

# New models to unveil the properties of galactic outflows



**Martin Rey**

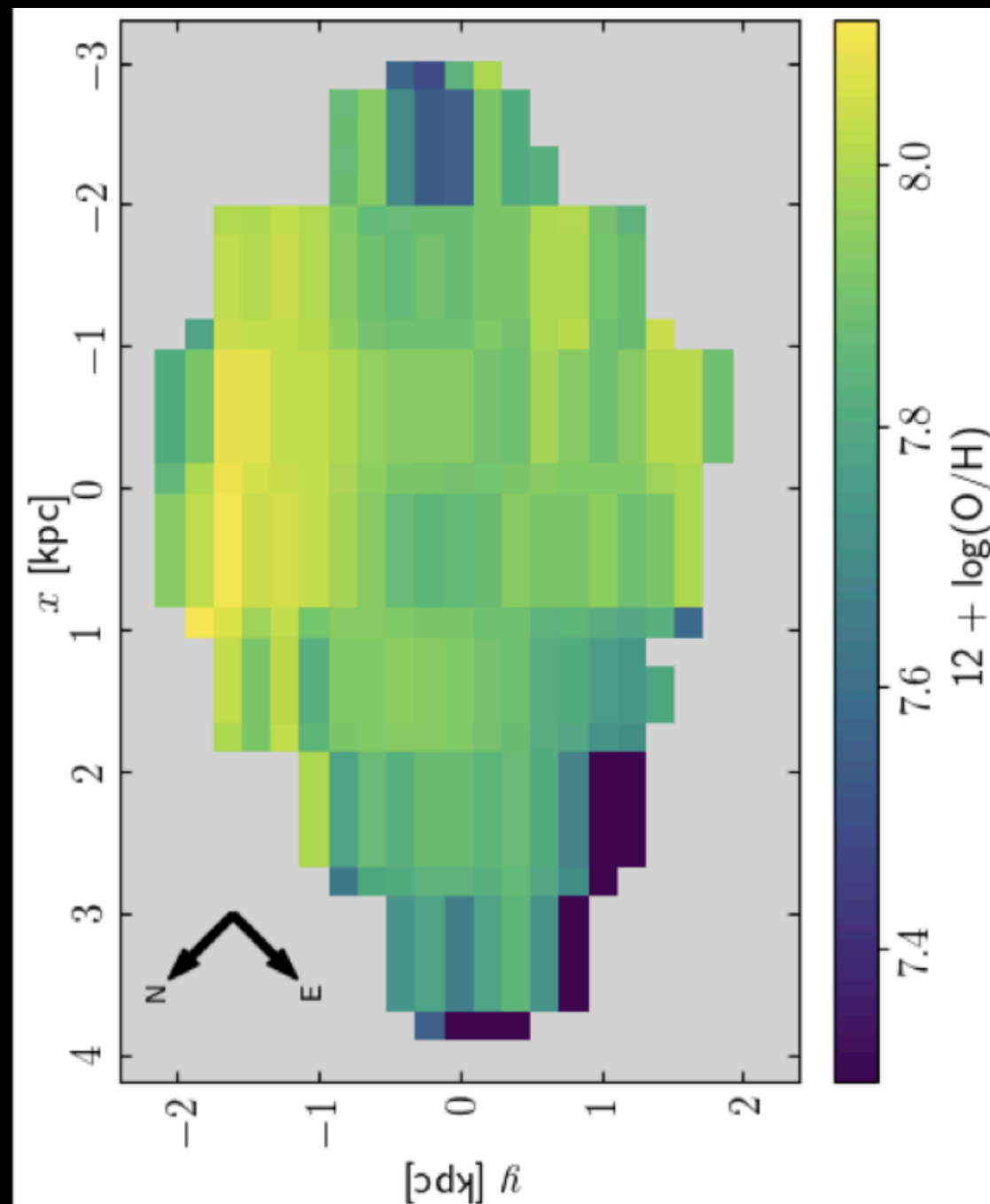
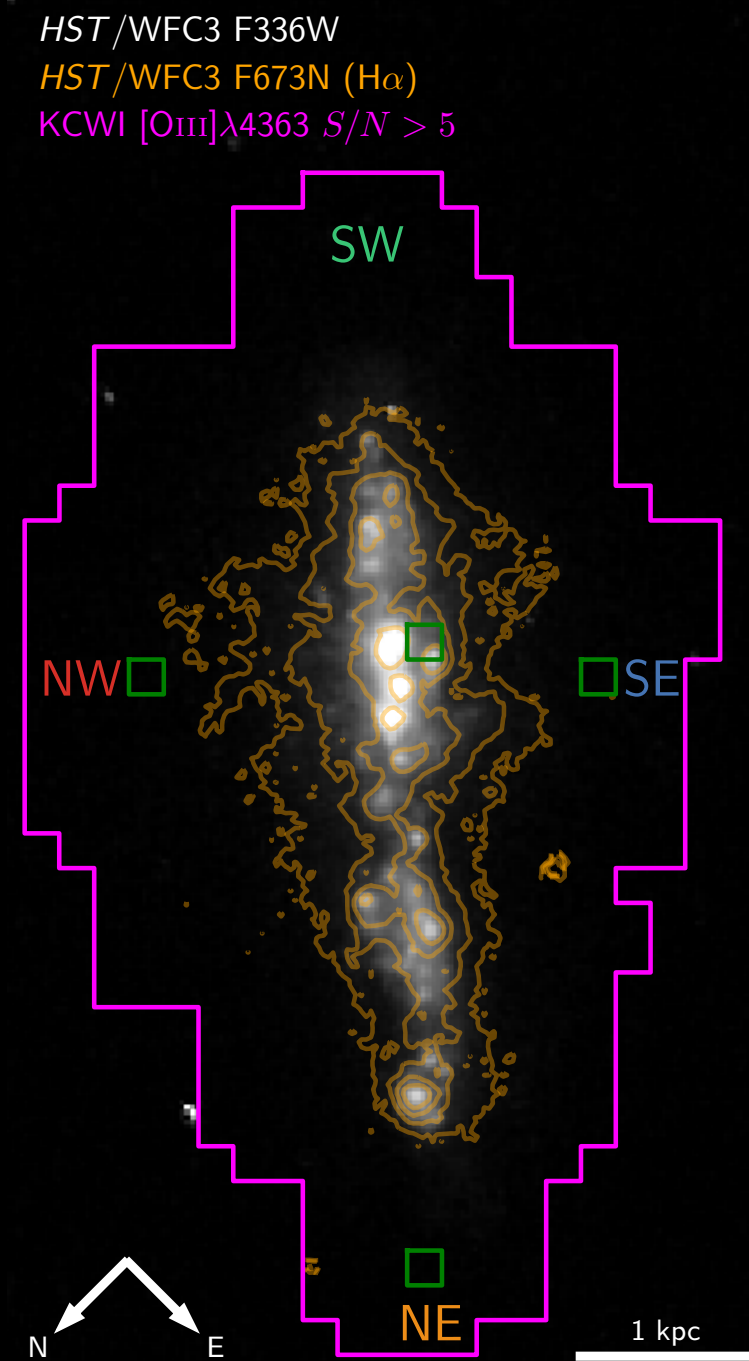
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Rey et al 2024, 2302.08521  
Cameron, Rey and Katz in prep.

With Alex Cameron and  
Harley Katz

# Modern spectrographs now allow us to map and constrain outflows directly



Cameron et al. 2021

See also e.g. Marasco et al. 2023, Rupke et al. 2023,  
Reichardt Chu et al. 2024 ...

# How to link emission lines to gas properties in outflows?

Non-equilibrium/RT effects matter in diffuse gas  
(e.g. Richings et al. 2018, Sarkar et al. 2021, 2022)

Structure along the line-of-sight and outflow geometry is unknown

(Is a one-zone, one-source, Cloudy-like model good enough?)

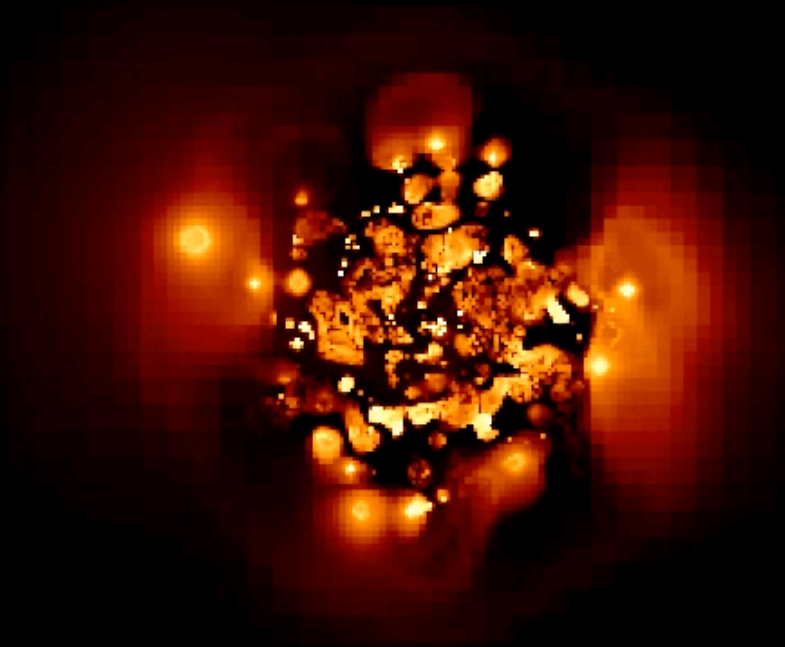


Harley Katz

# Simulations tailored to calibrate spectroscopic observations

50.1 Myr

[OIII] 5007Å



**Idealised dwarf galaxy simulations  
with Ramses-RTZ (Katz 2022).  
18 pc ISM**

Model hydrodynamics of gas, star  
formation, stellar evolution and  
feedback, metal enrichment and  
radiation in 7 frequency bins

Self-consistent galactic-scale  
outflows from stellar feedback

70 ions, non-equilibrium chemistry  
directly coupled on-the-fly to the  
radiation from stars. Direct  
predictions of CELs.



# Simulations tailored to interpret outflow emission lines?

50.1 Myr

[OIII] 5007Å

5 kpc

Extract the non-equilibrium cooling rate and refine the grid where the cooling length is unresolved by 8 cells, down to 72, 36 and 18 pc

2 kpc

Cooling length (pc)

$10^6$   
 $10^5$   
 $10^4$   
 $10^3$   
 $10^2$   
 $10^1$   
 $10^0$

Resolution quickly degrades out of the disc and in the outflow

Over-mixing gas phases, unresolved shocks, etc, etc

Reference with traditional  
Lagrangian scheme

4.9 Myr

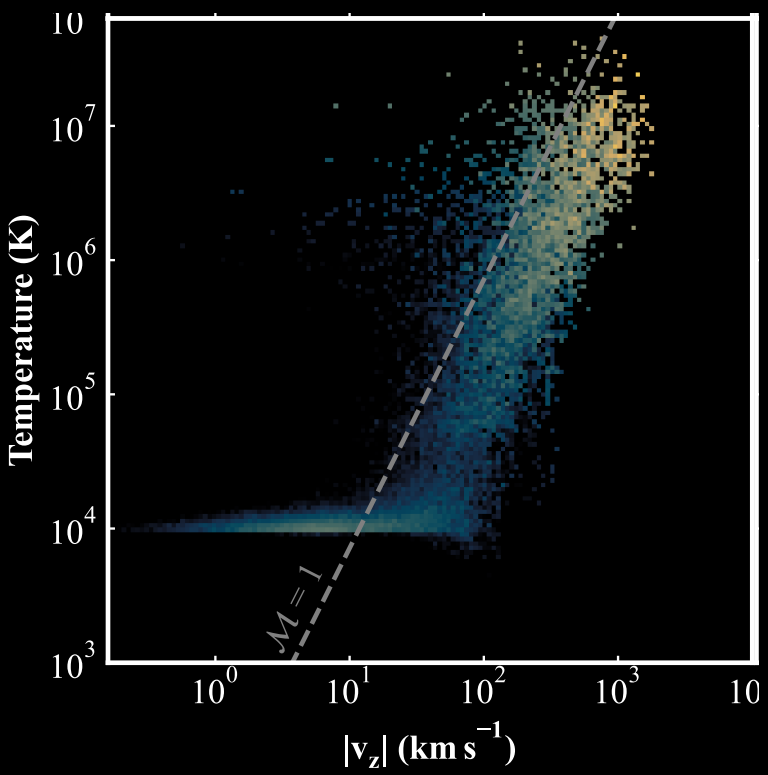
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Cooling length refined down to  
ISM resolution (18 pc)

4.9 Myr

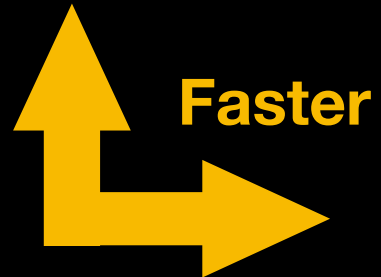
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## Reference

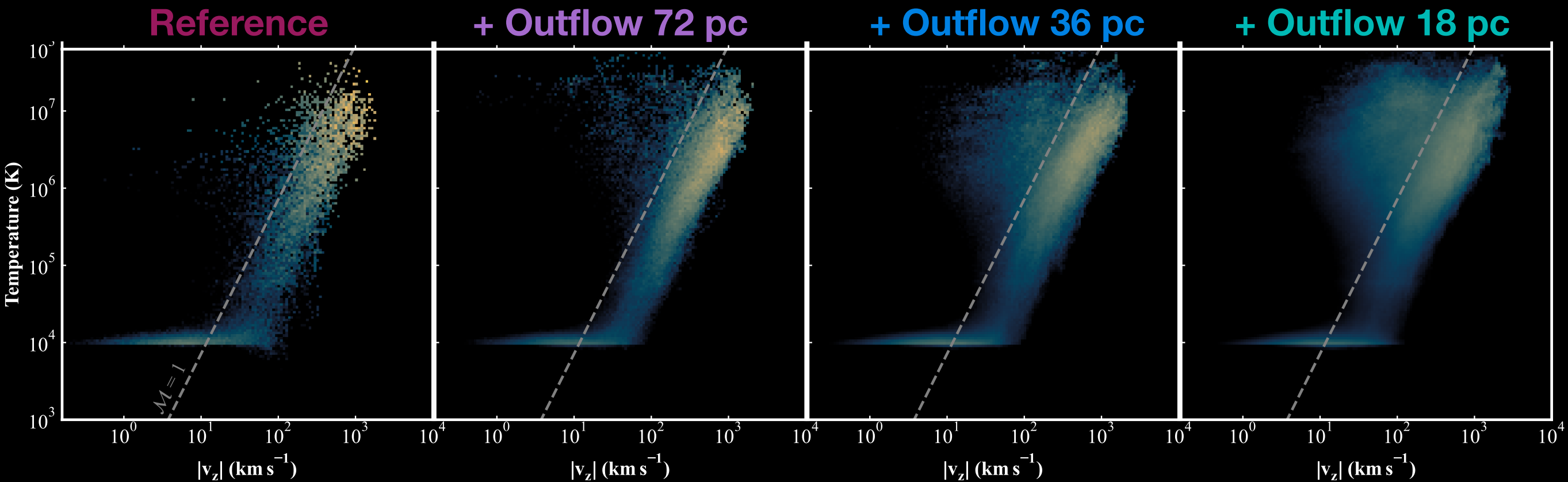


Energy-weighted gas at  $|z| = 1$  kpc, averaged over 500 Myr

Hotter

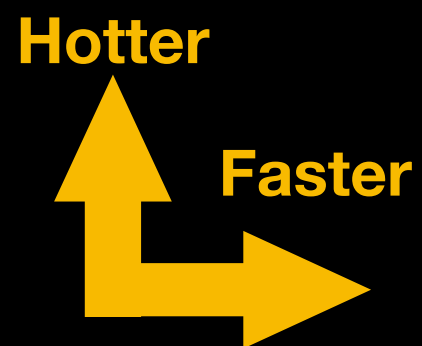


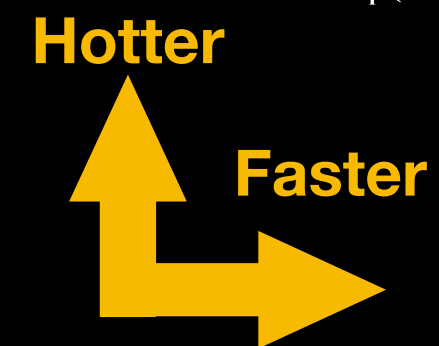
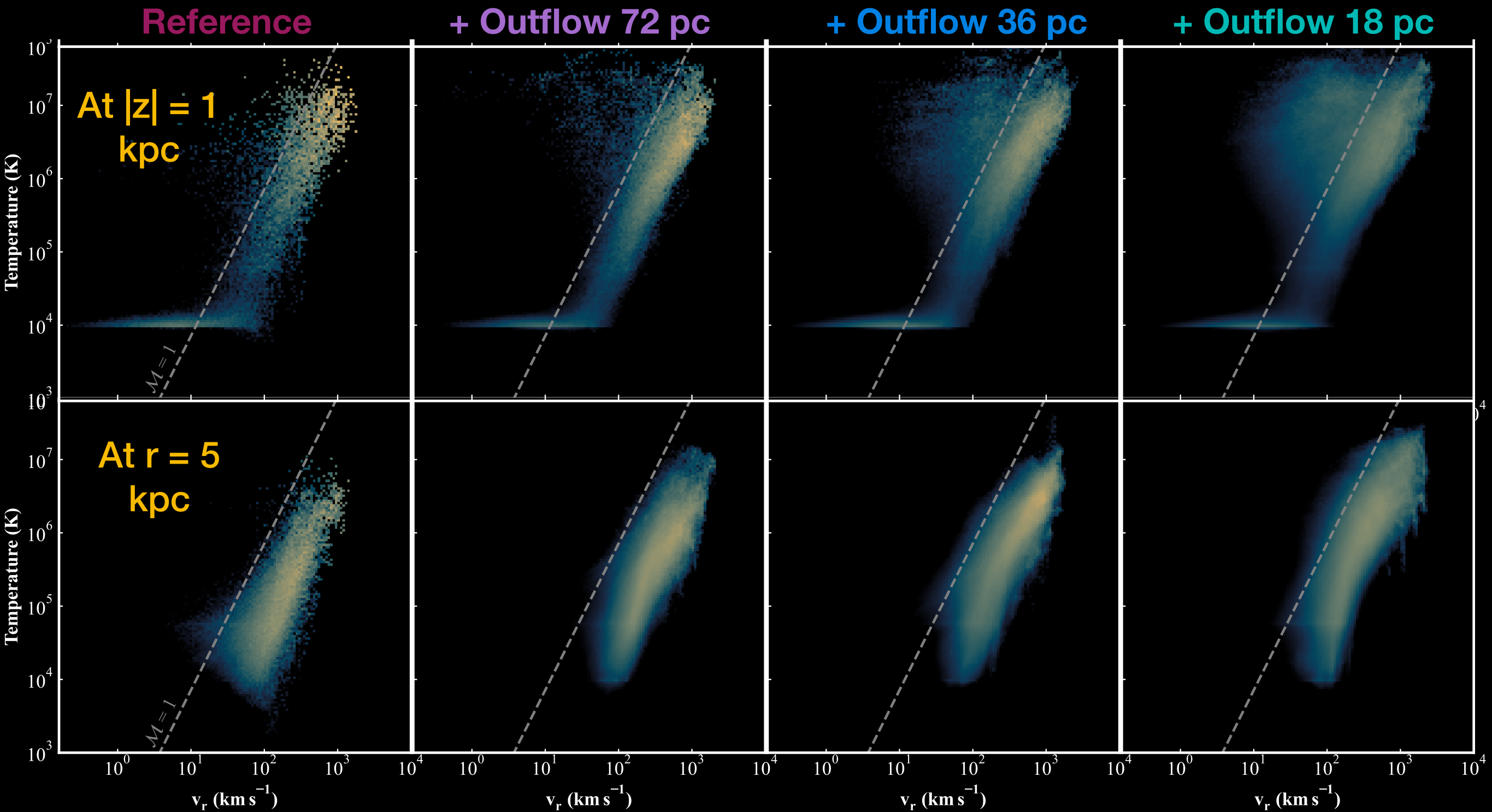
Faster



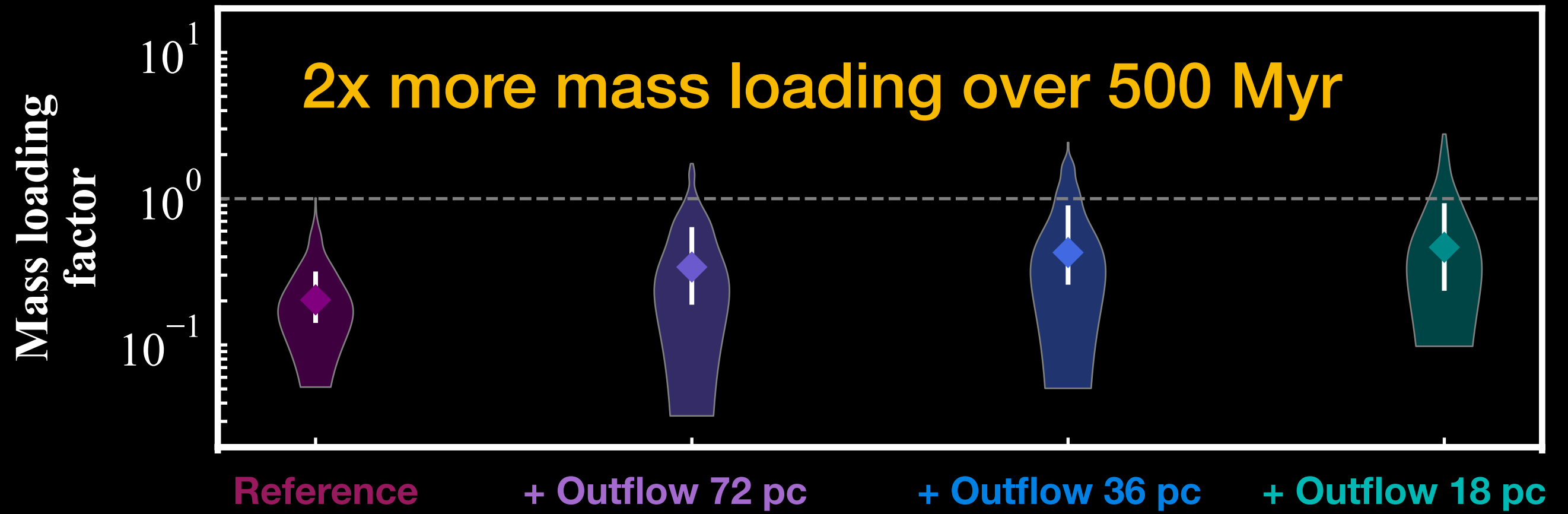
Energy-weighted gas at  $|z| = 1$  kpc, averaged over 500 Myr

Close to the disc, more hot and subsonic gas. Post-shocked gas stays hot and pressurizes bubbles





Gas stays hotter and faster for longer,  
as it propagates outwards



Mass loading  
factor

2x more mass loading over 500 Myr

Energy loading  
factor

5x more energy loading

Reference

+ Outflow 72 pc

+ Outflow 36 pc

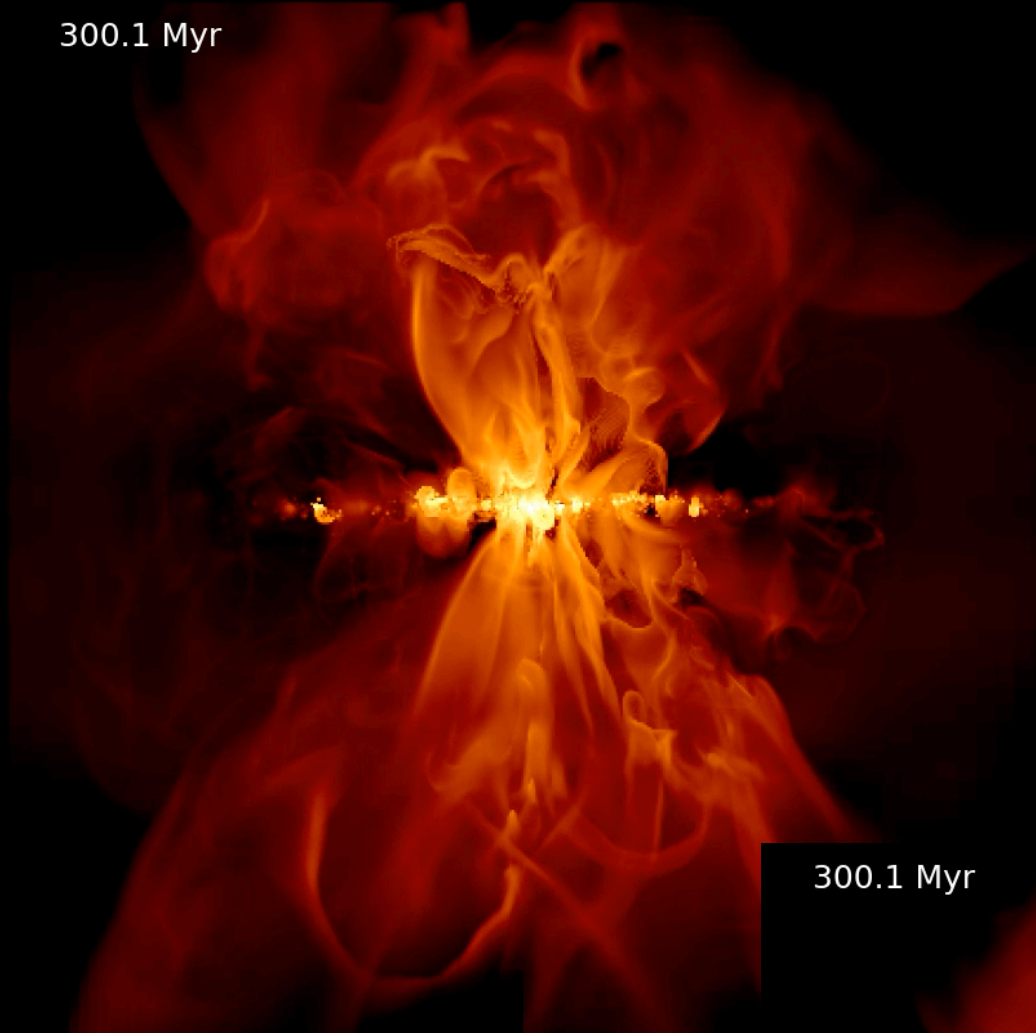
+ Outflow 18 pc

without modifying launching conditions in the disc,  
the feedback energetics, or the included physics



[OIII] 5007Å

300.1 Myr



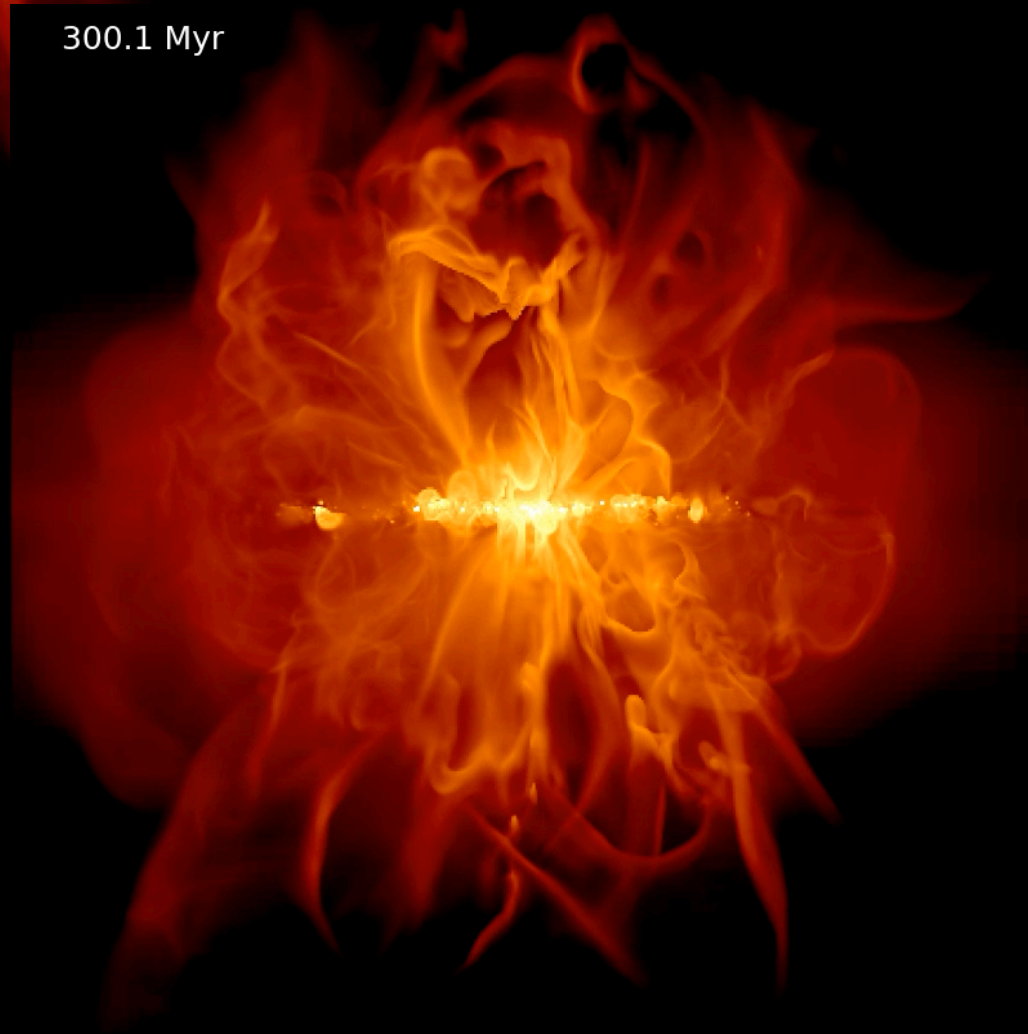
[OIII] 4363Å

300.1 Myr



[OII] 3728Å

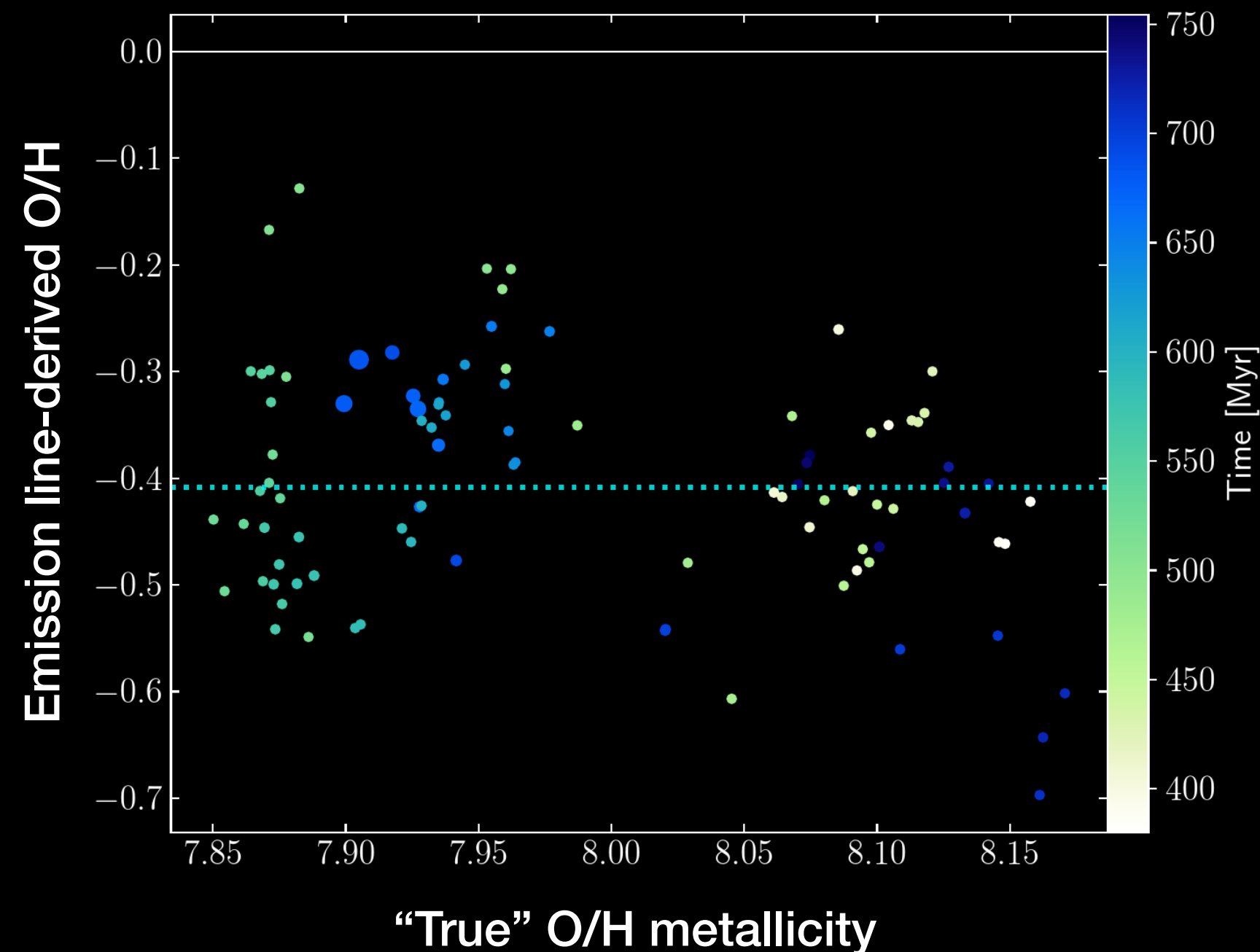
300.1 Myr





Alex Cameron

# Implications on ionic structure of outflows

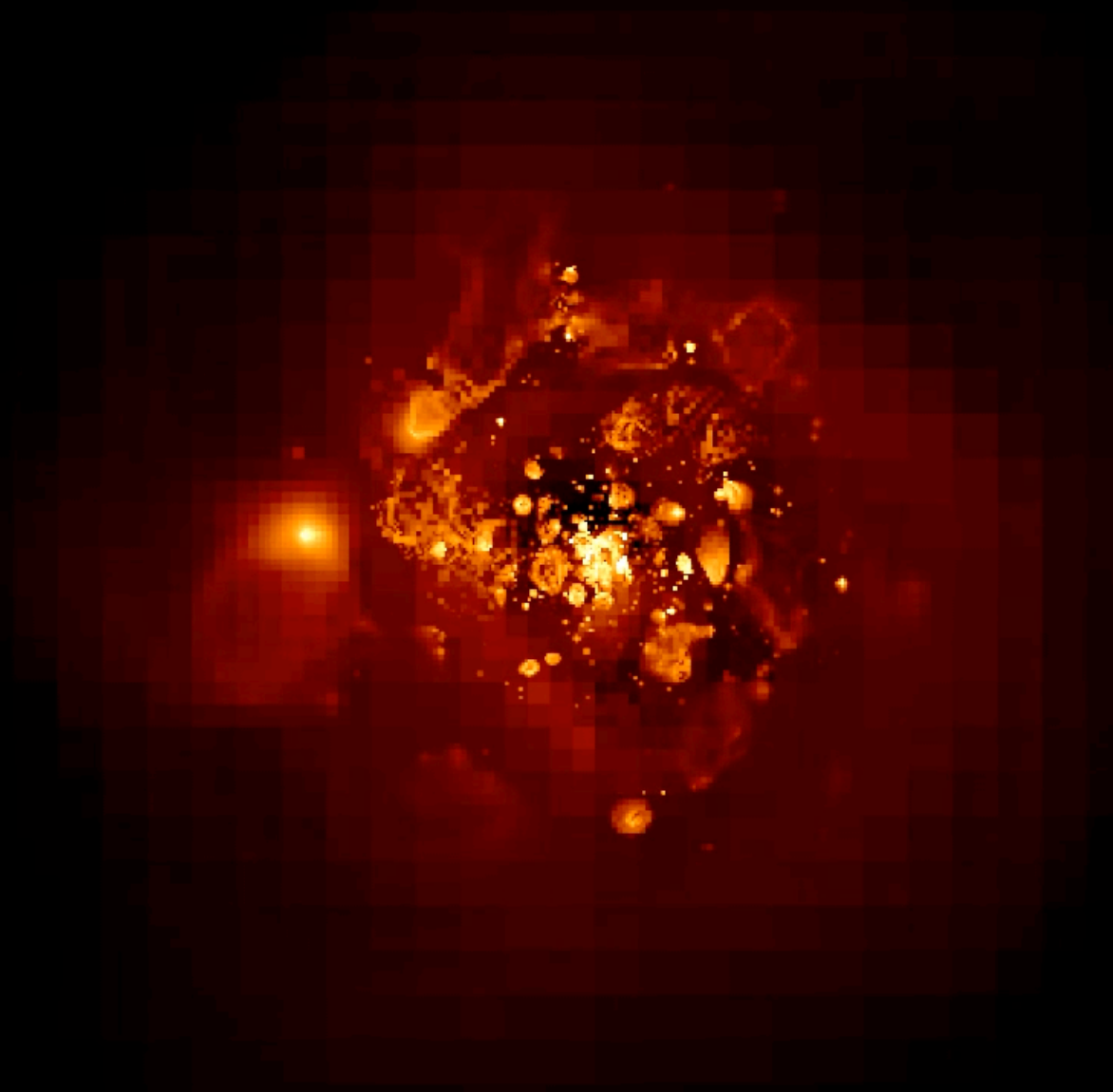


**Metallicities derived from auroral lines (Te-method) are biased low in outflows, from 0.2 to 0.6 dex**

# Conclusion

1. Galaxy formation models can now explicitly model non-equilibrium thermochemistry and radiative transfer to robustly link to spectroscopic observables

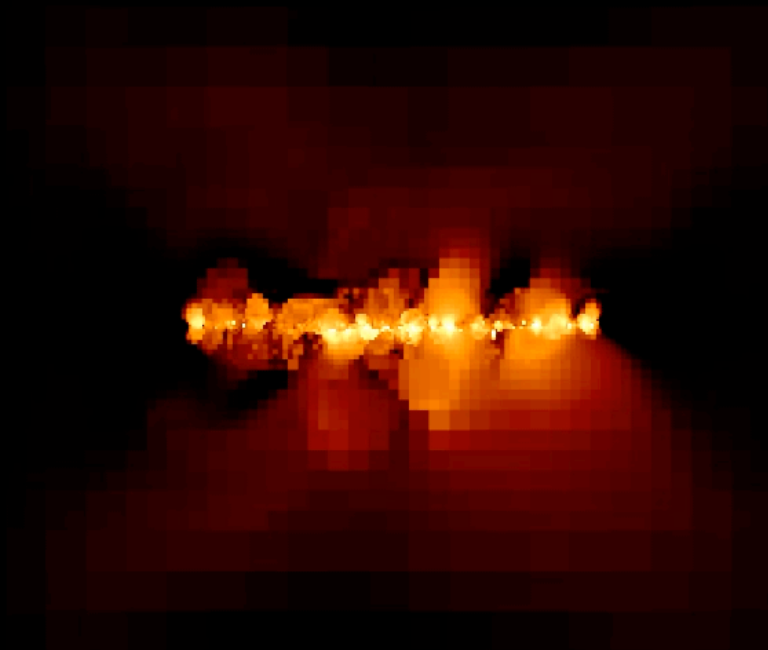
309.9 Myr



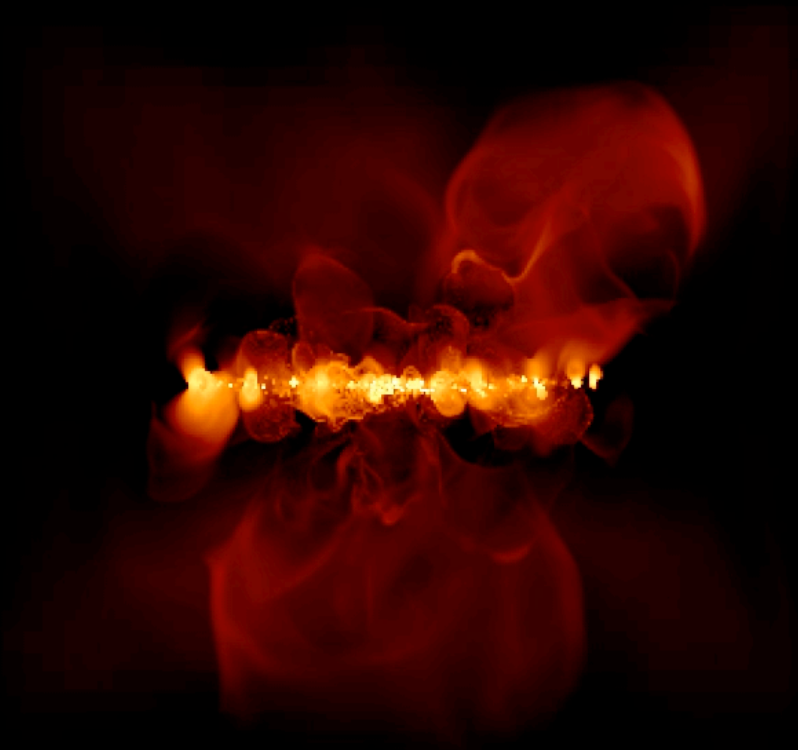
# Conclusion

2. We are under-resolving the multiphase structure of outflows. Fixing this requires beyond-Lagrangian resolution schemes, e.g. refining on the cooling length.

100.2 Myr



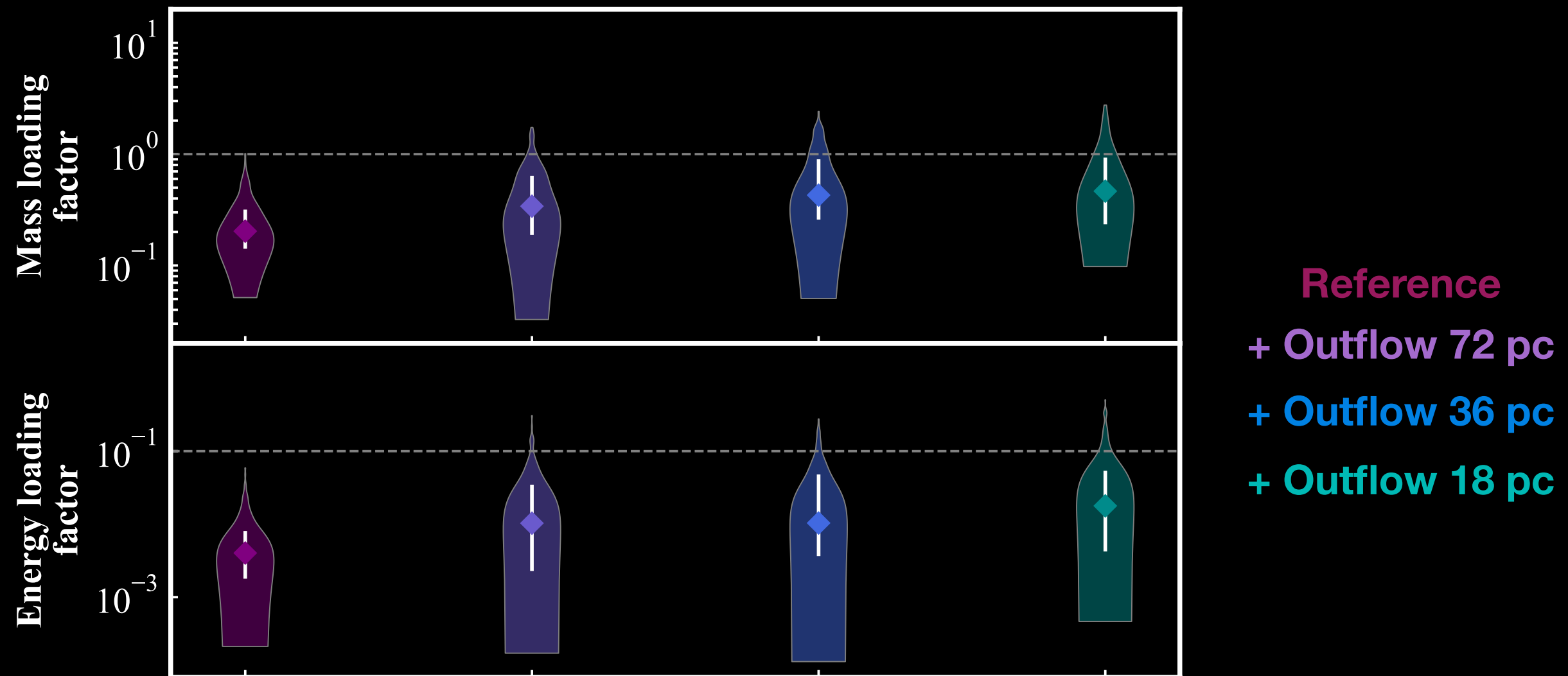
100.2 Myr



O[III] 5007Å

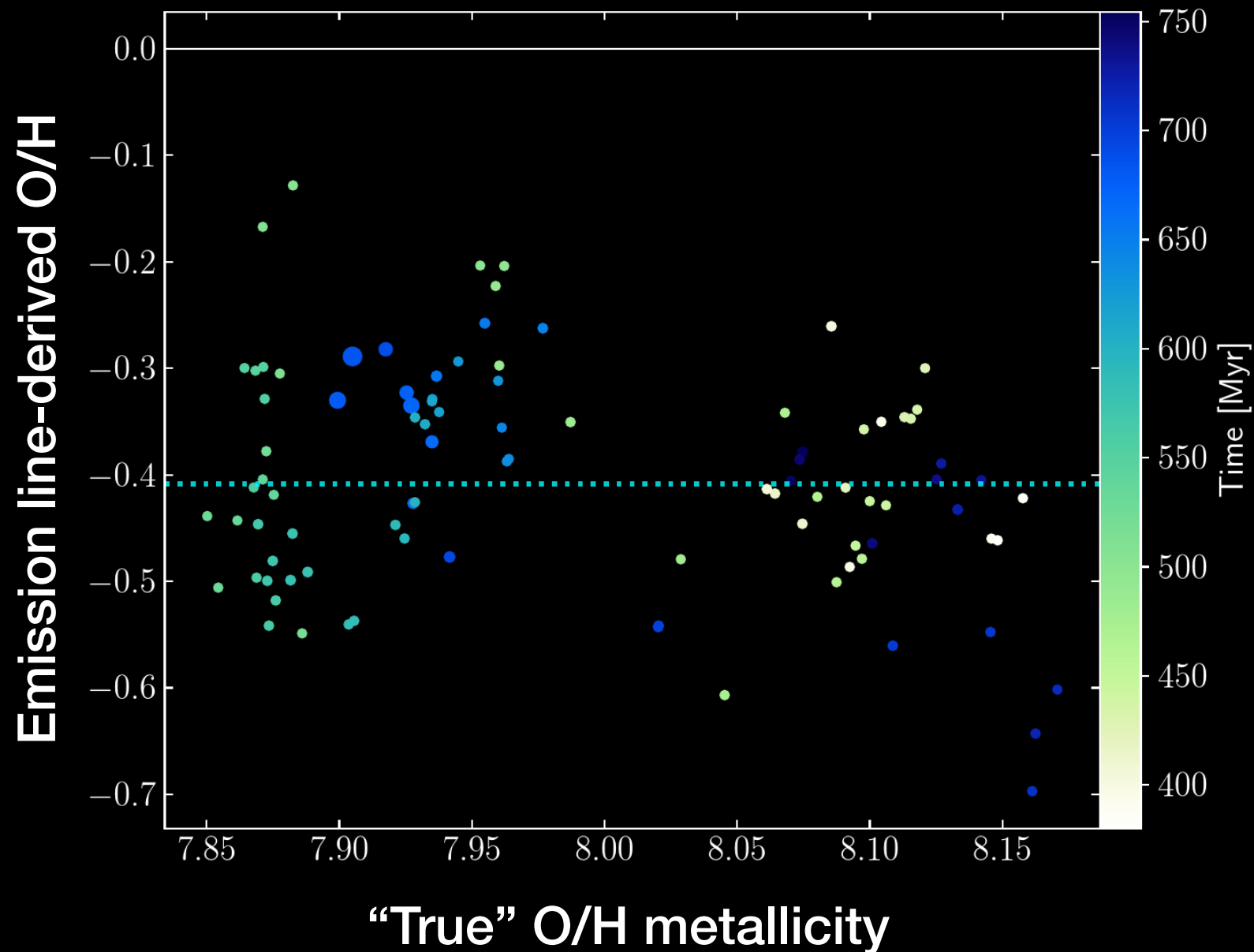
# Conclusion

3. Better-resolved outflows are systematically more energetic, without modifying the central galaxy or the feedback model.



# Conclusion

4. These new abilities can help us quantify observational biases when inferring outflow energetics, kinematics and chemistry from emission lines of distant galaxies.



1. Galaxy formation models can now explicitly model non-equilibrium thermochemistry and radiative transfer, robustly linking to spectroscopic observables
2. We are under-resolving the multiphase structure of outflows. Fixing this requires beyond-Lagrangian resolution schemes, e.g. refining on the cooling length.
3. Better-resolved outflows are systematically more energetic, without modifying the central galaxy or the feedback model.
4. These new abilities can quantify potential observational biases when inferring outflow energetics, kinematics and chemistry from emission lines of distant galaxies.