



Max-Planck-Institut  
für Astrophysik

# **Structure of the gas in the Milky Way: X-ray absorption in the cold, warm and hot ISM**

**Efrain Gatzuz**

(MPA)

with

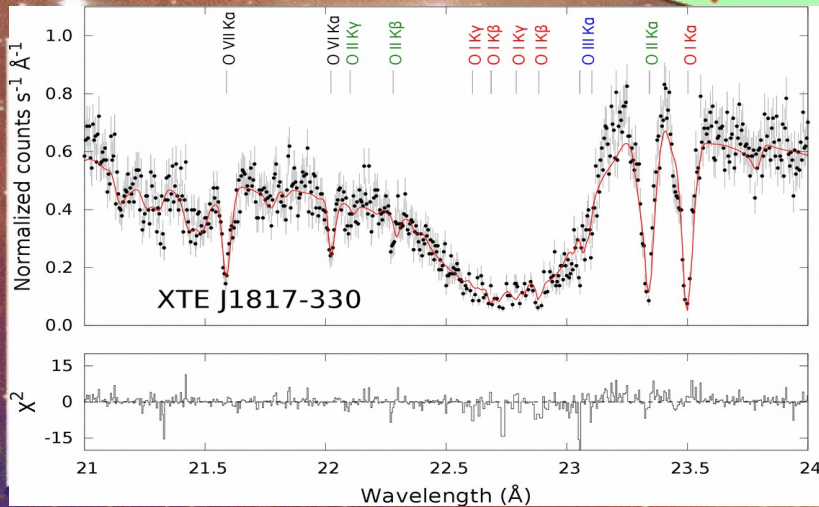
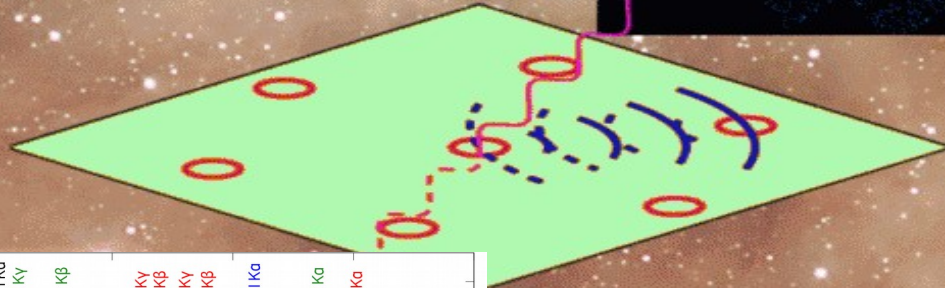
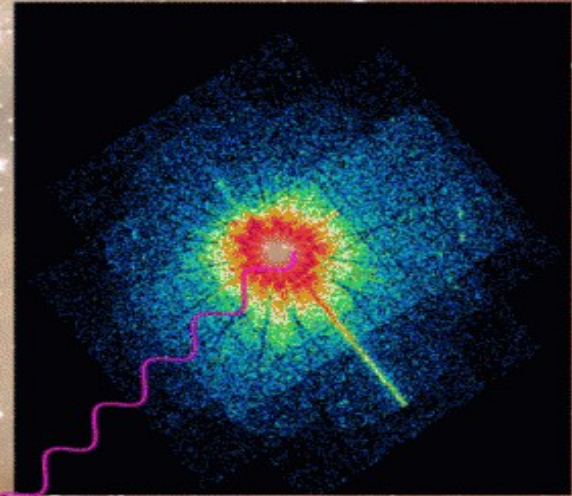
Eugene Churazov (MPA),

**The X-ray Universe 2017**

**Rome, Italy**

**9 June 2017**

# High-Resolution X-ray Spectroscopy

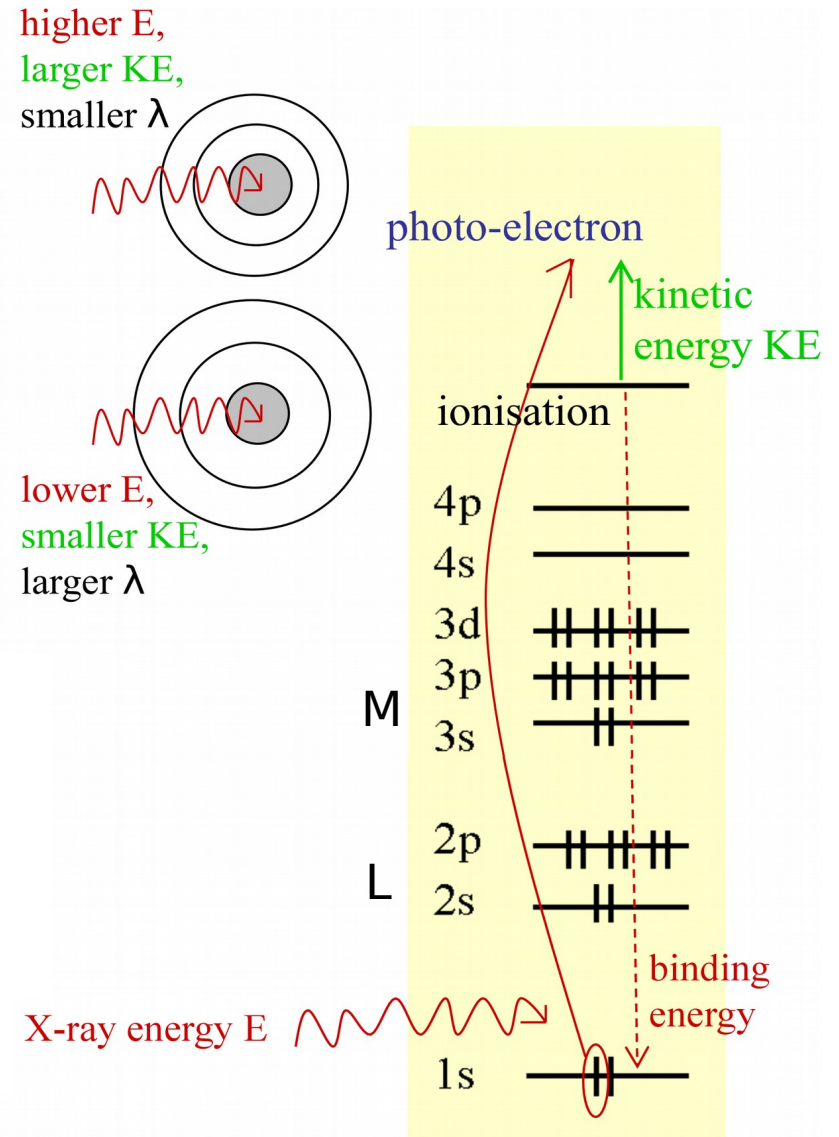


# X-Ray Photoabsorption

- The atom is excited by a photon.
- There is one **photoabsorption cross-section** for each ion.
- There are two decay processes:

**X-ray fluorescence**

**Auger effect.**



**ISM ABSORPTION AFFECTS ALL X-RAY SPECTRA!**

# Ionization Equilibrium: *Ioneq*

$$I_{obs}(E) = e^{-\tau} I_{source}(E)$$

$$\tau = \sum_{k,j} \sigma_{k,j} \cdot N_h \cdot A_k \cdot n_{k,j}$$

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$$\frac{dn_{k,j}}{dt} = (C_{k,j}) - (D_{k,j})$$

- Photoionization ([Verner et al. 1996](#)).
- Auger probabilities ([Kaastra & Mewe 1993](#)).
- Collisional ionization ([Voronov 1997](#))
- Radiative recombination ([Verner & Ferland 1996](#))
- Dielectronic recombination ([Arnaud & Rothenflug 1985](#))

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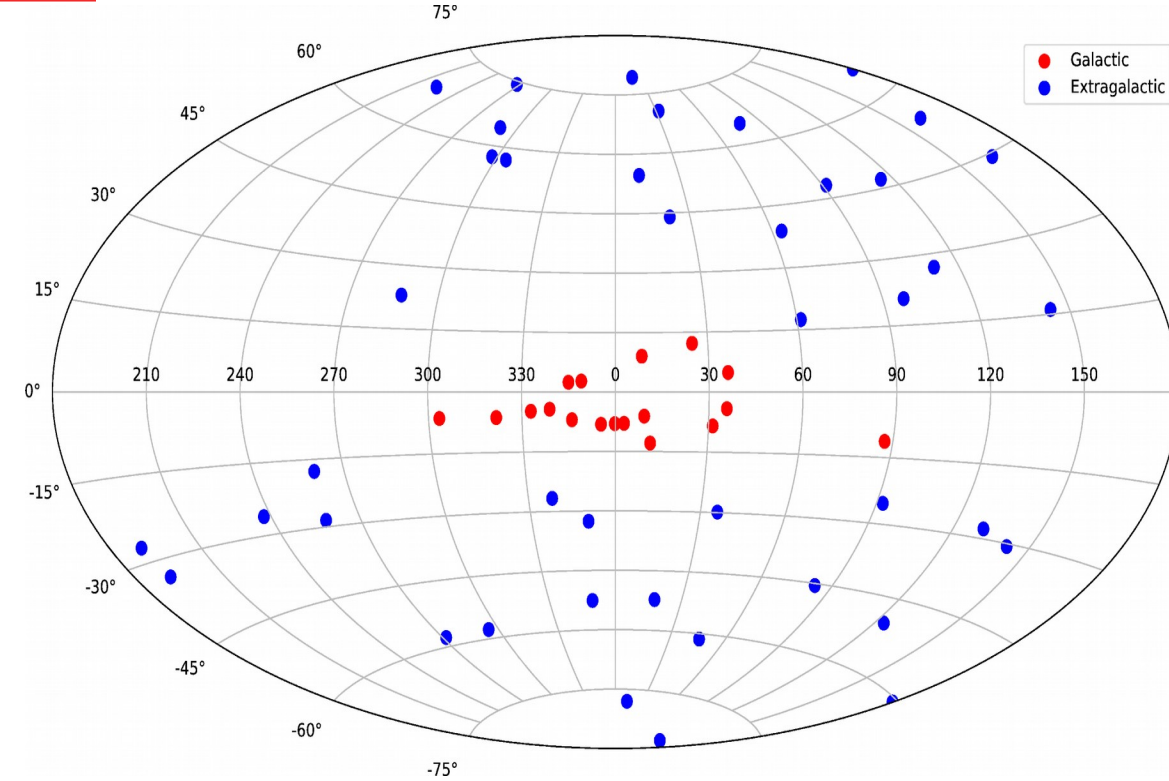
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## MODEL PARAMETERS:

- Photoionization ([Verner et al. 1996](#)).
- Auger probabilities ([Kaastra & Mewe 1993](#)).
- Collisional ionization ([Voronov 1997](#))
- Radiative recombination ([Verner & Ferland 1996](#))
- Dielectronic recombination ([Arnaud & Rothenflug 1985](#))
- Temperature ( $T_e$ )
- Ionization parameter ( $\xi$ )
- Hydrogen column density ( $N_h$ )
- Redshift ( $z$ )
- Turbulent broadening ( $v_{turb}$ )



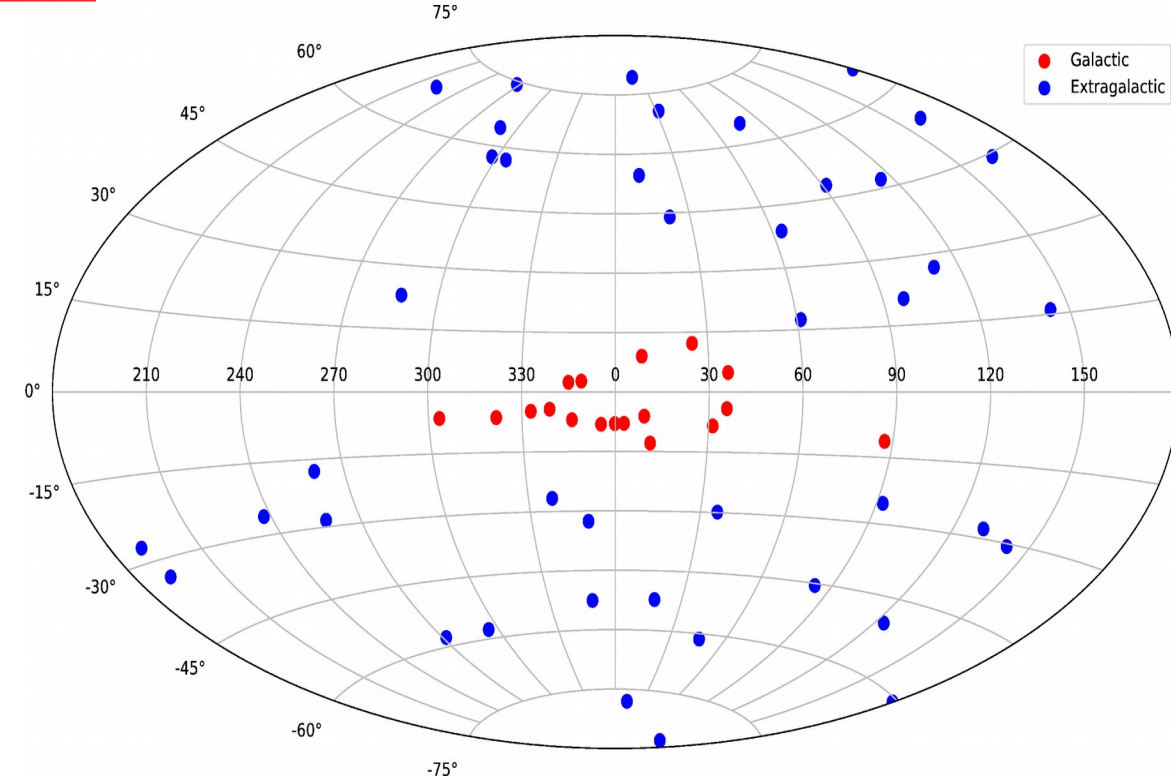
# DATA SAMPLE



Galactic Sources → LMXB  
Extragalactic Sources → Blazars

> 1000 counts in the 21-24 Å wavelength region

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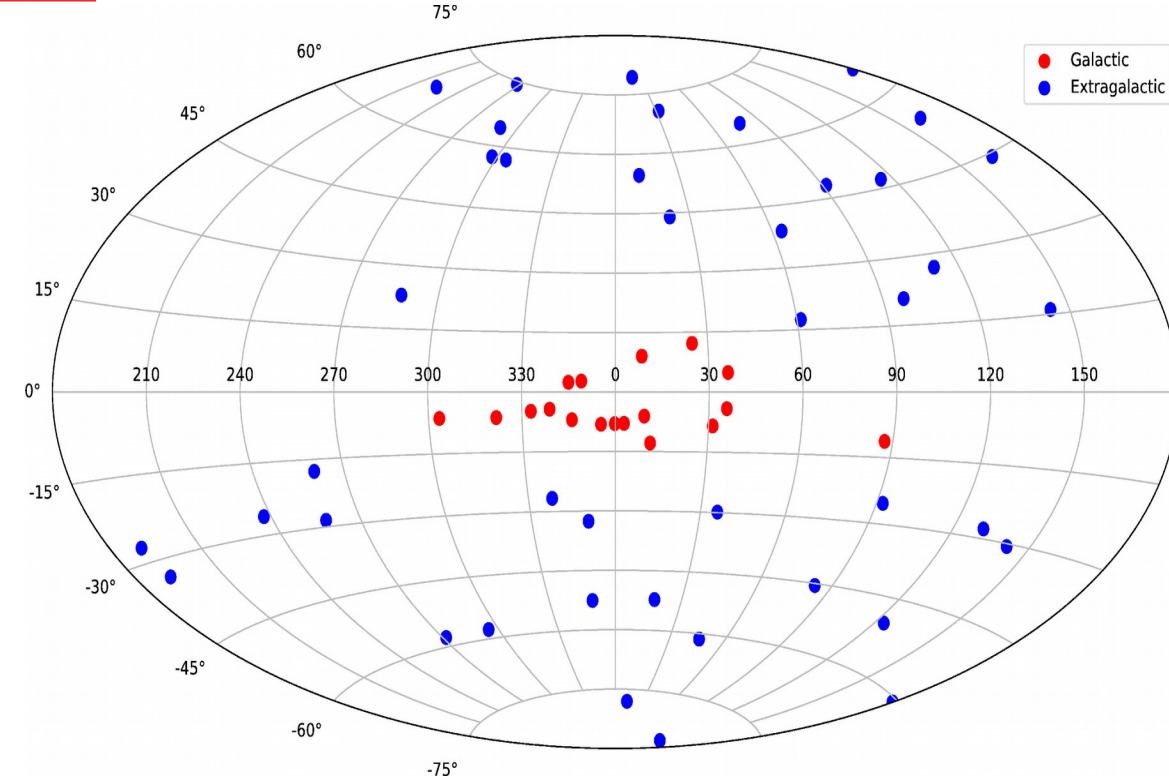
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**We did not impose additional constraints! (e.g. O VII Ka detection)**



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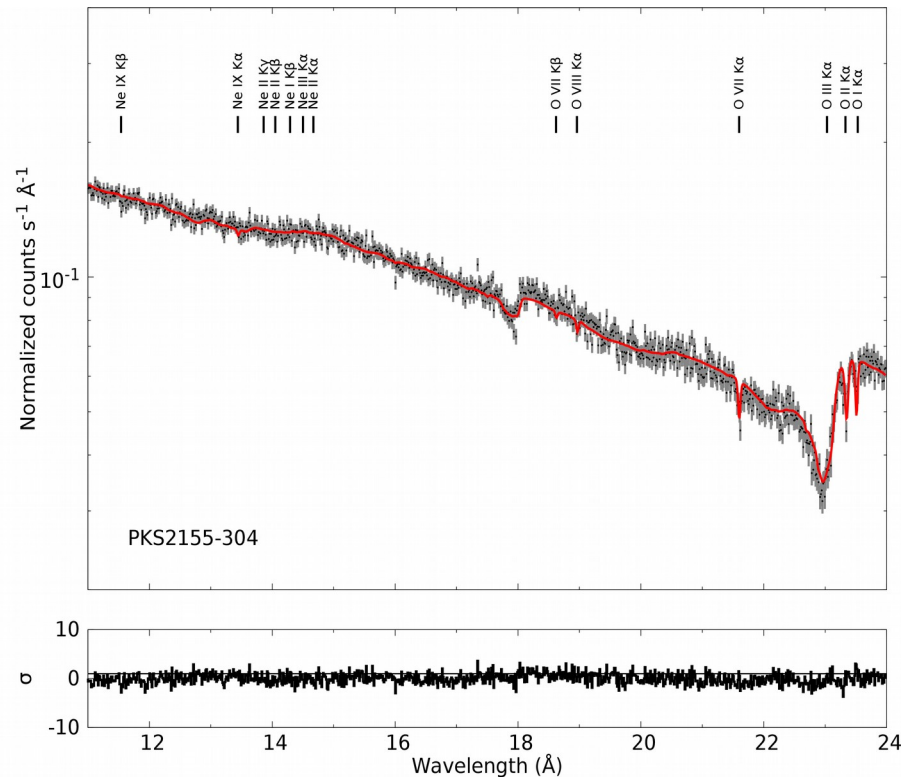
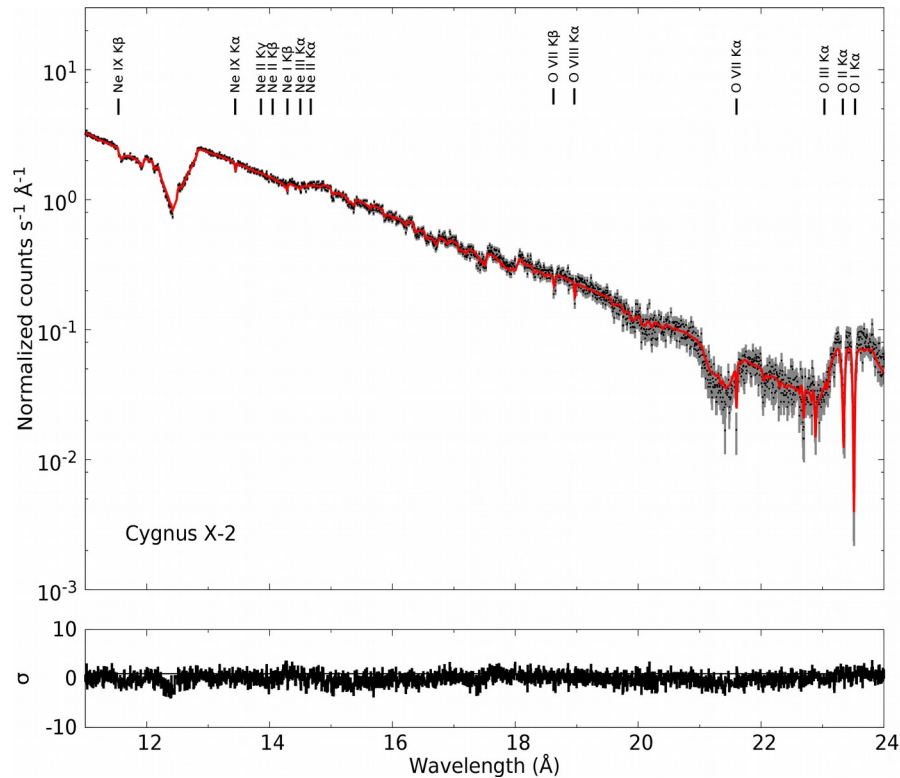
**We did not impose additional constraints! (e.g. O VII Ka detection)**

18 Galactic sources - 41 Extragalactic sources

165 observations from Chandra

257 observations from XMM-Newton

# A detailed analysis of the ISM



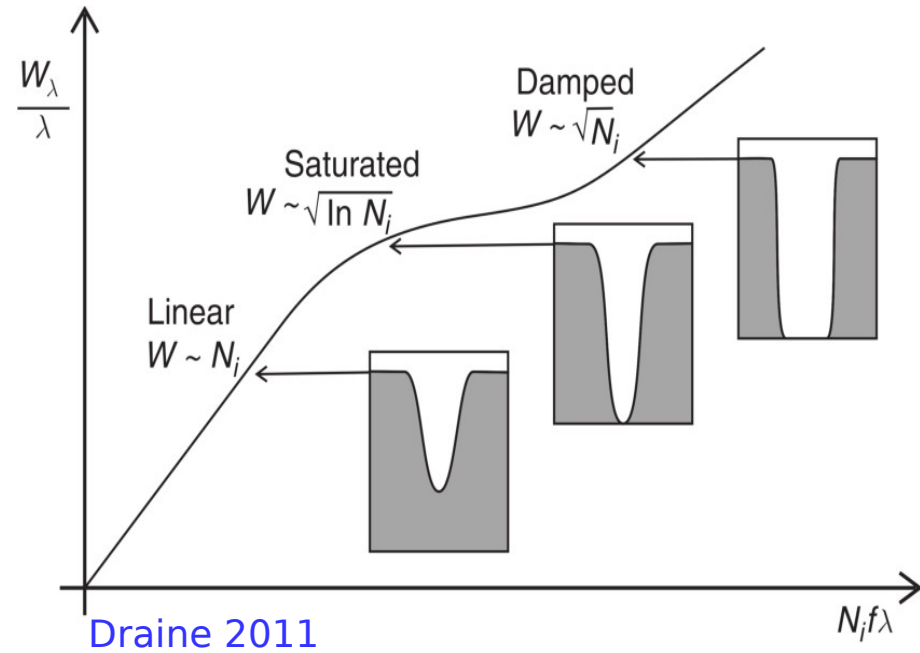
**COLD COMPONENT ( $T_e \sim 10000$  K):** O I, Ne I, Fe I, Metallic Fe

**WARM COMPONENT ( $T_e \sim 51000$  K):** O II, O III, Ne II, Ne III

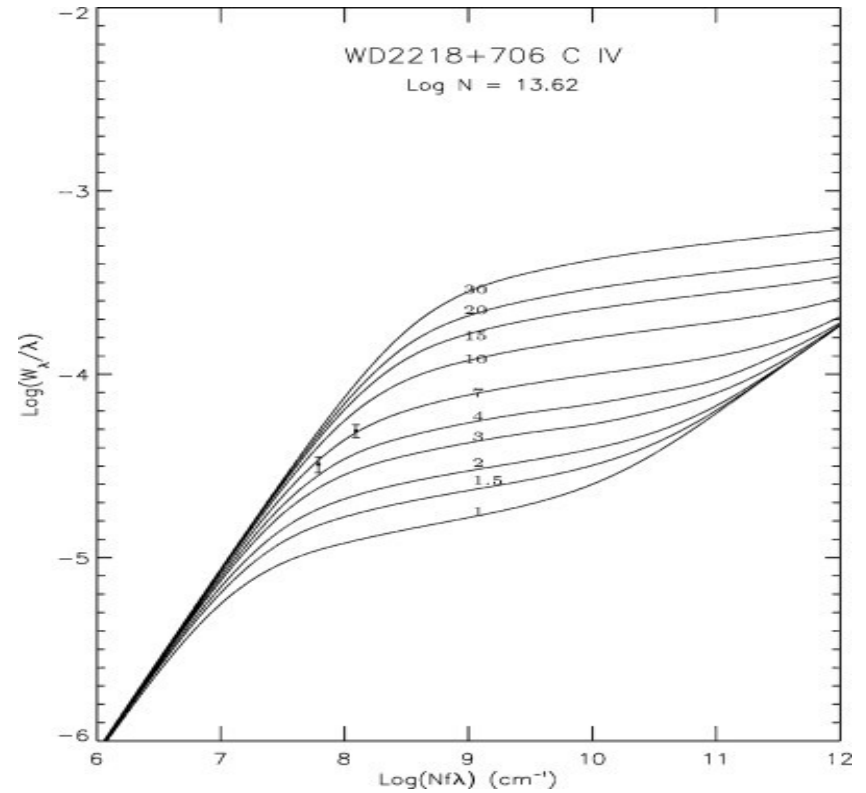
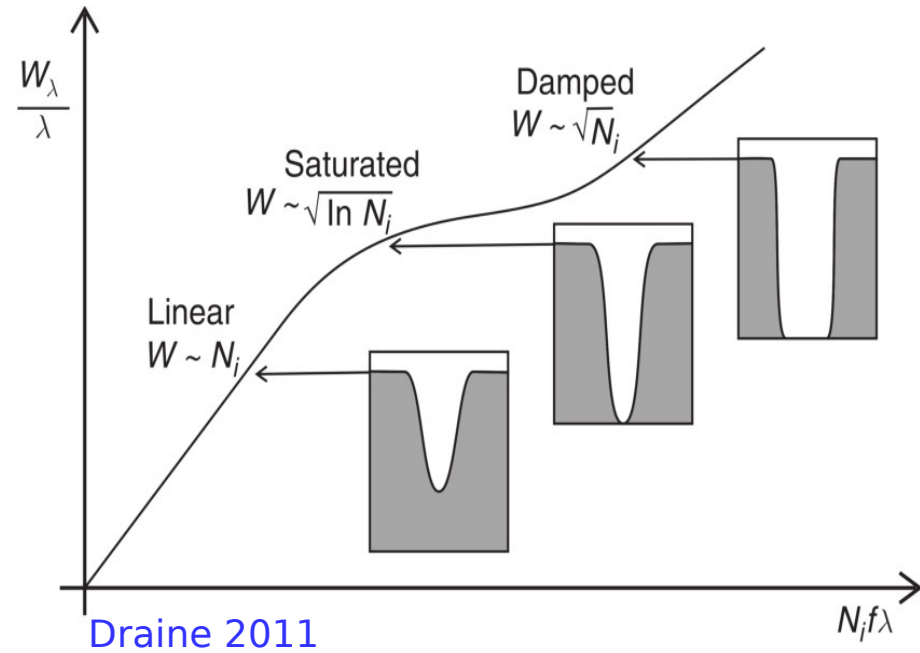
**HOT COMPONENT ( $T_e \sim 1.9$  MK):** Ne IX, O VII, O VIII

**¡COLLISIONAL IONIZATION EQUILIBRIUM!**

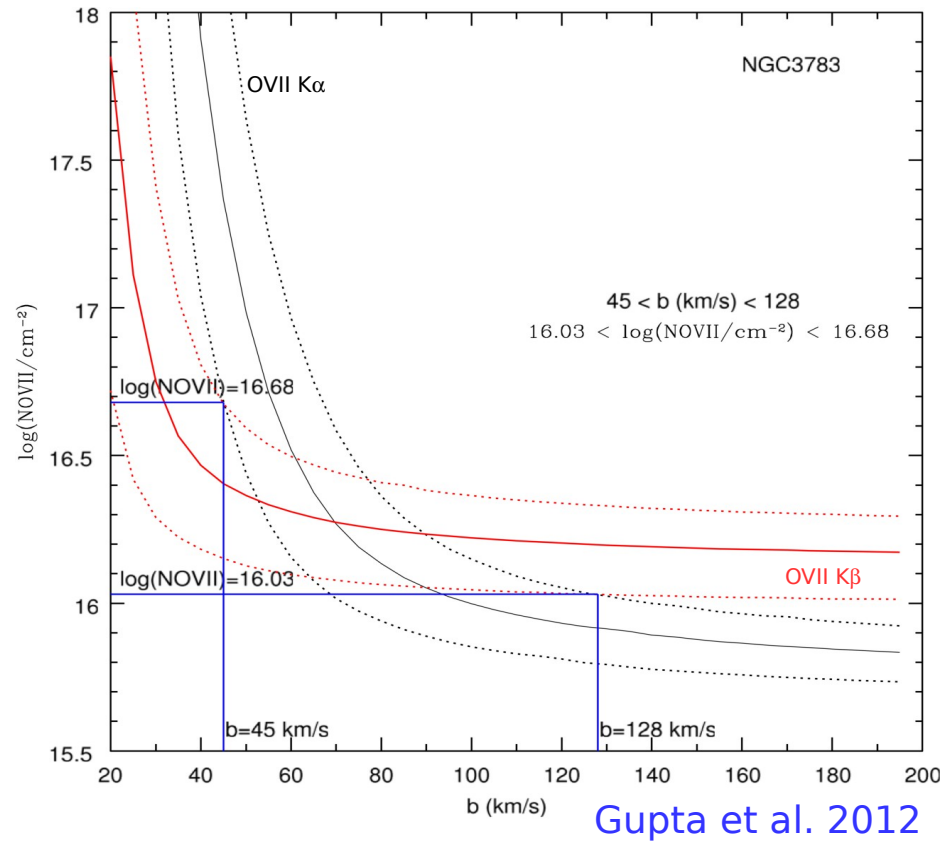
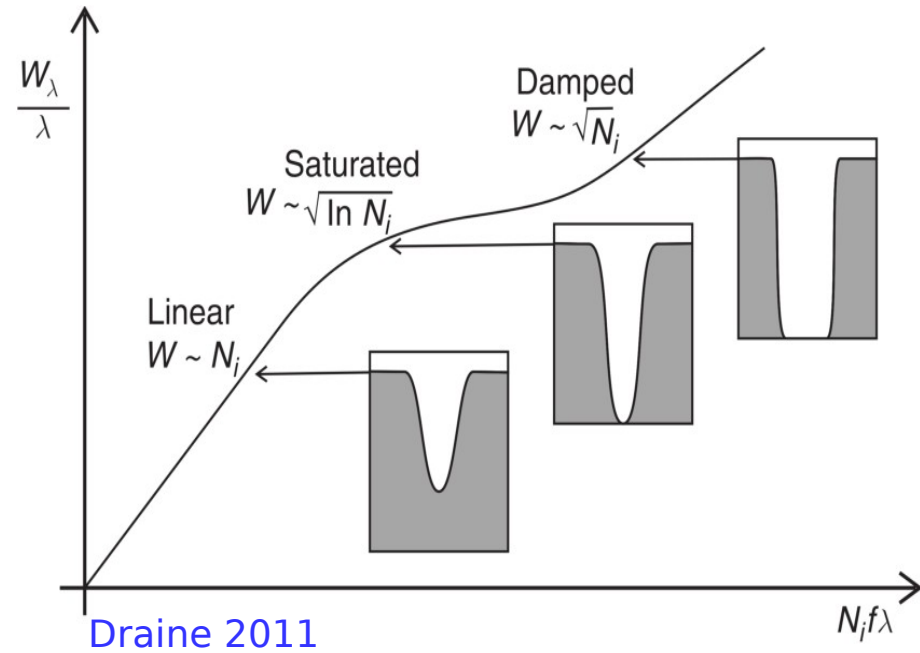
# SATURATION OF THE LINES



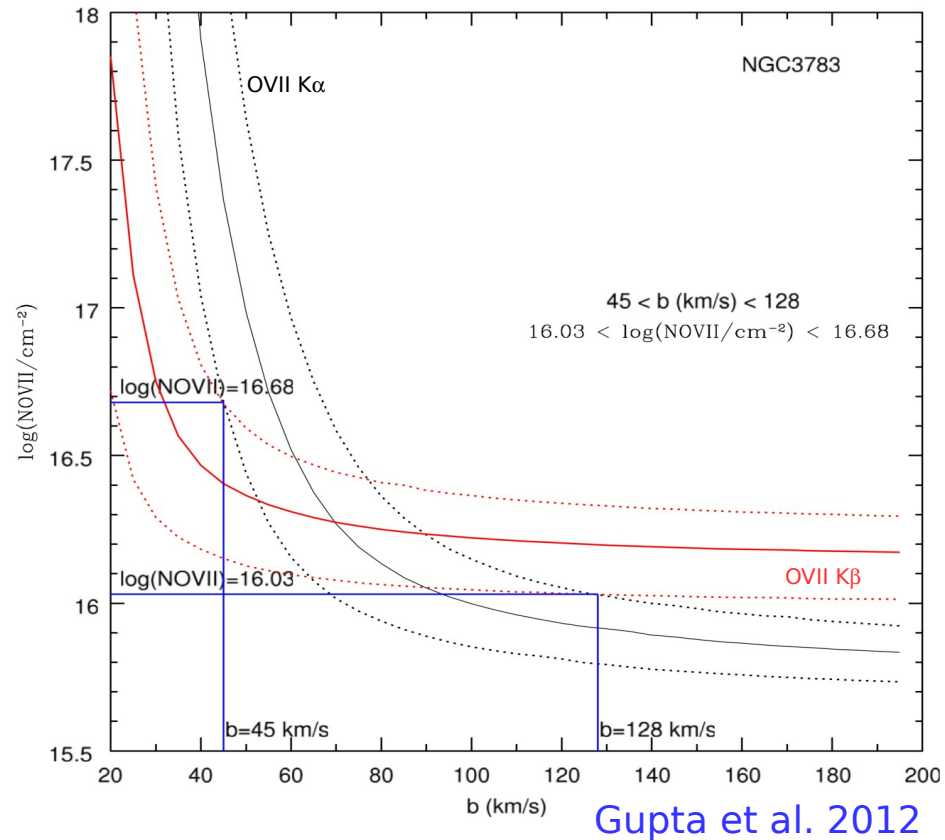
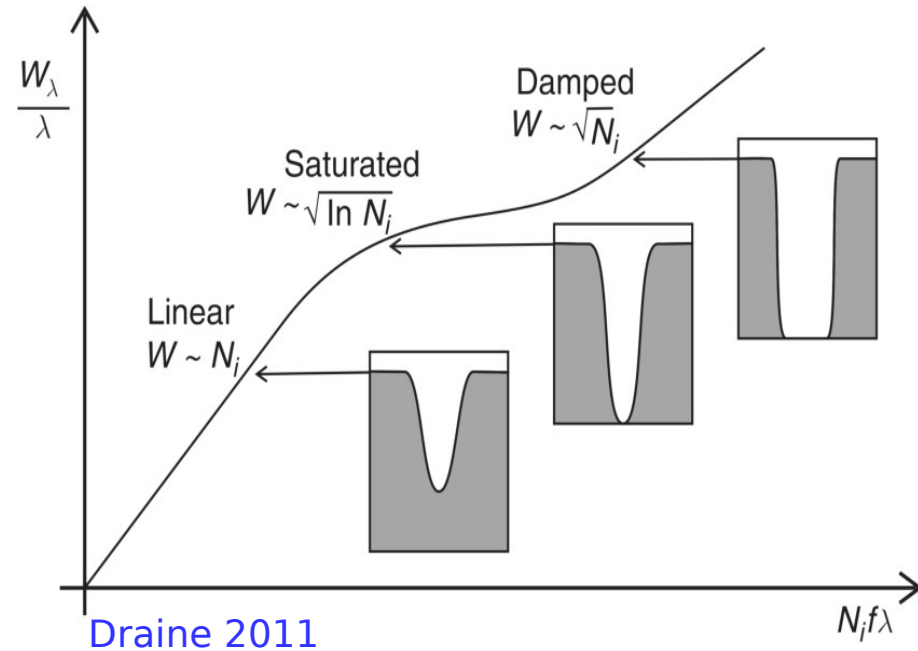
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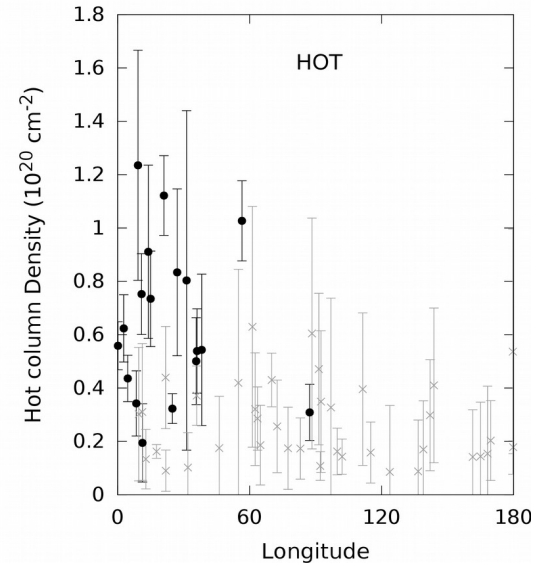
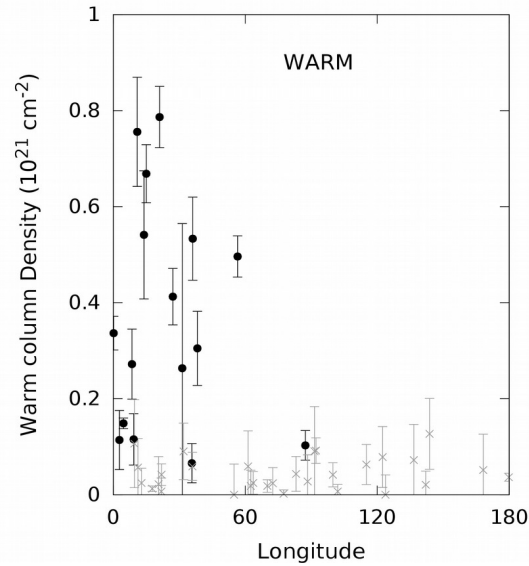
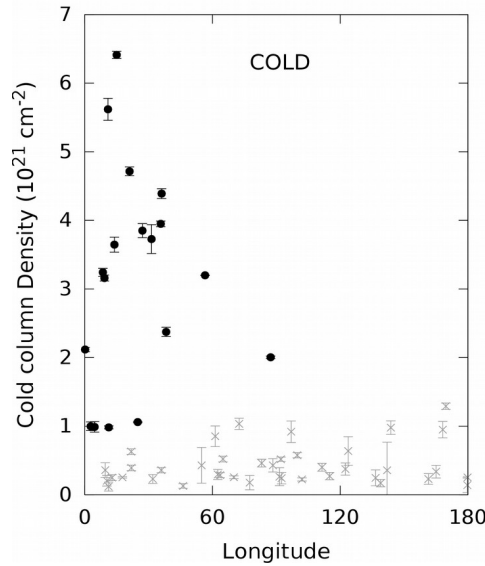
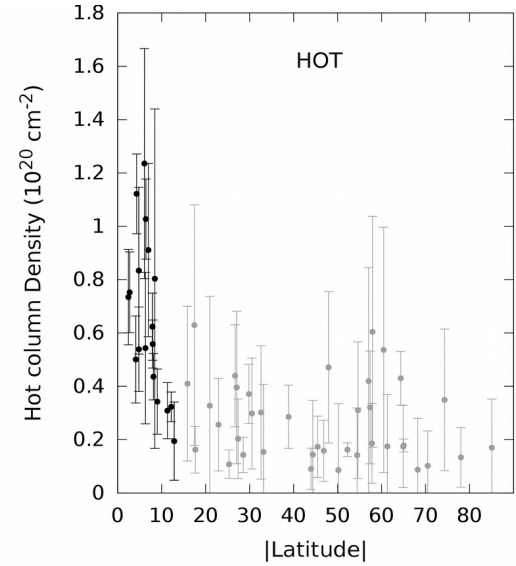
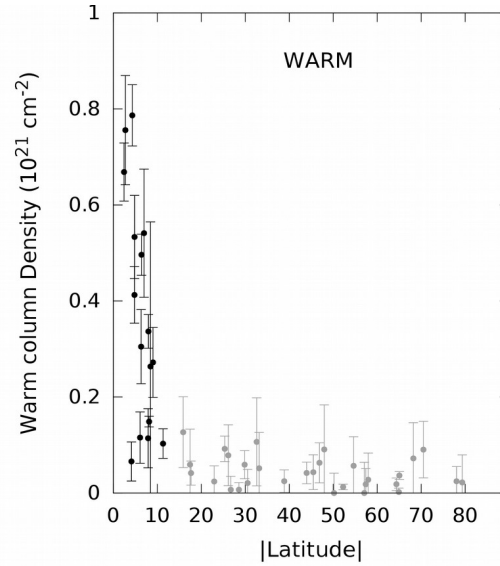
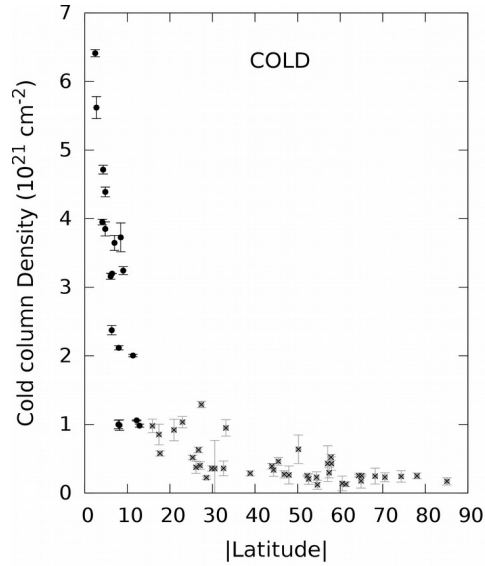


**Galactic sources:**  $v_{\text{turb}} = 75 \text{ km/s}$  (cold-warm)  $v_{\text{turb}} = 60 \text{ km/s}$  (hot)

**Extragalactic sources:**  $v_{\text{turb}} = 60 \text{ km/s}$  (cold-warm)  $v_{\text{turb}} = 110 \text{ km/s}$  (hot)



# DISTRIBUTION OF THE GAS



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$$N_i = \int_{\text{observer}}^{\text{source}} n_i(r) dr$$

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**COLD-WARM COMPONENTS** ([Robin et al. 2003](#))

$$n(r) = n_0 e^{-\left(\frac{R}{R_c}\right)} e^{-\left(\frac{|z|}{z_c}\right)}$$

$$R^2 = r^2 \cos^2 b - 2rR_{\text{sun}} \cos b \cos l + R_{\text{sun}}^2 \quad z = r^2 \sin^2(b)$$

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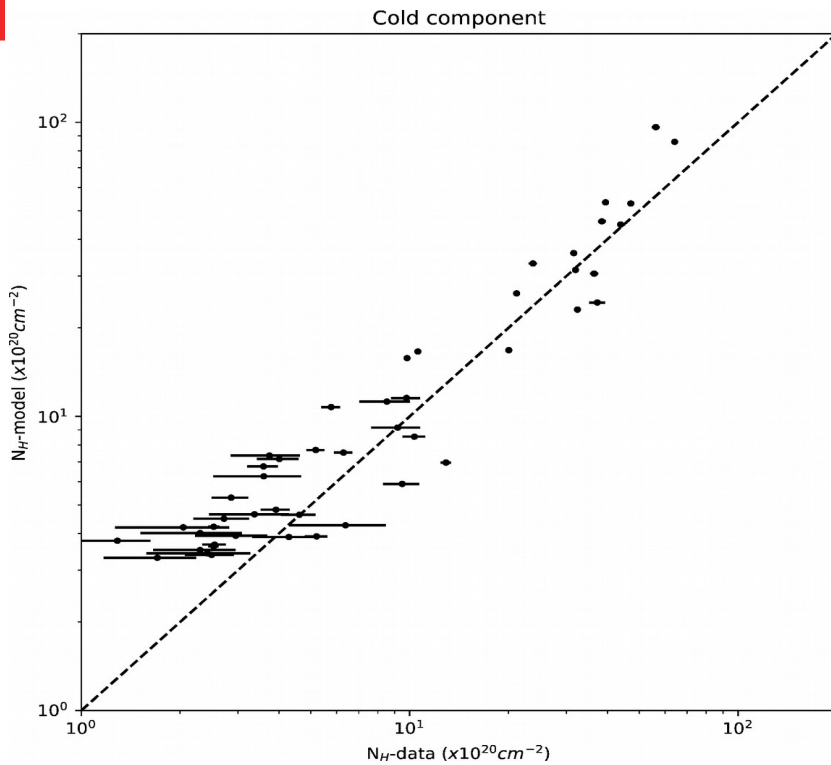
**HOT COMPONENT** (Nicastro et al. 2016)

$$n(r) = n_{\text{flat}}(r) + n_{\text{sph}}(r)$$

$$n_{\text{flat}}(r) = \frac{n_{0,\text{flat}}}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{R}{R_{c,\text{flat}}}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{z_{c,\text{flat}}}\right)^2\right]^{3\beta_{\text{flat}}/2}}$$

$$n_{\text{sph}}(r) = \frac{n_{0,\text{sph}}}{\left[1 + \left(\frac{r}{r_{c,\text{sph}}}\right)^2\right]^{3\beta_{\text{sph}}/2}}$$

# DENSITY PROFILES

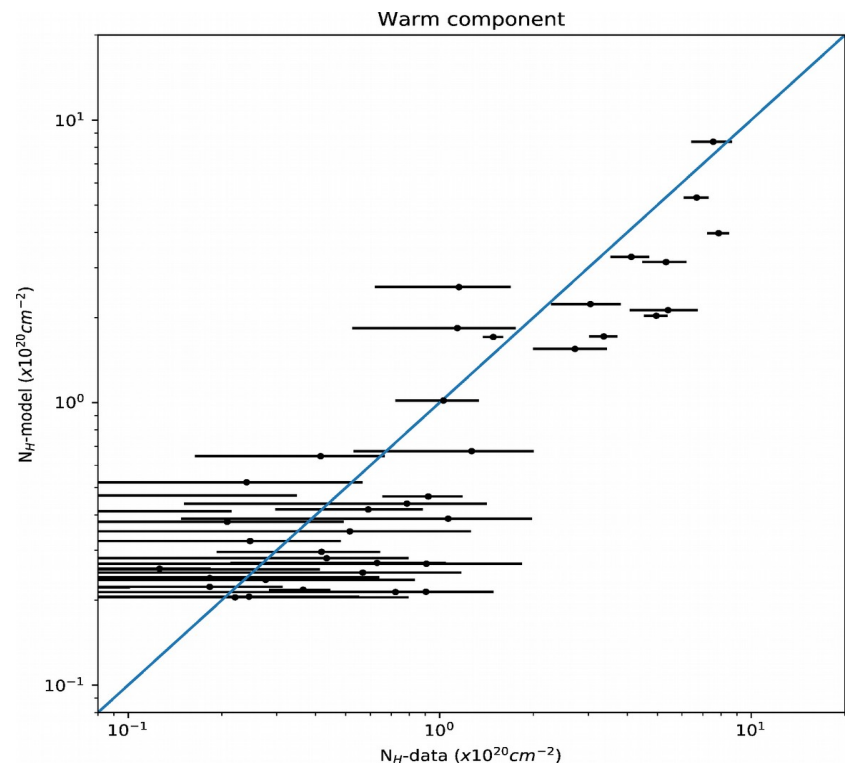


$$n_0 = (10.28 \pm 5.14) \text{cm}^{-3}$$

$$R_c = (4.46 \pm 2.23) \text{kpc}$$

$$z_c = (0.34 \pm 0.10) \text{kpc}$$

$$\chi/d.o.f = 67.2/56$$



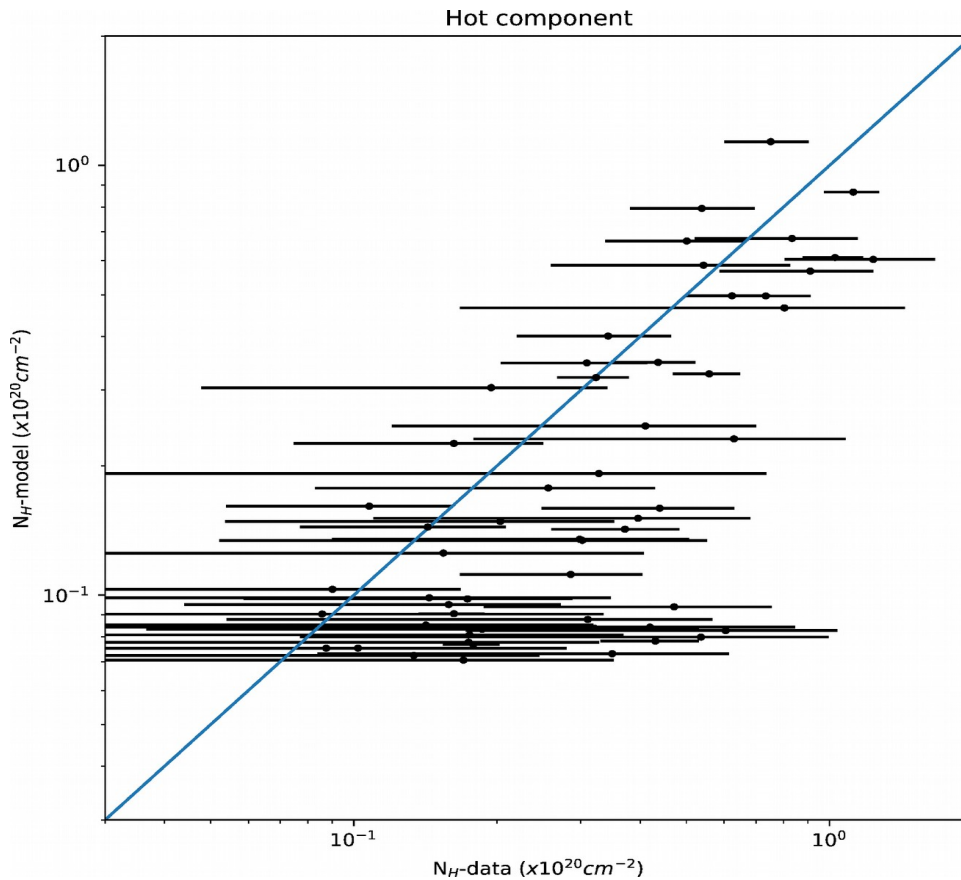
$$n_0 = (1.25 \pm 1.14) \text{cm}^{-3}$$

$$R_c = (2.91 \pm 1.02) \text{kpc}$$

$$z_c = (0.10 \pm 0.01) \text{kpc}$$

$$\chi/d.o.f = 72.8/56$$

# DENSITY PROFILES



$$n_{0,flat} = (0.48 \pm 0.17) \times 10^{-2} \text{cm}^{-3}$$

$$R_{c,flat} = (50) \text{kpc}$$

$$z_{c,flat} = (0.41 \pm 0.12) \text{kpc}$$

$$\beta_{flat} = (0.96 \pm 0.47)$$

$$n_{0,sph} = (2.06 \pm 0.37) \times 10^{-2} \text{cm}^{-3}$$

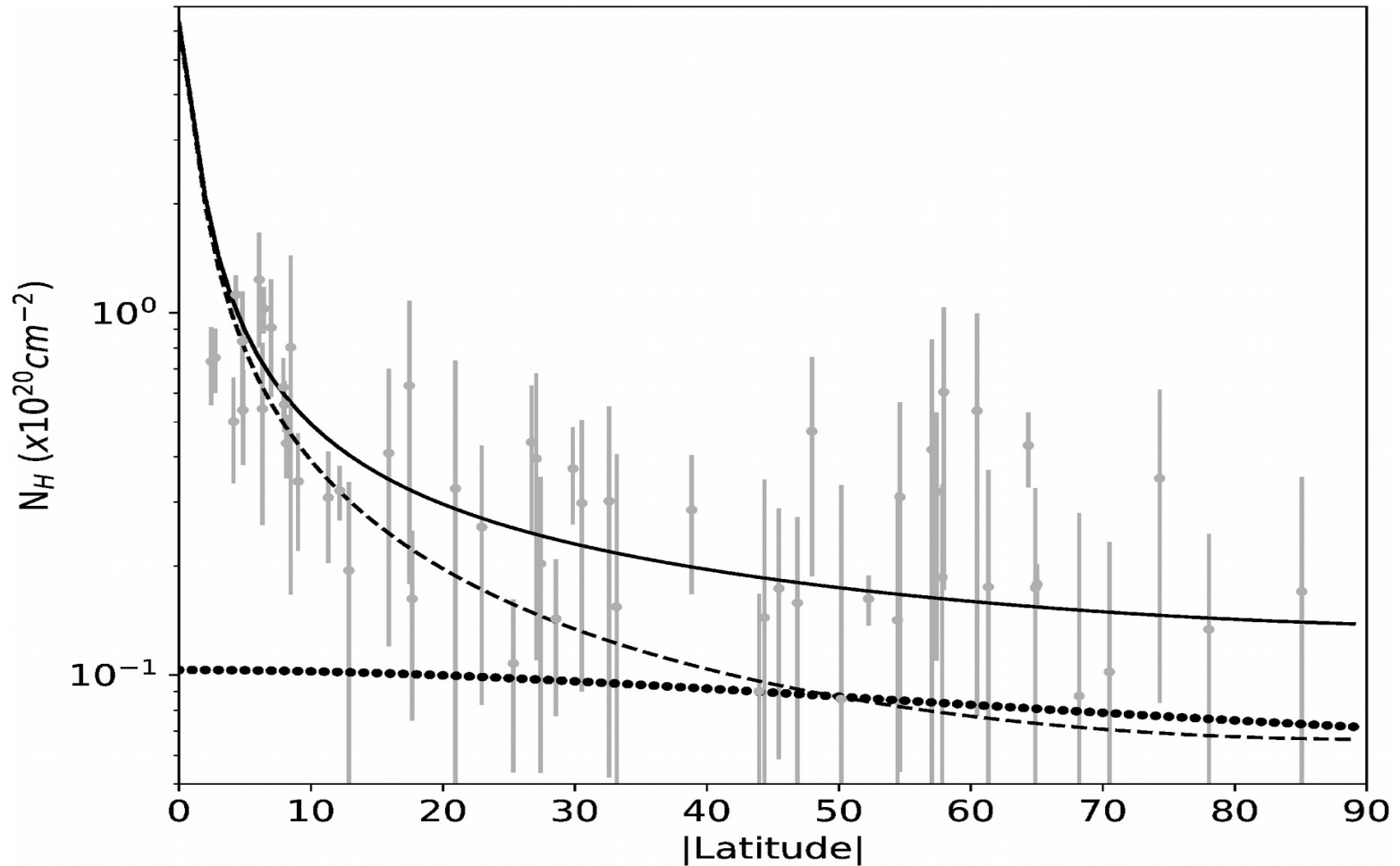
$$r_{c,sph} = (2) \text{kpc}$$

$$\beta_{sph} = (0.78 \pm 0.29)$$

$$\chi/d.o.f = 78.6/54$$

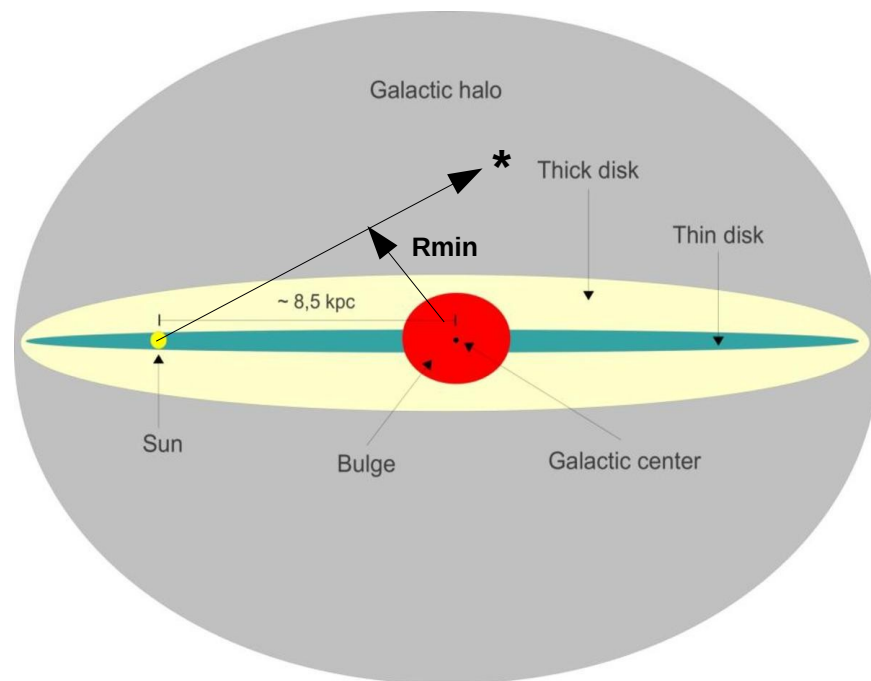
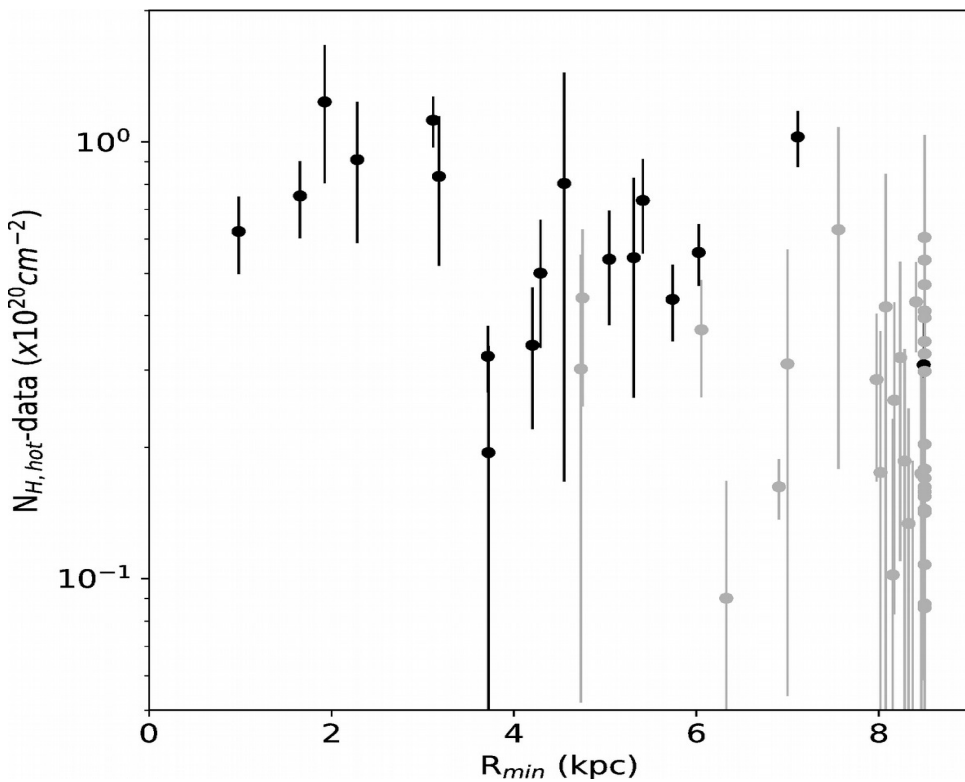


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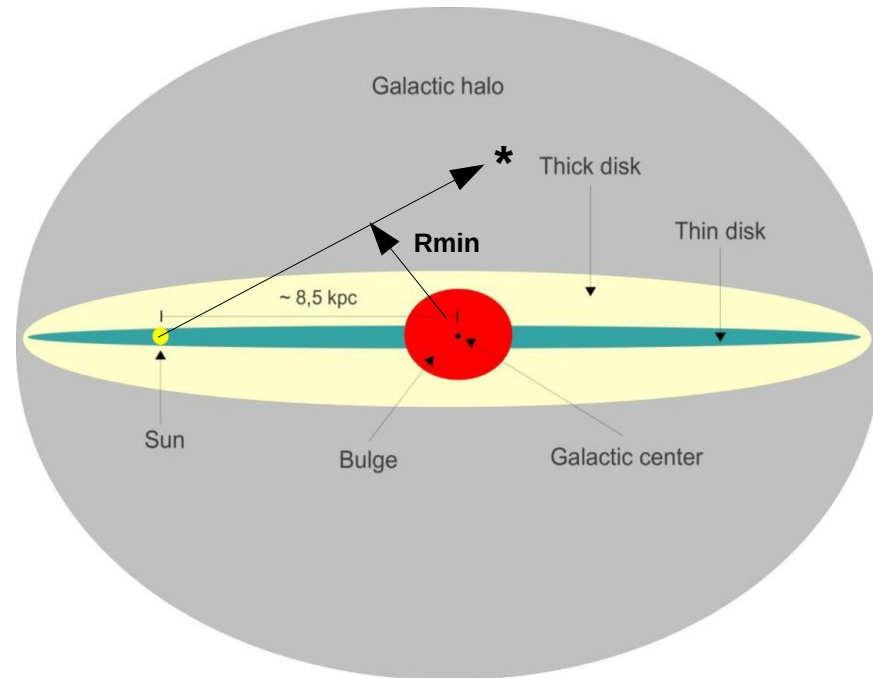
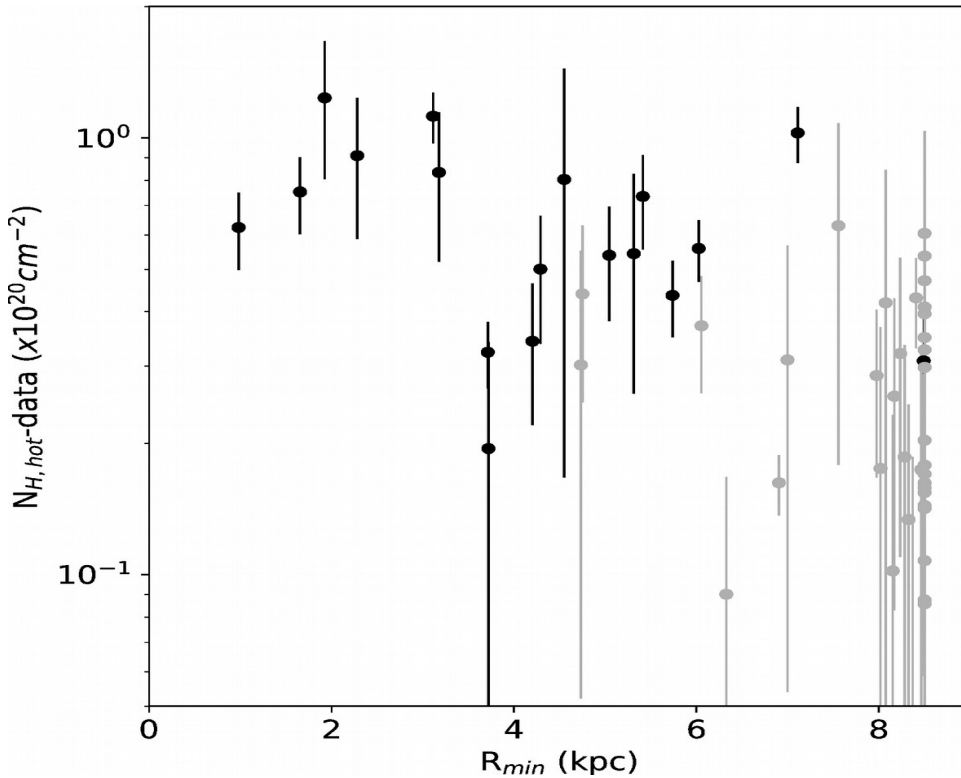


— Total density profile    - - - Flattened component    ··· Spherical component

# DENSITY PROFILES



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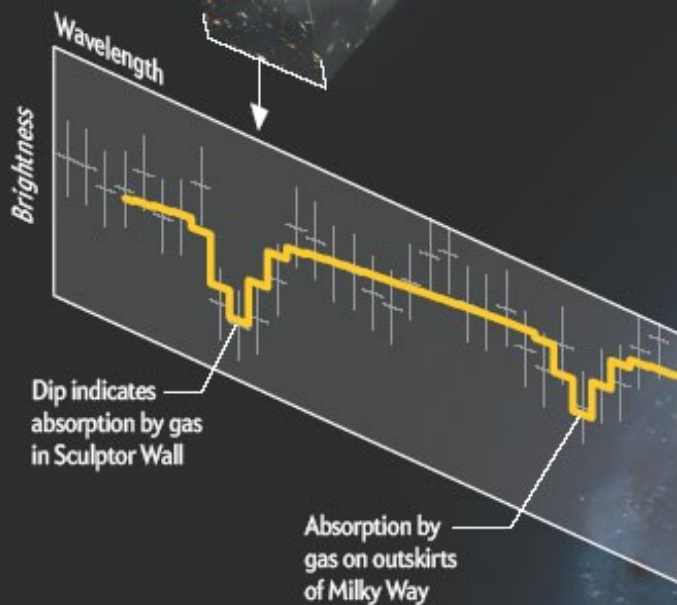
**WE DO NOT HAVE ENOUGH INFORMATION IN ORDER TO  
CONSTRAIN THE GALACTIC CENTER PROPERTIES!**

# Betrayed by Its Shadow

Astronomers think they may have found where the bulk of the normal matter in the universe lurks: not in galaxies but in a form of intergalactic gas (mostly hydrogen) called the warm-hot intergalactic medium, or WHIM. The name connotes that the gas is less than blazingly hot and, consequently, glows too feebly to see directly. Looking in the interstices of a giant filament of galaxies called the Sculptor Wall, astronomers saw, in essence, the WHIM's shadow: the gas absorbed x-rays from a background object at a distinctive wavelength.

H 2356-309  
(background  
x-ray source)

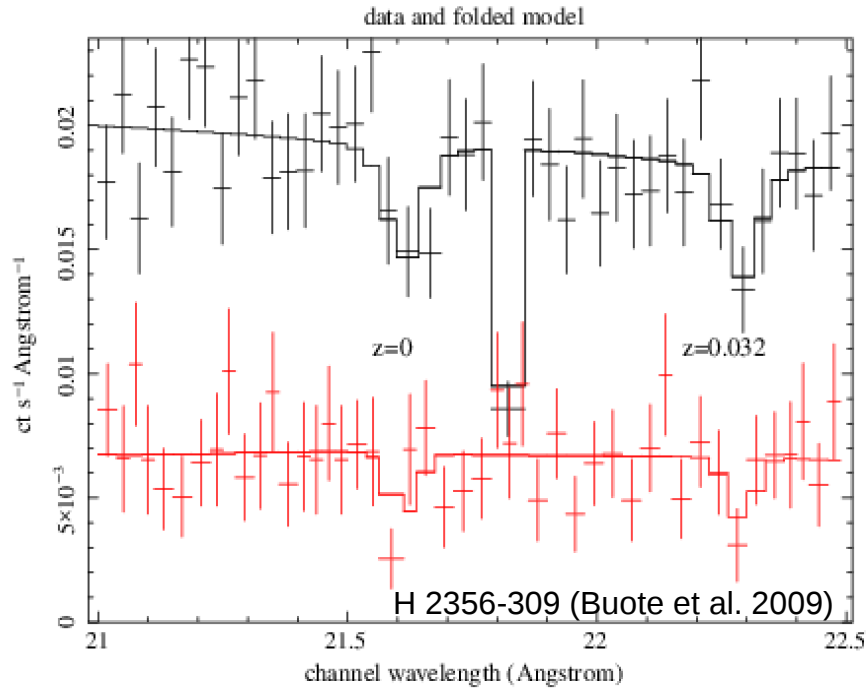
Sculptor Wall



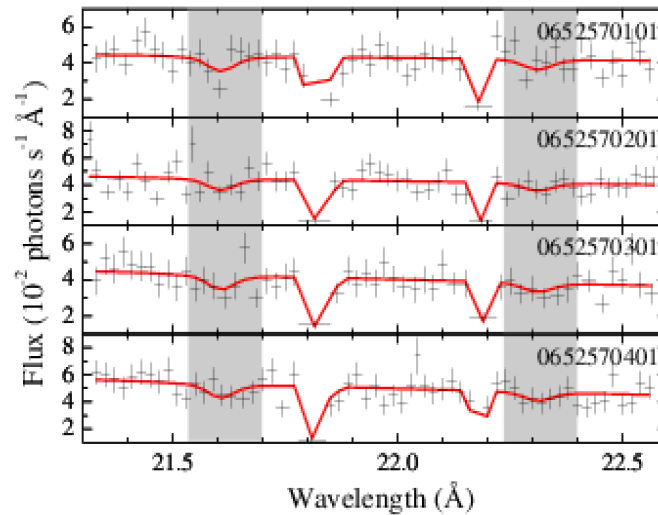
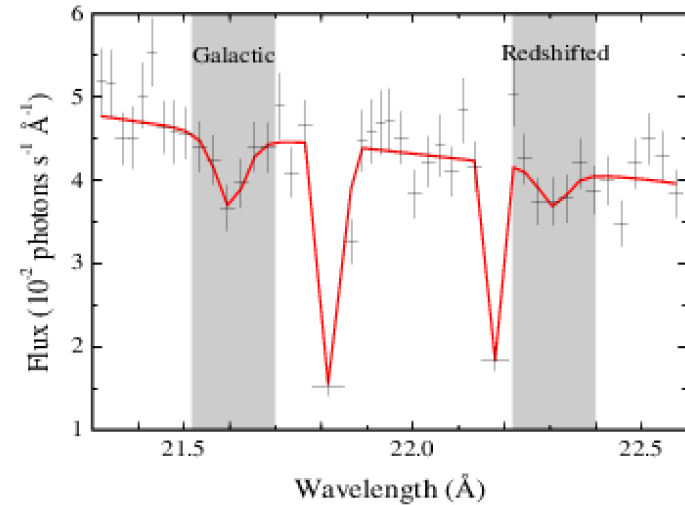
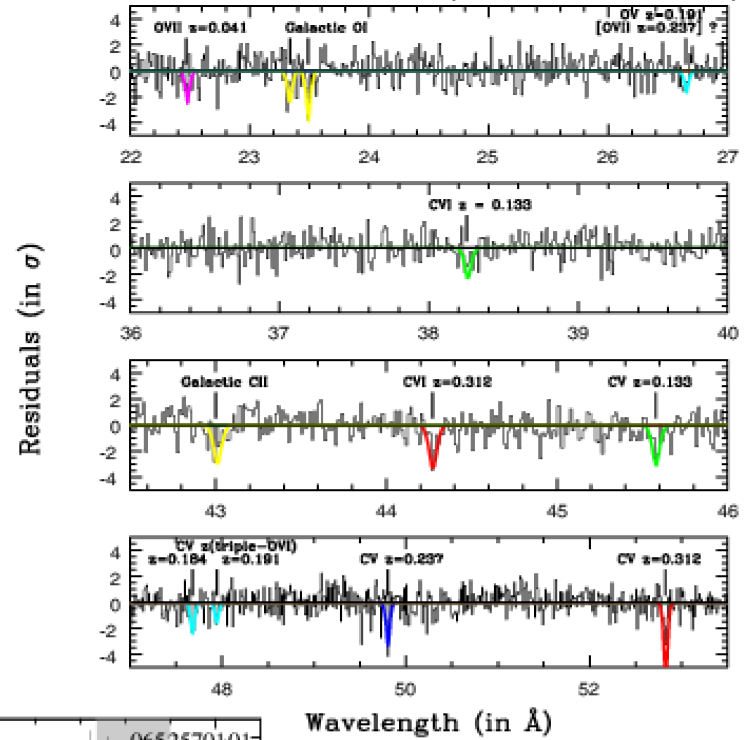
X-rays

Chandra  
X-ray Observatory

# O VII Ka AT $z \approx 0.03$ FROM WHIM



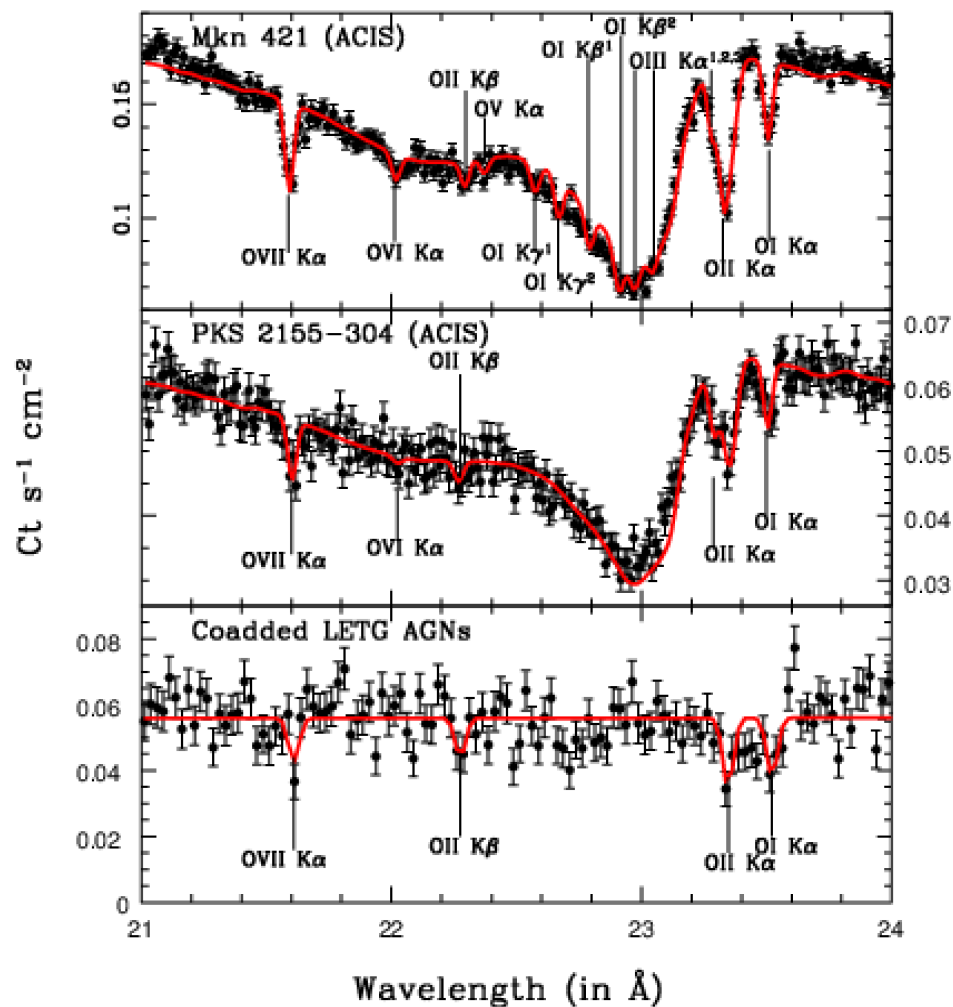
1ES 1553+113 (Nicastro et al. 2013)



Mkn 501 (Ren et al. 2014)

# ATOMIC DATA WARNING!

**O VII  $K\alpha$  at  $z \approx 0.03$  from WHIM**  
(Buote et al. 2009, Fang et al. 2010, Ren et al. 2014)



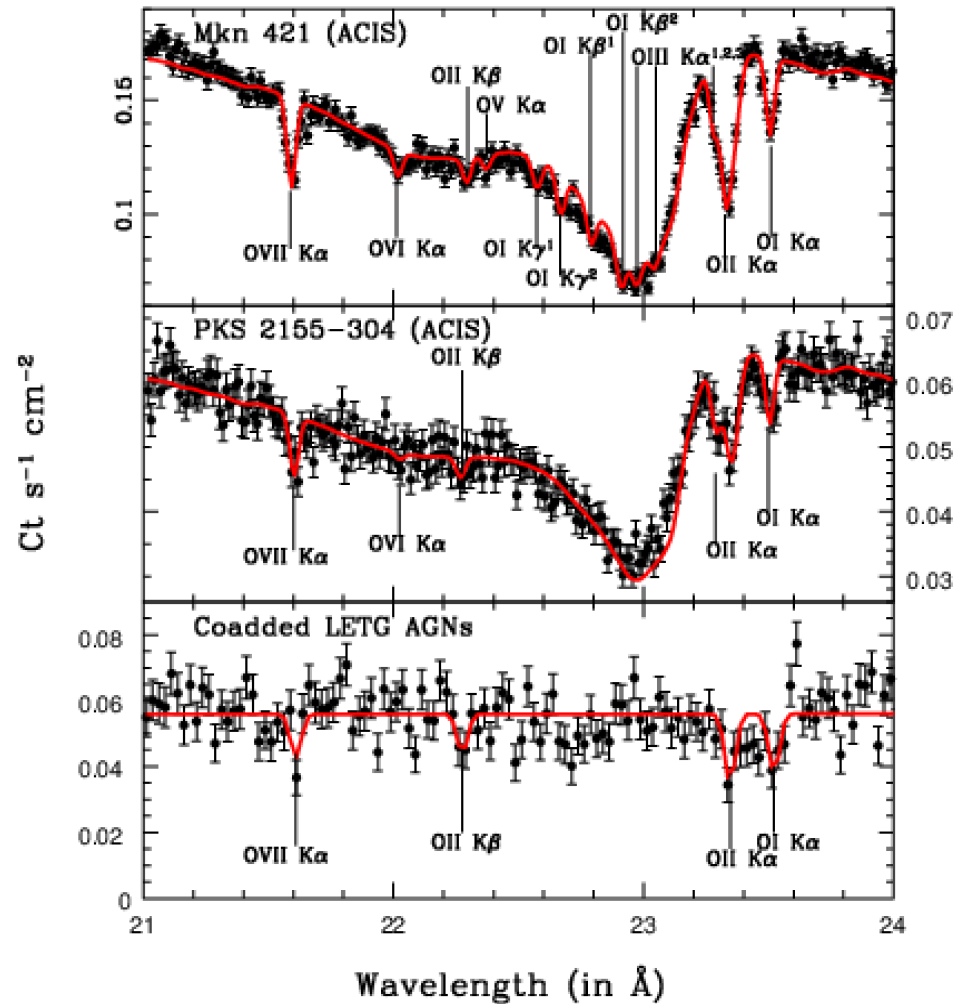


# ATOMIC DATA WARNING!

**O VII  $K\alpha$  at  $z \approx 0.03$  from WHIM**  
(Buote et al. 2009, Fang et al. 2010, Ren et al. 2014)

OR

**O II  $K\beta$  at  $z = 0$  from ISM**  
(Nicastro et al. 2016)



# Conclusions

- We have developed a new X-ray absorption model, called ***IONeq***, which consider ionization equilibrium conditions.
- We have analyzed 18 galactic and 41 extragalactic sources in order to study the X-ray absorption features due to the local ISM.
- The geometrical dependence of the hot absorbers observed in LMXBs spectra provides a hint about the ISM origin of such component.
- We used the column density values obtained from the X-ray spectra to compute density profiles for all three ISM gas components.
- the absence of column density values near the galactic center leads to degeneracy between some of the density profile parameters and therefore some assumptions are required.



**THANK YOU!**