

# *Probing cosmic rays with molecules*

Thierry Montmerle

*Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris, France*

*with Cecilia Ceccarelli, Guillaume Dubus, Pierre Hily-Blant,  
and Solenn Vaupré (PhD thesis)*

*Institut de Planétologie et d'Astrophysique de Grenoble*

Stefano Gabici

*AstroParticules et Cosmologie, Paris*

*Ref.: Vaupré et al. 2014, A&A, 568, A50*

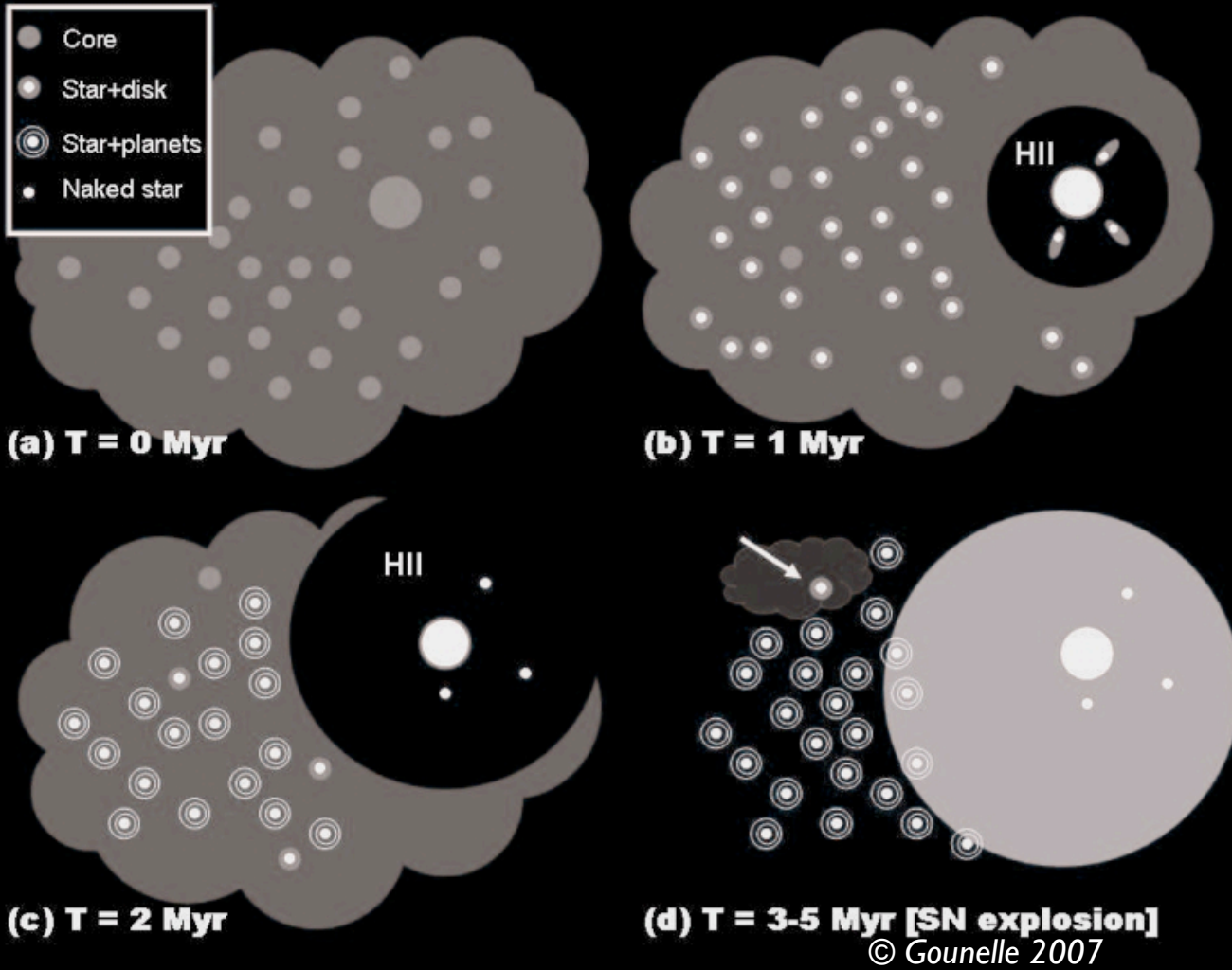
IC443 SNR

CRIME (12/11/14) 1

*Context: Early evolution of an OB association*

*=> supernova remnants interacting with molecular clouds !*

*=> sites of CR acceleration + targets (see TM 1979...)*



IC443 SNR  
and its environment  
(age  $\sim 3 \times 10^4$  yrs,  
 $d \sim 1.5$  kpc)

IC444

*Gem OB1 association*

IC443

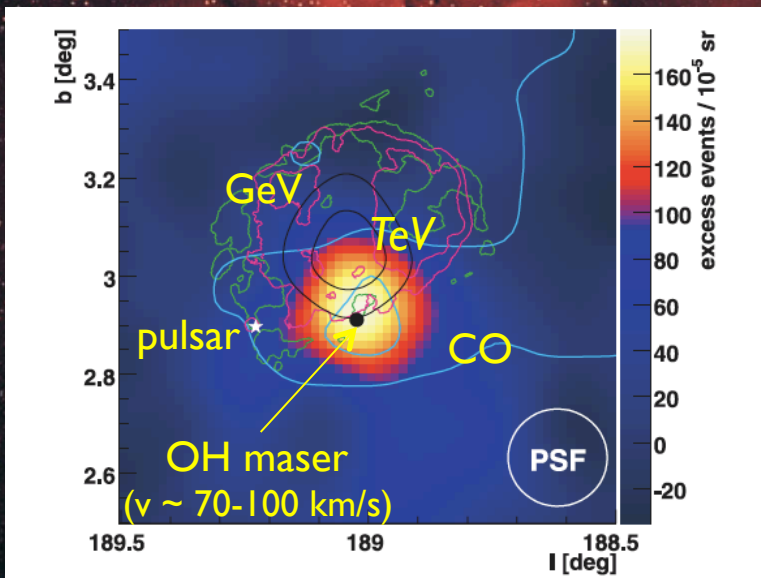
$\eta$  Gem

$H\alpha$

# IC443 SNR and its environment (age $\sim 3 \times 10^4$ yrs, $d \sim 1.5$ kpc)

IC444

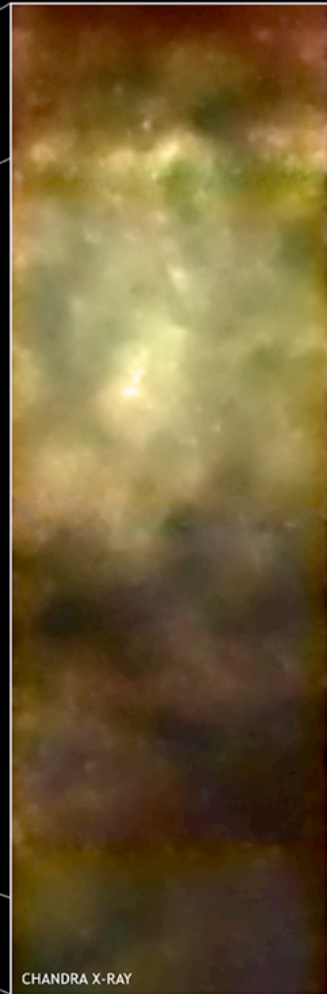
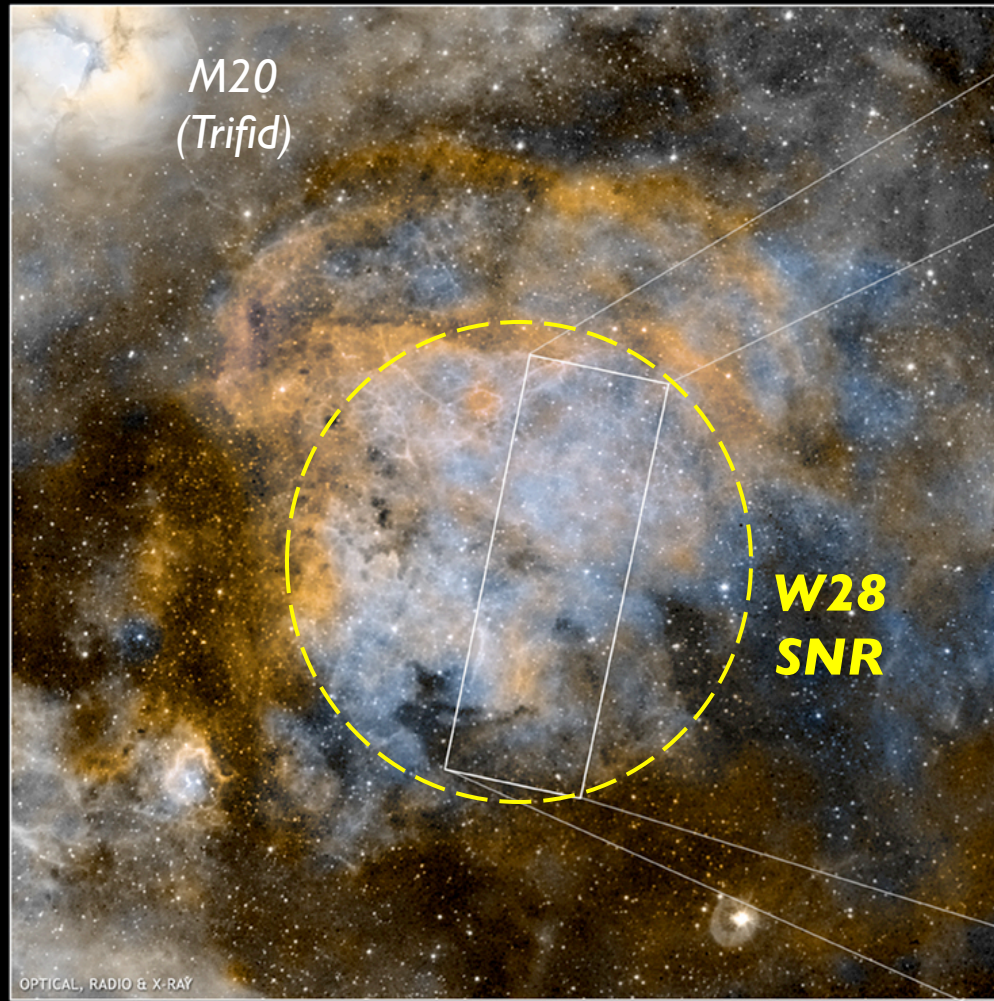
Gem OB1 association



IC443

$\eta$  Gem

H $\alpha$

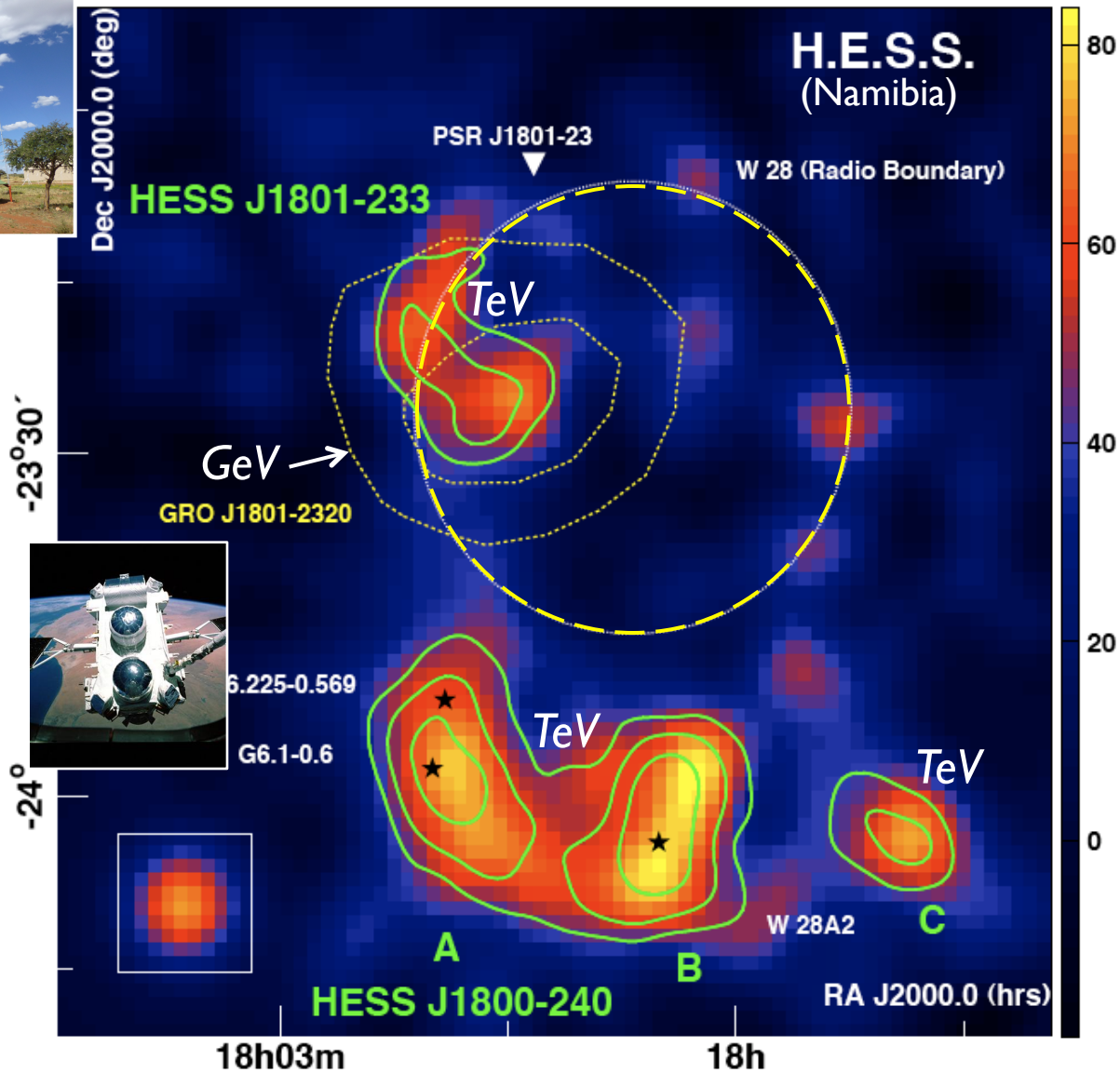


$d \sim 2-3 \text{ kpc}$   
 $D \approx 20 \text{ pc}$   
Age  $\sim 35-150,000 \text{ yrs}$

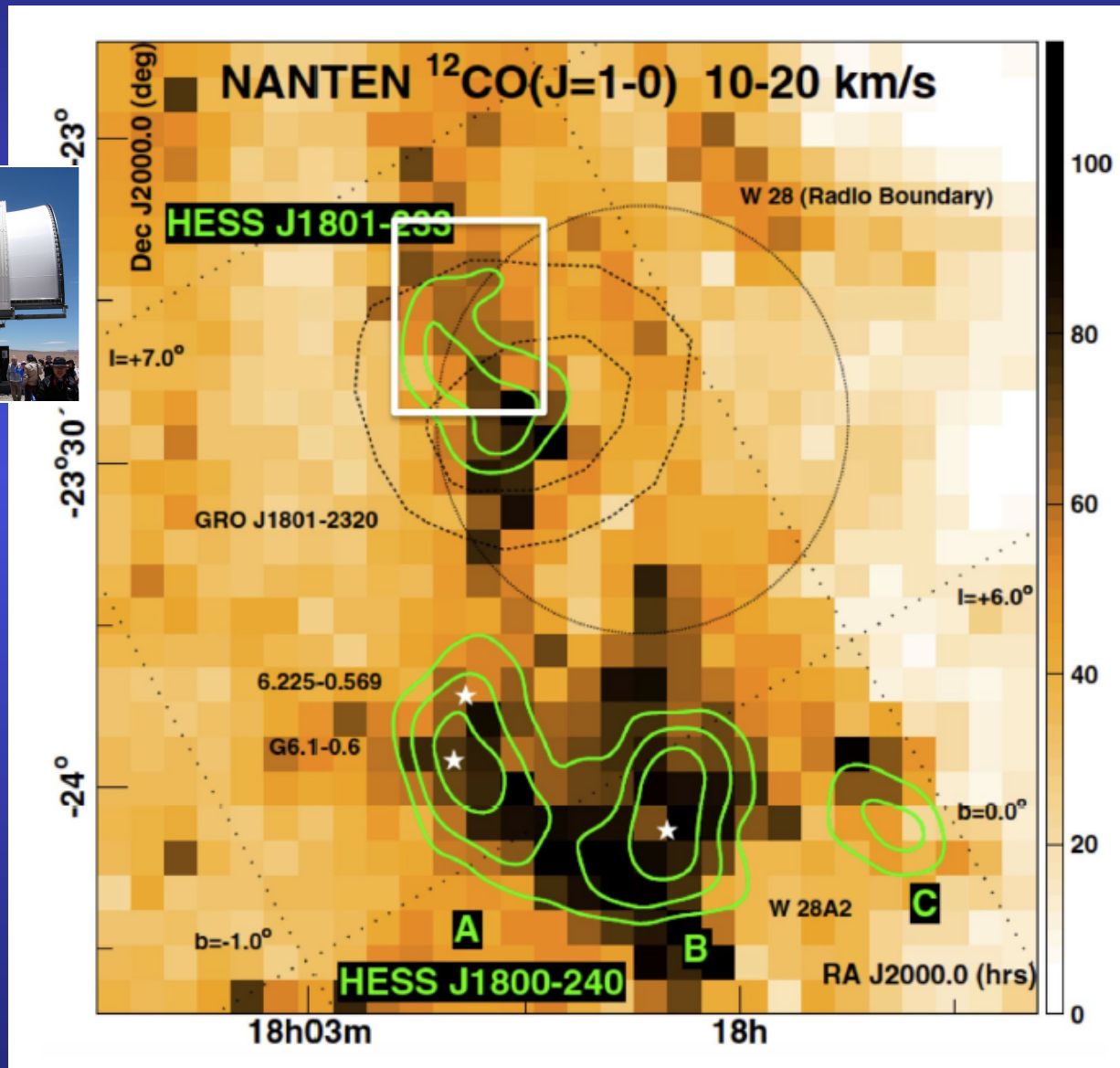




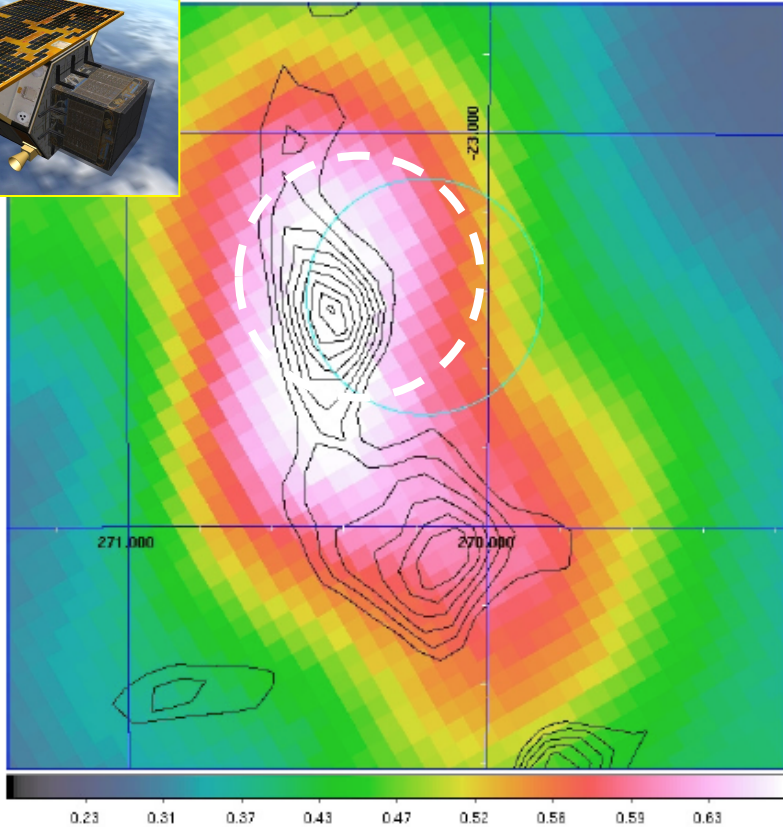
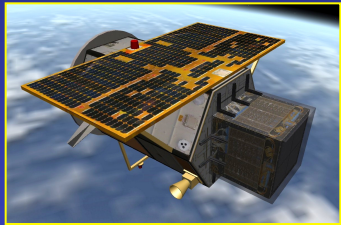
W28  
SNR+SFR:  
complex of  
TeV sources



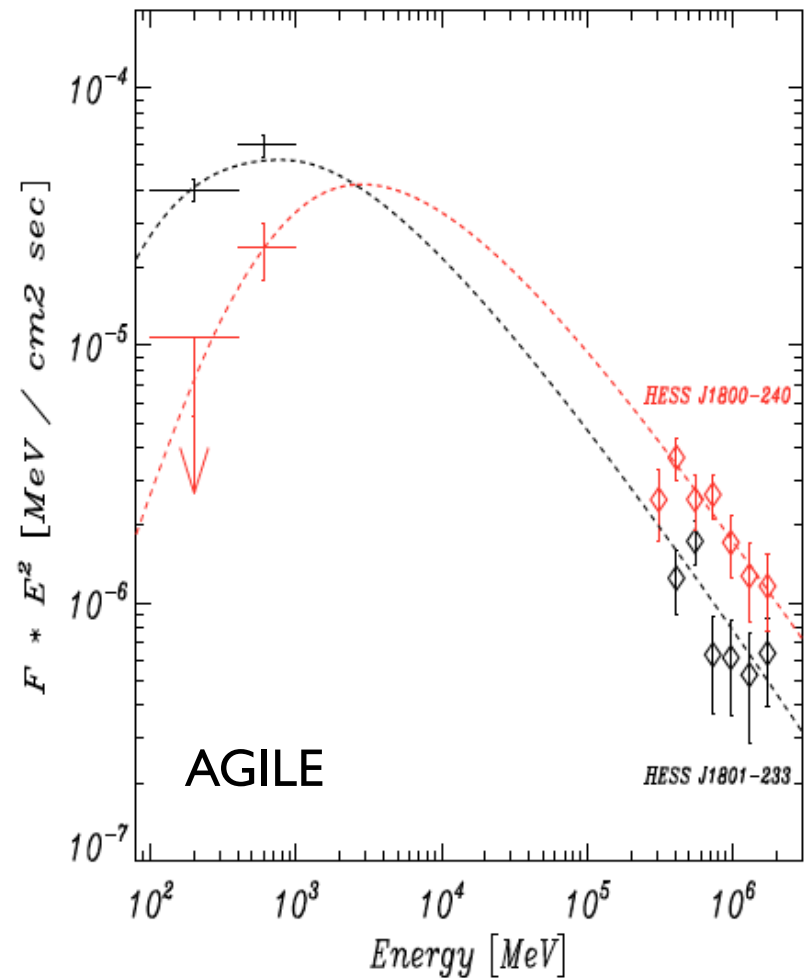
=> High-energy CR interactions with molecular material (GeV-TeV  $\gamma$ -rays)  
+ Evidence for slow shocks (OH masers,  $\sim 100 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ )



# W28 GeV emission: first strong evidence for $\rho^{\circ}$ decay from cut-off in sub-GeV $\gamma$ -ray range (confirmed by Fermi)



**Fig. 3.** Gaussian-smoothed AGILE counts map in Galactic coordinates for the W28 region (counts  $\text{bin}^{-1}$ ). Only photons of energy greater than 400 MeV have been used. The blue circle indicates the radio location of the supernova remnant W28. As in Fig. 1, the black contours indicate the CO intensity emission.



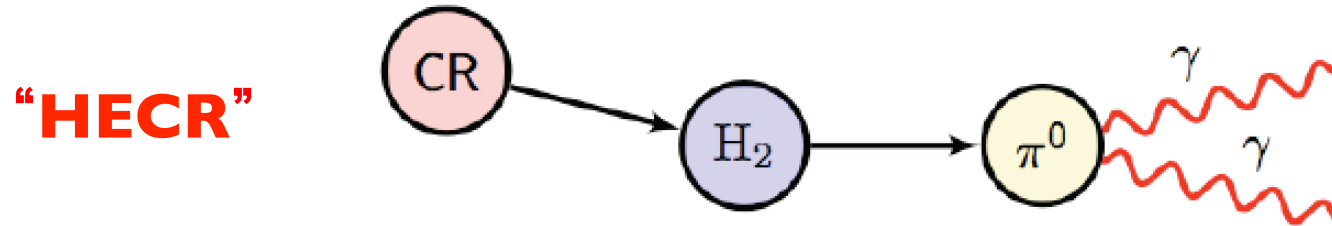
(Giuliani et al. 2010)



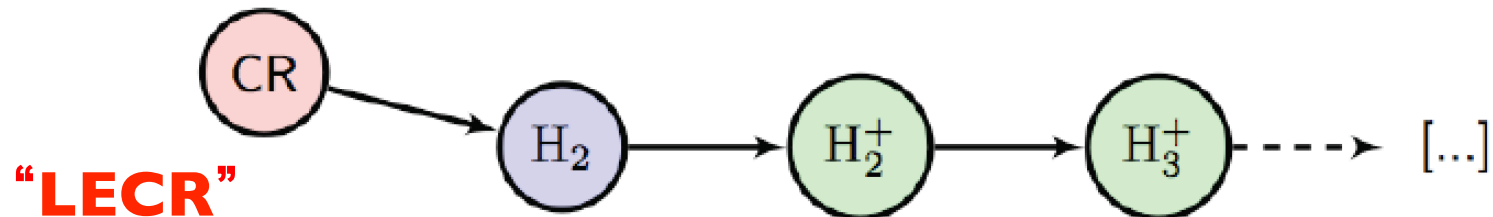


=> Idea: Search for low-energy CR in W28...

- GeV-TeV CR:  $\gamma$ -ray emission [ $\gamma$  energy  $\sim 10\%$  lower than parent CR]



- MeV-GeV CR: ionization of the gas ( $H_2^+$ ,  $He^+$ ,  $H^+$ , ...)



... by measuring and mapping the *ionization rate*  $Z$   
(fiducial value  $Z_0 \sim 10^{-17} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for the Galaxy)



- ⇔ **Low-energy interactions**

- General idea: assume TeV g-rays come from  $> \text{TeV}$  protons ( $p^\circ$  decay) accelerated by the SNR shock
- => Enhanced **molecular cloud ionization** comes from associated low-energy GCR ( $\gtrsim 0.1\text{-}500 \text{ MeV}$ ) (e.g., Galli & Padovani 2013)
- => Link with MeV/GeV/TeV flux

- => Measure **ionization degree**  $x_e$ : local CR flux enhancement

– Usual value  $\mathbb{W}_0 \sim 10^{-17}\text{-}10^{-16} \text{ s}^{-1}$  => for  $n_{\text{H}_2} \sim 10^4\text{-}10^5 \text{ cm}^{-3}$ ,  
•  $x_e \sim 10^{-8}\text{-}10^{-7}$  (e.g., Caselli et al. 1998)

– => important chemical effects (=>  $\text{H}_3^+$  ;  $\text{H}_2\text{D}^+$  ; radicals...)

– => *role in star formation* ? (+ magnetic fields: ambipolar diffusion)

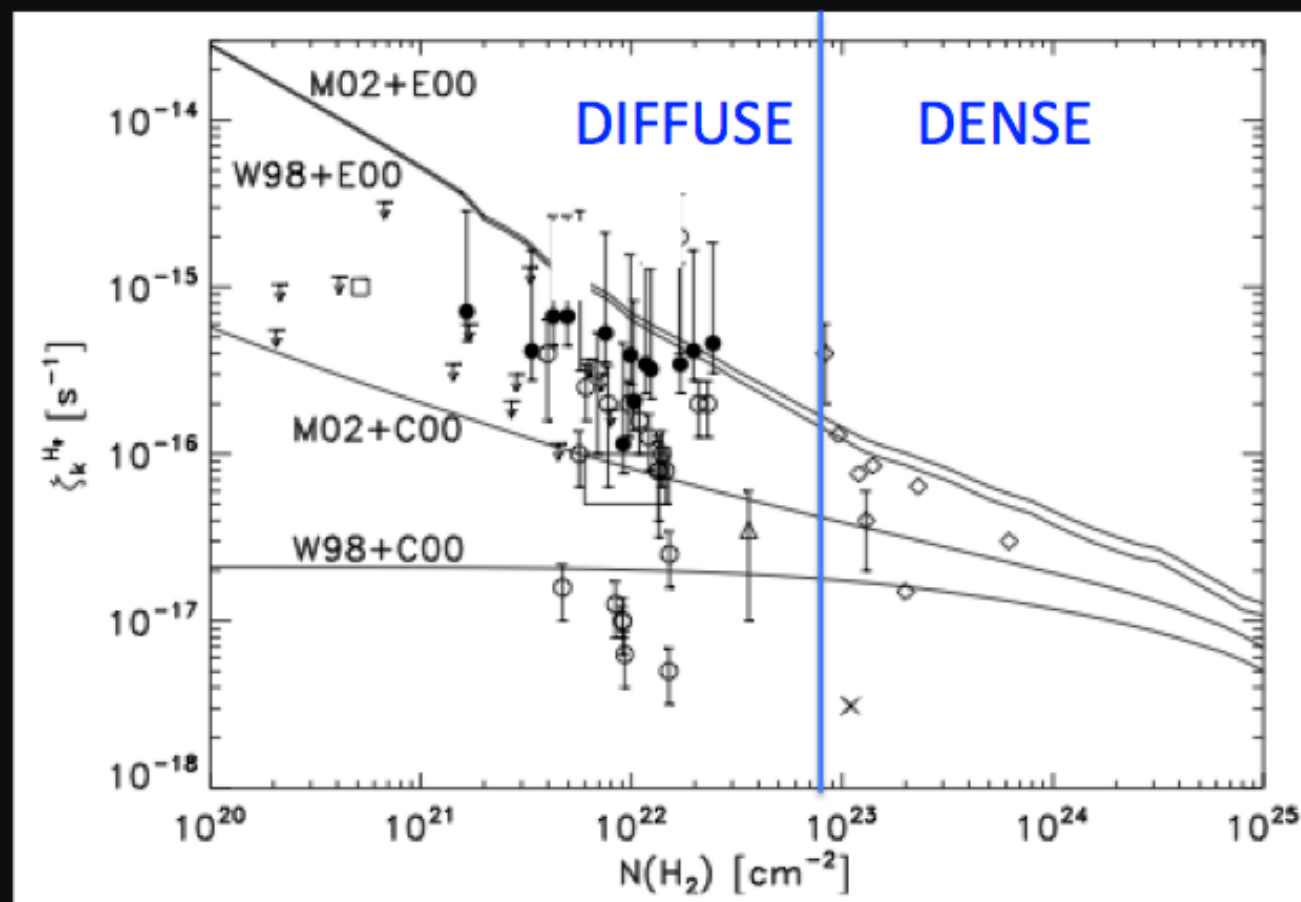
- **Methods to measure the ionization and  $\mathbb{W}$ :**

– NIR absorption lines (background stars):  $\text{H}_3^+$  (NIR: IC443, Indriolo et al. 2010); N-MIR emission lines (Schuppan et al. 2012):  
*diffuse outer layers ( $A_V < \text{a few}$ )*

– **mm emission lines:  $\text{DCO}^+/\text{HCO}^+$  (mm, or *meV emission* !):**  
*deep, dense molecular material ( $A_V > 40\text{-}50$ )*



## Diffuse vs. Dense Clouds



Padovani, Galli & Glassgold 2009

**Diffuse clouds:  $\zeta \approx 0.5-3 \times 10^{-16} \text{s}^{-1}$**

**Dense clouds:  $\zeta \approx 0.1-5 \times 10^{-17} \text{s}^{-1}$**

- **Dense clouds: “DCO<sup>+</sup>/HCO<sup>+</sup> ionization test”:**  
IRAM-30m program (Ceccarelli, Hily-Blant, Dubus, TM, Vaupré, Lefloch)
  - Sample of TeV sources:
    - SNOB-like sources (IC443, **W28**, **W51C**, Cyg OBI)
  - mm observations: HCO<sup>+</sup>, DCO<sup>+</sup>, <sup>12</sup>CO, <sup>13</sup>CO
    - CO + H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup> → HCO<sup>+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>
    - CO + H<sub>2</sub>D<sup>+</sup> → DCO<sup>+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>
    - First-order analytical approximation:

$$\frac{\text{H}_2\text{D}^+}{\text{H}_3^+} = \frac{2 \cdot [\text{D}]k_1}{k_e x_e + k_{\text{CO}}x_{\text{CO}} + 2k_{\text{HD}}[\text{D}]} = 3 \text{ DCO}^+/\text{HCO}^+$$

(e.g., Guélin et al. 1977)

  $x_e$  (but requires chemical model if  $x_e$  too high; see later)

 + cloud T, density and N(H<sub>2</sub>) from <sup>12</sup>CO and <sup>13</sup>CO measurements



# Chemical reactions network: Molecules... and radicals

#	Reaction	Reaction rates (cm <sup>3</sup> .s <sup>-1</sup> )
Reduced network		
(#1)	$CR + H_2 \xrightarrow{\zeta} H_2^+ + e^-$	$\zeta$ (s <sup>-1</sup> )
(#2)	$H_2^+ + H_2 \xrightarrow{k_{H_3^+}} H_3^+ + H$	$k_{H_3^+} = 2.1 \cdot 10^{-9}$
(#3)	$H_2D^+ + CO \xrightarrow{k_D} DCO^+ + H_2$	$k_D = 5.37 \cdot 10^{-10}$
(#4)	$H_3^+ + CO \xrightarrow{k_H} HCO^+ + H_2$	$k_H = 1.61 \cdot 10^{-9}$
(#5)	$H_3^+ + HD \xrightleftharpoons[k_f^{-1}]{k_f} H_2D^+ + H_2$	$k_f = 1.7 \cdot 10^{-9}$ $k_f^{-1} = 1.7 \cdot 10^{-9} \exp(-220/T)$
(#6)	$DCO^+ + e^- \xrightarrow{\beta'} CO + D$	$\beta' = 2.8 \cdot 10^{-7} (T/300)^{-0.69}$
(#7)	$HCO^+ + e^- \xrightarrow{\beta'} CO + H$	$\beta' = 2.8 \cdot 10^{-7} (T/300)^{-0.69}$
(#8)	$H_2D^+ + e^- \xrightarrow{k_e} H + H + D$ $H_2 + D$ $HD + H$	$k_e = 6.00 \cdot 10^{-8} (T/300)^{-0.50}$
(#9)	$H_3^+ + e^- \xrightarrow{\beta} H + H + H$ $H_2 + H$	$\beta = 6.7 \cdot 10^{-8} (T/300)^{-0.69}$
(#10)	$H + H \xrightarrow{k'} H_2$	$k' = 4.95 \cdot 10^{-17} (T/300)^{0.50}$
(#11)	$H + D \xrightarrow{k''} HD$	$k'' = \sqrt{2}k'$
Additional reactions		
(#12)	$H_2D^+ + CO \xrightarrow{k'_D} HCO^+ + H_2$	$k'_D = 1.1 \cdot 10^{-9}$
(#13)	$CO^+ + HD \xrightarrow{k_{CO^+}} DCO^+ + H$	$k_{CO^+} = 7.5 \cdot 10^{-10}$

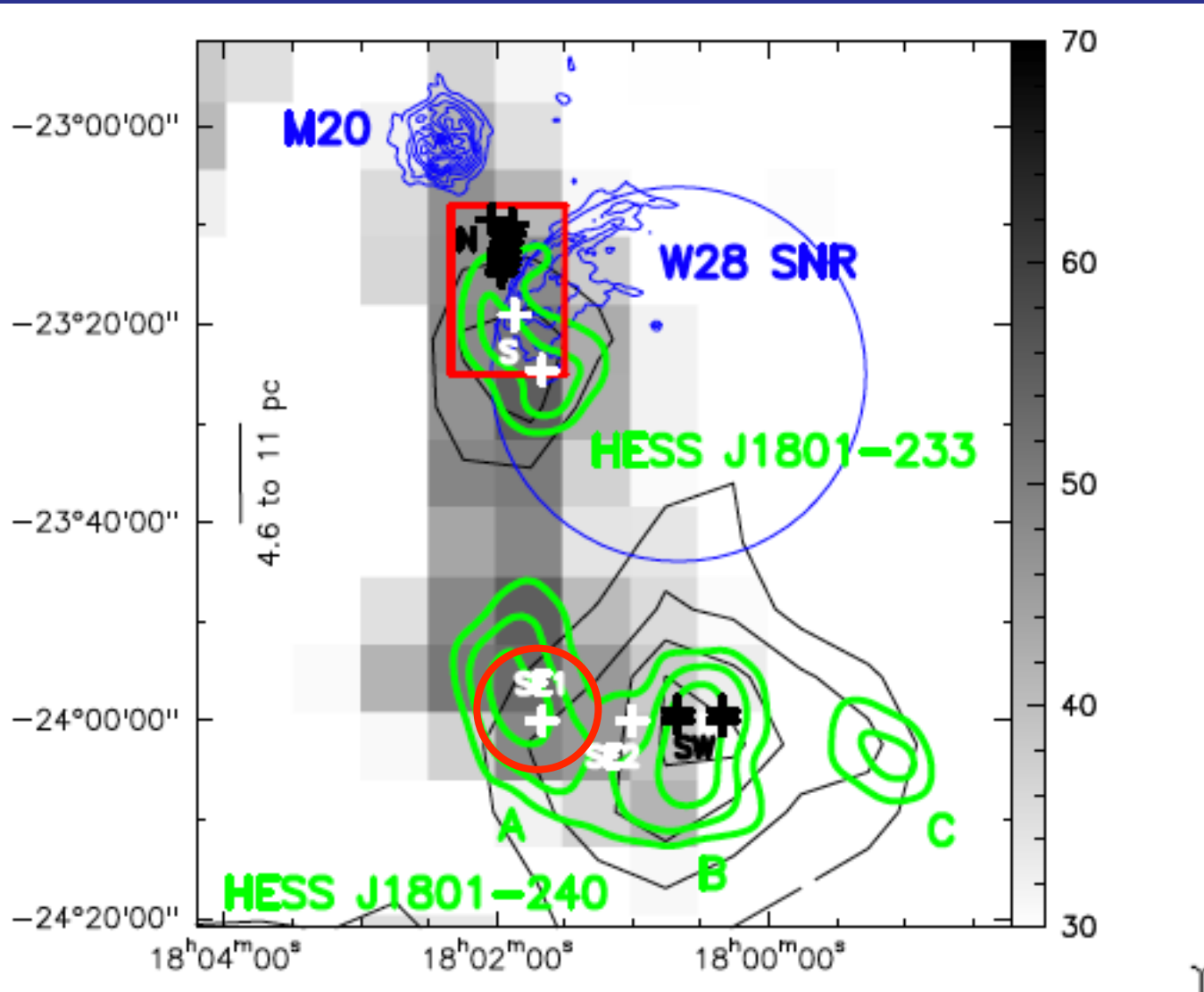


# IRAM 30-m observations of W28: near and far from the shock

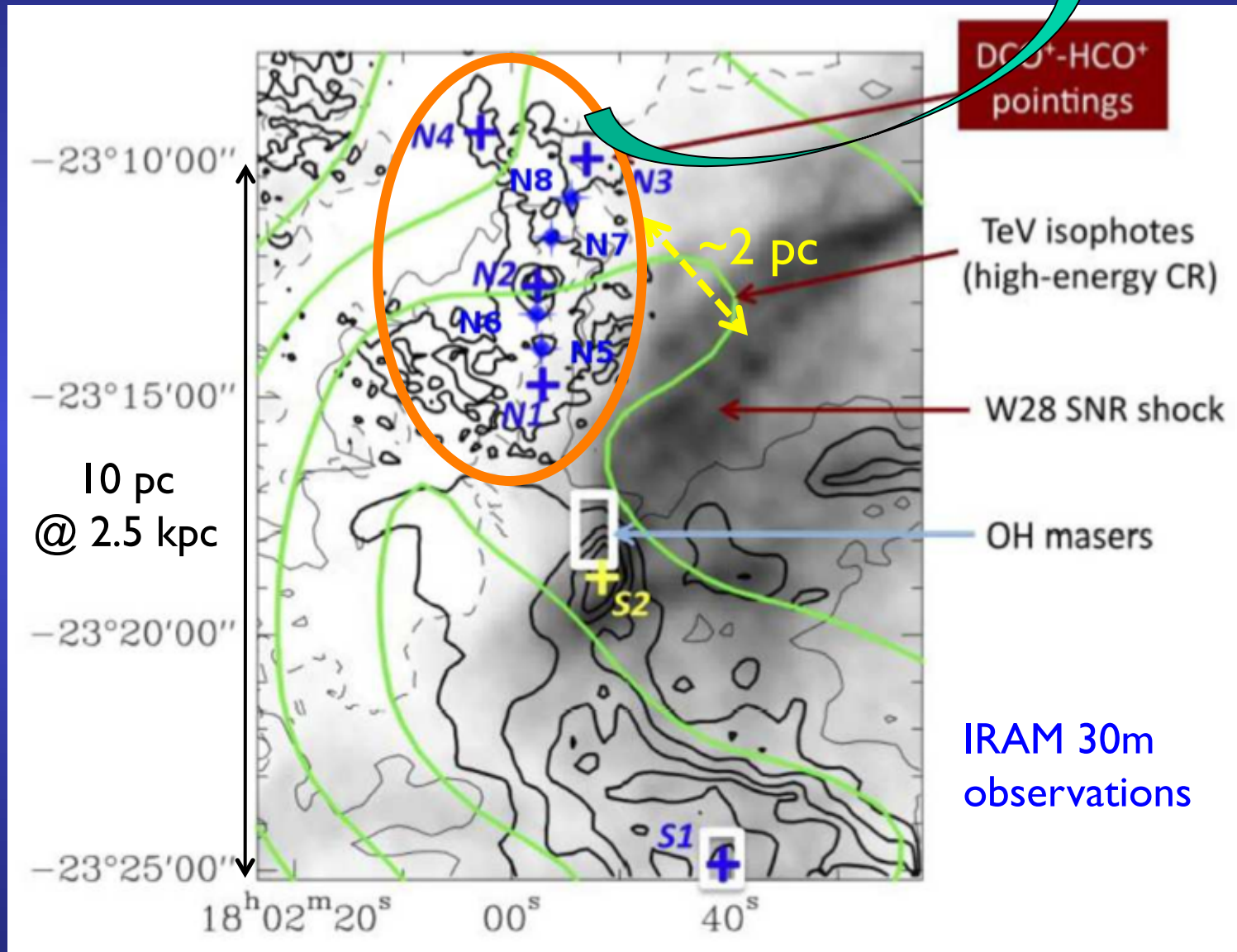
Species	Line
$\text{H}^{13}\text{CO}^+$	(1-0)
$\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$	(1-0)
$^{13}\text{CO}$	(1-0)
$\text{C}^{17}\text{O}$	(1-0)
$\text{DCO}^+$	(2-1)
$\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$	(2-1)
$^{13}\text{CO}$	(2-1)
$\text{C}^{17}\text{O}$	(2-1)

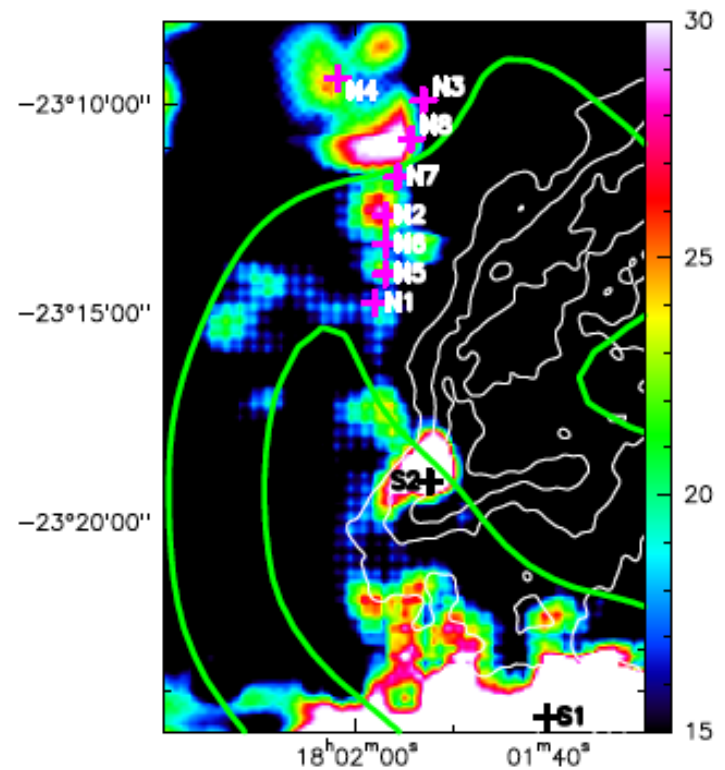
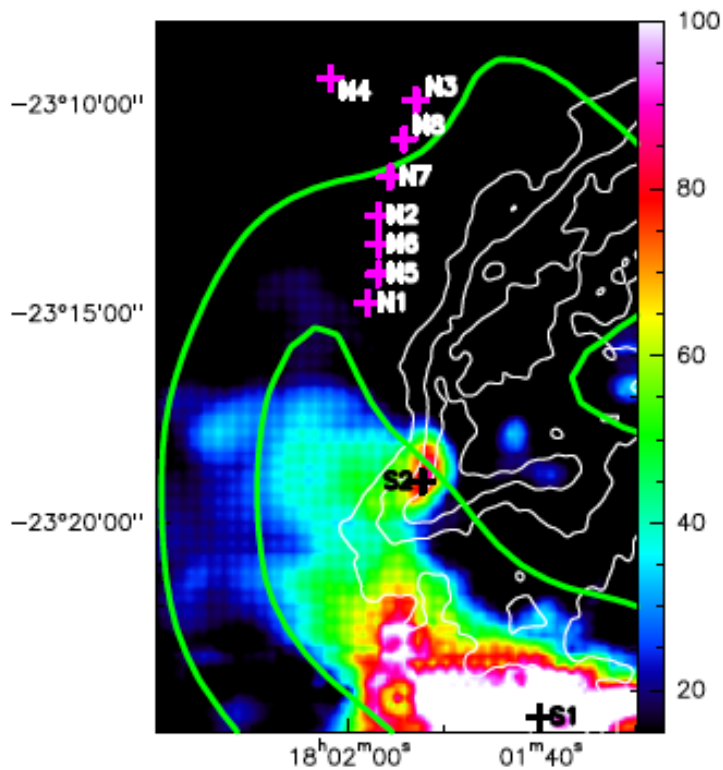


16 pointings



low-energy CR  $\Leftrightarrow$  ionization "map" (molecules/radicals)  $\Leftrightarrow$  CR diffusion





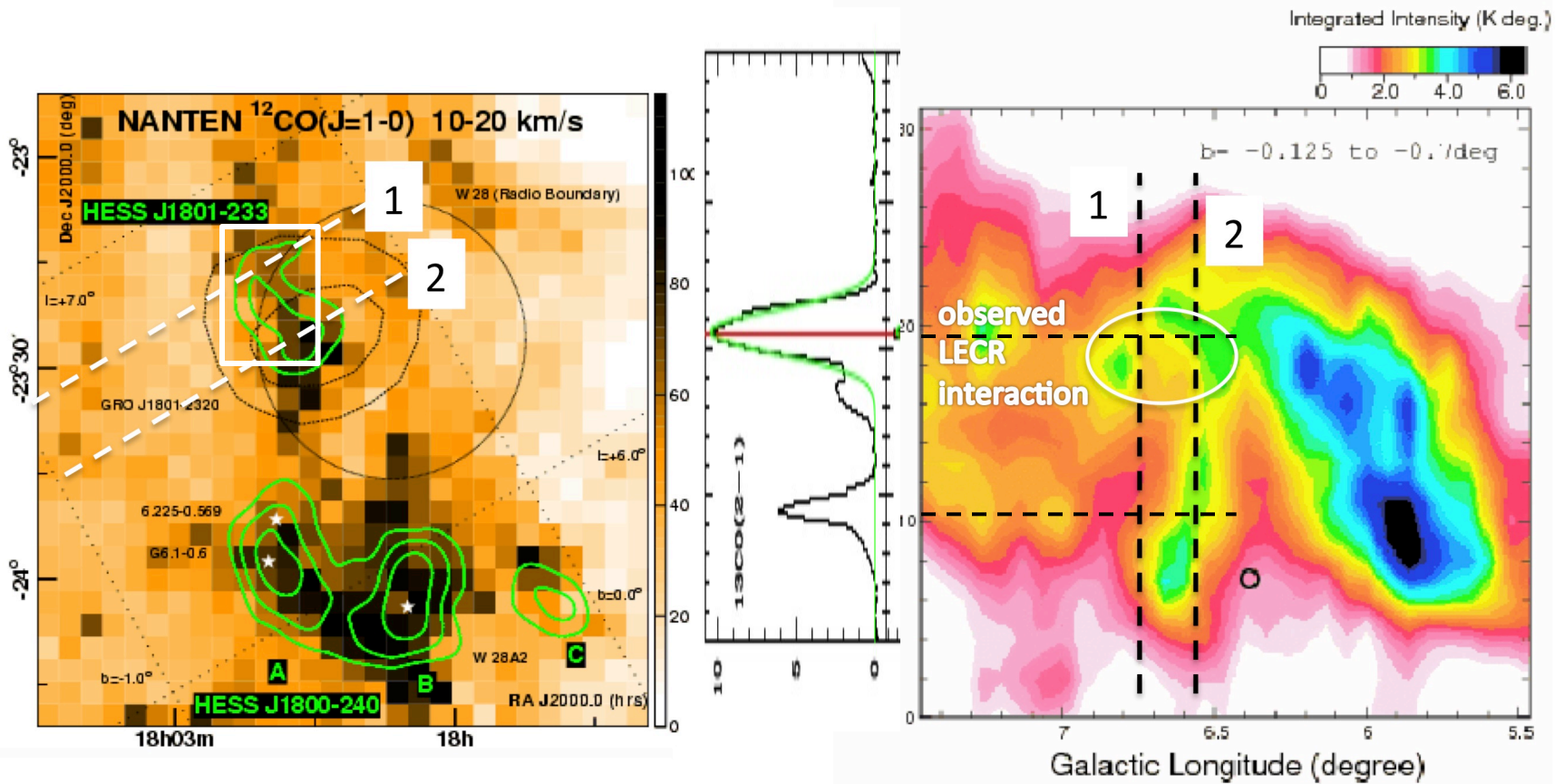
(Left): CO(3 – 2), 5-15 km.s<sup>-1</sup> (Right): CO(3 – 2), 15-25 km.s<sup>-1</sup>  
 Free-free 20 cm emission (white), HESS TeV emission (green)

Vaupré et al. 2014, A&A, in press





# W28 NE: molecular cloud environment with large velocity dispersion (20 km/s !)



**Table 5.** Physical conditions and cosmic ray ionization rates.

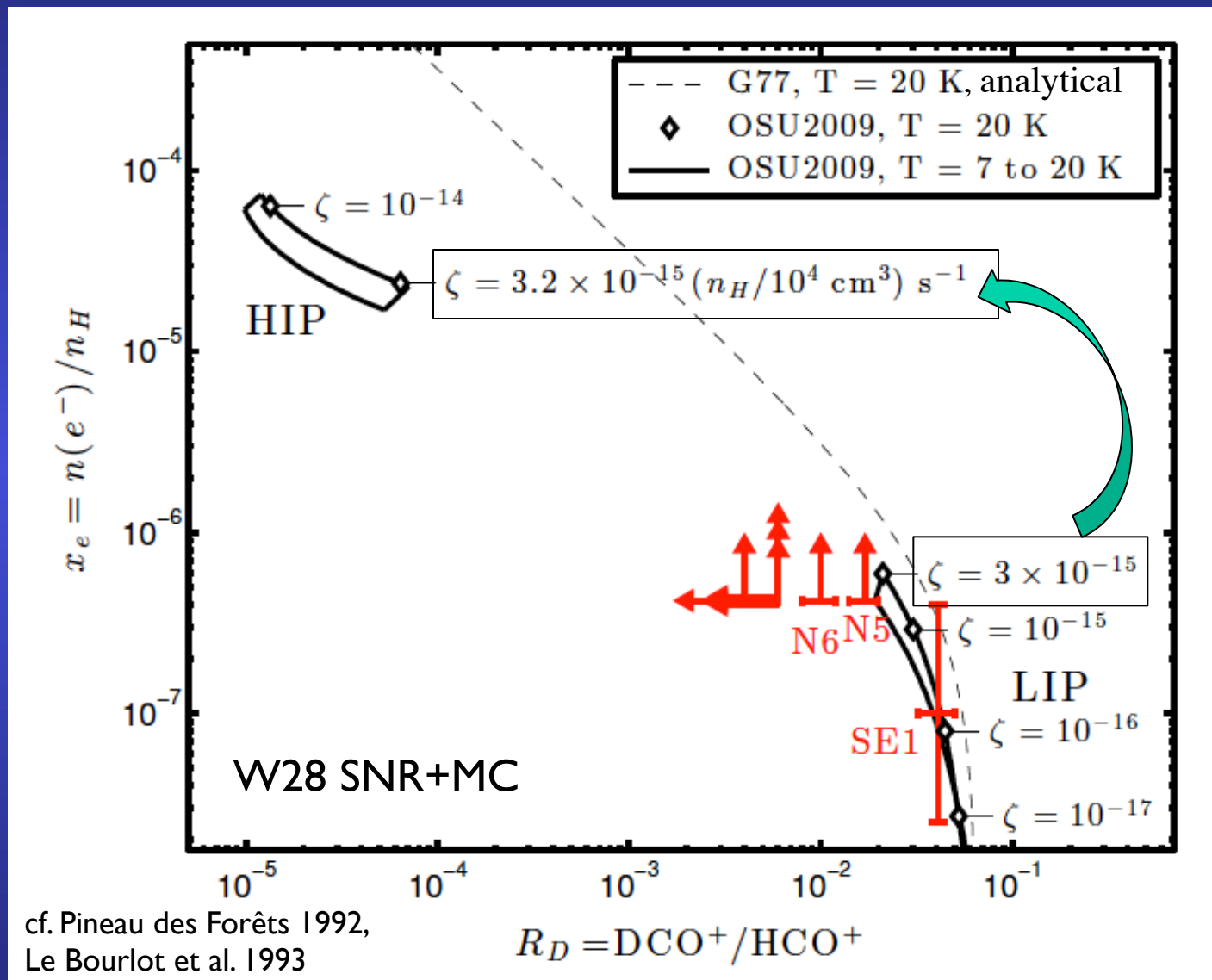
Pos.	$\Delta v$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	$n_{\text{H}_2}$ [10 <sup>3</sup> cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	$T_{\text{kin}}$ [K]	$N(\text{C}^{18}\text{O})$ [10 <sup>15</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> ]	$A_V$ [mag]	$N(\text{H}^{13}\text{CO}^+)$ [10 <sup>12</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> ]	$N(\text{DCO}^+)$ [10 <sup>12</sup> cm <sup>-2</sup> ]	$R_D = \frac{[\text{DCO}^+]}{[\text{HCO}^+]}$	$\zeta$ [10 <sup>-17</sup> s <sup>-1</sup> ]
N1	3.5	0.6 {0.2 – 1}	15 ± 5	4 {2 – 6}	21 {11 – 32}	0.8 – 1.3	< 0.22	< 0.005	> 13
N5	3.0	4 {2 – 5}	10 ± 2	3 {2 – 8}	16 {11 – 32}	1.1 – 1.4	0.89 – 1.30	0.014 – 0.020	130 – 330
N6	3.0	4 {2 – 6}	13 ± 3	6 {4 – 20}	32 {21 – 105}	1.8 – 2.5	0.79 – 1.30	0.008 – 0.012	130 – 400
N2 <sup>†</sup>	5.0	> 2	16 ± 2	20 {15 – 30}	105 {79 – 158}	5.6 – 8.9	1.10 – 2.00	0.003 – 0.006	-
N7	2.5	2 {2 – 5}	10 ± 2	4 {3 – 10}	21 {16 – 53}	0.6 – 0.9	< 0.25	< 0.007	> 130
N8	3.5	1 {0.6 – 2}	8 ± 1	3 {2 – 4}	16 {11 – 21}	< 0.2	< 0.35	-	-
N3	3.5	6 {4 – 10}	8 ± 1	6 {5 – 7}	32 {26 – 37}	1.0 – 1.4	< 0.35	< 0.006	> 260
N4	3.0	2 {0.6 – 4}	12 ± 3	2 {2 – 3}	11 {5 – 16}	1.0 – 1.4	< 0.35	< 0.006	> 40
SE1	4.0	2 {1 – 5}	19 ± 5	6 {5 – 20}	32 {26 – 105}	0.4 – 0.56	0.79 – 1.0	0.032 – 0.05	0.2 – 20
SE2	3.0	4 {2 – 10}	8 ± 2	0.9 {0.4 – 20}	5 {2 – 105}	< 0.2	< 0.28	-	-
SW2	1.5	2 {1 – 4}	20 ± 4	4 {3 – 10}	21 {16 – 53}	< 0.1	< 0.22	-	-
SW4 <sup>†</sup>	1.5	6 {4 – 10}	16 ± 2	1.5 {1 – 3}	5 {5 – 16}	0.5 – 0.8	< 0.25	< 0.009	-

Note -  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  is the molecular hydrogen density (cm<sup>-3</sup>),  $T_{\text{kin}}$  the gas kinetic temperature,  $N(\text{C}^{18}\text{O})$  the total column density of  $\text{C}^{18}\text{O}$ .  $A_V$  is the visual extinction assuming  $[\text{C}^{18}\text{O}] = A_V \times 1.9 \times 10^{14}$  cm<sup>-2</sup> (Frerking et al. 1982; Bolatto et al. 2013). We assumed isotopic ratio values  $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O} = 500$  and  $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C} = 50$  (see text). Values between brackets indicate the range of values satisfying  $\chi^2_\nu < 1$ . Uncertainties on  $n_{\text{H}_2}$  and  $T_{\text{kin}}$  are at the 70% confidence level, and are propagated in the abundance ratios and upper limits. Lower limits of  $\zeta$  were deduced from chemical modeling (see section §6).

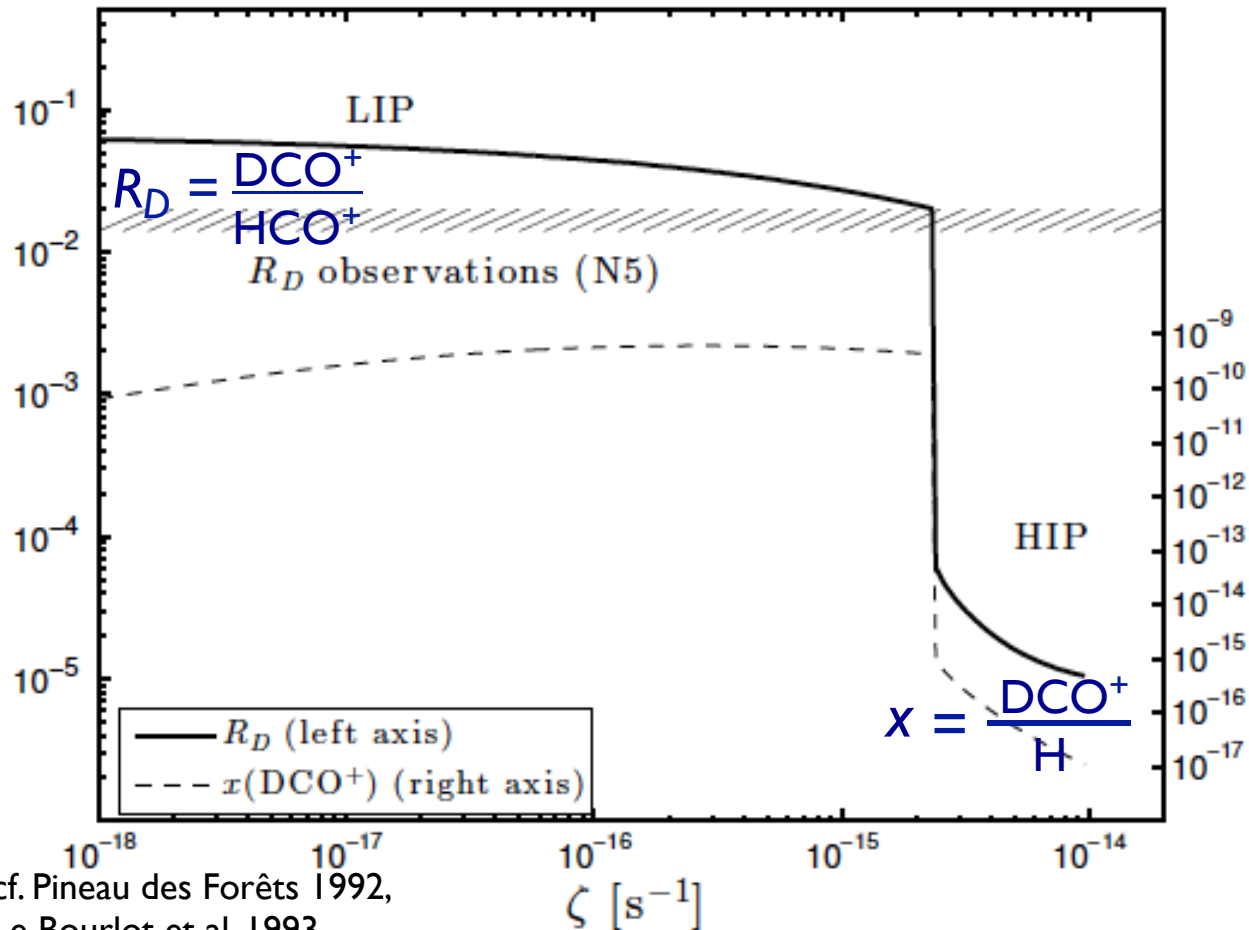
<sup>†</sup> N2 and SW4 are probably ionized by another source than CR (see text).



# Results for W28: first evidence for « High Ionization Phase » regions



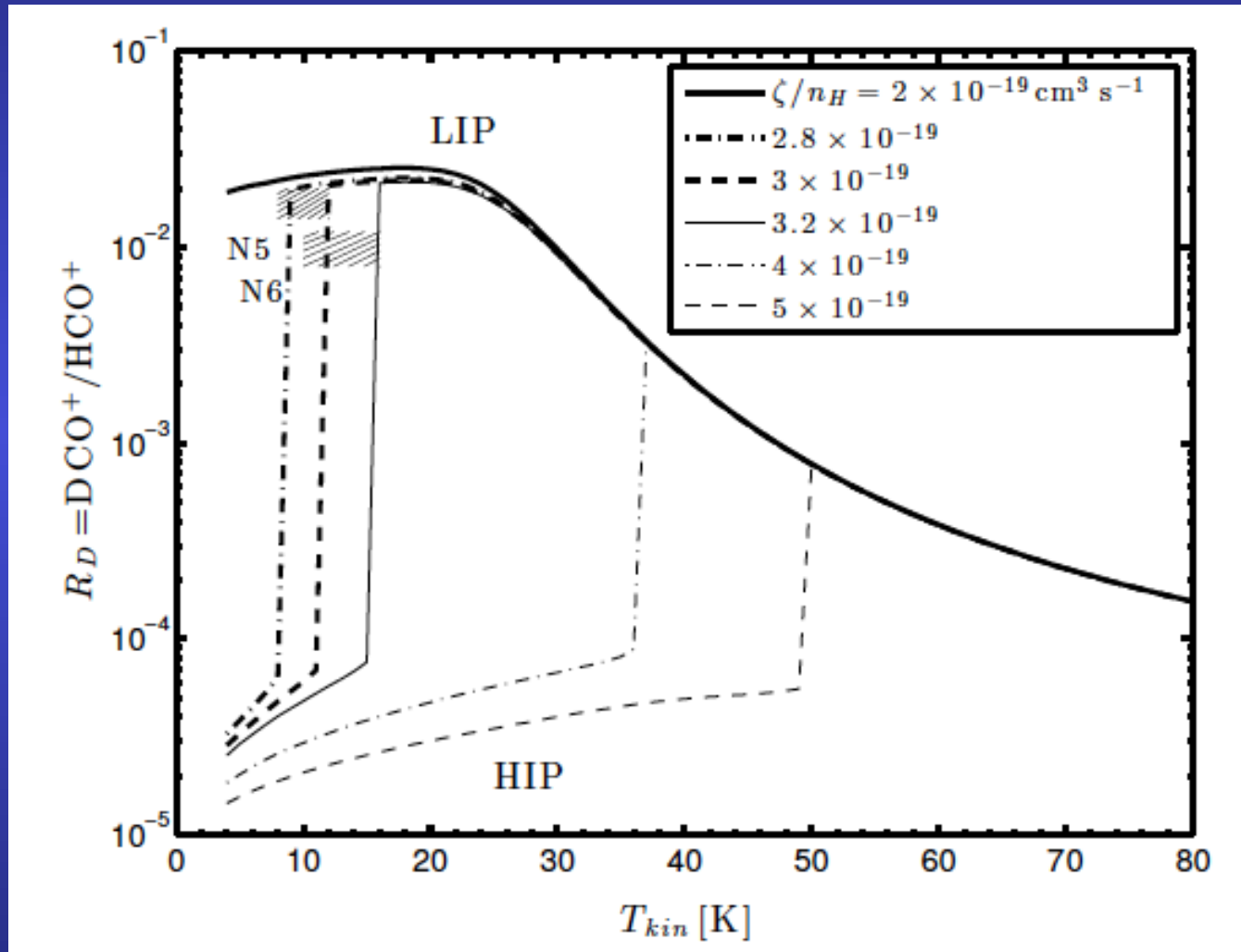
The collapse of  $\text{DCO}^+$  at high ionization ( $\zeta > 100 \zeta_0$ ):  
 predicted instability in the chemical reactions network  
 (non-linear change in charge carriers);



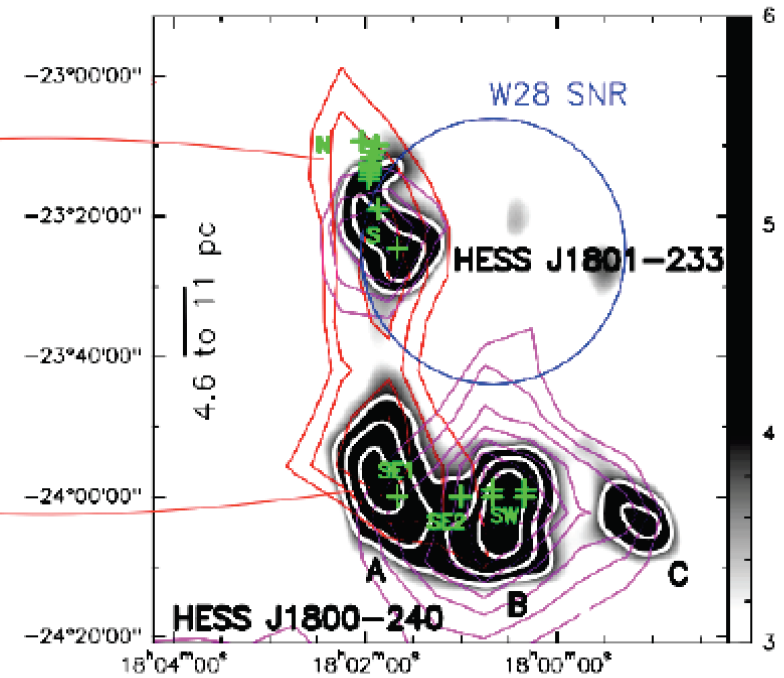
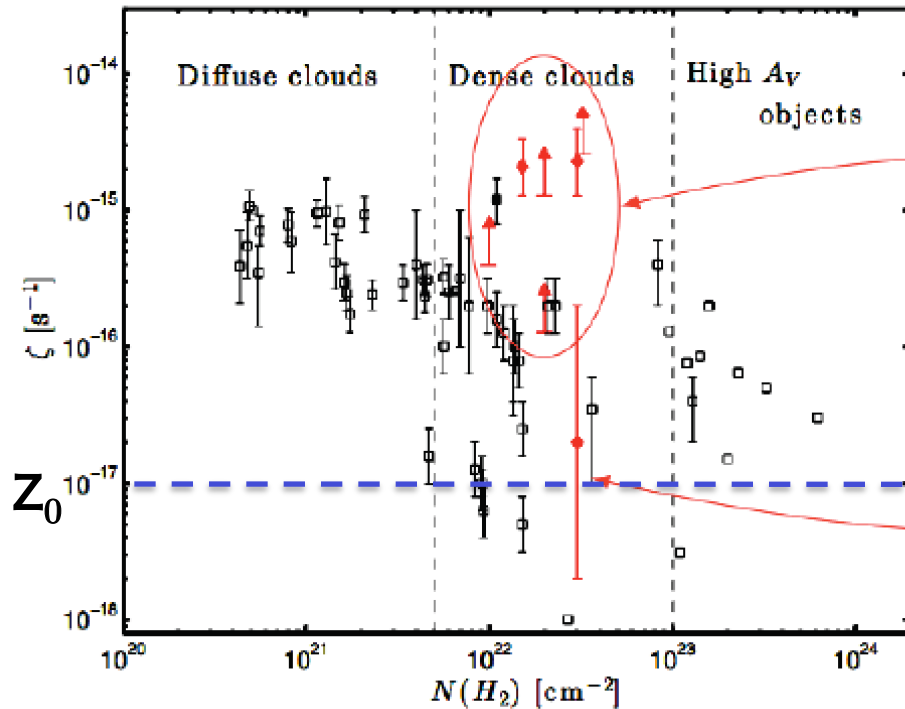
cf. Pineau des Forêts 1992,  
 Le Boulot et al. 1993



## HIP-LIP regimes as a function of $T$



Enhanced ionization ( $\times \sim 100$ ) downstream of the shock  
 $\Rightarrow$  enhanced LECR ! *But standard value far from the shock*



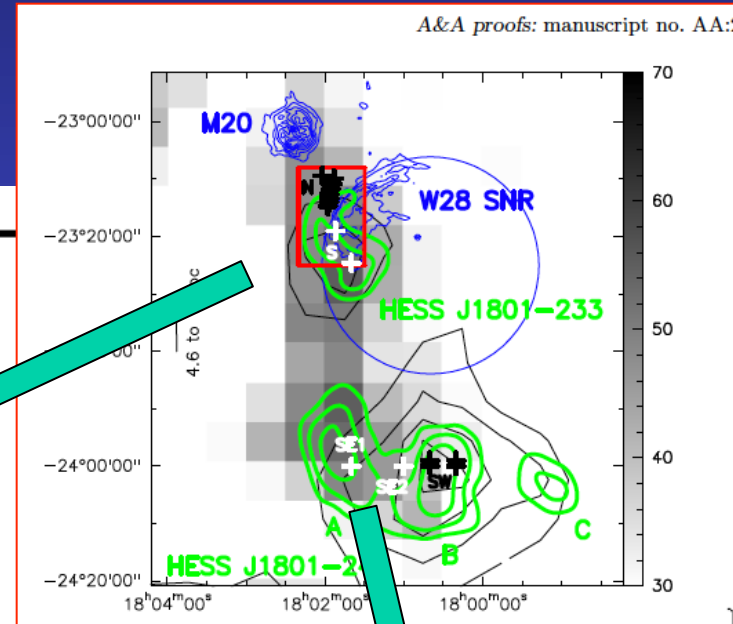
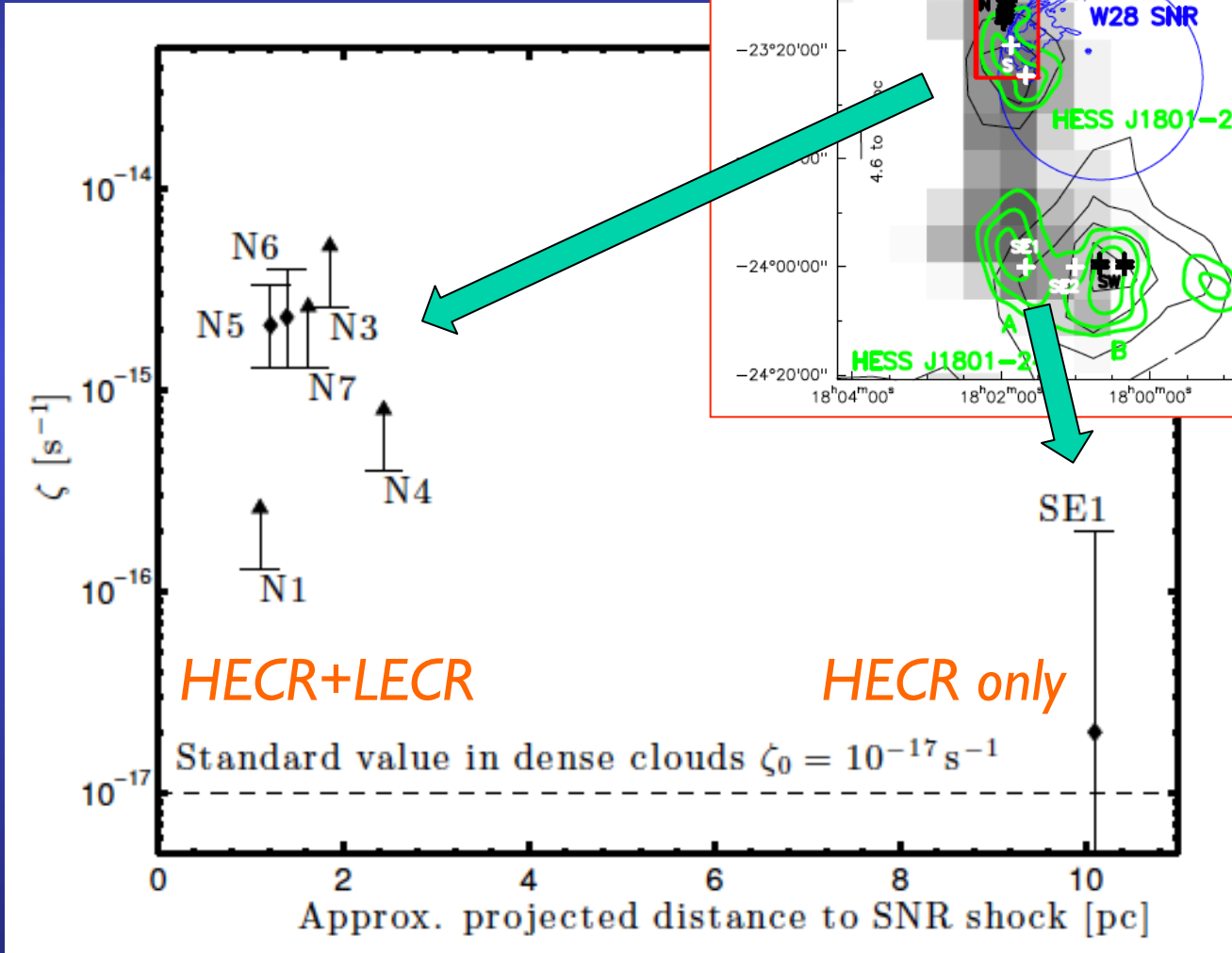
$\Leftrightarrow$  comparable to HECR enhancement from  $p^0$ -decay  $\gamma$ -rays  
 $\Rightarrow$  constraints on CR acceleration/diffusion theories (DSA...)



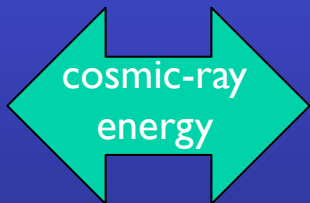
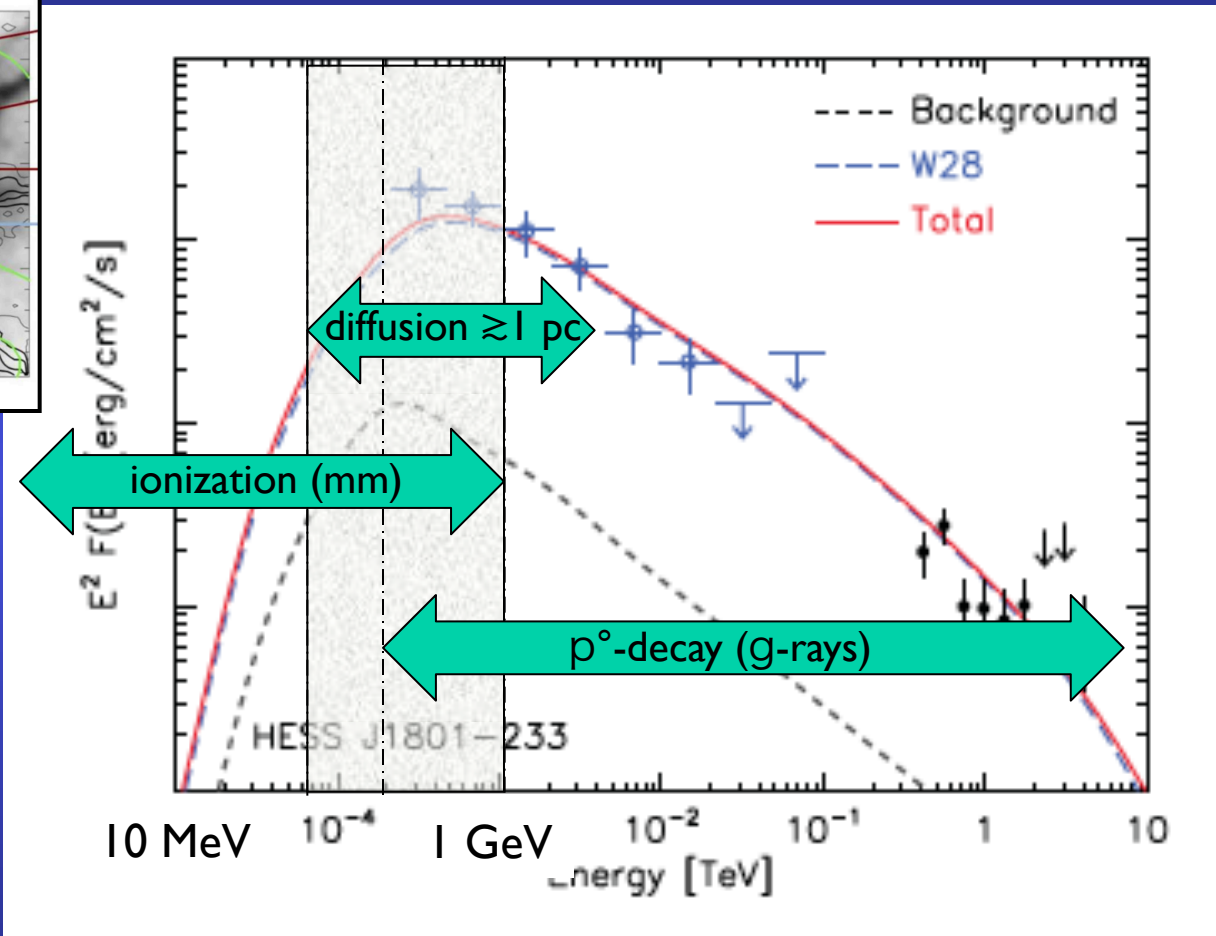
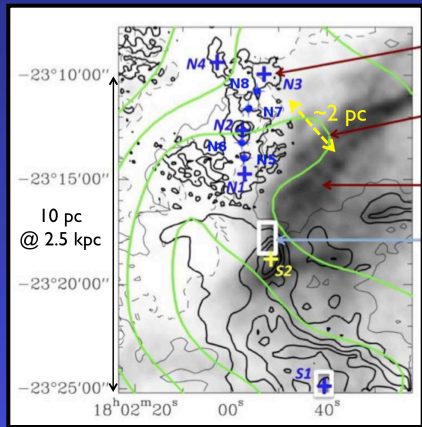
# Constraints on CR diffusion

from ionization range:

$$\Leftrightarrow R_d / (1 \text{ pc}) \approx (E_{CR} / 100 \text{ MeV})^{9/8}$$



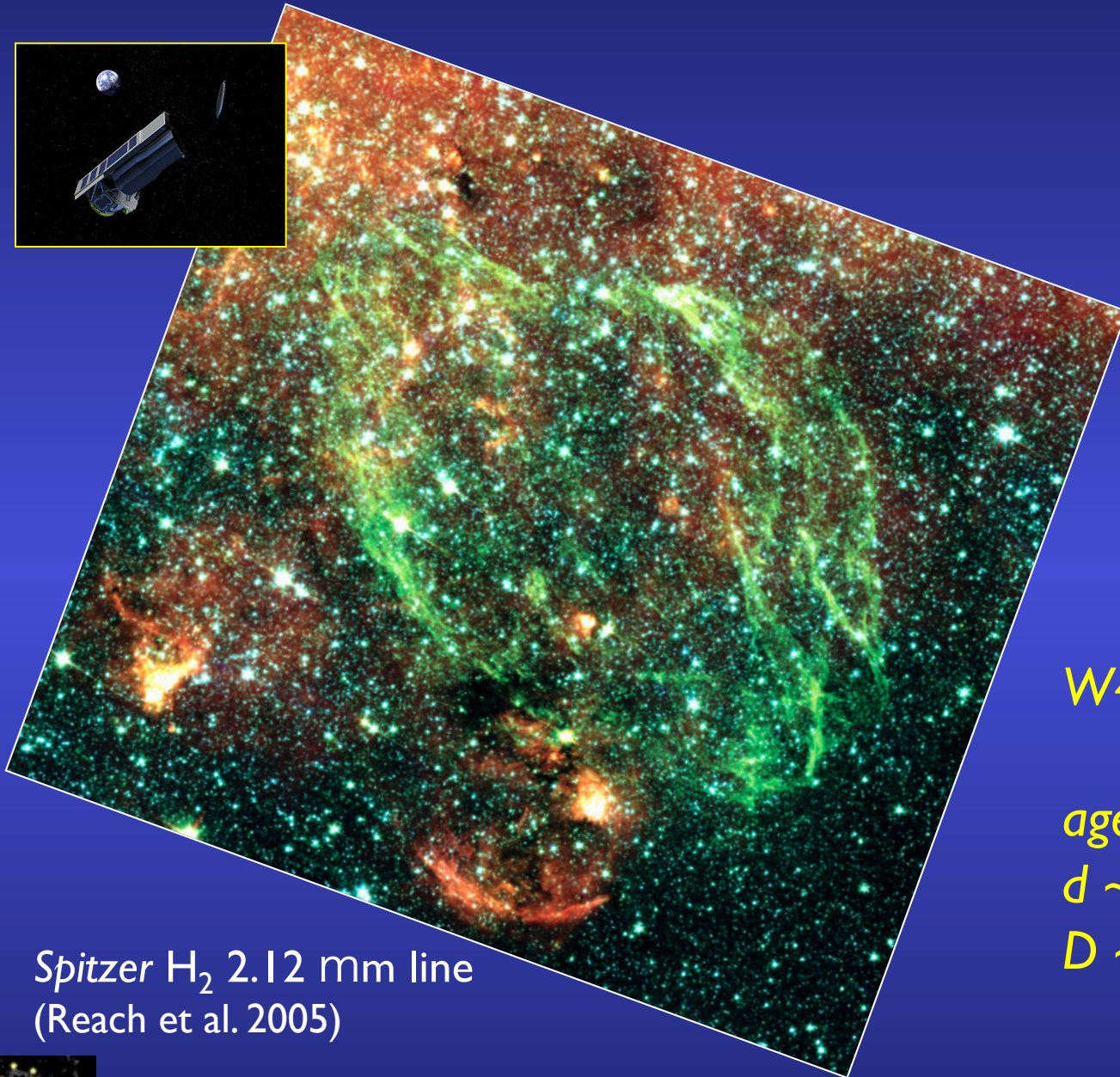
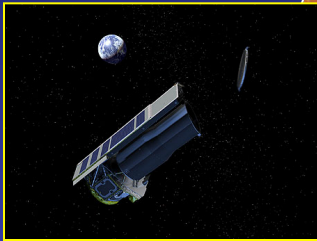
# Upstream of the W28 SNR shock: probing cosmic rays



Next step: connecting low- and high-energy CR in W44 (obs. done)  
 + new constraints on high-ionization interstellar chemistry







W44 SNR

age  $\sim 20\,000$  yrs

$d \sim 3$  kpc

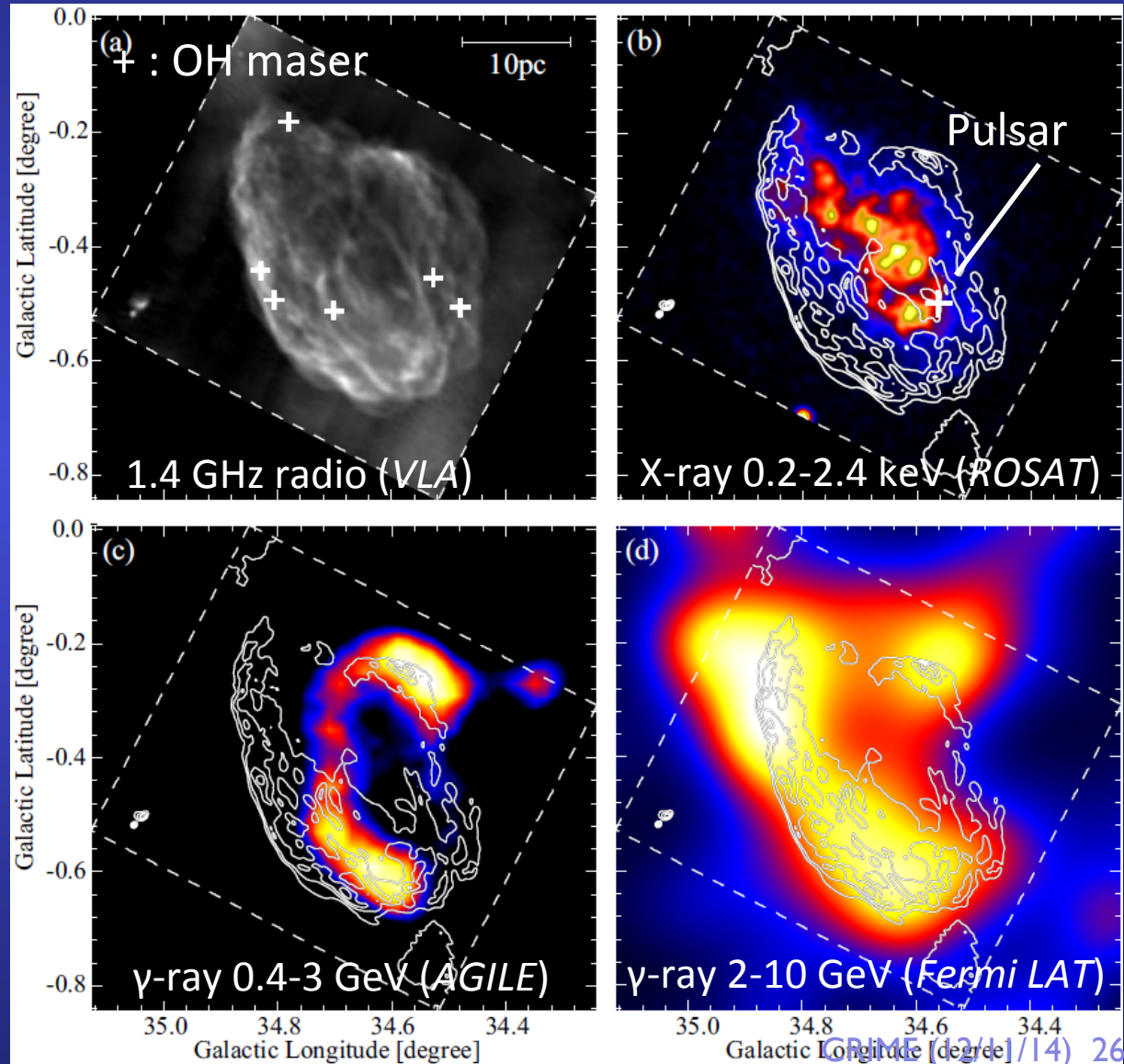
$D \sim 20$  pc

Spitzer H<sub>2</sub> 2.12 mm line  
(Reach et al. 2005)

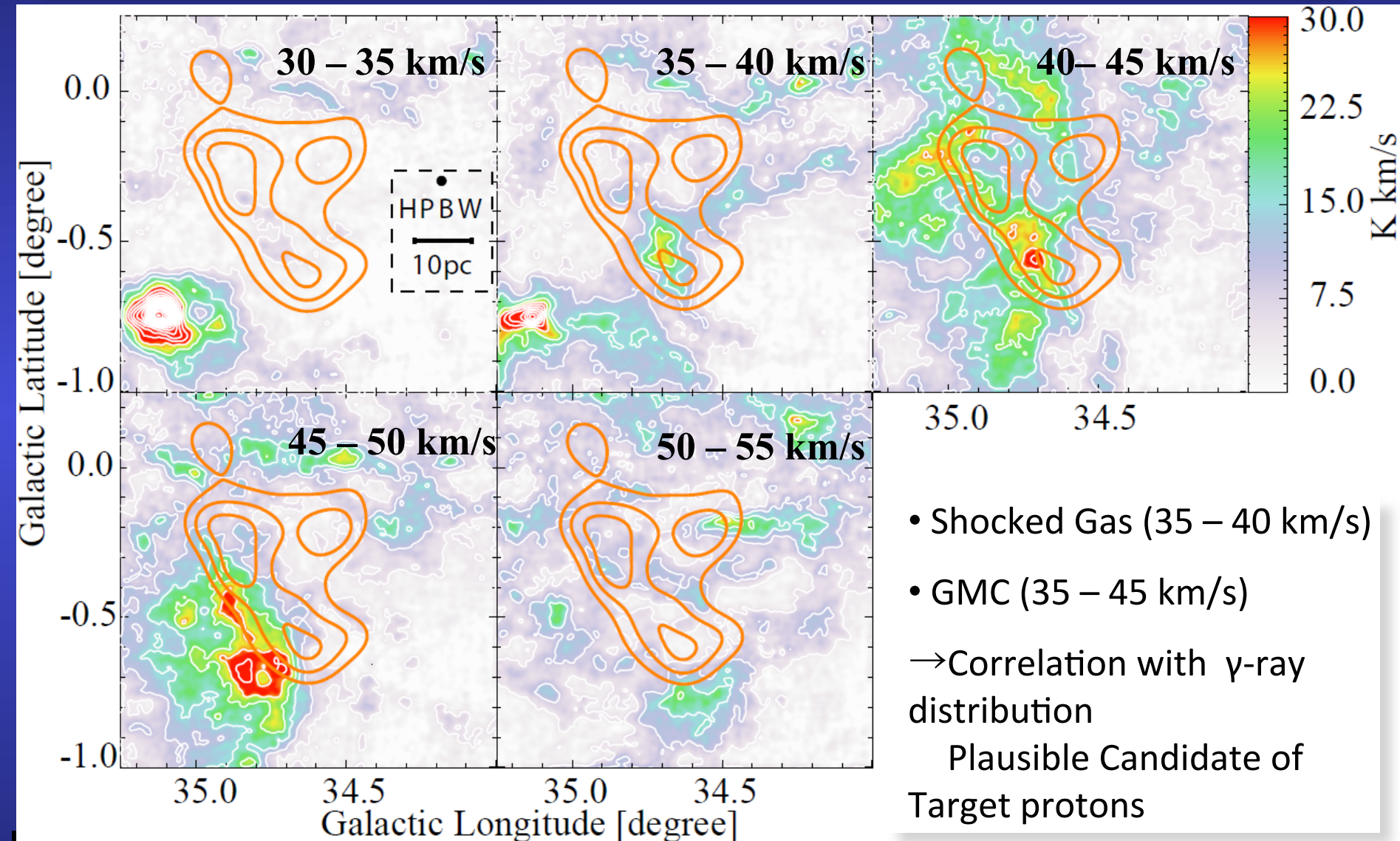


# SNR W44

- Age  $\sim 20,000$  yr  
= Middle-aged SNR  
(e.g., [Harrus et al. 1997](#))
- Distance  $\sim 3$  kpc  
(e.g., [Caswell et al. 1975](#))
- OH Maser (Shock tracer)  
([Claussen et al. 1997](#))
- Interaction with Molecular and Atomic Gas  
([Seta et al. 1998, 2004](#);  
[Koo & Heiles 1995](#))
- GeV  $\gamma$ -rays  
([Abdo et al. 2010](#);  
[Giuliani et al. 2011](#))
- No TeV  $g$ -rays



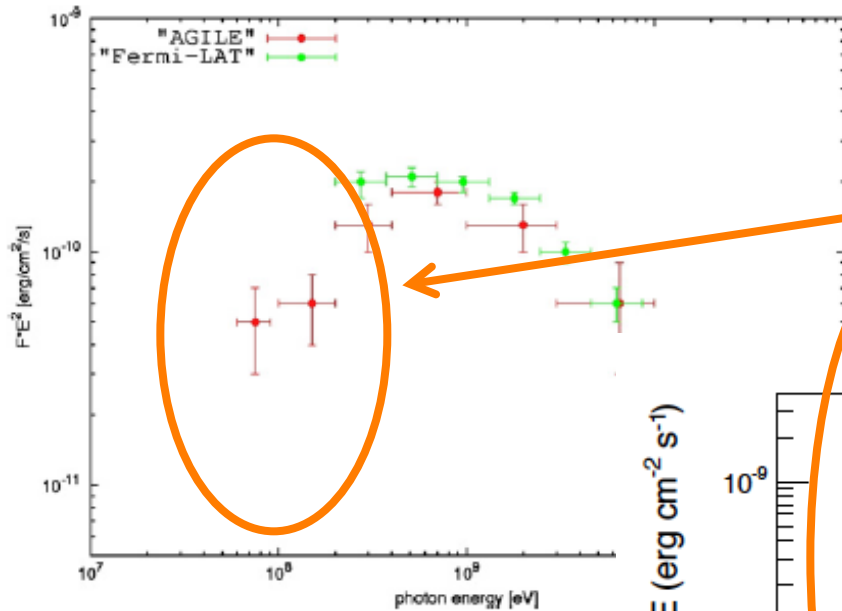
# Molecular Gas vs $\gamma$ -ray



- Image ...  $^{12}\text{CO}(J=2-1)$
- Contours ... 400 MeV – 3 GeV (*Fermi* LAT)

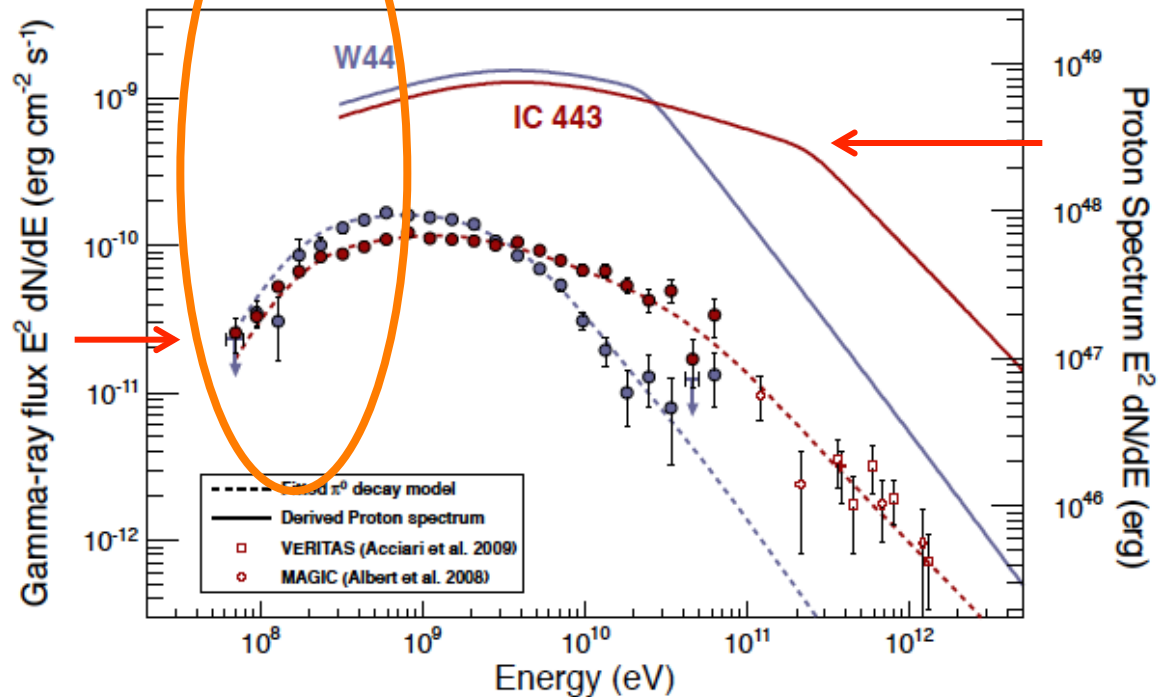
© Yoshiike-san

# The g-ray spectrum of W44 is well fitted by a $p^\circ$ -decay, but...



(Giuliani et al. 2011)

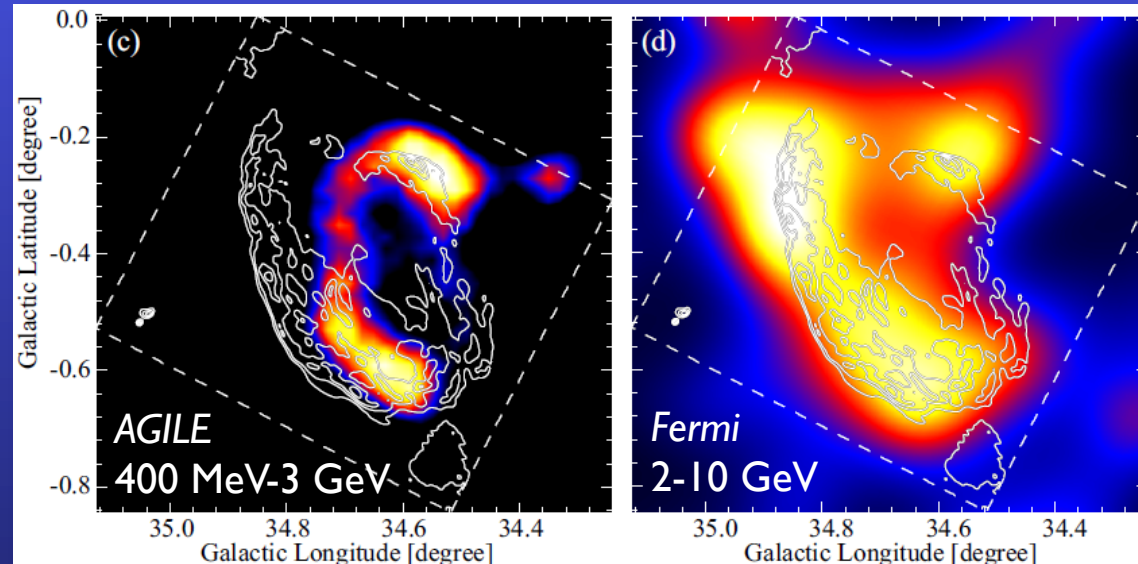
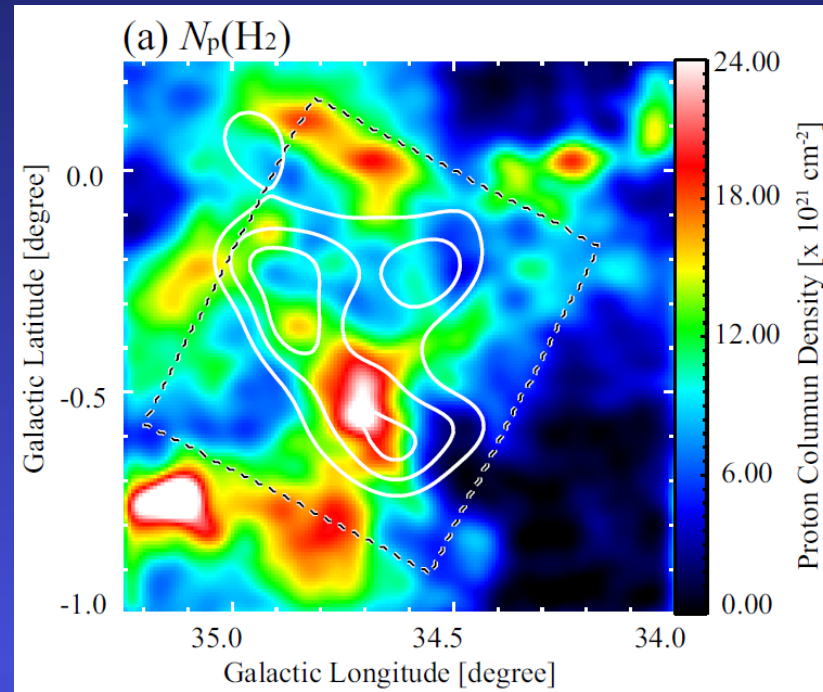
Overlap between  $p^\circ$ -decay production and ionization



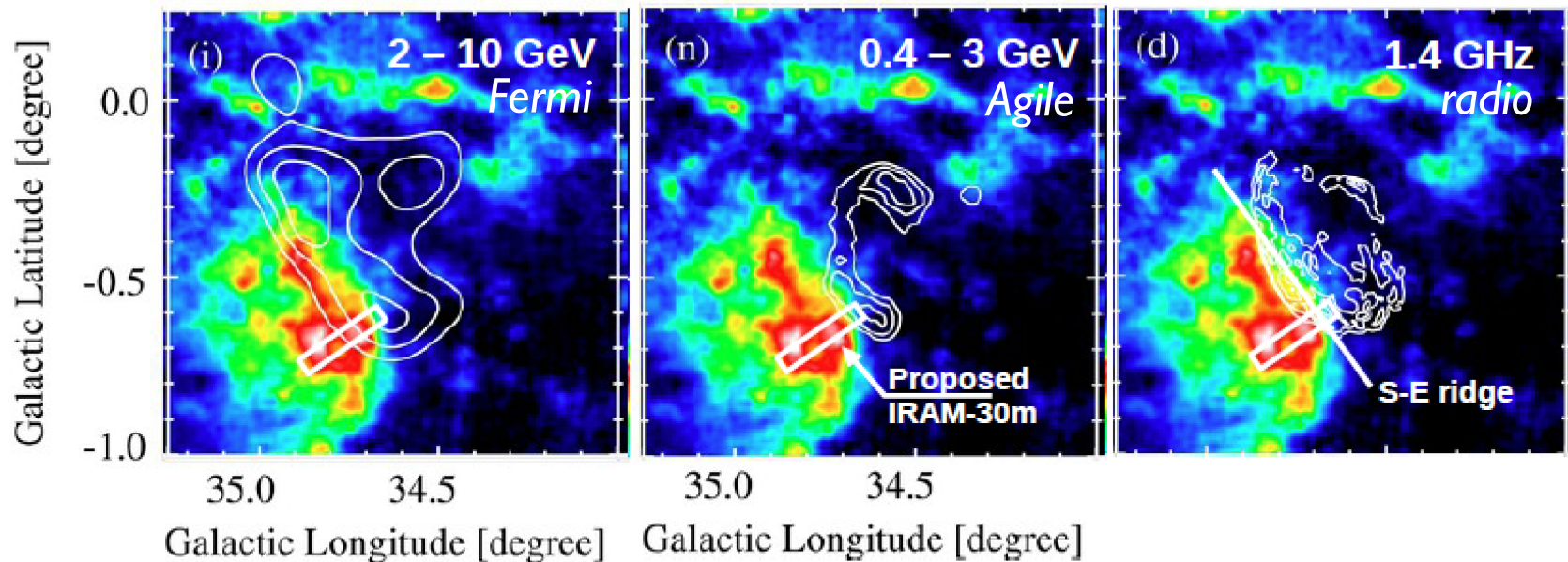
(Ackermann et al. 2013)



Can the distribution  
of matter really explain  
the spatial  $\gamma$ -ray emission  
of W44 ?  
(see later)  
Evidence for "crushed clouds"  
inside the remnant ?  
(Uchiyama et al. 2012)



*IRAM 30-m observations of W44:  
Done in September, analysis in progress*



# Conclusions

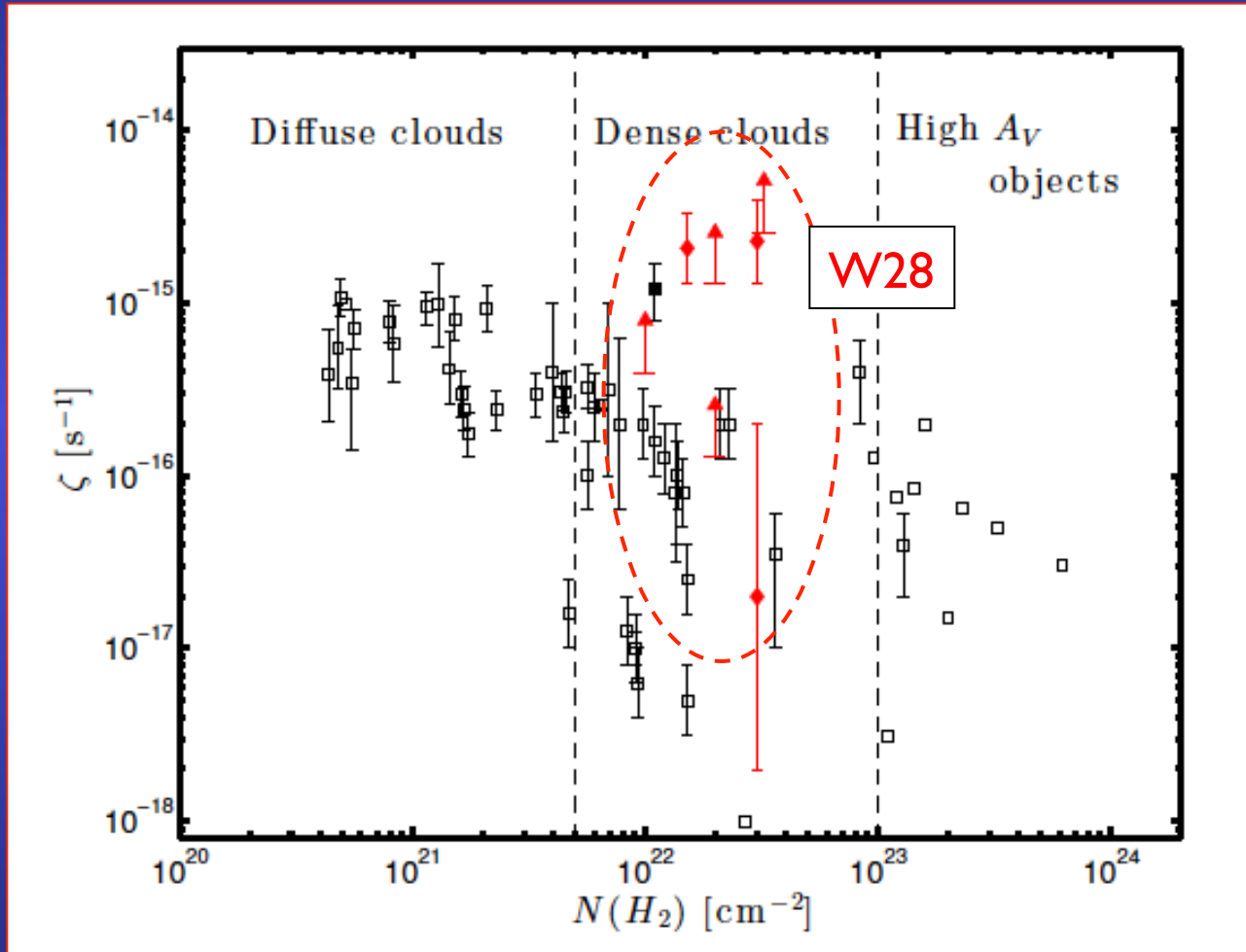
- A class of GeV-TeV  $\gamma$ -ray sources is definitely associated with SNRs physically interacting with molecular clouds
  - There is mounting evidence that the  $\gamma$ -ray emission is dominated by HECR ( $\gtrsim 10$  GeV/n hadrons: evidence for  $p^\circ$ -decay)
  - This is confirmed by new chemical evidence for  $\sim x10-100$  overionization of the same molecular clouds by LECR ( $\lesssim 1-500$  MeV)
    - Such TeV sources are unique *chemical and physical laboratories* for molecular clouds !
- First observational evidence for HIP/LIP regime in *astrochemistry*
  - First observational evidence that LECR are the main *ionization agent*  $\Leftrightarrow$  first observational evidence of *acceleration of low-energy hadrons* by an SNR shock
  - First observational evidence that *diffusion* of LECR upstream of the shock is (at least to first order) isotropic and consistent with theoretical estimates



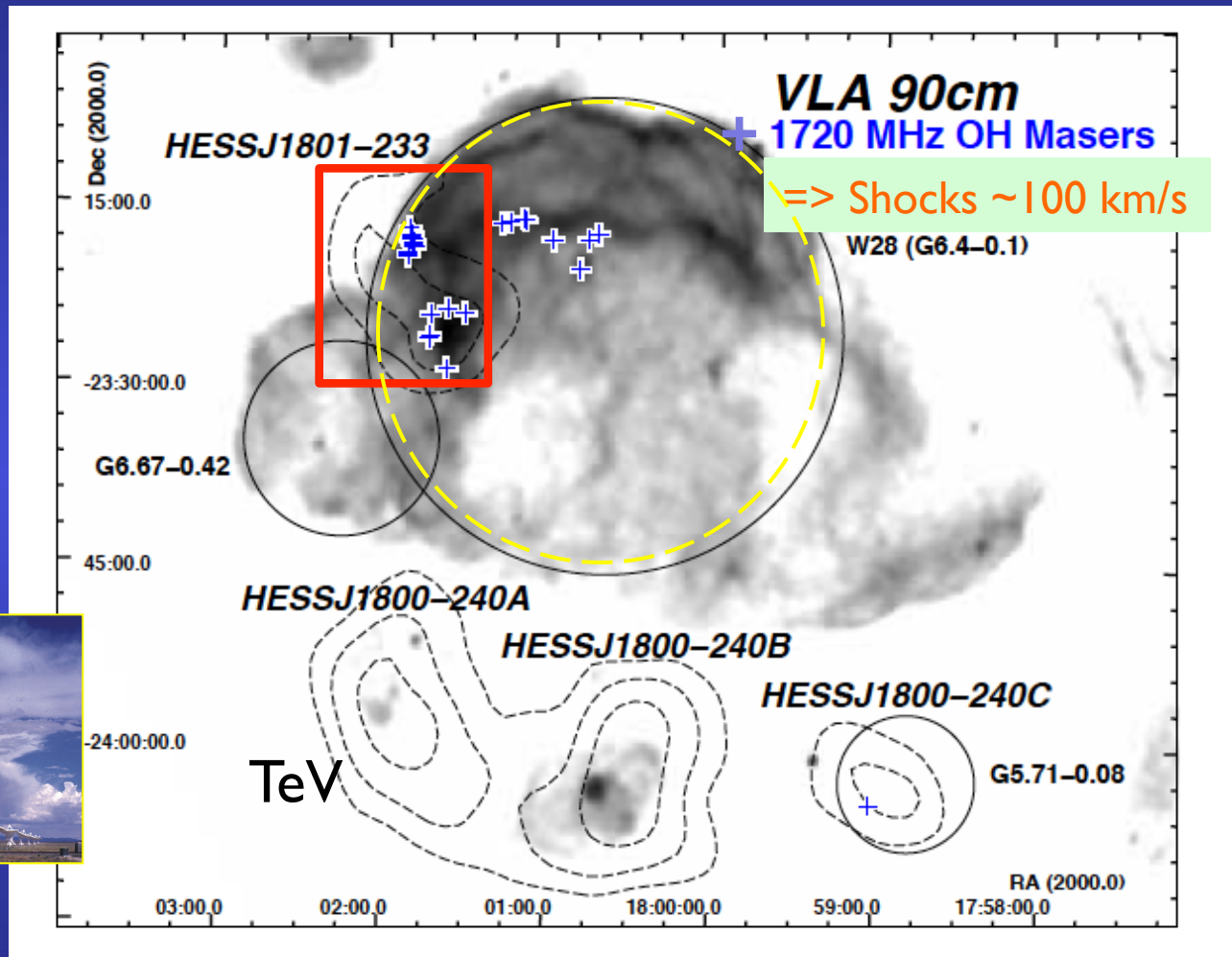




## Comparison with "average" molecular clouds



# W28 SNR: non-thermal radio emission + OH masers



Nicholas et al. 2011

