

# Probing AGN-feedback and host-galaxy properties in the most luminous QSOs up to $z \sim 6$

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# At the brightest end of the AGN luminosity function



**Hyper-luminous QSOs**  
 $L_{\text{BoI}} \sim 10^{47} \text{ erg/s}$

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*By targeting the highest  $L_{\text{BoI}}$  the most extreme accretion regime, host galaxies and environment can be probed*

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✱ **Luminous QSOs allow to study the growth of the most massive SMBHs and galaxies**

MBH- $M_{\text{dyn}}$  correlation: The most massive SMBHs lie in the most massive galaxies

(Magorrian+98, Kormendy & Ho+13)

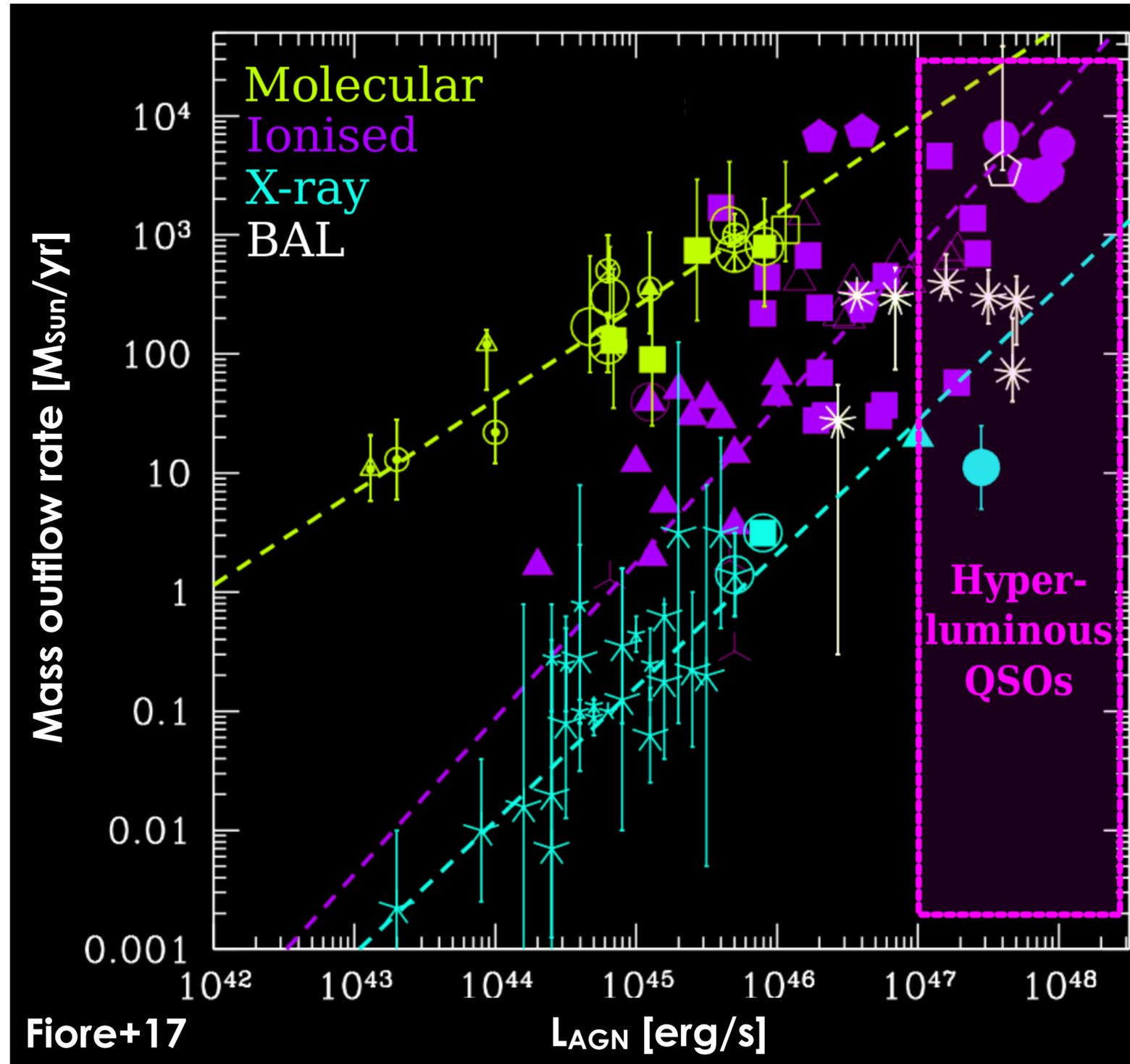
✱ **The most luminous QSOs are primary targets to hunt for powerful AGN-driven outflows**

Huge radiative output. The strength of an outflow increases with  $L_{\text{BoI}}$

(Faucher-Giguère+12, Zubovas & King+12, Ciccone+14, Bischetti+17, Fiore+17)

# At the brightest end of the AGN luminosity function

- ✱ **The most luminous QSOs are primary targets to hunt for powerful AGN-driven outflows**  
Huge radiative output. The strength of an outflow increases with  $L_{\text{BoI}}$



- ✱ **Ionised phase**  
Hyper-luminous QSOs up to  $z \sim 4$  studied at INAF OAR: the WISE/SDSS selected hyperluminous (WISSH) quasars project (Bischetti+17, Vietri+18, Travascio+19 sub.)

- ✱ **Cold gas phase: direct fuel for SF**  
Mostly limited to low-moderate luminosity, local AGN (e.g. Ciccone+14, Feruglio+15, Fluetsch+19)  
Outflows extremely challenging to probe at high  $z$

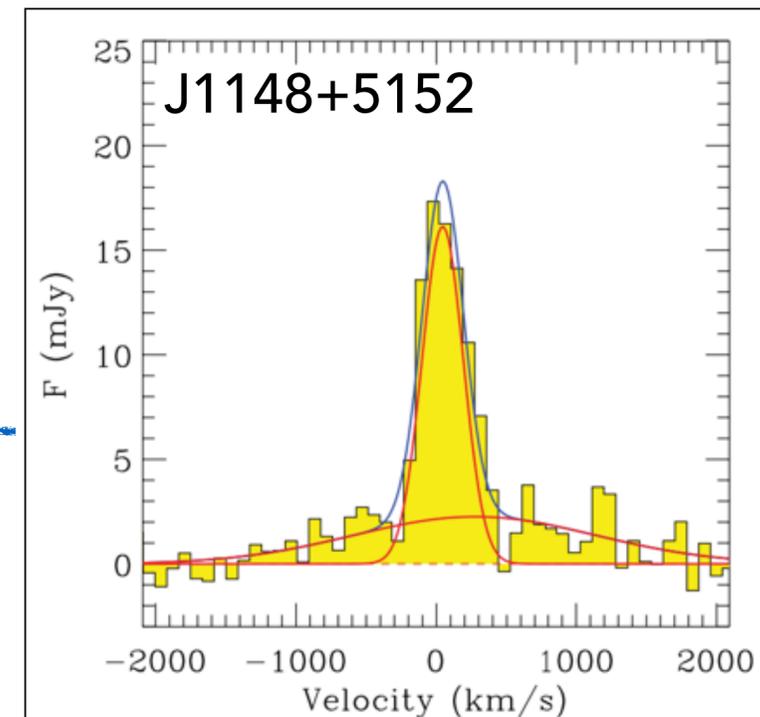
# QSO-driven outflows (un)detected in the early Universe

The existence of massive, quiescent systems observed already at  $z \sim 3$  indicates that a feedback mechanism must have been in place at very early epochs ( $z \sim 5 - 6$ )

## First investigation of the occurrence of AGN-driven outflows in the first QSOs population

Stacking analysis: 48 high- $z$  QSOs observed with ALMA

- \* [CII] 158  $\mu\text{m}$  ALMA detection at  $\geq 5\sigma$  significance
- \*  $46 < \text{Log}(L_{\text{Bol}} / \text{erg s}^{-1}) < 48$
- \*  $5 < z < 7$
- \* Equivalent to 34h of on-source time



Only one  
detection  
so far!

Maiolino+12, Ciccone+15

# Cold outflows in the early Universe are there!

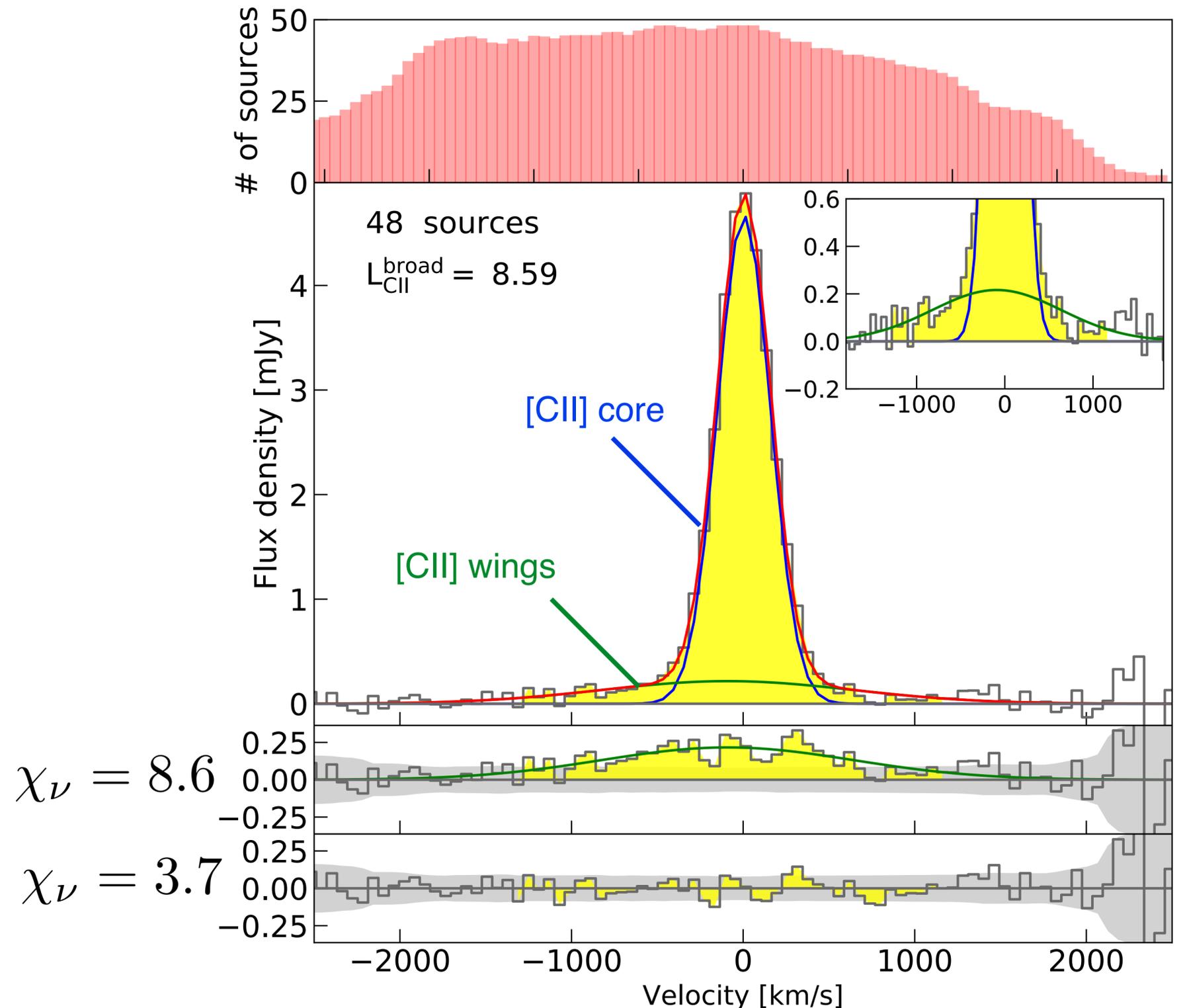
Variance-weighted stack of the [CII] spectra

**Broad emission detected with SNR~6 up to  $|v| \sim 1000$  km/s associated with [CII] outflowing gas**

Wings/peak  $\sim 1/20$

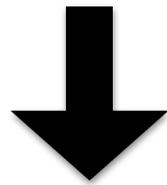
$\text{FWHM}_{\text{broad}} \sim 1700$  km/s

Bischetti+19, arXiv1806.00786, next week on A&A



# QSO-driven outflows in the early Universe

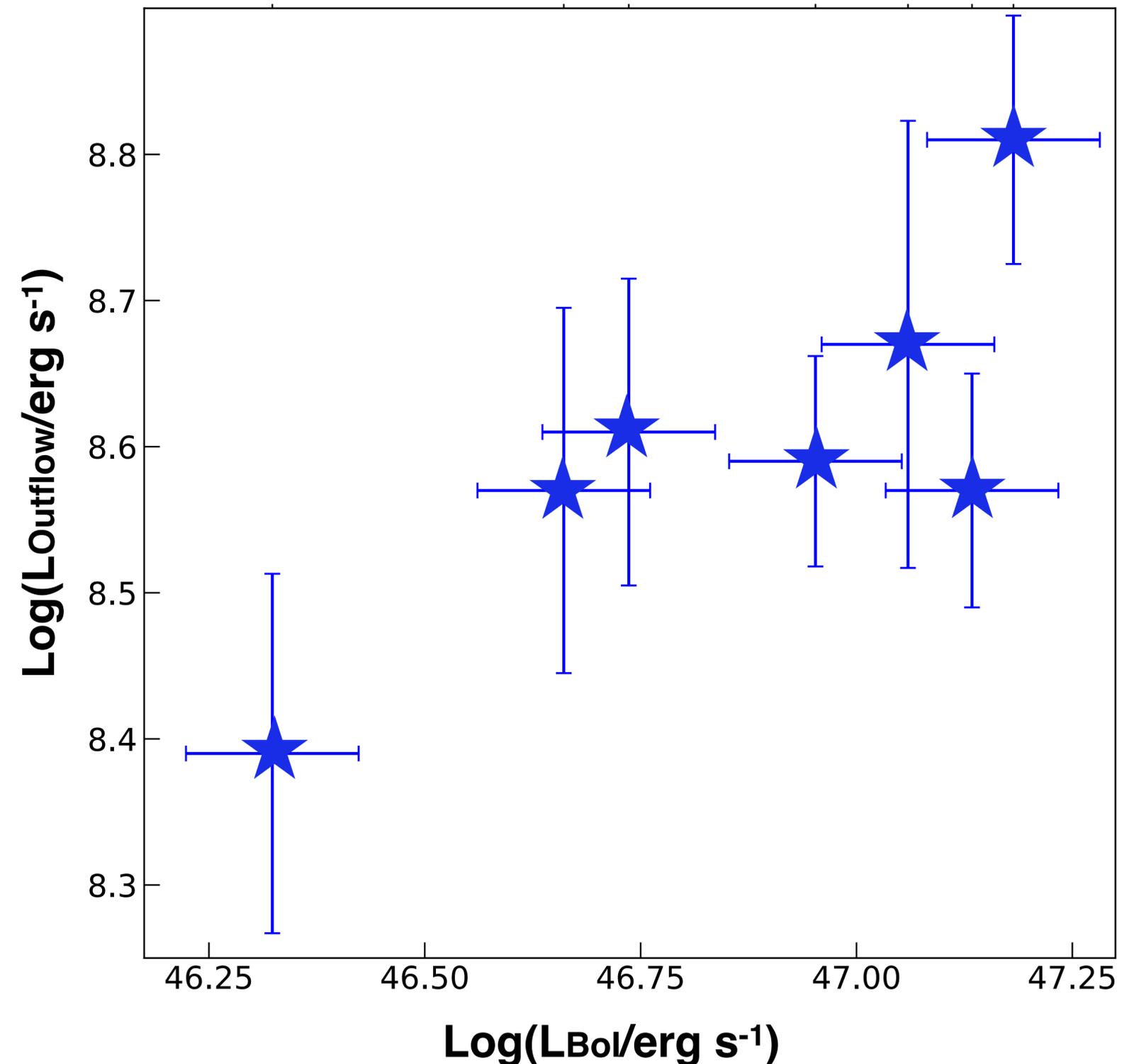
Stack in bins of AGN bolometric luminosity :



The luminosity of the broad [CII] wings correlates with  $L_{\text{BoI}}$  (but not with SFR)

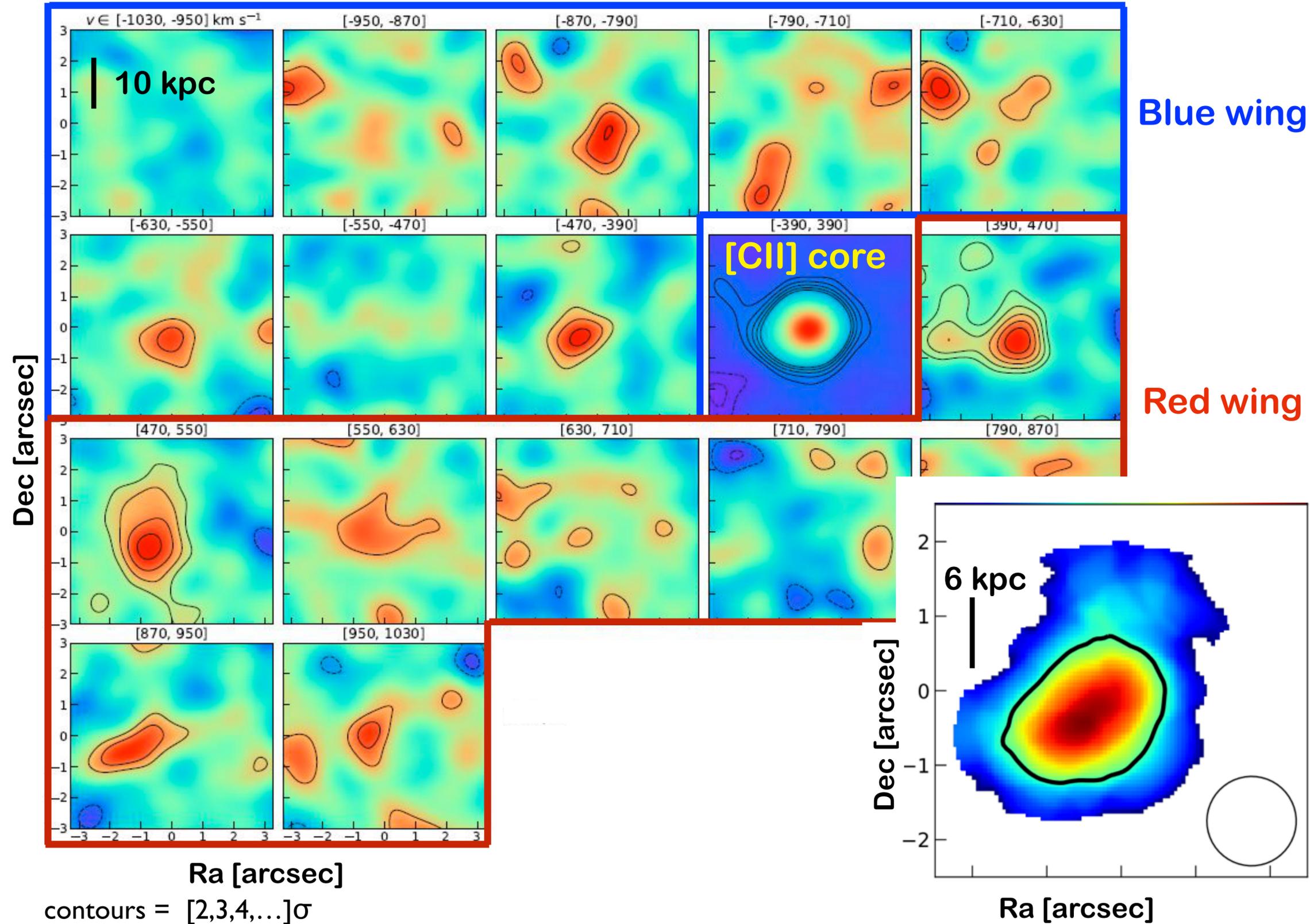
**AGN identified as the main driving mechanism**

Bischetti+19, arXiv1806.00786, next week on A&A



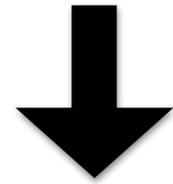
# Cold outflows extended on galactic scales

Stacked ALMA cube



# Typical mass outflow rates of the [CII] outflows

$$\dot{M}_{\text{neutral}} \simeq 100 - 200 M_{\odot} \text{yr}^{-1}$$



Comparable to cold outflows  
in lower-z

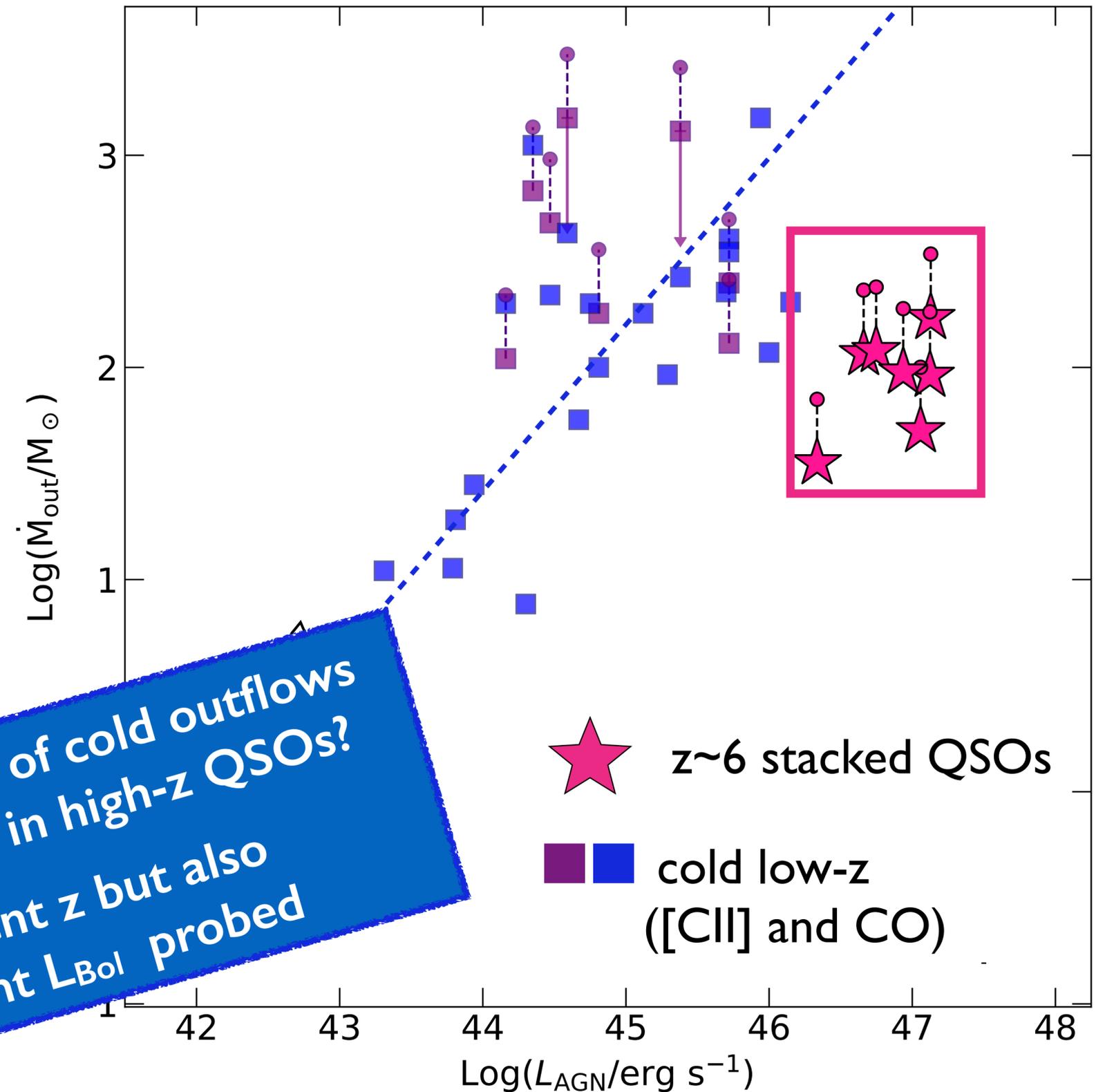
+

lower-luminosity AGN

**Cold outflows at high-z  
might be less effective  
in removing gas than in  
local AGN**

Small coupling of cold outflows  
with the ISM in high-z QSOs?  
Different z but also  
different  $L_{\text{Bol}}$  probed

Bischetti+19, arXiv1806.00786, next week on A&A



# A deeper insight: the most luminous QSO of the local Universe ( $z=0.185$ )

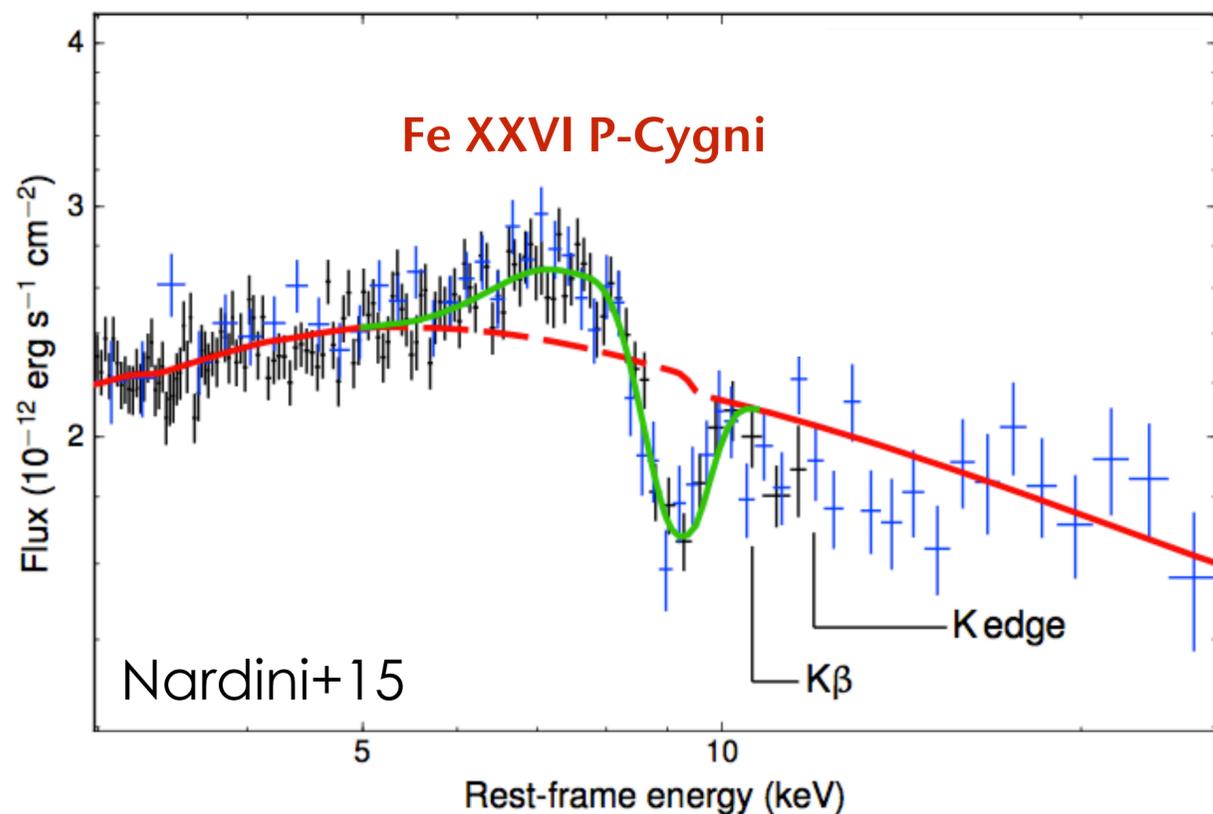
✱ A local analogue of the hyper-luminous QSOs dominating the SMBH growth at  $z>2$

$$L_{\text{Bol}} = 10^{47} \text{ erg/s}, \quad M_{\text{BH}} \sim 2 \times 10^9 M_{\text{Sun}}, \quad L_{\text{Bol}}/L_{\text{Edd}} = 1$$

✱ The prototype of massive and persistent ultra-fast outflow (UFO)

quasi-spherical relativistic wind with kinetic power  $\sim 20\% L_{\text{Bol}}$

UFOs proposed as likely origin of galaxy-scale outflows



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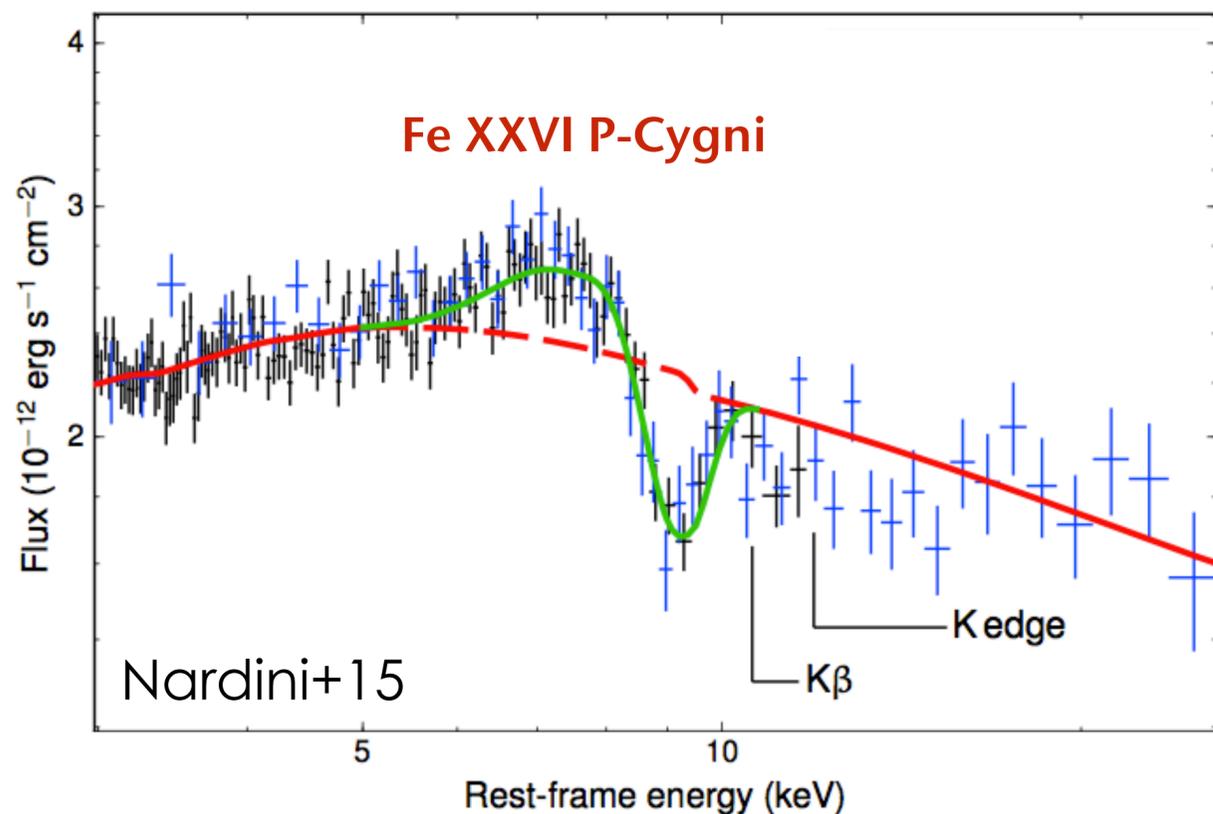
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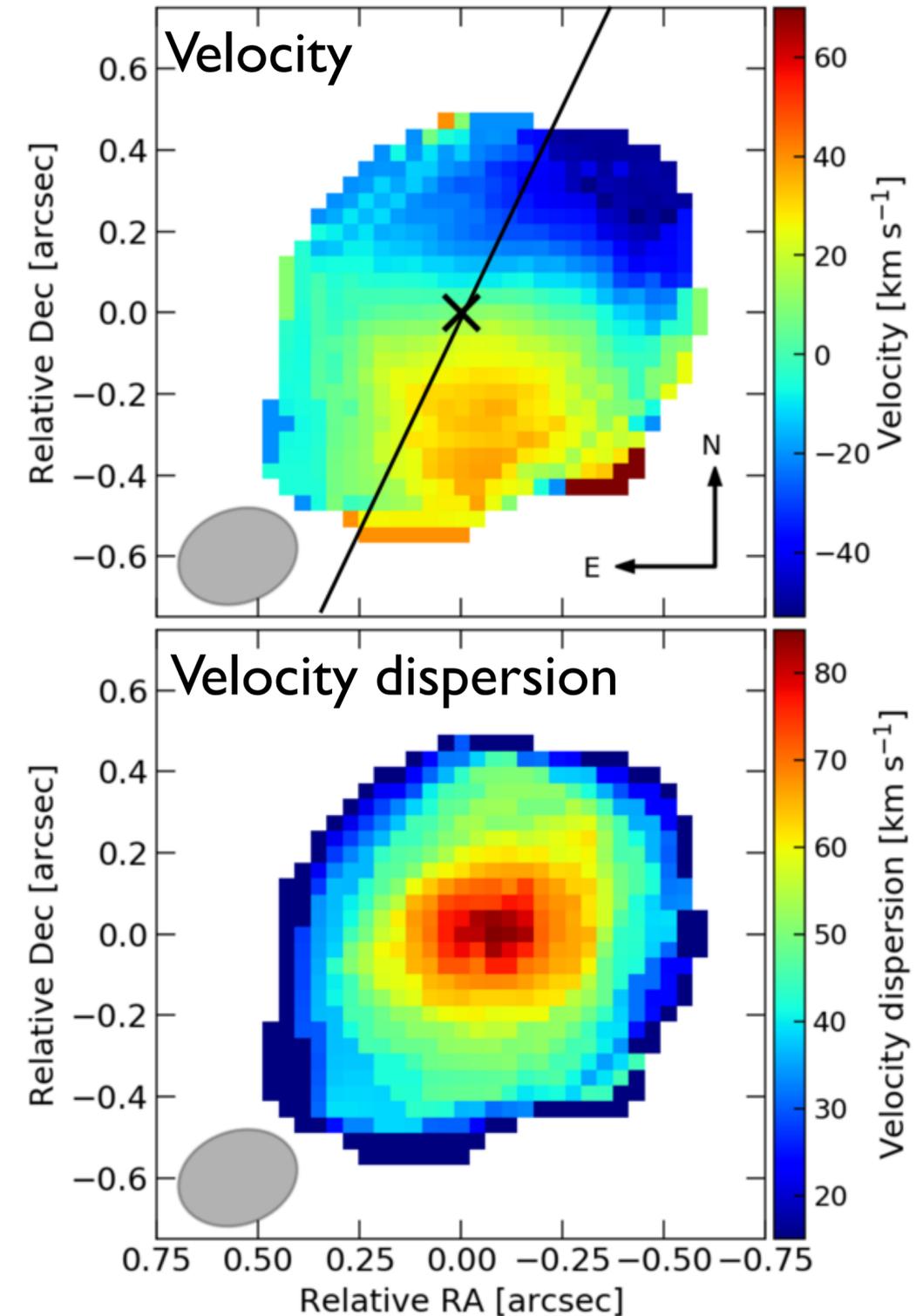
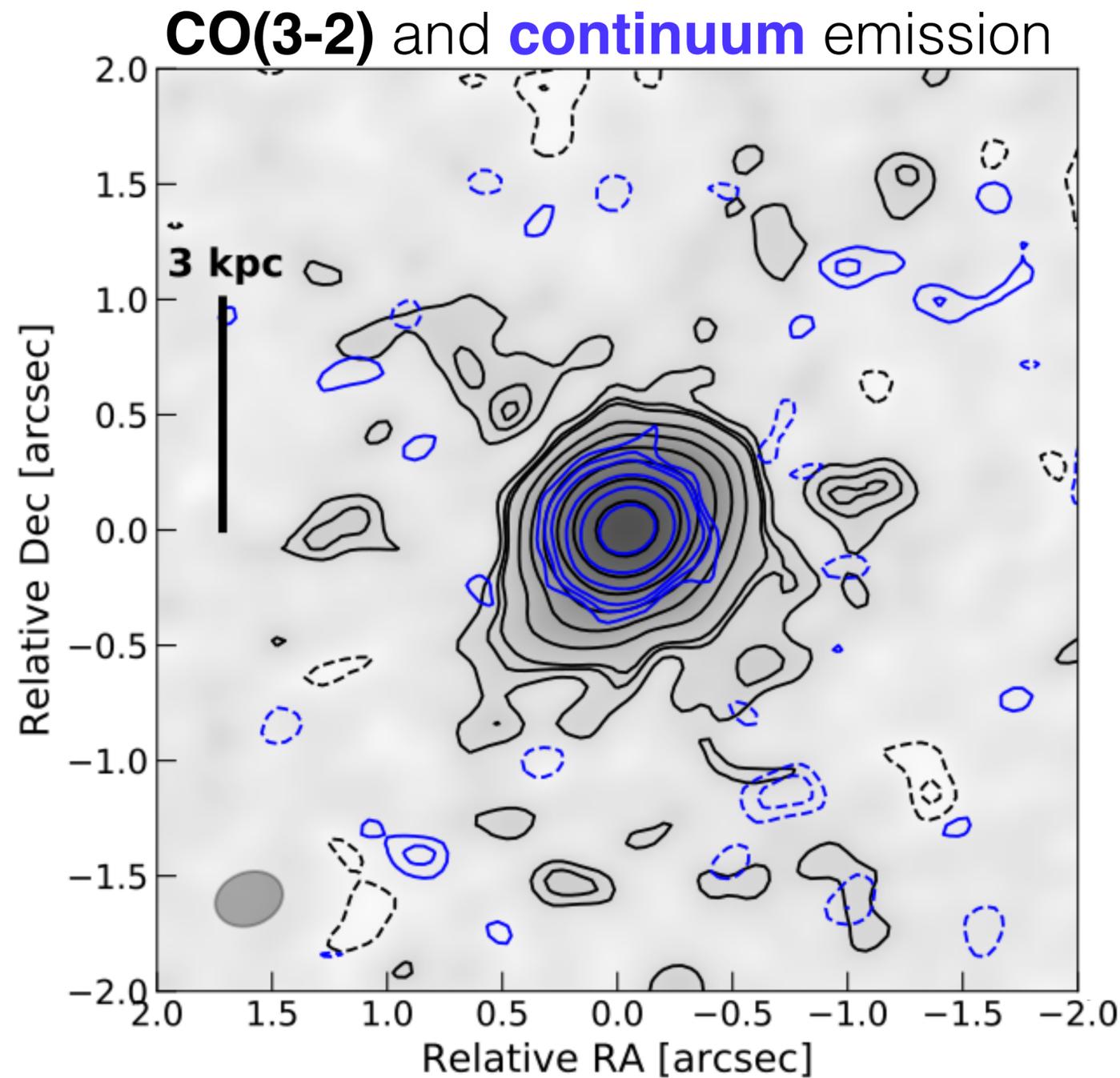
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**ALMA follow-up**  
**with 0.2 arcsec  $\sim 600$  pc resolution**  
Investigating the molecular gas properties and kinematics in the hyper-luminous QSO with the most powerful nuclear wind  
**!!Very compelling science case!!**

# The highest resolution map of the molecular gas in a hyper-luminous QSO

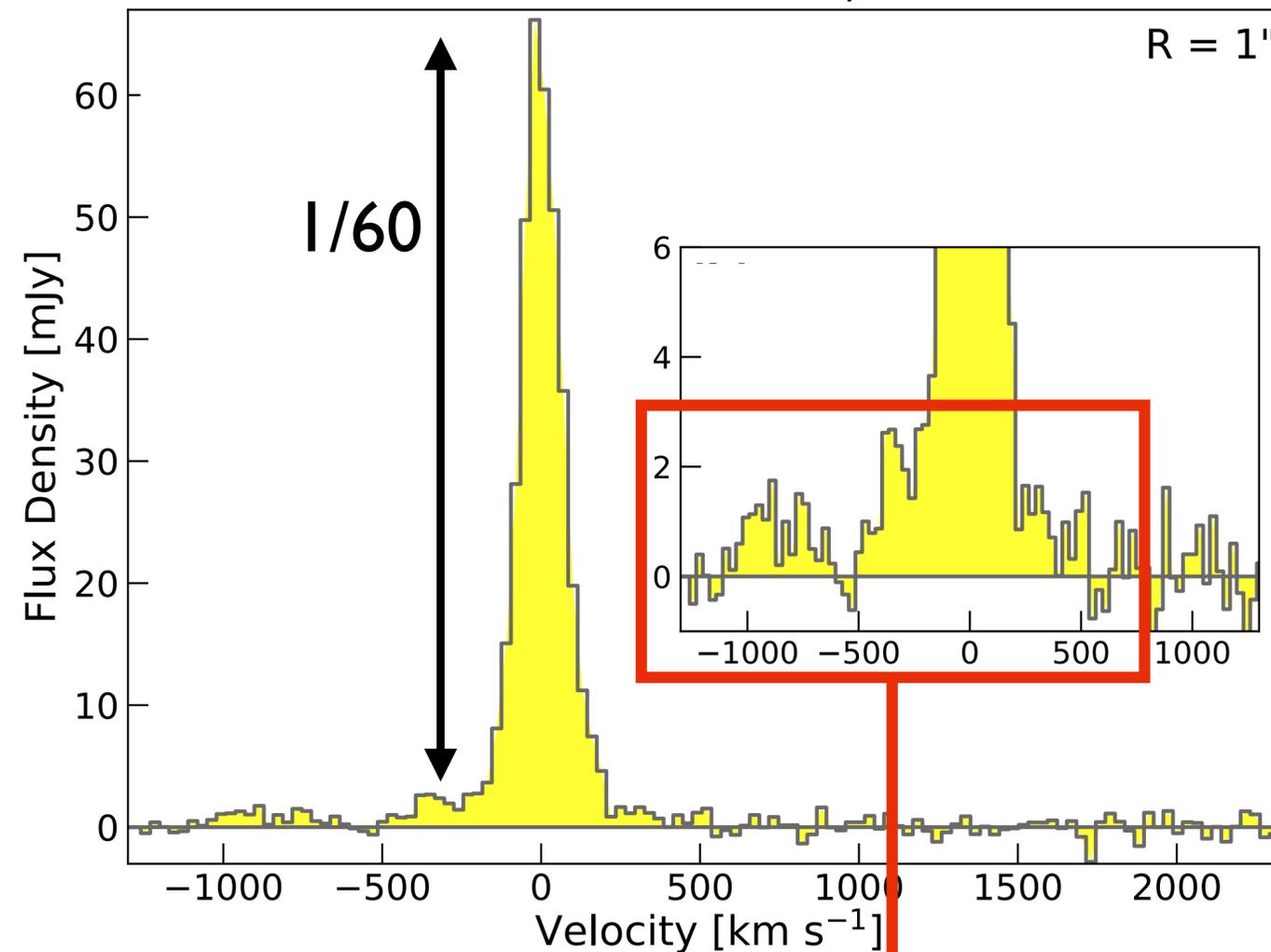
- ✱ The molecular gas reservoir is located in a compact ( $D \sim 1.3$  kpc), rotating ( $v_{\text{rot}} \sim 280$  km/s) disk seen close to face-on ( $i = 25$  deg)



# Kinematics of CO(3-2) emission in PDS 456

- ✱ The molecular gas reservoir is located in a compact ( $D \sim 1.3$  kpc), rotating ( $v_{\text{rot}} \sim 280$  km/s) disk seen close to face-on ( $i = 25$  deg)

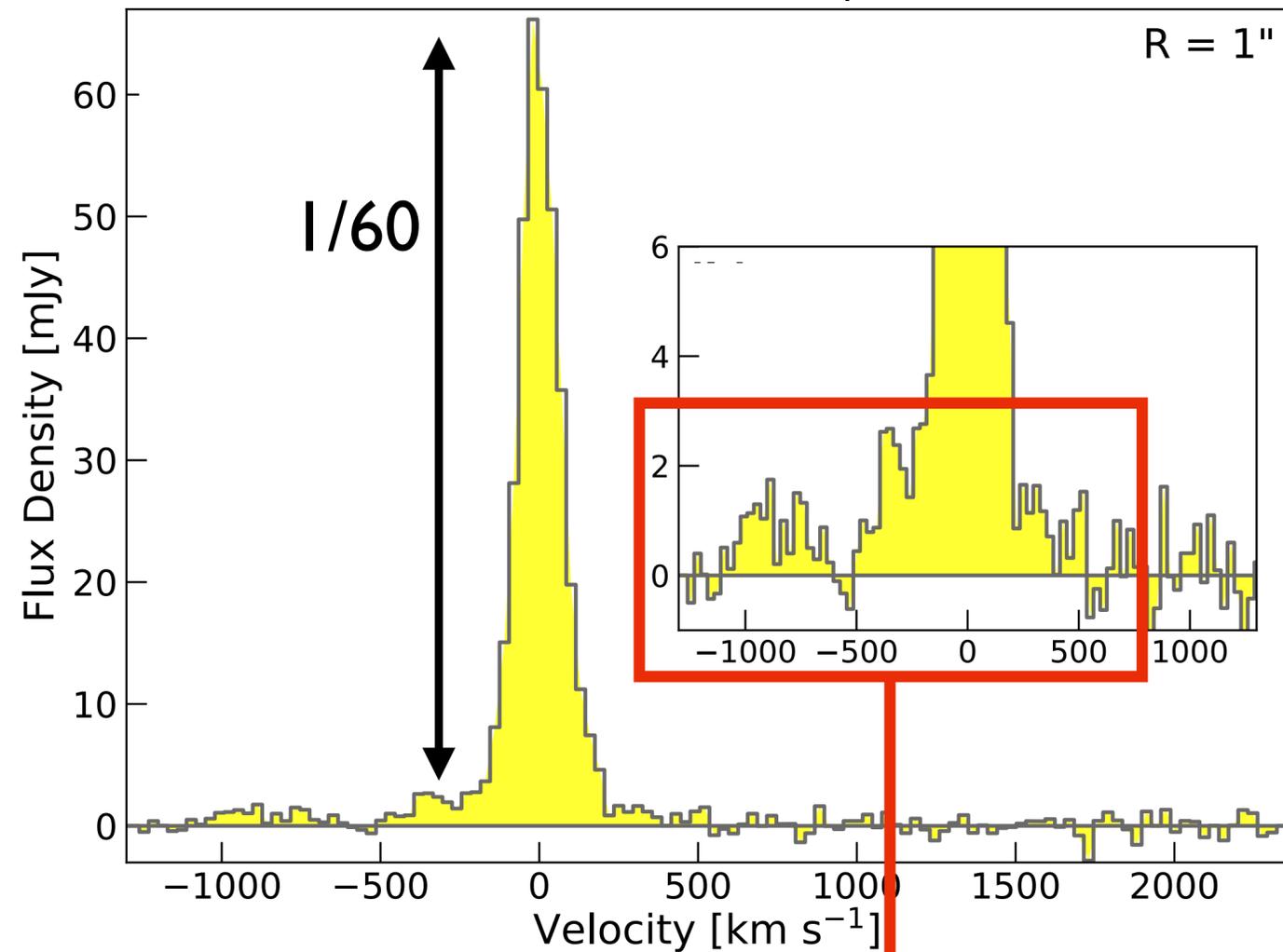
However...



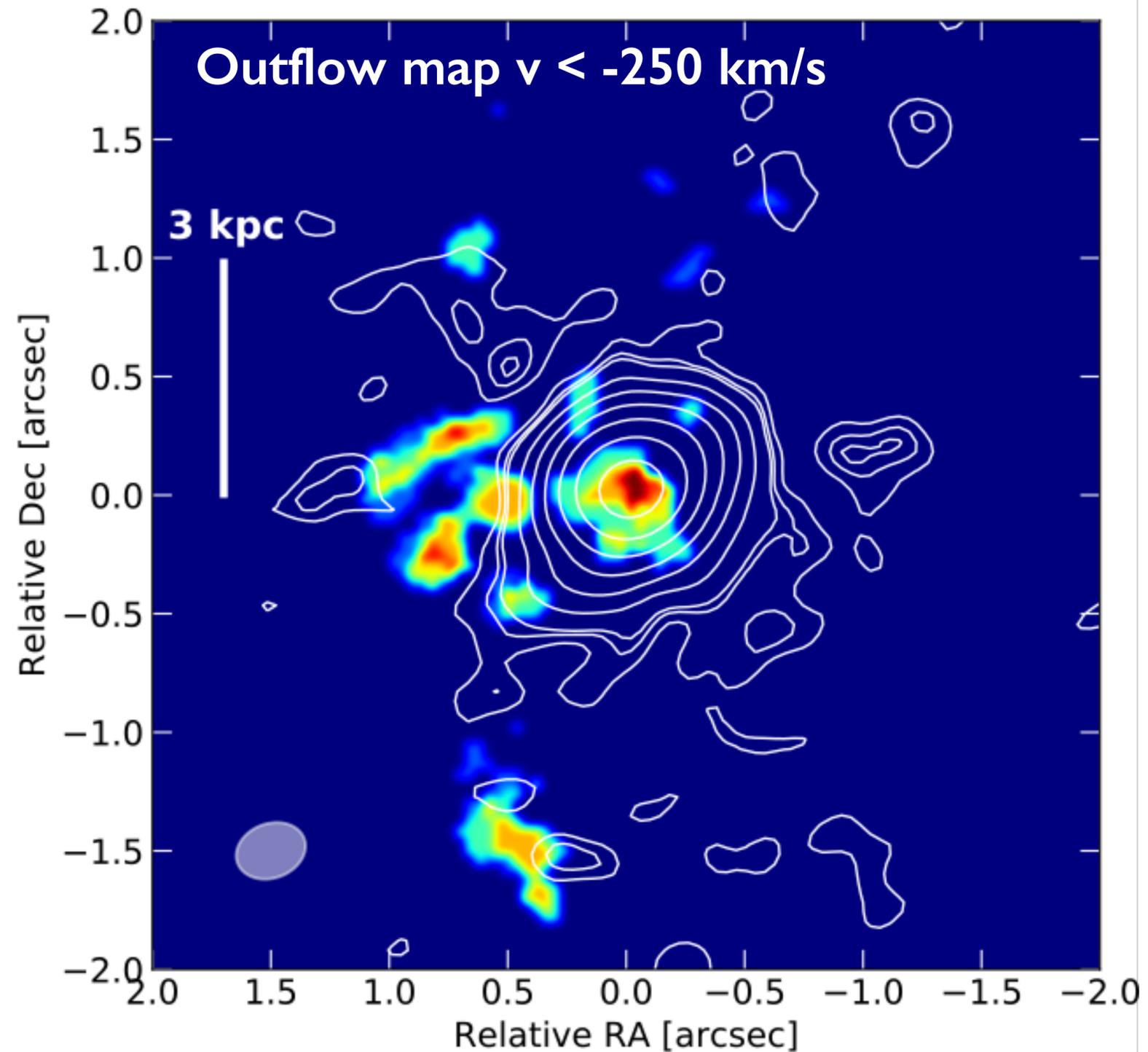
**CO(3-2) emission associated  
with high-velocity gas  
 $|v| \sim 1000$  km/s**

# Anatomy of the kpc-scale molecular outflow in PDS 456

✱ Blue- and red-shifted outflow extended up to 5 kpc scale from the nucleus



**CO(3-2) emission associated  
with high-velocity gas  
|v| ~ 1000 km/s**



# AGN feedback in action

$$\dot{M}_{\text{mol}} \sim 300 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

$$\tau_{\text{dep}} = M/\dot{M}_{\text{mol}} \sim 8 \text{ Myr}$$

**Very short depletion timescale**

$$\dot{M}_{\text{mol}}/SFR \sim 4 - 10$$

**Molecular gas removed before  
it forms stars**

**The QSO is able to affect the evolution of its host-galaxy!**

# Challenging the energy conserving scenario

$$\dot{M}_{\text{mol}} \sim 300 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

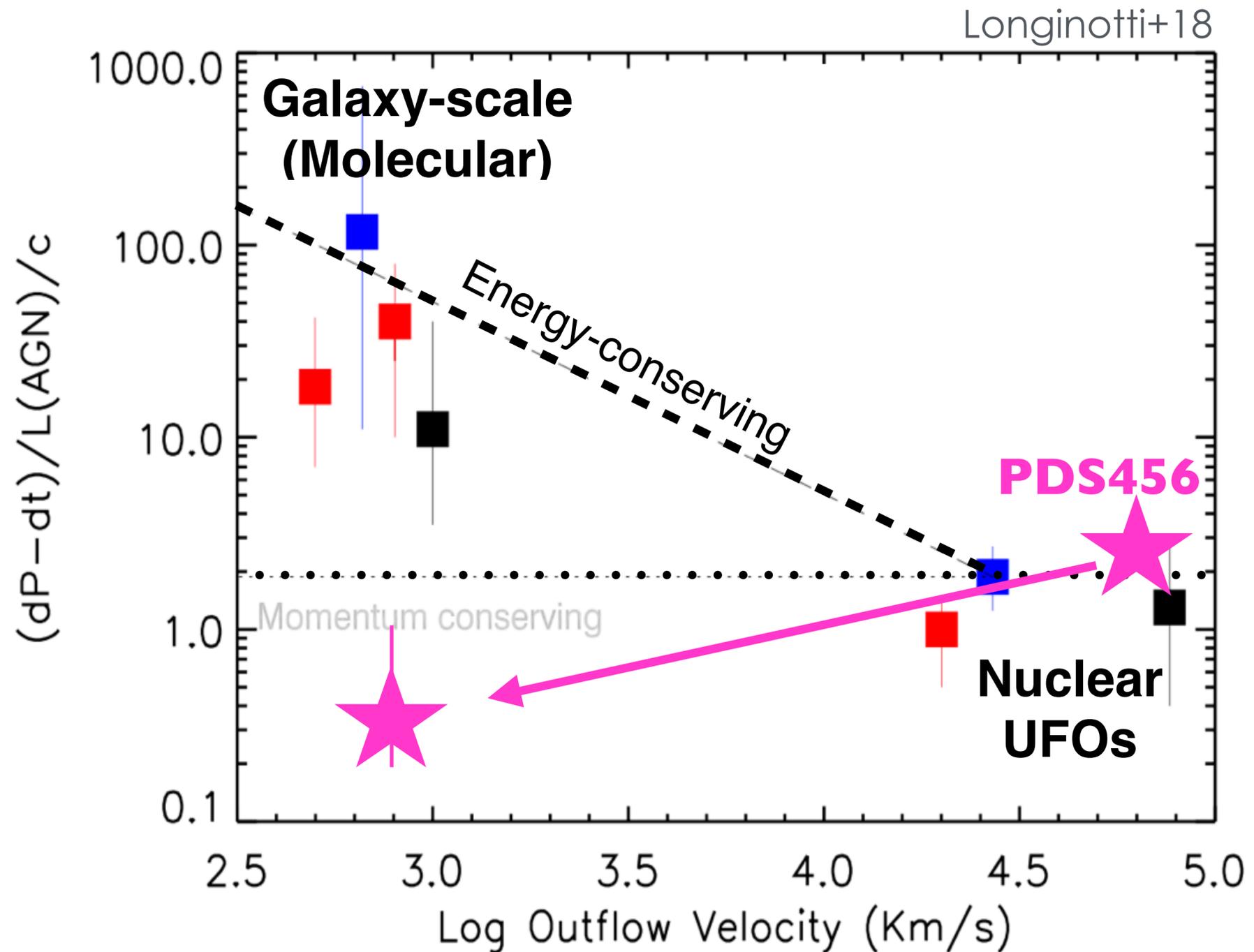
$$\tau_{\text{dep}} = M/\dot{M}_{\text{mol}} \sim 8 \text{ Myr}$$

**Very short depletion timescale**

but...

momentum rate

$$\dot{P}_{\text{mol}} \sim 0.4 (L_{\text{AGN}}/c)$$



**In clear contrast with energy conserving expectations:  $(\dot{P}_{\text{mol}}/(L_{\text{AGN}}/c) \gg 1)$**

Bischetti+19, A&A, 628, A118

(see also Reeves+19, Sirressi+19)

# Challenging the energy conserving scenario

$$\dot{M}_{\text{mol}} \sim 300 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$$

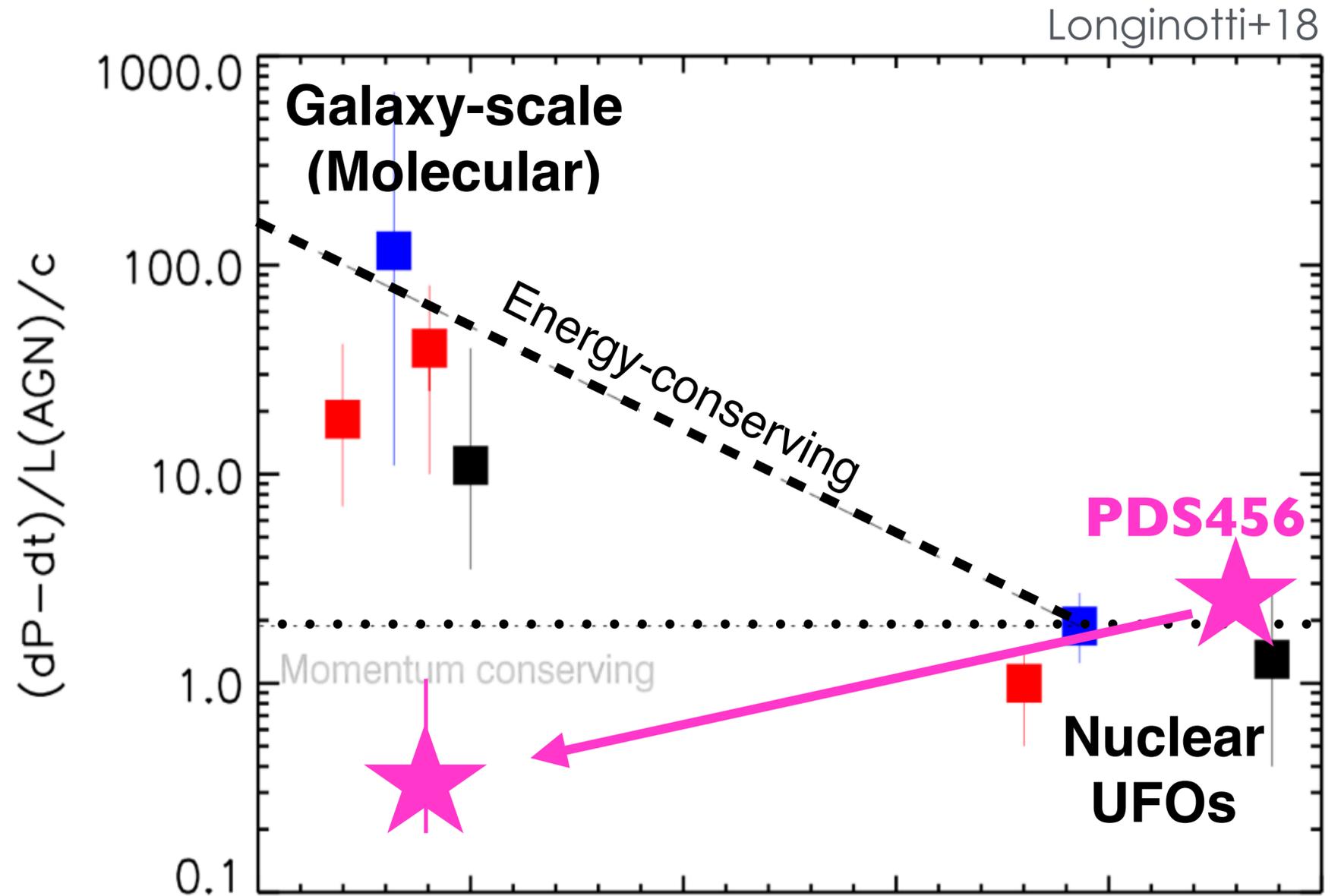
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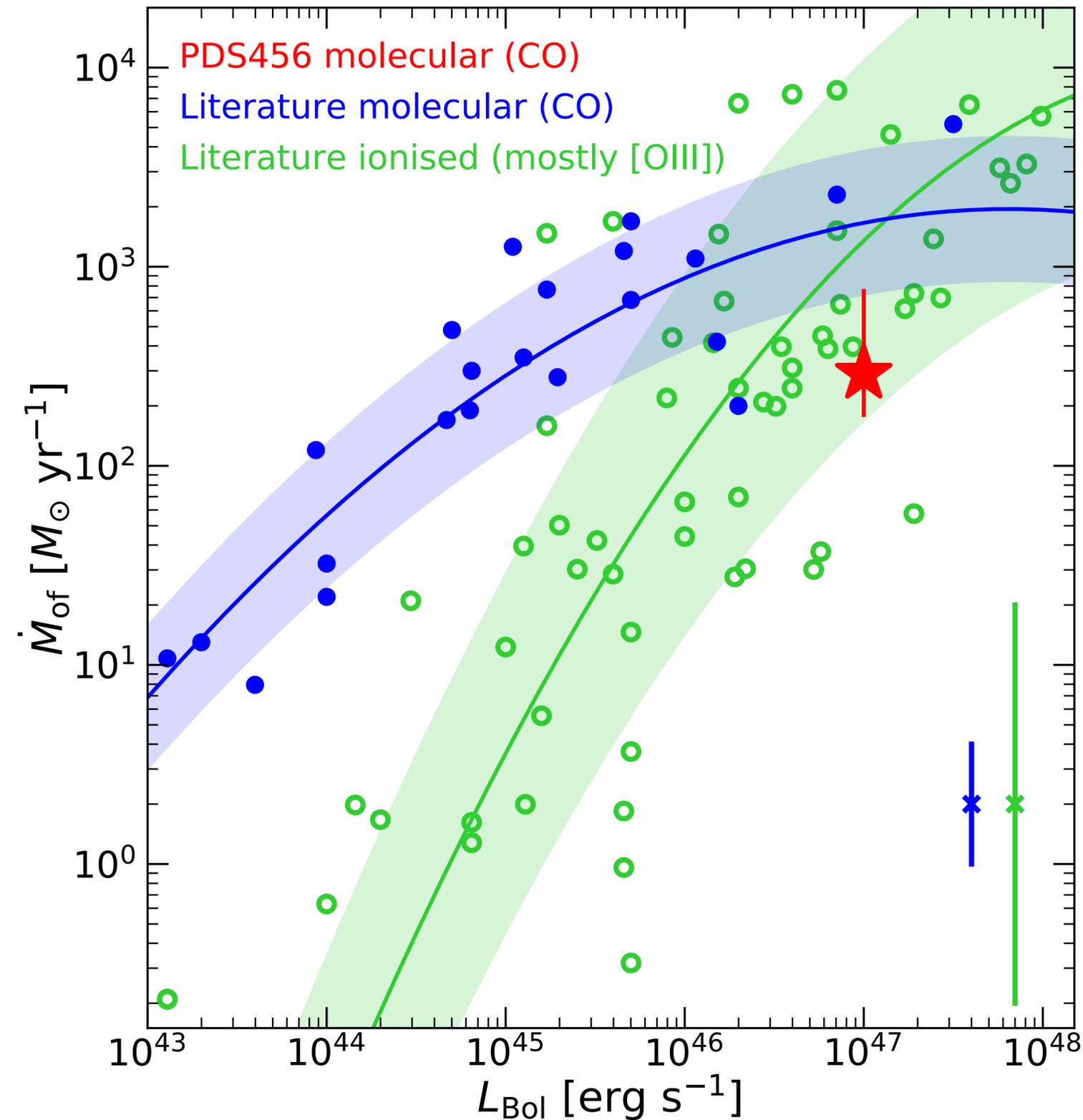
$$\dot{P}_{\text{mol}} \sim 0.4 (L_{\text{AGN}}/c)$$



Alternative scenarios:

- radiation-pressure driven winds in luminous QSOs (Costa+18, Ishibashi+18)
- the molecular gas may not trace the total outflow mass

# Challenging the energy conserving scenario

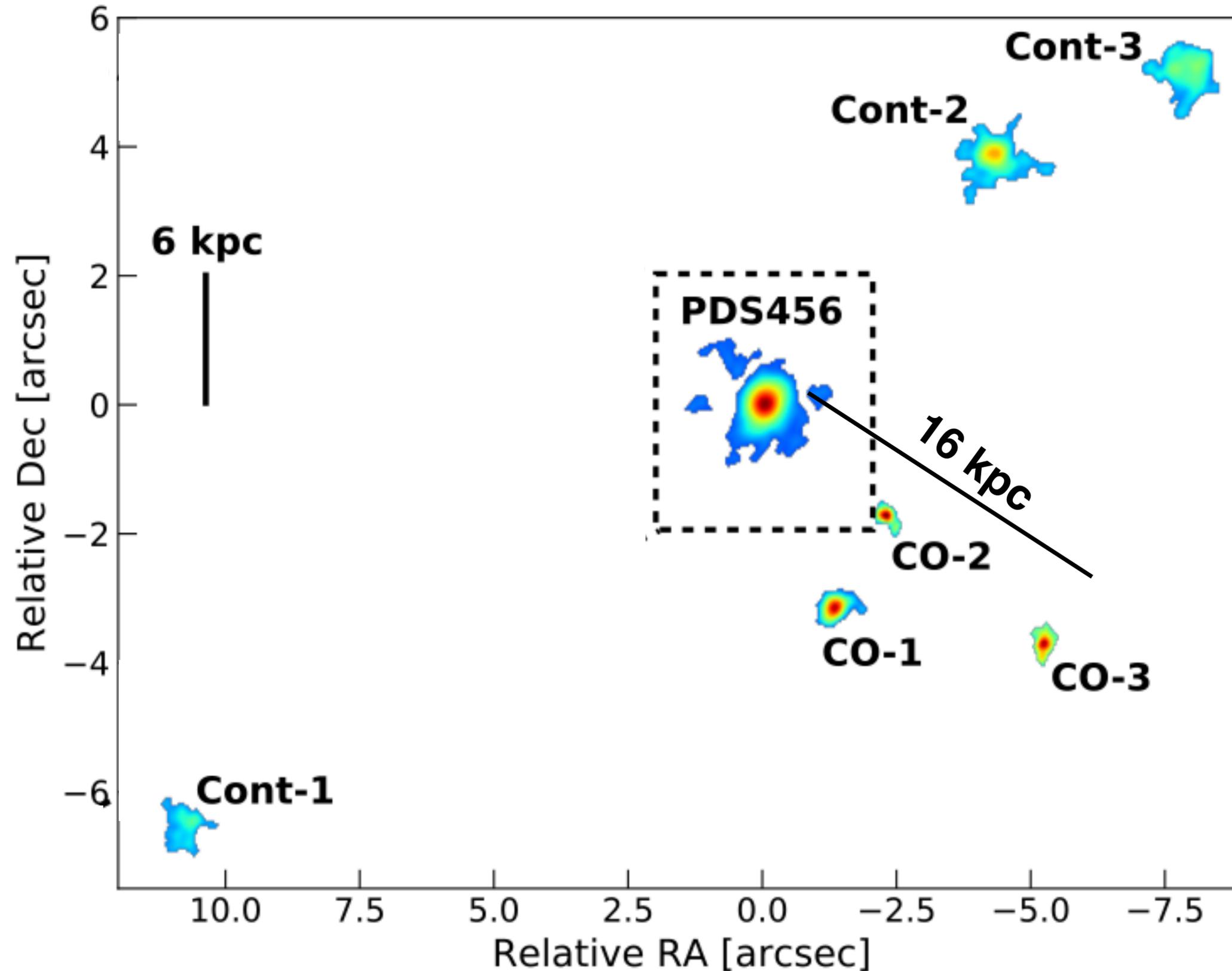


Most updated collection  
of AGN-driven outflows

- the molecular gas may not trace the total outflow mass

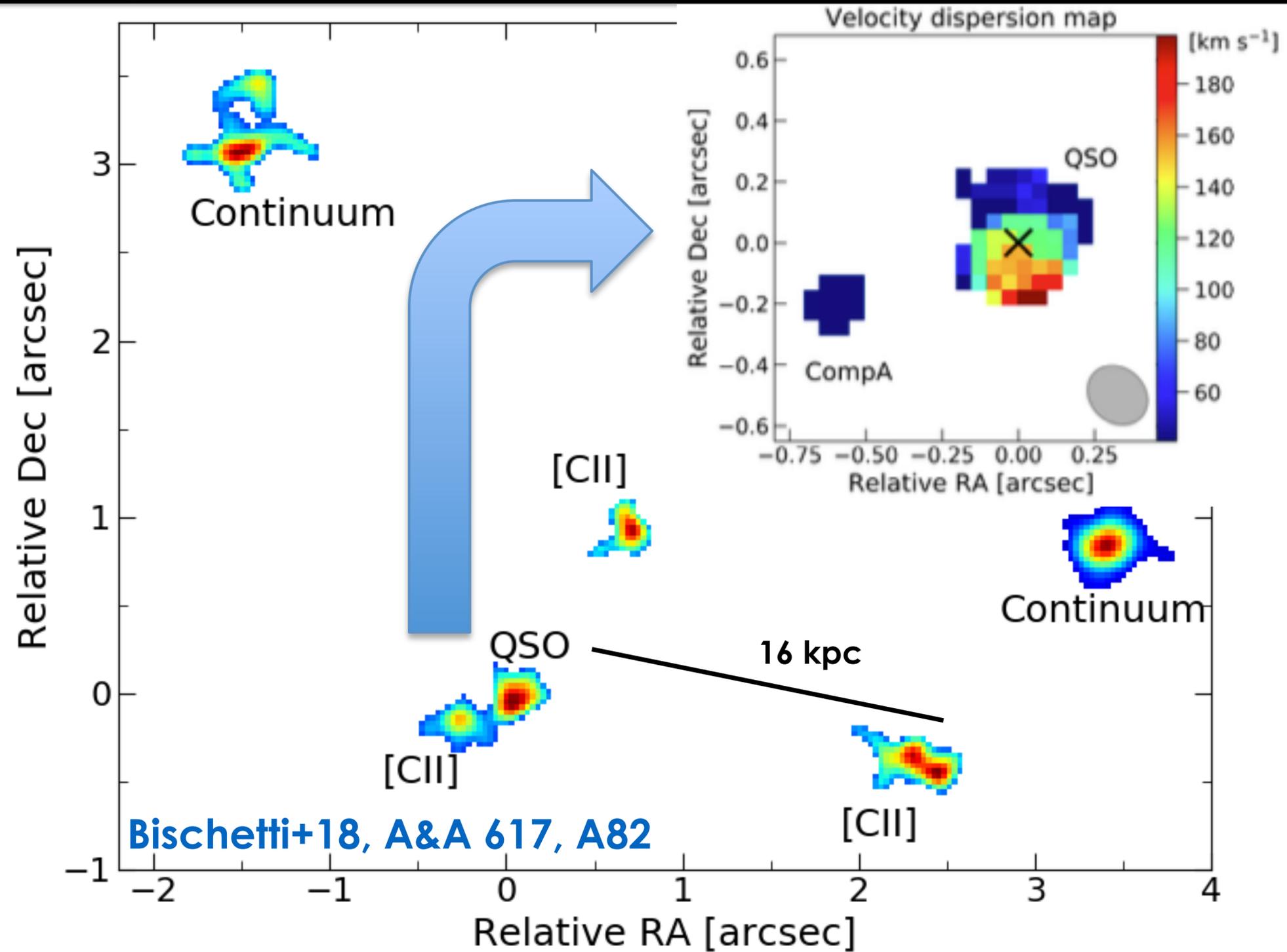
# QSOs as signposts of large overdensities

## High-density region around PDS456: three CO and three continuum emitters



# QSOs as signposts of large overdensities

WISSH QSO  
SDSS J1015+0020  
 $z = 4.4$

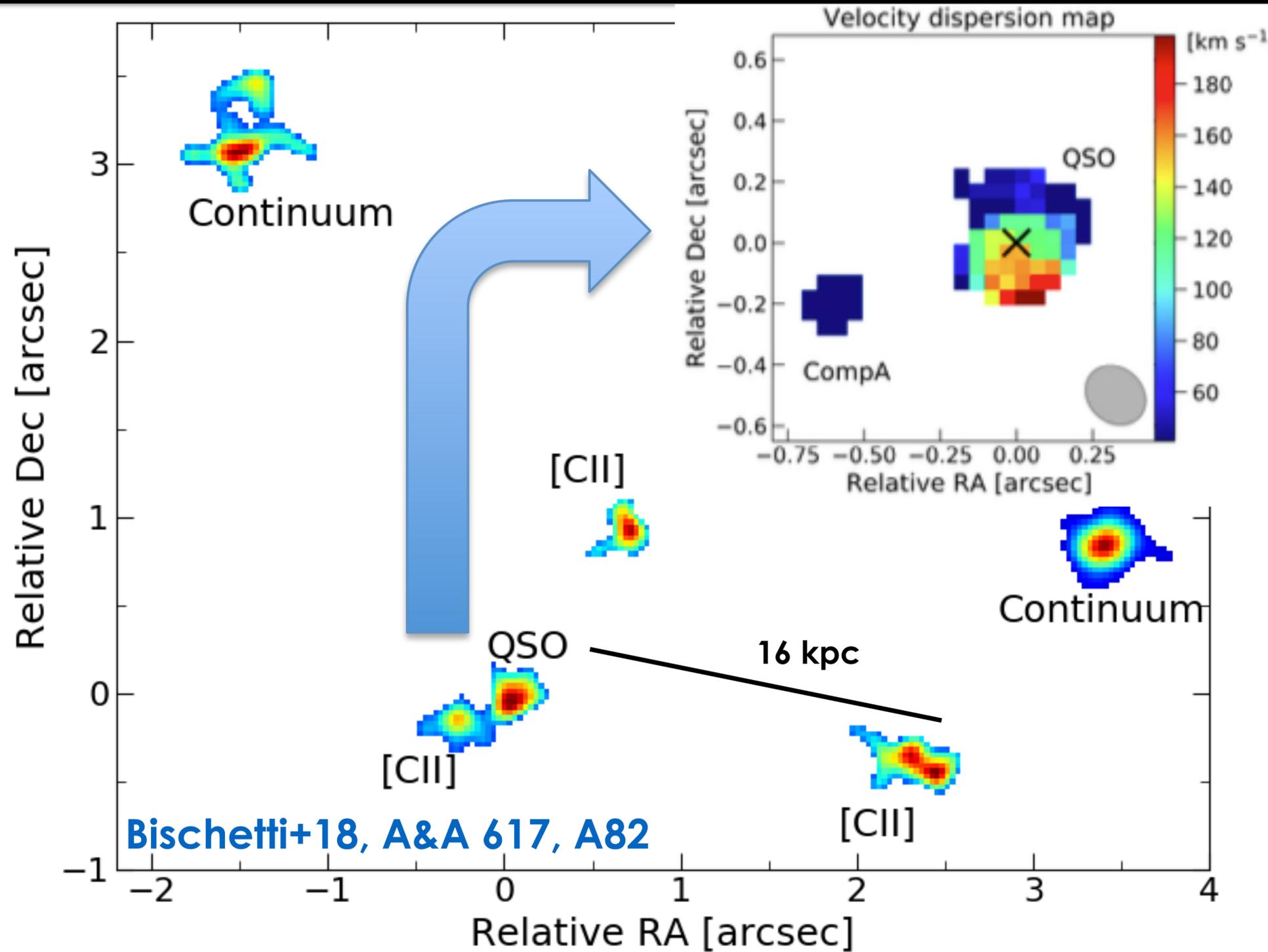


High  
angular  
resolution  
(0.16'' x 0.18'')

- \* Exceptional overdensity in the 40 x 30 kpc<sup>2</sup> region around the QSO
- \* Discovery of the closest (2 kpc!) companion of a high-z QSO

# QSOs as signposts of large overdensities

WISSH QSO  
SDSS J1015+0020  
 $z = 4.4$

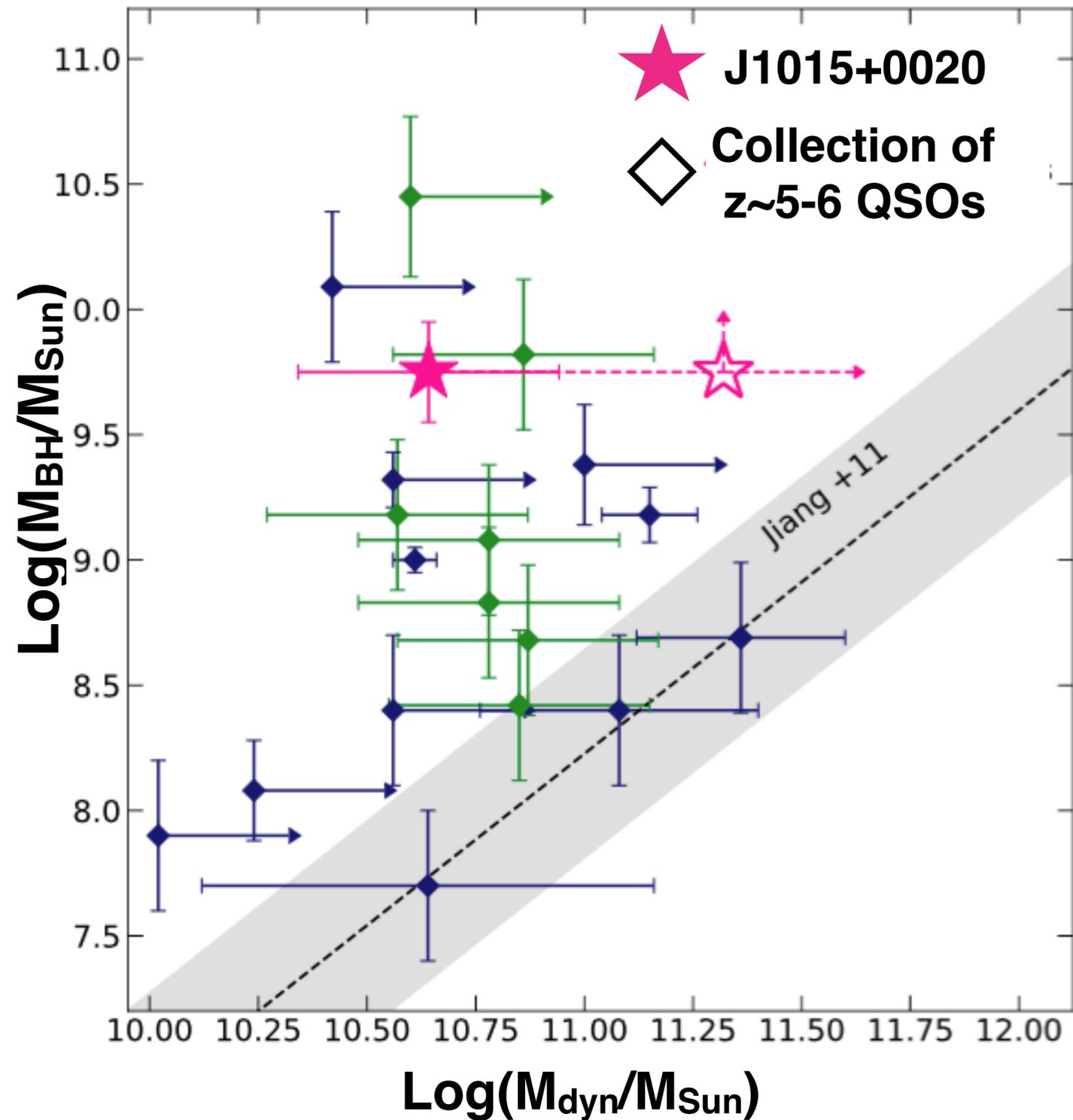


High  
angular  
resolution  
(0.16'' x 0.18'')

\* Spatially resolved SF mostly occurring in the companions

SFR(QSO)  $\sim 100 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$   
SFR(Total)  $\sim 1000 M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$

# High-z QSOs probe the early growth phases of massive galaxies



✱ [CII] based dynamical mass of the galaxy  
 $M_{\text{BH}} : M_{\text{dyn}} = 1 : 7$   
*Two orders of magnitude smaller than local relations*

✱  $M_{\text{dyn}} > 10^{11} M_{\text{Sun}}$  already in place at  $z = 4.4$  adding the masses of QSO and [CII] emitters

**We are observing the cradle of a present-day giant galaxy**

Bischetti+18, A&A 617, A82

(see also Venemans+16,17, Willott+15,17, Trakhtenbrot+17, Kimball+15, Wang+16, Schramm+19)

# Summary & Conclusions

## ✱ **Widespread presence of [CII] outflows in the early Universe**

Correlation between outflow and AGN luminosity

Outflows might be less efficient in removing gas than in local AGN

## ✱ **Anatomy of the host-galaxy and molecular outflows in PDS456**

AGN feedback in action in hyper-luminous QSOs

Challenging the energy-conserving scenario

## ✱ **Early assembly of giant galaxies around hyper-luminous QSOs**

Large overdensities with multiple companions

Early stellar mass assembly outside of the QSO host-galaxy

**Big Eyes Telescopes (E-ELT + JWST + Athena) + ALMA will be fundamental to:**

- enlarge the population of high-z, moderate luminosity AGN known
- provide AGN-outflows scaling relations in a wide range of  $L_{\text{BoI}}$ , without the drawback of different z
- multi-phase characterisation of AGN-driven outflows