# POSITRON ANNIHILATION IN THE MILKY WAY:

The 511 keV excess

Fiona H. Panther

with Roland Crocker, Yuval Birnboim, Ivo Seitenzahl and Ashley Ruiter





@fipanther | fiona.panther@anu.edu.au

Three Elephants in the Gamma Ray Sky October 21-24, Garmisch-Parternkirchen

Image: Siegert+2016

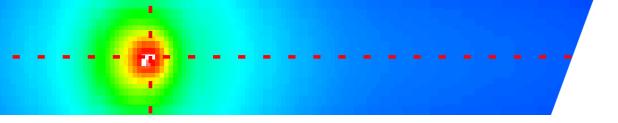
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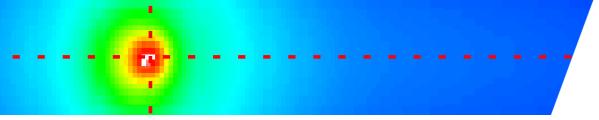
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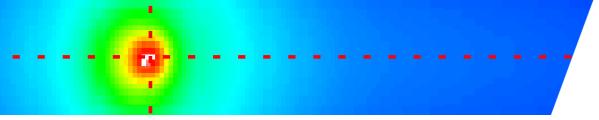
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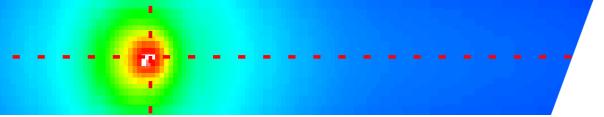




511 keV = rest mass energy of the electron (positron)

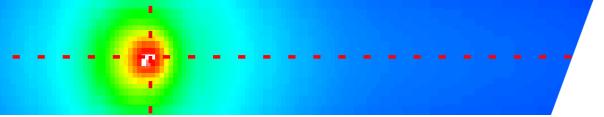


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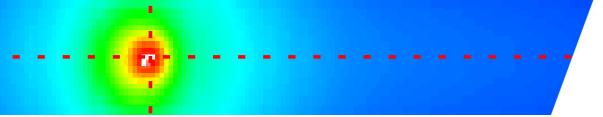
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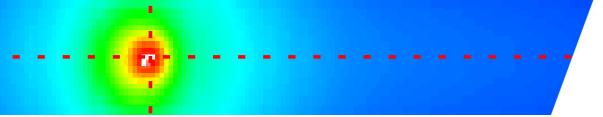
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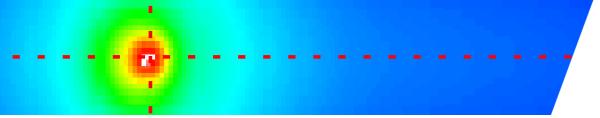
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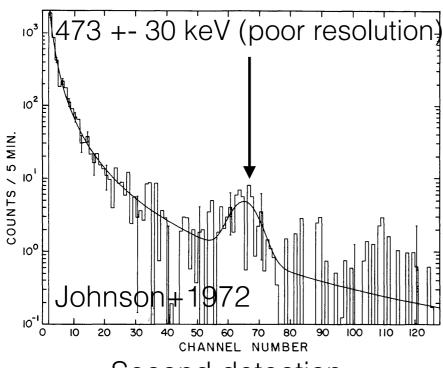
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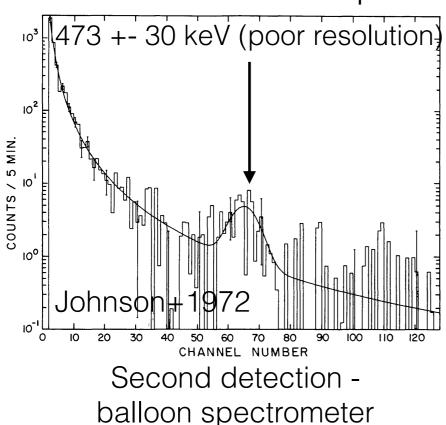
Second detection - balloon spectrometer

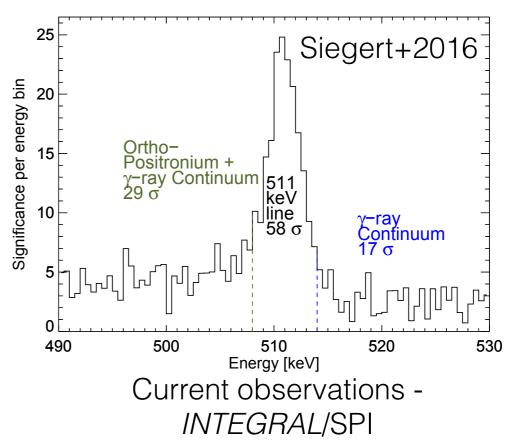
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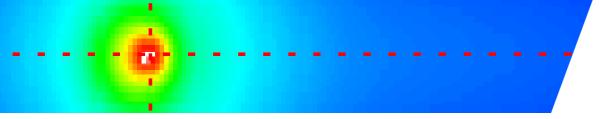
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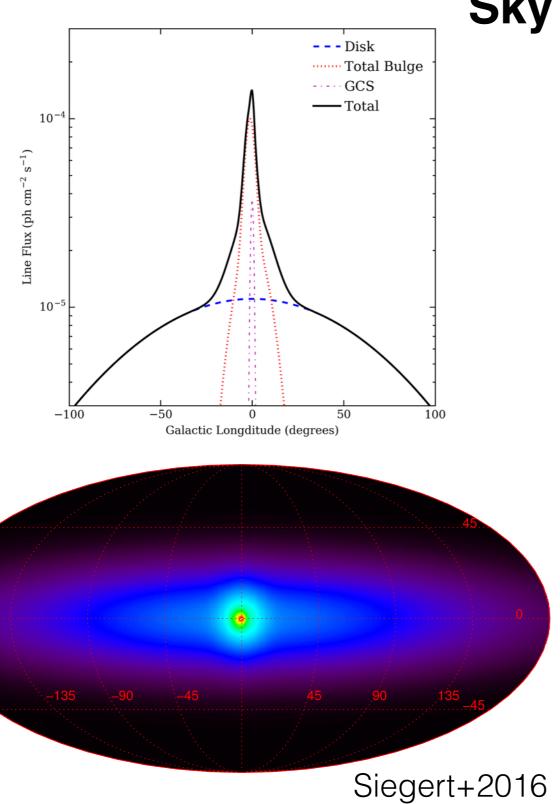
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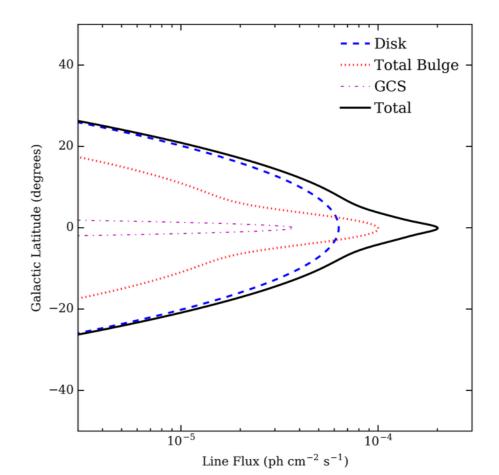




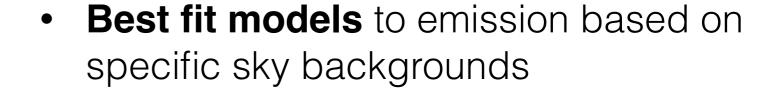


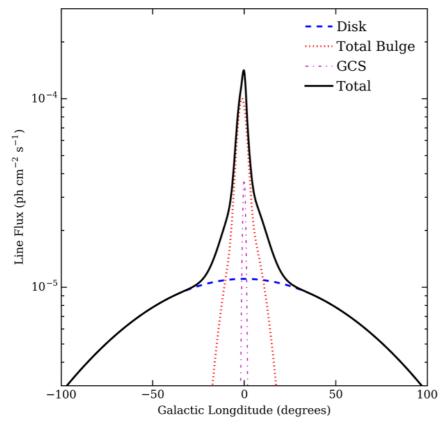
### Sky maps:

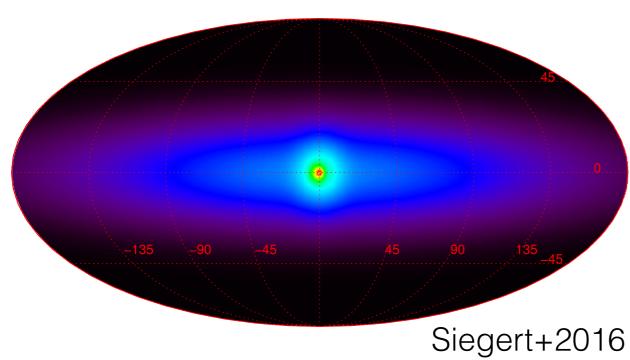


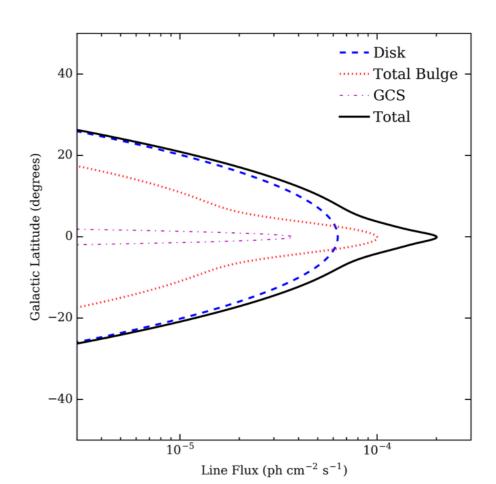


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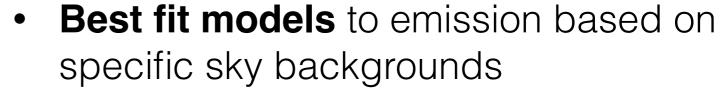




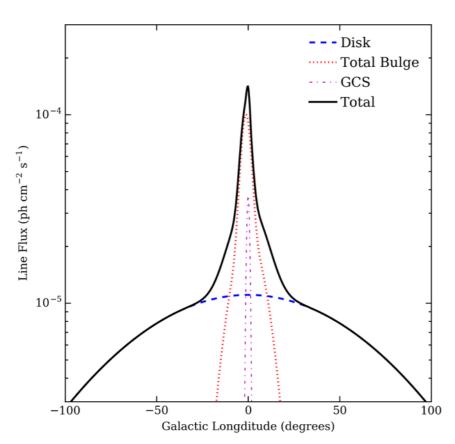


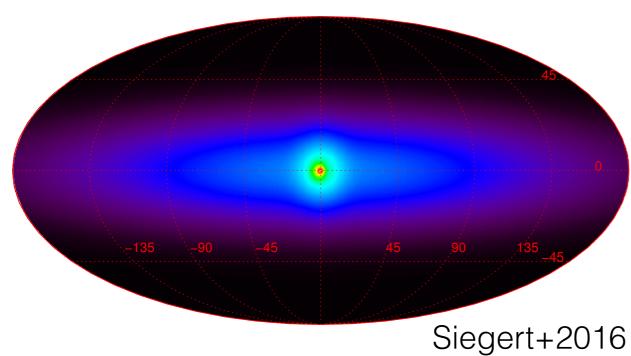


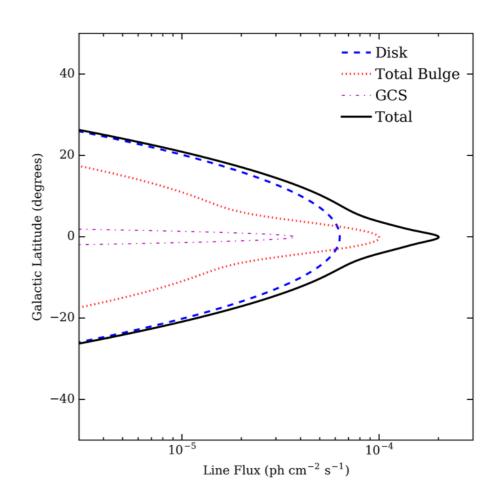
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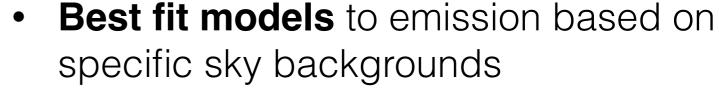
Multiple Gaussians - disk, broad and narrow bulge



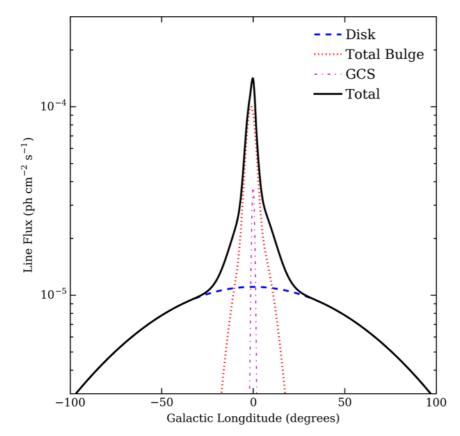


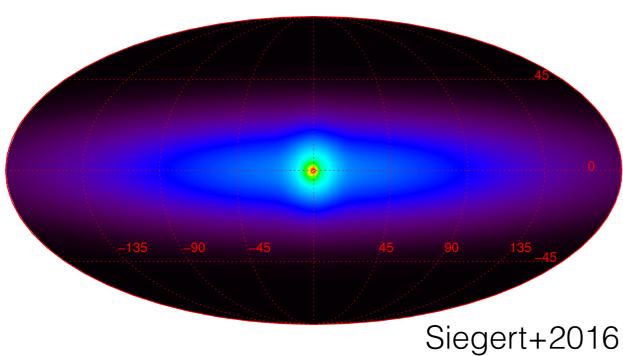


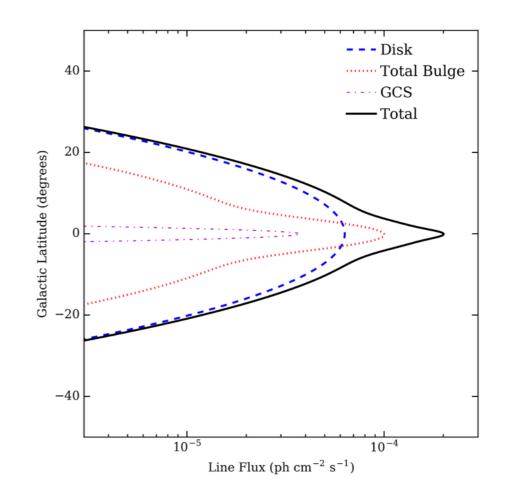
#### Sky maps:



- Multiple Gaussians disk, broad and narrow bulge
- Apparent detection of "Galactic Center Source" - point source or distributed?







 $10^{-4}$ 

 $10^{-5}$ 

Line Flux (ph  $\mathrm{cm}^{-2}\ \mathrm{s}^{-1}$ )

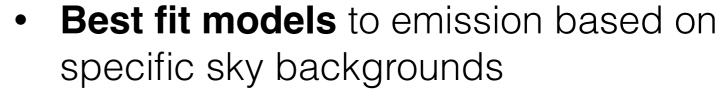
--- Disk

GCS
Total

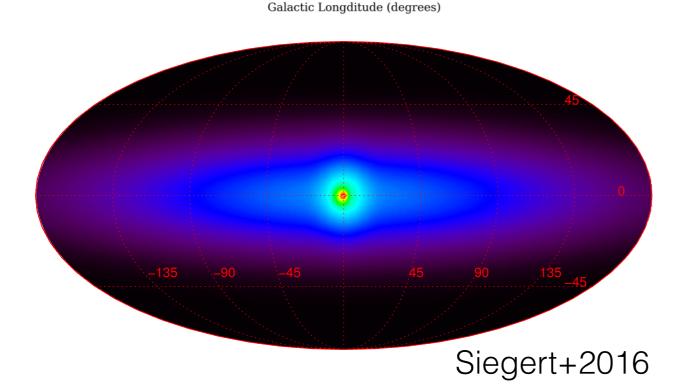
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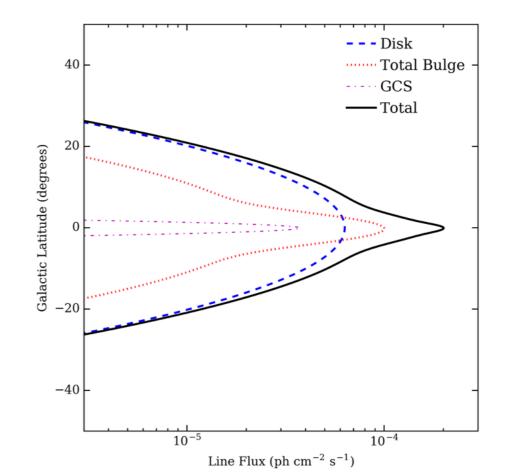
#### **Current Observations**





- Multiple Gaussians disk, broad and narrow bulge
- Spatial resolution of INTEGRAL/SPI: ~2 deg





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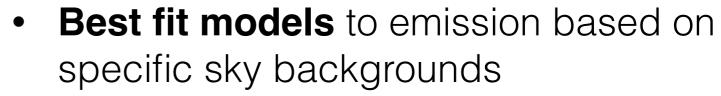
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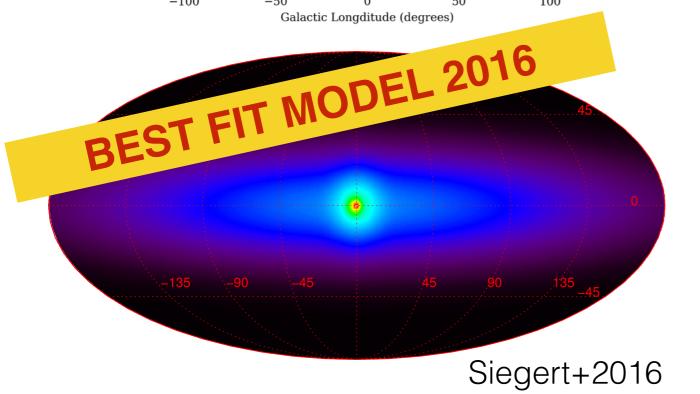
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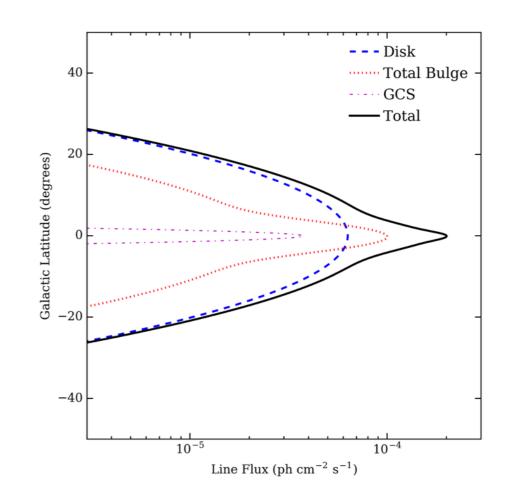




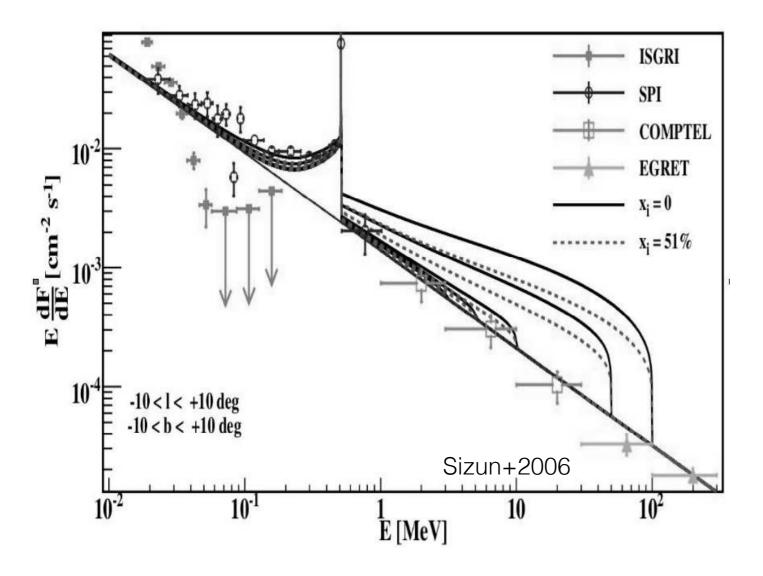
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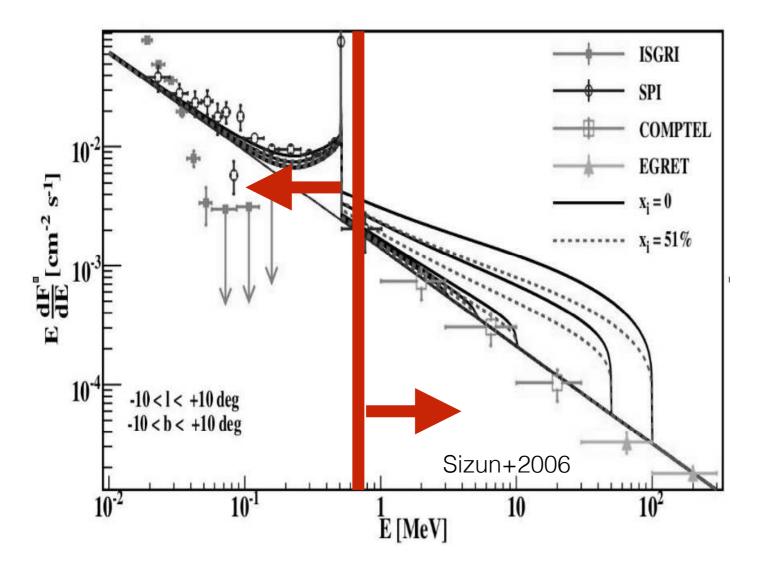


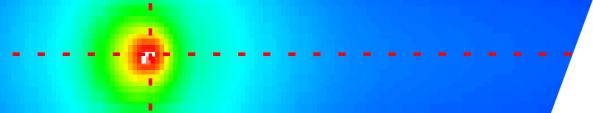


- Important information about the ISM conditions where positrons annihilate
- Some clues about potential sources

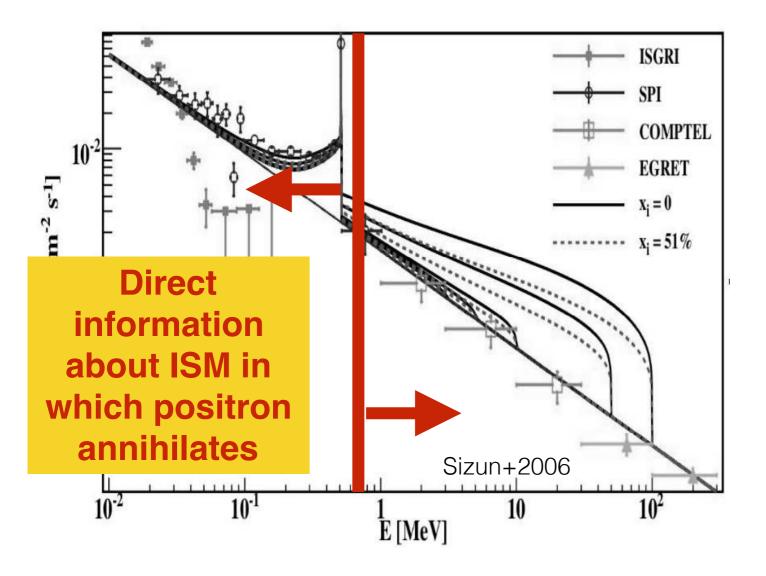


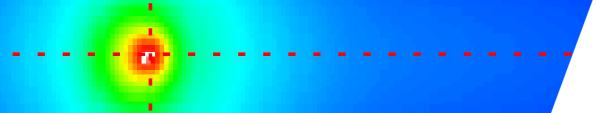
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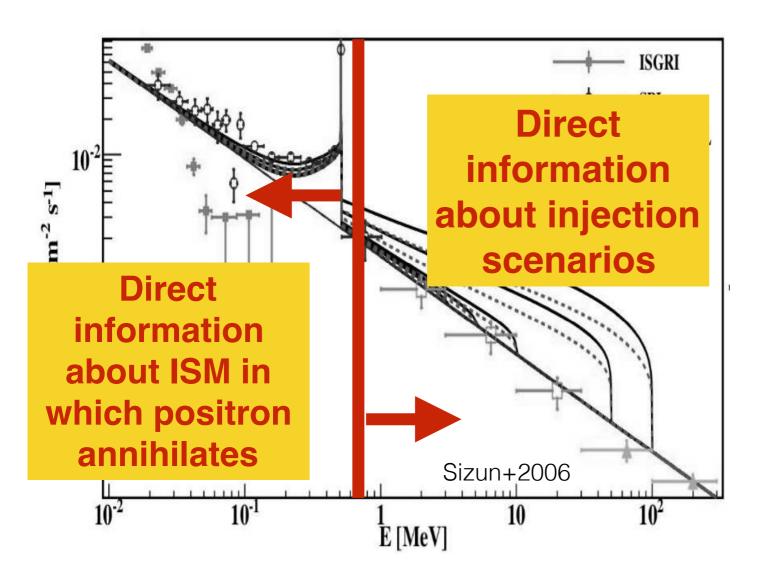


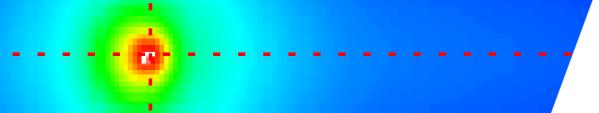
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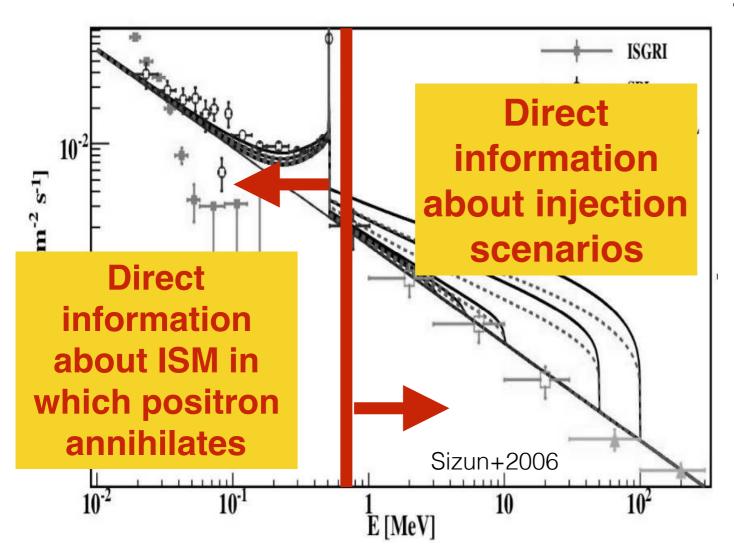


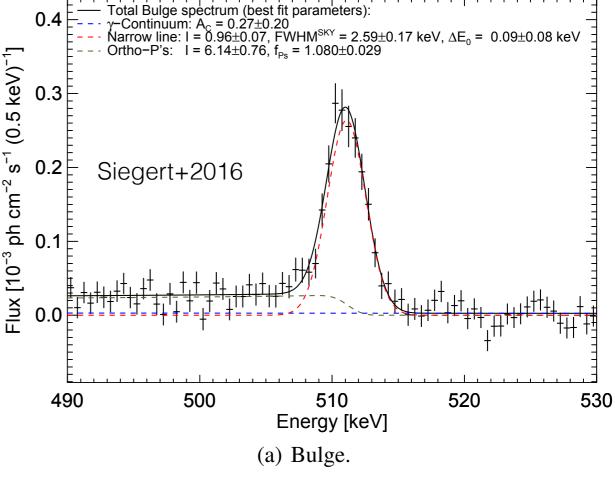


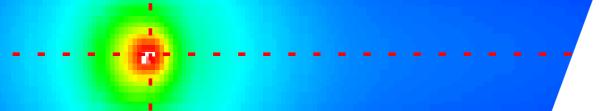
#### Spectra:

• Important information about the ISM ( ) 0.2

Some clues about potential sources



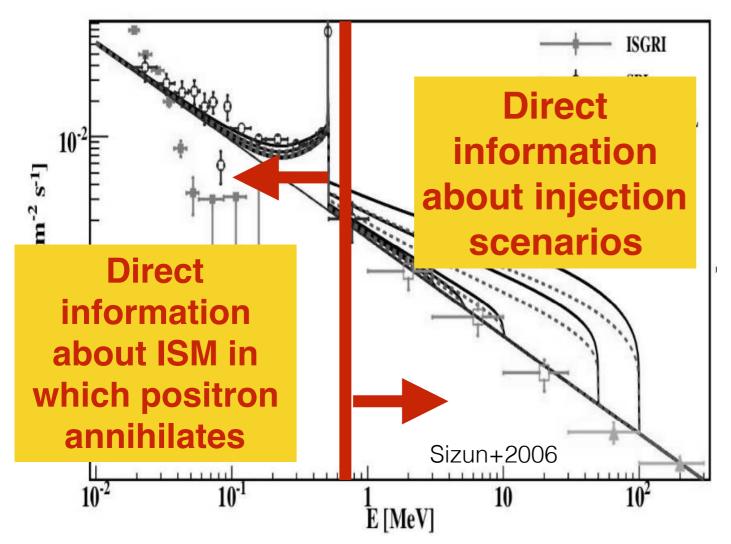


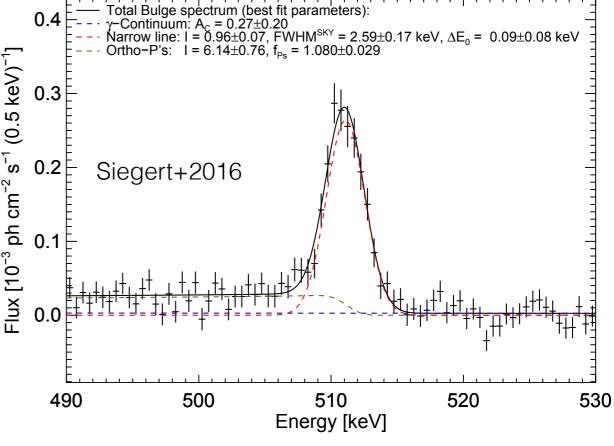


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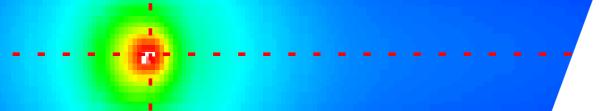
Important information about the ISM (5) 0.2
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Some clues about potential sources





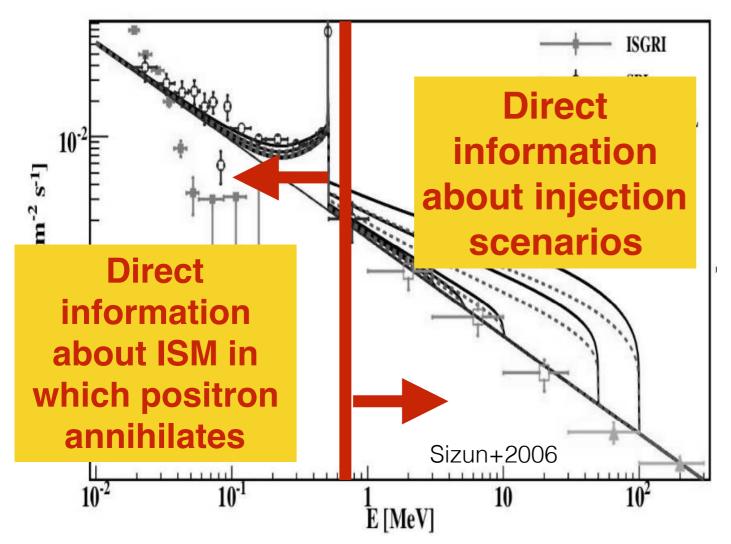
• Linewidth, low energy continuum: Annihilation in **10<sup>4</sup> K**, **partially ionized ISM** (Churazov +2005, Siegert+2016)

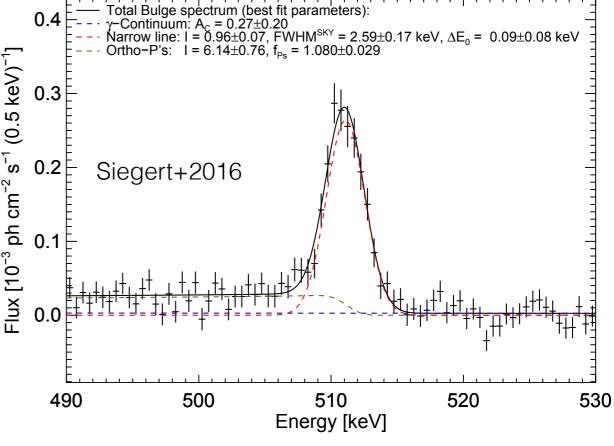


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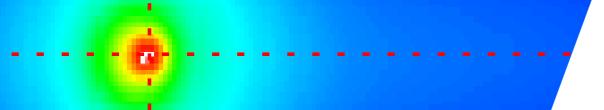
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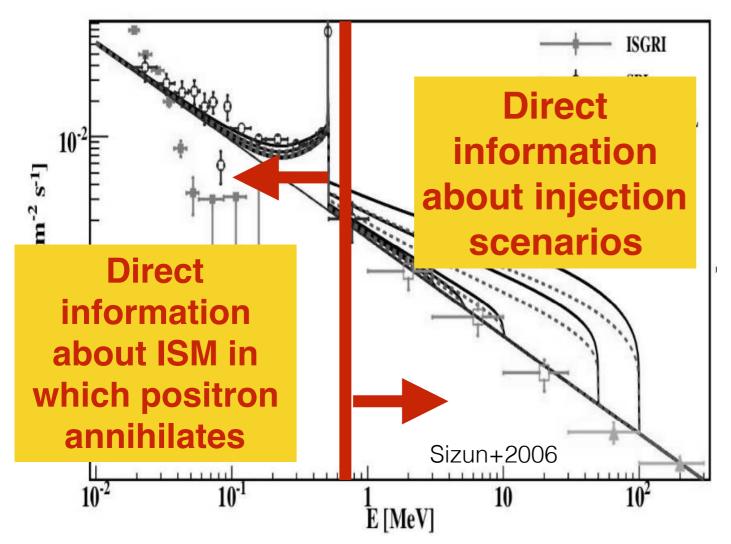


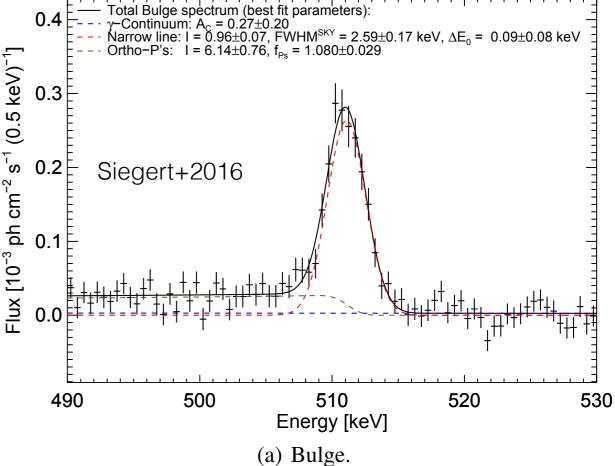


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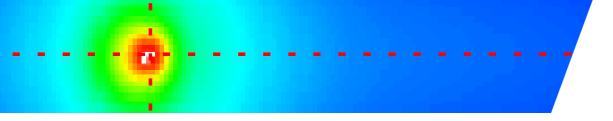


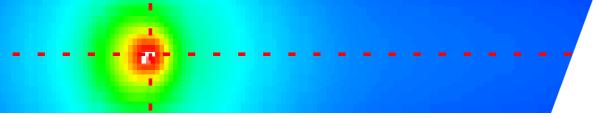
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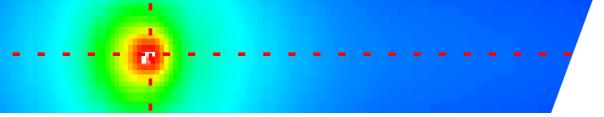


- Linewidth, low energy
   continuum: Annihilation in 10<sup>4</sup> K,
   partially ionized ISM (Churazov
   +2005, Siegert+2016)
- Absence of excess >511 keV:
   Positrons injected at less than a few MeV (Aharonian & Atoyan 1981, Beacom & Yuksel 2007)



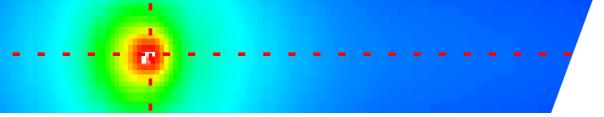


# How do we explain the morphology of positron annihilation?



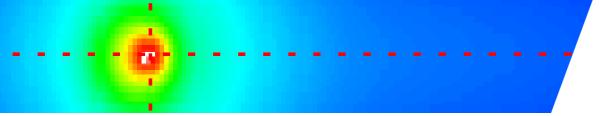
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Putative positron sources are usually associated with star formation - why is the bulge so bright when it is devoid of star formation?



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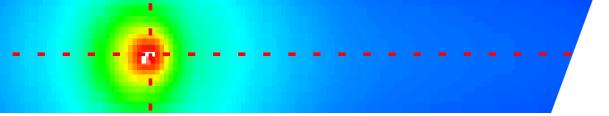
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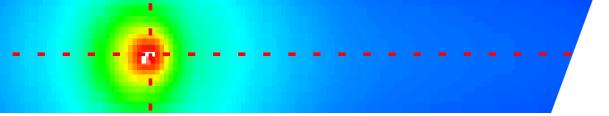


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Propagation of "low" energy (~ MeV) positrons is poorly understood

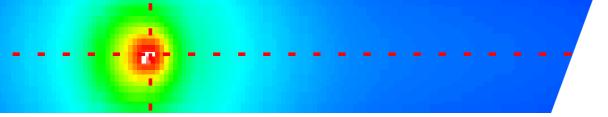


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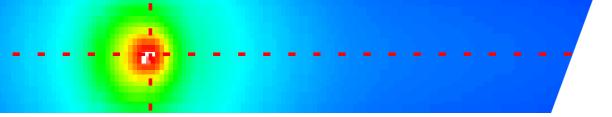
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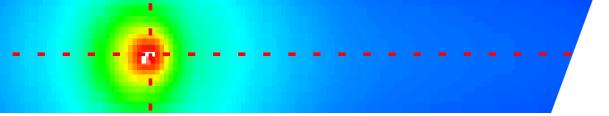
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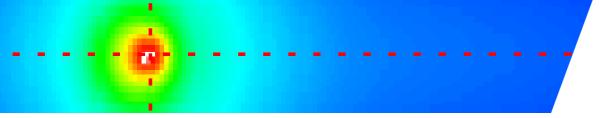
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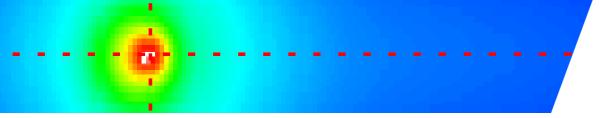
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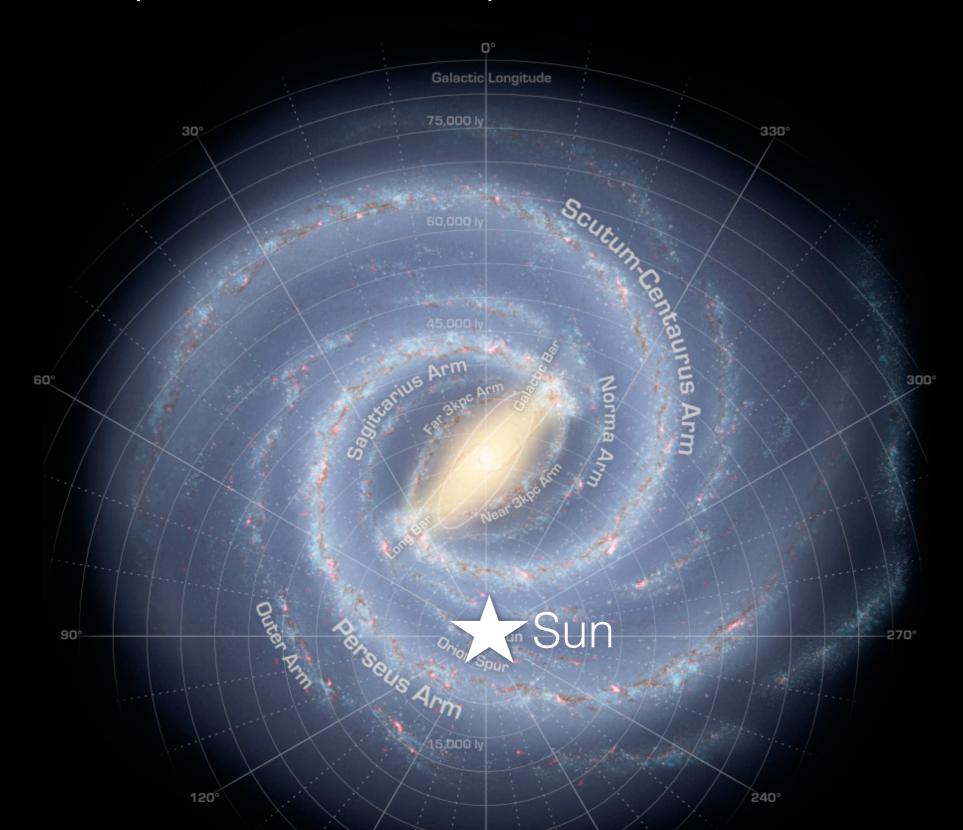
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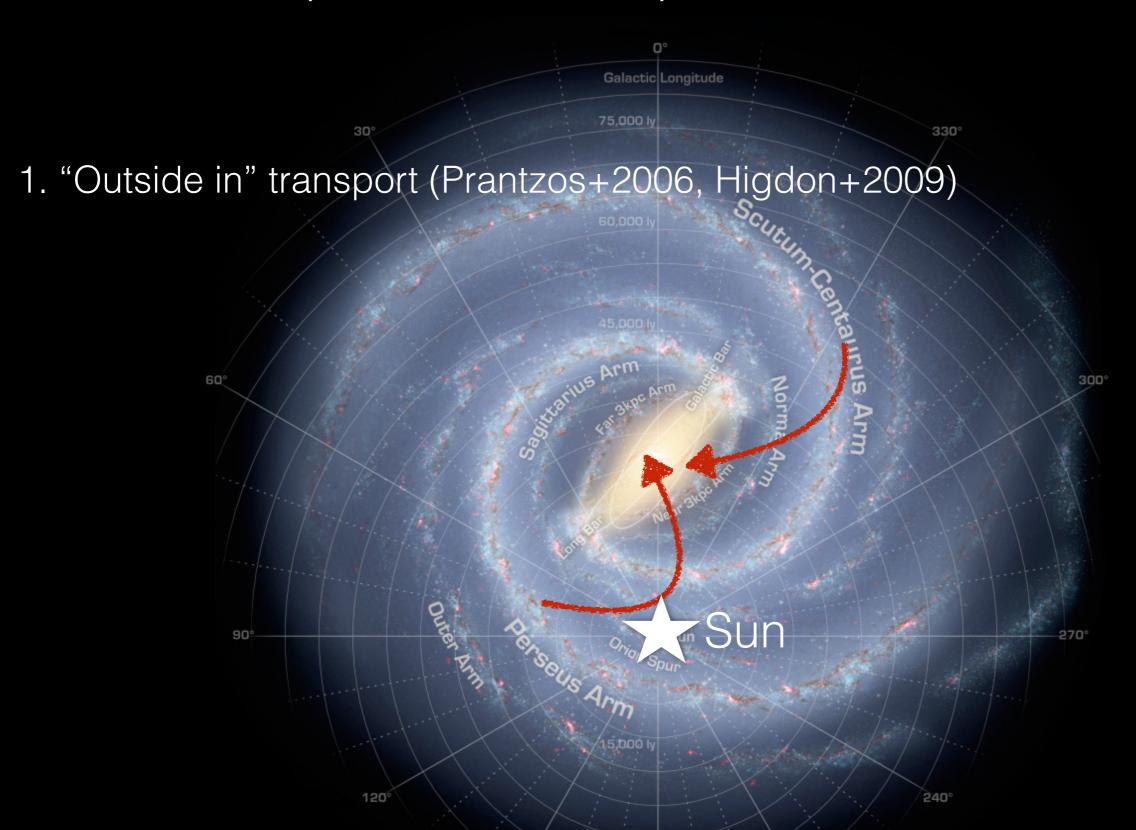
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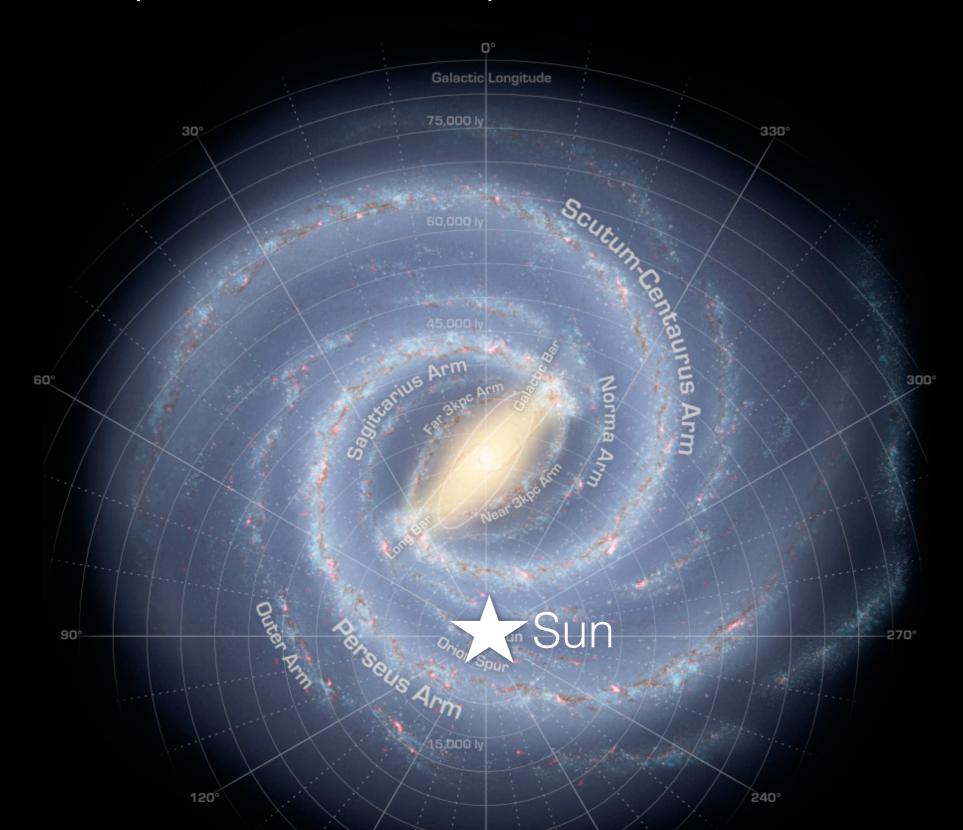
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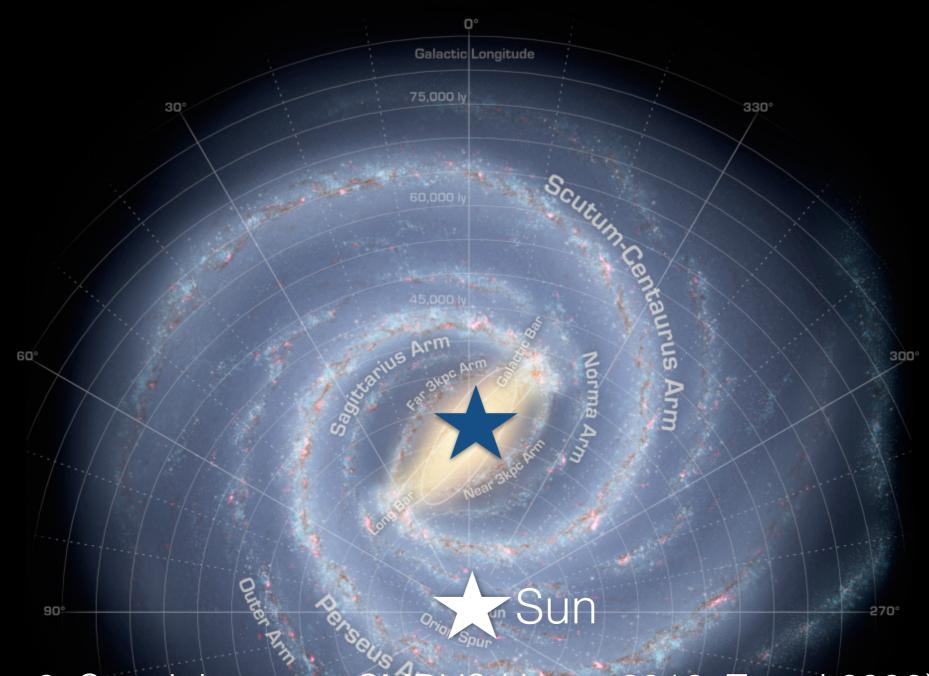




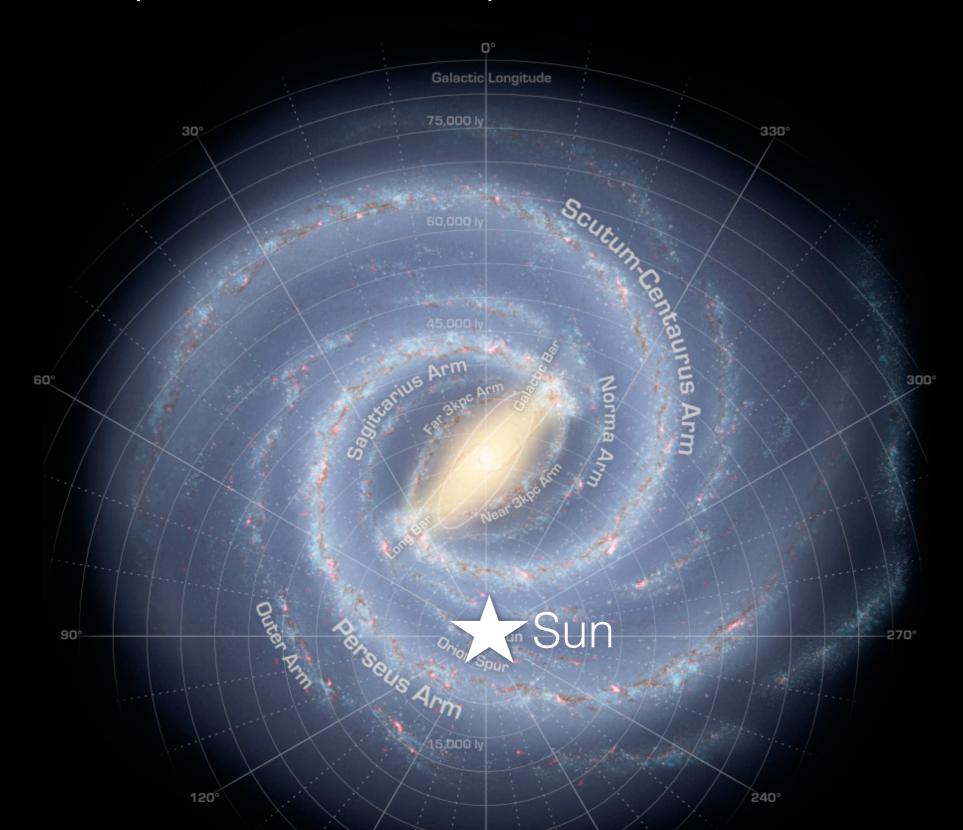


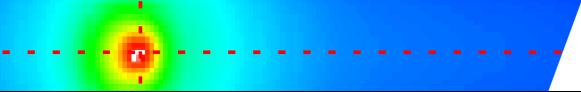


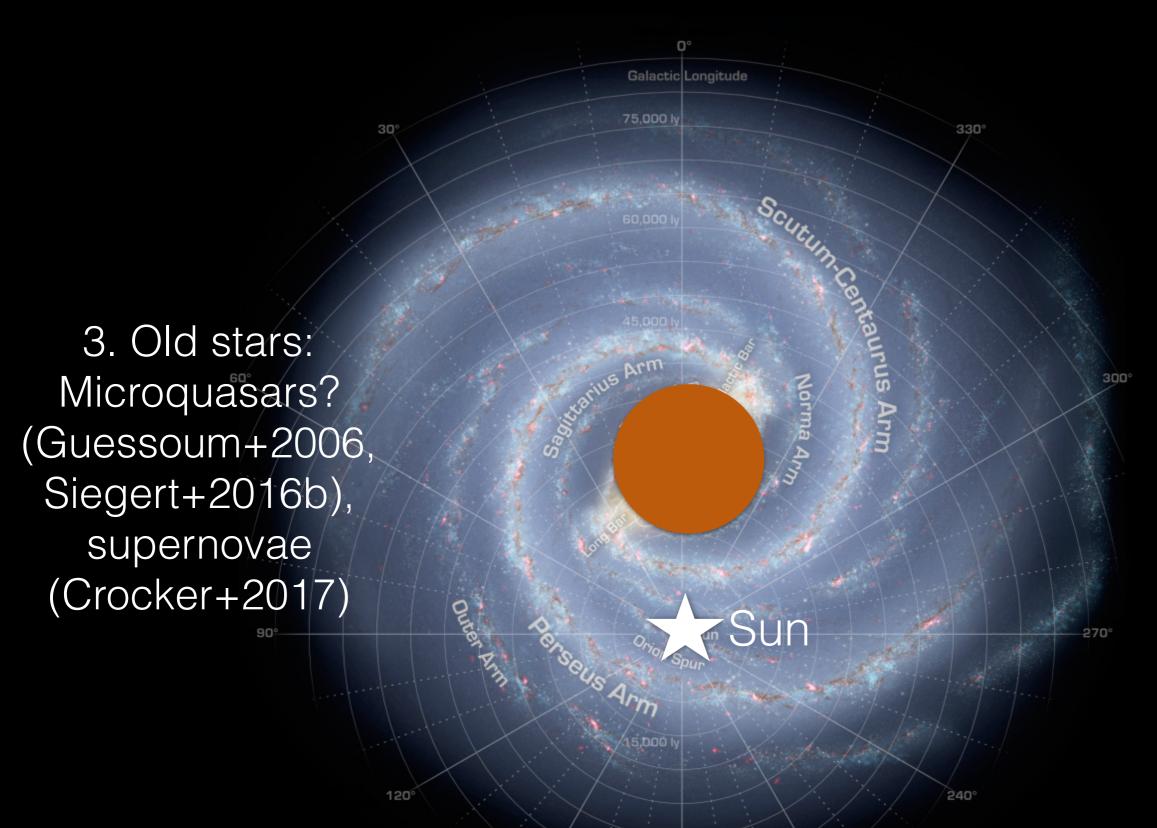
Common production/transport scenarios in literature

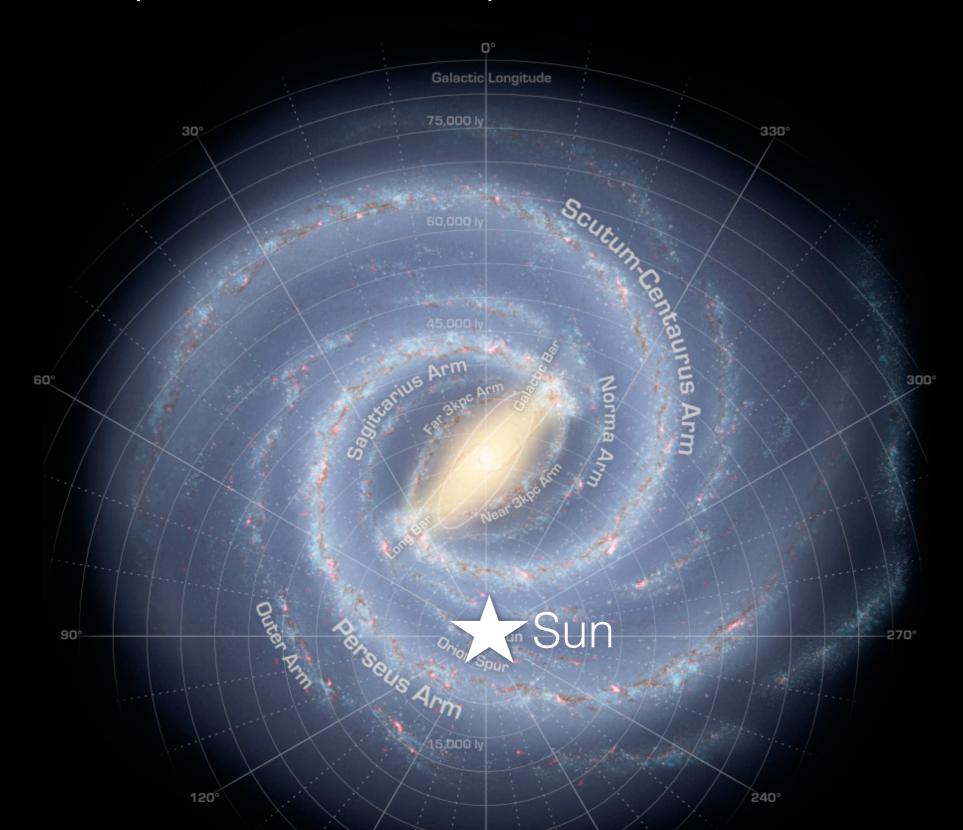


2. Special source: SMBH? (Jean+2016, Totani 2006), Dark Matter (Finkbeiner & Weiner+2007, Boehm+2009)?

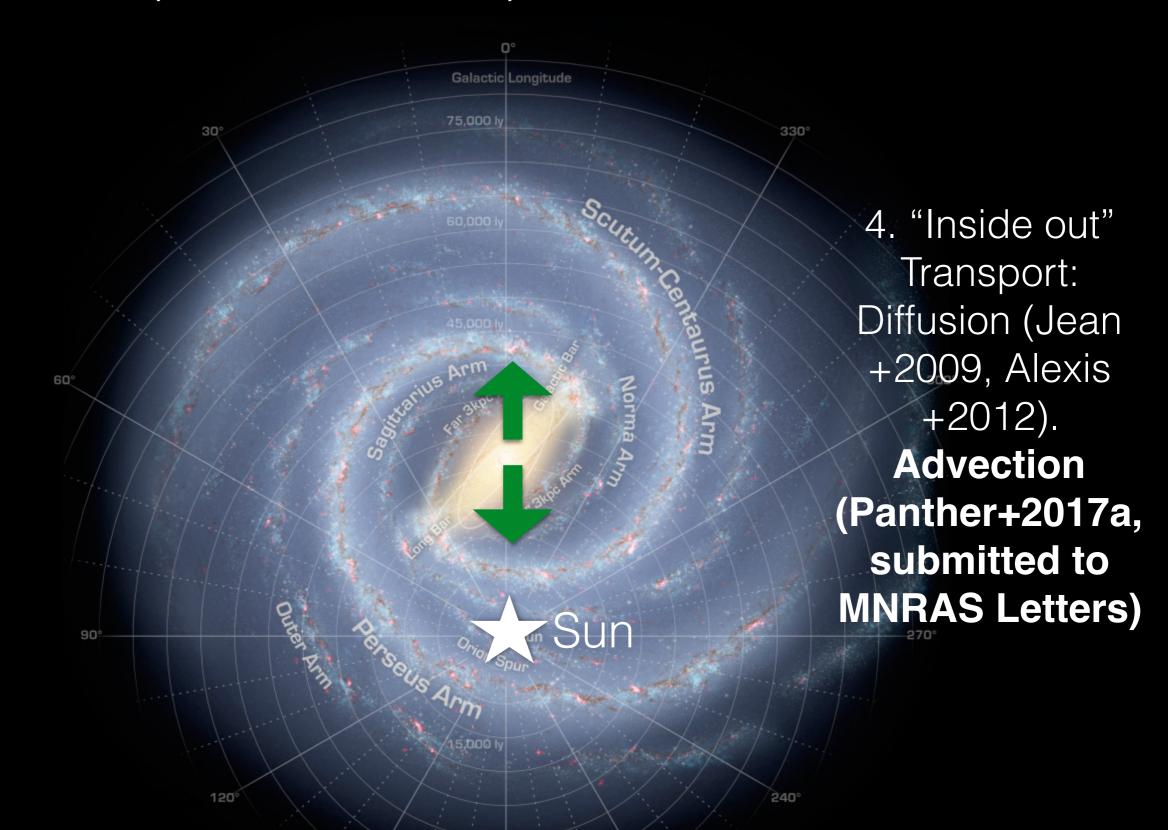


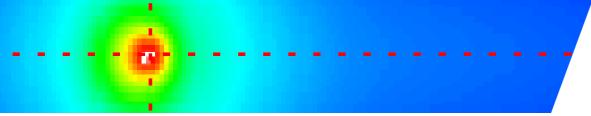


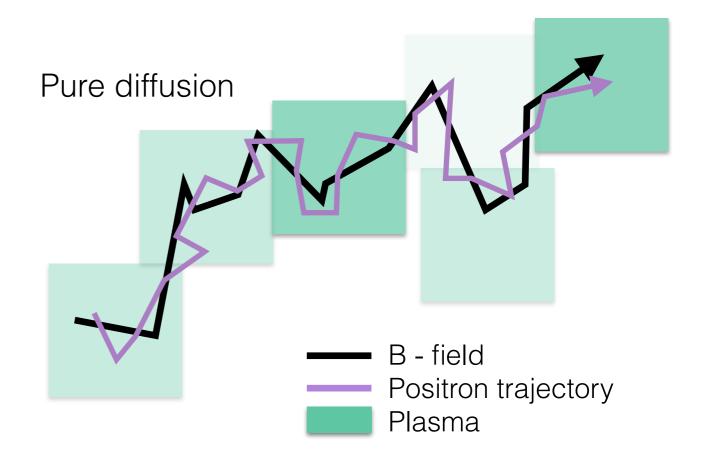


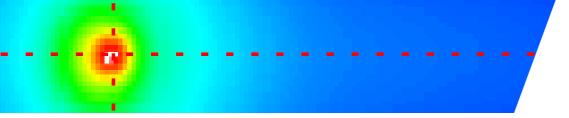




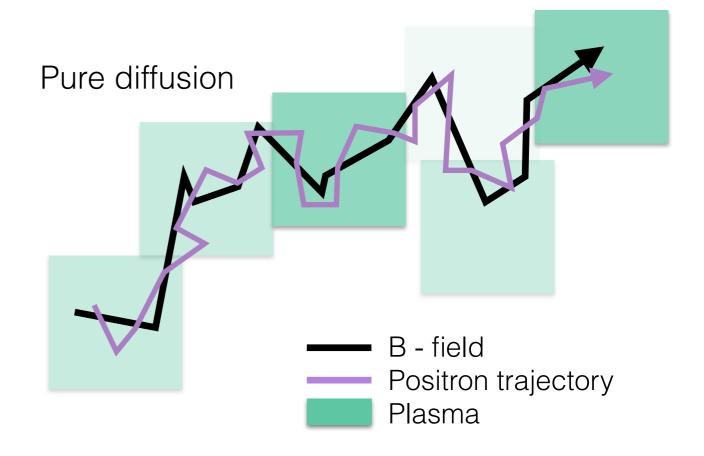


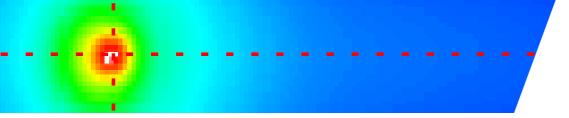




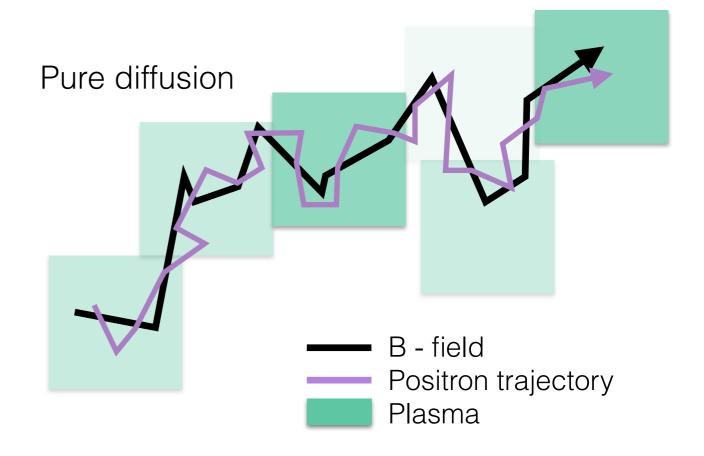


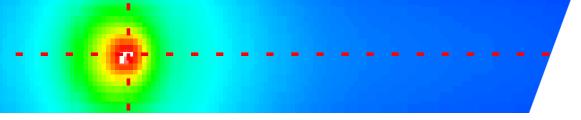
In diffusive transport scenarios, positrons are confined close to their sources (within ~ 200pc) (Jean+2009)





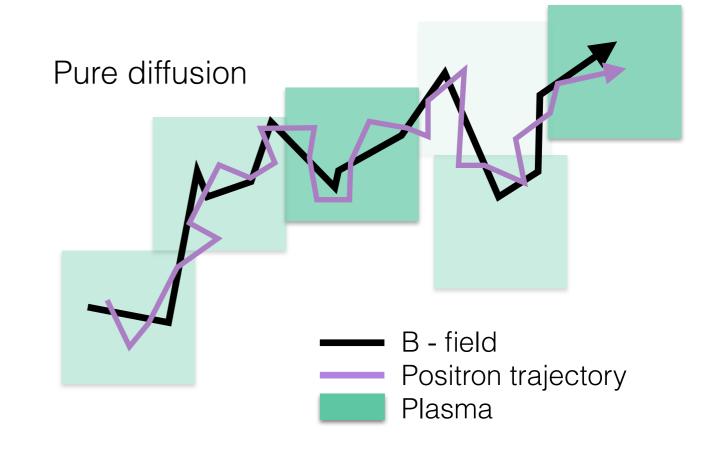
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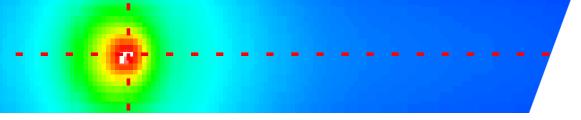




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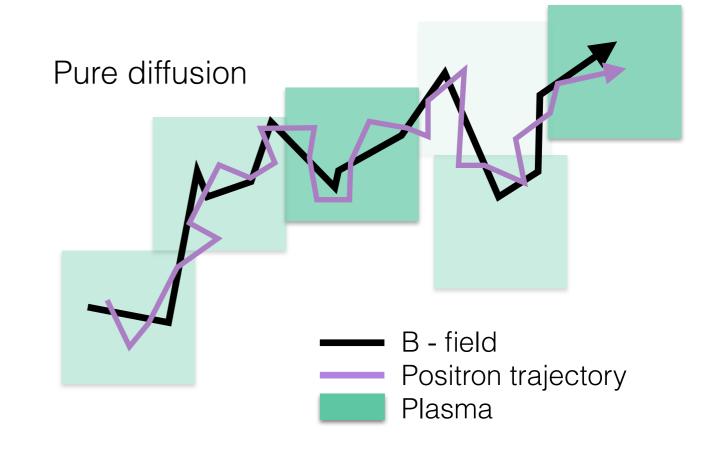
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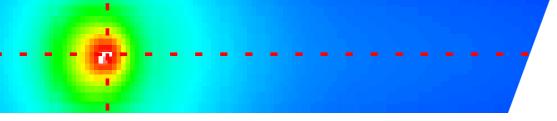




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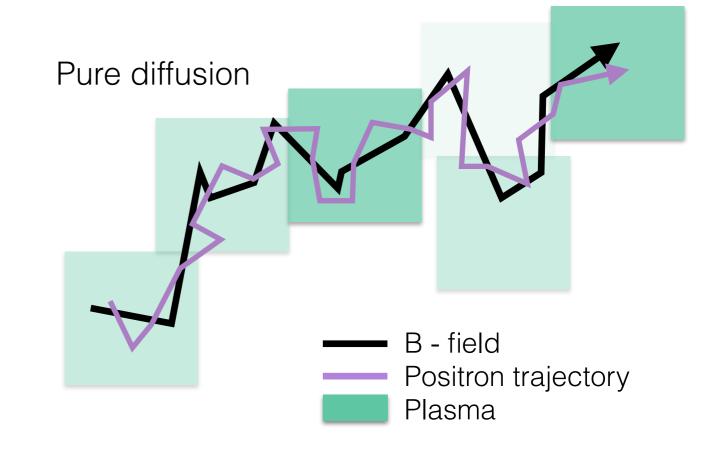


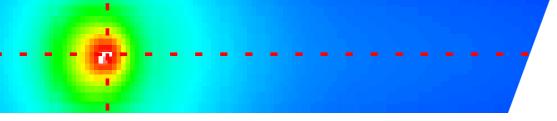


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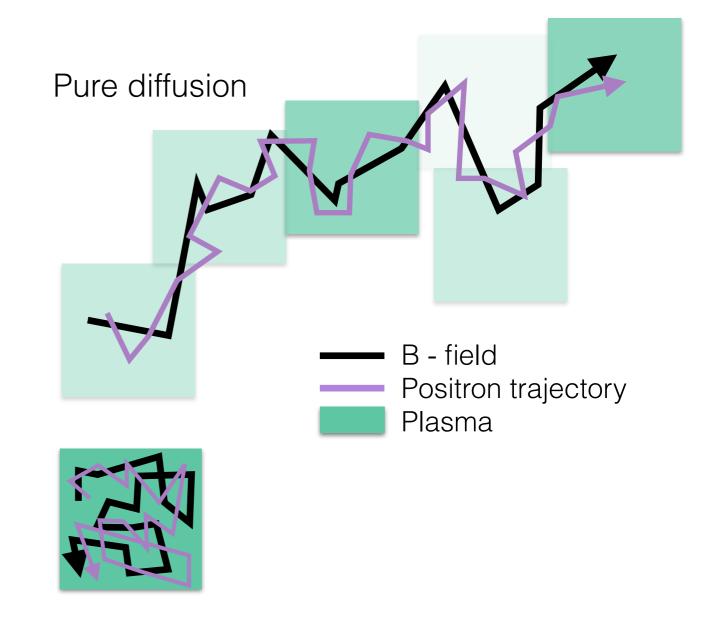


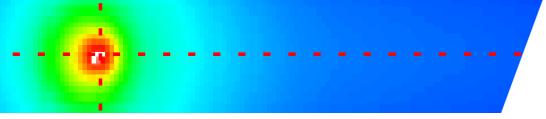


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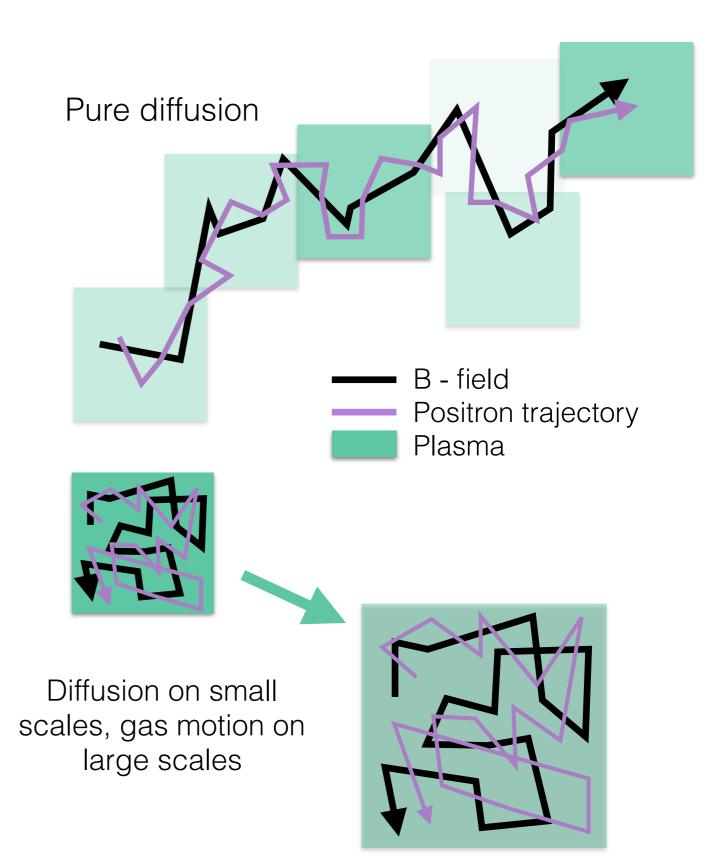


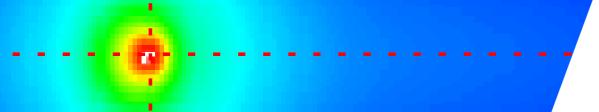


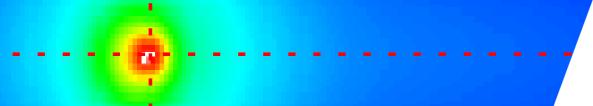
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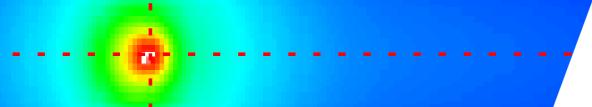
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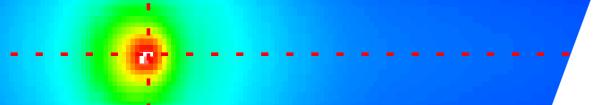




Annihilation spectrum only encodes information about the ISM conditions when the positron annihilates

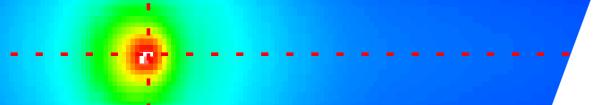


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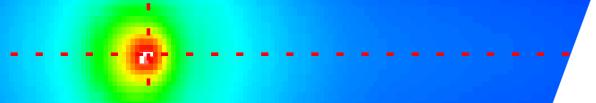
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Can the ISM cool to a state that explains the spectrum in a shorter time than the positron annihilates?



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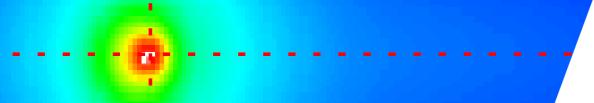
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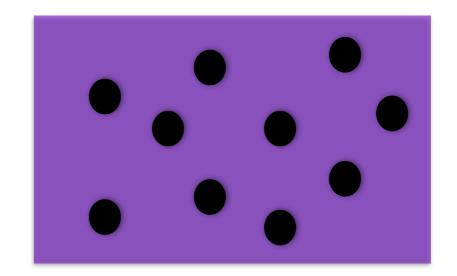
**Churazov+2011**: Yes, for Collisional Ionisation Equilibrium (CIE) cooling and a range of initial temperatures

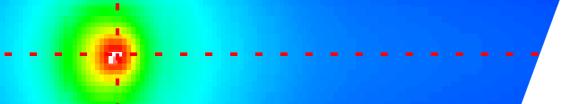


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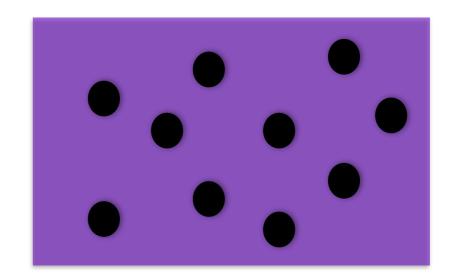


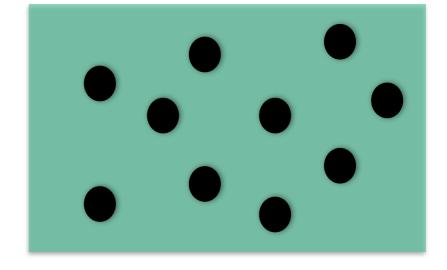


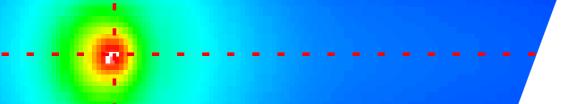
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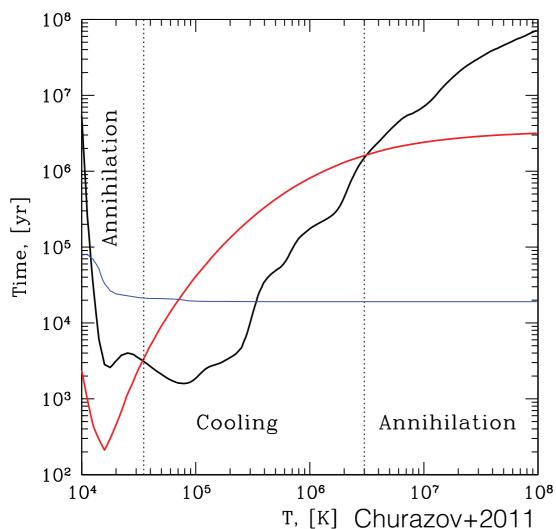


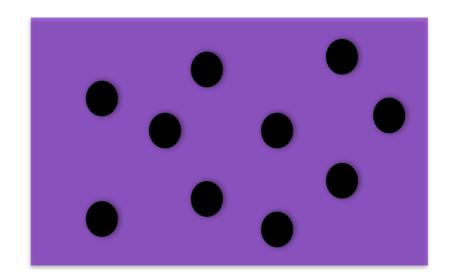


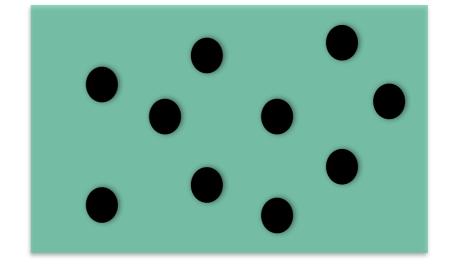
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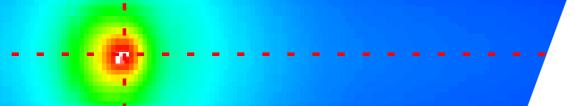
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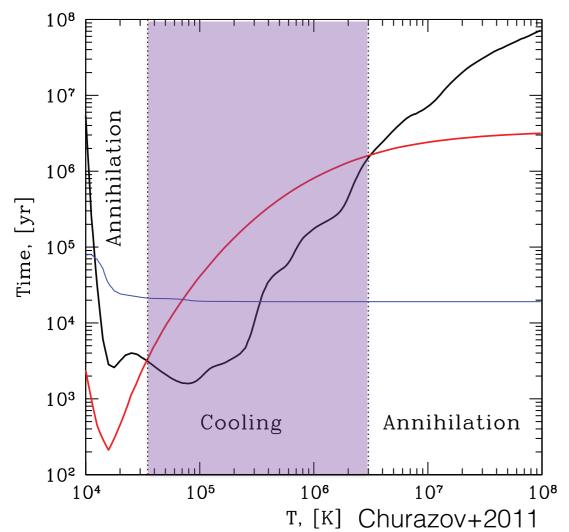


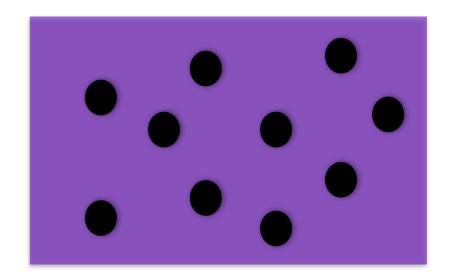


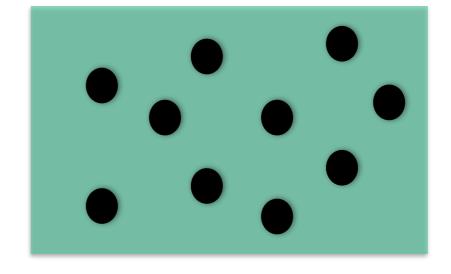
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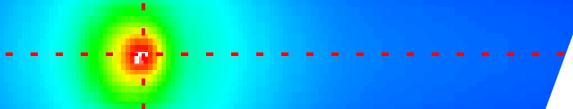
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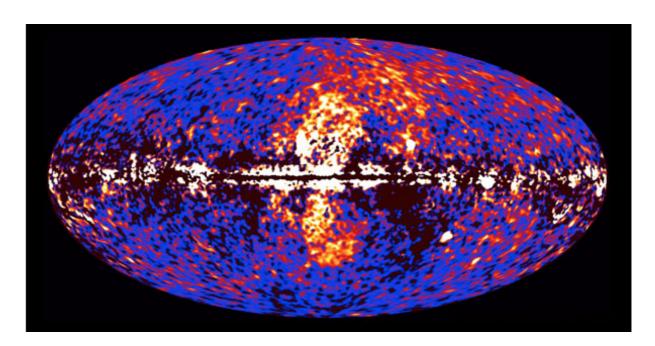




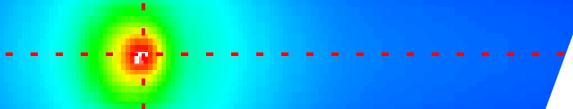
#### The GB 511 keV line and the FBs

Evidence for a bipolar nuclear outflow in the Milky Way originated in 2003 (Bland-Hawthorn & Cohen)

The 2010 discovery of the Fermi Bubbles (Su+2010, Dobler+2010) provide additiona; evidence of an outflow from the Galactic nuclear region, casting doubts on the model of a static ISM in this region



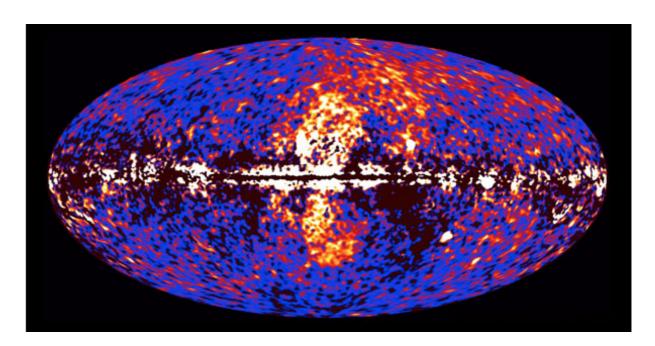
FERMI collaboration



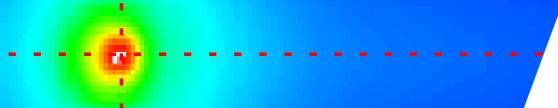
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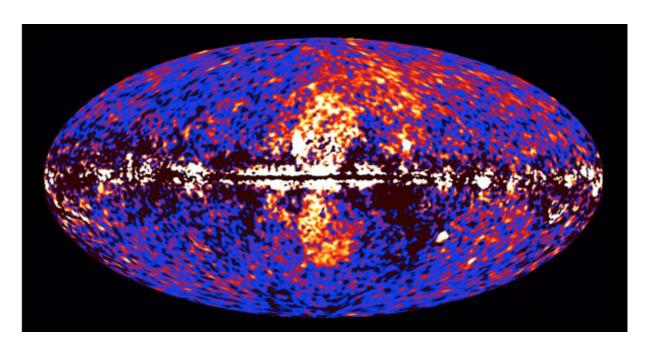
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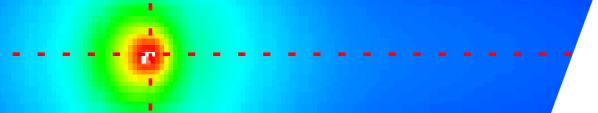
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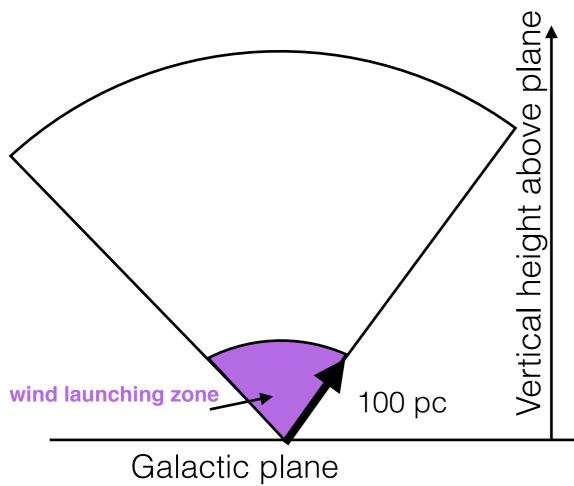
Are positrons "catching a ride" in the outflow that inflates the Fermi Bubbles, and cools as it does so (e.g. Crocker+2011)? Can they explain the annihilation in the Galactic bulge?



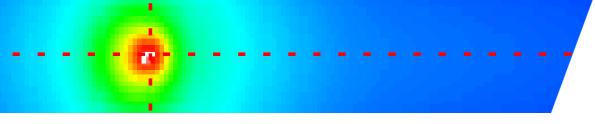
#### Modelling the nuclear outflow

#### Wind launching zone:

• r<sub>0</sub> ~ r(Central Molecular Zone) ~ 100 pc



- mass and energy injected by CMZ star formation (~ 0.1Msun/yr)
- wind accelerated to  $v_0$  at  $r_0$  ( $v_0 \sim 200$  1500 km s<sup>-1</sup>)
- Initial temperature -> kinetic power ~
   thermal component (T<sub>0</sub> ~ 10<sup>5</sup> 10<sup>8</sup> K)
- Opening angle -> pi Str (results insensitive to choice of opening angle)



# Salactic plane

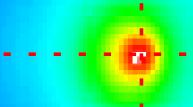
#### Modelling the nuclear outflow

#### Free expanding wind zone

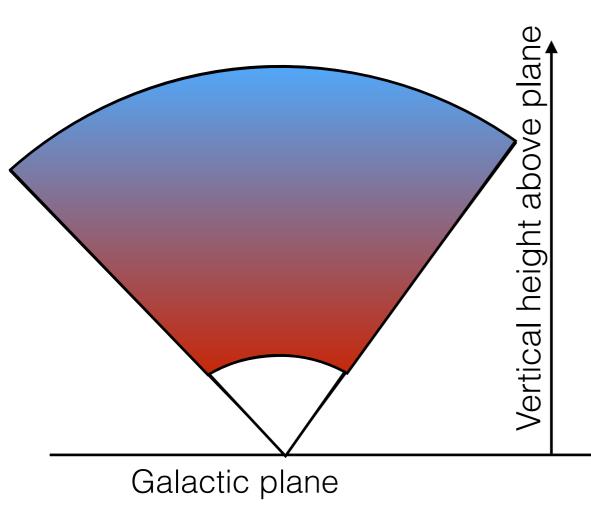
 Explore properties of steady-state wind for range of parameter space:

Energy flux ->  $10^{38}$  -  $10^{40}$  erg s<sup>-1</sup> Mass flux ->  $10^{-3}$  -  $10^{0}$  M<sub>sun</sub> yr<sup>-1</sup>

- Wind density evolves due to mass conservation
- Wind decelerates due to gravitational potential (Breitschwerdt+)
- Wind cools due to radiative and adiabatic cooling



#### Calculating positron trajectories

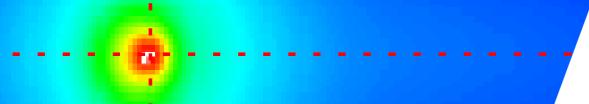


For a given point in parameter space calculate trajectories as a function of galactocentric radius:

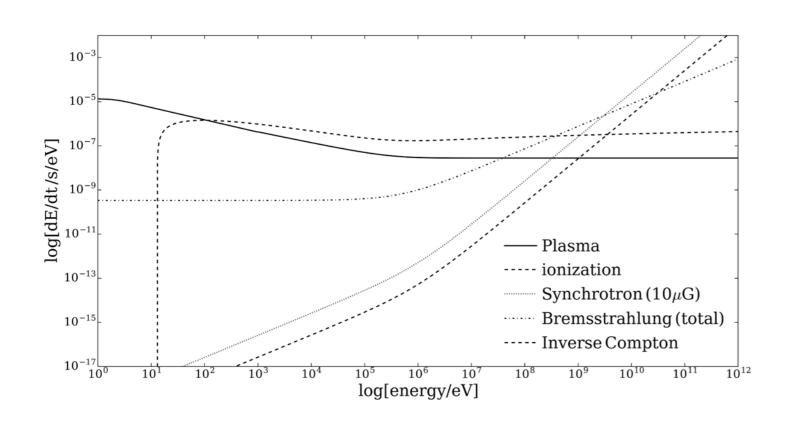
- Mass density
- Temperature
- Wind velocity
- Ionization fraction of hydrogen based on CIE (Sutherland & Dopita1993)
   Each trajectory represents the trajectory of a positron in the model.

## Positrons travel outwards at wind velocity v

Positrons are injected at the wind launching radius with initial energy w<sub>0</sub> and followed until they thermalize (reach ~10 eV)

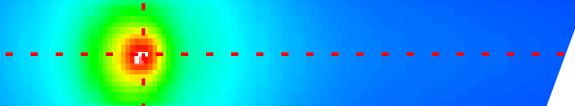


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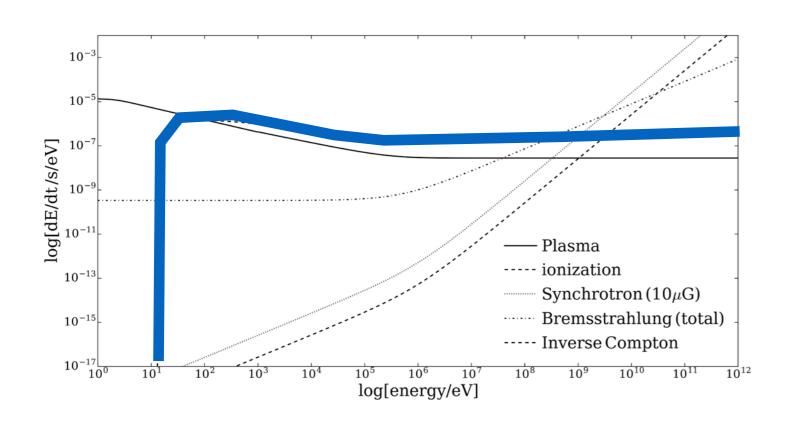


## Positrons are mildly relativistic:

Radiative losses through ionisation and coulomb losses.
Other processes make negligible contribution

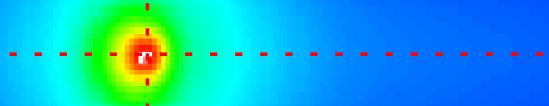


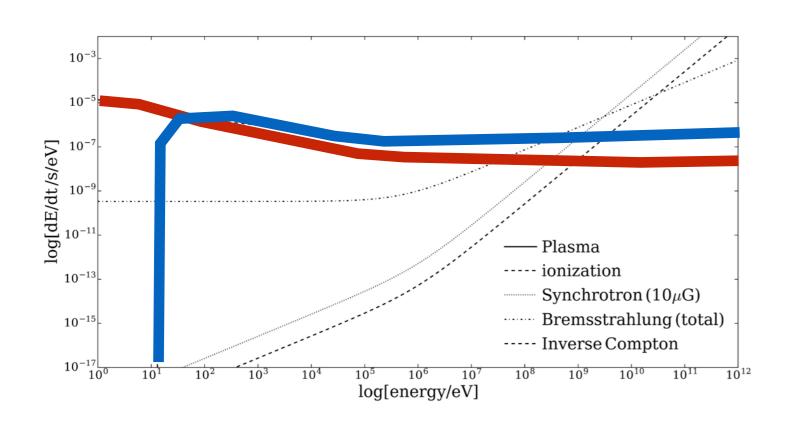
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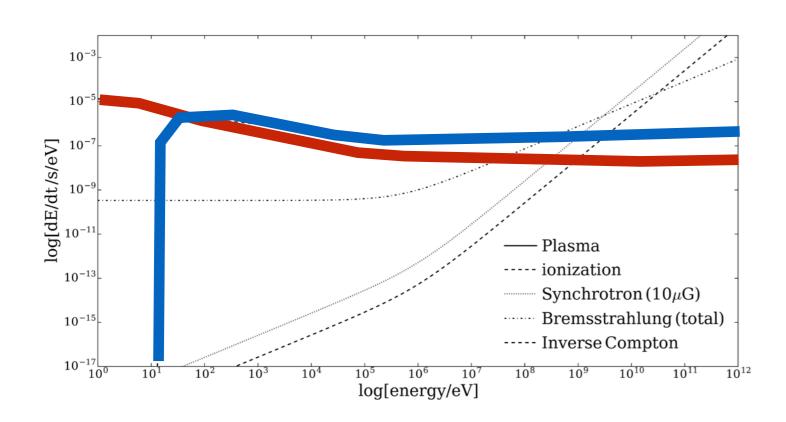
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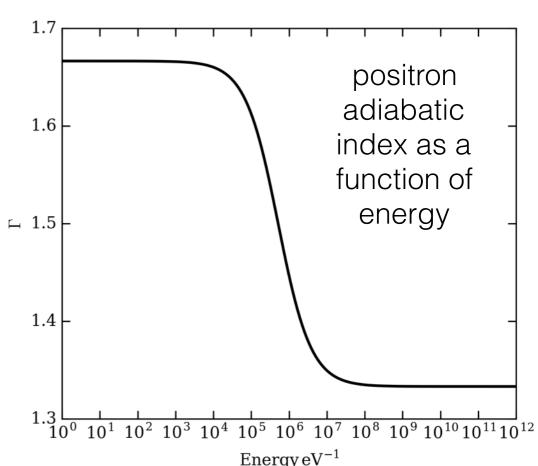
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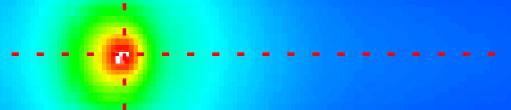


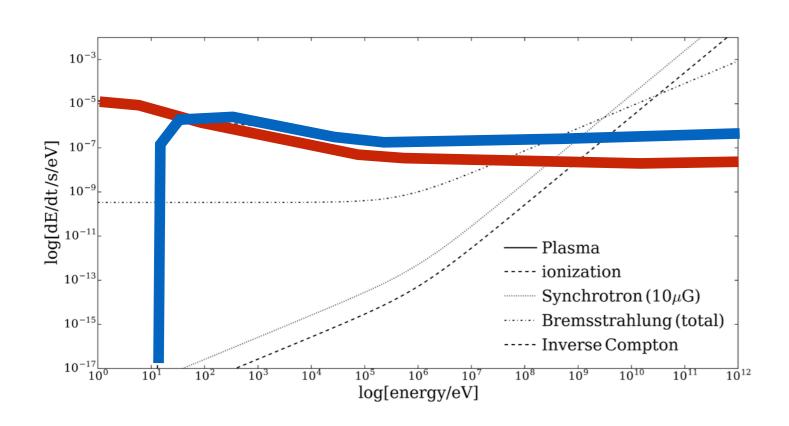
$$\left. \frac{dw}{dt} \right|_{\text{ad}} = -2 \frac{(\Gamma - 1)v[t]w_0}{(r_0 + v[t]t)} \left( \frac{\rho[t]}{\rho_0} \right)^{\Gamma - 1}.$$

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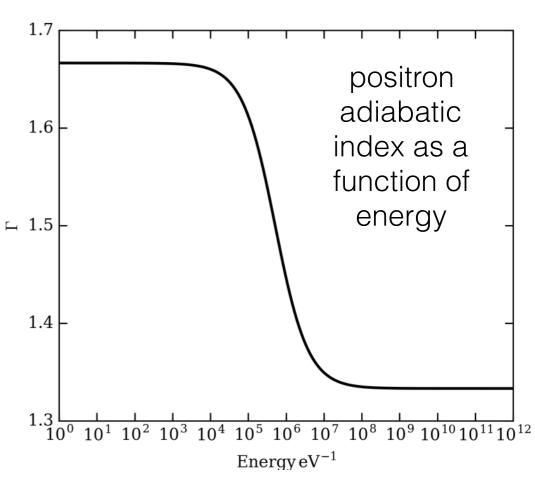
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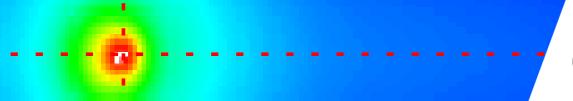
# Adiabatic losses dominate over radiative processes:

Adiabatic index allowed to vary (w/ assumption of ideal EoS)

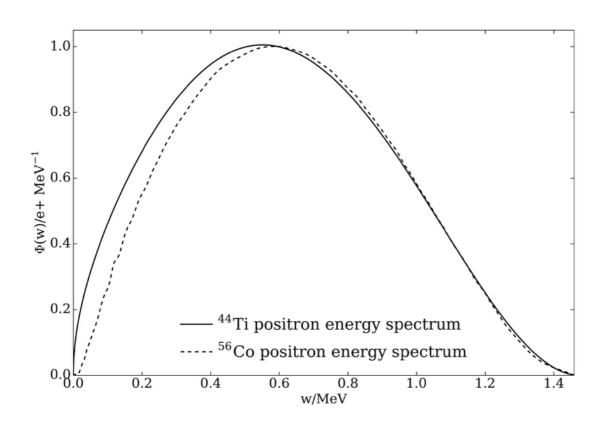
# Positrons are mildly relativistic:

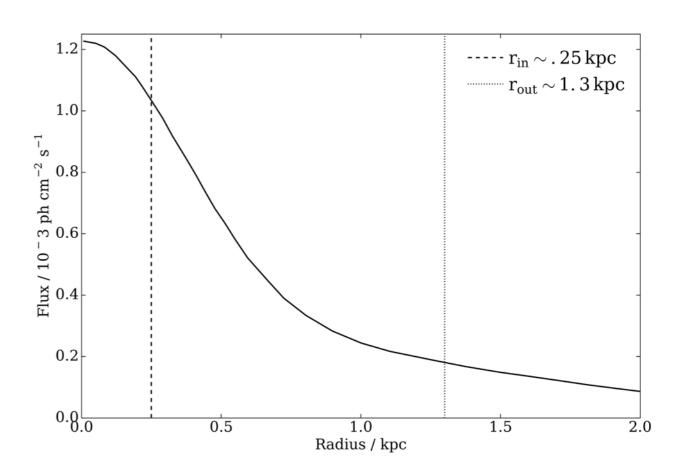
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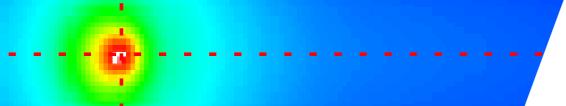




Introduce a parameterisation of the Galactic bulge model intensity profile, and the positron injection energy spectrum

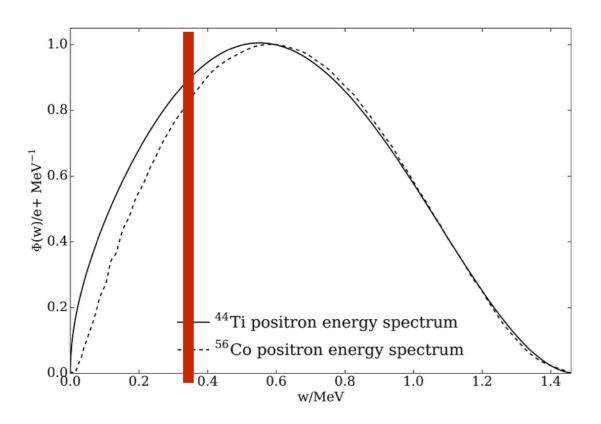


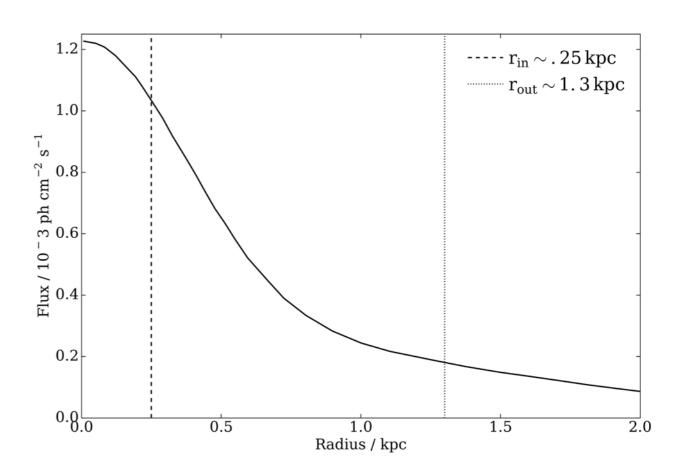


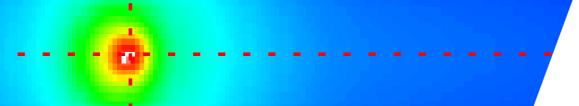


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w<sub>low</sub> ~ 0.4 MeV

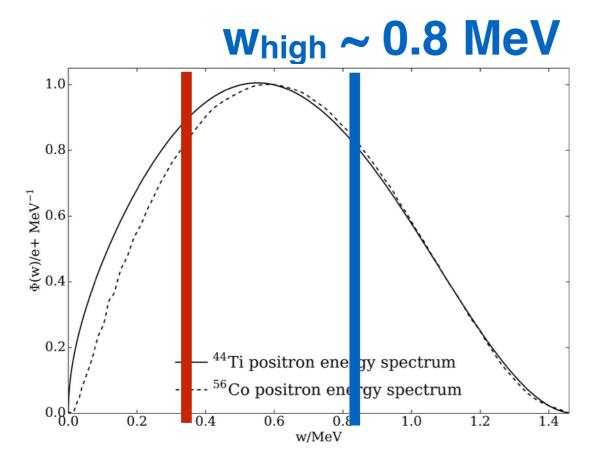


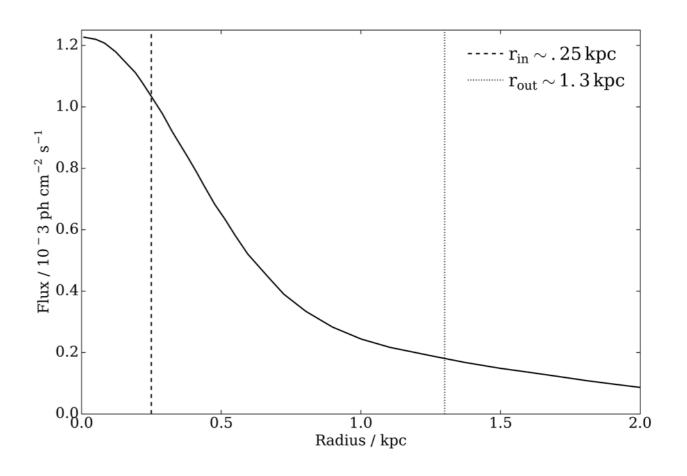


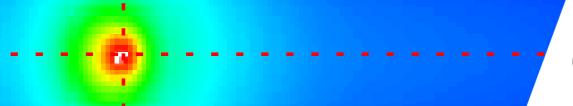


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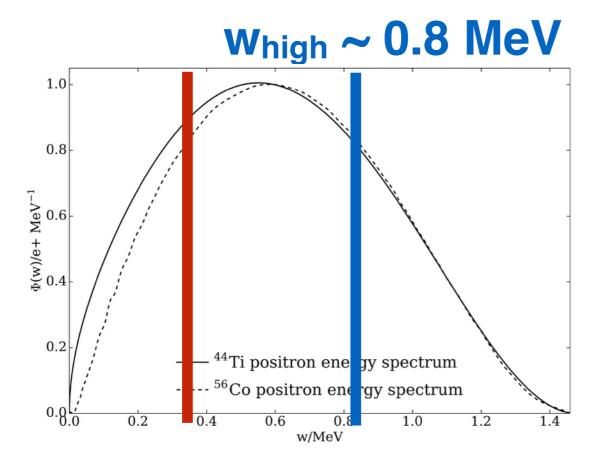


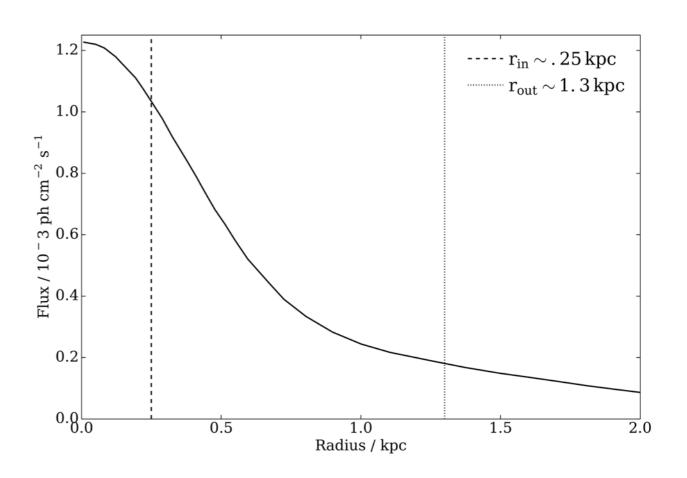




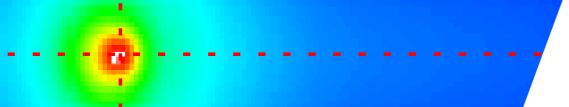
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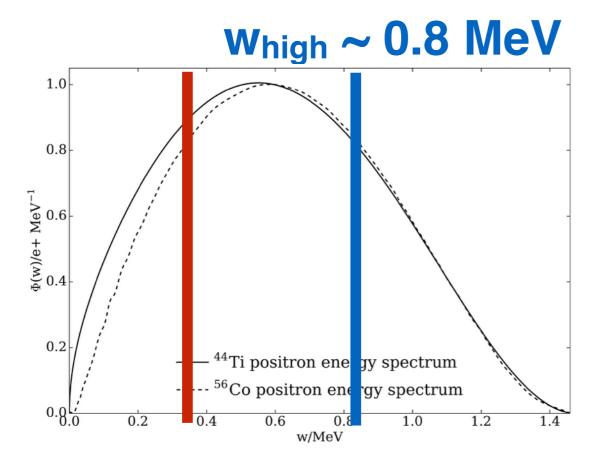


w<sub>low</sub>, w<sub>high</sub>: mean energy at which 50% of positrons are injected into the ISM

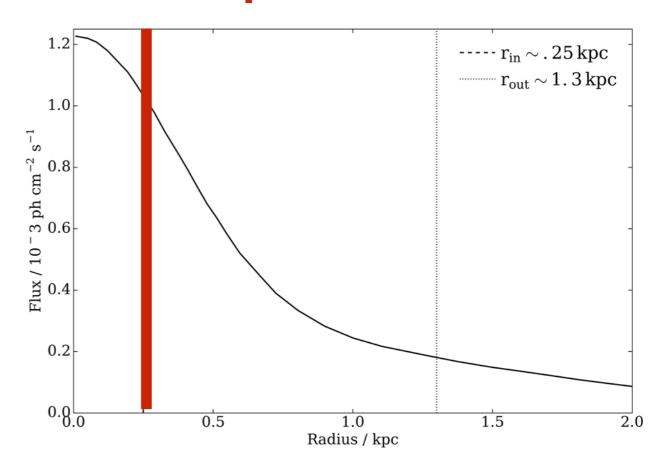


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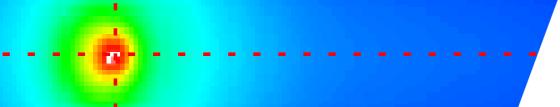
Wlow ~ 0.4 MeV



 $R_{in} = 250 pc$ 

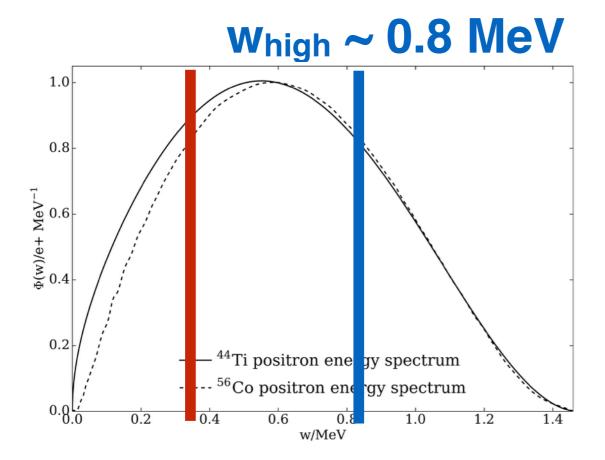


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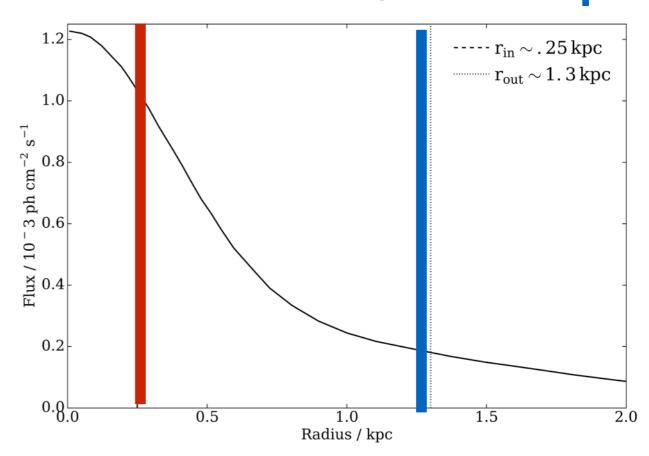


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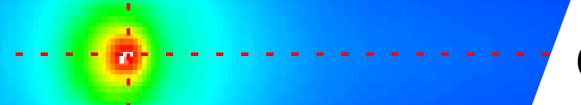
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 $R_{in} = 250 pc$   $R_{out} = 1.3 kpc$ 

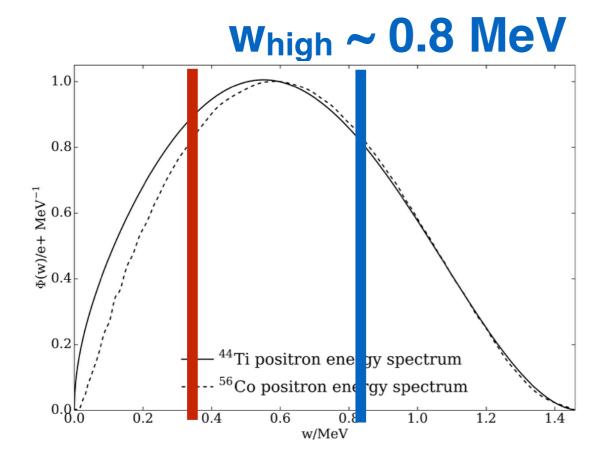


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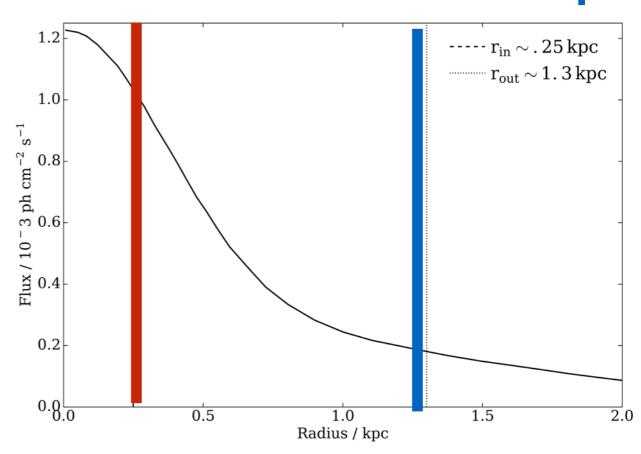
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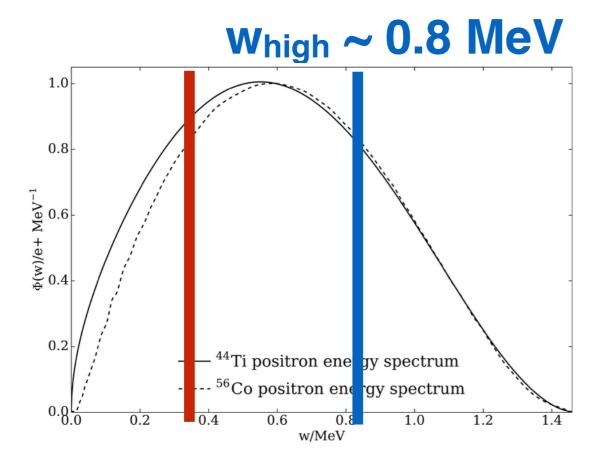
## $R_{in} = 250 pc$ $R_{out} = 1.3 kpc$



R<sub>in</sub>, R<sub>out</sub>: mean radii at which 50% of positrons annihilate based on the intensity profile

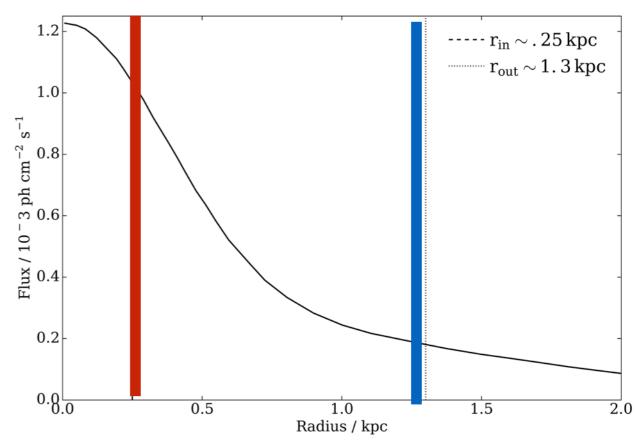
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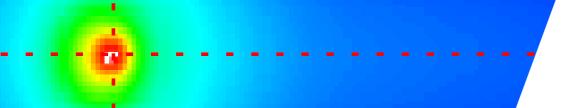
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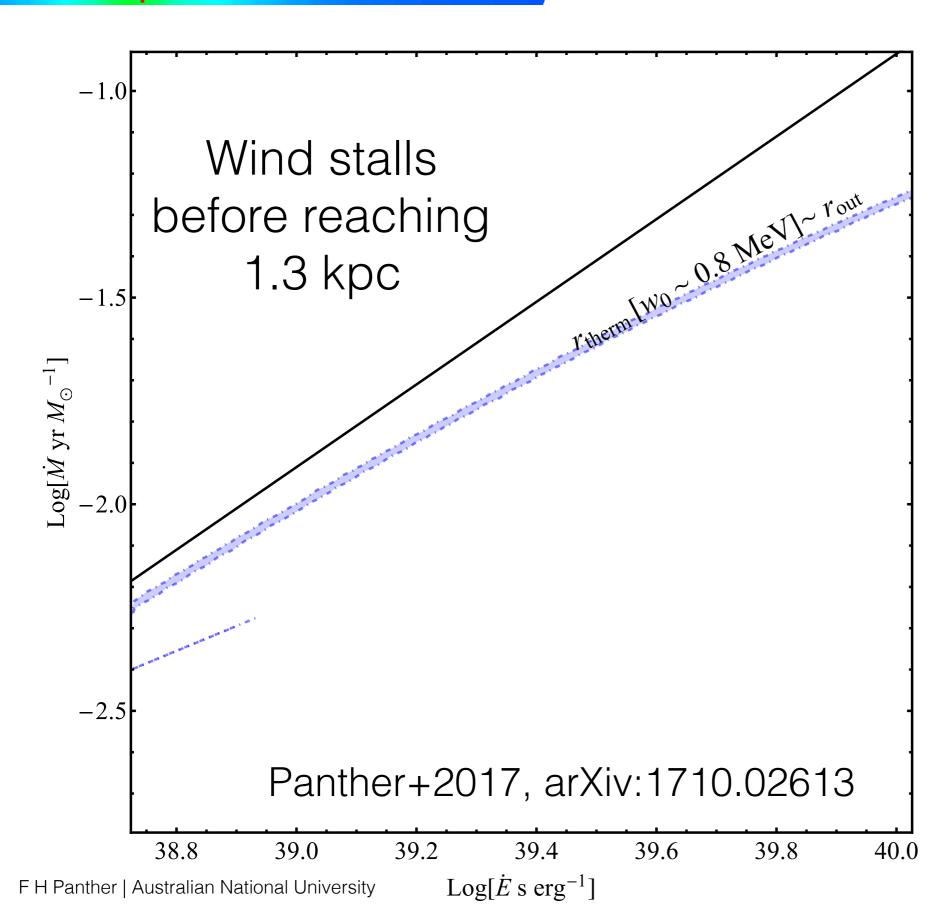
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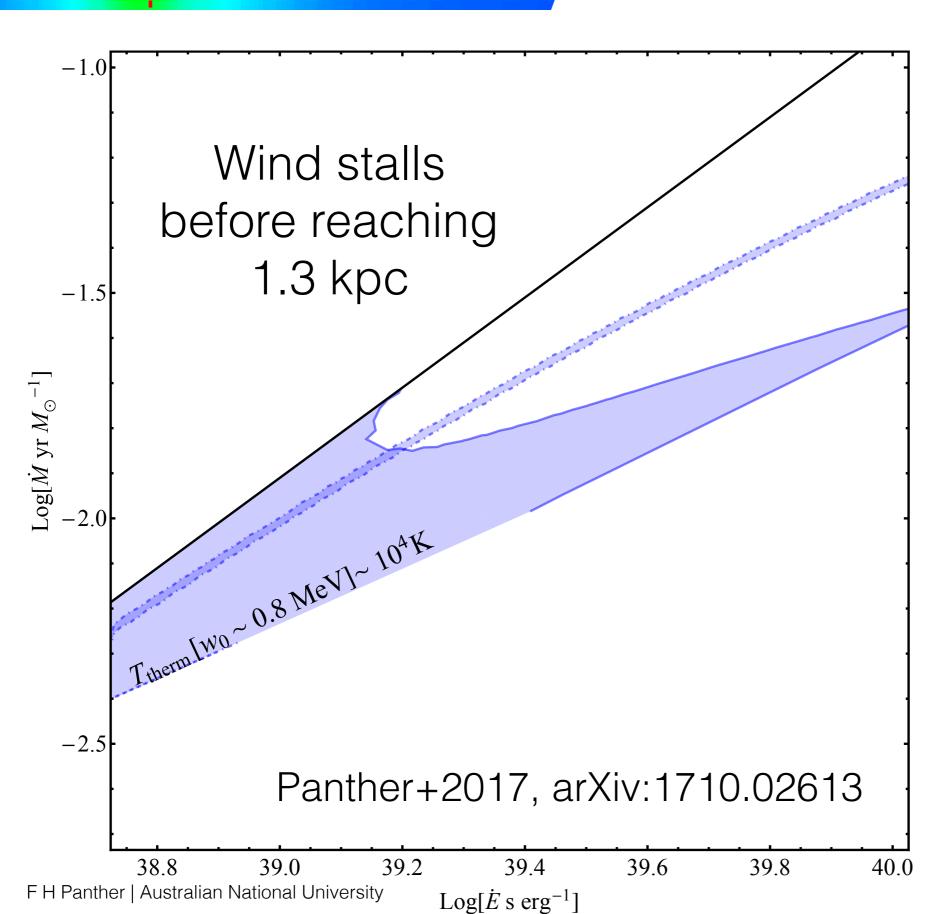
Remember: smooth Gaussian profile is a property of the best fit model, not necessarily the signal itself





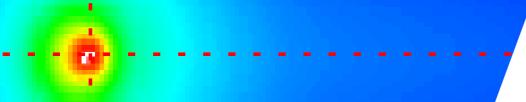
Positrons with initial kinetic energies **Whigh** advect to **rout** 

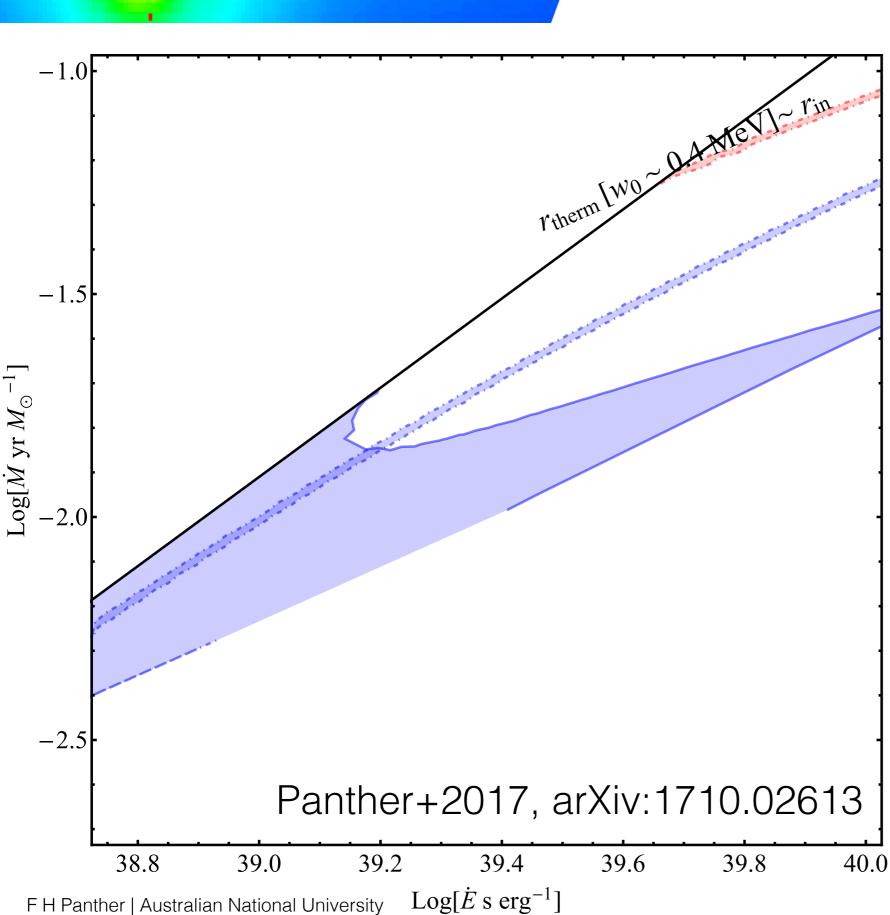
For annihilation spectra to be consistent with observations, these positrons must annihilate in a 10<sup>4</sup> K ISM



Positrons with initial kinetic energies **W**high advect to **r**out

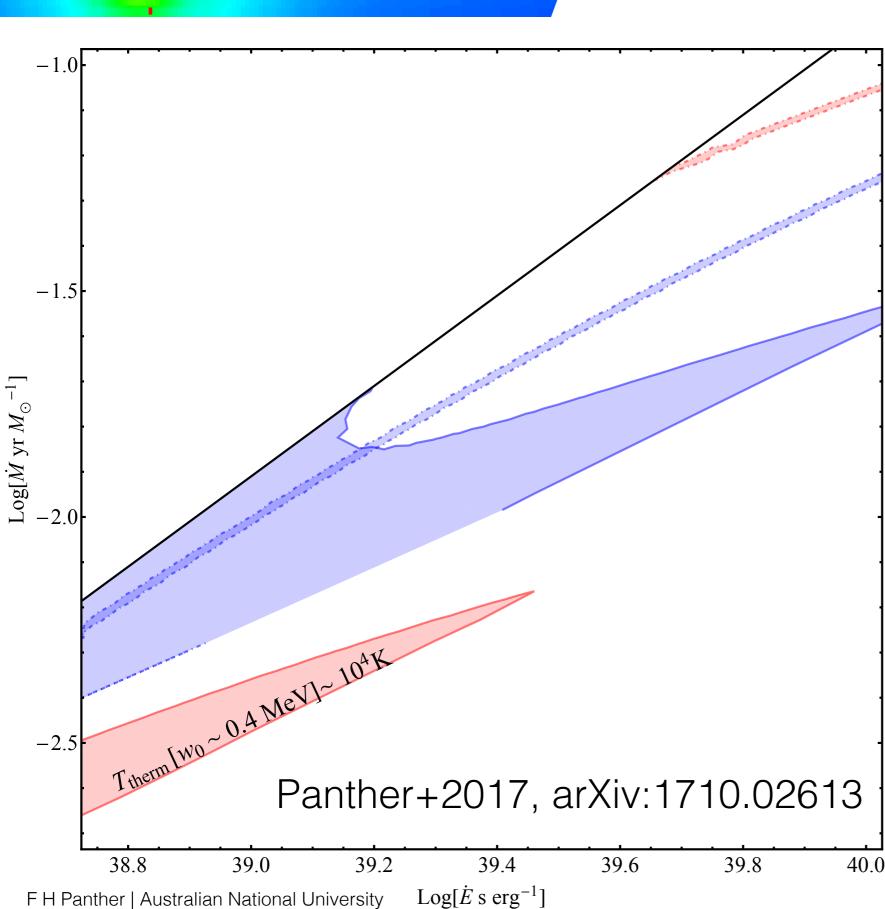
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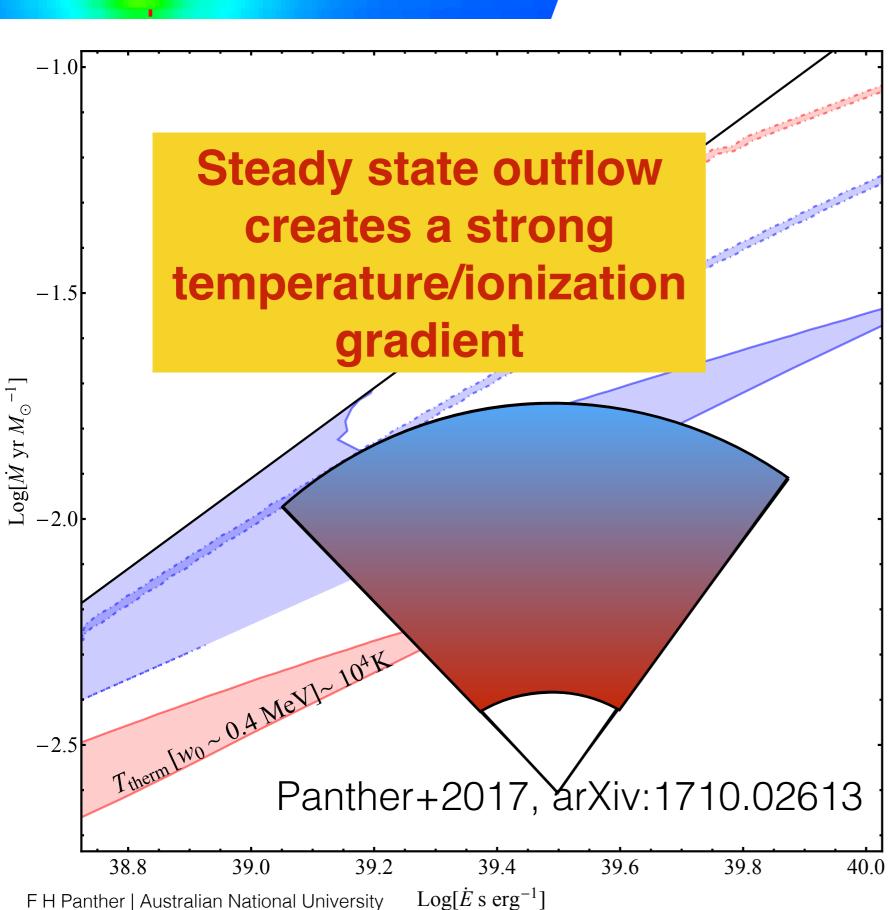
Positrons with initial kinetic energies w<sub>low</sub> advect to r<sub>in</sub>

For annihilation spectra to be consistent with observations, these positrons must also annihilate in a 104 K ISM



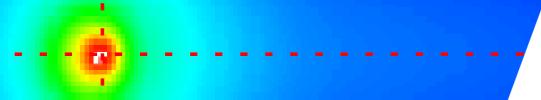
Positrons with initial kinetic energies w<sub>low</sub> advect to r<sub>in</sub>

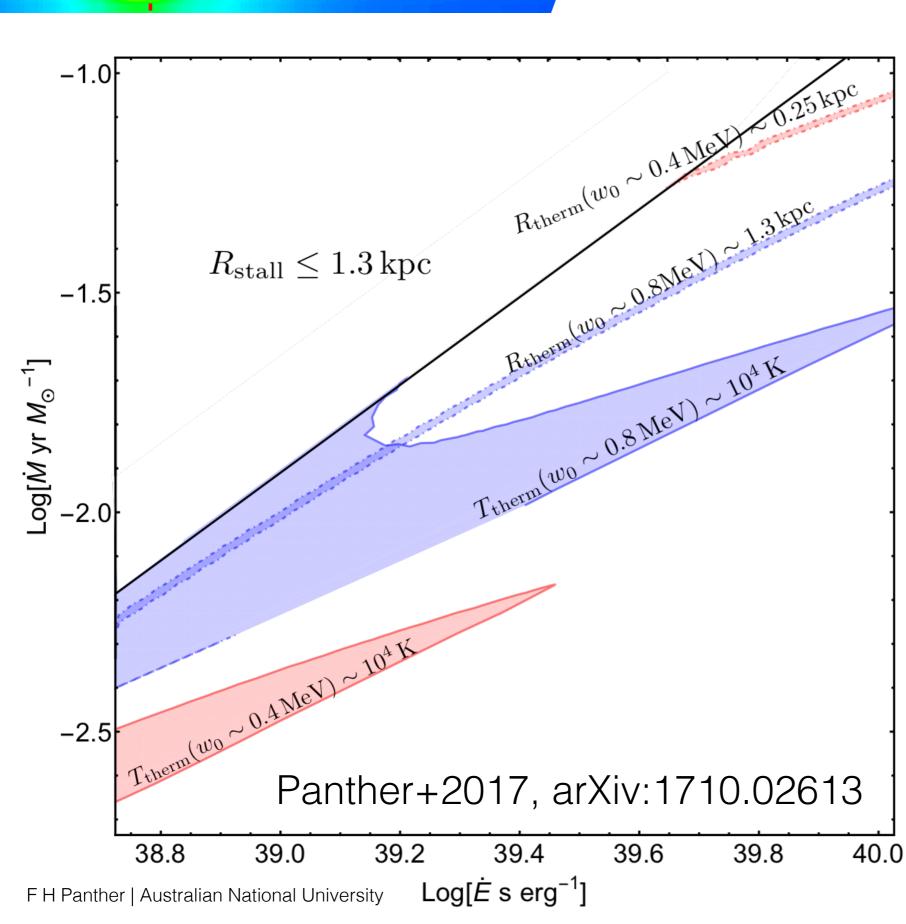
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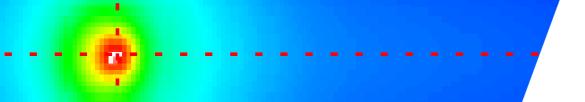


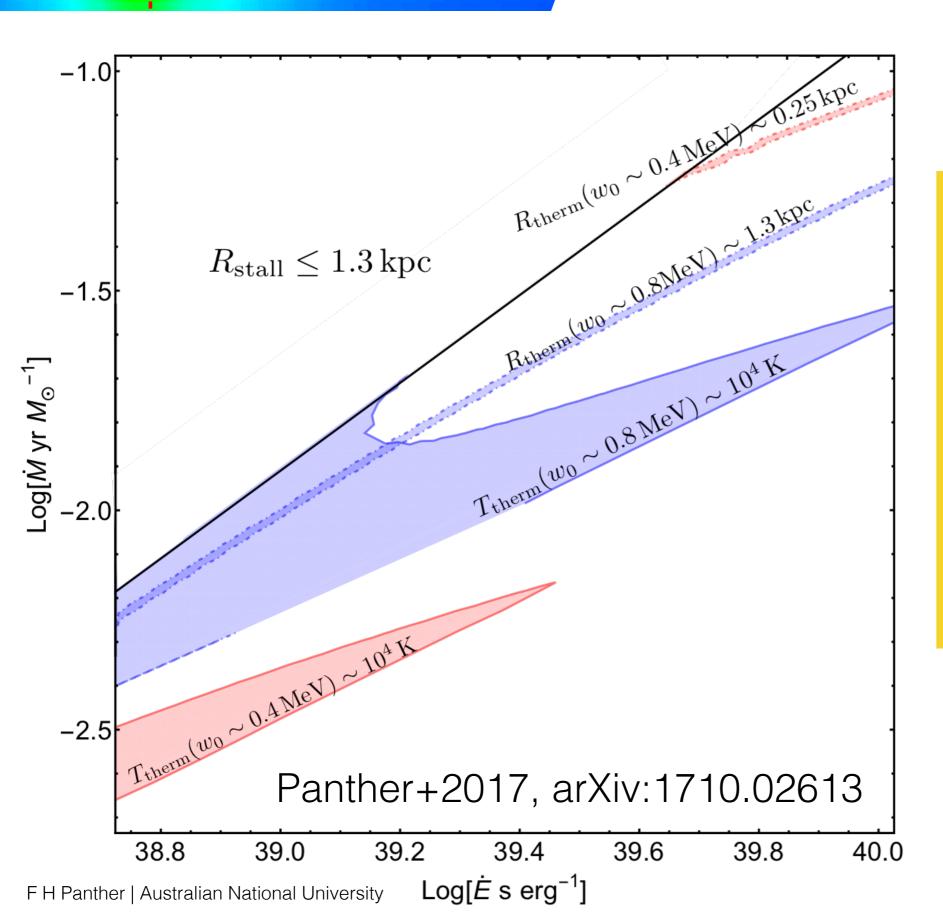
Positrons with initial kinetic energies w<sub>low</sub> advect to r<sub>in</sub>

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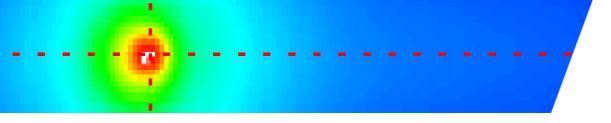


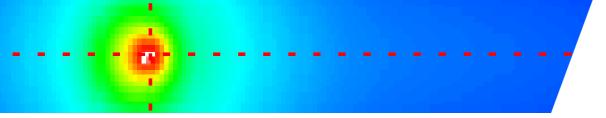




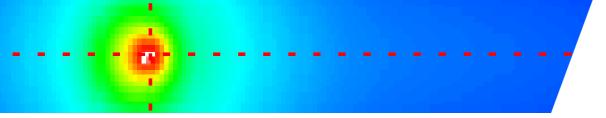


No part of the parameter space describing the nuclear outflow can consistently reproduce the positron annihilation morphology or spectra

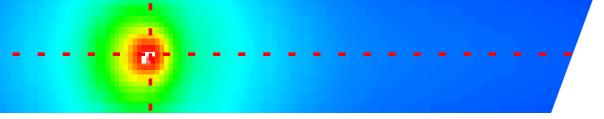




Steady state advective transport of positrons cannot explain the positron annihilation spectrum and morphology in the Galactic bulge (Panther+2017, arXiv:1710.02613)

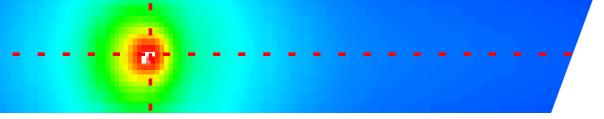


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