

Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (IAA-CSIC), Granada

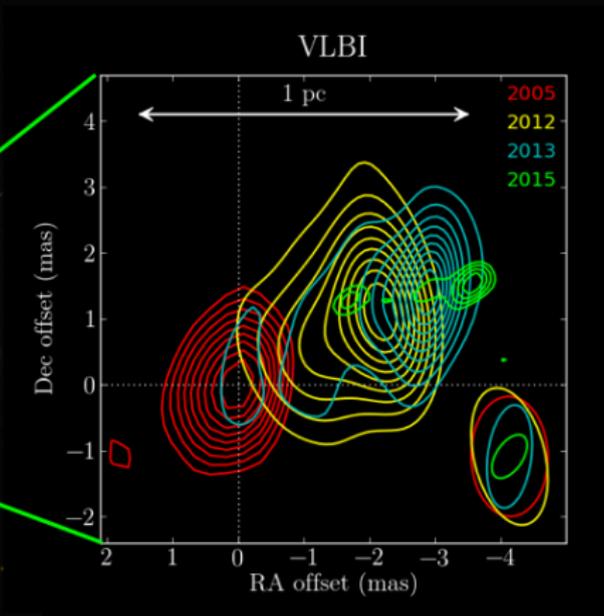
# A luminous, dust-enshrouded TDE in a galaxy merger

**Miguel Pérez-Torres** (torres@iaa.es)

(On behalf of the "Arp299" team:  
S. Mattila, M. Pérez-Torres et al.,  
*Science*, **361**, 482, 3 Aug 2018 )

14th EVN Symposium  
Granada, 9 Oct 2018





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## article

*Nature* 254, 295 - 298 (27 March 1975); doi:10.1038/254295a0

## Possible power source of Seyfert galaxies and QSOs

J. G. HILLS

Department of Astronomy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104

**The possible presence of massive black holes in the nuclei of galaxies has been suggested many times. In addition, there is considerable observational evidence for high stellar densities in these nuclei. I show that the tidal breakup of stars passing within the Roche limit of a black hole initiates a chain of events that may explain many of the observed principal characteristics of QSOs and the nuclei of Seyfert galaxies.**

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## article

*Nature* 333, 523 - 528 (09 June 1988); doi:10.1038/333523a0

## Tidal disruption of stars by black holes of $10^6$ – $10^8$ solar masses in nearby galaxies

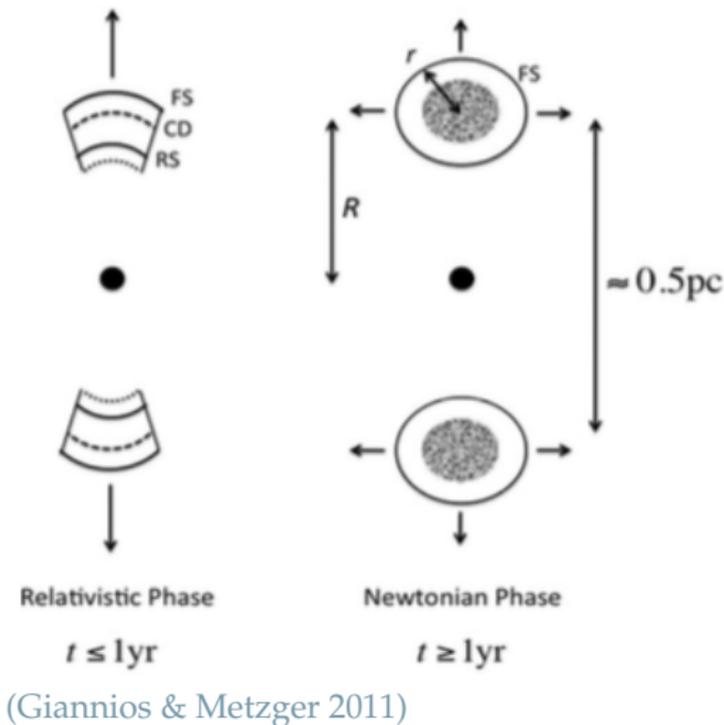
MARTIN J. REES

Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, UK

**Stars in galactic nuclei can be captured or tidally disrupted by a central black hole. Some debris would be ejected at high speed, the remainder would be swallowed by the hole, causing a bright flare lasting at most a few years. Such phenomena are compatible with the presence of  $10^6$ – $10^8 M_{\odot}$  holes in the nuclei of many nearby galaxies. Stellar disruption may have interesting consequences in our own Galactic Centre if a  $\sim 10^6 M_{\odot}$  hole lurks there.**

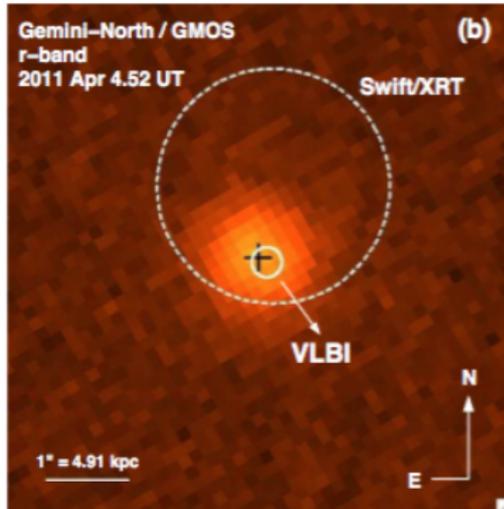
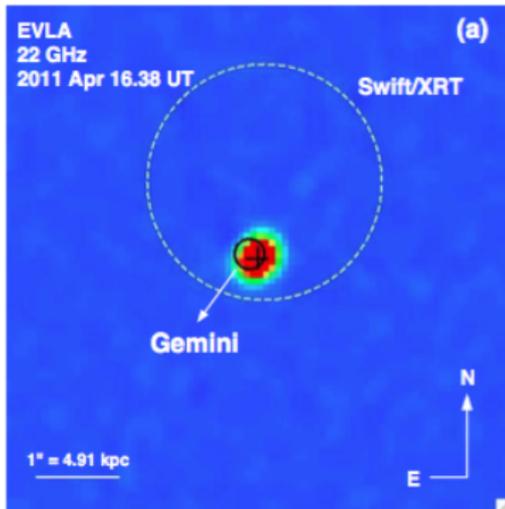
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# Radio transients from TDEs



- Production of relativistic jet
- Significant deceleration due to interaction with surroundings
- Synchrotron radiation powers the transient
- Timescale of  $\sim$  years
- Non-thermal emission from TDE probes physics of jet formation

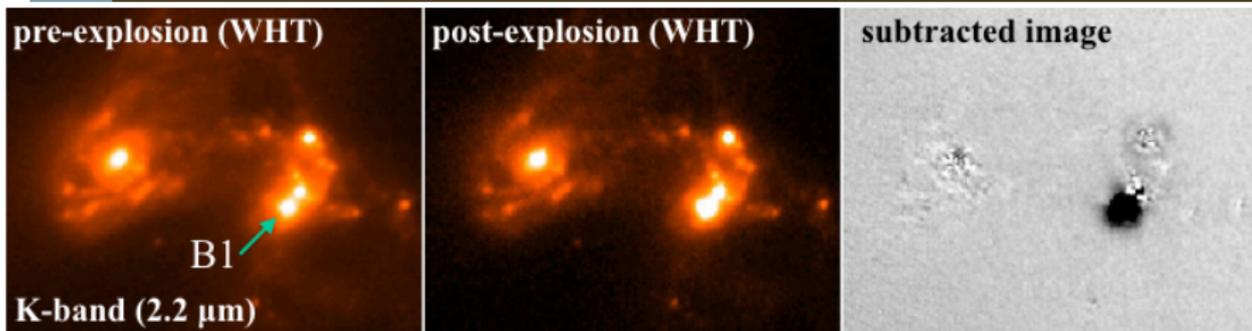
# The unusual $\gamma$ - ray transient Swift J1644+57



(Zauderer+2011)

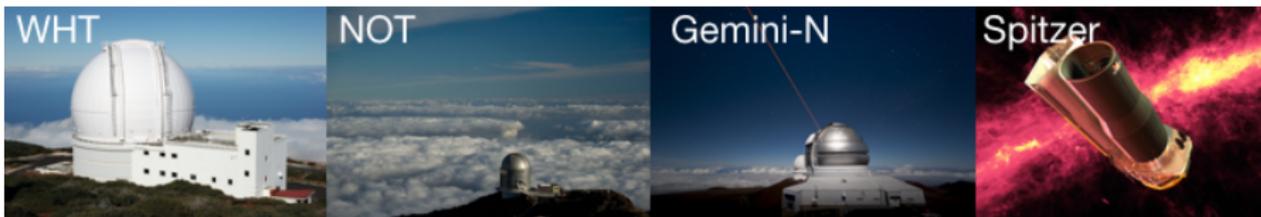
Discovery of a radio transient and mm- properties interpreted as being due to a relativistic outflow. **Unresolved observations!**

# IR discovery of a transient in Arp299-B1

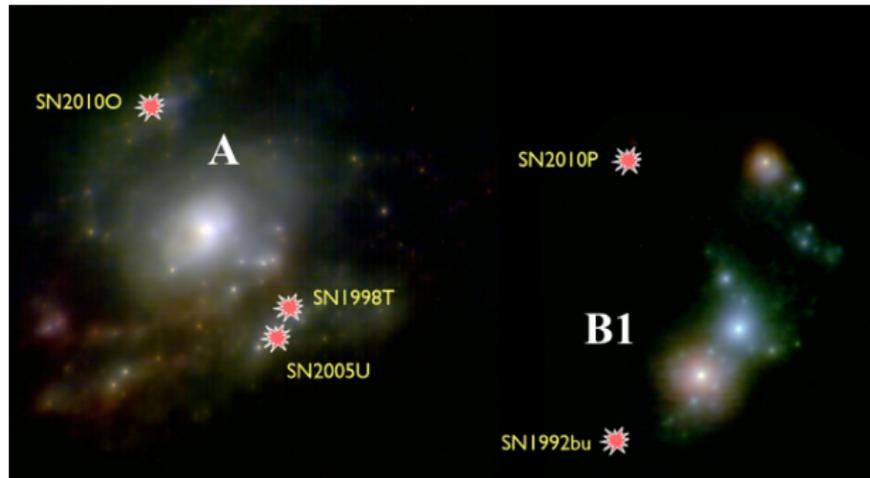


Mattila+2005, IAU Circ. 8477

- A systematic near-IR search for nuclear SNe in SB gals
- Discovery of a nuclear outburst in the near-IR in Jan 2005
- Only detected in the IR at that time

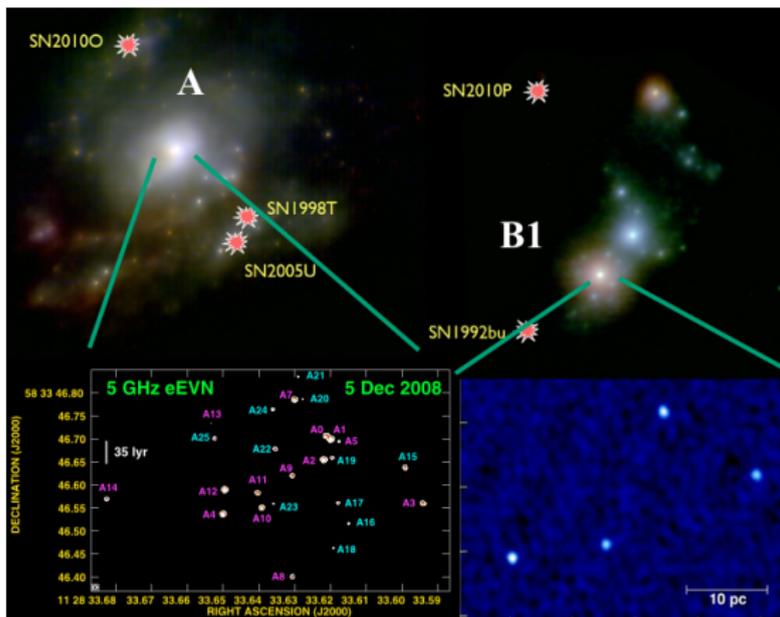


# The galaxy merger Arp299



- Luminous Infrared Galaxy (LIRG)[ $\log(L/L_{\odot}) = 11.7$ ]
- Nearby ( $D = 45$  Mpc)

# Arp299: A prolific SN factory

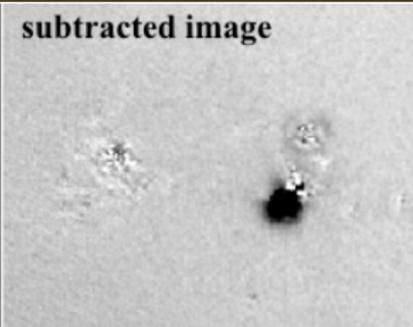
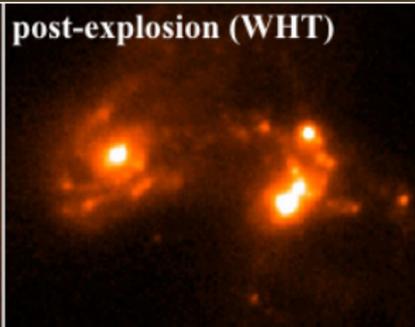
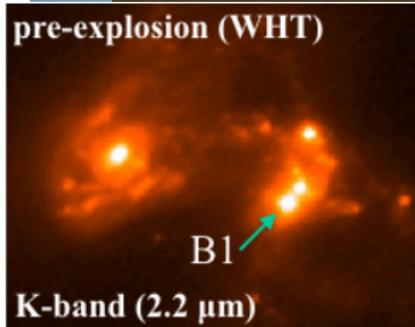


(Pérez-Torres+2009)

(Ulvestad 2009)

- $\text{SFR} \simeq (150 - 200) M_{\odot} \text{yr}^{-1}$
- $\text{CCSN rate} \sim 2 \text{yr}^{-1}$

# The AGN in B1 and its transient

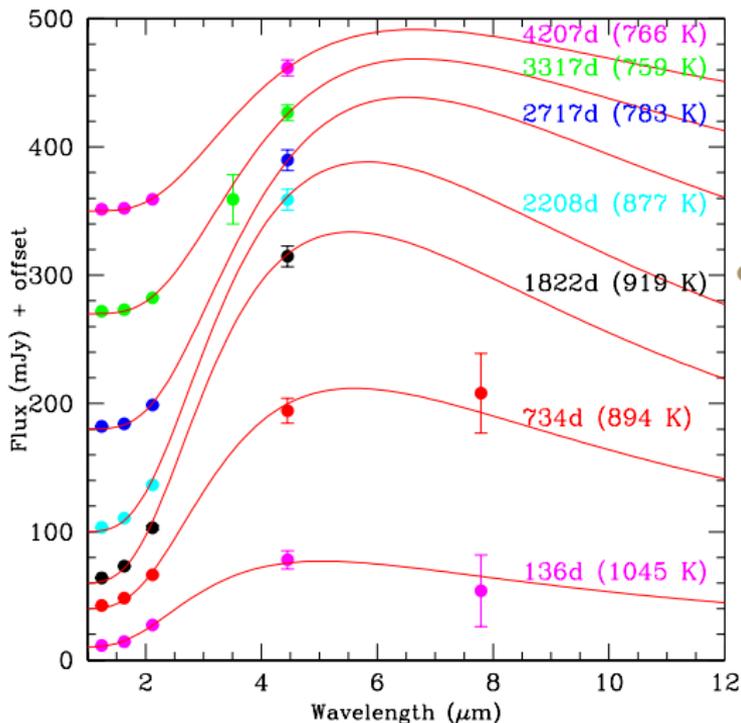


## AGN in B1

- Strongly obscured ( $N_H \sim 3 \times 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-2}$ );  $A_V \gtrsim 460 \text{ mag}$
- **AGN torus** viewed almost **edge-on**
- $M_{\text{SMBH}}(\text{B1}) \approx 2 \times 10^7 M_{\odot}$

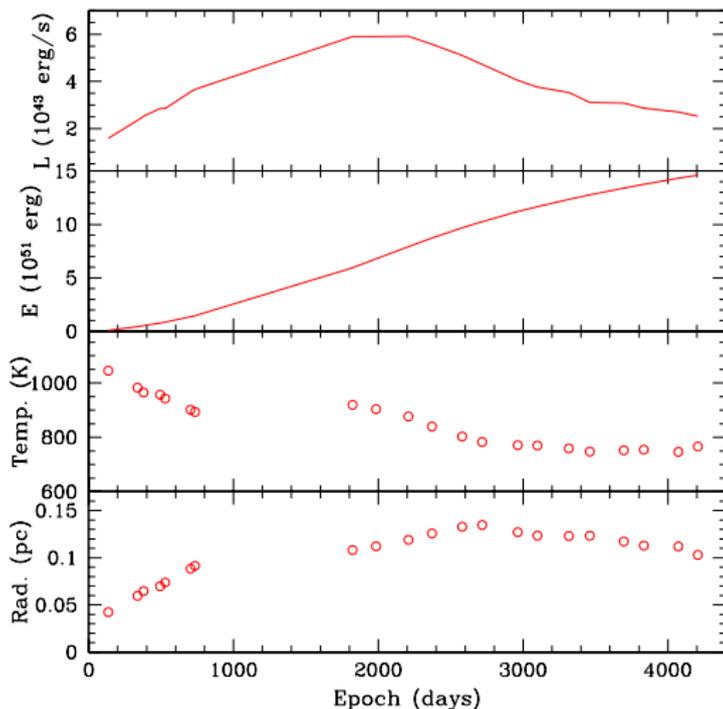
- Event **unrelated to the SMBH** (e.g., supernova or GRB)
- Event **related to the SMBH** (e.g., AGN flare or TDE)

# near-IR properties of Arp299B-AT1



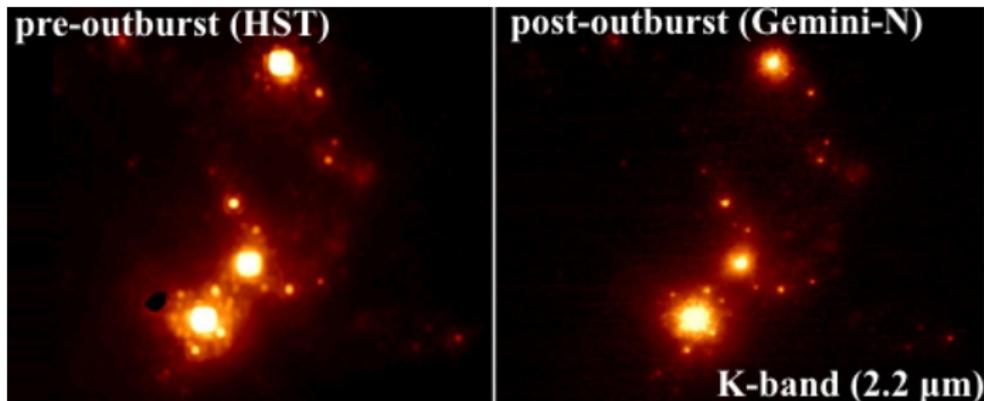
- Near- to mid-IR SED described by single blackbody function

# near-IR properties of Arp299B-AT1



- Expansion from  $\sim 0.04$  to  $\sim 0.13$  pc
- Source cools from  $\sim 1050$  to  $\sim 750$  K
- **Extremely energetic:**  
 $E_{\text{rad}} \gtrsim 1.5 \times 10^{52}$  erg

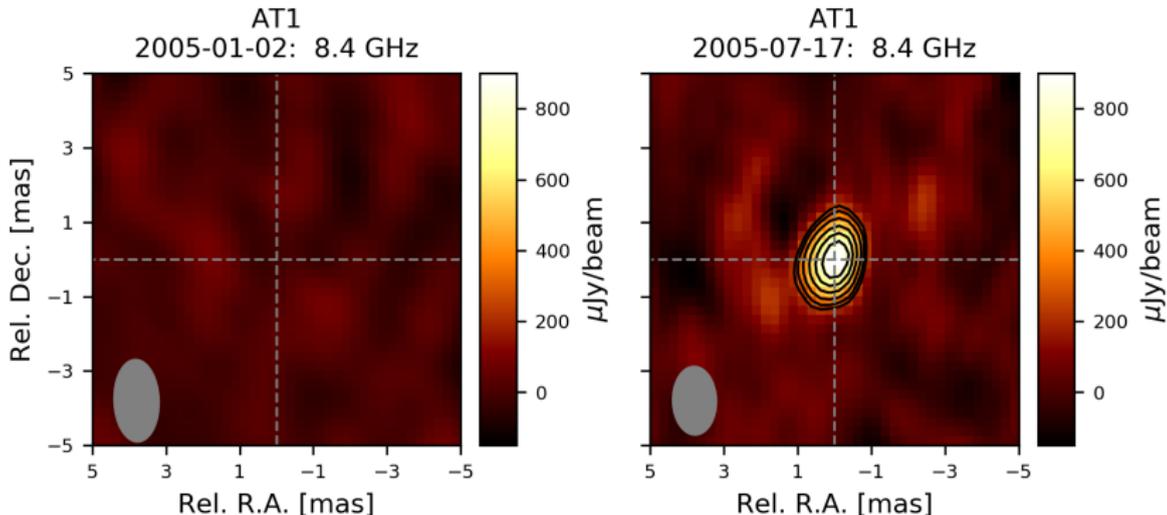
# IR nuclear location from Adaptive Optics



- AO near-IR imaging with  $0.1''$  angular resolution
- AO imaging compared with pre-explosion HST imaging
- Outburst coincident with IR nucleus within  $0.030''$
- Position stable in all AO epochs (2007-2012)

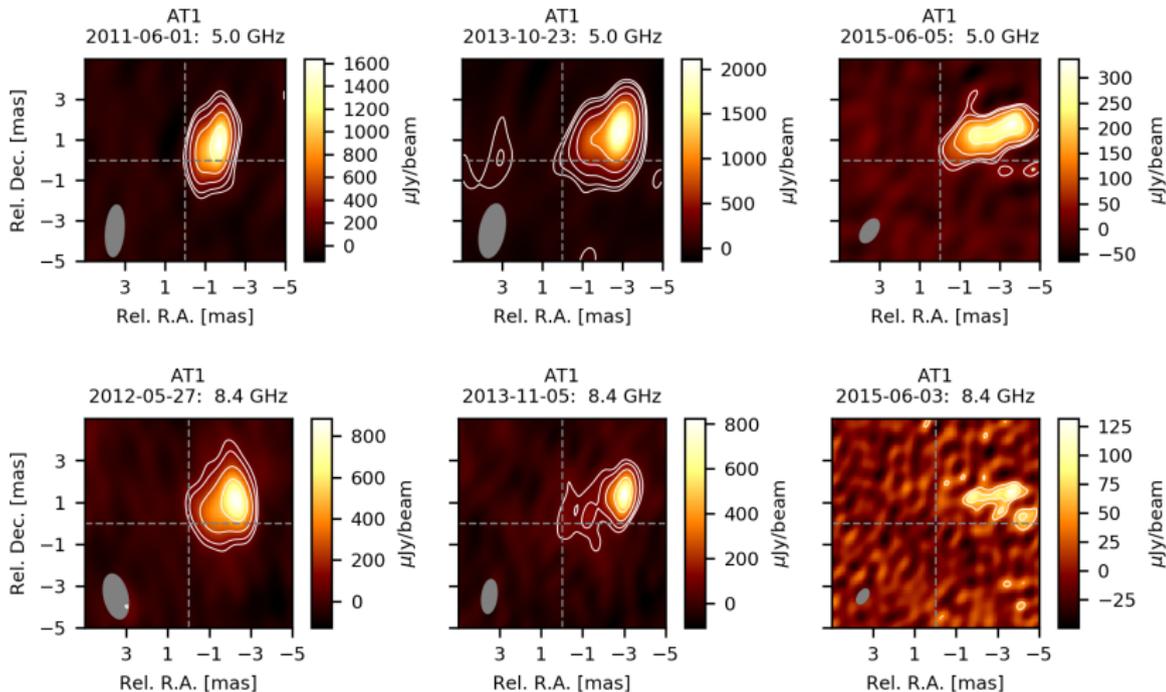
Transient connected to the SMBH at the centre of B1?

# The radio counterpart of Arp299B-AT1



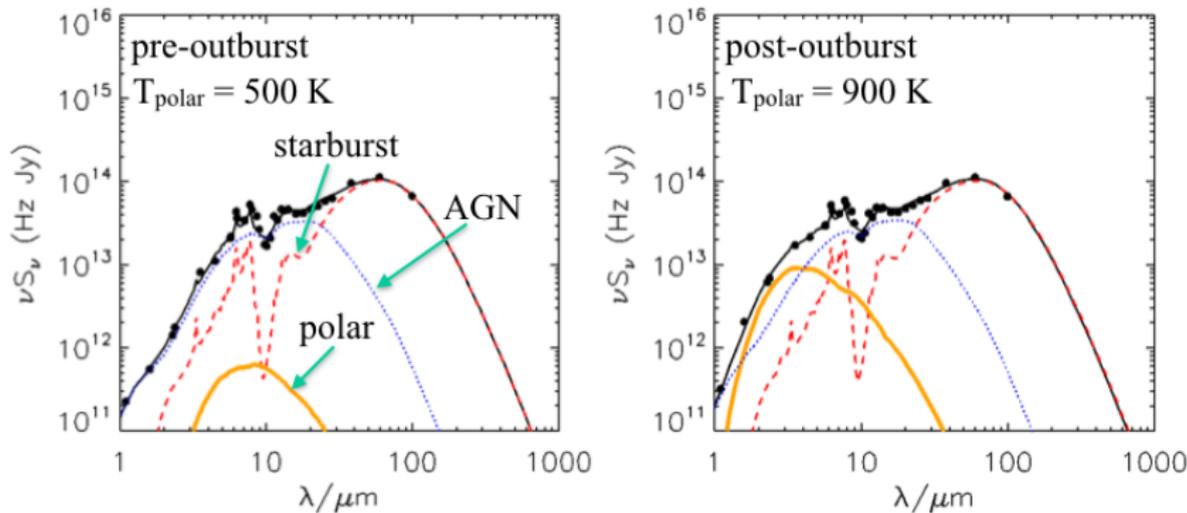
- VLBI observations showed the appearance of a new source
- milliarcsecond accuracy; near-IR position coincident  $\Rightarrow$  Transient connected to the SMBH in B1! (initially taken as a nuclear SN; Ulvestad 2009)

# An expanding radio jet unveiled by the EVN



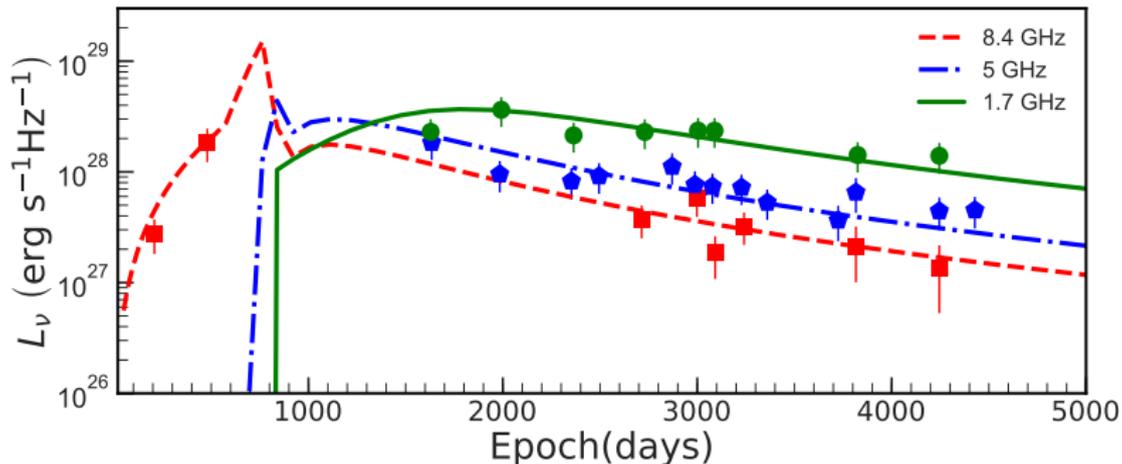
- European VLBI Network obs-ns with  $\sim\text{mas}$  resolution
- VLBI obs-ns rule out either a SN, or a GRB, origin

# Infra-red SED modelling



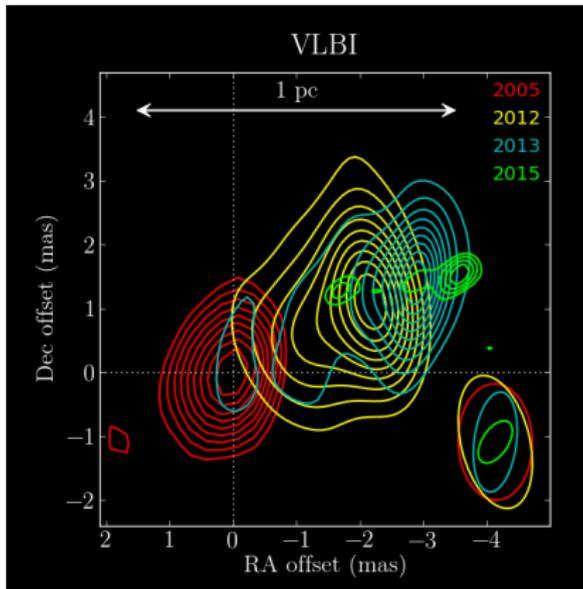
- Evidence for **Polar dust** in the surroundings of the AGN
- Radiative transfer models for both AGN and starbursts
- Covering factor of dust:  $f_{\text{cov}} = 23\% - 78\%$
- **Huge radiated energy**:  $E_{\text{rad}} \simeq (2.0 - 6.5) \times 10^{52} \text{ erg}$

# Radio light curve modelling of Arp299B-AT1



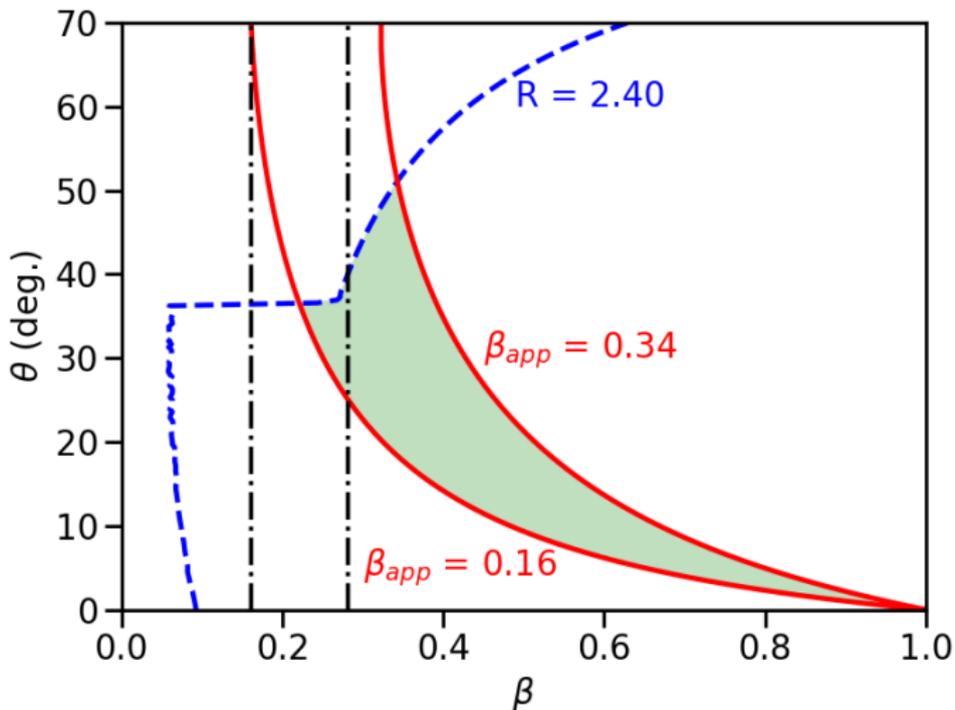
- TDE: radio transient expected, including relativistic jet
- Light curves well reproduced by TDE-driven jet
- $E_K \sim 2 \times 10^{51}$  erg
- $n_{\text{nuclear}} \sim 4 \times 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Jet initially relativistic ( $v \simeq 0.997 c$ ), but soon decelerates.

# The radio jet of Arp299B-AT1

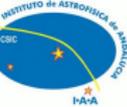


- From point-like in 2005 to jet-like by 2011
- Average apparent speed,  $\beta_{\text{app}} = 0.25 \pm 0.03$
- Jets are common in AGN; but also expected in TDEs

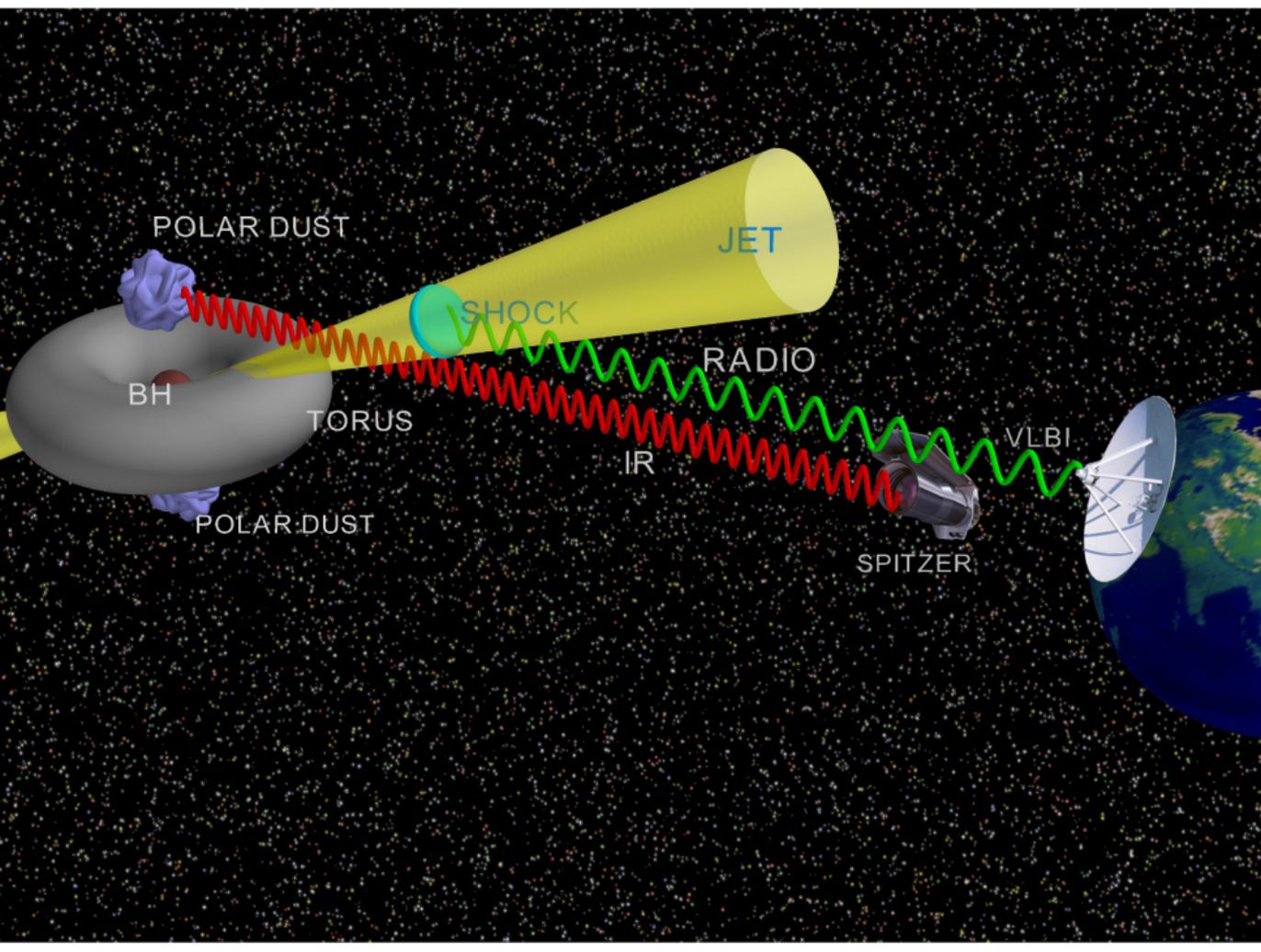
# VLBI obs-ns rule out a normal AGN jet



Jet viewing angle,  $\theta \simeq 25^\circ - 35^\circ$   
 $\Rightarrow$  **A TDE-launched radio jet!!**



# A TDE-launched jet unveiled by the EVN



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10.1126/science. aao4669 (2018).

# A dust-enshrouded tidal disruption event with a resolved radio jet in a galaxy merger

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\*These authors contributed equally to this work.

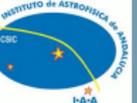
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## Summary

- **First ever resolved TDE radio jet**
- Extremely luminous ( $E_{\text{rad}} \gtrsim 1.5 \times 10^{52}$  erg)
- Disruption of a star with  $2 \lesssim M/M_{\odot} \lesssim 6.5$
- Efficient reprocessing: X-rays to UV-optical (dense gas), and to IR (dust)

## Outlook

- Dust reprocessing may explain the difference betw/ the predictions and observed luminosities of TDEs.
- AT1-like TDEs not detectable by OPT/UV/X-rays  
⇒ IR and radio to the rescue
- Tip of the iceberg of a **hidden TDE population?**  
Could be much more numerous at high-z
- **Radiative feedback** might be significant  
⇒ Important for modelling AGN-SF feedback in galaxies



# A luminous, dust-enshrouded TDE jet in a

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