

Contribution of young massive stellar clusters to the Galactic diffuse γ -ray emission

*Stefano Menchiari*¹,

G. Morlino², E. Amato², N. Bucciantini²,

G. Peron², G. Sacco²

¹CSIC - Instituto Astrofísica Andalucía

²INAF - Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri



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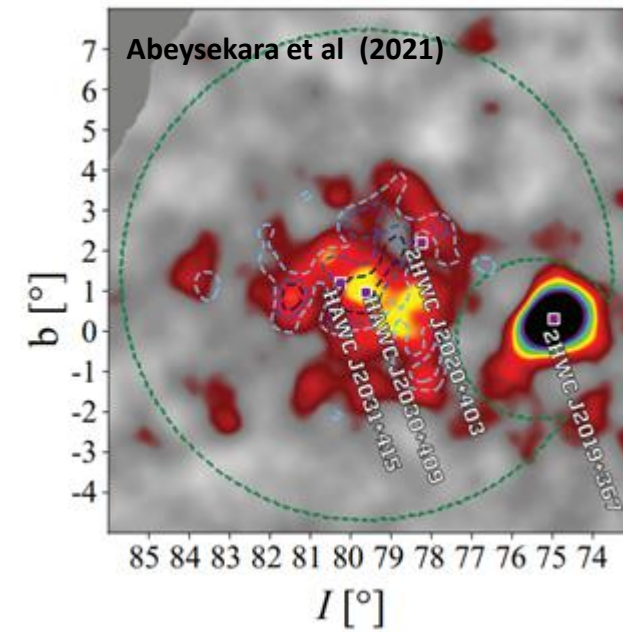
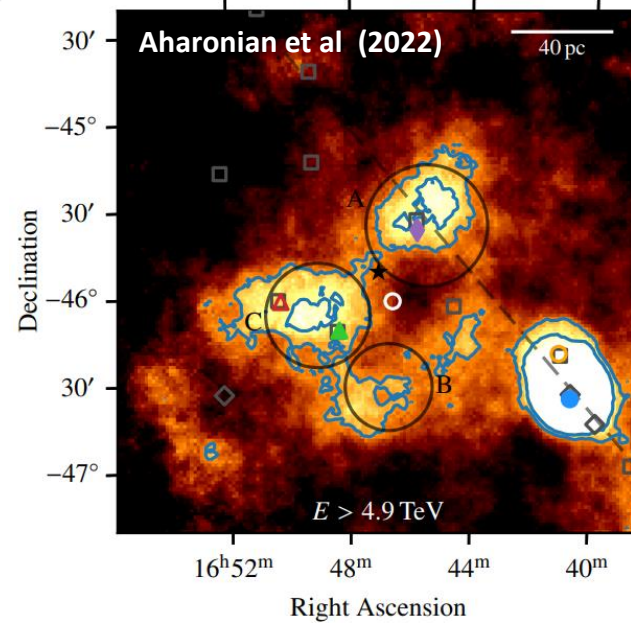
Young massive star clusters (YMSC): Cosmic rays and γ -ray sources

YMSCs: Clusters of hundreds OB-type ($M_{\star} > 3 M_{\odot}$) stars packed in few pc.
Young: Age < 10 Myr
Massive: $M_{SC} > 10^3 M_{\odot}$

Several cosmic ray (CR) acceleration mechanisms proposed in YMSCs.

A few examples:

- Acceleration in massive stars winds (Casse & Paul, 1980)
- Acceleration in cluster wind termination shock (TS) (Morlino et al., 2021)
 - Acceleration in cluster core by SNRs (Vieu et al. 2022, Vieu & Reville 2023)



Name	$\log M/M_{\odot}$	r_c [pc]	D [kpc]	Age [Myr]	L_w [erg s $^{-1}$]
Westerlund 1	4.6 ± 0.045	1.5	4	4 – 6	10
Westerlund 2	4.56 ± 0.035	1.1	2.8 ± 0.4	1.5 – 2.5	2
Cygnus OB2	4.7 ± 0.3	5.2	1.4	2 – 7	2
NGC 3603	4.1 ± 0.1	1.1	6.9	2 – 3	-
BDS 2003	4.39	0.2	4	1	-
W40	2.5	0.44	0.44	1.5	-
RSGC 1	4.48	1.5	6.6	10 – 14	-
MC 20	~ 3	1.3	3.8 – 5.1	3 – 8	~ 4
NGC 6618	-	3.3	~ 2	< 3	-
30 Dor (LMC)	4.8 – 5.7	multiple	50	1	-
NGC 2070 / RCM 136	4.34 – 5	subcluster		5	

γ -ray emission detected in coincidence with **12 YMSC!**

Extended emission

The γ -ray emission is diffuse and extended (1° - 3°)!

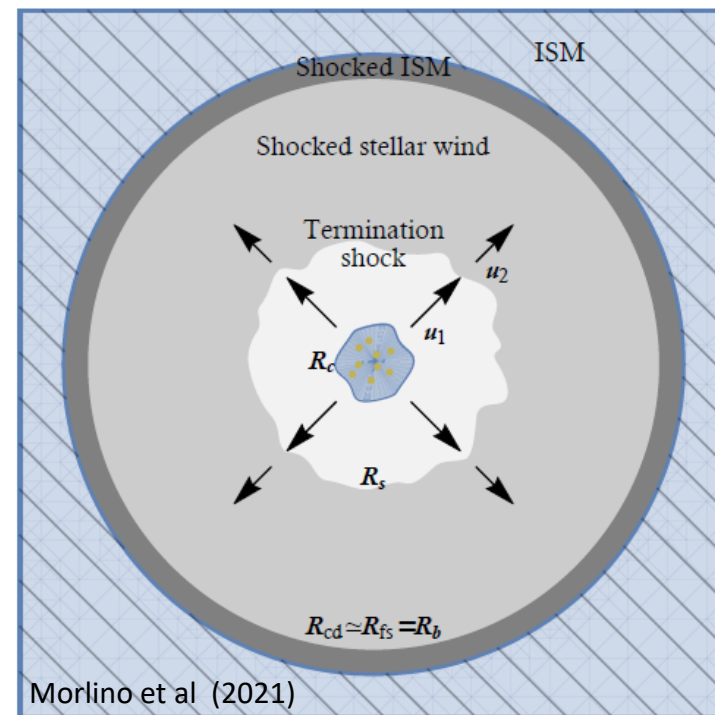
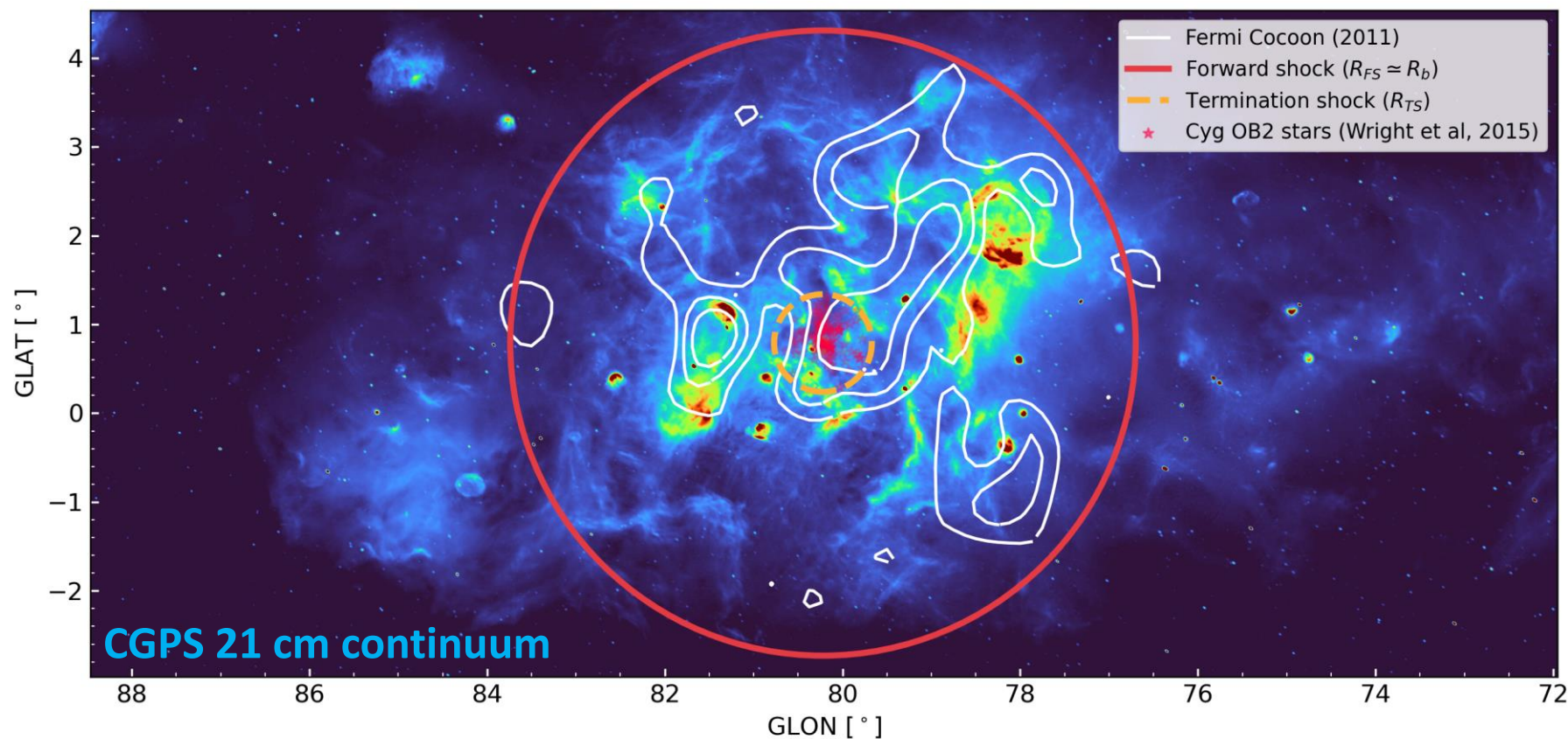


Emission size consistent with projected dimension of wind-blown bubble

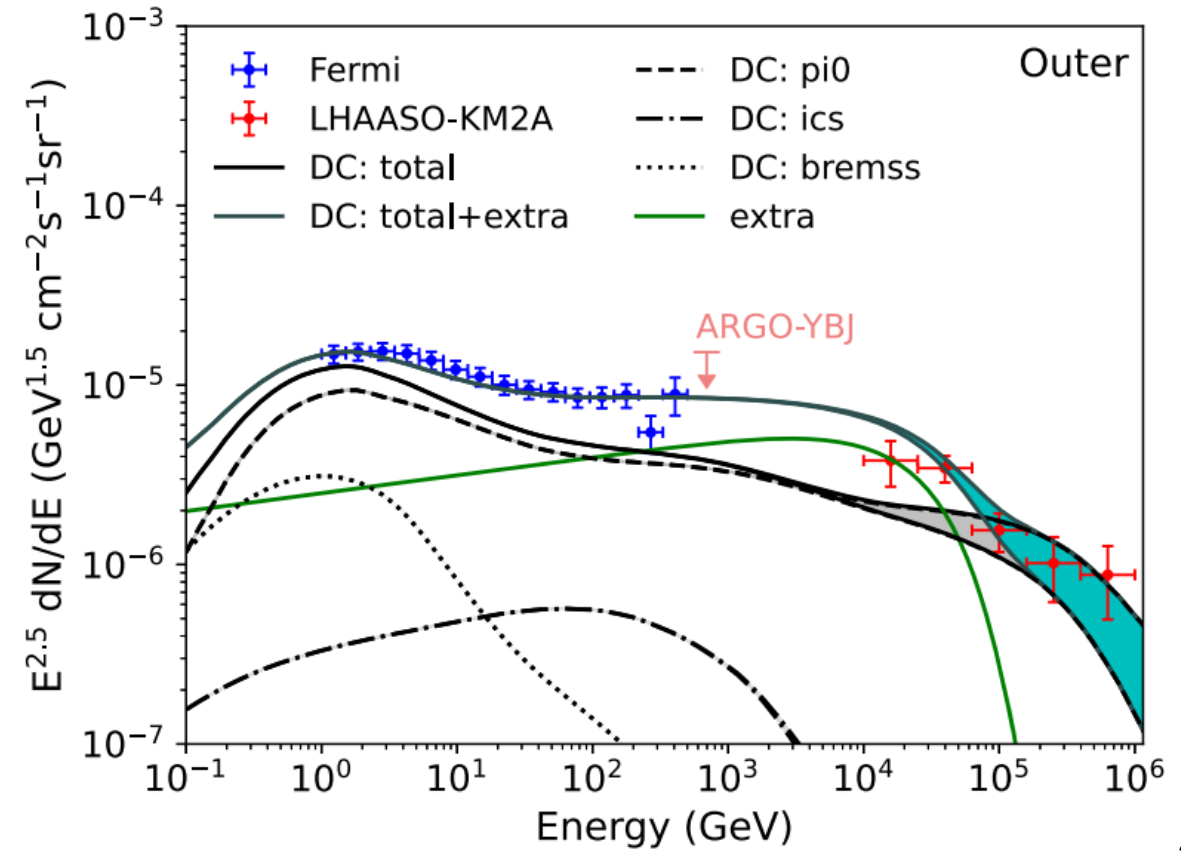
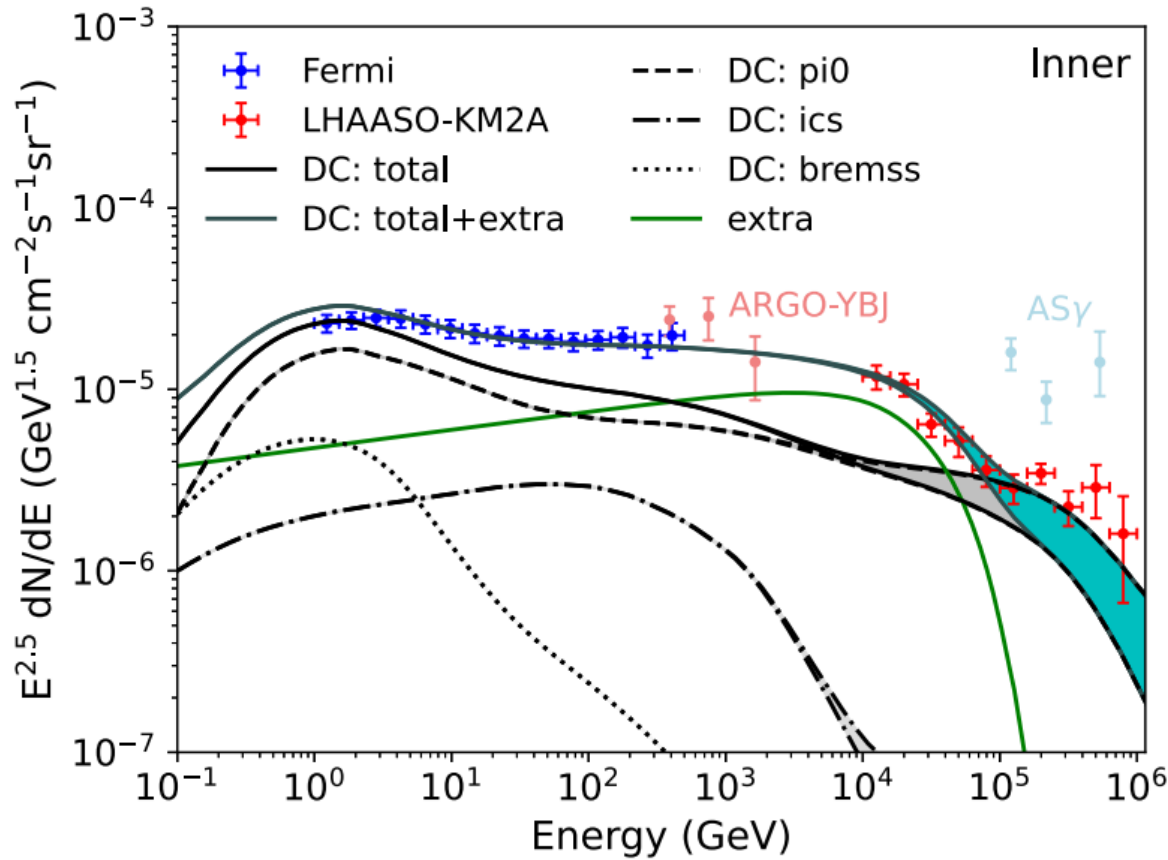


Detecting and analyzing diffuse γ -ray emission is a challenging task!

Detection bias for low surface brightness sources



Analysis of GDE (LHAASO+Fermi-LAT) reveals contribution from unresolved sources (Zhang et al 2023)!!!



OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Estimate a lower limit contribution to Galactic diffuse emission from YMSCs
- 2) Comparison with observations
 $15^\circ < l < 125^\circ, |b| < 5^\circ$ (ROI1)
 $125^\circ < l < 235^\circ, |b| < 5^\circ$ (ROI2)

Nota bene:

Population of YMSCs in Milky Way is not known!

Use a synthetic population of YMSC

Work objective

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- 1) Estimate a lower limit contribution to Galactic diffuse emission from YMSCs
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 $15^\circ < |l| < 125^\circ$, $|b| < 5^\circ$ (ROI1)
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Nota bene:

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Use a synthetic population of YMSC

Required ingredients

STEP 1

Modeling galactic population of YMSCs:

Use info from local population of YMSCs

STEP 2

a) Modeling stellar population in a YMSC

b) Modeling stellar wind physics:

Use pure empirical approach

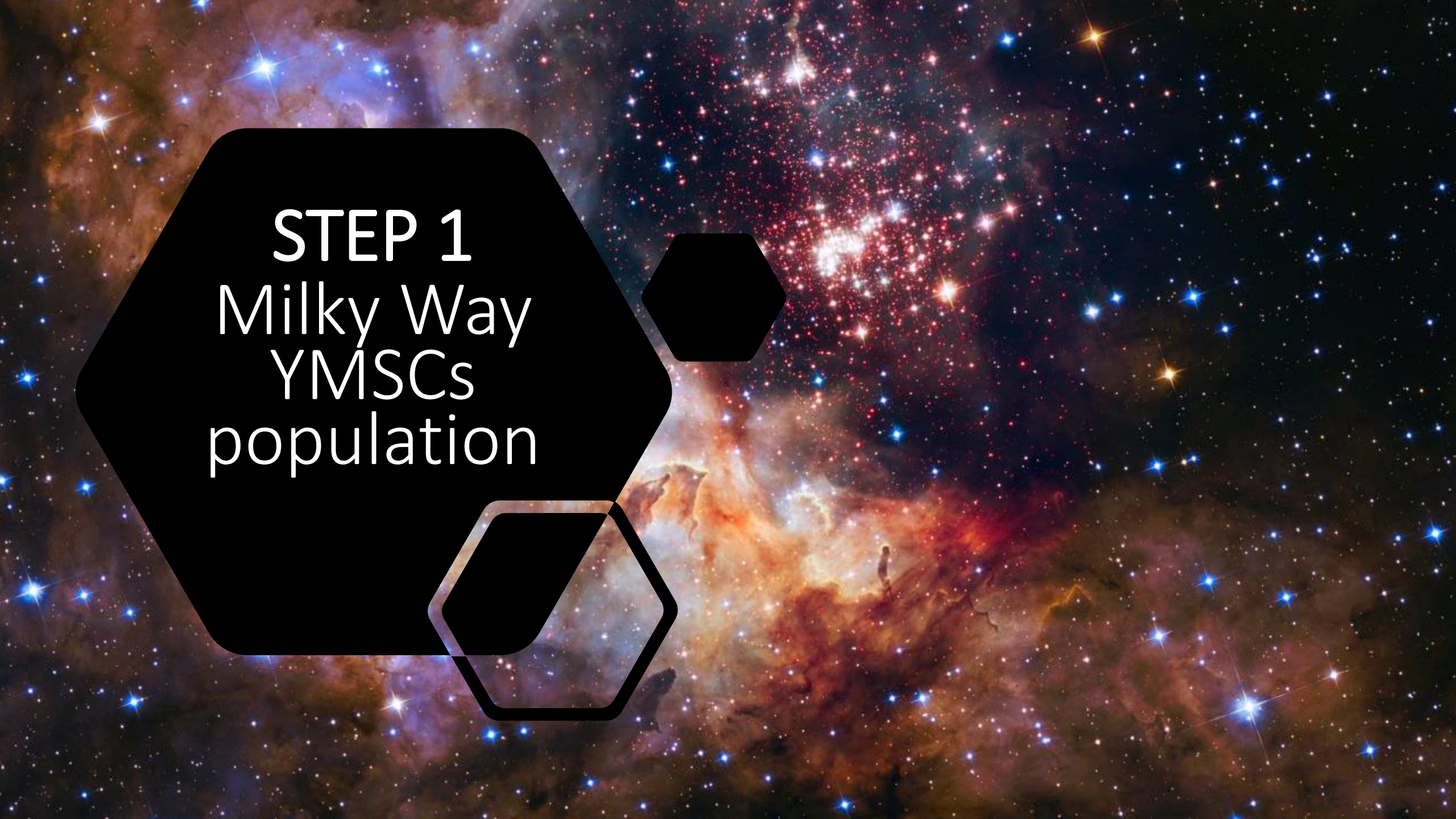
STEP 3

a) Cosmic ray acceleration mechanism:

Acceleration at the cluster wind termination shock (TS) (Morlino et al. 2021)

b) Modeling γ -ray emission:

Pure hadronic emission



STEP 1
Milky Way
YMSCs
population

Synthetic YMSCs population (I)

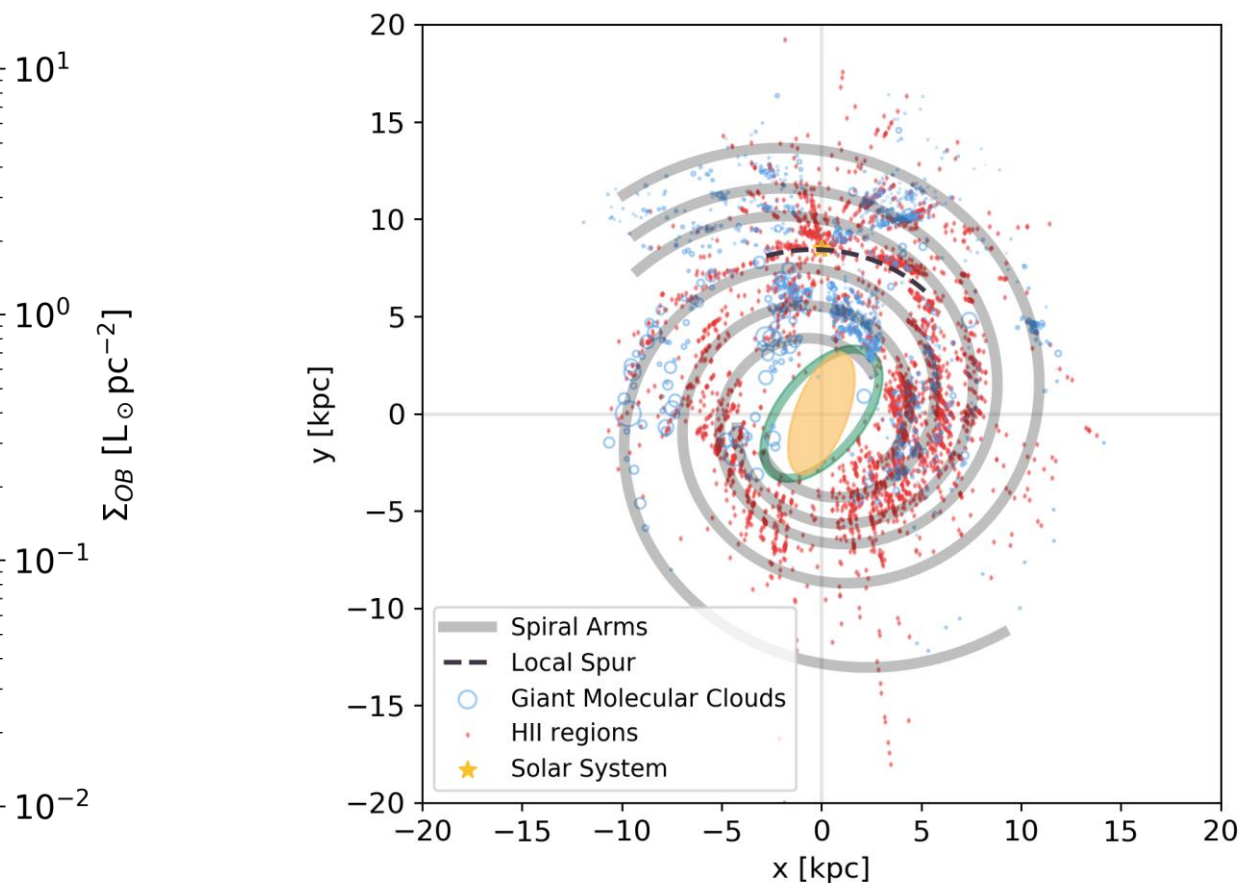
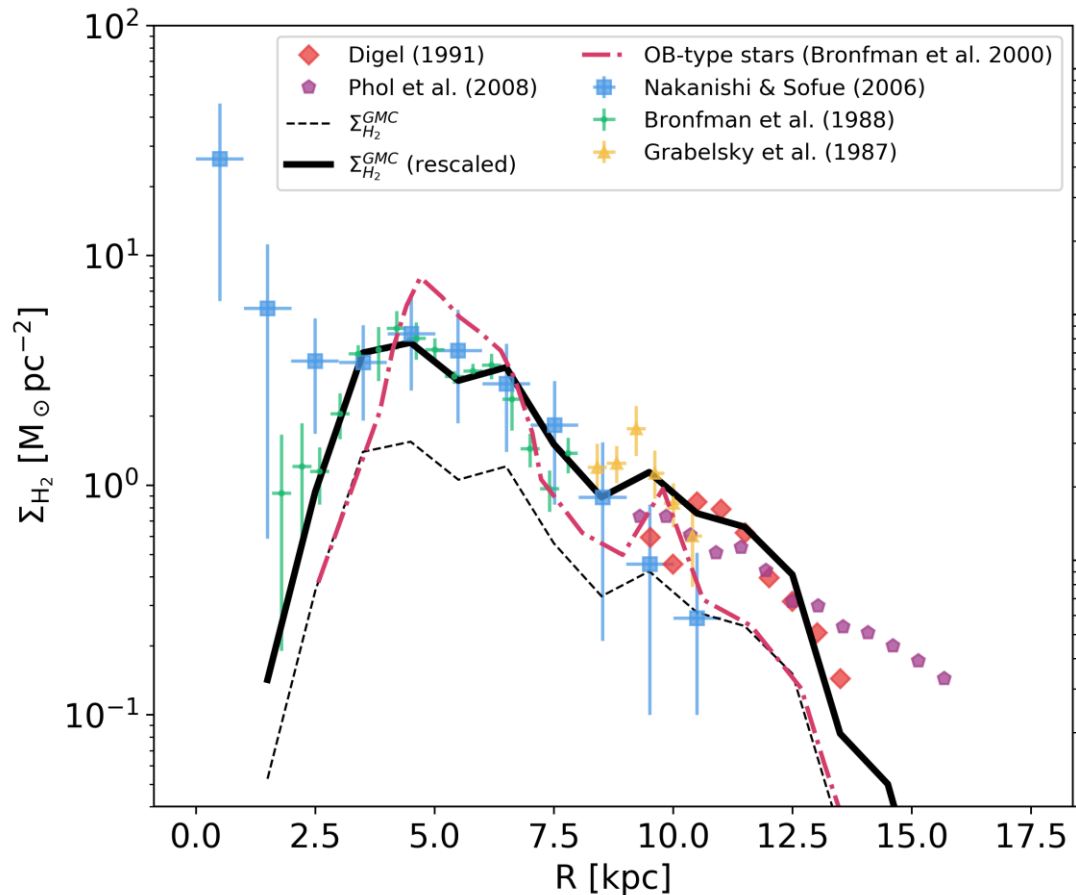
YMSC distribution function: $\xi_{SC}(M_{SC}, t, r, \theta) = \frac{dN_{SC}}{dM_{SC}dt dr d\theta} = \underline{f(M_{SC})}\psi(t)\rho(r, \theta)$

- Cluster IMF: $f(M_{SC}) \propto M_{SC}^{-1.54}$ [2.5 – 6.3x10⁴ M_⊙] (Piskunov et al, 2018)

Synthetic YMSCs population (I)

YMSC distribution function: $\xi_{SC}(M_{SC}, t, r, \theta) = \frac{dN_{SC}}{dM_{SC} dt dr d\theta} = f(M_{SC}) \psi(t) \rho(r, \theta)$

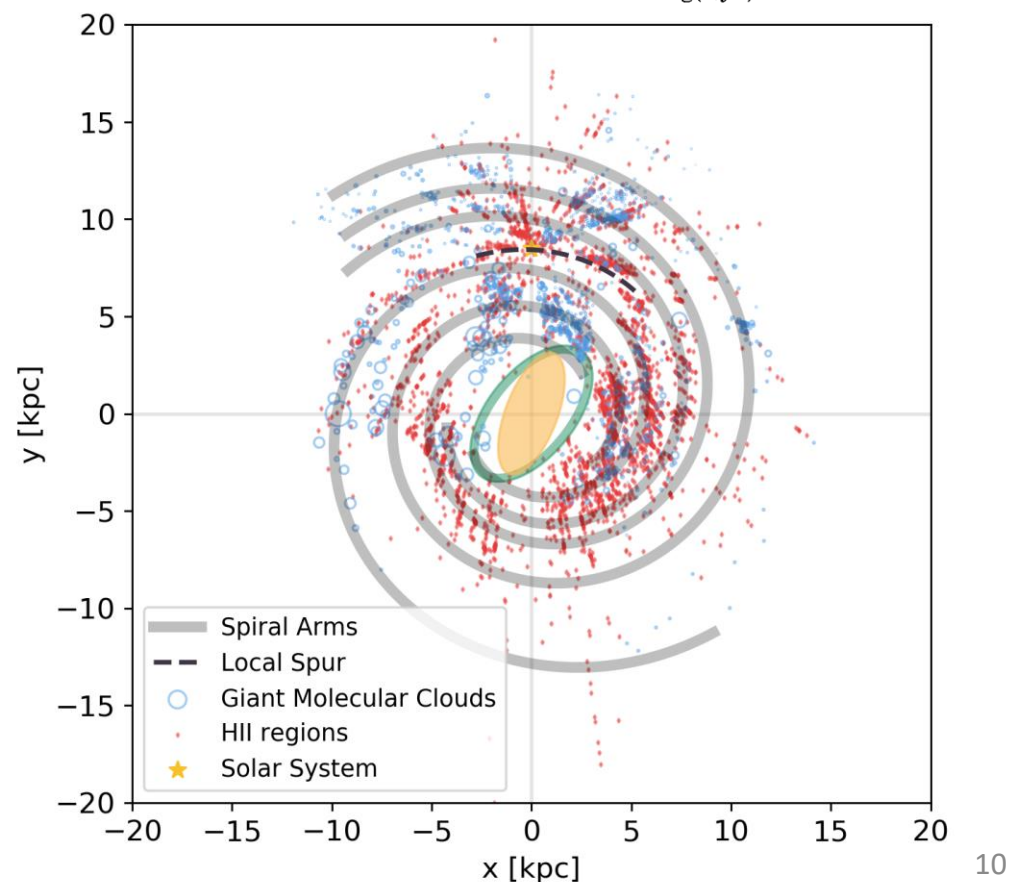
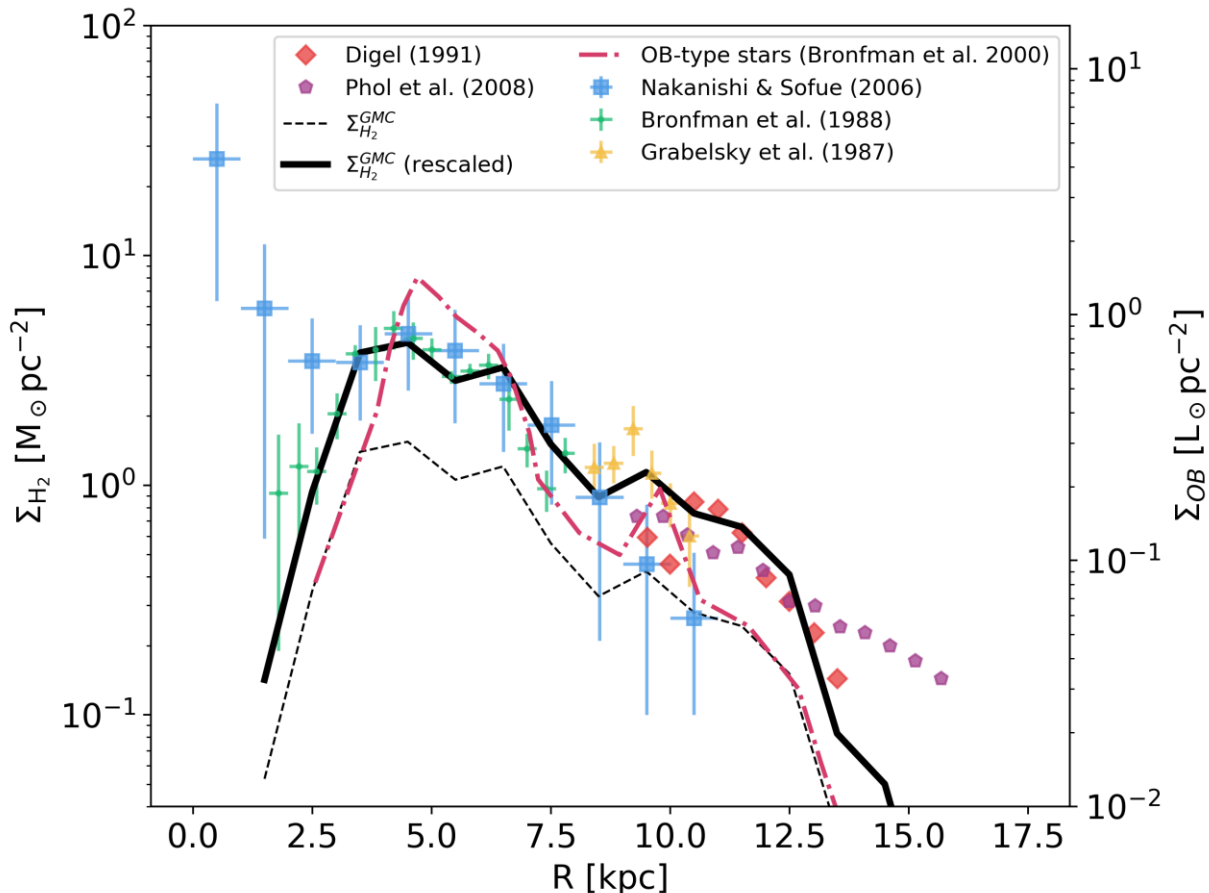
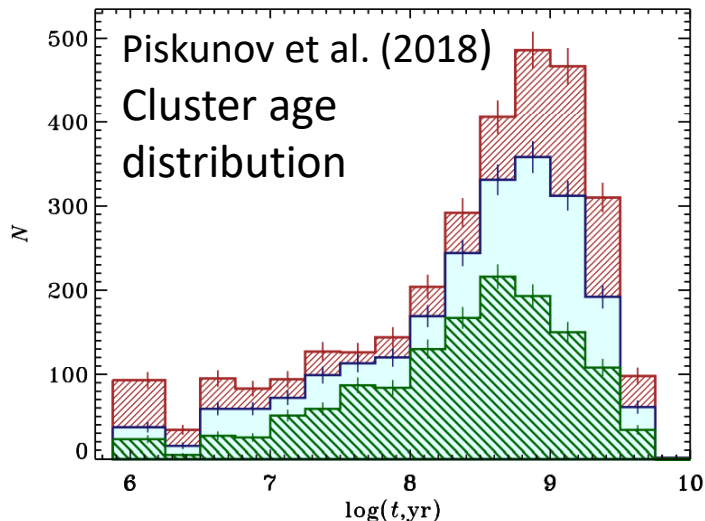
- Cluster IMF: $f(M_{SC}) \propto M_{SC}^{-1.54}$ [$2.5 - 6.3 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}$] (Piskunov et al, 2018)
- Cluster radial distribution follow giant molecular cloud (Hou & Han 2014)



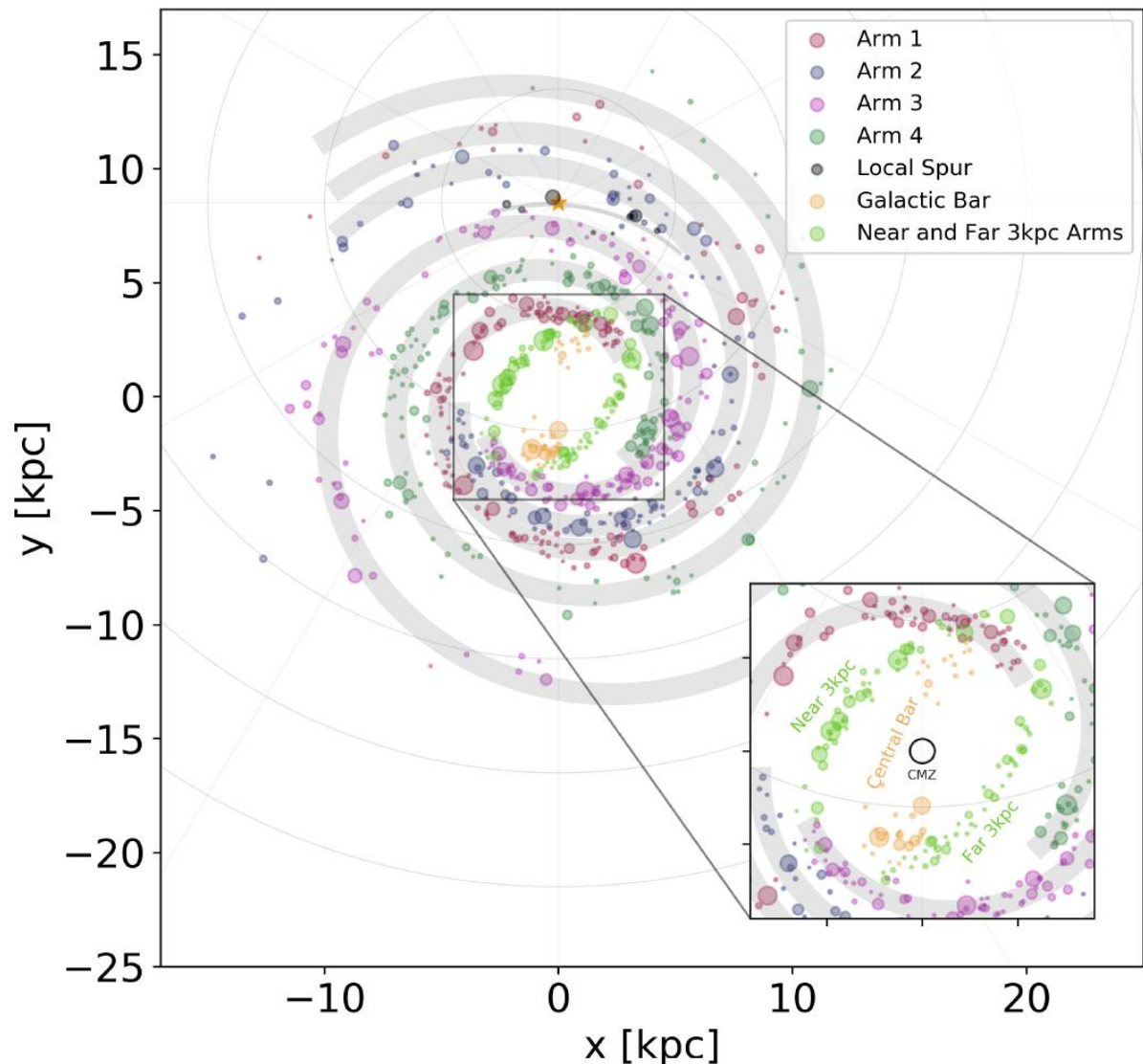
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- Cluster radial distribution follow giant molecular cloud (Hou & Han 2014)
- Local cluster formation rate: $\bar{\psi} = 1.8 \text{ Myr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ (Bonatto et al 2011)

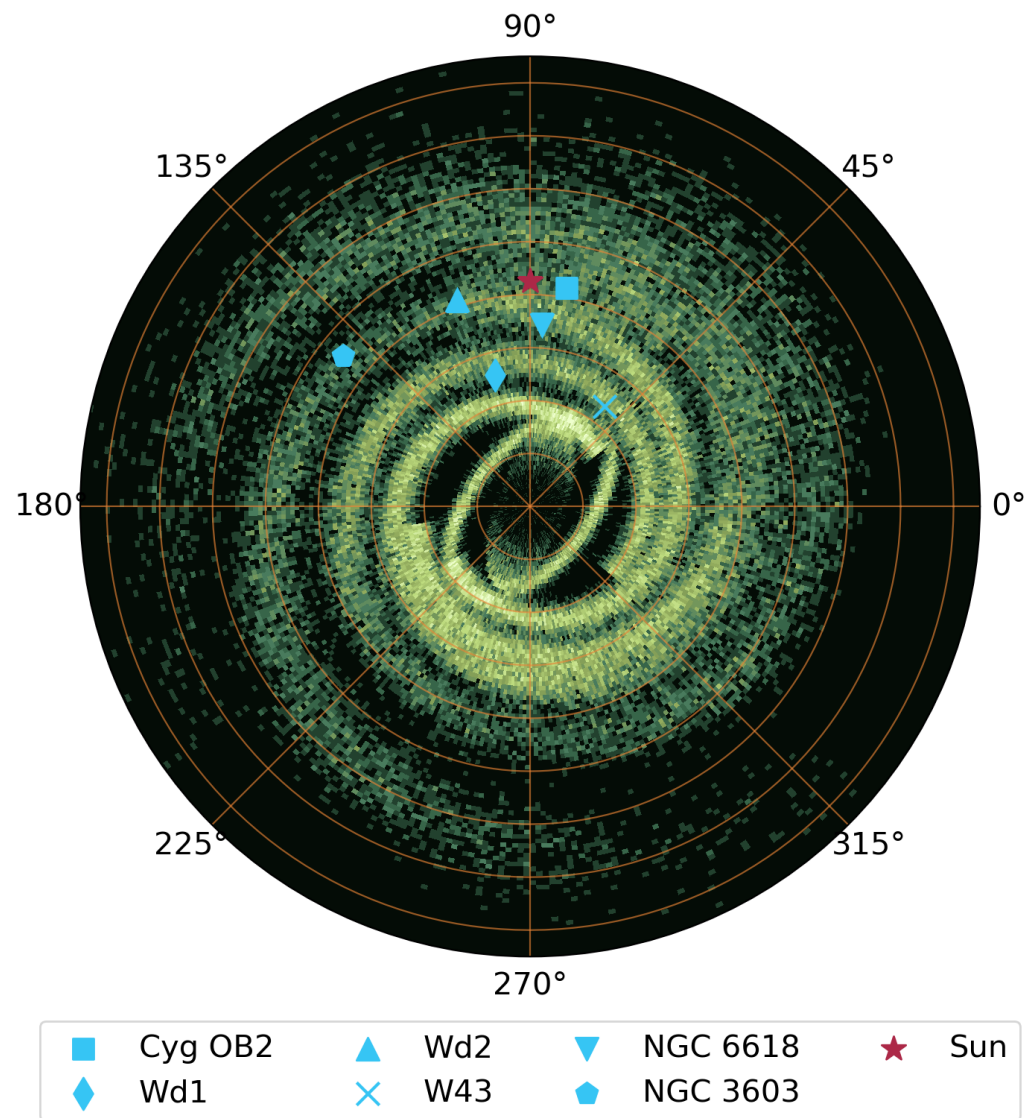


Synthetic YMSCs population (II)




Single realization of the Galactic population

Total number of YMSCs: 747
(Age <10 Myr, $M_{SC} > 10^3 M_{\odot}$)



Spatial distribution (100 realizations)



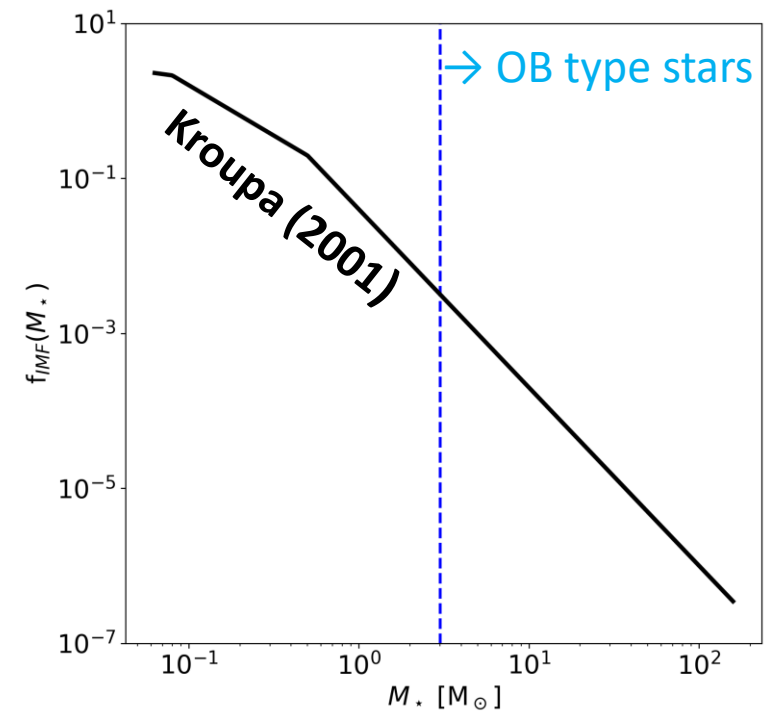
STEP 2
Stellar
population in
clusters

Stellar population in YMSC

- Total number of stars:

$$N_{\star} = \Lambda M_{\text{SC}} \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda = \frac{\int_{M_{\star,\text{min}}}^{M_{\star,\text{max}}} f_{\star}(M_{\star}) dM_{\star}}{\int_{M_{\star,\text{min}}}^{M_{\star,\text{max}}} M_{\star} f_{\star}(M_{\star}) dM_{\star}}$$

- Stellar initial mass function (IMF) according to Kroupa (2001)
- Maximum stellar mass is $150 M_{\odot}$



Stellar population in YMSC

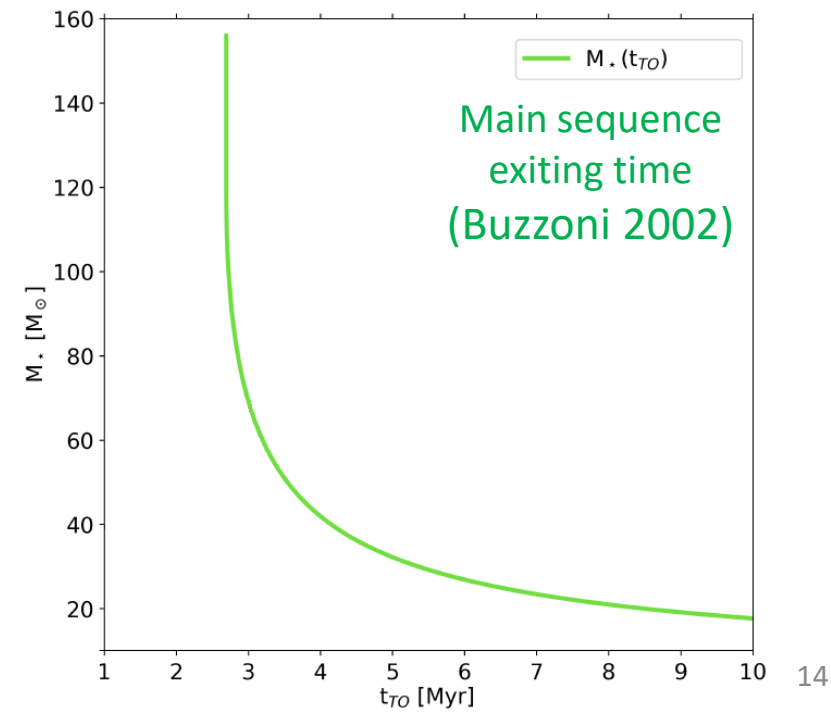
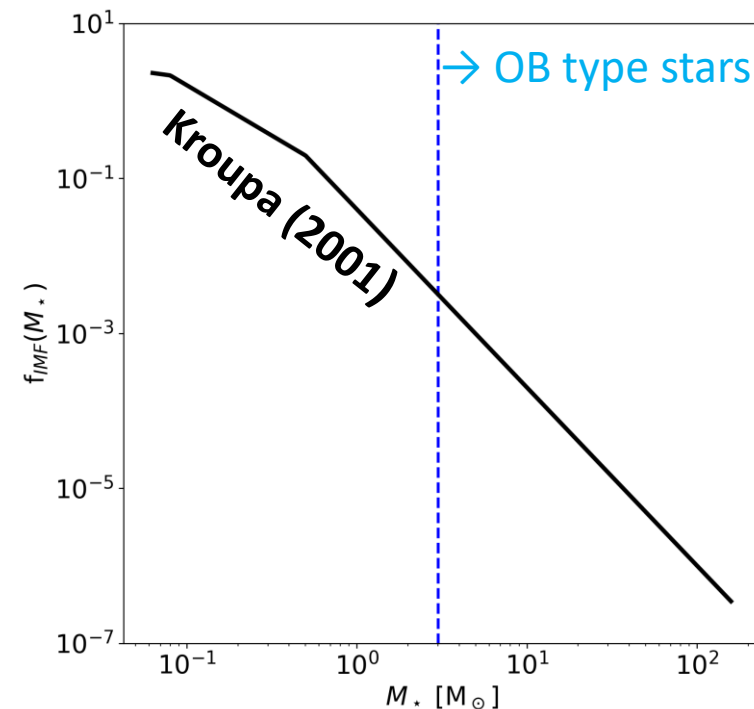
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- Stellar initial mass function (IMF) according to Kroupa (2001)
- Maximum stellar mass is $150 M_{\odot}$
- All stars that have left the main sequence at a time equal to the age of the cluster are removed, with exception of WR stars ($t_{\text{TO}} < t < t_{\text{TO}} + 0.3 \text{ Myr}$ and $M_{\star} > 25 M_{\odot}$)

WE DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR THE ENERGY INJECTED BY SUPERNOVE!

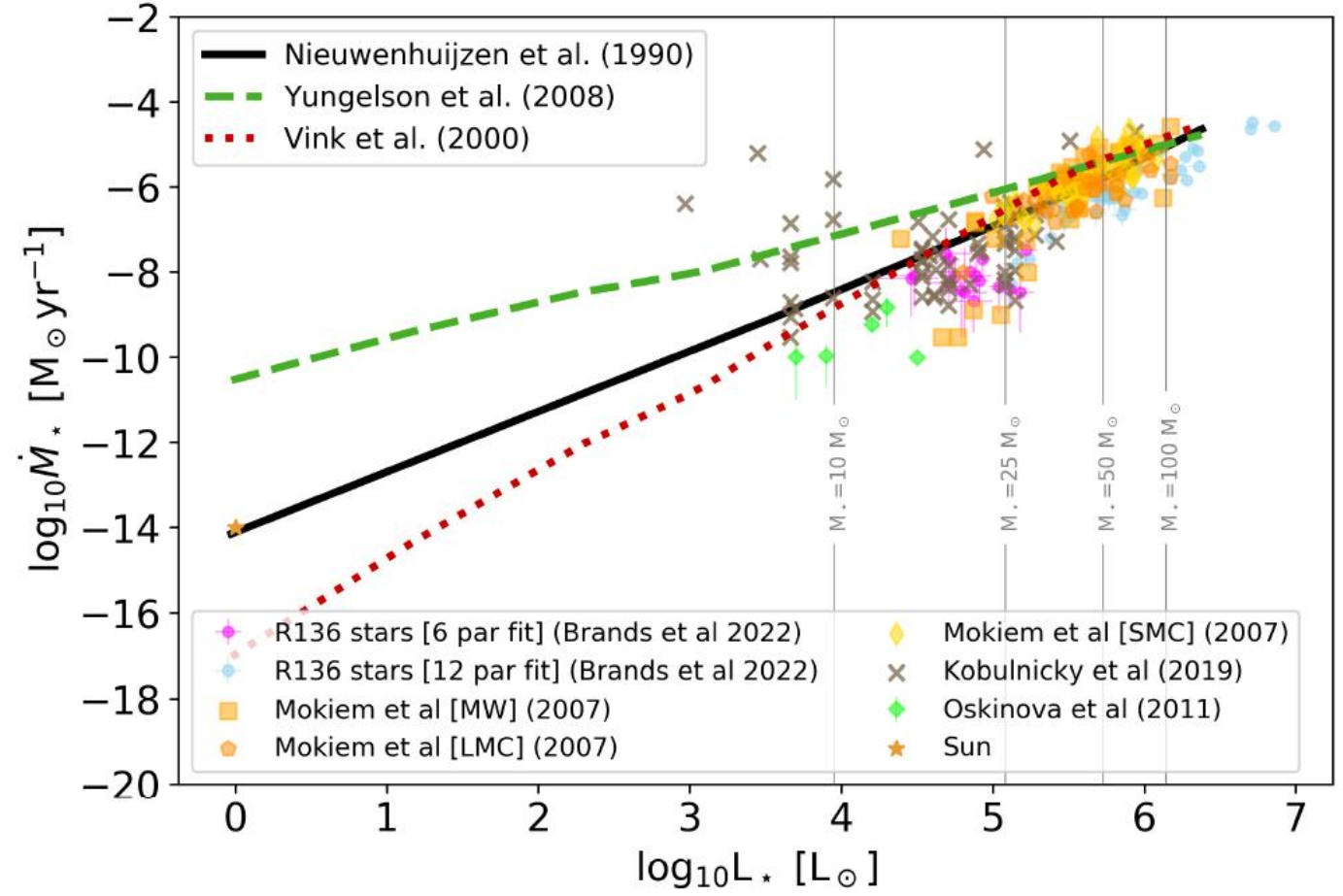
CR (and γ -ray) normalization and maximum energy must be interpreted as lower limits!



Stellar wind physics

1. Calculate mass loss rate:
 - **OB-type** stars (\dot{M}_*) (Nieuwenhuijzen et al. 1990)
 - **WR** stars ($\dot{M}_{*,WR}$) (Nugis & Lamers, 2000)
2. Calculate wind speed ($v_{*,w}$):
 - **OB-type** stars (Kudritzki & Puls, 2000)
 - **WR** is kept constant to 2000 km/s
3. Calculate wind luminosity: $L_{*,w} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M}_* v_{*,w}^2$

4. Cluster wind luminosity and mass loss rate calculating by summing all $L_{*,w}$ and \dot{M}_*



The background is a vibrant, multi-colored nebula with a dense field of stars in various colors (blue, white, yellow, red). Overlaid on the left side is a large black hexagon containing the text 'STEP 3 Cosmic ray acceleration'. To the right of this hexagon are three smaller black hexagons: one is solid black, and two are outlined in black, arranged in a vertical sequence. The overall scene is a rich, colorful representation of a star-forming region.

STEP 3
Cosmic ray
acceleration

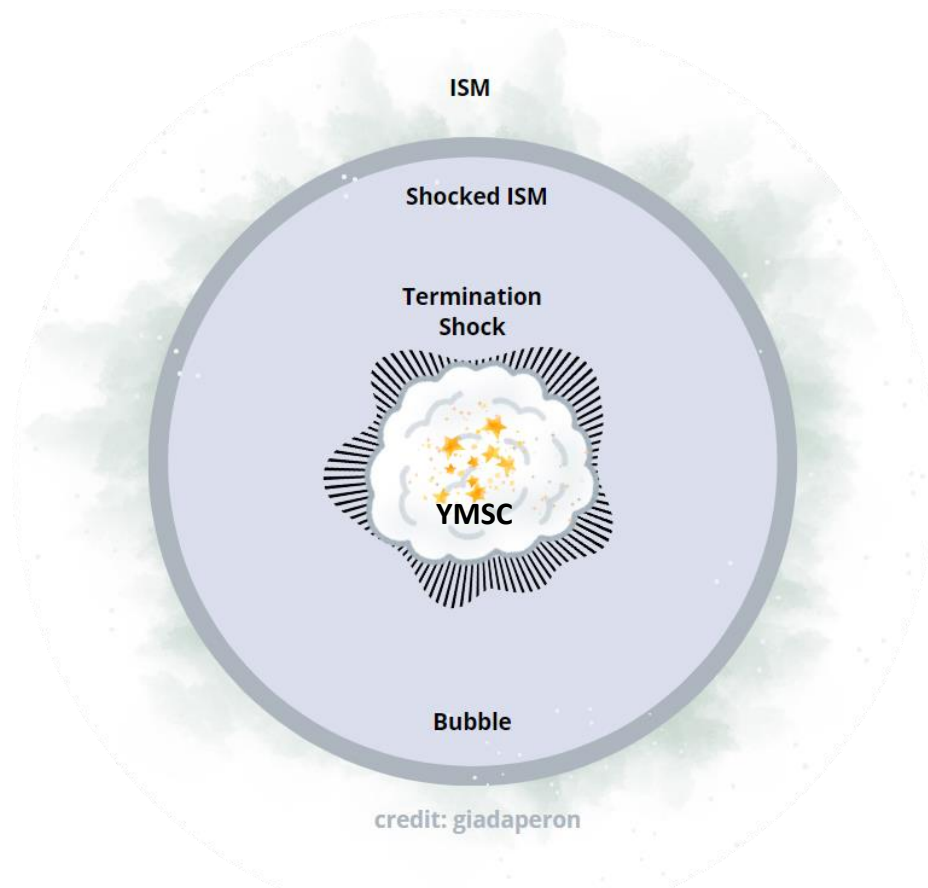
CR distribution in YMSCs

[Morlino et al \(2021\)](#)

CR accelerated at cluster wind TS + Propagation in the turbulent bubble

1) Spectral slope: $\propto p^{-4.2}$

2) Normalization: 10% of wind power spent to accelerate CRs

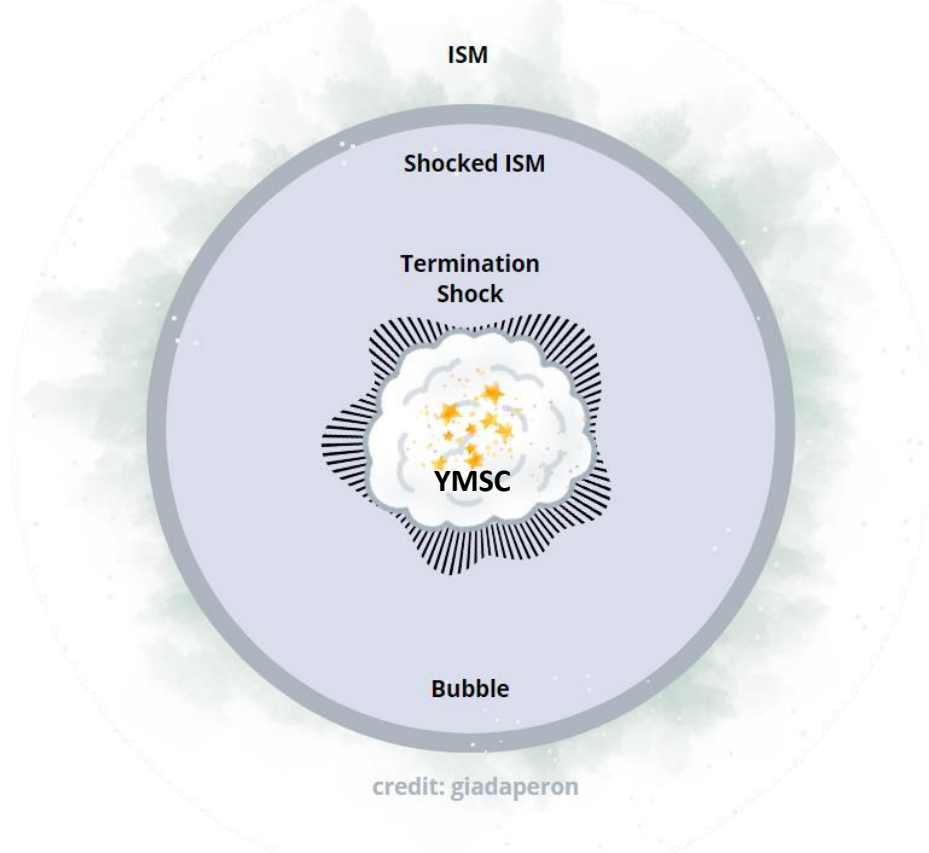


CR distribution in YMSCs

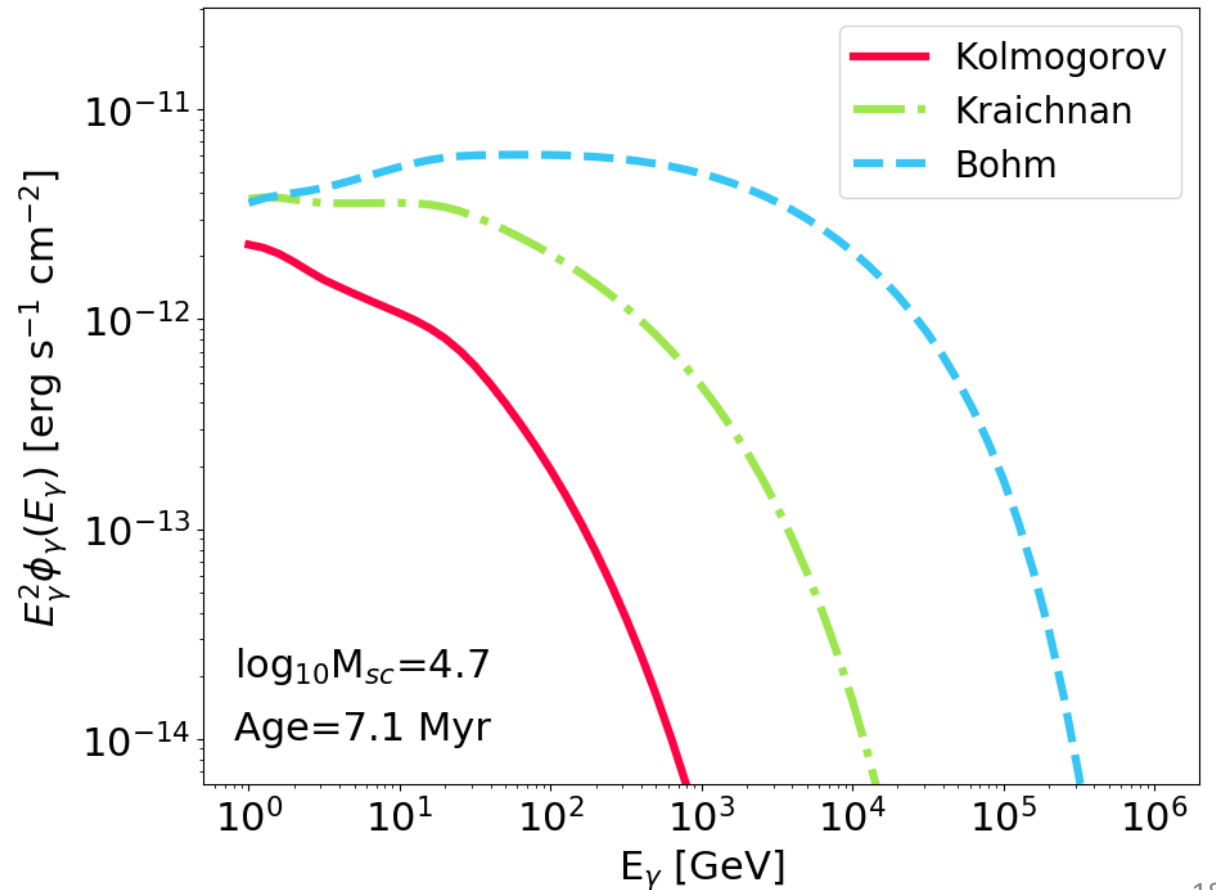
[Morlino et al \(2021\)](#)

CR accelerated at cluster wind TS + Propagation in the turbulent bubble

- 1) Spectral slope: $\propto p^{-4.2}$
- 2) Normalization: 10% of wind power spent to accelerate CRs
- 3) Target gas density for hadronic gamma emission: 10 cm^{-3}
- 4) Particle spectrum (and so the gamma flux) depends on diffusion coefficient!



THREE CASES CONSIDERED:



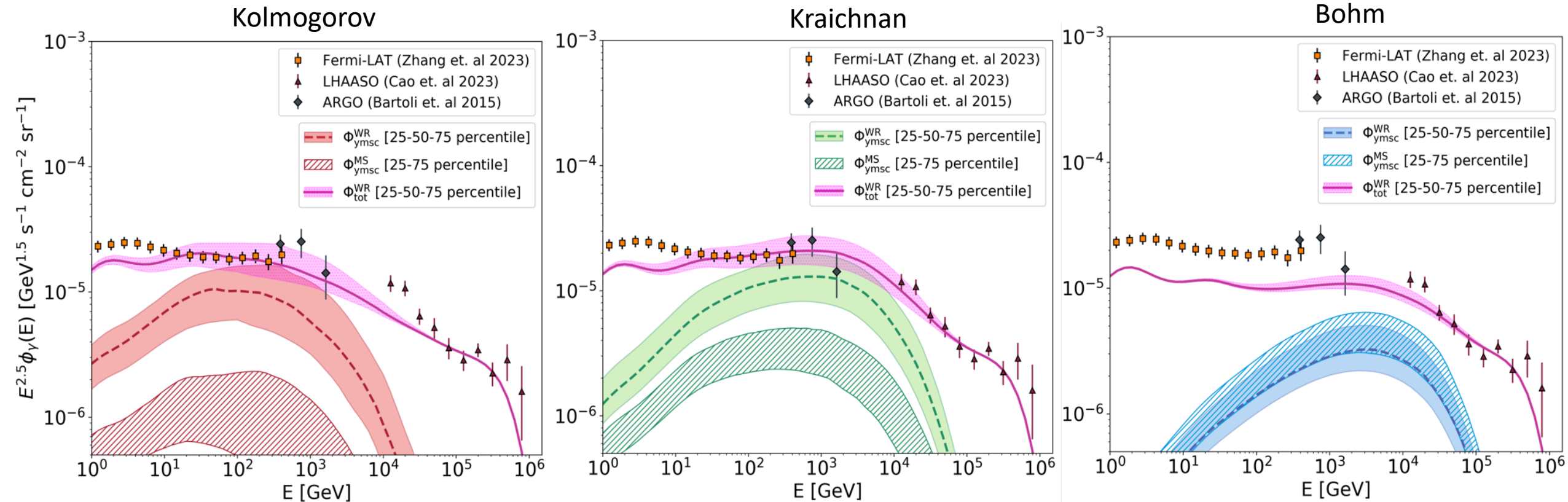


Comparison
with γ -ray data

Diffuse γ -ray emission (ROI1)

- **Pink:** diffuse CR sea emission + contribution from YMSCs
- Filled regions: contribution from YMSCs
- Dashed regions: contribution from YMSCs without WRs

Note:
Contribution
from detectable
YMSCs is
removed

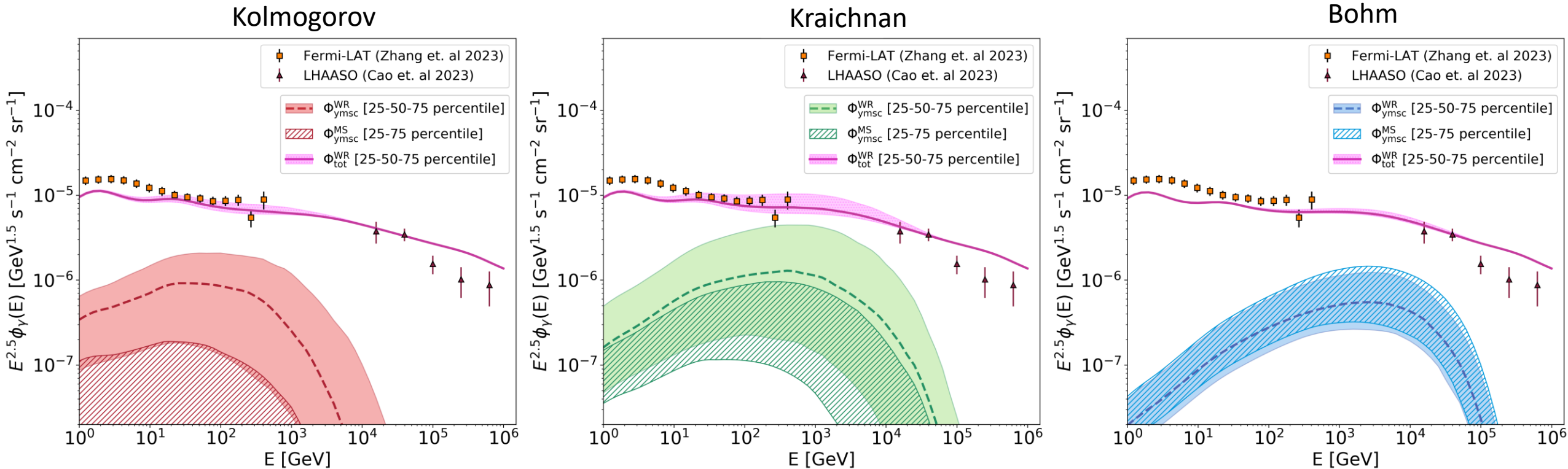


ROI1: $15^\circ < \text{glon} < 125^\circ$, $|\text{glat}| < 5^\circ$

Pink: diffuse CR sea emission + contribution from YMSCs

Filled regions: contribution from YMSCs

Dashed regions: contribution from YMSCs without WRs



Conclusions

- ❖ Importance of YMSCs as high energy sources has constantly growing in the last decades
- ❖ **First comprehensive study of Galactic population of YMSCs**
- ❖ **Contribution to the diffuse emission likely not negligible from hundreds of GeV to hundreds of TeV.**

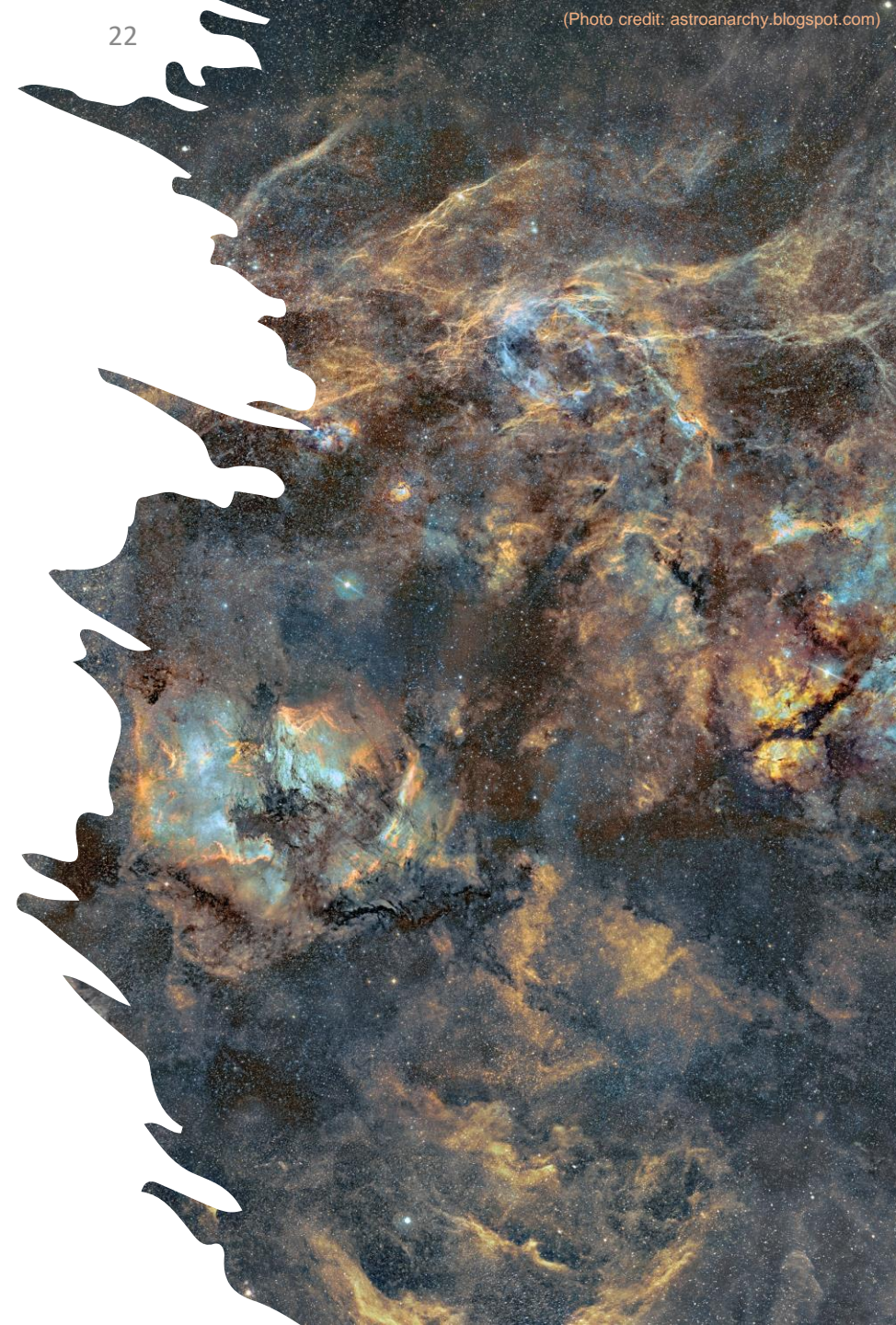
Future prospects

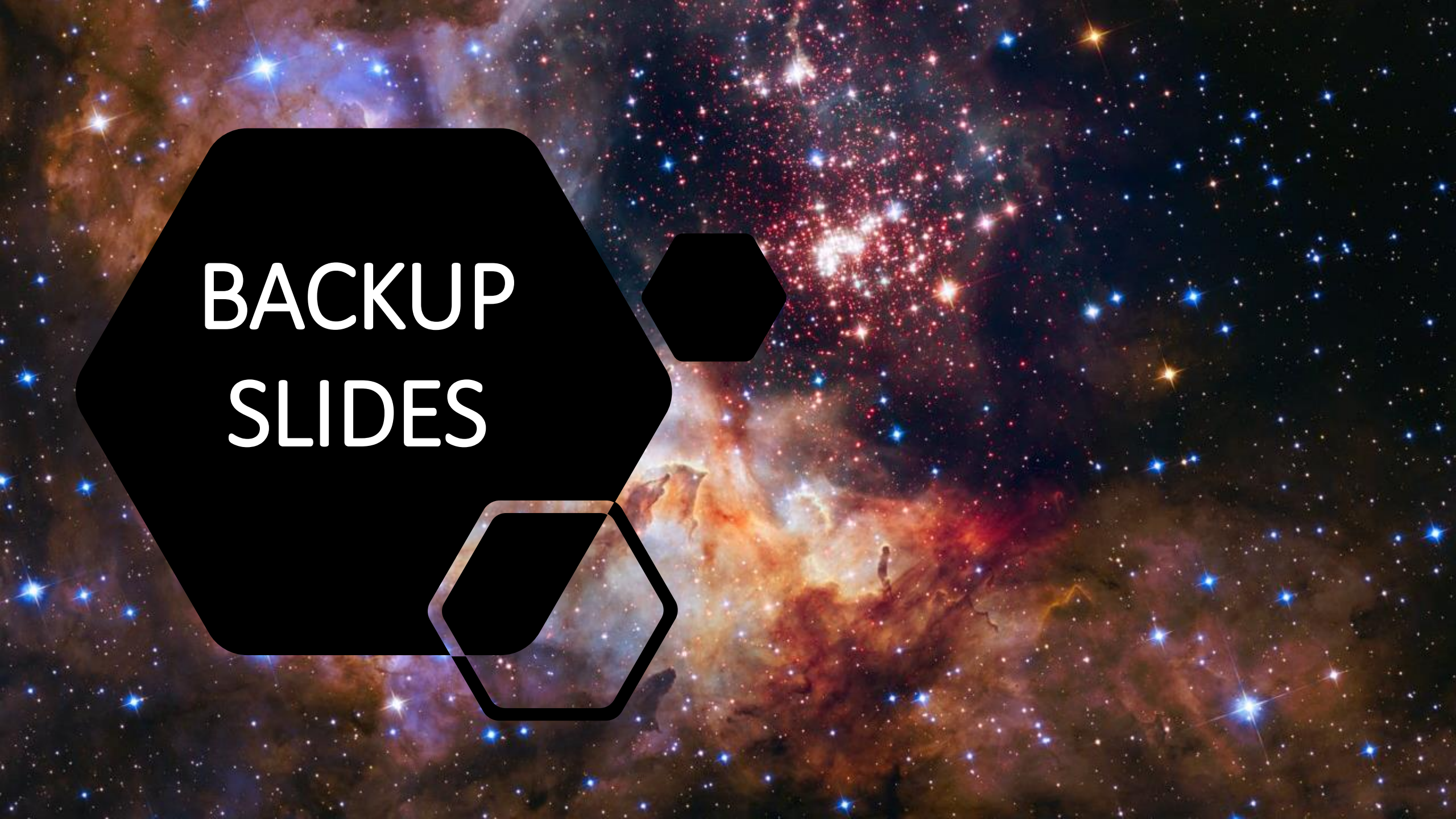
- Evaluate contribution to neutrino flux



Scan me to access the
pre-print

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.04087>

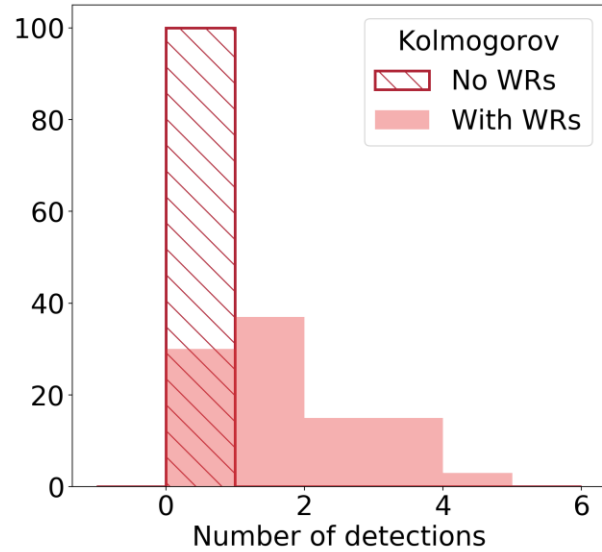




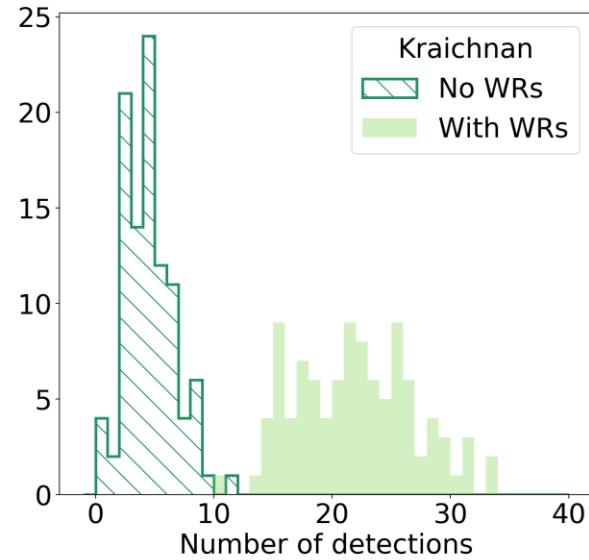
**BACKUP
SLIDES**

Expected detections

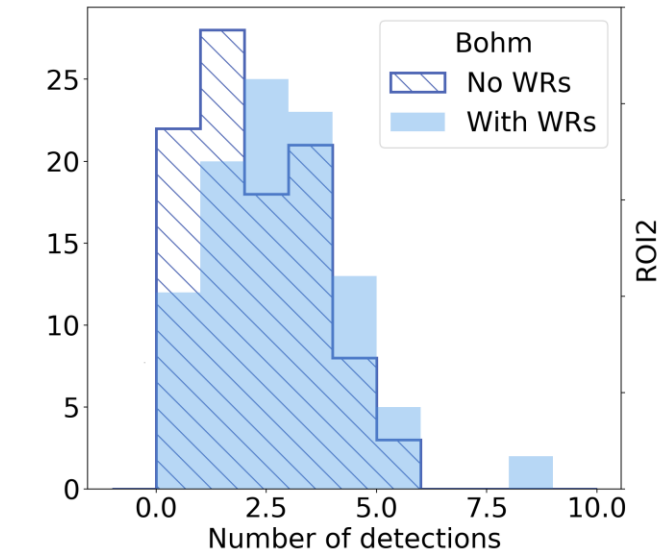
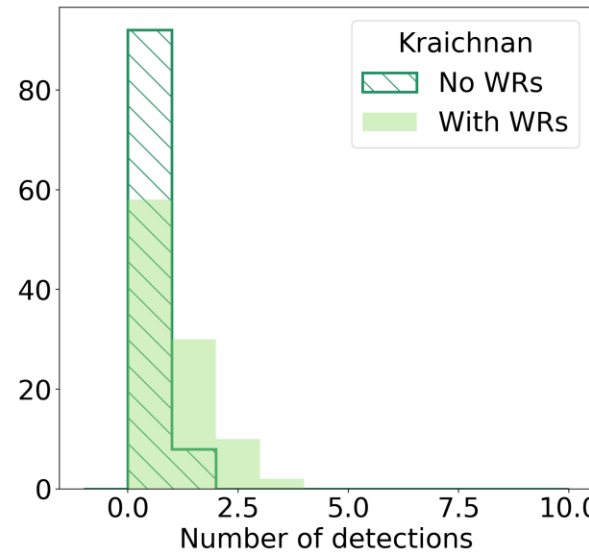
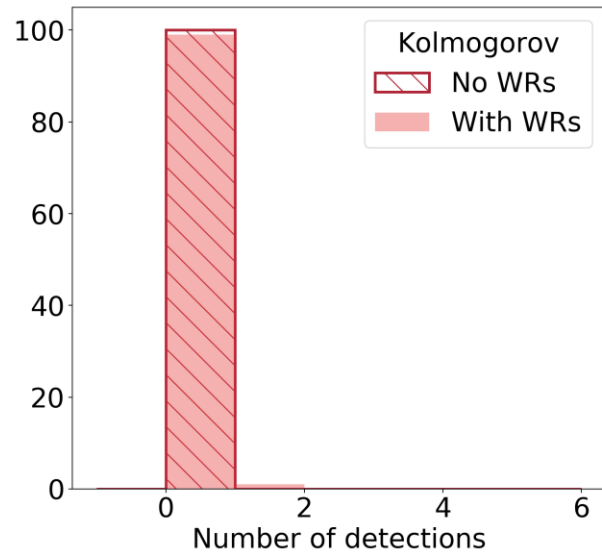
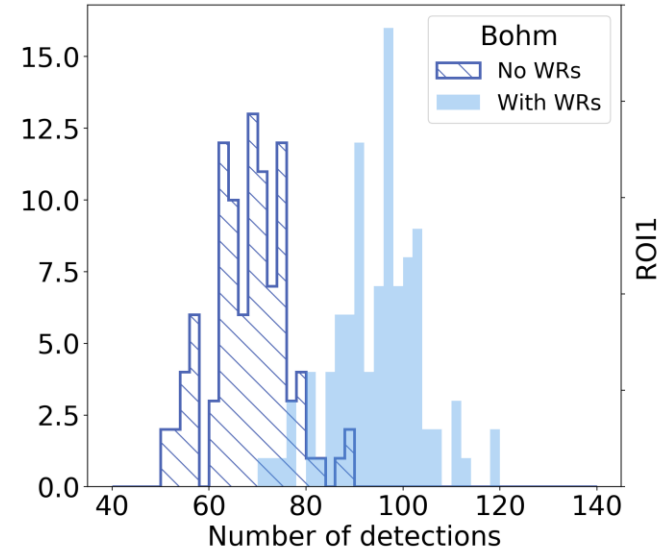
Kolmogorov



Kraichnan



Bohm



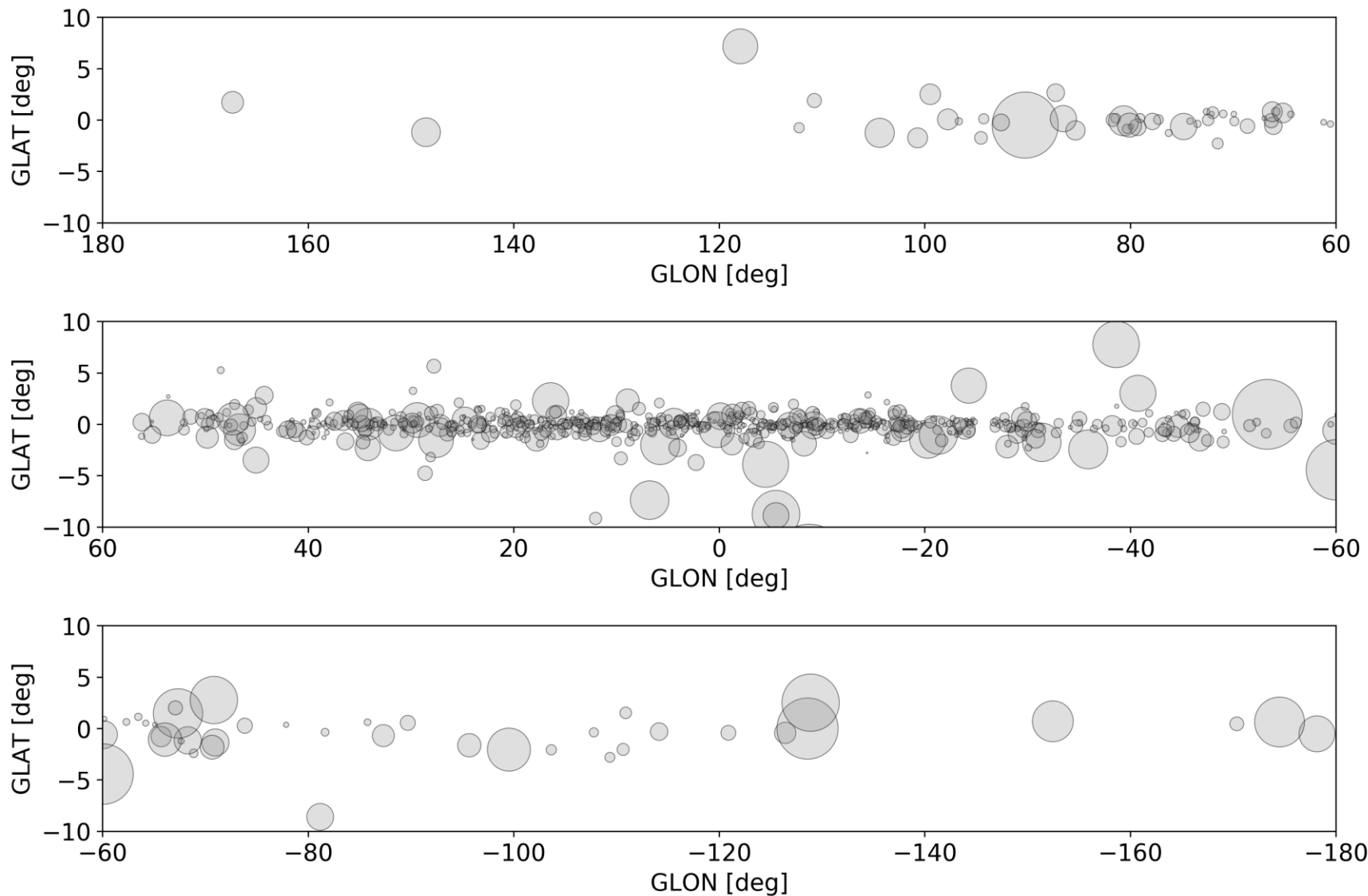
LHAASO catalogue includes 90 sources



Number of expected detections in Bohm case is too high!

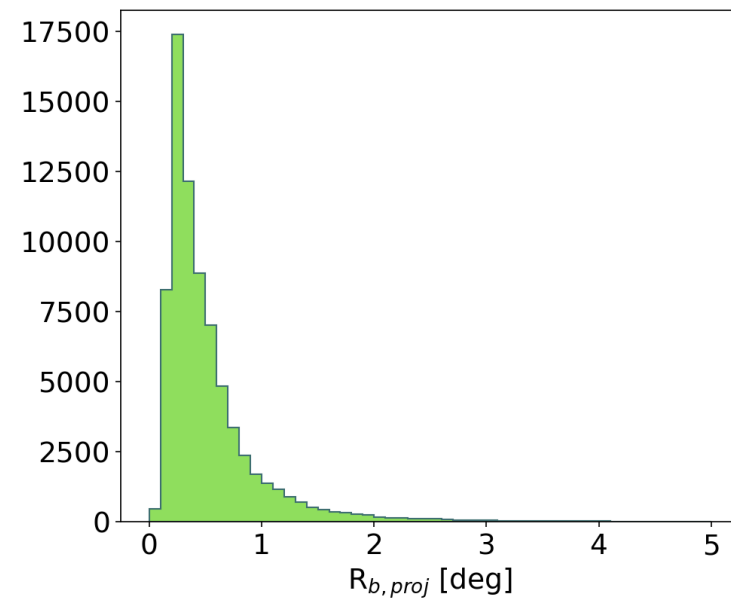
Synthetic YMSCs population (III)

Single realization of the Galactic population



**Wind bubble physics
from Weaver et al 1977**

Projected
bubble radius



Stellar wind physics

- Mass loss rate **OB-type** stars (\dot{M}_\star) by Nieuwenhuijzen et al. (1990)

$$\log \left(\frac{\dot{M}_\star}{M_\odot \text{yr}^{-1}} \right) = -14.02 + 1.24 \log \left(\frac{L_\star}{L_\odot} \right) + 0.16 \log \left(\frac{M_\star}{M_\odot} \right) + 0.81 \left(\frac{R_\star}{R_\odot} \right)$$

- Wind luminosity **OB-type** stars [stellar wind speed $v_{\star,w}$ by Kudritzki & Puls (2000)]

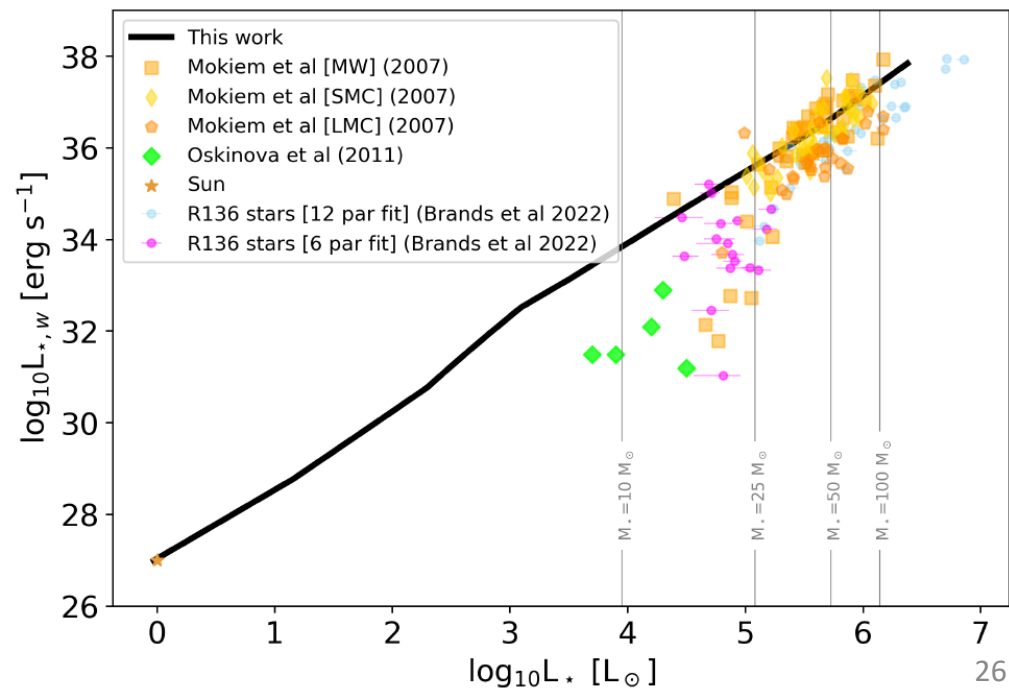
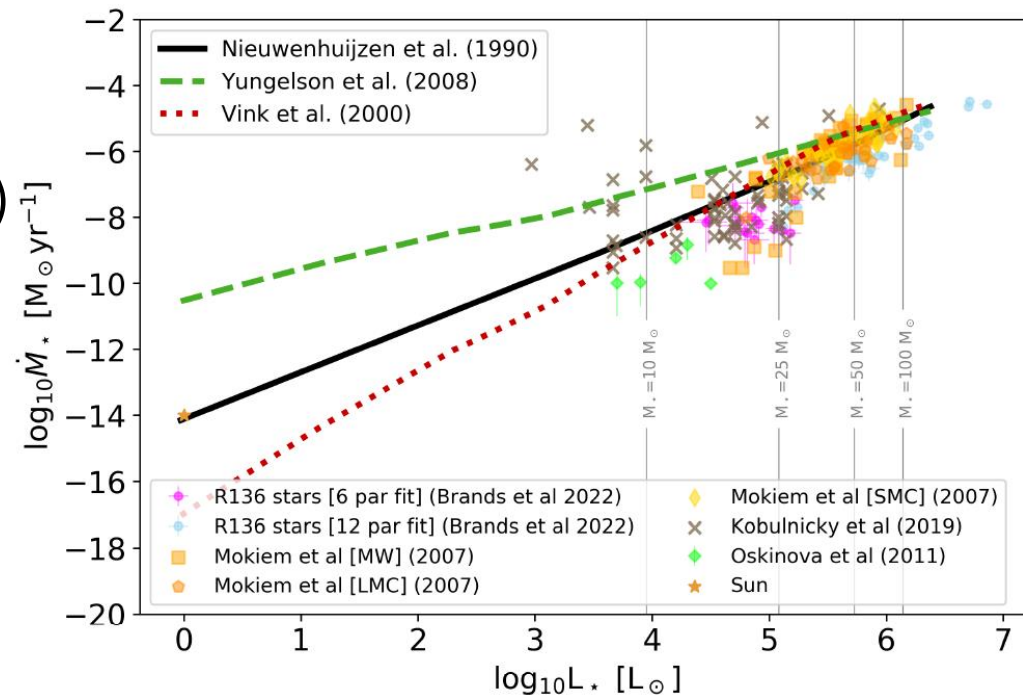
$$L_{\star,w} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M}_\star \left\{ \underbrace{C(T_{\text{eff}})^2 \left[\frac{2GM_\star(1 - L_\star/L_{\text{Edd}})}{R_\star} \right]}_{v_{\star,w}^2} \right\}$$

- Mass loss rate **WR** stars ($\dot{M}_{\star,WR}$) by Nugis & Lamers (2000)

$$\dot{M}_{\star,WR} = 10^{-11.0} \left(\frac{L_{\star,WR}}{L_\odot} \right)^{1.29} \left(\frac{Y_{WR}}{Y_\odot} \right)^{1.73} \left(\frac{Z_{WR}}{Z_\odot} \right)^{0.47} \frac{M_\odot}{\text{yr}}$$

- Wind speed for **WR** is kept constant to 2000 km/s

Cluster wind luminosity and mass loss rate
calculating by summing all $L_{\star,w}$ and \dot{M}_\star



Diffuse γ -ray emission (GDE)

GDE data: Fermi-LAT, ARGO and LHAASO.

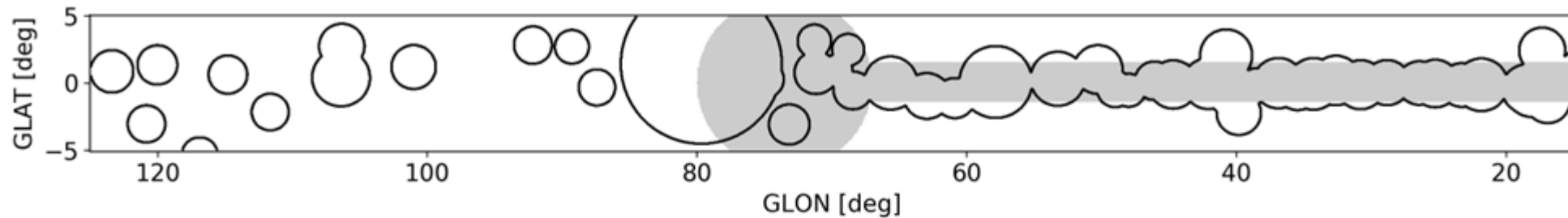
ROI1: $15^\circ < \text{glon} < 125^\circ$, $|\text{glat}| < 5^\circ$

ROI2: $125^\circ < \text{glon} < 235^\circ$, $|\text{glat}| < 5^\circ$

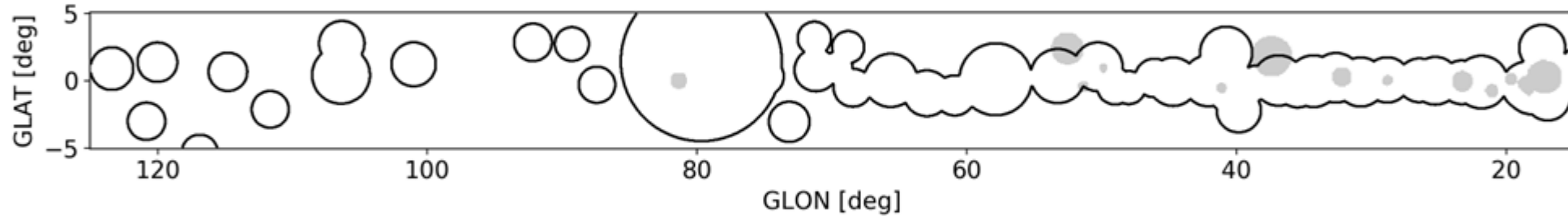
Note: GDE data are provided after masking known detected sources (TeVCat+LHAASOcat)

We define a similar mask for our simulations

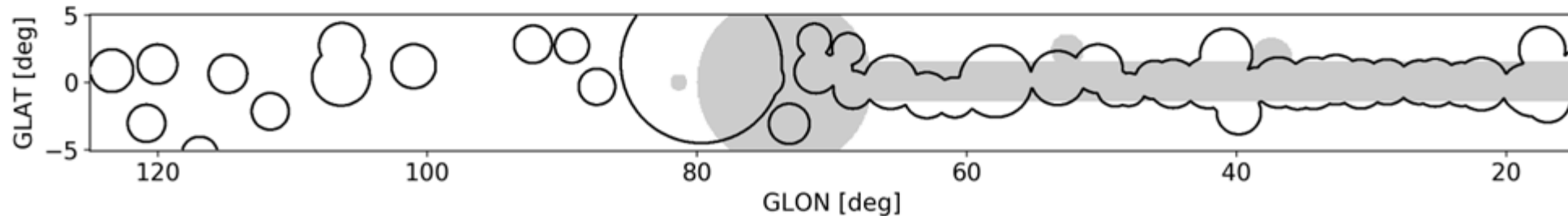
Circles: LHAASO mask; **Shaded grey regions:** our defined masks



1) Mask crowded region of the plane (Only ROI1)



2) 5 sigma mask: remove YMSs detected by LHAASO @100 TeV



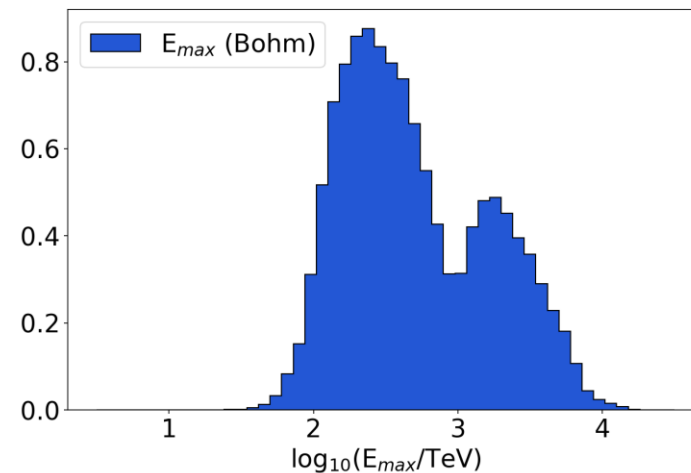
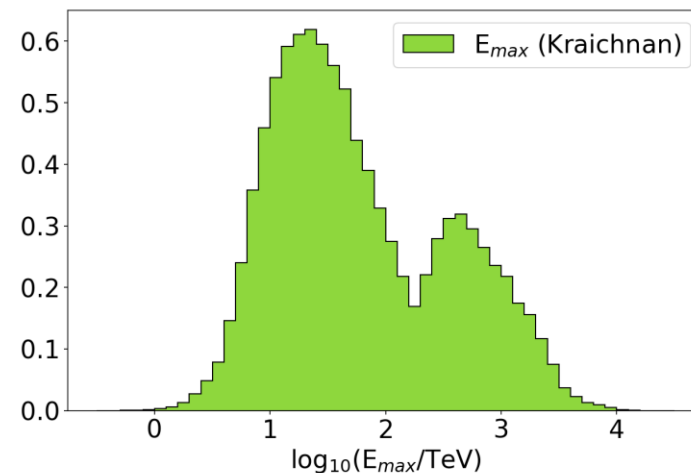
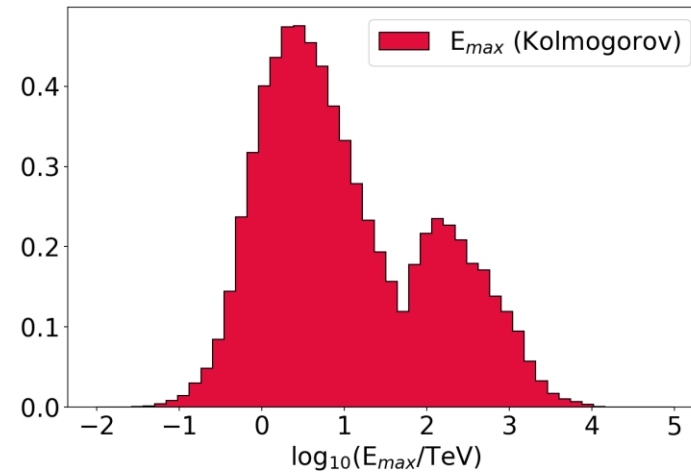
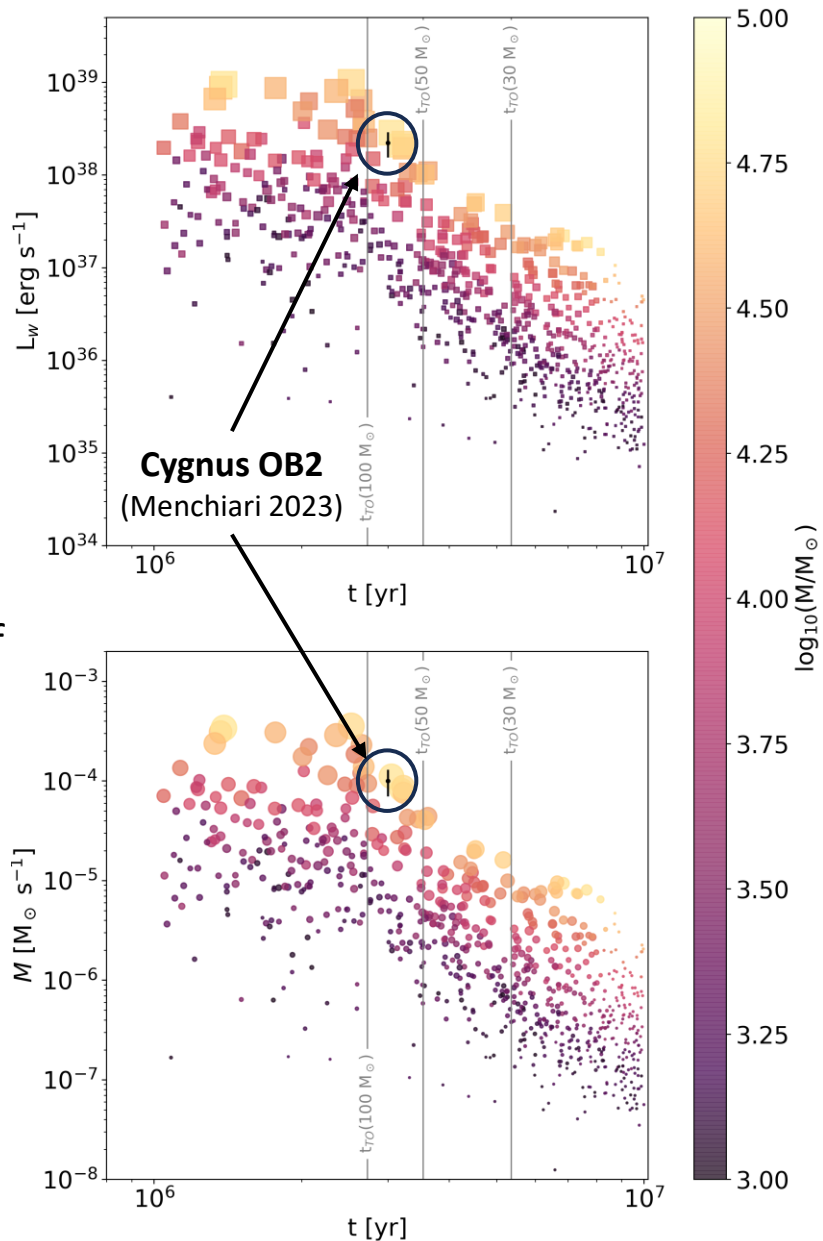
3) **Final mask**

Synthetic YMSCs population (IV)

Cluster wind luminosity vs cluster age (NO WR)

(Point size proportional to number of O-type stars)

Cluster wind mass loss rate vs cluster age (NO WR)



Maximum energy distribution shows bimodality (with and without WR)