

Giants +

**Rocky only** 

Rocky +











# The Disk The Milky Way's dominant stellar component

 $\rho(R,z) = \rho_0 e^{-z/z_0} e^{-R/h}$ 

 $z_0 =$ scale height = varies by component of disk

 $h = \text{scale length} \simeq 3 \text{kpc}$ 

 $R_{\odot} \simeq 8 \text{ kpc} \rightarrow \text{Sun is in "outskirts"}$ 

total mass ~ 10<sup>11</sup> solar masses

	<b>Z</b> 0	[Fe/H]	age	popu
young thin disk	~50 pc	> 0.0	young	Pc
old thin disk	~300-400 pc	-0.5 — +0.3	middle-age	Pc
thick disk	~1-1.5 kpc	-1.5 — -0.4	old	Рор

### How might we account for the differences in ages, metallicities, scale heights?







## pink = star formation regions

### ionized hydrogen

emit light in Balmer  $\alpha = 3 \rightarrow 2$ transition





# **Interstellar Medium** "the stuff between the stars"

Gas (H, He, molecules), Dust

**neutral Hydrogen** (HI) — cool **ionized Hydrogen** (HII) — hot **molecular Hydrogen** (H<sub>2</sub>) — cold





### Sagittarius

### Galactic SWEEPS Center

Baade's Window

Scorpius

Corona Australis

Photo: Akira Fujii

### hard to really study due to dust...

### age = > 9 billion years mass ~ 10<sup>10</sup> solar masses

### The Bulge





*metallicities:* -1 < [Fe/H] < +0.5



FIG. 2.—2.2  $\mu$ m angular scale heights at fixed longitude. Scale heights for  $l < 0^{\circ}$  are represented by asterisks, whereas diamonds are for scale heights at positive Galactic longitudes. The error bars represent 1  $\sigma$  errors on the computed scale height.

shape probably an elongated bar



### **Stellar Halo**

globular clusters & "field" stars

GCs ages: 9-13 Gyr metallicities: two populations young, metal-rich; old, MP distribution: two populations

field stars: also very metal-poor total mass =  $10^8 - 10^9 M_{sun}$ 

$$n(r) = n_0 r^{-3.5}$$

 $n_0 \sim 0.2\%$  thin disk maximum