

Self gravity in protostellar discs: Why (we must) care?

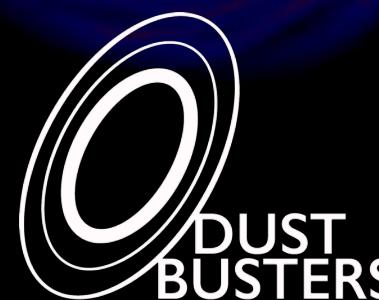
Cristiano Longarini

Institute of Astronomy, University of Cambridge

*5th PHANTOM and MCFOST Users Workshop
February 2024*

Main collaborators:

Giuseppe Lodato, Cathie Clarke, Daniel Price,
Philip Armitage, Simone Ceppi, Paola Martire,
Benedetta Veronesi and many others



Why?

1. Self gravity is important to understand disc structure

- Probing the disc masses and sizes
- Importance of thermal stratification
- Veronesi, Longarini et al., Martire, Longarini et al. in prep

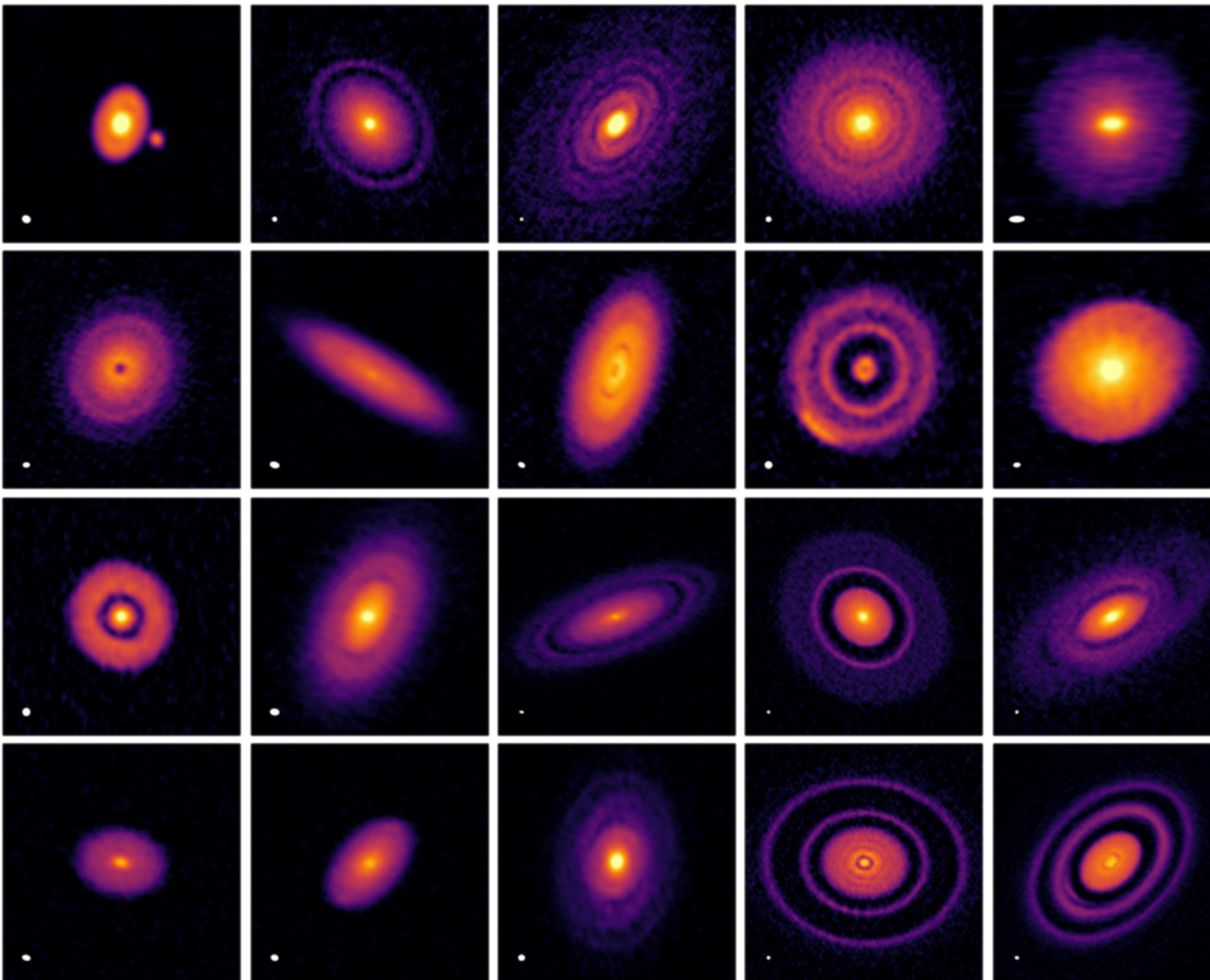
2. Self gravity contributes to planet formation in young discs

- Planetary cores formation through dust collapse
- Early evolution of planetary cores

3. Cool splash snapshots

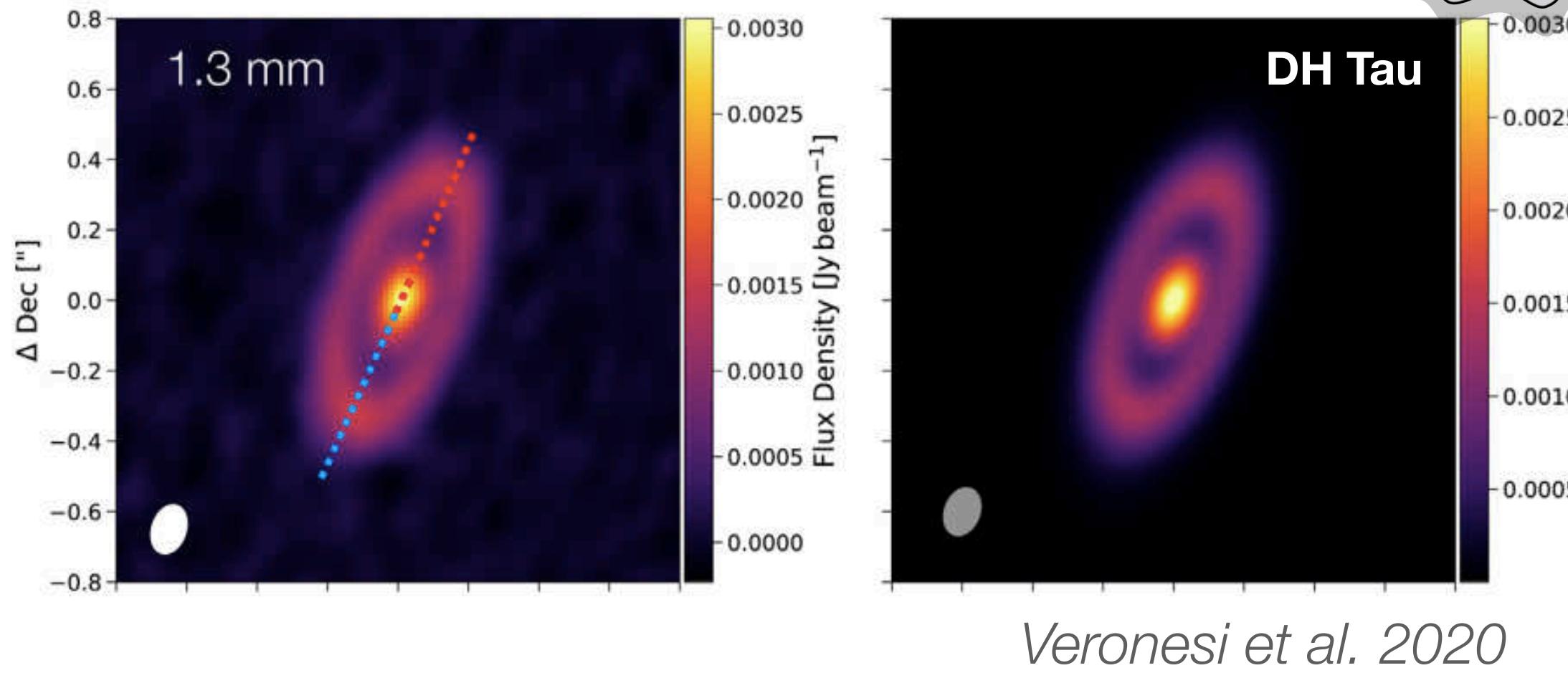


A zoo of substructures

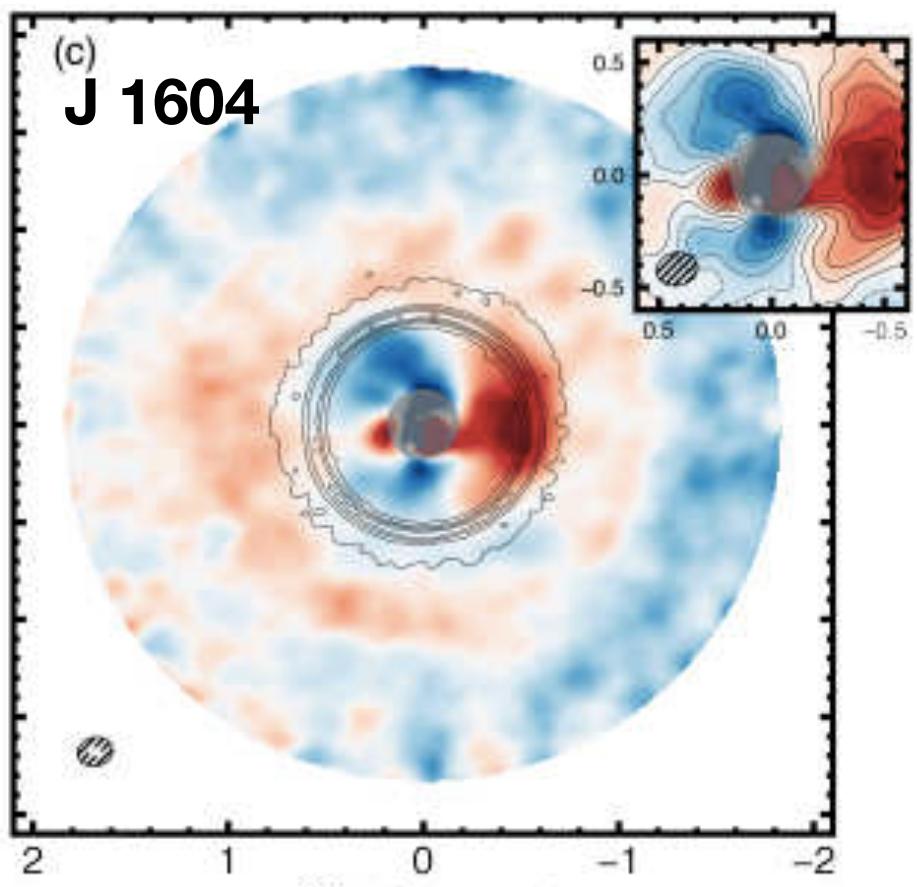


Planets?

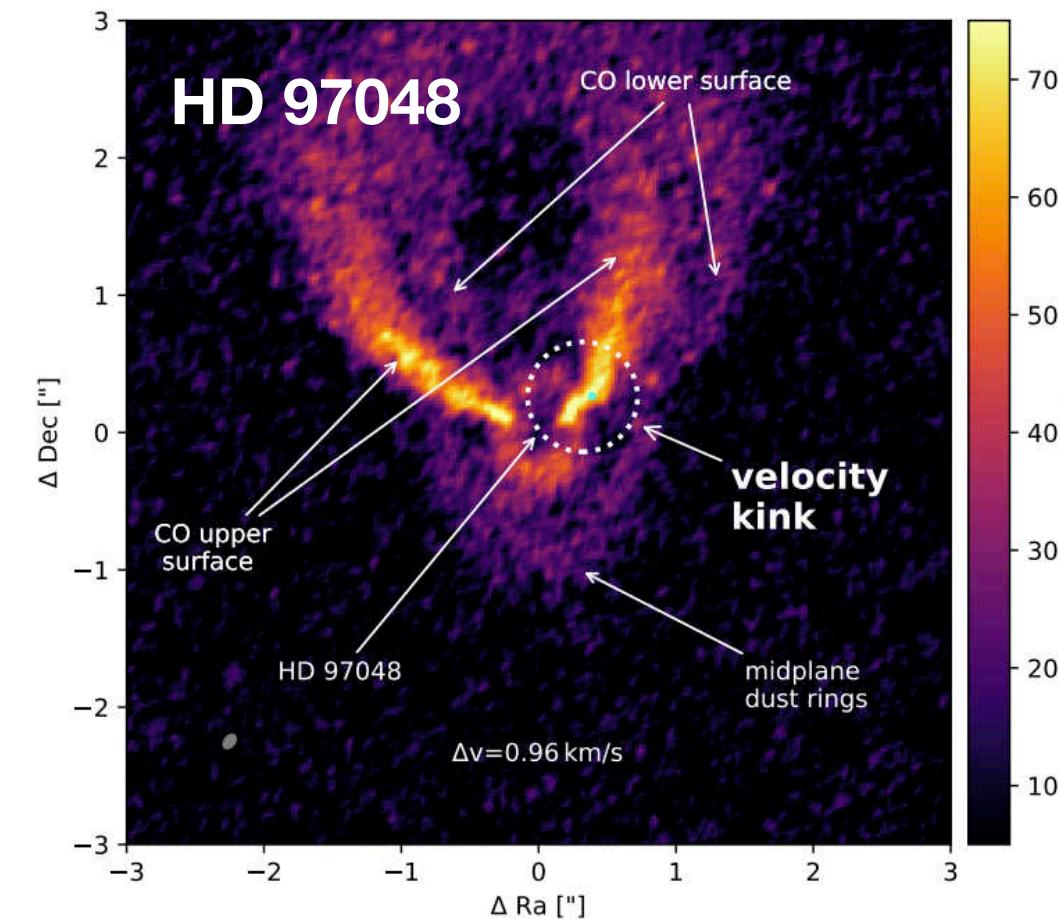
Hydrodynamical modeling



Kinematic signatures



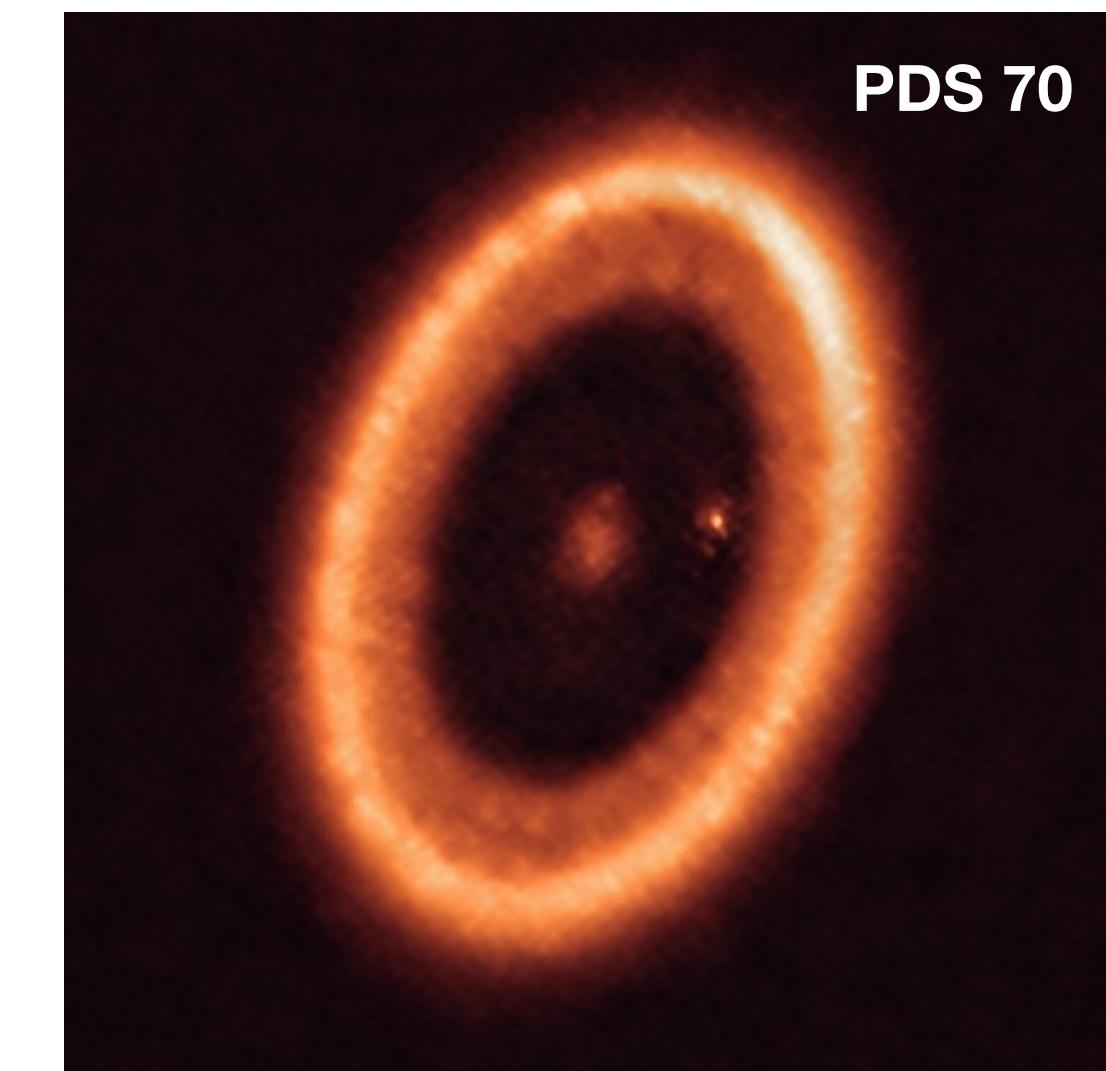
Stadler et al. 2023



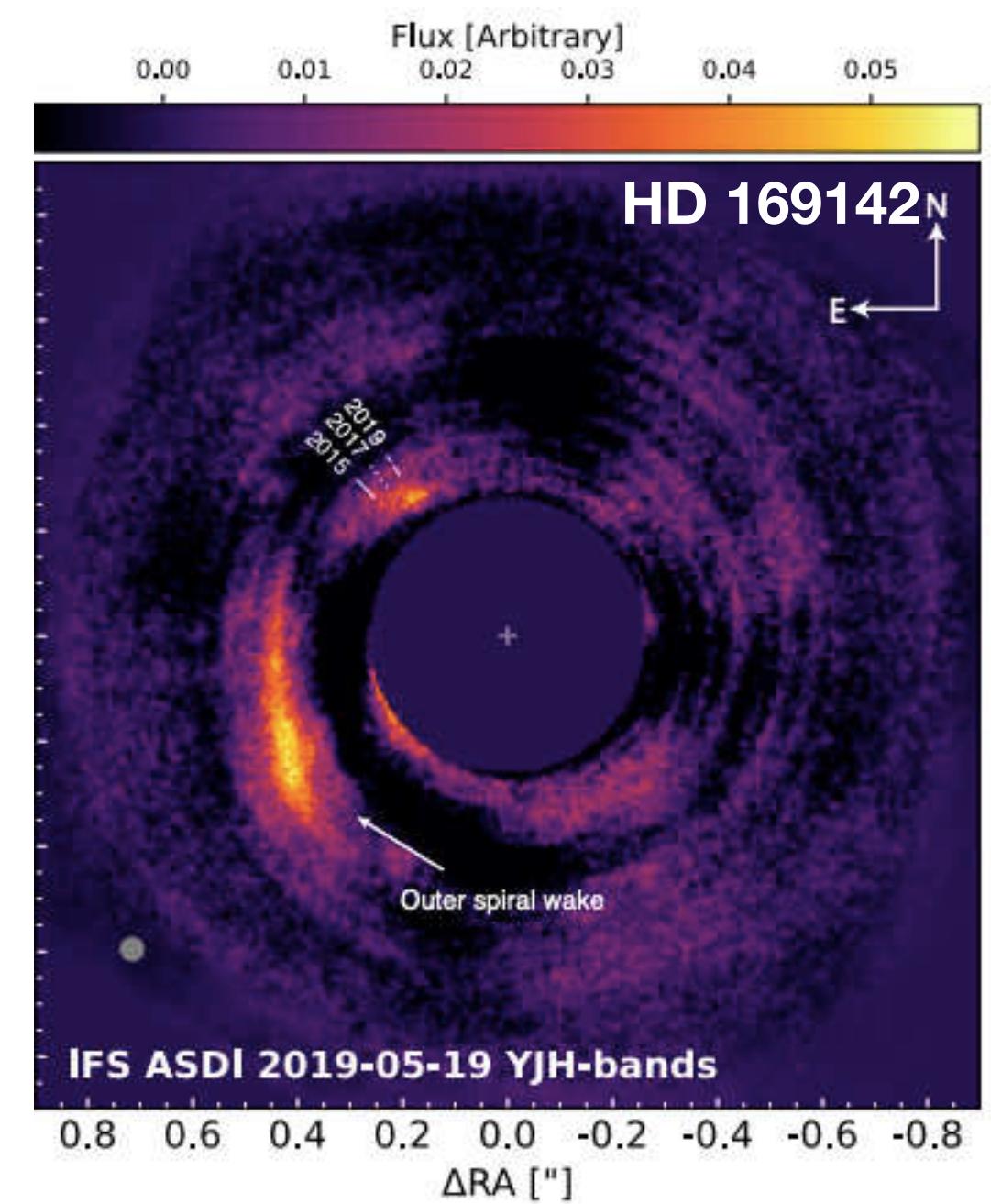
Pinte et al. 2019



Direct imaging

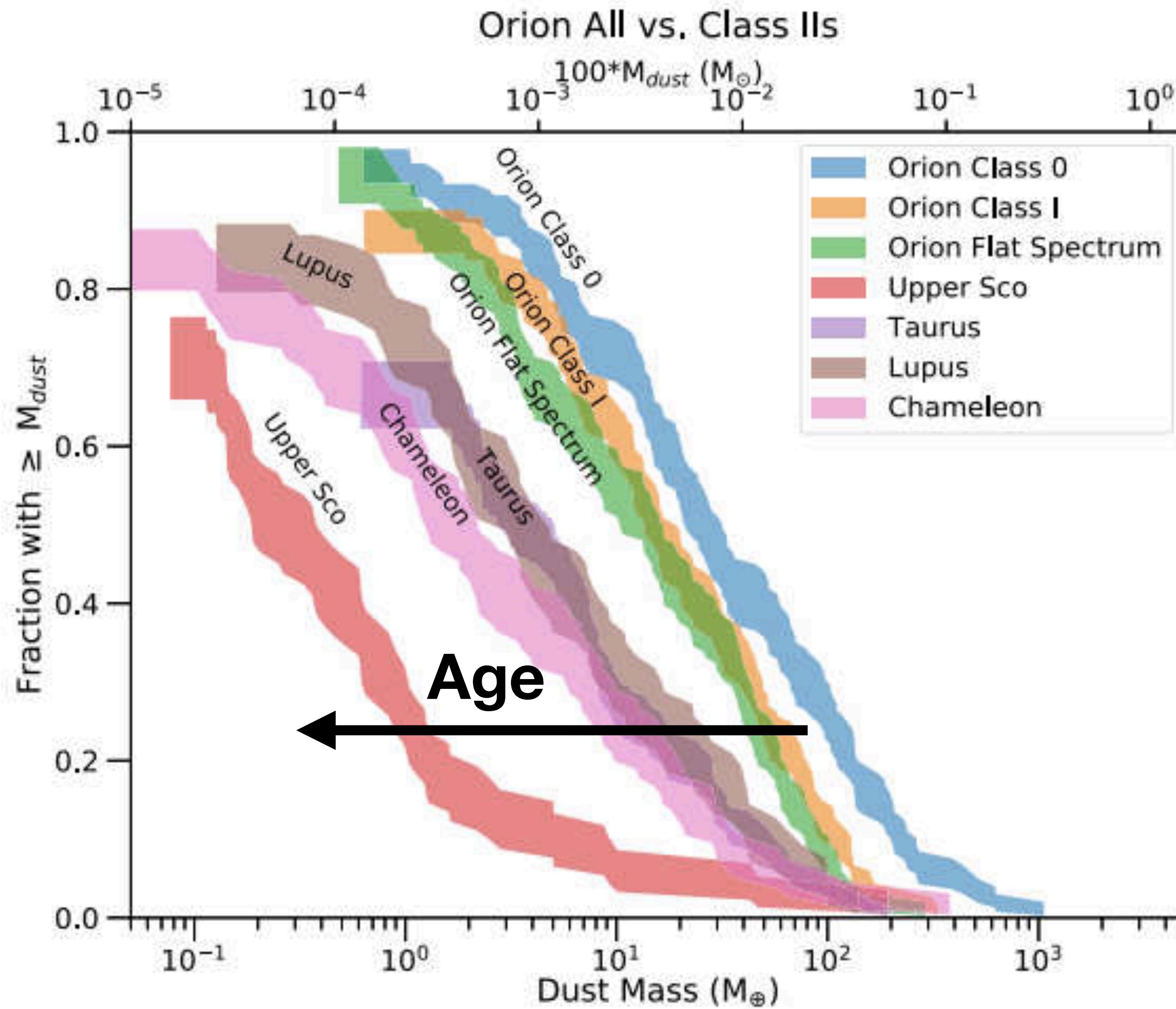


Benisty et al. 2021
Facchini et al. 2021



Hammond et al. 2023

Young protostellar discs



Evidence that in younger SFRs mm flux of ppds is higher

Possible interpretation:
younger discs are more massive

How does SG influence disc structure?

How does SG contributes to planet formation?

Self-gravity: the basic state

$$\frac{M_d}{M_\star} \gtrsim 0.05$$

$$\Phi = \Phi_\star + \Phi_d$$

Hydrostatic equilibrium

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (\Phi_\star + \Phi_d)$$

Hydrostatic height of a SG disc is different

$$H_{sg} = \frac{c^2}{\pi G \Sigma}$$

Centrifugal balance

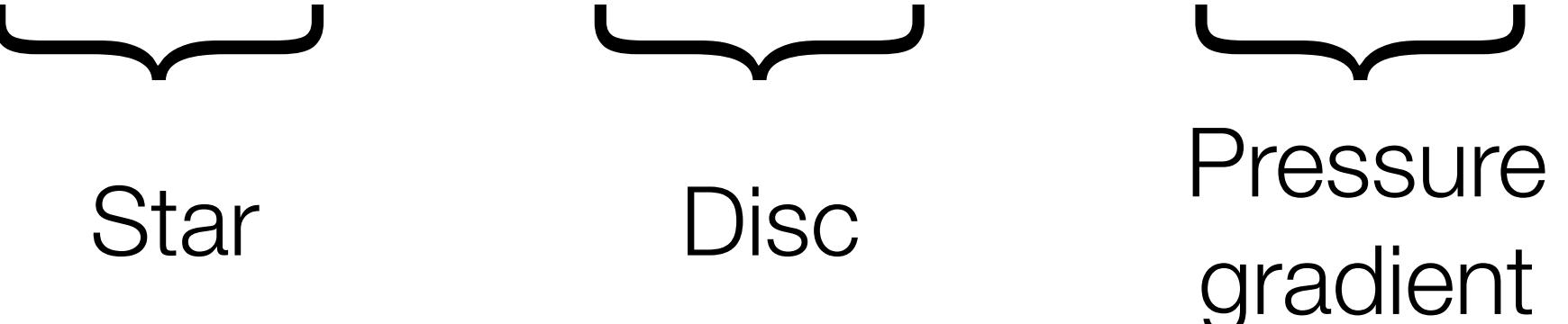
$$\frac{v_\phi^2}{R} = \frac{\partial (\Phi_\star + \Phi_d)}{\partial R} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial R}$$

Super Keplerian correction to the rotation curve

$$\propto M_d/M_\star$$

Rotation curve

$$v_\phi^2 = R \frac{\partial \Phi_\star}{\partial R} + R \frac{\partial \Phi_d}{\partial R} + \frac{R}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial R}$$



Star Disc Pressure
gradient

Star contribution:

Keplerian contribution at the position (R, z)

$$R \frac{\partial \Phi_\star}{\partial R} = \frac{GM_\star R^2}{(R^2 + z^2)^{3/2}}$$

Rotation curve

Disc contribution:

$$R \frac{\partial \Phi_d}{\partial R} = G \int_0^\infty \left[K(k) - \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{k^2}{1-k^2} \right) \left(\frac{R'}{R} - \frac{R}{R'} + \frac{z^2}{RR'} \right) E(k) \right] \sqrt{\frac{r}{R}} k \Sigma(R') dR'$$

Disc mass and size dependance in the surface density (self similar hp)

$$\Sigma(R) = \frac{M_d(2-\gamma)}{2\pi R_c^2} \left(\frac{R}{R_c} \right)^{-\gamma} \exp \left[- \left(\frac{R}{R_c} \right)^{2-\gamma} \right]$$

Rotation curve

Pressure gradient:

$$P = \underline{c_s^2(R)} \rho(R, z), \quad \rho(R, z) = \rho_{mid}(R) \exp \left[-\frac{R^2}{H^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + z^2/R^2}} \right) \right]$$

After algebra...

$$v_\phi^2 = v_K^2 \left\{ 1 - \left[\gamma' + (2 - \gamma) \left(\frac{R}{R_c} \right)^{2-\gamma} \right] \left(\frac{H}{R} \right)^2 - q \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (z/R)^2}} \right) \right\} + v_d^2$$

Rotation curve

$$v_\phi^2 = v_K^2 \left\{ 1 - \left[\gamma' + (2 - \gamma) \left(\frac{R}{R_c} \right)^{2-\gamma} \right] \left(\frac{H}{R} \right)^2 - q \left(1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + (z/R)^2}} \right) \right\} + v_d^2$$

If we measure

- height emitting layer $z(R)$

If we assume

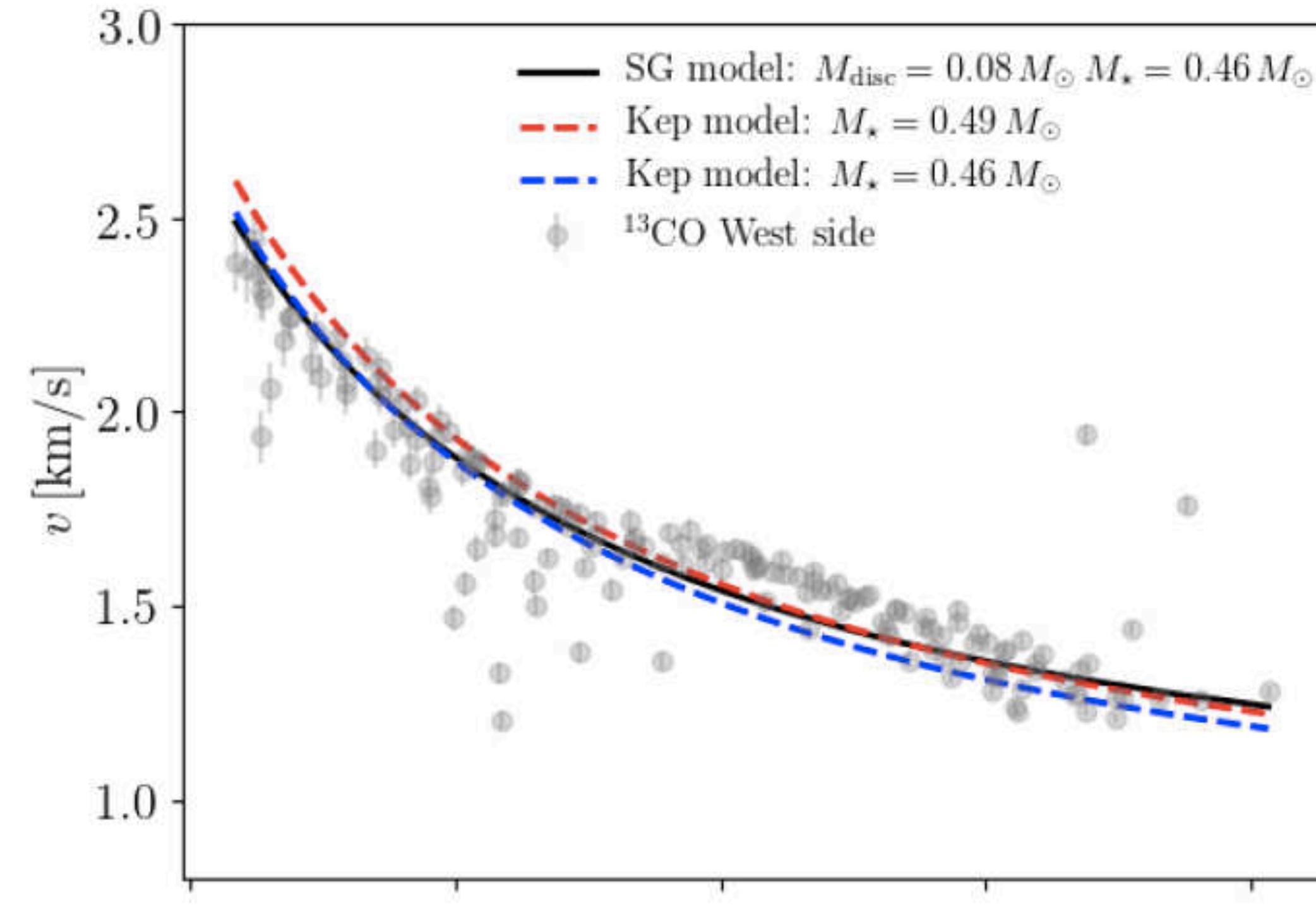
- thermal structure $H/R, q$
- surface density profile γ



We can fit for

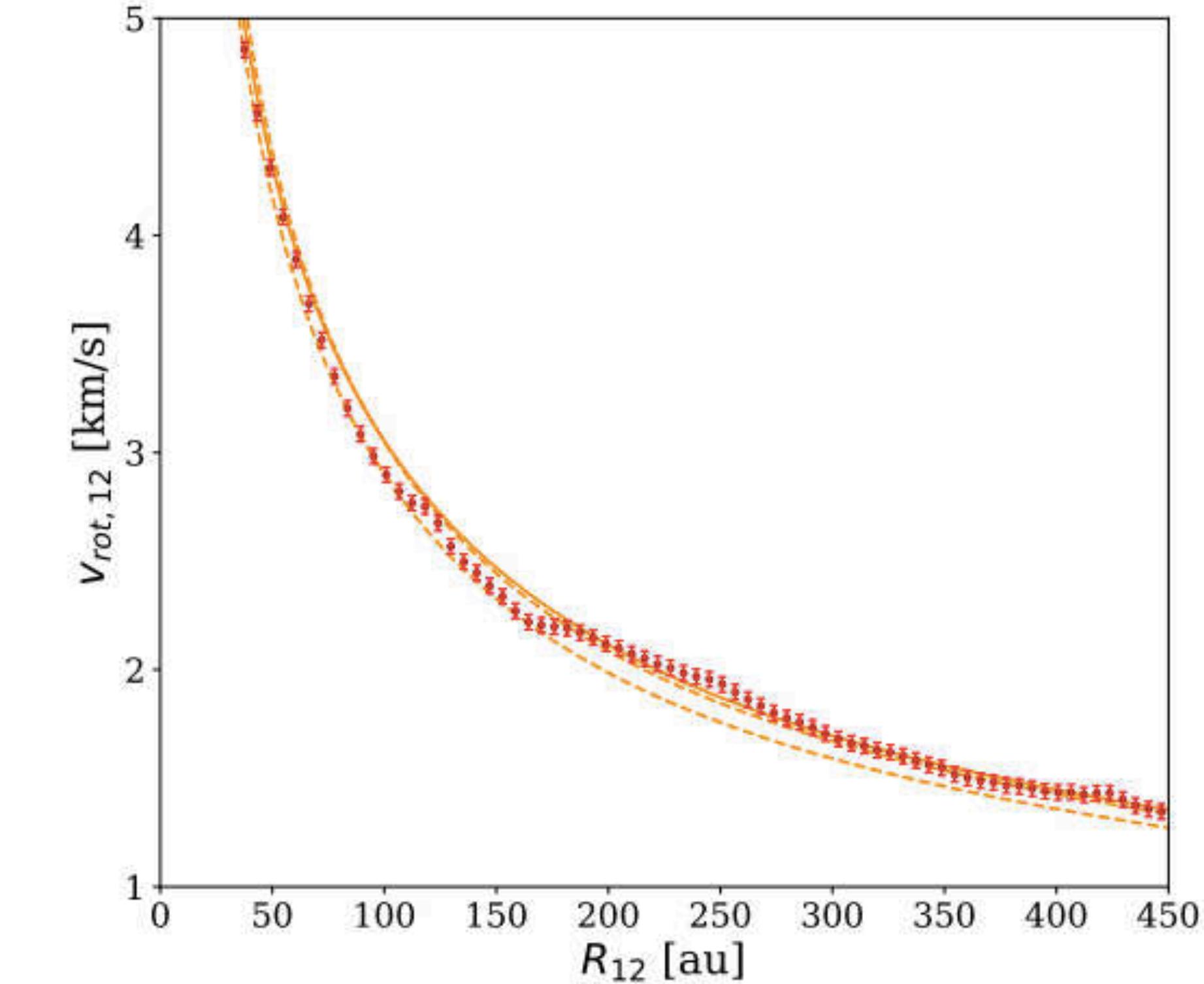
- star mass M_\star
- disc mass M_d
- scale radius R_c

Dynamical masses and sizes



Elias 2-27

$$M_d/M_{\star} \simeq 17\%$$



IM Lup

$$M_d/M_{\star} \simeq 10\%$$

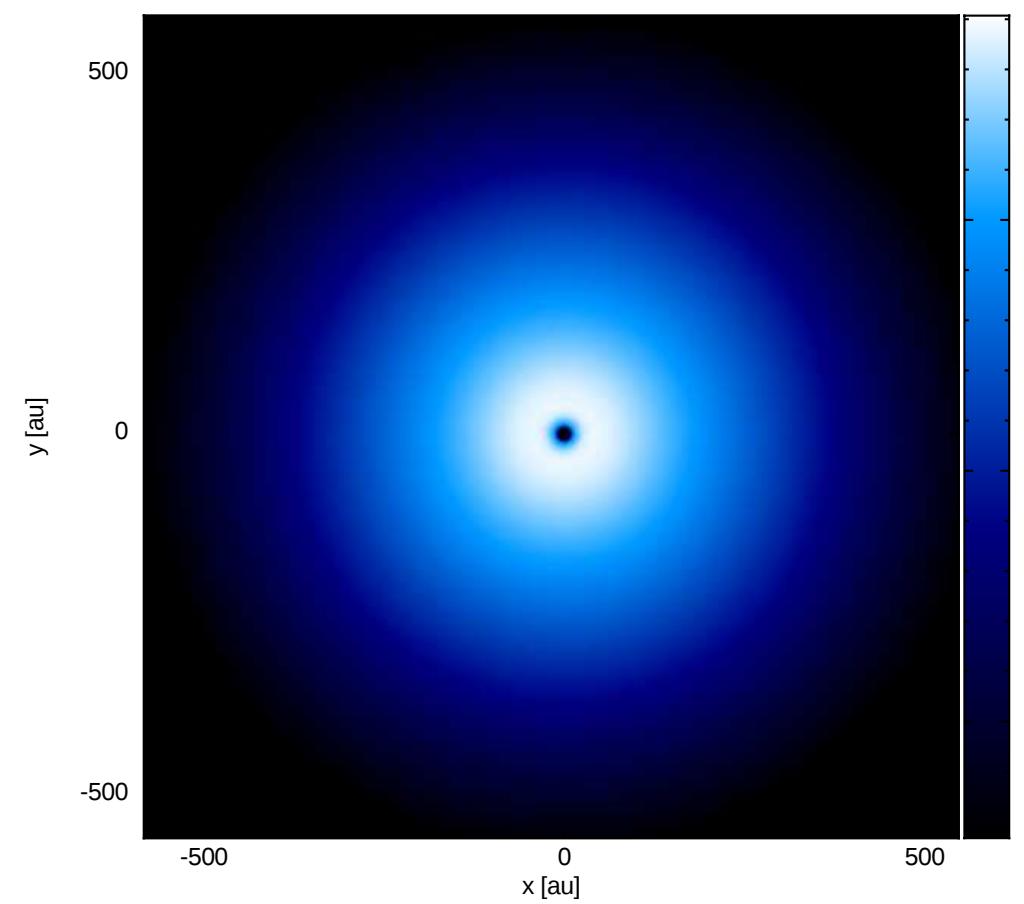
Benchmarking the method

PHANTOM
hydrodynamics



SG gas discs, no GI (*isosgdisc*)
Vertically isothermal discs, self
similar profile with $R_c = 100\text{au}$

$$M_d \in [0.01, 0.2]\text{M}_\odot$$

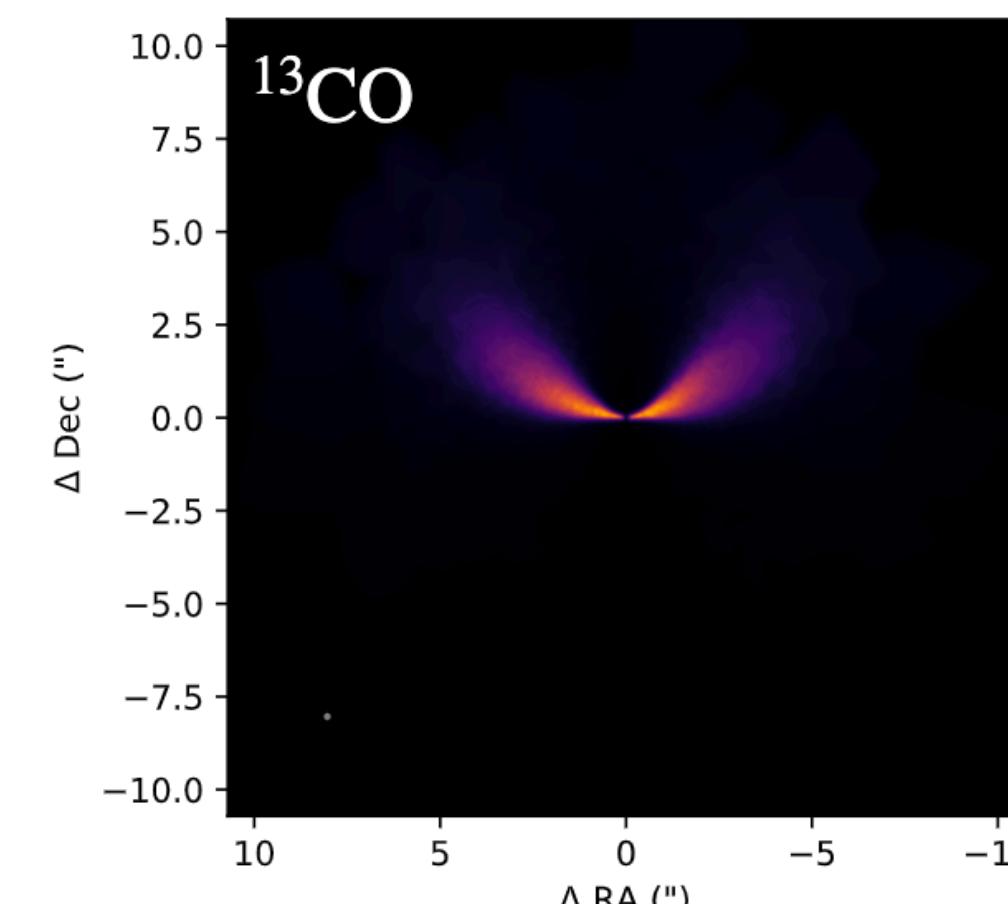


MCFOST
radiative transfer

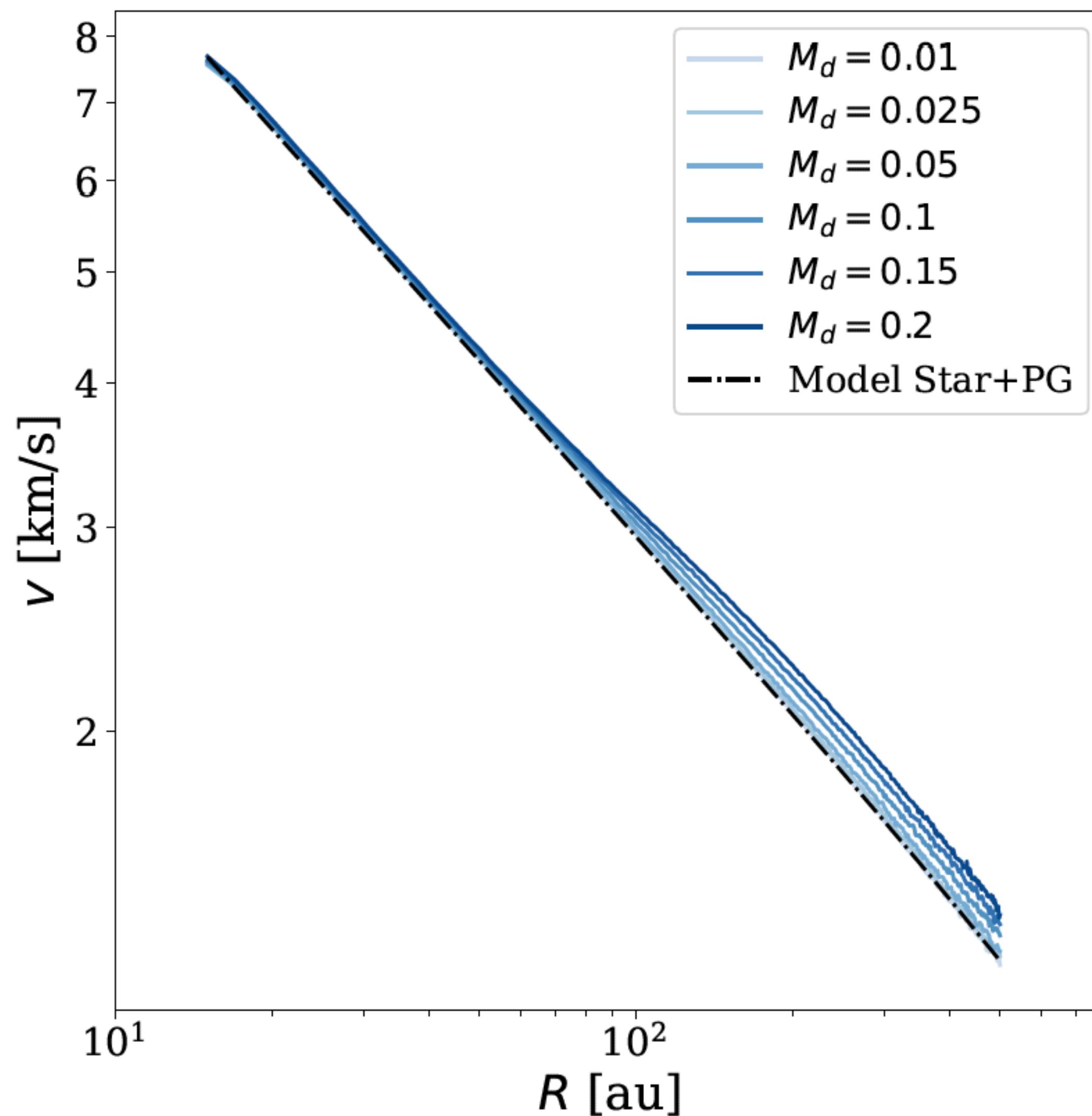


Datacubes of
12CO, 13CO J=2-1

pymcfost: “pseudocasa”
 $\Delta x = 0.1''$, $\Delta v = 100\text{m/s}$



Model verification - hydro curves



Extraction of the hydro azimuthal velocity at the midplane

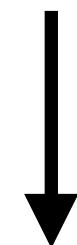
- correct scaling with disc mass
- **Visible** differences from a non SG model only for $M_d/M_\star > 0.05$

Sims	M_d [M_\odot]
md0.2	0.19
md0.15	0.14
md0.1	0.1
md0.05	0.05
md0.025	0.028
md0.01	0.017

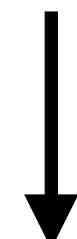
Results of the fitting procedure on hydro curves

Complete procedure

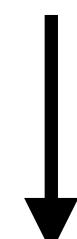
PHANTOM
simulation



MCFOST
radiative transfer



PYMCFOST
convolution



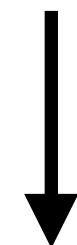
disksurf + eddy
emitting layer +
rotation curves

Results of the fitting procedure: M_\star , M_d , R_c

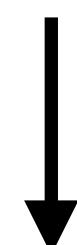
	^{12}CO	$\Delta X/X_{^{12}\text{CO}}$	^{13}CO	$\Delta X/X_{^{13}\text{CO}}$	Combined	$\Delta X/X_{\text{comb}}$
md0.01	$M_\star = 1.02$	0.02	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01
	$M_d = 0.03$	1.99	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0
	$R_c = 80.00$	0.2	$R_c = 105.15$	0.05	$R_c = 103.7$	0.037
md0.025	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01
	$M_d = 0.04$	0.6	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0
	$R_c = 92.17$	0.078	$R_c = 115.55$	0.15	$R_c = 115.2$	0.15
md0.05	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.97$	0.03	$M_\star = 0.98$	0.02
	$M_d = 0.044$	0.12	$M_d = 0.07$	0.4	$M_d = 0.055$	0.099
	$R_c = 102.78$	0.028	$R_c = 94.27$	0.057	$R_c = 97.8$	0.022
md0.1	$M_\star = 1.04$	0.04	$M_\star = 0.97$	0.03	$M_\star = 0.97$	0.03
	$M_d = 0.09$	0.10	$M_d = 0.12$	0.20	$M_d = 0.12$	0.19
	$R_c = 88.33$	0.117	$R_c = 90.8$	0.09	$R_c = 91.2$	0.088
md0.15	$M_\star = 1.00$	0.0	$M_\star = 1.00$	0.0	$M_\star = 1.00$	0.0
	$M_d = 0.18$	0.2	$M_d = 0.15$	0.0	$M_d = 0.15$	0.0
	$R_c = 86.00$	0.14	$R_c = 87.5$	0.125	$R_c = 88.114$	0.12
md0.2	$M_\star = 1.1$	0.1	$M_\star = 1.06$	0.06	$M_\star = 1.12$	0.12
	$M_d = 0.165$	0.175	$M_d = 0.15$	0.25	$M_d = 0.09$	0.55
	$R_c = 87.26$	0.13	$R_c = 84.9$	0.15	$R_c = 96.23$	0.037

Complete procedure

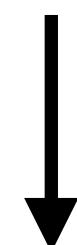
PHANTOM
simulation



MCFOST
radiative transfer



PYMCFOST
convolution



disksurf + eddy
emitting layer +
rotation curves

Results of the fitting procedure: M_\star , M_d , R_c

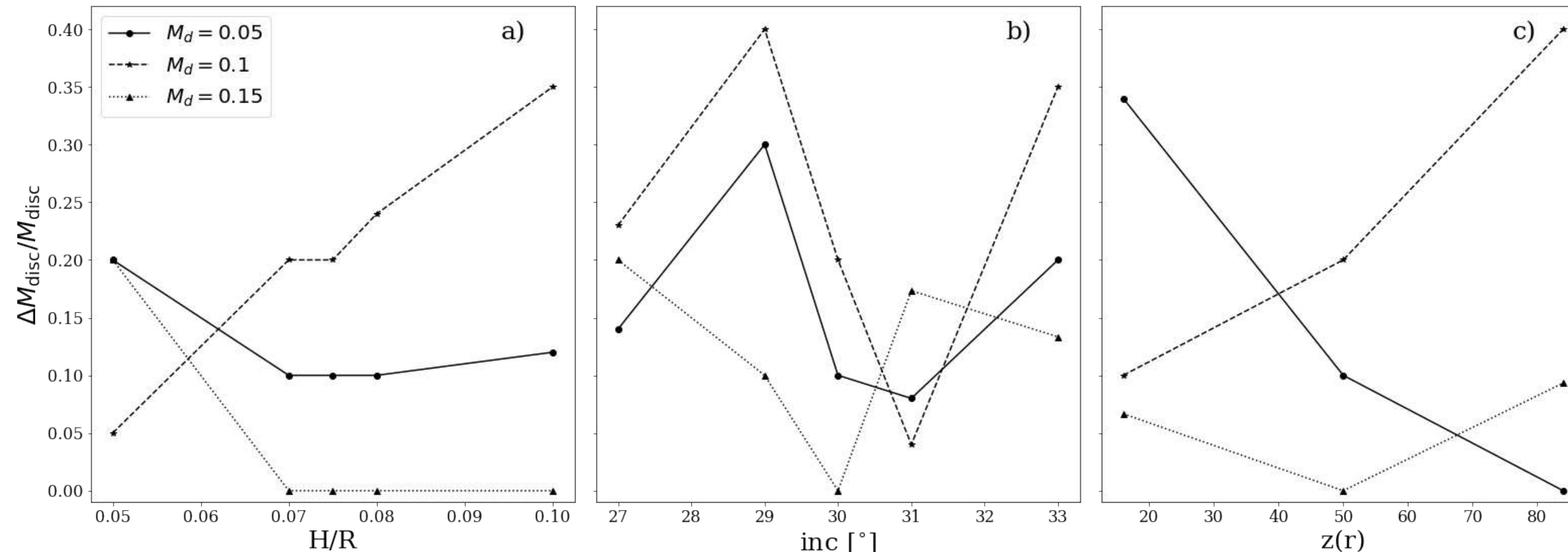
	^{12}CO	$\Delta X/X_{^{12}\text{CO}}$	^{13}CO	$\Delta X/X_{^{13}\text{CO}}$	Combined	$\Delta X/X_{\text{comb}}$
md0.01	$M_\star = 1.02$	0.02	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01
	$M_d = 0.03$	1.99	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0
	$R_c = 80.00$	0.2	$R_c = 105.15$	0.05	$R_c = 103.7$	0.037
md0.025	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01
	$M_d = 0.04$	0.6	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0	$M_d = 0.00$	1.0
	$R_c = 92.17$	0.078	$R_c = 115.55$	0.15	$R_c = 115.2$	0.15
md0.05	$M_\star = 0.99$	0.01	$M_\star = 0.97$	0.03	$M_\star = 0.98$	0.02
	$M_d = 0.044$	0.12	$M_d = 0.07$	0.4	$M_d = 0.055$	0.099
	$R_c = 102.78$	0.028	$R_c = 94.27$	0.057	$R_c = 97.8$	0.022
md0.1	$M_\star = 1.04$	0.04	$M_\star = 0.97$	0.03	$M_\star = 0.97$	0.03
	$M_d = 0.09$	0.10	$M_d = 0.12$	0.20	$M_d = 0.12$	0.19
	$R_c = 88.33$	0.117	$R_c = 90.8$	0.09	$R_c = 91.2$	0.088
md0.15	$M_\star = 1.00$	0.0	$M_\star = 1.00$	0.0	$M_\star = 1.00$	0.0
	$M_d = 0.18$	0.2	$M_d = 0.15$	0.0	$M_d = 0.15$	0.0
	$R_c = 86.00$	0.14	$R_c = 87.5$	0.125	$R_c = 88.114$	0.12
md0.2	$M_\star = 1.1$	0.1	$M_\star = 1.06$	0.06	$M_\star = 1.12$	0.12
	$M_d = 0.165$	0.175	$M_d = 0.15$	0.25	$M_d = 0.09$	0.55
	$R_c = 87.26$	0.13	$R_c = 84.9$	0.15	$R_c = 96.23$	0.037

Uncertainties

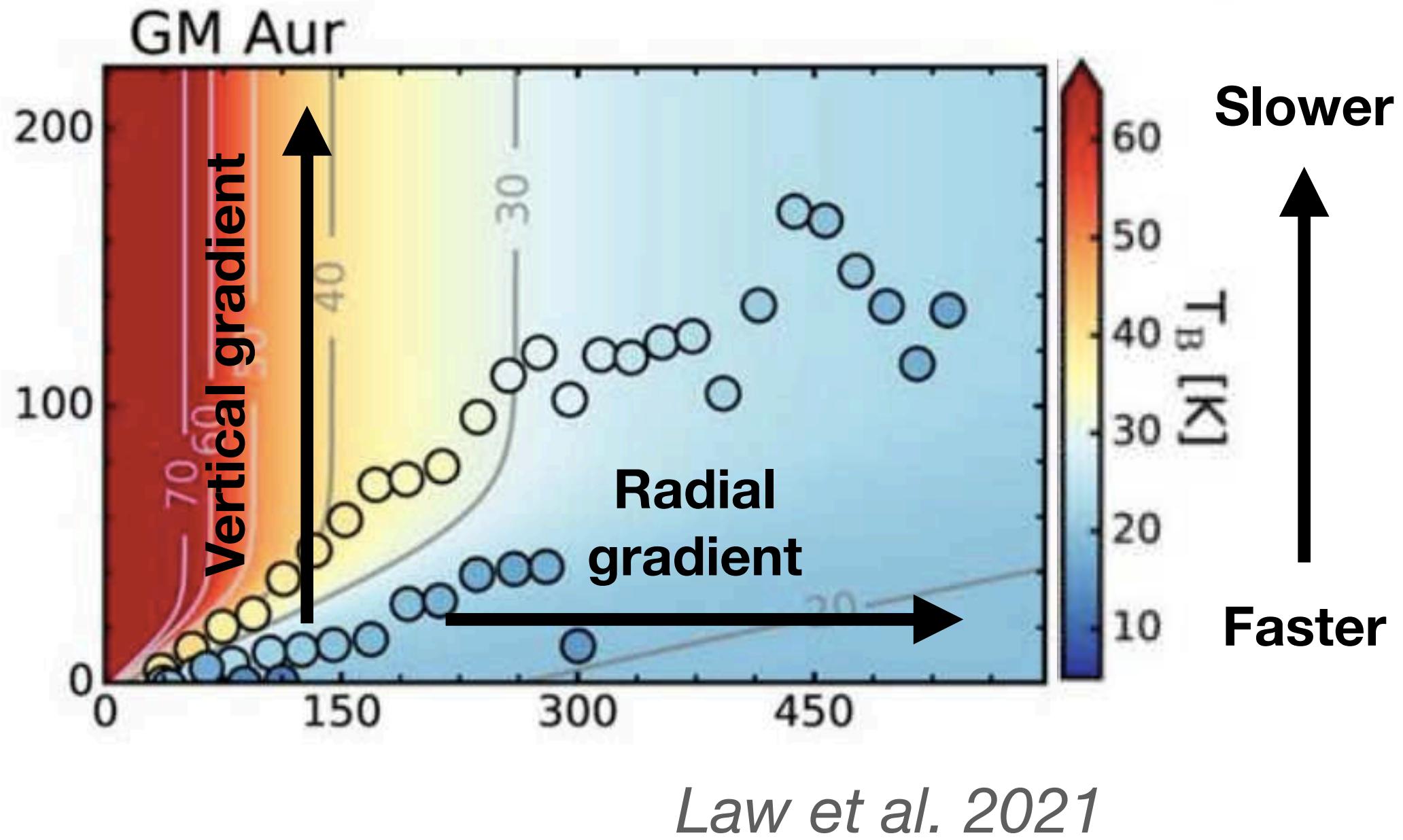
We vary the “fixed” parameters to understand the impact of systematic errors

→ Aspect ratio (fit), inclination (extraction) and emitting layer (extraction+fit)

- **Minimum** measurable disc to star mass ratio $\sim 5\%$
- **Uncertainty** on the disc mass $\sim 25\%$



A step forward: vertical stratification



There is evidence from molecular line observations that protoplanetary discs are thermally stratified

Consequences on density and velocity?

$$T(R, z) = T_{mid}(R)f(R, z)$$

$$\rho(R, z) = \rho_{mid}(R)g(R, z)$$

From hydrostatic equilibrium + centrifugal balance

$$v_\phi^2(R, z) = v_K^2 \left\{ \left[1 + \left(\frac{z}{R} \right)^2 \right]^{-3/2} - \left[\gamma' + (2 - \gamma) \left(\frac{R}{R_c} \right)^{2-\gamma} - \frac{d \log(fg)}{d \log R} \right] \left(\frac{H}{R} \right)_{mid}^2 f(R, z) \right\}$$

Model verification

PHANTOM simulations

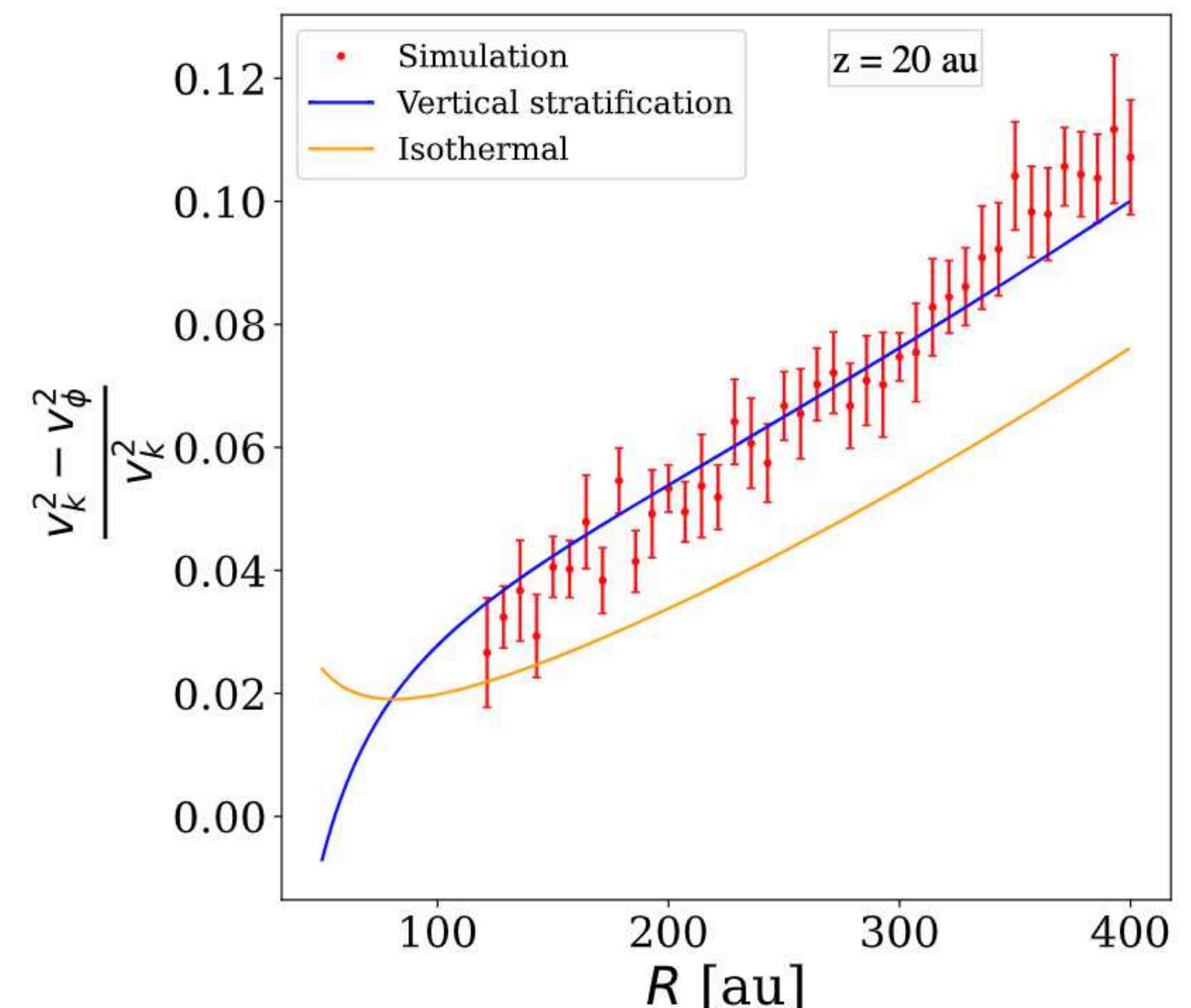
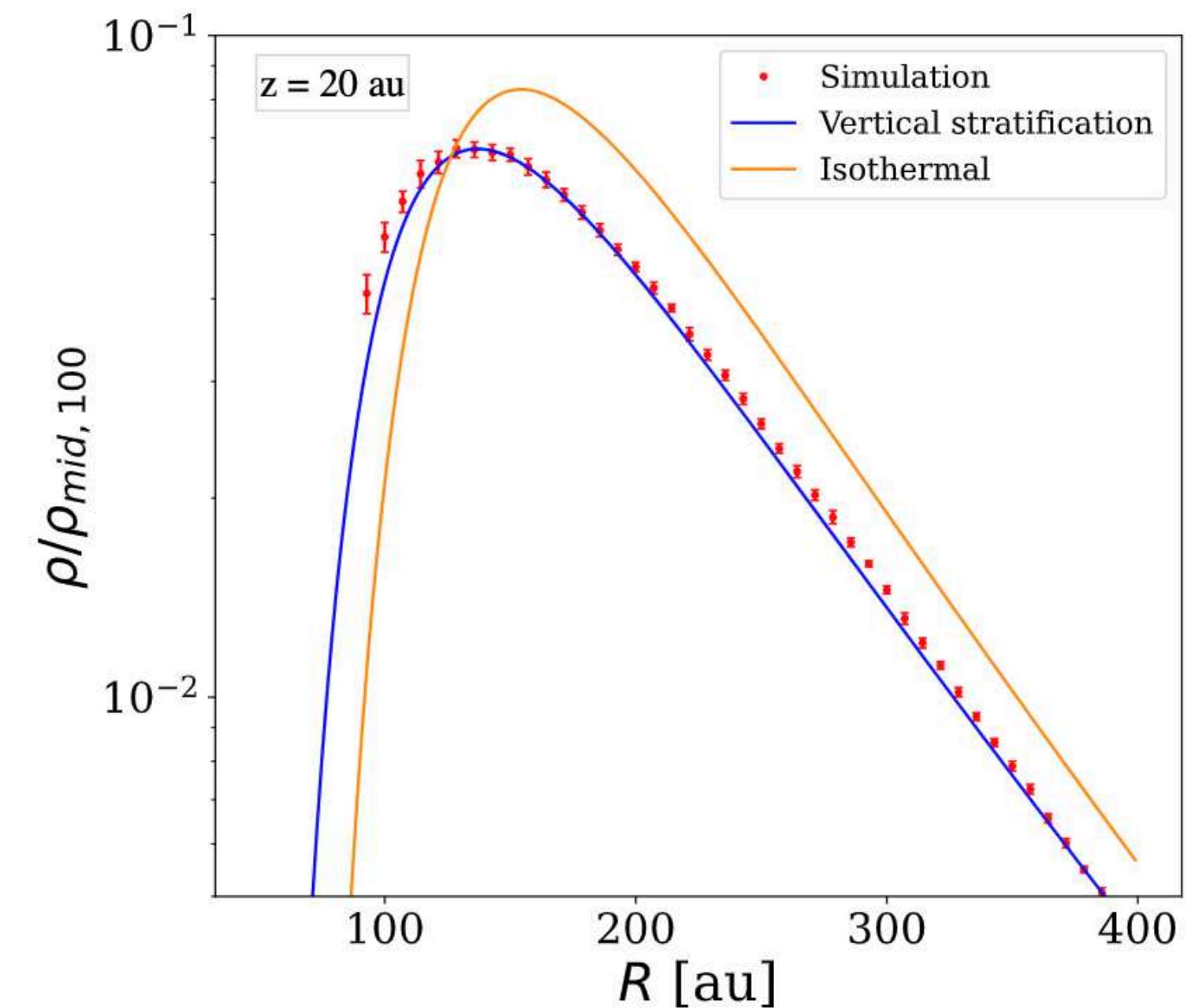
Vertically stratified disc
(credits to Caitlyn!)

Parameters of GM Aur from Law et al. 2021

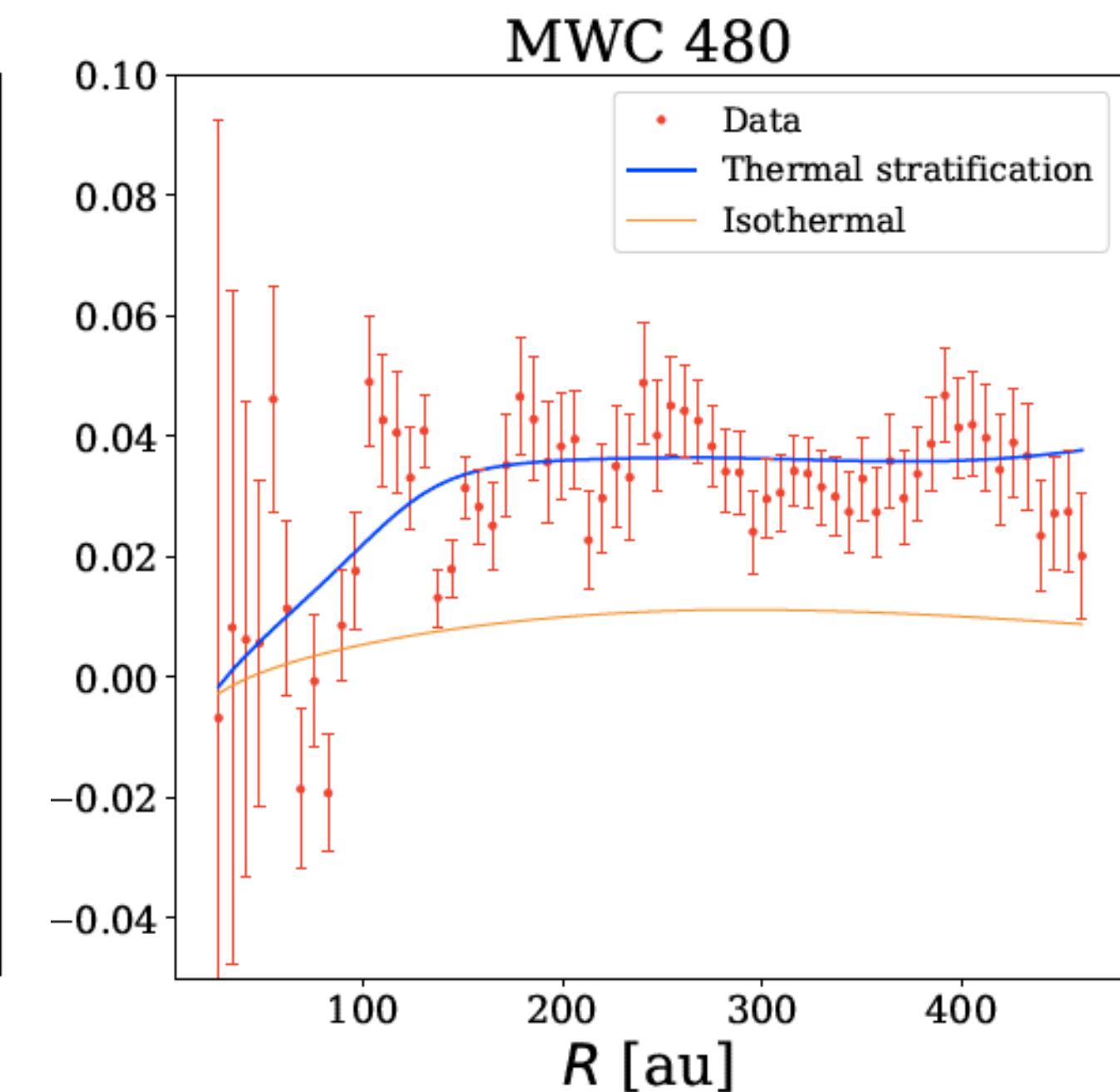
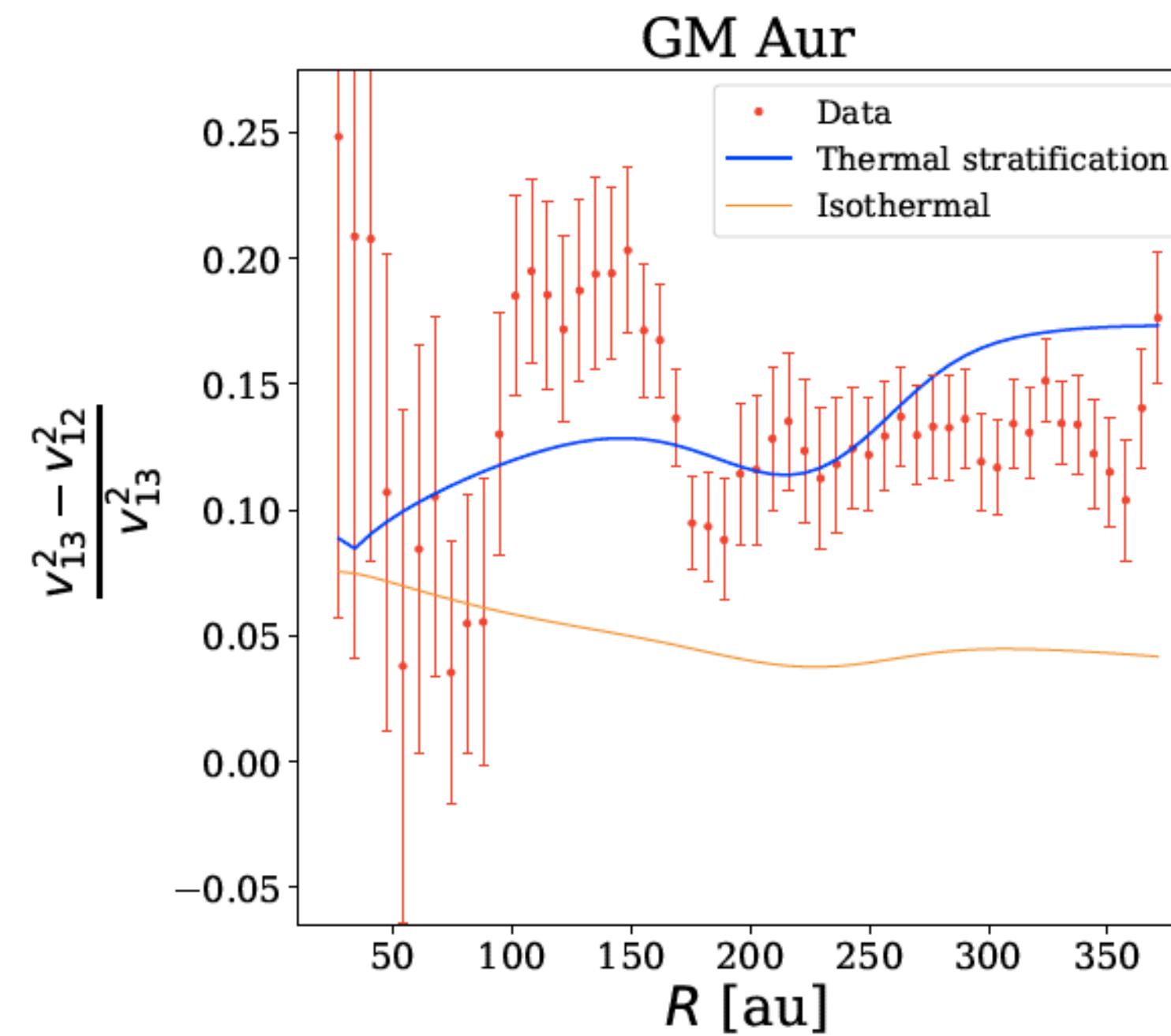
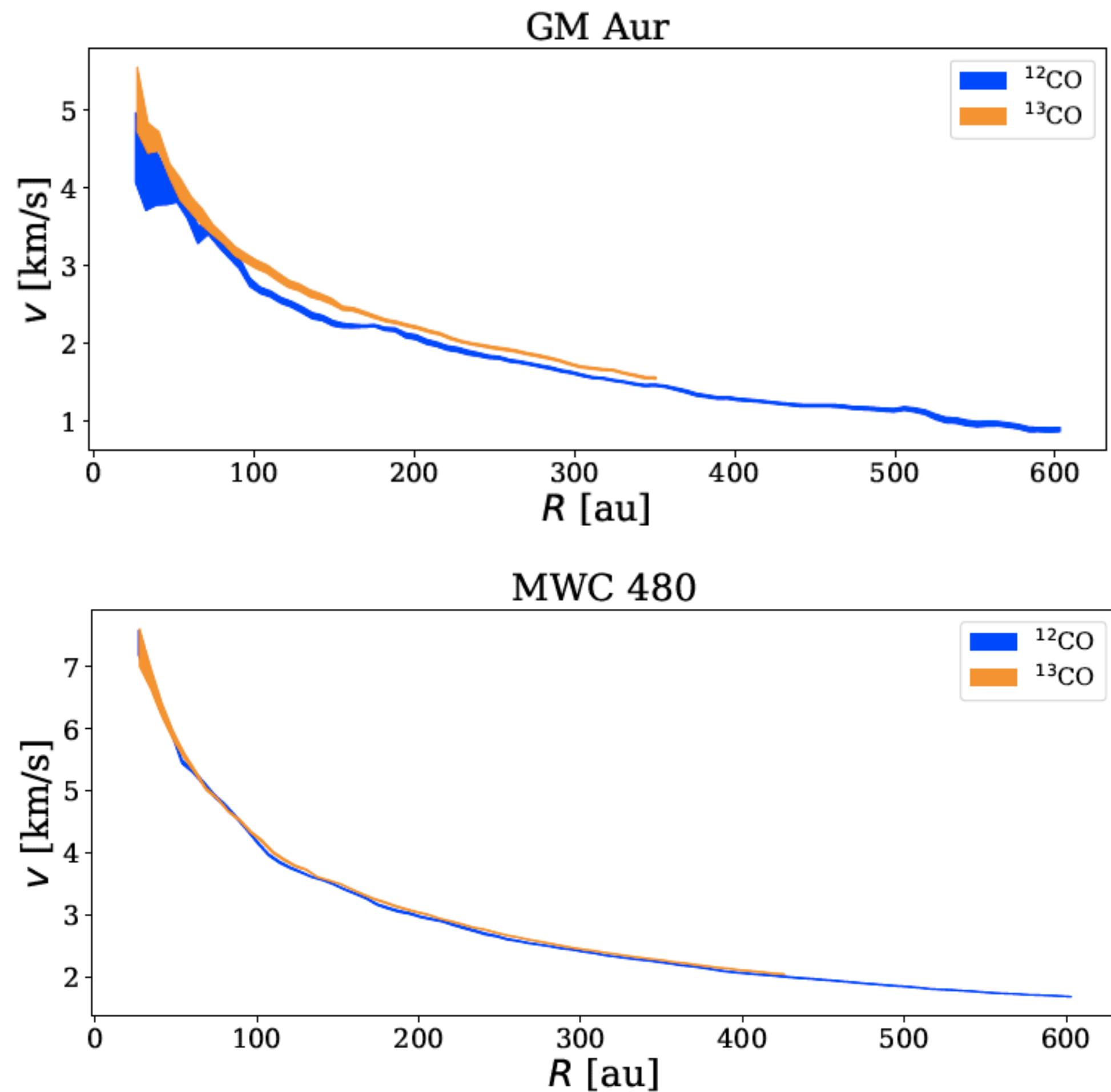
$$T(R, z)^4 = T_e^4(R) + \frac{1}{2} T_{\text{atm}}^4(R) \left[1 + \tanh\left(\frac{z}{Z_q(R)} - \alpha\right) \right]$$

Test whether the model works or not

NB: initial density and velocity are not at hydro equilibrium, we just prescribe the temperature



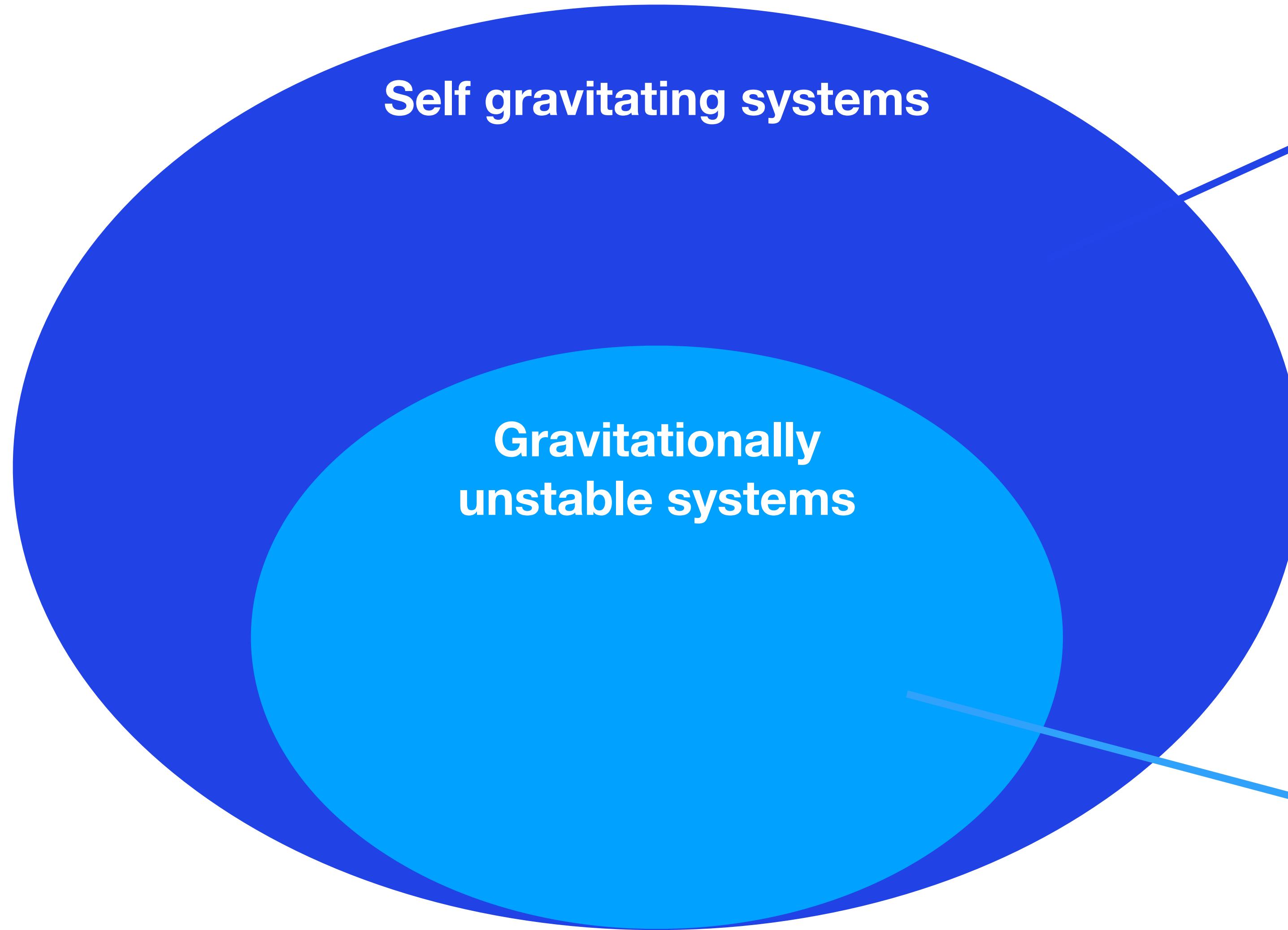
Vertical stratification in MAPS discs



Vertical stratification in MAPS discs

	M_\star [M _⊕]	M_d [M _⊕]	R_c [au]	χ^2_{red}
MWC 480				
<i>Isothermal</i>	1.969 ± 0.002	0.201 ± 0.002	80 ± 1	11.21
<i>Stratified</i>	2.027 ± 0.002	0.150 ± 0.002	128 ± 1	6.14
GM Aur				
<i>Isothermal</i>	0.872 ± 0.003	0.312 ± 0.003	56 ± 1	90.84
<i>Stratified</i>	1.128 ± 0.002	0.118 ± 0.002	96 ± 1	8.48

Self gravity VS Gravitational instability



Self gravitating systems

SG influences disc structure

G. unstable systems

Development of large scale spiral structure (transport angular momentum)

$$Q = \frac{c_s \kappa}{\pi G \Sigma} \sim 1 \quad \frac{\text{Pressure, Rotation}}{\text{Self gravity}}$$

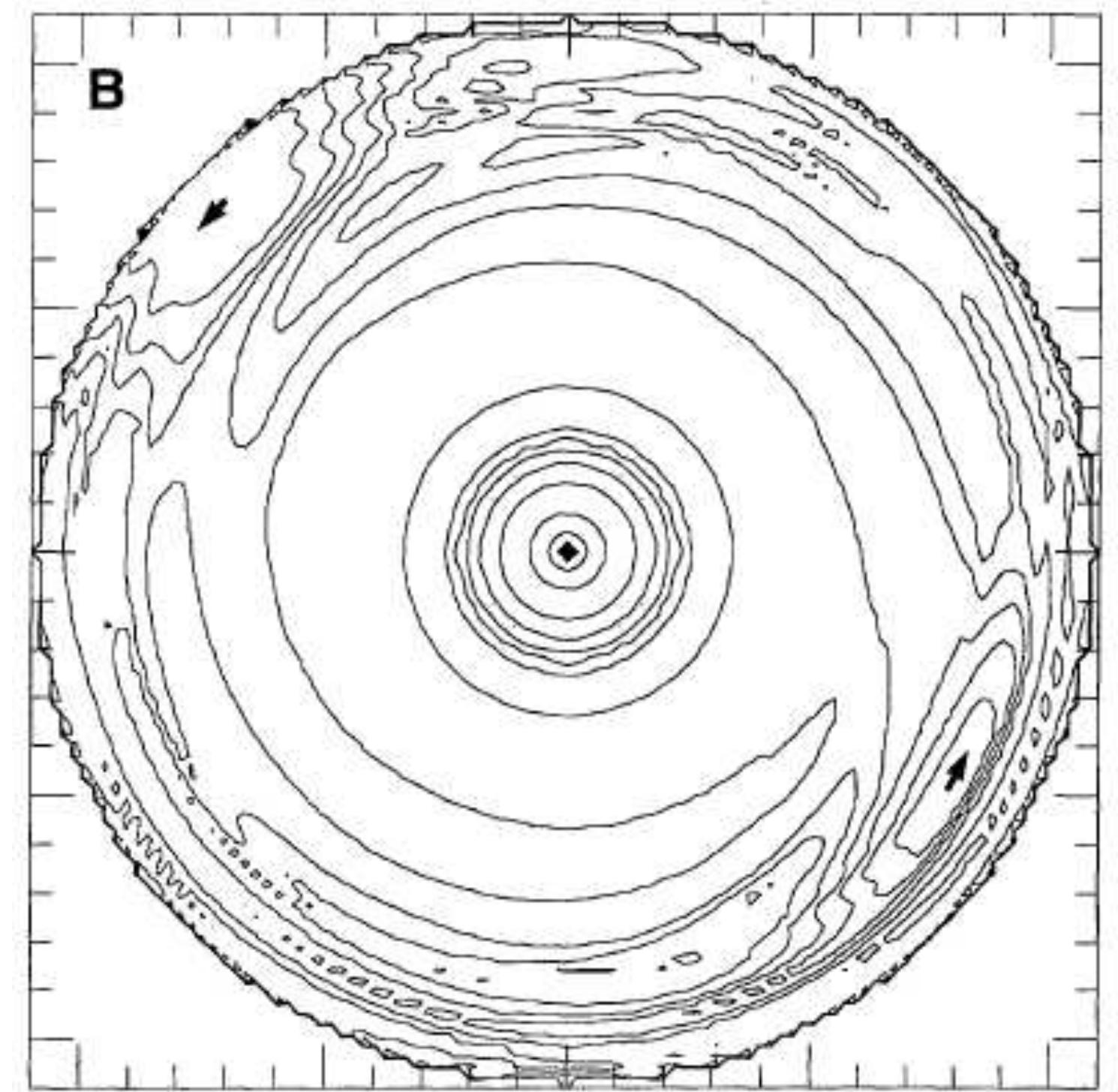
Gravitational instability and planet formation

Boss 1997

First hydrodynamical simulations of gravitationally unstable protostellar discs

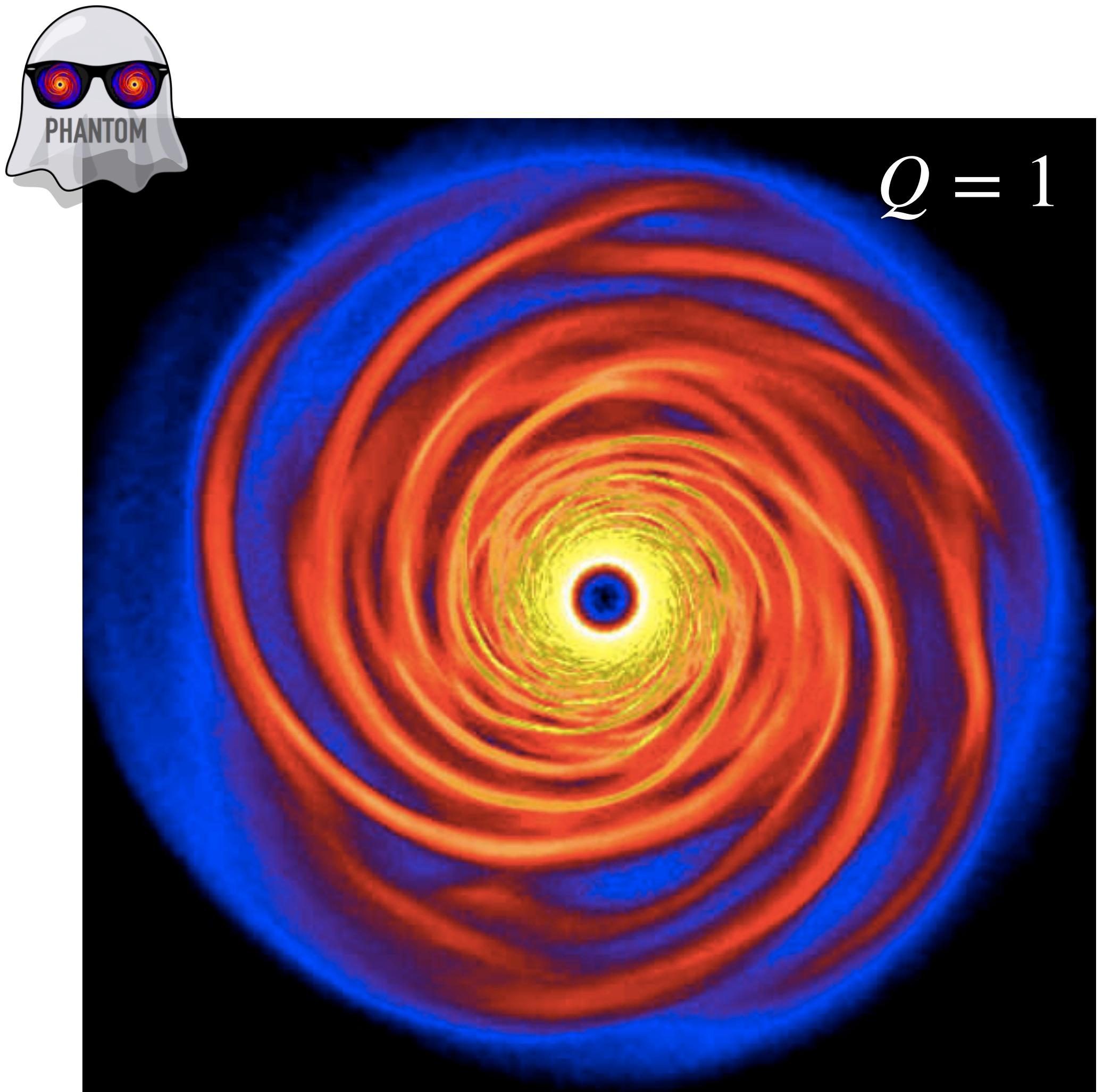
→ Possibility to rapidly form Jupiter mass body through gas fragmentation in the outer disc

Initial mass is too high to form a planet because of accretion
(Kratter & Lodato 2016)



Boss et al. 1997

Non (gas) fragmenting case



β cooling
thermodynamics

$$\beta_{cool} = \Omega t_{cool}$$

$$\delta\Sigma/\Sigma \propto \beta^{-1/2}$$

Strength of spiral perturbation is determined by the cooling factor

$$\alpha_{GI} = \frac{4}{9\gamma(\gamma - 1)\beta}$$

Interplay with dust dynamics

Rice et al. 2004-2006

First 3D SPH simulations of gas and dust GI discs.

- **Efficient** dust trapping inside spiral arms
- Dust is so unstable that **collapses**
 $\sim 1M_{\oplus}$ planetesimals

Warning: Low resolution

Booth & Clarke 2016

2D SPH simulations of gas and dust GI discs.

Important parameter is **dust dispersion velocity**

$c_d \propto St^{1/2} \beta^{-1/2}$
since it determines the effective “temperature” of the dust

Longarini et al. 2023a

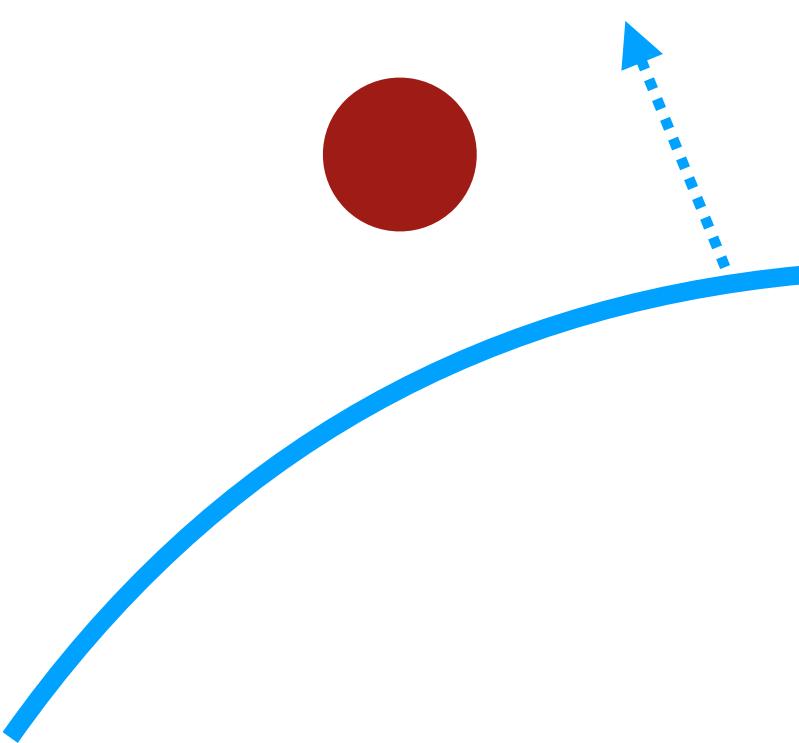
Analytical study of 2 fluid gravitational instability

When the dust is enough concentrated and sufficiently cold, it can drive instability

$$M_{Jeans} \simeq 1 - 10M_{\oplus}$$

What happens to dust?

Dust grain

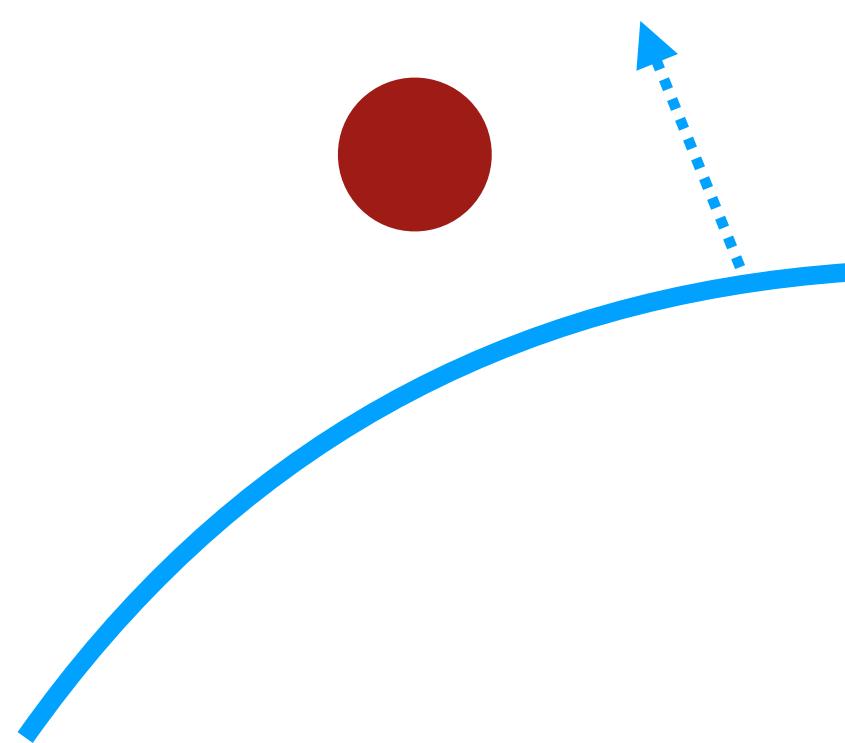


Spiral arm

What happens to dust?

$$\frac{\delta\Sigma}{\Sigma} \propto \beta^{-1/2}$$

Dust grain



Spiral arm

Stokes
number

Strength of
the spiral

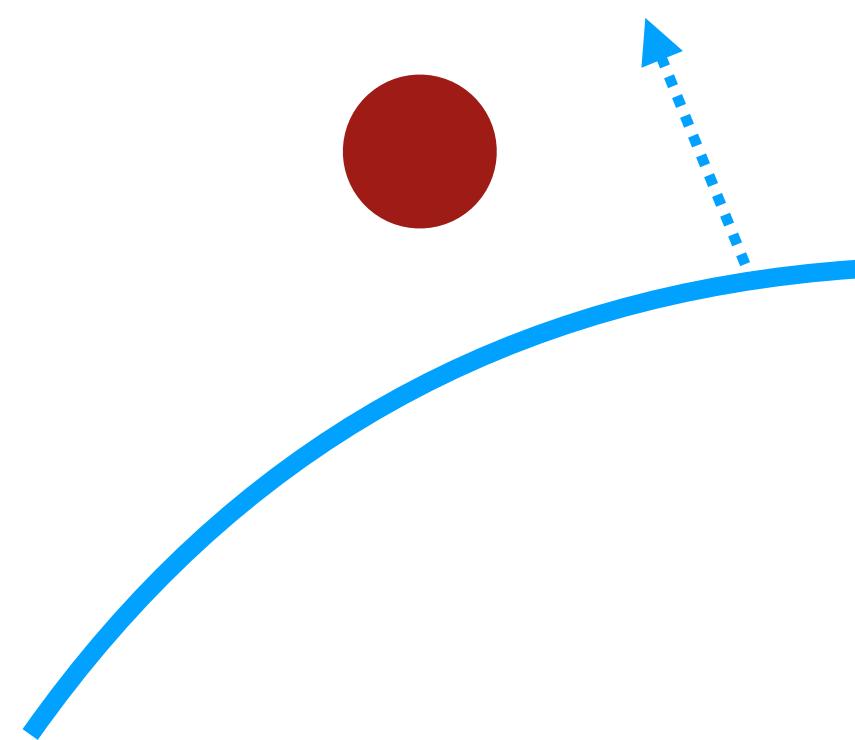
St

$\delta\Sigma/\Sigma$

What happens to dust?

$$\frac{\delta\Sigma}{\Sigma} \propto \beta^{-1/2}$$

Dust grain



Stokes
number

Strength of
the spiral

St

$\delta\Sigma/\Sigma$

Efficiently excited:

Stronger kick if

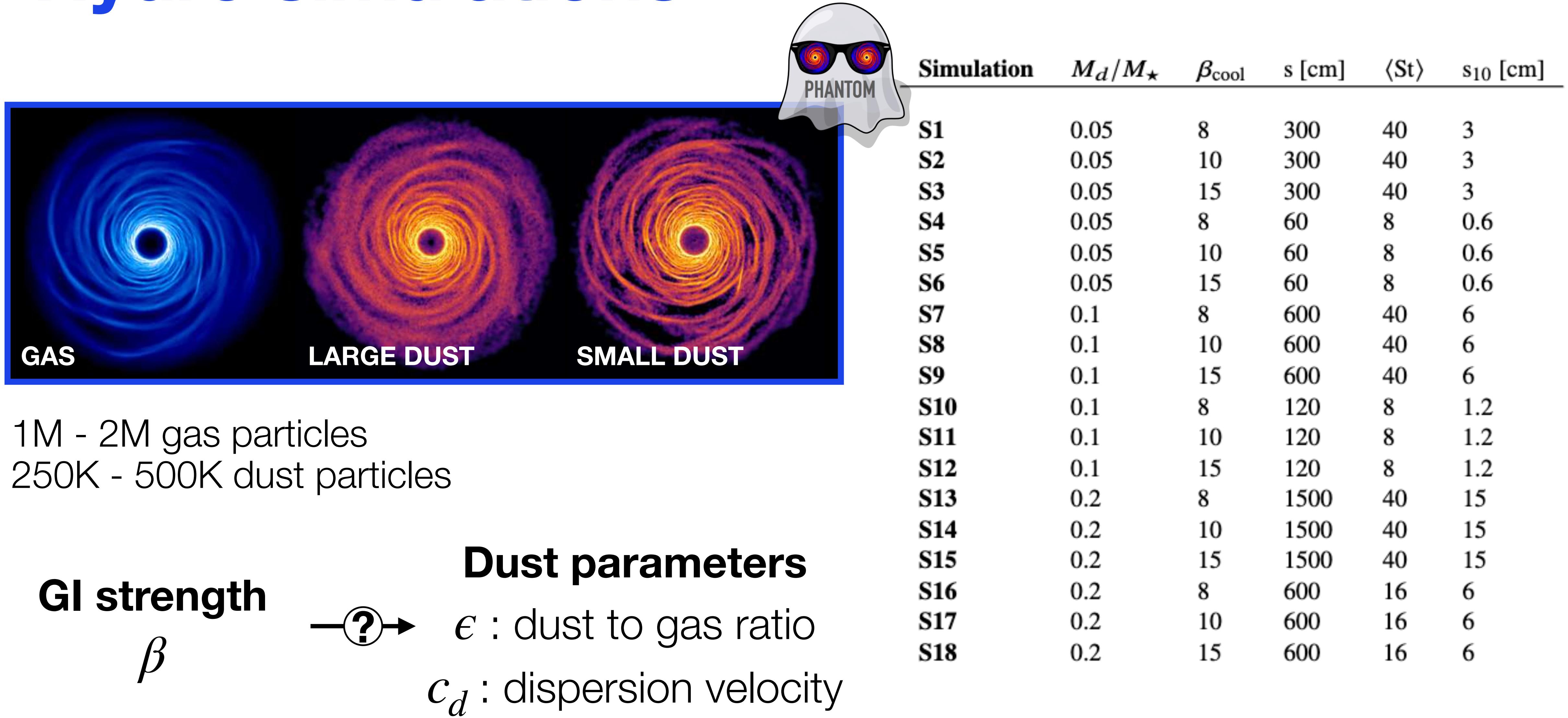
- Low β
- High St

Not efficiently excited:

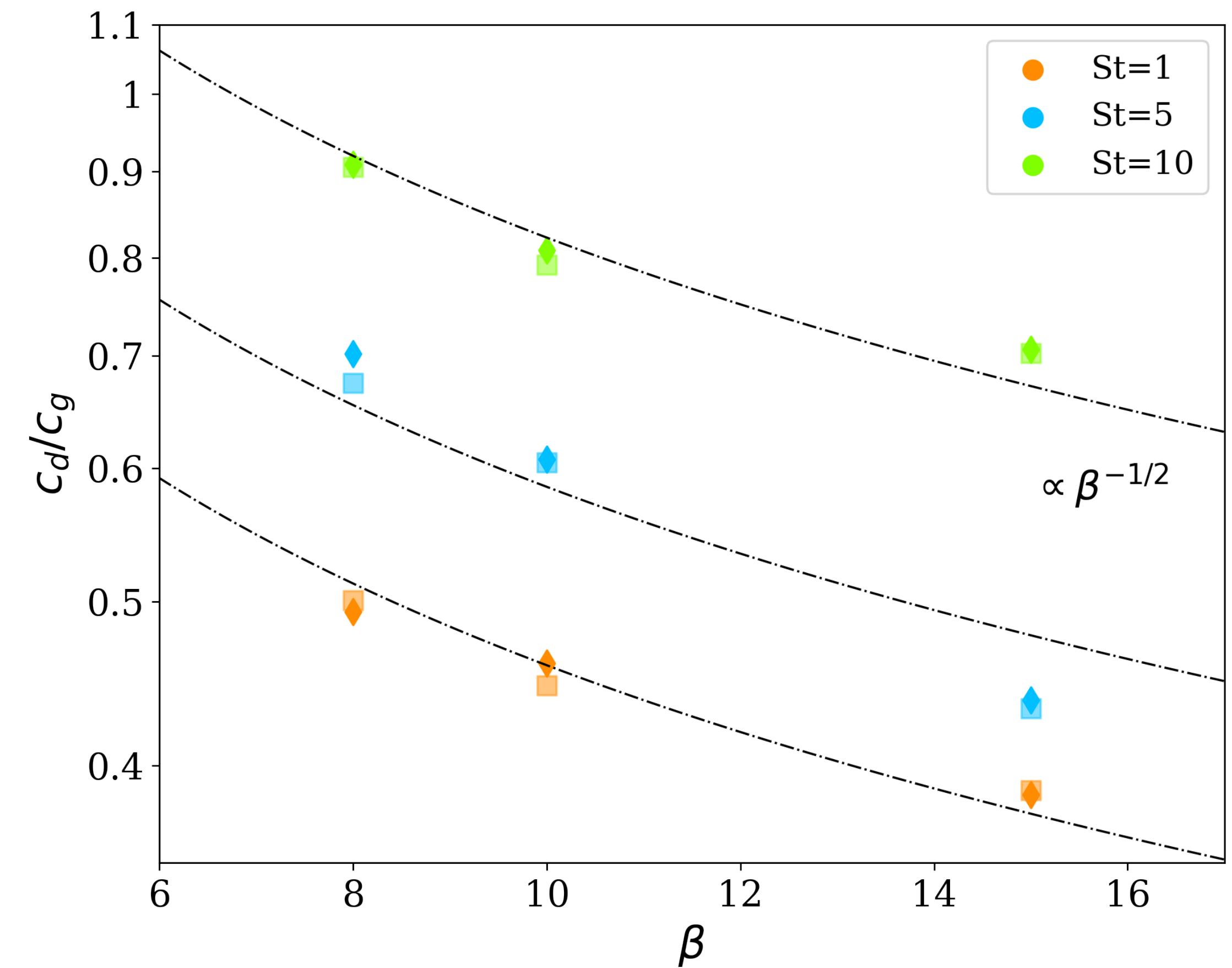
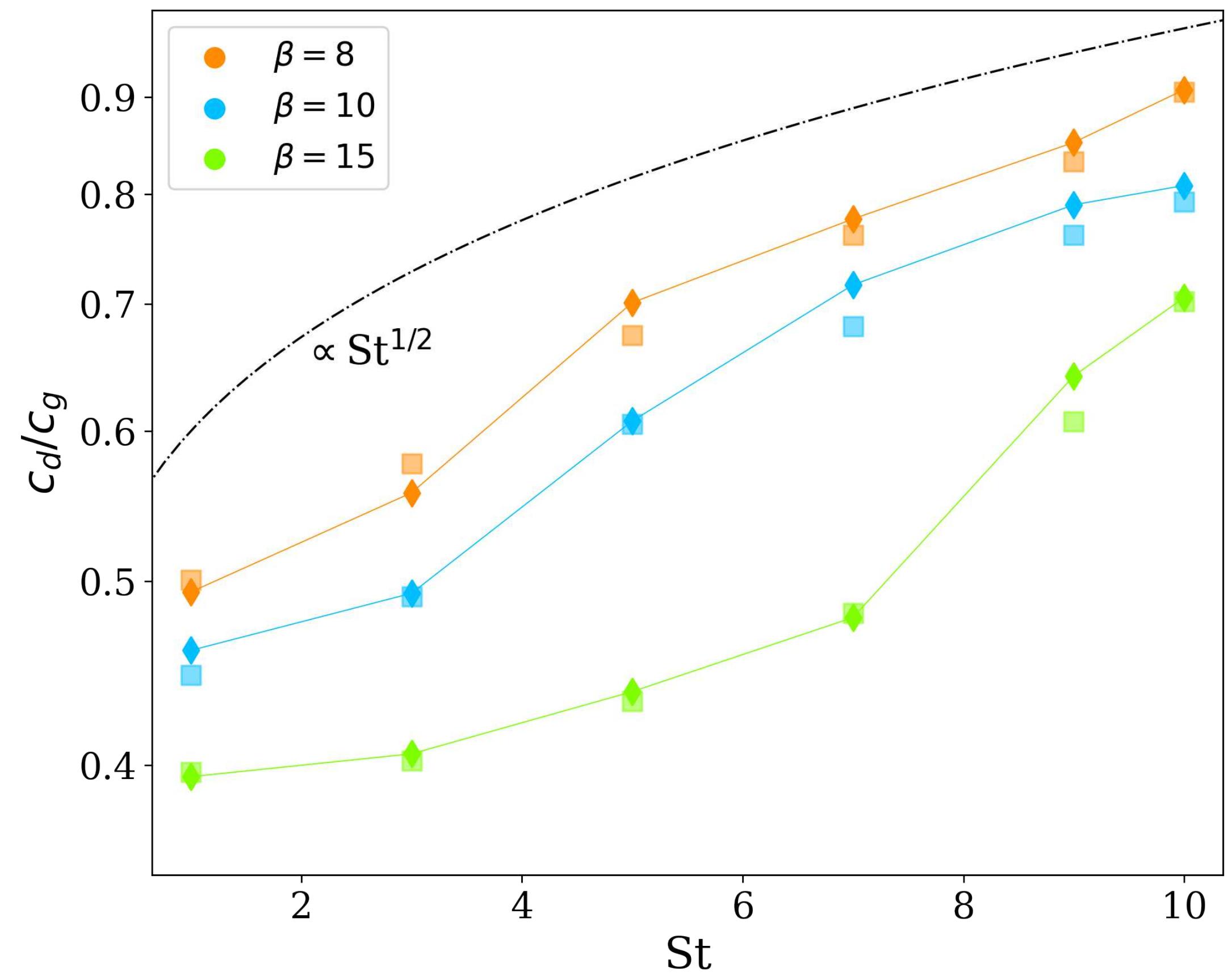
Weaker kick if

- High β
- Low St

Hydro simulations



Dust dispersion velocity



$$c_d \propto St^{1/2} \beta^{-1/2}$$

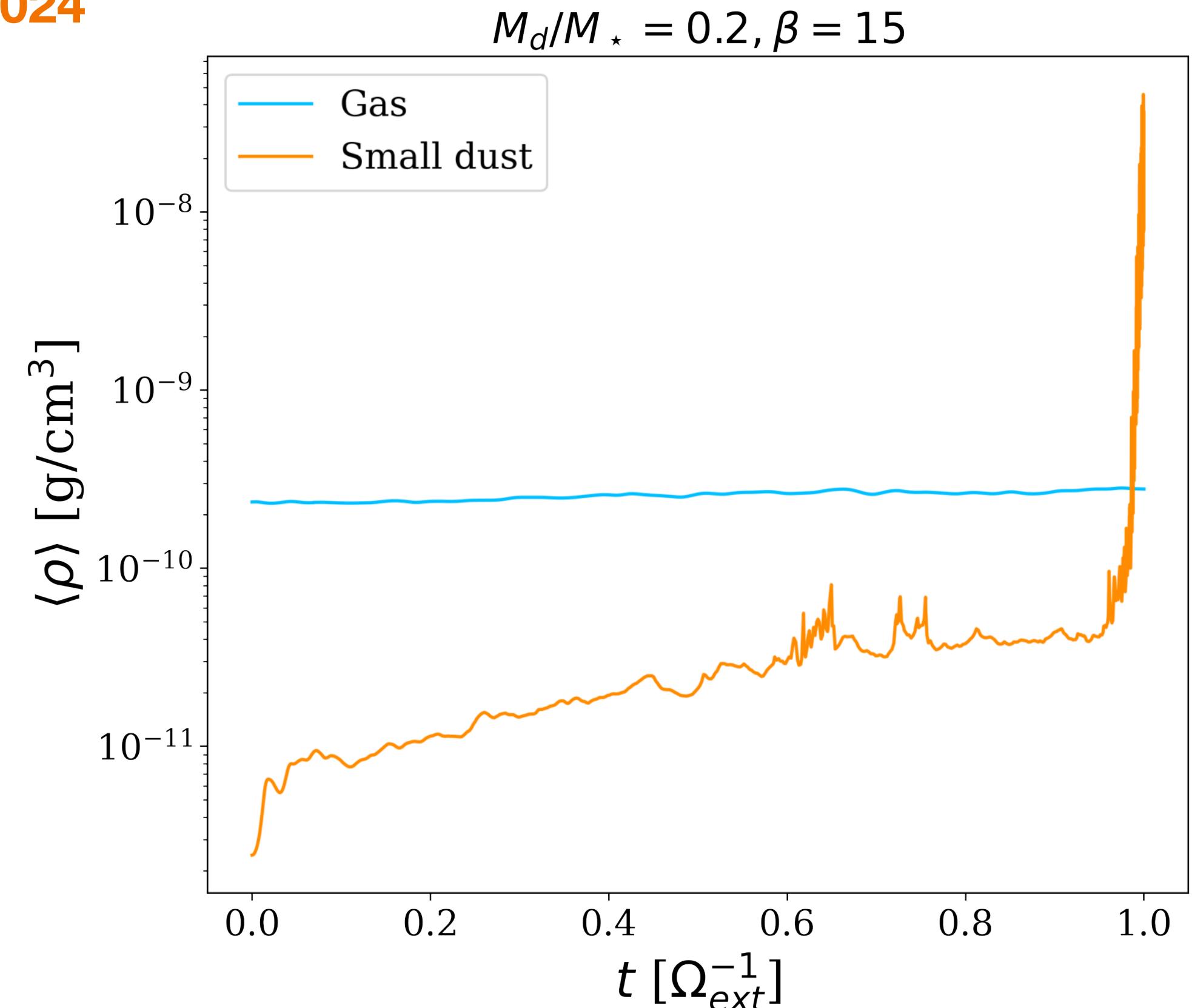
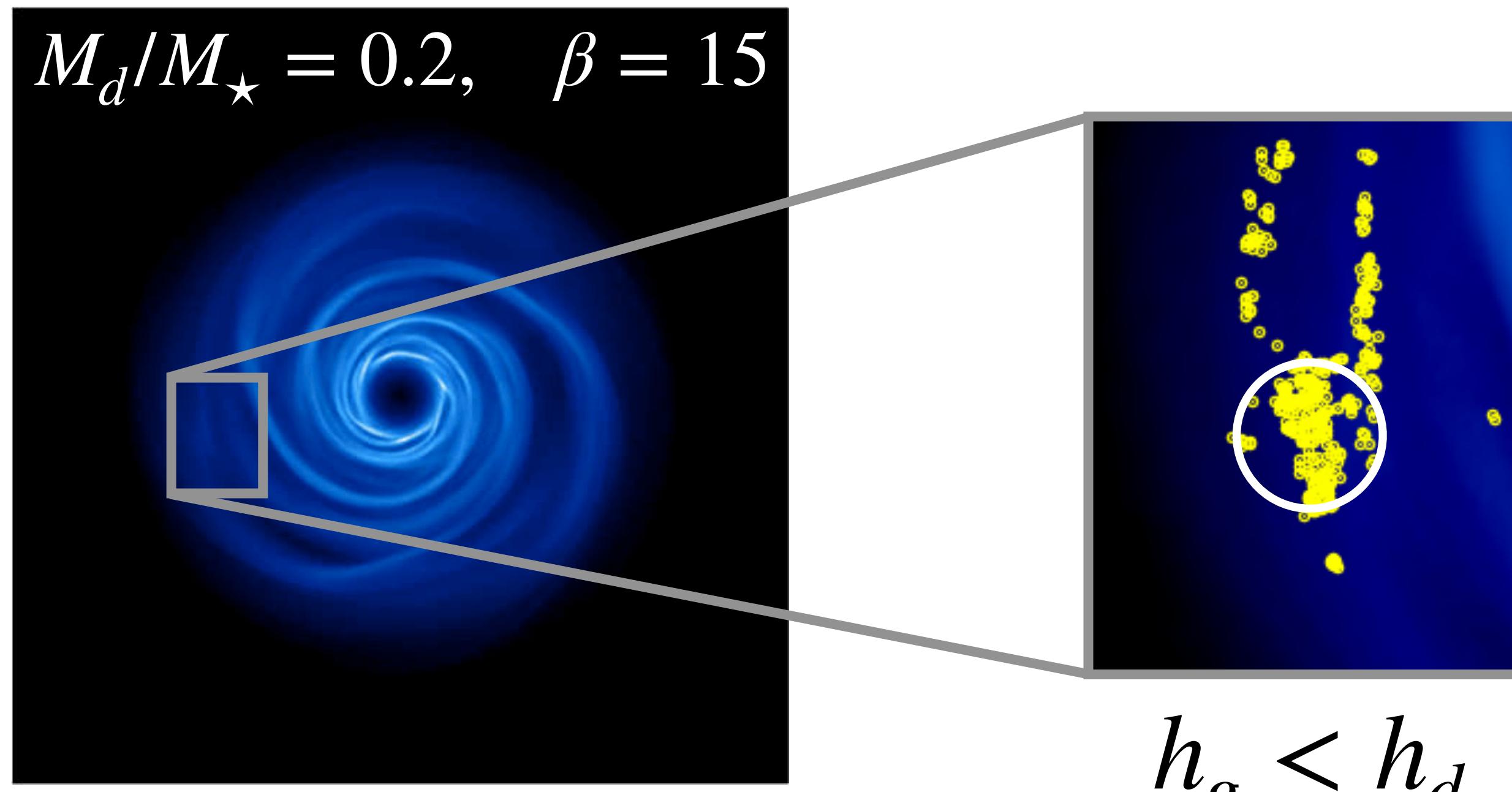
Dust collapse

In line with Rowther 2024
See Sahl's talk

We observe dust collapse only for

- Higher disc to star mass ratio ($M_d/M_\star = 0.2$)
- Long cooling ($\beta = 10 - 15$)
- Small dust particles

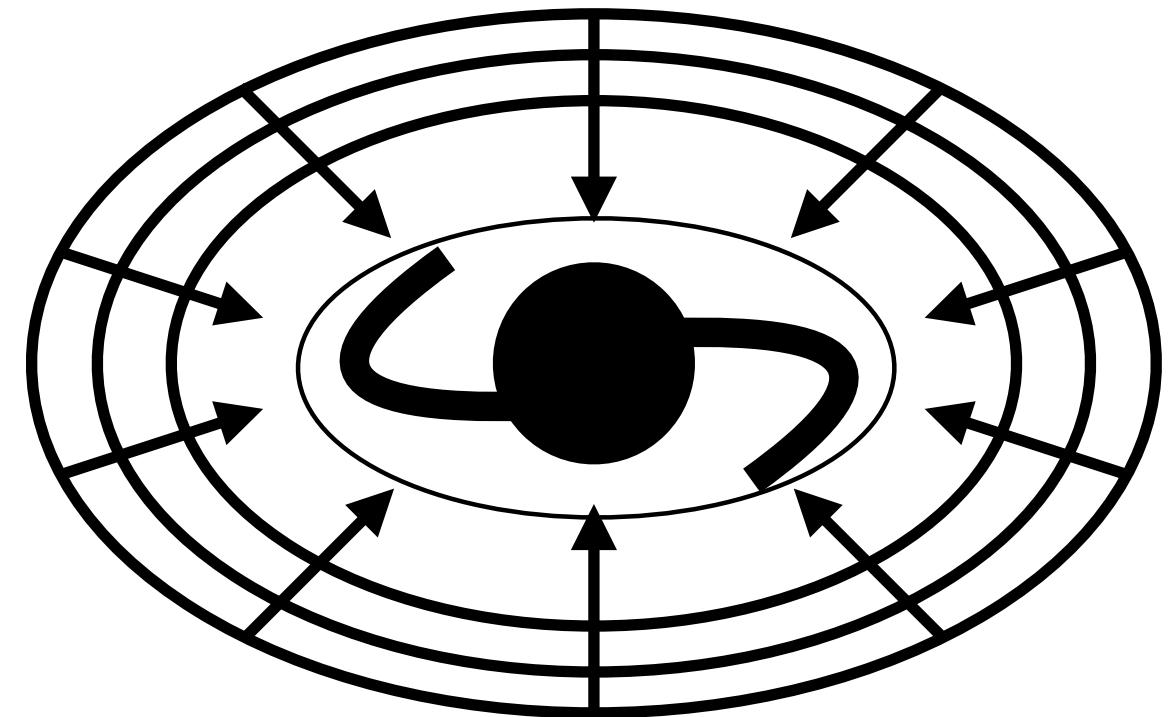
Mass of the clump $M_{cl} \simeq 1M_\oplus$



Only dust is collapsing
Simulation stops (too long
computational time...)

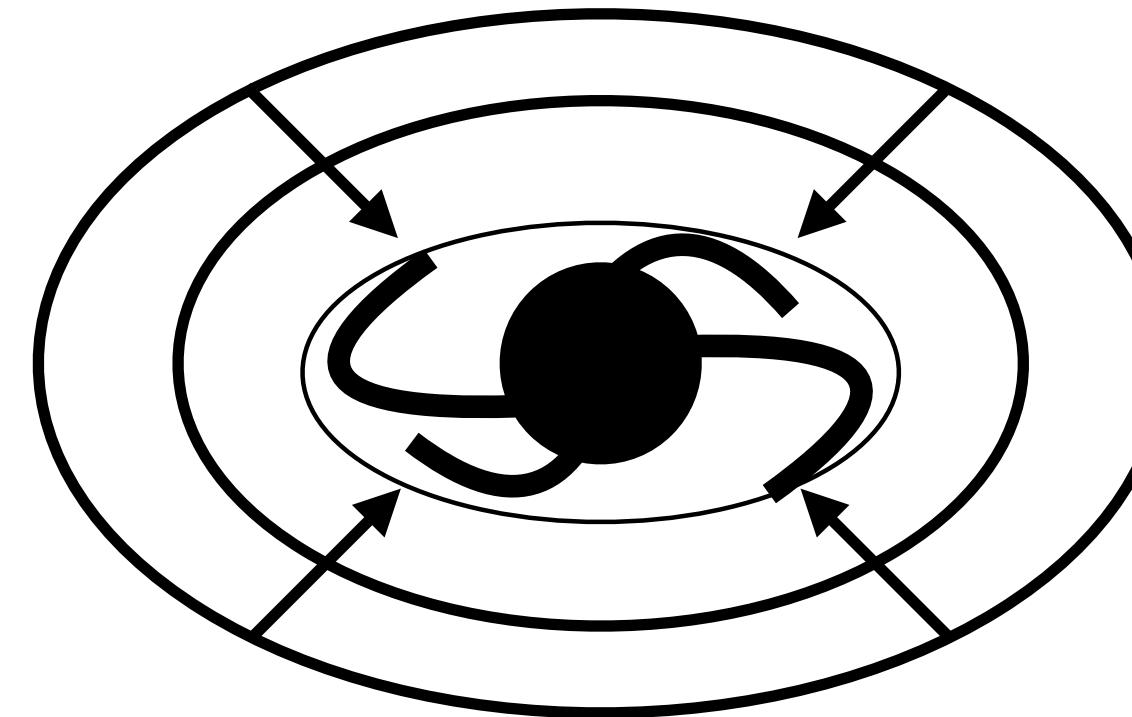
Evolutionary scenario

Stage 1



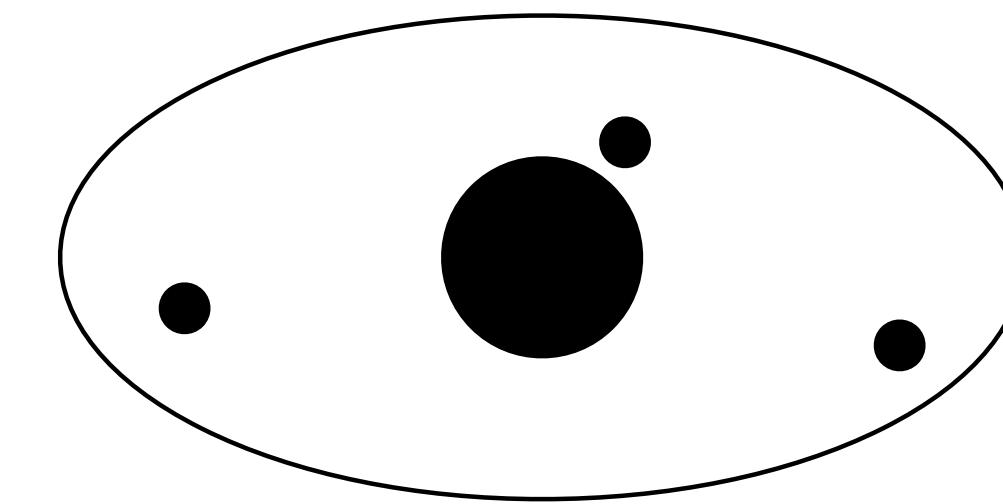
Very massive disc M_{d1}
strongly gravitationally unstable
High \dot{M}_{inf} - Low β_{cool}
Gas likely to fragment
 \rightarrow Stellar companions formation

Stage 2



Massive disc $M_{d2} < M_{d1}$
gravitationally unstable
Lower \dot{M}_{inf} - Higher β_{cool}
Dust likely to fragment
 \rightarrow Planet formation

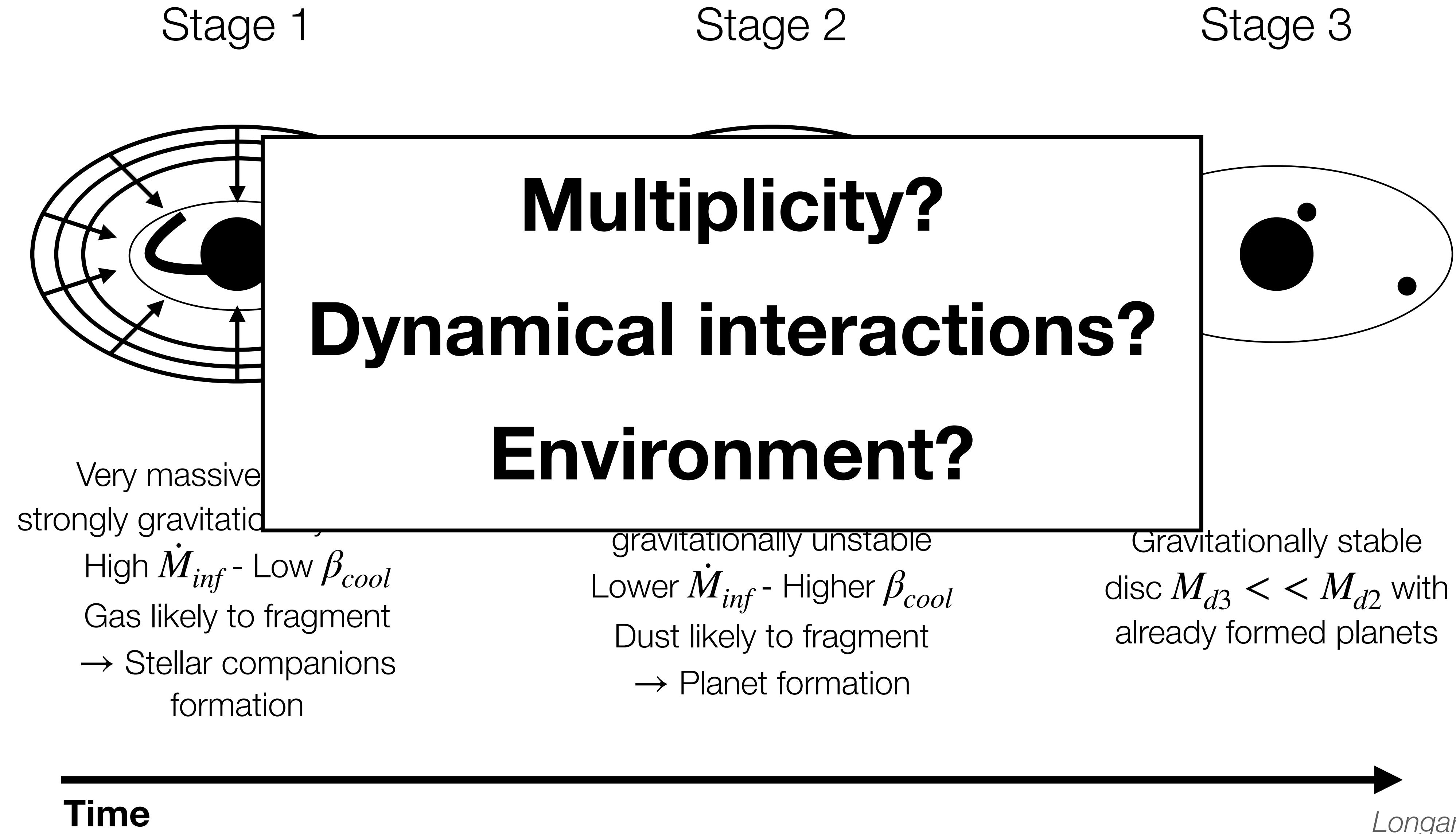
Stage 3



Gravitationally stable
disc $M_{d3} \ll M_{d2}$ with
already formed planets

Time

Evolutionary scenario

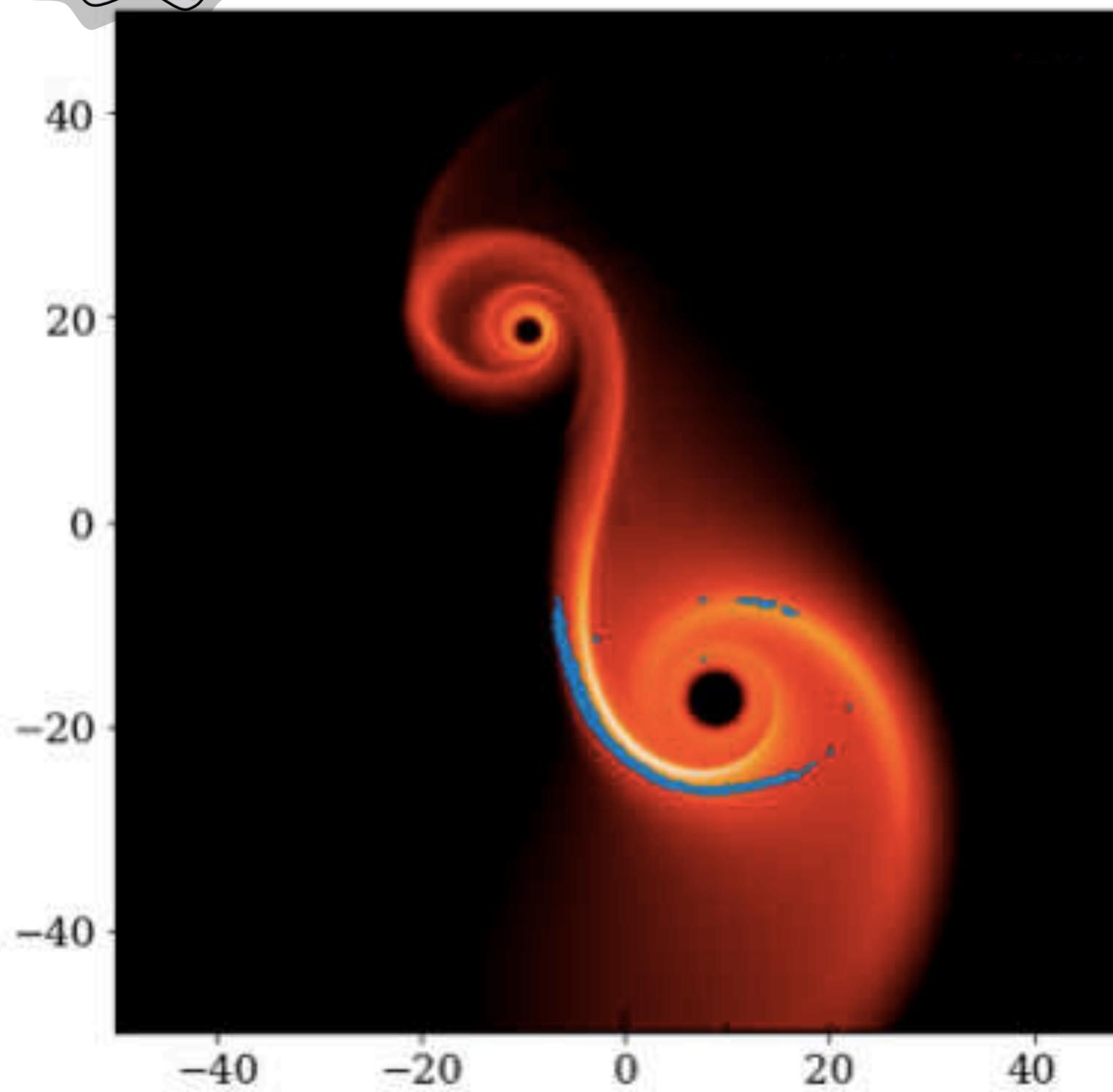


Other possible scenarios

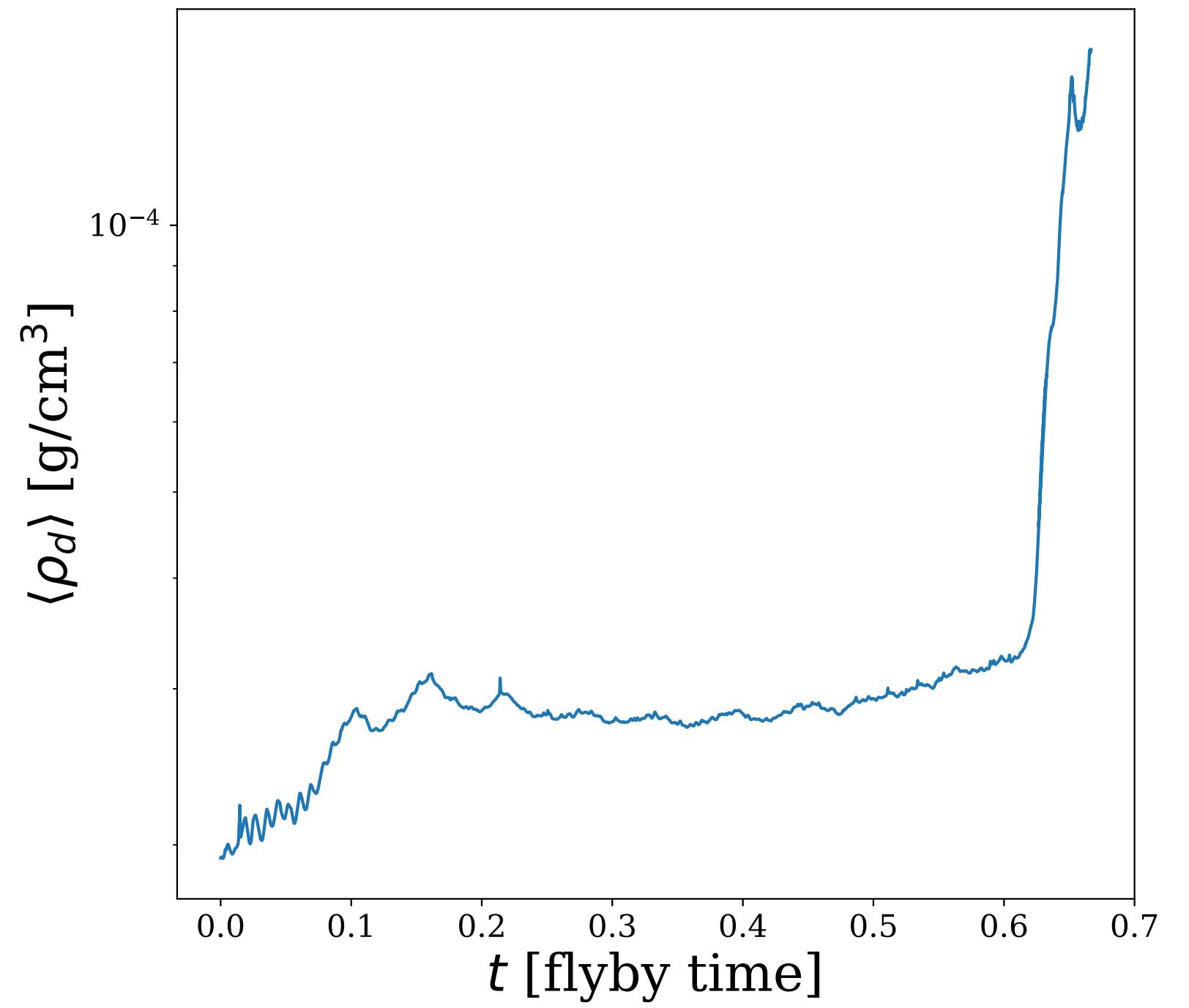
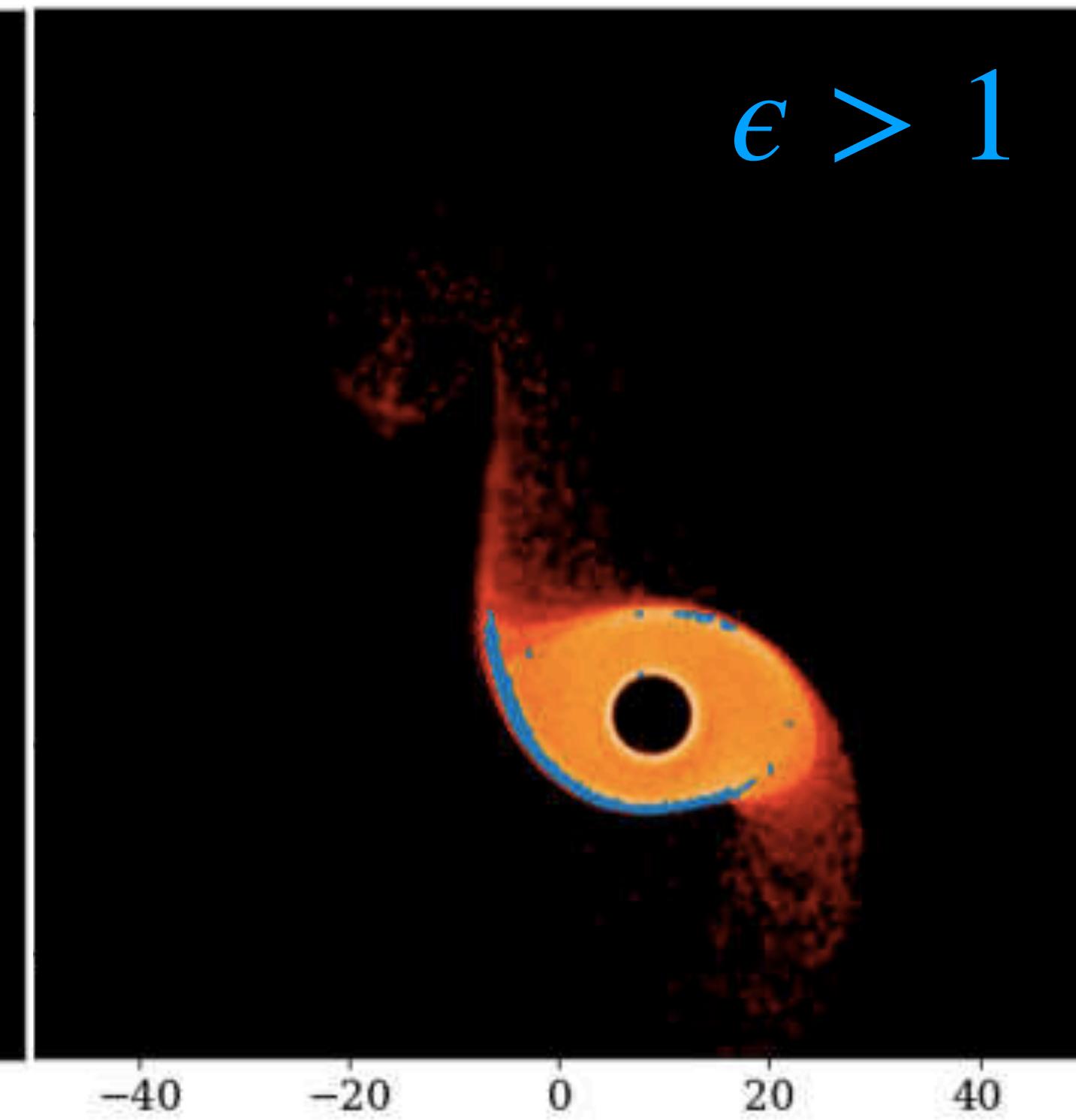
Vasu Prasad, PhD Student
@ IoA, Cambridge



Gas surface density



Dust surface density



What after?

Planetary cores (1-10 Earth) formation in the outer disc in massive discs at the end of the GI phase (SG disc)

Planetary cores are sub-thermal mass → Type I migration

Type I migration timescale

Tanaka et al. 2002

$$t_{M1} = \frac{M_\star}{M_p} \frac{M_\star}{\Sigma R_p^2} \left(\frac{H}{R} \right)_p^2 \Omega_p^{-1}$$

Time to reach the thermal mass through accretion

D'angelo & Lubow 2008

$$t_{acc} = \frac{M_{th}}{\dot{M}_p} = 3 \left(\frac{H}{R} \right)_p^4 \frac{M_\star}{M_p} \frac{M_\star}{\Sigma R_p^2} \Omega_p^{-1} \eta^{-3}$$

Survival of the cores

$$\tau = \frac{3}{\eta^3} \left(\frac{H}{R} \right)^2 p$$

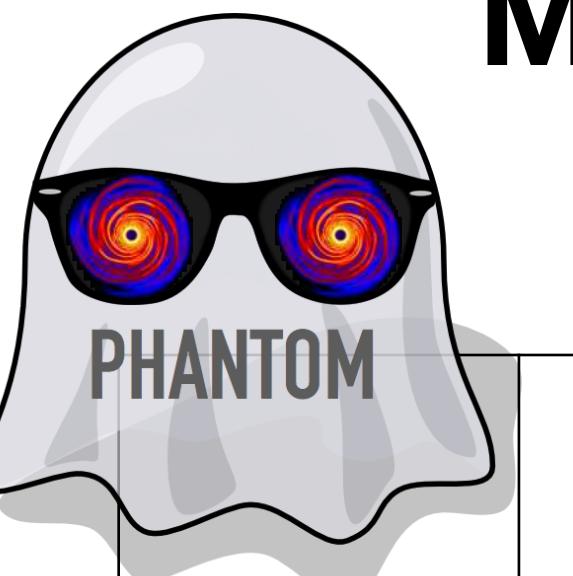
$$\eta = R_{acc}/R_h$$

$\tau > 1 \rightarrow$ Planetary core does not survive

$\tau < 1 \rightarrow$ Planetary core survives

Accretion ts

Migration ts



	H/R	n	M _p	τ
Sim1	0.1	0.25	10	~1
Sim2	0.1	0.5	10	<1
Sim3	0.2	0.25	10	>1
Sim4	0.1	0.25	20	~1

Antonio Costantinou,
Master student @ IoA



t=0 yrs

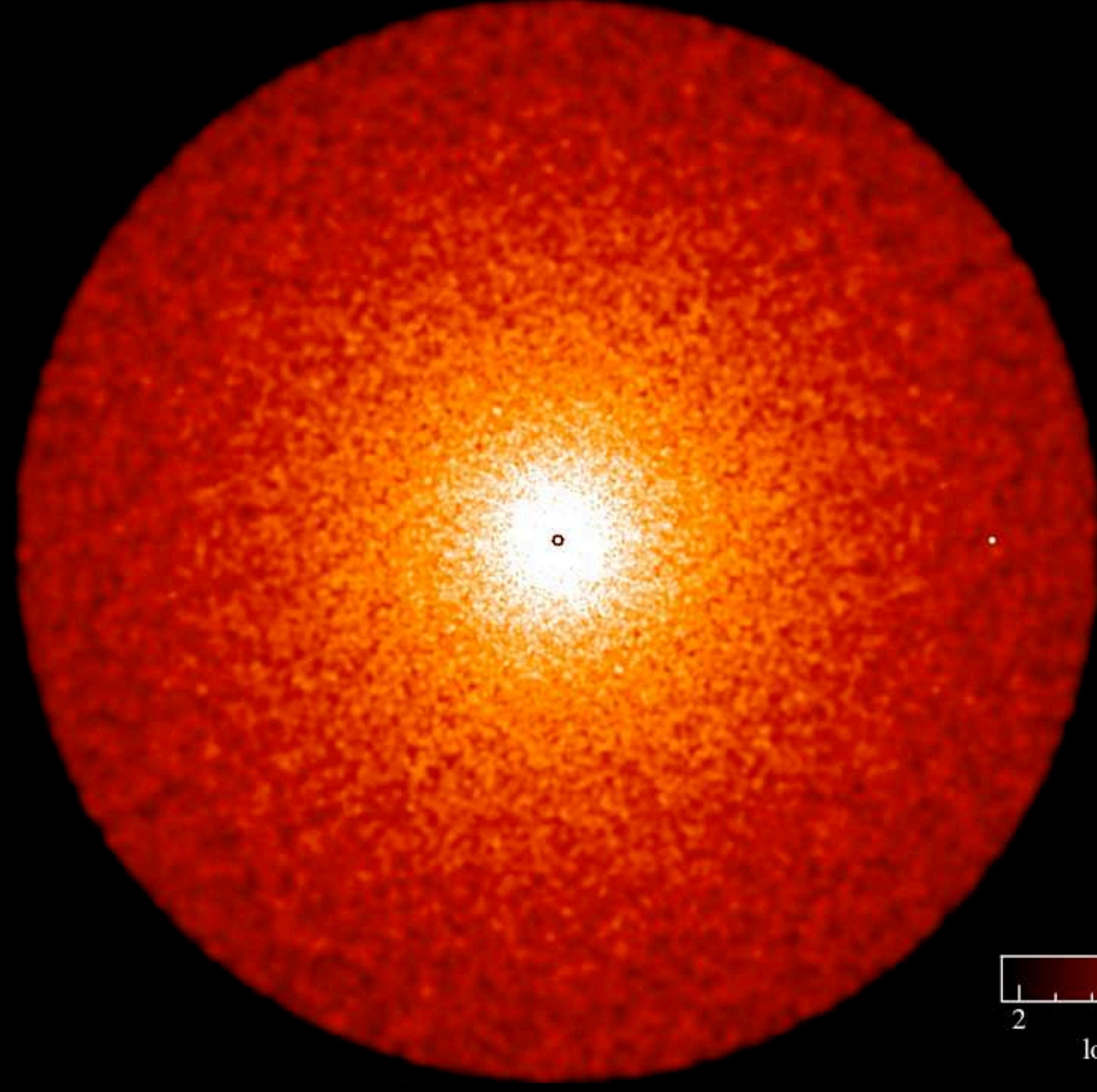
$$\tau \sim 1$$

$$M_p = 10M_\oplus$$

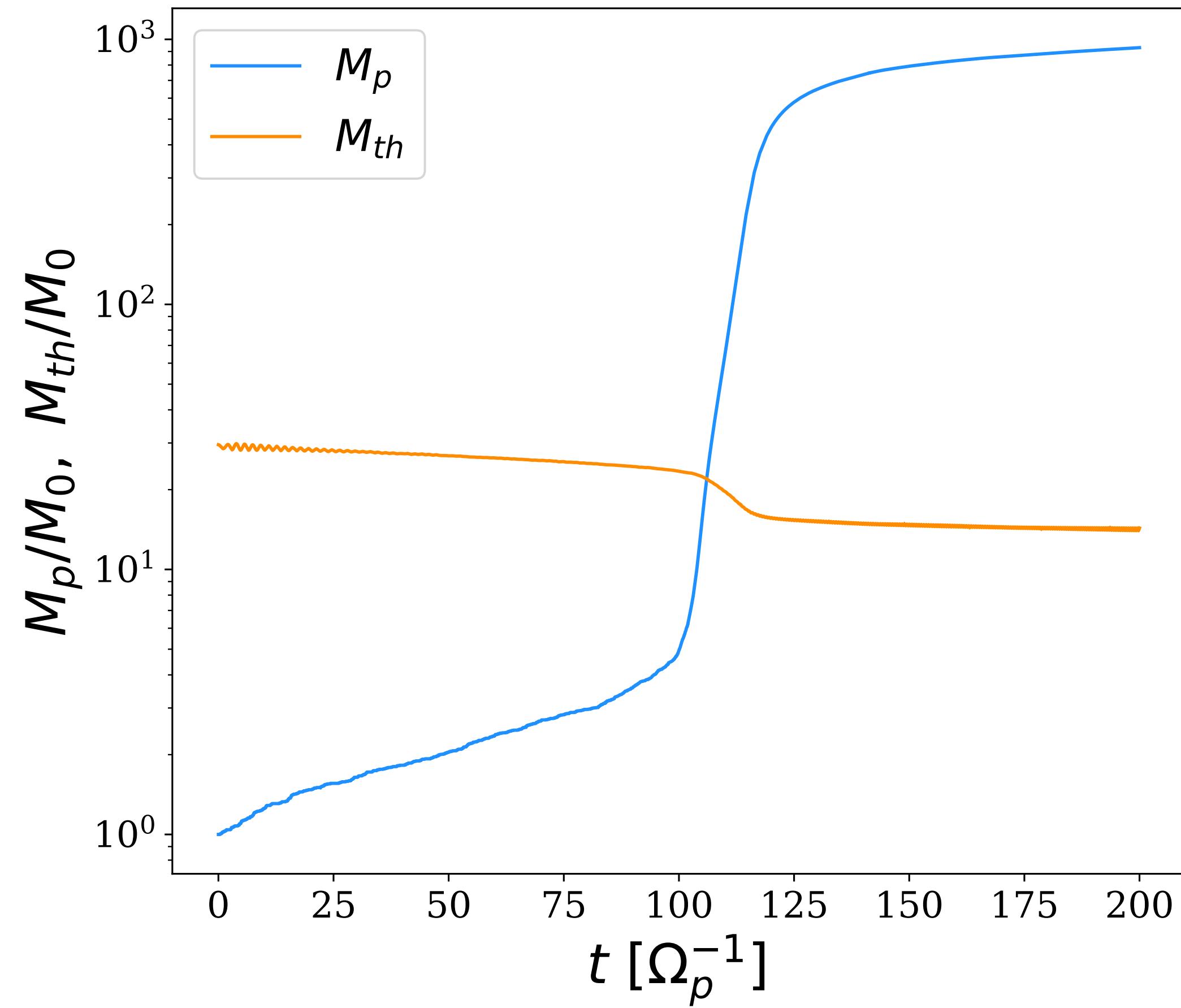
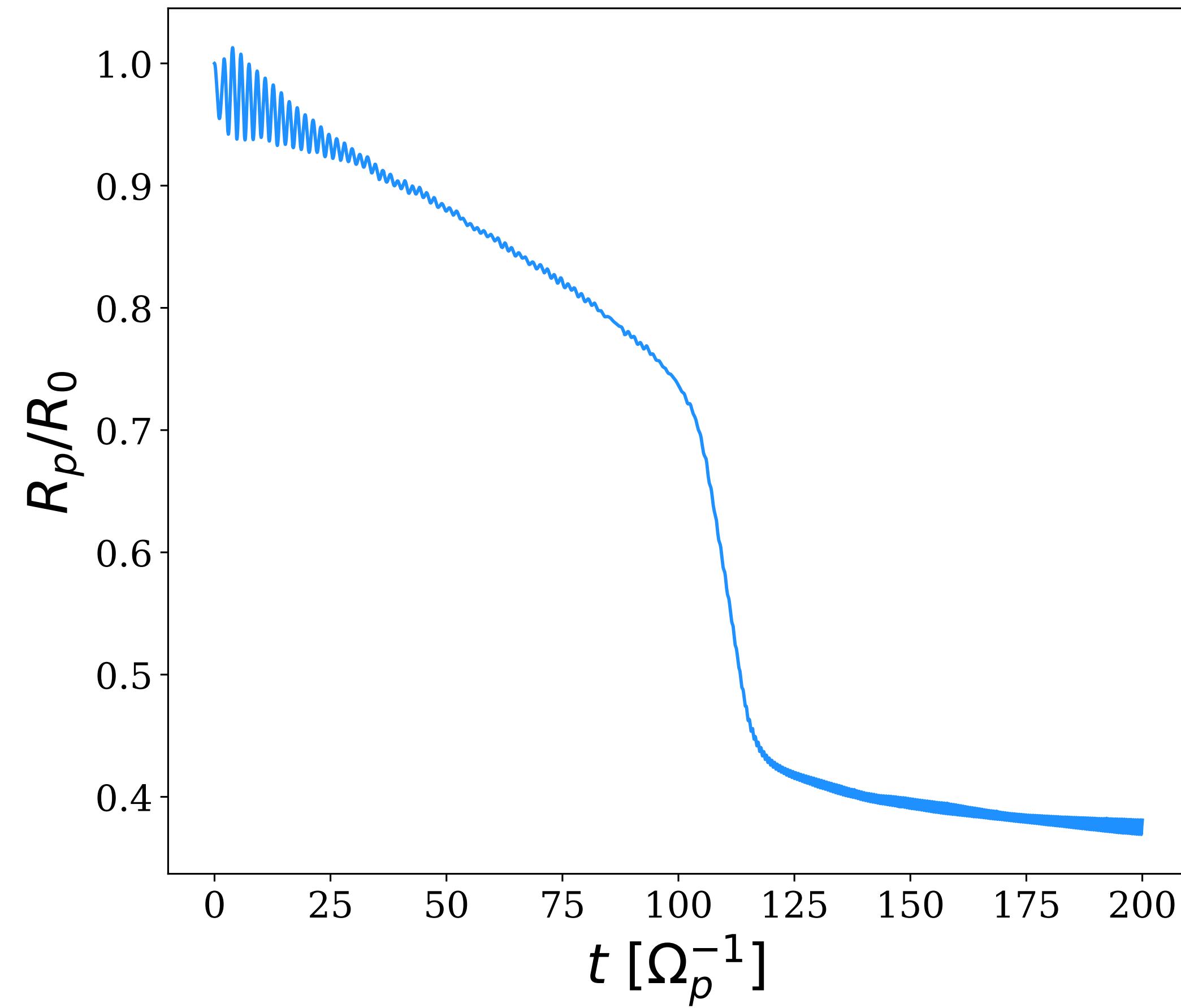
$$(H/R)_p = 0.1$$

$$\eta = 0.25$$

$$M_d = 0.1M_\star$$



Migration VS accretion



Conclusion and future perspectives

- Precisely modelling the **rotation curve** gives a unique opportunity to investigate protoplanetary discs structure
 - How many information can we get from the rotation curve? Is it possible to directly reconstruct the thermal structure?

For PHANTOM: Implement correct initial condition (hydro eq. + centrifugal balance) in the .tmp

- The dynamical role of dust in GI discs is crucial and it can explain the formation of **planetary cores** in young protoplanetary discs
 - Can these cores survive in young discs?

For PHANTOM: Allow for the creation of sink particles from dust