

# Formation and evolution of protoplanetary discs

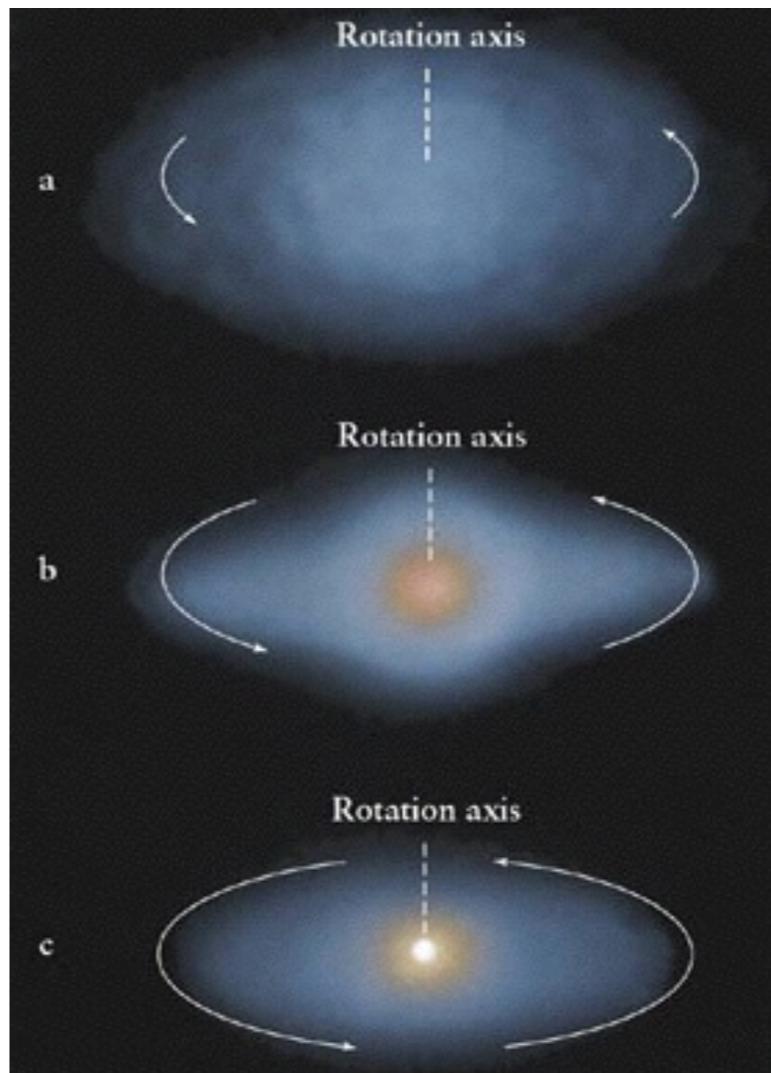
Richard Nelson  
Queen Mary University of London

1. Disc Formation
2. Angular momentum transport
  - Self-gravity
  - Magnetic fields
3. Hydrodynamic instabilities
4. Dispersal via photoevaporation

# Disc formation

# Disc formation without magnetic fields

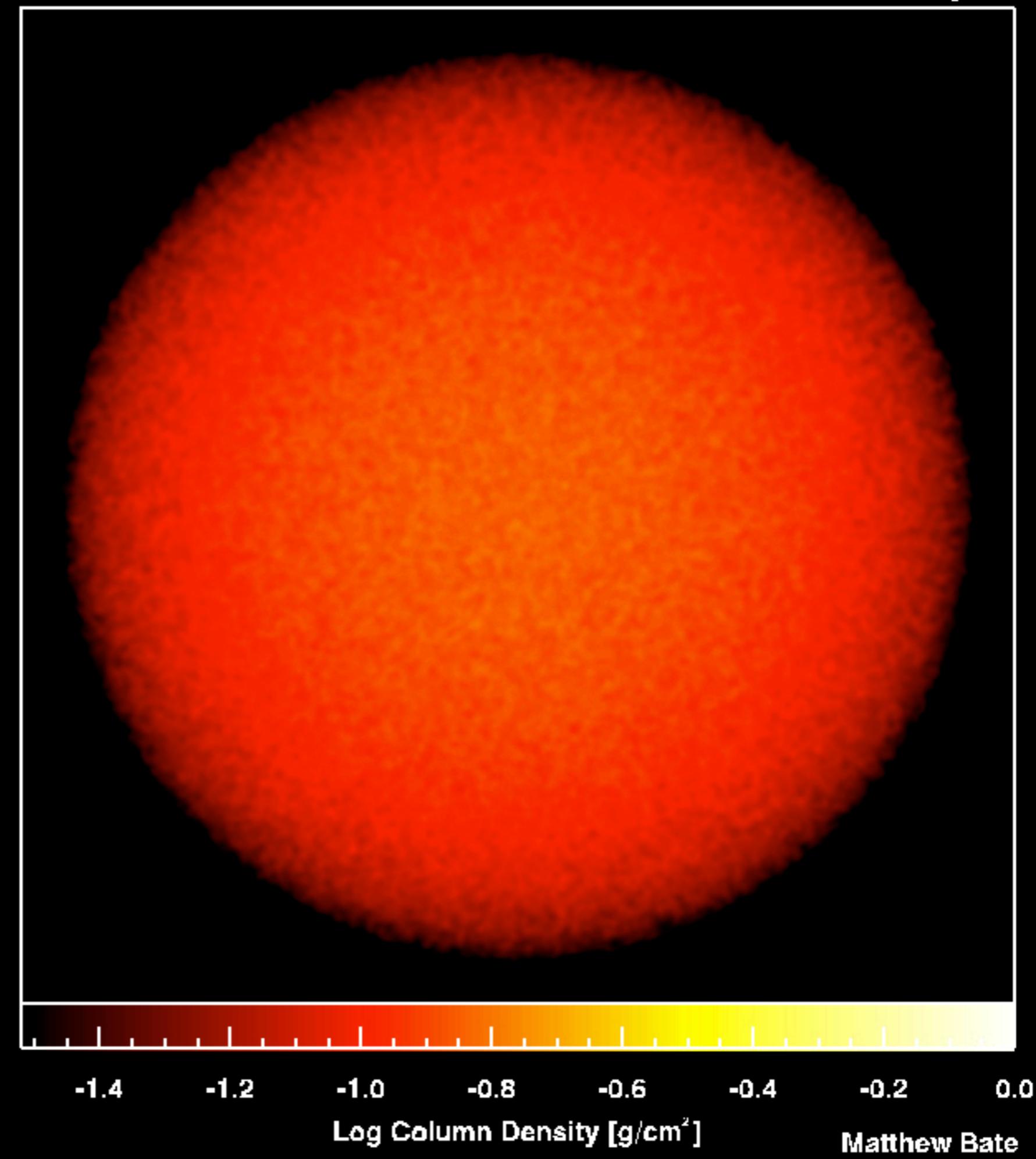
- Angular momentum conservation during collapse of rotating spherical cloud leads to disc formation
- What about in a more realistic scenario of star formation in a turbulent cloud with no net angular momentum?



Dimensions: 82500. AU

Time: 0. yr

- Discs form readily during the fragmentation of turbulent clouds
- Angular momentum originates from the shear associated with locally convergent flows



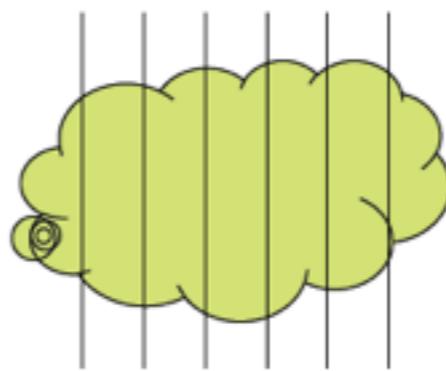
# Disc formation with magnetic fields

- Pre-stellar clouds are observed to be magnetised through OH Zeeman measurements (Troland & Crutcher 2008)

- For cloud core to collapse require

$$\lambda = \frac{\left(\frac{M}{\Phi}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{2\pi G^{1/2}}\right)} = \frac{\left(\frac{\Sigma}{B}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{2\pi G^{1/2}}\right)} > 1$$

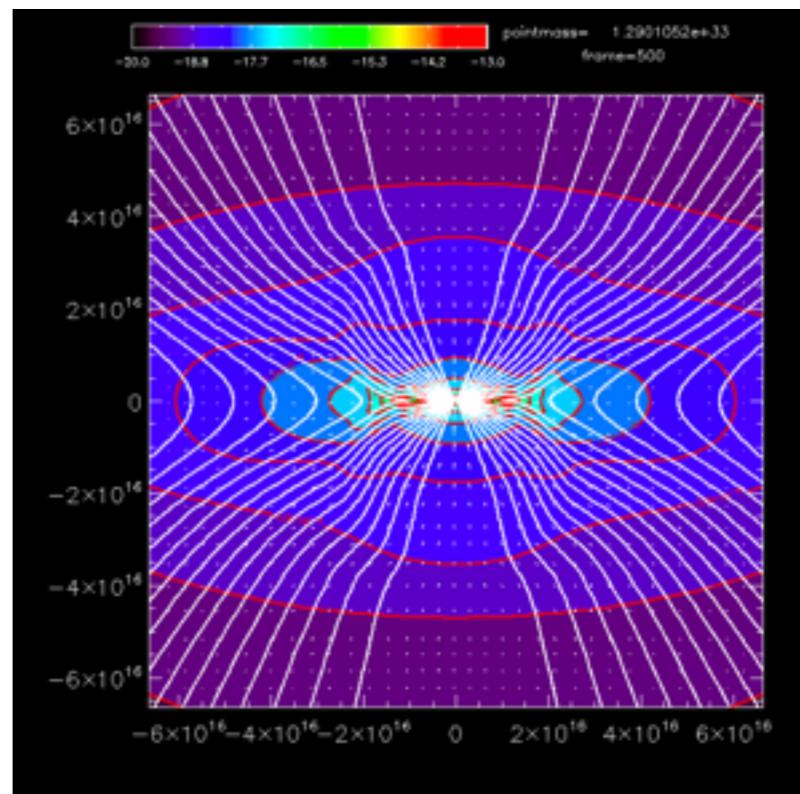
(for ideal MHD!)



- For  $1 < \lambda < 10$  collapse with magnetic field aligned with rotation axis → magnetic-braking catastrophe

(Allen et al 2003) Non-ideal effects not the solution (e.g Krasnopolksy et al 2012).

- Misaligning field and rotation axis helps: disc formation for  $\lambda \sim 4$  (Ciardi & Hennebelle 2010)



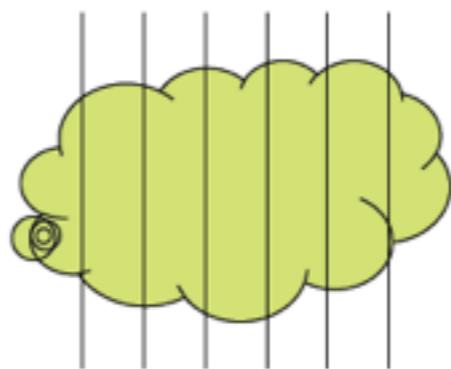
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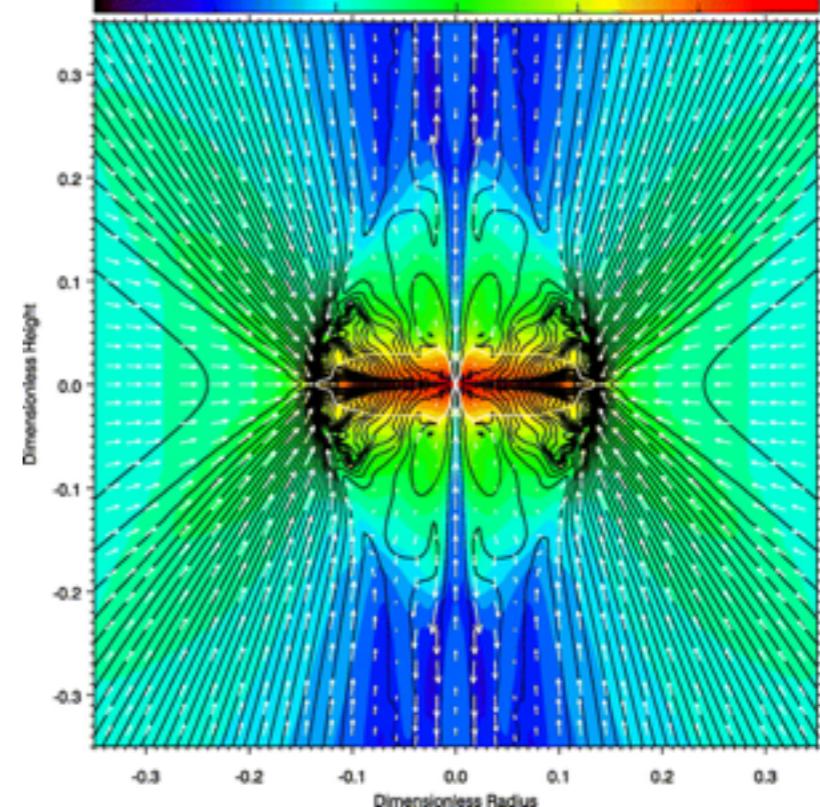
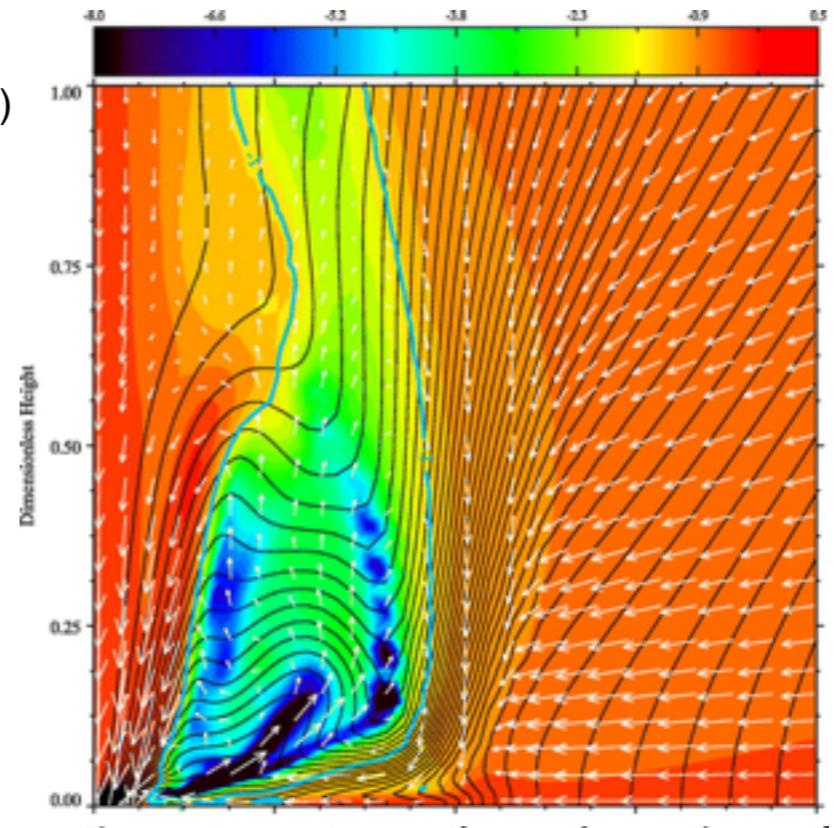
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Mellon & Li (2008)

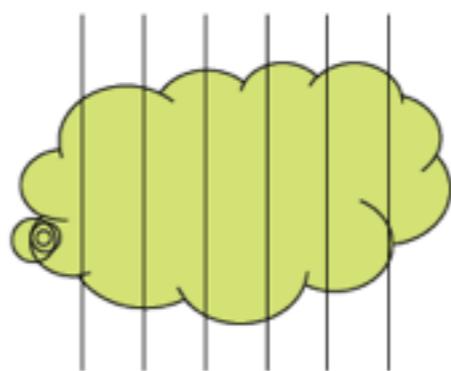
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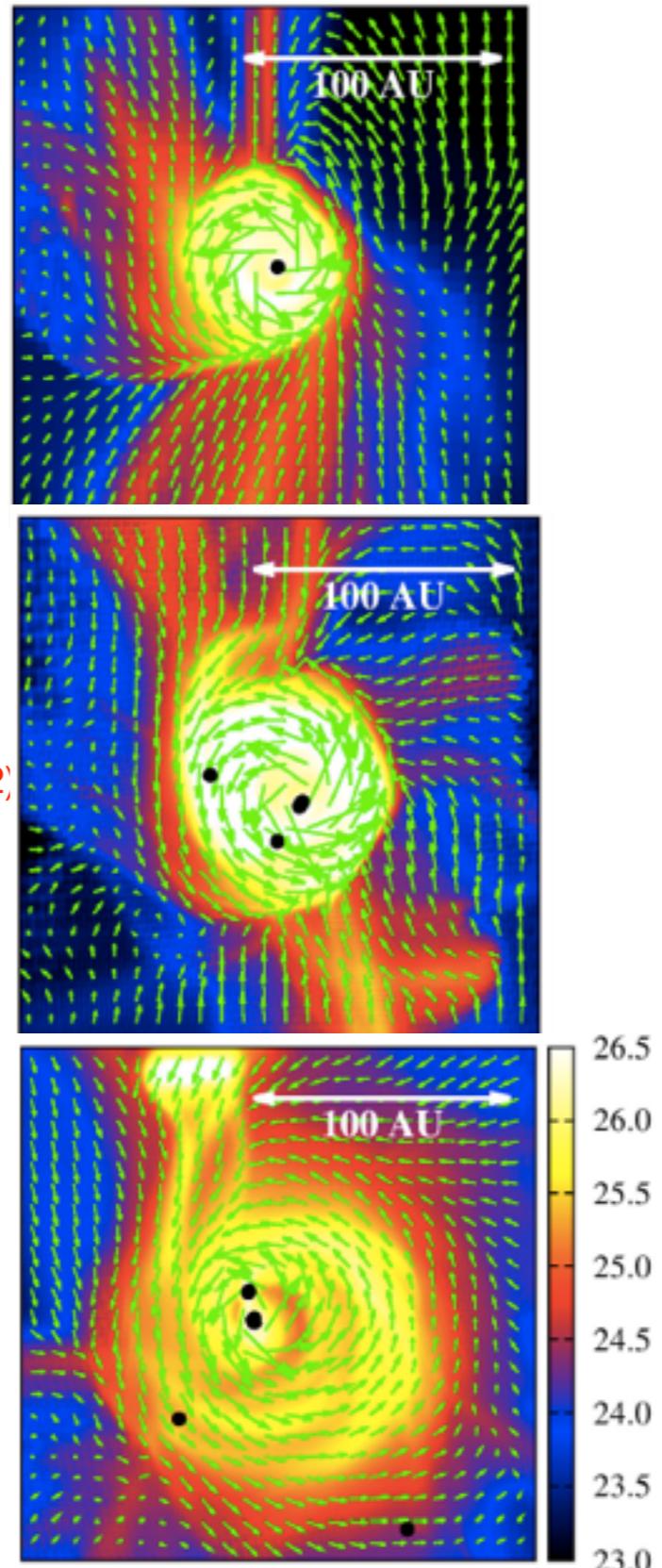
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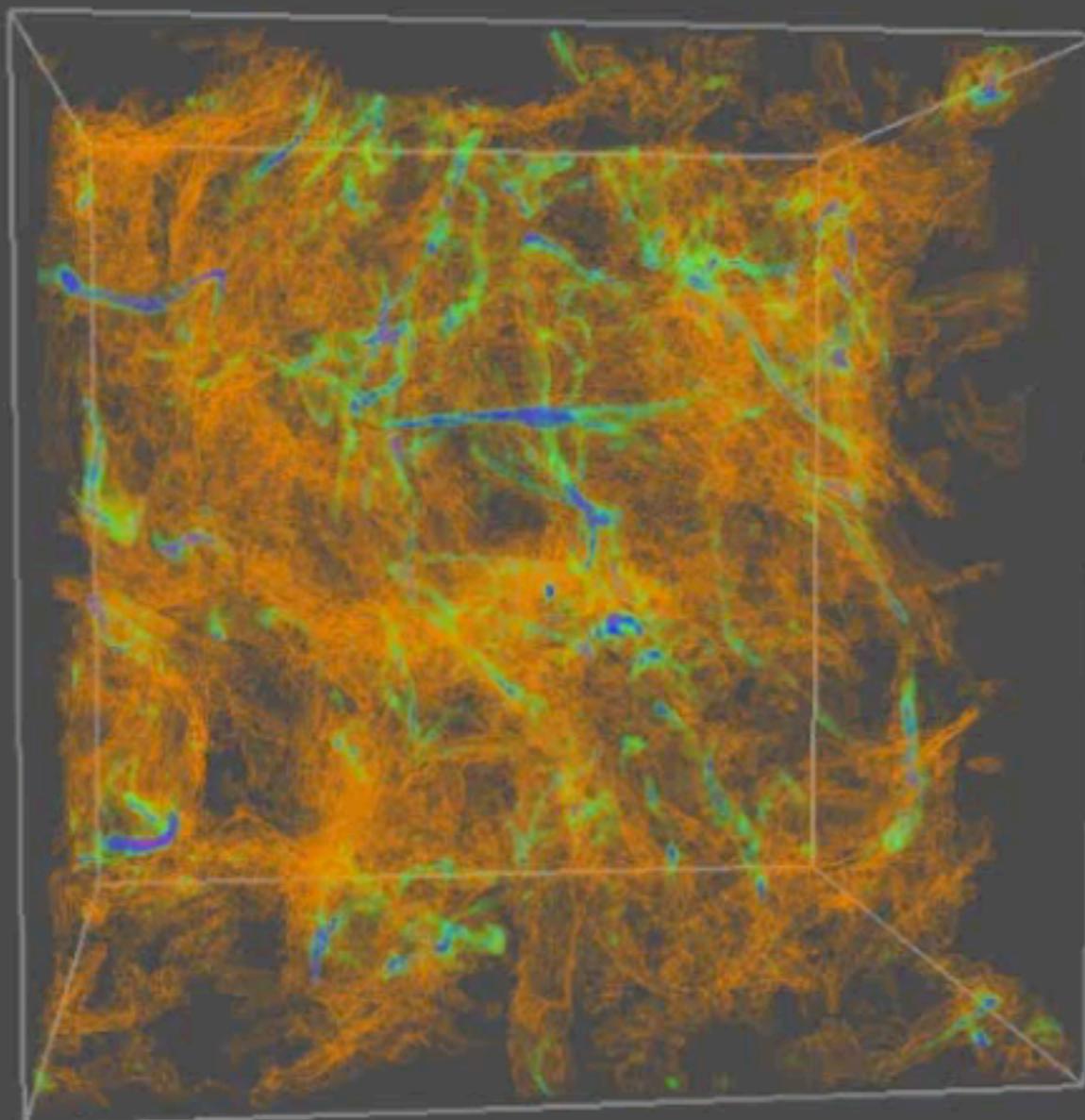
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- Discs form efficiently in a turbulent magnetised cloud (Seifried et al 2012, 2014; Joos et al 2013; Nordlund et al 2014)

- Why?
  - Turbulent diffusion of field
  - Turbulent envelope surrounds disc and is not easily torqued by magnetic field
  - Local misalignment of field and rotation axis



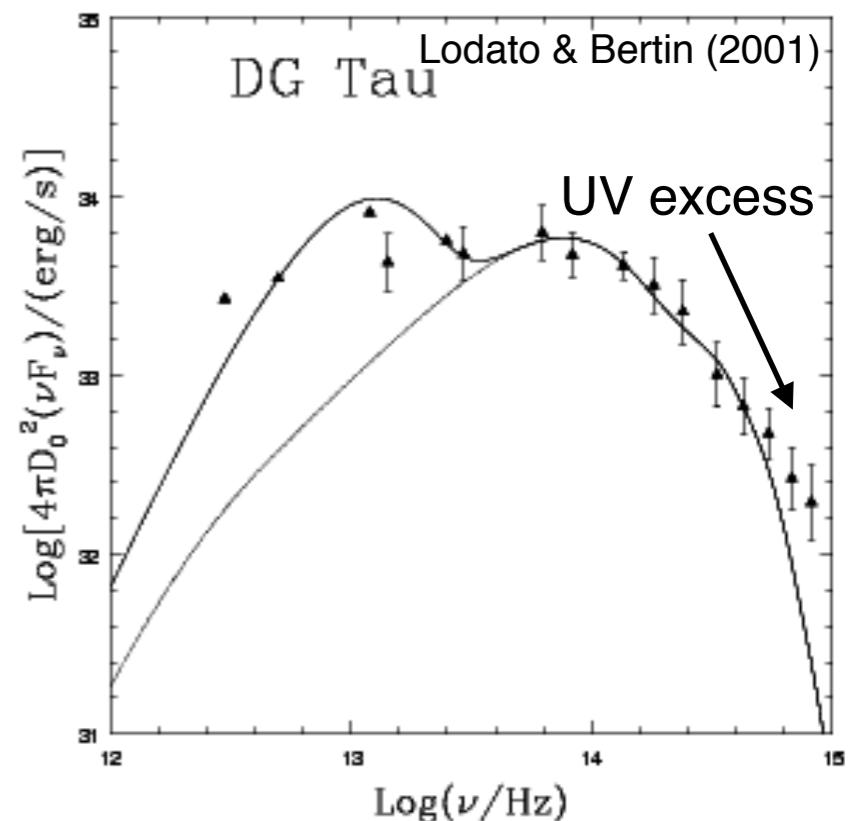
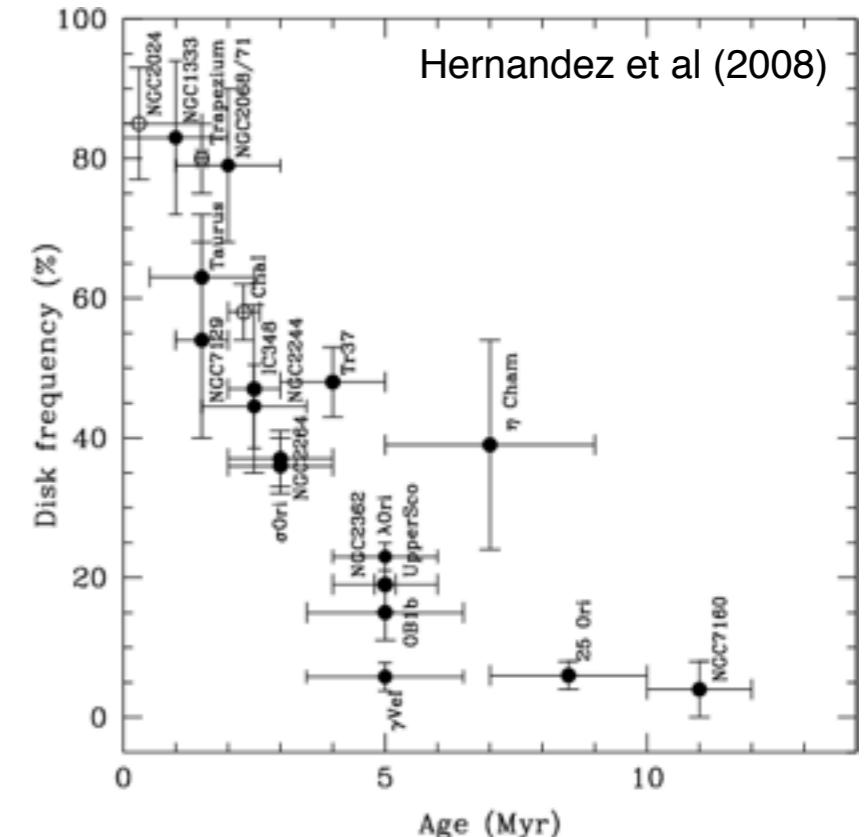
Seifried et al (2012)



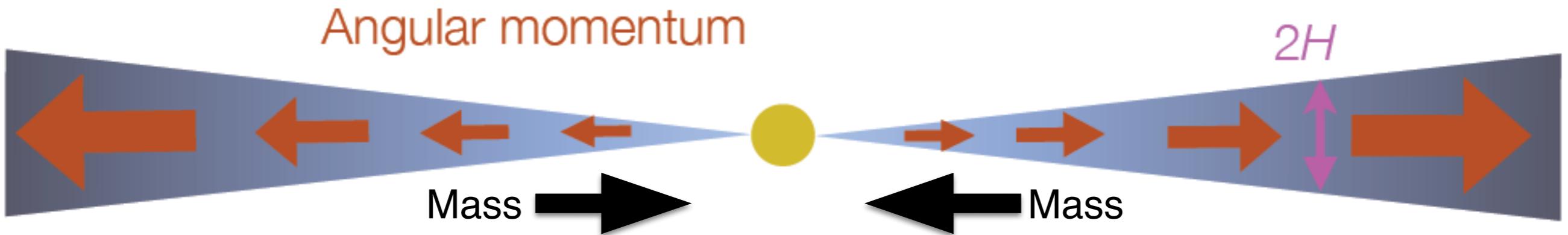
# Angular momentum transport

# Requirement for angular momentum transport

- Circumstellar discs observed to have finite life times  
 $\sim 3 - 10$  Myr (e.g. Haisch et al 2001)
- UV excess indicates that T Tauri stars accrete at rates  
 $10^{-9} - 10^{-7} M_{\text{Sun}} / \text{year}$  (Hartmann et al 1998)
- Gas must lose angular momentum to accrete onto star:  $j=(GMR)^{1/2}$
- Molecular viscosity too small to explain observed accretion rates and disc life times



# Internal transport of angular momentum



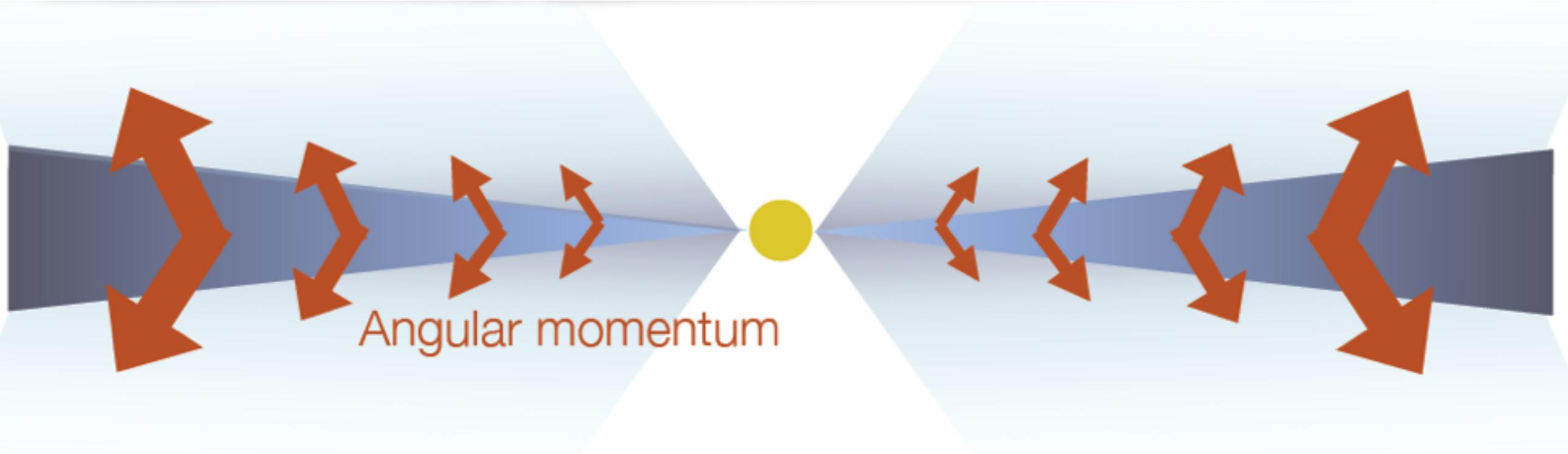
- Turbulence in disc gives rise to angular momentum transport (Shakura-Sunyaev 1973)
- Viscous stress  $\sim \alpha P$  ( $P$ =gas pressure)
- Turbulent kinematic viscosity  $\nu_t = \alpha c_s H$

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Dimensionless coefficient      Sound speed      Disc semi-thickness

$$10^{-3} < \alpha < 10^{-2}$$

# Angular momentum extraction via a wind



- Angular momentum extracted from disc by a magnetised wind  
(Blandford & Payne 1982)
- Angular momentum is removed from the disc - not redistributed  
→ this process cannot be modelled using  $\alpha$ -prescription

# Self-gravity

- Criterion for local stability against gravitational instability  $Q = \frac{c_s \Omega}{\pi G \Sigma} > 1$ ,

Toomre (1964)

- Equivalent to  $m_{\text{disc}}/M_{\text{star}} \sim H/R$

- Spiral shocks heat gas

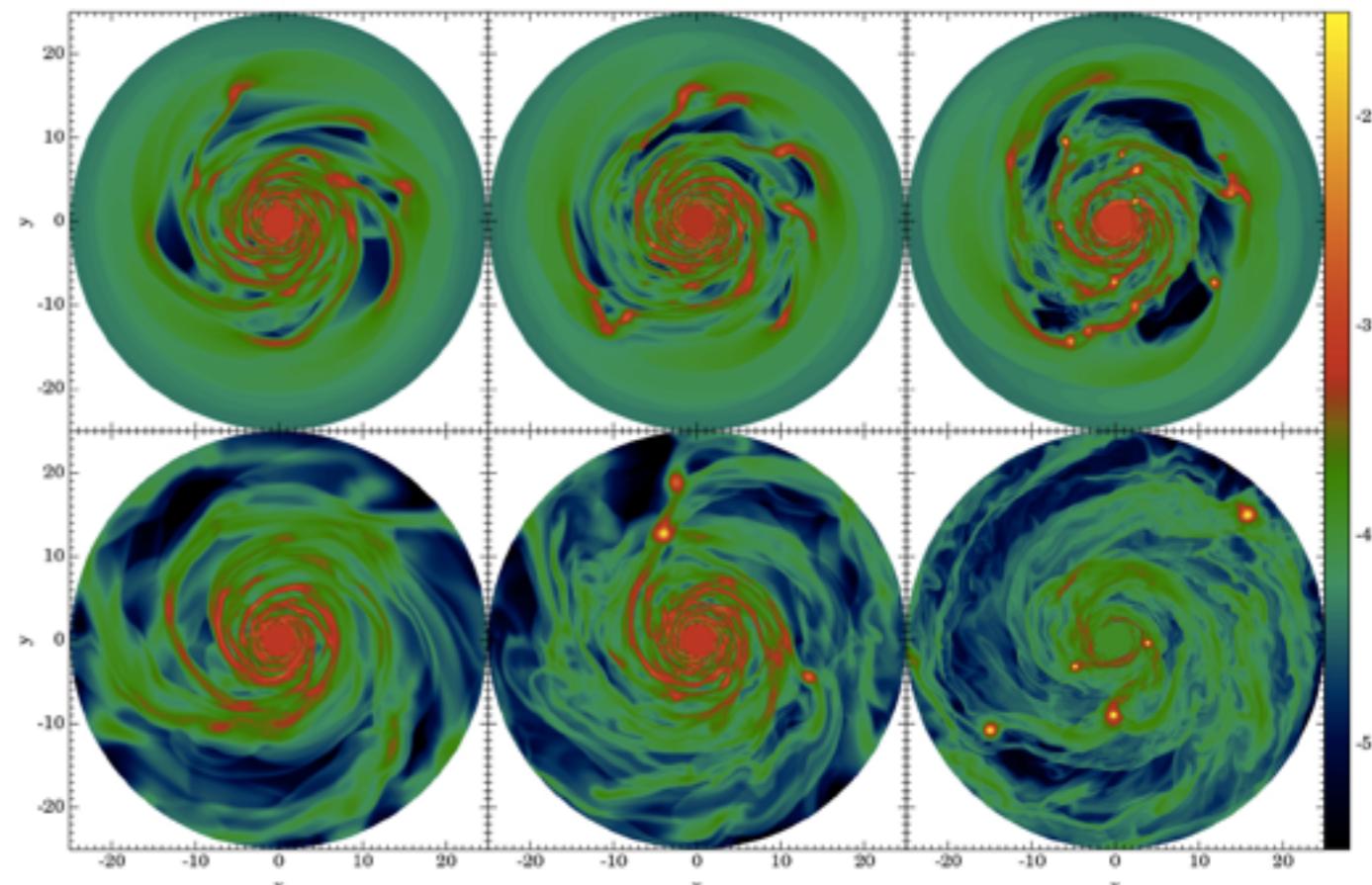
- Gas cools at a rate

$$\tau_{\text{cool}} = \frac{\Sigma c_s^2 / \gamma(\gamma - 1)}{2\sigma_{\text{SB}} T_{\text{eff}}^4}$$

- Nonlinear evolution depends on local cooling rate (Gammie 2006)

$$1) \quad \tau_{\text{cool}} \Omega \lesssim 3 - 5$$

Disc fragments into bound clumps



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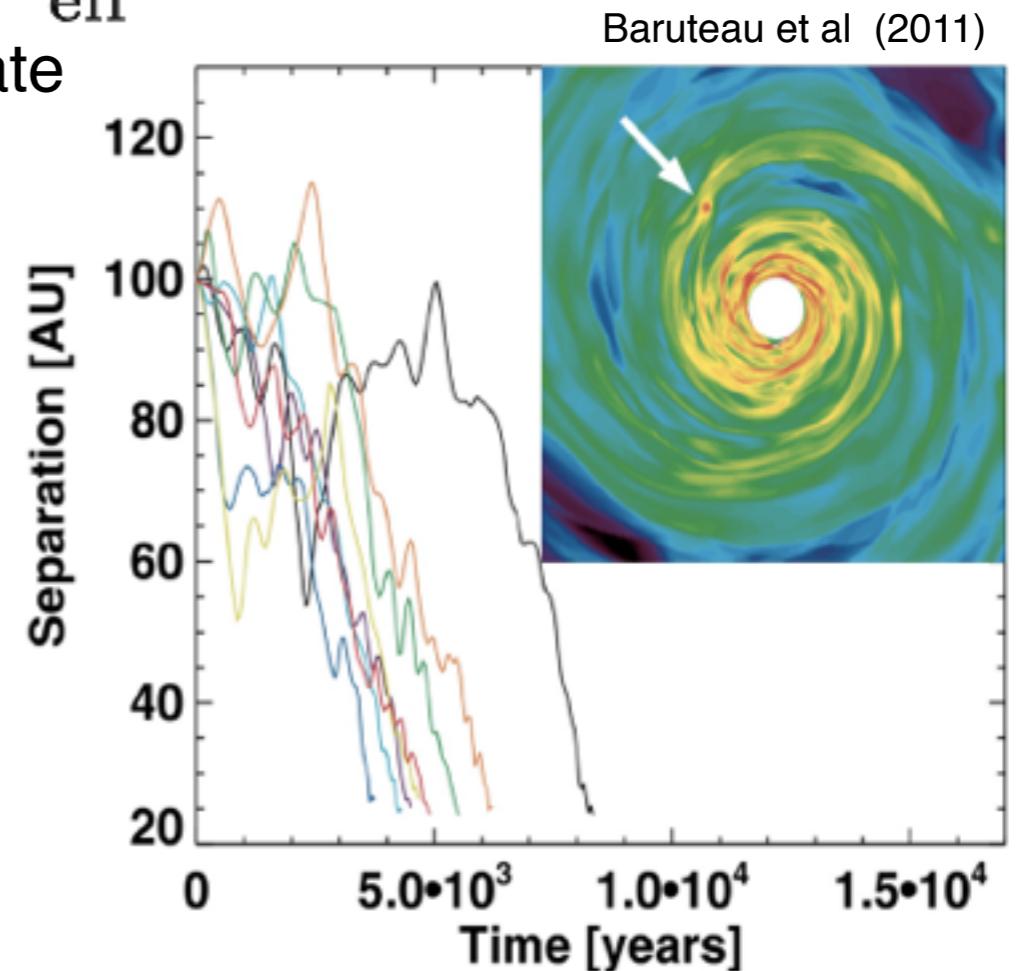
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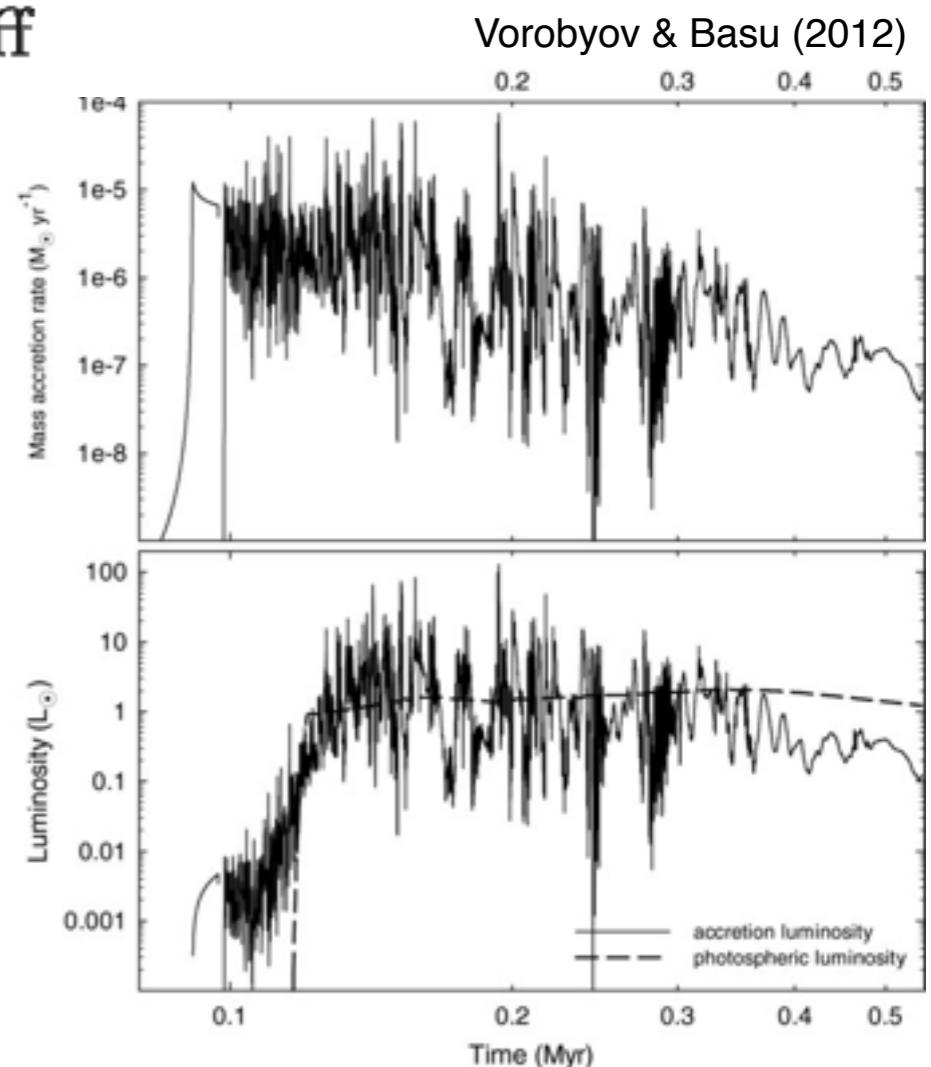
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Delivery of gas to central disc regions in bursts may explain FU Orionis and EX Lupi outburst phenomena



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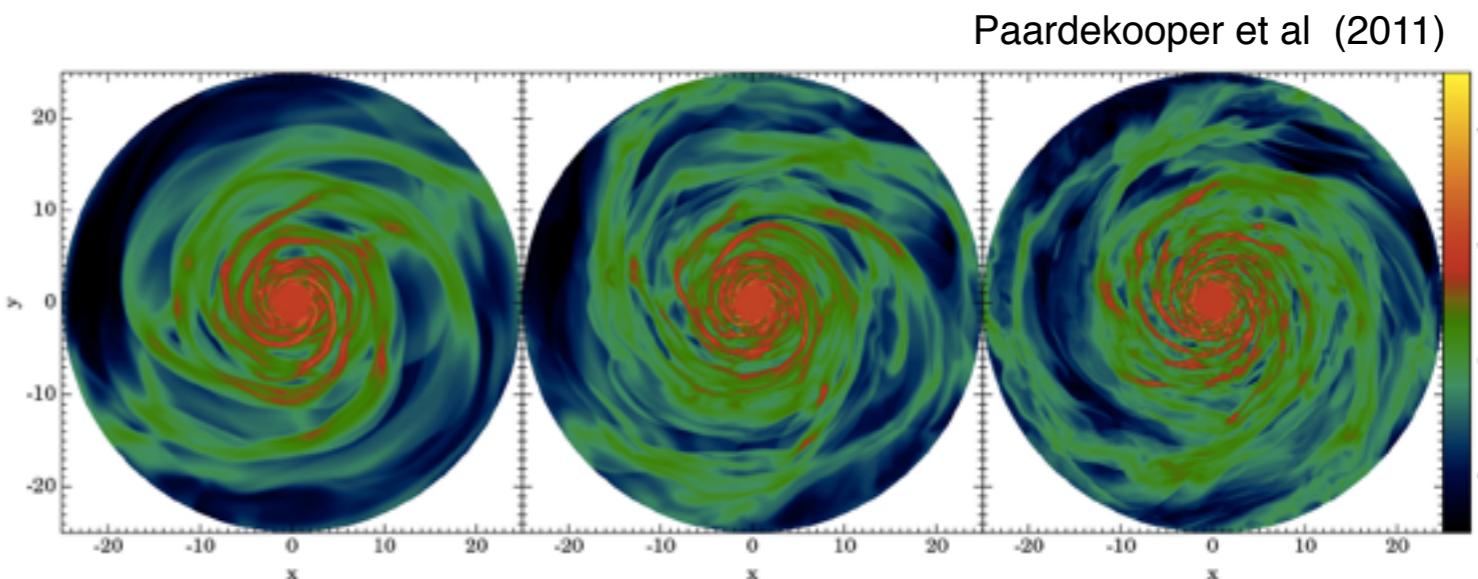
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Disc maintains a state of gravito-turbulence where spiral shock heating is balanced by radiative cooling



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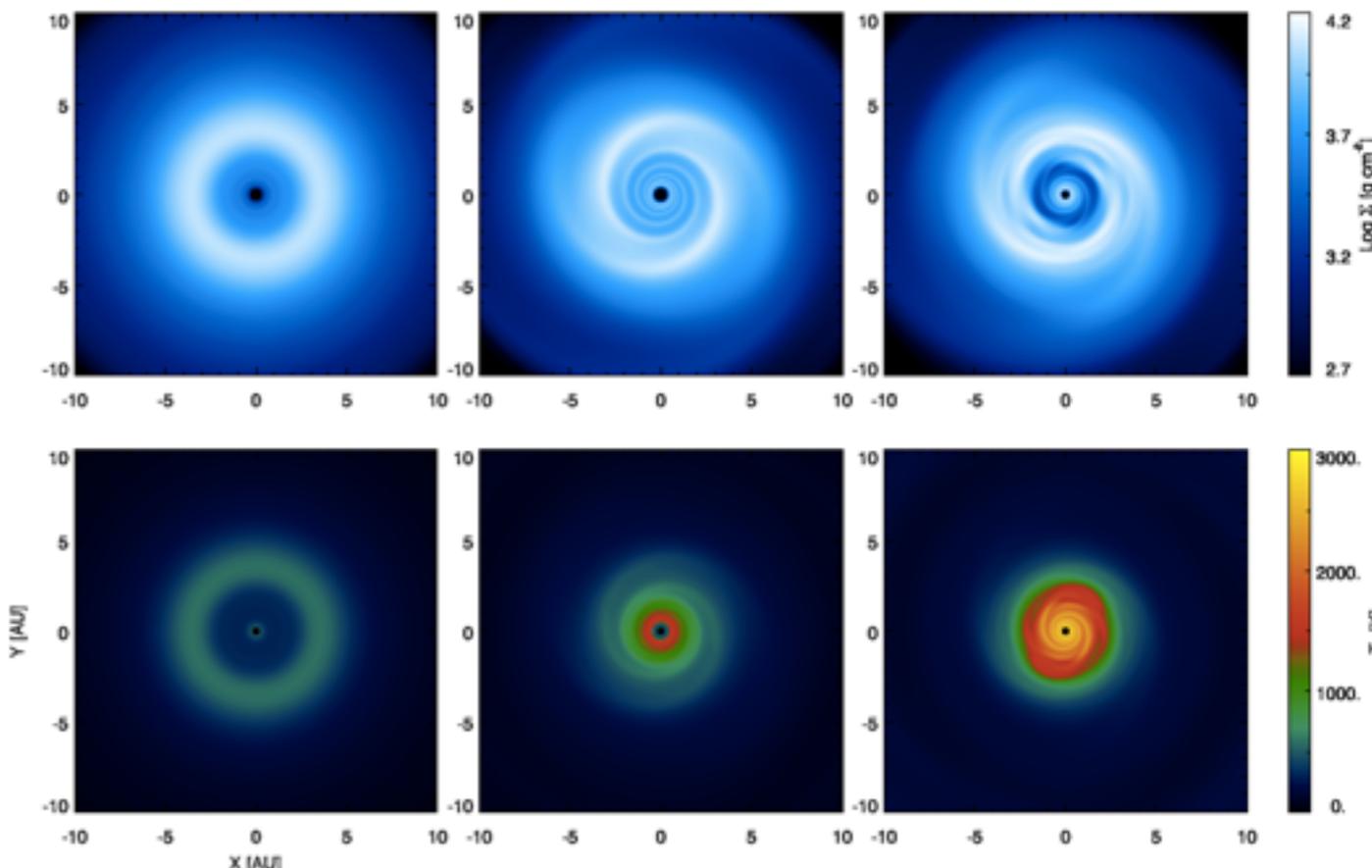
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Bae et al (2014)

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FU Orionis outbursts may still occur  
 → temperature rise in inner disc via  
 accretion and spiral shocks → MRI



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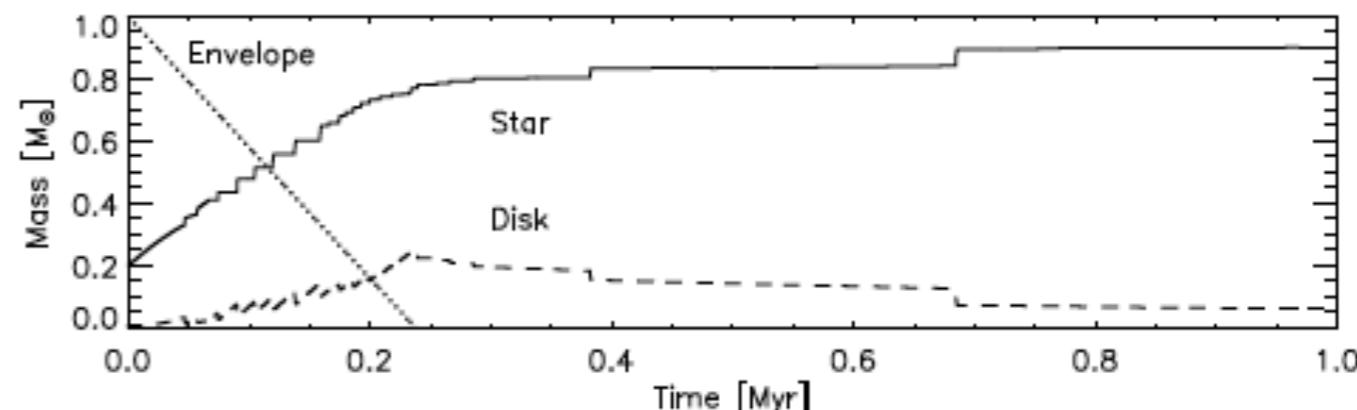
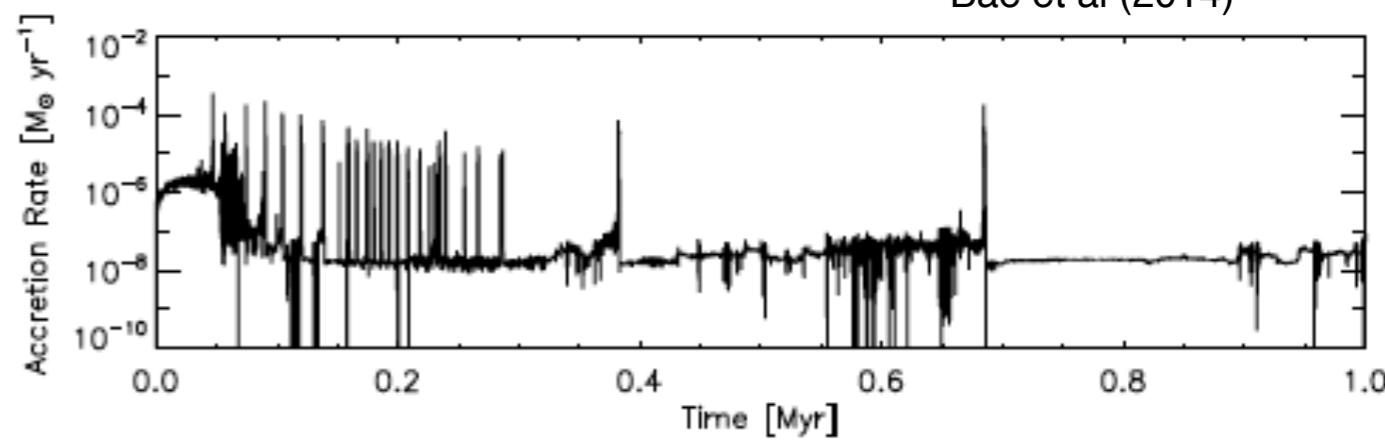
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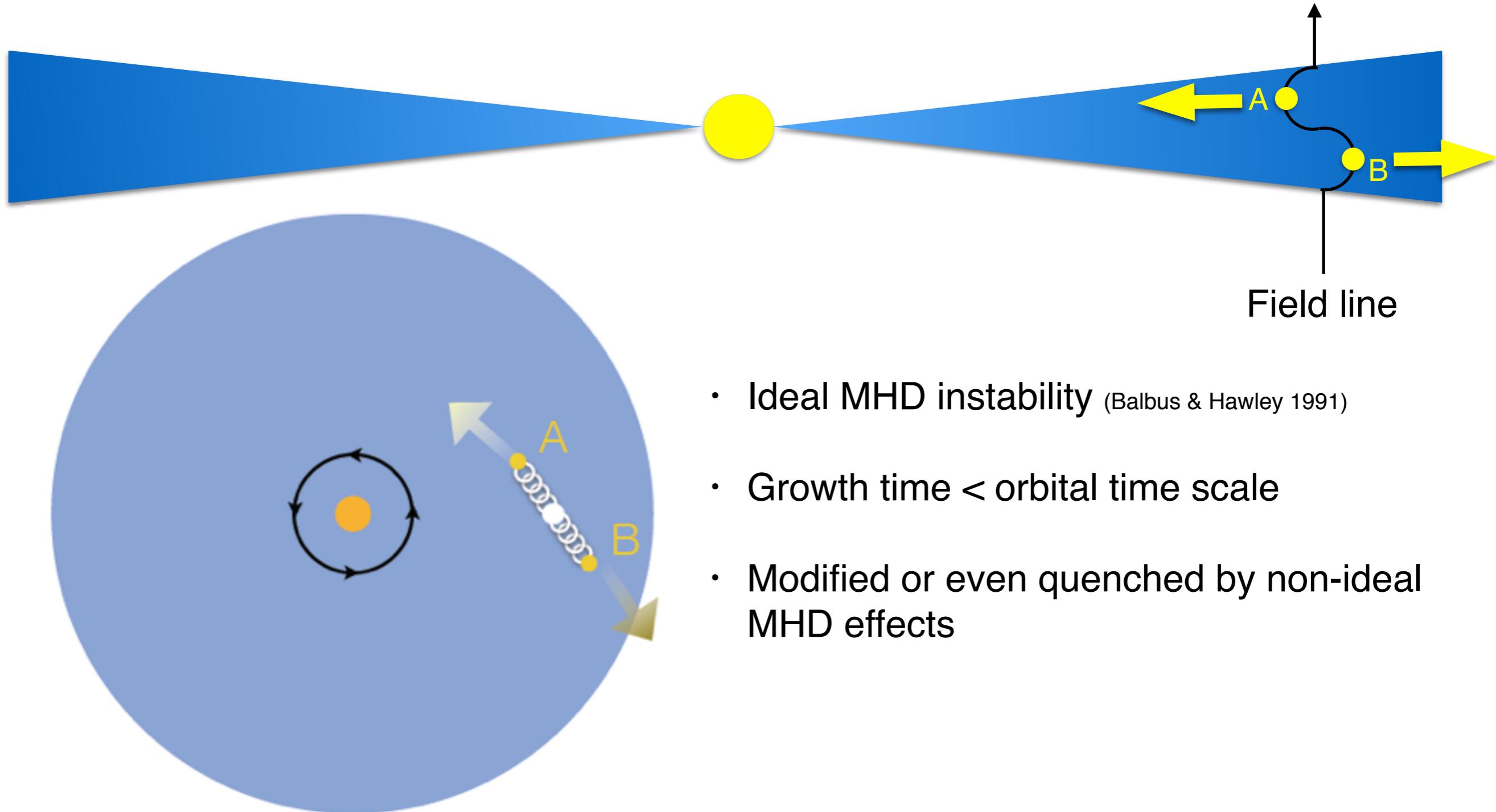
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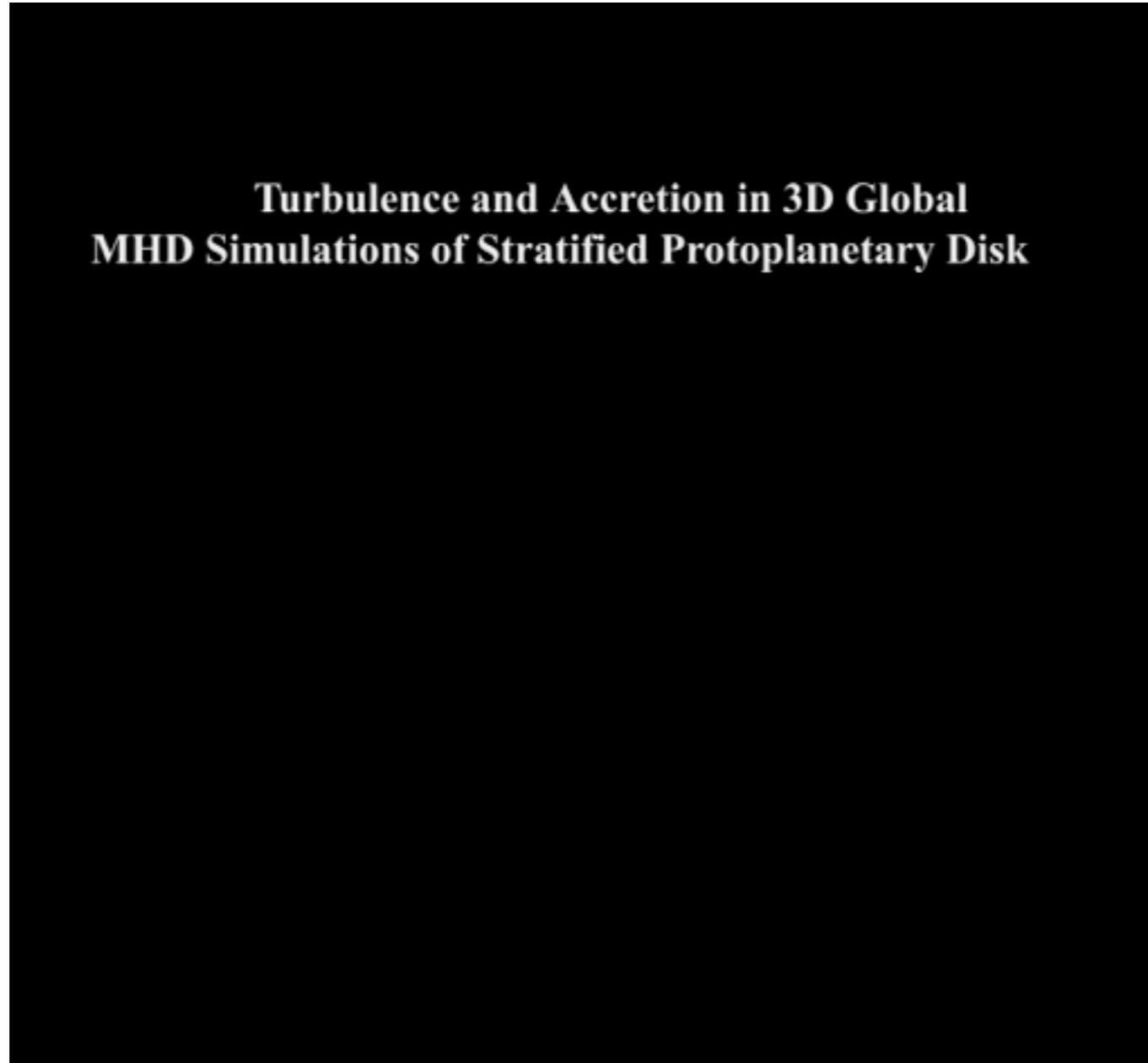
# Magnetic fields

# The Magnetorotational Instability (MRI)



Simulations (local and global) produce  $\alpha \sim 10^{-3} - 10^{-2}$  for same initial conditions

[Hawley+ (1995), ApJ, 440, 742 ; Fromang & Nelson (2006), A&A, 457, 343 ; Sorathia+ (2012), ApJ, 749, 189]



Flock et al (2011)

# Non-ideal MHD effects

The ionisation fraction in protoplanetary discs is very low:  
 $x(e^-) \sim 10^{-12} - 10^{-13}$  near the midplane

→ PPDs are far from being in the ideal MHD limit

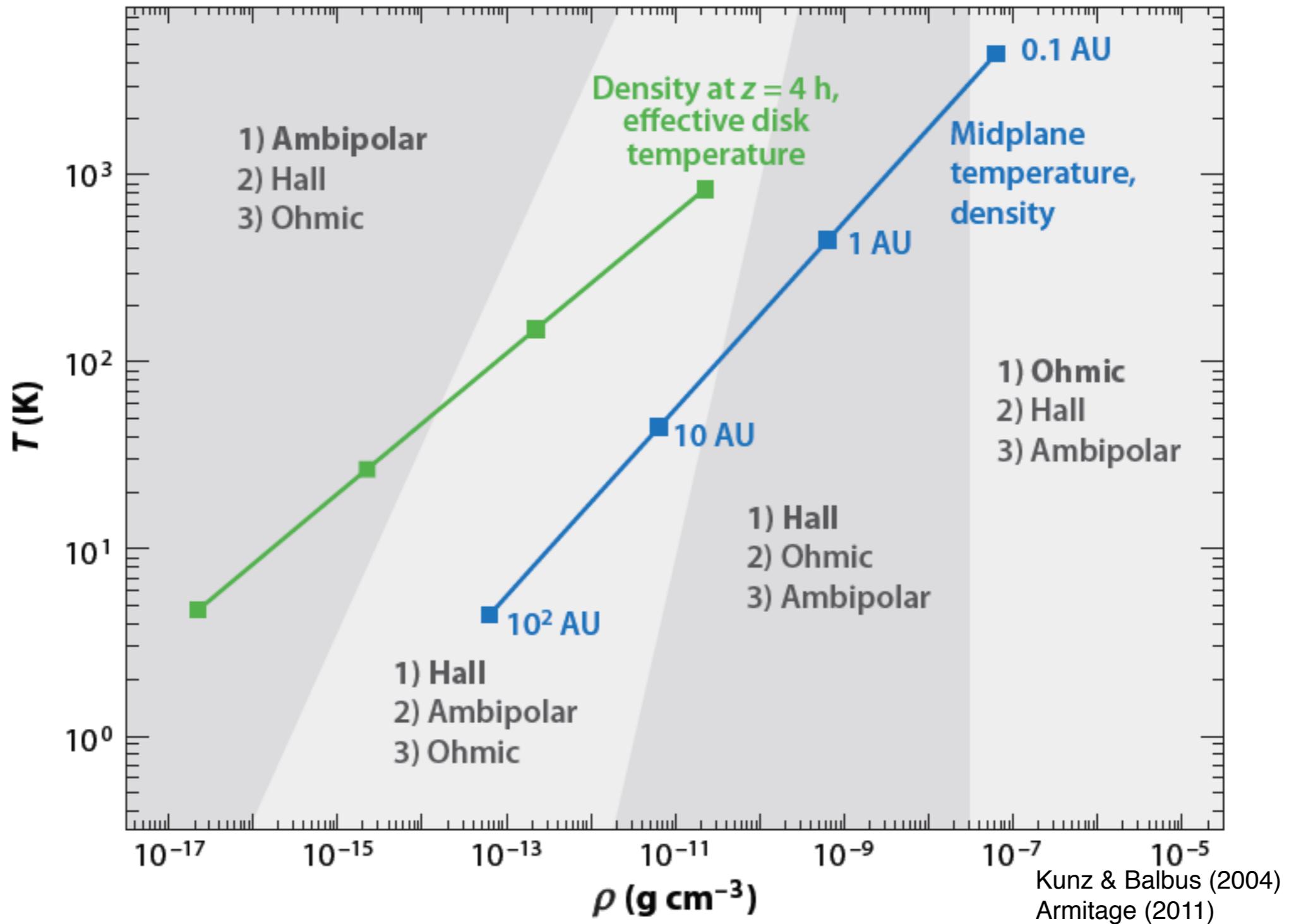
Three non-ideal MHD effects need to be considered

- Ohmic resistivity (collisions between electrons and neutrals)
- Ambipolar diffusion (drift between electrons/ions and neutrals)
- Hall effect (drift between electrons and ions)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} = \nabla \times \left[ \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B} - \eta \nabla \times \mathbf{B} - \frac{\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}}{en_e} + \frac{(\mathbf{J} \times \mathbf{B}) \times \mathbf{B}}{c\gamma\rho_i\rho} \right]$$

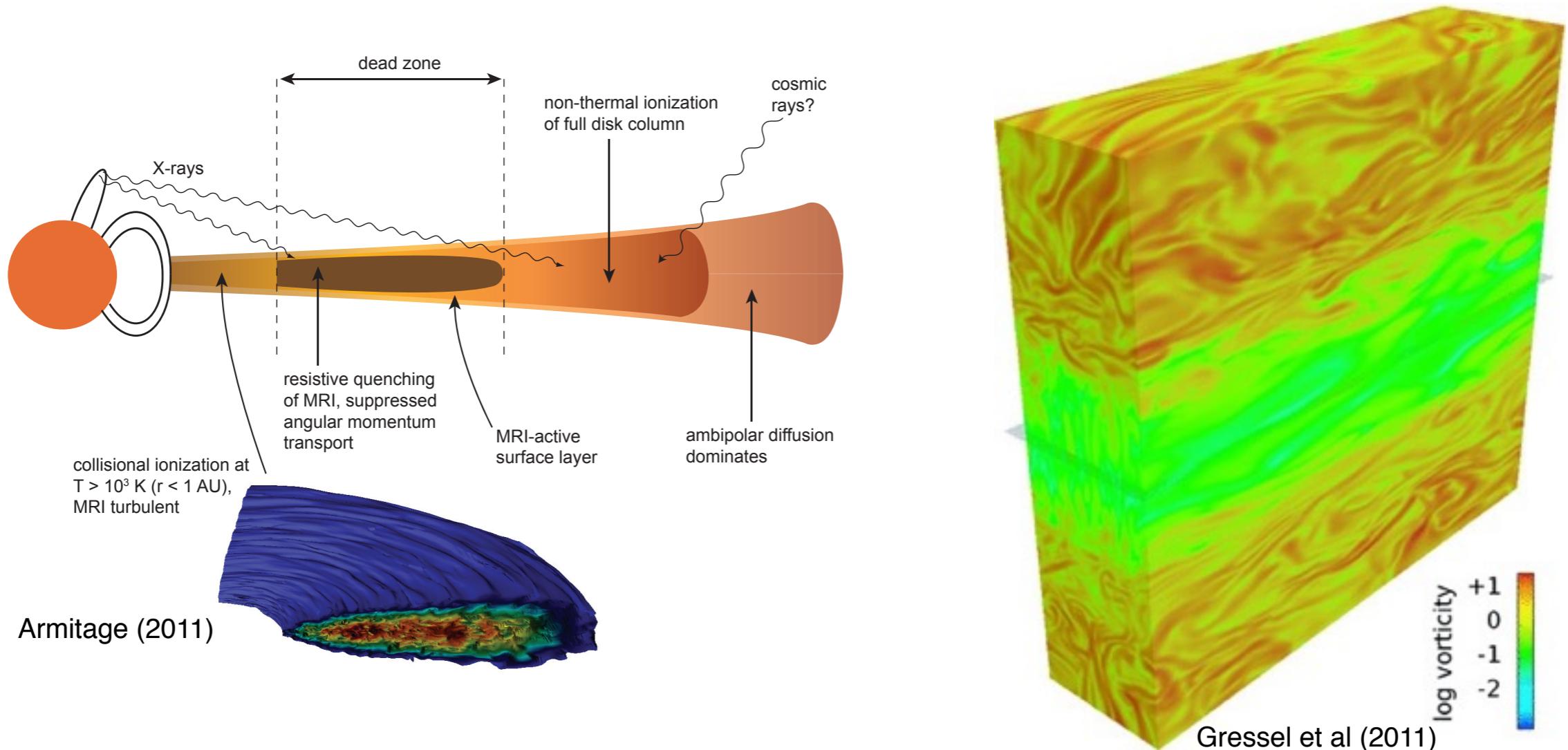
↓                    ↓                    ↓                    ↓  
Advection,        Ohmic        Hall        Ambipolar  
bending/stretching

# Non-ideal MHD effects



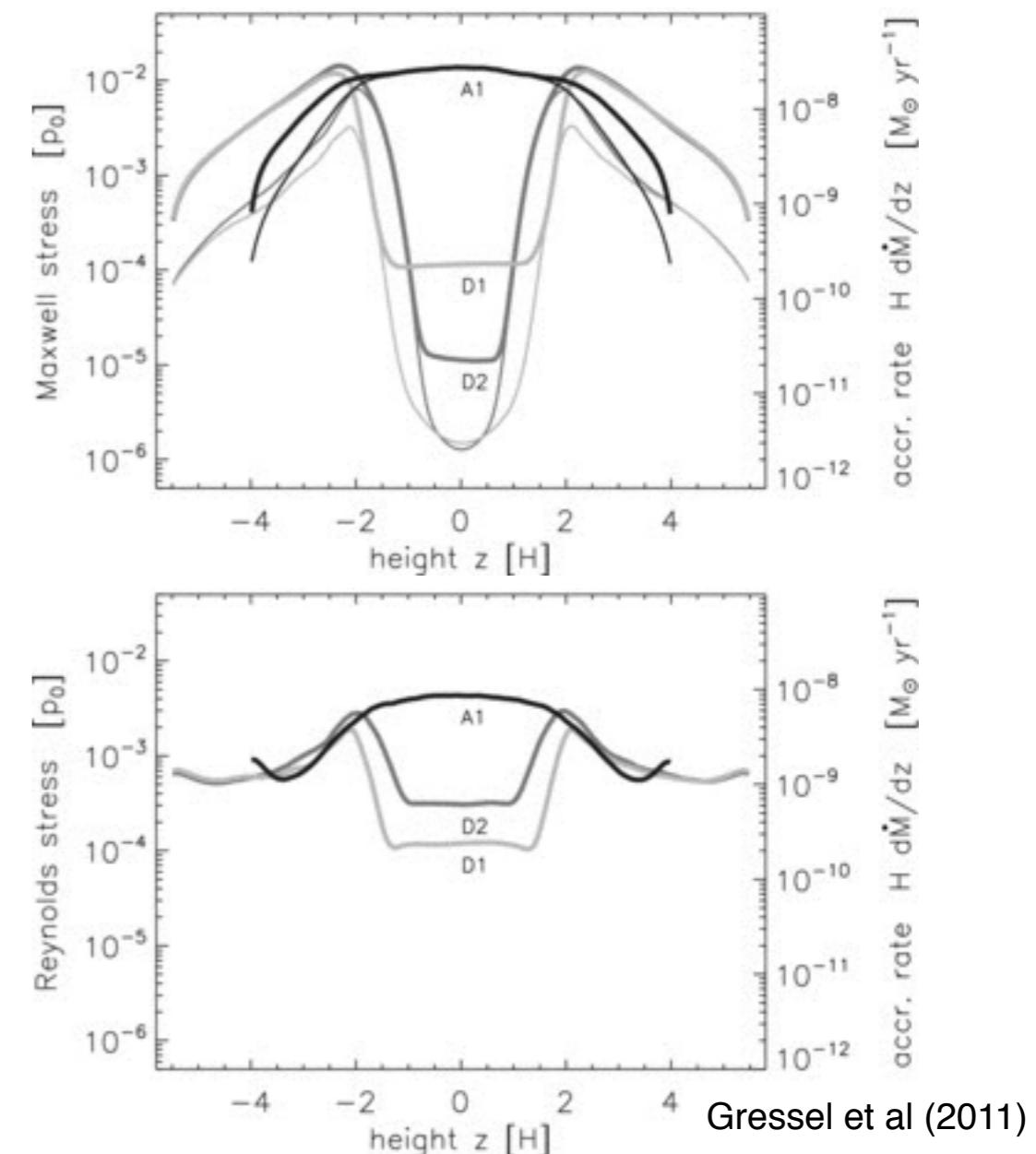
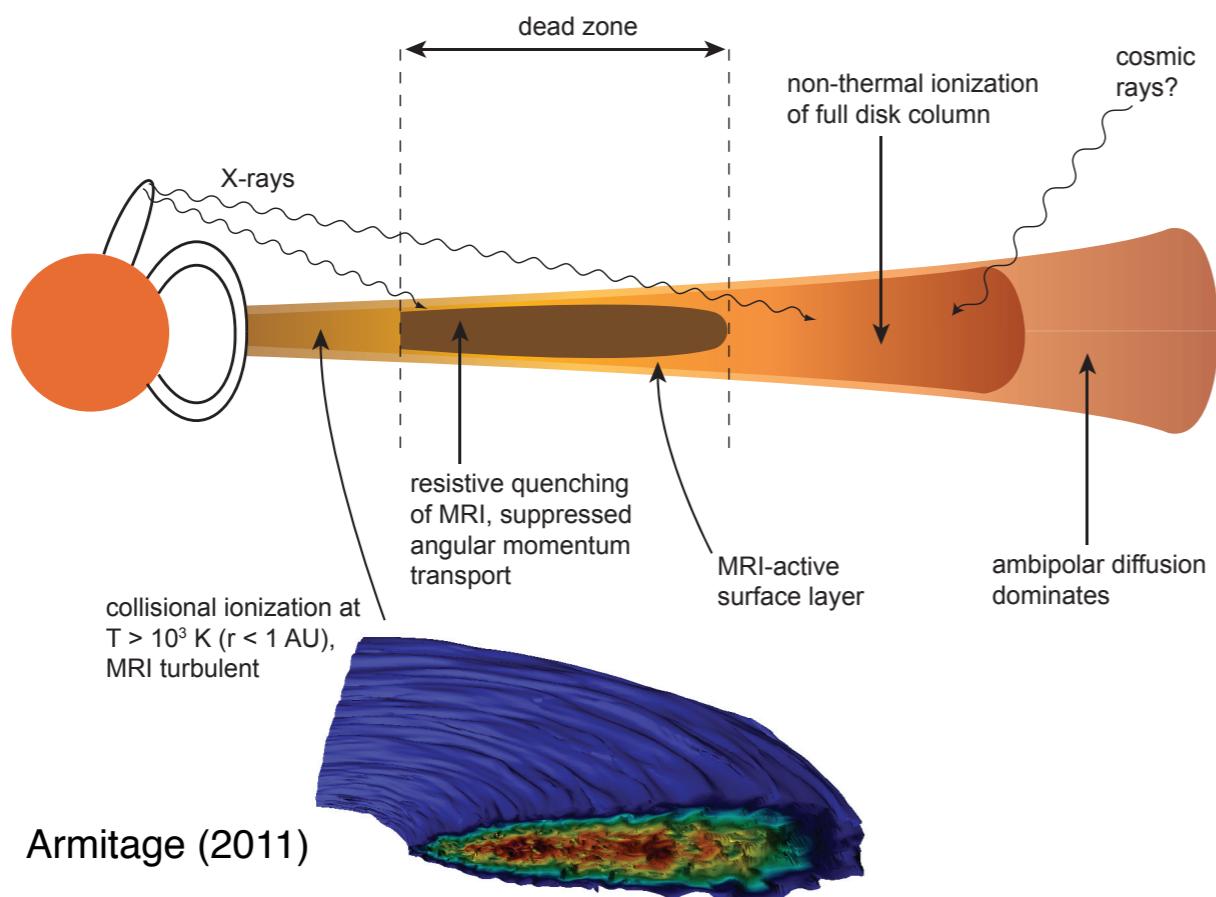
# Ohmic resistivity

- Disc is thermally ionised inside  $\sim 0.3$  AU (potassium ionised at  $T > 1000$  K)
- Between  $0.3 - 20$  AU have layered accretion (Gammie 2006)
  - dead zone near midplane - Ohmic diffusion dominates
  - active layer near surface - ionised by stellar X-rays & galactic cosmic rays?



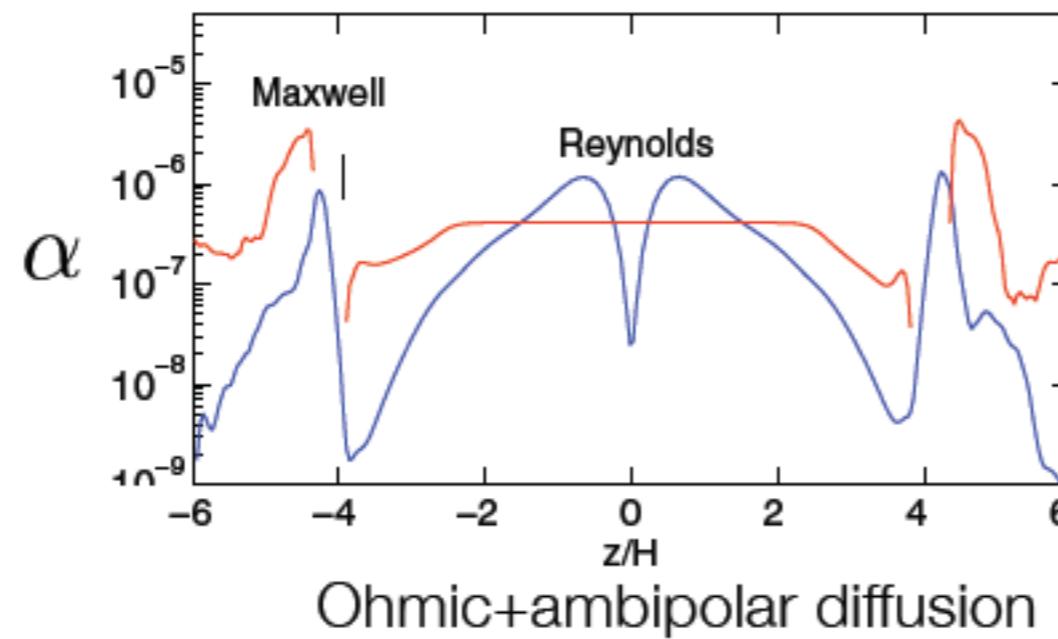
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# Ambipolar diffusion - no net B-field

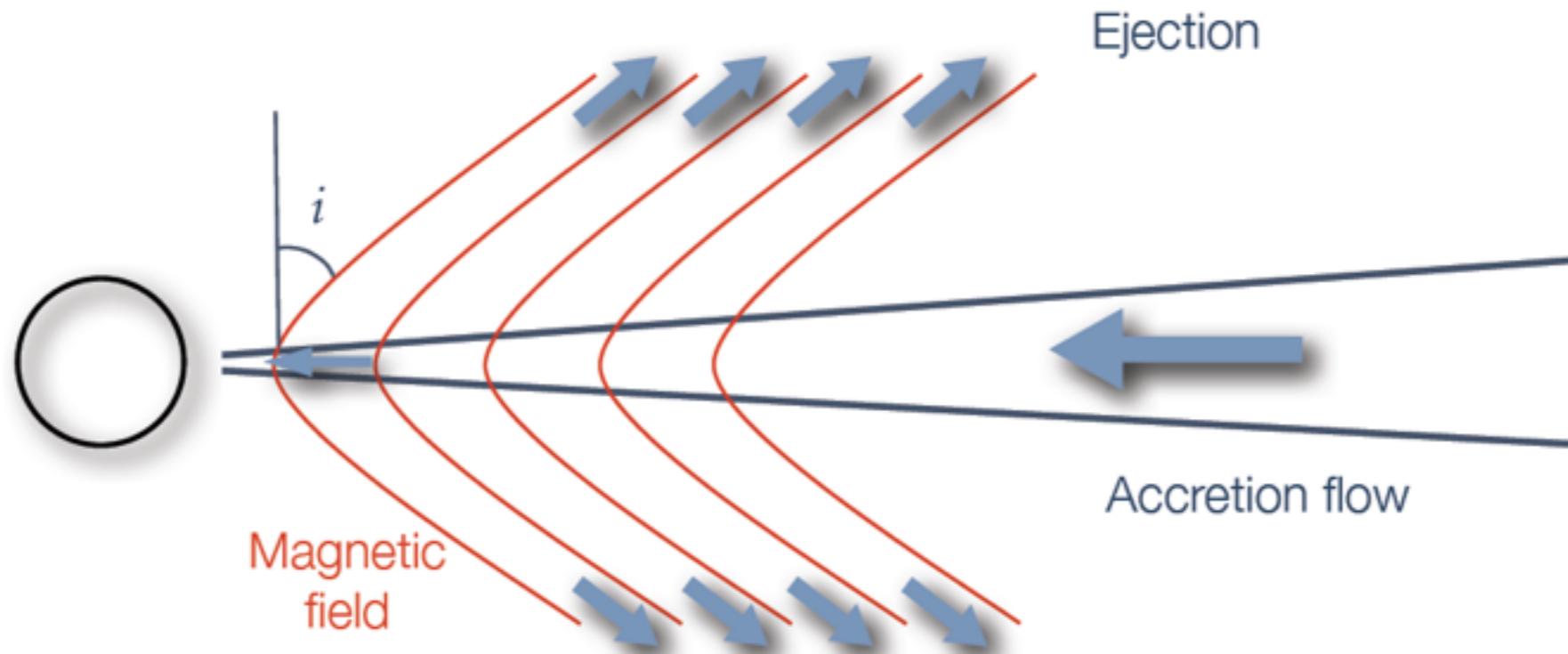
- Disc surface layers dominated by ambipolar diffusion
- In absence of a mean magnetic field turbulent stresses are very small



@1AU  
Bai & Stone (2013)

# Ambipolar diffusion - with net vertical B-field

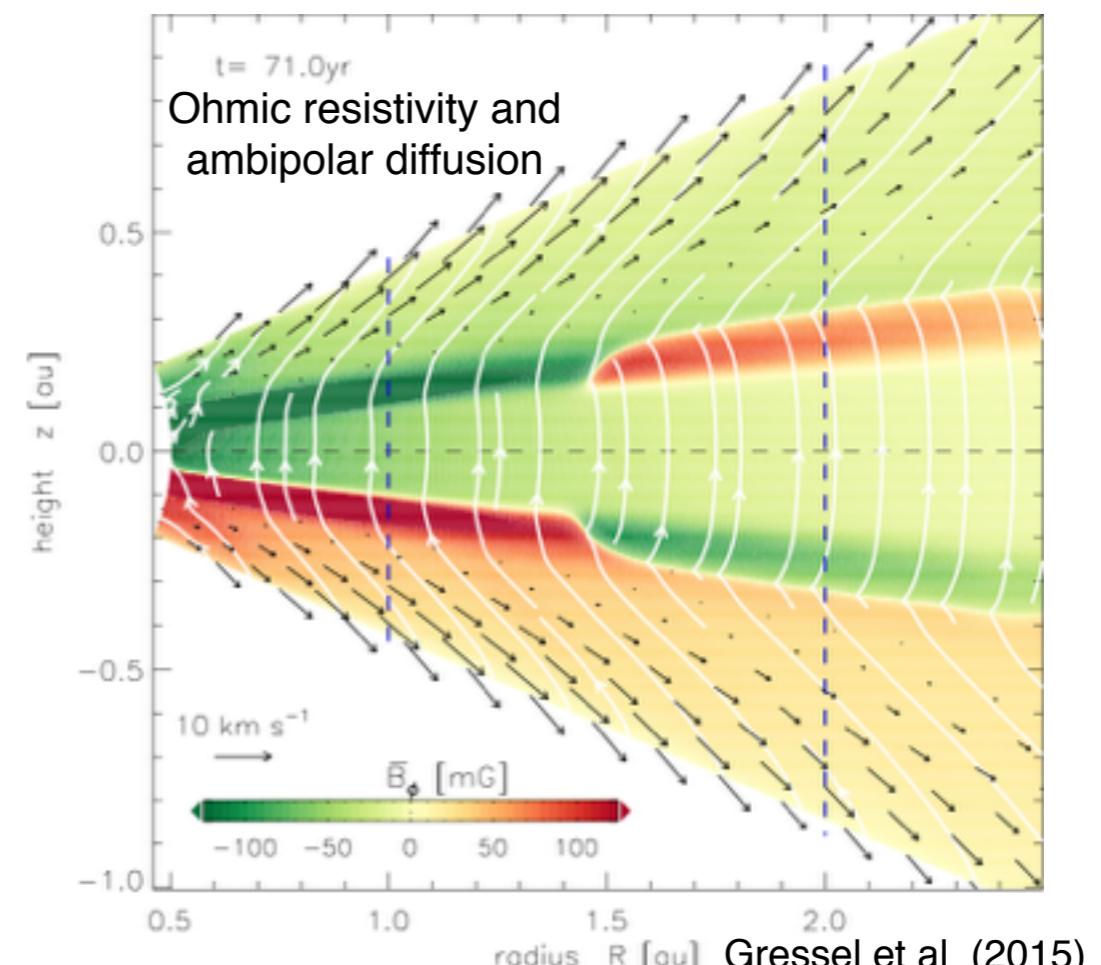
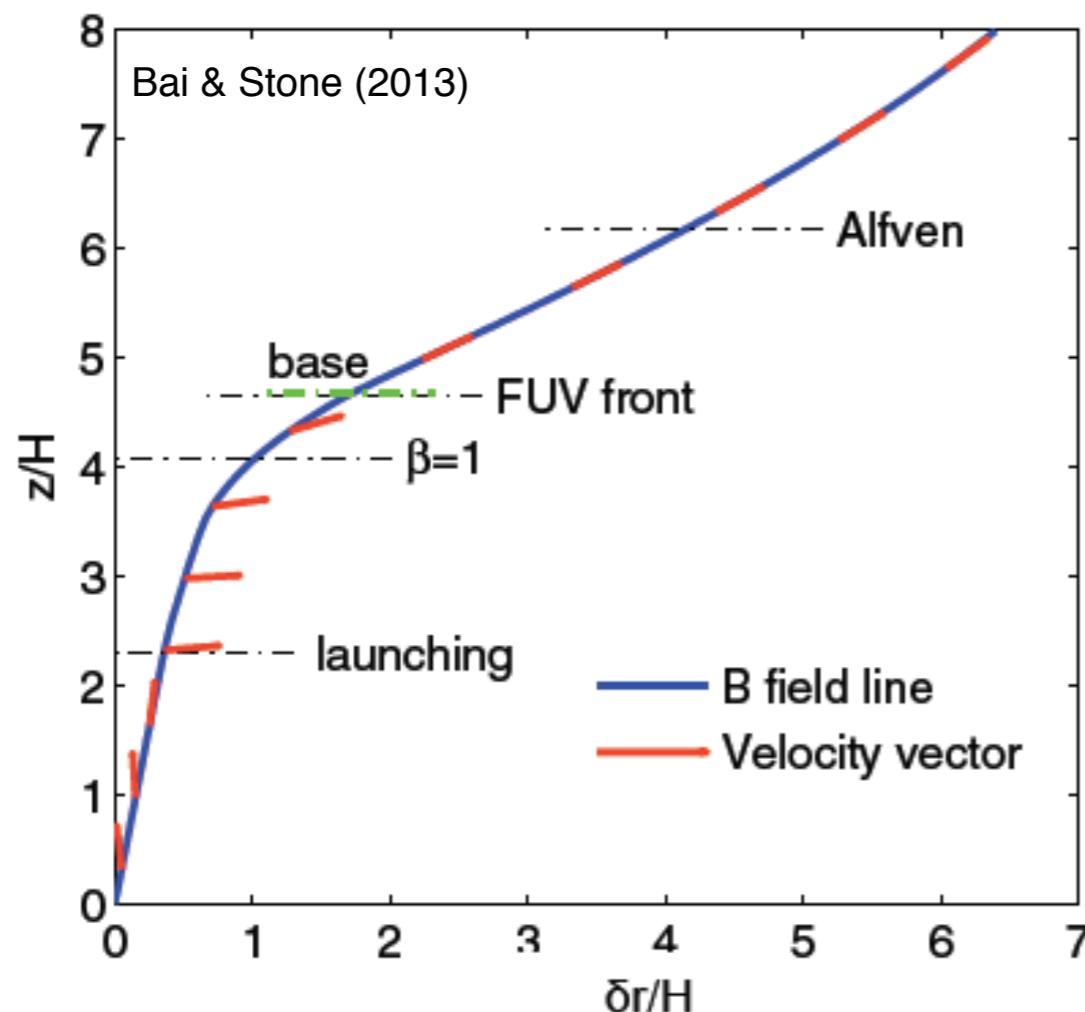
- Disc surface layers dominated by ambipolar diffusion
- In presence of a mean vertical magnetic field a magneto-centrifugally driven wind is launched



- In traditional magnetised wind picture (Blandford & Payne 1982):
  - require strong vertical magnetic field
  - angle of inclination between B-field and rotation axis  $i > 30^\circ$

# Ambipolar diffusion - with net vertical B-field

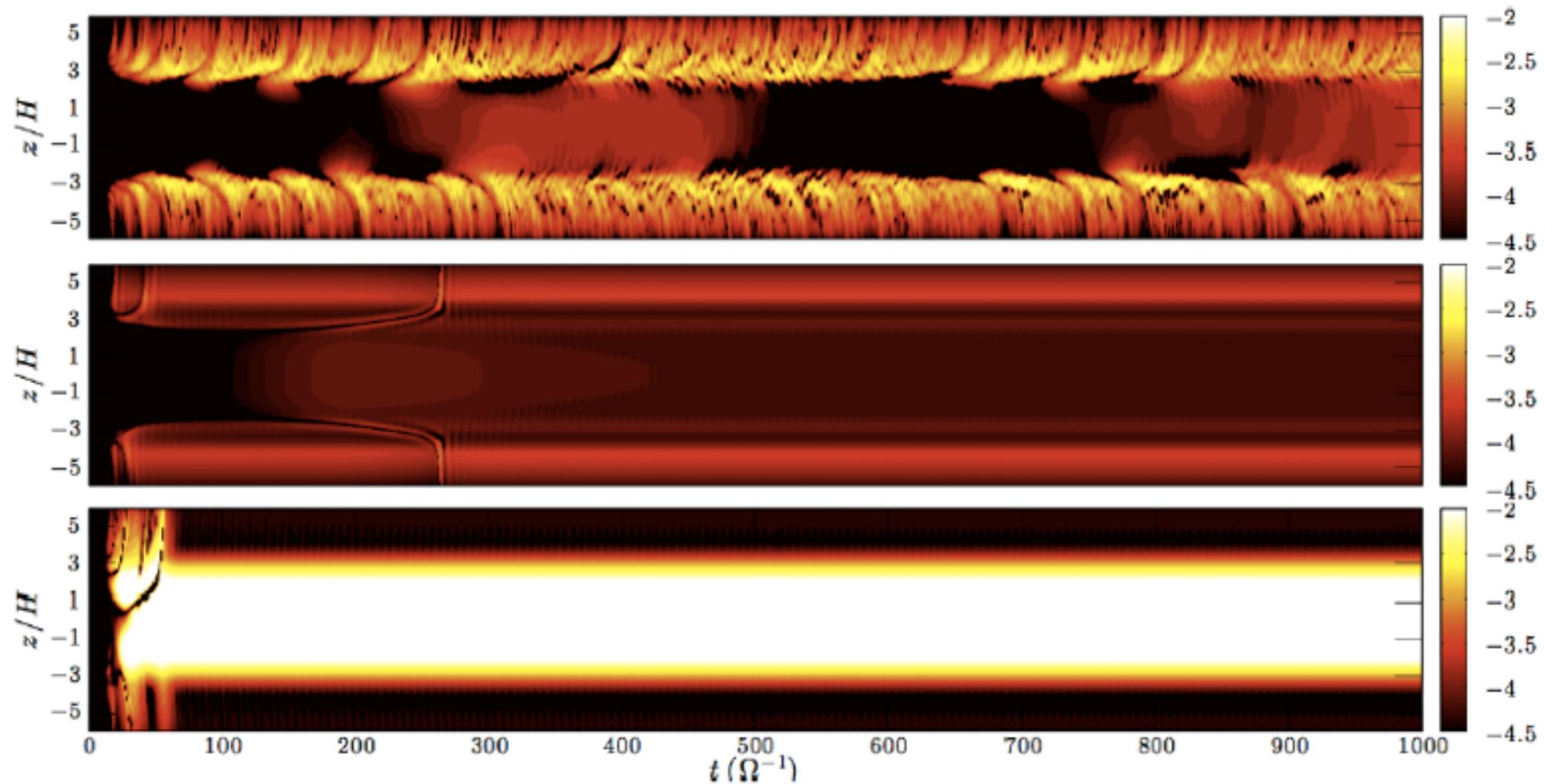
- Disc surface layers dominated by ambipolar diffusion
- In presence of a mean vertical magnetic field a magneto-centrifugally driven wind is launched from the disc surface



- Can potentially explain accretion rates  $\sim 10^{-8} \text{ M}_{\text{Sun}} / \text{year}$
- Note that details (such as mass loss rates in wind) depend on simulation details such as the height of the computational domain

# The Hall Effect

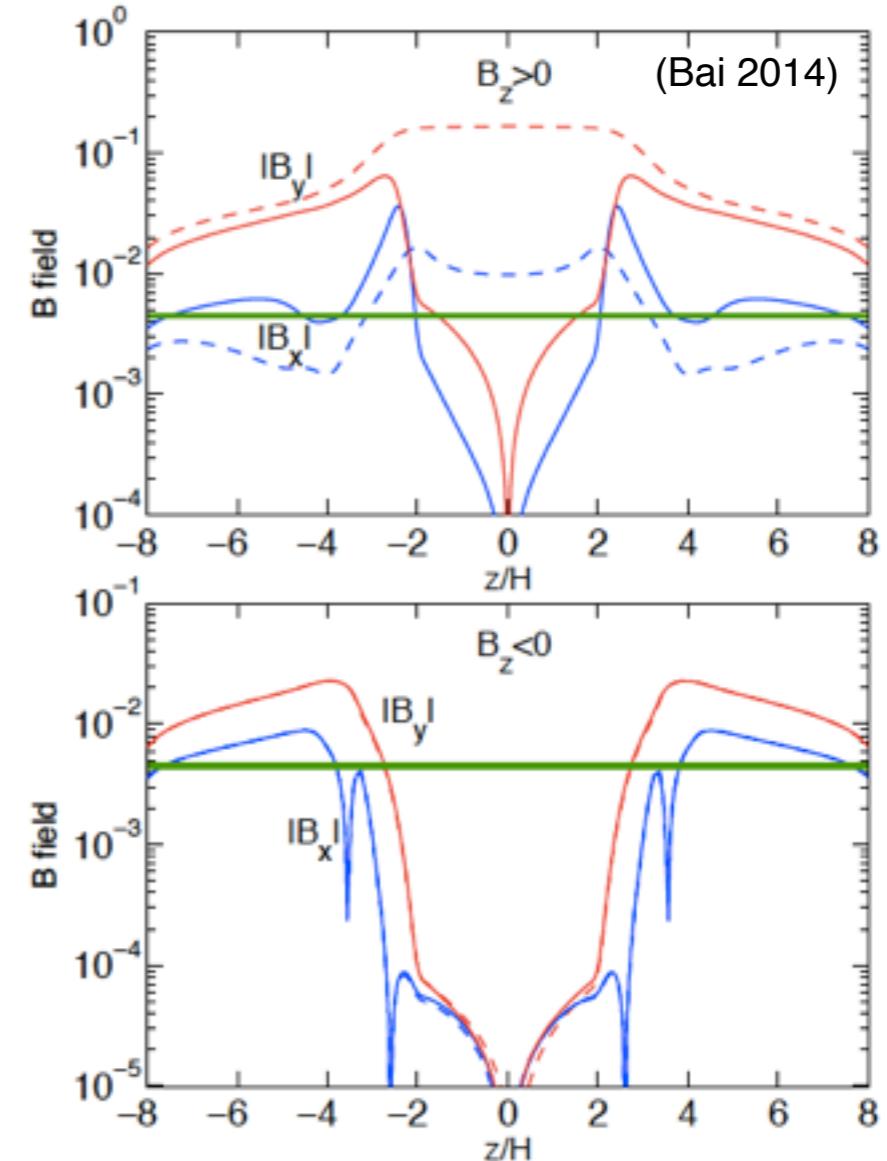
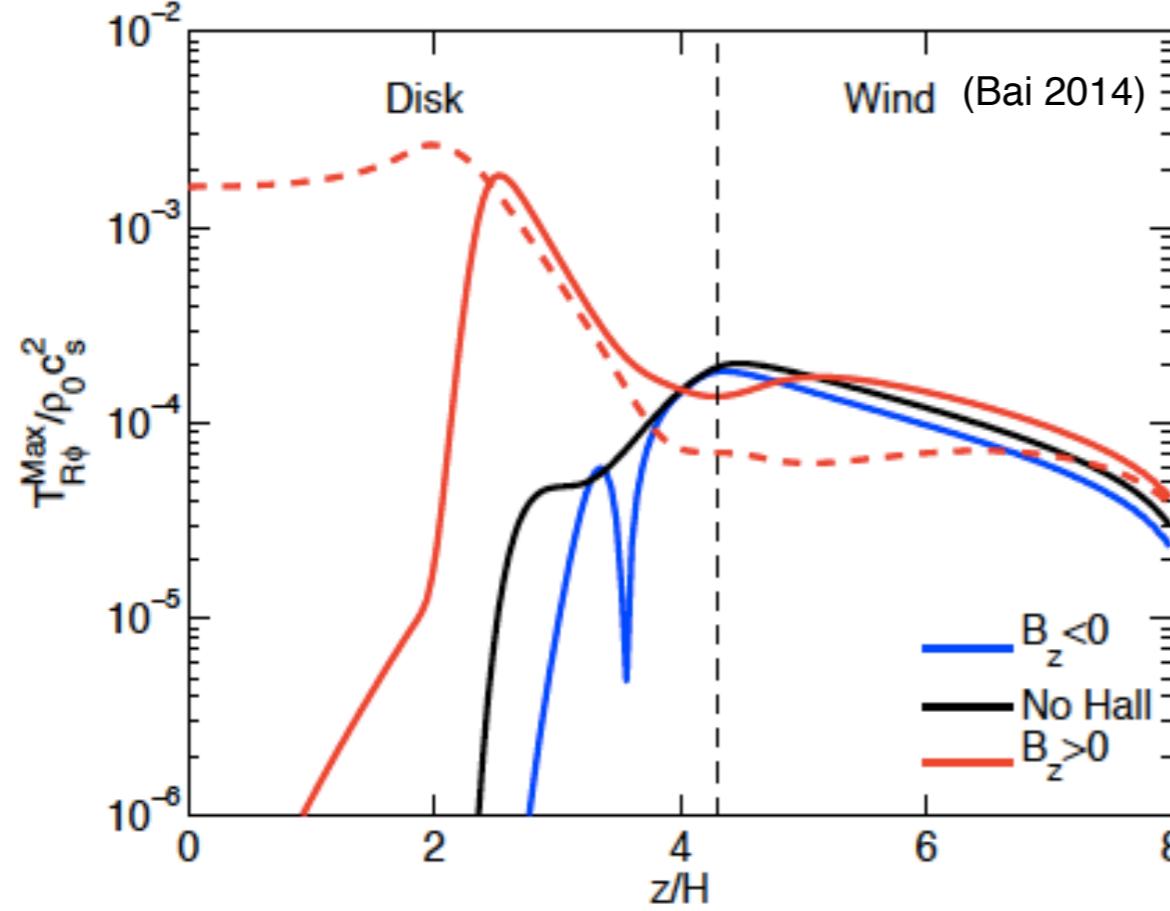
- Hall effect might be able to revive dead zones if  $\Omega \cdot \mathbf{B} > 0$  (Salmeron & Wardle 2012)



- Inclusion of Hall effect in disc where  $x(e^-)$  determined with grain free chemistry leads to dramatic increase in magnetic stress in mid plane regions (Lesur et al 2014)
- Horizontal field is amplified and stress arises from field winding in a laminar disc  
- disc is not turbulent!

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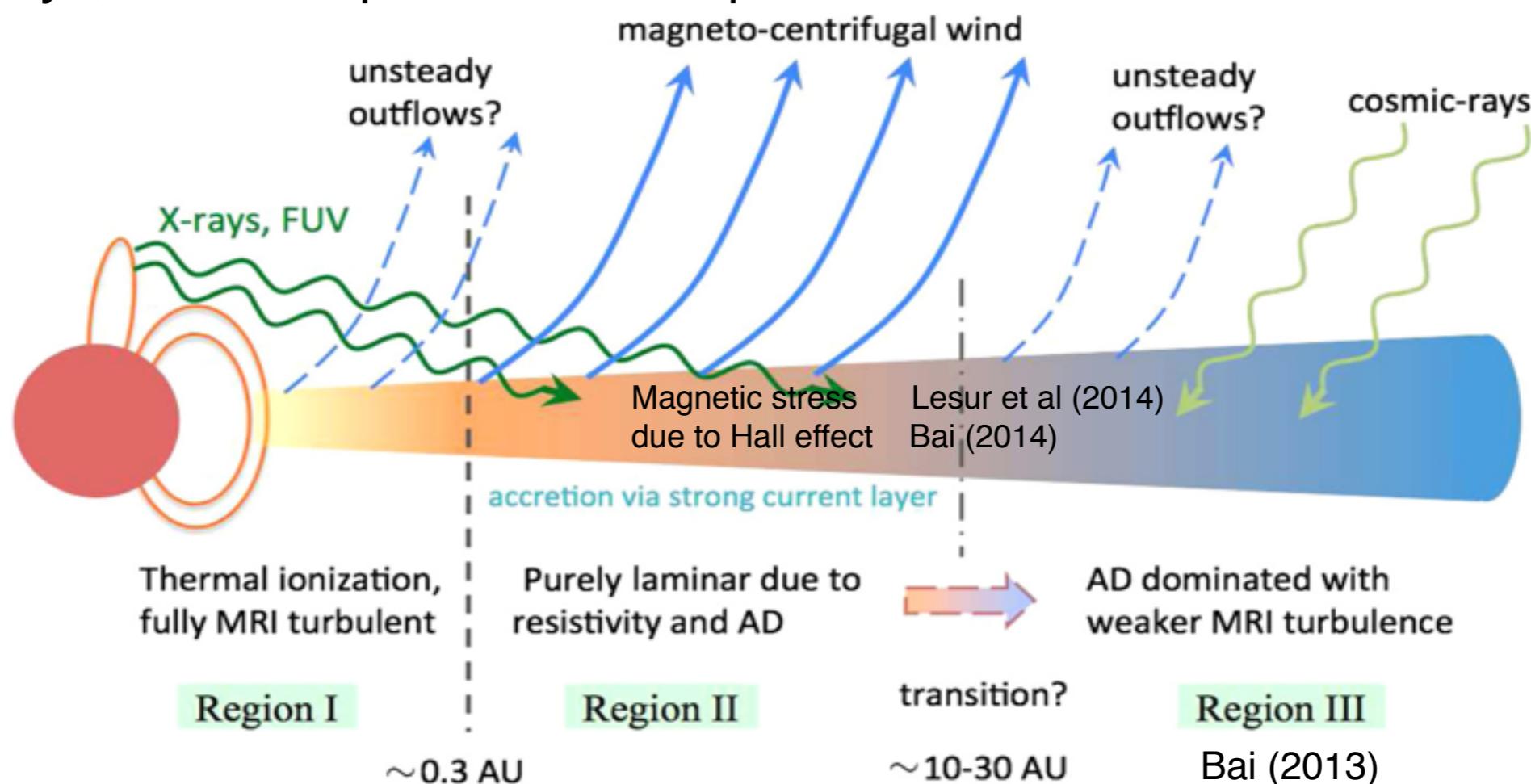
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- Inclusion of dust grains in disc chemistry changes  $x(e^-)$  and the magnitudes of Ohmic resistivity, ambipolar diffusion and Hall effect - horizontal field amplification reduced
- Inclusion of Hall effect still produces significant stress in mid plane when  $\Omega \cdot \mathbf{B} > 0$   
(Bai 2014)

# Summary of MHD effects

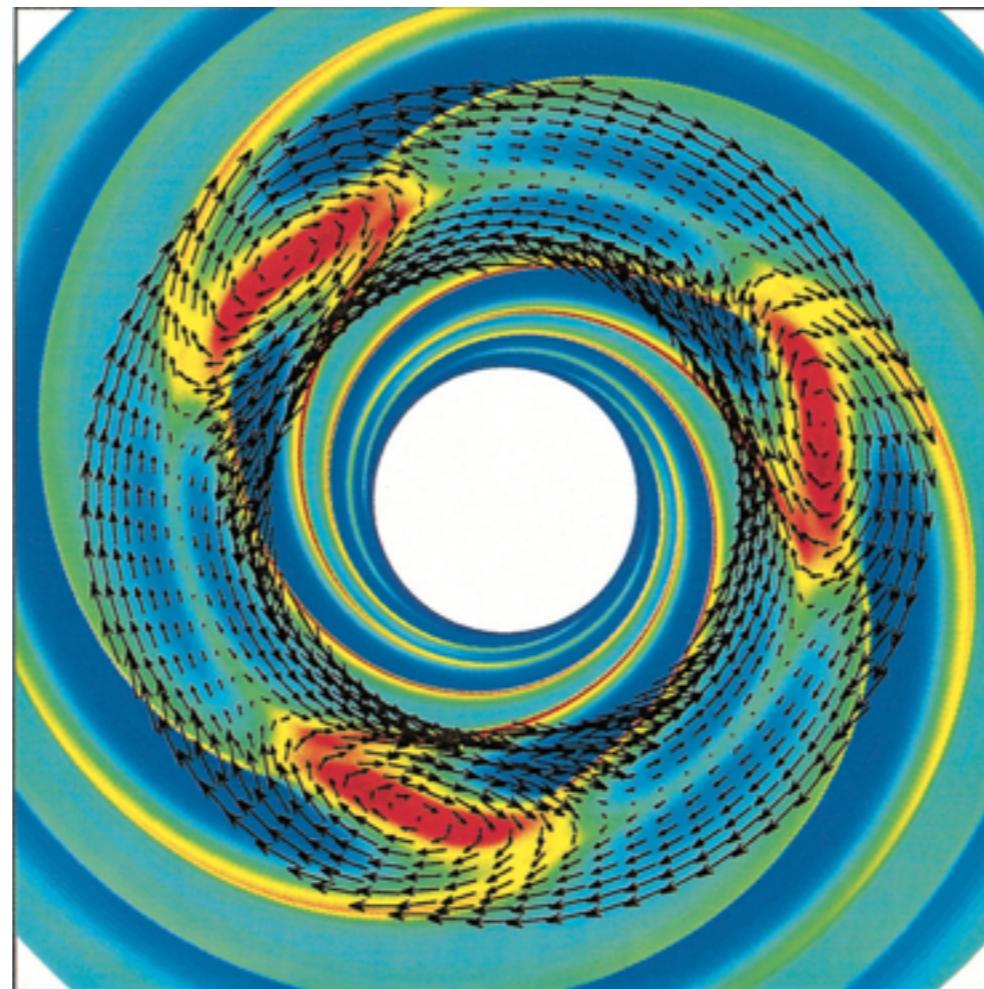
- Fully developed MRI-turbulence present only in inner few  $\times 0.1$  AU
- Magneto-centrifugal wind between  $\sim 0.3 - 20$  AU with significant mid-plane stress if  $\Omega \cdot \mathbf{B} > 0$
- Outer regions sustain weak MRI-turbulence modified by ambipolar diffusion  
(Simon et al 2013; Bai 2015)
- All results depend on details of chemistry, dust properties, FUV, X-rays, CRs, computational set-up, ...



# Hydrodynamic instabilities

# Rossby wave instability (RWI)

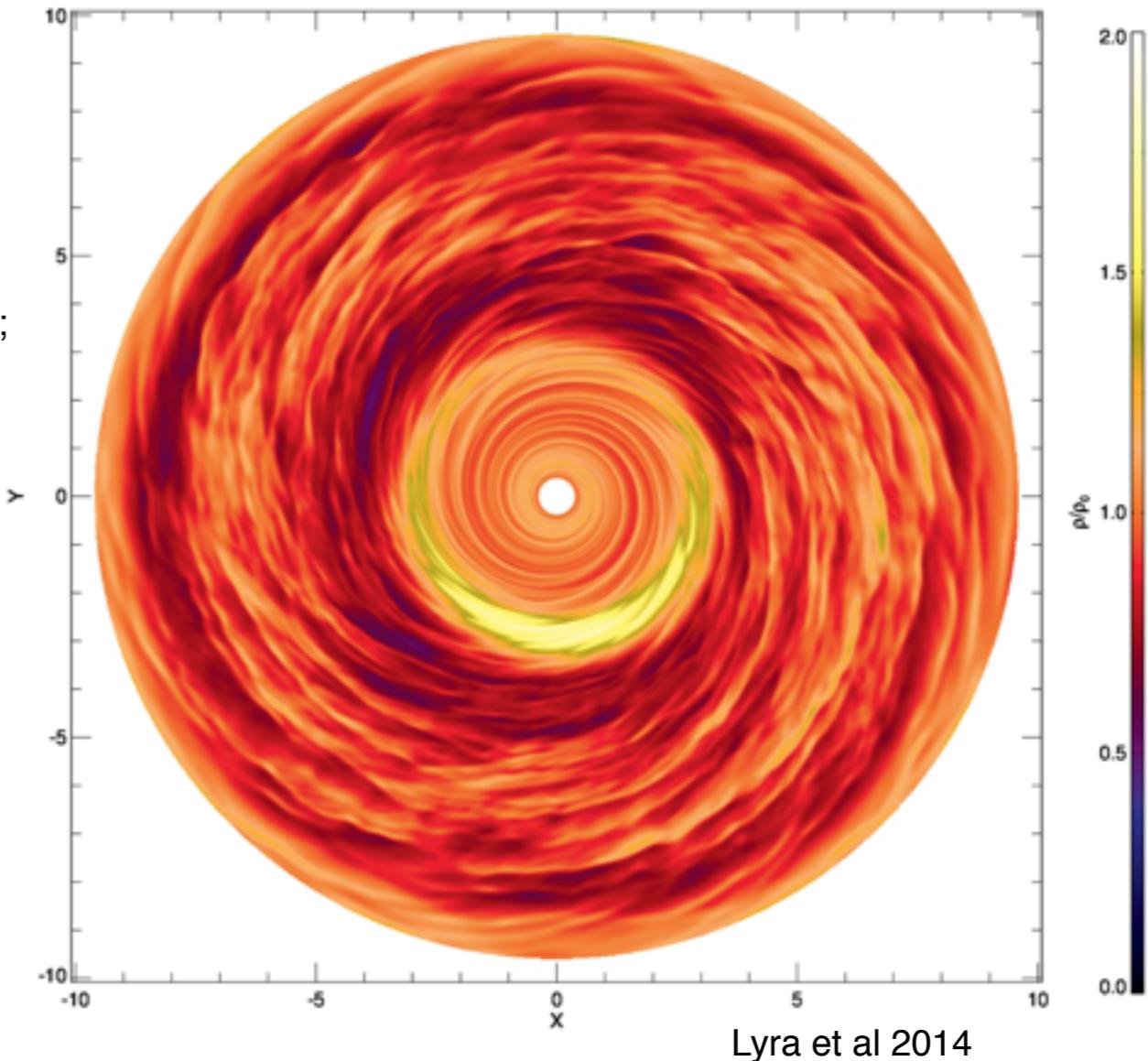
- Driven by a radial extremum in the quantity  $\mathcal{L} = \frac{\Sigma}{2\omega_z} \left( \frac{P}{\Sigma^\gamma} \right)^{2/\gamma}$   
(Lovelace et al 1999; Li et al 2000)
- The linear instability saturates by forming  $\sim 3 - 5$  anticyclonic vortices that tend to merge into a single vortex over time



Li et al (2001)

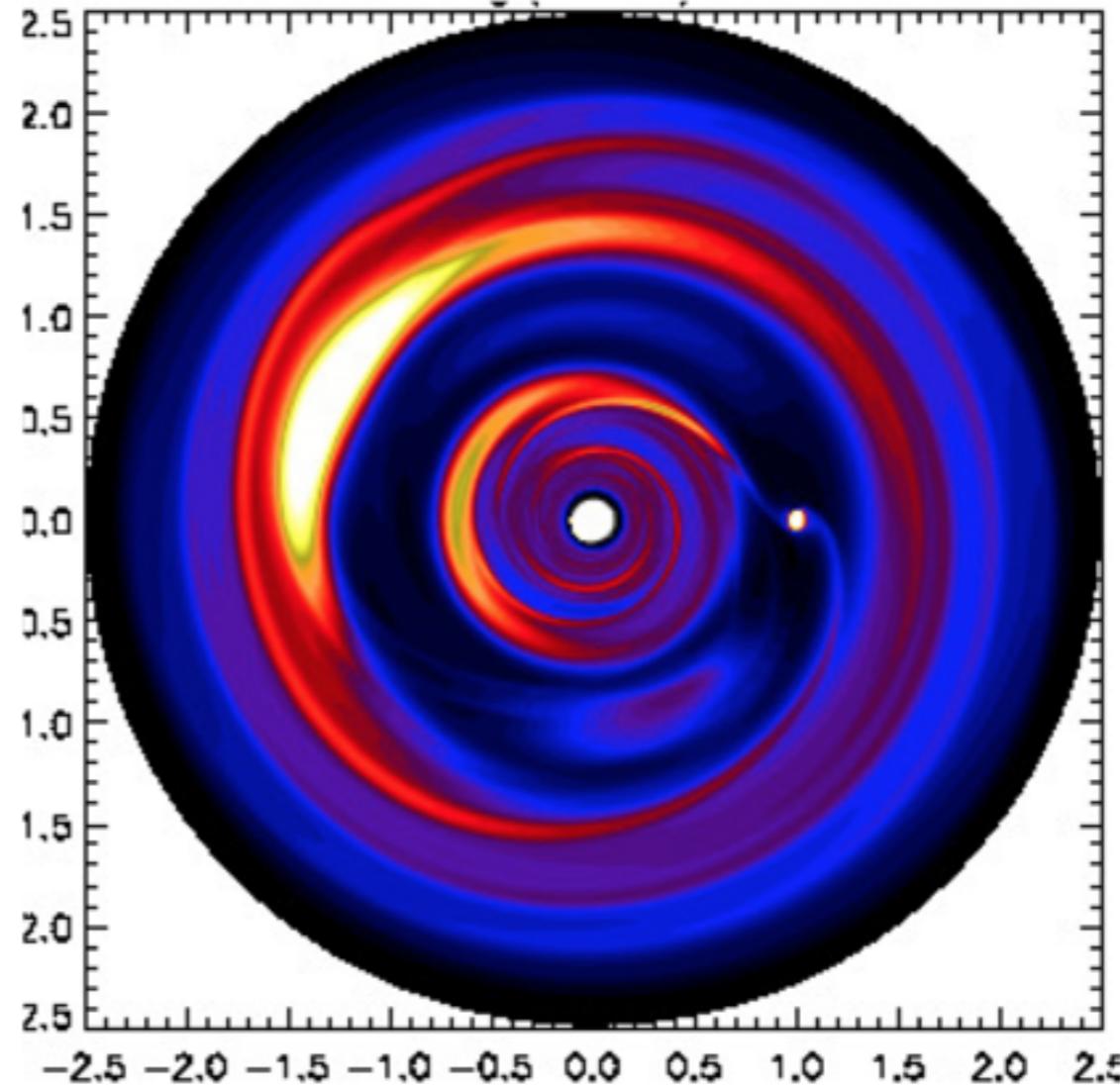
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  - edge of a gap formed by a planet  
(de Val-Boro et al 2006; Lin & Papaloizou 2011)



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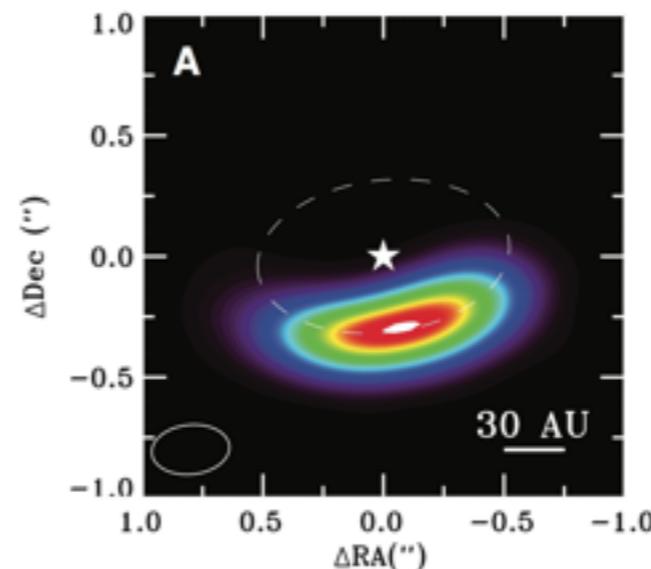
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Van de Marel et al. (2013)

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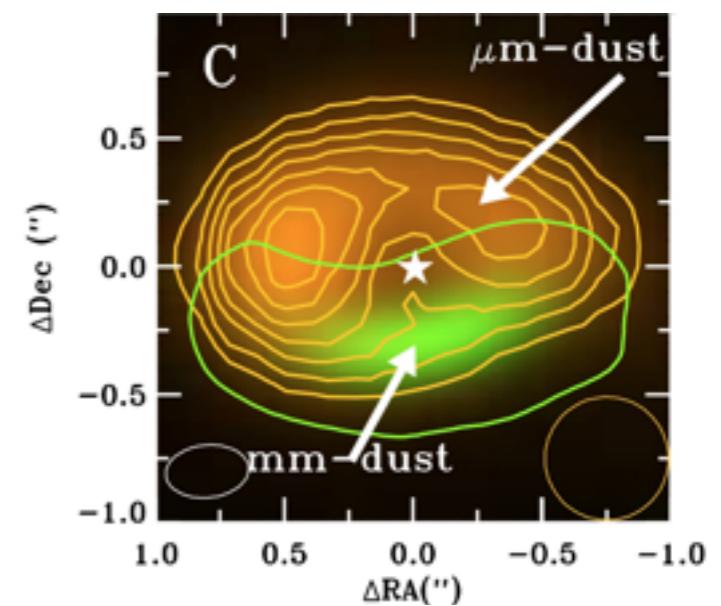
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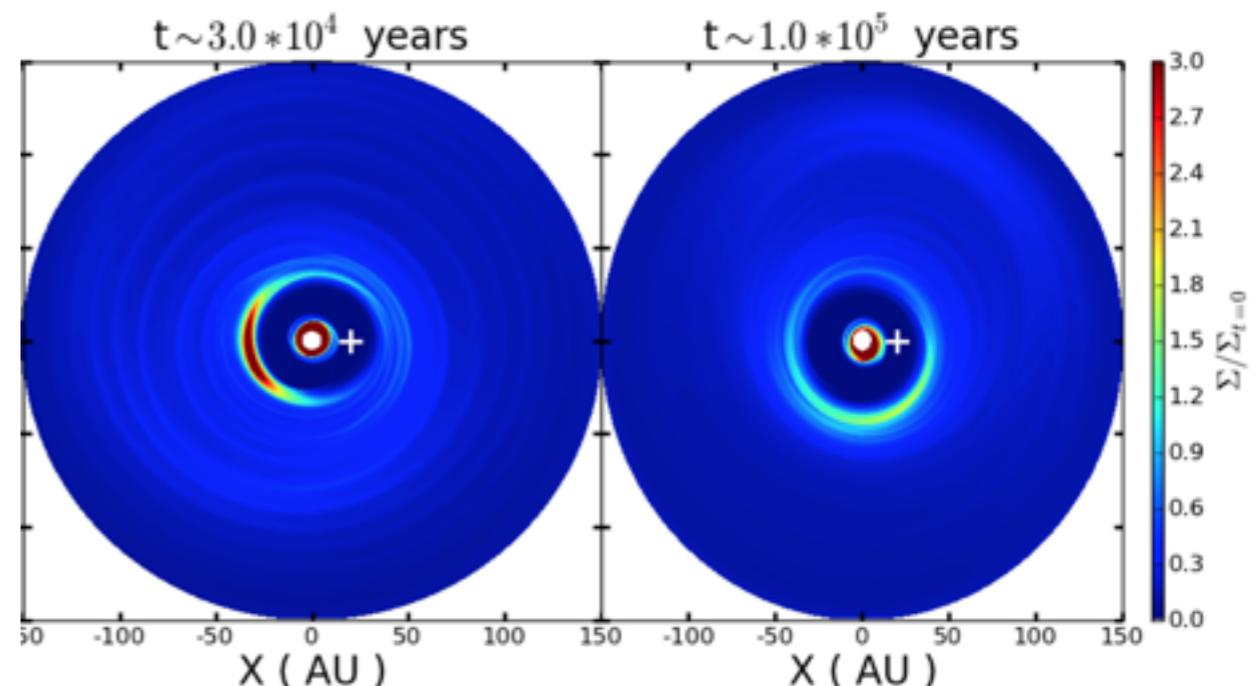
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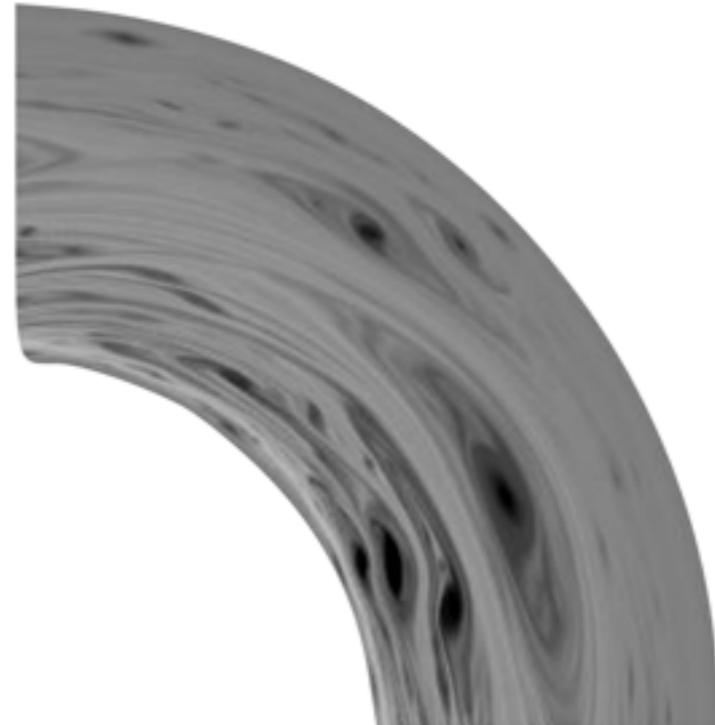
- Vortices trap dust efficiently
  - possible that Oph IRS 48 hosts a planet-induced vortex?

(Van de Marel et al. 2013)



# Subcritical baroclinic instability (SBI)

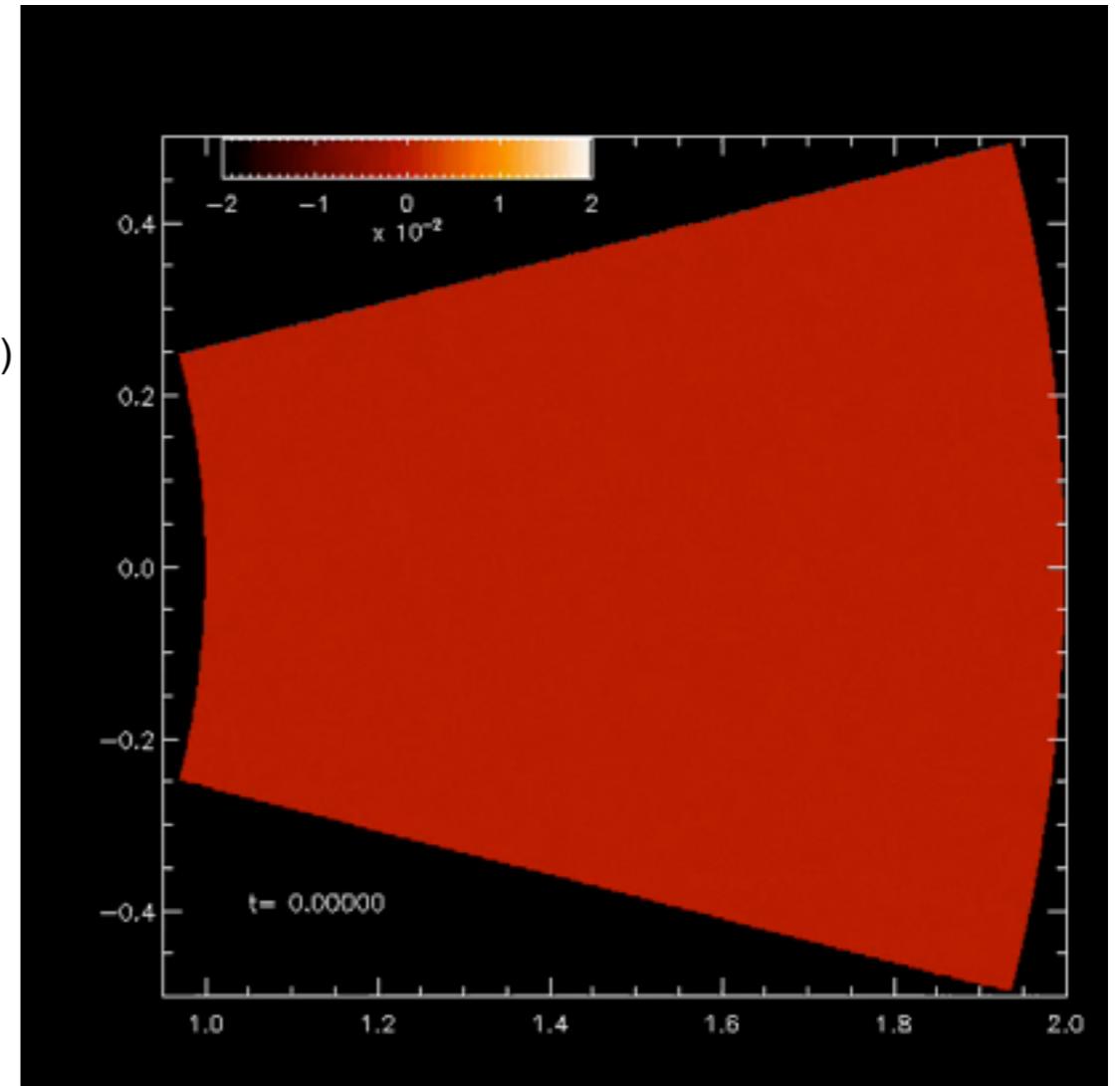
- Requires a negative entropy gradient  
(Peterson et al 2007) 
$$\frac{d \log(P\rho^{-\gamma})}{d \log R} < 0$$
- Nonlinear instability - requires finite-amplitude perturbations  
(Lesur & Papaloizou 2010)
  - needs to be triggered by linear instabilities:  
e.g. convective overstability or vertical shear instability?  
(Klahr & Hubbard 2014; Lyra 2014; Nelson et al 2013)
- Sustaining vortices requires short thermal relaxation time scale
  - most likely to operate in outer disc regions (Lesur & Papaloizou 2010)



• (Peterson et al 2007)

# Vertical shear instability (VSI)

- Linear instability (Goldreich & Schubert 1967; Fricke 1968; Urpin 2003; Nelson et al 2013)
- Arises because a disc with  $T=T(R)$  has vertical shear
- Requires thermal relaxation times  
< local orbital period - very short!
  - likely to operate in outer regions of protoplanetary discs (Nelson et al 2013; Lin & Youdin 2015)
- In nonlinear saturated state it can generate  $\alpha \sim 10^{-4} - 10^{-3}$
- Also generates vortices (Richard, Nelson & Umurhan 2015)



# Disc dispersal

# Photoevaporation

- Viscous evolution of protoplanetary discs cannot account for their complete dispersal
  - or rapid time scales inferred for disc removal (Kenyon & Hartmann 1995)
- Heating of disc surface by EUV, FUV and X-ray photons leads to hydrodynamic escape beyond radius  $r_g = \frac{GM_*}{c_s^2}$  (sound speed  $\sim$  escape velocity from central star)
- External evaporation by O stars in Orion leads to mass loss rates  $\sim 6 \times 10^{-7} M_{\text{sun}} / \text{yr}$  and disc life times  $\sim 10^5 \text{ yr}$  (Johnstone et al 1998; Henney et al 2002)
- X-ray and FUV photons from central star dominate evaporation of isolated T Tauri stars with mass loss rates  $\sim 10^{-8} M_{\text{sun}}/\text{yr}$  (assuming  $L_x \sim 10^{30} \text{ erg/s}$ )  
(Gorti & Hollenbach 2009; Owen et al 2010)

