

# **Topics in Galactic Chemical Evolution**

**N. Prantzos**

**Institut d'Astrophysique de Paris**

**1) Where have the *secondary* elements gone?**  
*(N14, Be, s-elements,...)*

**2) Towards a more “realistic” framework for GCE**  
*(The complex history of the Galactic halo ;  
mixing up the Galactic disk of stars)*

# Primary vs Secondary elements

**Primary:** produced from initial  
H and He inside the star

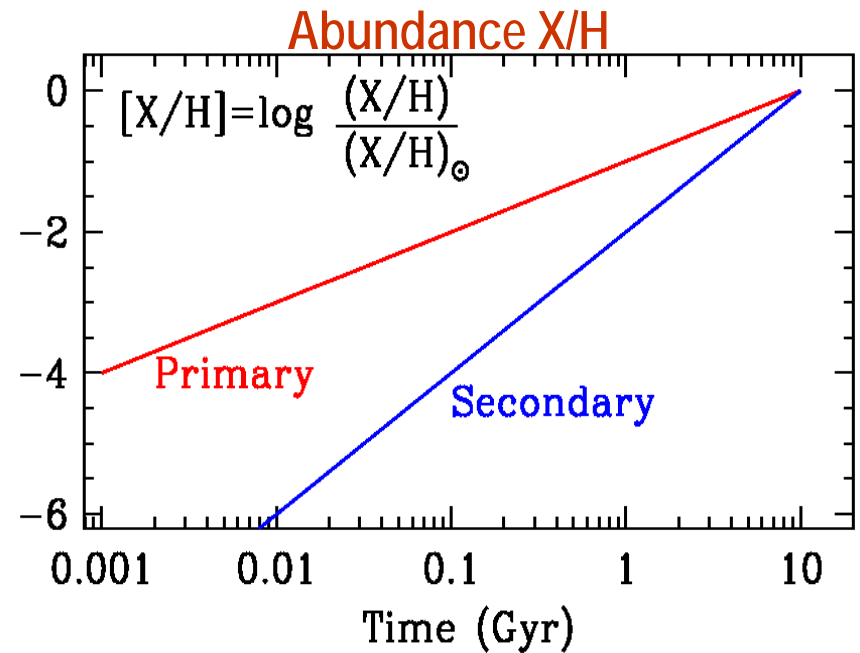
Yield: independent of initial metallicity (Z)  
Examples: C, O, Fe...

**Secondary:** produced from initial  
metals (Z) inside the star

Yield: proportional to initial metallicity (Z)  
Examples: N14, O17, s-nuclei...

Abundance(primary):  $X_p \propto t \propto Z$

Abundance(secondary):  $X_s \propto t^2 \propto Z^2$



# Primary vs Secondary elements

**Primary:** produced from initial  
H and He inside the star

**Yield:** independent of initial metallicity (Z)  
Examples: C, O, Fe...

**Secondary:** produced from initial  
metals (Z) inside the star

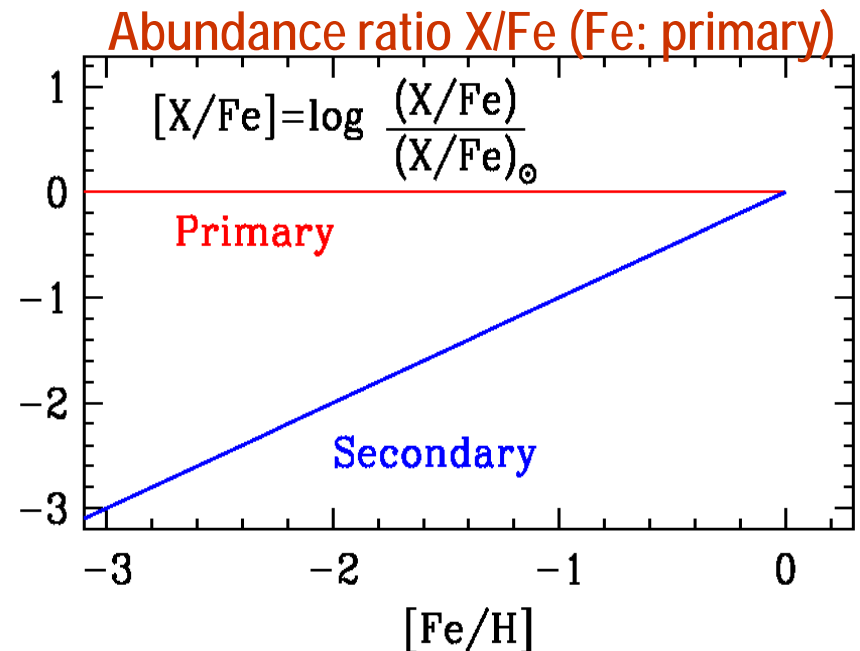
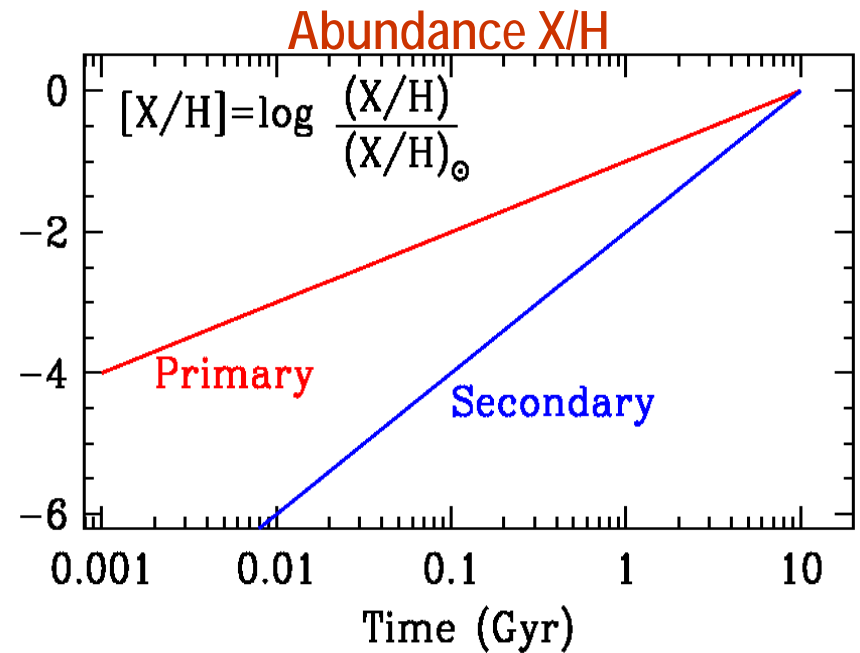
**Yield:** proportional to initial metallicity (Z)  
Examples: N14, O17, s-nuclei...

**Abundance(primary):**  $X_p \propto t \propto Z$

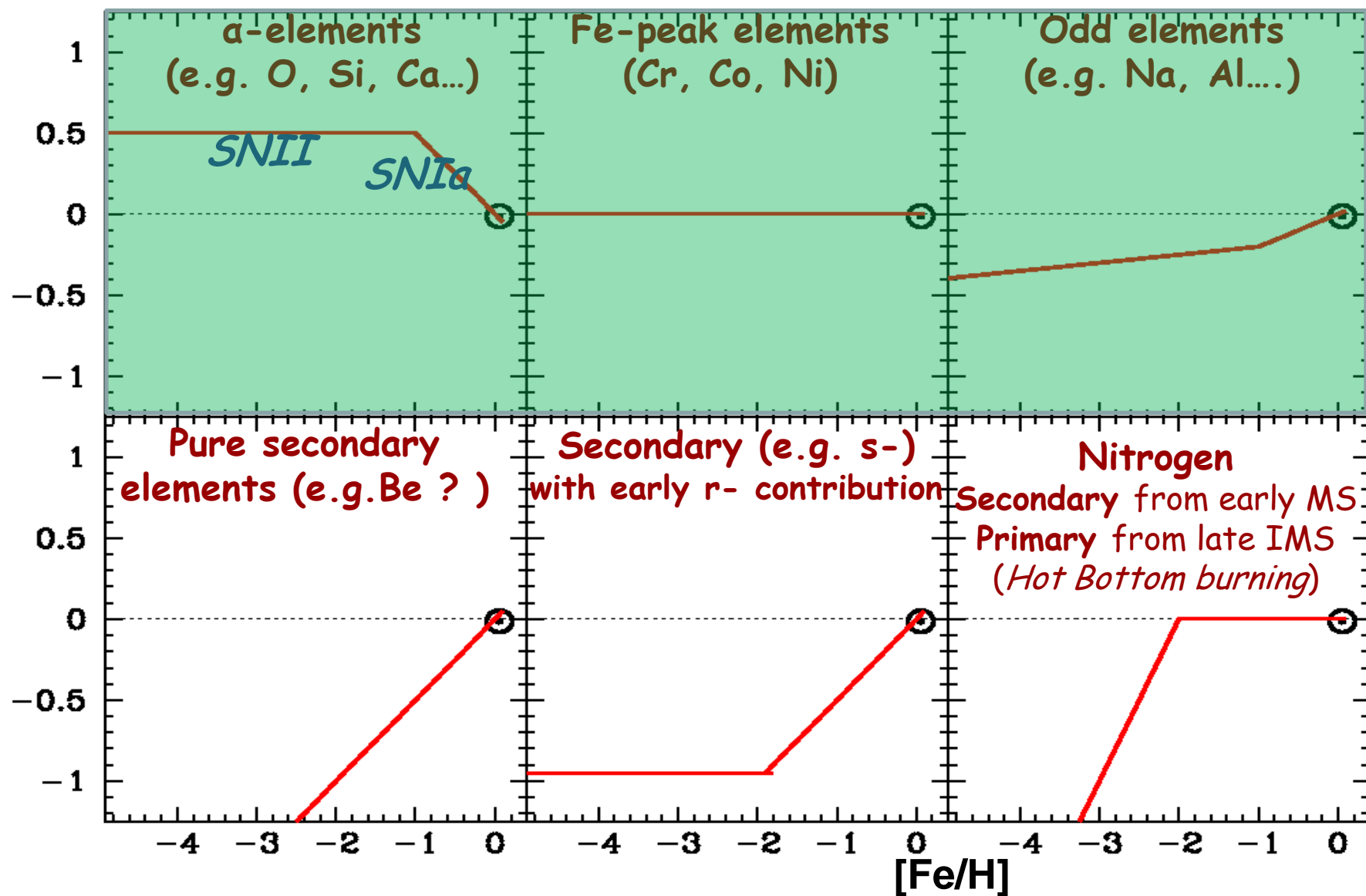
**Abundance(secondary):**  $X_s \propto t^2 \propto Z^2$

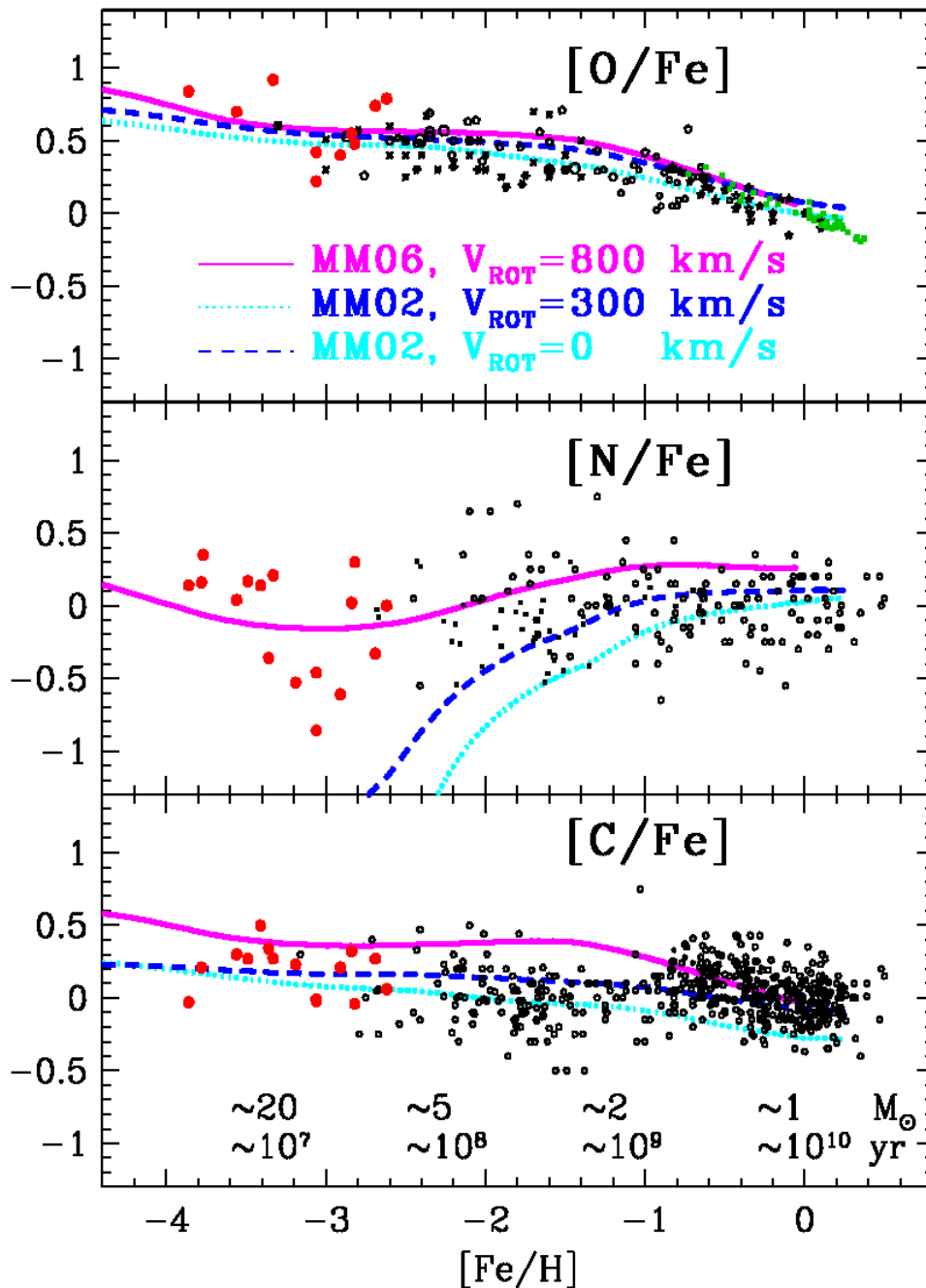
Abundance  
ratio

P/P : ~constant  
S/P :  $\propto X_p$



“Naive” expectations of the behavior of  $[X/Fe]$  vs  $[Fe/H]$  (circa late-80's)

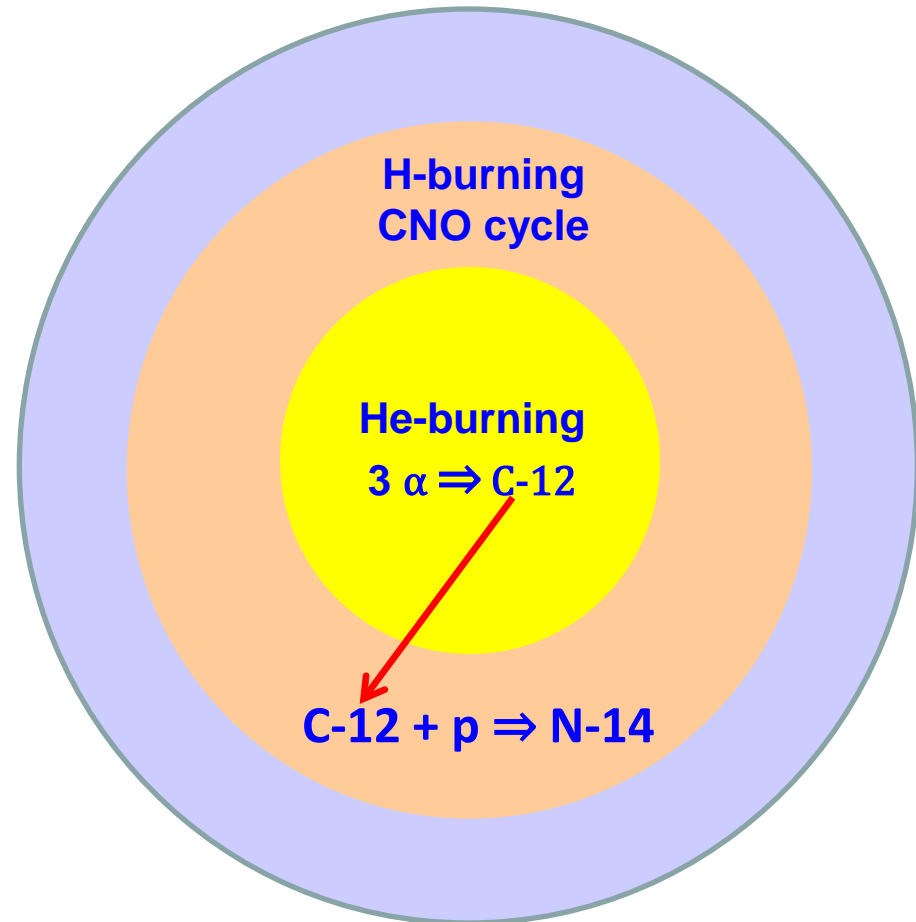




VLT data on non-mixed stars  
(Li present) suggest **primary N**  
down to the lowest metallicities  
(*Spite et al. 2004*)

Massive stars of  $Z \sim 10^{-8}$   
with **high rotation velocities**  
( $800$  km/s)  
can produce such primary N  
(Geneva models)

# Chemical evolution : the quest for early primary nitrogen

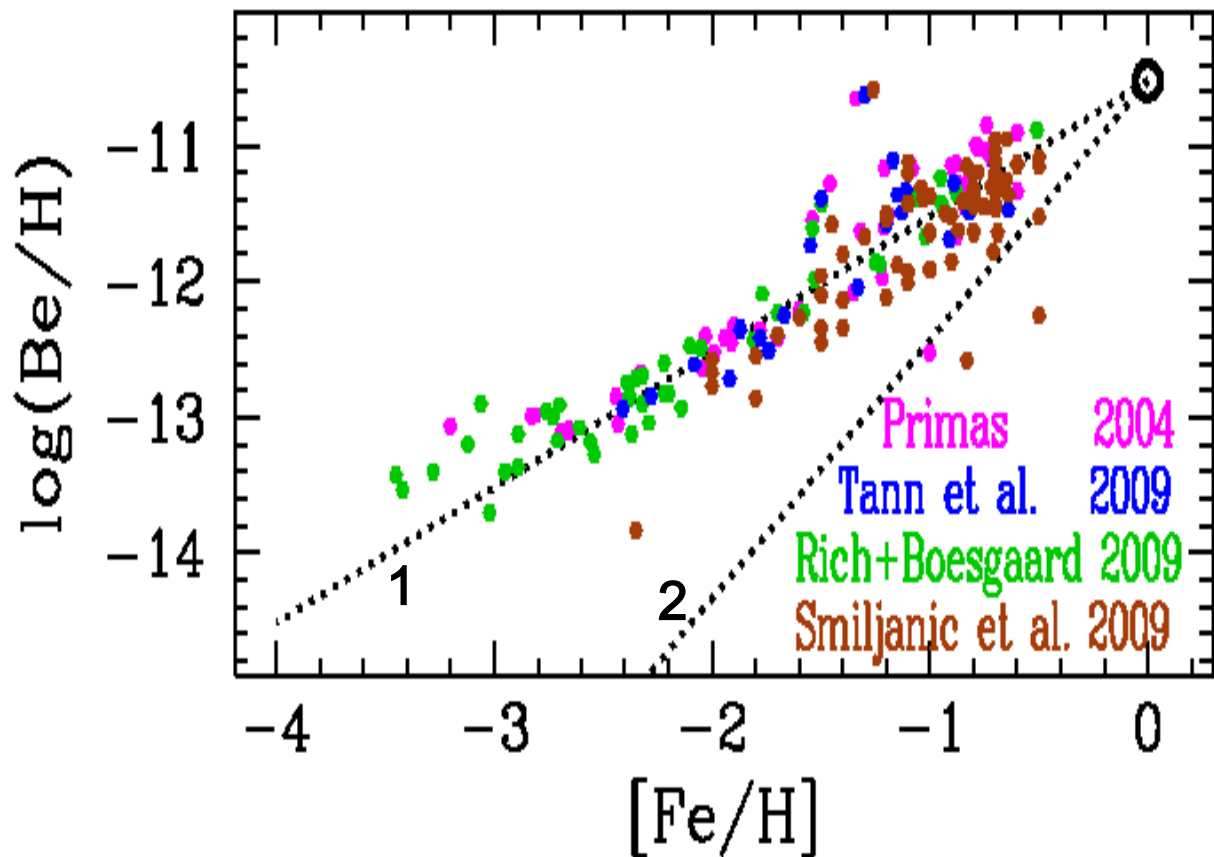


Non-rotating massive stars:  
N-14 from INITIAL C-12  
**SECONDARY N-14**

Rotating massive stars:  
N-14 from C-12 PRODUCED  
in the He-core through  $3\alpha$   
and subsequently mixed  
to H-burning regions  
by **rotationally induced mixing**  
**PRIMARY N-14**  
(Meynet and Maeder 2004,  
Meynet et al. 2006)

# Evolution of Be

Early 90ies: Be (and B) observations in low metallicity halo stars



**Be abundance** evolves exactly as Fe

(unexpected, since it is produced from CNO and it should behave as secondary)



Is the composition of GCR time(metallicity) independent and why ?

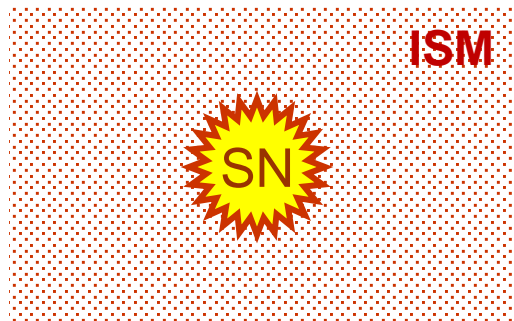


# Galactic Cosmic Rays : what is the composition of accelerated matter ?

1. Standard ISM  
accelerated  
by forward shock

$$X(\text{GCR}) = X(\text{ISM})$$

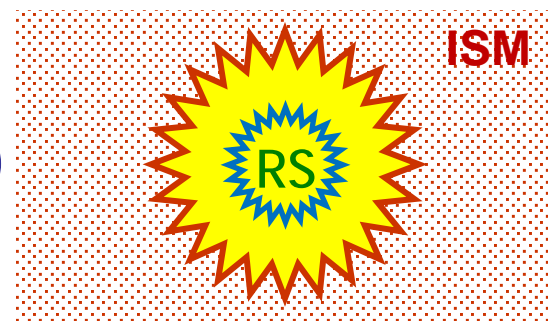
Secondary BeB



2. SN interior  
accelerated by  
reverse shock (RS)

$$X(\text{GCR}) = X(\text{SN})$$

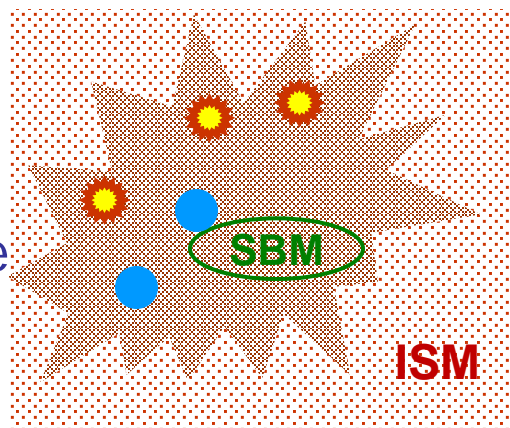
Primary BeB



- 3) SuperBubble  
matter (SBM),  
always enriched  
to  $\sim Z_{\odot}$  from  
its own Supernovae  
(Higdon et al. 1998)

$$X(\text{GCR}) \sim X(\text{SN})$$

Primary BeB



- A) In Superbubbles, massive star winds  
continuously accelerate SBM,  
and do not allow Ni59 to decay

- B) SN are observationally associated  
with HII regions, with widely different  
metallicities

- A) Energetically unfeasible  
(reverse shock too weak)

- B) Absence of radioactive Ni59 ( $\tau \sim 10^5$  yr)  
in observed GCR (Wiedenbeck et al. 1998)  
requires  $\Delta t > 3 \cdot 10^5$  yr between  
SN explosion and GCR acceleration

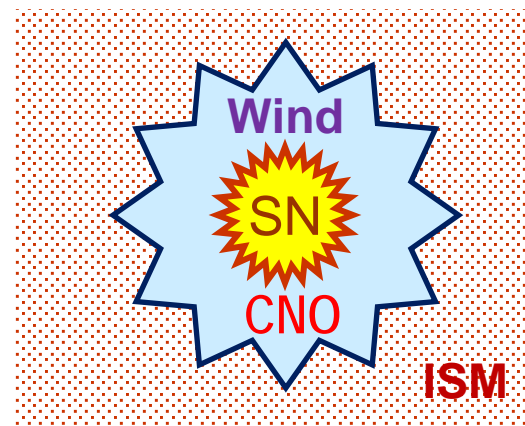
4. Massive star wind  
accelerated  
by forward shock

$$X_{\text{CNO}}(\text{GCR}) \sim$$

$$X_{\text{CNO}}(\text{Wind})$$

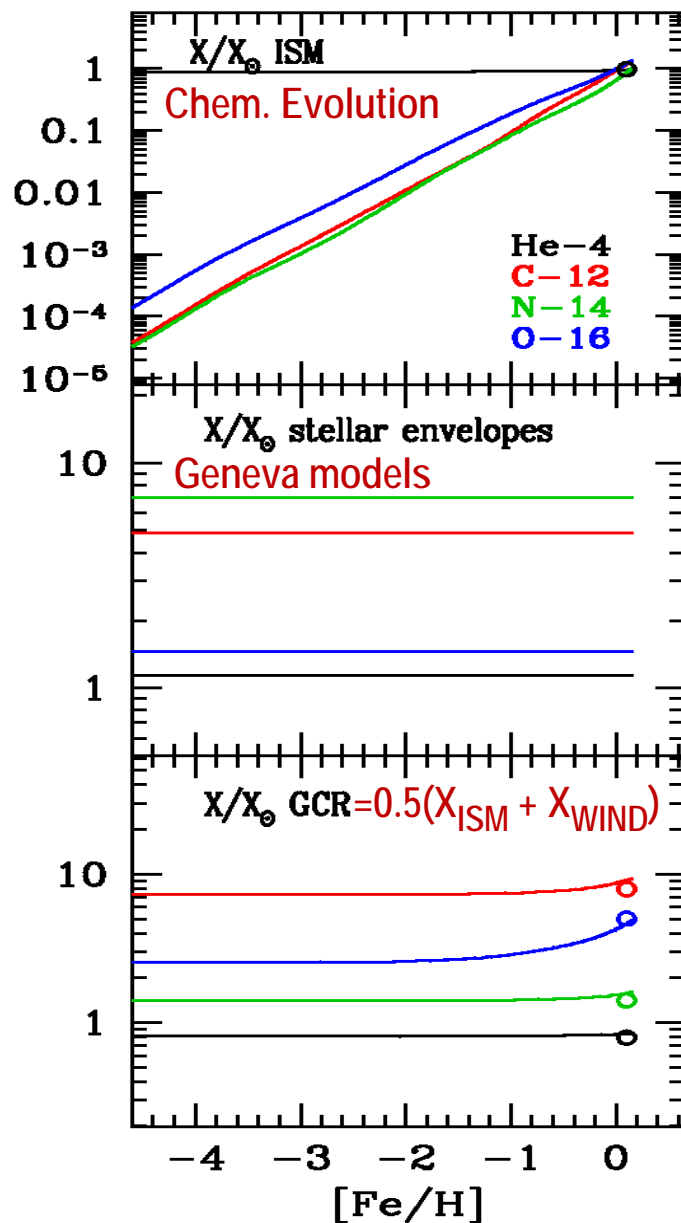
Primary BeB

BUT  $X_{\text{Heavy}}(\text{GCR}) \neq$   
 $X_{\text{Heavy}}(\text{ISM})$

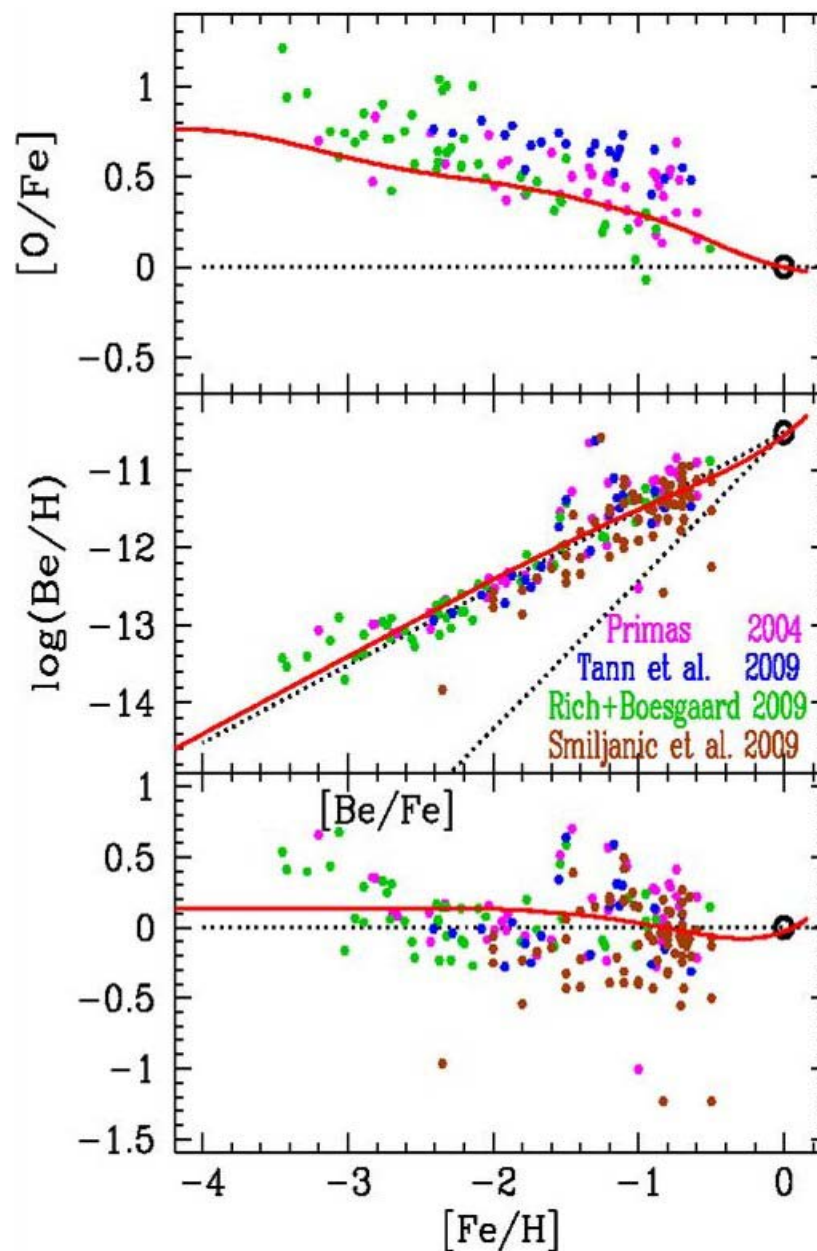


Assumed composition of GCR :

$$X_{\text{GCR}}(t) = 0.5 (X_{\text{WIND}}(t) + X_{\text{ISM}}(t))$$



With this, "physically motivated"  
GCR composition AND proper GCR/SN  
energetics, primary Be is naturally obtained



# Evolution of s-elements

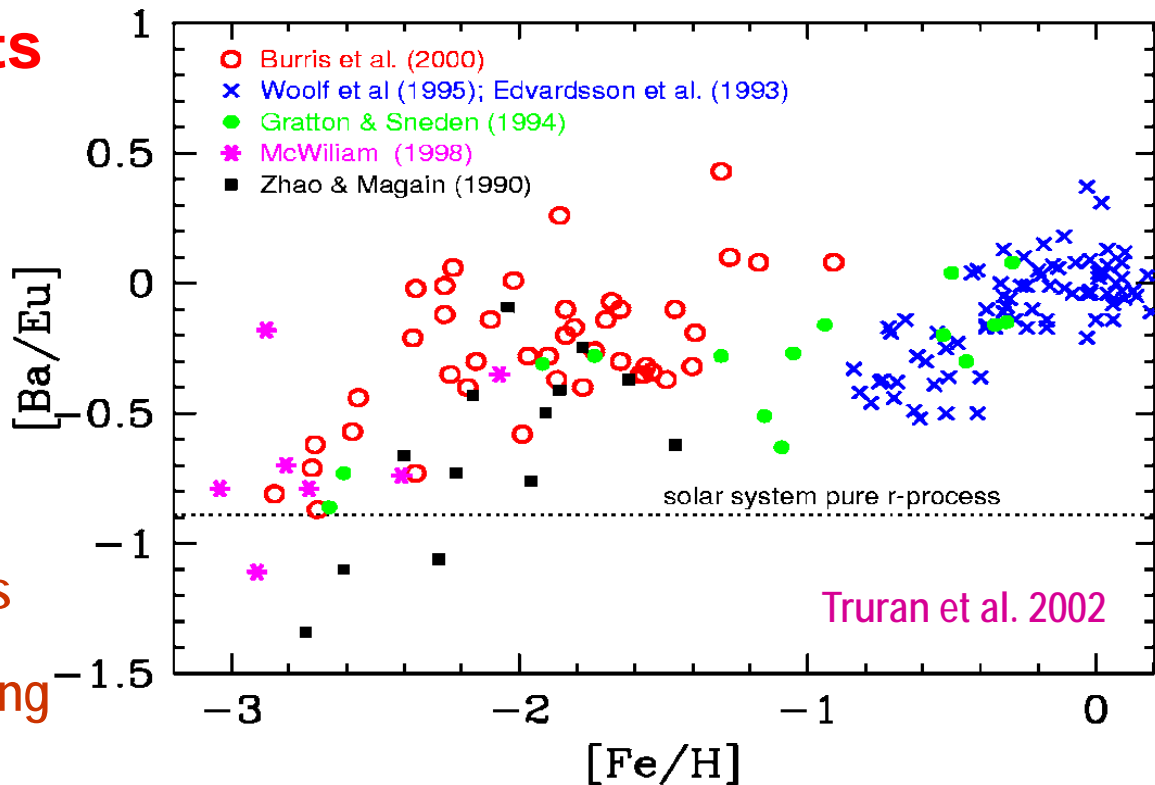
S-elements : secondary  
(produced by n-captures  
on pre-existing Fe seed nuclei)

As we go back in time (low Z),  
the [s/Fe] ratio should decrease,

NOT only because of the  
secondary nature of the s-process

but also because of the relatively long  
lifetime of s-process sites  
(AGB stars: a few  $10^8$  years)

And should finally hit a “floor”  
due to the contribution of the  
r-component  
(which is PRIMARY  
and produced by SHORT-LIVED  
massive stars)  
(Truran 1981)



At what metallicity – and *time* -  
do intermediate mass stars  
start contributing to the  
abundances of s-elements?

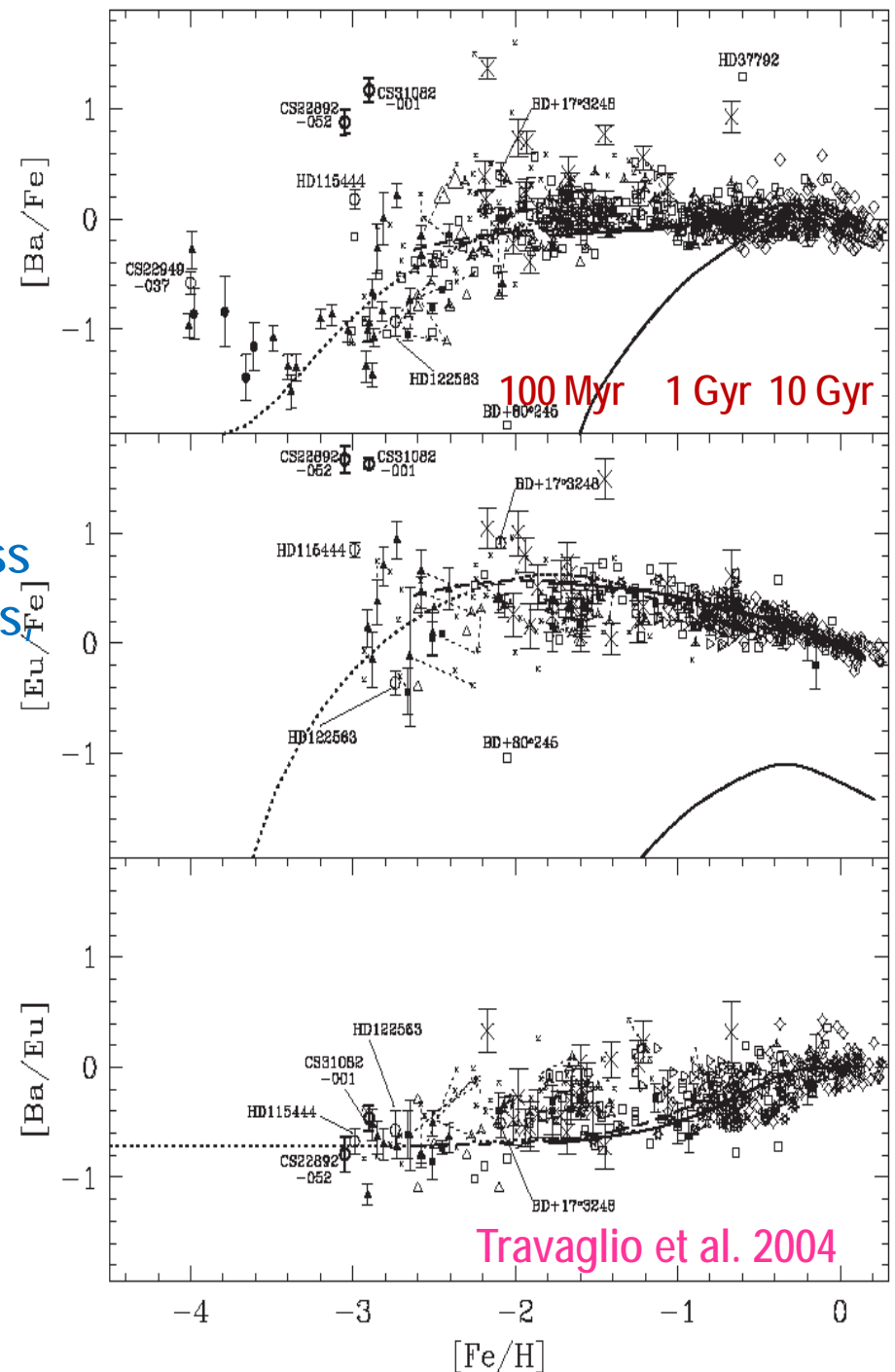
*Hints for source lifetimes / yields*

We do observe a late rise of Ba/Fe or Ba/Eu with metallicity but it is not clear whether it is due to the long lifetimes of IMS or to the secondary nature of s-process

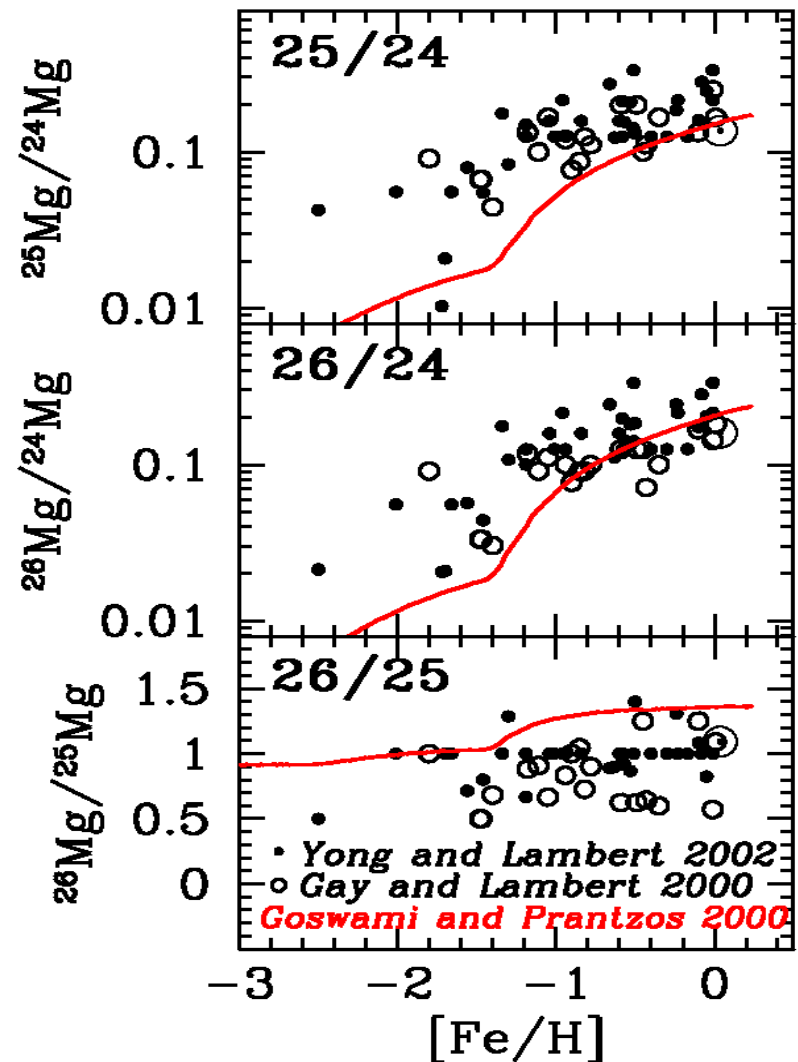
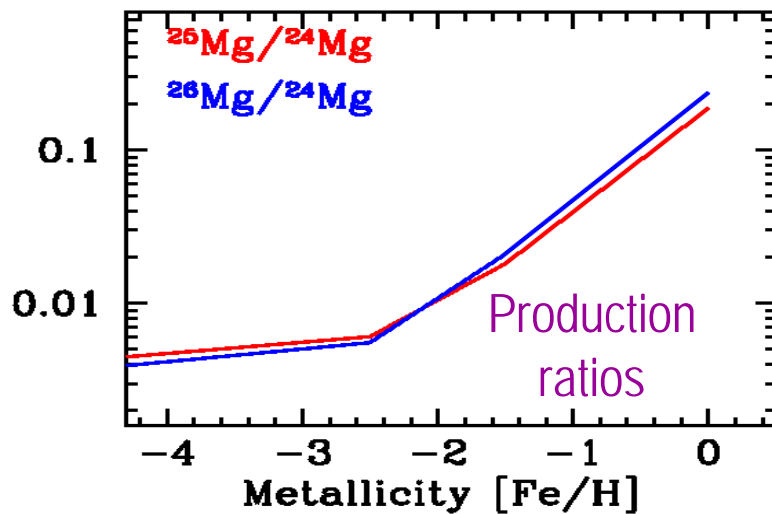
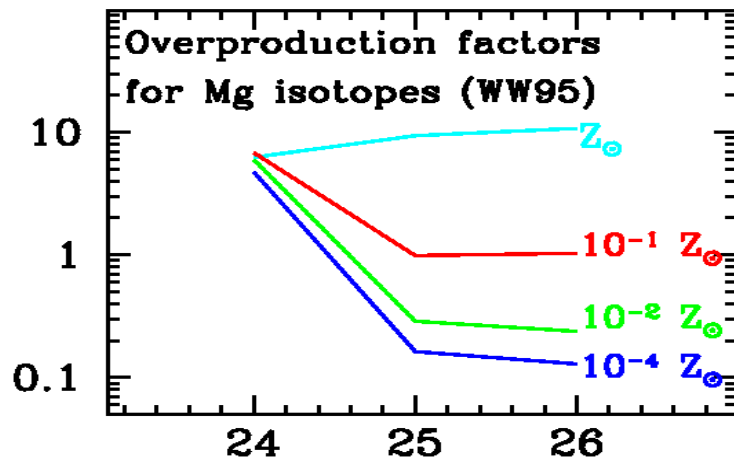
Somewhat counterintuitively, the s-process efficiency may be higher at low metallicities producing e.g. a lot of Pb-208 very early in GCE (Clayton 1988)

The efficiency of the s-process depends on the metallicity dependence of the “neutron economy trio”

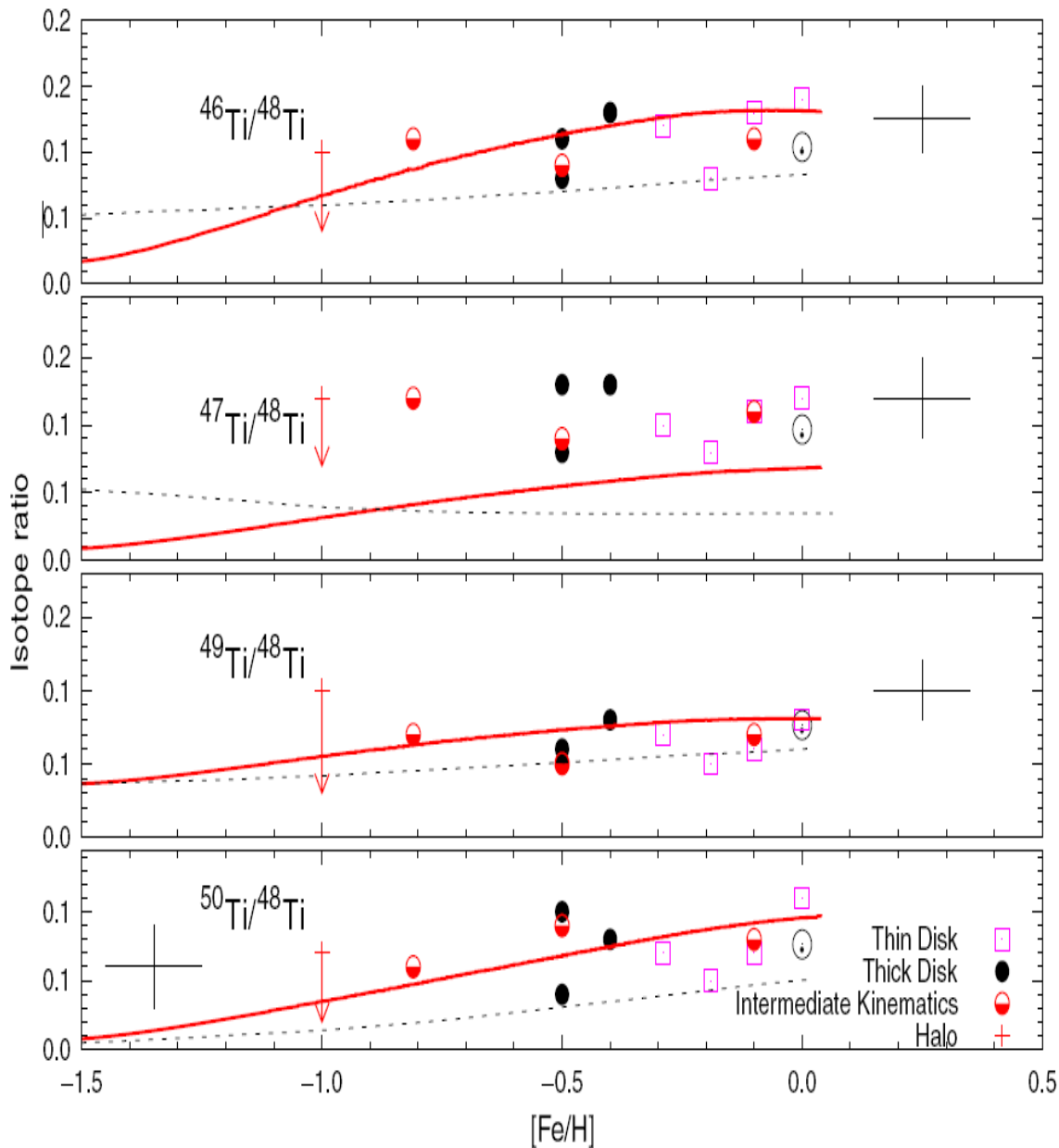
- seed nuclei (Fe-56)
  - n-source nuclei (C-13 or Ne-22)
  - n-poison nuclei (e.g. N-14)
- (Prantzos et al. 1990)



## The Mg isotopic abundances



# The Ti isotopic abundances



Data: Chavez and Lambert 2009

Model 1 : Prantzos 2008  
(WW95 yields)

Model 2 : Kobayashi 2008  
(Nomoto05 yields)



# The formation of a Milky Way like galaxy

Galaxy formation simulations created at the

## N-body shop

*makers of quality galaxies*

key: gas- green new stars- blue old stars- red

credits: Fabio Governato (University of Washington)  
Chris Brook (University of Washington)  
James Wadsely (McMaster University)

simulation run at the CINECA supercomputing center, (BO, Italy)  
contact: [fabio@astro.washington.edu](mailto:fabio@astro.washington.edu)

# The MW Halo Metallicity Distribution (HMD)

The observed metallicity distribution (MD) of field halo stars is characterized by:

1) A peak at  $[Fe/H] = -1.6$  implying a reduced effective yield

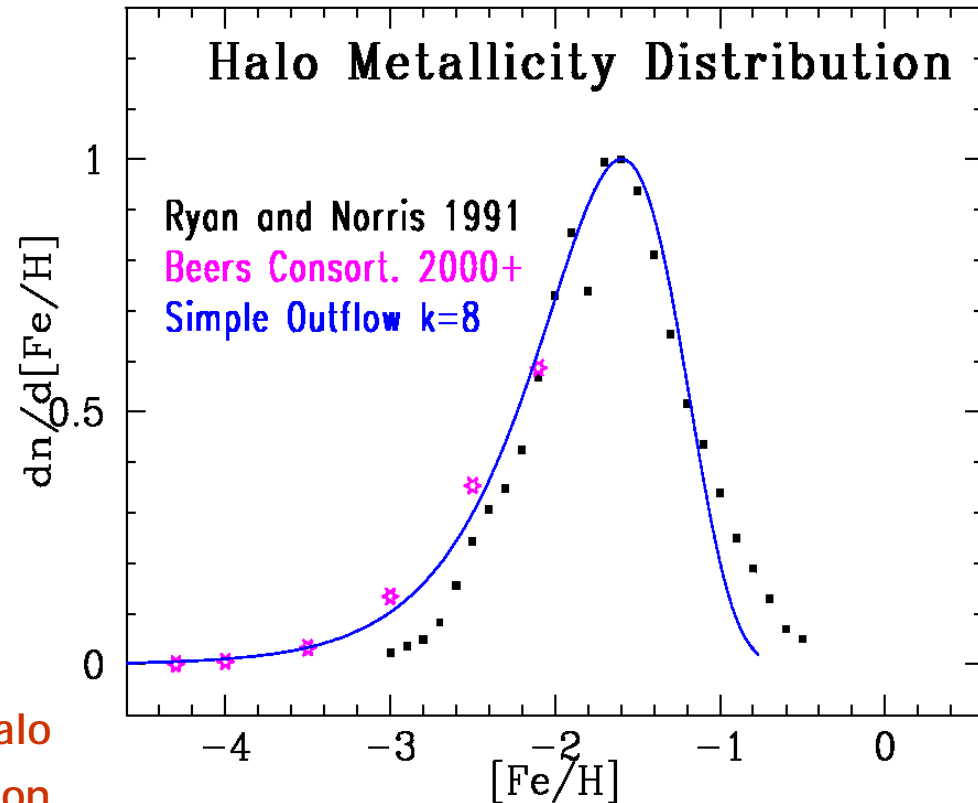
$$p_{EFF} \sim p_0/9$$

most easily interpreted in a Simple model with Outflow rate = 8 SFR (Hartwick 1975)

2) A very smooth shape;

is it compatible with the formation of the Halo from hierarchical merging plus tidal disruption of many small fragments ?

Ingredients required to evaluate the halo MD as a sum of MDs of sub-haloes in the hierarchical merging paradigm :



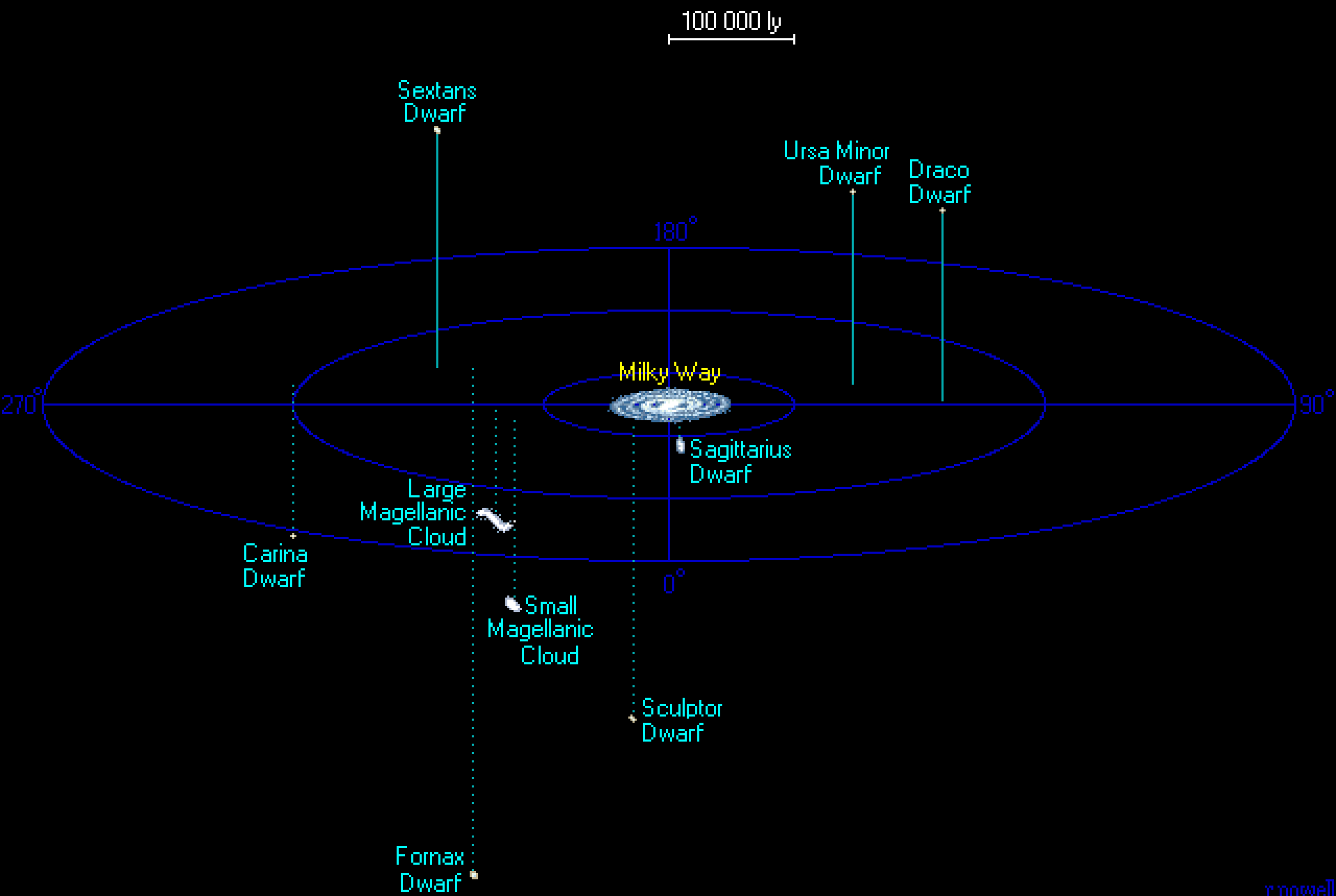
1) Shape of sub-halo MD

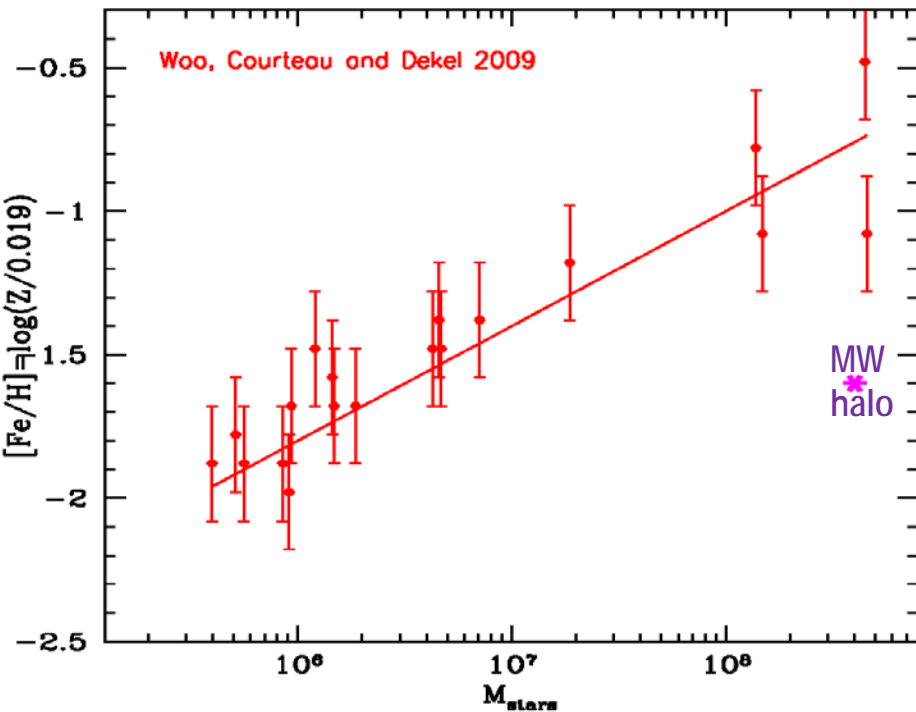
2) Dependence of sub-halo MD on sub-halo mass

3) Baryon mass distribution of sub-haloes

For the former two ingredients, one may get inspiration by observations of nearby dwarf galaxies (satellites of Milky Way)







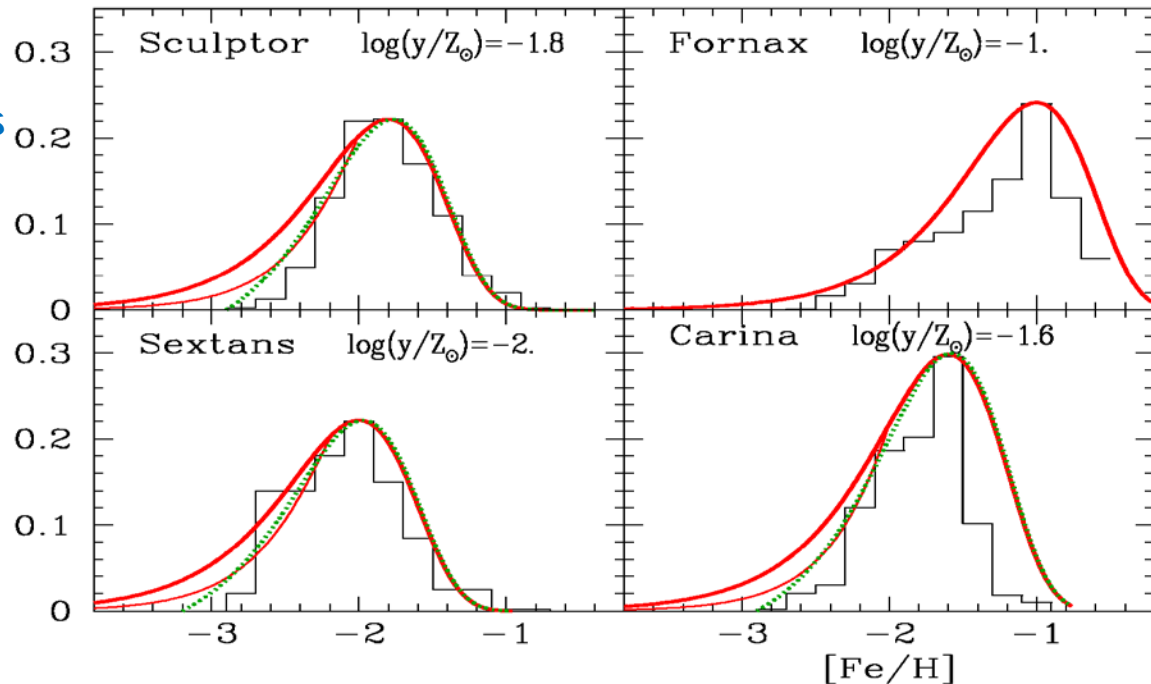
Mass - Metallicity relationship  
of dwarf spheroidals

The MW halo lies far below that relation

### Metallicity distributions of dwarf galaxies

The MDs of dSph satellites of the MW  
can be well described by  
the simple model with outflow  
AND either

- pre-enrichment (*Helmi et al. 2006*)
- early infall (*Prantzos 2007*)
- both (*Salvadori et al. 2008*)



The halo MD may result as the sum of the MDs of ~a few dozens of small galaxies (sub-haloes of  $10^6 - 10^8 M_\odot$ ),

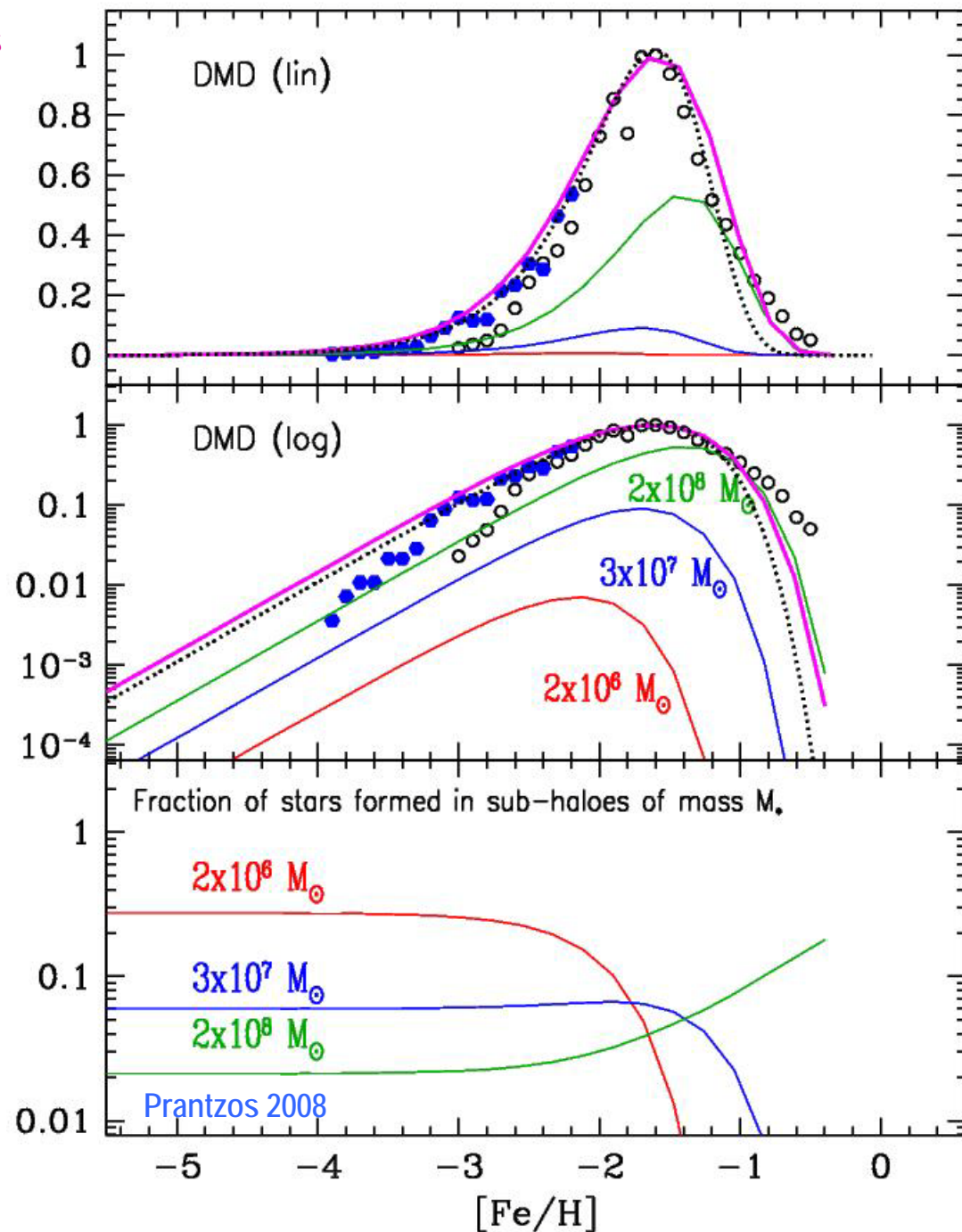
each one with an effective yield obtained from the observed *mass-metallicity relation* for local dwarf spheroidals

and with an appropriate number distribution

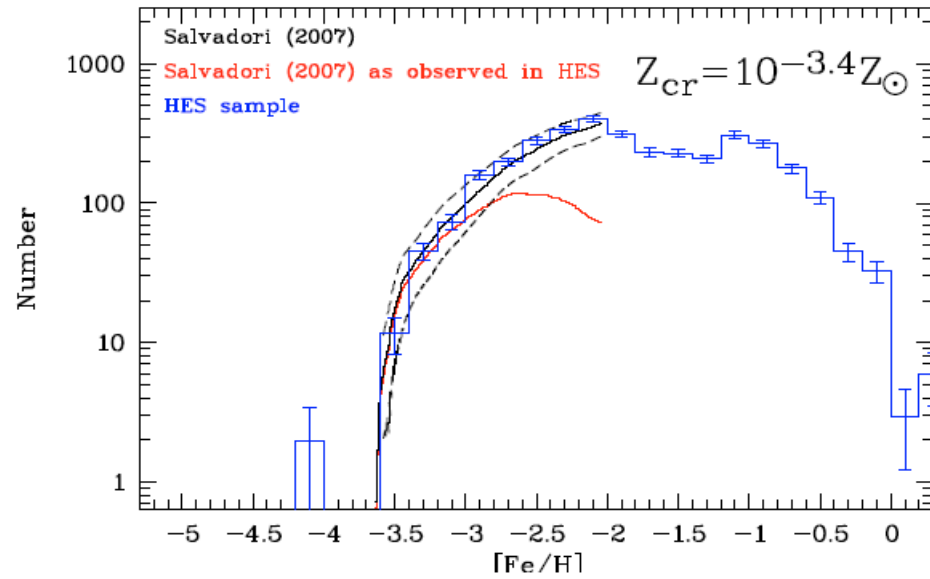
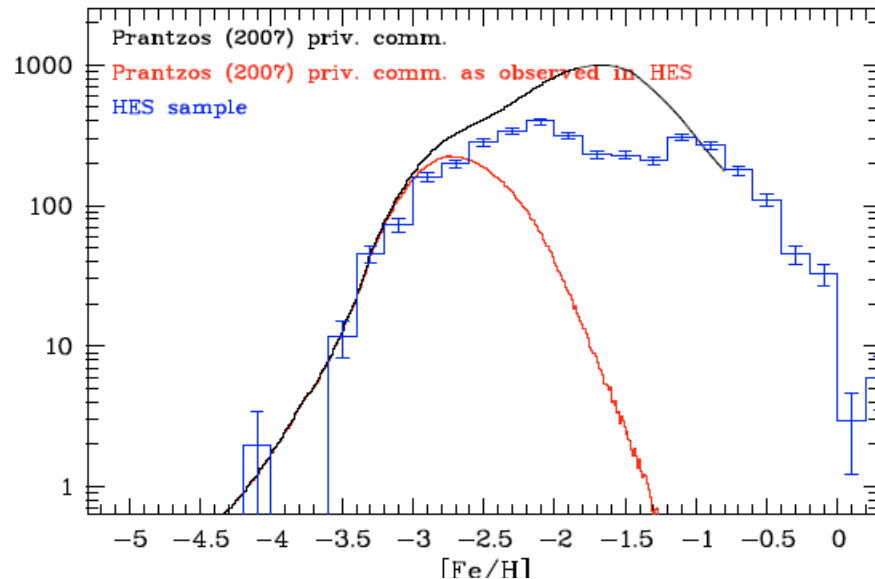
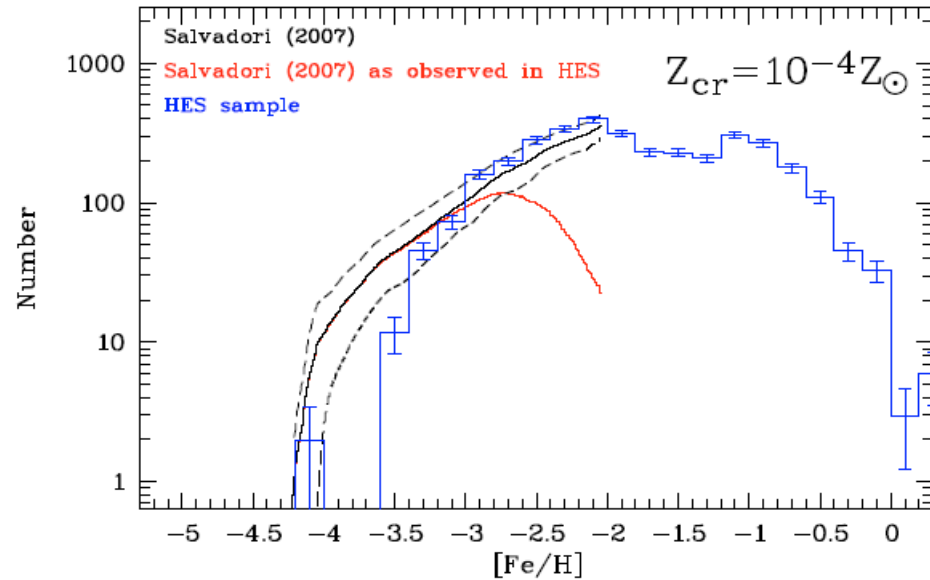
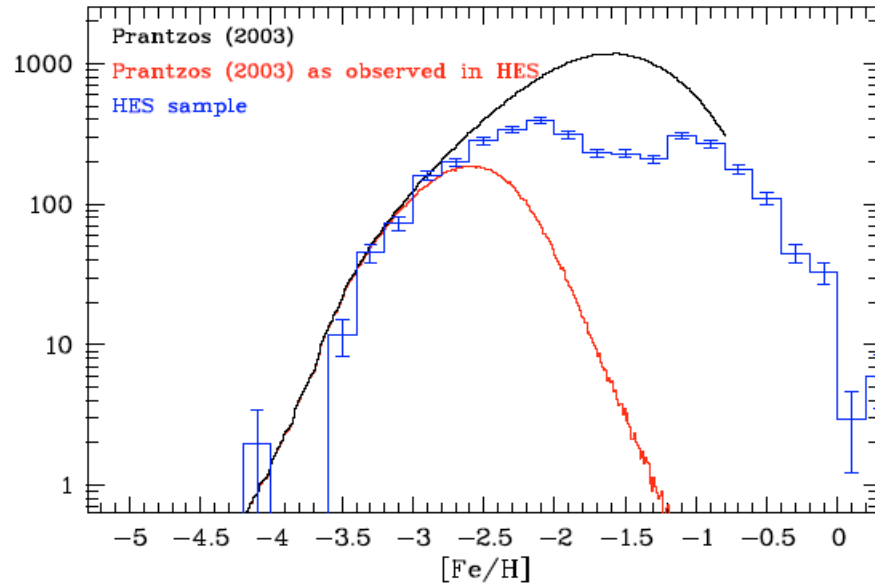
Future extension of the MD to the lowest metallicities ( $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -4$ ) will allow to probe:

- The sub-halo distribution function
- The starting metallicity of each sub-halo

Most of the lowest metallicity stars of the halo ( $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] < -2$ ) have been formed in the numerous, smallest sub-haloes, while its high metallicity tail was formed in a COUPLE of relatively massive, sub-haloes

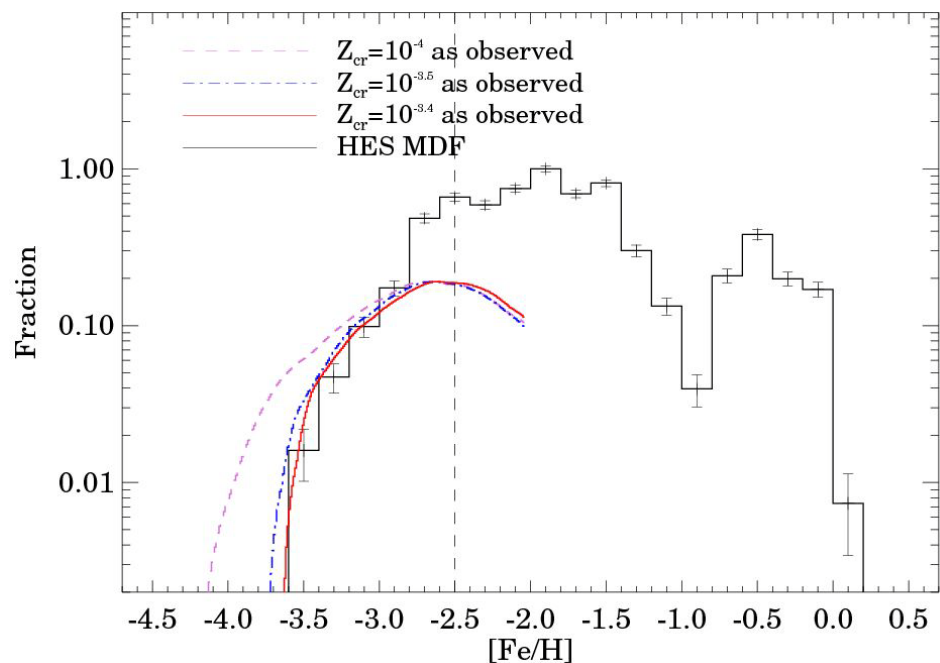
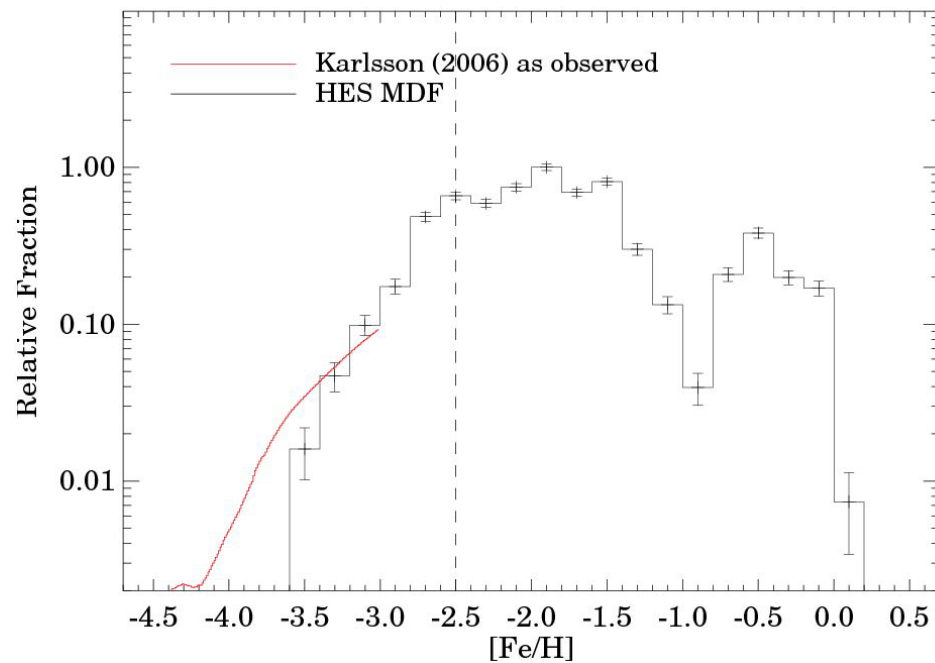
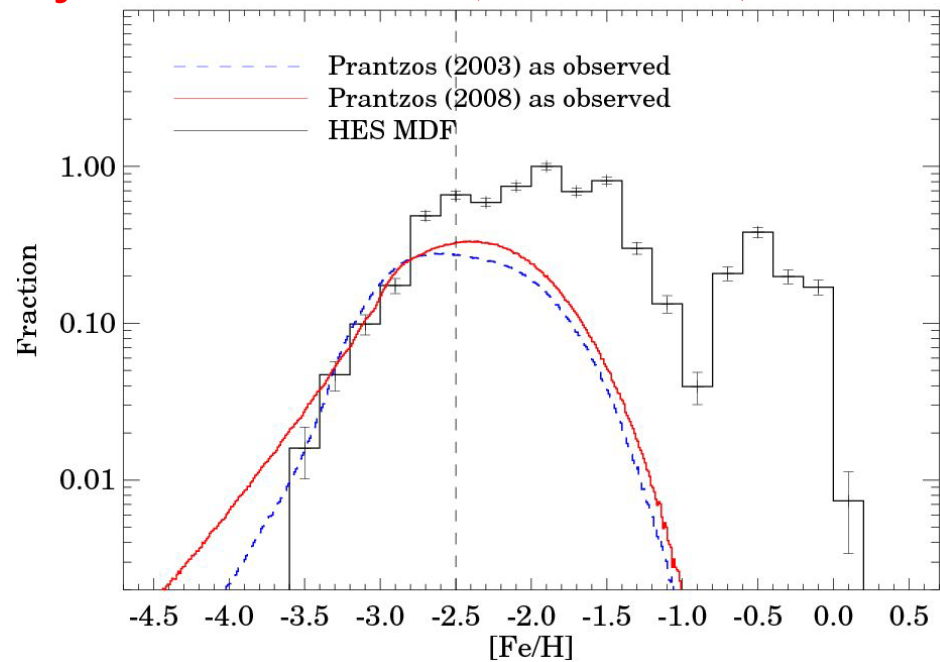
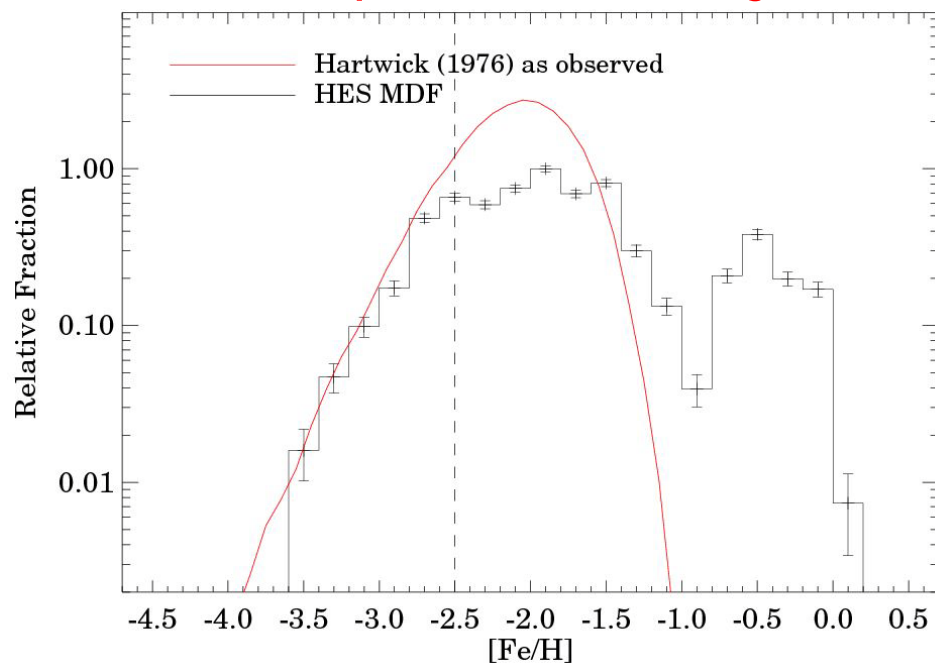


# Comparison to Hamburg-ESO survey – 1600 stars (Schoerck et al. 2009)



Did the Galaxy halo start its evolution with  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -3.5$   
(metallicity of intergalactic medium at that time) ?

# Comparison to Hamburg-ESO survey – 680 MSTO stars (*Li et al. 2010*)



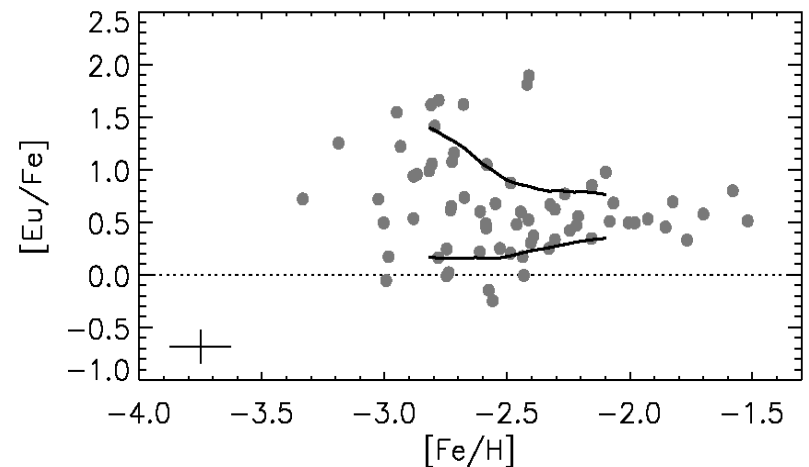
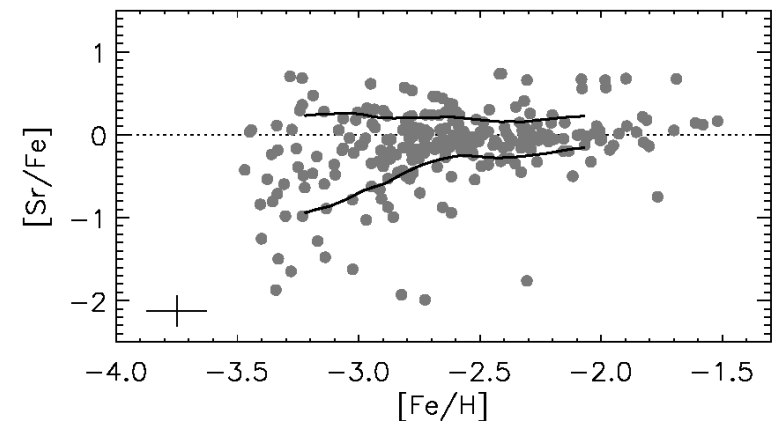
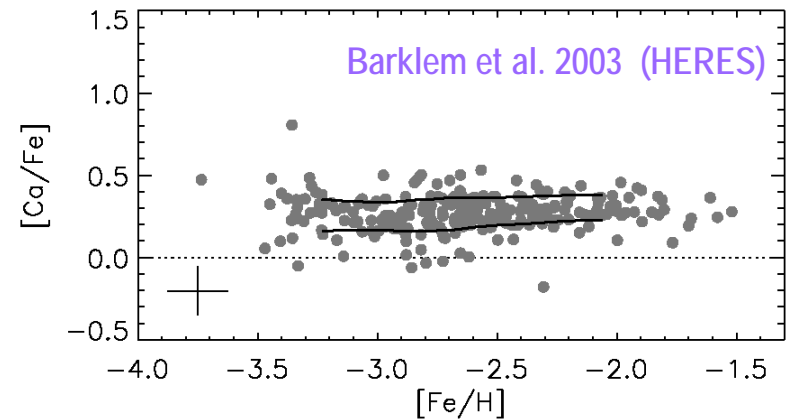
Assuming the MW halo was indeed formed  
from a few hundred sub-haloes,  
each one of them evolving on a different timescale:  
*What are the implications for the evolution  
of abundance ratios ?*

**[Fe/H] is no more a “clock” :**  
the same value of [Fe/H] may be reached on  
very different timescales in different sub-haloes  
(depending on their star formation and outflow histories)

Elements produced in the same site  
(e.g.  $\alpha$ -elements and Fe, both in SNII)  
will display a uniform abundance ratio  
( no dispersion, at all [Fe/H] ),  
*assuming efficient mixing with ISM*

Elements produced in sites evolving on  
different timescales, will display  
dispersion in their abundance ratios,  
*even in case of efficient mixing*

Could this explain the early dispersion in Eu/Fe ?  
[assuming that r – elements are produced in both,  
short (SNII) and long (NS mergers) timescales]

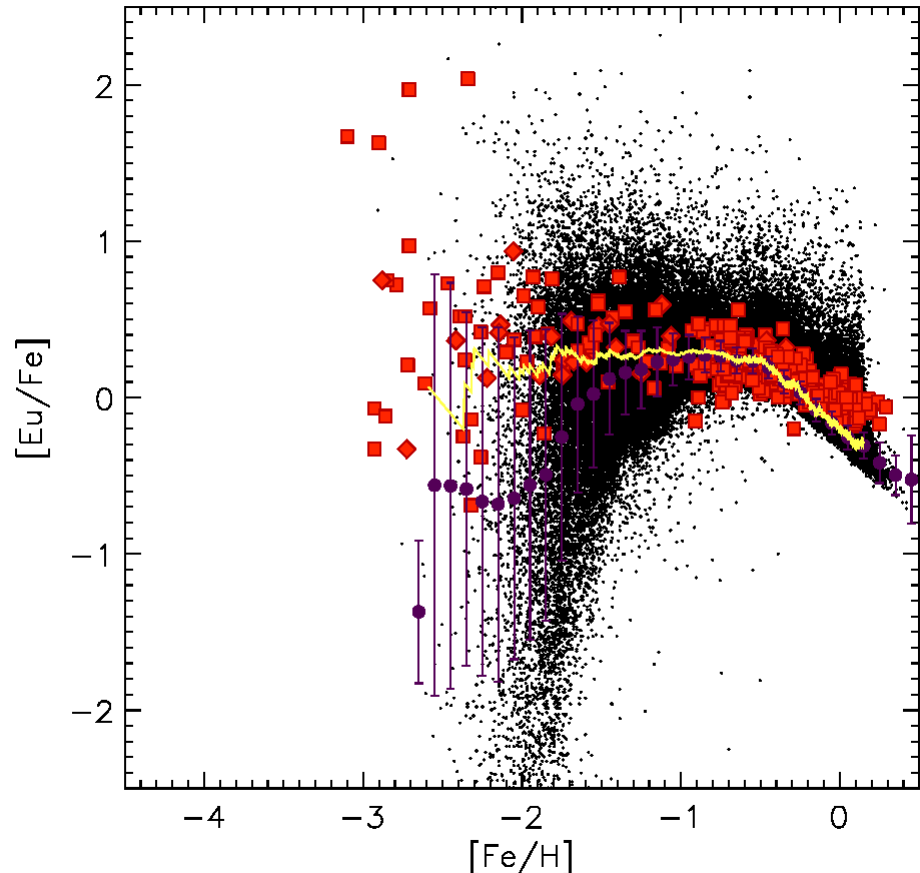
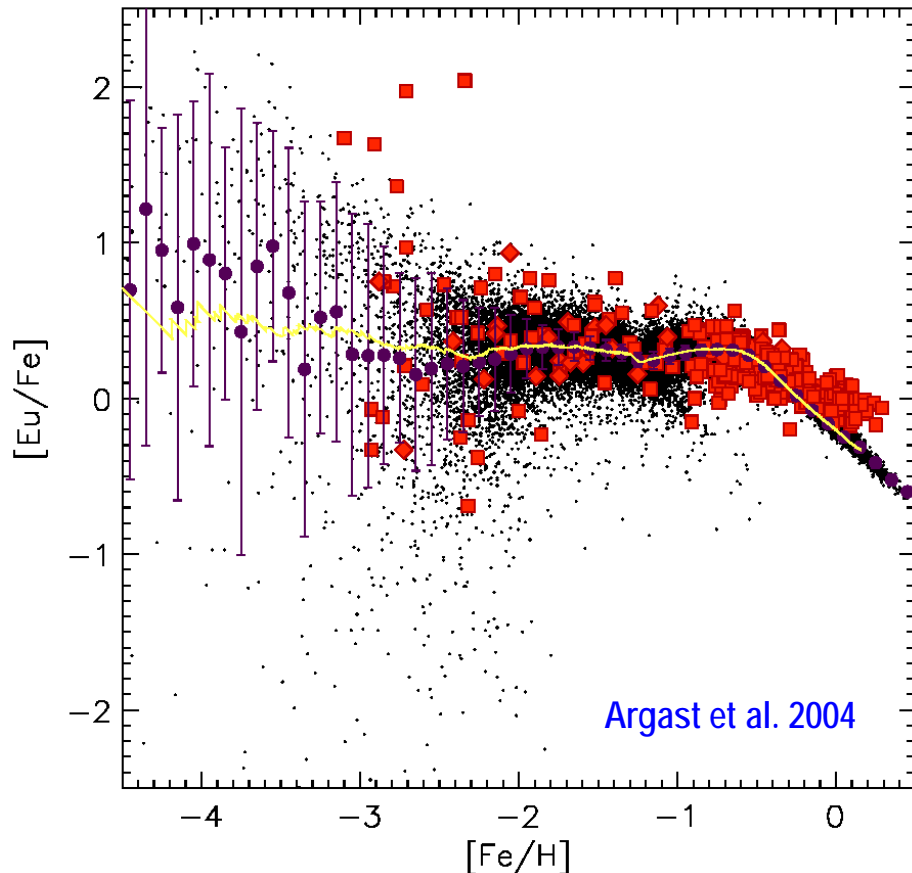


## Sources of r-nuclei

Core collapse SN  
("high" frequency, small yields)

vs

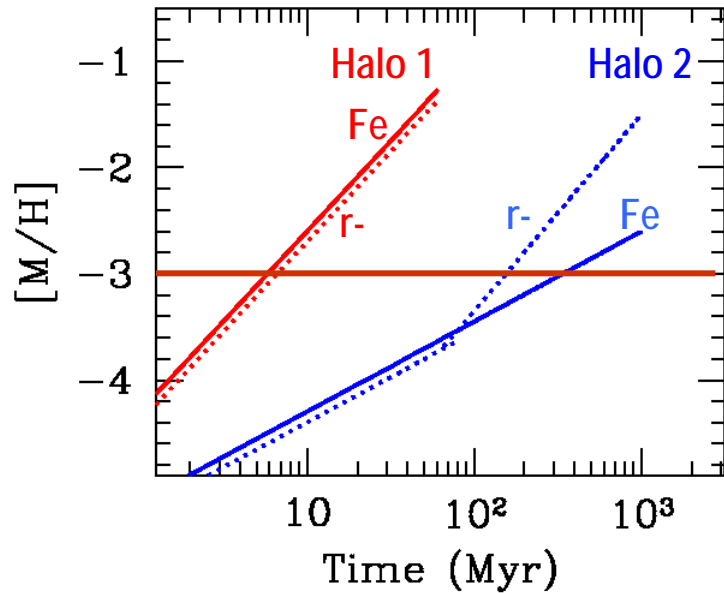
Neutron star mergers  
(low frequency, high yields)



Within a given system (uniform evolution of average  $Fe/H$ ),  
*NSM appear too late (at too high  $Fe/H$ ) to be the main r- source*  
and produce too much dispersion in  $r/Fe$  (Argast et al. 2004).

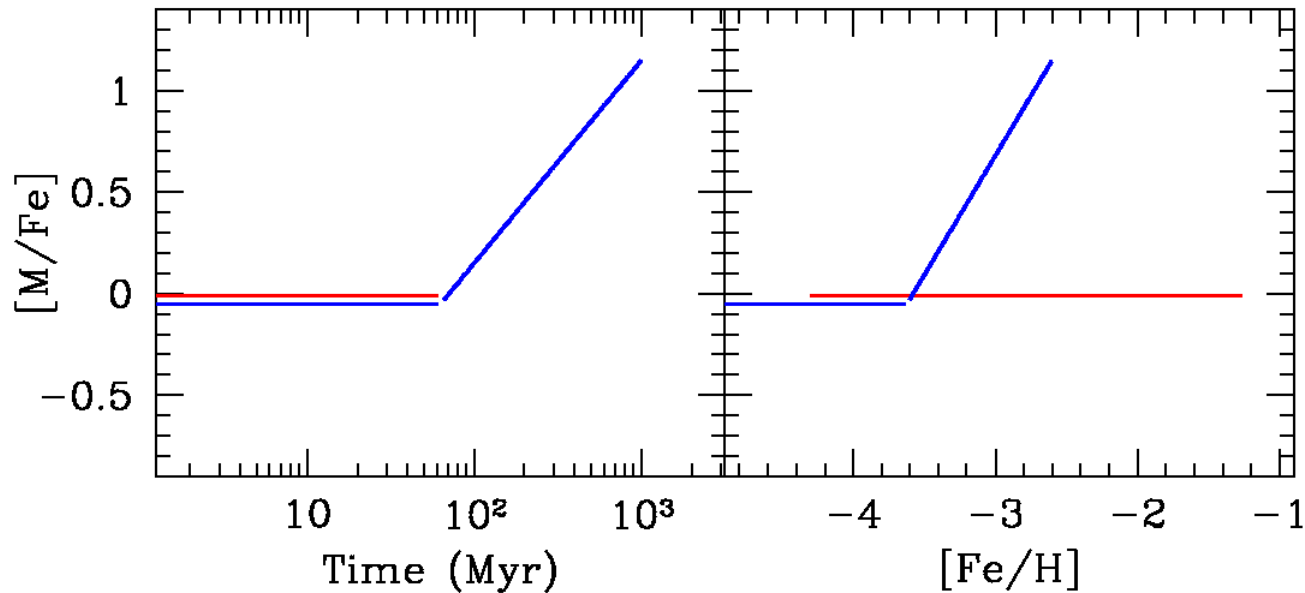
*The former depends on assumed SF history,  
while the latter on assumed mixing scheme and yields*

## Cartoon for dispersion of r-elements

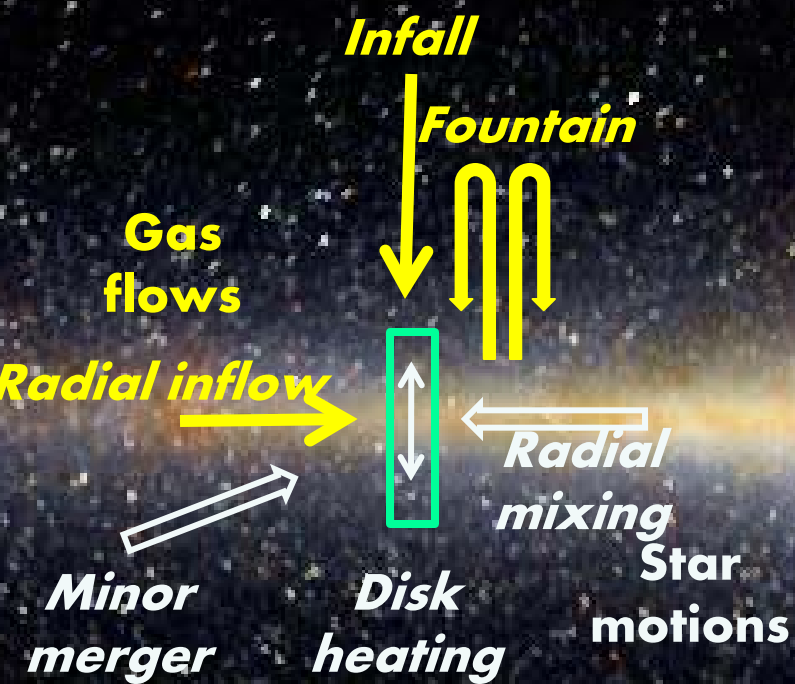


Halo 2 evolves slowly : a long lived source (NS mergers ?) has the time to inject e.g. Eu, and to increase the Eu/Fe ratio, even at very low  $[Fe/H] \sim -3$

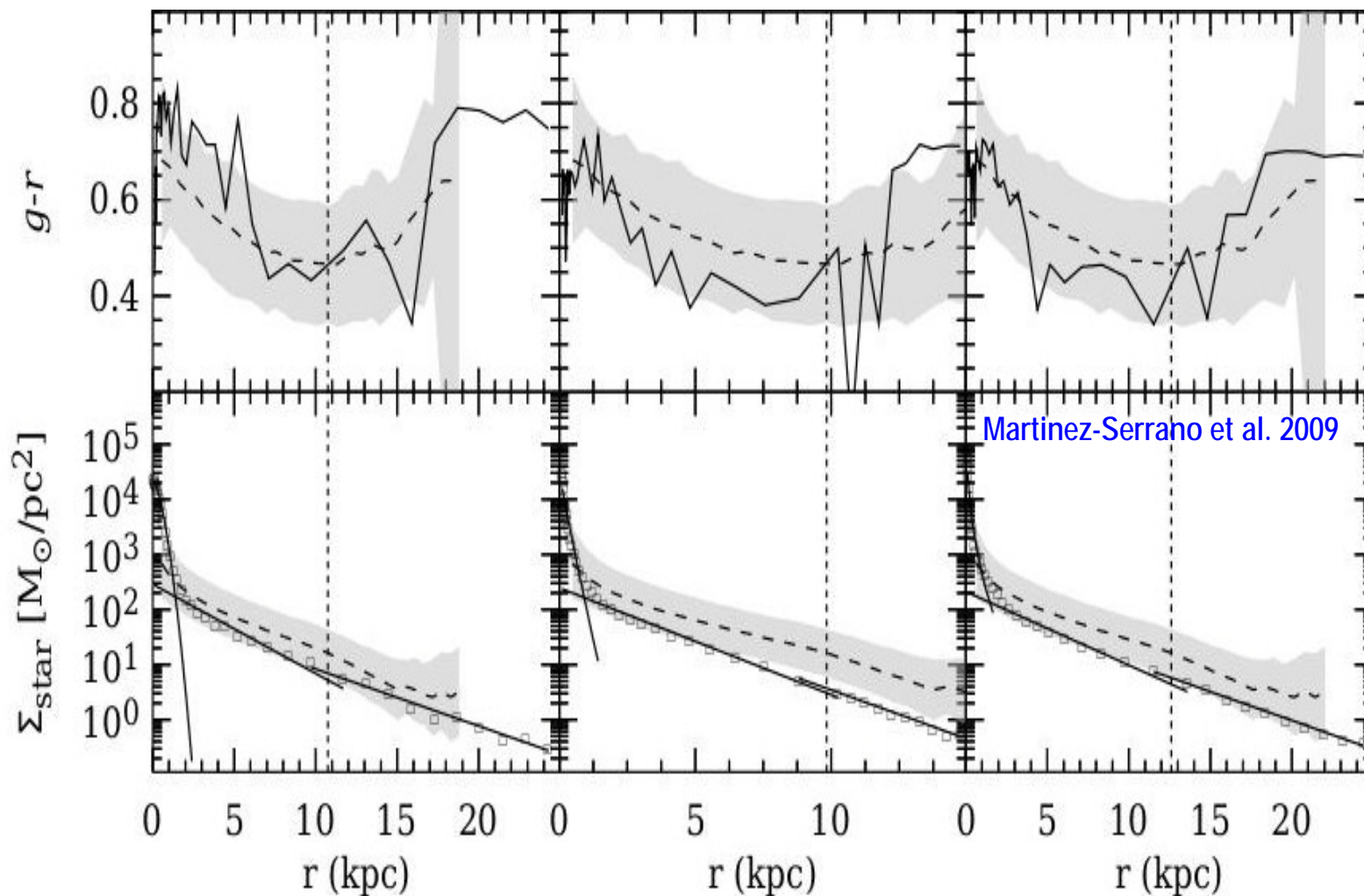
This is not the case for the rapidly evolving Halo 1



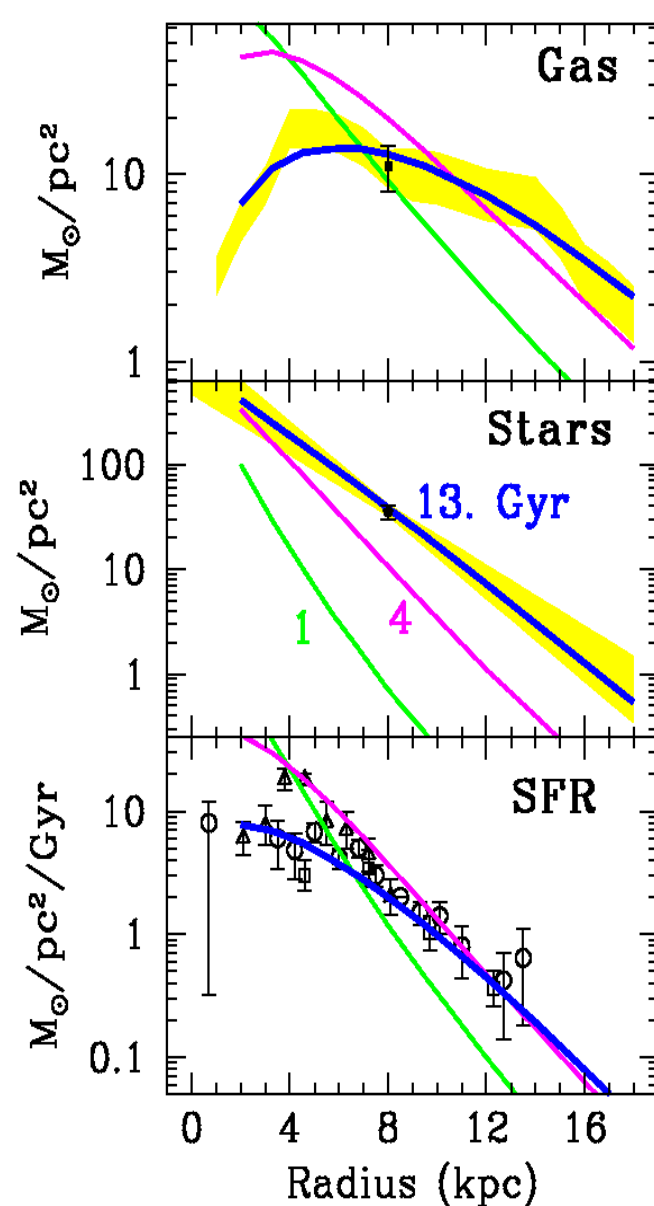
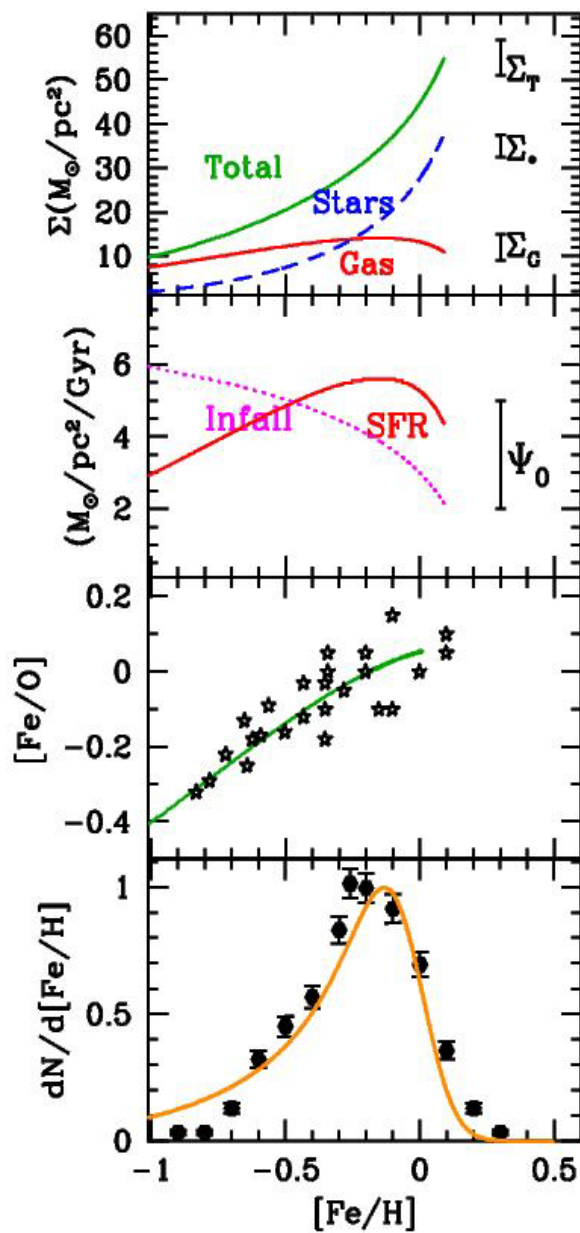
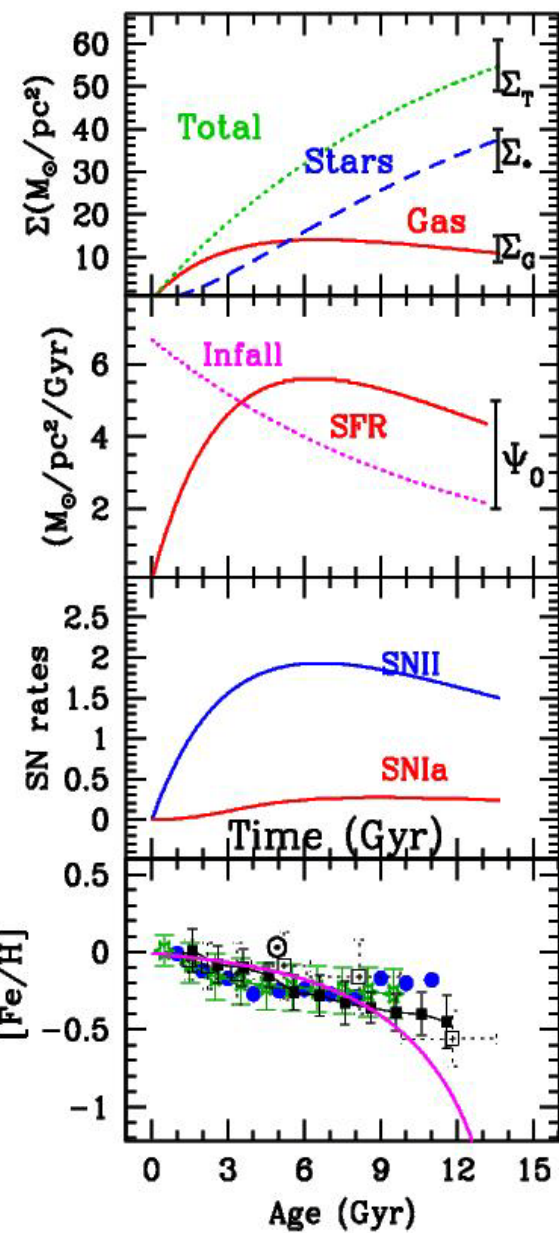




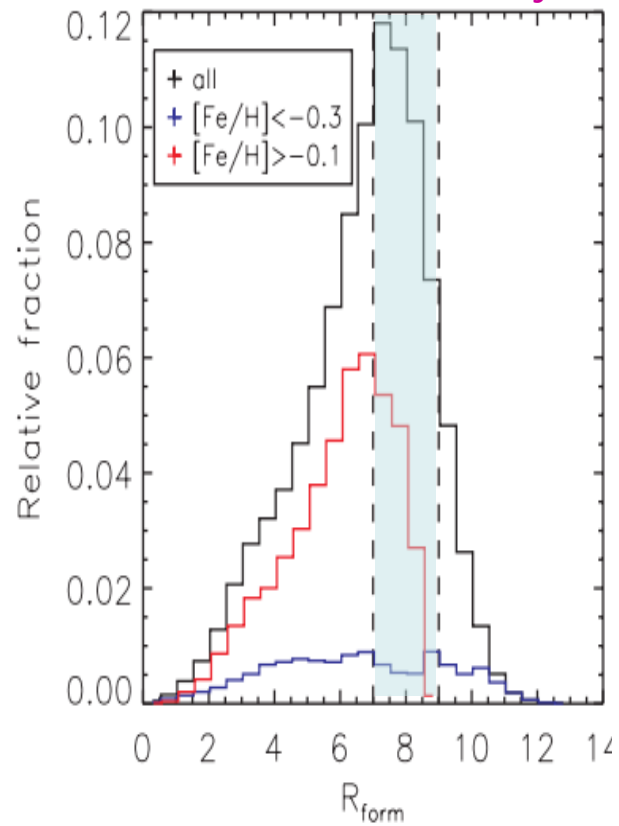
Radial migration of stars produces naturally a U-shaped colour profile  
as observed in external spirals  
(old/red stars formed early on in inner disk are found in outer disk  
and dominate its young star population, formed in situ)



# Evolution of solar neighborhood and MW disk (no radial migration)

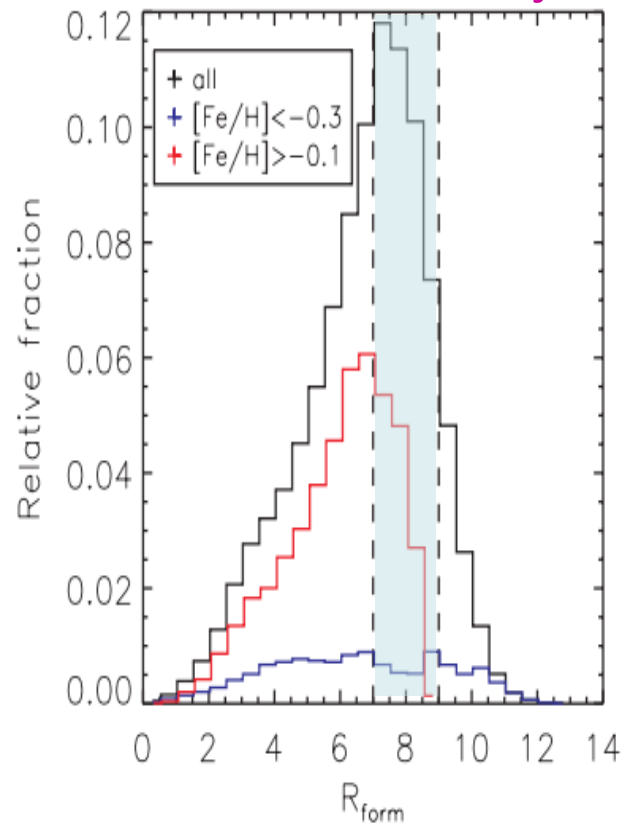


## N-body + SPH simulations of a disk galaxy (Roskar et al. 2008)

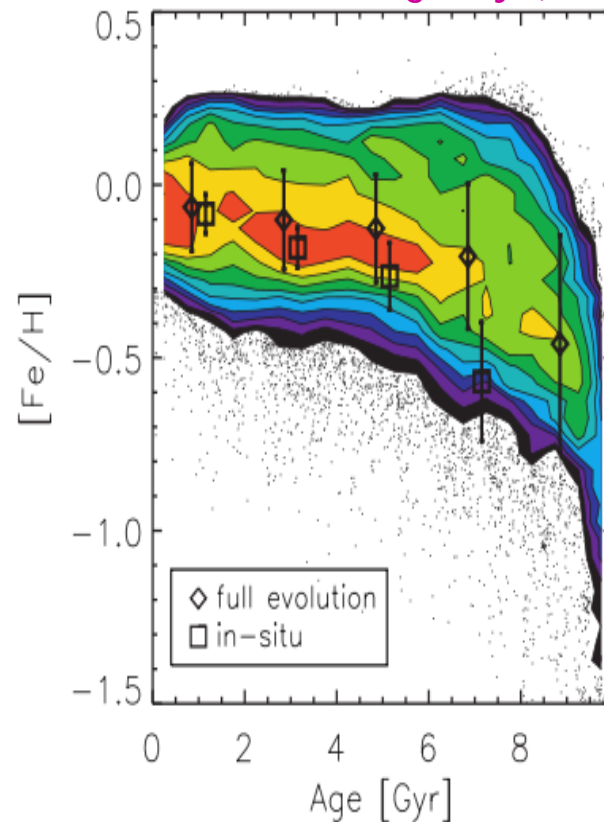


Fraction of stars now present  
In Solar neighborhood, but  
born in other places of the disk  
*Only 50% born in situ !*

# N-body + SPH simulations of a disk galaxy (Roskar et al. 2008)

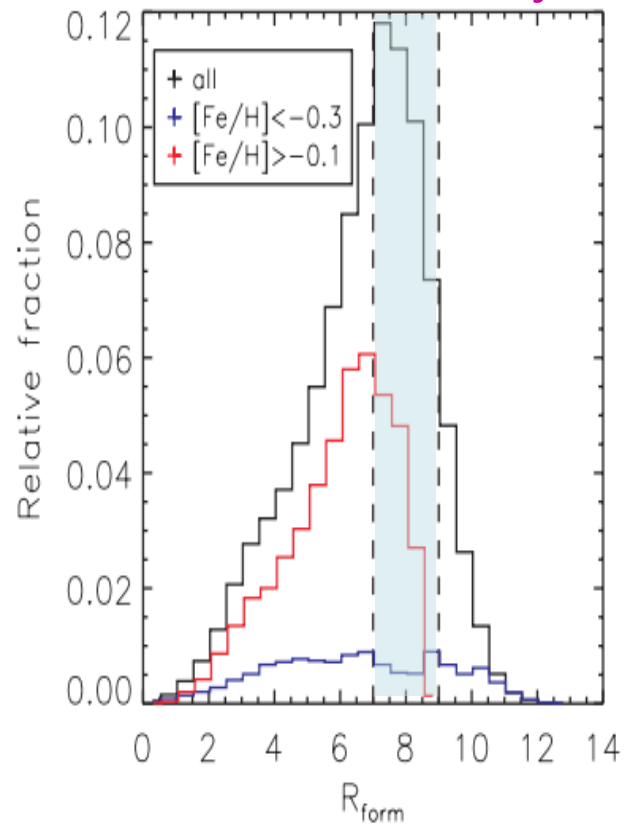


Fraction of stars now present  
In Solar neighborhood, but  
born in other places of the disk  
*Only 50% born in situ !*

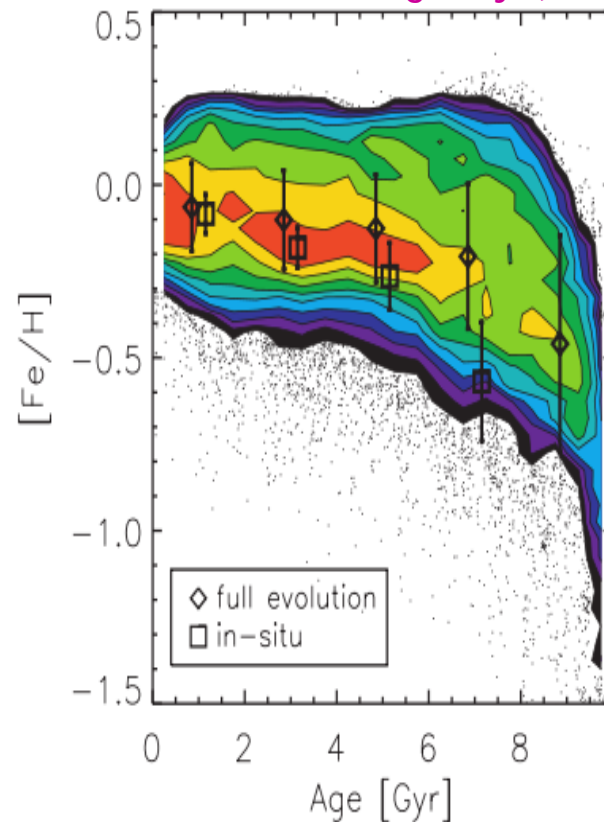


This impacts the  
Age-metallicity relation  
*Making it flatter and  
more dispersed*

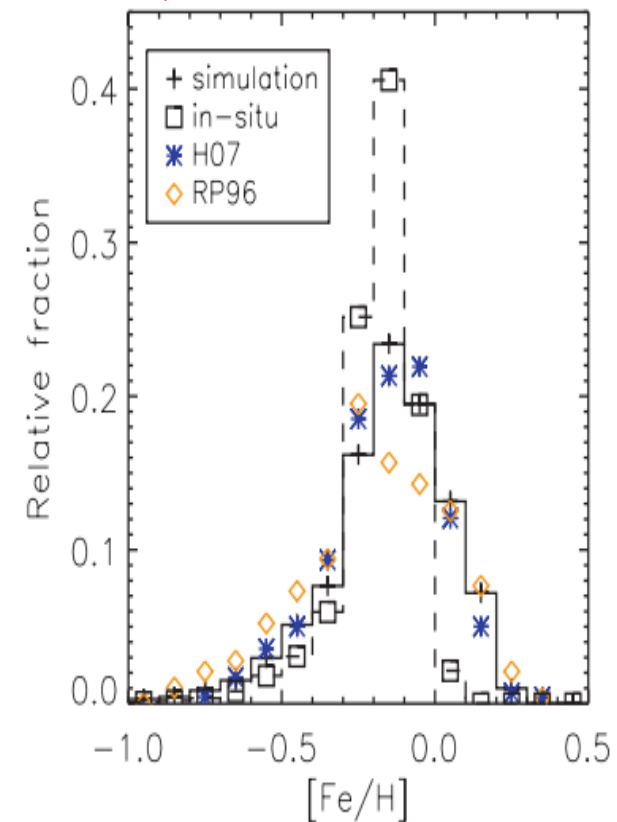
# N-body + SPH simulations of a disk galaxy (Roskar et al. 2008)



Fraction of stars now present  
In Solar neighborhood, but  
born in other places of the disk  
*Only 50% born in situ !*



This impacts the  
Age-metallicity relation  
*Making it flatter and  
more dispersed*

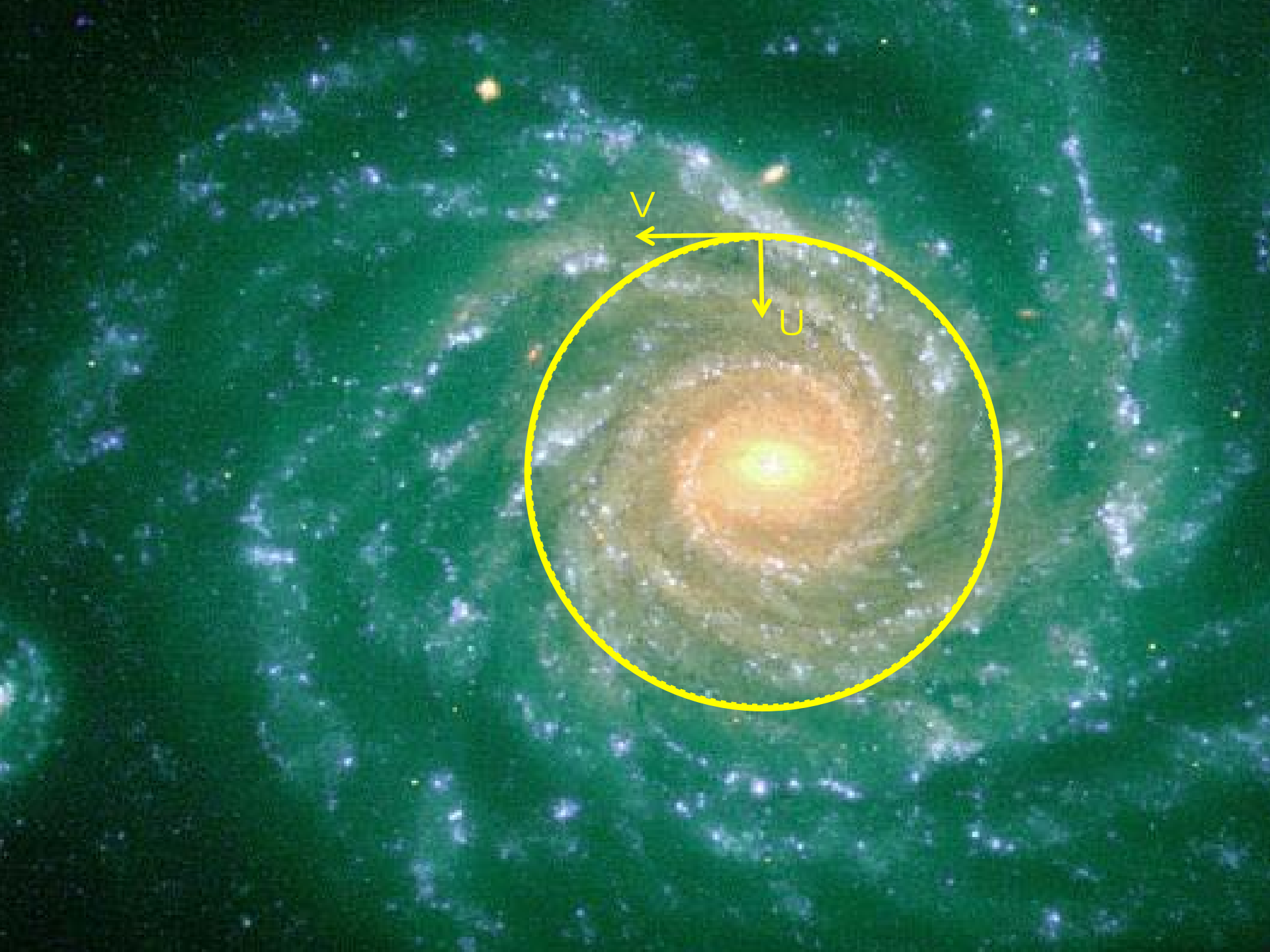


And the local  
Metallicity distribution  
*Making it broader*

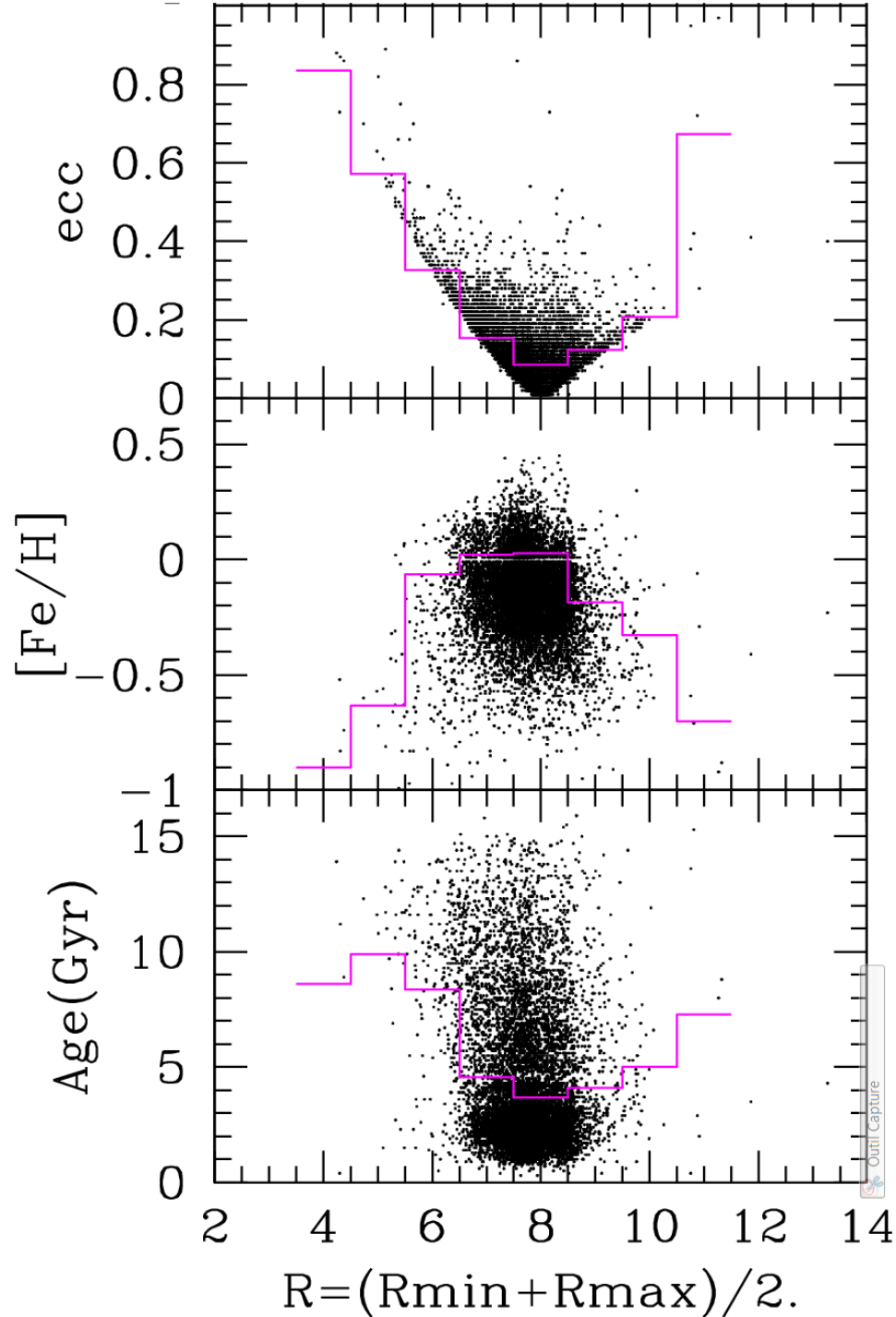
What if the Sun has migrated from the inner (higher than local metallicity) MW disk ?







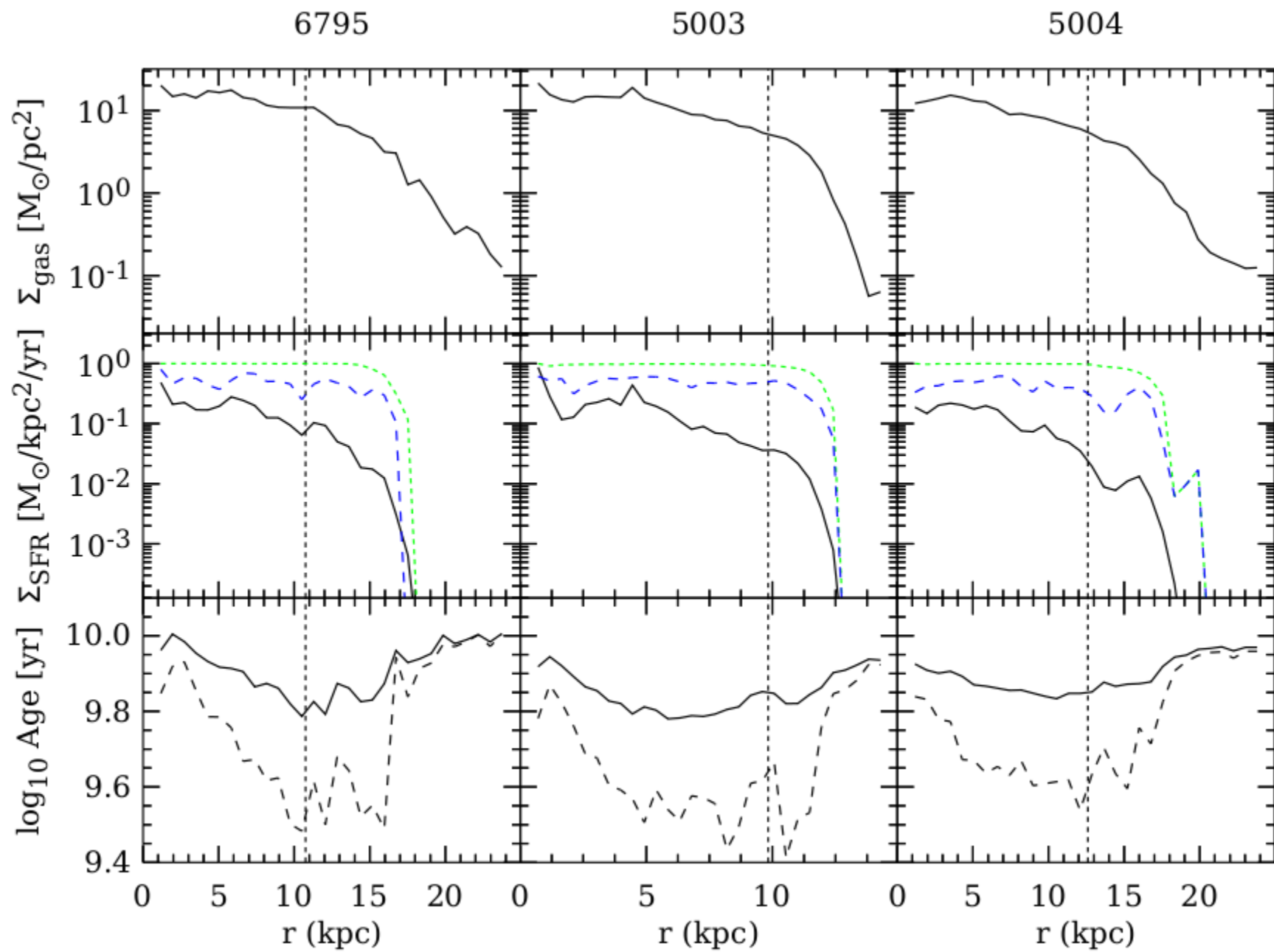


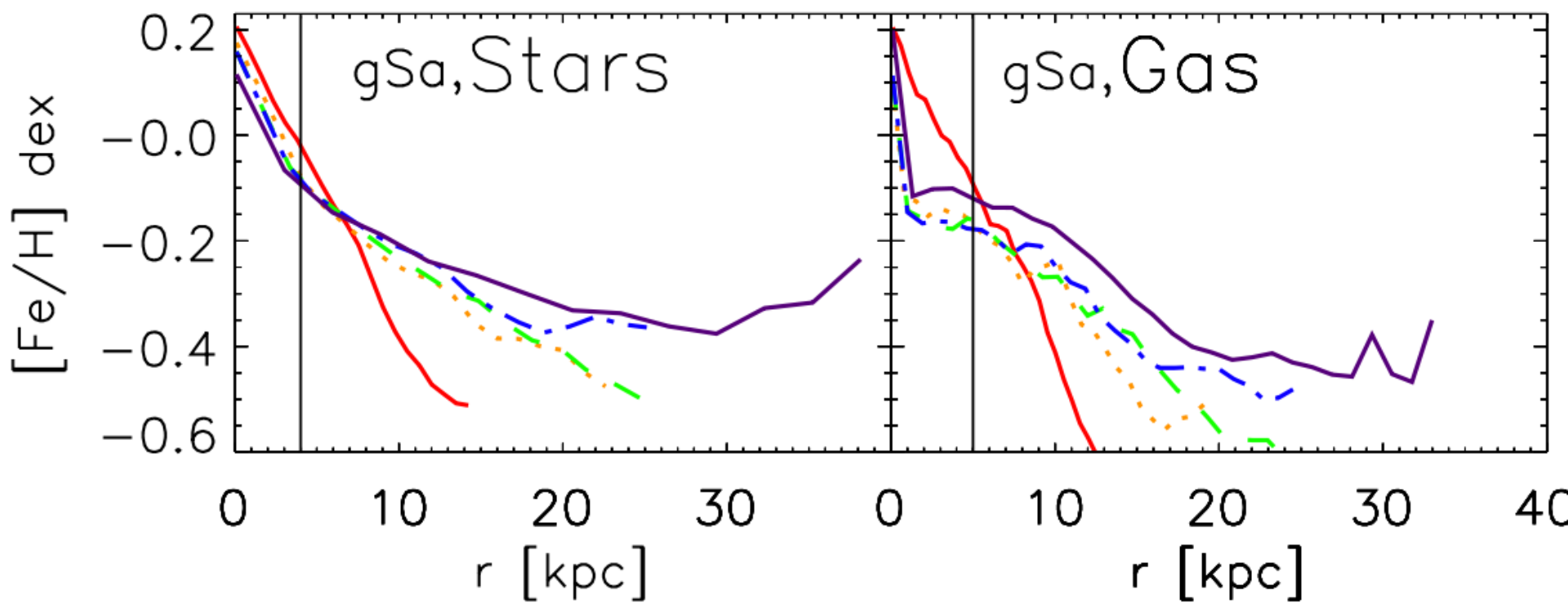


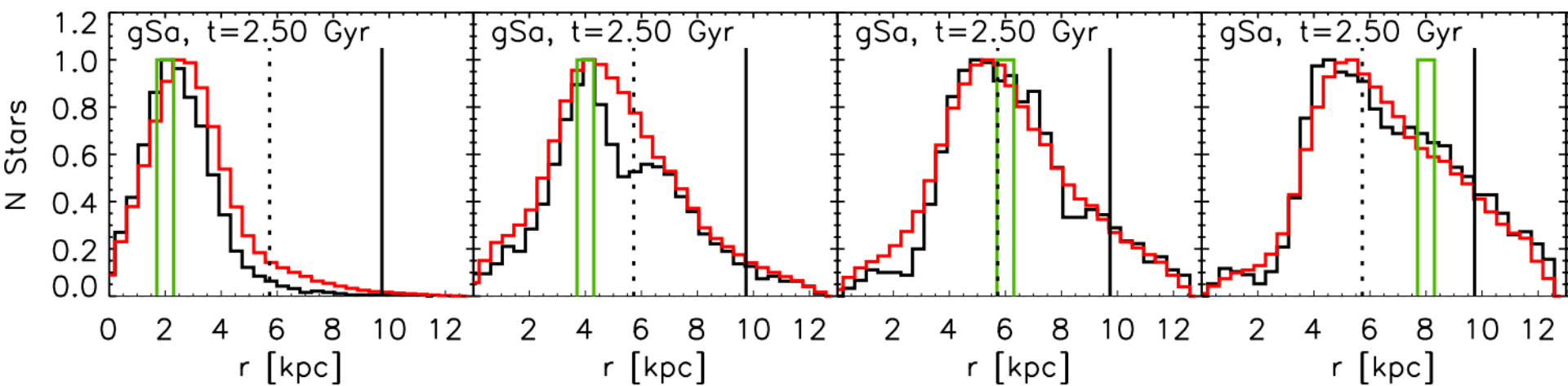
Analysis of kinematics,  
composition and age of stars  
in solar neighborhood ( $<200$  pc)  
from GKS (*Holmberg et al. 2009*)  
shows that

stars with **high eccentricities**  
(born either in the inner  
or the outer disk)  
have **lower metallicities**  
and **larger ages**, ON AVERAGE,  
than stars of low eccentricities  
(born locally)

Such stars are here either  
due to normal **epicyclic motion**  
or from **radial migration**  
(*Sellwood and Binney 2002*)







## Energetics argument (*Ramaty et al. 1997*)

1) Producing one atom of Be by GCR

requires a certain amount of energy,

which depends on assumed GCR composition

2) CCSN produce Fe ( $\sim 0.1 M_{\odot}$ ) and

energy ( $\sim 10^{50}$  ergs) for GCR acceleration

3) If the composition of GCR

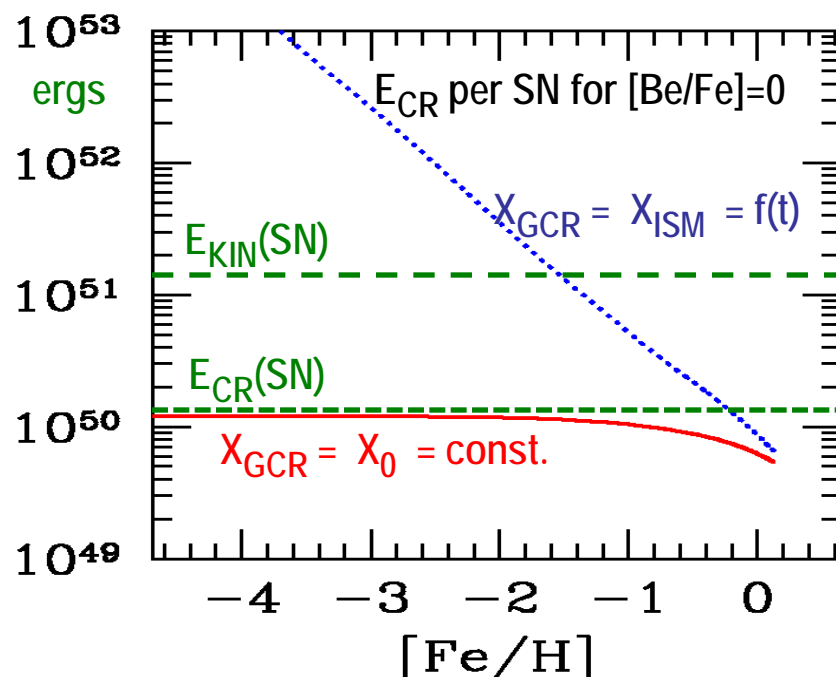
$X(\text{GCR}, t) \propto X(\text{ISM}, t) \ll X_{\odot}$  at early times,

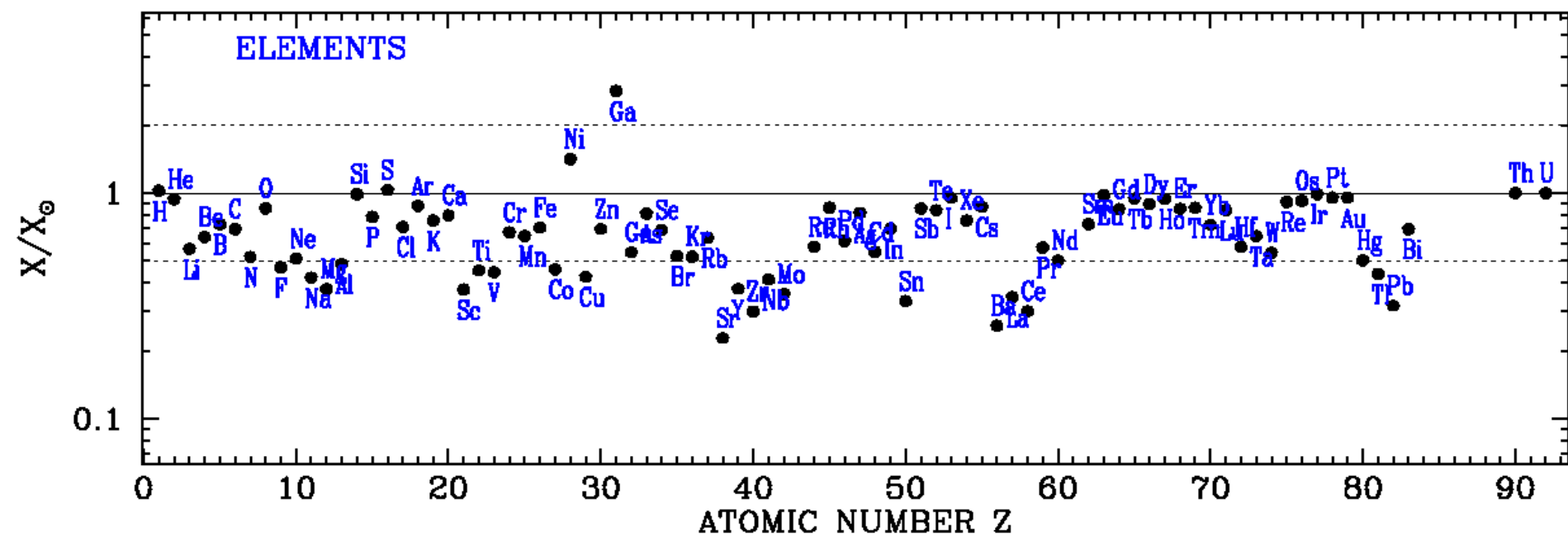
there is simply not enough energy in early GCR

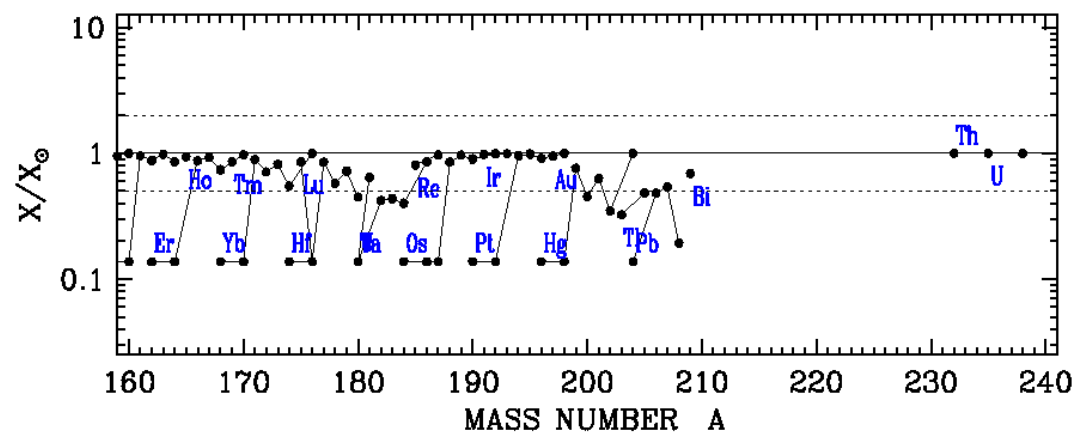
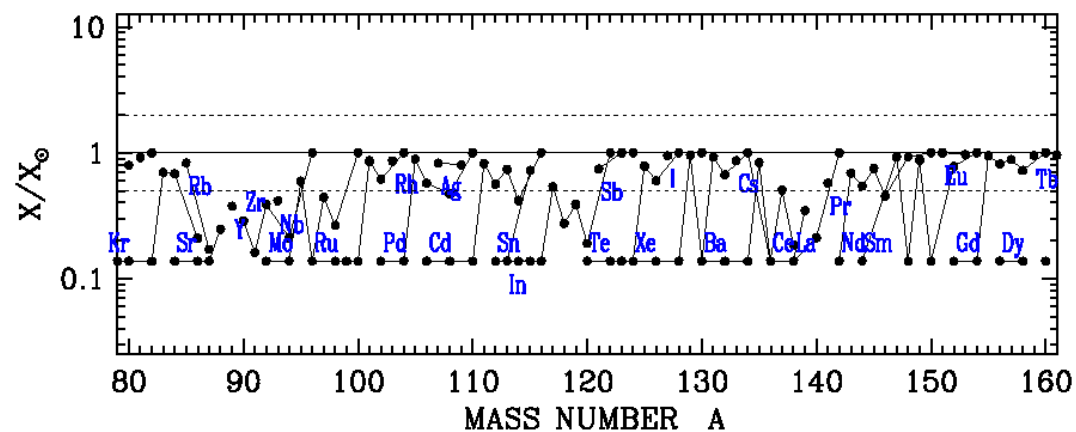
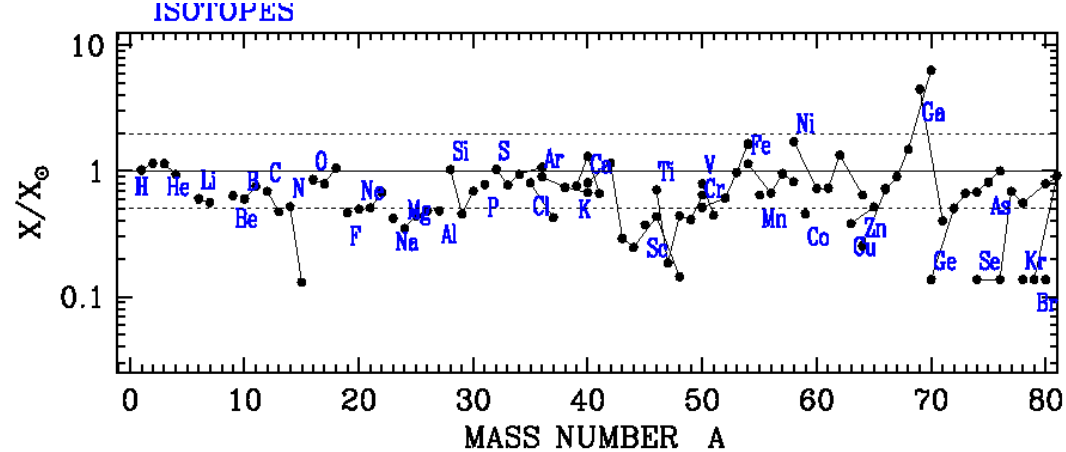
accelerated by SN to maintain  $\text{Be}/\text{Fe} \sim \text{const.}$

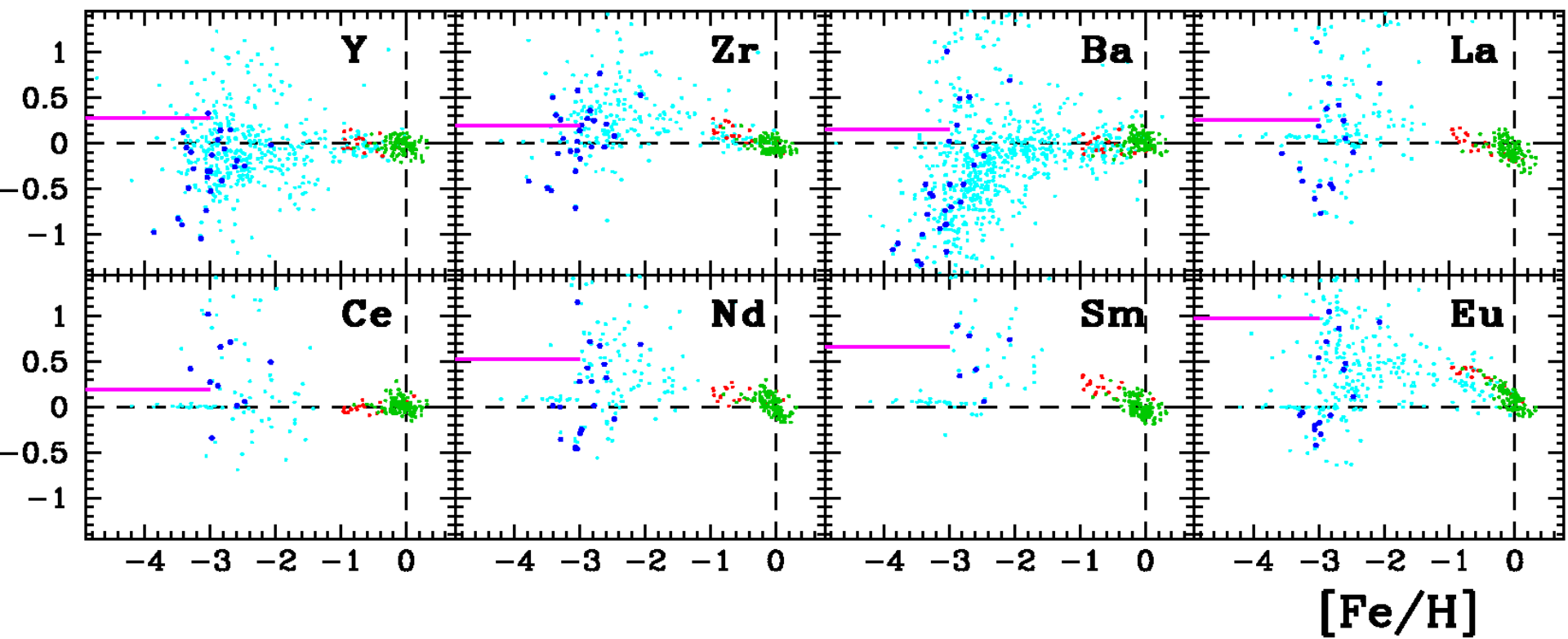
**We need  $X_{\text{CNO}}(\text{GCR}, t) \sim X_{\text{CNO}} \odot$  always**

**Impossible to reproduce  
observed linearity  
of  $\text{Be}/\text{H}$  vs  $\text{Fe}/\text{H}$   
with metallicity dependent  
GCR composition**

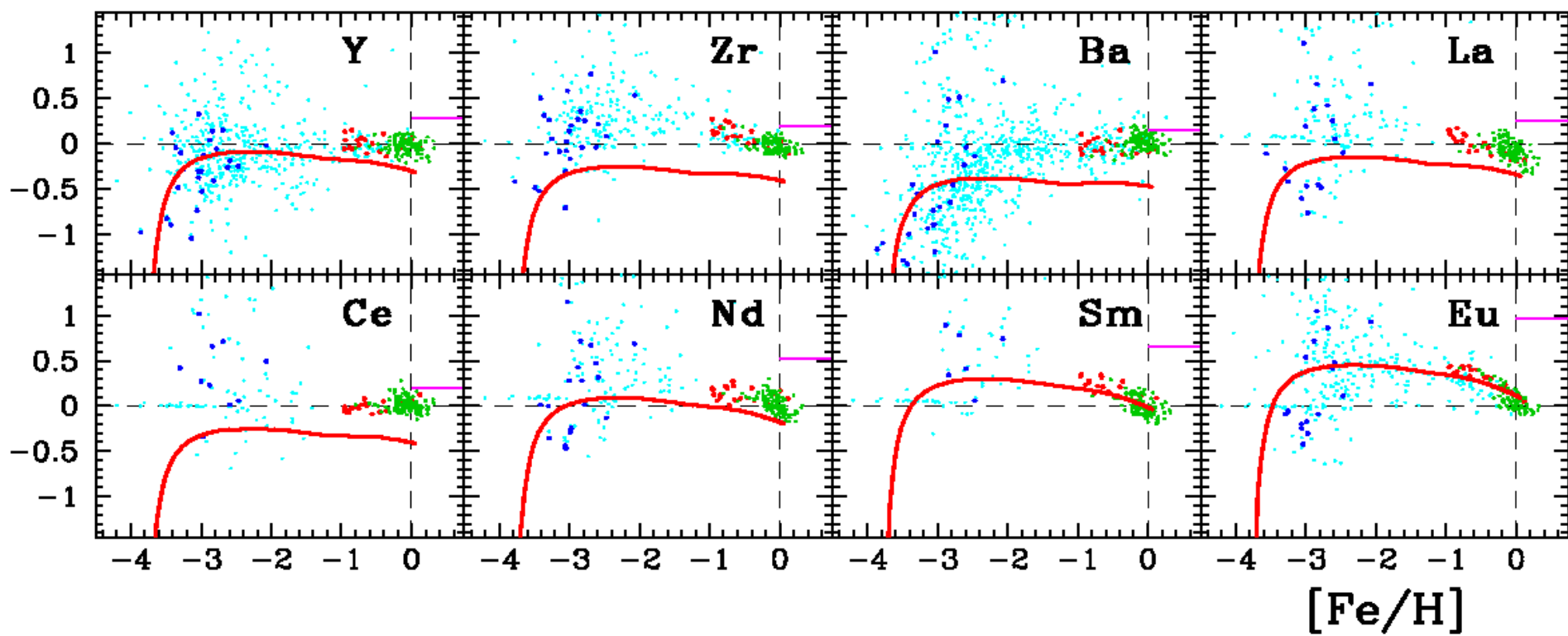


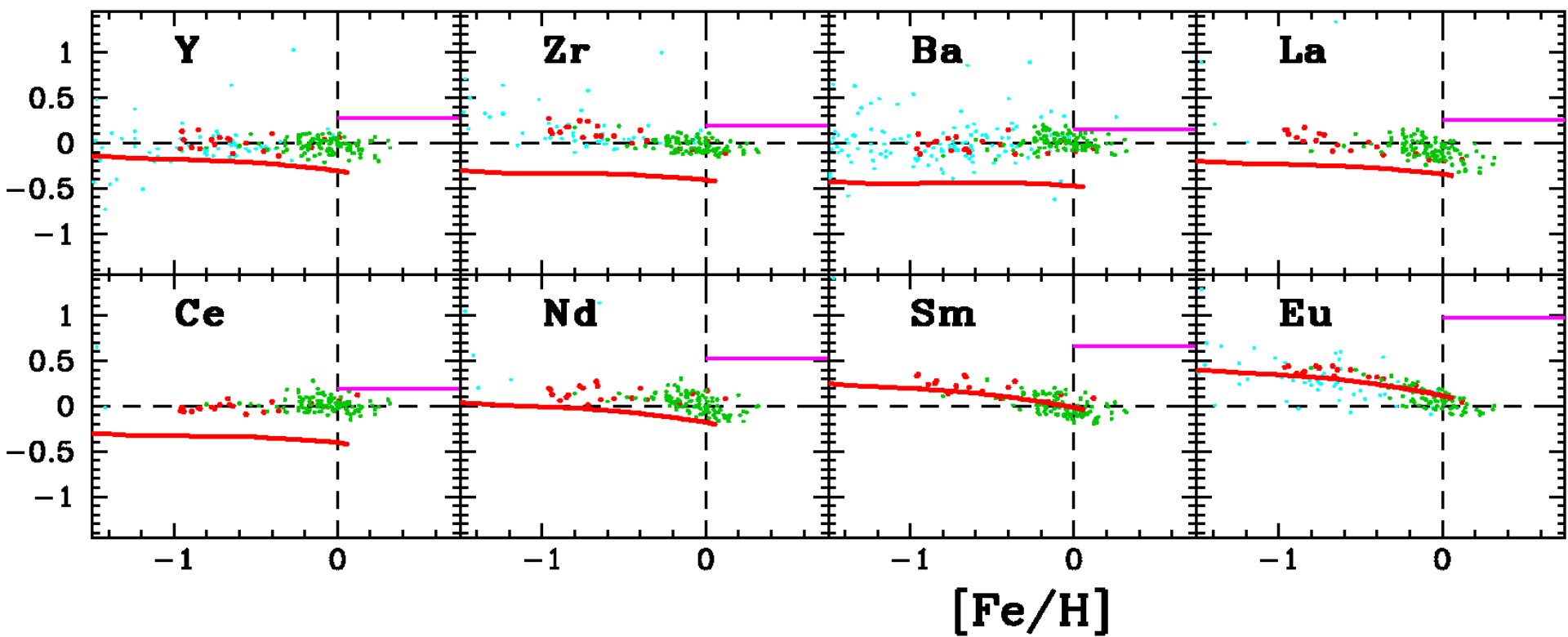








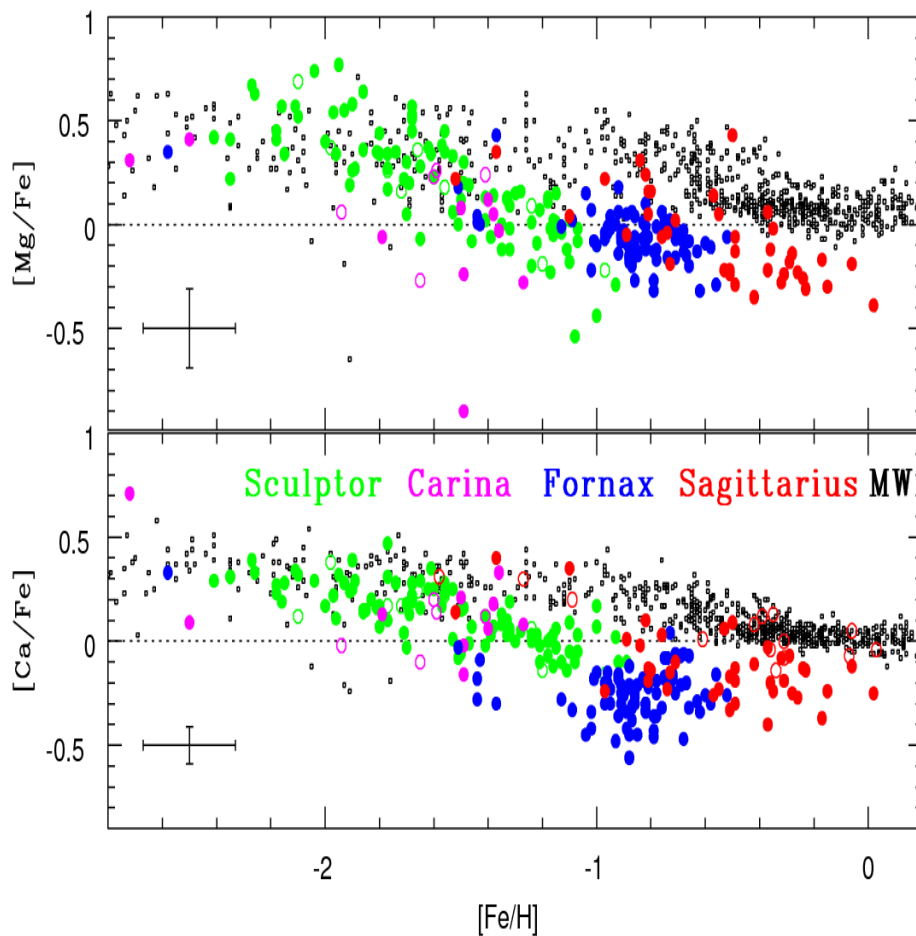
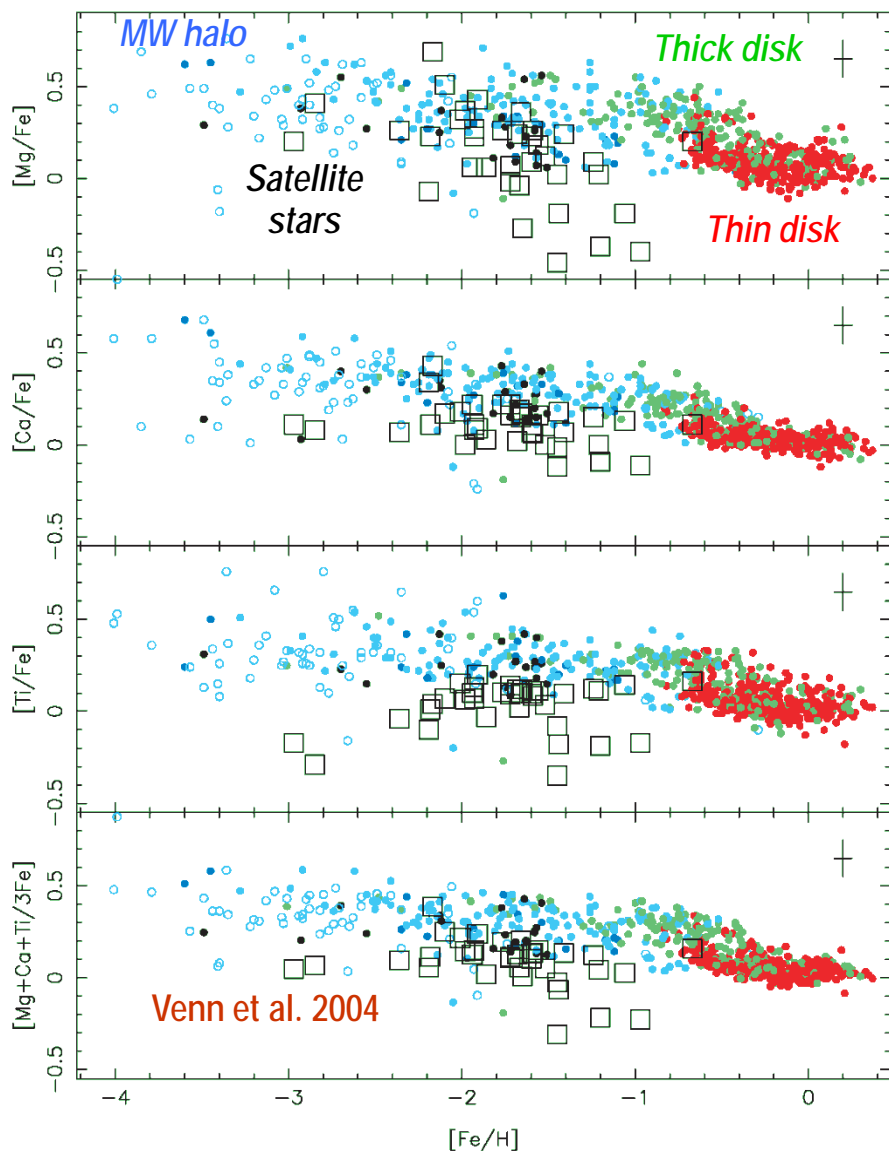


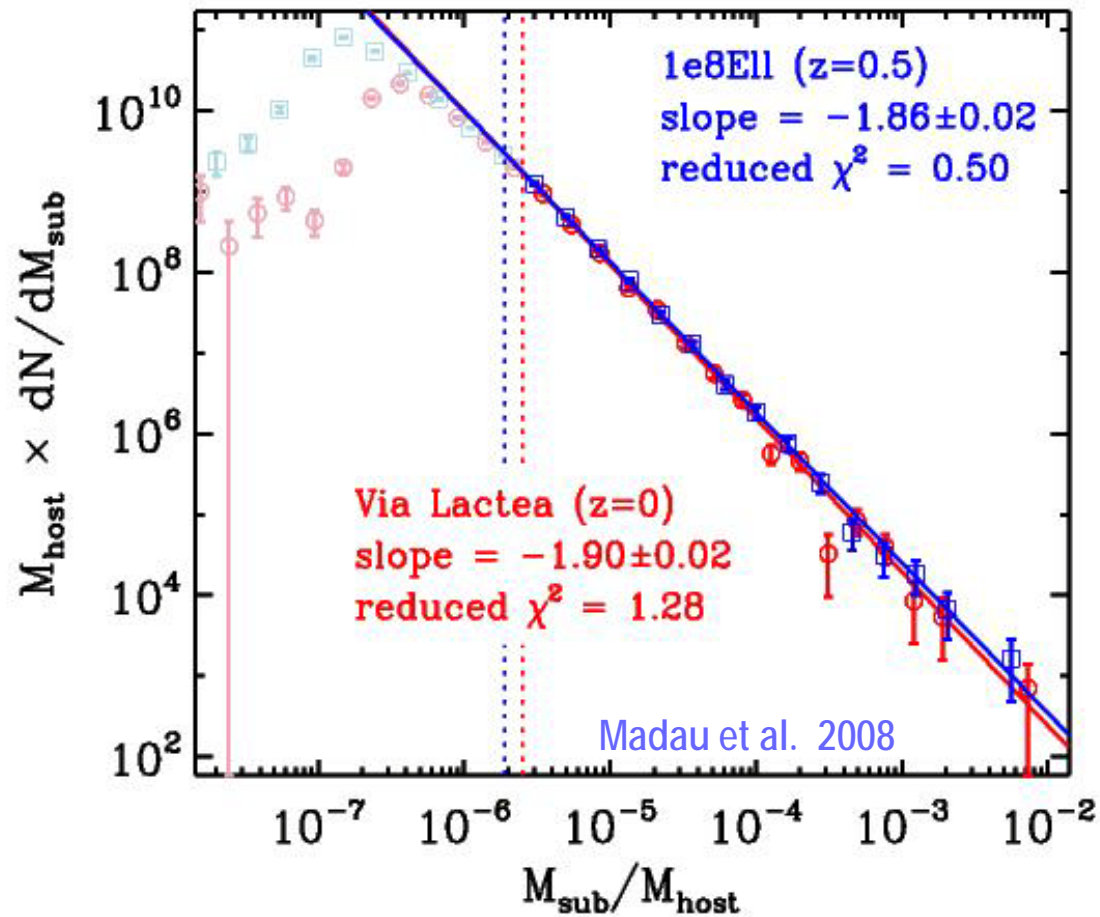


Present day dwarf satellites of MW  
cannot be the building blocks  
of MW halo  
(abundance ratios: Fe from SNIa)

The building blocks (sub-haloes)  
of MW halo must have evolved  
UNAFFECTED by SNIa ejecta  
[ short timescales ( $< 1$  Gyr )

(alternatively, SNIa ejecta  
preferentially lost from those systems )



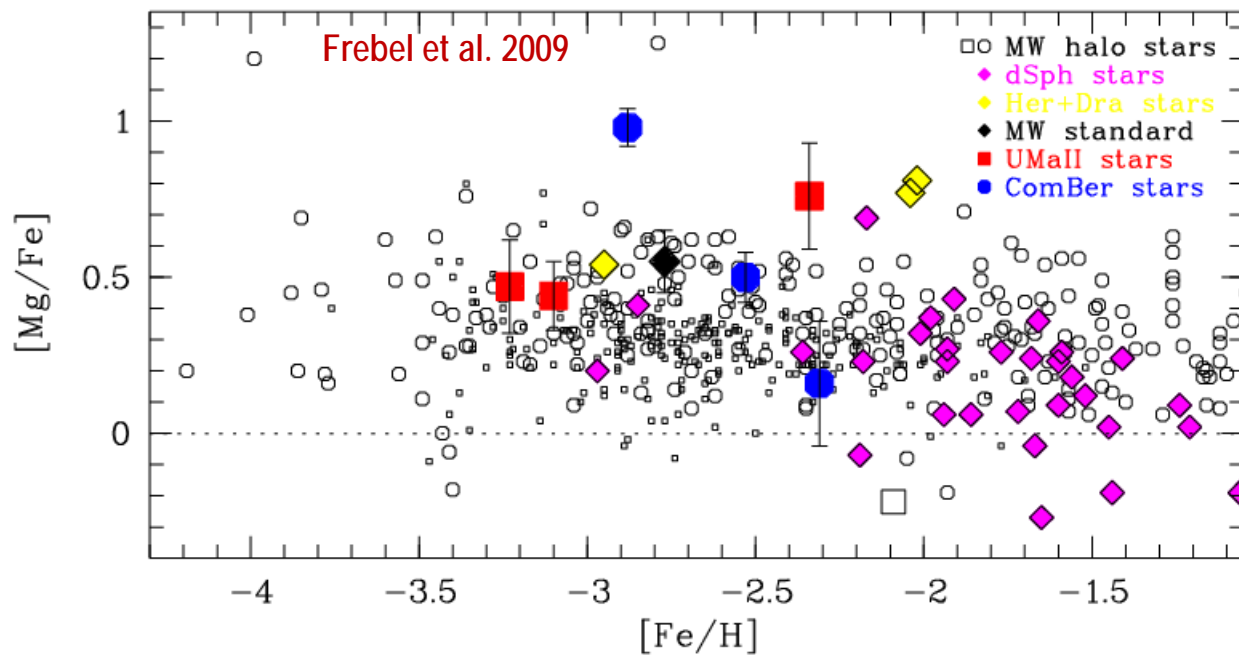


## *Dark halo distribution function*

Simulations find that for the dark matter sub-haloes

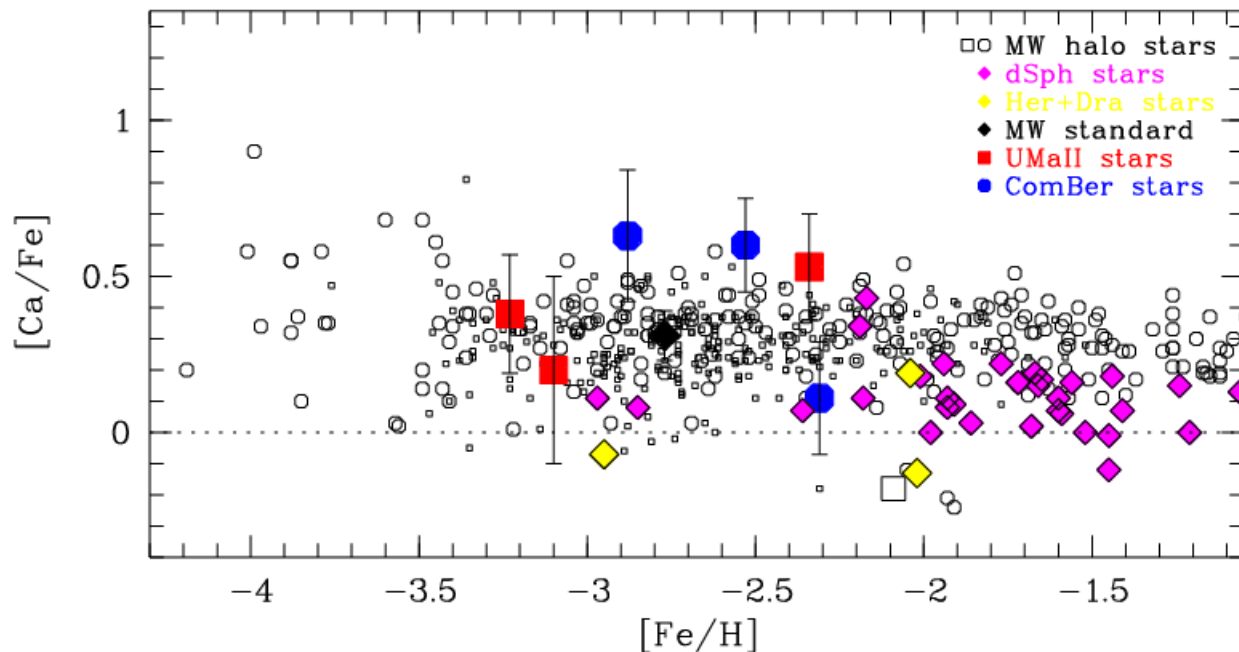
$$dN/dM \propto M^{-2}$$

*(Diemand et al. 2006, Madau et al. 2008)*



Local dSphs show BOTH  
 - *high*  $\alpha/\text{Fe}$  at low metallicity  
 and  
 - *low*  $\alpha/\text{Fe}$  at BOTH  
 high and low metallicities

Halo stars display ONLY  
 high  $\alpha/\text{Fe}$ , up to  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] = -1$



If halo is made by a **CONTINUOUS**  
 accretion/disruption of local  
 dSphs, WHY ONLY  
 low  $\alpha/\text{Fe}$  stars accreted ?

Only stars from the outskirts  
 of dSphs ?  
 (Majewski, this morning)

OK, but WHY all of them are  
 >12 Gyr OLD ???