Fermi Bubble

(Video credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center)

Evidence for Gamma-ray Jets in the Milky Way

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Jet *2012, NRAO, Charlottesville*
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Fermi Bubbles

Giant gamma-ray structure with sharp edges discovered using Large Area Telescope on board Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope

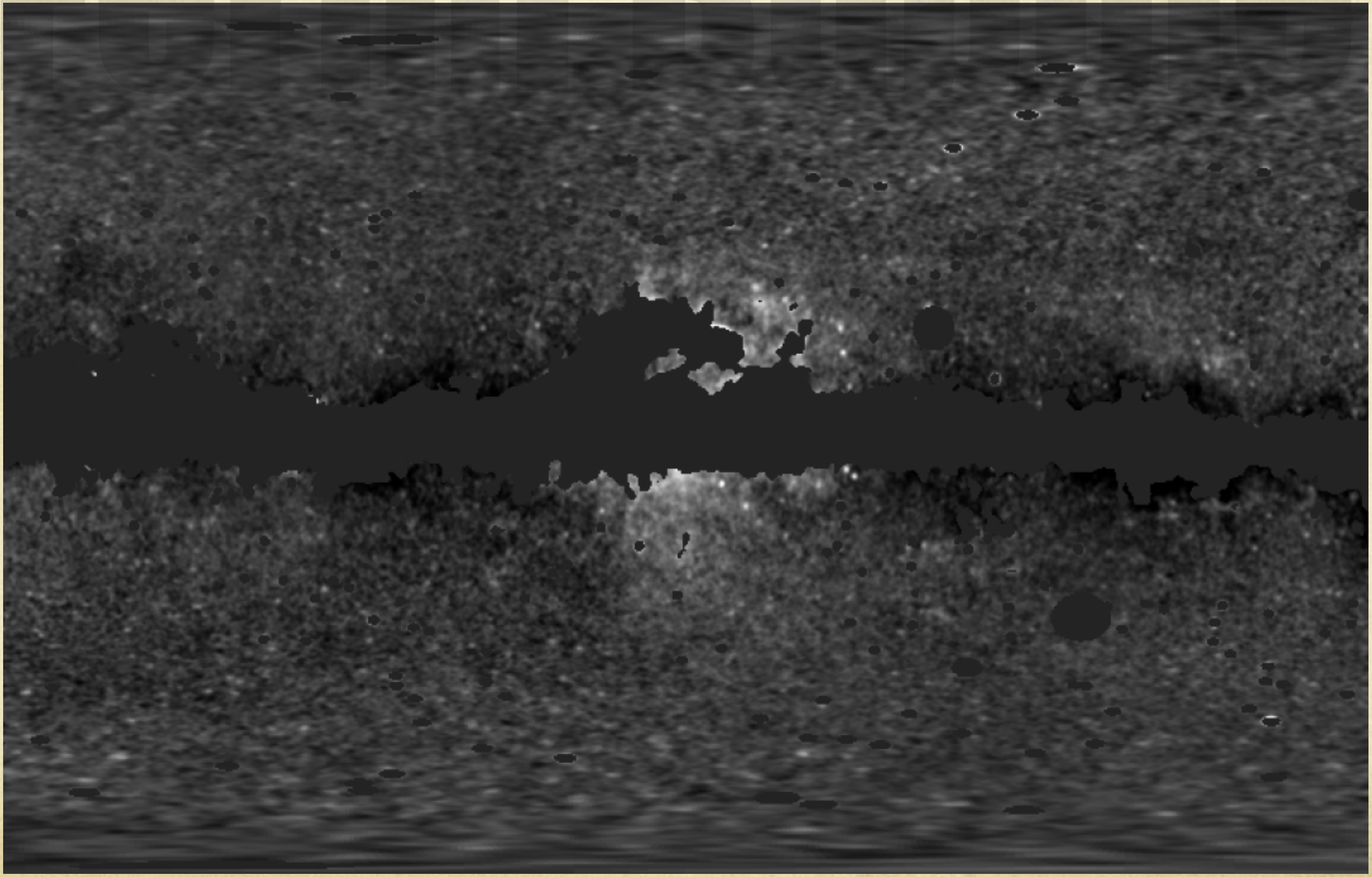
Appearing rise up & down from the Galactic center

They are:

- 50 degrees high (~8.5 kpc)
- Well centered on longitude zero (close to latitude zero)
- Imply ~TeV electron energy!

Su, Slatyer, & Finkbeiner (2010)

WMAP haze



Finkbeiner (2004)

Fermi Bubble

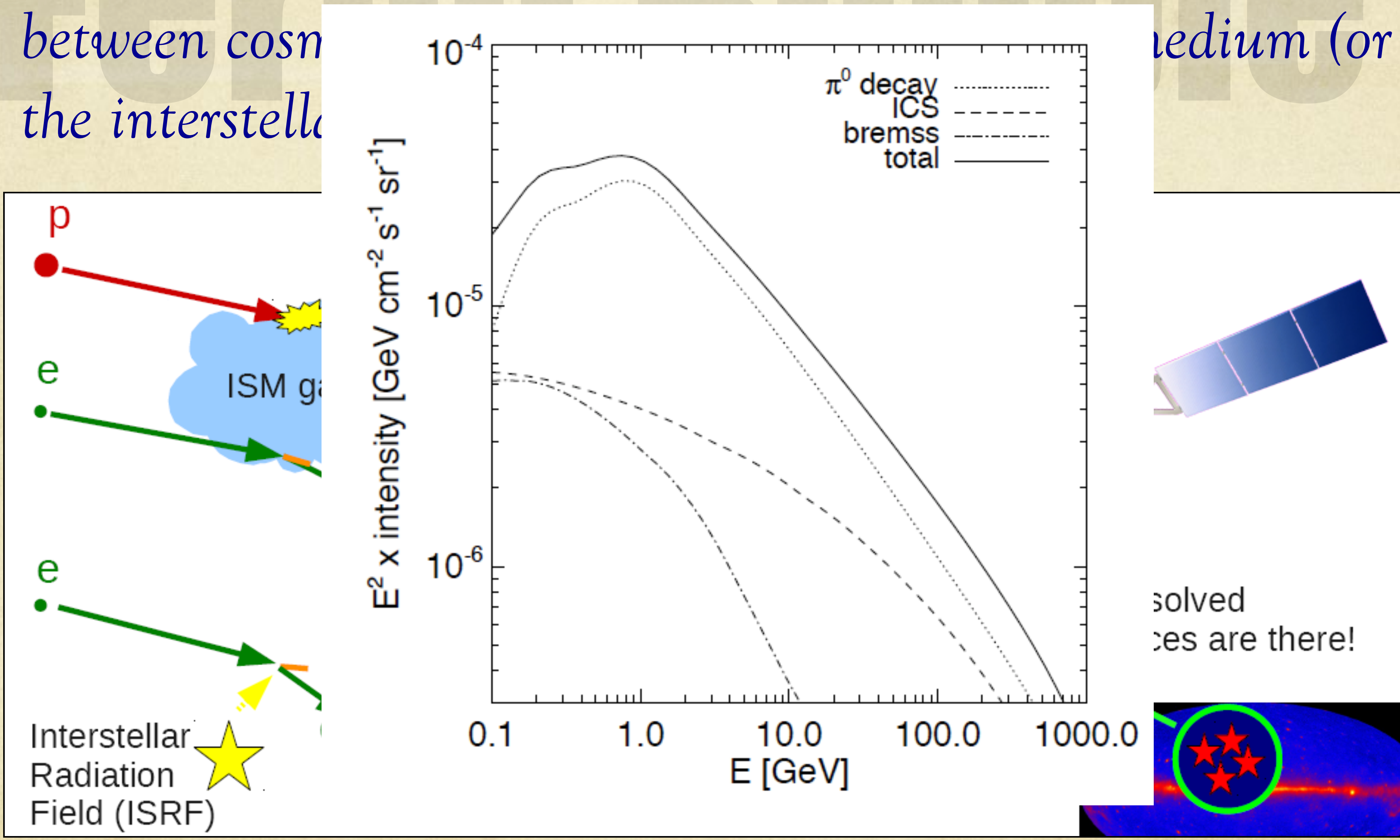
How to test the WMAP haze idea?

1) Can we see the IC gammas expected if the WMAP haze is synchrotron? (this would rule out null hypothesis 1)

2) Does the structure look like a transient (have sharp edges), or steady state (look hazy)?

Dobler et al (2010)

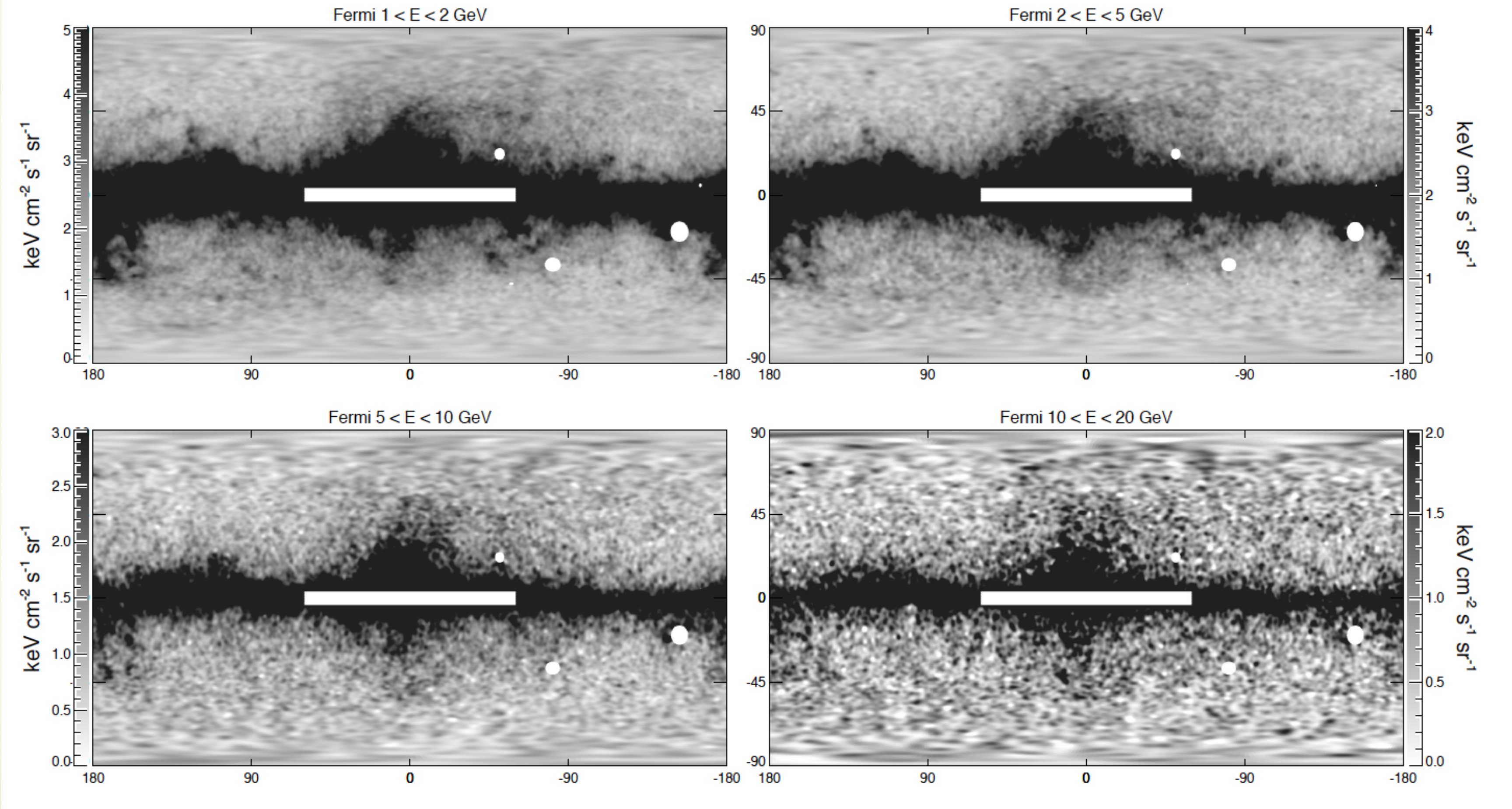
High energy gamma-rays are produced via interactions between cosm ... edium (or the interstell...



(from Tsunefumi Mizuno)

Fermi Bubble

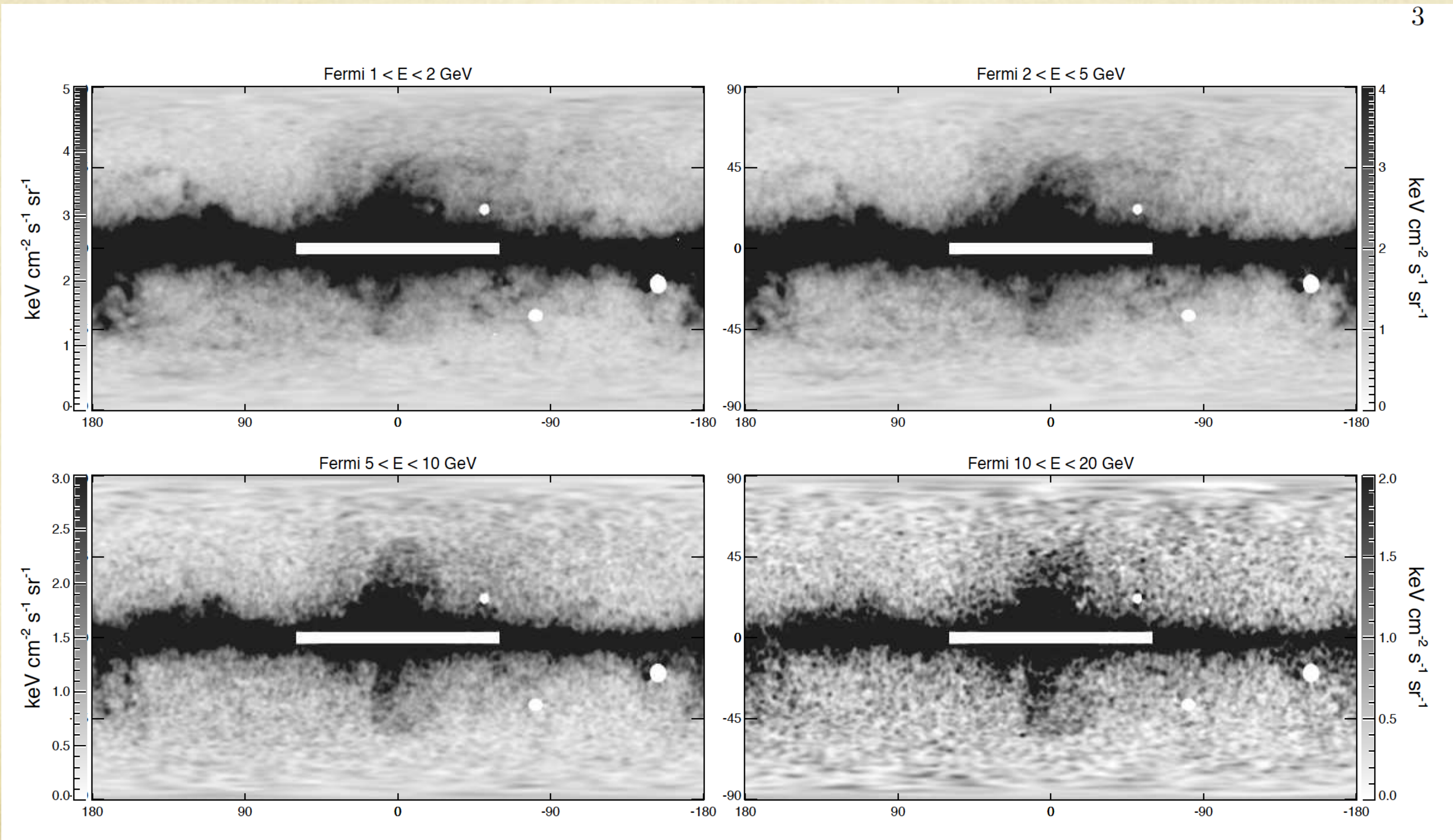
The Fermi-LAT 1.5 year maps



Su et al. (2010)

Fermi Bubble

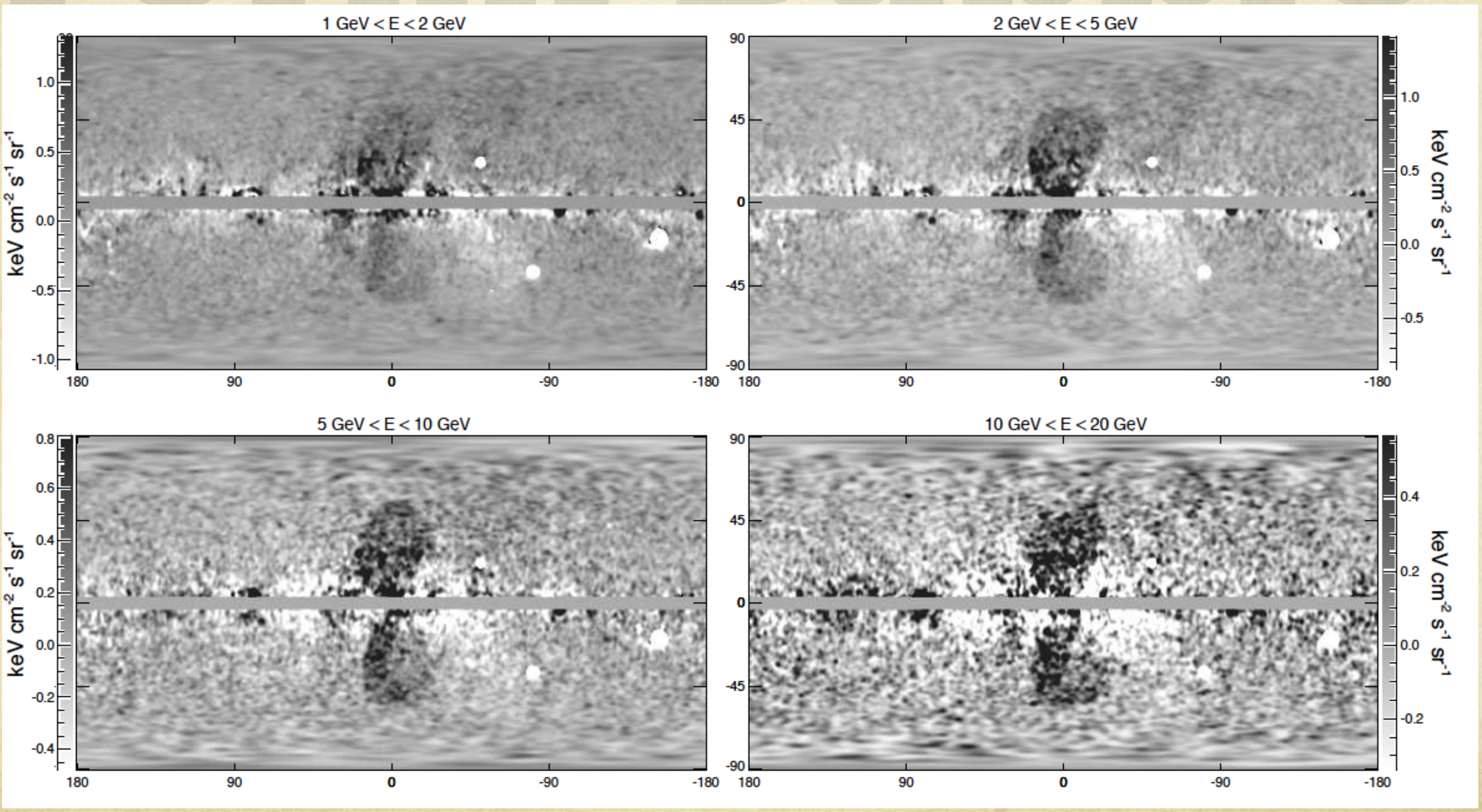
The Fermi-LAT three year maps



Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble

Data minus Fermi diffuse emission model:



Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble

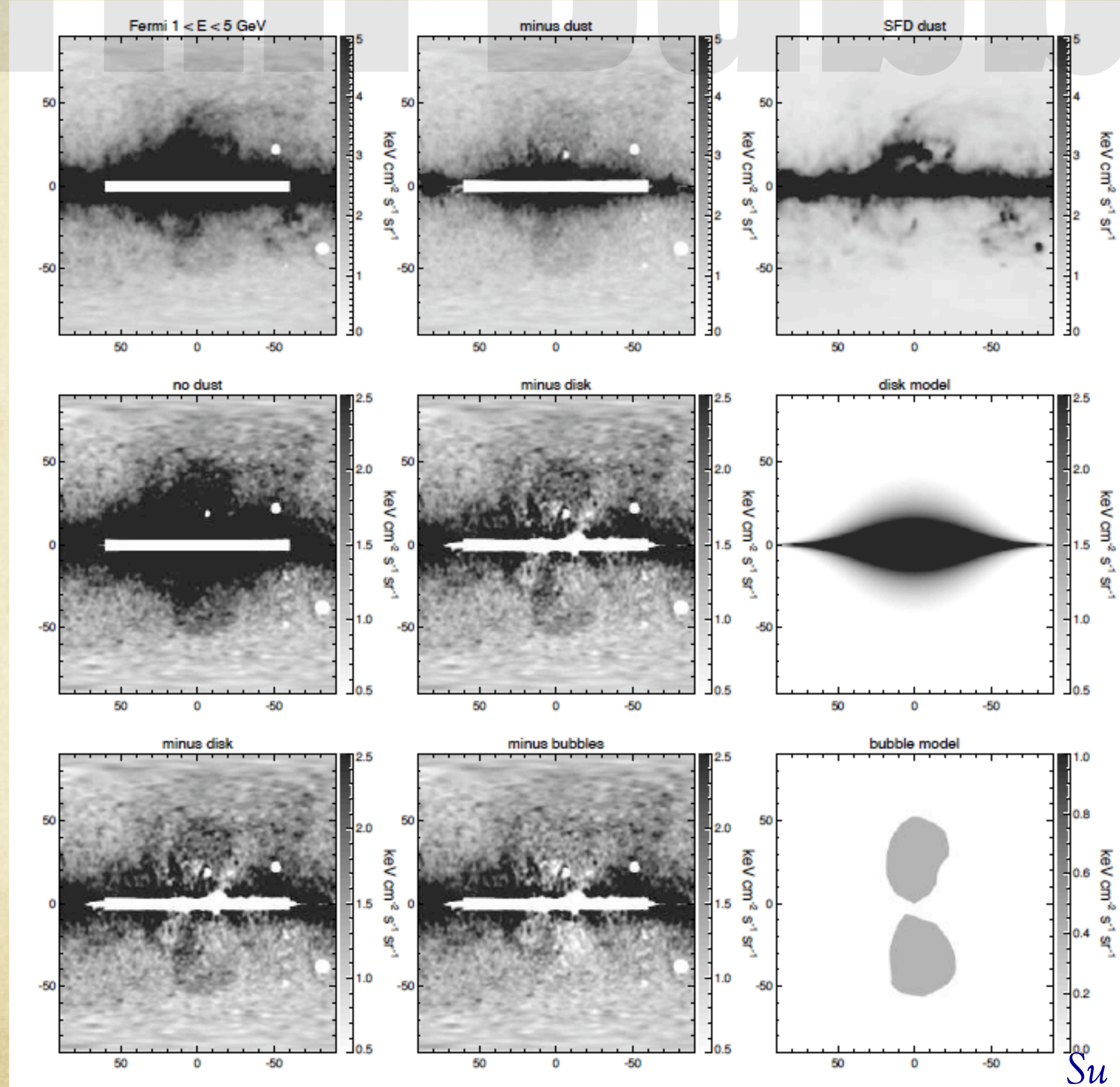
Subtracting the Fermi diffuse emission model reveals a faint bilobular structure in the inner Galaxy.

This is a complicated model - could the residual structure be an artifact?

Model contains π^0 and bremsstrahlung from gas maps; IC from GALPROP; North Polar Spur feature from Haslam map.

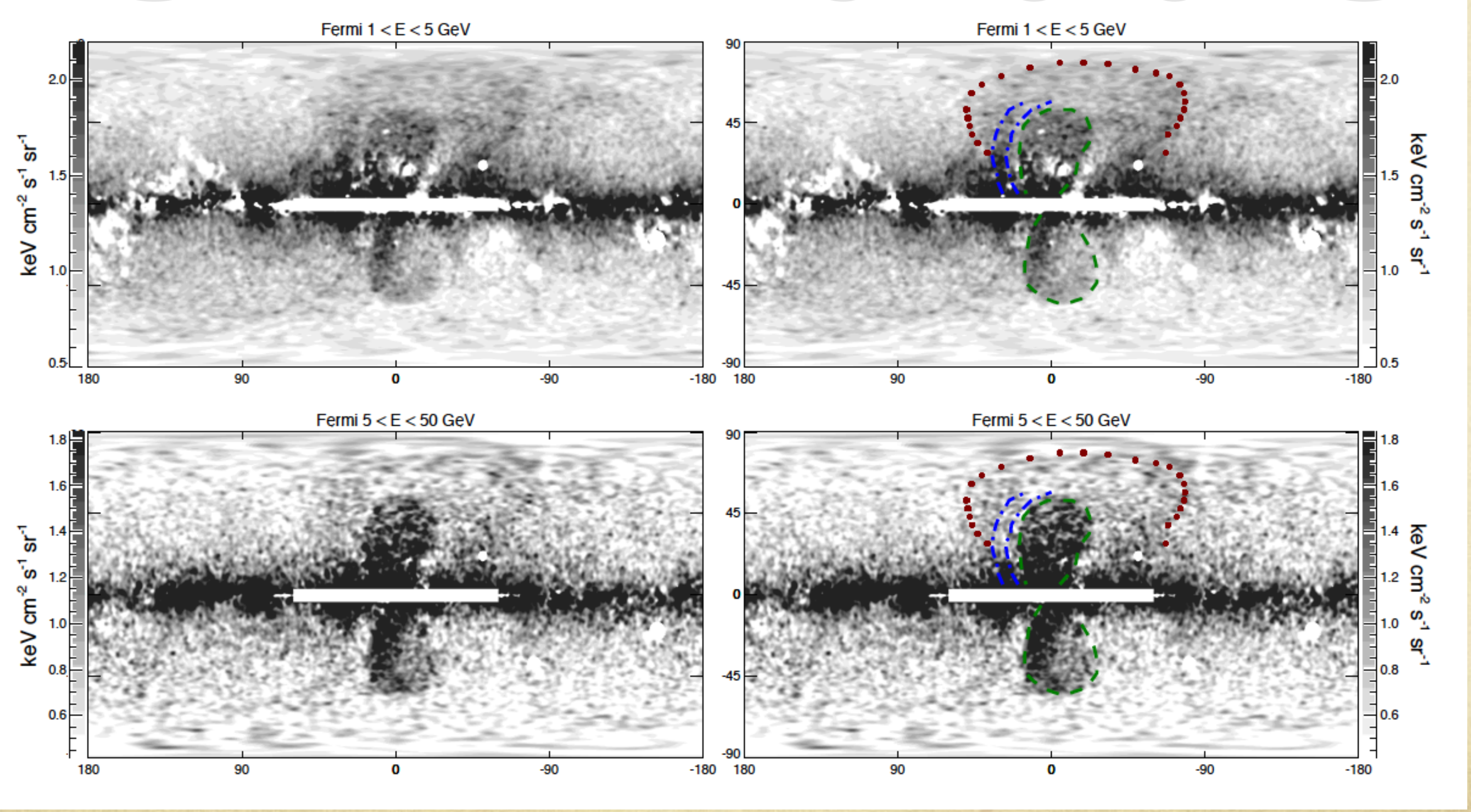
Let's try something very simple and see how robust this is.

Simple disk model



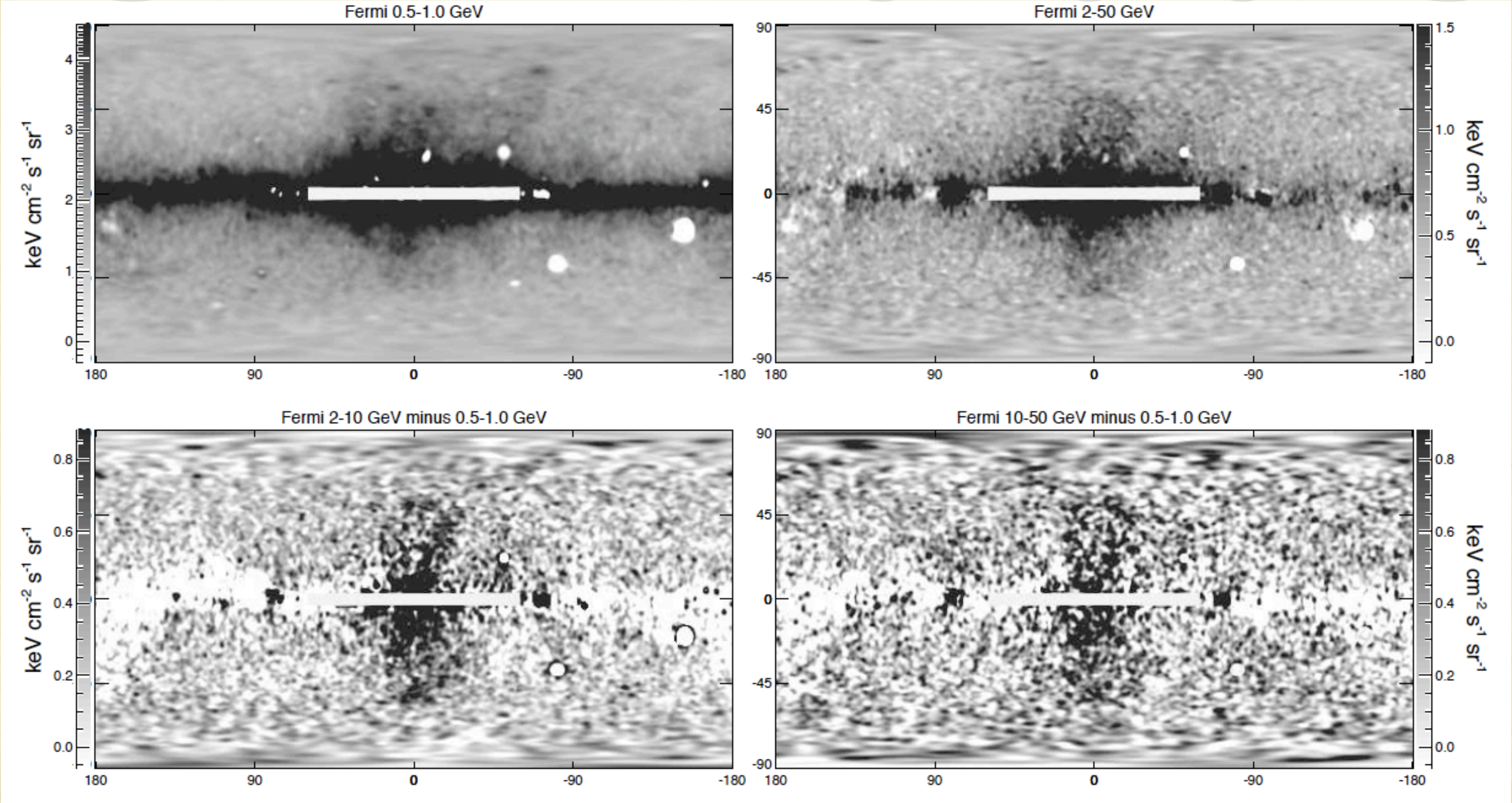
Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble from three year maps



Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

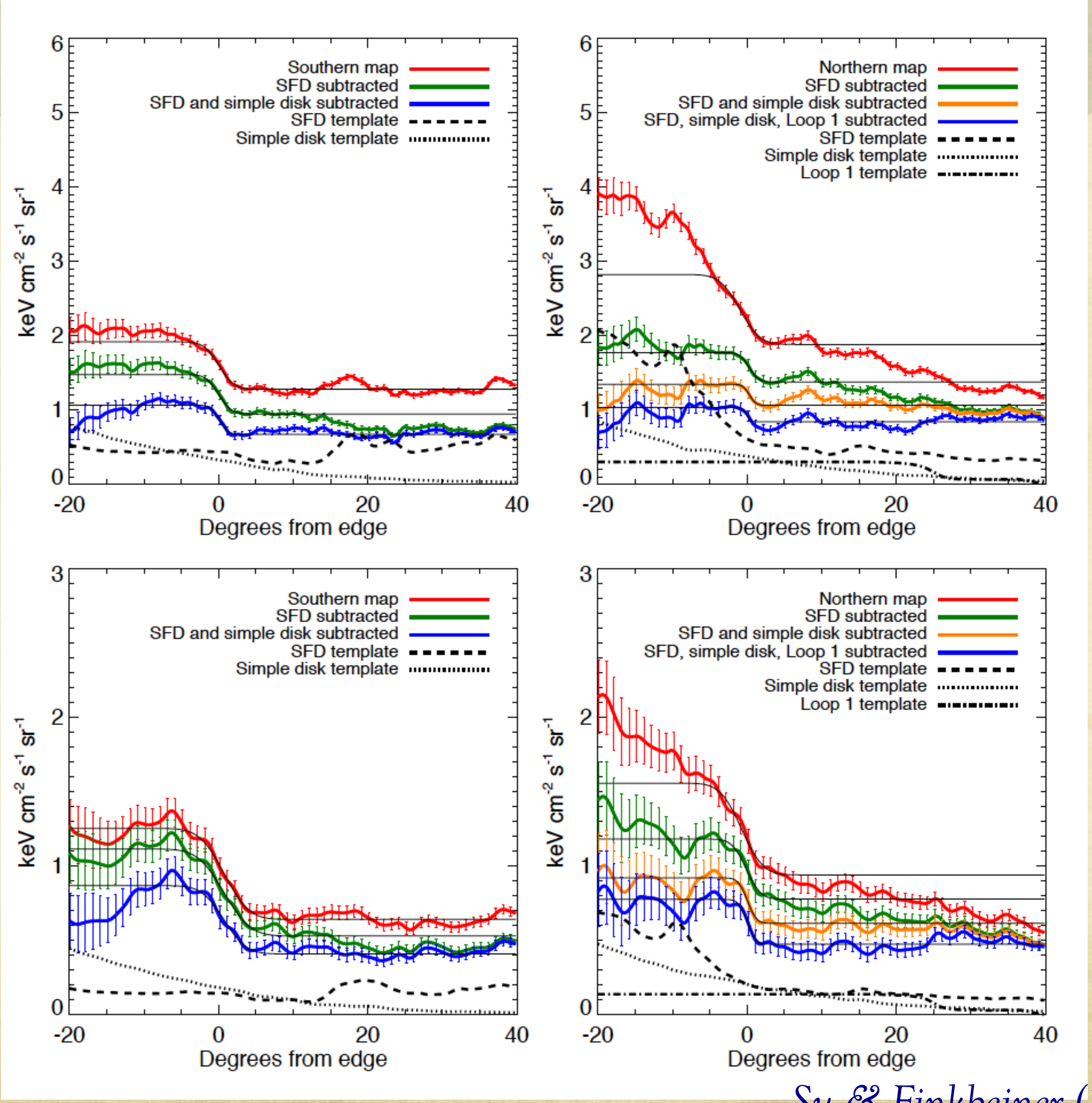
Fermi Bubble



low energy gamma-ray template (dust-subtracted) as the IC component.

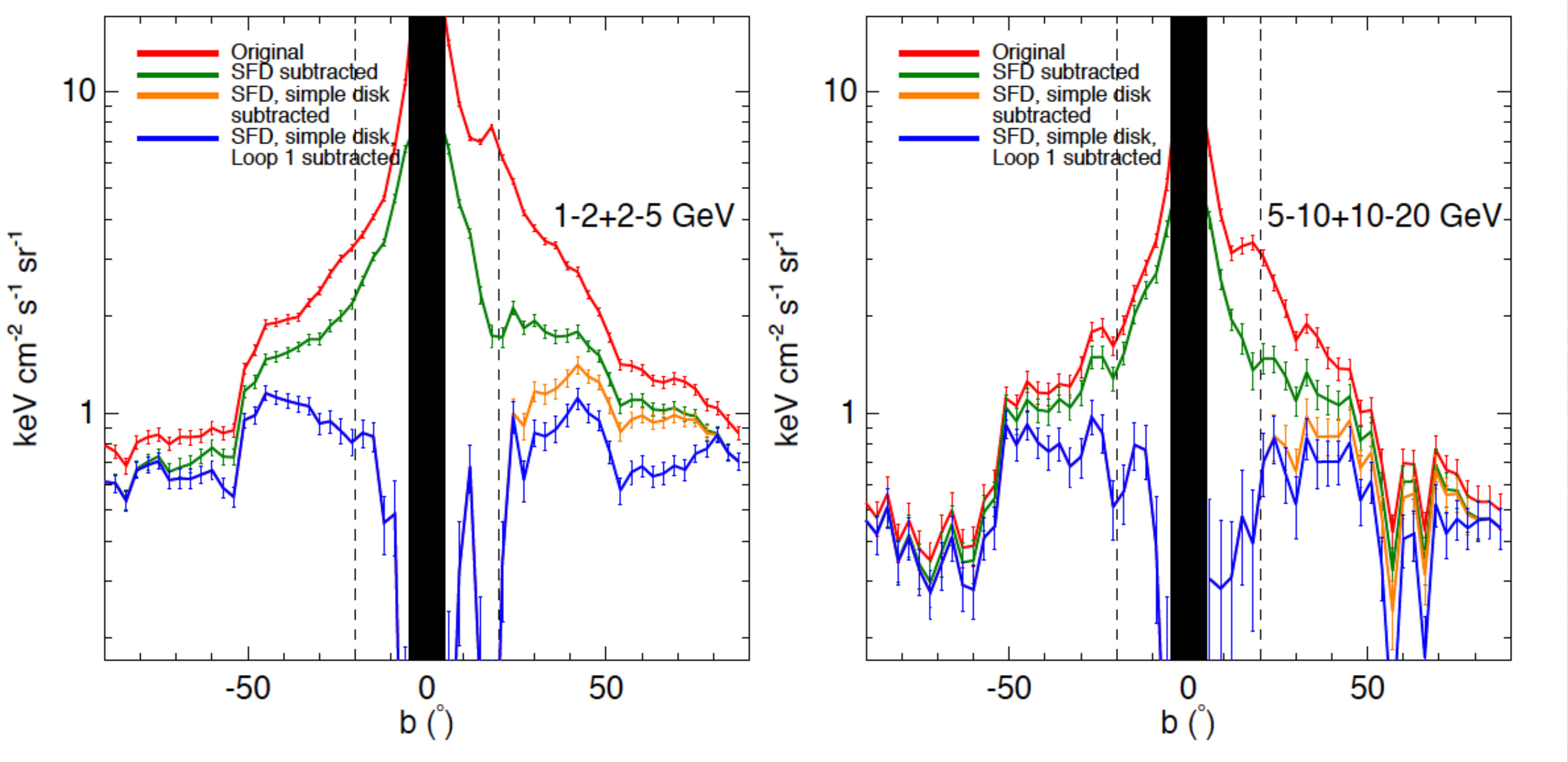
Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

The bubbles have Sharp edges!



Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble

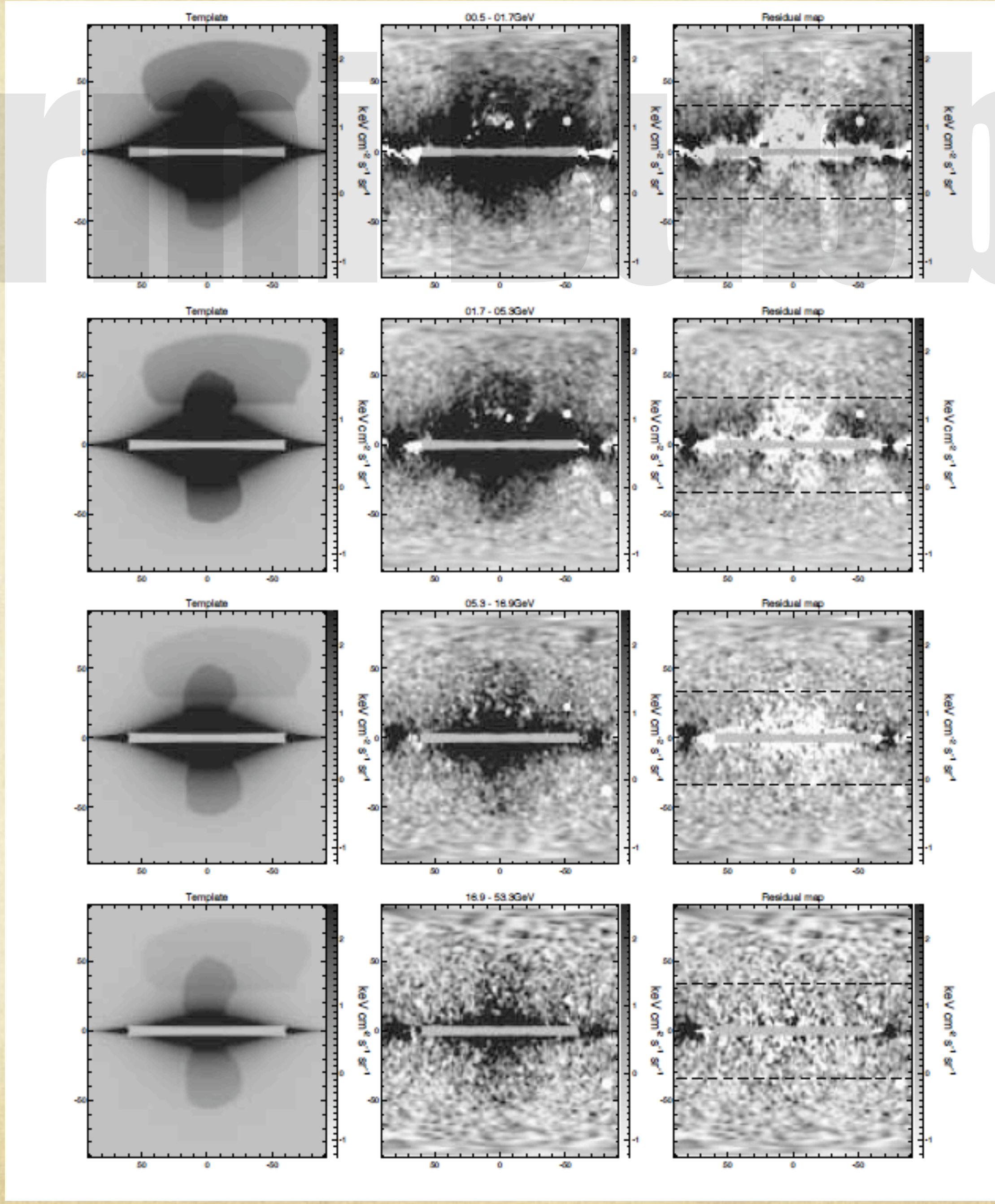


Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble

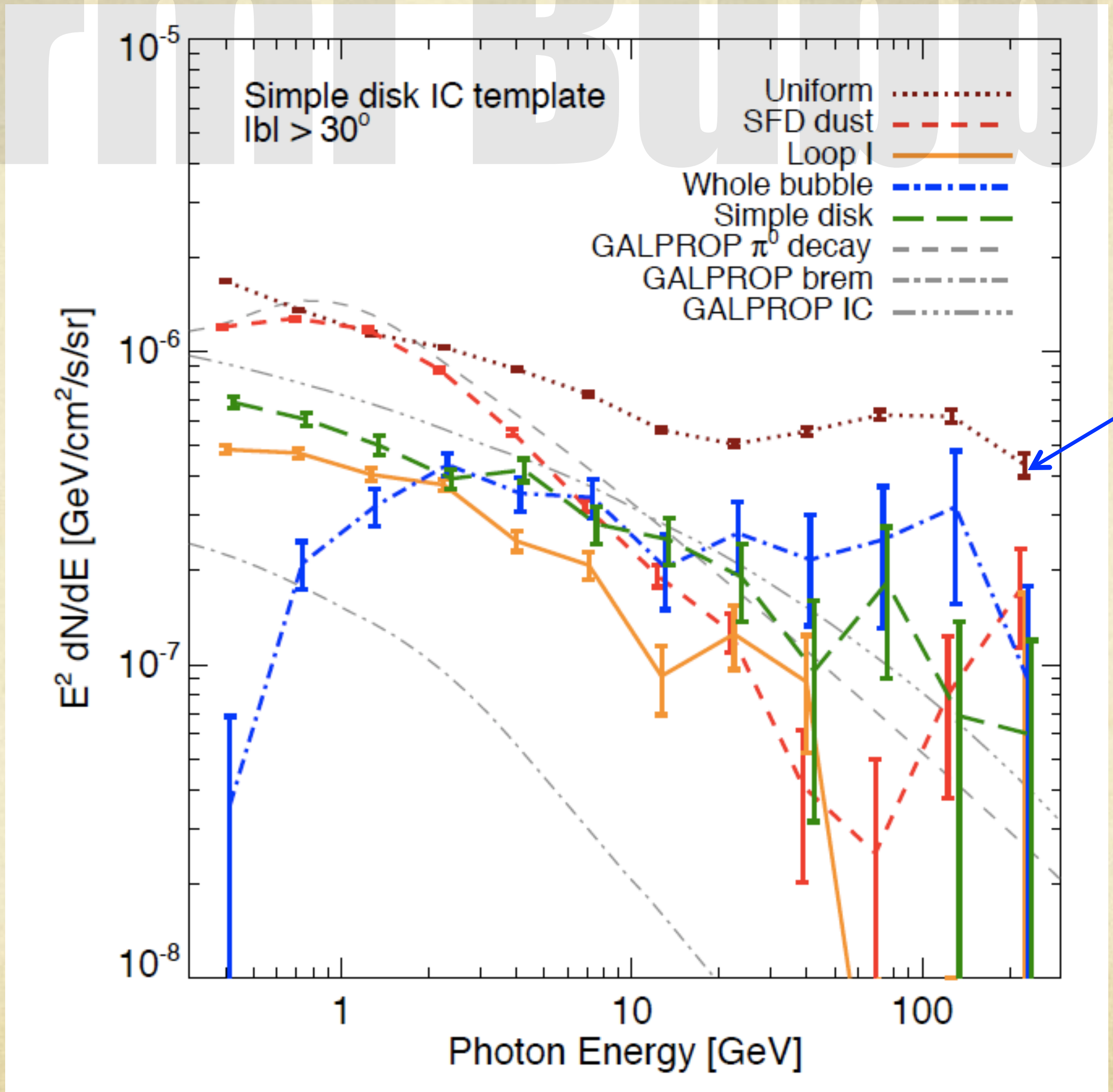
Now we can do a multilinear regression at each energy, including dust and simple templates for disk, Loop I, and the bubbles

Fermi bubble



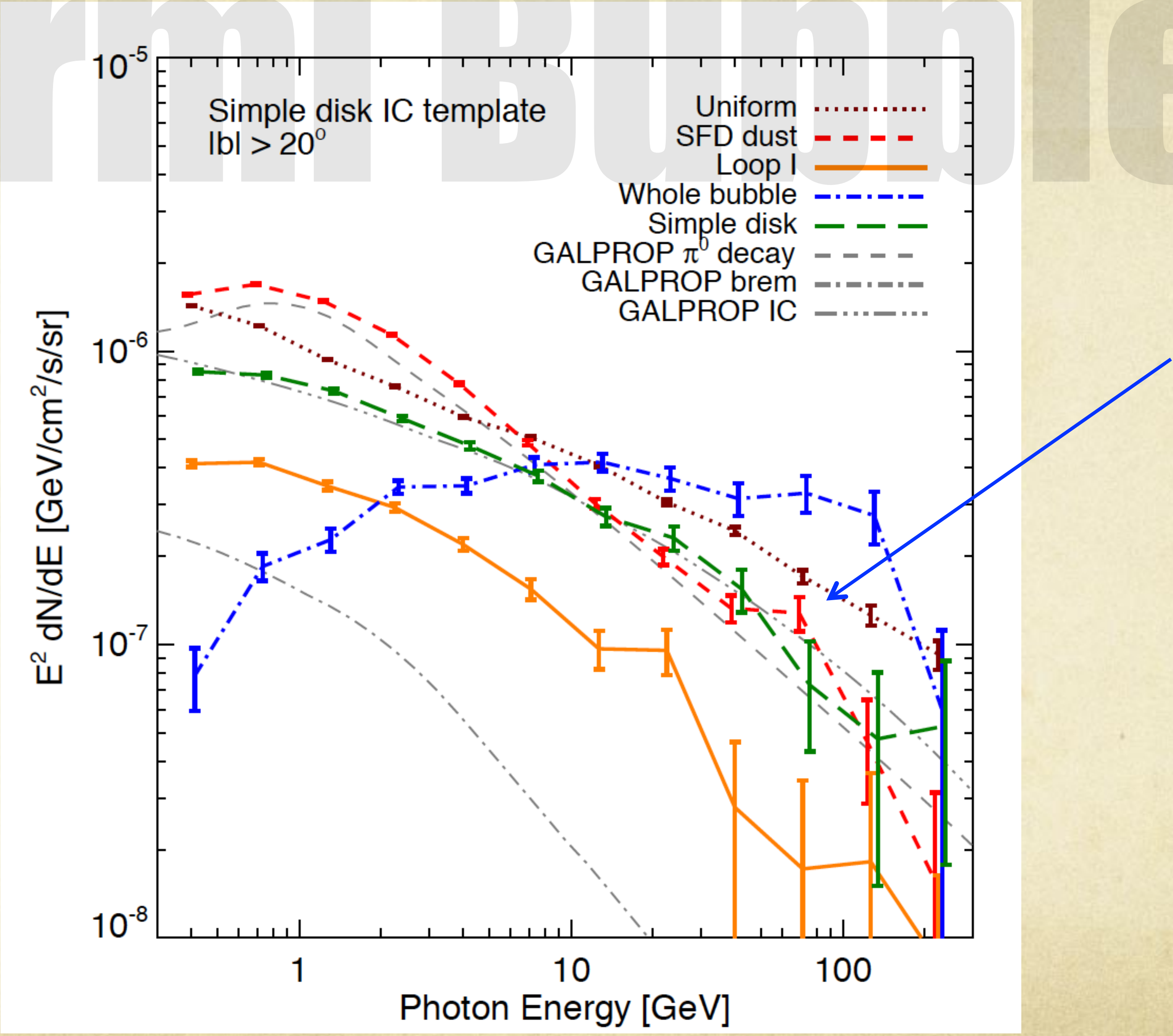
Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble



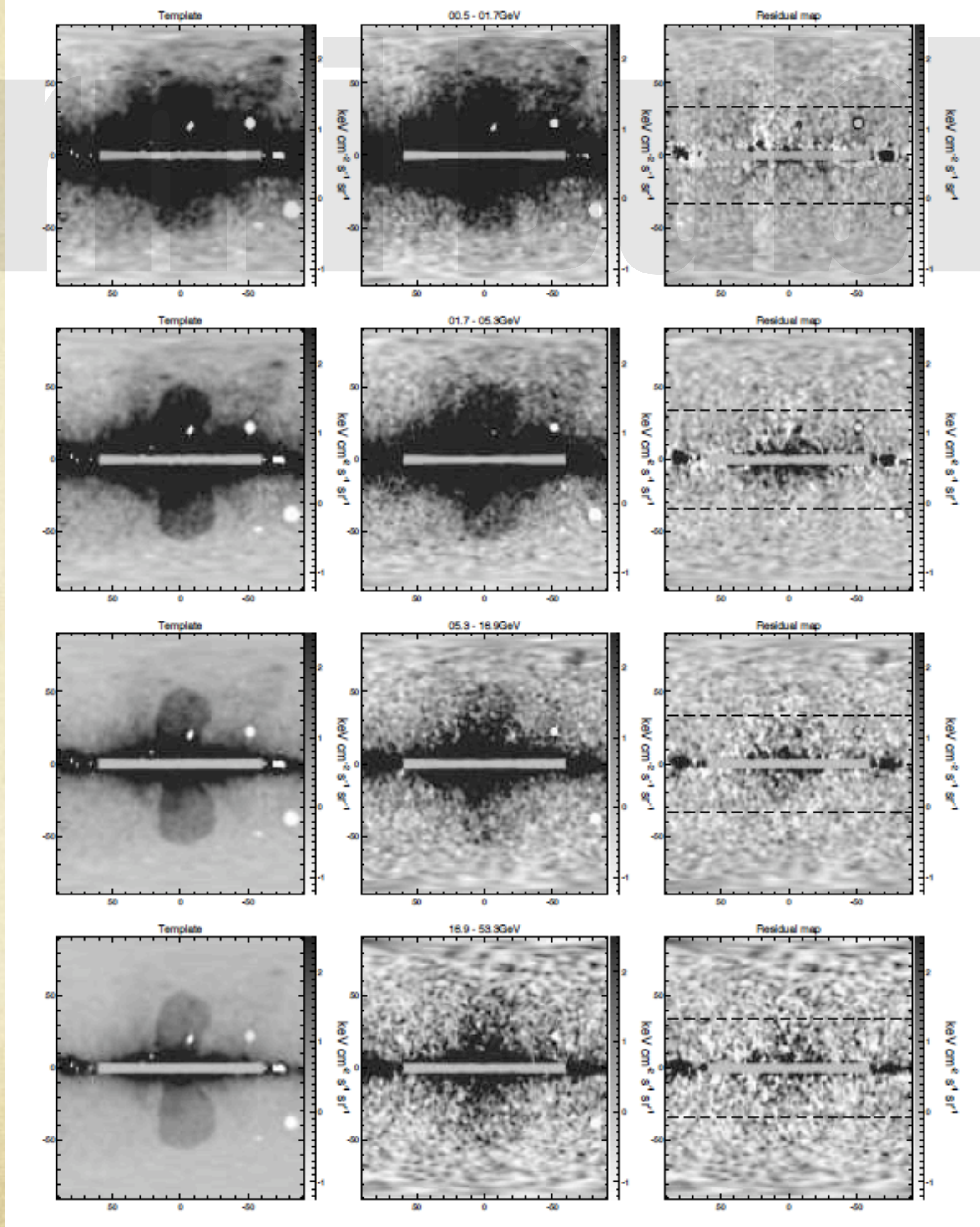
Su et al. (2010)

Fermi Bubble



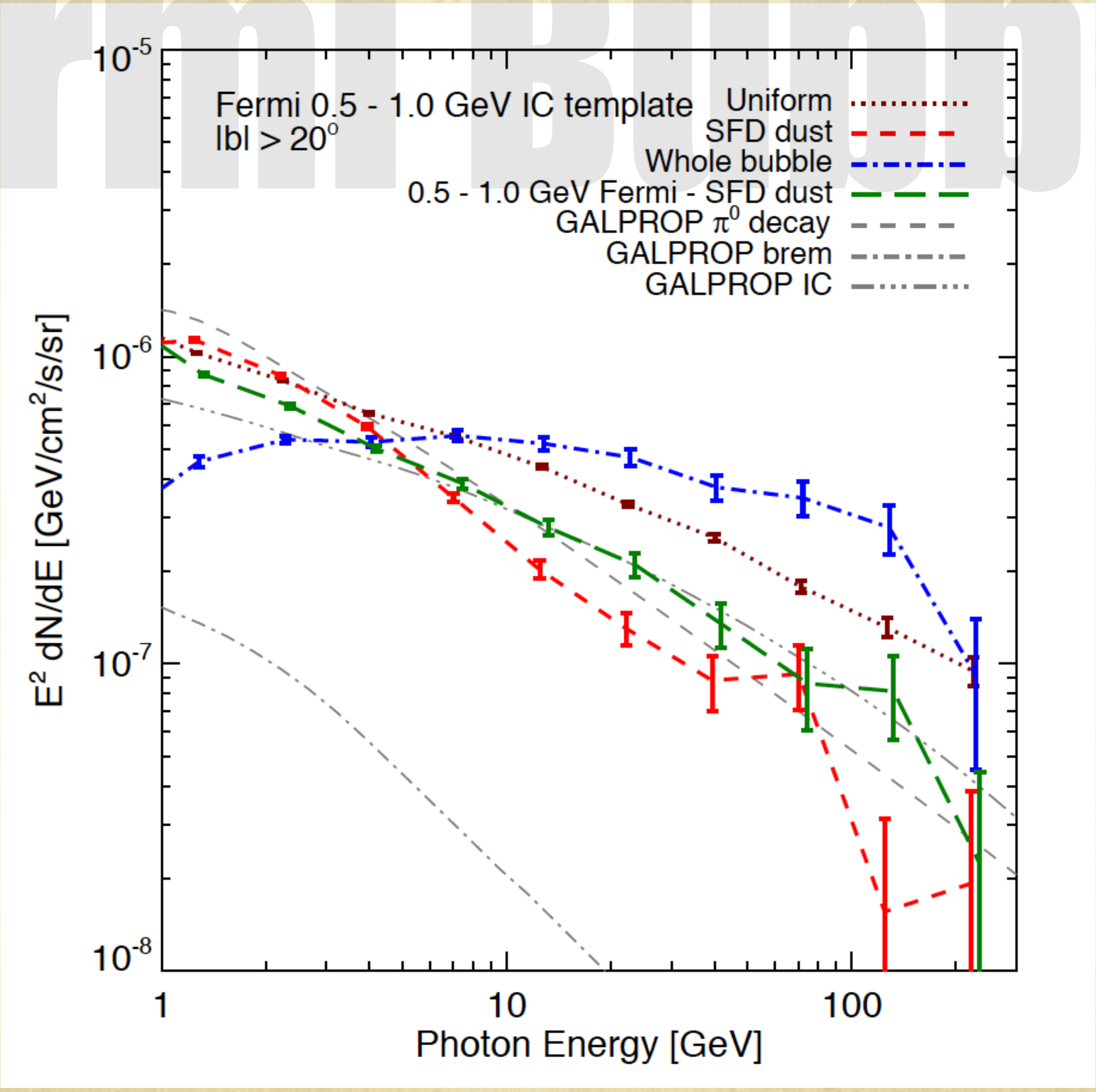
Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble



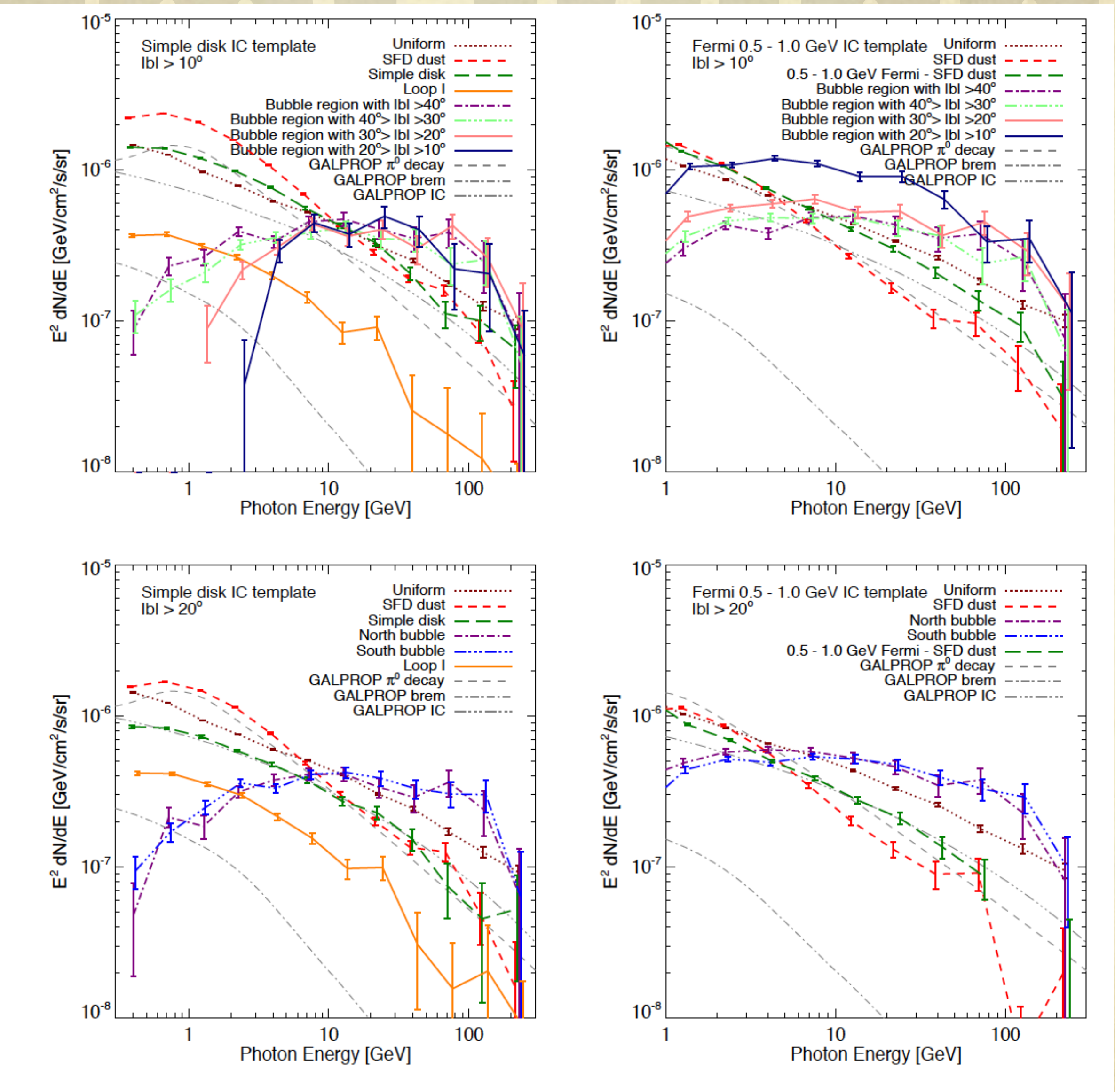
Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble



Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble



Su & Finkbeiner (2012)

Fermi Bubble

- *Does the edge have a harder spectrum than the interior?* NO.

- *Is the north harder than the south?* NO.

- *Bottom line: No matter how we do the fit,*
  the bubbles have a harder spectrum (index ~ -2)
  than the other IC emission (index ~ -2.5).

- *The gamma-ray spectrum extends up to ~ 50 GeV or more, implying >~ 100 GeV electrons.*

- *If it is CMB scattering, we have ~ 1 TeV electrons!*

Fermi Bubble

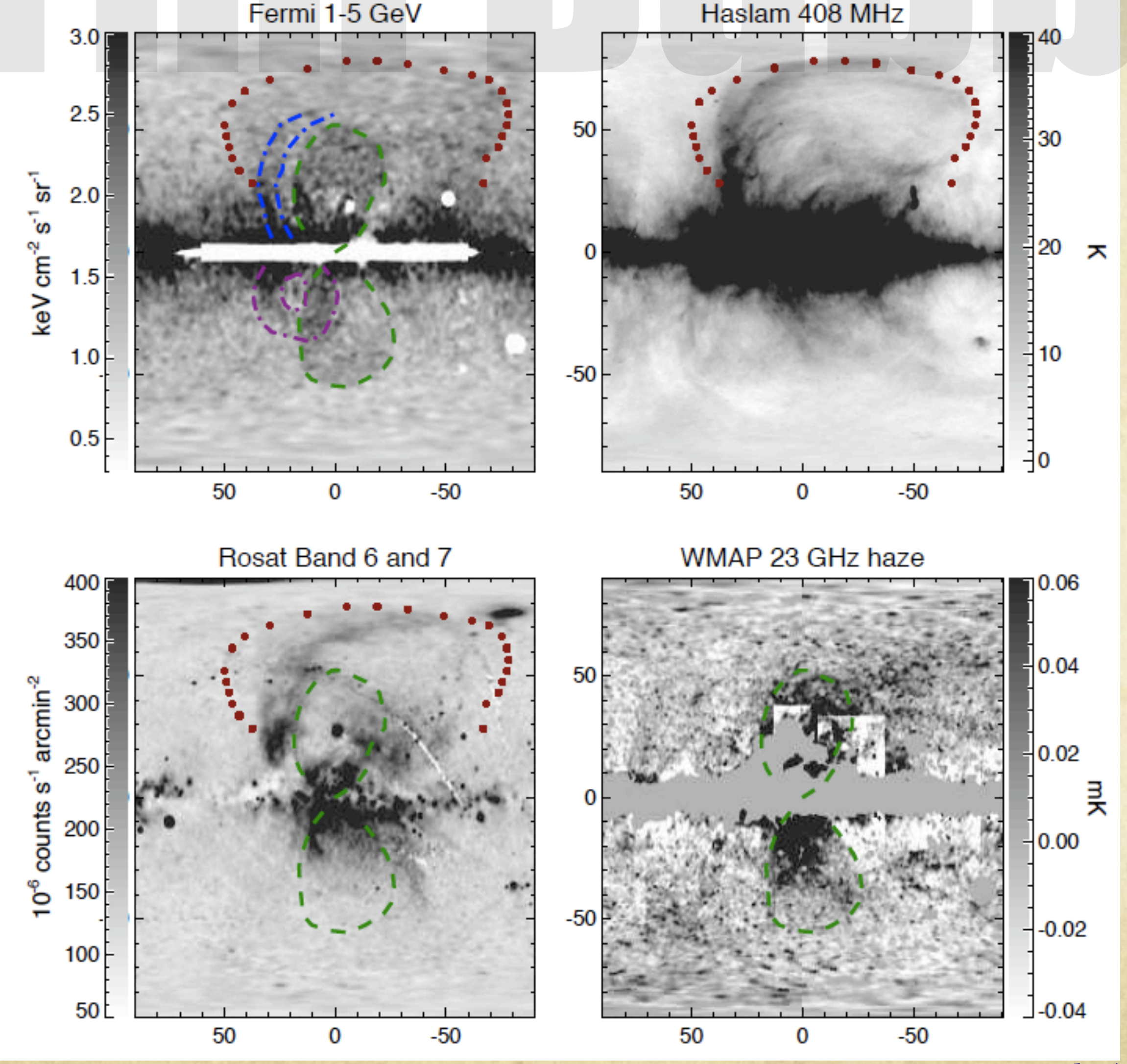
Mystery: How do we get TeV electrons 10 kpc off the disk in the last < Myr?

In situ acceleration. Shocks? Reconnection?

If they are formed quickly by AGN activity, then Kinetic energy >> 10^{55} erg.
Could do, but this would be an impressive event for our humble little BH.

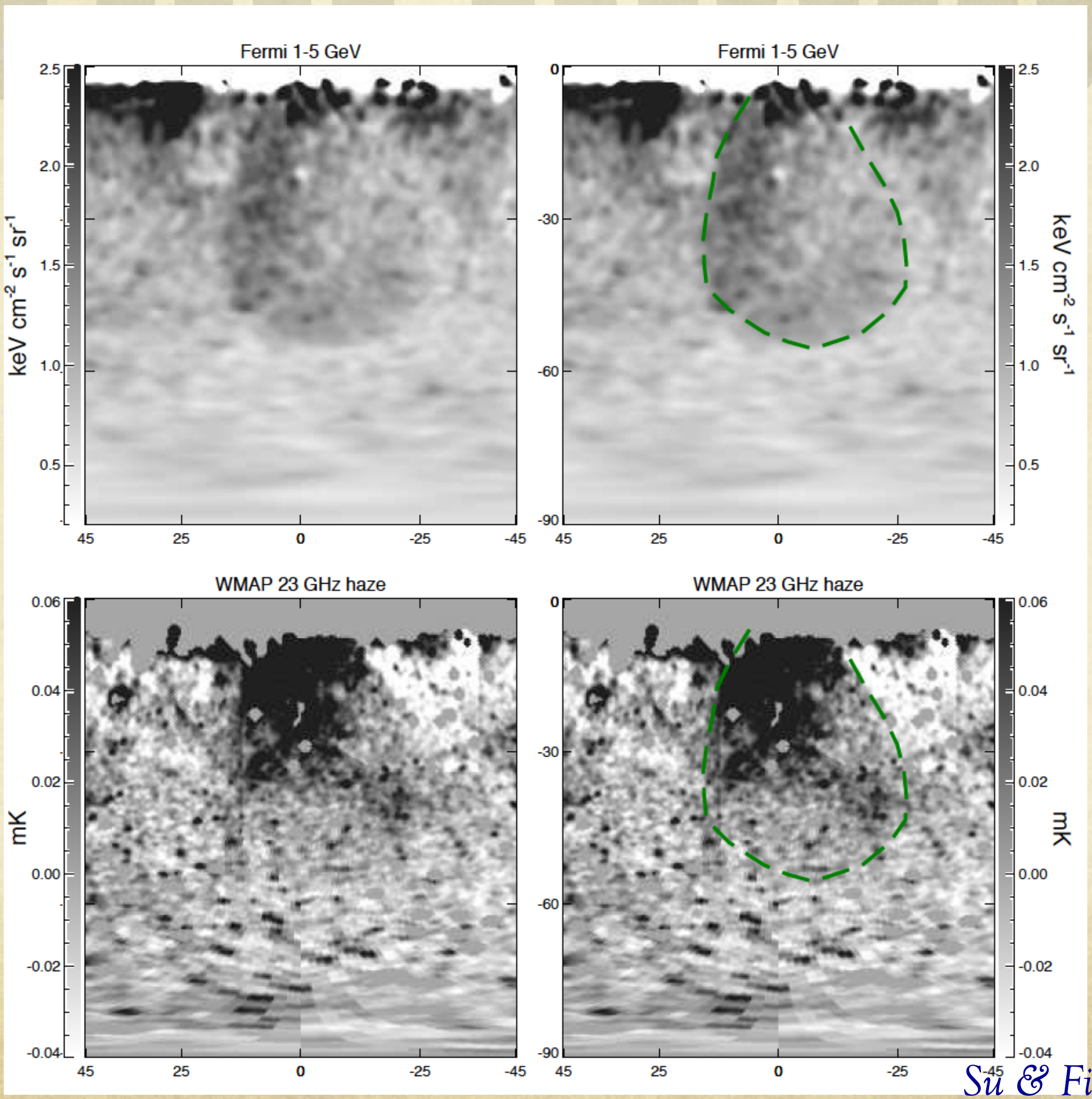
Large starburst-produced bubble has a severe cooling time problem. The bubbles should be ~10^7 yr old, but cooling time for TeV (or even 100 GeV) electrons is much shorter

Fermi Bubble



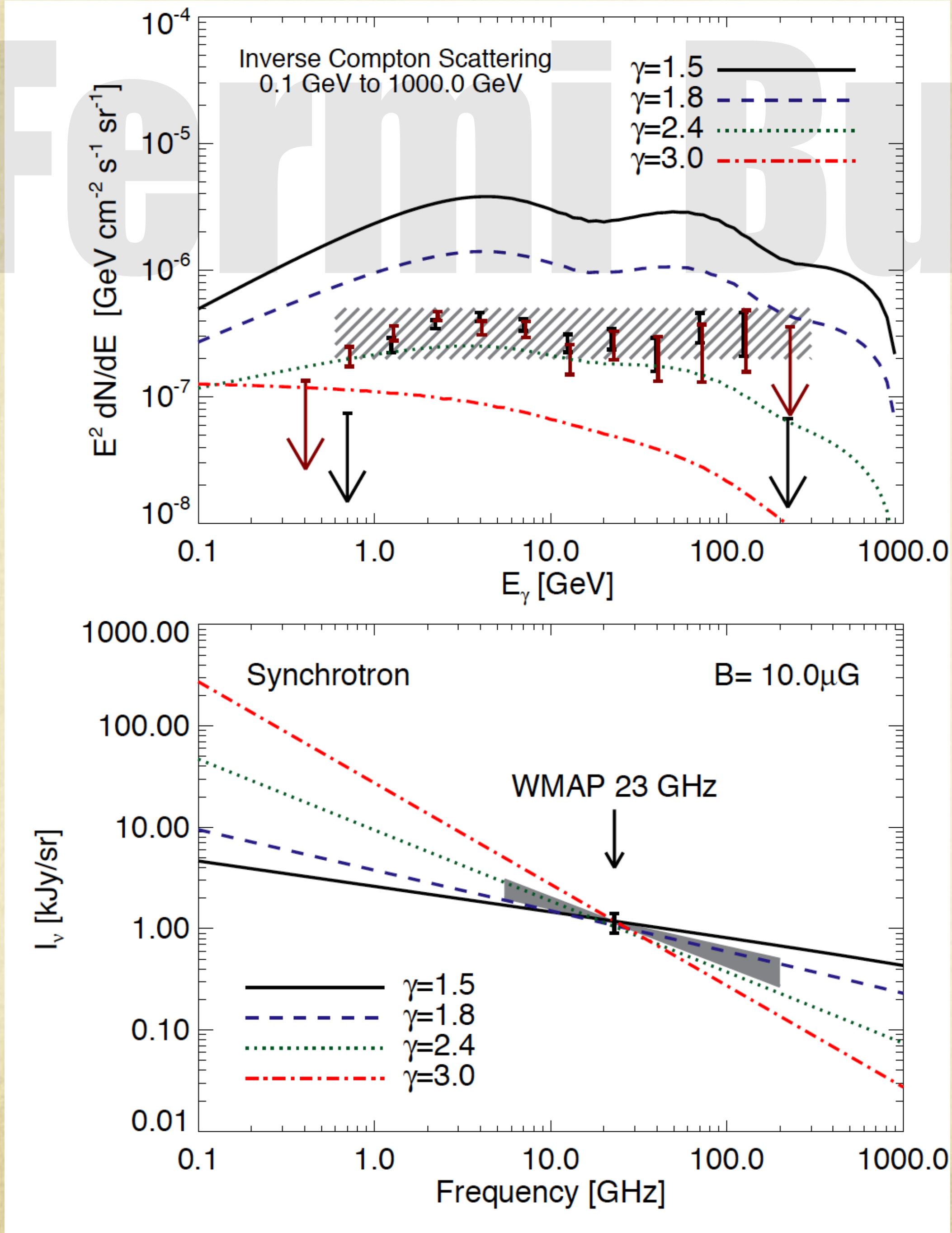
Su et al. (2010)

Compare with WMAP haze



Su & Finkbeiner. (2012)

Fermi Bubble

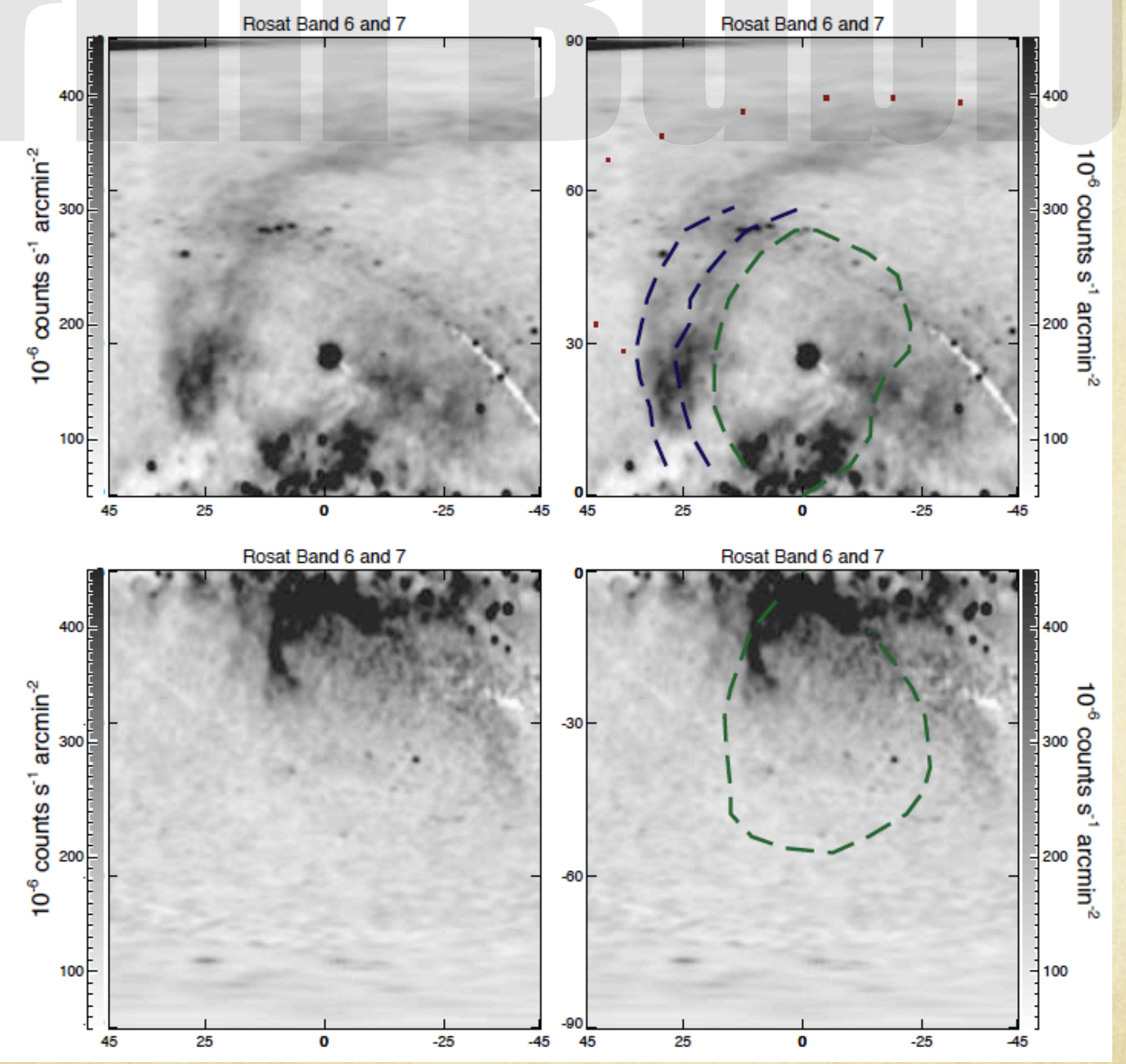


The Fermi bubbles are clearly associated with WMAP haze

The same electron spectrum can easily make both!

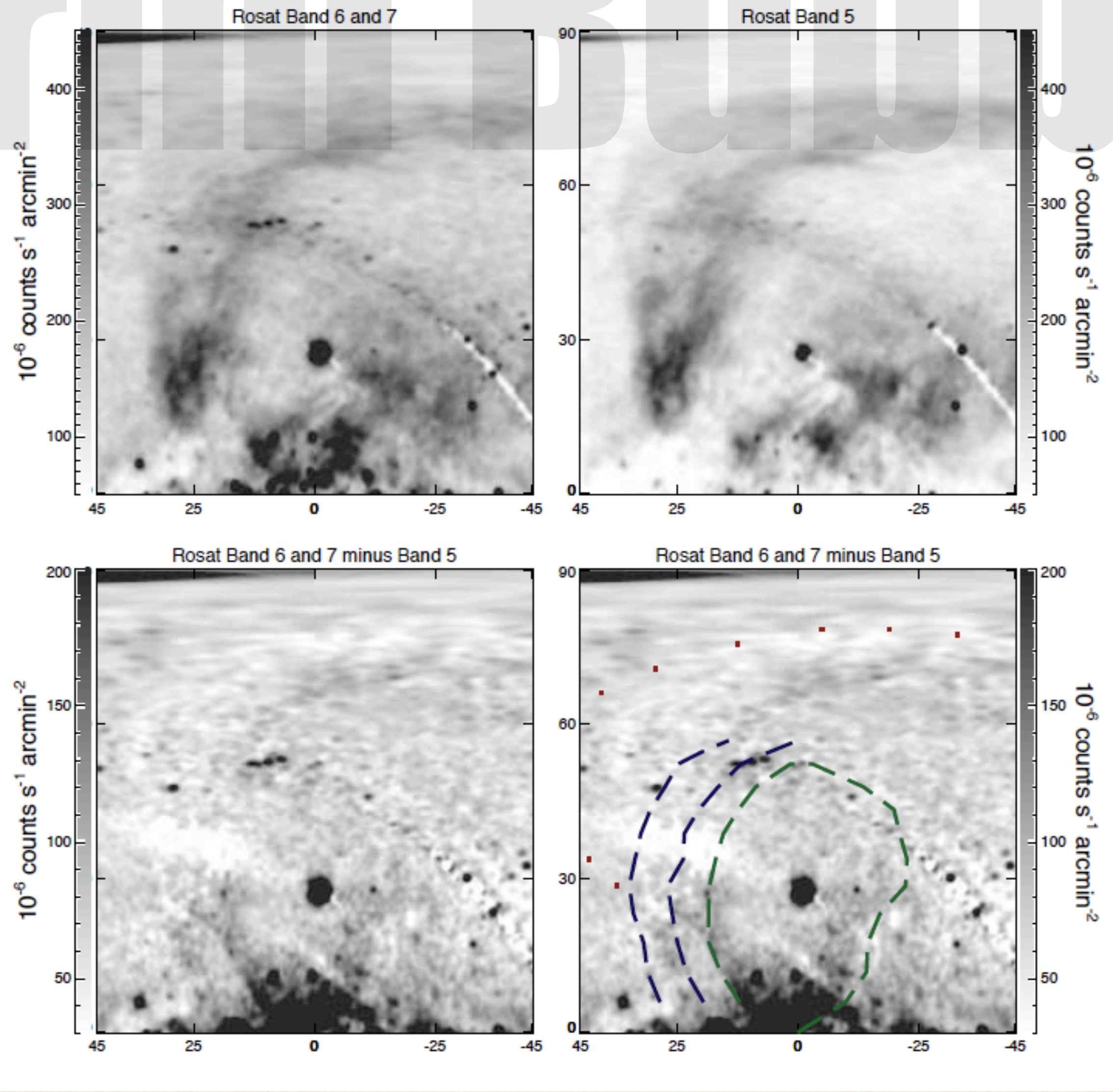
Su et al. (2010)

ROSAT 1.5 keV



(Su et al. 2010).

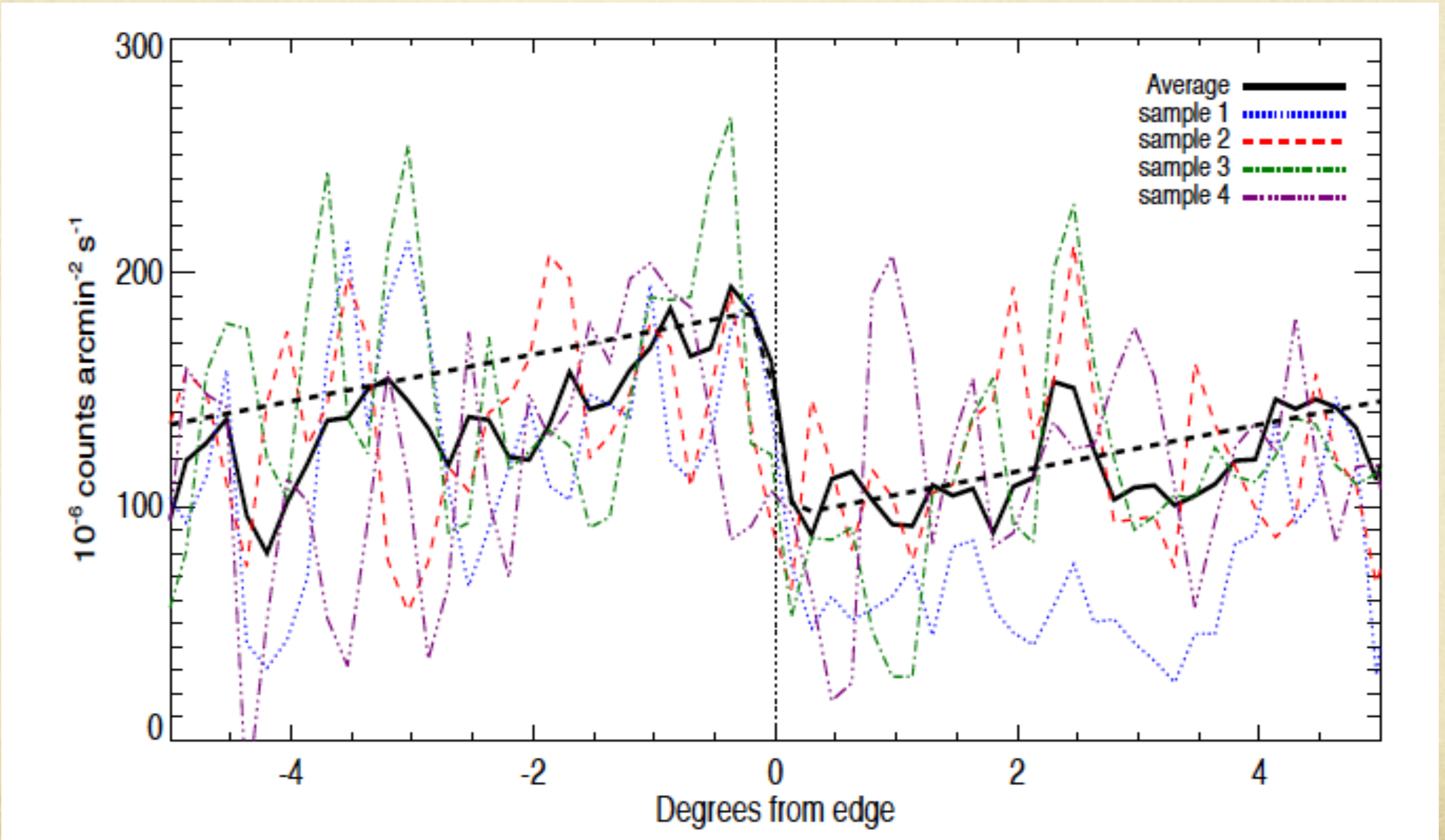
Fermi Bubble



(Su et al. 2010).

Sharp edge in X-ray too!

Fermi Bubble



Fermi Bubble

So far: there appear to be a pair of giant (50 degree high) gamma-ray bubbles at 1-5 GeV, and probably up to at least 50 GeV.

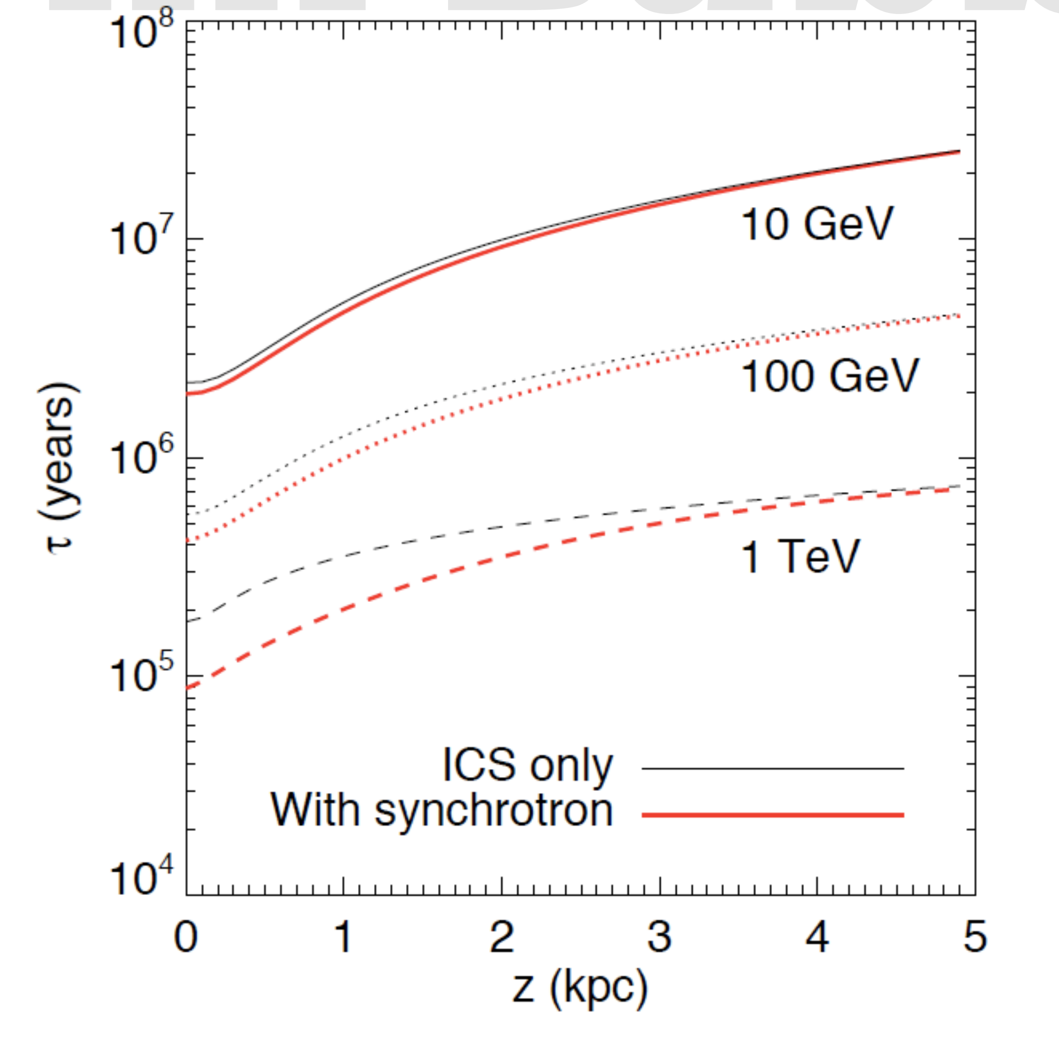
What are they?

- *Black hole "burp"*
- *Superwind bubble?*
- *Dark matter?*

(Sylvain Veilleu's talk yesterday)

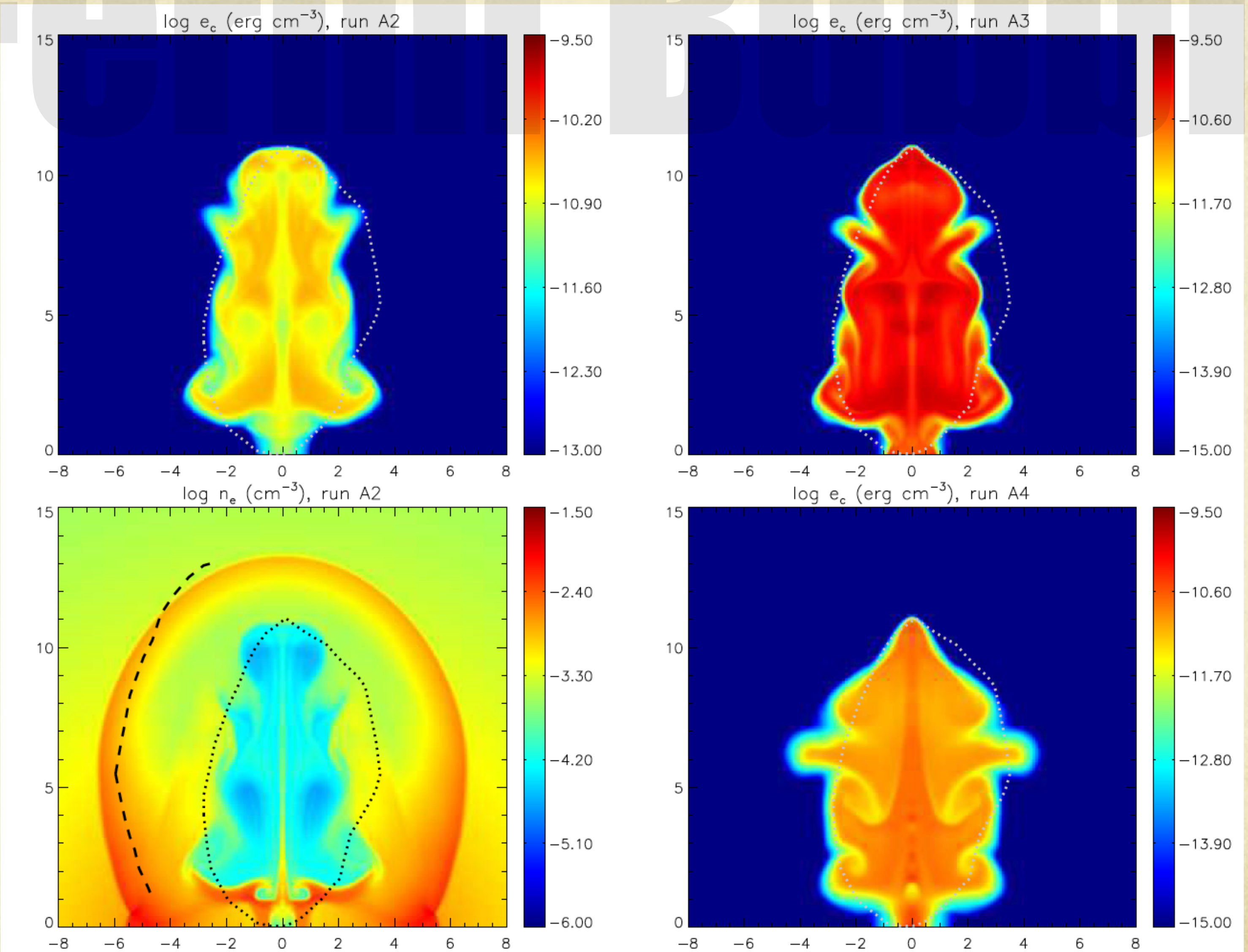
Fermi Bubble

Cooling time is short!

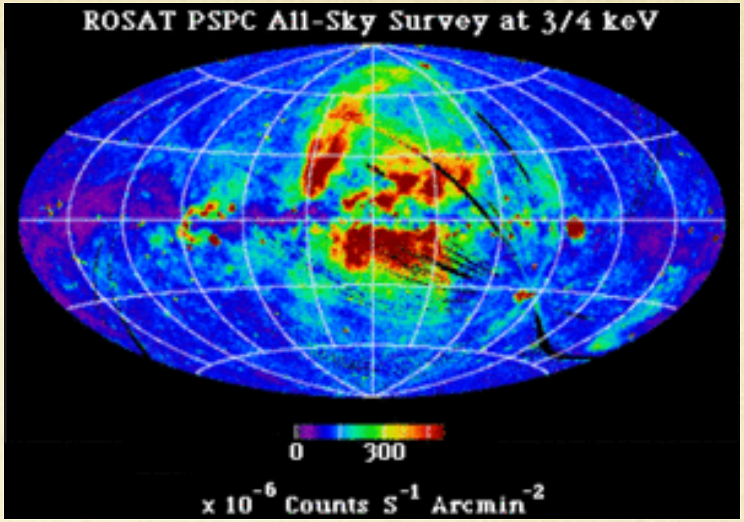


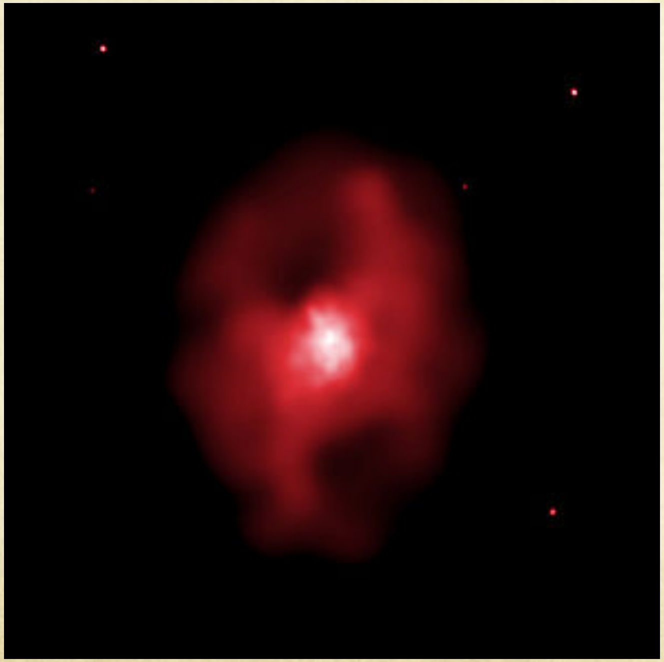
Su et al. (2010)

Fermi Bubble

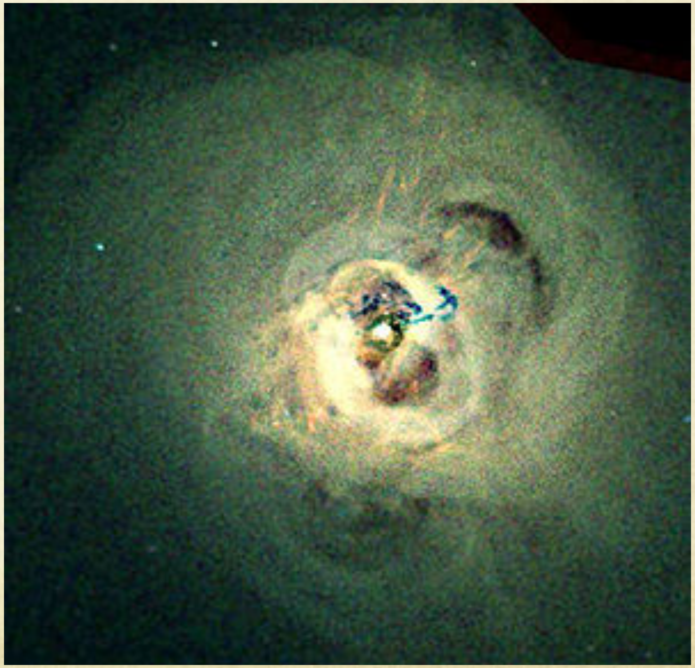


Guo & Mathews (2011)





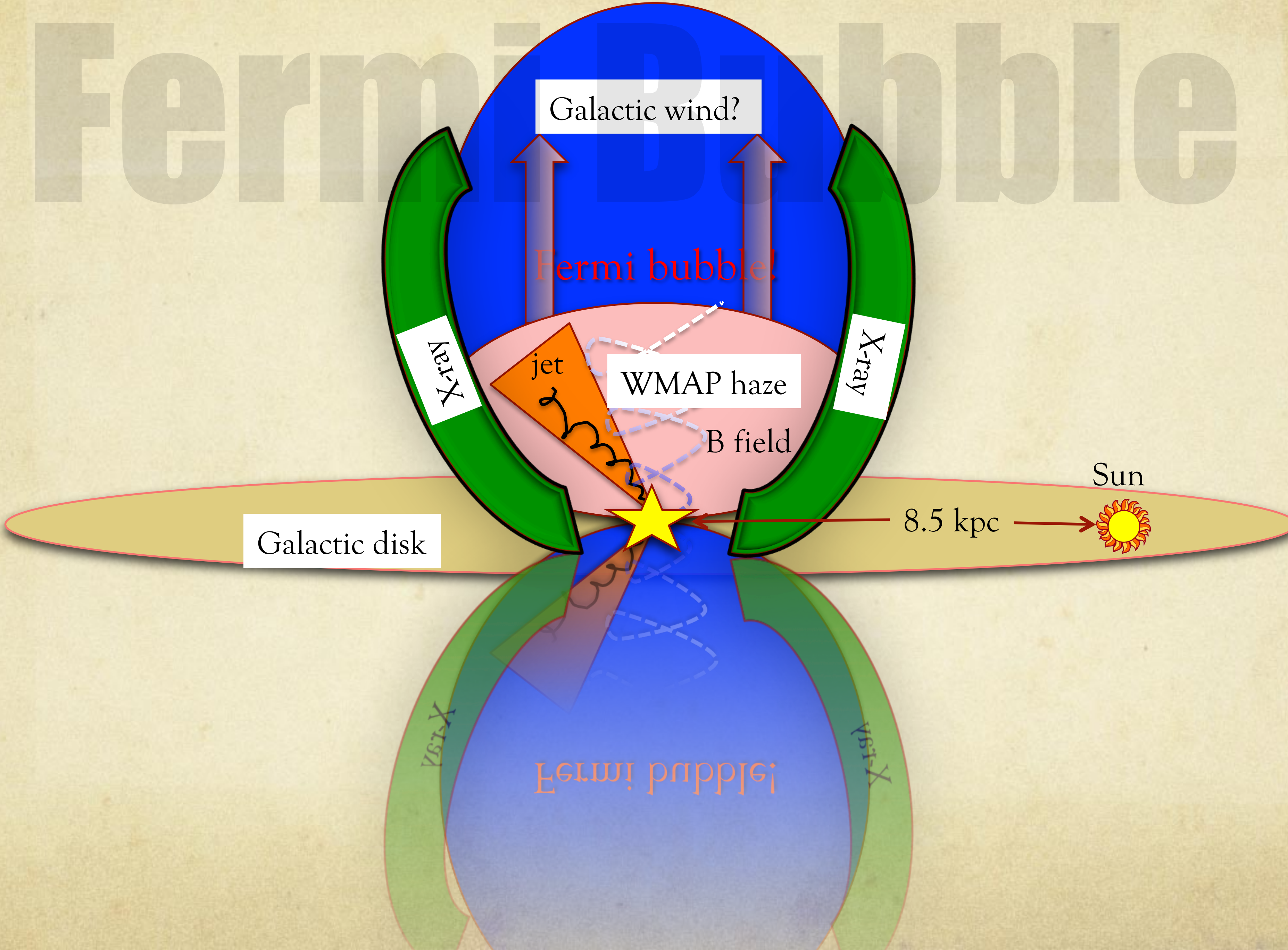
galaxy cluster MS 0735.6+7421 in Camelopardus



Perseus galaxy cluster

Take home message

Fermi Bubble



Fermi Bubble

- Fermi -LAT reveal two giant gamma-ray bubbles
- The gamma-ray emission associated with these bubbles has a significantly harder spectrum ($dN/dE \sim E^{-2}$) with sharp edges
- The bubbles are spatially correlated with the hard-spectrum microwave excess known as the WMAP haze; the edges of the bubbles also line up with features in the ROSAT X-ray maps at 1.5 - 2 keV.
- Faraday rotation measurement shows significant change on the edge of the bubbles, indicating the magnetic field structure or gas density variation.

Fermi Bubble

- *The Galactic gamma-ray bubbles which were most likely created by some large episode of energy injection in the Galactic center, such as past accretion events onto the central massive black hole, or a nuclear starburst in the last ~10 Myr*
- *Dark matter annihilation/decay seems unlikely to generate all the features of the bubbles*
- *Study of the origin and evolution of the bubbles also has the potential to improve our understanding of recent energetic events in the inner Galaxy and the high-latitude cosmic ray population.*

Fermi Bubble

Promising Future

- *Continue observation of Fermi*
- *XMM-Newton data coming soon with other X-ray observations including Chandra and Suzaku*
- *The eROSITA and Planck experiments will provide improved measurements in X-rays and microwaves, respectively, associated with the Fermi bubbles*
- *Radio observations and magnetic field structure of the bubbles*

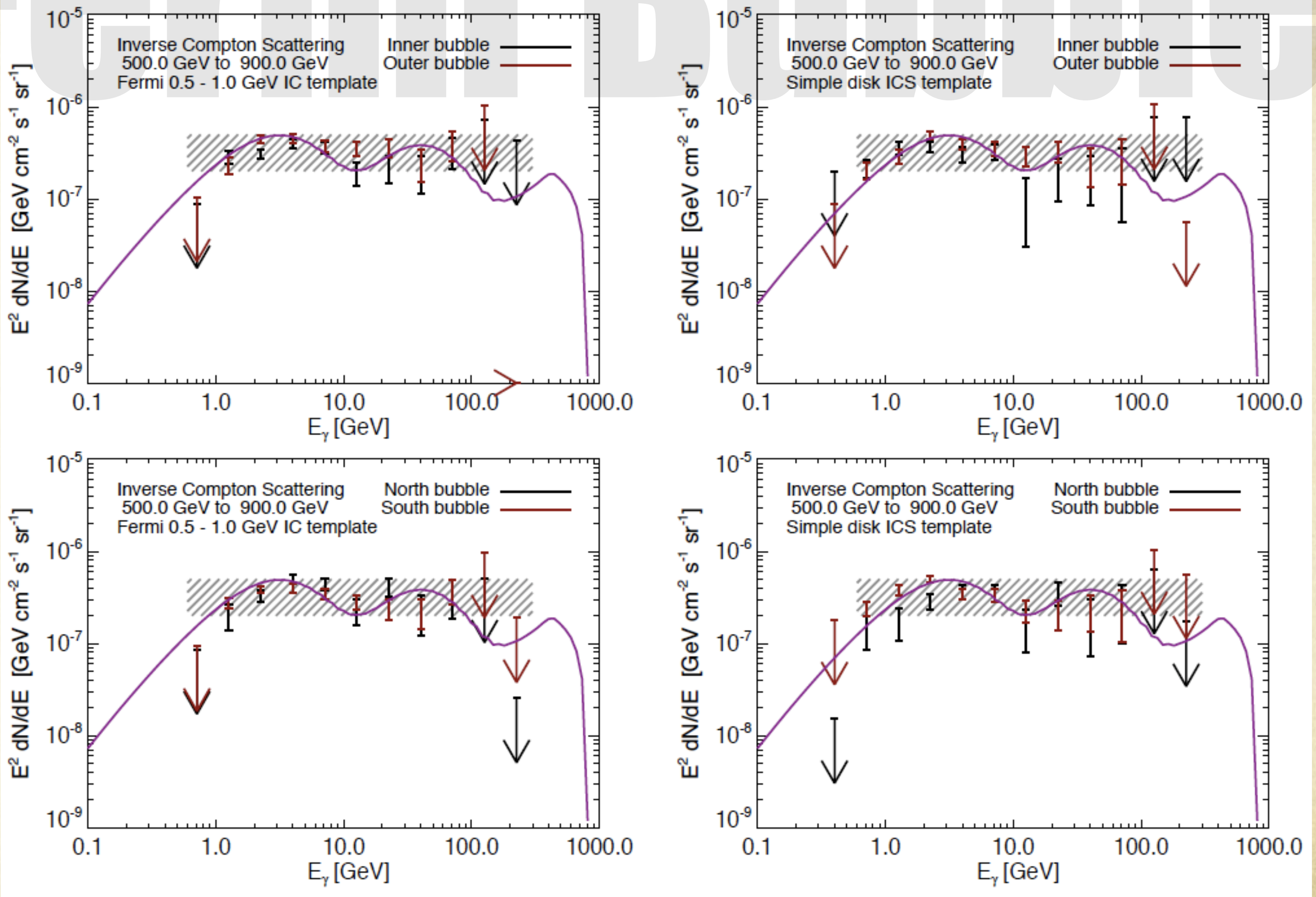
Fermi Bubble

Thank You for Your Attention!

(Video credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center)

Fermi Bubble

500-900 GeV electrons scattering CMB roll off at the right (low) energy.



Fermi Bubble

Disclaimer:

The purpose of the Su et al. paper is to study these sharp-edged "bubble" objects. This is not to say that these objects contain all of the "haze" emission; indeed there are interesting residuals in the data after subtracting a very simple model of the bubbles.

We should separate the question of whether there is any DM signal from the question of whether the bubbles are real.

Fermi Bubble

DM pessimist:
The existence of these structures, and the large episode of energy injection they imply, will make it nearly impossible to derive anything about dark matter in the inner Galaxy.

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There are some structures there we didn't expect, but we can model them and dig deeper to find the DM annihilation signal. No worries!

Fermi Bubble

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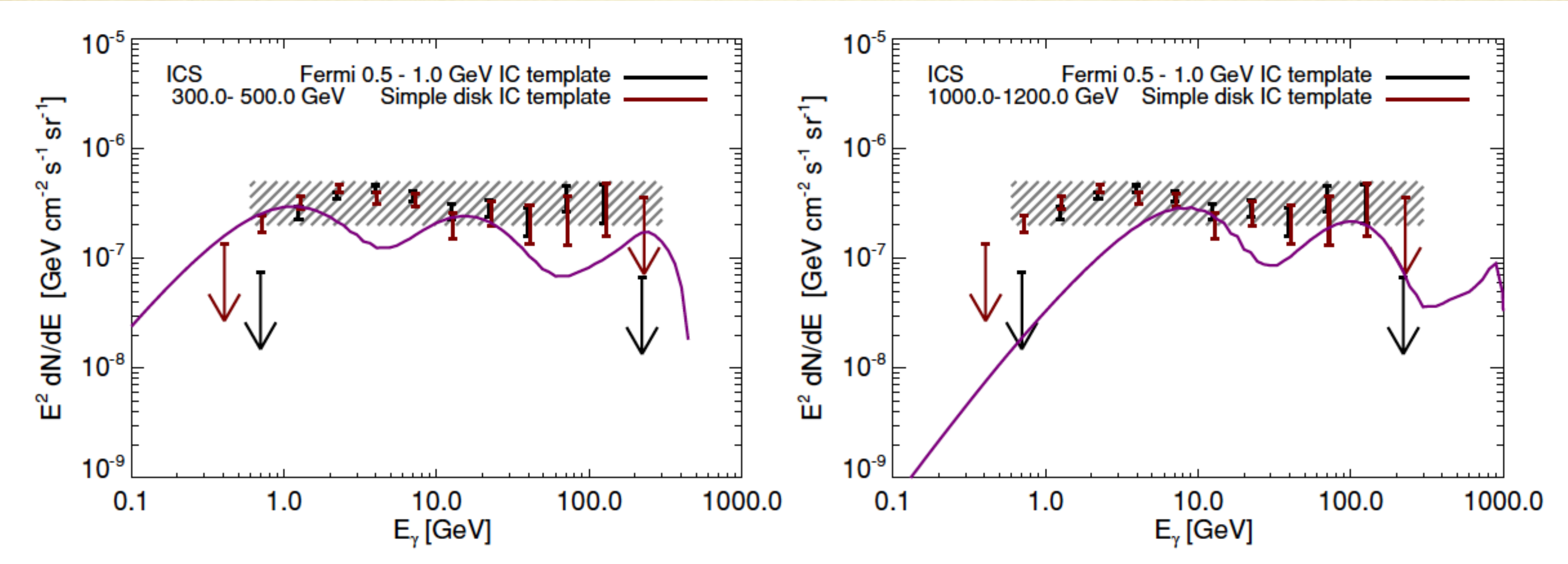
There are some structures there we didn't expect, but we can model them and dig deeper to find the DM annihilation signal. No worries!

DM agnostic:
Astrophysics is complicated. You're running out of time...
And we can't wait for the trivia tonight.

Fermi Bubble

It is easy to get bumps and wiggles in the wrong places…



Fermi Bubble

Two arguments for CMB scattering:

- *1. The bubble intensity is ~flat with latitude, while starlight density is falling.*

- *2. The shape of the IC spectrum.*

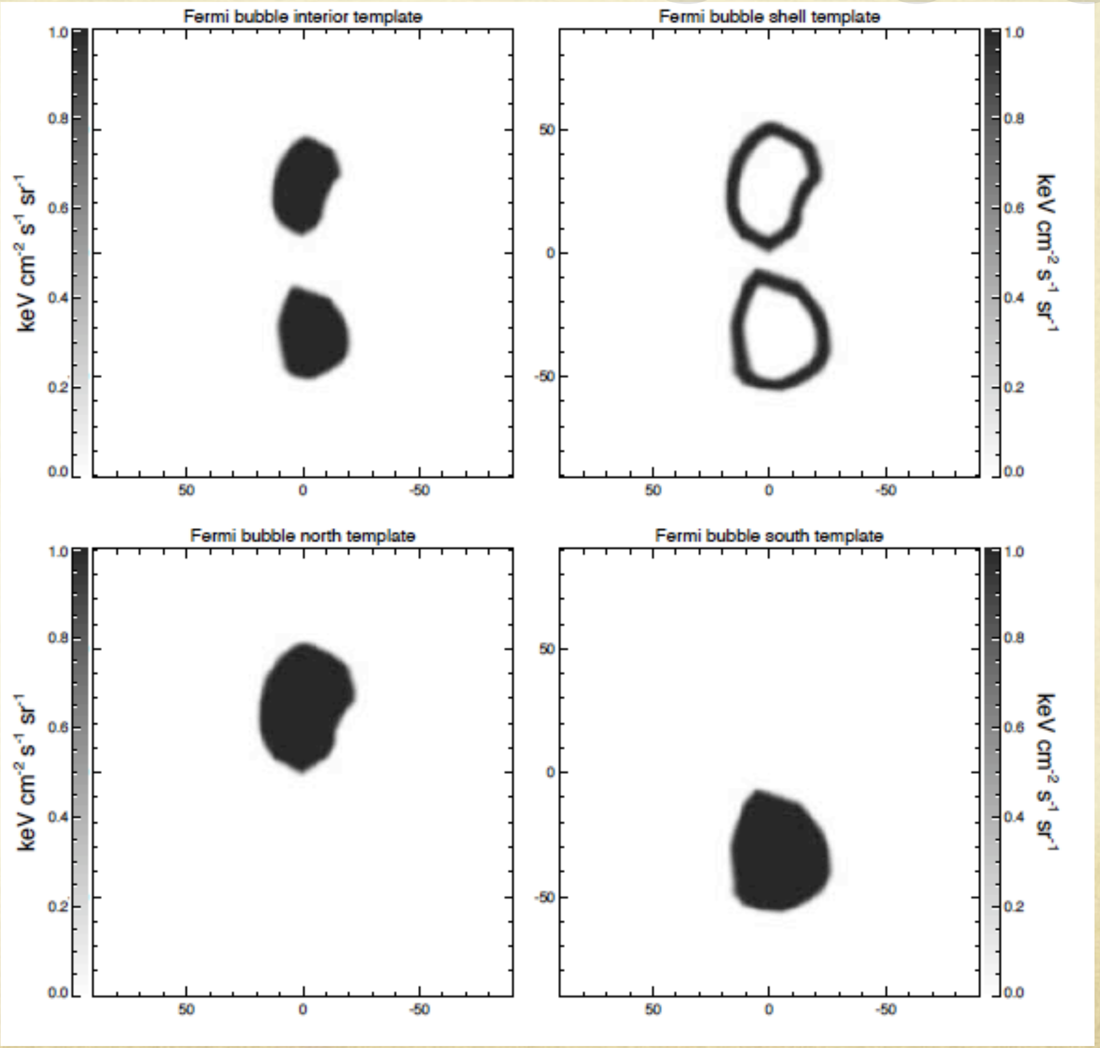
500-900 GeV electrons scattering CMB roll off at the right (low) energy.
(But see Crocker & Aharonian 2010)

Together these imply that the Fermi bubbles are Mainly ~TeV electrons scattering the CMB.
(Note that the WMAP haze is produced by ~10 GeV electrons.)

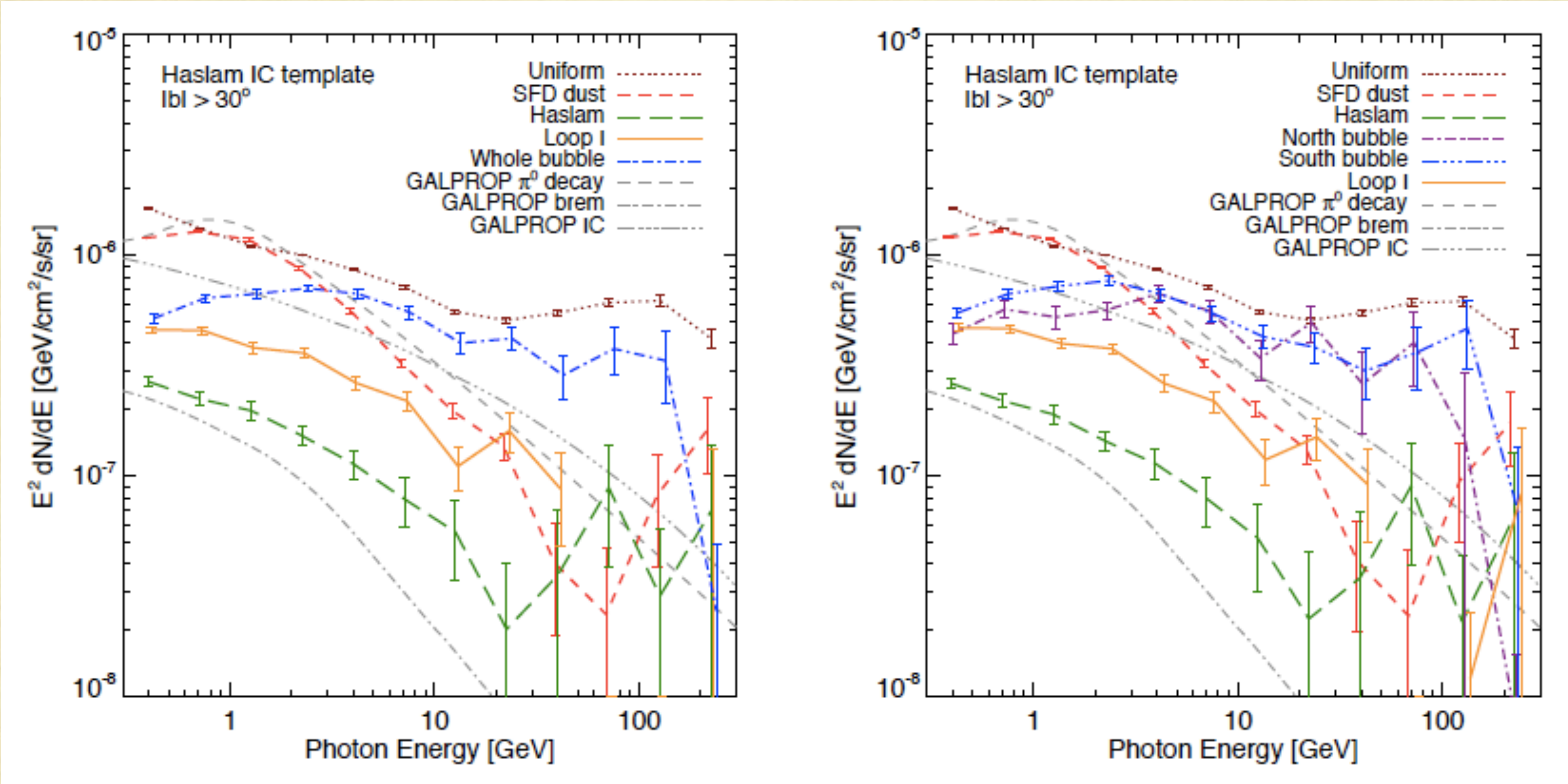
Now, how about X-rays?

Any Substructure of the bubbles?

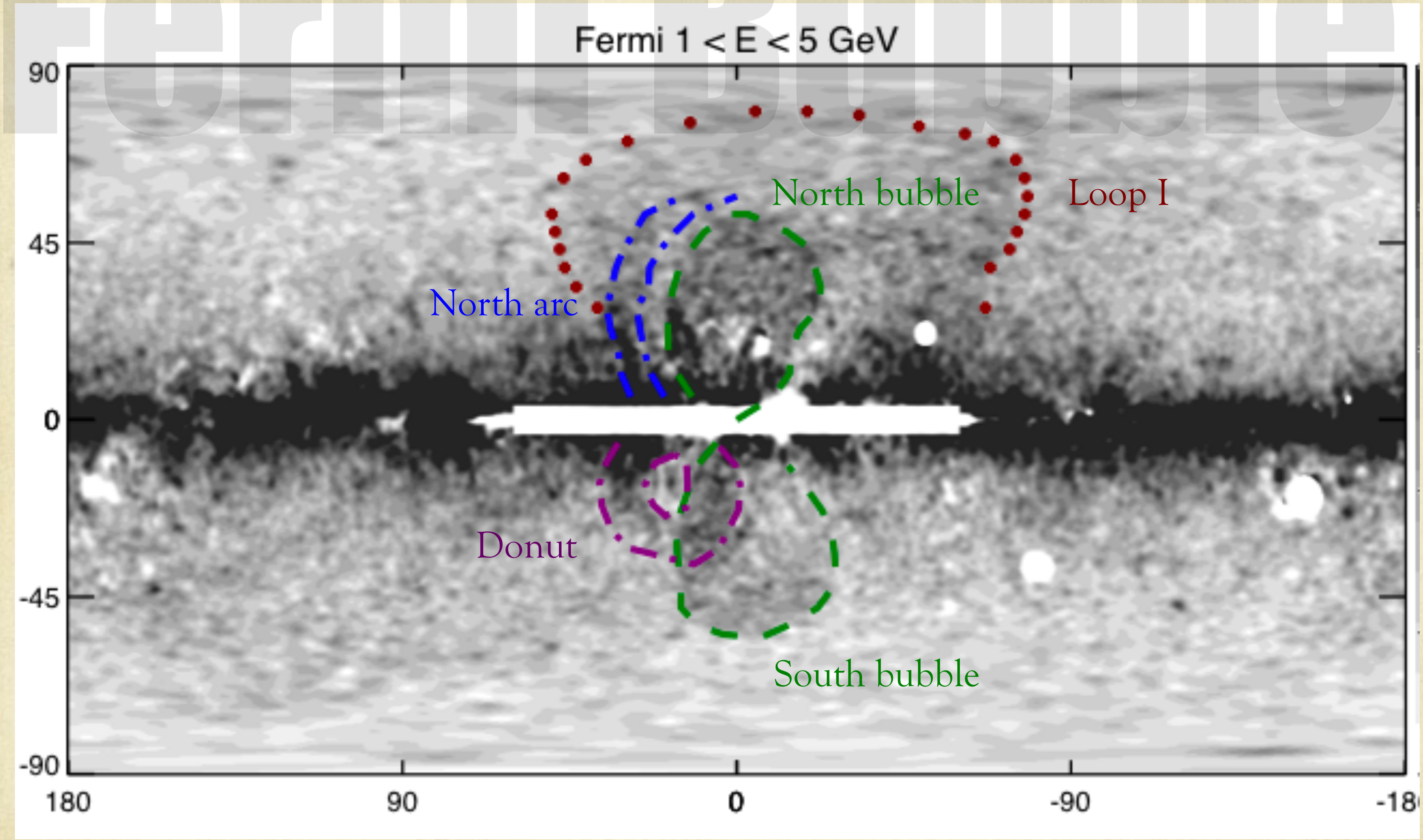
Fermi Bubble



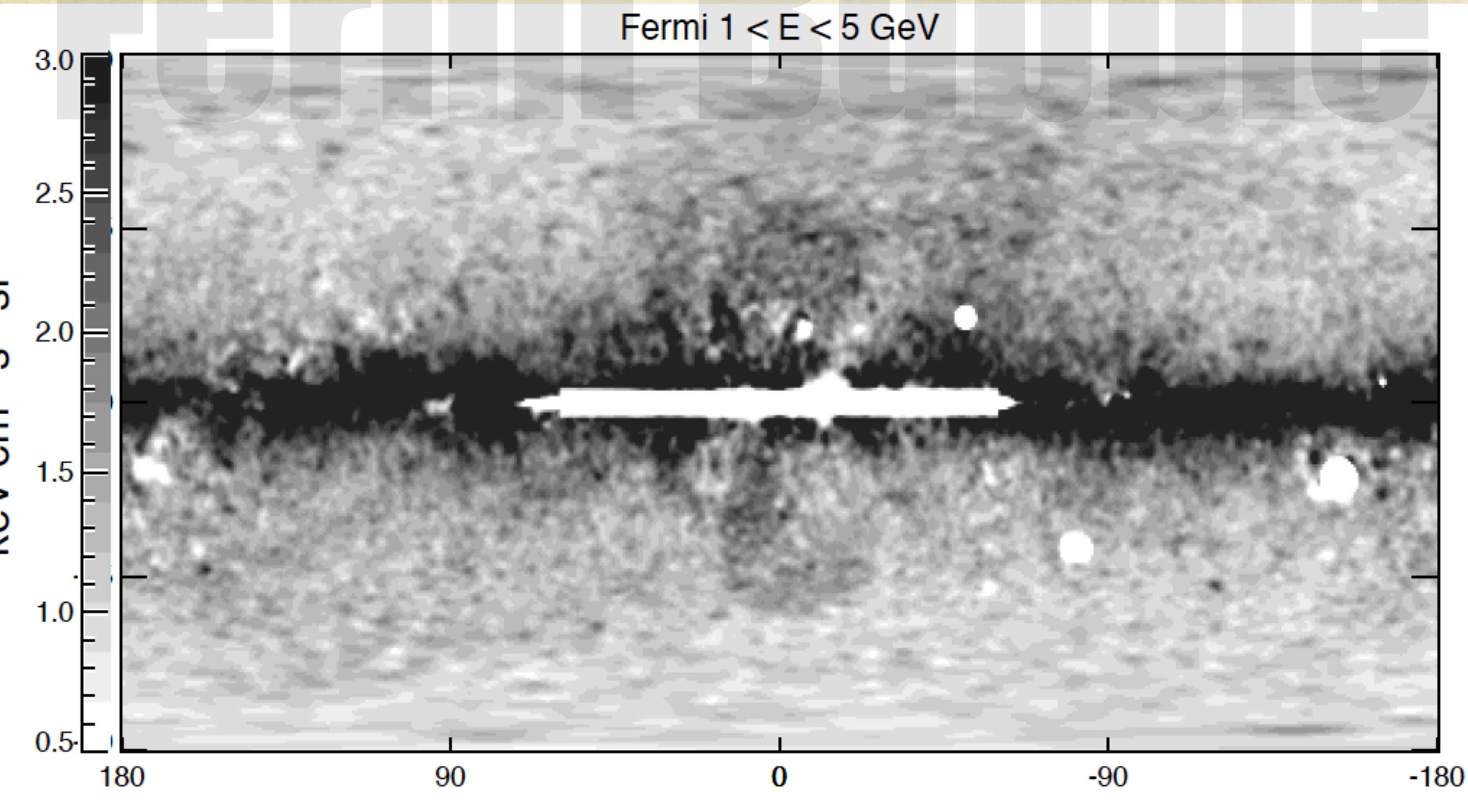
Fermi Bubble



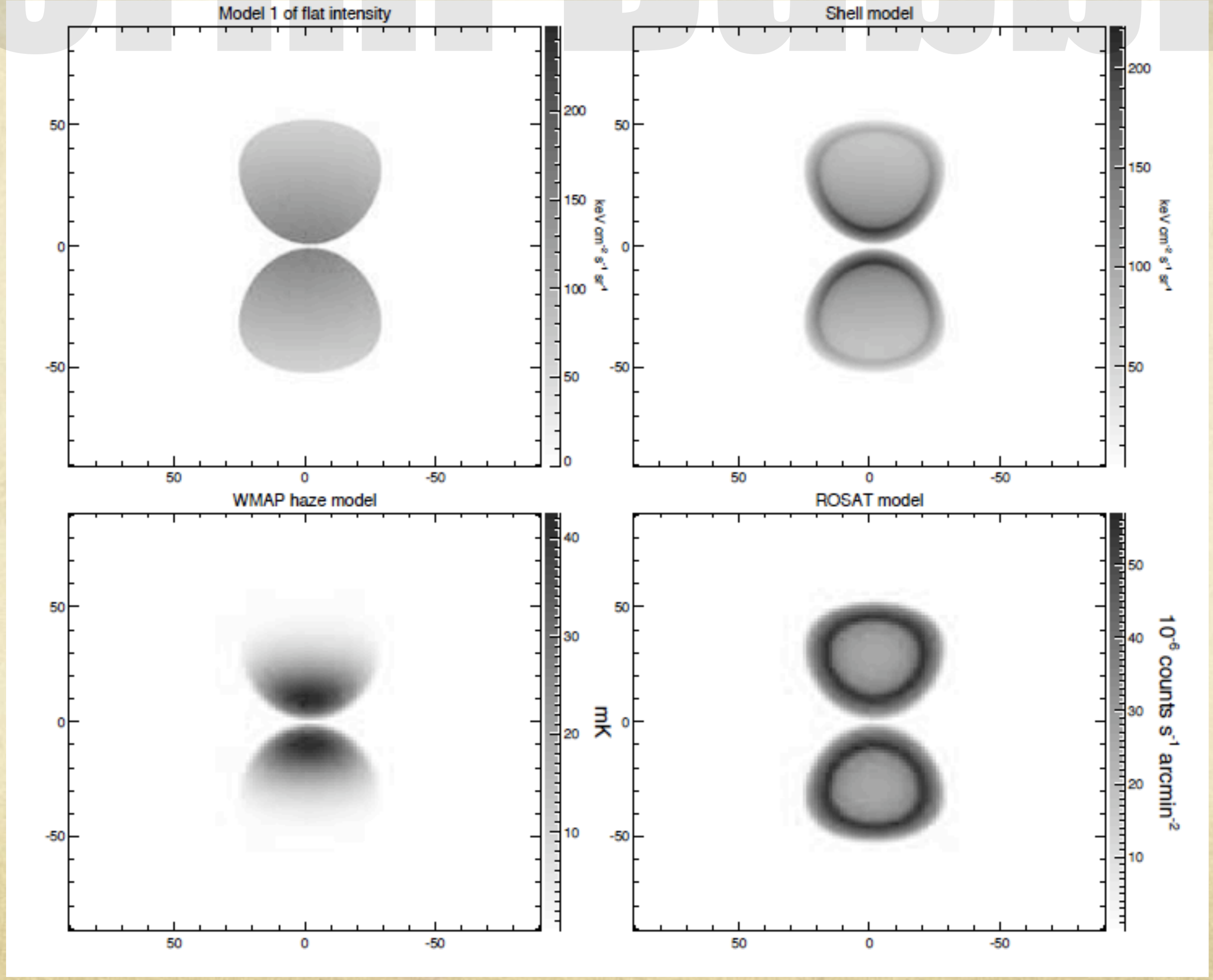
Fermi Bubble



Fermi Bubble



Fermi Bubble



Fermi Bubble

To understand the data...

- *Full physical model:*

  Pro: uses everything we know to fit data.

  Con: only used what we put in the model

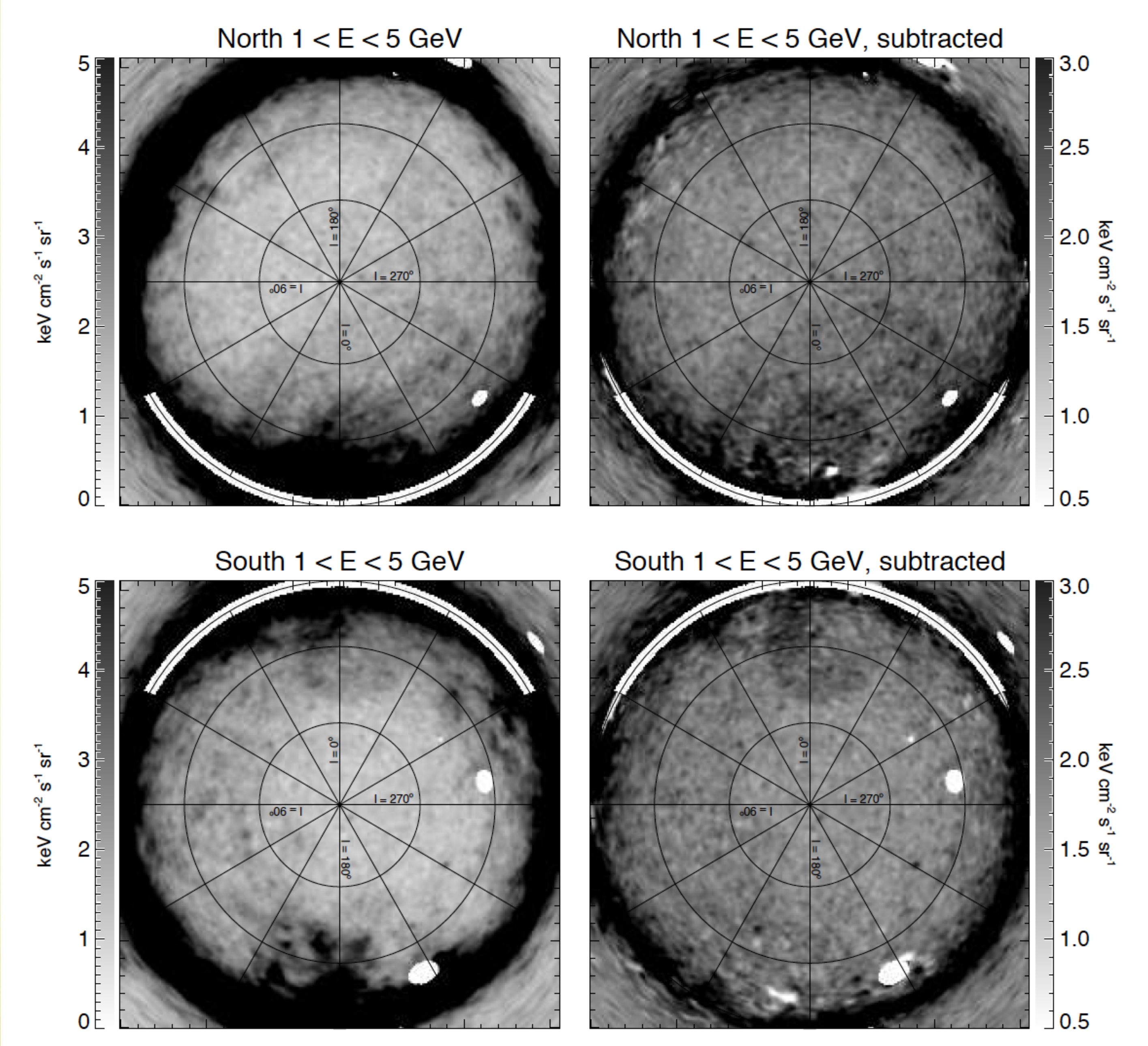
  Provides the most secure interpretation of the data

- *Template analysis*

  Pro: the templates work pretty well; may reveal new emission mechanisms. Simple.

  Con: must assess fit residuals carefully, because fit is never perfect

  Good for finding the unexpected!


North 1 < E < 5 GeV
North 1 < E < 5 GeV, subtracted
South 1 < E < 5 GeV
South 1 < E < 5 GeV, subtracted
keV cm-2 s-1 sr-1
l = 180°
l = 270°
l = 90°
l = 0°
5
4
3
2
1
0
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5

Fermi Bubble