

Maximum White Dwarf Mass

- once the electrons in a white dwarf become relativistic, the star must collapse
- critical mass is the Chandrasekhar mass:

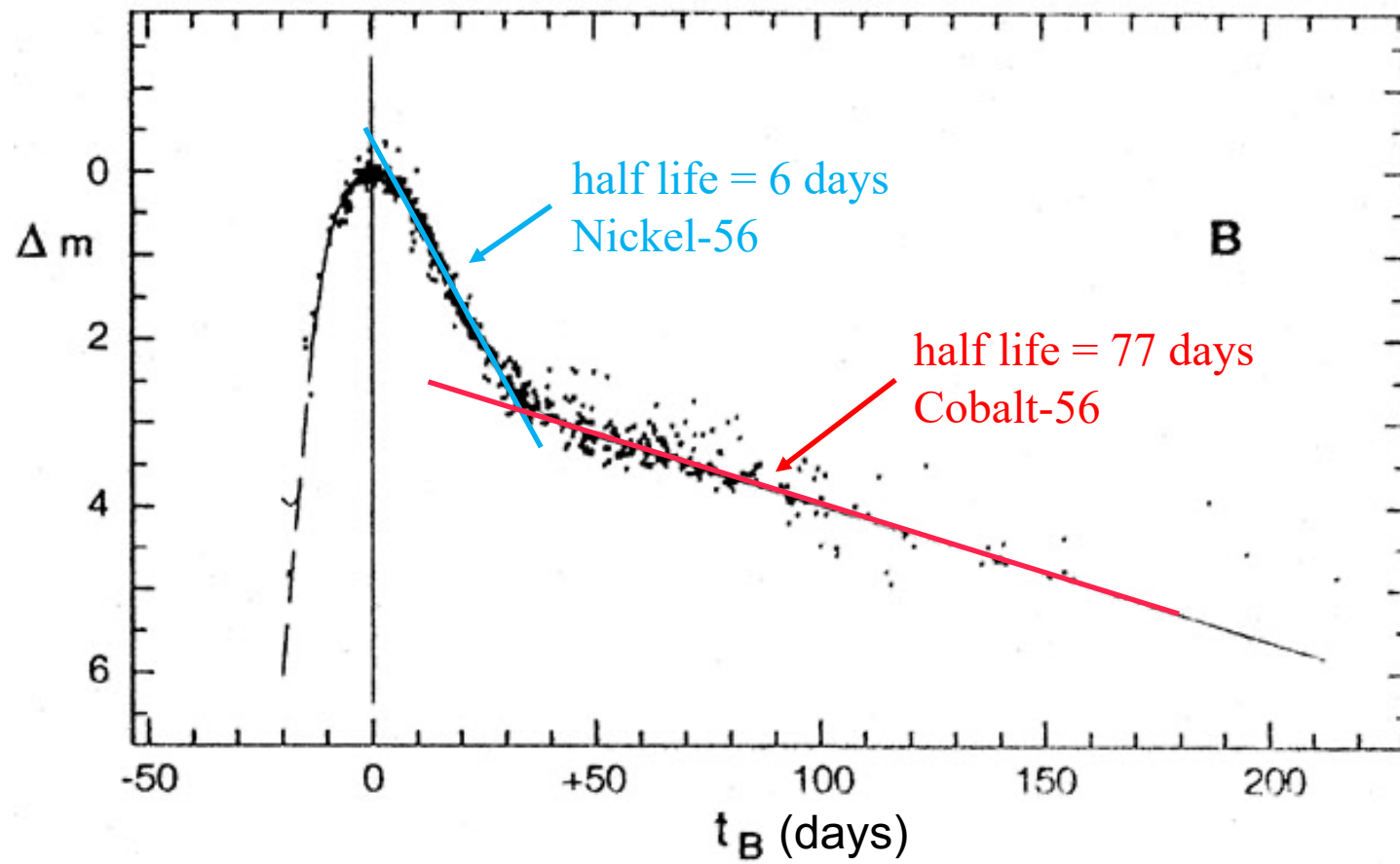
$$M_{ch} = 0.21 \left(\frac{Z}{A} \right)^2 \left(\frac{hc}{Gm_p^2} \right)^{3/2} m_p$$

$$= 1.4 M_{\odot} \quad \text{for} \quad \frac{Z}{A} = 0.5$$

independent of m_e

White Dwarf Collapse

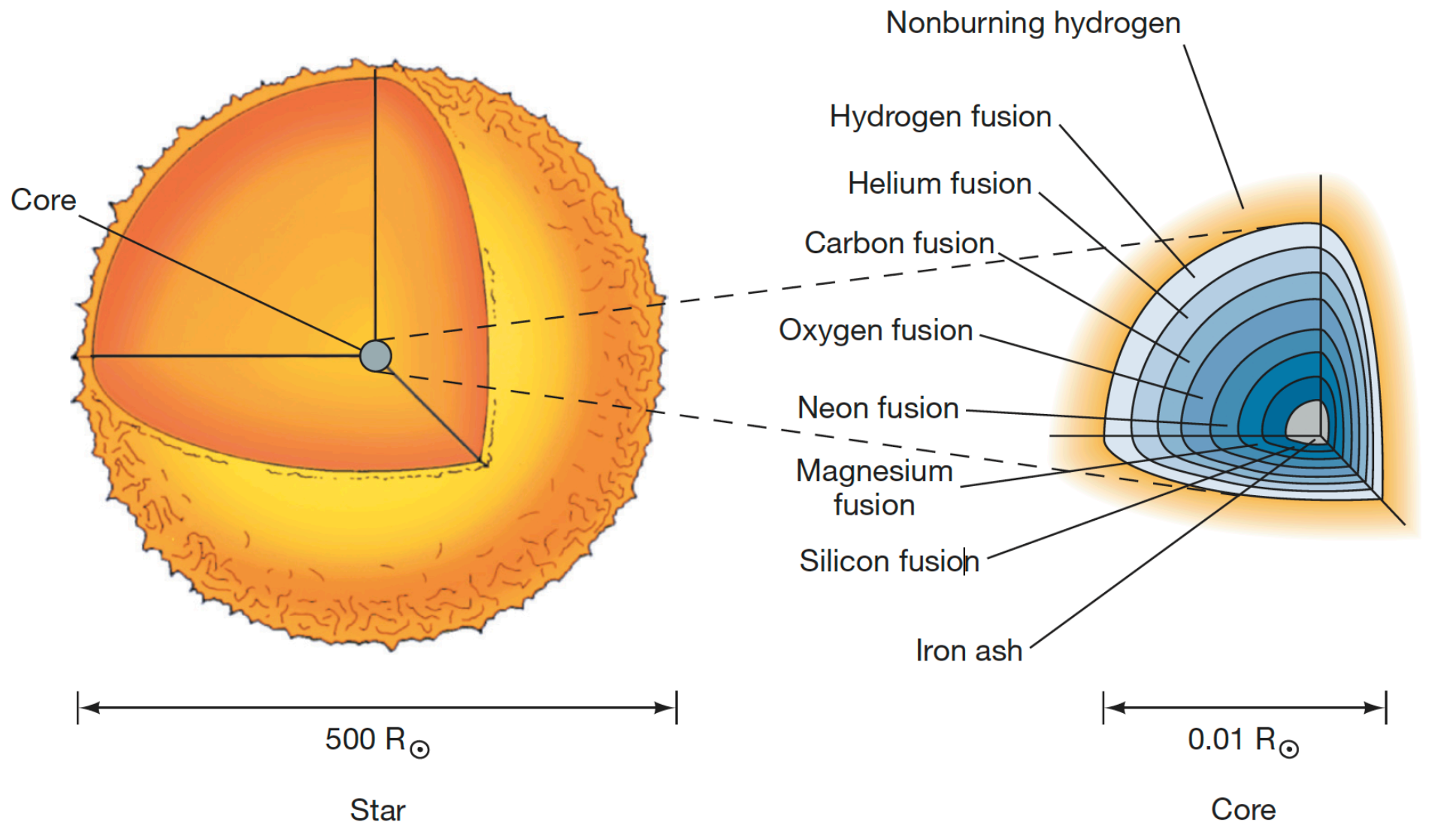
- collapse $\Rightarrow T \uparrow \Rightarrow C/O$ burning throughout
 $\Rightarrow$ deflagration/explosion
 $\Rightarrow$ supernova (Type Ia)
- energetics: $\sim 10^{44}$ J total ($\sim L_{\odot} \times 10^{10}$ yr)
- light curve: radioactive decay (Ni, Co, ...)
peak luminosity $\sim 5 \times 10^9 L_{\odot}$



Cadonau 1987



NASA/Chandra X-ray
Observatory/University of
Texas/2MASS/University of
Massachusetts/Caltech/NSF



layered core structure

High-Mass Stars

Faster and faster burning stages ($\sim 25 M_{\odot}$ star)

$$H \sim 5 \times 10^6 \text{ yr}$$

$$He \sim 5 \times 10^5 \text{ yr}$$

$$C \sim 500 \text{ yr}$$

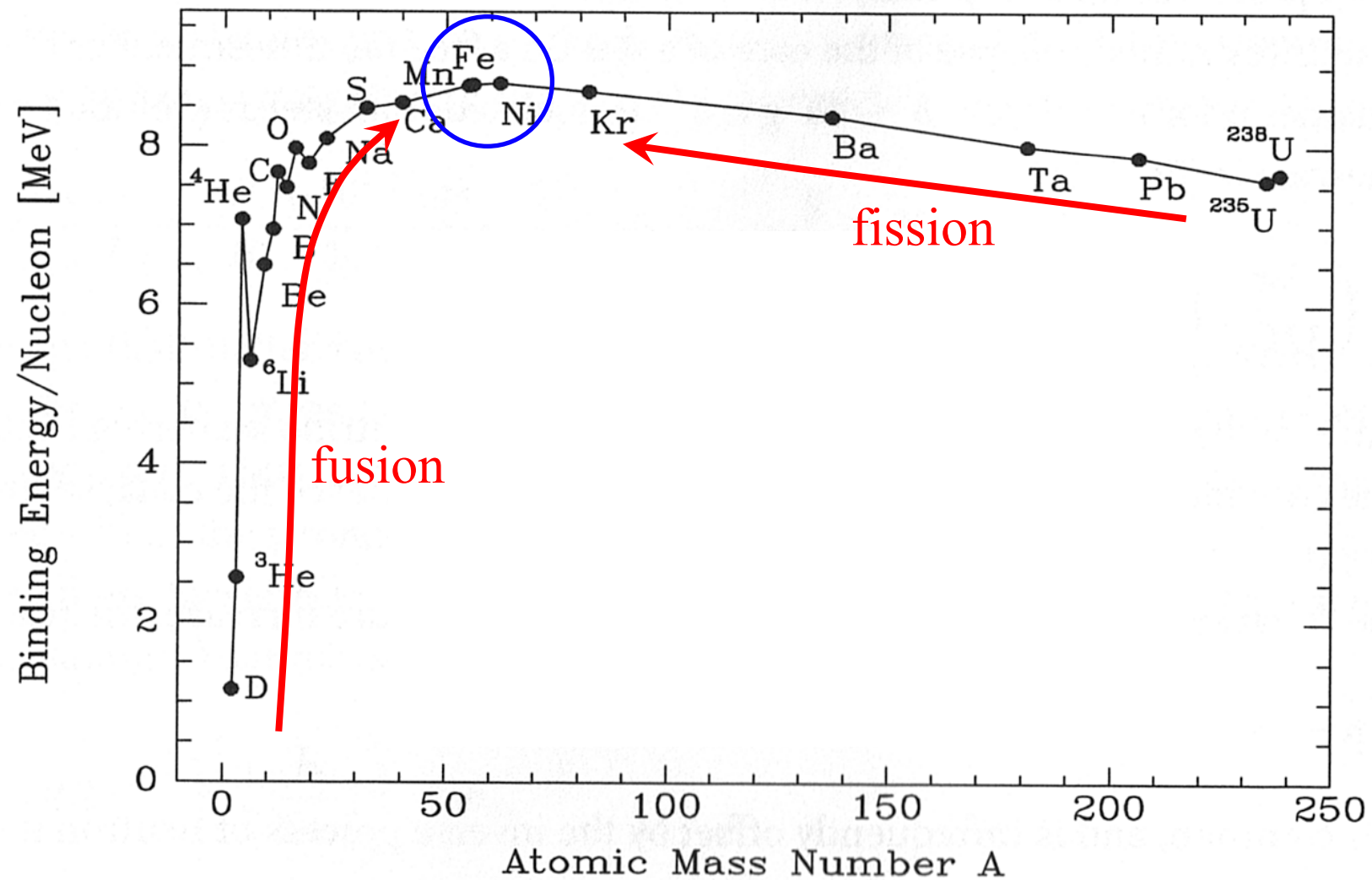
$$Ne \sim 1 \text{ yr}$$

$$Si \sim 1 \text{ day}$$



Problem:

Iron won't fuse!



Core of a High-Mass Star

- Fe core grows in mass and shrinks in radius
- core is supported by electron degeneracy pressure

temperature $T > 10^9 \text{ K}$

density $\rho > 10^{12} \text{ kg m}^{-3}$

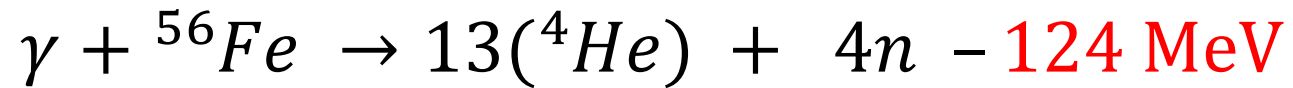
mass $M \sim 1.2 - 1.4 M_{\odot} \sim M_{ch}$

radius $R \sim 10^4 \text{ km}$

- core is about to exceed M_{ch} and become unstable, but things are worse than that...

Core of a High-Mass Star

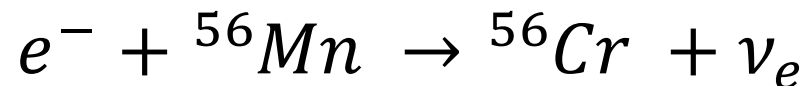
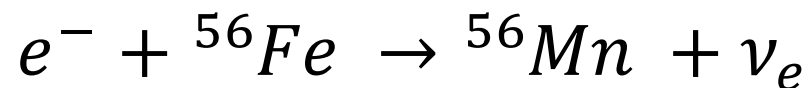
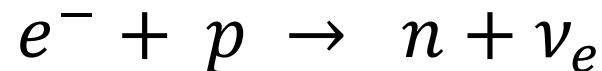
1. High $T \Rightarrow$ photodisintegration



removes $\sim 10^{45} \text{ J} \approx$ core thermal energy

destabilizes the core

2. High $\rho \Rightarrow$ neutronization



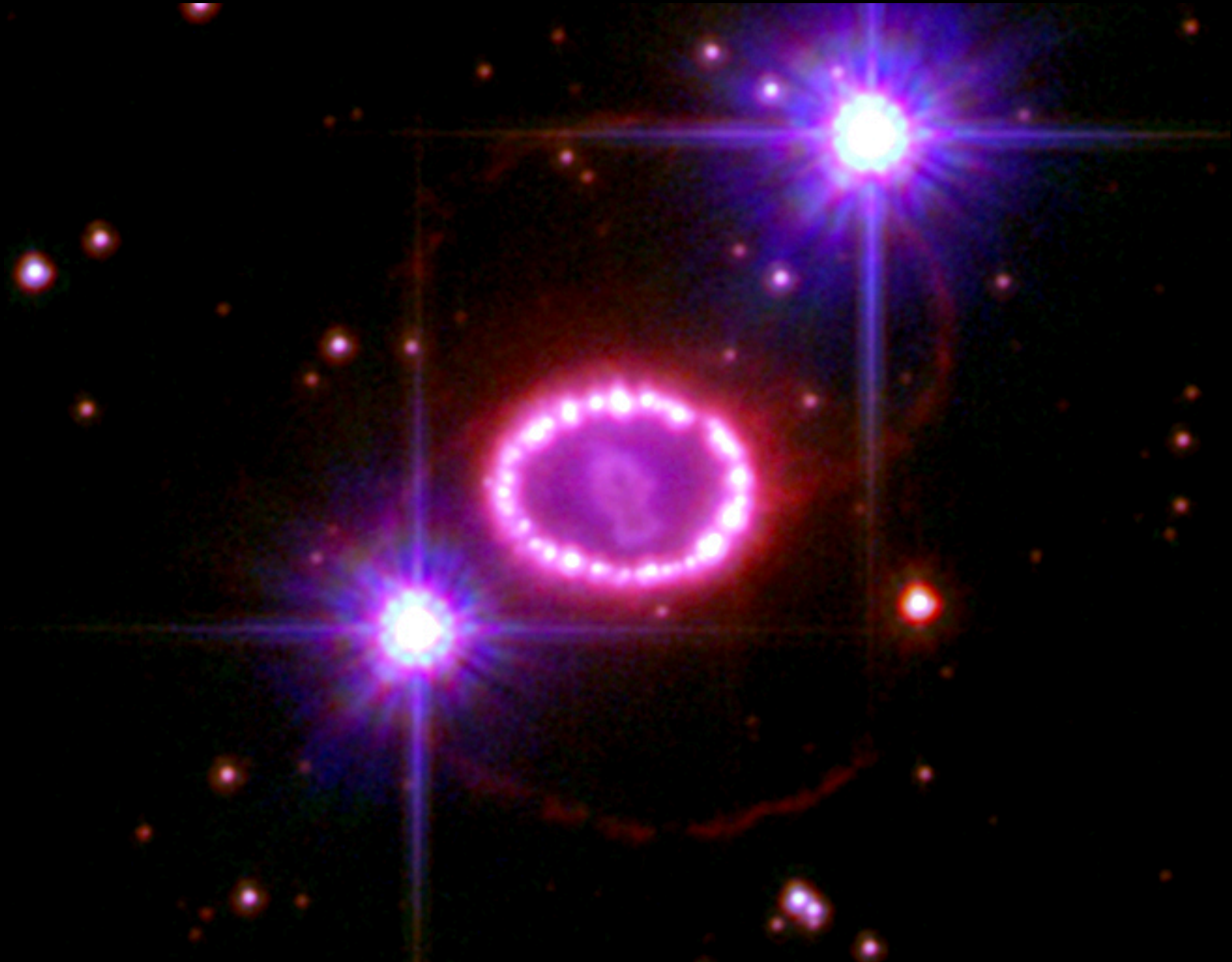
removes electron
pressure

neutrinos carry
off energy

Collapse to a Neutron Star

- core cannot support itself, goes into free-fall
- collapses on time scale $t_{ff} \sim (G\rho)^{-1/2} \sim 0.1 \text{ s}$
- collapse halts at nuclear density:
$$\rho \sim 10^{17} \text{ kg m}^{-3}$$
$$T \sim 10^{12} \text{ K}$$
- “bounce” and resulting shock wave destroy the star
- result is a (Type II/core collapse) supernova





Type II Supernova

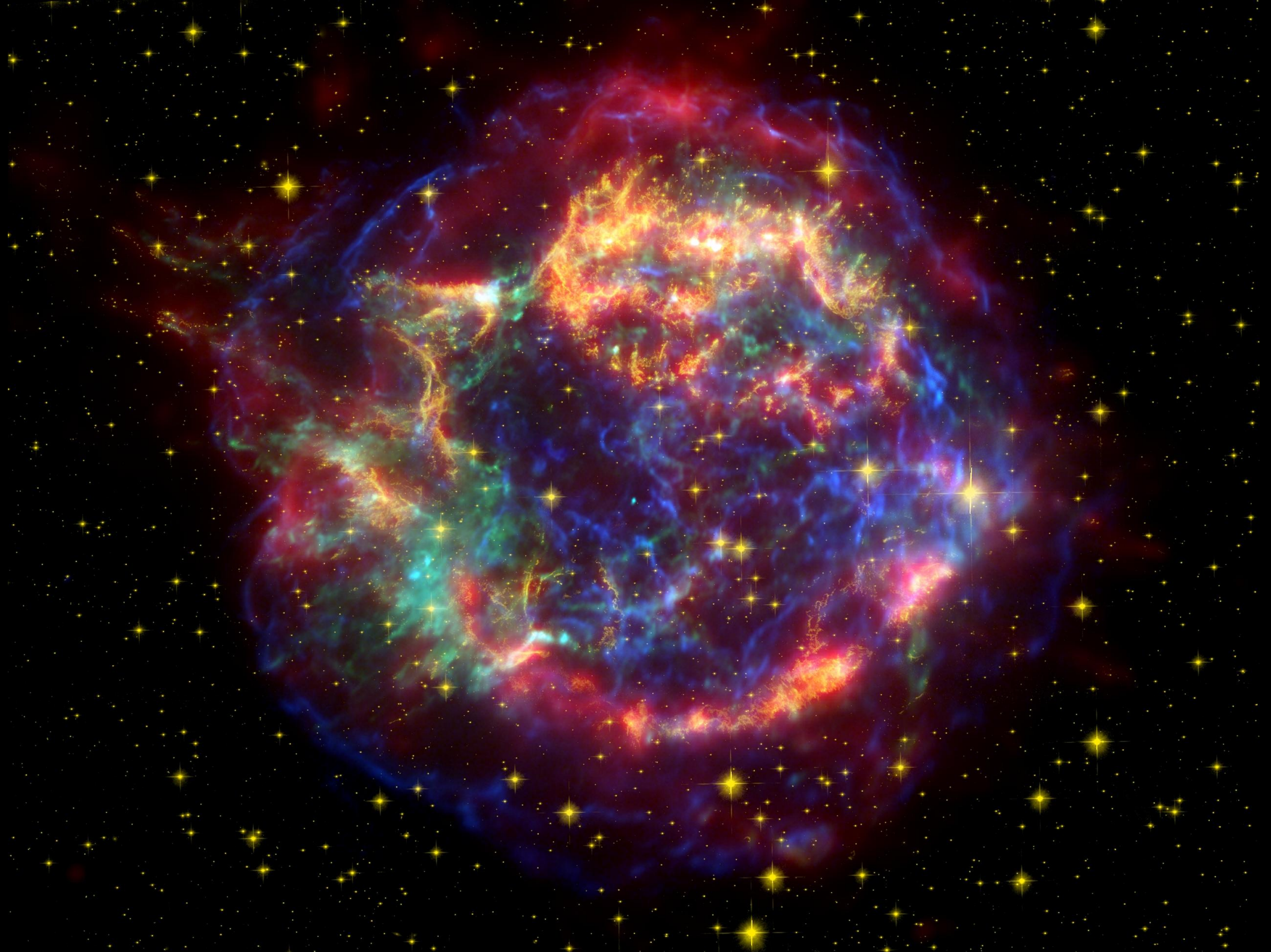
- total energy

$$E_{gr} \sim \frac{GM^2}{R_{ns}} \sim 5 \times 10^{46} \left(\frac{M}{1.4 M_{\odot}} \right)^2 \left(\frac{R_{ns}}{10 \text{ km}} \right)^{-1} J$$
$$T \sim 10^{12} K$$

- 99% in form of neutrinos

$$\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^- \rightarrow \nu_e + \bar{\nu}_e, \quad \nu_{\mu} + \bar{\nu}_{\mu}, \quad \nu_{\tau} + \bar{\nu}_{\tau}$$

- 1% kinetic energy
- 0.01% radiation



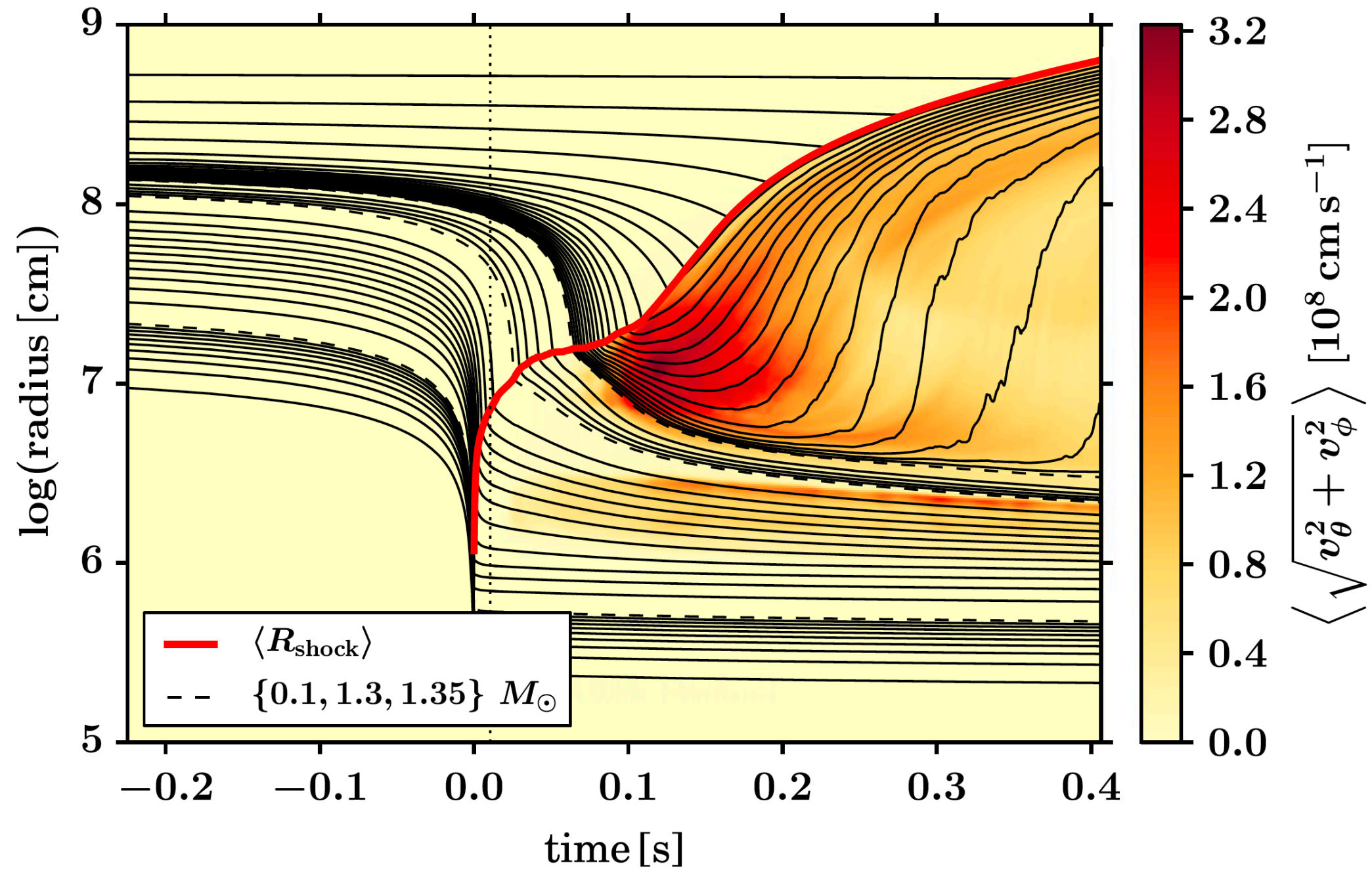
Neutron Star

- remnant is a neutron star:

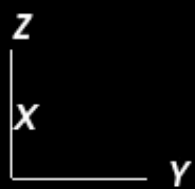
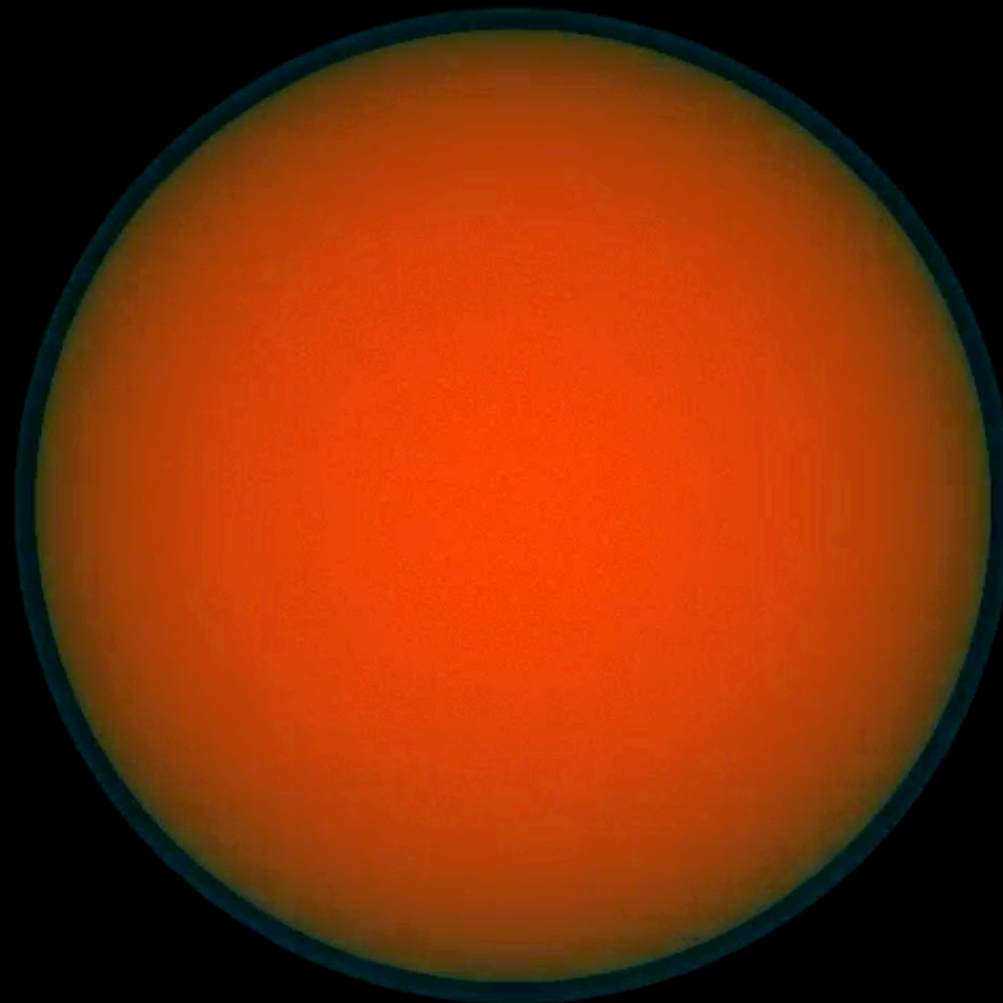
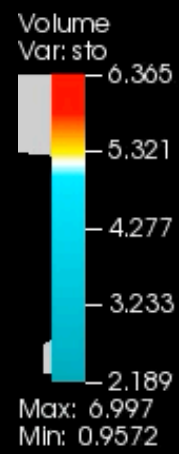
$$M \sim 1.4 M_{\odot}, \quad R \sim 10 - 15 \text{ km}$$

- almost entirely composed of neutrons
- supported by neutron degeneracy pressure

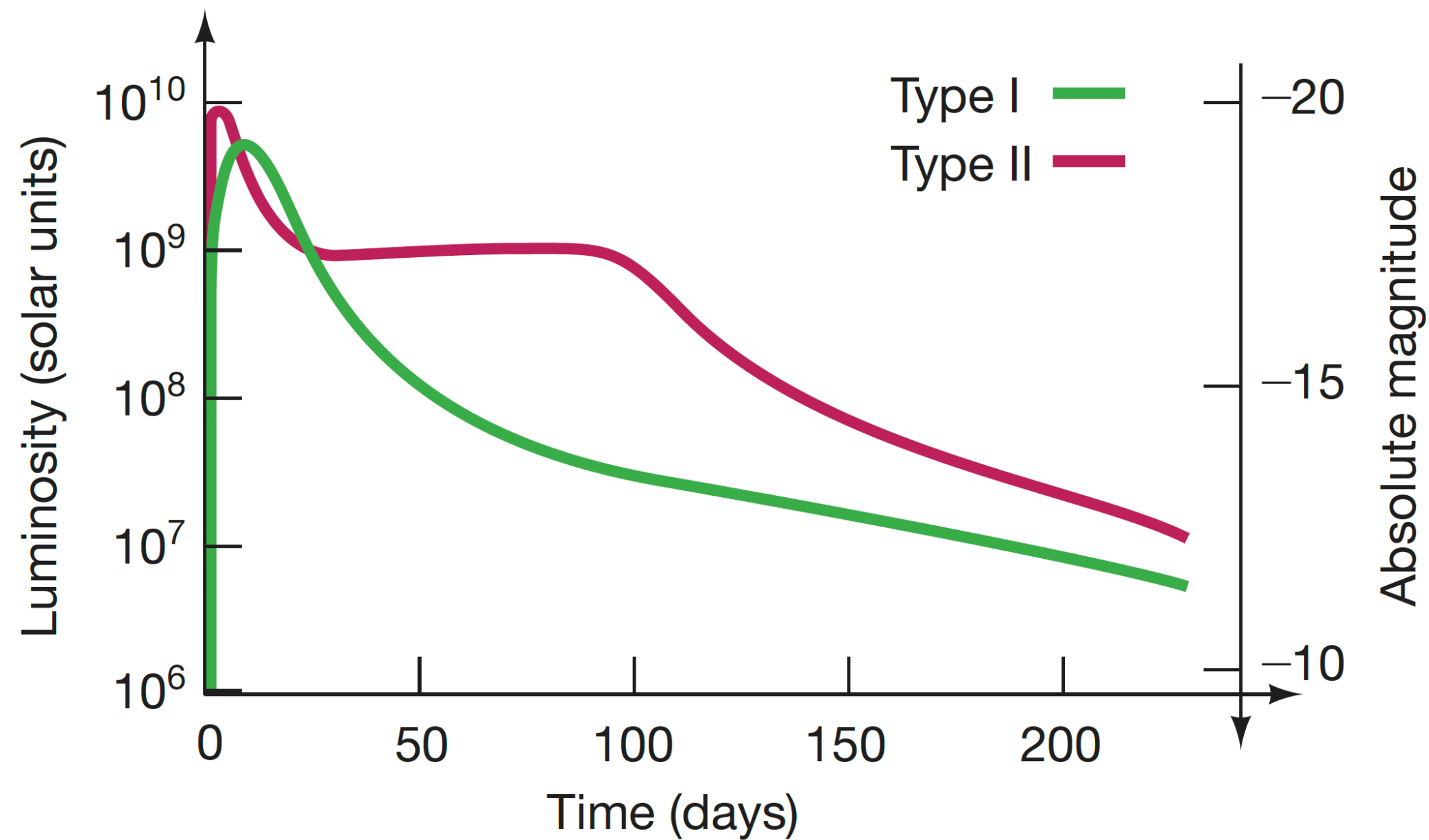
$$\begin{aligned} M_{ch} &= 0.21 \left(\frac{Z}{A} \right)^2 \left(\frac{hc}{Gm_p^2} \right)^{3/2} m_p \\ &= 5.6 M_{\odot} \quad \text{for } \frac{Z}{A} \approx 1 \end{aligned}$$

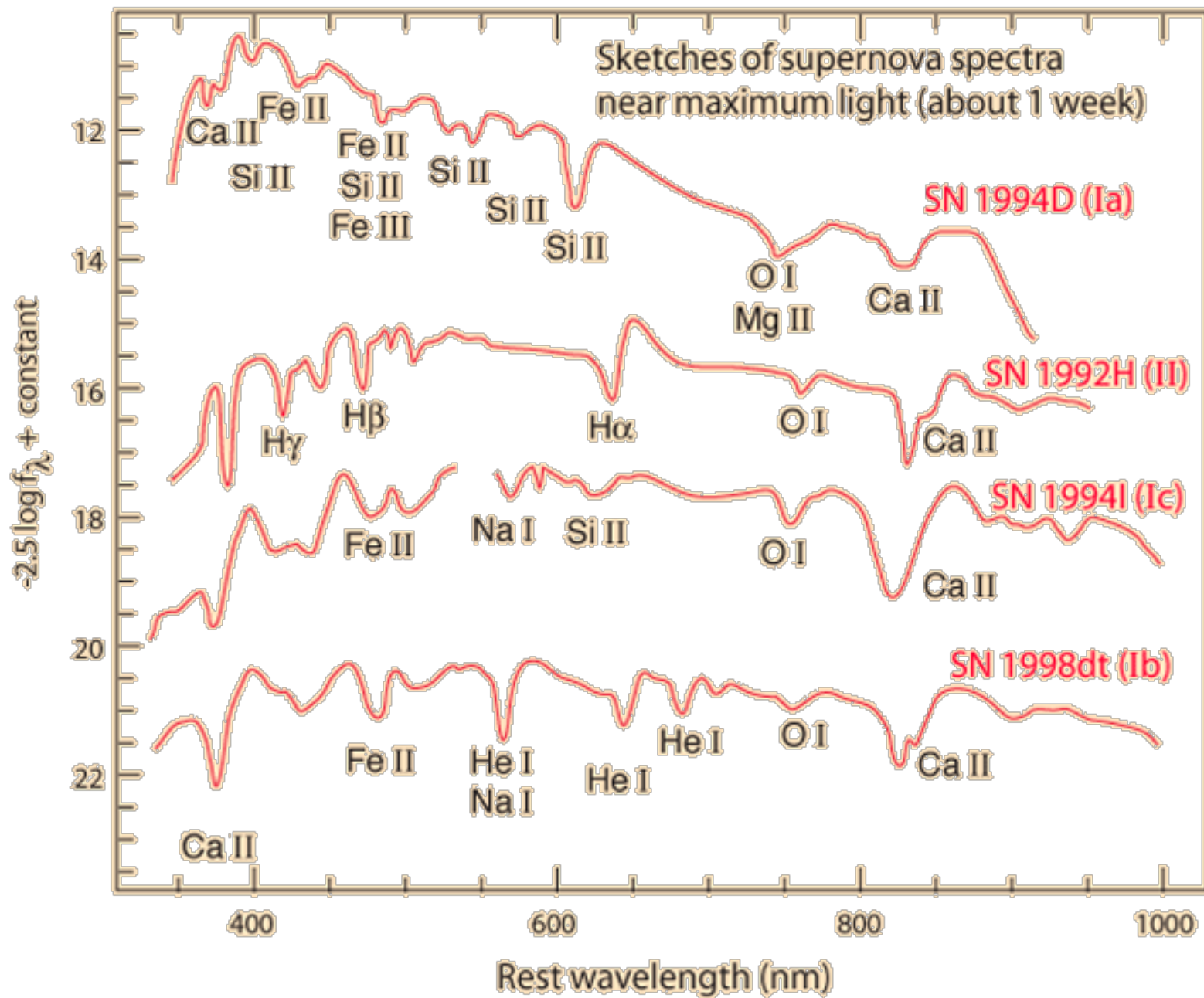


14 ms

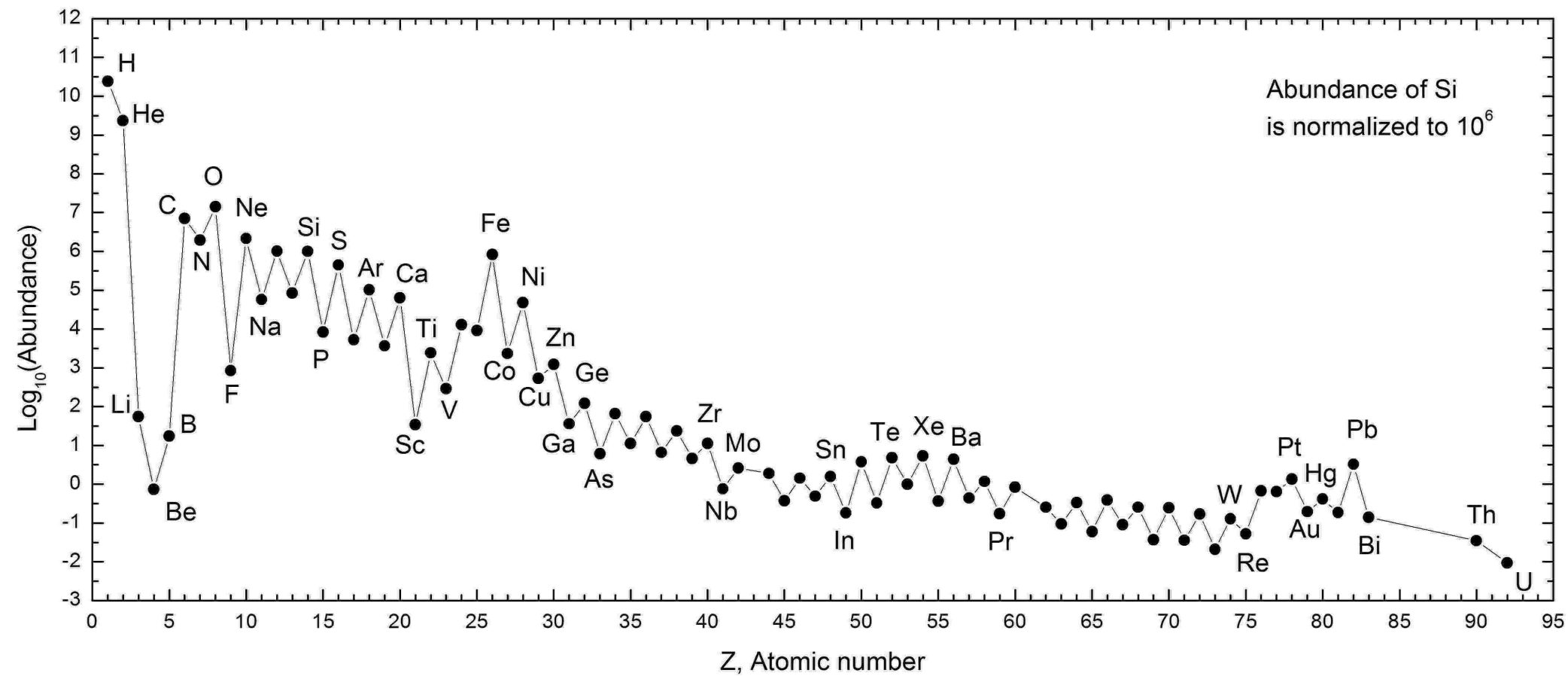


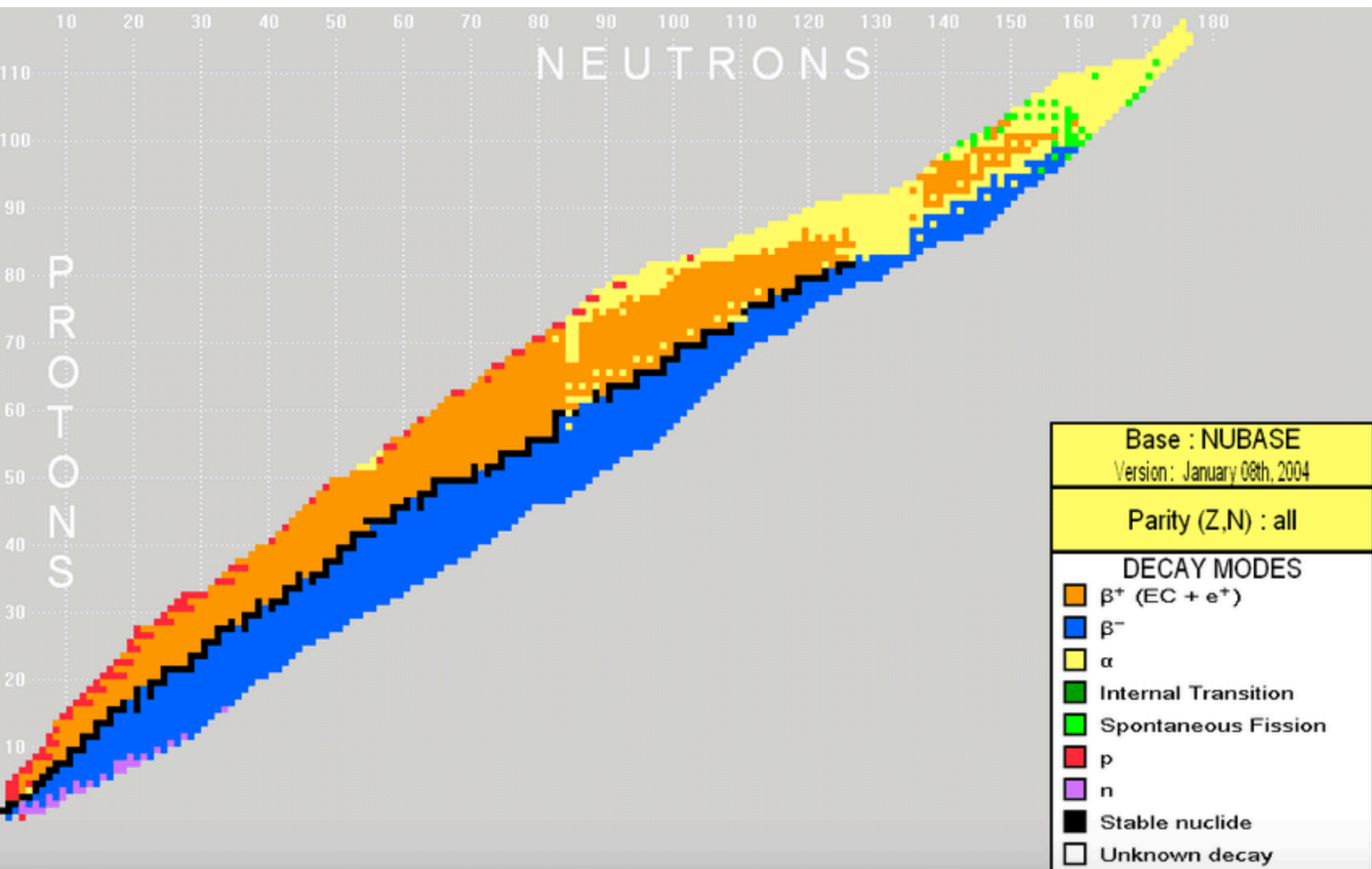
179 km

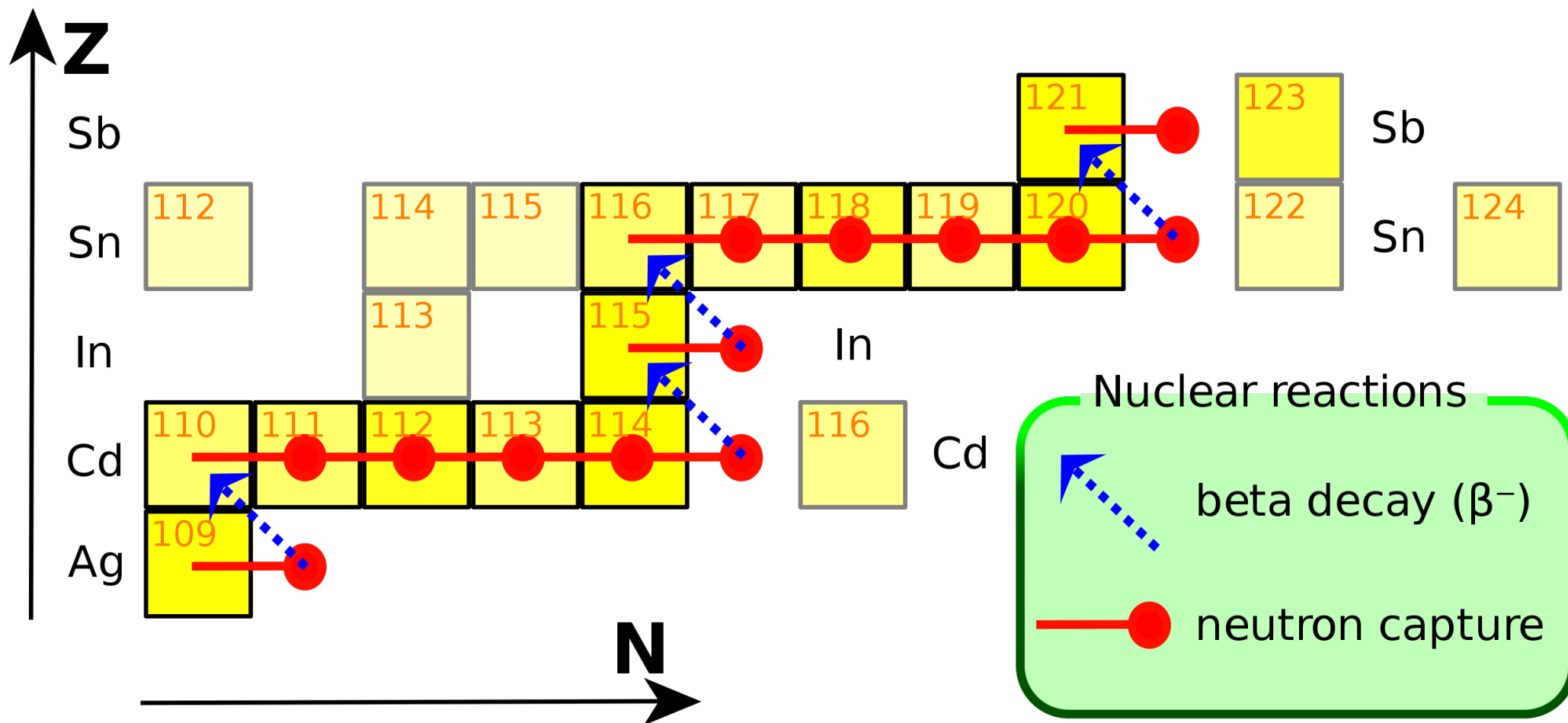


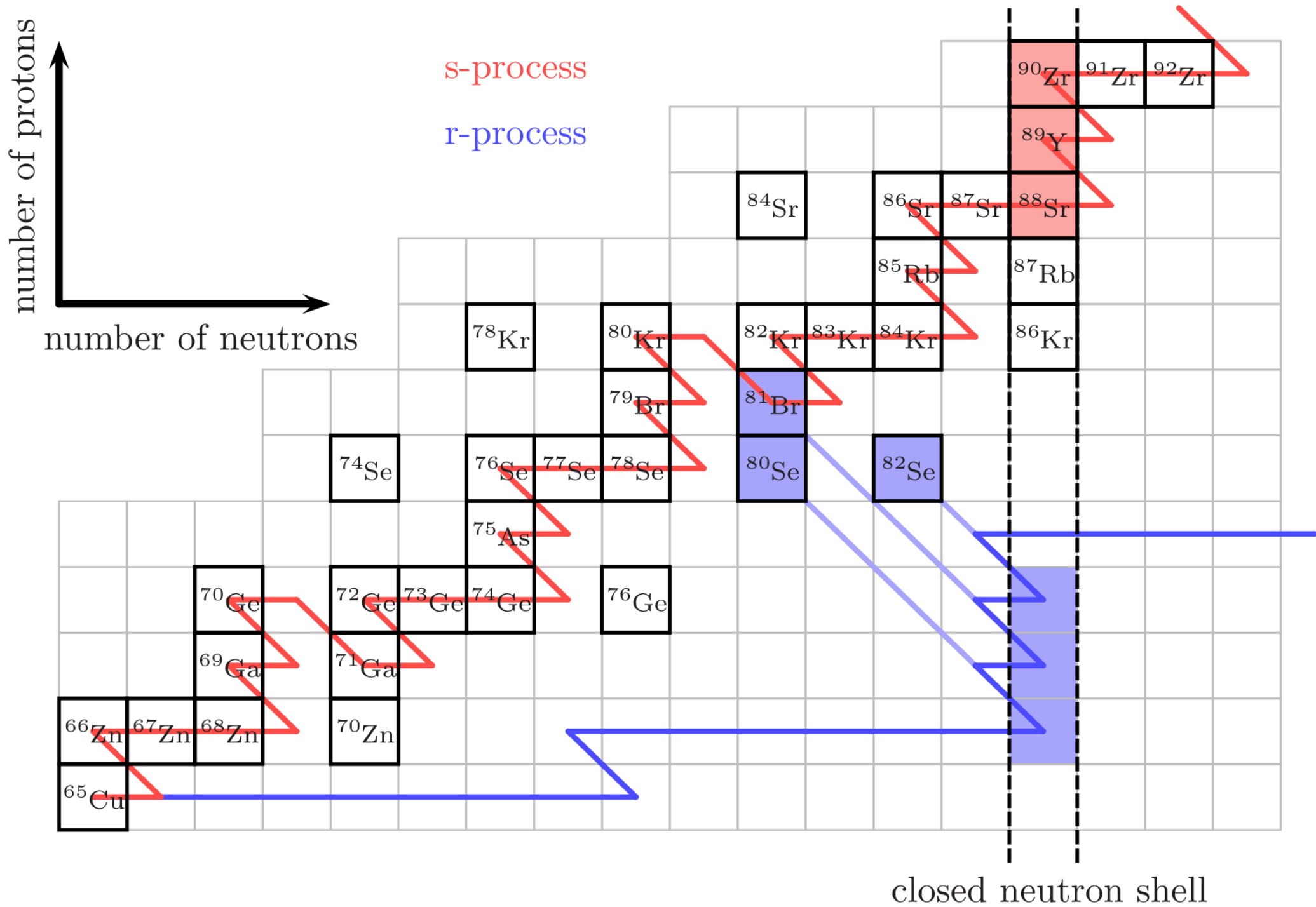


Sketches of spectra from Carroll & Ostlie, data attributed to Thomas Matheson
of National Optical Astronomy Observatory.

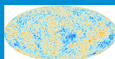




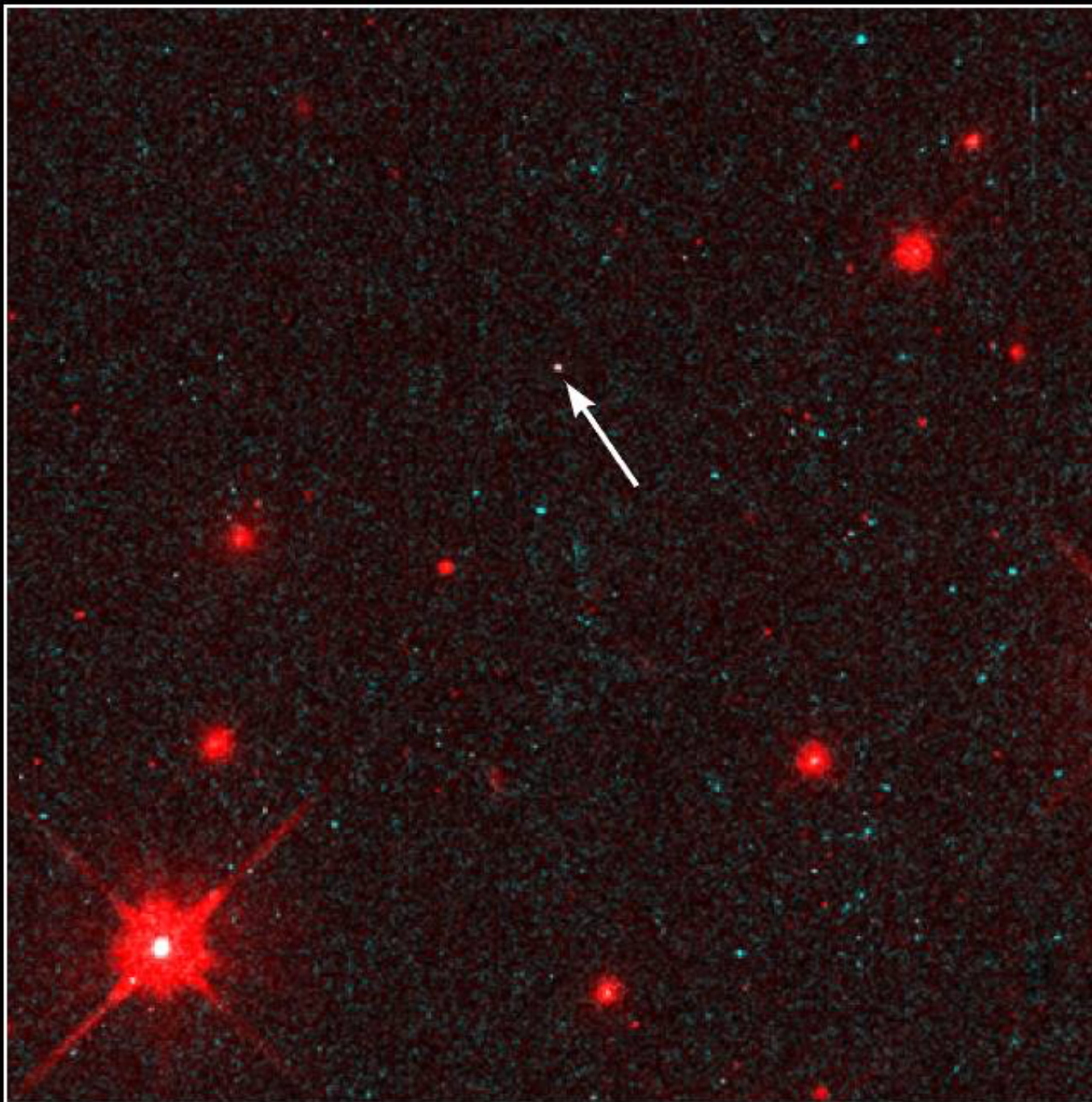




The Origin of the Solar System Elements

1 H	big bang fusion 						cosmic ray fission 						2 He												
3 Li	4 Be	merging neutron stars 						exploding massive stars 						5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne						
11 Na	12 Mg	dying low mass stars 						exploding white dwarfs 						13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar						
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr								
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe								
55 Cs	56 Ba			72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn							
87 Fr	88 Ra																								
		57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu									
		89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U																				

Astronomical Image Credits:
ESA/NASA/AASNova

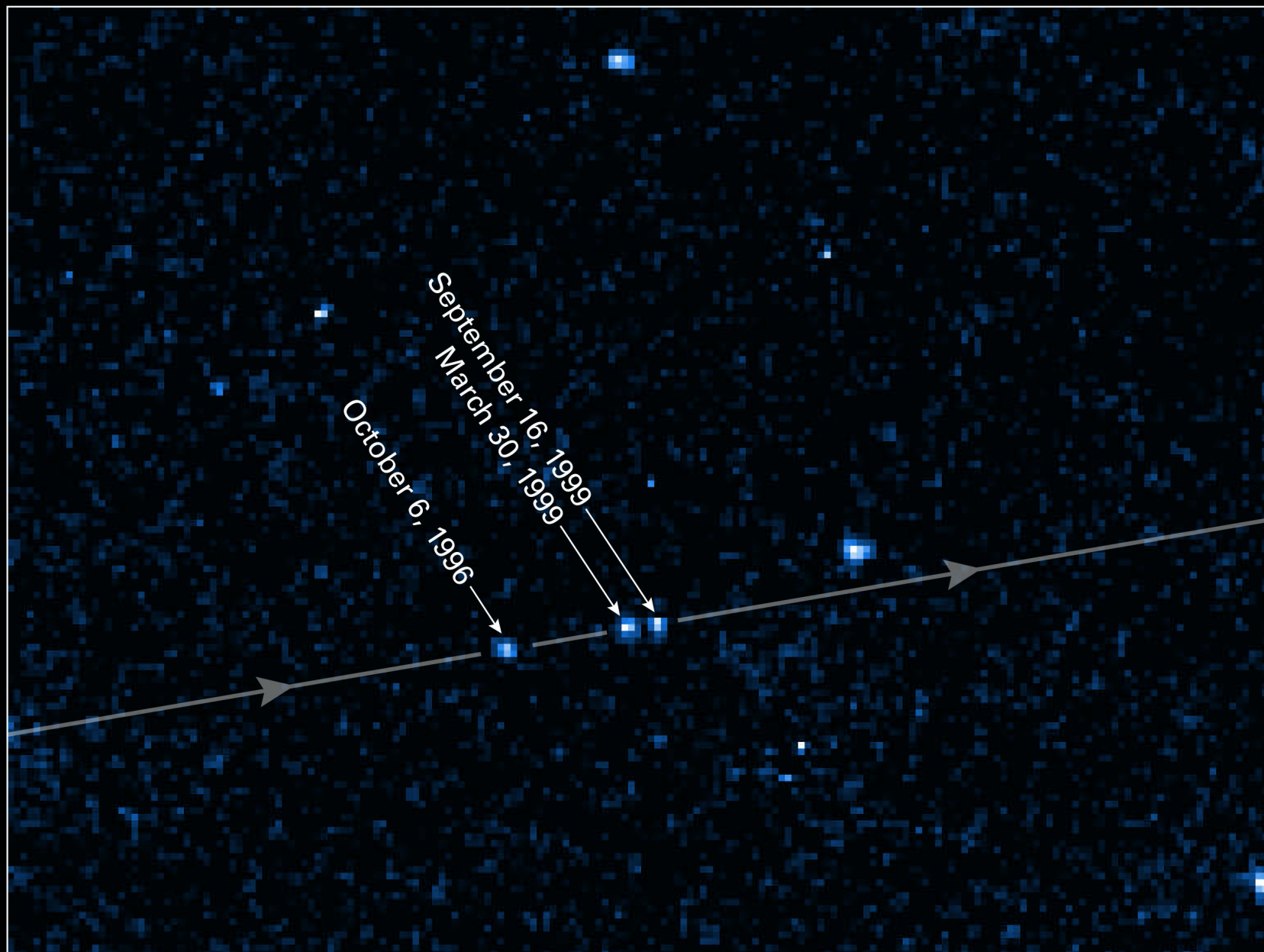


Isolated Neutron Star RX J185635-3754

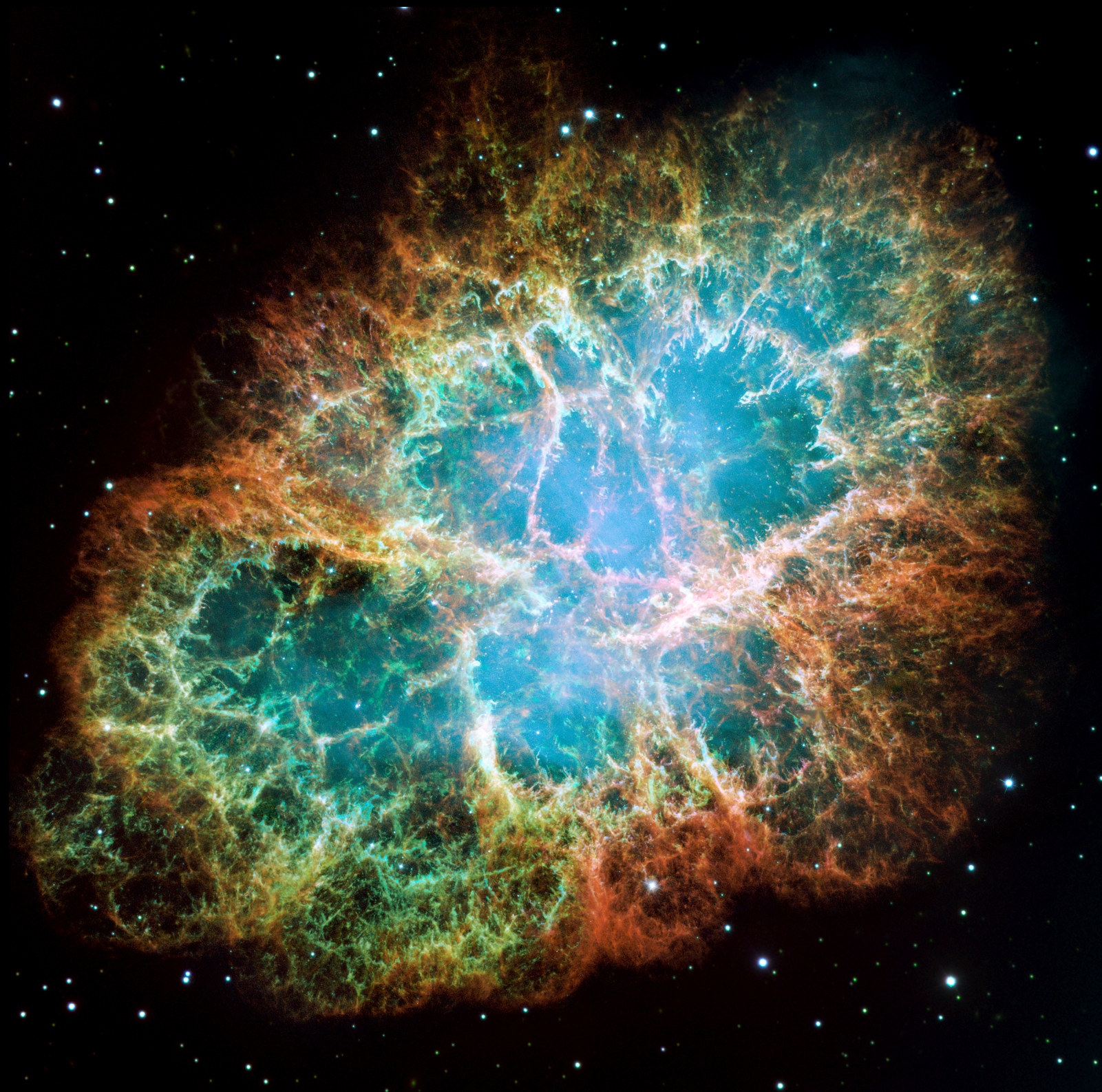
HST • WFPC2

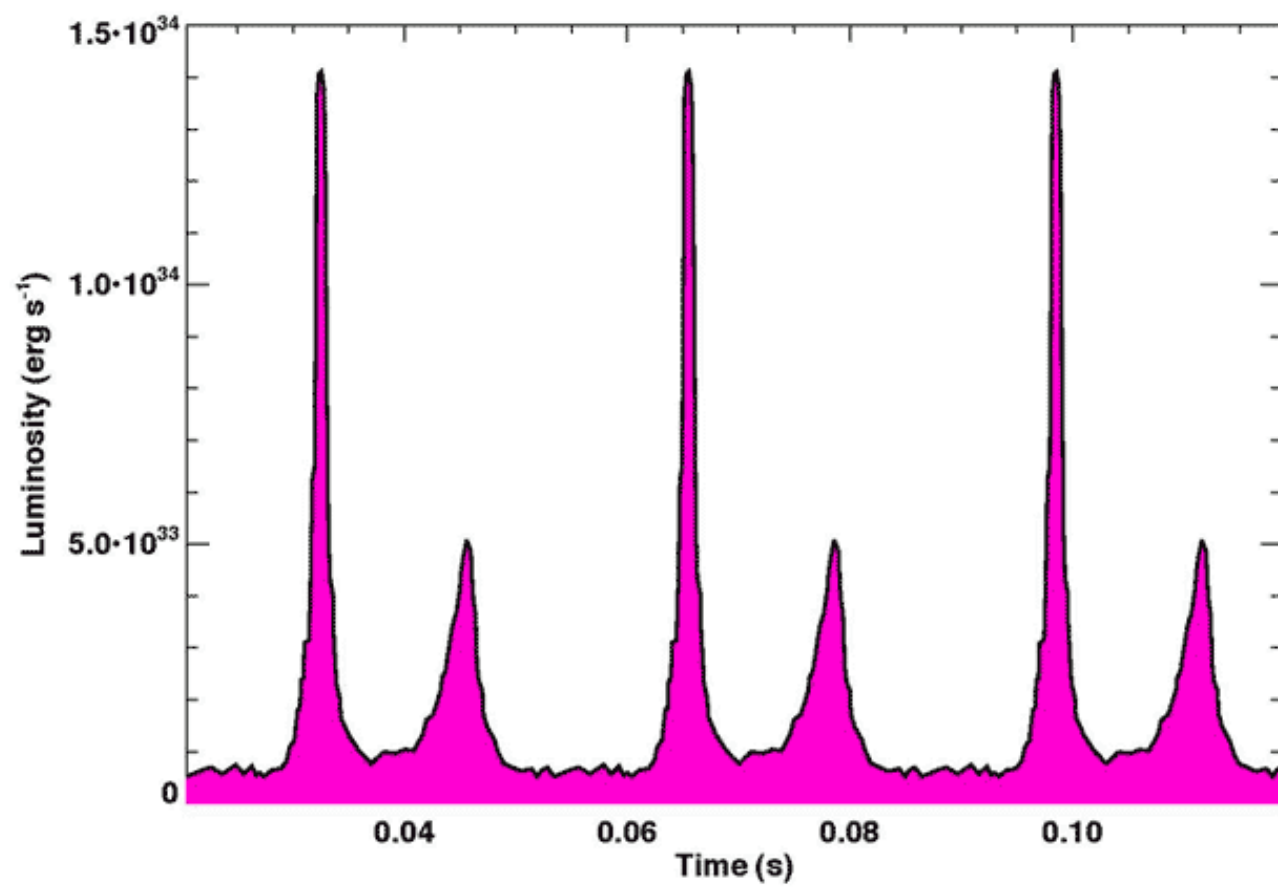
PRC97-32 • ST ScI OPO • September 25, 1997

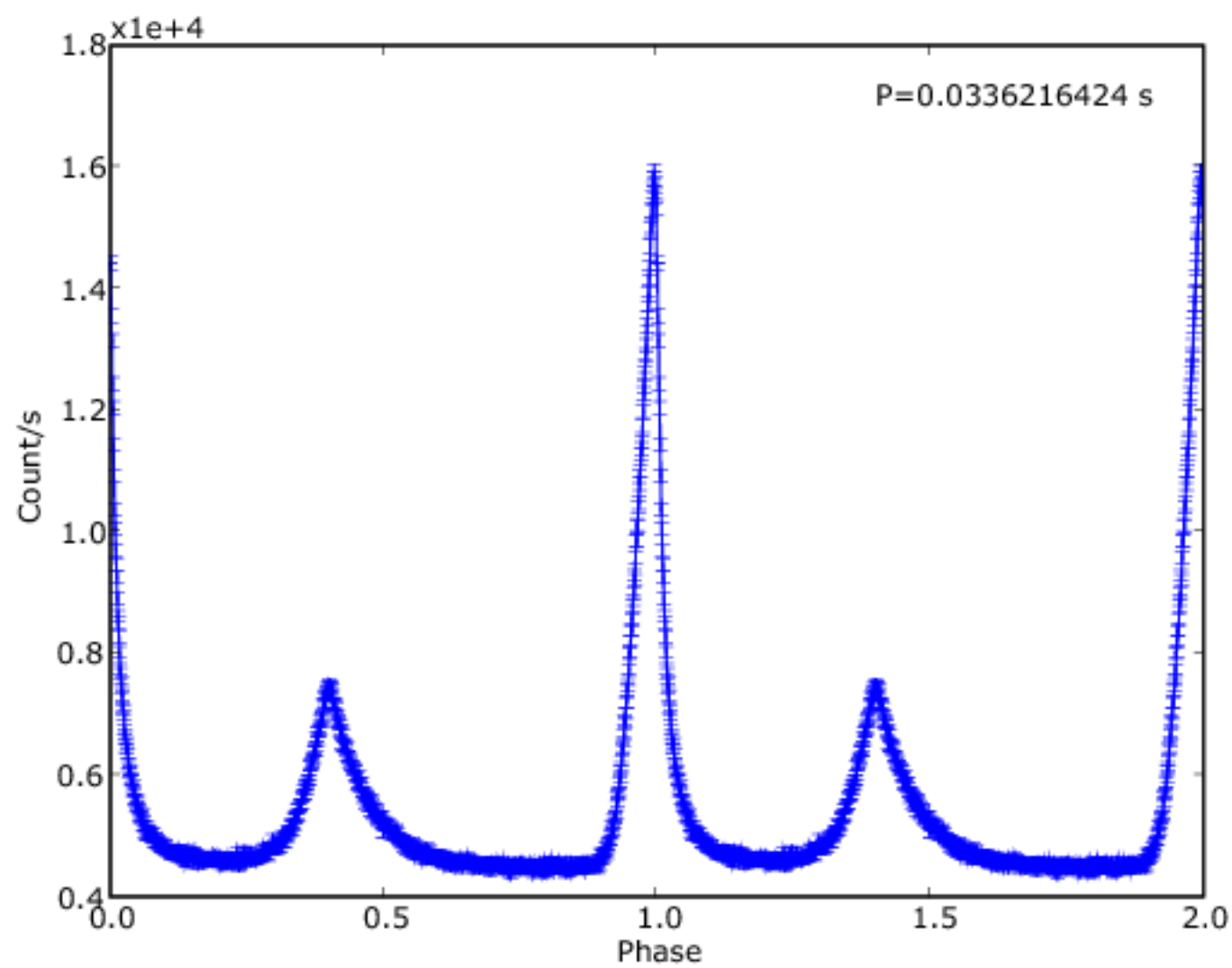
F. Walter (State University of New York at Stony Brook) and NASA



Neutron Star RX J185635-3754
Hubble Space Telescope • WFPC2







Neutron Star Properties

- mass and radius

$$M \sim 1.4 M_{\odot}, \quad R \sim 10 \text{ km}$$

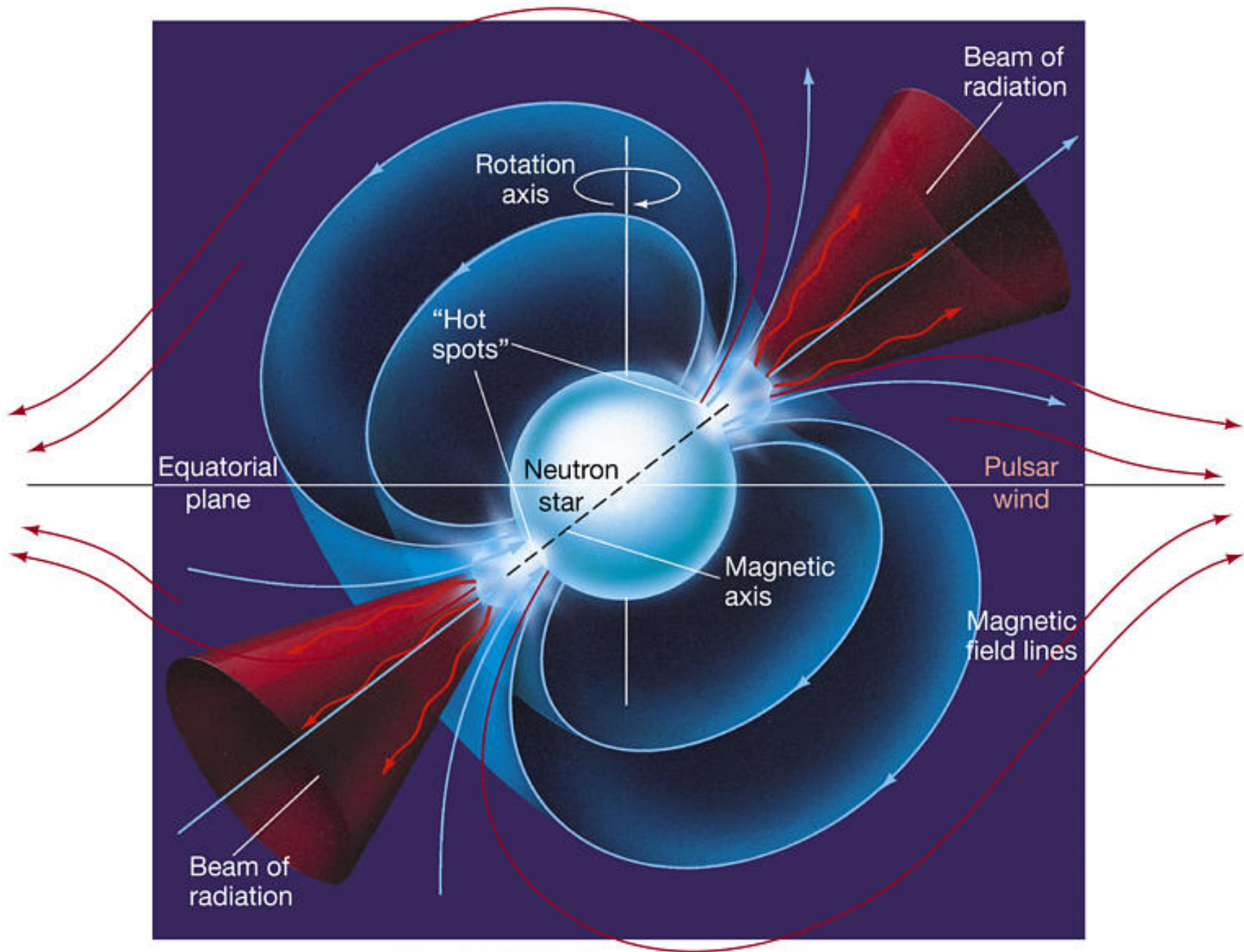
- rotation rate

$$\Omega \sim R^{-2} \rightarrow 1 - 1000 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d\tau}{dt} \sim 10^{-13}$$

- magnetic field

$$B \sim R^{-2} \rightarrow > 10^{12} \text{ G } (10^8 \text{ T})$$



Neutron Star Properties

- mass and radius

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- rotation rate

$$\Omega \sim R^{-2} \rightarrow 1 - 1000 \text{ rad s}^{-1}$$

$$\frac{d\tau}{dt} \sim 10^{-13}$$

$$L = \frac{1}{6c^3} B^2 R^2 \Omega^4 \sin^2 \theta$$

- magnetic field

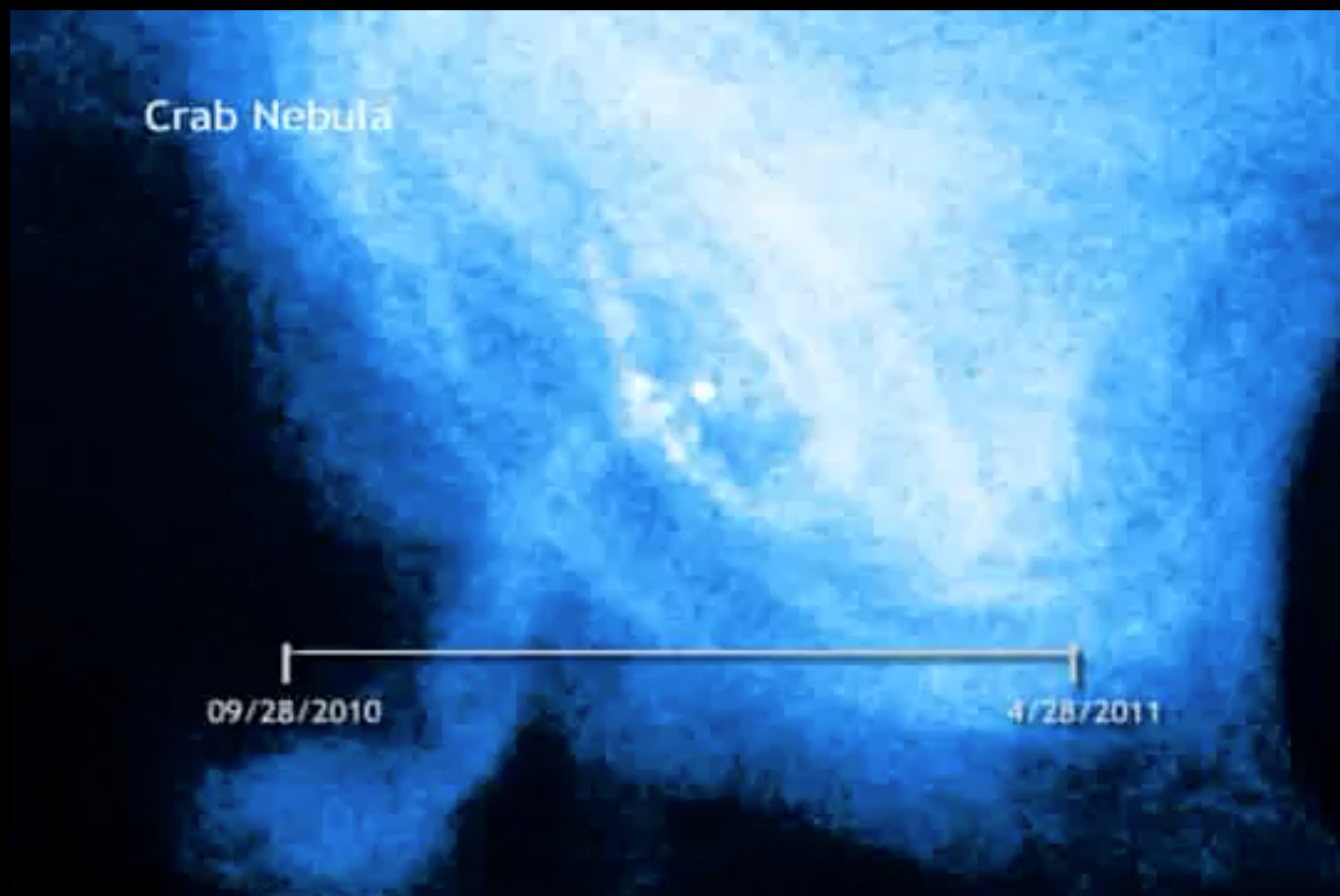
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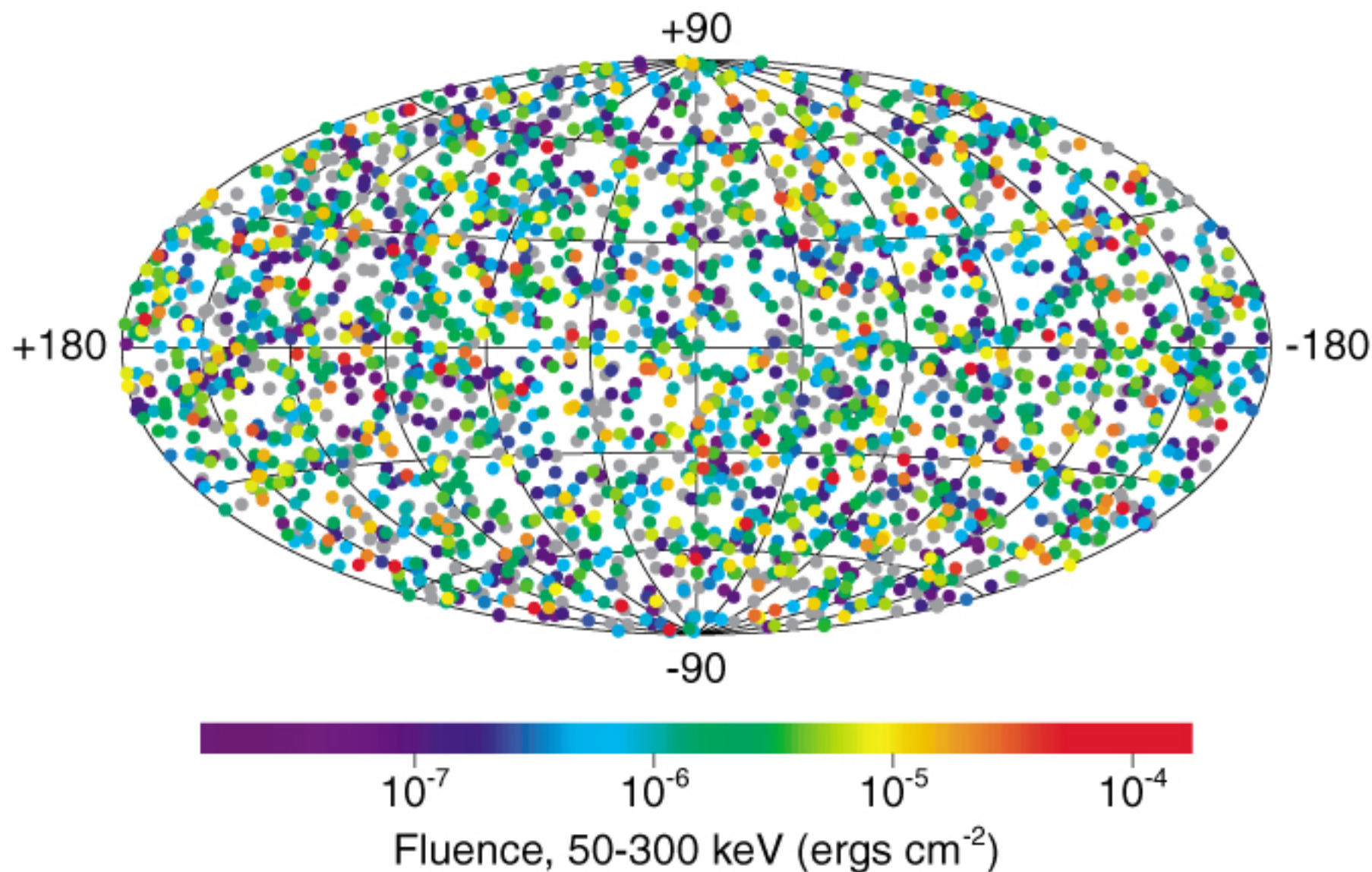
Crab Nebula

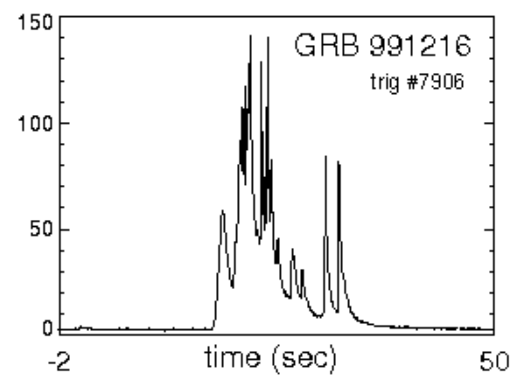
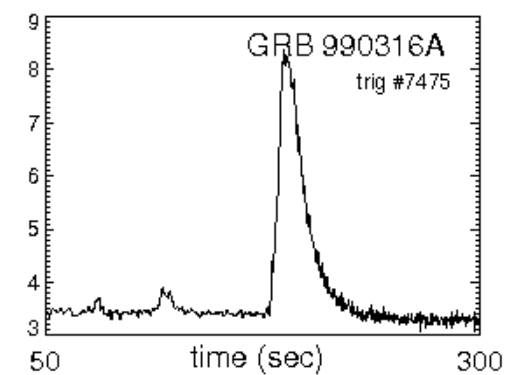
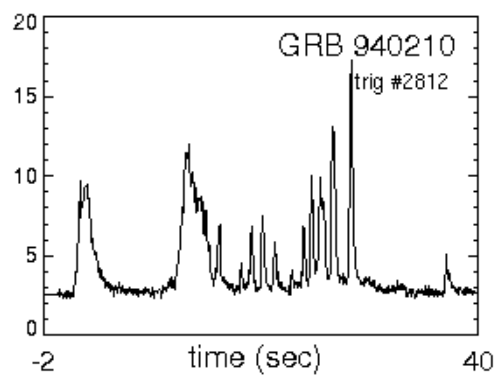
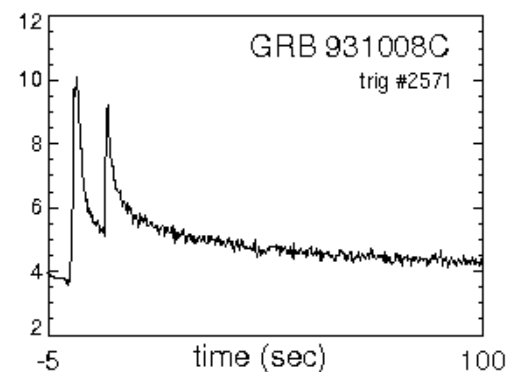
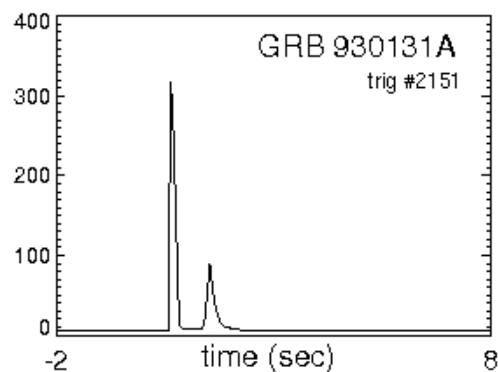
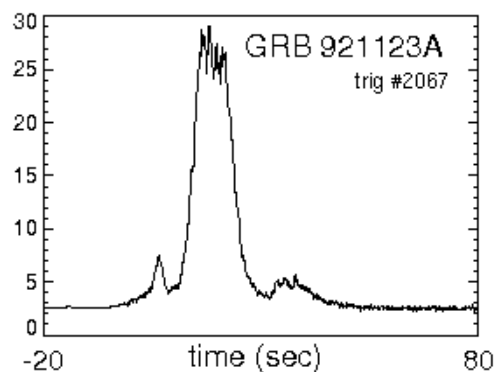
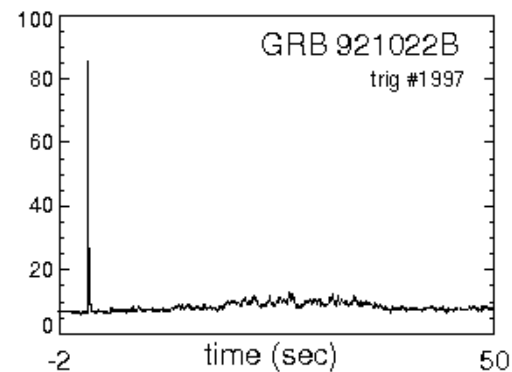
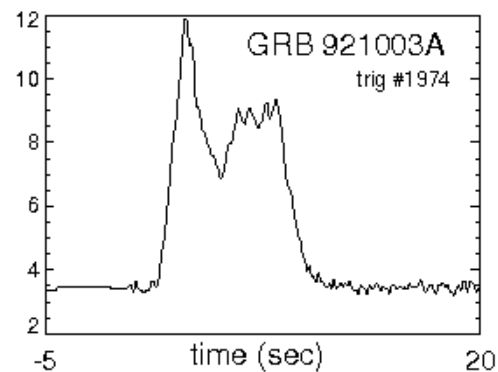
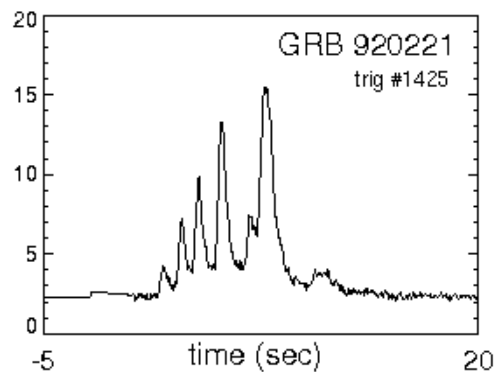
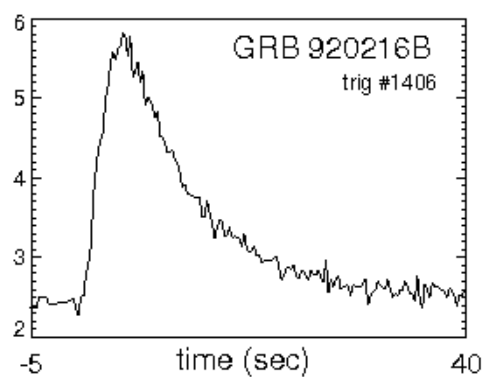
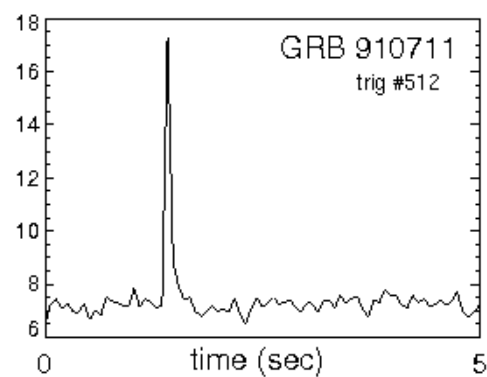
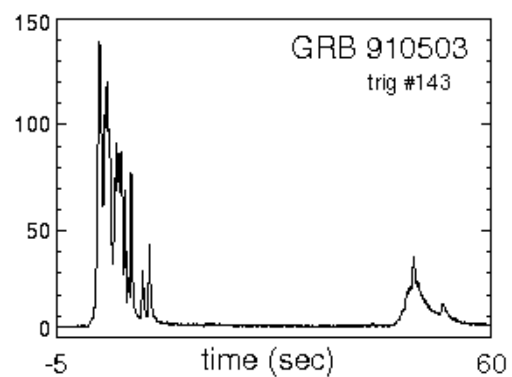
09/28/2010

4/28/2011

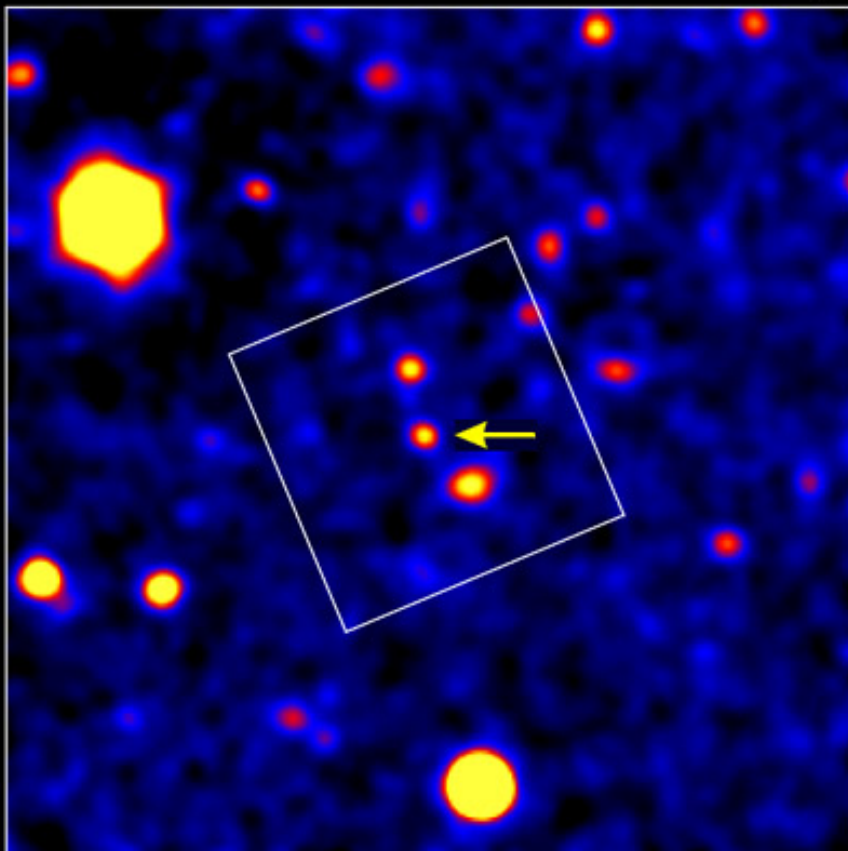


2704 BATSE Gamma-Ray Bursts

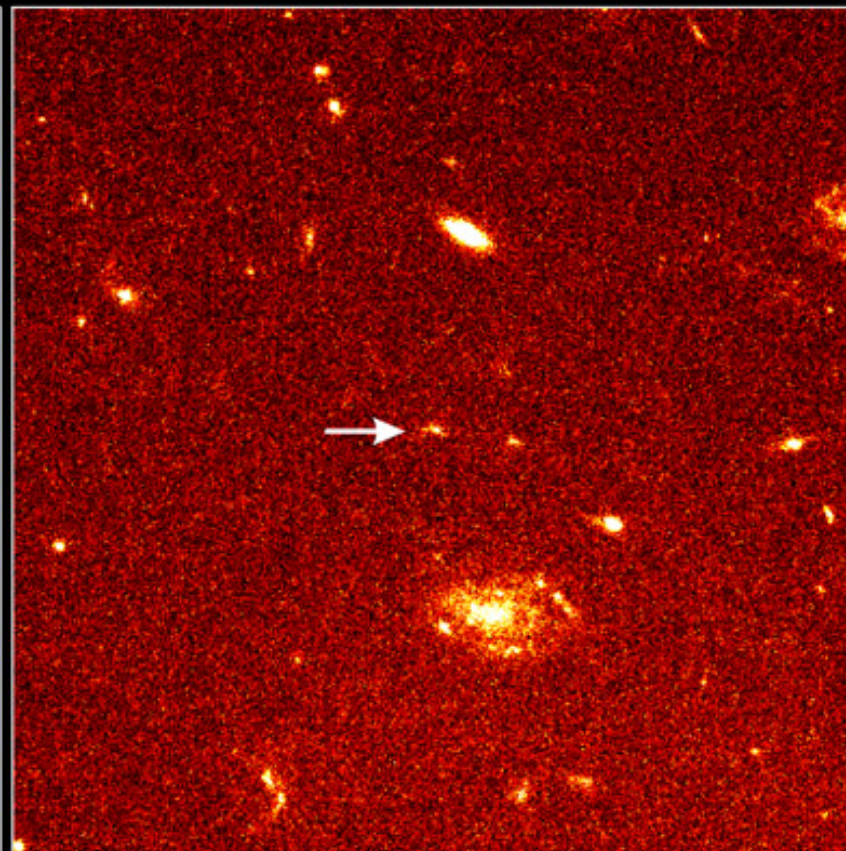




Gamma Ray Burst 971214



Keck • December 1997

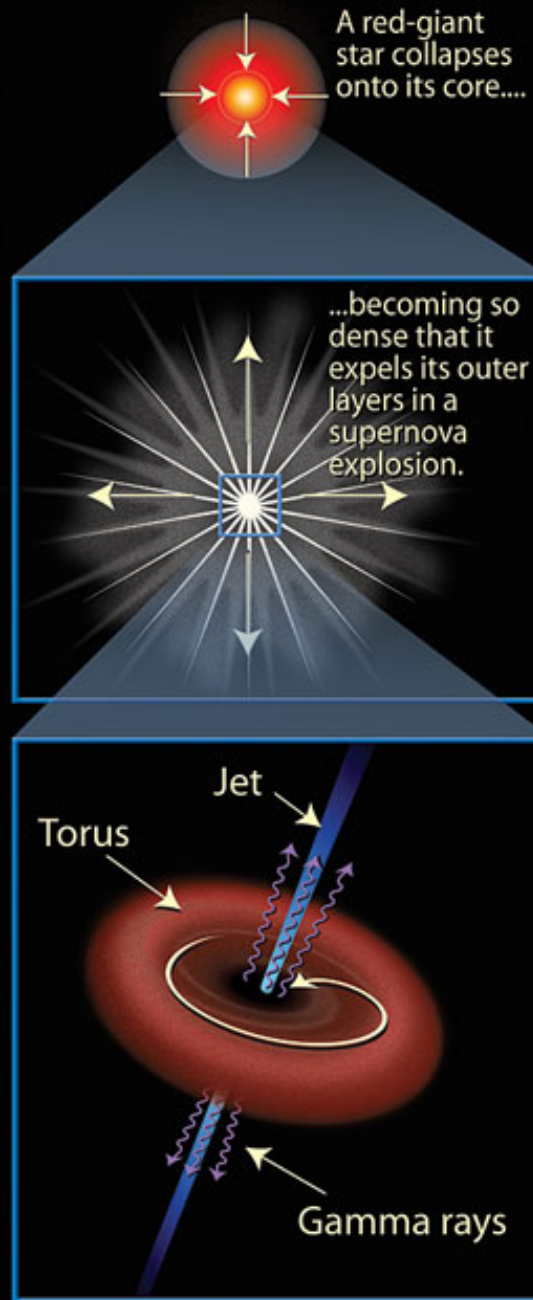


HST/STIS • February 1998

PRC98-17c • May 7, 1998 • ST ScI OPO
S. G. Djorgovski and S. R. Kulkarni (Caltech), the Caltech GRB Team,
W. M. Keck Observatory and NASA

Gamma-Ray Bursts (GRBs): The Long and Short of It

Long gamma-ray burst (>2 seconds' duration)



Short gamma-ray burst (<2 seconds' duration)

