

The image shows two massive stars, each represented by a bright white core surrounded by a colorful, diffuse nebula. The stars are positioned vertically, one above the other, against a black background. The nebulae are primarily red and orange, with a prominent green and blue ring-like structure around each star, suggesting the presence of colliding winds. The text is centered over the image.

**MASSIVE STARS IN
COLLIDING WIND SYSTEMS:
THE GLAST PERSPECTIVE**

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1st GLAST Symposium, Stanford, Febr. 2007

Courtesy: J. Pittard

Massive Stars ...

... are **hot** ($T \sim 3 \dots 6 \cdot 10^4 \text{K}$), **massive** ($M \sim 20 \dots 80 M_{\odot}$) & **luminous** ($L \sim 10^{6-5} L_{\odot}$)

... show **large mass loss rates** in stellar winds: $\dot{M} \sim 10^{-6} \dots 10^{-4} M_{\odot}/\text{yr}$

... possess **supersonic winds**: $V(x) \approx V_{\infty}(1 - R_{\star}/x)$, $V_{\infty} \sim 1 \dots 5 \cdot 10^3 \text{ km/s}$

➔ various kinds of **shocks/instabilities**:

- **Intra-Wind interactions:**

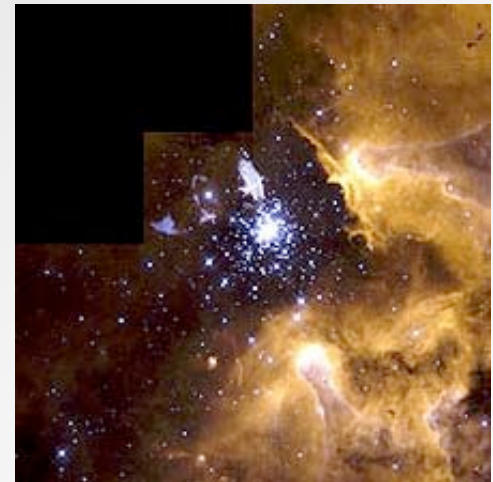
„clumps“, shocks from line-driven instabilities („chaotic wind model“)

- **Wind-ISM collisions**

- **Wind-Wind collisions**

- **Collective effects of stellar winds:**

large scale shocks at core of association
(e.g. Bykov et al. 1992)



Motivation

Gamma-rays \Rightarrow non-thermal relativistic particle distribution required

- Radio **synchrotron radiation** from collision region

„proof“ for: existence of **relativistic e^- & B-field**

\Rightarrow **inverse Compton (IC) scattering** in photosph. radiation field & **relativistic e^- -bremsstrahlung** are **garantueed HE processes !**

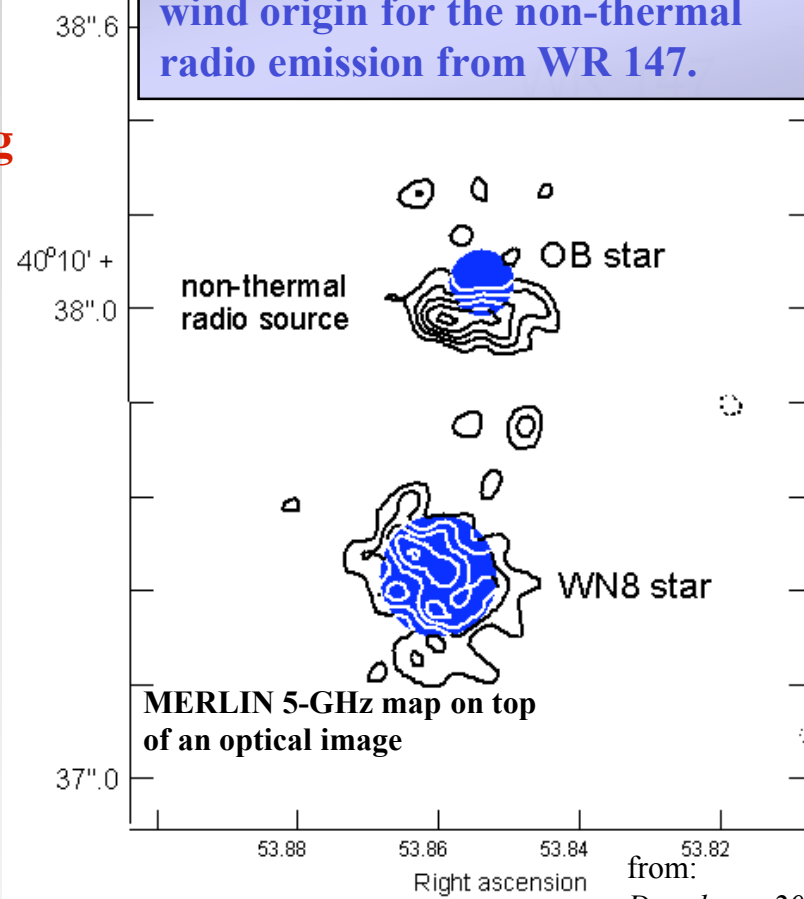
>14 galactic NT radio emitting WRs known

$$\alpha_{\text{radio}} \sim +0.3 \dots -1.3, \quad F_{\nu} \sim \nu^{-\alpha}$$

- Population studies imply **correlation of some still unidentified γ -ray sources (Unids) with massive star populations** (OB-associations, WR-, Of-stars, SNRs)

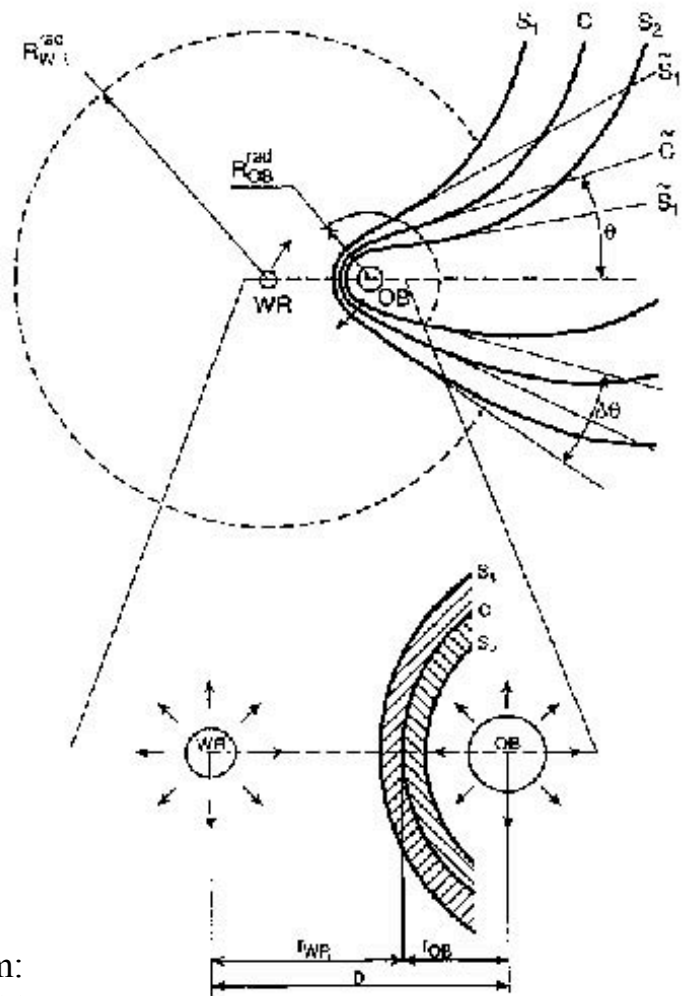
[Montmerle 1979, Esposito et al. 1996, Romero et al. 1999, ...]

Observational evidence of a colliding wind origin for the non-thermal radio emission from WR 147.



from:
Dougherty 2002

A schematic view on a COLLIDING WIND REGION



from:
Eichler & Usov
1993

Wolf-Rayet period characterization and distribution

Period (d)	Characterization	N_{WN}	N_{WC}
$P < 1$	very-short-period binary	3	1
$1 < P < 10$	short-period binary	15	9
$10 < P < 100$	medium-period binary	8	5
$100 < P < 1000$	long-period binary	3	3
$1000 < P < 10000$	very-long-period binary	2	7
$10000 < P$	extremely-long-period binary	1	1

$$D \sim 3 \dots 10^5 R_{\odot}$$

Stagnation point (ram pressure balance):

$$r_{OB} = x = \frac{\sqrt{\eta}}{1 + \sqrt{\eta}} D \quad \text{with} \quad \eta = \frac{\dot{M}_{OB} V_{\infty,OB}}{\dot{M}_{WR} V_{\infty,WR}}$$

→ $\eta \ll 1$ for WR-binaries

Magnetic field:

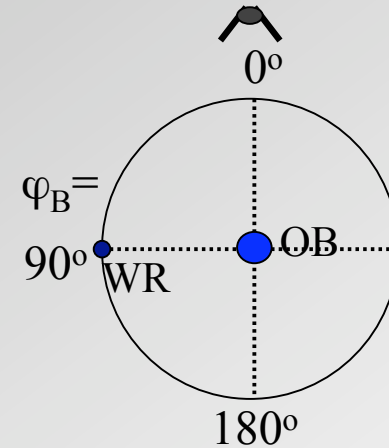
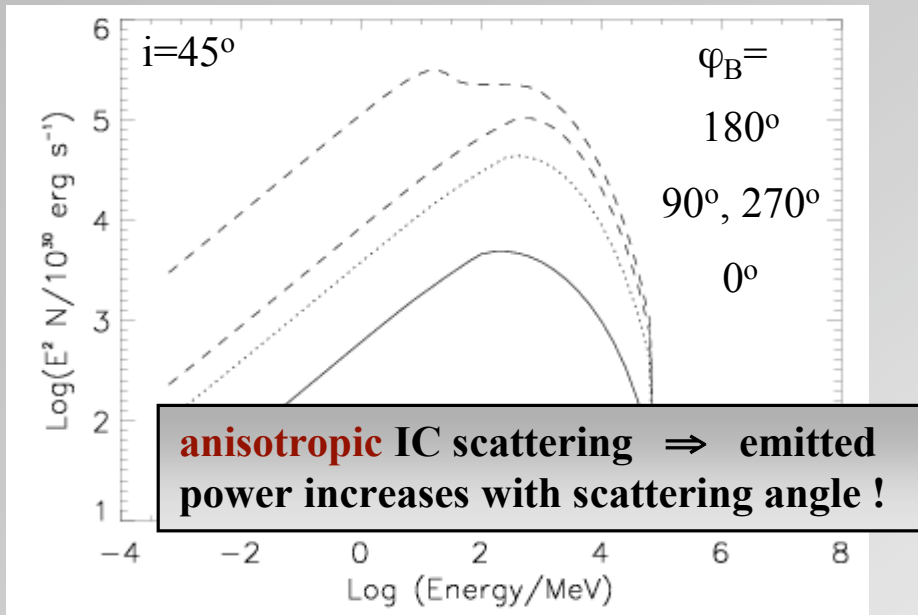
estimated surface magnetic field: $B_S \sim 10-10^4 G$

[Ignace et al. 1998; Mathys 1999; Donati et al. 2001,2002]

→ **> mG-fields at tenths of pc**

Constituting the γ -ray output: Operating processes

- **Inverse Compton scattering** of stellar photons (anisotropic!, KN-effects?)

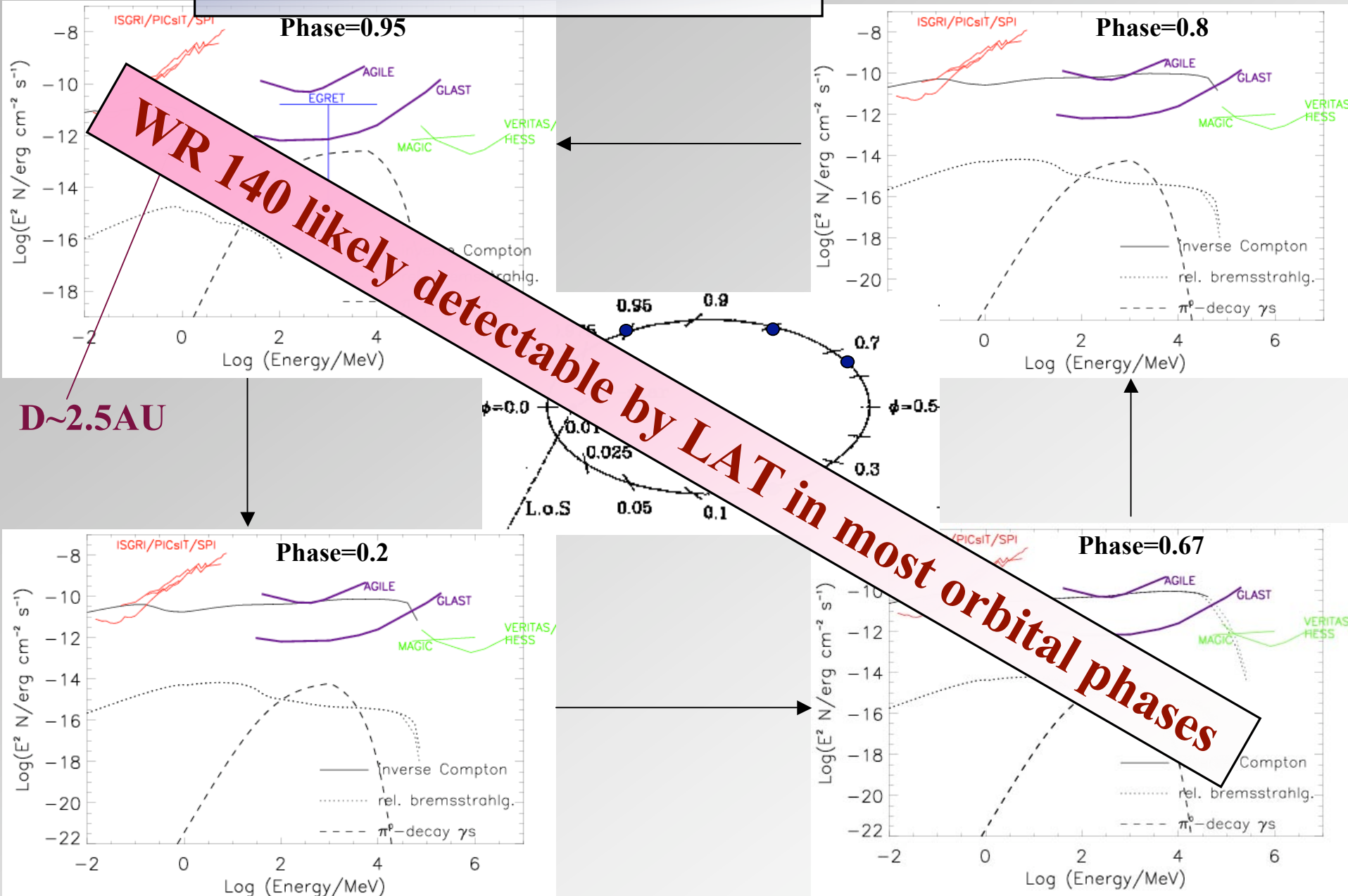


=> orbital variation of IC radiation expected from wide WR-binaries

- **Relativistic bremsstrahlung**
- **NN/pp inelastic scattering**
- **γ -ray absorption due to $\gamma\gamma$ pair product.:** $E_{\gamma,cr} \sim 66 (T_4/K)^{-1} GeV$, $T_4 = T/(5 \cdot 10^4 K)$
- **propagation effects (convection, diffusion):** *spectral softening in post-shock flow*
- **cascade models operate if ions reach sufficient high E** [e.g. Bednarek 2005, ...]

WR 140 (WC7+O4-5V)

[from: Reimer et al. 2006, ApJ, 644, 1118]



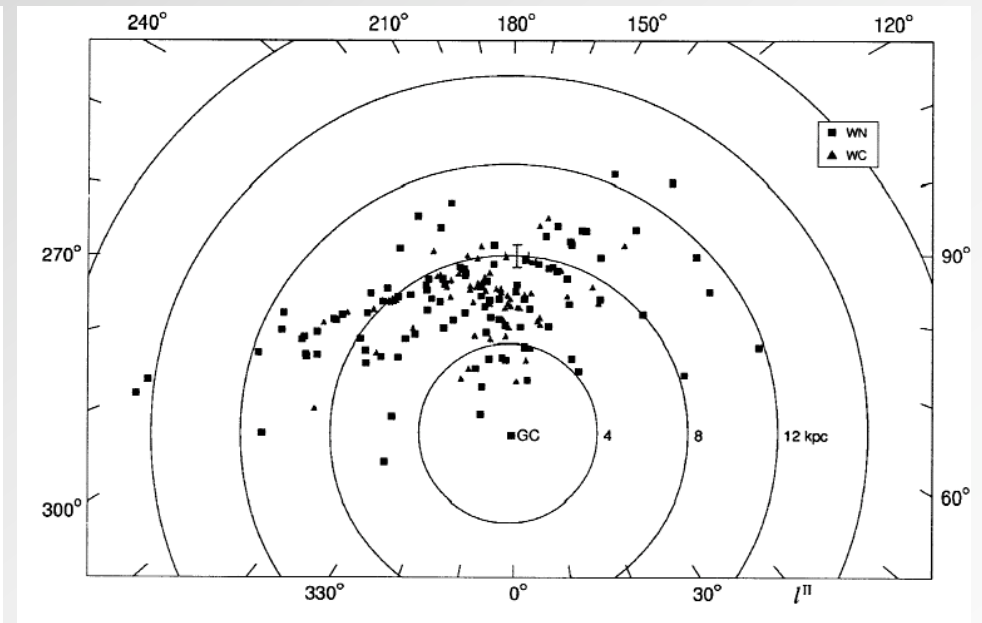
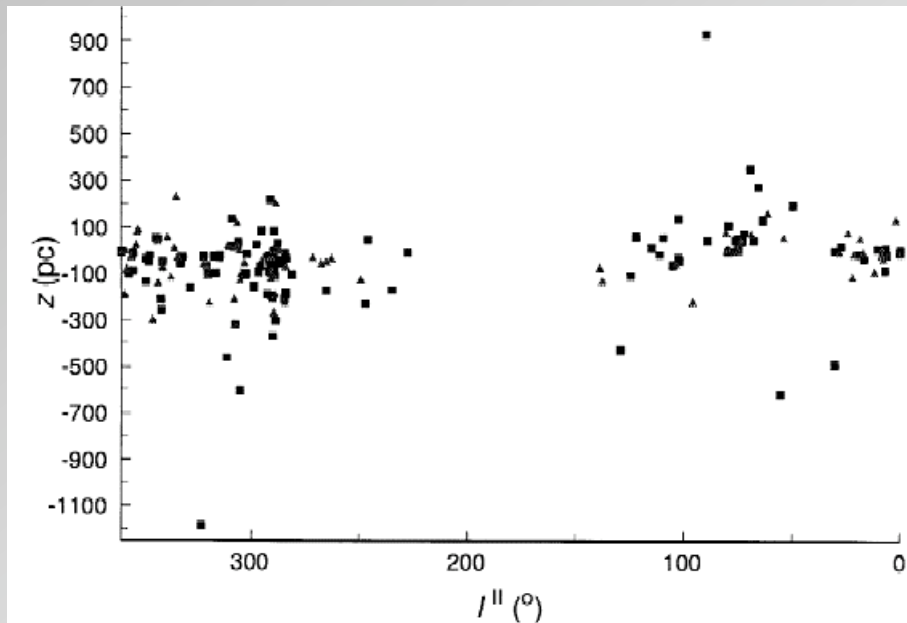
The massive star population in our Galaxy

- **227 WR-stars, 378 O-stars** detected in the Milky Way

[v.d. Hucht '01+'06: 7th cat. gal. WR-star +extens., Maiz-Appelaniz et al.04: Gal. O-star cat]

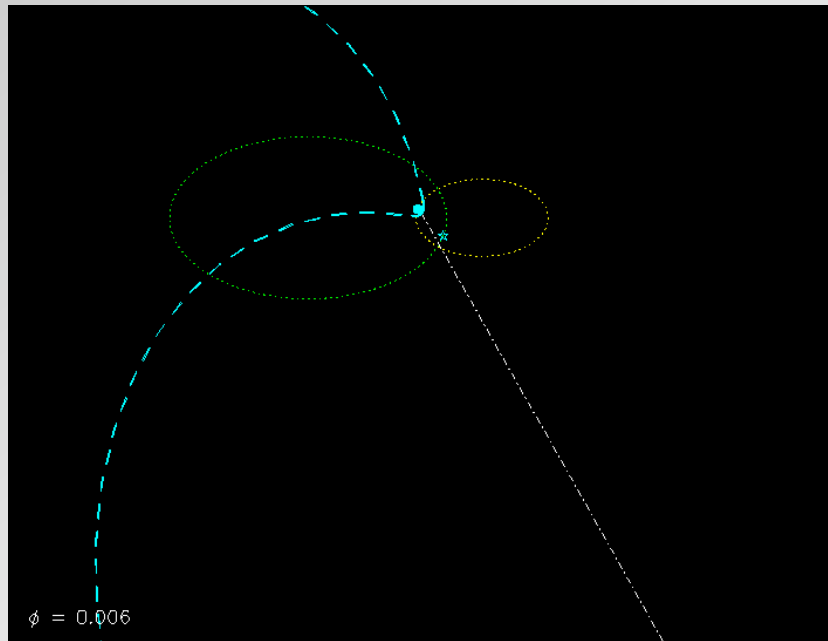
- **WR-binary** frequency (incl. probable binaries) **~ 40-50 %**

(indications: photometric periodicity, absorption lines/dilution of emission lines, dust form. X-ray excess, radio imaging,...)



The galactic Wolf-Rayet star distribution (l^{II}, d) projected on the galactic plane. The Sun is indicated by +. The distance

How many massive stellar binary systems (here: WR-binaries) will GLAST's LAT be detecting at most?



Sample selection

- **gal. WR-binaries** → **88 systems**
[*from: van der Hucht '01+'06: 7th catalog of gal. WR-stars + extension*]
- **distance ≤ 4 kpc** → **excludes 42 systems**
[*γ -ray flux dilution factor \sim distance²]*
- **shock location above star's photosph.** → **excludes 14 systems**
($x > R_*$)
[*shock location determined by winds' ram pressure balance*]
- **orbital period/stellar separation known** → **excludes 11 systems**
[*required to determine shock location and environment*]

\Rightarrow consider 21 WR-binary systems for potential LAT-detectibility

Parameters & Assumptions

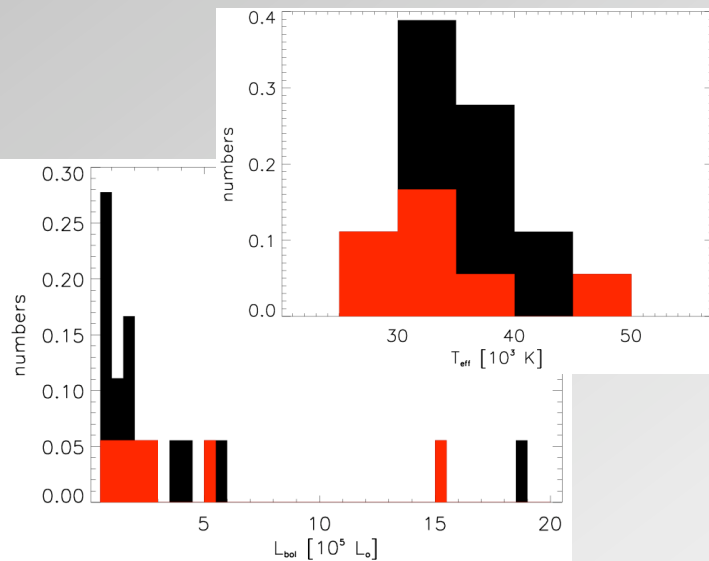
- **IC component only** [very likely dominant; **Reimer et al. 2006 model used**]
- **max. possible acceleration rate** [mechanism not specified]
- **system parameters** [L_{bol} , $\dot{M}_{\text{OB,WR}}$, $M_{\text{OB,WR}}$, $V_{\infty,\text{OB,WR}}$, T_{eff} , $D_{\text{WR-OB}}$, d_L]:
van der Hucht '01, Markova et al '05, Nugi & Lamers '00, Schaerer & Maeder '92, Cherepashchuk '01
- **$e=0$ assumed** [$\langle e \rangle_{\text{obs}}$ low, $e_{\text{max}} \sim 0.9$], **$i=90^\circ$** for unknown systems inclination
- **$B_* = 100\text{G}$ + magnetic rotator model** [Weber & Davis 1967]
- **energy (particles) injection: (a) particle number conservation:**

rel. particle flux \leq wind particle flux enter acc.zone

(b) energy conservation: $L_{\text{inj}} \leq L_{\text{wind}}$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \quad \epsilon_{\text{target}} &\sim T_{\text{eff}}, \quad u_{\text{target}} \sim L_{\text{OB}}/x^2, \quad x = D_{\text{WR-OB}} \sqrt{\eta/1+\eta}, \\ \eta &= (\dot{M}_{\text{OB}} V_{\text{OB}}) / (\dot{M}_{\text{WR}} V_{\text{WR}}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\rightarrow \quad S_{0.1-100\text{GeV}}$$



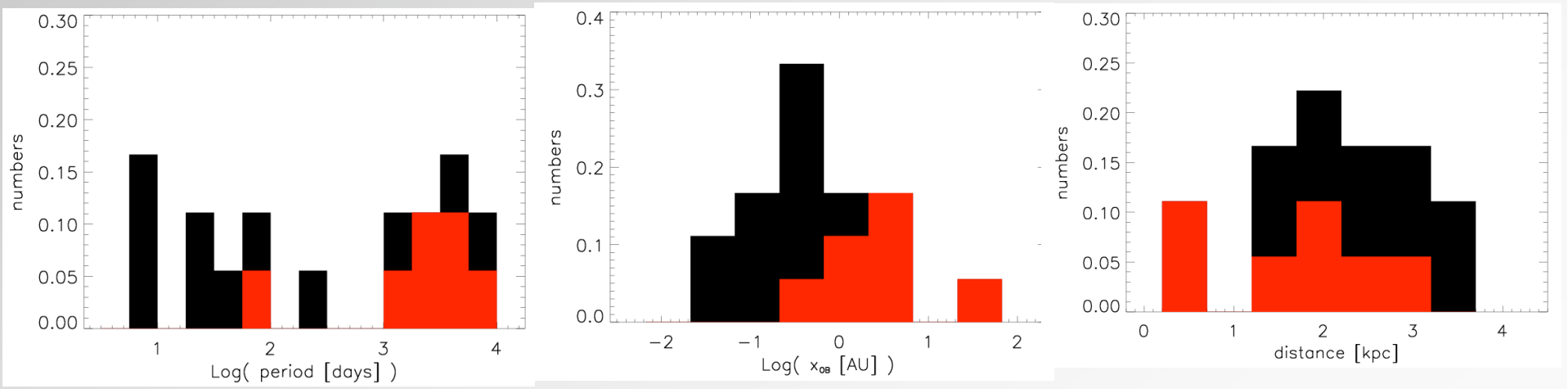
Results

LAT-source, if:

- $E_{IC,max} > E_{LAT,min}$
- $F_{IC(>100MeV)} > F_{min, LAT,(>100MeV)}$ [used here: $2 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}$ at $|b| < 0.5$]

➔ **6-7 WR-binaries likely detectable by the LAT**

- **tend to be very-long-period binaries** [otherwise the severe IC-losses cause low E cutoff of e-spectr. → inhibition of GeV-photon prod. in shorter-period binaries], $x > 10^{12}\text{cm}$
- **all but one are non-thermal radio emitters**
- **only most nearby (< 1kpc) WR-systems safely LAT-detectable**



Uncertainties

- D_{stellar} : $\sim 0.06 \dots 3 \times D$ [$\Delta P \sim 0.5 \dots 2 \times P$, $e=0$ assumpt. $\rightarrow \sim 0.1 \dots 1.9 \times D_{\text{stellar}}$]
 $\rightarrow \times 1.2$ more/6 less systems LAT-detectable
- B_* -field: $0.1 \dots 10 \times B_*$ $\rightarrow \times 1.2$ more/1.5 less systems LAT-detectable
- \dot{M}_{WR} : $0.1 \dots 10 \times \dot{M}_{\text{WR}}$ [wind clumping] \rightarrow no signif. change
- V_∞ : $0.5 \dots 2 \times V_\infty$ $\rightarrow \times 1.2$ more/6 less systems LAT-detectable
- L_{bol} : $0.5 \dots 2 \times L_{\text{bol}}$ $\rightarrow \times 1$ more/3 less systems LAT-detectable
- T_{eff} : 10-20% \rightarrow no signif. change
- d_L : $0.5 \dots 2 \times d_L$ $\rightarrow \times 1.3$ more/6 less systems LAT-detectable



$6 \pm 2_3$ WR-binaries may be detectable by the LAT

Characteristics of observables

Massive binary systems

population members

~ (several) 100 catalogued

Spatial distr.

rather low gal. latitude,
conc. towards spiral arms

Extension?

NO

Variability?

orbital variations expected
(more or less pronounced)

γ -ray spectrum

softer than synchrotron

MWL signature

NT radio in long-P binaries;

$$F_{\text{lim,GHz}} < \text{mJy}$$

Most promising candidates

WR 11, 70, 125, 137, 140, 146, 147

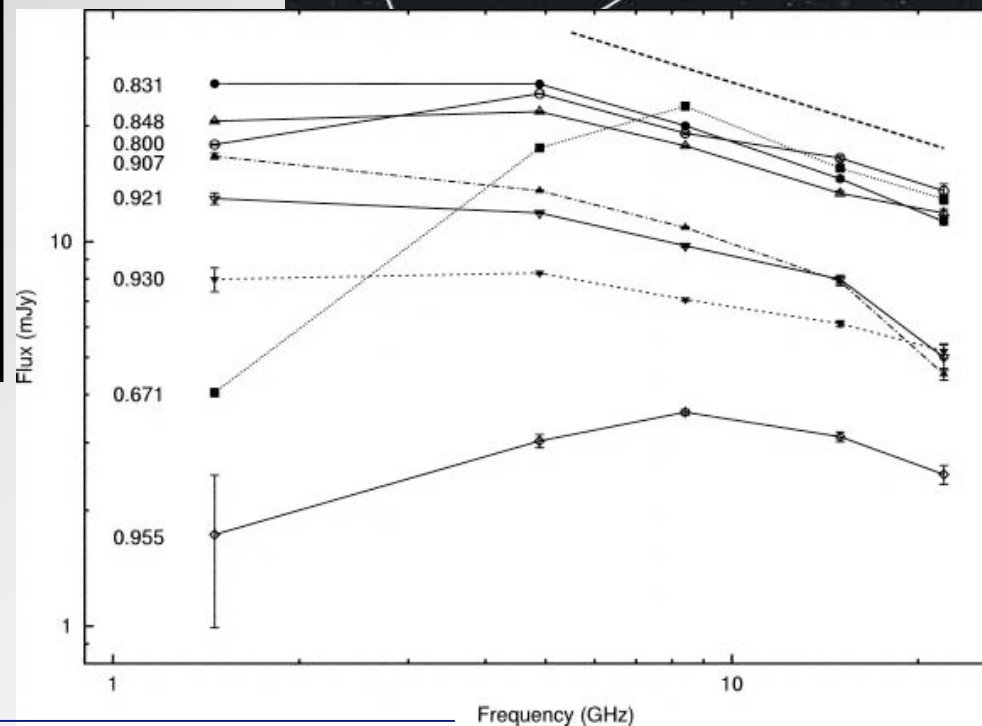
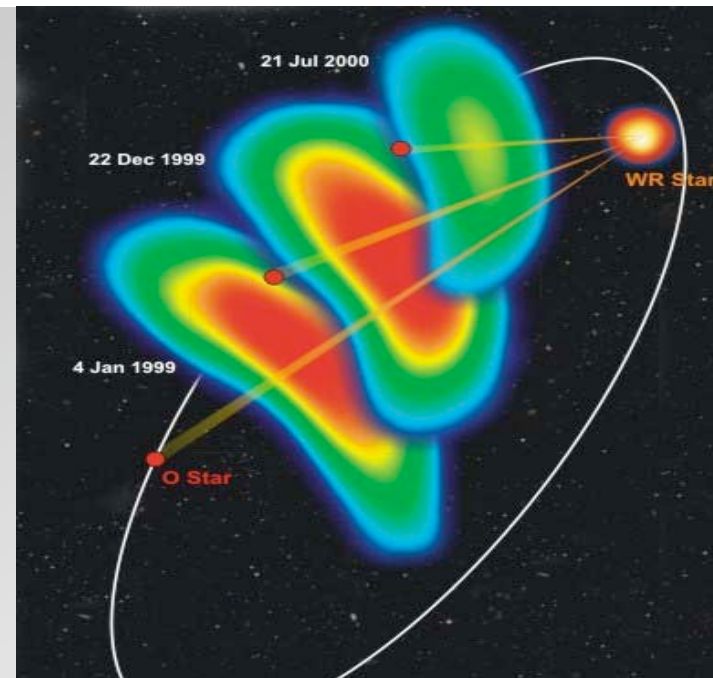


Prototype: WR 140 (WC7+O4-5V)

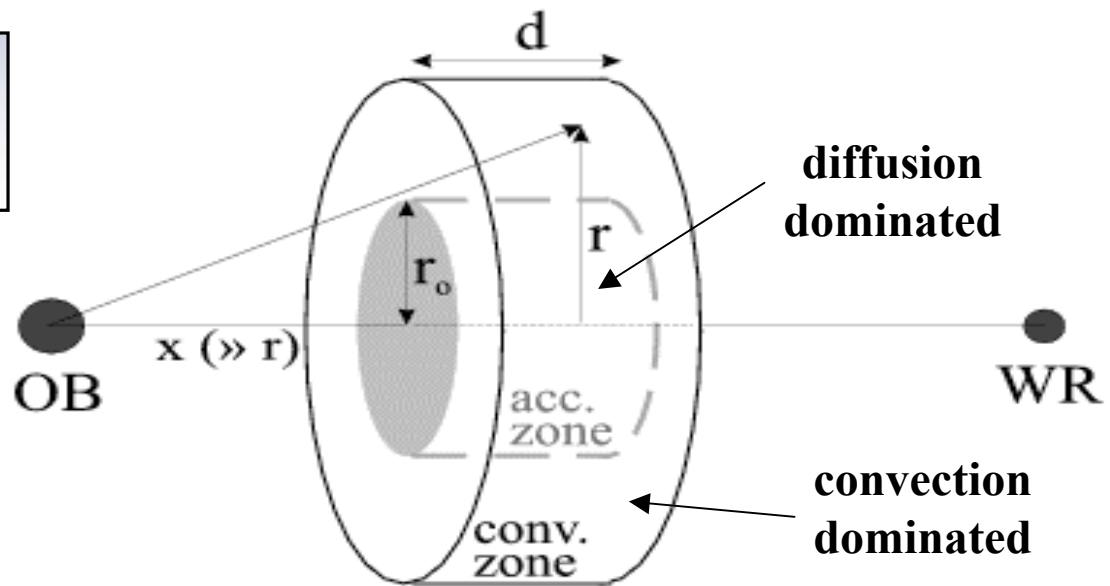
- distance ~ 1.85 kpc
- period $\sim 2899 \pm 10$ days
- $L_O \sim 6 \cdot 10^{39}$ erg/s
- $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 47400$ K
- WC: $V \sim 2860$ km/s, $M \sim 4.3 \cdot 10^{-5} M_\odot/\text{yr}$
- O: $V \sim 3100$ km/s, $M \sim 8.7 \cdot 10^{-6} M_\odot/\text{yr}$
- $e \sim 0.88 \pm 0.04$, $i \sim 122^\circ \pm 5^\circ$, $\omega \sim 47^\circ$
- $D \sim 0.3 \dots 5 \cdot 10^{14}$ cm
- 3EG J2022+4317 ?

Parameter values:

$B_* = 100$ G, $E_{\text{in}} = 3 \cdot 10^{32} - 3 \cdot 10^{33}$ erg/s,
 $\dot{m}_{\text{acc}} = 2 \cdot 10^{19} \text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$
 $\Rightarrow x \approx 0.32 D$, $n_{\text{H}} \approx 4 \cdot 10^6 - 9 \cdot 10^8 \text{cm}^{-3}$,
 $B \approx 0.2 - 3.5$ G, $V \approx 1410 - 1540$ km/s,
 $T_0 \approx 1.6 - 1.9$ ks, $r_0 \approx 2.4 - 2.6 \cdot 10^{11}$ cm,
 emission volume = $(1-2.4 \text{ AU})^3$.

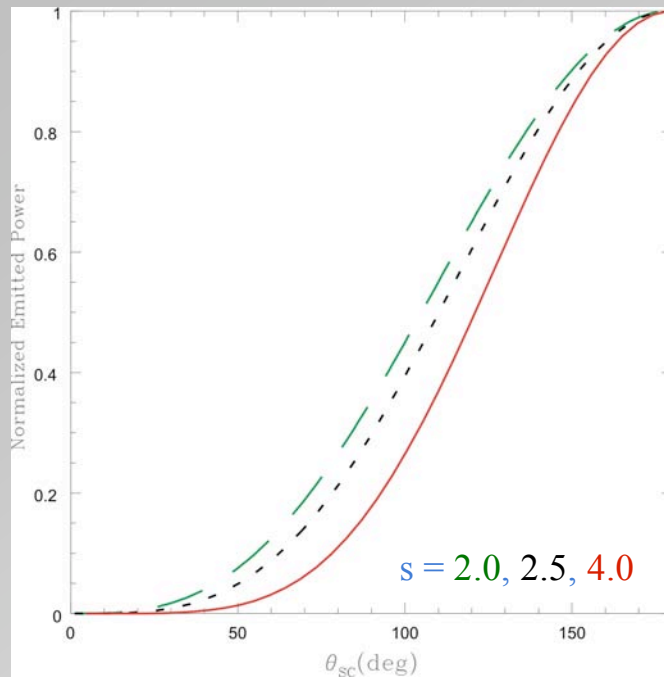


The Model

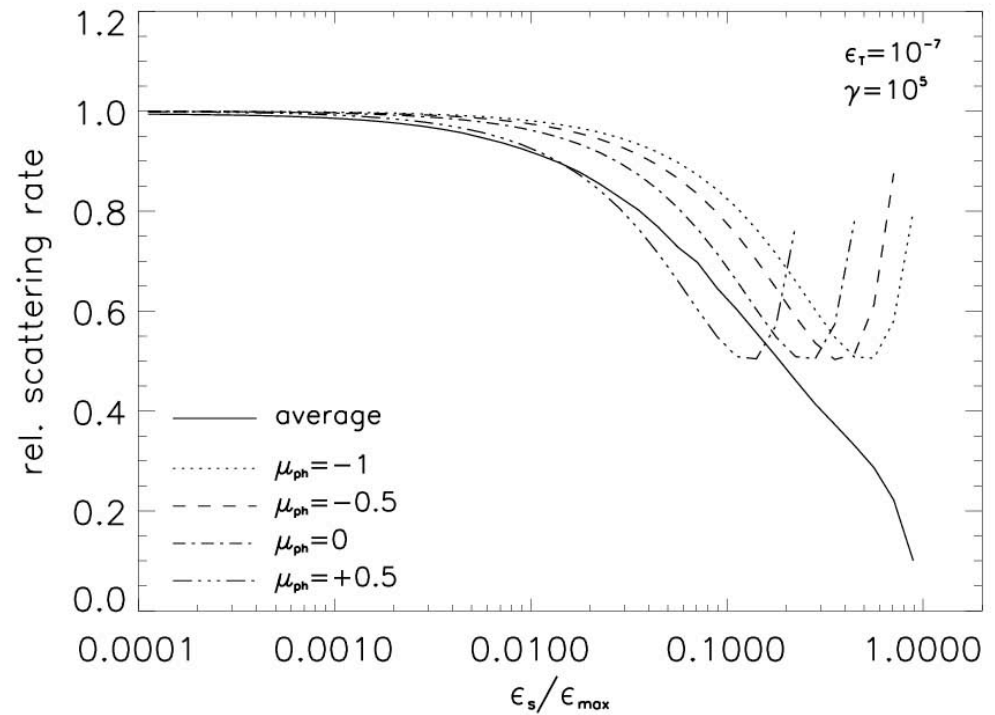


- **uniform wind**
- neglect interaction of stellar radiat. field on wind structure
⇒ restrict to **wide binaries**
- **cylinder-like** emission region ($x \gg r$, emission from large r negligible)
- radiation field from WR-star negligible ($D \gg x$)
- **photon field** of OB-comp. **monochromatic**: $n(\epsilon) \sim \delta(\epsilon - \epsilon_T)$, $\epsilon_T \approx 10$ eV
electron distribution **isotropically**
- convection velocity $\mathbf{V} = \text{const.}$
- magnetic field $\mathbf{B} = \text{const.}$ throughout emission region

Anisotropic inverse Compton scattering



from: Brunetti 1998



⇒ more power is emitted at large scattering angles

⇒ scattered photon energy decreases with scattering angle