# Electron-positron annihilation emission from the Galaxy

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#### **INTEGRAL** Observatory



Energy range : 20 keV - 8 MeV Angular resolution: 10'-1° Energy resolution: E/∆E~600 @ 1 MeV









Ge, 85°



Energy resolution ~2 keV @ 511 keV



# $e^+e^-$ Line @ 511 keV from Galactic Center region

 Discovered in 1972 as a ~ 476 keV feature (Rice U, Nal) Johnson, Harden & Haymes, 1972; Johnson & Haymes, 1973
 Identified with a narrow 511 keV line in 1978 (Bell-Sandia, Ge) Leventhal, MacCallum & Stang, 1978
 Observed by e.g. SMM, OSSE, TGRS ...



Spatial distribution is uncertain Spectral properties are uncertain Origin of positrons is uncertain

# (Many) Potential sources of positrons:

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astrophysics
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Nucleosynthesis:
Massive stars (SN II, WR: e.g. <sup>26</sup>Al) 
Low mass stars (SNIa - <sup>56</sup>Co, Novae - <sup>13</sup>N)
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Cosmic ray protons interactions with ISM ( $\pi^+$ )

Microquasars (jets), pulsars

Supermassive black hole Sgr A\*

(Light) Dark matter annihilation ◀

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$$\frac{E}{m_e c^2} = 1.00002 \pm 7 \, 10^{-5}$$
(±3.510<sup>-5</sup>)

Velocity < 30 km/s

# $FWHM = 2.47 \pm 0.11 \,\mathrm{keV}$

Spread of velocities < 800 km/s => Positrons are cold

Total flux ~  $10^{-3}$  phot/cm<sup>2</sup>/s =  $10^{43} \beta^{+}/s = 10^{37} \text{ erg/s}$  Processes in hydrogen plasma (dust free)

Positrons born hot - at least few hundred keV

Direct annihilation  $\sigma V \approx \pi \sigma_T C$ Bound electrons, free electrons => 2 photons

Deceleration of positrons: Ionization, Excitation, Coulomb losses

- Radiative recombination (if ionized, T low)
- Charge exchange (if neutral, E>6.8 eV) Positronium formation => 2 or 3 photons

Bussard, Ramaty & Drachman 1979

$$DA = 2\gamma$$

$$CE + RR = \begin{cases} Para - positronium & 0.25 & 2\gamma \\ Ortho - positronium & 0.75 & 3\gamma \end{cases}$$











### Fraction of positrons forming positronium

# **F**<sub>PS</sub>**=98**±0.04%

#### F<sub>PS</sub> + FWHM →

Annihilation in plasma with T~ 8000-10000 K And ionization degree ~ few %

Upper limit on the hot medium ~ few %

Phase	$T_e K$	n , cm <sup>-3</sup>	χ	$T_s$ , years	$T_a$ , years
Cold	80	30	0	$10^{3}$	$10^{4}$
WN	8000	0.3	0.1	10 <sup>5</sup>	$710^4$
WI	8000	0.3	0.5	10 <sup>5</sup>	$710^4$
Hot	<b>810<sup>5</sup></b>	0.003	1	$10^{7}$	<b>310<sup>8</sup></b>

Transport of positrons through ISM

Free migration between phases?

- Positrons locked to phase?
- Life time of hot phase?

#### **INTEGRAL ALL-SKY SURVEY (17-60 keV)**



### ISGRI/INTEGRAL

Krivonos et al., 2007



# SPI/INTEGRAL





Not a point source!

Size ~  $6^{\circ}$ Flux ~  $10^{-3}$  ph/s/cm<sup>2</sup>



- Total flux ~ 10<sup>-3</sup> phot/cm<sup>2</sup>/s = 10<sup>43</sup> β<sup>+</sup>/s = 10<sup>37</sup> erg/s
- Total initial luminosity γ10<sup>37</sup> erg/s
- Not a compact source
- Strong bulge
- "Weak" disk B/D= 3 9 [ in luminosity 0.3-0.5 ]

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# Supernovae

Clayton et al., 70's

# SNII (core collapse of massive stars)



#### $^{56}Ni \rightarrow ^{56}Co \rightarrow ^{56}Fe$ , 80 days, $\beta^+ = 19\%$ , 0.07 M ×

#### **Positrons are born too early and can not escape**

$$^{26}\text{Al} \rightarrow ^{26}\text{Mg}, 7 \ 10^5 \text{ yr}, \beta^+ = 82\%, 0.016 \text{ M}$$



SNII (core collapse) e<sup>+</sup> - 81.7%

- Ideal channel for enriching ISM with positrons (long life time)
- 1809 MeV line is the tracer for this channel
- Follows the distribution of massive/young stars in the Galaxy

# <sup>26</sup>Al map of the Galaxy



Comptel/GRO





Too few <sup>26</sup>Al in the bulge => another channel



p://adc.gstc.nasa.gov/n



#### Massive stars - are present only in the disk

511кэВ





#### Positrons are not due to massive stars!

#### Cosmic Rays: N+p $\rightarrow \pi^+ \rightarrow e^+$

511кэВ



>100 MeV

Whole Galaxy ~ 2.5  $10^{42}$  phot/s (~100 MeV) :  $2x\pi^{0}$  $\pi^{+} \sim 10^{42}$  e<sup>+</sup>/s, but we need  $10^{43}$  e<sup>+</sup>/s

Positrons are not due to Cosmic Rays!

### Low mass (old) stars – Disk + Bulge

511кэВ







#### The best match among obvious tracers

# Comparison with tracer maps



Knoedlsered et al.

# Bulge/Halo + Disk models



SPI flux (imaging)  $(1.6-2.4) \times 10^{-3}$  ph cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>

Knoedlsered et al.

#### Flux ratios for different components

	Bulge	Halo	Disk
Flux (10 <sup>-3</sup> ph cm <sup>-2</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )	1.05 ± 0.07	1.6 ± 0.5	0.7 ± 0.5
L <sub>511</sub> (10 <sup>43</sup> ph s <sup>-1</sup> )	0.90 ± 0.06	1.2 ± 0.3	0.2 ± 0.1
L <sub>p</sub> (10 <sup>43</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> )*	1.50 ± 0.10	2.0 ± 0.5	0.3 ± 0.2

\* assuming  $f_p = 0.93$ 

The 511 keV line emission is bulge dominated :B/D flux ratio: 1 - 3B/D luminosity ratio: 3 - 9

# B/D=0.5 is expected!

Knoedlsered et al.

# SNIa (thermonuclear explosion of WD)



Mass ~1.4 M Ni mass ~0.5 M  ${}^{56}Ni \rightarrow {}^{56}Co \rightarrow {}^{56}Fe$ 80 days,  $\beta^+ = 19\%$ 

Escape fraction~ few% Enough positrons, but..



Bulge/disk ratio?



# Potential sources of positrons:

Nucleosynthesis: <u>Massive stars (SN II, WR: e.g. <sup>26</sup>Al)</u> Low mass stars (SNIa - <sup>56</sup>Co, Novae - <sup>13</sup>N) ◀ (B/D ratio problem!)

Cosmic ray protons interactions with ISM ( $\pi^+$ )

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Microquasars (jets), pulsars ?????
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Supermassive black hole Sgr A\* ?????

(Light) Dark matter annihilation ◀

Dark matter and positrons in the GC

Density 
$$\rho_{DM} \propto r^{-0.5} - r^{-1.5}$$
  
Central zone  $\rightarrow \rho^2 DM$ 

Immediately solves Bulge/Disk problem!

Boehm, Silk, Hooper, Ascasibar, Beacom, Pospelov ....  $\rho_{DM} \propto r^{-1}$ 

M<sub>DM</sub><100 MeV (constraints on gamma-rays) If initial energy of positrons is high => difficult to hide Cross section depends on velocity (cosmology)

#### Direct annihilation of relativistic positrons







E < 30 MeV now E < X MeV (by the end of 2007)



# 4 Msec (2007)

# Conclusions

### **Two most popular explanations:**

### A. SNIa +/- Low mass systems but Bulge/Disk ratio!

### **B.** Light dark matter annihilation

"The most famous use of the positron in fiction was Isaac Asimov's use in his robots' positronic brains." (Wikipedia)

2007 = slicing the disk of the Galaxy (B/D)