

Lecture 10:

Chemical Evolution of Galaxies

Metallicity evolution $Z(t)$ vs galaxy type:

Processes that alter the metallicity:

1. Type-II SNe enrich the ISM.
2. Low-mass stars form from enriched ISM and “lock-up” metals.
3. Primordial gas falls in from IGM.
4. ISM ejected into IGM.
(e.g. SN explosions, galaxy collisions)

Closed-box model: 1 and 2 only.

Metallicity Evolution: $Z(t)$

M_0 = total mass

$M_G(t)$ = mass of gas in ISM

$M_Z(t)$ = mass of metals in ISM

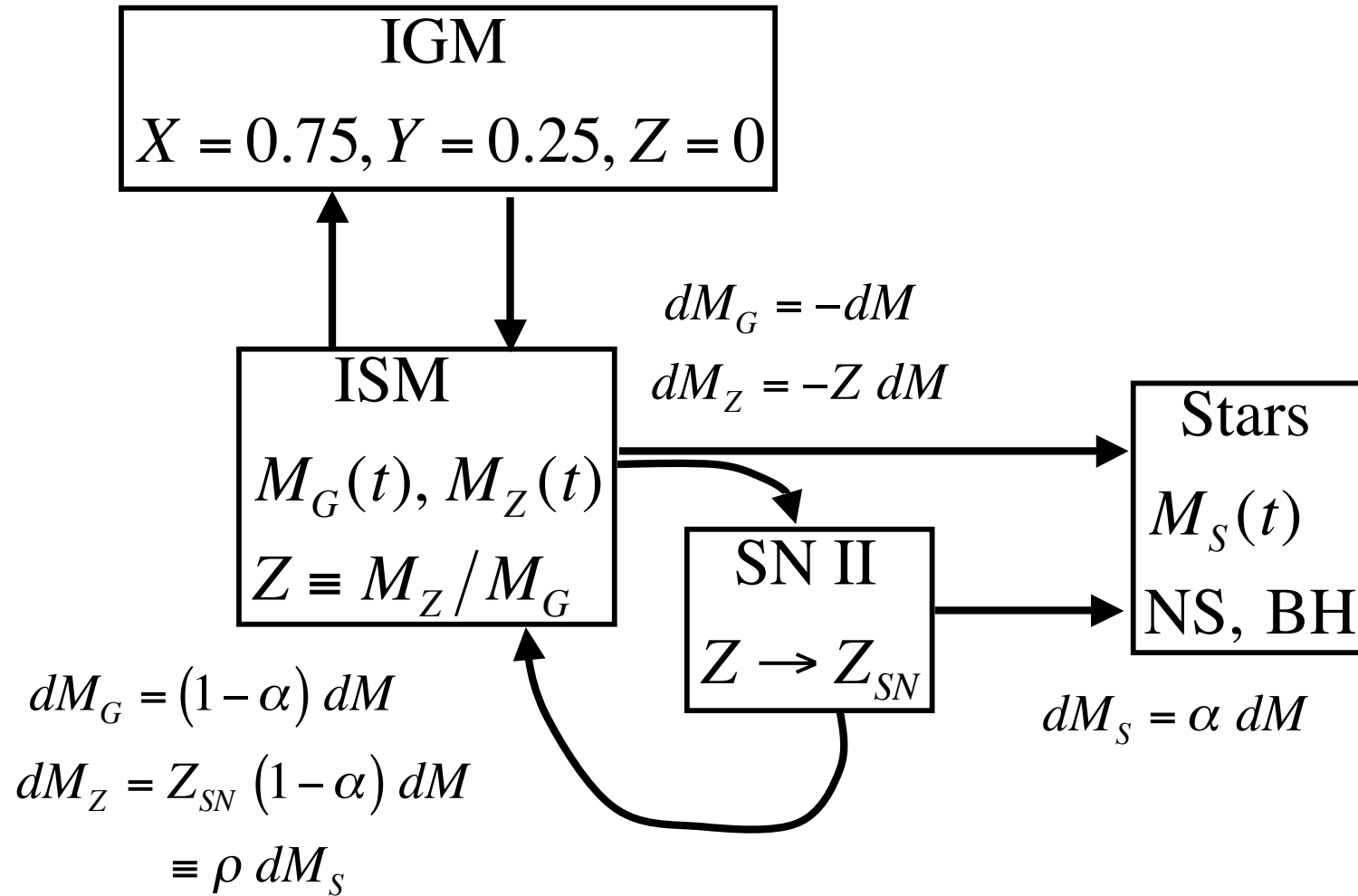
$M_S(t)$ = mass of the long-lived stars
that lock up metals

We know: $\mu(t) \equiv \frac{M_G(t)}{M_0}$ $\mu(0) = 1$

To derive: $Z(t) \equiv \frac{M_Z(t)}{M_G(t)}$ $Z(0) = 0$

Find:
 $Z(\mu(t))$

ISM Recycling



The Yield ρ

Mass is conserved (gas- > stars)

$$dM_G = -\alpha dM \quad dM_S = \alpha dM$$

Metals are lost to stars and enriched by SNe:

$$\begin{aligned} dM_Z &= -Z dM + Z_{SN} (1 - \alpha) dM \\ &= \left[Z_{SN} (1 - \alpha) - Z + \alpha Z - \alpha Z \right] \frac{dM_S}{\alpha} \\ &= \left[\frac{(Z_{SN} - Z) (1 - \alpha)}{\alpha} - Z \right] dM_S \equiv (\rho - Z) dM_S \end{aligned}$$

<p>The Yield: $\rho = \frac{(Z_{SN} - Z) (1 - \alpha)}{\alpha}$</p> <p>$= \frac{\text{mass of metals added to ISM by SN}}{\text{mass moved from ISM to stars}}$</p>

Metallicity Evolution $Z(t)$

$$Z(t) \equiv \frac{M_Z(t)}{M_G(t)}$$

Differentiate:

$$\delta Z = \delta \left(\frac{M_Z}{M_G} \right) = \frac{\delta M_Z}{M_G} + M_Z \delta \left(\frac{1}{M_G} \right)$$

But,

$$\delta \left(\frac{1}{M_G} \right) = -\frac{\delta M_G}{M_G^2}$$

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta Z &= \frac{\delta M_Z}{M_G} - \frac{M_Z}{M_G^2} \delta M_G \\ &= \frac{1}{M_G} \left(\delta M_Z - Z \delta M_G \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta Z &= \frac{1}{M_G} (\delta M_Z - Z \delta M_G) \\
&= \frac{1}{M_G} ((\rho - Z) \delta M_S - Z \delta M_G) \\
&= -\rho \frac{\delta M_G}{M_G}
\end{aligned}$$

Definition of yield:

$$\delta M_Z = (\rho - Z) \delta M_S$$

Conserve mass:

$$\delta M_S = -\delta M_G$$

Integrate (with $\rho = \text{constant}$) :

$$Z = -\rho \ln(M_G) + C$$

At $Z = 0$, $M_G = M_0$:

$$0 = -\rho \ln(M_0) + C \quad \Rightarrow \quad C = \rho \ln(M_0)$$

$$\therefore \boxed{Z = -\rho \ln\left(\frac{M_G}{M_0}\right)}$$

But,

$$\mu = \frac{M_G}{M_0}$$

So finally,

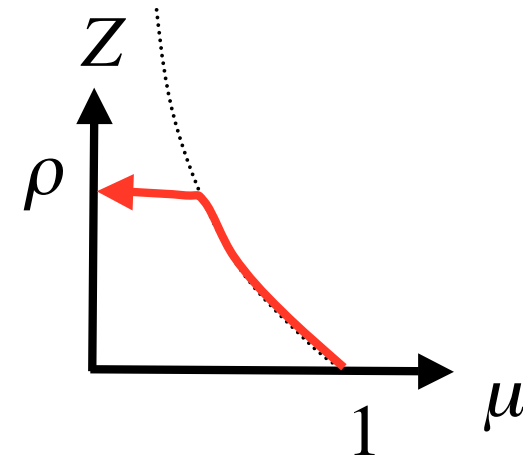
$$Z = -\rho \ln(\mu)$$

As $\mu \rightarrow 0$, $Z \rightarrow \infty$ impossible!

But $\delta M_Z = (\rho - Z) \delta M_S$

So, as $Z \rightarrow \rho$, $\delta M_Z \rightarrow 0$

The equation above is valid when $Z < \rho$,
after which $Z = \rho$.



Insert $\mu(t)$ for each galaxy type into $Z(t) = -\rho \ln(\mu(t))$

Ellipticals:

$$\mu(t) = e^{(-t/t_*)}$$

$$Z(t) = -\rho \ln(e^{-t/t_*}) = \rho \frac{t}{t_*} \quad \text{for } Z \leq \rho$$

$$Z(t) = \rho \quad \text{otherwise}$$

Spirals:

$$\mu(t) = 1 - \frac{\alpha \dot{M} t}{M_0}$$

$$Z(t) = -\rho \ln\left(1 - \frac{\alpha \dot{M} t}{M_0}\right) \quad \text{for } Z \leq \rho$$

$$Z(t) = \rho \quad \text{otherwise}$$

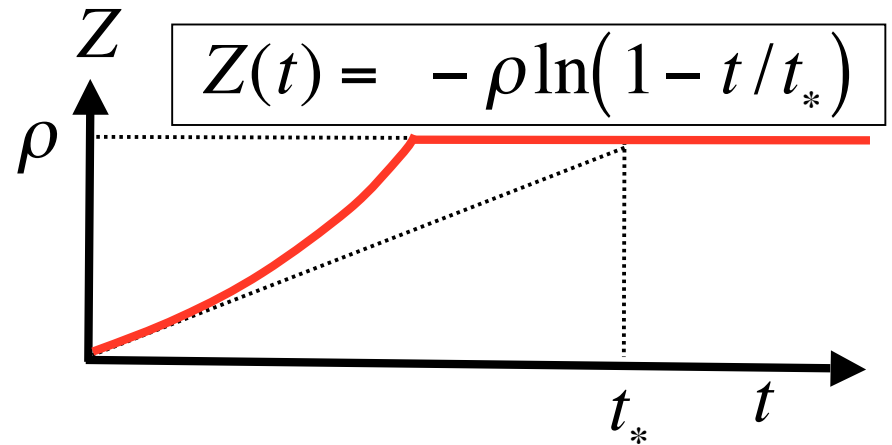
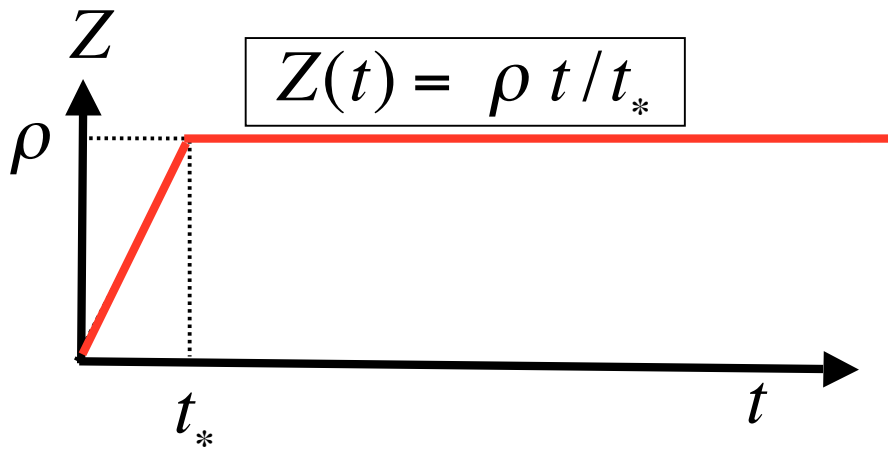
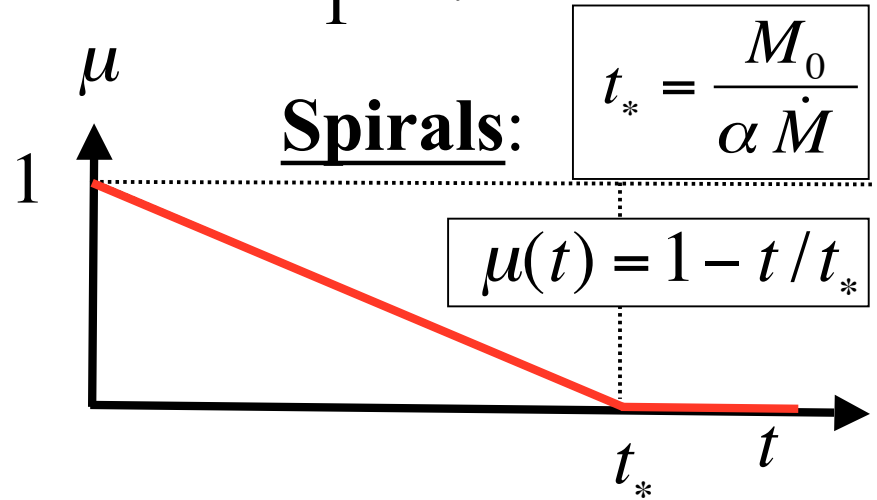
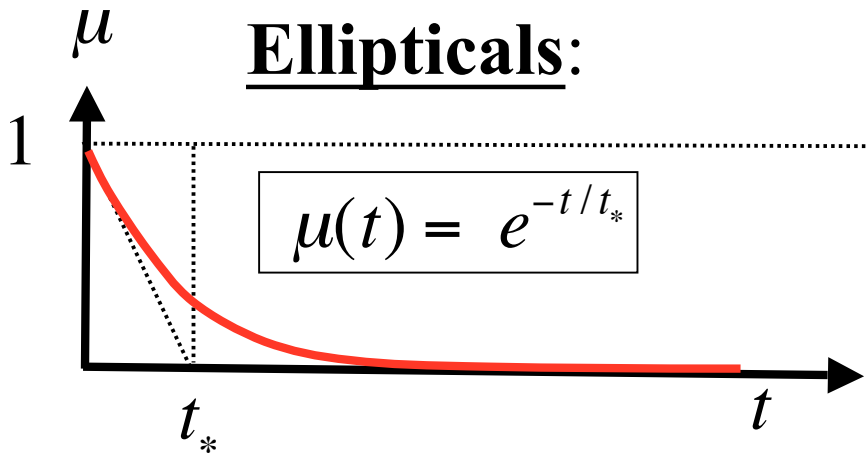
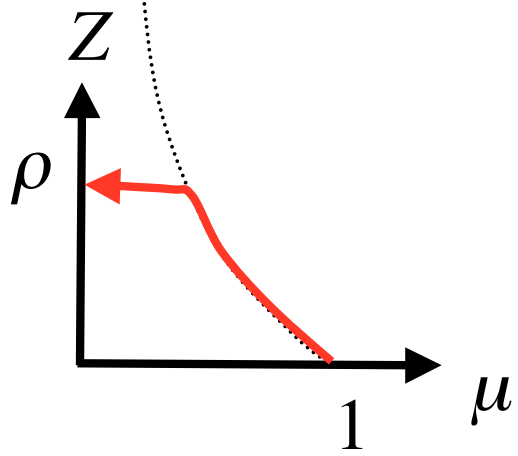
Irregulars:

$$\langle \mu(t) \rangle = f \frac{\alpha \dot{M} t}{M_0}$$

$$Z(t) = -\rho \ln\left(1 - f \frac{\alpha \dot{M} t}{M_0}\right) \quad \text{for } Z \leq \rho$$

$$Z(t) = \rho \quad \text{otherwise}$$

$$Z(t) = -\rho \ln(\mu(t))$$

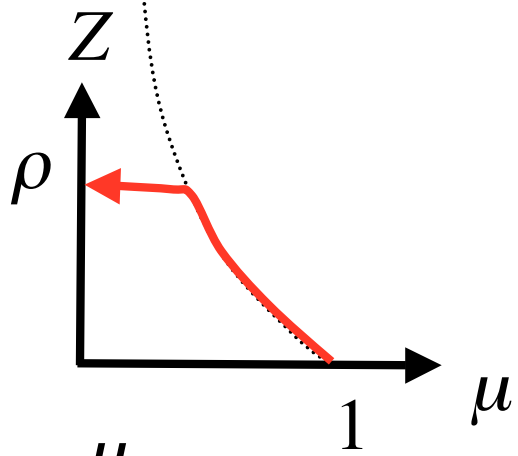


$$Z(t) = -\rho \ln(\mu(t))$$

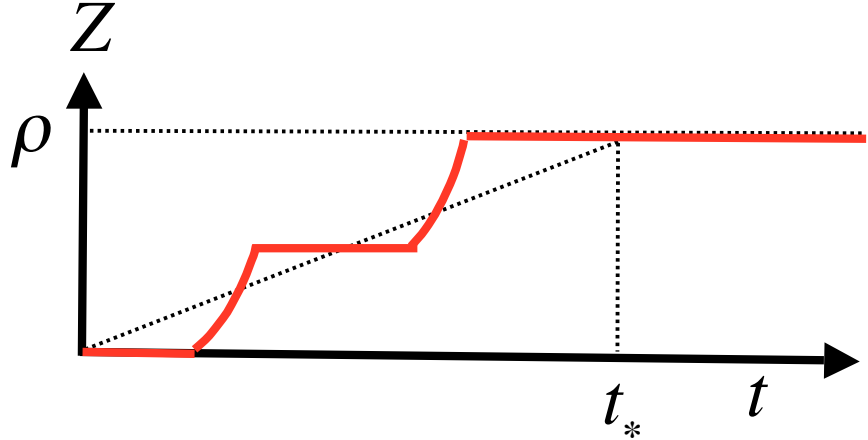
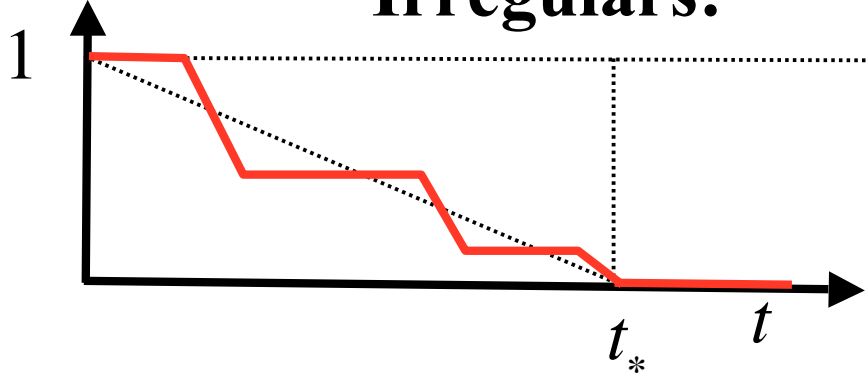
$$\langle \mu(t) \rangle \approx 1 - t/t_*$$

$$t_* = f \frac{M_0}{\alpha \dot{M}_{\text{burst}}} \quad f < 1$$

$$Z(t) \approx -\rho \ln(1 - t/t_*)$$



Irregulars:



The Yield ρ

$$\rho = \frac{(Z_{SN} - Z) \times \text{mass returned}}{\text{mass retained in old stars}}$$

First generation: $Z=0$ later generations $Z \ll Z_{SN}$:

From Salpeter IMF and SN 1987A: $\alpha = 0.93$

From SN 1987A: $Z_{SN} = 0.13$

$$\rho = \frac{(Z_{SN} - Z) (1 - \alpha)}{\alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{yield} = \rho \approx 0.01}$$

However, note that $Z_{\odot} \approx 0.02$ which is larger than the calculated yield, implying $\rho > 0.02$! (remember $Z \leq \rho$)