

How do **tidal** disruption events shine in **optical** and radio?

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6 Jun 2025 @ 2nd Phantom European workshop



MONASH
University

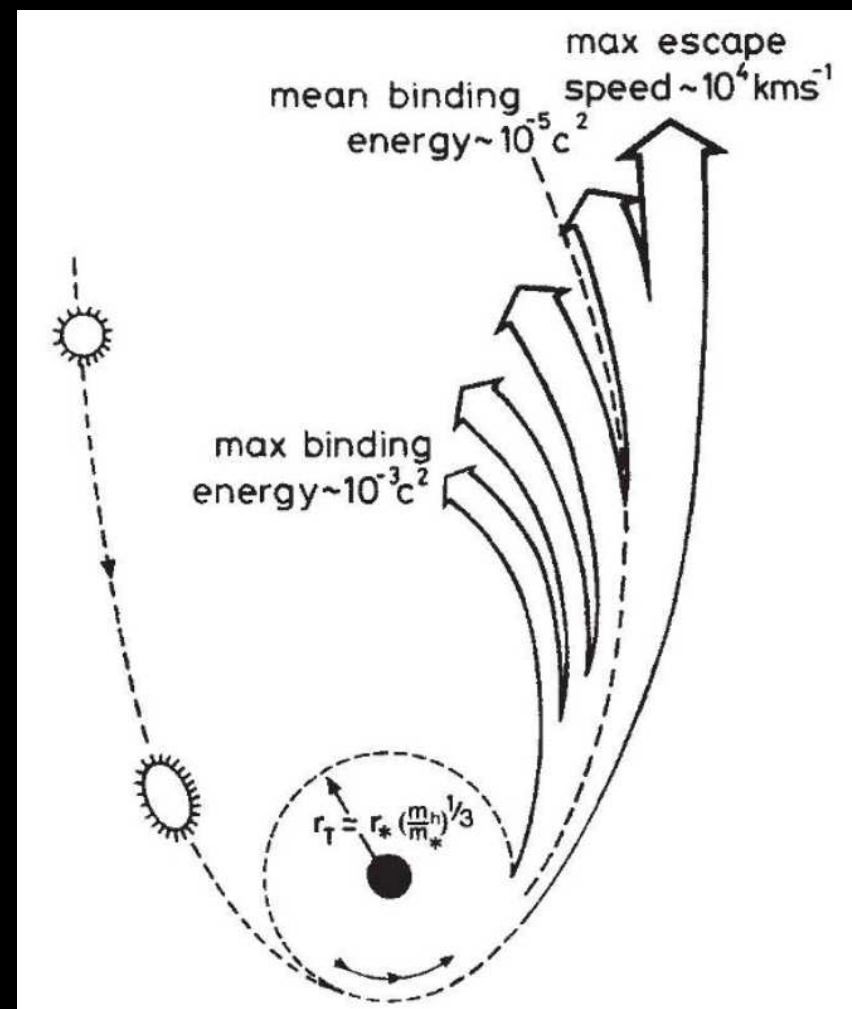


What is tidal disruption events?

A free way to murder stars

- Stars approach supermassive black holes
- Tidal force/ diverging geodesics
- Tidal radius r_t
- Disrupted into a stream
- Fallback to form accretion disk and launch outflows

[Rees 1988]



Observations

Yes but no

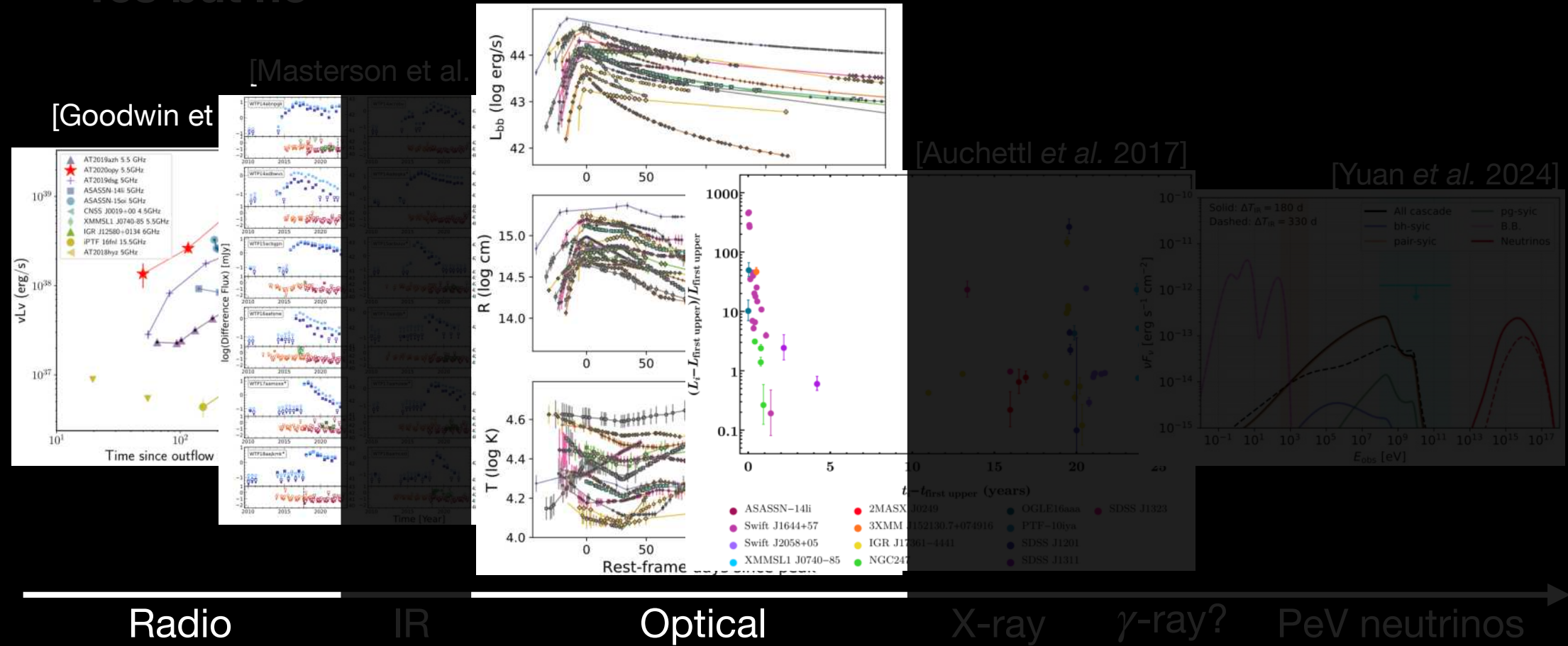
[van Velzen *et al.* 2021]

[Masterson *et al.* 2020]

[Goodwin *et al.* 2020]

[Auchettl *et al.* 2017]

[Yuan *et al.* 2024]



Solutions...Really?

- Tidal compression / nozzle shock [Ryu *et al.* 2023]
- Self-collision [Lu & Bonnerot 2020]
- Reprocessing layer [Loeb & Ulmer 1997] / [Metzgar & Stone 2016]
- Cooling envelope [Metzgar 2022] / [Sarin & Metzgar 2024]
- Stream-disk interaction [Steinberg 2024]

Hydrodynamics simulations

Tidal disruption events

- Phantom - General relativistic smoothed particle hydrodynamics
- MESA real $1M_{\odot}$ solar star
- $10^6 M_{\odot}$ SMBH
- Eccentric $e = 0.95$, deep encounter $\beta = r_t/r_p = 5$ orbit

Hydrodynamics simulations

Tidal

$t=0$ days



$$v \sim 0.1c$$
$$\longrightarrow$$
$$\longrightarrow$$
$$\longrightarrow$$
$$T \sim 10^4 \text{K}$$

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40 au



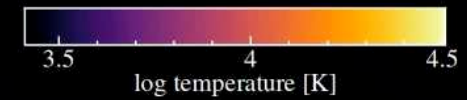
Hydrodynamics simulations

Tidal

0 days

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50 au

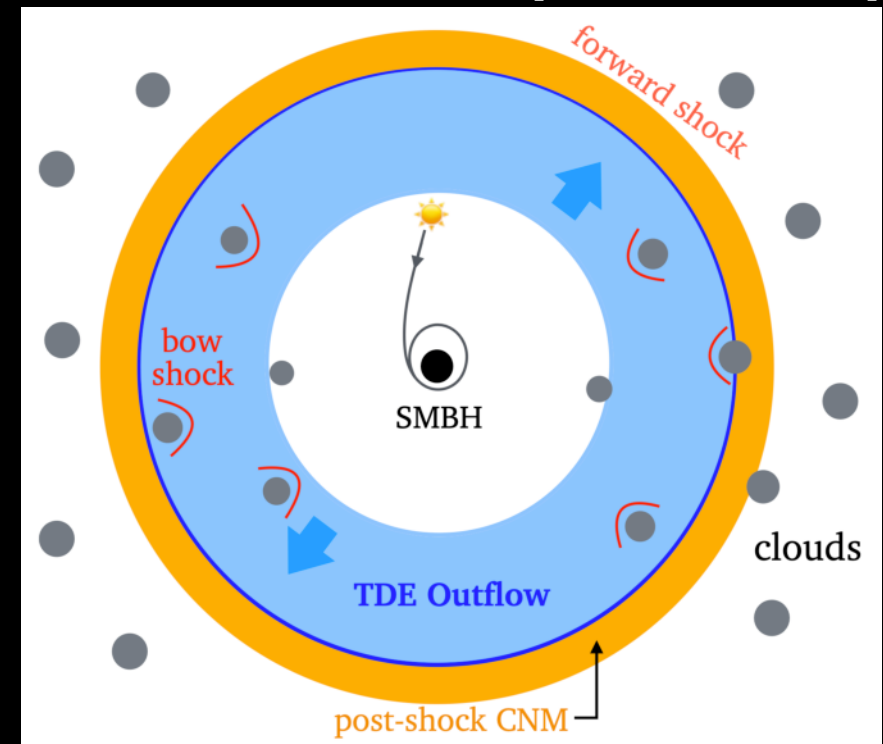


Hydrodynamics simulations

Outflow interaction with circumnuclear material

[Mou et al. 2022]

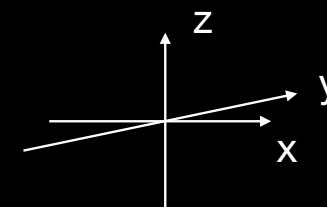
- Shock amplifies magnetic field
- Free electrons form synchrotron/radio radiations
- Spherically symmetric CNM shell
 - Power law density profile $\rho \propto r^{-1.7}$ (Cendes et al. 2021)
 - $\rho_0 = 5.03 \times 10^{-17} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$,
 $r_0 = 10^{15} \text{ cm} \approx 66.8 \text{ au}$
 - Stationary, cold $T = 10 \text{ K}$



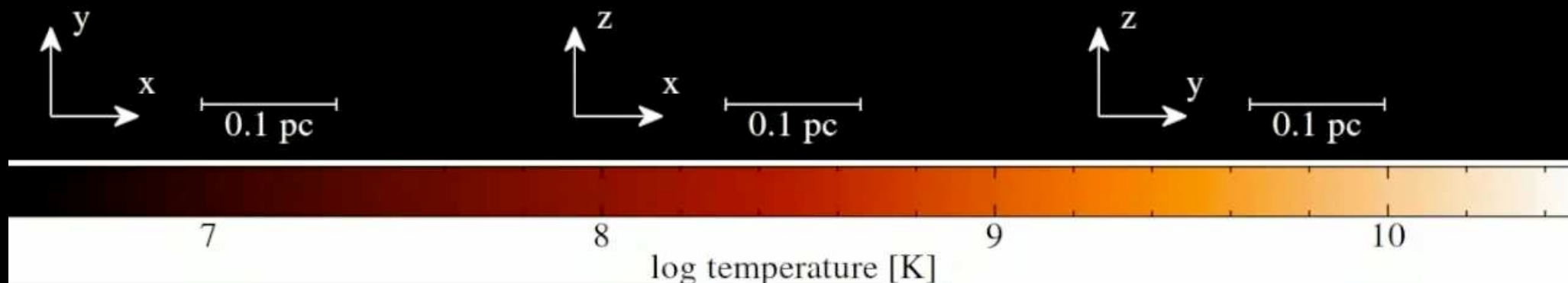
[Hu et al. 2025 submitted]

Hydrodynamics simulations

Outflow interaction with circumnuclear material



$t=0$ days

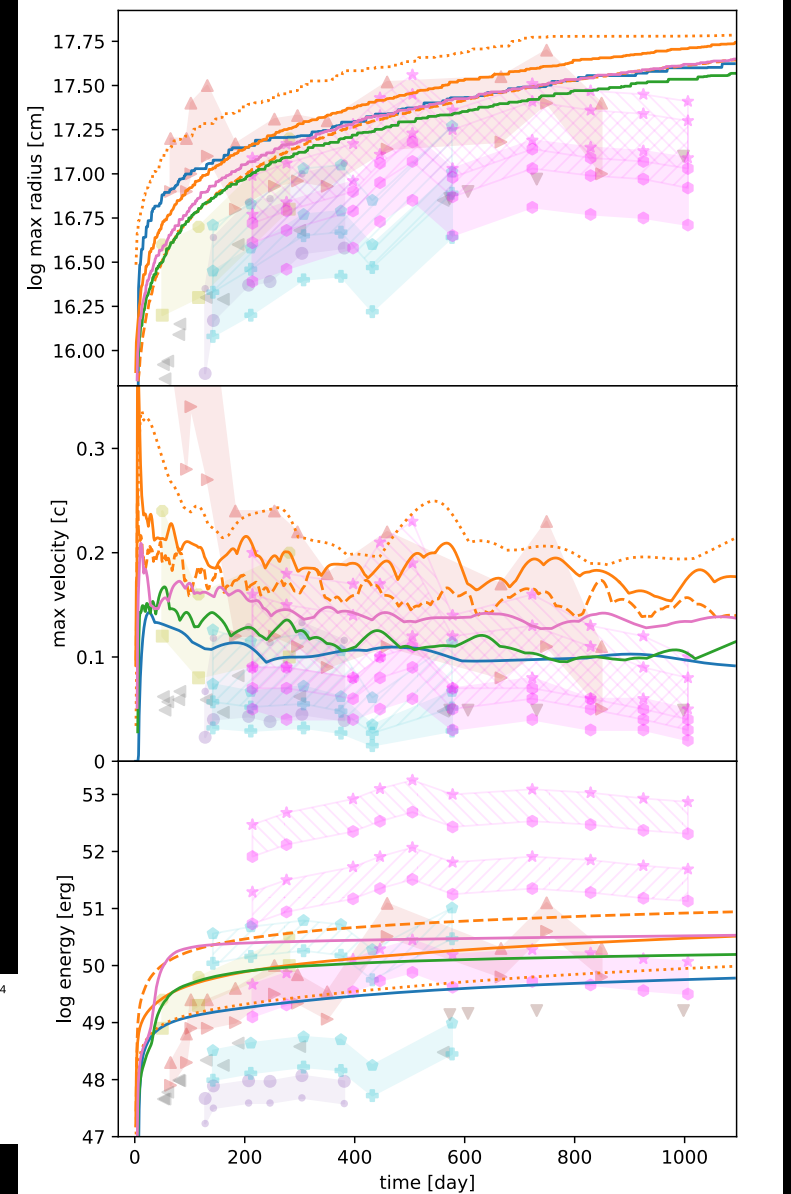
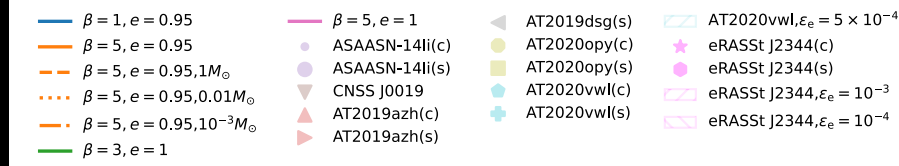


[Hu *et al.* 2025 submitted]

Radio synchrotron shocks

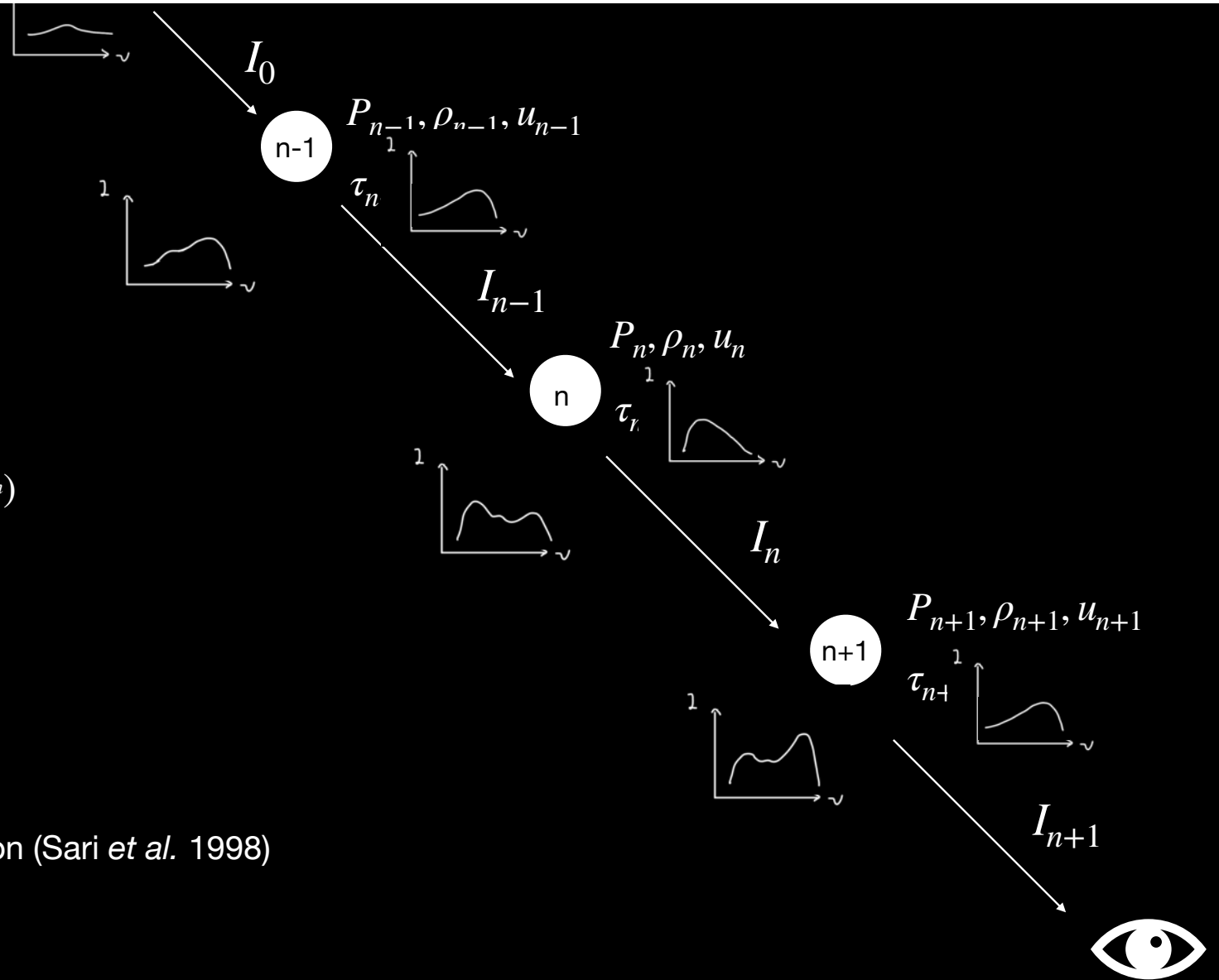
Properties

- Radius, velocity $\approx$ obs
- Energy range $\ll$ obs
- Low CNM density $\rightarrow$ large initial rad, vel

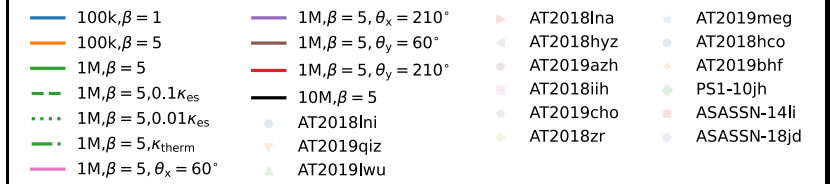
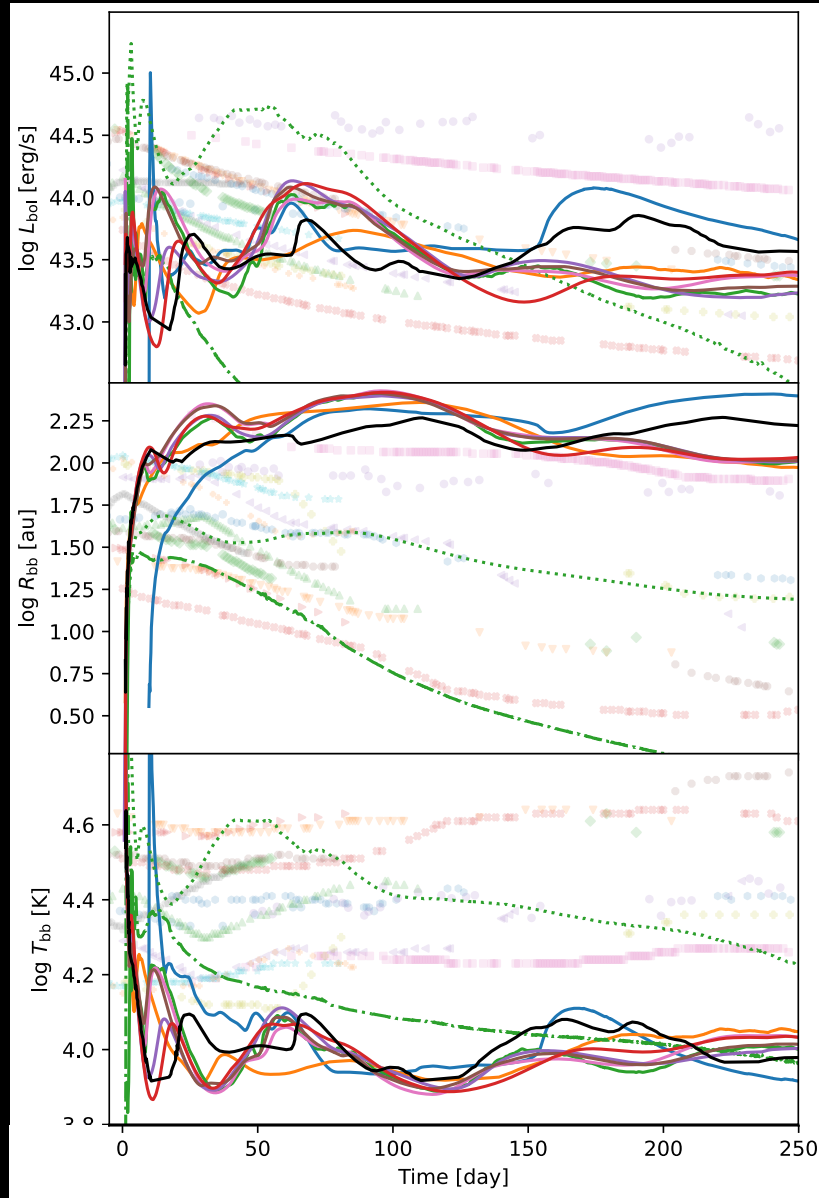


Ray tracing

- Post-processing
- Radiative transfer equation
 - $I_{n+1} = I_n e^{-\tau_n} + S_n(1 - e^{-\tau_n})$
- Optical
 - S_ν - blackbody
 - τ - electron scattering
- Radio
 - S_ν - slow cooling synchrotron (Sari *et al.* 1998)
 - τ_ν - self-absorption



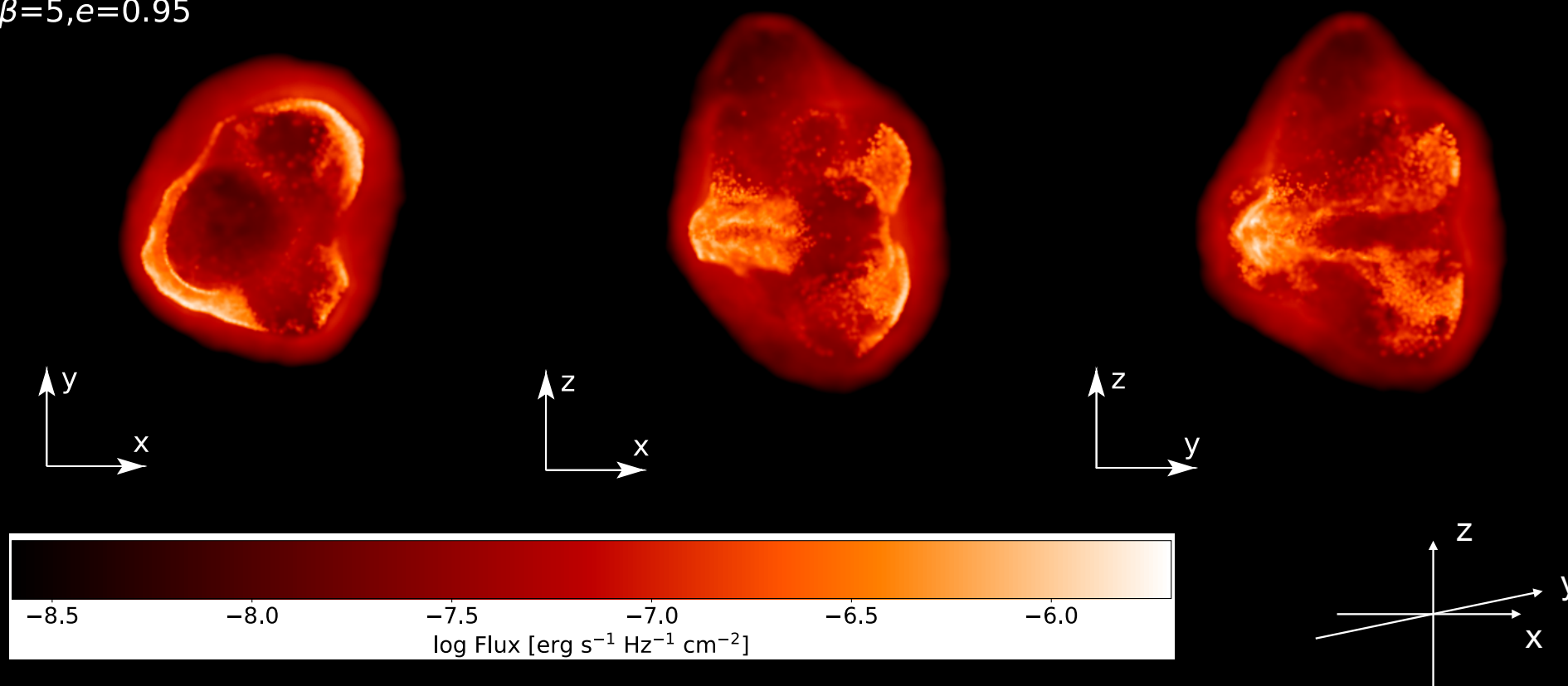
Optical Lightcurve



[Hu *et al.* 2024]

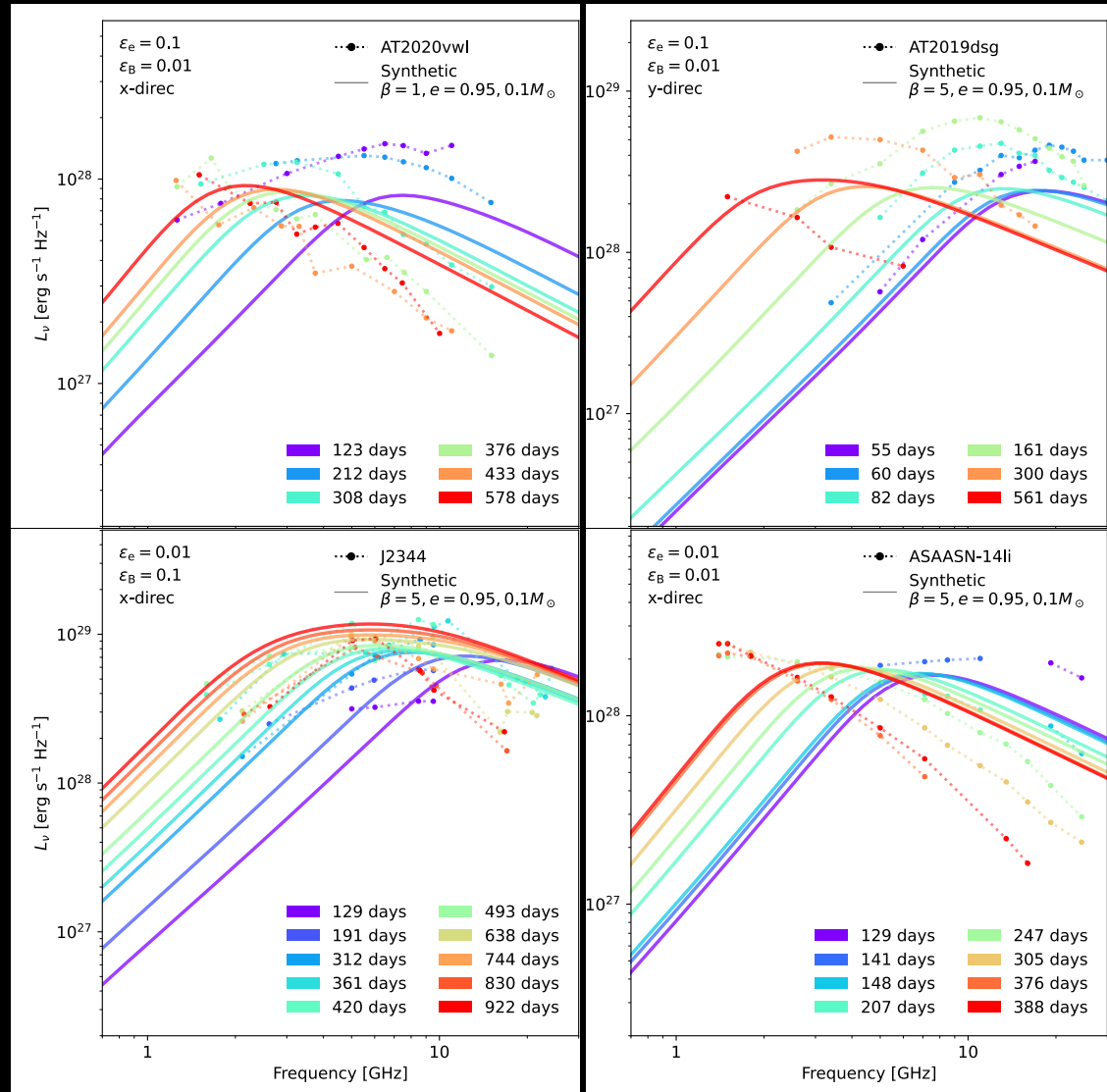
Radio Images

$$\beta=5, e=0.95$$



[Hu *et al.* 2025 submitted]

Radio Spectra

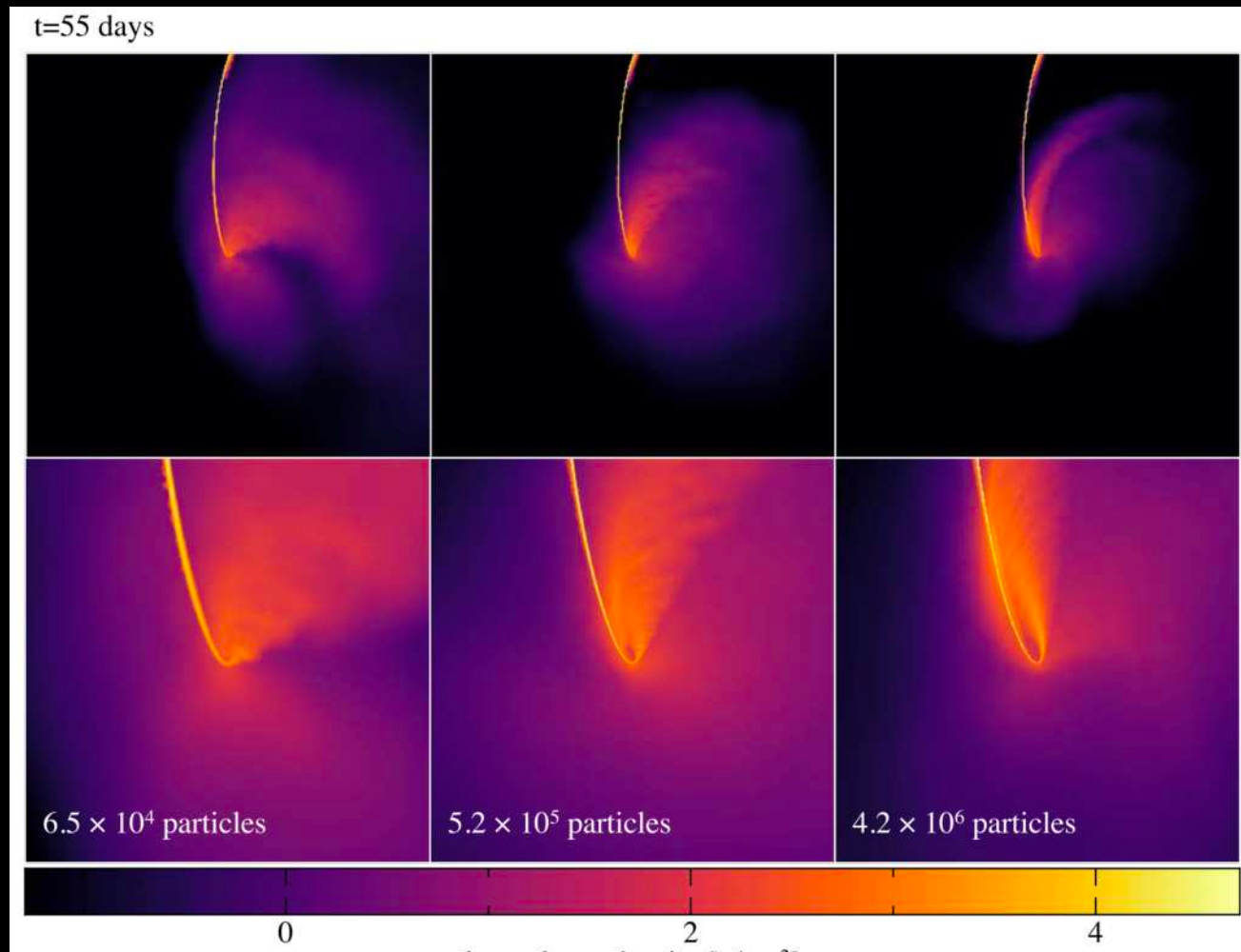


[Hu *et al.* 2025 submitted]

TDE nozzle shock

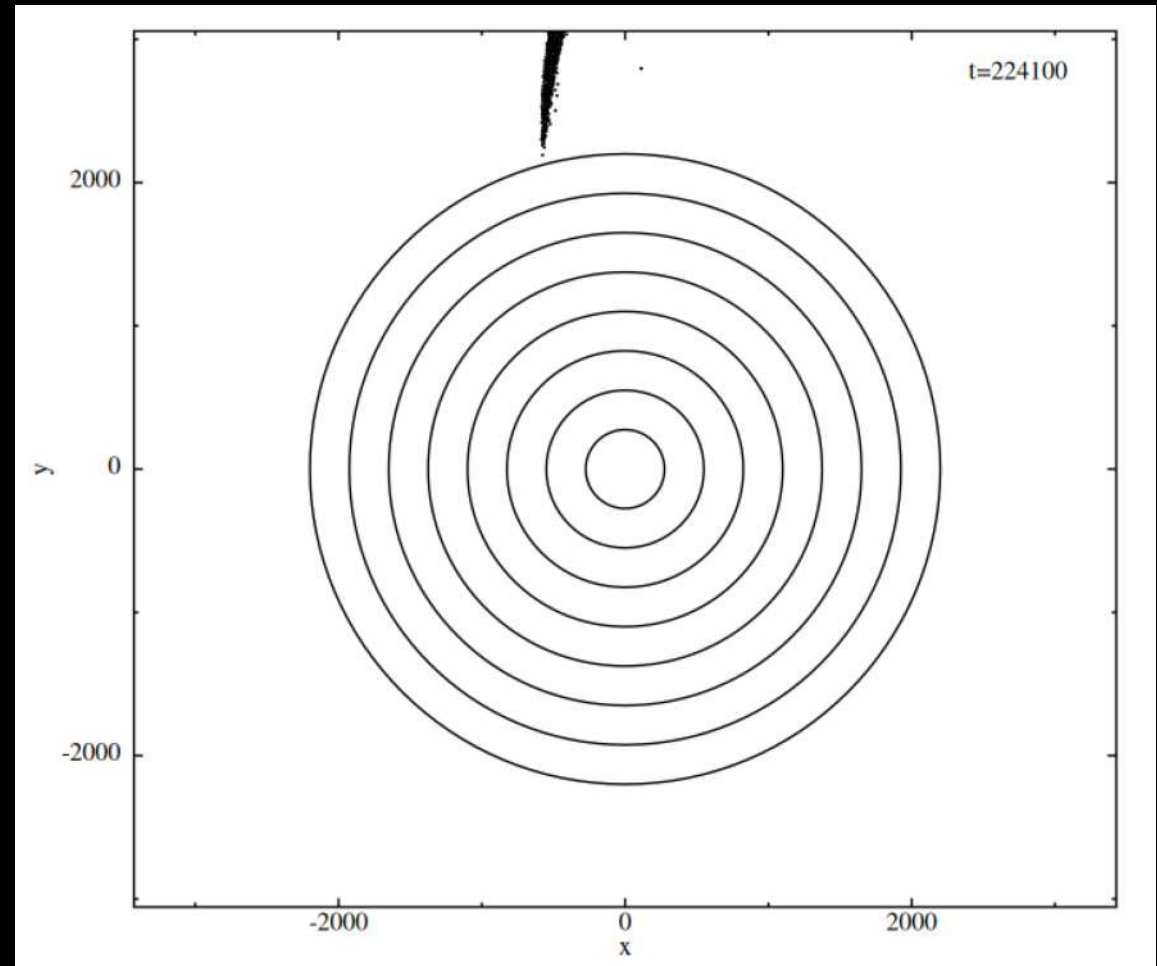
- Nozzle shock at pericenter
- Heat dissipation
- Convergence issue

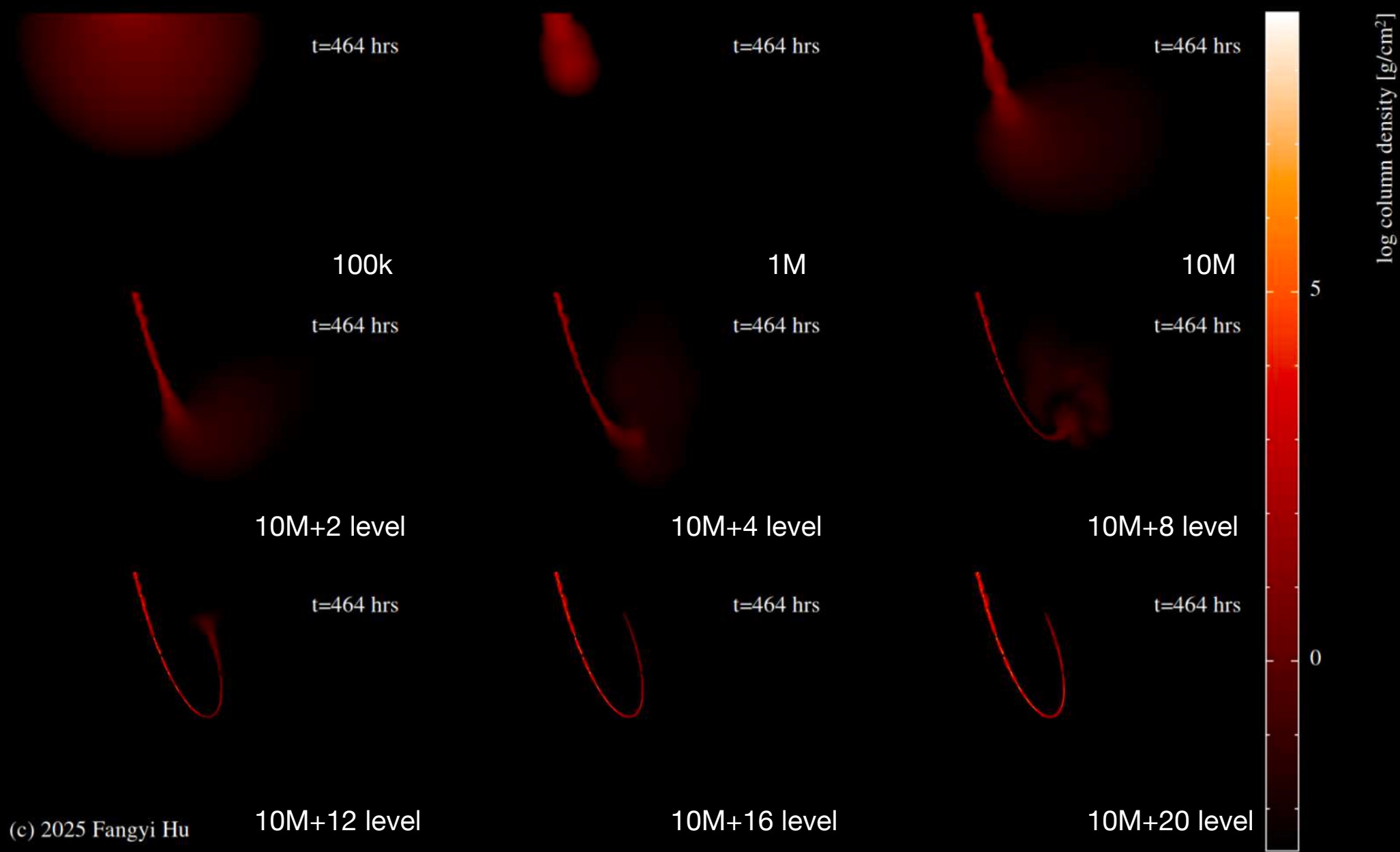
[Price *et al.* 2024]



TDE nozzle shock

- Adaptive particle refinement [Nealon & Price 2025]
- Split particles before second passage of pericenter
- Increase resolution for a convergent result





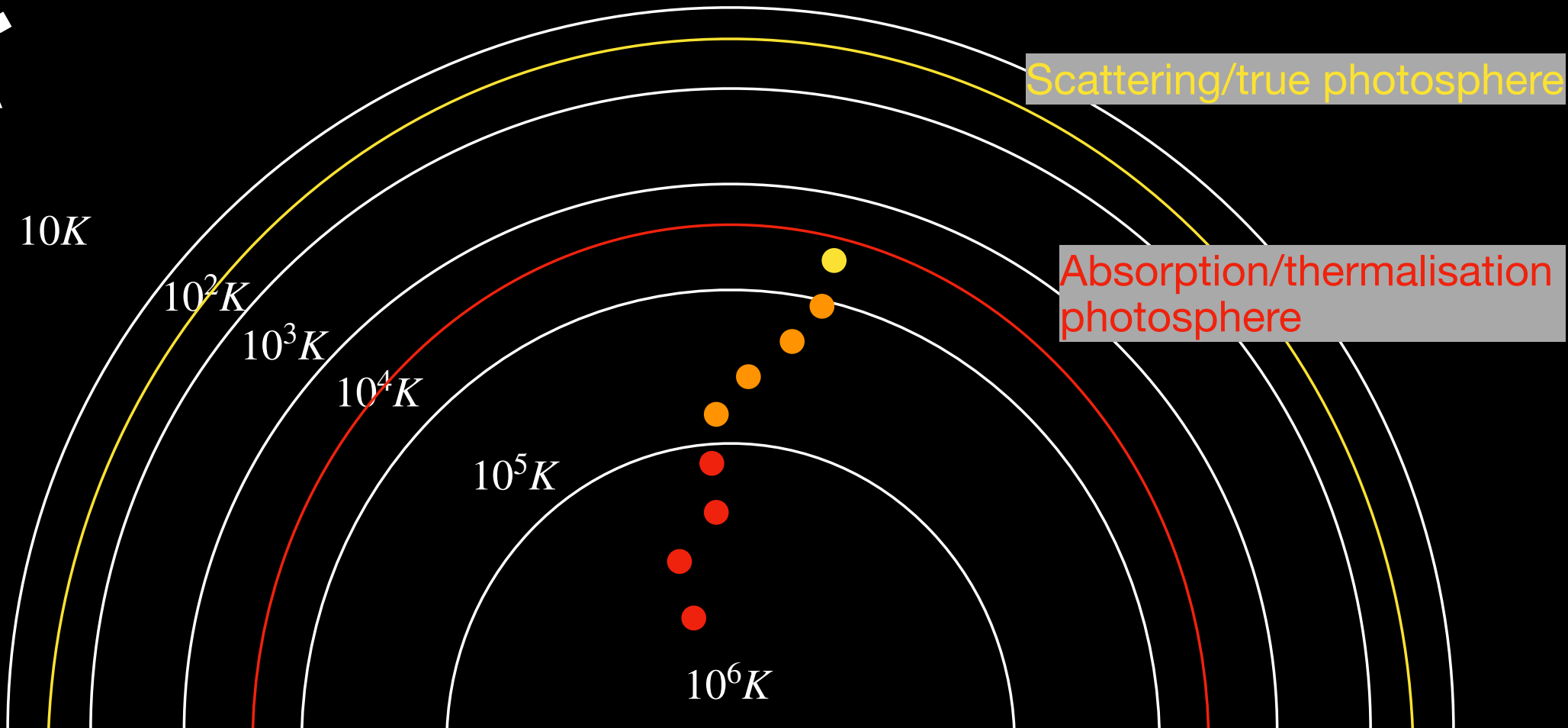
Conclusions

The models are correct!!

- GR hydro simulations of TDEs and outflow interaction with CNM
- Ray tracing to find spectra/lightcurve
- Results within magnitudes of optical & radio observations despite random parameters/simple setup
- Fangyi (Fitz) Hu, Daniel J. Price, Ilya Mandel, 2024, ApJL, 963, L27

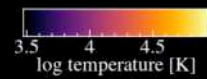
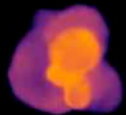
Too much photosphere!

Separation between absorption & scattering photosphere



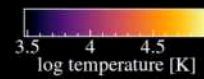
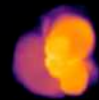
Optical Opacity

3.65 days
 $\kappa = \kappa_{\text{es}}$



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3.65 days
 $\kappa = 0.1\kappa_{\text{es}}$

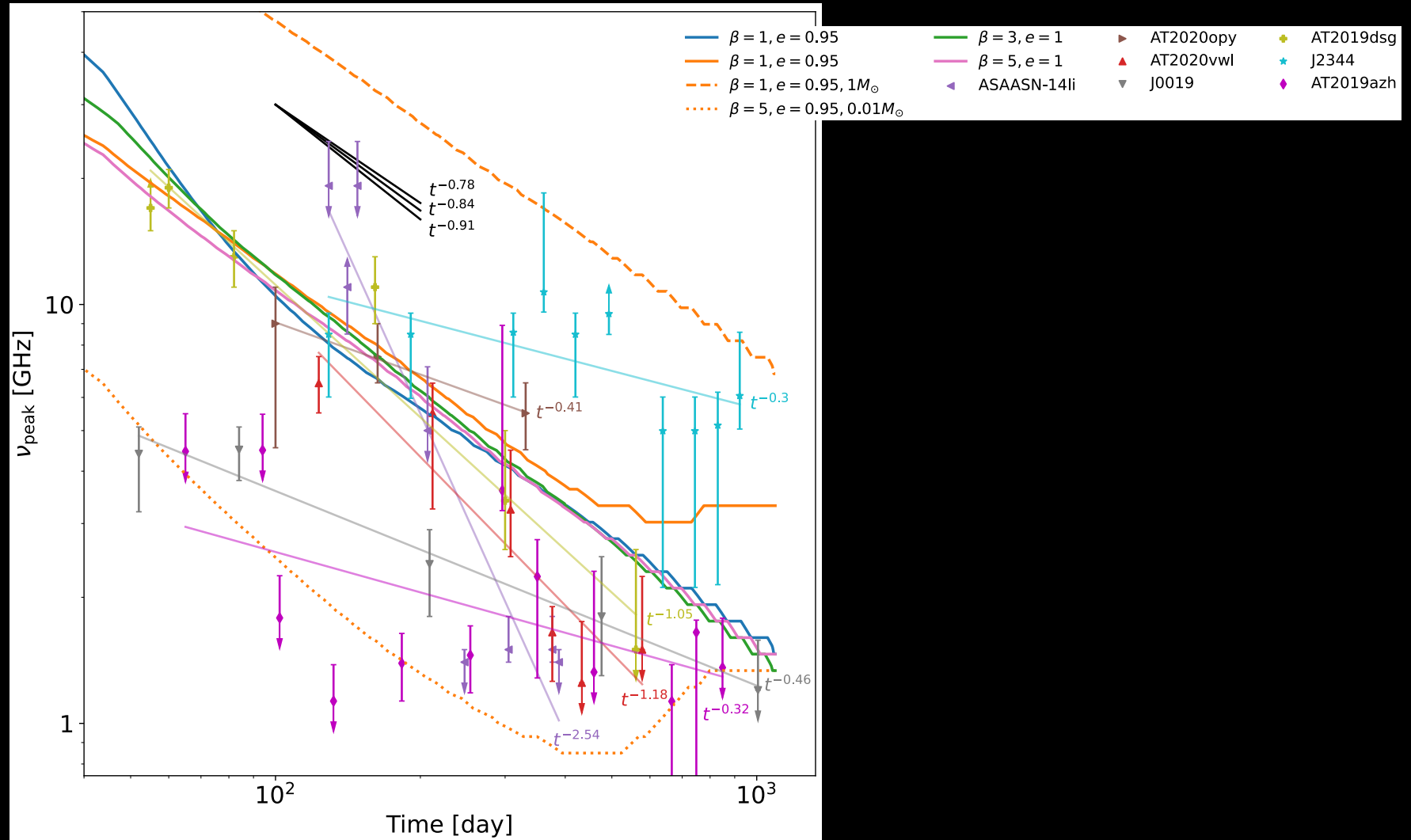


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3.65 days
 $\kappa = 0.01\kappa_{\text{es}}$



Radio Spectra



[Hu *et al.* 2025 submitted]

Optical Spectra

