

# A unified model for ULXs and ULSs;

Radiation hydrodynamic simulations of  
super-Eddington accretion flows

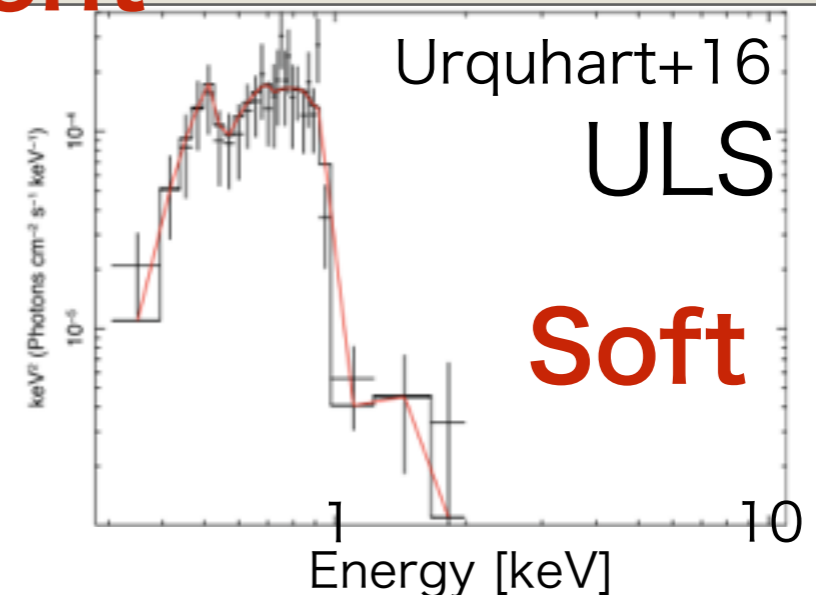
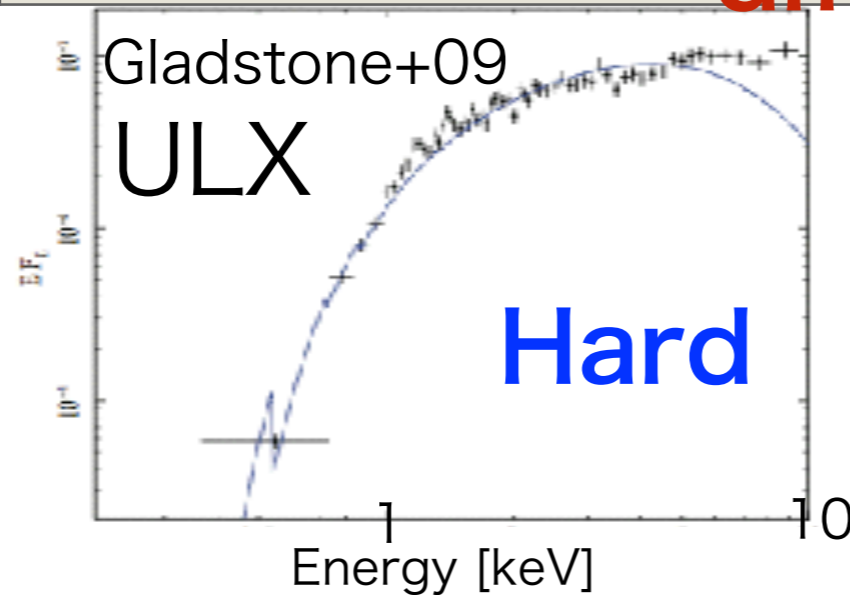
**Takumi Ogawa** (Kyoto University),

Shin Mineshige (Kyoto University),

Tomohisa Kawashima, Ken Ohsuga (NAOJ)

# Ultra-Luminous Supersoft sources (ULSs) vs Ultra-Luminous X-ray sources (ULXs)

	ULXs		ULSs
Luminosity	$> 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$	similar	$\gtrsim 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$
Typical temperature	$\gtrsim 1 \text{ keV}$	different	$\lesssim 0.1 \text{ keV}$



Are ULSs also **super-Eddington accretors** onto stellar mass compact objects ?

If so,

What produces the difference between ULSs and ULXs?

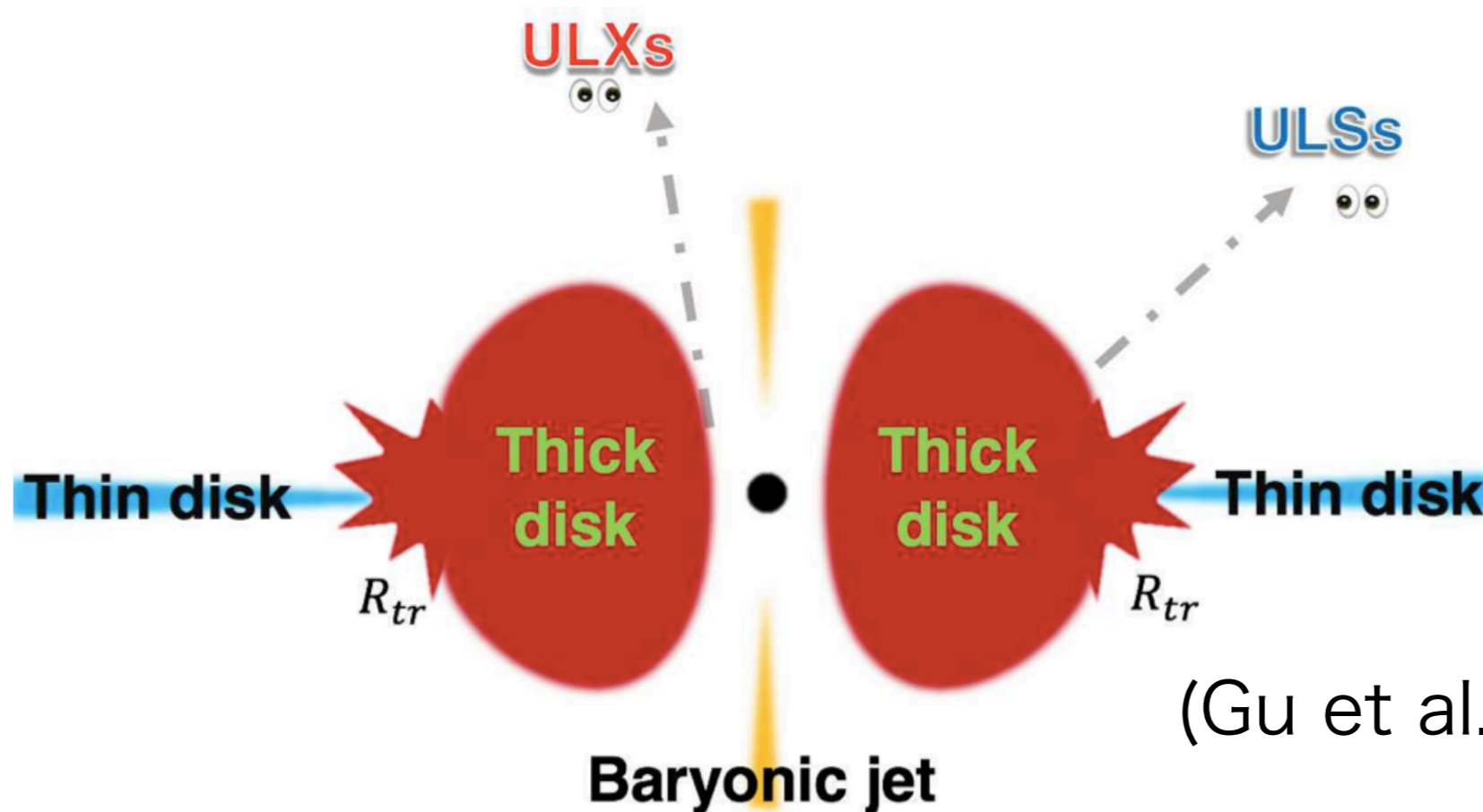
# Unified Model for these Ultra-Luminous sources

Both ULXs and ULSs are super-Eddington accretors

But

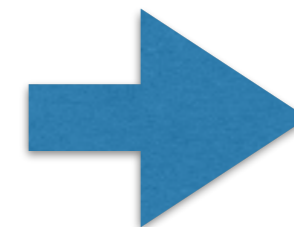
difference is mainly generated by the viewing angle

(Urquhart & Soria 2016)



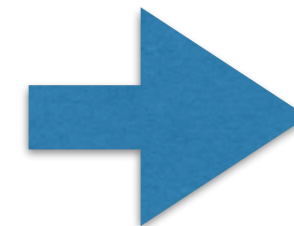
(Gu et al. 2015)

when viewing from the polar direction



ULXs

when viewing from the horizontal direction



ULSs

# Motivation and Goals

## Key Questions

- How are super-Eddington accretion flows observed and how does their appearance vary, depending on the viewing angle?
- **Can the basic properties of ULs be explained by the super-Eddington scenario?**



In the present study,  
we performed **2D axisymmetric radiation hydrodynamic simulations of super-Eddington accretion flows for various accretion rates**

# Basic Equations

## Radiation Hydrodynamics with the Flux Limited Diffusion Approximation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0 \quad \text{(mass conservation)}$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho v_r)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho v_r \mathbf{v}) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial r} + \rho \left[ \frac{v_\theta^2}{r} + \frac{v_\varphi^2}{r} - \frac{GM_{\text{BH}}}{(r - r_{\text{S}})^2} \right] + f_r + q_r$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho r v_\theta)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho r v_\theta \mathbf{v}) = -\frac{\partial p}{\partial \theta} + \rho v_\varphi^2 \cot \theta + r f_\theta + r q_\theta \quad \text{(equation of motion)}$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho r \sin \theta v_\varphi)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho r \sin \theta v_\varphi \mathbf{v}) = r \sin \theta q_\varphi$$

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (e \mathbf{v}) = -p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - 4\pi \kappa B + c \kappa E_0 + \Phi_{\text{vis}} - \Gamma_{\text{Comp}} \quad \text{(energy conservation)}$$

$$\frac{\partial E_0}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (E_0 \mathbf{v}) = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_0 + \nabla \mathbf{v} : \mathbf{P}_0 + 4\pi \kappa B - c \kappa E_0 + \Gamma_{\text{Comp}}$$

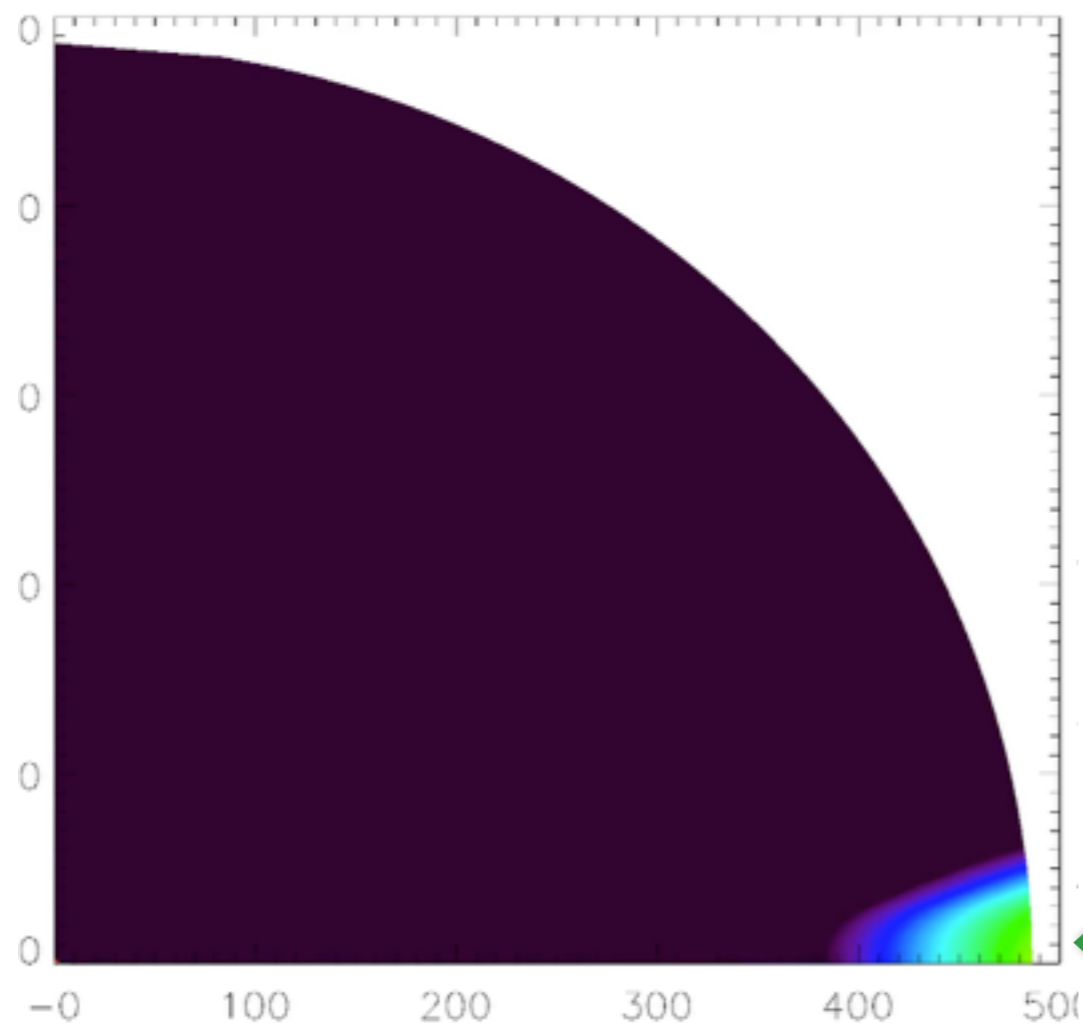
$$p = (\gamma - 1)e \quad \text{(equation of state)}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{Comp}} = 4c\sigma_{\text{T}} \frac{k_{\text{B}}(T_{\text{gas}} - T_{\text{rad}})}{m_e c^2} \left( \frac{\rho}{m_p} \right) E_0$$

including Thermal Compton effect

# Method

- 2D axisymmetric radiation hydrodynamic code (Kawashima+09) with sufficiently large simulation domain ( $r \in [2r_S, 5000r_S]$  for high  $\dot{M}_{\text{inj}}$ )
- We inject mass at a constant rate  $\dot{M}_{\text{inj}}$  and with a constant angular momentum from the edge of the disk.
- We calculate 3 cases of different  $\dot{M}_{\text{inj}}$

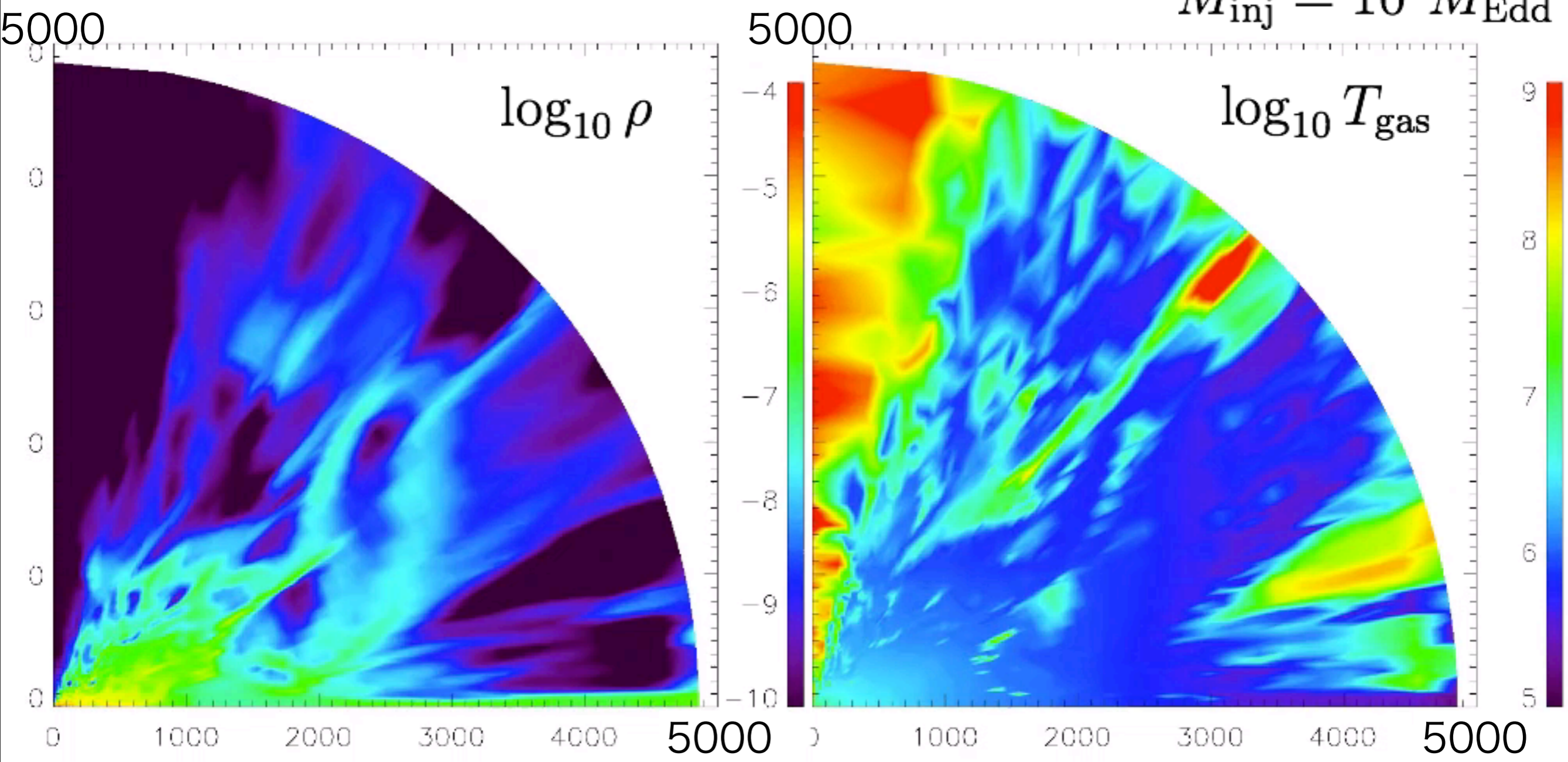


$$\dot{M}_{\text{inj}} / \dot{M}_{\text{Edd}} = 10^2, 10^3, 10^4$$
$$\dot{M}_{\text{Edd}} = L_{\text{Edd}} / c^2$$

mass injection  $\dot{M}_{\text{inj}}$

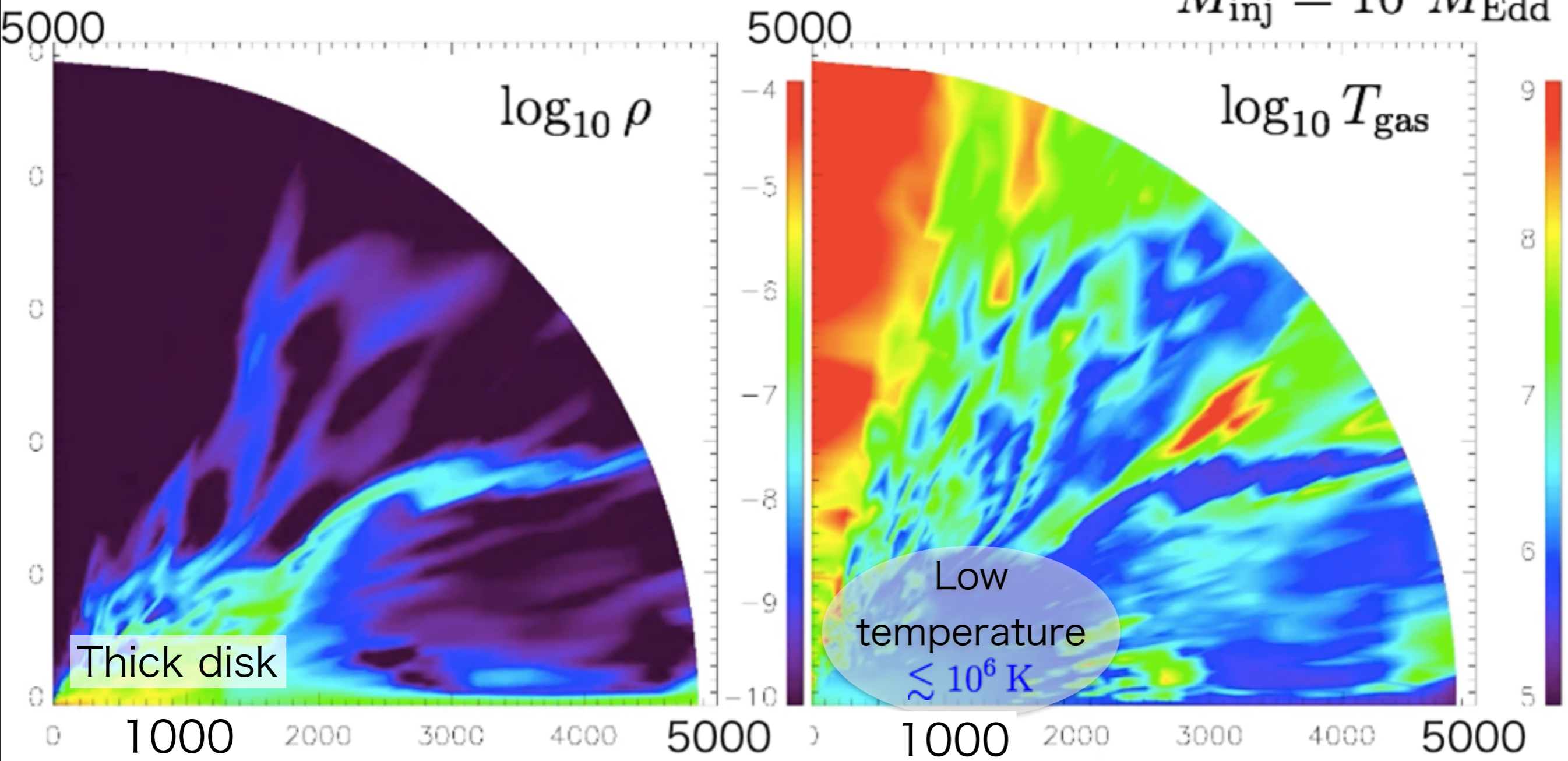
# Simulation Overviews

$$\dot{M}_{\text{inj}} = 10^3 \dot{M}_{\text{Edd}}$$



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$$\dot{M}_{\text{inj}} = 10^3 \dot{M}_{\text{Edd}}$$



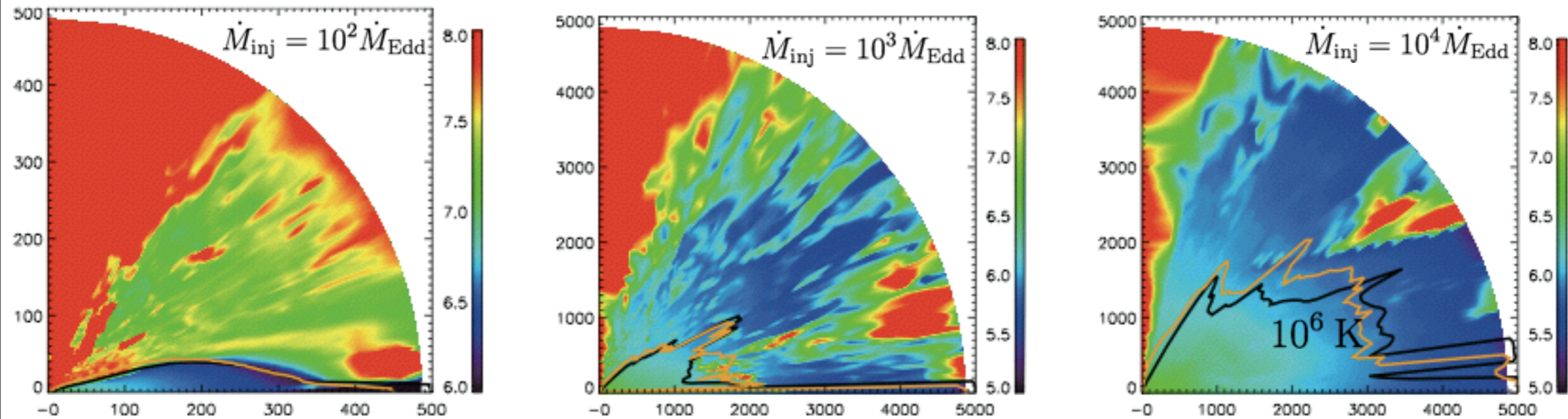
Near the thick disk,  
gas temperature goes down to 0.1 keV or smaller.



# temperature structure

Time-averaged contour maps of gas temperature

$$T = \langle \rho T_{\text{gas}} \rangle / \langle \rho \rangle$$



Yellow line: Compton sphere,

Black line: Photosphere

$$y_{\text{Comp}} \equiv \tau_{\text{es}} \int_r^{r_{\text{out}}} \frac{4kT}{m_e c^2} \kappa_{\text{es}} \rho dr = 1$$

$$\tau_{\text{eff}} \equiv \int_r^{r_{\text{out}}} \kappa_{\text{eff}} \rho dr = 1$$

Low

$\dot{M}_{\text{acc}}$

High

High

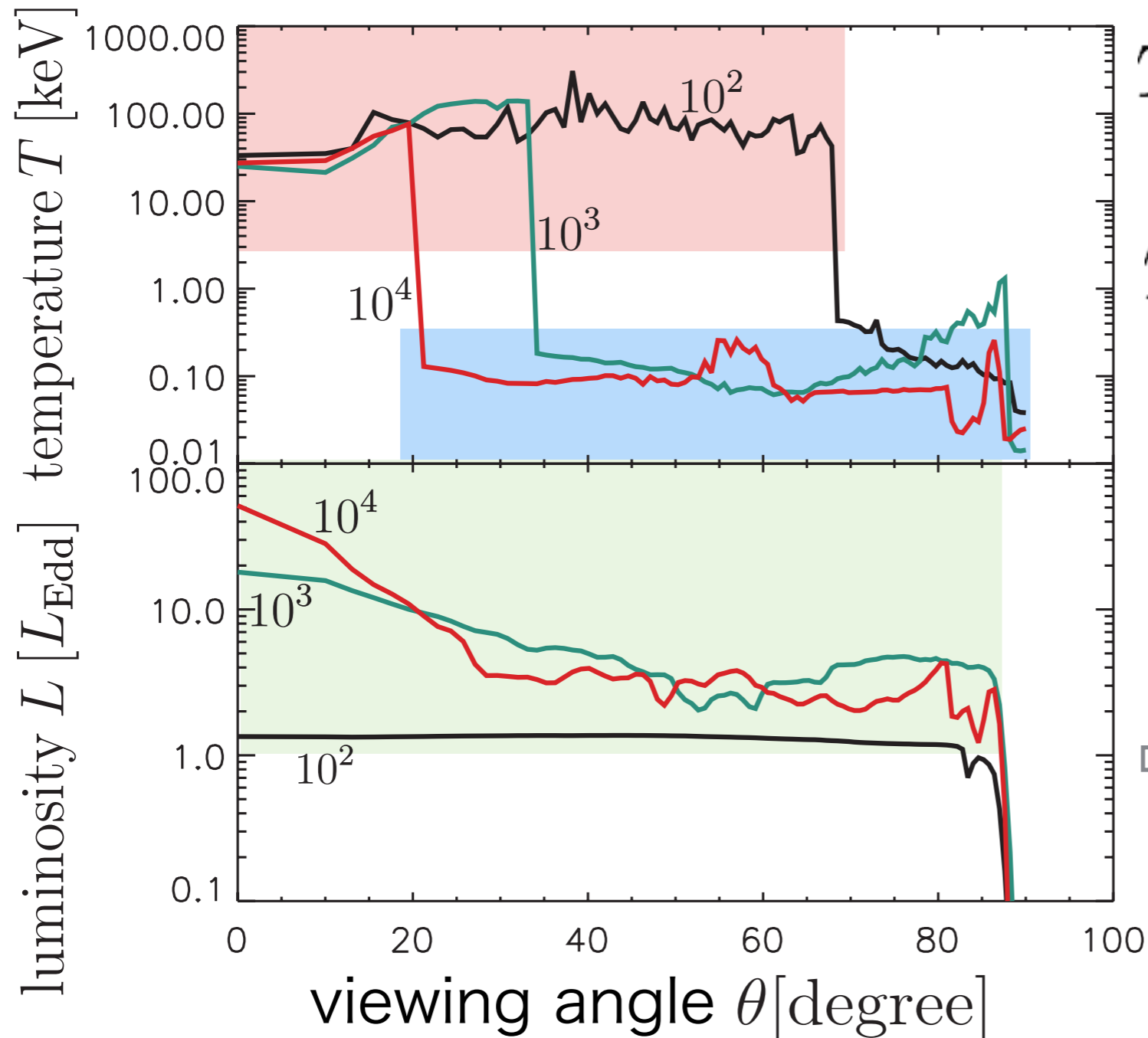
$T_{\text{gas}}$

Low



# Observed Temperature and Luminosity

$T(\theta)$ : the temperature on the outer sphere between Compton- and photo- spheres



$T \gtrsim \text{few keV} \Rightarrow \text{ULX}$

$T \lesssim 0.1 \text{ keV} \Rightarrow \text{ULS}$

$\theta \gtrsim 68^\circ$  for  $M_{\text{inj}} = 10^2$

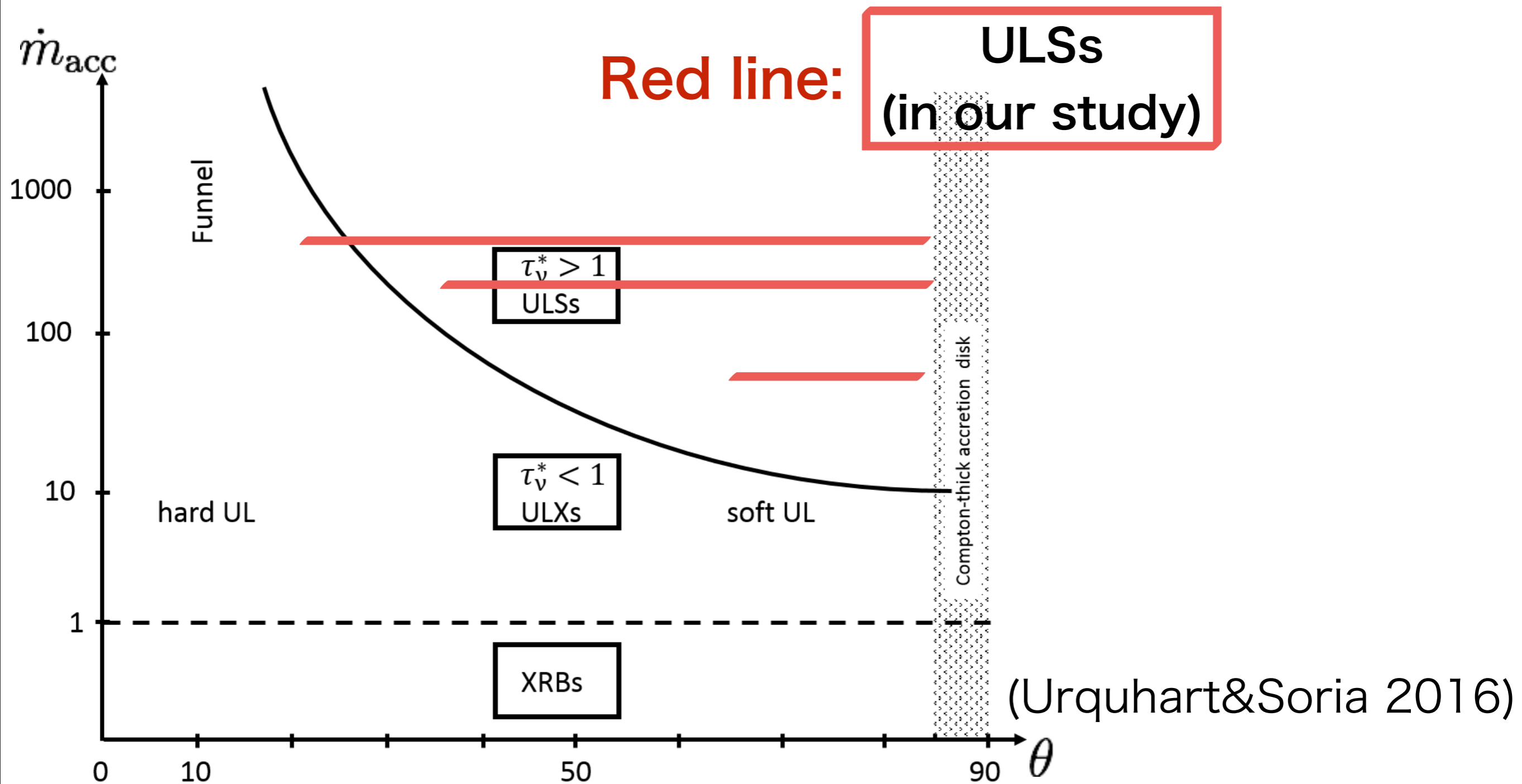
$\theta \gtrsim 34^\circ$  for  $M_{\text{inj}} = 10^3$

$\theta \gtrsim 21^\circ$  for  $M_{\text{inj}} = 10^4$

$\Rightarrow$  Super-Eddington

ULSs are also super-Eddington accretors  
but viewed from large polar angles.

# Classification of ULXs and ULSs



When the accretion rate is larger,  
the source is more likely to be seen as ULSs

# Summary

Our 2D RHD simulations show

- Both ULXs and ULSs can be super-Eddington accretors,

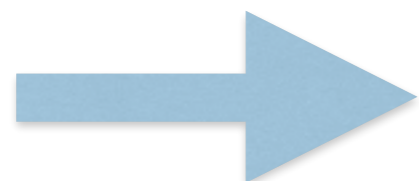
- The main differences between ULSs and ULXs are

viewing angle

- The higher mass accretion rate is, the more likely to be observed as a ULS the source is.

Our result supports the Unified model for ULXs and ULSs

In this study, we simply use the temperature on the Compton- or photo- spheres and its luminosity to determine whether an Ultra-Luminous source is a ULS or not.



Spectral calculation is needed at a next step