Gamma-Ray Spectroscopy and White Dwarfs

- A contribution to celebrate Margarita Hernanz's Birthday

Roland Diehl

Contents

- Astrophysics theory: WDs and gamma-ray lines?
- COMPTEL results: Lines from WDs?
- Novae and gamma-ray lines
- WDs and SNIa: Gamma-ray lines!

White Dwarfs and Gamma-Ray Lines?

Candidate astrophysical processes:

- WD accretion flows
 - \rightarrow LECRs?
 - Neutron capture? \rightarrow 2223 keV
- nova nucleosynthesis
 - \rightarrow several radioactive isotopes
 - → 511 keV, 478 keV, 1275 keV, 1809 keV

− WDs in supernovae type la → ⁵⁶Ni decay chain → 158/812/847/1238 keV



Solar Flares

• 28 Oct 2003 flare: RHESSI, INTEGRAL/SPI





• Accretion flow near compact stars (WD, NS, BH)

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Searching for radioactivity from ²²Na

- PhD Leising 1987, search with SMM (w Mike Harris+)
- Models by Starrfield+, Hernanz+, ... → how much ejecta?
- COMPTEL search by Anatoly lyudin+ 1991+

INTEGRAL/SPI search by Pierre Jean+ 2002+



Nova Nucleosynthesis

- H-burning in a runaway on WD surface
 - Accretion of H from companion star $\dot{M} \sim 10^{-8} M_{\odot} y^{-1}$



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Nova Diagnostics Prospect with Nuclear Lines



CO Nova Gamma-ray Line Emission



Nova Spectra

Observe expanding H envelope, as it cools



- » discovered 13 Aug
- » early spectra: P Cyg profiles H
- » nebular spectra: CNO lines





Li nucleosynthesis in a nova? $^{7}Li \xrightarrow{EC; \tau \approx 77d} ^{7}Be + 478 keV$

Li, Be spectral features seen in three nova outbursts



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+ offset (10^{-11} erg/cm²/s/Ang)

Observed Flux

Line limits on nova from SPI/INTEGRAL

• Nova Sgr 2015 (V5668), opt max 21 Mar 2015



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Line limits on nova from SPI/INTEGRAL

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$M_{3\sigma}^{7\text{Be}} < 4.8 \times 10^{-9} \left(\frac{d}{\text{kpc}}\right)^2 M_{\odot}$

Li nucleosynthesis in a nova?

- limit value consistent with
 - estimates from optical spectra
 - uncertainties in >> distance, ejecta mass, ...



- no γ -ray signal from ⁷Be
 - spectrum
 - fitted light curve



Siegert+, in prep (2017)

Nucleosynthesis gamma-ray lines from a nova?Search in INTEGRAL/SPI Ge detector data:



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Pre-nova flash from β^+ decays?

- Searching the INTEGRAL/SPI database in SPI ACS
 - Nova V5668 Sgr:



Pre-nova flash from β^+ decays? Searching the INTEGRAL/SPI database in SPI ACS

• Nova V5668 Sgr:



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Nova radioactivity: Awaiting a nearby nova

- SPI's large field of view could catch early flash
- ⁷Be line intensity may be enhanced wrt models

- Optical lines suggest $M_{\text{Li}} \approx 7 \times 10^{-9} \text{M}_{\odot}$ SPI sensitivity $M_{3\sigma}^{7\text{Be}} < 4.8 \times 10^{-9} \left(\frac{d}{\text{kpc}}\right)^2 M_{\odot}$

Ar (18)

SPI line sensitivity
 ~few 10⁻⁵ ph cm⁻² s⁻¹





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Sulfur Observed !

(proof of rp process)

²⁶Al in our Galaxy: γ-ray Image and Spectrum



Resolving ²⁶Al Emission from Specific Groups of Stars



Resolving ²⁶Al Emission from Specific Groups of Stars





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Understanding the 511 keV Line Emission After 12 y of measurements and various different analyses

- Knödlseder+ 2005, Jean+ 2005, Weidenspointner+ 2008, Bouchet+ 2011, Skinner et al. 2013, 2015a,b, Siegert+ 2016a,b
- None of the plausible candidate sources produces morphology
- The centroid appears offset by ~1 deg towards 4th quadrant
- The disk (now) appears quite extended \rightarrow e⁺ outflows?
- Only ²⁶Al has been established as a e⁺ source/injector
- Dark matter contributions are unlikely/small
- Positron injection and annihilation probably are 'decoupled'
- Injections from pulsars, microquasars (!), SNe, ..., **novae**, ... all are plausible. How then the bulge enhancement?



SNe Ia: WDs in action. But HOW?



⁵⁶Ni Radioactivity Decay Chain and Gamma-Rays



Longterm Data: Broad Lines from ⁵⁶Co!

• INTEGRAL Obs from 31 Jan till 26 Jun 2014



Line flux [cm⁻² s⁻¹]

SN2014J data Jan – Jun 2014: ⁵⁶Co lines

- The ⁵⁶Co decay lines
- Different spectral binning
- Different epochs



- \rightarrow Observe a structured and evolving spectrum - expected: gradual appearance of broadened ⁵⁶Co lines
 - Diehl et al., A&A (2015)



SN2014J data Jan – Jun 2014: 847 keV ⁵⁶Co line



- from models \rightarrow 0.5 +/-0.3 M_{\odot}
- Diehl et al., A&A 2015

SN2014J: Early ⁵⁶Ni

- Spectra from the SN position
 - Clear detections of the two strongest lines expected from 56N with the INTEGRAL Spectrometer 'SPI'



- Intensities:
 - (1.14 ±0.43) 10^{-4} ph cm⁻² s⁻¹ (158 keV line) and (1.91 ±0.67) 10^{-4} ph cm⁻² s⁻¹ (812 keV line)
- Diehl+ Science 2014

- ⁵⁶Ni mass estimate (backscaled to explosion): ~0.06 M_☉

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Another analysis of SN2014J SPI data...

→ a broad
 ⁵⁶Ni 158 keV line ⁵⁶Ni mass estimate
 (backscaled to explosion):
 ~0.08 M_☉

Broad-bin analysis, convolving SN Ia model spectra (i.e. model dependent)

3×10-5 revs. 1380-1386 ´\DETO 2×10-5 flux (ph/s/cm[®]/keV) 10-5 ₩7- · DDTe 0 -1×10-5 -2×10 130 160 180 120 140 150 170 190 E (keV)

Isern+ A&A 2016

Line Uncertainties: Search and method biases



• Random Search: Try to Fit a Line (Centroid, Intensity, Width)

Depending on resolution of the analysis method, and on fitting approach, results may differ

Narrow line, ~unshifted
? or ?
Broad & redshifted line

Line Uncertainties: Search and method biases



• Random Search: Try to Fit a Line (Centroid, Intensity, Width)

Depending on resolution of the analysis method, and on fitting approach, results may differ

> Narrow line, ~unshifted, is most likely
> (from data analysis alone; no model)
> Underlying broad line cannot be excluded

SN2014J: An unusual explosion?

 SN2014J had significant ⁵⁶Ni near the surface

> line of sight 🕨

 $v_i t$

 $\bar{v}/\cos\theta$



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Summary: White Dwarfs and Gamma-Ray Lines?

- WD accretion flows \rightarrow LECRs / neutron capture not seen
- nova nucleosynthesis \rightarrow short-lived radioactivity close to detection \rightarrow long-lived radioactivity & e⁺ not distinguishable
- WDs in supernovae type la \rightarrow DD's: He accretion may be an important ingredient



