

Griselda Arroyo-Chávez  
3rd year PhD



Supervisor:  
Enrique Vázquez-Semadeni  
Collaborators:  
James Wurster

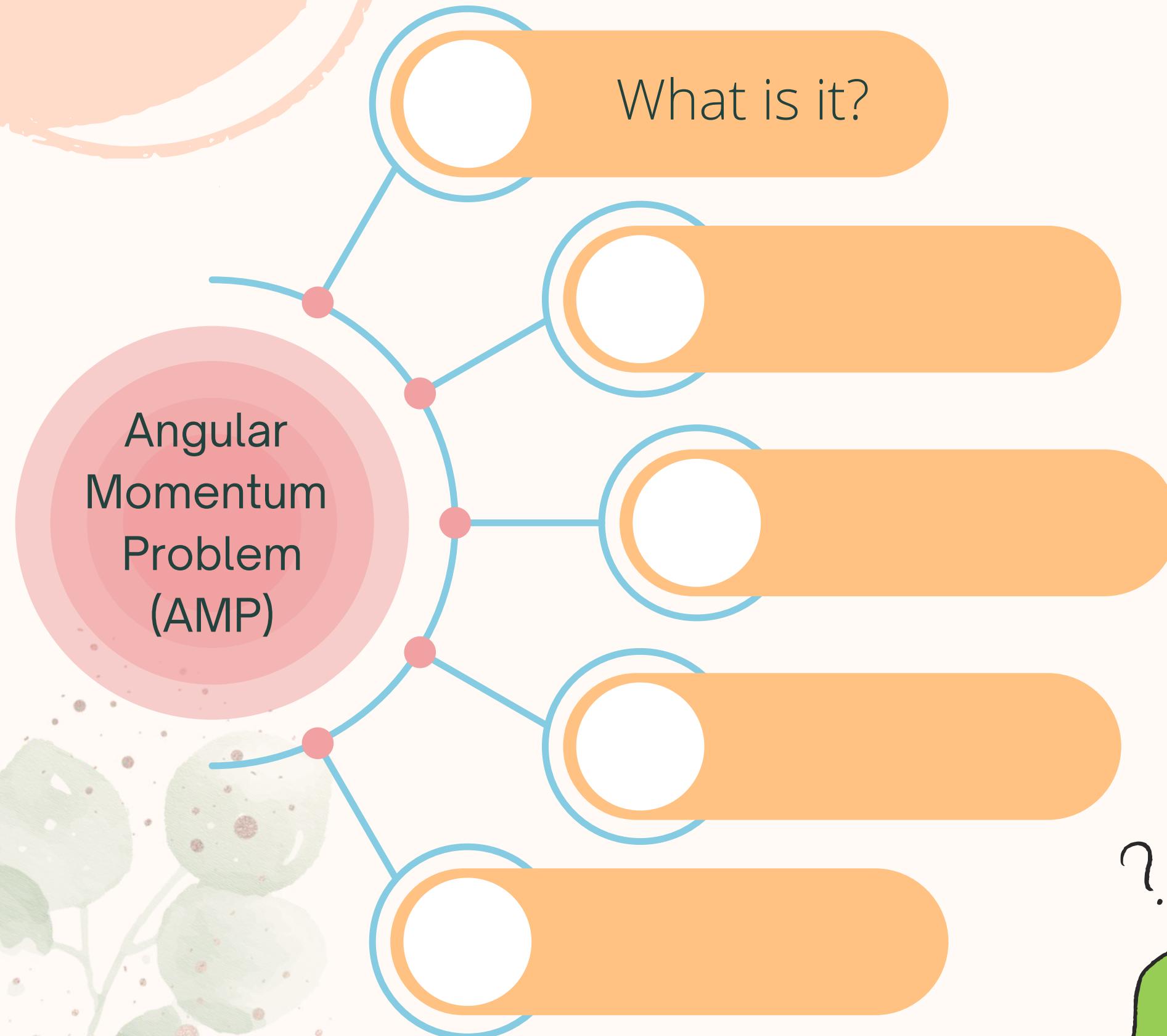


Institute of Radioastronomy and Astrophysics  
UNAM- Mexico

Evolution of the **specific angular momentum** during gravitational fragmentation of simulated clumps in **PHANTOM**



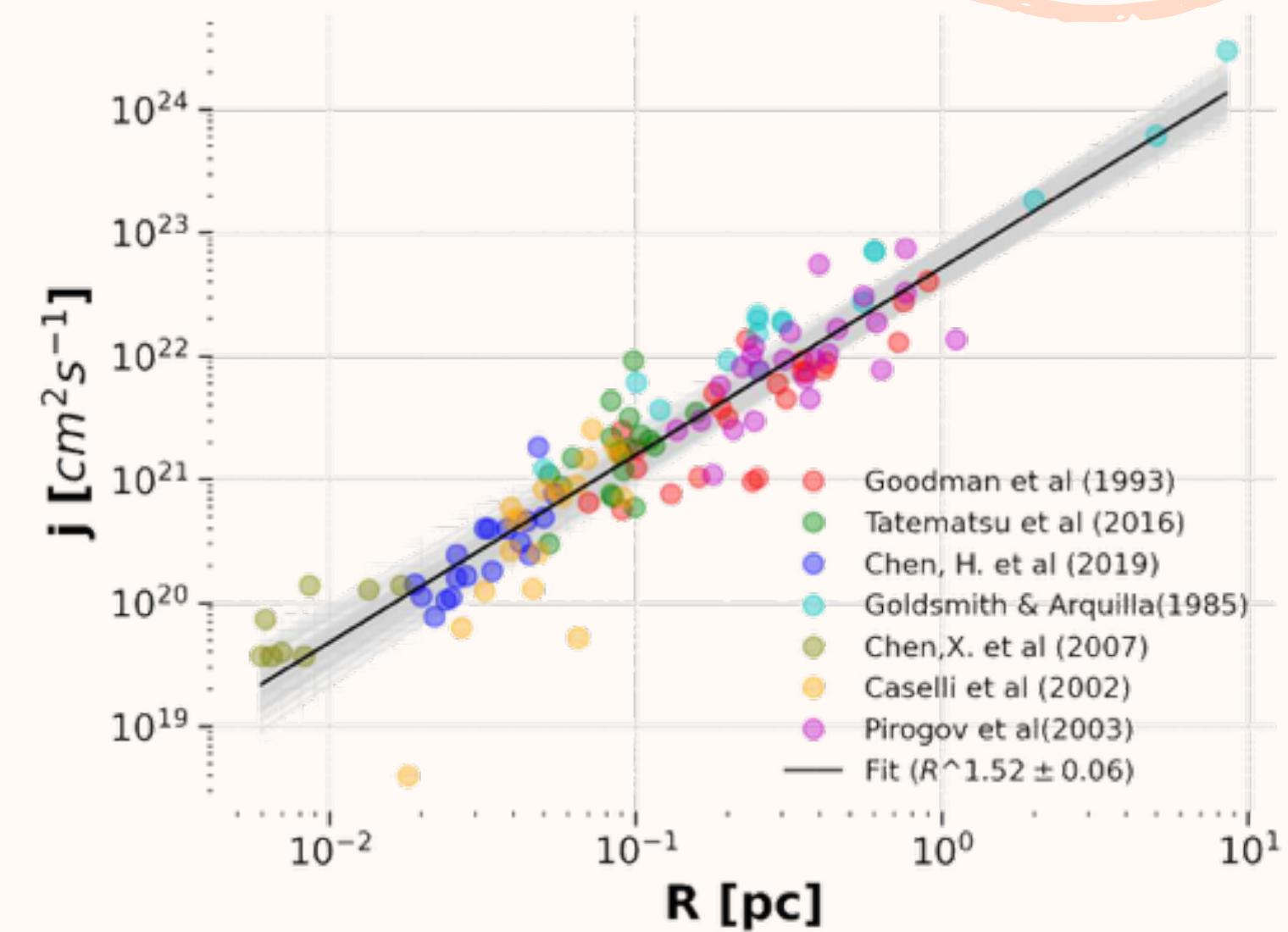
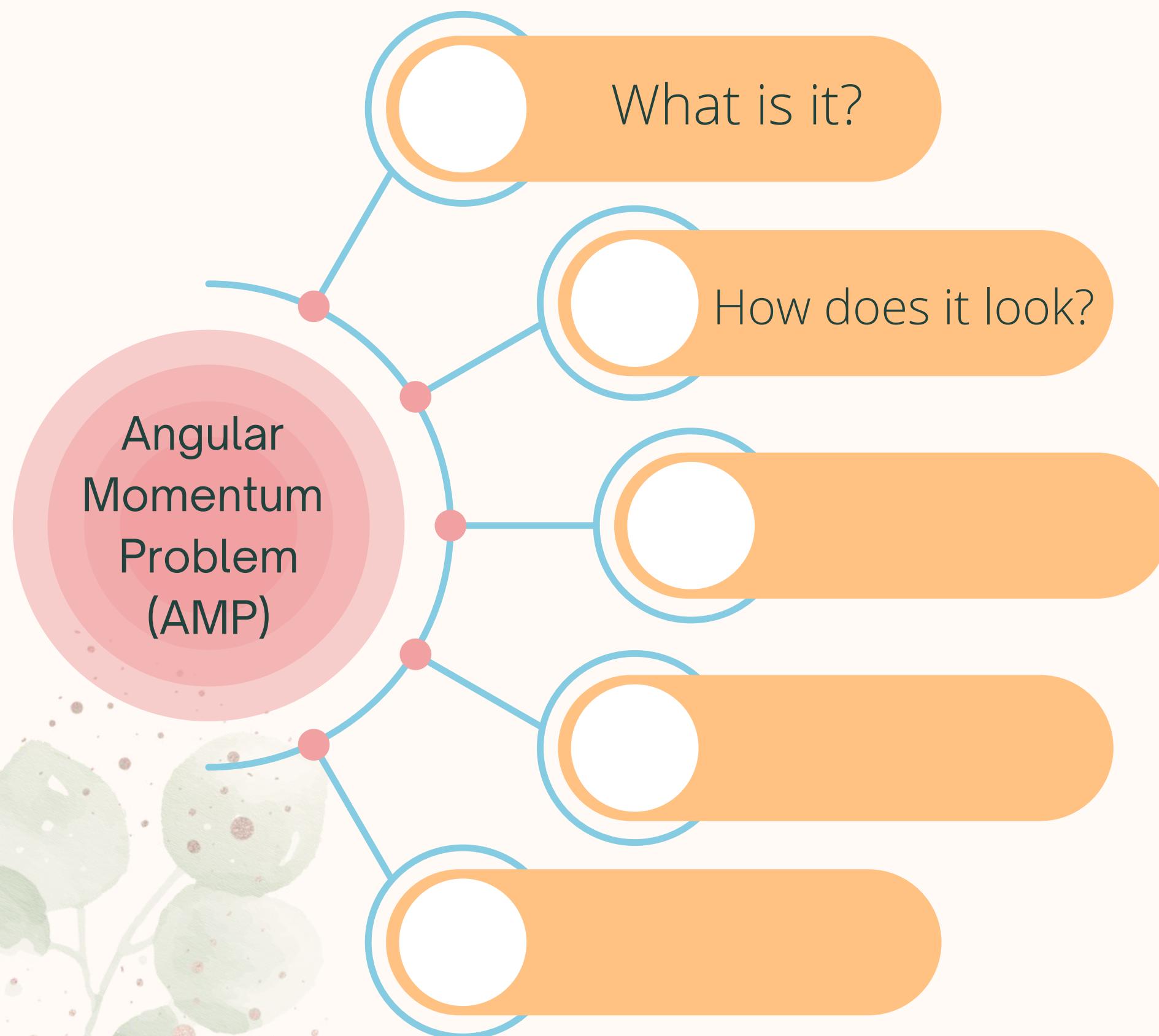
# 1. Introduction



Apparent loss of specific angular momentum ( $j$ ) during the collapse of a molecular cloud, such that the resulting clumps and cores have  $j$  several orders of magnitude smaller than the parent cloud.



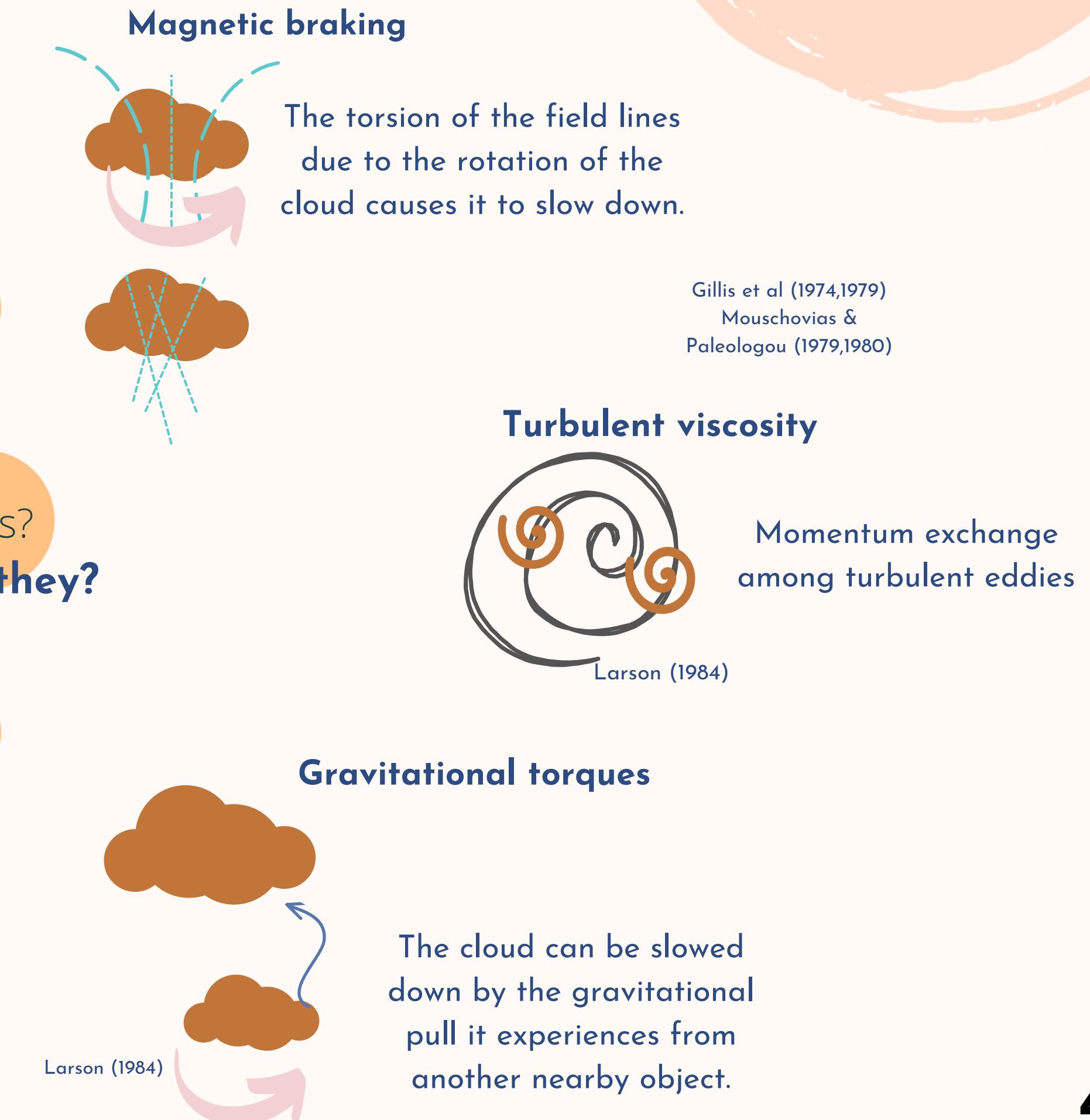
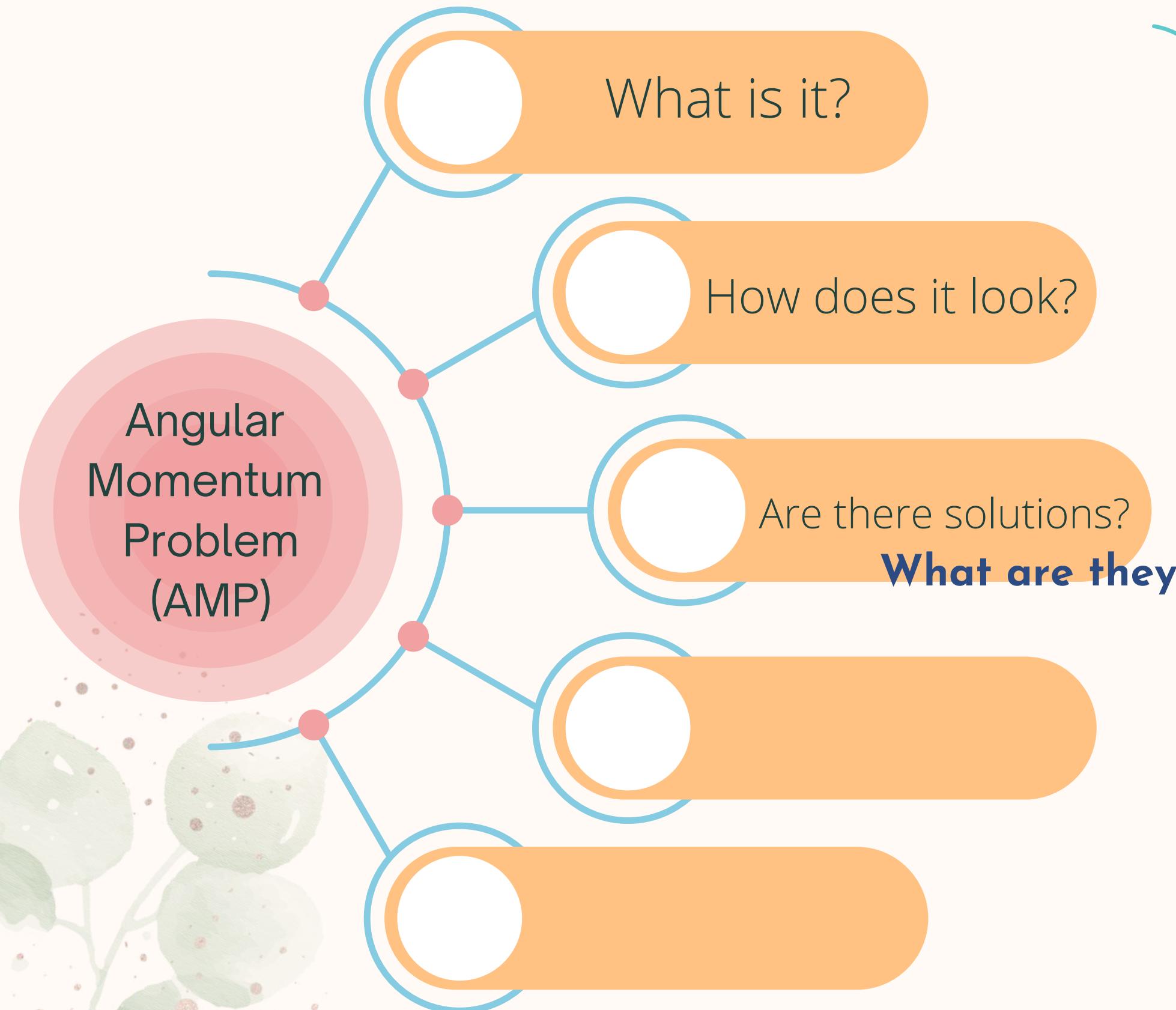
# 1. Introduction



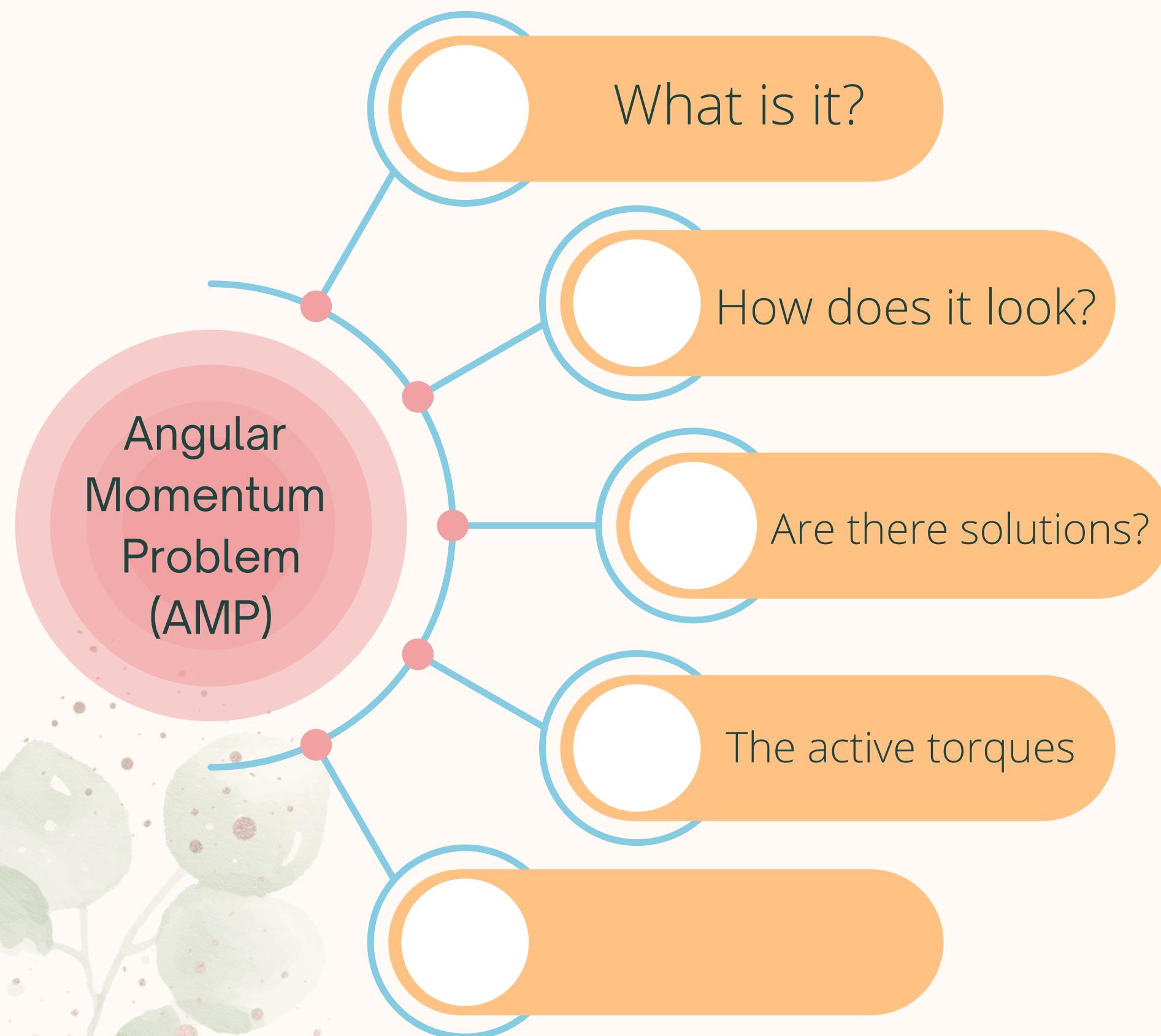
Compilation by Arroyo-Chávez & Vázque-Semadeni 2022

$$j = 10^{22.9 \pm 0.03} \left( \frac{R}{1\text{pc}} \right)^{1.52 \pm 0.06} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$

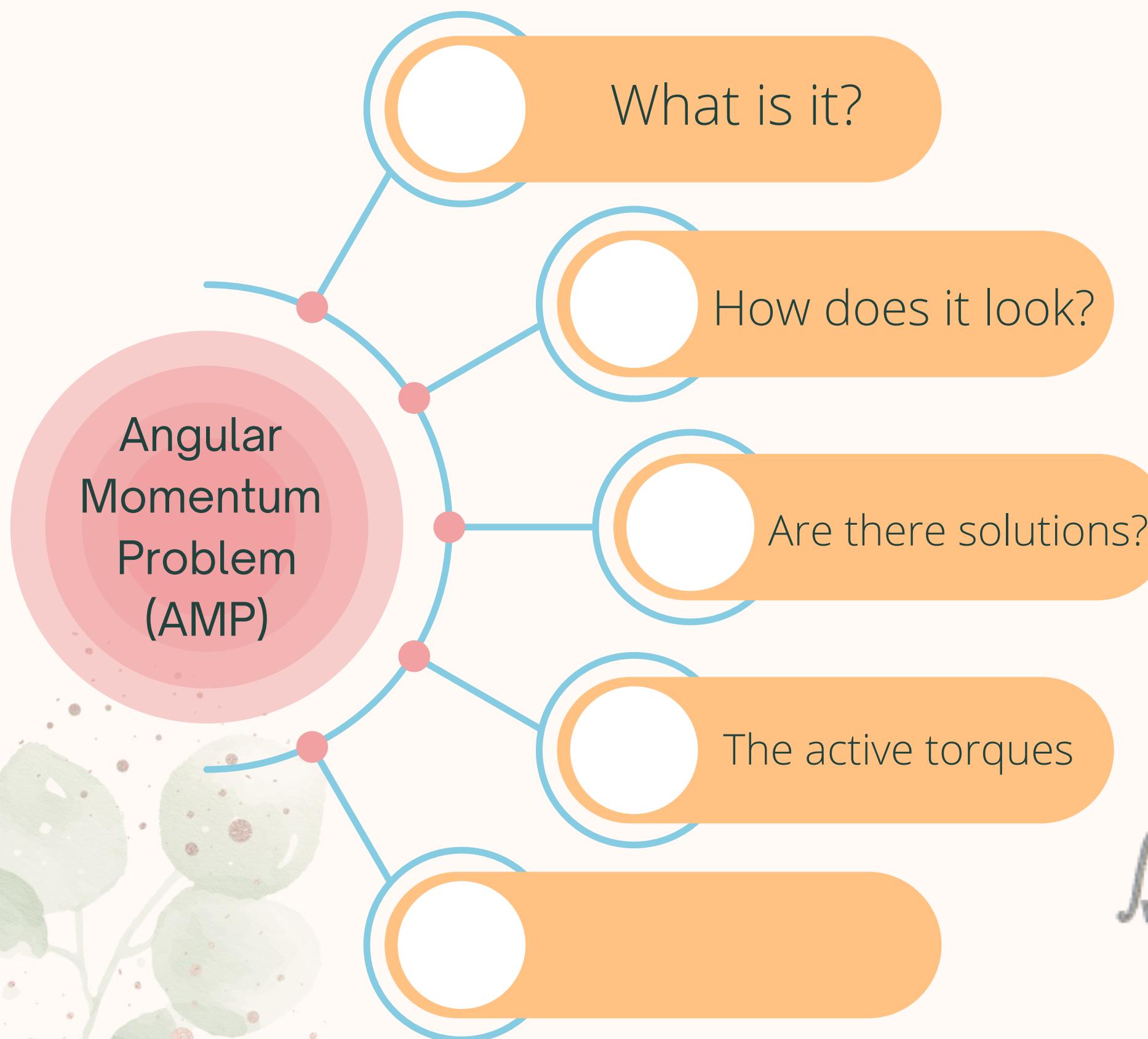
# 1. Introduction



# 1. Introduction



# 1. Introduction



The "active torques" equation

The equation governing the evolution of the AM of a fluid parcel of volume  $V$  with respect to some coordinate origin :

$$\int_V \mathbf{r} \times \frac{\partial(\rho \mathbf{u})}{\partial t} dV = - \int_V \mathbf{r} \times \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} \mathbf{u}) dV - \int_V \mathbf{r} \times \nabla P dV - \int_V \mathbf{r} \times \rho \nabla \phi dV + \int_V \mathbf{r} \times \mu (\nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \nabla \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}) dV + \int_V \mathbf{r} \times \frac{1}{4\pi} (\nabla \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B} dV,$$

Hydrodynamic (includes turbulent viscosity)

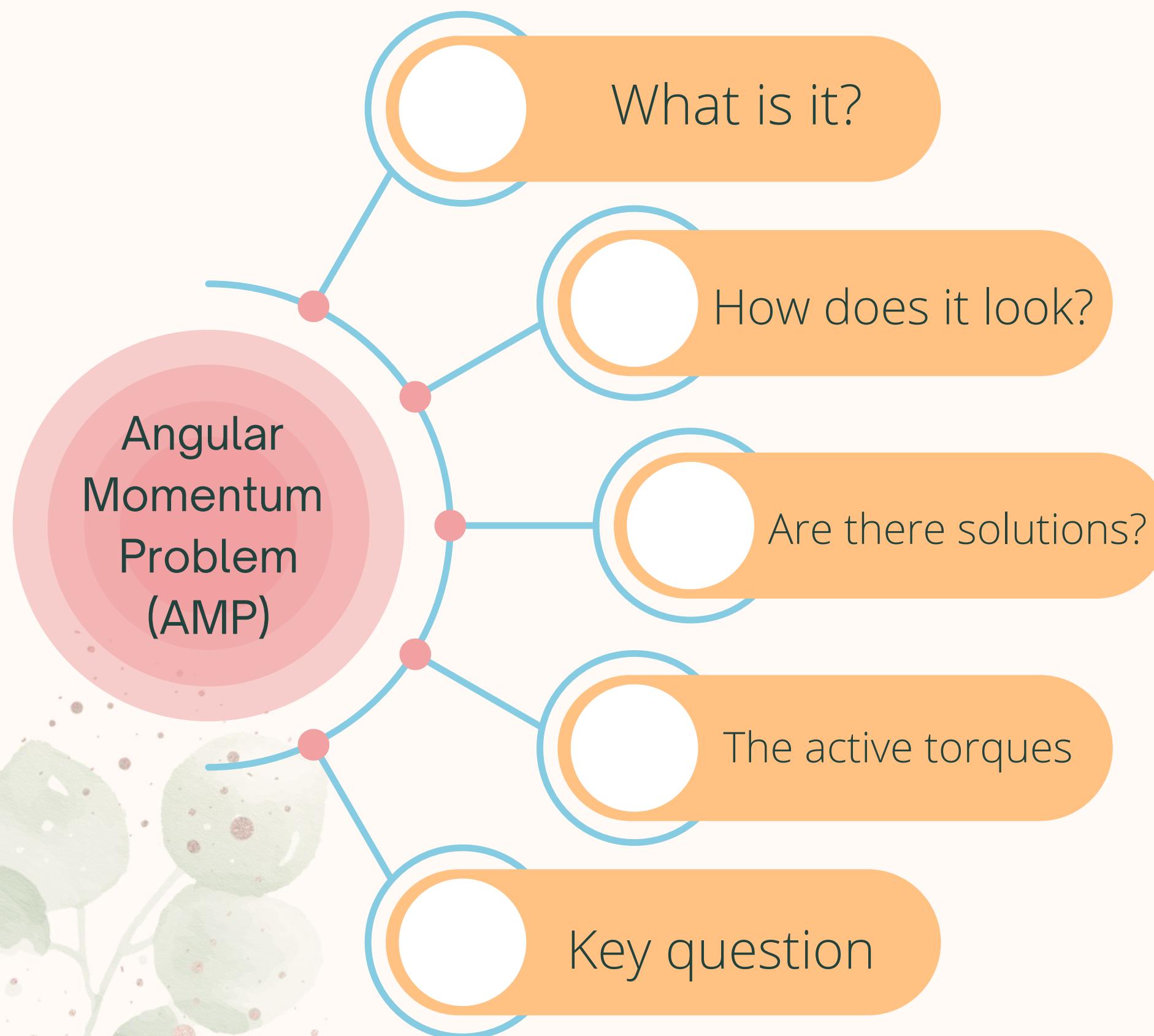
Gravitational

By pressure gradient

Viscous

Magnetic

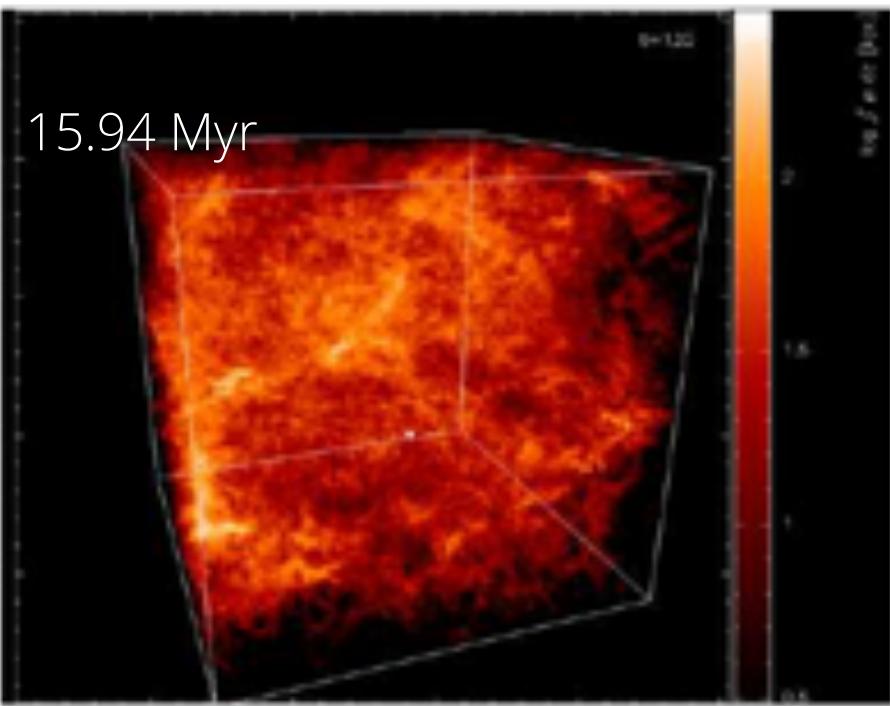
# 1. Introduction



What is the relative  
importance of  
these torques?

## The simulation

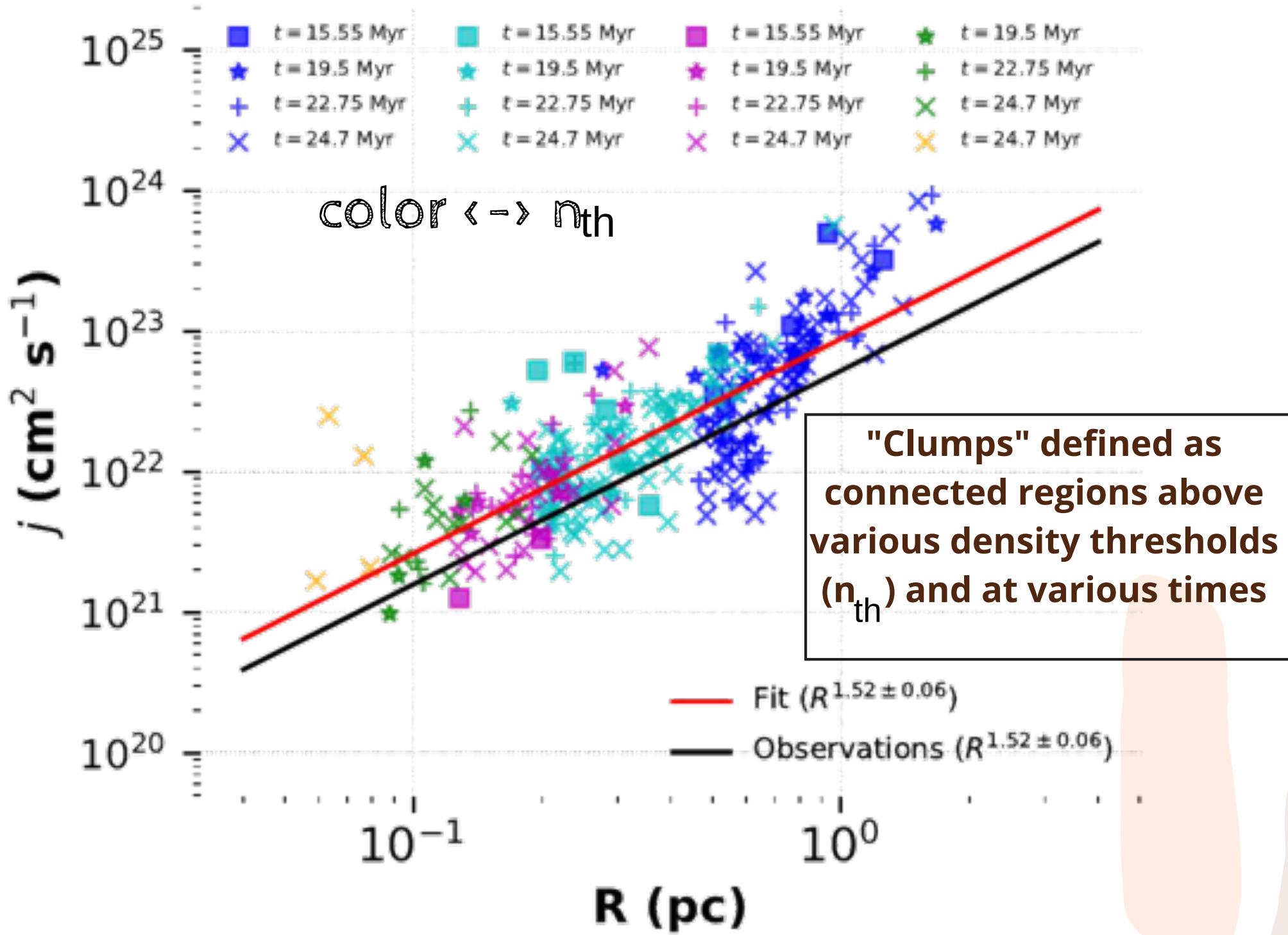
Heiner et al. (2015)



- SPH simulation performed with GADGET-2
- $296^3 \approx 2.6 \times 10^7$  particles in a box of 256 pc per side.
- Particle mass set at  $0.06 M_{\odot}$ . Total mass in the box:  $1.58 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$
- Initial density and temperature set at  $3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and 750 K [ $T_{\text{eq}} (\text{n}=3 \text{ cm}^{-3})$ ]. Thermally unstable warm atomic gas.
- Density threshold to form sinks:  $3.2 \times 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Includes selfgravity, cooling and diffuse heating processes (via adjusted functions)
- Does not include stellar feedback
- After 0.65 Myr:  $\sigma \approx 18 \text{ km/s}$

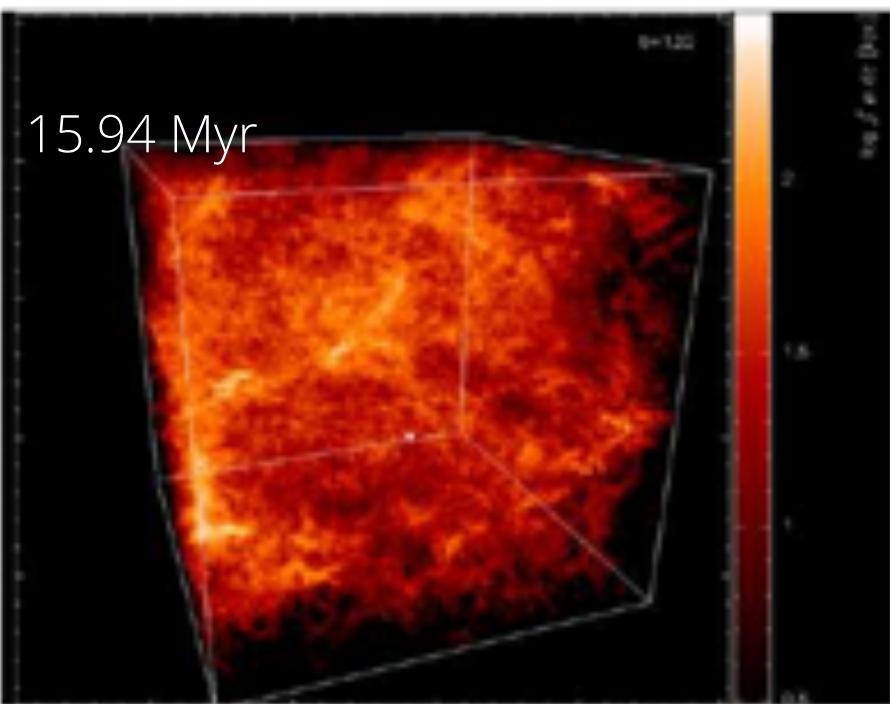
## 2. Our previous work

First result: a clump sample in the simulation reproduces the observed scaling



## The simulation

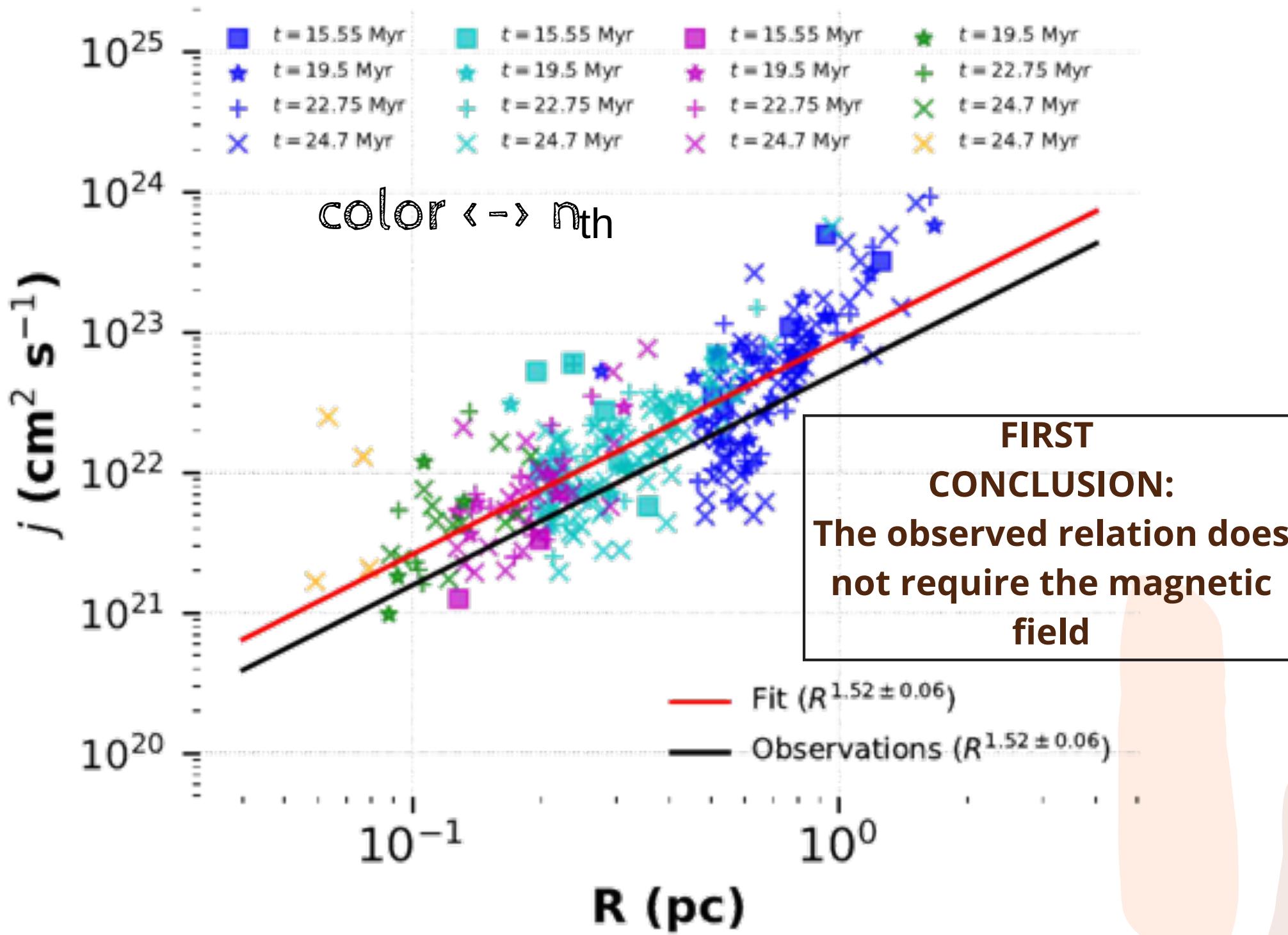
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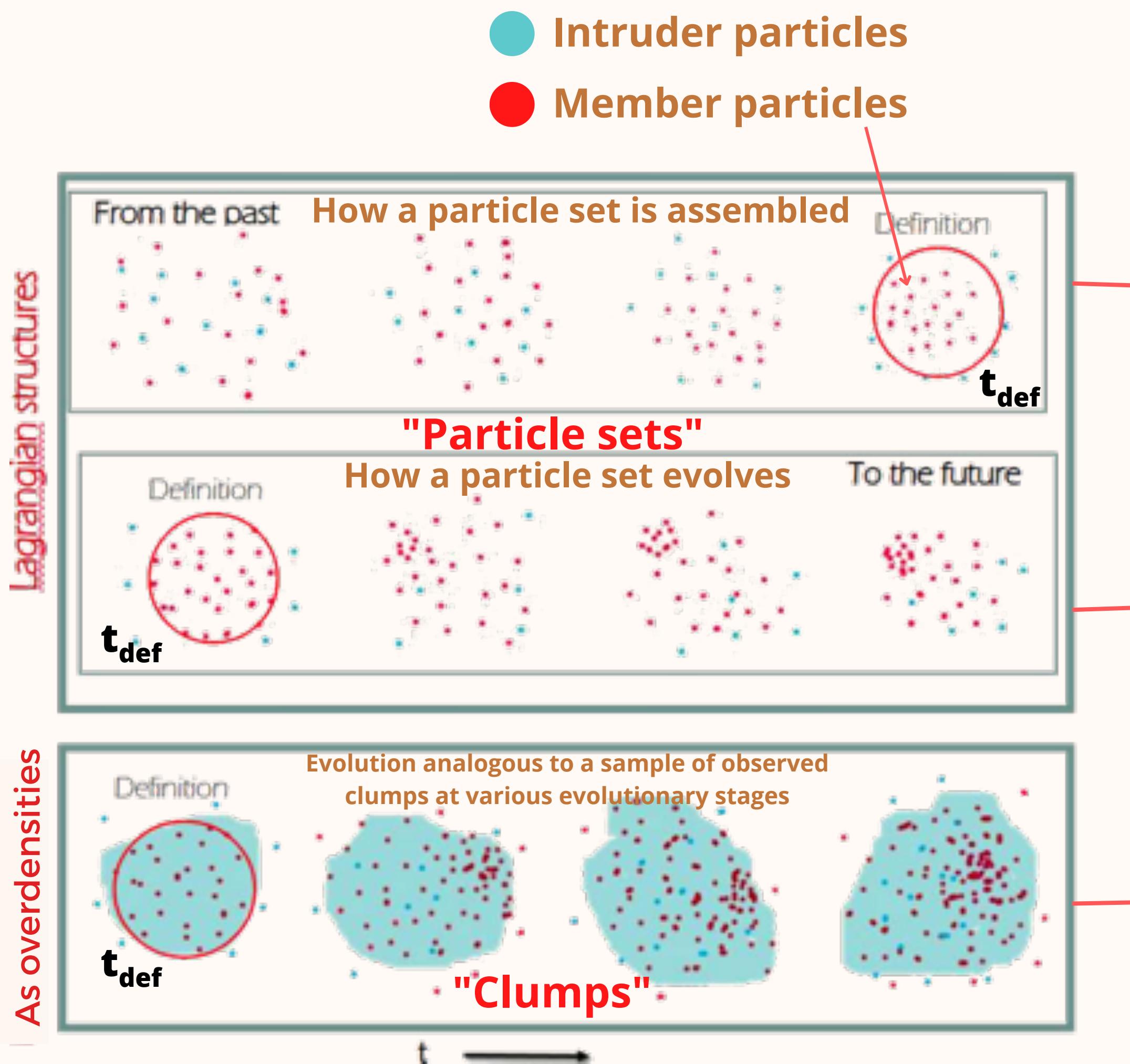
## 2. Our previous work

First result: a clump sample in the simulation reproduces the observed scaling



## 2. Our previous work

### Defining clumps



We use an SPH simulation because it allows us to track fixed sets of particles over time.

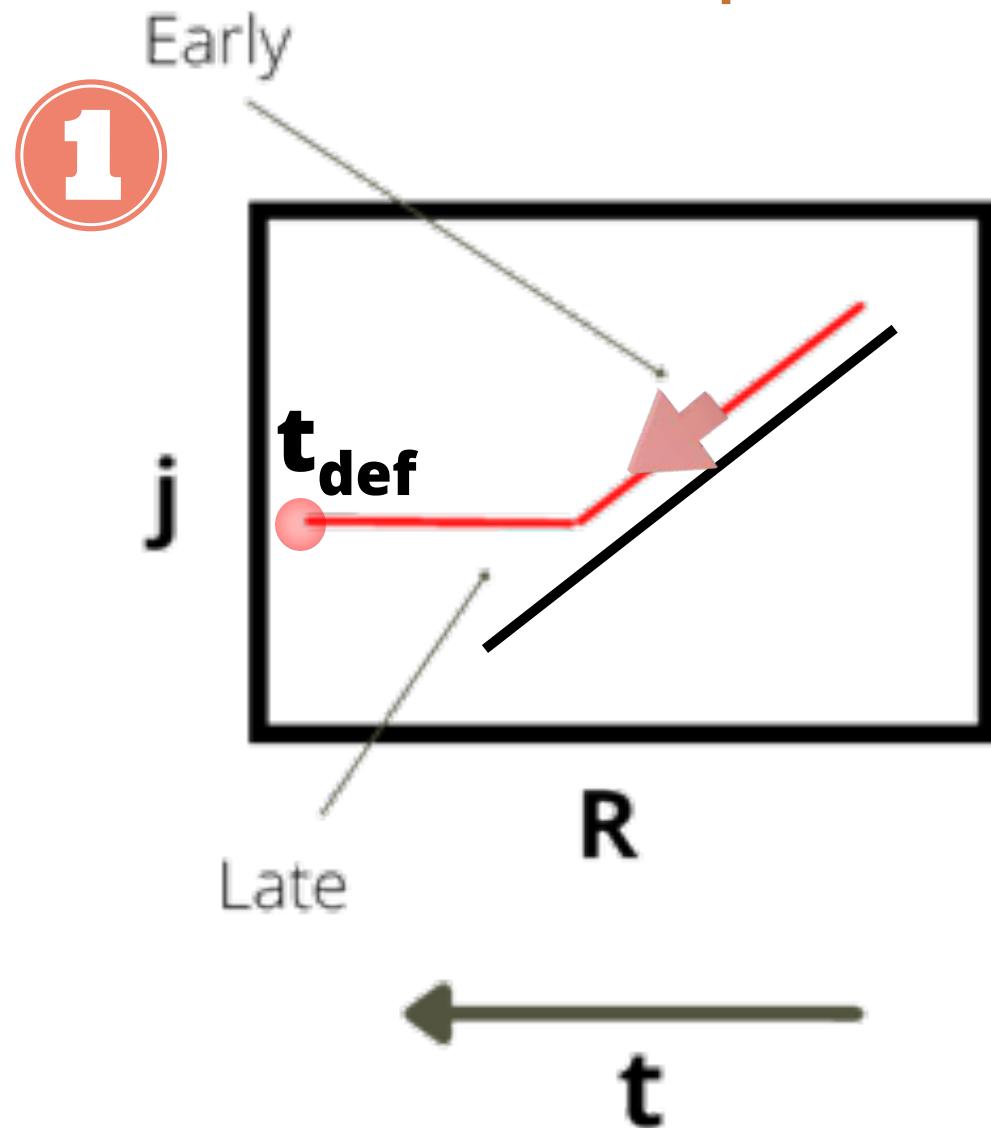
- Clumps defined in the "standard" way, as connected sets of particles above a density threshold at some time  $t_{\text{def}}$ .
- Then follow the same set of particles to the past or the future.

- Clumps followed as overdensities at all times.
- Do not consist of the same set of particles at different times.

# Results

## 2. Our previous work

### Lagrangian particle sets tracked from the past



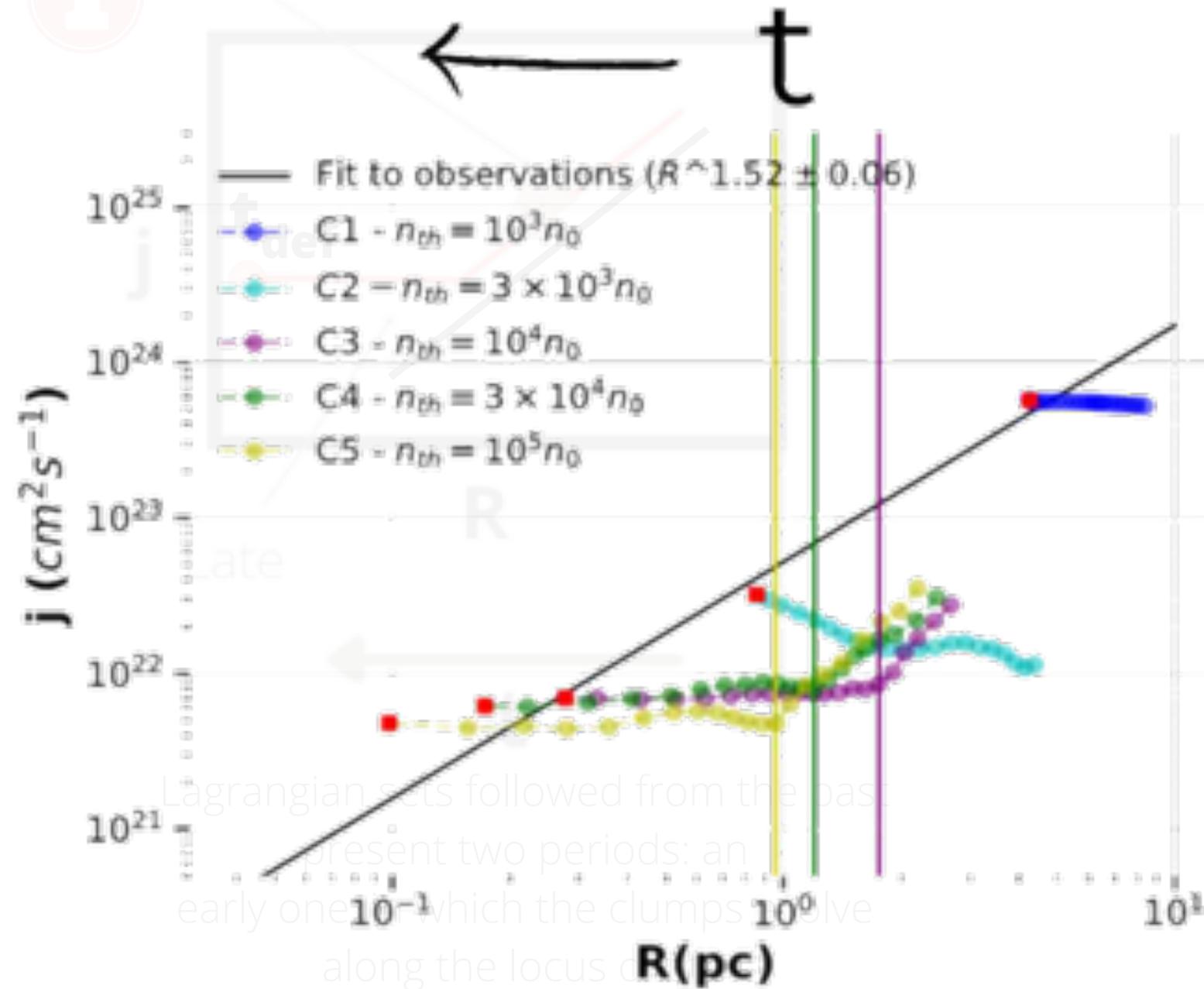
Lagrangian sets followed from the past present two periods: an early one, in which the clumps evolve along the locus of the observational  $j$ - $R$  diagram and a late one, in which they evolve with  $j \sim \text{cst.}$  during the contraction.

# Results

## 2. Our previous work

Lagrangian particle sets tracked  
from the past

1

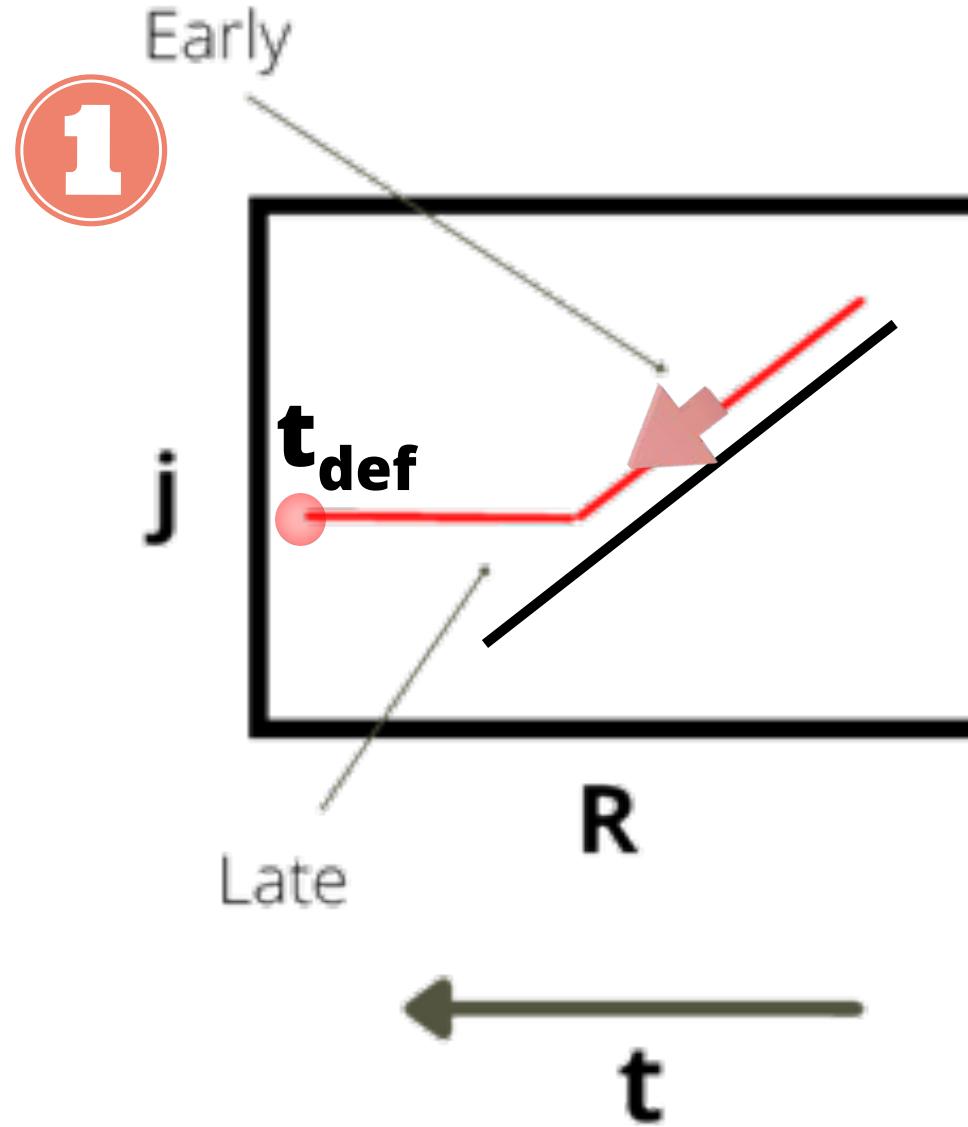


observational j-R diagram and a late one,  
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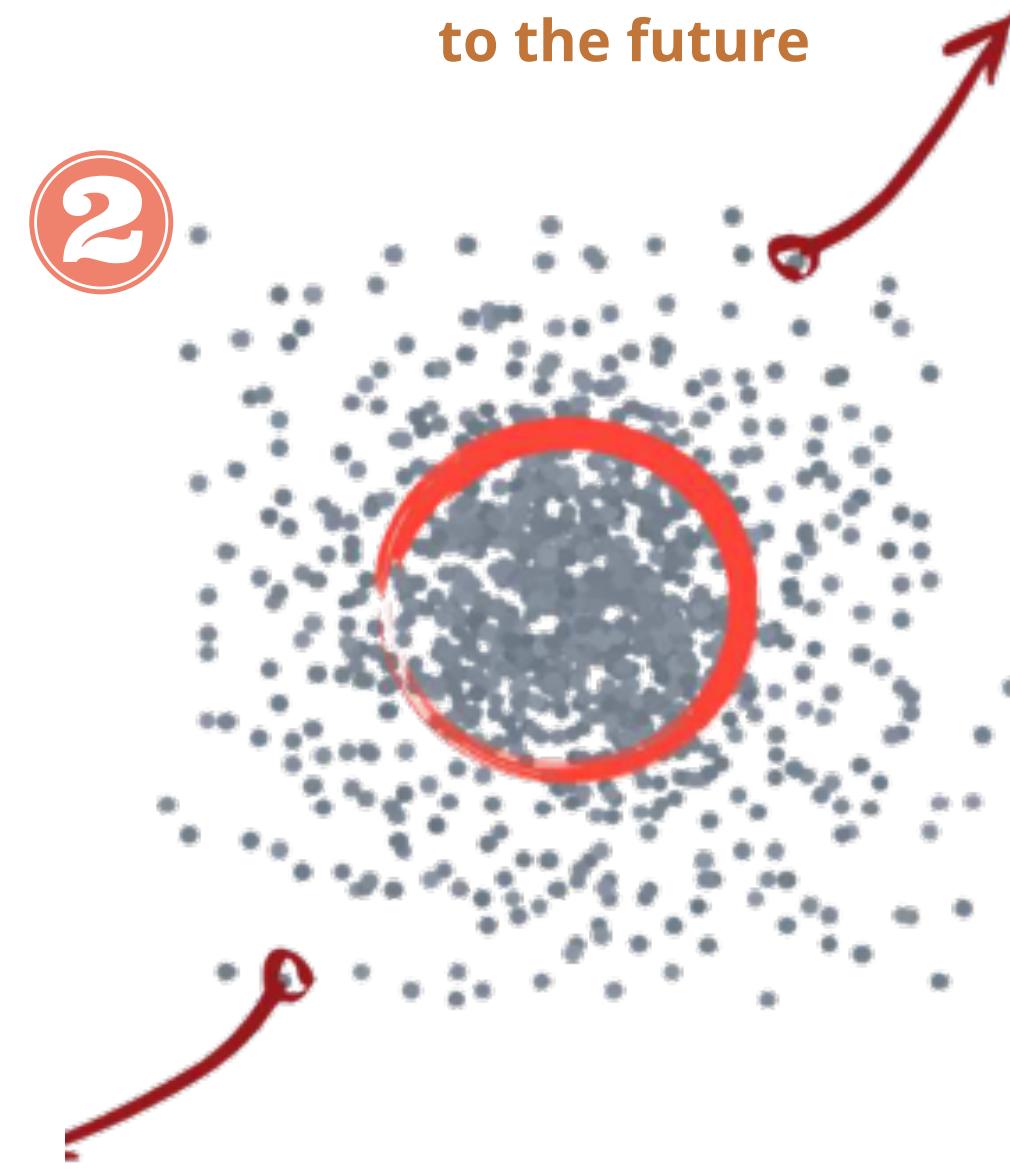
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### Lagrangian particle sets tracked to the future



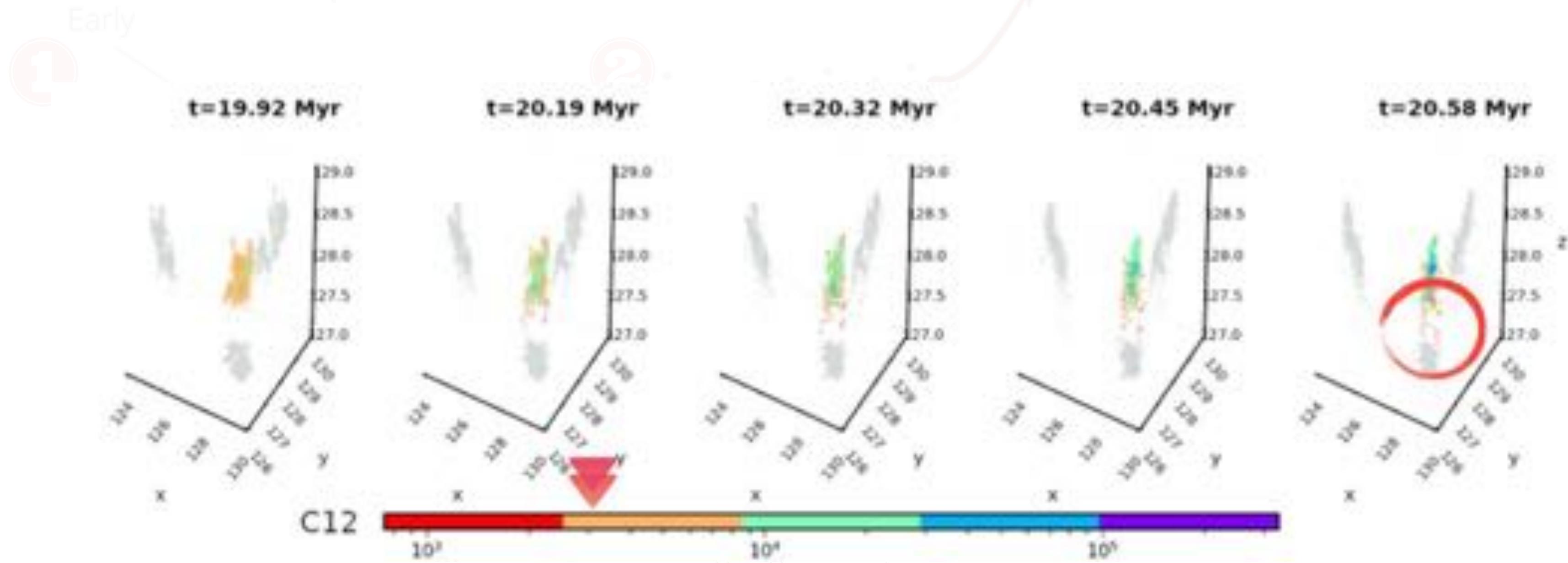
In Lagrangian clumps tracked to the future, the innermost regions collapse and form sinks (stellar particles), while the outer parts disperse

**Similarly to accretion disks**

# Results

## 2. Our previous work

Lagrangian particle sets tracked  
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Lagrangian particle sets tracked  
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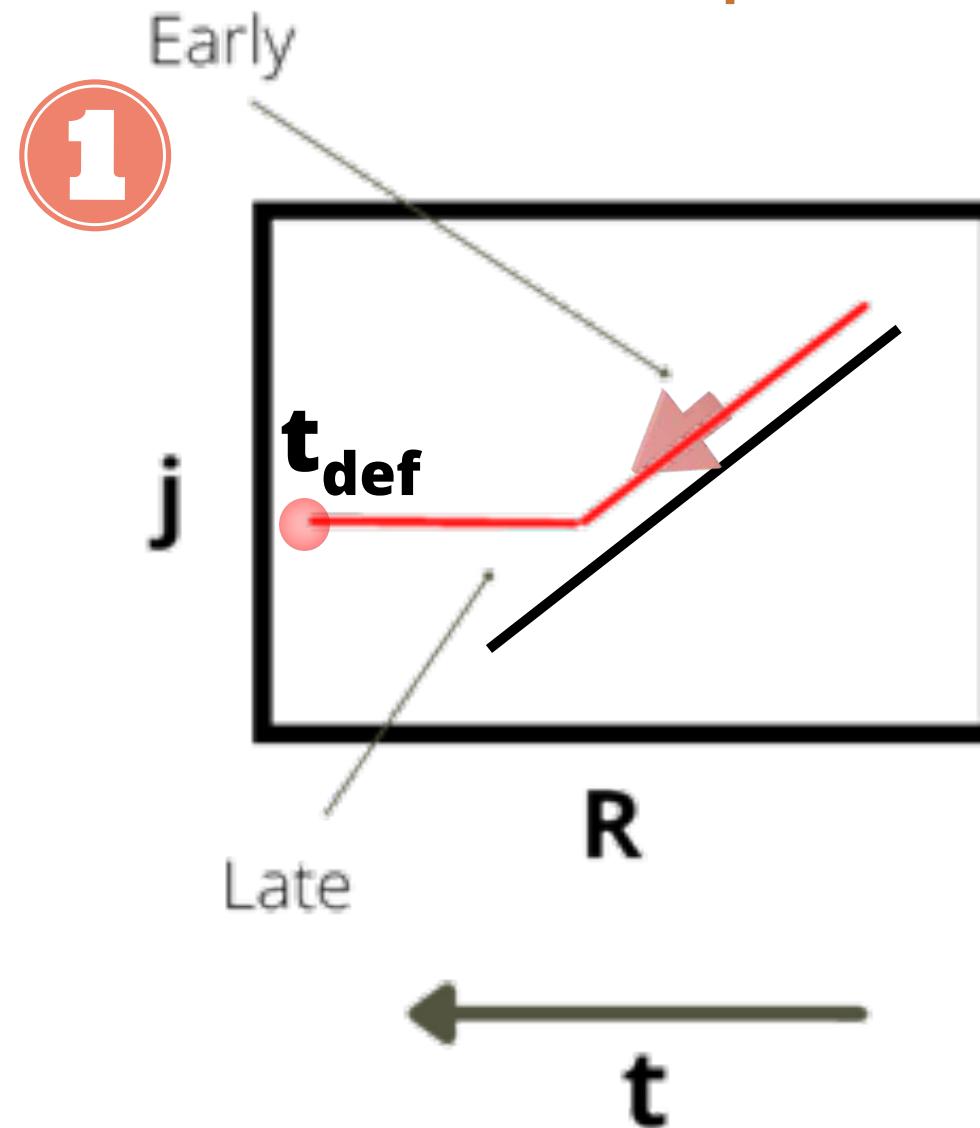
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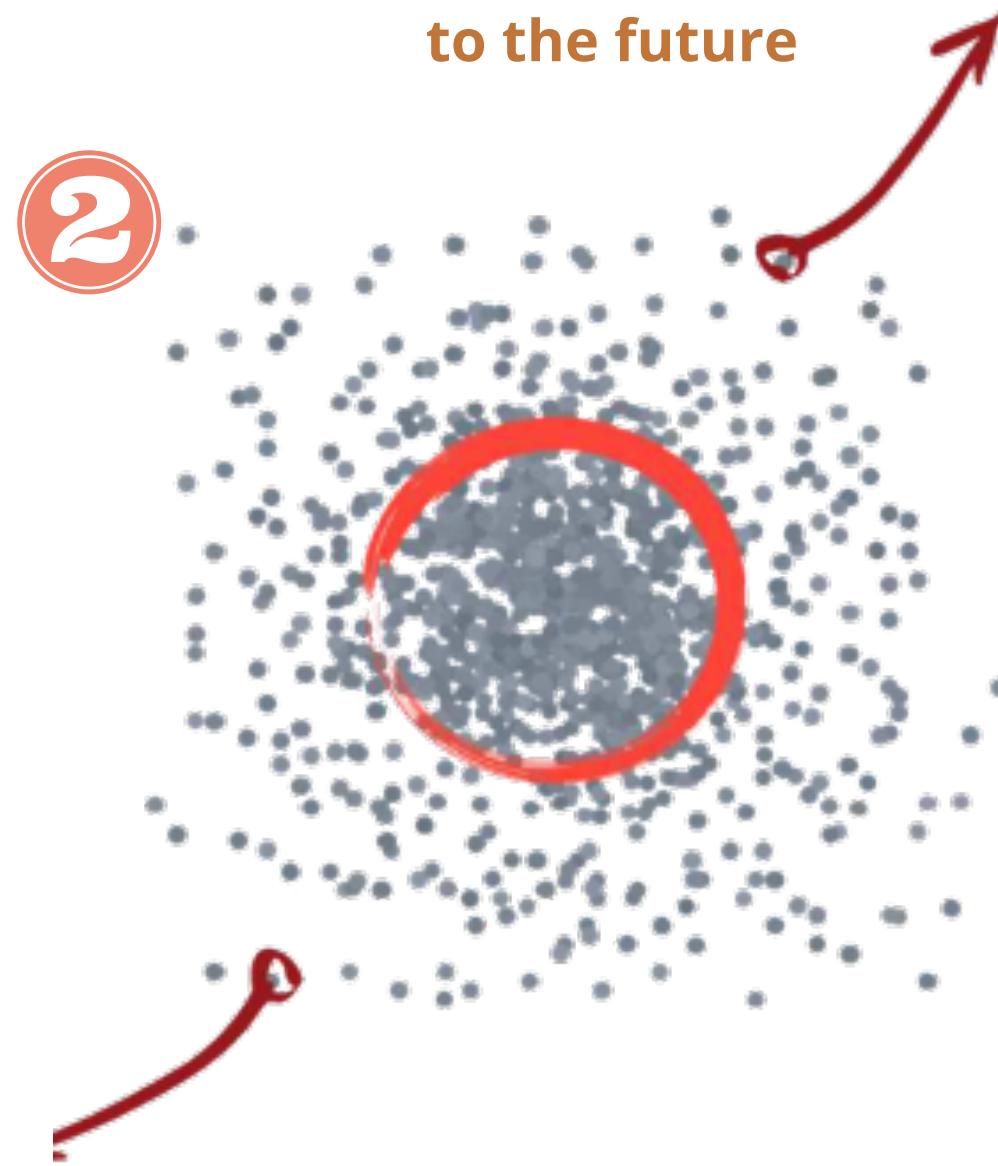
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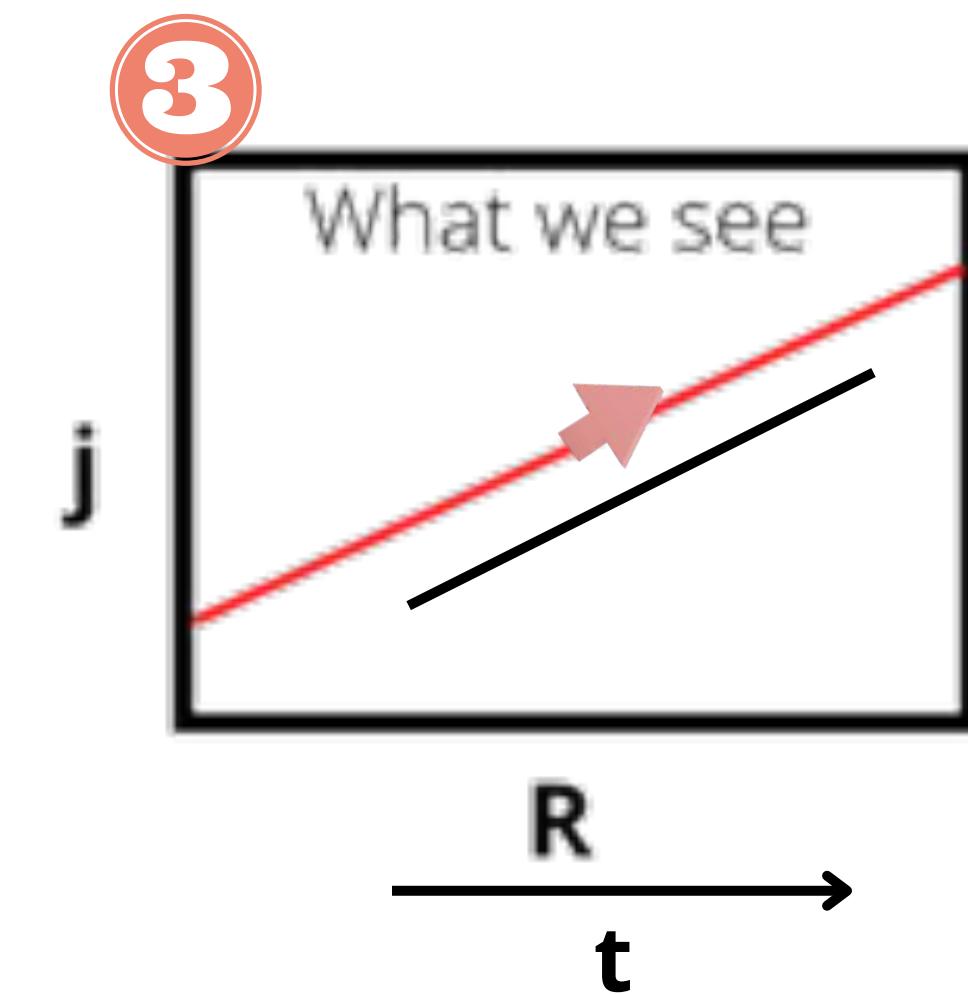
### Lagrangian particle sets tracked to the future



In Lagrangian clumps tracked to the future, the innermost regions collapse and form sinks (stellar particles), while the outer parts disperse

**Similarly to accretion disks**

### Clumps as overdensities tracked to the future



The evolution in both radius and SAM occurs along evolutionary tracks close to the locus of the observational sample in this diagram.

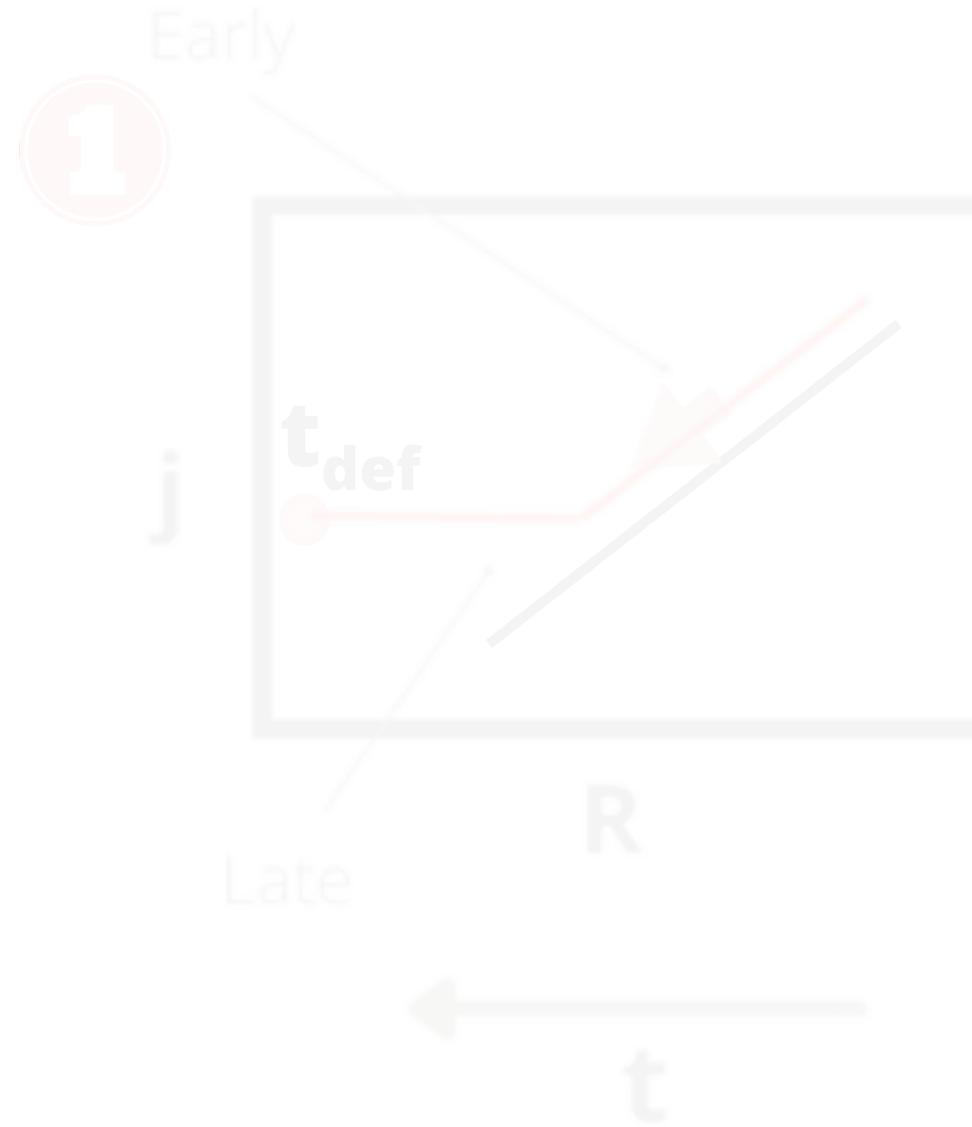
**Clumps increase their radius and mass even though they are collapsing!**

(See also Camacho+20, ApJ, 903, 46)

# Results

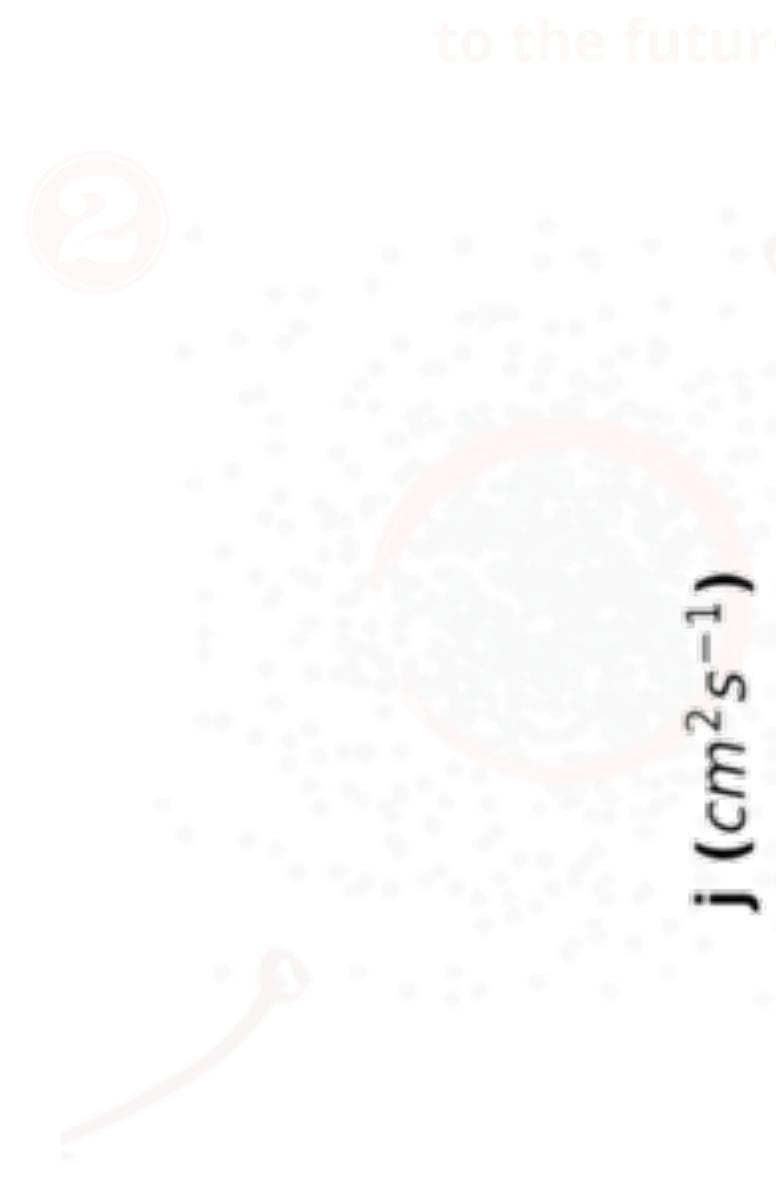
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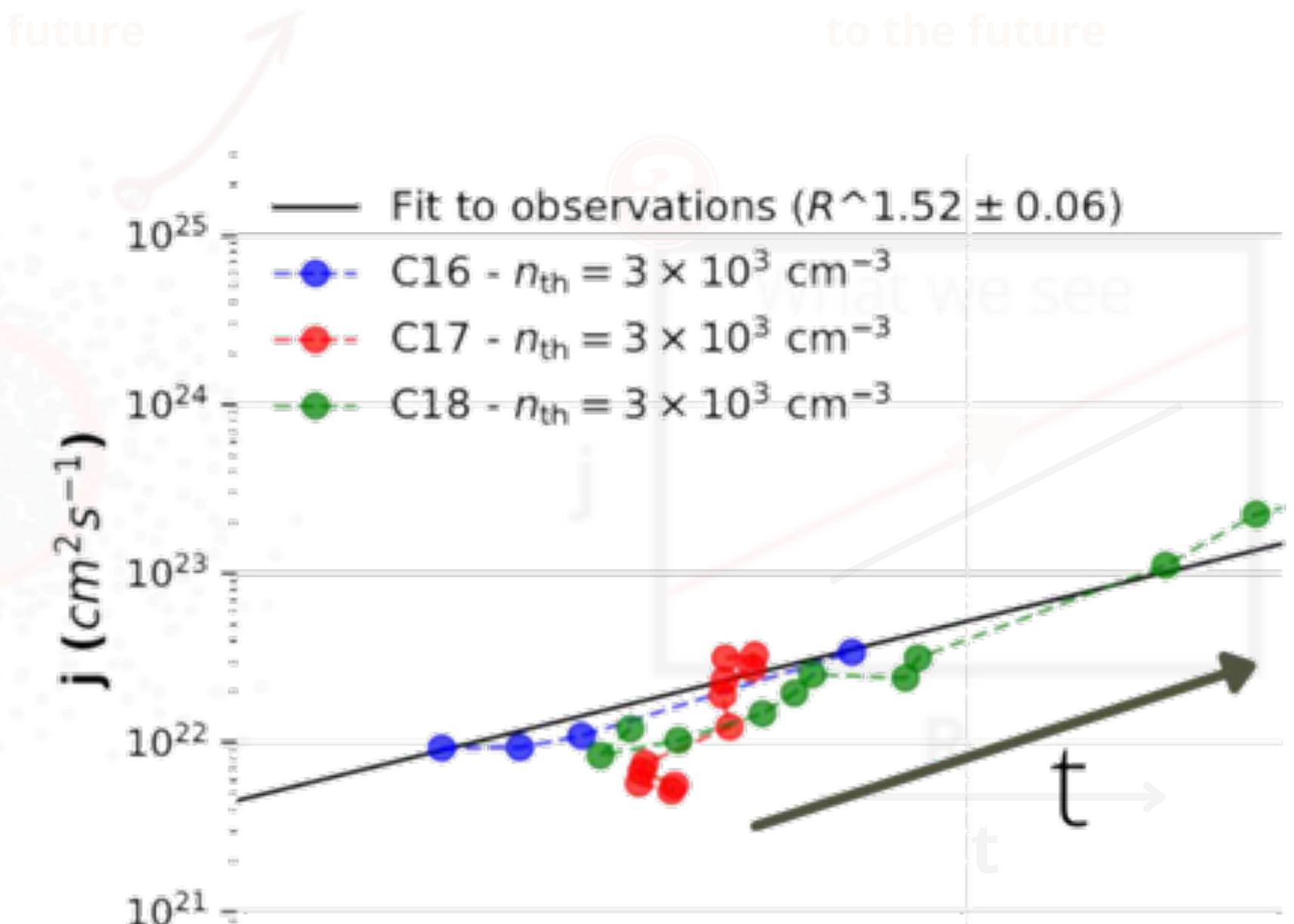
Lagrangian particle sets tracked to the future



In Lagrangian clumps tracked to the future, the innermost regions collapse and form sinks (stellar particles), while the outer parts disperse

Similarly to accretion disks

Clumps as overdensities tracked to the future



The evolution in both radius and mass along the evolutionary tracks close to the locus of the observational sample in this diagram. Clumps increase their radius and mass even though they are collapsing!

(See also Camacho+20, ApJ, 903, 46)

# THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL

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OPEN ACCESS

## Evolution of the Angular Momentum during Gravitational Fragmentation of Molecular Clouds\*

Griselda Arroyo-Chávez<sup>1</sup>  and Enrique Vázquez-Semadeni<sup>1</sup> 

Published 2022 January 26 • © 2022. The Author(s). Published by the American Astronomical Society.

[The Astrophysical Journal, Volume 925, Number 1](#)

Citation Griselda Arroyo-Chávez and Enrique Vázquez-Semadeni 2022 *ApJ* 925 78

- No magnetic field is needed to closely reproduce the observed  $j$ - $R$  scaling.

- The AM transfer mechanism is essentially one of fragmentation:

- A subregion contracts by transferring AM to another.

- Observed while tracking to the future.

- The transfer is performed through "intruder particles".

- Observed while tracking from the past.

- When not enough intruder particles are present, evolution

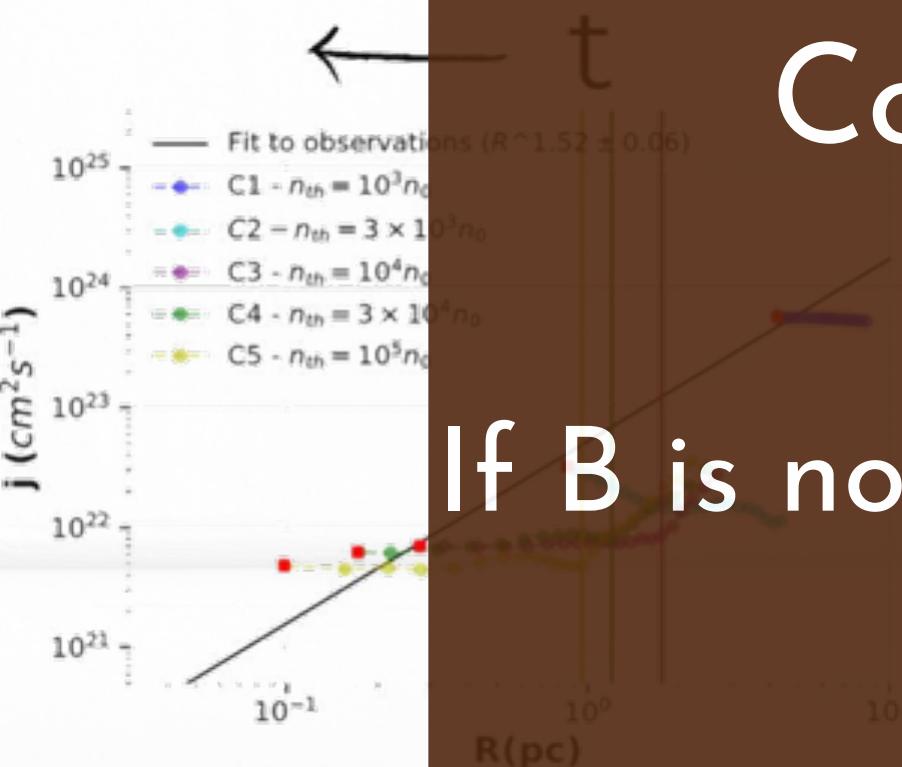
proceeds at nearly constant AM. Observed while tracking from the past.

Lagrangian sets followed from the past present two periods: an early one, in which the clumps evolve along the locus of the observational  $j$ - $R$  diagram and a late one, in which they evolve with  $j \sim \text{cst.}$  during the contraction.

## Conclusions:

Increase its radius and mass even though it's collapsing!

1 Lagrangian clumps  
tracked from the past



Lagrangian sets followed from the past present two periods: an early one, in which the clumps evolve along the locus of the observational j-R diagram and a late one, in which they evolve with  $j \sim \text{cst.}$  during the contraction.

Next step:

Consider the magnetic field (B) using

**PHANTOM**

In Lagrangian clumps tracked to the future, the innermost regions collapse toward form stars (stellar particles), while the outer parts disperse

If B is not necessary to recover the observed j-R relation, what is its role?

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL

OPEN ACCESS

Evolution of the Angular Momentum during Gravitational Fragmentation of Molecular Clouds\*

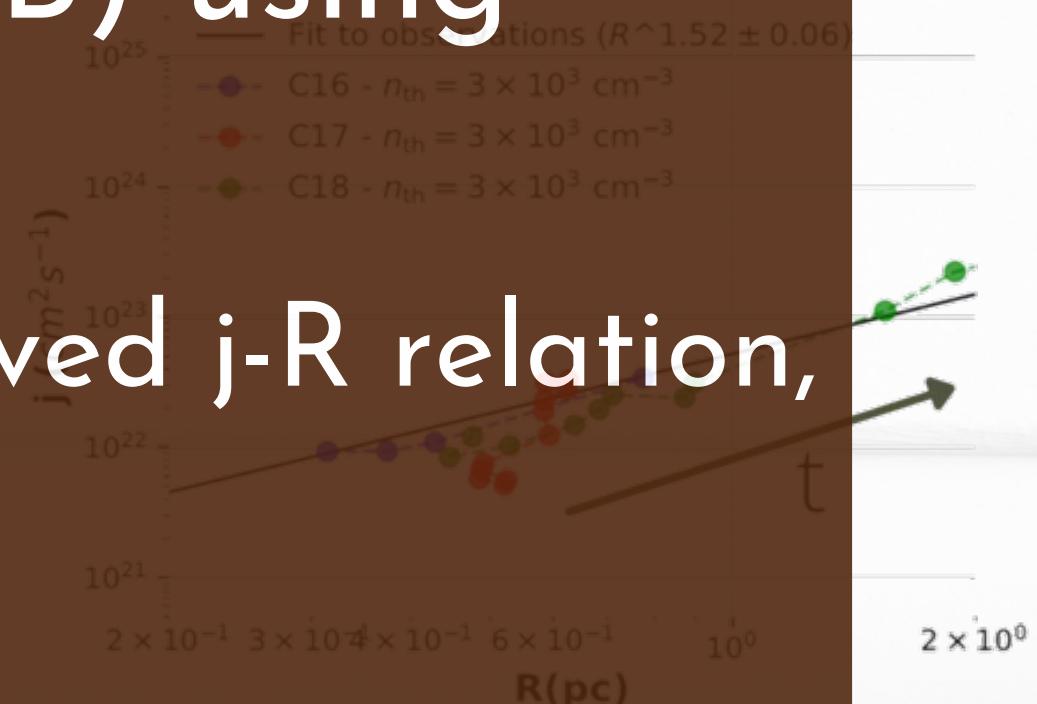
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Clumps as overdensities  
tracked to the future



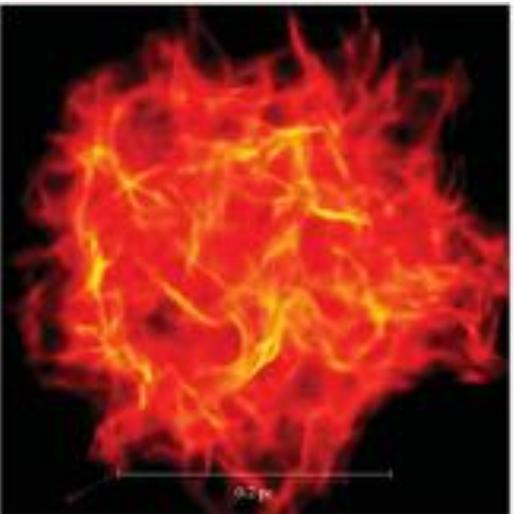
The evolution in both radius and SAM occurs along evolutionary tracks close to the locus of the observational sample in this diagram.

Increase its radius and mass even though it's collapsing!

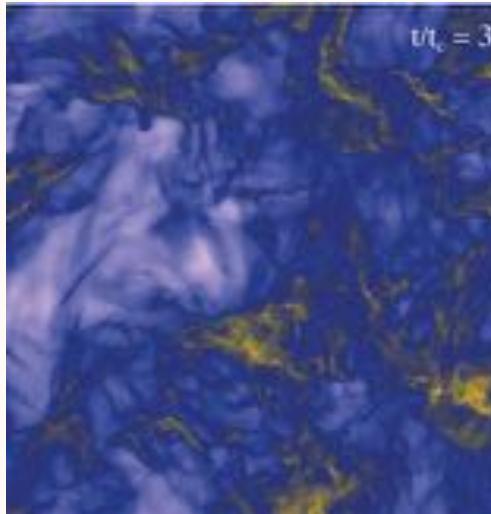
# 3. Simulations with PHANTOM

We combine setups

*Cluster formation*

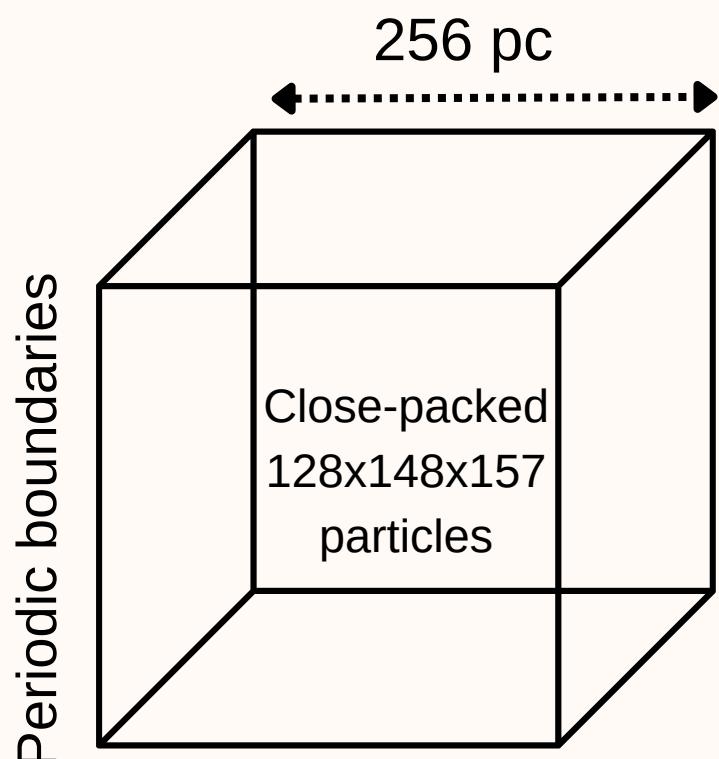


*Turbulence*



(Price et al., 2018)

To create two simulations with the following features:

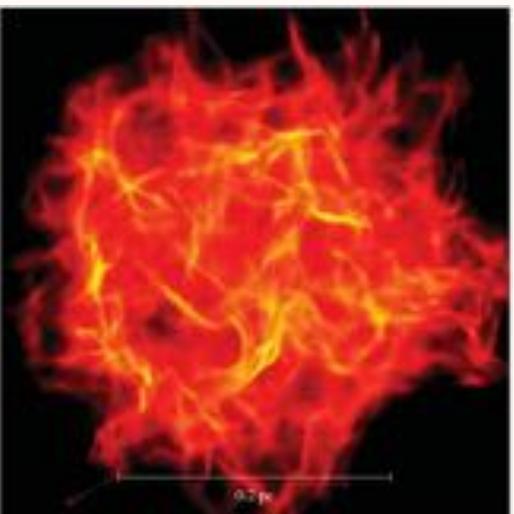


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- Density threshold to form sinks:  $4.7 \times 10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Includes selfgravity, cooling and diffuse heating processes (Implicit Koyama & Inutsuka 2002)
- Initial default forcing of the *cluster formation* setup with  $\sigma \approx 12 \text{ km/s}$  at  $t=0$
- With and without uniform magnetic field of  $3 \mu\text{G}$

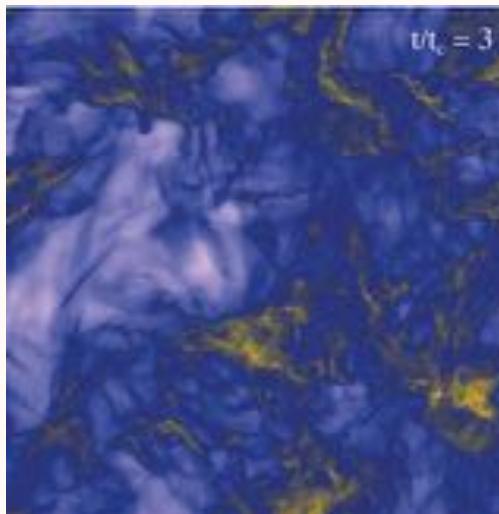
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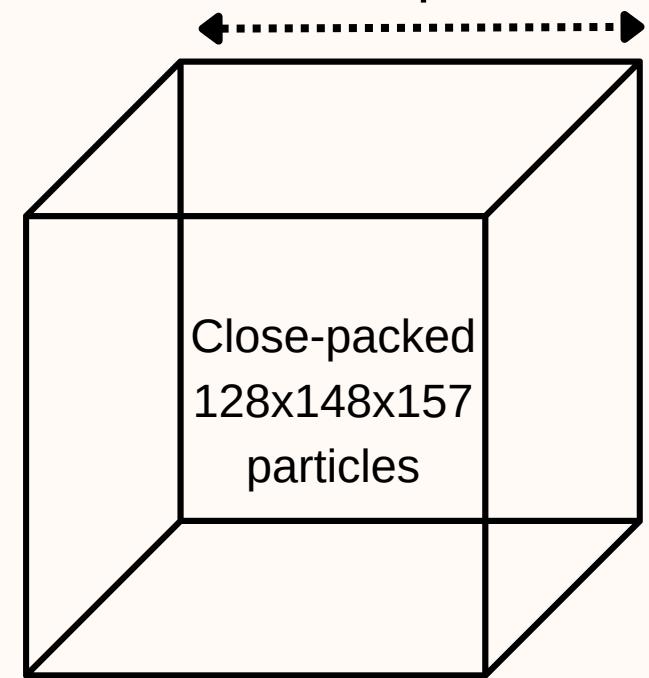


(Price et al., 2018)

To create two simulations with the following features:

256 pc

Periodic boundaries



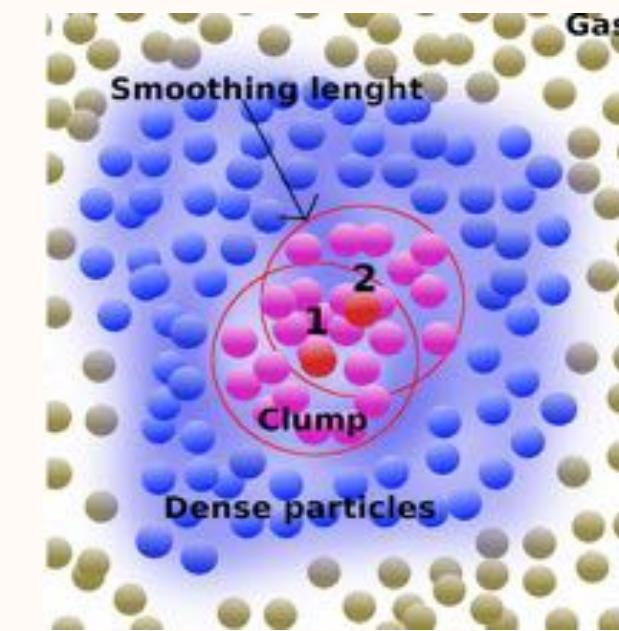
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- With and without uniform magnetic field of  $3 \mu\text{G}$

For the analysis of the outputs we use

**PLONK**



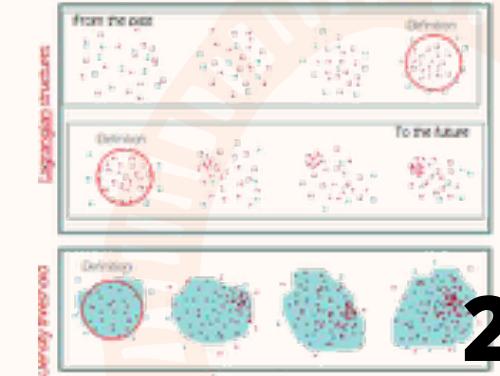
To generate a sample of simulated clumps



External SPH  
clump finding  
algorithm  
(Camacho+16)

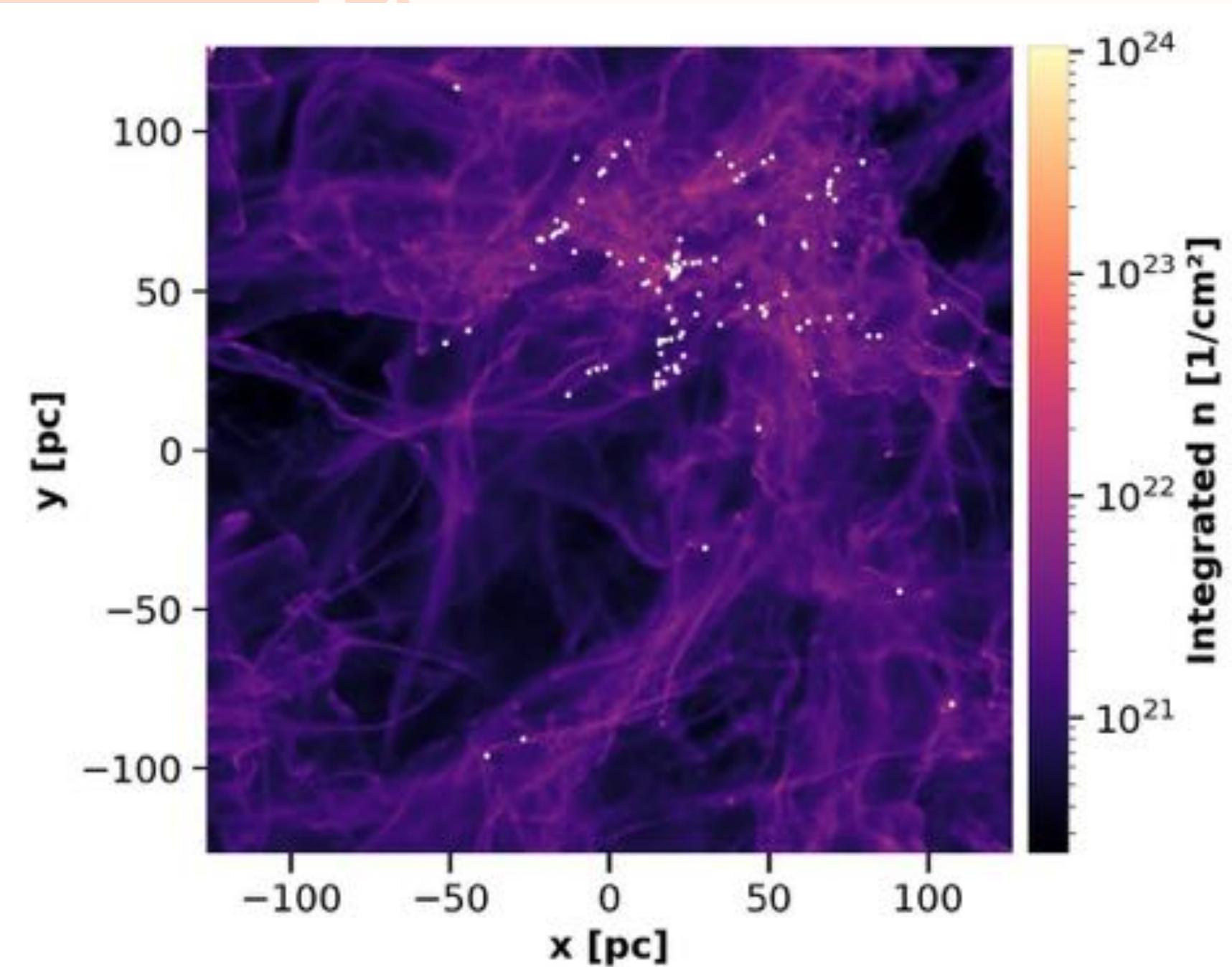


Same methodology as in our previous work

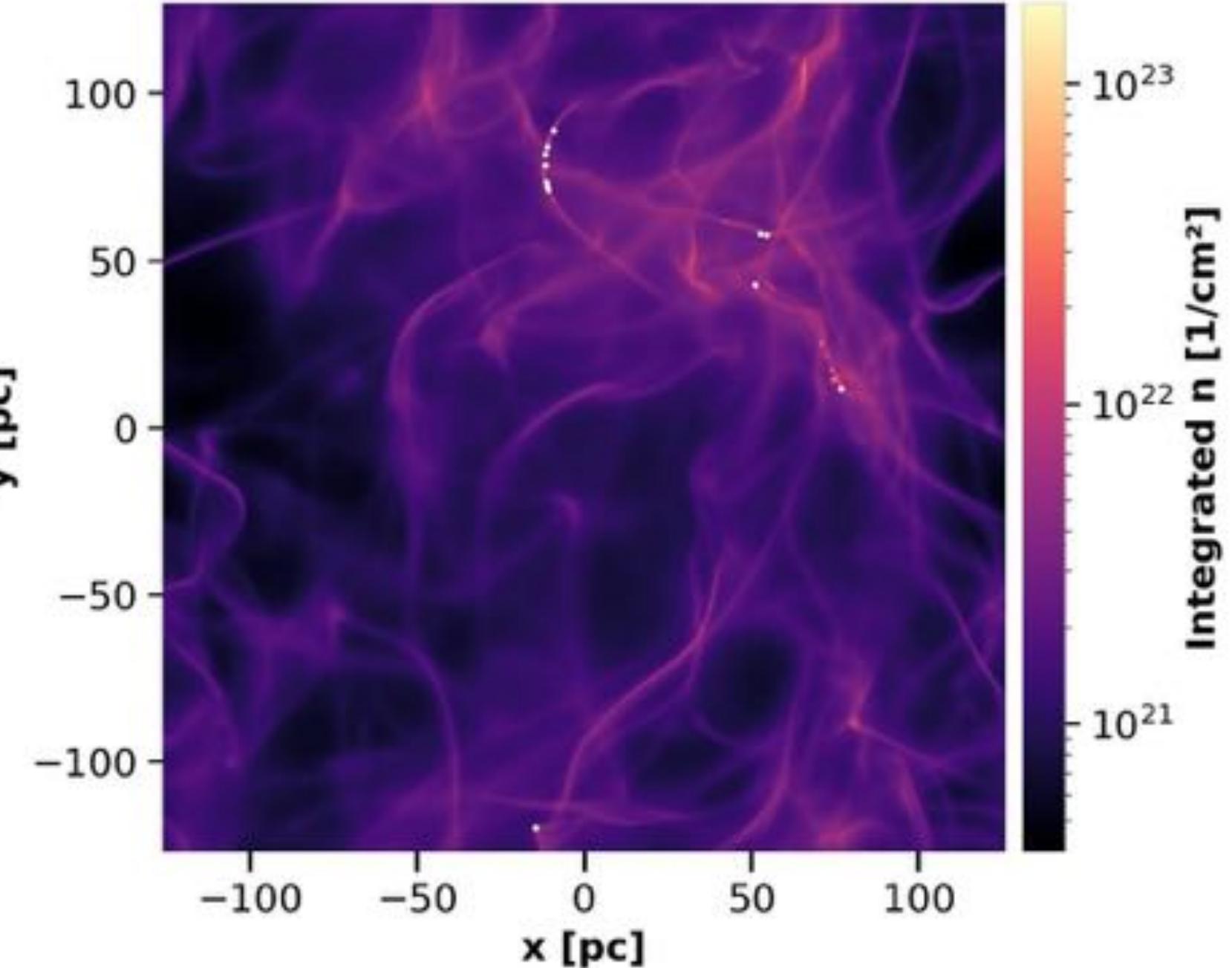


### 3. Simulations with PHANTOM Magnetic

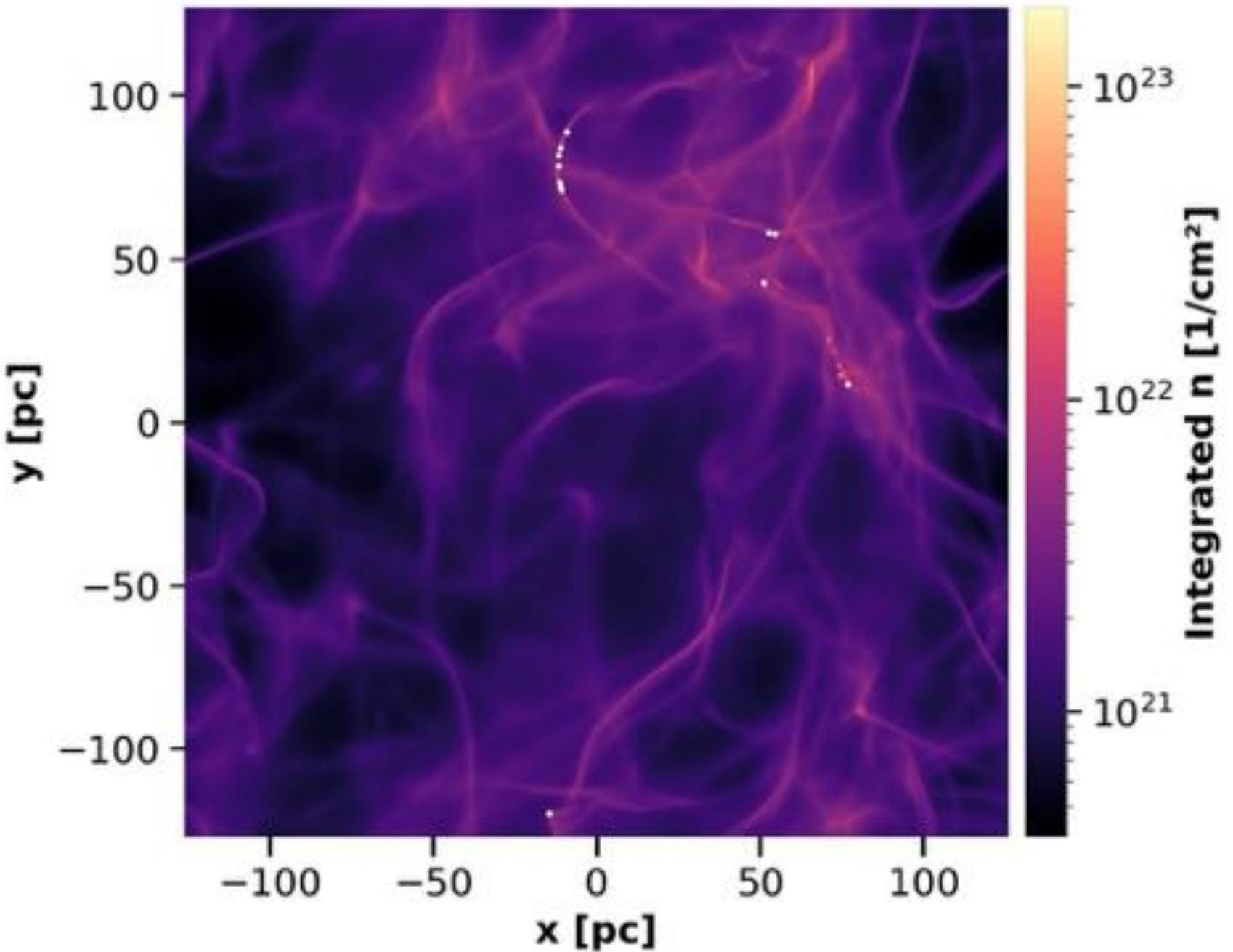
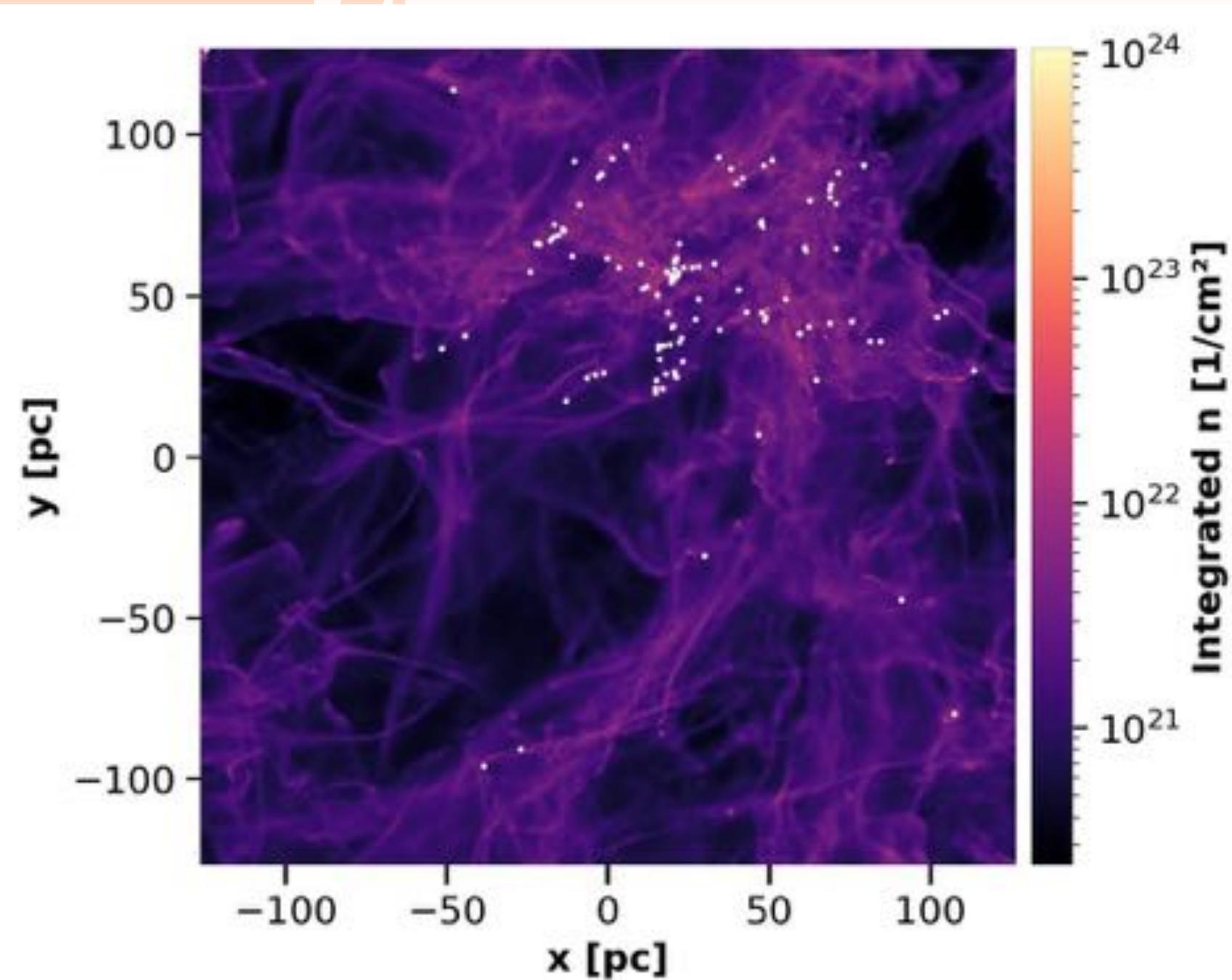
Hydro



$t \sim 10$  Myr



# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM Hydro Magnetic

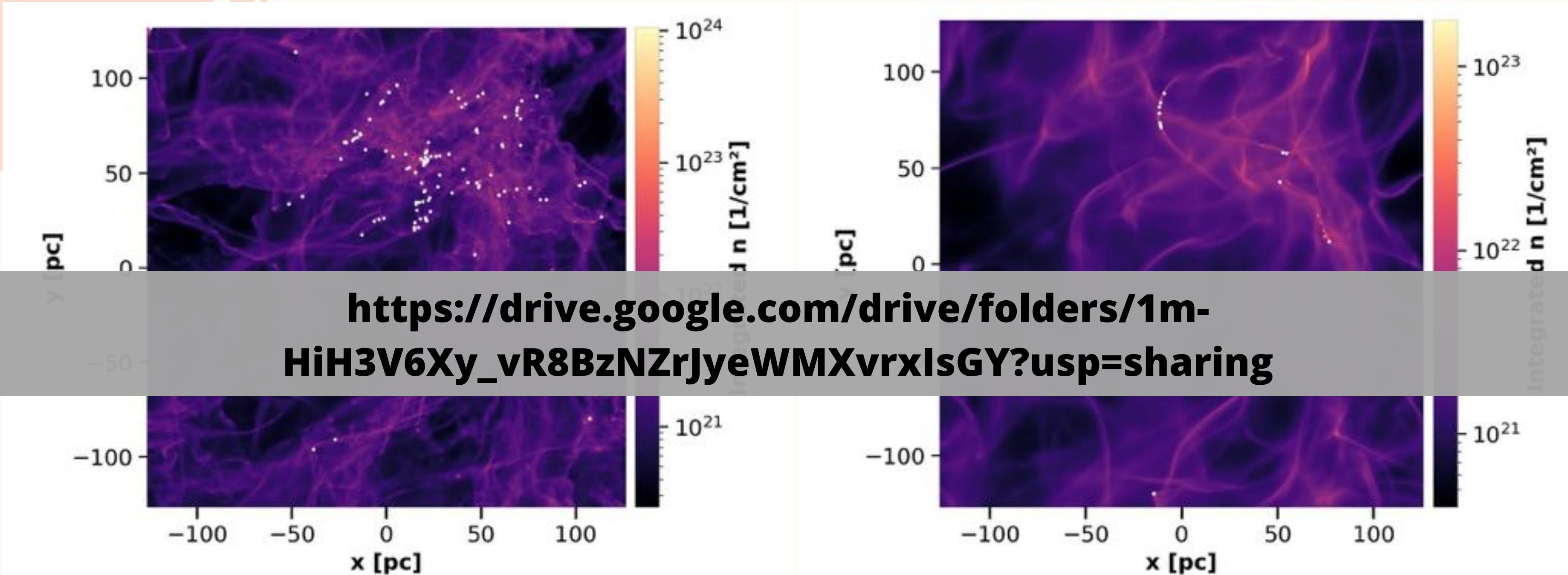


$t \sim 10 \text{ Myr}$

- More fragmented
- Large sink formation rate

- More filamentary structures
- Low sink formation rate

# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM Hydro Magnetic



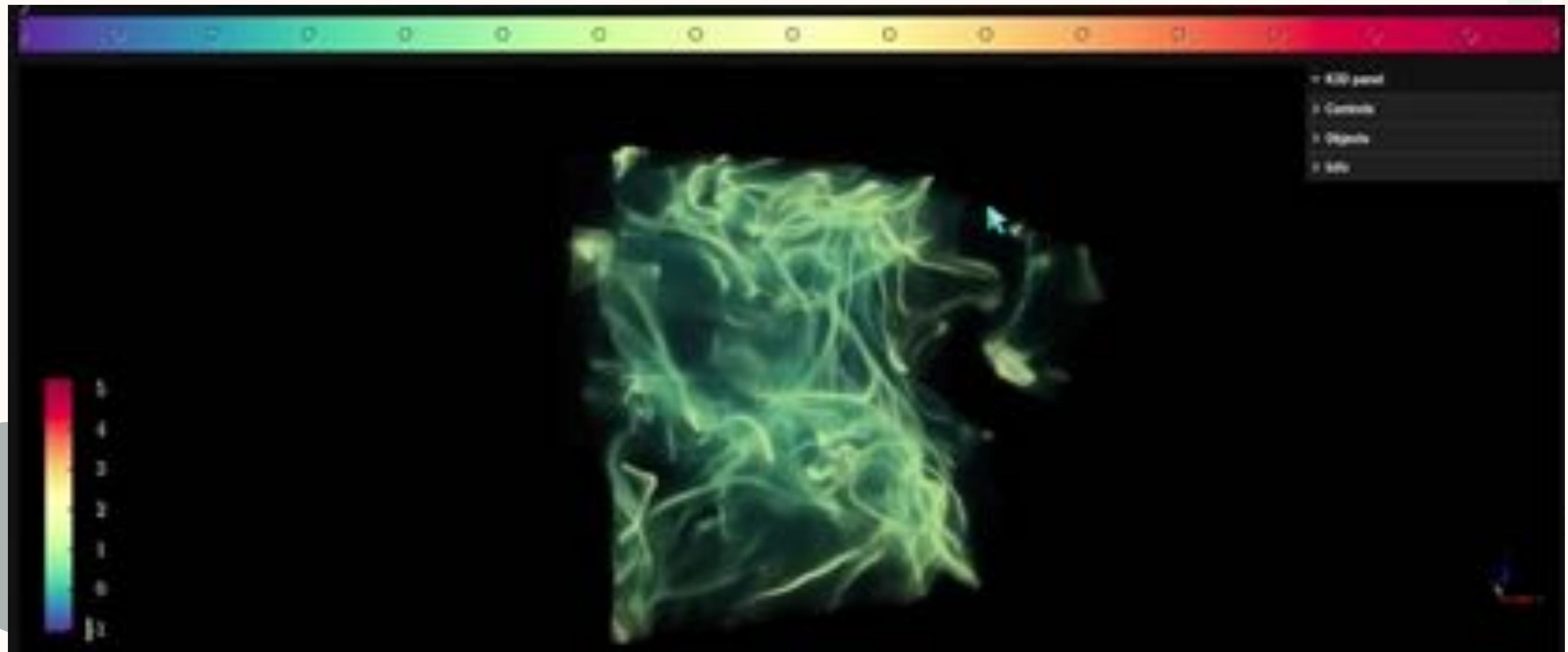
- More fragmented
- Large sink formation rate

$t \sim 10$  Myr

- More filamentary structures
- Low sink formation rate

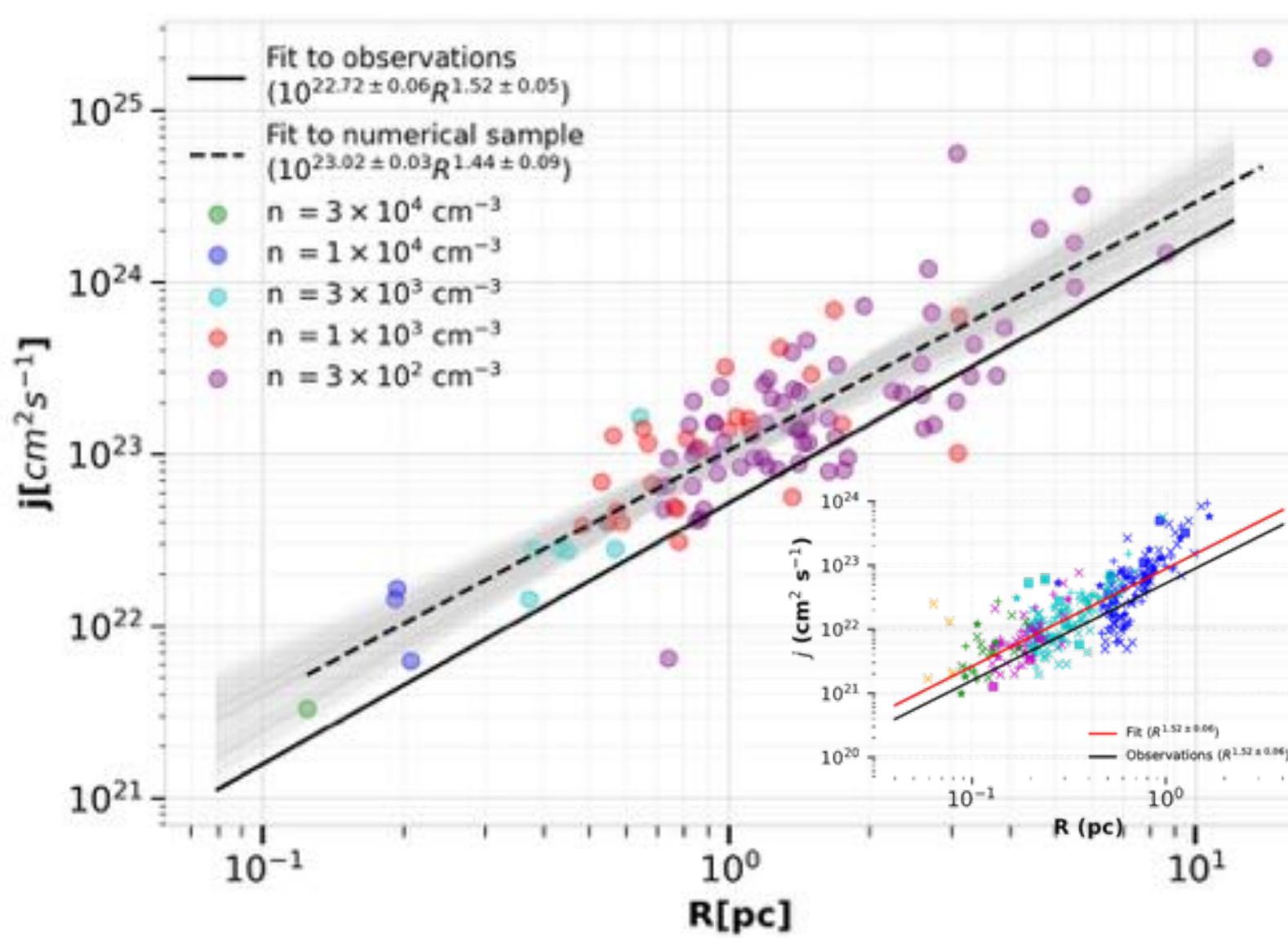
## 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM

### 3D visualization with K3D

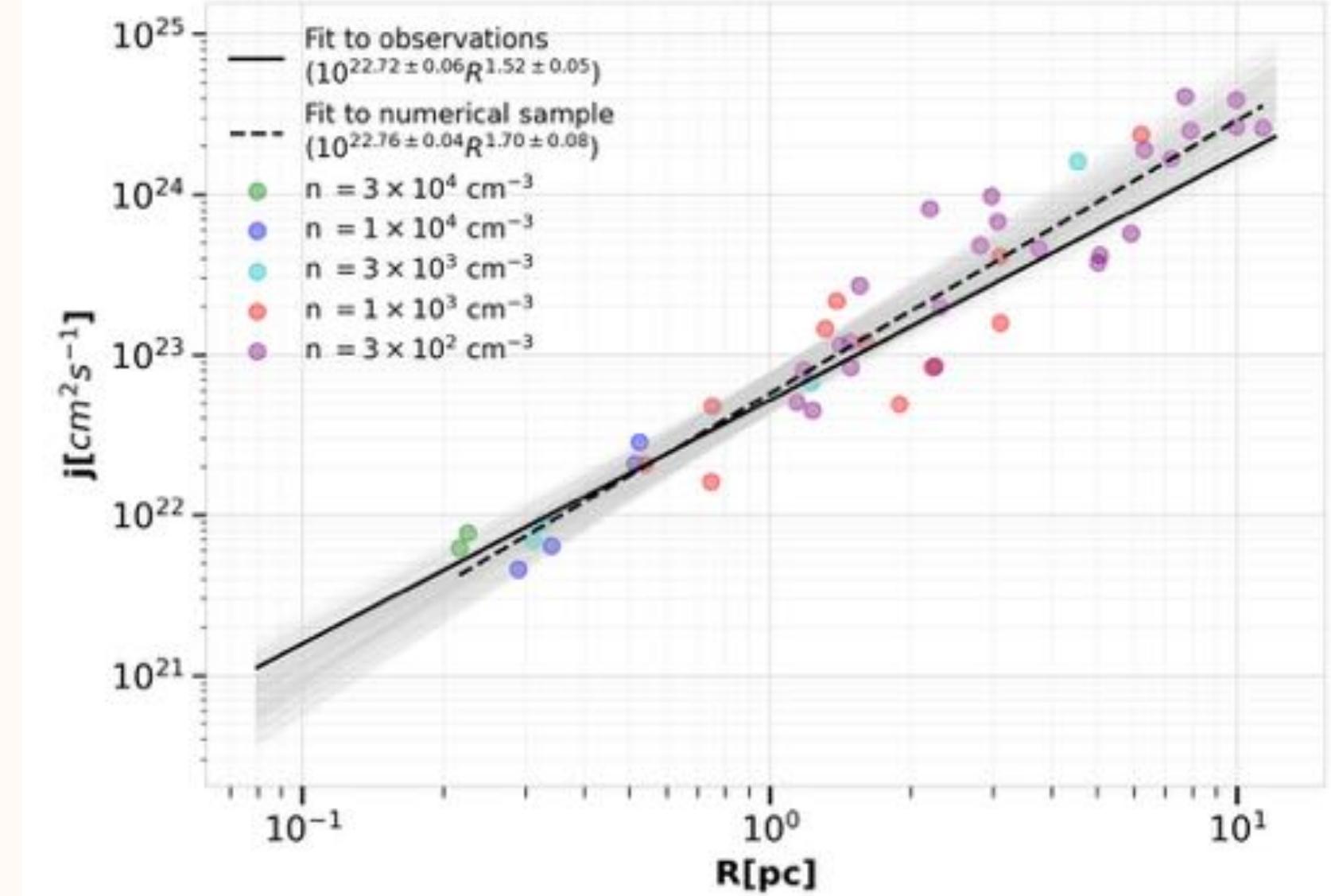


# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM

## The j-R relation



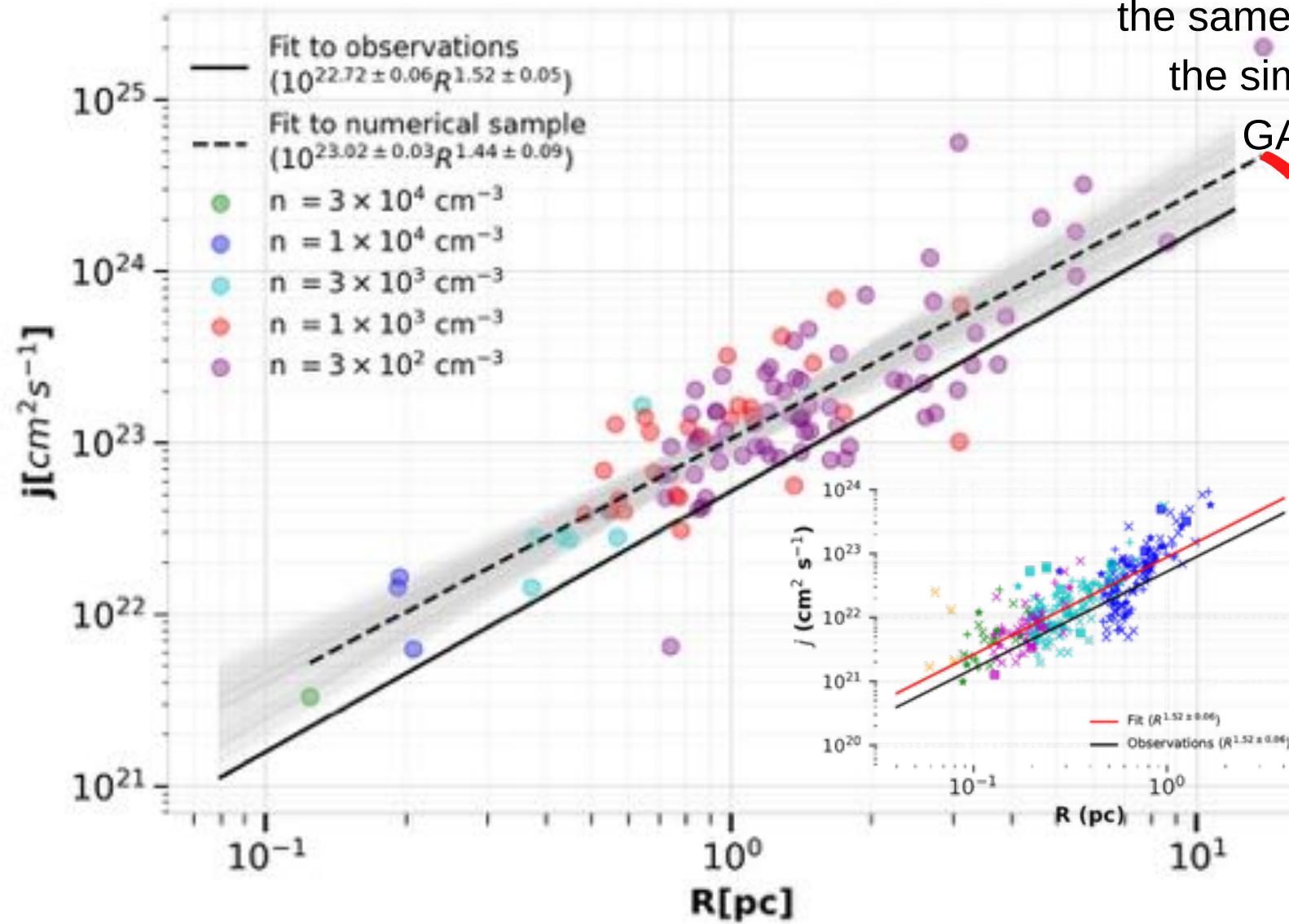
Hydro



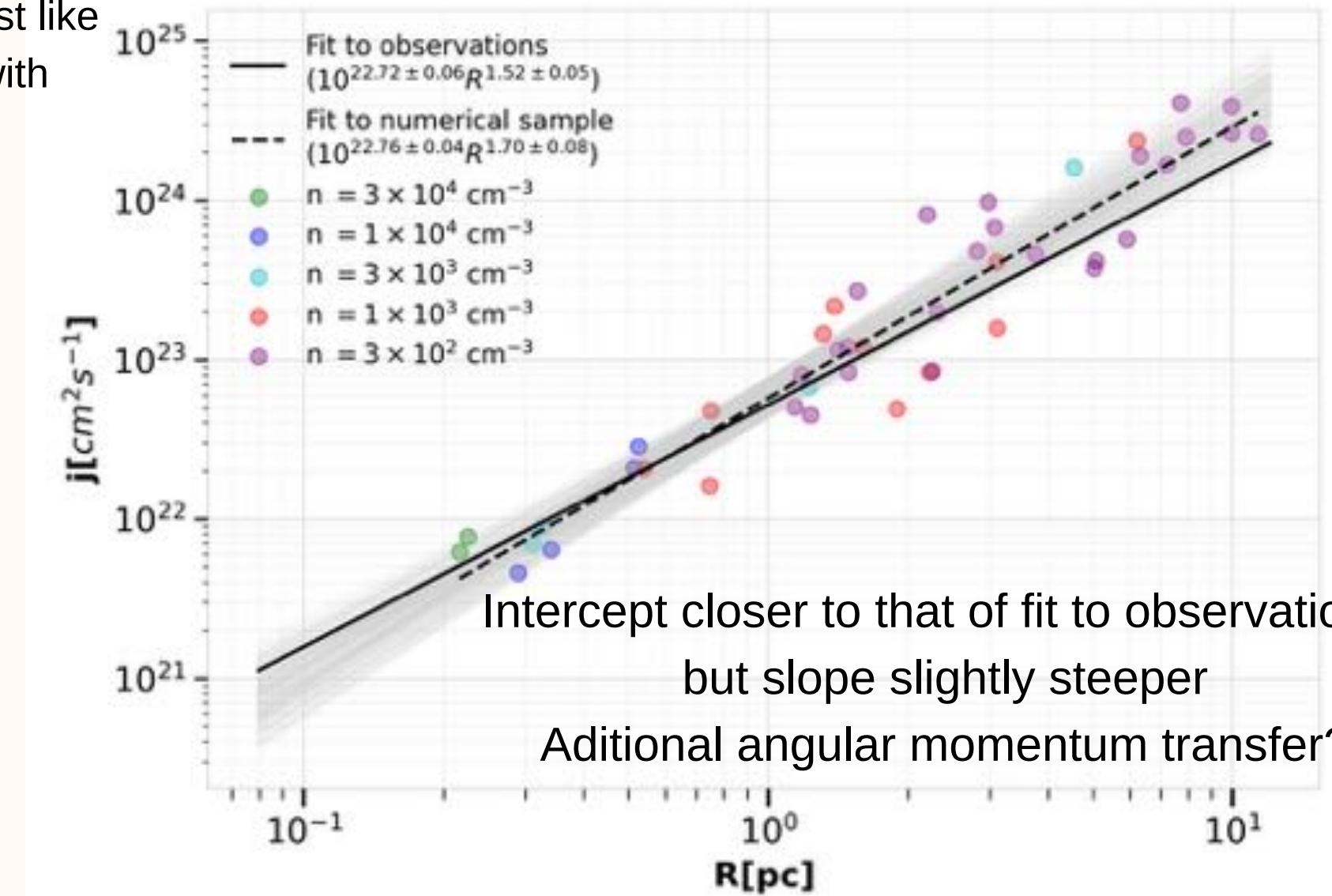
Magnetic

# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM

## The j-R relation



Hydro simulation tends to be slightly above the observed relation but with the same slope, just like the simulation with GADGET2



Intercept closer to that of fit to observations, but slope slightly steeper  
Additional angular momentum transfer?

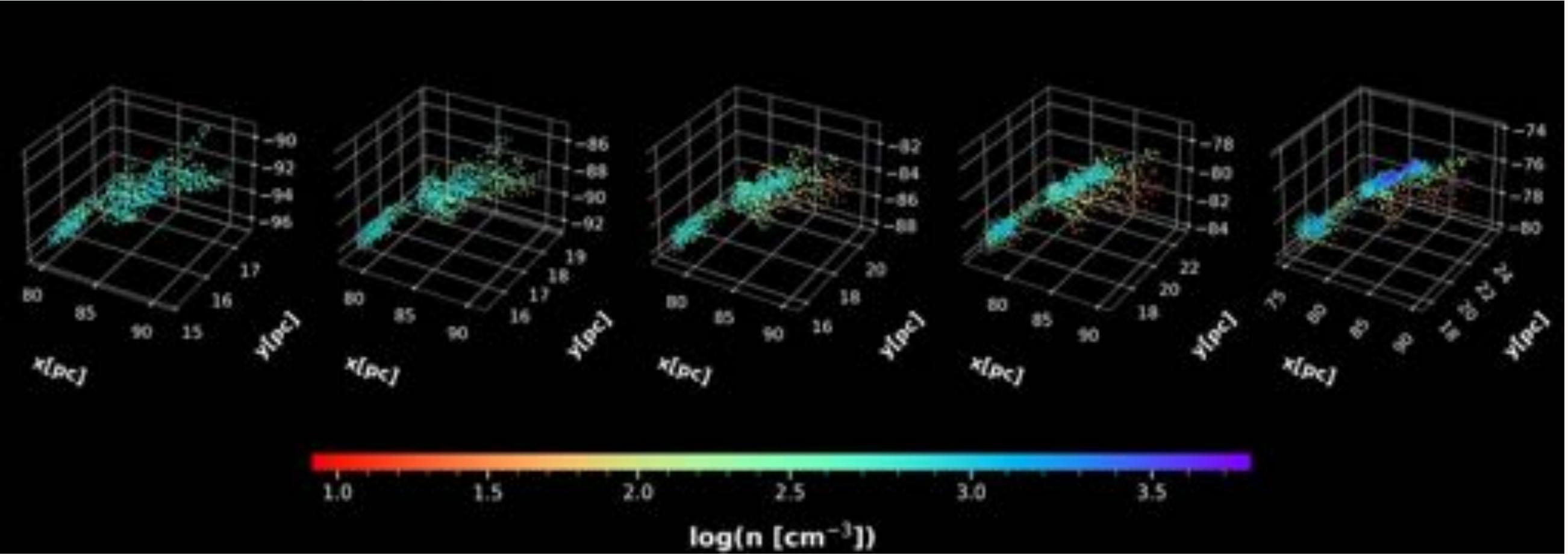
Hydro

Magnetic

Both reproduce the observed j-R relation

# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM

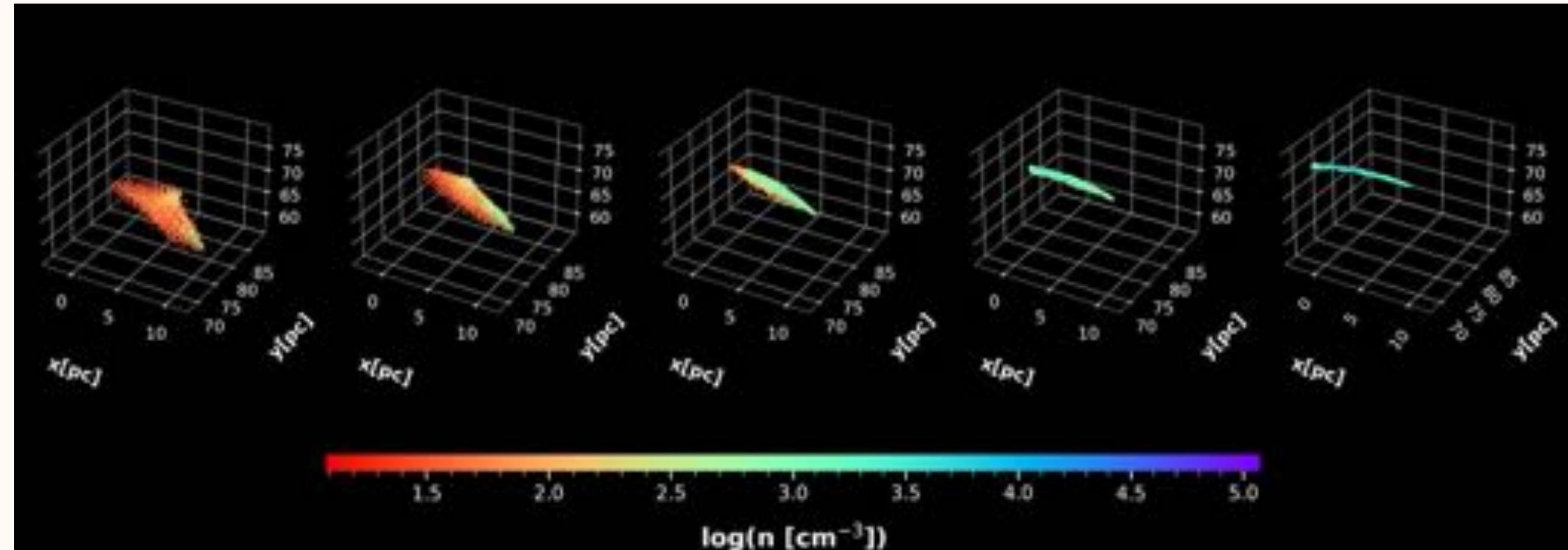
## Tracking to the future



In Lagrangian particle sets tracked **to the future** we recover the same behavior in both simulations: the innermost regions collapse and form sinks while the outer parts disperse

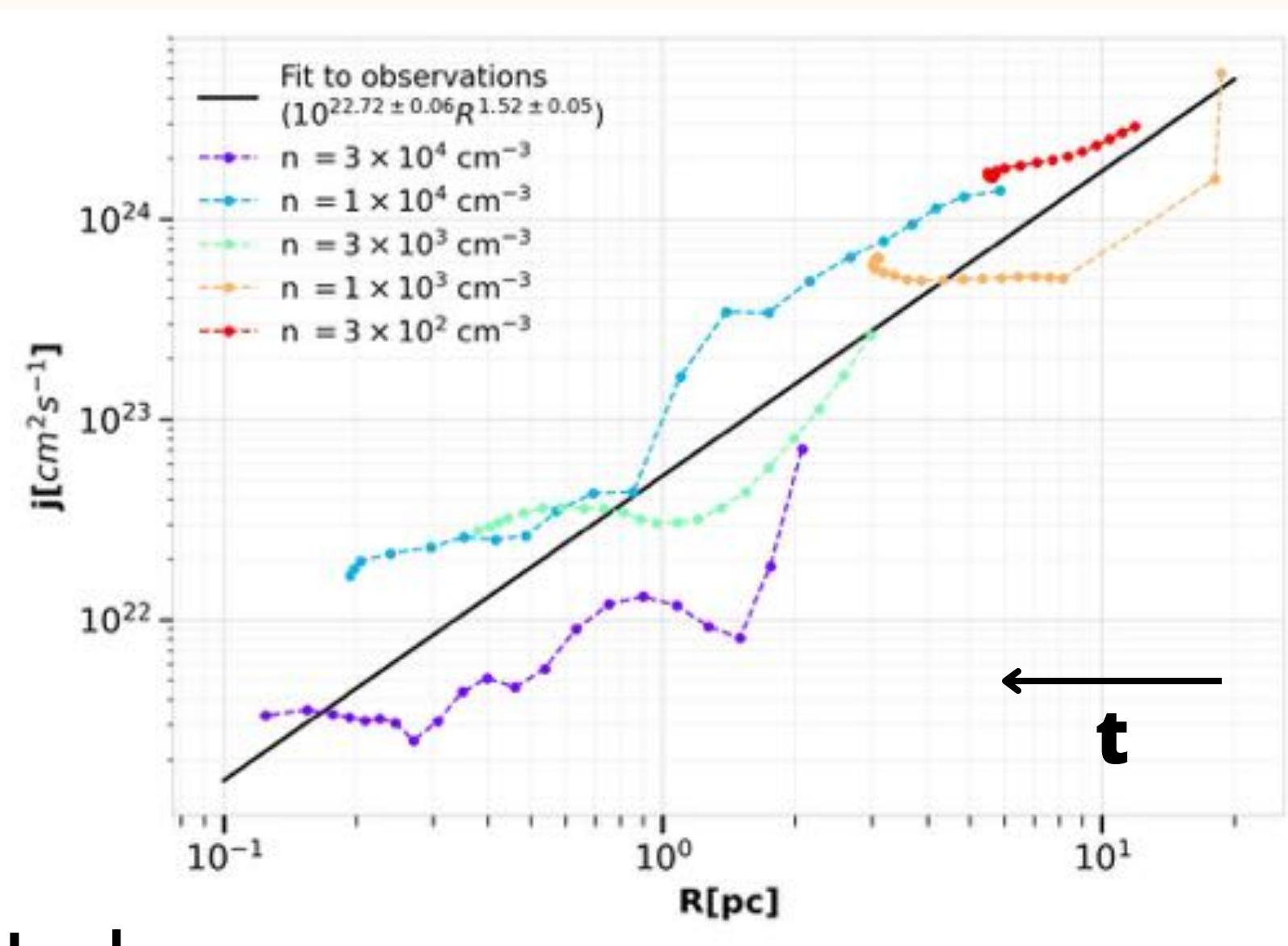
## Tracking from the past

In Lagrangian particle sets tracked **from the past** we see how the clump is assembled. Clumps become much more filamentary in the magnetic simulation



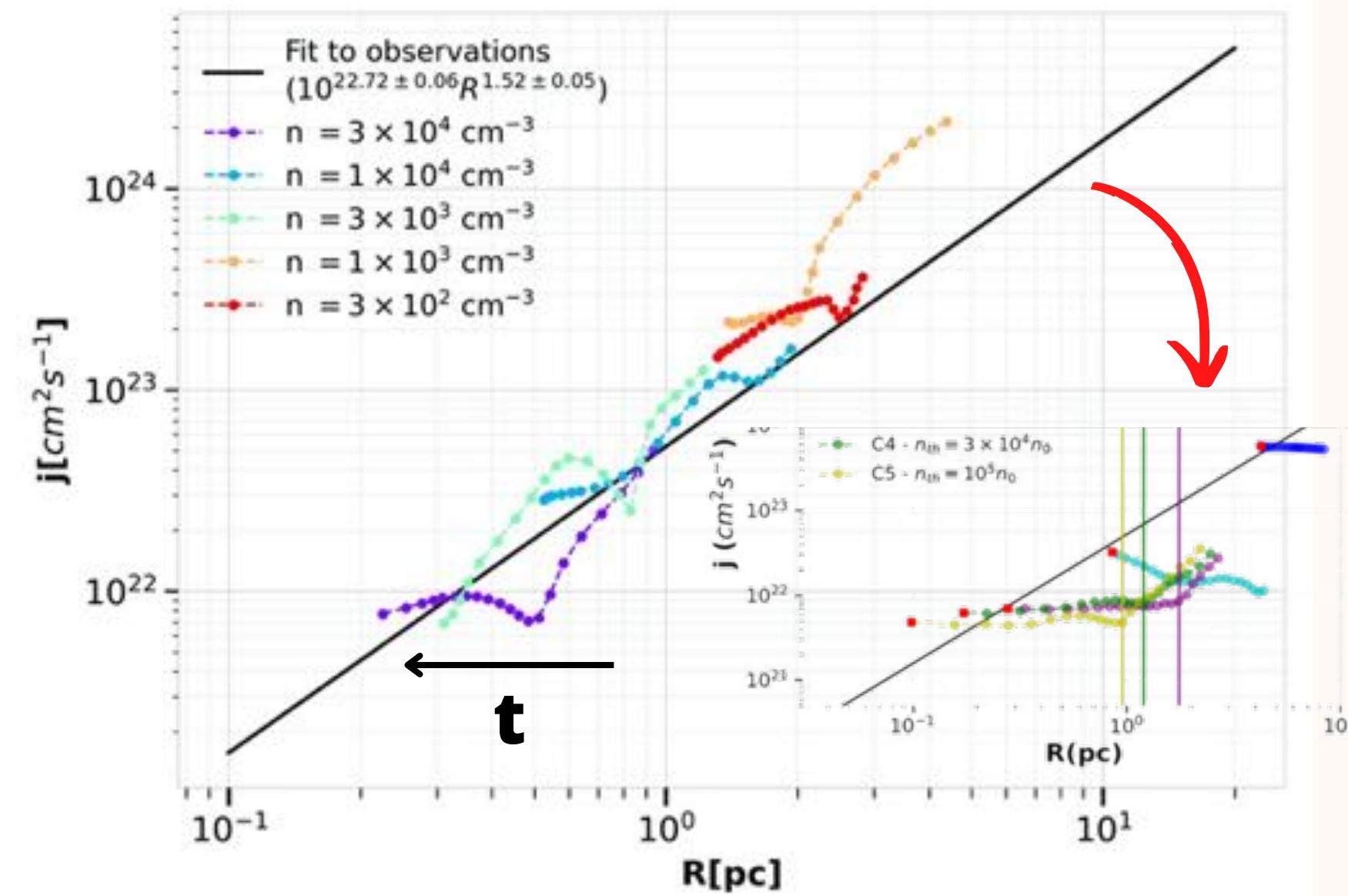
# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM

## Tracking from the past in the j-R plot



Hydro

- The behavior of the clumps in the hydro simulation is not entirely clear, so we will carry out a statistical study to study the general trend.



Magnetic

- The densest fragments seem to reproduce the break in the j-R plot
- But the trend is a continued loss of  $j$  in contrast to our previous study without magnetic field.

# 4. Preliminary results with PHANTOM

Tracking from the past in the j-R plot

## Preliminary conclusions:

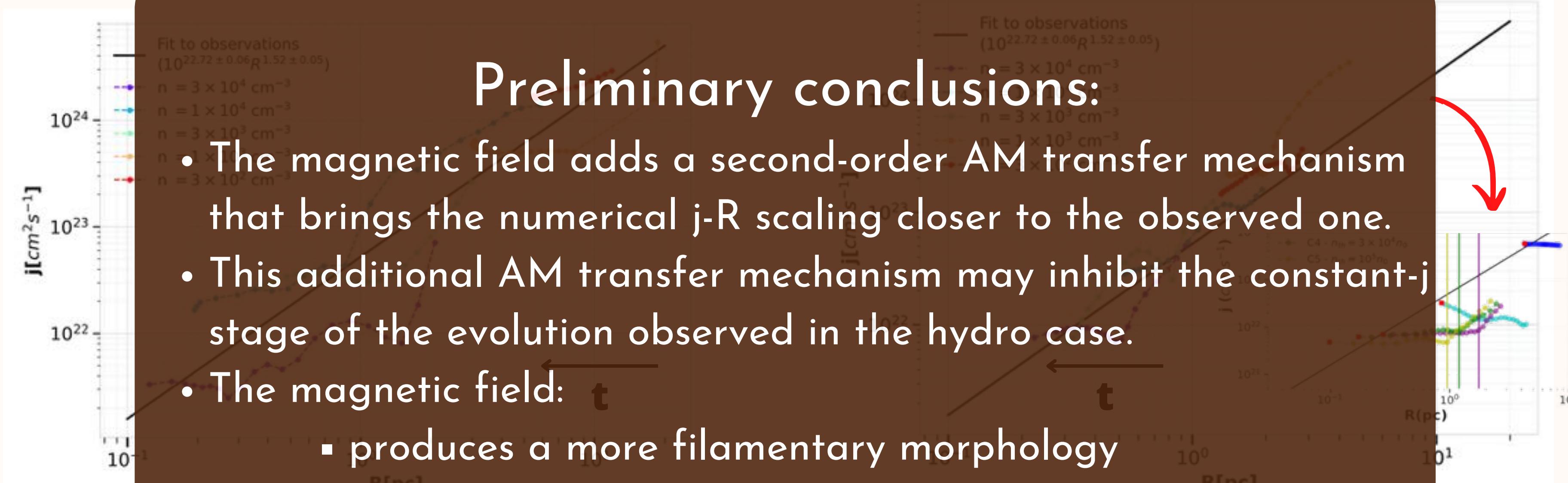
- The magnetic field adds a second-order AM transfer mechanism that brings the numerical j-R scaling closer to the observed one.
- This additional AM transfer mechanism may inhibit the constant-j stage of the evolution observed in the hydro case.
- The magnetic field:  $t$ 
  - produces a more filamentary morphology
  - slightly changes the slope of the j-R relation (need to verify)

Hydro

- The behavior of the clumps in the hydro simulation is not entirely clear, so we will carry out a statistical study to study the general trend.

Magnetic

- The densest fragments seem to reproduce the break in the j-R plot
- But the trend is a continued loss of  $j$  in contrast to our previous study without magnetic field.



What I would  
like to learn  
here

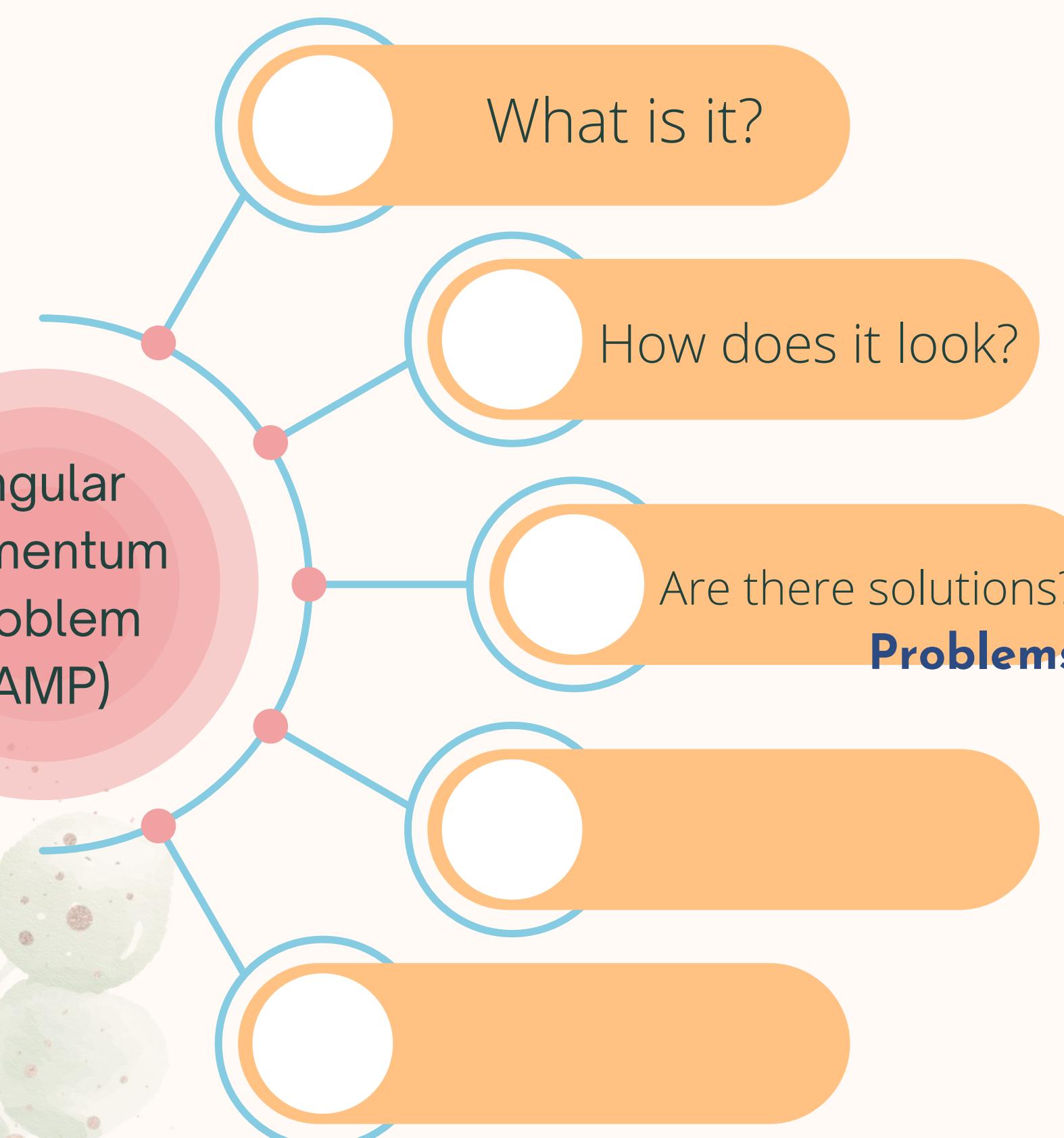
What's  
next?

Measure torques  
directly in the  
simulation.  
**Are turbulent  
viscosity torques  
important?**

Radiative HII  
region-like  
feedback and  
synthetic  
observations

Thanks!

# Angular Momentum Problem (AMP)

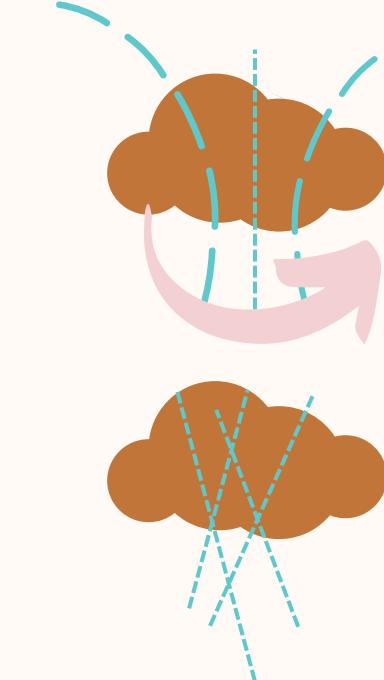


What is it?

How does it look?

Are there solutions?  
**Problems**

## Magnetic braking



- May be excessive (Magnetic braking catastrophe; Allen et al. 2003b)
- $j\cdot R$  scaling appears also in non-magnetic simulations (Jappsen & Klessen 2004)

Gillis et al (1974,1979)  
Mouschovias & Paleologou (1979,1980)

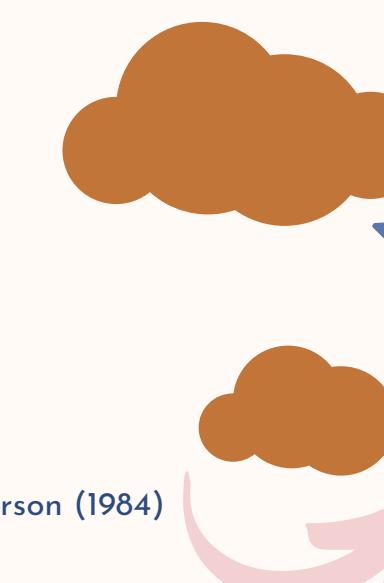
## Turbulent viscosity



Larson (1984)

- Larson (1984) argued that no known sources of turbulence for MCs exist.

## Gravitational torques



Larson (1984)

- Conclusion generally reached by **eliminating other possibilities**, not by direct measurements.  
[Larson(1984),Kuznetsova et al.(2019)]