

# Measuring the expansion of GRB afterglows

**Speaker**

S. Giarratana

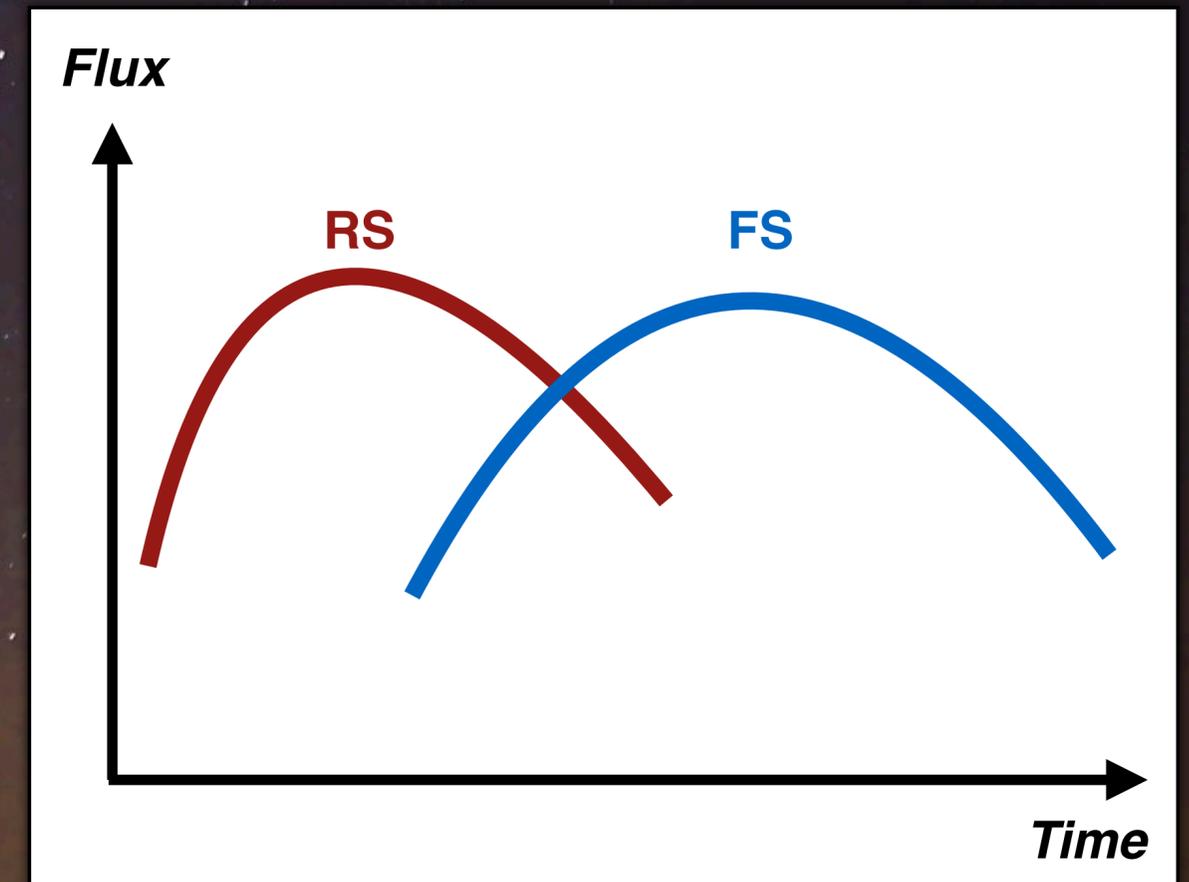
**with the (fundamental) help of**

G. Ghirlanda, M. Giroletti, O. S. Salafia, L. Nava, L. Rhodes, B. Marcote, J. K. Leung and many more...

# GRBs in Radio

## Emission mechanism

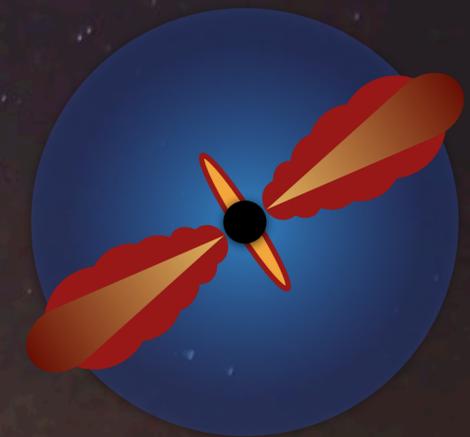
Forward vs Reverse shocks



# GRBs in Radio

## Geometry

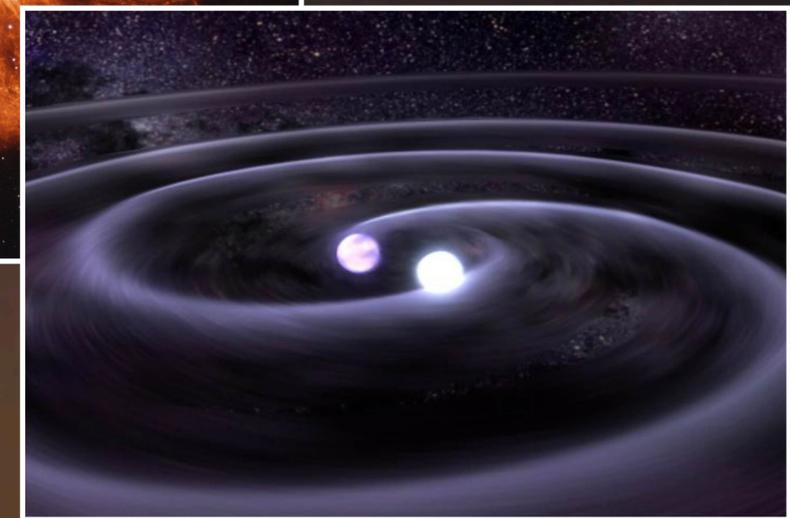
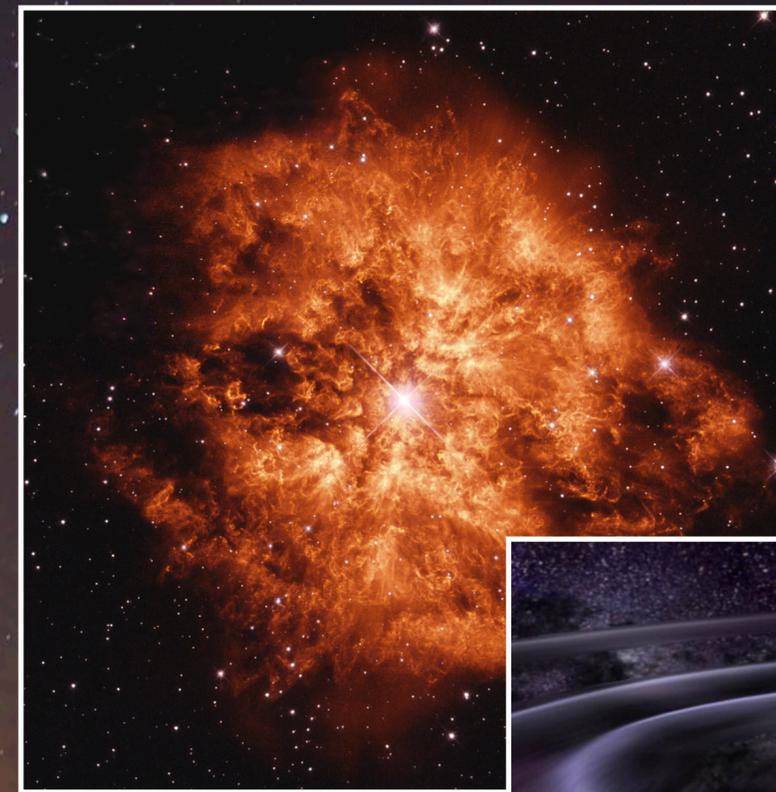
Viewing angle  
Collimation angle  
Size and structure



# GRBs in Radio

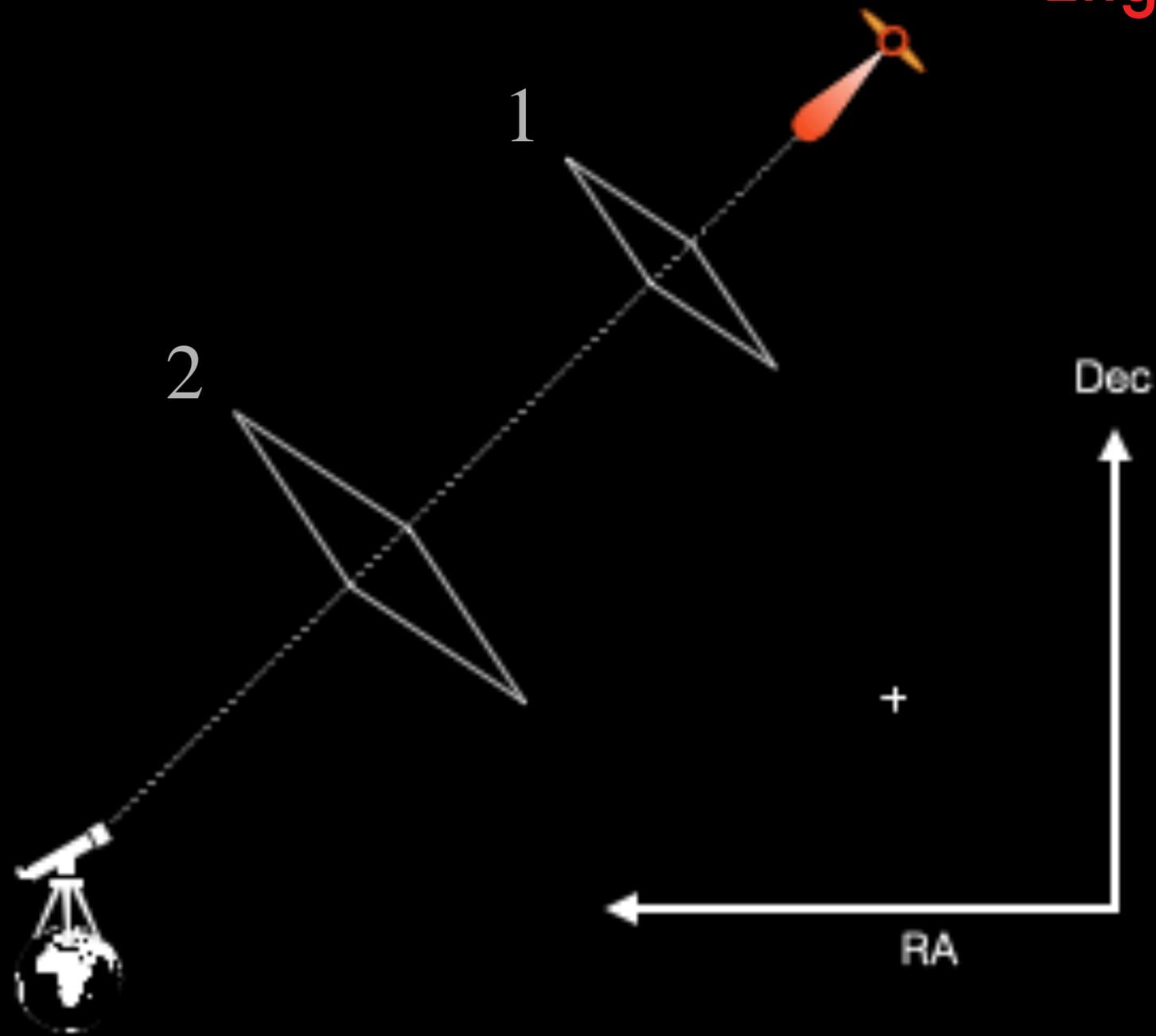
## Progenitors

Circum-burst density profile



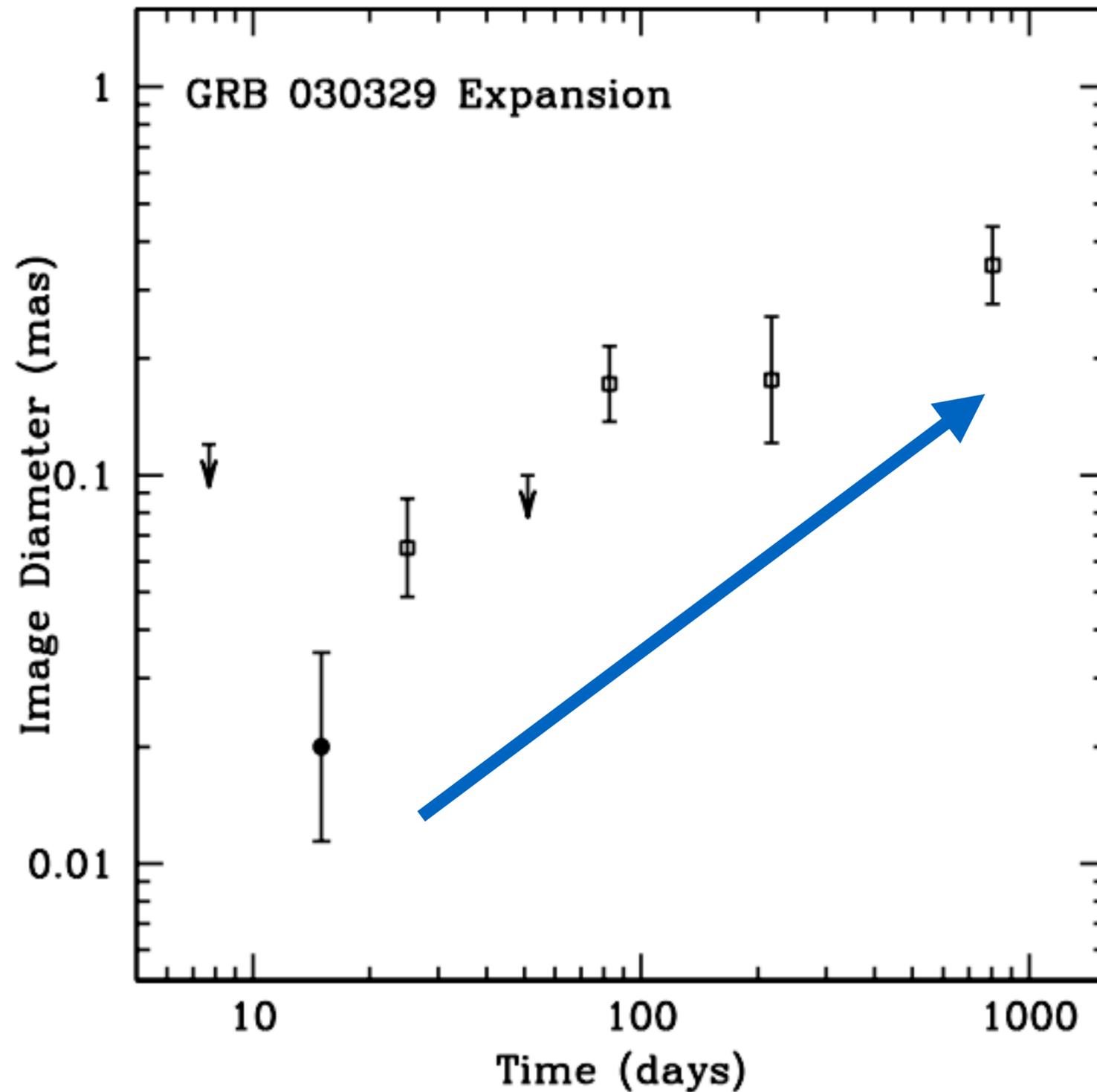
# On-axis GRBs

Observer



Central  
Engine

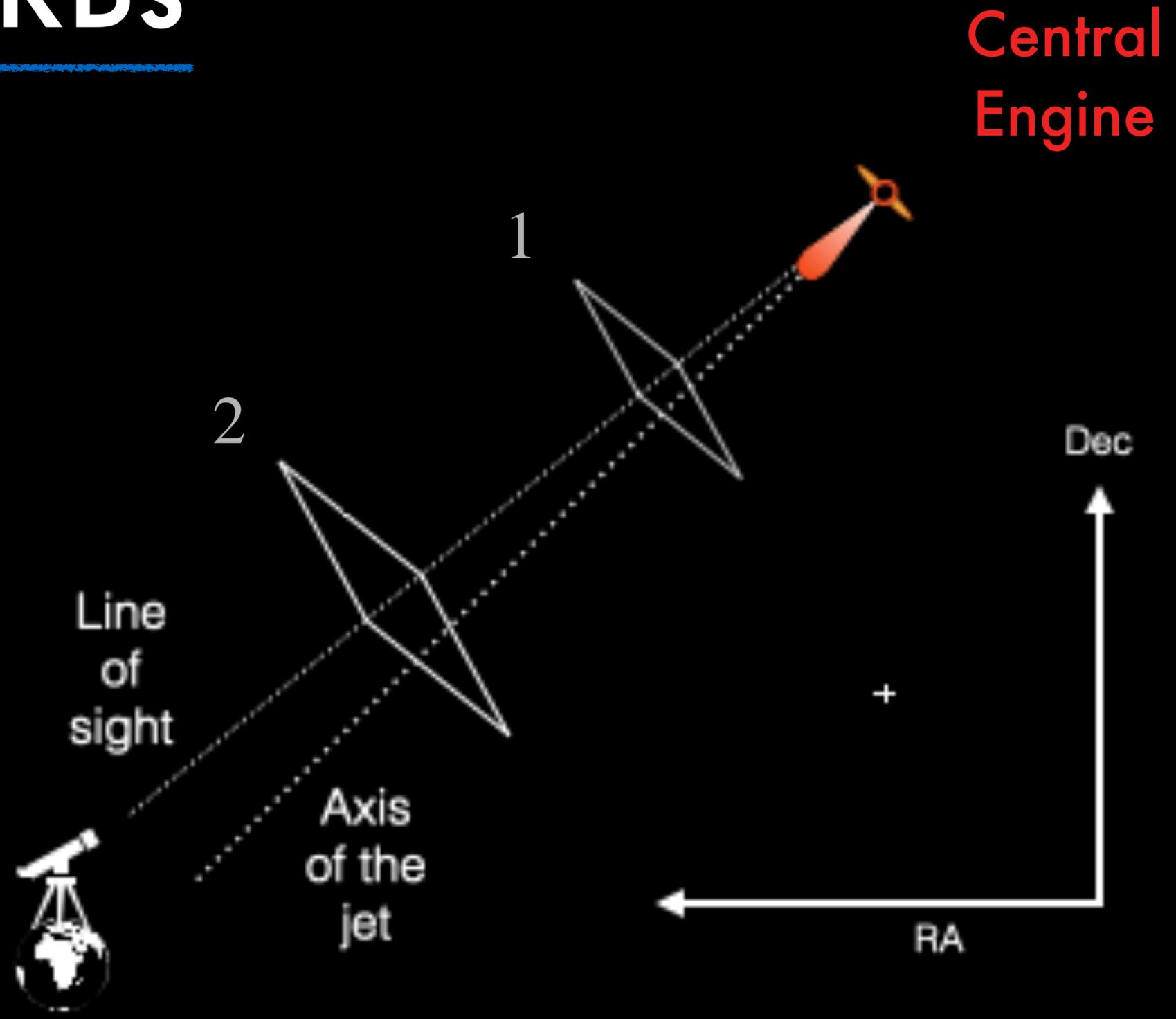
# GRB 030329



First direct proof of  
(apparent)  
superluminal  
expansion

From *Pihlström et al. (2007)*

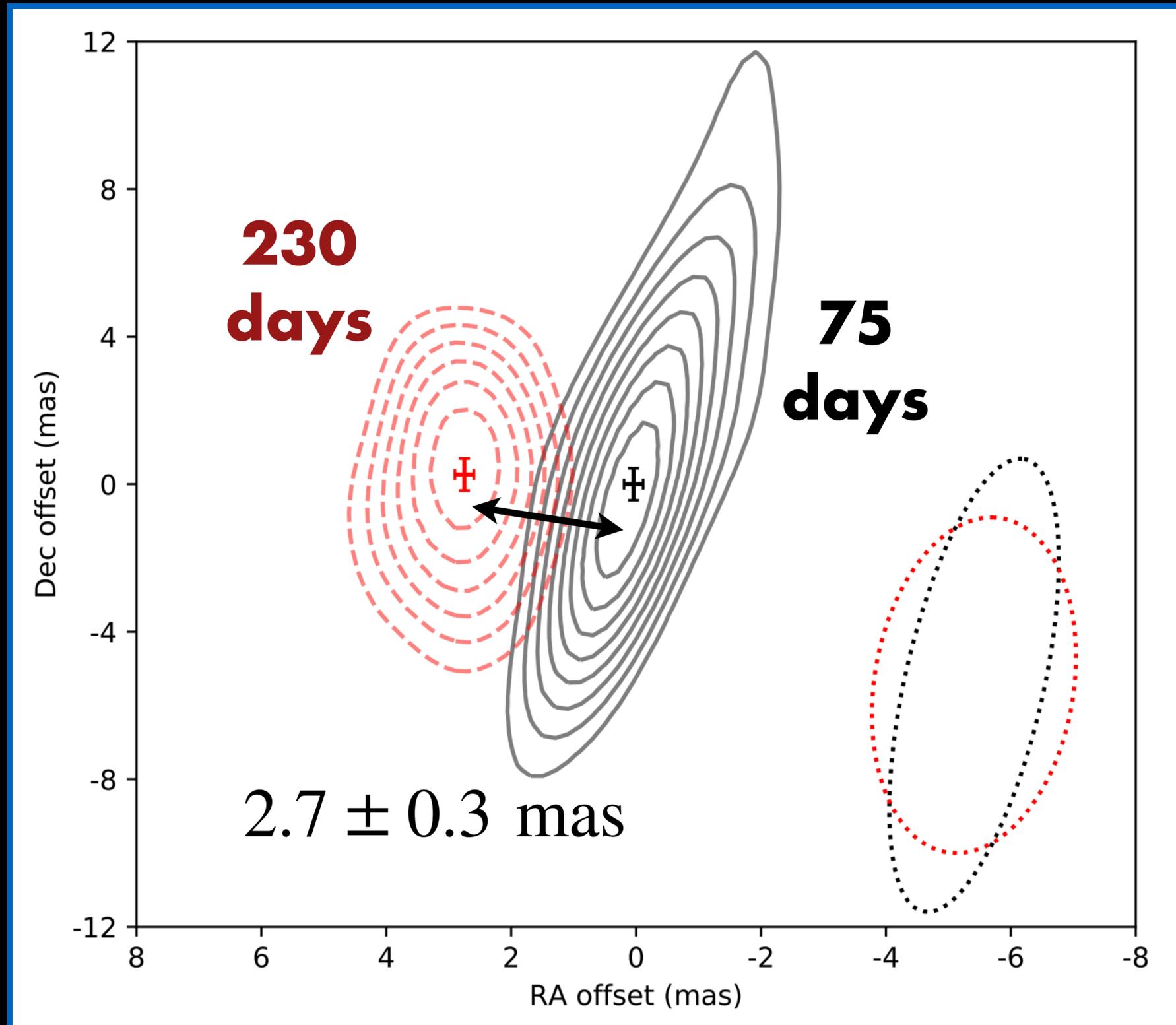
# Off-axis GRBs



Central Engine

Observer

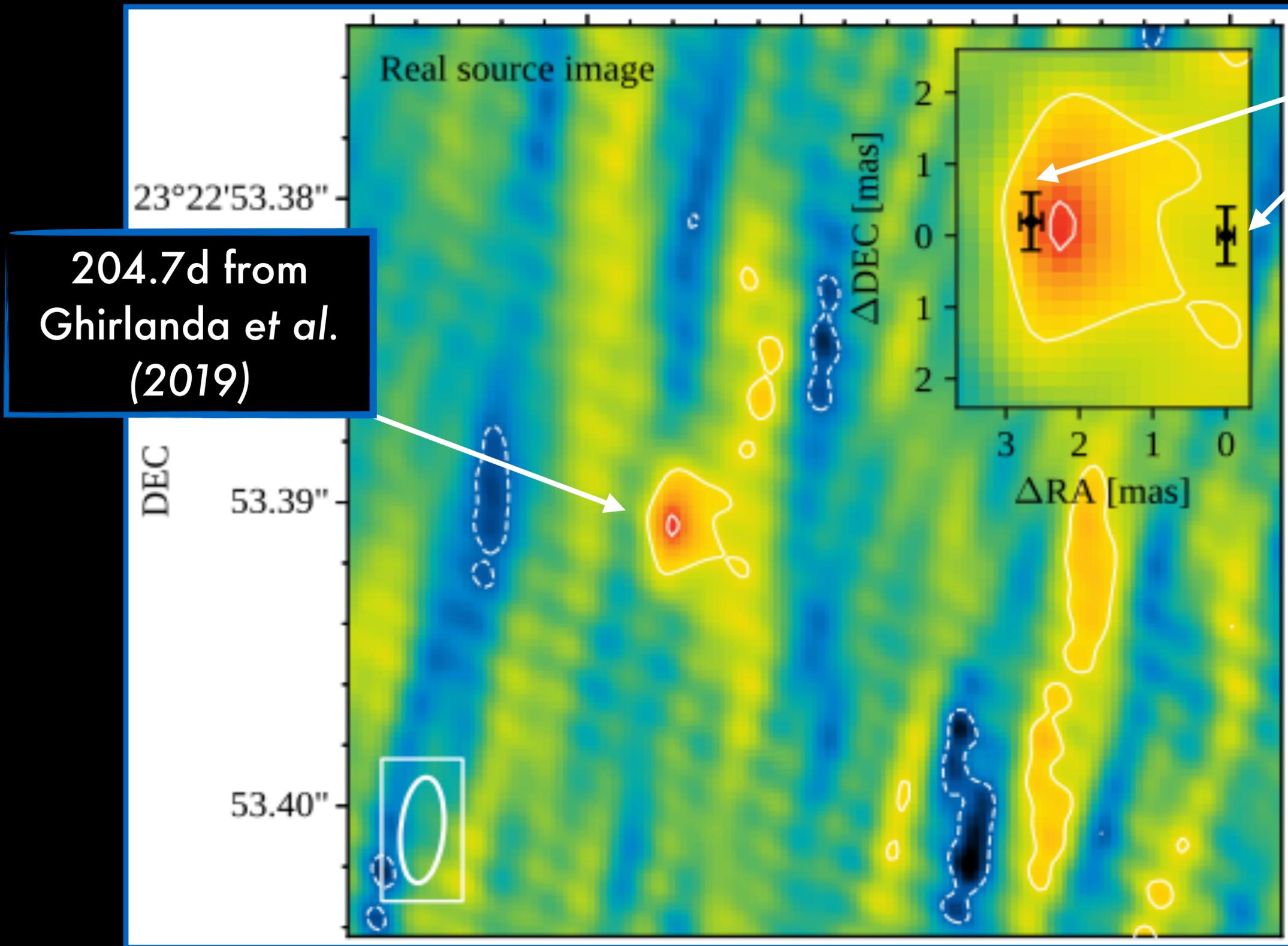
# GRB 170817A



A (slightly)  
off-axis GRB

From Mooley et al. (2018)

# GRB 170817A



204.7d from  
Ghirlanda *et al.*  
(2019)

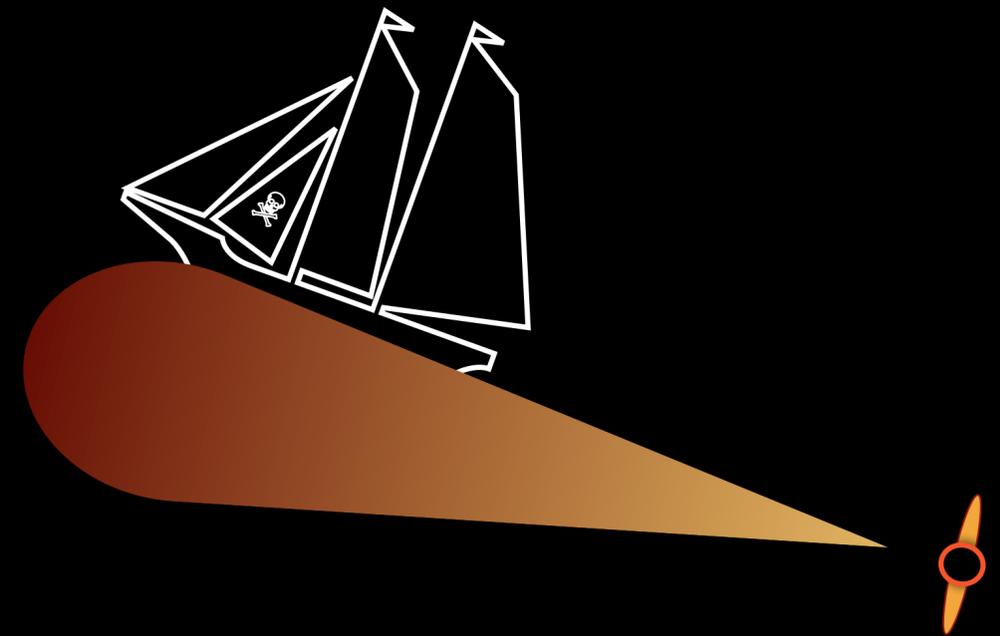
75d & 230d from  
Mooley *et al.*  
(2018)

First proof of  
successful jet  
from a BNS  
merger

From *Ghirlanda et al. (2019)*

# GRB 221009A

the **B**rightest **O**f **A**ll **T**ime



# GRB 221009A

$$E_{iso} \simeq 3 \times 10^{54} \text{ erg}$$

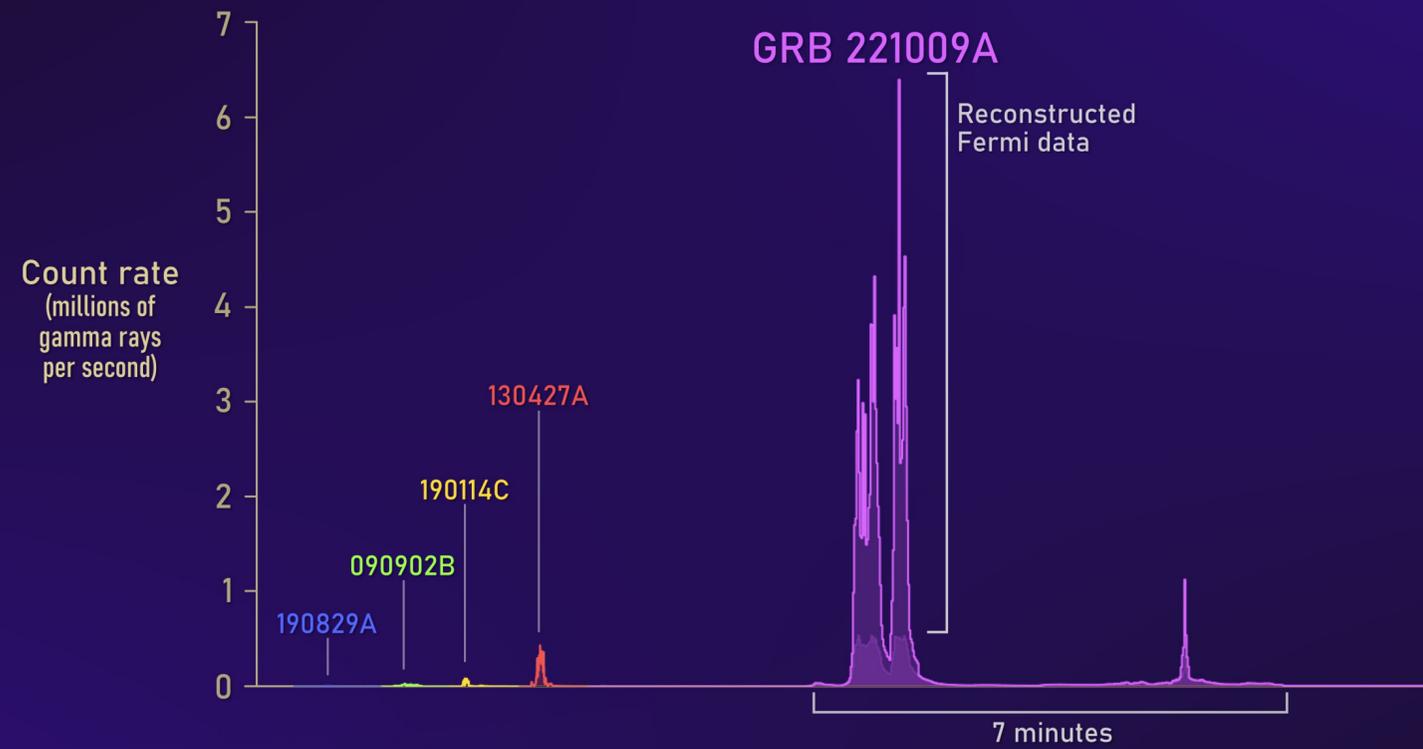
$$z = 0.151$$

$$R = 1/10000 \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

See Om's talk!

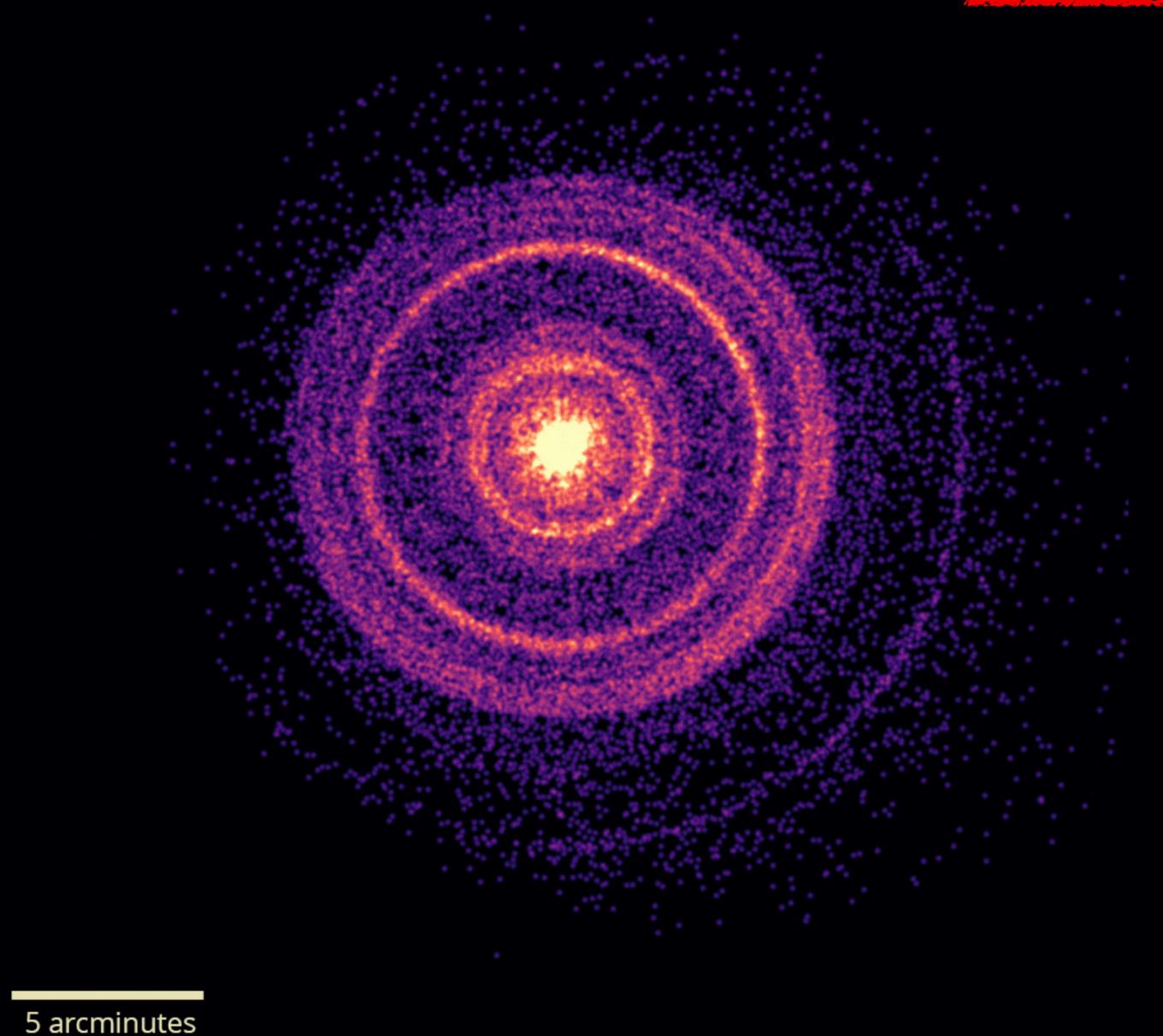
See Lauren's talk!

## The BOAT GRB in Context



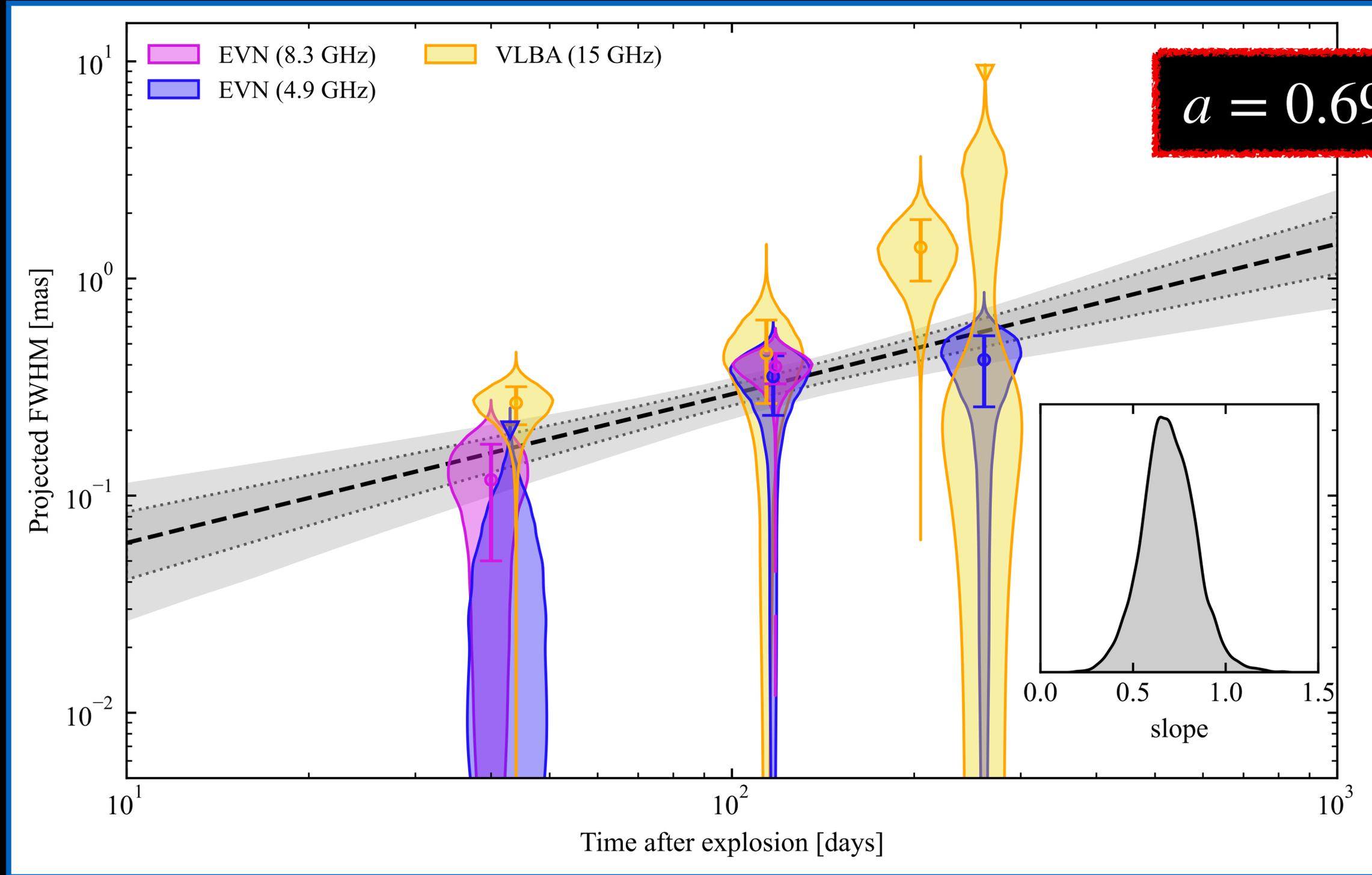
Credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and Adam Goldstein (USRA)

Day 1



Credit: NASA/Swift/A. Beardmore (Univ of Leicester)

# Measuring the expansion



Apparent size evolution.  
From *Giarratana et al. (2024)*

# ISM vs wind-like?\*

ISM

Wind



Post jet-break:  
 $a = 1/4$

Post jet-break:  
 $a = 1/2$



Lateral  
spreading:  
 $a \sim 0.7$

No  
jet break:  
 $a = 0.625$

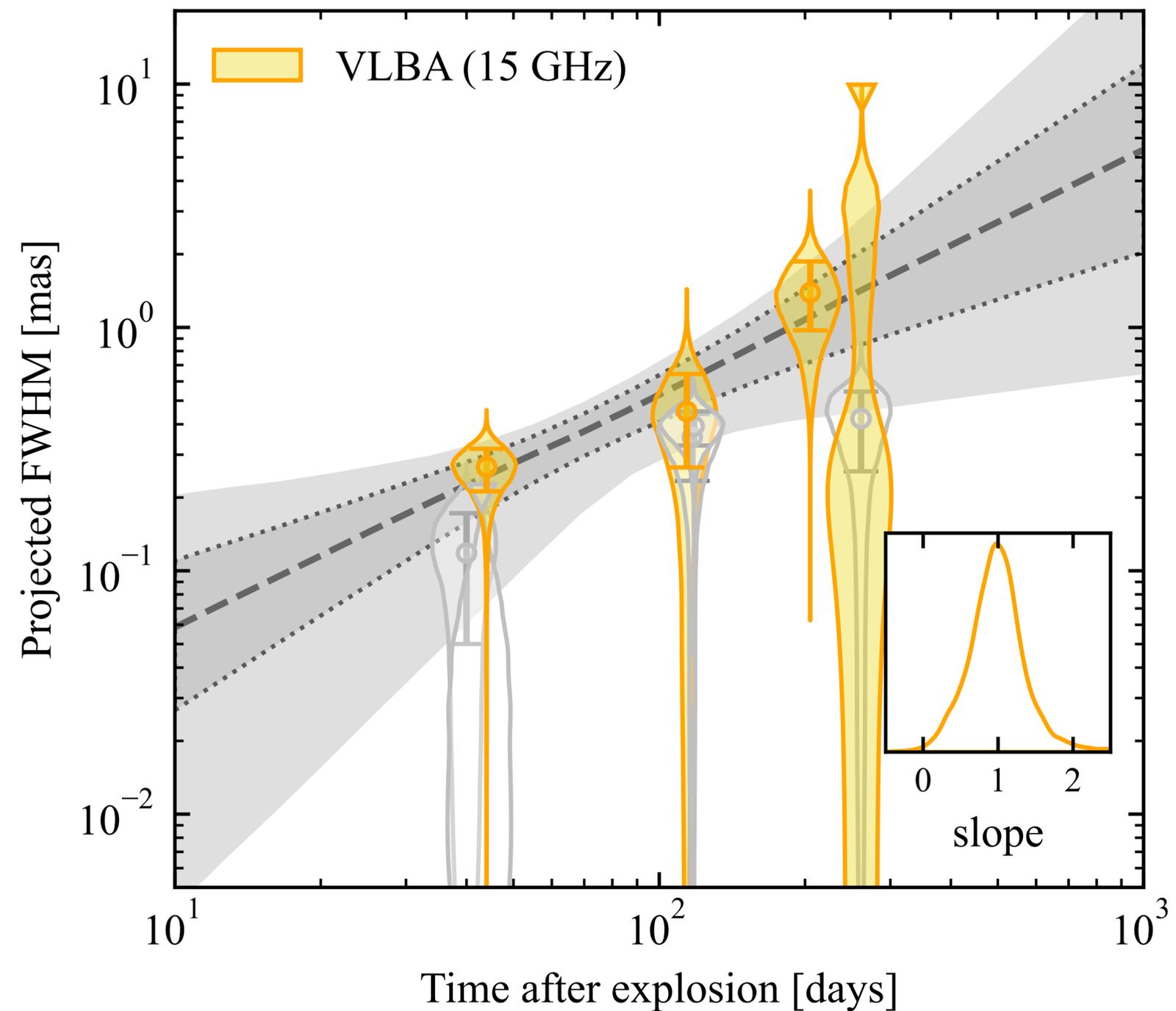
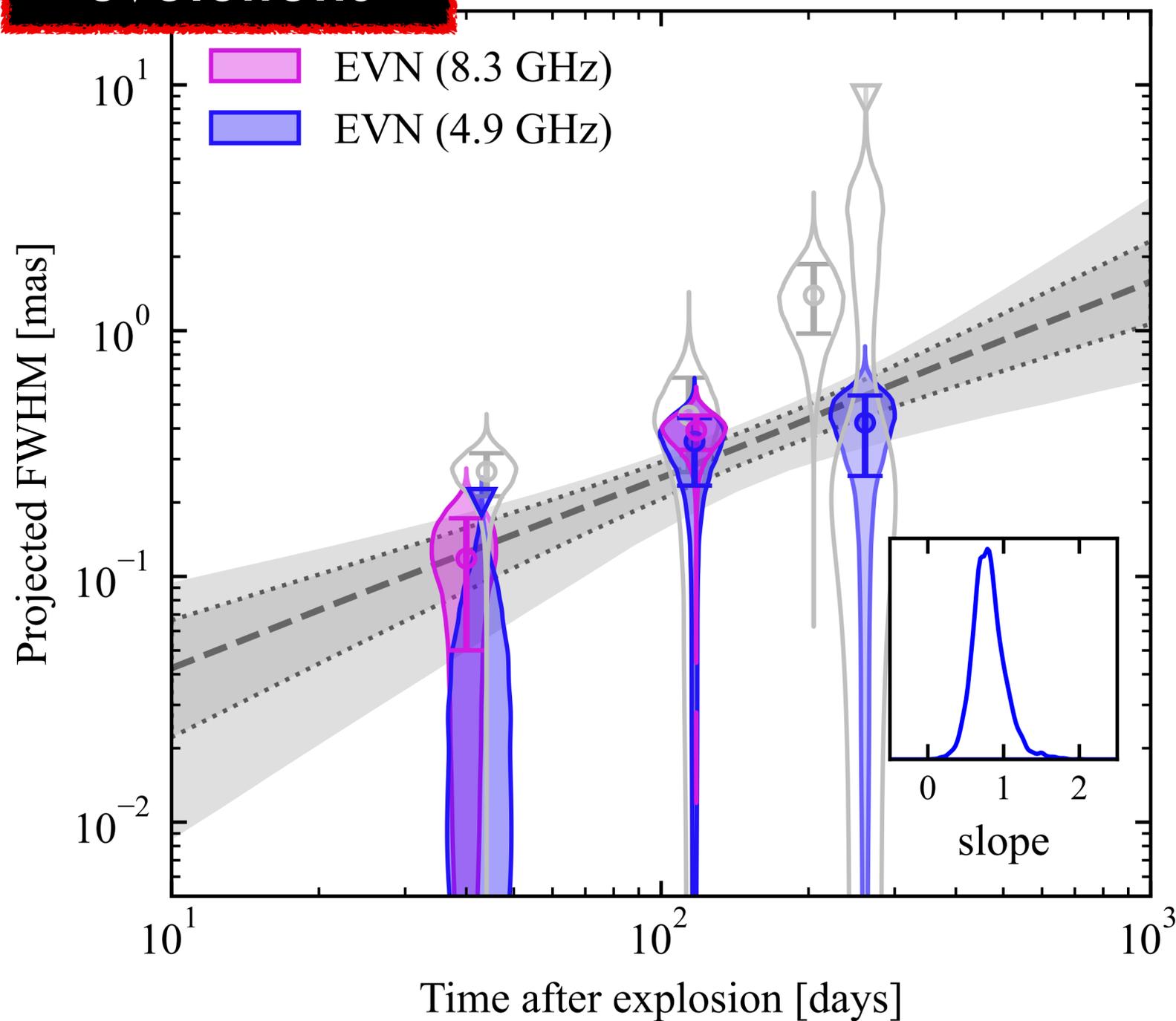


Structured  
jet

\* Blandford & McKee (1976)  
blastwave

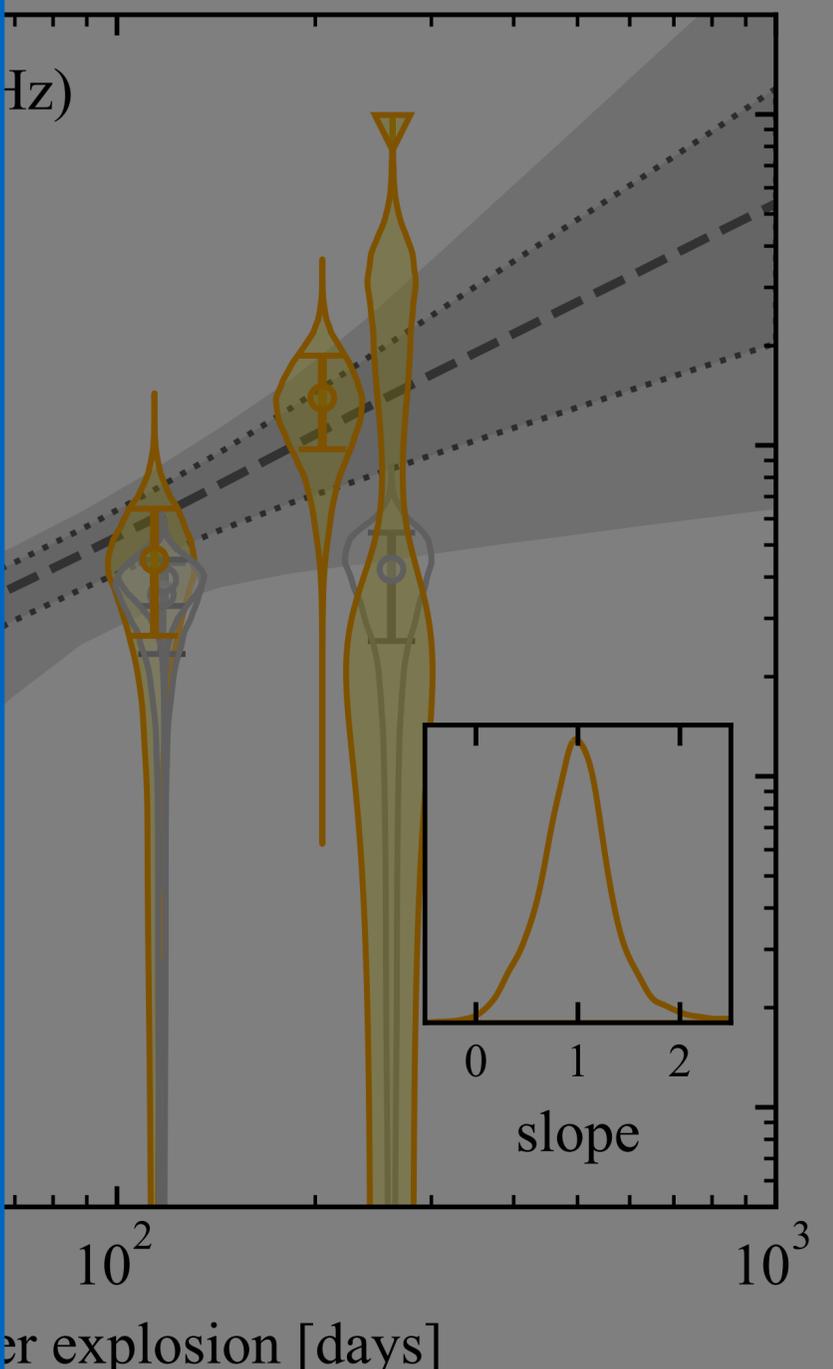
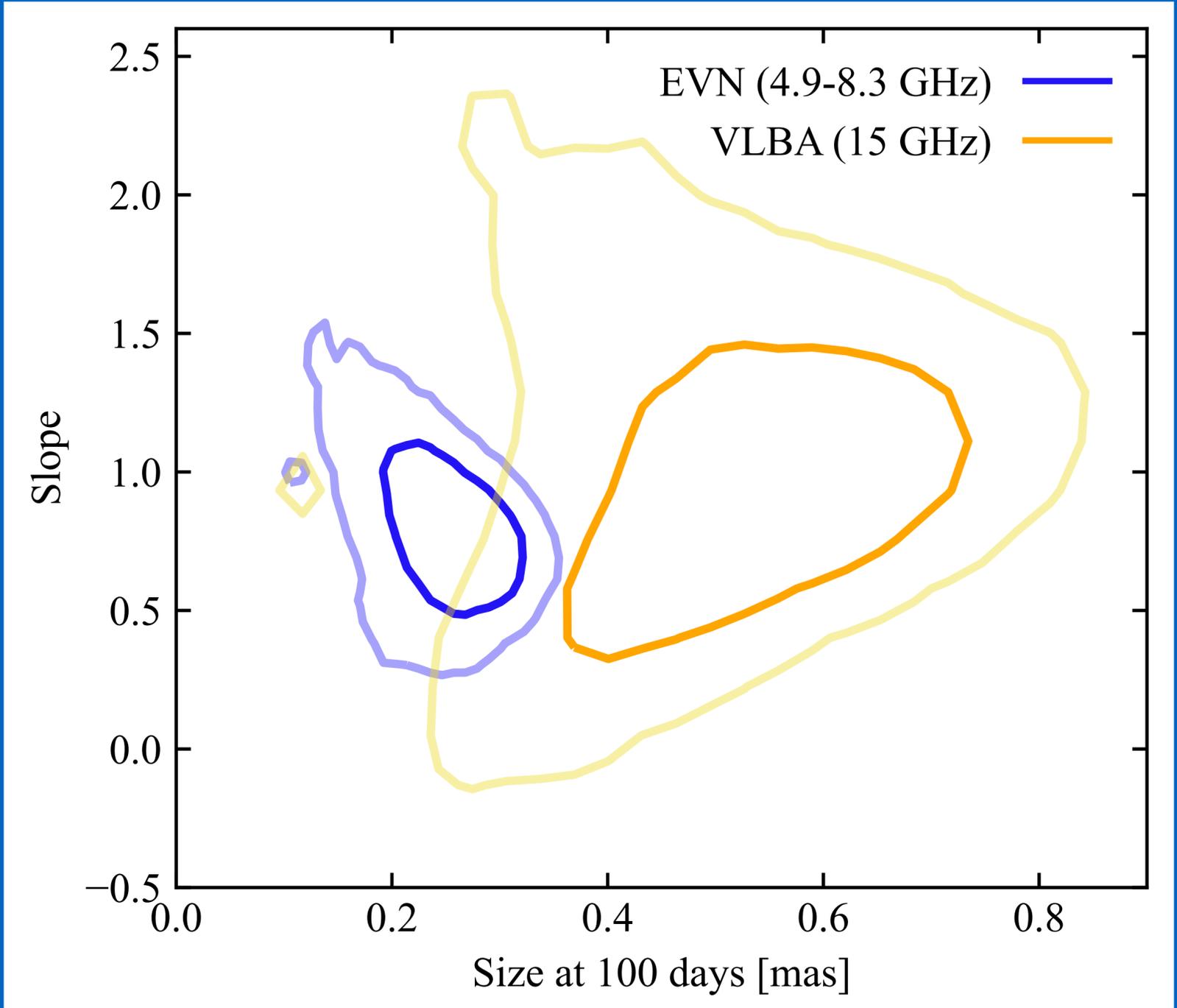
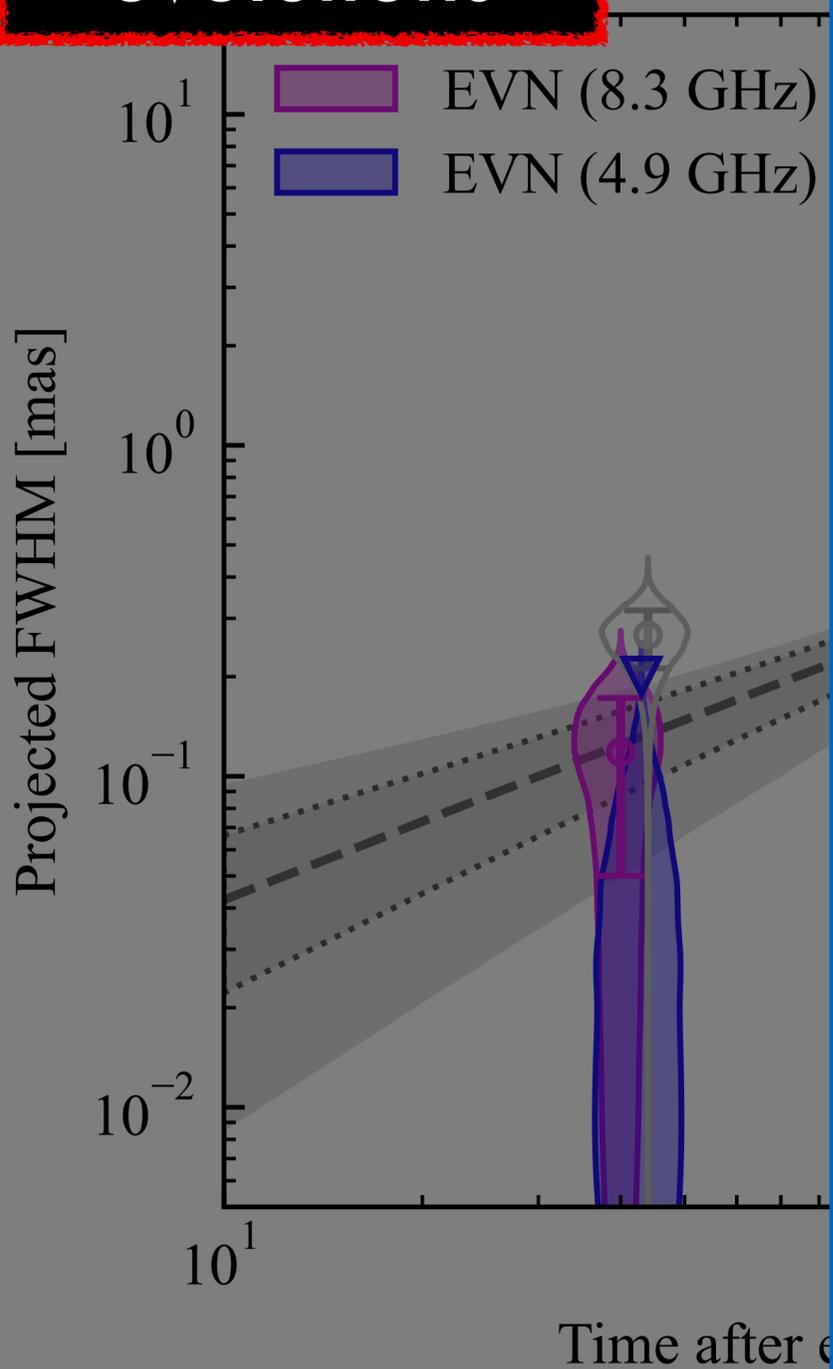
Hint for  
different size  
evolutions

# Forward vs Reverse shocks?



Hint for different size evolutions

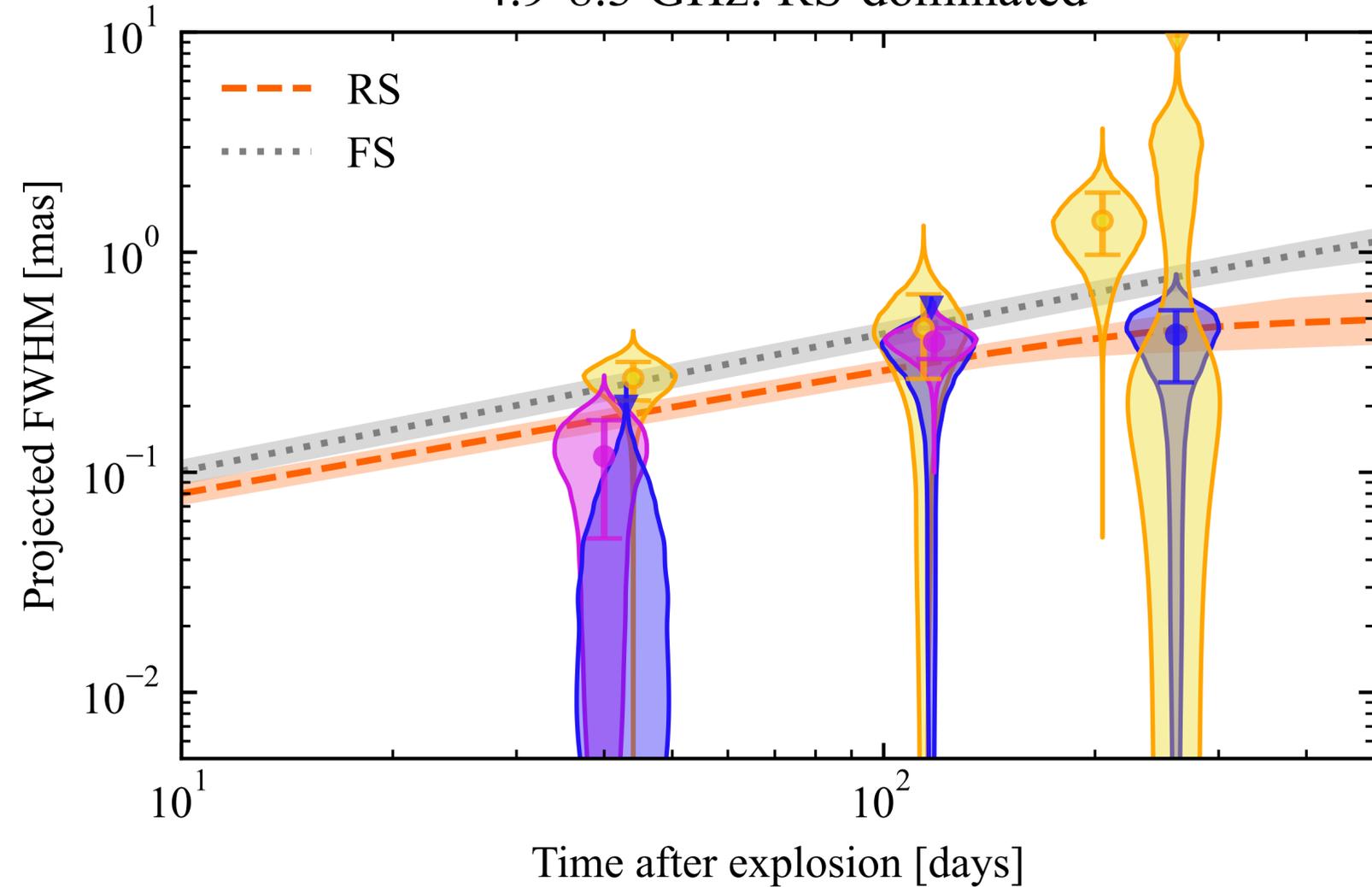
# Forward vs Reverse shocks?



# GRB 221009A

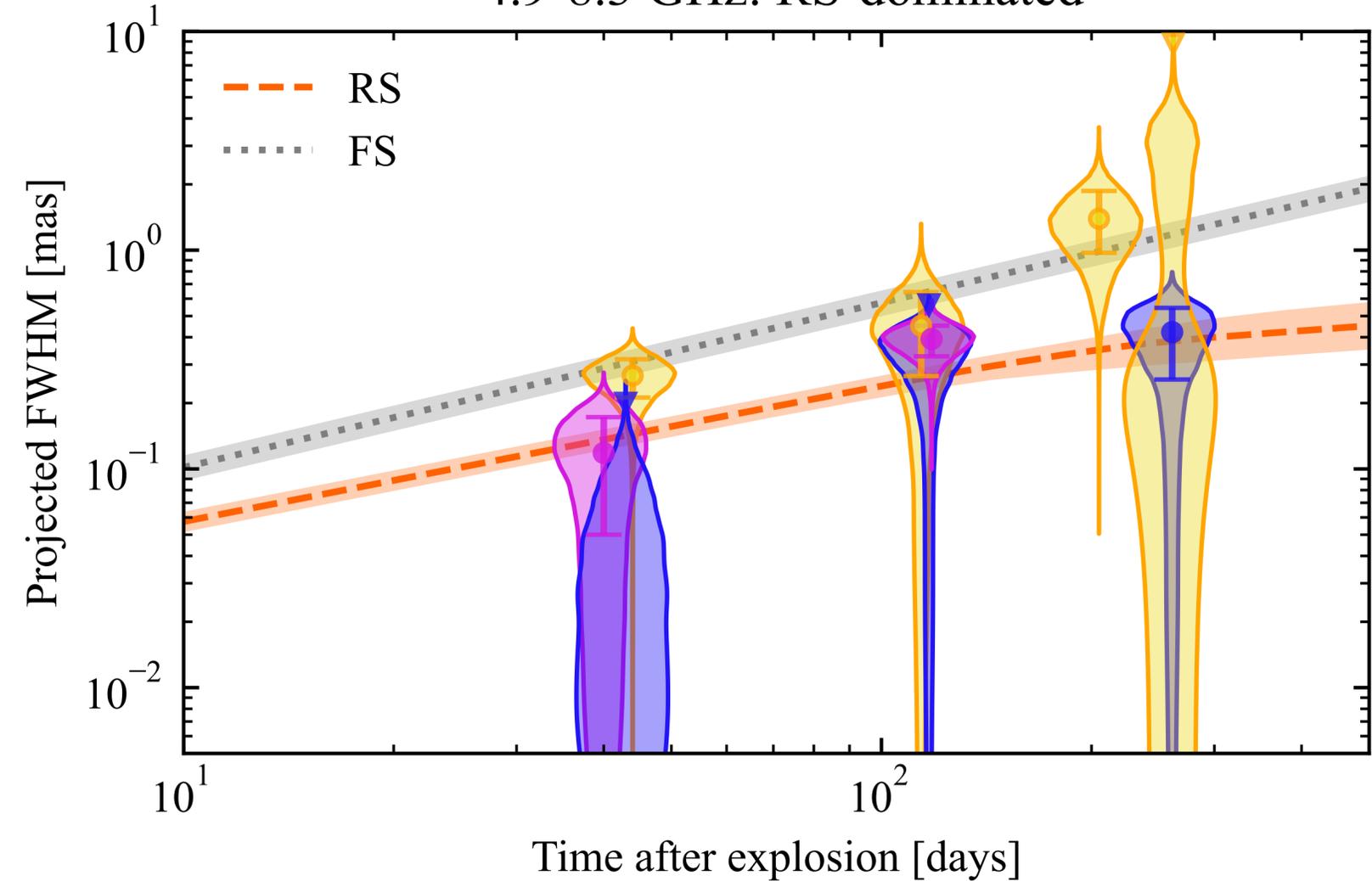
ISM

15 GHz: FS-dominated  
4.9-8.3 GHz: RS-dominated



Wind

15 GHz: FS-dominated  
4.9-8.3 GHz: RS-dominated

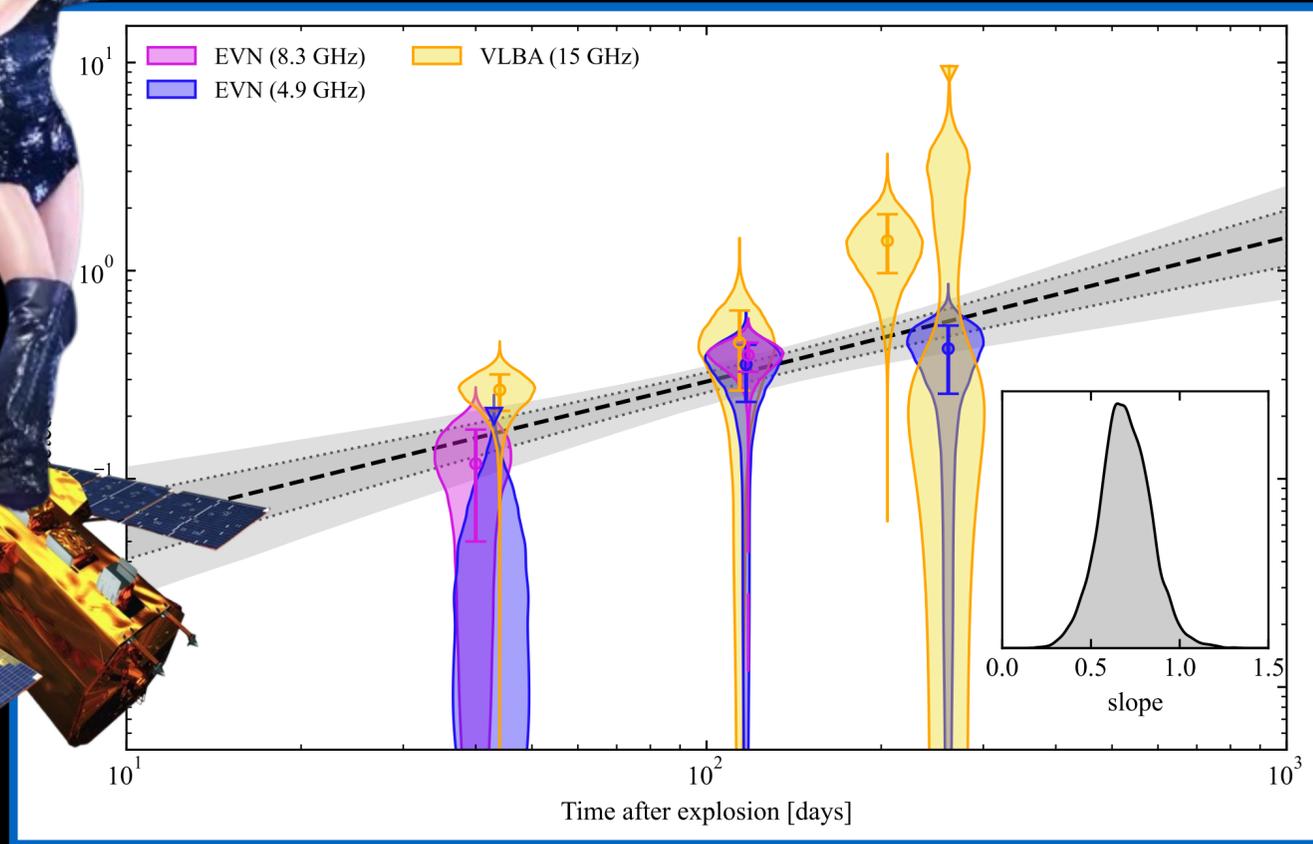
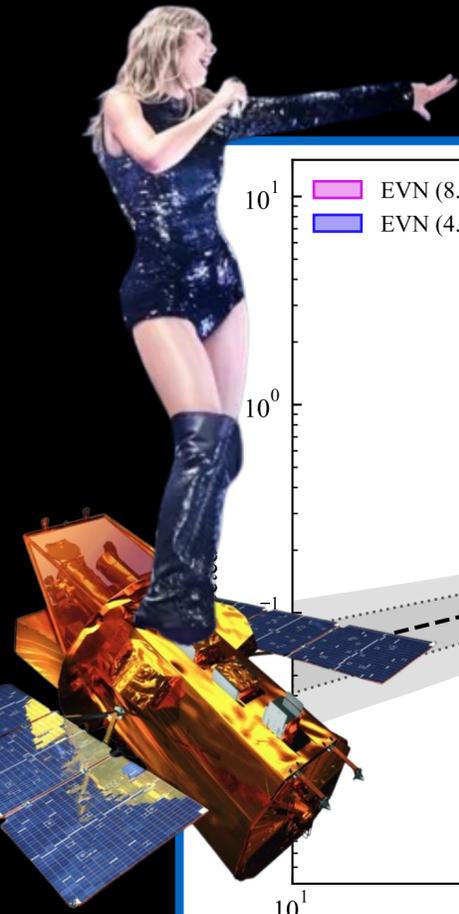


$$E/A \simeq 10^{57} \text{ erg cm}^3$$
$$\theta_j \simeq 21^\circ$$

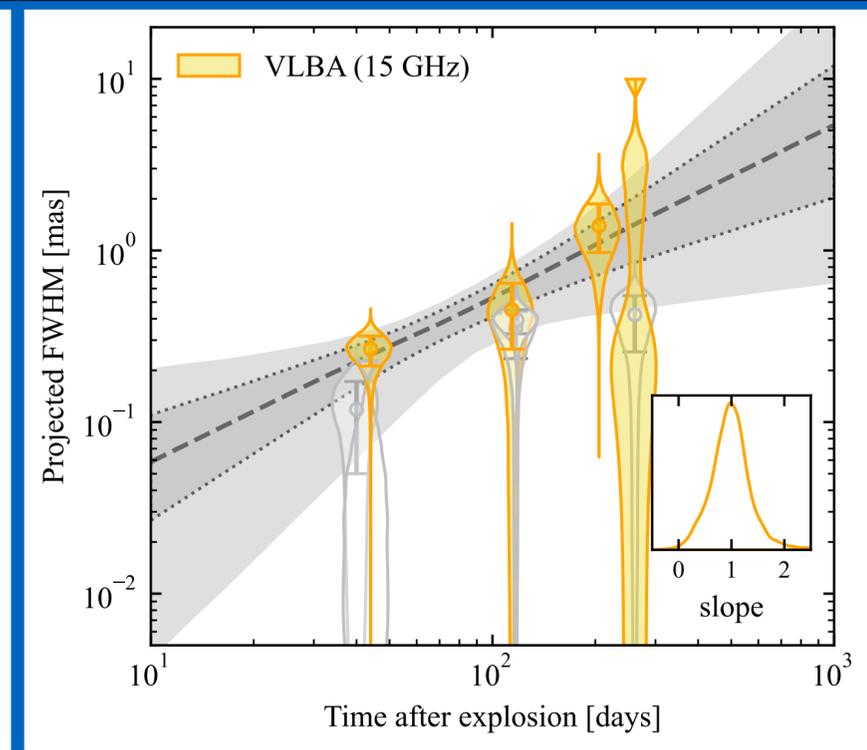
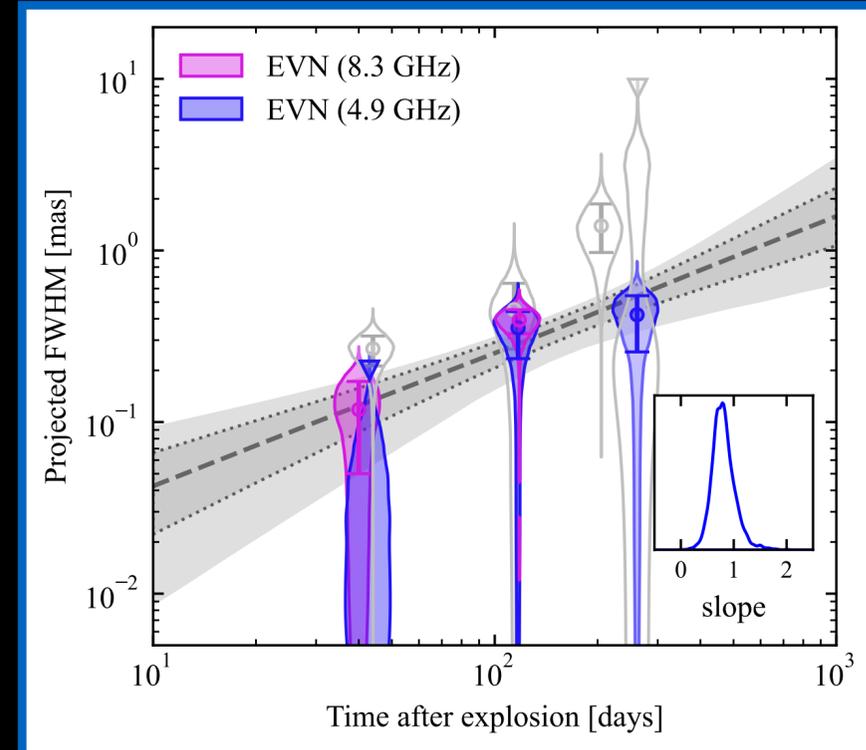
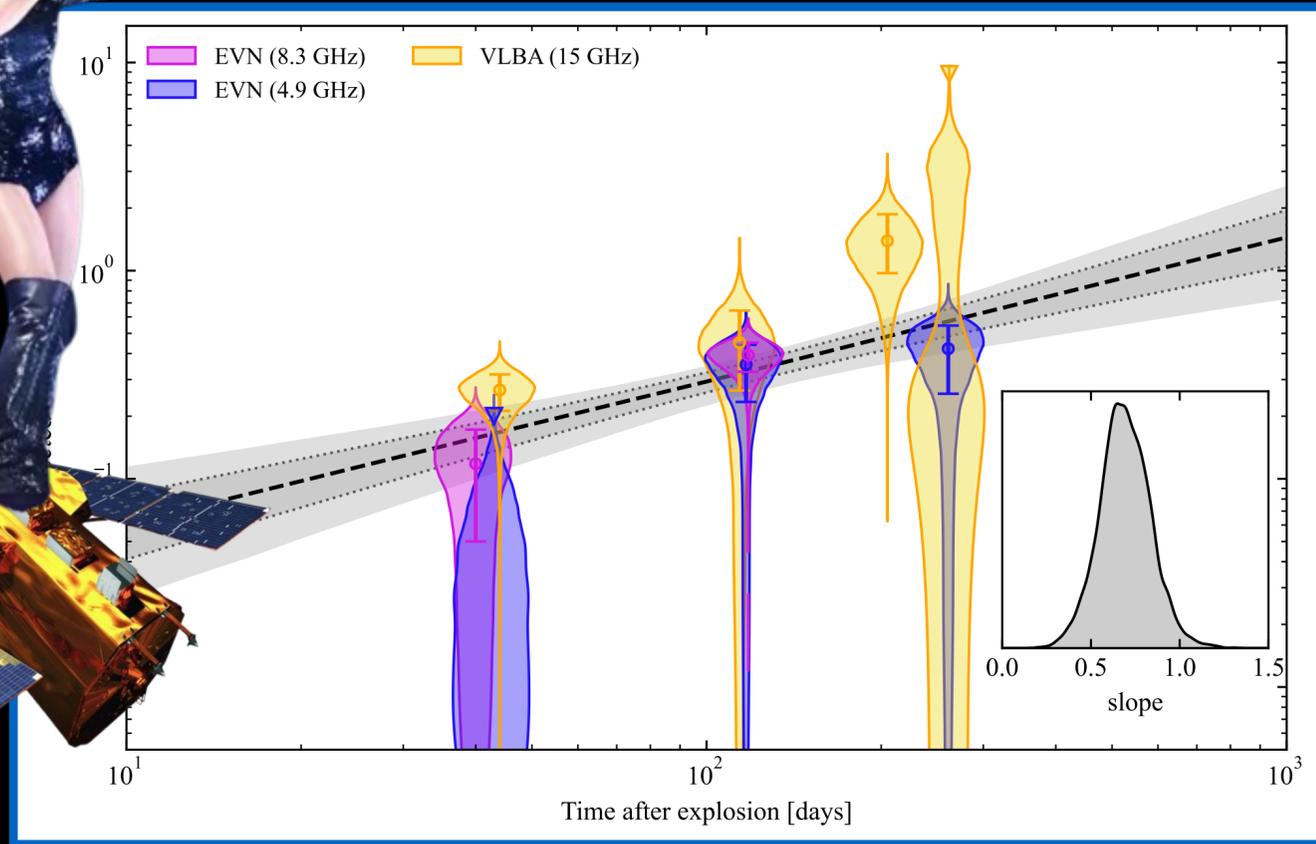
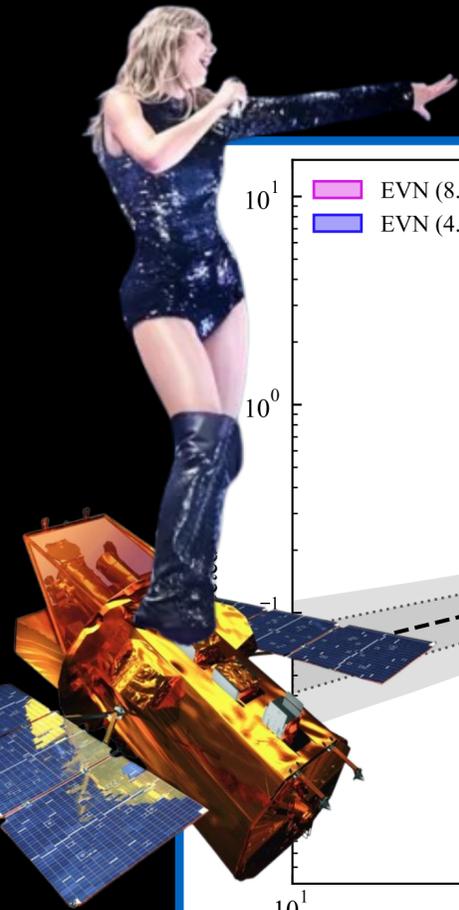
Model size evolution in a FS + RS scenario.  
From *Giarratana et al. (2024)*

$$E/A \simeq 10^{55} \text{ erg cm}^3$$
$$\theta_j \simeq 23^\circ$$

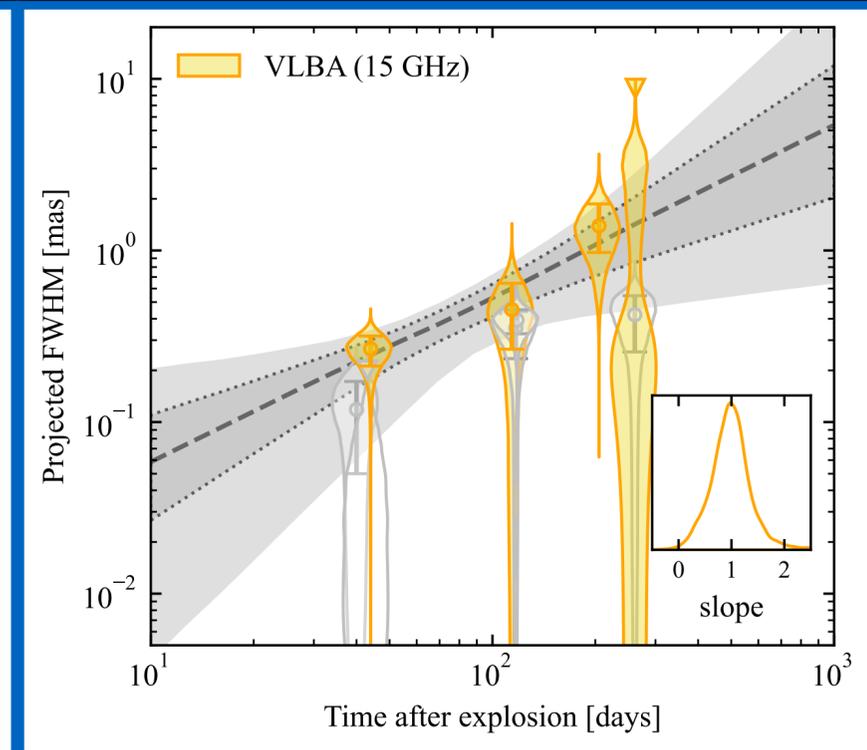
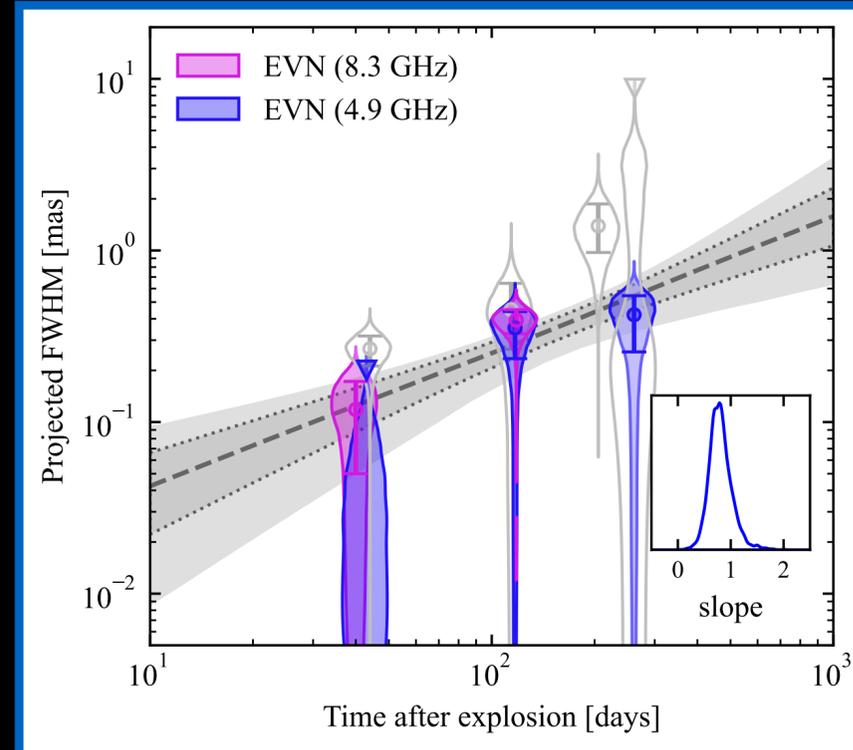
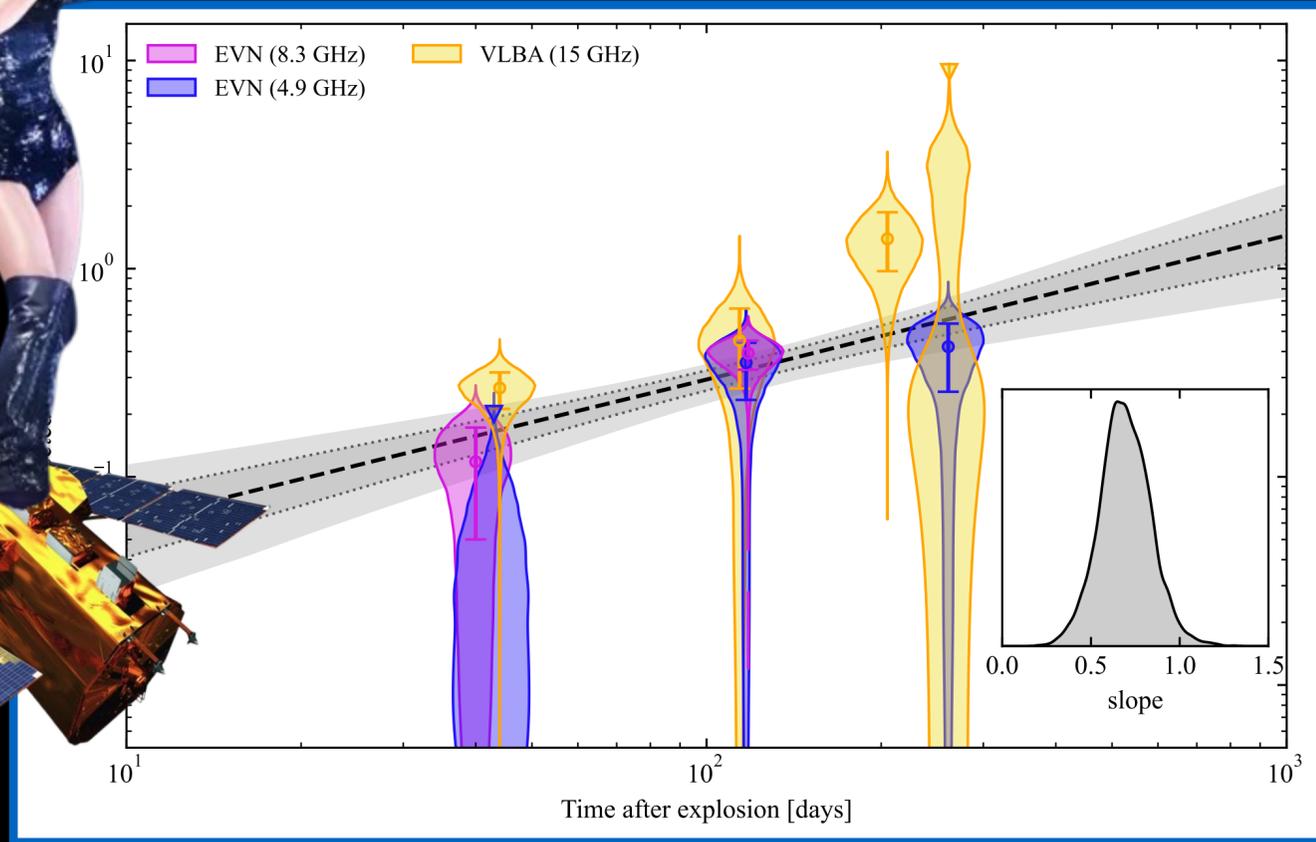
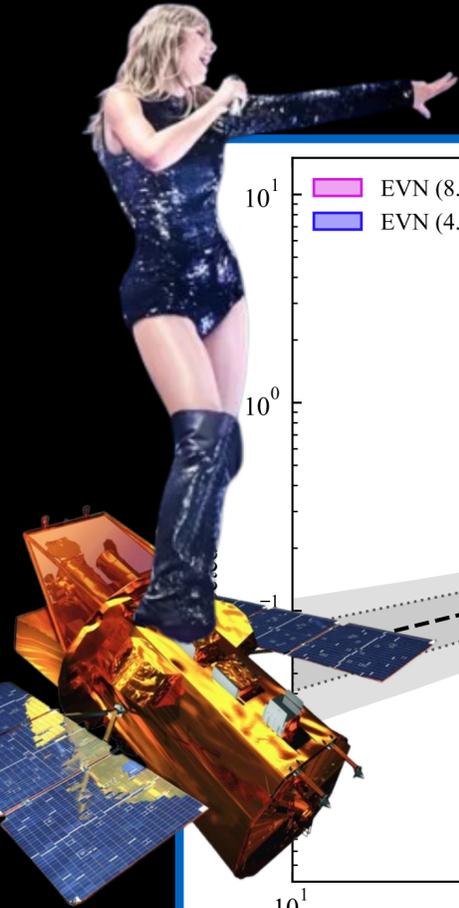
# Conclusions



# Conclusions

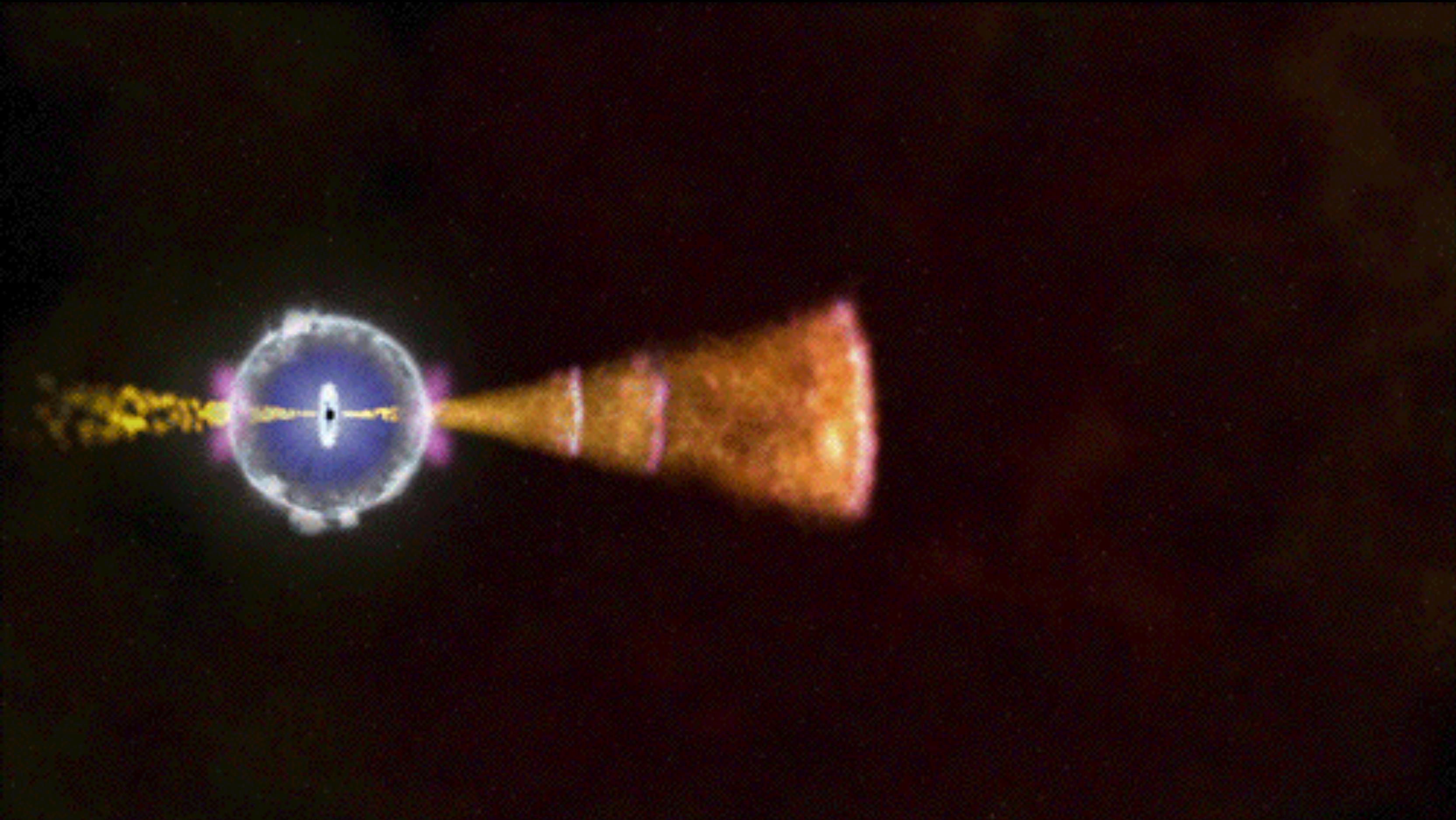


# Conclusions

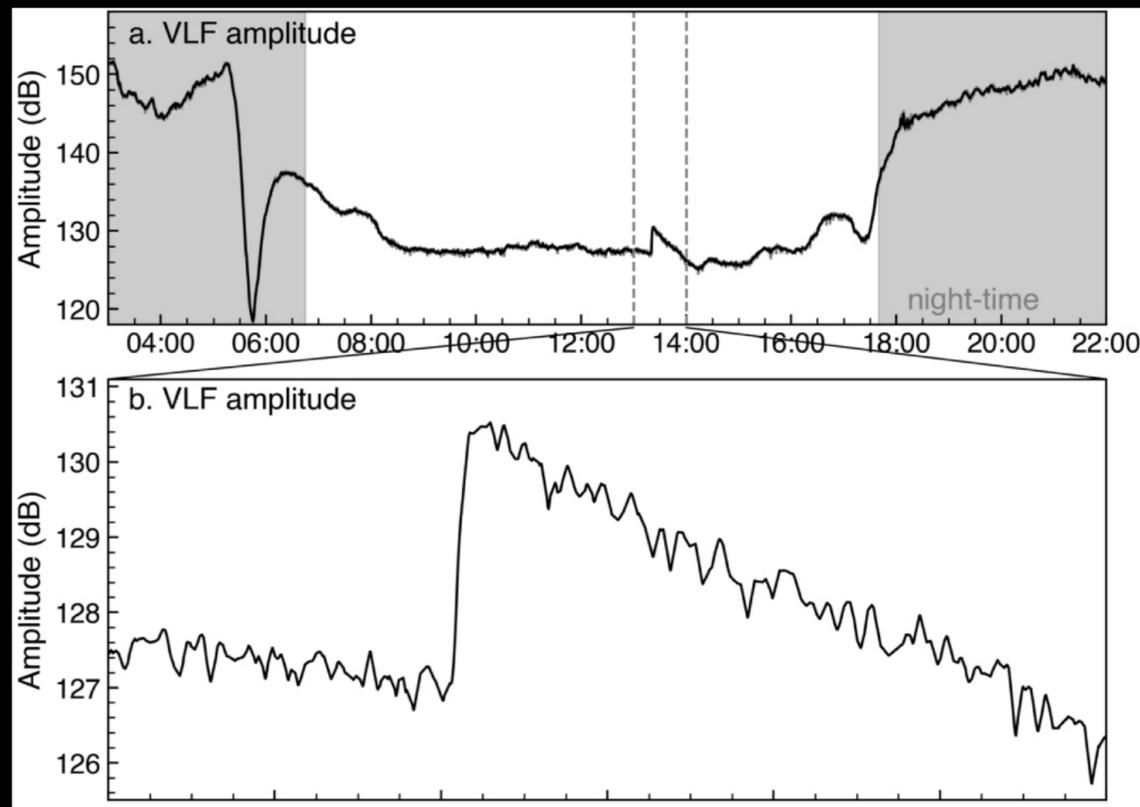


Thank you!

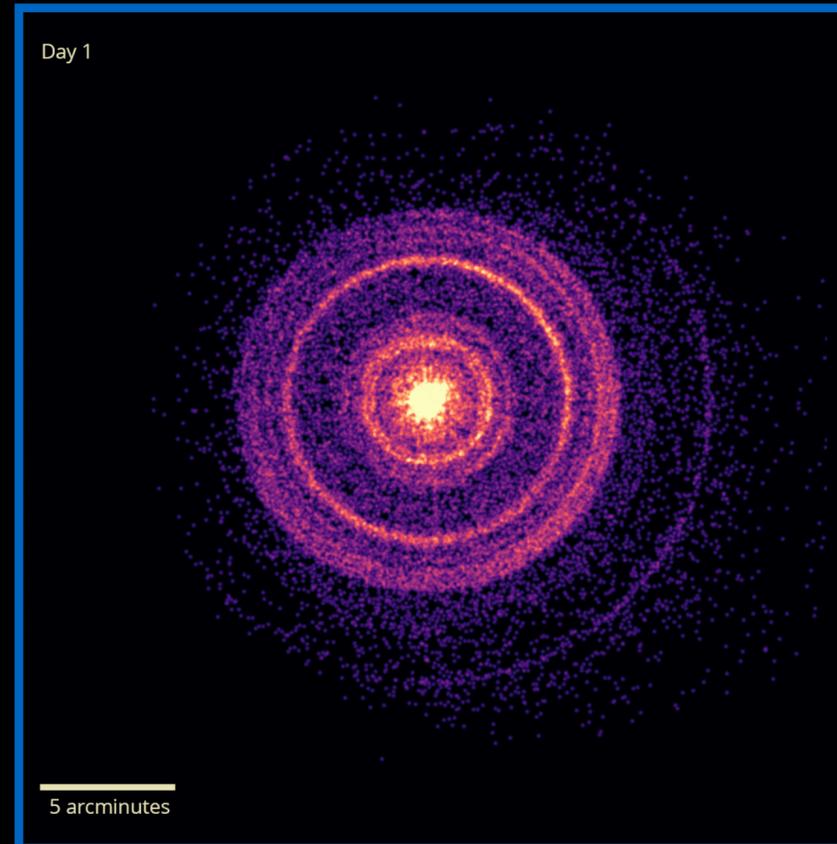
**Backup Slides**



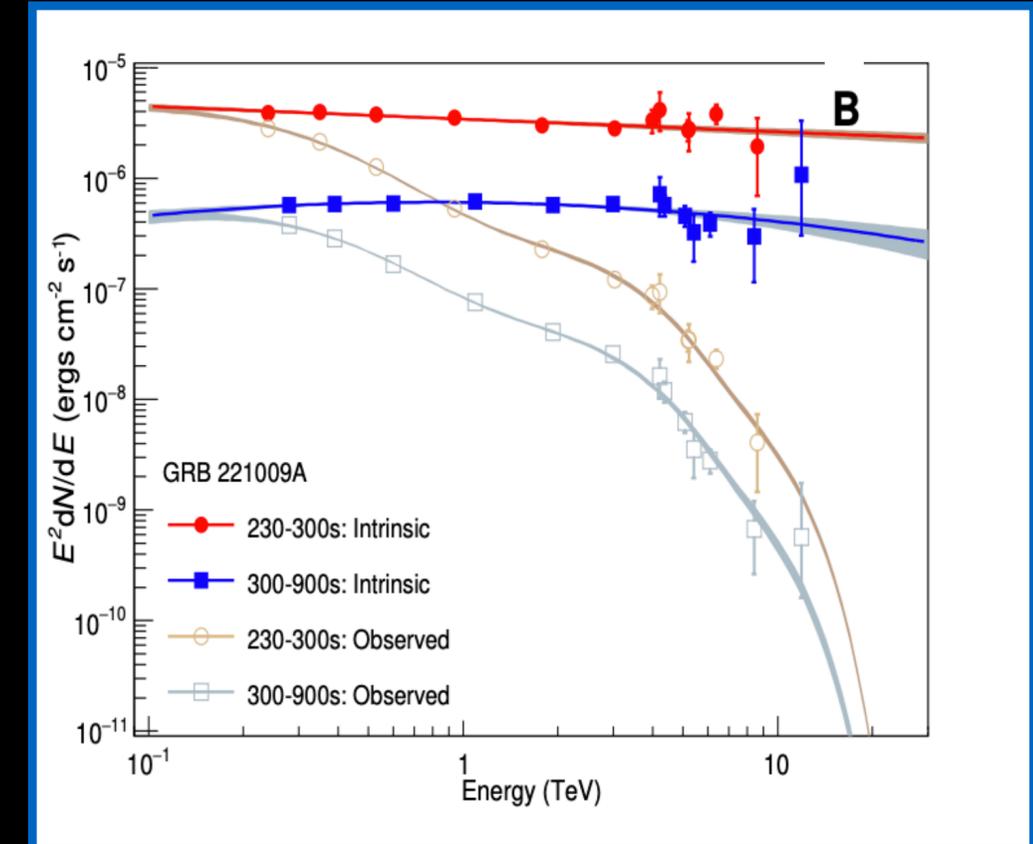
# GRB 221009A



VLF amplitude on 2022 Oct 09.  
From *Hayes & Gallagher (2022)*



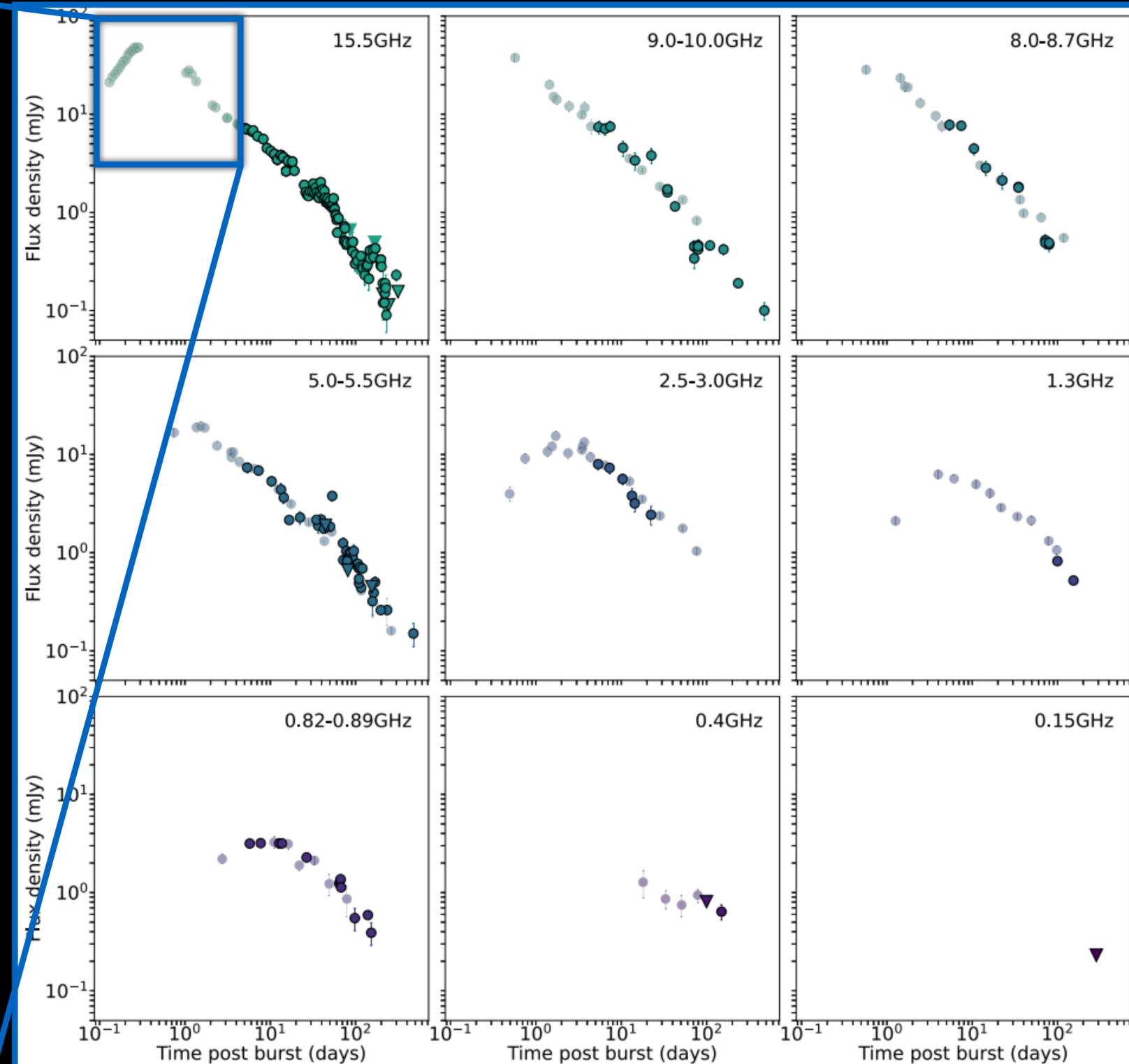
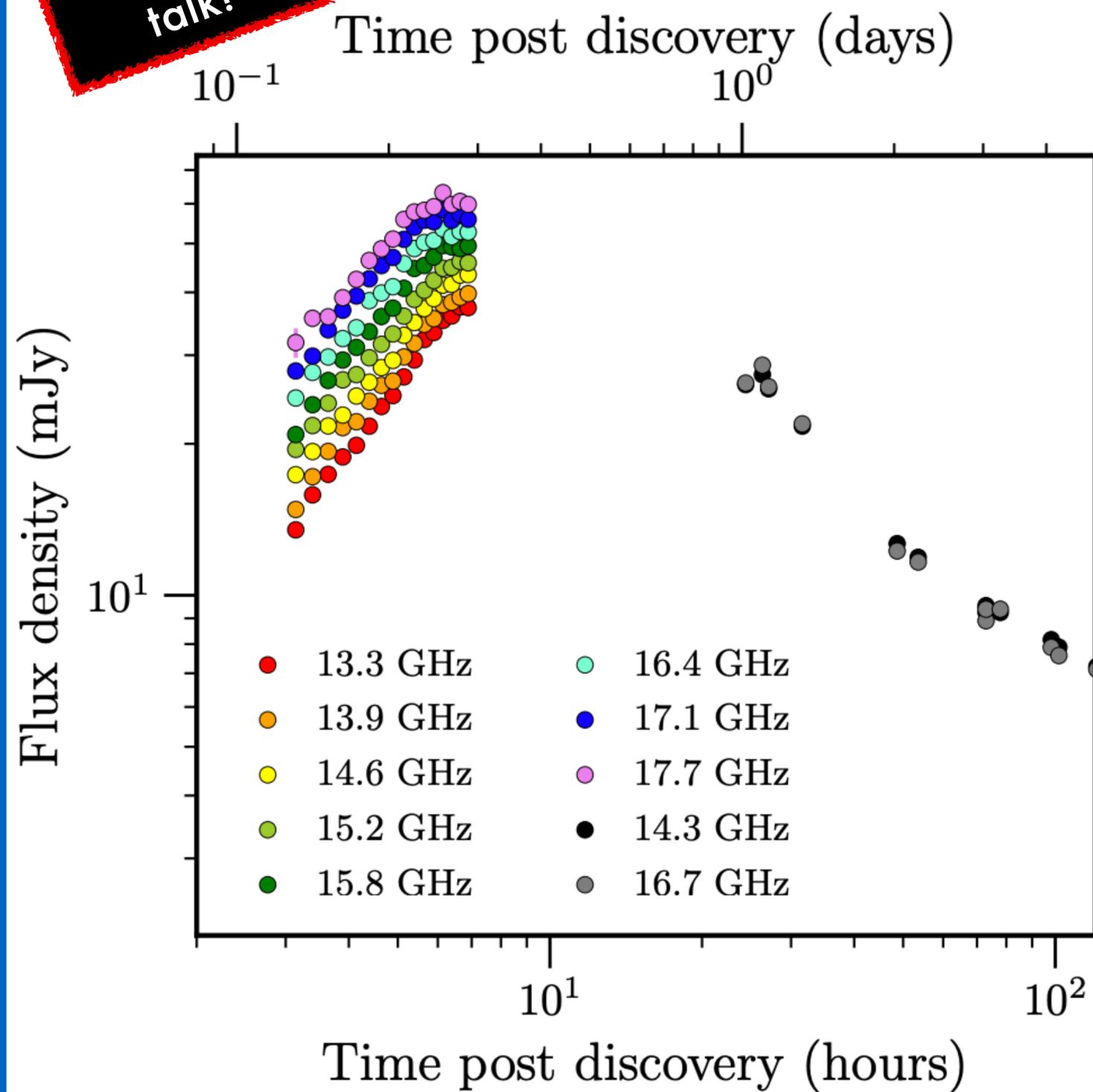
Credit: NASA/Swift/A.  
Beardmore (Univ of  
Leicester)



Intrinsic VHE spectra corrected  
for EBL.  
From *LHAASO Collaborarion  
(2023)*

# The radio emission of the BOAT

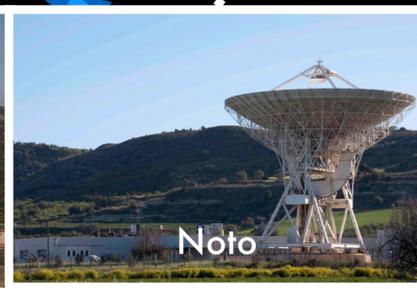
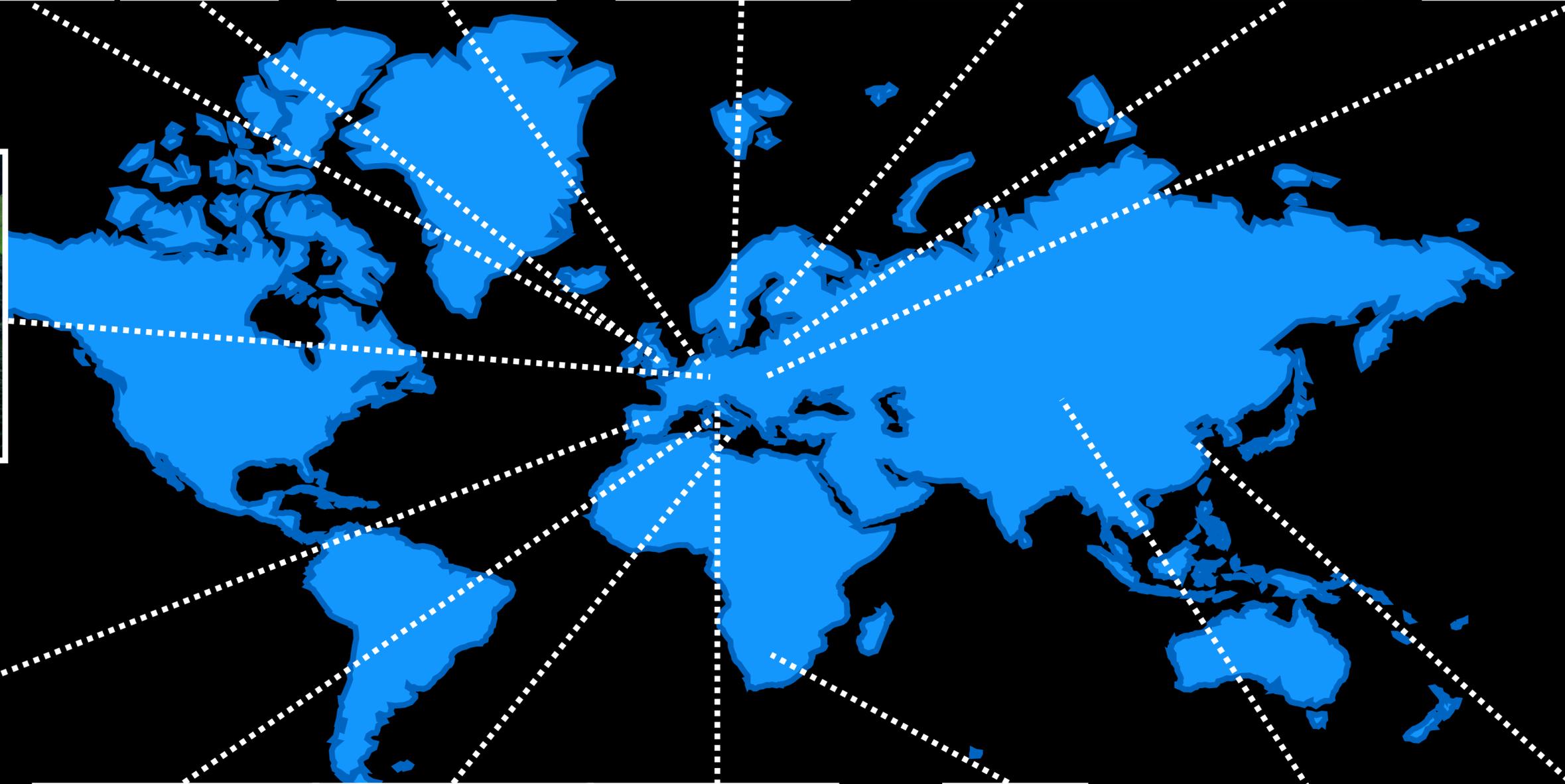
See  
Lauren's  
talk!



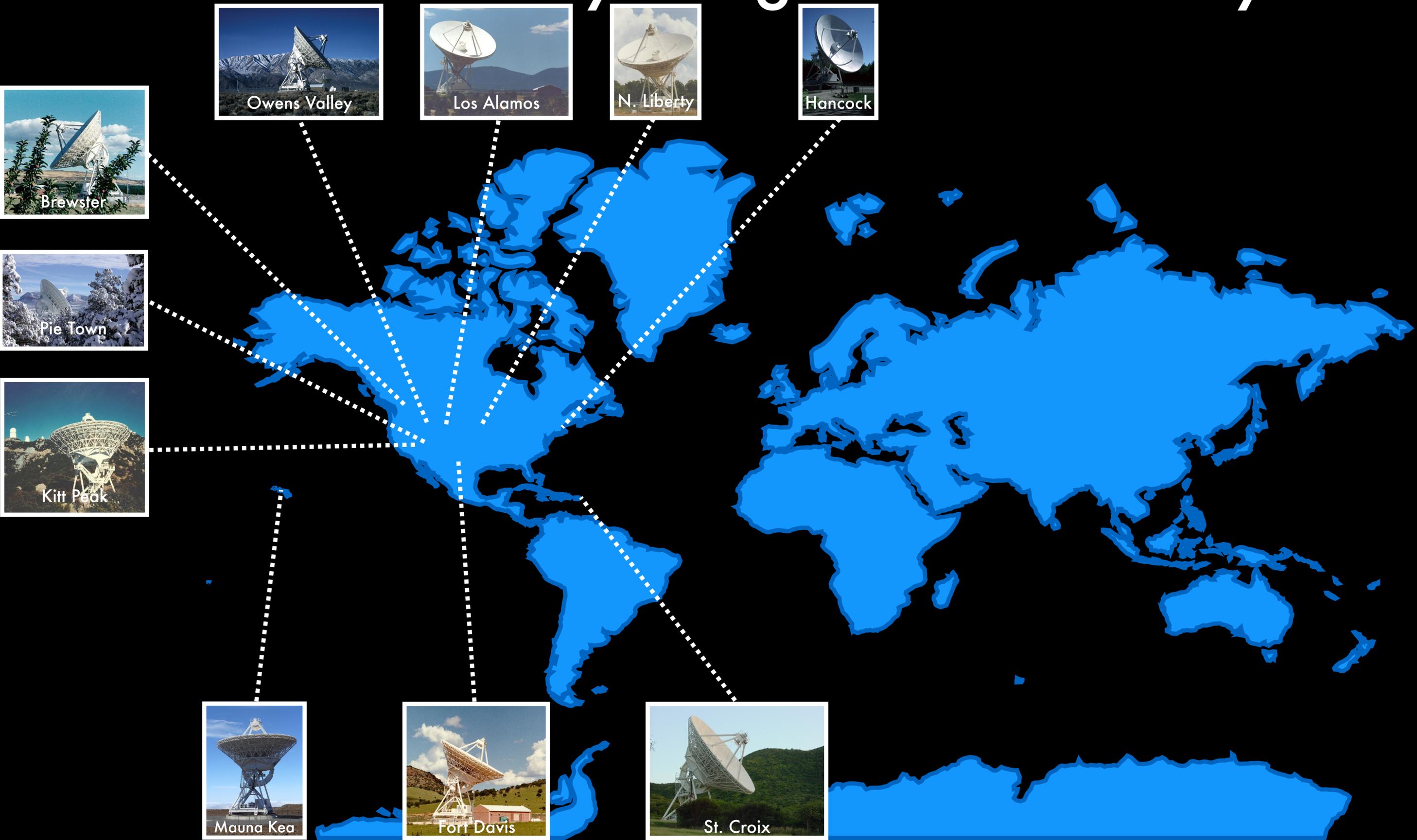
From *Bright, Rhodes, ..., SG et al. (2023)*

From *Rhodes, ..., SG et al. (2024)*

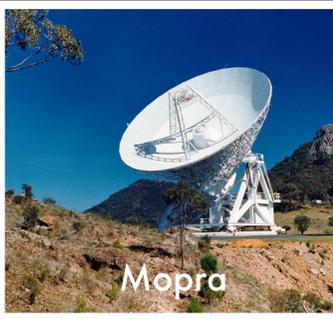
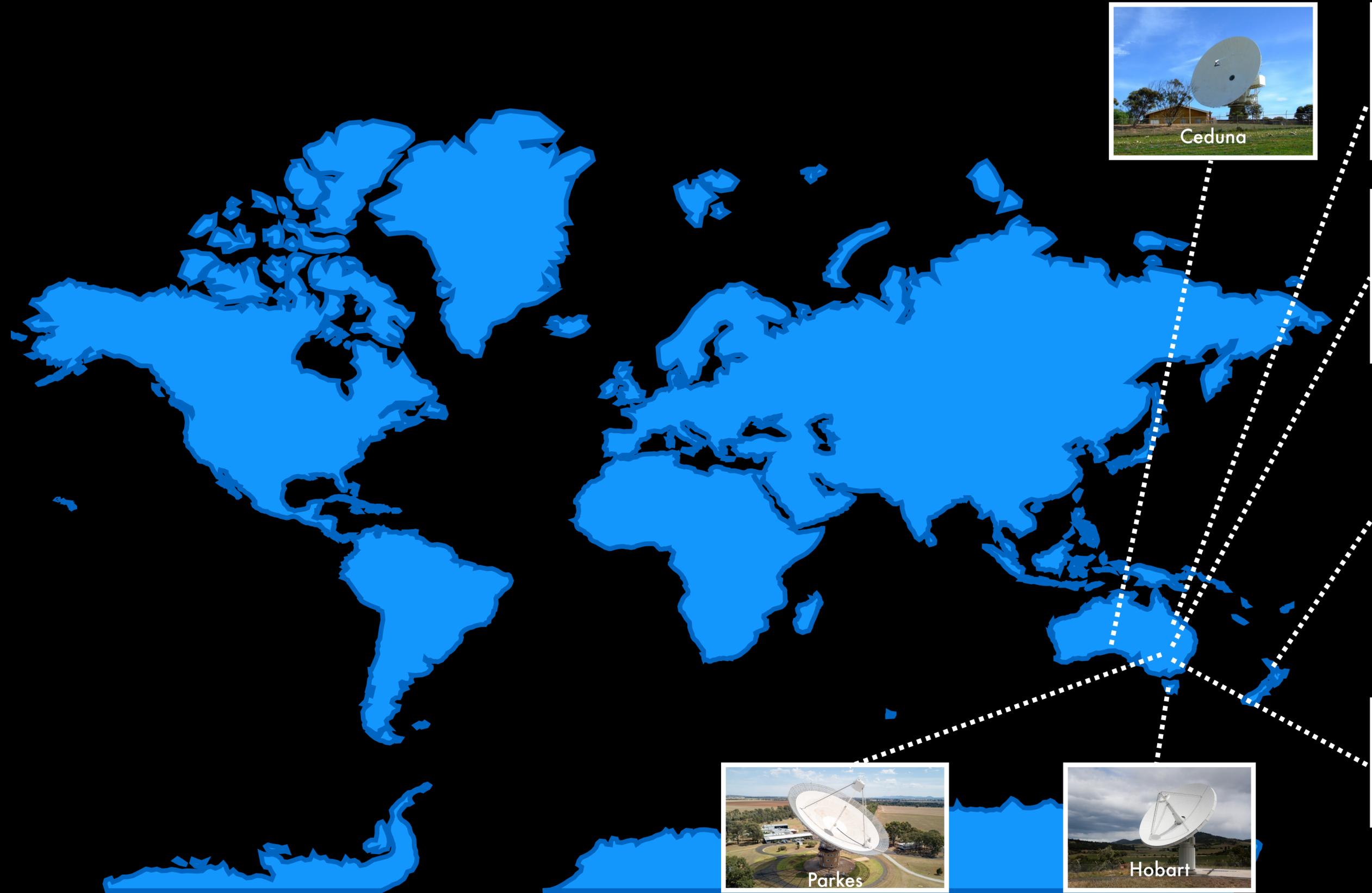
# The European VLBI Network



# The Very Long Baseline Array

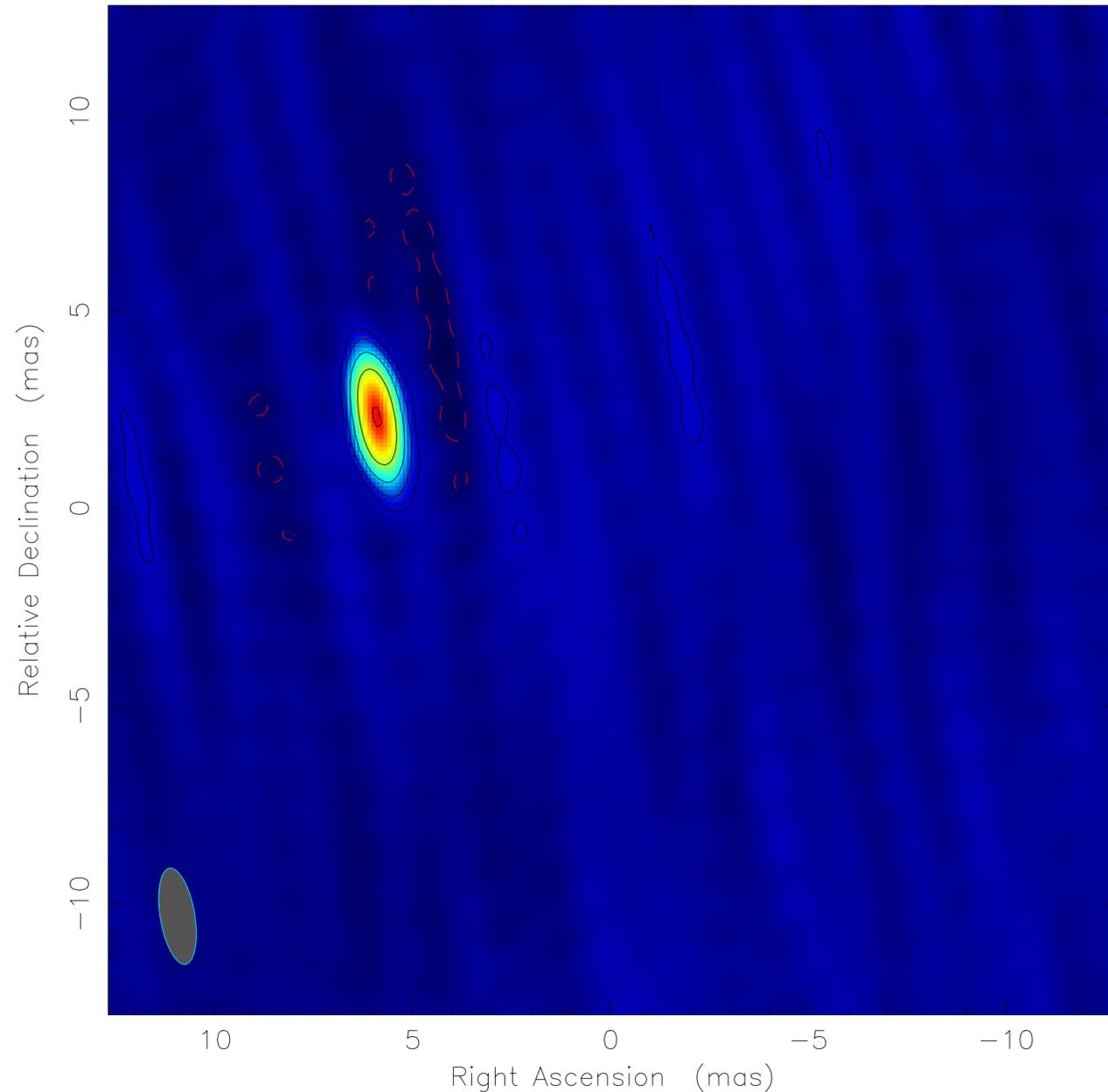


# The Long Baseline Array

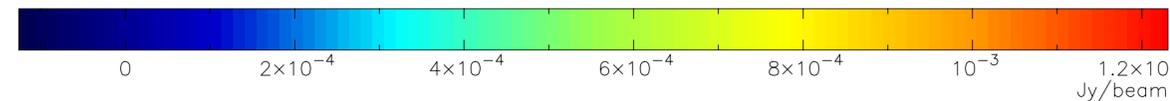


# VLBI campaign

Clean PI map. Array: EVN  
GRB22100 at 4.856 GHz 2022 Nov 21



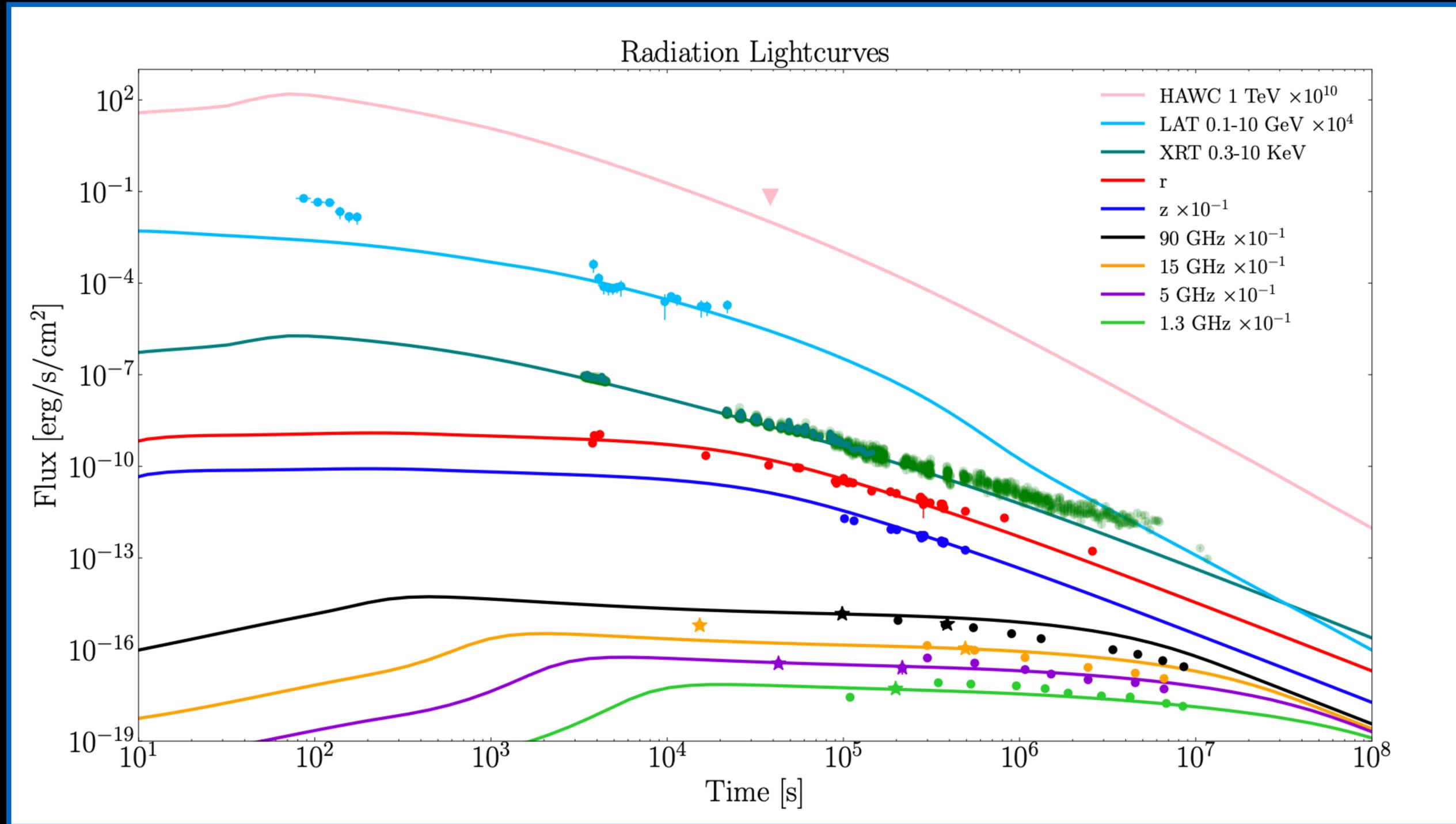
Map center: RA: 19 13 03.500, Dec: +19 46 24.228 (2000.0)  
Map peak: 0.00123 Jy/beam  
Contours:  $2.48 \times 10^{-5}$  Jy/beam  $\times$  (-3 3 6 12 24 48 )  
Beam FWHM: 2.46  $\times$  0.875 (mas) at 9.52°



Frequencies  
5, 8, 15 GHz

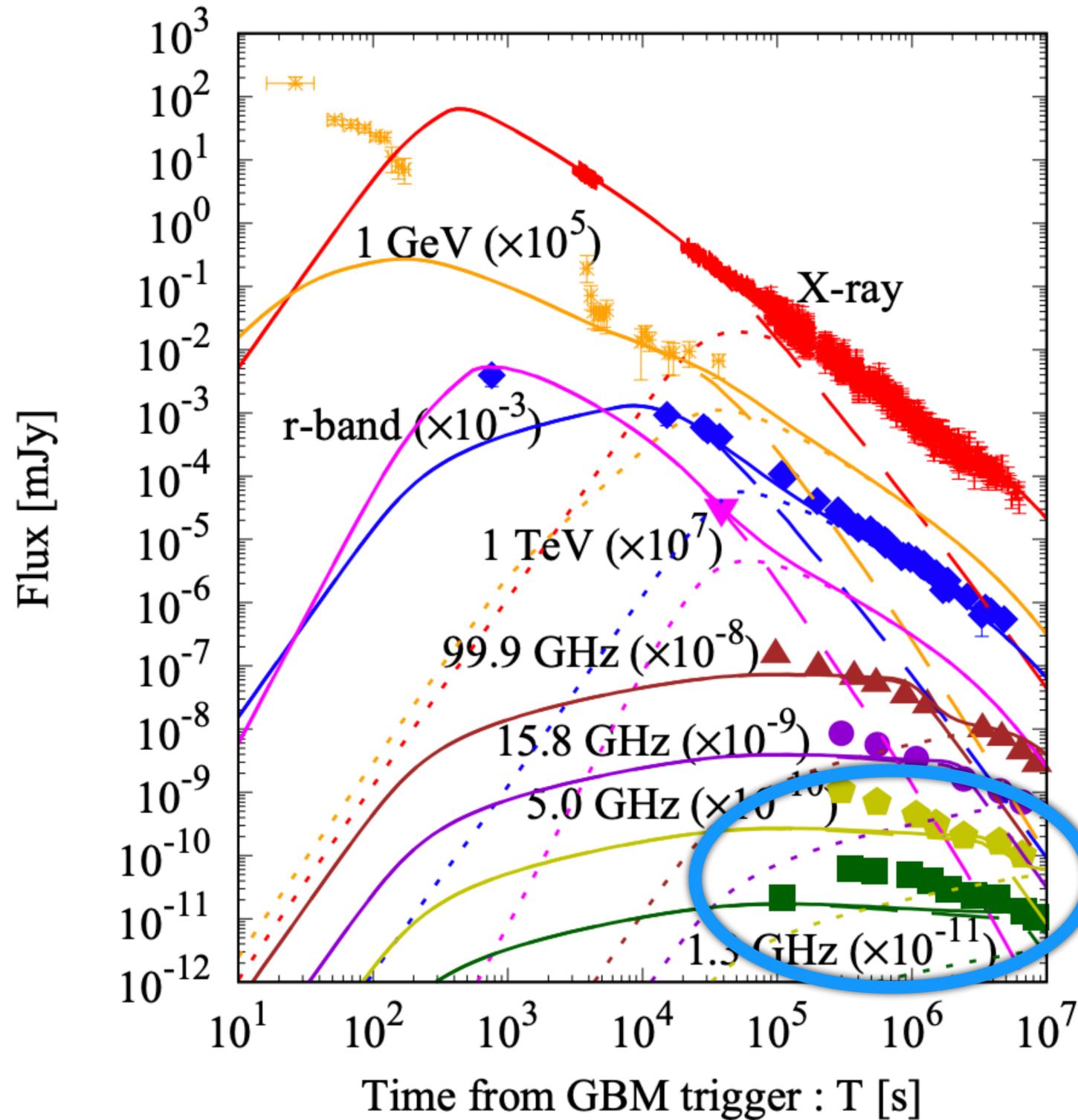
Time  
40 to 262 days

# Afterglow Models



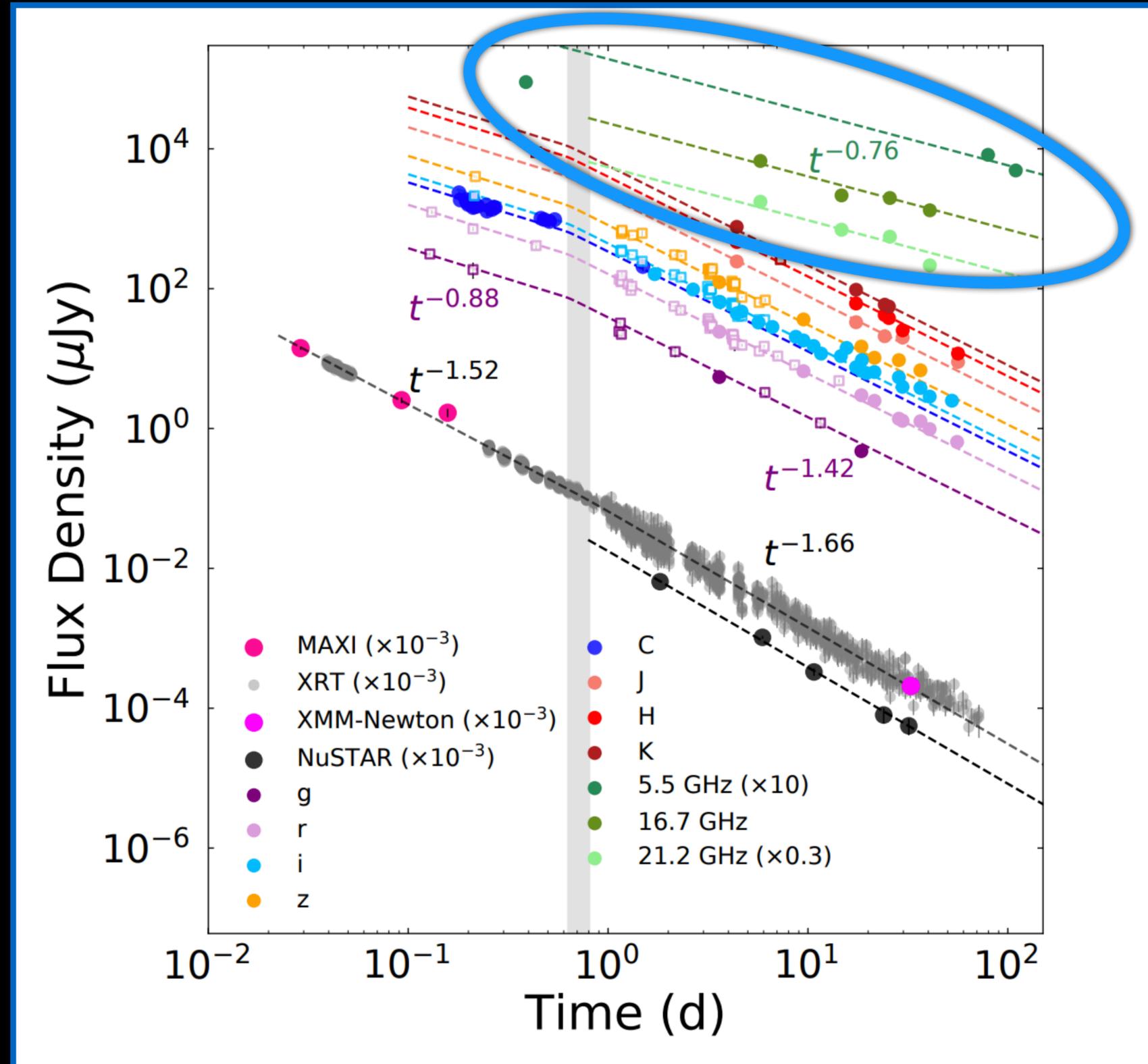
Top-hat jet model expanding in a wind-like environment. From *Ren et al. (2023)*

# Afterglow Models



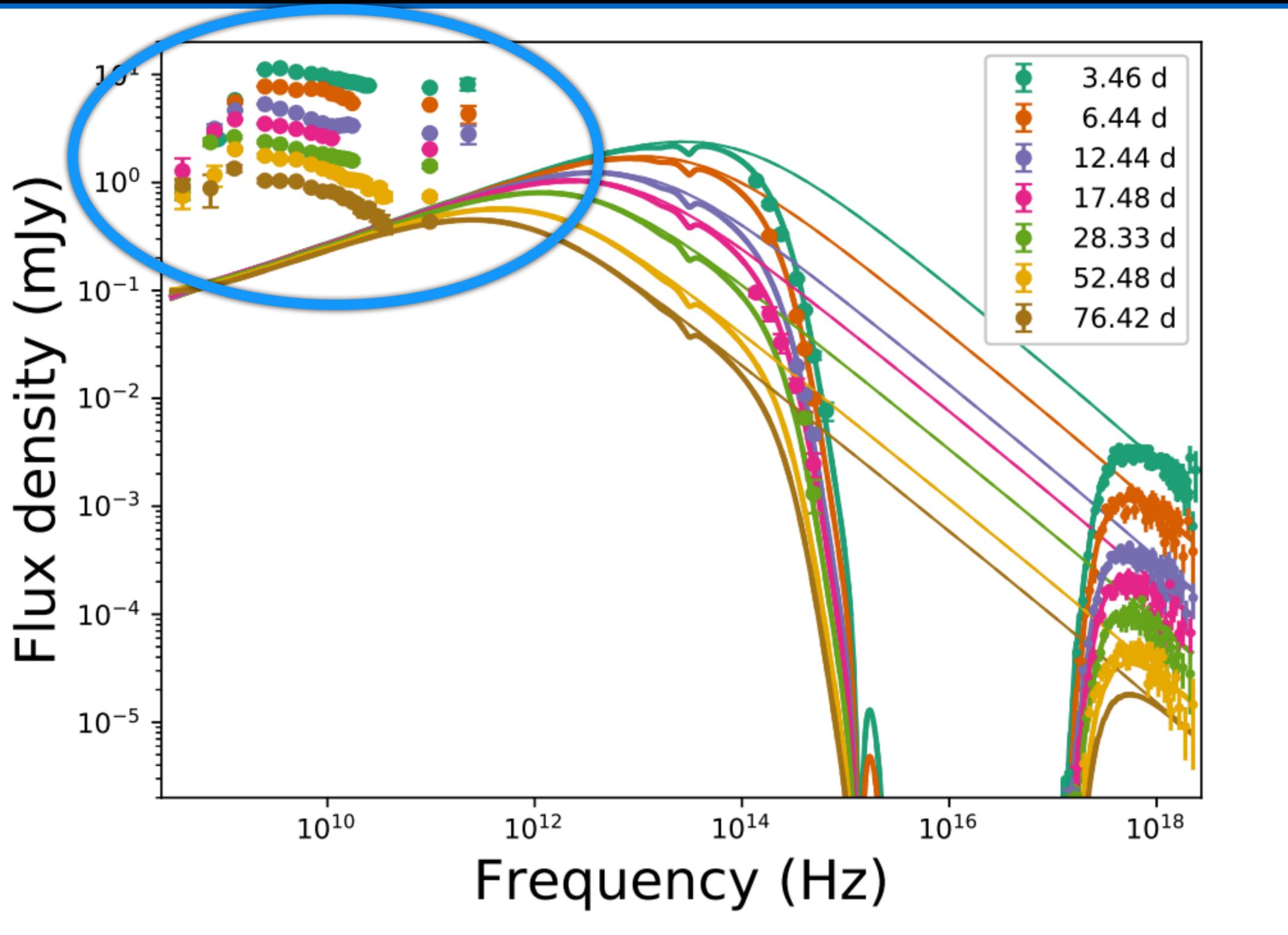
Two-component jet expanding in a uniform environment. From *Sato et al. (2023)*

# Afterglow Models



Structured jet expanding in a medium with  $k < 4/3$ . From *O'Connor et al. (2023)*

# Afterglow Models

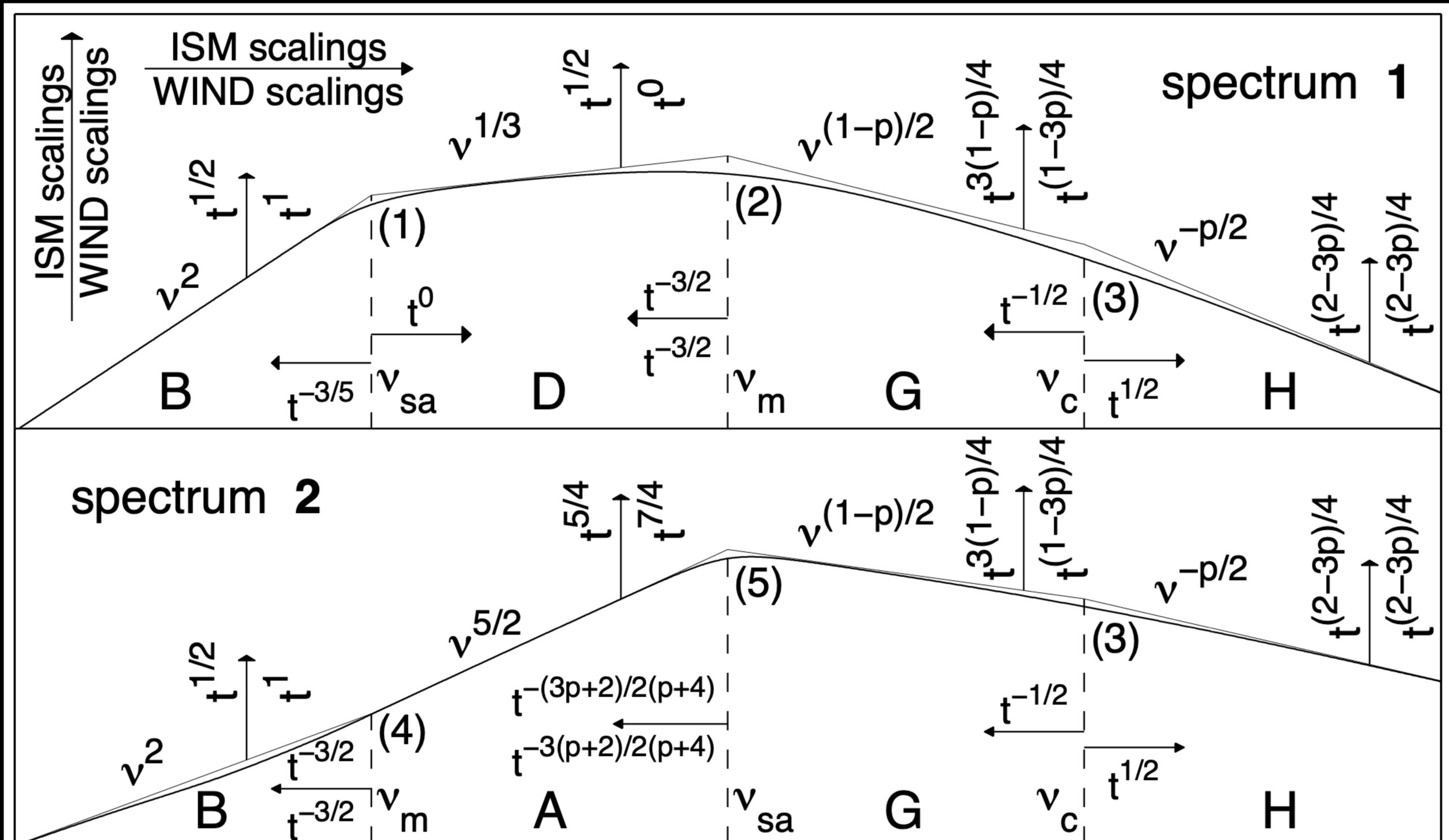


From *Laskar et al. (2023)*

# Our VLBI campaign

<b>T - To</b>	<b>Freq</b>	<b>Array</b>
40	8.3	EVN
43	4.8	EVN
44	15.1	VLBA
114	15.1	VLBA
117	4.8	EVN
118	8.3	EVN
205	15.1	VLBA
231	6	Global
261	4.8	EVN
262	15.1	VLBA
391	6	Global





Synchrotron spectrum for the afterglow model. From *Granot & Sari (2002)*

# SKA and ngVLA

## SKA1 Telescope Expected Performance – Imaging

Nominal frequency	110 MHz	300 MHz	770 MHz	1.4 GHz	6.7 GHz	12.5 GHz
Range [GHz]	0.05-0.35	0.05-0.35	0.35-1.05	0.95-1.76	4.6-8.5	8.3-15.4
Telescope	Low	Low	Mid	Mid	Mid	Mid
FoV [arcmin]	327	120	109	60	12.5	6.7
Max. resolution [arcsec]	9.7	3.5	0.7	0.3	0.06	0.03
Max. bandwidth [MHz]	300	300	700	810	3900	2 x 2500
Cont. rms, 1hr [ $\mu$ Jy/beam] <sup>a</sup>	26	14	4.4	2	1.3	1.2
Line rms, 1hr [ $\mu$ Jy/beam] <sup>b</sup>	1850	800	300	140	90	85
Resolution range for cont. & line rms [arcsec] <sup>c</sup>	12-600	6-300	1-145	0.6-78	0.13-17	0.07-9
Channel width (uniform resolution across max. bandwidth) [kHz]	5.4	5.4	13.4	13.4	80.6	80.6
Narrowest bandwidth, zoom mode [MHz]	3.9	3.9	3.1	3.1	3.1	3.1
Finest zoom channel width [Hz]	226	226	210	210	210	210

a. Continuum sensitivity at nominal frequency, assuming fractional bandwidth of  $\Delta\nu/\nu = 0.3$

b. Line sensitivity at nominal frequency, assuming fractional bandwidth per channel of  $\Delta\nu/\nu = 10^{-4}$  ( $>10^{-6}$  will be possible)

c. The sensitivity numbers apply to the range of beam sizes listed  
**For more details refer to the document “Anticipated SKA1 Science Performance” (SKA-TEL-SKO-0000818 available on astronomers.skatelescope.org and at arxiv.org/abs/1912.12699)**

SKA info sheet from the public SKAO website.

## ngVLA Key Performance Metrics

Parameter [units]	2.4 GHz	8 GHz	16 GHz	27 GHz	41 GHz	93 GHz
Band Lower Frequency, $f_L$ [GHz]	1.2	3.4	12.3	20.5	30.5	70.0
Band Upper Frequency, $f_H$ [GHz]	3.5	12.3	20.5	34.0	50.5	116.0
Field of View FWHM [arcmin]	24.852	7.440	3.561	2.143	1.442	0.628
Aperture Efficiency [%]	0.828	0.936	0.941	0.920	0.886	0.648
Effective Area, $A_{\text{eff}} \times 10^3$ [m <sup>2</sup> ]	51.41	58.15	58.42	57.10	55.03	40.25
System Temp, $T_{\text{sys}}$ [K]	17.07	22.00	24.40	32.42	47.41	65.37
Max Inst. Bandwidth [GHz]	2.3	8.8	8.2	13.5	20.0	20.0
Antenna SEFD [Jy]	232.3	264.8	292.2	397.3	602.8	1136.3
Resolution of Max. Baseline $\theta_{\text{max}}$ [mas]	2.97	0.89	0.43	0.26	0.17	0.08
<b>Naturally Weighted Sensitivity</b>						
Continuum rms, 1 hr [ $\mu$ Jy/beam]	0.24	0.14	0.16	0.17	0.21	0.40

ngVLA expected performance. From the public ngVLA website.