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MAGNETIC MONOPOLES IN COSMIC MAGNETIC FIELDS: ACCELERATION AND CONSTRAINTS

Speaker: Michele Doro, Takeshi Kobayashi, Daniele Perri

**DP, K. Bondarenko, M. Doro,
T. Kobayashi**
***Phys. Dark Univ.* 46 (2024), 101704**

DP, M. Doro, T. Kobayashi
arXiv:2502.xxxxx

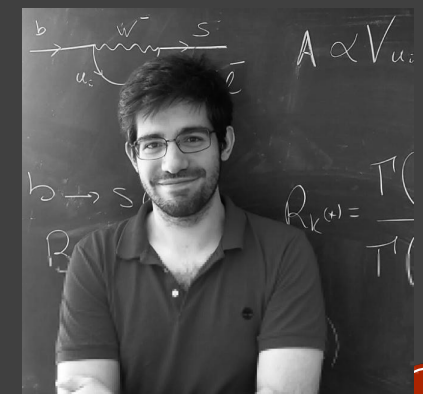


ABOUT MYSELF

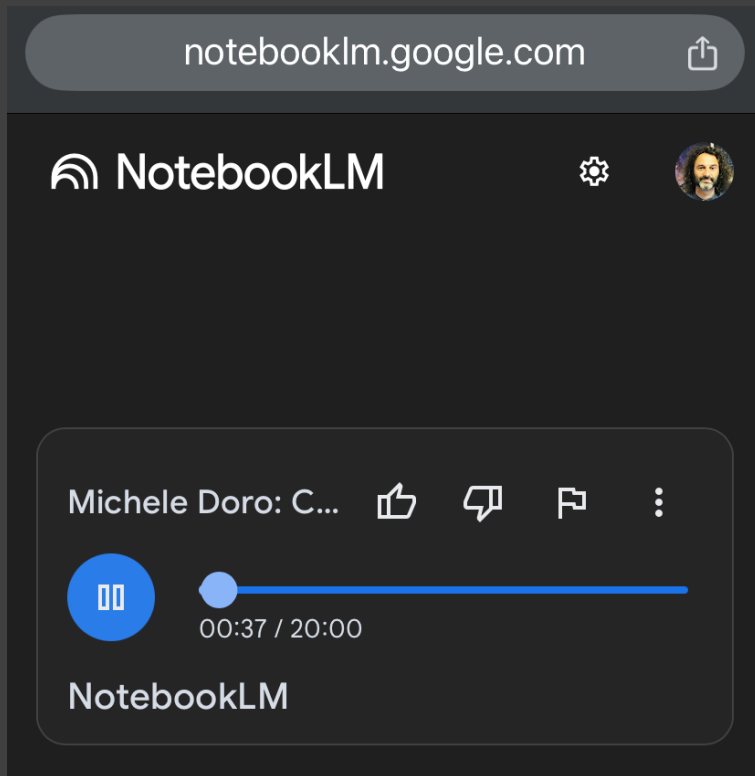


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- **Associate professor** at University of Padova
 - Physics Laboratory 1 for Physics BSc
 - General Physics
 - PhD: Remote atmospheric sensing (for astronomy)
- **Main collaborators (glimpse at some names):**
 - **Padova:** Elisa Prandini, Ivana Batkovic, Cornelia Arcaro, Davide Miceli, Tommaso Dorigo
 - **Abroad:** Roberta Zanin, Giacomo D'Amico, Miguel Angel Sanchez Conde, Paolo Giommi, Markus Gaug, ...
 - **For this work:**
Takeshi Kobayashi,
Daniele Perri



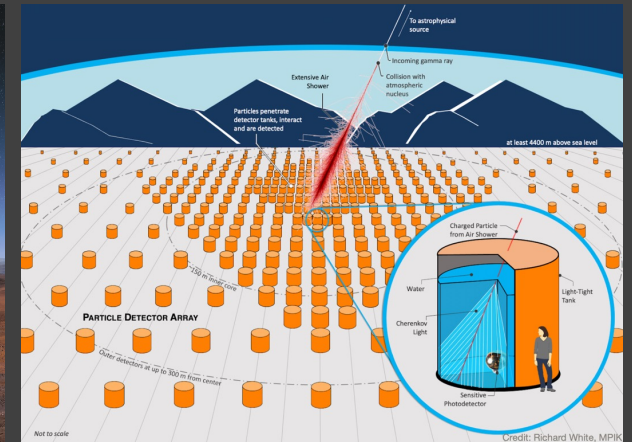
AI MADE A POSTCAST ON ME 😊



The screenshot shows a web browser address bar with the URL `notebooklm.google.com`. Below the address bar is the NotebookLM header with a logo, a settings gear icon, and a profile picture. The main content area displays an audio player for a postcast titled "Michele Doro: C...". The player includes a play button, a progress bar at 00:37 / 20:00, and a volume icon. The name "NotebookLM" is visible at the bottom of the player interface.

- <https://notebooklm.google.com/notebook/520db653-64f6-4925-9a90-98c3ad79e930/audio>

GAMMA-RAY ASTRONOMY



MAGIC: 2003-now

- Mirror and Calibration
- Fundamental Physics: dark matter, ALPs, now blazars
- ...

CTAO 2006--now

- Fundamental physics searches
- Atmospheric Calibration

SWG0 2018--now

- Fundamental physics searches
- PeV-simulation outer array

From GeV to PeV...

HOW COSMIC MFS ARE OF INTEREST FOR MAGNETIC MONOPOLES?

#1 JUST A PRIMER OF MM

Questions to Takeshi ...

DIRAC'S CLASSIC MONOPOLE



- He was trying to find a way to have a **natural explanation for the quantization of the electric charge**
- In 1948 he proposed a model for a monopole made of one **semi-infinite string solenoid** (with $M=2.4 \text{ GeV}$)

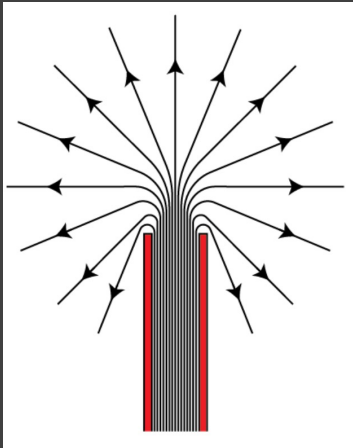
- Magnetic charge:

$$g = 2\pi n/e = ng_D$$

- Maxwell's equations become symmetric

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \mu_0 \mathbf{j} + \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}\end{aligned}$$



Dirac himself said of MM “*One would be surprised if Nature had made no use of it*”

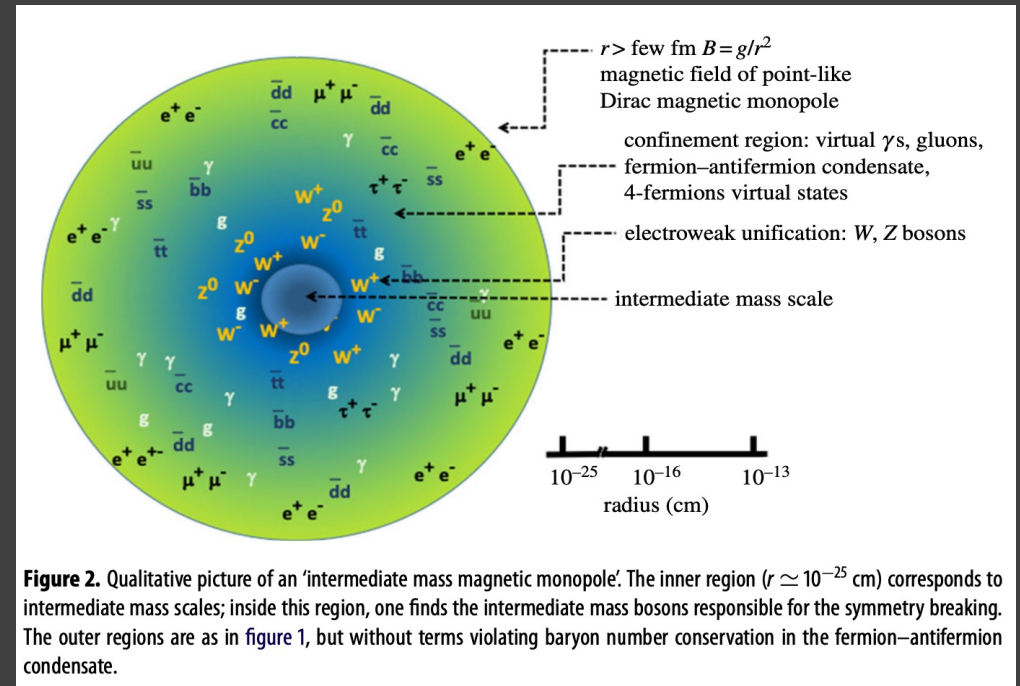
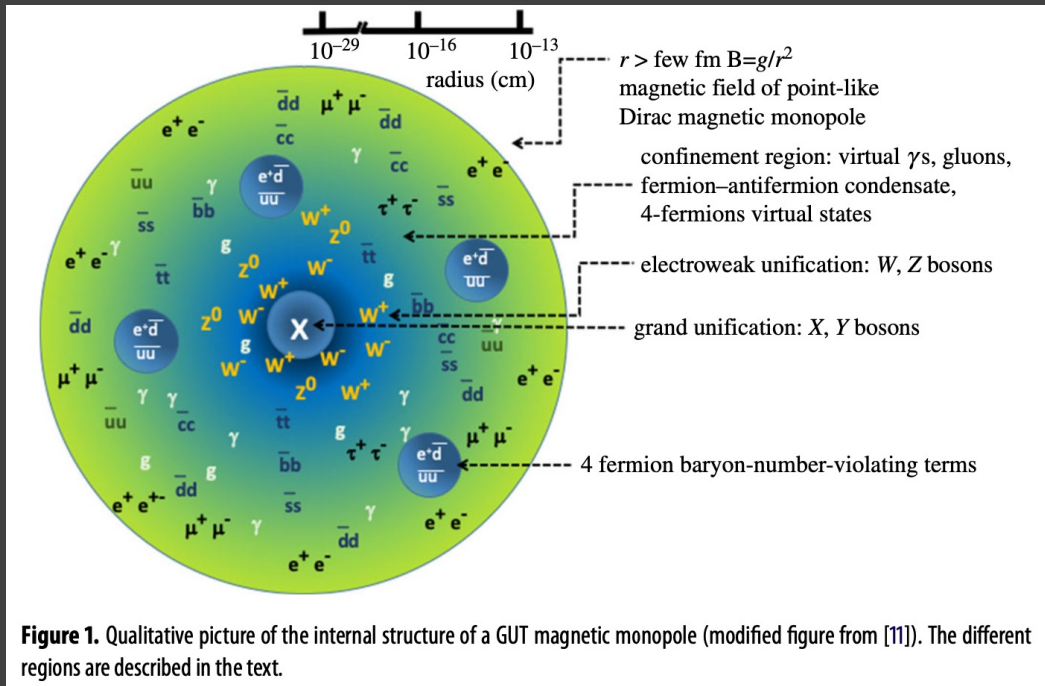
T'HOOFT AND POLIAKOV



- In 1974 't Hooft and Polyakov proposed a model of monopoles as topological defects, which was naturally appearing during phase transitions
- **Monopoles are inevitable predictions of Grand Unified Theories:** $SU(5) \rightarrow SU(3) \times SU(2) \times U(1) \rightarrow SU(3) \times U(1)$
- MM
 - GUT (early Universe) $M > 10^{16}$ GeV
 - Intermediate Mass (later) $M > 10^6$ GeV
- The 't Hooft - Polyakov monopole is a zero-dimensional solitonic solution of the vacuum manifold.

GUT AND INTERMEDIATE MM

Patrizzii+ Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.Sci. 65 (2015)



GUT MM foresees proton decay

Inside the core, all the states of the GUT are excited.



ACTUALLY, TOO MANY MAGNETIC MONOPOLES

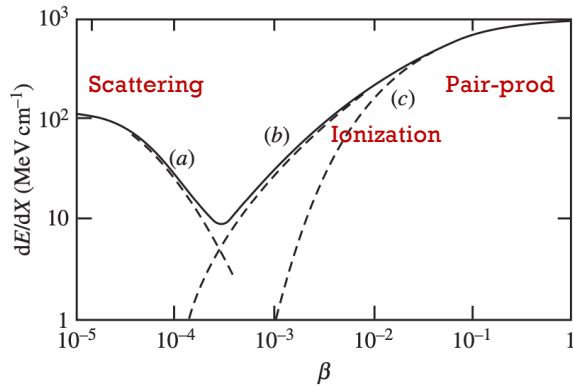
COSMOLOGICAL MONOPOLES indigestion

- Monopoles are produced in the early universe during phase transition.
- **The abundance of produced monopoles can easily over-dominate the energy density of the universe.**
- Inflation provides a good solution to the problem.

GALACTIC MONOPOLES indigestion/PARKER BOUND

- The Galaxy presents a magnetic field of $\sim \mu\text{G}$
- The Galactic magnetic field accelerates the monopoles losing its energy;
- The survival of the field provides a bound on the monopole flux today

ENERGY LOSS IN MATTER



Energy loss (in MeV cm^{-1}) mechanisms of $g = g_D$ MMs in liquid hydrogen versus β . Curve (a) corresponds to interactions with hydrogen atom scattering; curve (b) corresponds to interactions with energy level crossings; curve (c) corresponds to pair production [12].

- When MMs cross a medium, the **varying magnetic field induces a strong electric field**. MMs are treated as electrically charged particles with an equivalent speed-dependent electric charge of $g\beta$.
- The search for MMs is naturally based on their speed at the detector.
 - For $\beta \gtrsim 10^{-3}$ the energy loss is mostly through **elastic collisions**.
 - For $10^{-3} \lesssim \beta \lesssim 10^{-2}$, the medium is seen as a free degenerate gas of electrons (**energy level crossings**)
 - **Relativistic MMs with $\beta \geq 0.1$ ionize and excite atoms**. The yield is ~ 4700 times that of a minimum ionizing particle.
 - **Ultra-relativistic MMs, with $\gamma > 10^4$, lose energy mostly by pair production and photo-nuclear radiative processes**

Patrizzii+
Ann.Rev.Nucl.Part.
Sci. 65 (2015)

DIRECT DETECTION OF MONOPOLES

- There are different strategies used for the **direct observation of magnetic monopoles**:
 - Induction of **electric currents** into a coil;
 - **Energy loss by ionization** (Ex. MACRO, IceCube);
 - **Catalysis of nucleon decays** (only for GUT monopoles).

<https://pdg.lbl.gov/>

Citation: R.L. Workman *et al.* (Particle Data Group), Prog.Theor.Exp.Phys. **2022**, 083C01 (2022) and 2023 update

Magnetic Monopole Searches

See the related review(s):
[Magnetic Monopoles](#)

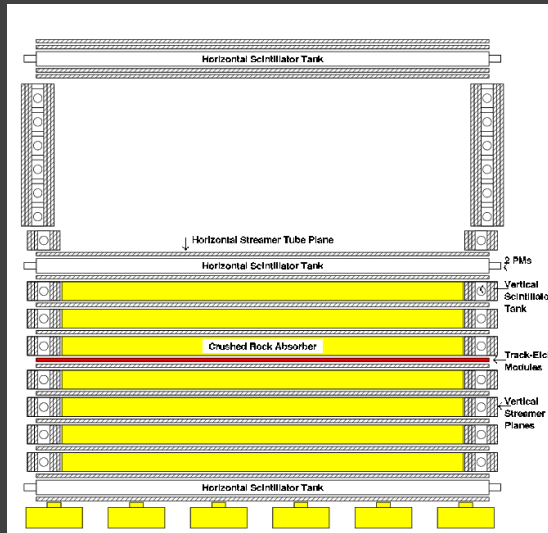
Monopole Production Cross Section — Accelerator Searches

$X\text{-SECT}$ (cm^2)	$MASS$ (GeV)	CHG (g)	$ENERGY$ (GeV)	$BEAM$	$DOCUMENT\ ID$	$TECN$
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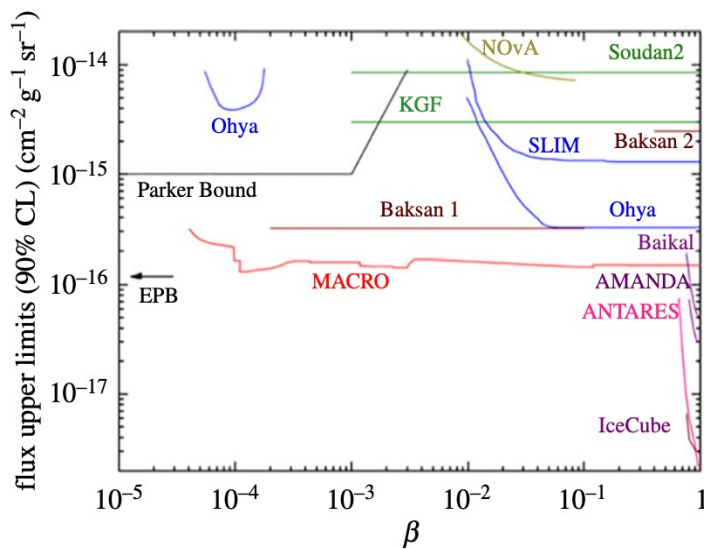
Monopole Density — Matter Searches

$DENSITY$	CHG (g)	$MATERIAL$	$DOCUMENT\ ID$	$TECN$
$<9.8E-5/\text{gram}$	≥ 1	Polar rock	BENDTZ 13	INDU
$<6.9E-6/\text{gram}$	$>1/3$	Meteorites and other	JEON 95	INDU
$<2.E-7/\text{gram}$	>0.6	Fe ore	¹ EBISU 87	INDU

MACRO



- The Monopole, Astrophysics and Cosmic Ray Observatory (MACRO) was a dedicated instrument for MMs at LNGS until 2000.
- MACRO was composed of **three sub-detectors**, sensitive to different MM speeds, operated in combination:
 - scintillation counters
 - limited streamer tubes
 - nuclear track detectors
- Upper bounds between $4 \times 10^{-5} \leq \beta < 0.99$ at around $1.4 \times 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^{-2}\text{s}^{-1}\text{sr}^{-1}$ for masses $\gtrsim 10^{16} \text{ GeV}$.



SEARCHES AT ACCELERATORS

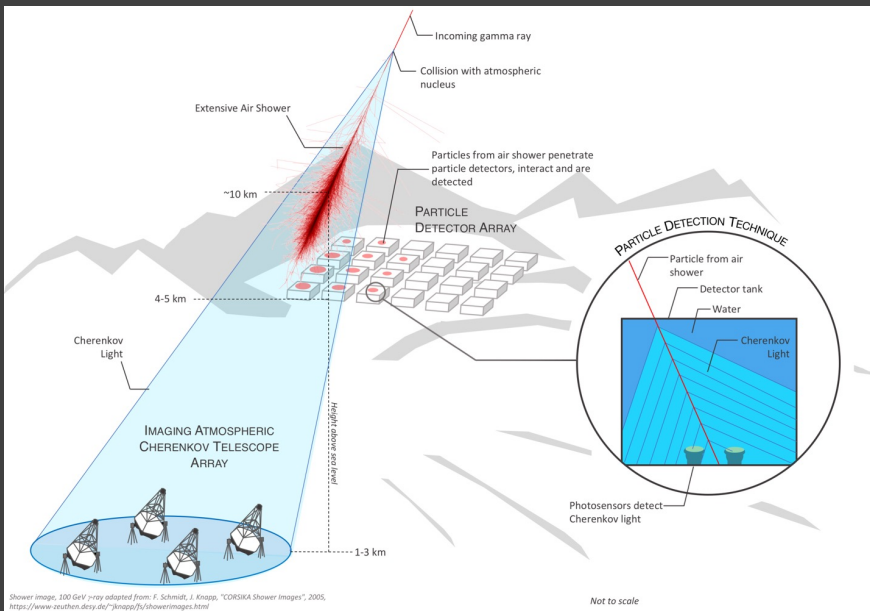
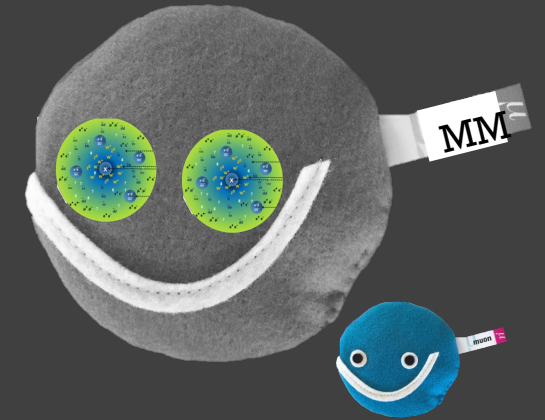


- The **ATLAS** experiment sought gD MMs with masses of up to 2.5 TeV .
- MM masses as large as 6 TeV have been explored by the **MoEDAL experiment***, which has set upper limits to the production of MMs with charges as large as $5gD$ considering Drell-Yan process

*MoEDAL (Monopole and Exotics Detector at the LHC) is a particle physics experiment at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC)

INDIRECT DETECTION OF MM

- A MM acts as a super-charged muon
 - the **ionization yield** of a relativistic unit charge MM is $(gD/e)^2 \sim 4700$ times that of a MIP
 - Also **4700 times more Cherenkov light** than that of a muon with the same speed



<https://pdg.lbl.gov/>

Monopole Flux — Cosmic Ray Searches

"Caty" in the charge column indicates a search for monopole-catalyzed nucleon decay.

FLUX ($\text{cm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$)	MASS (GeV)	CHG (g)	COMMENTS ($\beta = v/c$)	DOCUMENT ID	TECN
<2E-19		1	$0.86 < \beta < 0.995$	¹ ABBASI	22 ICCB
<2E-14	>5E8		$6E-4 < \beta < 5E-3$	² ACERO	21 NOVA
<1E-17		Caty	$1E-5 < \beta < 1E-3$	³ GAPONENKO	21 BAIK
<1.5E-18		1	$\beta > 0.6$	⁴ ALBERT	17 ANTR
<2.5E-21		1	$1E8 < \gamma < 1E13$	⁵ AAB	16 AUGE

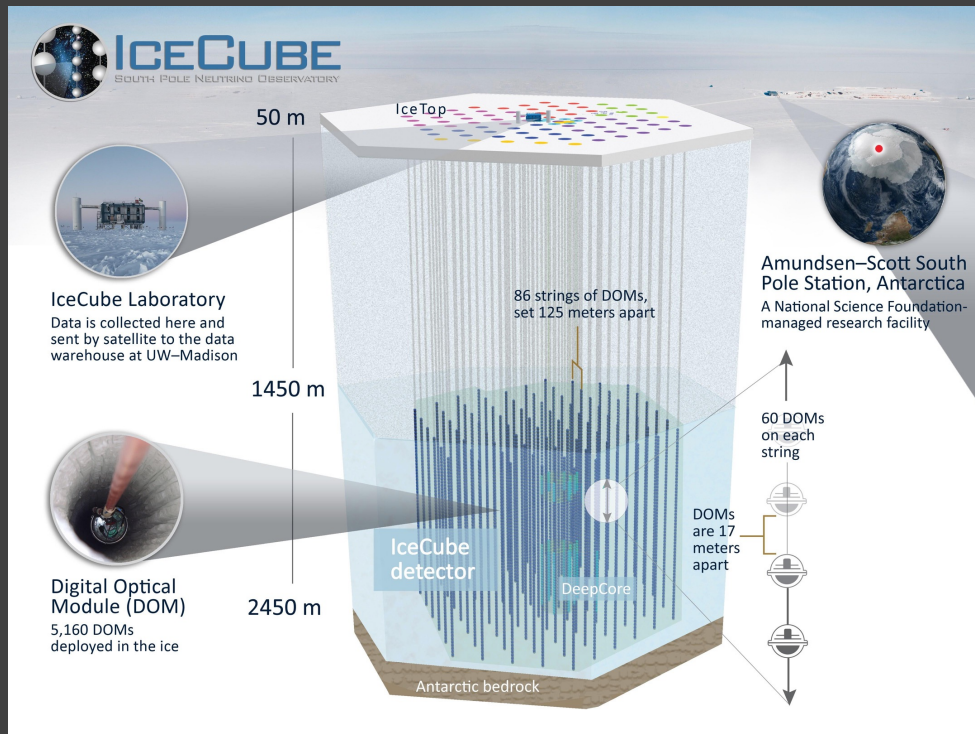
Monopole Density — Astrophysics

DENSITY	CHG (g)	MATERIAL	DOCUMENT ID	TECN
<1.E-9/gram	1	sun, catalysis	¹ ARAFUNE	83 COSM
<6.E-33/nucl	1	moon wake	SCHATTEN	83 ELEC

Monopole Flux — Astrophysics

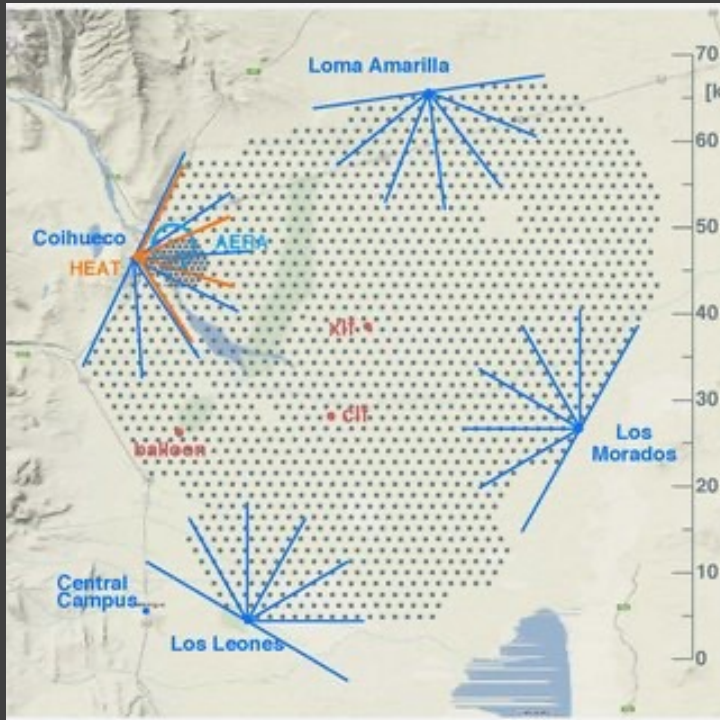
FLUX ($\text{cm}^{-2}\text{sr}^{-1}\text{s}^{-1}$)	MASS (GeV)	CHG (g)	COMMENTS ($\beta = v/c$)	DOCUMENT ID	TECN
<1.3E-20			faint white dwarf	¹ FREESE	99 ASTR
<1.E-16	E17	1	galactic field	² ADAMS	93 COSM
<1.E-23			Jovian planets	¹ ARAFUNE	85 ASTR
<1.E-16	E15		solar trapping	BRACCI	85B ASTR

ICECUBE



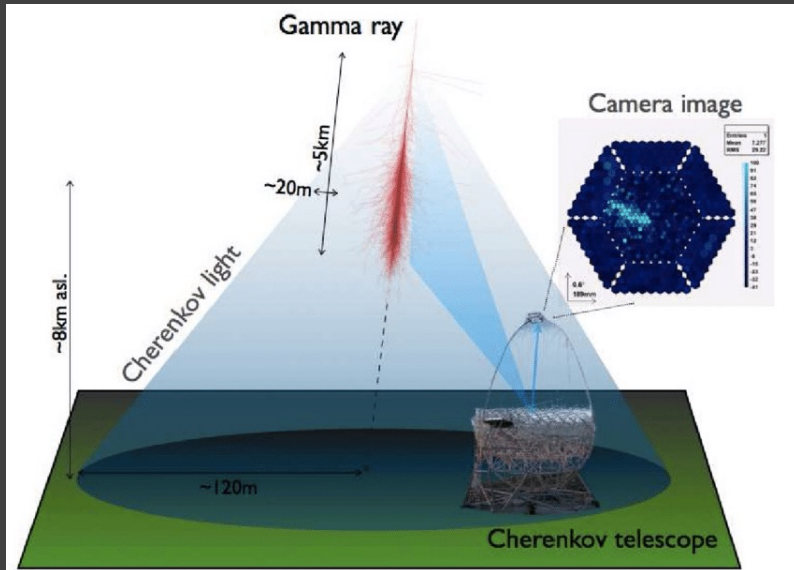
- Located at the South Pole in Antarctica, the **IceCube detector** is an array of 5160 optical modules arranged in 86 vertical strings deployed into the ice between 1500 m and 2500 m below the surface, with a total volume of 1 km^3 .
- A charged particle can emit Cherenkov light in ice
- Core science: astrophysical neutrinos, but **can see MMs above $\beta > 0.5$**
- **Several publications assuming supermassive MMs**

PIERRE AUGER OBSERVATORY (PAO)



- **PAO** is the largest (3,000 km²) ultra-high-energy cosmic-ray detector currently in operation.
- Surface-detector array of water tanks that samples the charged particles from atmospheric showers and 24 fluorescence detectors with a field-of-view of 30°.
- **PAO is sensitive to ultra-relativistic gamma > 10⁸ MMs**
- Several papers published assuming light enough MMs

IACTS



- Only preliminary studies from **MSc thesis of Gerrit Spengler**

- Very peculiar signature from MM in IACTS:
 - **Super-bright events**
 - **Double signals** (from different zone of the atmosphere)
 - No confusion wrt gamma-rays

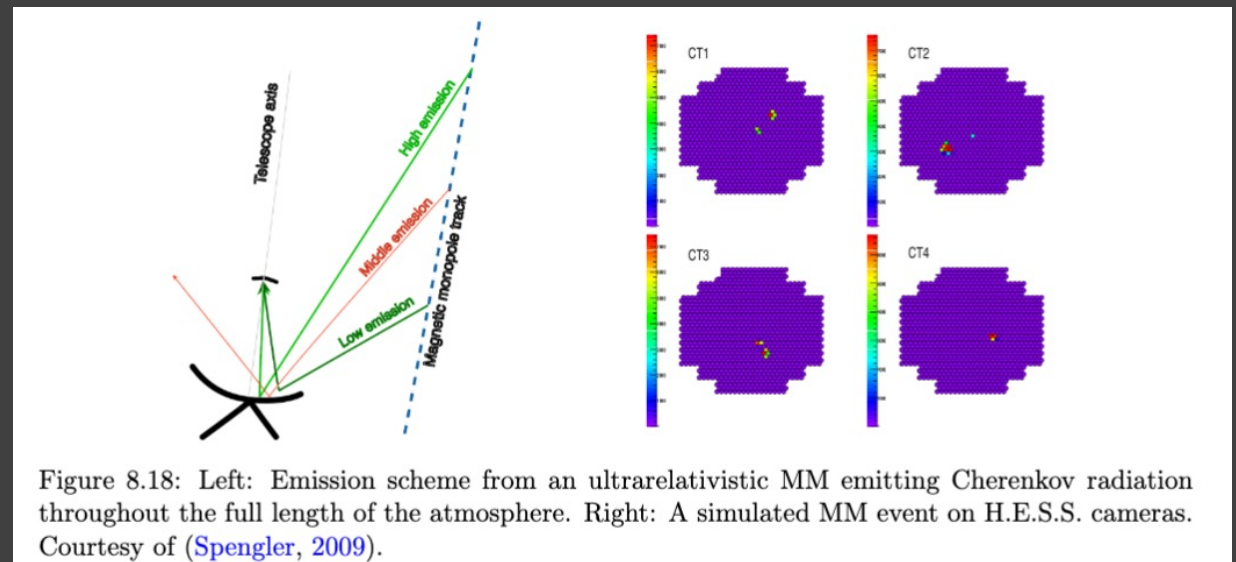
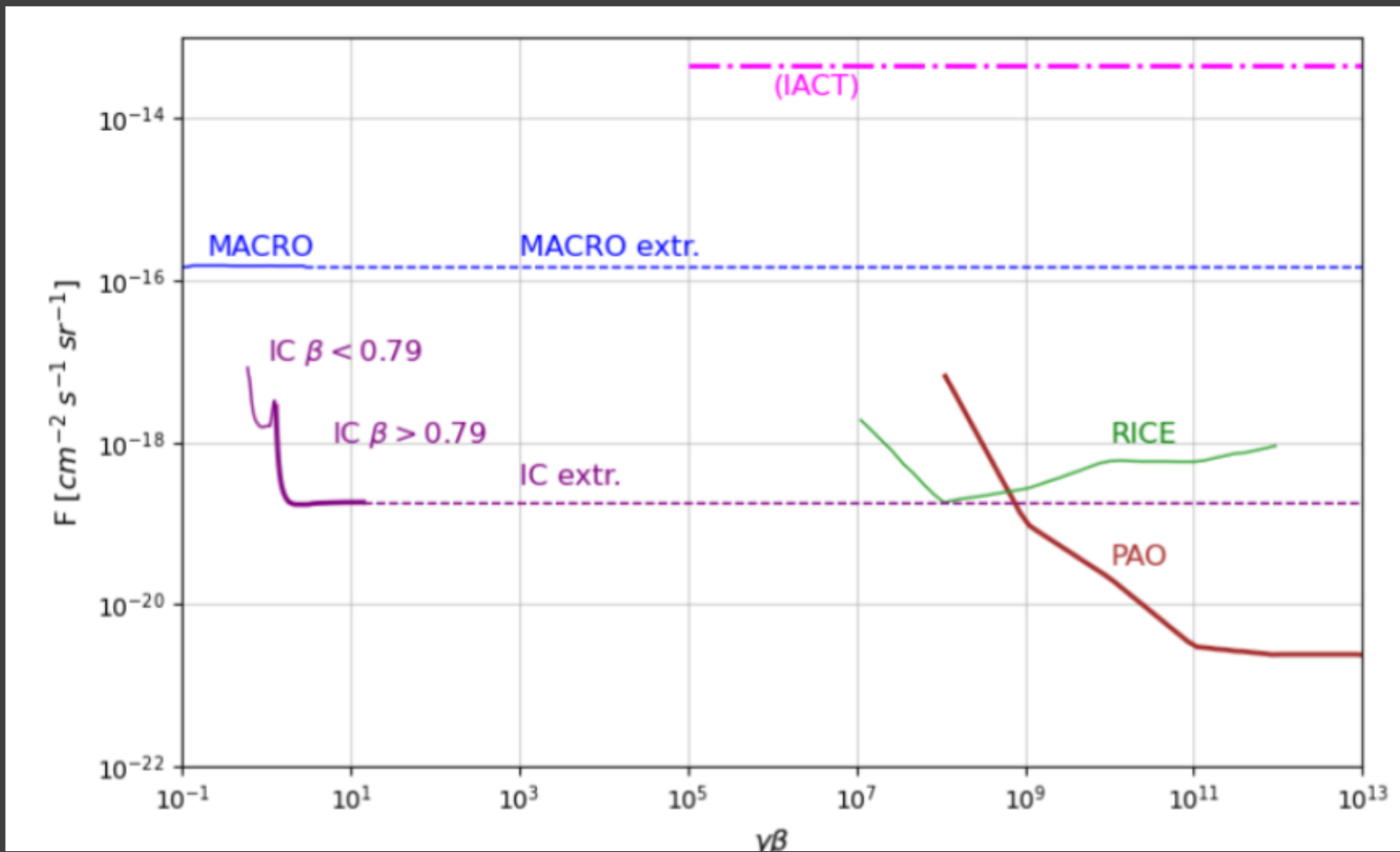


Figure 8.18: Left: Emission scheme from an ultrarelativistic MM emitting Cherenkov radiation throughout the full length of the atmosphere. Right: A simulated MM event on H.E.S.S. cameras. Courtesy of (Spengler, 2009).

CURRENT WORLD-BEST LIMITS



IceCube = Relativistic
MMs

PAO=Ultra Relativistic
MMs

#2 ACCELERATION OF MM IN COSMIC FIELDS

Yes, sorry for taking so long...

MM AND MAGNETIC FIELDS

- The evolutions of magnetic monopoles and cosmic magnetic fields are strictly coupled throughout the universe's history.

Cosmic magnetic fields accelerate the monopoles

$$m \frac{d}{dt}(\gamma v) = gB$$



Monopole bounds are affected by the acceleration



Accelerated monopoles extract energy from cosmic magnetic fields



The survival of cosmic magnetic fields might lead to new bounds

If one defines a model for cosmic MFS, one can compute the acceleration of MMs in function of the MM mass (and considering the back-reactions – thus the flux density)



Full length article

Monopole acceleration in intergalactic magnetic fields

Daniele Perri ^{a,b,c,*}, Kyriilo Bondarenko ^{a,b,c}, Michele Doro ^{d,e}, Takeshi Kobayashi ^{a,b,c,f}

Full model of acceleration in IGMFs

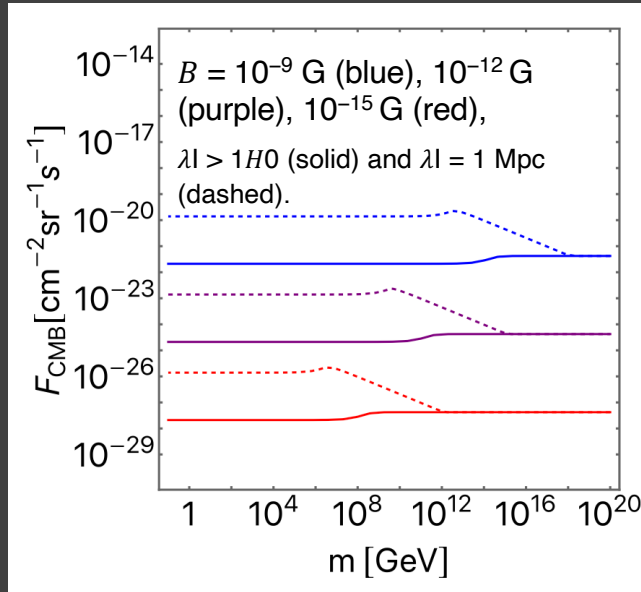
This yields

$$(\gamma v)_0 \sim \frac{gB_I}{mH_0}. \quad (2.10)$$

Inhomogeneous IGMF. With sub-horizon coherence lengths, $\lambda_I < 1/H_0$, the present-day velocity takes the forms,

$$(\gamma v)_0 \sim \begin{cases} \frac{gB_I \lambda_I}{m} \frac{1}{(\lambda_I H_0)^{1/2}} & \text{for } m < \frac{gB_I \lambda_I^{1/2}}{H_0^{1/2}}, \\ \left(\frac{gB_I \lambda_I}{m}\right)^{2/3} \frac{1}{(\lambda_I H_0)^{1/3}} & \text{for } \frac{gB_I \lambda_I^{1/2}}{H_0^{1/2}} < m < \frac{gB_I}{\lambda_I H_0^2}, \\ \frac{gB_I}{mH_0} & \text{for } m > \frac{gB_I}{\lambda_I H_0^2}. \end{cases} \quad (2.11)$$

Threshold for back-reaction

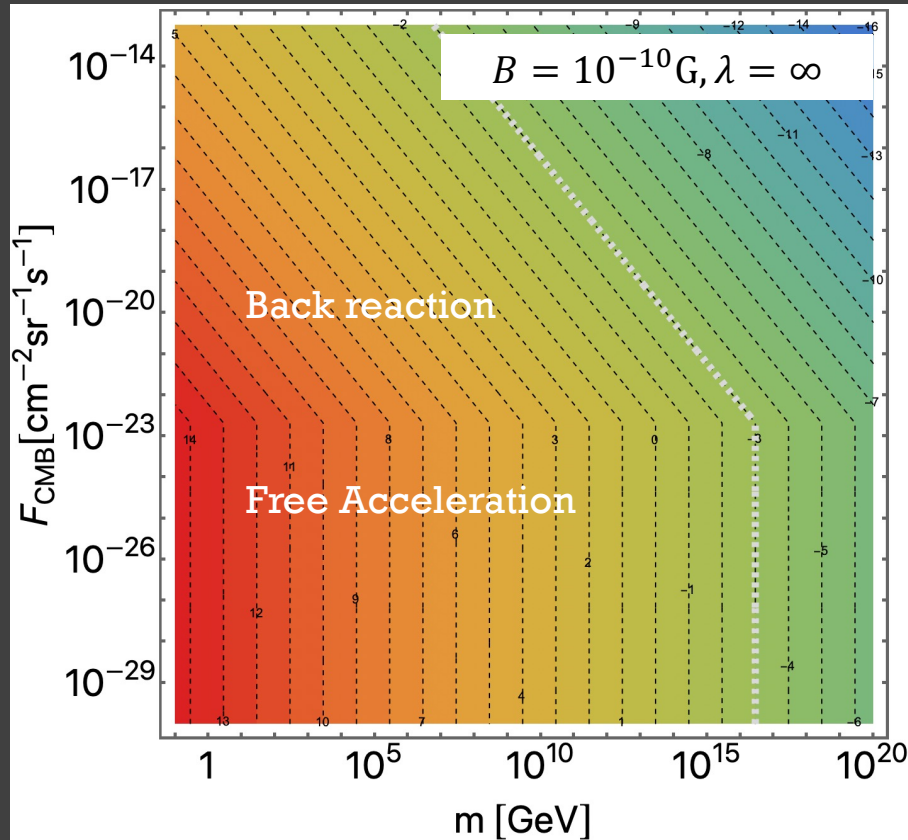


Back-reaction:
MM extracts
energy from B. It
depends on flux

Maximum speed
depends on flux:

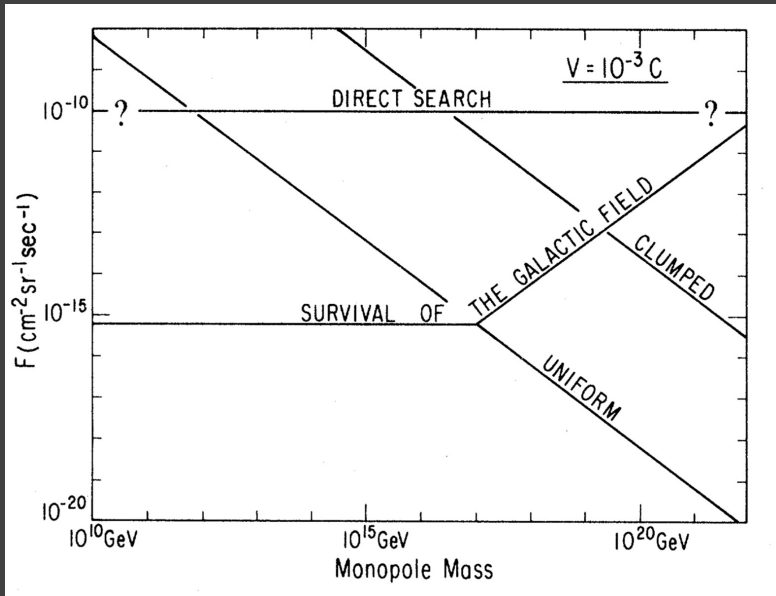
$$(\gamma v)_{\text{CMB}} \sim \min\left(\frac{gB}{mH_0}, \frac{B^2}{4\pi m F_{\text{CMB}}}\right)$$

ACCELERATION IN IGMF



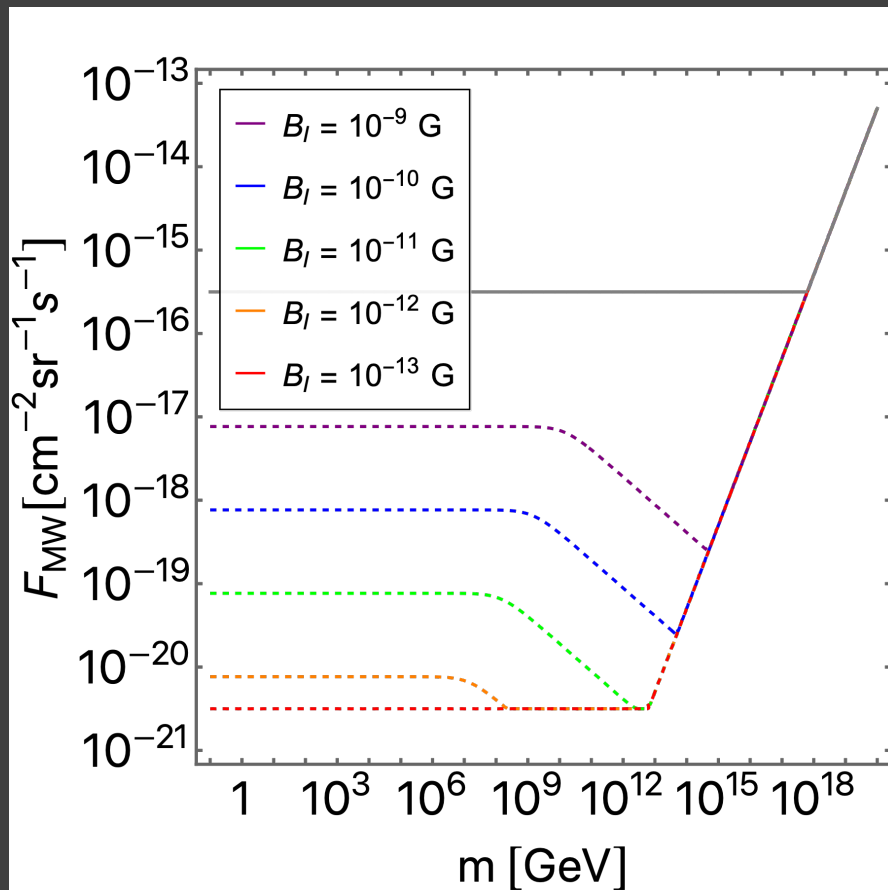
- Depending on the flux, once a model of IGMF is given **MM speed can be related to MM mass**
- **IGMF alone can accelerate MM to ultra-relativistic speeds**

GALACTIC MAGNETIC FIELDS



- In 1970 Parker proposed a bound on the monopole flux today inside our Galaxy:
 - The Galaxy presents a magnetic field of $\sim 2 \times 10^{-6}$ G;
 - **The Galactic magnetic field accelerates the monopoles losing its energy;**
 - The survival of the field provides a bound on the monopole flux today.
- The bound can be even extended considering the seed field of the Galaxy.

GALACTIC ACCELERATION



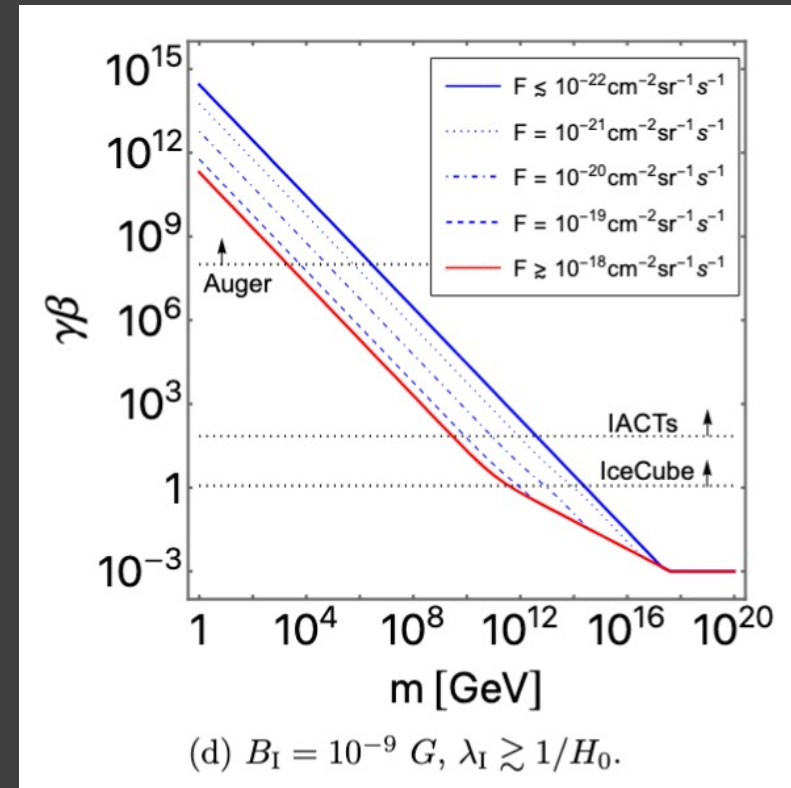
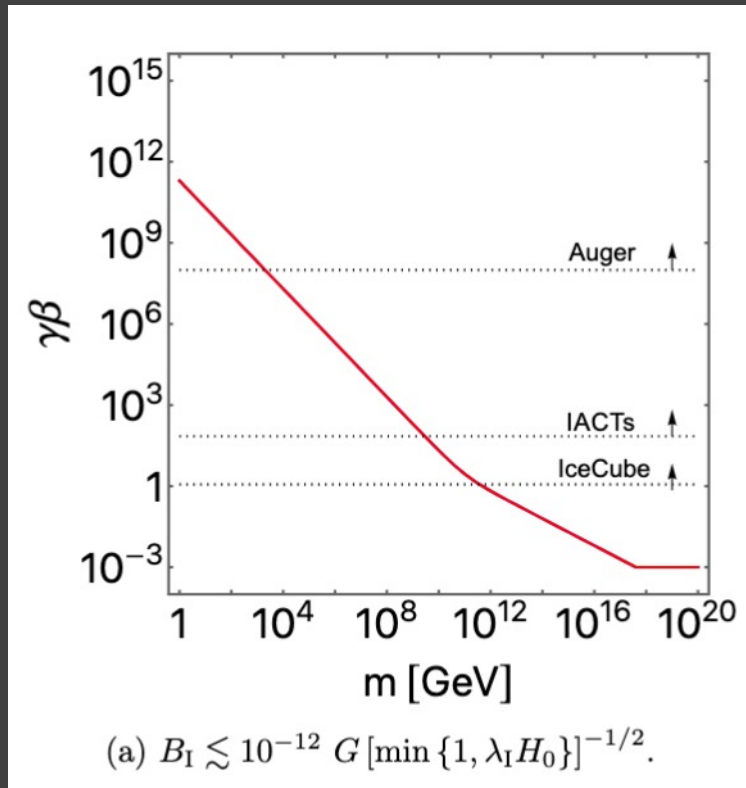
- Observations indicate that the Milky Way hosts GMFs with an average amplitude $B \sim 10^{-6}$ G and coherence length $\lambda \sim 1$ kpc, within a magnetic region of size $R \sim 10$ kpc

$$m(\gamma_G - 1) \sim g B_G \sqrt{R \lambda_G} \sim 10^{11} \text{ GeV} \left(\frac{g}{g_D} \right).$$

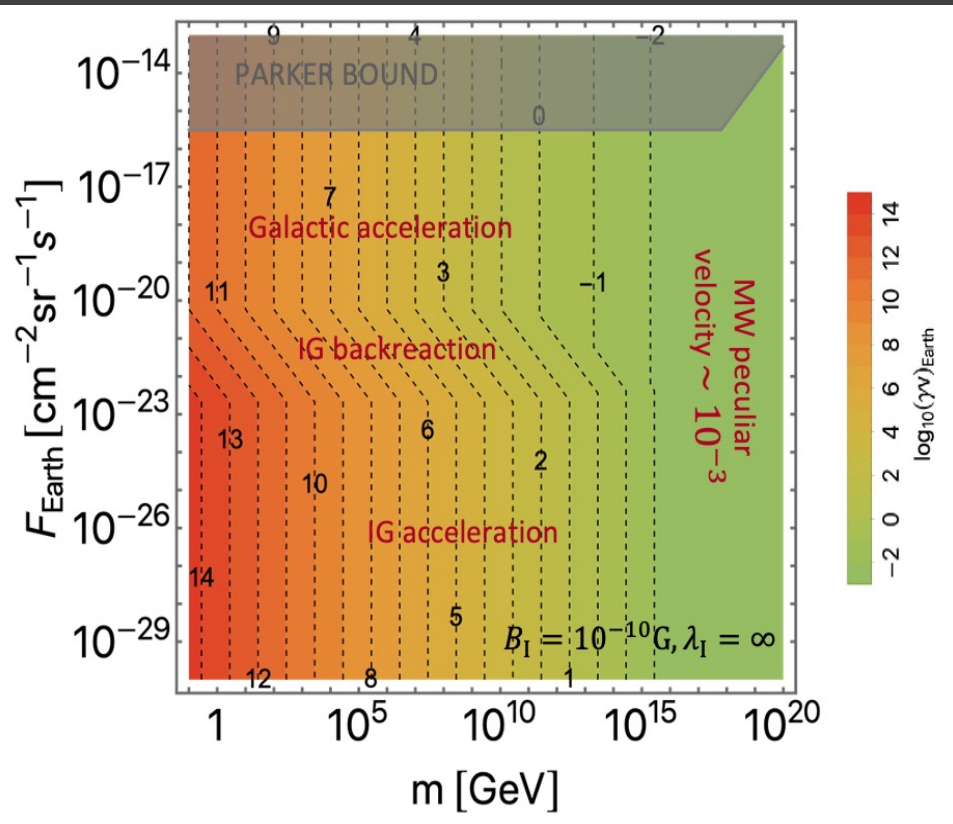
Galactic Parker bounds depend on the monopole incident velocity on the Milky Way (intergalactic acceleration).

PAPER IN PREP.

- One can compute the speed-mass relation for different scenarios of IGMF (and flux)



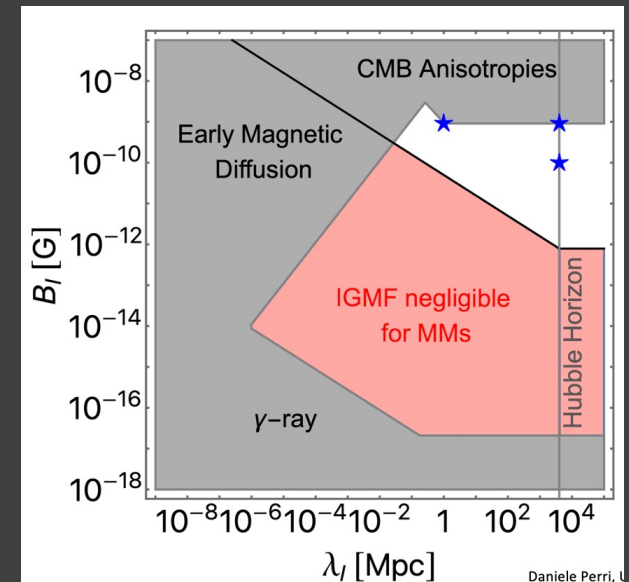
ALL CONSIDERED



- MM speed at Earth is dominated by maximum accelerator (IGMF, GAL or peculiar velocity)

$$v_E = \max \{v_I, v_G, v_p\}.$$

- Monopole velocity might be an independent test of IGMFs.



Daniele Perri, U

#3 EXPERIMENTAL MM BOUNDS AND IGMF

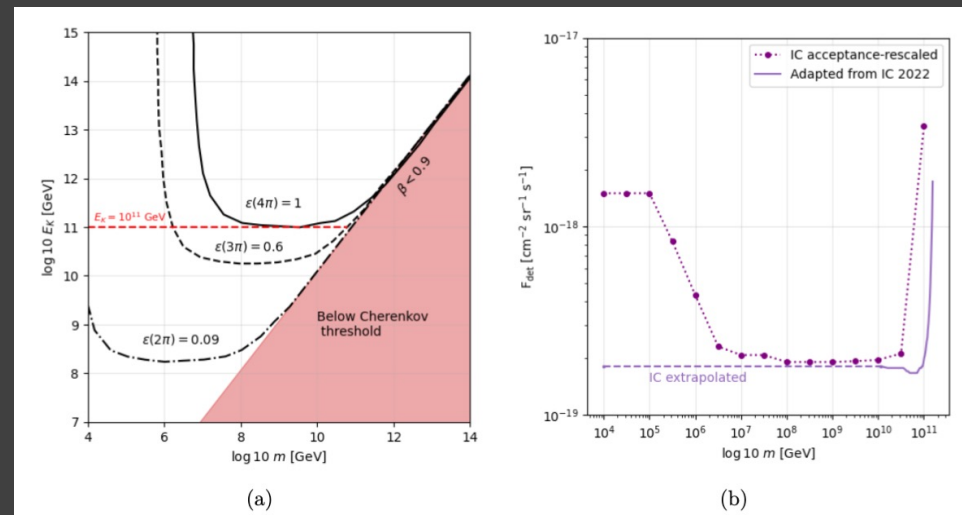
We are almost there

RECASTING OF EXISTING EXPERIMENTAL LIMITS

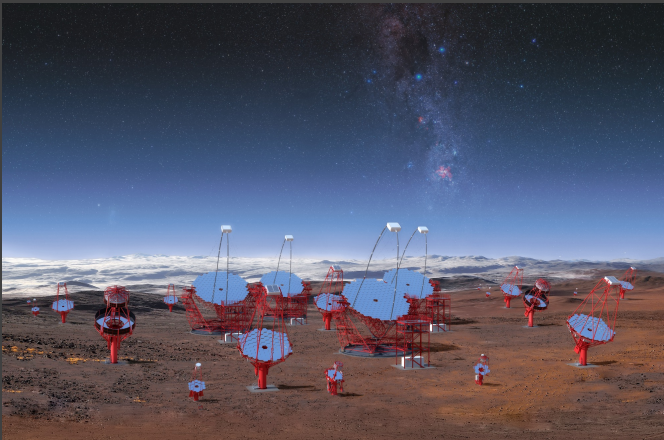
- MACRO, IceCube, PAO, IACTs set limits in dependence of MM speed
- Our model allows to relate MM speed-mass(-flux)
- **We recasted published most constraining experimental limits in function of MM mass.**
- Needed to re-compute kinetic energy at the detector, considering detector acceptance

For example:

- IceCube acceptance depends on direction
- MM at different direction requires different MM kinetic energies
 - (A bit technical)

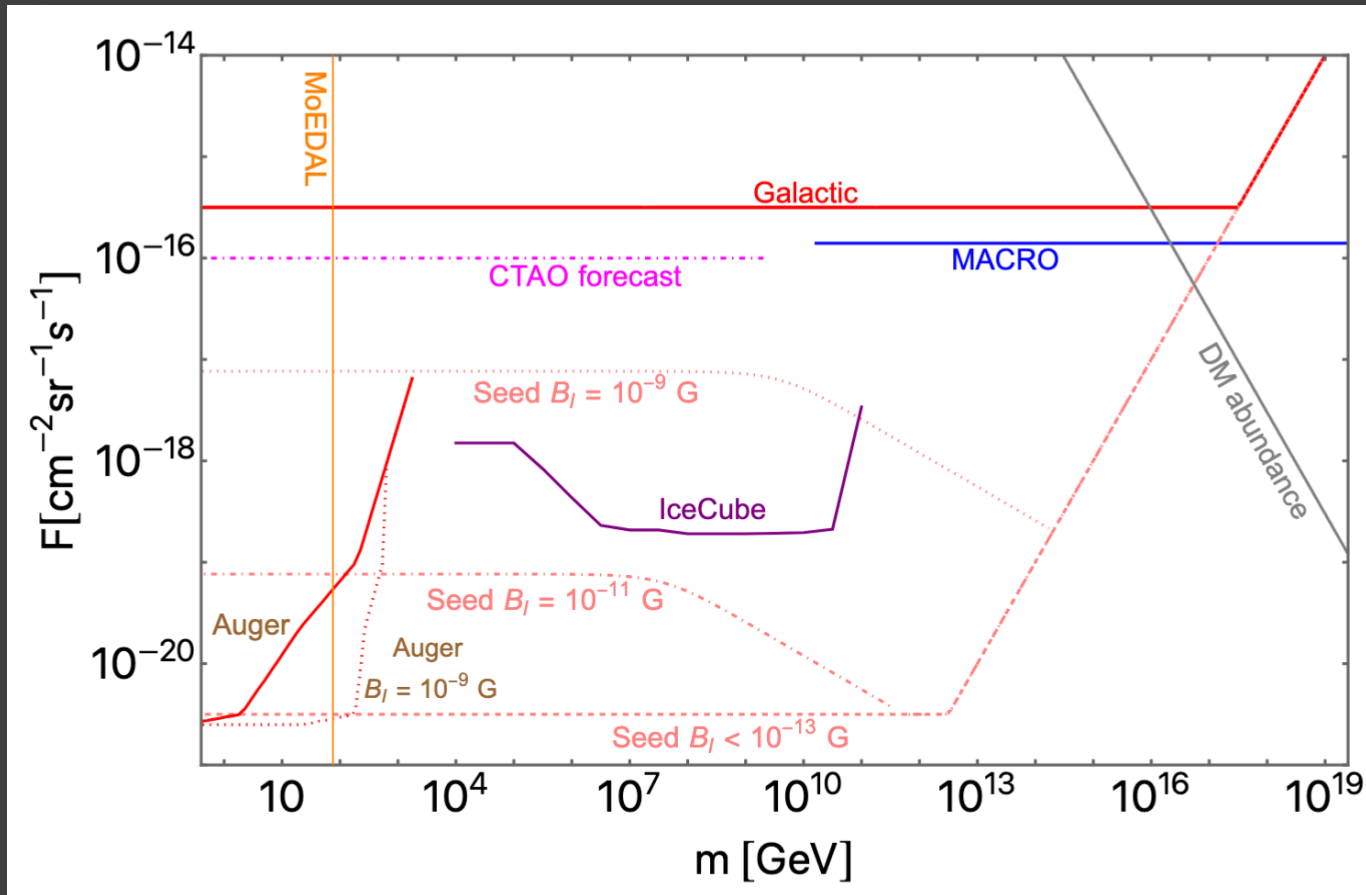


FOCUS ON IACTS



- Only MSc work from Gerrit Spengler (2009) for H.E.S.S. data
 - Simplified Monte Carlo, strong data selection
- Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory will improve
 - Larger FOV
 - Larger effective area
 - Longer exposure
- All considered, sensitivity can improve 200 times wrt H.E.S.S. and on wider MM speed range
- A topic so far not investigated by current IACTs

MM FLUX VS MASS LIMITS



Several points:

- Galactic seed limits competitive depending on B
- **Auger limits affected by IGMF acceleration**
- **CTAO forecast may bridge PAO and IceCube**
- ...

CONCLUSIONS

- In a coherent cosmic MFs scenario, MMs can be accelerated to ultra-relativistic speed depending on mass and flux.
- IGMF or GMF can dominate according to MM mass and flux
- IGMF flux limits can constrain IGMF

Thanks!

