

# Stellar irradiated discs

and implications on migration of embedded planets

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Low-mass planets in discs around stars:

- **isothermal** discs: inward migration
  - **fully radiative** discs:  
Equilibrium structure of disc determined by viscous heating and cooling. Planets can migrate outwards (e.g. Paardekooper, S.-J. & Mellema, G. 2006, Kley et al. 2009).
  - At zero-torque radius (e.g. Bitsch & Kley, 2011) the merging of protoplanets might be easier.
  - **Stellar irradiated** discs:  
Observations: flared discs, contrary to **fully radiative case**. The energy of the star heats the upper layers of the disc and influences the disc structure. Flaring with  $H/r \propto r^{2/7}$  (e.g. Chiang & Goldreich, 1997).
- ⇒ **Influence on migration of embedded objects in the disc?**

# Energy equation for stellar irradiated disc

Coupled energy equation:

$$\frac{\partial E_R}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = \rho \kappa_P(T, P)[B(T) - cE_R]$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \epsilon \right] = -P \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} - \rho \kappa_P(T, P)[B(T) - cE_R] + \mathcal{S} + \Phi$$

- $E_R$  radiation energy density
- $\epsilon = c_V \rho T$  thermal energy density
- $\Phi$  viscous heating,  $\nabla \mathbf{F}$  radiative diffusion:

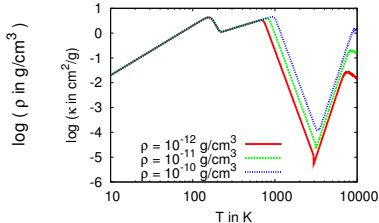
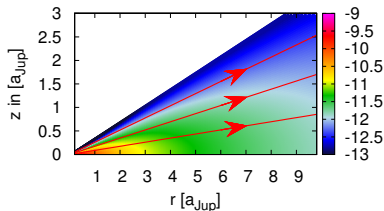
$$\nabla \mathbf{F} = -\frac{\lambda c}{\rho \kappa_R} \nabla E_R$$

- Stellar heating from the star ( $V$  Volume of grid cell,  $\tau$  optical depth):

$$\mathcal{S} = \frac{R_*^2}{V} \sigma T_*^4 e^{-\tau} (1 - e^{-\rho_i \kappa_{OP,i} \Delta r})$$

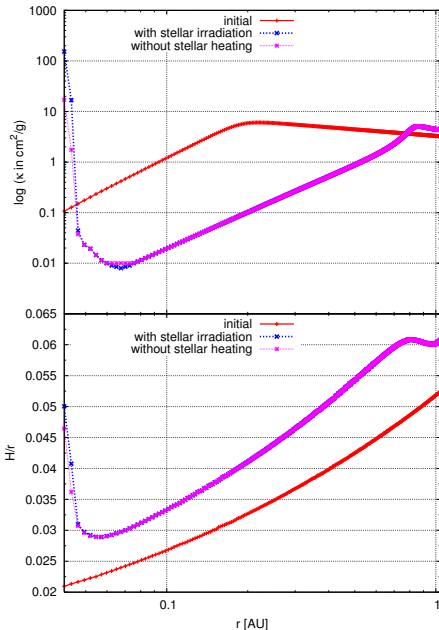
# Numerical setup

- 3D spherical hydrodynamics in  $r, \theta, \phi$ , but only  $r-\theta$  plane with  $384 \times 32$  active cells used (axisymmetric)
- Star as a point source: stellar irradiation propagates on rays along constant  $\theta$ -lines
- Parameters of the initial setup:
  - constant viscosity  $\nu = 10^{15} \text{cm}^2/\text{s}$
  - $M_\star = 1M_\odot$  Star,  $R_\star = 3.0R_\odot$ ,  $T_\star = 5600\text{K}$
  - initially flared disc profile with  $H/r \propto r^{2/7}$
- varying opacity by Bell & Lin, 1994



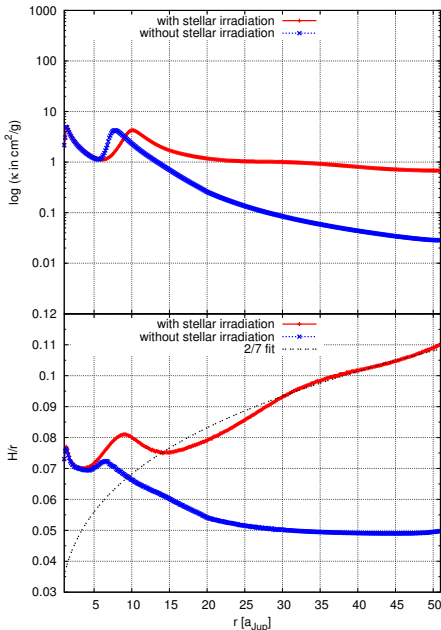
# Inner disc with and without stellar heating

- Inner disc structure dominated by viscosity
- Transitions in opacity profile translate to changes in  $H/r$
- Inner rim due to increase in opacity, but: opacity drops for even higher temperatures
- Inner disc shields outer disc from stellar irradiation



# Fully radiative vs. stellar heated disc

- Inner parts dominated by viscosity: similar structure
- Outer parts dominated by stellar heating: flared disc
- Flared disc with  $H/r \propto r^{2/7}$  as in Chiang & Goldreich, 1997
- Bumps in disc shield outer disc from stellar irradiation



# Migration of the disc via Torque formula

- Torque formula by Paardekooper et al. (2011):

$$\Gamma_{tot} = \Gamma_L + \Gamma_c$$

with  $\Gamma_L$  Lindblad torque,  $\Gamma_c$  corotation torque.

- Lindblad torque:

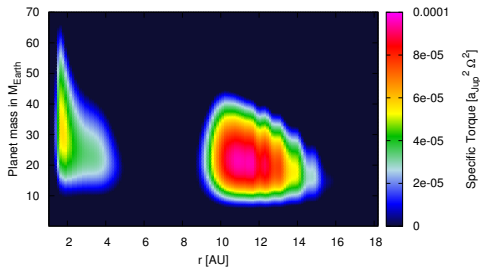
$$\gamma \Gamma_L / \Gamma_0 = -2.5 - 1.7\beta + 0.1\alpha, \quad \Gamma_0 = \left(\frac{q}{h}\right)^2 \Sigma_P r_P^4 \Omega_P^2,$$

where  $\alpha$  denotes the negative slope of the surface density profile  $\Sigma \propto r^{-\alpha}$ ,  $\beta$  refers to the slope of the temperature profile  $T \propto r^{-\beta}$ , and  $\gamma$  is the adiabatic index of the gas.

- Corotation part much more complicated!  
 $\Rightarrow$  **Gradients in disc determine migration!**

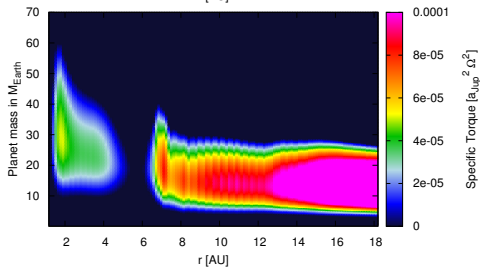
# Torque acting on planets

top: stellar irradiated disc



black colour in plot: inward migration

bottom: fully radiative disc





# Summary and Conclusions

- Viscosity dominates the disc structure in the inner disc
- Stellar irradiation determines the disc structure in the outer parts
- Outer disc:  $H/r \propto r^{2/7}$
- Shadowing effect due to opacity bumps
- Shadowing of disc: explanation for transition discs?
- Migration:
  - 2 different located zero-torque radii
  - Reduced region of outward migration for stellar irradiated discs
  - Smaller region where cores can merge: better chance of growing?

**Reference:** [Stellar irradiated discs and implications on migration of embedded planets I: equilibrium discs](#), submitted to A&A