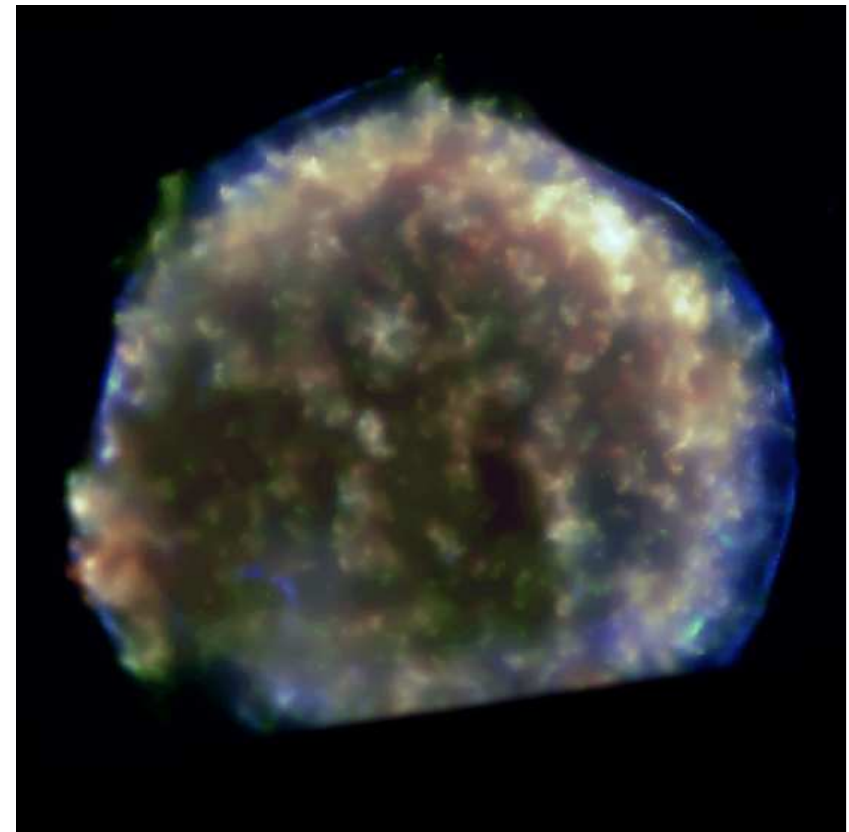
- **Supernova explosions → hypernovae/γ-ray bursts : billions of suns**
- **Quasars : up to million of billions of suns!**

# Supernova remnants attesting the violence of explosions

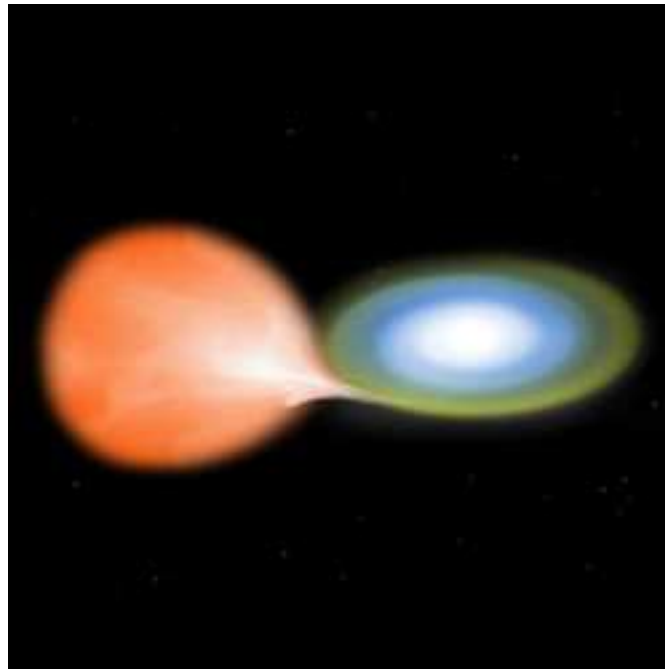
## Crab 1064



## Tycho 16th Century



## Sketch model of a binary star X



The gas of the big star is suck and violently falls onto the compact object

*Five major breakthroughs:*

## 4. The violent Univers , at physics frontiers

Revelation of energy sources infinitely more powerful than stars:

- Supernova explosions → hypernovae/γ-ray bursts : **billions of suns**
- Quasars : **up to million of billions of suns!**

Energy mainly **gravitational**

Related to hyper-compact objects (*physics not yet perfectly understood*):

- **Neutron stars** (density ~1 billion tons per cm<sup>3</sup> !)
- **Black holes**

Emission of high energy radiation:

- **X-rays and gamma-rays, neutrinos, cosmic rays**
- **routinely detectables with telescopes on satellites, or from the ground for the highest energies (and neutrinos)**

# Black Holes

Energy of gravitational forces close to  $mc^2 \rightarrow$  ultra-relativistic

Singularity/divergence of space, strongly bent

Gravitational forces are so strong that « nothing can get out », not even light

Enormous energy injected into the matter which is accreted ('falling') onto the black hole; part is radiated before engulfment  $\rightarrow$  quasar

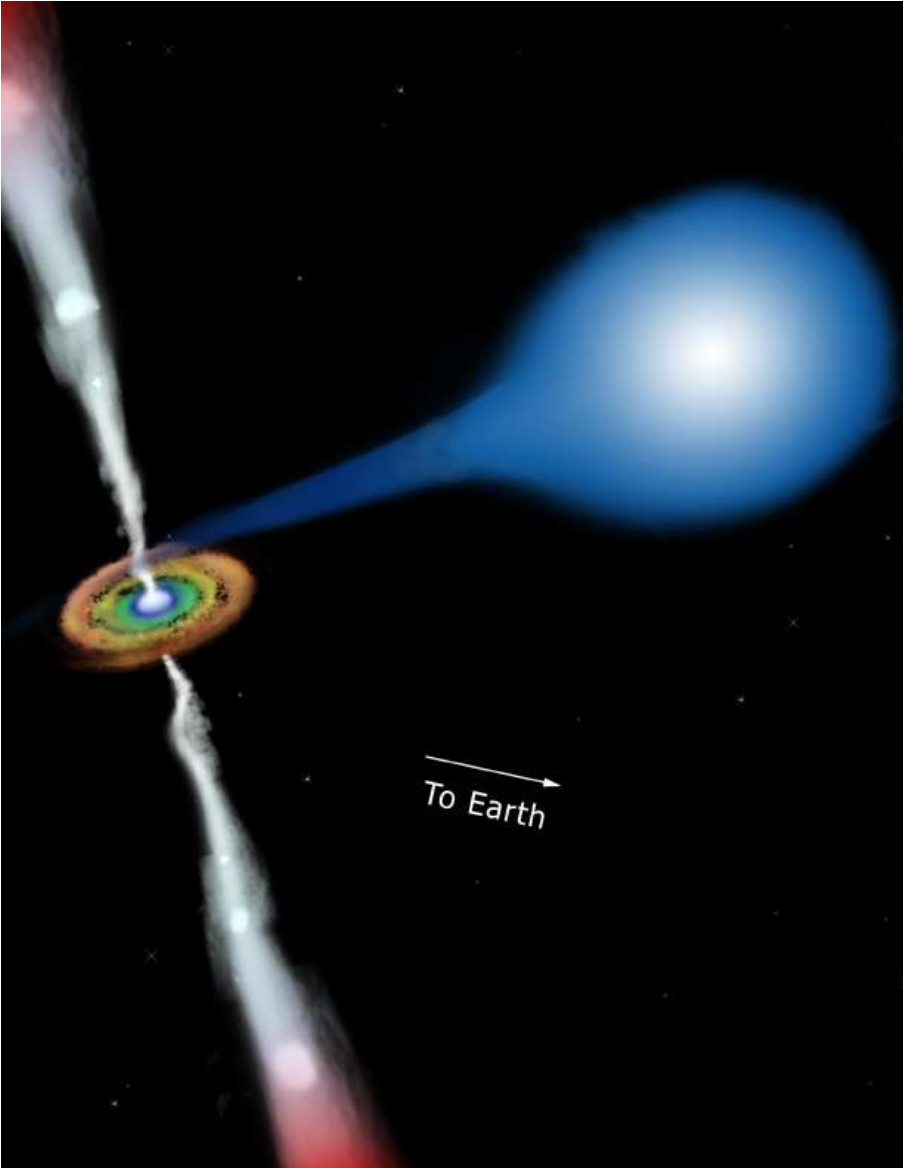
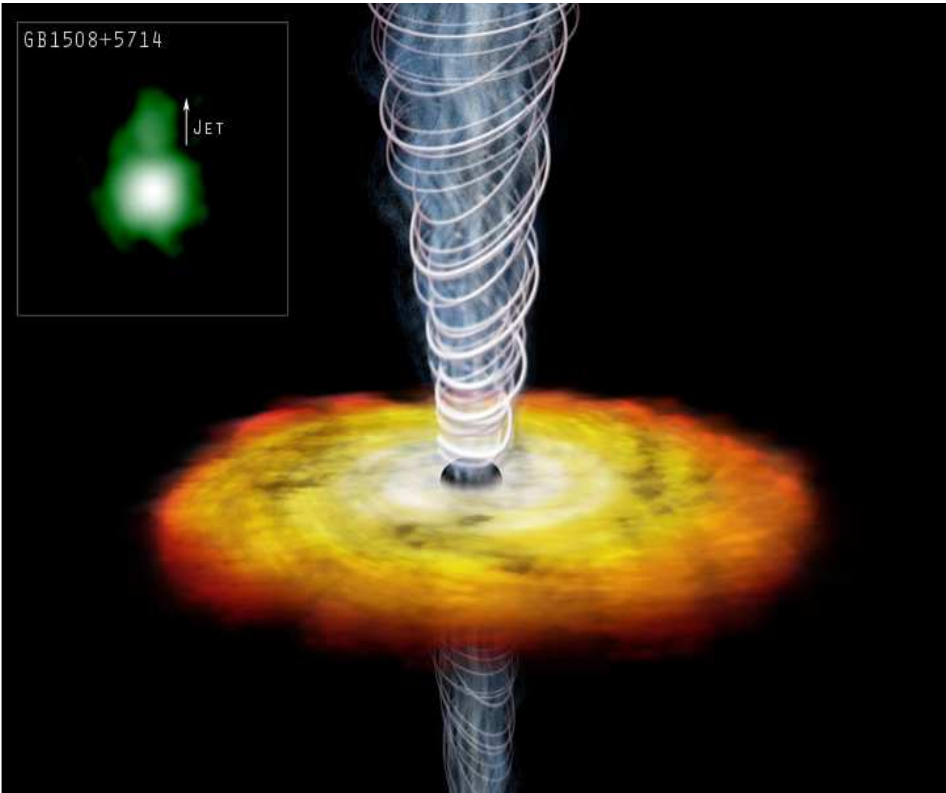
In some cases, huge jets of relativistic matter are ejected  
 $\rightarrow$  radio sources, radio loud quasars, mini-quasars



**Sketch models of jets :**

**binary X / mini-quasar**

**quasar**



# Black Holes

Energy of gravitational forces close to  $mc^2 \rightarrow$  ultra-relativistic

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 $\rightarrow$  radio sources, radio loud quasars, mini-quasars

**Super-massive** : 1 million/1 billion solar mass

- prominent at the centre of galaxies with active nucleus (AGN) : quasars, radio galaxies, etc.

- present without much activity in all massive galaxies, especially elliptical ones

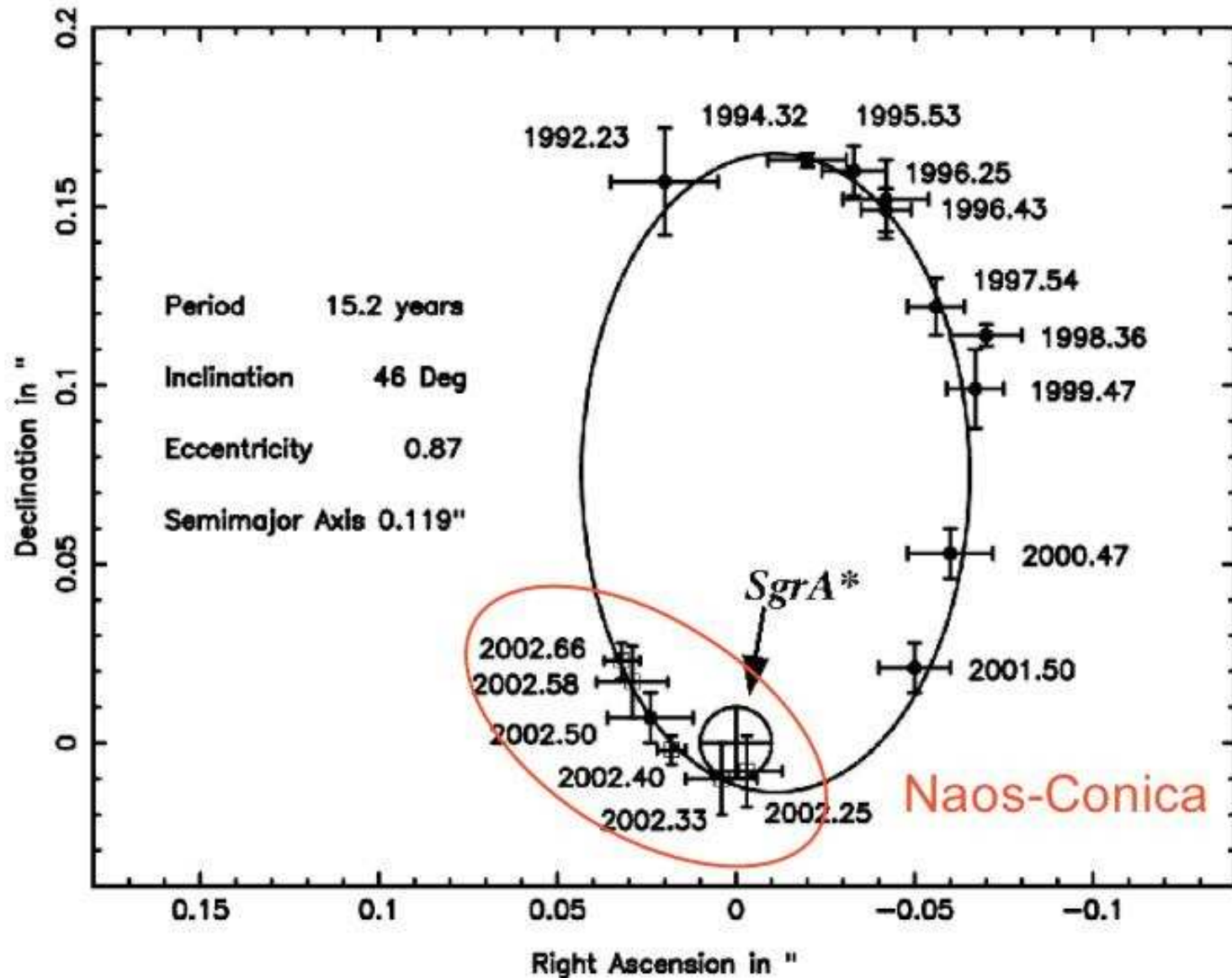
- well identified at the **Centre of the Milky Way** : a few millions of solar mass : orbits of close stars

**Sketch model of disruption and engulfment of a star by a massive black hole**



*Well identified black hole at the **Centre of the Milky Way** :  
a few millions of solar mass : orbits of close stars*

### Observed orbits of stars around the central black hole of the Milky Way





*Cinq Percées majeures :*

## **5. Exploration du Système Solaire et Exo-planètes**

**Exploration directe de tout le Système Solaire par sondes spatiales**

**Découverte de plus de 100 exo-planètes**

**→ Exo-biologie**

**Axe majeur de recherche pour le XXI<sup>ème</sup> Siècle**

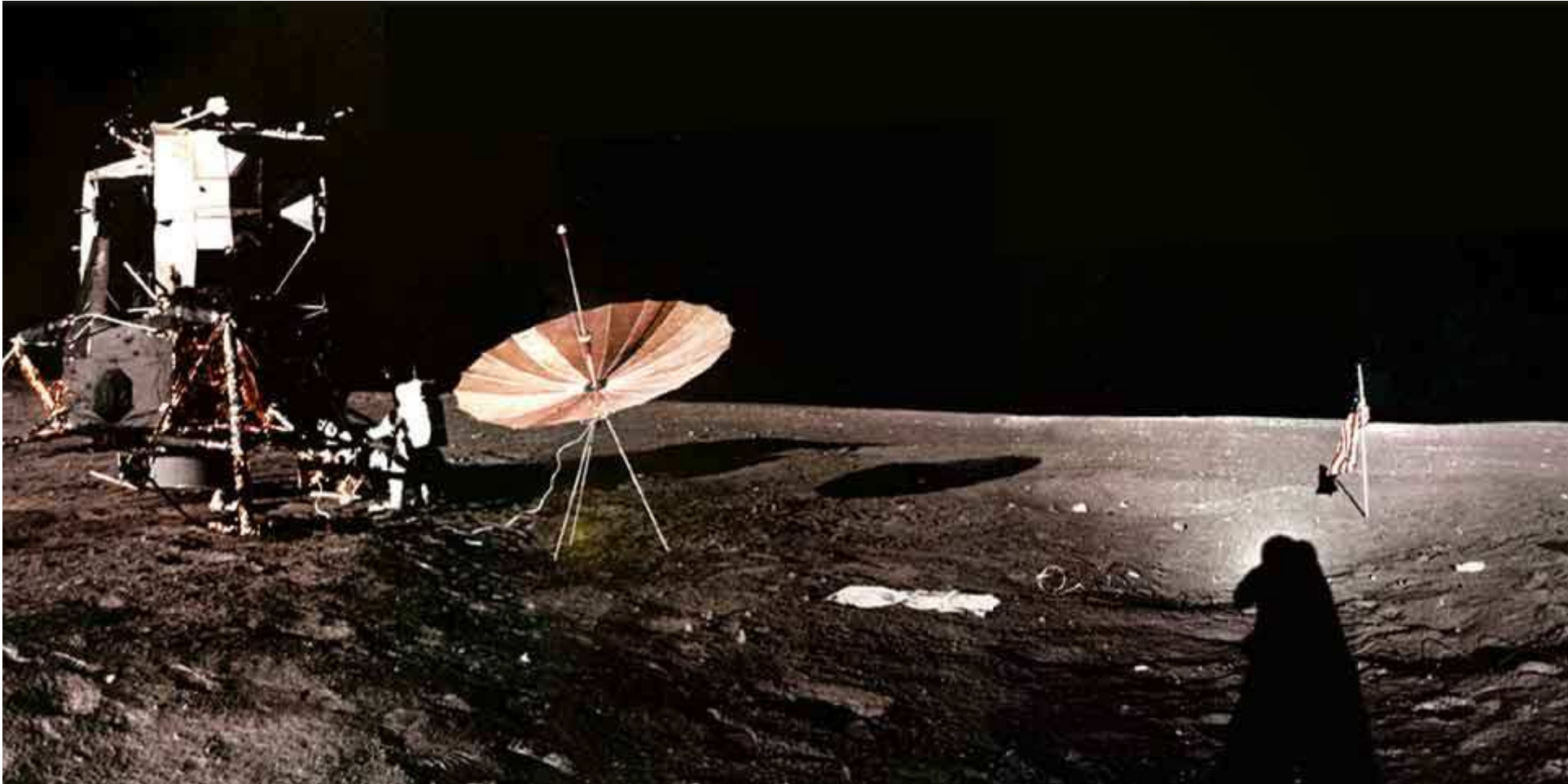
# Exploration directe de tout le Système Solaire par sondes spatiales

Lune : Apollo (*1969*)

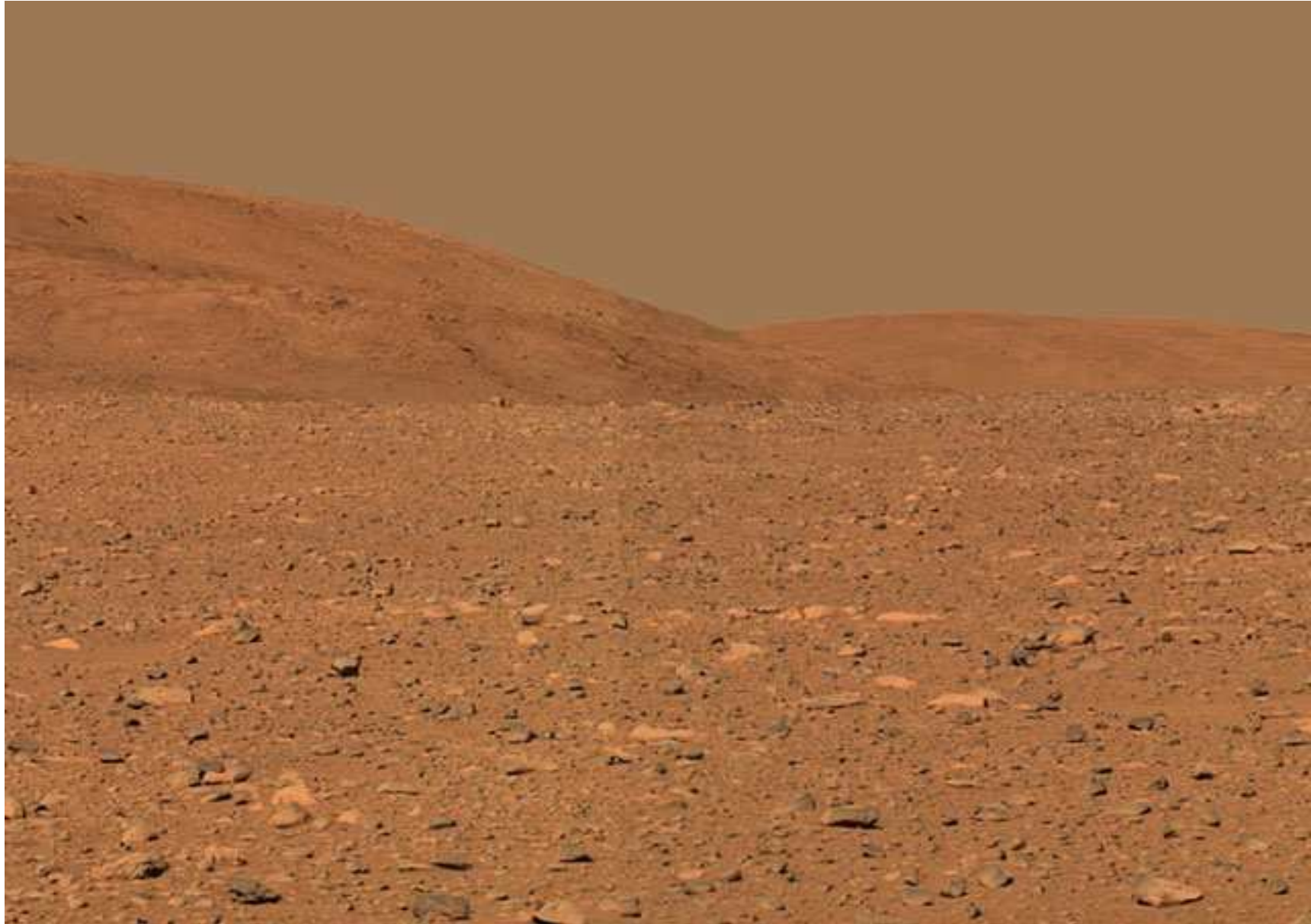
Mars : multiples missions : *fabuleuses images*

Autres planètes et satellites → *Saturne/Titan (2005)*





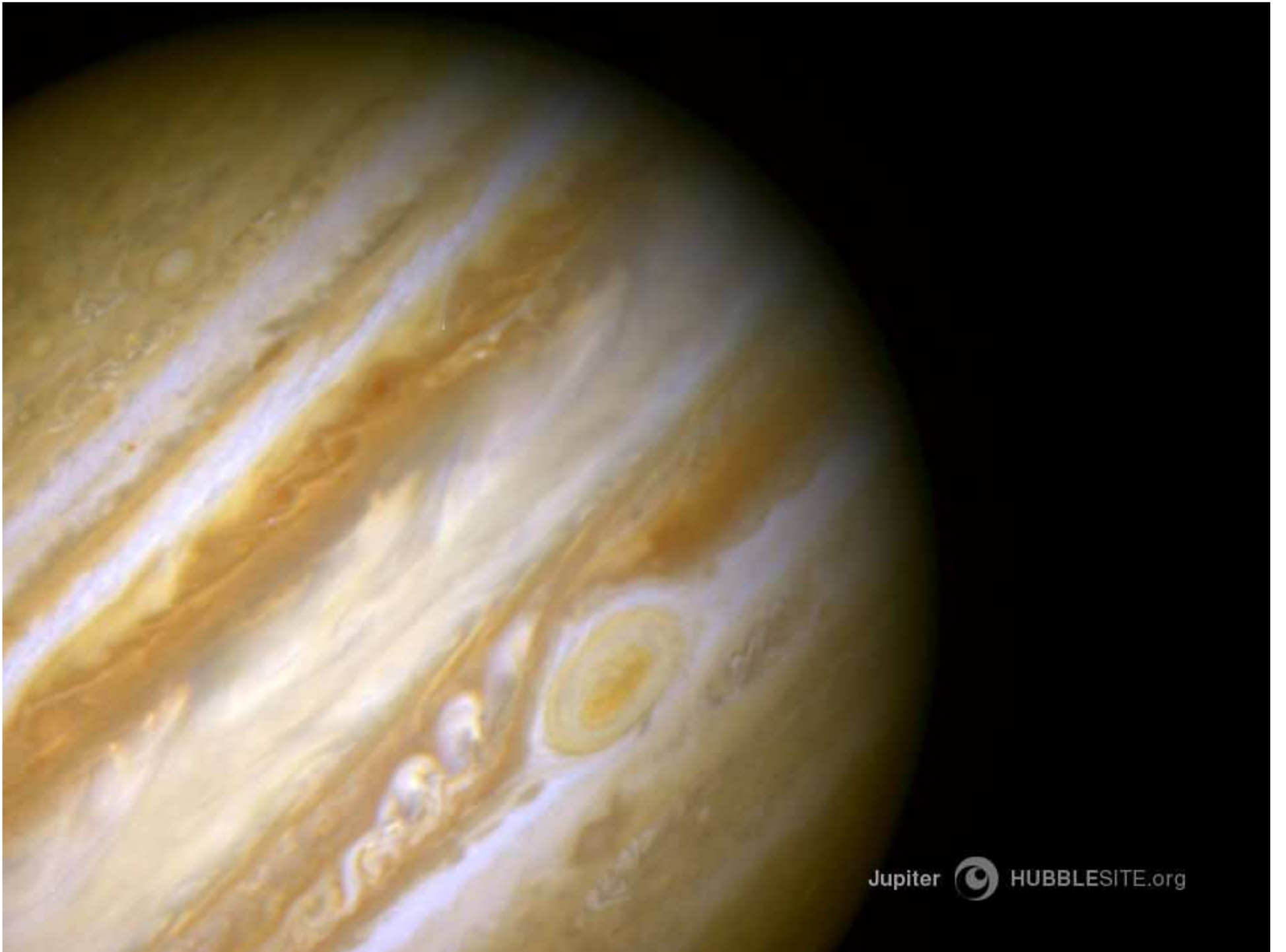
# Paysage Martien





## Canyon géant sur Mars





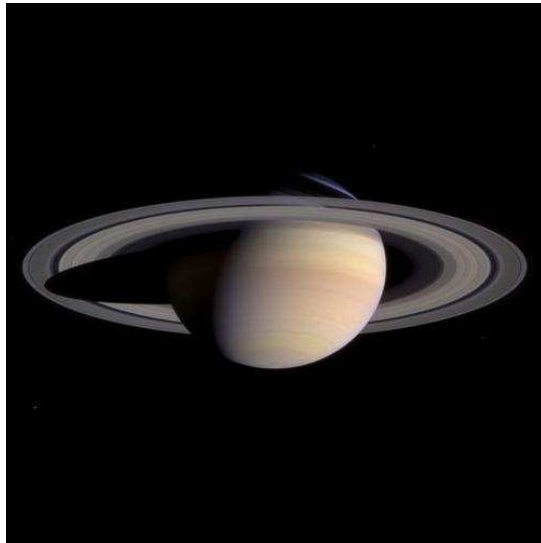
Jupiter



HUBBLESITE.org

# Sonde Cassini

**Saturne**



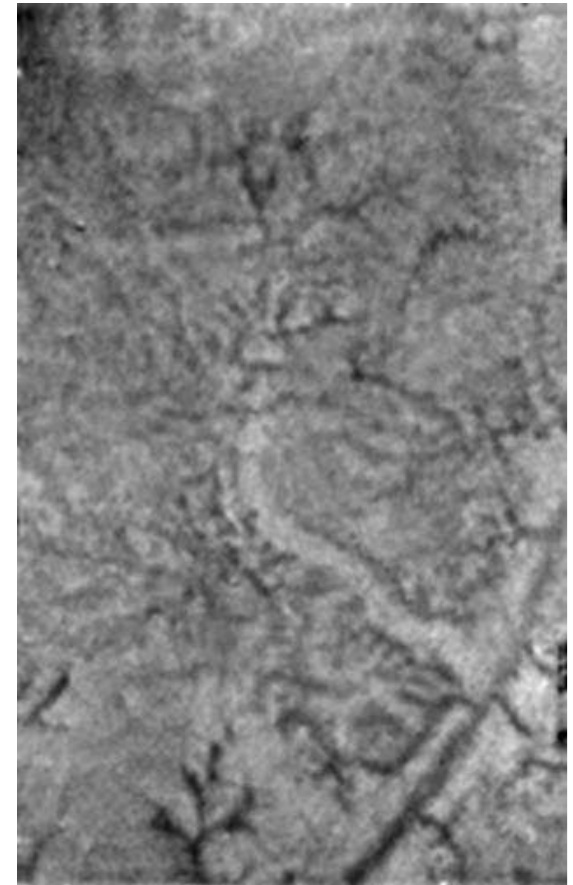
**Anneaux en couleurs réelles**



**Titan**



**Titan**  
**Sources de**  
**méthane dans**  
**un sol de glace ?**



# Exploration directe de tout le Système Solaire par sondes spatiales

Lune : Apollo (*1969*)

Mars : multiples missions : *fabuleuses images*

Autres planètes et satellites → *Saturne/Titan (2005)*

Etudes comparées de l'évolution des planètes : atmosphère, intérieurs  
compréhension de leur formation et de l'histoire du Système Solaire

Recherche de vie : Mars → Europa, etc.

Comètes (et astéroïdes) → matière primitive interstellaire

+ Riche information de l'analyse chimique de météorites primitives  
→ Acides aminés



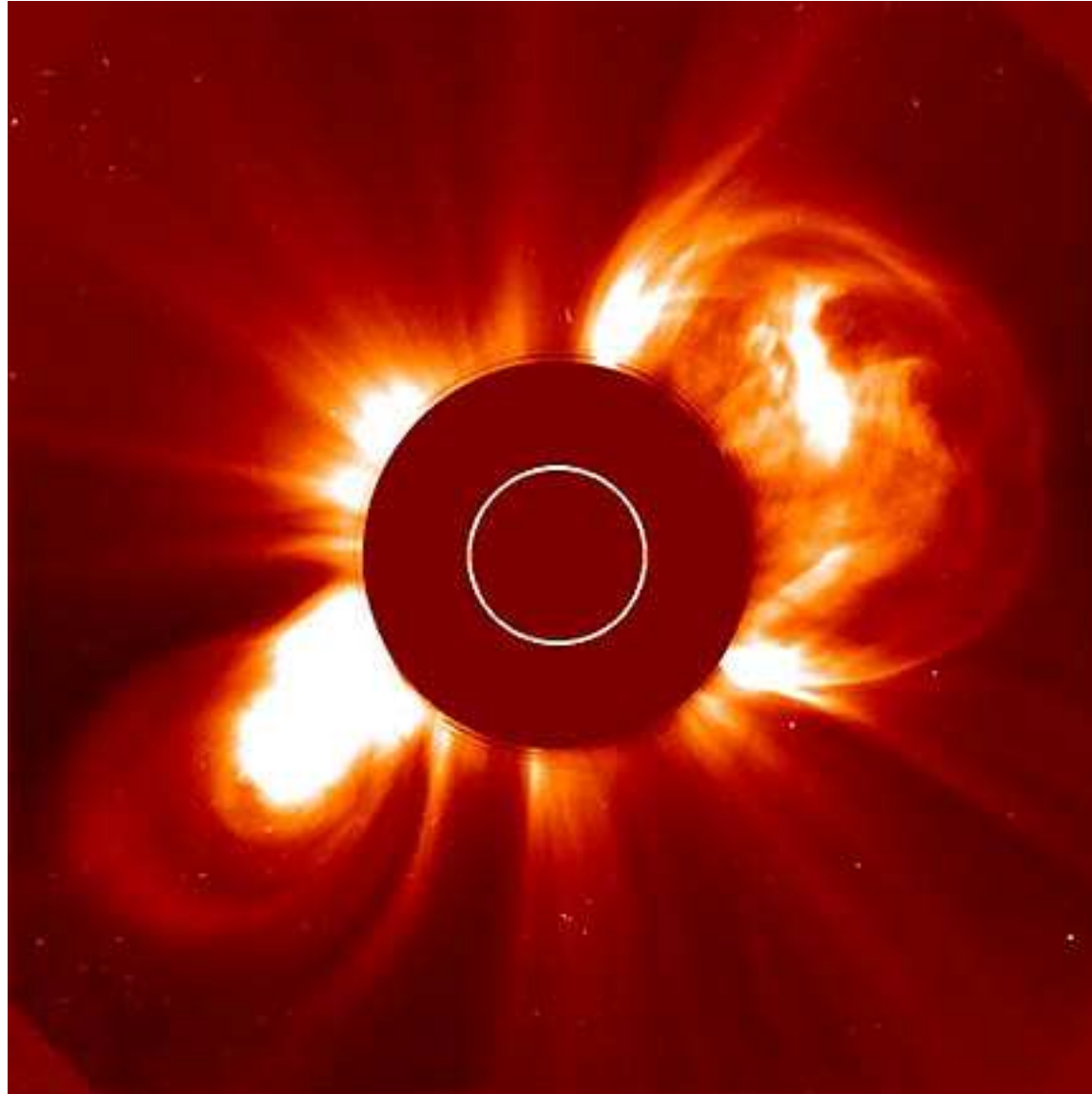
# Comète Hayakutate



## Survol du noyau d'une comète



# Gigantesque éruption-tempête solaire (satellite SOHO)



# Exo-Planètes

**La généralité des systèmes planétaires autour des étoiles était suspectée depuis longtemps**

**Détection difficile : Terre qq millionèmes de la masse du Soleil ; Jupiter qq millièmes**

**En fait détection tardive, mais plus facile que prévu : surprise de trouver des planètes massives tout près de certaines étoiles → petit mouvement de l'étoile autour du centre de gravité étoile+planète**

**Plus de cent exo-planètes connues**

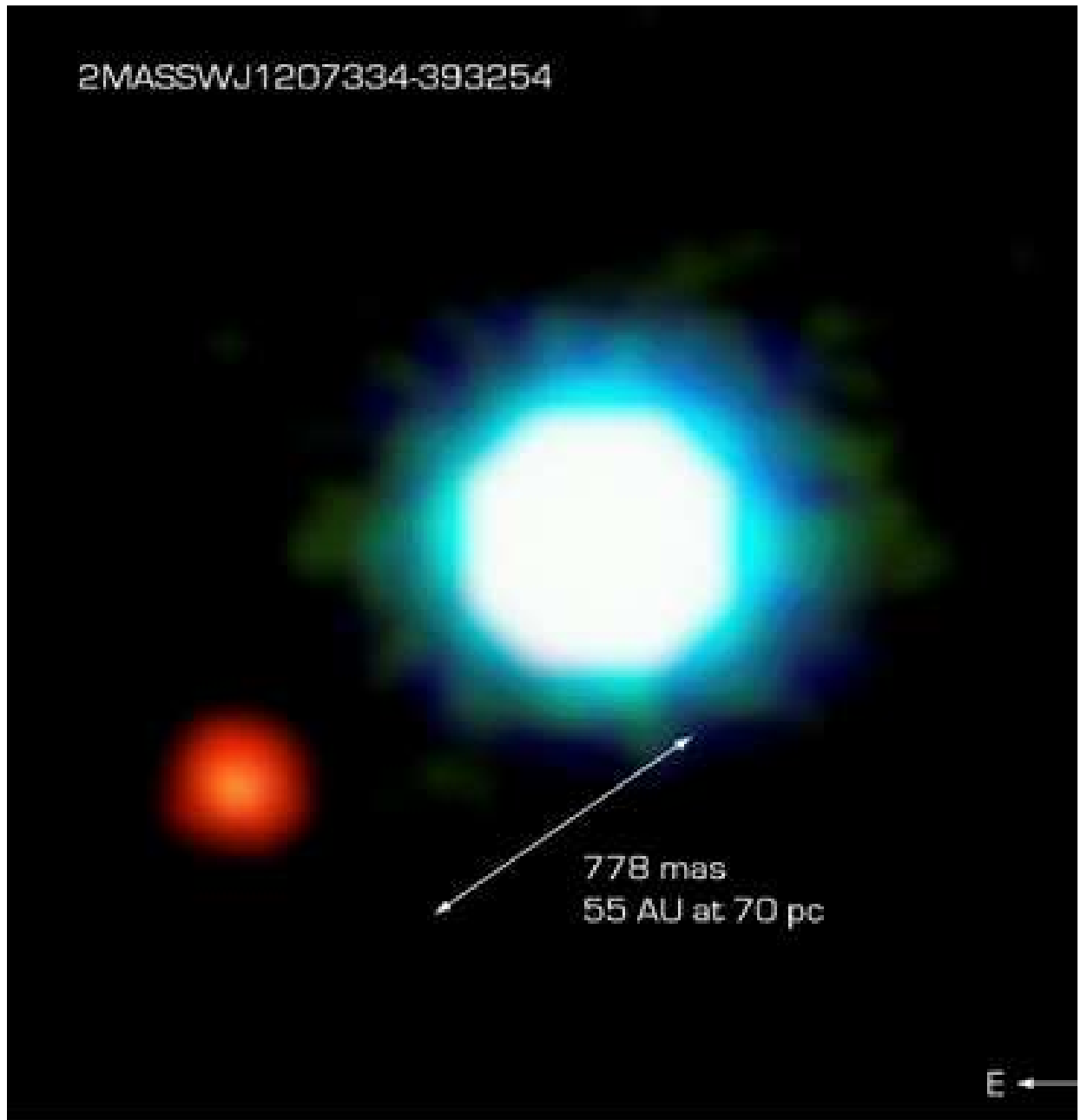
**Intense activité → projets très pointus au sol et dans l'espace pour détecter des planètes de masse terrestre et caractériser leur atmosphère : Oxygène = vie**

**→ Un des grands objectifs qui dominera tout le XXIe Siècle**

**Première image directe  
d'une exo-planète**

**(à côté de son étoile  
naine brune)**

**(ESO-VLT avril 2005)**



The Brown Dwarf 2M1207 and its Planetary Companion  
(VLT/NACO)



# Exobiology

Central question in our exploration of the Universe

Continual speculations for centuries about the existence of extra-terrestrial beings  
→ 2 levels :

## 1. Origin of life

Question to biologists first

→ astronomers : nothing or little (existence of the Moon?) special in astronomical conditions of the Earth and Solar System when life appeared

→ thousands of billions of similar systems in the Universe

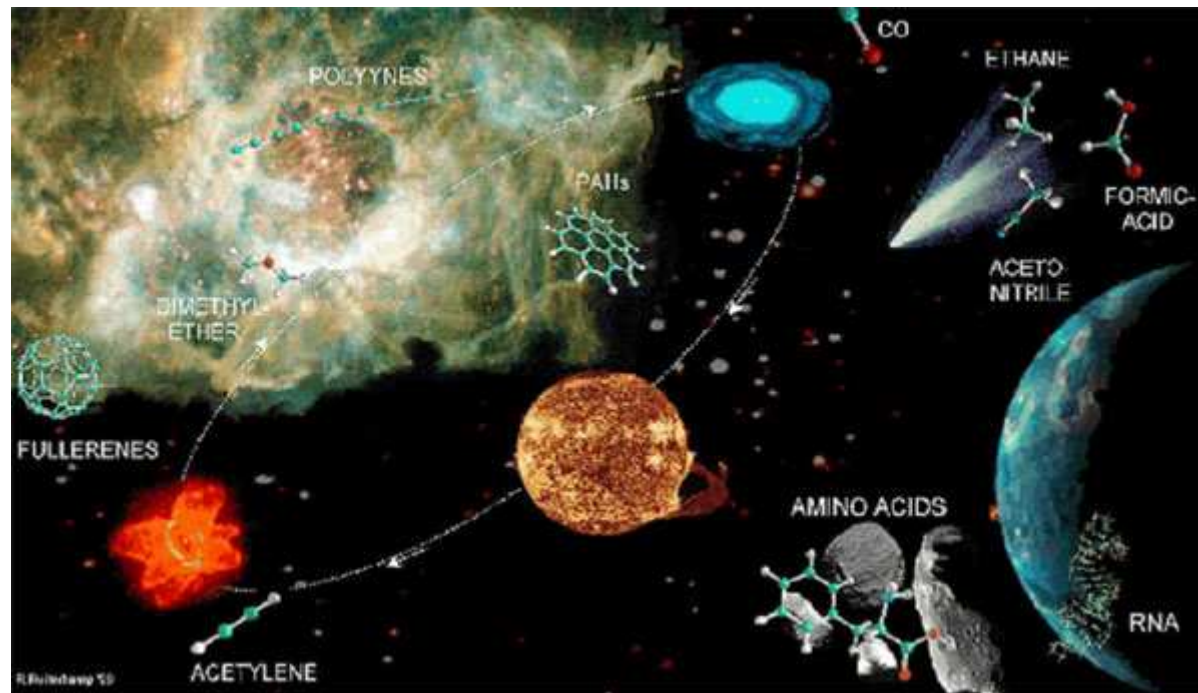
Is the appearance of life usual or unique?

A first answer should come from the Solar System: Mars, etc. If life is found there, is it related to terrestrial life ?

## 2. Appearance/becoming//survival of advanced civilisations ???

A relatively fast colonisation of a galaxy seems possible. No sign

→ Possibility of an infinity of parallel Universes allowing the existence, in one of them, of very exceptional conditions favorable to life: anthropic principle ?????



# Open tracks and questions for the XXIth Century

## - 1. Under way → results within 20 years or so :

- Better cosmic parameters
- Detection of the first generations of galaxies et stars in the Universe
- Detection of gravitational waves ; merging of massive black holes, etc.
- Detailed surveying of the Milky Way (GAIA)
- First Earth-like exo-planets
- Comet sample return → prebiotic matter
- Mars sample return → Life or not on Mars

# Open tracks and questions for the XXIth Century

## - 2. In the century :

- Man on Mars
- Life or not in Solar System.
- Analysis of earth-like exo-planets → Life or not
- Analysis of pre-biotic matter: comets, etc.
- **Very detailed knowledge of the Milky Way and its history**
- **Advanced radio search of technological civilisations in the Milky Way**
- **But one may bet that most of other major findings will answer the most difficult Following questions, or other questions not yet expressed**

# Open tracks and questions for the XXIth Century

## - 3. Questions difficiles

*(connected to particle physics, whose answers may be as well soon as very late)*

- **Nature of dark matter**
- **Origin of reacceleration (dark energy)**
- **Physics of inflation and before**
- **Possibility/need of additional dimensions for the Universe (branes, etc.) and non trivial topology?**

### Plus :

- **Extra-terrestrial Life/Intelligence (origin of life)**
- **(Anthropic principle)**

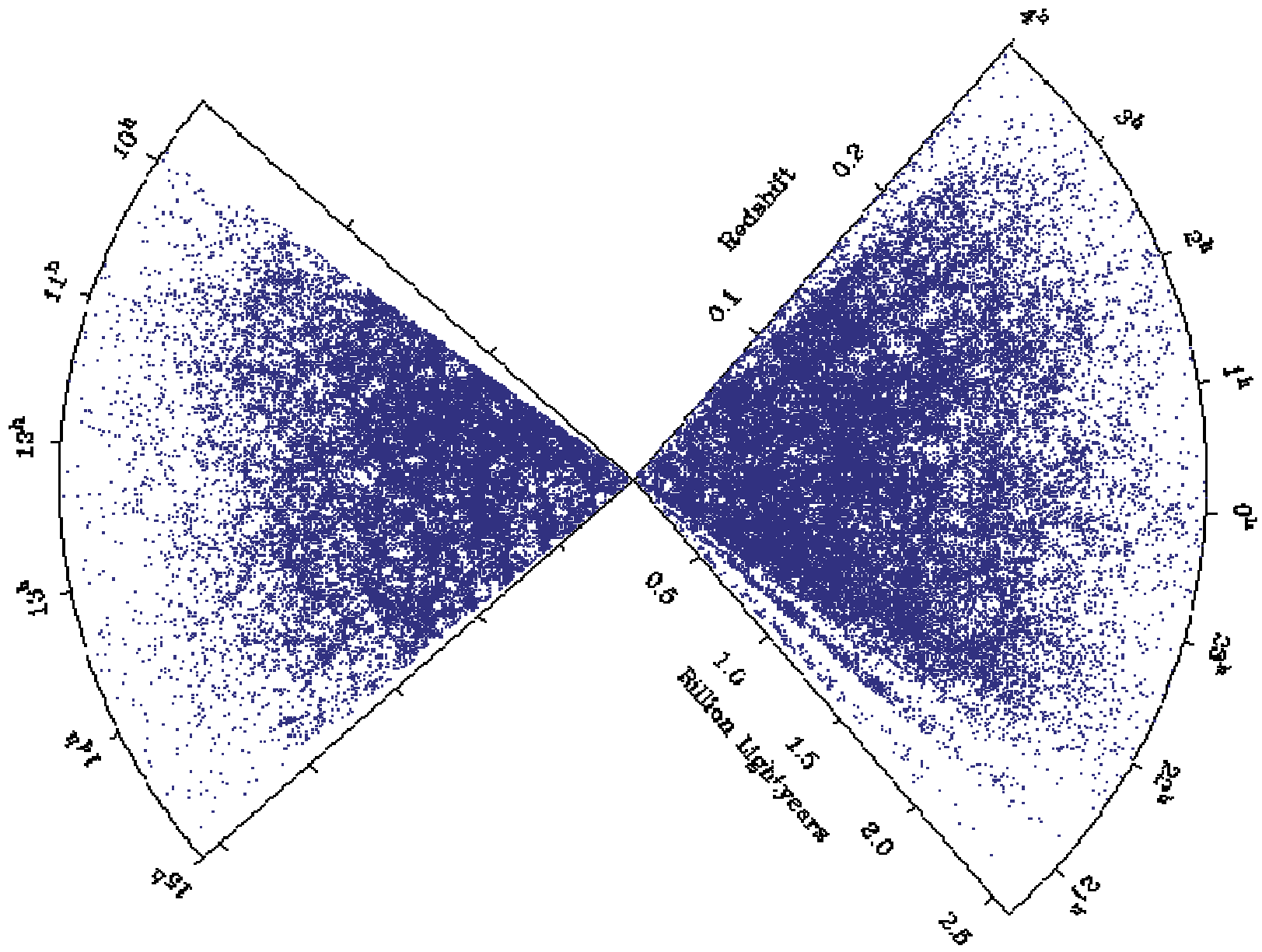




Gravitational Lens in Galaxy Cluster Abell 1689



HUBBLESITE.org



# What is the Reionization Era?

A Schematic Outline of the Cosmic History

**z**  $D_{\text{phot}}$   
(Gpc)

1000

20 230

12 130

**z=6** 60

**z=2** 16

0.5 3

0

Time since the  
Big Bang (years)

~ 300 thousand

~ 300 million

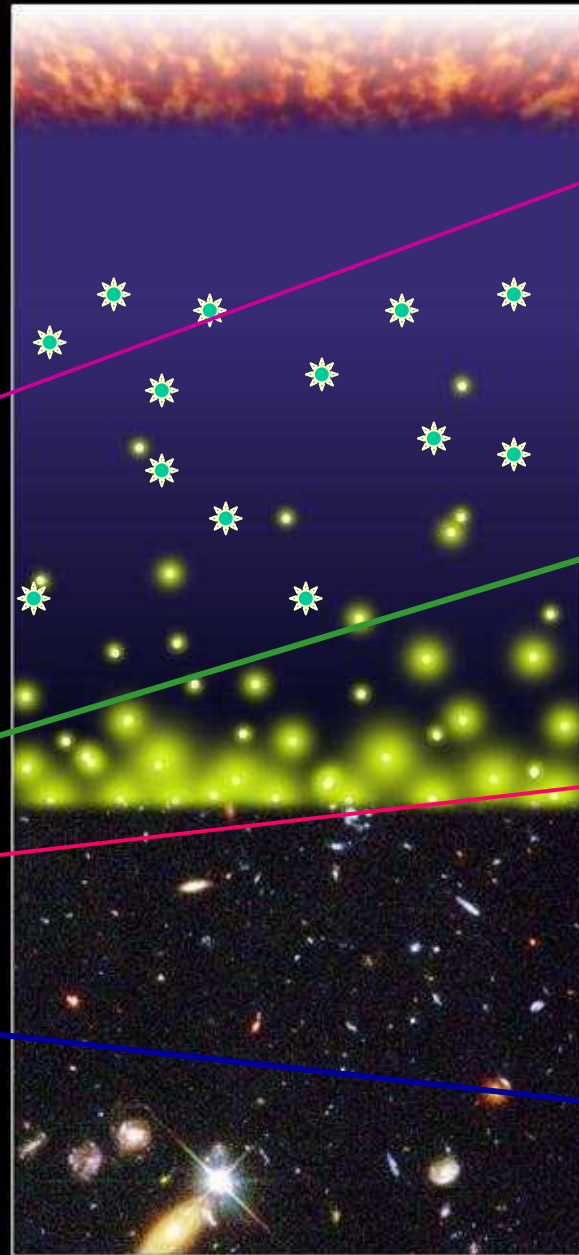
~ 500 million

~ 1 billion

~ 3.5 billion

~ 9 billion

~ 13 billion



← The Big Bang

The Universe filled  
with ionized gas

← The Universe becomes  
neutral and opaque

The Dark Ages start

Galaxies and Quasars  
begin to form  
The Reionization starts

The Cosmic Renaissance  
The Dark Ages end

← Reionization complete,  
the Universe becomes  
transparent again

Galaxies evolve

The Solar System forms

Today: Astronomers  
figure it all out!

S.G. Djorgovski et al. & Digital Media Center, Caltech

**z ~ 7 – 20 ?**

- Reionization

Pop III stars + 1st galaxies

- Formation of 1st galaxies

Pop. II stars

- First AGN

**z ~ 4 – 7 :**

Current frontier

- Galaxies and QSOs  
detection

- End of reionization

**z ~ 1.5 -4:**

- Peak of star formation

submm sources + LBGs

- Peak of QSO activity

Proto-cluster formation

**z ~ 0.5-1.5 :**

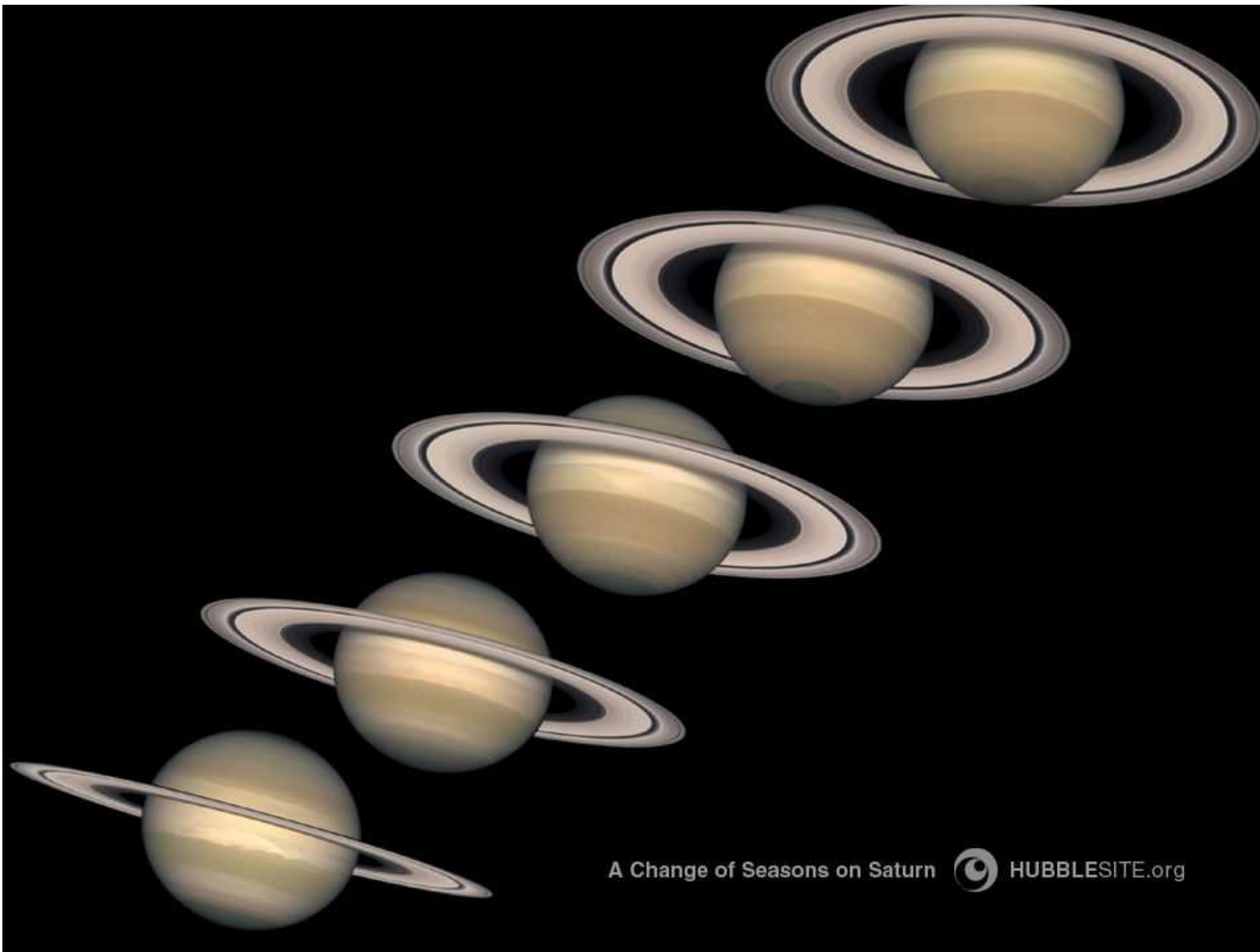
Final phase of active star  
formation

- ISOCAM sources

- Weak X-ray AGN

- Cluster formation





A Change of Seasons on Saturn



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