

Metal content along the quasar main sequence

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and several collaborators of “the extreme team”

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A main sequence for quasars

* **MS**≡**Eigenvector 1**; optical plane anti-correlation between strength of FeII λ 4570 and FWHM of H β

$$(R_{\text{FeII}} = \text{FeII}\lambda 4570/\text{H}\beta)$$

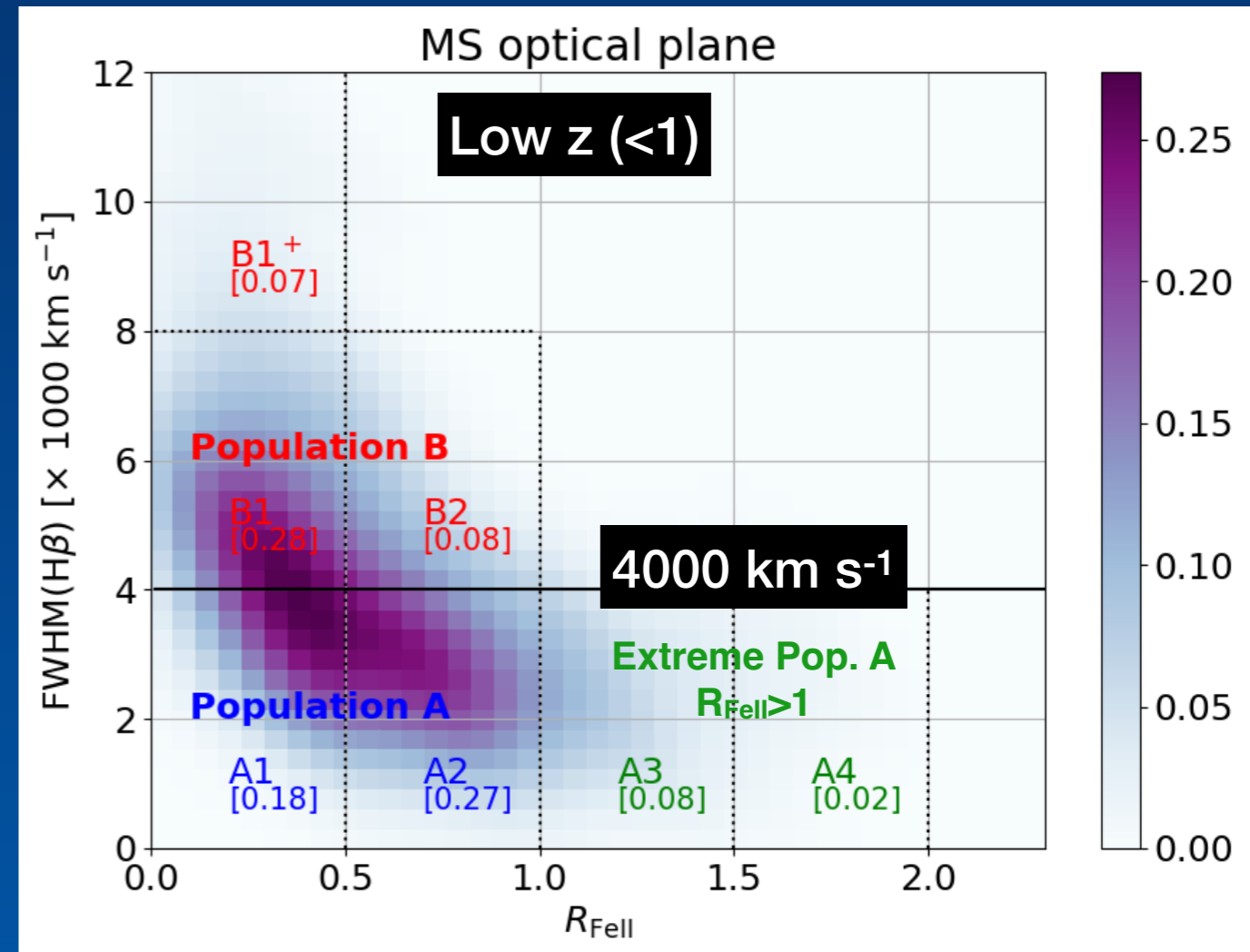
(e.g.: Boroson & Green 1992; Gaskell 1985; Sulentic et al. 2000a,b; Shen & Ho 2014; Rakshit et al. 2020; Wu & Shen 2023)

* **Spectral types** can be identified as well as **two main populations** of type-1 AGN: Pop. A and Pop. B (high- and low- L/L_{Edd}), extreme Pop. A \Rightarrow candidate super Eddington

Sulentic et al. 2002; Sulentic et al. 2011; Shen & Ho 2014; Super-Eddington: Wang et al. 2013; Marziani & Sulentic 2014; Du et al. 2018

* **Type-1 AGN multifrequency diversity** is organized along a sequence driven by **Eddington ratio / orientation**

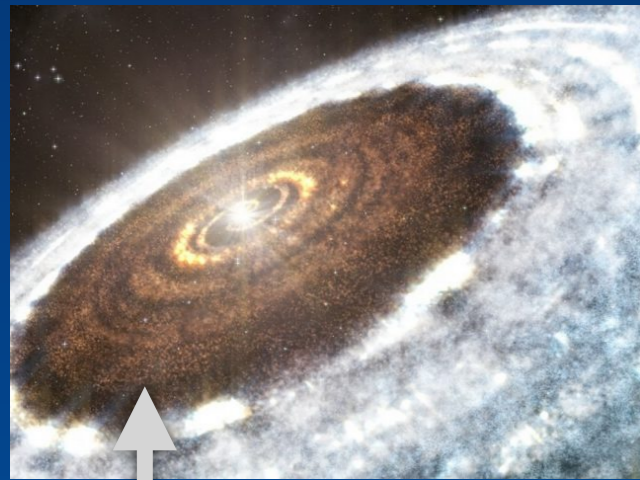
4DE1 of Sulentic et al. 2000a; summary table in Fraix-Burnet et al. 2017; L/L_{Edd} : Marziani et al. 2001; Boroson 2002; Shen & Ho 2014; Sun & Shen 2015; Panda et al. 2019



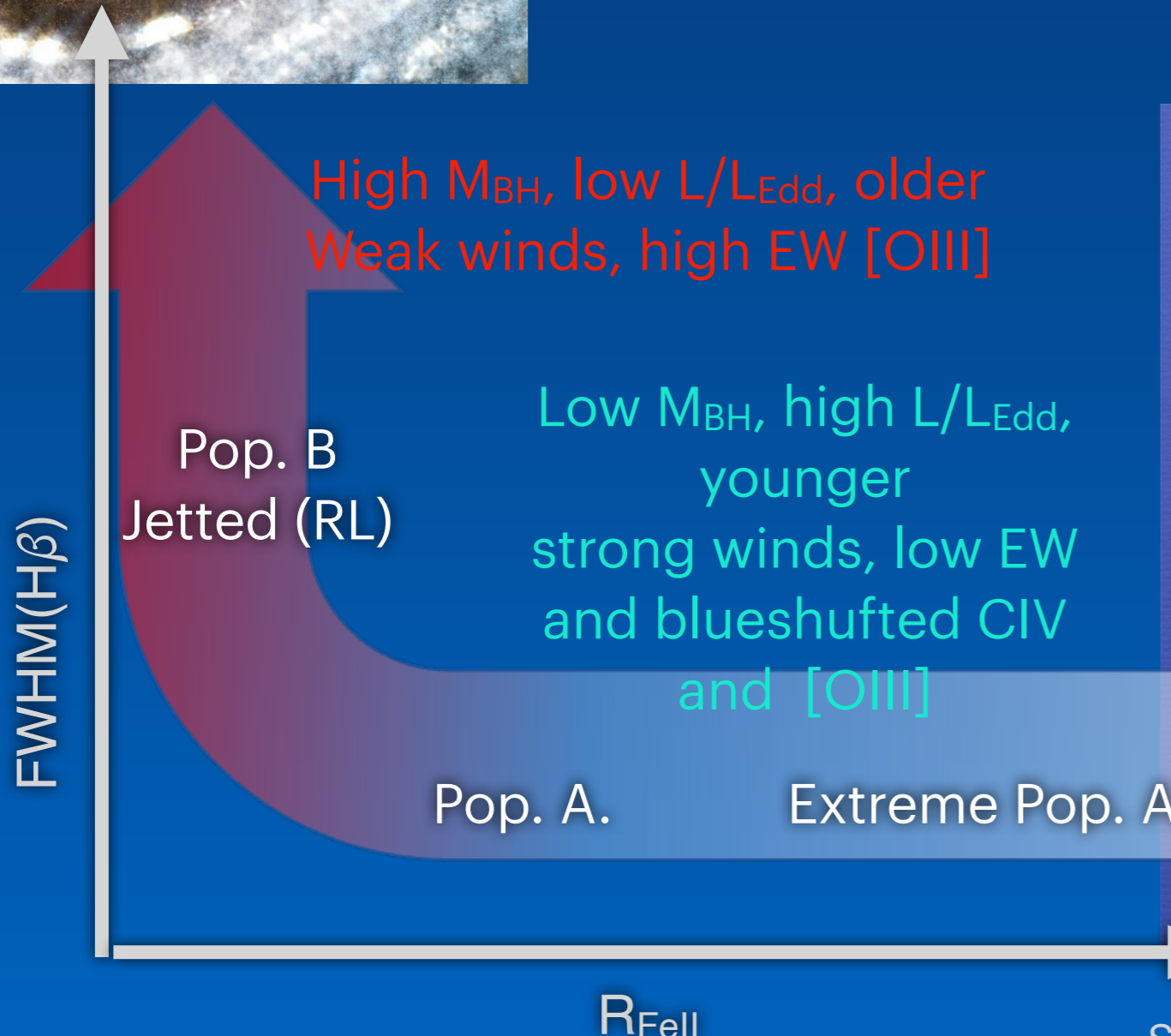
Zamfir et al. 2010: $n \sim 470$, $z < 0.7$ from SDSS DR 5, $\log L \sim 45.5$ [erg/s]

Constrains SED, wind/virialized emission, accretion process

The Main Sequence as an evolutionary scheme

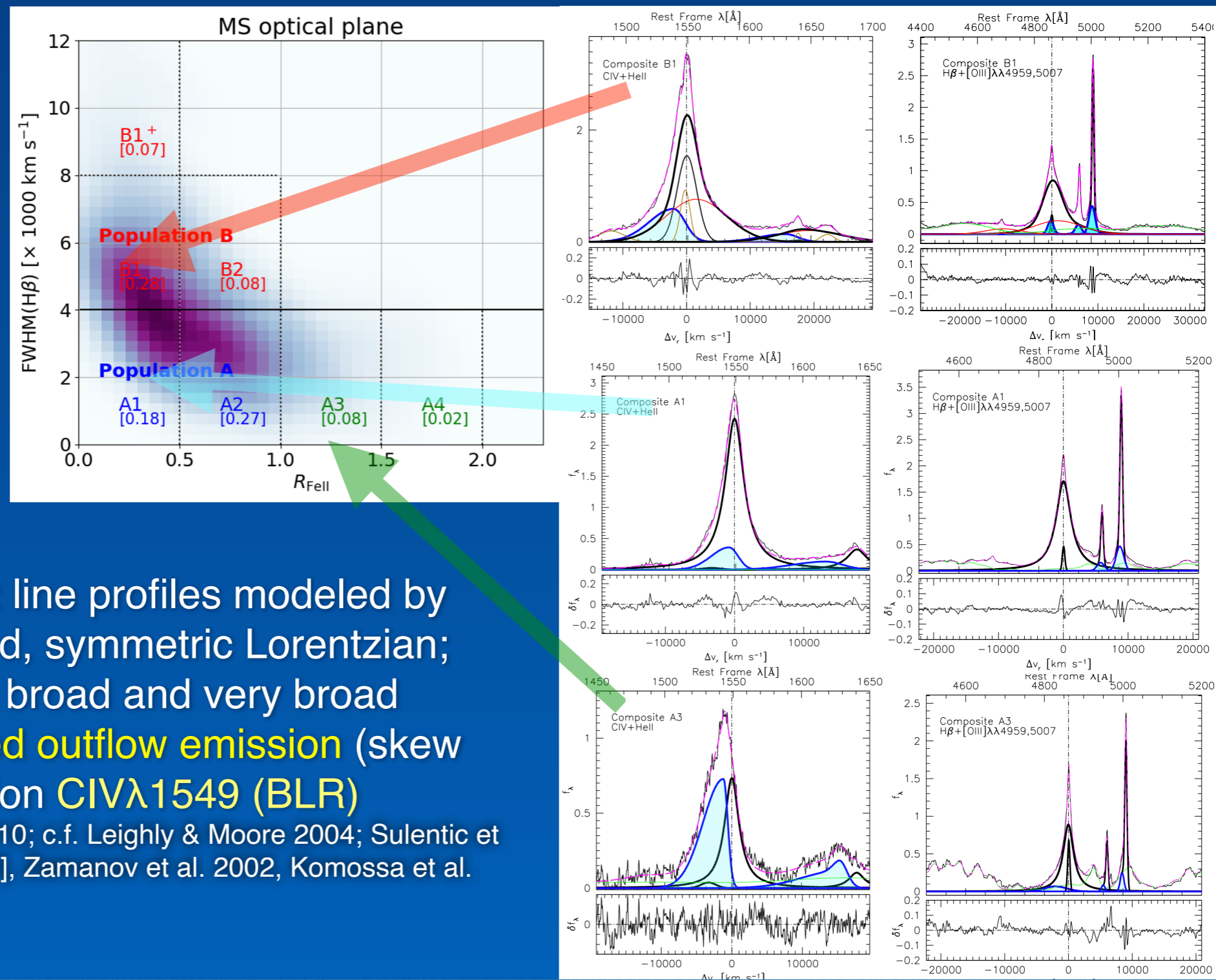


From young / rejuvenated (NLSy1s in extreme Population A, including jetted sources) to massive, low Eddington radiators, “starving”



HST/FOS-based composites along the MS

- * Composite spectra from a sample of ~ 130 radio-quiet HST/FOS and matching high S/N optical data, covering CIV, and H β for each object, $z < 0.9$, $\log L \sim 45-47$ [erg s $^{-1}$] Sulentic et al. 2007



- * **Multicomponent analysis:** line profiles modeled by **virialized** (Pop. A unshifted, symmetric Lorentzian; Pop. B double Gaussian; broad and very broad component) + **blue shifted outflow emission** (skew Gaussian) in high ionization CIV $\lambda 1549$ (BLR) Sulentic et al. 2007; Marziani et al. 2010; c.f. Leighly & Moore 2004; Sulentic et al. 2007; Richards et al. 2011; for [OIII], Zamanov et al. 2002, Komossa et al. 2008, Zhang et al. 2011

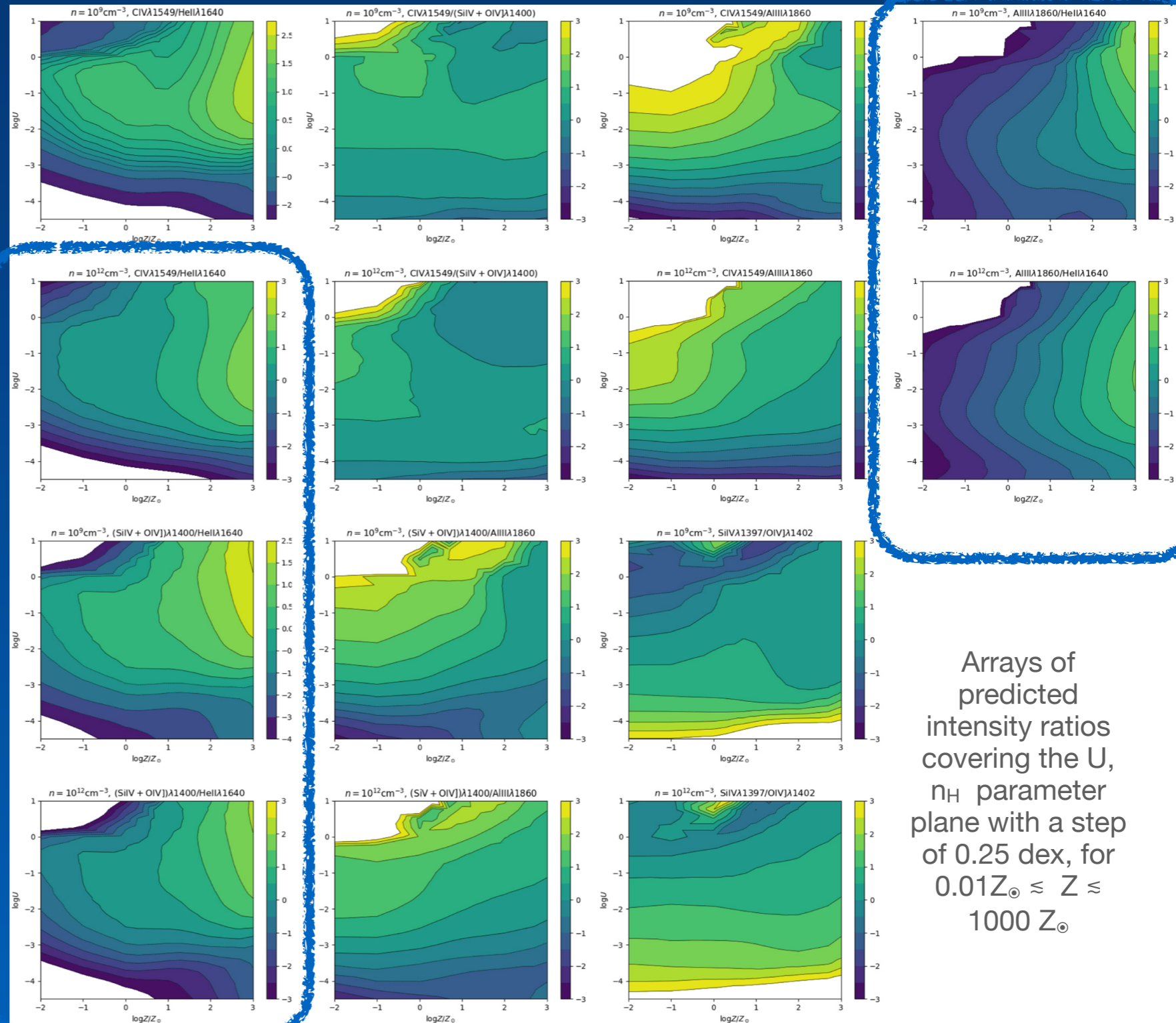
Outflow ubiquitous but prominent at high R_{FeII} (extreme Pop. A)

Estimation of metallicity Z , density n_H and ionization U

- * Coverage of a parameter space in n_H , ionization parameter U , metallicity Z , SED with CLOUDY 17.01

- * Diagnostic line ratios CIV λ 1549/HeII λ 1640
AIII λ 1860/HeII λ 1640
(SiIV+OIV) λ 1400/
HeII λ 1640 dependent on metallicity Z on a monotonic way

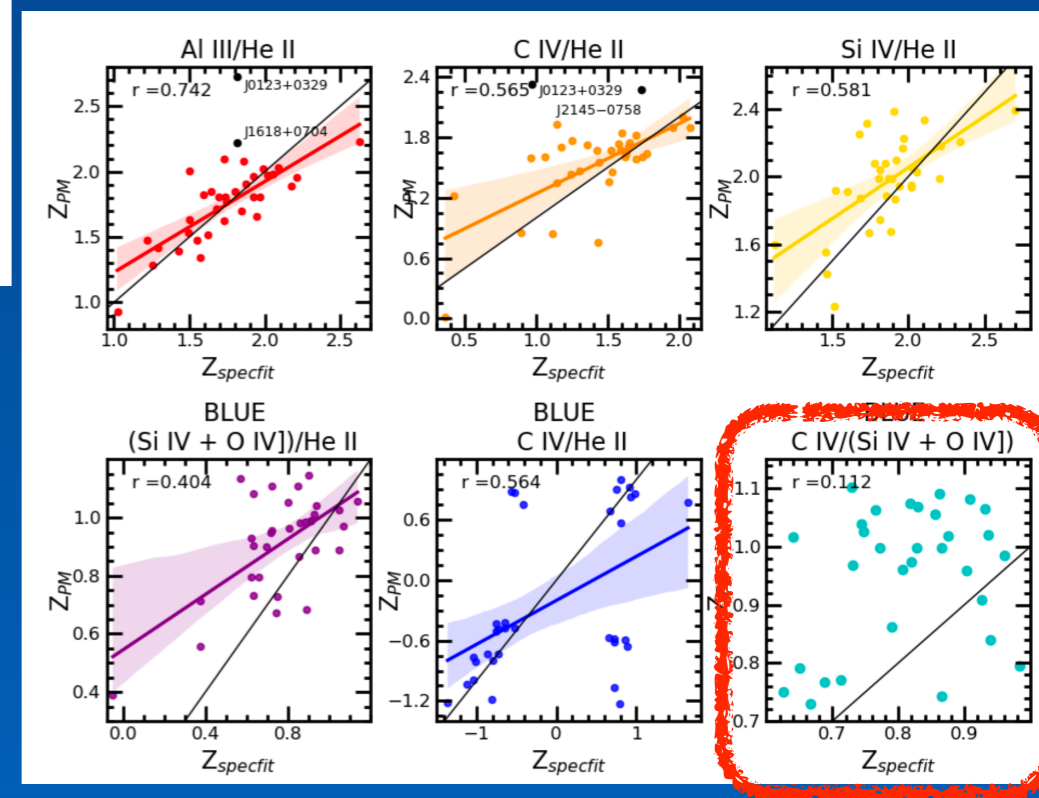
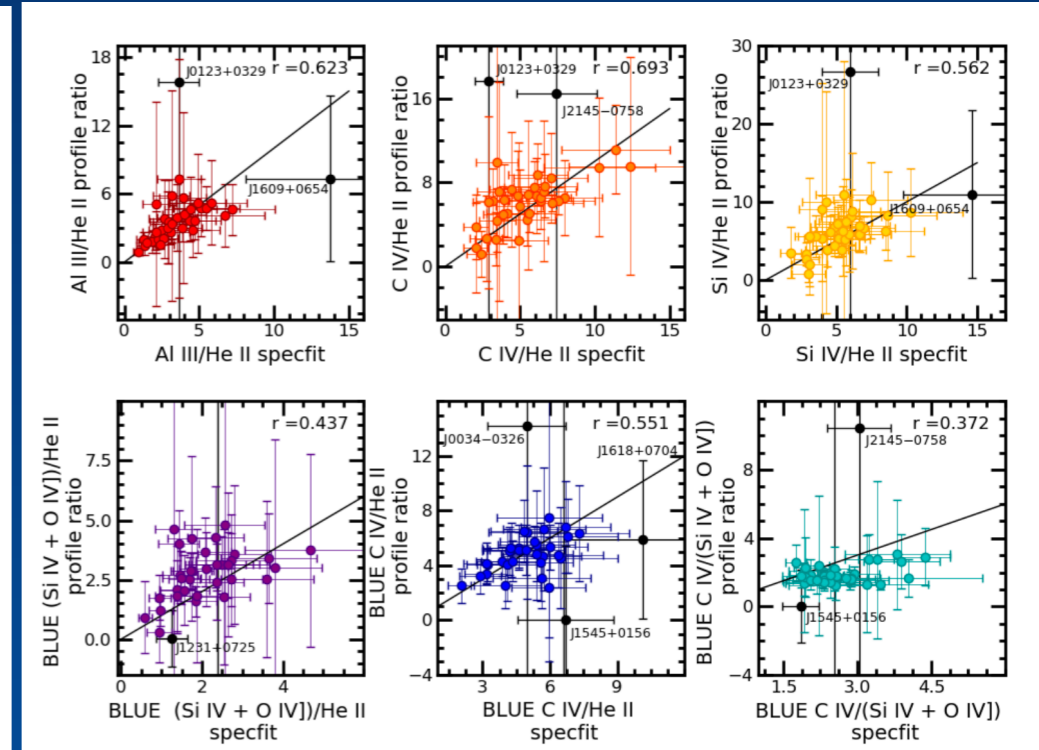
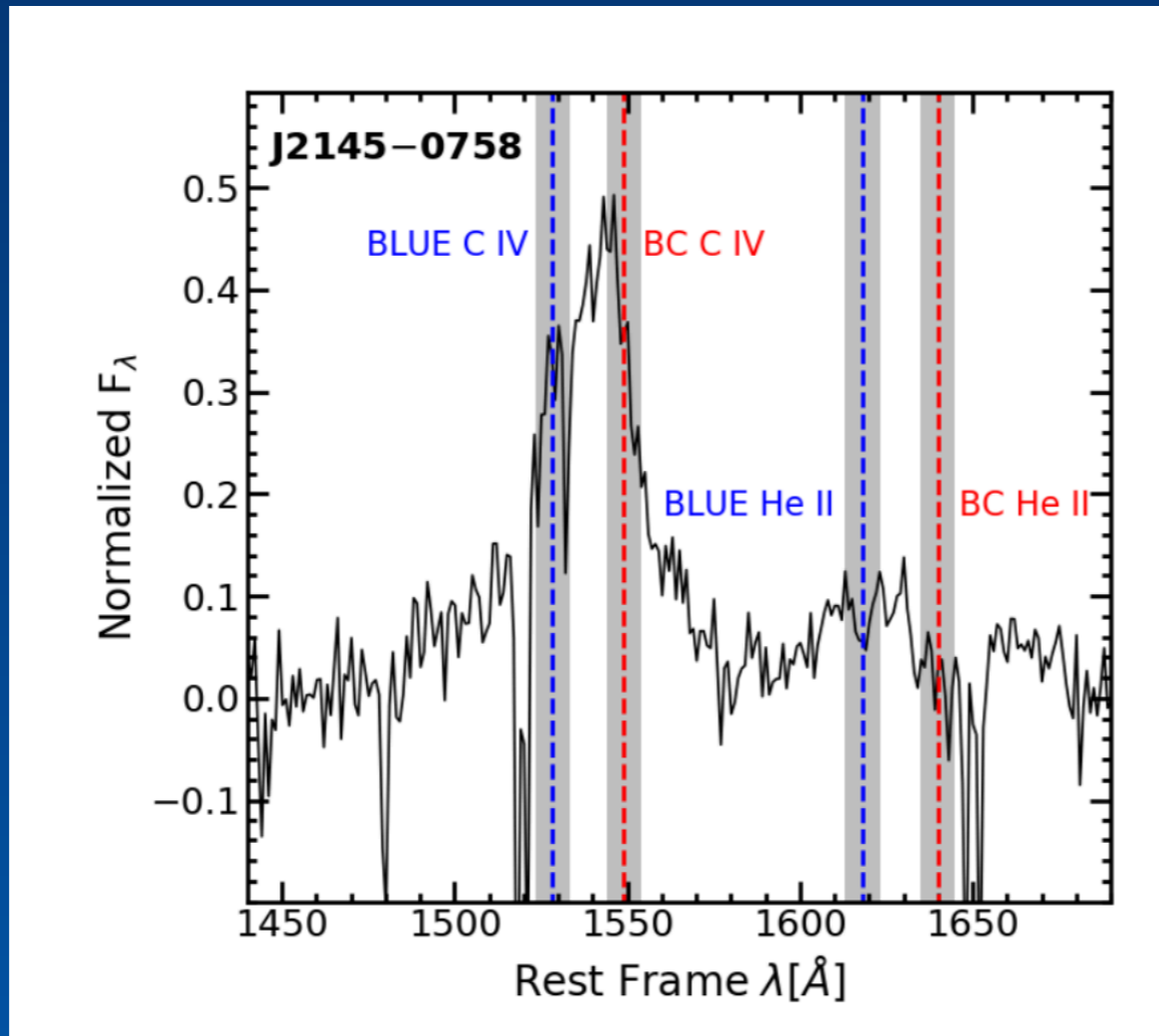
- * Comparison between arrays of $\sim 10^4$ predicted intensity ratios from photoionisation simulations using CLOUDY 17.02, and measured ratios sensitive to n_H , U , and Z
Ferland et al. 2017



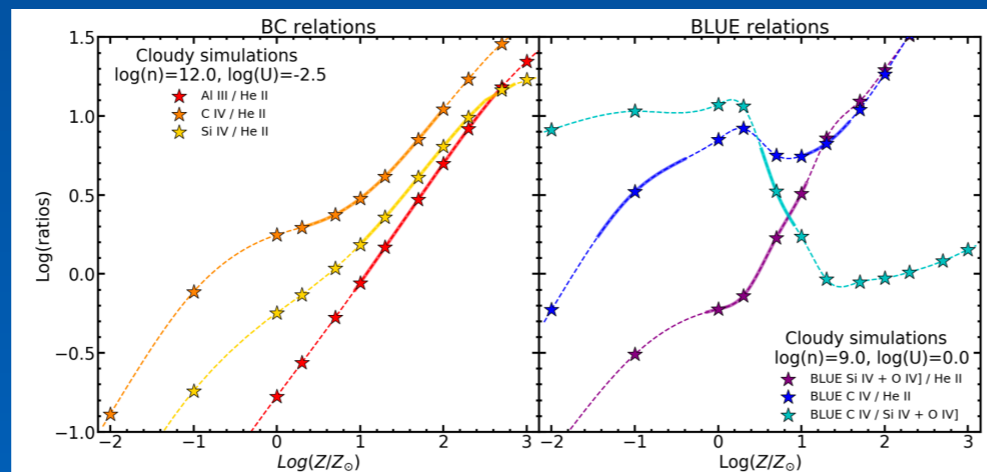
Arrays of predicted intensity ratios covering the U , n_H parameter plane with a step of 0.25 dex, for $0.01 Z_{\odot} \lesssim Z \lesssim 1000 Z_{\odot}$

$Z \pm \delta Z$ from $\chi^2(n, U, Z)$ within $n\sigma$ from minimum

Measurement of emission line: profile ratios

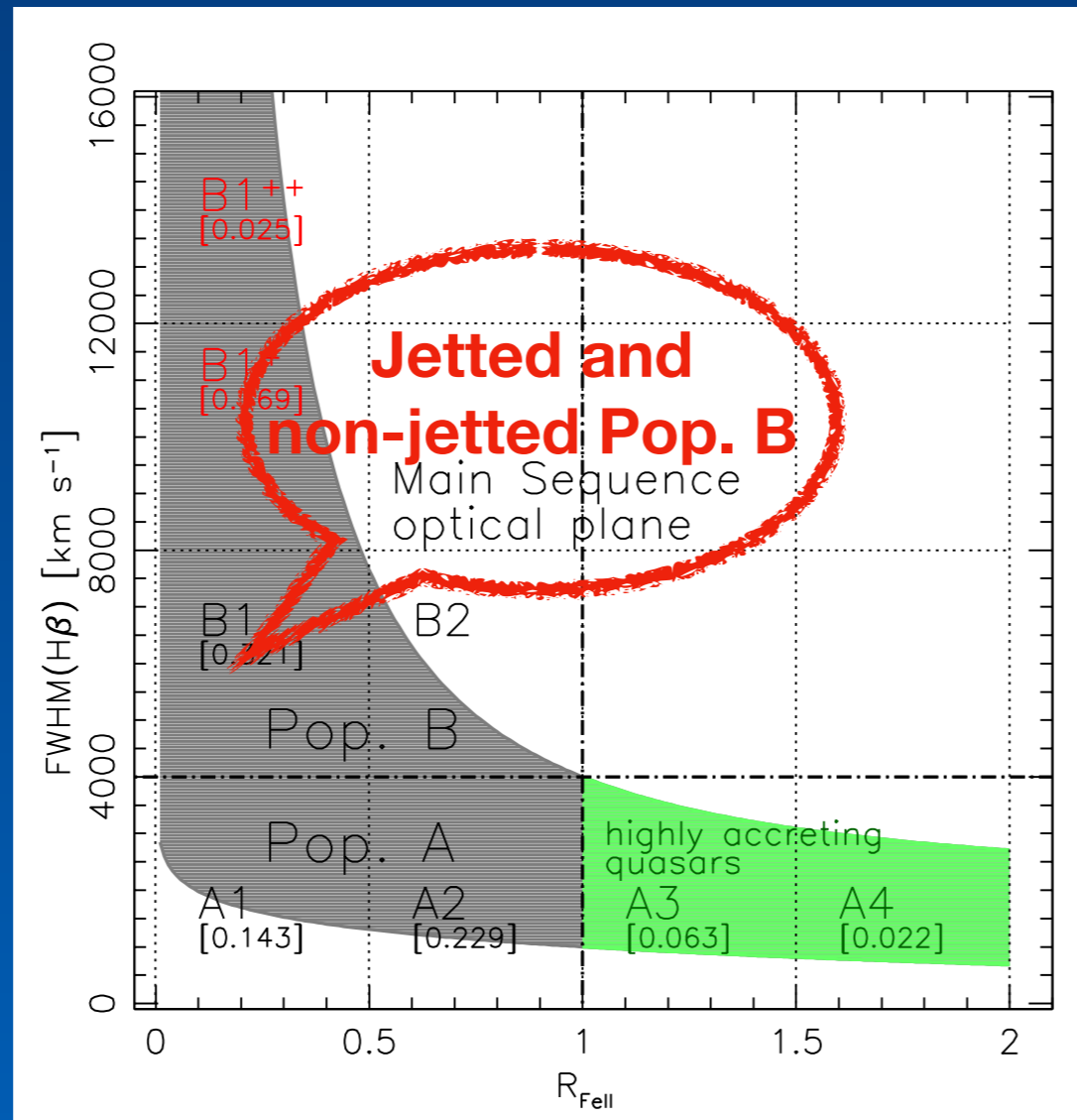


* Typical uncertainties are $\delta \log Z \approx 0.3$ (excluding rare outliers)
Garnica et al. 2022



Results consistent with line multi-component analysis

Jetted Population B: broad Balmer profiles, low R_{FeII}



Low Eddington ratio

NGC 1275 ≡ Perseus A

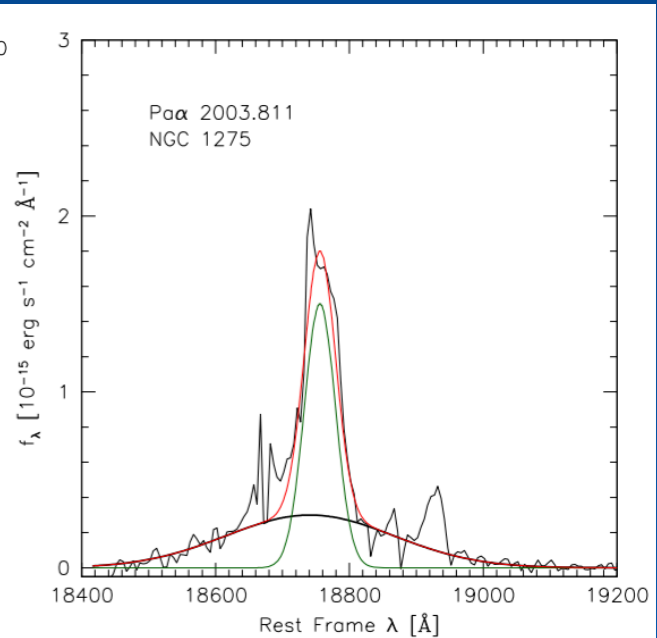
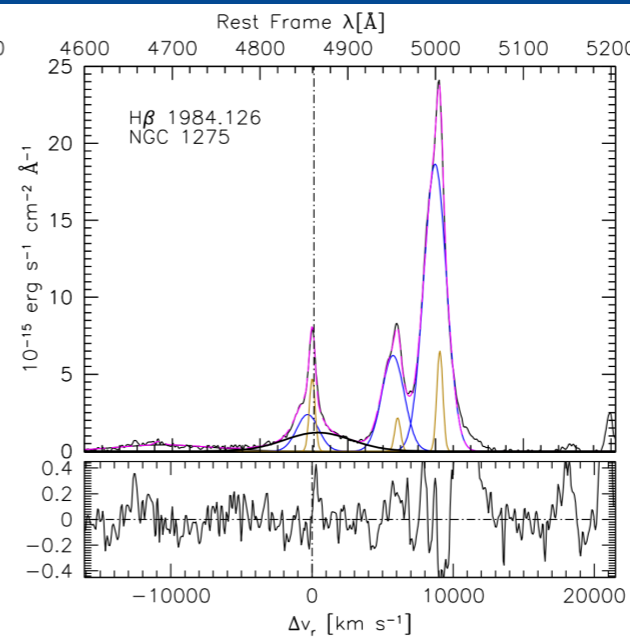
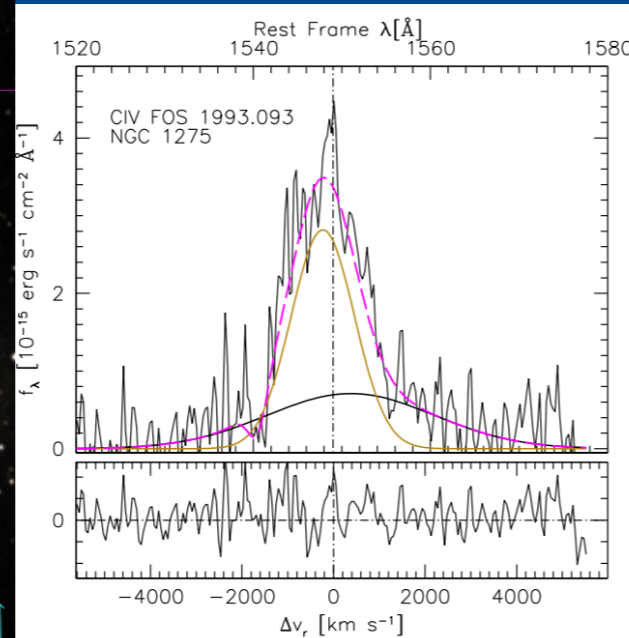
* Weak BLR emission with superimposed outflow emission in CIV and [OIII]

Punsly et al. 2018

$$\frac{L(\text{C IV})}{L(\text{H}\beta)} = 0.3 - 0.8, \quad \frac{L(\text{P}\alpha)}{L(\text{H}\beta)} = 0.6 - 1.1,$$

$$\frac{L(\text{Fe II})}{L(\text{H}\beta)} < 0.3,$$

$$\frac{L(\text{He II}\lambda 1640)}{L(\text{C IV})} = 0.5 - 1.0.$$

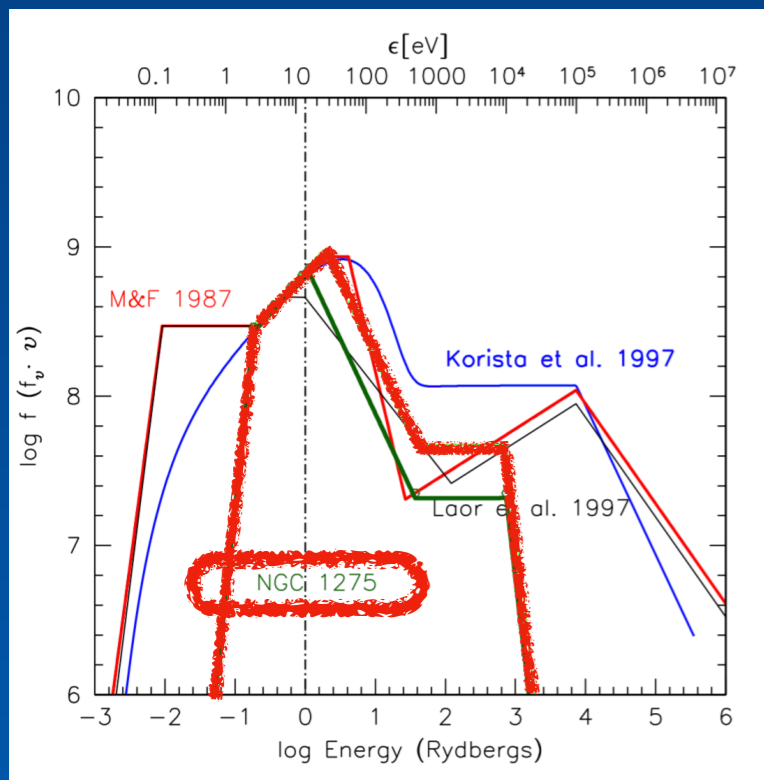


low FeII, low CIV

see Marziani et al. 2023a for a survey of type-1 AGN in cluster of galaxies

NGC 1275: solar or slightly subsolar metallicity, $0.1 Z_{\odot} \lesssim Z \lesssim 1 Z_{\odot}$

* Exploration of a parameter subspace in n_H , ionization parameter U , N_H , metallicity Z , using a carefully defined SED with CLOUDY 17.01



* Moderate density $n_H \sim 10^{10} \text{ cm}^{-3}$, and column density $N_H \sim 10^{22-23} \text{ cm}^{-2}$

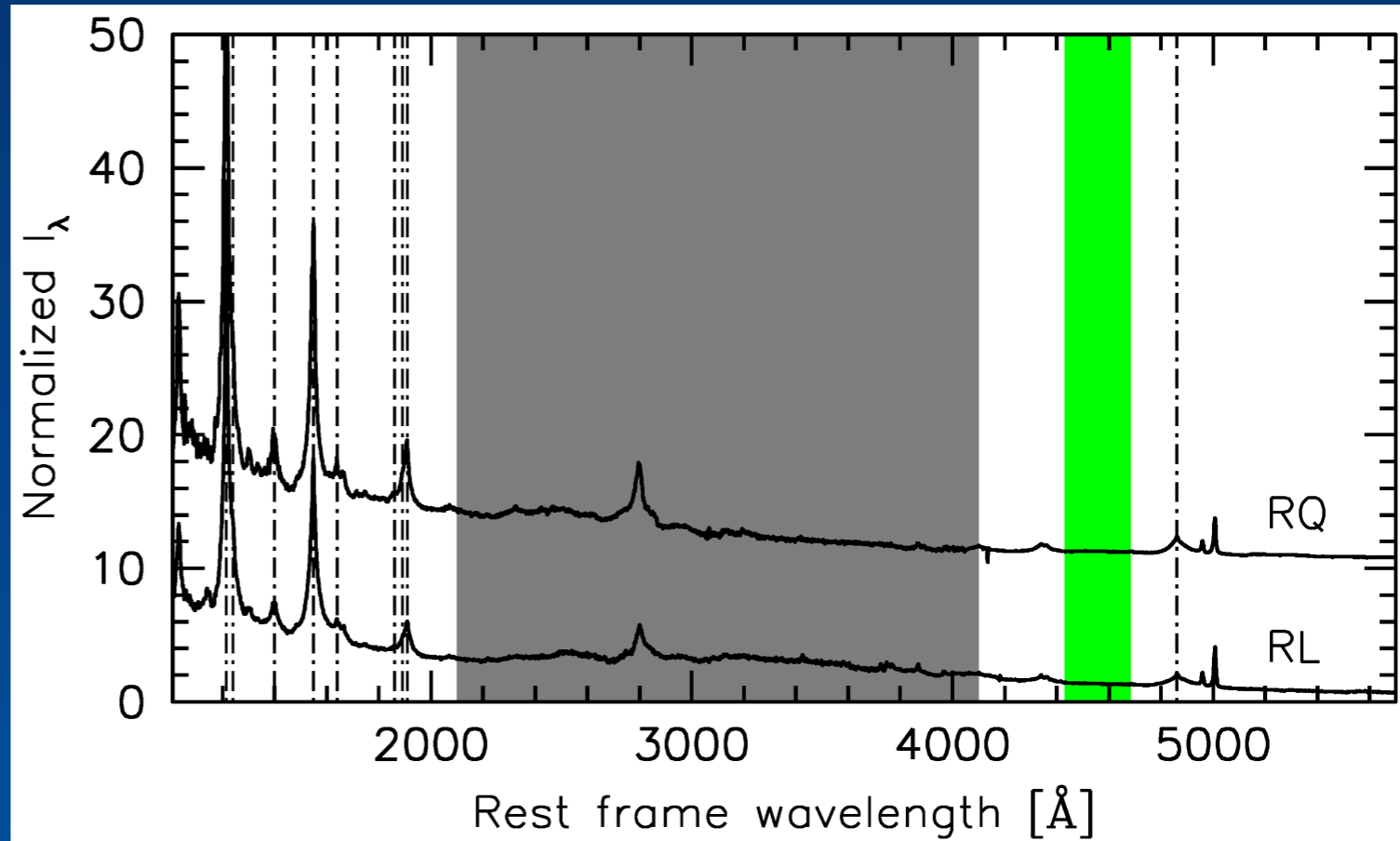
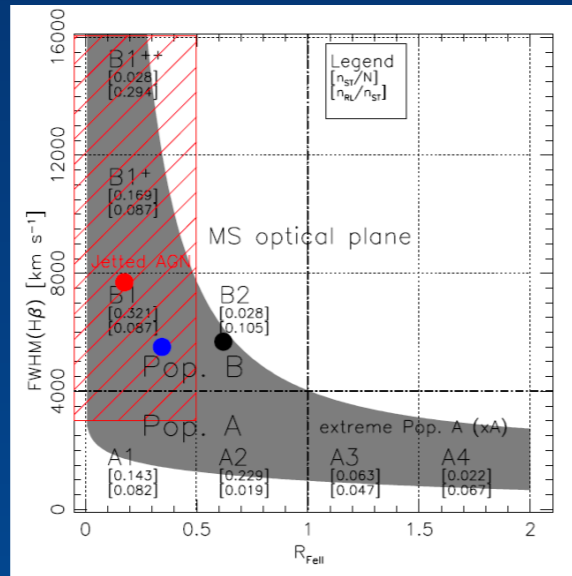
Table 2
CLOUDY Simulations: NGC 1275

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Z	$\log n$	$\log N_H$	$\log r$	$\log U$	$\log L(H\beta)$	C IV/H β	Pa α /H β	He II/C IV	Fe II/H β	Conformance
Metallicity	Number Density cm^{-3}	Column Density cm^{-2}	Radius cm	Ionization Parameter	Luminosity erg s^{-1}	Target 0.3-0.8	Target 0.6-1.1	Target 0.5-1.0	Target <0.3	
0.1	9.75	22.7	16.5	-1.24	40.76	1.63	0.99	0.44	0.03	No
0.1	9.75	23.3	16.5	-1.24	40.80	1.47	1.09	0.43	0.06	No
0.1	9.75	22.7	16.75	-1.74	40.76	1.63	0.99	0.44	0.03	No
0.1	9.75	23.3	16.75	-1.74	40.80	1.47	1.09	0.43	0.06	No
0.1	9.75	22.7	17.0	-2.24	40.76	1.63	0.99	0.44	0.03	No
0.1	9.75	23.3	17.0	-2.24	40.80	1.47	1.09	0.43	0.06	No
0.1	10.0	22.7	16.5	-1.49	40.81	0.63	0.92	0.99	0.02	Yes
0.1	10.0	23.3	16.5	-1.49	40.84	0.59	1.01	0.97	0.05	Yes
0.1	10.0	22.7	16.75	-1.99	40.81	0.63	0.91	0.99	0.02	Yes
0.1	10.0	23.3	16.75	-1.99	40.84	0.59	1.01	0.97	0.05	Yes
0.1	10.0	22.7	17.0	-2.49	40.81	0.63	0.91	0.99	0.02	Yes
0.1	10.0	23.3	17.0	-2.49	40.84	0.59	1.01	0.97	0.05	Yes
0.1	10.25	22.7	16.5	-1.74	40.87	0.20	0.84	2.64	0.02	No
0.1	10.25	23.3	16.5	-1.74	40.89	0.19	0.93	2.59	0.04	No
0.1	10.25	22.7	16.75	-2.24	40.87	0.20	0.84	2.64	0.02	No
0.1	10.25	23.3	16.75	-2.24	40.89	0.19	0.93	2.59	0.04	No
0.1	10.25	22.7	17.0	-2.74	40.87	0.20	0.84	2.64	0.02	No
0.1	10.25	23.3	17.0	-2.74	40.89	0.19	0.93	2.59	0.04	No
0.1	10.5	22.7	16.5	-1.99	40.93	0.06	0.77	8.22	0.02	No
0.1	10.5	23.3	16.5	-1.99	40.94	0.05	0.87	8.08	0.03	No
0.1	10.5	22.7	16.75	-2.49	40.93	0.06	0.77	8.22	0.02	No
0.1	10.5	23.3	16.75	-2.49	40.94	0.05	0.87	8.08	0.03	No
0.1	10.5	22.7	17.0	-2.99	40.93	0.06	0.77	8.22	0.02	No
0.1	10.5	23.3	17.0	-2.99	40.94	0.05	0.87	8.08	0.03	No
1.0	9.75	22.7	16.5	-1.24	40.75	11.8	0.33	0.07	0.04	No
1.0	9.75	23.3	16.5	-1.24	40.83	9.77	0.35	0.07	0.07	No
1.0	9.75	22.7	16.75	-1.74	40.82	7.67	0.60	0.08	0.08	No
1.0	9.75	23.3	16.75	-1.74	40.89	6.49	0.54	0.08	0.11	No
1.0	9.75	22.7	17.0	-2.24	40.76	3.85	1.02	0.18	0.19	No
1.0	9.75	23.3	17.0	-2.24	40.78	3.65	1.05	0.18	0.27	No
1.0	10.0	22.7	16.5	-1.49	40.71	11.2	0.32	0.07	0.05	No
1.0	10.0	23.3	16.5	-1.49	40.77	9.72	0.36	0.07	0.08	No
1.0	10.0	22.7	16.75	-1.99	40.85	5.20	0.52	0.11	0.07	No
1.0	10.0	23.3	16.75	-1.99	40.88	4.84	0.56	0.11	0.11	No
1.0	10.0	22.7	17.0	-2.49	40.79	1.91	0.97	0.32	0.22	No
1.0	10.0	23.3	17.0	-2.49	40.81	1.84	1.00	0.32	0.22	No
1.0	10.25	22.7	16.5	-1.74	40.69	9.33	0.35	0.09	0.06	No
1.0	10.25	23.3	16.5	-1.74	40.73	8.40	0.34	0.09	0.09	No
1.0	10.25	22.7	16.75	-2.24	40.81	3.55	0.55	0.17	0.08	No
1.0	10.25	23.3	16.75	-2.24	40.86	3.15	0.57	0.17	0.12	No
1.0	10.25	22.7	17.0	-2.74	40.83	0.76	0.91	0.73	0.12	Yes
1.0	10.25	23.3	17.0	-2.74	40.85	0.73	0.94	0.73	0.18	Yes
1.0	10.5	23.3	16.5	-1.99	40.68	6.86	0.41	0.13	0.11	No
1.0	10.5	22.7	16.75	-2.49	40.82	1.85	0.54	0.32	0.08	No
1.0	10.5	23.3	16.75	-2.49	40.83	1.81	0.54	0.32	0.12	No
1.0	10.5	22.7	17.0	-2.99	40.88	0.23	0.84	2.09	0.10	No
1.0	10.5	23.3	17.0	-2.99	40.89	0.22	0.84	2.09	0.15	No

Approach must depend on spectral type, individual peculiarities

Population B radio-quiet and jetted (radio-loud) composites

* Decomposition
BC / VBC



NV/CIV

CIV/HeIIλ1640

CIV/Hβ

SiIV+OIV]/CIV

SiIV+OIV]/HeIIλ1640

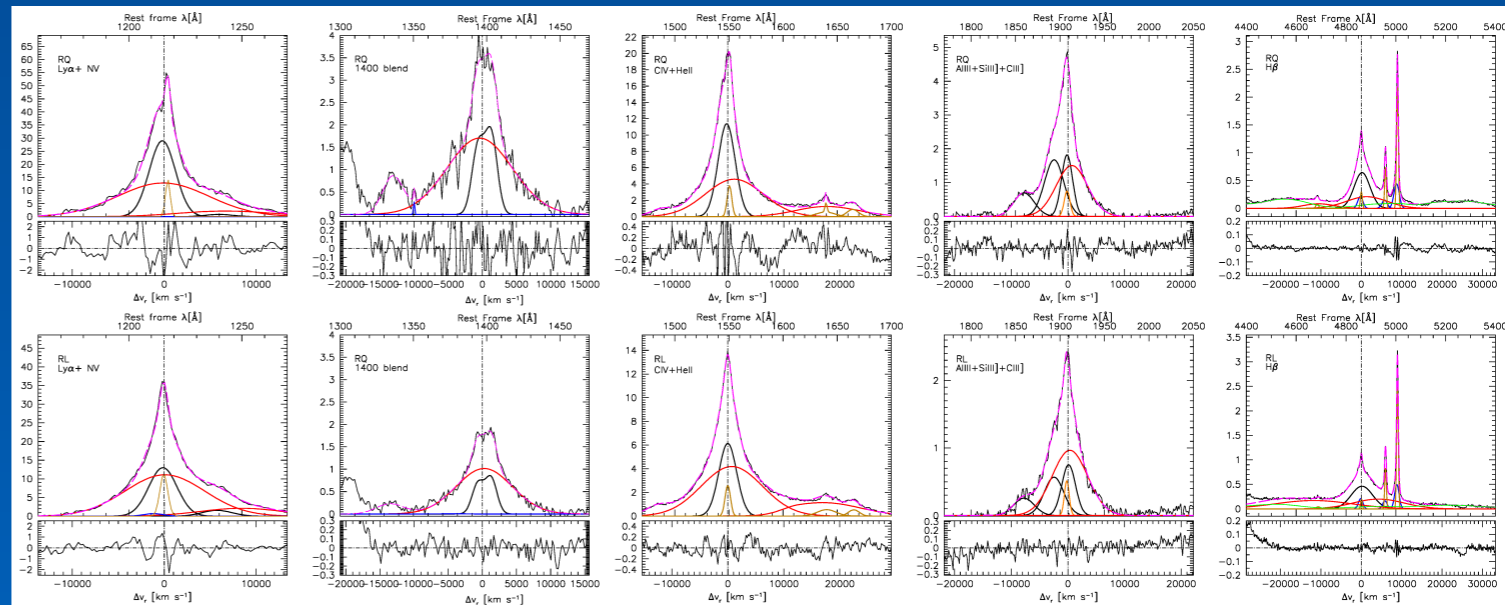
AlIII/CIV

AlIII/SiIII]

FeII/Hβ ~ 0.17 (RL), ~ 0.34 (RQ)

SiIII]/CIII]

HeIIλ4686/Hβ



low prominence of metal lines (with respect to H and He lines)

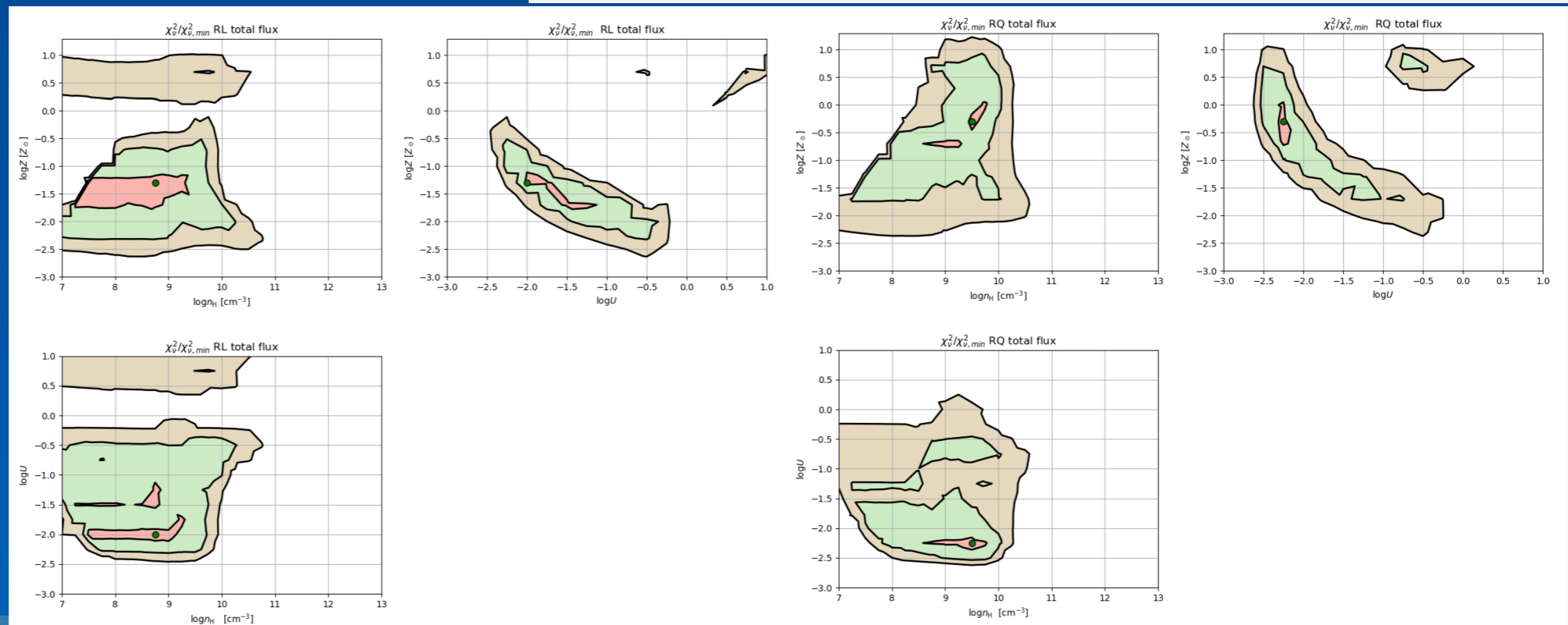
Jetted: definitely sub solar metallicities; RQ: solar

- * Systematic differences between BC and VBC (BLR and inner VBLR), consistent with virial velocity field and stratification in Pop. B
- * “Stratification” complicates estimates; a locally optimised emitting cloud model is needed

Table 2. Derived values of U , Z , n_{H} and 1σ ranges ^a.

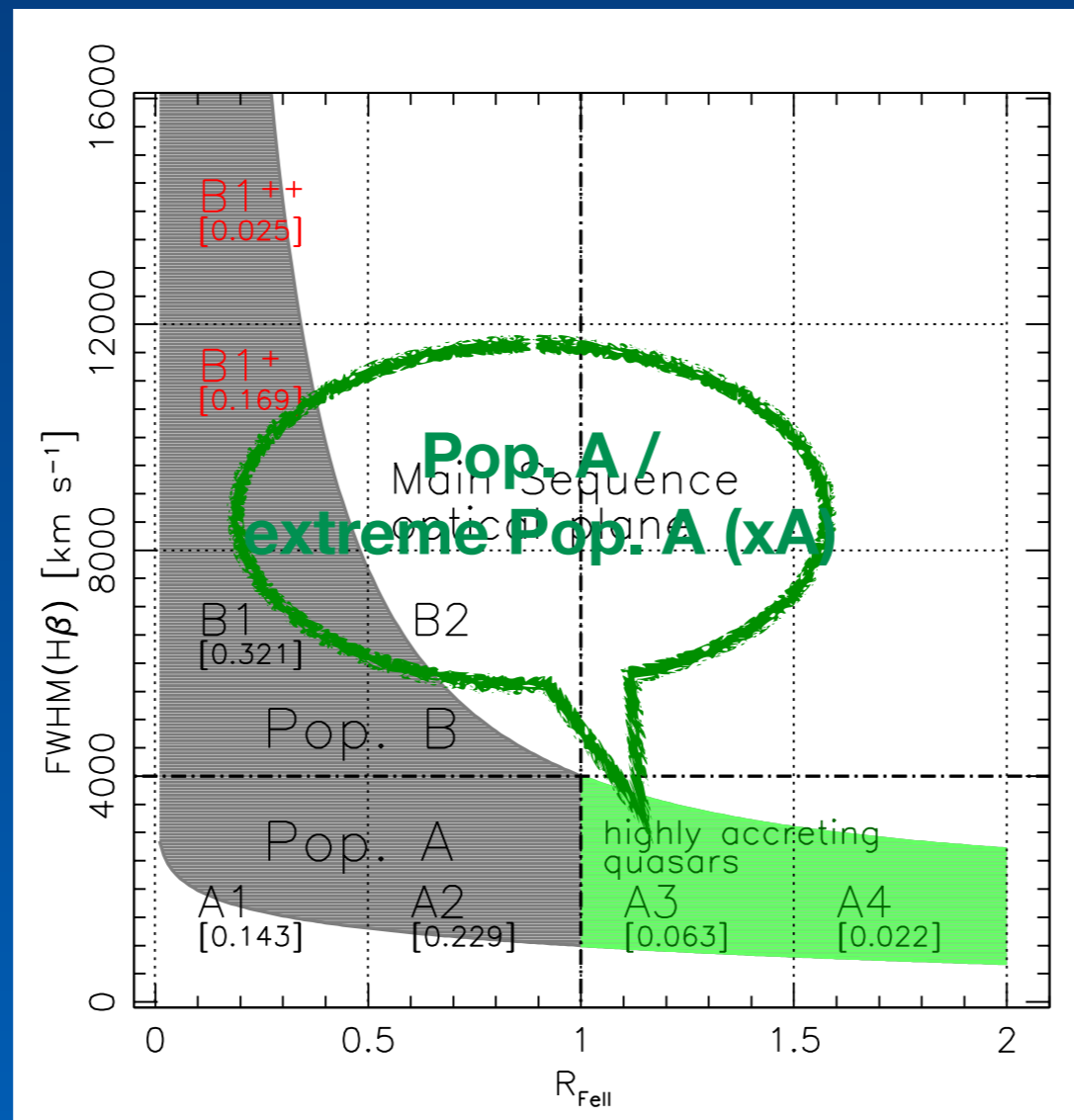
Class	Region	$\log U$	$\Delta \log U$	$\log Z$	$\Delta \log Z$	$\log n_{\text{H}}$	$\Delta \log n_{\text{H}}$
RQ	Tot.	-2.25	-2.25--2.25	-0.30	-0.70--0.00	9.50	8.50--9.75
RQ	BLR	-2.25	-2.25--1.75	0.30	-0.70--1.00	10.25	9.25--10.75
RQ	VBLR	0.00	0.00--0.00	0.70	0.70--0.70	9.50	9.50--9.75
RL	Tot.	-1.50	-2.00--0.75	-1.30	-2.00--1.30	8.75	7.00--9.75
RL	BLR	-1.50	-2.00--0.75	-1.70	-2.00--1.00	10.25	8.75--10.50
RL	VBLR	-0.75	-1.25--0.25	-2.00	-2.00--1.70	7.75	7.00--10.25

^a: ionization parameter U , abundance Z in solar units, and hydrogen particle density n_{H} in units of cm^{-3} . The ranges are defined by the limiting elements of the model grid that are compatible with the minimum χ^2_{ν} within 1σ confidence level.



Z estimates well constrained

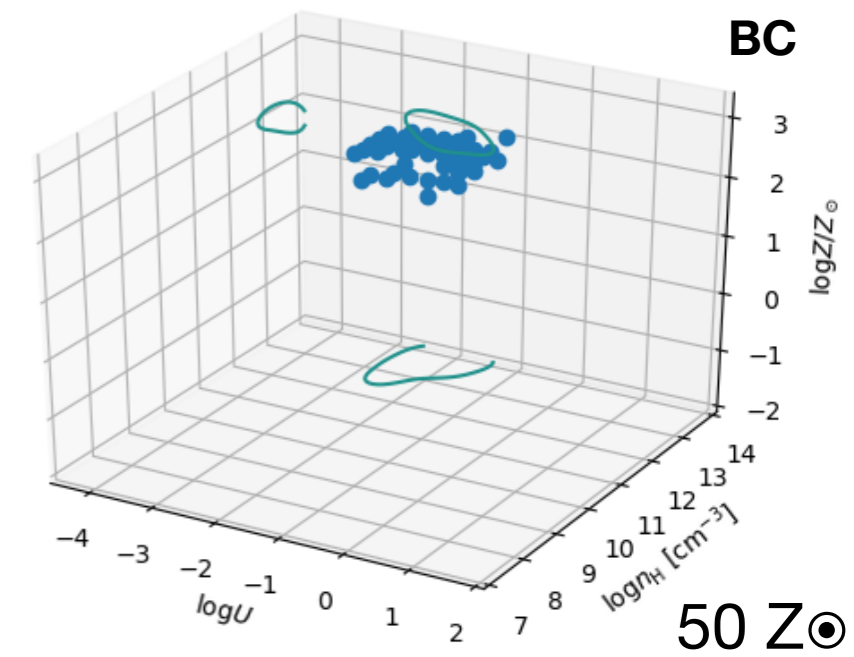
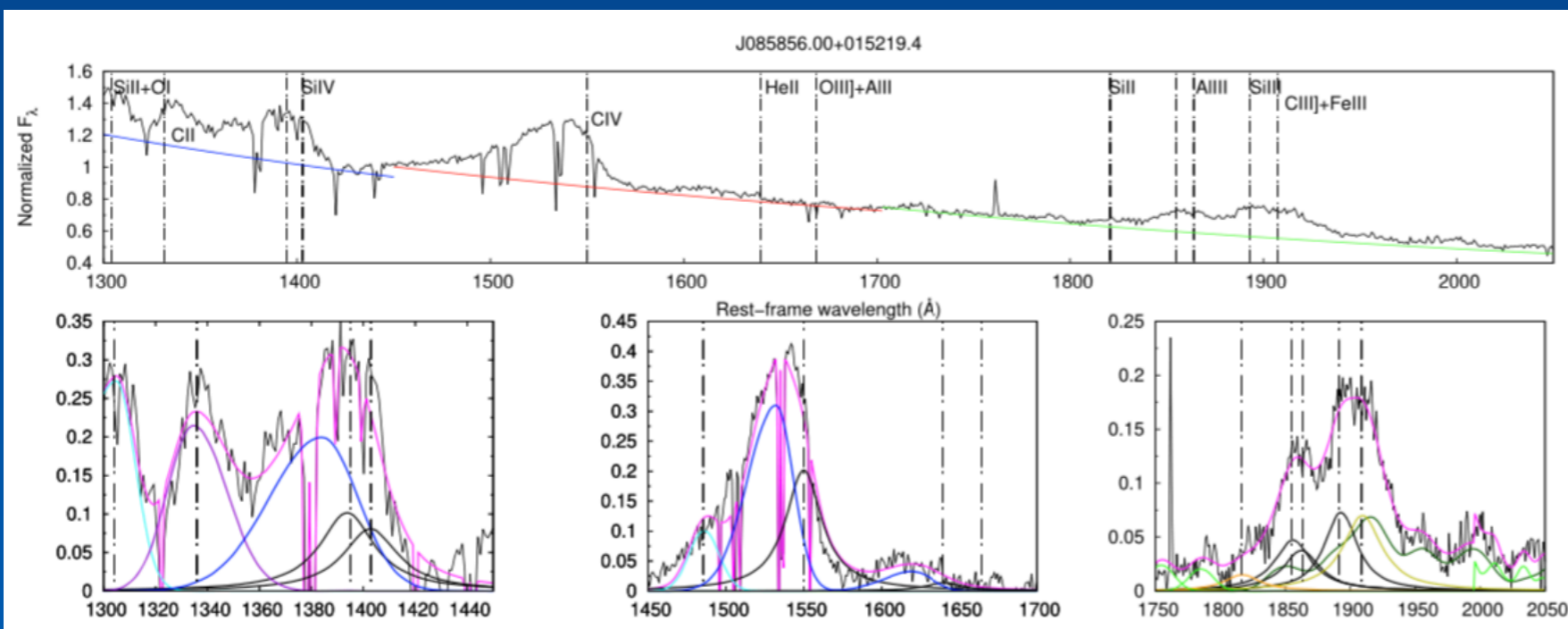
Population A: from modest to extreme R_{FeII}



Moderate to extreme (~ 1) Eddington ratio

Extreme Population A sources

- * Highest radiative output per unit black hole mass; most prominent wind components
- * Sample of 38 SDSS quasars at redshift $z \sim 2$ suitable for eventual $H\beta$ observations in the IR
- * **Diagnostic line ratios**
 - CIV λ 1549/HeII λ 1640
 - AIII λ 1860/HeII λ 1640
 - (SiIV+OIV) λ 1400/HeII λ 1640

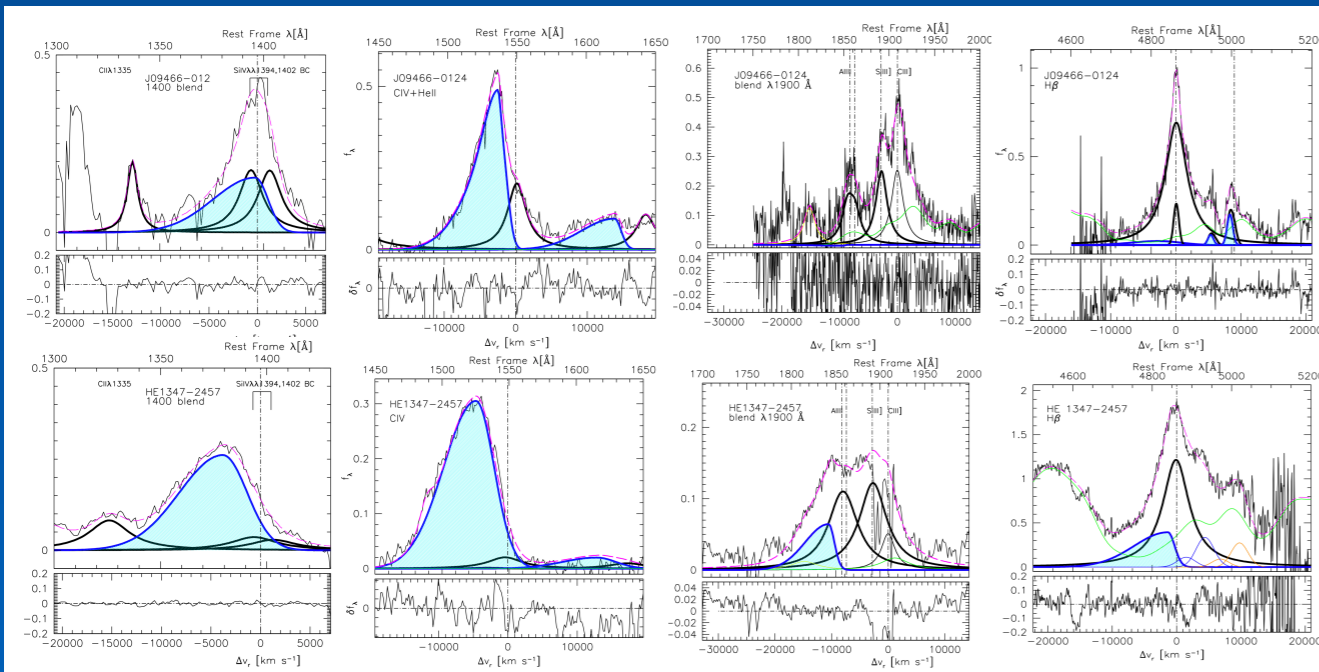


Virialized component with high Z ; extreme U and n_H

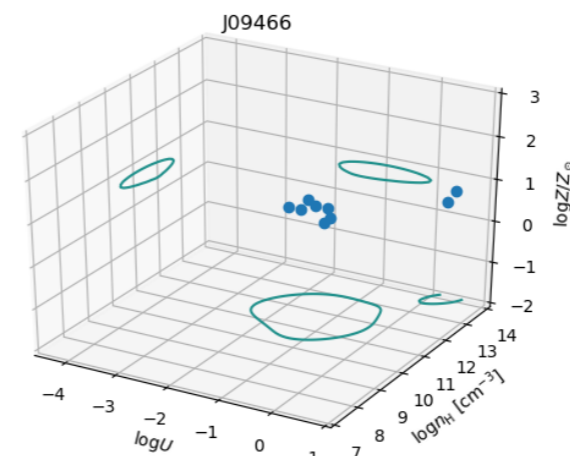
Chemical feedback from luminous AGN



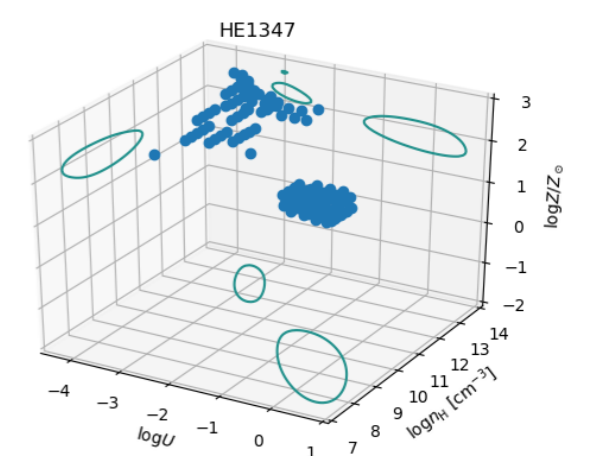
- * Important for galaxy evolution studies Choi et al. 2020; Nandi et al. 2023; Molero et al. 2023
- * Past and recent studies suggest **high Z values** ($\gtrsim 10 Z_{\odot}$) in the BLR Hamann & Ferland 1992; Nagao et al. 2006; Sulentic et al. 2014; Lai et al. 2022; Xu et al. 2018; for the virialized component: Sniegowska et al. 2021; Garnica et al. 2022
- * **Chemical abundance of the outflow component, from all measurable ratios:**
J09466-0124: X-SHOOTER VLT data; $z \sim 2.2125$ $\log L \sim 46$; $R_{\text{FeII}} \sim 0.2$, Pop. A1, $Z \sim 2-5Z_{\odot}$
HE1347-2457, $z \sim 2.534$, $\log L \sim 47$, $R_{\text{FeII}} \sim 1.3$, extreme Pop. A: $Z \sim 50-100Z_{\odot}$
Constraints on Z are especially stable; less so on U and n_{H}



BLUE: $Z \sim 2-5Z_{\odot}$



BLUE: $Z \sim 50-100Z_{\odot}$



$$\chi_{\text{kc}}^2(n_{\text{H}}, U, Z) = \sum_i w_{\text{ci}} \left(\frac{R_{\text{kci}} - R_{\text{kci,mod}}(n_{\text{H}}, U, Z)}{\delta R_{\text{kci}}} \right)^2$$

Extreme chemical feedback from high accretors

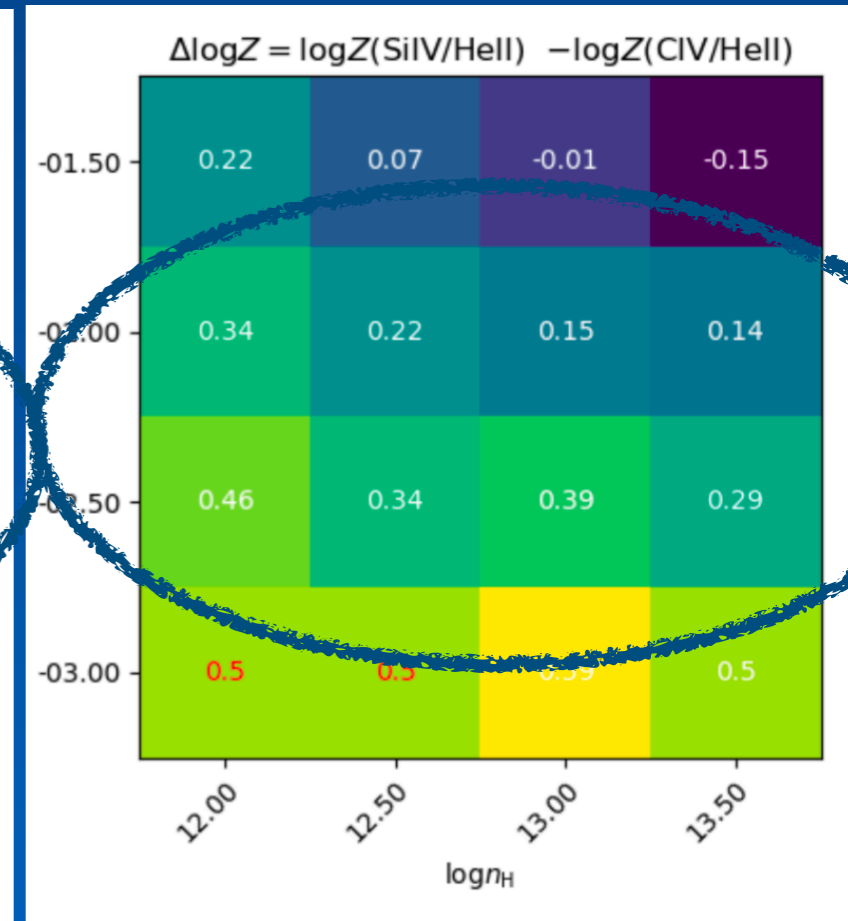
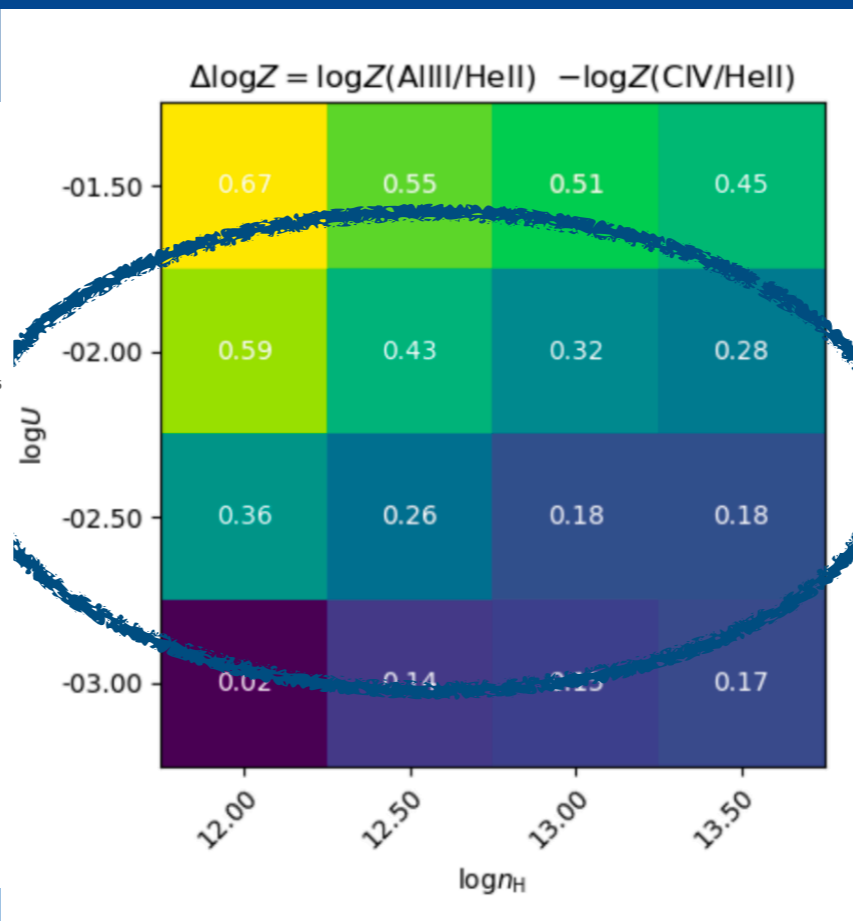
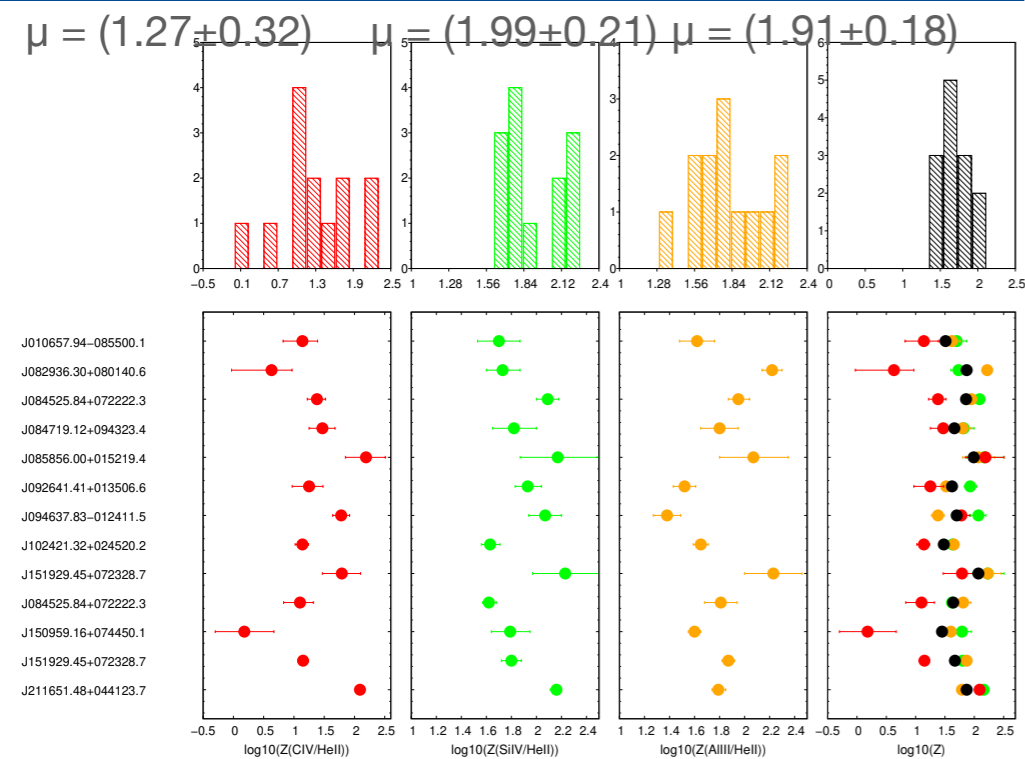
Or Supernova pollution? Sniegowska, Garnica et al. in preparation

Differences imply over-abundances of Al and Si over C

- * $Z(\text{CIV/HeII}) \sim 20 Z_{\odot}$; $Z(\text{AlIII/HeII}) \sim 50\text{-}100 Z_{\odot}$
- * Systematic Z differences from different diagnostics?
- * $[\text{Al/C}]$ from Supernovæ: $\sim 6 [\text{Al/C}]_{\odot}$:

Free n_{H}, U

Fixed n_{H}, U BC



Likely pollution

Massive, mildly ionized outflows traced by CIV and [OIII]

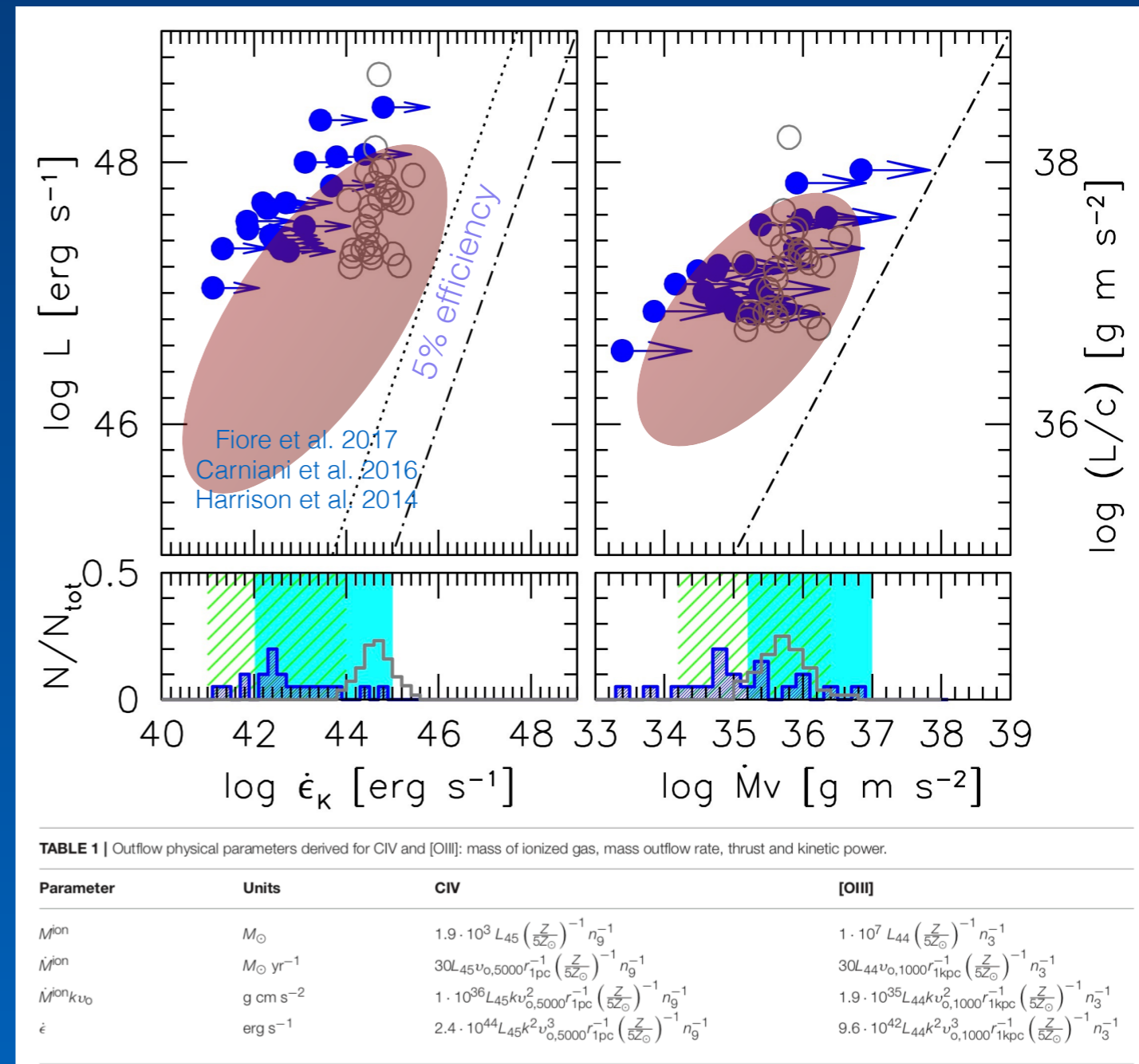
* **Outflow dynamical parameters** from CIV λ 1549 can be computed knowing that the line is collisional excited like [OIII] λ 5007

* **HEMS**: ionized gas mass flow, kinetic power and thrust are extreme for extreme Population A, as ($\propto L_{\text{line}} v^n$)

* Kinetic power is still slightly below the values needed for host-spheroid co-evolution

King 2003, Di Matteo et al, 2005, Hopkins et al. 2006, Hopkins & Elvis 2010, Faucher-Giguère & Quataert 2012, Lapi et al. 2014, Costa et al. 2018, 2020

* However, mildly ionized gas may contribute **a substantial enrichment of the host**: for HEMS, $100 Z_{\odot} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$ gas mass due to metals. $dM/dt \sim 10 M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1} \Rightarrow M_Z \sim 5 \cdot 10^7 t_{7\text{yr}} M_{\odot}$



Significant (chemical) feedback effect

Conclusion

- * There is definitely a **gradient of metallicity along the quasar main sequence**, from $0.1 Z_{\odot}$ to several tens Z_{\odot} from Population B to extreme Population A
- * **Caveats:** approach dependent on spectral types, dishomogeneities in the outflow components (Pop. A) stratification in the virialized component (Pop. B), role of turbulence (minor for UV, but relevant for FeII)
- * High metal content of BLR outflowing gas (from a few times Z_{\odot} to $\approx 100 Z_{\odot}$) suggests a **chemical feedback** on the host galaxy, especially from extreme Population A (candidate super-Eddington) quasars at high L

The screenshot shows the Frontiers website interface. At the top, the navigation bar includes the Frontiers logo, the journal name 'Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences', and various menu items like 'Sections', 'Articles', 'Research Topics', 'Editorial Board', and 'About journal'. There is also a search bar and a 'Login' button. Below the navigation bar, the breadcrumb trail reads: 'Home > Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences > Extragalactic Astronomy > Research Topics > Broad-Band Spectral Energy Dis...'. The main heading is 'Broad-Band Spectral Energy Distributions in AGNs - Advances and the Future'. Below the heading, there are statistics: '34 Total Downloads' and '1,093 Views'. There are also buttons for 'Participate in this topic' and 'Submit'. Below the statistics, there are tabs for 'Overview', 'Articles 1', 'Authors 2', and 'Impact'. The 'About this Research Topic' section includes a 'Manuscript Submission Deadline 30 November 2023' and a 'Guidelines' link. The 'Participating Journals' section lists 'Frontiers in Astronomy and Space Sciences' and 'Extragalactic Astronomy'. At the bottom, there is a short paragraph: 'Building robust, broad-band spectral energy distributions (SEDs) requires a collective effort. In order to infer the various physical (thermal and non-thermal) processes occurring in the vicinity of supermassive black holes, i.e., their active galactic nuclei (AGNs), characterizing their SEDs is vital. We ...'.

Thank you for your attention!

