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Center

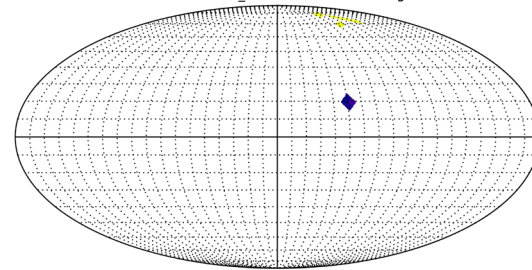
RUHR-UNIVERSITÄT BOCHUM

# Constraining cosmic-ray propagation with gamma rays

Julia Tjus

# Origin of cosmic rays unknown:

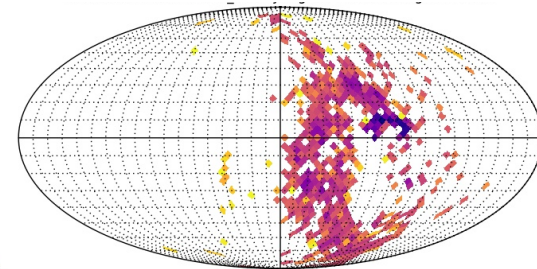
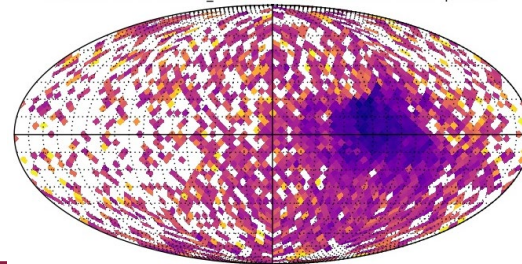
Example ultra high energy cosmic-ray transport in Galactic B-field



CenA(4 – 8 EeV): @ Earth

only extragalactic

+ Galactic: regular component

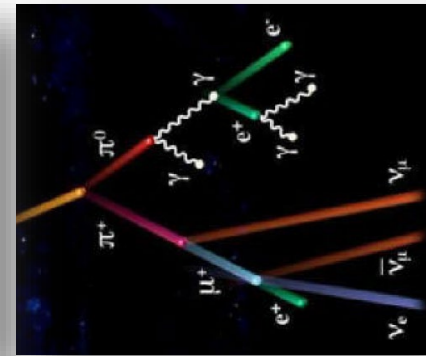
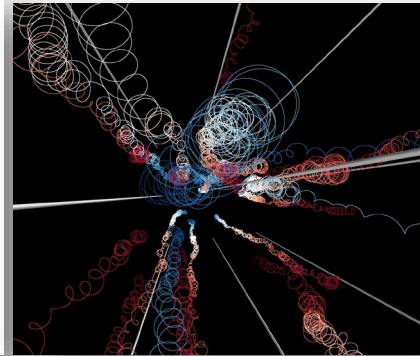
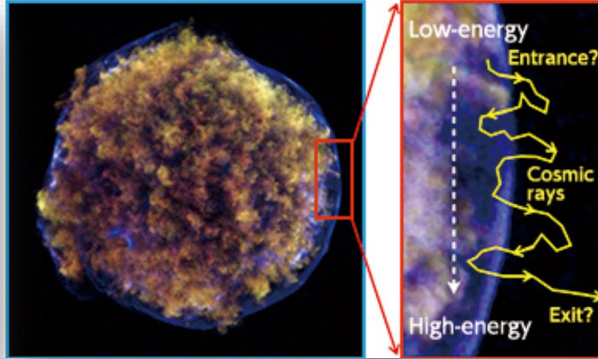
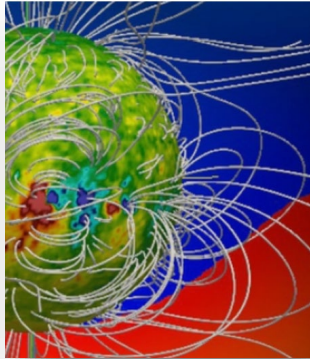


+ Galactic:  
regular + turbulent

Gamma-rays to the rescue!

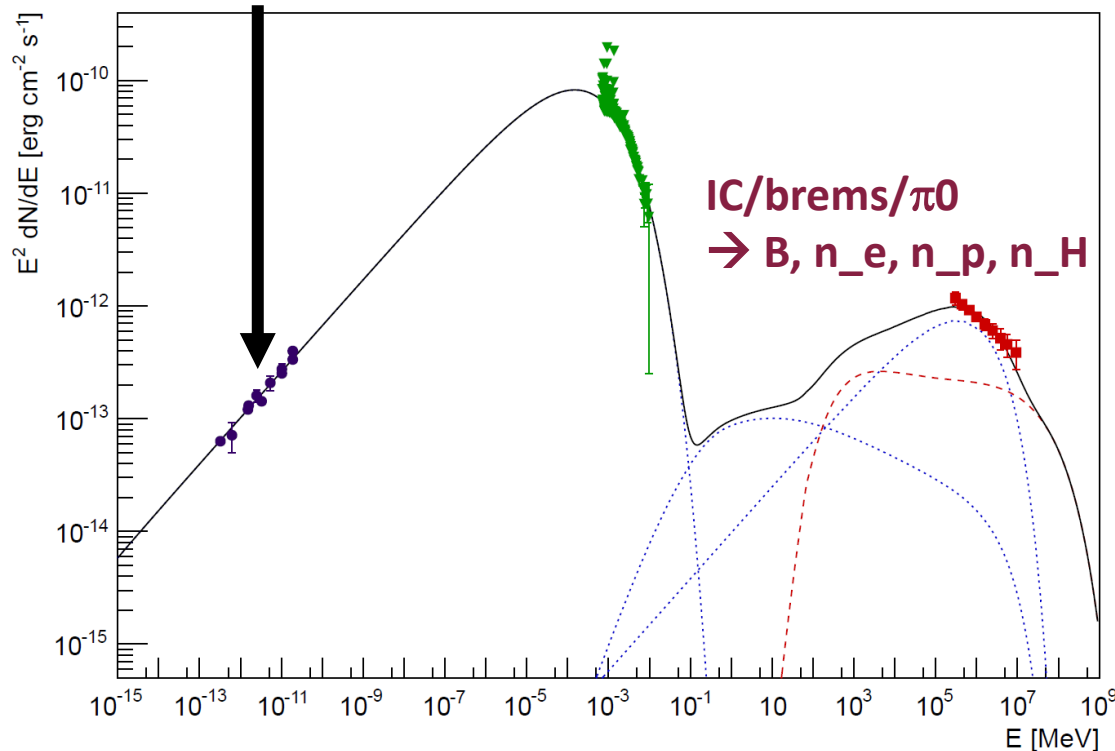
# Magnetic fields $\rightarrow$ cosmic rays $\rightarrow$ gamma-rays

1. Magnetic fields  $\rightarrow$  accelerate (= create) cosmic rays
2. Cosmic rays  $\rightarrow$  transport in B-fields (diffusive/advective/...)
3. Cosmic rays  $\rightarrow$  interaction with ambient medium (gas/B-fields/photons)  $\rightarrow$   $\gamma$  production



# Spectral Energy Distribution: Imprinted environment & transport properties

Synchrotron radiation  $\rightarrow n_e * B^2$



- Simplified view:
- normalization governed by environmental properties
- Spectral properties can reveal transport properties
- But: both is coupled, need multimessenger modeling to understand things
- (radio-gamma-rays, neutrinos, cosmic rays)

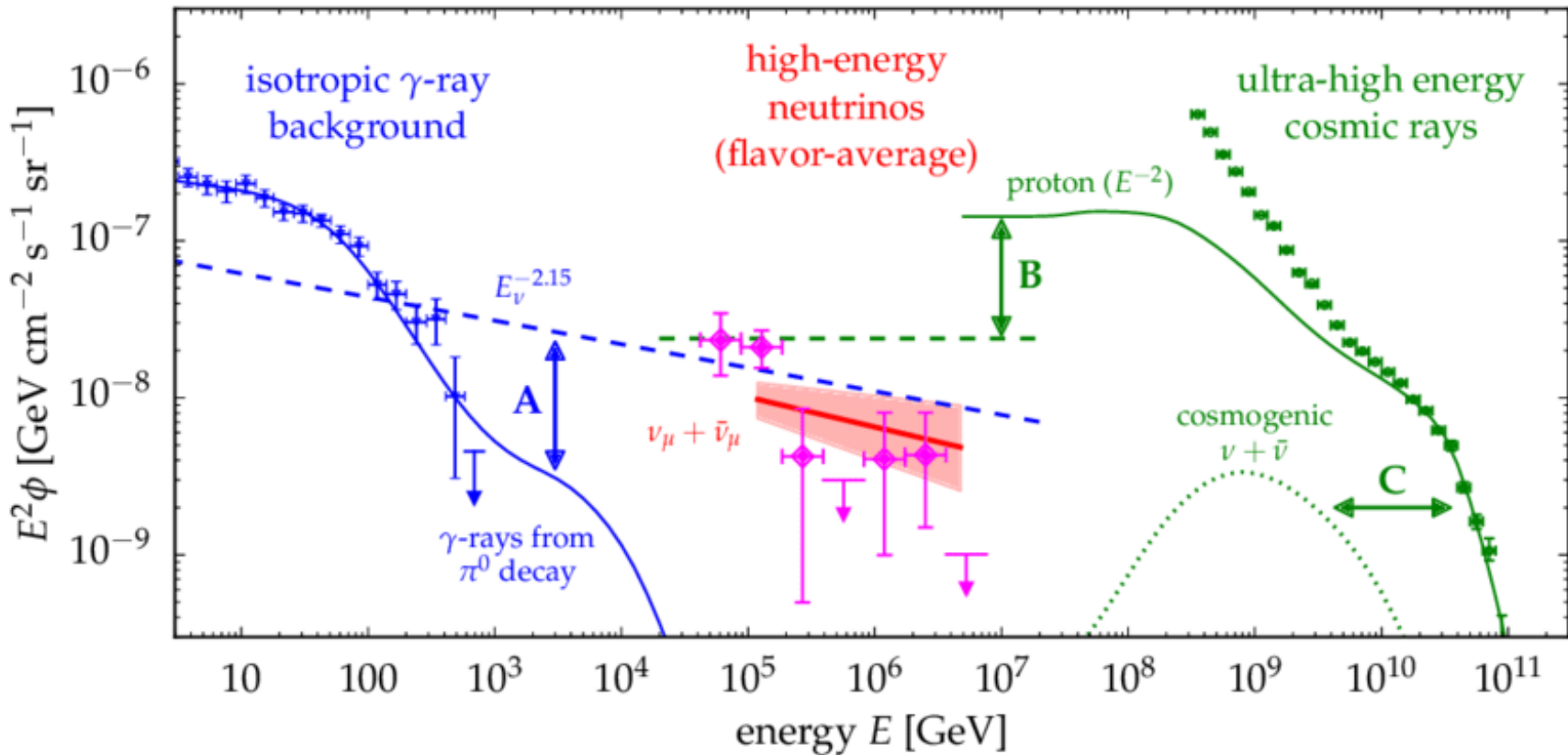
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2. Gamma-ray observations and cosmic-ray propagation
  1. The Milky Way
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3. Summary & Conclusion

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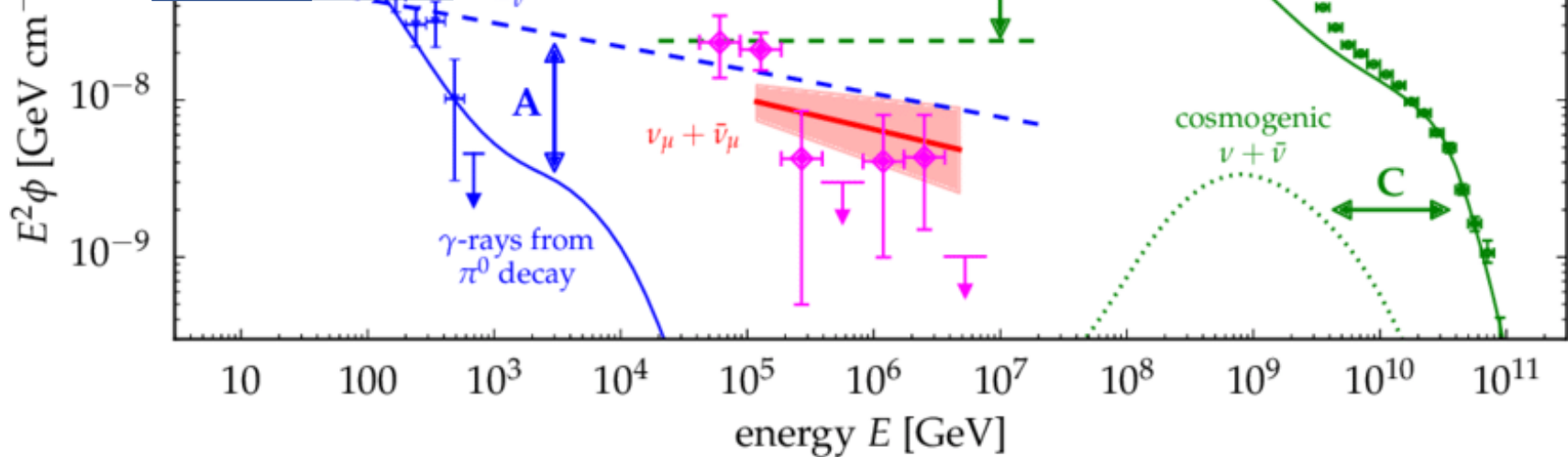
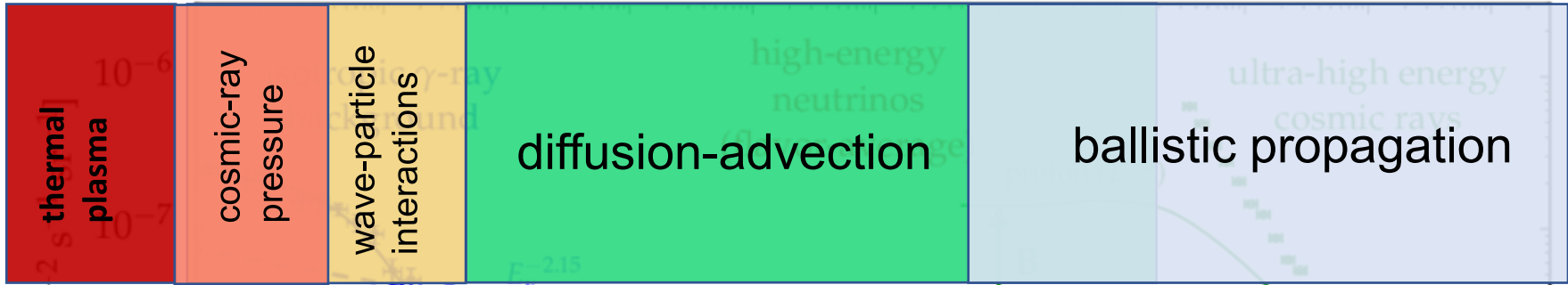
## 1. Cosmic-ray propagation at high energies

# Cosmic-ray propagation regimes



**( $B = 3 \mu\text{G}$ )**

# Cosmic-ray propagation regimes

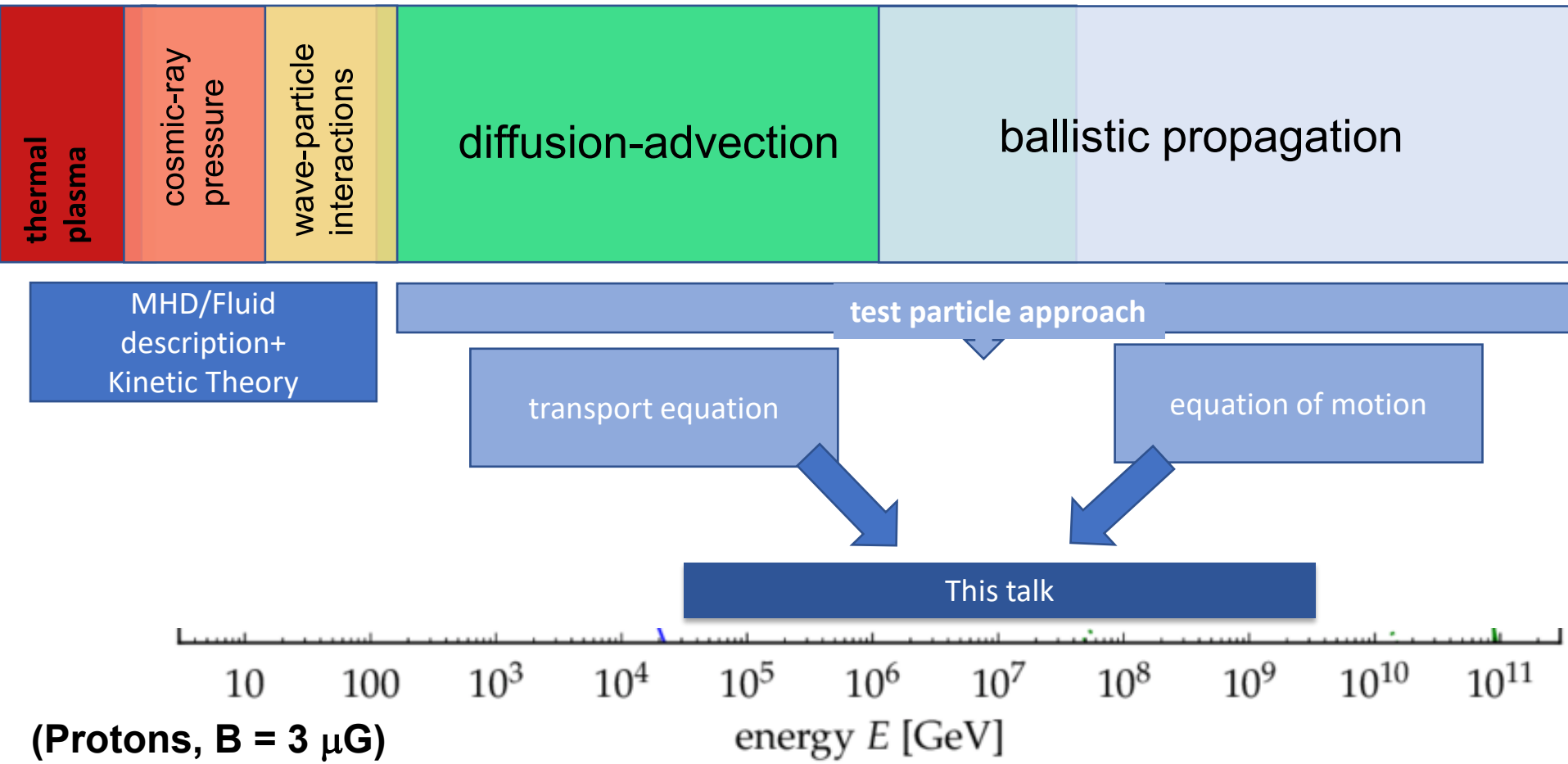


( $B = 3 \mu\text{G}$ )

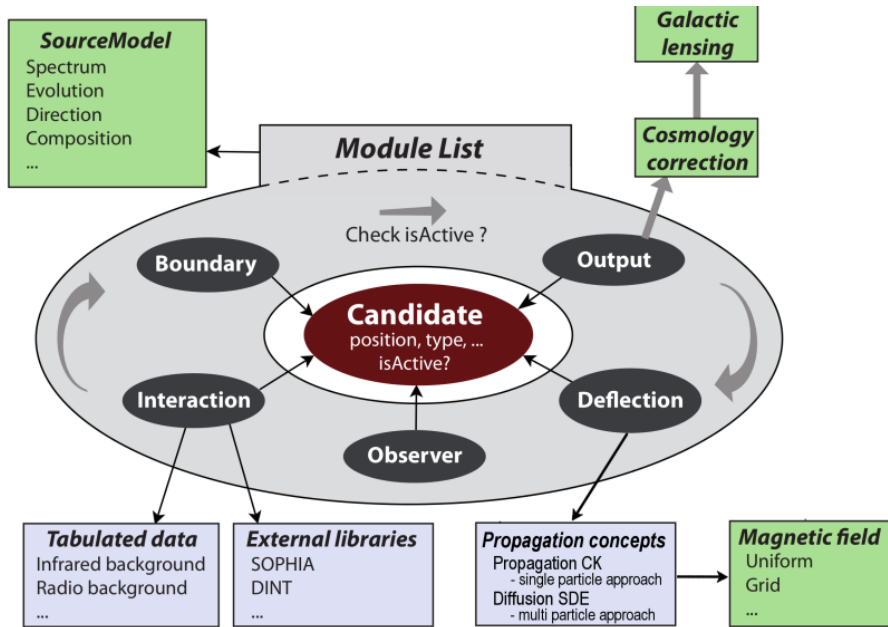




# Cosmic-ray propagation regimes: methods



# CRPropa 3.2 Open Source Propagation Tool



CRPropa 3.2 — an advanced framework for high-energy particle propagation in extragalactic and galactic spaces

Rafael Alves Batista<sup>a,b</sup> [Julia Becker Tjus](#)<sup>c,d</sup> [Julien Dörner](#)<sup>e,d</sup>  
Andrej Dundovic<sup>e,f</sup> [Björn Eichmann](#)<sup>c,d</sup> [Antonius Frie](#)<sup>c,d</sup>  
Christopher Heiter<sup>g,h</sup> [Mario R. Hoerbe](#)<sup>c,i,d</sup> [Karl-Heinz Kampert](#)<sup>j,d</sup>  
[Lukas Merten](#)<sup>k,c,d</sup> [Gero Müller](#)<sup>g</sup> [Patrick Reichherzer](#)<sup>c,d,l</sup>  
Andrey Saveliev<sup>m,n</sup> [Leander Schlegel](#)<sup>c,d</sup> [Günter Sigl](#)<sup>o</sup>  
Arjen van Vliet<sup>p</sup> and Tobias Winchen<sup>q,h</sup>

[Ruhr University Bochum](#)

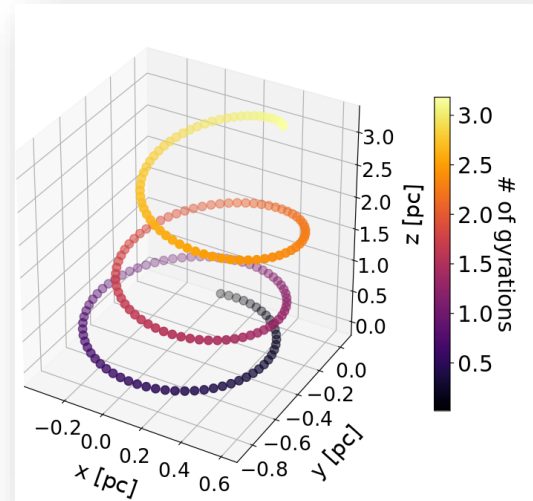
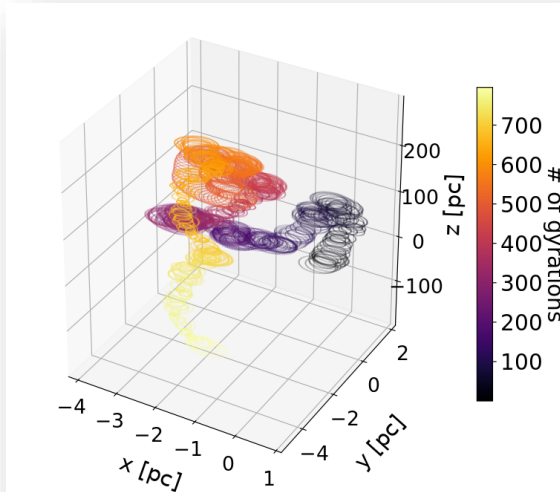


Chair for theoretical physics IV

# CRPropa 3.2: bridging diffusive and ballistic propagation

$$\frac{\delta n}{\delta t} = \nabla \cdot (\hat{D} \cdot \nabla n) - \vec{u} \cdot \nabla n + Q$$

$$\frac{d\mathbf{p}}{dt} = q(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$



conversion into Stochastic Differential Equation (SDE):

$$dr_\nu = A_\nu dt + D_{\nu\mu} d\omega^\mu$$

→ treatment as quasi-particles

Numerical solution via Cash-Karb or Boris-Push

Treatment in one framework  
(CRPropa 3.1 - Merten, JBT, Fichtner, Sigl, JCAP 2017)

Merten, JBT, Fichtner, Sigl, JCAP (2017)

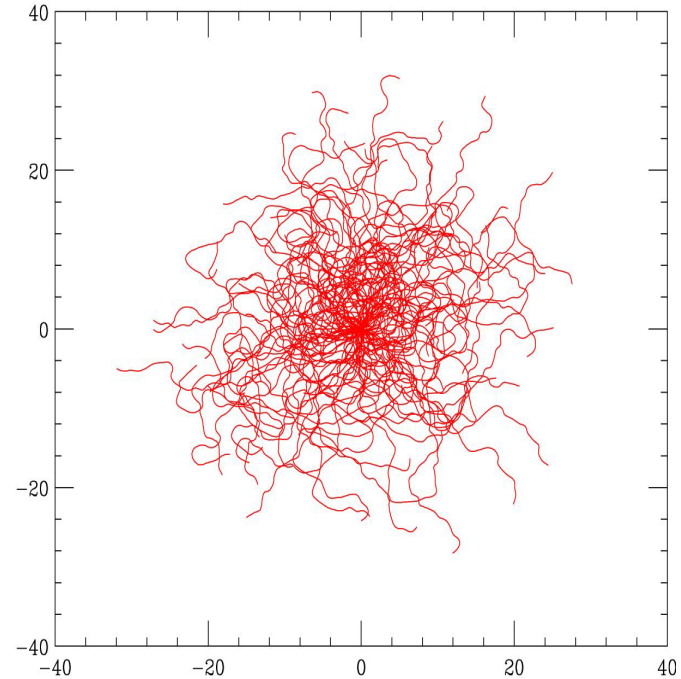
# Simulations of the steady-state diffusion coefficient

**Diffusion equation:**

$$D(t)\Delta f(x, t) = \frac{\delta f(x, t)}{\delta t}$$

**Solution is known:**

$$f(x, t) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi D_{xx}t}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{4D_{xx}t}\right)$$



# Simulations of the steady-state diffusion coefficient

**Taylor Green Kubo ansatz:  
Calculate diffusion coefficient  
from numerical results:**

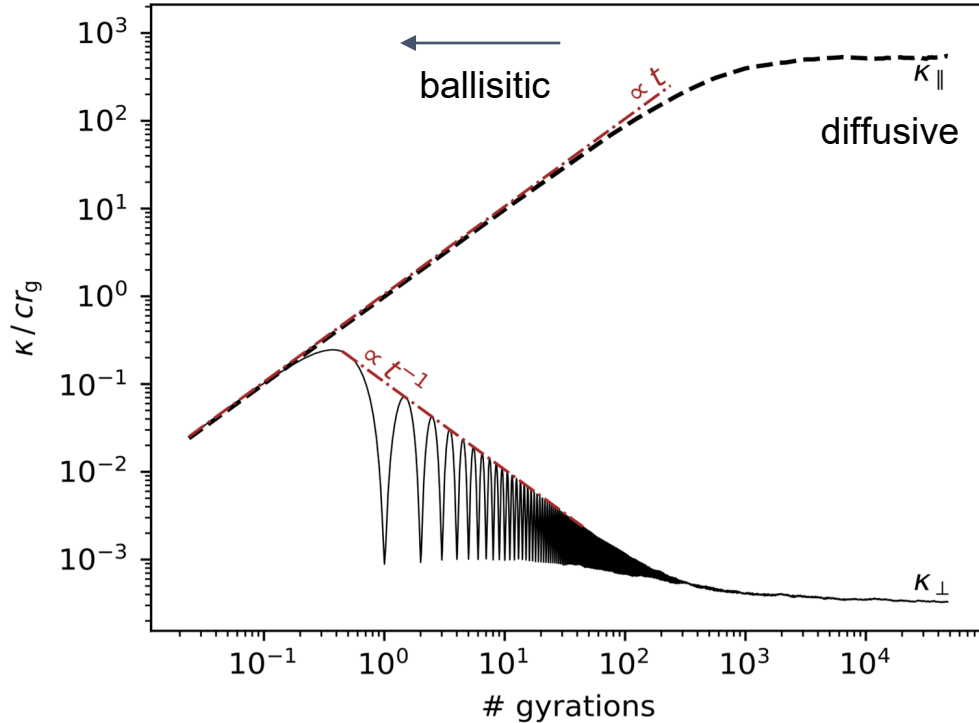
$$\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} dx x^2 f(x, t) = 2tD_{xx}(t)$$

$$D_{xx} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\langle (\Delta x)^2 \rangle}{2t} = \text{const in diffusion limit}$$

Expectation: energy dependence of  $D_{\parallel} \sim E^{\alpha}$  (power law)

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{3} \text{ (Kolmogorov \& } \frac{\delta B}{B} \ll 1)$$

$$\alpha = 1 \text{ (Bohm limit } \frac{\delta B}{B} \gg 1)$$

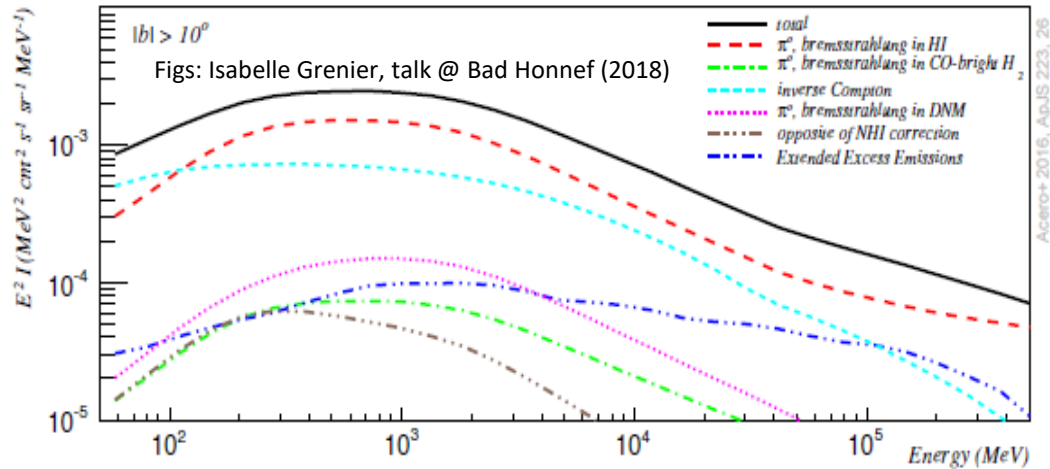
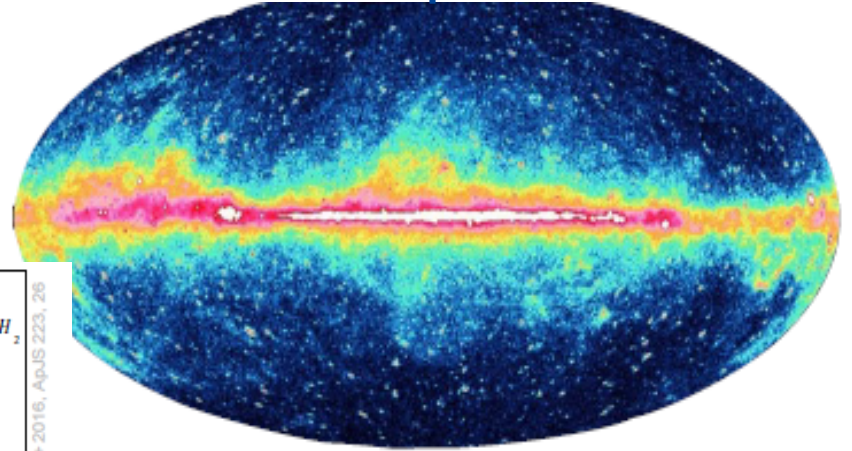


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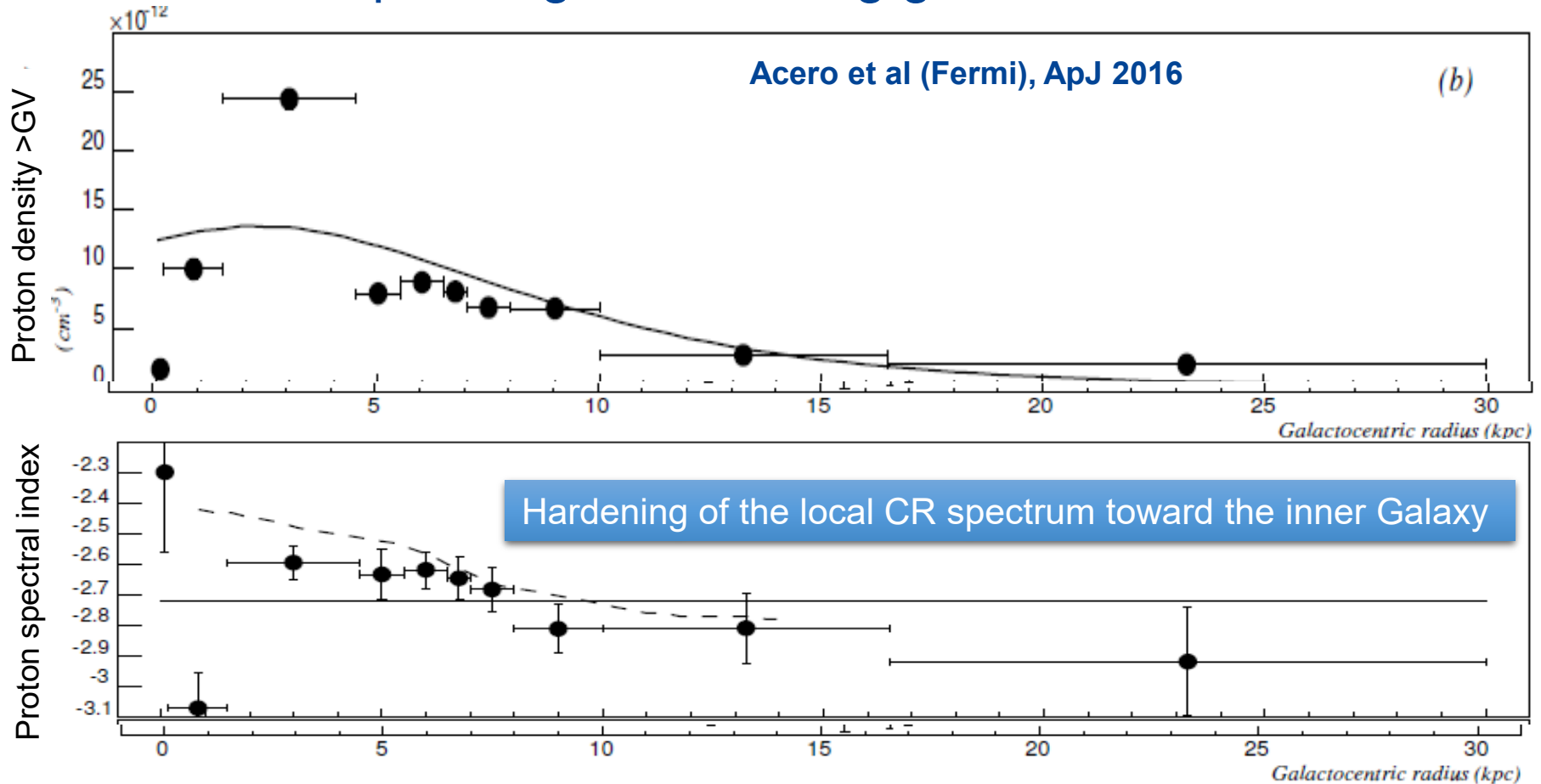
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# Astrophysical application: Gamma-ray measurements of the Galactic plane

- Signatures dominated by hadronic interactions
- → proton spectrum can be deduced



# Fermi: proton gradient along galactocentric radius





# Energy spectra after transport in Leaky Box

- Phenomenological ansatz

(Evoli 2012, Gaggero et al, 2015):

- $D(E,r) \sim E^{\gamma(r)}$
- $\gamma(r) = A + C*r$

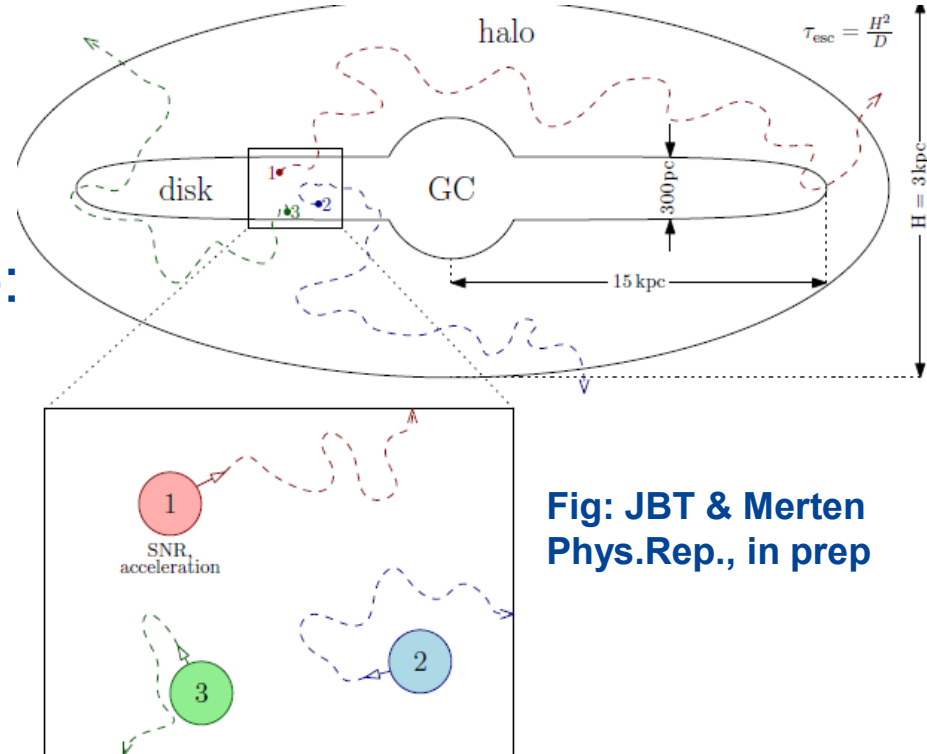
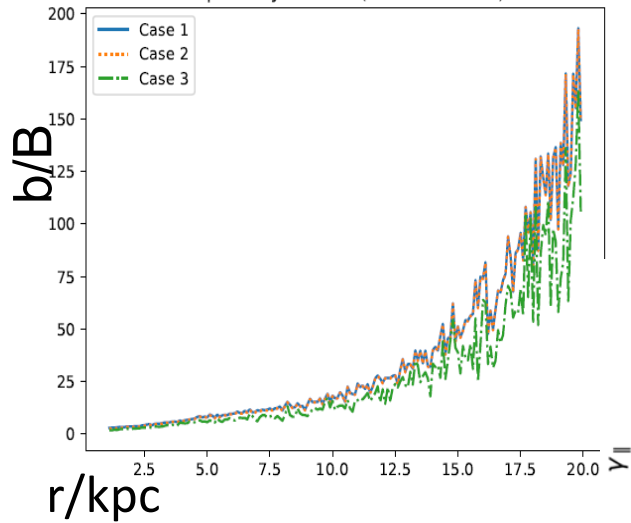
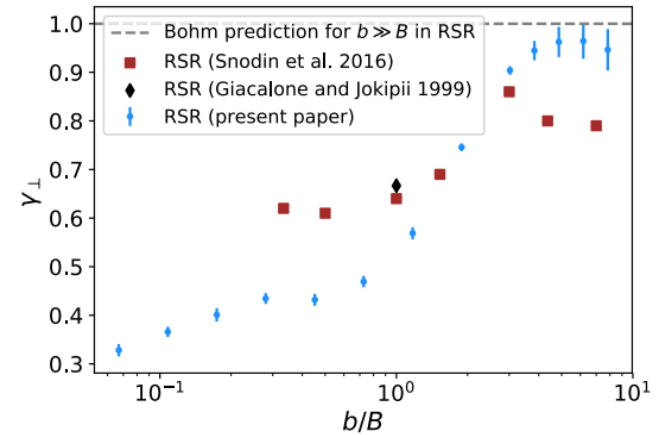
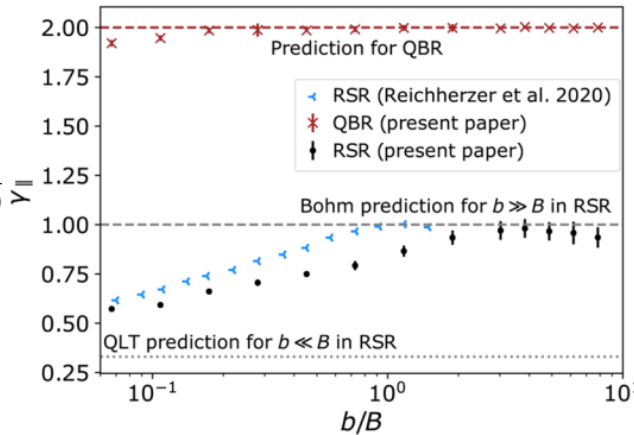


Fig: JBT & Merten  
Phys.Rep., in prep

# Support of this argument from plasma physics



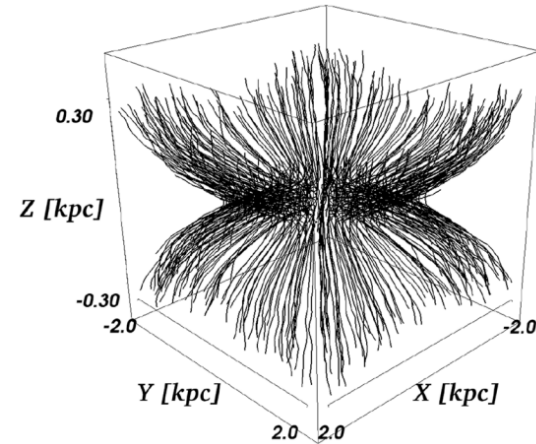
$$\gamma(b) = A + C*(b/B)^\beta$$



Reicherzer, Merten, Dörner, JBT, Zweibel, Püschel, SNAS (2022)

# Energy spectra after transport in Leaky Box

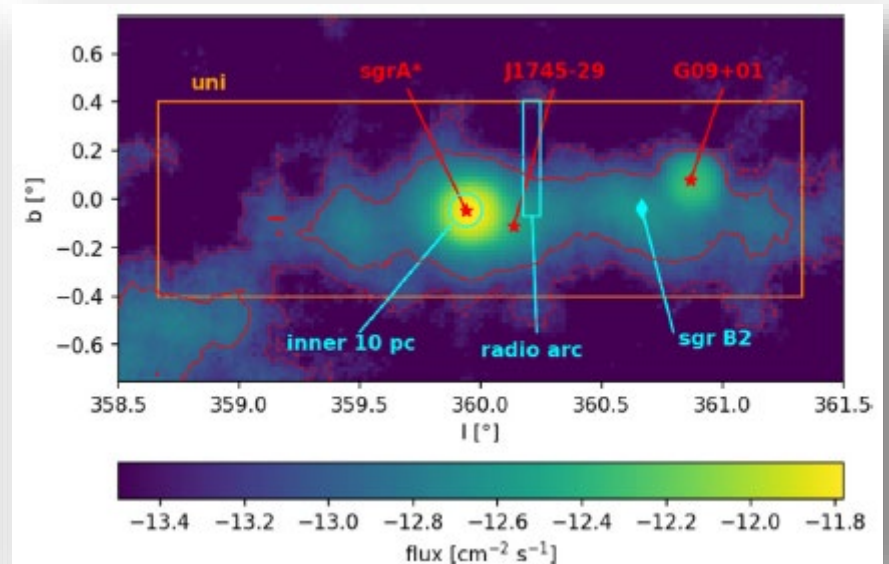
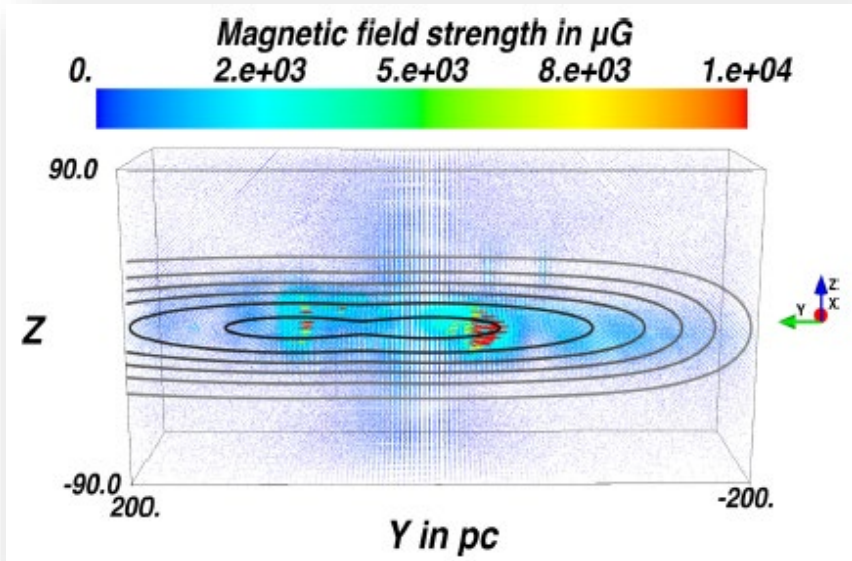
- $D(E, b/B) \sim E^{\gamma(b/B)}$
- $\gamma(b) = A + C^*(b/B)^\beta$
- $\delta B/B$  increases with  $r$
- $\rightarrow$  phenomenological model receives fundamental explanation!
- Details even depend on escape-direction of cosmic rays



$$\tau_{\text{diff}}(r_{\text{gc}}) \approx \begin{cases} \tau_{\parallel} \propto \left(\frac{b}{B}\right)^2 \left(\frac{E}{B_{\text{tot}}}\right)^{-\gamma_{\parallel}} \left\langle \frac{d_{\parallel}^2}{H^2} \right\rangle & \text{for } r_{\text{gc}} \lesssim 5 \text{ kpc} \\ \tau_{\perp} \propto \left(\frac{b}{B}\right)^{-2} \left(\frac{E}{B_{\text{tot}}}\right)^{-\gamma_{\perp}} \left\langle \frac{d_{\perp}^2}{H^2} \right\rangle & \text{elsewhere} \\ \tau_{\parallel} \propto \left(\frac{b}{B}\right)^2 \left(\frac{E}{B_{\text{tot}}}\right)^{-\gamma_{\parallel}} \left\langle \frac{d_{\parallel}^2}{H^2} \right\rangle & \text{for } r_{\text{gc}} \gtrsim 19 \text{ kpc} \end{cases}$$

Reichherzer, Merten, Dörner, JBT, Püschel, Zweibel, SNAS (2022)

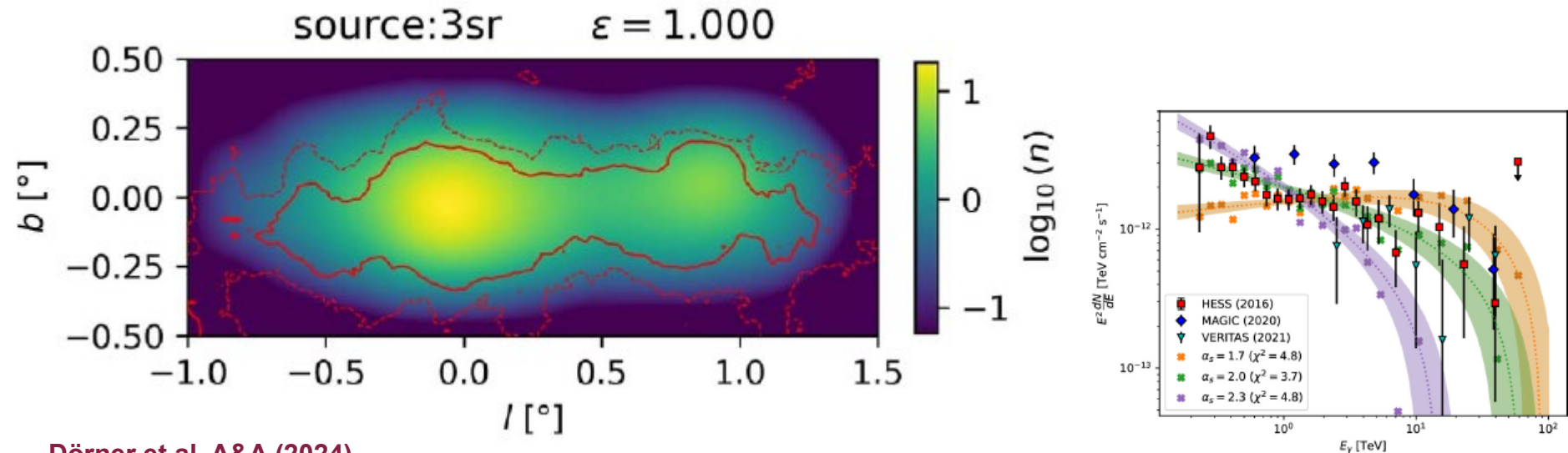
# 3D Transport modeling of the PeVatron in the Galactic Center



3D B-field representation (Gündüz, JBT, et al (2022)); 3 source model;  
Anisotropic transport ( $D_{\parallel}/D_{\perp} = \epsilon$ )

# Best fit for isotropic diffusion ( $\epsilon = 1$ )

- 2D distribution can be fit reasonably well using isotropic diffusion



Dörner et al, A&A (2024)

# Application to plasmoids of AGN

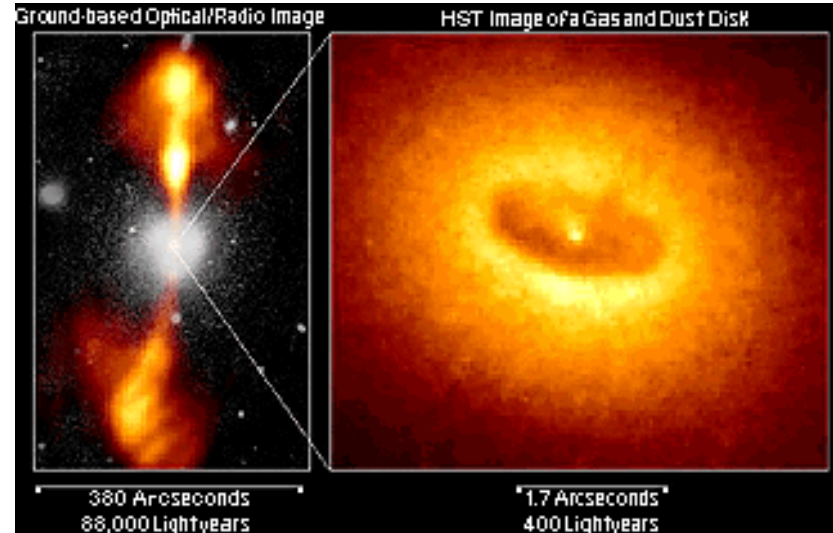
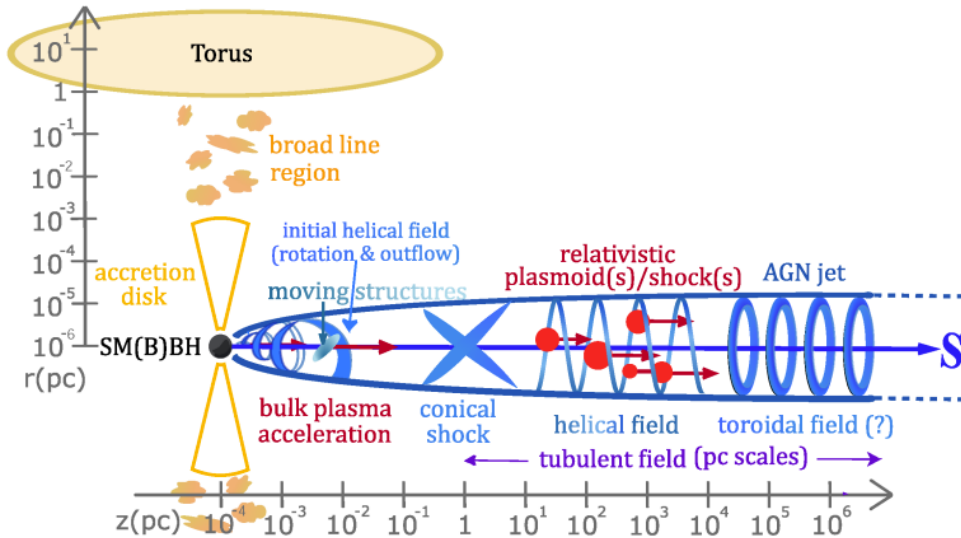
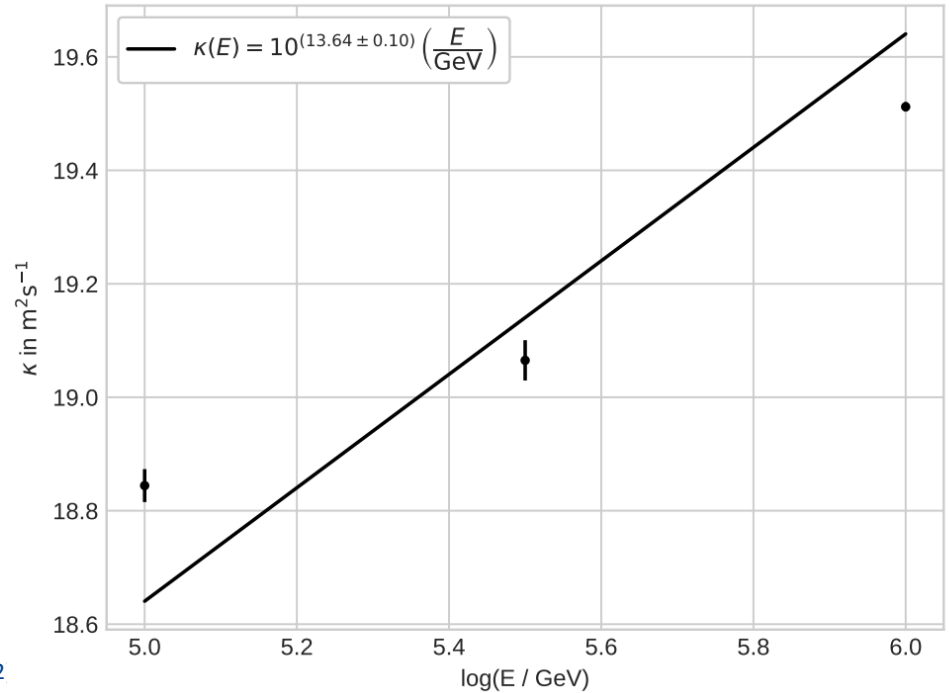


Fig: Becker Tjus et al, MPDI Physics (2022)

# Application to plasmoids of AGN

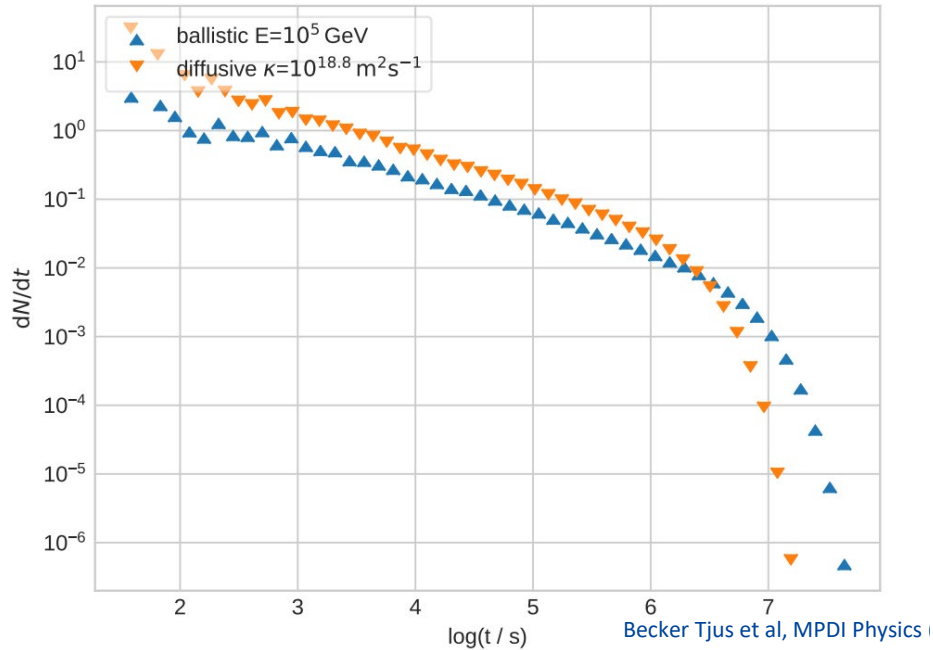
- Calculation of diffusion coefficient in equation of motion picture
- As a function of reduced rigidity ( $\sim$ energy)
- Purely turbulent field  $\rightarrow$  assumption of Bohm diffusion



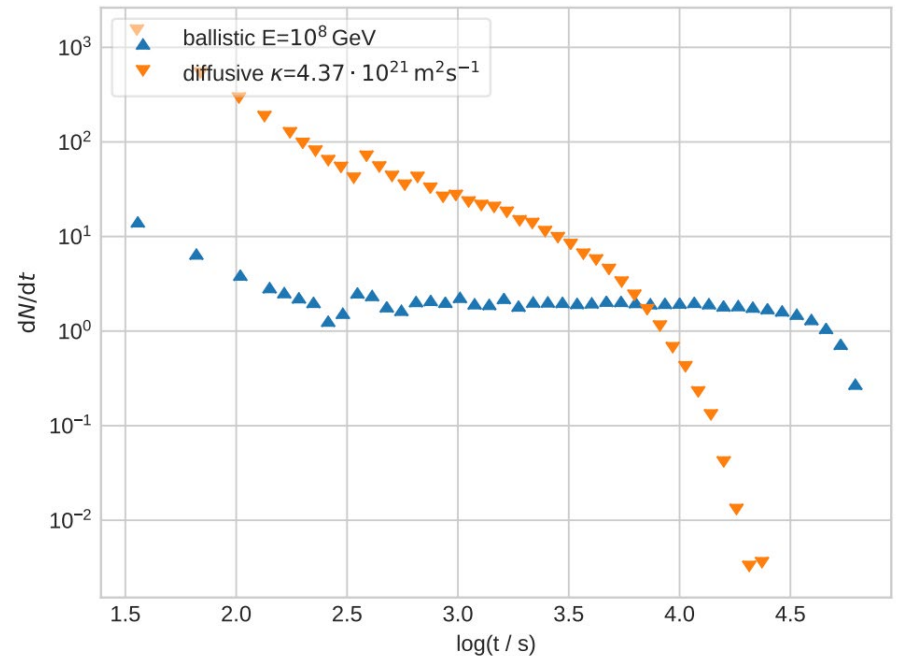
Becker Tjus et al, MPDI Physics (2022)

# Comparison of results

## ■ Diffusive Regime (1e5 GeV)



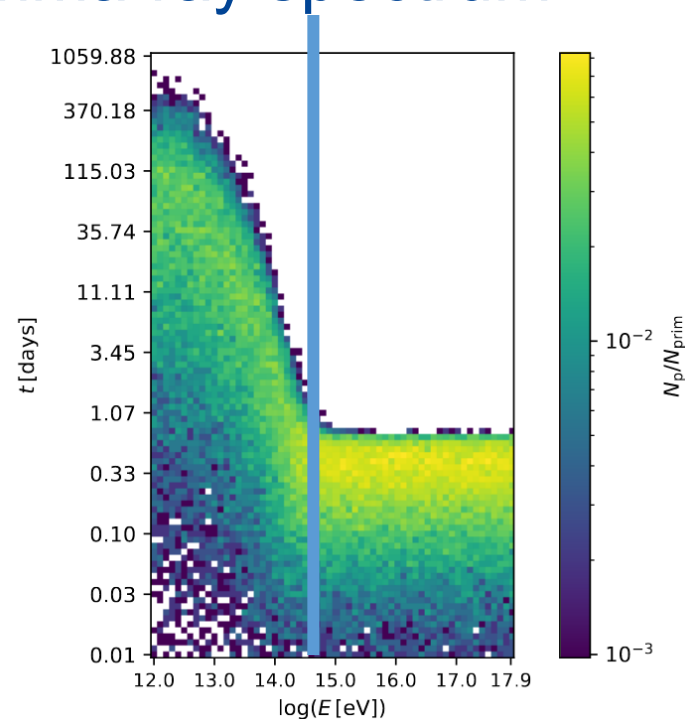
## ■ Ballistic Regime (1e8 GeV)





# Transition of diffusive to ballistic propagation: predicted break in gamma-ray spectrum

- Example  $R = 1e13m$
- $B = 0.03G$
- $\rightarrow$  change from diffusive to ballistic at around  $1e13eV$ - $1e15eV$  CR energy  $\rightarrow$  TeV-100TeV gamma-ray energy
- $\rightarrow$  expected break in the spectrum



### 3. Summary & Conclusions

- **CRPropa 3.2** first tool to handle transport equation and equation of motion at the same time
- Now able to **quantitatively bridge diffusive and ballistic** regimes
- **Galactic cosmic-ray gradient** can be explained with a varying spatial diffusion coefficient
- **Diffuse Galactic Center PeVatron** can be explained with isotropic diffusion and the three most prominent sources
- Depending on source parameters, **break** between diffusive and ballistic propagation to be expected in future CTA data. Important to include in modeling, and search for with IACTs
- Gamma rays are great, but even better in the Multimessenger Picture 😊

