

# Novae as particle accelerators



Emergence of a somewhat unexpected  $\gamma$ -ray source class

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FROM COOLING TO EXPLOSION: THE PHYSICS OF WHITE DWARFS  
An International Workshop dedicated to Margarita Hernanz on the occasion of her 60<sup>th</sup> birthday  
Tossa de Mar (Girona), Catalonia, June 14-16, 2017

# The 2010 outburst of V407 Cygni

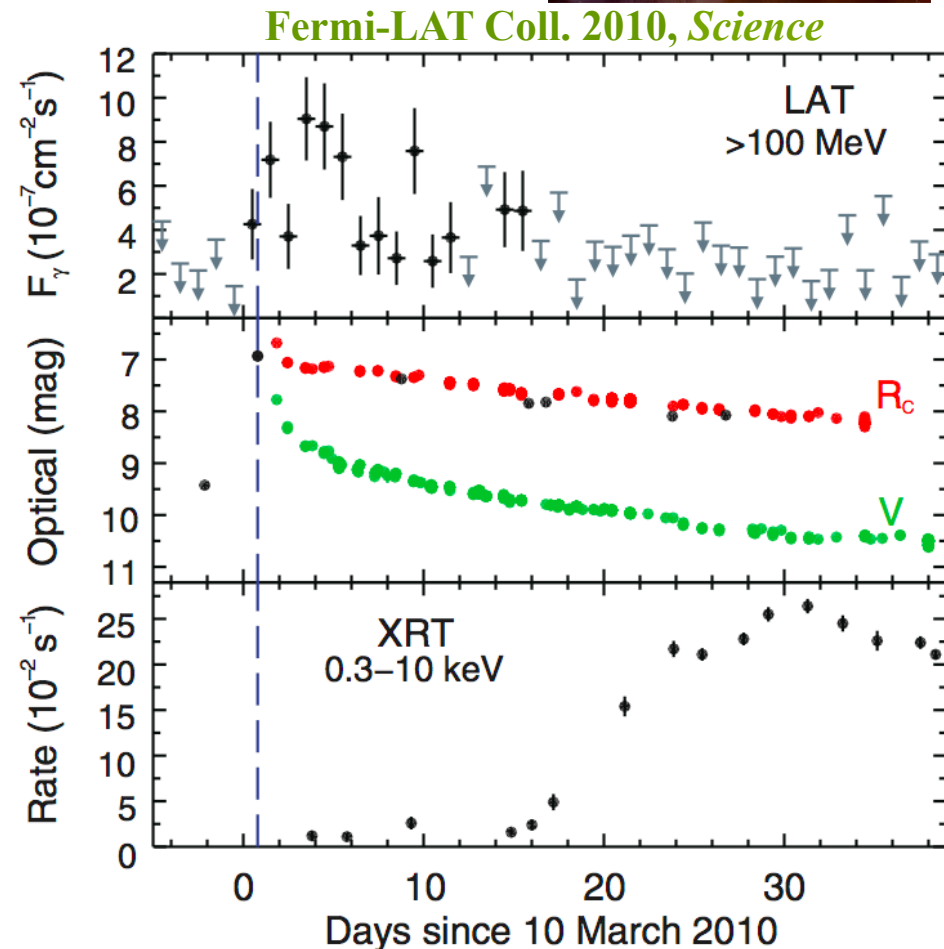
## Binary system:

- **Symbiotic** (Mira) binary: white dwarf + red giant (Mira type)
- Orbital period  $\sim 43$  years, separation  $\sim 15$  AU
- Distance 2.7 kpc



## Nova outburst of March 10, 2010:

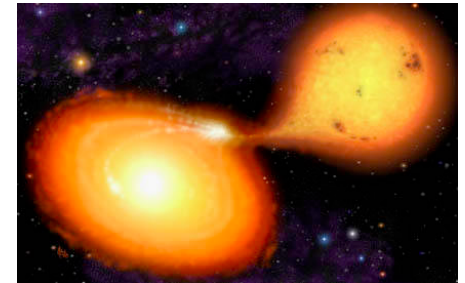
- *Fermi/LAT* detection of **high-energy** ( $>100$  MeV)  $\gamma$ -ray emission starting near the time of optical maximum and lasting about 2 – 3 weeks
- Particle acceleration in the strong **shock** between the nova ejecta and the **dense wind** from the RG primary
- **Hadronic**:  $\pi^0$  decay  $\gamma$ -rays from p+p interactions? **or**
- **Leptonic**: inverse Compton scattering of the nova light? (see [Martin & Dubus 2013](#))



# High-energy $\gamma$ -ray emission from classical novae

## Binary systems:

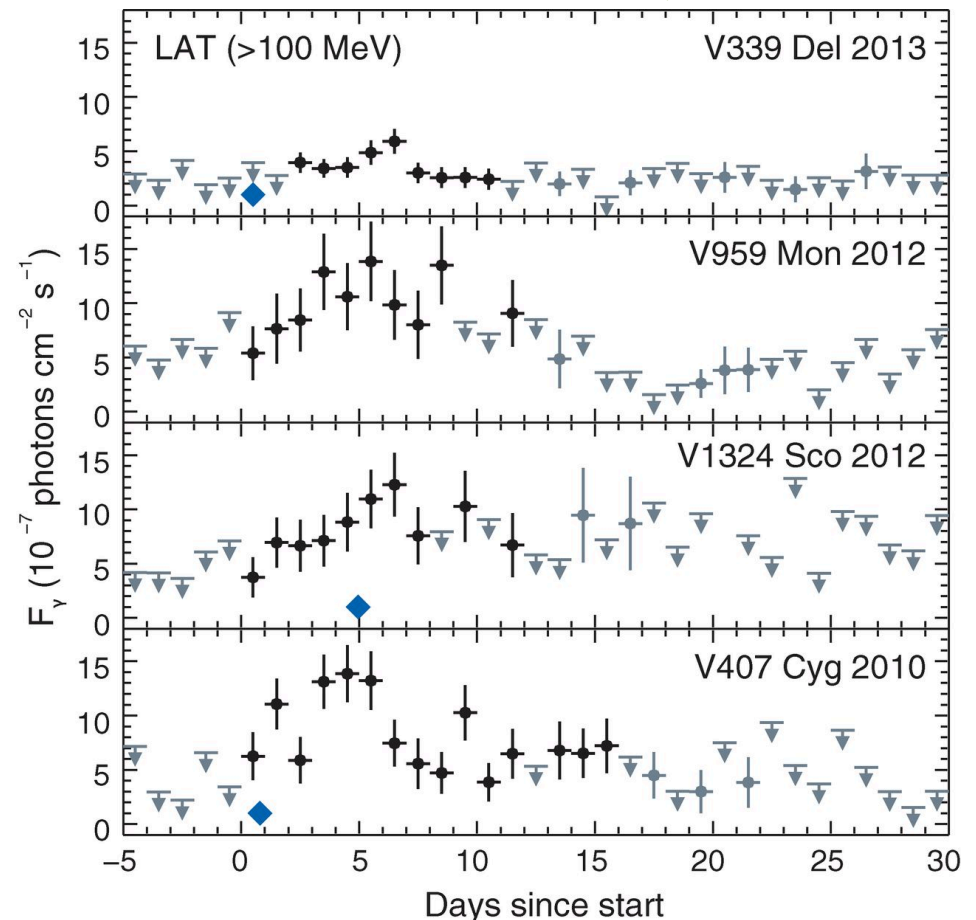
- Cataclysmic variables: white dwarf (CO or ONe) + **main sequence star**
- Matter accretion via Roche lobe overflow - no dense wind from the secondary



## Gamma-ray emission:

- *Fermi/LAT* detection of high-energy ( $>100$  MeV)  $\gamma$ -ray emission from **8 classical novae** (till today)
- Wide diversity in  $\gamma$ -ray properties (onset, duration, luminosity..., see [Cheung et al. 2016](#))
- How, when and where the putative shocks are generated?
- Hadronic vs. leptonic origin of the  $\gamma$ -ray radiation?

Fermi-LAT Coll. 2014, *Science*



# Summary of detected (predicted) $\gamma$ -ray novae

System	RS Oph	V407 Cyg	V1324 Sco	V959 Mon	V339 Del	V1369 Cen	V745 Sco	V5668 Sgr	V407 Lup	V5855 Sgr	V5856 Sgr
Year	(2006)	2010	2012	2012	2013	2013	2014	2015	2016	2016	2016
<b>Distance (kpc)</b>	1.6	2.7	6.5	1.4	4.5	2.5	8.0	2.0	?	?	?
<b>Nova class</b>	RN	RN	CN	CN	CN	CN	RN	CN	CN	CN	CN
<b><i>Fermi</i>/LAT detection</b>	NA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	3 $\sigma$	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b><math>\gamma</math>-ray onset (days after optical maximum)</b>	NA	0	-4	?	0	1.5	1	1.5	1	0	1
<b><math>\gamma</math>-ray duration (days)</b>	NA	22	17	22	27	40	1	60	3	4	9
<b><math>\gamma</math>-ray flux (<math>10^{-7}</math> ph cm<sup>-2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	predicted	14	13	14	4	5.7	3	1.4	1.8	2.6	9.7

Adapted from Laura Delgado PhD and Martin et al. (2017)

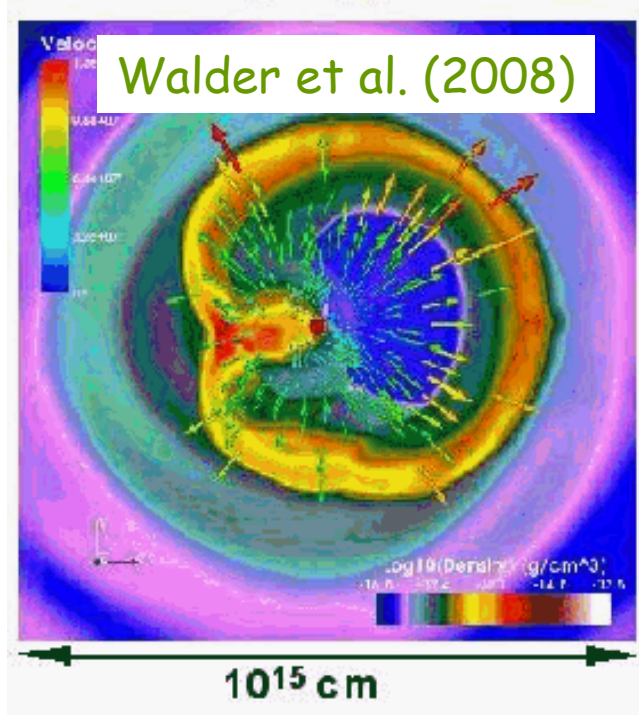
RN: Symbiotic recurrent nova

CN: Classical nova

- Detection rate since the launch of *Fermi* (June 2008):  $\sim 1$  per year

# The symbiotic recurrent nova RS Ophiuchi

- Massive white dwarf ( $M \sim 1.35 M_{\odot}$ ) with a red giant companion
- Outbursts: 1898, 1907, 1933, 1945, 1958, 1967, 1985, and 2006



- ⇒ Outburst recurrence period:  $\sim 20$  years (as compared to  $10^4$ - $10^5$  yrs for classical novae)
- Might be a type Ia SN in  $\sim 10^5$ - $10^7$  yrs (see Hernanz & José 2008)

# Symbiotic novae as fast “miniature supernovae”

Charact. time of evolution of the shock system:

$$t_c \propto \frac{M_{ej}^{3/2} v_w}{E_{out}^{1/2} \dot{M}_w}$$

**RS Oph**

**SN II**

$$M_{ej} \sim 3 \times 10^{-6} M_{\odot}$$

$$M_{ej} \sim 10 M_{\odot}$$

$$E_{out} \sim 10^{44} \text{ erg}$$

$$E_{out} \sim 10^{51} \text{ erg}$$

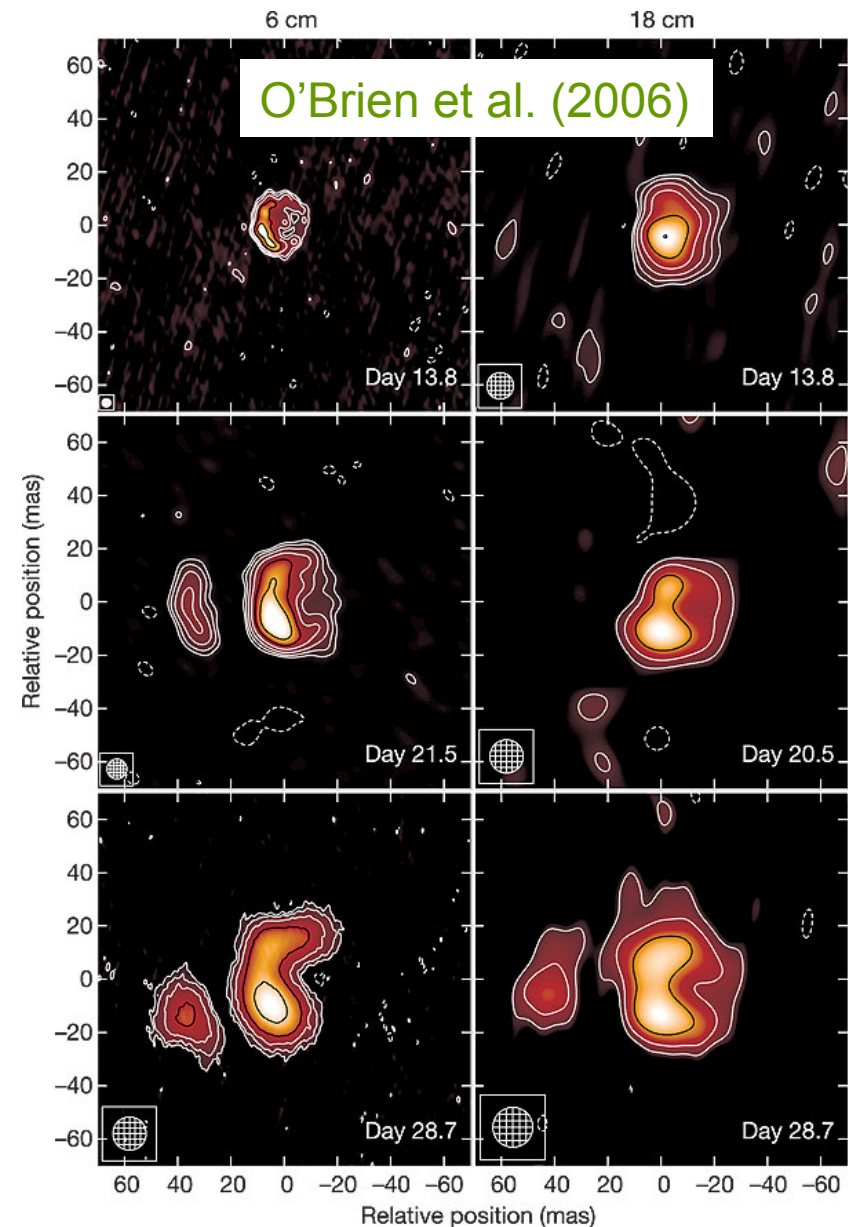
$$\dot{M}_{RG} \sim 10^{-6} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

$$\dot{M}_{RSG} \sim 10^{-5} M_{\odot} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow t_c(\text{RS Oph}) \sim 10^{-5} t_c(\text{SN II})$$

- free expansion phase: **days**
- adiabatic phase:  $\sim 2$  **months**
- then radiative cooling phase

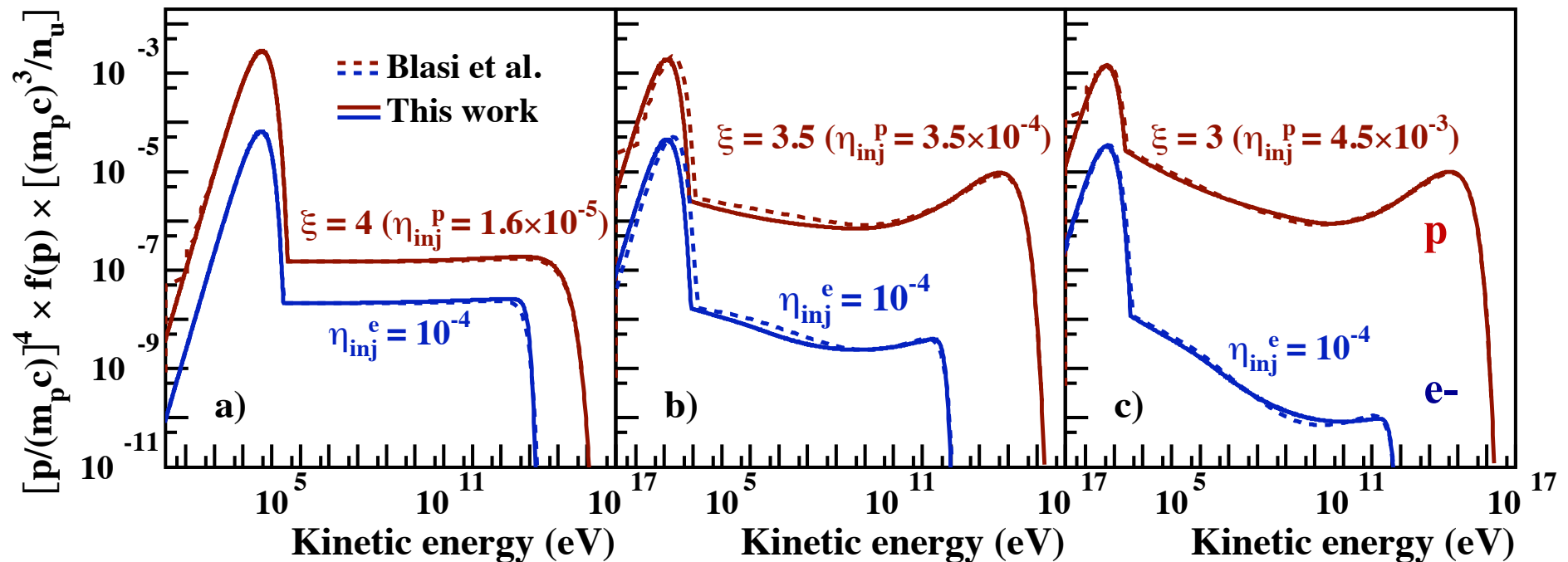
$\Rightarrow$  **Time dependence** of CR acceleration



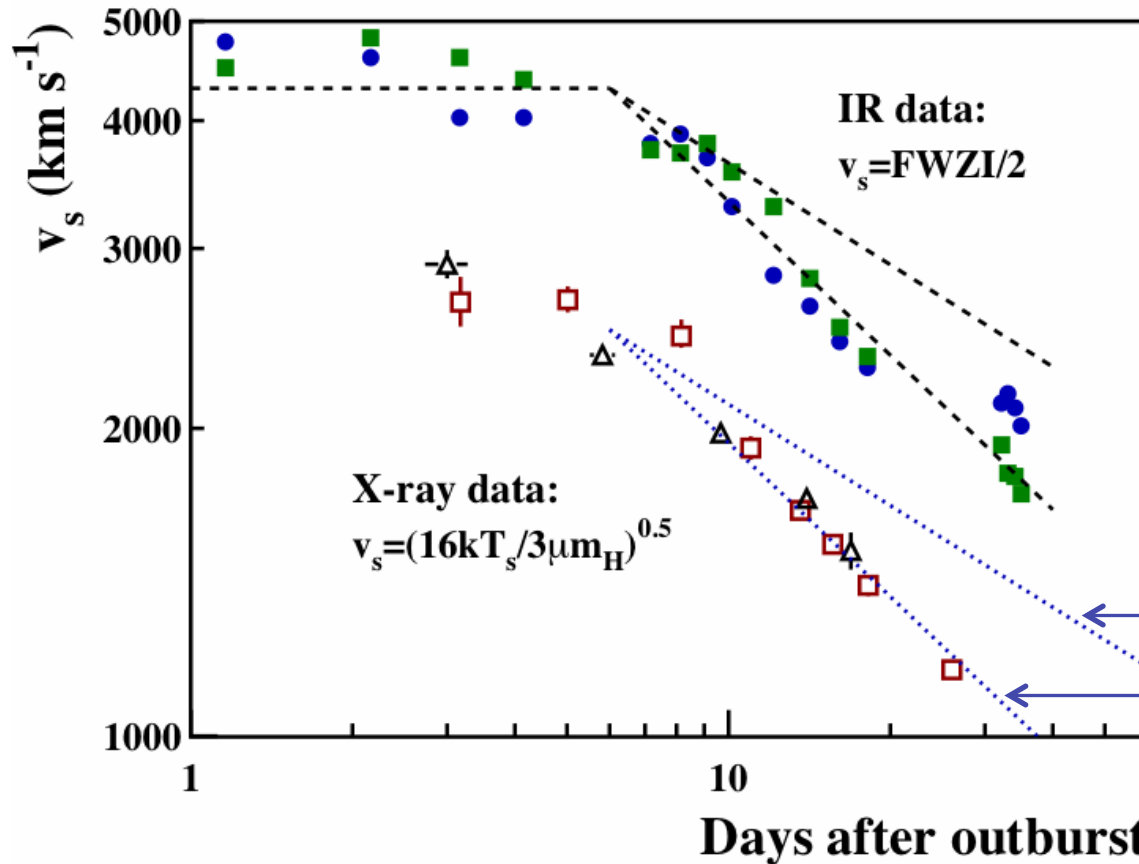
# Shock modification in SNR due to CR acceleration

- Shock precursor ahead of the ordinary gas subshock
- Lower postshock temperature  $T_S$ , because of (1) the softer equation of state and (2) particle (= energy) escape (e.g. Decourchelle et al. 2000)
- Higher magnetic field  $B_{\text{turb}}$  due to resonant (Bell and Lucek 2001) and nonresonant (Bell 2004) streaming instabilities in the upstream plasma
- Higher energy particles feel a higher compression ratio  $\Rightarrow$  concave particle spectrum (e.g. Berezhko & Ellison 1999)

## CSNSM/IEEC Non linear diffusive shock acceleration model:



# Blast wave evolution in RS Oph (2006)



The  $v_s - T_s$  relation:

$$P_{g,s} = \rho_u v_s^2 \left(1 - \frac{1}{r}\right)$$

$$P_{g,s} = \frac{r\rho_u kT_s}{\mu m_H}$$

with  $r = 4$

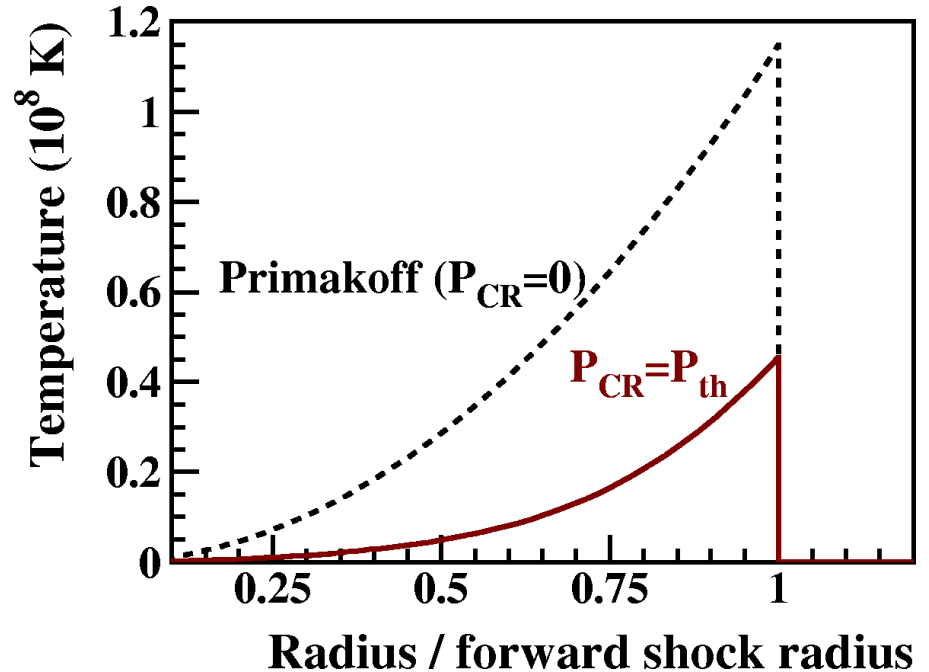
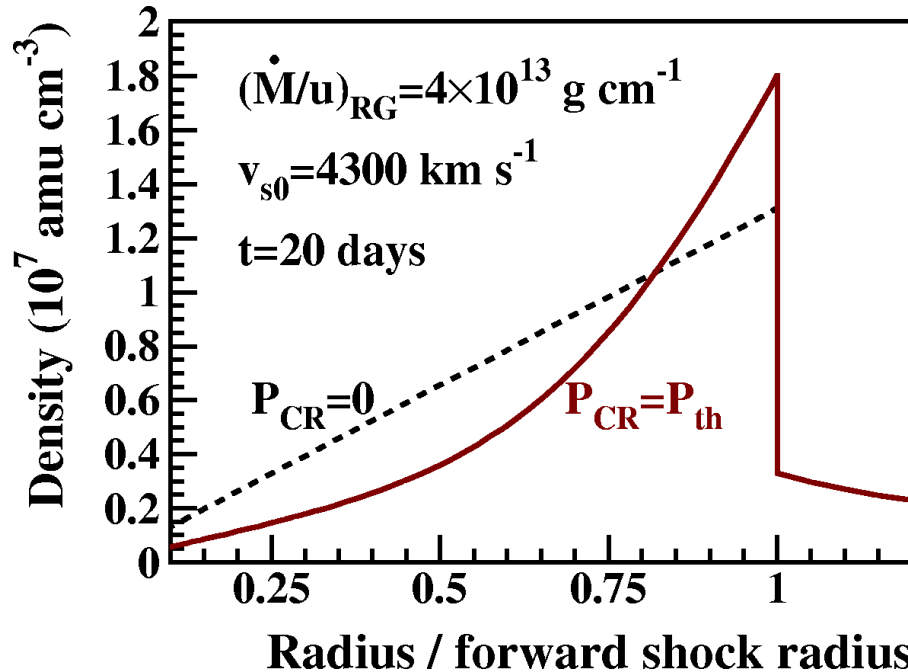
adiabatic phase  $V_s \propto t^{0.33}$

cooling phase  $V_s \propto t^{0.5}$

- **What cooled the shock** after  $\sim 6$  days ( $T_s \sim 10^8$  K at day 6 and radiative cooling was not important)?  $\Rightarrow$  **Cosmic rays?**
- What makes the X-ray measurements of  $V_s$  lower than the IR data?  $\Rightarrow$  **CRs?**



# Effects of cosmic-rays on the $v_s$ - $T_s$ relation



From the two-fluid, self-similar solutions (Chevalier 1983)

The well-known relation for a test-particle strong shock,  $v_s = \sqrt{\frac{16}{3} \frac{kT_s}{\mu \dot{m}_H}}$ , underestimates  $v_s$  when particle acceleration is efficient,

because  $T_s$  is lower (softer equation of state + particle escape)

# Cosmic-ray acceleration in RS Oph (2006)

- Good agreement with the *RXTE/PCA* and *Swift/XRT* measurements of  $T_s$  for  $\eta_{inj} \gtrsim 10^{-4}$  and **Alfvén wave heating of the precursor**

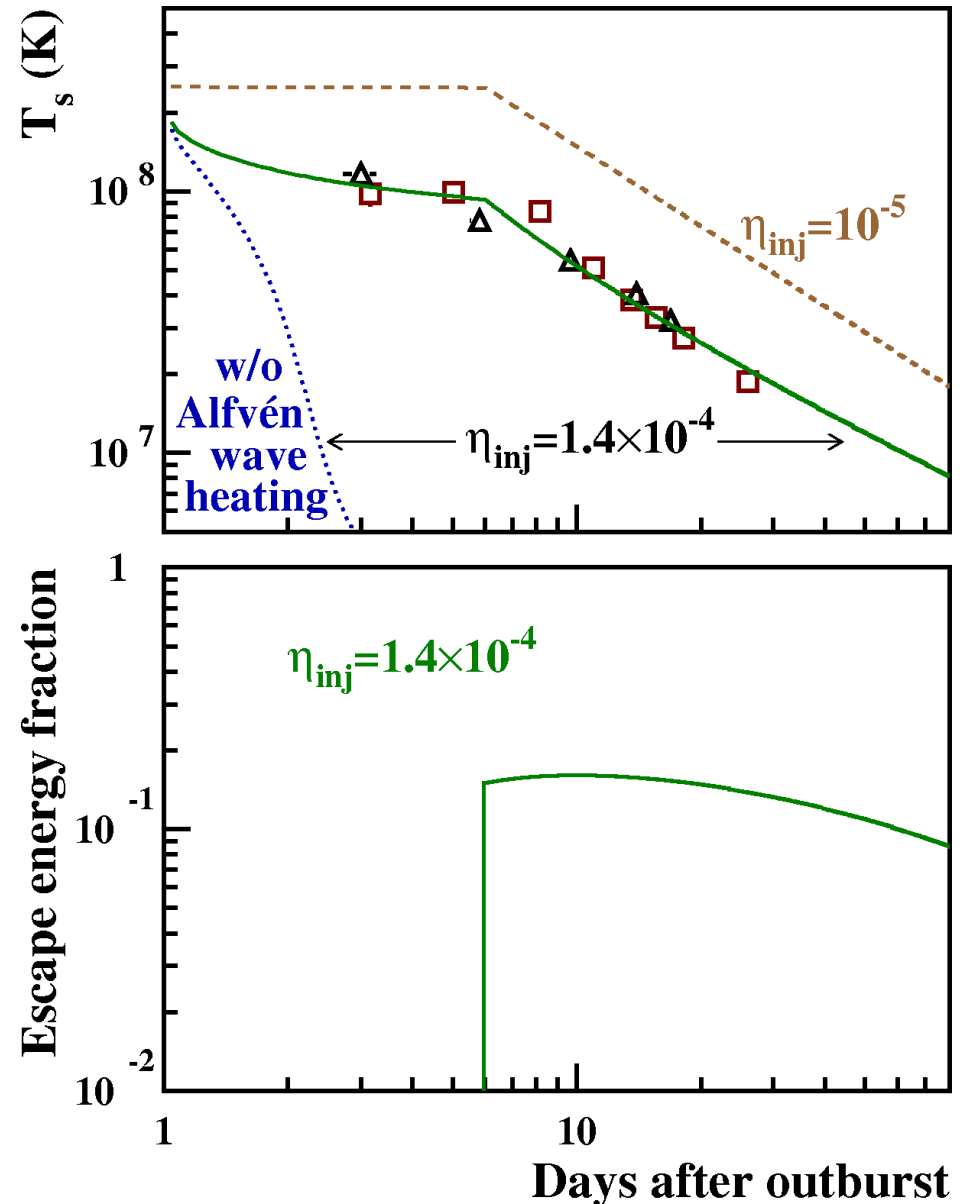
⇒ Energy loss rate due to particle escape:

$$2 \times 10^{38} \left( \frac{\epsilon_{esc}}{0.15} \right) \left( \frac{t}{6 \text{ days}} \right)^{-1.5} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

~ 100 times the bolometric luminosity of the postshock plasma at  $t = 6$  days

⇒ **Efficient cosmic-ray cooling**

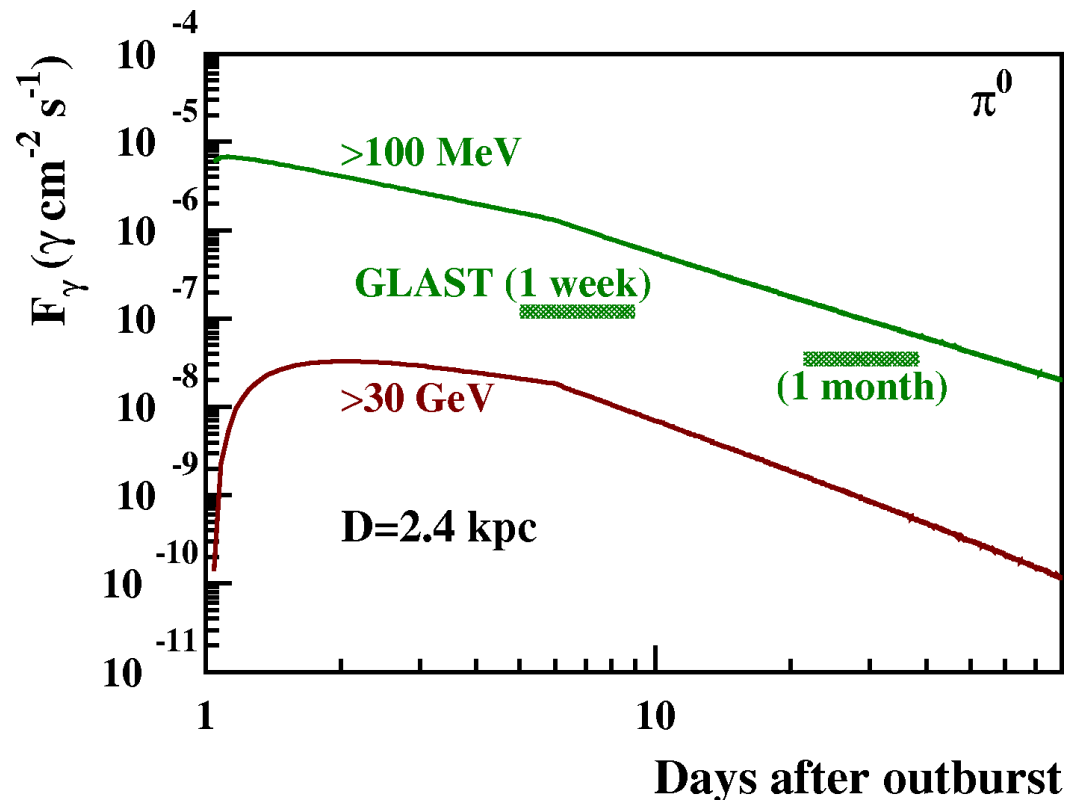
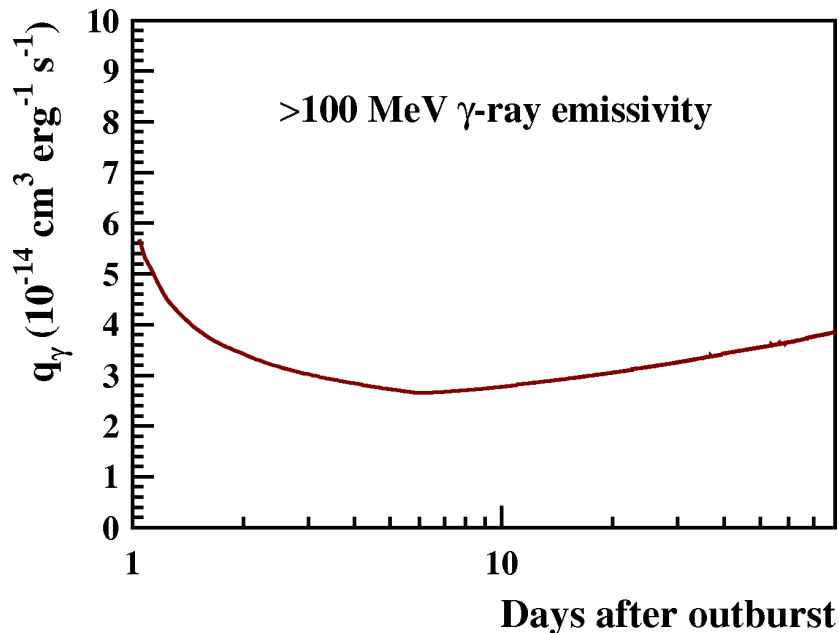
- First evidence for particle acceleration to **TeV energies** in a nova (**VT & M. Hernanz 2007**)



# Gamma-ray emission from $\pi^0$ production

- Cosmic ray interaction with the shocked gas from the **dense red giant wind**
- $f(p,t) \Rightarrow \gamma$ -ray emissivity  $q_\gamma(t)$   
(Dermer 1986)

$$F_\gamma = \frac{q_\gamma}{4\pi D^2} \int_0^{r_s} n_H(r) \varepsilon_{\text{rel}}(r) 4\pi r^2 dr$$



\* GLAST LAT sensitivity for a  $5\sigma$  detection in all-sky survey operation

- **RS Ophiuchi (2006) would have been detected by GLAST**  
(VT & M. Hernanz, COSPAR 2008; Hernanz & VT 2012)

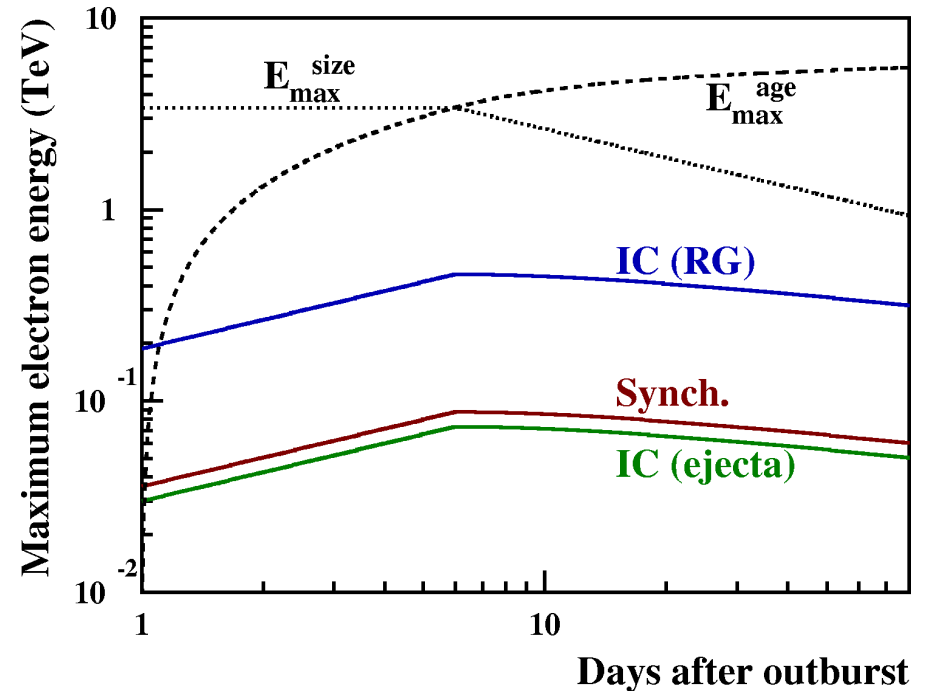
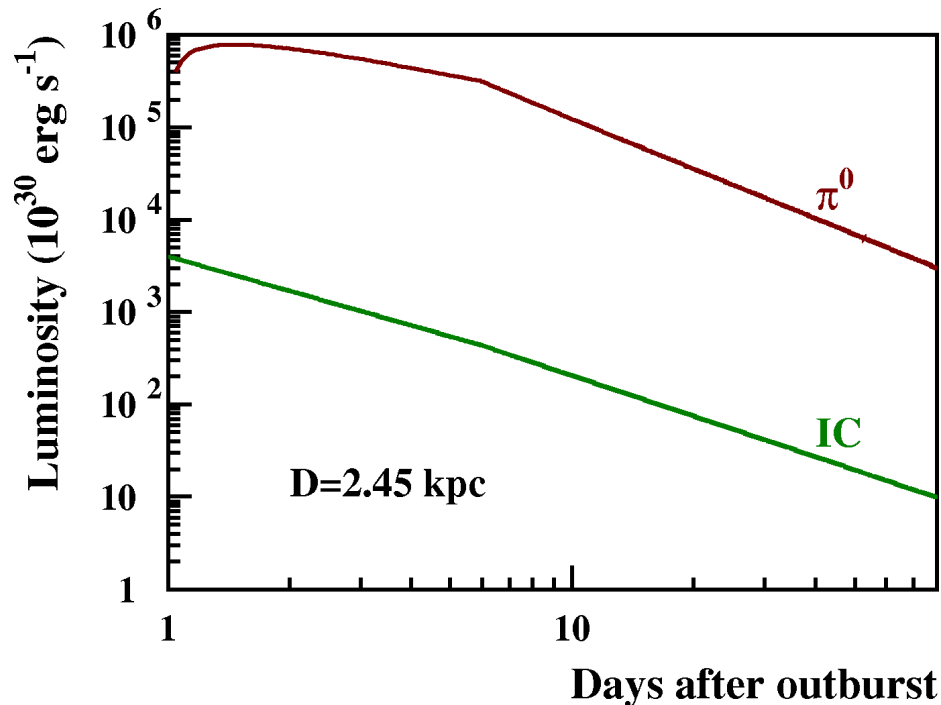
# Inverse Compton contribution

- Radiation fields:**

Red giant:  $L_{RG} = 5.1 \times 10^{36} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$   
(Skopal et al. 2007)

Ejecta:  $L_{ej} \sim L_{Edd} = 2 \times 10^{38} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$   
(residual H burning on the WD)

- $E_{e, \text{max}}$  limited by radiative losses



- Nonthermal synchrotron:**

Main component at  $\nu < 1.4 \text{ GHz}$

$$\Rightarrow L_{\text{syn}} \sim 5 \times 10^{33} t_d^{-1.3} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$$

(Kantharia et al. 2007)

- $L_{\text{IC}} = L_{\text{syn}} \times U_{\text{rad}} / (B^2 / 8\pi) \sim L_{\text{syn}}$

- $\gamma$ -rays mainly from  $\pi^0$  production**

# Known or suspected symbiotic recurrent novae

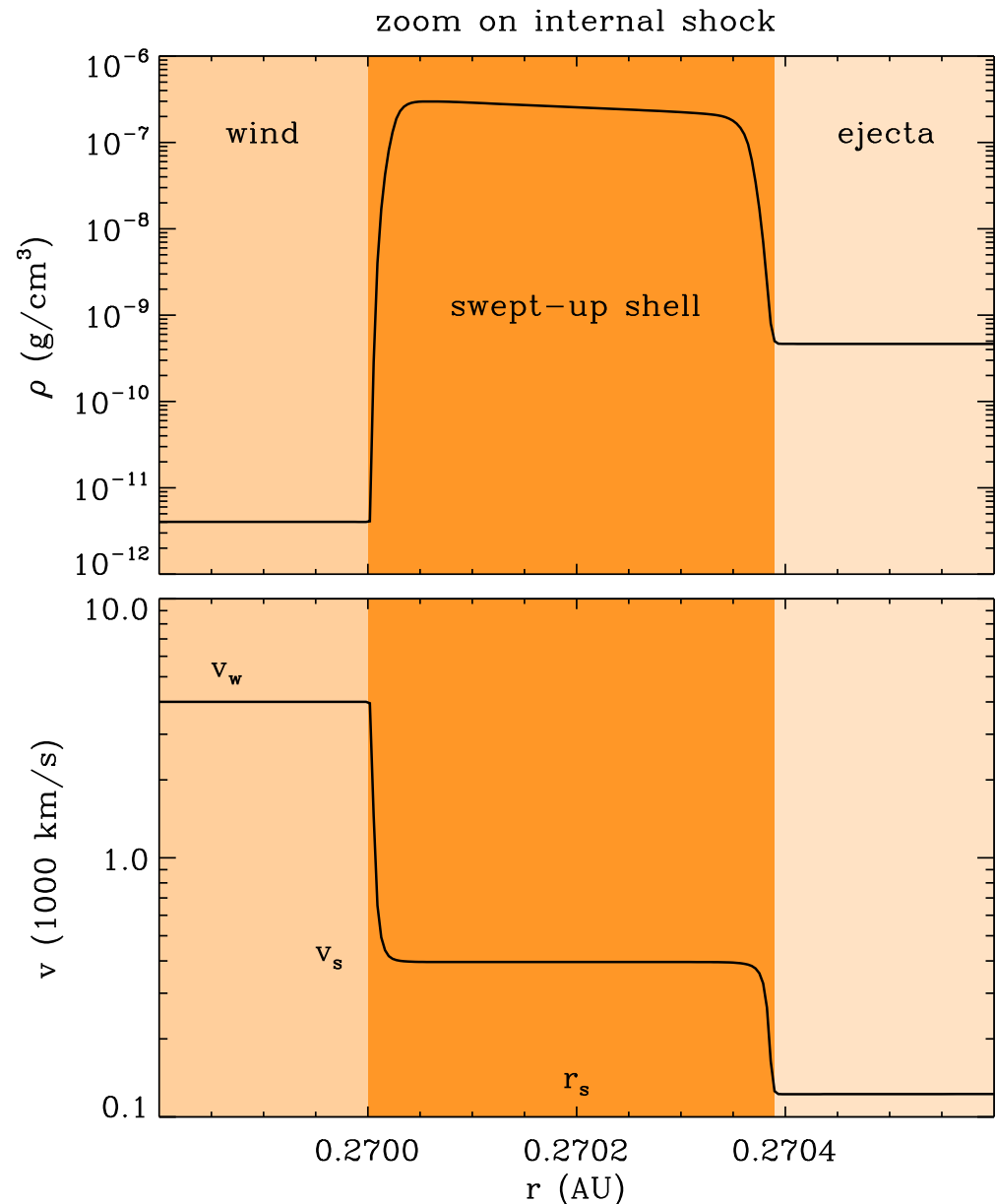
	$m_{\max}$	$m_{\min}$	Dist (kpc)	Sec. type	Outburst (years)
T CrB	2.0p	10.2v	1.3	M3III	1866, 1946
RS Oph	5.0v	11.5v	2.4	M0/2III	1898, 1907, 1933, 1945, 1958, 1967, 1985, 2006
V3890 Sgr	8.2v	17.0:	5.2	M5III	1962, 1990
V745 Sco	9.6v	19.0:	8	M6III	1937, 1989, 2014
<b>V407 Cyg</b>	<b>6.9v</b>	<b>13-16v</b>	<b>2.7</b>	<b>M6III (Mira)</b>	<b>1936, 2010</b>
V723 Sco	9.8p	19.0j		NIR ph. [1]	1952
EU Sct	8.4p	18p		- [2]	1949
V3645 Sgr	12.6p	18.0p		- [2]	1970
V1172 Sgr	9.0p	18.0j		- [2,3]	1951

[1] Harrison et al. (1992); [2] Weight et al. (1994); [3] Hoard et al. (2002)

- ~ 340 CN outbursts detected since 1850  $\Rightarrow$  ~5% in red giant sec.
- Galactic nova rate: 20-40 yr<sup>-1</sup> (~10% detected)  $\Rightarrow$  ~1-2 yr<sup>-1</sup> with RG
- GLAST would detect a burst like RS Oph (2006) at  $D_{\max} = 10.5$  kpc  
 $\Rightarrow$  GLAST should detect ~1 RS Oph-like nova per year (prediction 2008)

# Gamma-ray emission in classical novae

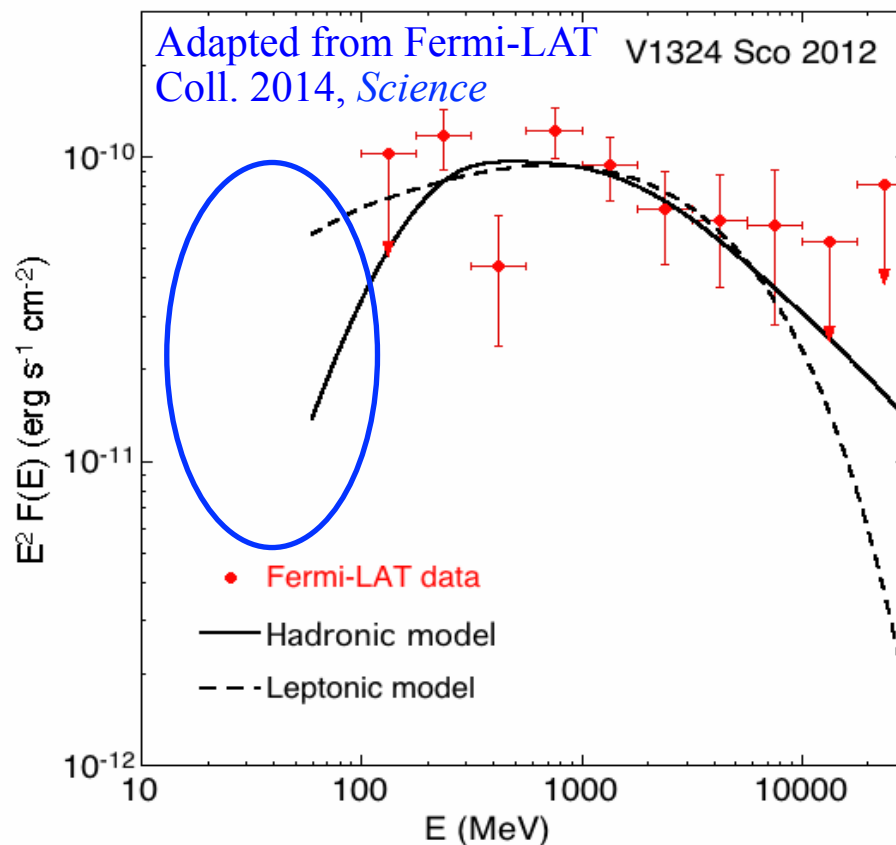
- **Internal shocks** from the collision of a fast, radiation-driven wind and slower nova ejecta (see Metzger et al. 2014, 2015 and references therein)
- $\gamma$ -rays from particles accelerated at the **reverse shock** and undergoing **hadronic** interactions in the dense layer downstream (Martin et al. 2017, in prep.)
- Model fitted to Fermi-LAT data of six novae (V407 Cyg, V1324 Sco, V959 Mon, V339 Del, V5668 Sgr)
- Diversity in  $\gamma$ -ray properties can be explained by that of the **nova wind properties**



# e-ASTROGAM Gamma-ray novae

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- With a sensitivity of  $\sim 10^{-11}$  erg cm $^{-2}$  s $^{-1}$  at 30 MeV in 10 days, **e-ASTROGAM** will detect several  $\gamma$ -ray novae in the inner Galaxy and clearly **distinguish the hadronic and leptonic** components



**e-ASTROGAM**  
at the heart of the extreme Universe

Proposal submitted for the ESA M5 Mission Programme  
October 5, 2016

Lead Proposer: A. De Angelis  
Co-Lead Proposer: V. Tatischeff

This proposal is presented on behalf of the e-ASTROGAM collaboration by:

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See *Exp. Astron.* (June 2017) &  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1611.02232>