

Unification of accreting BHs II

Spectral States of Active Galactic Nuclei

Jiří Svoboda

Astronomical Institute, Czech Academy of Sciences
FERO 9, Héraklion, Criti, 23rd May 2018

Before we start...

- thanks to:
 - **Matteo Guainazzi, Andrea Merloni**, Ignacio de la Calle, Giovanni Miniutti, Sara Elisa Motta, Margherita Giustini, Gabriele Ponti, Barbara de Marco, Marion Cadolle Bel, Erin Kara, Victoria Grinberg, and all FERO participants
 - organisers of FERO 9

Two years ago... At some place in middle Europe...



Two years ago... At some place in middle Europe...



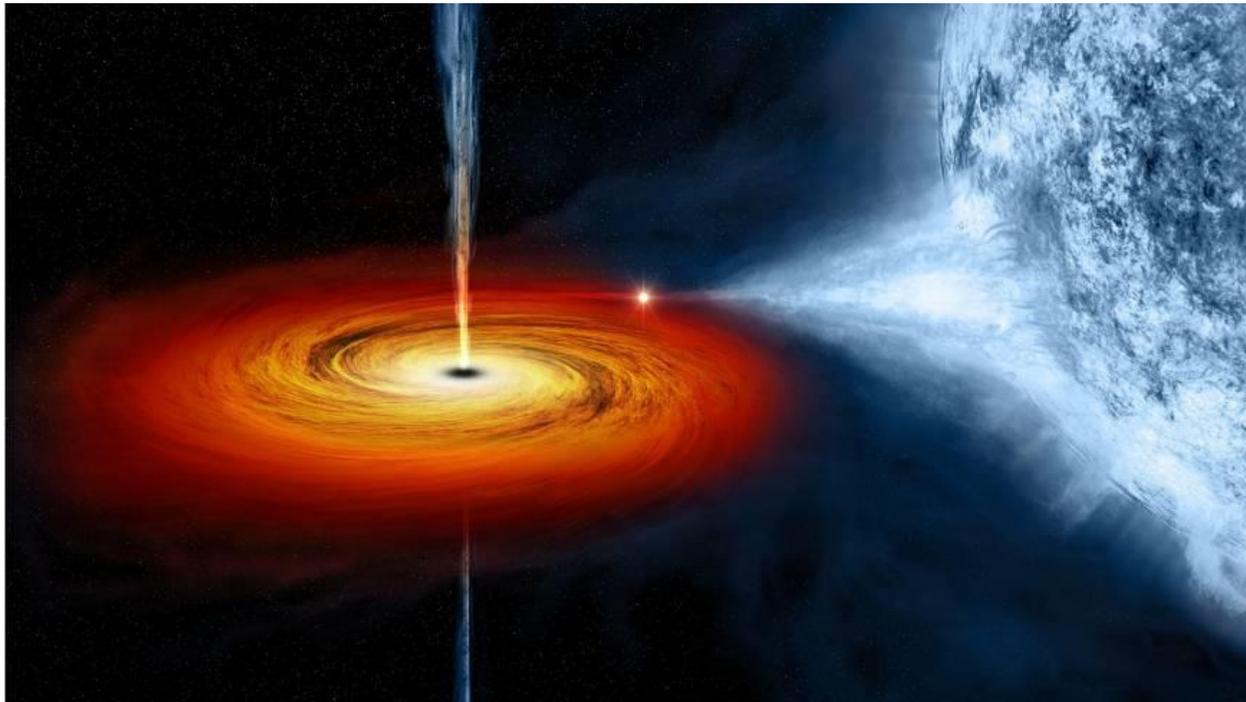
Before we start...

- thanks to:
 - **Matteo Guainazzi, Andrea Merloni**, Ignacio de la Calle, Giovanni Miniutti, Sara Elisa Motta, Margherita Giustini, Gabriele Ponti, Barbara de Marco, Marion Cadolle Bel, Erin Kara, Victoria Grinberg, and all FERO participants
 - organisers of FERO 9
- this talk will not be a comprehensive review but rather incomplete and personal overview of open issues
- variability – talks by Gabriele and Barbara

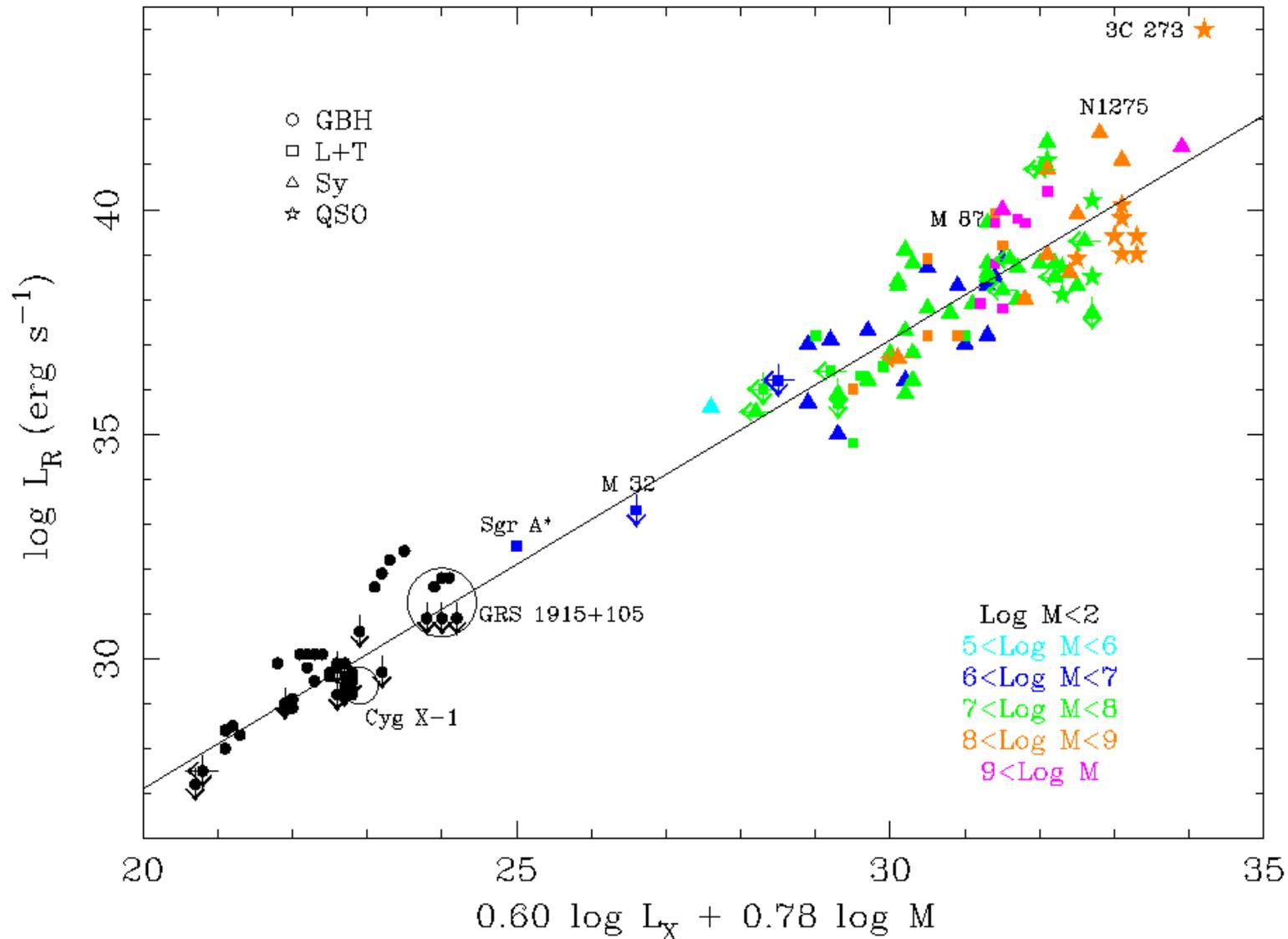
What's common for AGN and XRB?

- Accretion on Black Holes

- matter with non-zero angular momentum accretes in the form of the **accretion disk**



Fundamental plane of BH activity



- radio luminosity correlates with *both* BH mass and X-ray luminosity
- the relation shows the connection between accretion flows (x-rays) and jet activity (radio)

Merloni et al. (2003),
Falcke et al. (2004)

What's different for AGN and XRB?

| | XRB (stellar-mass BH) | AGN (super-massive BH) |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>mass</i> | $3-10^2 M_{\odot}$ | $10^5-10^{10} M_{\odot}$ |
| <i>size</i> | $\geq 10 \text{ km}$ | 0.01 – 100 AU |
| <i>time scale</i> * | ms | hours - days |

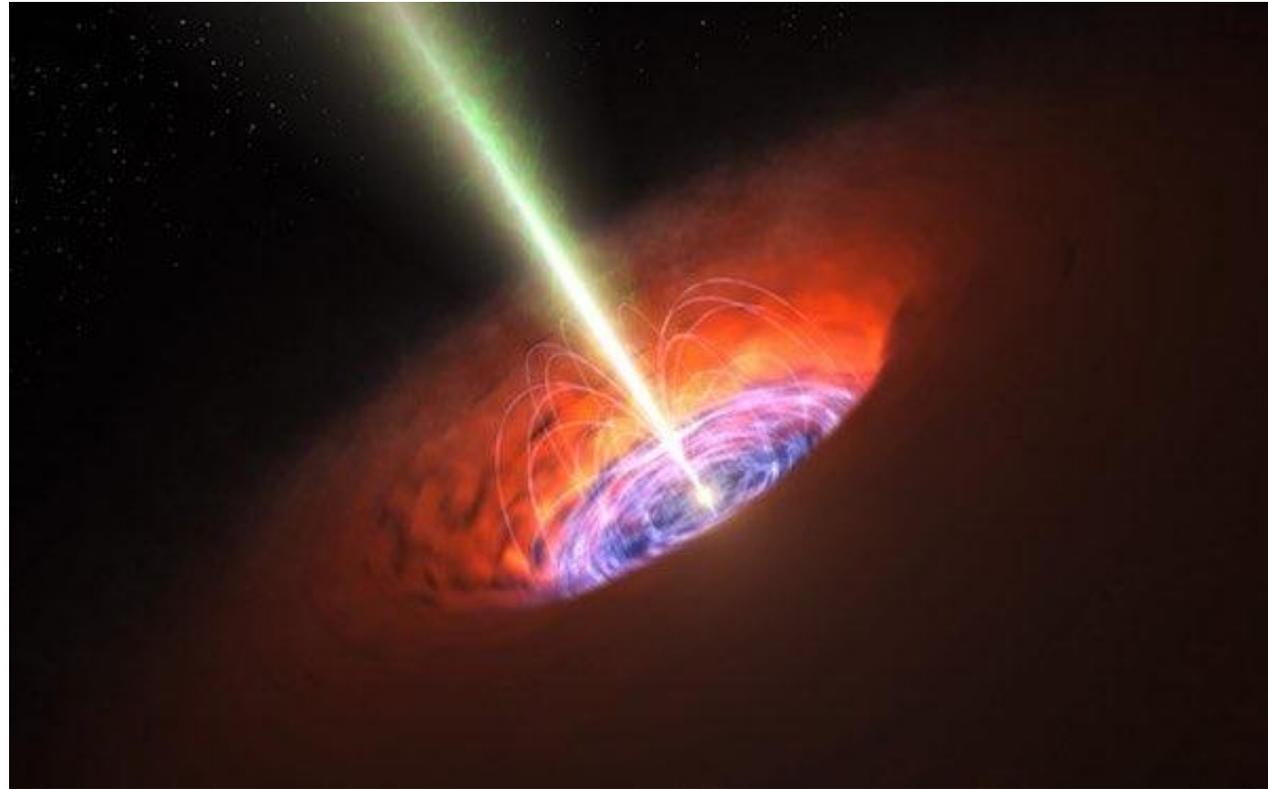
* time scale corresponding to the Keplerian orbital period at $10 \text{ GM}/c^2$

What's different for AGN and XRB?

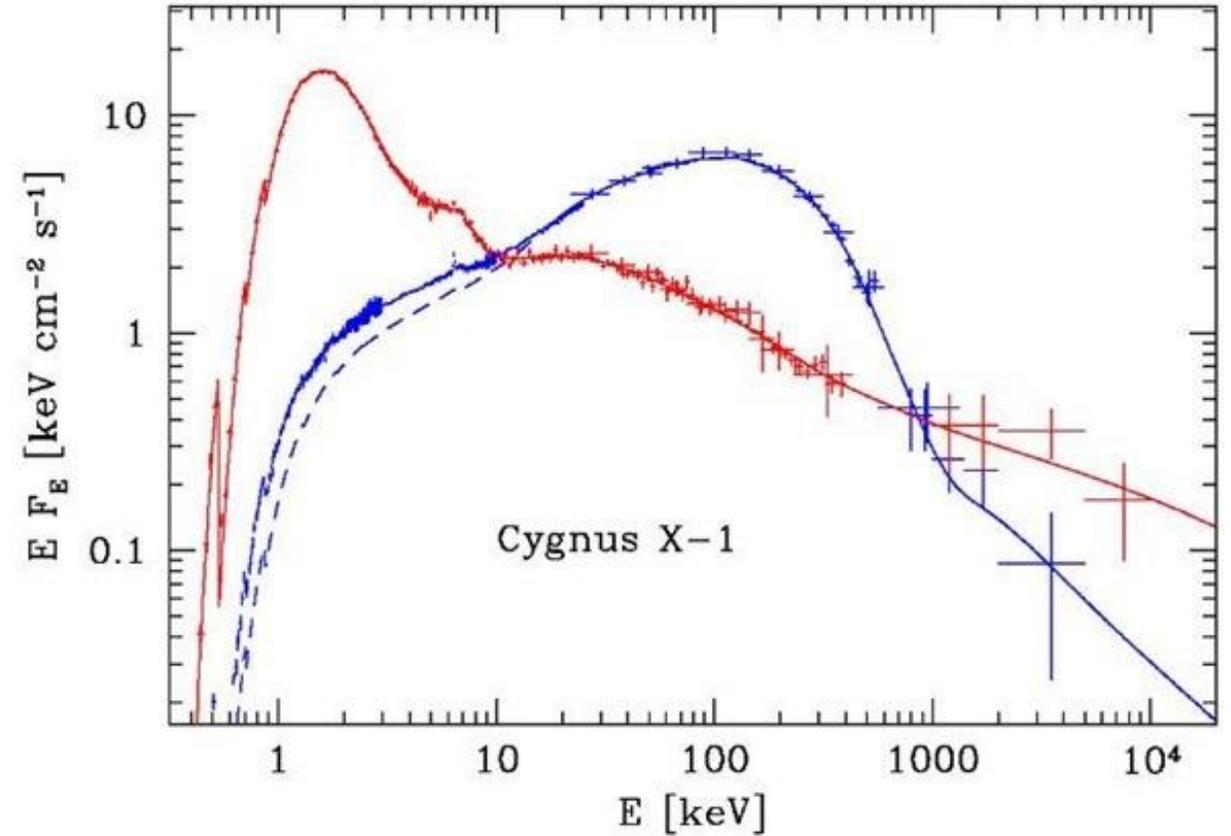
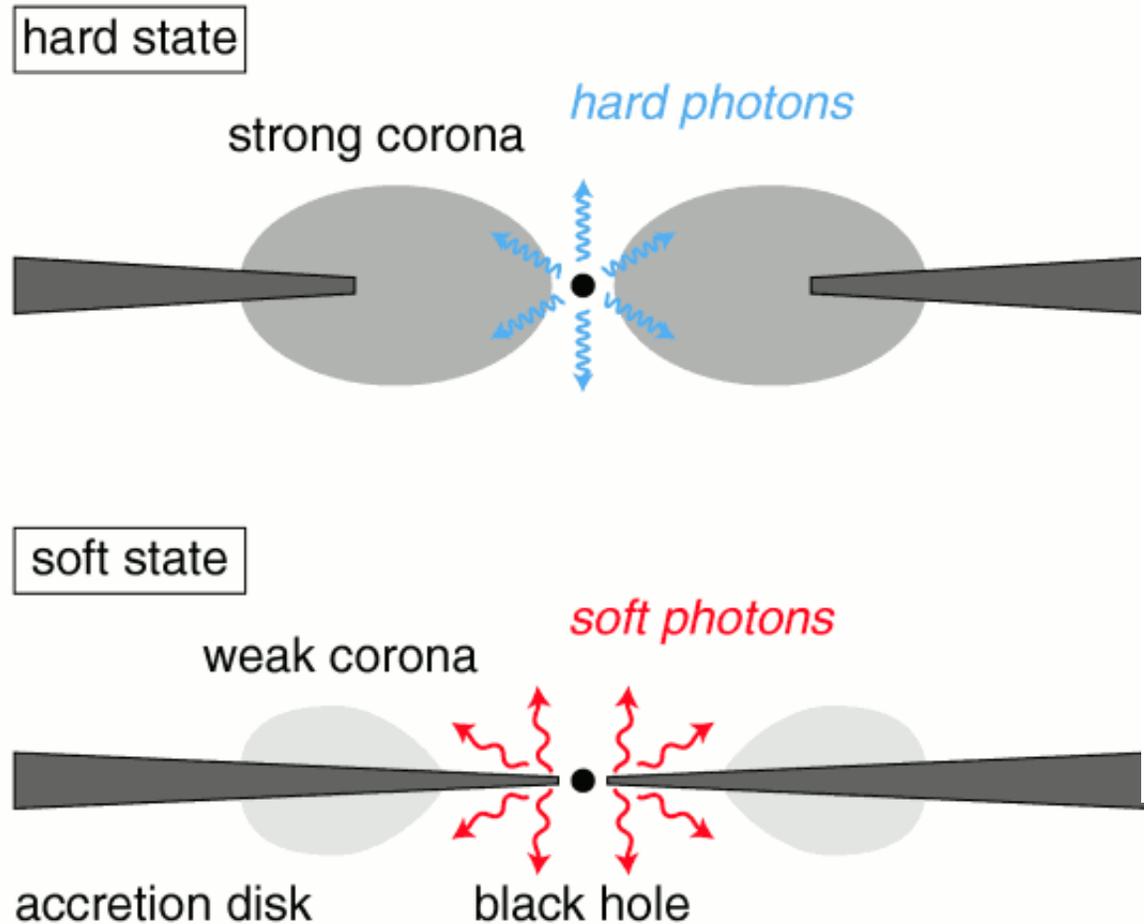
- **Different physical properties of the accretion discs**
 - disc densities and ionisations may be largely different
- **Structure of the X-ray corona**
 - additional Comptonisation component in AGN responsible for the soft X-ray excess (*Gierlinski & Done, 2004; Done et al., 2012*)
- **Triggering of the activity**
 - an XRB is relatively an isolated system
 - AGN activity may be triggered by galaxy mergers (*e.g. Koss et al. 2010, Ellison et al. 2011*), but see also *Villforth et al. (2014)*
 - feeding and feedback cycle – co-evolution of active SMBH and star formation (see, *e.g., Fiore et al., 2017*)

X-ray Binaries: different accretion states

- accretion rate determines the nature of the accretion flow

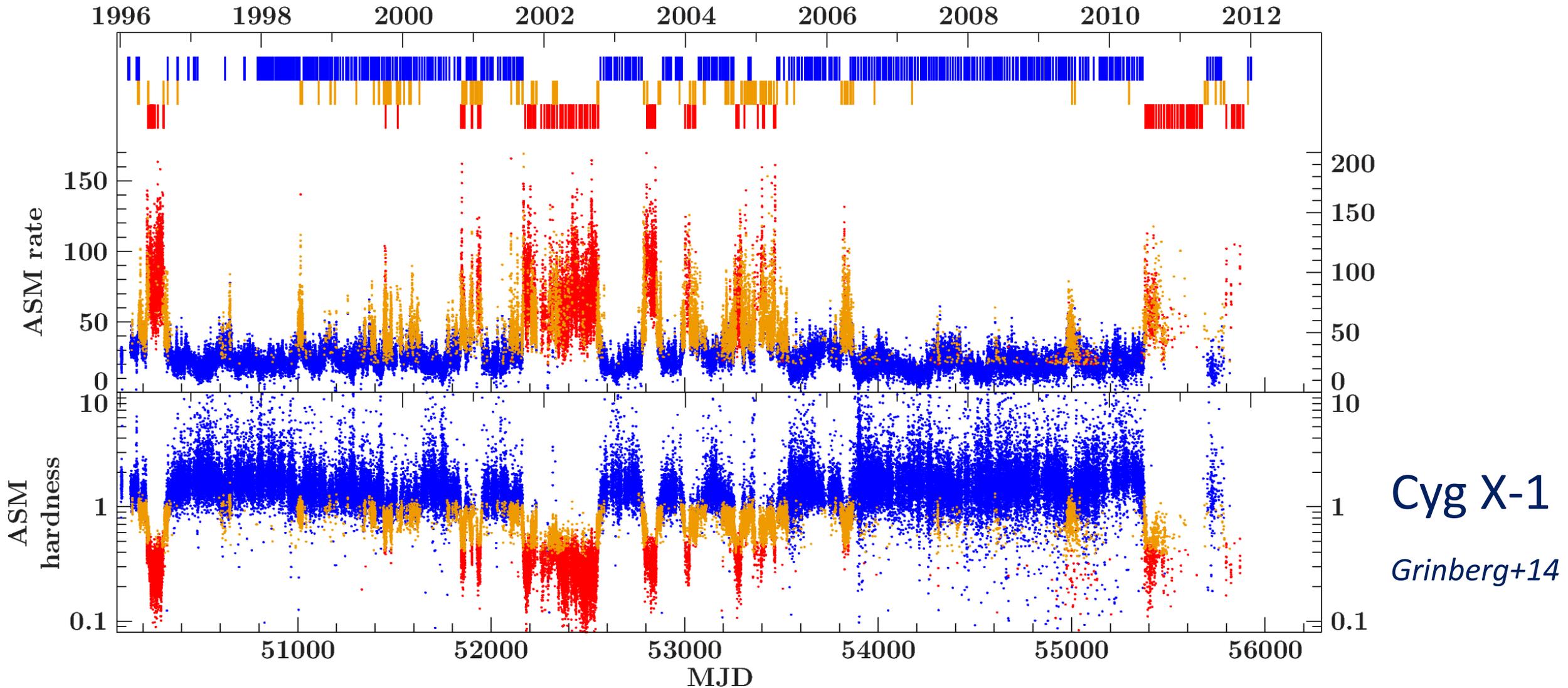


X-ray Binaries: spectral states



for more details see, e.g., Remillard & McClintock 06,
Done+04, Meyer-Hofmeister+05, Zdziarski+04, Zycki+01,...

Variability – changes of XRB spectral states



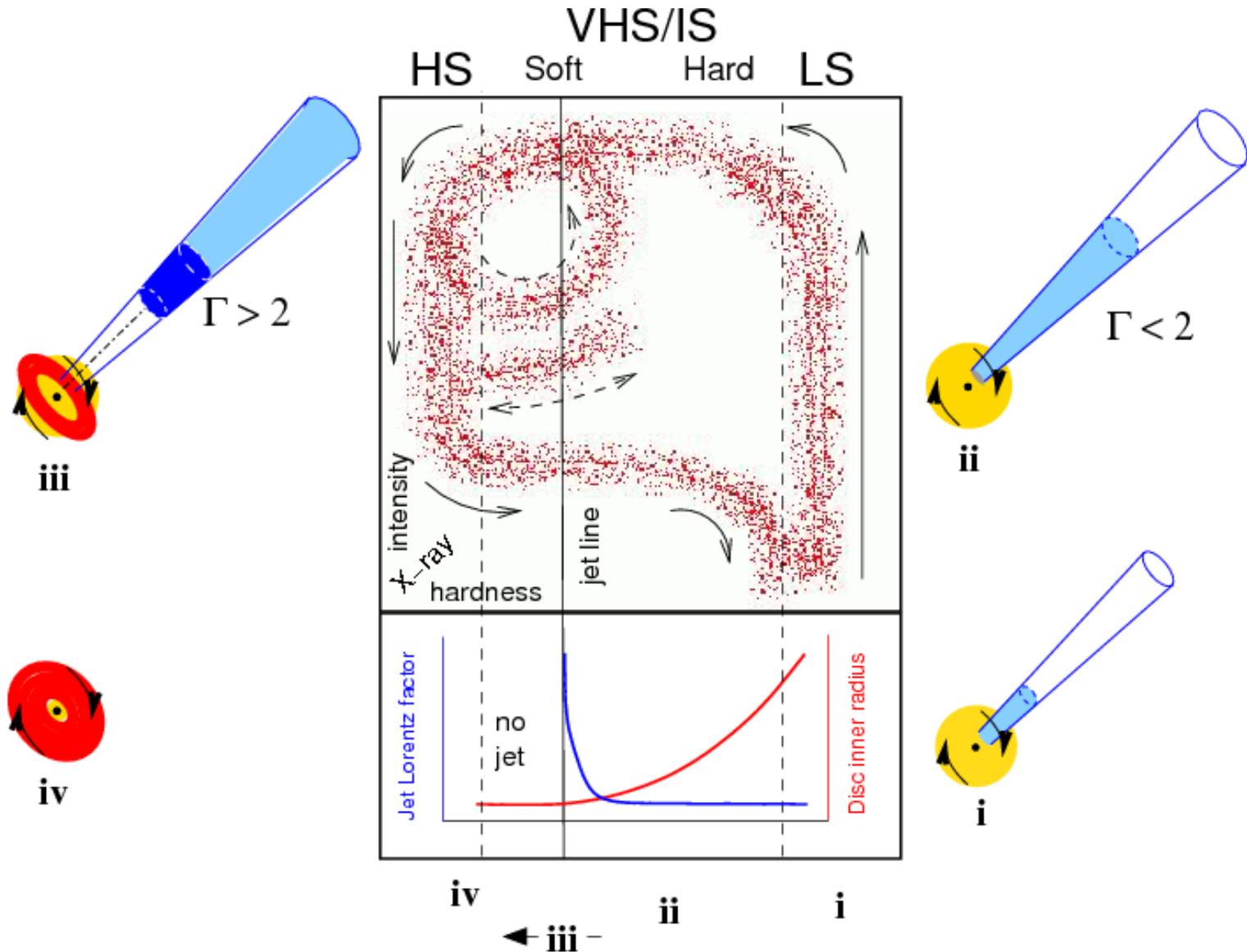
Evolution of spectral states - hysteresis

- the evolution goes always in the **same direction**
- some theoretical explanations exist (Chakrabarti & Titarchuk 95, Smith+ 02, Liu+ 05, Petrucci+ 08, Contopoulos+ 15)

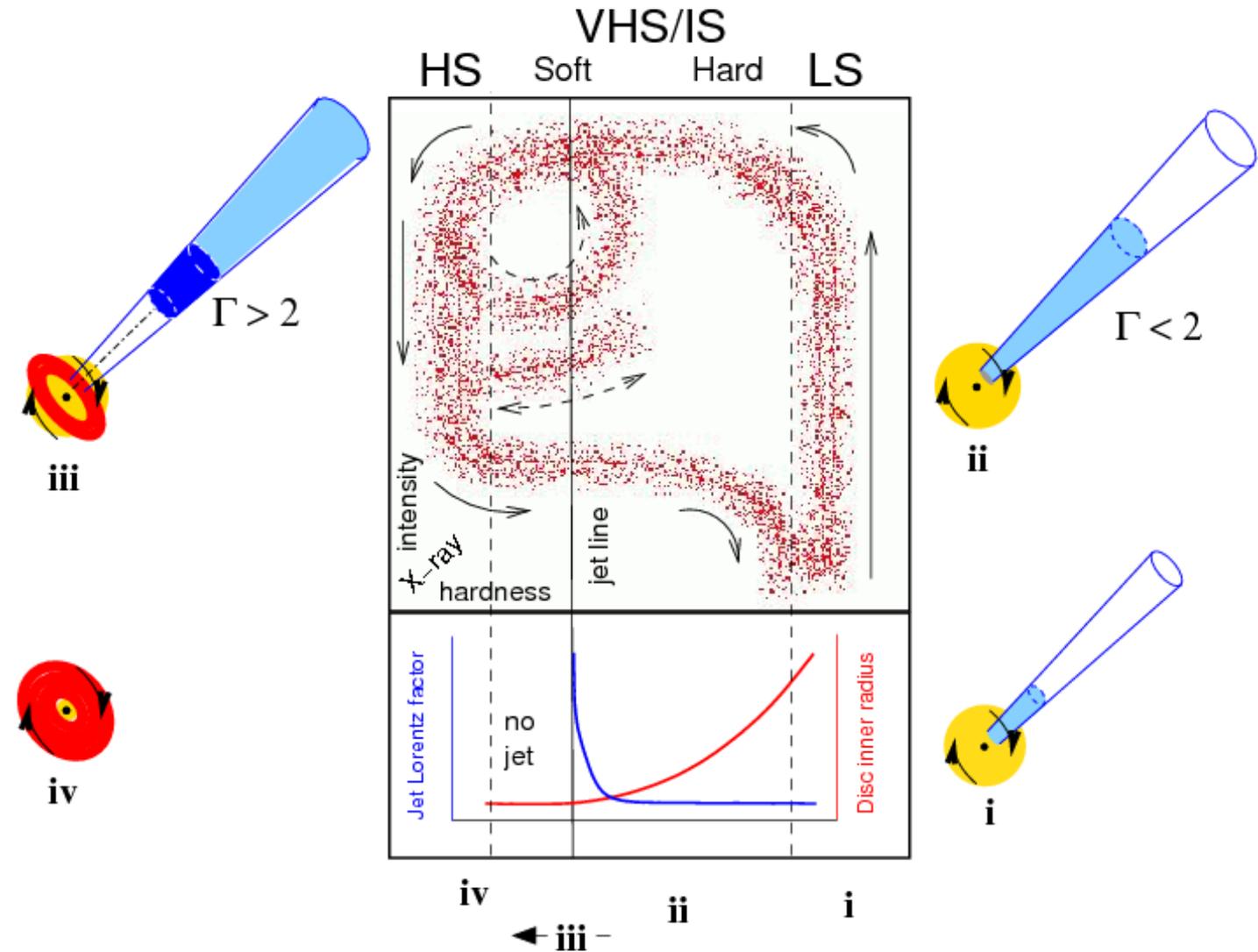
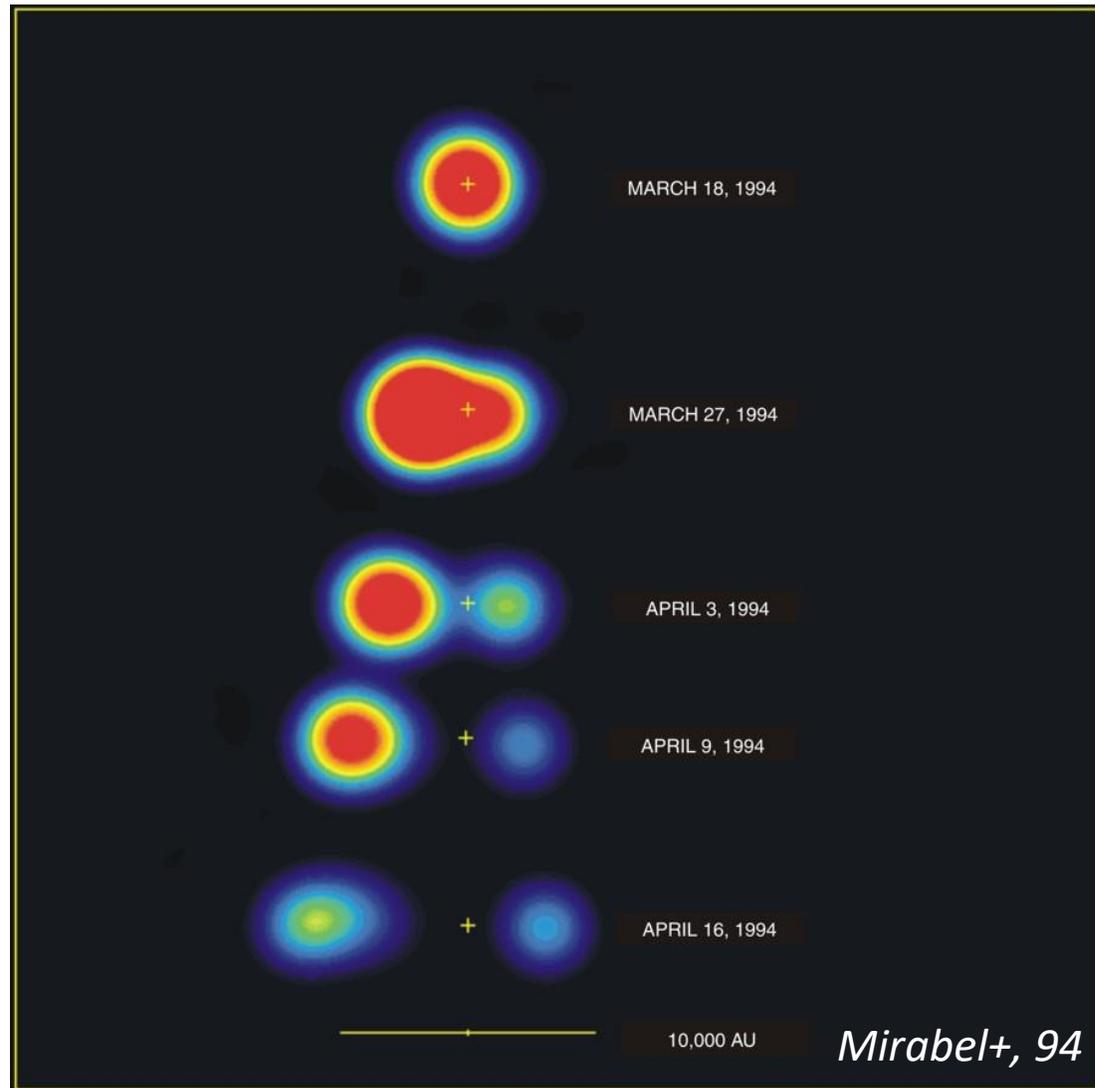
HS = high/soft, VHS = very high/soft

IS = intermediate state, LS = low/hard state

Credit: Fender+, 04



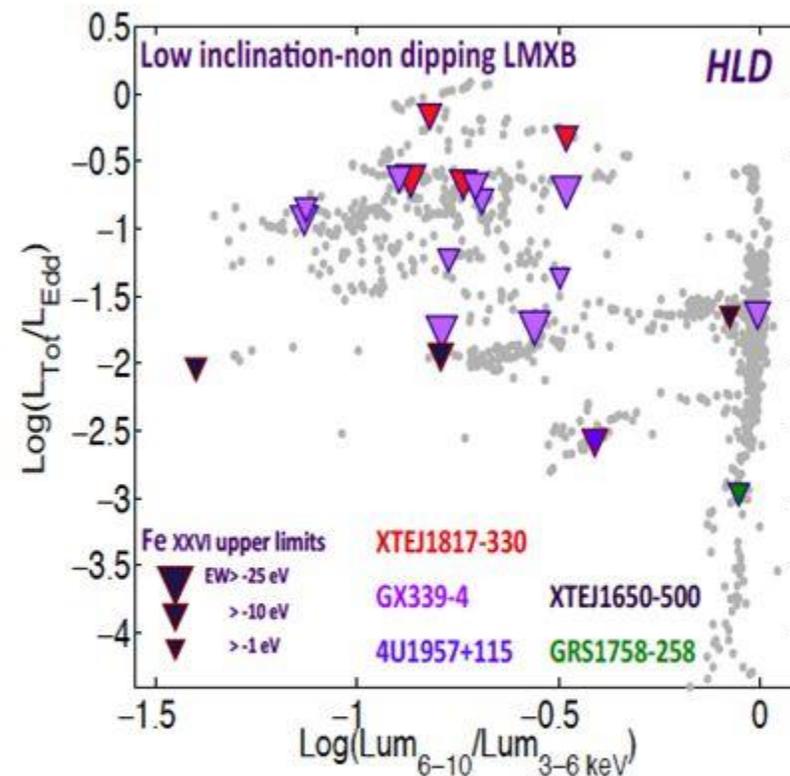
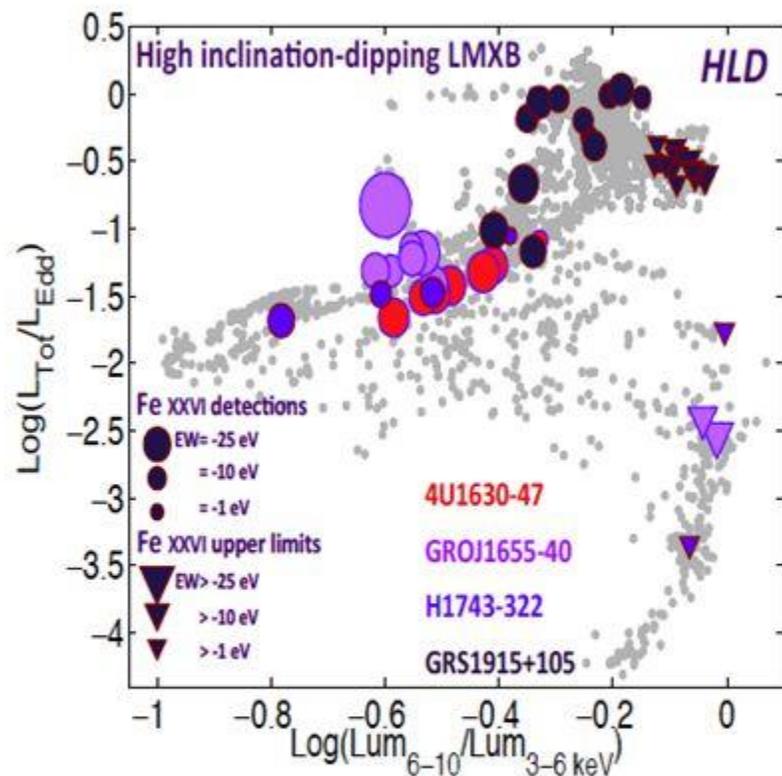
Transient jets (blobs) in the intermediate state



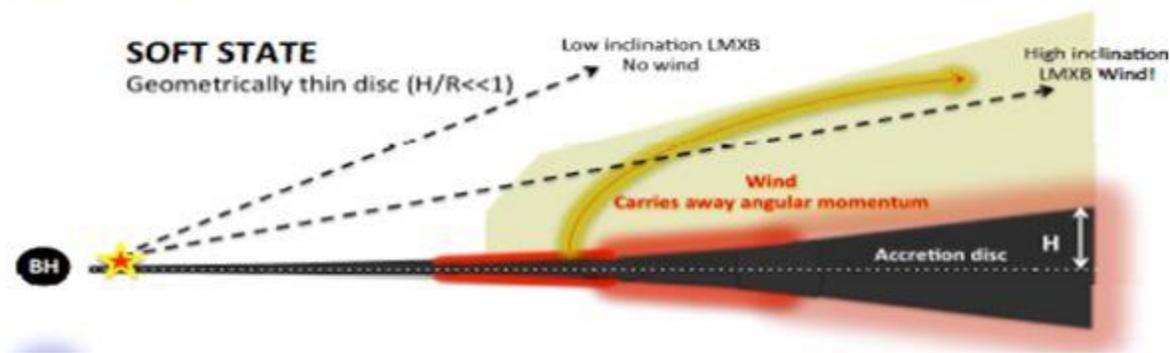
BH: absorption lines in high inc

Jets in the hard states, winds in the soft states

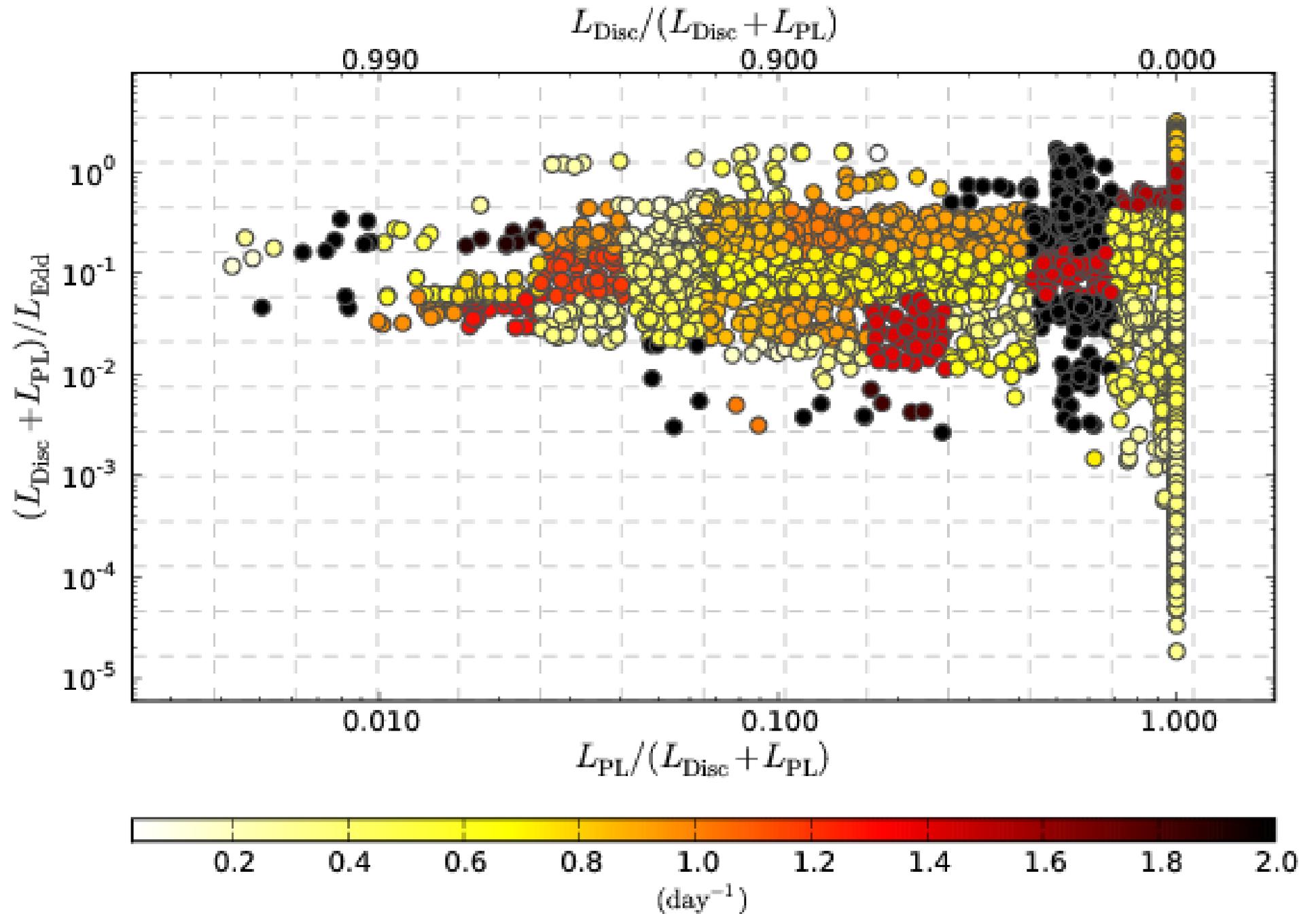
- observational evidence for the winds depends on inclination (*Ponti+2012*)



Ponti et al 2012



Rate of
XRB
spectral
states



Dunn+, 10

Can we study spectral states in AGN?

- first, why do we care?

Can we study spectral states in AGN?

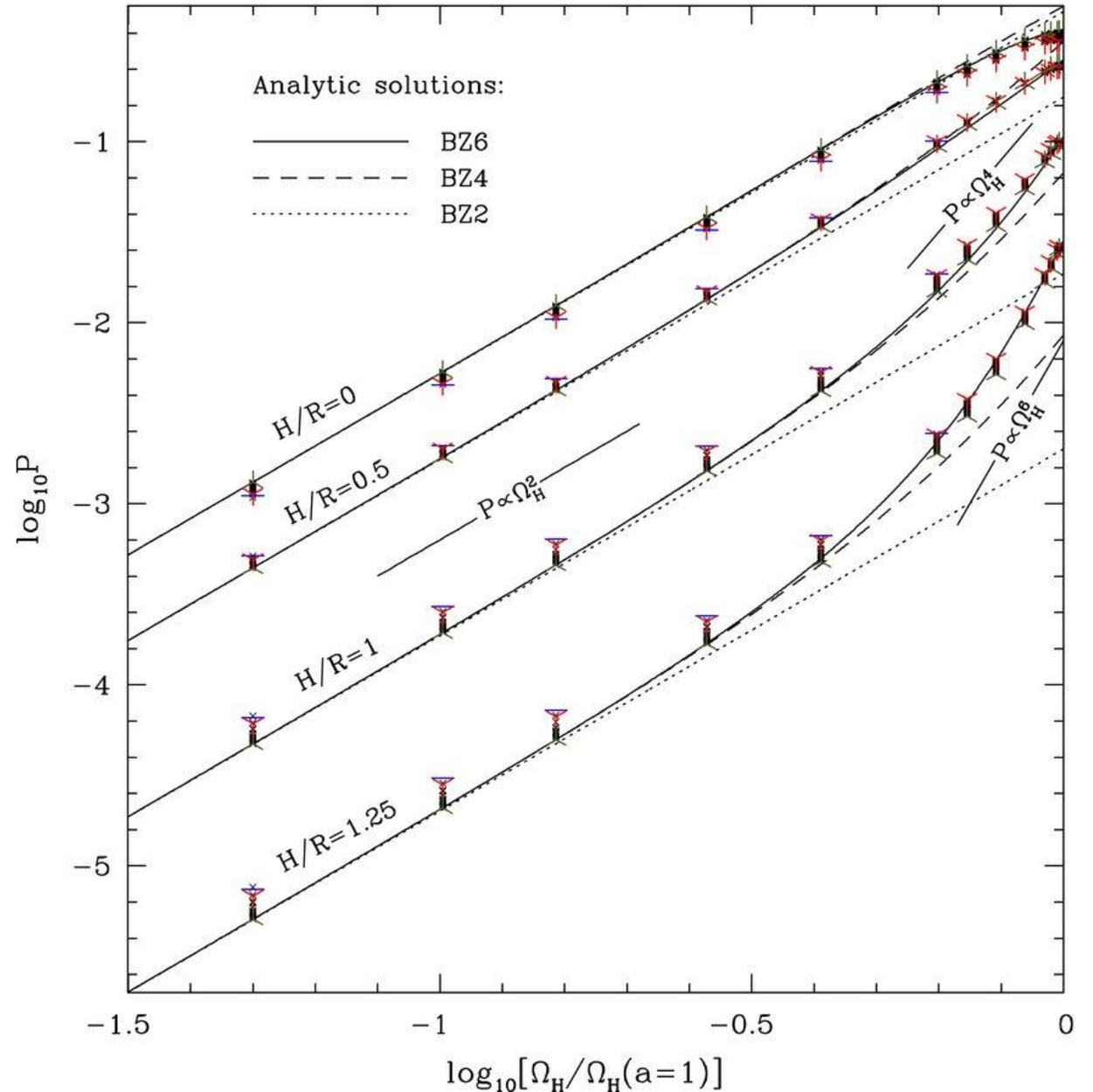
- first, why do we care?
 - understanding of the accretion evolution in AGN can help us to answer longstanding questions:
 - 1. Is AGN activity a temporary episode of a full accretion cycle similar to XRB?**
 - 2. Can we apply what we learn from XRB to AGN and vice versa?**
 - 3. Is AGN radio-dichotomy (about 10% of AGN are radio-loud, the rest is quiet) due to dichotomy of black hole spin values (with powerful jets formed around highly spinning black holes), or is it a temporary feature related to the accretion state?**

Spin paradigm

Blandford-Znajek mechanism

$$P_{jet} \approx \Phi_{mag}^2 \Omega_H^2 / c$$

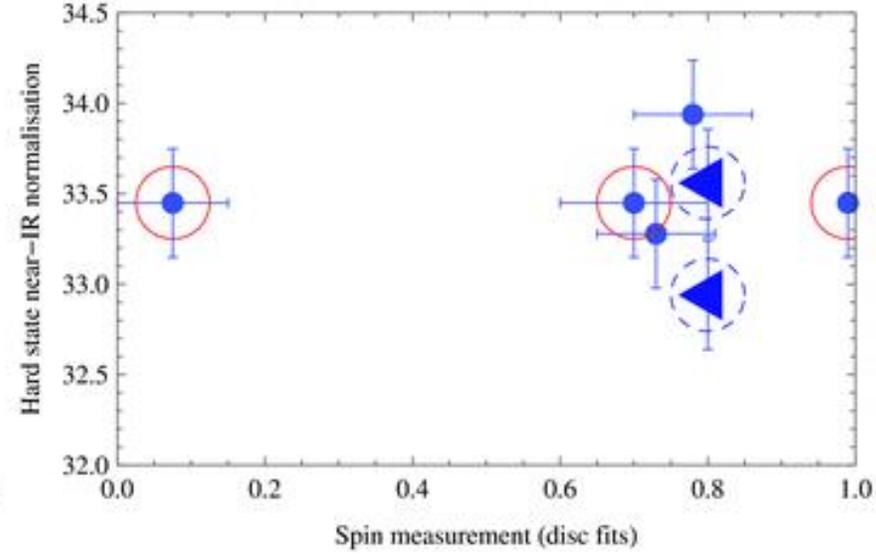
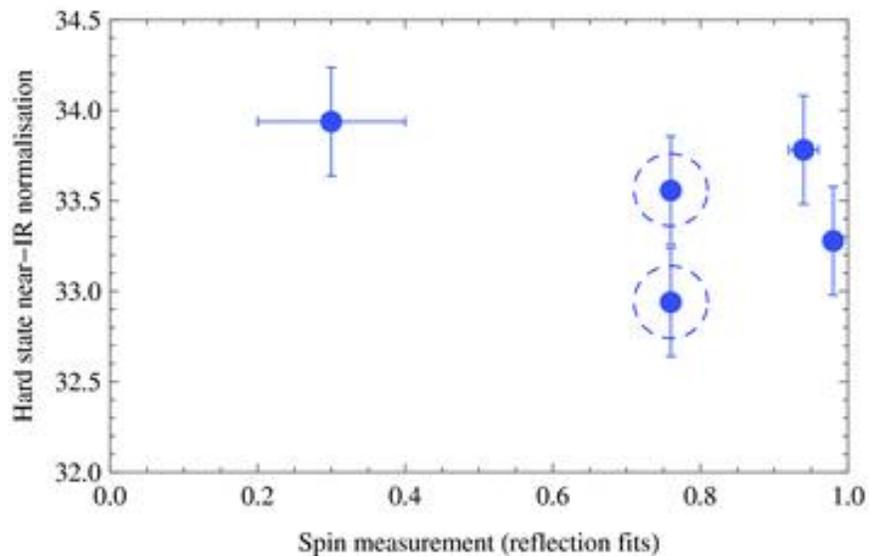
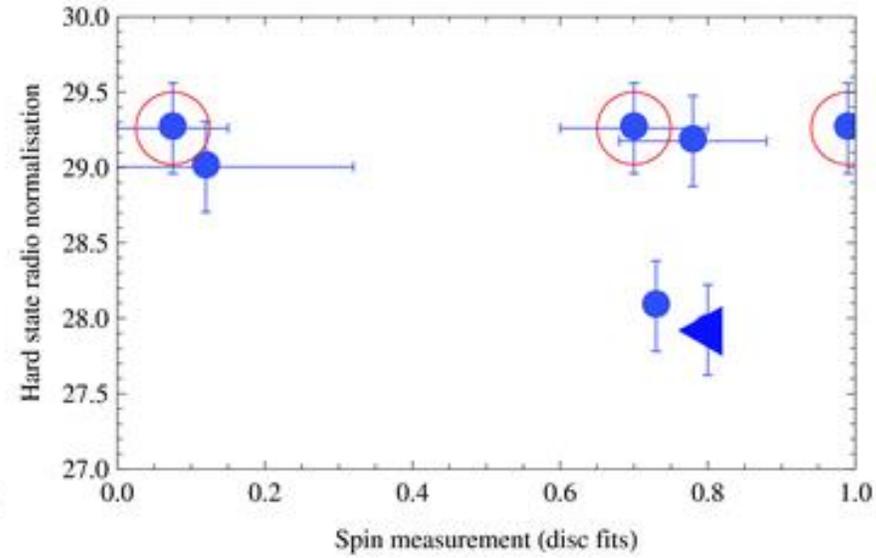
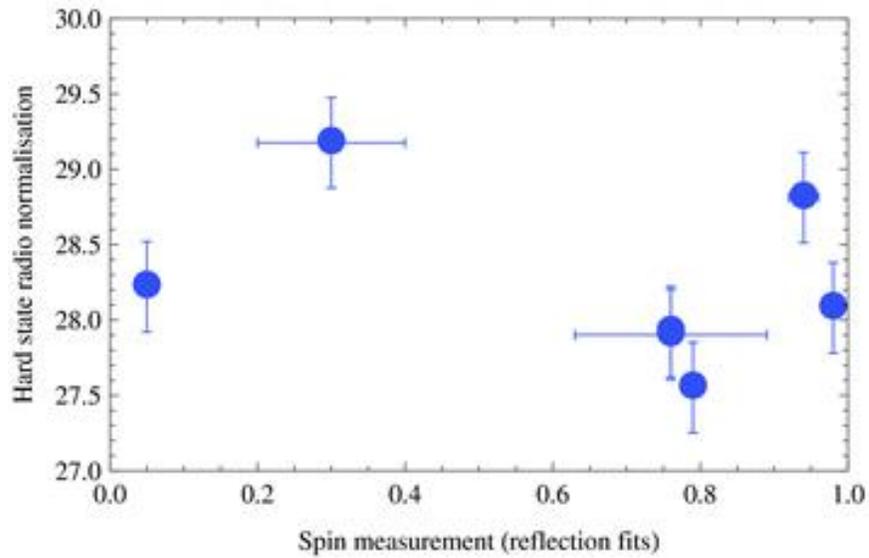
angular rotational
velocity of the black
hole horizon



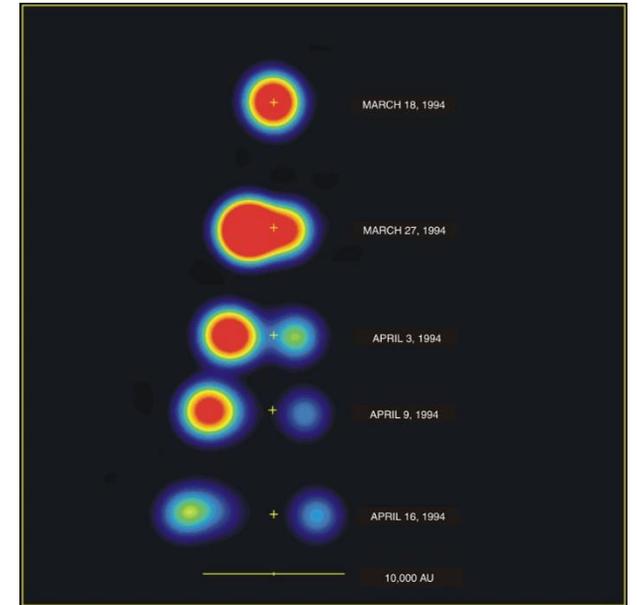
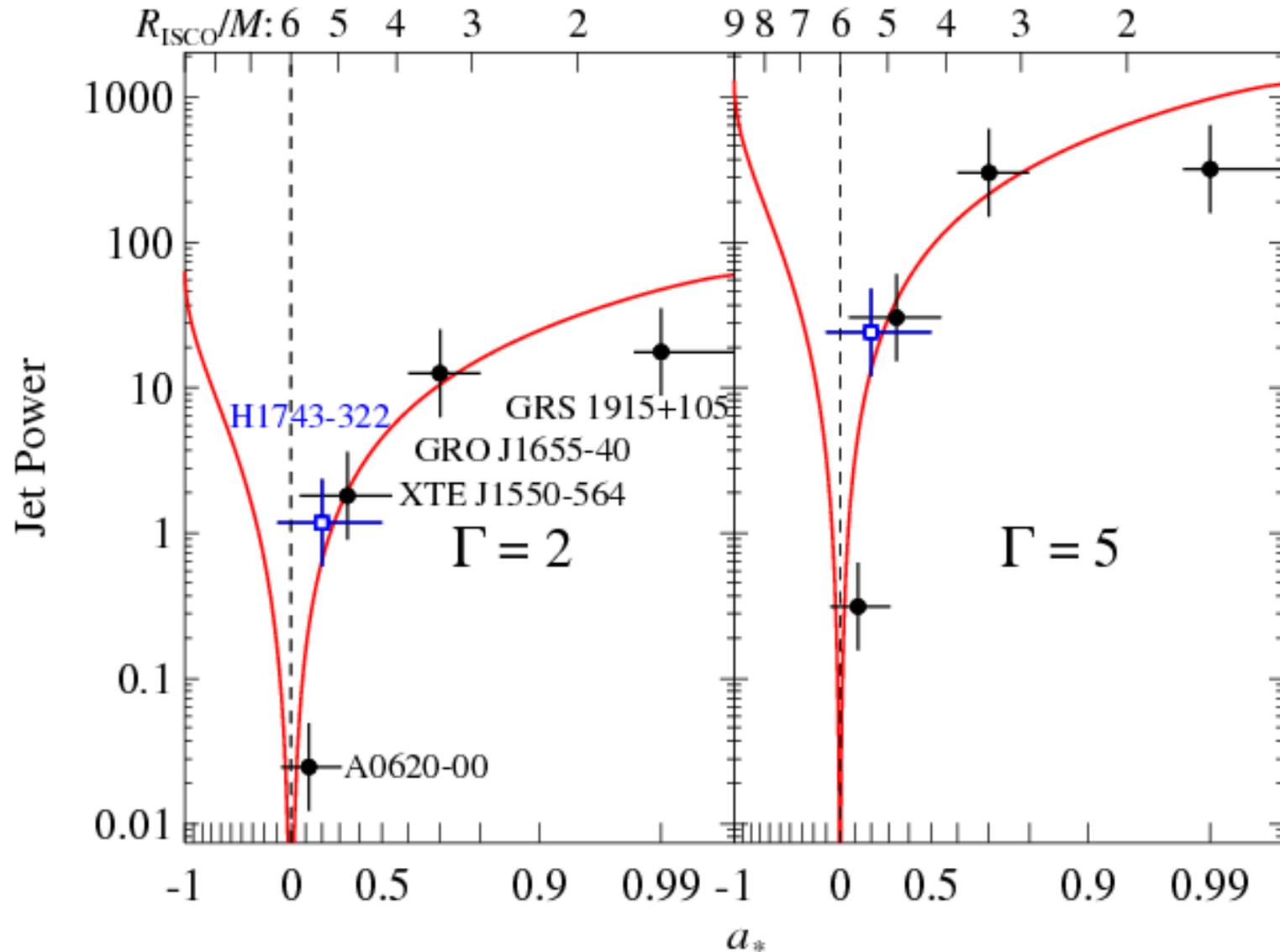
see Moderski+98, Sikora+07 on explanation of radio dichotomy via spin paradigm

Tchekhovskoy+10

Spin – Jet Power relation from XRB observations



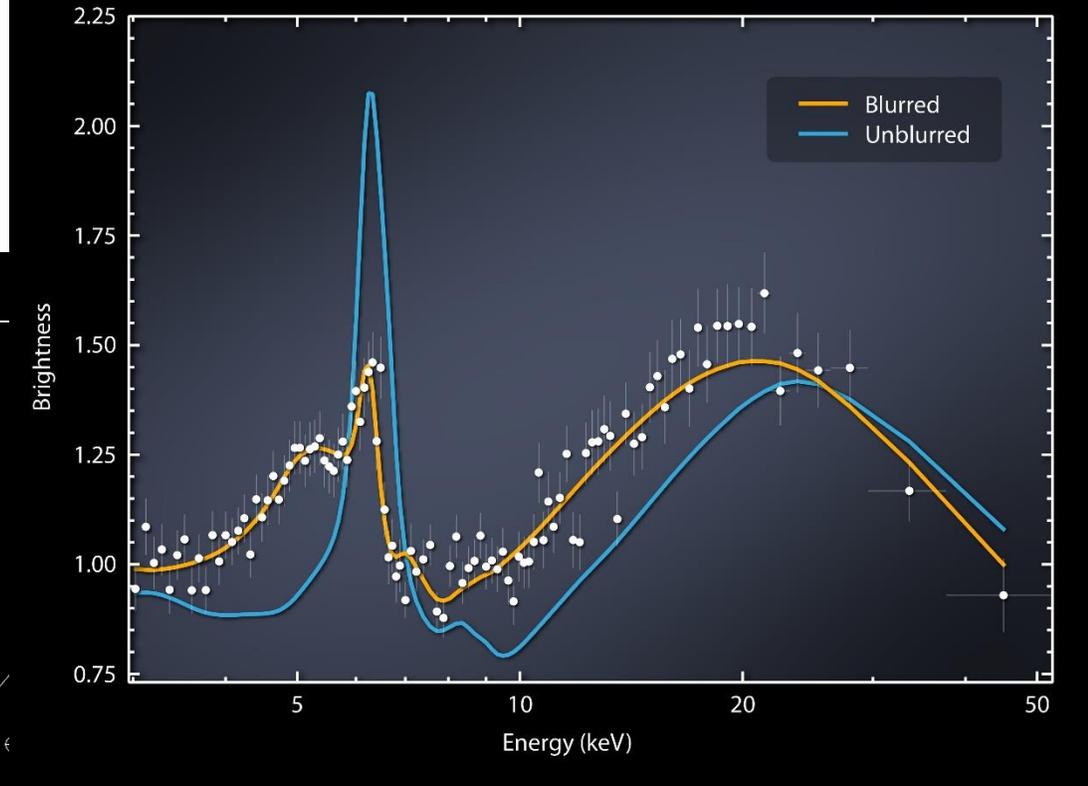
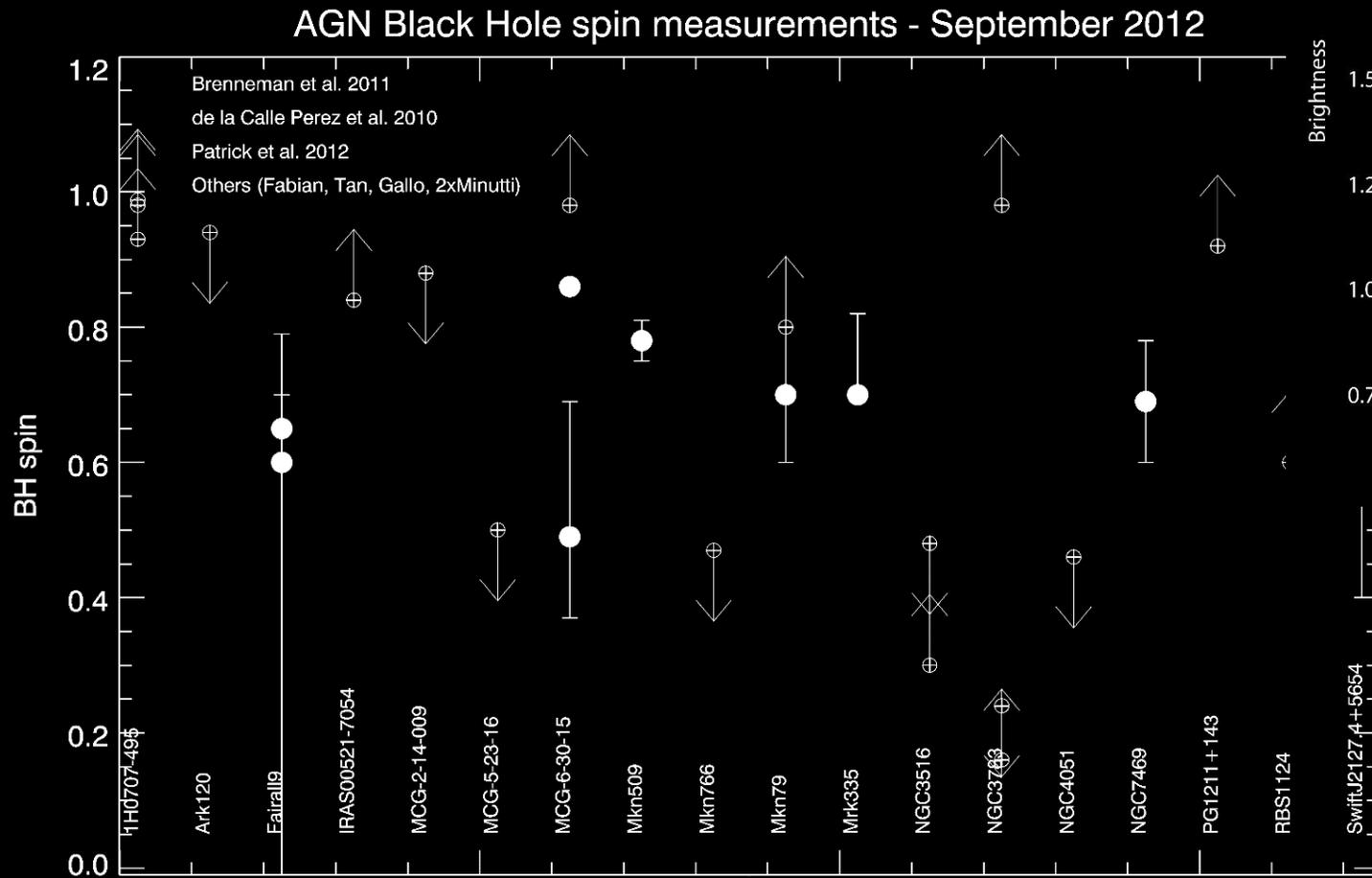
Spin – Jet Power relation from XRB observations



*correlation works
for ballistic jets*

Narayan+ 12, Steiner+ 13

Spin measurements of AGN



Credit: Parker+ 14

***radio-quiet AGN
with high spin!***

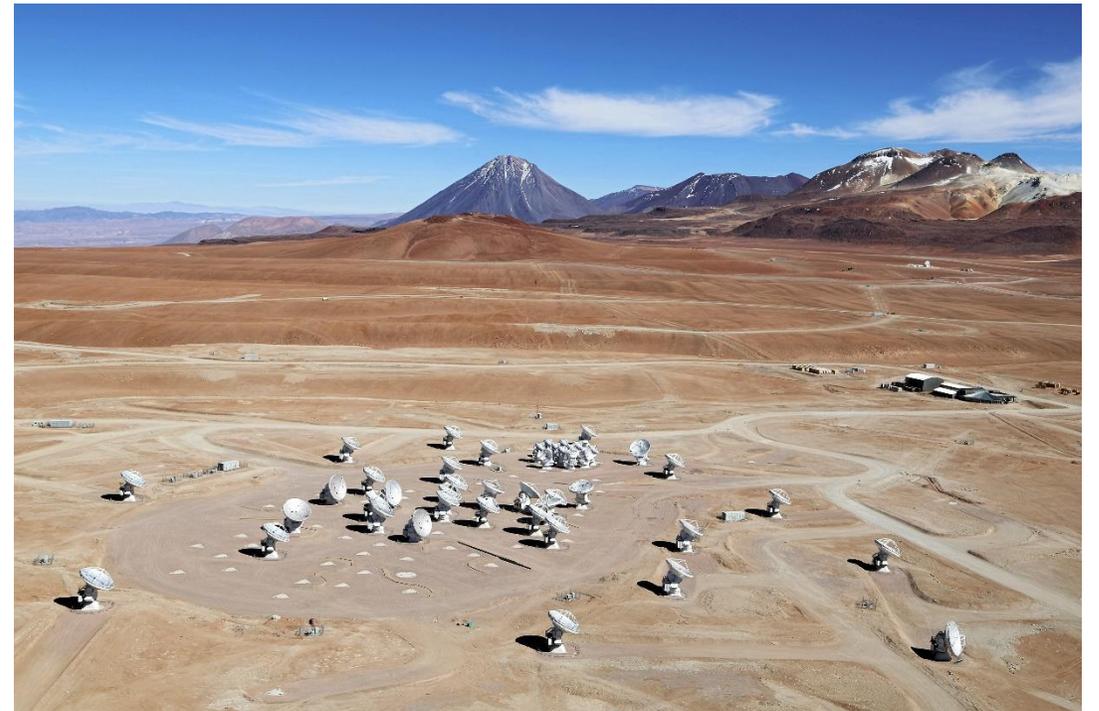
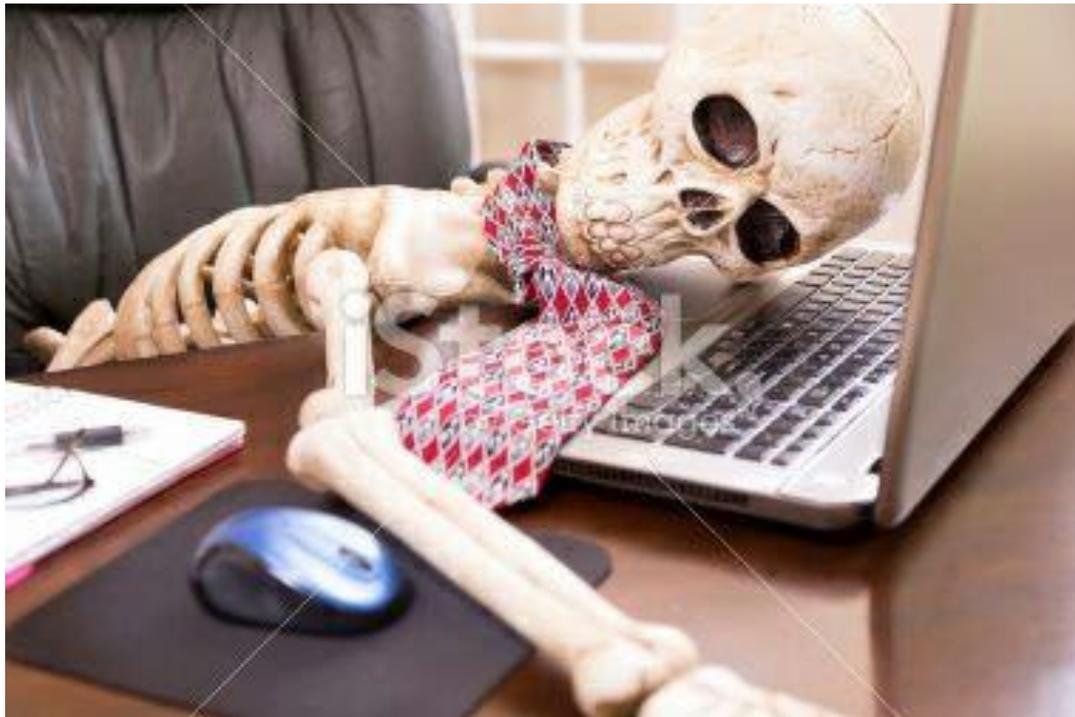
Credit: Guainazzi 12, see also Reynolds 13

Can we study spectral states in AGN?

- time scale of day-long transients translates to thousands to million years in AGN
 - cf. Schawinski et al. (2015): AGN duration $\sim 10^5$ years

Can we study spectral states in AGN?

- time scale of day-long transients translates to thousands to million years in AGN, **no hope to wait**



Can we study spectral states in AGN?

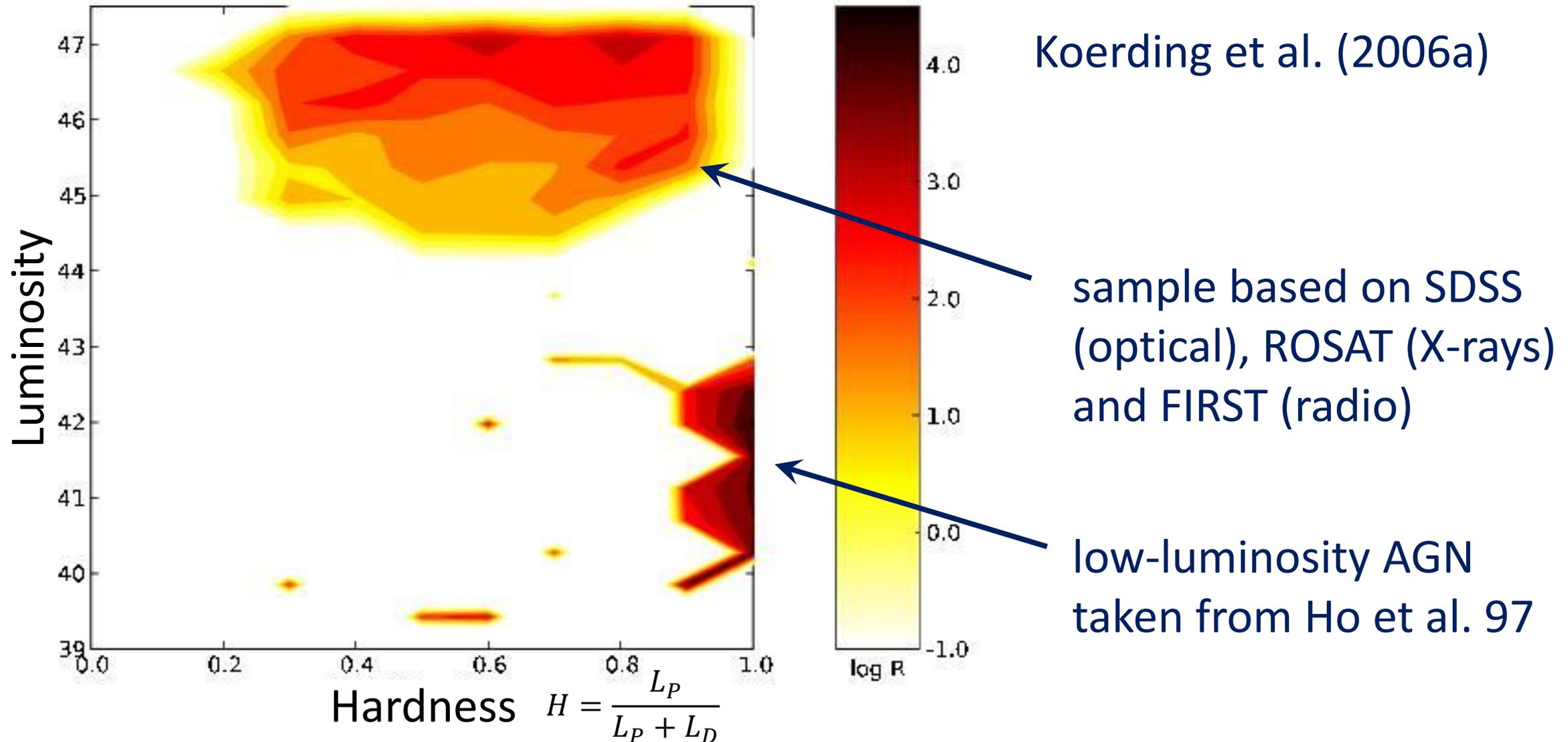
- time scale of day-long transients translates to thousands to million years in AGN
- study of a large homogeneous sample
 - needs to be done in **X-rays (non-thermal component)** but also in **UV (thermal component)**
 - accretion disk temperature:

$$T(R) = \left[\frac{3GM\dot{M}}{8\pi\sigma R^3} \right]^{1/4}, \quad T(R[r_g]) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt[4]{M}} \text{ (where } r_g = \frac{GM}{c^2}\text{)}$$

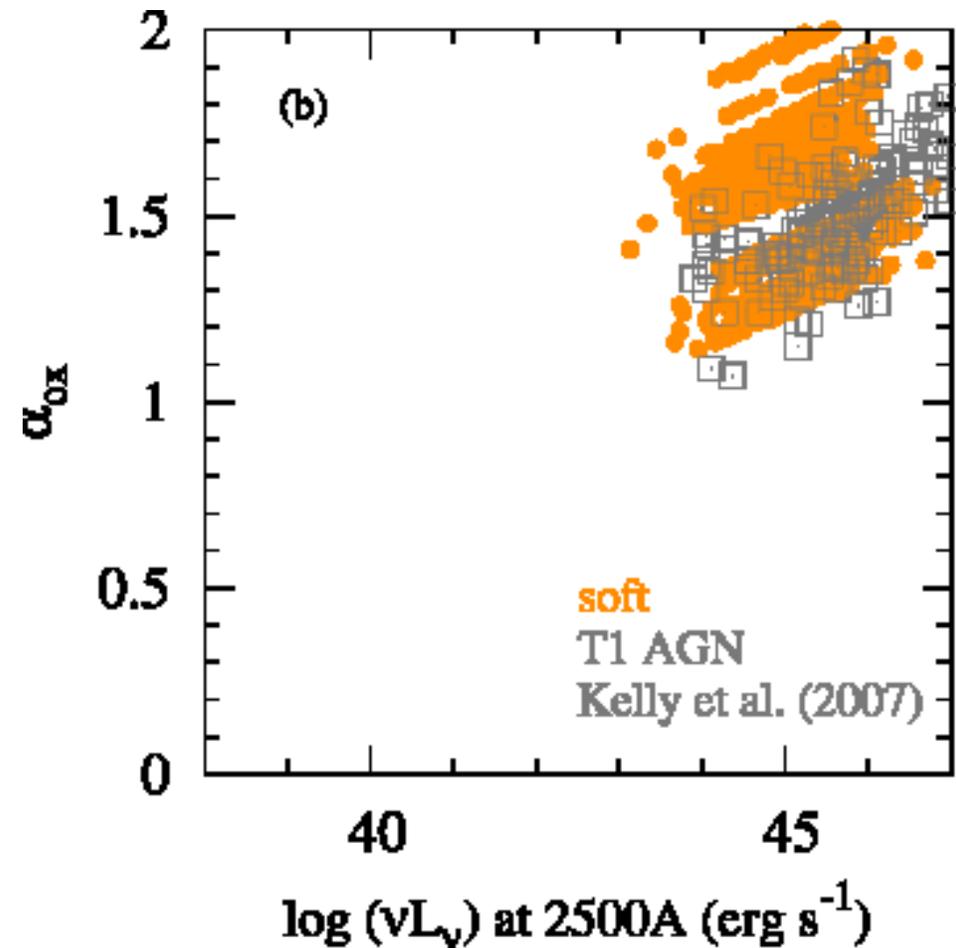
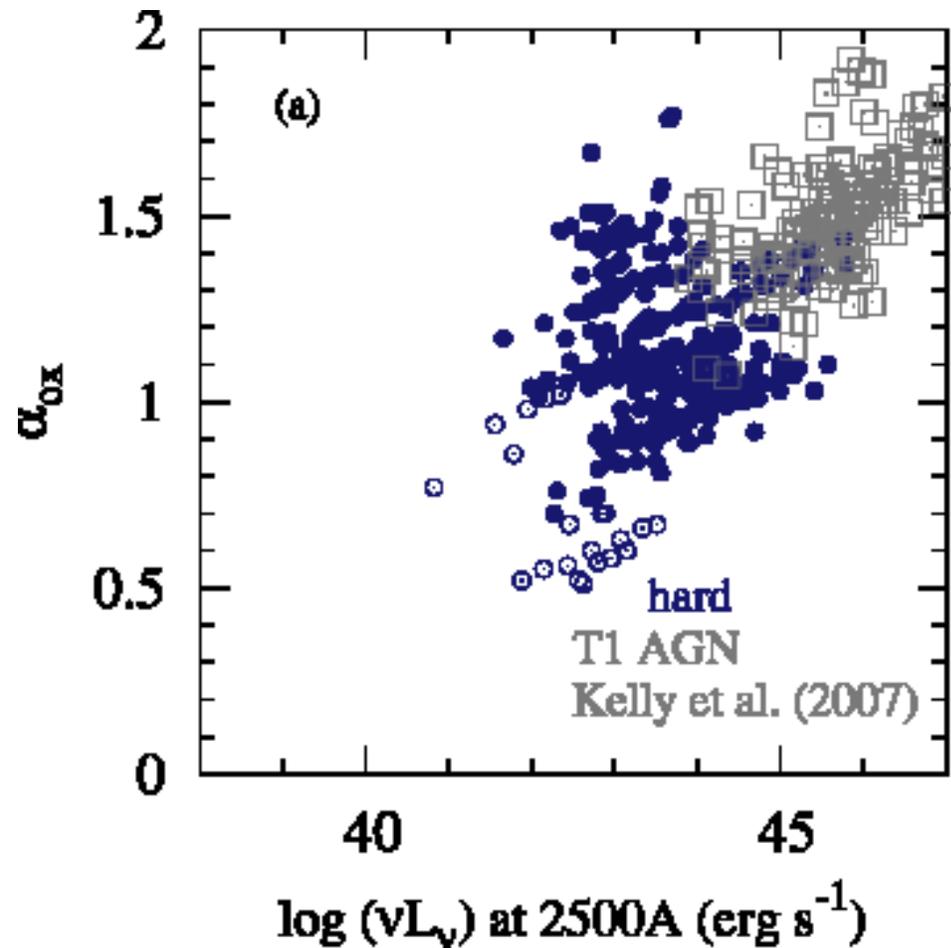
$$M_{\text{BH}} = 10^6 M_{\odot} : kT_{\text{peak}} \sim 221 \text{ \AA} (a = 0), 74 \text{ \AA} (a = 1)$$

$$M_{\text{BH}} = 10^9 M_{\odot} : kT_{\text{peak}} \sim 1240 \text{ \AA} (a = 0), 413 \text{ \AA} (a = 1)$$

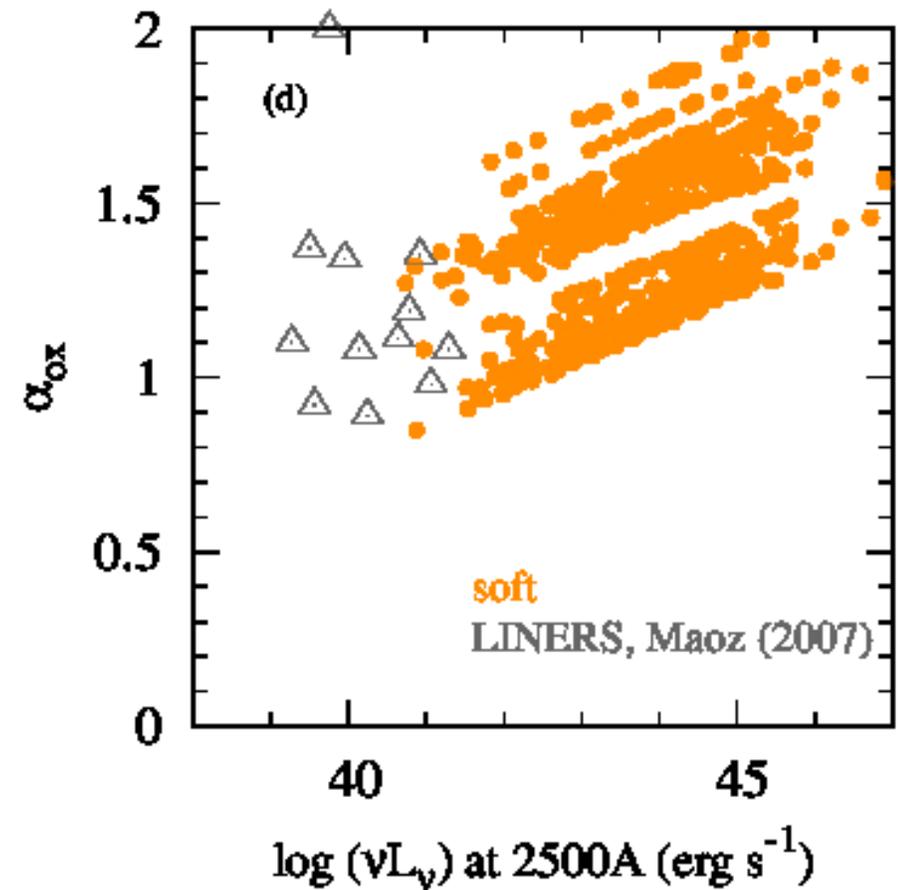
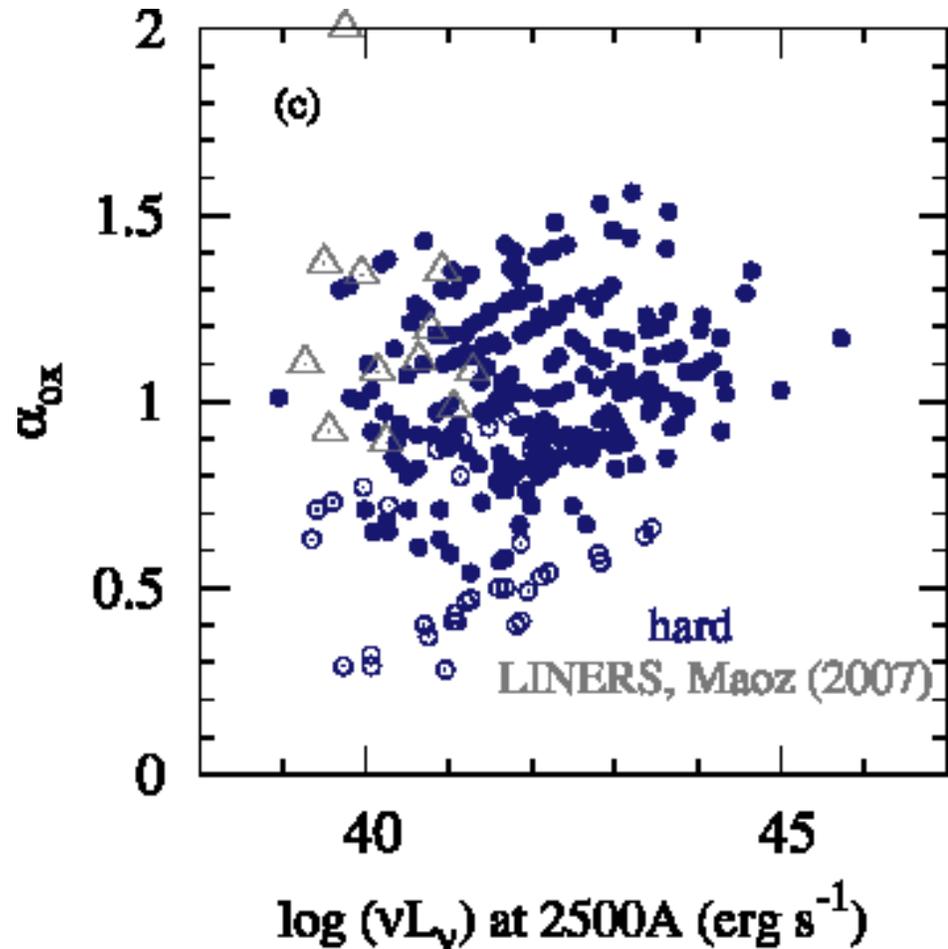
AGN spectral states – previous works



Relation between AGN type and spectral state



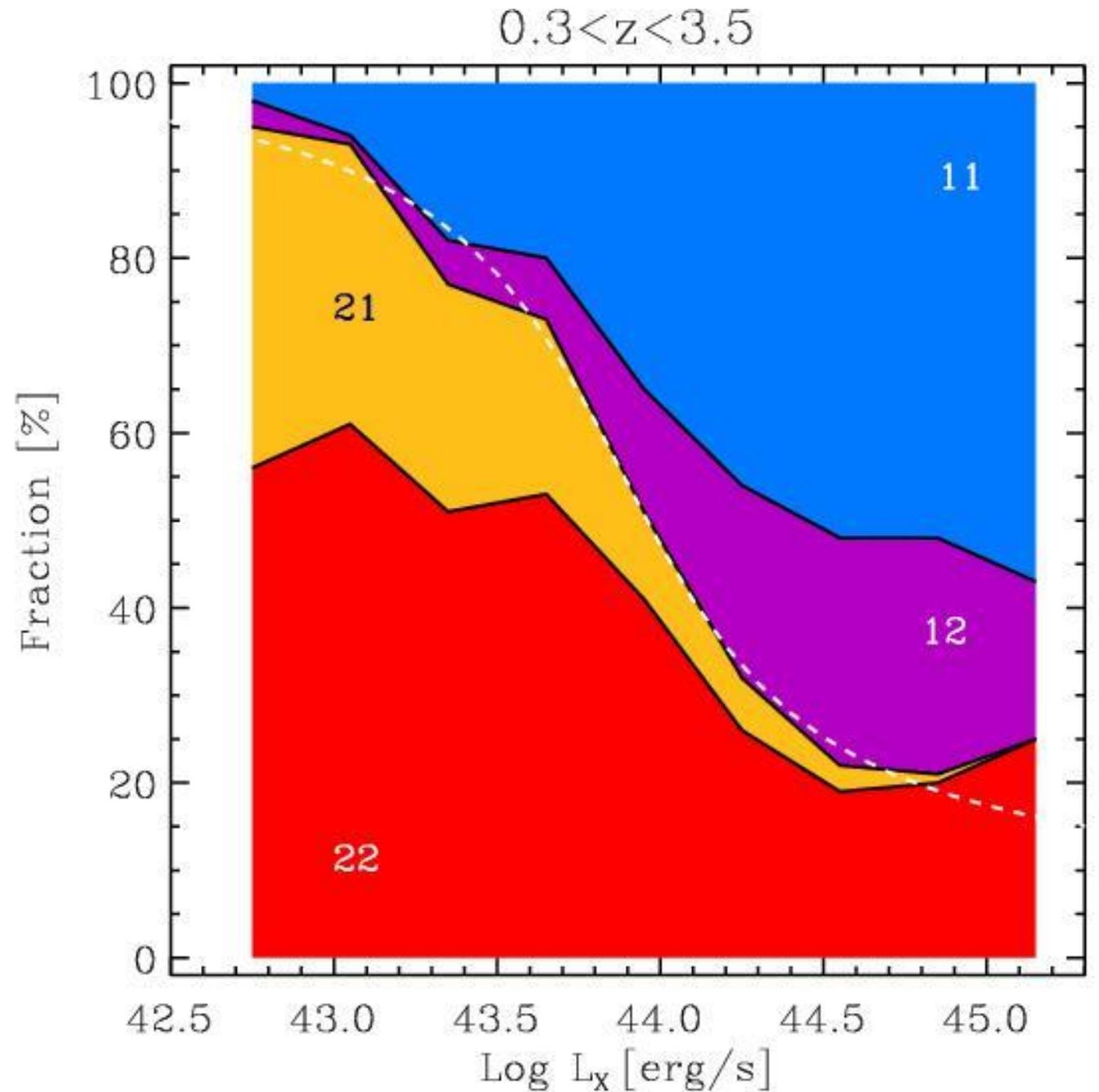
Relation between AGN type and spectral state



AGN types

- type optical/X-ray
 - about 30% mismatch in the XMMCOSMOS sample

Merloni et al. (2013)

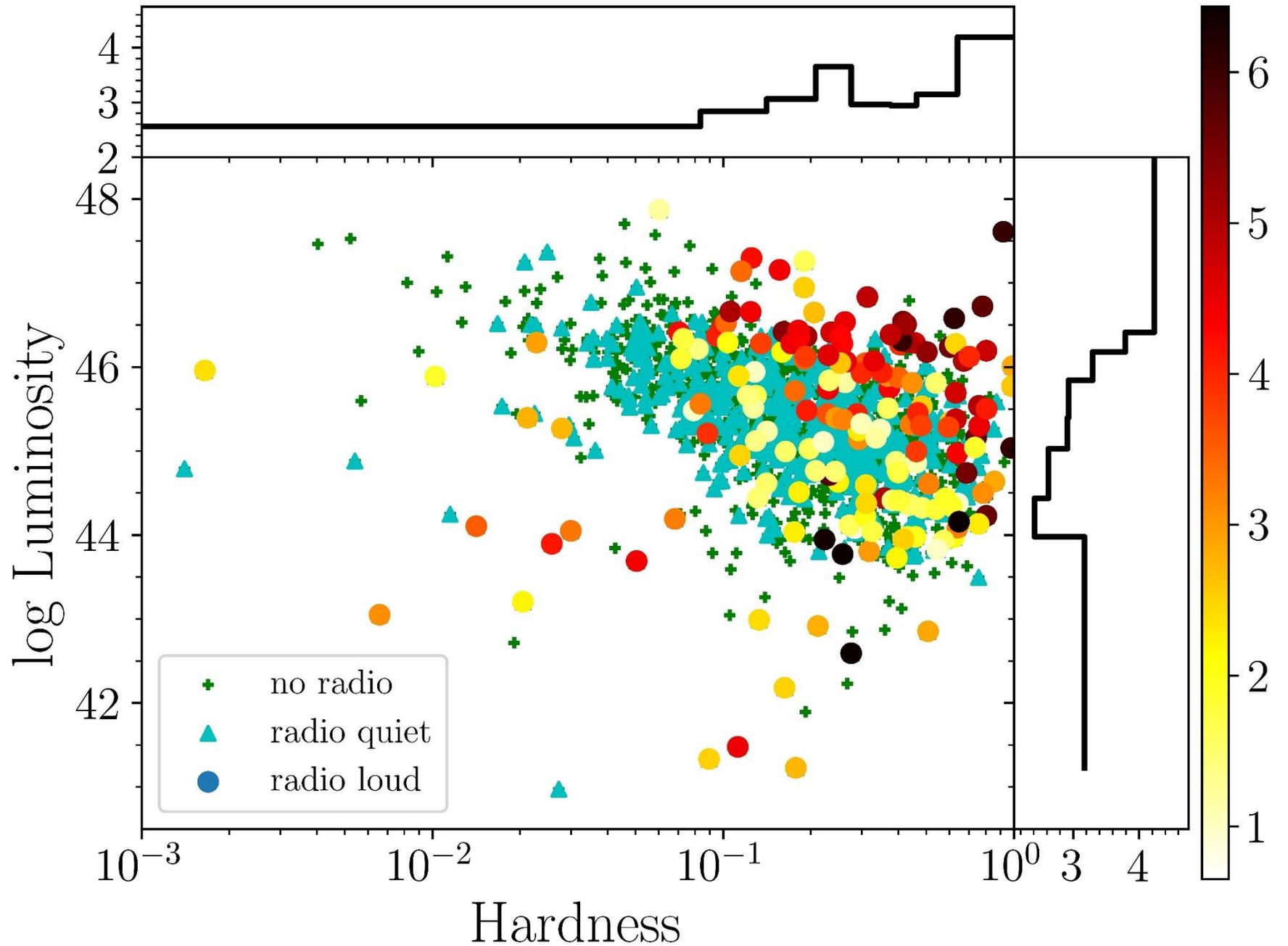


AGN spectral states with XMM-Newton

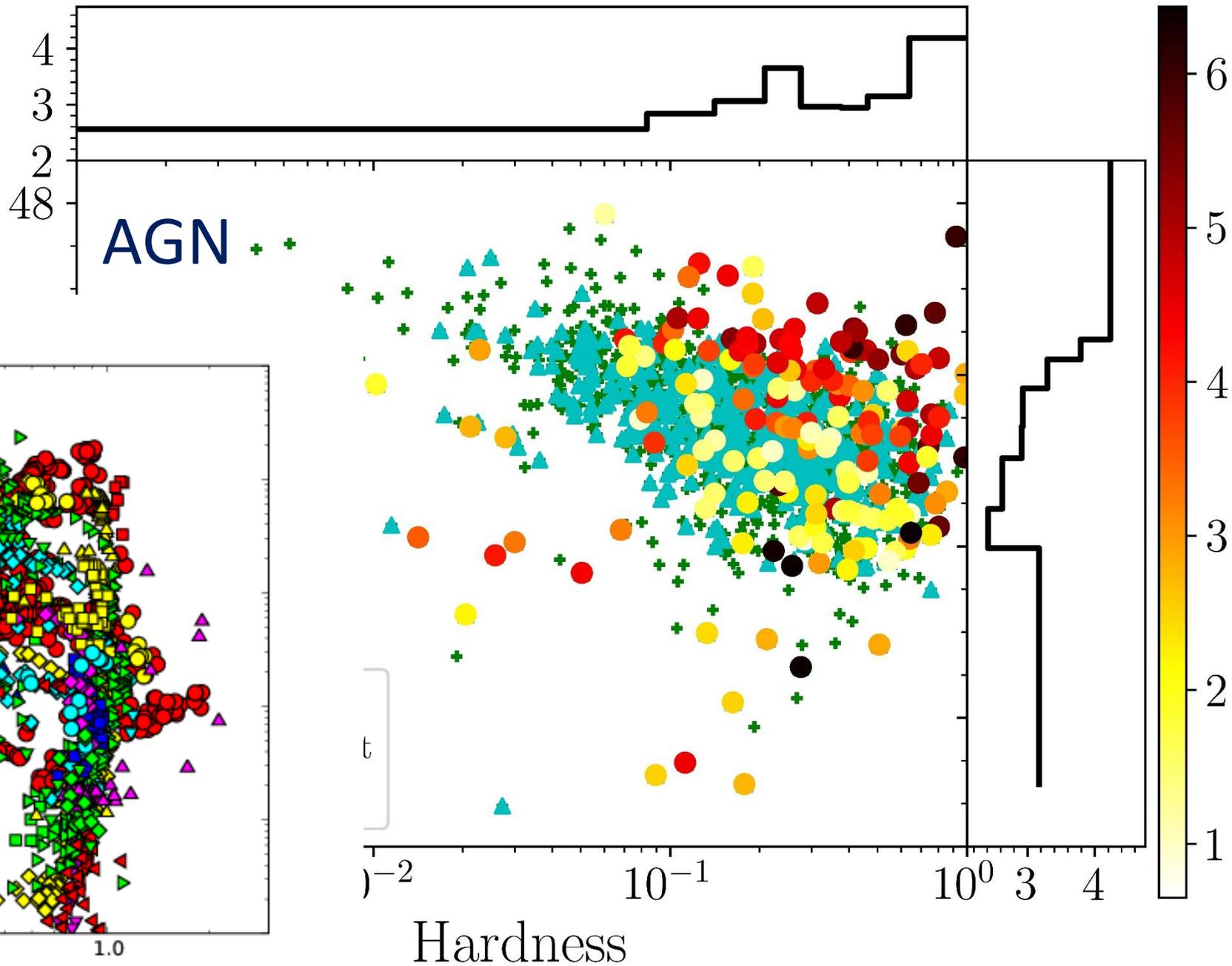
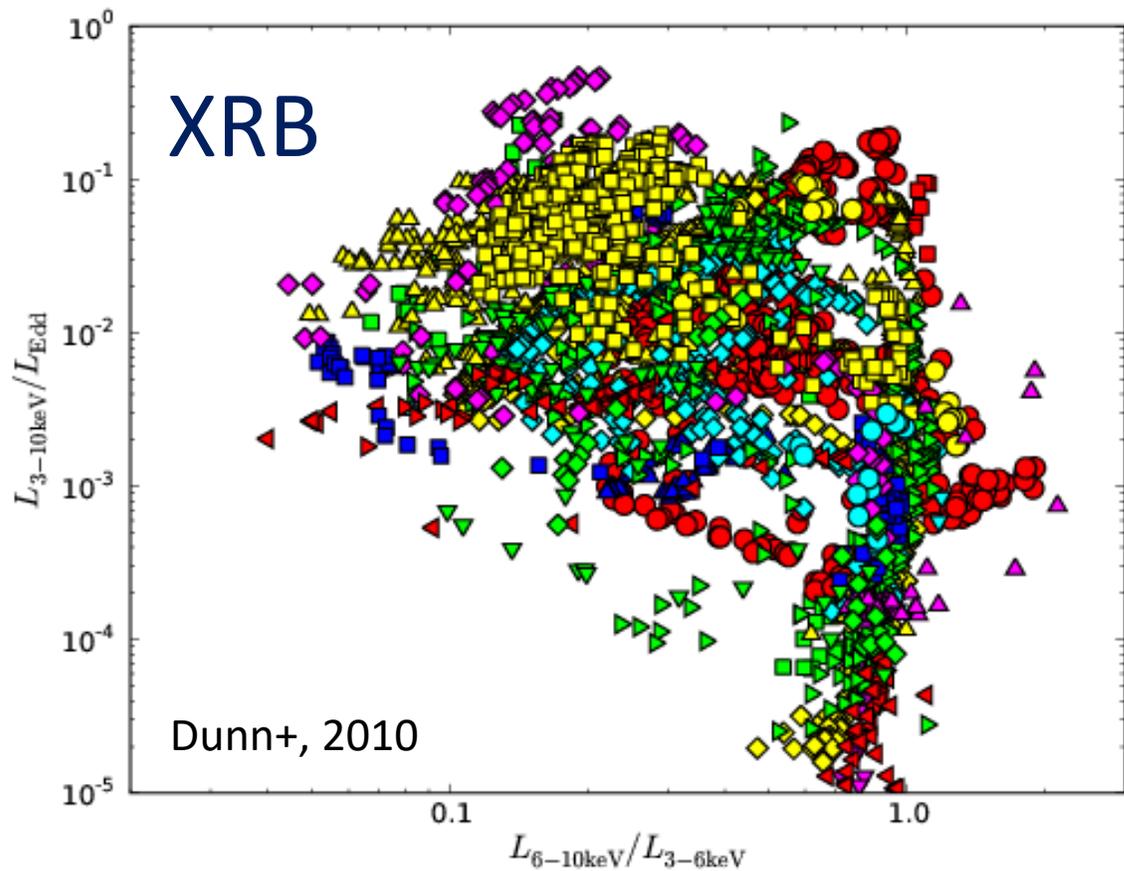
Main advantages compared to previous samples:

- optical/UV and X-ray detectors on single telescope
- simultaneous measurements
 - eliminate spectral variability
- non-thermal flux estimated from 2-10 keV instead of 0.1-2.4 keV (by ROSAT)
 - eliminate X-ray absorption
- thermal emission from UV instead of the optical band
 - closer to the thermal peak

Hardness – Luminosity diagram

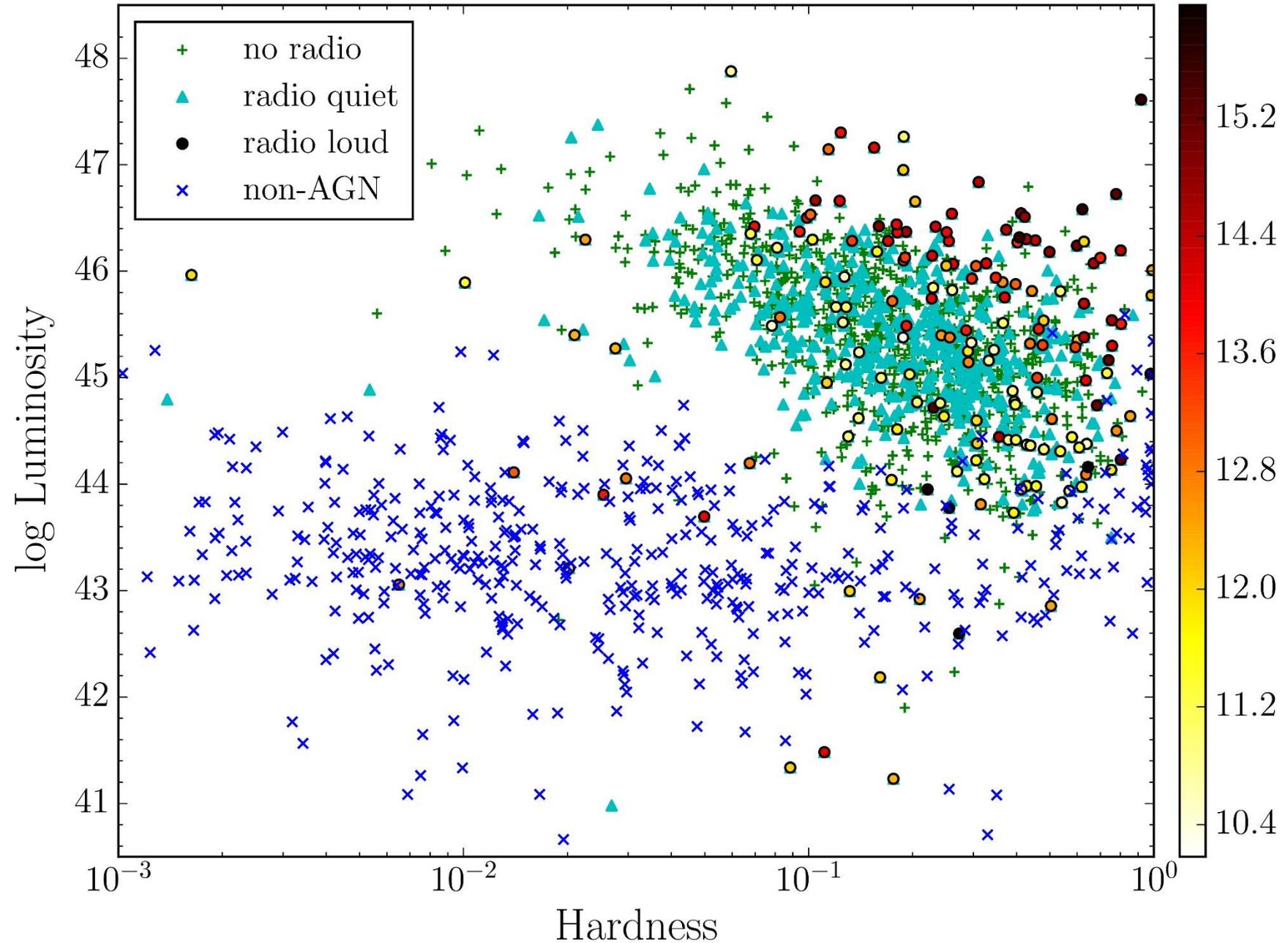


Hardness – Luminosity diagram



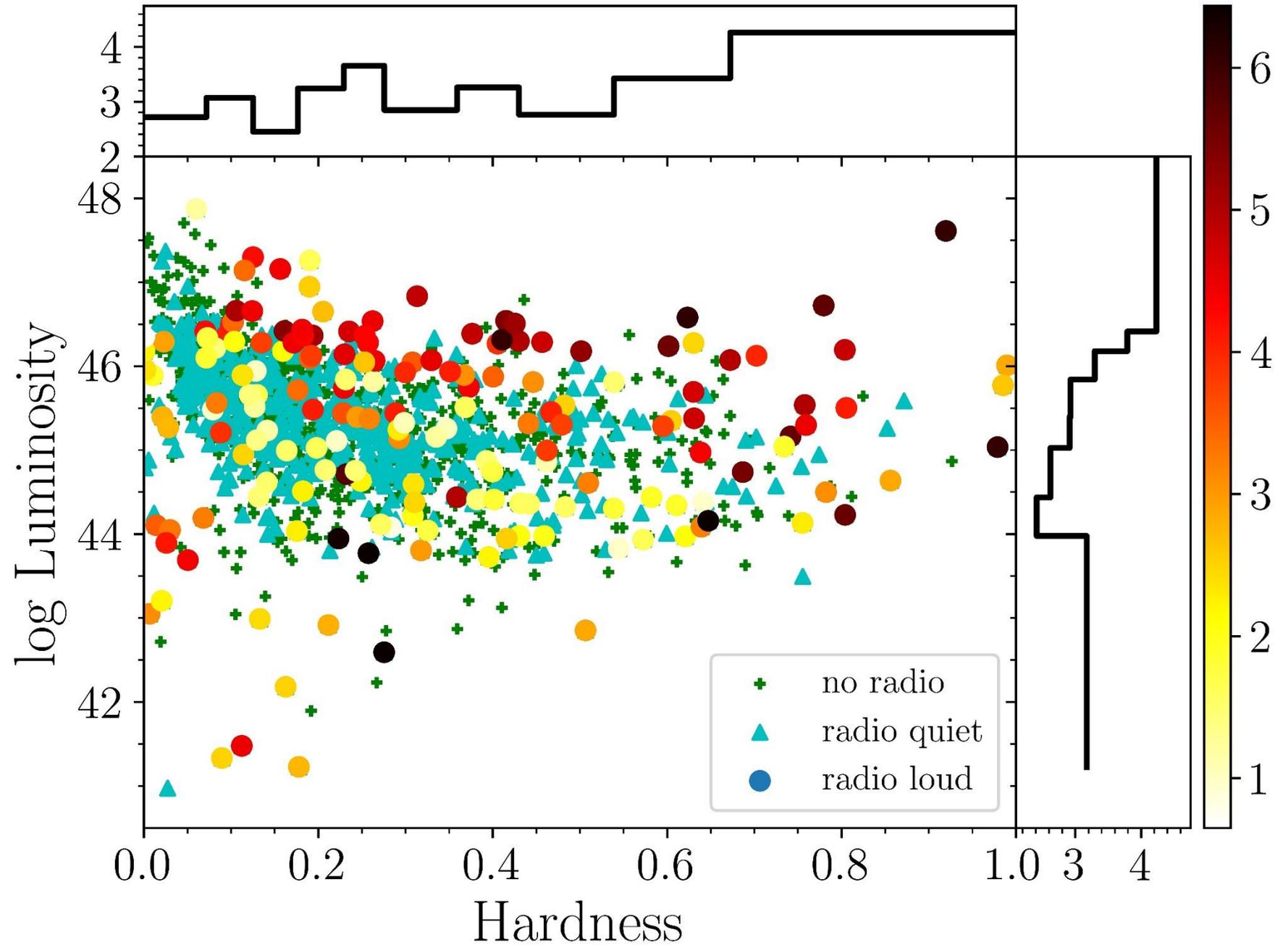
Low – luminosity sources

- problem with the **host-galaxy contamination**
- **non-AGN** show “distribution of host galaxies” in the Hardness-Luminosity diagram



Hardness – Luminosity diagram

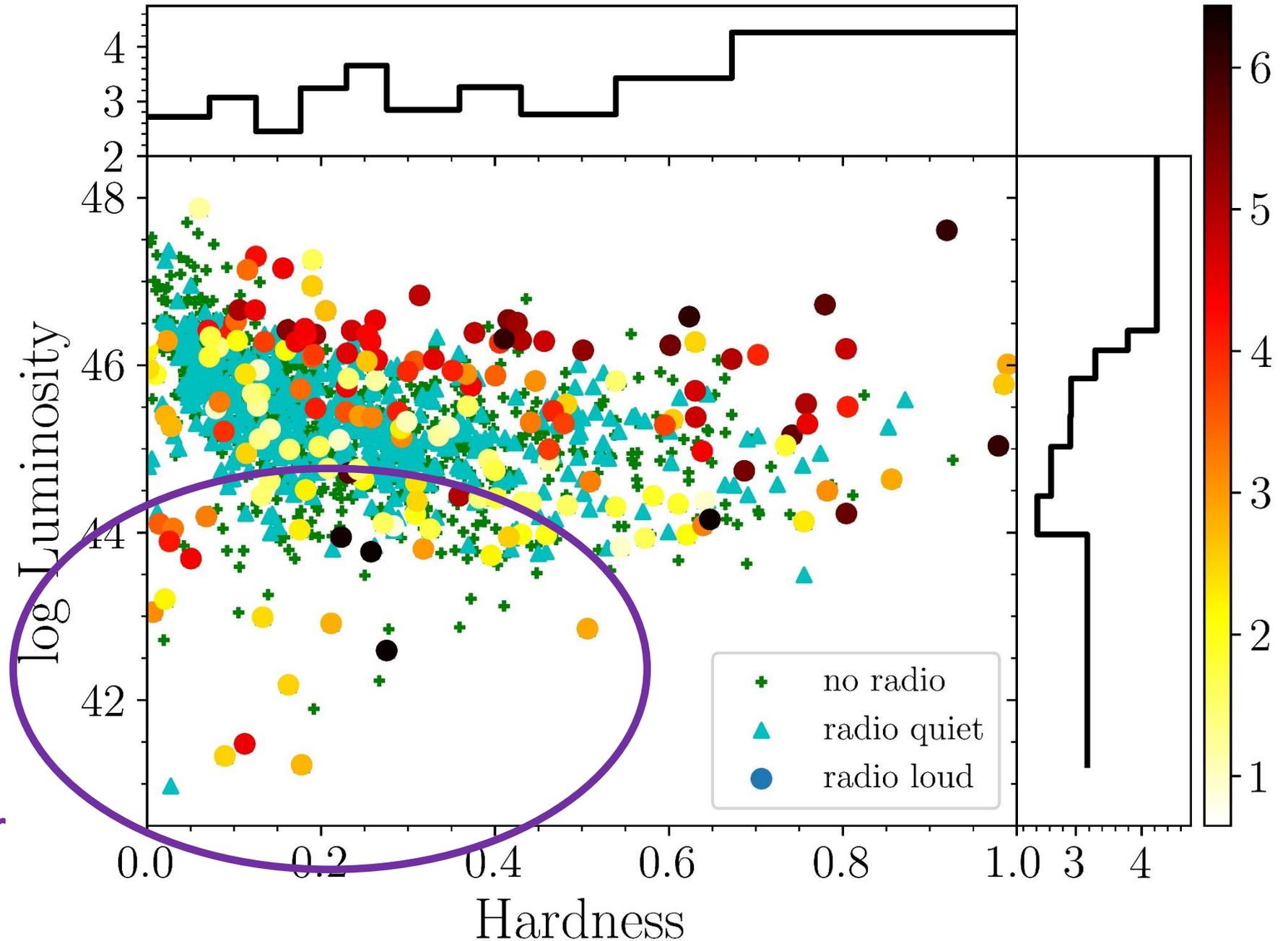
*(in linear scale of
the hardness)*



Hardness – Luminosity diagram

(in linear scale of the hardness)

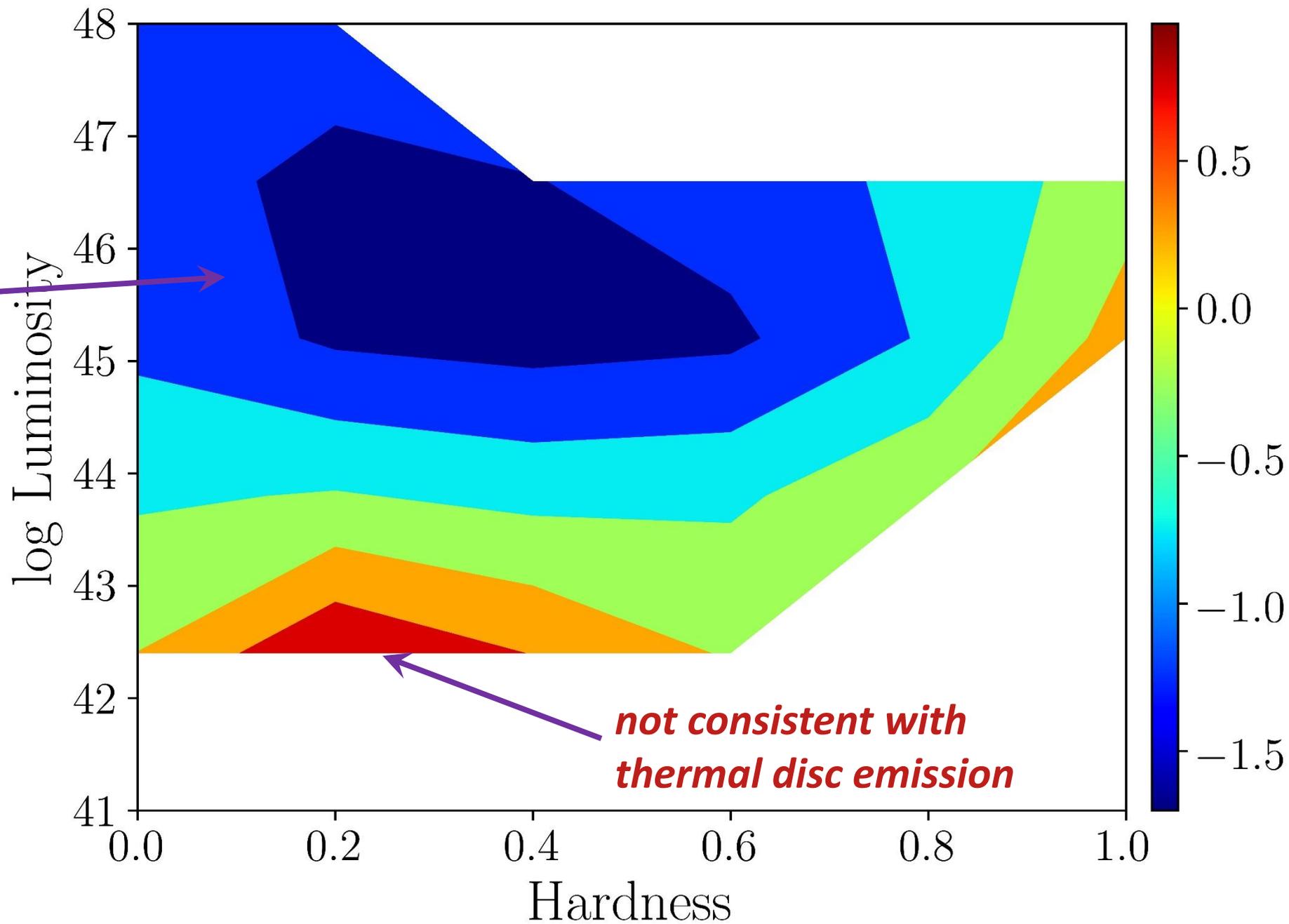
are these sources intrinsically soft or hard?



UV slope

*consistent with
thermal disc
emission*

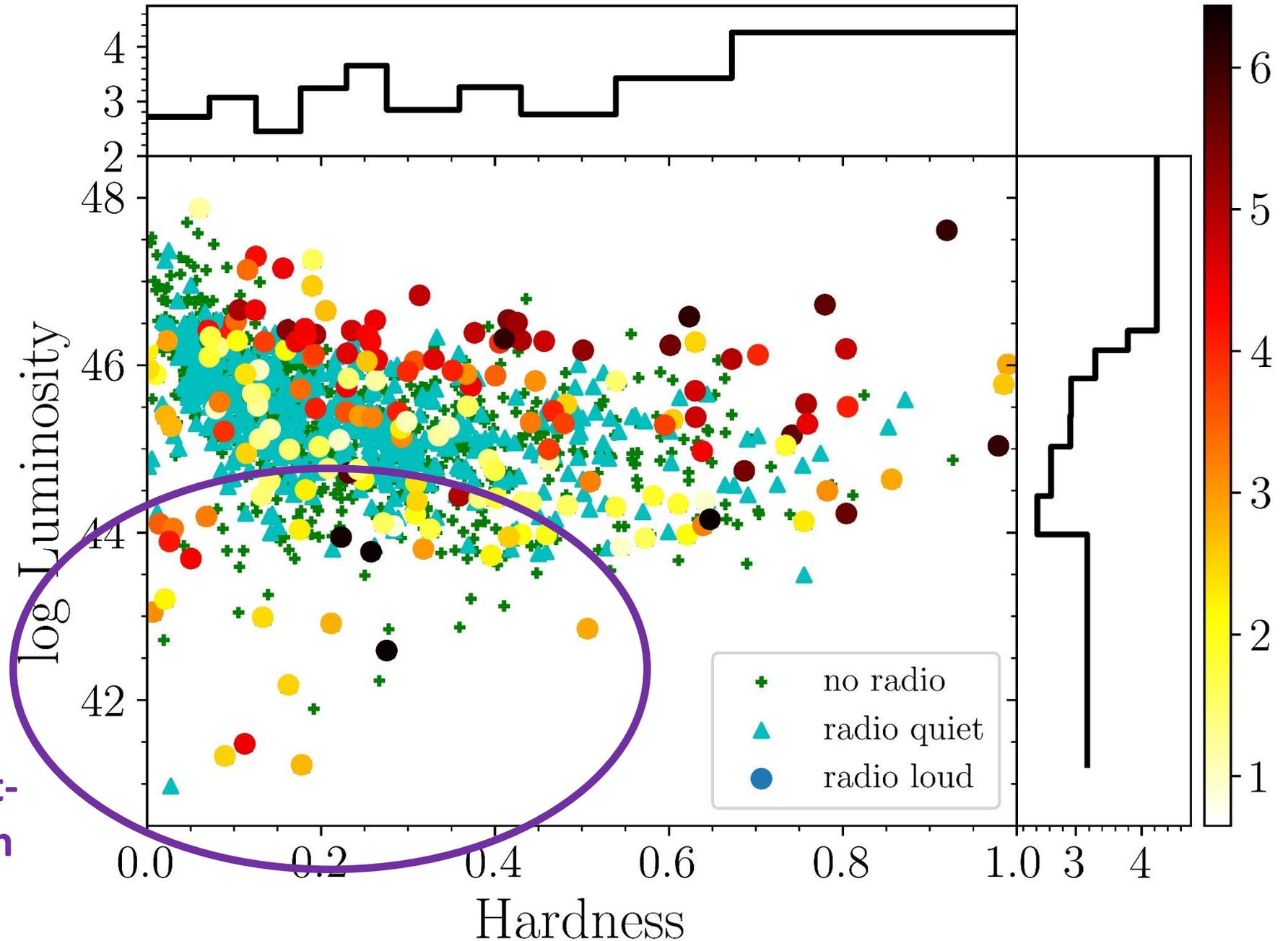
$$\beta = \frac{\log \frac{F_a}{F_b}}{\log \frac{\lambda_a}{\lambda_b}}$$



Hardness – Luminosity diagram

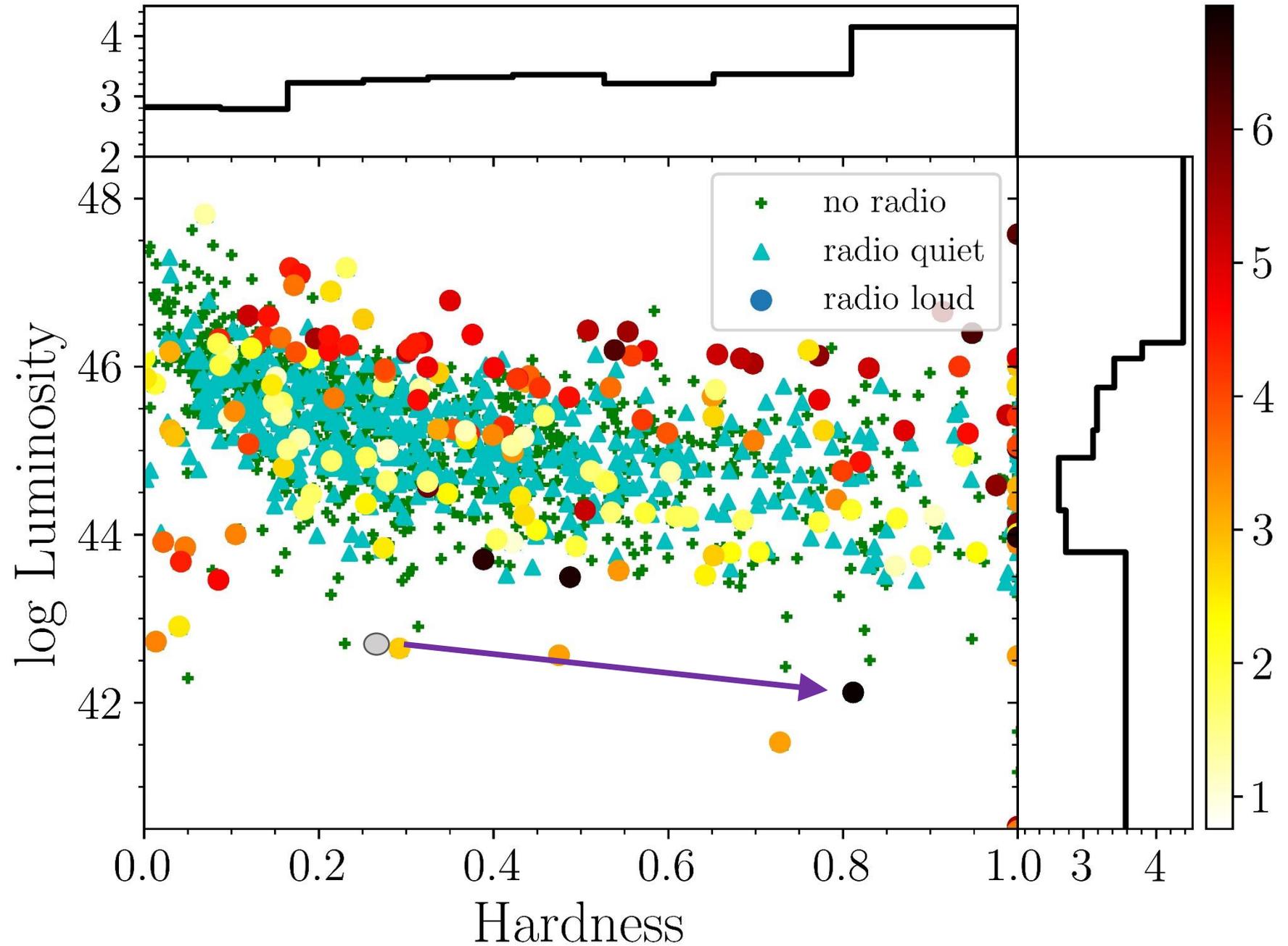
(in linear scale of the hardness)

UV emission of these sources dominated by host-galaxy contribution



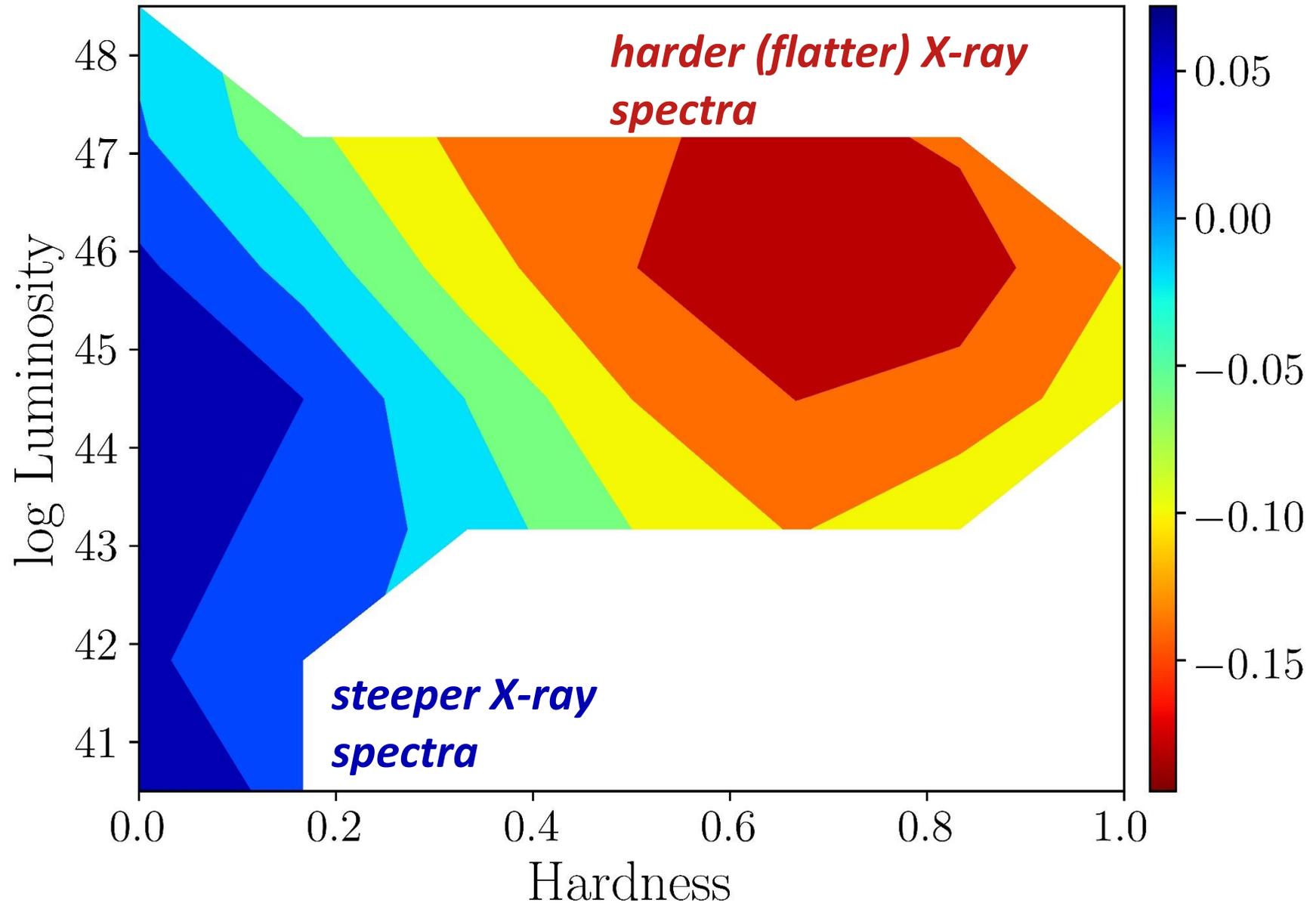
Hardness – Luminosity diagram

(after attempt to correct for host-galaxy)



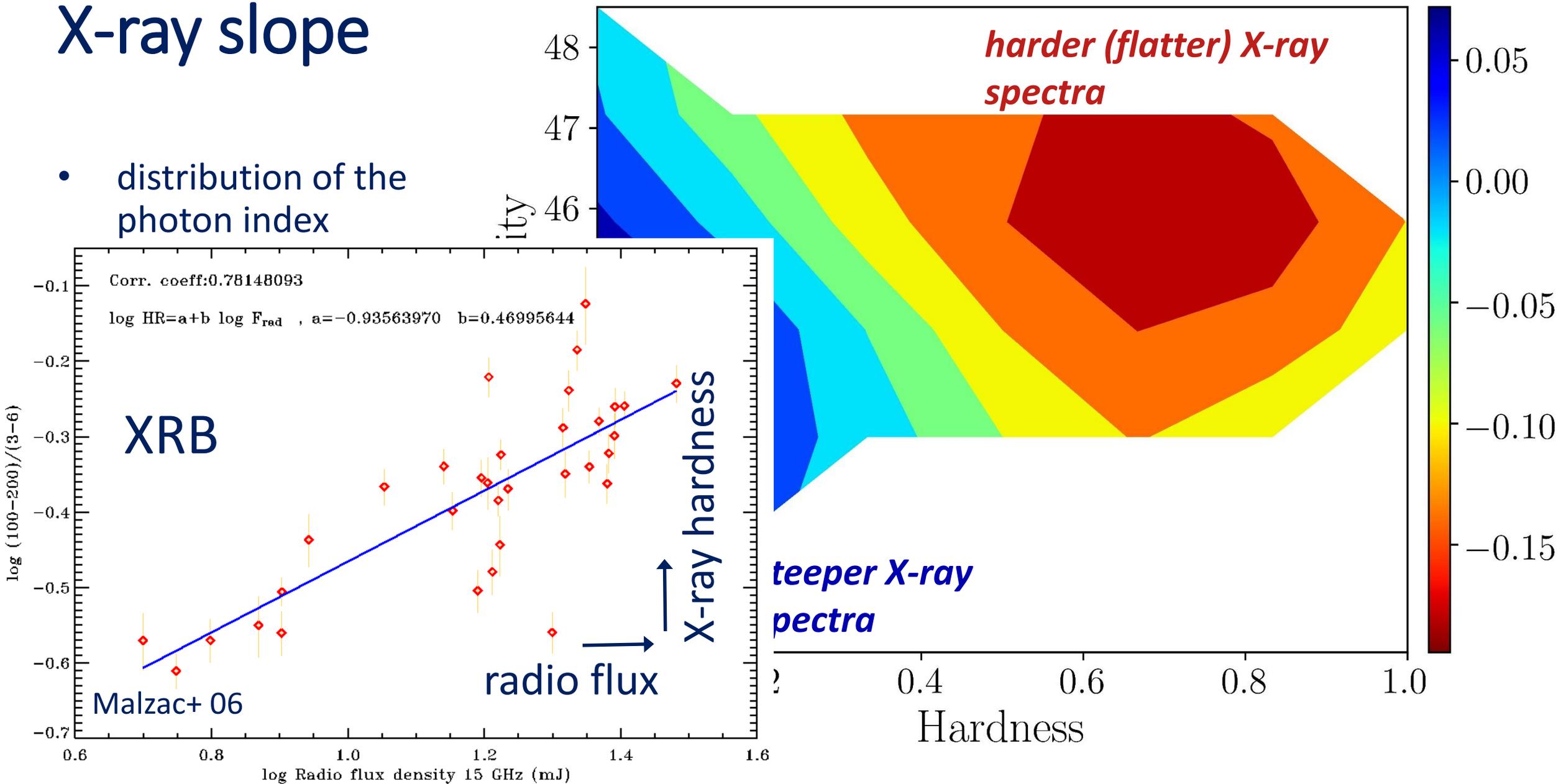
X-ray slope

- distribution of the photon index deviation from the mean value $\Gamma = 1.7$
- harder (flatter) X-ray spectra are consistent with the higher radio loudness of sources with the larger fraction of X-ray vs. optical/UV flux



X-ray slope

- distribution of the photon index

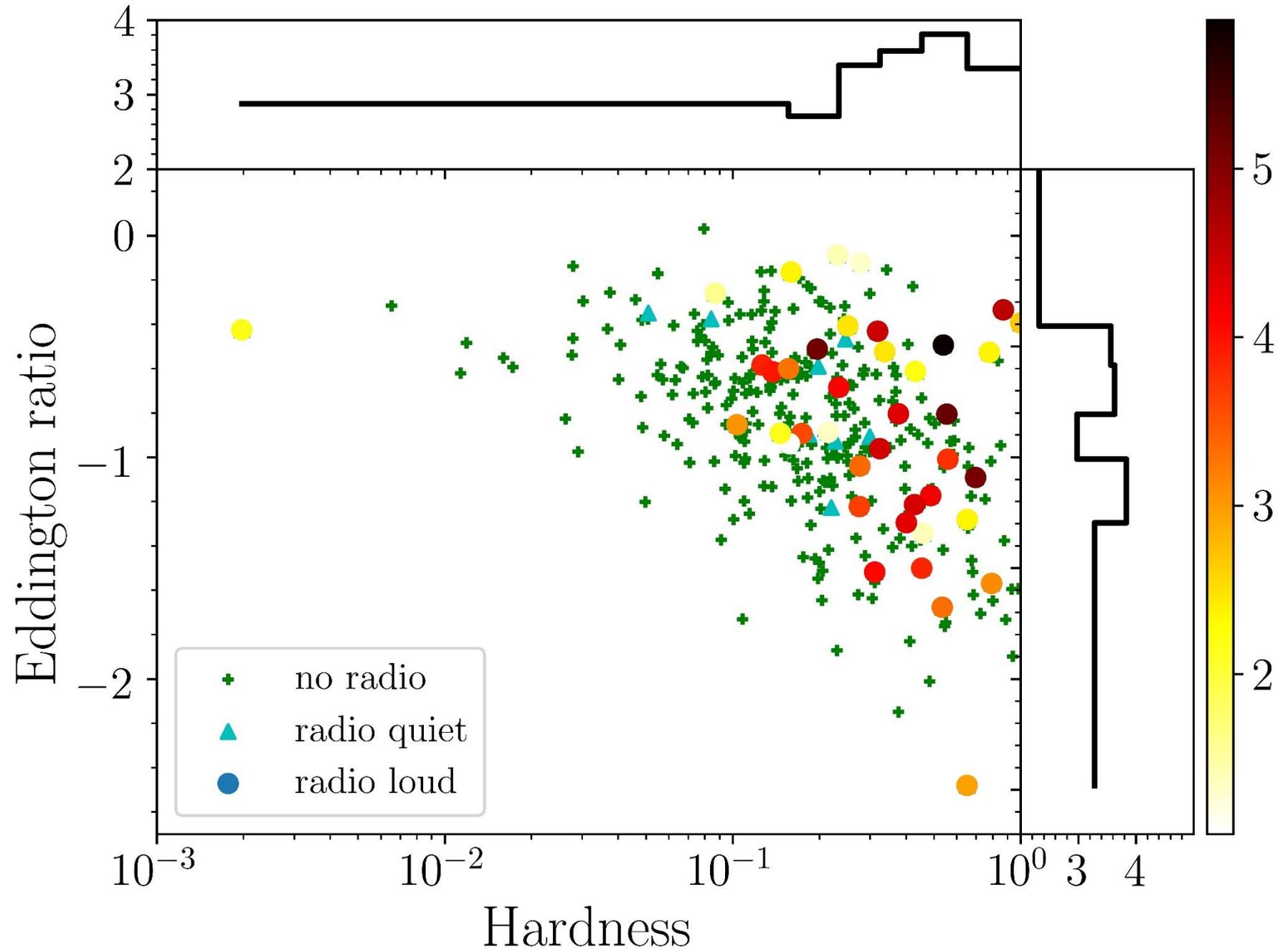


Eddington ratio

- AGN span quite large range of masses (10^5 - $10^{10} M_{\odot}$)
 - **Eddington ratio** is better quantity to determine the accretion state
 - however, we do not have reliable mass measurements of such a large AGN sample
 - the most reliable methods (e.g. reverberation) were applied to about a few tens of nearby AGN
 - we used virial mass measurements from the width of optical lines
 - see Shen et al. (2011) for the SDSS sample

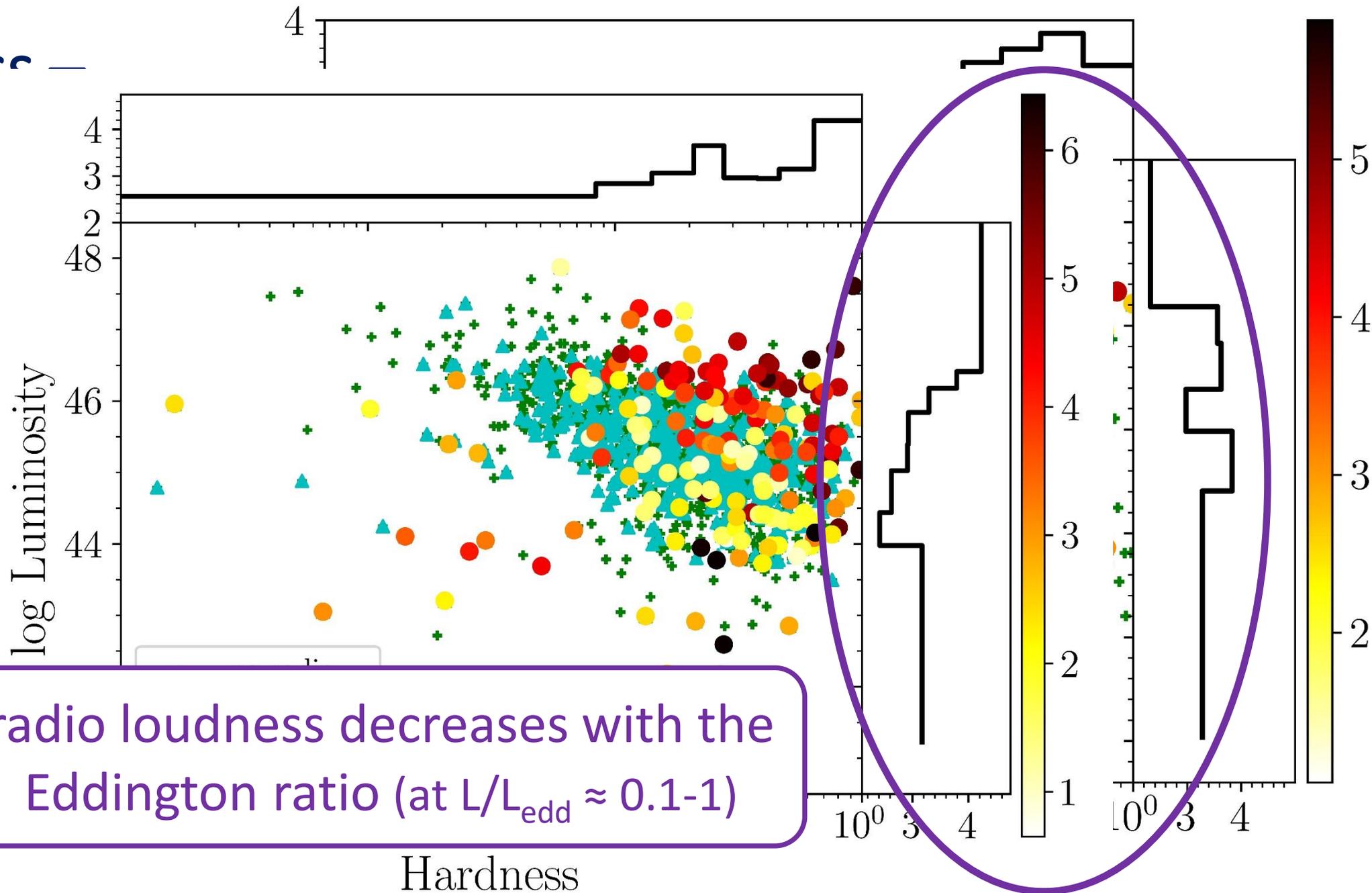
Hardness – Eddington Ratio diagram

(for SDSS sub-sample only)



Hardness
Eddington
Ratio λ

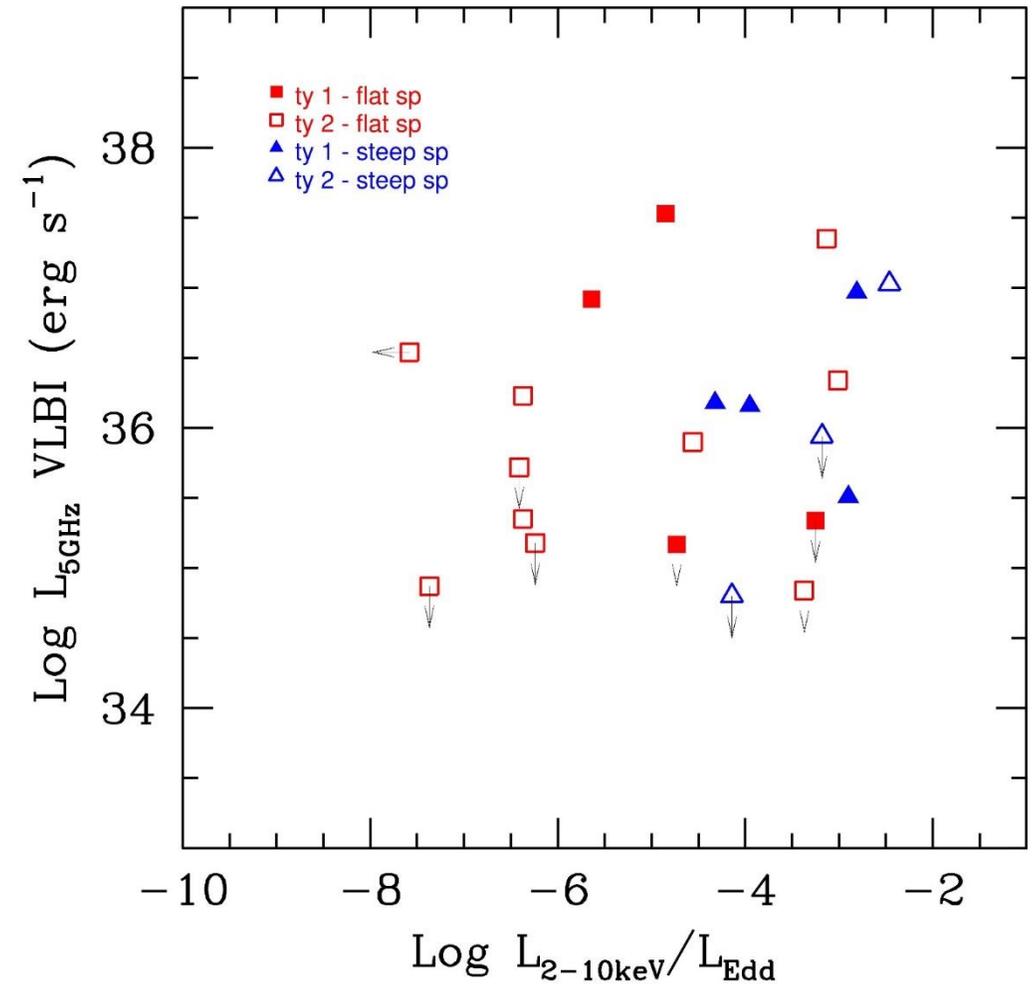
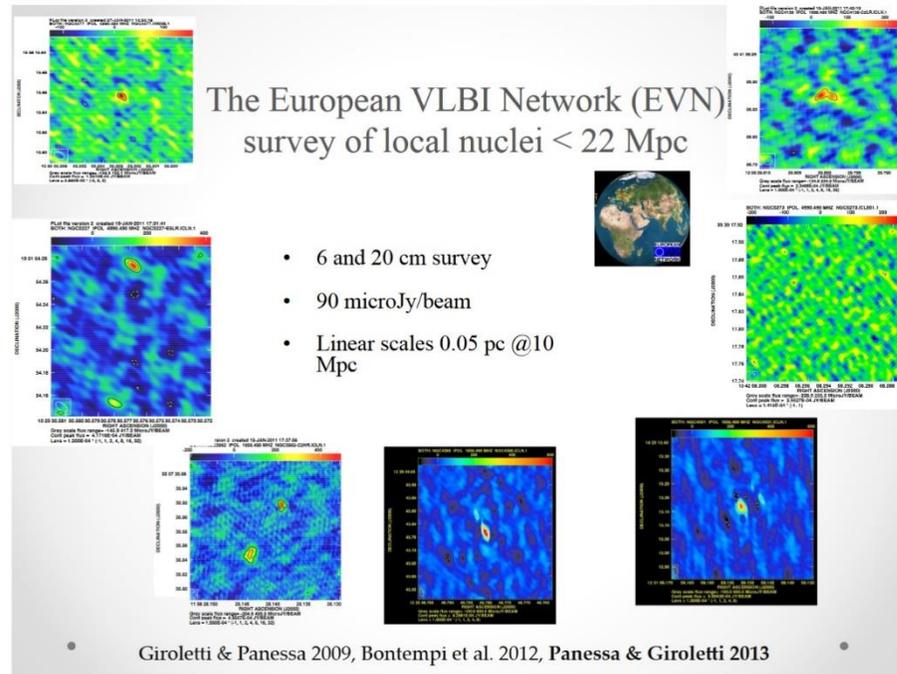
(for SDSS sample only)



radio loudness decreases with the
Eddington ratio (at $L/L_{\text{edd}} \approx 0.1-1$)

Radio properties of local Seyfert galaxies

- probing sub-pc scales with VLBI
 - no evidence for L_R vs L/L_{Edd} correlation @5 GHz (but only for $L/L_{\text{edd}} < -2$)



from presentation by F. Panessa, Porquerolles 2017

Panessa & Giroletti (2013)

Conclusions I – AGN-XRB similarities

- there are qualitative similarities between **AGN and XRB spectral states**:
 - radio-loud sources have larger fraction of X-ray flux, their X-ray spectra are flatter, and they lack thermal disk emission in UV
 - radio loudness decreases with the Eddington ratio (for $L \sim 0.1-1 L_{\text{edd}}$)
- AGN activity as well as the AGN radio dichotomy can be explained by the spectral state evolution similar to XRB

Conclusions II – AGN-XRB differences

- Open questions:
 - what is the influence of galaxy mergers on triggering AGN activity?
 - is AGN life-time similar to active phase of XRB, simply proportional to the BH mass?
 - are AGN accretion states influenced by different densities/ionisations of the discs or by the presence of warm corona responsible for the soft X-ray excess in AGN spectra (not present in XRB spectra),...?

Future prospects on AGN spectral states

- key ingredients for the study:
 - mass (reverberation techniques, virial masses)
 - X-ray luminosity, X-ray spectral slope
 - UV luminosity (not contaminated by host galaxy), UV spectral slope
 - radio luminosity
 - radio morphology or radio spectral shape
 - new **more-sensitive radio surveys** (VLASS, SKA)
- **large homogeneous sample**
 - **eROSITA, ATHENA/WFI** surveys with complementary surveys by instruments at other wavelengths

Thank you for your attention!!!