

# *constraining luminous blazars*

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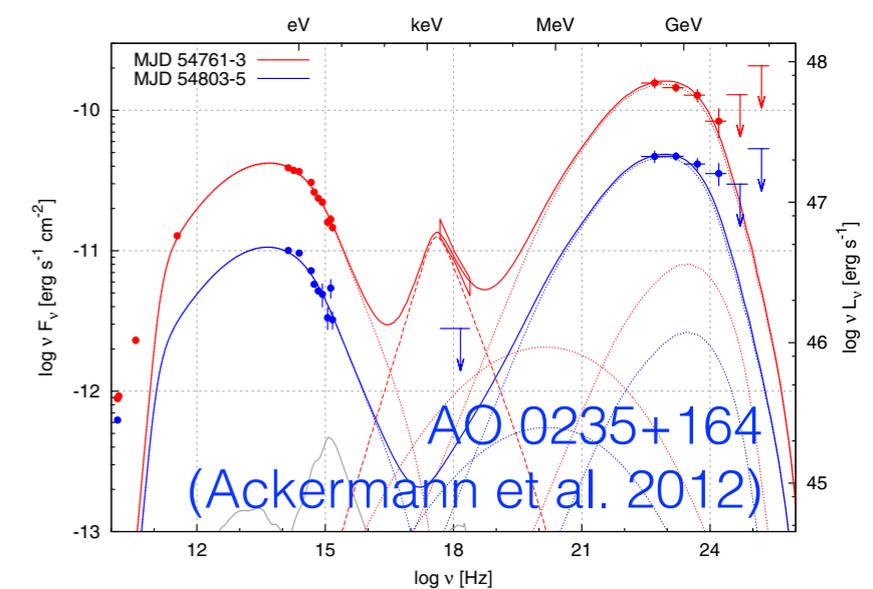
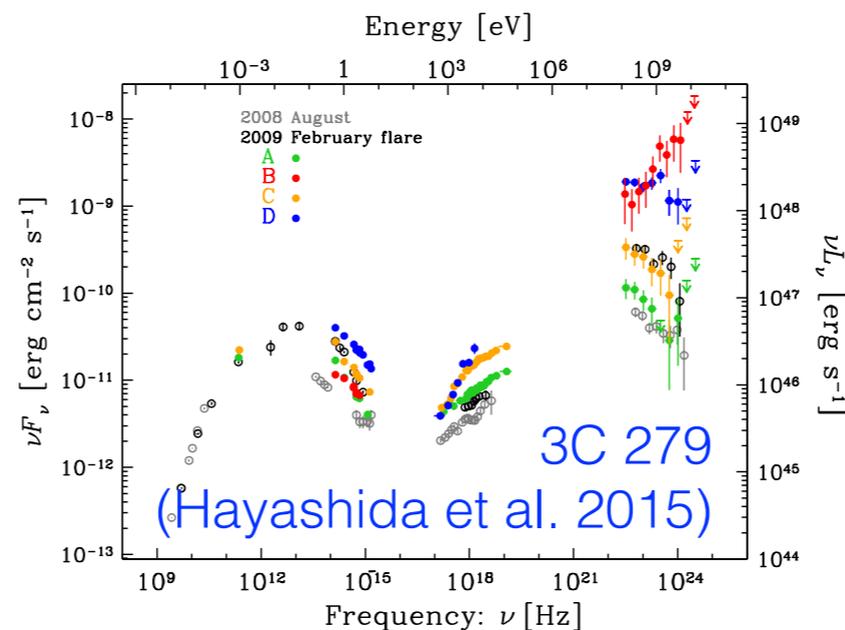
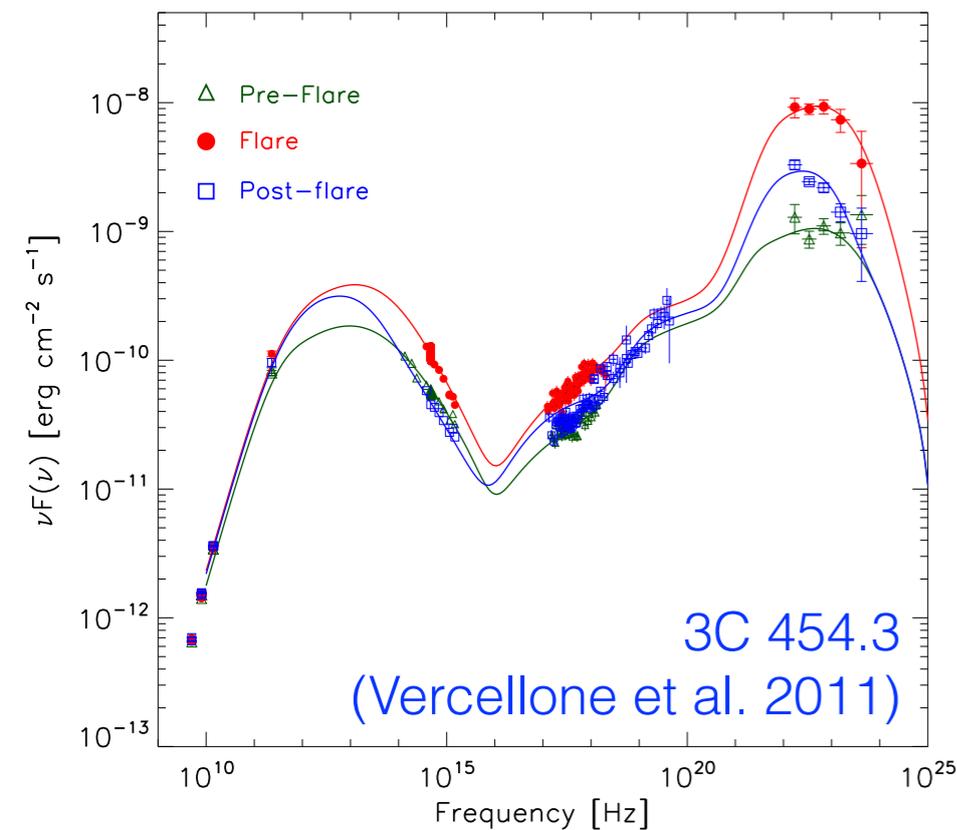
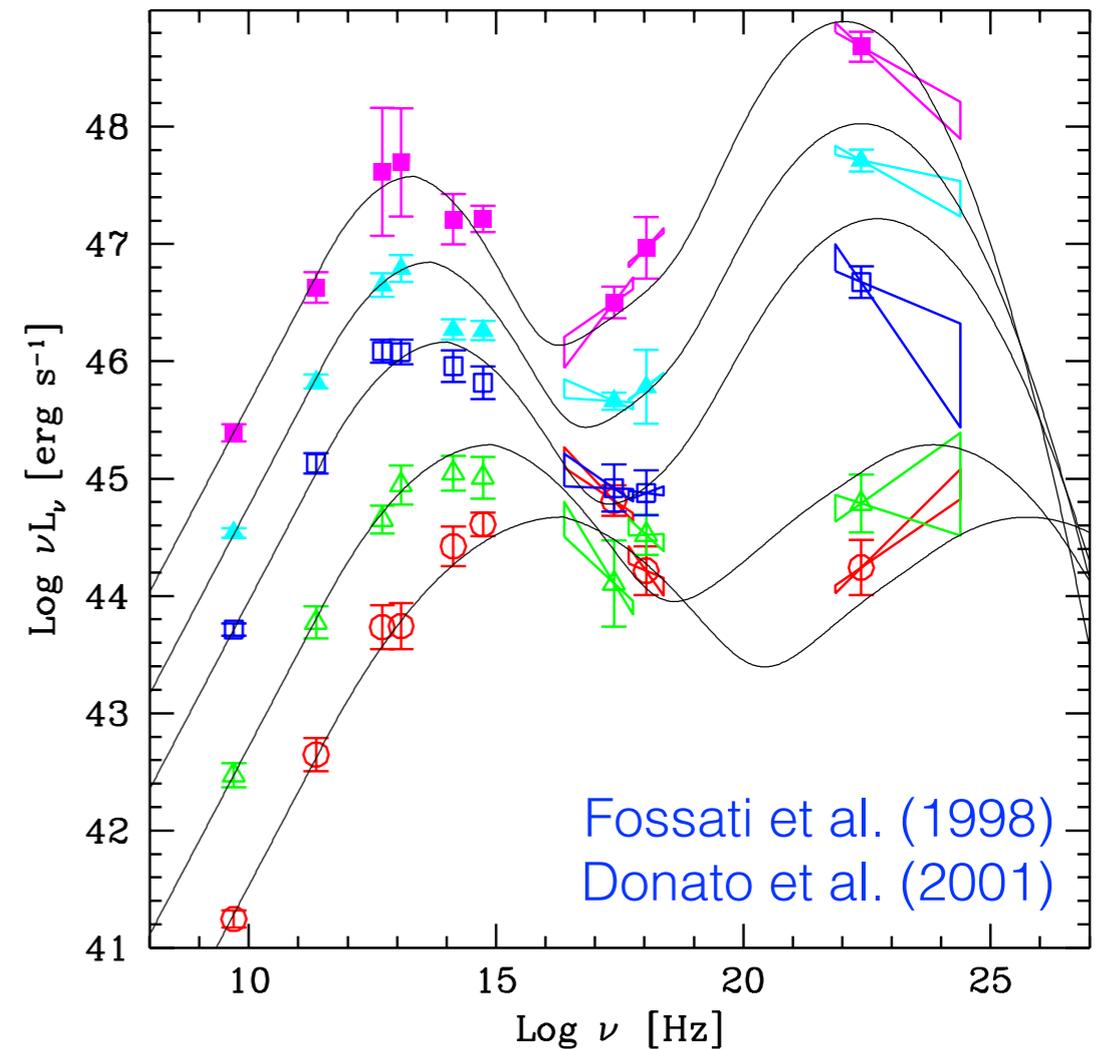
Kraków, 24 April 2015

# references

1. M. Sikora, Ł. Stawarz, R. Moderski, K. Nalewajko & G. Madejski „*Constraining Emission Models of **Luminous Blazar** Sources*”, 2009, ApJ, 704, 38
2. M. Janiak, M. Sikora, K. Nalewajko, R. Moderski & G. M. Madejski „*On the origin of the gamma-ray/optical lags in **luminous blazars***”, 2012, ApJ, 760, 129
3. M. Sikora, M. Janiak, K. Nalewajko, G. M. Madejski & R. Moderski „*On the origin of X-ray spectra in **luminous blazars***”, 2013, ApJ, 779, 68
4. K. Nalewajko, M. C. Begelman & M. Sikora „*Constraining the Location of Gamma-Ray Flares in **Luminous Blazars***”, 2014, ApJ, 789, 161
5. K. Nalewajko, M. Sikora & M. C. Begelman „*Reconciling models of **luminous blazars** with magnetic fluxes determined by radio core shift measurements*”, 2014, ApJ, 796, L5
6. M. Janiak, M. Sikora & R. Moderski “*Magnetization of jets in **luminous blazars***”, 2015, MNRAS, 449, 431 (poster #30)

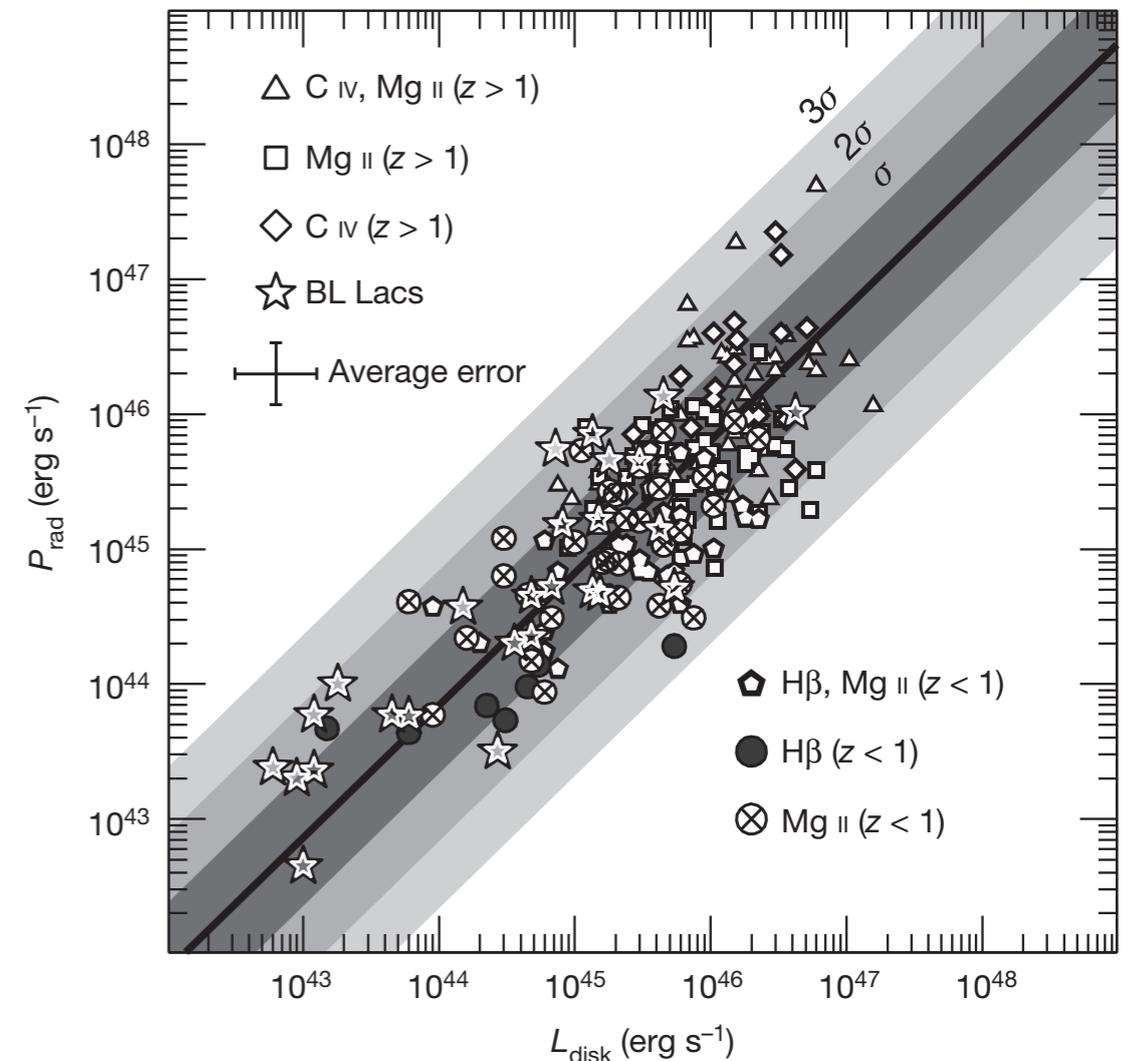
# what are luminous blazars?

- flat-spectrum radio quasars (FSRQ)
- low-peaked BL Lac objects (LBLs)
- gamma-ray dominated - observational fact
- external Compton dominated - theoretical paradigm



# why do we care?

- because they are luminous!  
( $10^{48-50}$  erg/s)
- very tight energetic requirements
  - ✓ high dissipation efficiency
  - ✓ high radiative efficiency
  - ✓ high fraction of the jet volume
- particularly useful in constraining relativistic particle acceleration



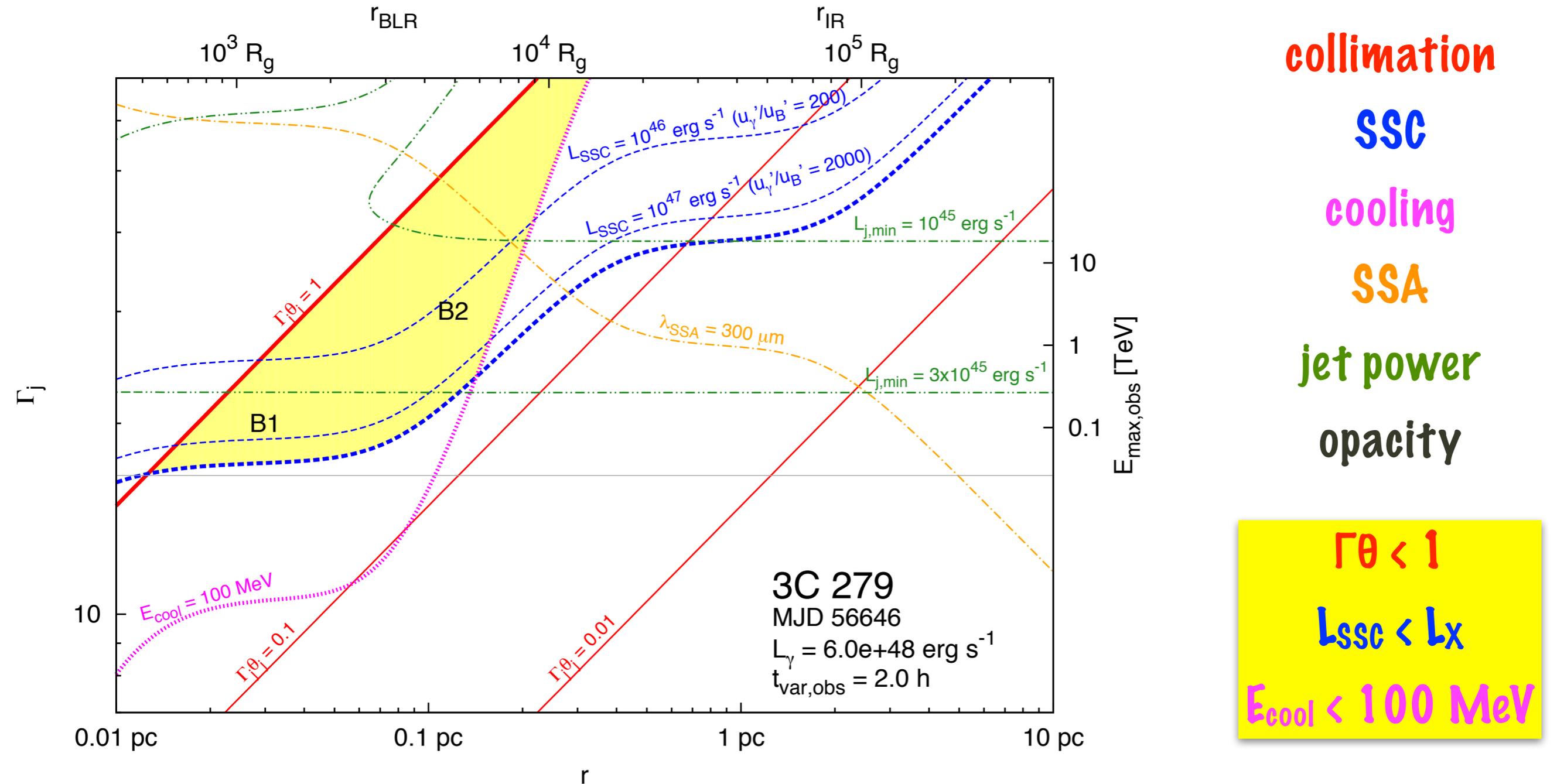
Ghisellini et al. (2014)

# current debates

- emission mechanism: **leptonic vs. hadronic**
  - ✓ leptonic models are 100 times more efficient (Sikora et al. 2009)
  - ✓ hadronic models require accretion paradigm change (Zdziarski & Böttcher 2015), but  $1e49$  erg/s jet powers may violate observational evidence
  - ✓ TeV blazars may be different (Essey & Kusenko 2013, Cerruti et al. 2014)
- dissipation mechanism: **shocks vs. reconnection**
  - ✓ shock-in-jet models work well for multifrequency radio flares (F-GAMMA)
  - ✓ reconnection works for a broader range of jet parameters (Sironi, Petropoulou & Giannios 2015)
- location of the blazar zone:  **$< 0.1$  pc vs.  $\sim 1$  pc vs.  $> 10$  pc** (KN, Begelman & Sikora 2014)
- connection of gamma rays with radio/mm (BU, MOJAVE, F-GAMMA, OVRO, EVN, TANAMI, CARMA et al.)
- origin of (hard) X-rays (Sikora et al. 2013)

# parameter space of $\gamma$ -ray emitting regions

beyond SED modeling to understand parameter degeneracies



flaring blazars we typically find:

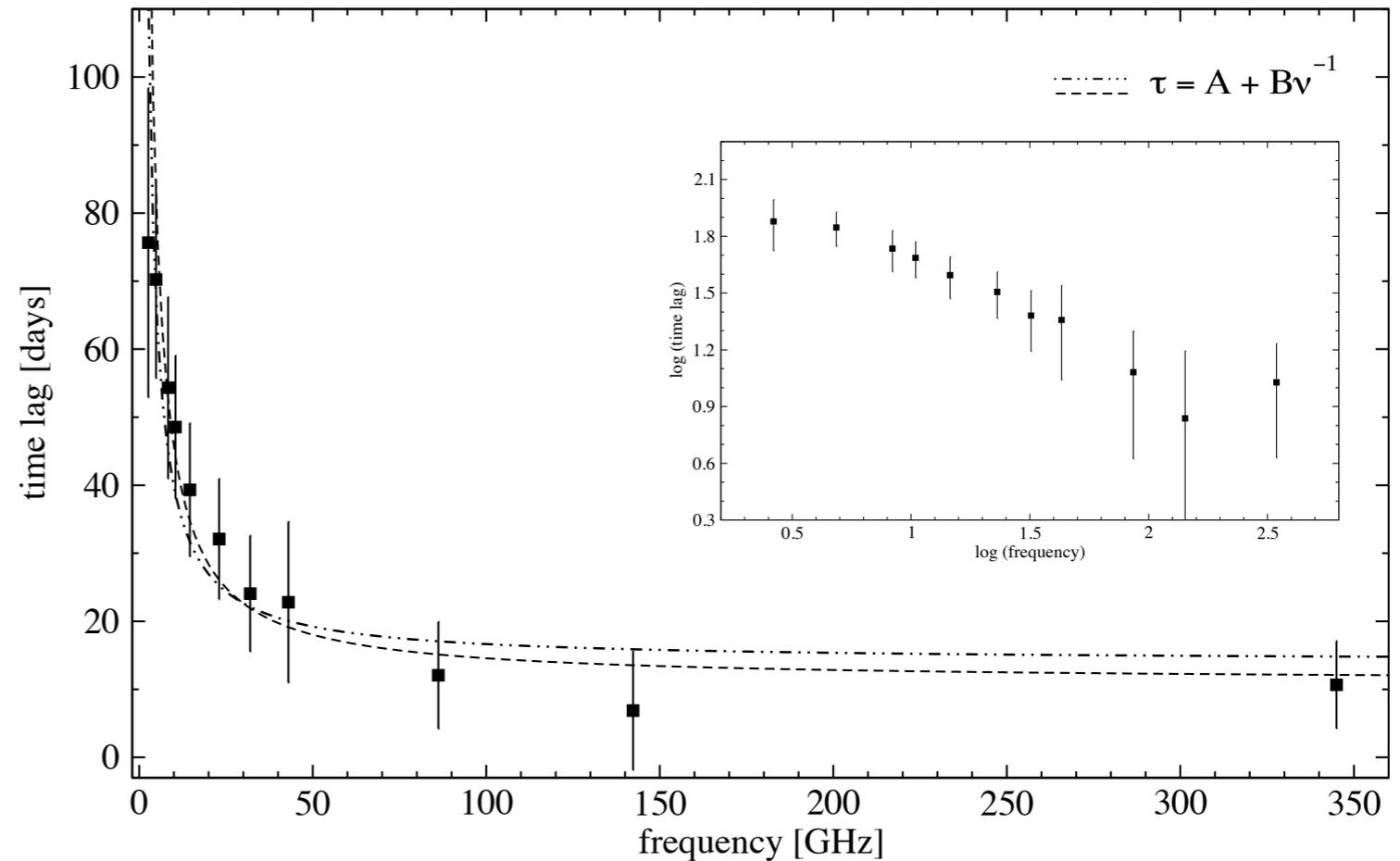
KN, Begelman & Sikora (2014)

Hayashida et al. (2015)

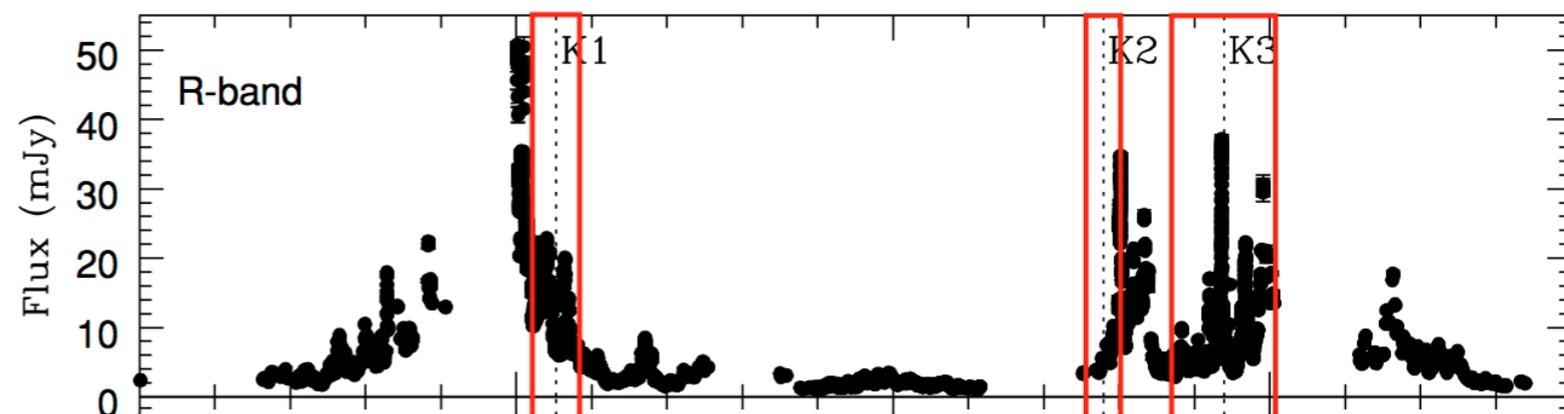
$r \sim 0.1-1 \text{ pc}$ ,  $\Gamma > 20$ ,  $L_B/L_e \sim 0.01-10$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{SSA}} \sim 0.2-1 \text{ mm}$

# *gamma rays vs. radio/mm*

- distance scales of order 10 pc often cited from gamma-radio/mm studies (but also suggested in [Sikora et al. 2008, 2013](#))
- radio/mm flares are correlated but delayed wrt. gamma-ray flares ([Pushkarev et al. 2010](#), [Max-Moerbeck et al. 2014](#))
  - ✓ ~10 pc at 11 cm
  - ✓ ~5 pc at 2 cm
  - ✓ ~1 pc at 2 mm([Fuhrmann et al. 2014](#))
- connection between gamma-ray flares and superluminal radio knots
  - ✓ 37 +/- 21 days at 7 mm([S. Jorstad talk yesterday](#))

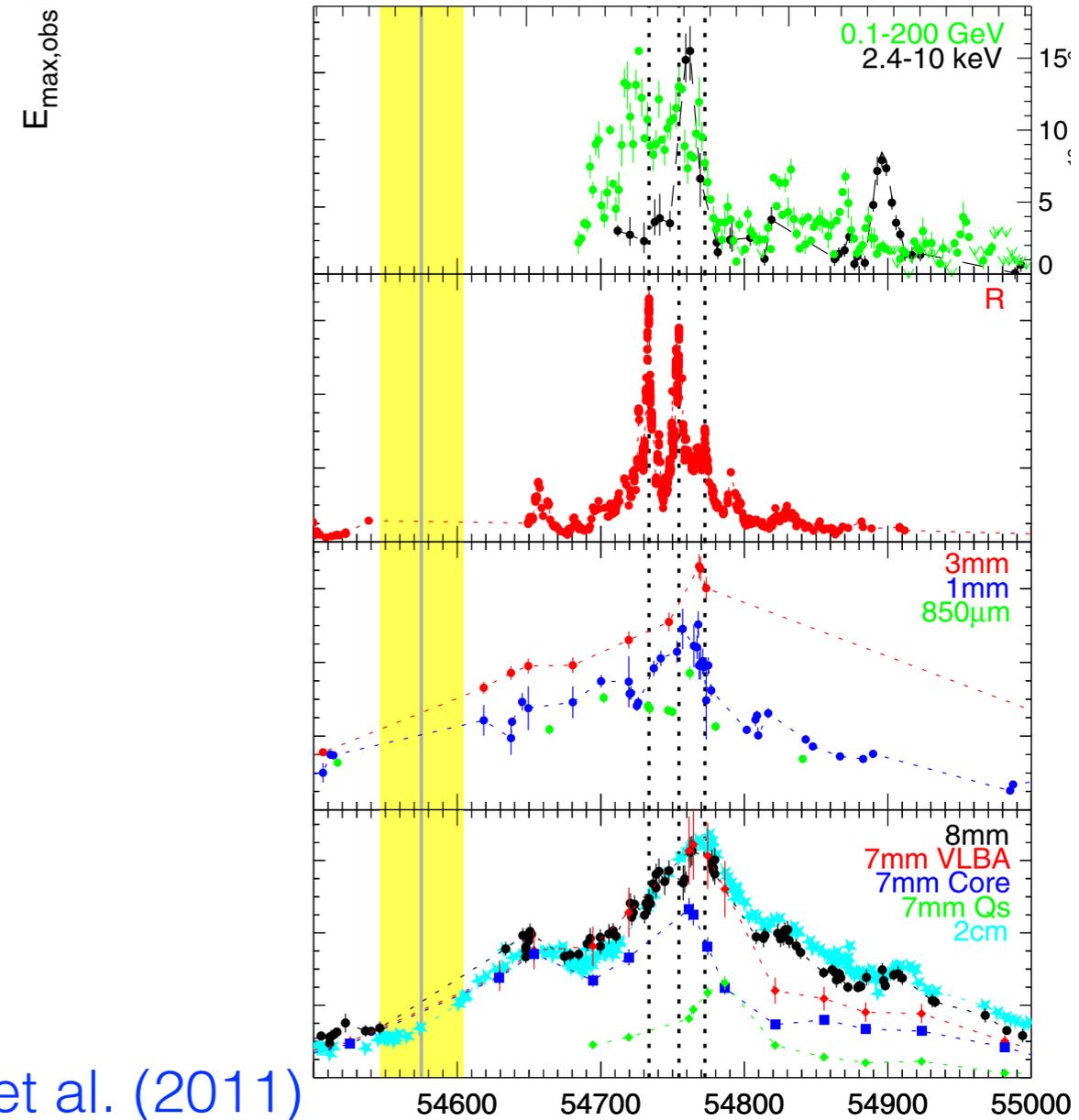
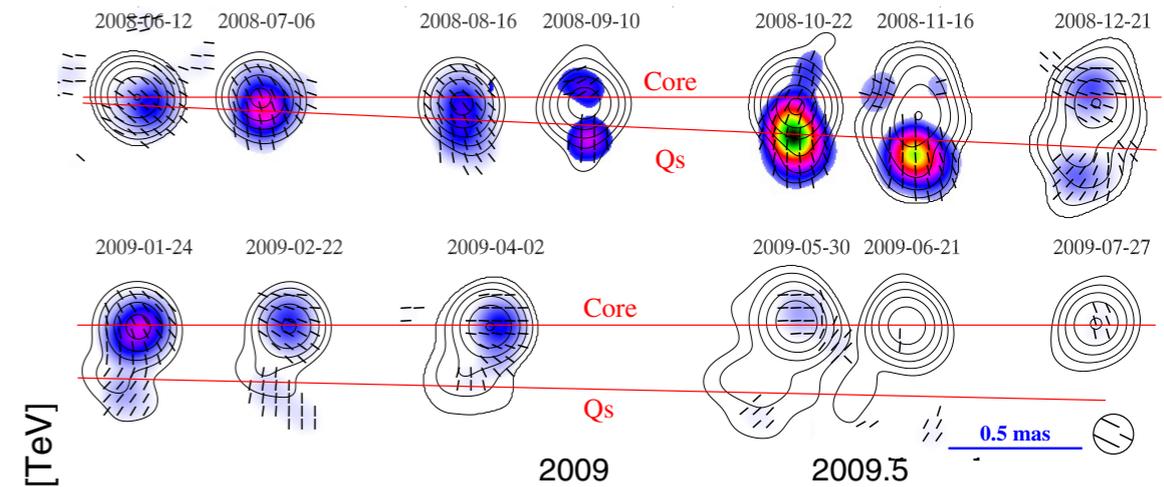
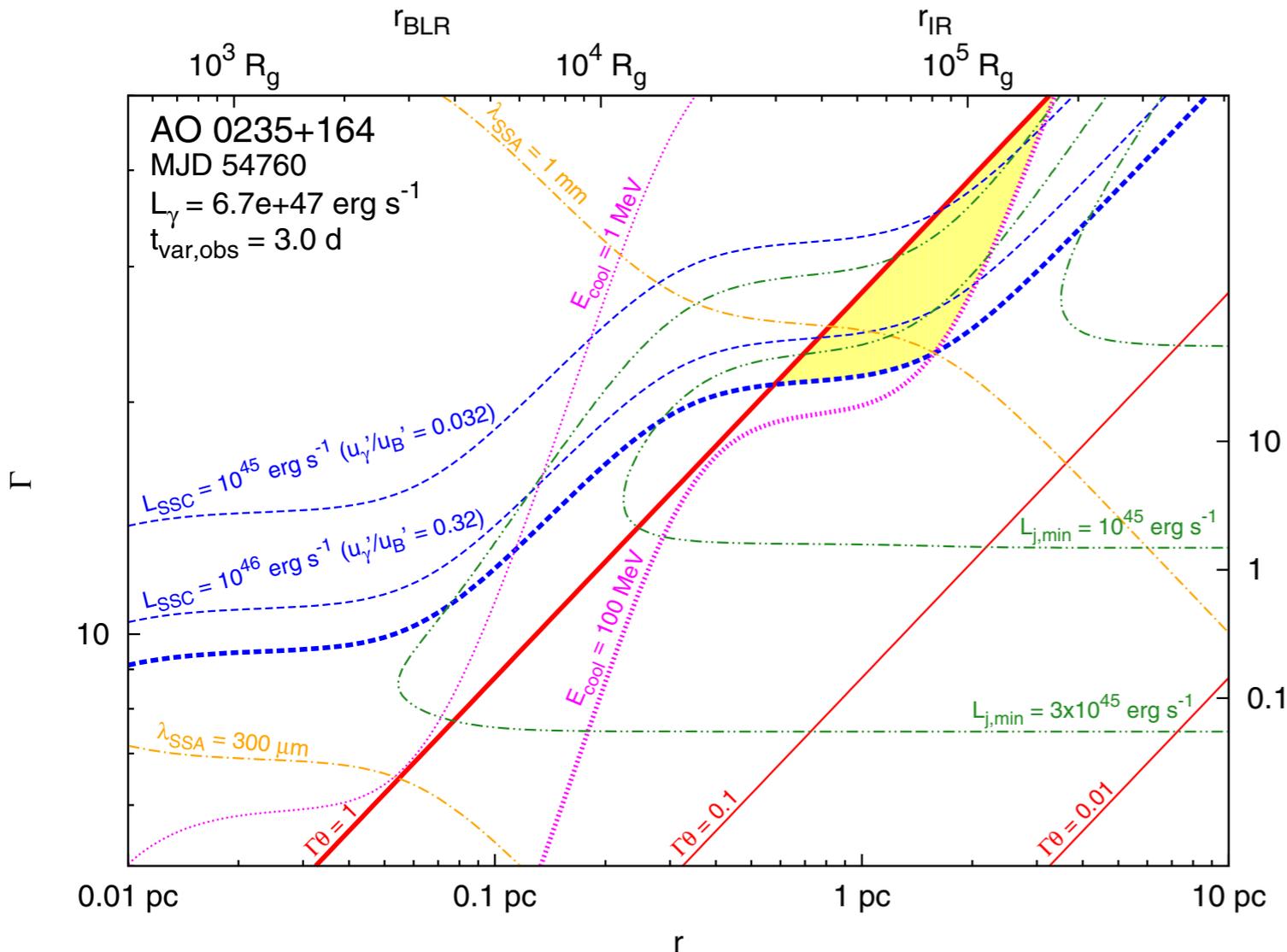


[Fuhrmann et al. \(2014\)](#)



[3C 454.3 \(Jorstad et al. 2010\)](#)

# the case of AO 0235+164

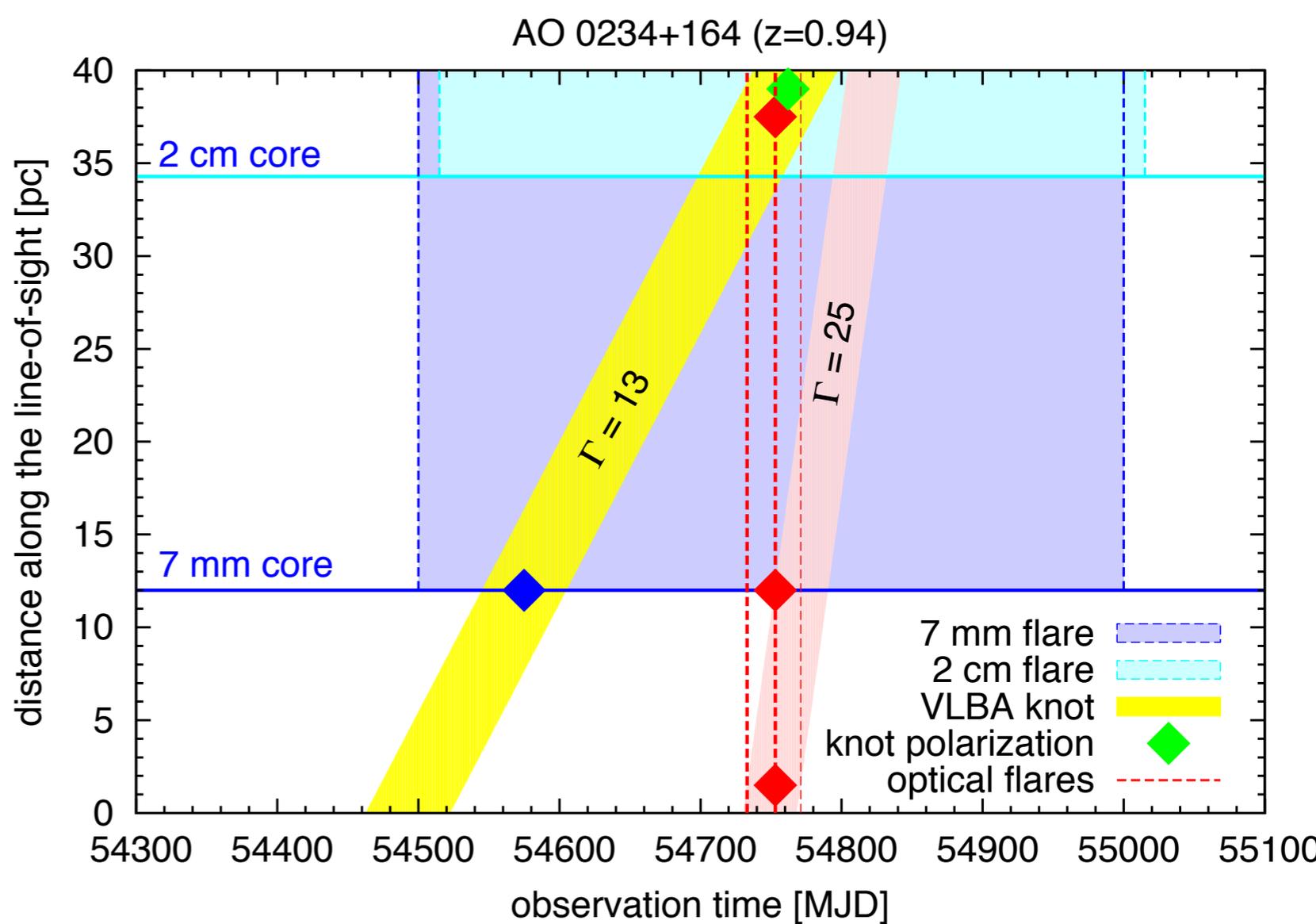
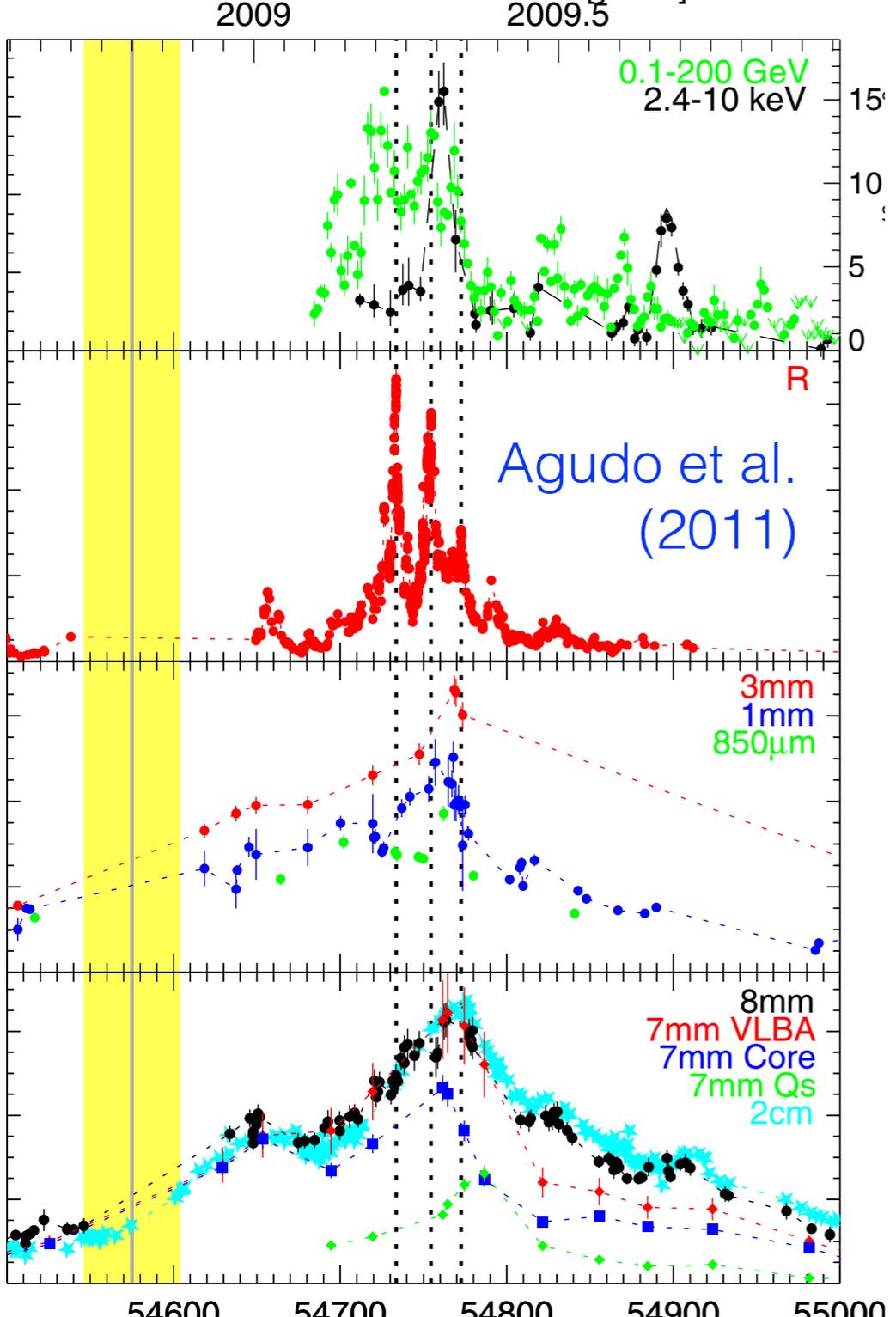


based on Ackermann et al. (2012)  
KN, Begelman & Sikora (2014)

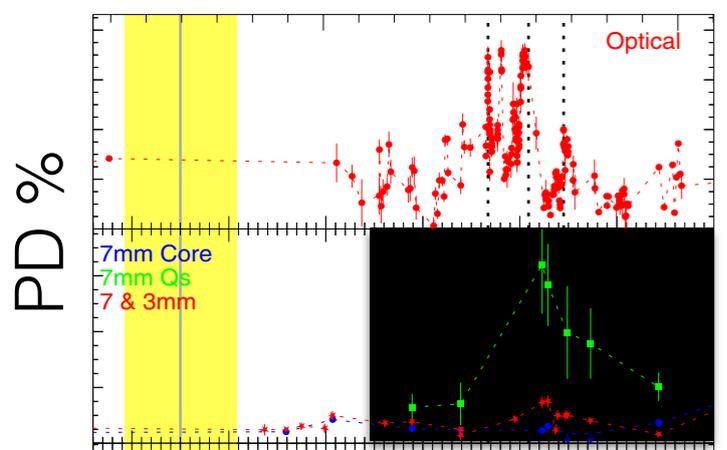
- gamma-ray  $t_{\text{var}} \sim 3 \text{ days}$   
 $r \sim 1 \text{ pc}, \Gamma > 20, 1 \text{ mm photosphere}$
- 7 mm  $t_{\text{var}} \sim 80 \text{ days}$   
 $r \sim 7 \text{ pc}, \beta_{\text{app}} \sim 13$

Agudo et al. (2011)

# the case of AO 0235+164



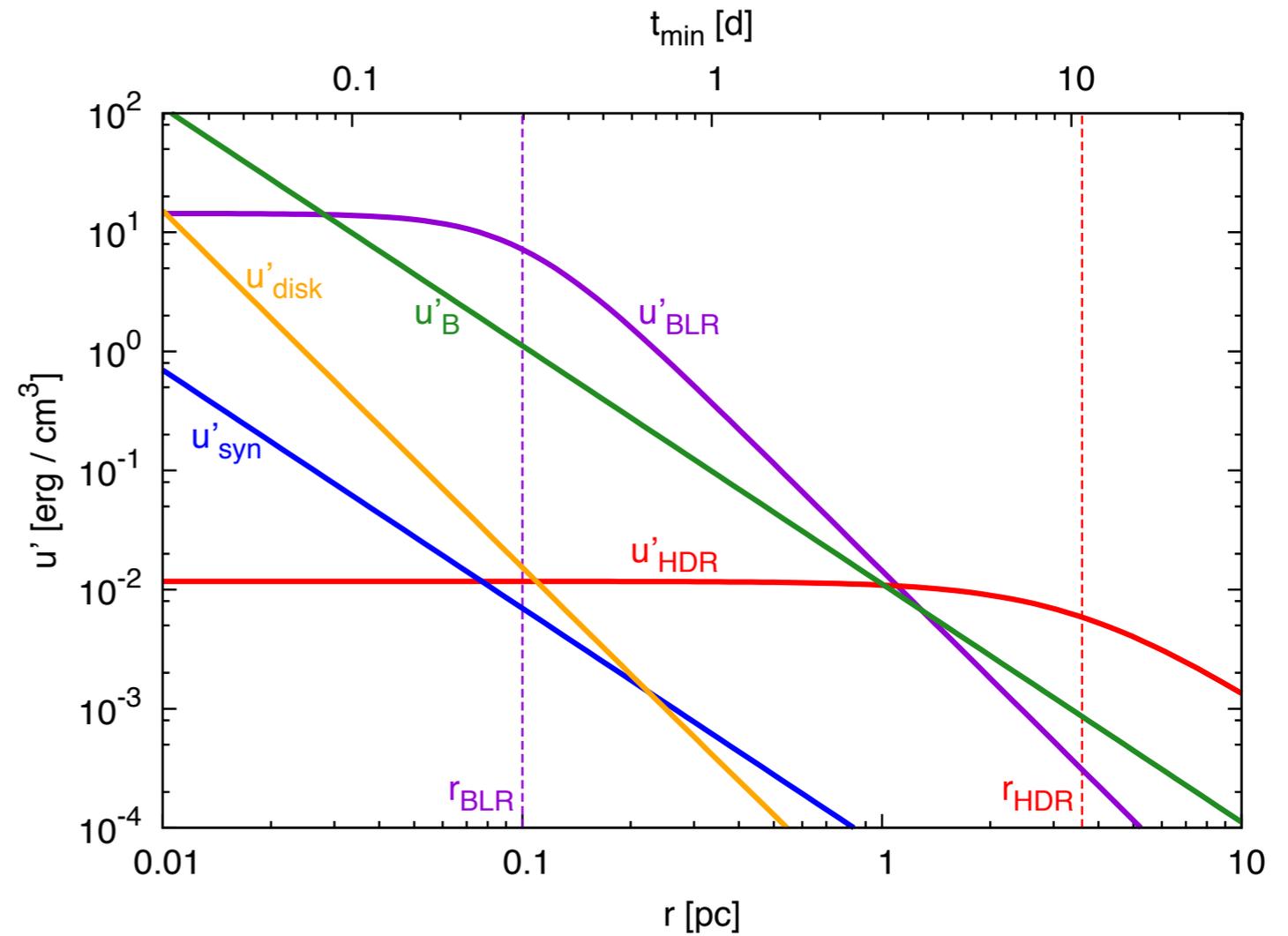
- tiny relative velocity between the jet and the photons:  $(10 \text{ pc}) / c\Gamma^2 \sim 30 \text{ days}$
- polarization event in 7 mm knot with 1-pc optical/ $\gamma$ -ray flare requires  $\Gamma \sim 40$
- prolonged cm/mm flare: jet power increase  
updated from KN, Begelman & Sikora (2014)



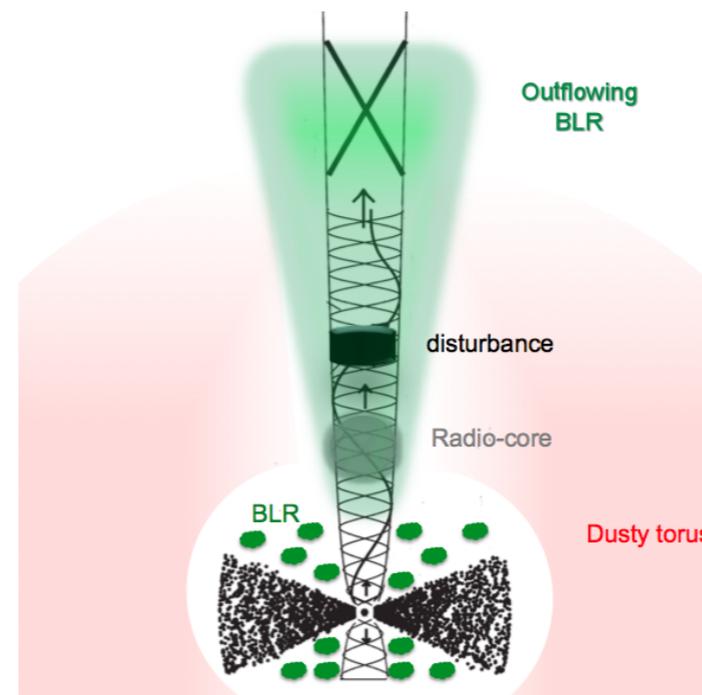
# *external radiation fields*

- energy densities of magnetic field and radiation fields, and hence radiative efficiency decrease with distance
- additional radiation fields at large distances:

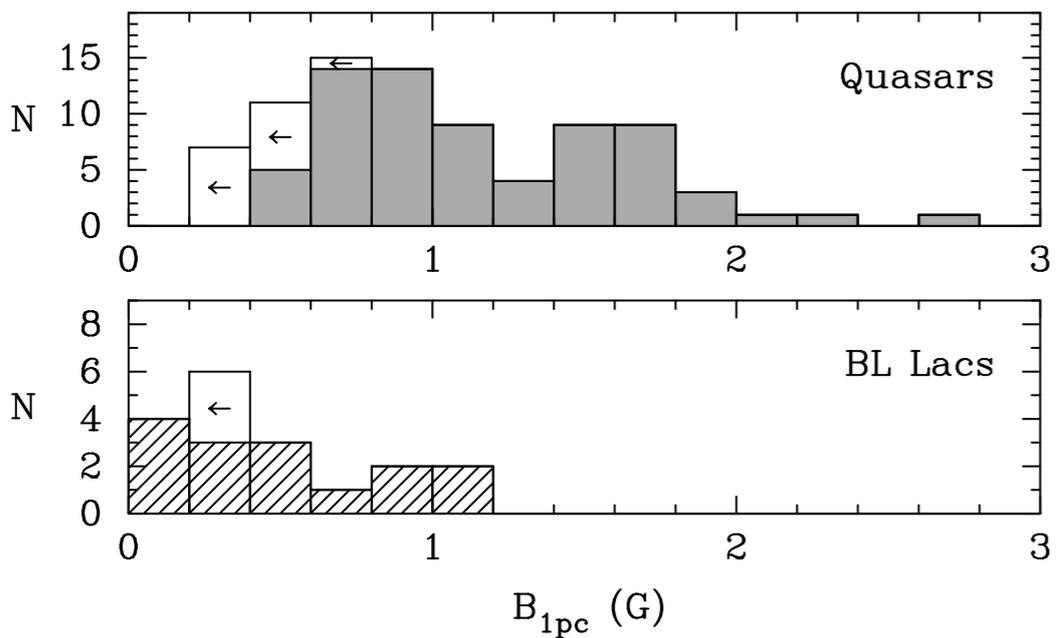
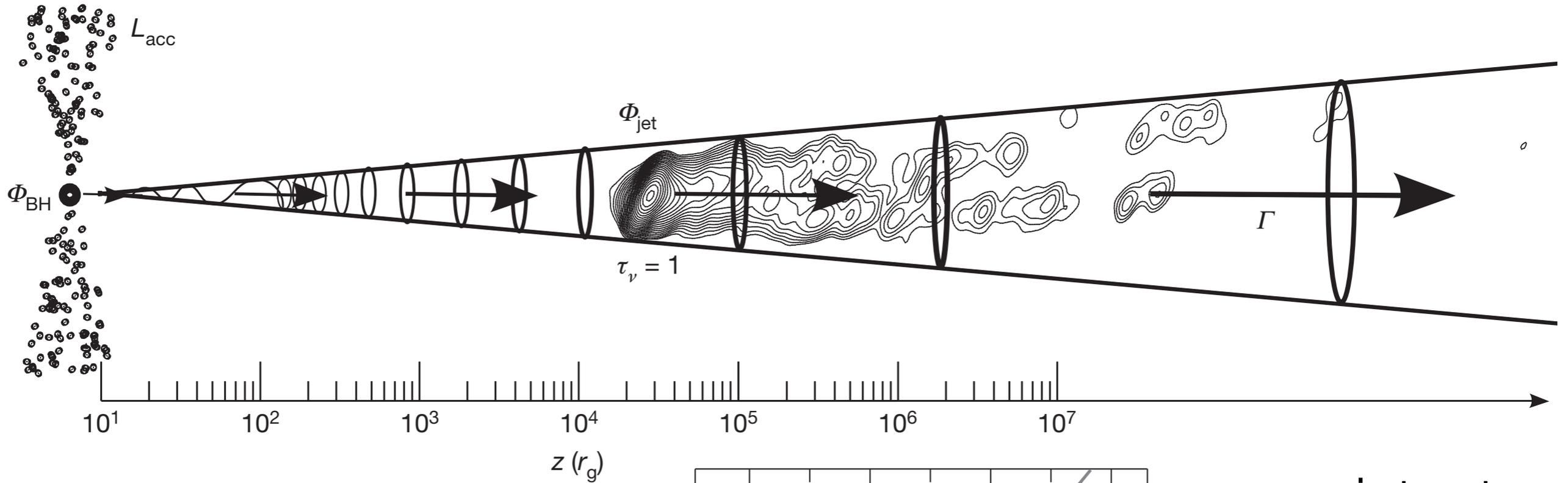
- ✓ Mach disk  
(A. Marscher)
- ✓ extended BLR  
(J. Leon-Tavares)



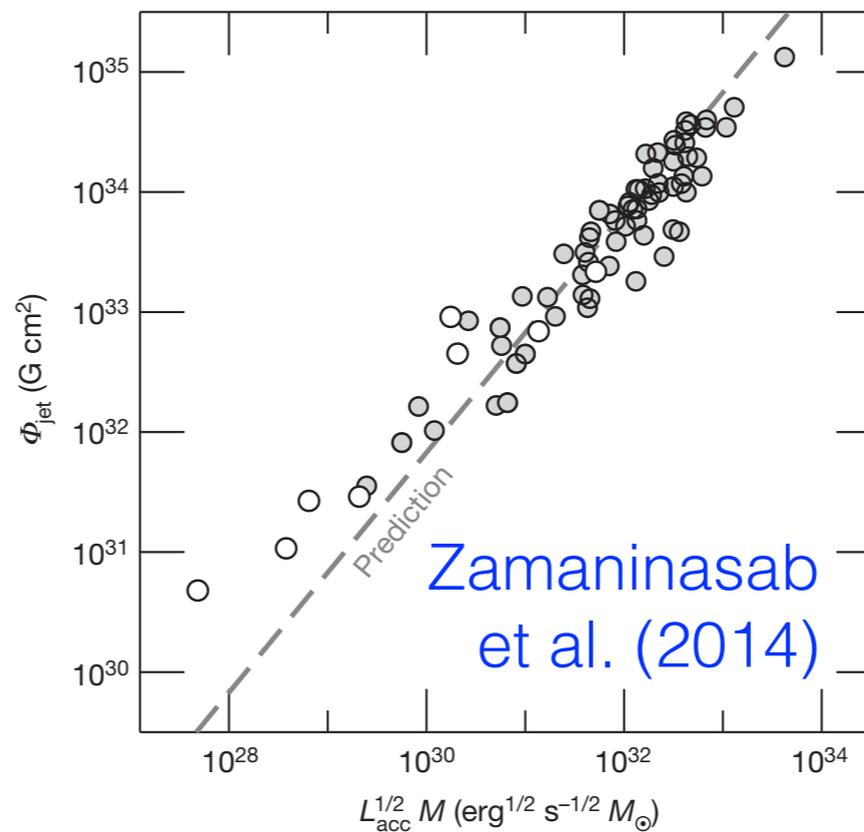
Sikora et al. (2009)



# jet magnetic fields from core-shift measurements



Pushkarev et al. (2012)



- consistent with MADs
- consistent with synchrotron luminosities?

# Compton dominance

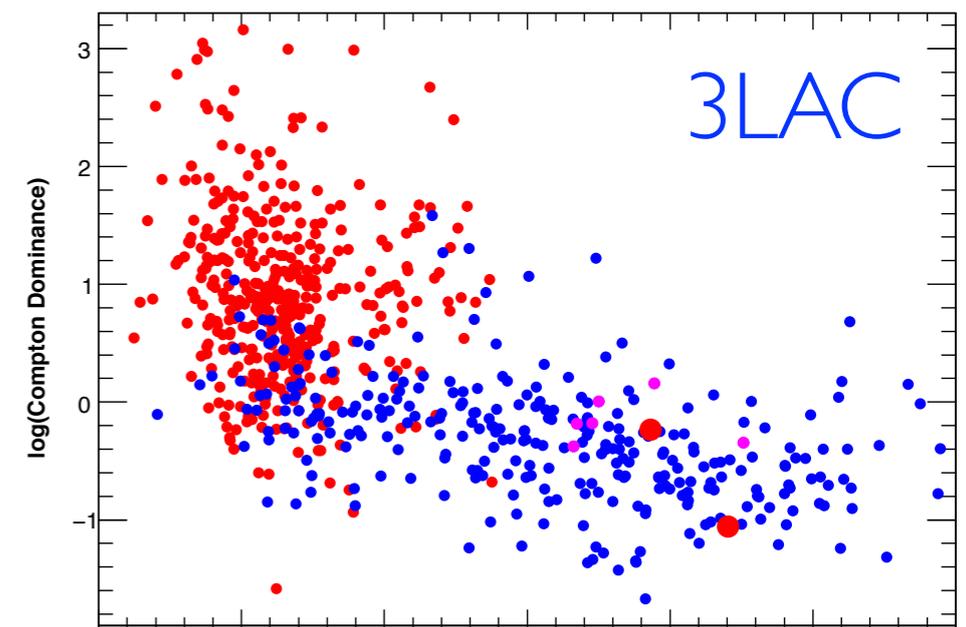
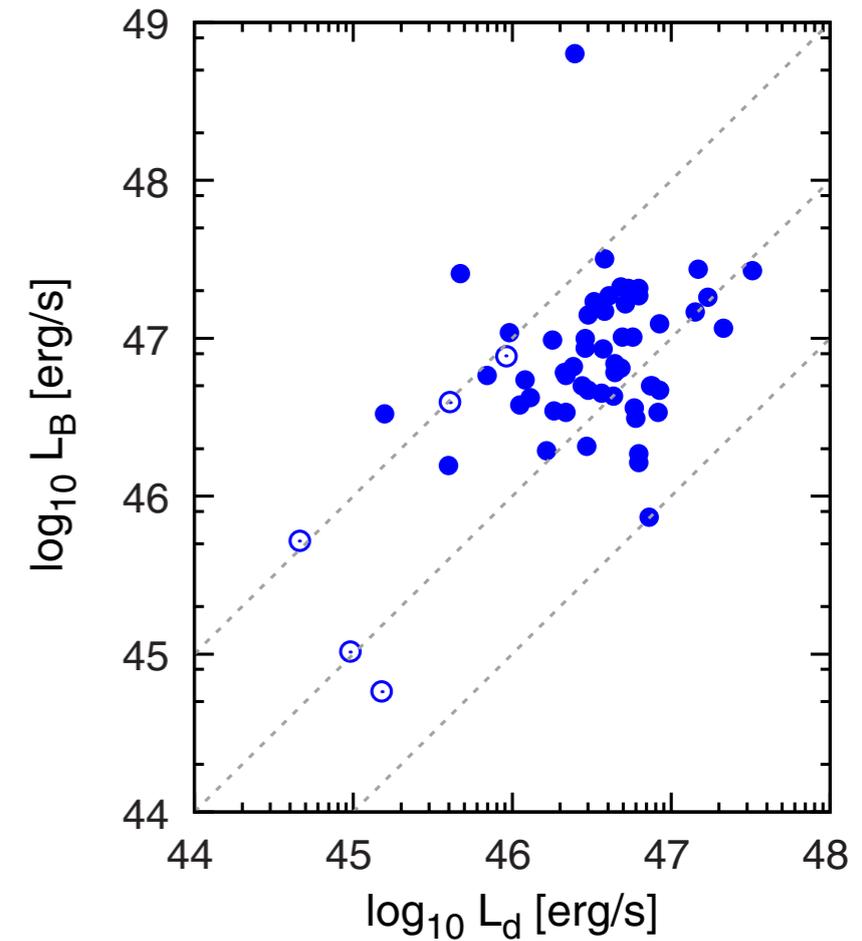
collimation parameter      accretion disk luminosity

$$L_{\gamma} / L_{\text{syn}} = q = \left( \frac{\zeta}{0.005} \right) \left( \frac{\Gamma}{20} \right)^2 (\Gamma \theta_j)^2 \left( \frac{L_d}{L_B} \right)$$

external radiation scaling factor

magnetic jet power

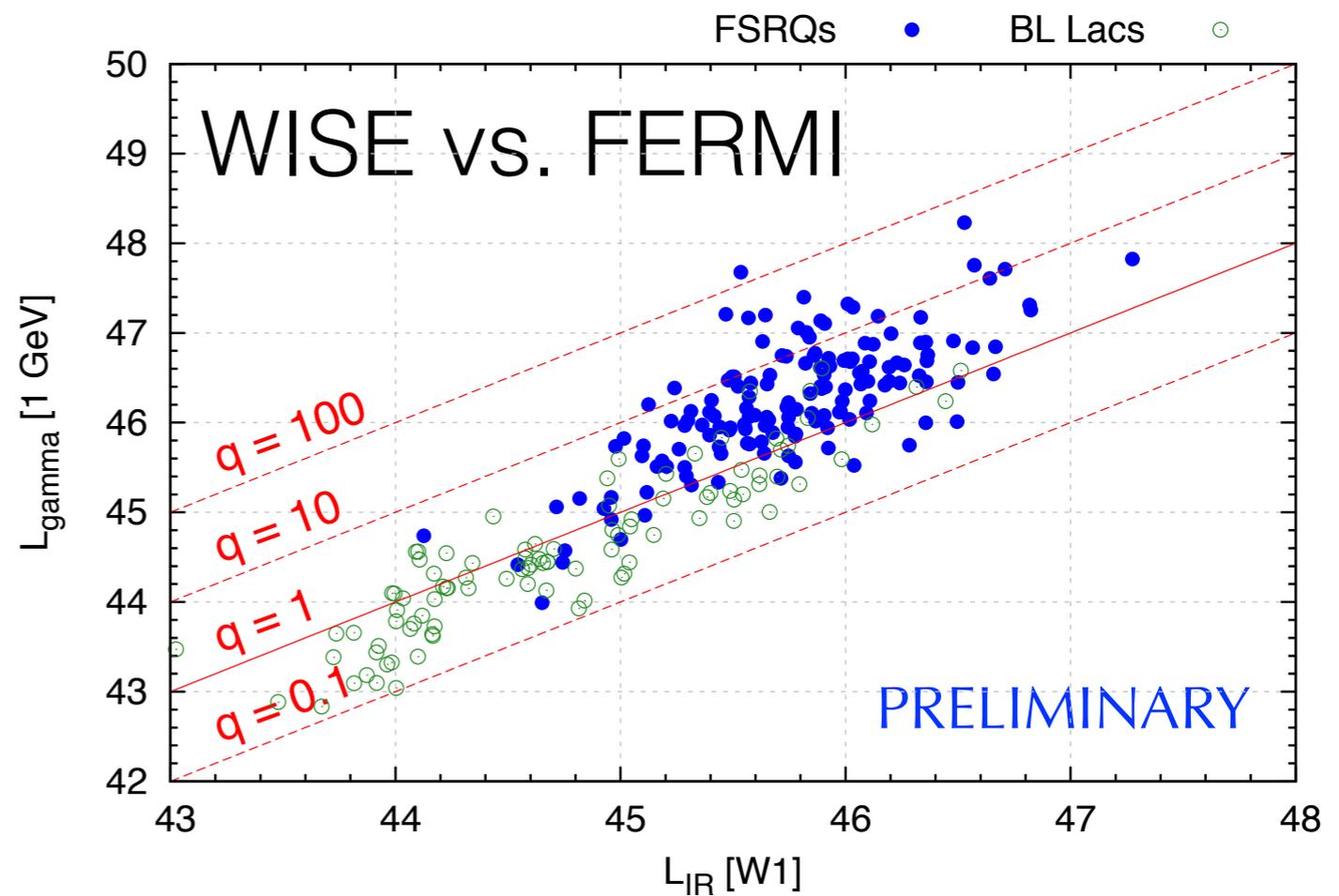
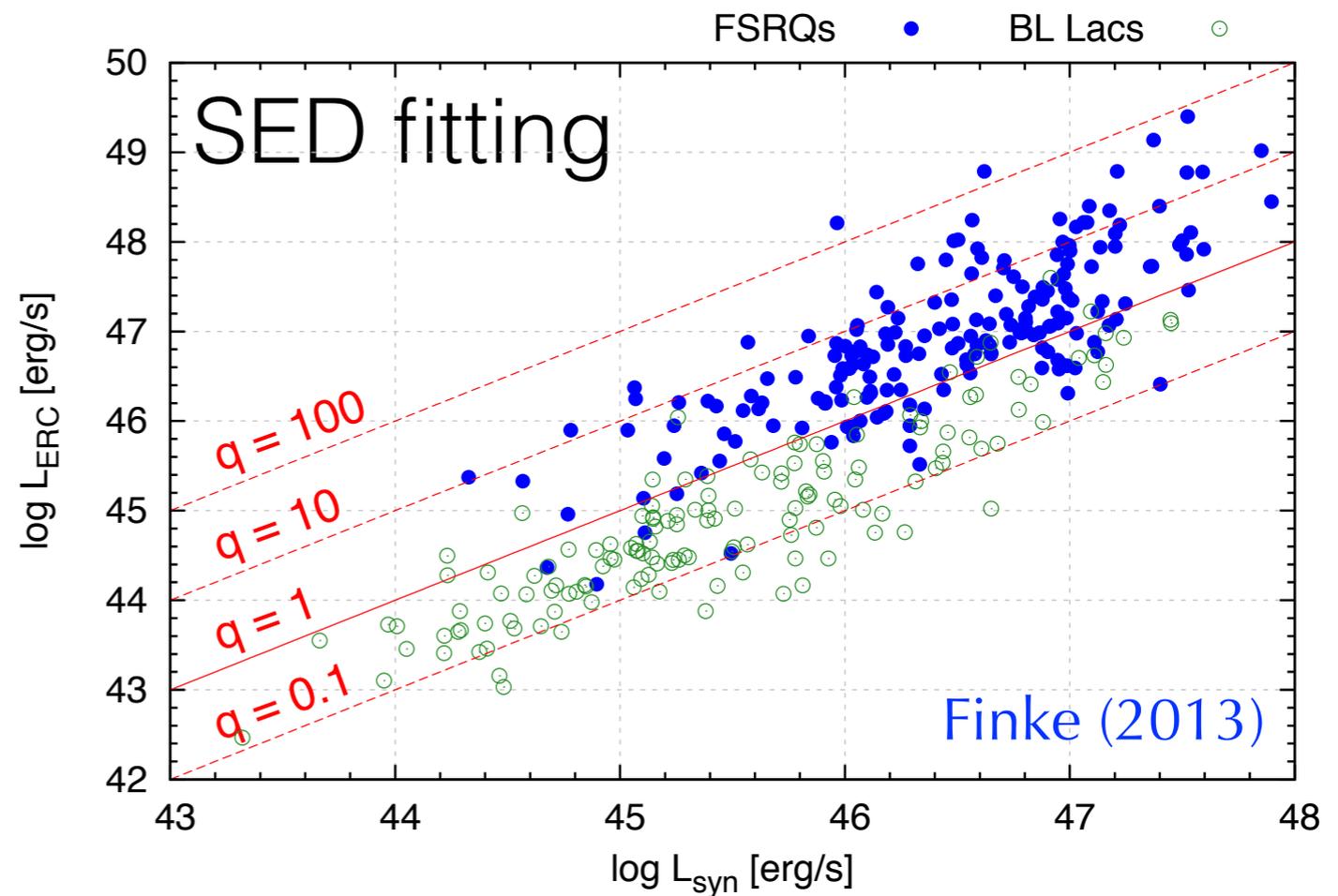
- $L_d \sim L_B$  (Zamaninasab et al. 2014)
- $q > 10$  for flaring FSRQs
- see also Zdziarski et al. (2014)



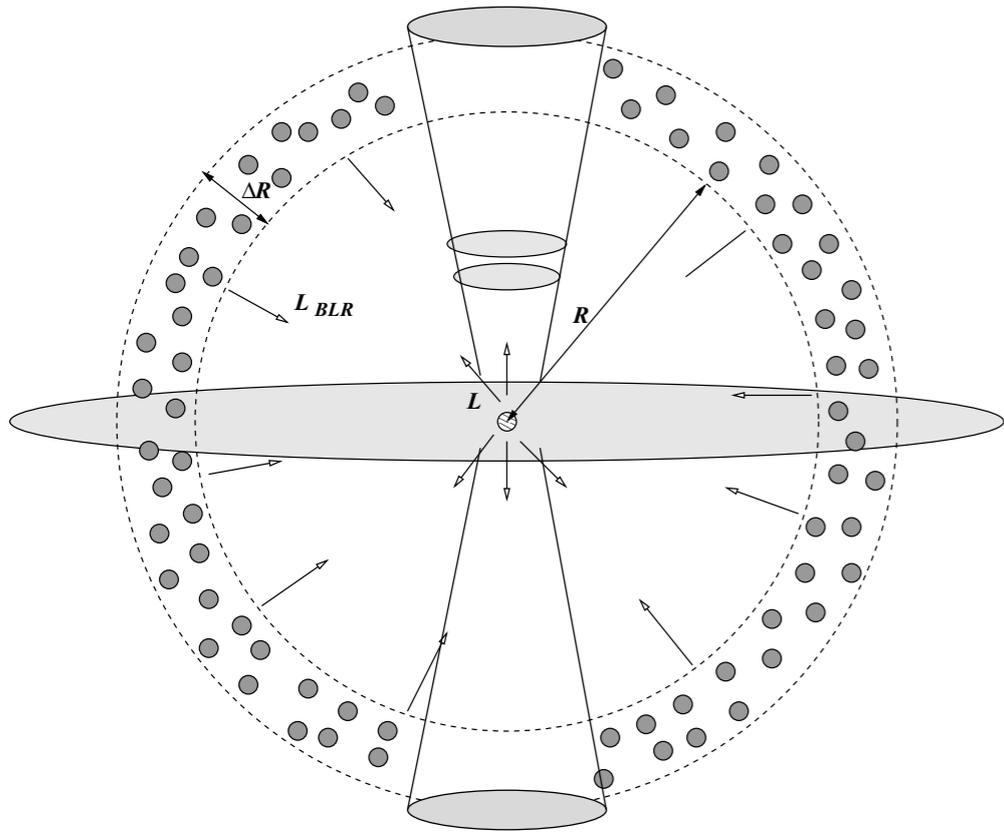
KN, Sikora & Begelman (2014)

# $L_{syn}$ VS. $L_{ERC}$

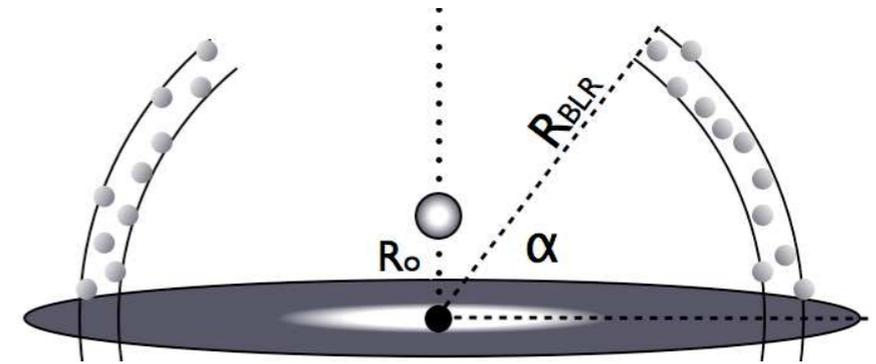
- typical  $q$ :  
1-10 for FSRQs  
0.1-1 for BL Lacs
- a few FSRQs with  $q < 1$
- higher  $L_{syn}$  from SED fitting
- similar  $L_{\gamma}$  for BL Lacs with both methods



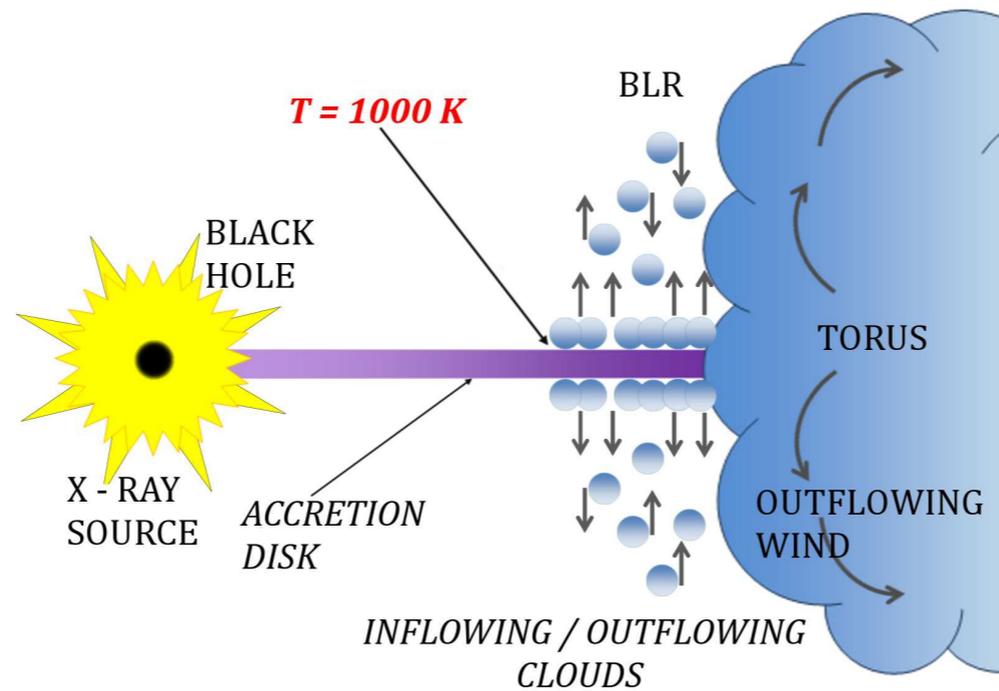
# *broad line region geometry*



Tavecchio & Ghisellini (2009)



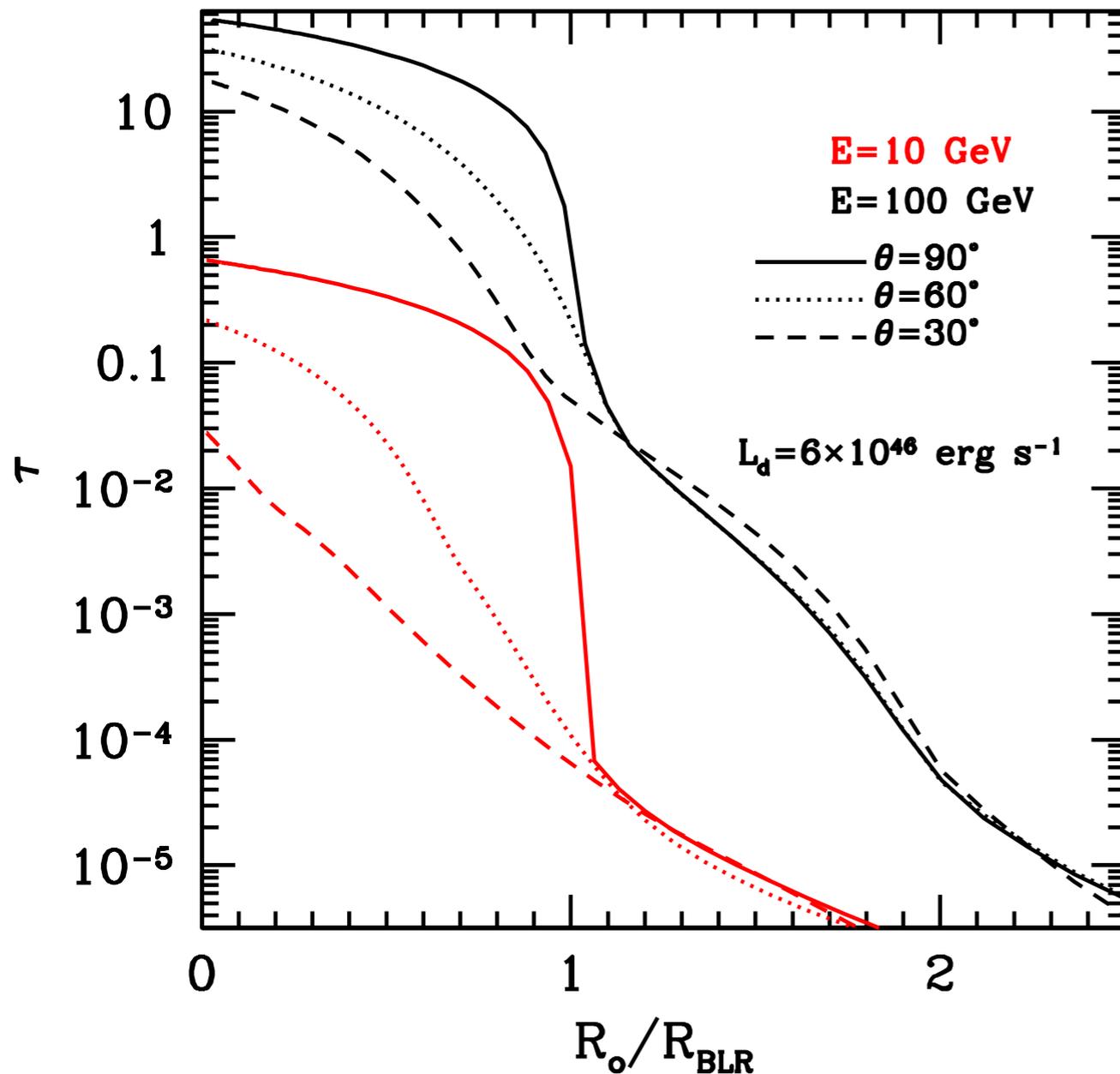
Tavecchio & Ghisellini (2012)



Czerny et al. (2014)

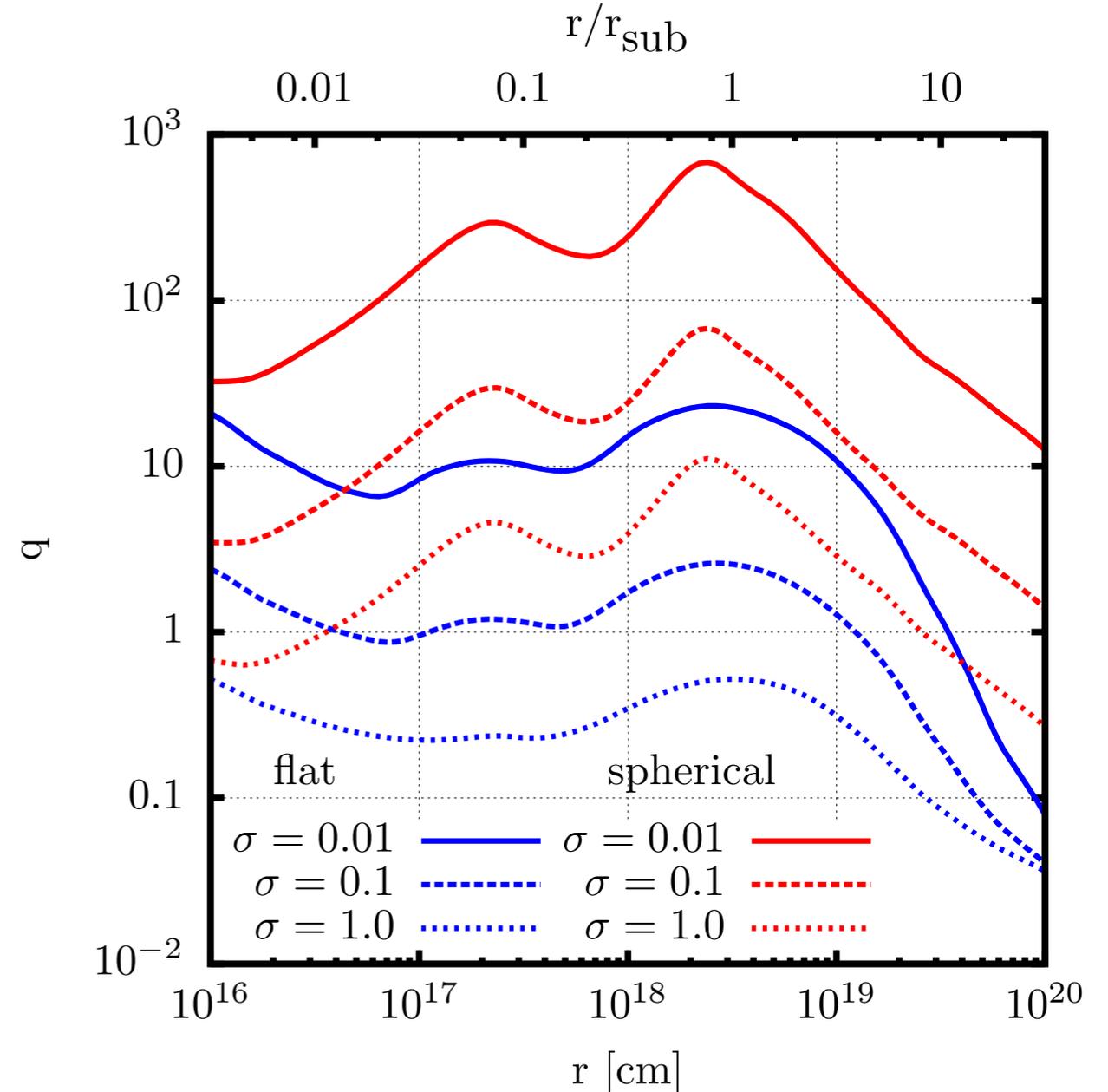
# consequences of flat BLR

reduced gamma-ray opacity



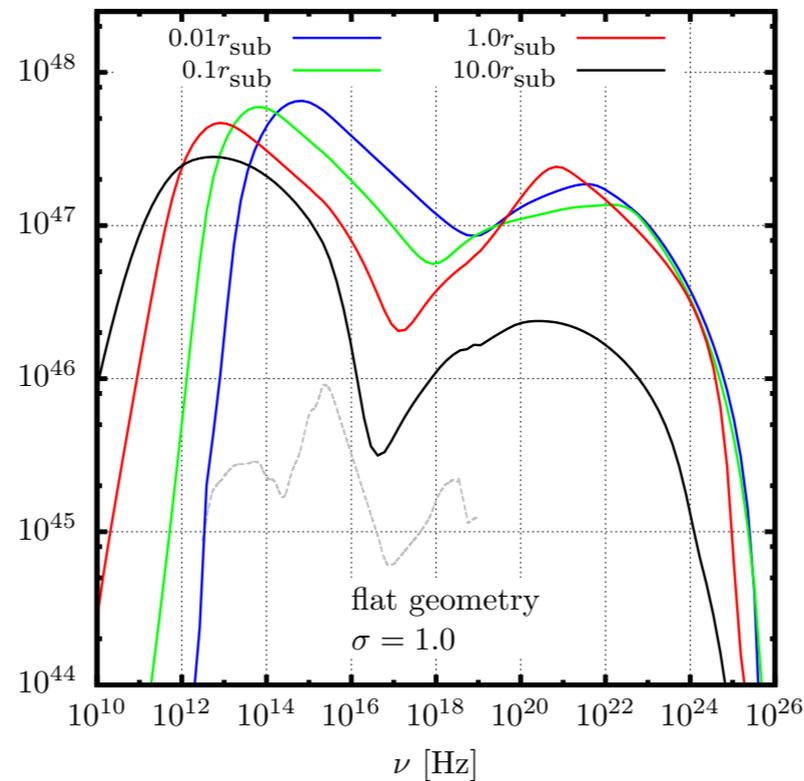
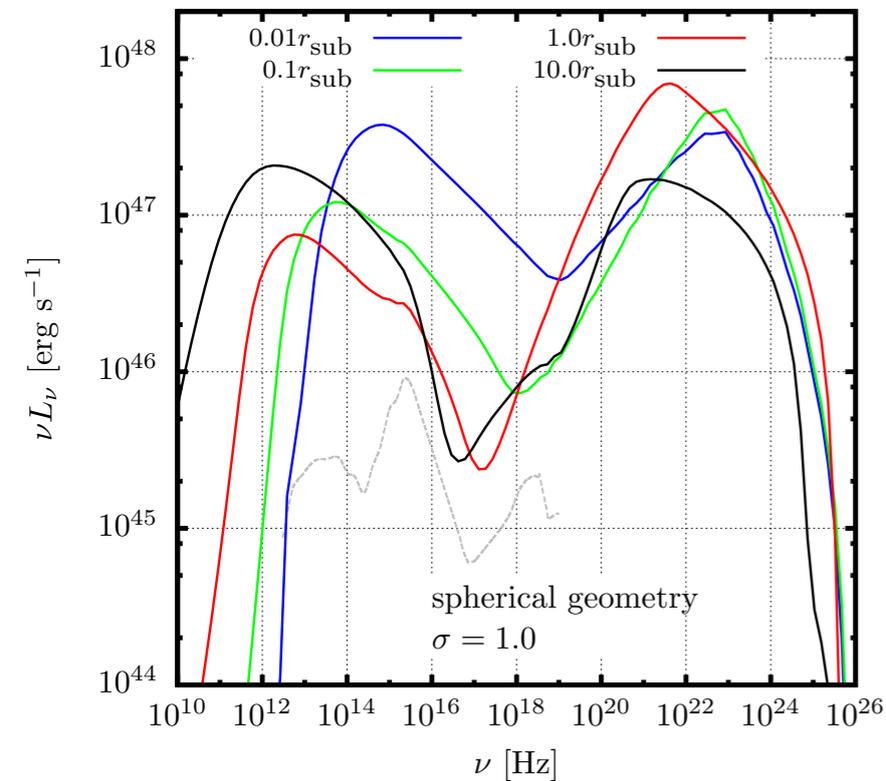
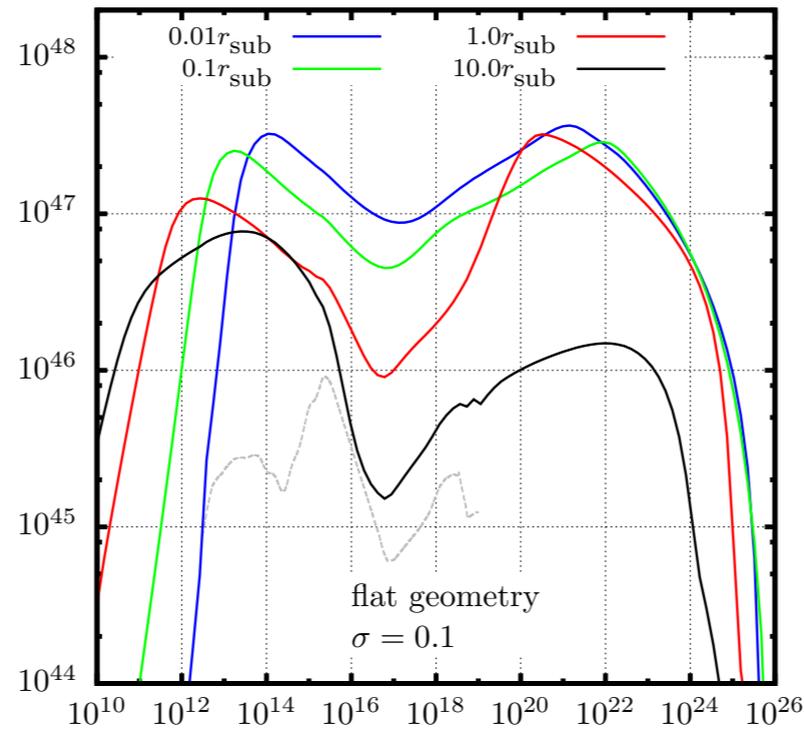
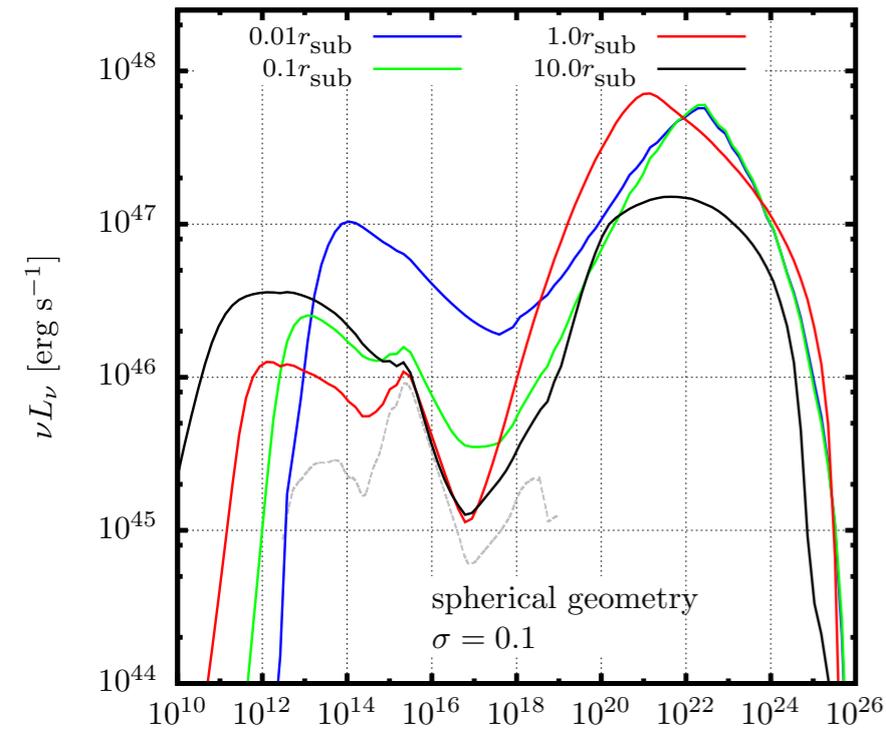
Tavecchio & Ghisellini (2012)

reduced Compton dominance



Janiak, Sikora & Moderski (2015)

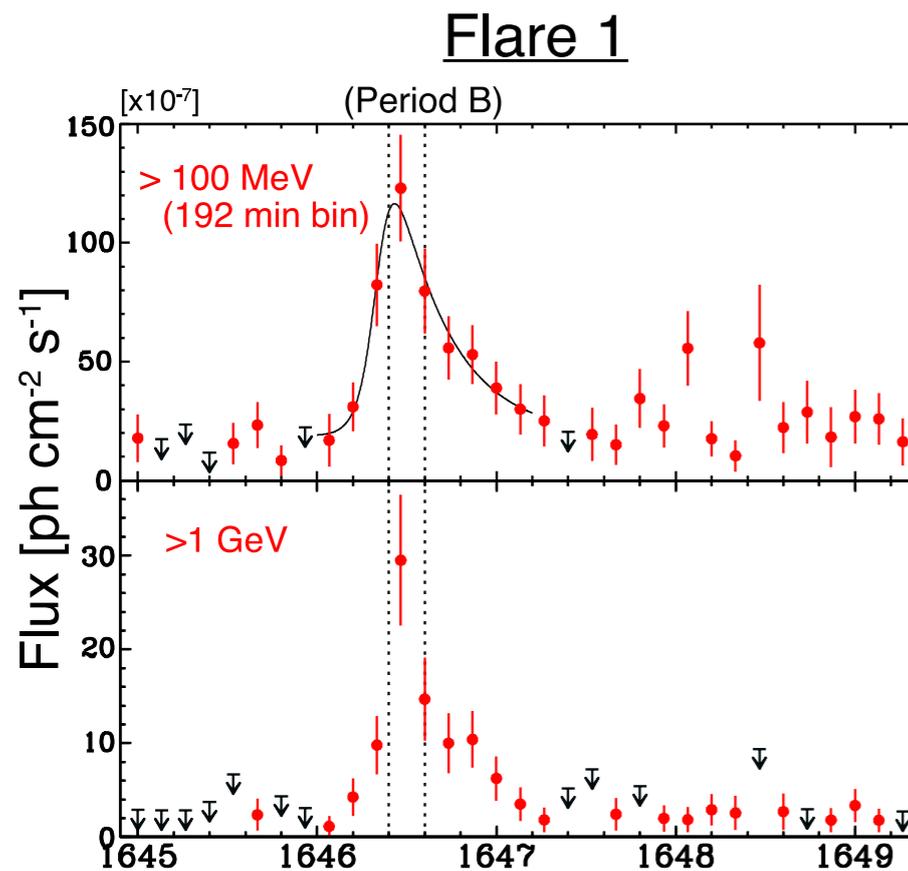
# constraining jet magnetization



- consider powerful jet in typical radiation environment
- $\sigma = L_B / L_{\text{kin}} = 1$  predicts  $q < 1$  at  $L_{\text{syn}} \sim 10^{47}$  erg/s
- if that is not observed, there is no emission from high- $\sigma$  regions (cf. Sironi et al. 2015)

**see poster 30  
by M. Janiak**

# extreme $\gamma$ -ray flare in 3C 279



- $L_{\gamma} = 6e48 \text{ erg/s}$

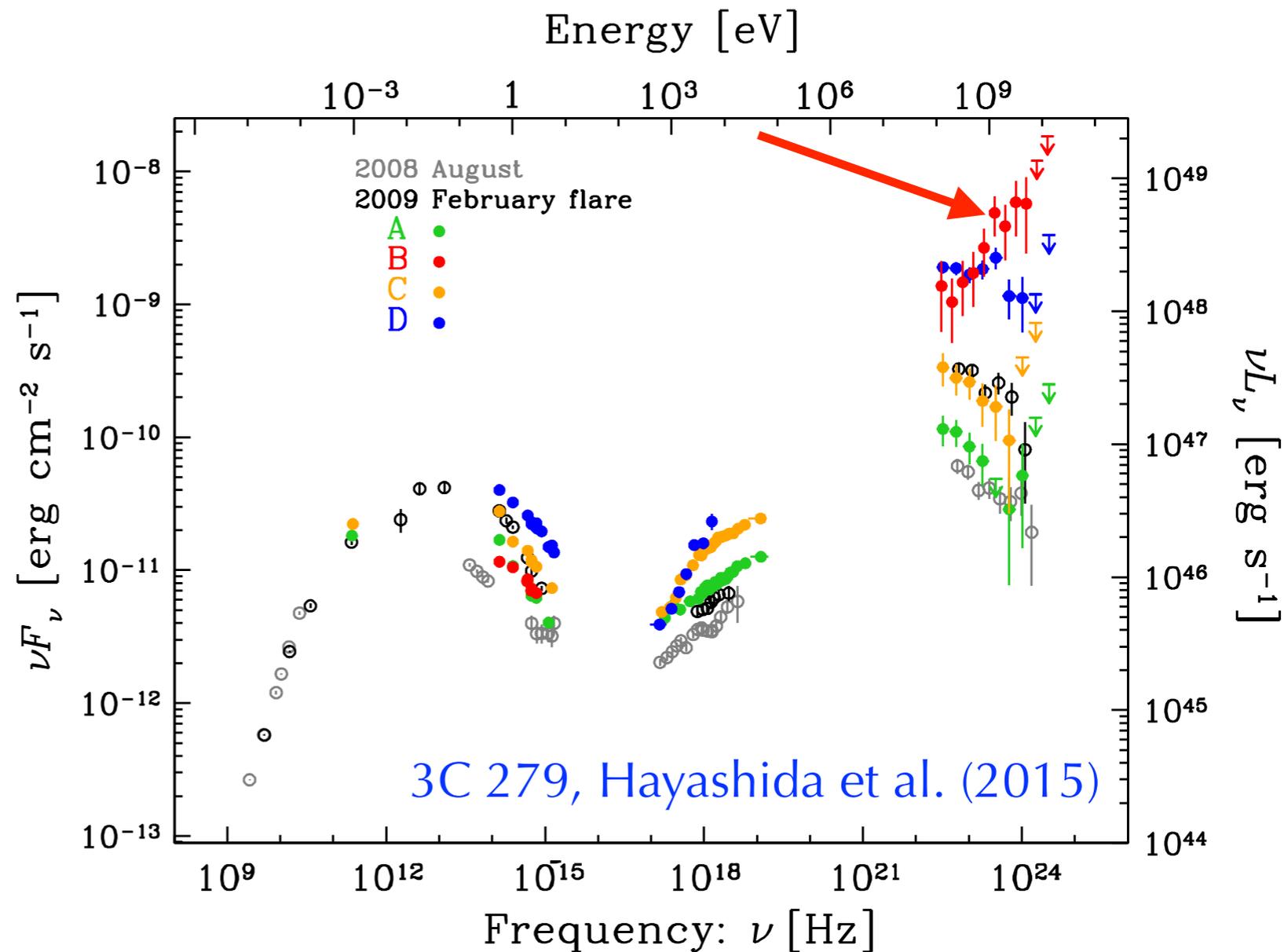
- $t_{\text{var}} = 2\text{h}$

- $\Gamma_{\text{ph}} = 1.7$

- $q > 300$

- $L_{\text{B}} / L_{\text{j}} < 10^{-4}$

severe departure  
from equipartition  
(particle-dominated)

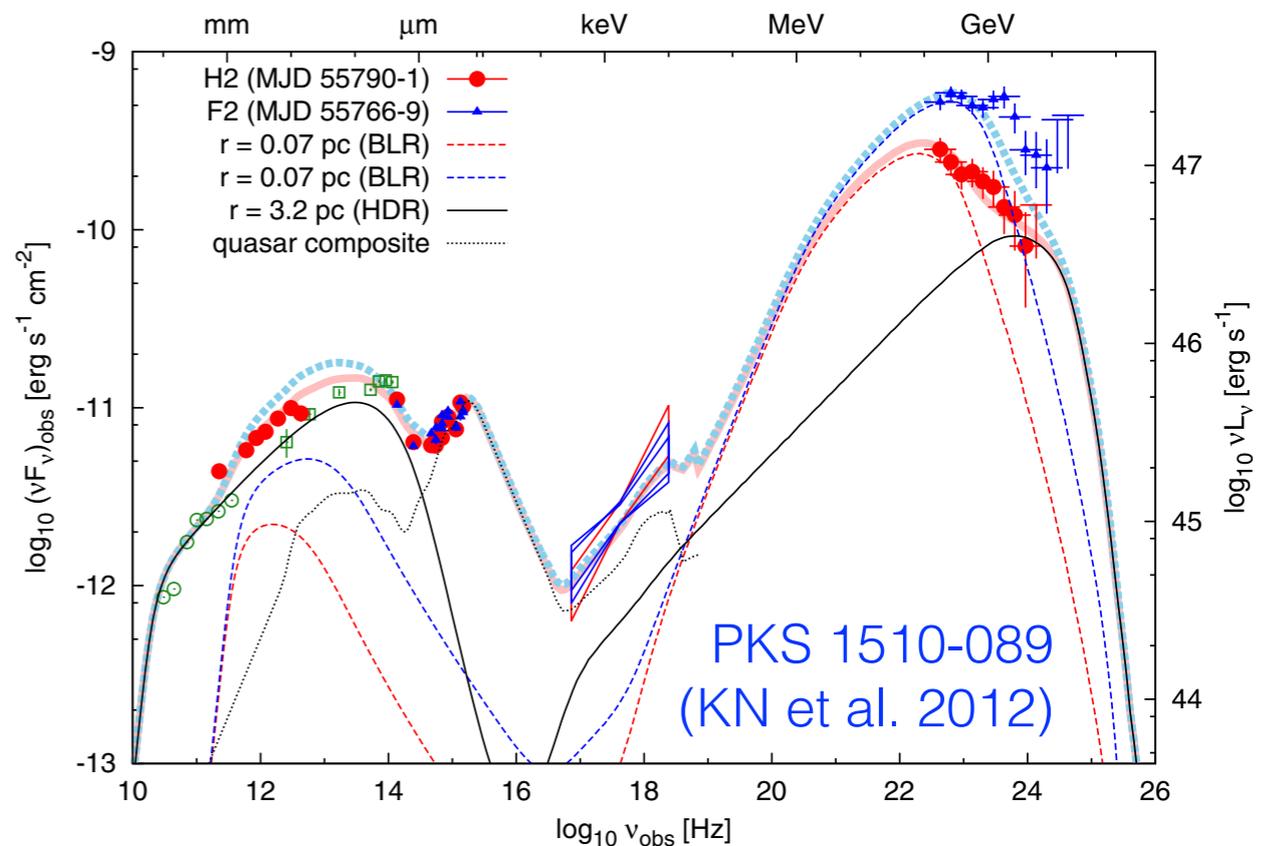
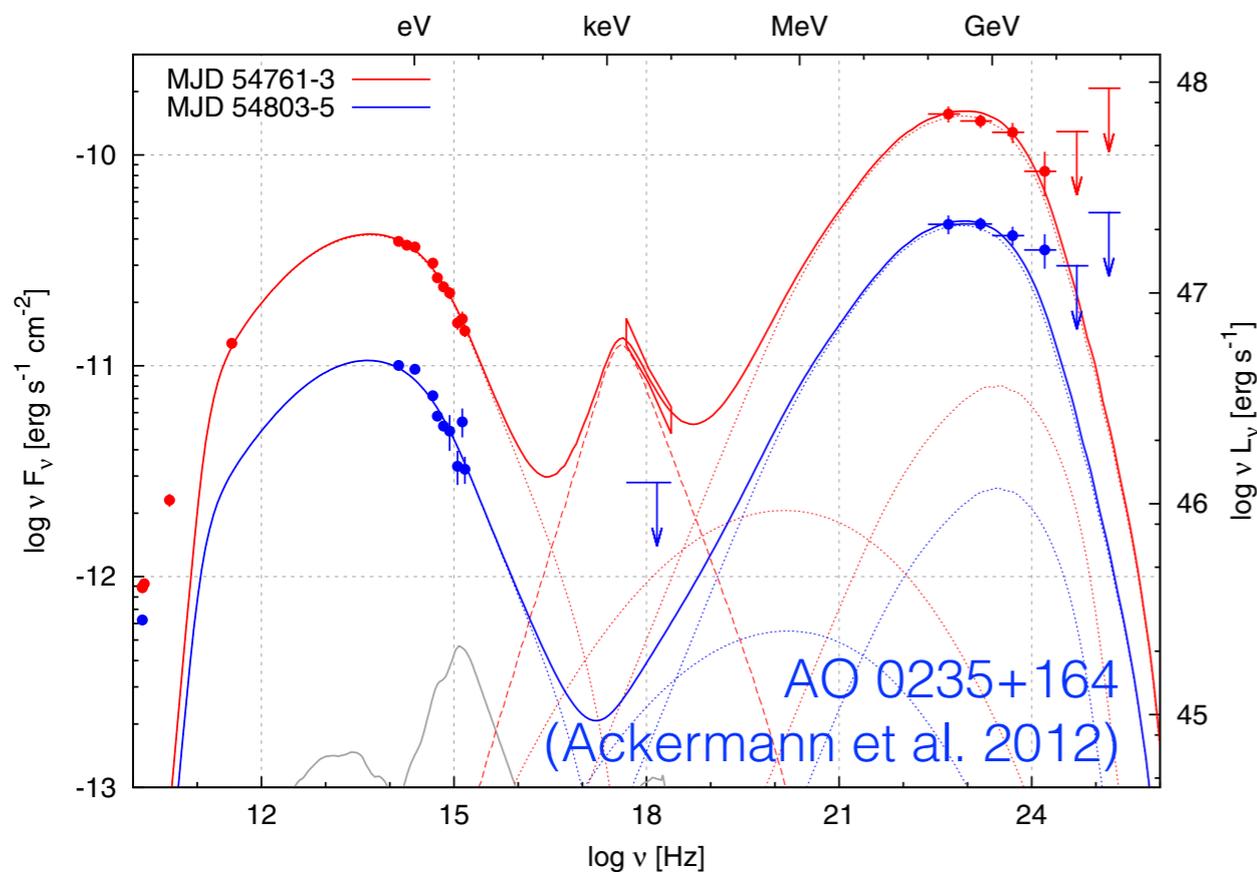


# *the origin of X-ray emission*

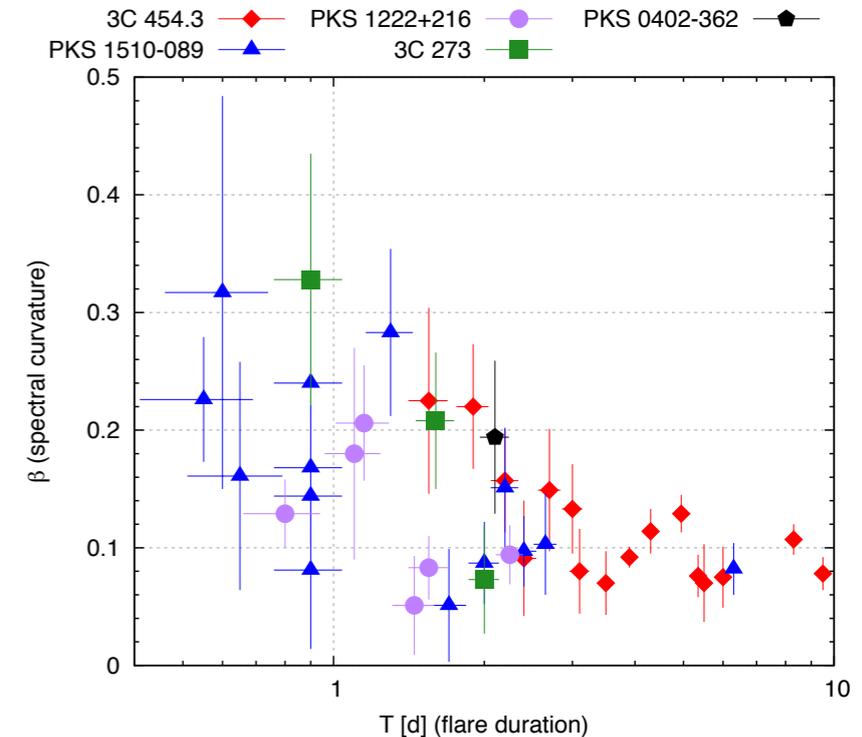
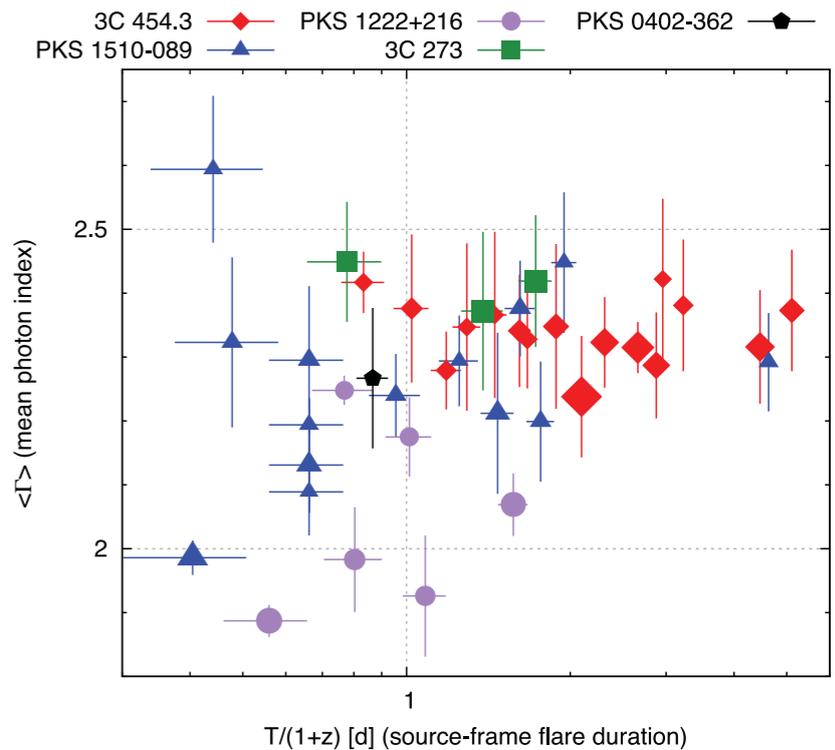
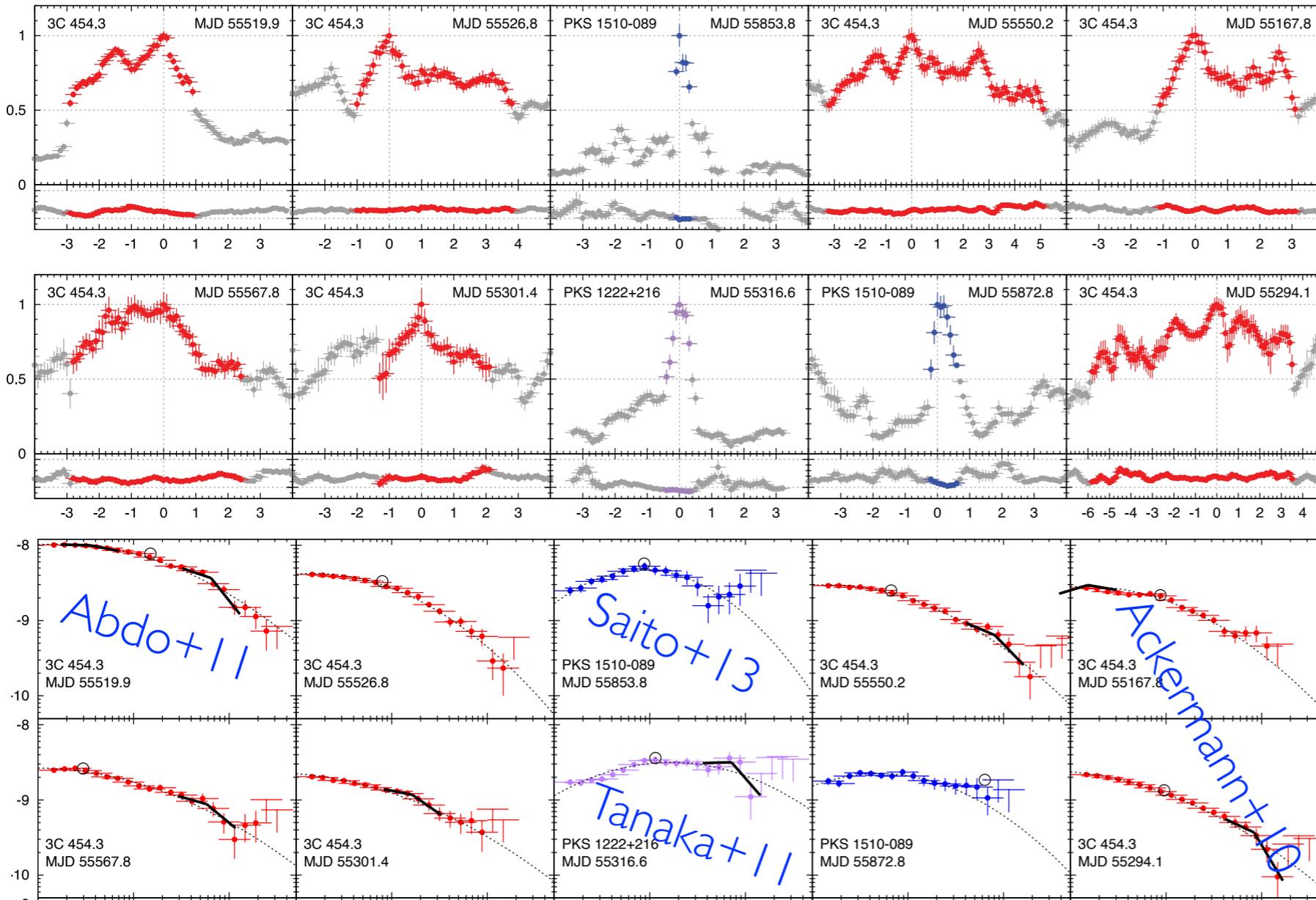
- X-ray emission in FSRQs could be due to:

- ✓ SSC
- ✓ ERC (low-E tail)
- ✓ coronae/jet base

- the hardest X-ray spectra of FSRQs:  $\alpha_x \sim 0.2$  (Sikora et al. 2009)
- strong electron-proton coupling can lead to even harder spectra (Sikora et al. 2013)
- need more NuSTAR data on FSRQs

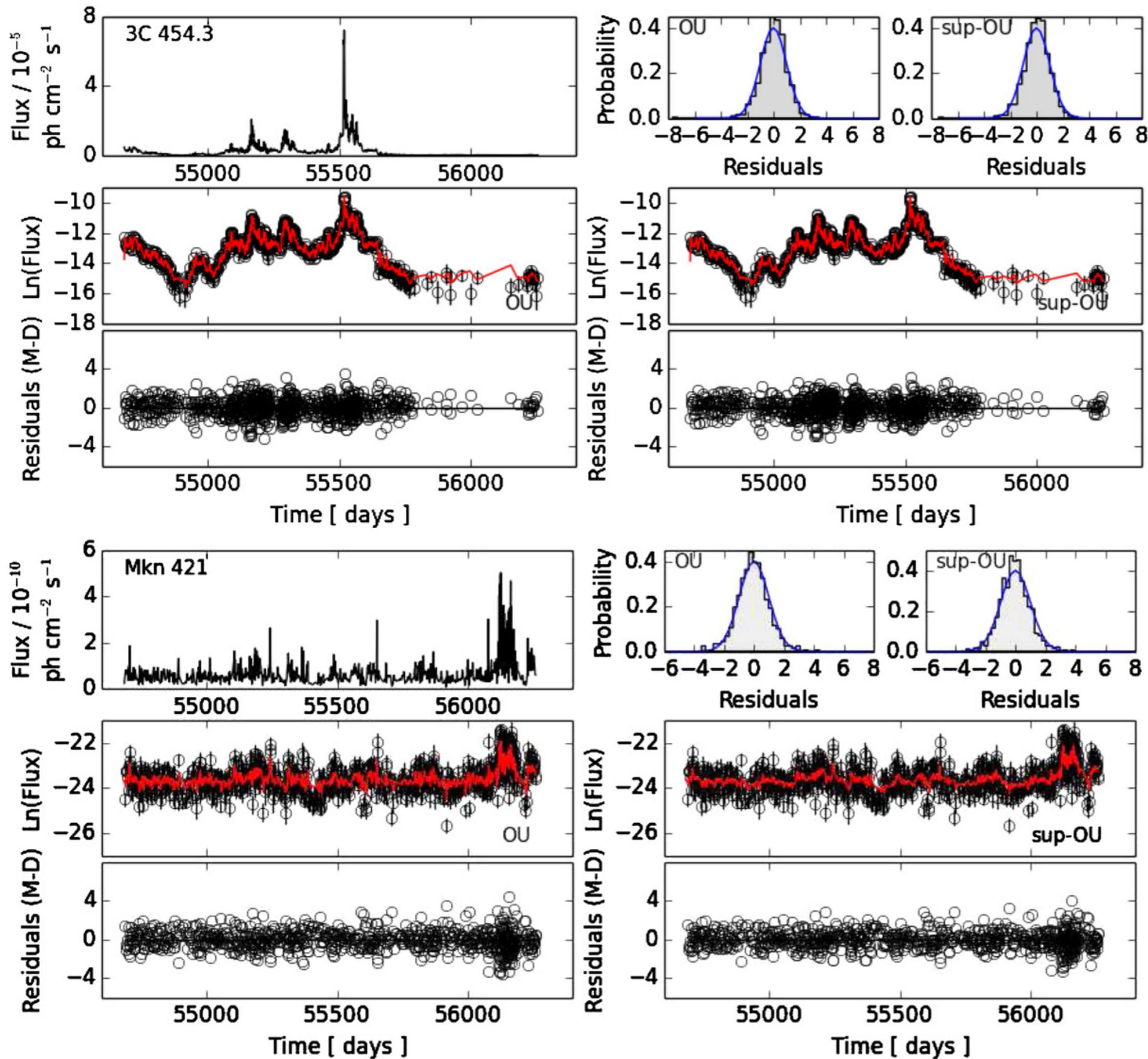


# the brightest $\gamma$ -ray flares of blazars



- very short flares ( $<1$  day) have harder and more curved spectra
- systematic difference between 3C 454.3 and PKS 1510-089 (or PKS 1222+216)?
- no systematic spectral breaks

# stochastic modeling of blazars variability



- 13 blazars with 4-year adaptive Fermi/LAT light curves

- variability modeling with Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (OU) process, and superpositions (sup-OU)

- good description of 3 sources

- PSD indices cluster around 1

[Sobolewska et al. \(2014\)](#)

see poster 76  
by M. Sobolewska

# *summary*

- luminous blazars can be robustly constrained in the leptonic paradigm
- pc-scale location of gamma-ray flares can be reconciled with the radio/mm activity
- low magnetization of gamma-ray emitting regions
- possible tension between core-shift magnetic fields and high Compton dominance
- emerging class of short/hard gamma-ray flares in FSRQs
- more insight possible from NuSTAR, sub-mm variability, polarization (including X-rays), CTA, MeV telescope

*thank you for attention*