

The ICM in cosmological simulations:

(I) cool gas, (II) closure, and (III) the future

1 Mpc

TNG high-mass cluster
(x-ray emission)

Part I – cool gas

$\log M_{\text{halo}} = 15.2$

34 35.5 37 38.5 40

Gas Bolometric L_x [$\log \text{erg s}^{-1} \text{kpc}^{-2}$]

70 kpc

$z = 0.50$

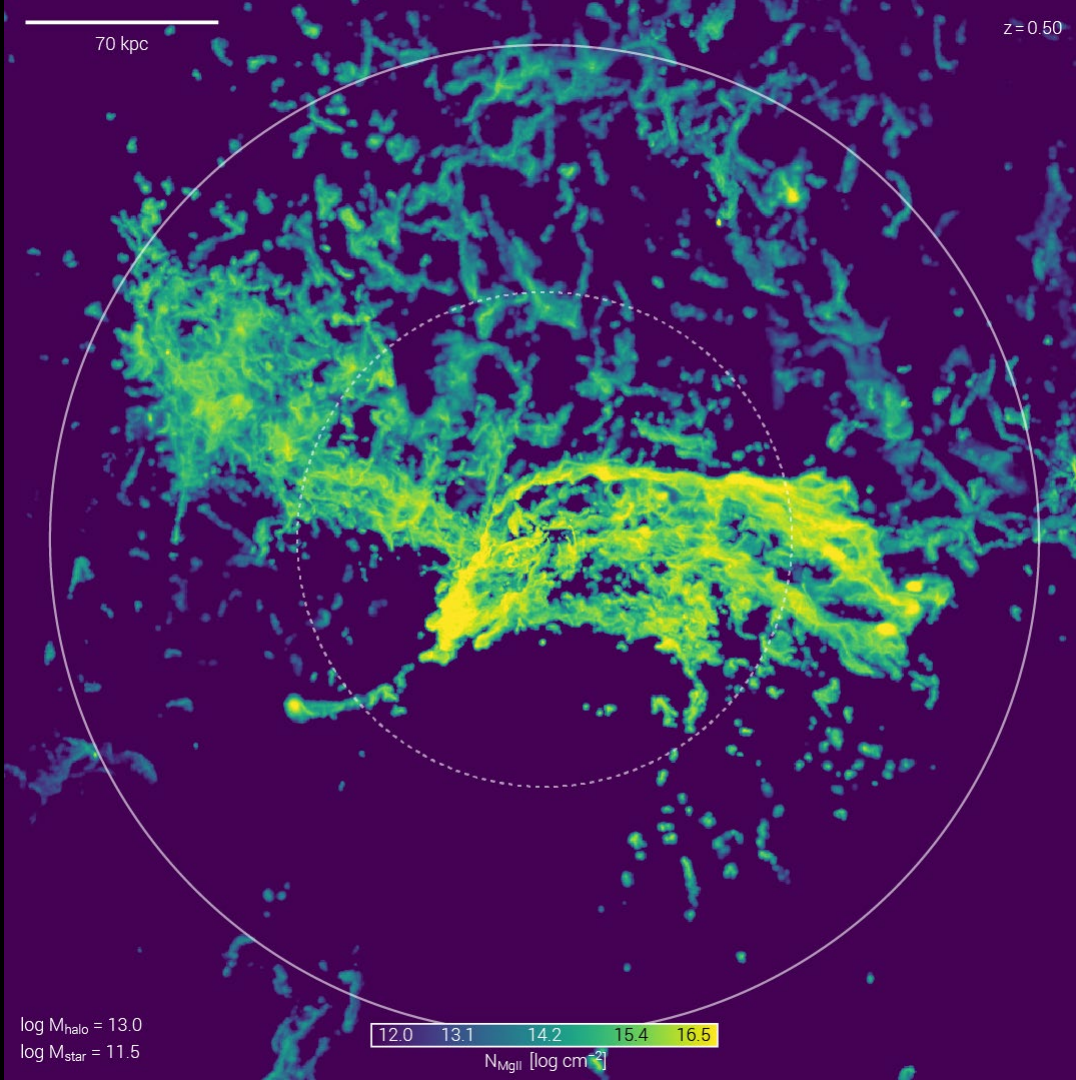
dotted = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

solid = $r_{\text{vir}} / 2$

TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)

$\log M_{\text{halo}} = 13.0$
 $\log M_{\text{star}} = 11.5$

12.0 13.1 14.2 15.4 16.5
 $N_{\text{MgII}} [\log \text{cm}^{-2}]$

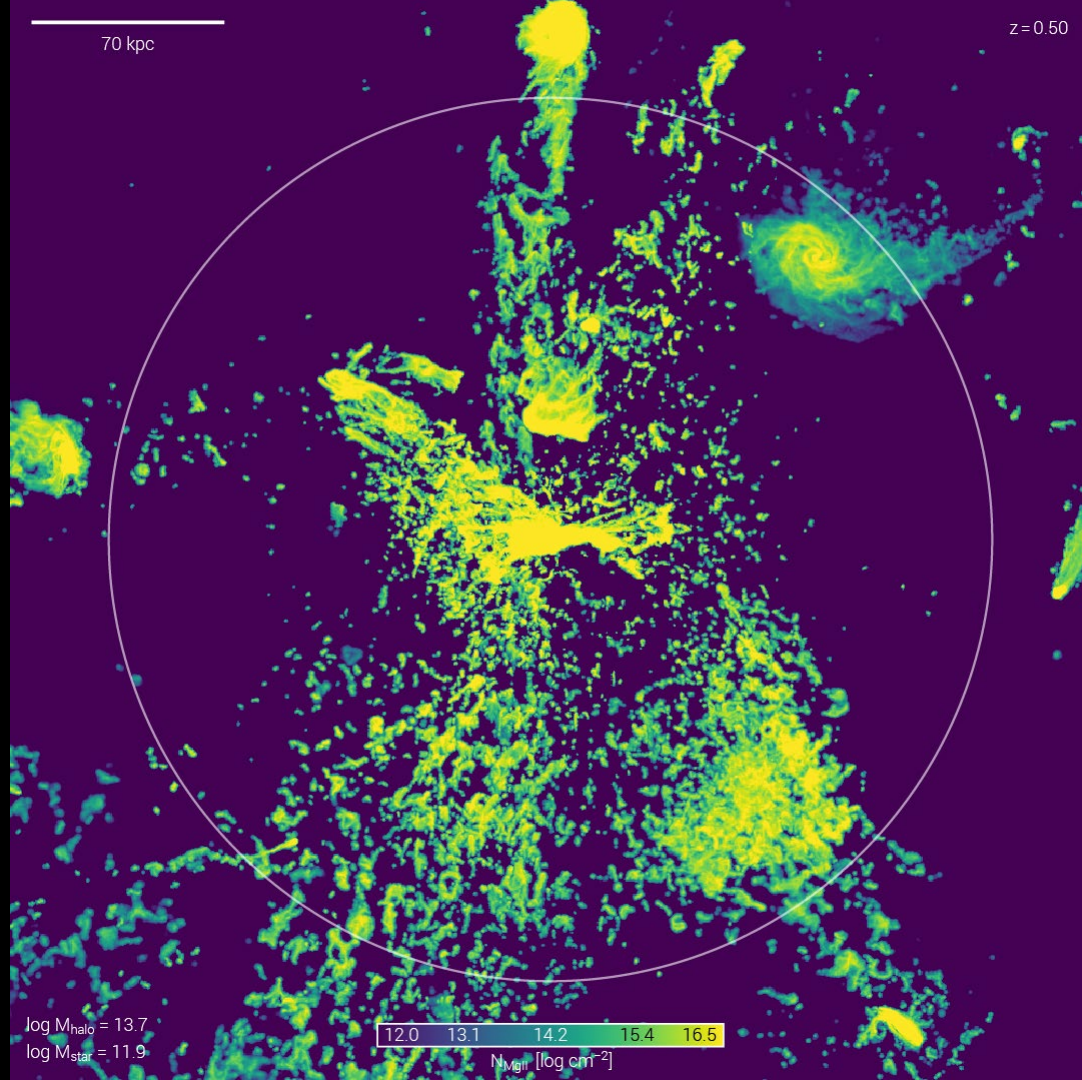


70 kpc

$z = 0.50$

solid = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)



70 kpc

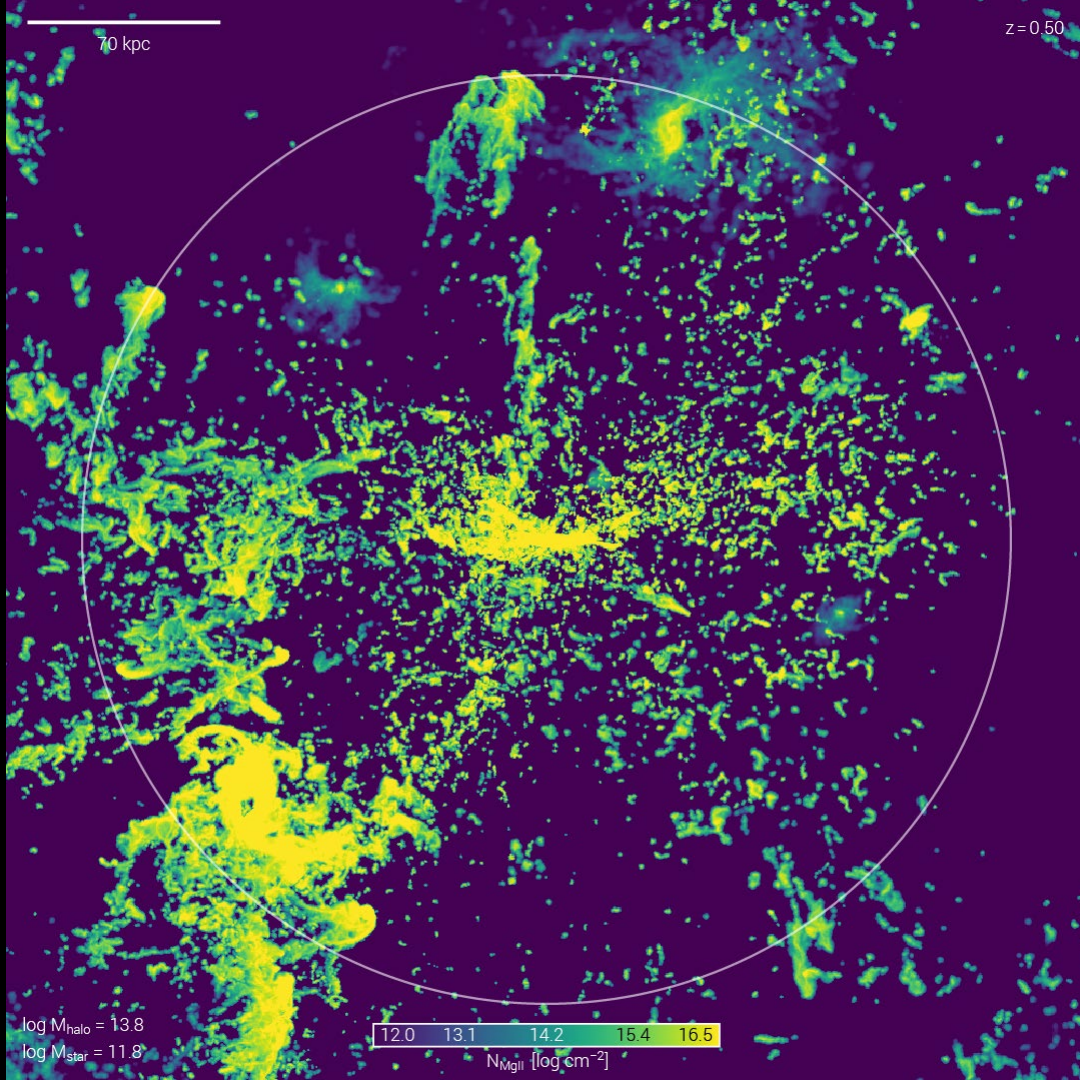
$z = 0.50$

solid = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)

$\log M_{\text{halo}} = 13.8$
 $\log M_{\text{star}} = 11.8$

12.0 13.1 14.2 15.4 16.5
 $N_{\text{MgII}} [\log \text{cm}^{-2}]$

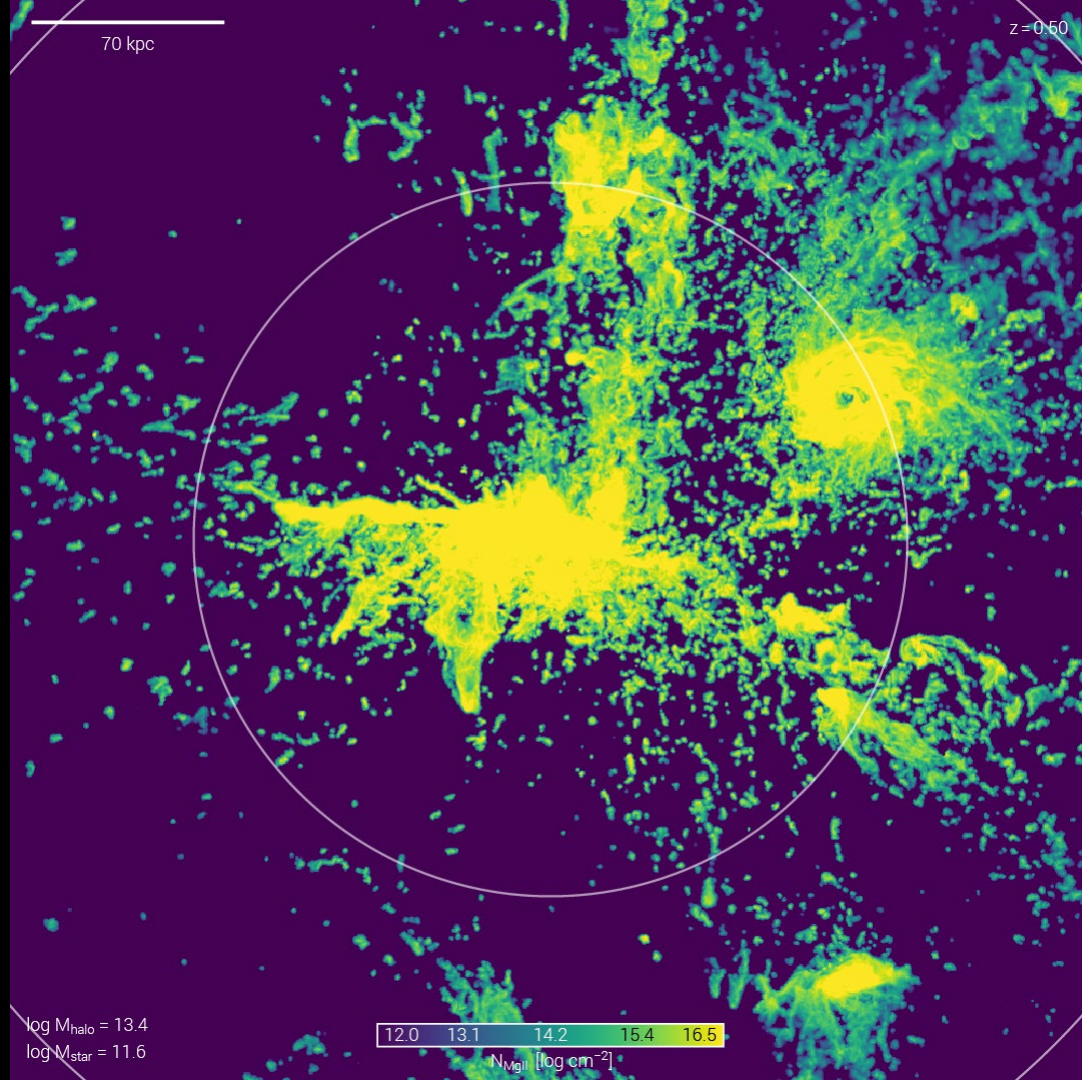


70 kpc

$z = 0.50$

solid = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)



70 kpc

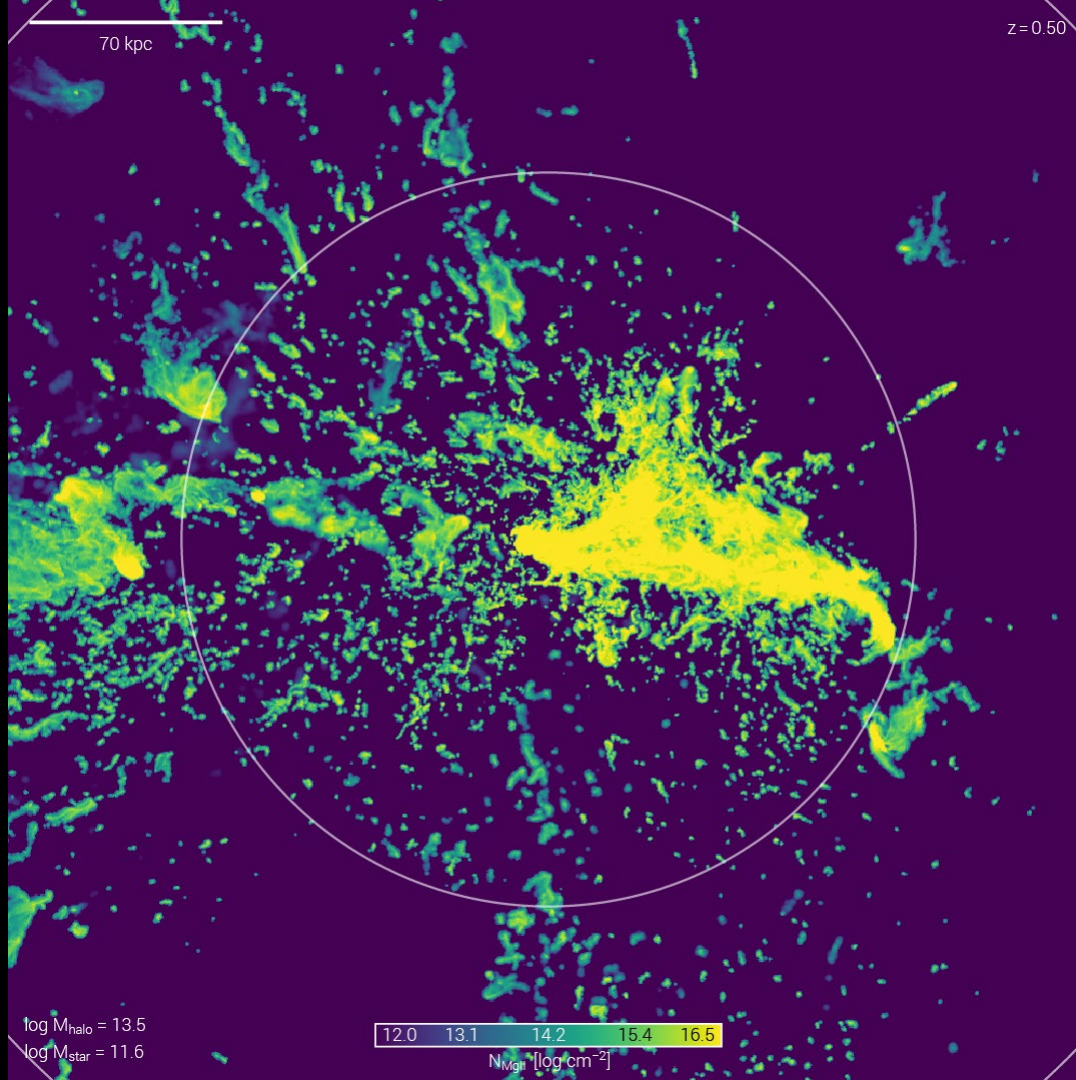
$z = 0.50$

solid = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)

$\log M_{\text{halo}} = 13.5$
 $\log M_{\text{star}} = 11.6$

12.0 13.1 14.2 15.4 16.5
 $N_{\text{MgII}} [\log \text{cm}^{-2}]$



70 kpc

$z = 0.50$

outer = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

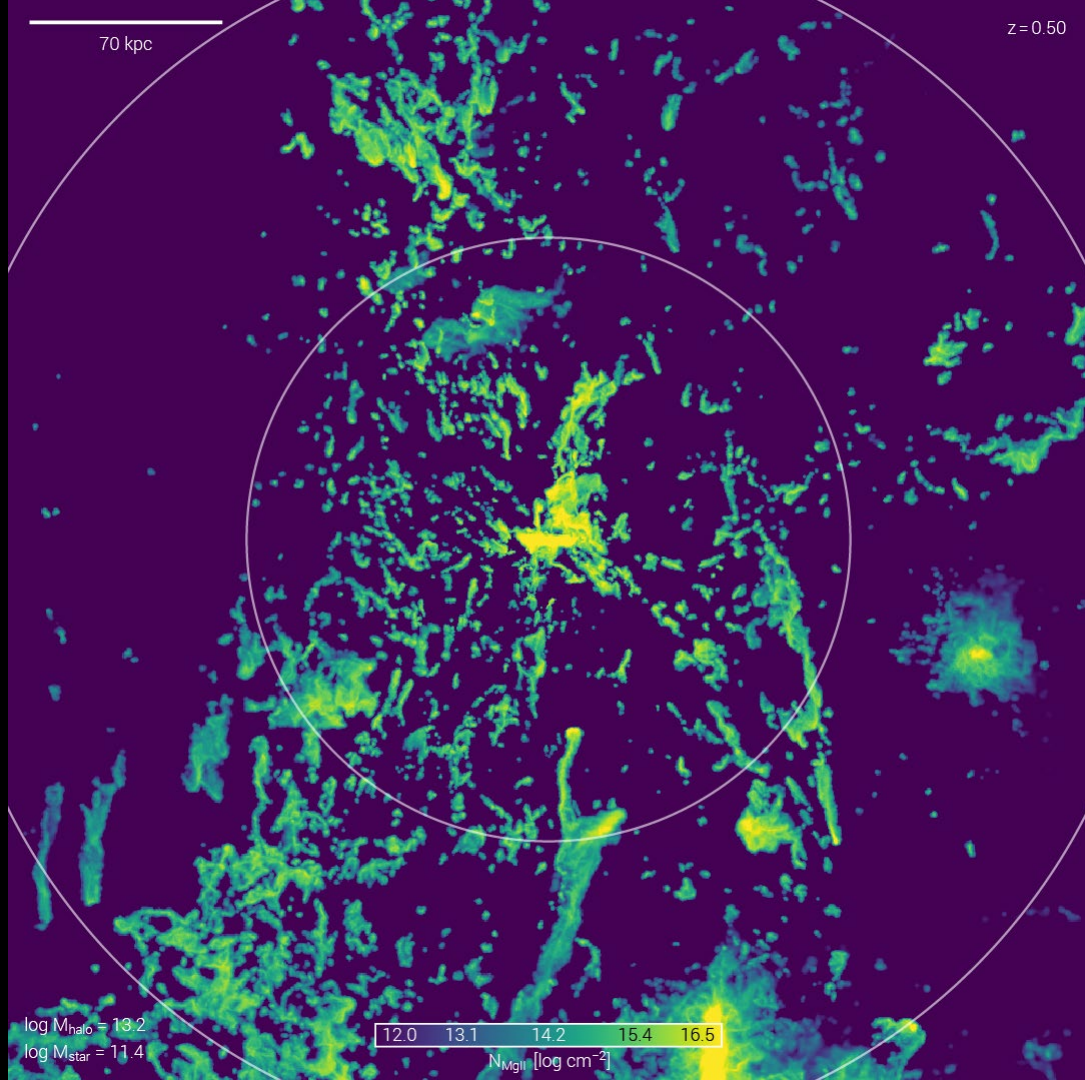
inner = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)

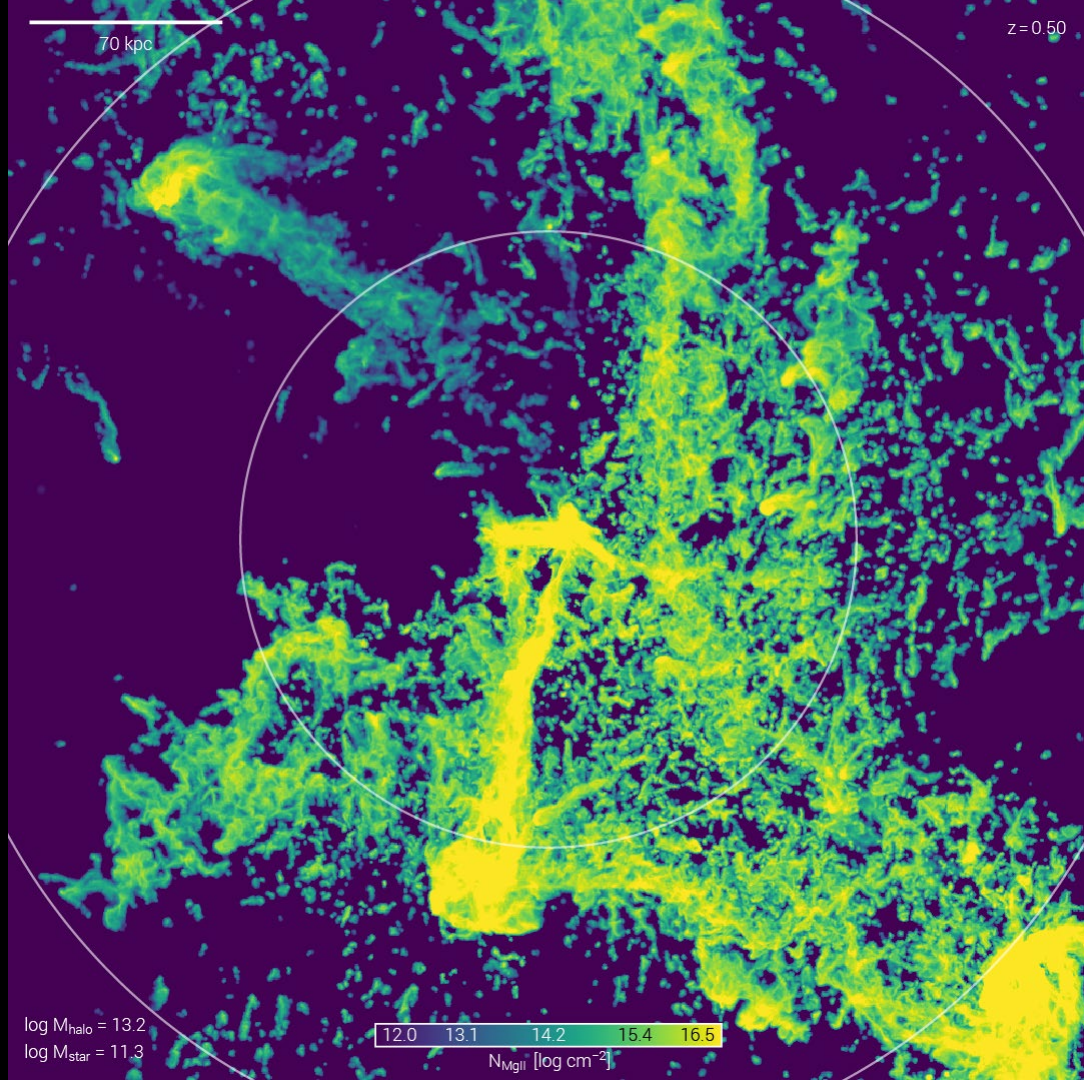
$\log M_{\text{halo}} = 13.2$
 $\log M_{\text{star}} = 11.4$

12.0 13.1 14.2 15.4 16.5

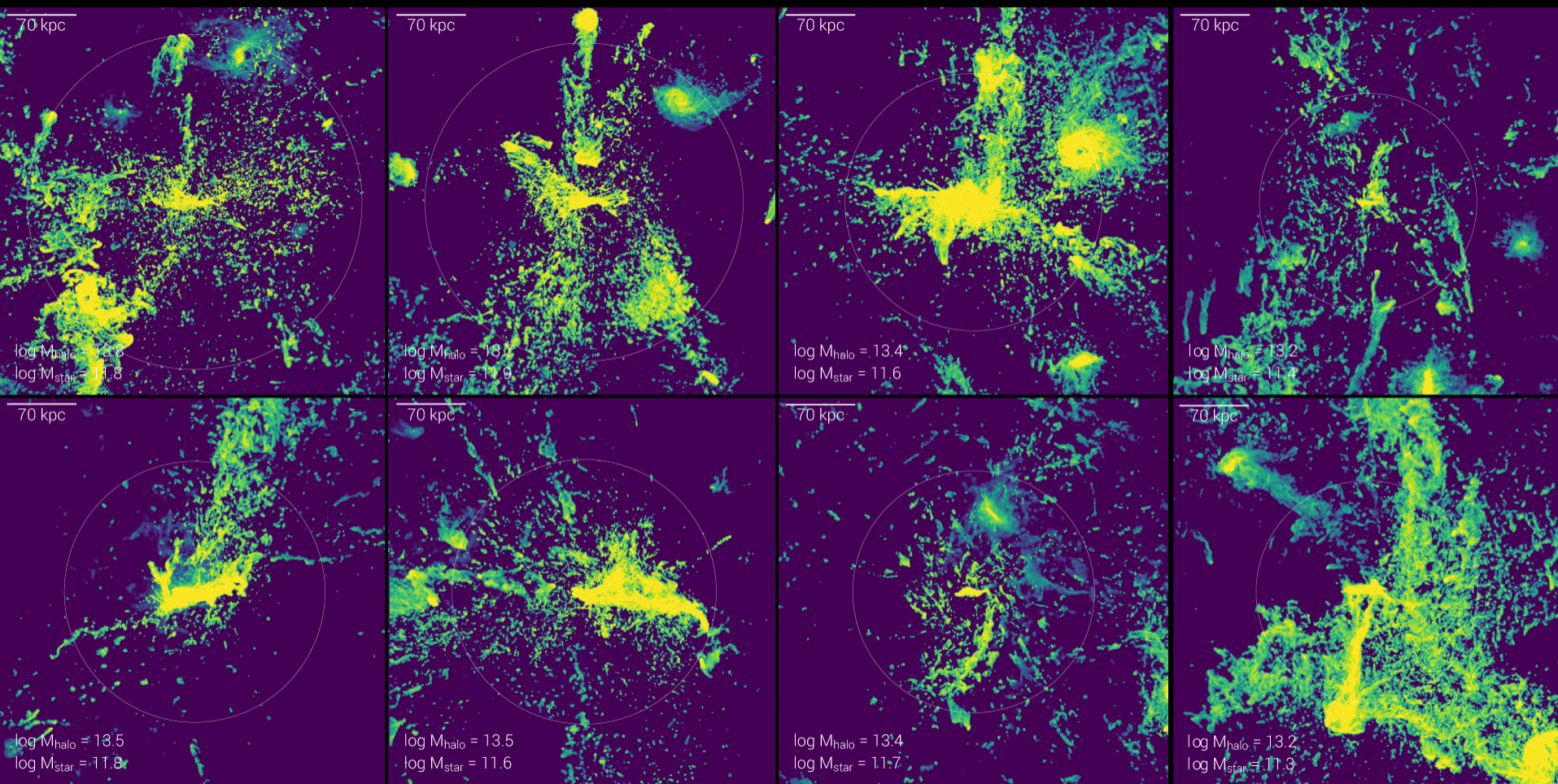
$N_{\text{MgII}} [\log \text{cm}^{-2}]$



TNG50
high-mass halo
(cold gas)



outer = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$
inner = $r_{\text{vir}} / 4$



TNG50 high-mass halos (cold gas)

10 kpc

to halo center

MgII bearing cold-phase structures are ~kpc to ~few kpc in scale.

1 kpc

2 kpc

$r_{\text{vir}} / 4$

12.0

13.1

14.2

15.4

16.5

$N_{\text{MgII}} [\log \text{cm}^{-2}]$

10 kpc

to halo center

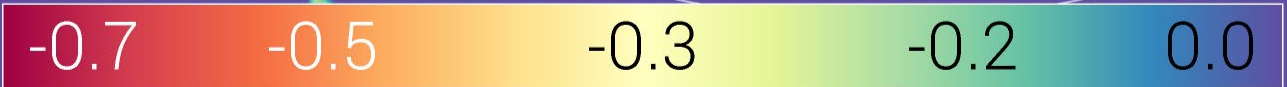
MgII bearing cold-phase structures are ~kpc to ~few kpc in scale.

Their cores are [marginally] resolved in TNG50 with a gas cell resolution of ~200 pc.

1 kpc

2 kpc

$r_{\text{vir}} / 4$



Gas Cell Size [log kpc]



10 kpc

to halo center

MgII bearing cold-phase structures are \sim kpc to \sim few kpc in scale.

Their cores are [marginally] resolved in TNG50 with a gas cell resolution of \sim 200 pc.

They are not in [thermal] pressure equilibrium.

1 kpc

2 kpc

2.8

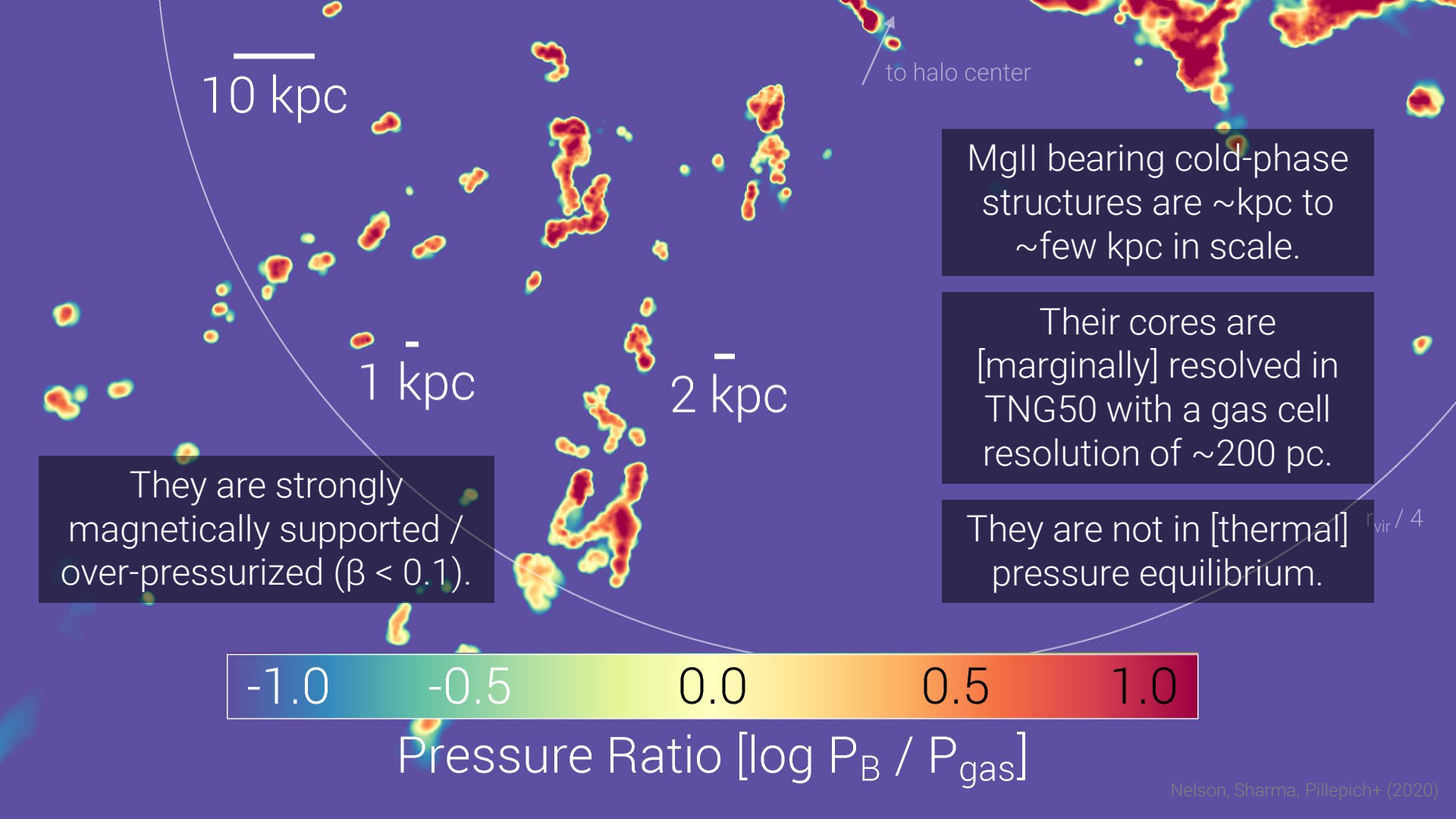
3.2

3.6

4.1

4.5

Gas Pressure [$\log K \text{ cm}^{-3}$]



10 kpc

to halo center

MgII bearing cold-phase structures are ~kpc to ~few kpc in scale.

Their cores are [marginally] resolved in TNG50 with a gas cell resolution of ~200 pc.

They are not in [thermal] pressure equilibrium.

They are strongly magnetically supported / over-pressurized ($\beta < 0.1$).

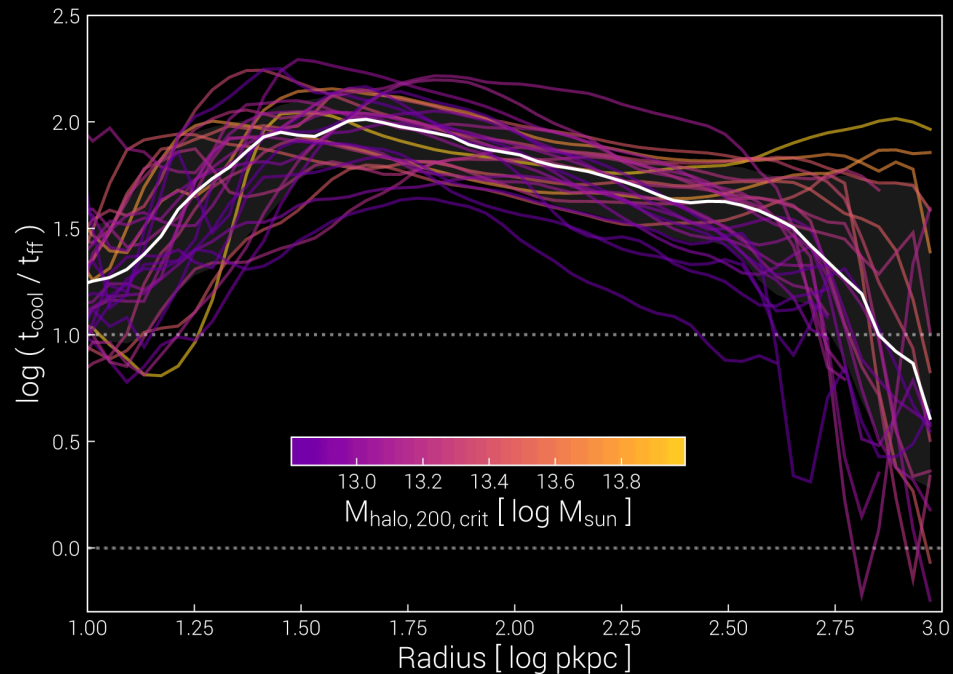
1 kpc

2 kpc



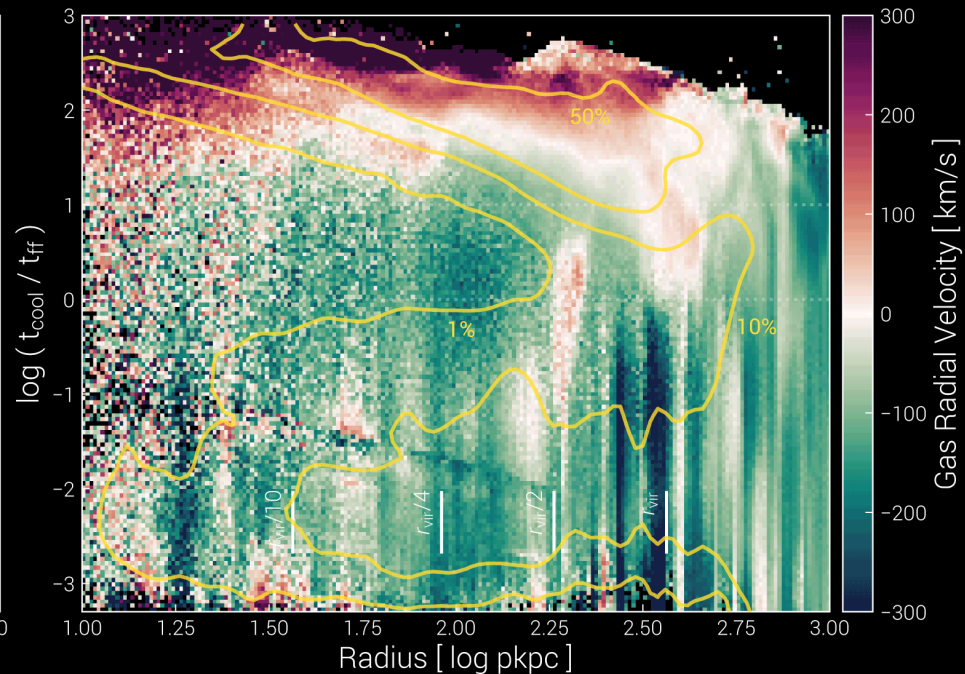
Pressure Ratio [$\log P_B / P_{\text{gas}}$]

Is the (background) hot halo gas susceptible to thermal instability?
 Does it satisfy $t_{\text{cool}}/t_{\text{ff}} < 1$ or < 10 ?



Globally:

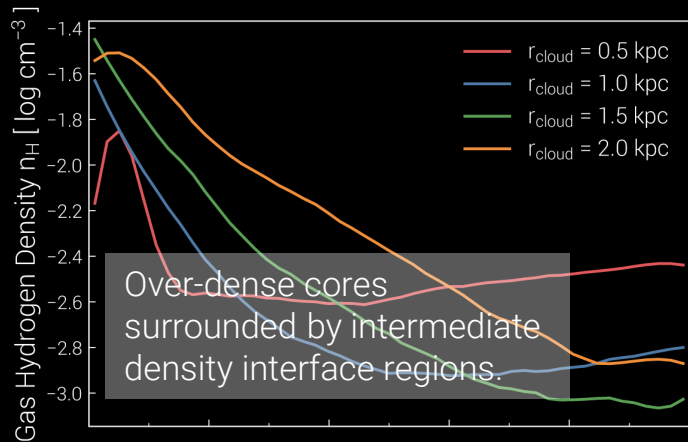
$t_{\text{cool}}/t_{\text{ff}} < 10$ only in the very center (and outskirts) of the halo, not where most of the cold clouds are seen.



Locally:

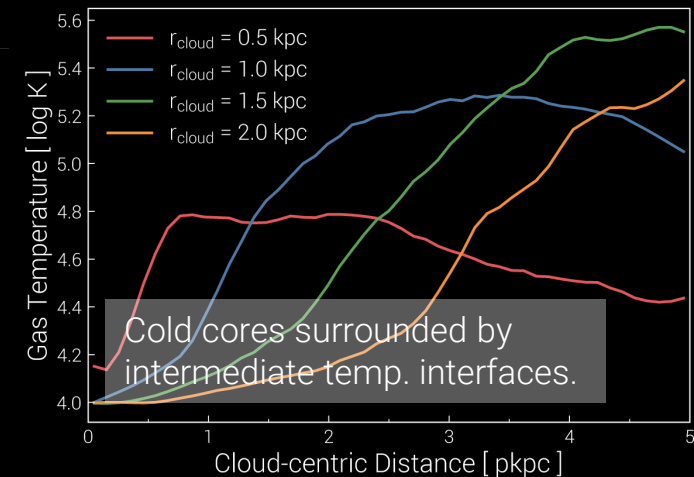
$t_{\text{cool}}/t_{\text{ff}} \ll 1$ gas exists throughout the halo, and is preferentially inflowing towards the center. (localized in the interfaces around existing cold clouds).

How do clouds survive, and grow?

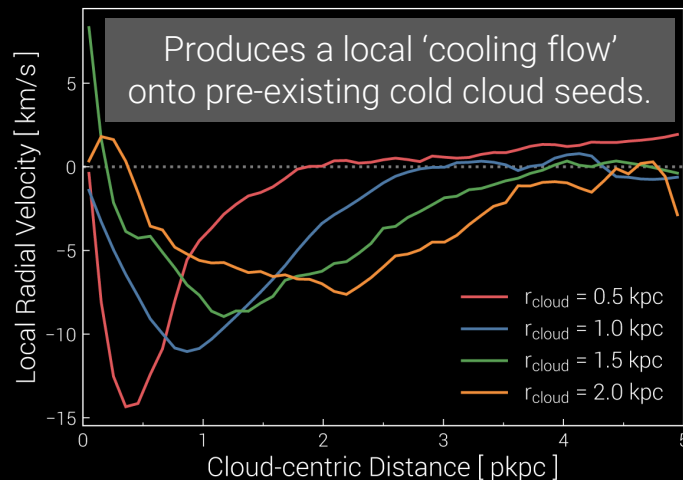
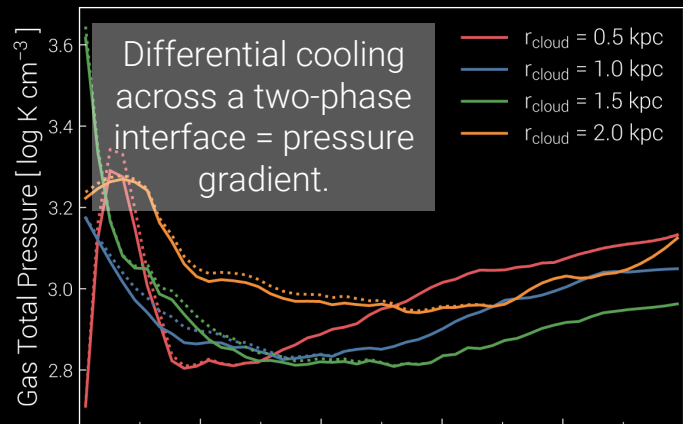


Radiative cooling sensitive to (n, T) , and is effective.

Although halo is globally " $t_{\text{cool}}/t_{\text{ff}} > 10$ stable", gas is *locally* susceptible to TI near existing cold seeds.

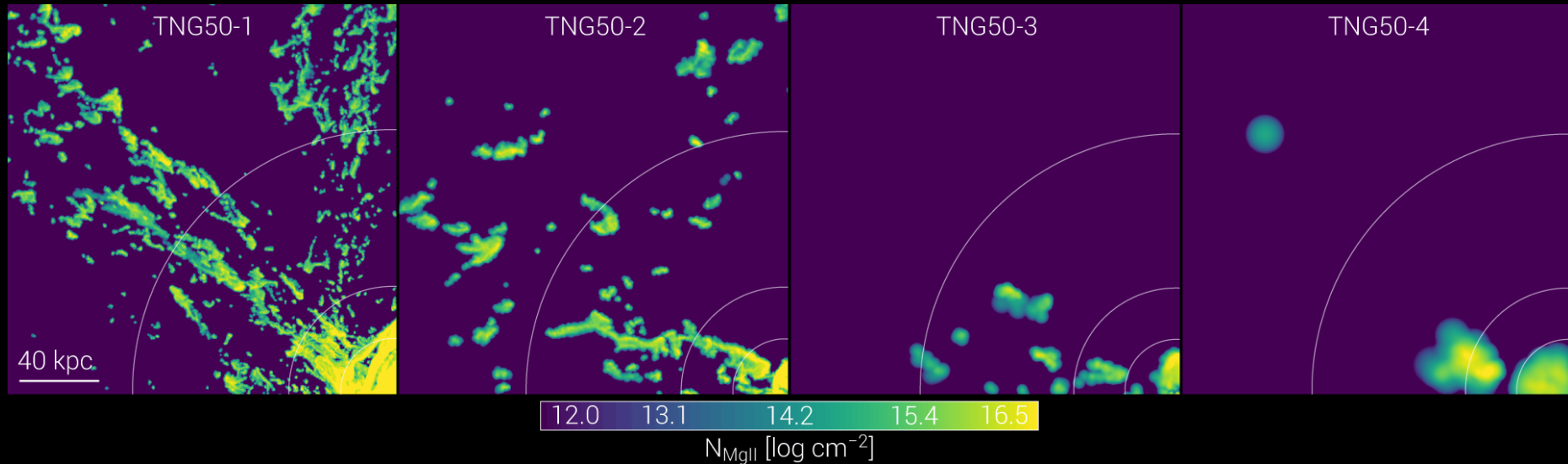
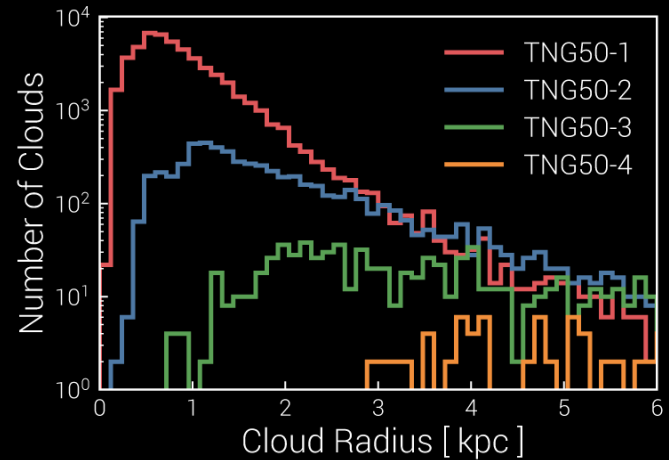


Initial seeds: stripping and perturbations arising from substructure i.e. satellite galaxies!



Such small-scale structure is due (predominantly) to the **high-resolution** of TNG50!

- Total cold gas mass in halos converged.
- Structure & cloud distribution is not.
- Fragmentation and breakup: always more, smaller clouds at higher resolution.



1 Mpc

TNG high-mass cluster
(x-ray emission)

AGN-driven
Outflows
Shape the
Gaseous
Halos of
Clusters

Part II – closure

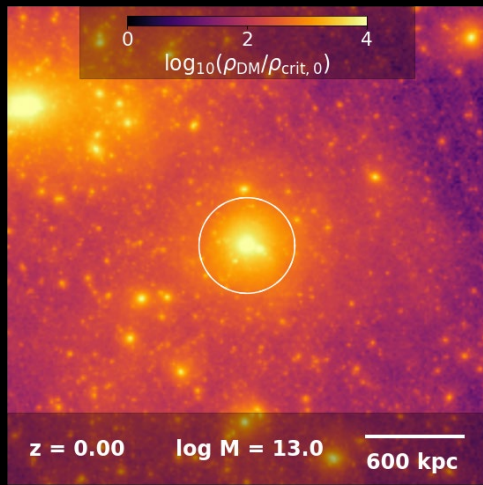
$\log M_{\text{halo}} = 15.2$

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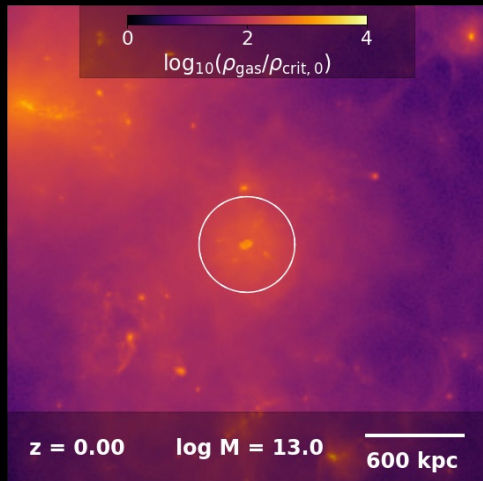
Gas Bolometric L_x [$\log \text{erg s}^{-1} \text{kpc}^{-2}$]



DM



gas



Take home points:

1. High resolution hydro simulations (like TNG50) resolve a cold phase of halo gas: thousands of small, dynamic, clouds.

2. Significant redistribution of baryons far beyond R_{vir} .
Different physics at different halo mass scales.

AGN feedback sets the “closure radius” of clusters at
 $\sim 1-2 R_{\text{vir}}$ in TNG, $\sim 1 R_{\text{vir}}$ in EAGLE, $\sim 1-5 R_{\text{vir}}$ in SIMBA.

3. The future: stay tuned for TNG-Cluster!

Nelson,
Sharma,
Pillepich
(2020)

Ayromlou,
Nelson,
Pillepich
(2022)

Pillepich &
Nelson