



Smithsonian

# Impact of radiation fields in galaxies

## Rahul Kannan

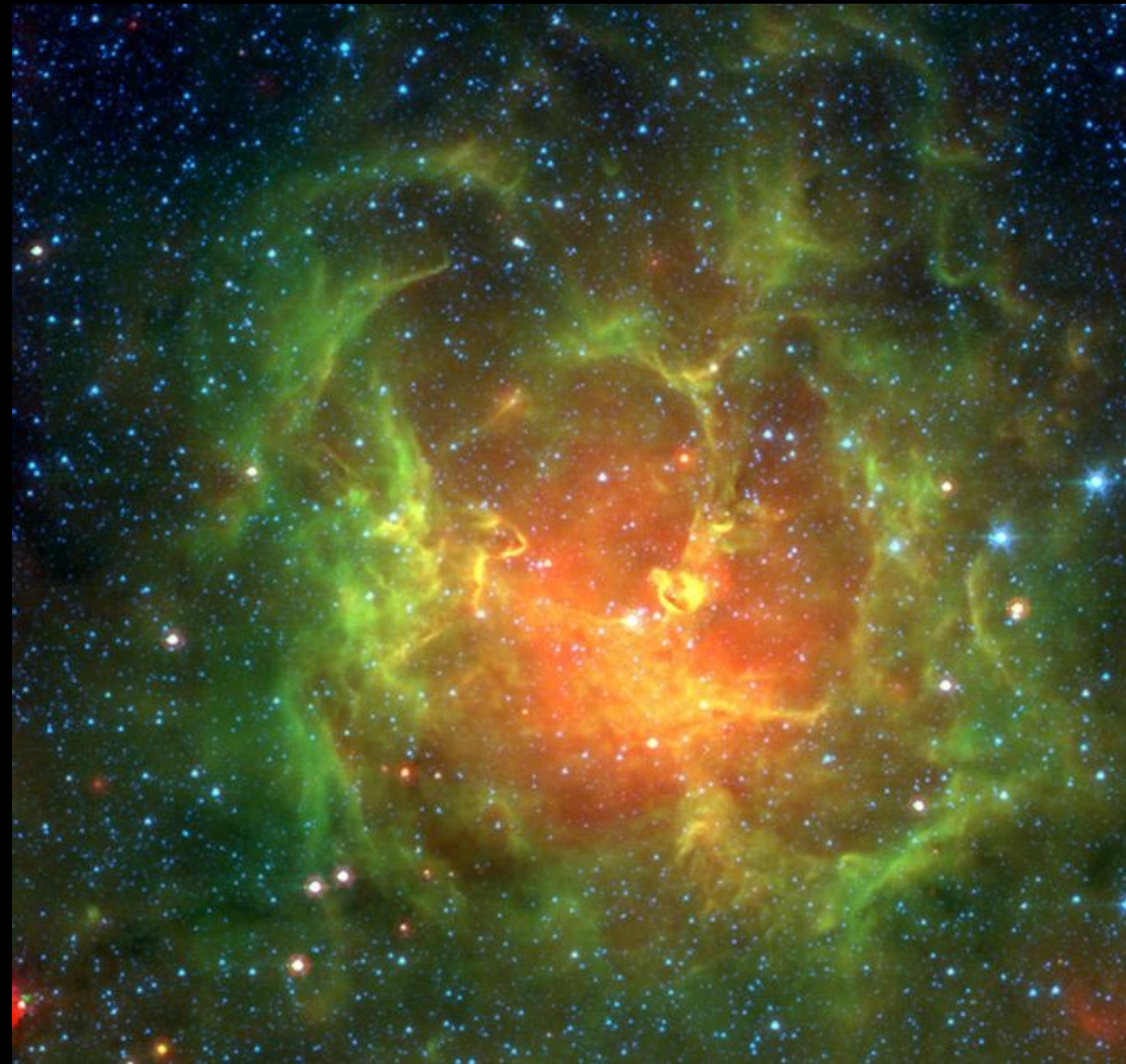
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for  
Astrophysics

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Collaborators: Xiaohan Wu (Harvard), David Barnes (MIT), Federico Marinacci (Harvard), Volker Springel (MPA), Mark Voglesberger (MIT), Christine Simpson (U. Chicago), Simon Glover (ITA, Heidelberg) & Lars Hernquist (Harvard)

# Radiation fields in the Universe

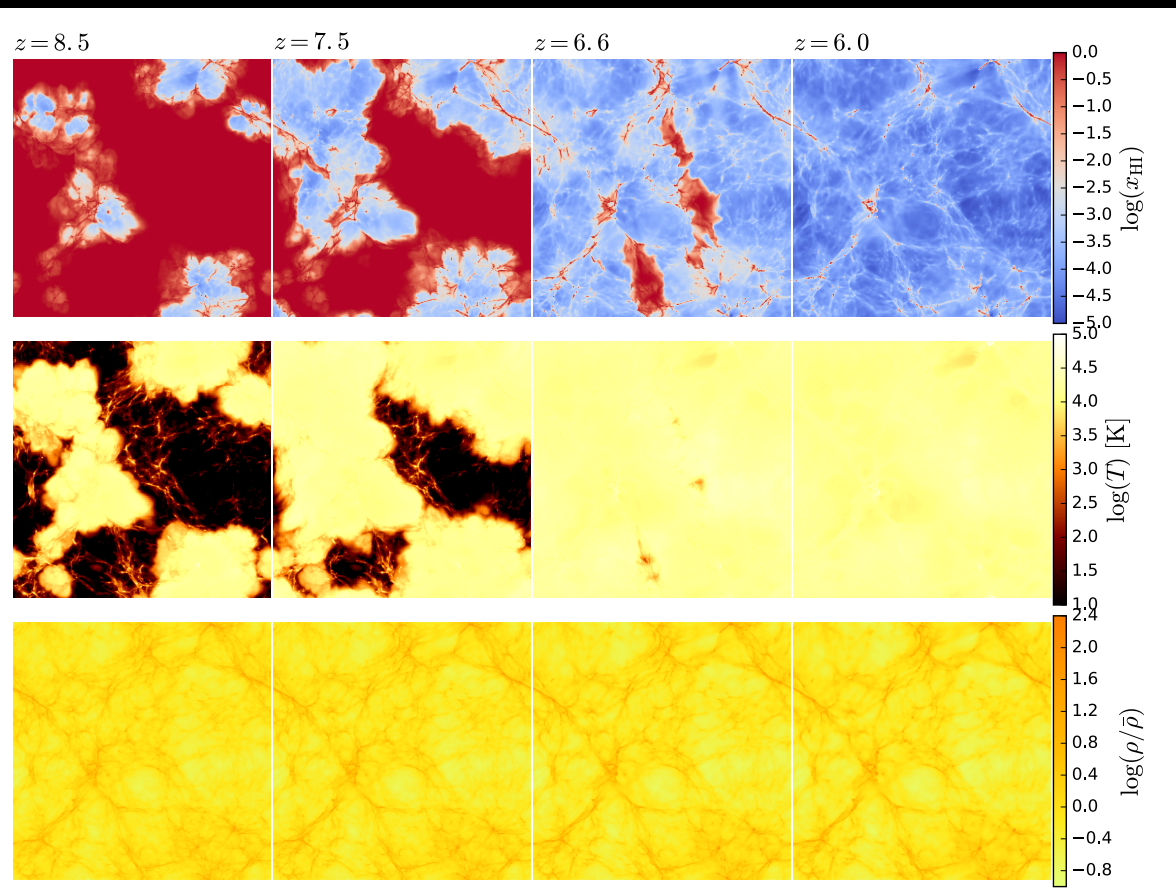
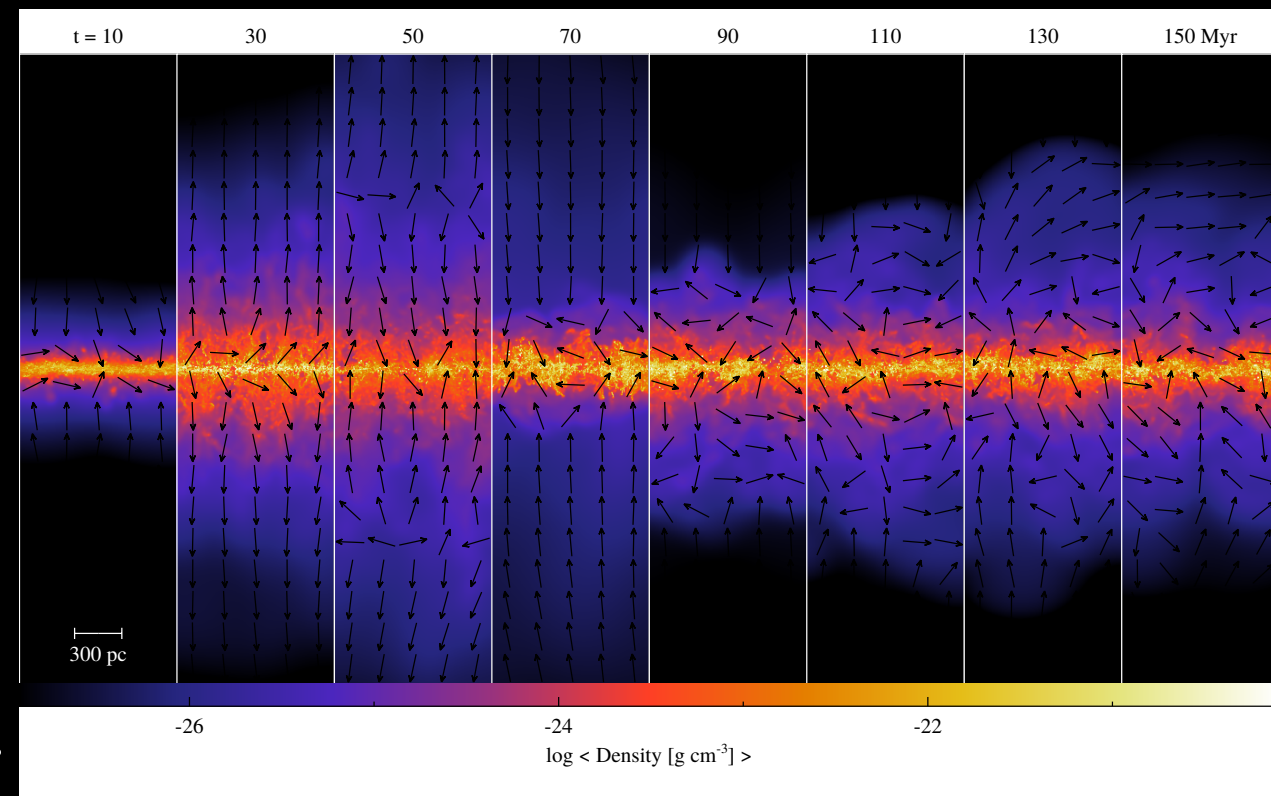
- Radiation fields are ubiquitous in Nature.
- Important diagnostic tool - Until recently EM radiation was the only window into observing the Universe.
- They also have important dynamical effects in many Astrophysical systems.





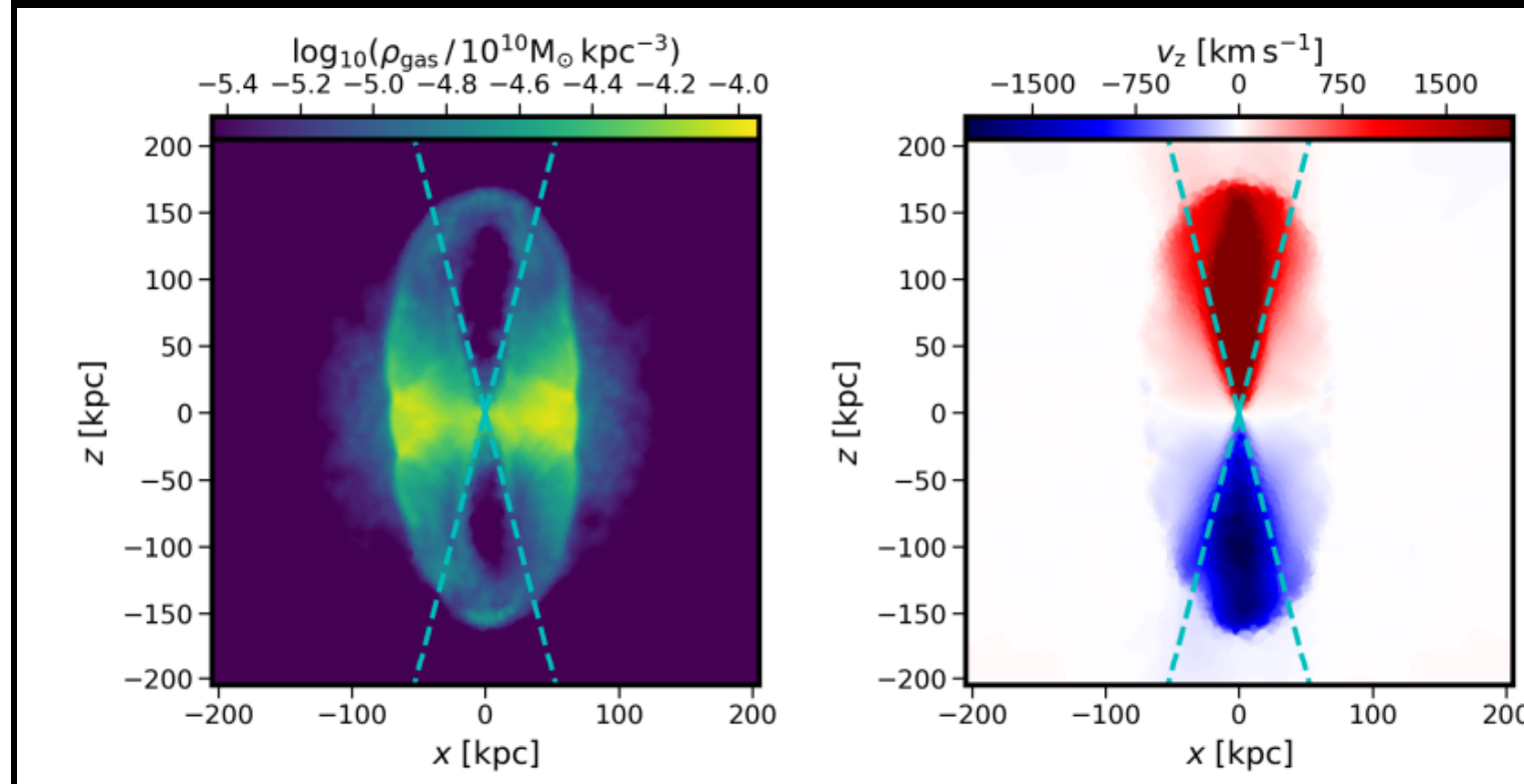
# Radiation fields in the Universe

- The impact of stellar radiation fields in regulating the SFR of sub  $L^*$  galaxies.
- Radiation pressure driven outflows in high luminosity quasars and their role in quenching high mass galaxies.
- Investigating the sources that reionise the Universe and its impact on low mass haloes.



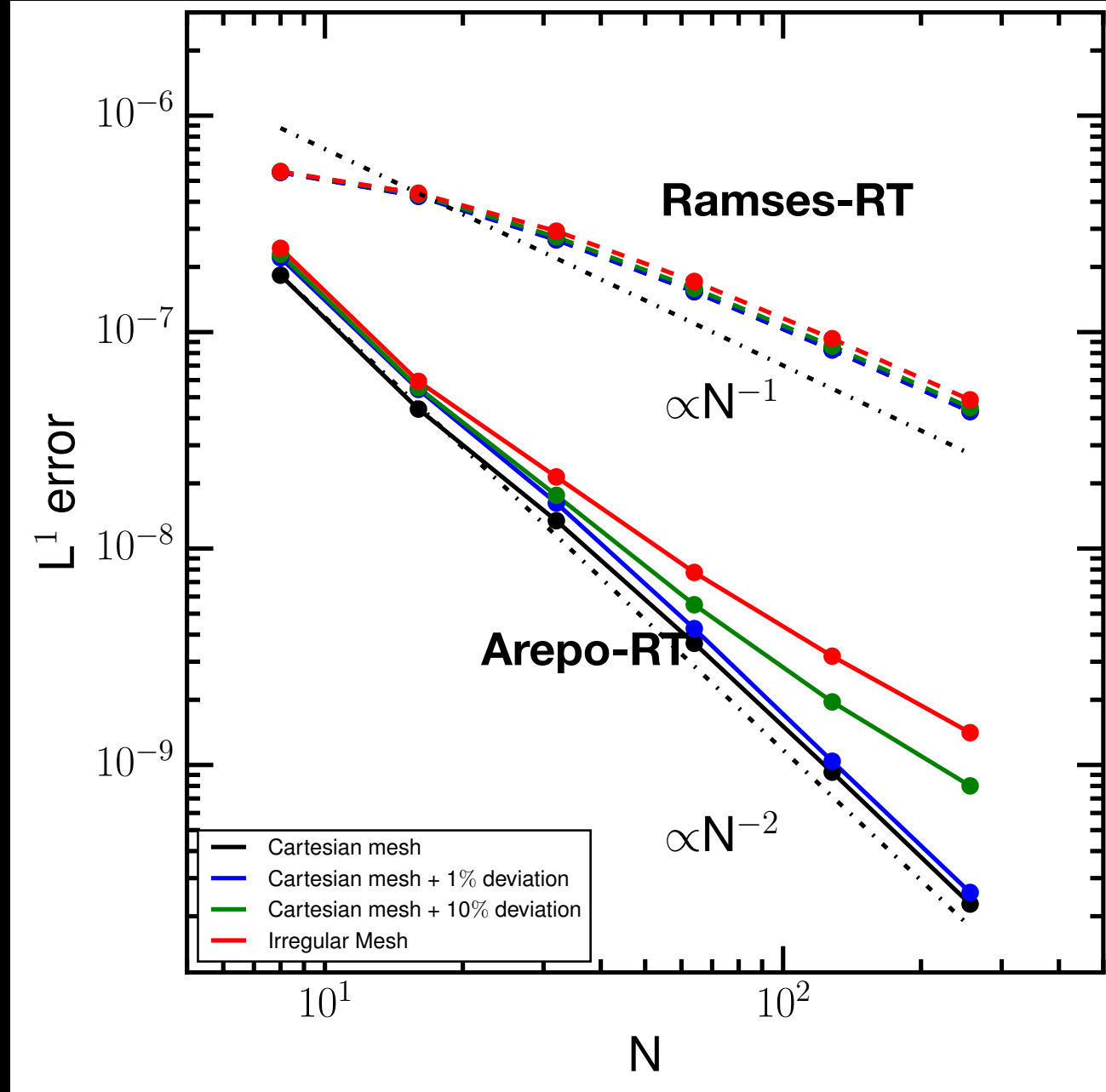
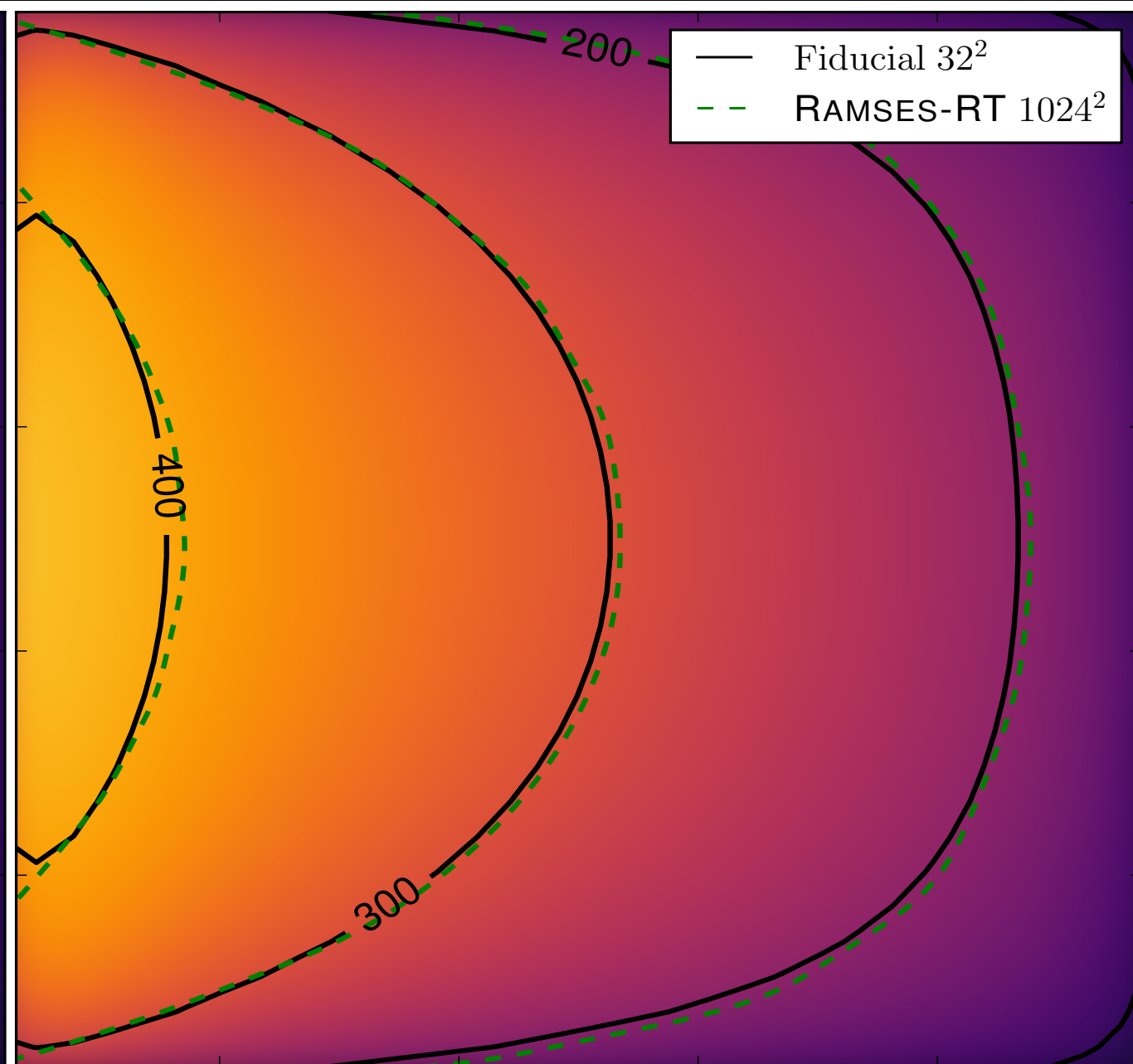
Wu, RK + in prep.

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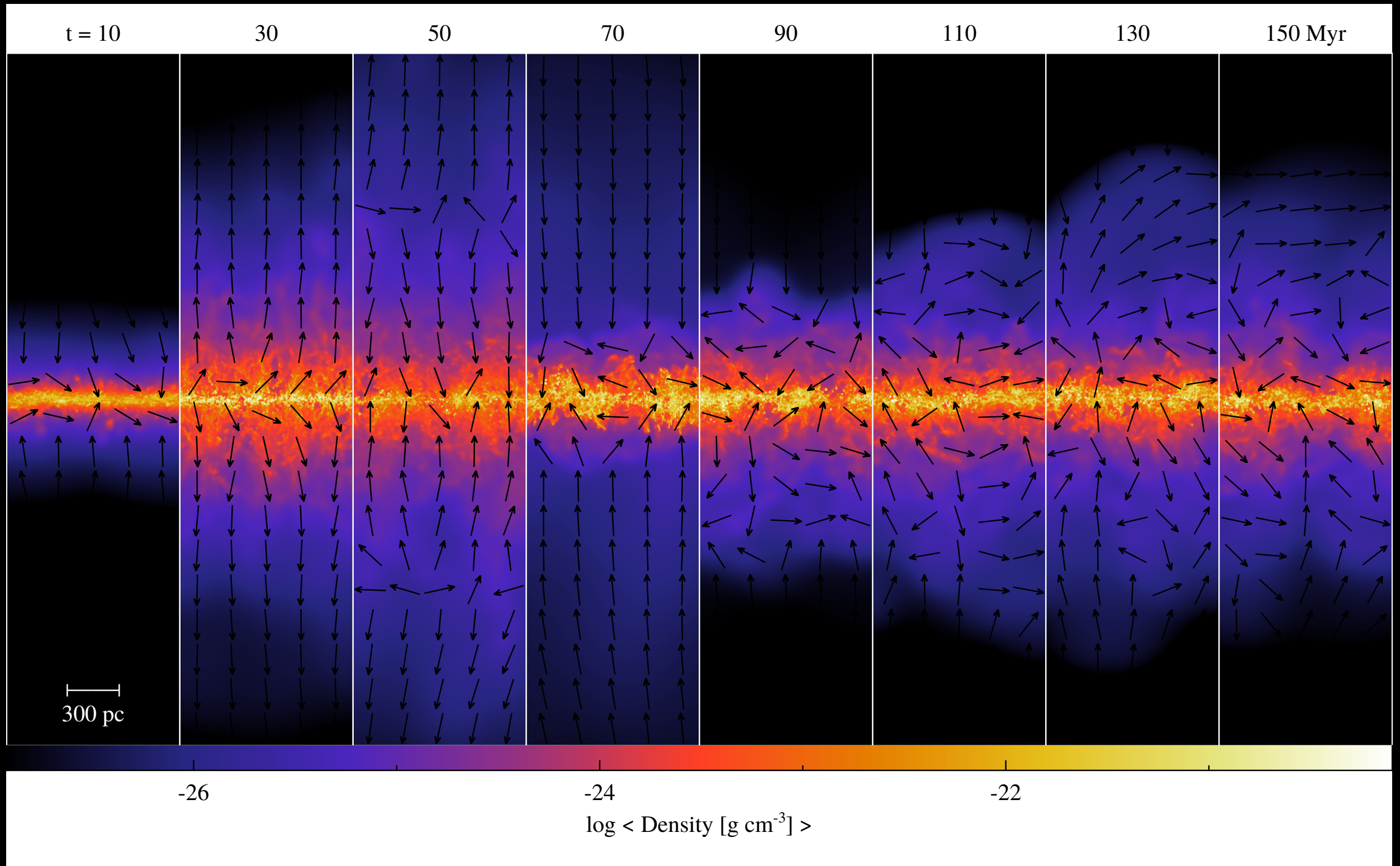
# AREPO-RT (Kannan+2018)



- RHD extension to Arepo
- Full second order convergence even in the presence of source terms
- Excellent diffusivity control
- A 32<sup>2</sup> simulation done with Arepo-RT can match the results obtained by a 1024<sup>2</sup> simulation performed by Ramses-RT



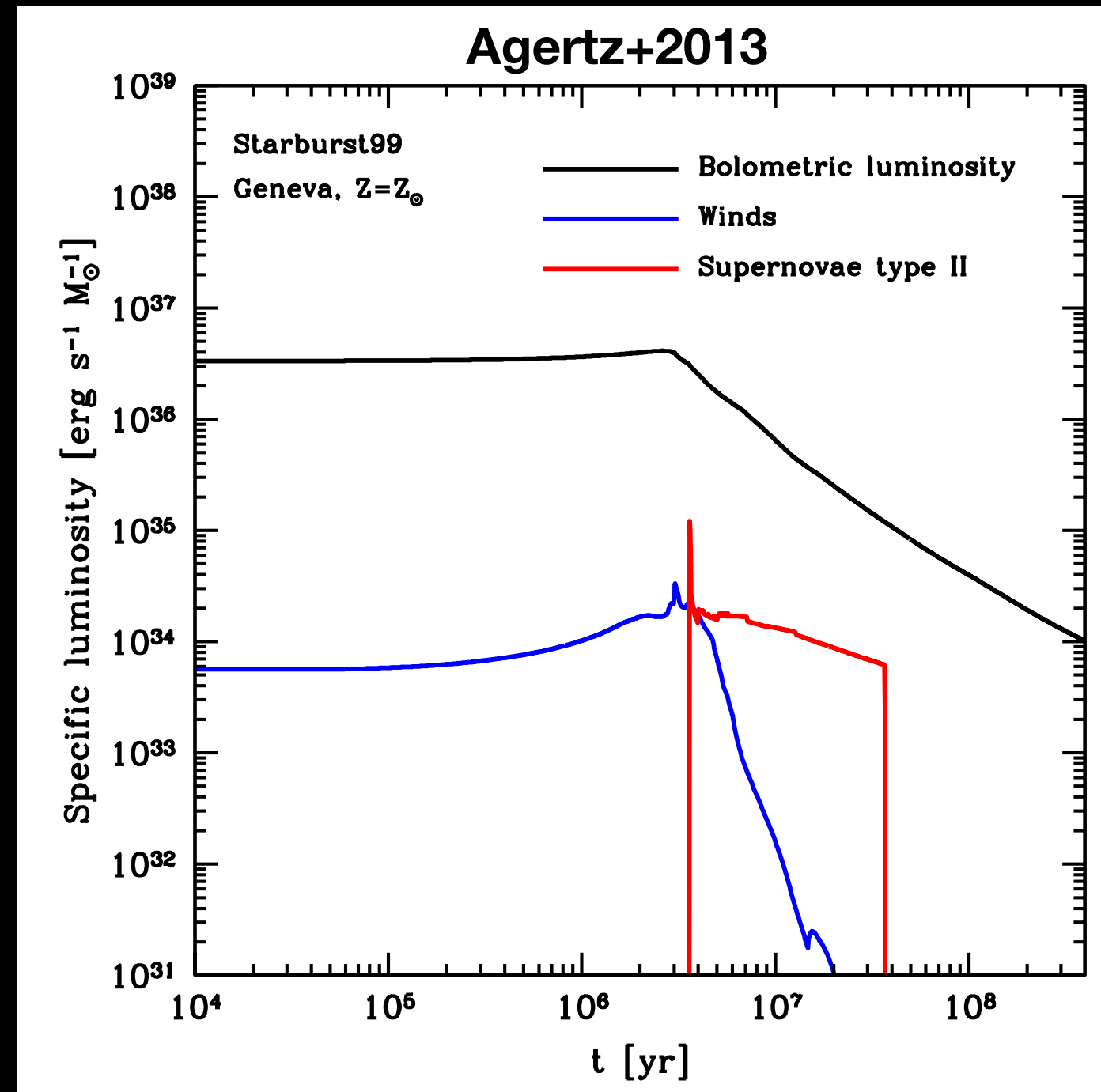
# The impact of stellar radiation fields in regulating the SFR of sub $L^*$ galaxies.



RK+ in prep.

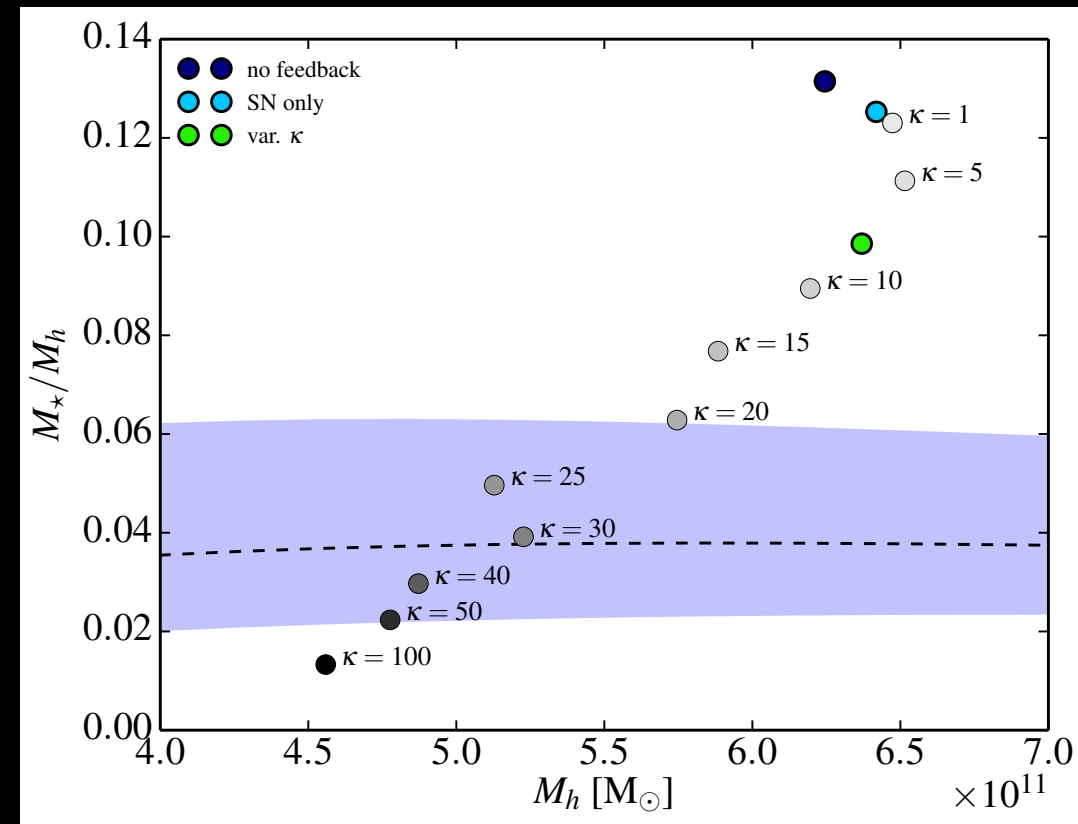
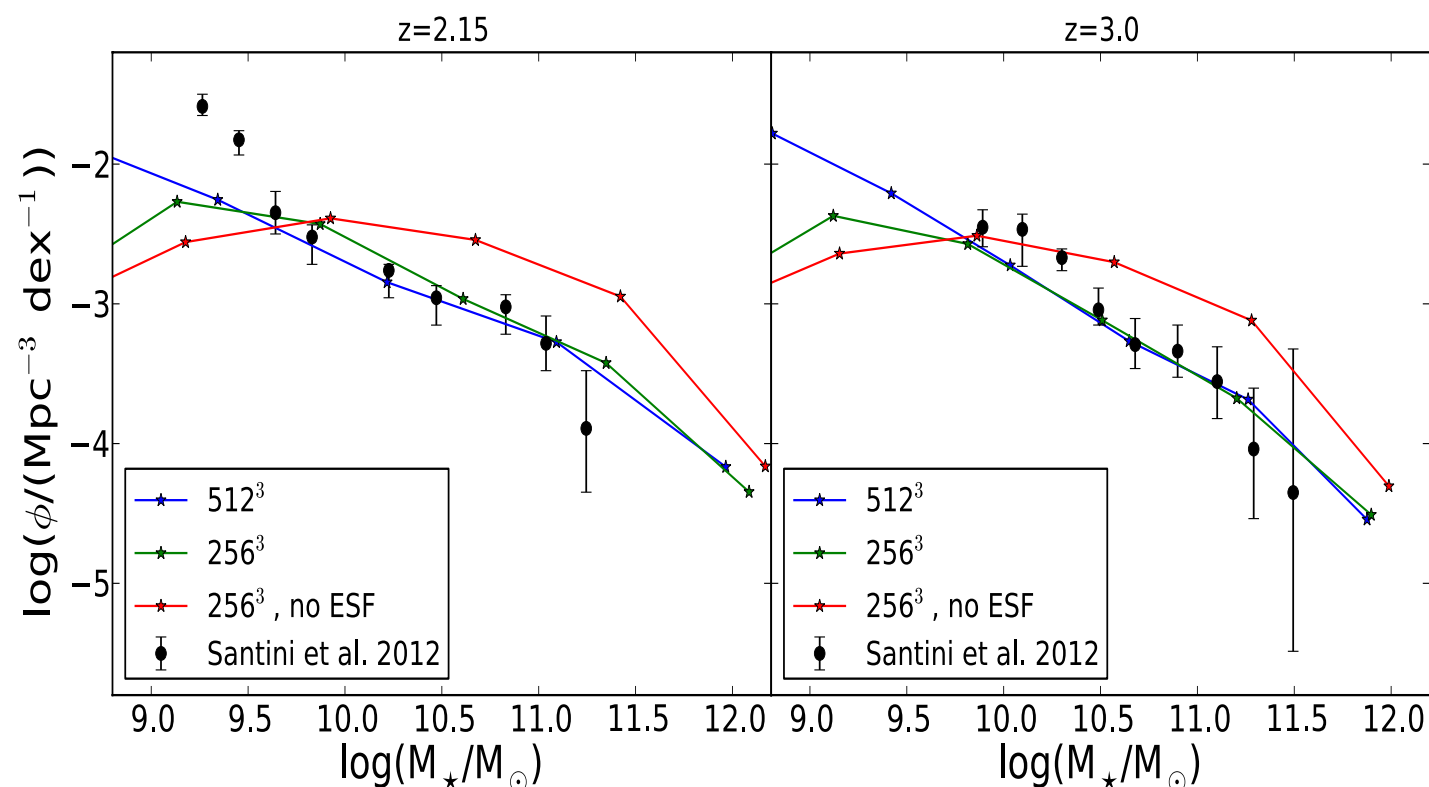
# Radiation fields from Massive stars

- Stellar radiation fields and winds can also inject large amounts of energy into the ISM
- The radiation energy input is much larger than that of SNe
- They can significantly alter the regions around stars and can make the SNe more efficient (Hokins+2011, Stinson+2013, Agertz+2013)





# Sub-grid models for radiation feedback

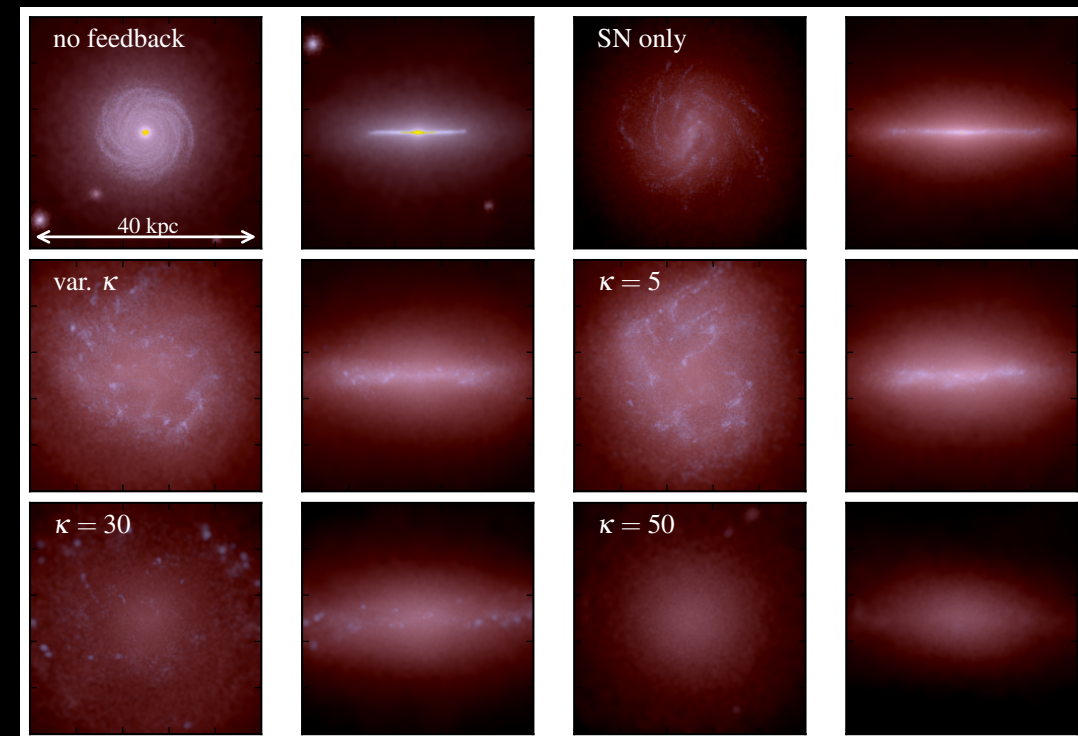


## Kannan+2014

- Stinson+2013 : Subgrid model for photoheating, assume that *10% of the bolometric luminosity of stars thermalizes around stars* and heats the surrounding gas

- IR radiation pressure - Invokes trapped radiation pressure

$$\dot{p} = \frac{L}{c} (1 + \tau_{IR})$$



## Roskar+2014

# High resolution simulations of radiation feedback

- Tallbox simulations -  $1 \times 1 \times 10$  kpc box - solar neighborhood initial conditions ( $5 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}^2$ ,  $10 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}^2$ ,  $20 M_{\odot}/\text{pc}^2$ )
- Mass resolution - 10 Msun
- Spatial resolution - Softening 0.13 pc (resolves strongmen radius)
- RT coupled to chemistry network of Smith,Glover+2013 ; follows H<sub>2</sub>,H, He and a minimal model for CO and dust
- 6 radiation bins - IR, optical / FUV, Lyman-Werner, HI, HI / H<sub>2</sub>, HeI ionization
- 4 simulations to gauge the effectiveness of each process
  - SN - Supernova thermal dump of energy
  - PH - SN + Photoheating
  - RP - PH + UV radiation pressure
  - IR - RP + IR radiation pressure



SN

$t=0$

PH

$t=0$

RP

$t=0$

IR

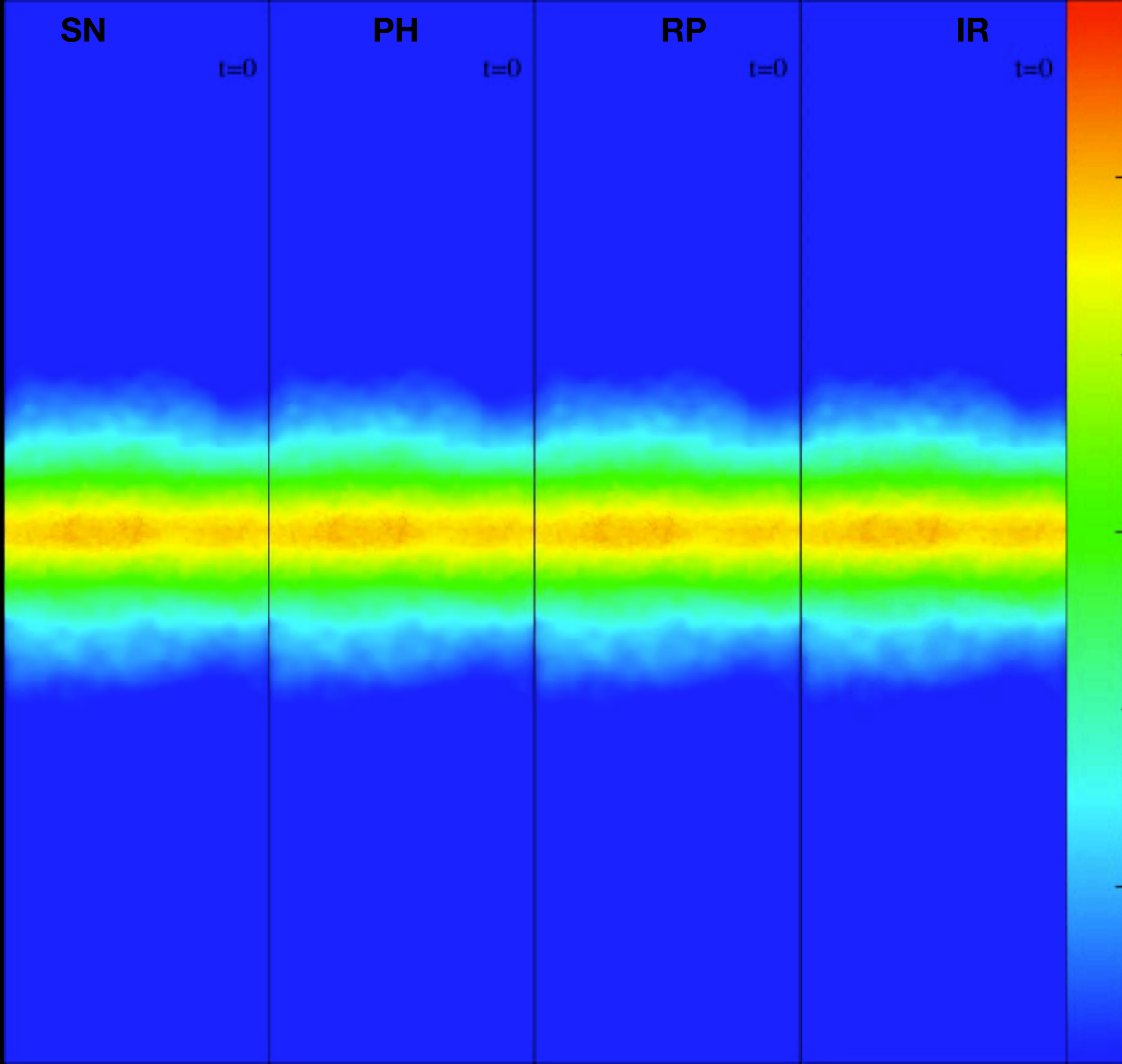
$t=0$

log column density

2

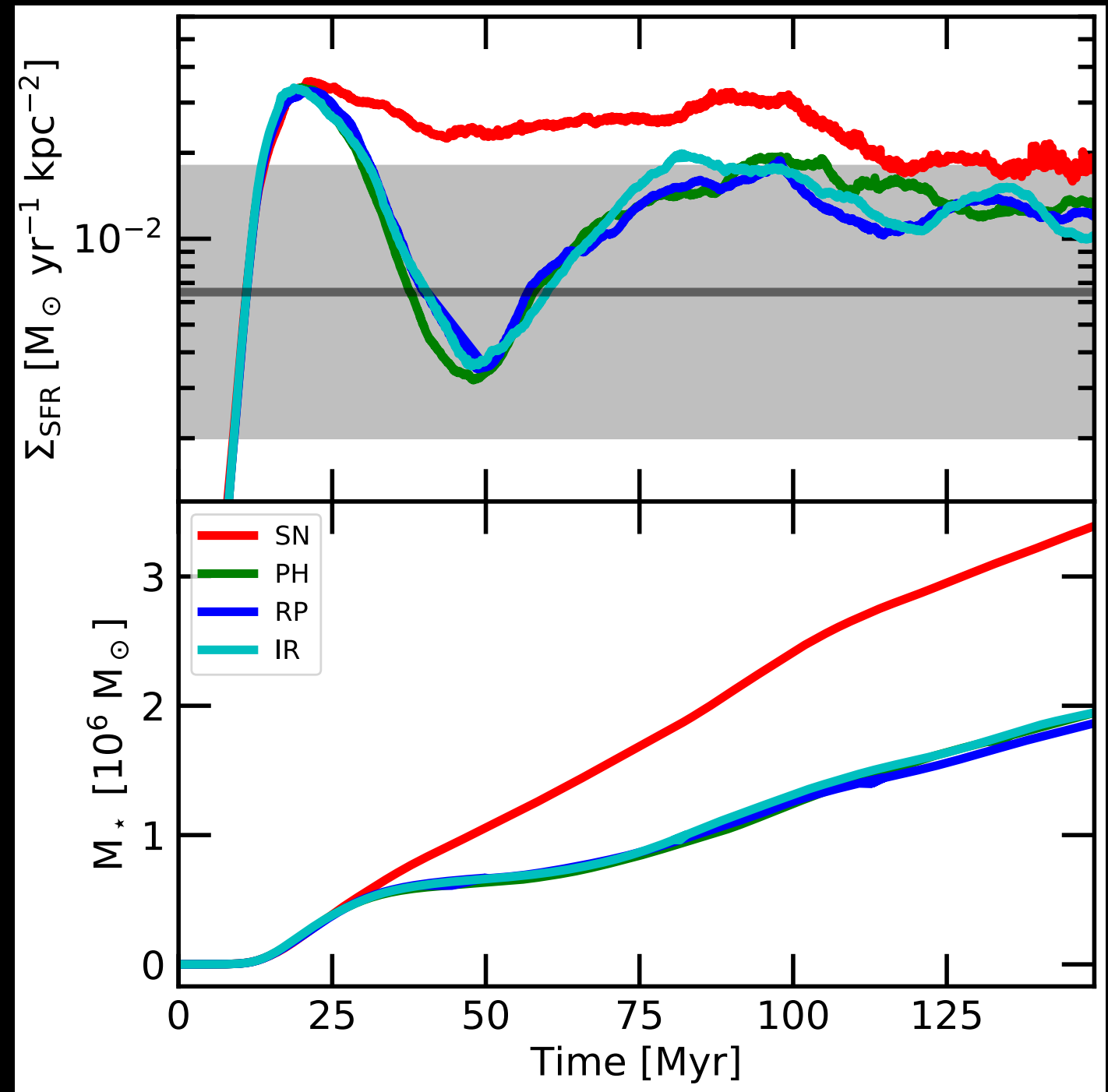
0

-2



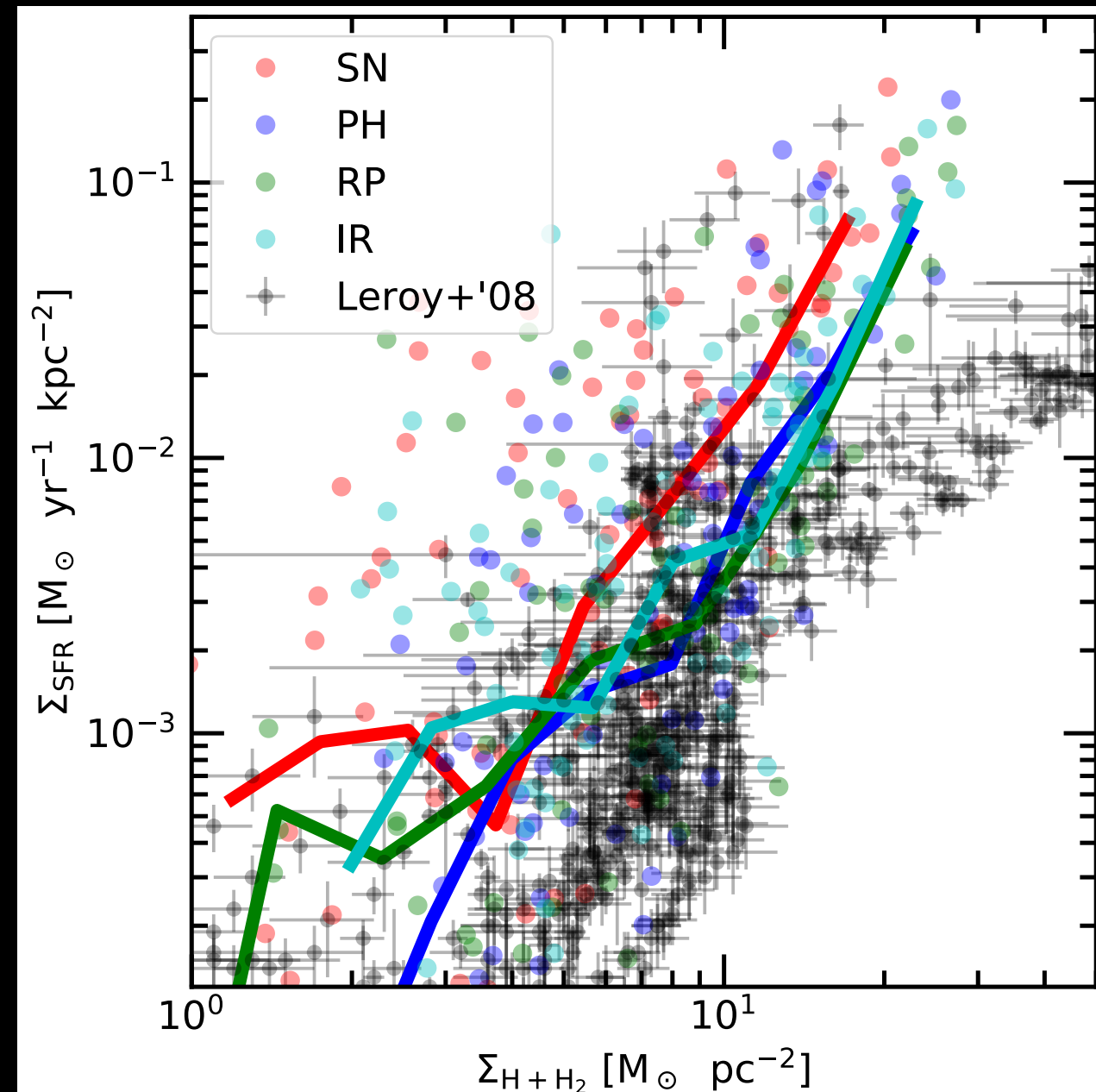
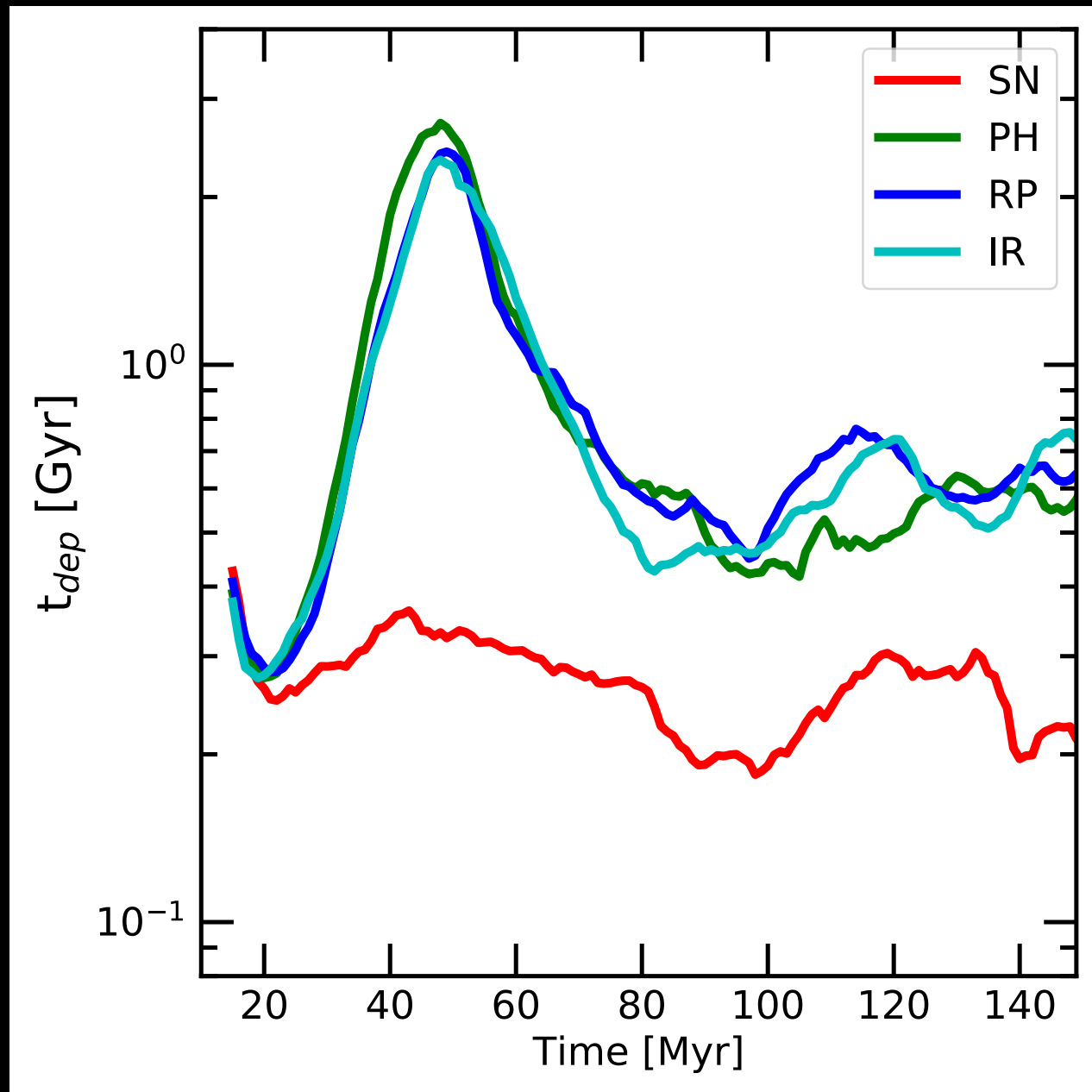
# SFRs and depletion times

- The average SFR is lowered by about 50% if the radiation fields are included, brings it within the observational limits.
- The total stellar mass of the disk is also reduced by about 50% (consistent with Rosdahl+2015).
- Radiation pressure (both direct and trapped IR) does not seem to have a large affect on the SFRs.



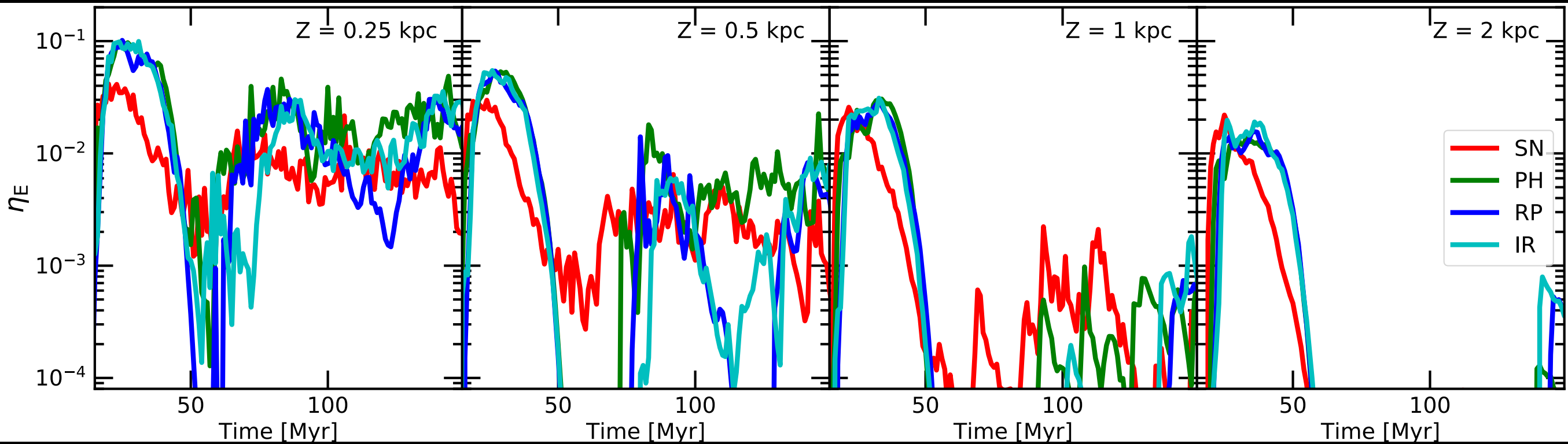
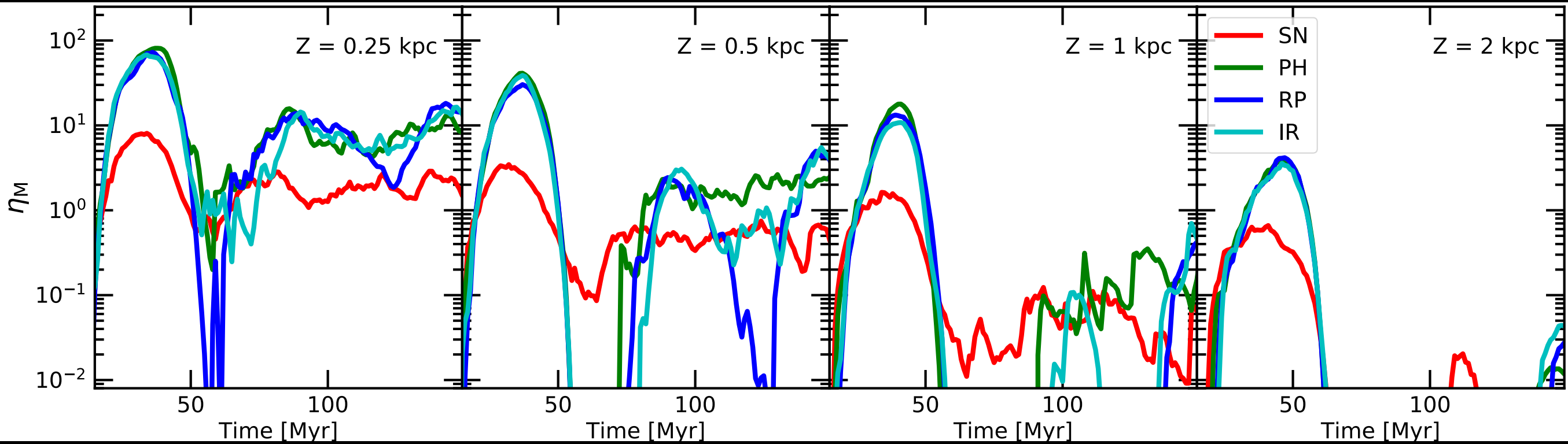


# KS relation and depletion timescales



- The depletion timescales increase by a factor of 3-5, bringing it closer to canonical 1 Gyr value
- This lowers the SFR per unit mass of gas, bringing the simulation results closer to the observed KS relation

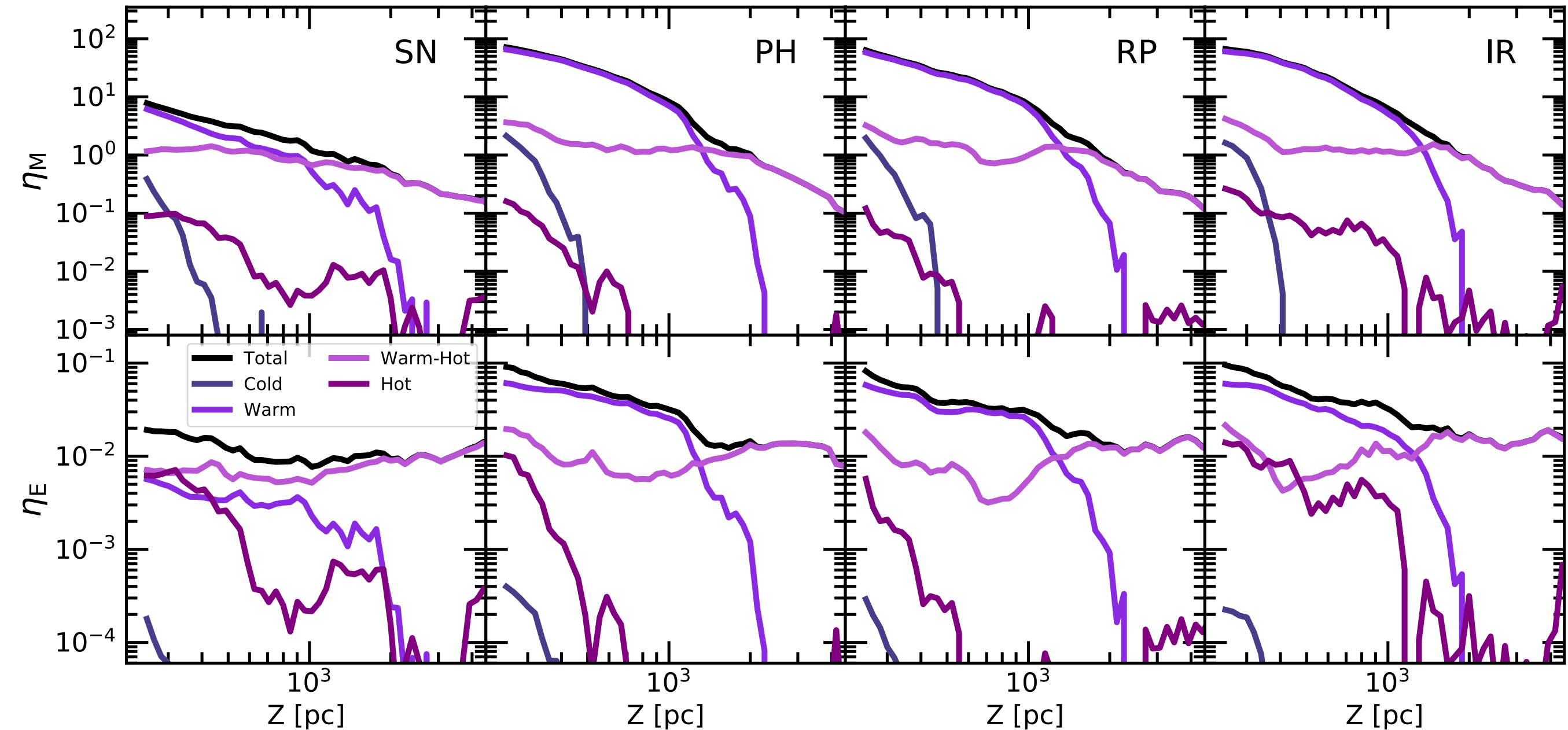
# Mass & Energy loading factors



- Mass loading -  $(dM_{\text{outflow}}/dt) / \text{SFR}$  - mass ejected by unit star formation
- Energy loading -  $E_{\text{outflow}}/E_{\text{SNe}}$  - fraction energy return



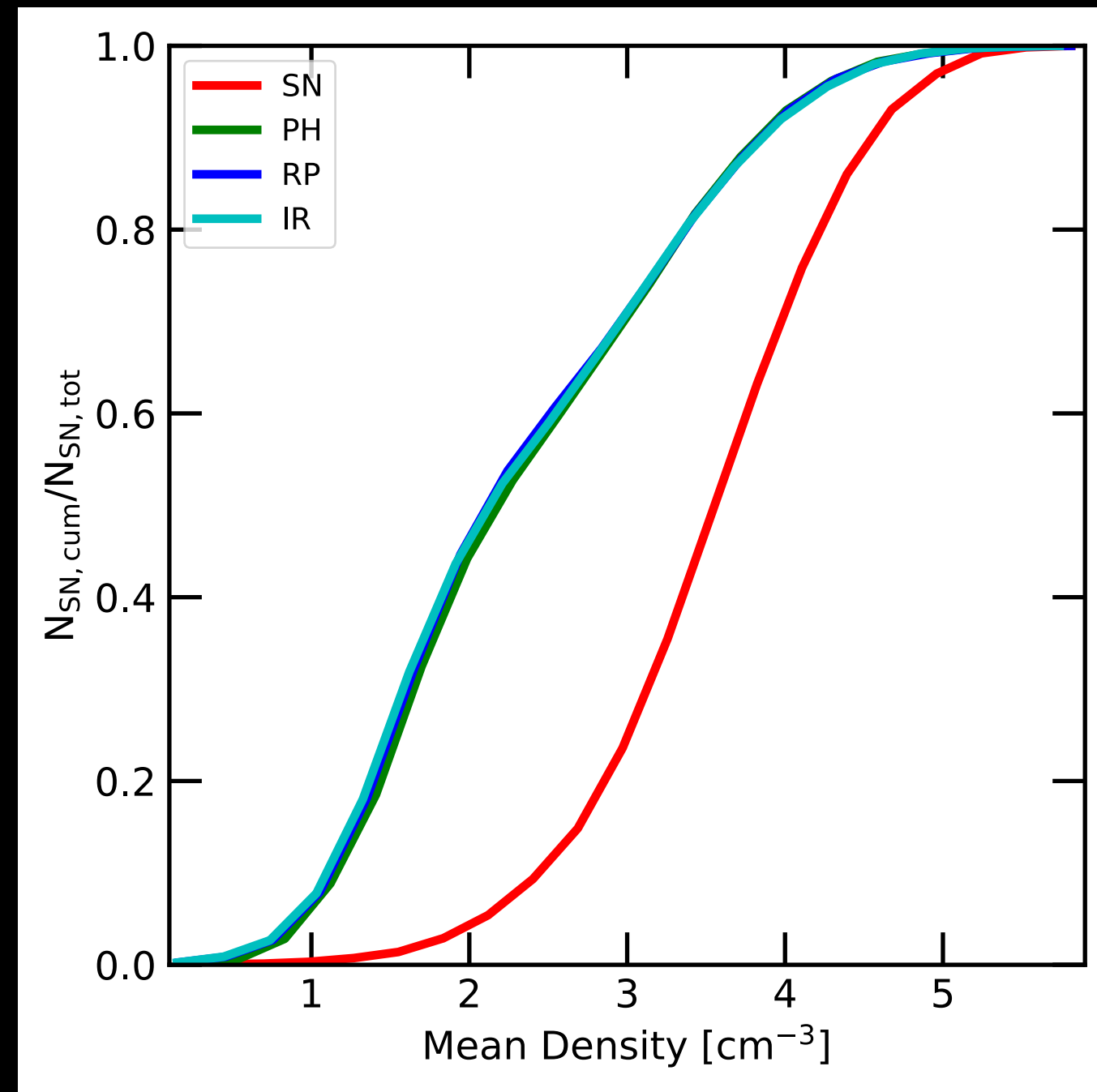
# Mass & Energy loading factors



- The increase in mass and energy loading is mainly driven by the increase in the outflow of the warm gas (300-8000 K).
- There is very little differences in the other phases of the outflow.
- The outflows in runs with radiation fields are also shown to entrain more dense material.

# Mean environment density of a SNe explosion

- The mean environmental density of a SNe explosion is reduced by 1-2 orders of magnitude.
- Increase the efficiency of the coupling between the feedback energy and the ISM.
- This means that the SNe momentum boost is increased by a factor of 2.

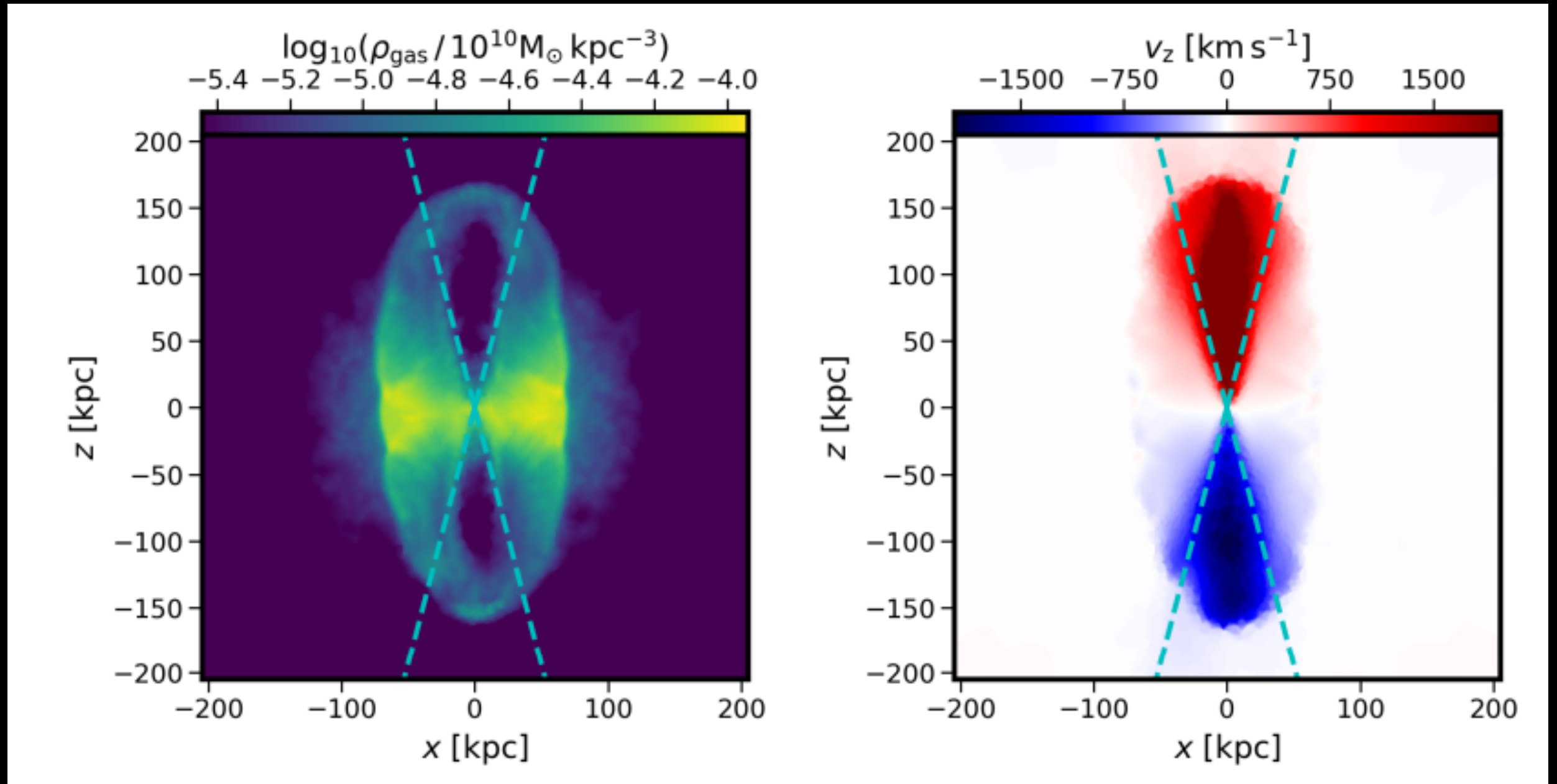


# Conclusion - I

- Radiation fields play an important role in regulating star formation in sub  $L^*$  galaxies.
- Radiation pressure is unimportant in these low gas surface density regimes, photoheating is the most important effect
- The SFRs and the stellar mass formed are reduced by almost a factor of 2.
- The mass and energy loading factors are increased by more than an order of magnitude.
- The energy coupling between the SNe and the ISM is enhanced in the presence of radiation fields.



# Radiation pressure driven outflows in high luminosity quasars

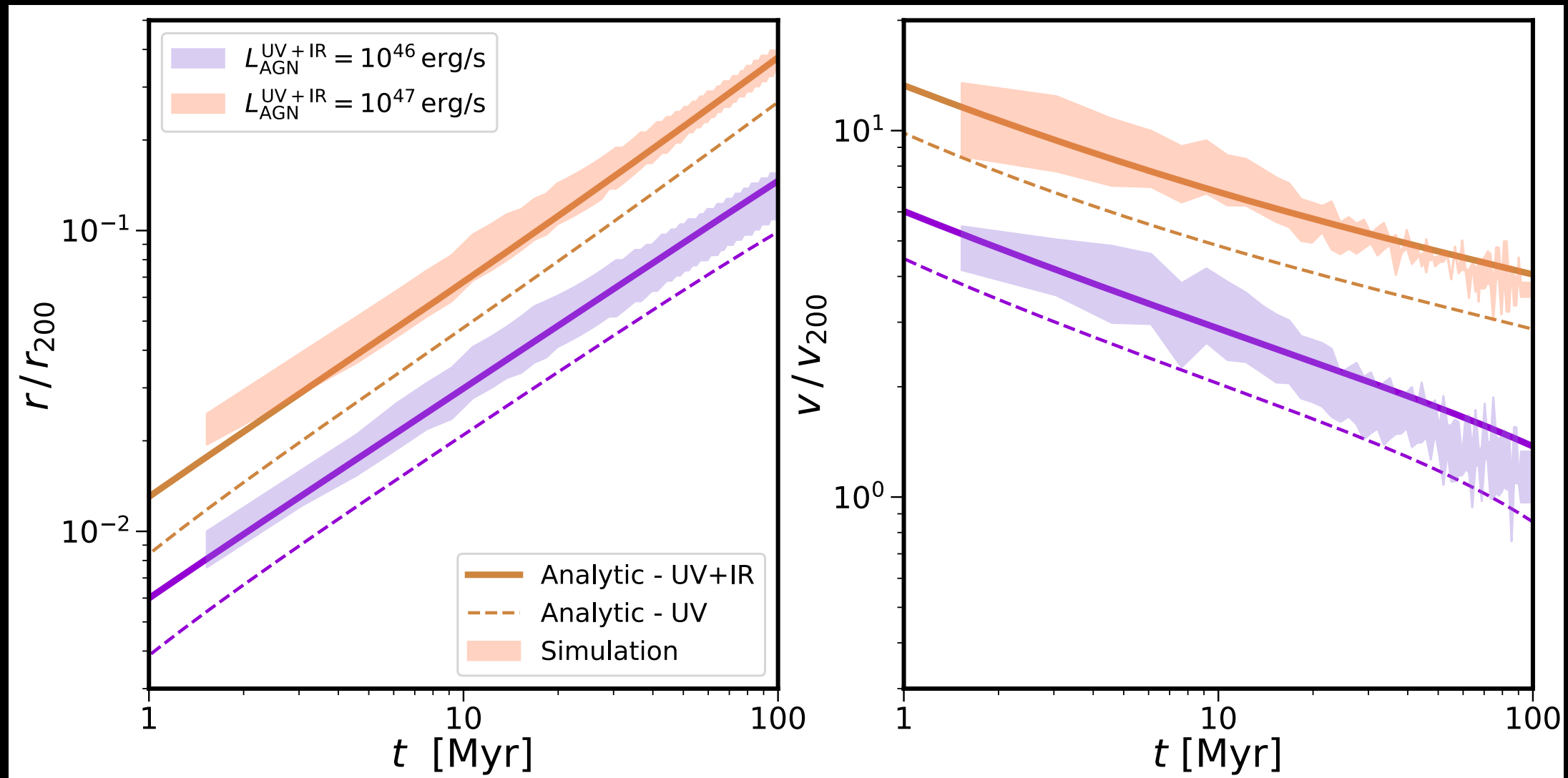


Barnes, RK + in prep.

# Quasar outflows

- Luminous quasars output large amounts of radiation energy into the surrounding media.
- The outflow velocities can reach up to  $0.1c$
- There are generally multiphase and can be very dusty
- The momentum loading factors are of the order of 10 and energy loading of about 5%.
- We investigate the idea that these outflows can be driven by radiation pressure on dust (Dust model - McKinnon+2015)

# Analytic expectations

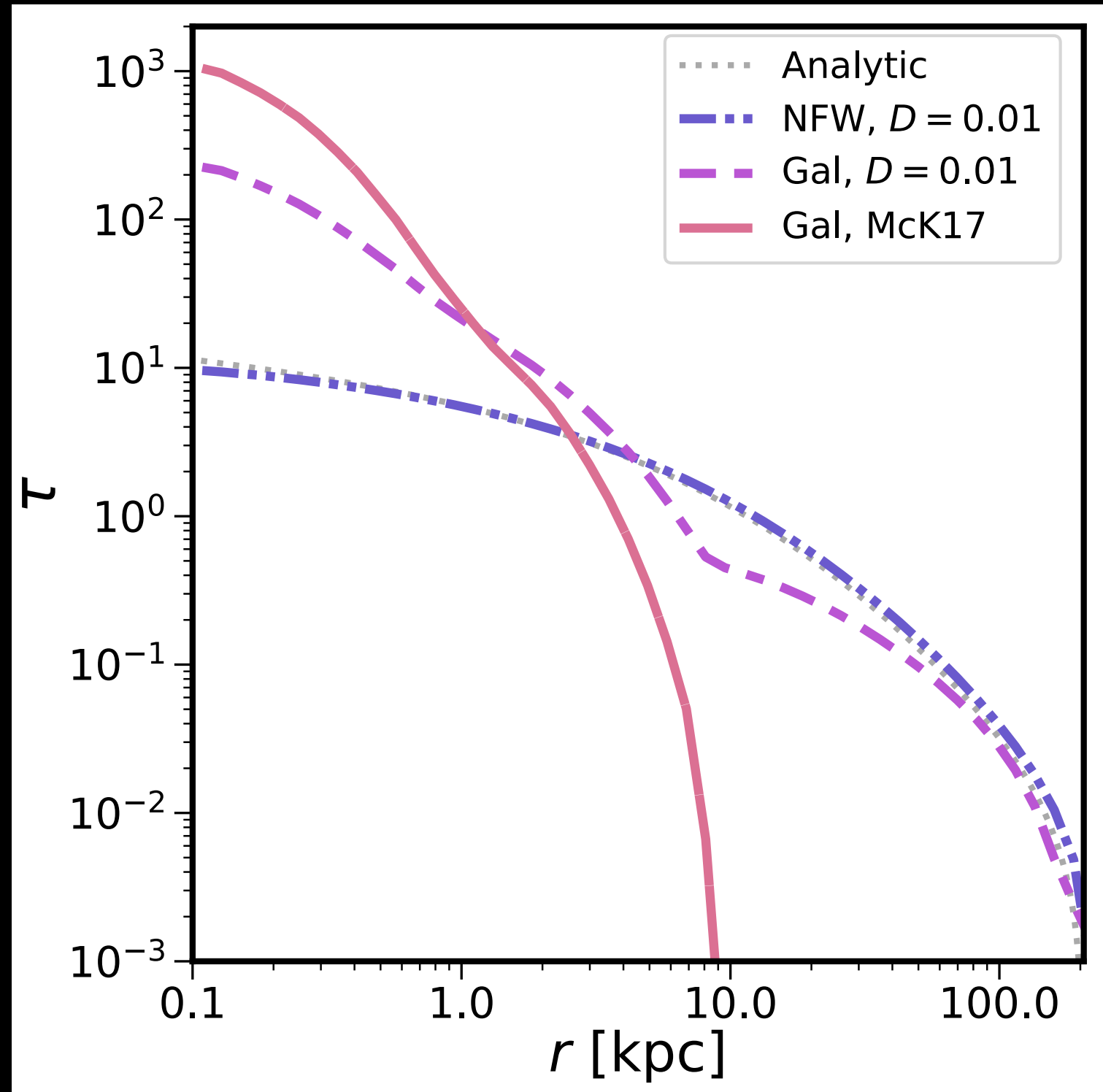


- Inject radiation field isotropically from a BH into a NFW halo with gas in hydrostatic equilibrium.
- Set the dust opacities and look at the outflow properties due to radiation pressure on dust.
- Matches the analytic expectation for both a UV and multi-scattered IR radiation pressure.

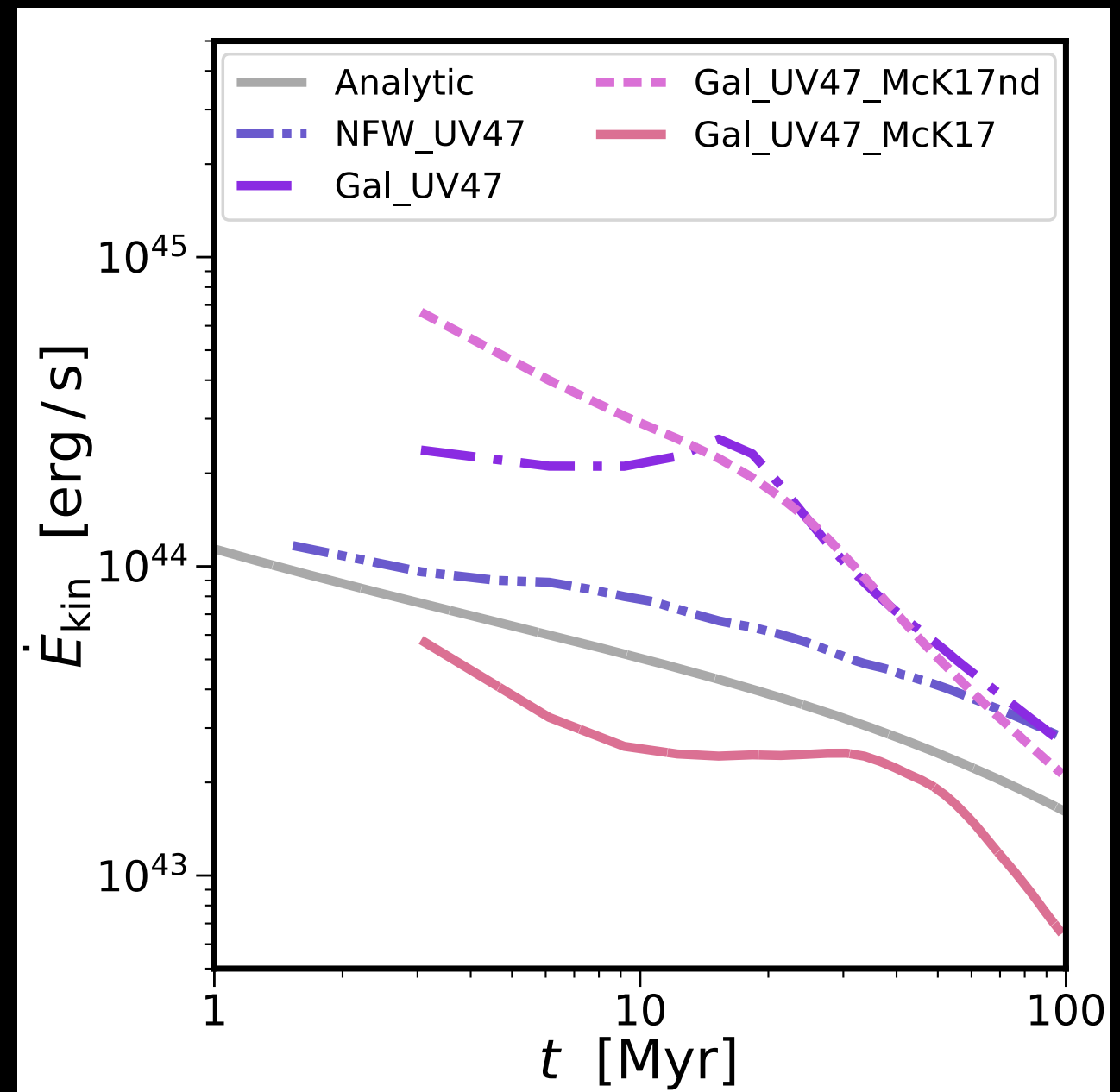
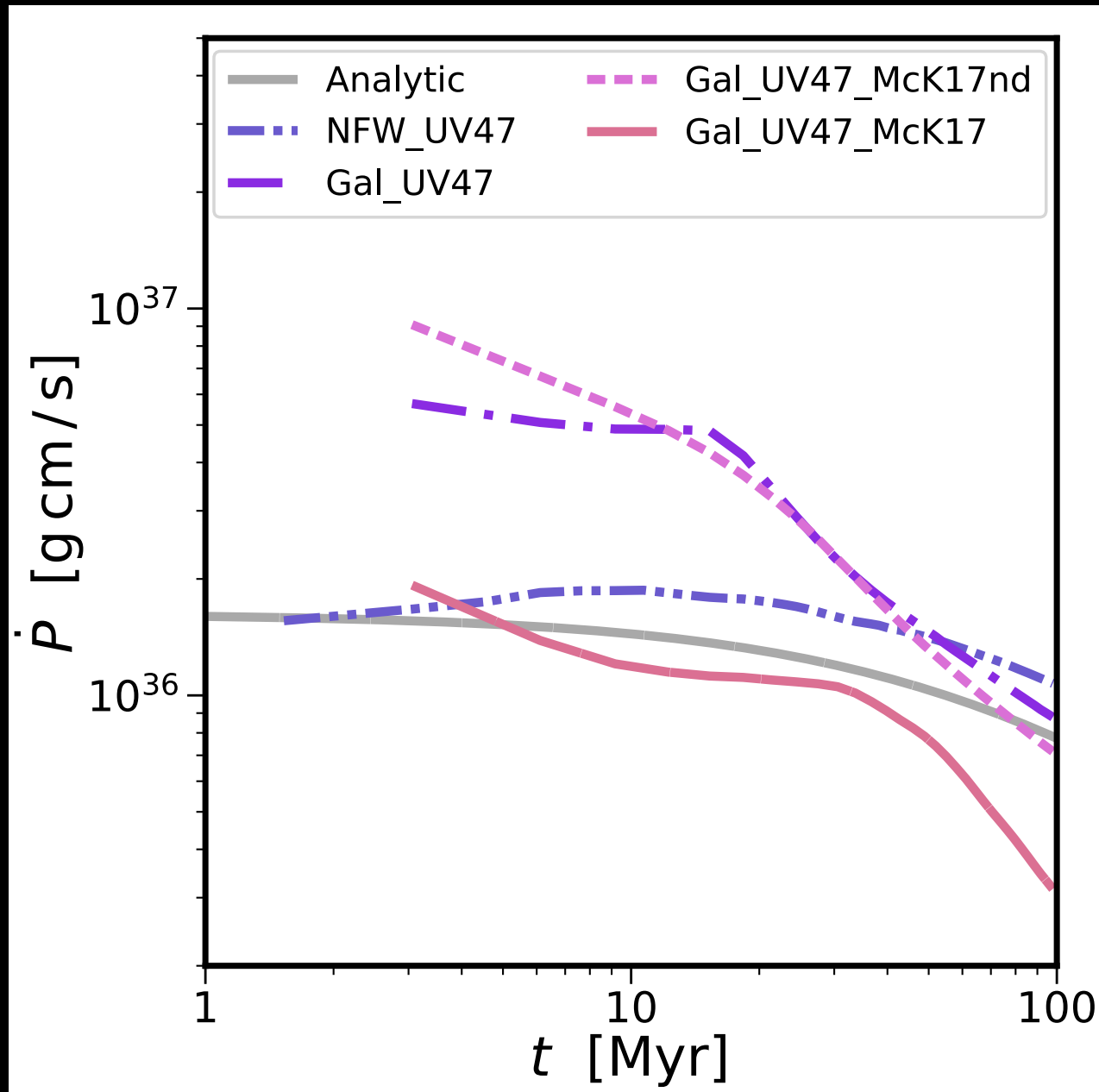


# Increase in optical depth from dust formation

- Gas cooling and disk formation increases the IR optical depth by a factor of 20
- On top of this if dust formation physics is included then the optical is further increased by a factor of 5
- These higher optical depths can drive higher velocity outflows



# Momentum and Energy loading of winds



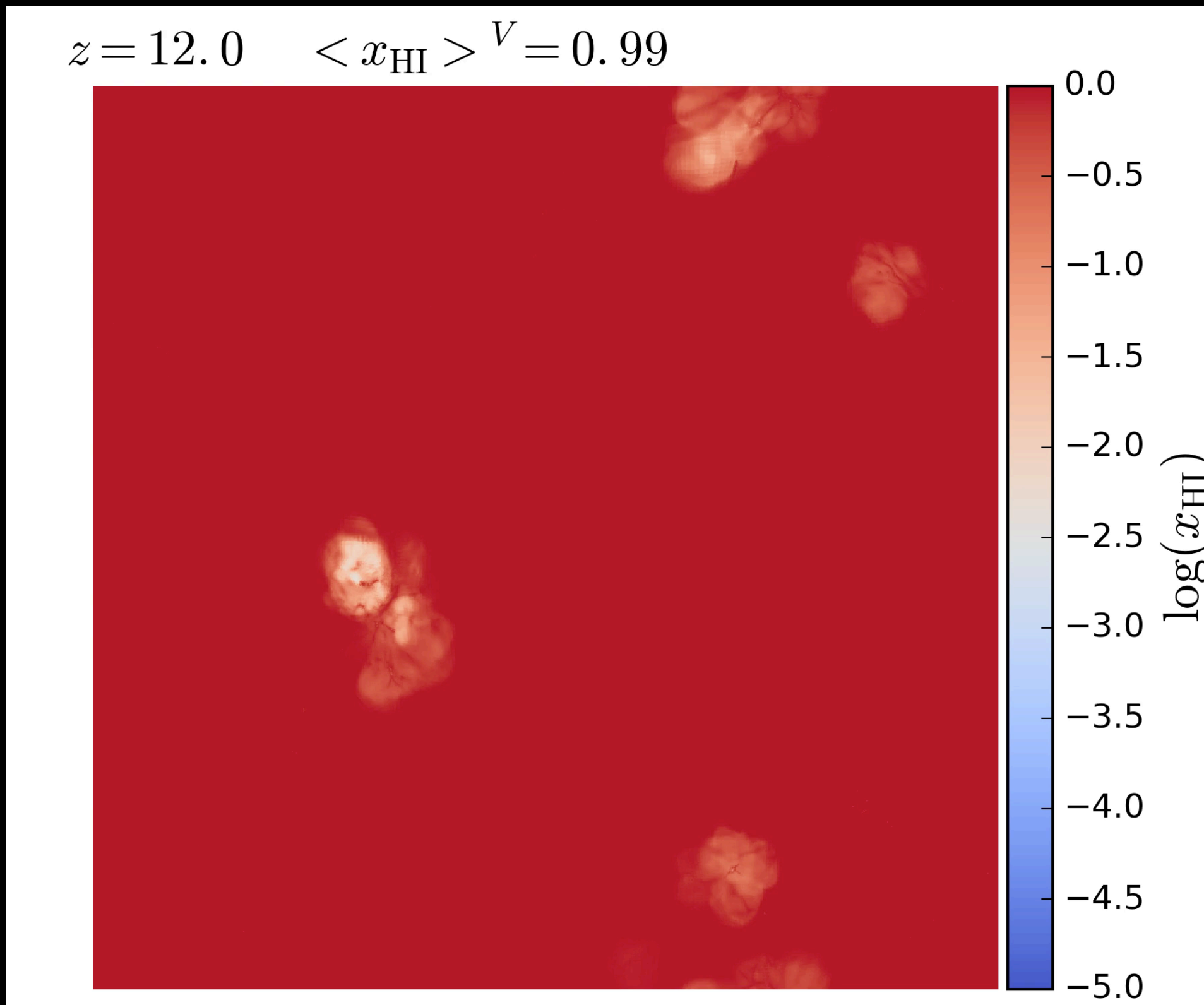
- The higher optical depths increase the mass and energy loading of the winds significantly.
- However, if we turn on thermal sputtering of dust, then the outflow shocks destroy dust and reduces the momentum and energy loading factors

# Conclusion - II

- Radiation pressure on dust can drive high velocity outflows.
- Gas cooling and disk formation enhances the optical depth allowing for larger momentum and energy loading factors.
- However, the outflow shocks will destroy dust due to thermal sputtering reducing the outflow velocities.

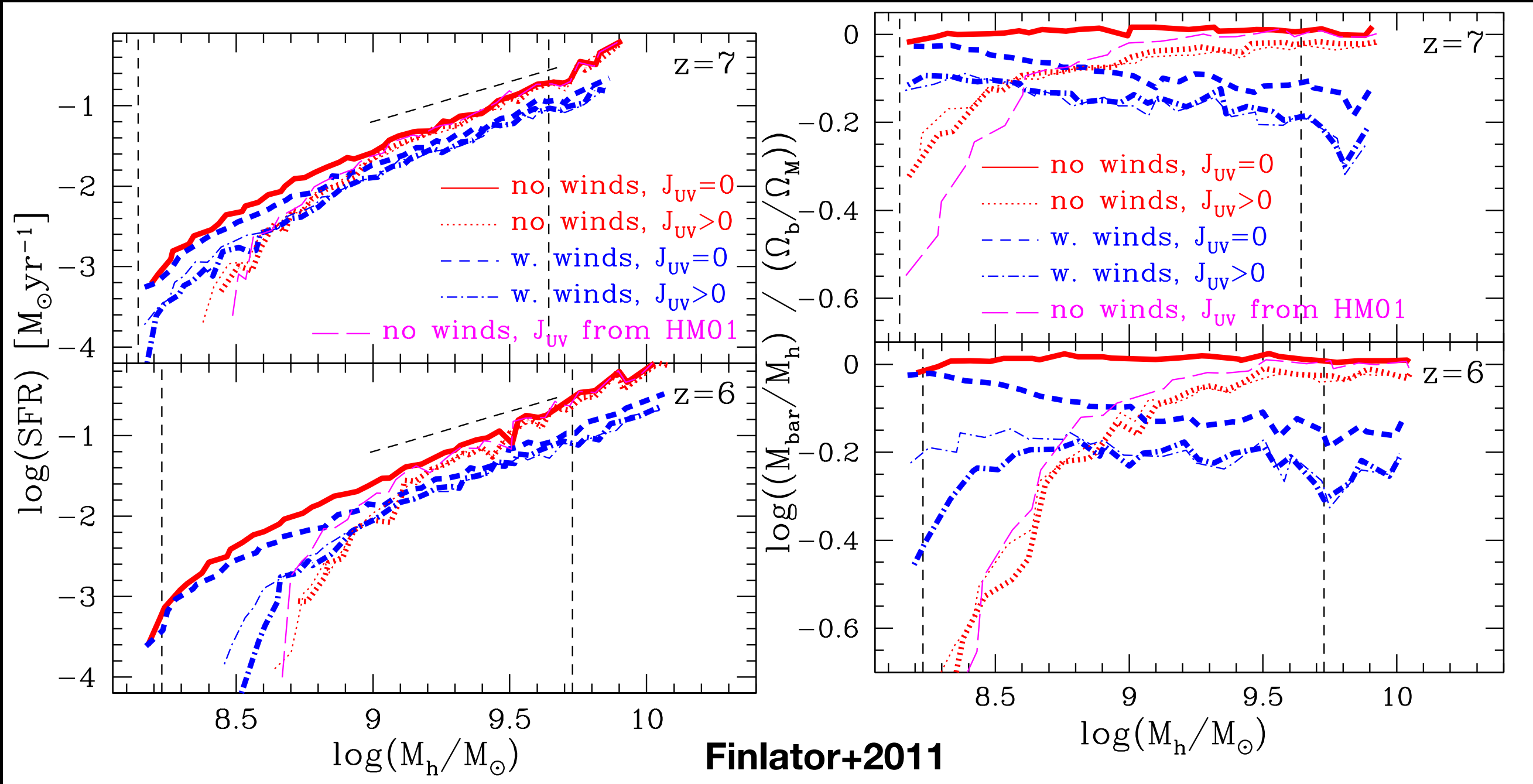


# Investigating the sources that reionise the Universe and its impact on low mass haloes



Wu, RK+ in prep.

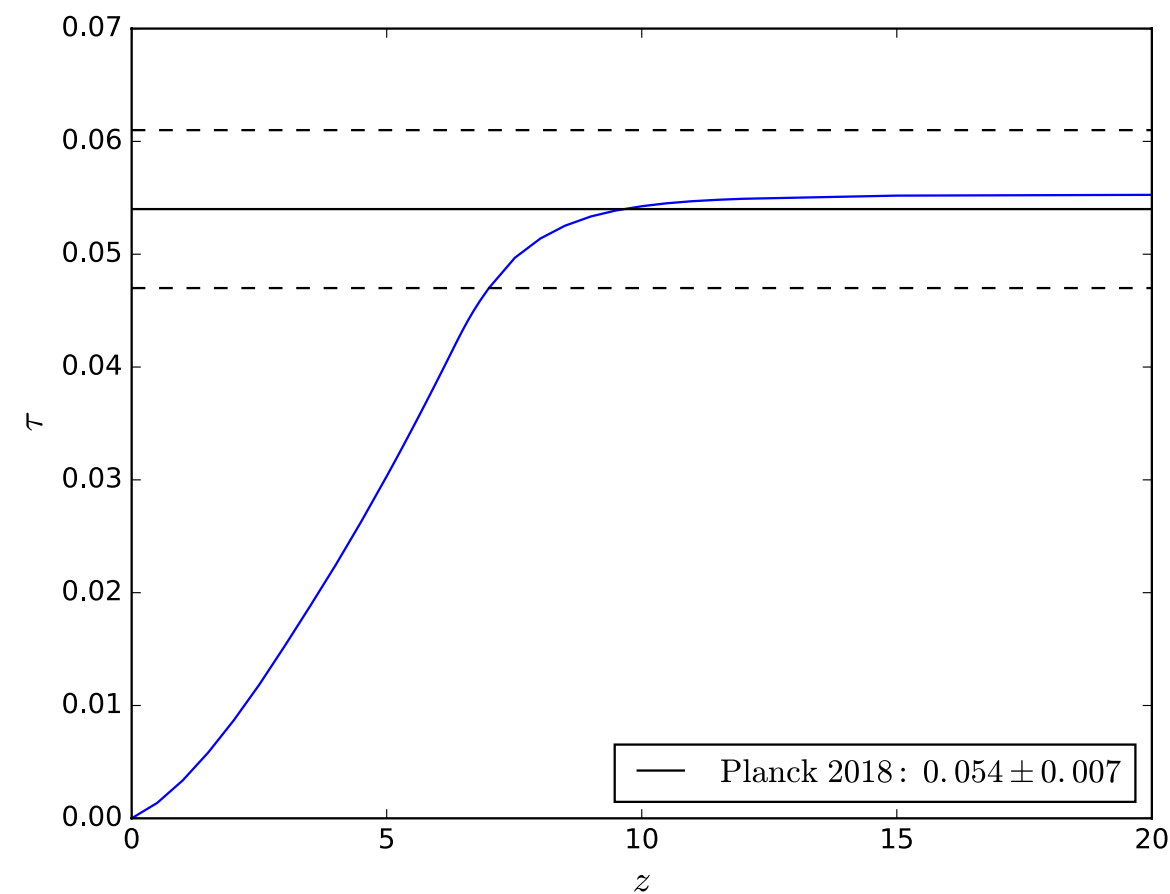
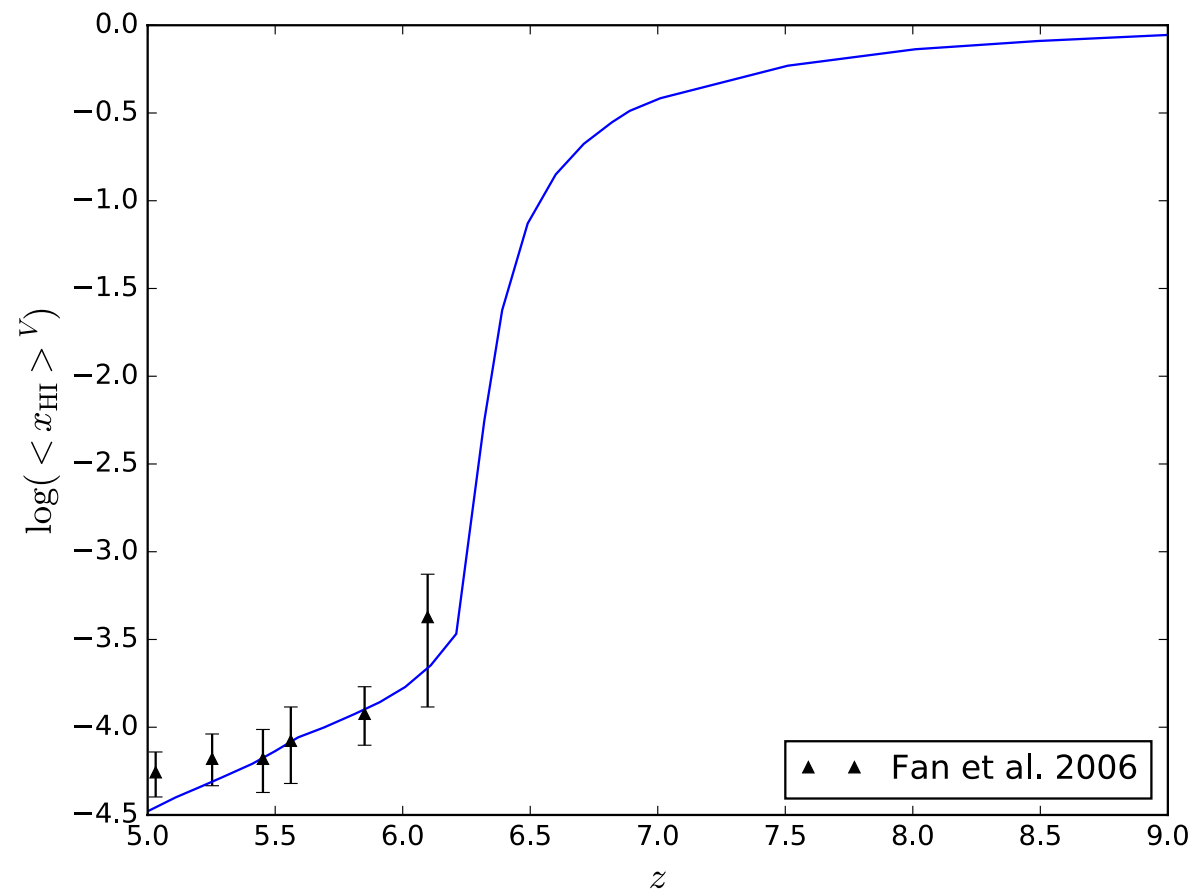
# Reionisation and its impact on low mass haloes



- Finlator+2011 showed that the photo heating during reionisation can reduce the star formation rate in low mass galaxies
- This also reduces the UV luminosity function and the stellar mass functions
- Caveat - These simulations were performed with a weak SFR feedback that do not match constraints at  $z=0$ .

# Reionisation with the Illustris model

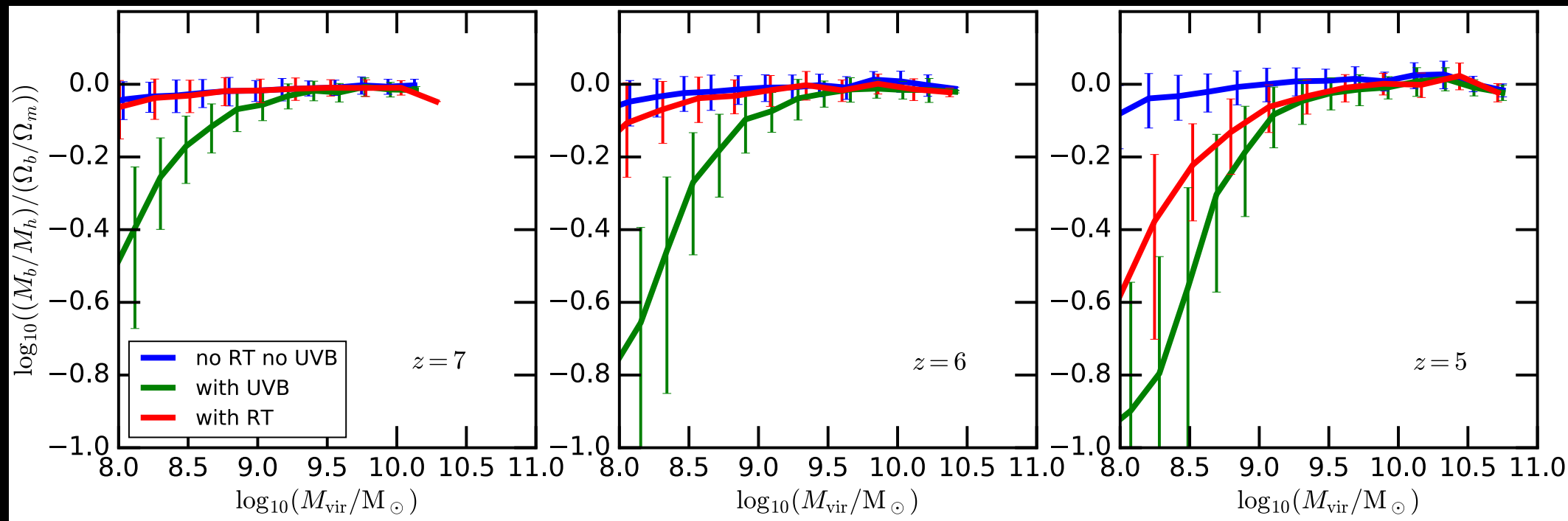
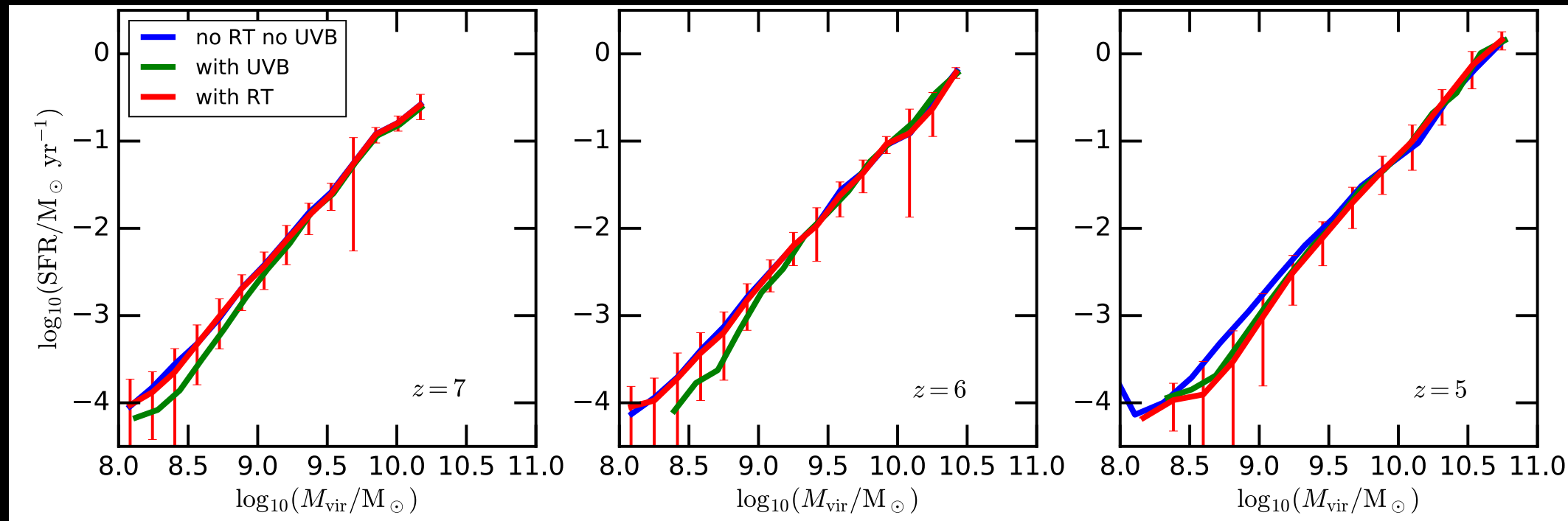
- 3, 6, 12 and 25 Mpc boxes - consider only stellar radiation sources
- 100% escape fraction from stellar nurseries - which is then attenuated by the ISM and CGM
- Illustris model for star formation, feedback and metal enrichment
- Matches the reionsation history and the Thompson scattering optical depth constraints from Planck





# Impact on low mass haloes

- No suppression seen in the our model with radiation fields
- The stellar feedback is already too efficient that the radiation fields do not do much
- The baryon fraction is however suppressed, but not as much if a const UV background is assumed.



# Conclusions -III

- Our simple model with Illustris galaxy formation physics reproduces the reionisation history of the Universe.
- The impact of radiation fields on the SFR of low gas galaxies is not as important as previously thought.
- The stellar feedback is efficient enough to drive outflows and regulate star formation.
- Shows the importance of simulating reionisation in a realistic galaxy formation model.

# Summary

- Implemented an accurate and efficient RHD solver for Arepo.
- Useful to understand the effect of radiation fields in a wide range of environments.
- In low mass galaxies photo heating from massive stars increase the momentum output of the SNe by a factor of 2.
- Radiation pressure on dust unable to drive high velocity outflows if thermal sputtering of dust is included.
- In the presence of realistically strong stellar feedback, reionisation does not affect the star formation rate of low mass galaxies.