

GAMMA-RAY LINE ASTRONOMY

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COSMIC RADIOACTIVITIES AND GAMMA-RAY LINE ASTRONOMY

- **1954 : W. Baade** : Supernovae powered by decay of ^{254}Cf ($\tau_{1/2} = 70$ days)
- **1963 : T. Pankey Jr.** : Supernovae powered by decay of ^{56}Co ($\tau_{1/2} = 77$ days)
- **1964 : F. Hoyle + W. Fowler** : ^{56}Fe is produced as ^{56}Fe (stable)
- **1968 : J. Bodansky + D. Clayton + W. Fowler** : ^{56}Fe is produced as ^{56}Ni (unstable)
- **1969 : D. Clayton + S. Colgate + J. Fishman** : Gamma-rays from ^{56}Co in SN detectable
- **1982 : D. Clayton** : Evaluation of yields of major radionuclides for gamma-ray line astronomy, assuming that Supernovae make the solar abundances of the daughter stable isotopes. **ALL CORRECT !**
But : ^{26}Al missed ! (because ^{26}Mg is produced as such)
- **1977 : D. Arnett, R. Ramaty** : ^{26}Al from SN explosions may also be detectable

- **1970's : Balloons** : Discovery of 511 keV line towards Galactic Center
- **1984 : HEAO-3 (NASA)** : Discovery of ^{26}Al towards Galactic Center
- **1987 : SMM + Balloons** : Discovery of ^{56}Co in SN1987A
- **1990s : GRO (NASA)** : Discovery of ^{57}Co (SN1987A), mapping of ^{26}Al (Galaxy), ^{44}Ti (Cas-A), 511 keV (Bulge+Disk ?)
- **2000s : INTEGRAL(ESA)** : ^{60}Fe (Galaxy), Mapping of 511 keV (Bulge+Disk)

Difficulties of gamma-ray astronomy

Very weak fluxes of gamma photons \Rightarrow Very long exposures required

Impossibility (?) to focus gamma photons \Rightarrow Low angular resolution

Detectors in space traversed by cosmic rays \Rightarrow high background noise

Advantages of gamma-ray astronomy

Gamma photons very penetrating \Rightarrow access to places unreachable in other wavelengths

Nuclear gamma-ray lines \Rightarrow signature of specific atomic nuclei

Best diagnostics of nucleosynthesis and nuclear astrophysics

ASTROPHYSICALLY IMPORTANT γ -RAY LINE EMITTERS

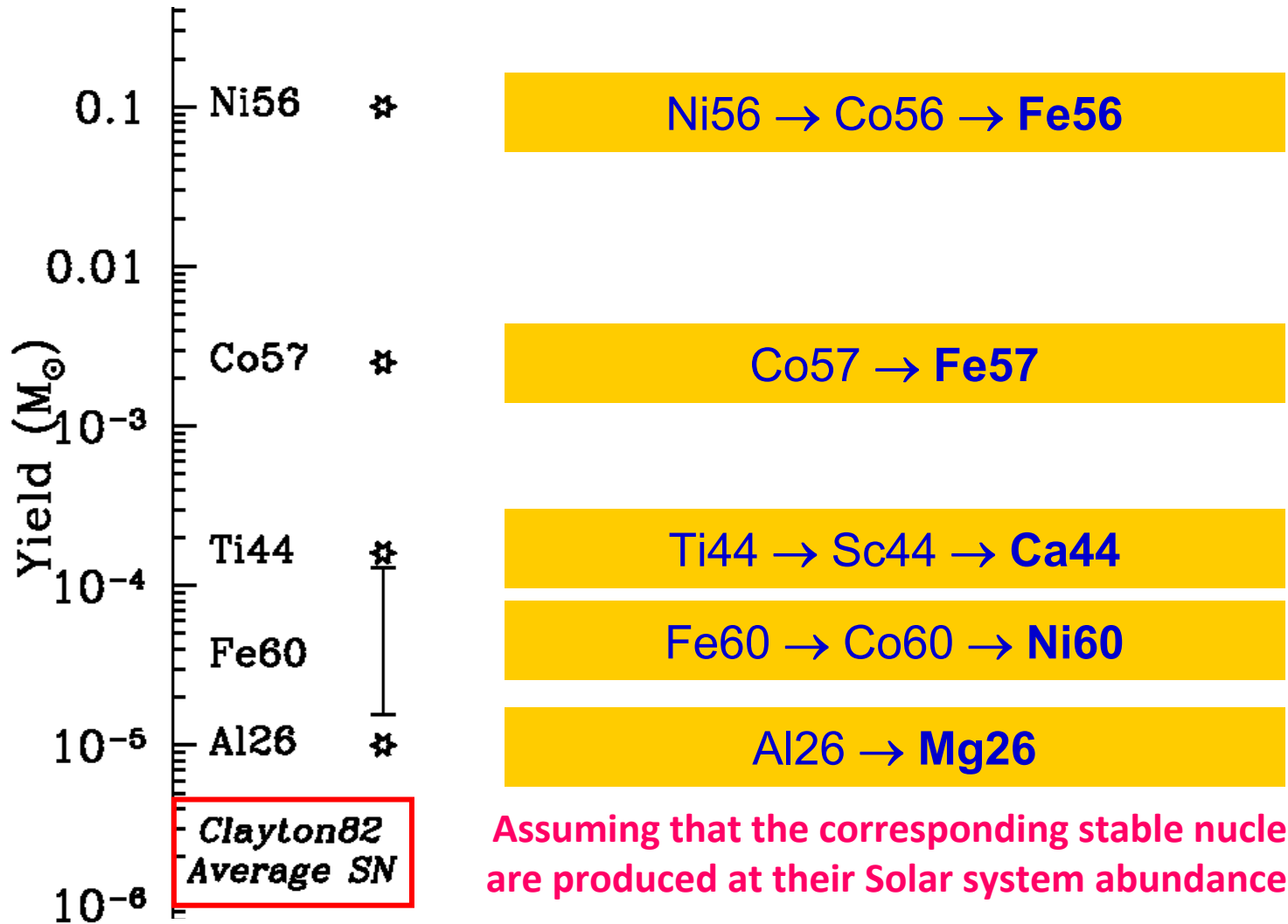
Decay Chain	Lifetime [y]	γ -ray Energy [keV] (branching ratio [%])	Site (detections)	Process Type
${}^7\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li}$	0.21	478 (100)	Novae	explosive H burning
${}^{56}\text{Ni} \rightarrow {}^{56}\text{Co} \rightarrow {}^{56}\text{Fe}$	0.31	847 (100), 1238 (68) 2598 (17), 1771 (15) and 511 from e^+	SNe (SN1987A, SN1991T)	NSE burning
${}^{57}\text{Co} \rightarrow {}^{57}\text{Fe}$	1.1	122 (86), 136 (11)	SNe (SN1987A)	NSE burning
${}^{22}\text{Na} \rightarrow {}^{22}\text{Ne}$	3.8	1275 (100) and 511 from e^+	Novae	explos. H burning
${}^{44}\text{Ti} \rightarrow {}^{44}\text{Sc} \rightarrow {}^{44}\text{Ca}$	89	68 (95), 78 (96) 1156 (100) and 511 from e^+	SNe (Cas A)	NSE α freeze-out
${}^{26}\text{Al} \rightarrow {}^{26}\text{Mg}$	$1.04 \cdot 10^6$	1809 (100) and 511 from e^+	ccSNe, WR Novae, AGB (Galaxy) (Cygnus; Sco-Cen; Orion; Vela)	H burning (ν -proc.)
${}^{60}\text{Fe} \rightarrow {}^{60}\text{Co} \rightarrow {}^{60}\text{Ni}$	$3.8 \cdot 10^6$	1173 (100), 1332 (100) 59 (2)	SNe (Galaxy)	He,C shell burning
$e^+ \rightarrow \text{Ps}, \dots \rightarrow \gamma\gamma(\gamma)$	$\sim 10^7$	2·511 (~ 100), cont < 510	radioactivities Pulsars, μ QSOs, ... (Galactic bulge; disk)	β^+ decay rel. plasma

$\tau_{\text{SOURCE}} \gg \tau_{\text{RAD}}$
ONE POINT SOURCE

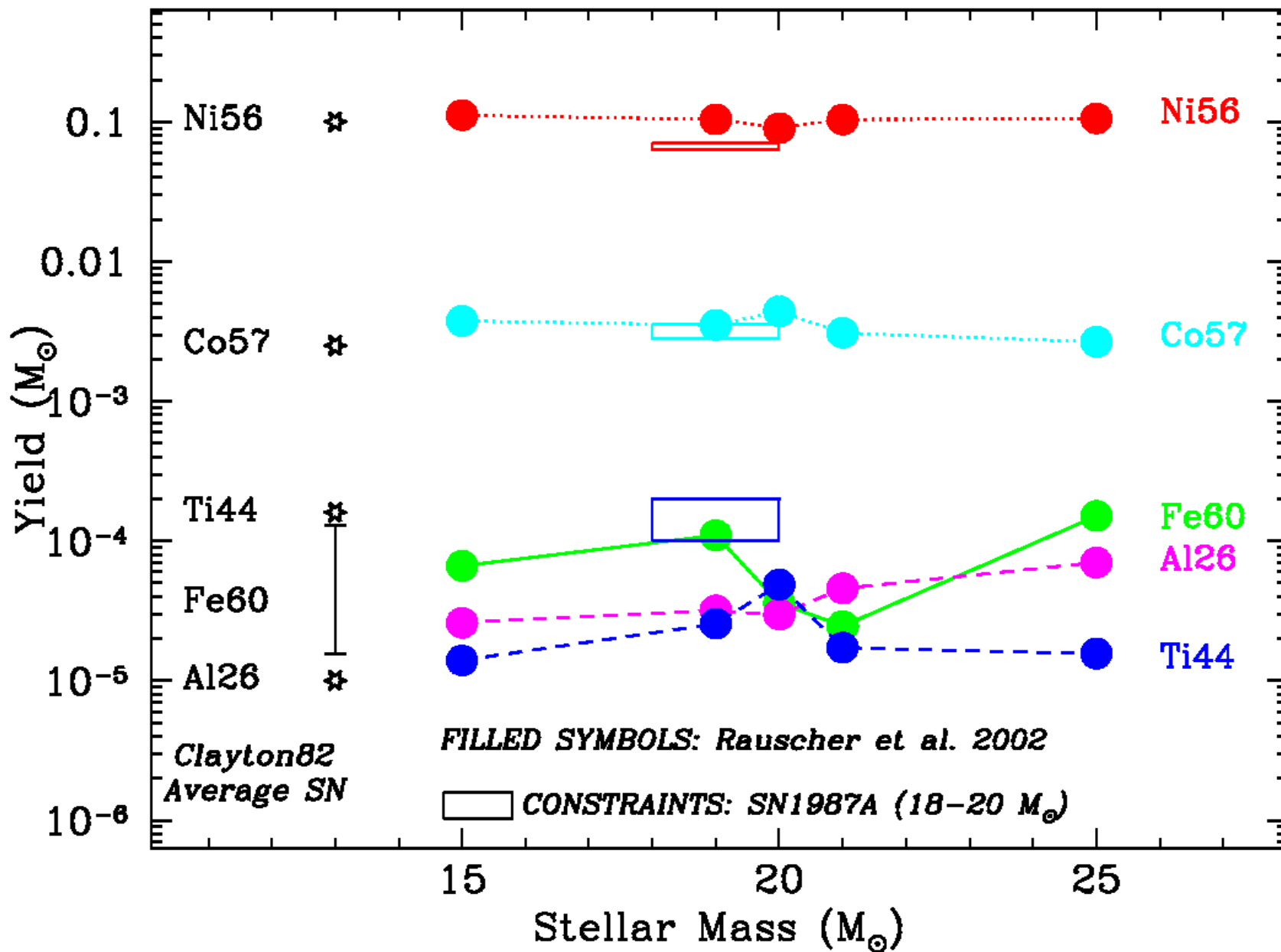
$\tau_{\text{SOURCE}} \sim \tau_{\text{RAD}}$
SEVERAL POINT SOURCES

$\tau_{\text{SOURCE}} \ll \tau_{\text{RAD}}$
DIFFUSE EMISSION

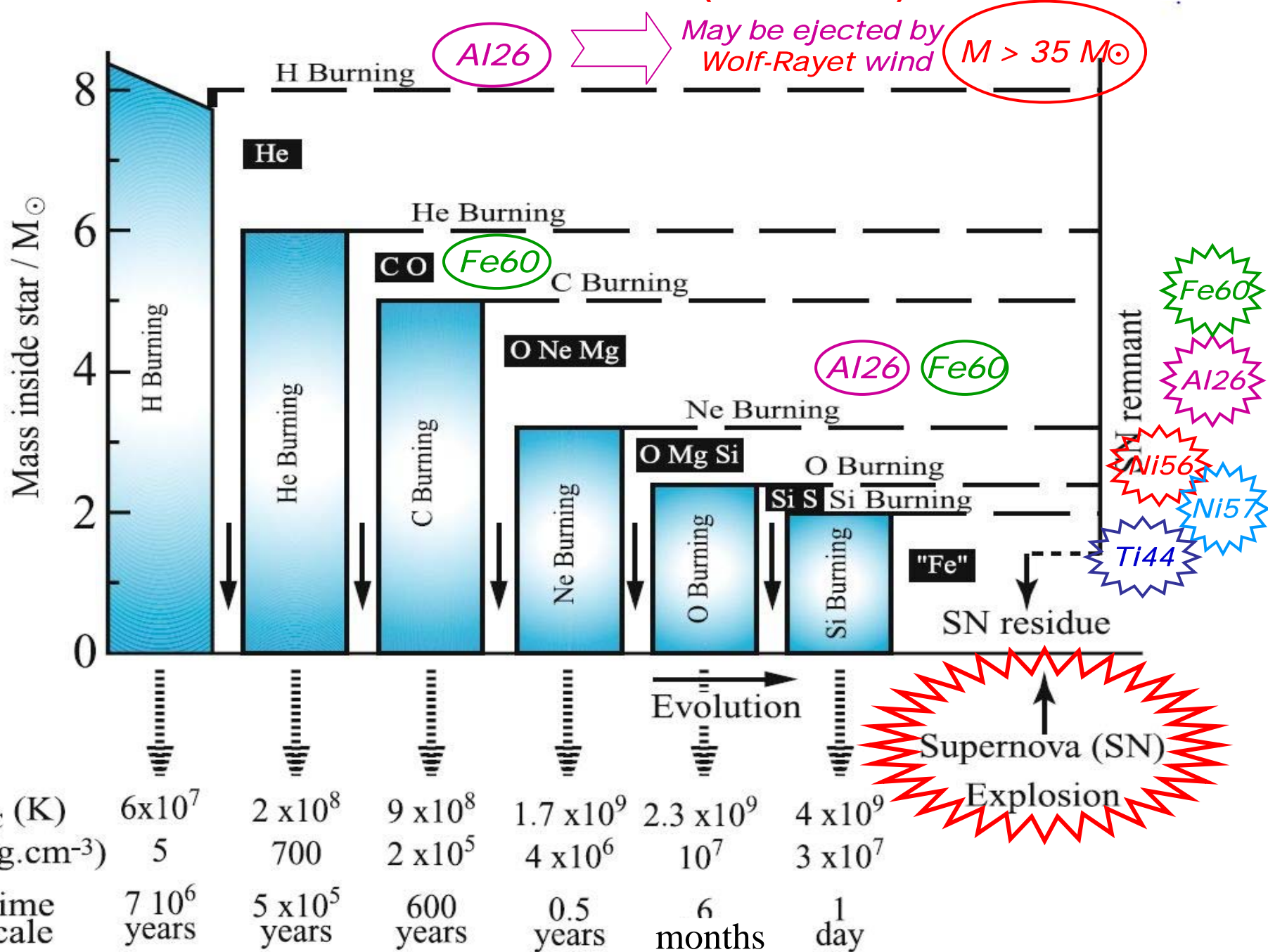
Yields of major radioactivities from massive stars



Yields of major radioactivities from massive stars



Massive star evolution (schematic)

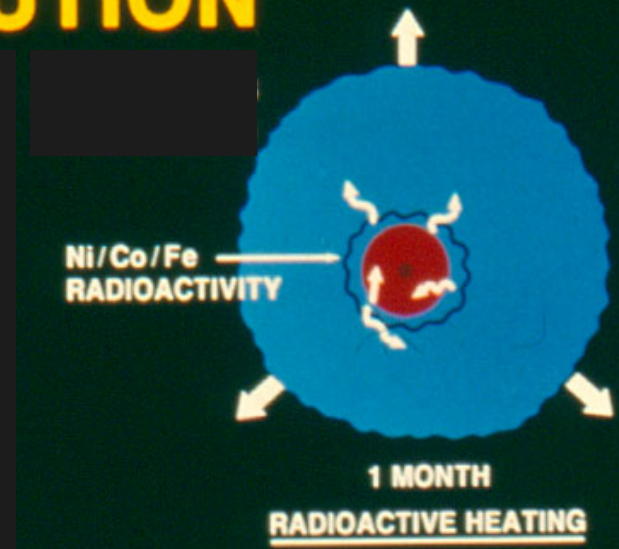


TYPE II SUPERNOVA ENVELOPE EVOLUTION

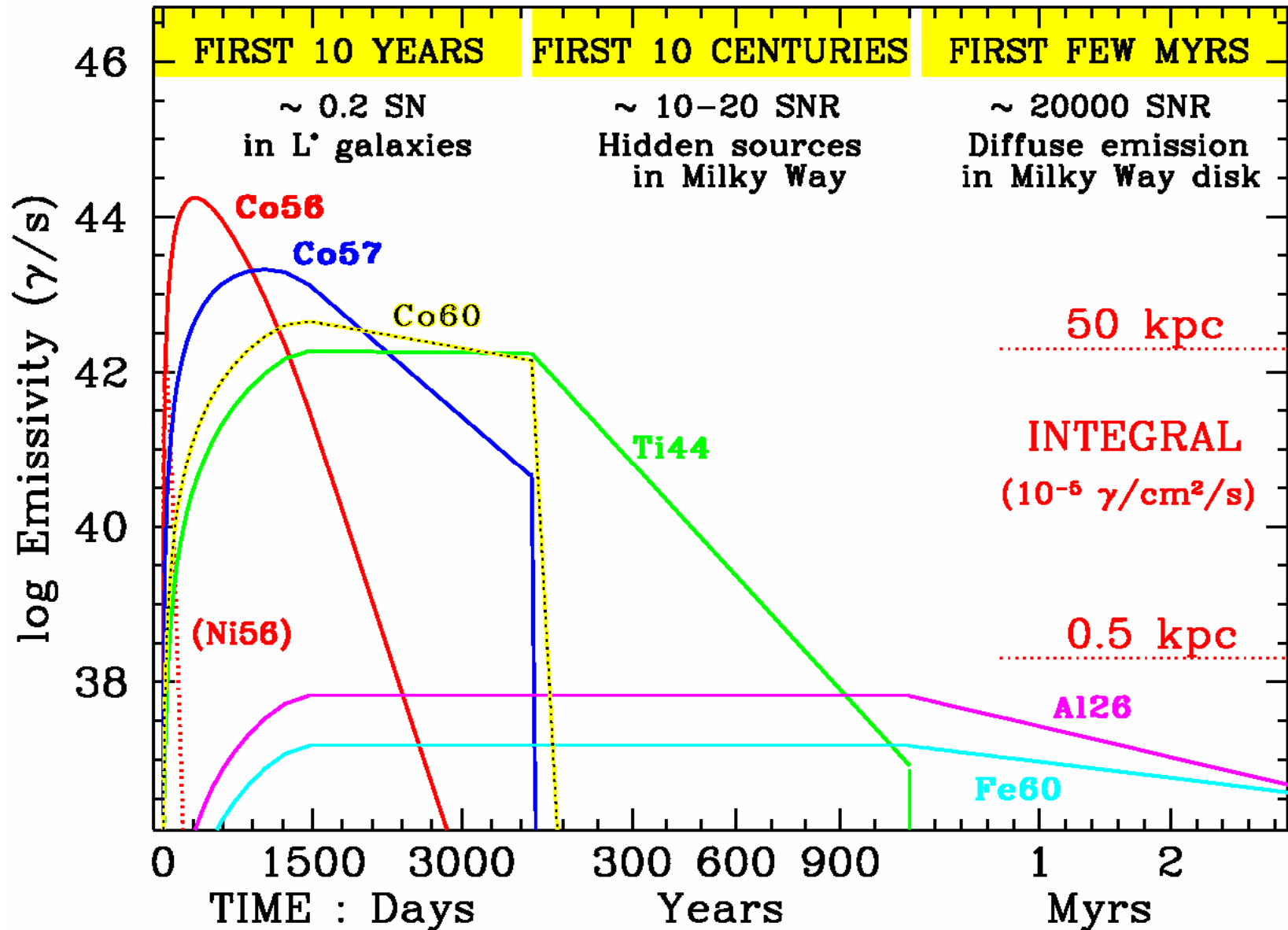
Radioactivity from the decay chain

Nickel-56 \Rightarrow **Cobalt-56** \Rightarrow **Iron-56**
(7 days) (77 days)

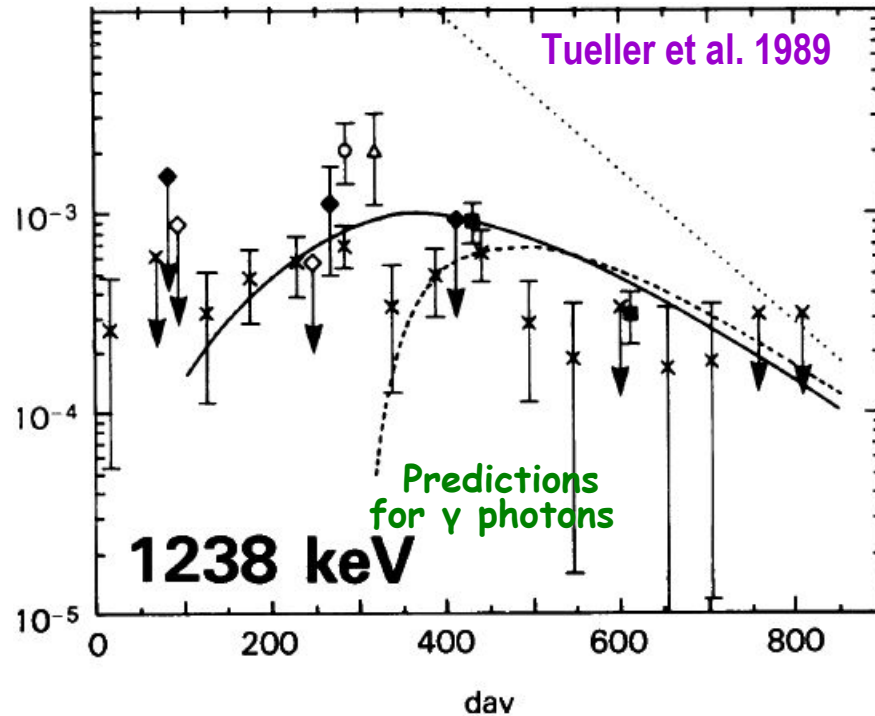
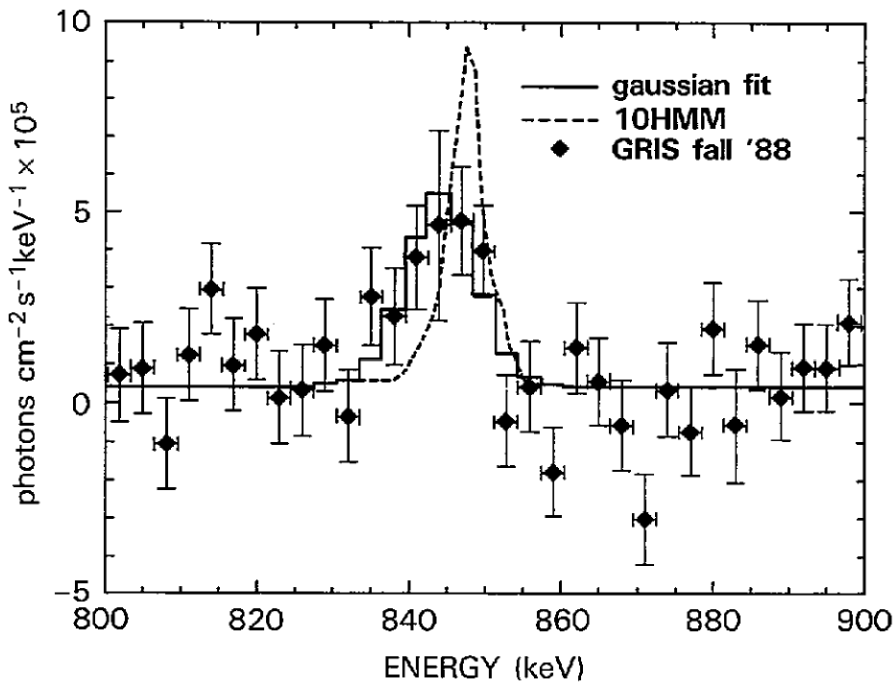
powers the optical lightcurves of supernovae



Radioactivities in supernovae and supernova remnants



847 keV line of Co56 from SN1987A (18 M \odot star in LMC, at 50 kpc)

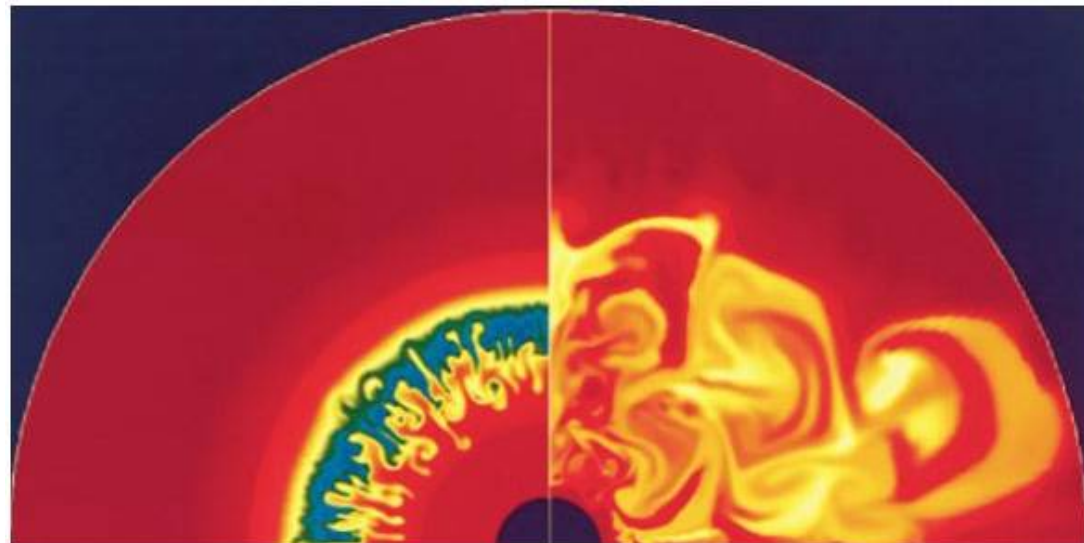


Confirmation of explosive nucleosynthesis
(stable Fe-56 is produced as unstable Ni-56)

Line seen 6 months earlier than expected !

Confirmation that radioactivity powers
the late lightcurves of supernovae

Hydrodynamic instabilities
mix the SN interior, bringing
heavy atomic nuclei from the core
near the surface.



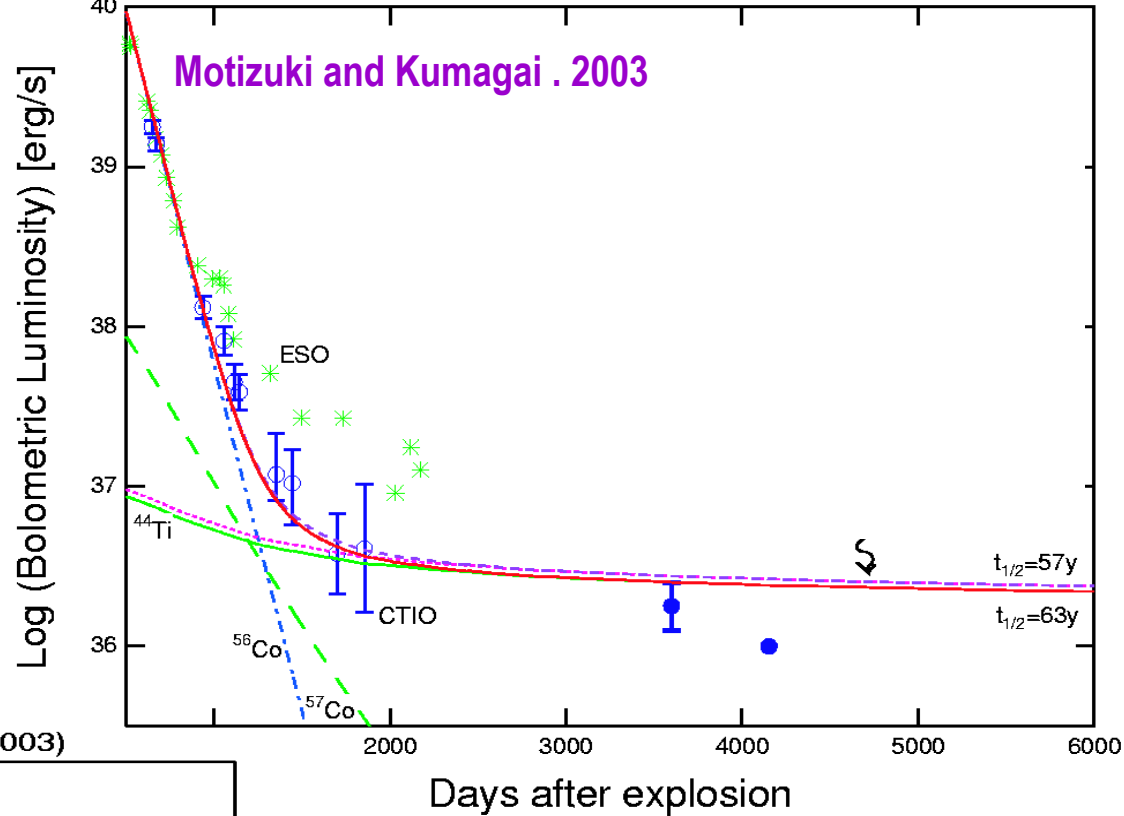
SN1987A

From early lightcurve:

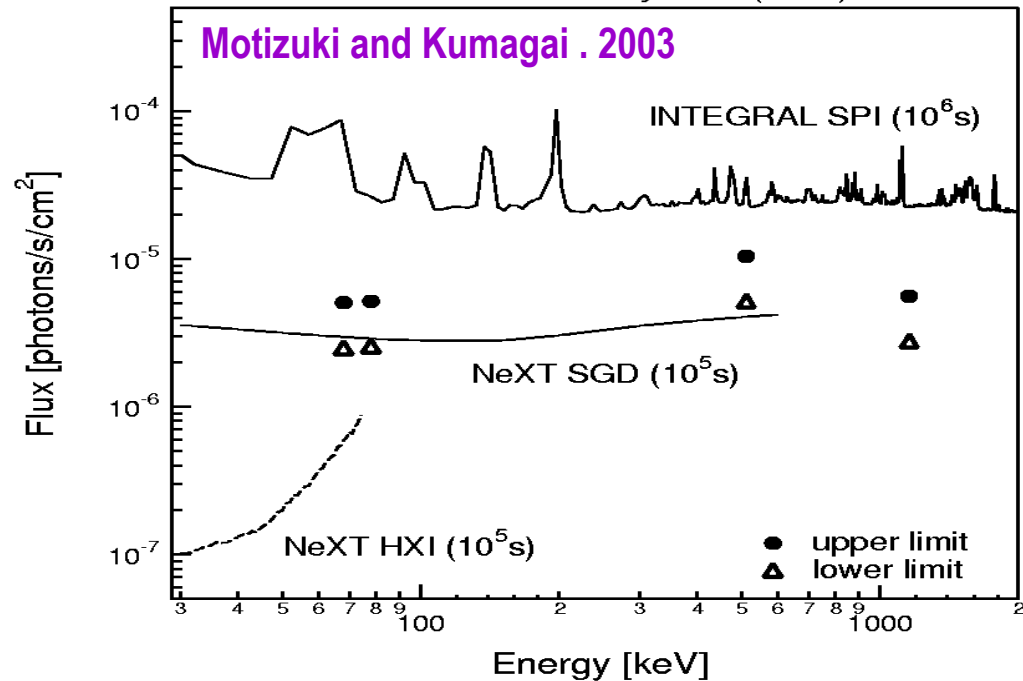
0.07 M_{\odot} of Ni-56

From late lightcurve:

1-2 $10^{-4} M_{\odot}$ of Ti-44



Flux Prediction for Day 6000 (2003)



**Ti-44 γ -ray lines
too weak to be seen
by SPI/INTEGRAL**

Ti-44 in Cas A

($d \approx 3$ kpc, age ≈ 320 yr)

From observations: $1-2 \cdot 10^{-4} M_{\odot}$ of Ti-44

COMPTEL: 1.156 MeV (*Iyudin et al. 1994*)

Beppo-Sax: 68 + 78 keV (*Vink et al. 2002*)

IBIS-ISGRI: 68+78 keV (*Renaud et al. 2006*)

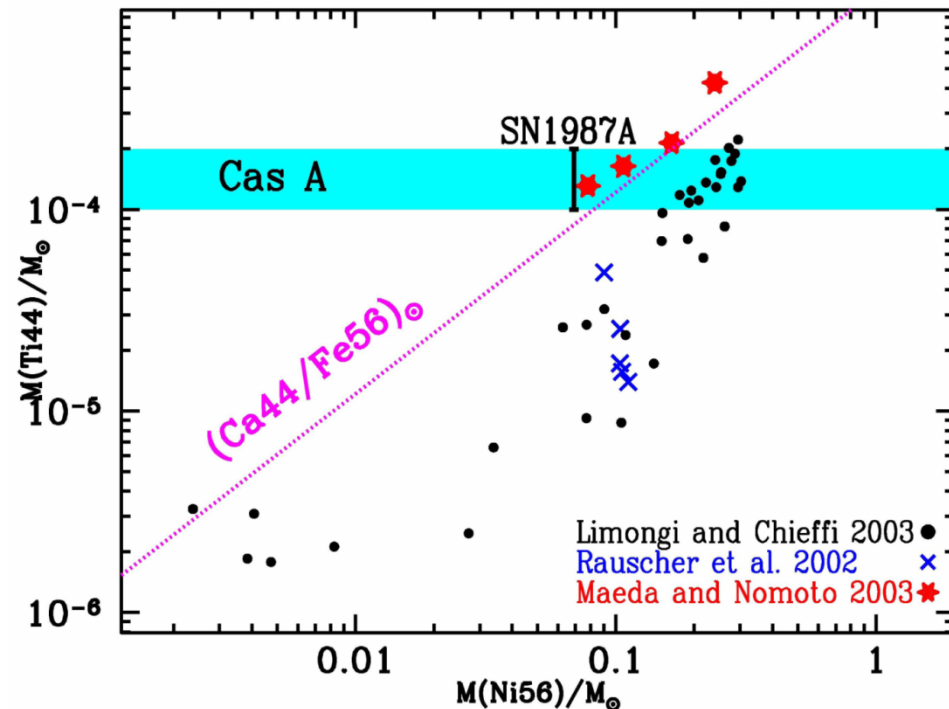
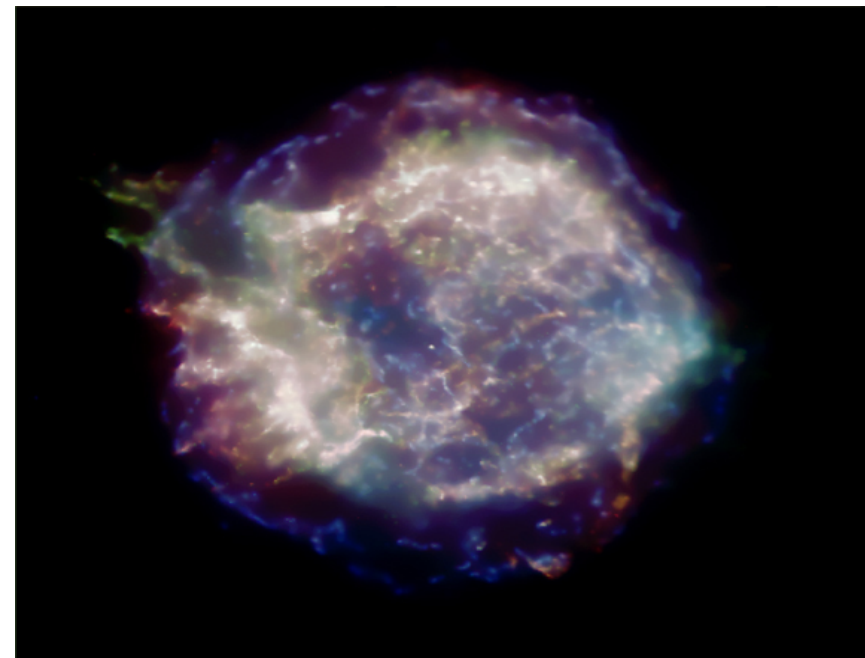
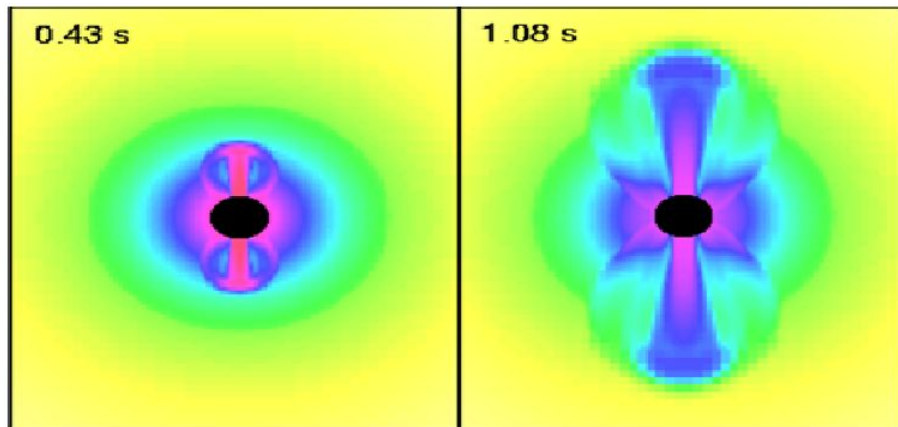
- 1) Spherical and energetic explosion, producing solar Ca44/Fe56 or $\sim 0.2 M_{\odot}$ of Ni56.

Bright explosion! Why was not then observed 3 centuries ago?

- 2) SN1987A-like explosion ($\sim 0.07 M_{\odot}$ of Ni56)

What mechanism makes so large Ti44/Ni56 ratios?

Asymmetric explosions ?



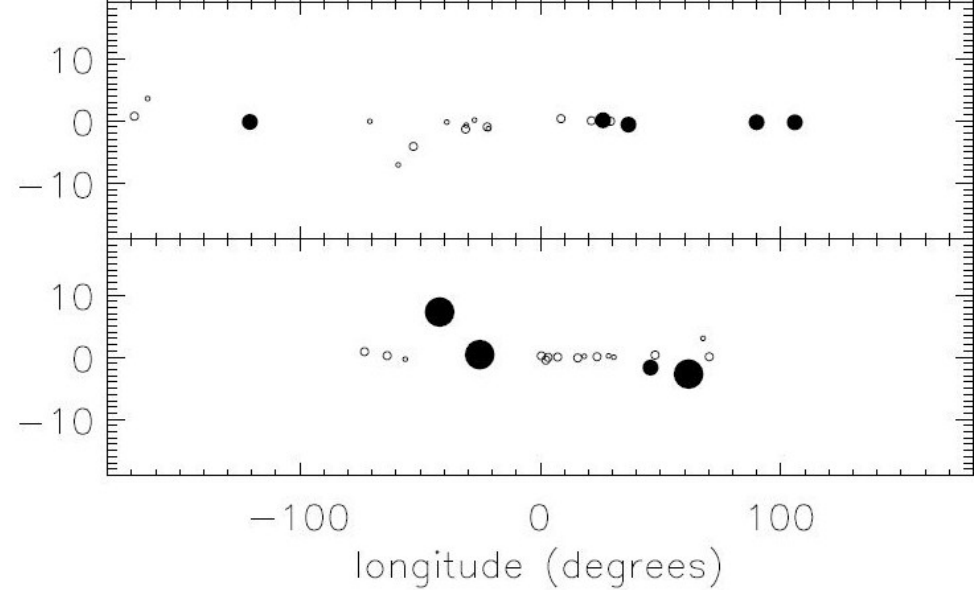
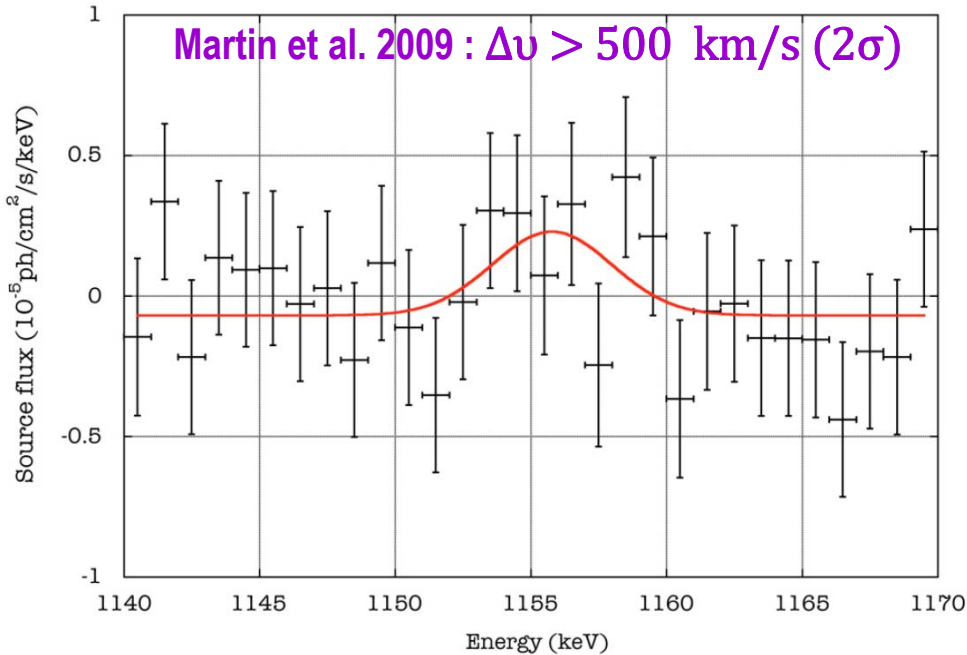
Assuming that :
 -CCSN produce $\sim 10^{-4} M_{\odot}$ of Ti-44
 -CCSN rate in Milky Way is $\sim 3/\text{century}$

One would expect a **few SN remnants**
 to be detected in Ti-44 lines
 (The et al. 2006)

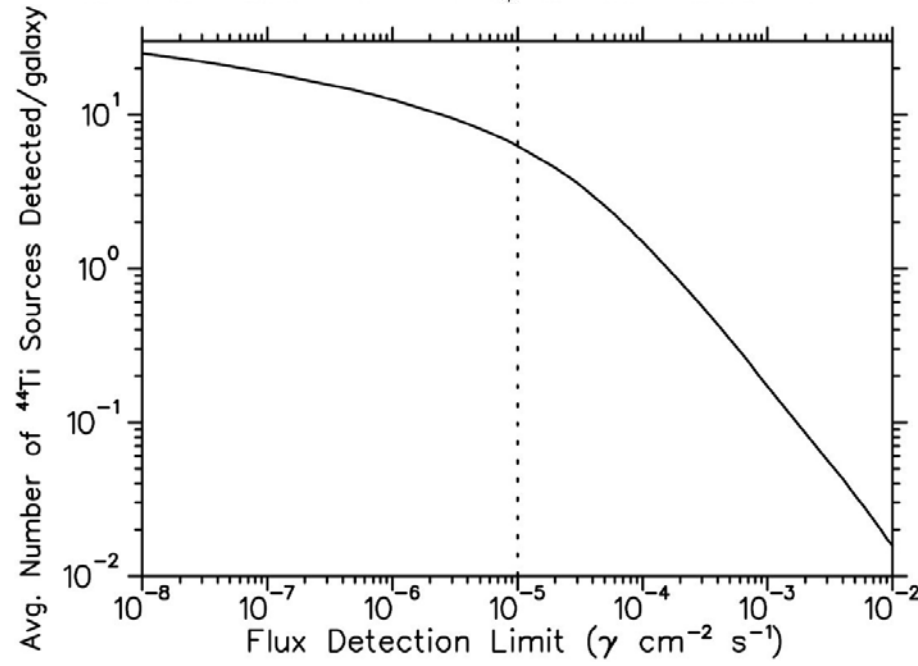
Only Cas A is seen...

Is Ca-44 produced mostly
 in **rare, prolific, SN ?**

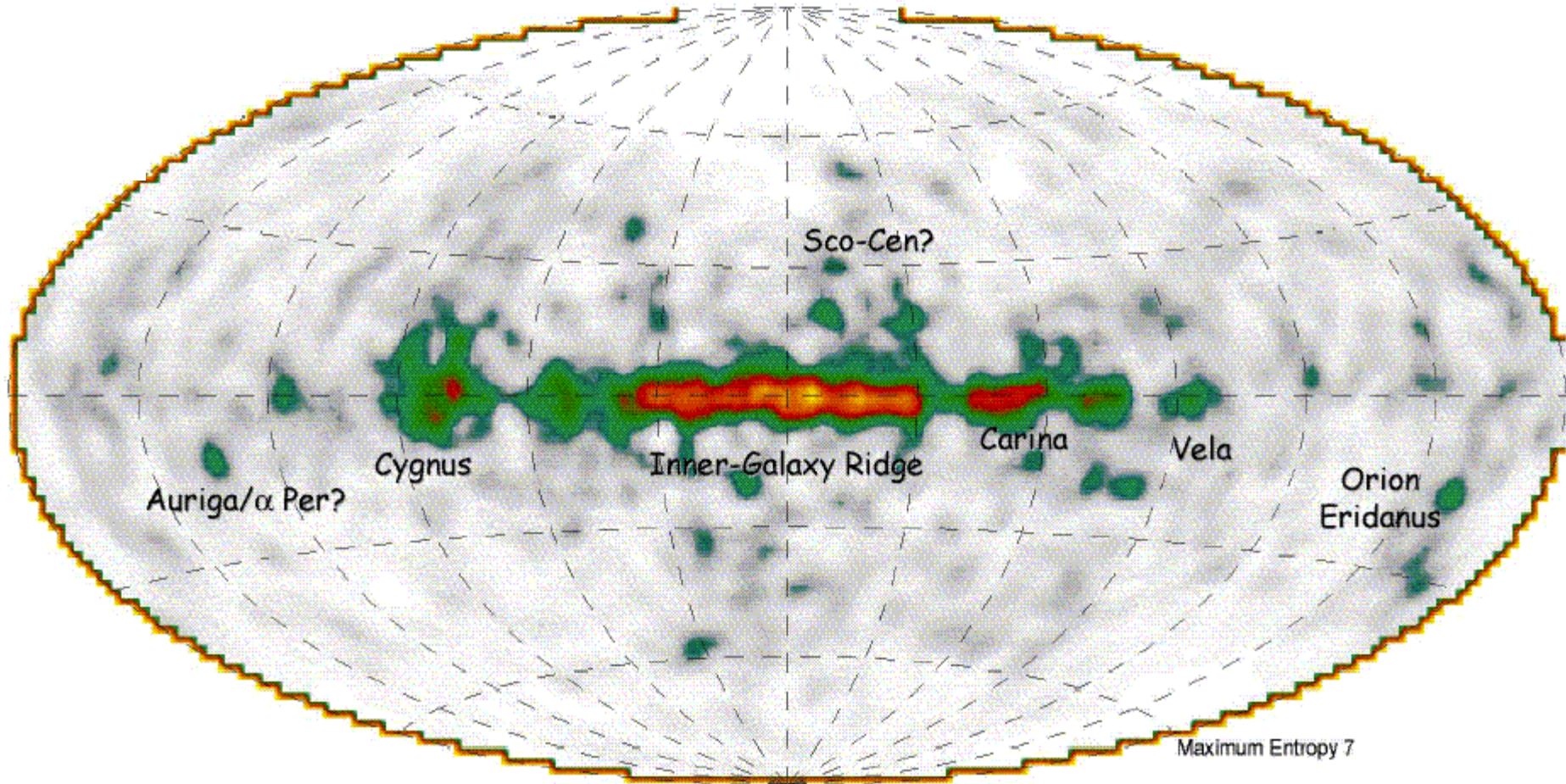
Or are the lines too broad ?



- : $f_{\gamma} > 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- : $10^{-5} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} < f_{\gamma} < 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$
- : $10^{-6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} < f_{\gamma} < 10^{-5} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$



COMPTEL legacy: 1.8 MeV map of Galactic Al-26 ($\tau \approx 1$ Myr)



Complete CGRO Mission
(Plüschke et al. 2001)

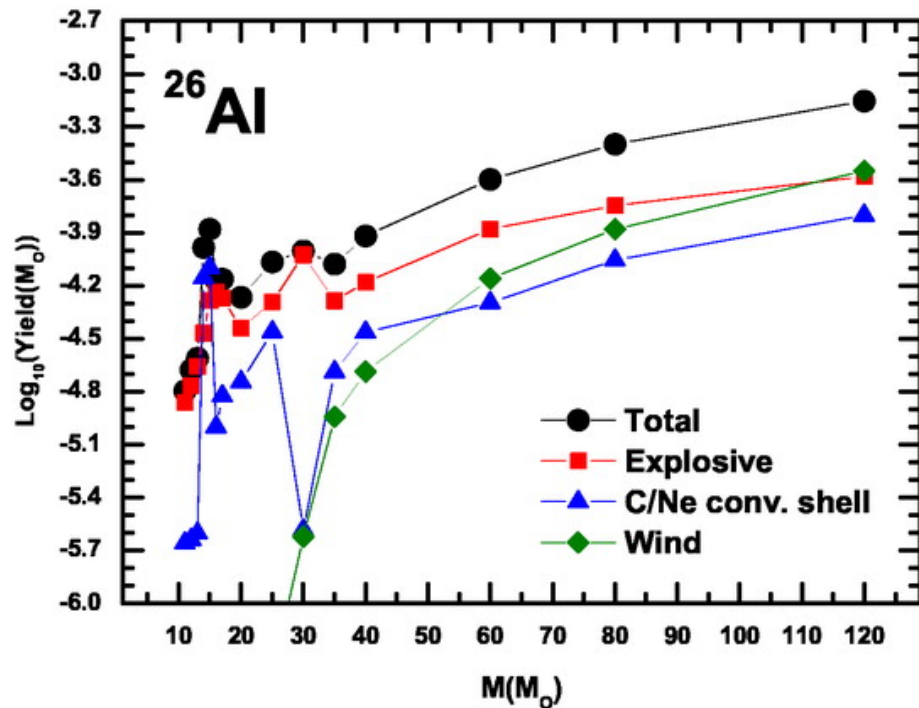
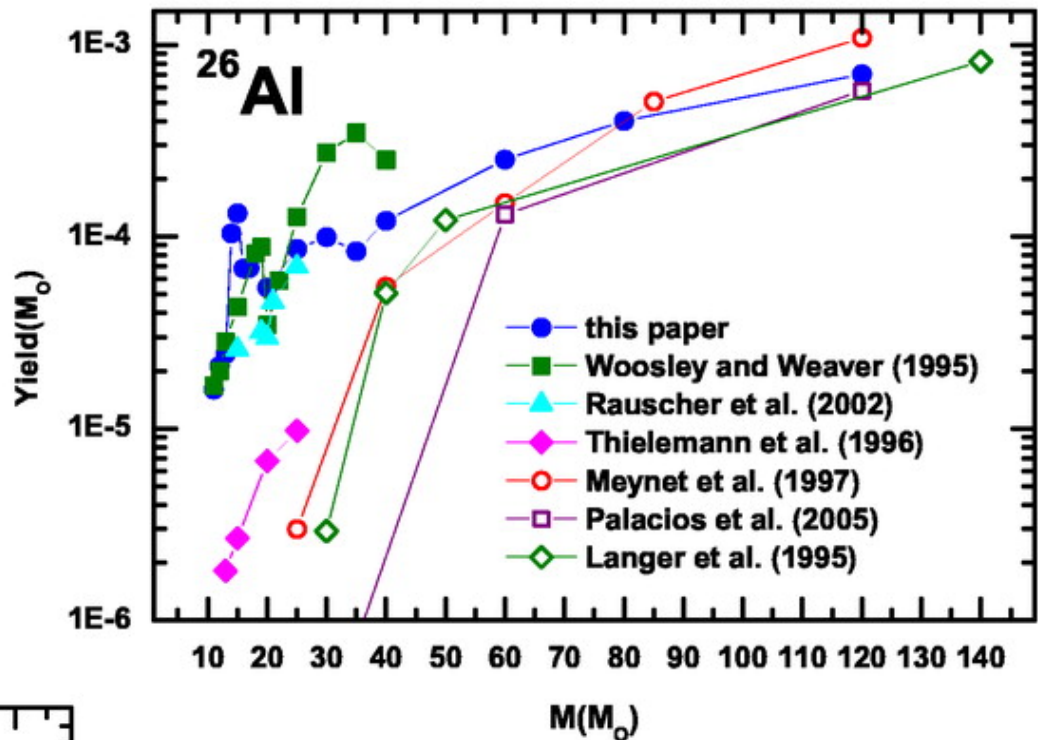
Total flux: $\approx 3 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \Rightarrow \approx 2.5 M_{\odot}$ of Al-26 (per Myr)

1.8 MeV emission “hot-spots” in the directions tangent to the spiral arms suggest that **massive stars** are at the origin of Al26

Al-26 production in massive stars

is affected by several factors

First study across the whole mass range of massive stars of solar metallicity with mass loss (but no rotation, no ν -nucleosynthesis) by Chieffi and Limongi (2006)

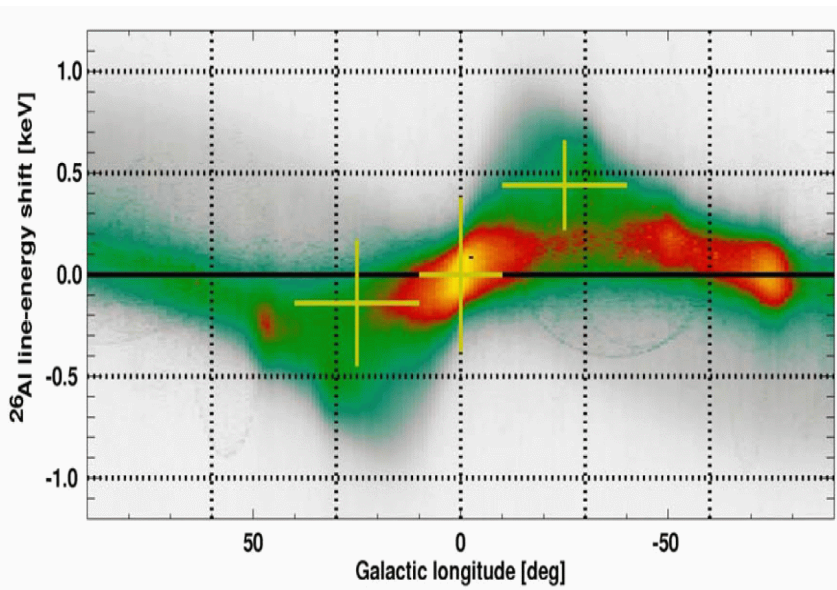


It showed that explosive production always dominates hydrostatic production (ejected by the winds)

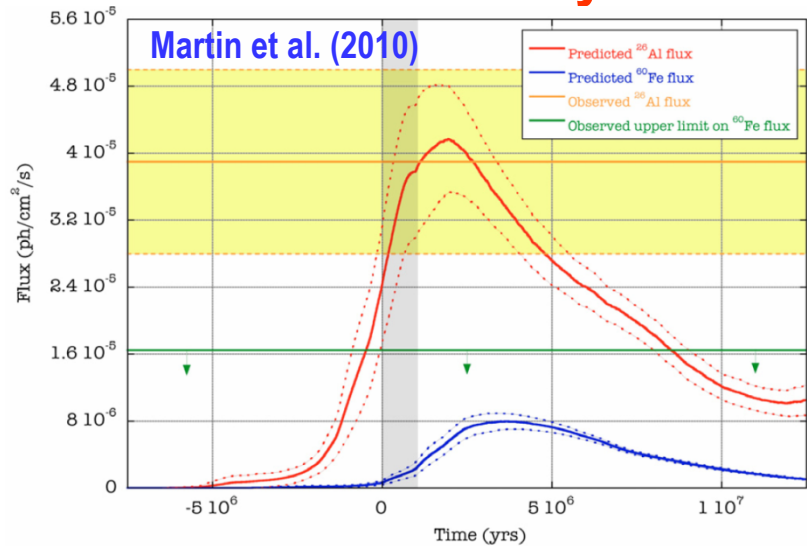
But what about rotation, especially at $Z > Z_{\odot}$?

Studies of 1.8 MeV emission of Al-26 in the Galaxy

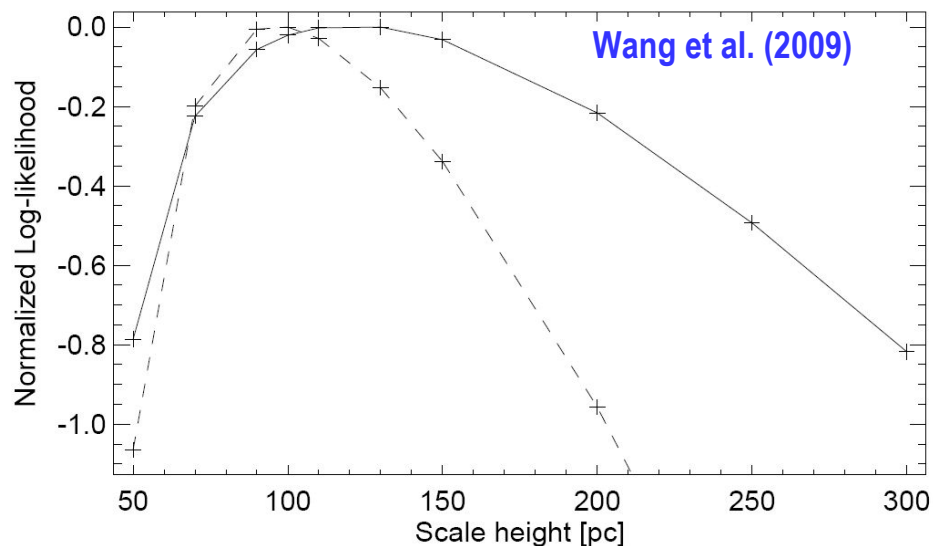
- 1) History and properties of stellar associations and star forming regions, (e.g. Carina, Cygnus, Orion) through population synthesis models and multiwavelength observations



- 3) Large scale motions of Al-26 in Galaxy through extension of emission of 1.8 MeV line perpendicularly to the Galactic plane (hints for galactic chimneys/fountains)

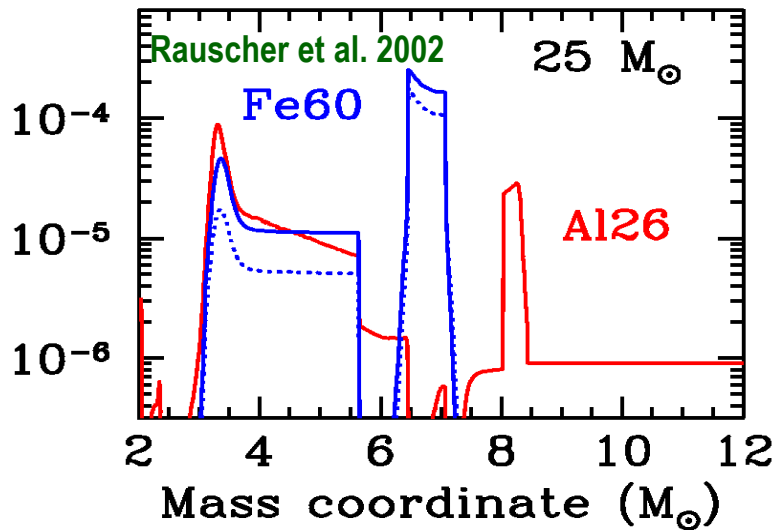


- 2) Large scale motions of Al-26 in Galaxy through broadening/shift of 1.8 MeV line across the Galactic plane

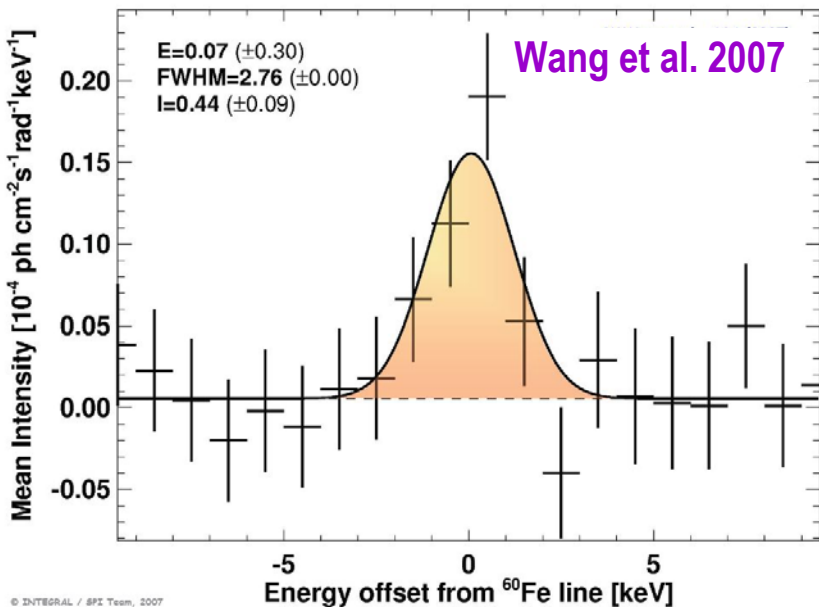


Al26 ($\tau \approx 1$ Myr) and Fe60 ($\tau \approx 3$ Myr)

from SNII : parallel lives...



Important uncertainties still affecting key nuclear reaction rates :



Al26 produced by: $^{25}\text{Mg}(p,\gamma)^{26}\text{Al}$

- Hydrostatic H-burning in H layer
- Hydrostatic Ne-burning in Ne layer
- Explosive Ne-burning in Ne layer
- Neutrino-process in C-Ne layers

Fe60 produced by: $^{58}\text{Fe}(n,\gamma)^{59}\text{Fe}(n,\gamma)^{60}\text{Fe}$

- Hydrostatic s-process in He layer
- Hydrostatic Ne-burning in Ne layer
- Explosive Ne-burning in Ne layer
- Explosive He-burning in He layer

$^{26}\text{Al}(n,p)^{26}\text{Mg}$	$^{26}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)^{23}\text{Na}$
$^{59}\text{Fe}(n,\gamma)^{60}\text{Fe}$	$^{60}\text{Fe}(n,\gamma)^{61}\text{Fe}$
$^{22}\text{Ne}(\alpha,n)^{25}\text{Mg}$	$^{59}\text{Fe}(e^- \nu_e)^{50}\text{Co}$

Fe60 is seen in the Galaxy by RHESSI and SPI/INTEGRAL, with

flux ratio (Fe60/Al26) ~ 0.15

In broad agreement with theoretical expectations

POSITRON HISTORY

1928 (**Dirac**): Prediction of “anti-electron”

1932 (**Anderson**): Discovery of “positron” from cosmic rays

1934 (**Klempner and Chadwick**): Annihilation gamma-ray line at 511 keV

1934 (**P. Joliot and I. Curie**): Production in β^+ -decay

1934 (**Mohorovicic**): Prediction of *positronium*

1951 (**Deutch**): Production of positronium

1956 (**Ginzburg**): p-p collisions in cosmic rays produce e^+

1964 (**Shong et al.**): Discovery of positrons in cosmic rays

1969 (**Stecker**): In ISM, most e^+ should form positronium

Annihilation of positrons with electrons

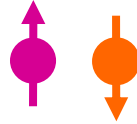
Either **directly** (2 γ of $E = 511$ keV each),
or, after formation of **Positronium (Ps)**, with probability **f**

Probability:
1/4

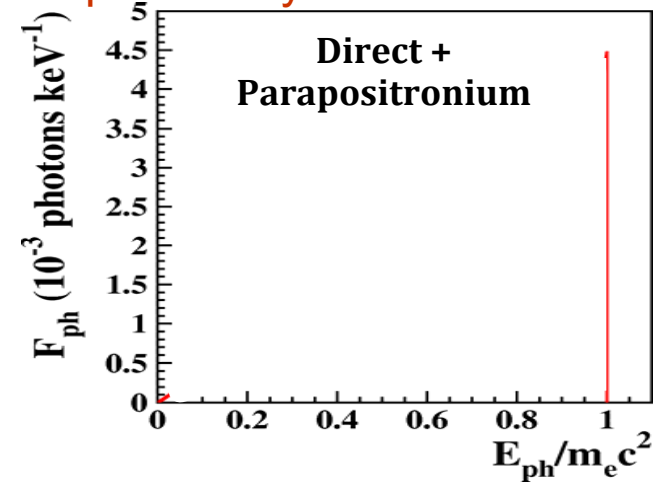
Parapositronium

S=0
(singlet)

1S_0



$\tau = 1.25 \cdot 10^{-10}$ s \rightarrow 2 γ of $E = 511$ keV

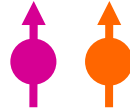


Probability:
3/4

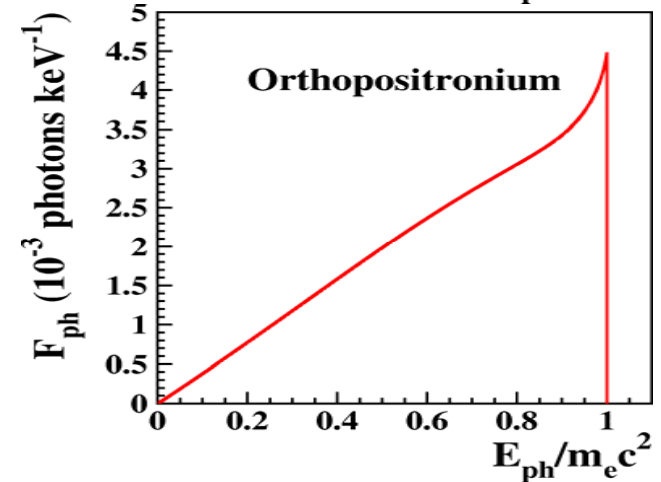
Orthopositronium

S=1
(triplet)

3S_1



$\tau = 1.4 \cdot 10^{-7}$ s \rightarrow 3 γ of $E \leq 511$ keV



$$F_{2\gamma} = \underbrace{2(1-f)}_{\text{direct}} + \underbrace{1/4 \cdot 2f}_{\text{paraPs}}$$

$$F_{3\gamma} = \underbrace{3/4 \cdot 3f}_{\text{orthoPs}}$$

$$f = \frac{2}{1.5 + 2.25(F_{2\gamma}/F_{3\gamma})}$$

Positronium fraction

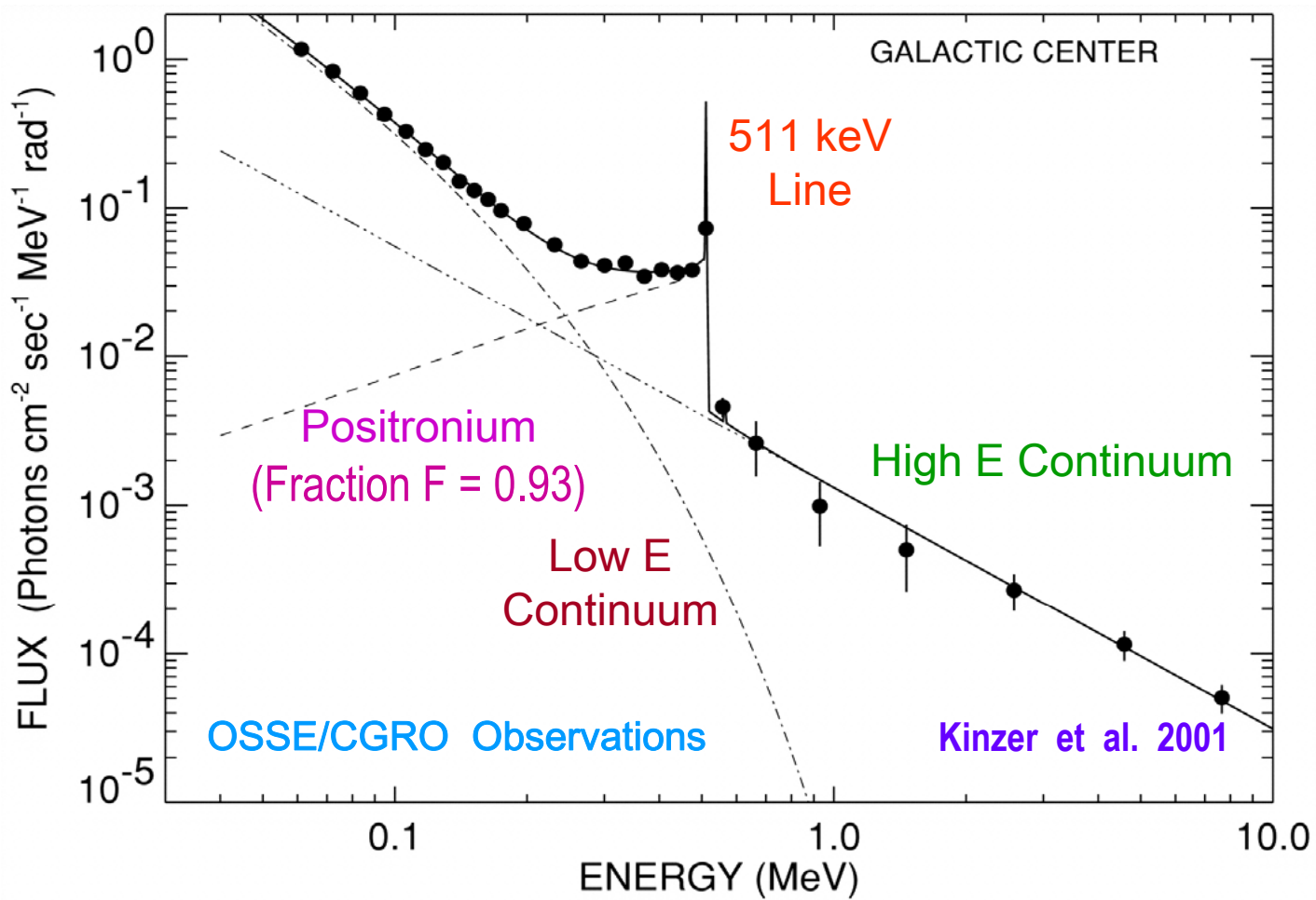
Positron annihilation radiation from the Galactic center region

First (and brightest) γ -ray line detected from outside the solar system
(Johnson et al. 1972, *Rice U.* Na detector : Leventhal et al. 1978 *Bell-Sandia* Ge detector)

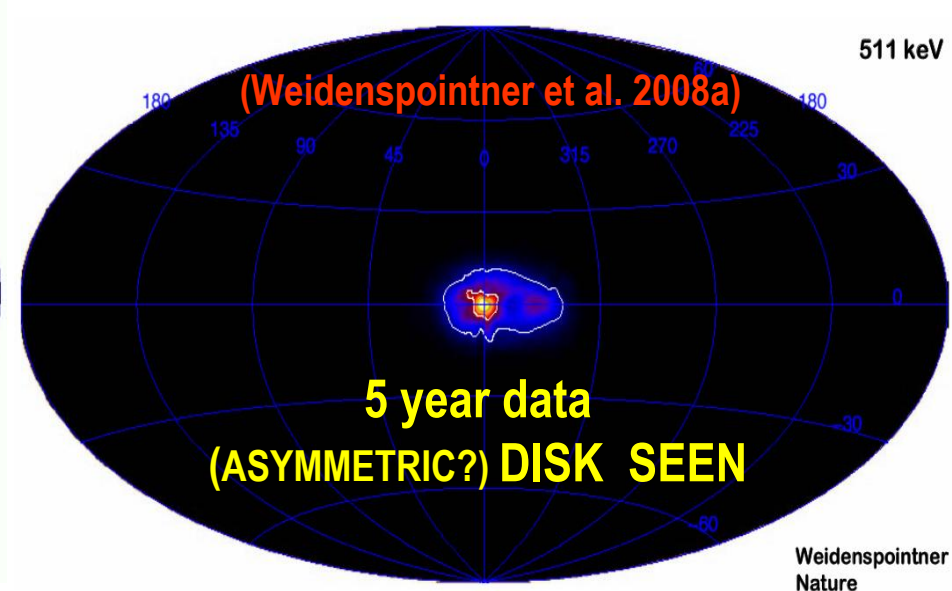
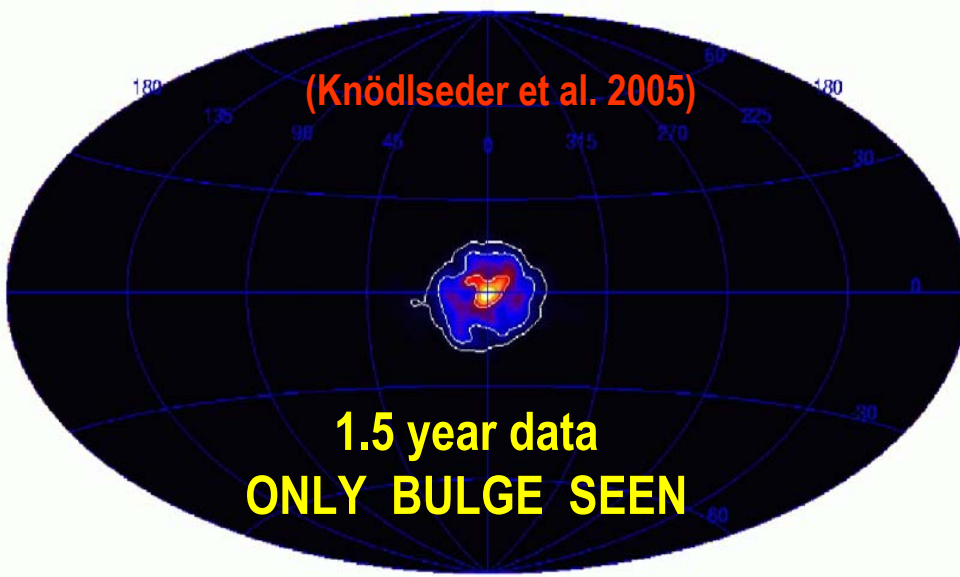
Flux ($\sim 10^{-3} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$) + Distance (8 kpc \sim 27000 I.y.) \Rightarrow Luminosity $\sim 10^{37} \text{ erg/s}$ (a few $10^3 L_{\odot}$)

Positron annihilation rate : $\sim 2 \cdot 10^{43} \text{ s}^{-1}$

If activity maintained for 10^{10} years : $3 M_{\odot}$ of positrons annihilated



SPI / INTEGRAL all-sky distribution of the 511 keV line of $e^- - e^+$ annihilation



Weidenspointner et al. (2008b) :

	F_{511} ($10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$)	L_{511} (10^{42} s^{-1})	\dot{N}_{e^+} (10^{42} s^{-1})
<i>Bulge + thick disk</i>			
Narrow bulge	$2.7^{+0.9}_{-0.4}$	$2.3^{+0.8}_{-0.7}$	$4.1^{+1.5}_{-1.2}$
Broad bulge	$4.8^{+0.7}_{-0.4}$	$4.1^{+0.6}_{-0.4}$	$7.4^{+1.0}_{-0.8}$
Thick disk	$9.4^{+1.8}_{-1.4}$	$4.5^{+0.8}_{-0.7}$	$8.1^{+1.5}_{-1.4}$
Total	17.1	10.9	19.6
Bulge/Disk	0.8	1.4	1.4

High Bulge/Disk emission ratio: No equivalent in any other wavelength !

radio

Hydrogen

Far-infrared

mid-infrared

near infrared

optical

x-ray

gamma ray

BULGE: STARS 10 Gyr OLD

DISK: STARS 10-0 Gyr OLD

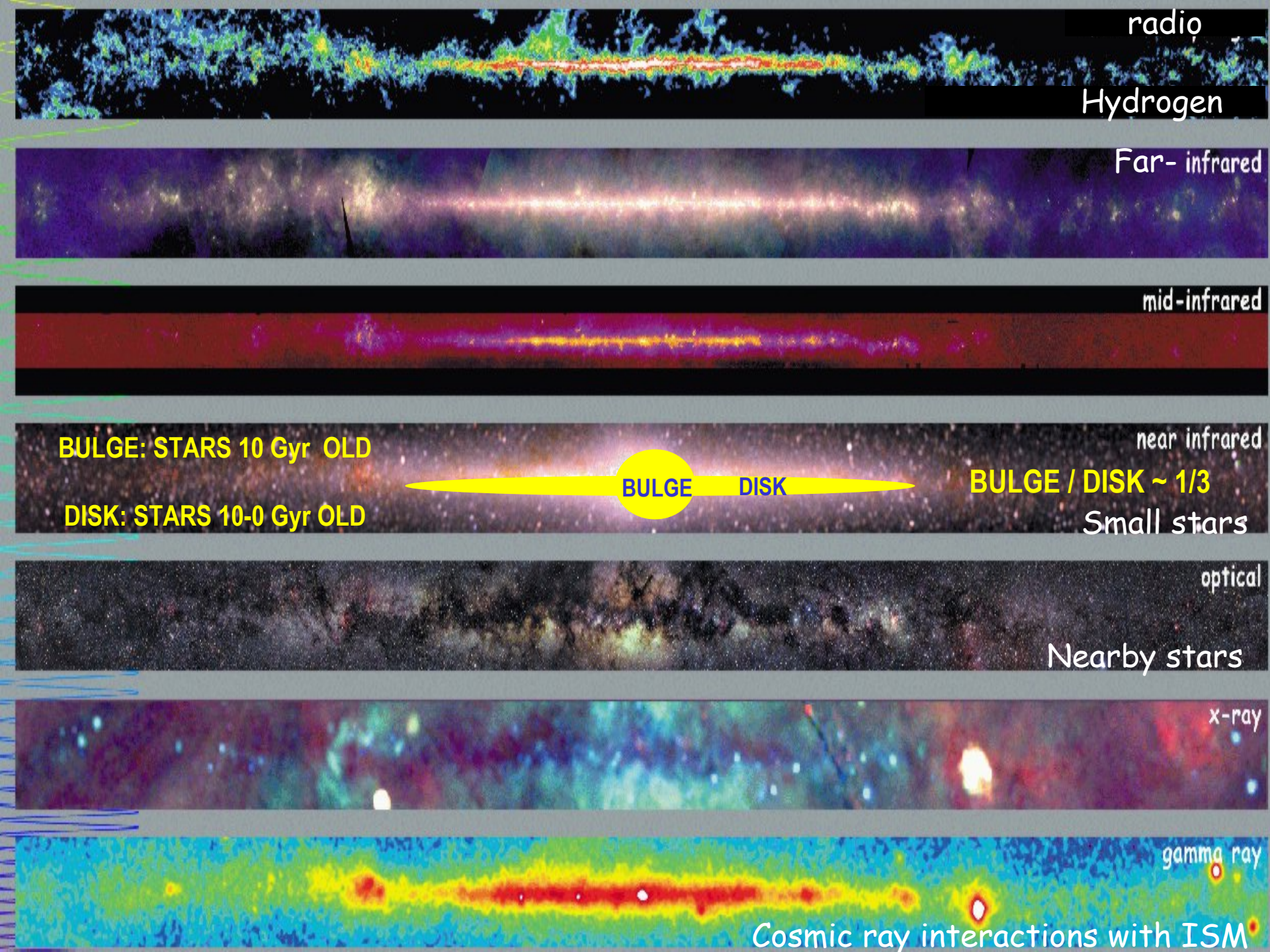
BULGE

DISK

BULGE / DISK ~ 1/3

Small stars

Cosmic ray interactions with ISM



Requirements from the positron source(s)

1) Total production Rate (*Steady state*): $\sim 2 \cdot 10^{43} \text{ e}^+ \text{ s}^{-1}$

$\sim 1.2 \cdot 10^{43} \text{ e}^+ \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Bulge)

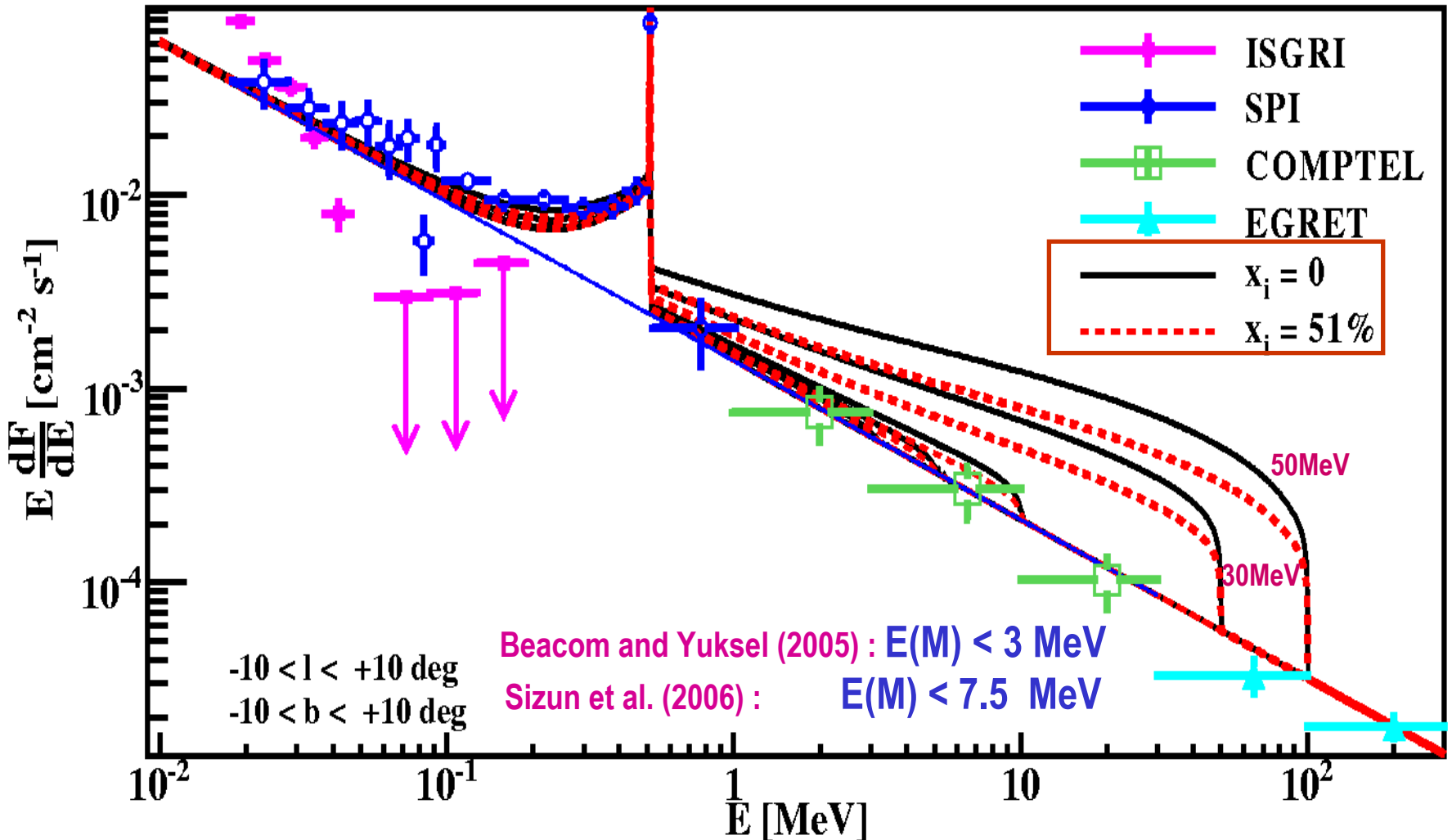
$\sim 0.8 \cdot 10^{43} \text{ e}^+ \text{ s}^{-1}$ (Disk)

2) Morphology: Bulge/Disk ~ 1.4

(assuming that positrons annihilate close to their sources)

3) Positron injection energy < a few MeV
(constraint from observed GC spectrum in MeV region)

Spectrum in the $> \text{MeV}$ region: constrains the energy of *released* e^+
 (or the mass of their parent dark matter particles)
 because they may annihilate in-flight



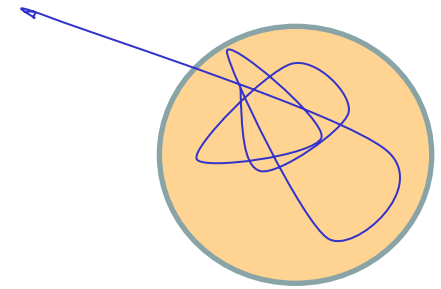
IF Dark Matter : particle mass much smaller than “canonical” (GeV) values

POSITRON SOURCES : I. Stellar Nucleosynthesis of radioactive nuclei

Produced in hot and dense inner stellar regions
through (mostly explosive) nucleosynthesis

They must be produced in *large amounts* and

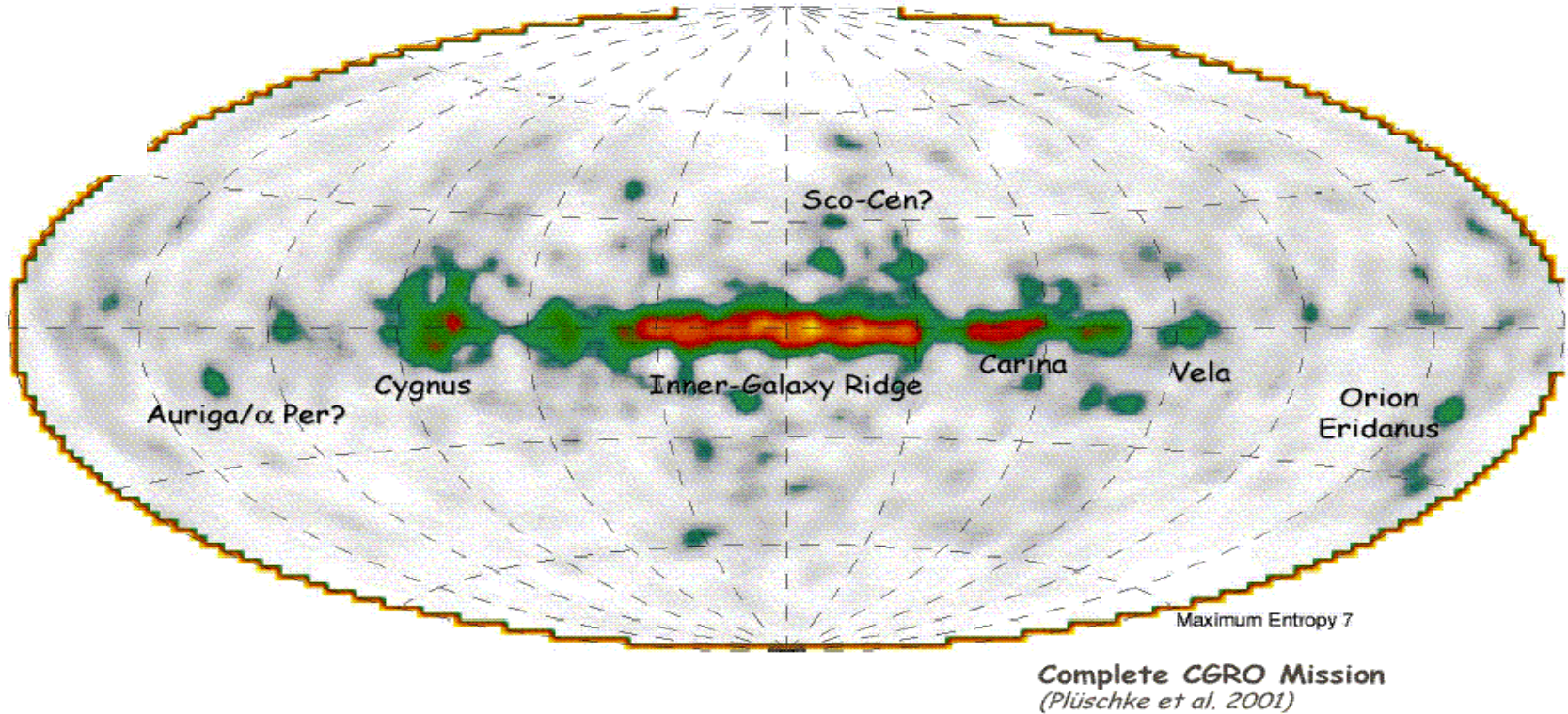
decay slowly enough to allow for the positrons of their decay
to escape from the dense region (otherwise the annihilation photons
will be trapped and remain undetectable)



Nuclide	Decay chain	Decay mode and e^+ BR ^a	Lifetime	Associated γ -ray lines Energy in keV (BR ^a)	Endpoint e^+ energy (keV)	Mean e^+ energy (keV)	Sources
⁵⁶ Ni	⁵⁶ Ni \rightarrow ⁵⁶ Co*	EC ^b	6.073 d	158(0.99), 812(0.86)			Supernovae from white dwarfs (SNIa)
	⁵⁶ Co \rightarrow ⁵⁶ Fe*	e^+ (0.19)	77.2 d	2598(0.17), 1771(0.15)	1458.9	610	
²² Na	²² Na \rightarrow ²² Ne*	e^+ (0.90)	2.61 y	1275(1)	1820.2	215.9	Novae
⁴⁴ Ti	⁴⁴ Ti \rightarrow ⁴⁴ Sc*	EC ^b	59.0 y	68(0.94), 78(0.96)			Supernovae from massive stars (CCSN)
	⁴⁴ Sc \rightarrow ⁴⁴ Ca*	e^+ (0.94)	3.97 h	1157(1)	1474.2	632.	
²⁶ Al	²⁶ Al \rightarrow ²⁶ Mg*	e^+ (0.82)	$7.4 \cdot 10^5$ y	1809(1)	1117.35	543.3	

(a) BR:Branching Ratio (in parenthesis); (b) EC: Electron capture

COMPTEL / CGRO legacy: 1.8 MeV map of Galactic ^{26}Al (long lived : $\tau \approx 1$ Myr)



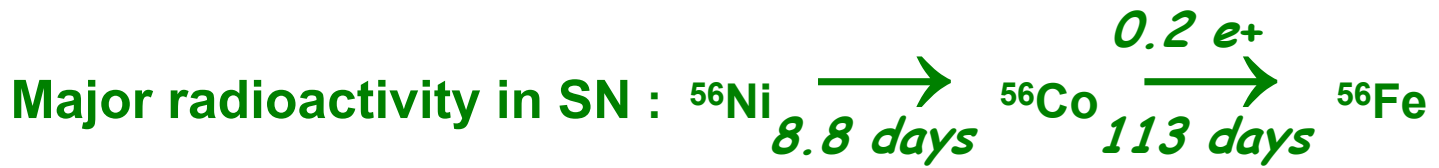
Total flux: $\approx 4 \cdot 10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \Rightarrow \approx 2.8 M_{\odot}$ of ^{26}Al per Myr

Each ^{26}Al decay releases $0.82 e^+$: $0.4 \cdot 10^{43} e^+/\text{s}$ produced (= 0.5 SPI disk)

Decay of $\text{Ti}44$ (progenitor of stable $\text{Ca}44$), produced in CC-SN :

Estimated e^+ production Rate $\sim 0.3 \cdot 10^{43} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Al26 + Ti44 : OK FOR DISK, NOT FOR BULGE



Thermonuclear SN (SN Ia):
White dwarfs
In accreting or merging binaries

They produce
 $M_{\text{Ni56}} \sim 0.7 M_{\odot}$

Number of positrons produced per SN Ia:

$$N = 0.19 M_{\text{Ni56}} M_{\odot} N_A / 56 \sim 3 \cdot 10^{54}$$

Frequency of SN Ia in MW :

$$f \sim 0.5 / 100 \text{ yr} \sim 1.6 \cdot 10^{-10} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

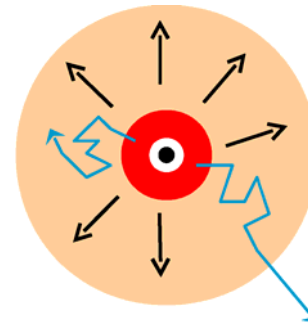
Rate of positrons released by MW SN Ia:

$$R = f N \sim 4.5 \cdot 10^{44} \text{ s}^{-1}$$

OK if just ~4% of them escape
and annihilate in the ISM !

What fraction of the e^+ produced
by the short-lived Co56 manage to
escape the SN Ia ejecta?

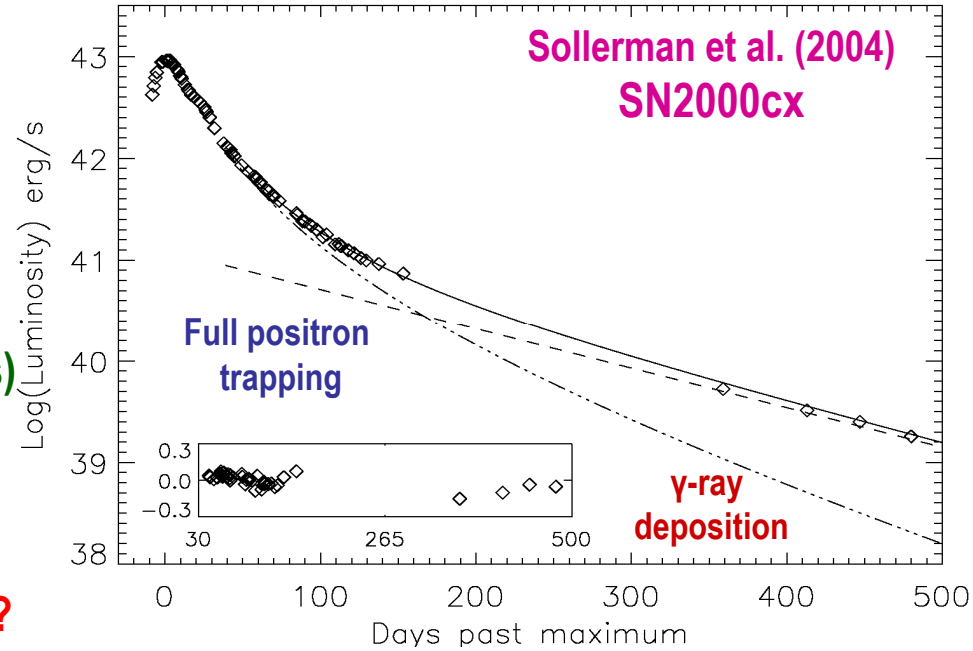
It depends on unknown intensity
and configuration of the
supernova magnetic field



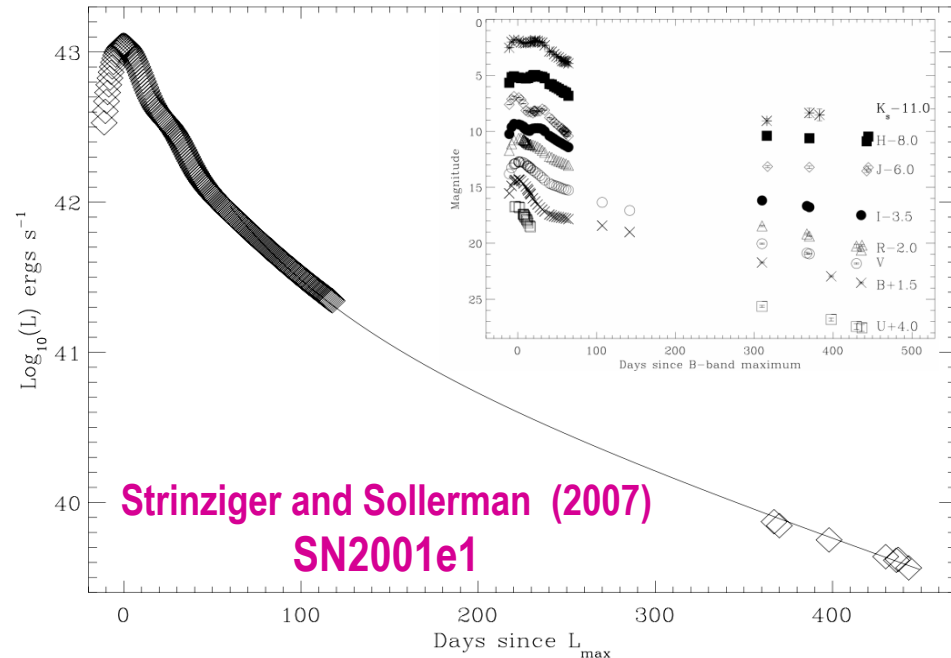
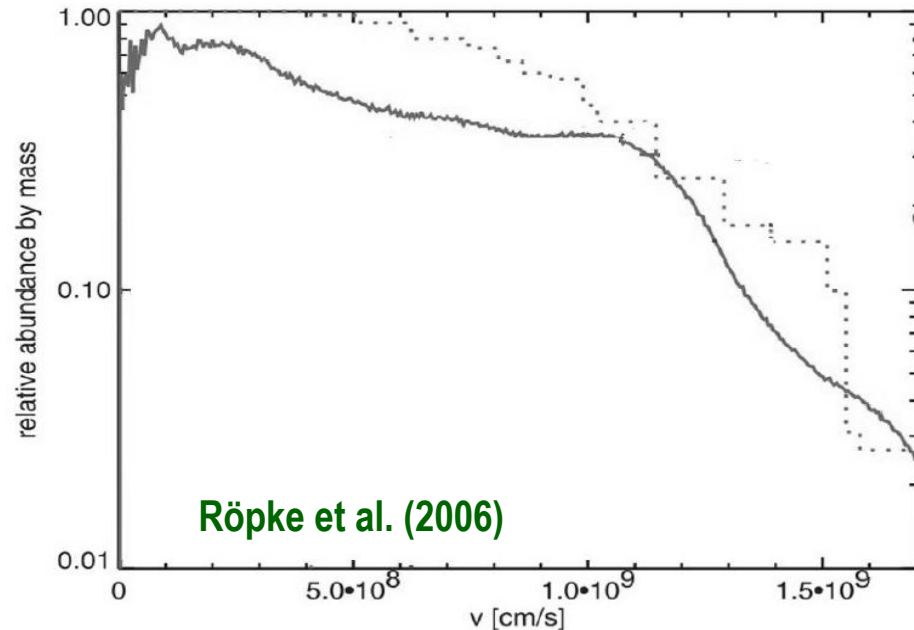
What fraction of positrons from Co-56 decay escapes SNIa ?

Observations of late L_{BOI} (including NIR) analyzed with stratified 1D models suggest $f=0\%$

Observations, supported by 3D models, find substantial Ni-56 at high velocities (=outer layers) and early times



Could $f=4\%$ e^+ from Ni56 leak out at *early* times ?



POSITRON SOURCES : 2. High Energy processes in (or induced by) compact objects

a) Inelastic p – p collisions of cosmic rays hitting the interstellar medium



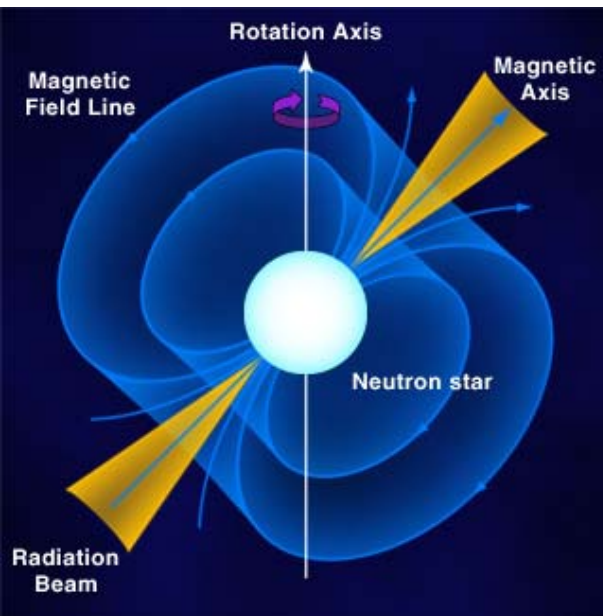
But : rate of pp collisions is known from associated γ -ray emission
only $\sim 10^{42} e^+ s^{-1}$ of $\sim 30 - 40$ MeV are produced, mainly in the disk

b) Photon - photon interactions $\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^-e^+$

c) Photon – magnetic field interactions ($B > 10^{12}$ G) $\gamma + B \rightarrow e^-e^+$

Positron production in isolated neutron stars

through pair creation in the intense magnetic field of the compact object



		Pulsars	ms pulsars	Magnetars
Magn. field	$\langle B \rangle$ (G)	10^{12}	3×10^8	3×10^{14}
Period	$\langle P \rangle$ (s)	0.5	3×10^{-3}	10
Birthrate	R (yr^{-1})	1.5×10^{-2}	10^{-5}	2×10^{-3}
Lifetime	$\langle \tau \rangle$ (yr)	10^7	3×10^9	2×10^4
Total number	N	1.5×10^5	3×10^4	40
e^+ yield ^a	\dot{n}_{e^\pm} (s^{-1})	4×10^{37}	5×10^{37}	4×10^{40}
Total e^+ yield ^b	\dot{N}_{e^\pm} (s^{-1})	5×10^{42}	1.5×10^{42}	1.6×10^{42}

^aIndividual source yield from Eq. (9).

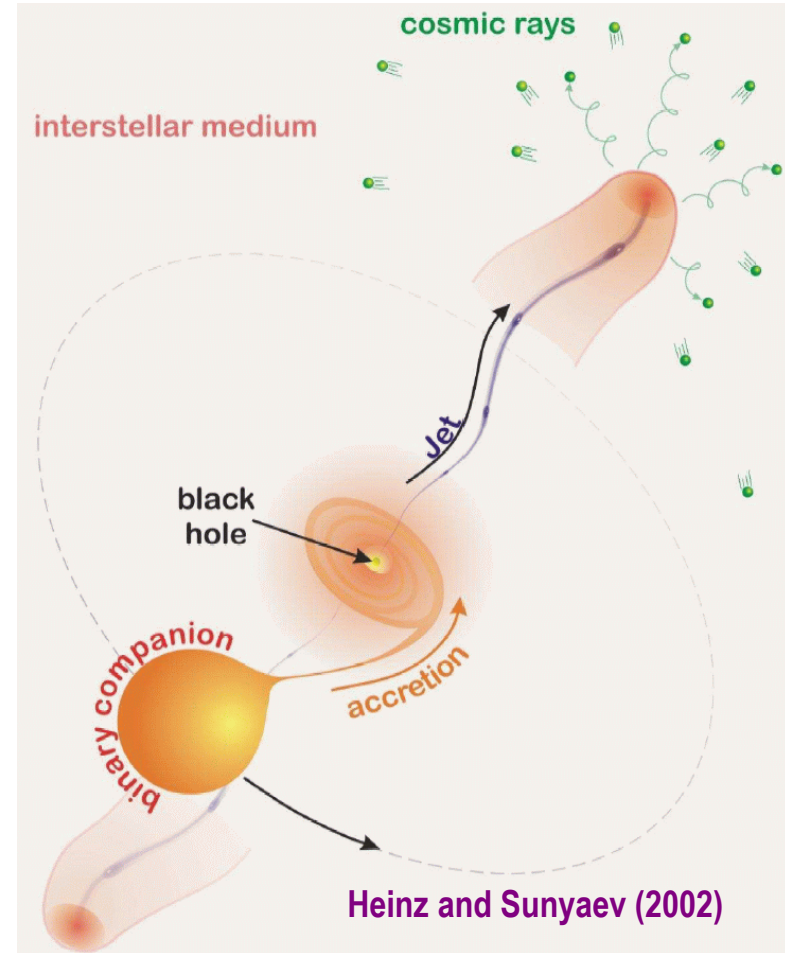
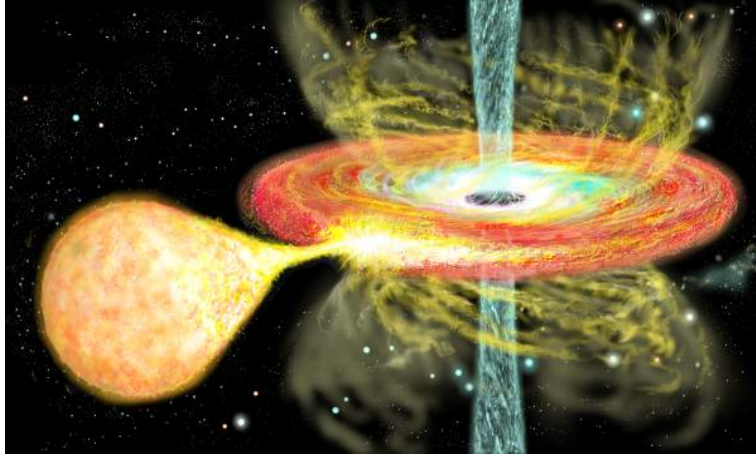
^bGalactic yield from $\dot{N}_{e^\pm} = \dot{n}_{e^\pm} R \langle \tau \rangle$, assuming $\xi = 1$.

Pulsars: young objects, concentrated in disk, not in bulge

Total positron rate OK for disk, not for bulge

Positrons expected to be produced at high (TeV-GeV) energies, not in MeV range

Pair production of positrons, ejected by Outflows/Jets
in Low Mass X-ray Binaries (LMXB) and microquasars ?
(Heinz and Sunyaev 2002, NP2004, Guessoum et al. 2006)



Total X-emissivity of Galactic LMXBs: $2 \cdot 10^{39}$ erg/s
($2 \cdot 10^{38}$ erg/s for HMXB, Grimm et al. 2002)

Energy required for 10^{43} e⁺/s: $1.6 \cdot 10^{37}$ erg/s

OK, IF about 1% of X-ray radiated energy
is used for e⁺ formation

BUT: Particle content UNKNOWN (p – e⁻ or e⁻ - e⁺ ?)

Injection energy of positrons UNKNOWN

Other sources of galactic positrons ? Dark matter ?

1) Light (MeV) DM particles ?

1a) Annihilating (*Boehm et al. 2004, Gunion et al. 2006, Ascasibar et al. 2005*)

1b) Decaying (*Hooper and Wang 2004, Piccioto and Pospelov 2005, Pospelov et a. 2008*)

2) Heavy (GeV-TeV) DM particles ?

De-exciting (provided they possess \sim MeV energy levels)

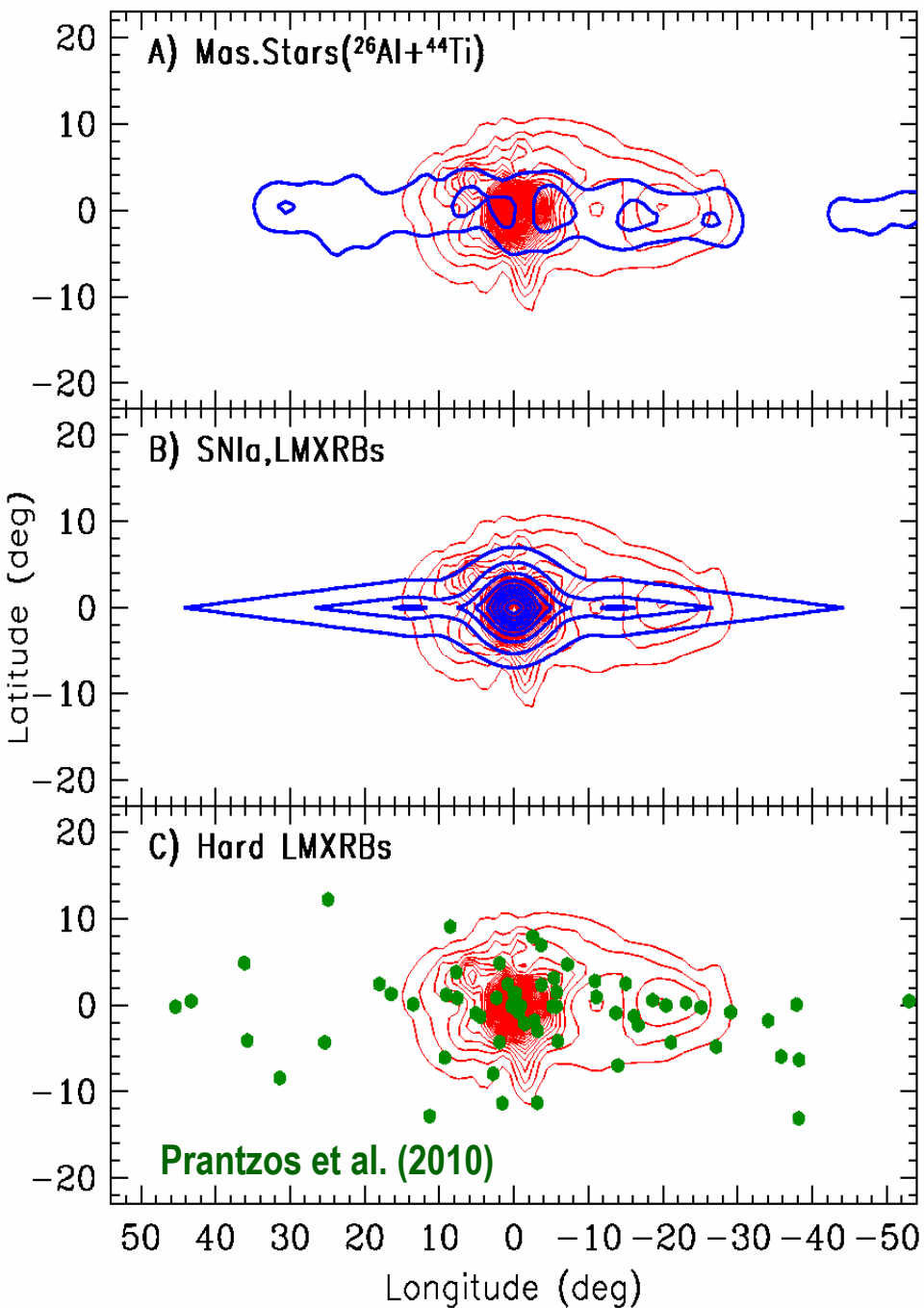
(*Finkbeiner and Weiner 2007, Pospelov and Ritz 2007*)

In Milky Way: velocity dispersion \sim 100 km/s \Rightarrow

Kinetic energy of a 500 GeV DM particle \sim 1 MeV

Case 1a produces more peaked profiles than Case 2 and even more peaked than Case 1b

However: density profiles of DM in inner Galaxy and signal intensity virtually unknown



In all panels:
Red isocontours: 511 keV observations
(from Weidenspointner et al. 2008a)

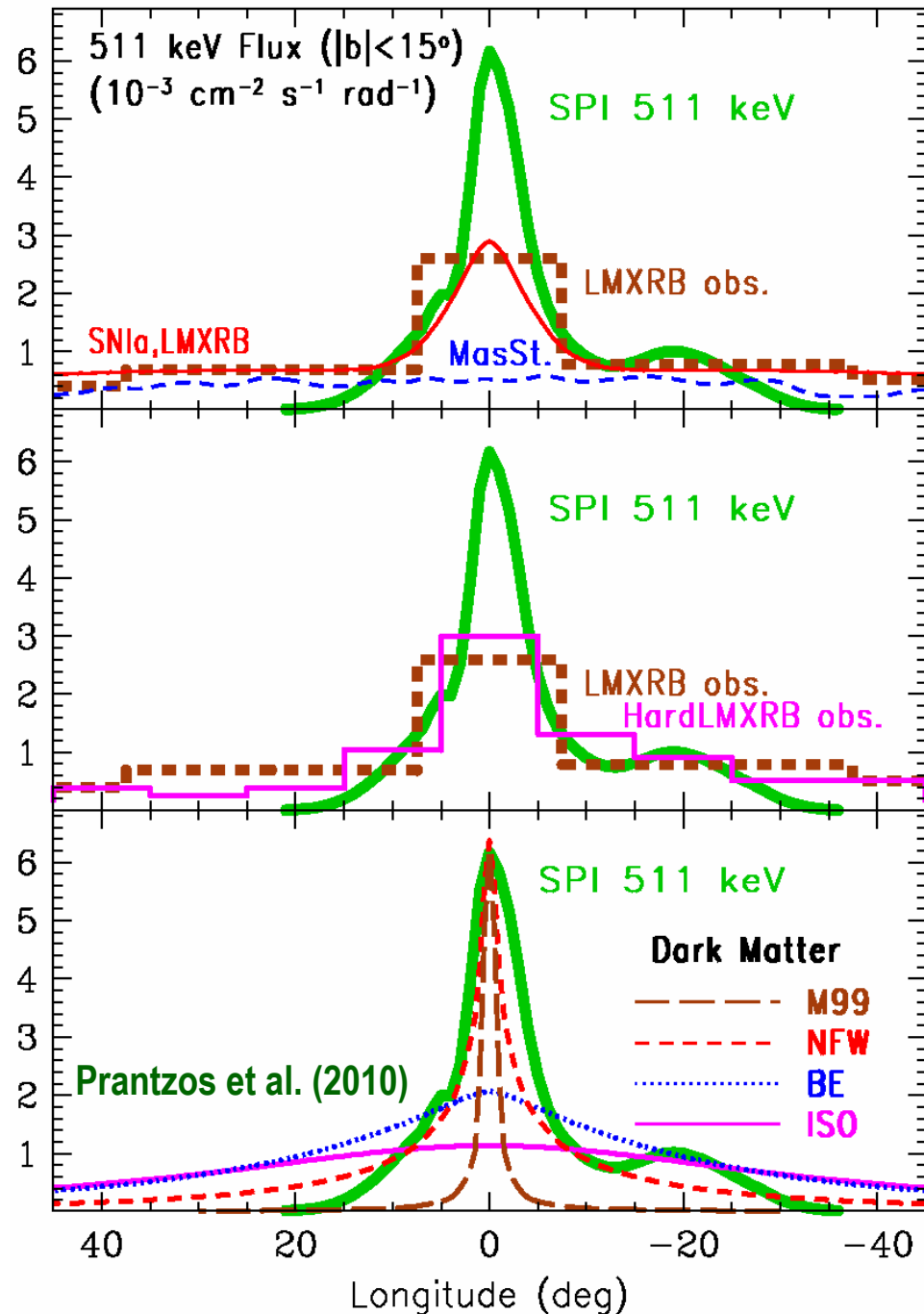
Top panel:
Blue isocontours: 1.8 MeV (Al26) observations
(= Massive stars)

Middle panel:
Blue isocontours: Expected SNIa

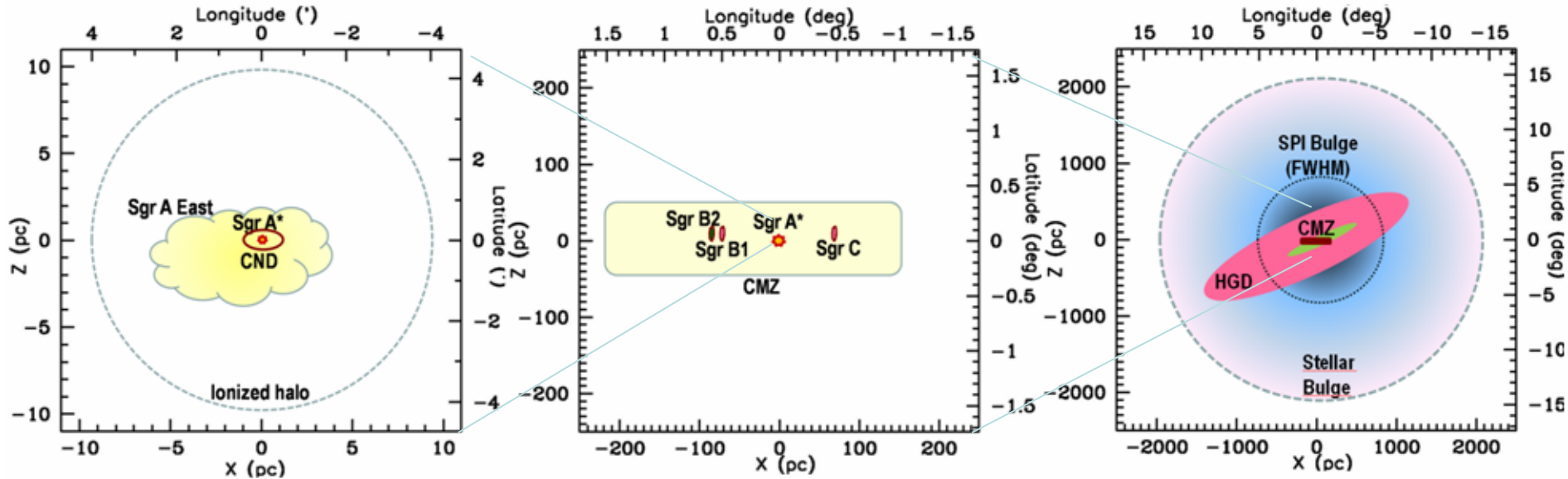
Bottom panel:
Green Dots: Observed Hard LMXRBs
(asymmetric?)

No observed or expected distribution of known astrophysical sources is as peaked as the observed 511 keV one

Only some specific distributions (M99, NFW) of annihilating Dark Matter particles are as peaked as the observed 511 keV one
They are apparently ruled out by observations of dwarf galaxies



The Supermassive Black Hole in the Galactic Center
Mass: $4 \times 10^6 M_{\odot}$ Bolometric luminosity: $\sim 10^{36}$ erg/s



Model requires higher activity in the past since Sgr A* is ~inactive now
NO MORE STEADY STATE ASSUMPTION

Higher regular accretion activity in the past, interrupted ~300 yr ago (Totani 2006)
e⁺ produced by pair production in inner accretion disk of SMBH

Accretion of gas from one (or many) disrupted star(s) $10^5 - 10^7$ yr ago onto the SMBH
and proton acceleration ; secondary e⁺ produced in p-p collisions (Cheng et al. 2006)

High magnetic field (>0.4 mG) required for e⁺ to lose energy before annihilation (Cheng et al. 2010)

Positrons must diffuse throughout the bulge, escaping the Central Molecular Zone (CMZ)

Candidate positron sources in the Galaxy

Source	Process	$E(e^+)^a$ (MeV)	e^+ rate ^b $\dot{N}_{e^+}(10^{43} \text{ s}^{-1})$	Bulge/Disk ^c B/D	Comments
Massive stars: ^{26}Al	β^+ -decay	~ 1	0.4	< 0.2	$N, B/D$: Observationally inferred \dot{N} : Robust estimate
Supernovae: ^{44}Ti	β^+ -decay	~ 1	0.3	< 0.2	
SNIa: ^{56}Ni	β^+ -decay	~ 1	2	< 0.5	
Novae	β^+ -decay	~ 1	0.02	< 0.5	Insufficient e^+ production
Hypernovae/GRB: ^{56}Ni	β^+ -decay	~ 1	?	< 0.2	Improbable in inner MW
Cosmic rays	p-p	~ 30	0.1	< 0.2	Too high e^+ energy
LMXRBs	$\gamma - \gamma$	~ 1	2	< 0.5	Assuming $L_{e^+} \sim 0.01 L_{obs,X}$
Microquasars (μQs)	$\gamma - \gamma$	~ 1	1	< 0.5	e^+ load of jets uncertain
Pulsars	$\gamma - \gamma / \gamma - \gamma_B$	> 30	0.5	< 0.2	Too high e^+ energy
ms pulsars	$\gamma - \gamma / \gamma - \gamma_B$	> 30	0.15	< 0.5	Too high e^+ energy
Magnetars	$\gamma - \gamma / \gamma - \gamma_B$	> 30	0.16	< 0.2	Too high e^+ energy
Central black hole	p-p	High	?		Too high e^+ energy, unless $B > 0.4$ mG
	$\gamma - \gamma$	1	?		Requires e^+ diffusion to ~ 1 kpc
Dark matter	Annihilation	1 (?)	?		Requires light scalar particle, cuspy DM profile
	Deexcitation	1	?		Only cuspy DM profiles allowed
	Decay	1	?		Ruled out for all DM profiles
Observational constraints		< 7	2	> 1.4	

Implicit assumption :
Positrons annihilate
close to their sources

Gamma-ray morphology
reflects source morphology

Not necessarily true

Positron propagation in ISM may hold the clue

Positrons are born hot (> a few hundred keV in any case)

They decelerate (ionization, excitation, Coulomb losses)

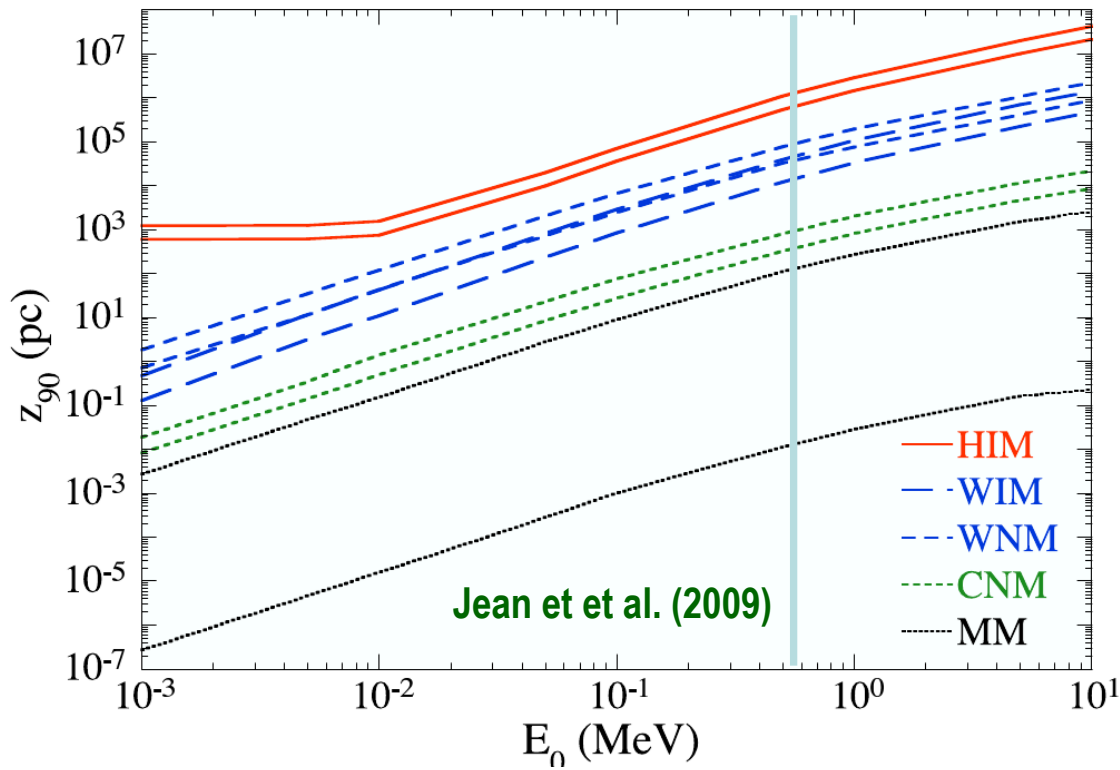
They annihilate directly (on bound and free electrons)

Or, after formation of **Positronium**

(Radiative recombination, in ionized medium)

(Charge exchange, in neutral medium and $E > 6.8$ eV)

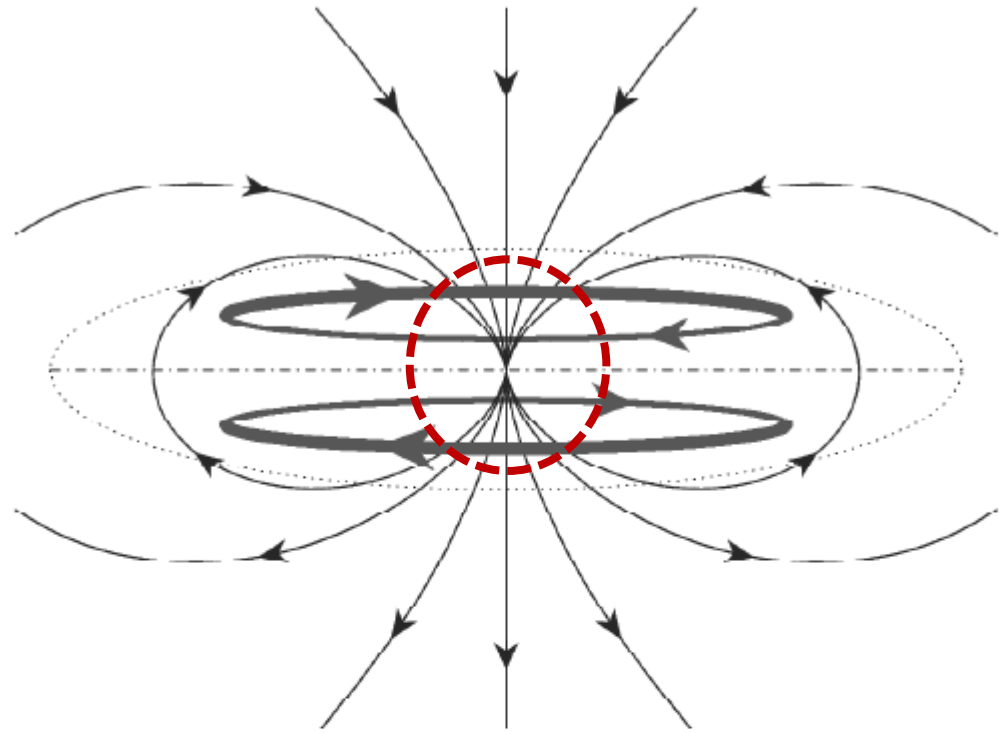
Positrons propagate in a magnetized, turbulent plasma



How far can they go
from their
sources ?

Positrons released in a hot
and low density medium
can travel far away
from their sources
(many kpc)
but to go where ?

IF the galactic magnetic field has a poloidal component (*Han 2004*) a (difficult to estimate) fraction of disk positrons should escape the disk and be channeled (through the low density halo) to the bulge, where they are better confined (because of its stronger magnetic field) and they finally annihilate (*Prantzos 2006*)



However, radio-observations of magn. field configuration in external spirals suggest rather an X-shaped field (*Heesen et al. 2009*)

Summary

The origin of the oldest known and brightest extra-solar gamma-ray line remains unknown at present

Its spatial morphology cannot be explained by conventional astrophysical sources,

Unless positrons produced in the disk annihilate away from it or positrons produced in the Galactic center diffuse in the bulge

Possible astrophysical scenarios:

- A specific bulge (=old)? population (LMXRBs, microquasars, ms pulsars?)
- Transfer of disk positrons to the bulge through magnetic field ?
- Diffusion of positrons from central black hole to the bulge ?

Positron propagation appears to be the key issue !

Particle physics solutions ???

(annihilating dark matter particles,
tangle of superconducting cosmic strings...)

The future of studies of Galactic 511 keV emission

- **(i) Observations of 511 keV emission:**
 - what is the true spatial distribution of the emission?
 - how far do the spheroid and disk extend ?
 - are there yet undetected regions of low surface brightness?
 - is the disk emission asymmetric indeed?
 - how do the 1.8 MeV and 511 keV disk emissions compare to each other?
- **(ii) Physics of e^+ sources:**
 - what is the e^+ escaping fraction in SNIa ?
 - what is the SNIa rate in the inner (star forming) and in the outer (inactive) bulge?
 - what are the e^+ yields, activity timescales, and spatial distribution in the bulge of LMXRBs or microquasars?
 - how can the past level of activity of the central supermassive black hole be reliably inferred?
- **(iii) Positron propagation:**
 - what is the large scale configuration of the Galactic magnetic field?
 - what are the properties of interstellar plasma turbulence and how do they affect the positron transport?
 - what are the dominant propagation modes of positrons and what is the role of re-acceleration?

GAMMA-RAY LINE ASTRONOMY

NUCLEOSYNTHESIS AND GAMMA-RAY LINES

NP (2011),

[arXiv: 1101.2112](#)

THE 511 keV EMISSION OF POSITRON ANNIHILATION IN THE MILKY WAY

NP, Boehm, Bykov, Diehl, Ferrière, Guessoum, Jean, Knoedlseder,

Marcowith, Moskalenko, Strong, Weidenspointner

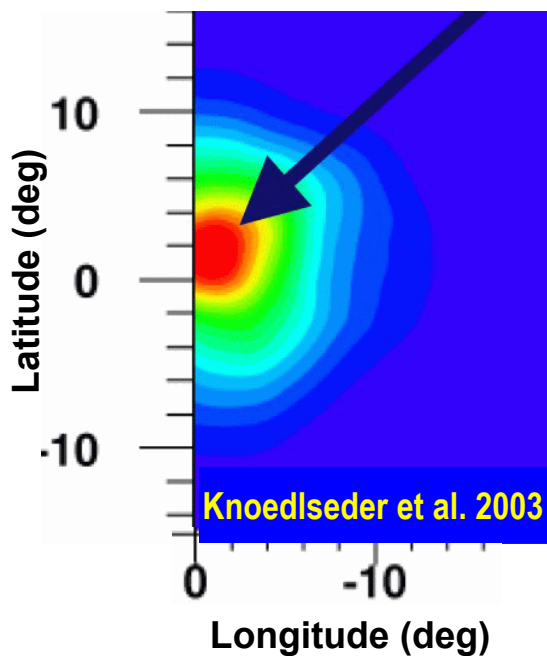
[Reviews of Modern Physics, \(2011\), Vol. 83, pp. 1001-1056](#)

ASTRONOMY WITH RADIOACTIVITIES

Eds. R. Diehl, D. Hartmann, NP (2011)

[Springer](#)

The 511 keV line of $e^- - e^+$ annihilation from the inner Galaxy



Observed by
SPI / INTEGRAL

- Only bulge emission
seen up to now

- Flux $\approx 10^{-3}$ ph/cm²/s

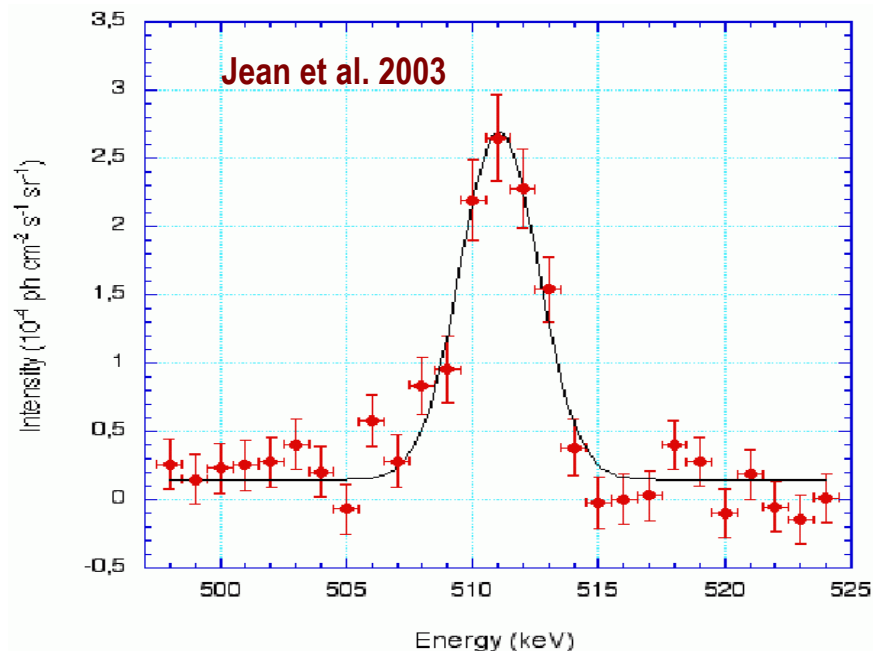
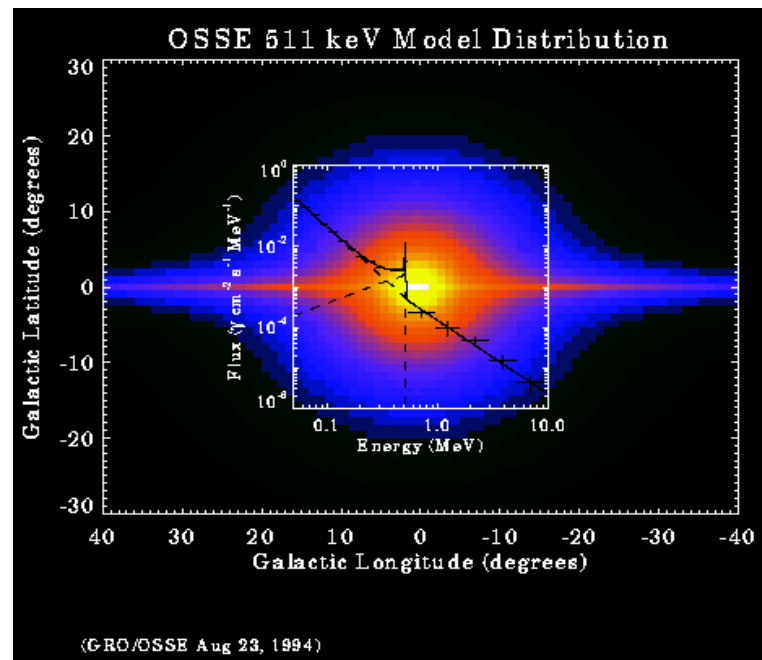
- Line (relatively)
narrow

[talk by P. Jean]

Models of 511 keV sources constrained by:

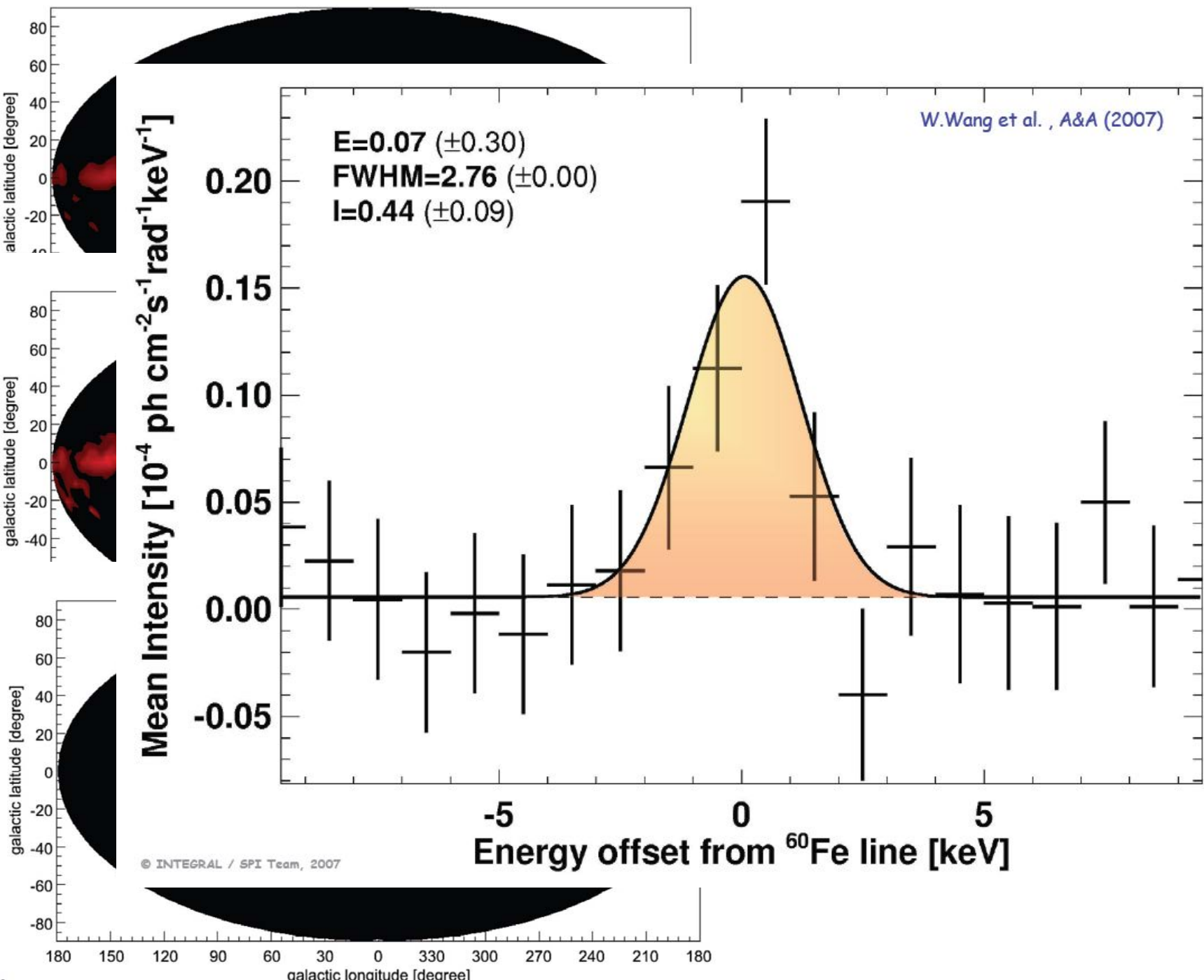
- Intensity ($\approx 10^{43}$ $e^+ s^{-1}$ for steady state)

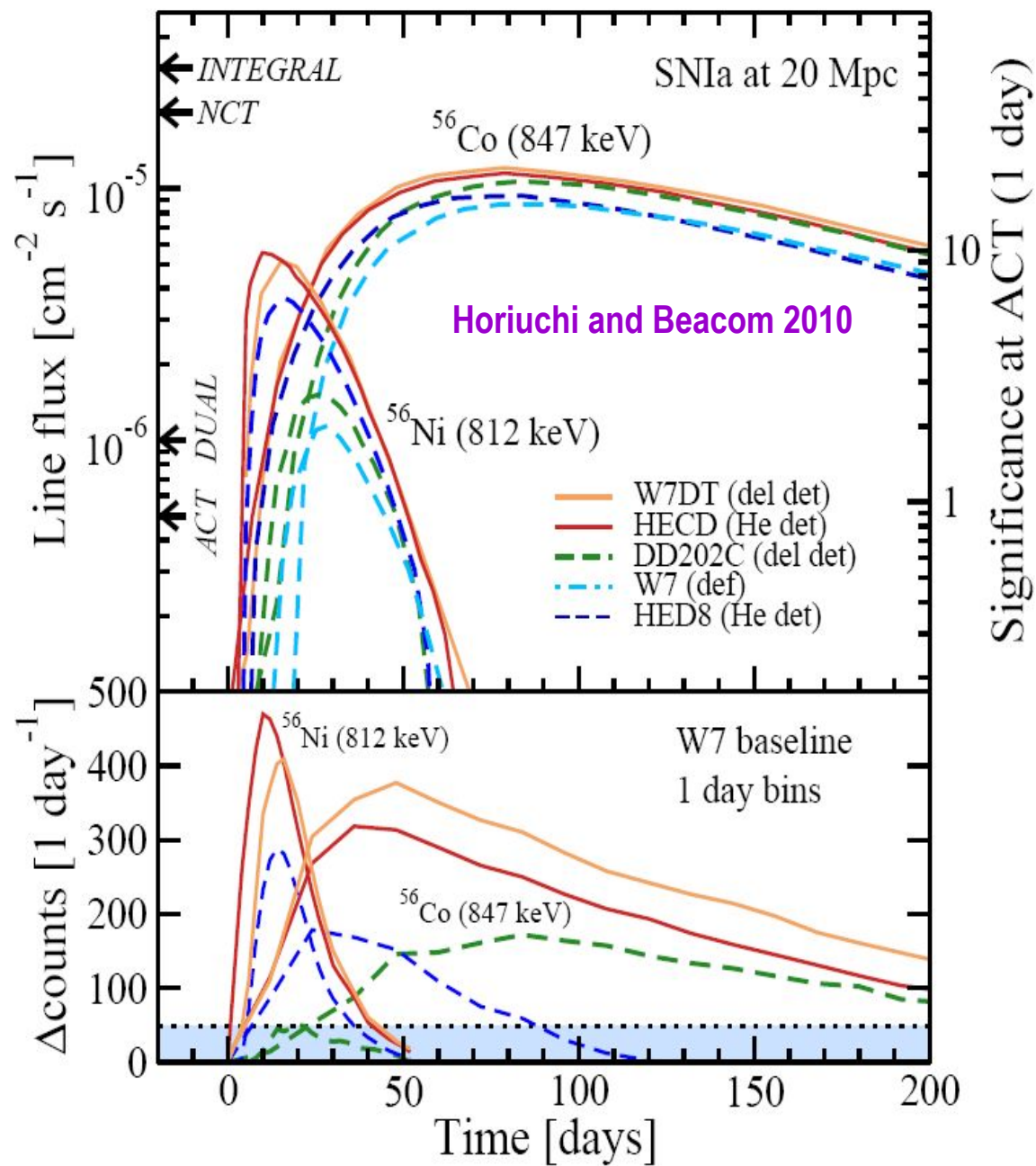
- Morphology (bulge-like, FWHM=9° and
bulge/disk ratio > 0.6)

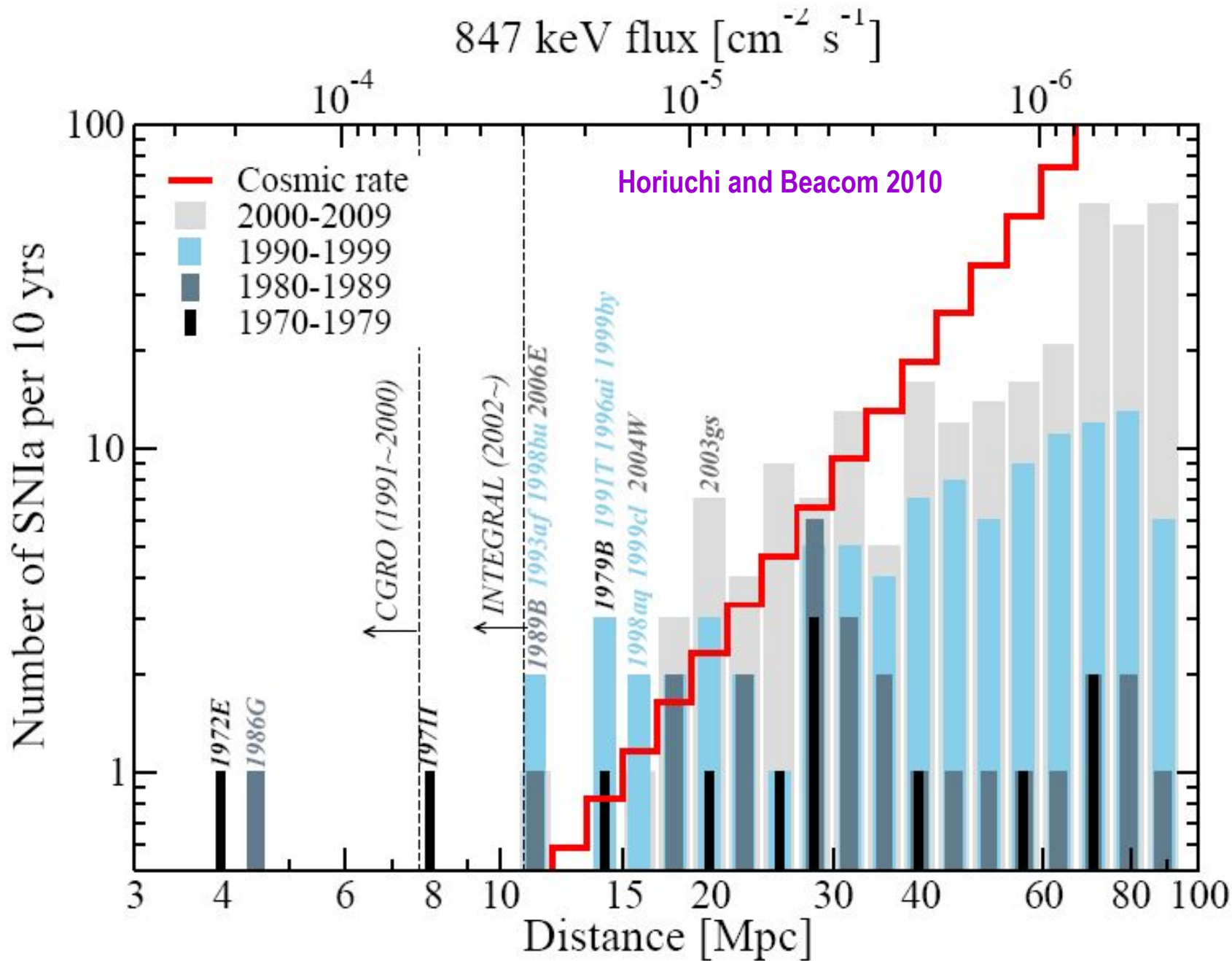


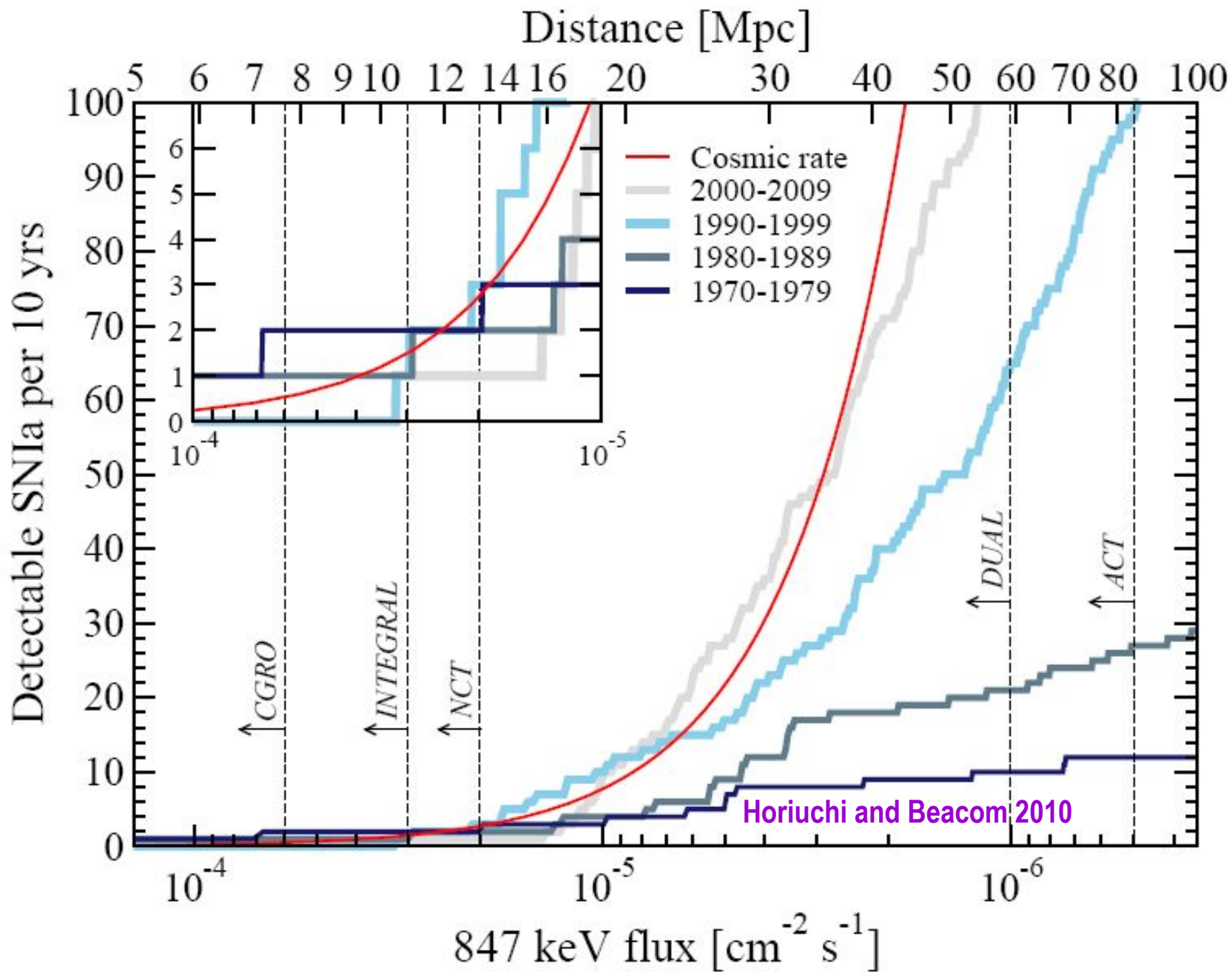
DECAY CHAIN	MEAN LIFE* (yr)	LINE ENERGIES (MeV) (Branching Ratios)	SITE [Detected]	NUCLEAR PROCESS
${}^7\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^7\text{Li}$	0.21	<u>0.478</u> (1.)	Novae	Expl.H
${}^{56}\text{Ni} \rightarrow {}^{56}\text{Co} \rightarrow {}^{56}\text{Fe}$ e^+	0.31	<u>0.847</u> (1.) <u>1.238</u> (0.685) <u>2.598</u> (0.17) <u>1.771</u> (0.45)	SN [SN1987A] [SN1991T]	NSE
${}^{57}\text{Co} \rightarrow {}^{57}\text{Fe}$	1.1	<u>0.122</u> (0.86) <u>0.136</u> (0.11)	SN [SN1987A]	α -NSE
${}^{22}\text{Na} \rightarrow {}^{22}\text{Ne}$	3.8	<u>1.275</u> (1.)	Novae	Expl.H
${}^{44}\text{Ti} \rightarrow {}^{44}\text{Sc} \rightarrow {}^{44}\text{Ca}$ e^+	89	<u>1.156</u> (1.) <u>0.068</u> (1.) <u>0.078</u> (0.98)	SN [CasA]	α -NSE
${}^{26}\text{Al} \rightarrow {}^{26}\text{Mg}$ e^+	$1.1 \cdot 10^6$	<u>1.809</u> (1.)	WR, AGB Novae SNII [Galaxy] [Vela]	St.H Expl.H St.Ne Expl.Ne ν
${}^{60}\text{Fe} \rightarrow {}^{60}\text{Co} \rightarrow {}^{60}\text{Ni}$	$2.2 \cdot 10^6$	<u>1.322</u> (1.) <u>1.173</u> (1.)	SN	n-NSE

*: Double decay chains: the longest lifetime is given; *Underlined*: lines detected
 In *parentheses*: branching ratios; In *brackets*: sites of lines detected
St.(Expl.): Hydrostatic(Explosive) burning; NSE:Nuclear statistical equilibrium
 α : α -rich "freeze-out"; n-: normal "freeze-out"; ν : neutrino-process









PRODUCTION MECHANISMS OF ASTROPHYSICAL GAMMA-RAY LINES

1. NUCLEAR DE-EXCITATION

Nuclei excited by :

- Inelastic Scattering : $^{16}\text{O}(p,p')^{16}\text{O}^*$ + 6.129 MeV
- Spallation Reactions : $^{16}\text{O}(p,pa)^{12}\text{C}^*$ + 4.438 MeV
- Radioactive Decay : $^{26}\text{Al}(\beta^+)^{26}\text{Mg}^*$ + 1.809 MeV
- Radiative Capture : $p(n,\gamma)\text{D}$ + 2.223 MeV

2. ELECTRON – POSITRON ANNIHILATION

e^+ produced by :

- β^+ decay of radionuclei
- π^+ decay (π^+ produced in high energy interactions: $p + p$)
- pairs ($e^- - e^+$) in high energy interactions ($\gamma+\gamma$, $\gamma+e^-$, $\gamma+N$ etc.)

Ti-44 in Cas A

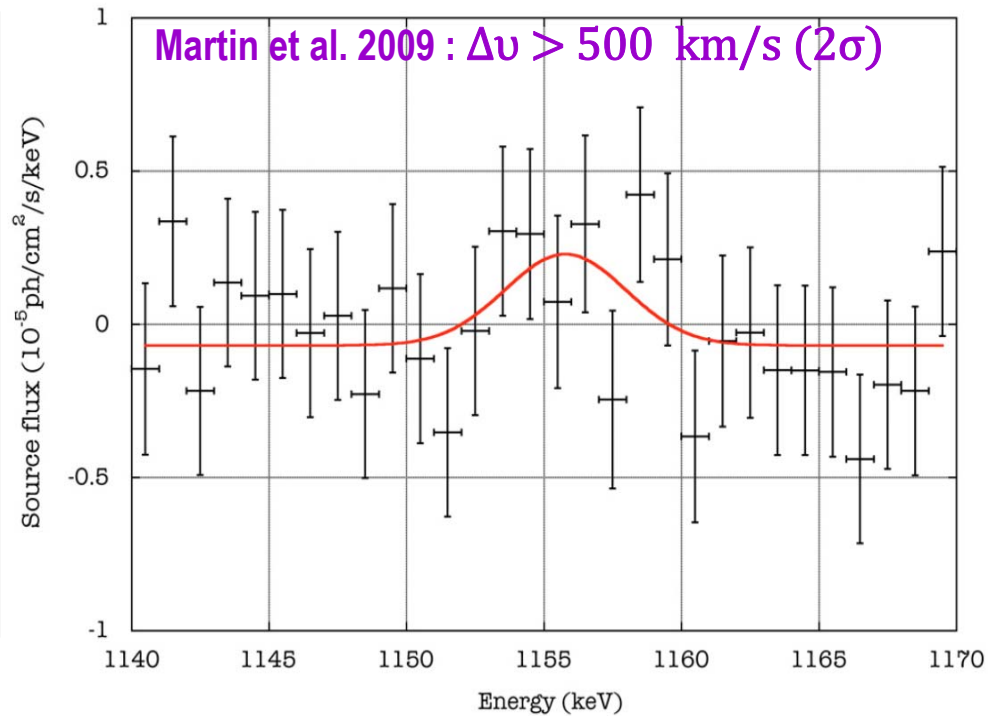
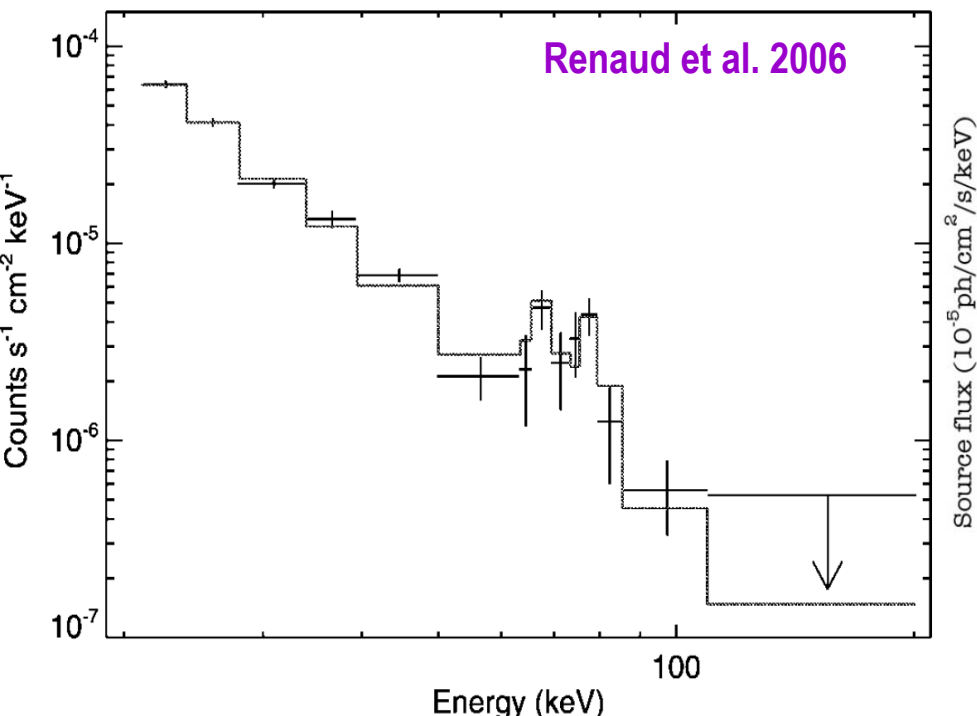
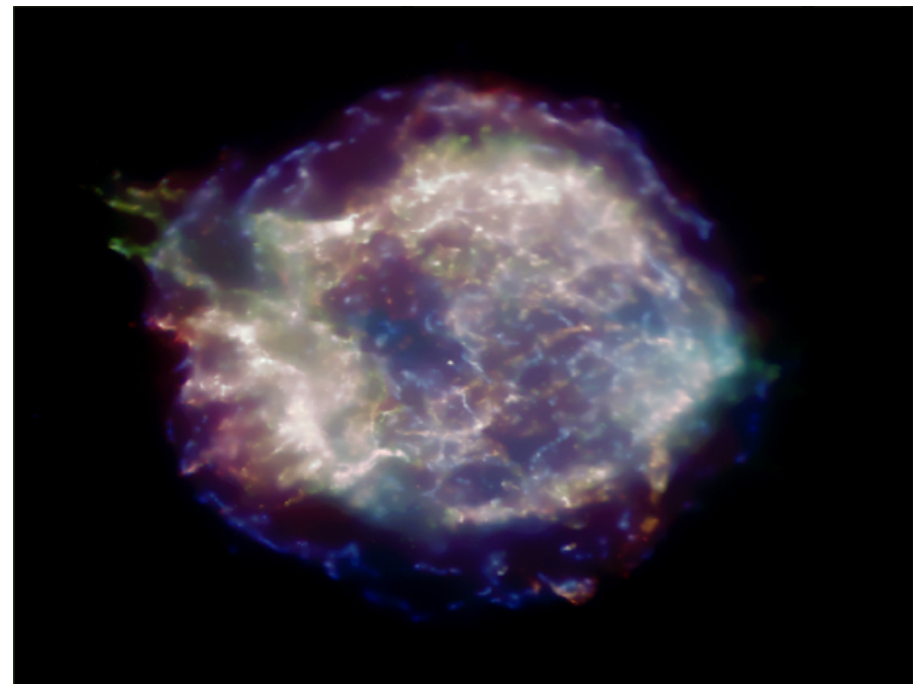
($d \approx 3$ kpc, age ≈ 320 yr)

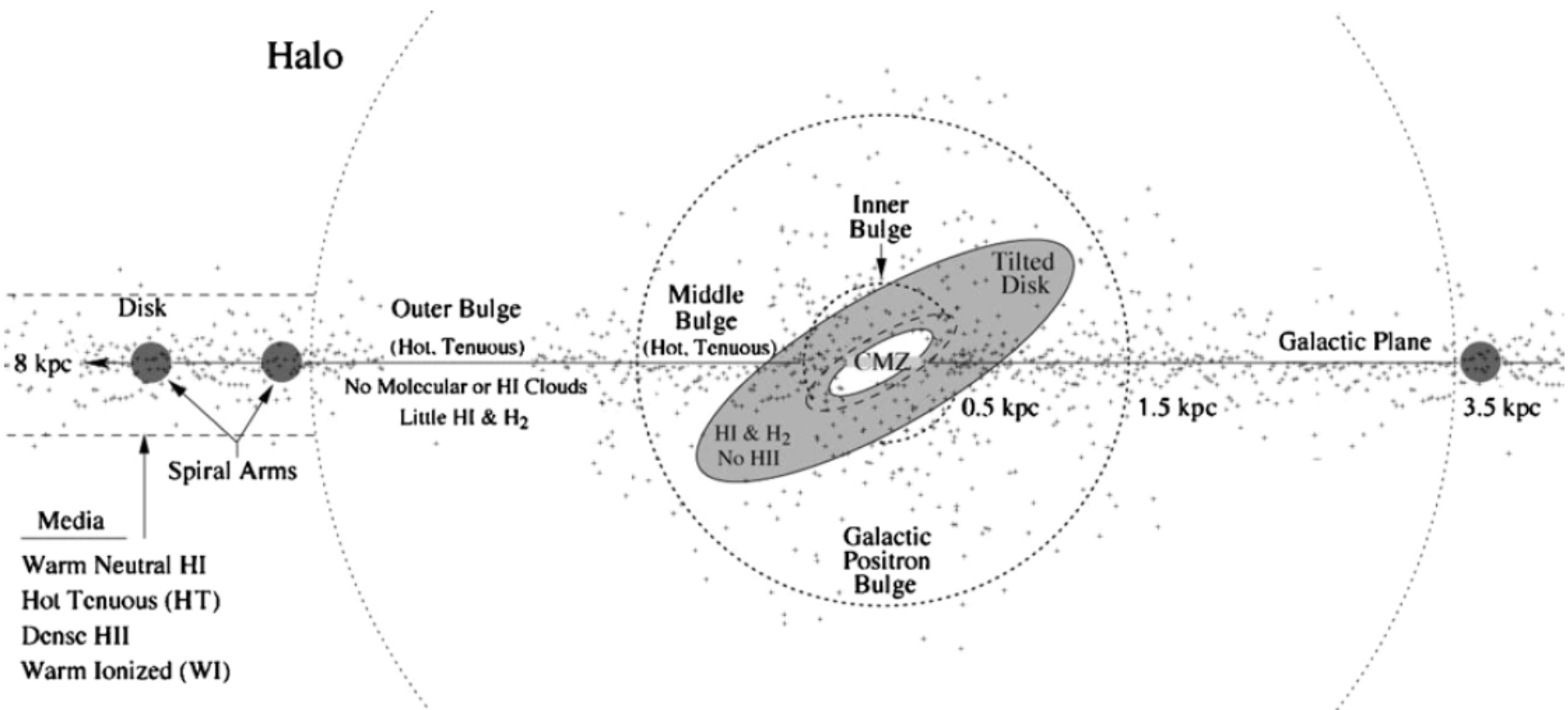
From observations: $1\text{--}2 \cdot 10^{-4} M_{\odot}$ of Ti-44

COMPTEL: 1.156 MeV (*Iyudin et al. 1994*)

Beppo-Sax: 68 + 78 keV (*Vink et al. 2002*)

IBIS-ISGRI: 68+78 keV (*Renaud et al. 2006*)





Transfer of positrons produced by SNIa
 from the “outer bulge” (?) (hot, tenuous)
 to the inner one
 (*Higdon et al. 2009*)