

The X-Ray Universe

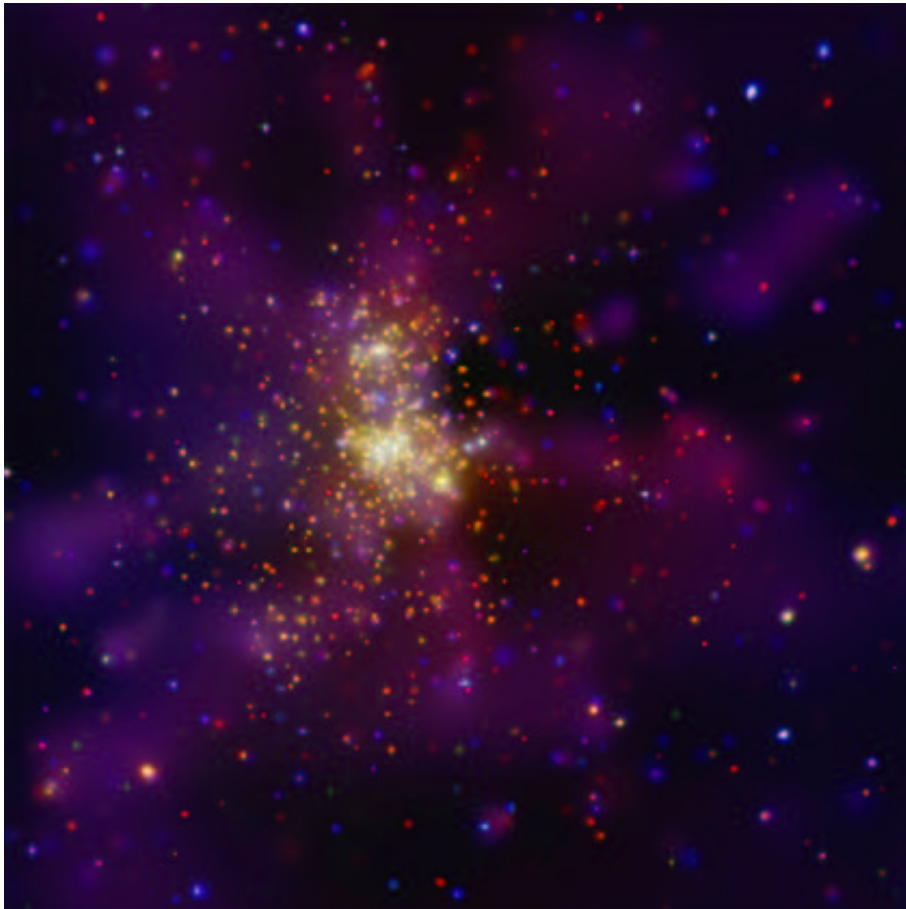
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Wintersemester 2008/09

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www.astro.physik.uni-potsdam.de/~lida/theormech.html

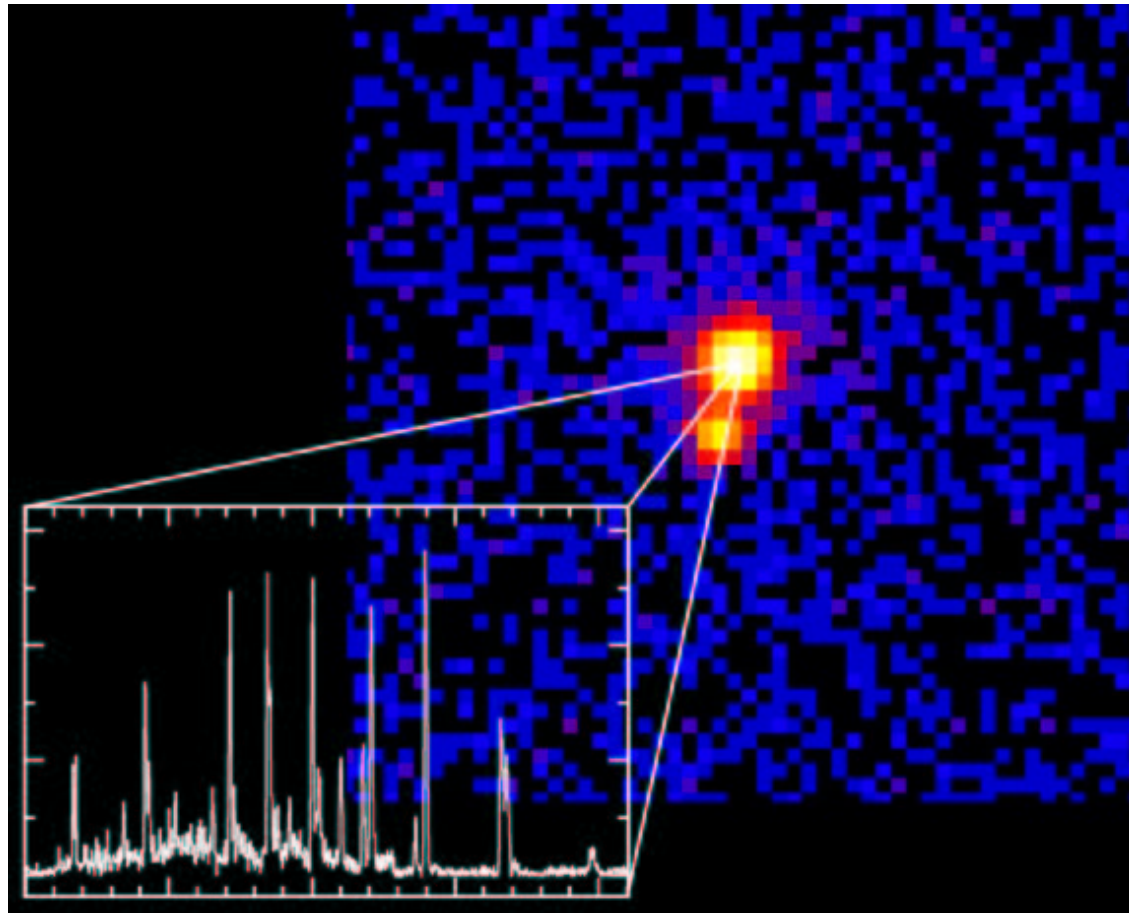


Chandra X-ray Observatory

Westerlund 2 - a young star cluster

$d = 2 \times 10^4 \text{ ly}$

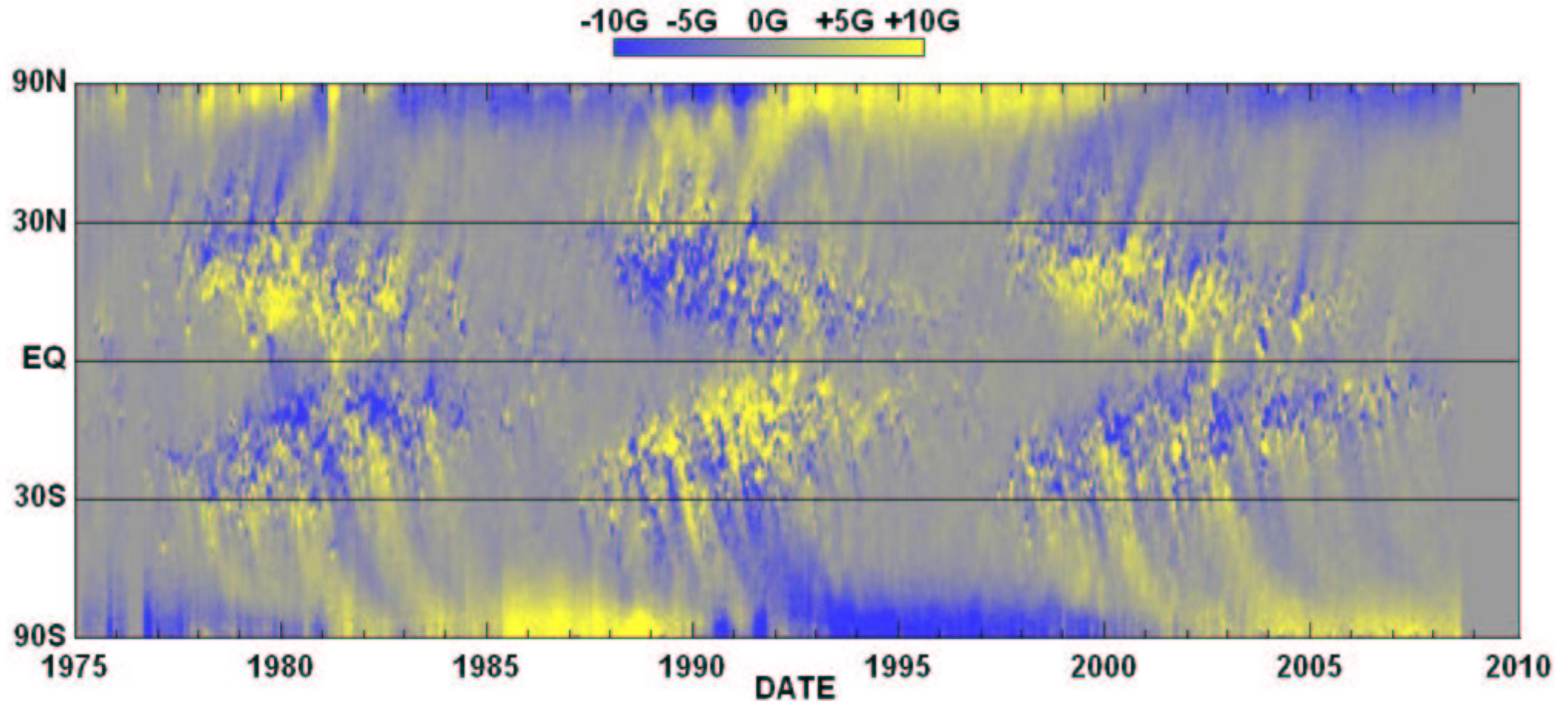
VI. X-rays from Normal Stars



NASA/EIT/W.Waldron, J.Cassinelli

Or not totally abnormal

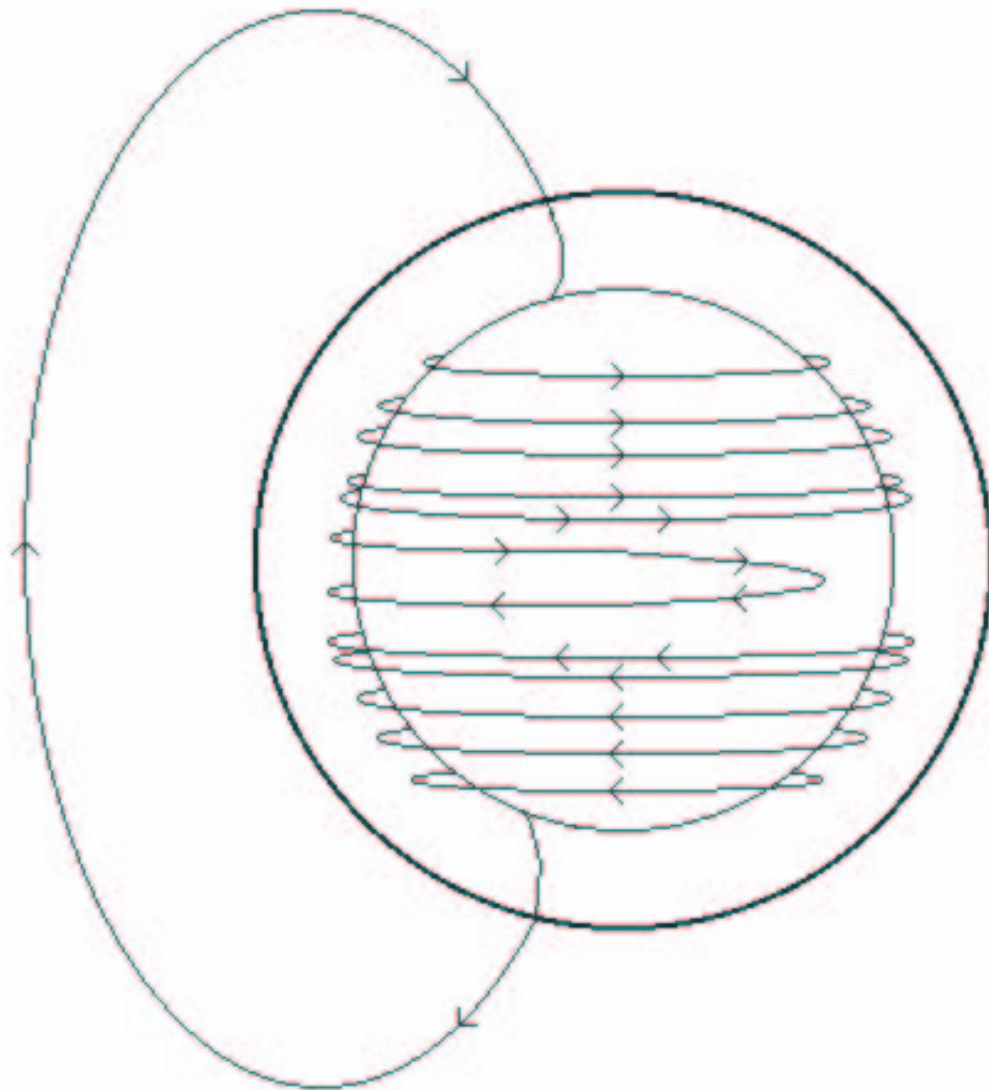
VI. Solar dynamo



NASA/MSFC/NSSTC/Hathaway 2008/10

Observational laws: 1) 11-year period; 2) butterfly diagram; 3) tilt of sunspot group; 4) 22-year magnetic cycle

VI. Ω -effect



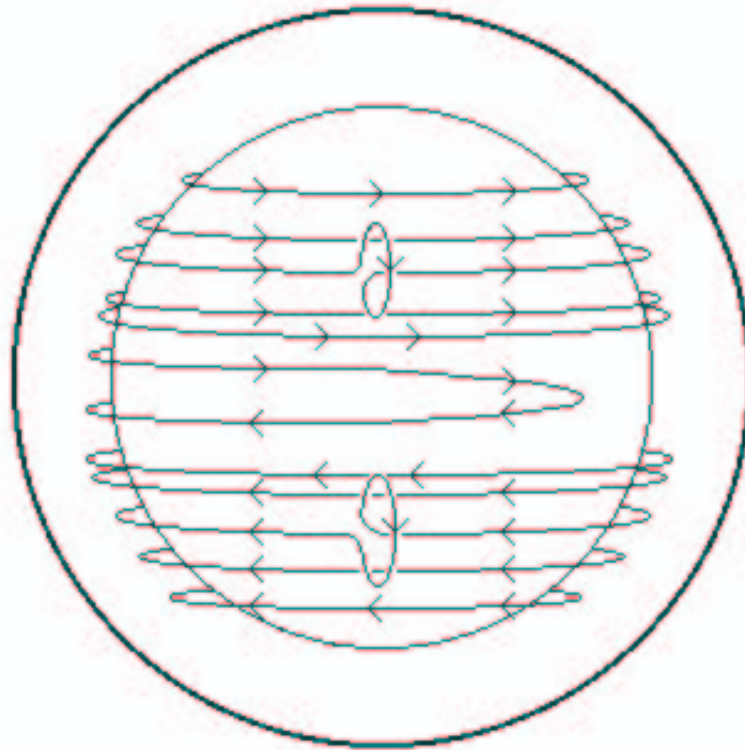
The ω -effect

Differential rotation - the change in rotation rate as a function of latitude and radius within the Sun.

Magnetic field is stretched out and wound around the Sun

Latitudinal differential rotation can wrap magnetic field line around the Sun in about 8 months.

VI. α -effect



The α -effect

Effect of rotation on the rising "tubes" of magnetic field- loops look like letter α

α -effect governs tilt of spot groups and polarity reversal

Similar effects are observed in solar type stars, so Sun is an average star.

Dynamo operates in all low- and solar-mass stars. Activity scales with rotation rate.

VI. High-Resolution X-ray spectroscopy

CIE plasma: I^q/I^{q-1} depends on T

collisional ionization is balanced by radiative recombination

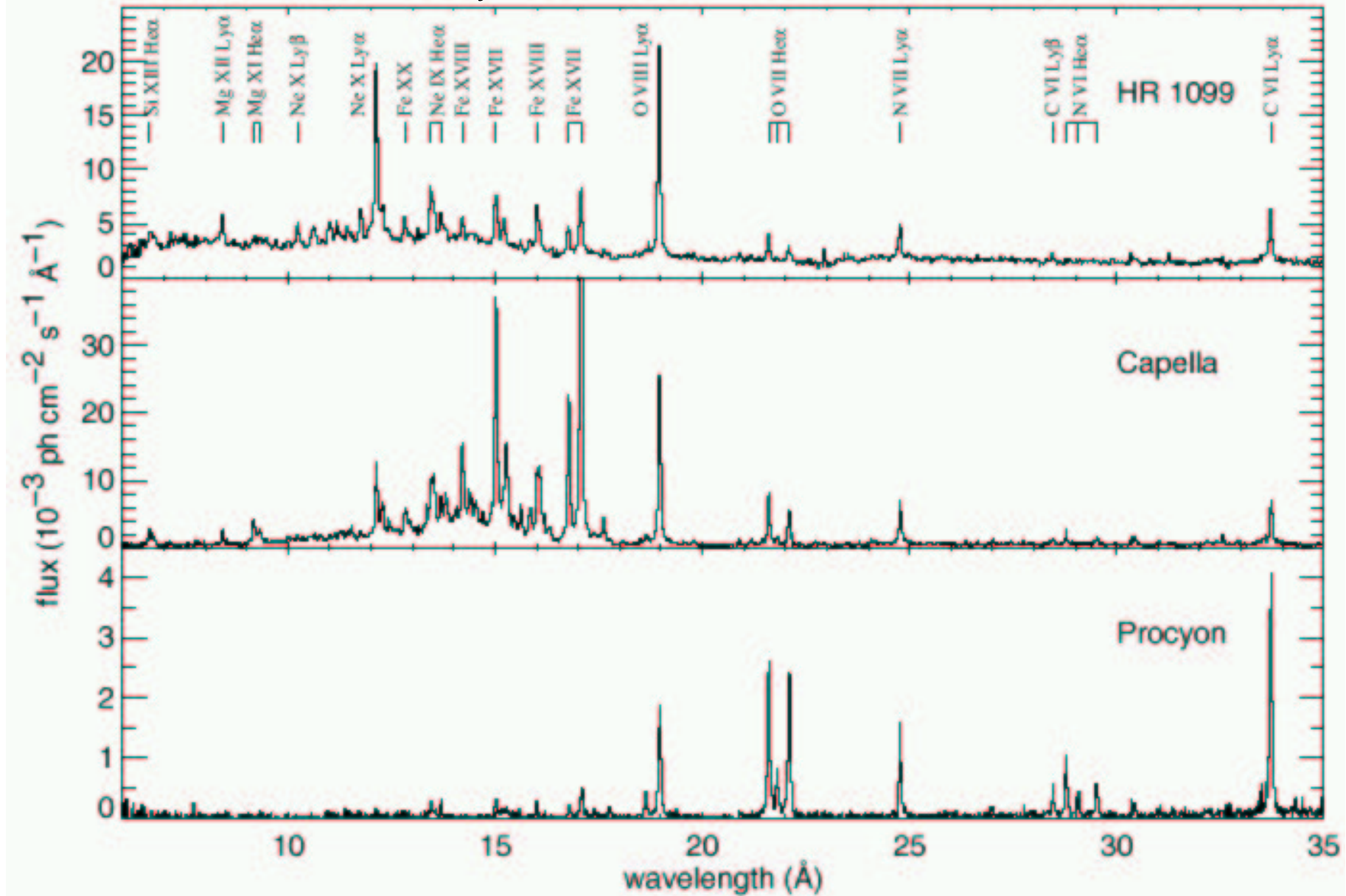
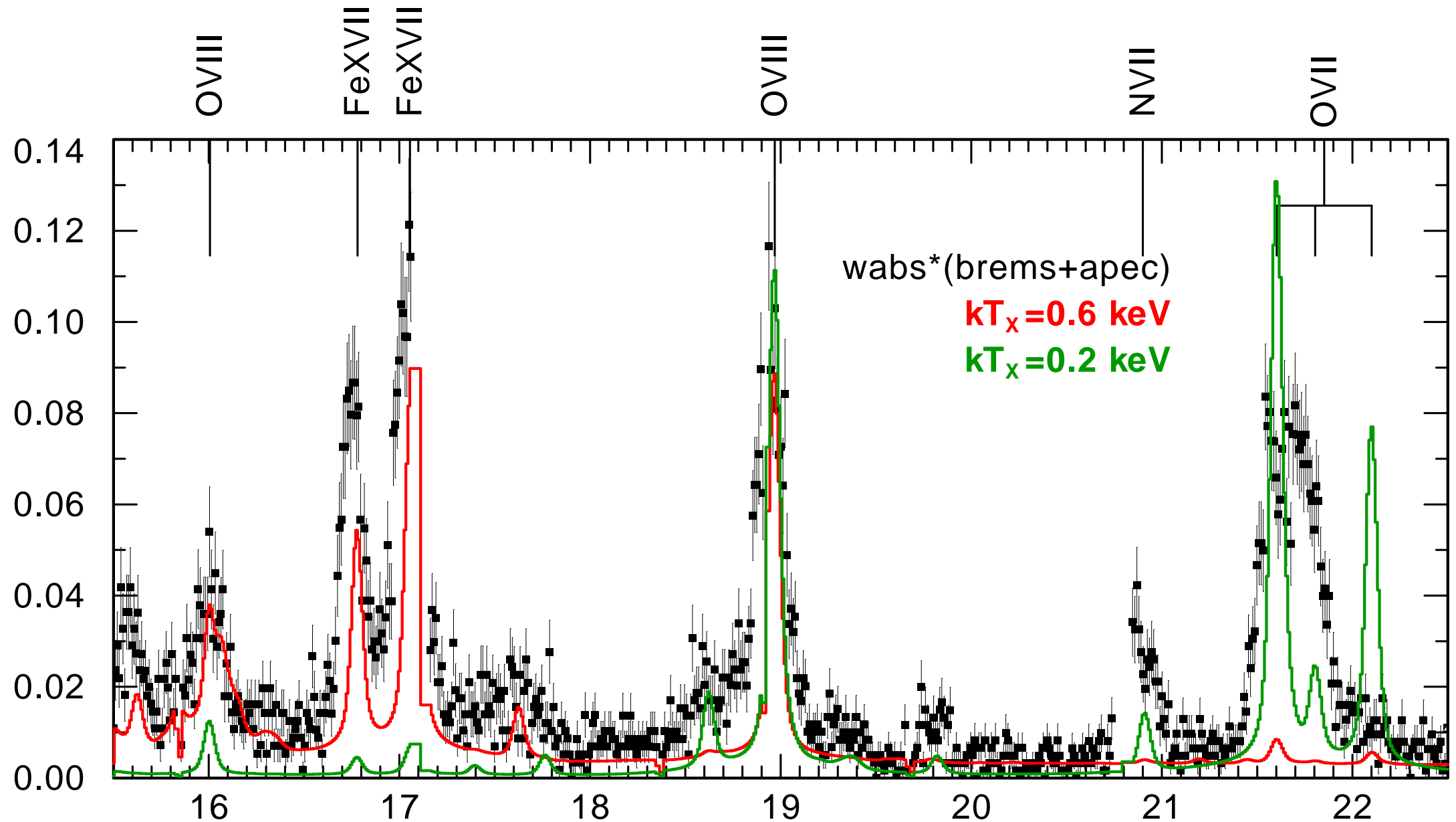


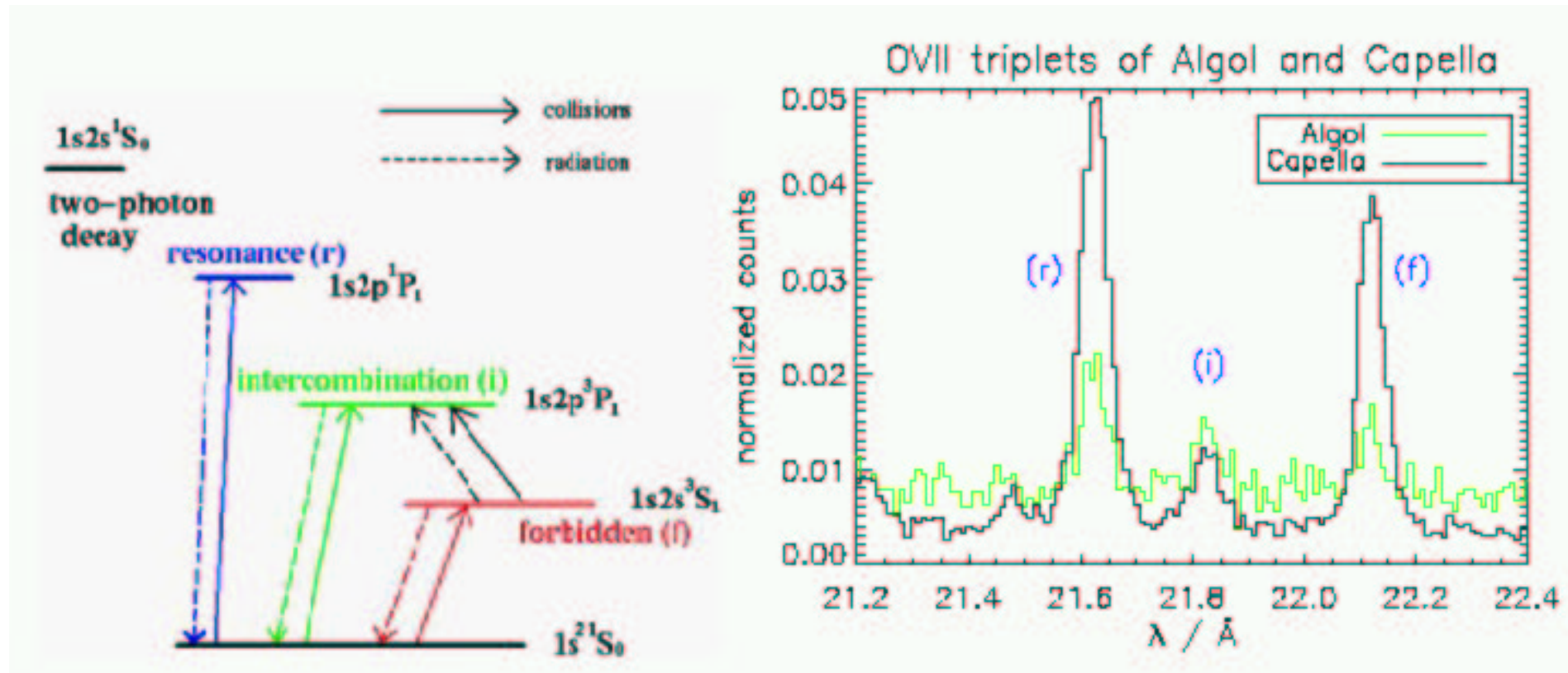
Fig. 6. Three high-resolution X-ray spectra of stars with largely differing activity levels: HR 1099, Capella, and Procyon. Data from *XMM-Newton* RGS

Model the data: E.g. spectrum non-isothermal CIE



- Continuum: Free-free continuum (Kahn+'01, Oskinova+'06)
- spectral fits: EM of continuum model \approx EM of line model
- NB! OVII

VI. Electron densities in stellar coronae



from Güdel 2004, A&AR, 12, 71

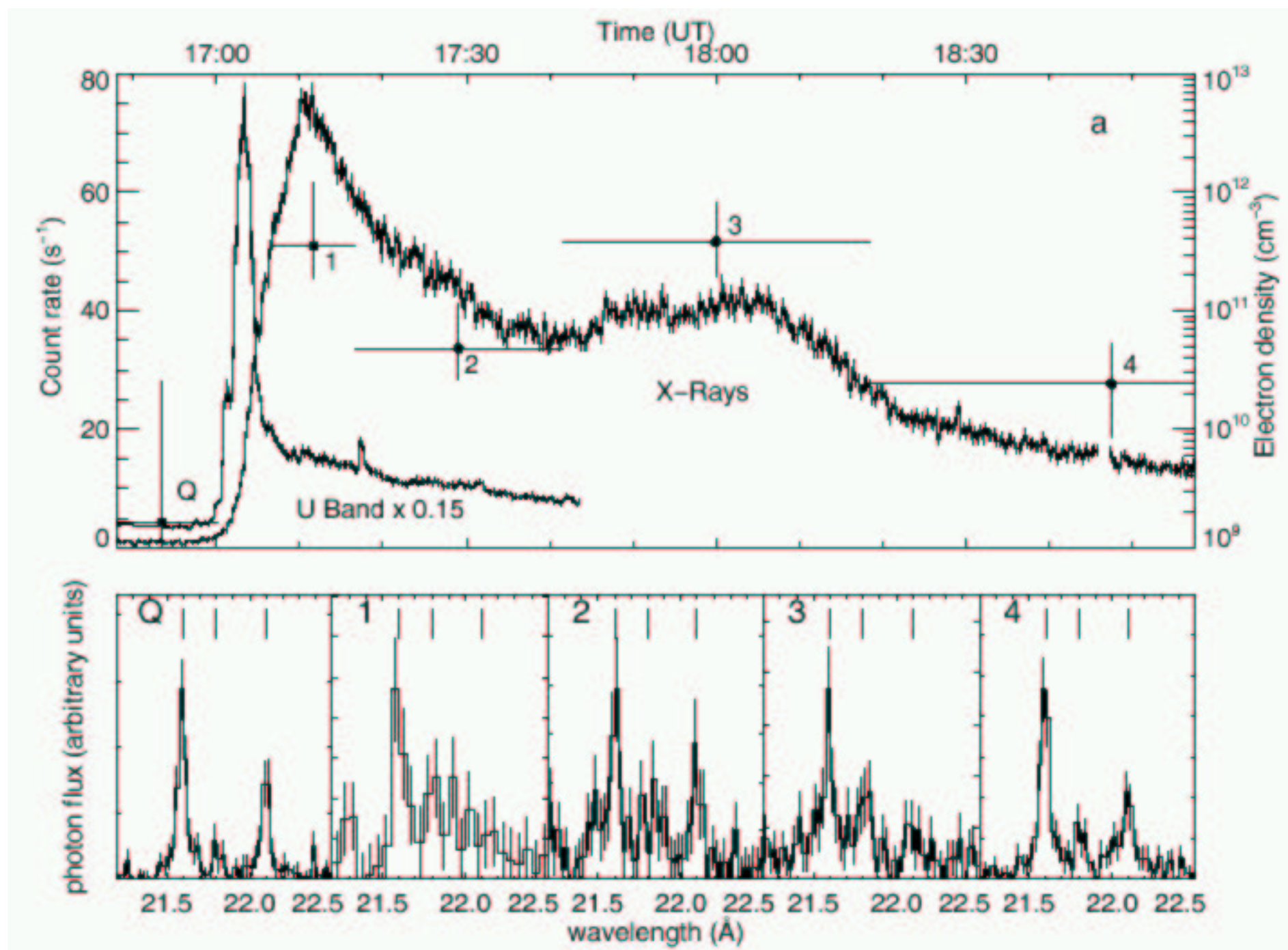
He-like ions allow to measure density

Interpretation is not straightforward, because coronae are not homogeneous

VI. Stellar flares

05

Flare on Proxima Centauri, observed with XMM-Newton

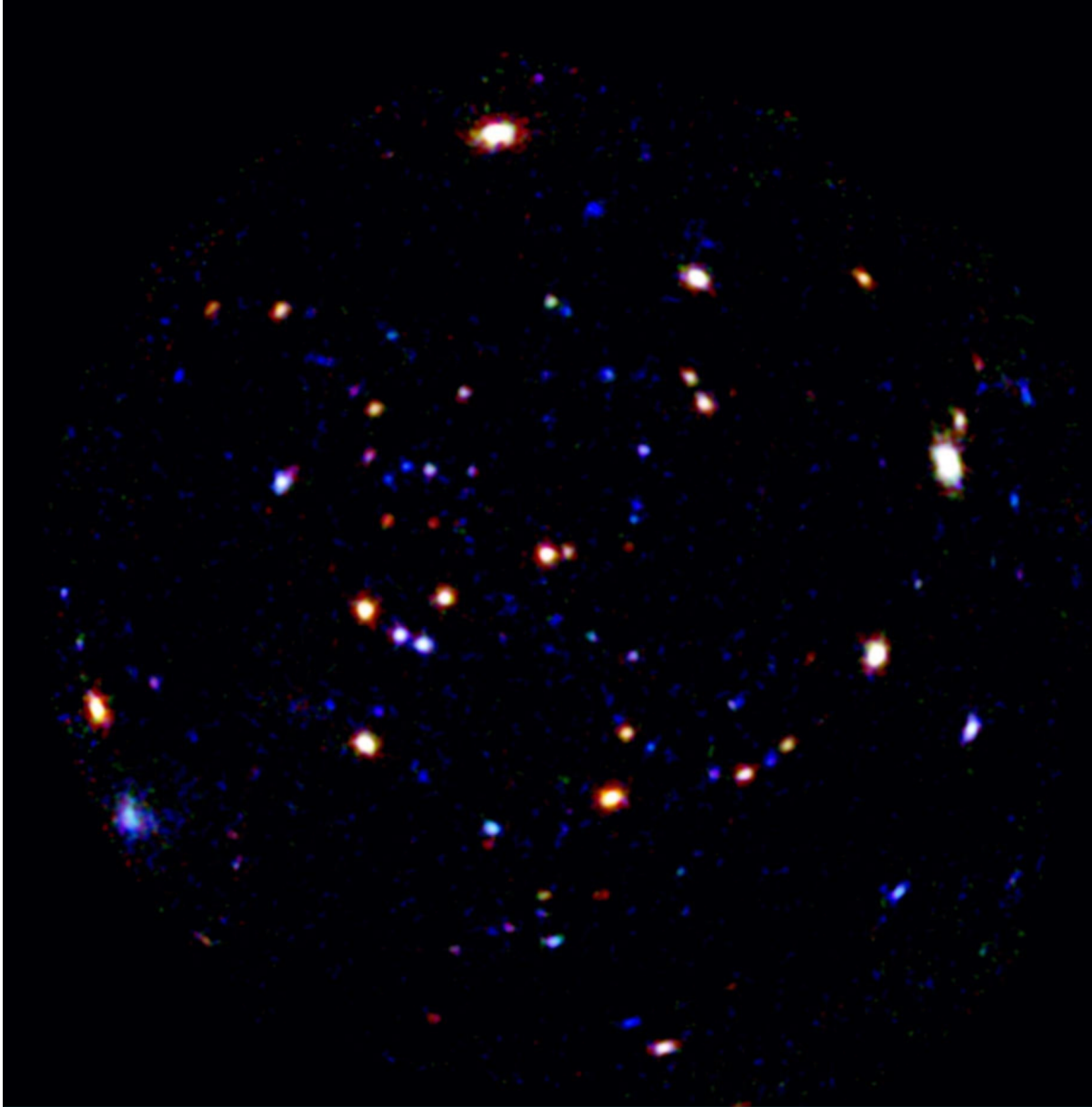


from Güdel et al.2002

VI. Stellar flares: common properties

- * Flares are universally observed
- * Theoretically: When the flare energy release evaporates plasma into the corona, heating and cooling effects compete determining the density and temperature profiles in a given flare.
- * Observationally: correlation between flare EM and T: larger flares are hotter.
- * The distribution is similar to the Sun: $\rightarrow \frac{dN}{dE} \propto E^{-\alpha}$. But it appears that later stars are flaring more

VI. General properties



The Pleiades open (galactic) stellar cluster seen by XMM-Newton

Image courtesy of Rosemary Willam, Pedro Rodriguez (ESAC)

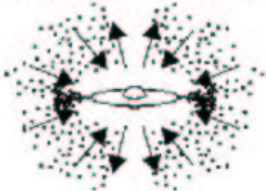


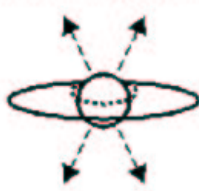

European Space Agency

http://xmm.esac.esa.int/external/xmm_science/gallery/

Pleiades (100 Myr), an open stellar cluster. The image is false-coloured: **soft (0.2 - 1 keV)**, **medium (1 - 1.3 keV)**, **hard (1.3 - 10 keV)**.

- Age-luminosity correlation for $M \sim 1 M_{\text{sun}}$ $L_X \approx 3 \times 10^{28} t^{-1.5}$ **erg/s, [t]=Gyr**
- Sun and its near-twin α Cen A behave very much alike \rightarrow Sun is a star !
- Low-mass stars stay active for a longer time.
- Saturation limit of $L_X/L_{\text{bol}} = 10^{-3}$
- **Dynamo rules it all!**

VI. Young stars (solar type)

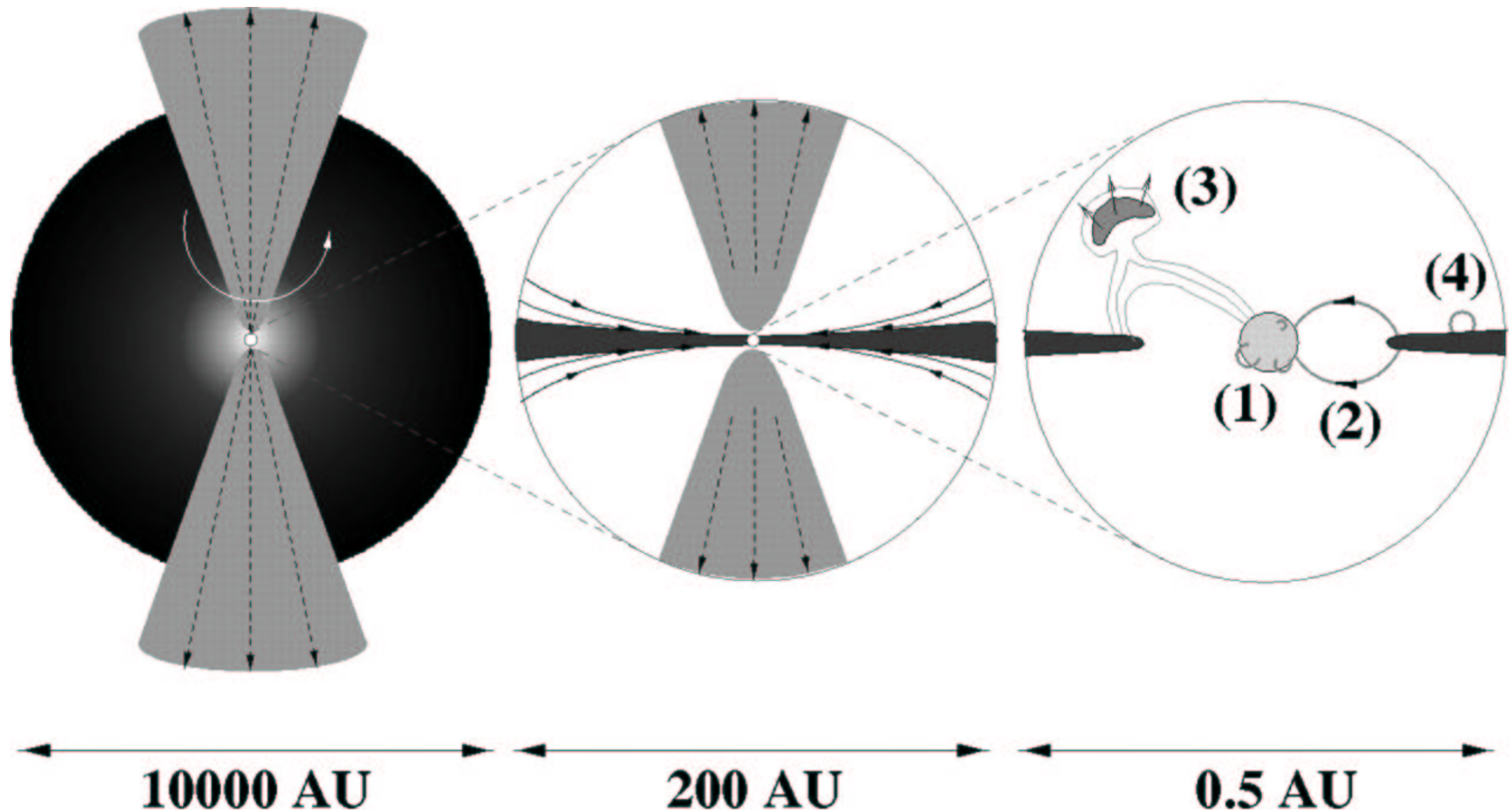
| PROPERTIES | <i>Infalling Protostar</i> | <i>Evolved Protostar</i> | <i>Classical T Tauri Star</i> | <i>Weak-lined T Tauri Star</i> | <i>Main Sequence Star</i> |
|-------------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| SKETCH |  |  |  |  |  |
| AGE (YEARS) | 10^4 | 10^5 | $10^6 - 10^7$ | $10^6 - 10^7$ | $> 10^7$ |
| mm/INFRARED CLASS | Class 0 | Class I | Class II | Class III | (Class III) |
| DISK | Yes | Thick | Thick | Thin or Non-existent | Possible Planetary System |
| X-RAY | ? | Yes | Strong | Strong | Weak |
| THERMAL RADIO | Yes | Yes | Yes | No | No |
| NON-THERMAL RADIO | No | Yes | No ? | Yes | Yes |

VI. Possible sites of X-ray generation

X-rays from
collapsing
extended
envelope

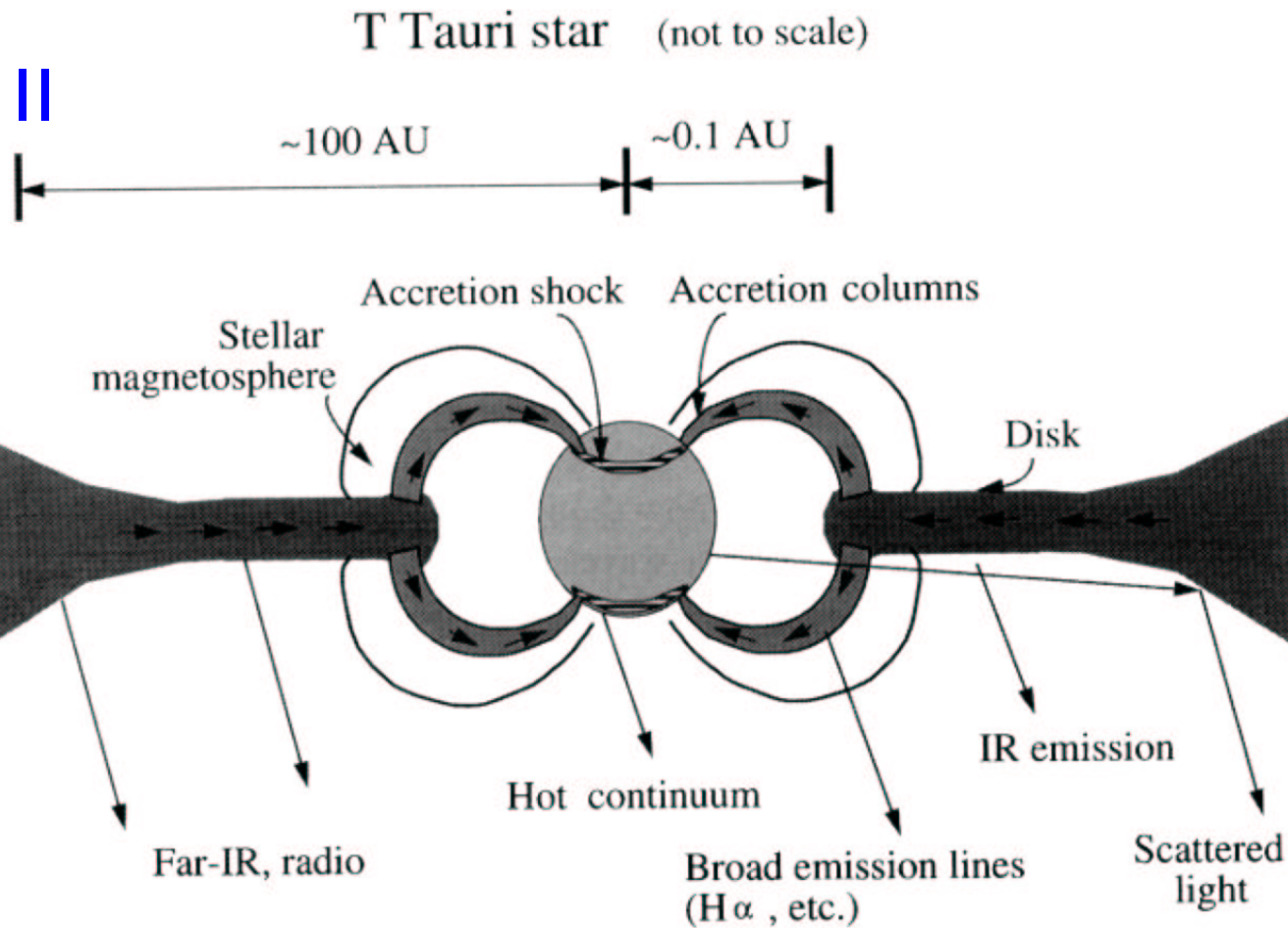
X-rays from
inner disk
and outflow

X-rays from
star-disk
magnetic-interaction
region



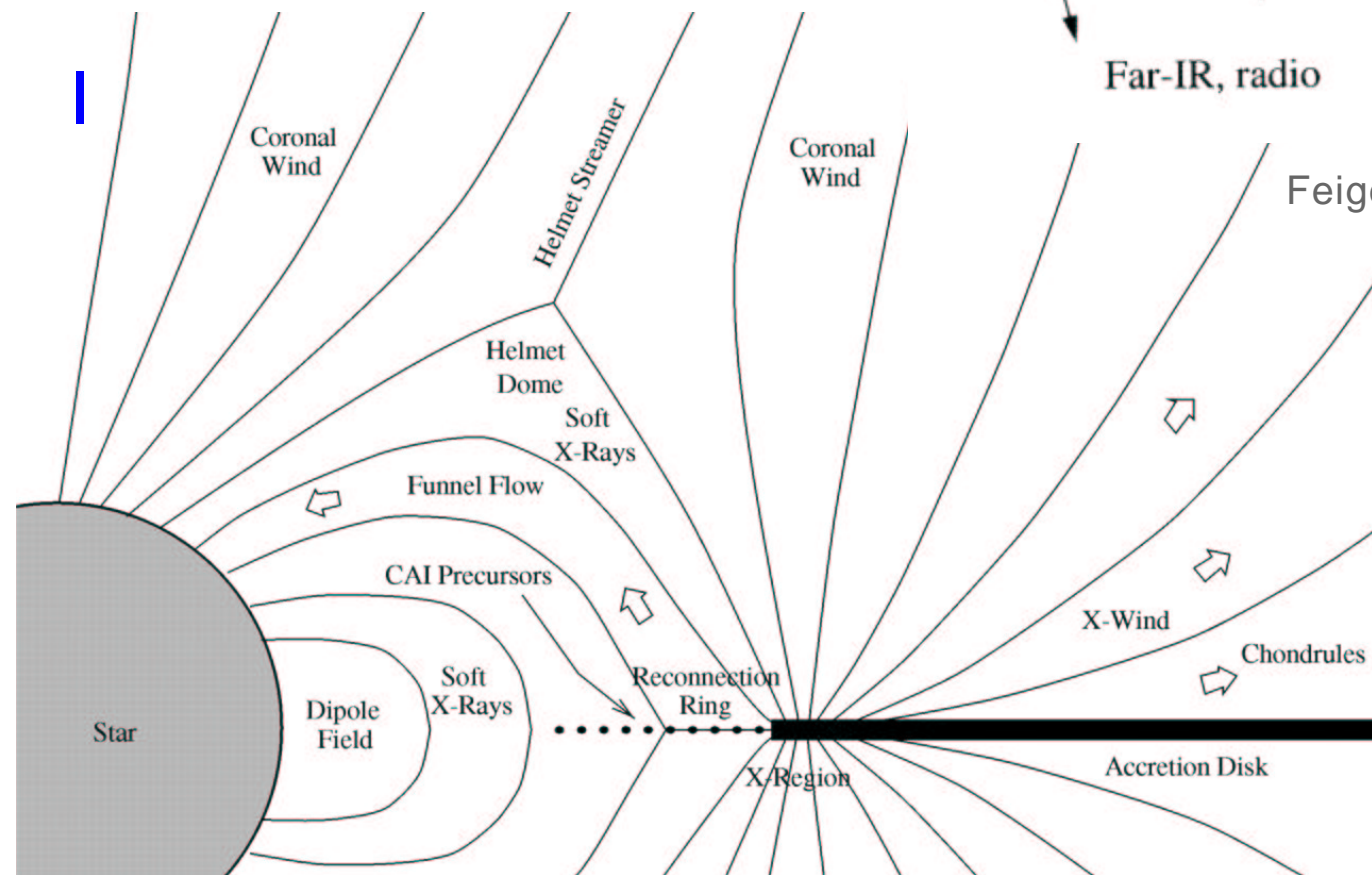
VI. Qualitative Models

I. the x-wind model of YSOs showing magnetically collimated accretion and outflows with irradiated meteoritic solids (Shu et al 1997)

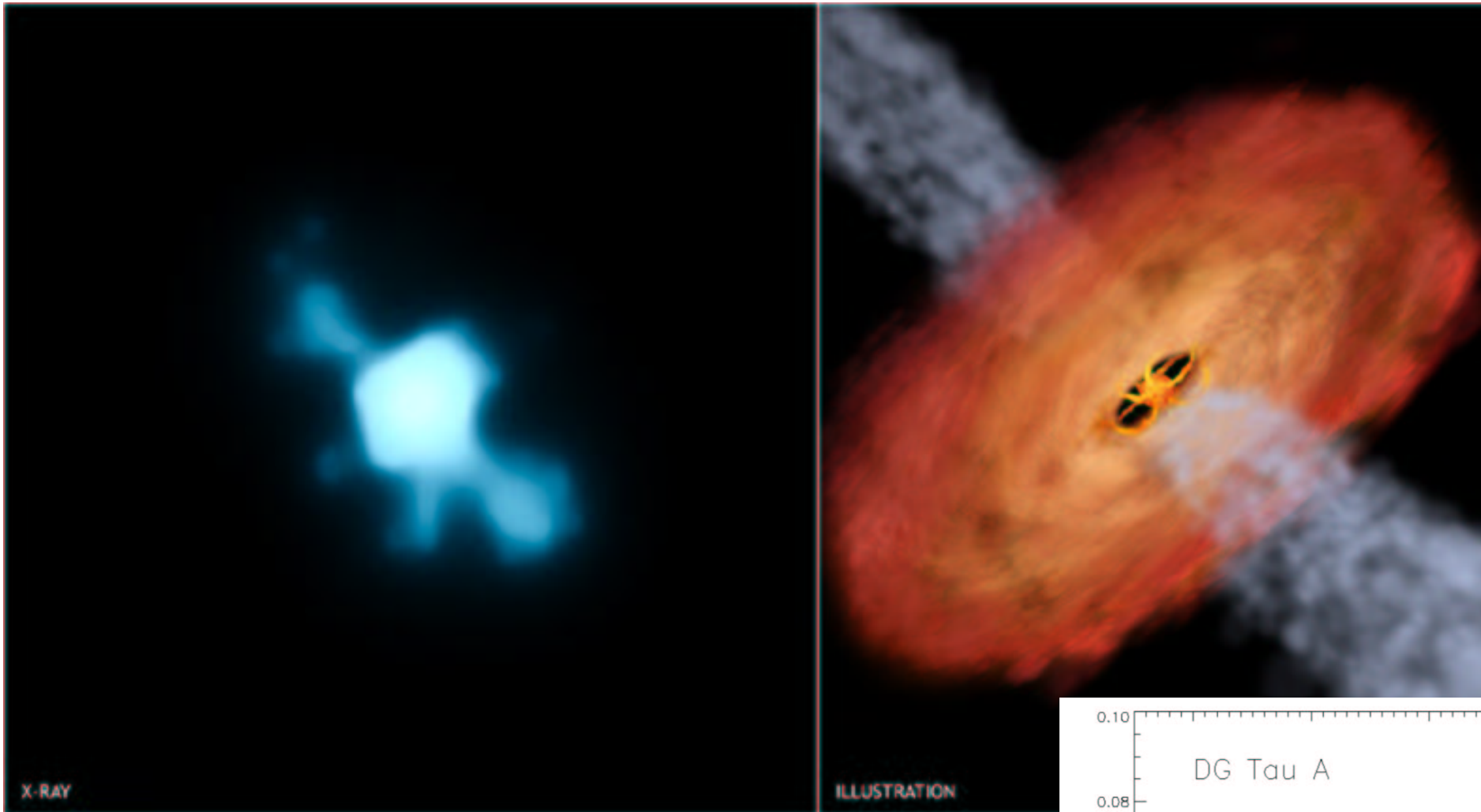


Feigelson & Montmerle ARA&A 37, 363

II. magnetically funneled accretion streams
 → broad emission lines
 (Hartmann 1998)



VI. Observations



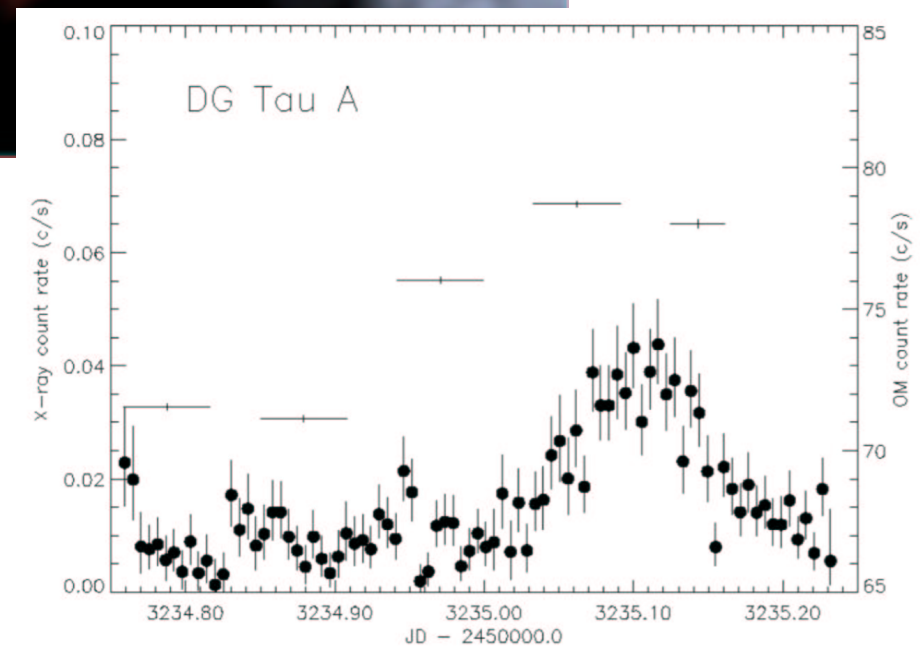
<http://chandra.harvard.edu/photo/2008/dgtau/>

DG Tau $M=1M_{\text{sun}}$, Age=1Myr

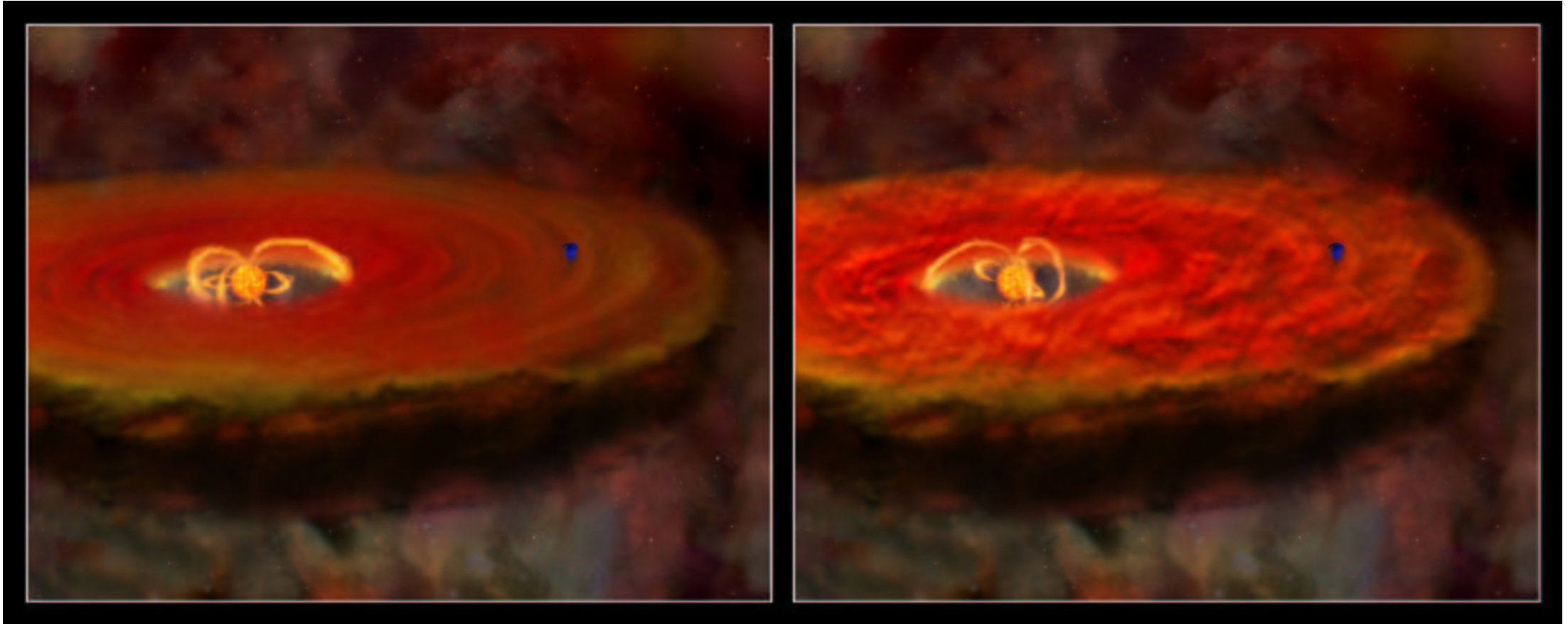
Jets, disk absorption, flares

Accretion **and** corona (?)

Importance for planet formation



VI. Accretion disks



<http://chandra.harvard.edu/photo/2005/orion>

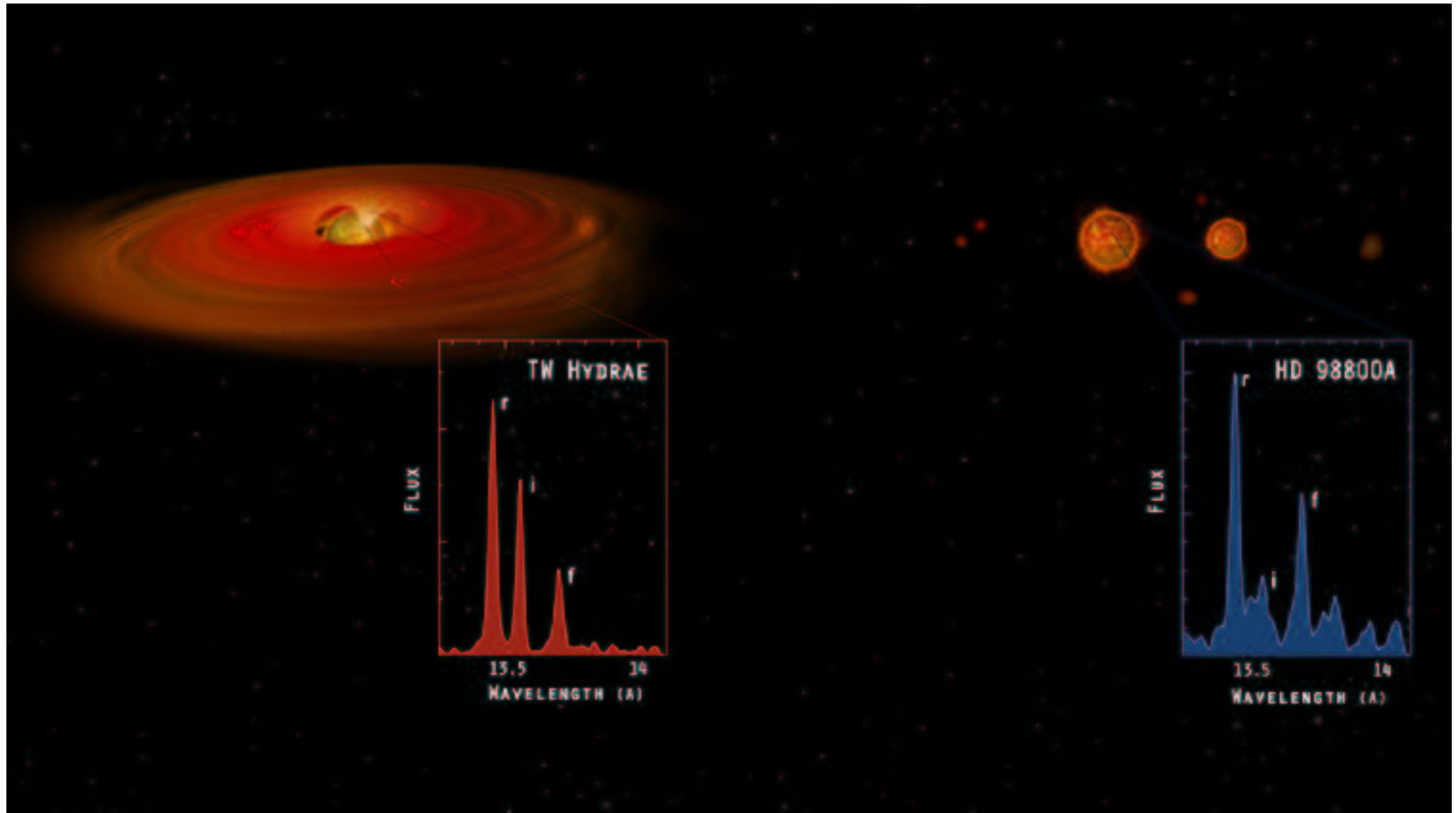
T Tau star flares are important to induce turbulence in the disks

MHD simulation turbulent disks prevent planet infall to the central star

X-rays may be needed to initiate chemical reactions necessary for planet formation

X-ray activity declines with age

VI. FIR diagnostic of accretion



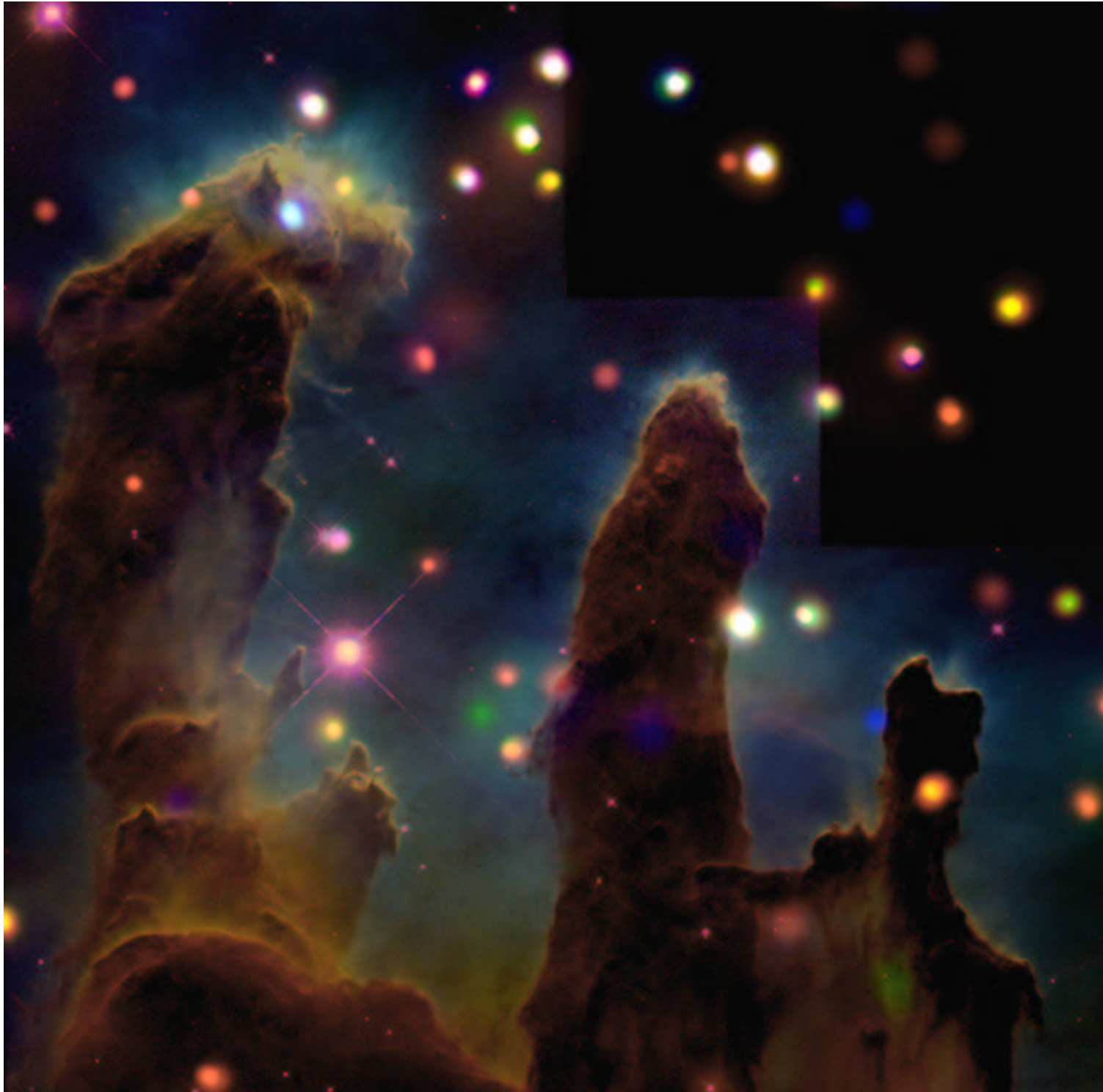
<http://chandra.harvard.edu/photo/2003/twhy/>

Higher densities in younger stars: accretion column

Older stars: disk dissipates, planet formation

X-ray observations are good tool to search for YSOs

VI. HST & Chandra: Pillars of Creation in M16

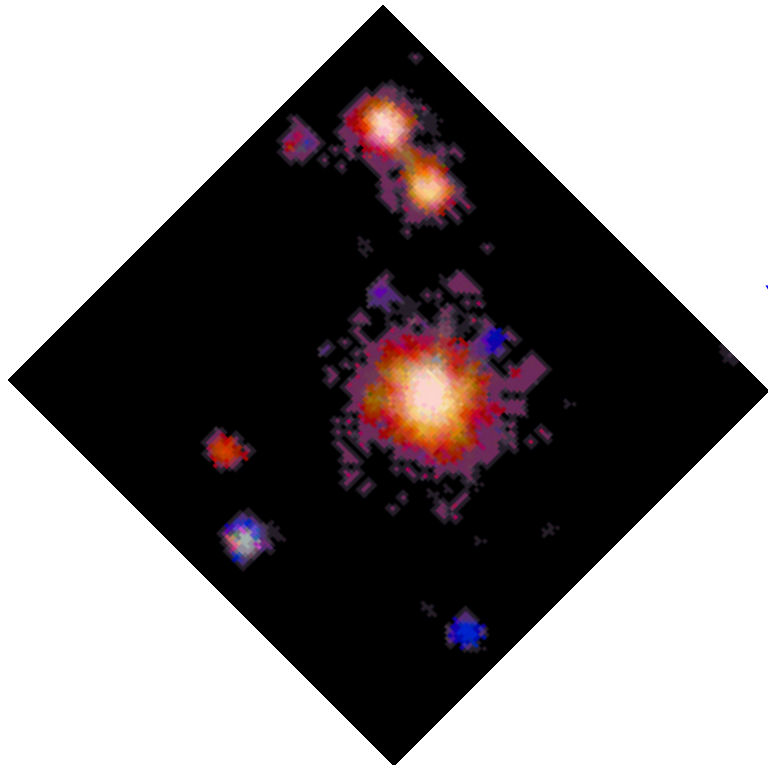


VI. Chandra's Orion Nebula

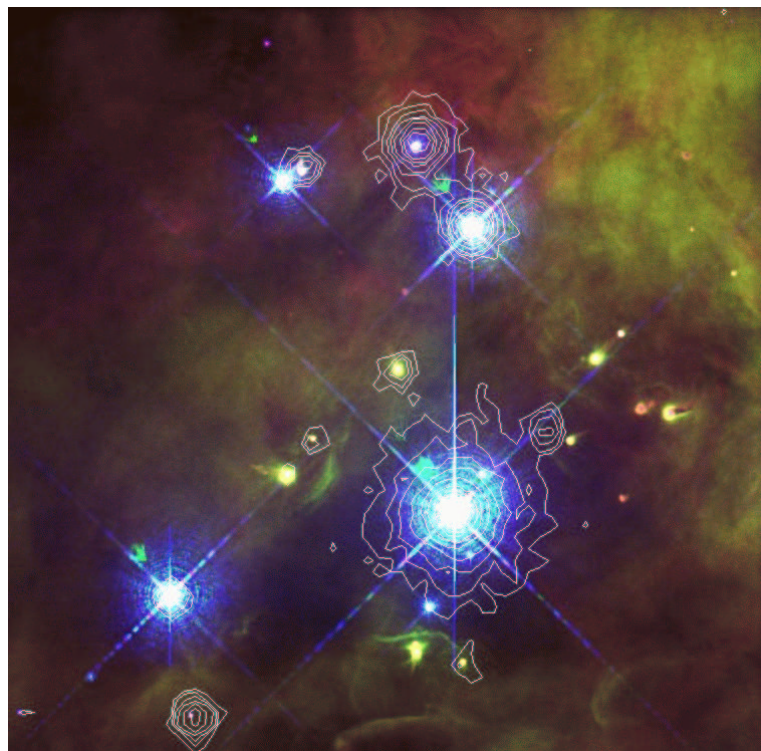


<http://chandra.harvard.edu/2005/orion/> see twinkling version

VI. Chandra's Orion Trapezium



Massive stars in the center of Orion nebula
Young (1Myr) O type stars that ionize the nebula
... Are X-ray sources and they are hard



Massive stars (earlier than A-type)
are fully radiative
Solar type coronae powered by $\alpha\Omega$ -dynamo
cannot operate there

Massive stars possess strong stellar winds

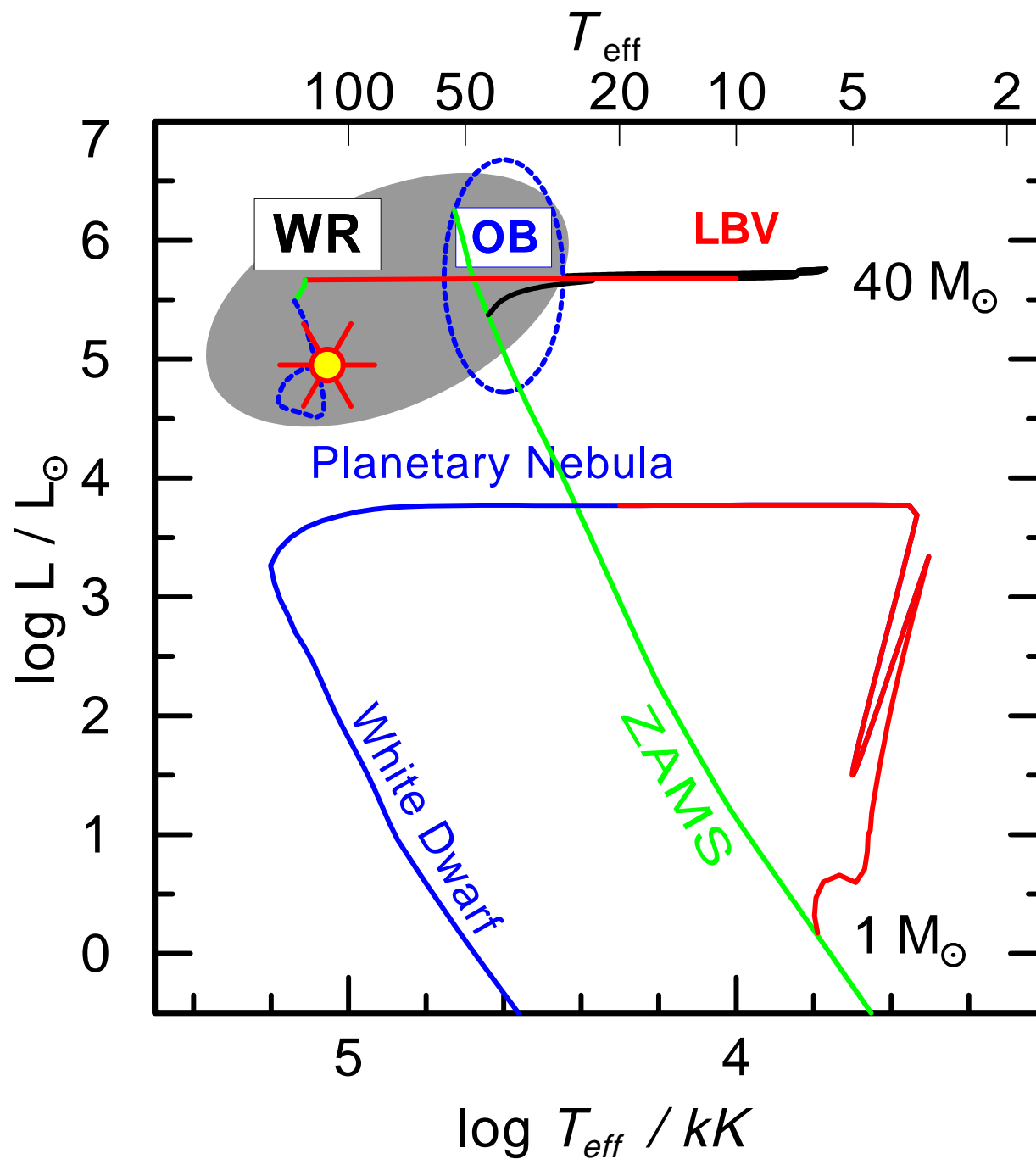
Massive Stars and Stellar Winds

$$M_* > 8M_{\odot}$$

Live Fast, Die Young (~ few Myr)

- $T_{\text{eff}} > 10\,000\text{ K} \rightarrow$ high surface brightness
- Light: momentum (+ energy) \rightarrow force to the scattering atoms
- Light force $>$ gravitational force \rightarrow **STELLAR WIND**
- Radiative driving is by **line scattering**
- Moving media: Doppler: line width $\Delta\nu \propto v$
- Feedback: radiative driving force depends on acceleration

The evolution of (very) massive stars



Evolution ← stellar wind (!)

- O and B type stars
- Luminous Blue Variables
- Wolf-Rayet (WR) stars

According to dominant spectral lines

WN (nitrogen) →

WC (carbon) →

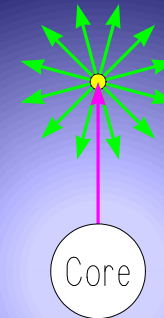
WO (oxygen) →



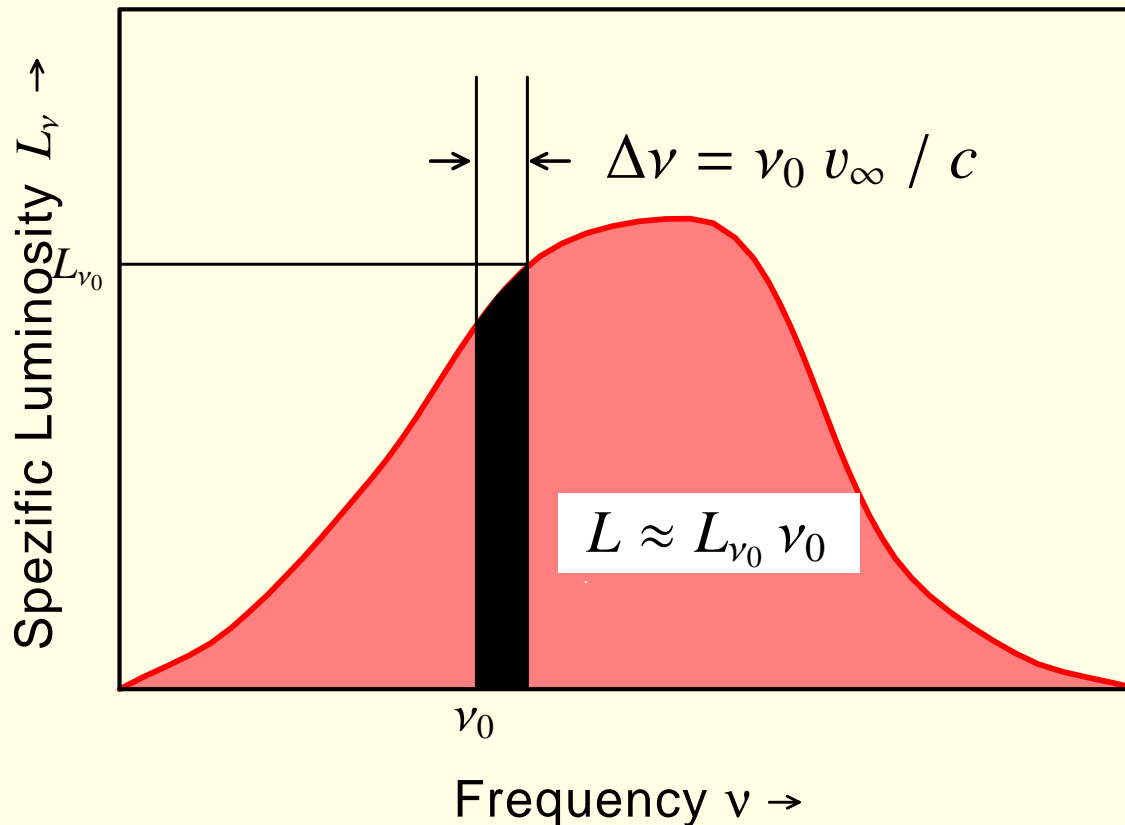
Line-driven stellar winds

(Castor, Abbott & Klein 1975)

- Stellar wind transparent in continuum, opaque in many lines
- Absorption from \sim radial direction; re-emission isotropic
- Acceleration \rightarrow velocity \rightarrow Doppler shift of the line
- Photons from a whole frequency band $\Delta\nu$ are swept up



In *one* line intercepted momentum per time: $L_{\nu_0} \Delta\nu / c = L v_\infty / c^2$



Wind momentum per time: $\dot{M} v_\infty$

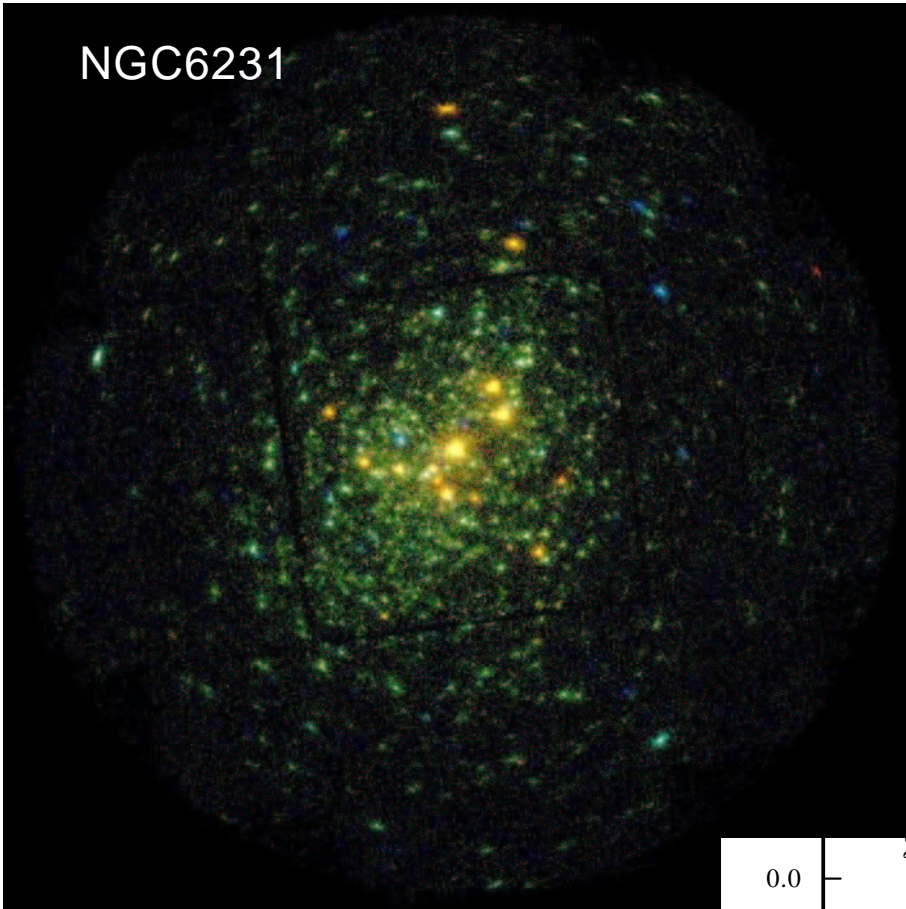
Mass loss driven by *one* line:

$$\dot{M} = \frac{L}{c^2}$$

= mass loss by nuclear burning

$$! L = \frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{d}{dt}(Mc^2)$$

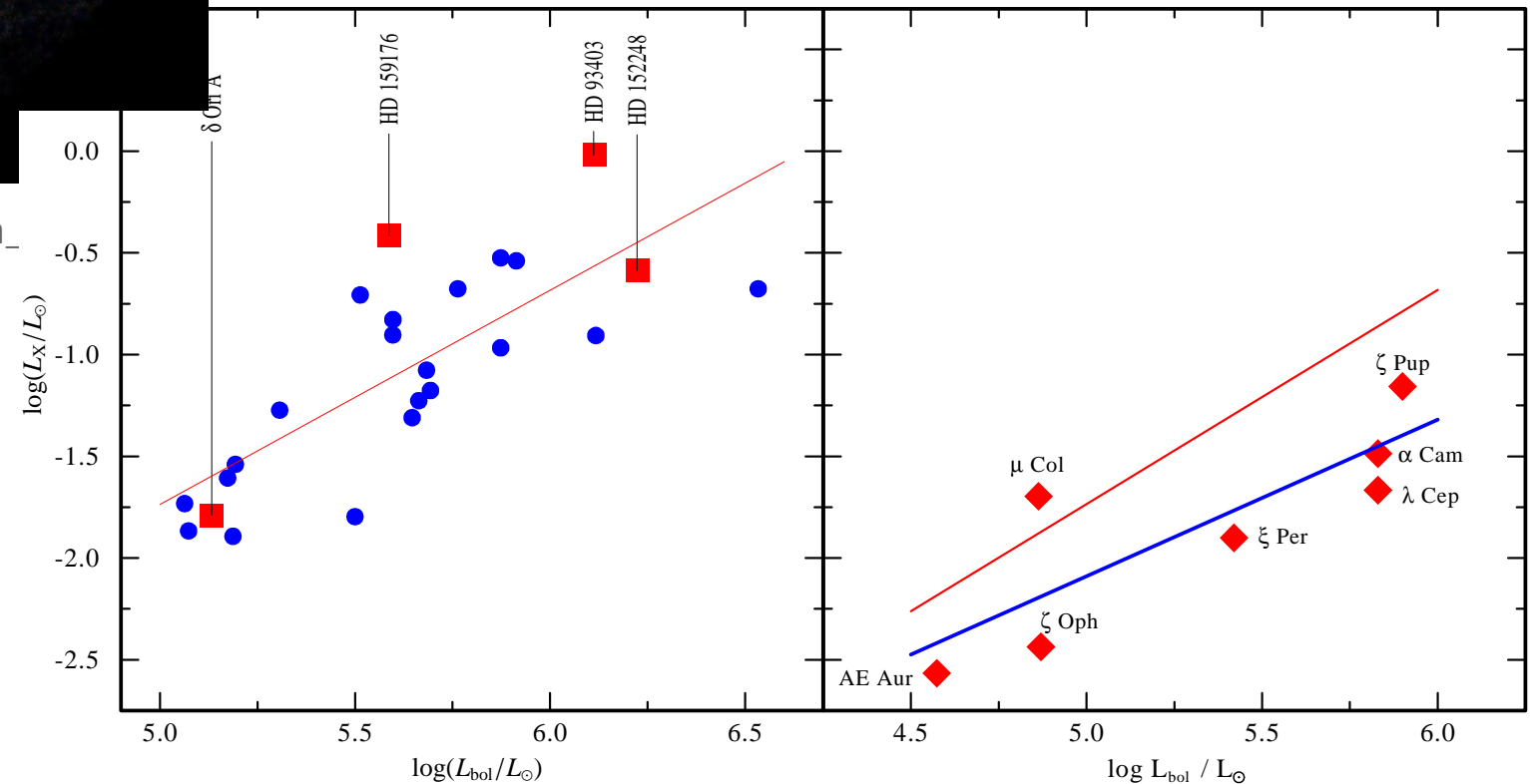
VI. All O stars emit X-rays



- $0.01 \text{MK} < T_{\text{eff}} < 0.06 \text{MK}$, $L_{\text{bol}} = 10^{4..6} L_{\text{sun}}$
- Clumped wind $\dot{M} = 10^{-6..-8} M_{\text{sun}}/\text{yr}$, $v_{\text{wind}} > 10^3 \text{km/s}$
- Einstein, Rosat: $L_X \sim 10^{-7} L_{\text{bol}}$ (Seward et al. '79, Berghoefer et al. '97)

http://xmm.esac.esa.int/external/xmm_

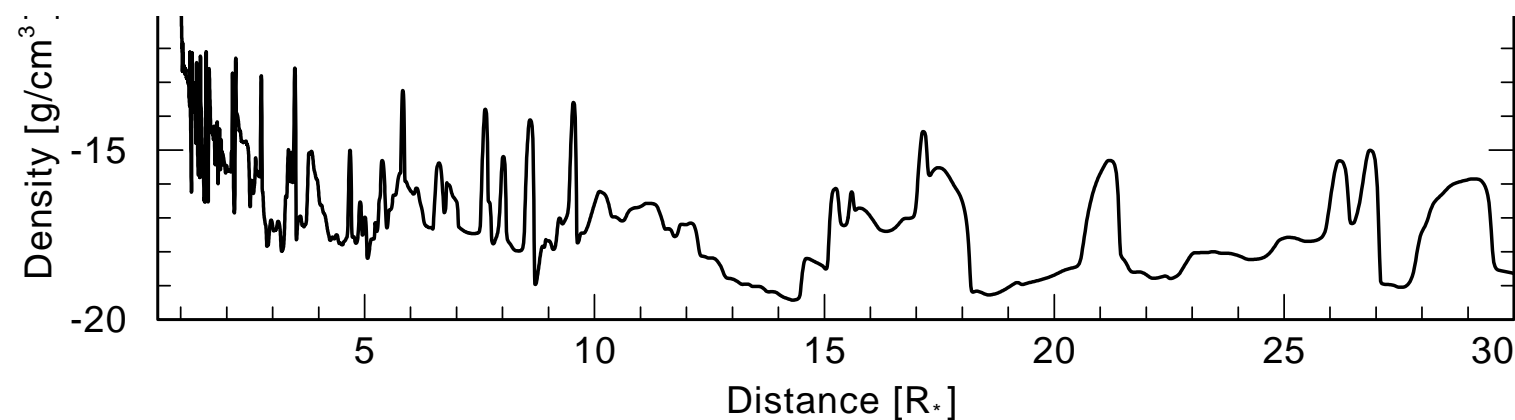
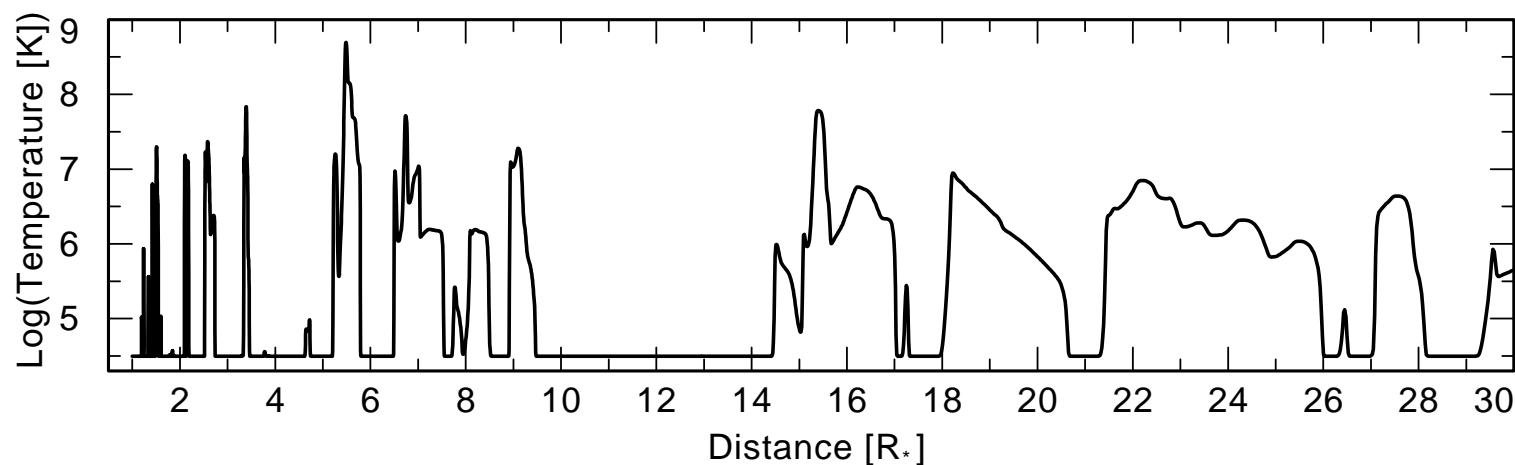
There are no coronae
 $L_X \propto L_{\text{bol}}$
 remains unexplained



Oskinova 2005

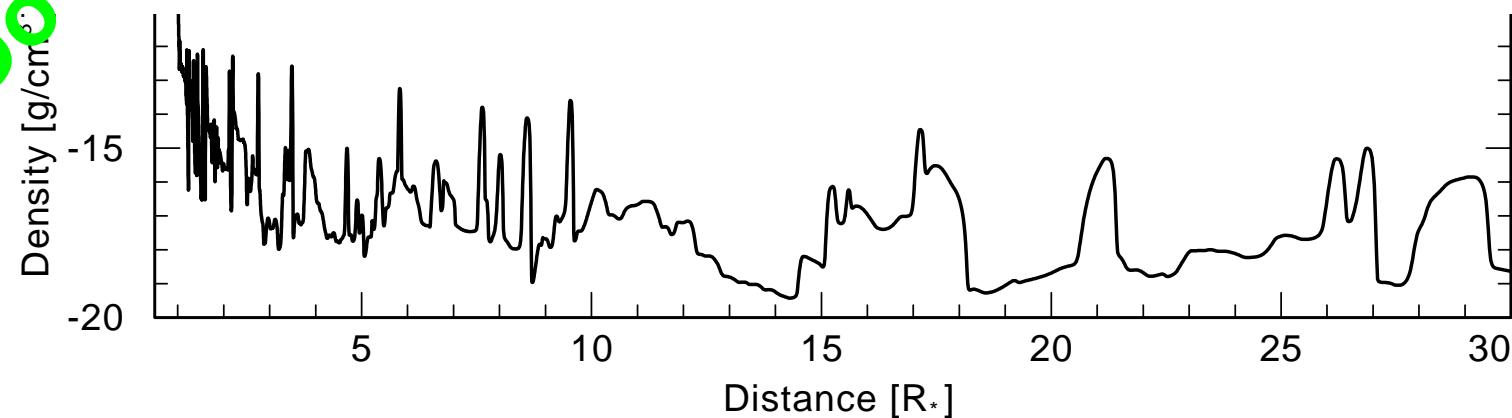
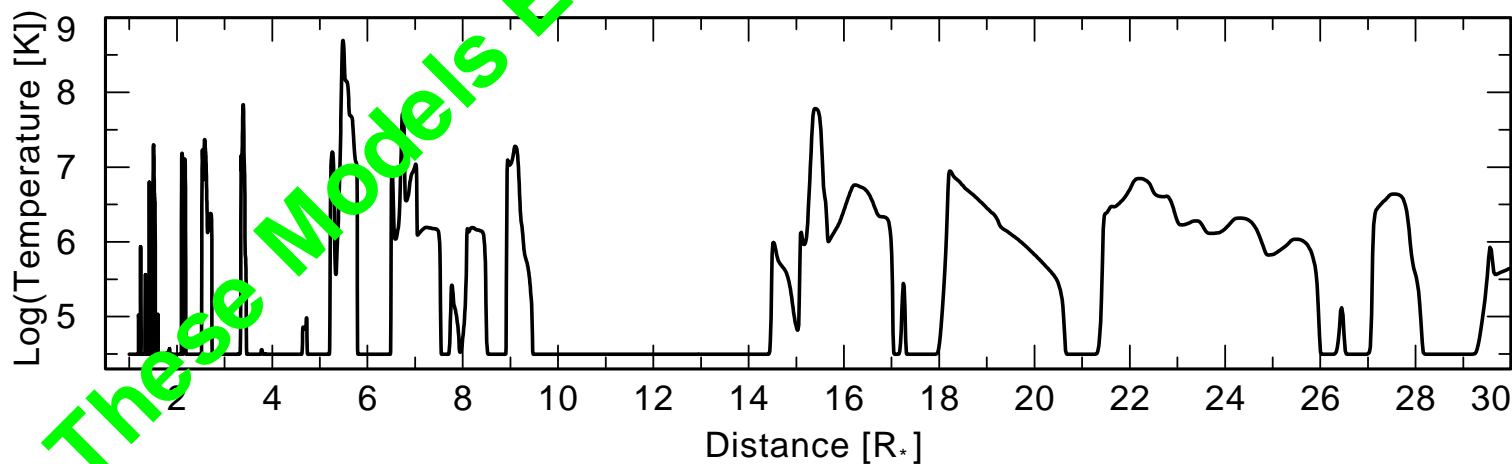
How X-rays are generated in O stars? Leading theories.

- Bow shocks around blobs (Lucy & White '80, Cassinelli et al. '08)
- Magnetically confined loops at the stellar base (Cassinelli & Swank '83)
- Wind shocks from the instabilities of radiation driving (Owocki et al. '83)
- Collisions of dense shells in deep wind regions (Feldmeier et al. '97)

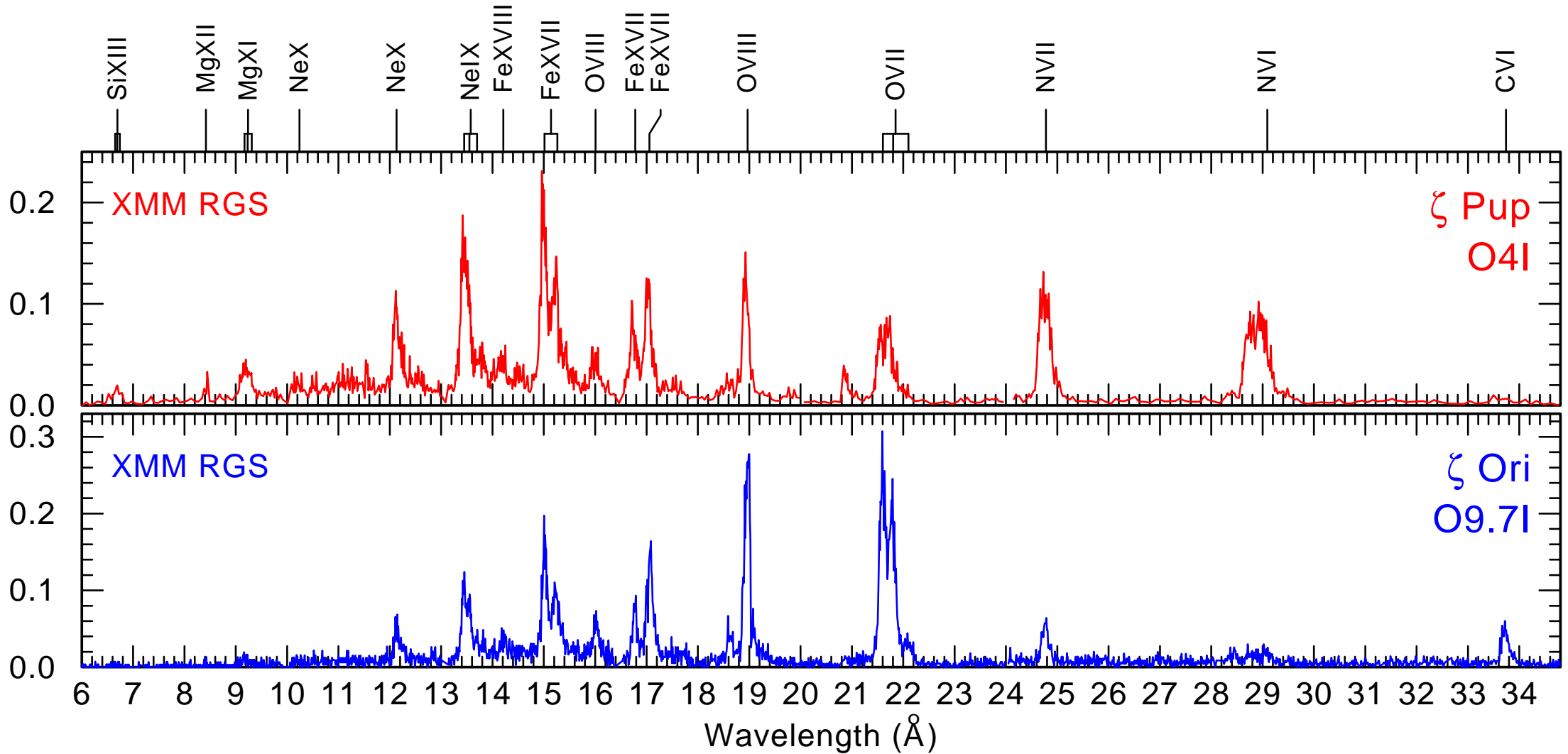


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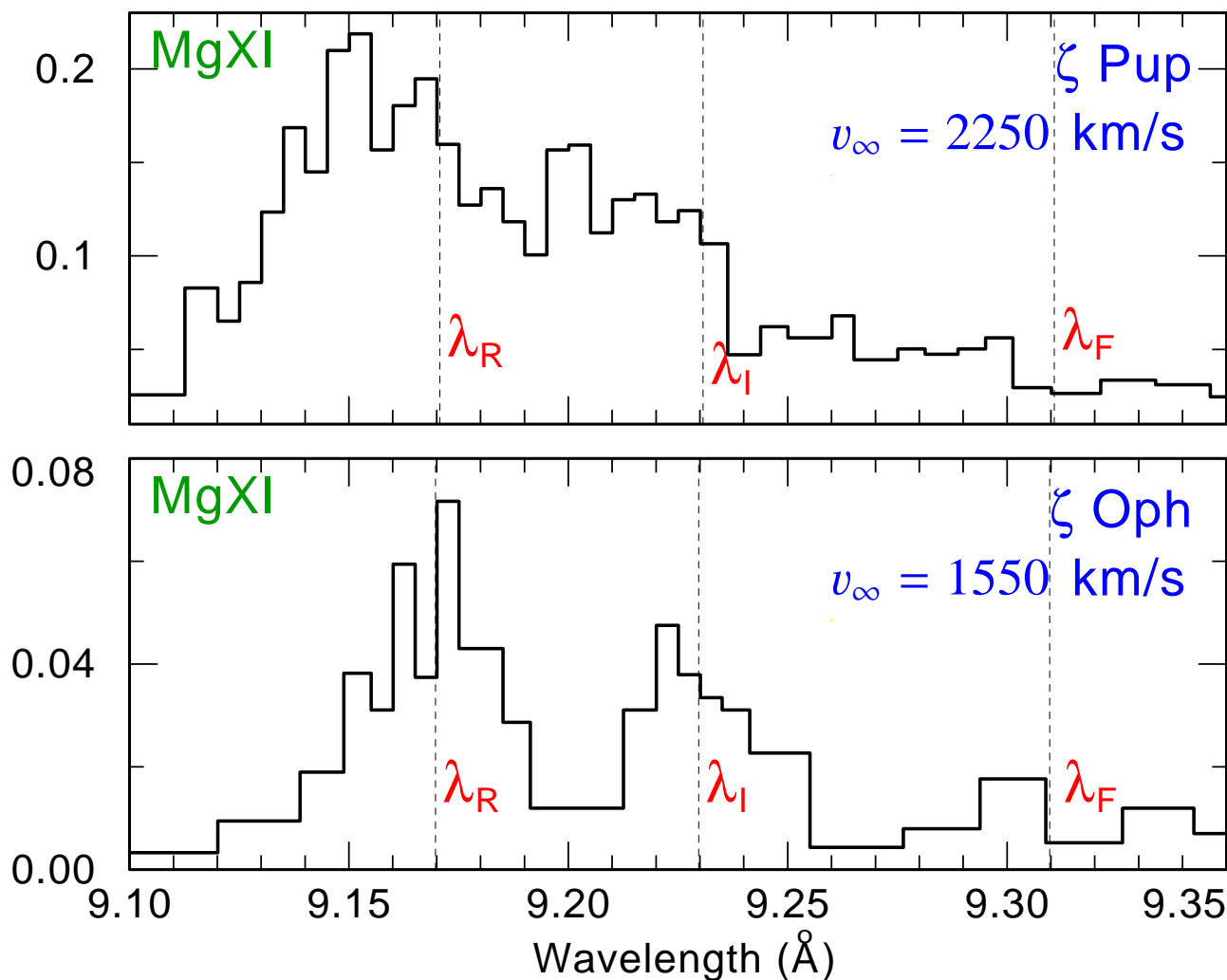
High-Resolution X-ray Spectra



- * Overall spectral fitting \rightarrow plasma model, abundances
- * Line ratios $\rightarrow T_x(r)$, spatial distribution
- * Line profiles \rightarrow velocity field, wind opacity

Line Ratios of He-Like Ions: Location and Temperature

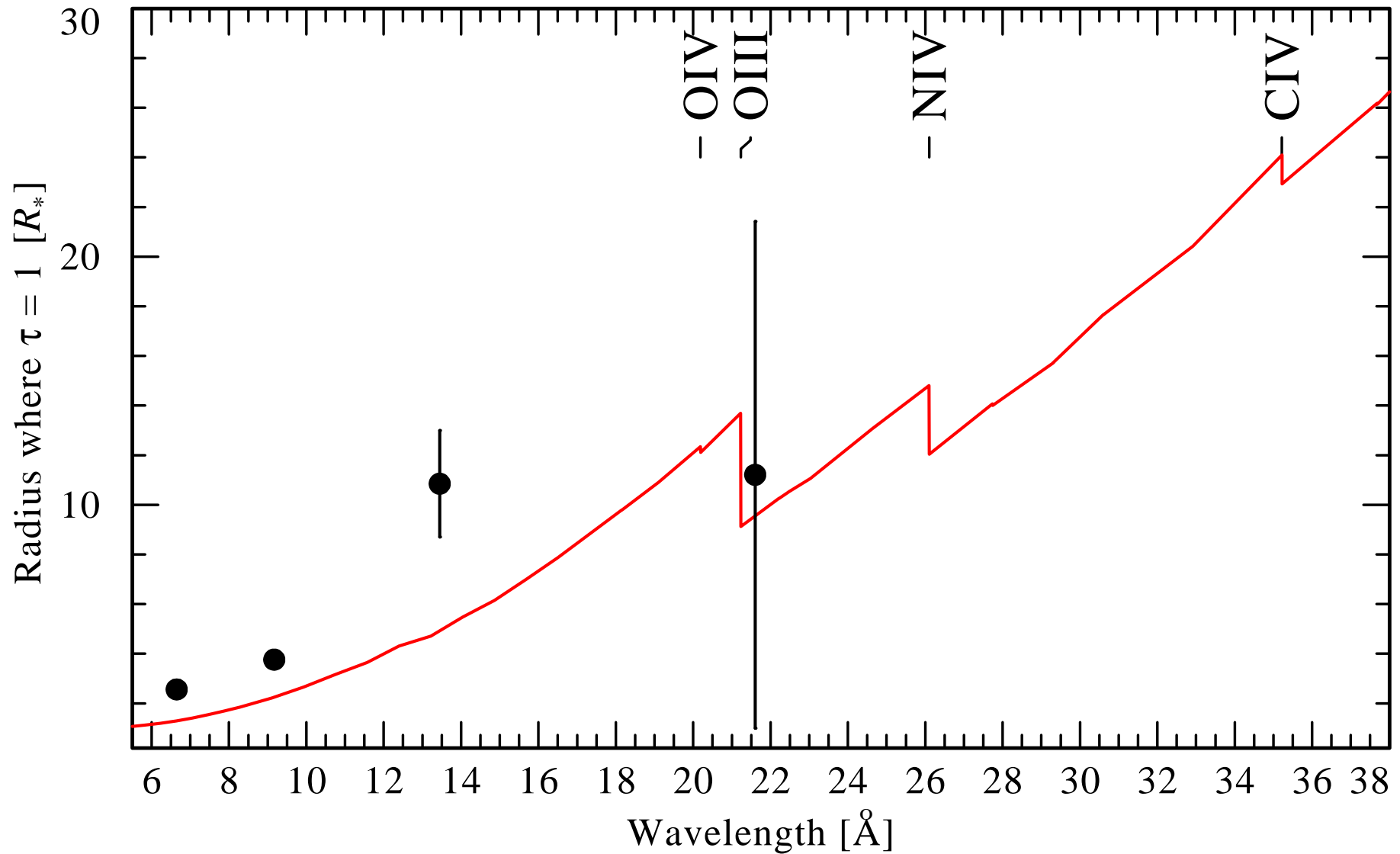
- Strong UV field \Rightarrow radiative de-population of metastable level 3S
- Weakening the forbidden (F) line in favor of the interrecombination (I) line
- f/i is diagnostic of UV field. UV field dilutes with radius



Similar trends for different stars

Wind opacity for X-rays

Using modern atmosphere model ζ Pup $\dot{M} = 8.7 \times 10^{-6} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}^{-1}$



Agreement between wind-opacity and radii of line formation from fir analysis

Why it matters: mass-loss from massive stars

\dot{M} - key feedback agent
 \dot{M} - key parameter of stellar evolution

Empirical determinations are model dependant

Spectral analysis is hampered by unknown degree of wind clumping

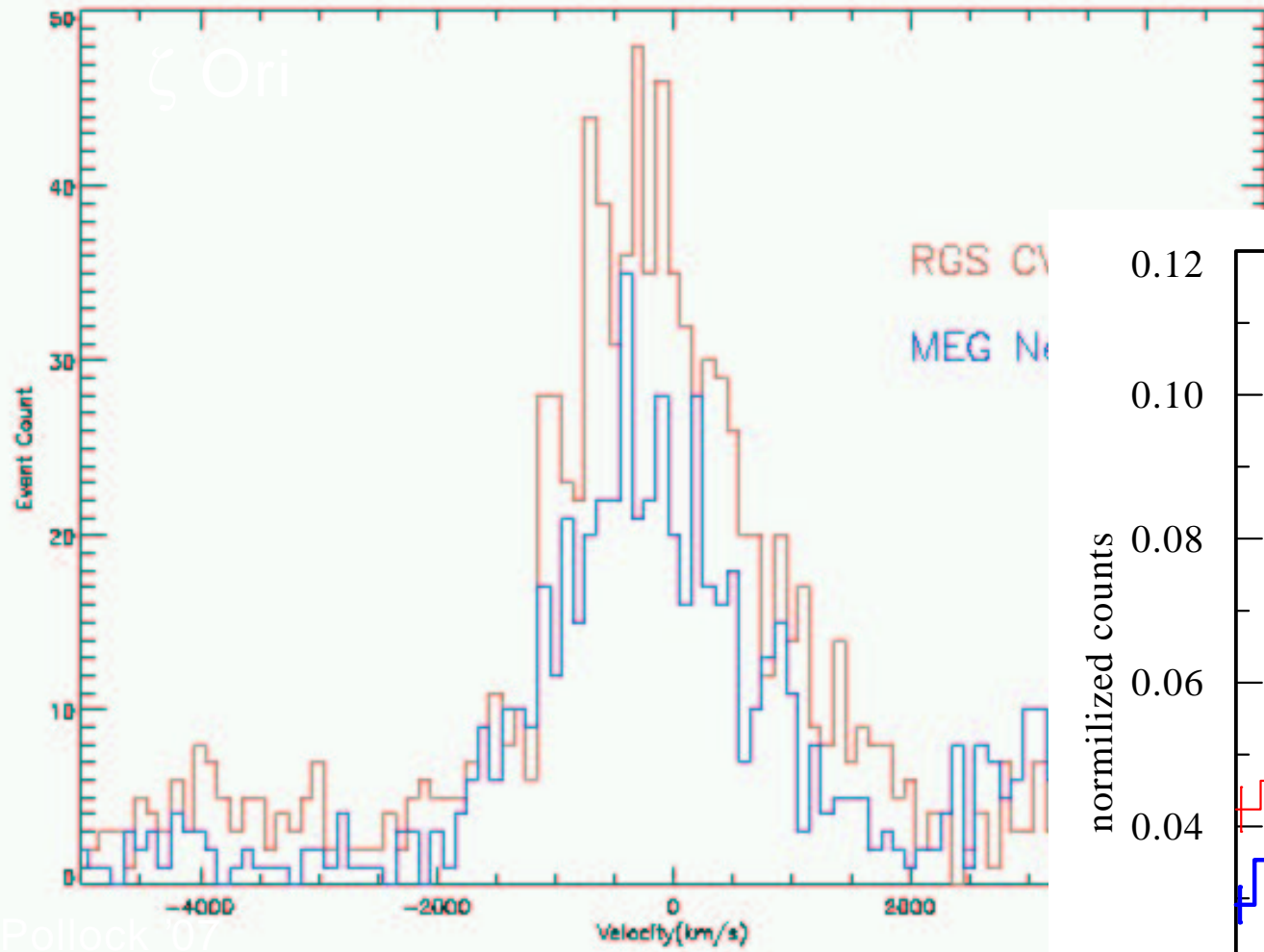
Literature values differ by 100 times

X- rays measure wind opacity $\rightarrow \dot{M}$

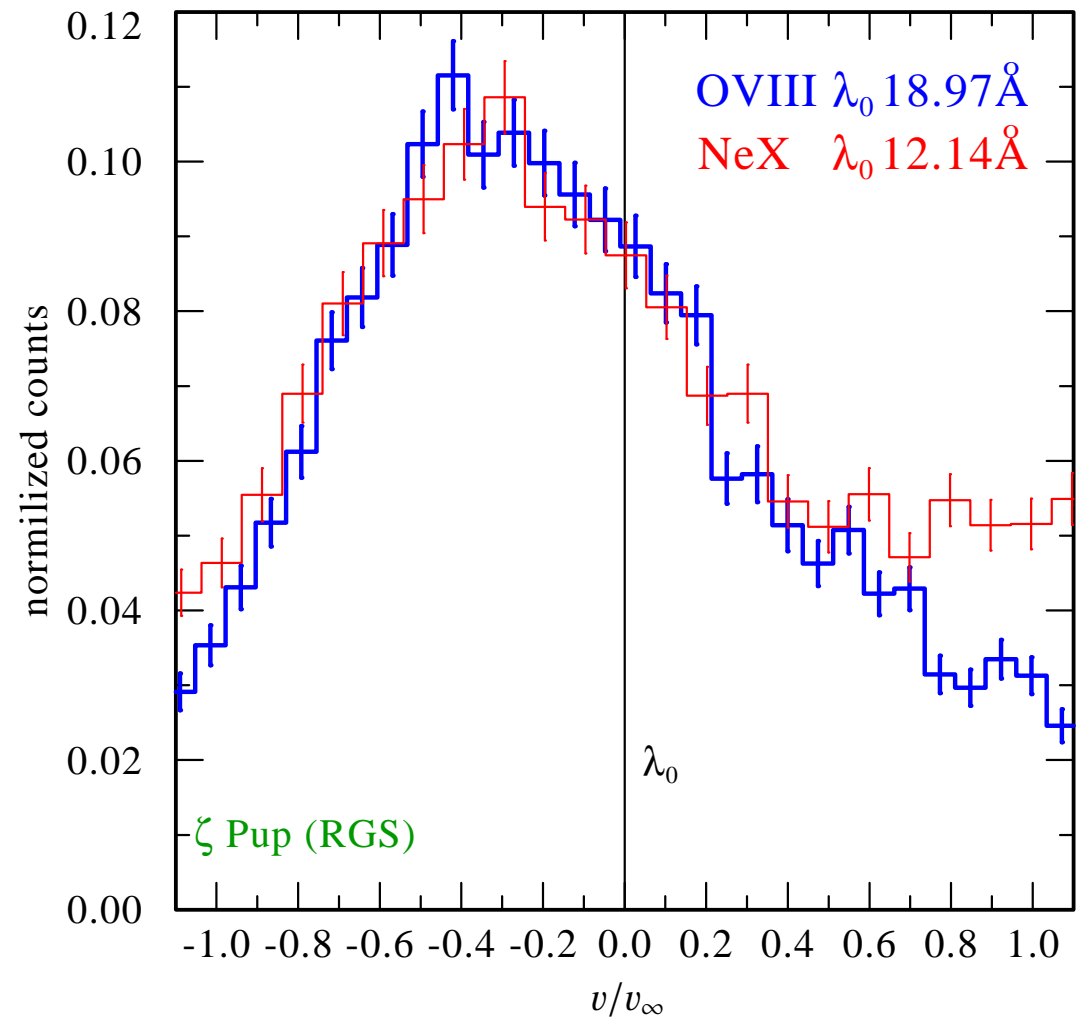
Observed lines are broad

Observed emission line profiles are similar

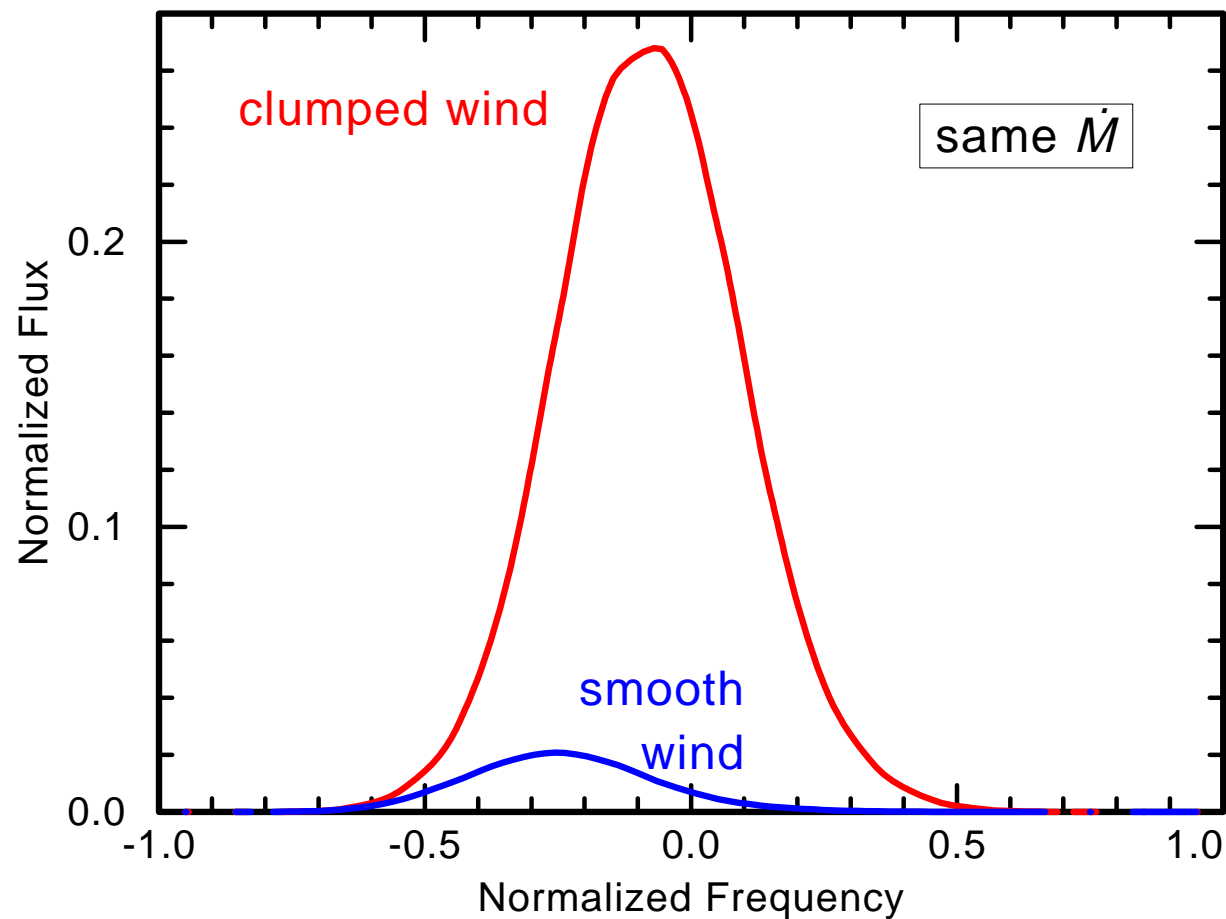
Lines are formed in the wind



X-rays are produced in wind shocks



Wind structure from X-ray lines



Wind opacity for X-ray drastically reduced by clumping

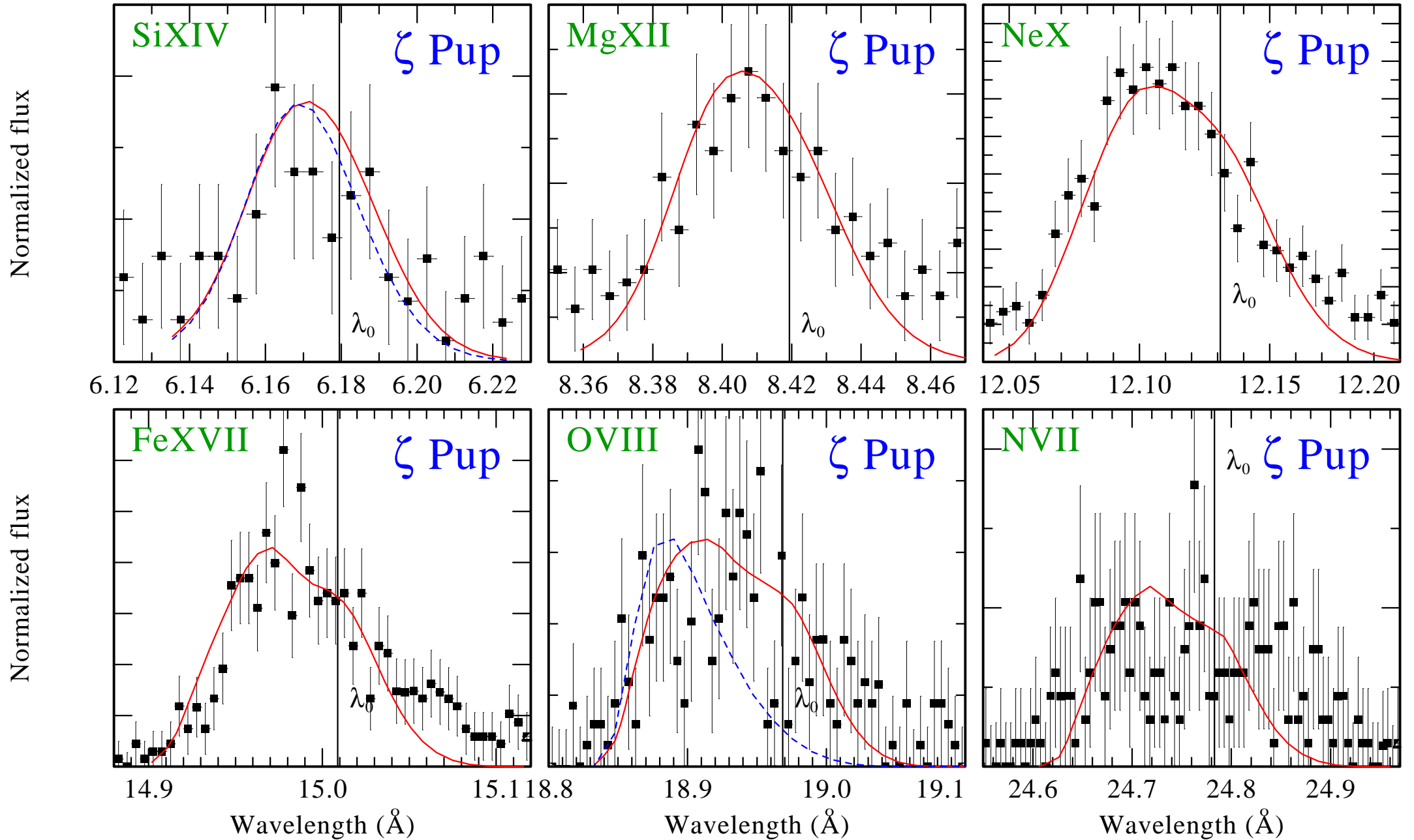
Clumps are rather large - optically thick



Similar line profiles across the spectrum

Clumps are flattened

Observed and model lines of ζ Puppis (no fitting!)



Conclusions: Intrinsic wind emission from O stars

- X-rays originate close to the stellar core. Hot plasma fills some space between clumps.
- There are some indications that hottest plasma located close to the core.
- "Hybrid" model? Loop-like structures at the surface, shocks around blobs due to the wind instability?
- Stellar wind is clumped until proven otherwise. RT in clumped wind is not the same
- Clumping explains shape of X-ray emission line profiles.
- Consistent \dot{M} estimates ranging from radio to X-ray