

Discovery of mm emission  
from a neutron star  
High Mass X-ray Binary

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J. van den Eijnden, M. Díaz-Trigo,

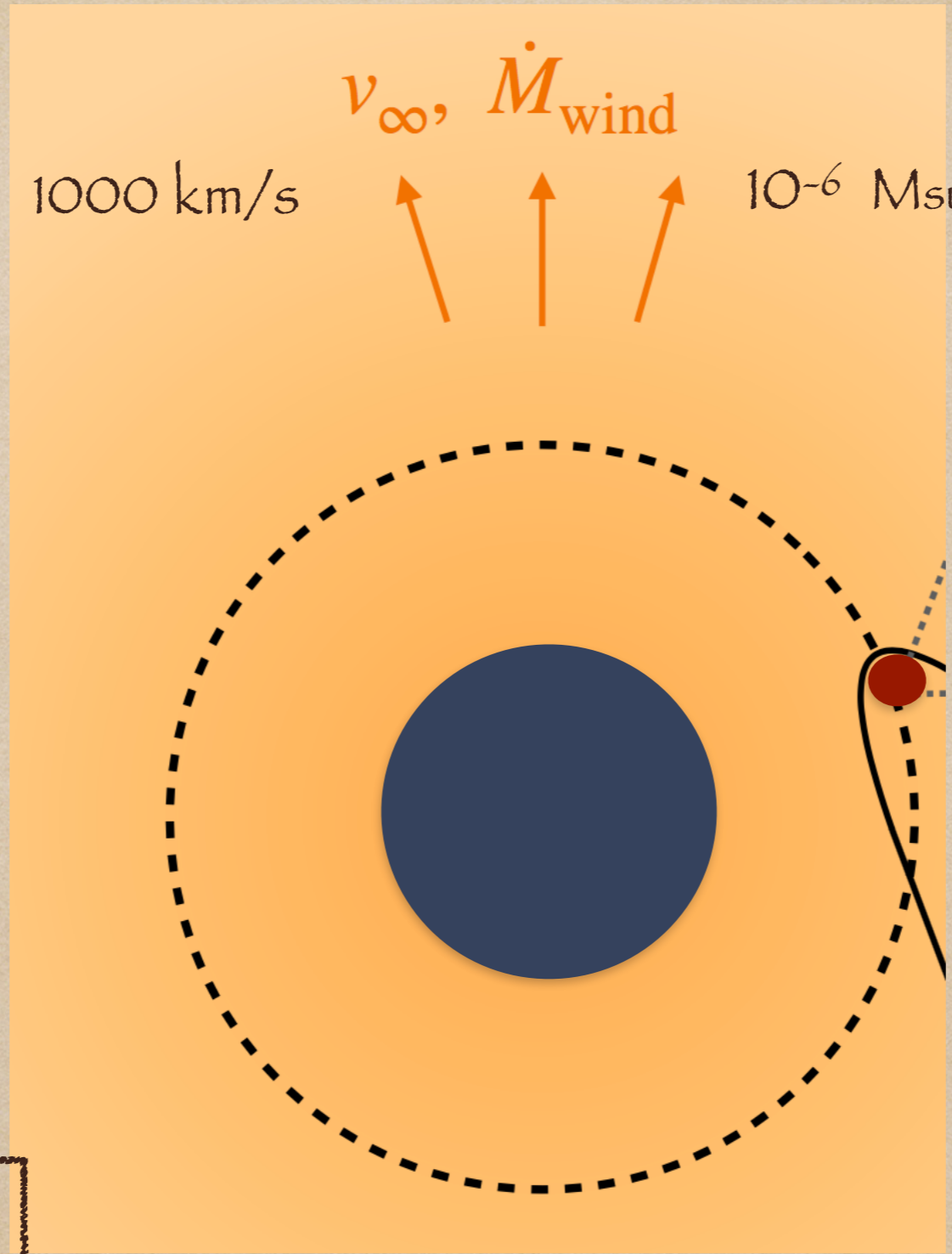
N. Degenaar, I. El Mellah, F. Fuerst, V. Grinberg, P. Kretschmar, S. Martínez-Núñez,  
J.C.A. Miller-Jones, K. Postnov, T.D. Russell

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**HMXBs** host neutron stars accreting from the supergiant wind

O-type or  
B-type  
Supergiant  
Donor



Neutron Star

Wind accretion

Line-driven strong winds

$$v(r) = v_{\infty} \left(1 - \frac{R_*}{r}\right)^{\beta}$$

Wind velocity

$$L_X \propto \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{wind}}}{a^2 v_{\text{rel}}^4}$$

No RLO  
No accretion disk

$$v_{\text{rel}} \approx \sqrt{v_{\infty}^2 + v_{\text{orbit}}^2}$$



HMXBs with early-type supergiant donors:  
two types of X-ray light curves

**Persistent SgHMXB**

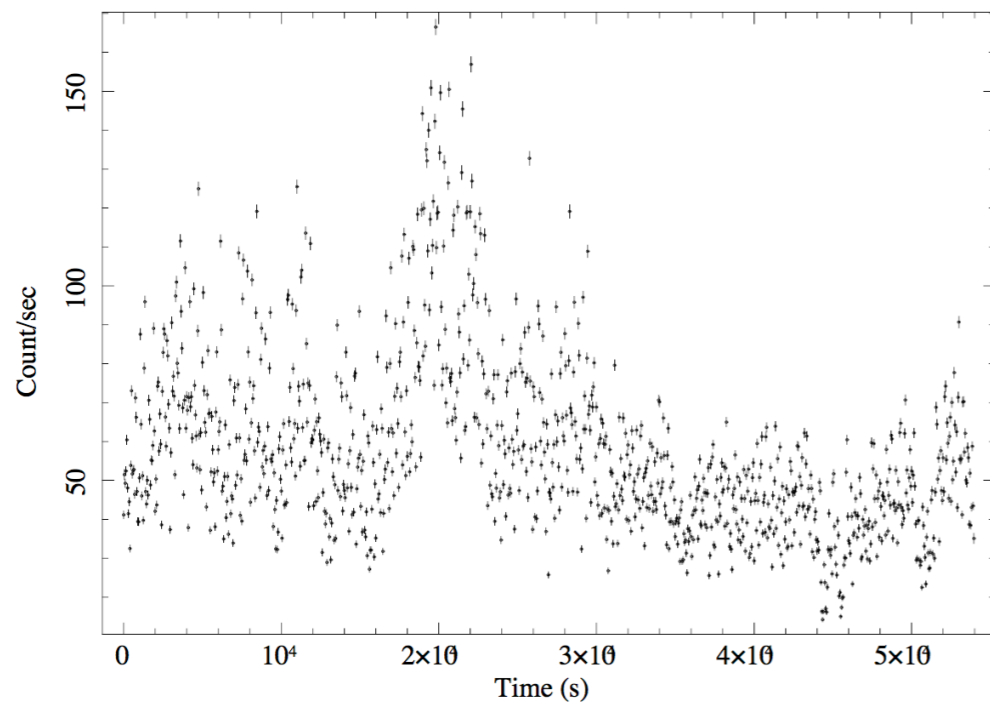
$$L_x = 10^{36} \text{ erg/s}$$

**SFXT**

Supergiant fast X-ray transient

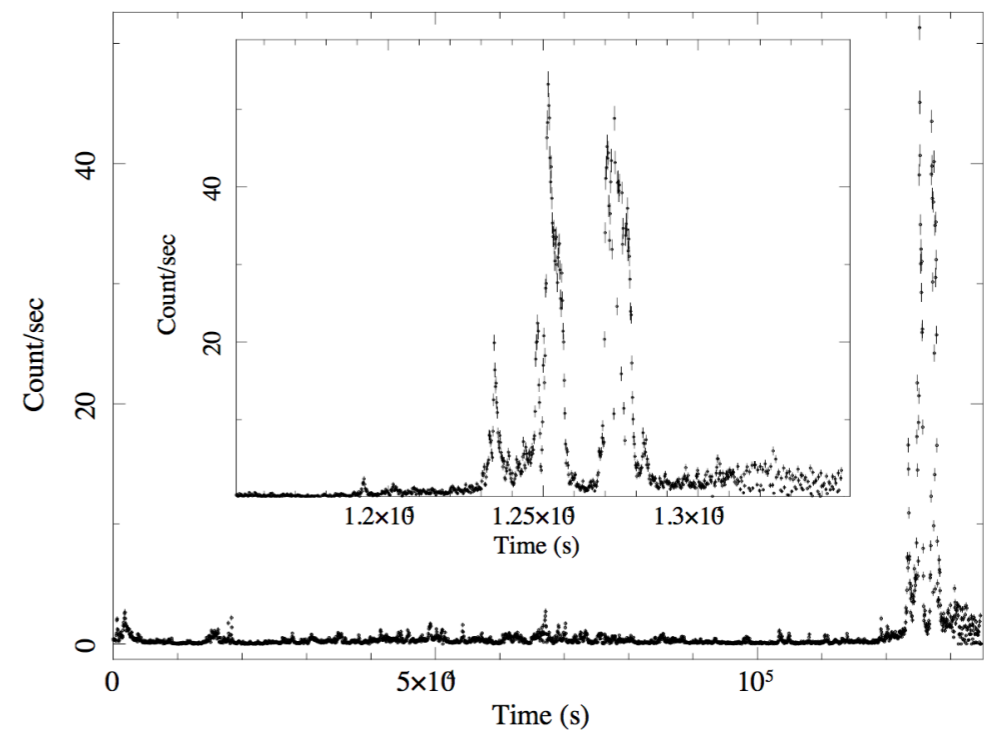
$$L_x = 10^{36} \text{ erg/s only during flares}$$

Vela X-1 (XMM-Newton)



Martínez-Núñez et al. 2014

IGR J17544-2619 (XMM-Newton)



Bozzo et al. 2016



HMXBs with early-type supergiant donors:

**Which regime ?**

## Persistent SgHMXB

Direct wind accretion regime  
(Bondi-Hoyle)

$$L_X \propto \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{wind}}}{a^2 v_{\text{rel}}^4}$$

## SFXT

Supergiant fast X-ray transient

Scenarios **to inhibit accretion** most of the time:  
quasi-spherical settling accretion,  
Propeller, magnetic barrier, helped by clumpy winds

But **no conclusive answer**, in absence of  
 $P_{\text{spin}}$  & B field measured in the same source

$P_{\text{spin}}$  in pers and SFXTs are similar (100-1000 s),  
B field in SFXTs is elusive (measured only in one source,  $B = 10^{12}$  G)  
 $P_{\text{orb}}$  values overlap (but with a few SFXTs with long  $P_{\text{orb}}$ , 50-165 days)



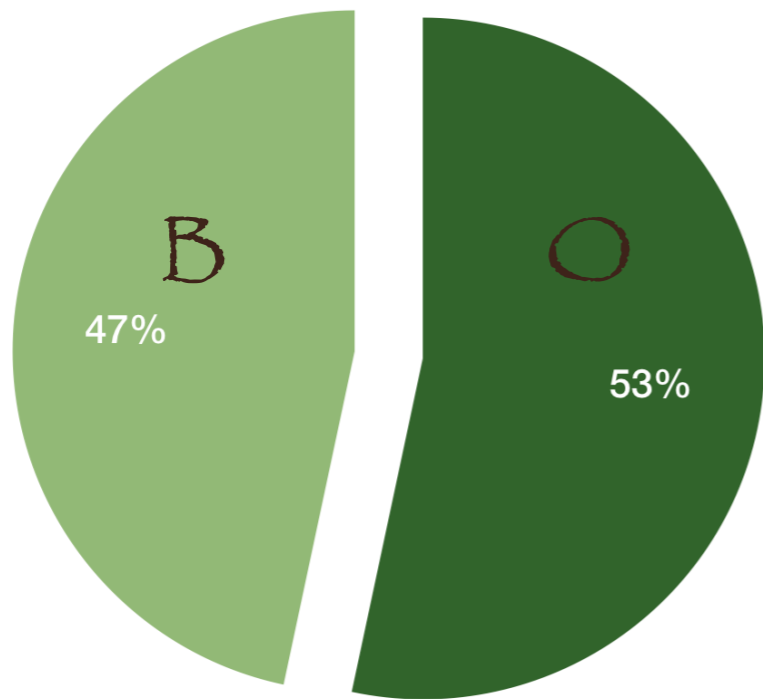
HMXBs with early-type supergiant donors:  
What if we look at the **optical counterpart** ?

Is there any **difference in the wind properties**  
(mass loss rate and wind velocity)  
Able to explain the **dichotomy** in the **two types of wind-fed HMXBs** ?

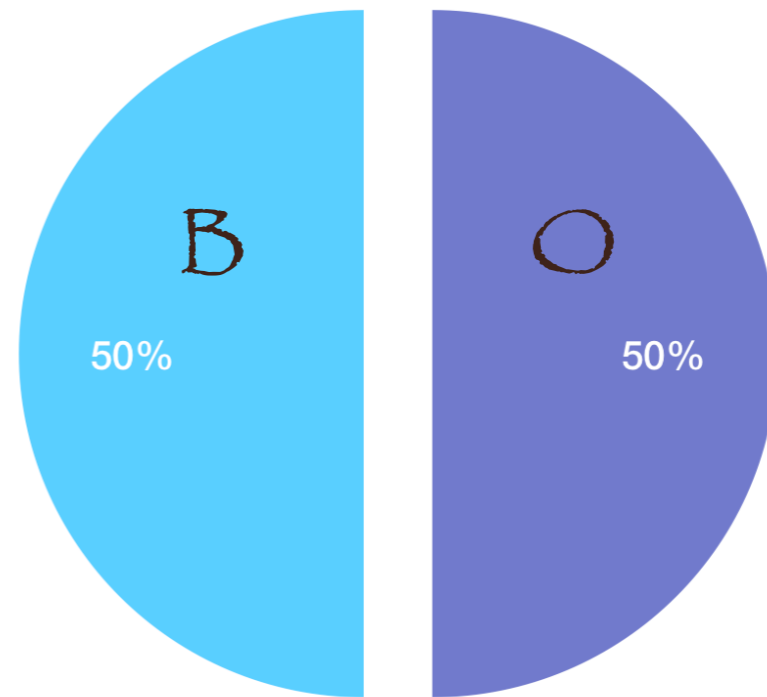
Such comparisons of the supergiant wind properties are rare



# Spectral types in optical counterparts of persistent HMXBs vs SFXTs



15 pers SgHMXBs



14 SFXTs

Data taken from the HMXBs cat by Neumann et al. 2023 (only Galactic sources)



# Optical/UV spectroscopy of persistent HMXBs vs SFXTs

comparing the wind properties are **inconclusive**

Gimenez-García et al. (2015) reported

On significant differences in the wind velocity

In a persistent source (700 km/s) vs a SFXT (1500 km/s)

Hainich et al. (2020) reported

No evidence for a dichotomy in the wind properties in a  
larger sample of HMXBs



# Thermal stellar wind emission

Radio continuum observations are a well established tool for **estimating mass-loss rates** for massive stars

$$S_\nu \propto \nu^{0.6} \left( \frac{\dot{M}_{\text{wind}}}{v_\infty} \right)^{\frac{4}{3}} d^{-2}$$

Wright & Barlow 1975

Olson 1975

Panagia & Felli 1975

Radio continuum is due to **free-free emission** in the stellar wind and it is a more straightforward method to measure mass-loss rate



## Our pilot study using NOEMA @ 100 GHz

### SFXT

IGR J18410-0535 (aka AX J1841.0-0536) B1

$P_{\text{orb}} = 6.45 \text{ d}$  (TBC)

$P_{\text{spin}}$  = unknown; distances reported in the literature: 3.2 kpc, 6.9 kpc or 13.8 kpc (Gaia eDR3)

### Persistent SgHMXB

X 1908+075 (aka 4U 1909+07) B0-B3 I

$P_{\text{orb}} = 4.4 \text{ d}$   $\text{ecc} = 0.021 \pm 0.036$

$P_{\text{spin}} = 604 \text{ s}$ ; distance = 4.85 kpc

(van den Eijnden, LS, Díaz-Trigo et al. 2023)



## Results of our pilot study

### First detection of an SFXT @ 100 GHz

(van den Eijnden, LS, Díaz-Trigo et al. 2023)

### SFXT (detected)

IGR J18410-0535  $S_\nu = 63.4 \pm 9.6 \mu\text{Jy}$  (100 GHz)  
 $\rightarrow L_\nu = 7.8 \times 10^{28} \text{ erg/s}$  (at 3.2 kpc)

Complemented by ATCA (DDT) at 5.5 and 9 GHz  
two days after NOEMA, with no detection ( $< 48 \mu\text{J}$ )

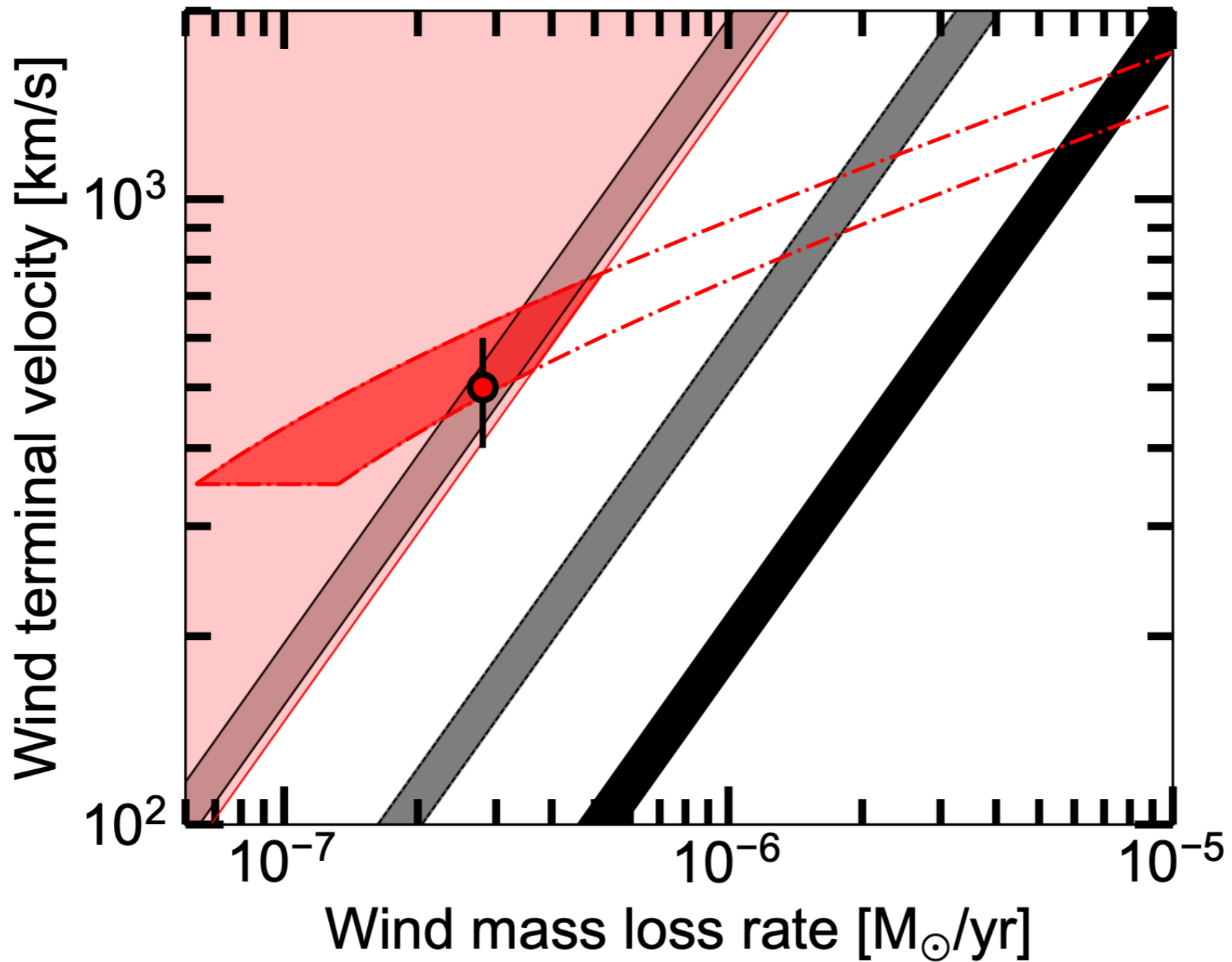
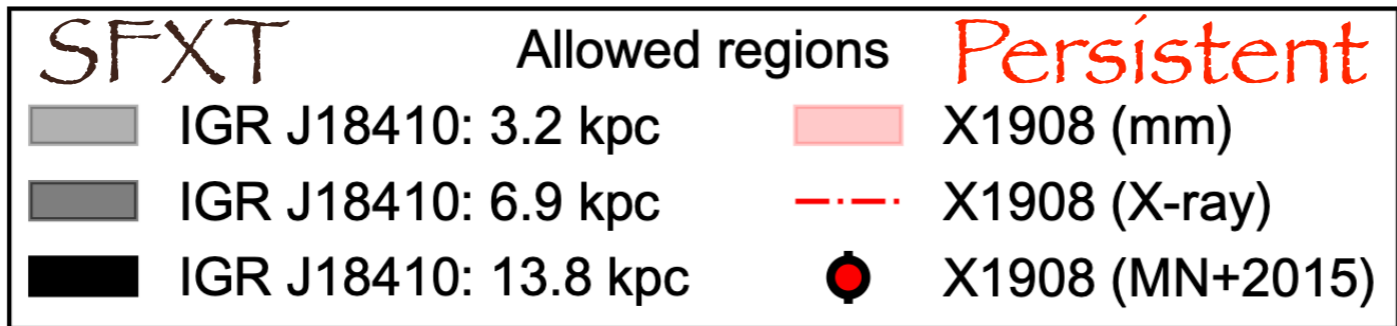
ATCA and NOEMA measurements imply a  $3\text{-}\sigma$  lower  
limit on  $\alpha$  (where  $S_\nu \propto \nu^\alpha$ ) of  $\alpha > -0.1$

### Persistent SgHMXB (undetected)

X 1908+075  $S_\nu < 34.4 \mu\text{Jy}$  (100 GHz)

No ATCA time  $\rightarrow L_\nu < 9.7 \times 10^{28} \text{ erg/s}$  (at 4.85 kpc)



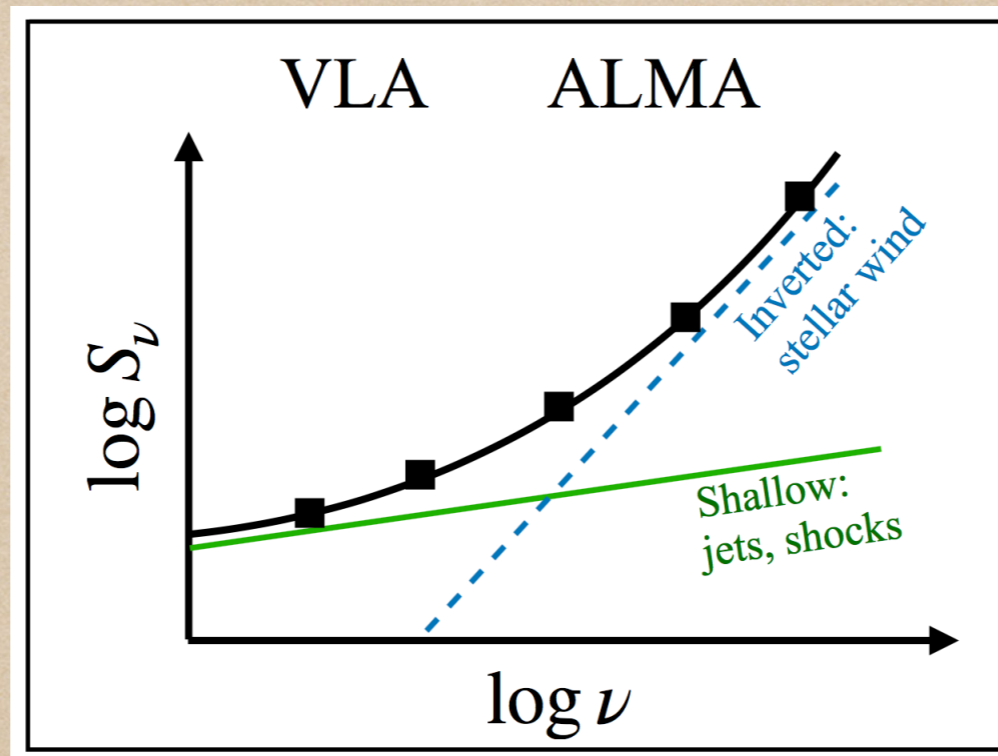




The near future: our accepted ALMA proposal

# The first deep ALMA + VLA survey of HMXBs

VLA  
(6 GHz, 10 GHz)  
ALMA  
(40, 150, 300  
GHz)



PI: J. van den Eijnden

To characterize the low frequency (6-300 GHz) SED of Six HMXBs (3 persistent & 3 SFXTs) and compare supergiant wind properties in these two sub-classes

Targets: Vela X-1, 4U1700-37, 4U1907+09 (pers) + IGRJ18410, IGRJ17544-2619, SAXJ1818.6-1703 (SFXTs)