

# SUPERNOVA 1987A: THE BIRTH OF A SUPERNOVA REMNANT

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JILA, U. of Colorado

- Introduction
- Circumstellar rings
- Hotspots
- X-ray emission
- The future

# HISTORICAL SUPERNOVAE

Date (AD)	Type	Magnitude at Max	Discovered by	Remnant
1006	I	-10	Chinese/Arabs	SN1006
1054	II	-5	China/Japan	Crab
1181	II	-1	China/Japan	3C58
1572	I	-4	Tycho Brahe	Tycho
1604	I	-3	Kepler	Kepler
ca. 1680	II	5 ?	Flamsteed	Cas A
1987	II	+2.9	Ian Shelton	SN1987A

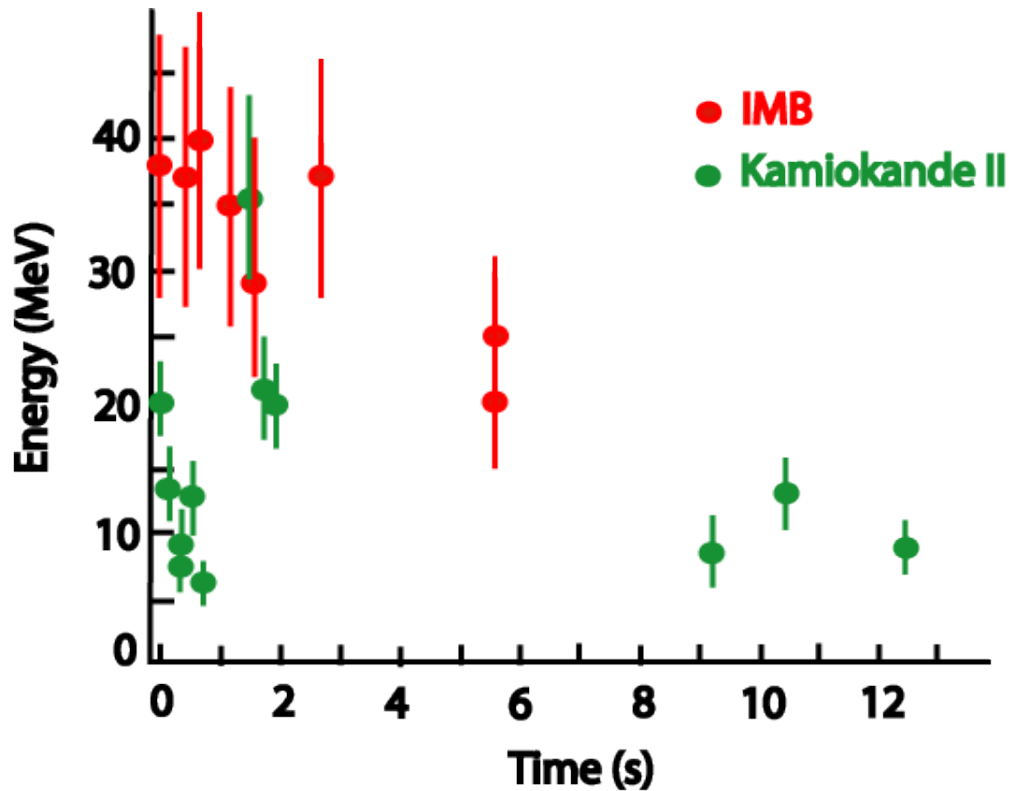
# Supernova Energy Sources

- **Core collapse:**  
 $E \sim GM^2/R \sim 0.1 Mc^2 \sim 10^{53}$  ergs  
Neutrinos:  $t \sim 10$ s
- **Radioactivity:**  
 $0.07 M_{\square} [^{56}\text{Ni} \rightarrow ^{56}\text{Co} \rightarrow ^{56}\text{Fe}] \sim 10^{49}$  ergs.    Light:  
 $t \sim 3$  months
- **Kinetic energy:**  
 $\sim 10 M_{\square}, V_{\text{expansion}} \sim 3000$  km/s  $\sim 10^{51}$  ergs    ~  
1% core collapse.    X-  
rays:  $t \sim$  centuries.

# Core collapse:

$$E \sim GM^2/R \sim 0.1 \text{ Mc}^2 \sim 10^{53} \text{ ergs}$$

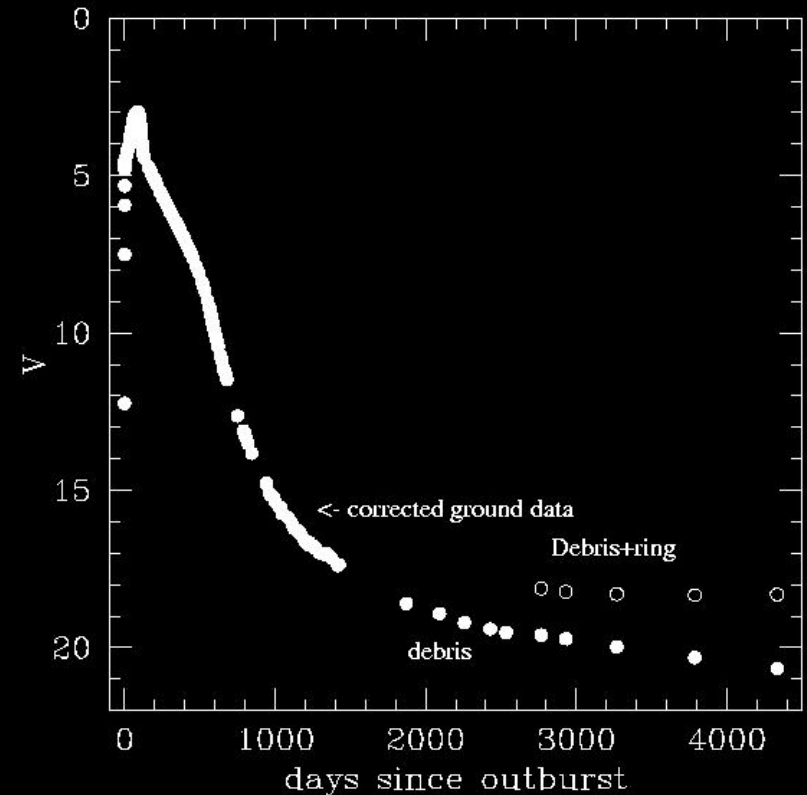
Neutrinos:  $t \sim 10\text{s}$



•Radioactivity:

$0.07 M_{\odot} [^{56}\text{Ni} \rightarrow ^{56}\text{Co} \rightarrow ^{56}\text{Fe}] \sim 10^{49}$  ergs.

Light:  $t \sim 3$  months



← SN: light comes from interior of debris | → SNR: light from crash

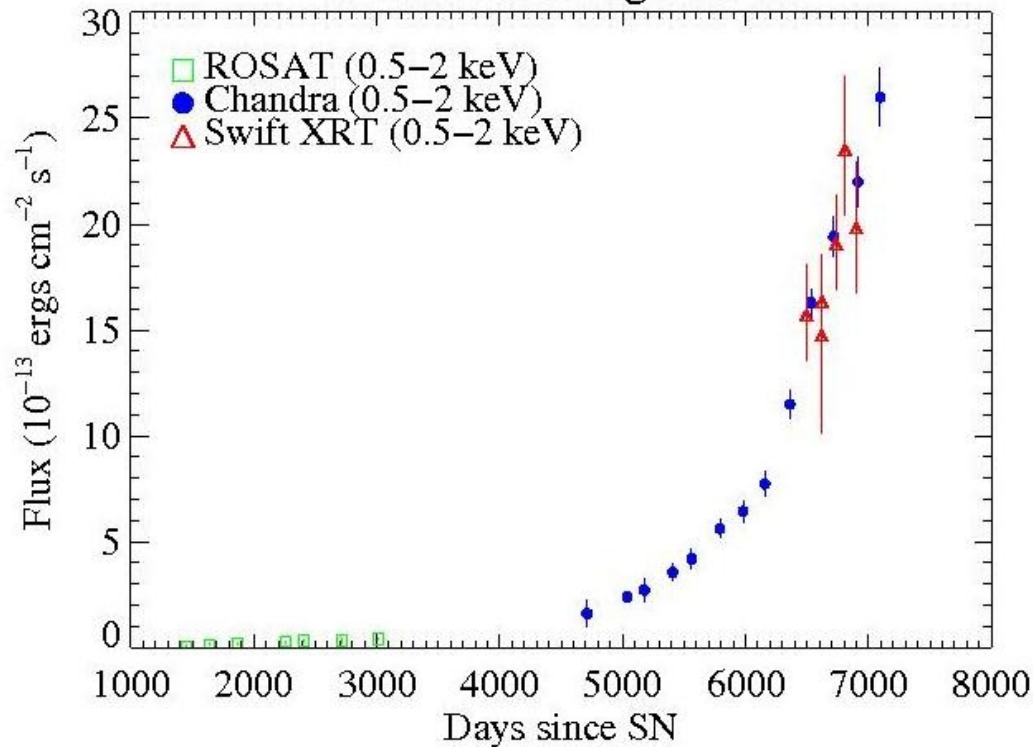
Kinetic energy:

$$\sim 10 M_{\square}, V_{\text{expansion}} \sim$$

3000 km/s  $\sim 10^{51}$  ergs  $\sim 1\%$  core collapse.

X-rays:  $t \sim$  centuries.

SNR 1987A Lightcurve



# Circumstellar Rings



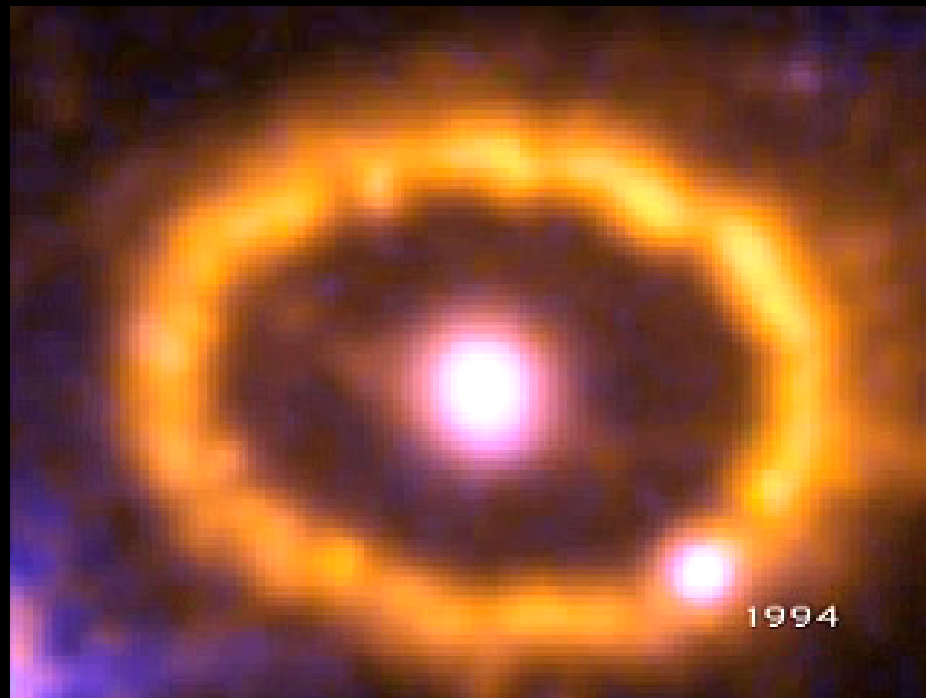
# What we know about the rings

- were ejected 20,000 years before explosion
- density  $\sim 10^4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- ionized mass  $\sim 0.07 M_{\square}$
- were photoionized by initial X-ray flash ( $\sim 1$  day)
- they are only the inner surfaces of a much greater mass,  $\sim$  several  $M_{\square}$

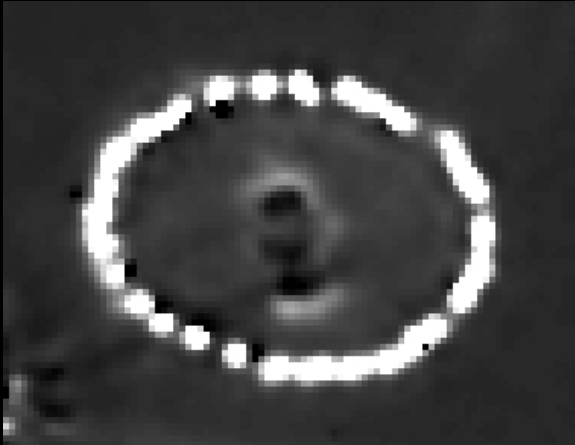




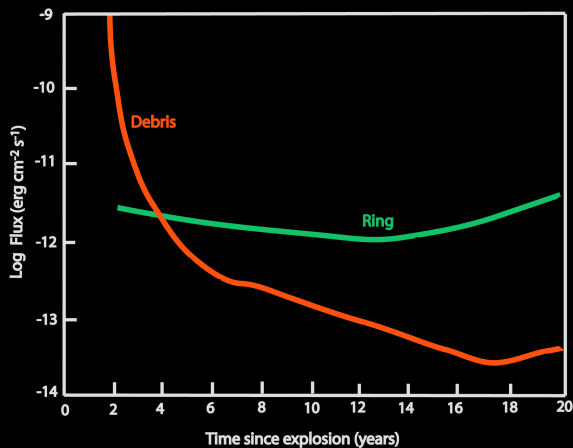
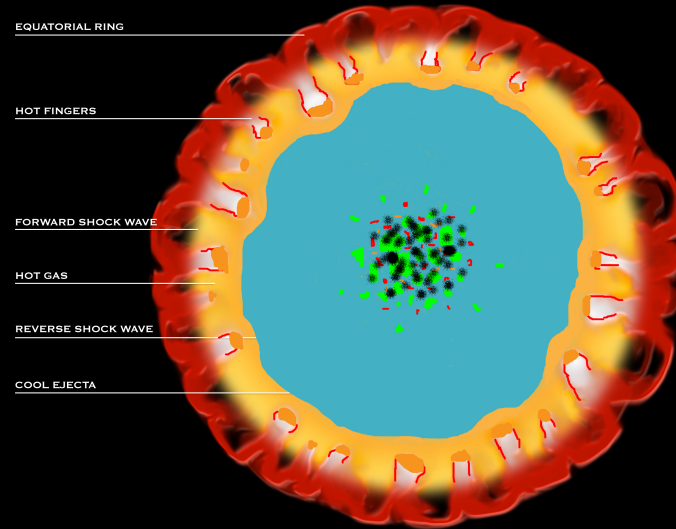
# CRASH!



# Optical Hotspots!



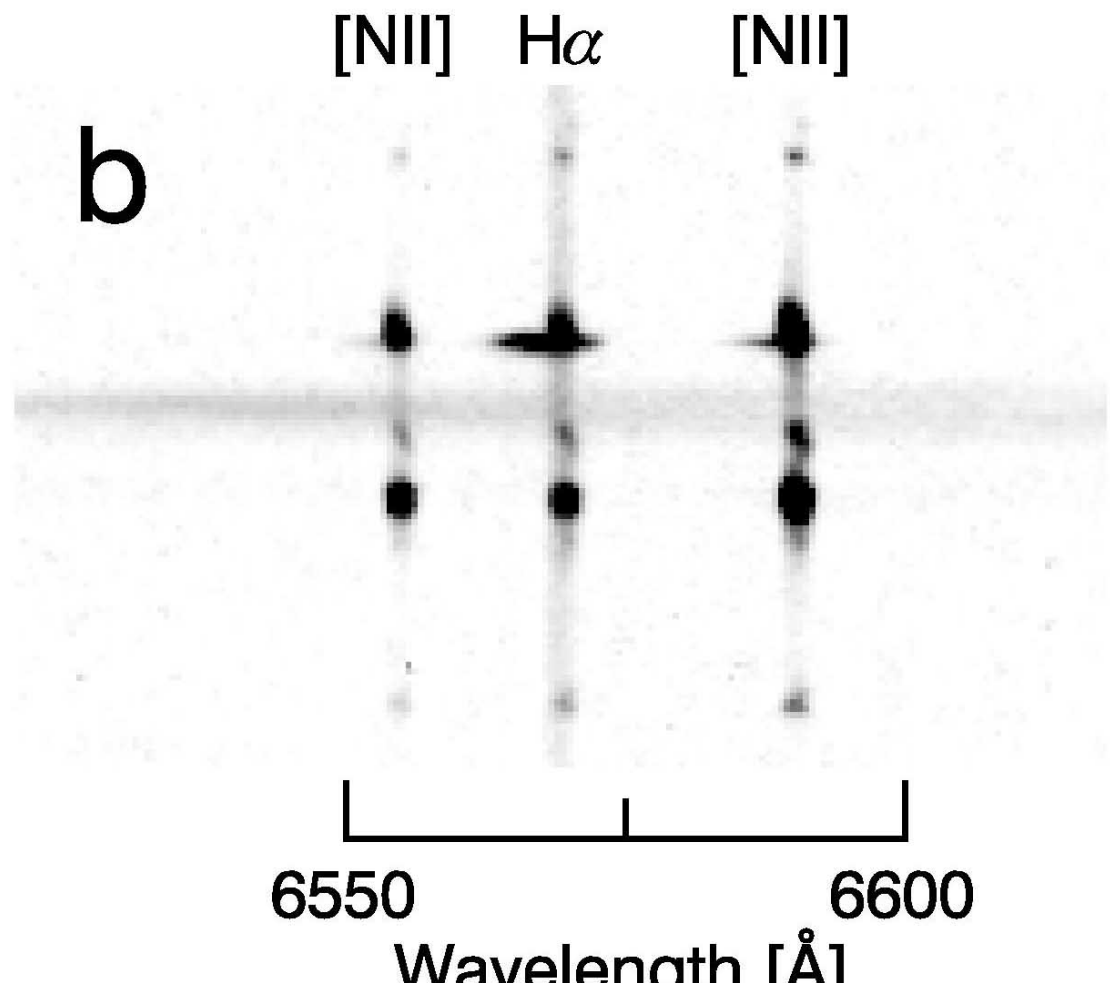
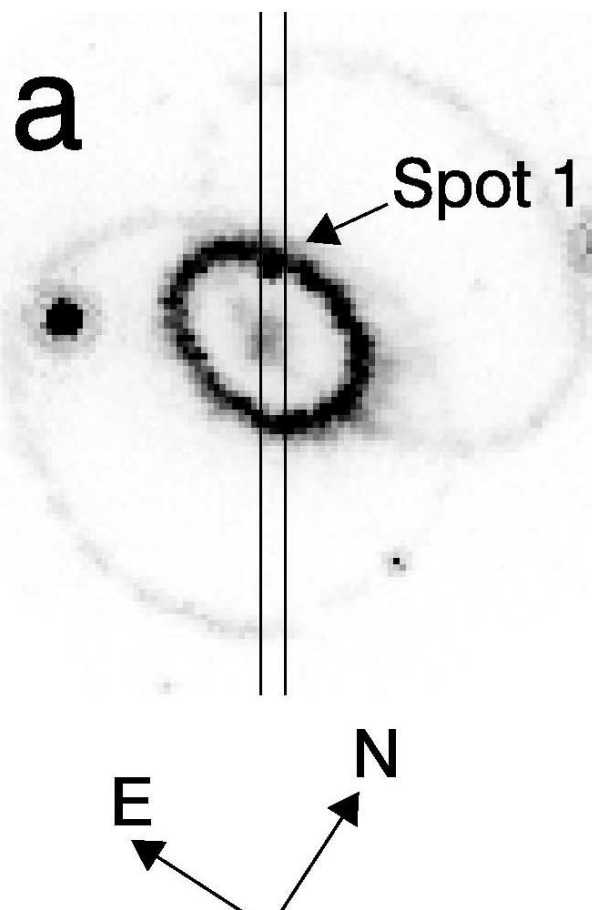
2006 – 2003 difference

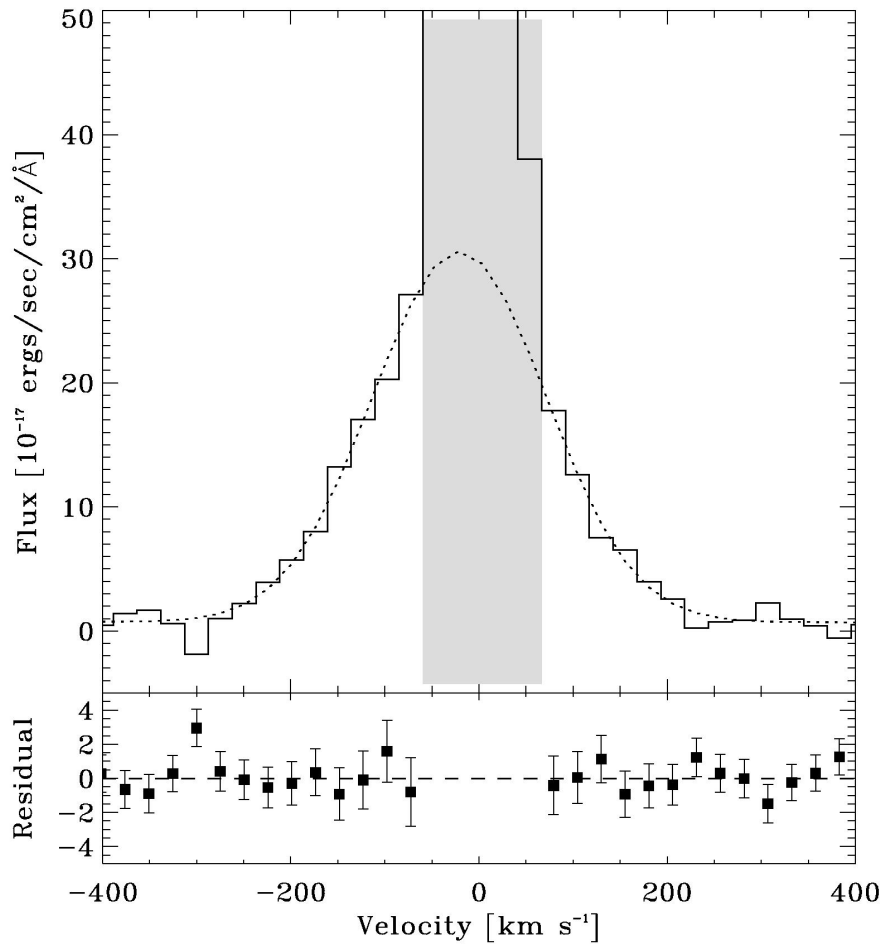


- Ring brightened by factor  $\sim 3$
- Hotspots still unresolved
- Have not fully merged

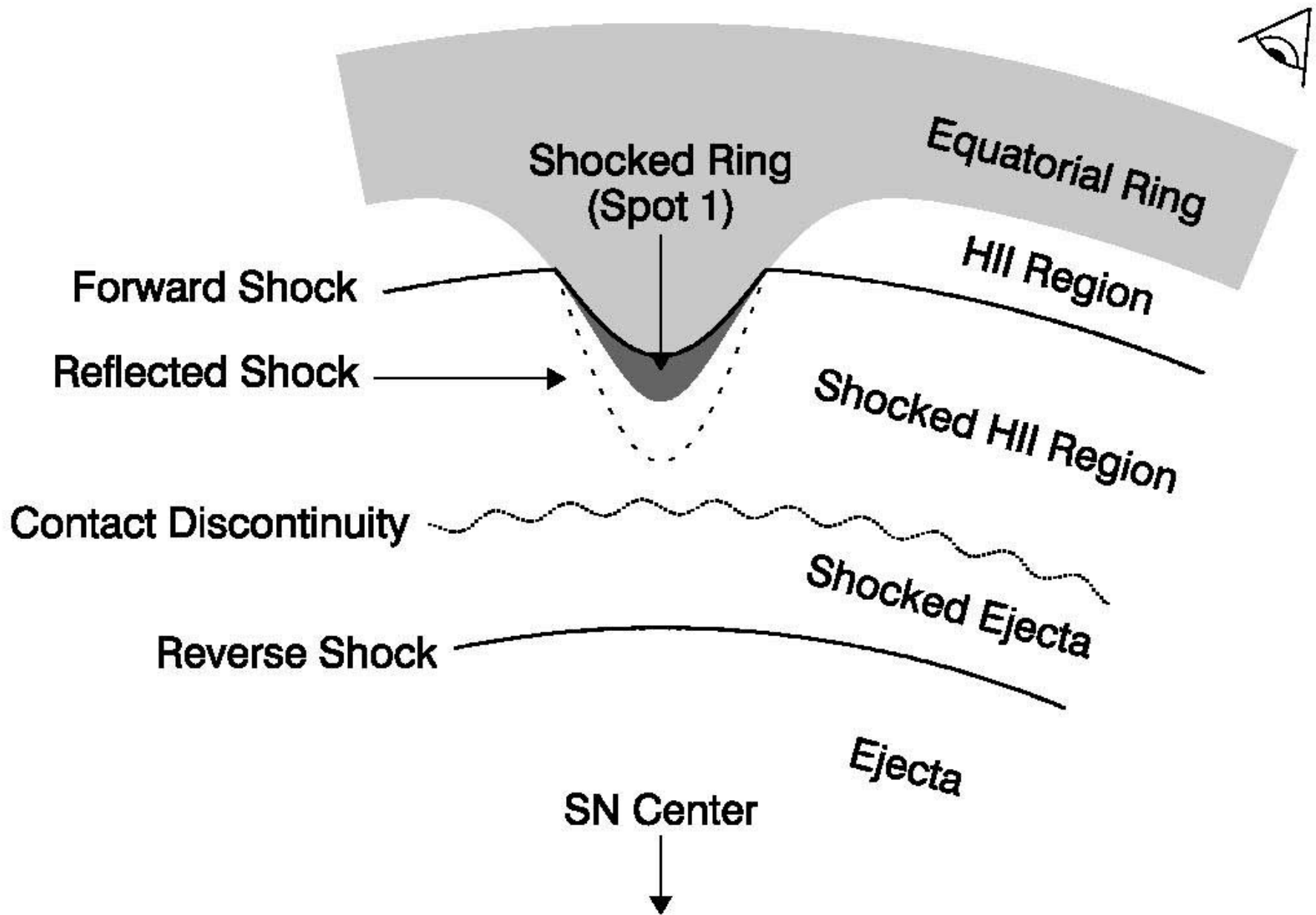
What caused fingers?  
Why so regularly spaced?

# HST-STIS Spectroscopy of Spot 1

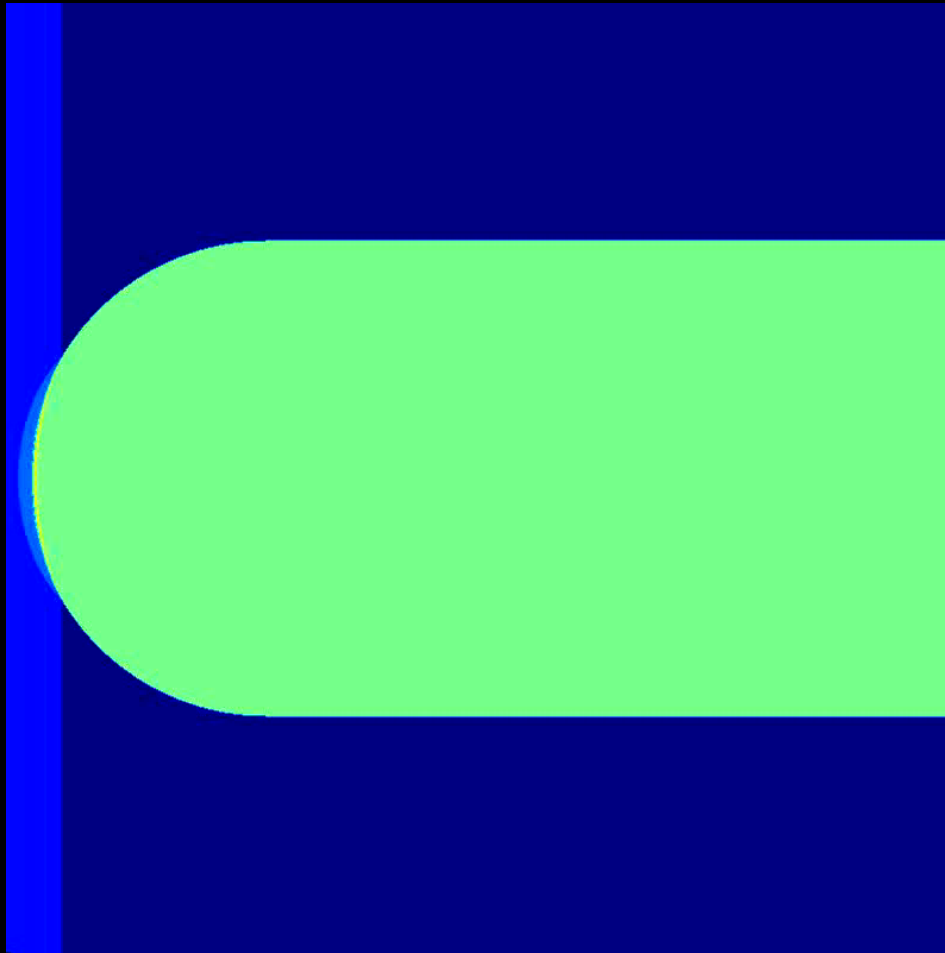




H $\alpha$ : FWHM  $\sim$  300 km s $^{-1}$



# Hydro Simulation of Blast Wave Overtaking Protrusion



**EQUATORIAL RING**

**HOT FINGERS**

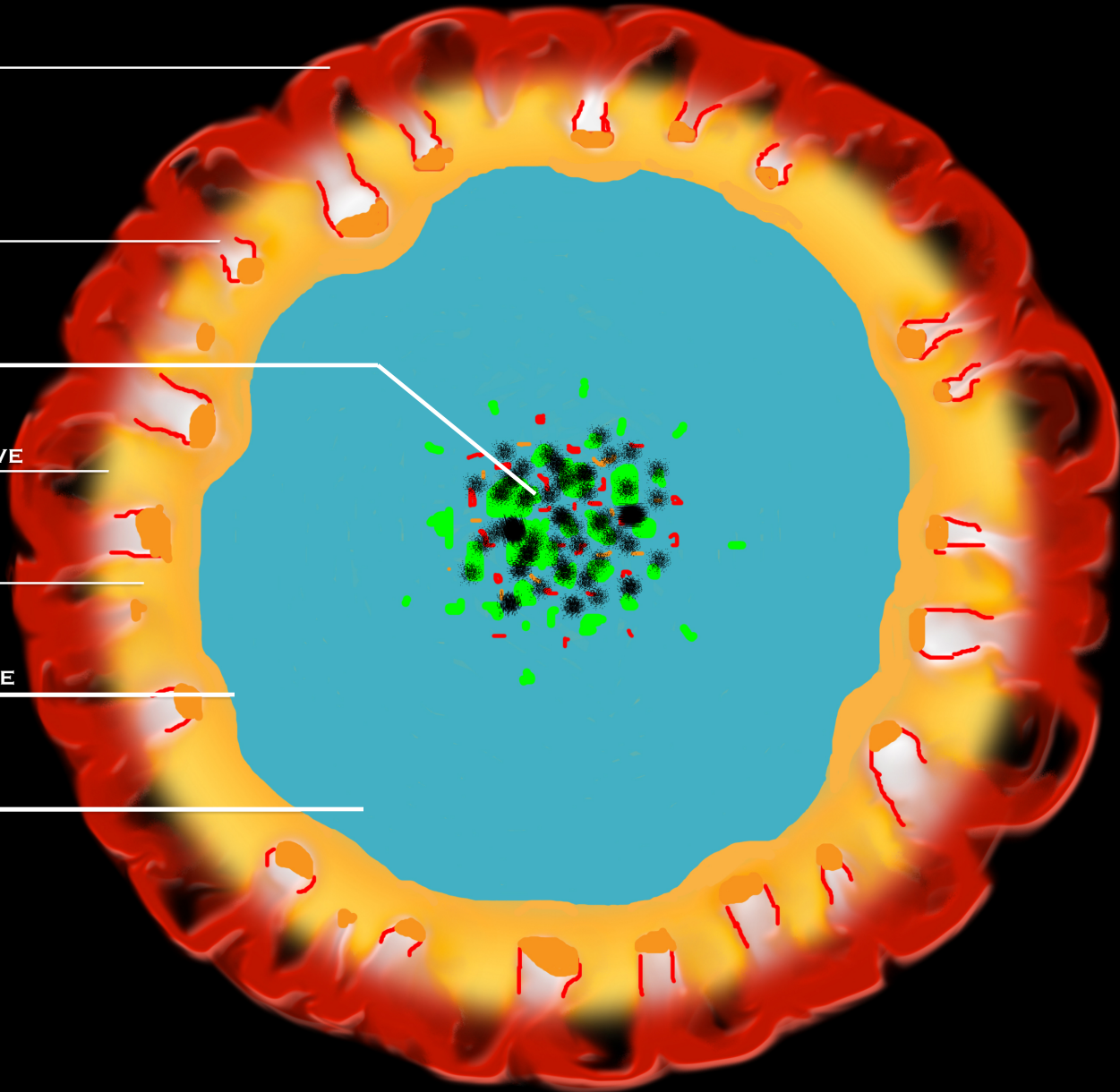
**RADIOACTIVE DEBRIS**

**FORWARD SHOCK WAVE**

**HOT GAS**

**REVERSE SHOCK WAVE**

**COOL EJECTA**

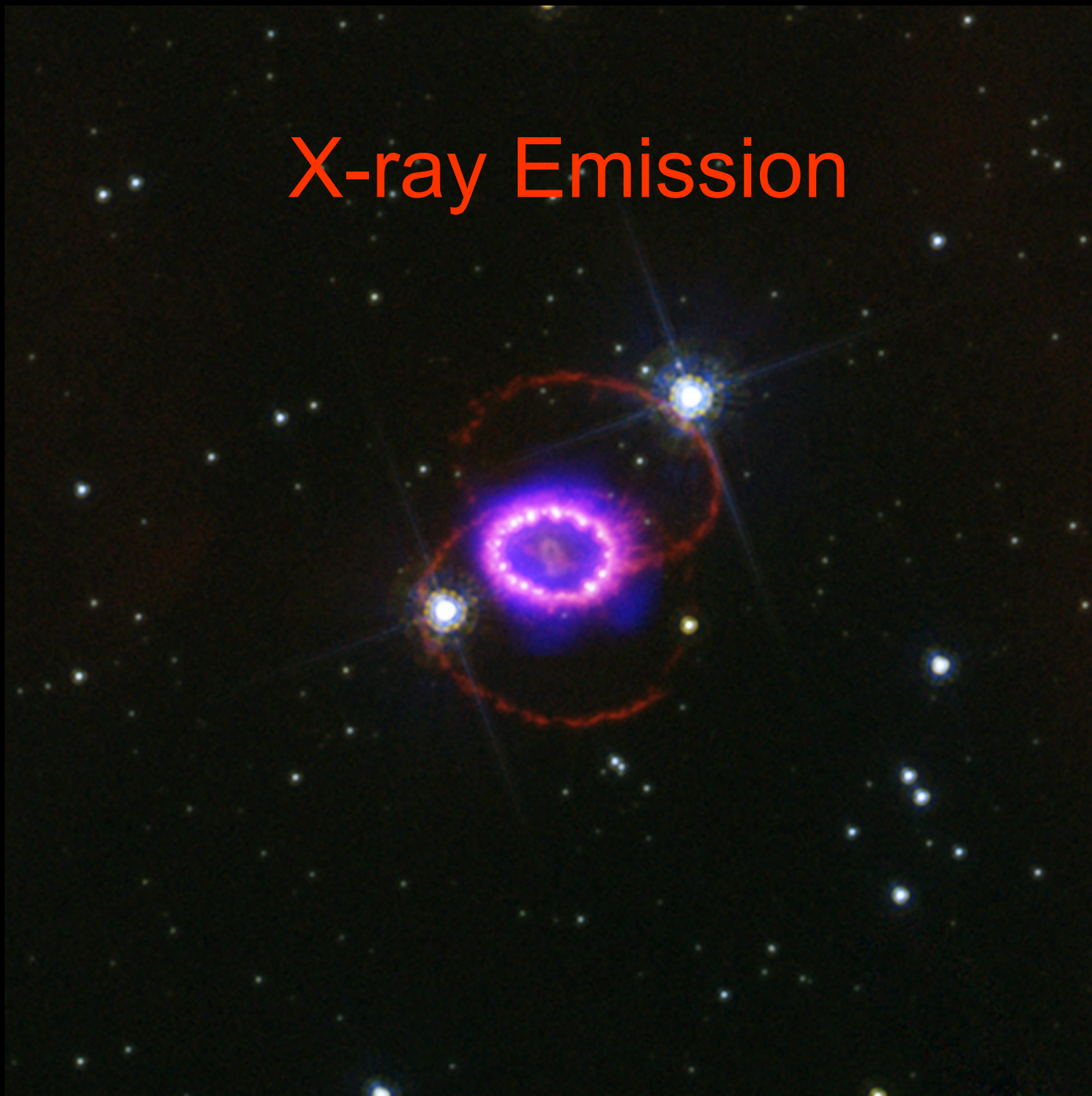


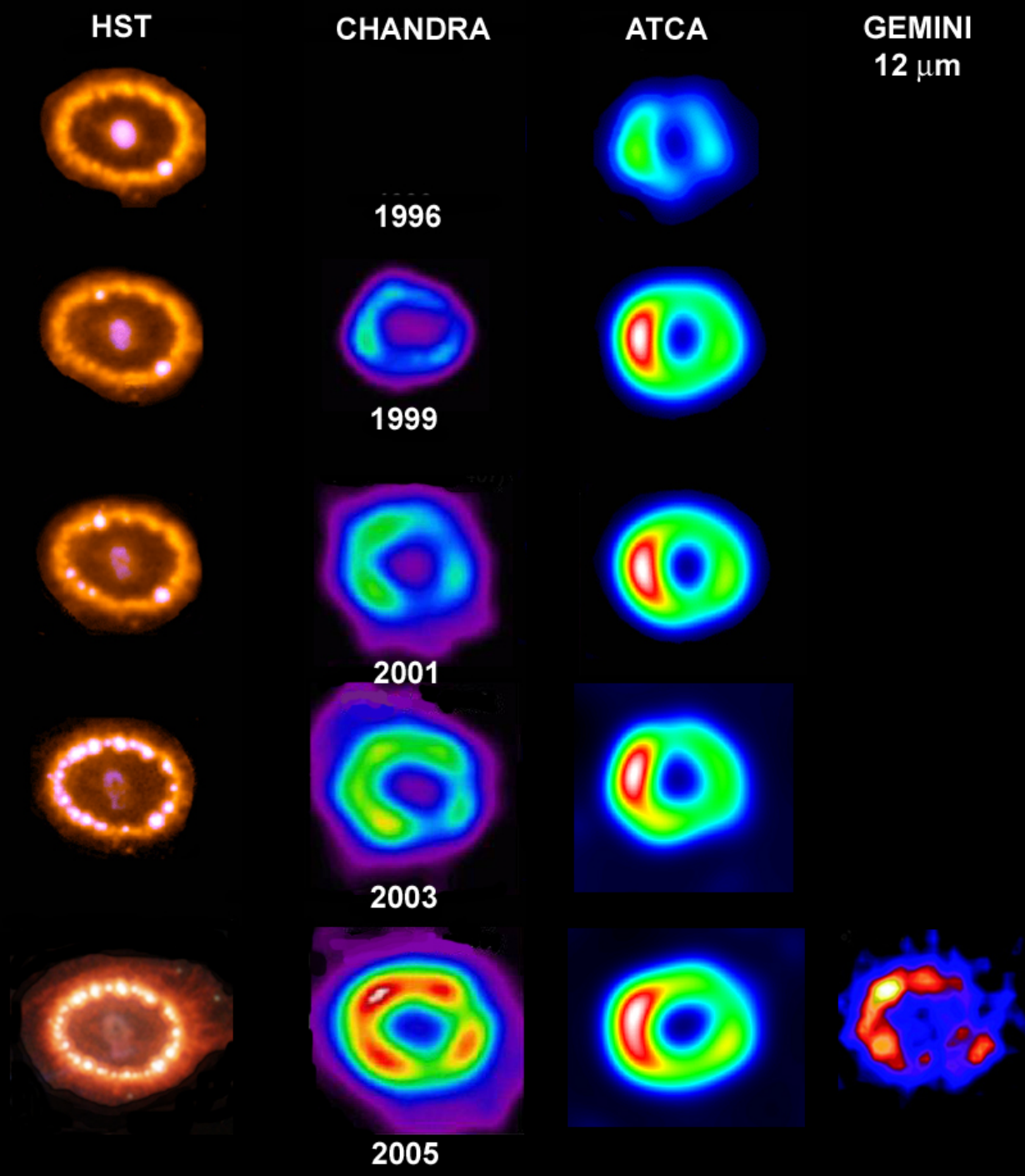


# What we know about the hot spots

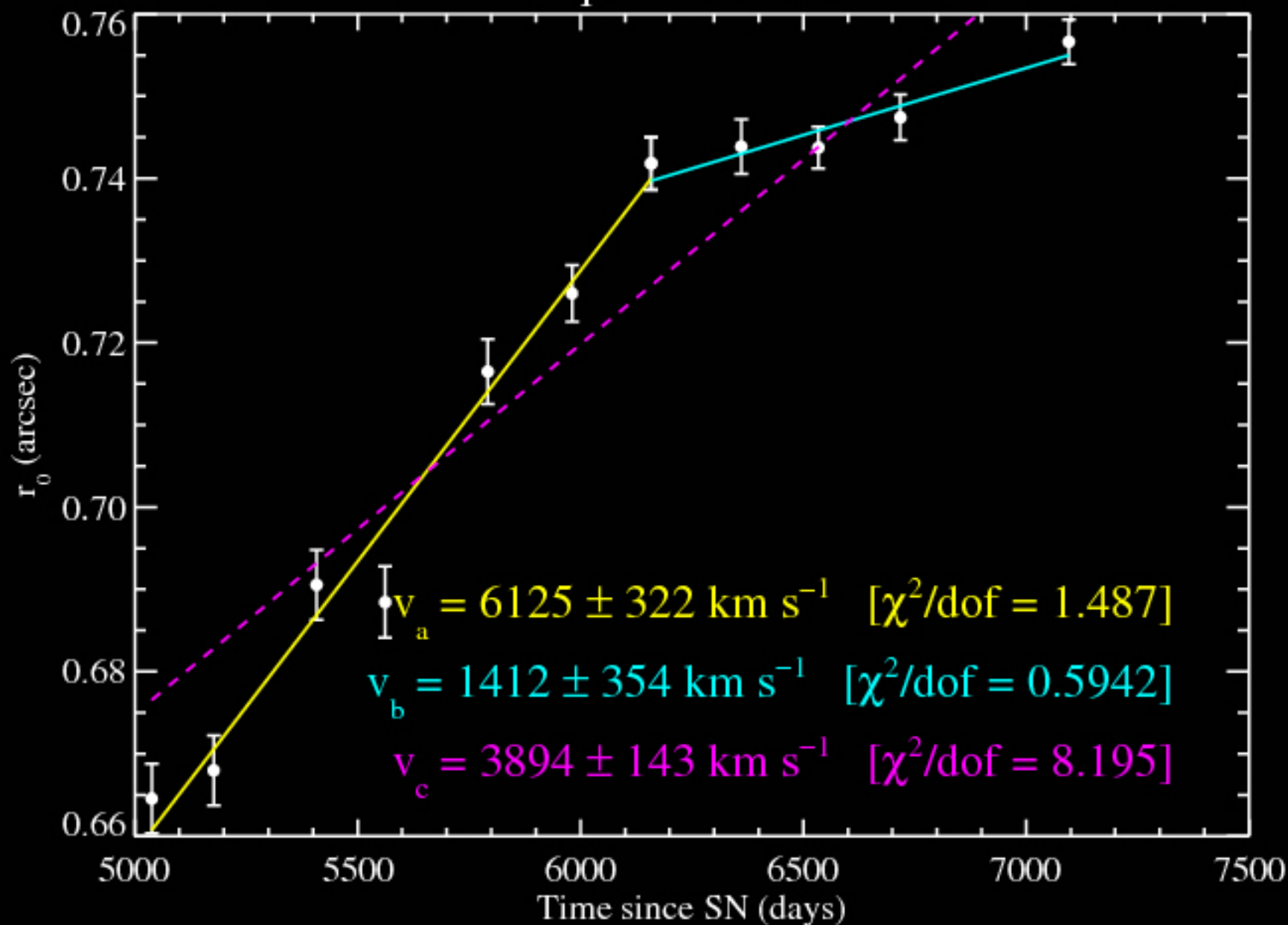
- Most spots appeared first on NE and SE quadrants of ring
- Spots now encircle entire ring
- Densities  $\sim 10^6 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  (from forbidden line ratios)
- Most are unresolved:  $< 1$  WFPC pixel
- Optical emission lines caused by radiative shocks
- Faster non-radiative shocks must be present but are invisible in optical & UV

# X-ray Emission



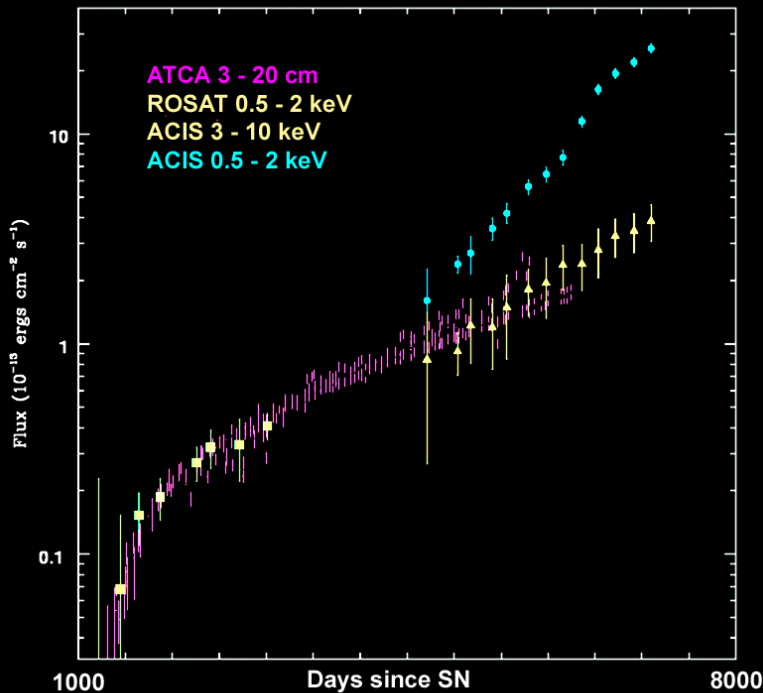


# SN1987a expansion measure – lobes



# Radio & X-ray Emission

(Gaensler, Staveley-Smith, Aschenbach, Park)

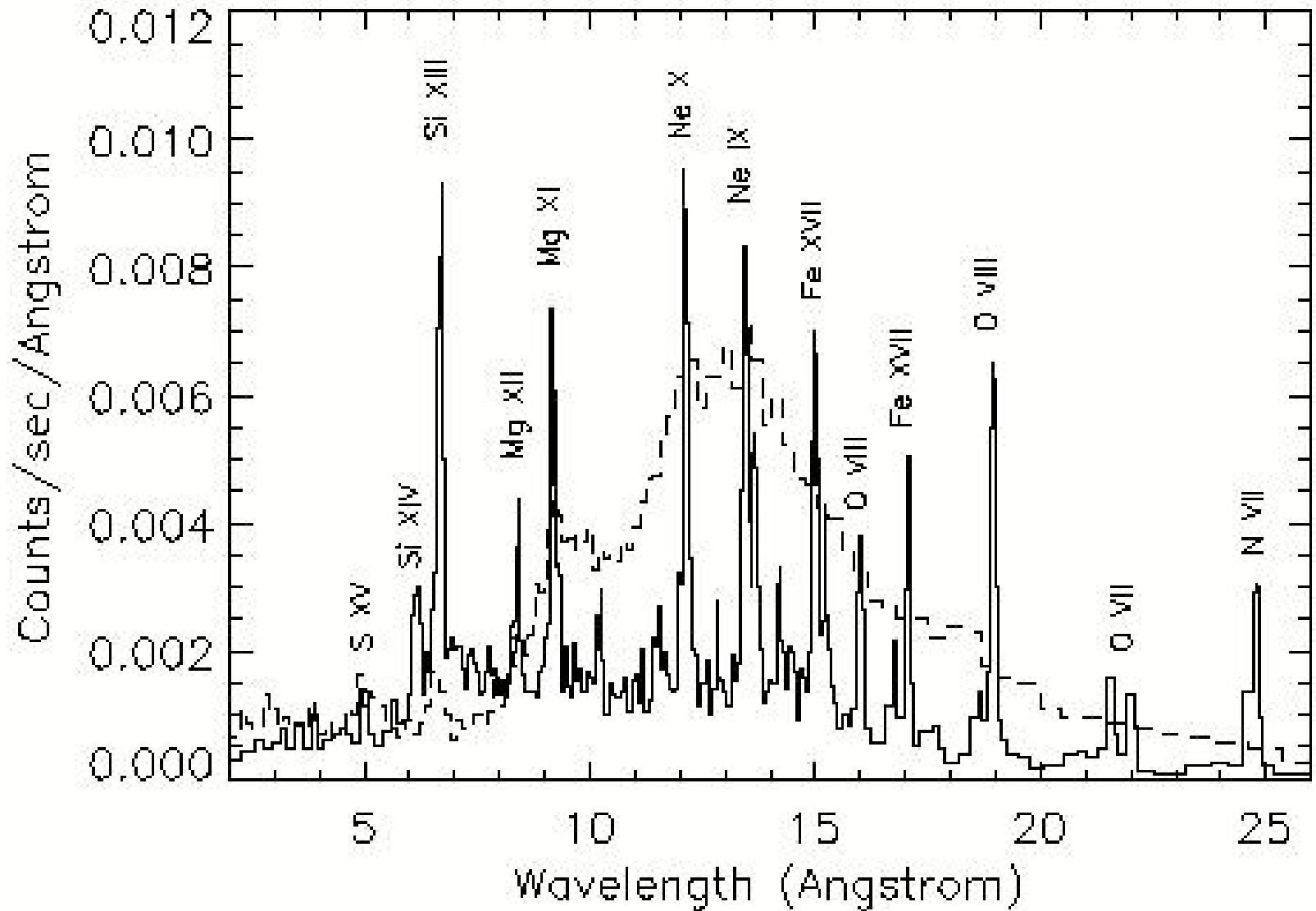


- X-rays and radio turned on at 1200 d
- ratio [hard ( $> 3\text{keV}$ ) X/Radio] remains nearly constant
- Soft ( $\sim 0.5 - 2\text{keV}$ ) X-rays increased rapidly after hotspots appeared)
- Soft X-ray image resembles optical image

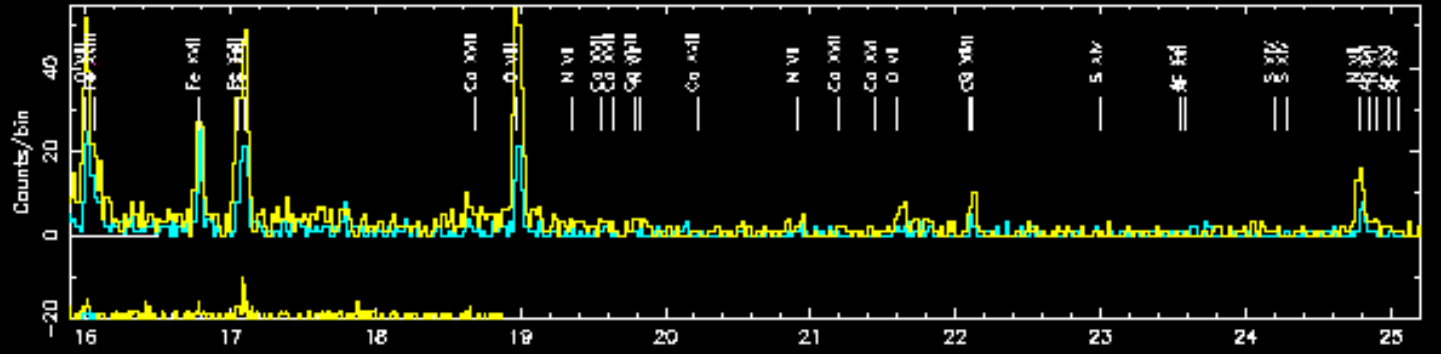
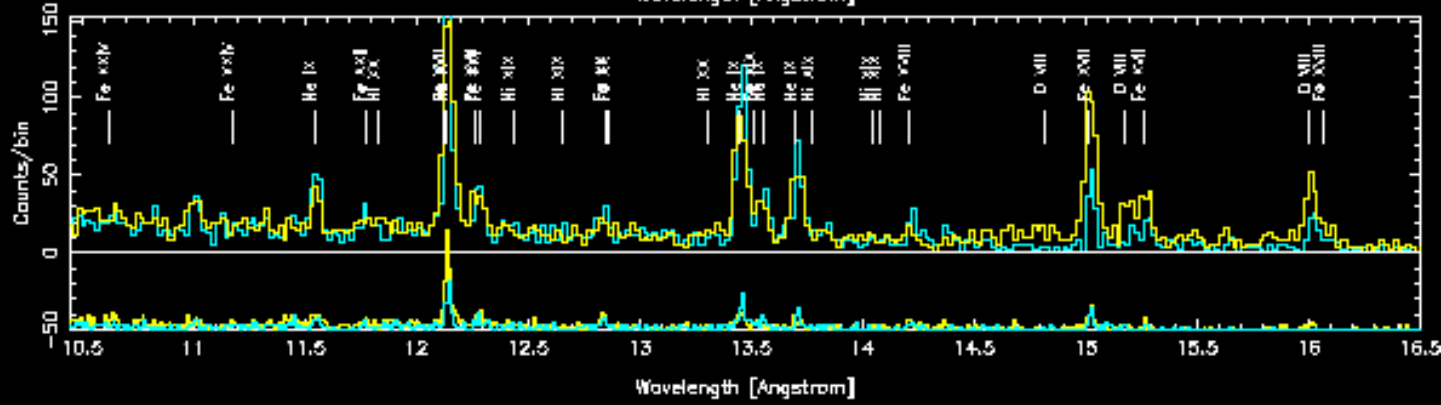
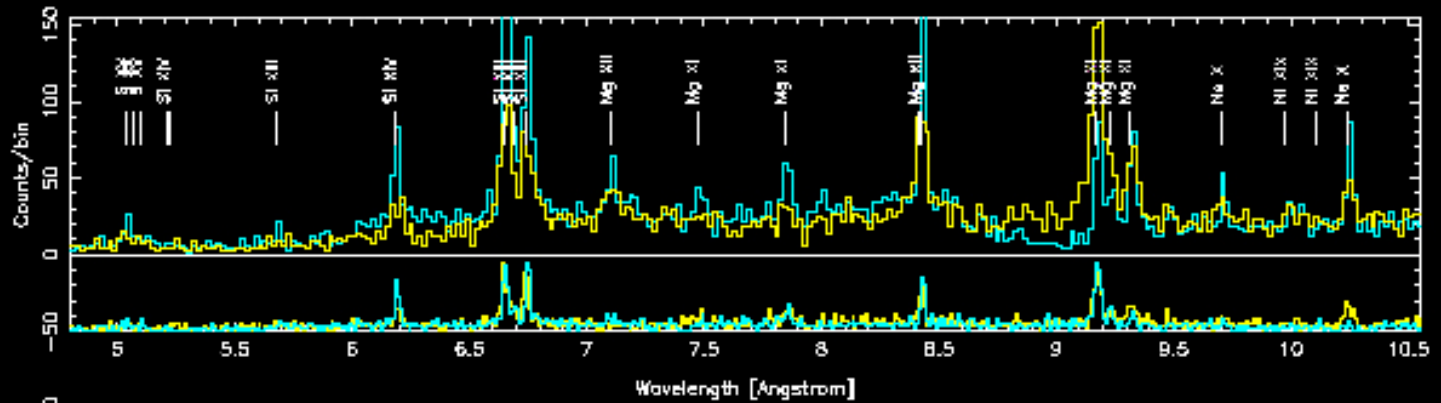
9 Radio and hard X-rays come from relatively low density gas between blast wave and reverse shock

□ Optical and soft X-rays come from blast waves overtaking hotspots

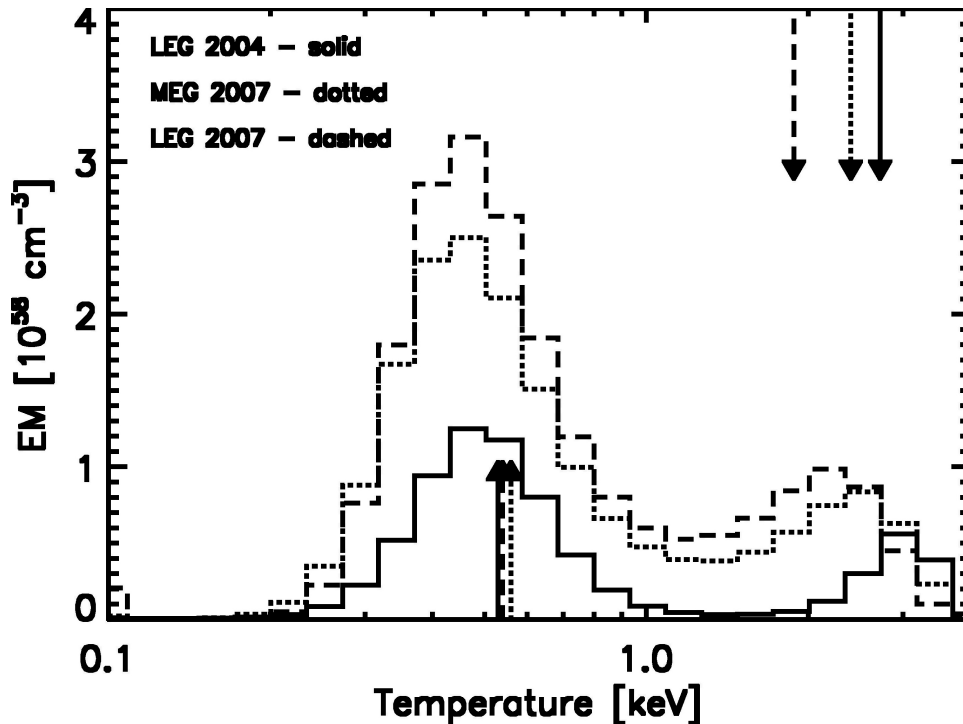
# Chandra LETG Spectra Sept. 2004 (Zhekov et al)



# Chandra HETG Spectrum April 2007 (Dewey et al.)



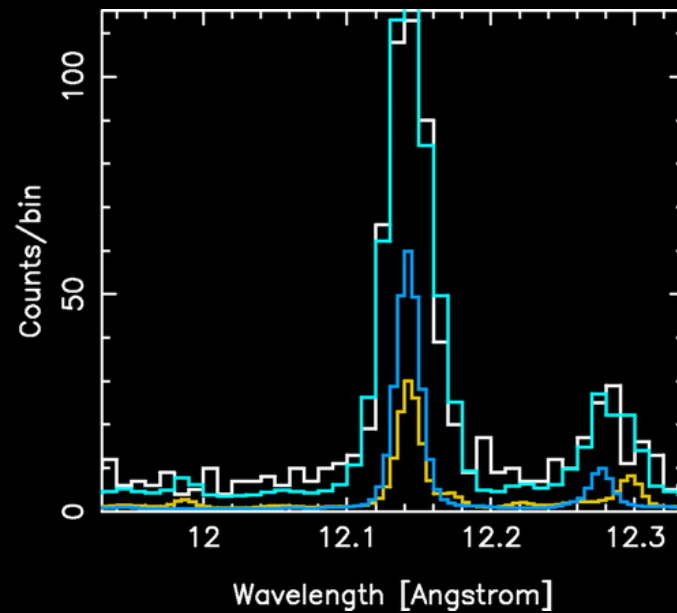
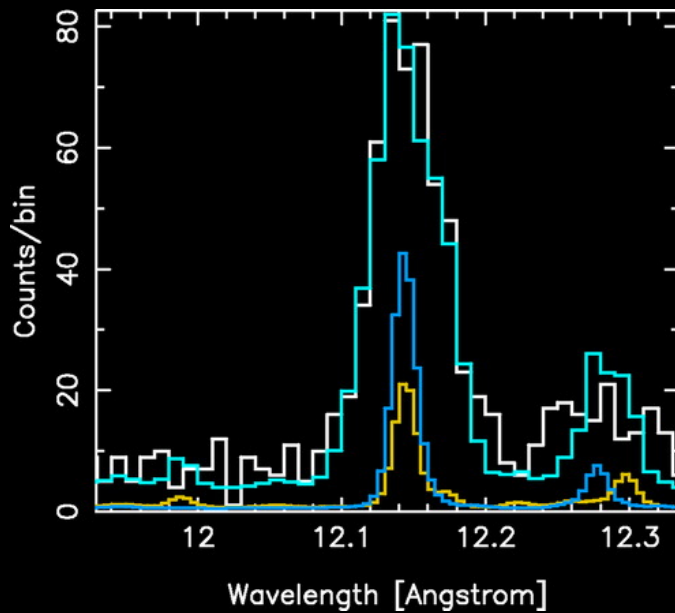
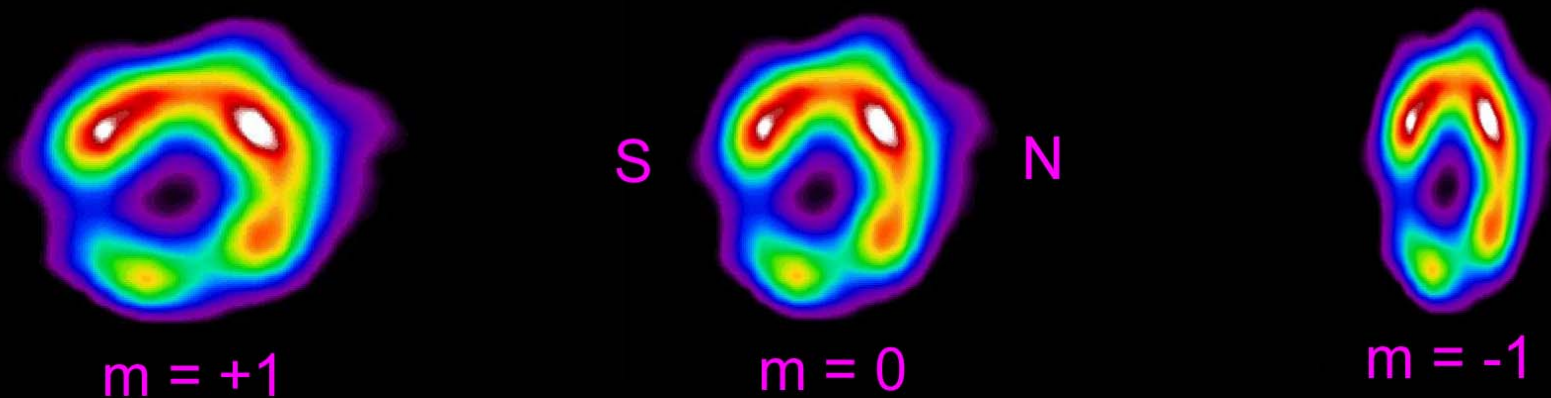
# Global fits of NIE models to Chandra grating spectra



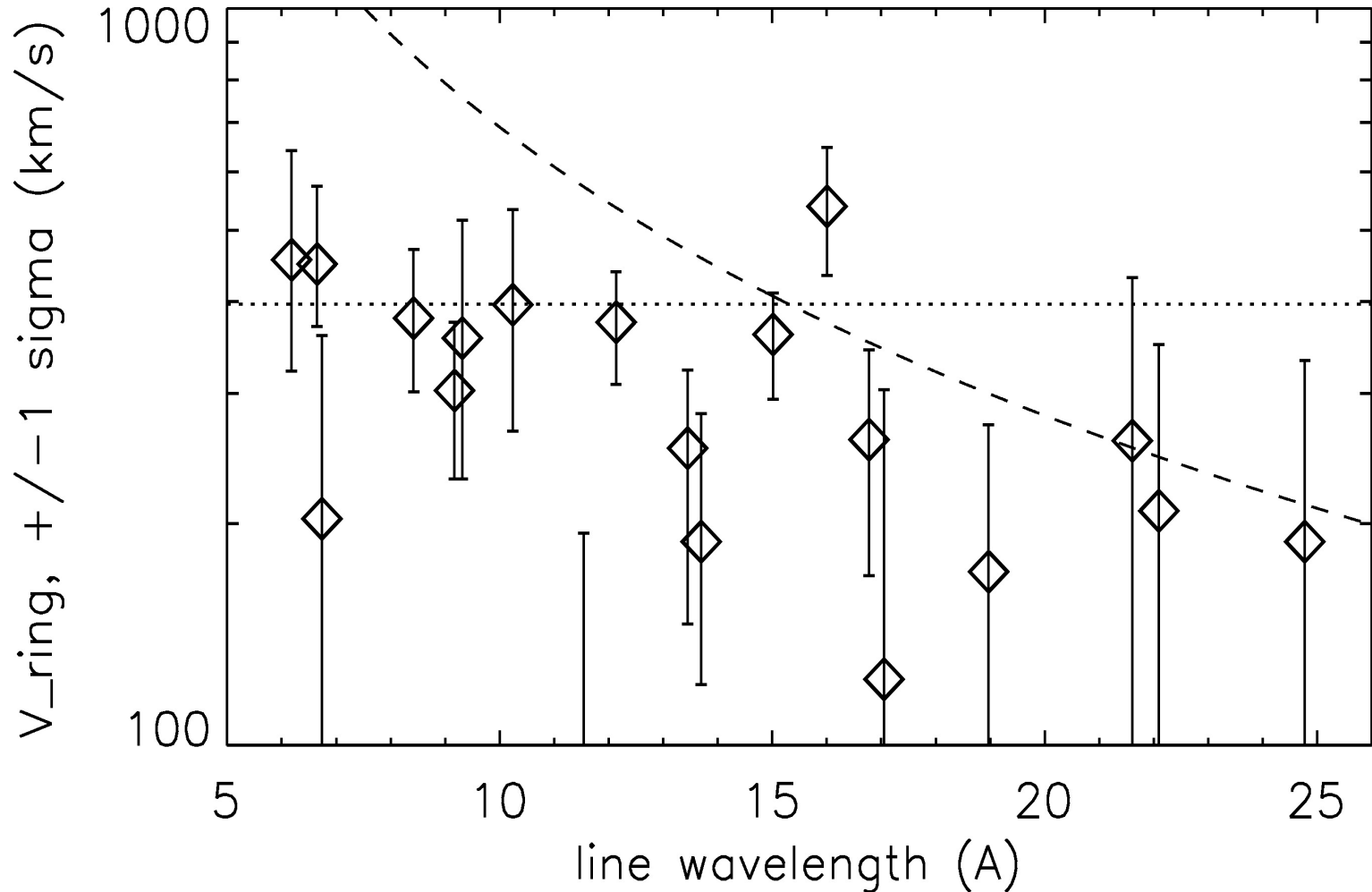
- Bimodal temperature distribution:  $\sim 2 \text{ keV}$  and  $0.5 \text{ keV}$
- Hard component cooled, intermediate temperatures filled in



# Shock Kinematics from X-ray Line Profiles



# Radial expansion velocities inferred from X-ray emission line profiles



# Puzzle #1

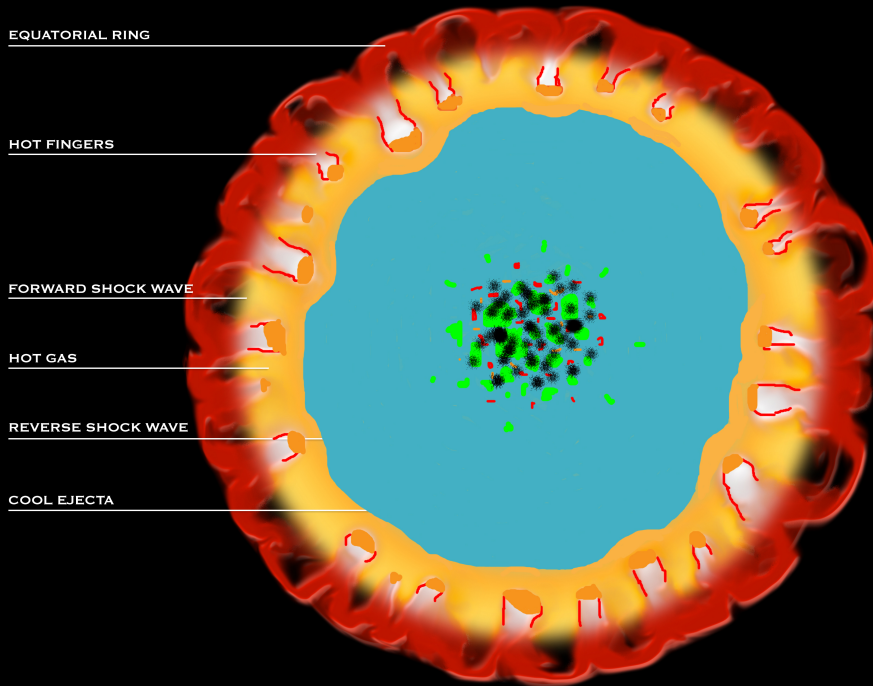
- Radial expansion velocity of ring inferred from line profiles (Doppler shifts)  $\sim 300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

- Radial expansion velocity inferred from proper motion of image  $\sim 1400 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

**But** ring is tilted at  $\sim 45^\circ$ . If X-ray source is the same in both cases, transverse velocity should be the same as Doppler velocity. Discrepancy = factor  $\sim 4.6!$

???

# Solution to Puzzle #1



- When we look at line profiles, we are measuring actual fluid motion
- When we look at transverse expansion, we are measuring barycenter of X-ray emission, caused by overtaking blast wave.

# Puzzle #2

- Velocity of shocked gas inferred from X-ray line profiles (Doppler shifts)  $\sim 300 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .
- Temperature of X-ray emitting gas inferred from line ratios  $\sim 0.5 - 2 \text{ keV}$

**But**, shock jump conditions  $kT = 3/16 mV_S^2$ , and post-shock gas should be moving with velocity  $V_R = 3/4 V_S$ . Taking  $V_R \sim 400 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , jump conditions imply  $kT = 0.14 \text{ keV}$ . Discrepancy = factor  $\sim 3.5 - 14$ .

**The shocked X-ray emitting gas is not moving fast enough to account for its temperature.**

???

# Solution to Puzzle #2

Blast wave strikes high density ring, a **reflected shock** goes backwards, slowing the X-ray emitting gas to the velocity of the transmitted shock. The twice-shocked gas has density  $\sim 2.5$  times greater than the gas behind the blast wave, and temperature  $\sim 2.4$  times greater. It dominates the X-ray emissivity.

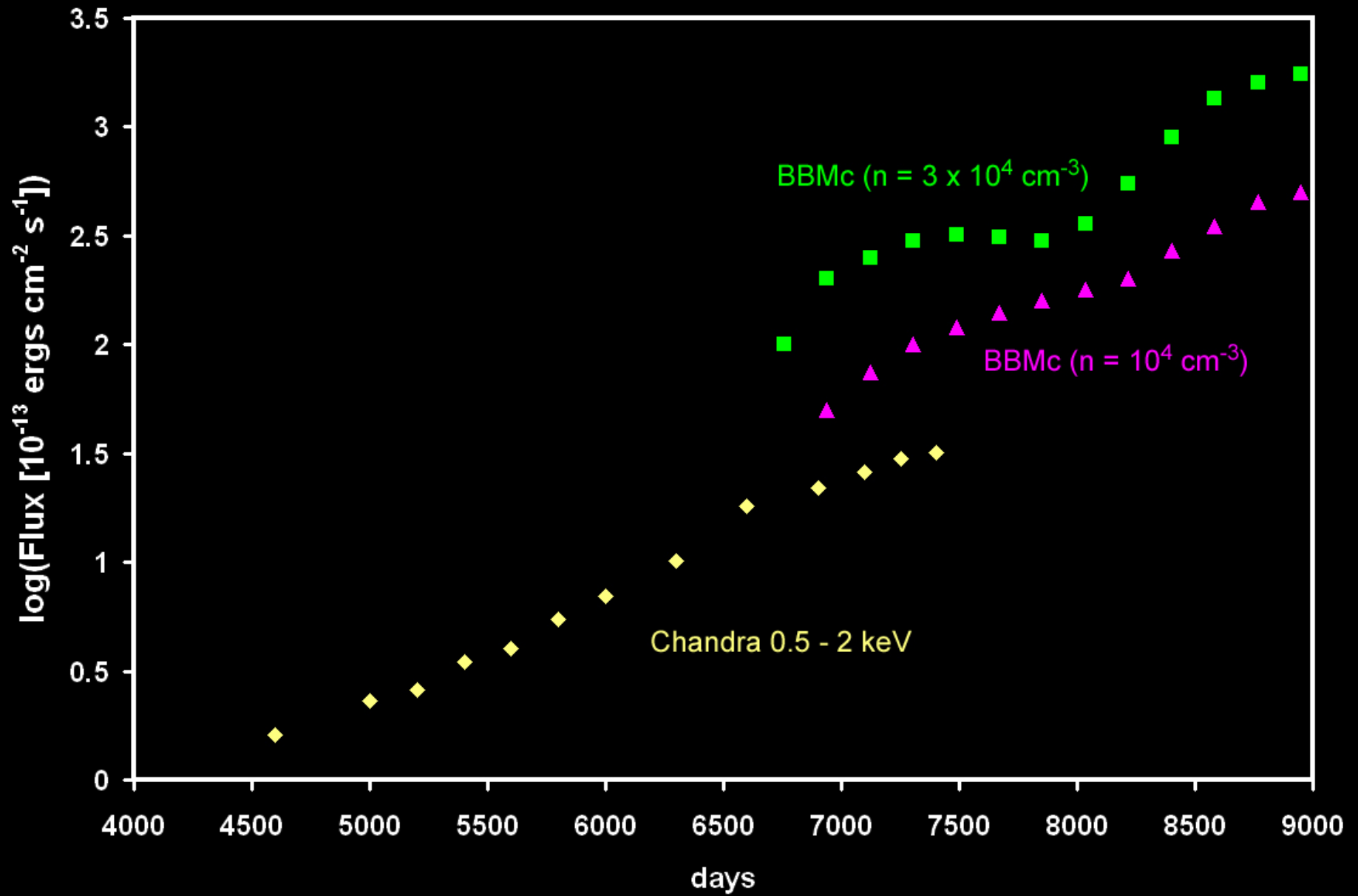
# What we don't know

- What accounts for the morphology of the circumstellar rings? **Merged binary?**
- What accounts for the protrusions on the ring?
- What accounts for the EW asymmetry? **Asymmetric explosion?**
- Where is the compact object?

# The Future

- **5 year forecast:** X-rays, infrared, optical, UV will brighten by another factor  $\sim 10$
- **10 year forecast:** Illumination by X-rays and EUV from inner ring will cause exterior matter to glow in narrow emission lines
- ALMA will give us a spectacular ( $\sim 10$  mas) view of the non-thermal radio source.
- **25 year forecast:** will see newly synthesized material cross reverse shock
- **Long range forecast:** Will remain bright for decades - centuries





# Thanks to:

Kevin Heng

Svet Zhekov

Nathan Smith

Dave Burrows

Sangwook Park

Bob Kirshner and SINS  
team

Dick Manchester

Bryan Gaensler

Kazik Borkowski

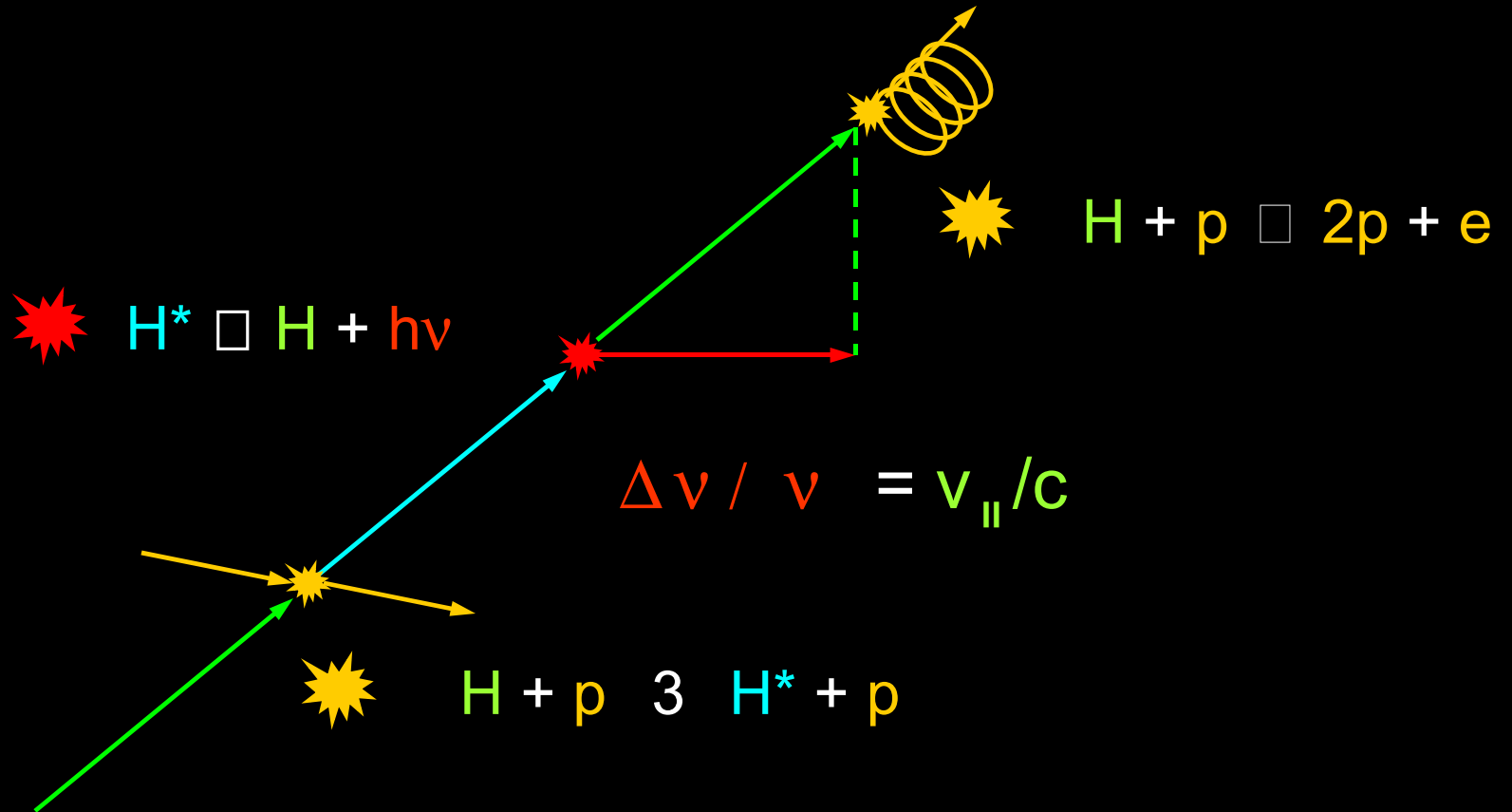
John Blondin

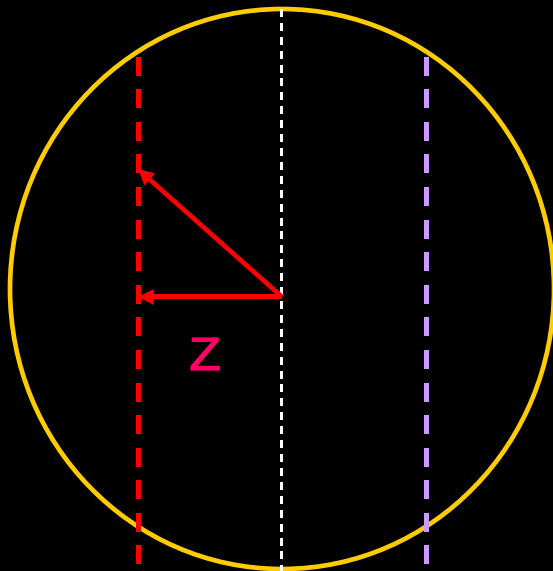
... and many others

Reverse Shock



# Line emission and impact ionization at reverse shock surface



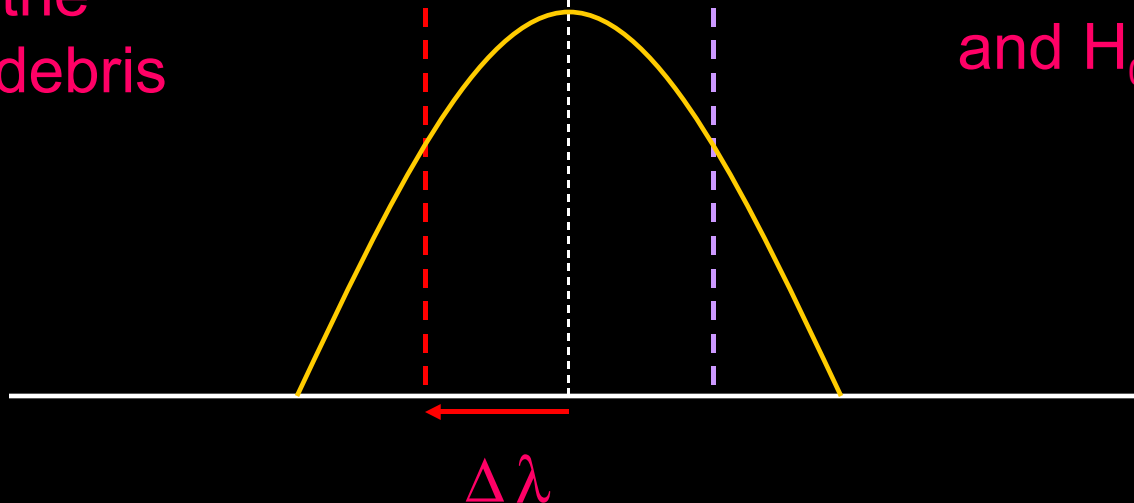


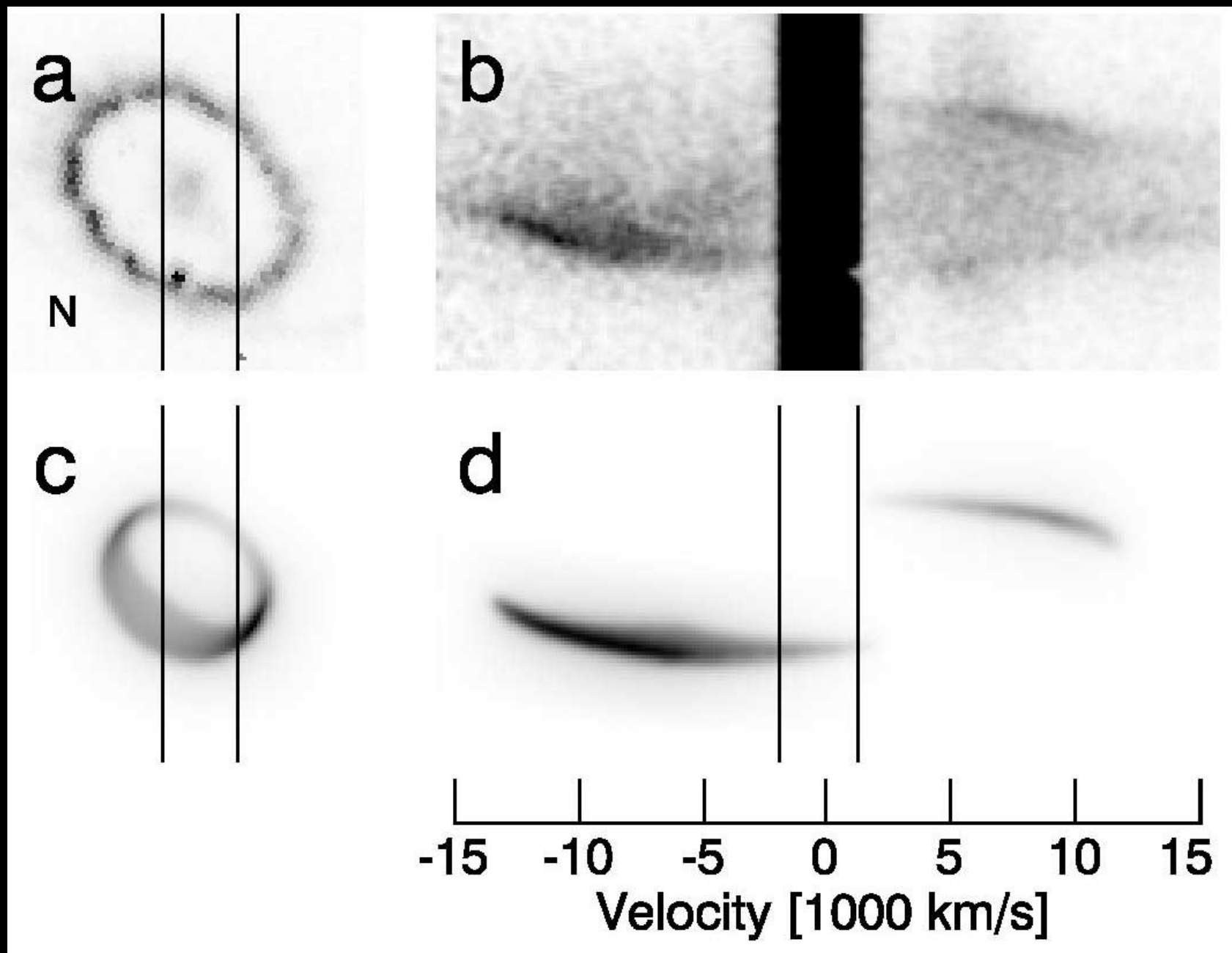
To observer

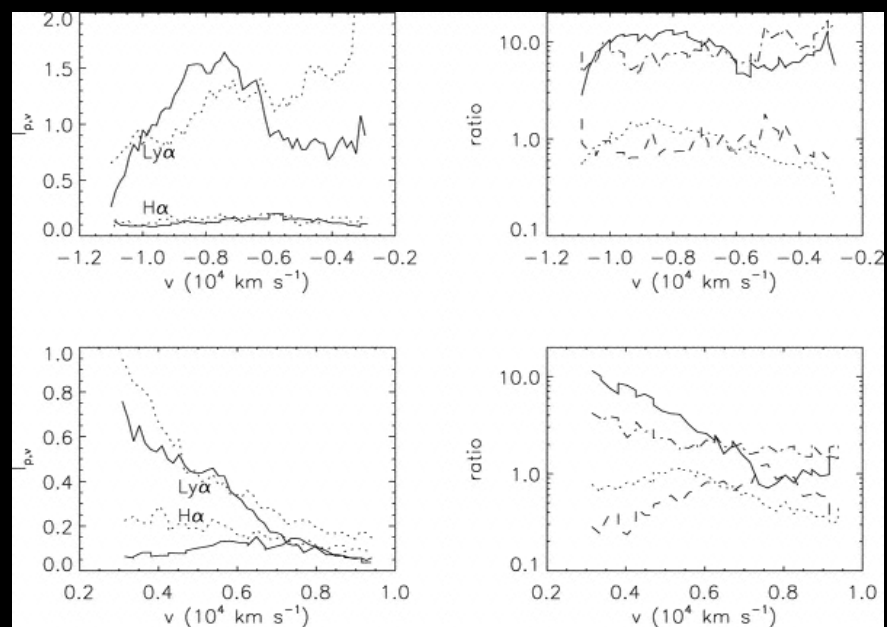
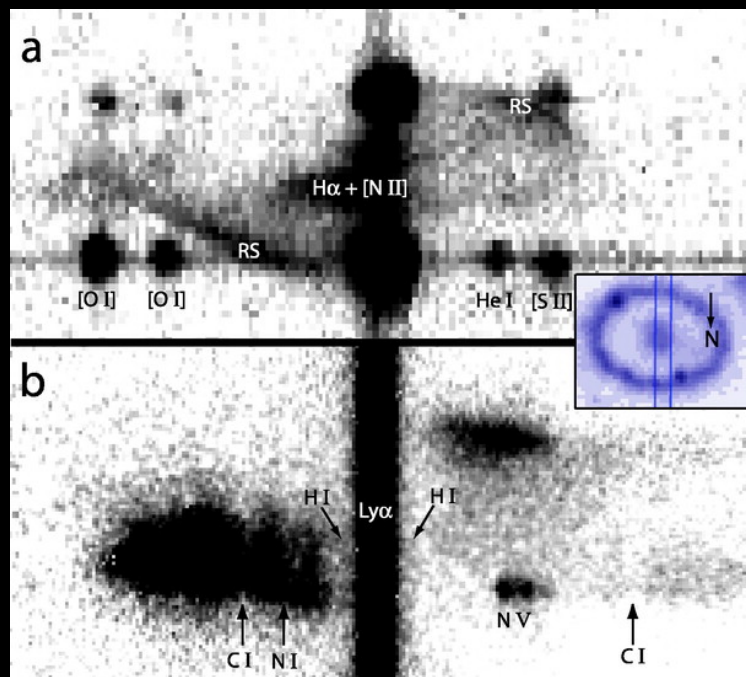
Surfaces of constant Doppler shift are planar sections of the supernova debris

$$\Delta\lambda / \lambda_0 = v/c$$

where  $v = H_0 z$   
and  $H_0 = 1/t$

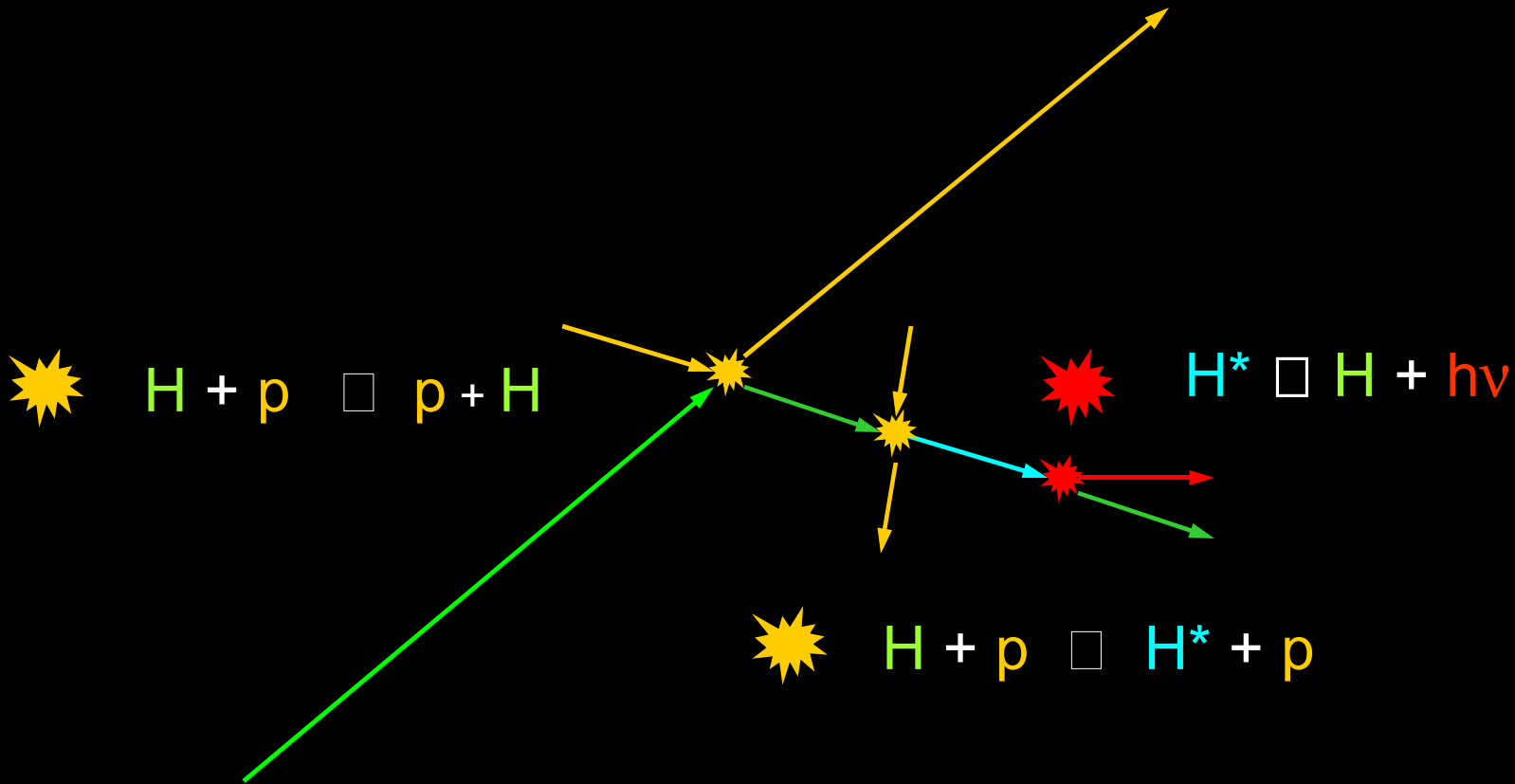




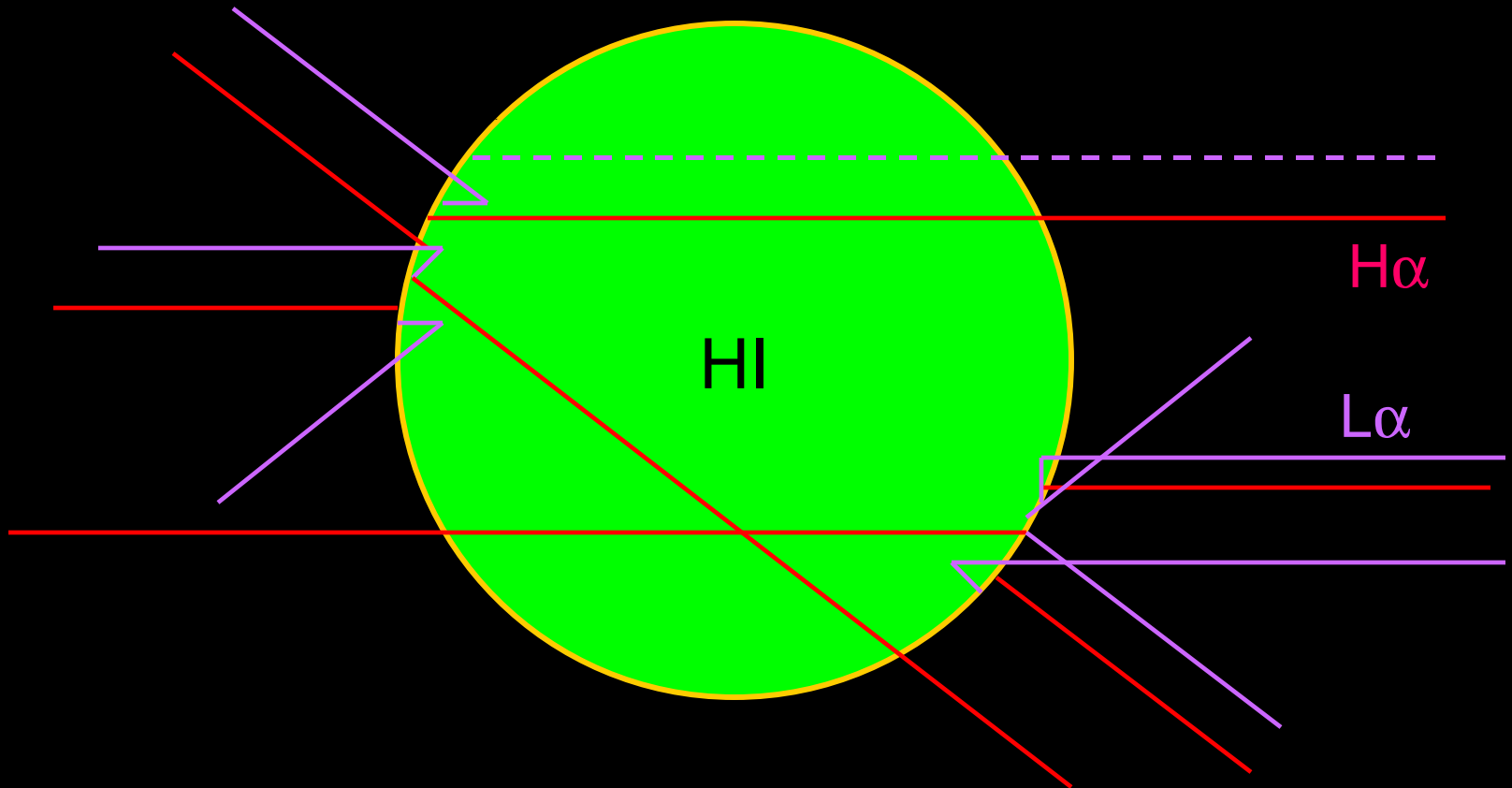


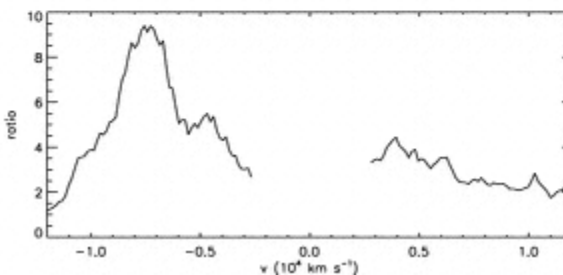
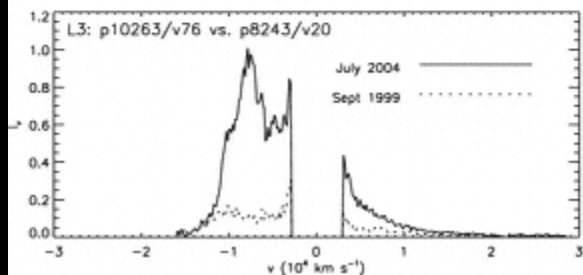
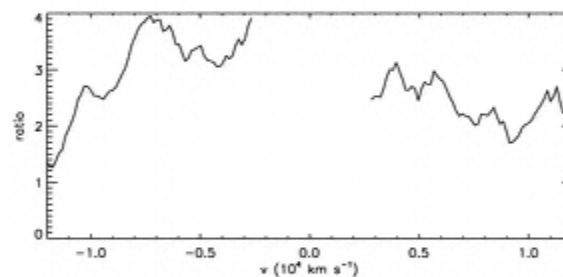
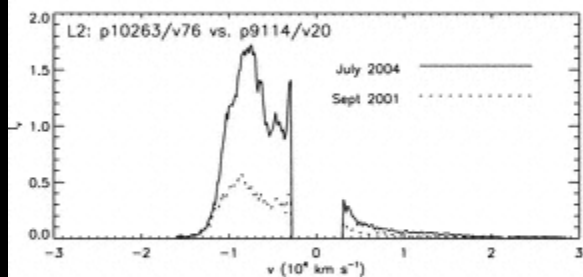
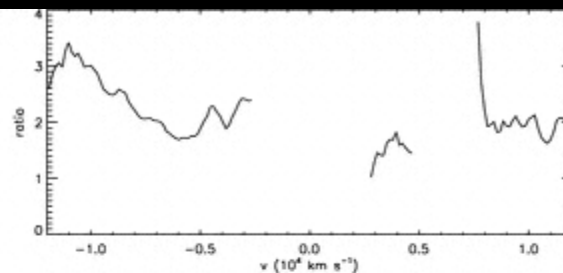
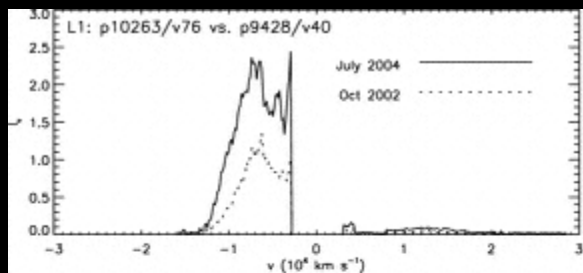


# Charge Transfer at Reverse Shock Surface



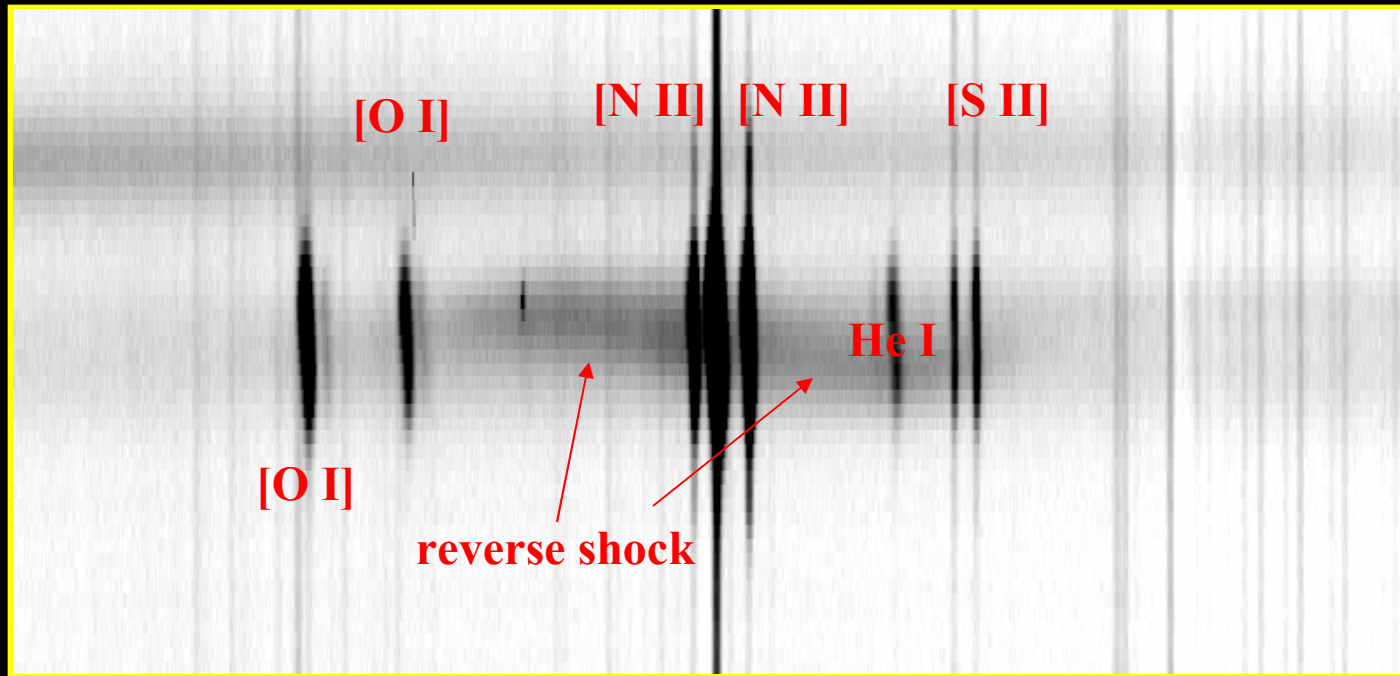
# $L\alpha$ Resonance Scattering





# Magellan/LDSS H $\alpha$ Observation

(Nathan Smith)



- Does not have HST spatial resolution, but can still monitor the time evolution of H $\alpha$  from the ground.

# Bleaching of Reverse Shock Emission by Preionization

