How Population III Stars Begin Cosmological Reionization

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Population III Stars

- Various computational techniques have calculated and verified that the first stars are massive (30 300 M☉) and isolated.
 Abel et al. (2002), Bromm et al. (2002), Yoshida et al. (2006)
- $L \sim 10^6 L_{\odot}$, ~10⁵⁰ ionizing photons / sec
- Lifetime ~ 3 Myr

Schaerer (2002)

- H₂ is the main coolant, which is easily dissociated by distant sources of radiation.
- Provide the first ionizing radiation and metals to the universe.





Motivation

- To calculate key quantities that can be used in semianalytical or large box calculations.
 - Star formation rates, photon escape fractions, clumping factors, photo-evaporation, etc.
- To obtain the characteristics of low mass galaxies: baryon fractions, spin parameters that may affect star formation and photon escape fractions.
- Maybe deconvolve Pop III stellar properties from future observations of low mass z>6 galaxies?

Enzo



Versatile AMR Code

Bryan & Norman (1997, 1999); O'Shea (2005)

Physics: Gravity Hydrodynamics Non-equilibrium chemistry Radiation transport MHD

Refinement: Baryon overdensity Dark matter overdensity Jeans length by 16 cells

Truelove et al. (1997)

Stable to 41 levels (10¹⁴ dynamical range)

Wise, Turk, & Abel (2008)

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Simulation Setup



- Two random phases:
 - Simulation "A" and "B"
- Atomic H, He, and H₂ cooling
- Population III stellar formation and feedback
- Radiation transport
- Supernova feedback and metal tracer field
- Max AMR level = 12 (0.1 pc at z=20)

	Simulation A	Simulation B
<mark>Initia</mark> l Redshift	130	120
Comoving Box Size	I.0 Mpc	I.5 Mpc
DM Mass Resolution	30 M ⊙	100 M⊙
Maximum # of Unique Cells	I.2 x 10 ⁸ (494 ³)	6.5 x 10 ⁷ (420 ³)

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Star Formation and Feedback

Modified Cen & Ostriker (1992) prescription.

Star formation only

- 100 M $_{\odot}$ stars, 1.2 x 10⁵⁰ ionizing photons / sec, 2.7 Myr lifetime Plus pair-instability SNe
- 170 M $_{\odot}$ stars, 2.3 x 10⁵⁰ ionizing photons / sec, 2.3 Myr lifetime

Model radiation with adaptive ray tracing

Adaptive Ray Tracing

- Radiative transfer is computed using an adaptive ray tracing technique.
- We require at least 5 rays per cell. Rays are split when this criterion is not met.
- Direction of the rays and splitting are determined by HEALPix.

Gorski et al. (2005)

- Fully integrated and coupled with the hydrodynamic, chemistry, and energy solvers in Enzo.
- Parallelized with MPI and dynamically load-balanced.



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Abel, Wise, & Bryan (2007)

HII Region of a Primordial Star

Temperature

10⁶ solar mass DM halo; single 100 M_☉ star (no SN)
Drives a 30 km/s shock wave, expelling most of the gas

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Density

Abel, Wise, & Bryan (2007)

HII Region of a Primordial Star



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Density

150 comoving kiloparsecs















physical kpc; z 0











Star Formation Rates



Bursting star formation in larger halos

 Higher SFR than analytical estimates because our simulations sample cosmologically overdense regions (3-σ)

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Ionized Fractions

- Emissivity in units of ionizing photons per baryon per Hubble time
- Ionizes the nearby IGM to 30% - 75%
- Beware: not representative of global ionization fractions – highly biased (i.e. inside out)



Effective Ionizations



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Effective Ionizations



The ratio $n_e / n_{ph} = 3-20\%$ takes into account both the UV photon escape fraction and the clumping factor.



Anisotropic H II Regions



HII regions become more anisotropic in larger halos

Photon escape fractions decrease with halo mass

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Clumpy IGM



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Clumpy IGM



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Shortcomings

- Small box simulation highly biased region
- Neglecting self-shielding of Lyman-Werner radiation
- Fixed stellar mass no IMF
- Neglecting ~30 M_☉ ("Pop III.2") stars that may form in halos embedded in relic HII regions with HD cooling
- No metal cooling to study the transition to Pop II star formation

Future Directions?

- Similar simulations for less biased regions
 - External ionizing source from high sigma peaks. Use "semi-numerical" methods to predict ionization epoch based on a coarse grid?

Mesigner & Furlanetto (2007); Zahn et al. (2007)

- Sub-grid models for ~100 Mpc simulations
- Lyman-Werner radiation self-shielding
- Metal line, HD, and dust cooling

e.g. Glover & Jappsen (2007); Smith et al. (2007)

- Pop II star formation
- Larger boxes (3–5 Mpc) + Similar mass resolution → Larger halos (10⁹ – 10¹⁰ M_☉)

Even Low Mass Galaxies are Complex!

Isolated M_{vir} = 10⁸ M_☉ halo – Radiation Hydro – 100 Myr

Density

830 physical pc

Temperature



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Even Low Mass Galaxies are Complex!

Isolated M_{vir} = 10⁸ M⊙ halo – Radiation Hydro – 100 Myr

Density	Temperature
830 physical pc	1660 physical pc

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Conclusions

- Star formation is delayed for ~50 Myr after the first star.
 Once material is reincorporated into the halo, SFR ~ 10⁻² M_o/ yr/Mpc⁻³
- Clumping factors are highly variable but are, on average, a factor of 2 lower than in the adiabatic case without star formation
- Roughly I in IO ionizing photons result in a sustained ionization
- Jeans filtering mass is an excellent measure of the minimum halo mass that undergoes its 2nd instance of star formation.
- Only the beginning toward building galaxies one star at a time!