



# HOW OUTFLOWS AND RADIATIVE FEEDBACK LIMIT ACCRETION ONTO MASSIVE STARS

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NASA Einstein Fellow

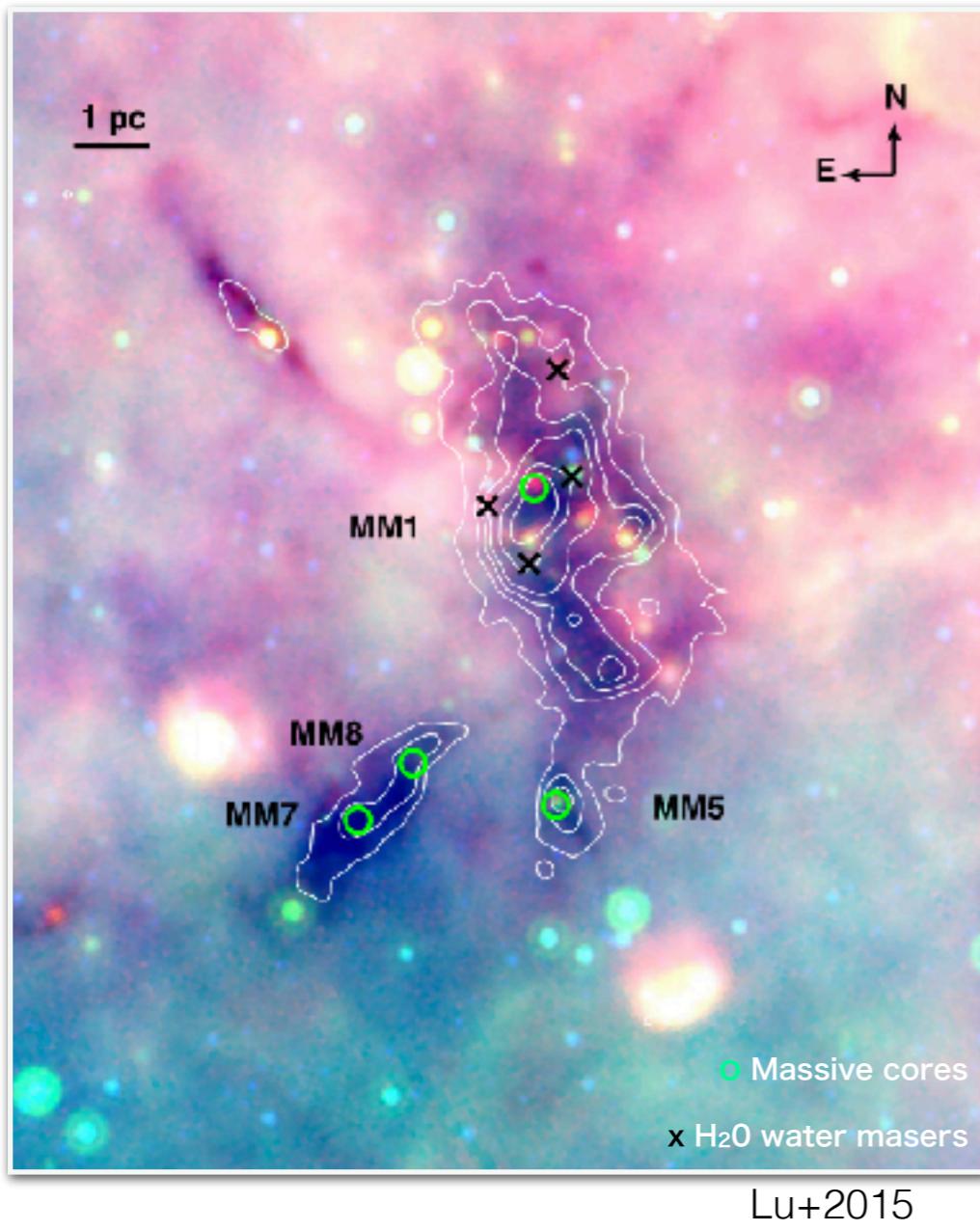
Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

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Aaron Lee (UT Austin), Chris McKee (UCB), Jeff Oishi (Bates College)



# Massive star formation is [likely] a scaled up version of low-mass star formation

Infrared dark cloud (IRDC) G28.53



- IRDCs can fragment into dense, massive clumps which then fragment into massive pre-stellar cores.
- Massive pre-stellar cores are supported by turbulent pressure

$$P_{\text{Turb}} \gg P_{\text{Th}}$$

- Observations suggest massive cores have  $\alpha_{\text{vir}} \lesssim 1$

$$\alpha_{\text{vir}} = \frac{2E_{\text{KE}}}{E_{\text{G}}} = \frac{5\sigma^2 R_c}{GM_c}$$

# Isotropic accretion leads to the radiation pressure barrier problem in massive star formation

Formation of massive stars is a competition between gravity and (direct+indirect) radiation pressure

**Gravitational Force:**

$$f_{\text{grav}}(r) = \frac{GM_{\star}\Sigma}{r^2}$$

$$\Sigma(r) = \int_0^r \rho(r')dr'$$

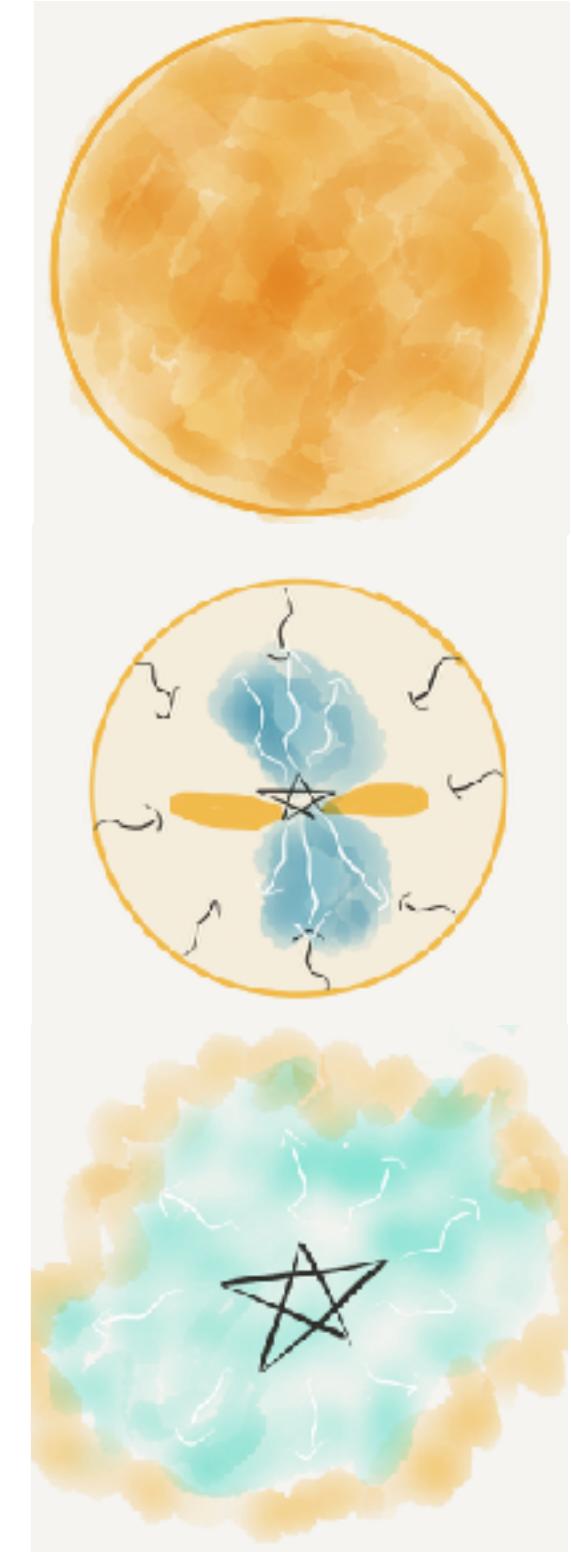
**Radiative Force:**

$$f_{\text{rad}} = \frac{L_{\star}}{4\pi r^2 c} (1 + f_{\text{trap}})$$

$$L_{\star} \propto M_{\star}^3$$

$$f_{\text{edd}} = 7.7 \times 10^{-5} (1 + f_{\text{trap}}) \left( \frac{L_{\star}}{M_{\star}} \right)_{\odot} \left( \frac{\Sigma}{1 \text{ g cm}^{-2}} \right)^{-1}$$

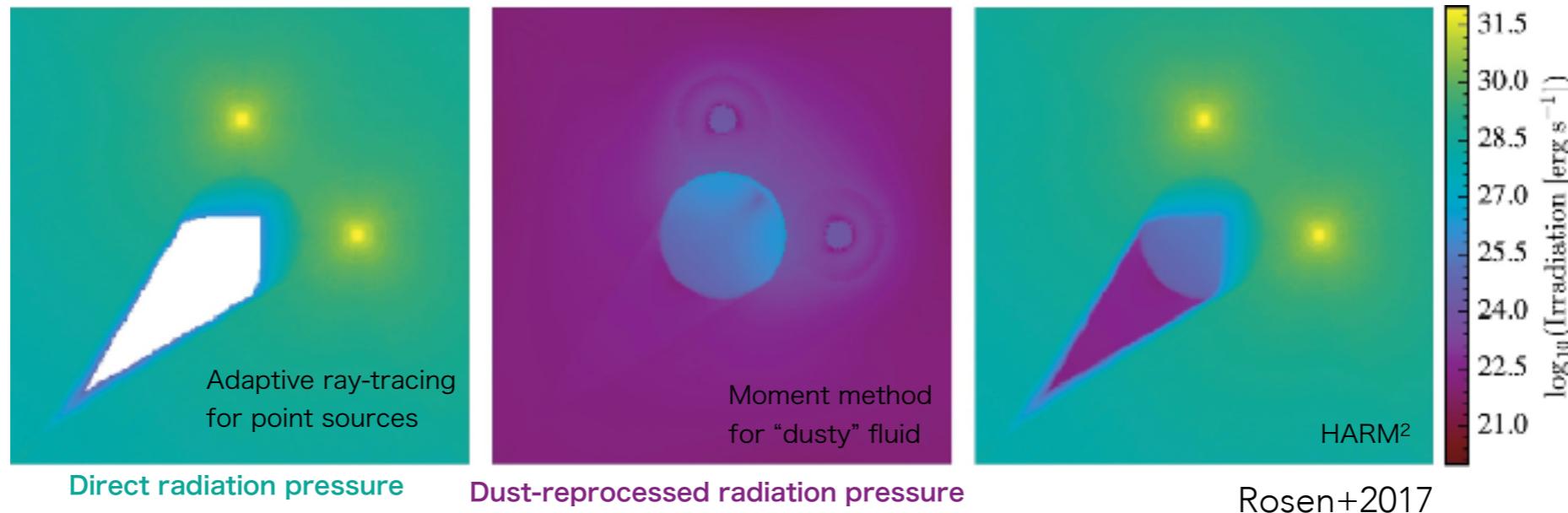
Radiation halts isotropic accretion when  $f_{\text{edd}} \gtrsim 1$   
for  $M_{\star} \gtrsim 20 M_{\odot}$



Modeling massive star formation  
requires **multi-dimensional**  
**radiation-hydrodynamic**  
simulations

# Modeling radiation pressure in (massive) star formation simulations

Hybrid Adaptive Ray-Moment Method (**HARM<sup>2</sup>**):



Absorption of (multi-frequency) stellar radiation field:

**Radiative Transfer**  
**Equation along ray:**

$$\frac{\partial L_{\text{ray},j}}{\partial r} = -\kappa_j \rho L_{\text{ray},j},$$

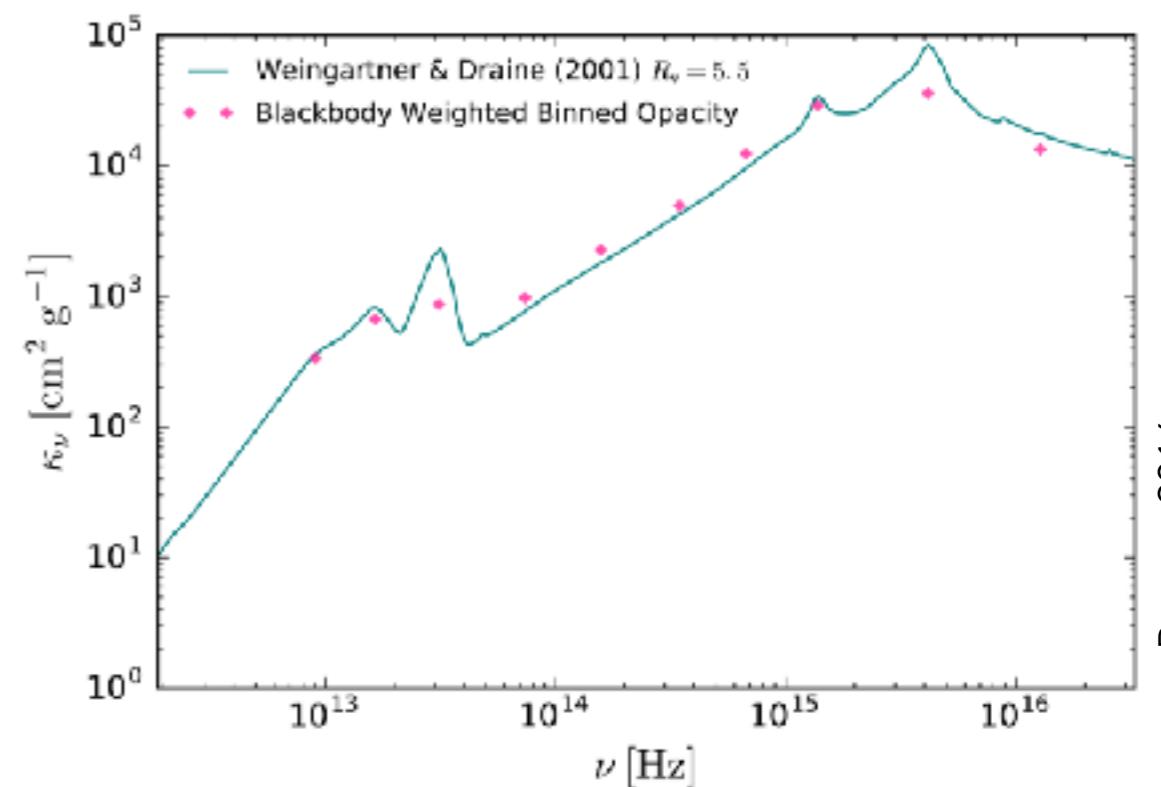
**Luminosity absorbed**  
( $\tau_j = \rho_d \kappa_j dl$ ):

$$dL_{\text{ray},j} = L_{\text{ray},j} (1 - e^{-\tau_j})$$

**Energy and momentum deposition:**

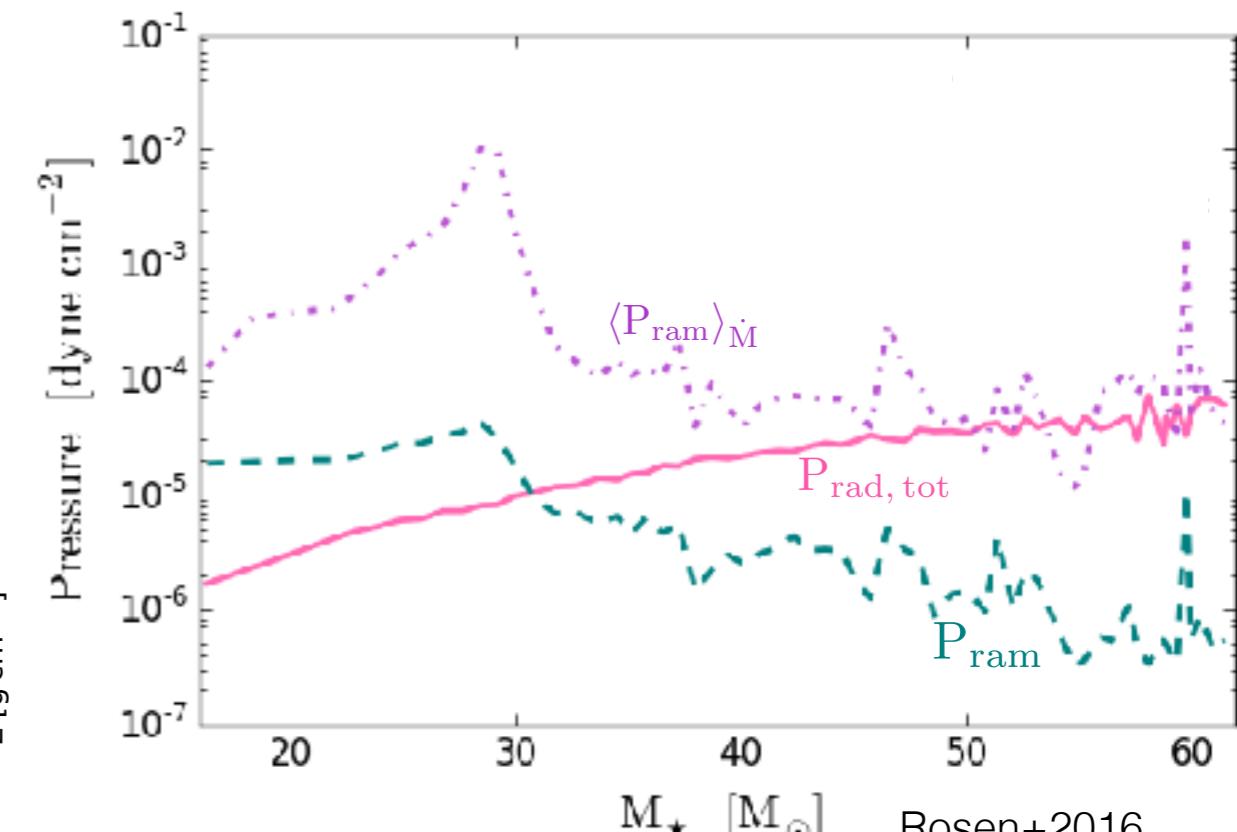
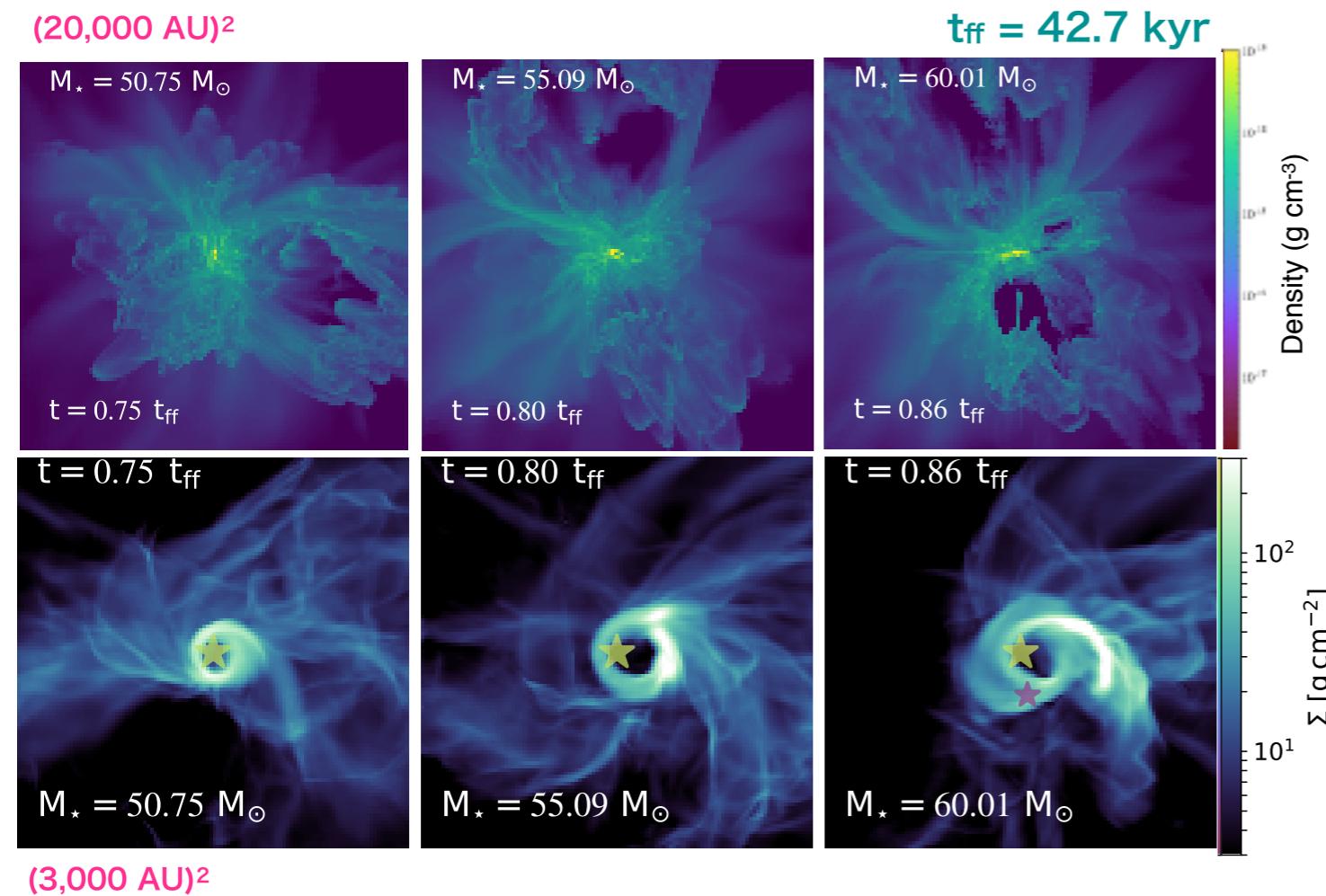
$$\dot{\epsilon}_{\text{rad, ray}} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_\nu} dL_{\text{ray},j}$$

$$\dot{\mathbf{p}}_{\text{rad, ray}} = \sum_{j=1}^{N_\nu} \frac{dL_{\text{ray},j}}{c} \mathbf{n}.$$



Rosen+2016

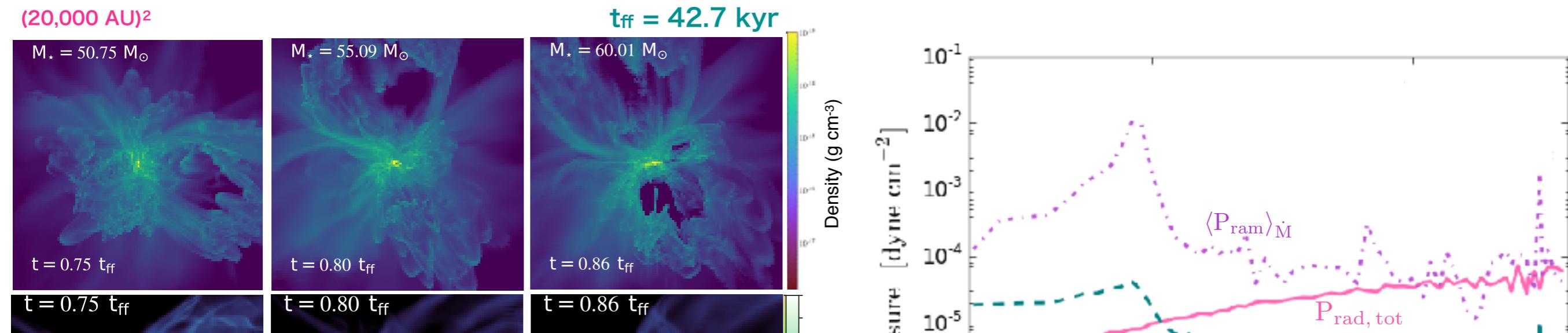
# Overcoming the radiation pressure barrier



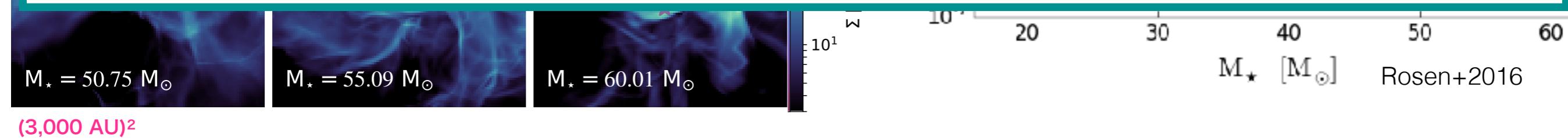
Mass delivered to star via infalling dense filaments, radiative Rayleigh Taylor (RT) instabilities, and disk accretion.

High accretion rates and infalling filaments provide sufficient ram pressure to overcome radiation pressure.

# Overcoming the radiation pressure barrier



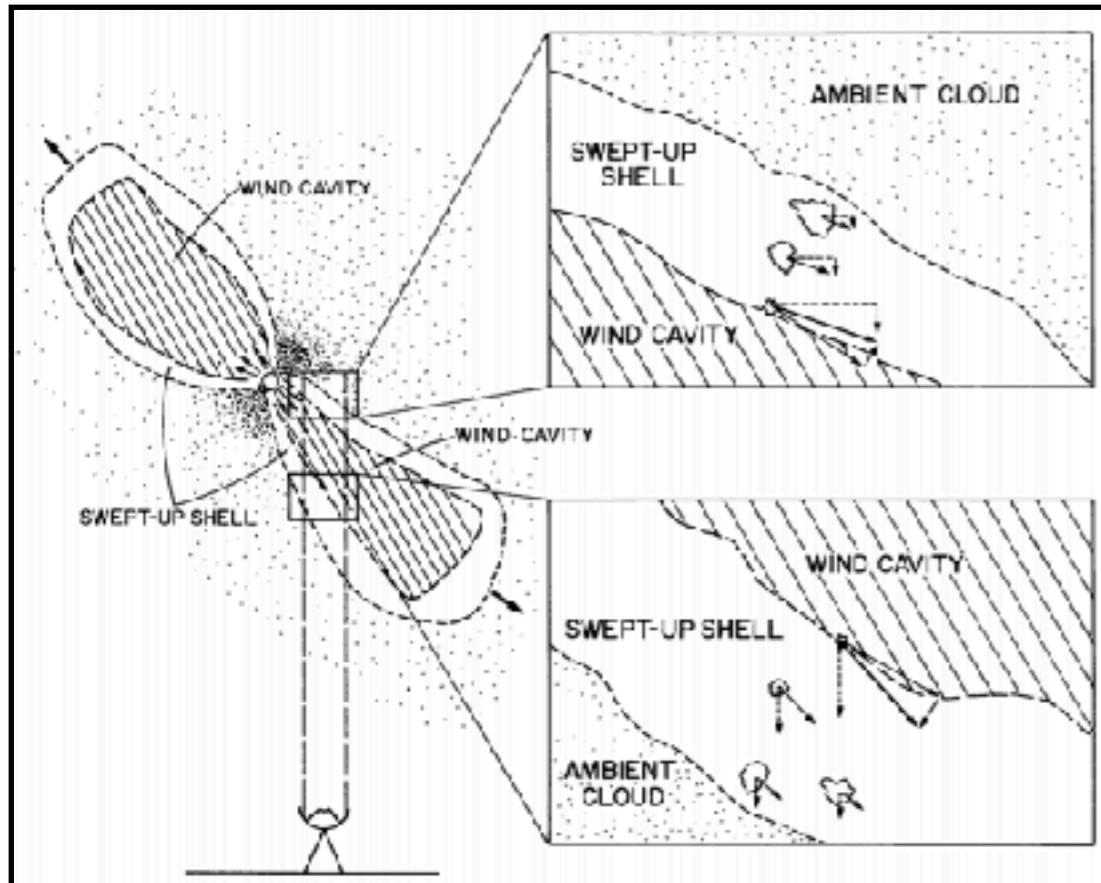
...but what about other forms of stellar feedback?



Mass delivered to star via infalling dense filaments, radiative Rayleigh Taylor (RT) instabilities, and disk accretion.

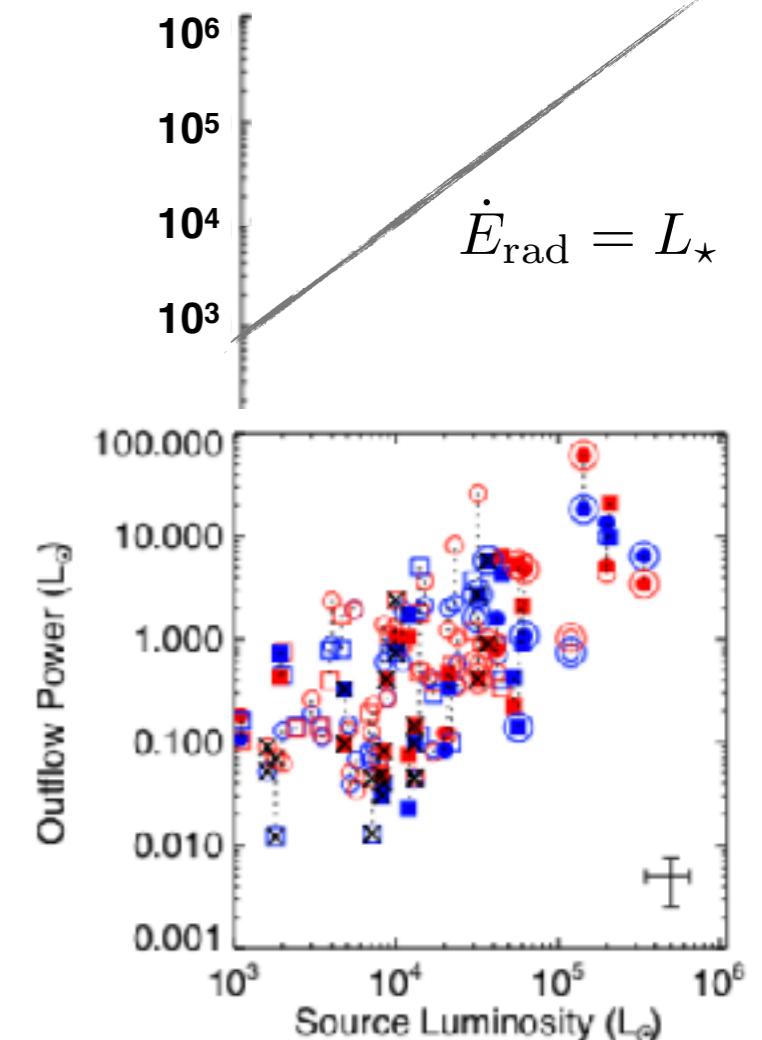
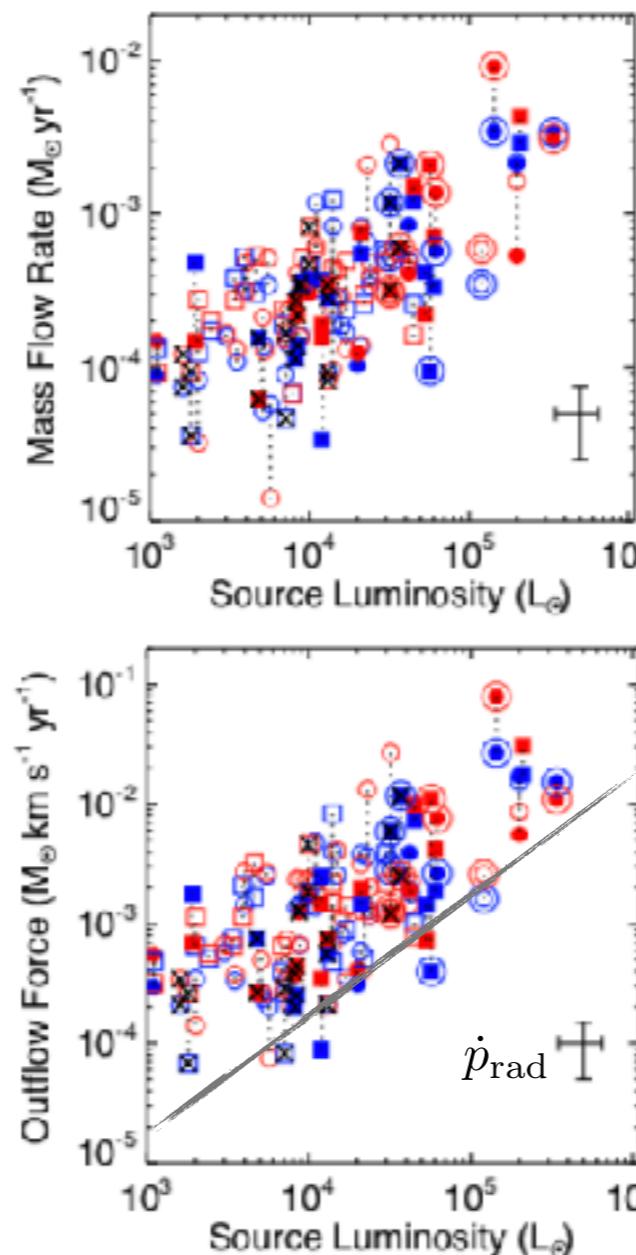
High accretion rates and infalling filaments provide sufficient ram pressure to overcome radiation pressure.

# Collimated bipolar outflows are **ubiquitous** in (low-mass and) high-mass star formation



$$v_{\text{jet}} \sim \sqrt{\frac{GM_{\star}}{R_{\text{star}}}} \sim 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

Lada 1985, ARAA

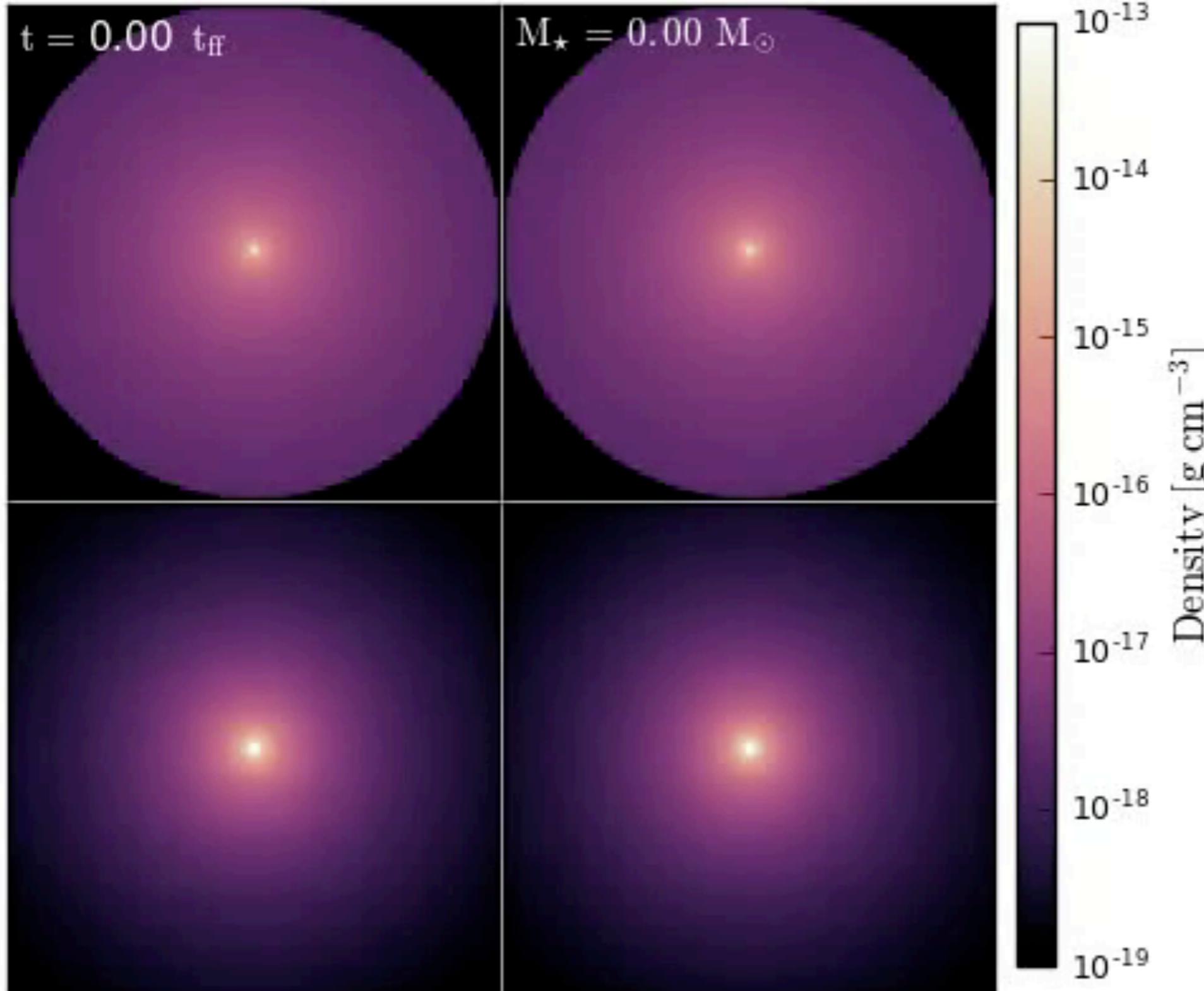


Maud+2015

$$\dot{p}_{\text{rad}} = \frac{L_{\star}}{c} = 2 \times 10^{-8} \left( \frac{L_{\text{star}}}{L_{\odot}} \right) M_{\odot} \text{ km s}^{-1} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

Powerful jets from accreting stars **can drive wide angle molecular outflows** from star-forming cores and eject core material

# Massive star formation with radiative and outflow feedback



## Initial Conditions:

$$M_{\text{core}} = 150 M_{\odot}$$

$$R_{\text{core}} = 0.1 \text{ pc}$$

$$\rho(r) \propto r^{-3/2}$$

$$\sigma_{1D} = 1.2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

$$a_{\text{vir}} \sim 1$$

$$\Delta x_{\text{min}} = 20 \text{ AU}$$

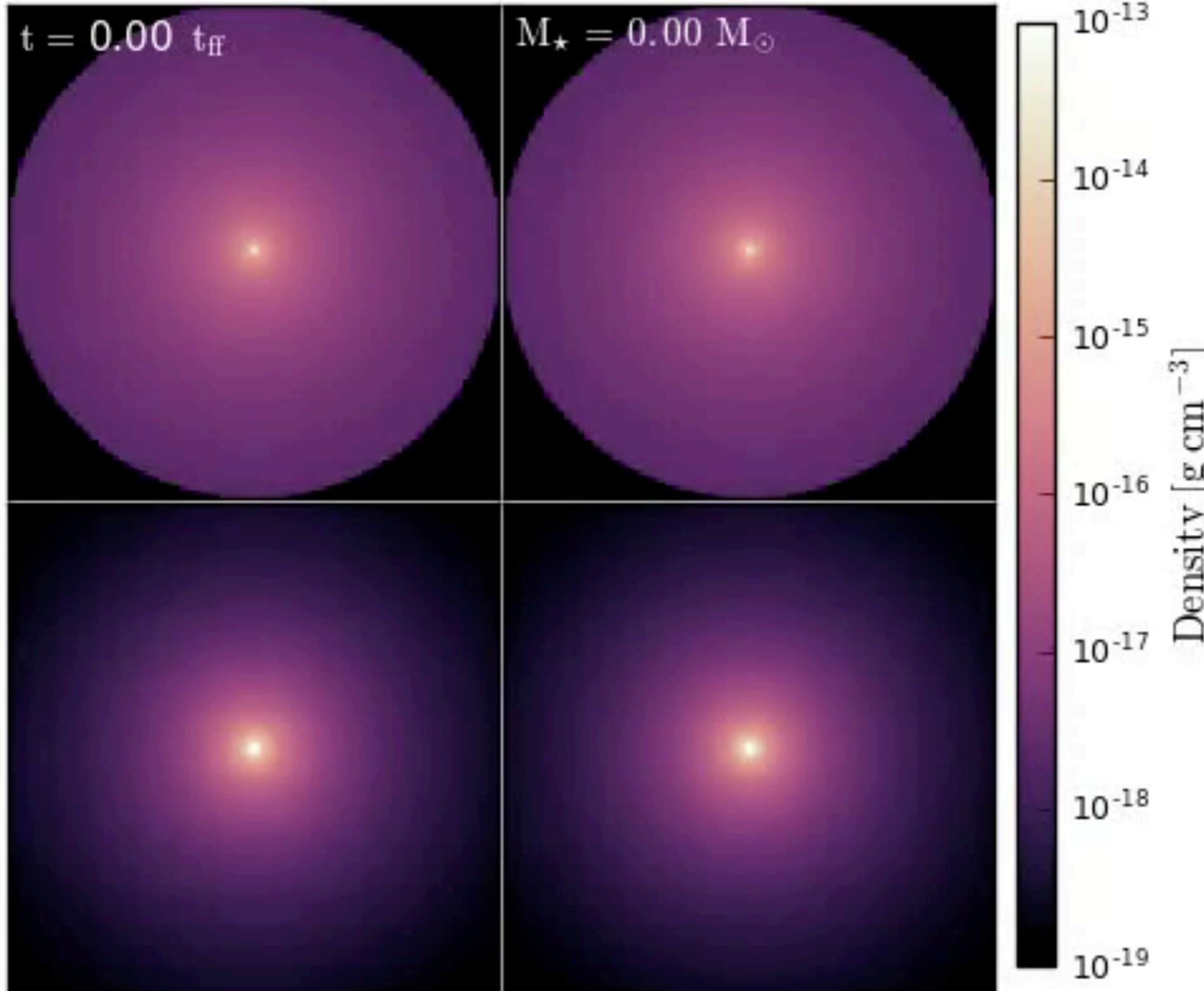
$$t_{\text{ff}} = 42,710 \text{ yrs}$$

$$p_{\text{OF}} = \dot{M}_{\text{OF}} v_{\text{OF}}$$

$$\dot{M}_{\text{OF}} = 0.21 \times \dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$$

$$v_{\text{OF}} = 0.3 \times v_{\text{esc}}$$

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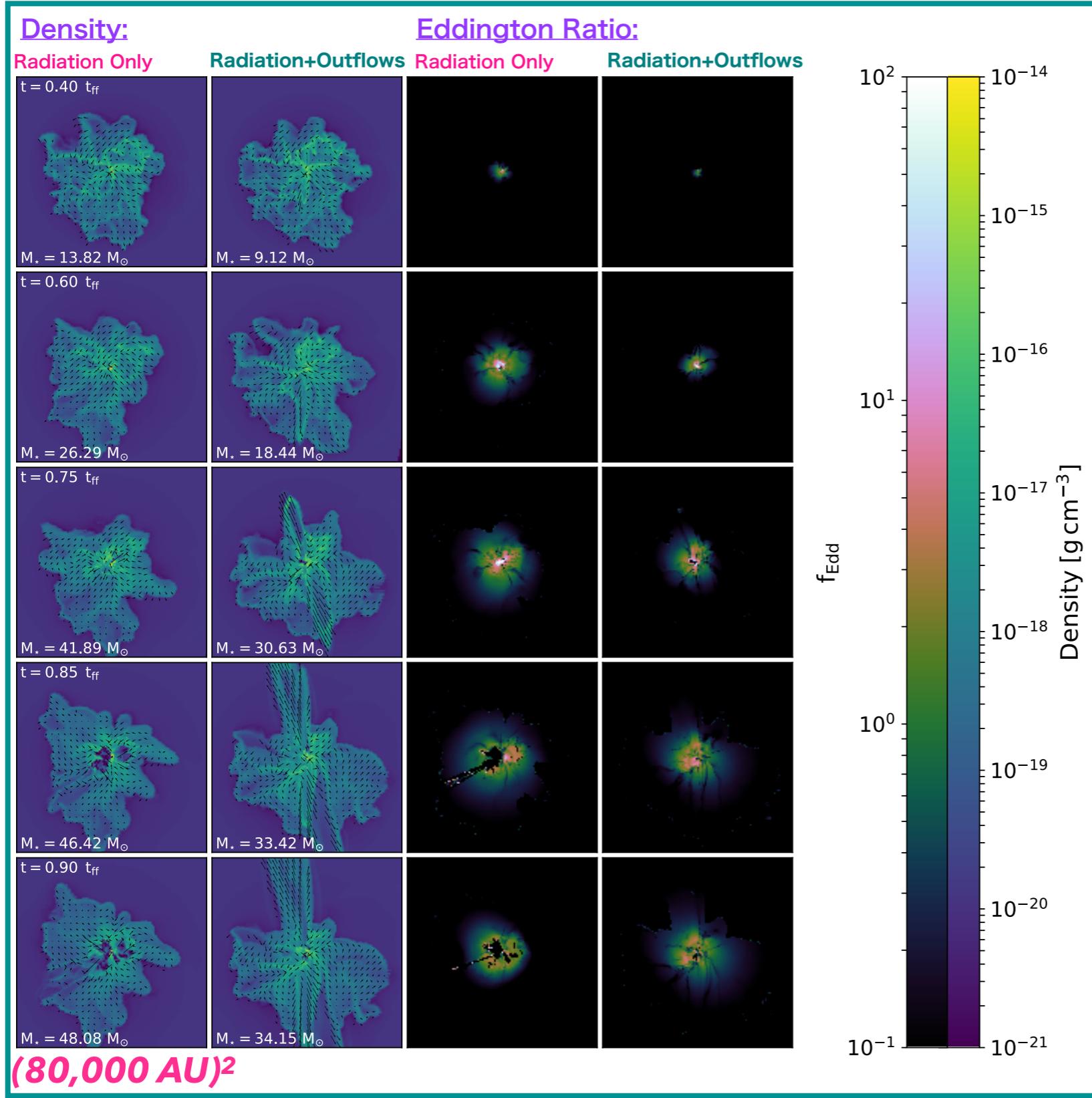
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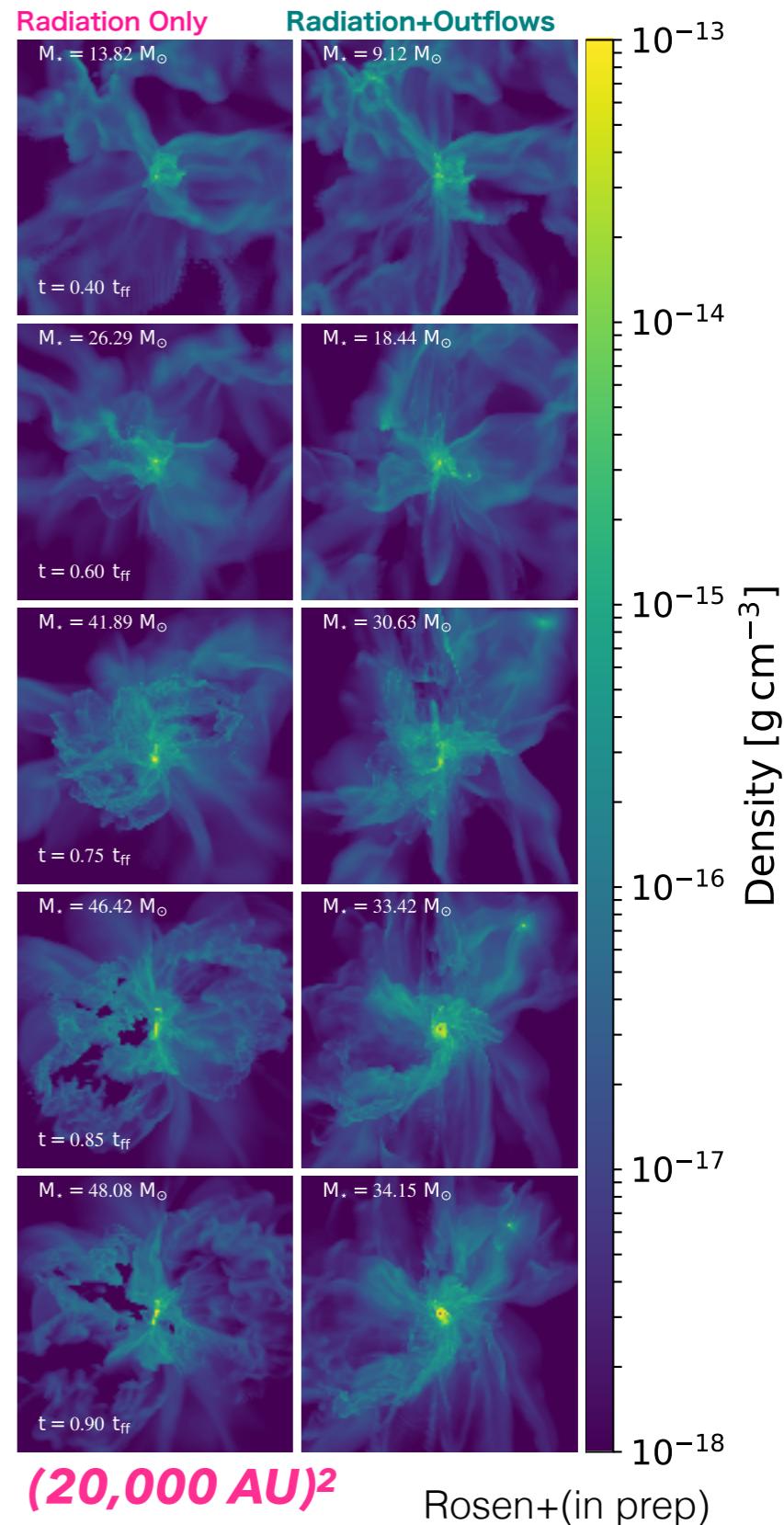
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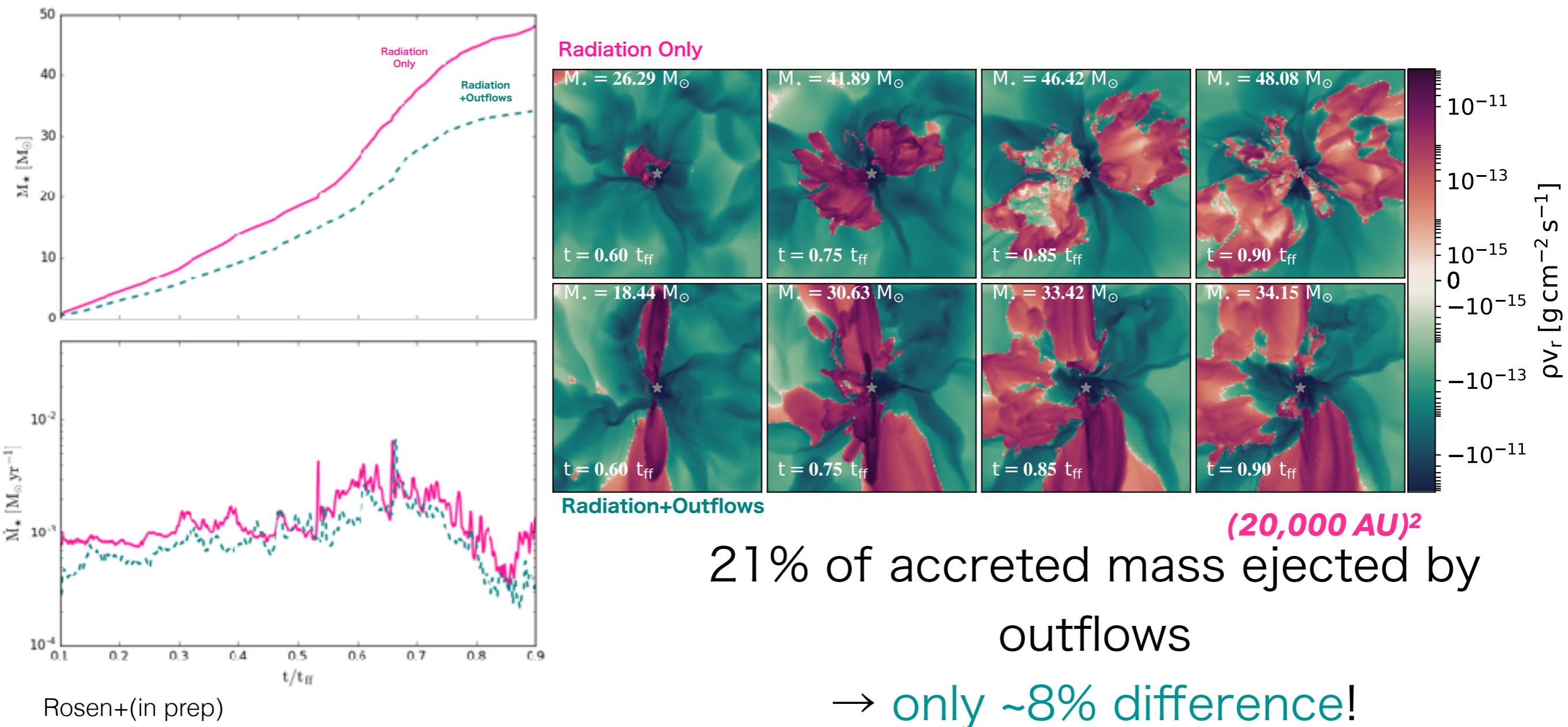
Outflows punch holes in ISM along the star's polar directions allowing radiation to escape, thereby reducing the development of RT instabilities.



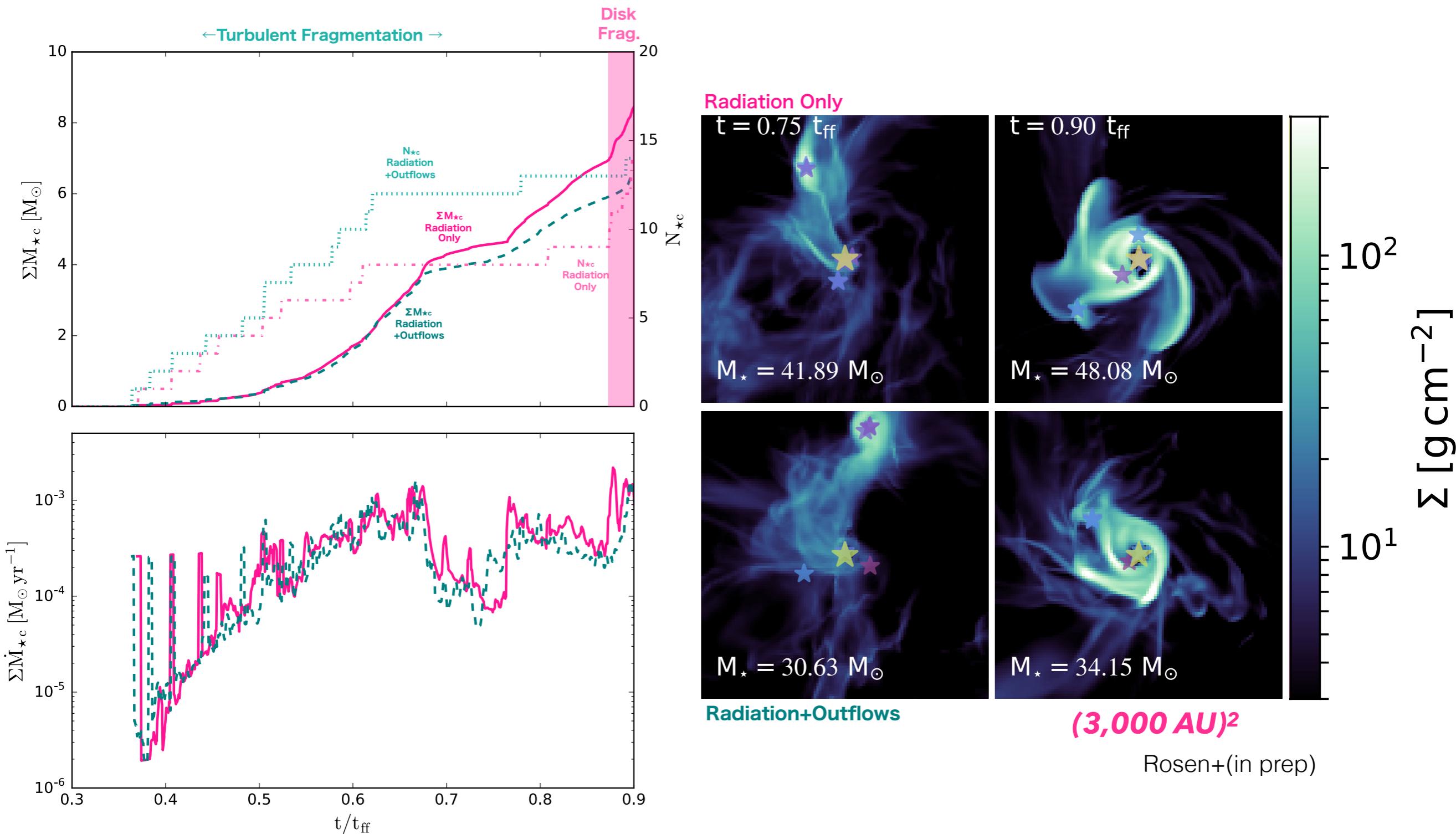
### Thin Density Projections:



Outflows+radiation pressure **efficient** at ejecting material away from the star than radiation pressure alone.

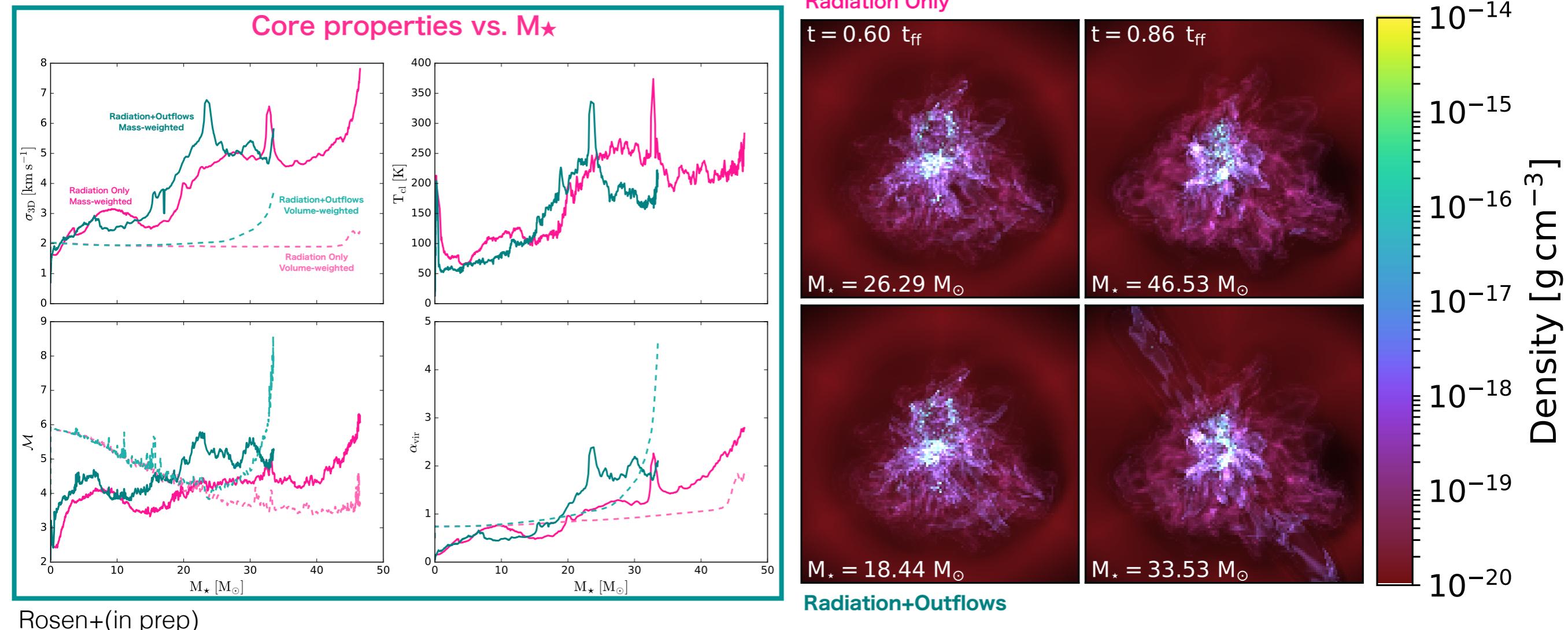


# Disks are crucial to massive star formation, especially at late times.



Companions formed via turbulent fragmentation at early times, disk fragmentation at late times

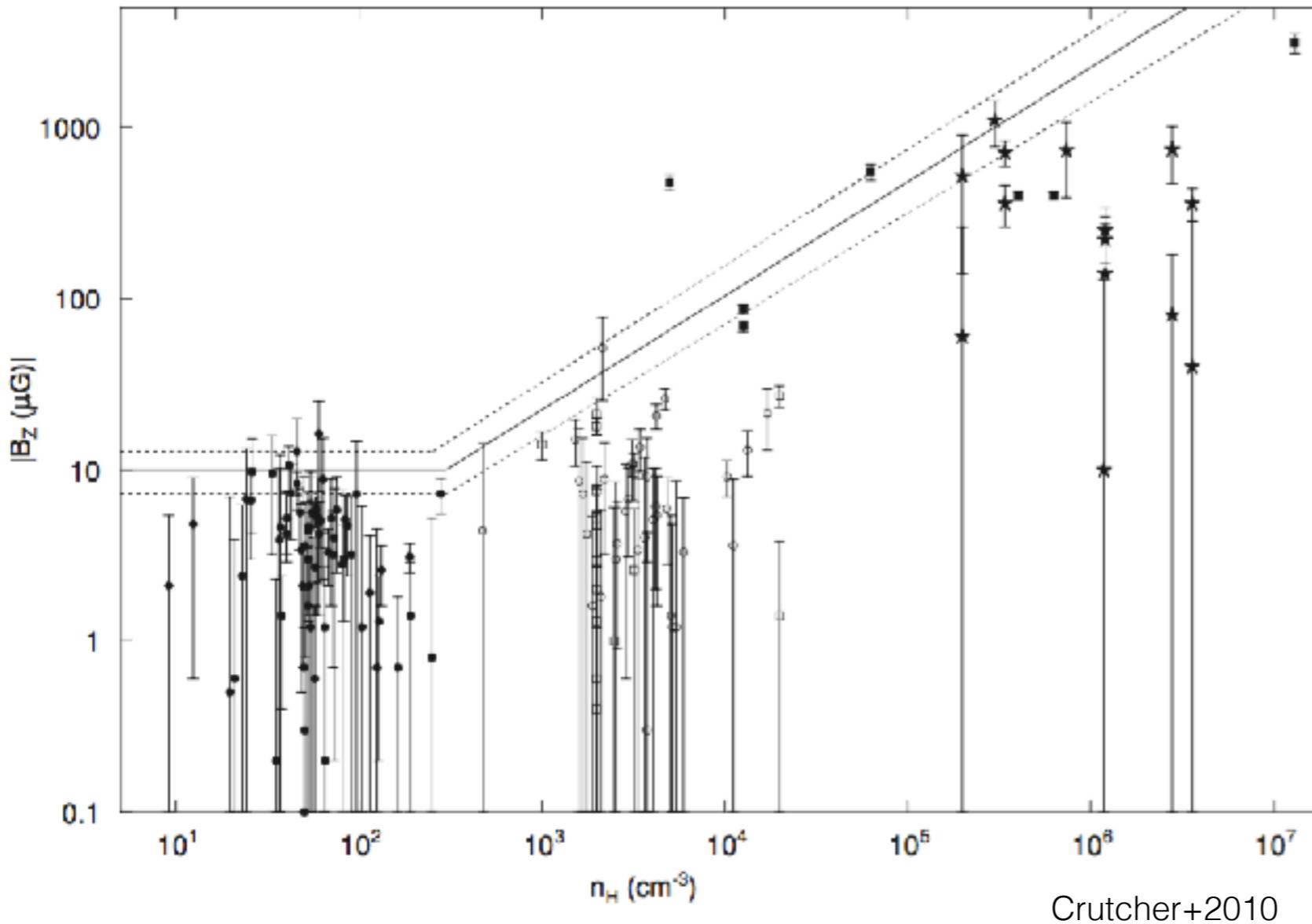
# Outflows drive out entrained gas, eventually unbinding the core



Rosen+(in prep)

Feedback from outflows allows radiation to escape, thereby reducing radiative heating.

# ...BUT WAIT! What about magnetic fields?



$$\mu_{\Phi} = \frac{M}{M_{\Phi}} \simeq \frac{2\pi\sqrt{GM}}{\pi B^2}$$

*Supercritical*

$$\mu_{\Phi} > 1$$

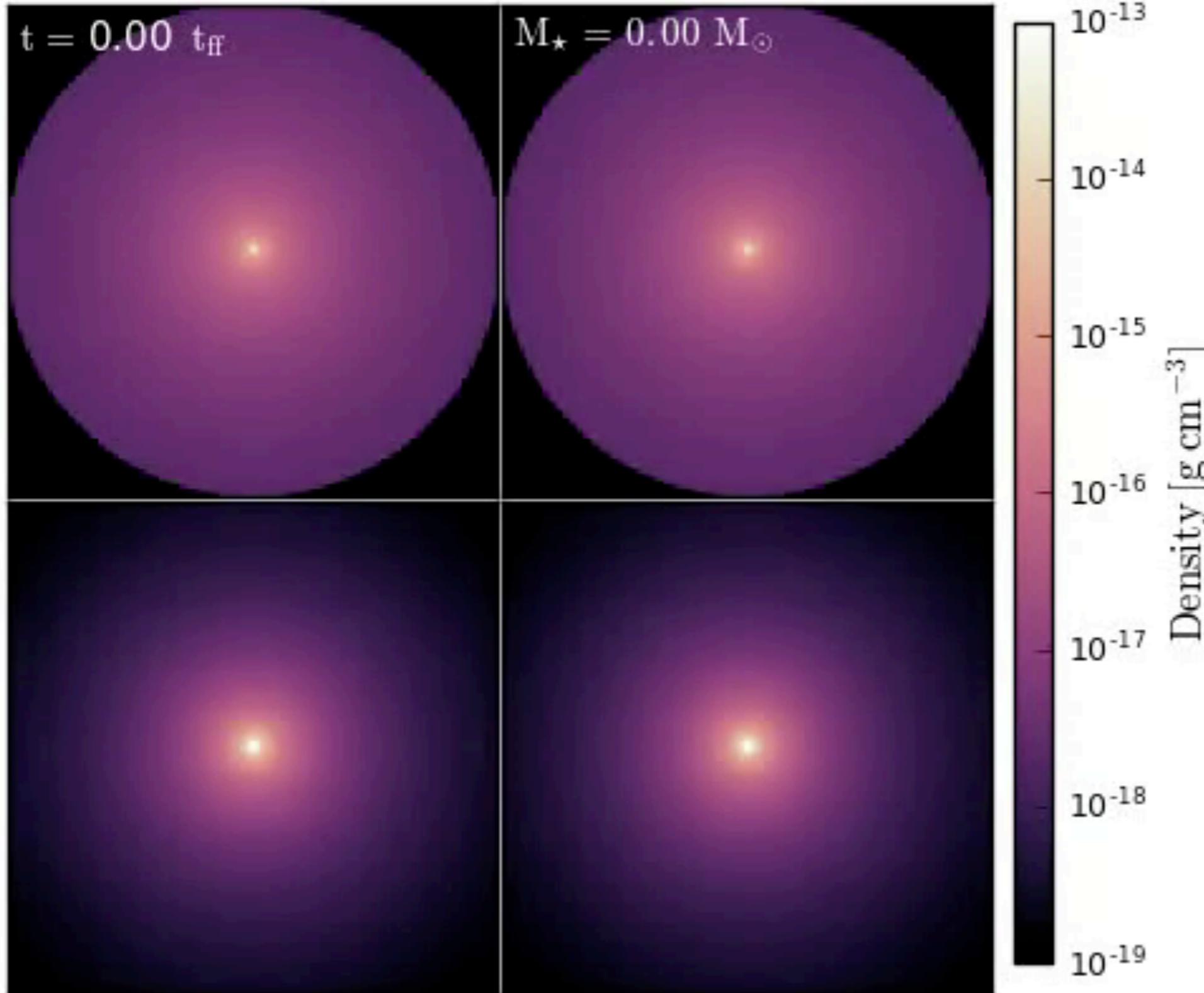
*Subcritical*

$$\mu_{\Phi} < 1$$

Observations suggest that dense molecular gas has  $\mu_{\Phi} \sim 2$  (supercritical).

Magnetic pressure will **slow down collapse** and **reduce fragmentation**.

# Massive star formation with B-fields and radiative and outflow feedback



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$$\mu_{\phi} = 2$$

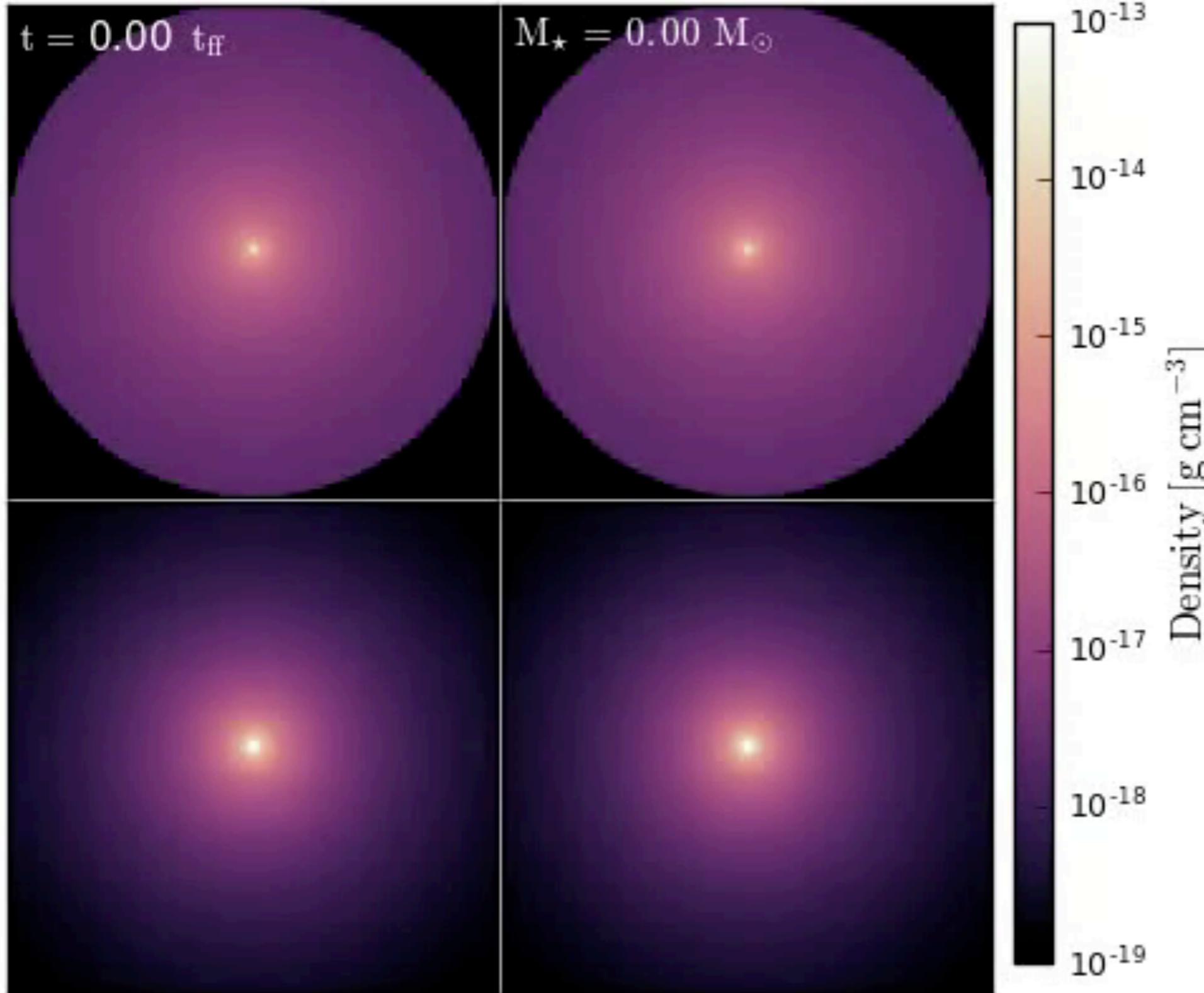
$$B_{z, \text{init}} = 0.8 \text{ mG}$$

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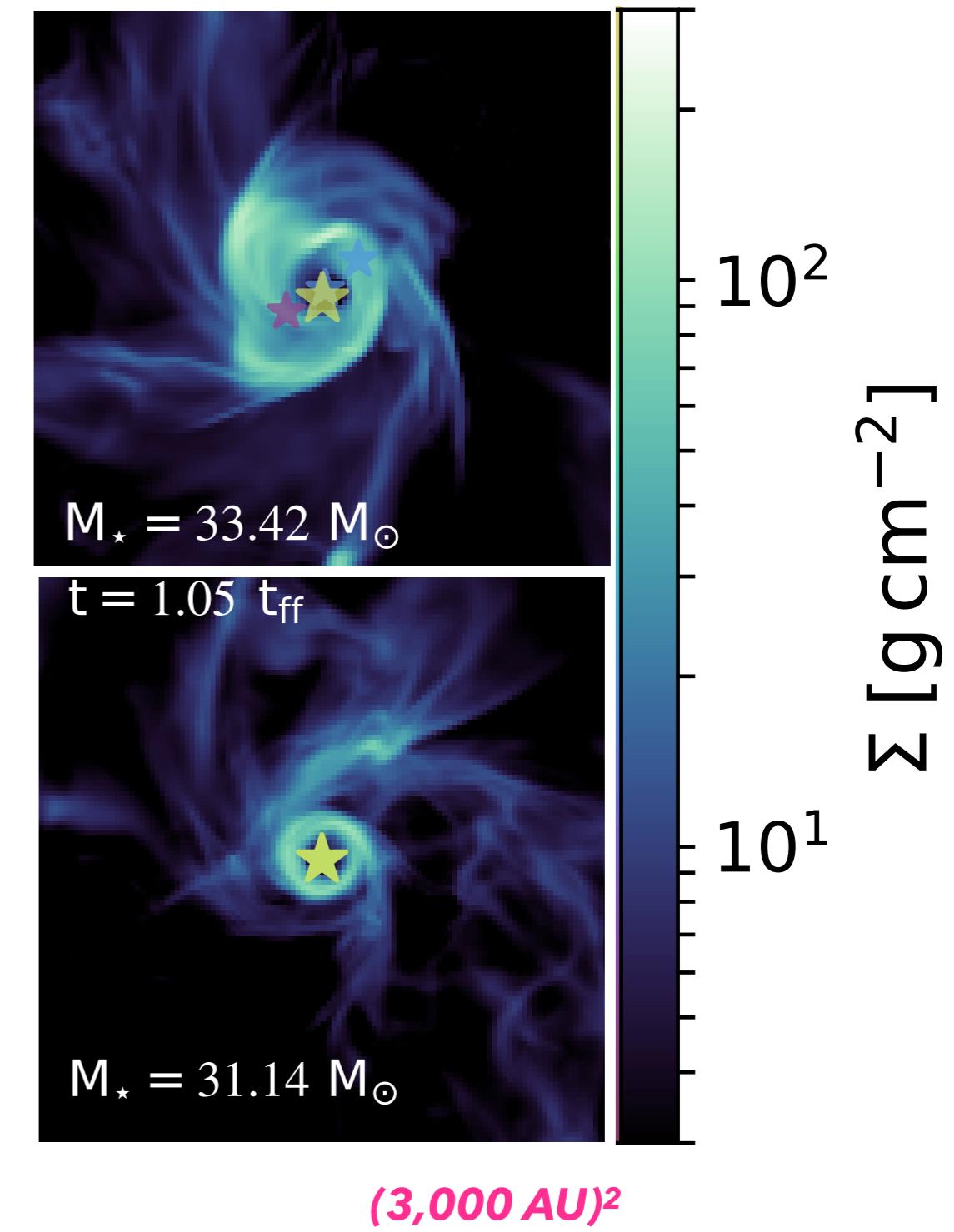
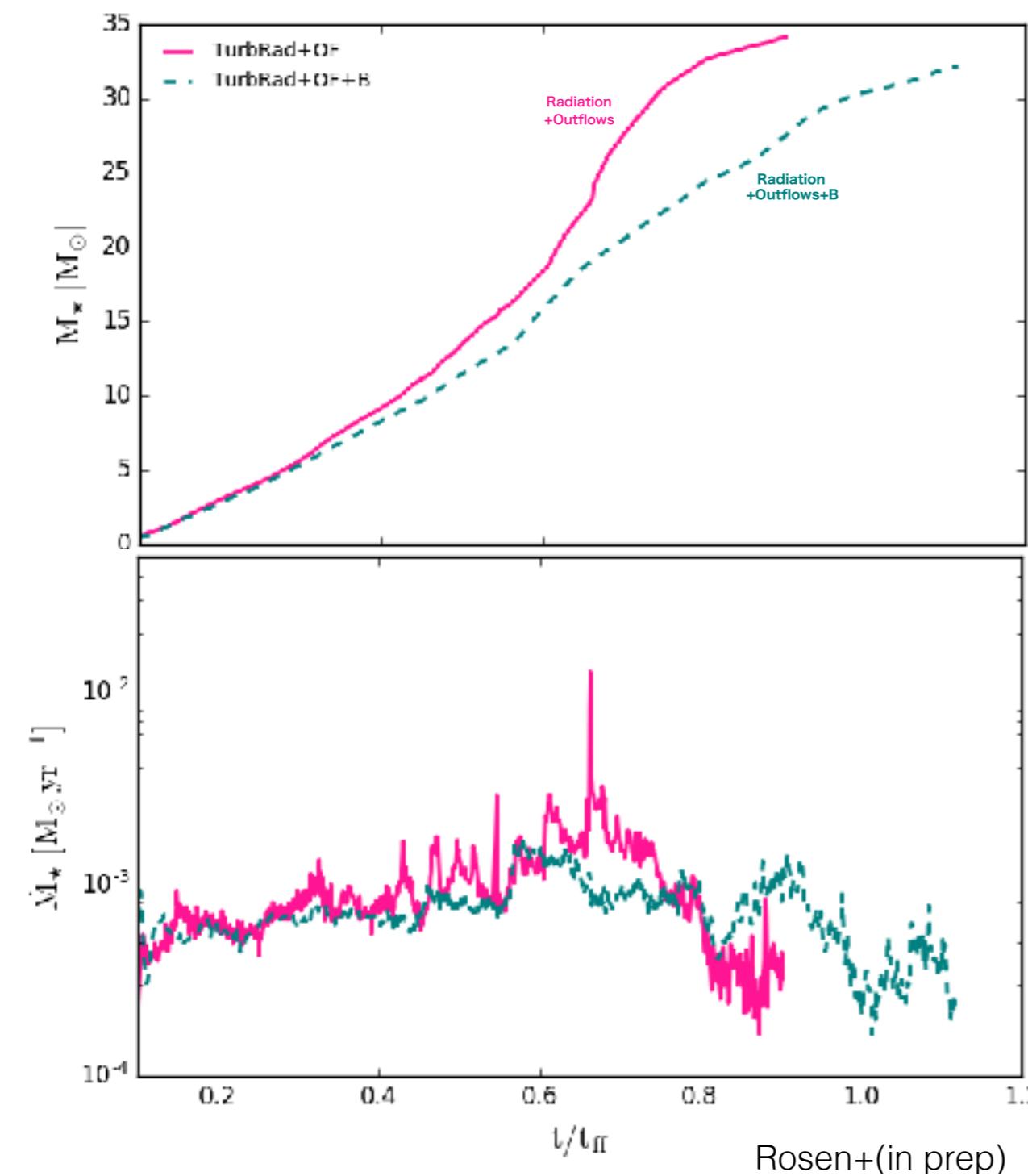
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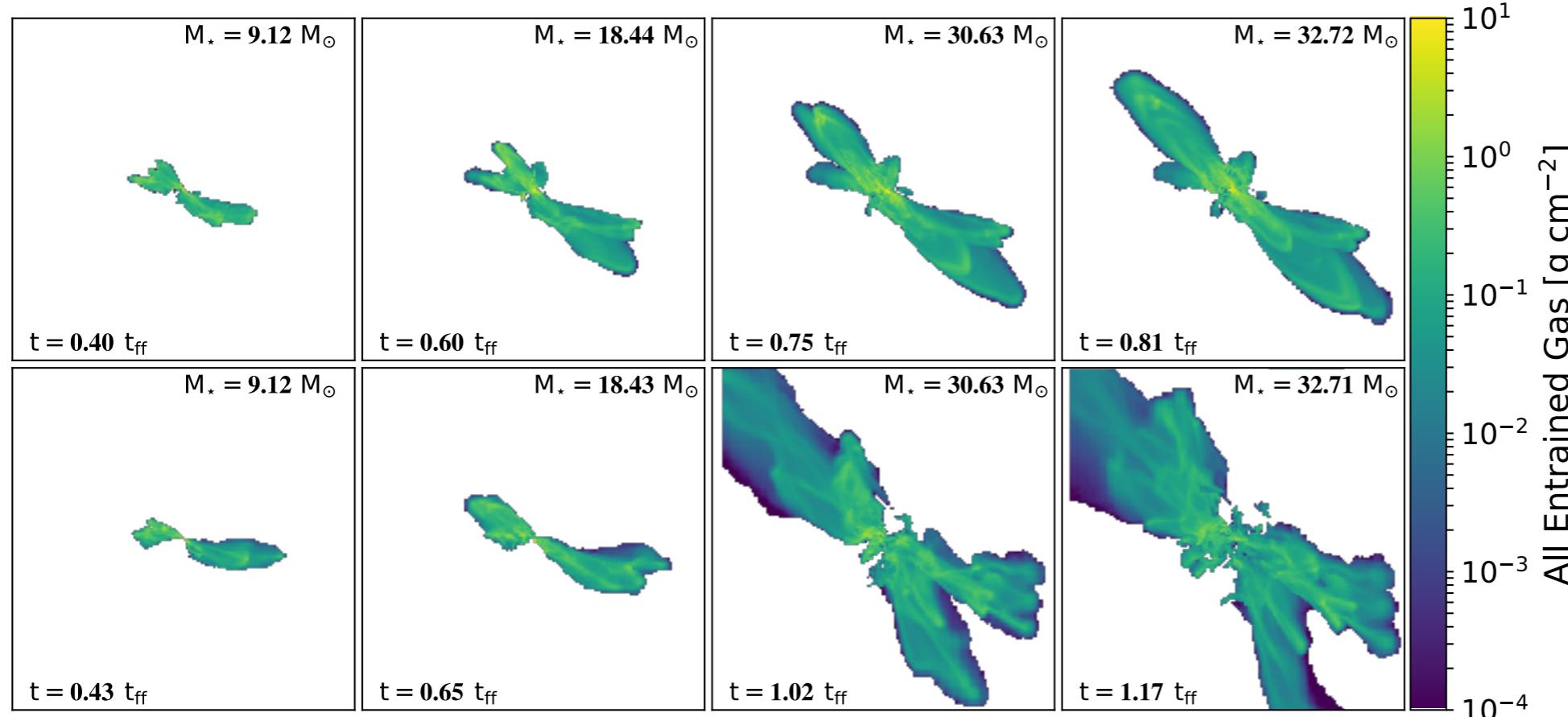
Magnetic braking removes angular momentum resulting in a smaller disk. Fragmentation is highly suppressed.



Inclusion of magnetic fields reduces final stellar mass by  $\sim 20\%$  @  $t=0.9 t_{ff}$

Entrained molecular outflows are collimated, but have **wider opening angles** when magnetic fields are included

Radiation+Outflows

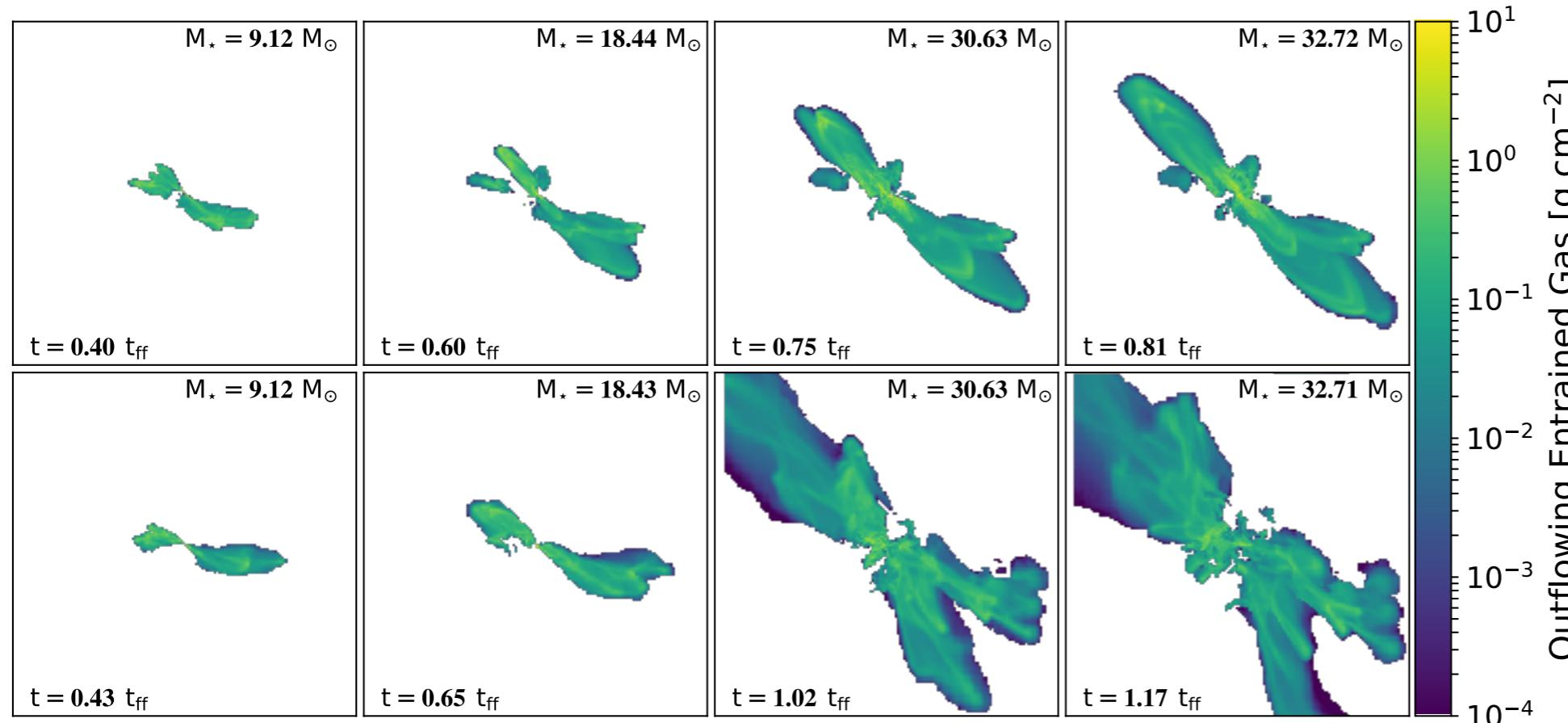


Rosen+(in prep)

Radiation+Outflows+B

Entrained molecular outflows are collimated, but have **wider opening angles** when magnetic fields are included

Radiation+Outflows



$$\rho_w / \rho \gtrsim 5\%$$

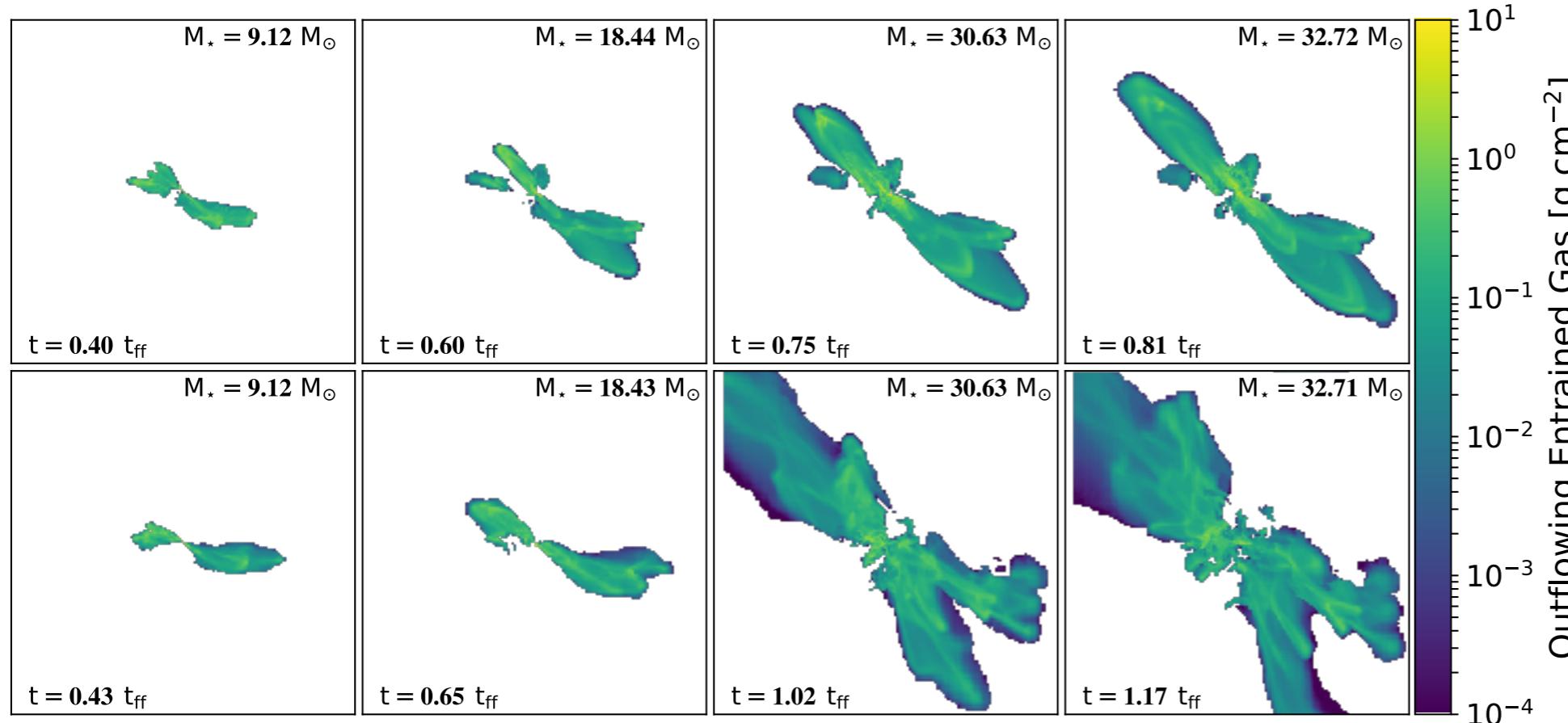
$$v_{r,\star} > 0 \text{ km s}^{-1}$$

Rosen+(in prep)

Radiation+Outflows+B

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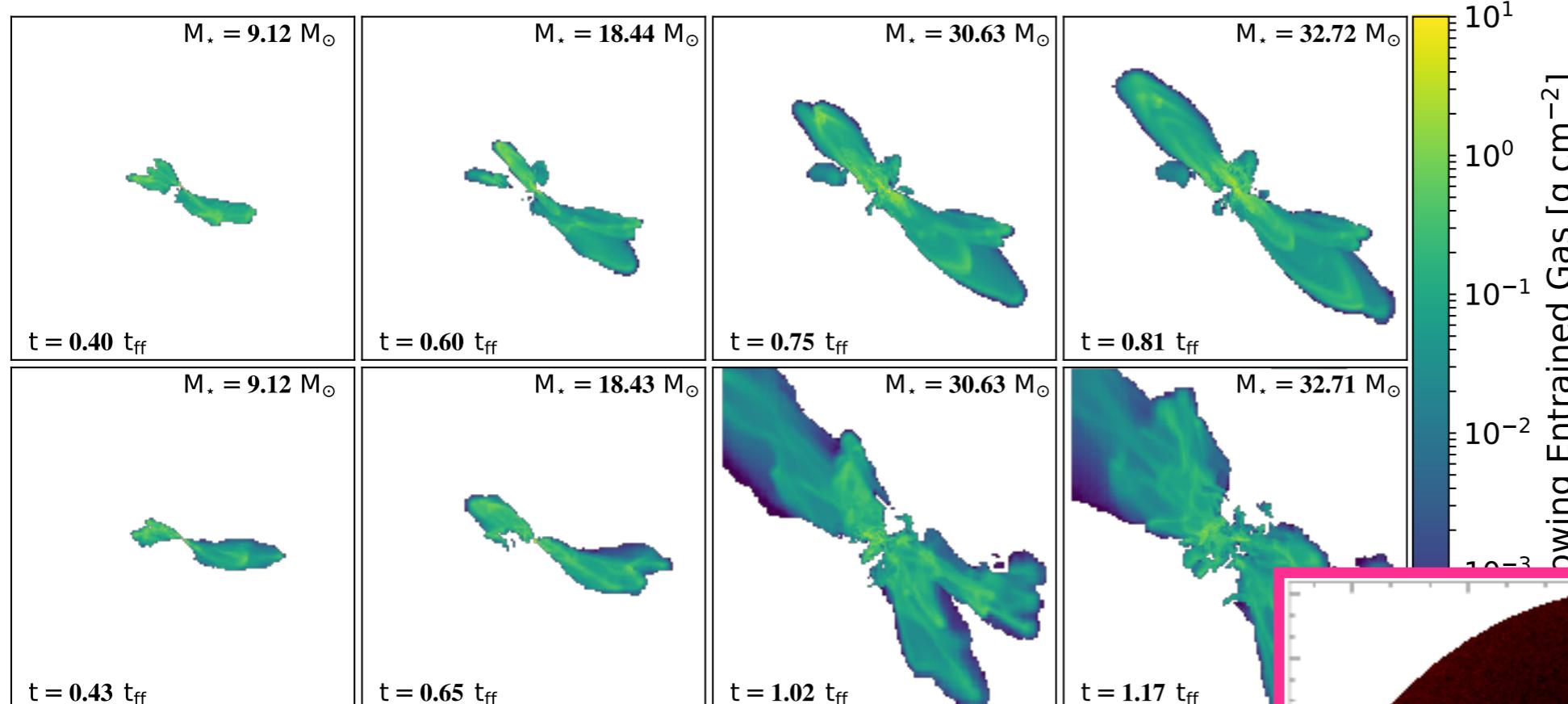
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Rosen+(in prep)

...but how does this  
compare to observations?

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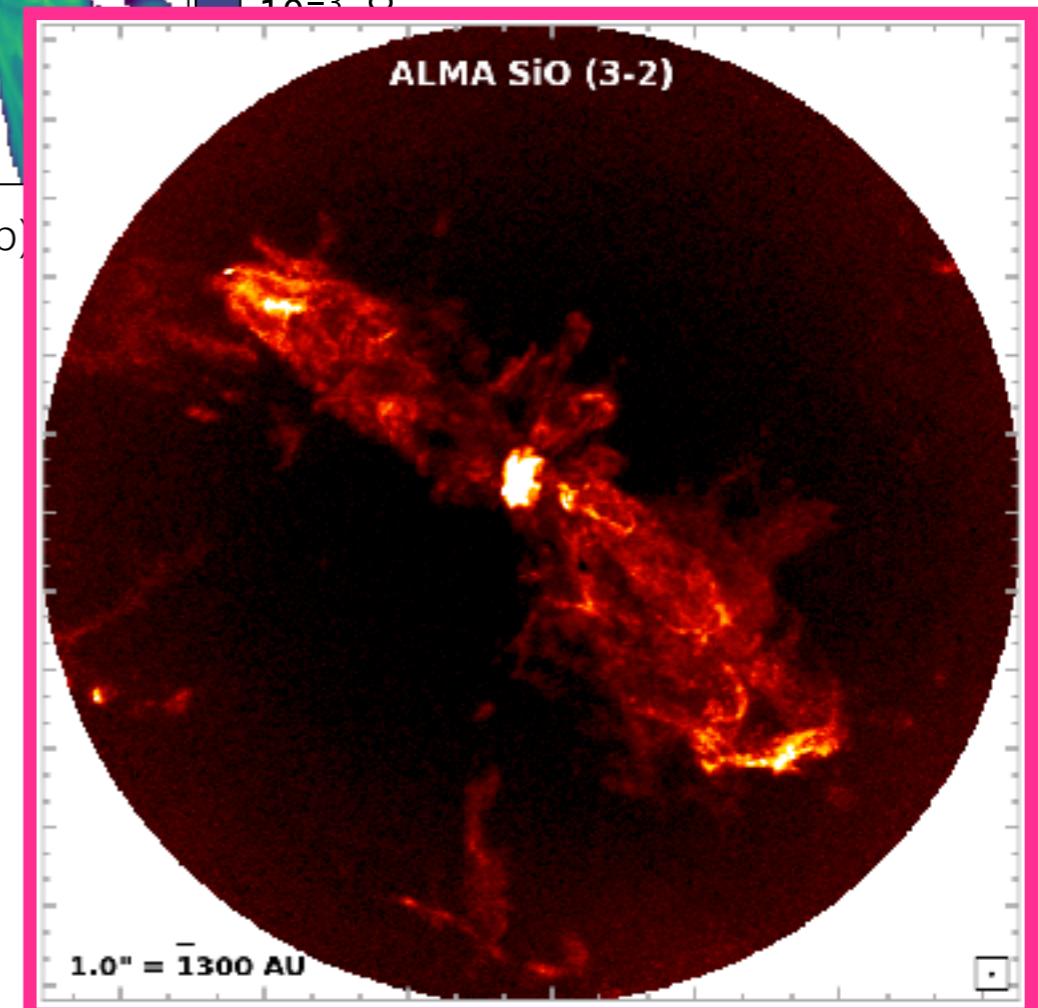
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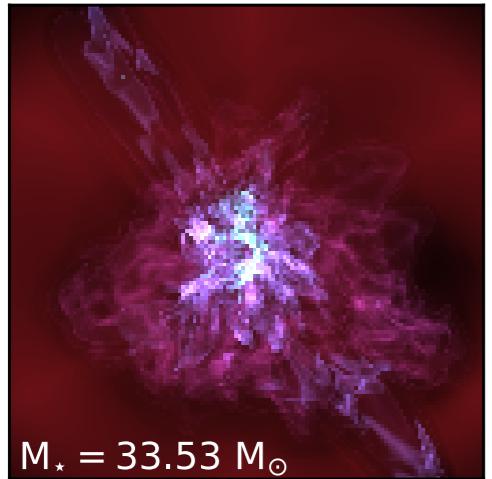
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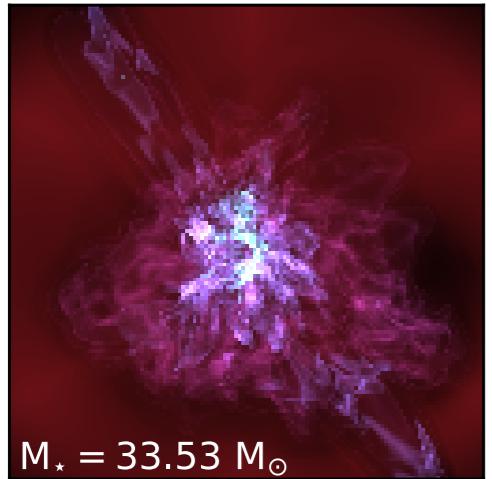
Courtesy of Crystal Brogan

# Summary



Performed 3D R(M)HD simulations of the formation of massive stellar systems from the collapse of turbulent massive pre-stellar cores with radiative and outflow feedback.

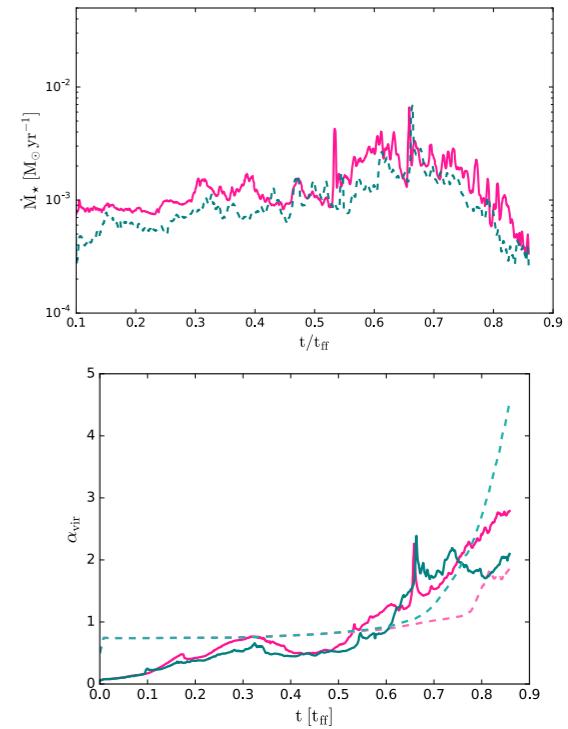
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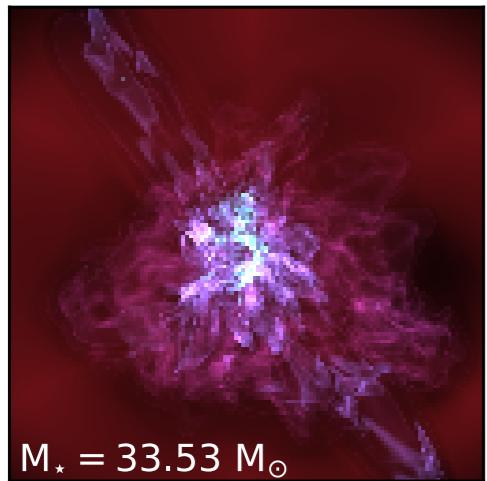
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## **Inclusion of feedback by outflows in addition to radiation pressure:**

- \* Reduces effective mass growth by  $\sim 10\%$  than radiation alone.
- \* Ejects jet and entrained material from core, results in unbinding core.



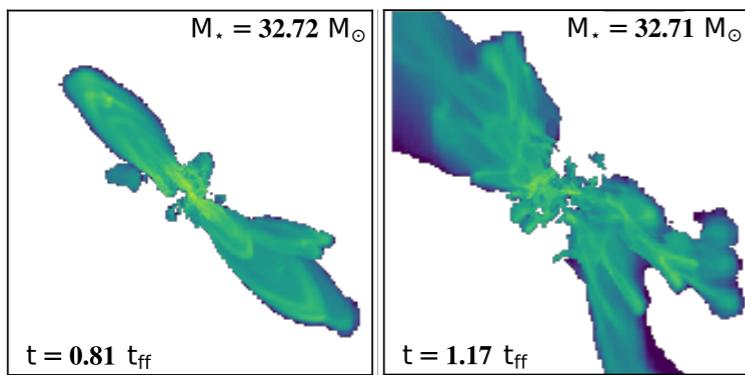
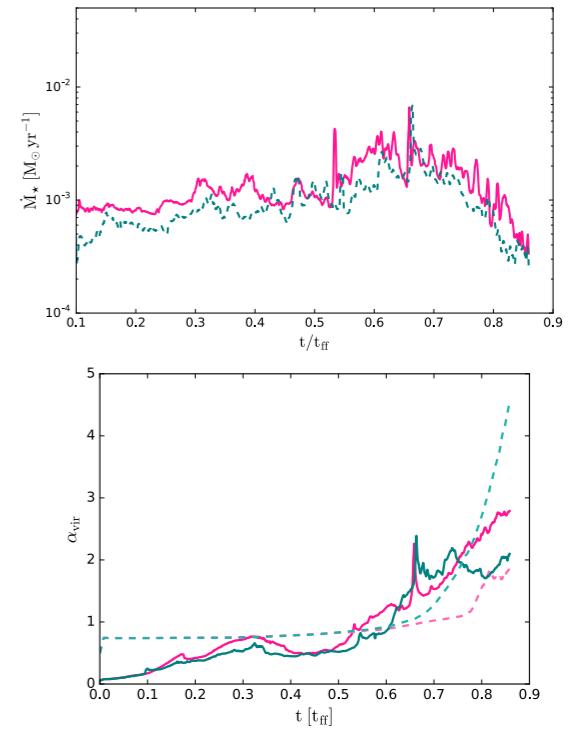
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## Inclusion of magnetic fields in MSF:

- \* Slows down the growth of massive stars
- \* Inhibits formation of companions via turbulent fragmentation.
- \* Leads to wider collimated molecular outflows.