

Connecting the Dots:

Swift's Key Role in Unveiling the X-ray-Radio Connection in Delayed Flares from Tidal Disruption Events

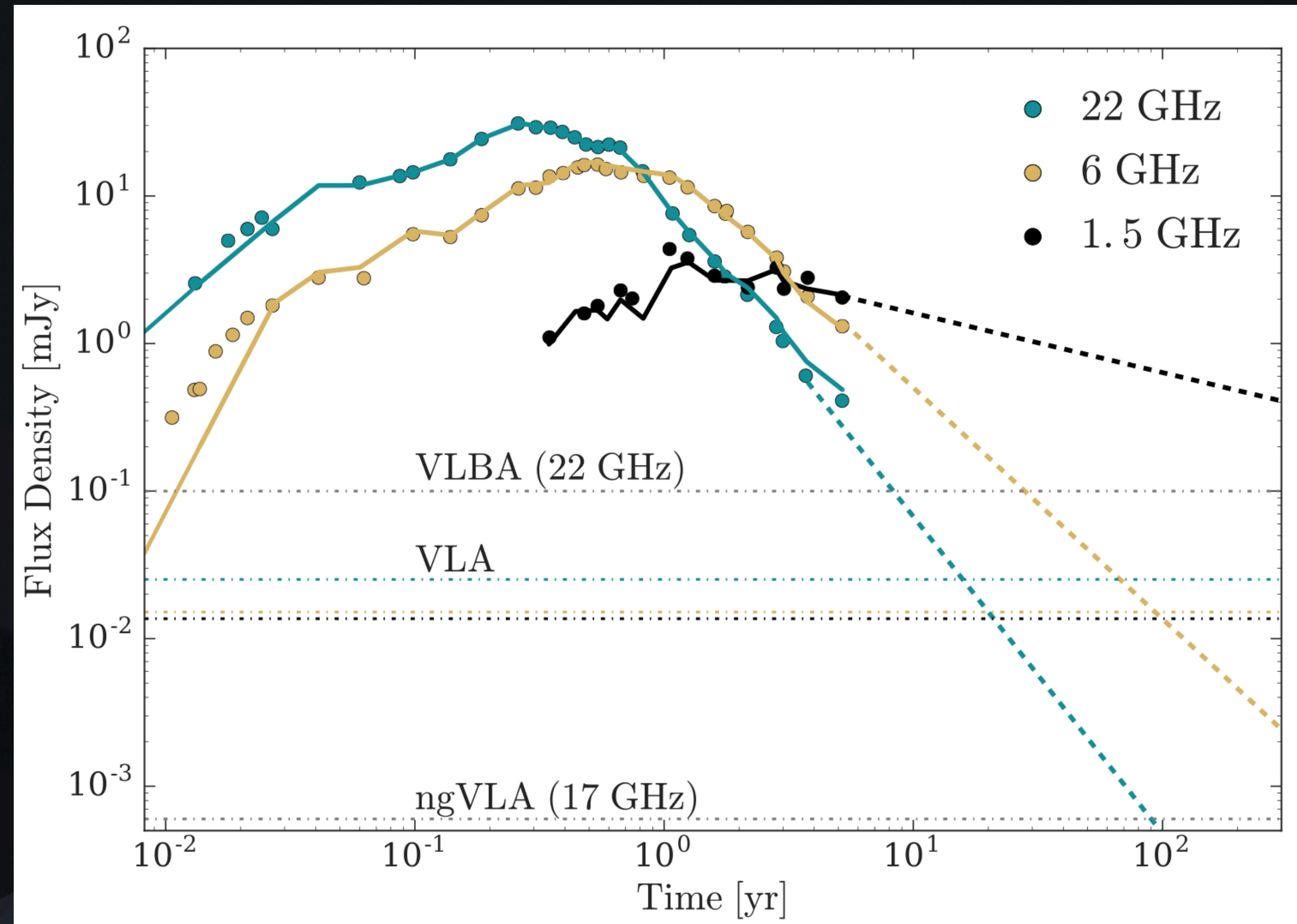
Assaf Horesh

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Swift 20 years celebration - Florence, March 2025

Radio Diagnostics of TDEs

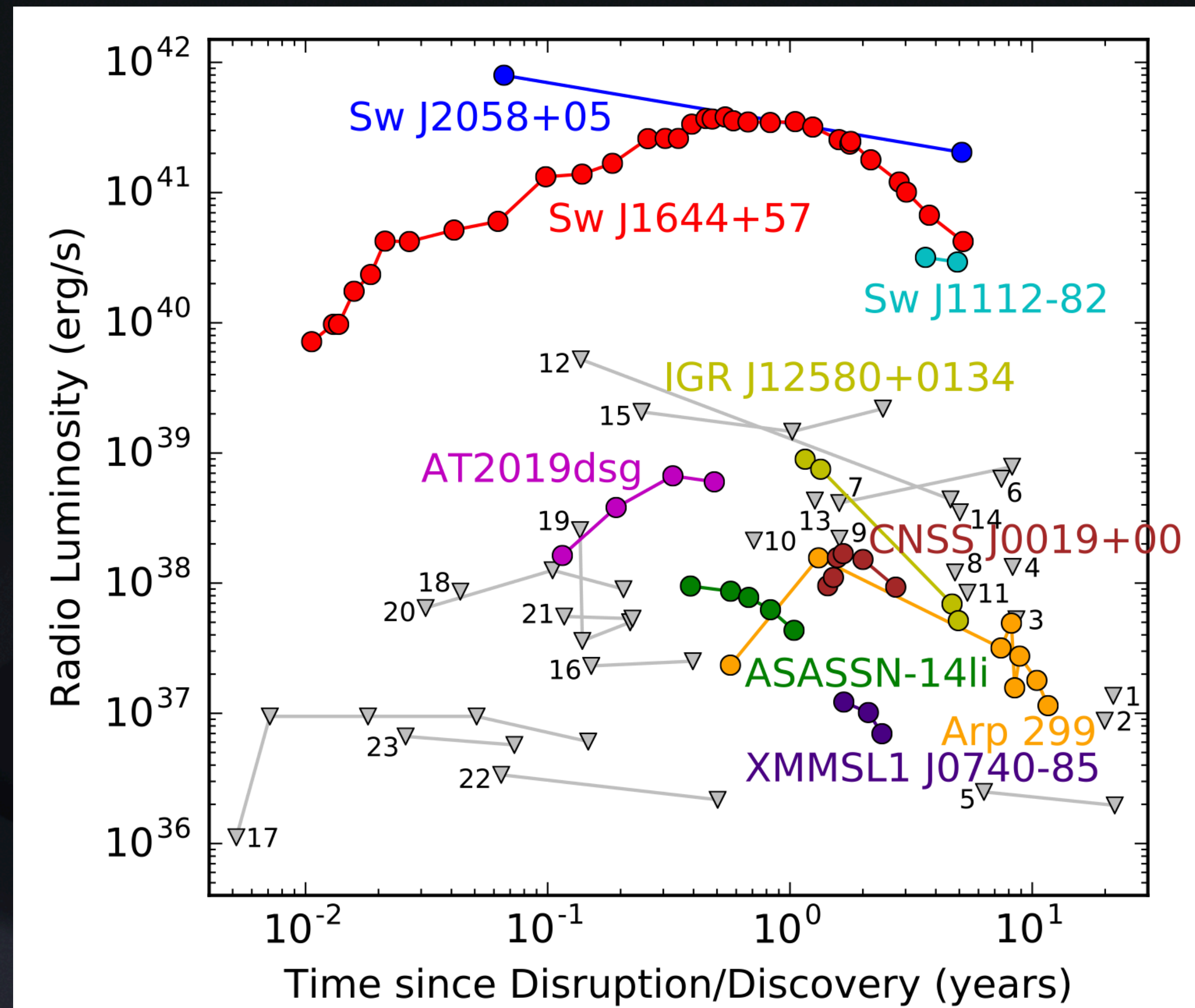
- Track outflows (velocity, Lorentz factor)
- Emission region size (brightness temperature, scintillation)
- Evolution of cooling processes
- Structured Jets
- Energy fraction in magnetic field
- Density variation in the close vicinity of the SMBH



Eftekhari et al. (2018)

Status of TDE Radio Emission

Until recently



Alexander, van-Velzen, Horesh, Zauderer (2020)

A New Discovery

Delayed Radio Flares



ASTRONOMY

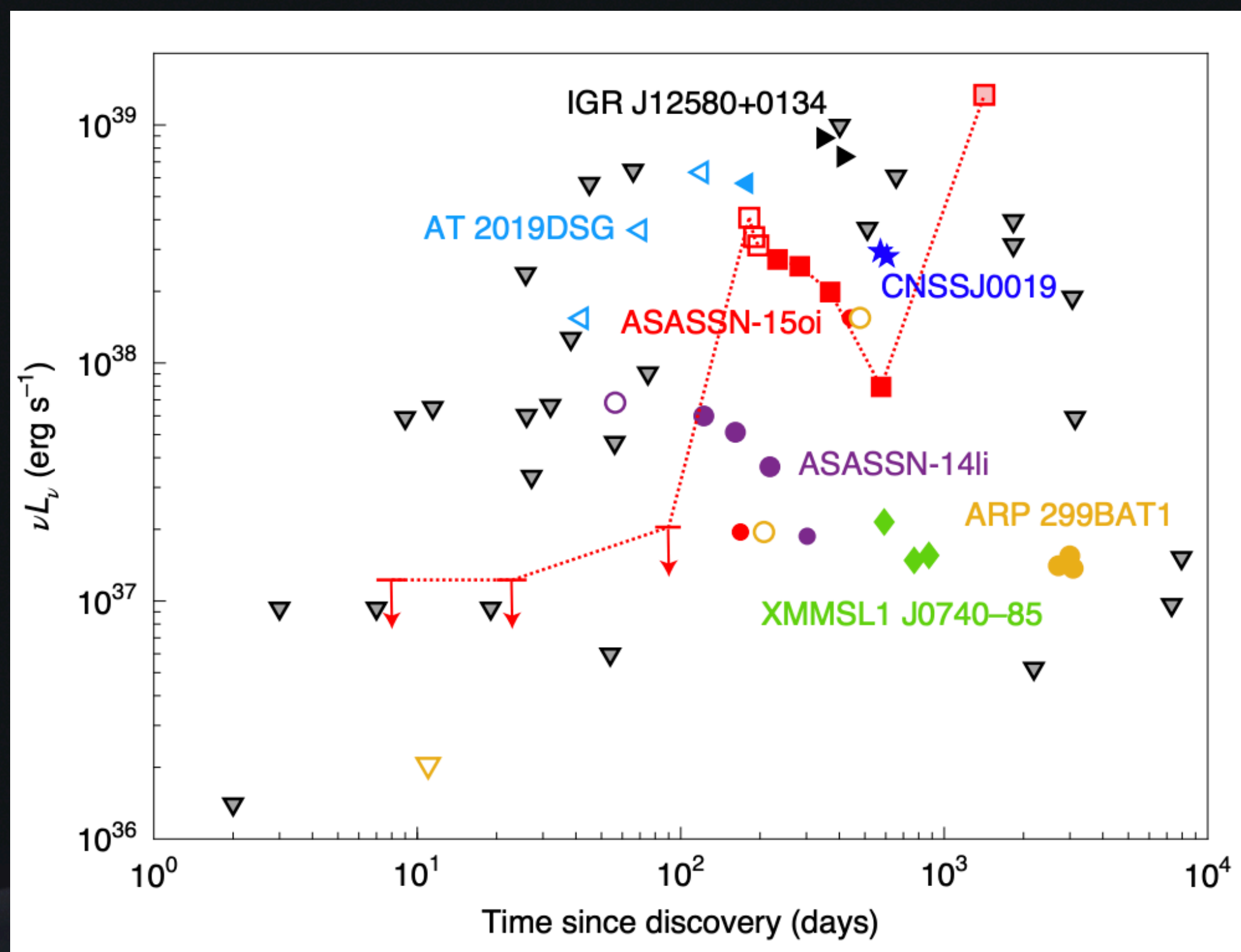
Radio bursts from ‘zombie’ black holes excite astronomers

Delayed emissions from black holes that fed on stars earlier could help explain the formation of powerful jets

Delayed Radio Flares

A new discovery - ASASSN15oi

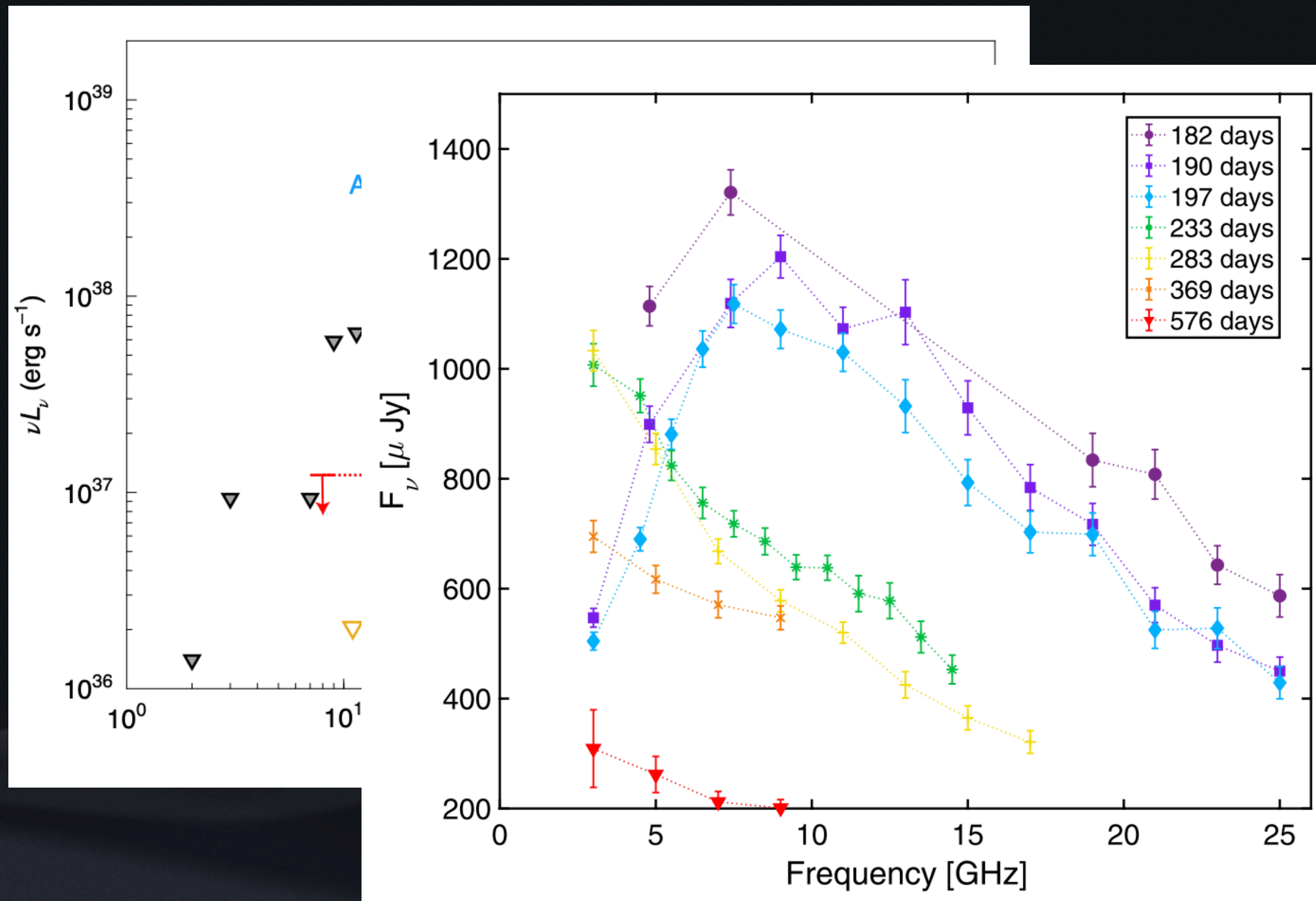
Horesh, Cenko, & Arcavi
Nature Astronomy (2021)



Delayed Radio Flares

A new discovery - ASASSN15oi

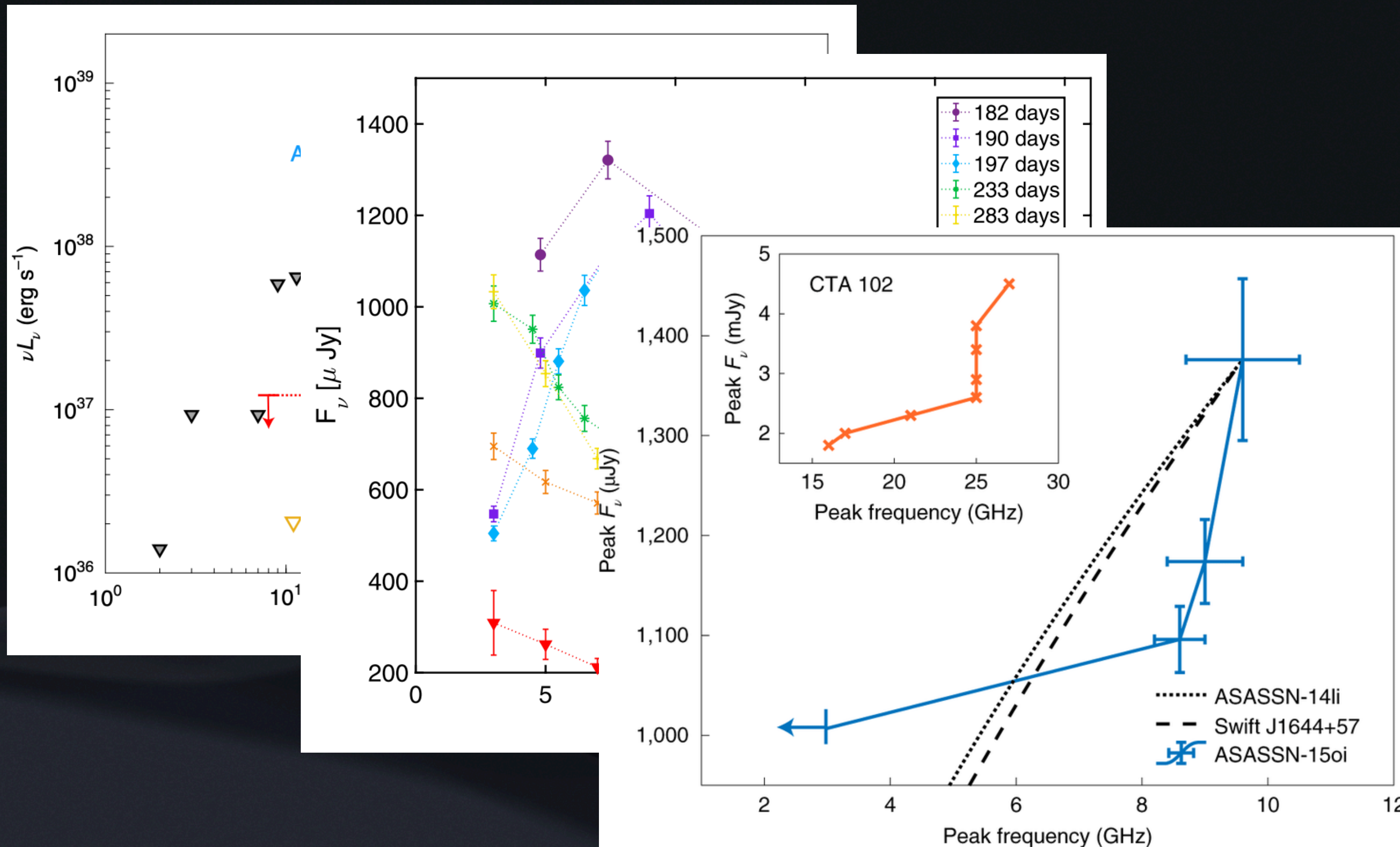
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Nature Astronomy (2021)



Delayed Radio Flares

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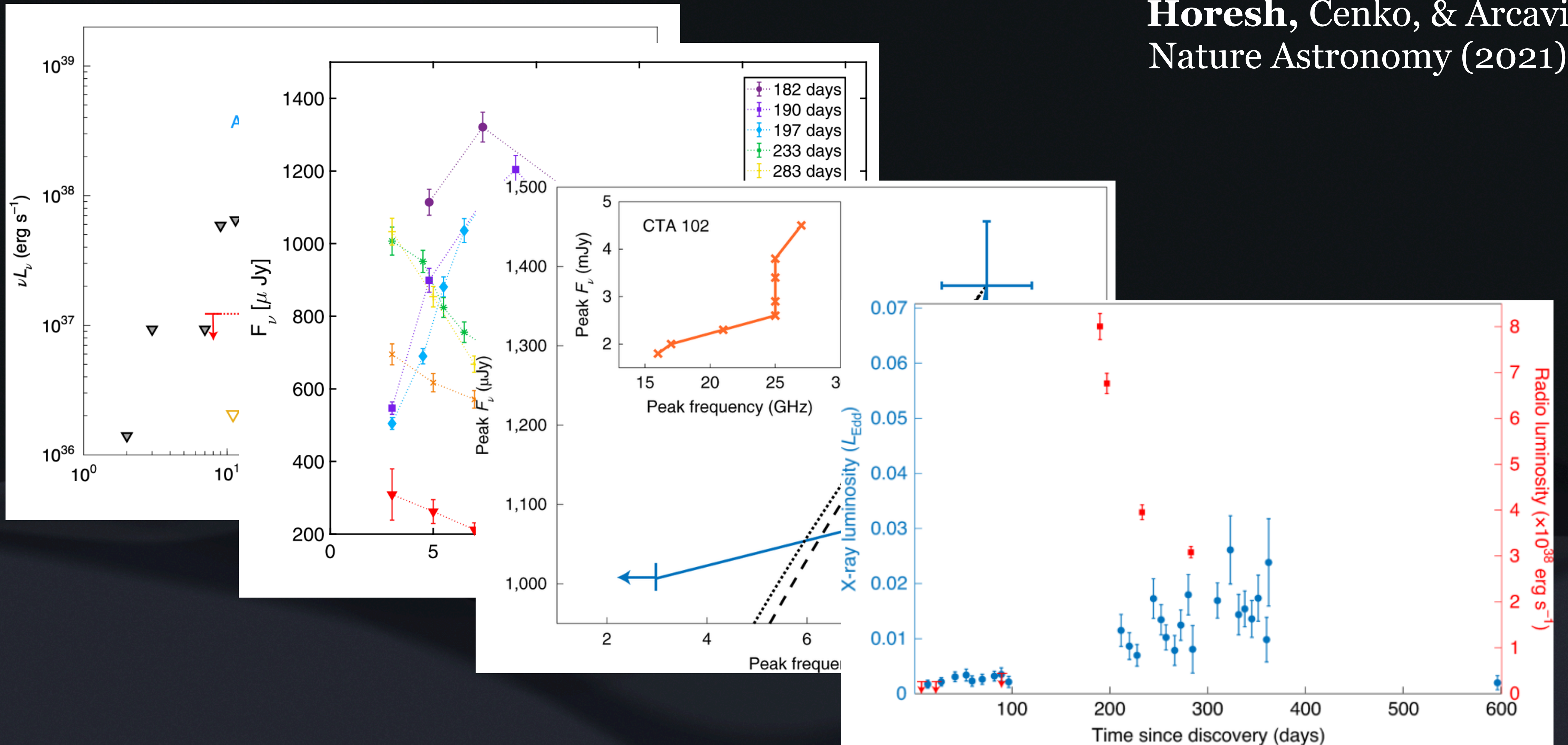
Horesh, Cenko, & Arcavi
Nature Astronomy (2021)



Delayed Radio Flares

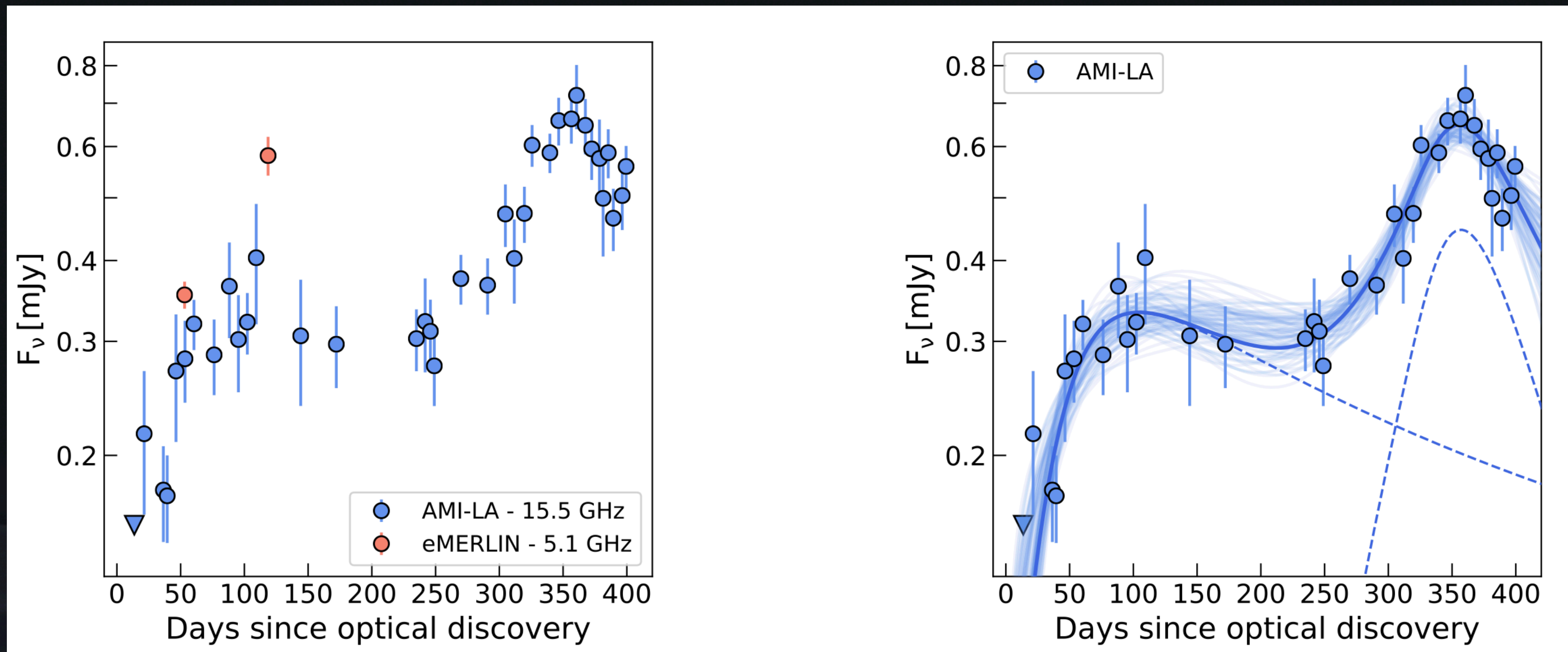
A new discovery - ASASSN15oi

Horesh, Cenko, & Arcavi
Nature Astronomy (2021)



Delayed Radio Flares - Complexity

A two component flare - AT2019azh

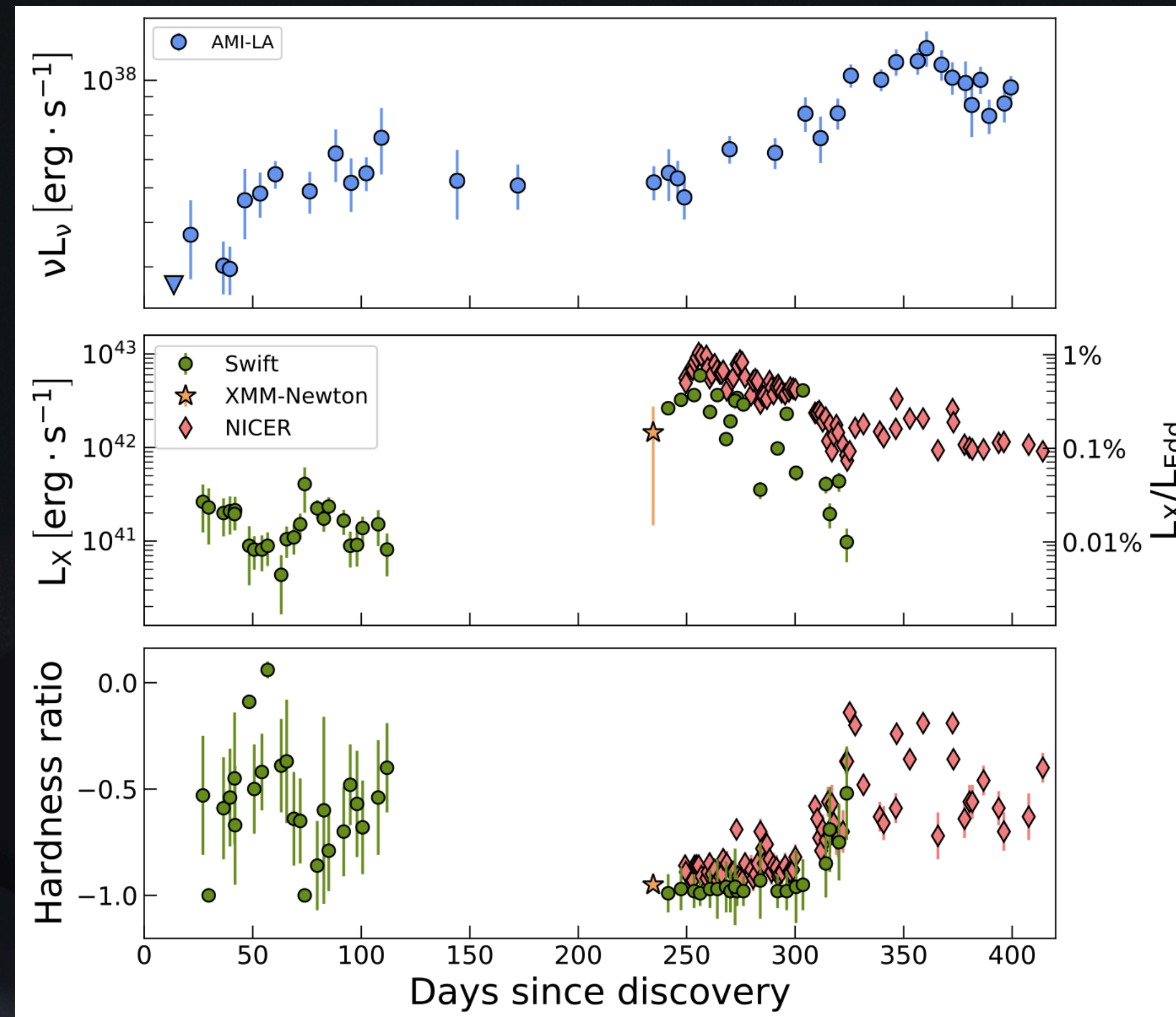


Sfaradi, Horesh et al. (2022)

Crucial Contribution by the AMI Radio Telescope

Delayed Radio Flares - Complexity

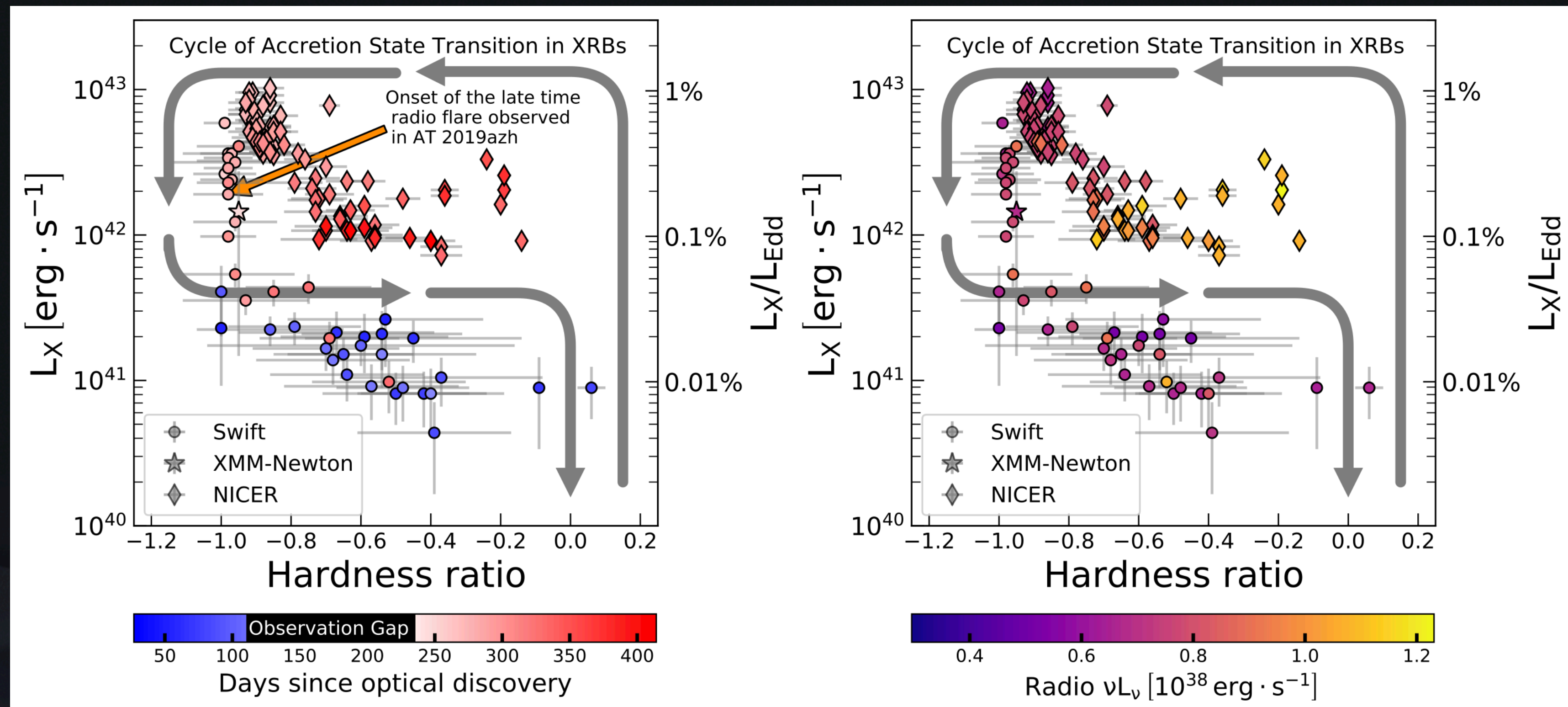
Both a Delayed X-ray flare and a Delayed Radio flare



Sfaradi, Horesh et al. (2022)

Accretion State Transitions

A possible explanation (similar to X-ray binary flares)

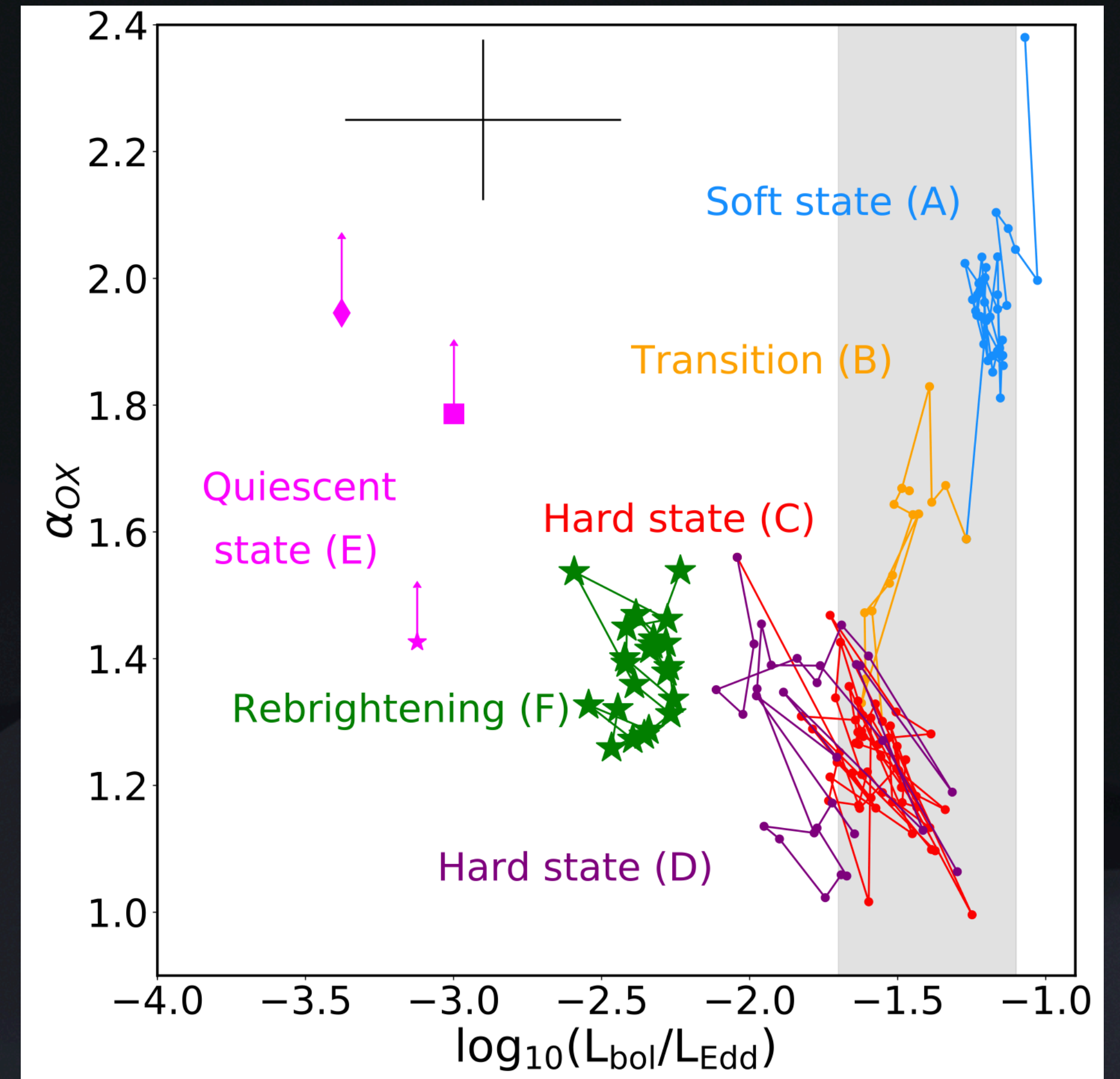


Sfaradi, Horesh et al. (2022)

Indication in previous TDEs

AT2018fyk

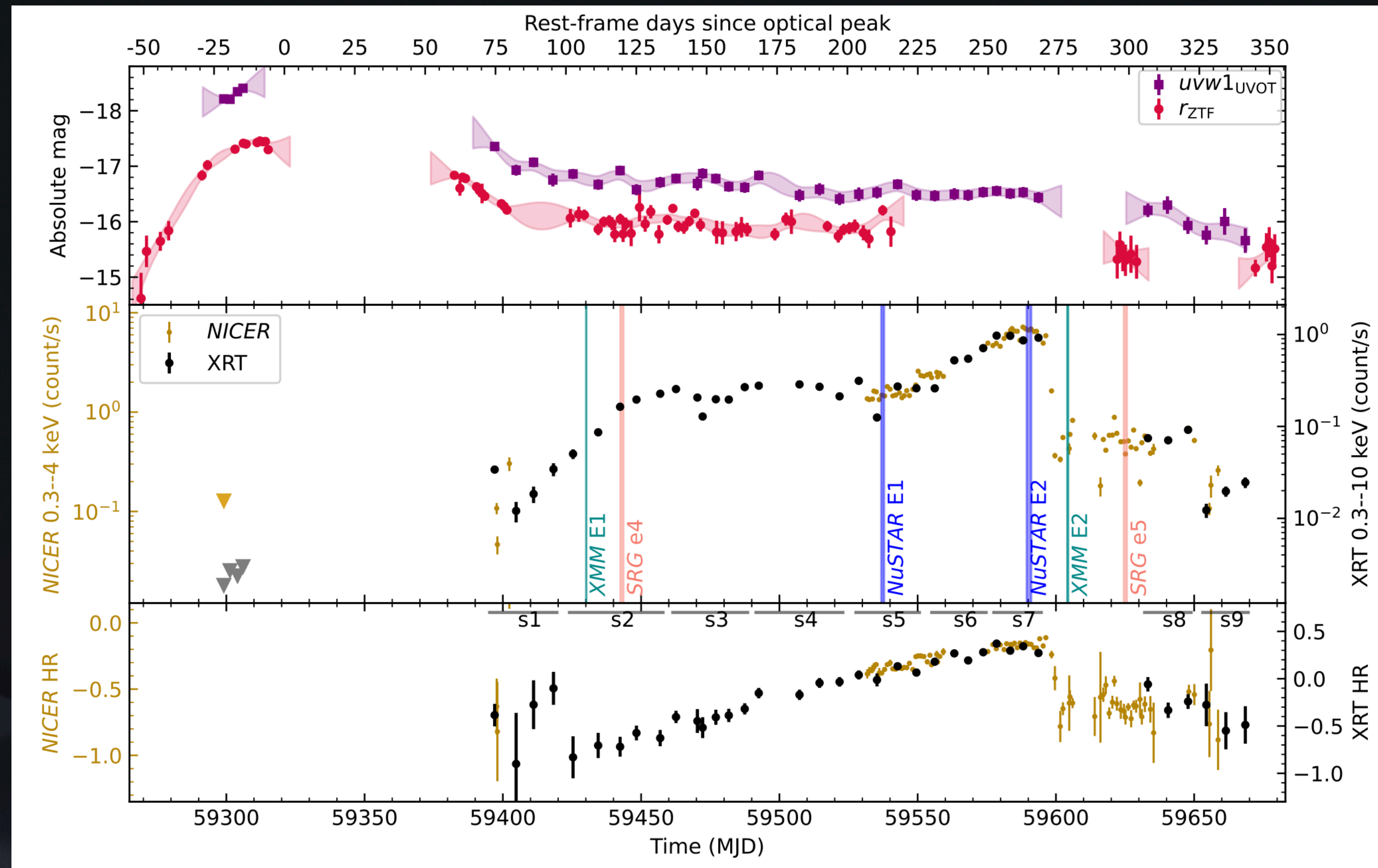
- First rebrightening after ~ 200 days
- Second rebrightening after ~ 1200 days
- During rebrightening emission transition from soft to hard



Wevers et al. (2021)

Delayed X-ray flare without radio emission

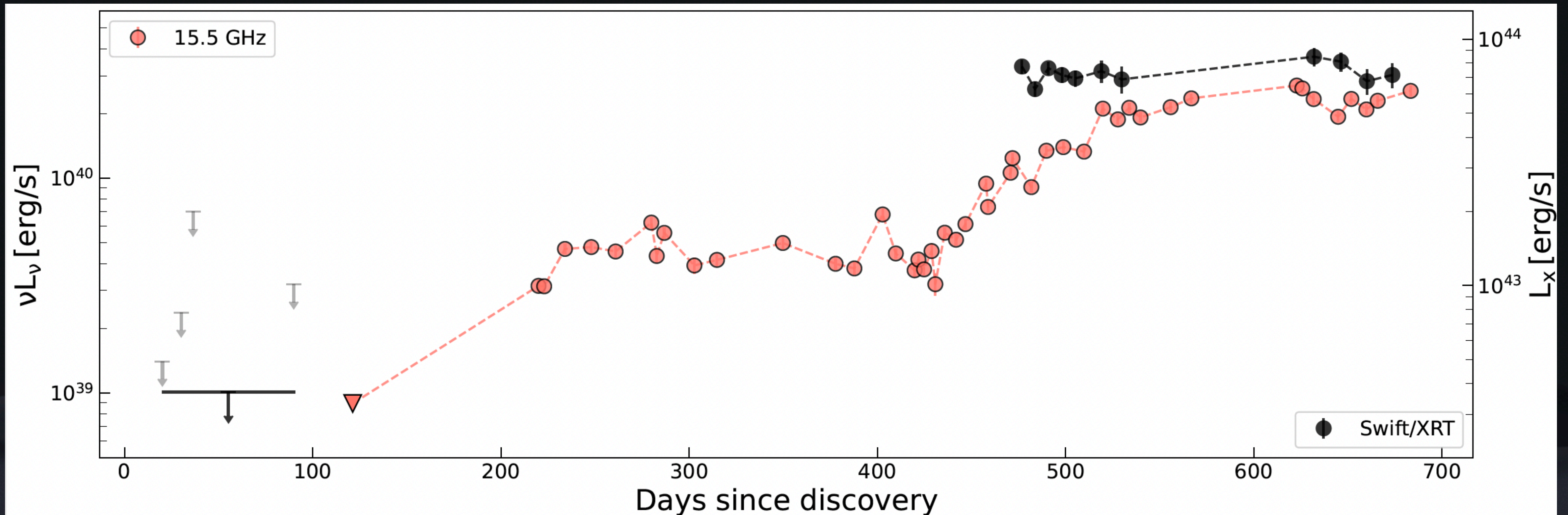
AT2021ehb



Yao et al. (2022)

Recent Delayed Flares

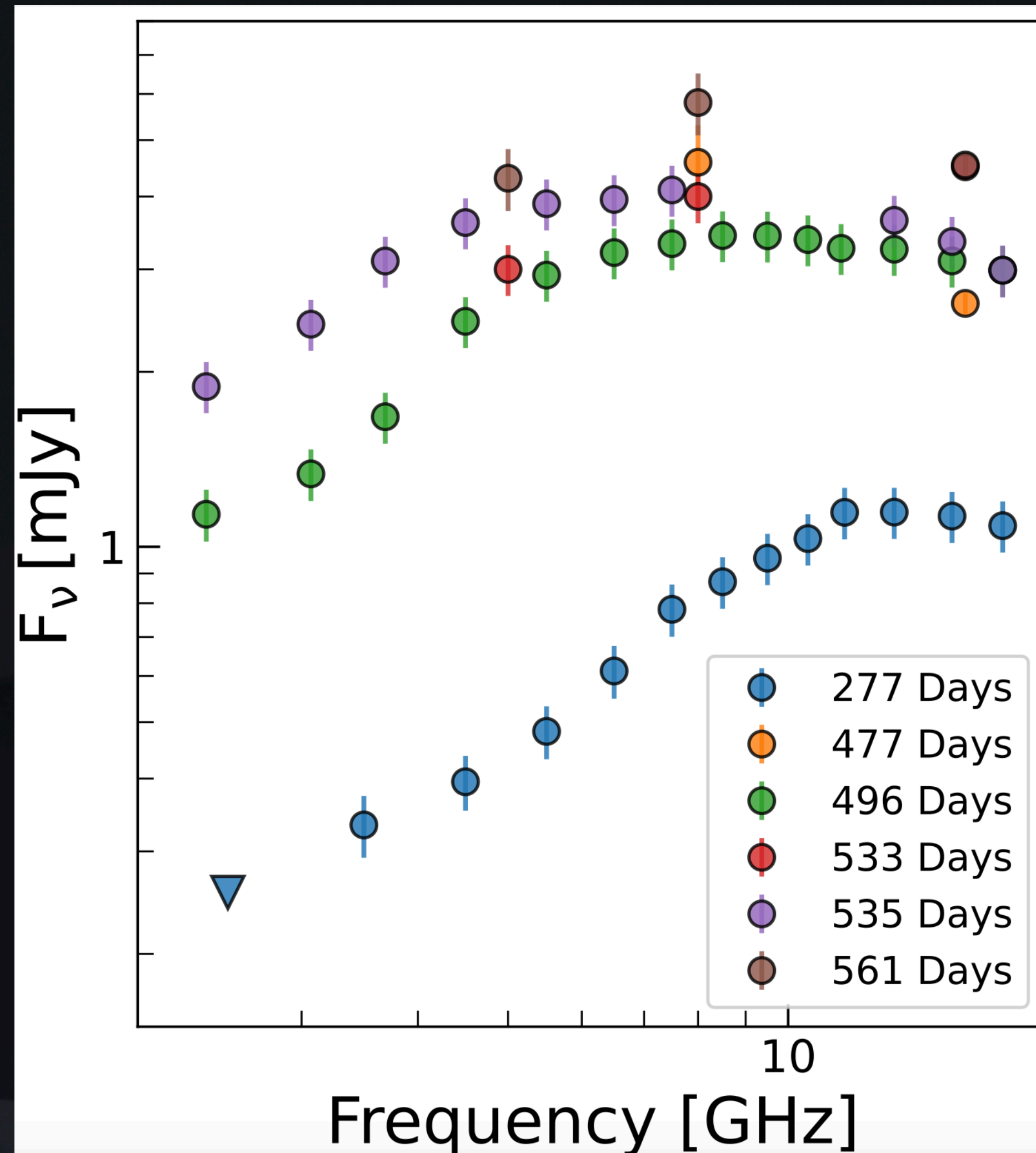
A common phenomena



Horesh et al., in prep

Recent Delayed Flares

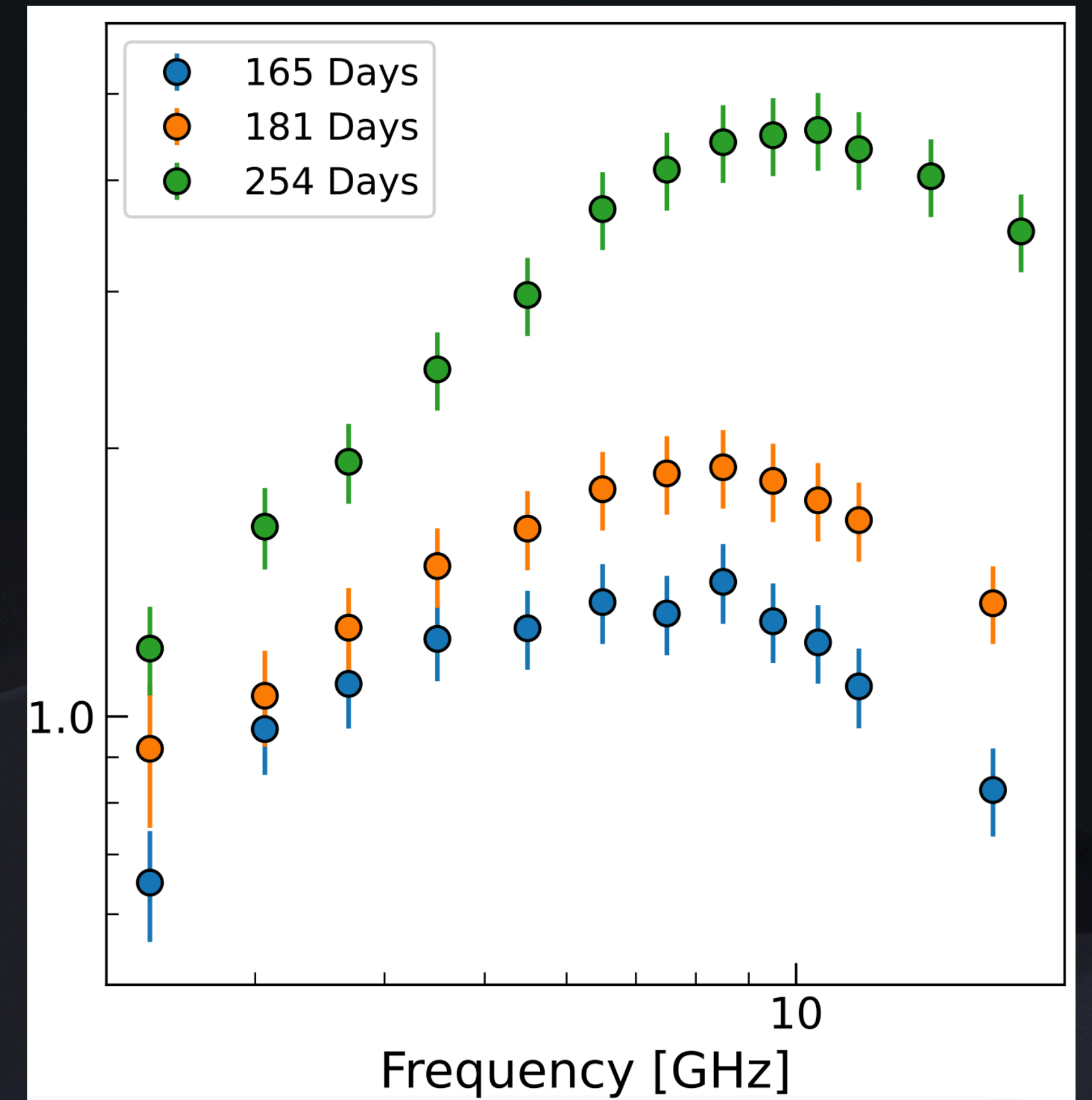
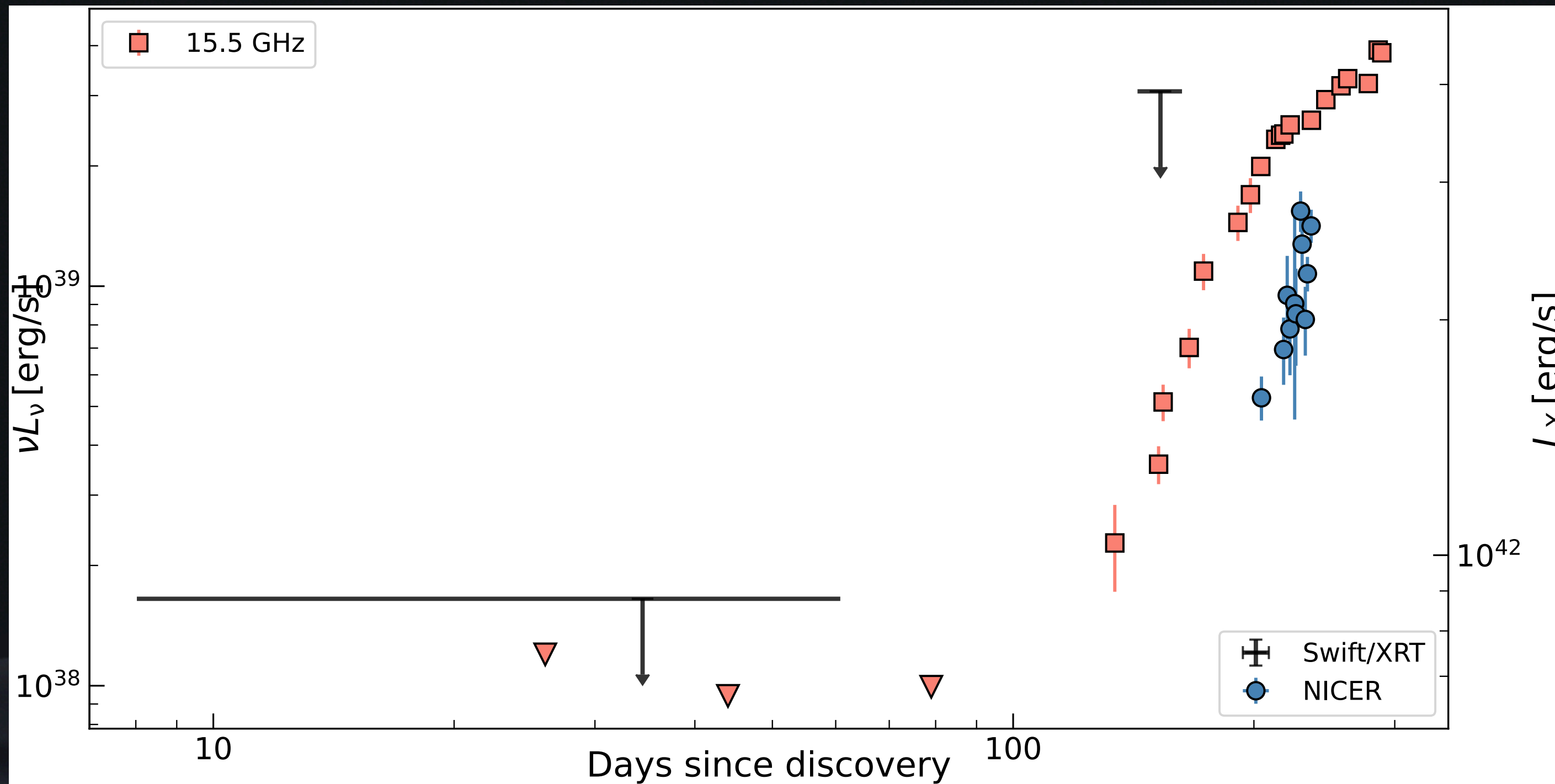
A common phenomena



Horesh et al., in prep

Recent Delayed Flares

A common phenomena

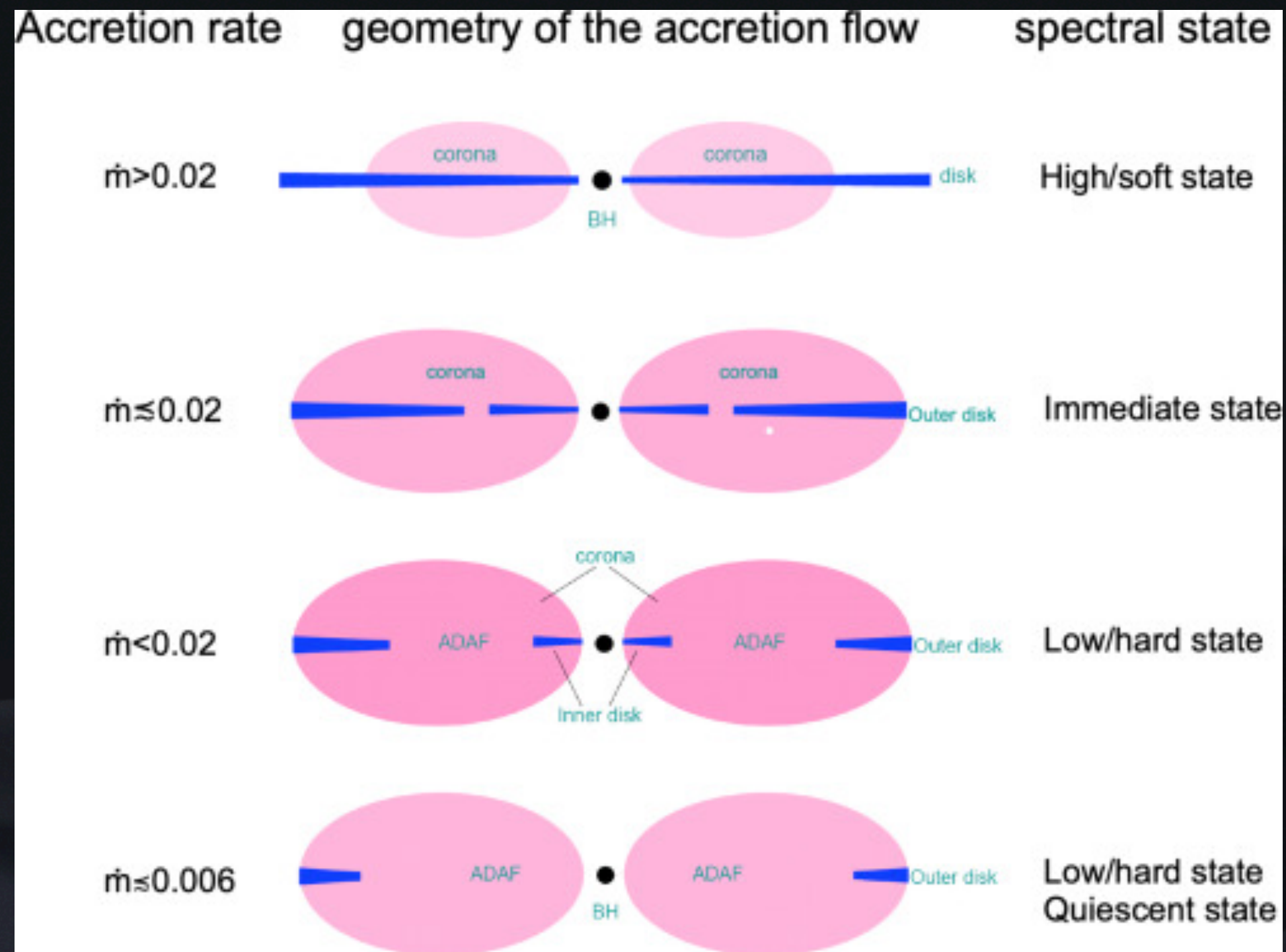


Horesh et al., in prep

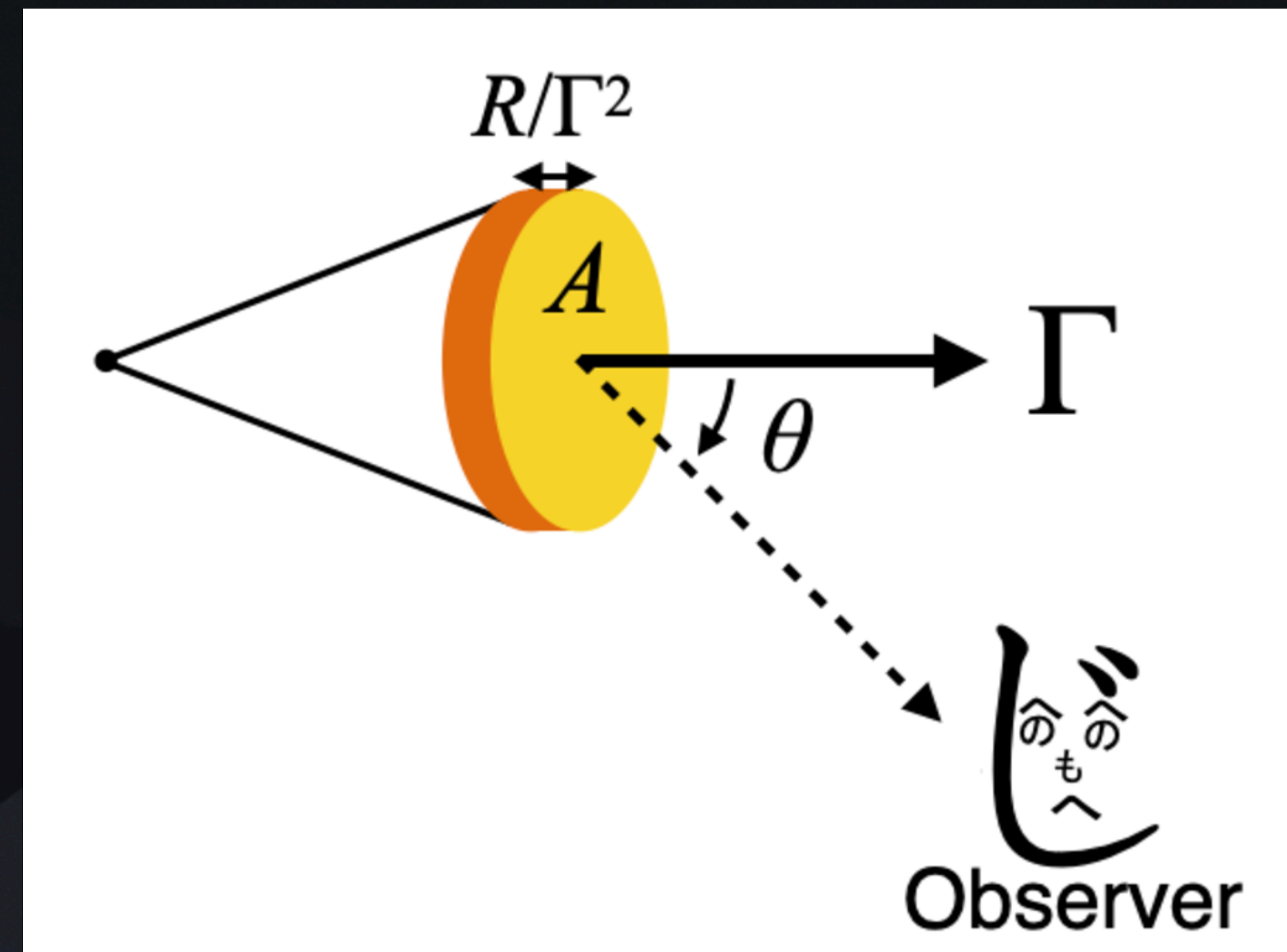
Possible Explanations

But not limited to...

Transition in Accretion States



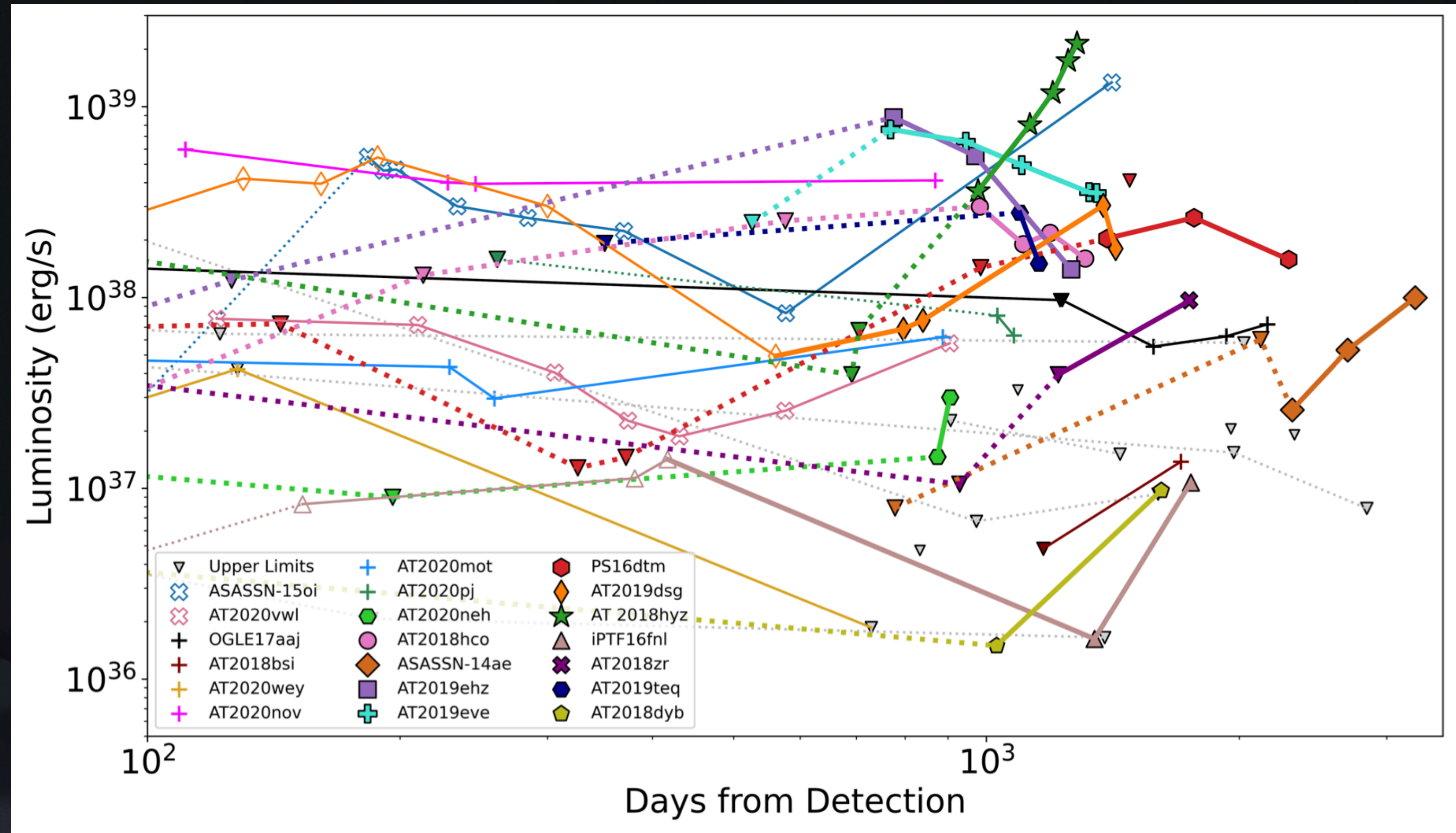
Large viewing angle off-axis jets



Matsumoto & Piran (2022)
e.g. AT2018hyz
(Cendes et al. 2022;
Sfaradi, Horesh, et al. 2023)

X-ray rates?

A common phenomena in radio - Roughly 40% of TDEs



Cendes et al. (2023)

Summary

Delayed radio flares are a common phenomenon - How common are delayed X-ray flares still remains an open question.

Timescales may range from half a year to a few years.

A zoo of events - diverse properties (light curve, spectral evolution)

Many open questions: accretion related? Jets? Off-axis? Delayed ejecta?
Accretion state transition?

Any connection to other late-time phenomenon? Infra-red flares? Neutrinos?

Can we learn something from similarities to AGN knot ejections? X-ray binary flares?

Observational path forward - Combined X-ray and radio monitoring on various time scales and high cadence observations