



# ASTR/PHYS 2500: Foundations Astronomy

## Week 10: Milky Way & Active Galaxies

HW9 due Thursday

Read Ch. 19.1-3, 19.7 for next week

Midterm 2 next Thursday

# Workshop for Senior Undergrads planning to apply for graduate school

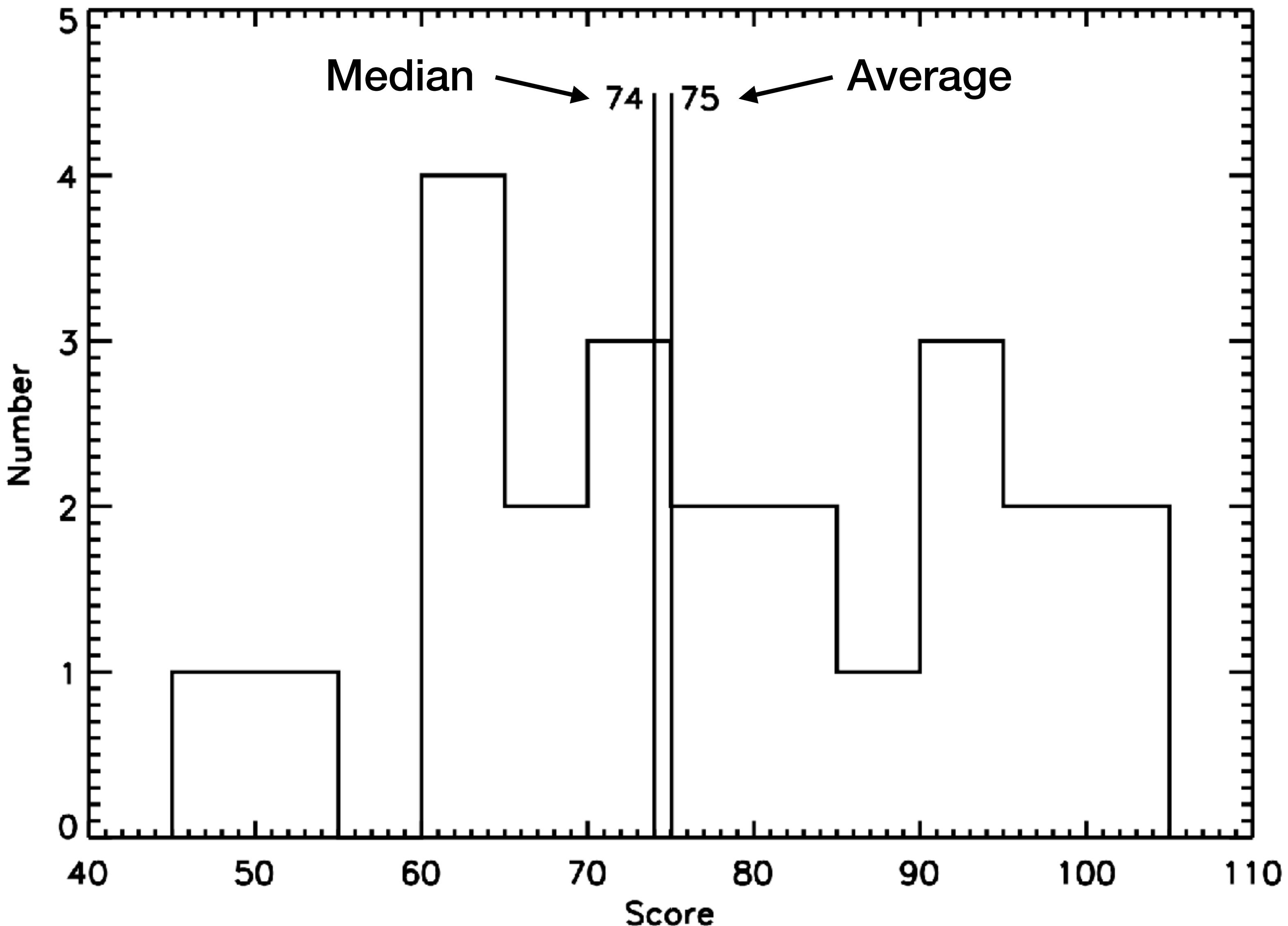
Monday, Nov. 9th 5:30-6:30pm?

The topics will be: (1) how to pick what schools to apply to, (2) choosing & contacting letter writers, and (3) preparing your written application.

# Sample Retrieval from Asteroid Bennu

<https://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html>

# Midterm 1 Results



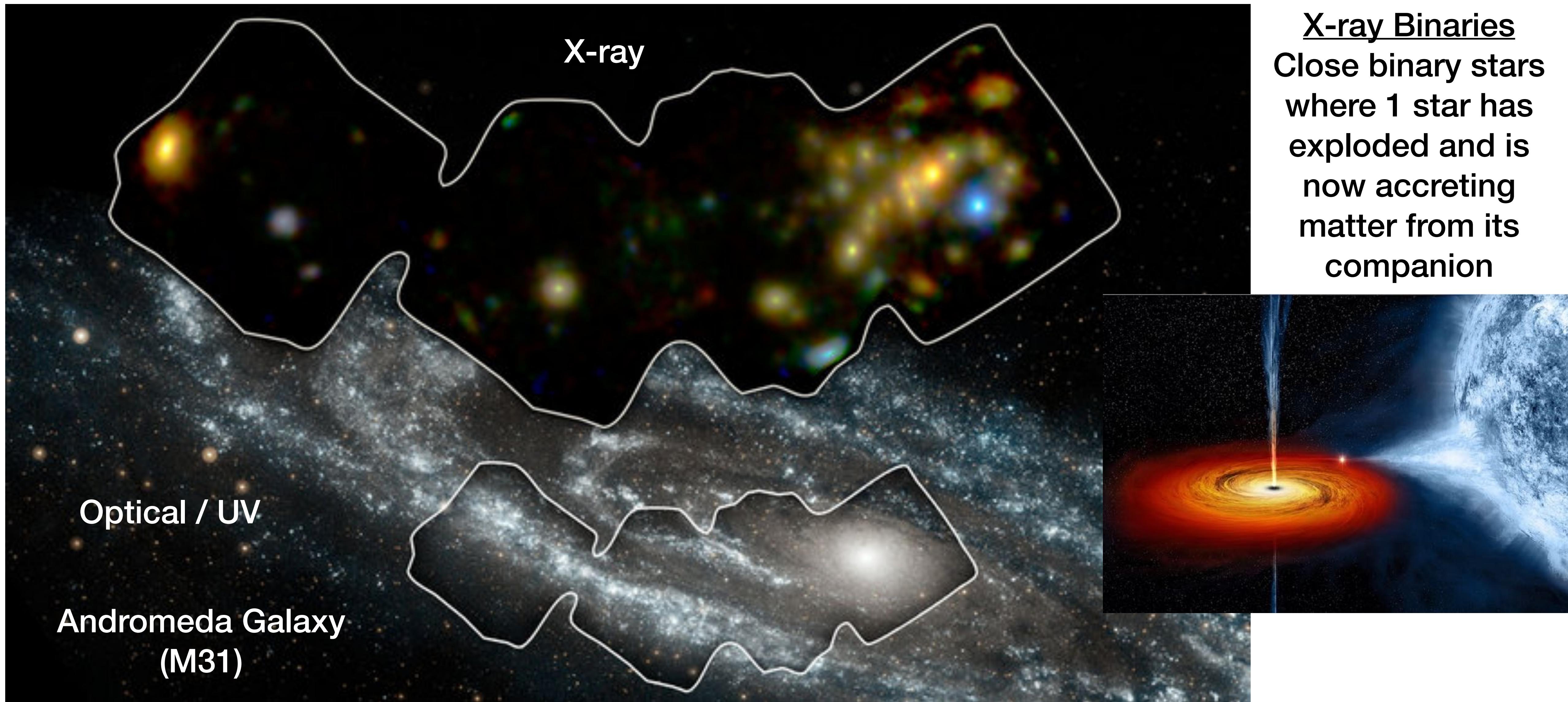
No curve for now  
(Any curve will be to your benefit)

Worth 10% of your grade  
(Equivalent to 2.5 HWs)

Time a bit of an issue it appeared,  
but not overly so. I plan to make  
Midterm 2 shorter. Need to know  
the material though, or questions  
will be hard to parse.

Review the exam and make sure  
you understand what you missed.  
You will see that material again!

# Observing real NSs and BHs



Star's life  
determined  
mostly by its  
initial mass

White Dwarf:

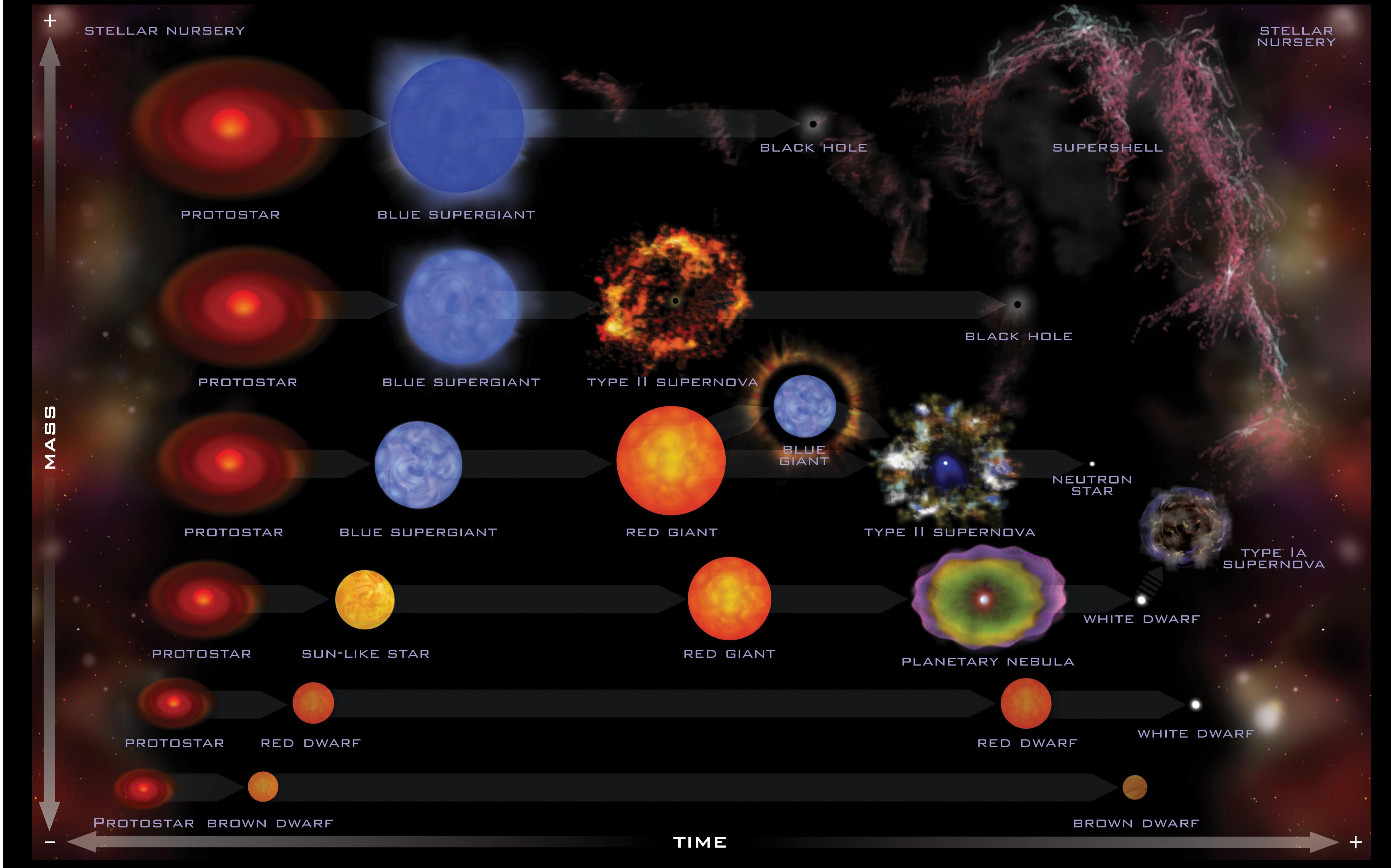
$$M < 7M_{\odot}$$

Neutron Star:

$$7M_{\odot} < M < 18M_{\odot}$$

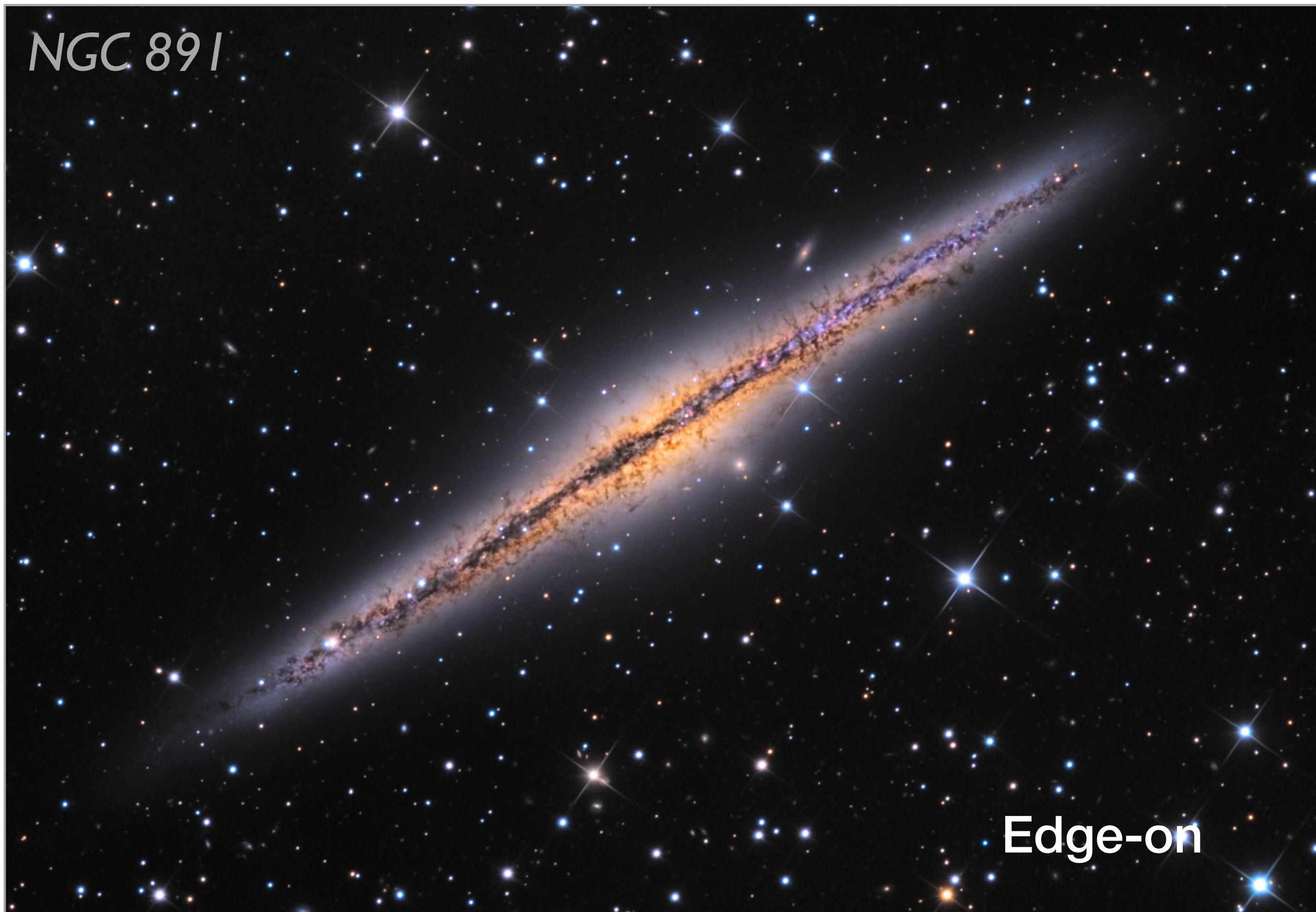
Black Hole:

$$M > 18M_{\odot}$$



# Our Galaxy, the Milky Way

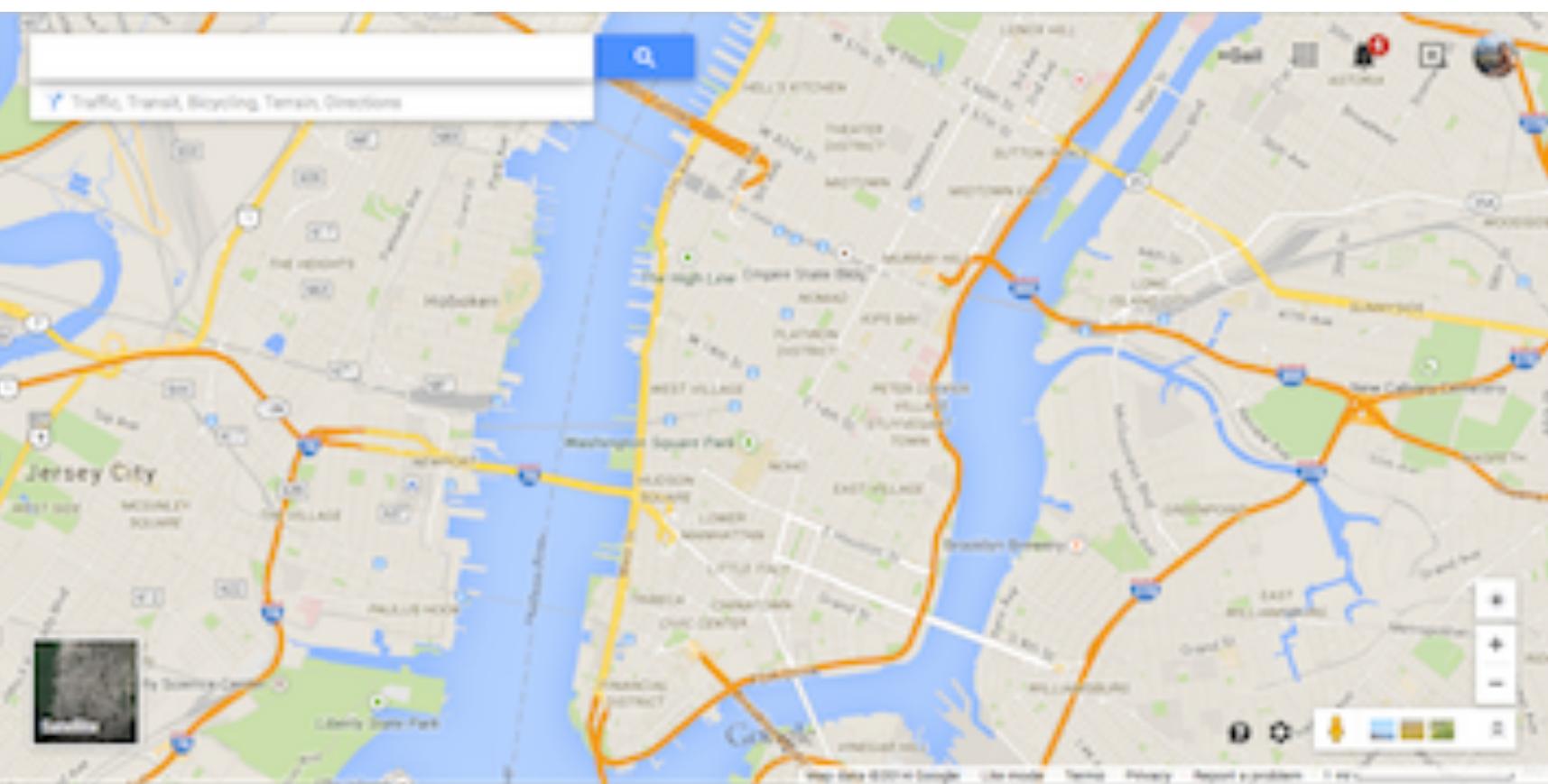
What it may look like from the outside



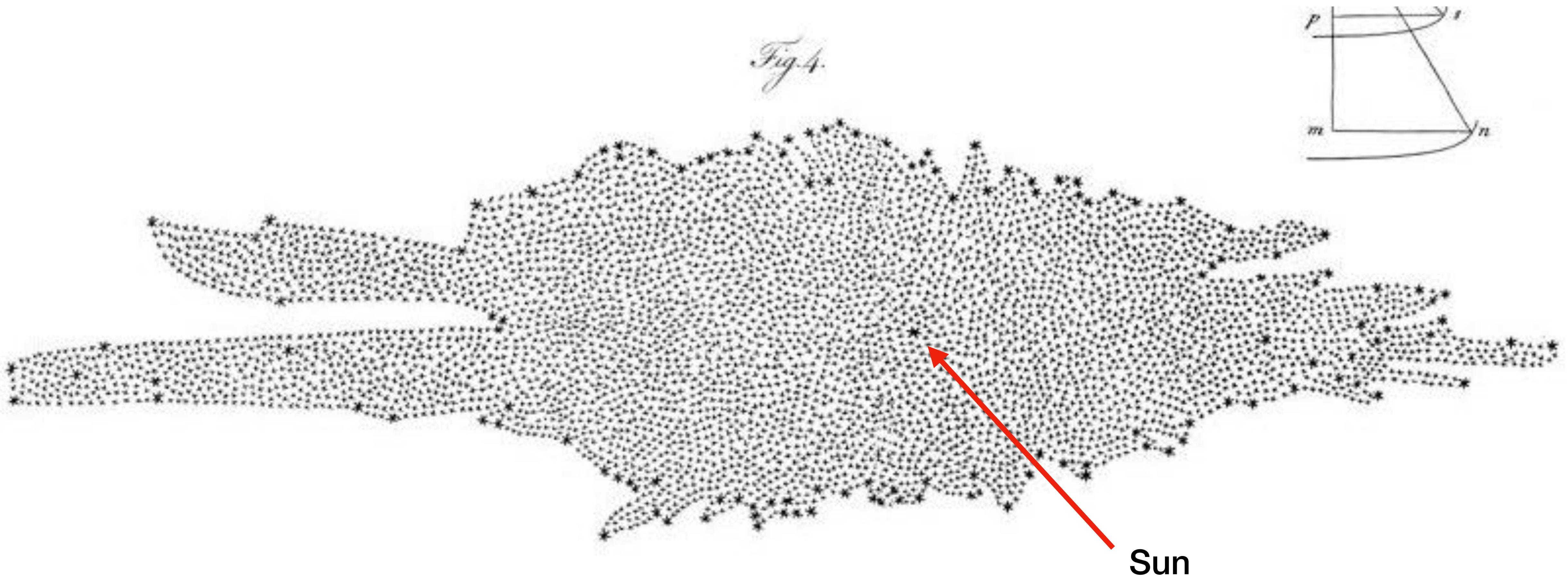
# Our Galaxy, the Milky Way



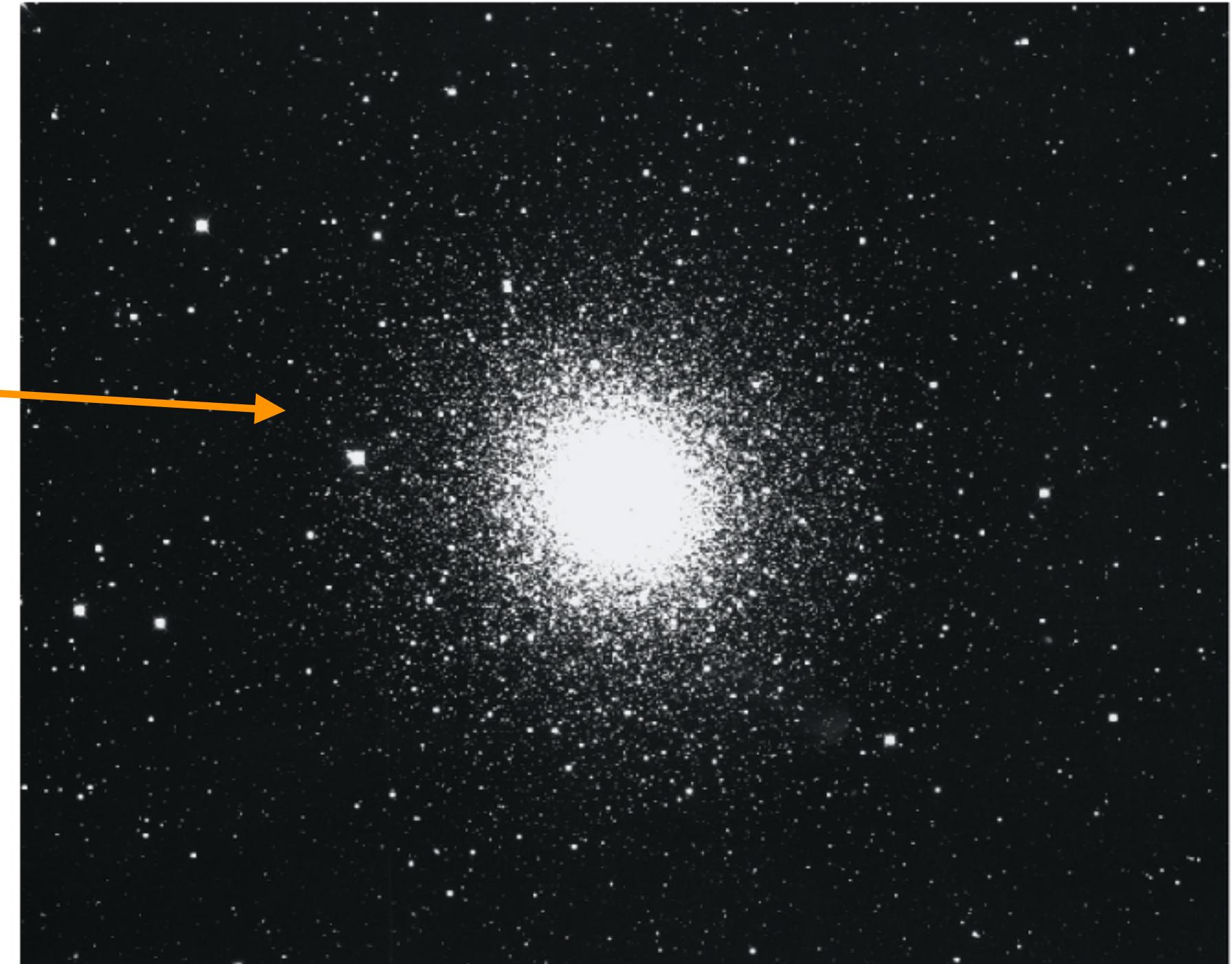
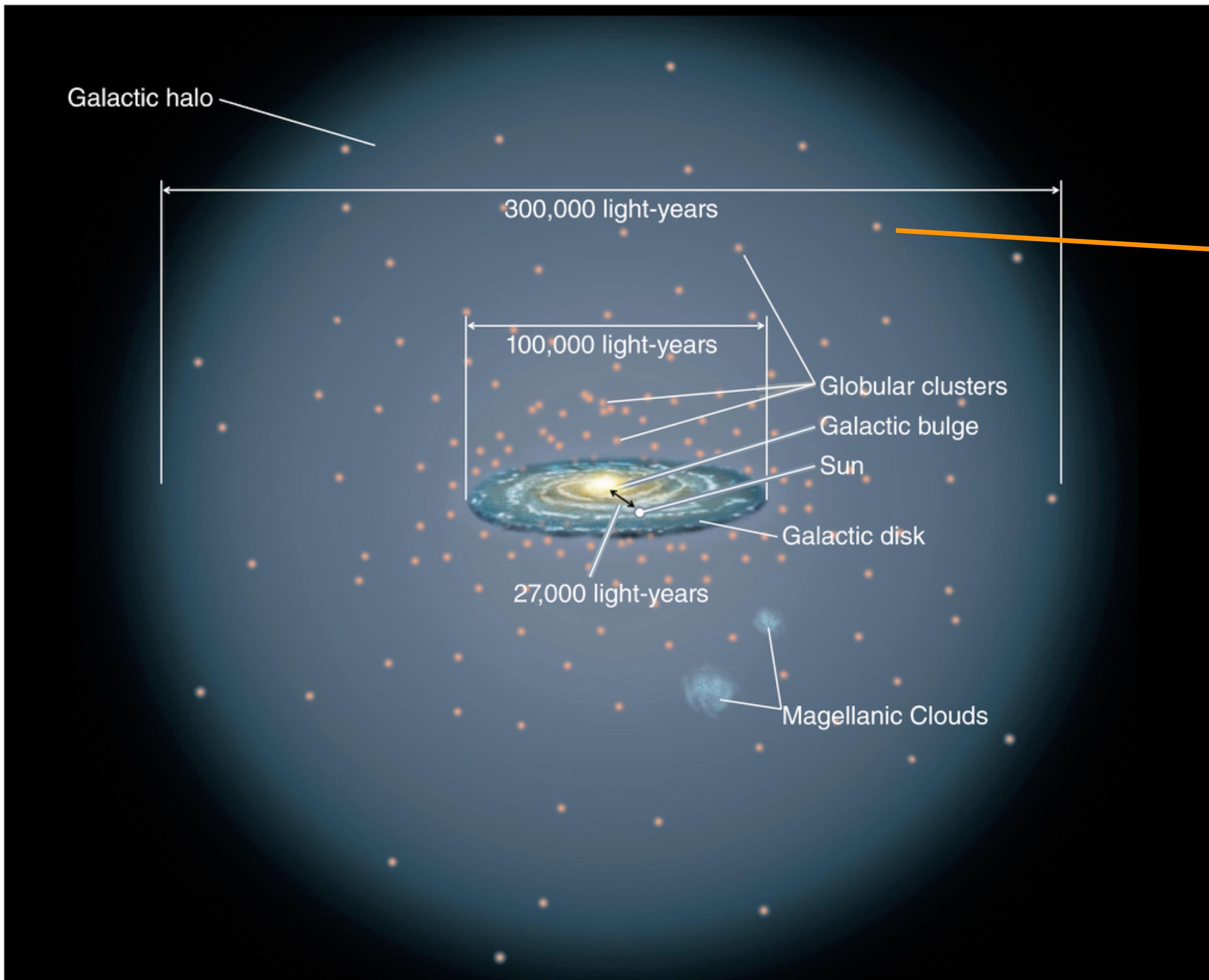
# Can't see the forest for the trees...



# Star counts: William and Caroline Herschel (1785)

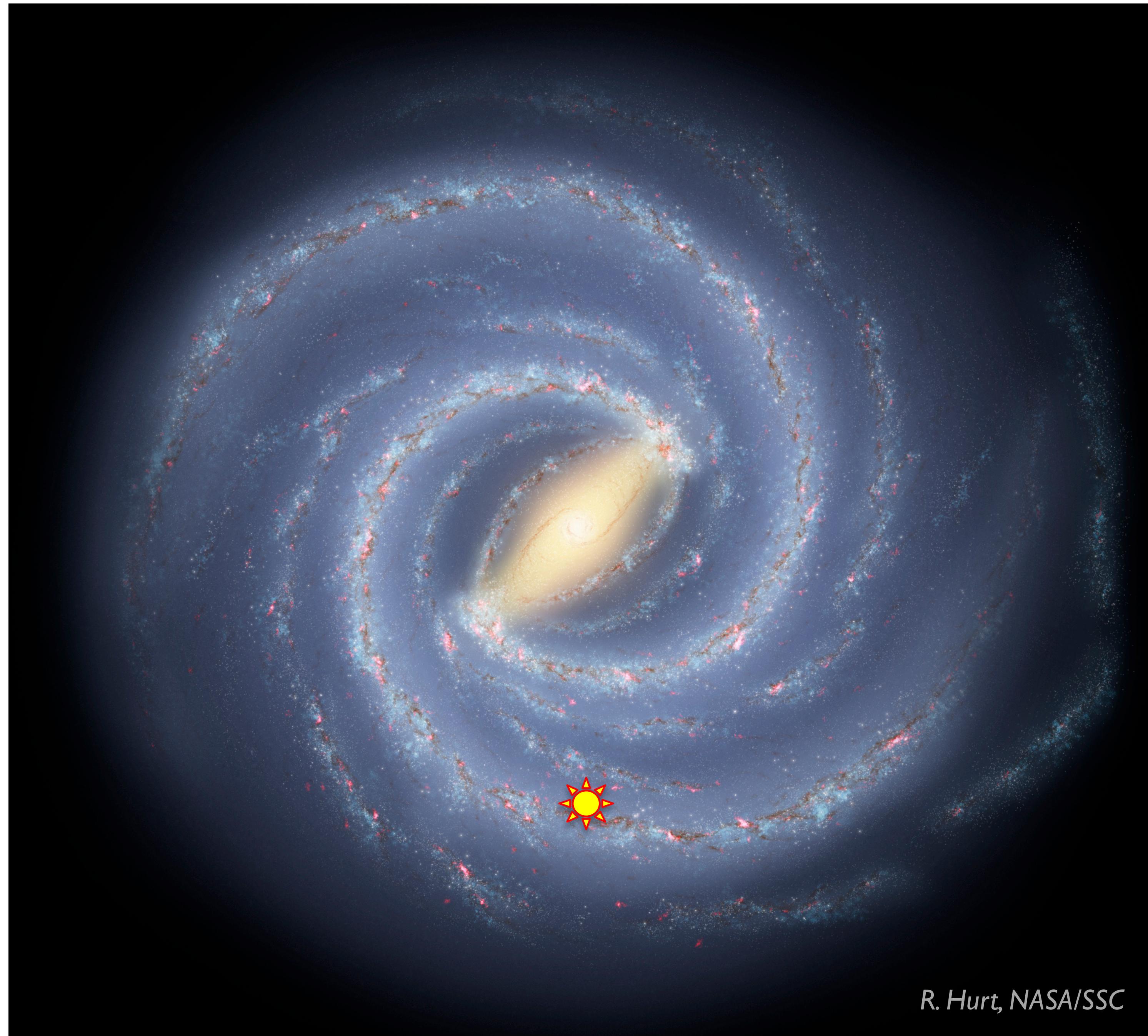


# Globular clusters revealed the scale of the MW

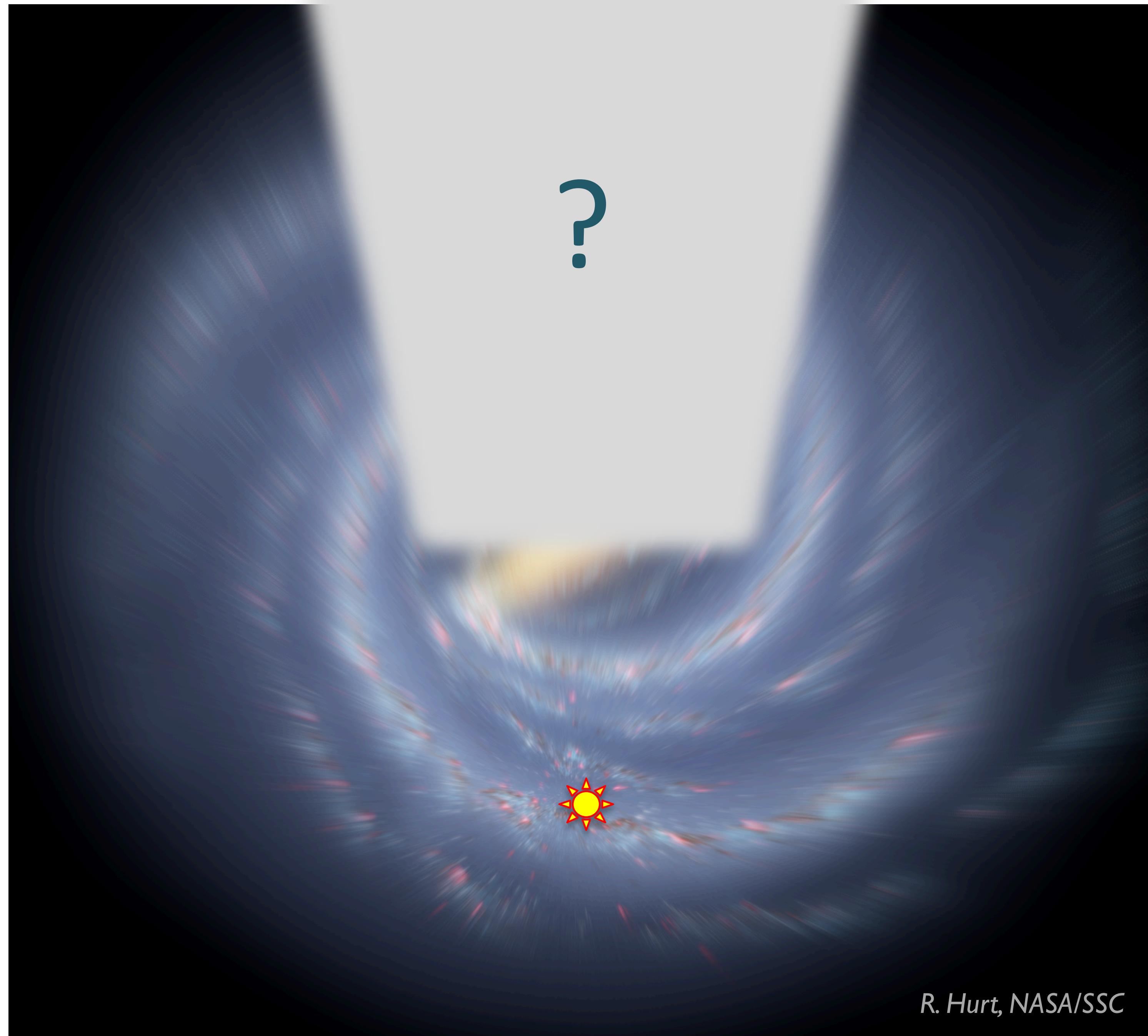


GXUVIR

Variable stars like Cepheids (called RR Lyrae stars) were used to estimate the distance to globular clusters, which were assumed to be distributed uniformly around the center of the MW



R. Hurt, NASA/SSC

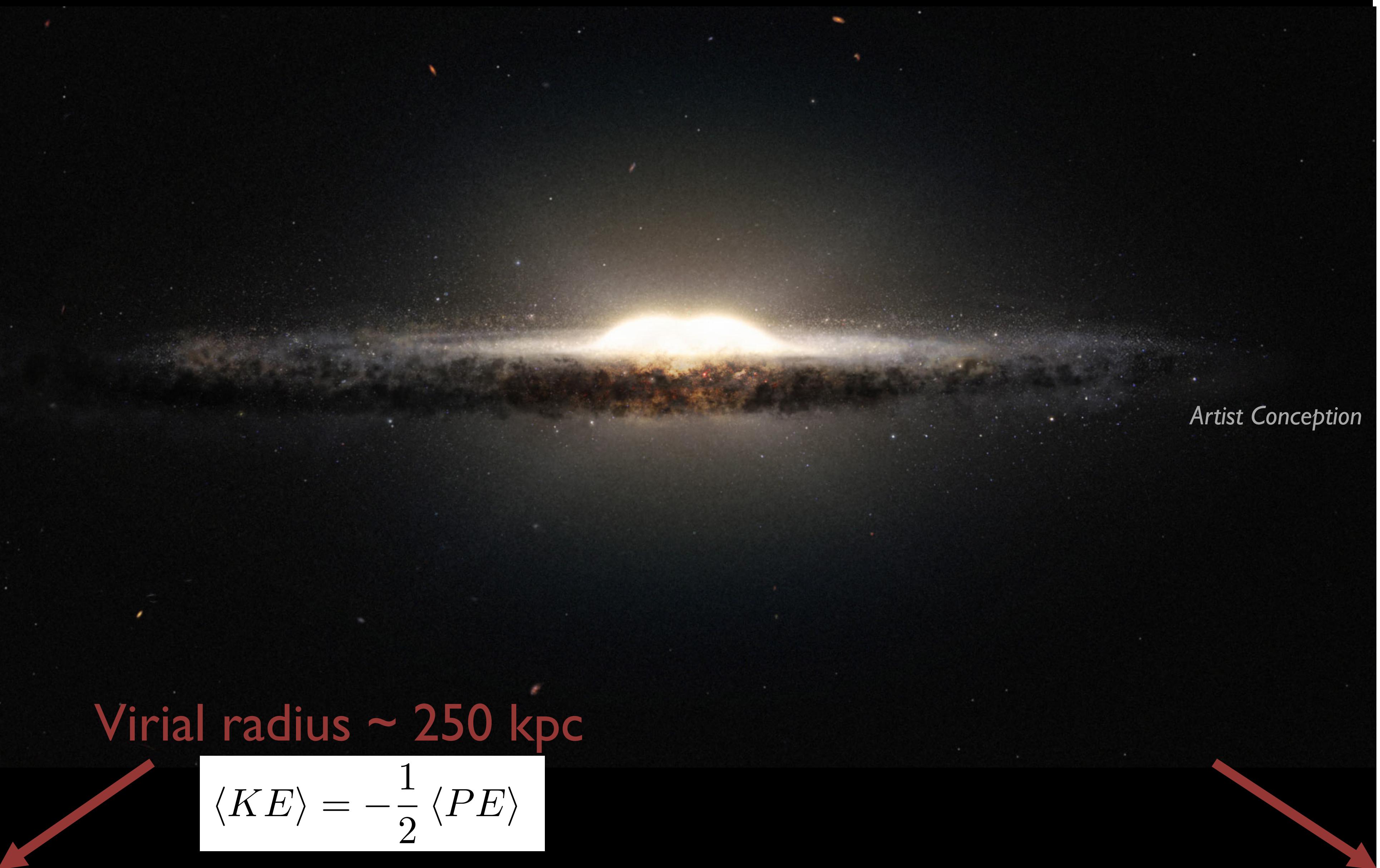


R. Hurt, NASA/SSC

# Galactic Components



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Halo: 1% stars, most of volume

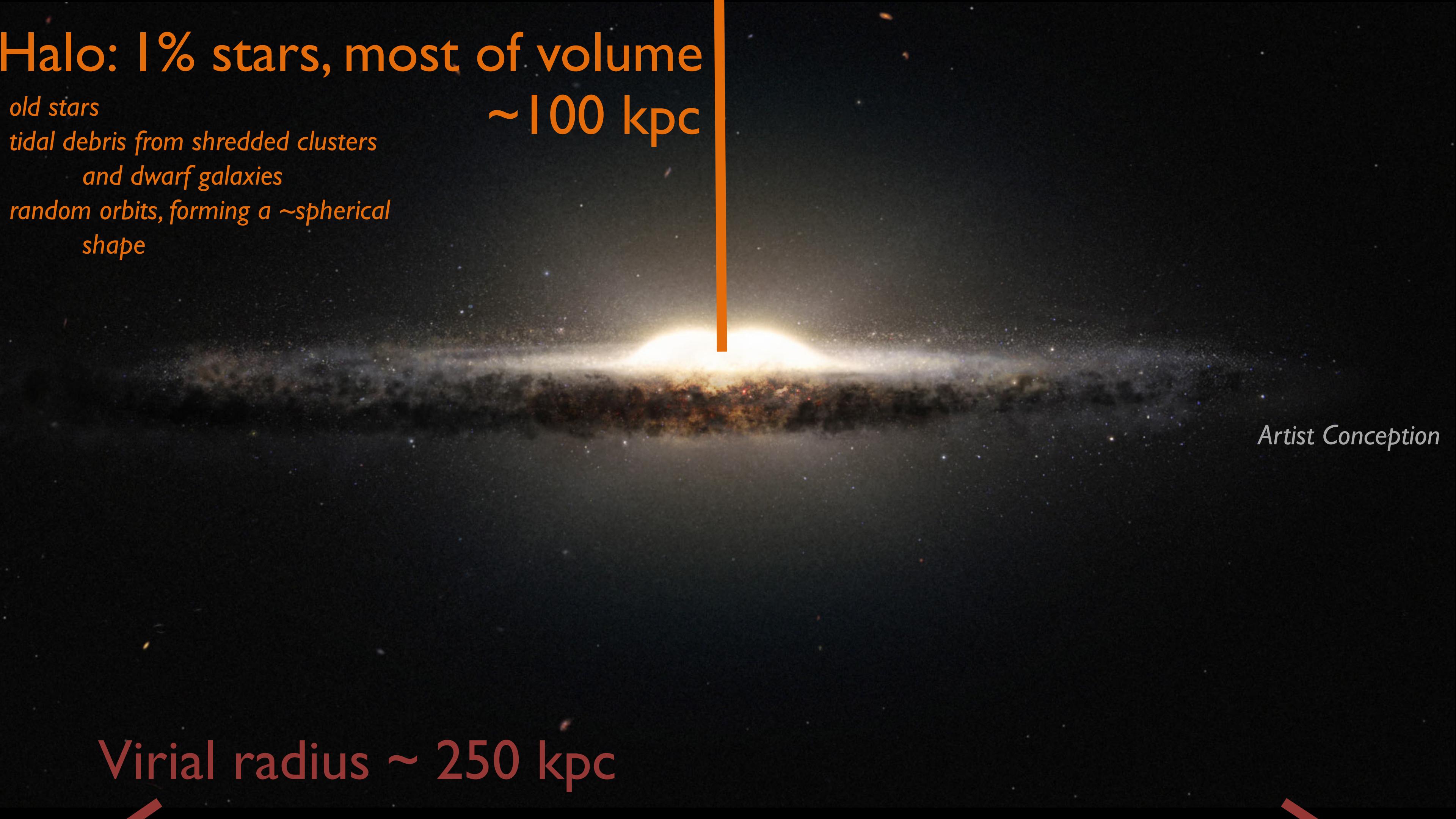
*old stars*

*tidal debris from shredded clusters*

*and dwarf galaxies*

*random orbits, forming a ~spherical  
shape*

$\sim 100 \text{ kpc}$



Artist Conception

Virial radius  $\sim 250 \text{ kpc}$

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*old stars*

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$\sim 100$  kpc

*young and old stars*

*spiral arms*

*some active star formation*

*~circular orbits*

**Disk:** 80% stars, small volume

$\sim 15$  kpc

ISM  
|  
 $\sim 0.5$  kpc

*Artist Conception*

Virial radius  $\sim 250$  kpc

# Galactic Components

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*old stars*

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*some active star formation*

*~circular orbits*

Disk: 80% stars, small volume

$\sim 15$  kpc

ISM

|

$\sim 0.5$  kpc

$\sim 3.5$  kpc

*Artist Conception*

Bar/Bulge: 20% stars, tiny volume

*mostly old, some young stars*

*elongated “bar” shape*

*some random orbits, many bar orbits*

Virial radius  $\sim 250$  kpc

# Bulge/Bar



# Bulge/Bar

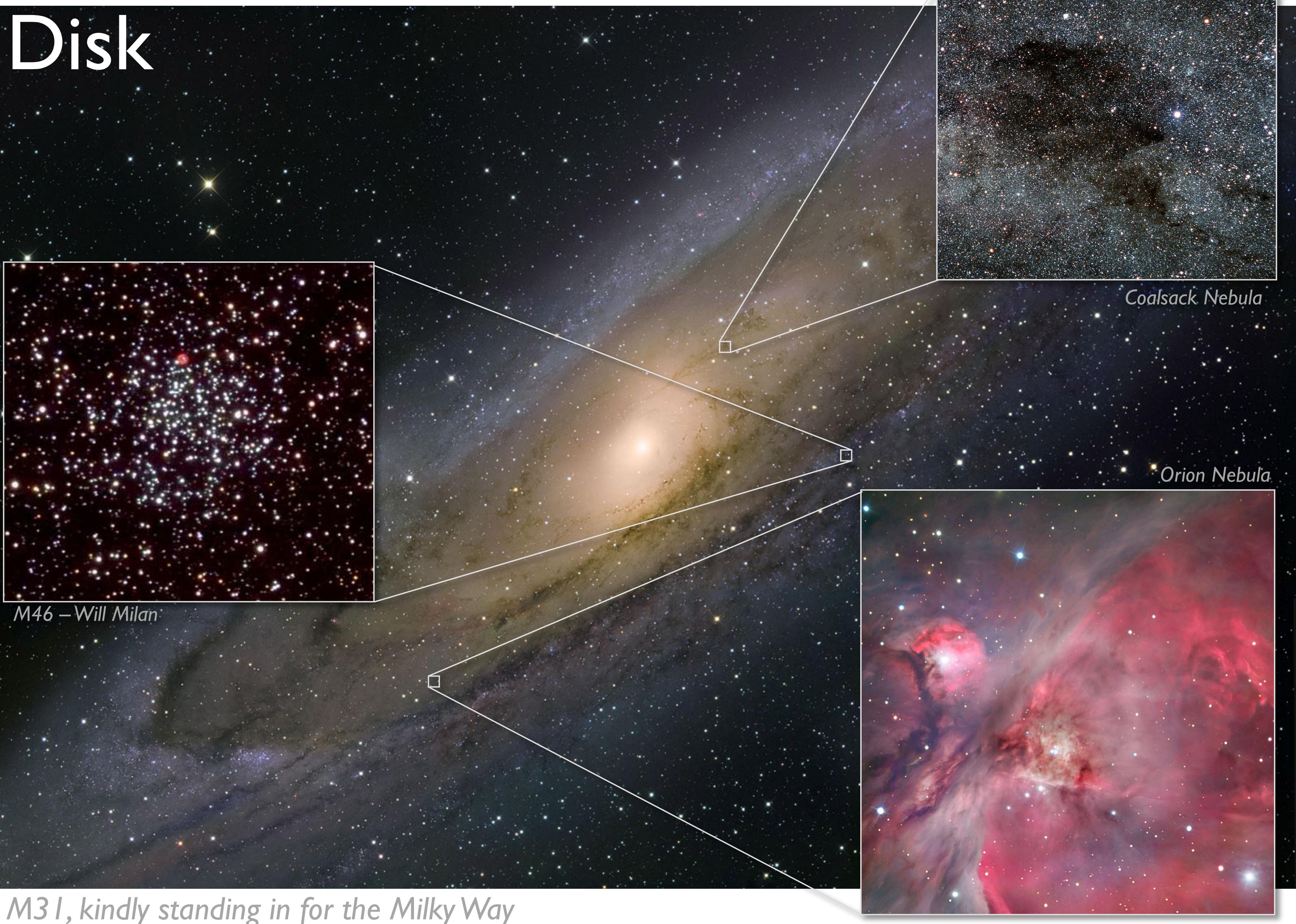


# Disk



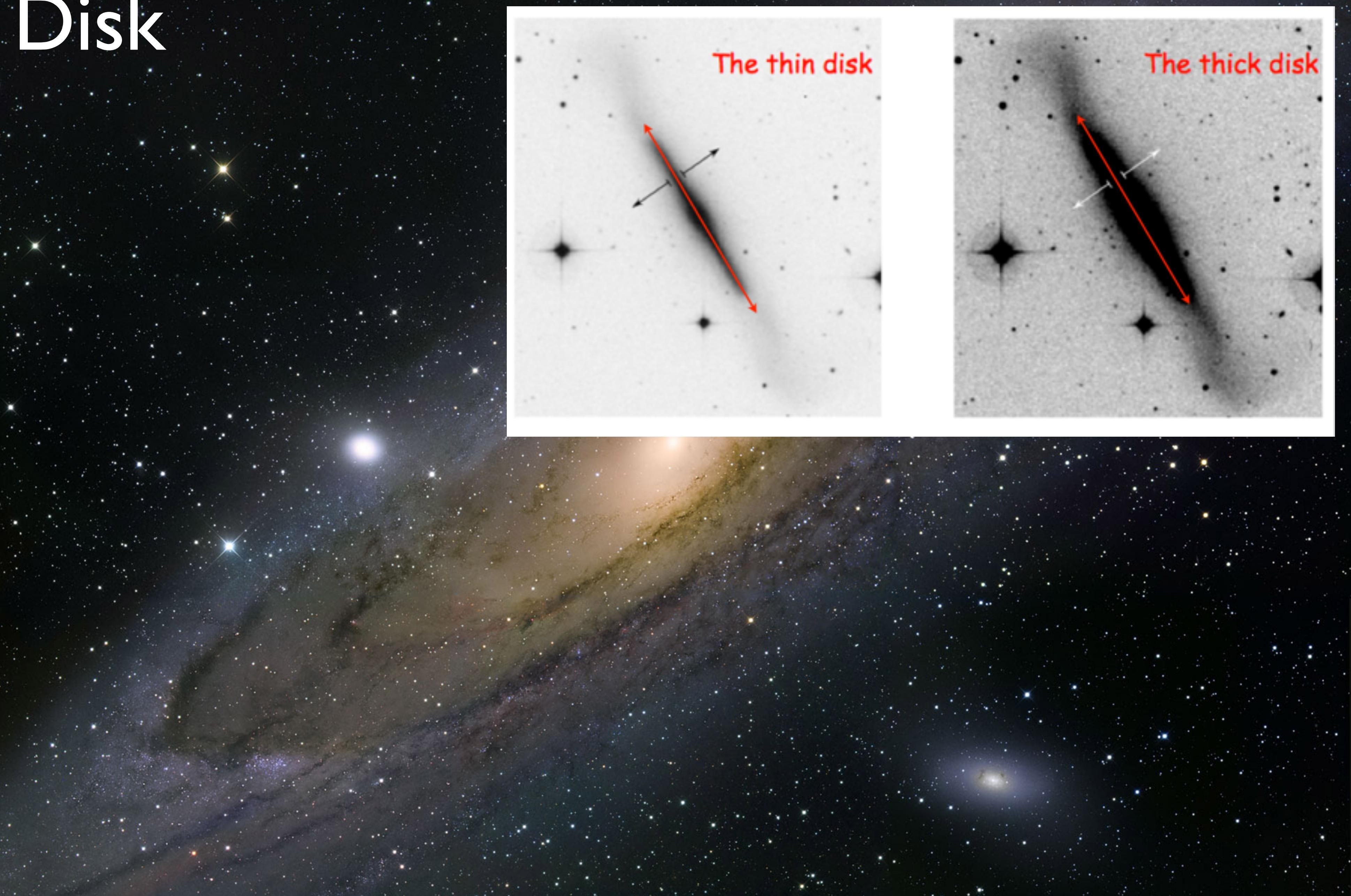
*M31, kindly standing in for the Milky Way*

# Disk



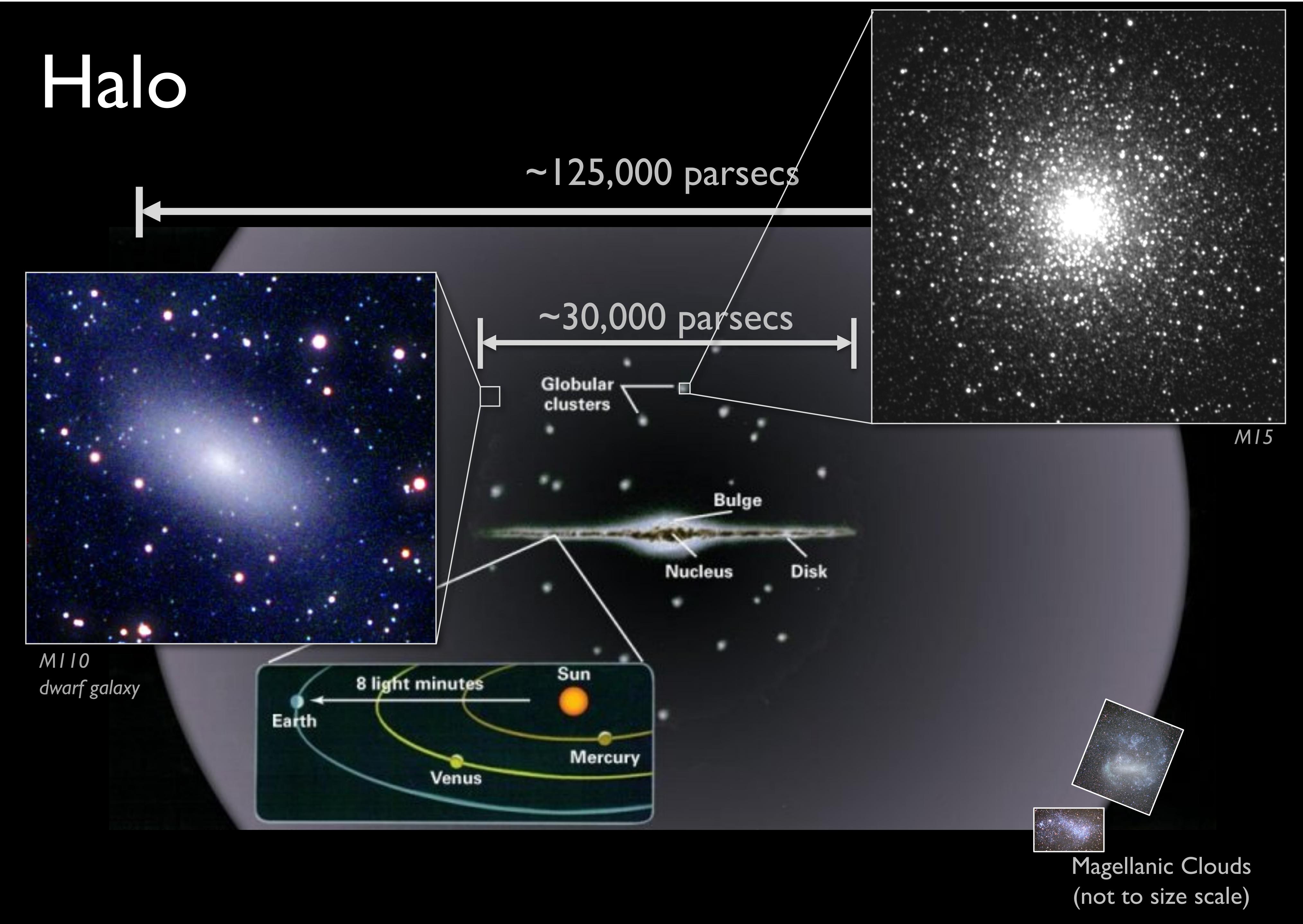
*M3 I, kindly standing in for the Milky Way*

# Disk

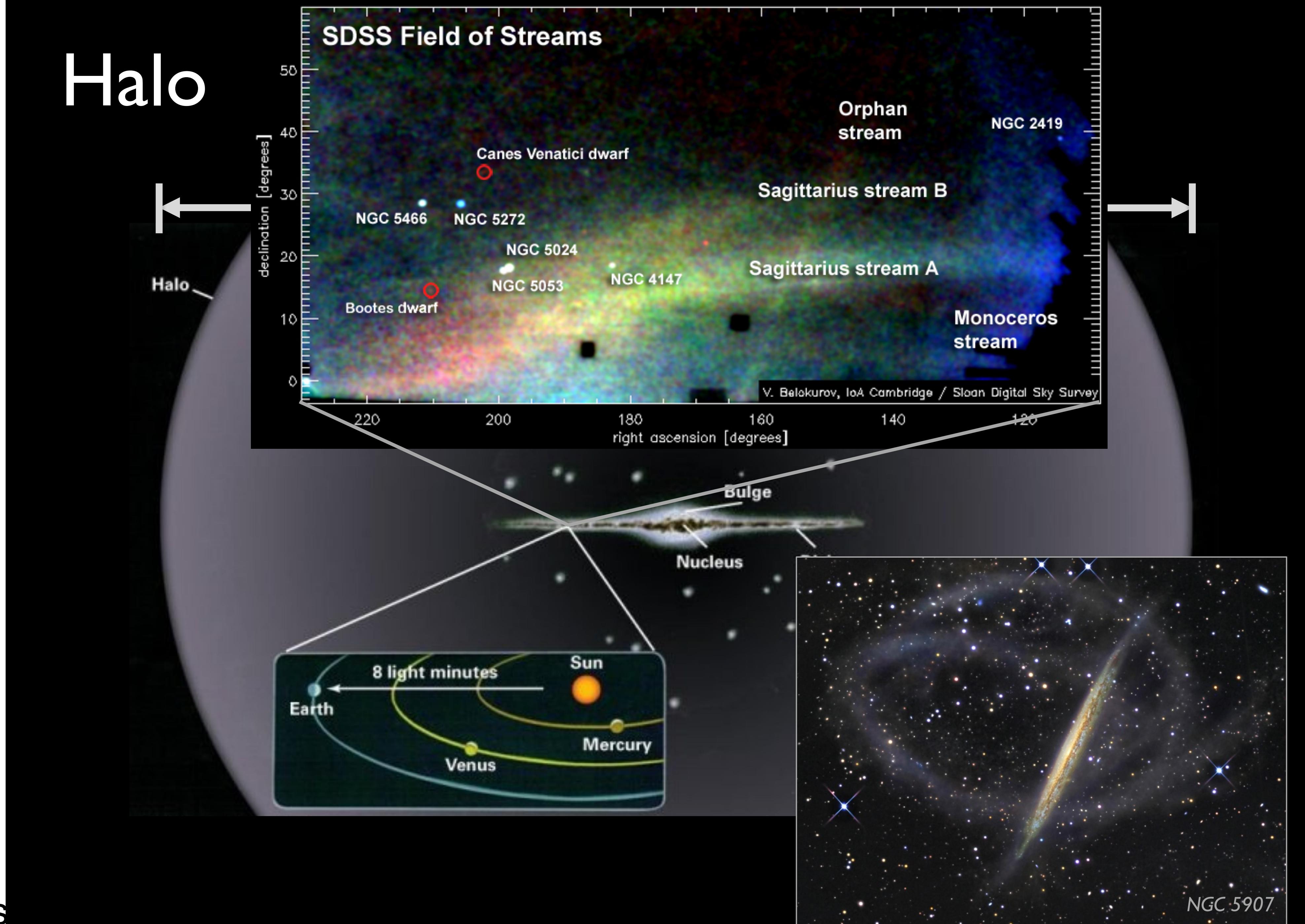


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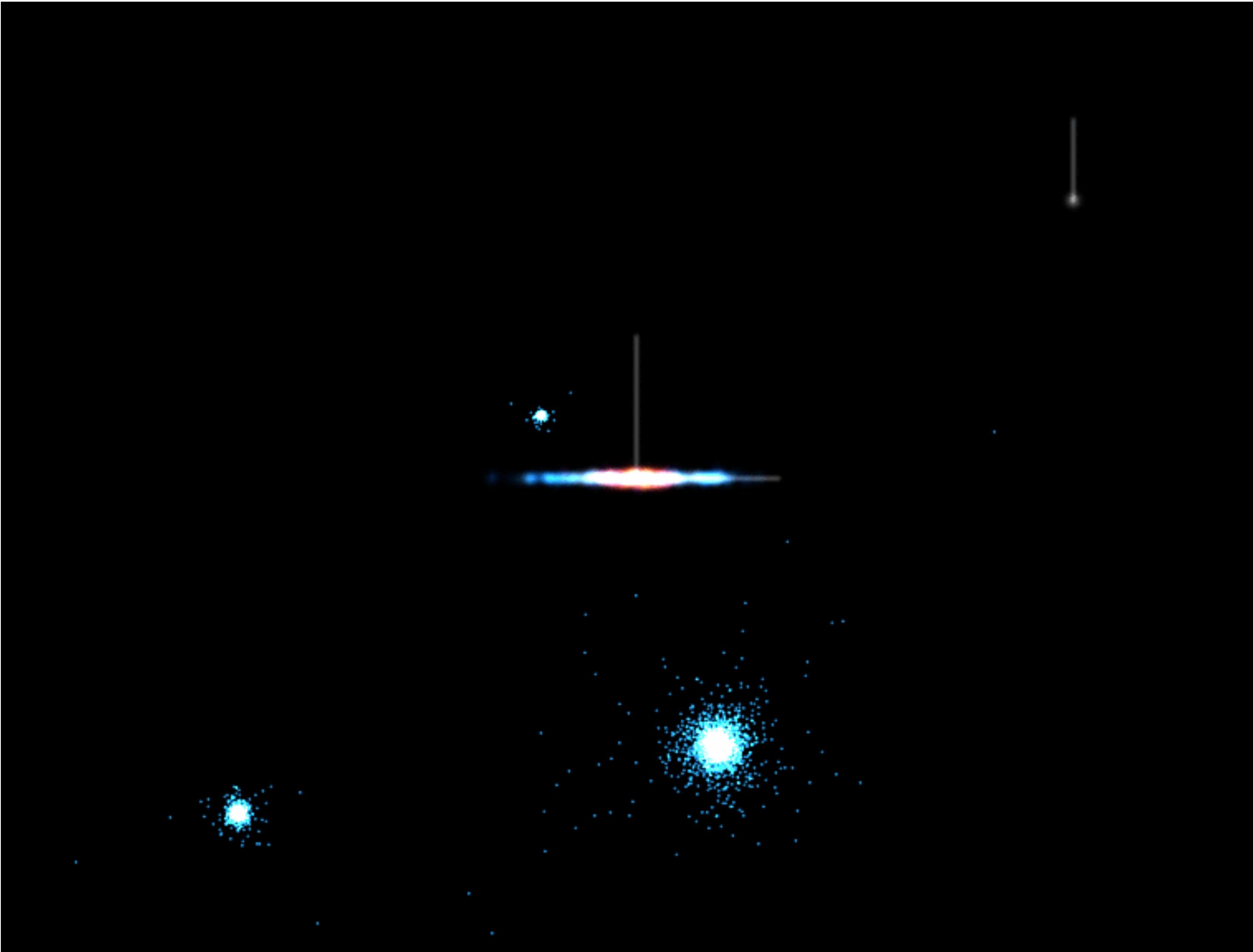
# Halo



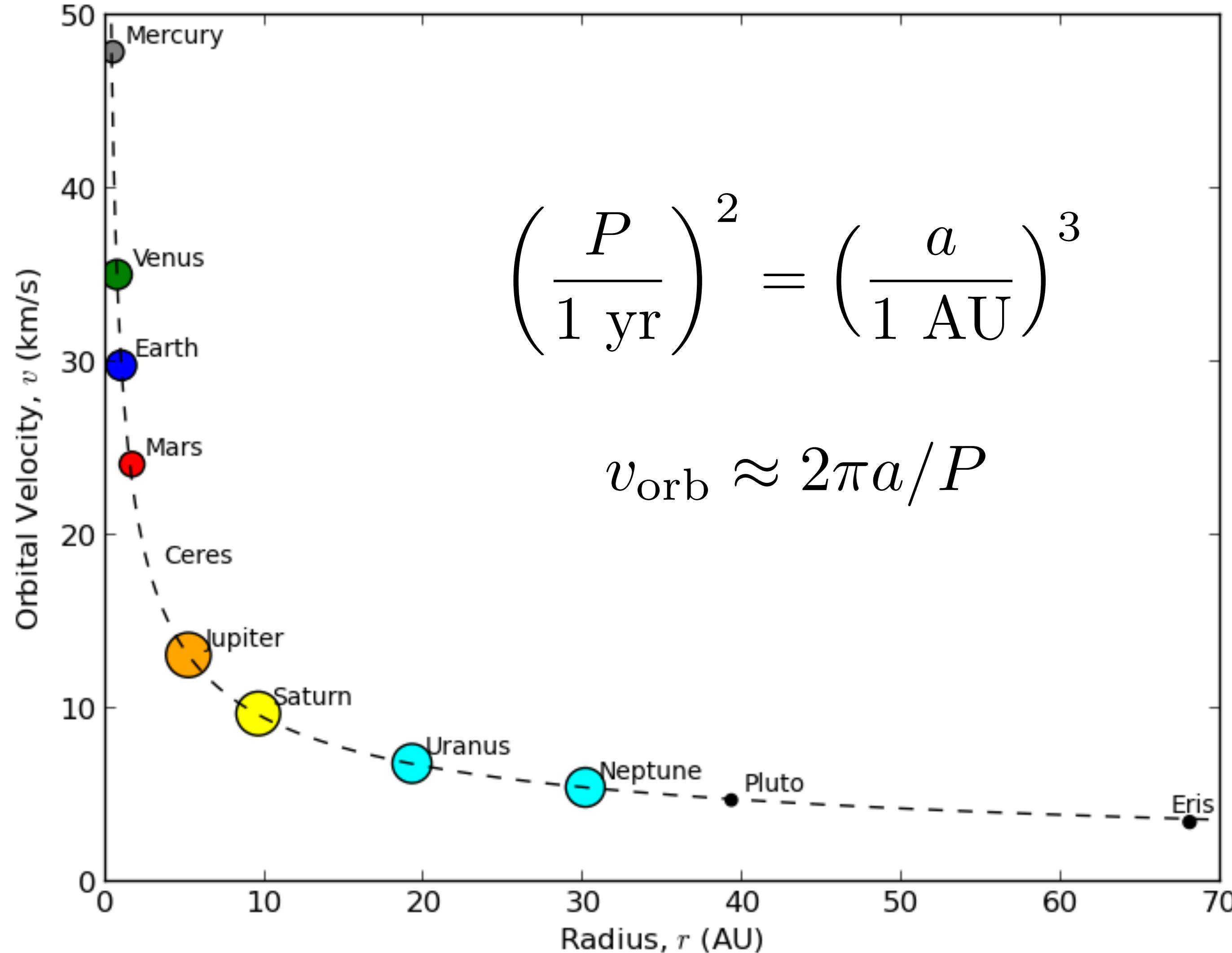
# Halo



# Small galaxies get shredded into the halo



# How do stars move in the Galaxy?



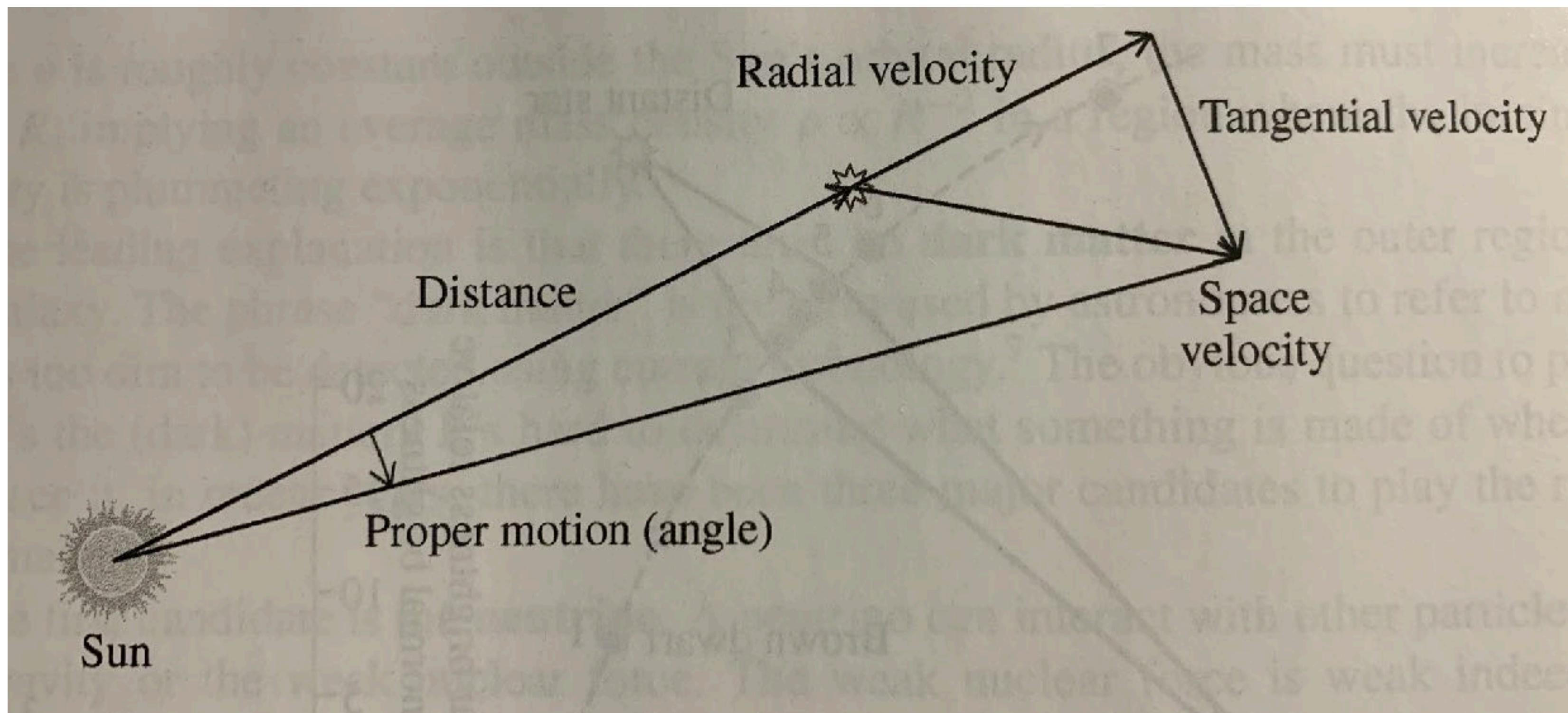
**Kepler's 3rd Law in the Galaxy**

$$M_{\odot} + M_G(< r) = \frac{(a/1 \text{ AU})^3}{(P/1 \text{ yr})^2}$$

**Mass  
inside  
Sun's orbit**

# How do we get 3D star velocities?

Radial Velocity:  $v_r = \frac{\Delta\lambda}{\lambda} c$

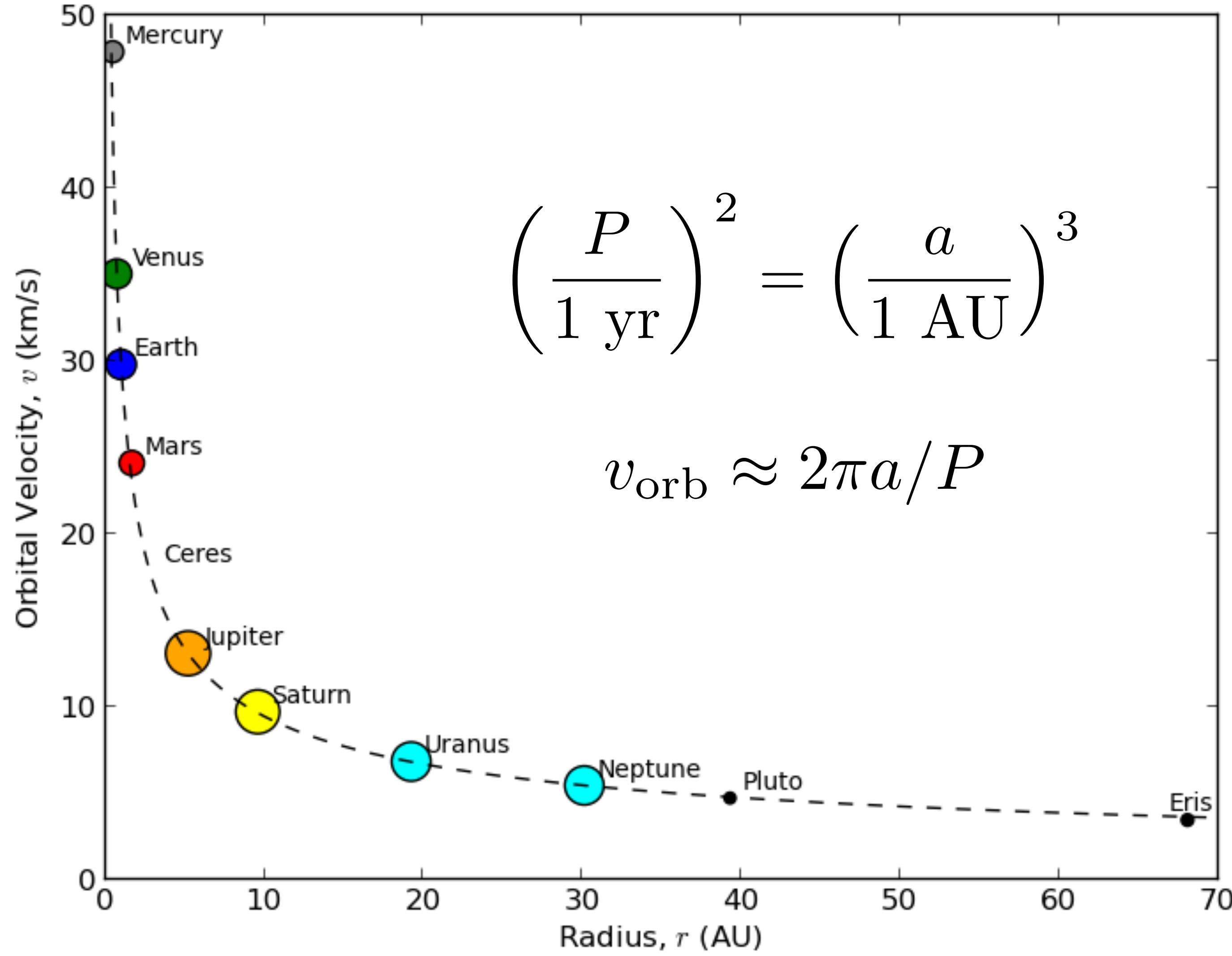


Proper Motion:

$$\mu = \frac{v_t}{d}$$

$$v = \sqrt{v_r^2 + v_t^2}$$

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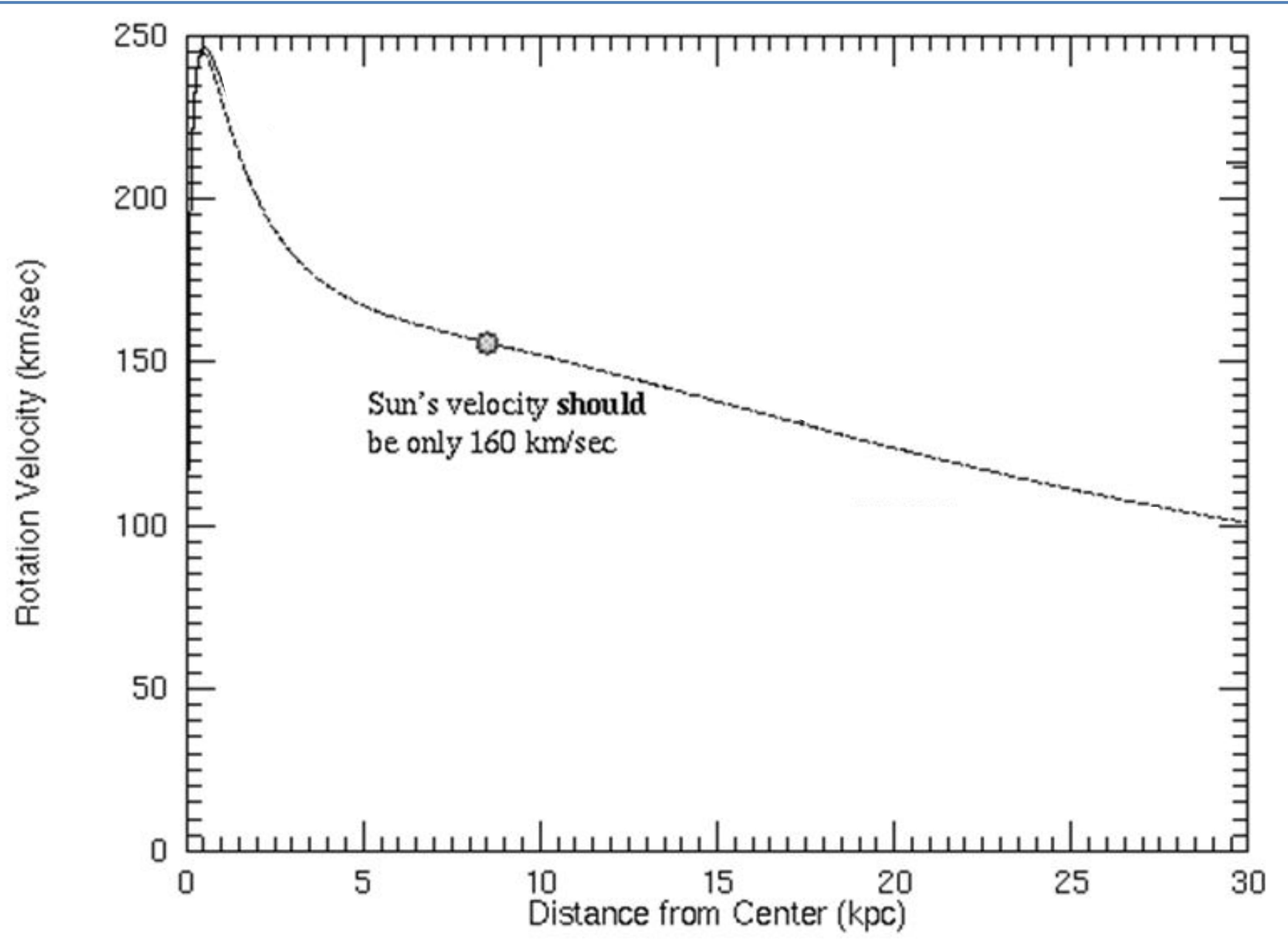
$$a \approx 8 \text{ kpc}$$

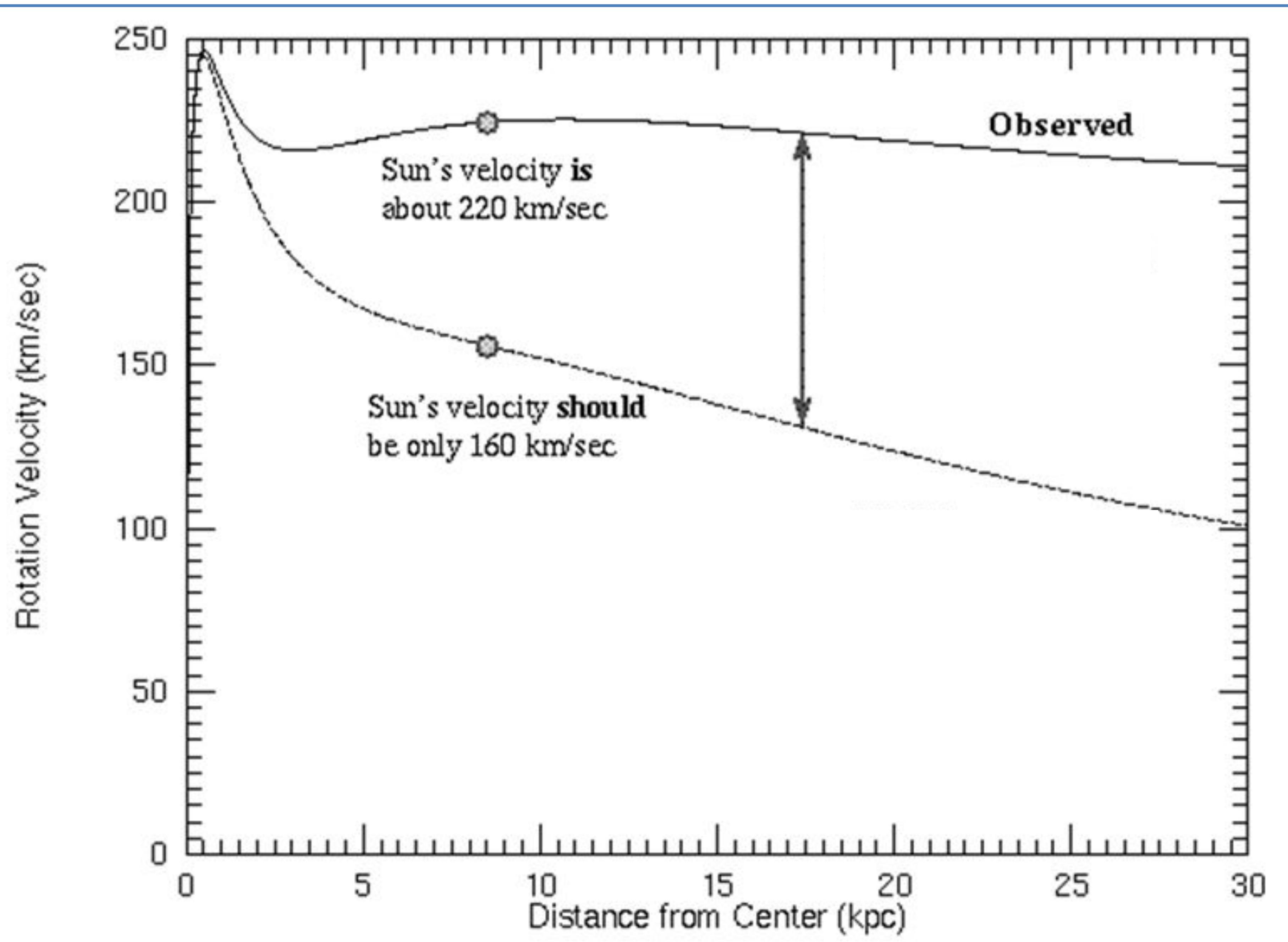
$$P \approx 220 \text{ Myr}$$

$$M_G(< r) \approx 9.3 \times 10^{10} M_{\odot}$$

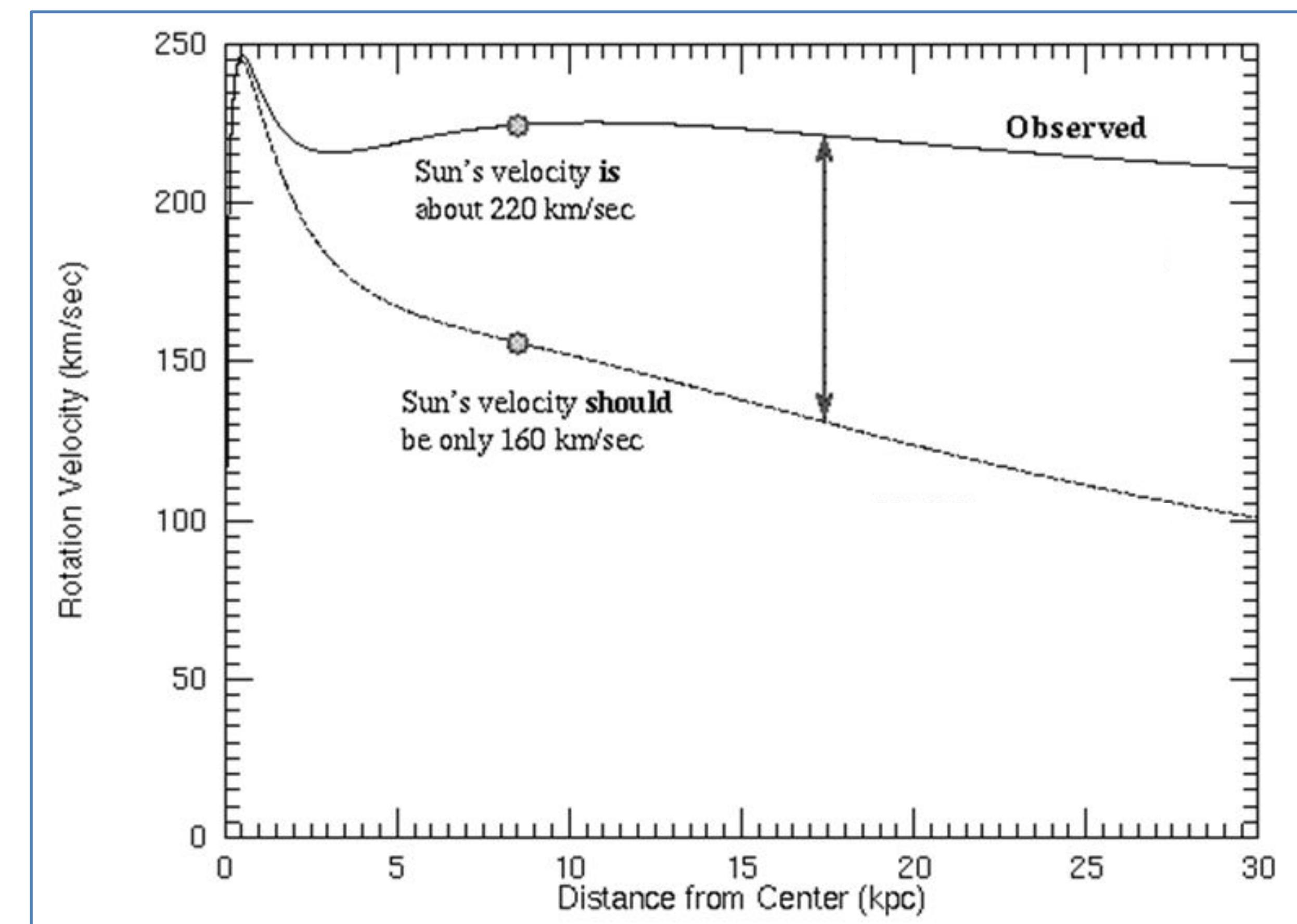
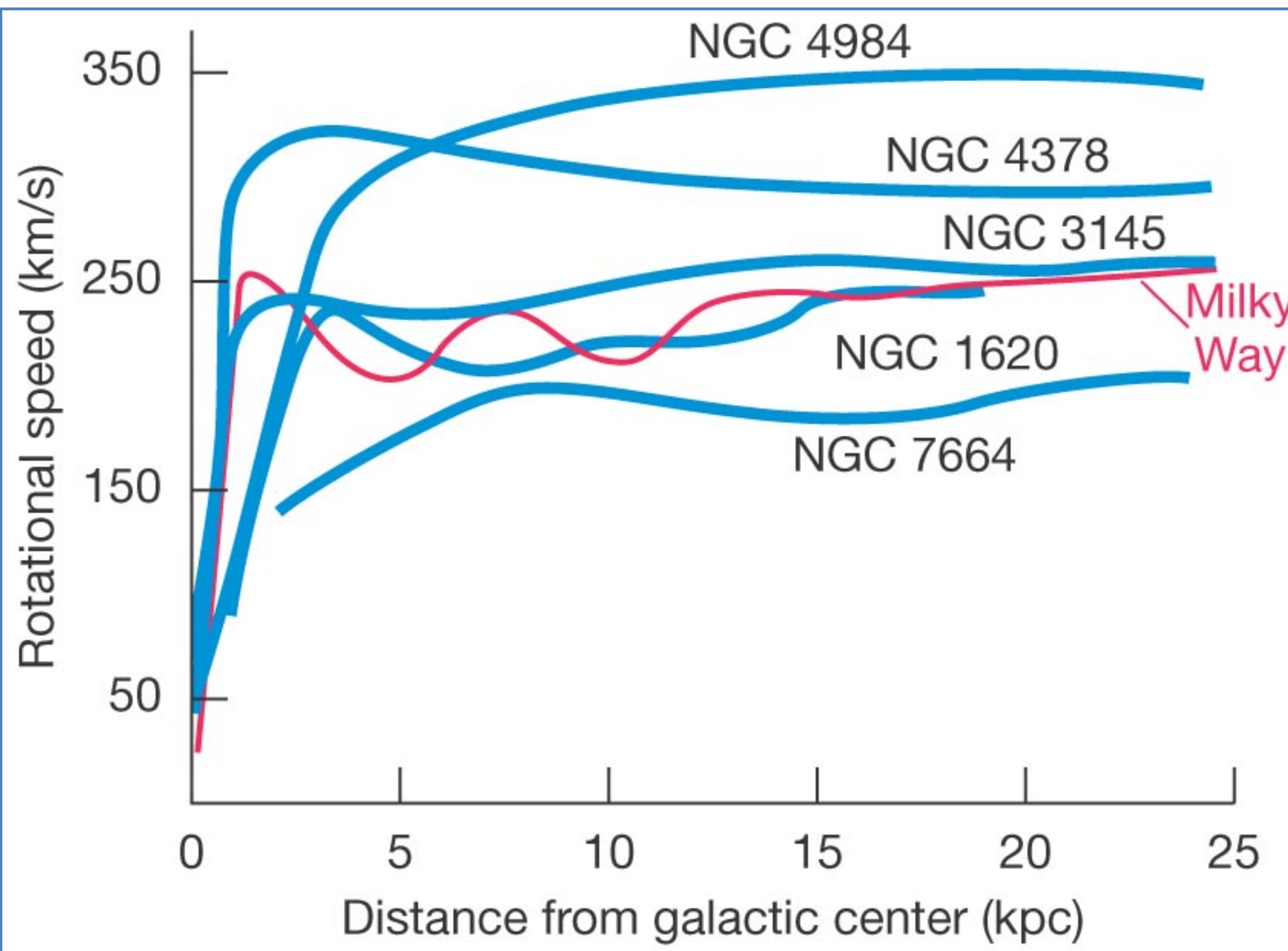
$$\frac{v(R)^2}{R} = \frac{GM_G(< R)}{R^2}$$

$$v(r) \propto \left( \frac{M_G(< R)}{R} \right)^{1/2} \propto R^{-1/2}$$





# Milky Way is not alone – there is extra, non-luminous matter in galaxies: “dark matter”



# Dark Matter: what is it?

- Neutrinos (like those produced in fusion)
  - Have mass, but not enough
  - New kind? Sterile Neutrino
- WIMP (Weakly Interacting Massive Particle)
  - Direct detection searches have failed
  - “WIMP miracle” not miraculous
- MACHO (MAssive Compact Halo Object)
  - WDs, NSs, BHs roaming around
  - Can detect via gravitational lensing - ruled out
- Theorists are clever - can invent other options!
- Modified Gravity (explains galaxy rotation, but...)

