

Observational constraints on the maximum energies of accelerated particles in supernova remnants



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1. Particle released from supernova remnants

➤ Galactic cosmic rays (< 3 PeV)

- Most plausible sources: supernova remnants (SNRs)
- > 10 TeV particles are in fact accelerated (e.g., Ahnen+17)
- Softer spectra for older SNRs: gradual particle release

➤ Question: properties of released particles

- **energy spectrum: index, maximum energy**
- **release timescale**

- Big problem as the supply process of Galactic. cosmic rays

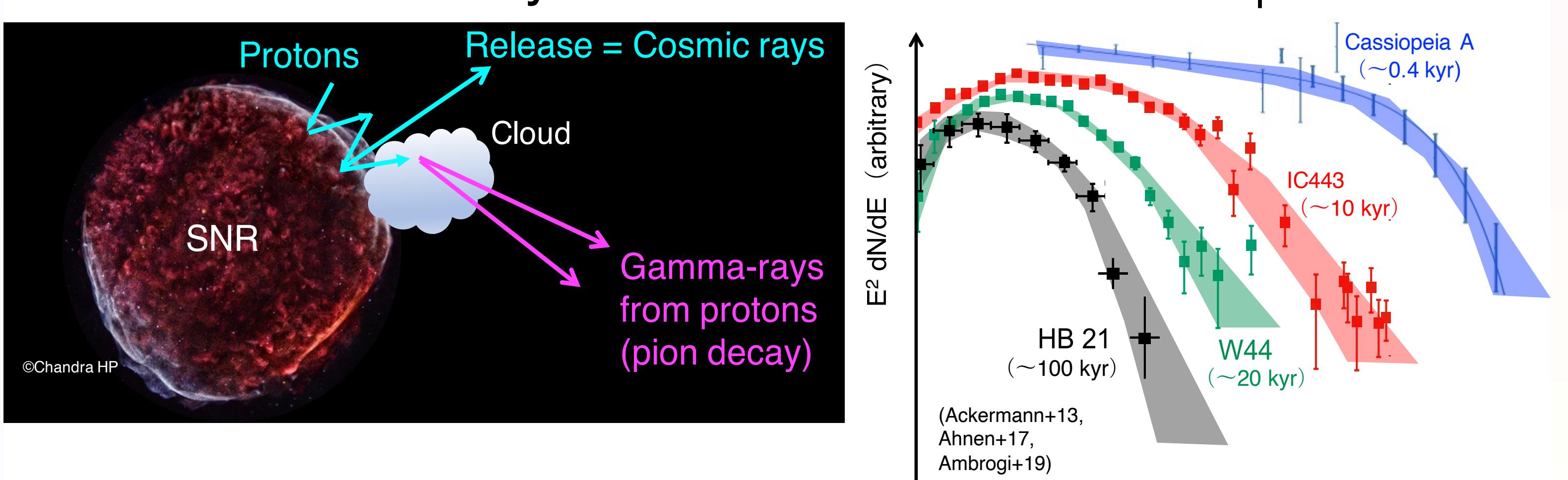
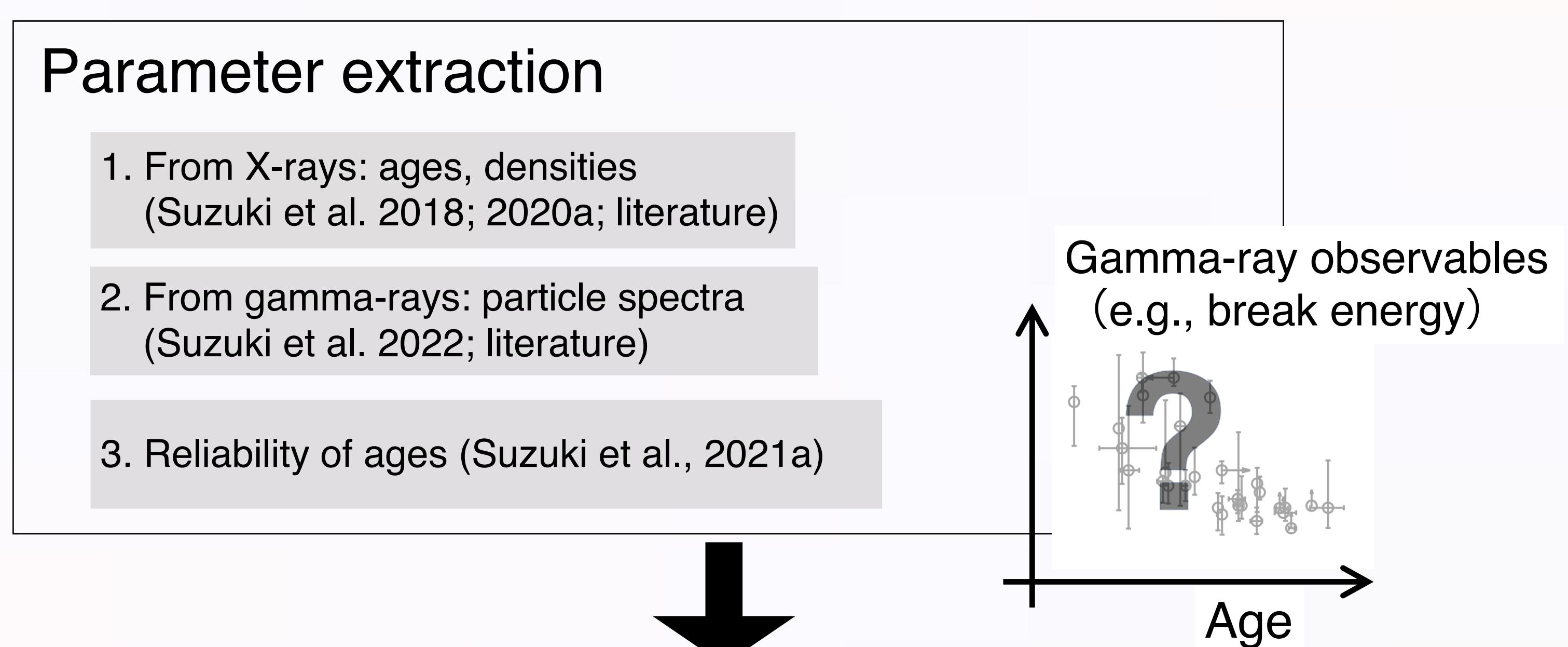


Fig.1: Left: Schematics of particle acceleration and release in SNRs. Right: Spectral difference of SNRs with different ages

2. Purpose and method

➤ Purpose: energy spectra of released particles and their evolution

➤ Method: systematic study for 38 gamma-ray emitting SNRs



Main analysis (Suzuki et al. 2021c)

1. Max. E and time dependence: PeVatrons or not ?
2. Environmental dependence of max. E

3. Parameter extraction (1)

- Purpose: Get ages based on thermal X-ray plasma properties (density, temperature, ionization state) (Sedov+59, Itoh&Masai+89, Zhang+19)
- Method & Results: ① 2 SNR analyses: HB 21 & G359.1-0.5
 ② 36 others: ages based on the literature

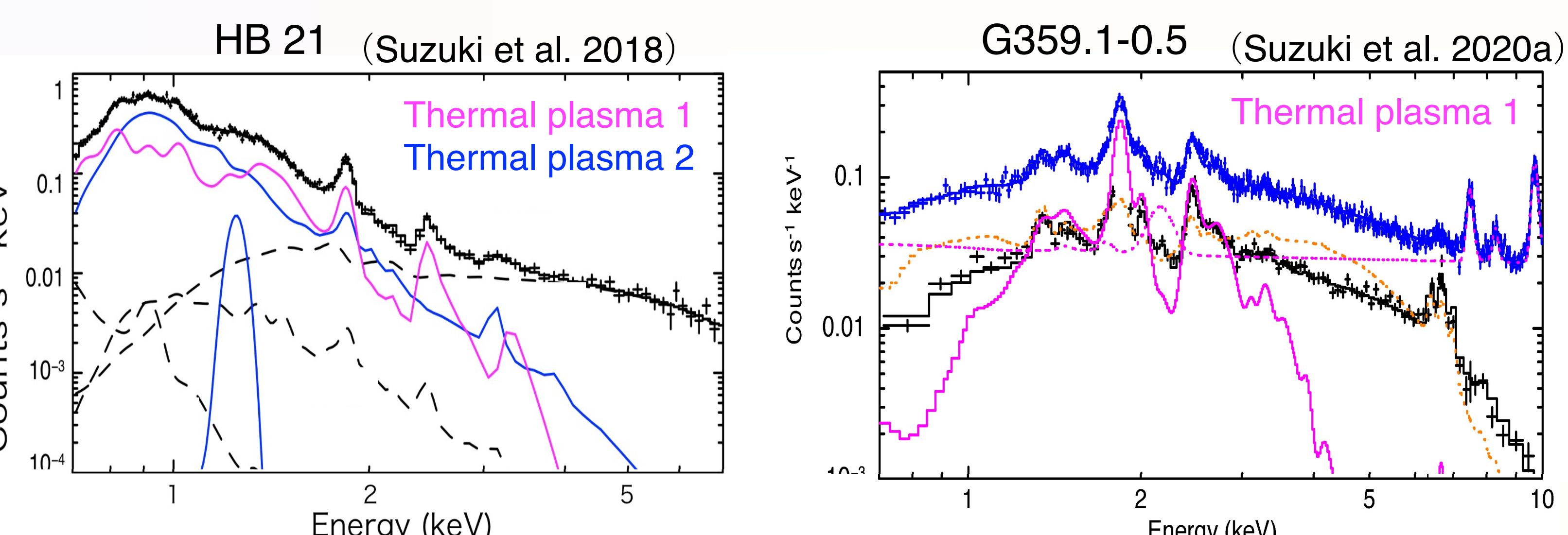


Fig.2: X-ray spectra and the best-fit models for two SNRs

3. Parameter extraction (2)

- Purpose: Get gamma-ray spectral parameters (luminosity, cutoff, break, hardness ratio, ...)
- Method & Results: ① Fermi spectral extraction for 15 SNRs
 ② Spectral modeling for all the 38 SNRs

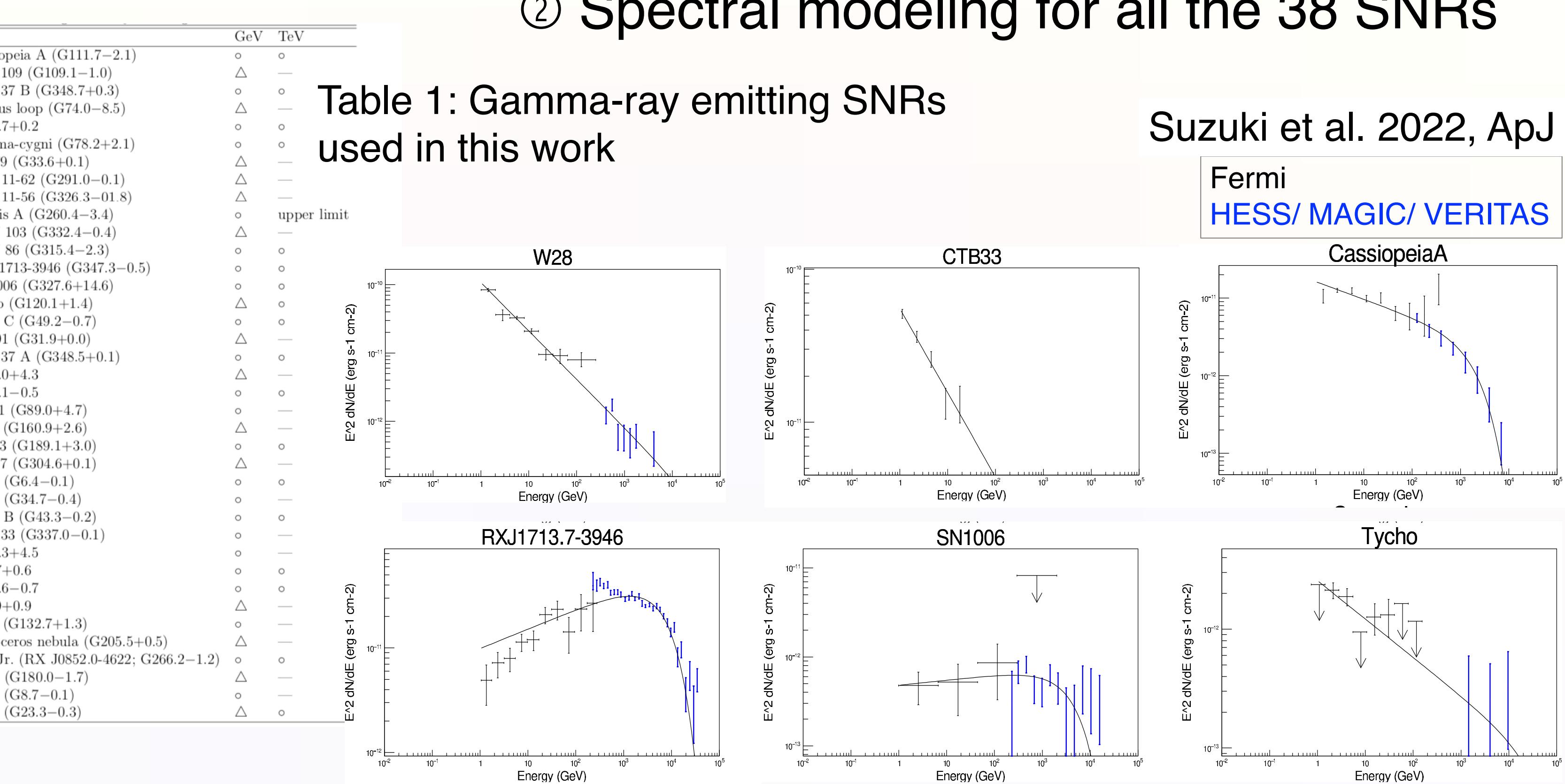


Fig.3: Gamma-ray spectra and the best-fit exponential cutoff PL models

5. Conclusion

- A systematic study on gamma-ray spectra of 38 SNRs is performed
- We find **low maximum energies (but may reach PeV at 10 yr) & large variety (1–2 orders of magnitudes)**

For more details...

Suzuki et al. 2018, PASJ; 2020a, ApJ;
 2020c, PASJ; 2021a, ApJ; 2022, ApJ

3. Parameter extraction (3)

- Purpose: Calibration of SNR age
- Method & Results: Use the systems where reliable age estimation is possible (historical, light-echo, ejecta motion, kinematics of neutron star)
- Result: two general age estimates are reliable within a factor of 4

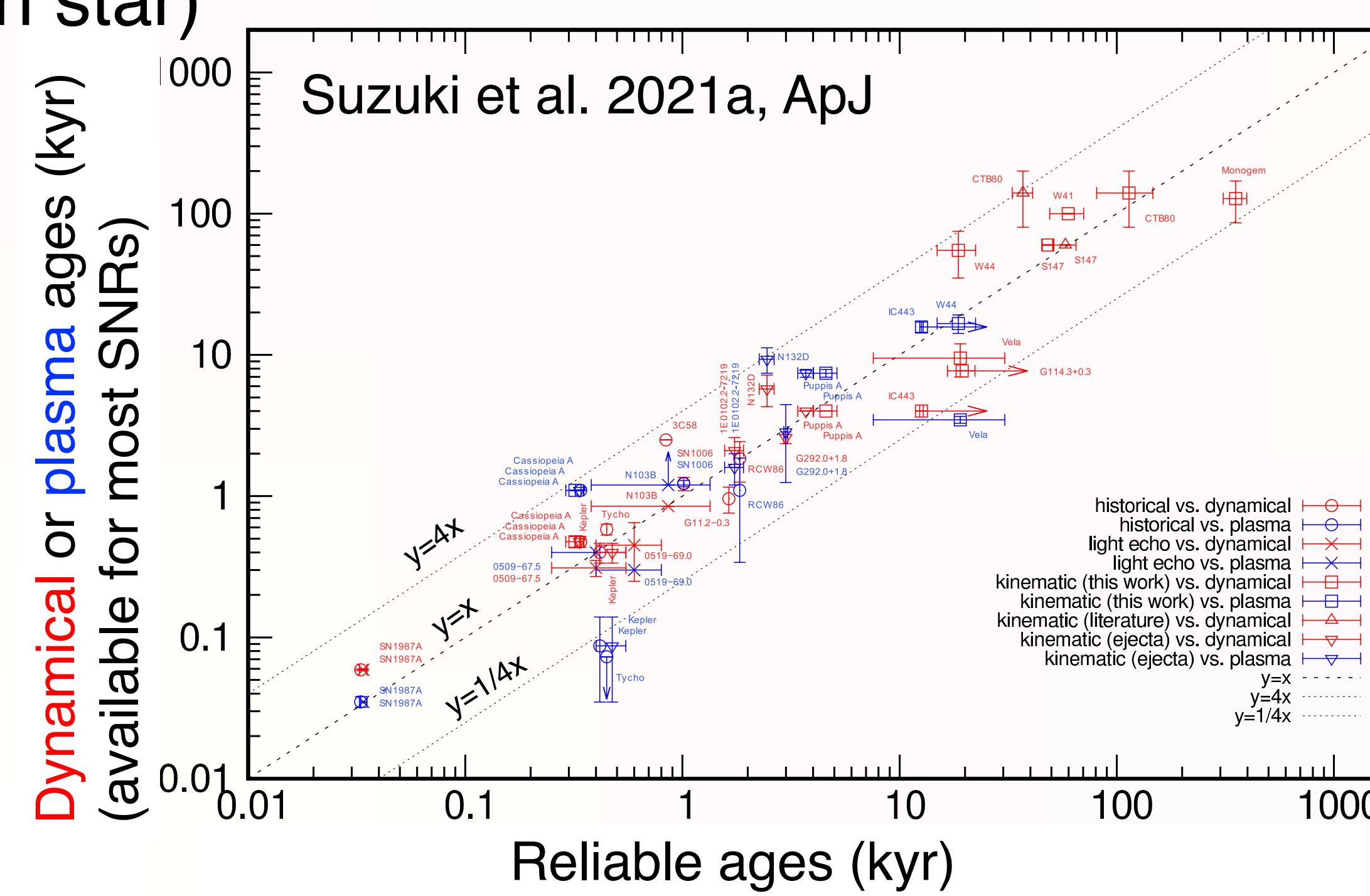


Fig.4: Relation between the reliable age and two general age estimates for SNRs

4. Main analysis

- Maximum E candidates: E_{cut} , E_{br} are < PeV
- Modeled evolution : $E_{\text{cut}} = 1.3 (0.67-2.4) \text{ TeV } (t_b/1 \text{ kyr})^{-0.81 \pm 0.24}$
 $E_{\text{br}} = 270 (140-510) \text{ GeV } (t_b/1 \text{ kyr})^{-0.77 \pm 0.23}$

- Large variety of E_{cut} , E_{br} : 1–2 orders of magnitude
 → dependence on environments

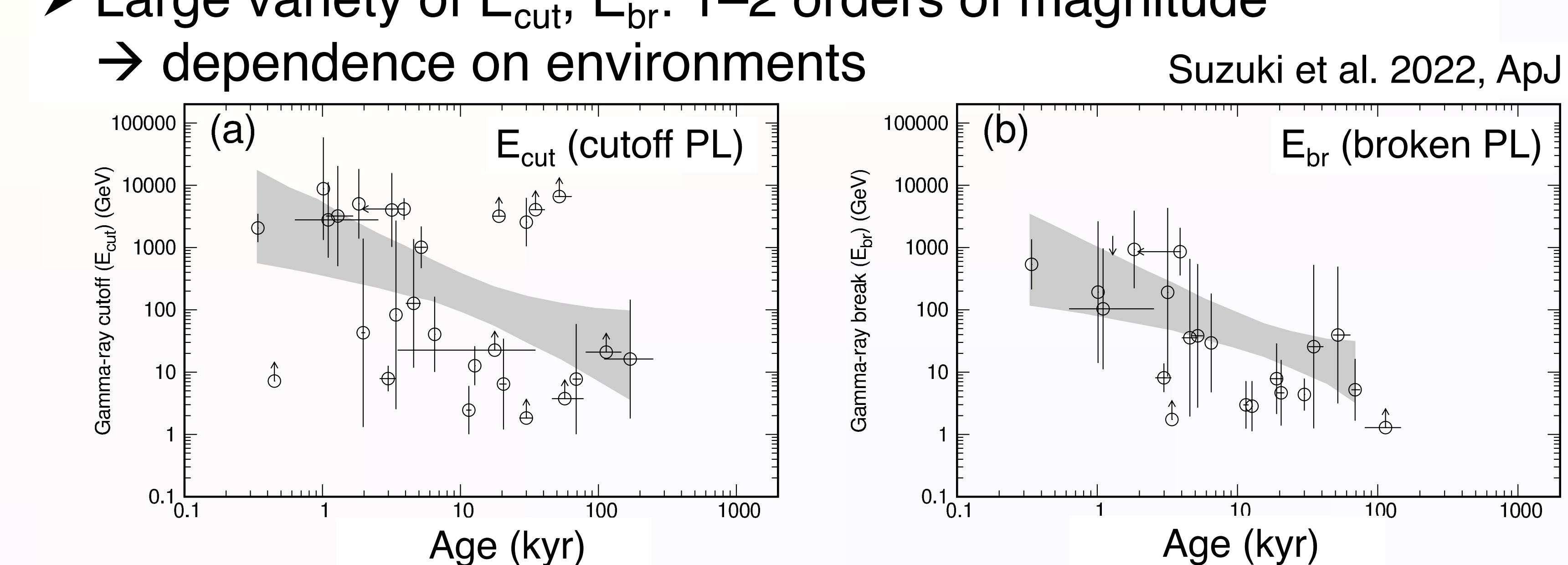


Fig.5: Gamma-ray parameters as a function of age

