

# From binary neutron star mergers to short gamma-ray burst jets towards the first end-to-end numerical modelling

RICCARDO CIOLFI

INAF - Osservatorio Astronomico di Padova

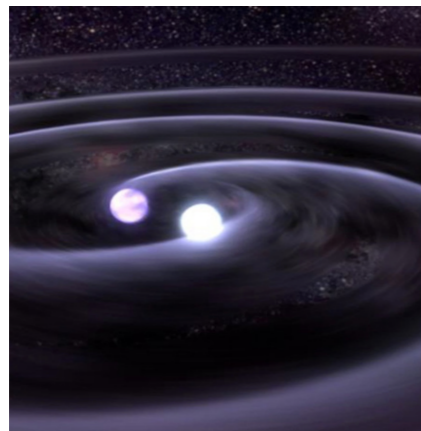
INFN - Sezione di Padova



V CONGRESSO  
NAZIONALE GRB  
2022

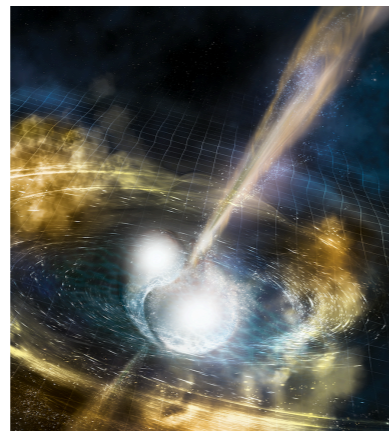
Trieste, September 13th 2022

# SGRB jets from BNS mergers



GW170817

+



GRB 170817A

??

jet launching mechanism?

neutrino driven ~~X~~

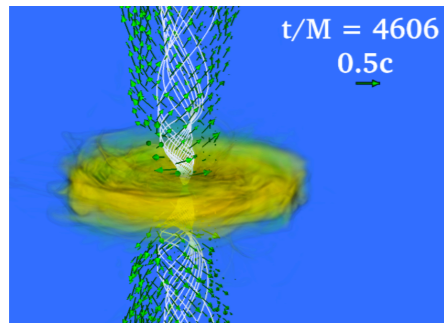
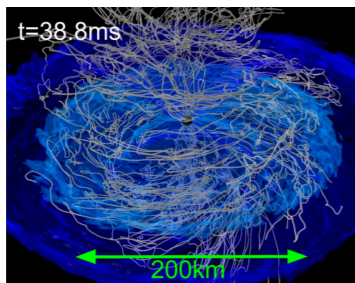
Just+2016  
Perego+2017

MHD driven ✓

→ need GRMHD simulations

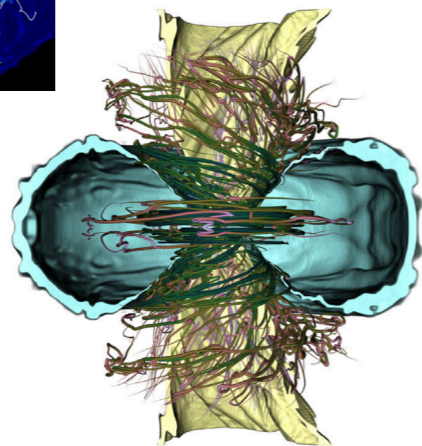
remnant/central engine nature?

Kiuchi+2014



Ruiz+2016

BH + accretion disk  
(Blandford-Znajek)



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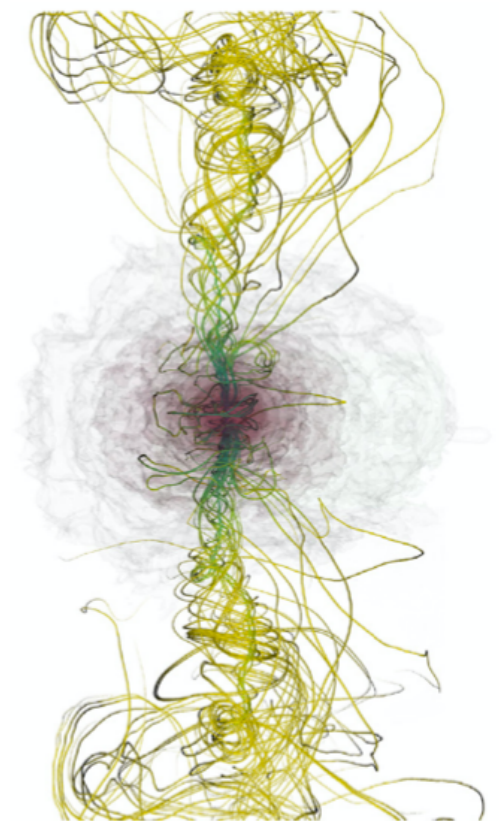


Cioffi+2017



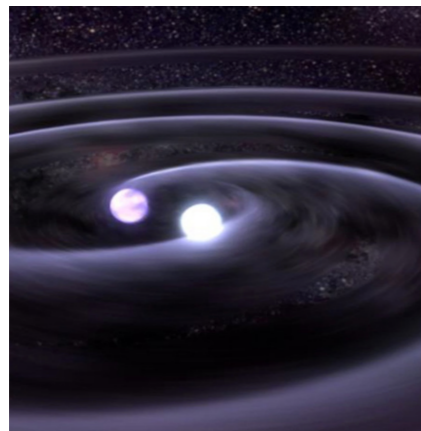
Cioffi+2019

massive long-lived NS  
(magnetorotational)



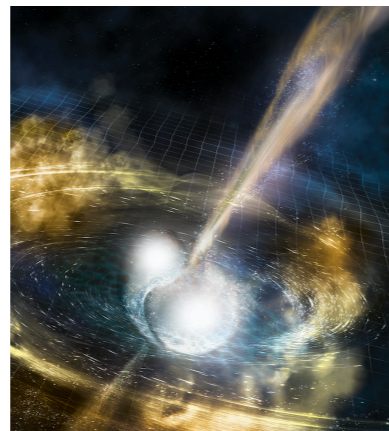
Cioffi 2020a

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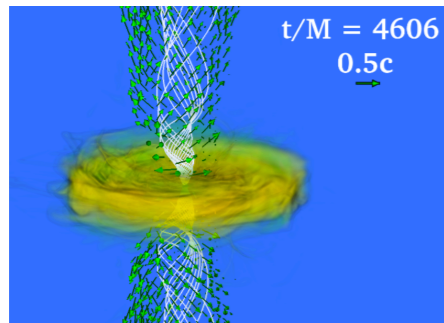
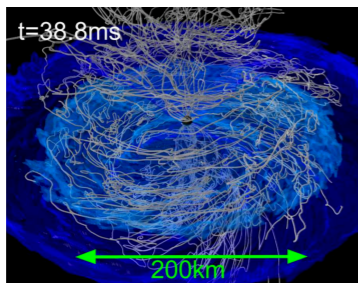
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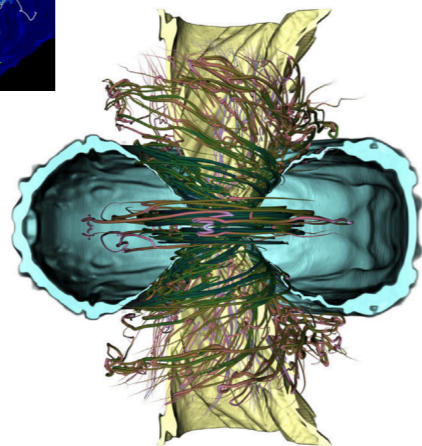
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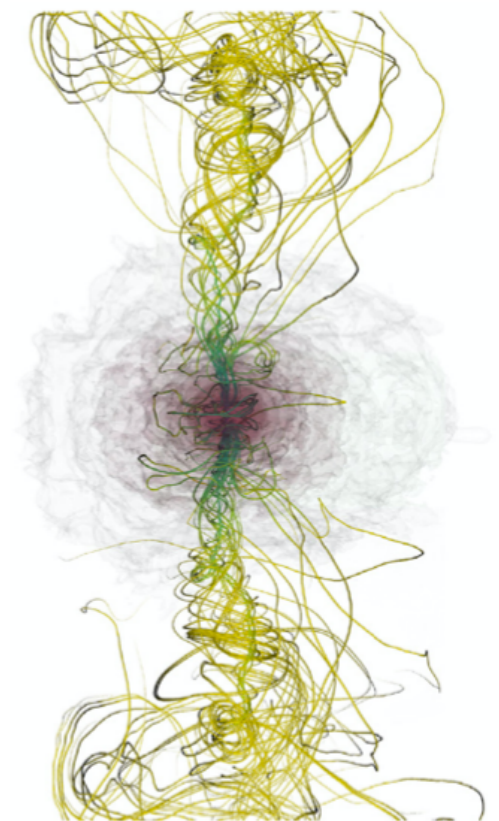


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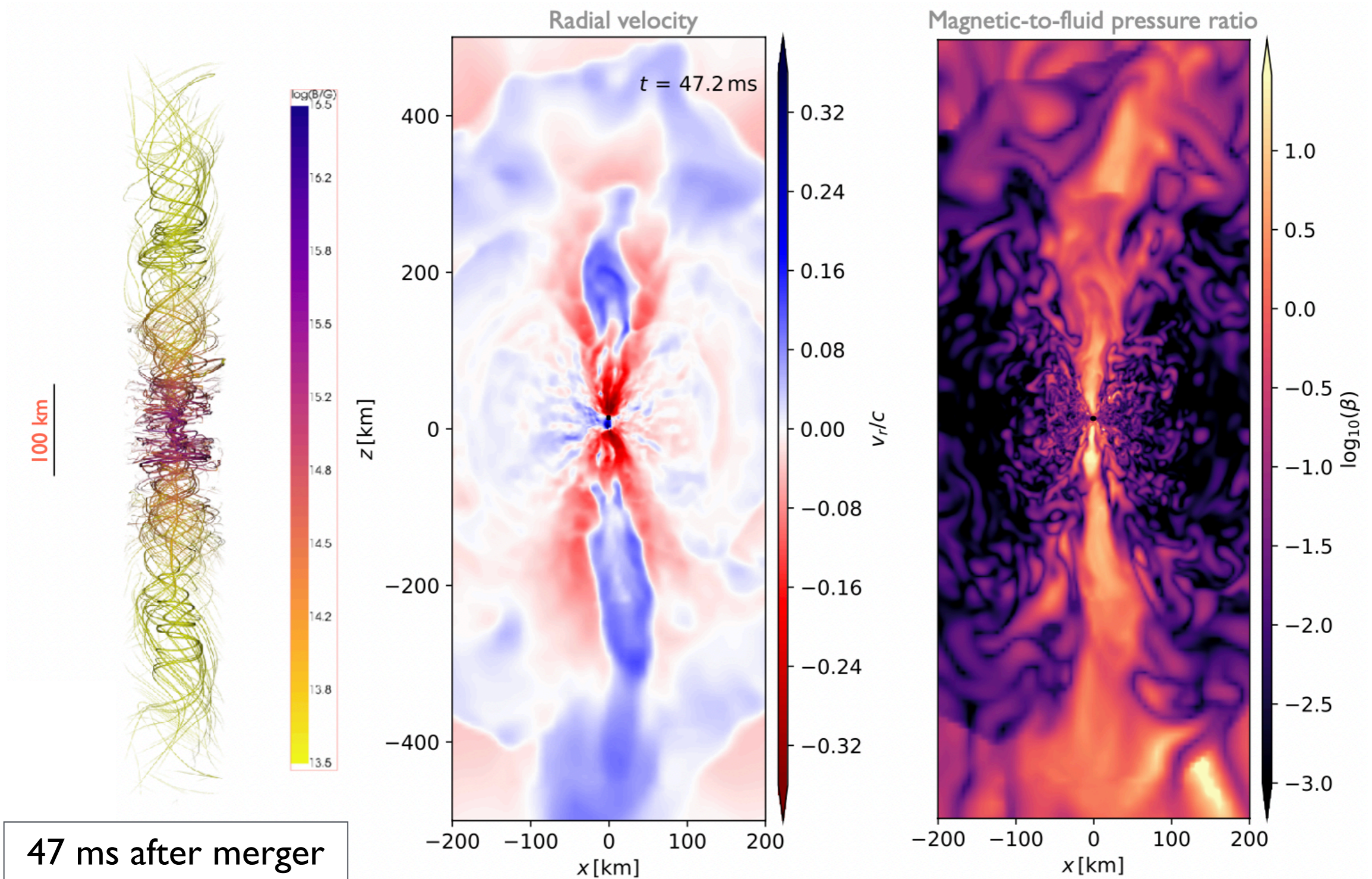
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Ciolfi 2020a

# BNS mergers with new GRMHD code *Spritz*

Kalinani+ in prep.



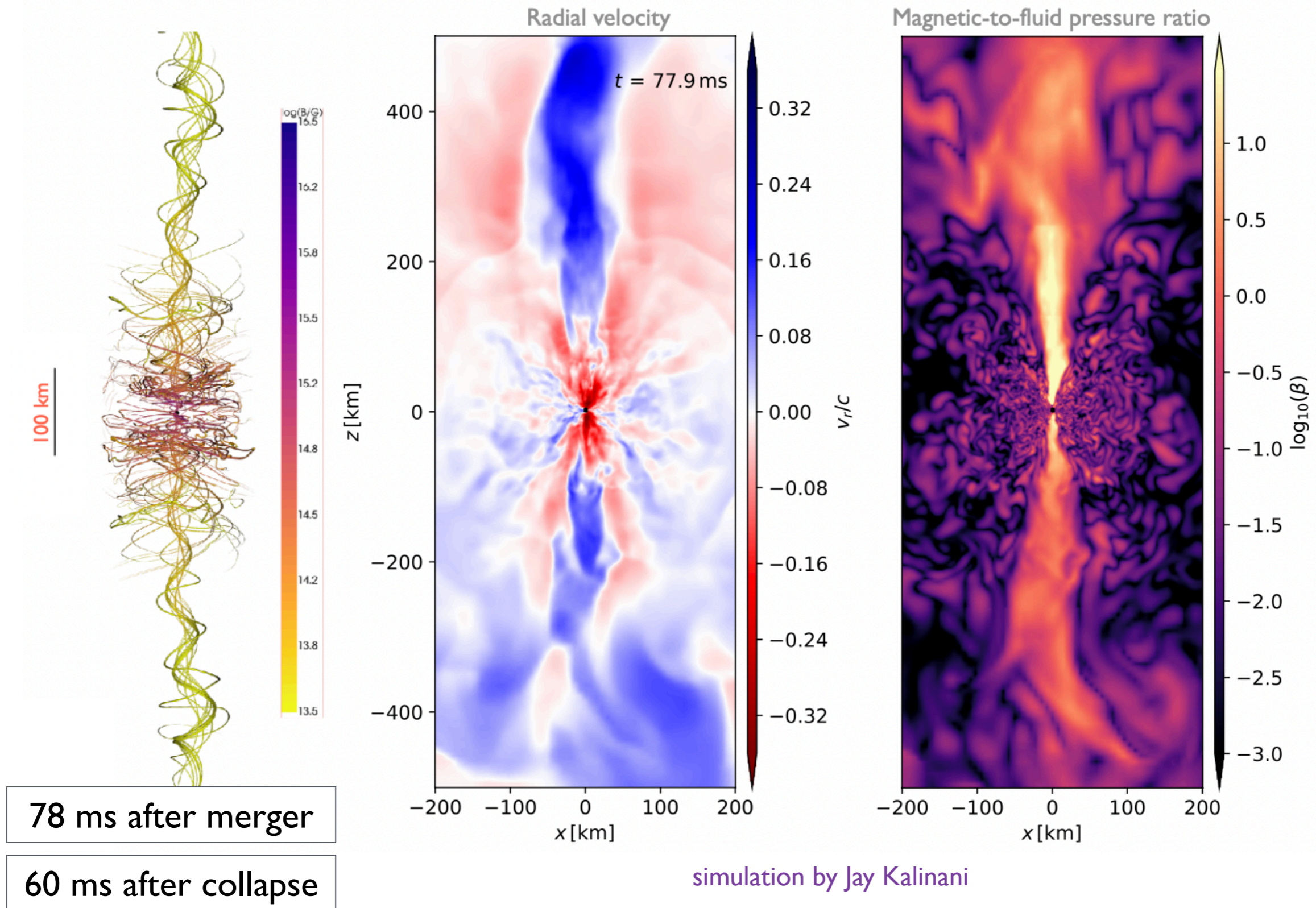
47 ms after merger

29 ms after collapse

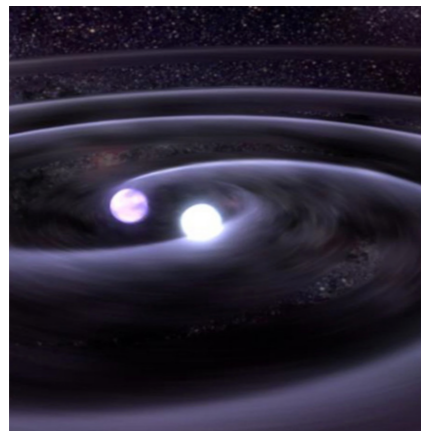
simulation by Jay Kalinani

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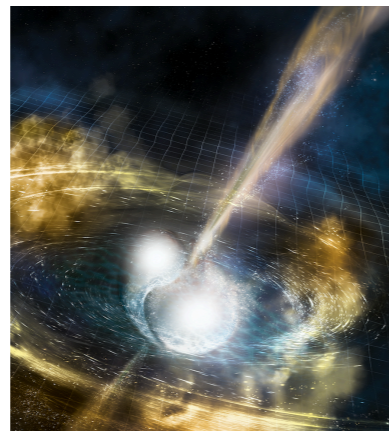


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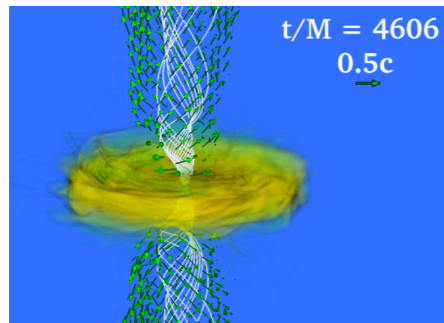
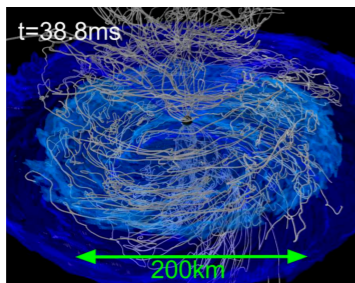
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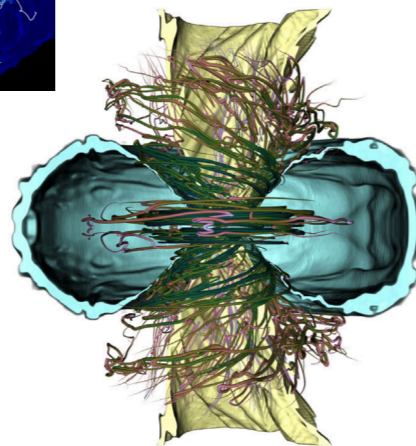
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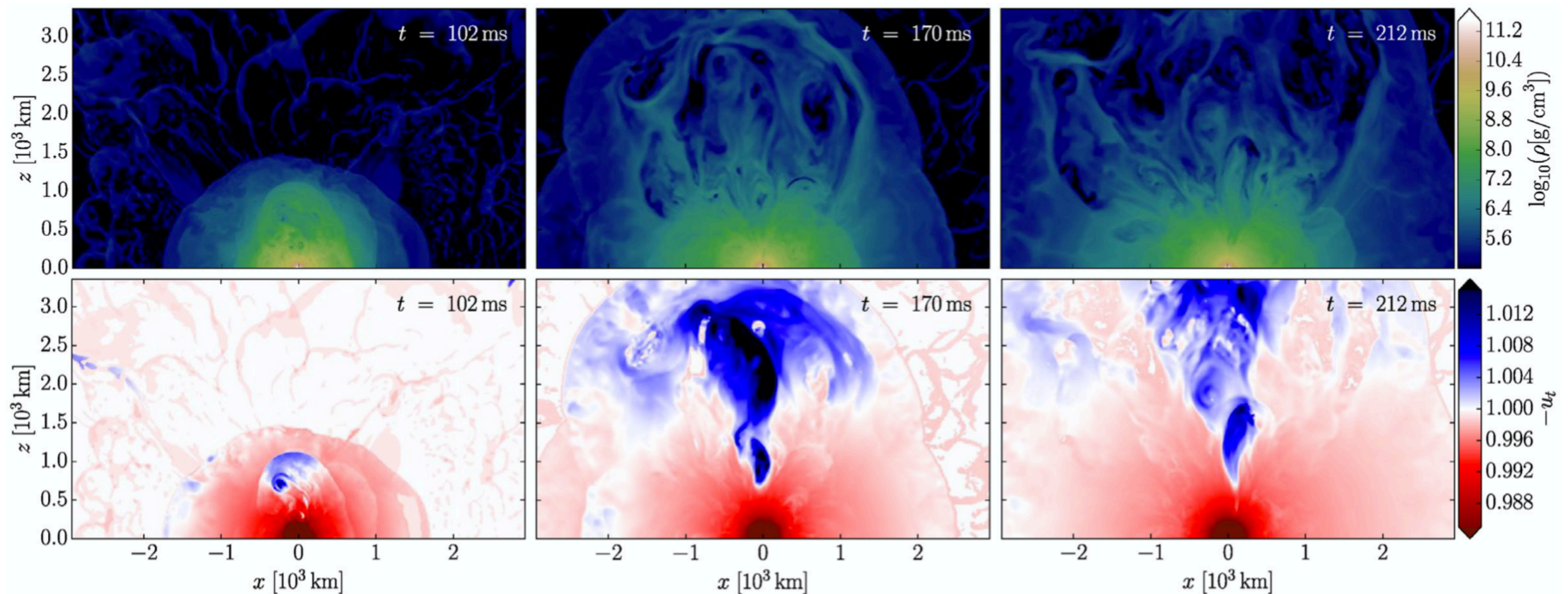
massive long-lived NS  
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Cioffi 2020a

# BNS mergers with much longer evolution

Ciolfi 2020a

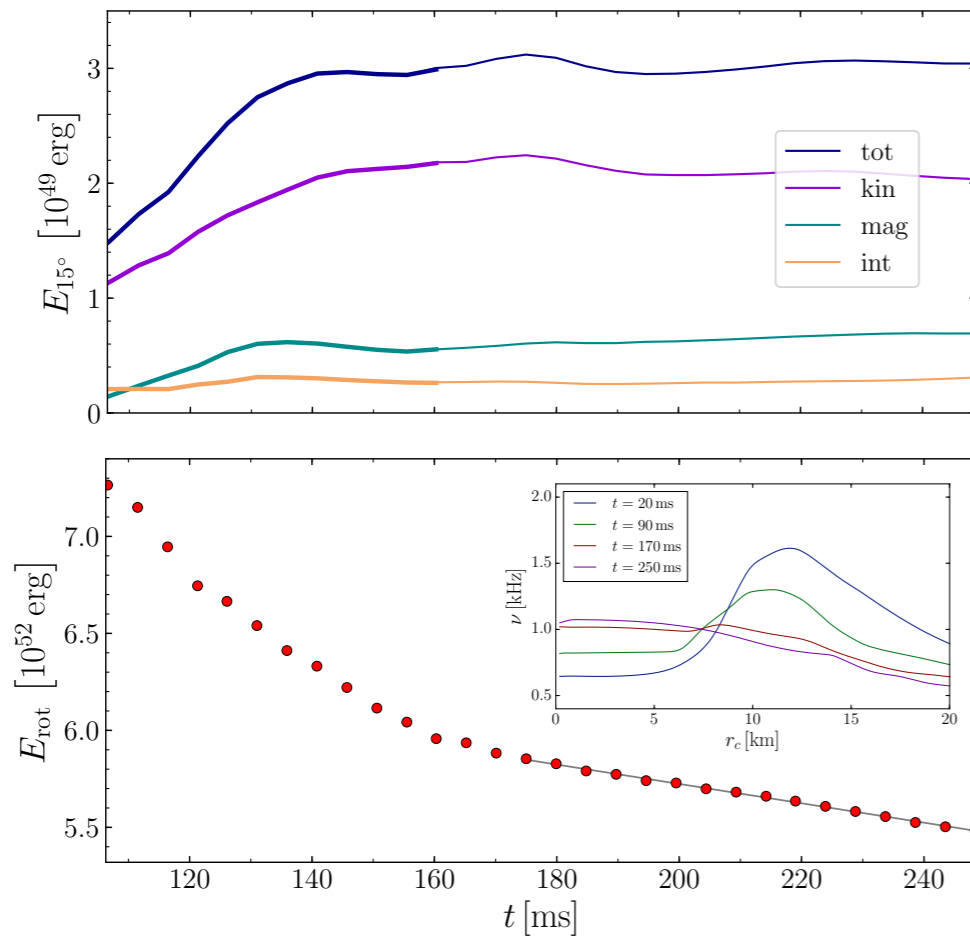
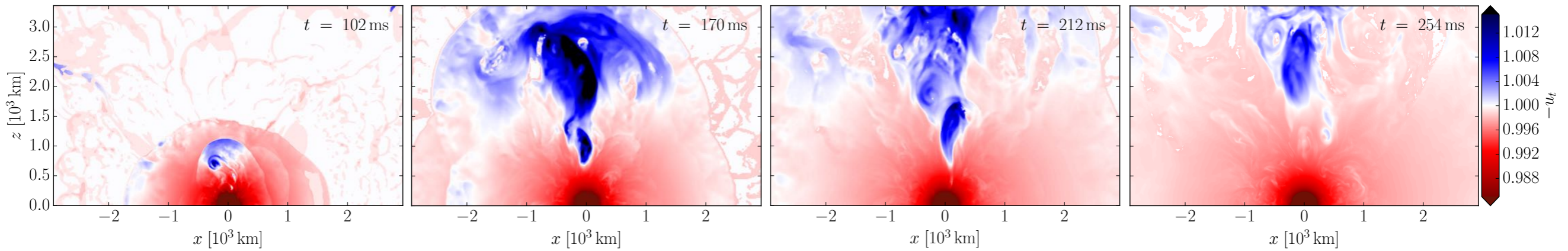
- BNS system with chirp mass of GW170817 and  $q=0.9$
- PP APR4 EOS, initial magnetization  $4e47$  erg, confined poloidal field
- longest evolution up to  $\sim 255$  ms after merger



**massive NS remnant can produce a collimated outflow**

# Origin and properties of the collimated outflow

Ciofi 2020a



~160 ms after merger

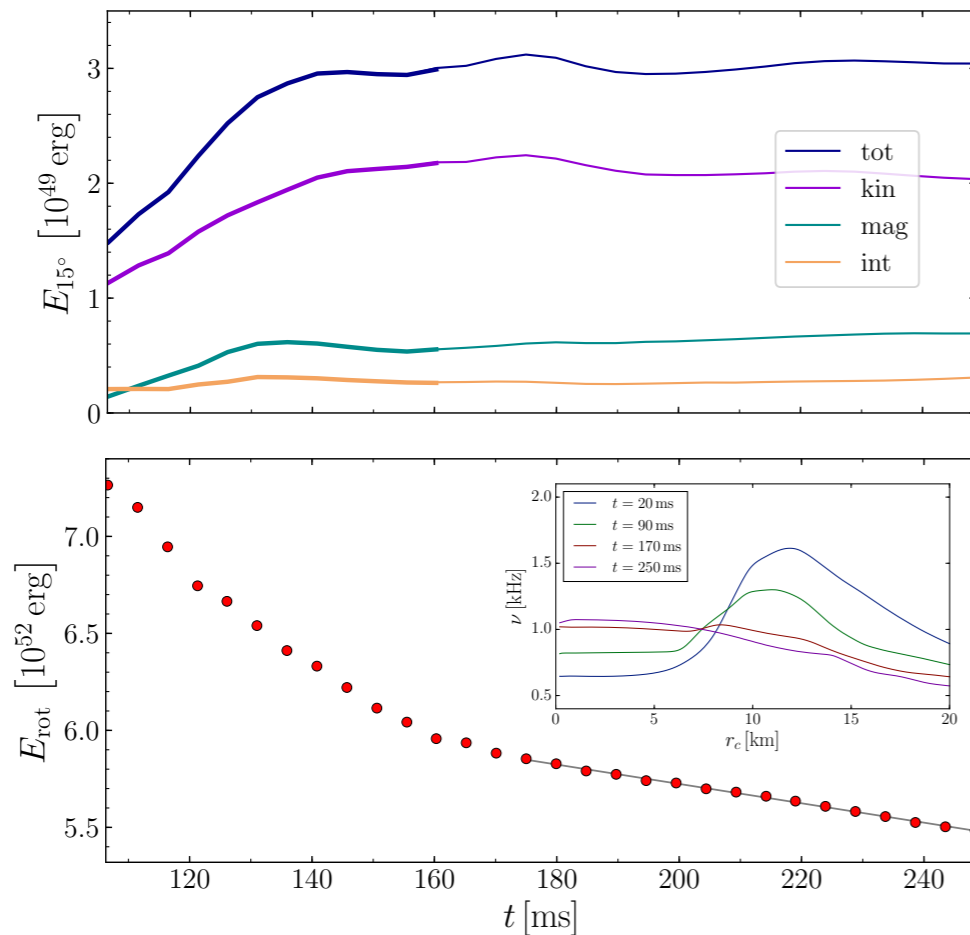
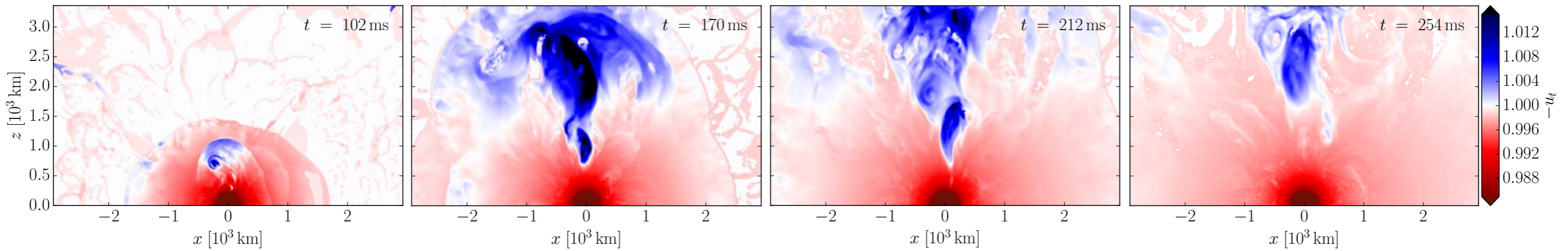
- outflow energy saturation
- change in rotational energy evolution
- differential rotation in the NS core is over

NS differential rotation = energy reservoir

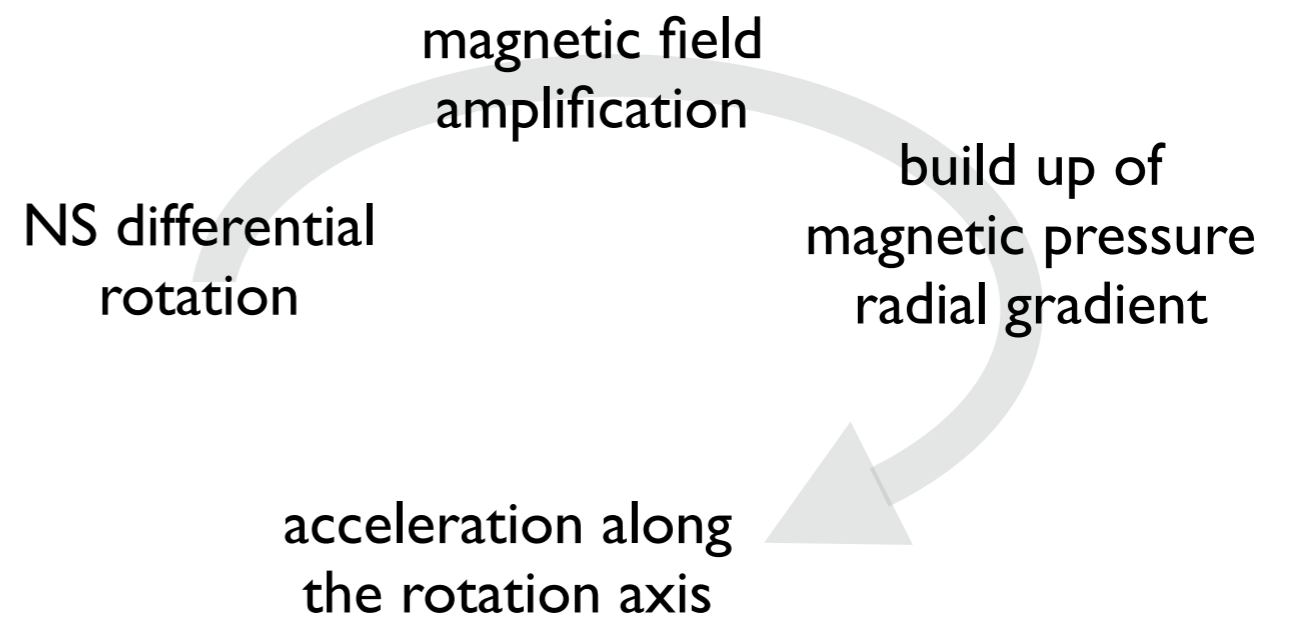


# Origin and properties of the collimated outflow

Ciolfi 2020a

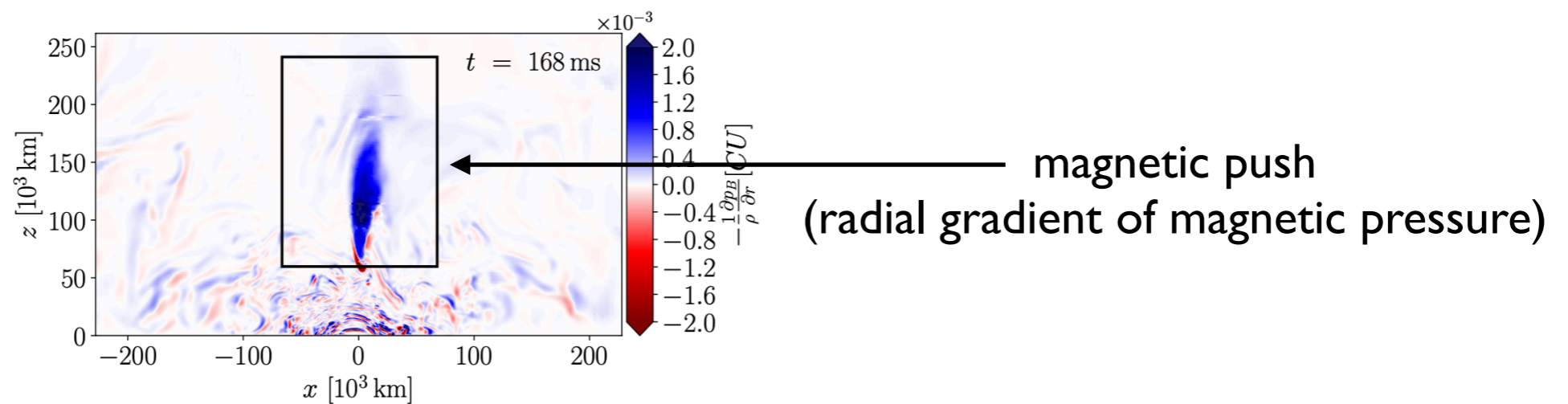
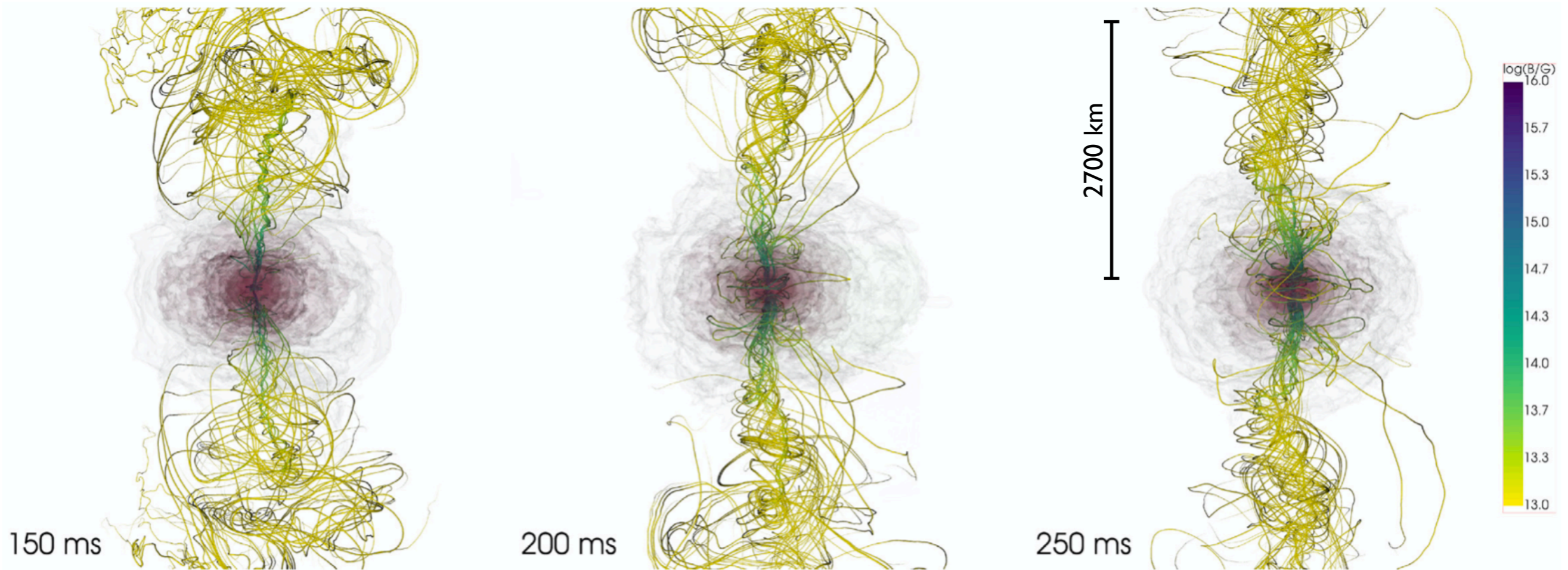


## magnetorotational launching mechanism



# Emerging helical magnetic field

Ciolfi 2020a



# Can this collimated outflow evolve into a SGRB jet?

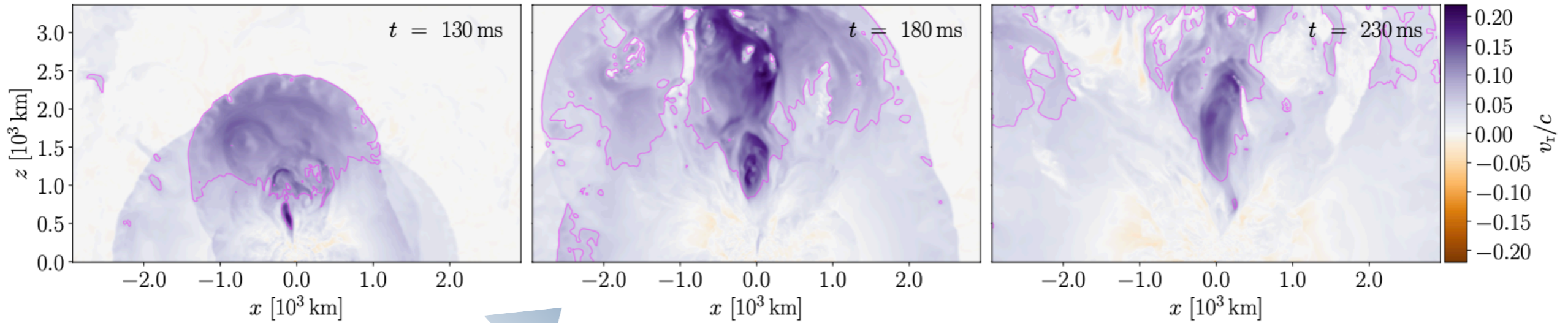
compared to GRB 170817A jet parameters:

- outflow energy is insufficient (or at most marginally consistent)
- outflow collimation is insufficient
- low outflow velocity of  $\sim 0.2c$  and energy-to-mass flux ratio  $< 0.01$ 
  - no way to accelerate up to  $\sim 0.995c$  (Lorentz factor of 10) or more
  - outflow is at least 3 orders of magnitude too heavy!

**massive NS scenario for SGRBs is disfavoured**

# Magnetically driven winds and blue KN

Ciolfi & Kalinani 2020

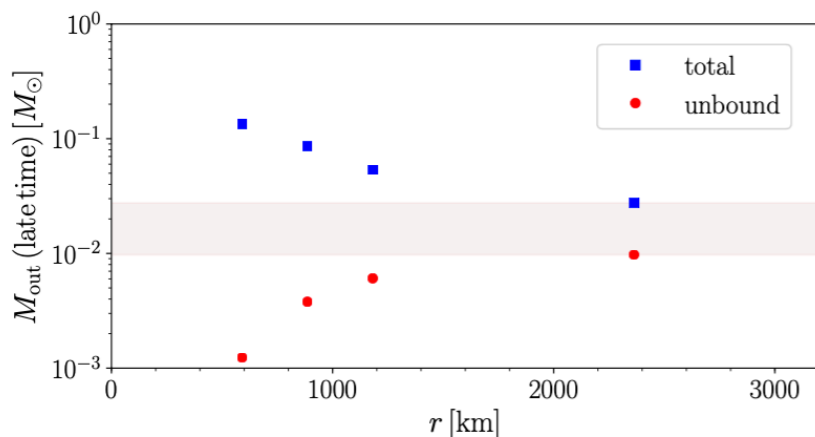


✓ **ejecta velocity**

~0.2 c marginally consistent with blue kilonova

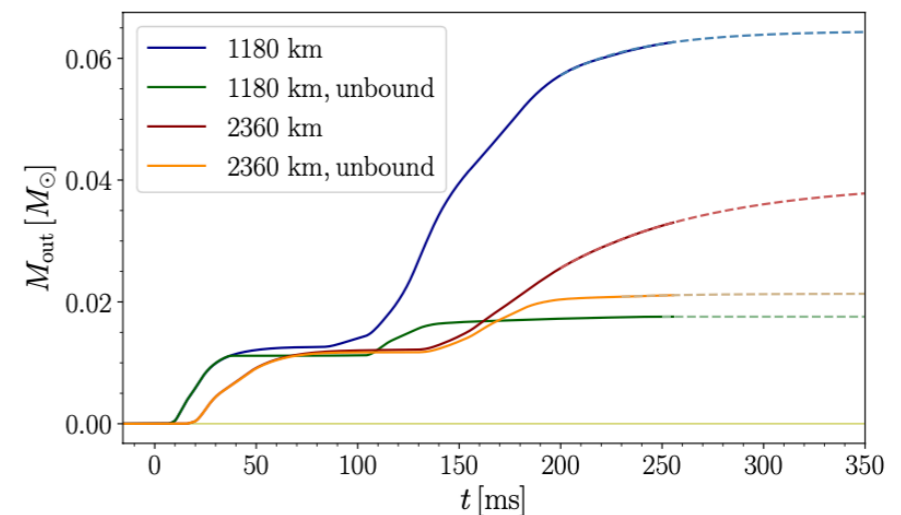
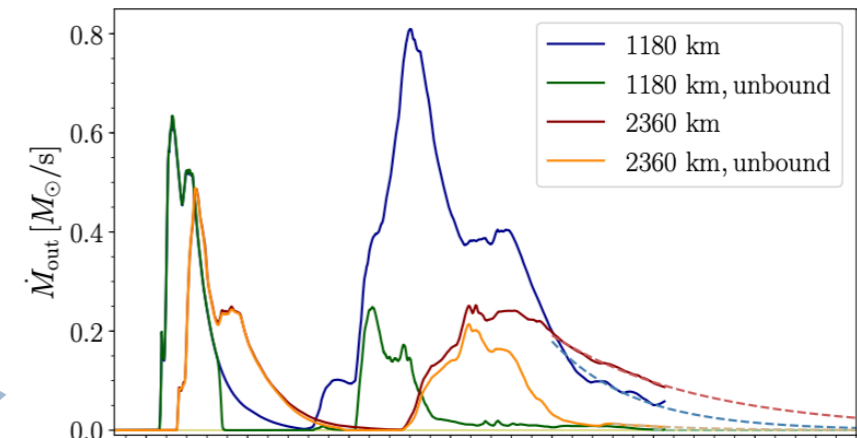
→ possible further enhancement

✓ **ejecta mass**

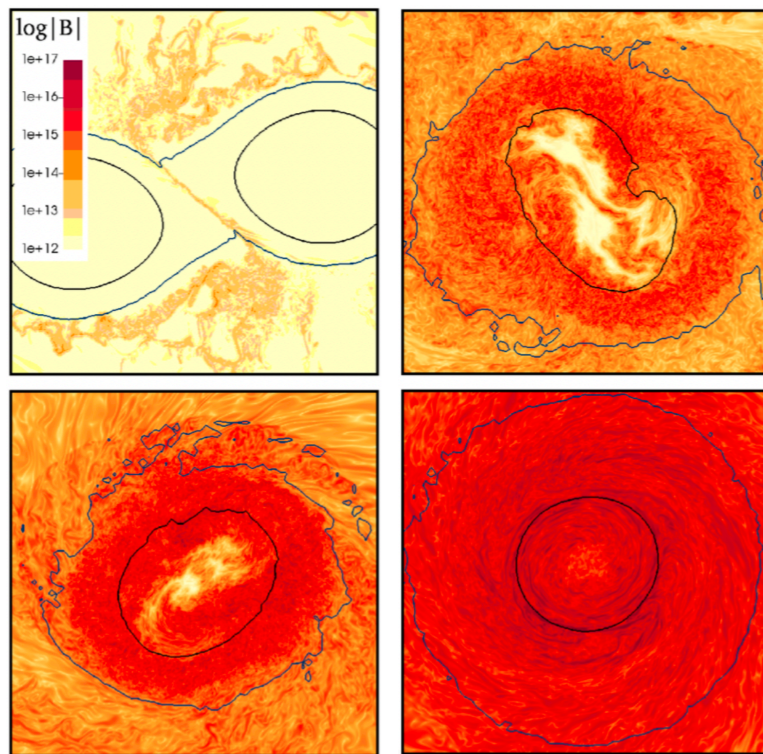


$M_{ej, wind} \simeq 0.010 - 0.028 M_{\odot}$

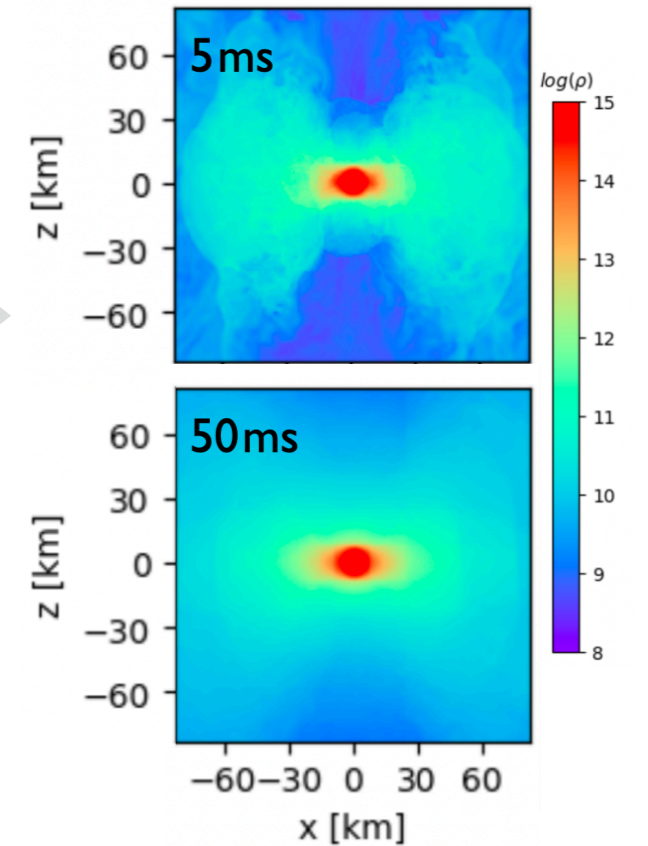
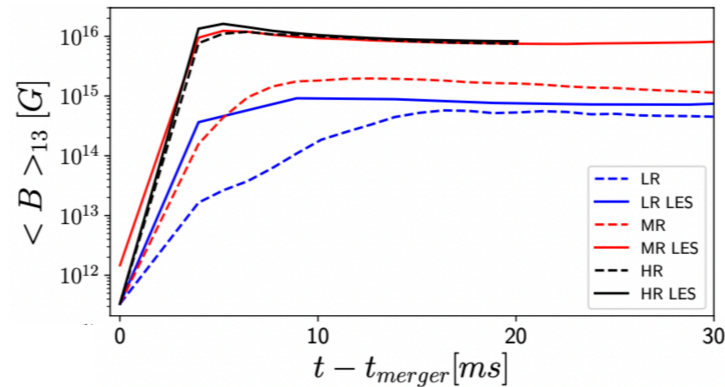
to be compared with  
0.015 - 0.025  $M_{\odot}$



# Caveat I - MHD not fully resolved



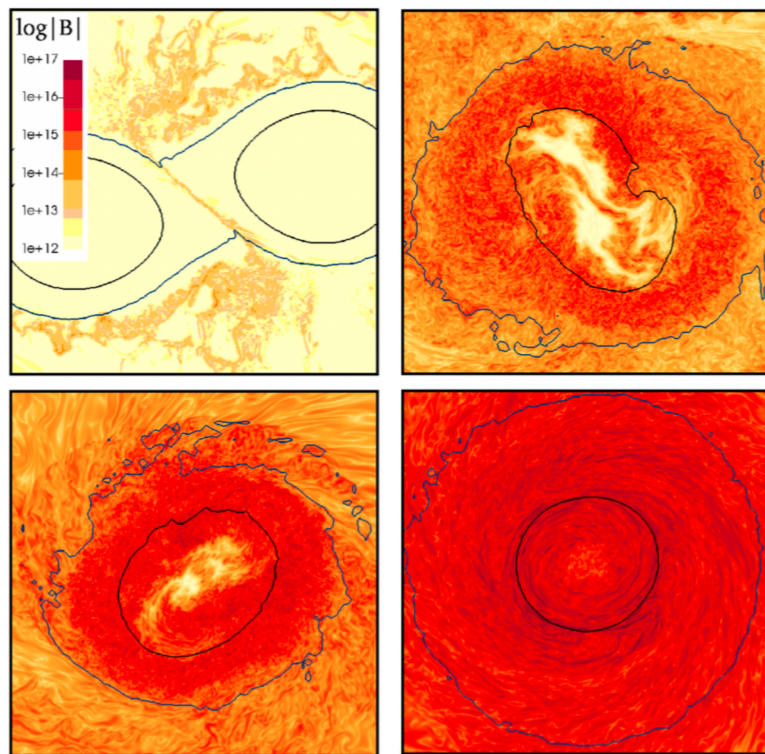
Palenzuela+2022  
first-time convergence  
in magnetic field amplification!



subgrid modelling of MHD turbulence  
Large-Eddy-Simulation approach

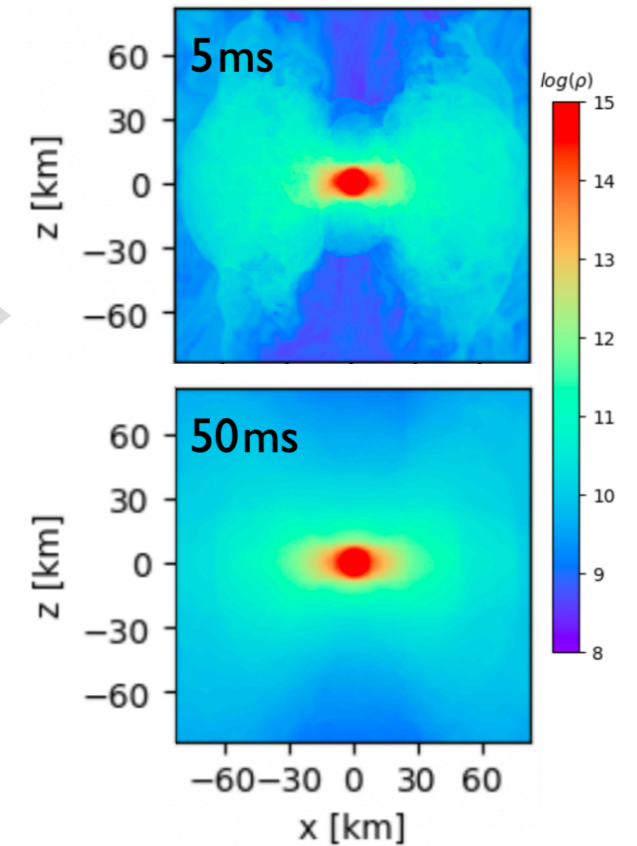
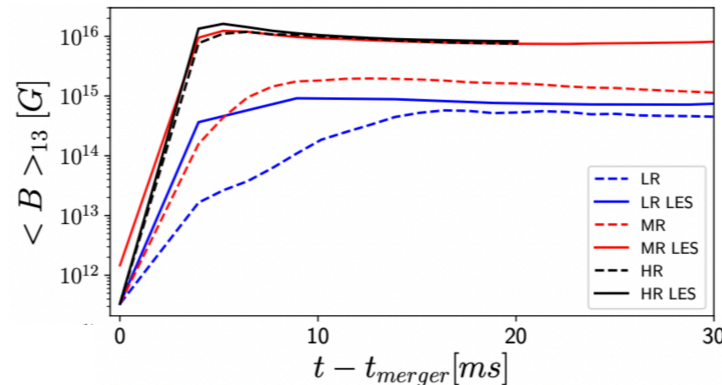
difficulties in producing an incipient jet  
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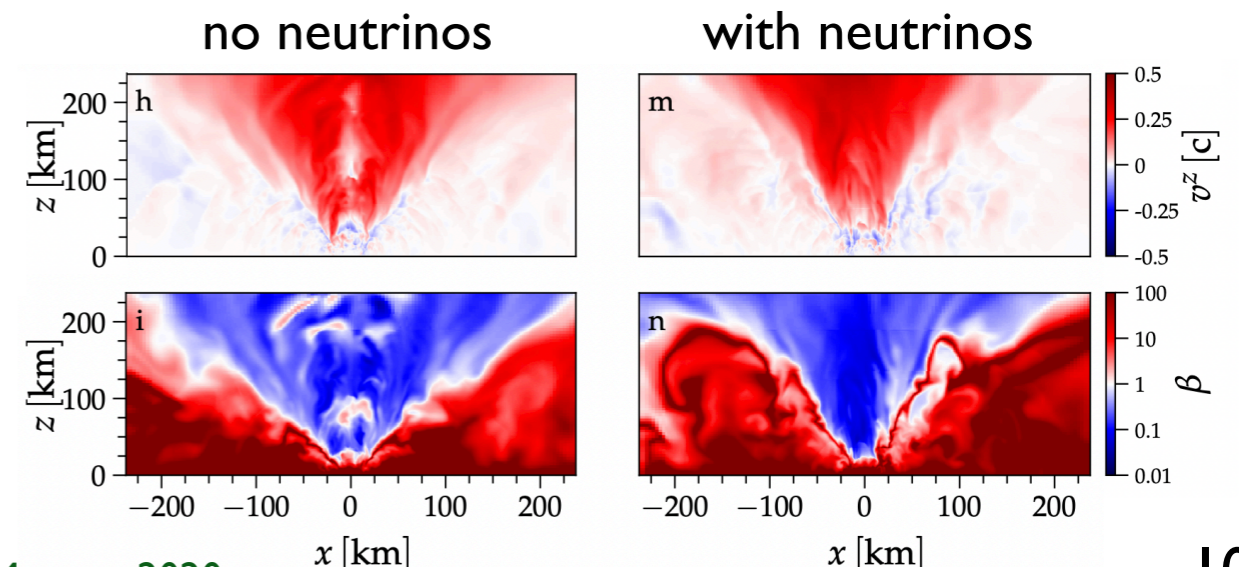
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# Caveat 2 - "hot" EOS and neutrinos

may lower baryon pollution along the spin axis



is this sufficient to fill the 3-4 orders of  
magnitude missing in terminal Lorentz factor?



Moesta+2020

# Connecting with SGRB observations

BNS merger simulations limited  
to scales  $\sim 100\text{ms}/1000\text{km}$



disconnected from scales relevant for  
SGRB EM radiation (prompt & afterglow)

need for models of jet propagation across the environment up to large scales

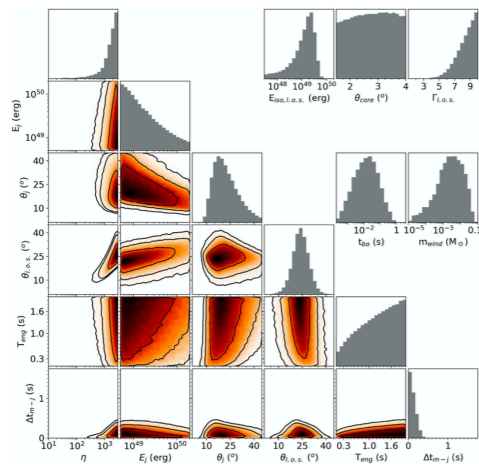
incipient jet  
+  
environment

propagation model

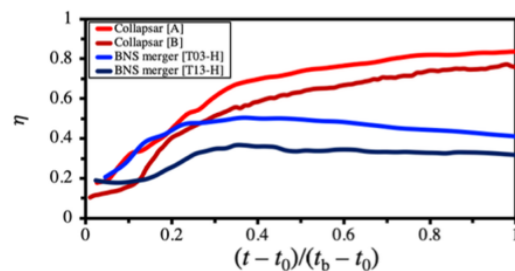
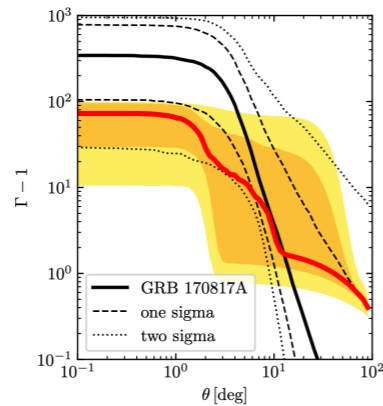
final jet structure  
prompt & afterglow emission

## semi-analytical

Lazzati+2020



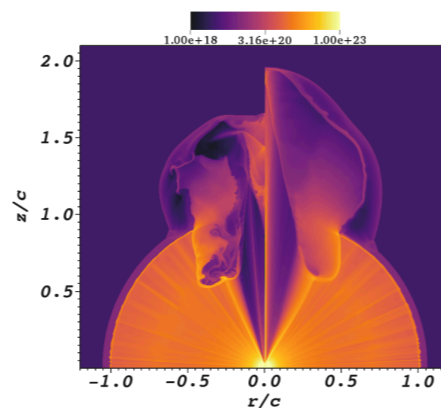
Salafia+2020



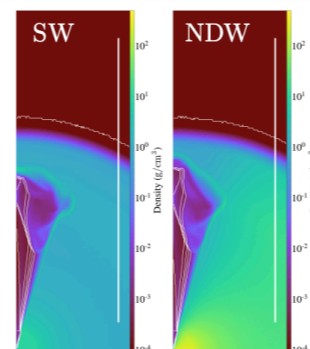
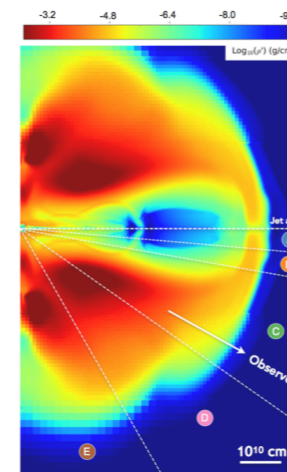
Hamidani & Ioka 2020

## 2D/3D HD

Urrutia+2020



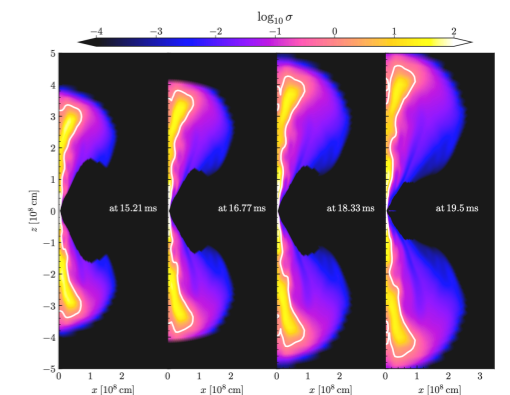
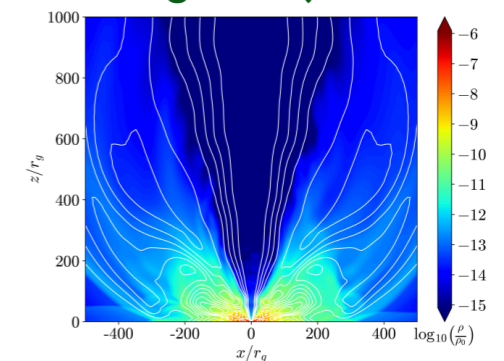
Lazzati+2018



Murgia-Berthier+2021

## 3D GRMHD

Kathirgamaraju+2019



Nathanail+2020, 2021

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disconnected from scales relevant for SGRB EM radiation (prompt & afterglow)

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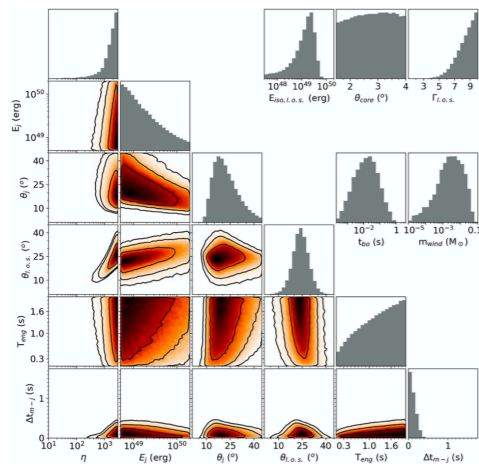
incipient jet + environment

propagation model

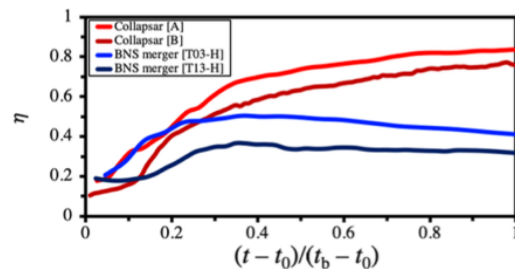
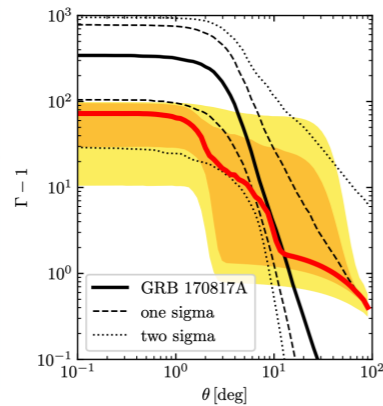
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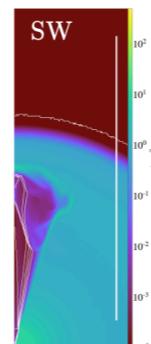
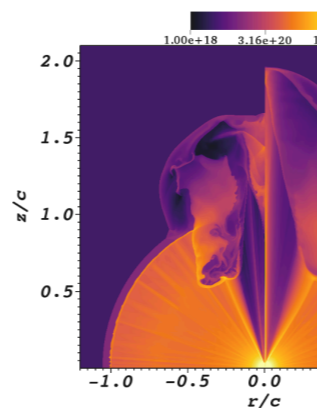
Salafia+2020



Hamidani & Ioka 2020

## 2D/3D LB

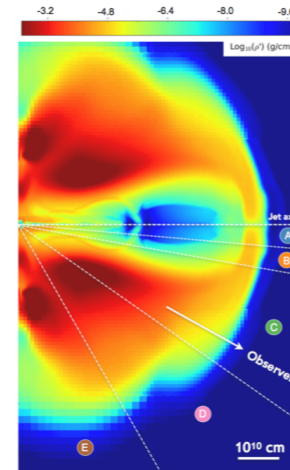
Urrutia+20



Murgia-Berthier+2021

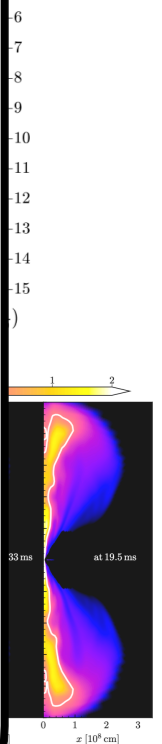
## 3D GRMHD

Lazzati+2018



Aspen Institute Italia Award 2022!

Nathanail+2020, 2021

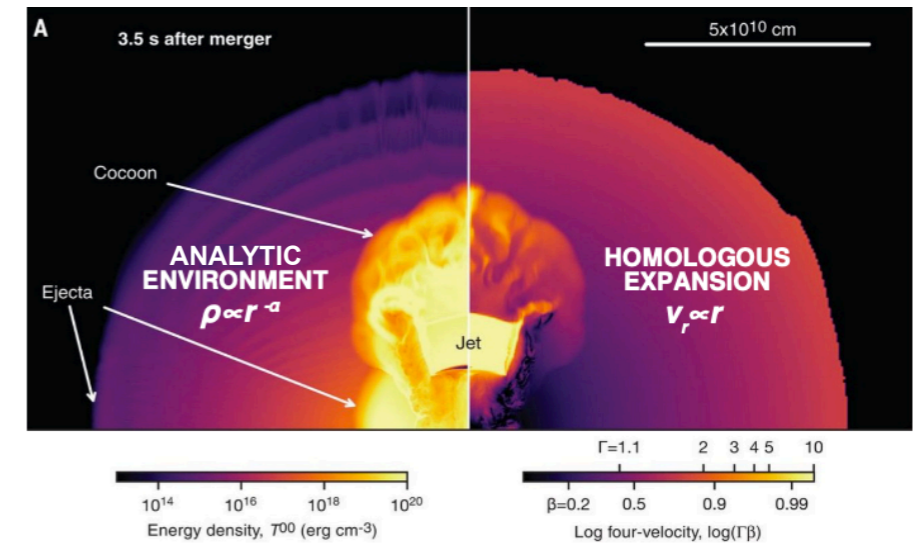




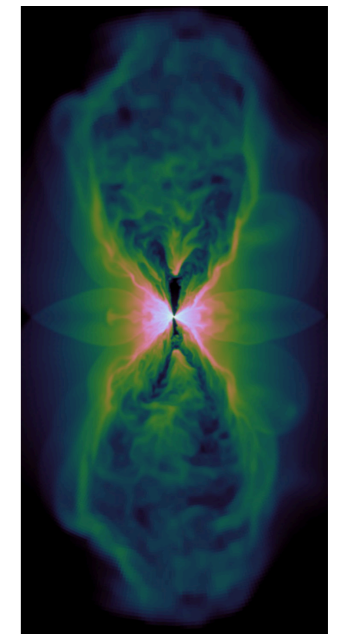
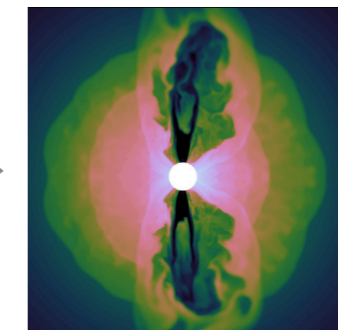
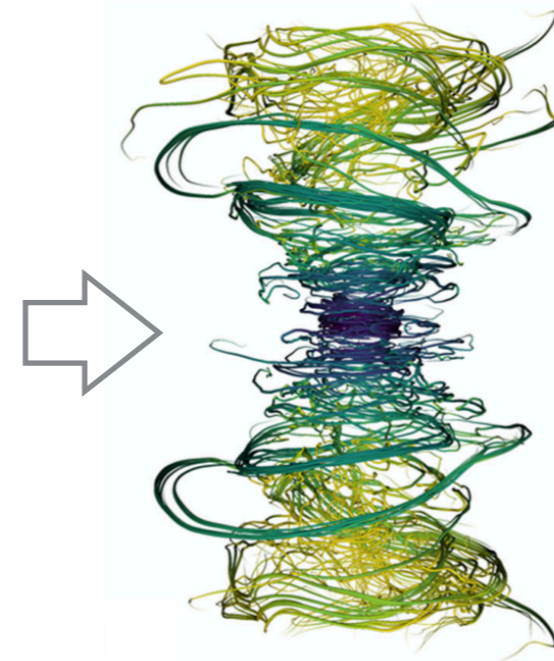
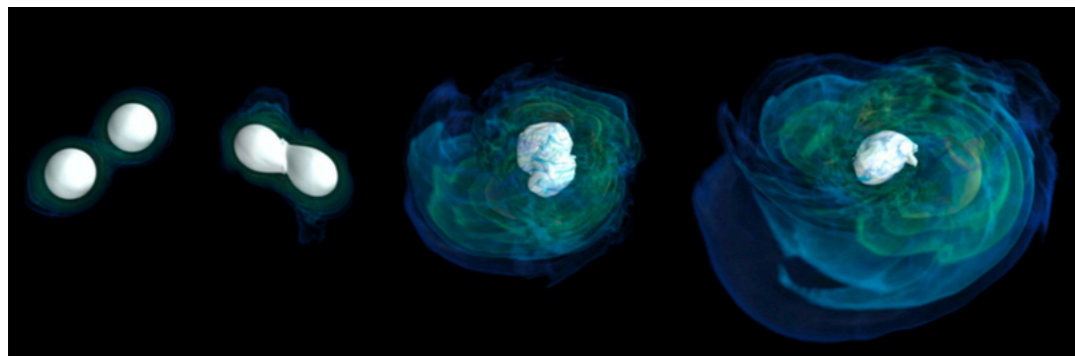
adapted from Kasliwal+2018

common limitation: incipient jet propagates across hand-made and simplified environment

- power-law density profile & homologous expansion or stationary wind
- spherical/axial symmetry



## Towards an end-to-end modelling



consistent description of  
BNS merger + jet production + jet propagation across the environment

final goal: constraining properties of the specific merging system  
via SGRB-related observations

# Jet propagation in BNS merger environment

Pavan+2021

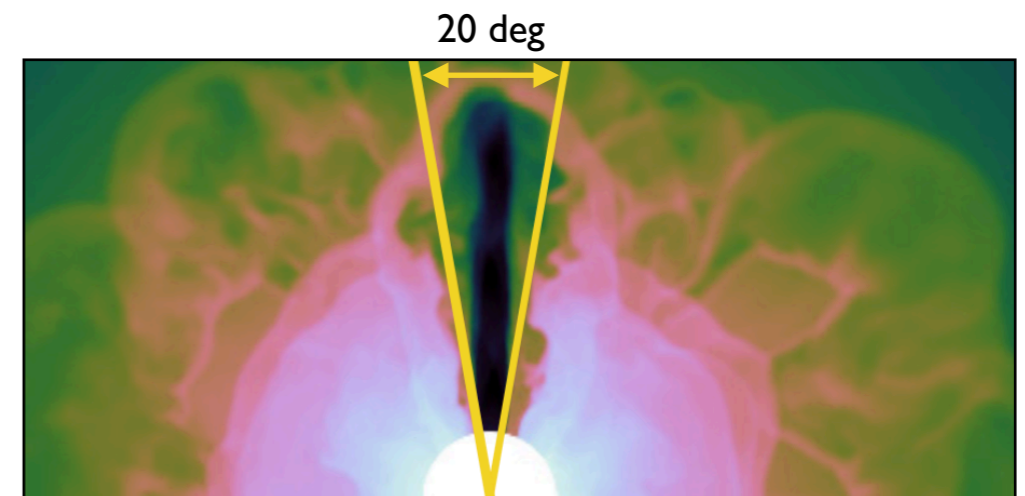
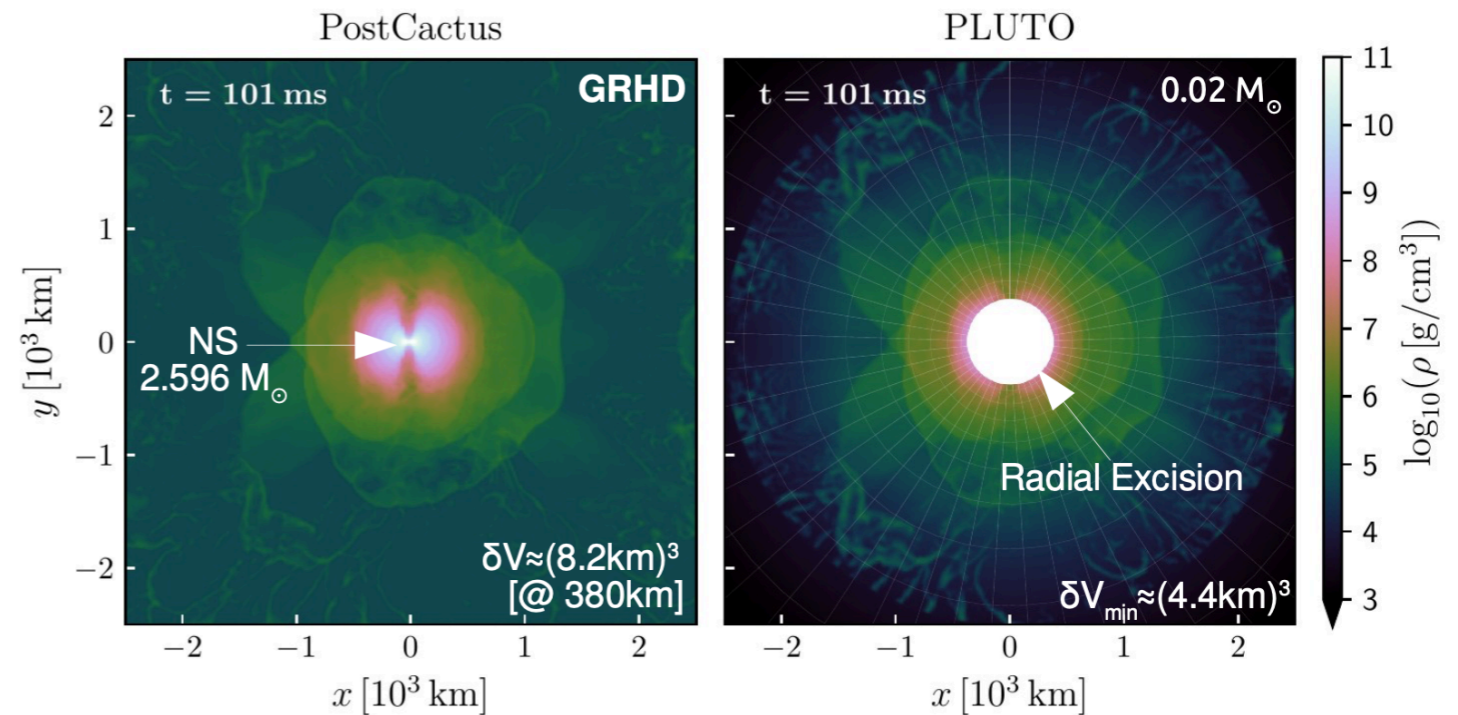
first 3D RHD jet simulations with environment imported from BNS simulation

## simulation setup

- PLUTO code [Mignone+2007, 2012](#)
- full 3D spherical grid (log r spacing)
- excised region up to 380km radius
- redefinition of atmospheric floor  $\rho_{\text{atm}} \propto 1/r^5$
- outer boundary 2.5e6 km
- TAUB EOS [Mignone & McKinney 2005](#)
- Gravitational pull from central object (2.596 Msun)

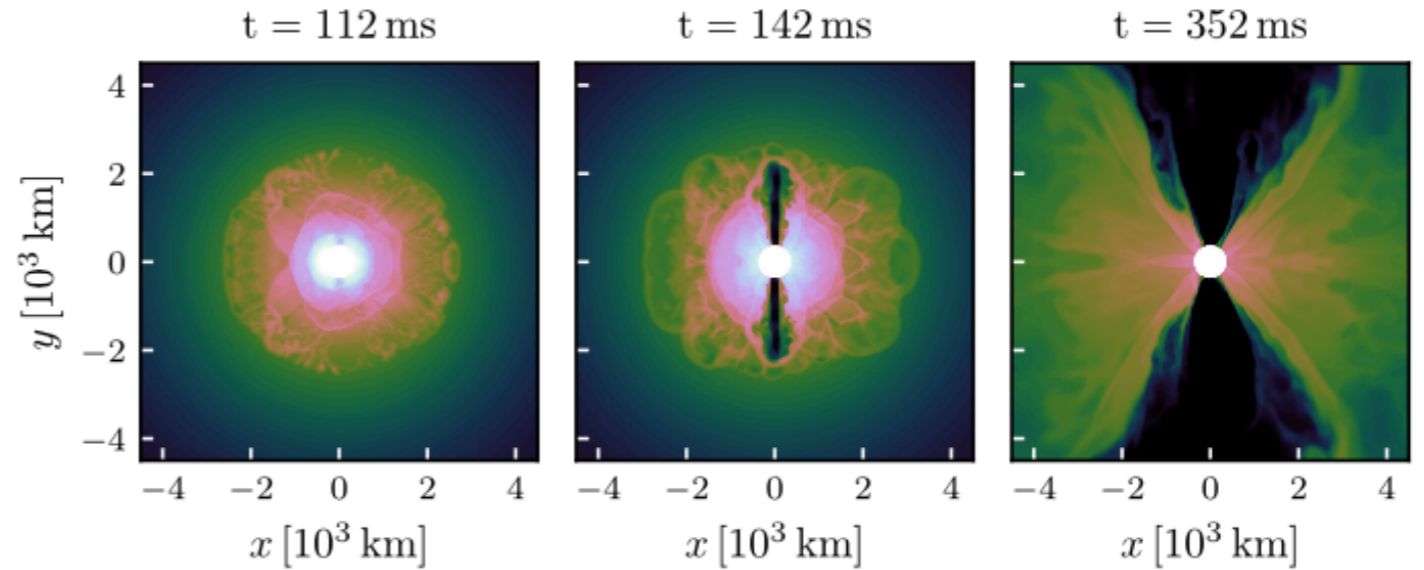
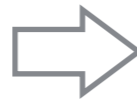
## jet properties

- top-hat, 10 deg half-opening angle, lorentz factor 3
- luminosity  $3e50$  erg/s, decaying on 0.3 s timescale

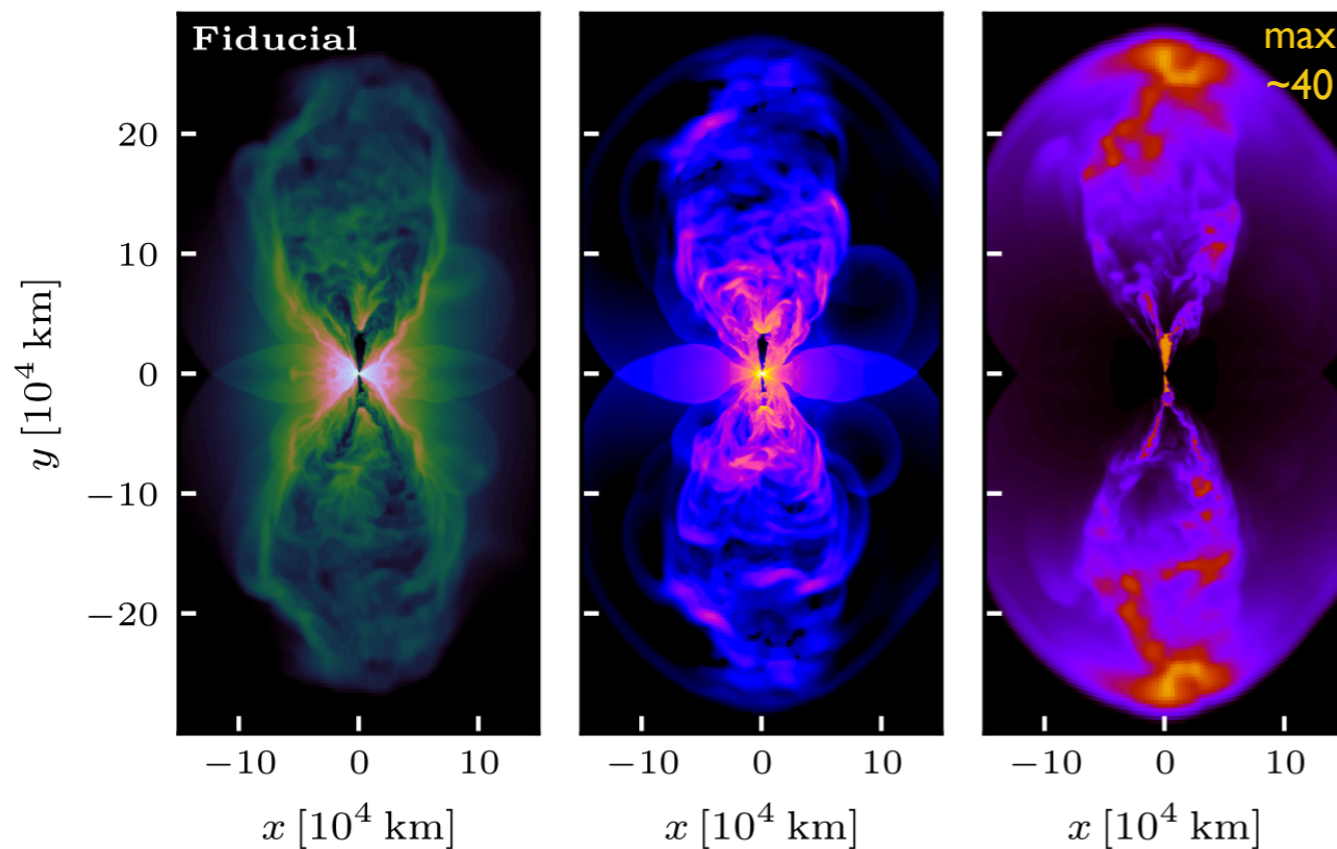
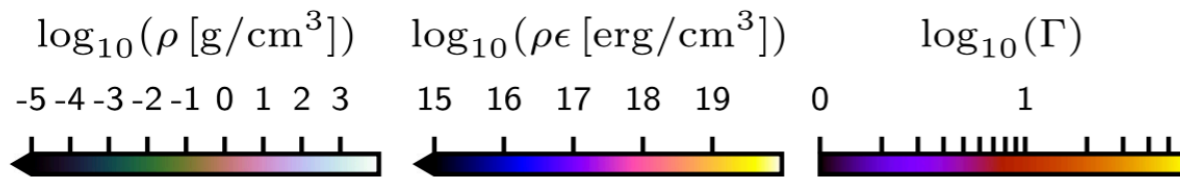


# Fiducial model

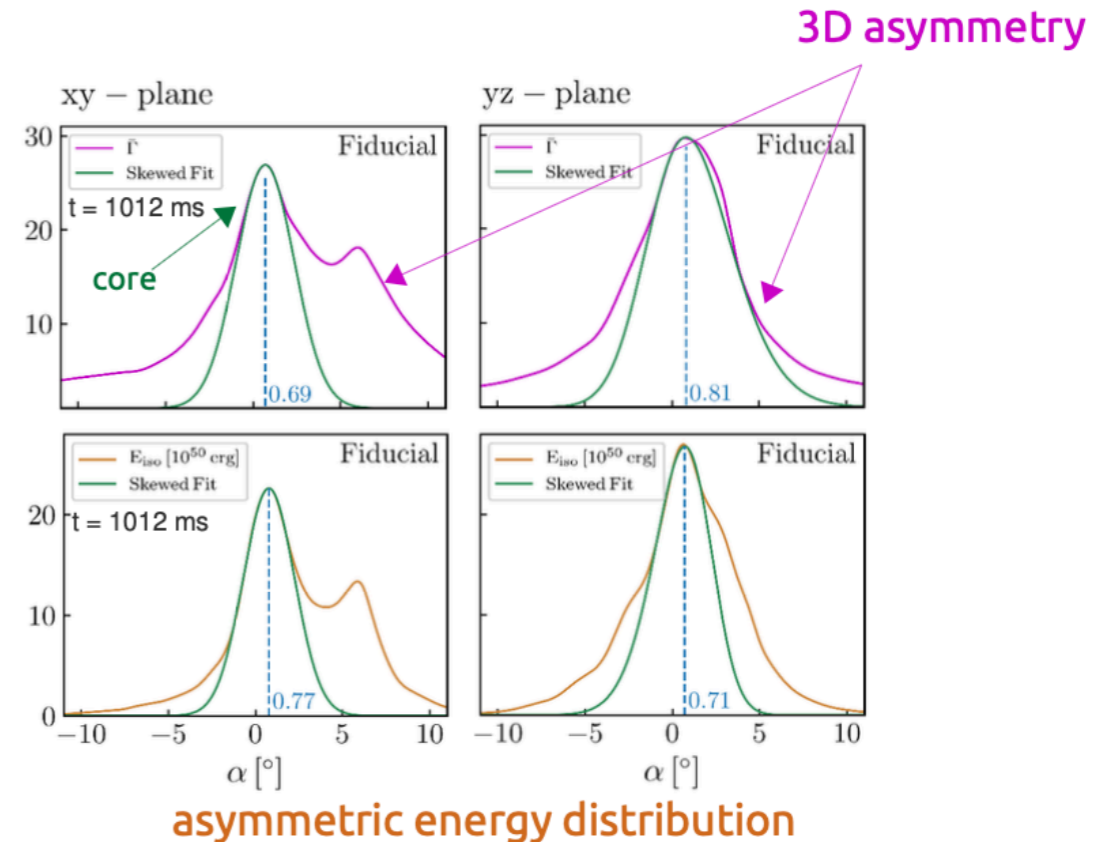
early evolution near the engine:  
jet breakout and widening



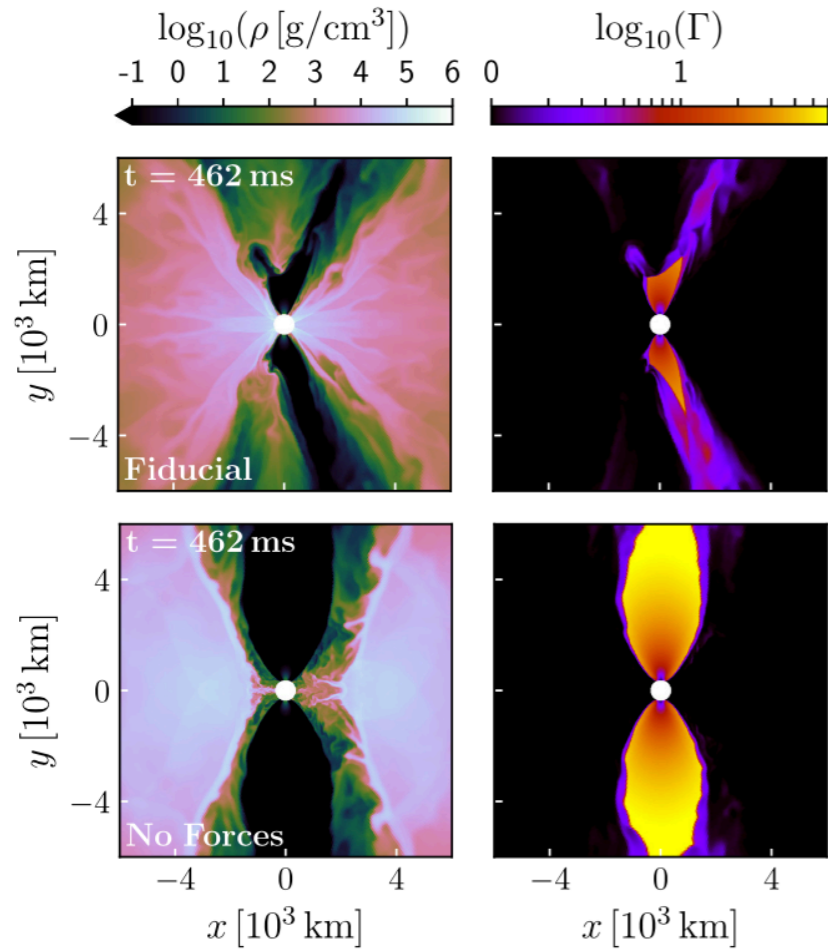
final outflow properties  
1012 ms after merger



angular profiles at jet's head

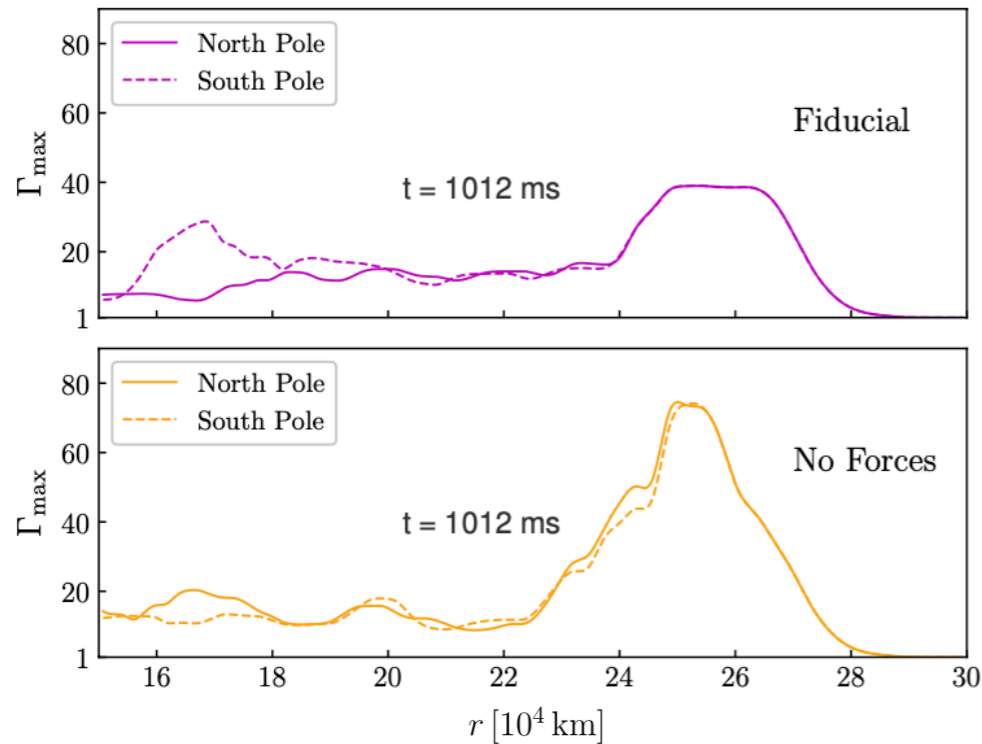


# Impact of gravity



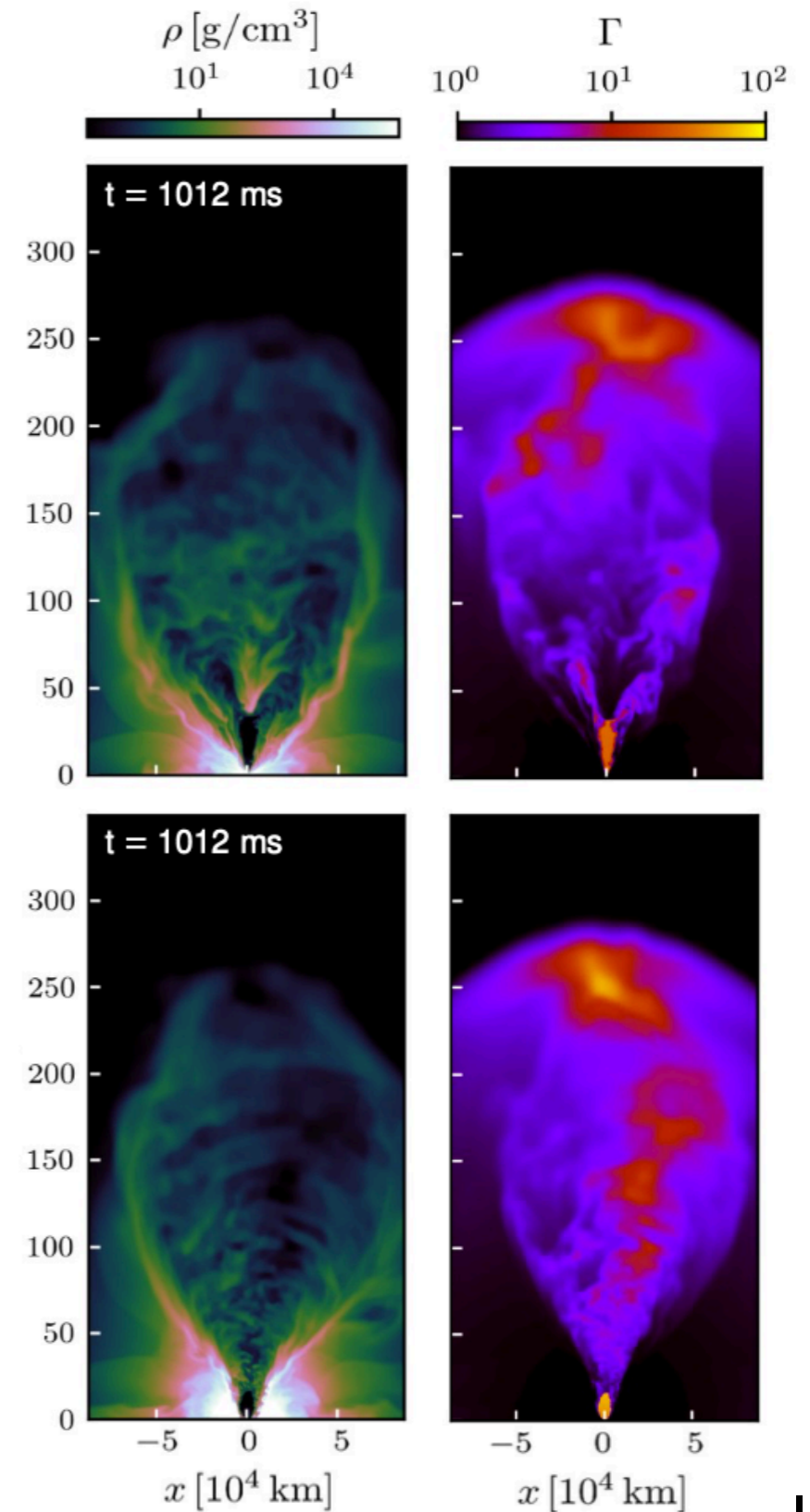
← gravity effect:  
more turbulence  
and baryon loading

← no gravity:  
unperturbed  
collimation shock

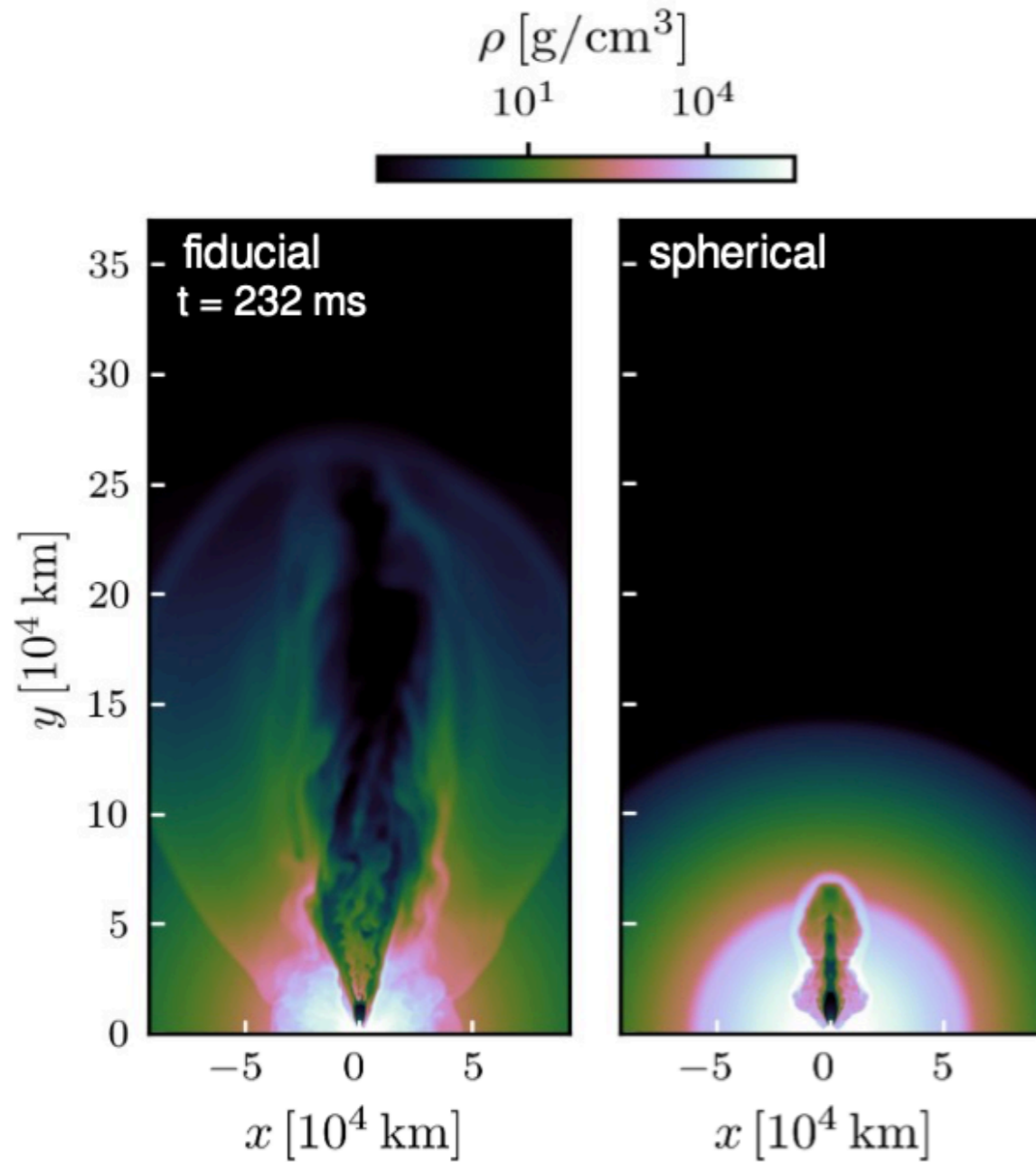


no gravity:  
more compact  
and axisymmetric  
jet's head →

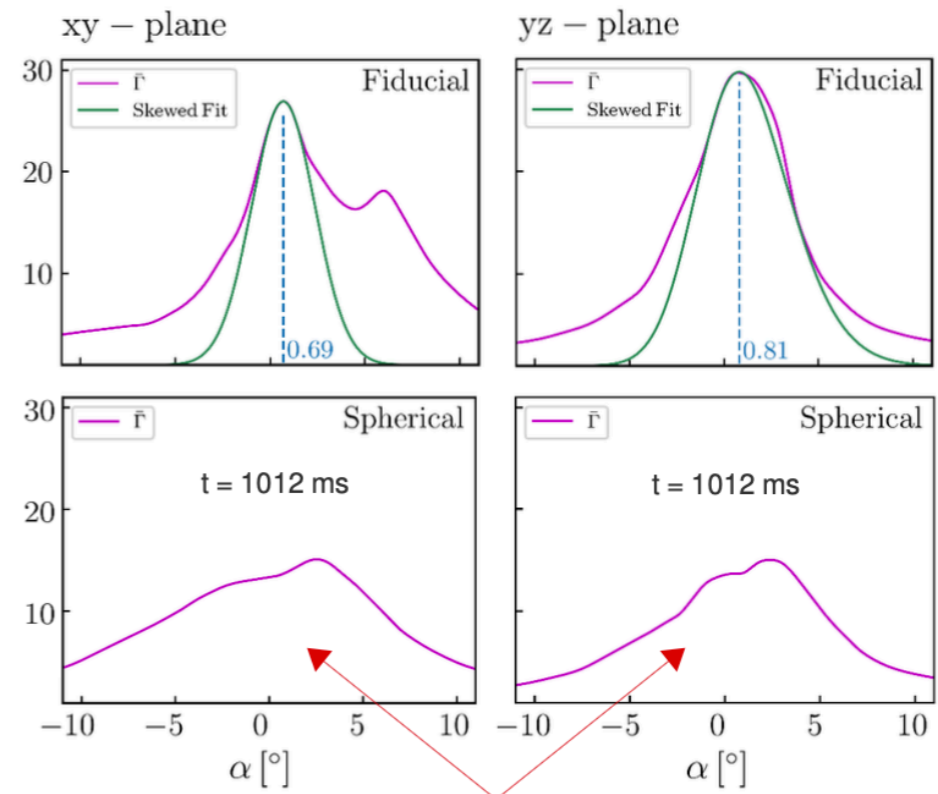
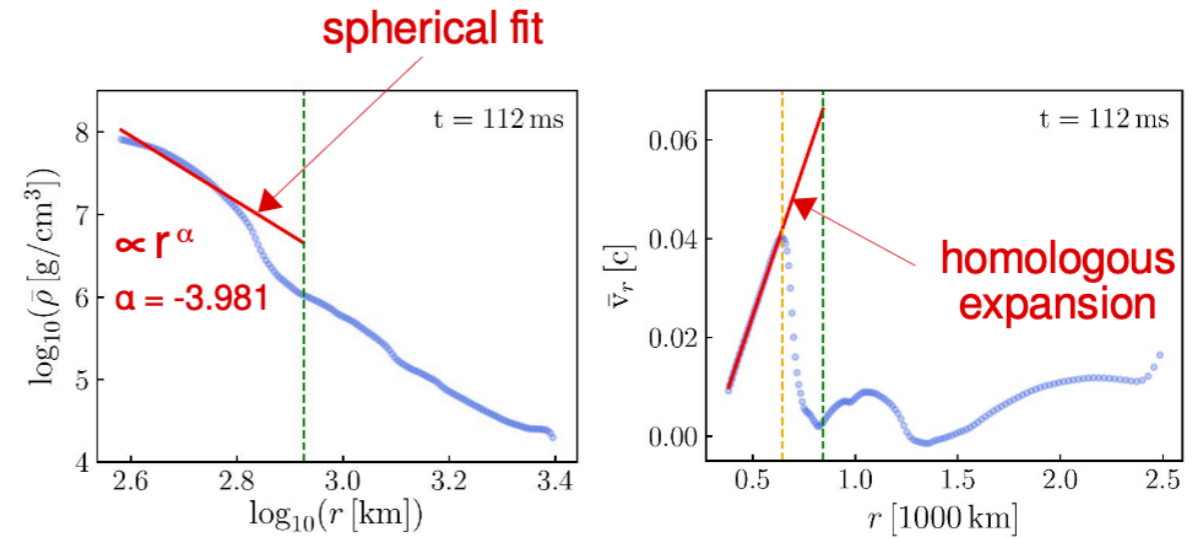
← larger  
Lorentz factor



# BNS merger vs. hand-made initial conditions

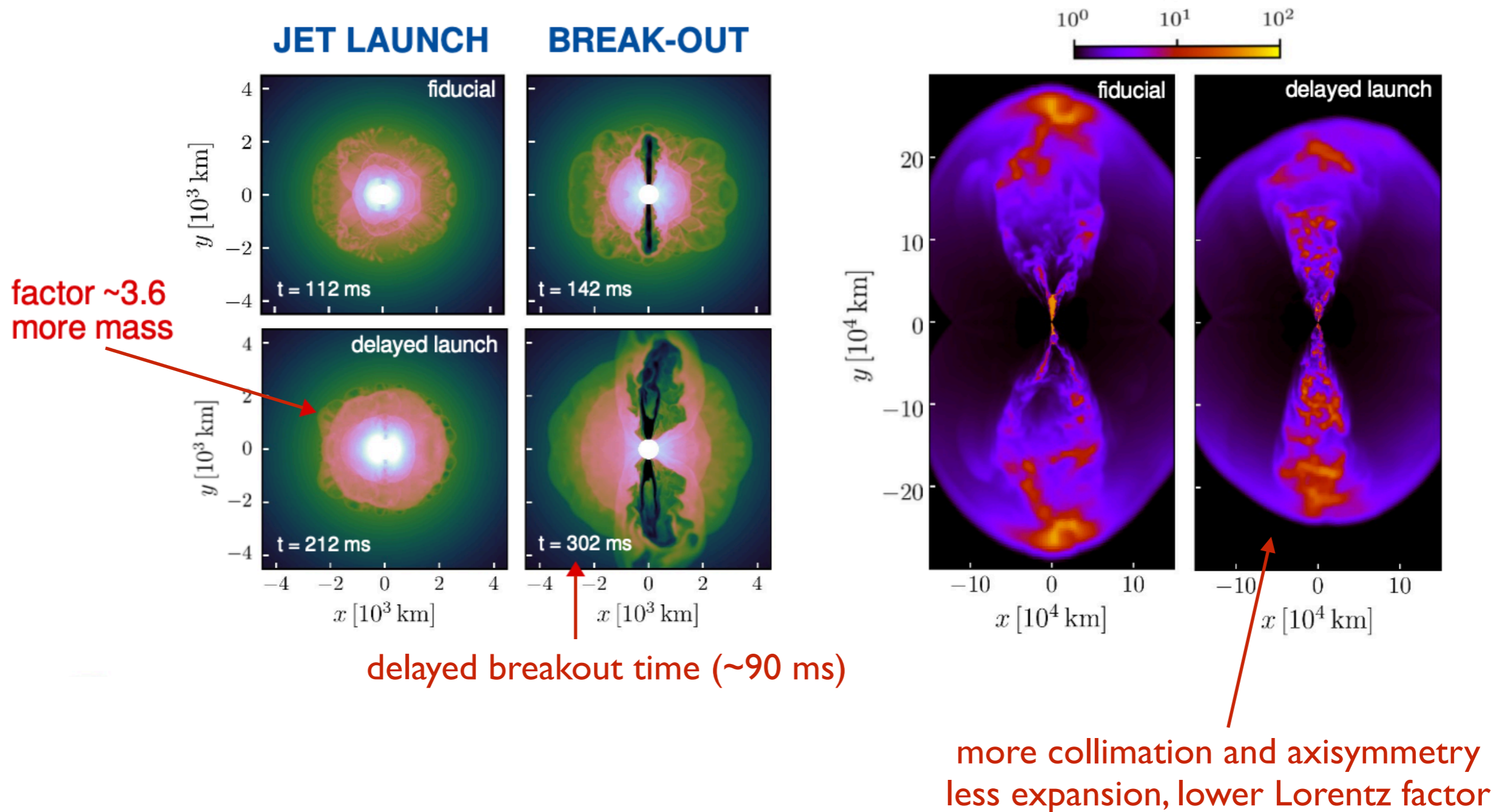


delayed break-out time



higher 3D symmetry  
& lower Lorentz factors

# Dependence on collapse/jet launching time



# Summary of Pavan+2021

- first 3D RHD jet simulations with environment imported from a BNS merger simulation
- simpler hand-made environments lead to significantly different results
- gravitational pull from central object needs to be included
- outcome may strongly depend on jet launching time

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## Work in progress..

### **short-term**

- inclusion of magnetic fields (RMHD)
- combination with afterglow modelling
- adaptive mesh refinement

### **long-term**

- jet launched consistently in BNS merger simulation
- radiation transport for thermal and non-thermal photons



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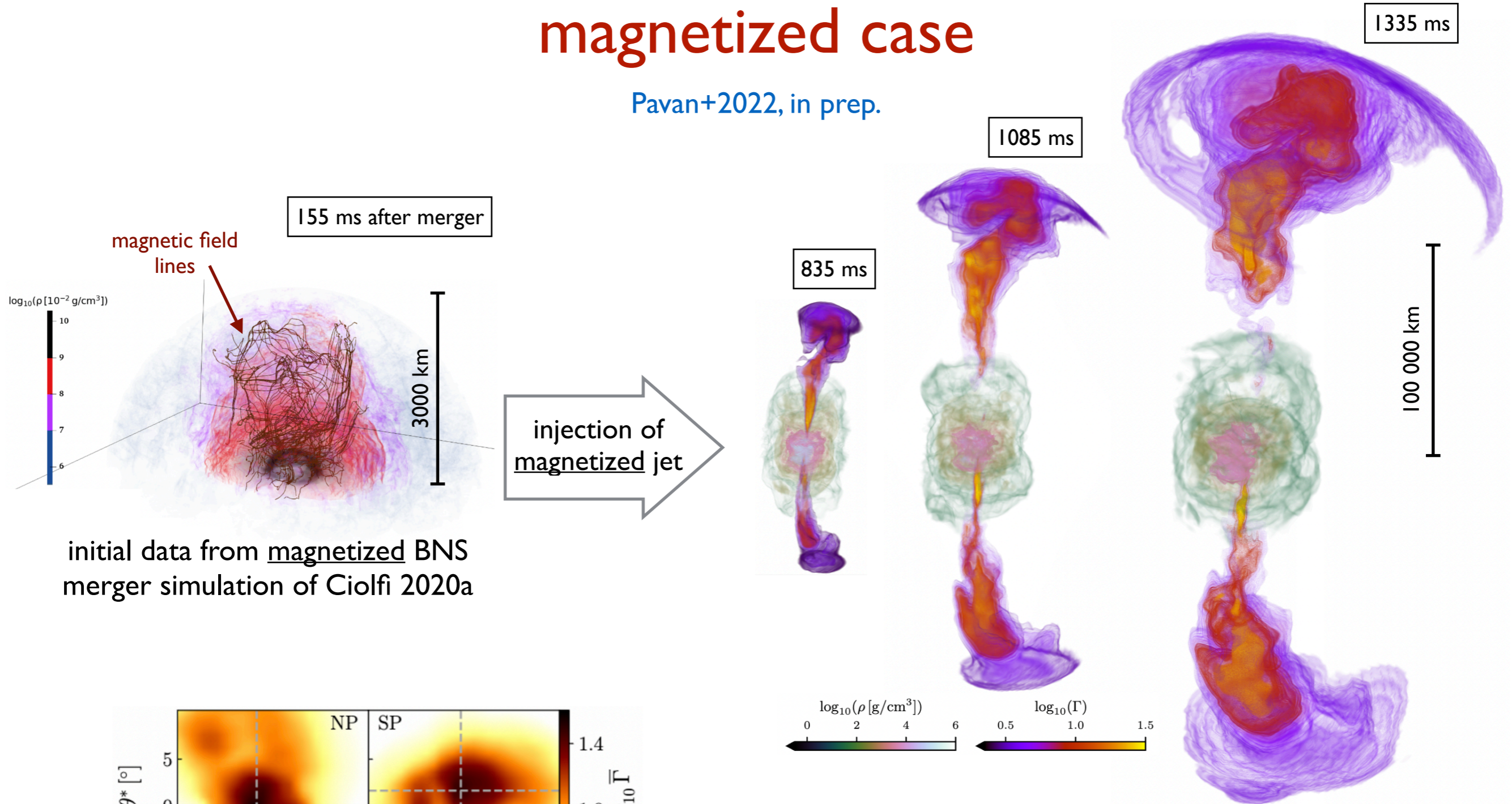
Pavan+2022, in prep.

### long-term

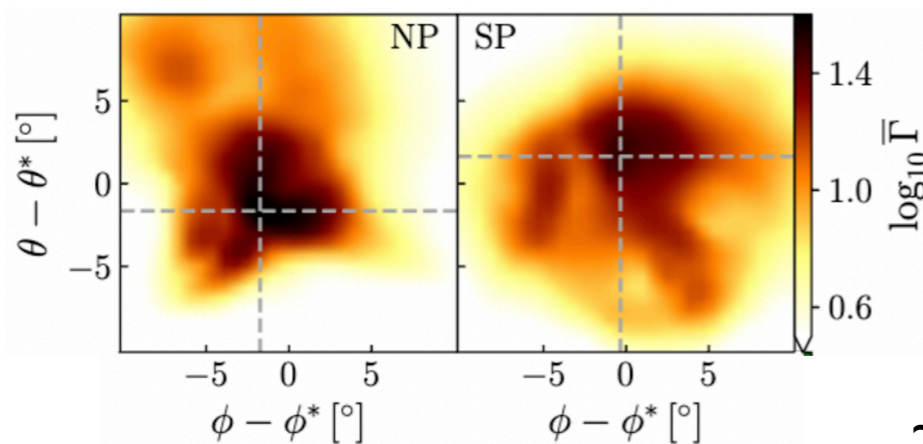
- jet launched consistently in BNS merger simulation
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# Jet in realistic BNS merger environments: magnetized case

Pavan+2022, in prep.



initial data from magnetized BNS merger simulation of Ciolfi 2020a



2D angular profiles of Lorentz factor  
~2s after jet launching

# Take-home message

- 2017 BNS merger left important questions on the physical origin of the SGRB jet
- GRMHD simulations of the merger process represent the necessary investigating tool
- we found that massive NS remnants can launch collimated outflows, but to produce a SGRB jet we (likely) need an accreting BH
- we also performed the first relativistic simulations of jets propagating through a realistic BNS environment (i.e. imported from the GRMHD simulation)
  - accomplished key steps toward an end-to-end description

# References

- A. Pavan, R. Ciolfi, J.V. Kalinani, A. Mignone (2021), MNRAS **506**, 3483  
*Short gamma-ray burst jet propagation in binary neutron star merger environments*
- R. Ciolfi, J.V. Kalinani (2020), ApJ Letters **900**, L35  
*Magnetically driven baryon winds from binary neutron star merger remnants and the blue kilonova of August 2017*
- R. Ciolfi (2020a), MNRAS Letters **495**, L66  
*Collimated outflows from long-lived binary neutron star merger remnants*
- D. Lazzati, R. Ciolfi, R. Perna (2020), ApJ **898**, 59  
*Intrinsic properties of the engine and jet that powered the short gamma-ray burst associated with GW170817*
- R. Ciolfi, W. Kastaun, J.V. Kalinani, B. Giacomazzo (2019), PRD **100**, 023005  
*The first 100 ms of a long-lived magnetized neutron star formed in a binary neutron star merger*
- D. Lazzati, et al. (2018), PRL **120**, 241103  
*Late time afterglow observations reveal a collimated relativistic jet in the ejecta of the binary neutron star merger GW170817*
- R. Ciolfi, W. Kastaun, B. Giacomazzo, A. Endrizzi, D. M. Siegel, R. Perna (2017), PRD **95**, 063016  
*General relativistic magnetohydrodynamic simulations of binary neutron star mergers forming a long-lived neutron star*

## Spritz and RePrimAnd

- J.V. Kalinani, R. Ciolfi, W. Kastaun, et al. (2022), PRD **105**, 103031  
*Implementing a new recovery scheme for primitive variables in the...*
- W. Kastaun, J.V. Kalinani, R. Ciolfi (2021), PRD **103**, 023018  
*Robust Recovery of Primitive Variables in Relativistic Ideal MHD*
- F. Cipolletta, et al. (2021), CQG **38**, 085021  
*Spritz: General Relativistic Magnetohydrodynamics with Neutrinos*
- F. Cipolletta, et al. (2020), CQG **37**, 135010  
*Spritz: a new fully general-relativistic magnetohydrodynamic code*

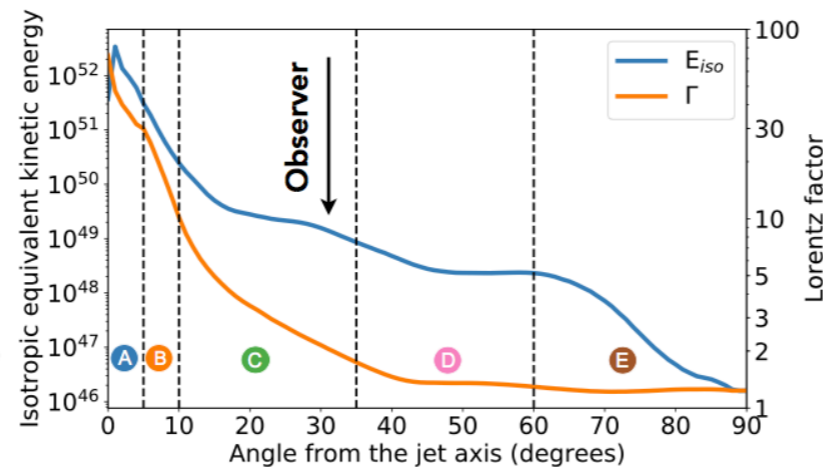
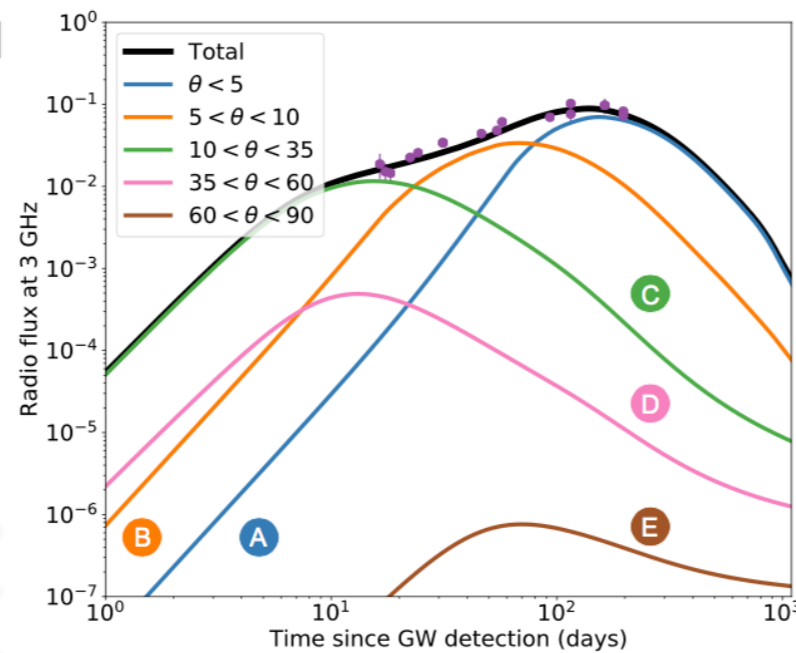
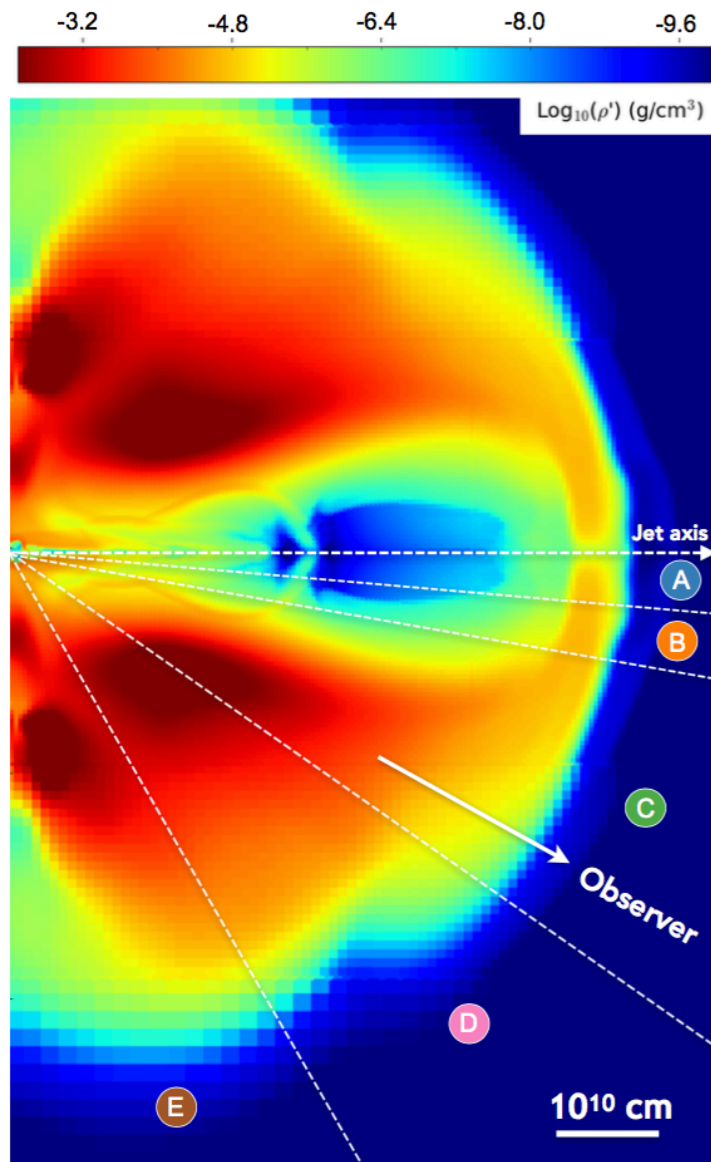
## Recent review articles

- R. Ciolfi (2020c), Front. Astron. Sp. Sci. **7**, 27  
*Binary neutron star mergers after GW170817*
- R. Ciolfi (2020b), Gen. Rel. Grav. **52**, 59  
*The key role of magnetic fields in BNS mergers*
- R. Ciolfi (2018), IJMPD **27**, No. 13, 1842004  
*Short gamma-ray burst central engines*

**BACKUP SLIDES**

# GRB 170817A: Canonical SGRB?

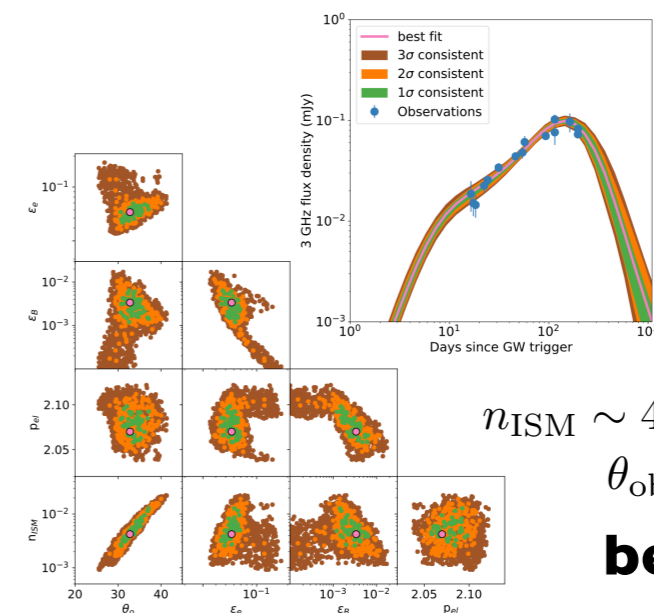
Lazzati+2018



special relativistic jet simulation  
 $L_j = 10^{50}$  erg/s,  $\theta_j = 16^\circ$ ,  $t_{\text{eng}} = 1$  s  
 $M_{\text{ej}} = 0.6 \times 10^{-2} M_\odot$



multiwavelength afterglow calculation



$n_{\text{ISM}} \sim 4 \times 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-3}$   
 $\theta_{\text{obs}} \sim 33^\circ$

**best fit**

an ordinary SGRB event observed off-axis? ➡ viable explanation!

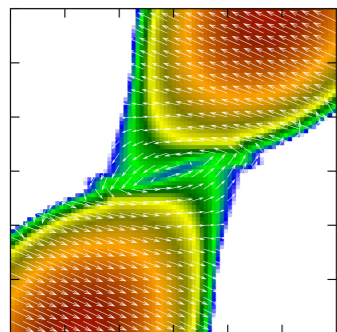


Aspen Institute Italia Award 2022!

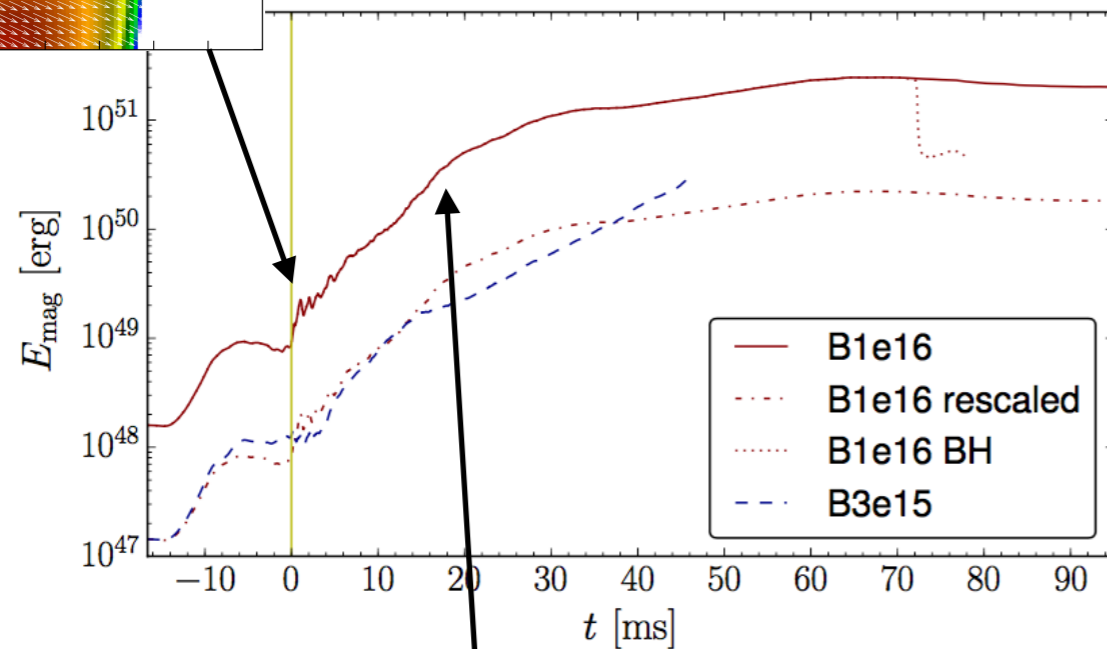
# Magnetic field amplification and geometry

Ciolfi+2019: 100 ms of post-merger evolution

Kiuchi+2015

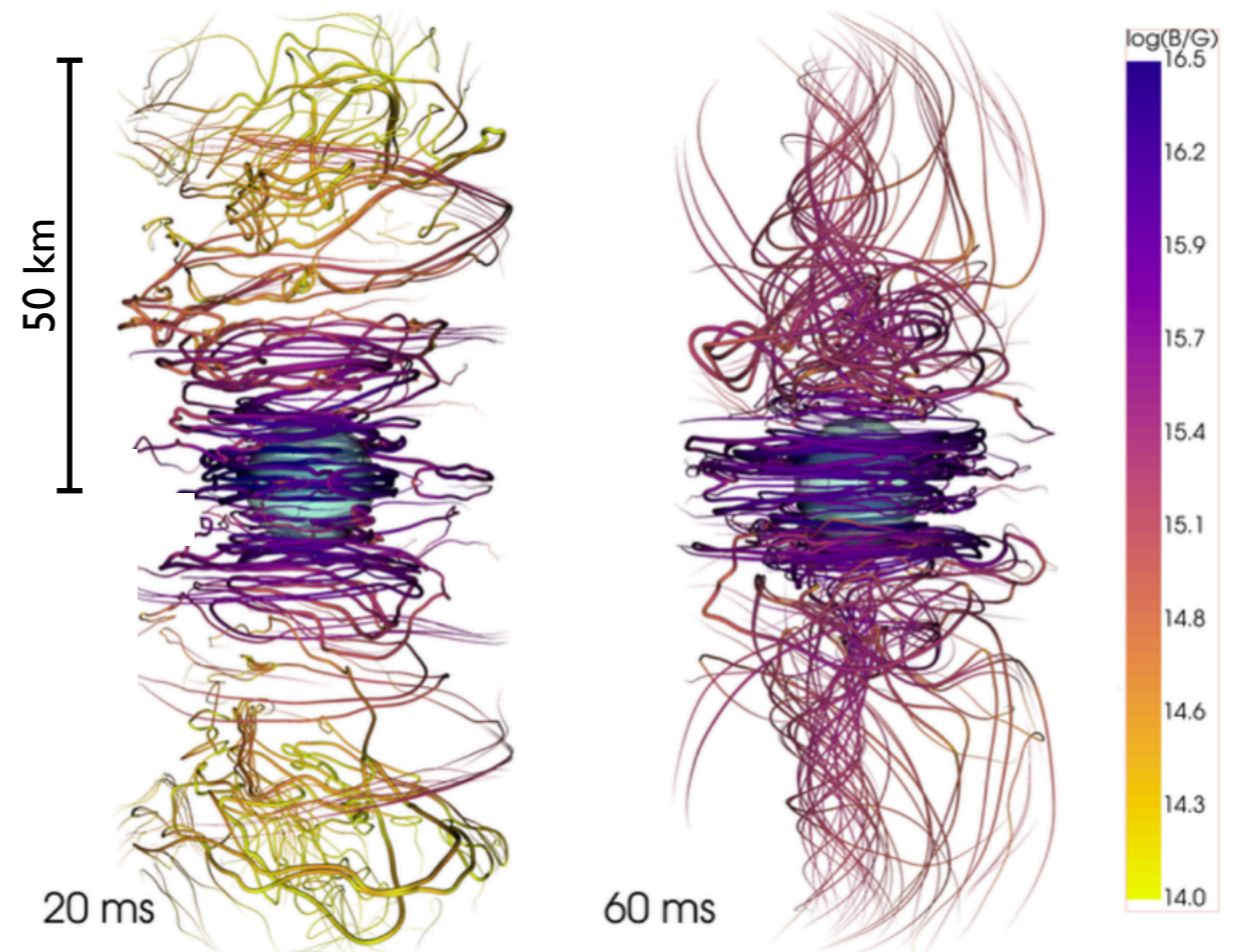


Kelvin-Helmholtz Instability  
toroidal field amplification



MagnetoRotational Instability

Magnetic winding



20 ms

60 ms

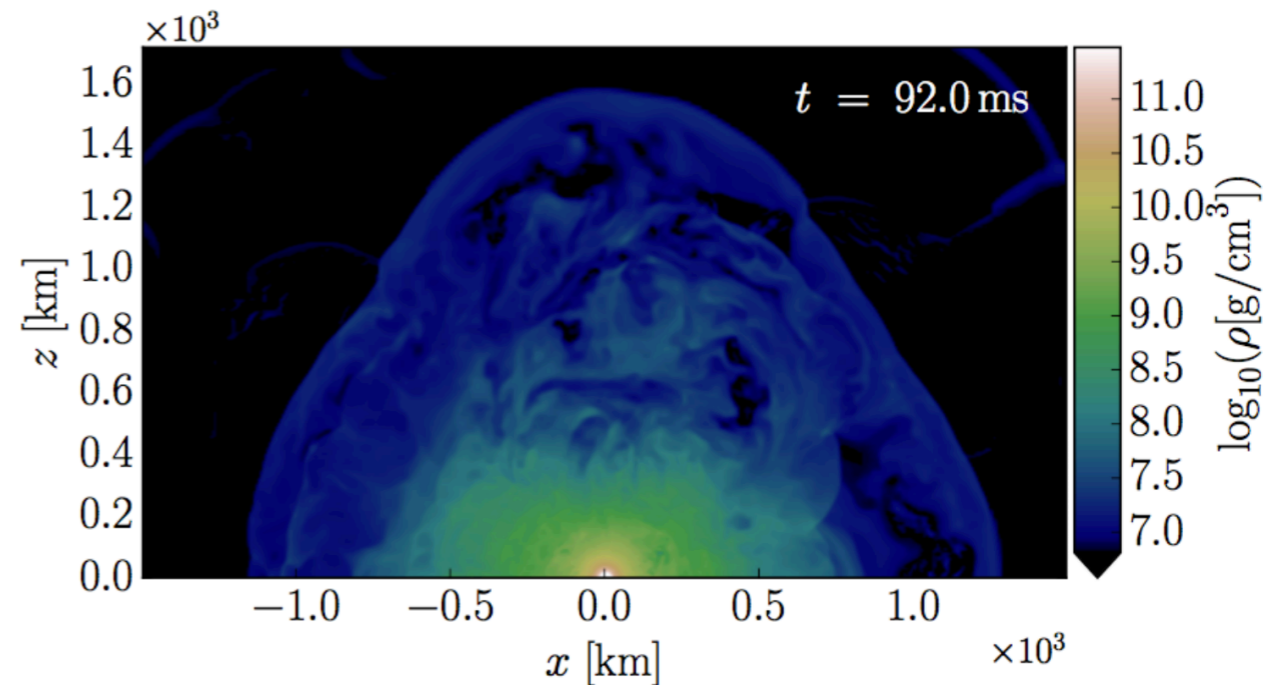
↑  
helical structure

# Magnetically driven wind

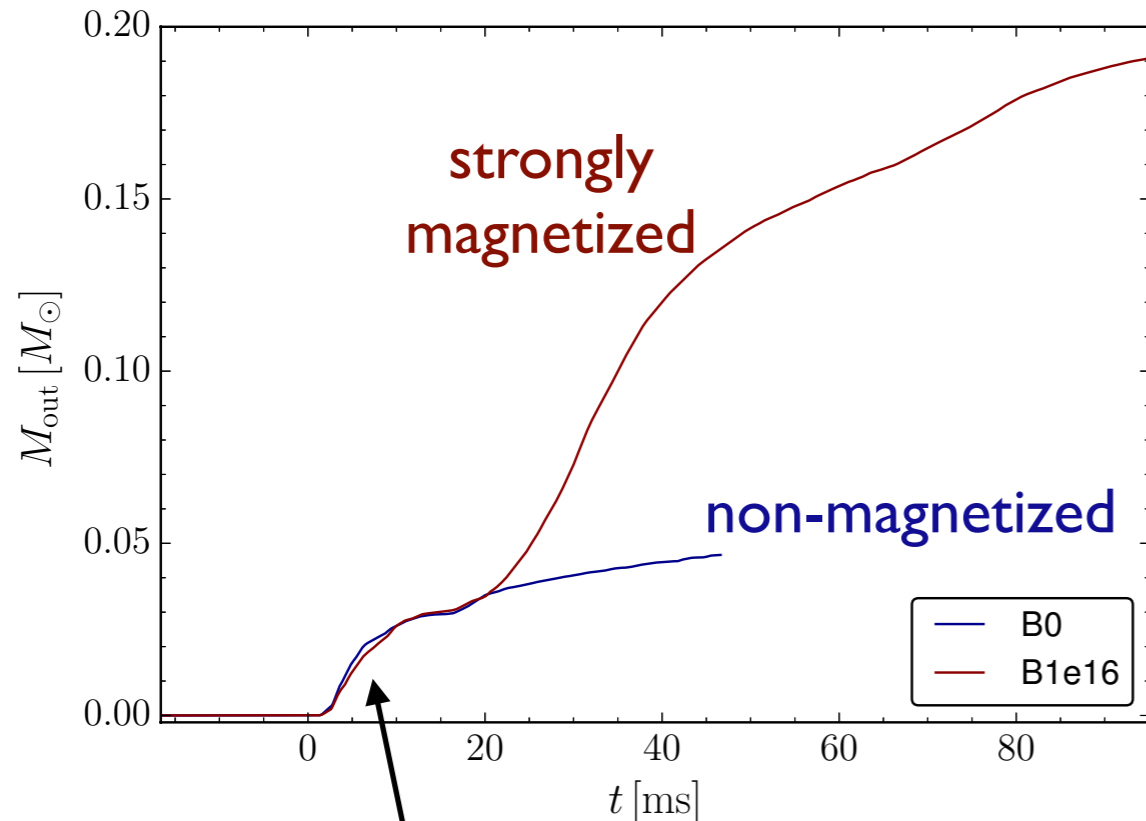
Cioffi+2019

@50-100 ms after merger

nearly **isotropic** and **constant** density distribution from  $\sim 50$  km to  $\sim 400$  km



cumulative mass flow across 150 km radius



dynamical ejecta

## magnetized remnant NS

- surrounded by dense isotropic environment
- slow steady outflow maintaining a fixed radial density profile

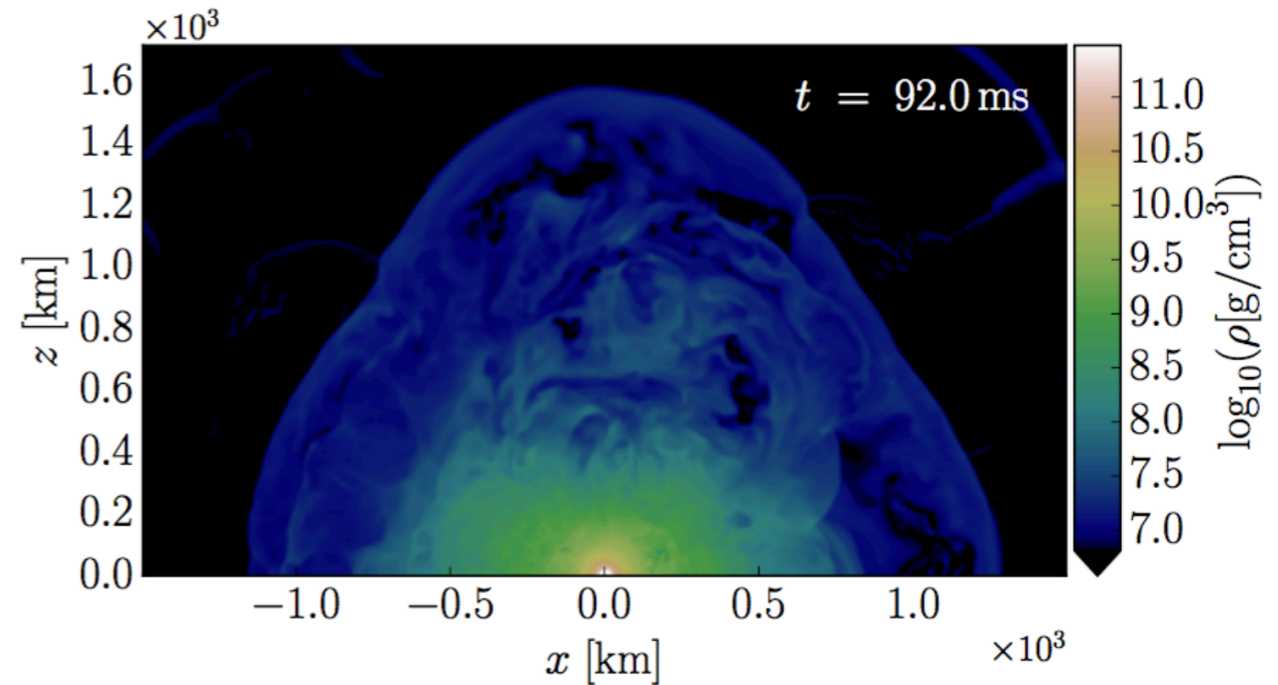


# Magnetically driven wind

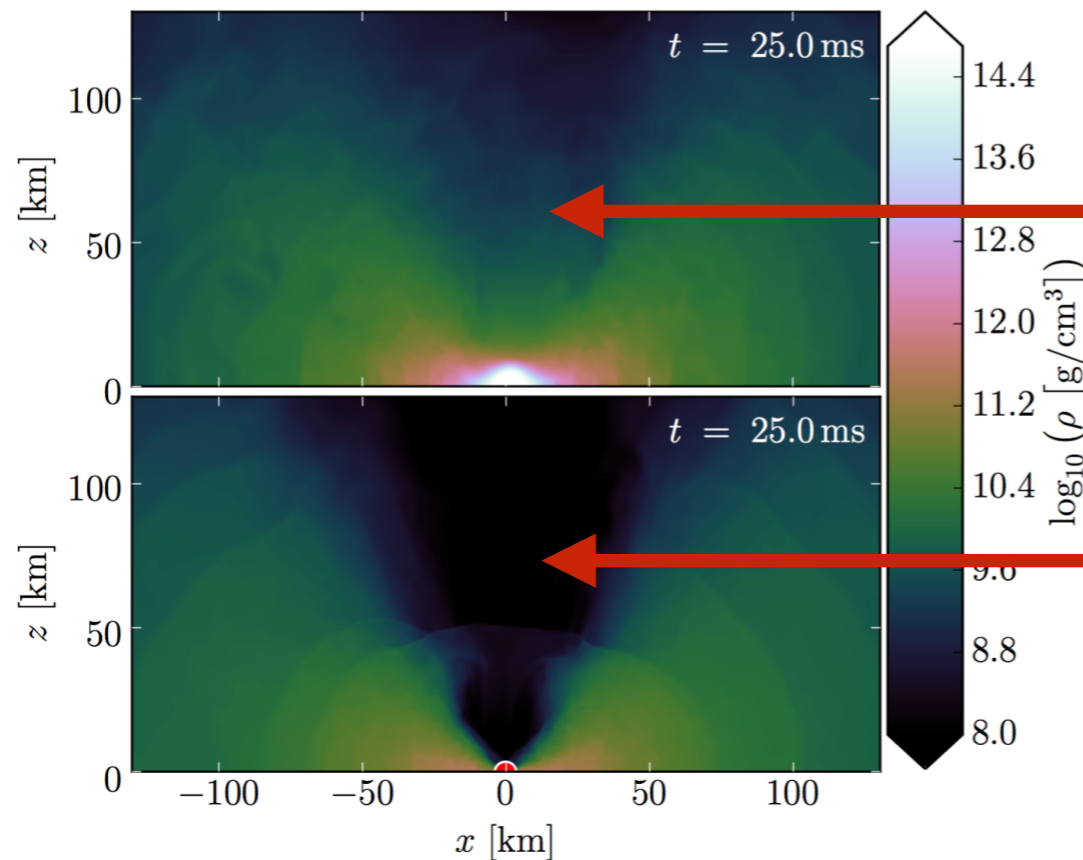
Ciolfi+2019

@50-100 ms after merger

nearly **isotropic** and **constant** density distribution from  $\sim 50$  km to  $\sim 400$  km



massive NS  
remnant

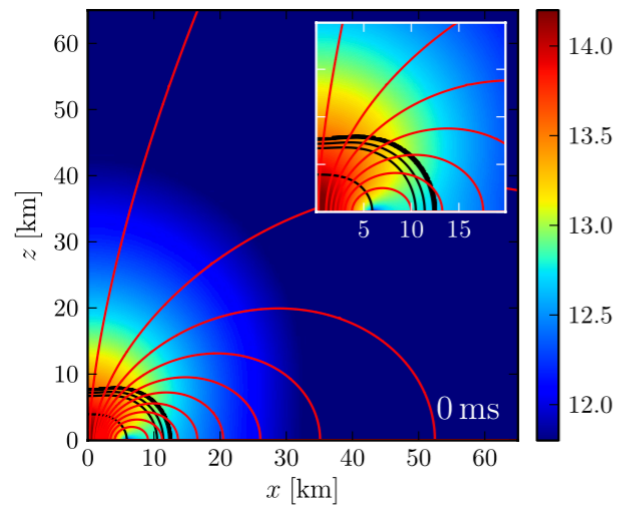


obstacle for  
jet formation

favourable  
environment

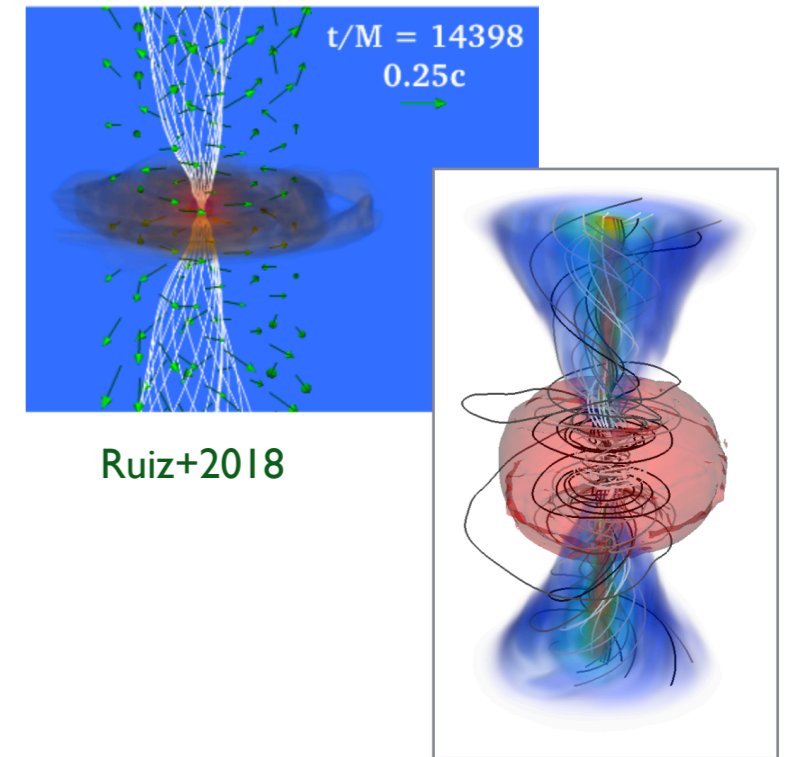
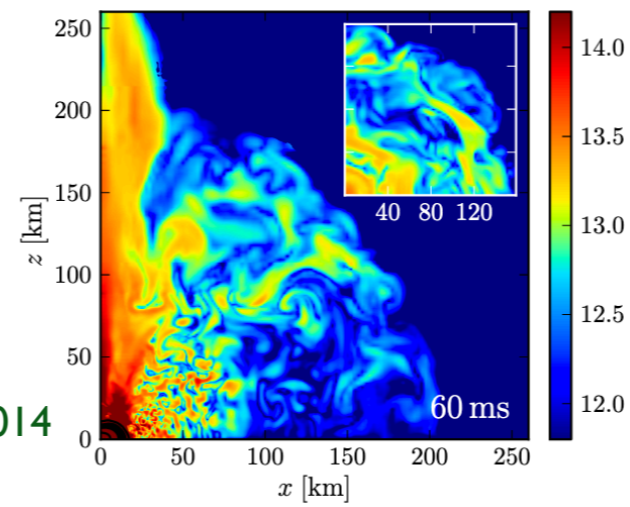
Ciolfi+2017

aligned dipolar field imposed  
on differentially rotating NS



Siegel+2014

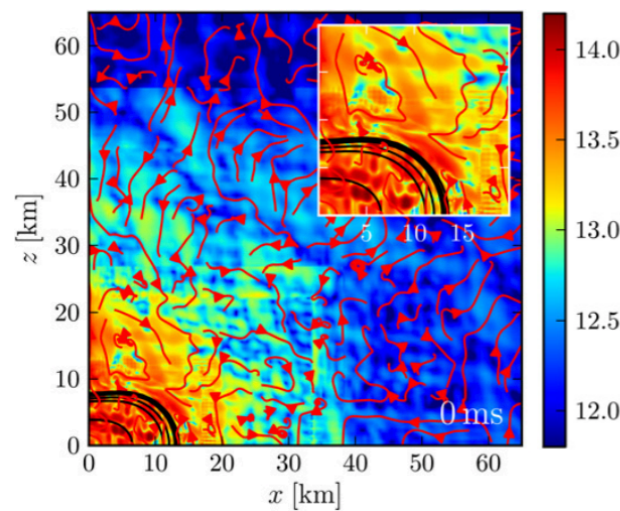
**collimated  
outflow**



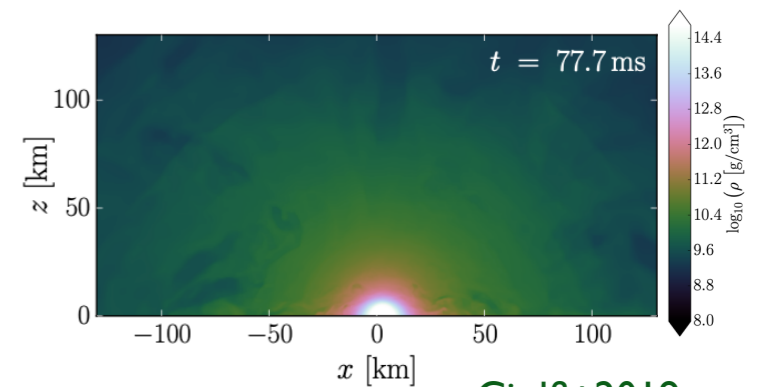
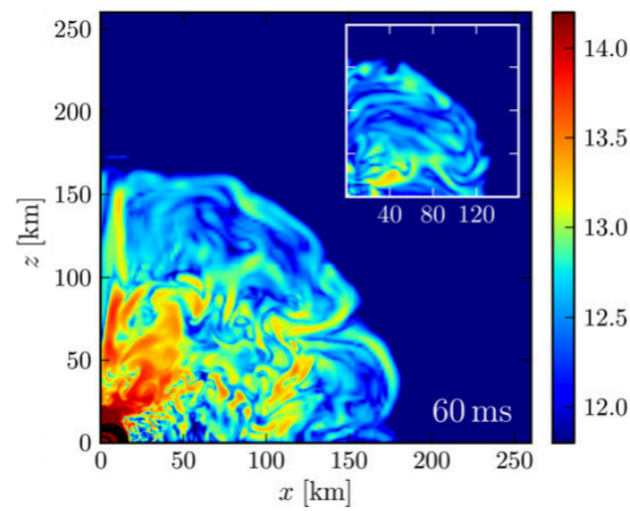
Ruiz+2018

Moesta+2020

disordered magnetic field



**isotropic outflow**



Cioffi+2019

earlier disordered field creates obstacle for collimated outflow coming later  
**helical structure takes time to emerge (and not always does)**

# AT2017gfo: blue and red

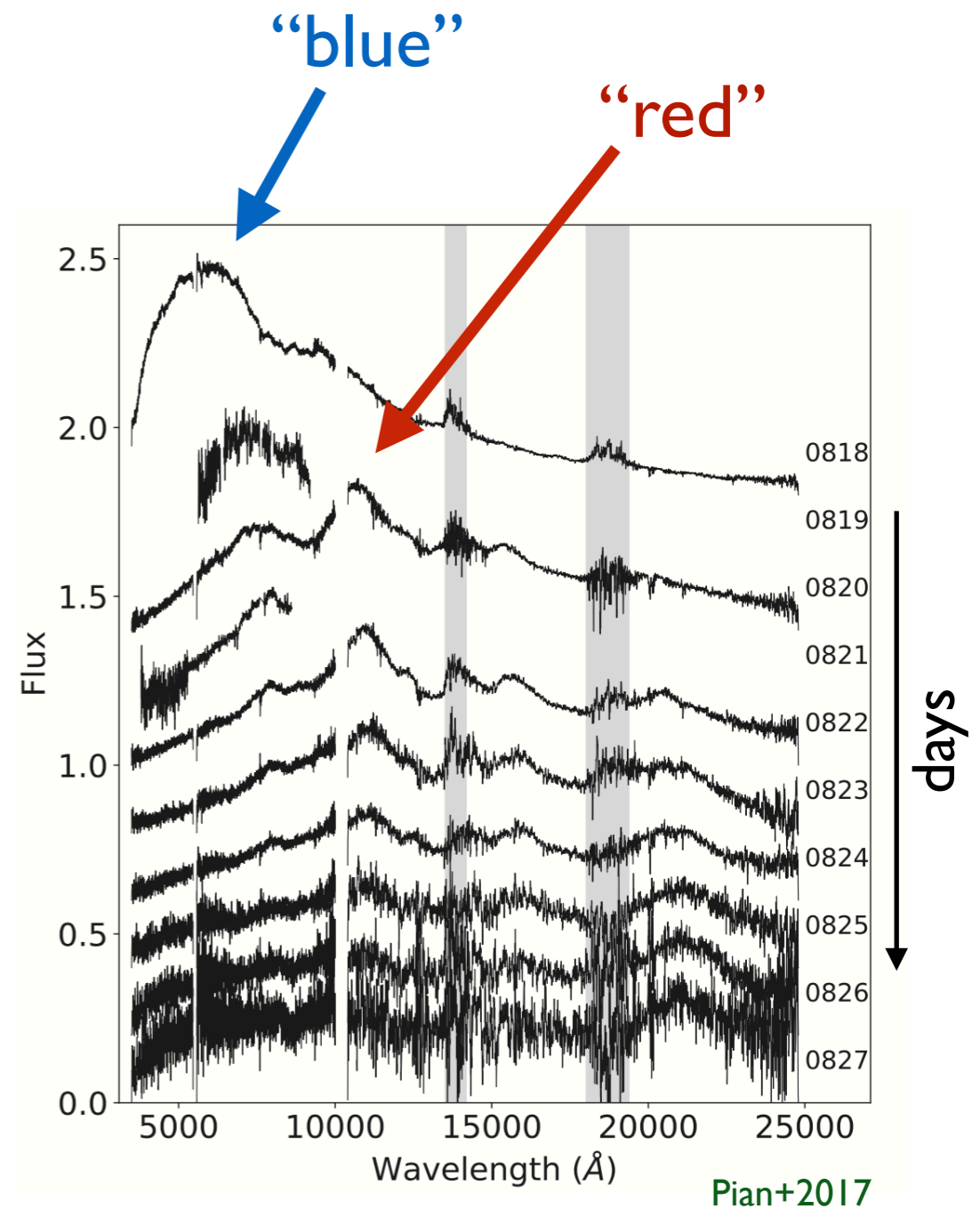
## 1) “blue” kilonova → ???

peaking  $\sim 1$  day after merger between UV and blue  
ejecta expansion velocity  $\sim 0.2 - 0.3 c$   
ejecta mass  $\sim 0.015 - 0.025 M_{\text{sun}}$   
opacity  $\sim 0.5 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$  (lanthanide-poor)

(e.g. Siegel & Metzger 2018)

## 2) “red” kilonova → likely disk winds

peaking several days after merger, IR wavelengths  
ejecta expansion velocity  $\sim 0.1 c$   
ejecta mass  $\sim 0.05 M_{\text{sun}}$   
opacity  $\sim 10 \text{ cm}^2/\text{g}$  (lanthanide-rich)




which type of merger ejecta can explain the blue/red kilonova?



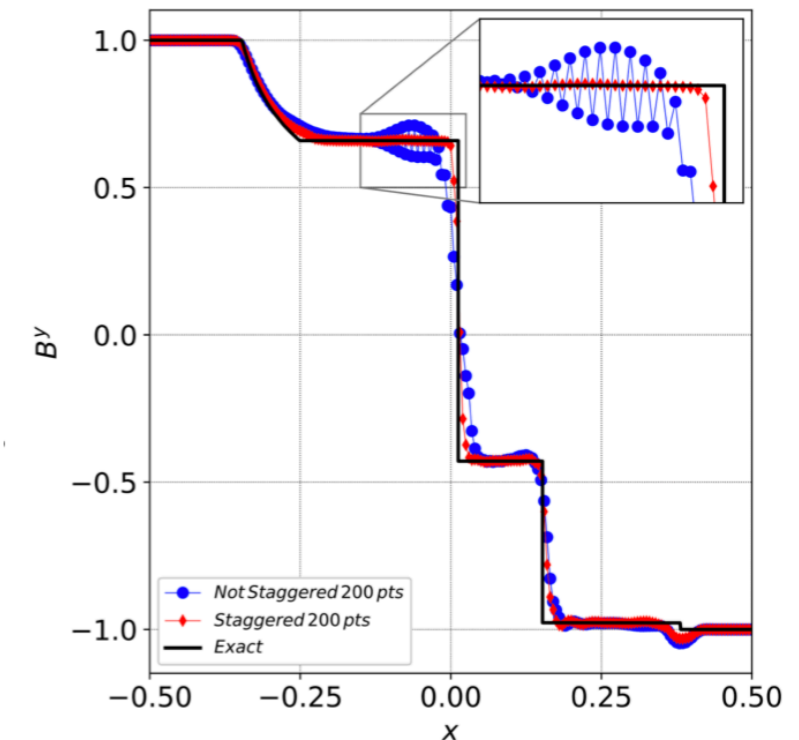
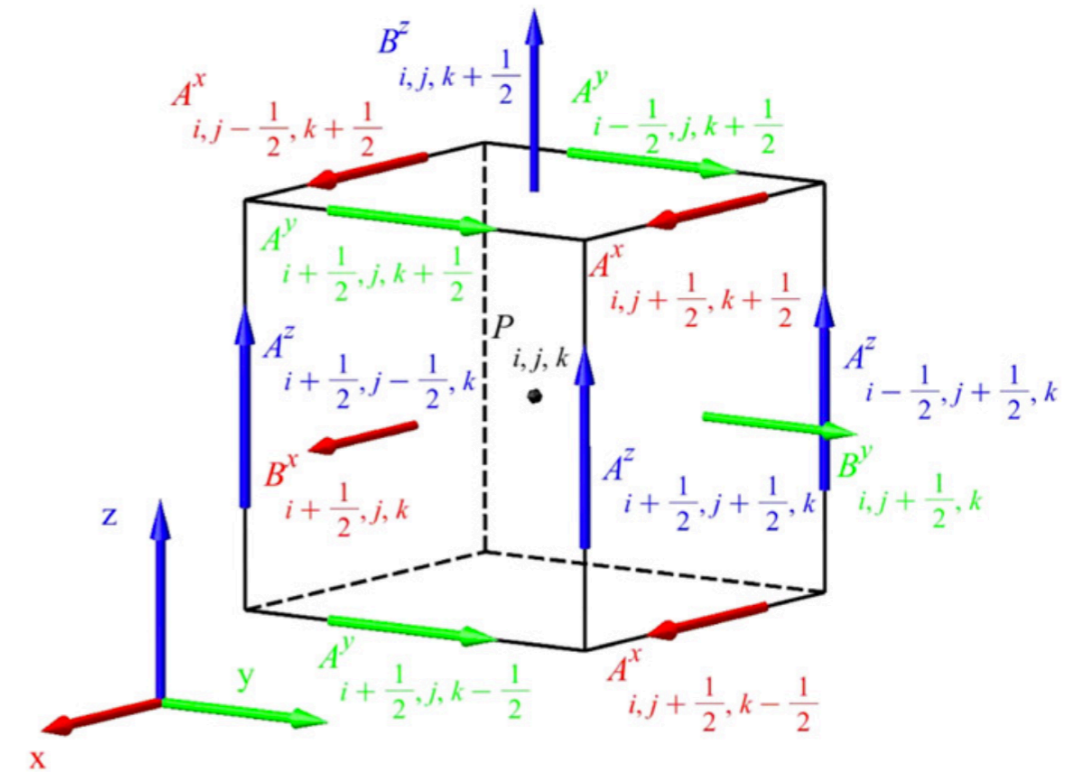
# Spritz: a new GRMHD code

## Version 1.0: Cipolletta+2020

- Vector potential staggered evolution
- Designed to work within Einstein Toolkit framework 
- Support for ideal gas and polytropic EOSs via EOS\_Omni
- Undergone extensive 1D, 2D and 3D testing

## Version 2.0: Cipolletta+2021

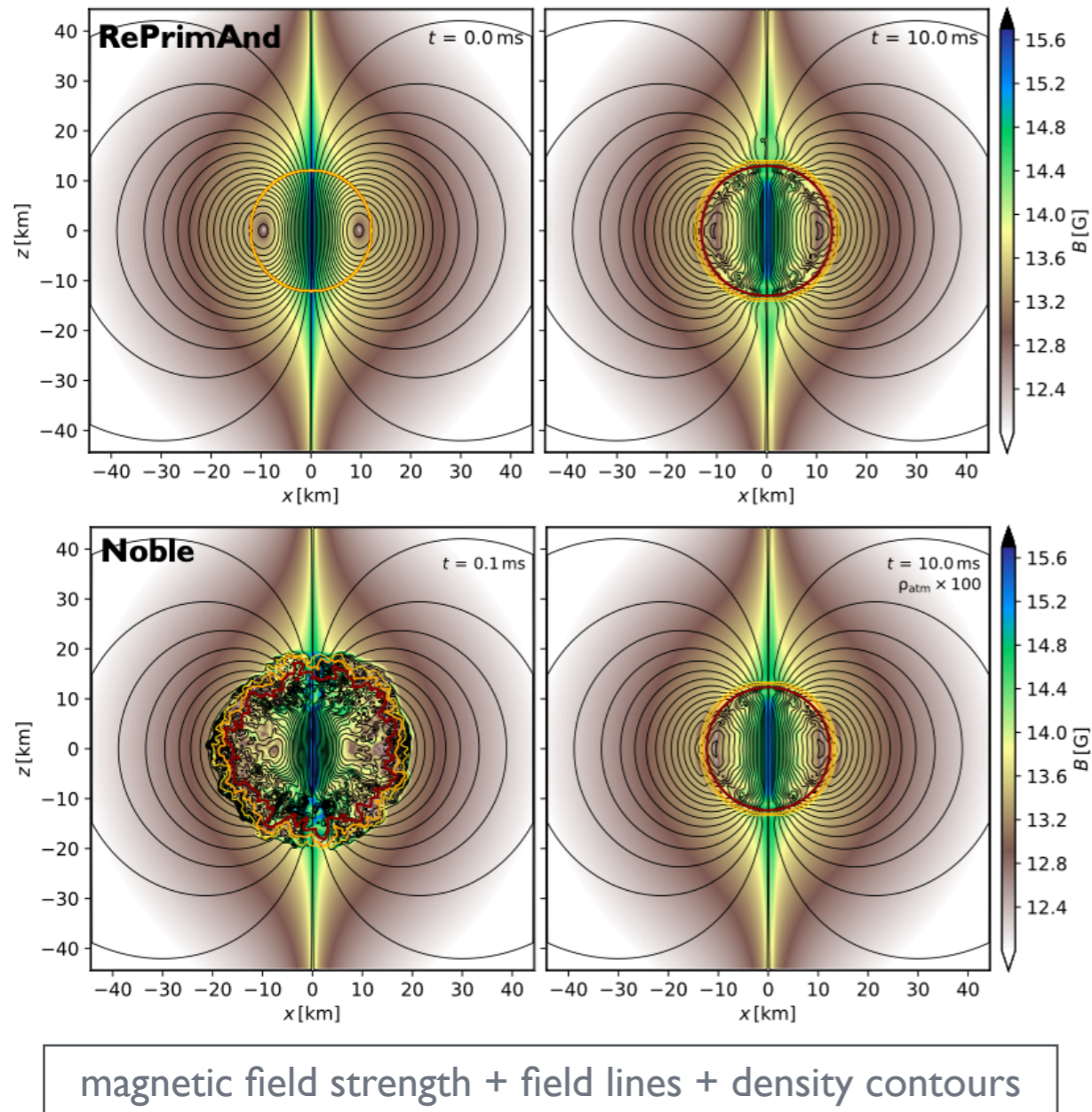
- Support for composition-dependent finite temperature EOS
- ZelmaniLeak neutrino leakage scheme [Ott+2012](#)
- Evolution equation of electron fraction
- 1D Palenzuela C2P scheme
- Higher order schemes: WENOZ with HLLE4 and HLLE6
- Publicly available on Zenodo: [10.5281/zenodo.4350072](https://zenodo.org/record/4350072)



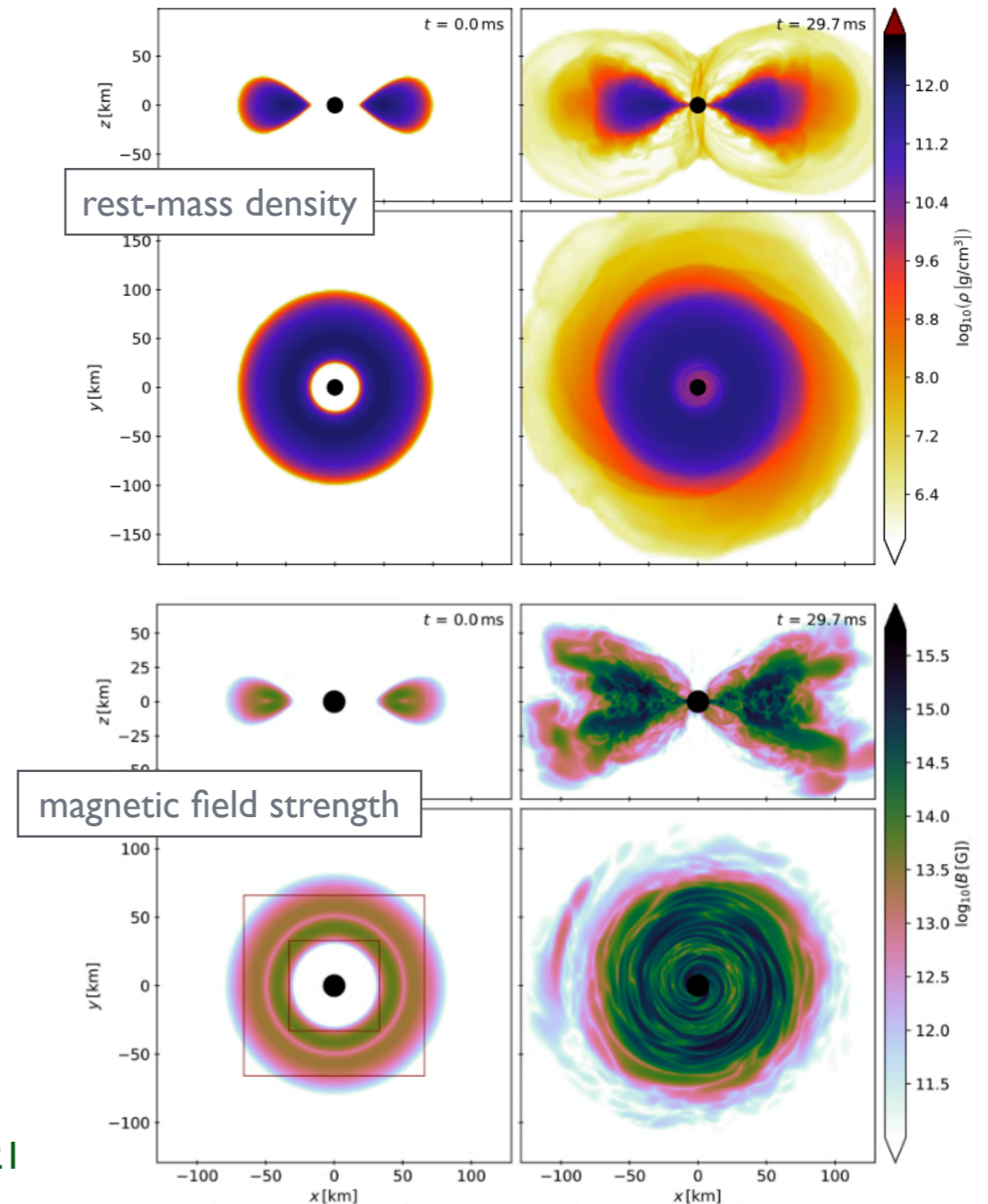
Balsara I shocktube test: staggered vs non-staggered vector potential evolution

# Conservative-to-primitive recovery scheme *RePrimAnd*

## NS with extended dipolar field



## Fishbone-Moncrief BH-accretion disk



Kalinani+2021