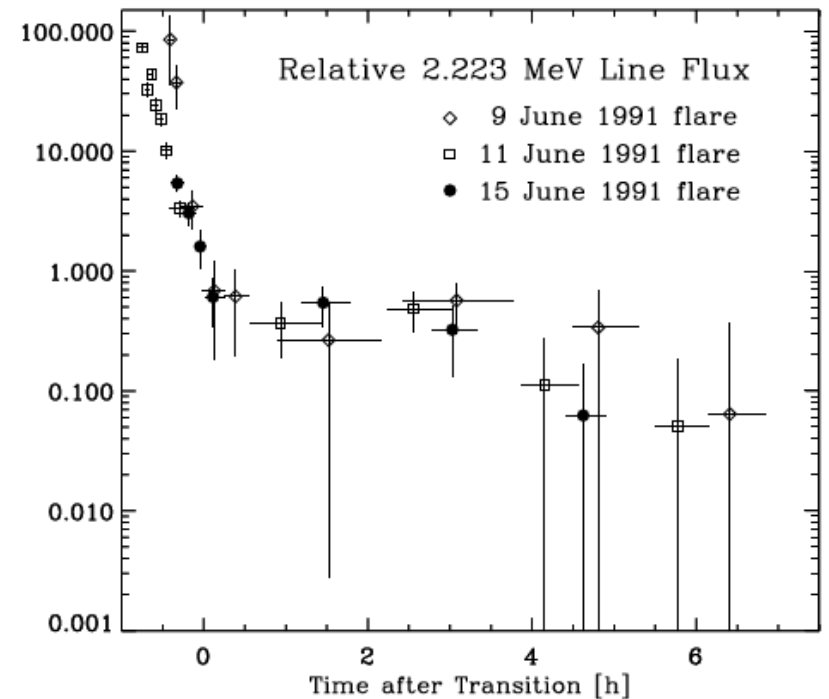
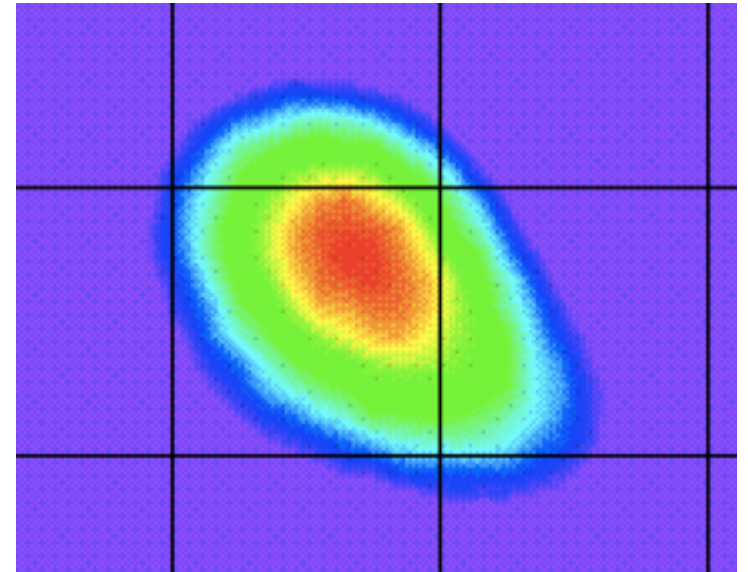


Twenty-five Years On

Science Surprises

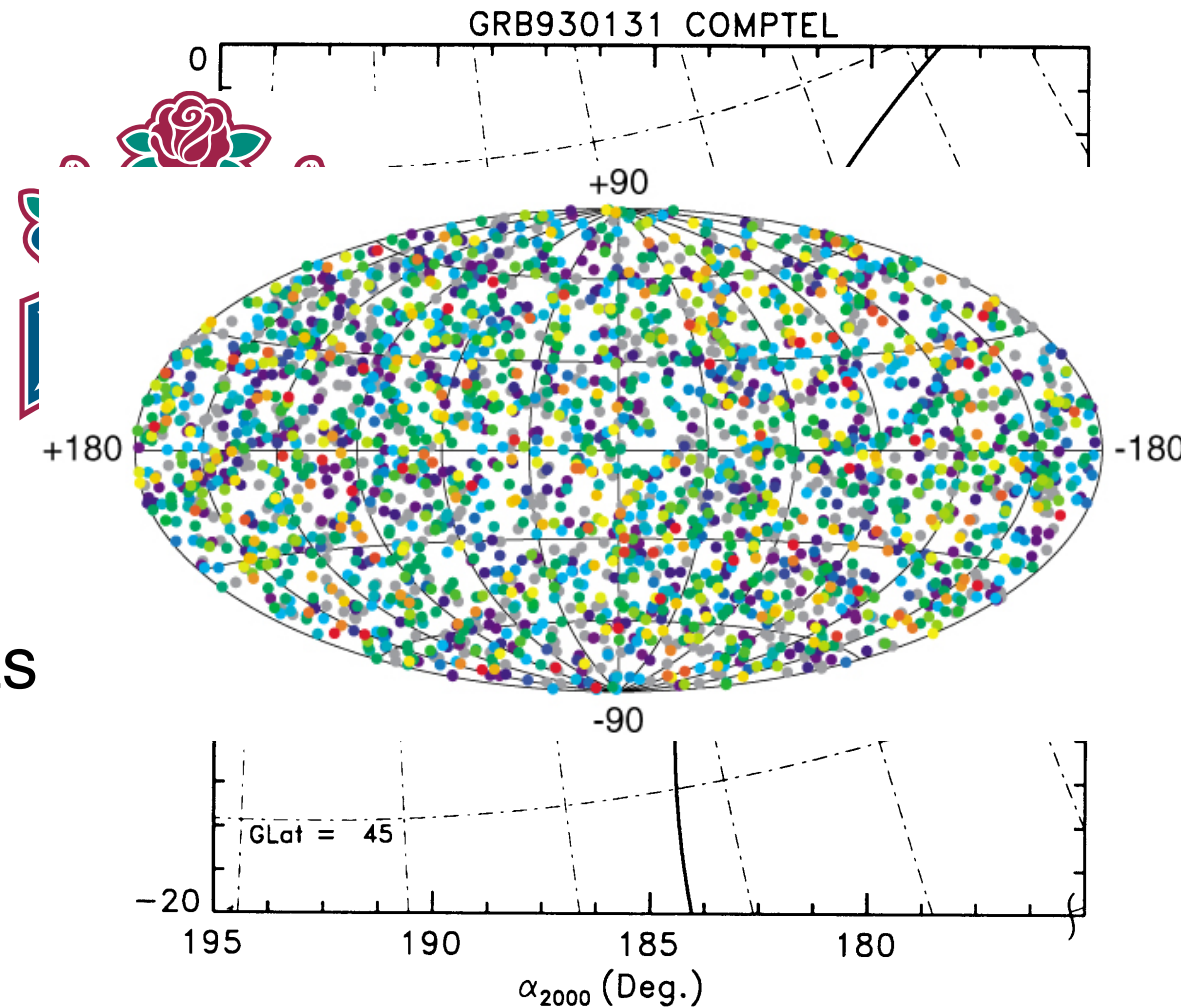
The Sun

- Were unprepared for the intensity, energy and instrumental effects
- 0.6 mW of x rays
- Only naïve operating mode for solar emissions.



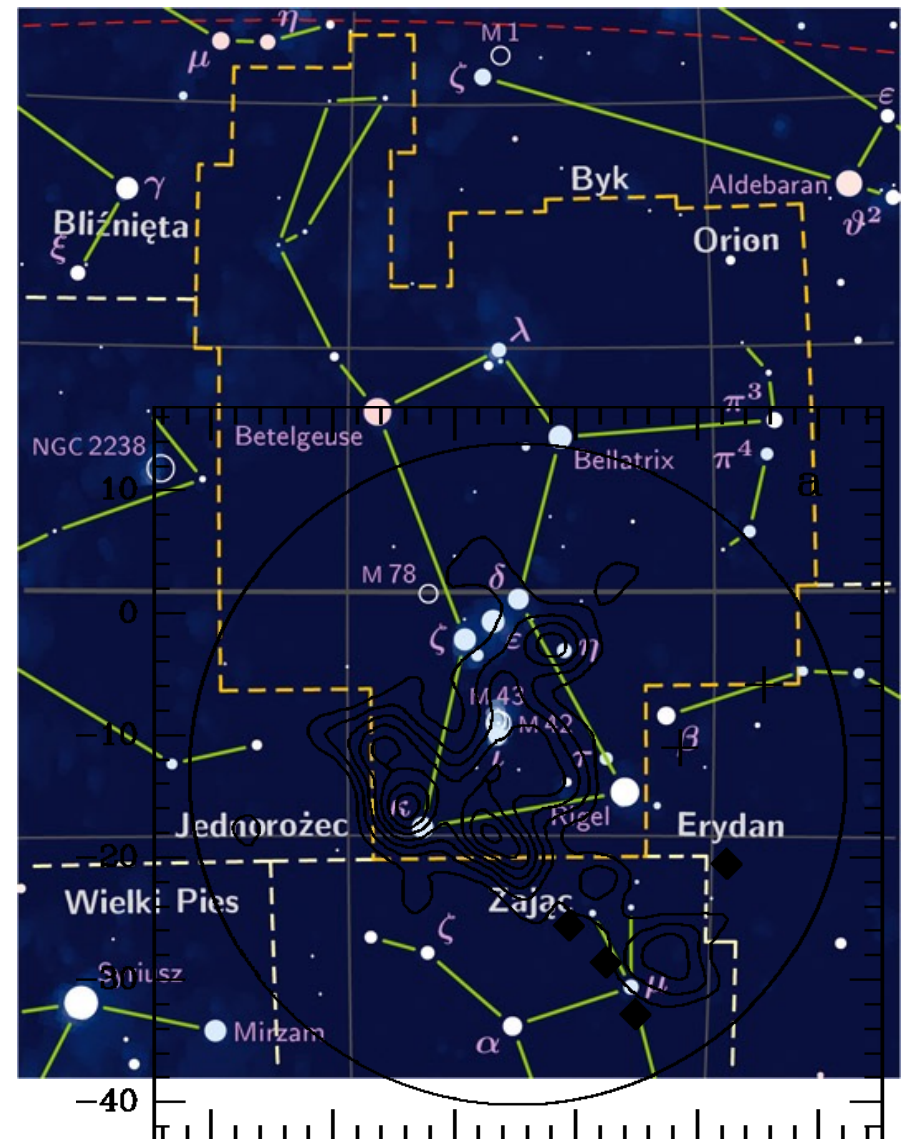
Gamma-Ray Bursts

- Intense community debate on nature of cosmic gamma-ray bursts. Near or far?
- What sort of object was responsible?



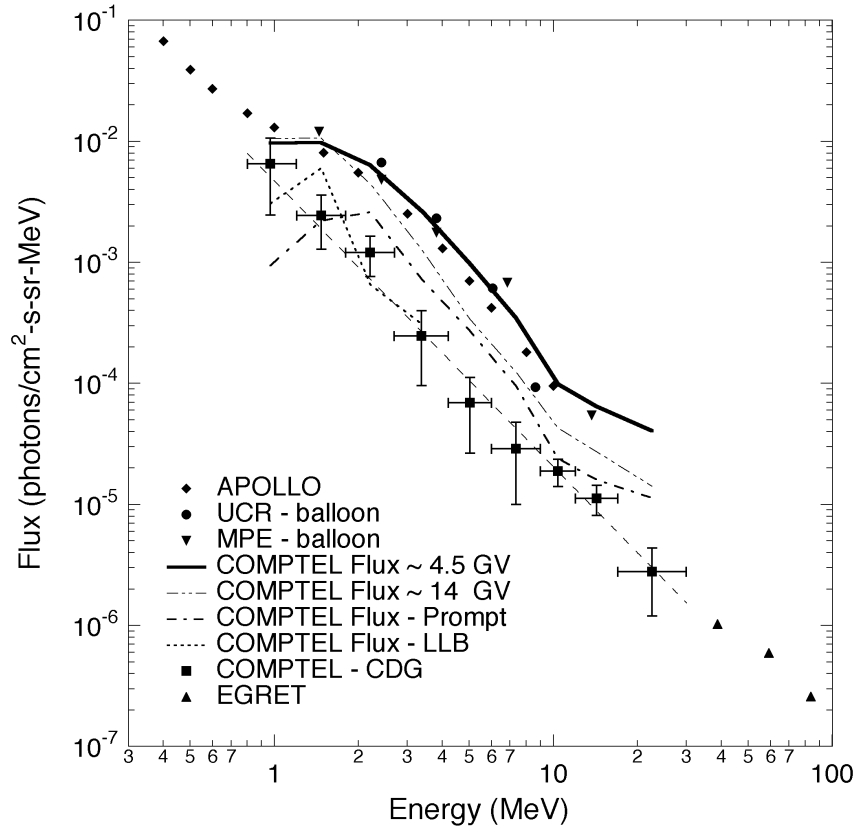
Infamous Orion Lines

- “Clear” measurement of nuclear gamma-ray emission from the Orion Nebula.
- **Word to the wise** for future gamma-ray astronomers on the insidious effects of background that plague the MeV region.
- It took two years to sort it out even after being on mission for several years!

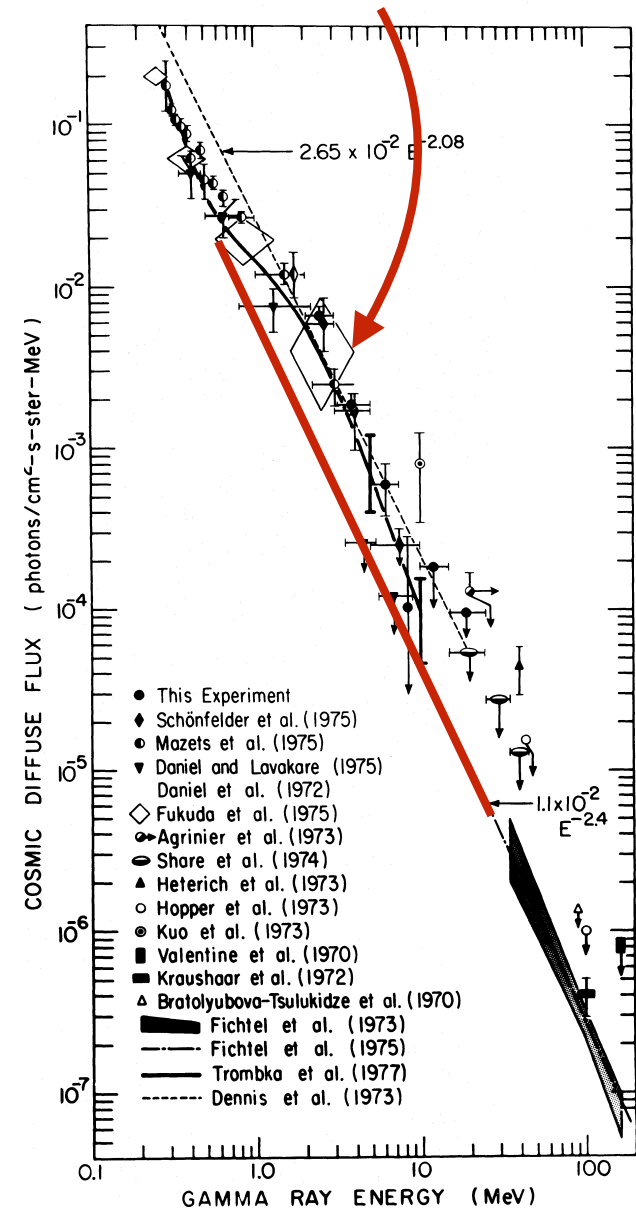


Students and their surprises

(Georg Weidenspointner and Cheenu Kappadath)



The notorious cosmic diffuse bump



What were we thinking?

- Four-way international collaboration with no internet or email.
- Two-week latency time for data delivery to Europe.
- Data processing rate challenged by the 6250 kbs telemetry rate.
- Highest bit rate transfer was by data tape and plane ticket.
- Four different computing platforms to accommodate. PCs just invented.

The Event



Science is Human Endeavor



How did we get it to work?

A: a good team

- Honors the nature of objective inquiry
- Honest
- Considerate
- Respectful
- Good leadership

Good Colleagues

