

# *ESCAPING OF COSMIC RAYS AND PROPAGATION THROUGH THE GALAXY*

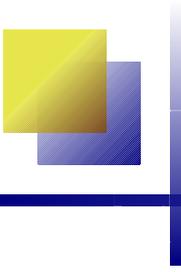
*Giovanni Morlino*

*INAF/Osservatorio Astrofisico di Arcetri  
Firenze, ITALY*

## **LECTURE III**

**4<sup>th</sup> graduate school on Plasma-Astroparticle Physics**

**Jan.29 - Feb. 3, 2023  
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# SUMMARY

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- **The journey to the Earth**

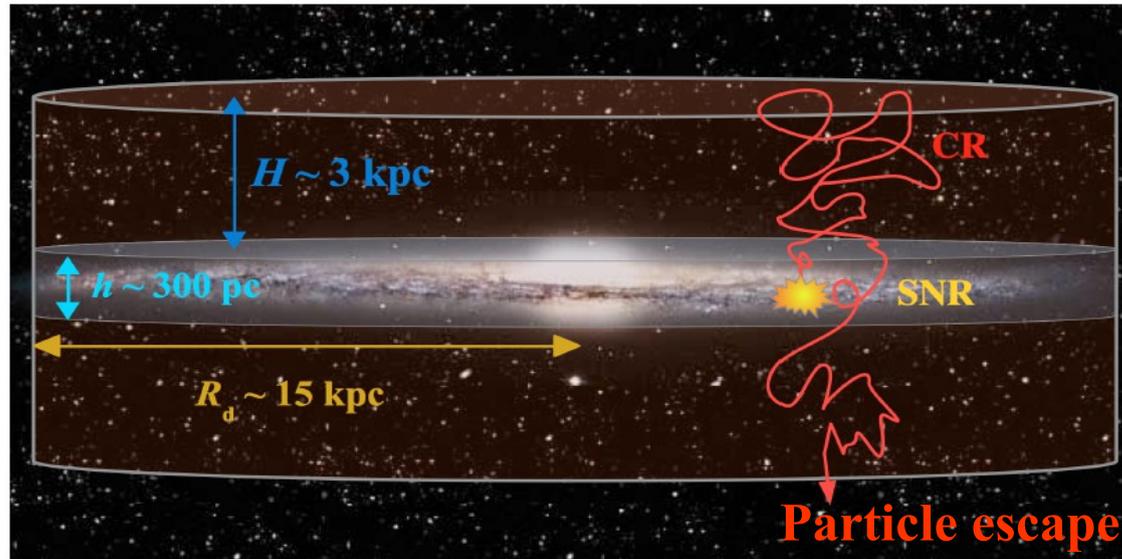
- *The Galactic disk/halo diffusion model*
- *Beyond the standard diffusion model*
- *The gradient problem in the Galactic CR spectrum*

- **How particles escape from the source**

- *Interaction between escaping particles and Molecular Clouds*
- *Combining ionization and gamma-ray emission*

# THE JOURNEY OF CRs TO THE EARTH

# Basic Halo model



In the basic picture of CR propagation model:

- ▶ CRs diffuse in a magnetic halo larger than the Galactic disc
- ▶ The CR distribution vanishes at  $z = H$  ( $H \sim 3-4 \text{ kpc}$  from diffuse synchrotron emission)
- ▶ The diffusion coefficient  $D(E)$  is assumed constant everywhere in the halo

These requirements are needed because:

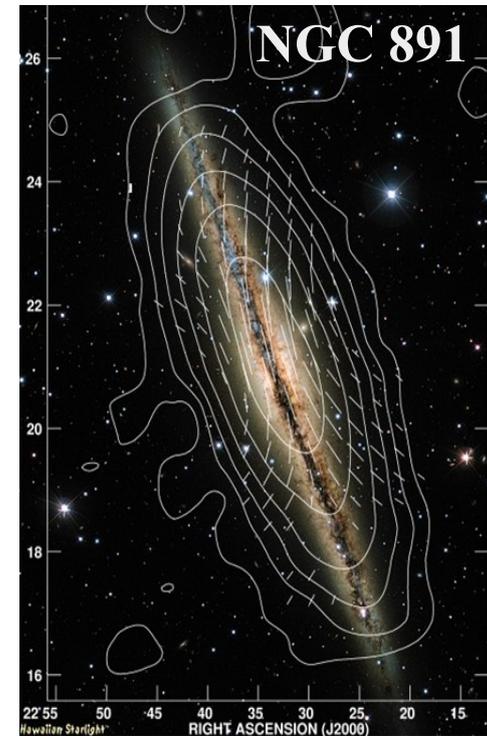
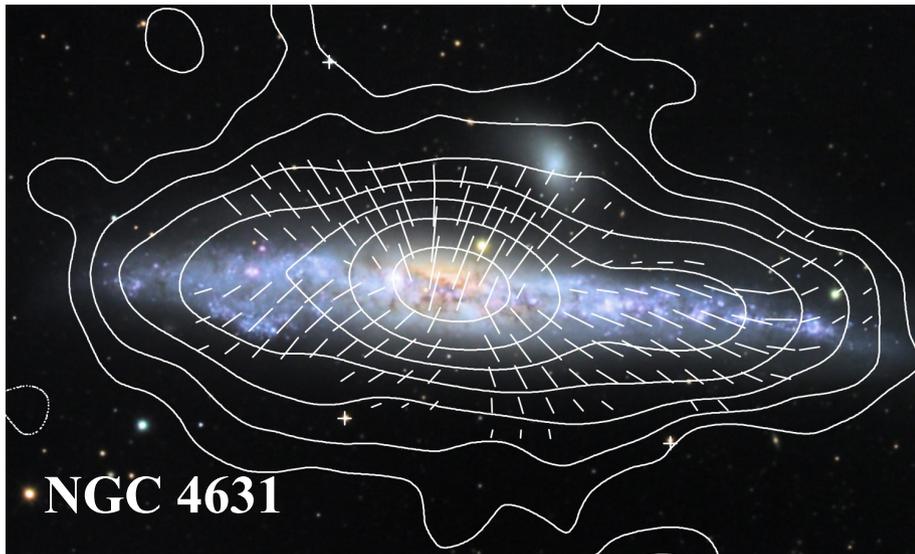
- Long residence time of CRs in the Galaxy
- Isotropy in the CR incoming direction

# Radio halos in external galaxies

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## Evidences for the Galactic magnetic halo:

- 1) Detection of magnetic field around other galaxies
- 2) Detection of synchrotron emission around the Milky Way
- 3) Evidence of hot plasma from X-ray emission and absorption lines



# Radio halos in external galaxies

Evidences for the Galactic magnetic halo:

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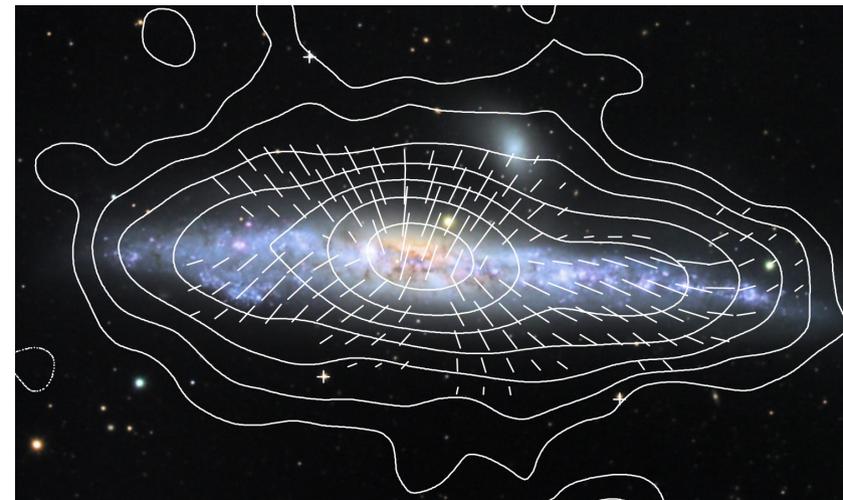
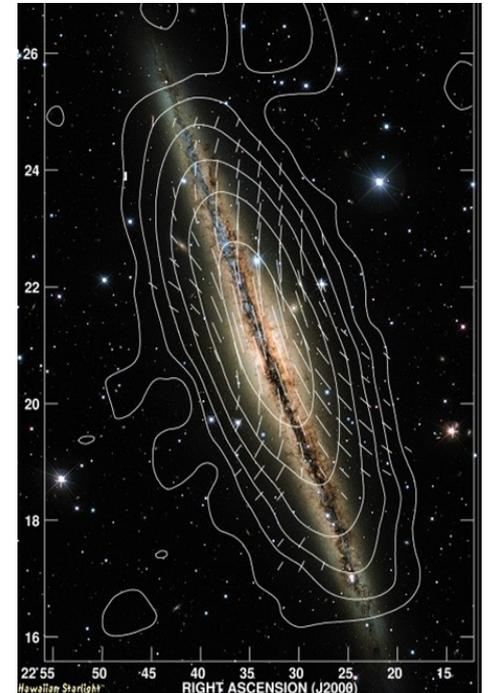
What is the origin of the magnetic Halo?

Sometimes the X-shaped magnetic field structure in the halo is accompanied by strong vertical fields above and below the central region of the disk.

These observations support the idea of a "**galaxy wind**" which is driven by the energy of star formation processes in the disk and transports gas, magnetic fields and cosmic-ray particles into the halo.

The speed of the outflow can be measured from radio observations and is of the order of 300 km/s.

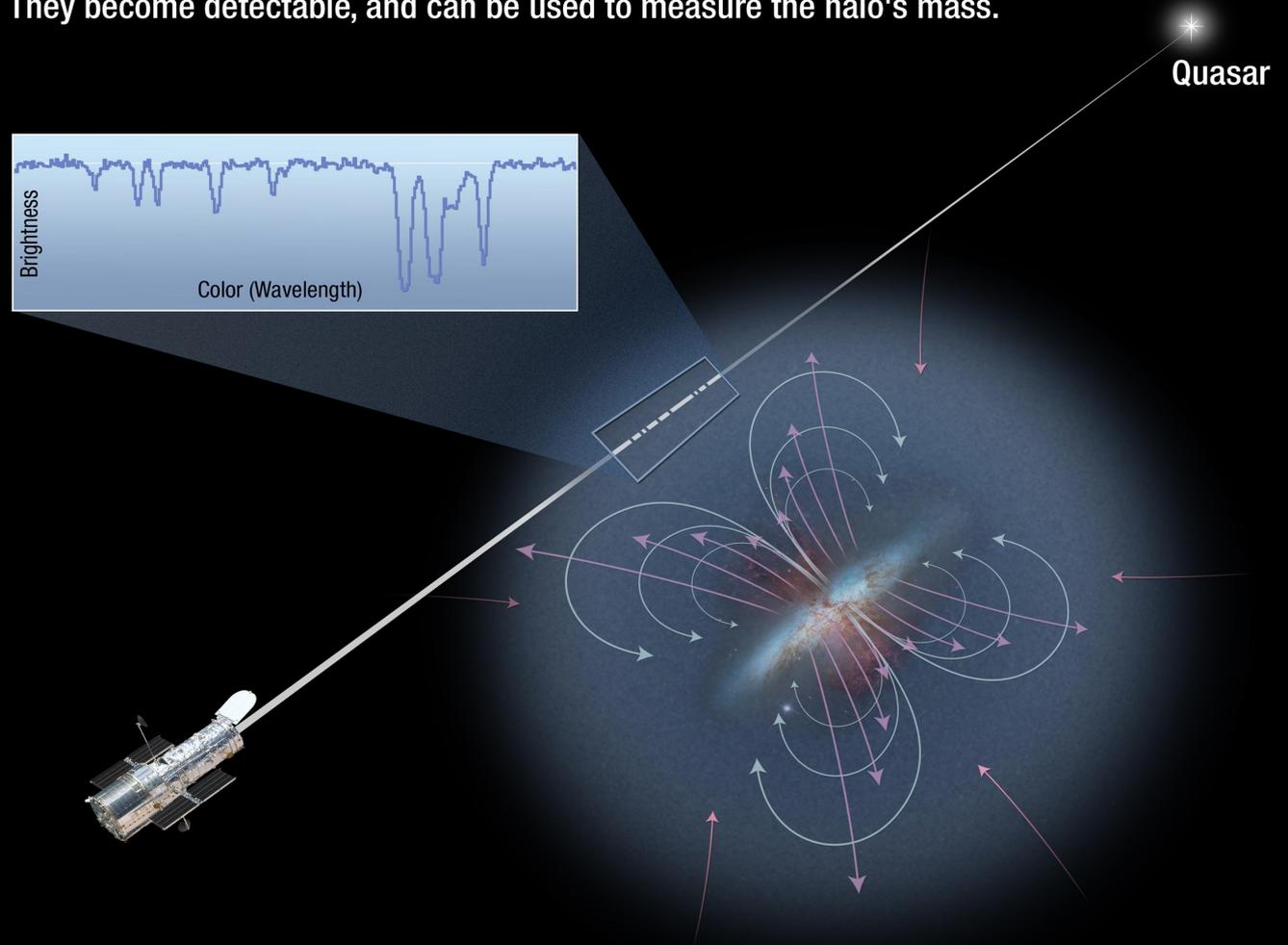
**Magnetic halo  
around galaxy  
NGC 4631**



# Evidence of galactic halos from absorption of optical lines

## Hubble probes the invisible halo of a galaxy

The light of a distant quasar shines through the invisible gaseous halo of a foreground galaxy. Elements in the halo absorb certain frequencies of light. They become detectable, and can be used to measure the halo's mass.



# Evidence of galactic halos from X-ray emission and absorption lines

Thermal X-ray emission has been observed from the region around starburst galaxies.

‣ In some “normal” galaxies the presence of a hot temperature gas ( $T \sim 10^6$  K) has been inferred from absorption lines in X-rays (especially lines OVI, OVII and OVIII)

‣ Also the Milky Way presents the same absorption lines [e.g. Kalberla & Dedes (2008), Miller & Bregman (2013)]

‣ From those lines the total mass of the halo can be estimated

$$M_{\text{halo}} \sim 10^{10} M_{\text{sol}}$$

(comparable with the total barionic mass in the disk!!)

‣ And also the metallicity:  $Z \sim 0.2-0.3$

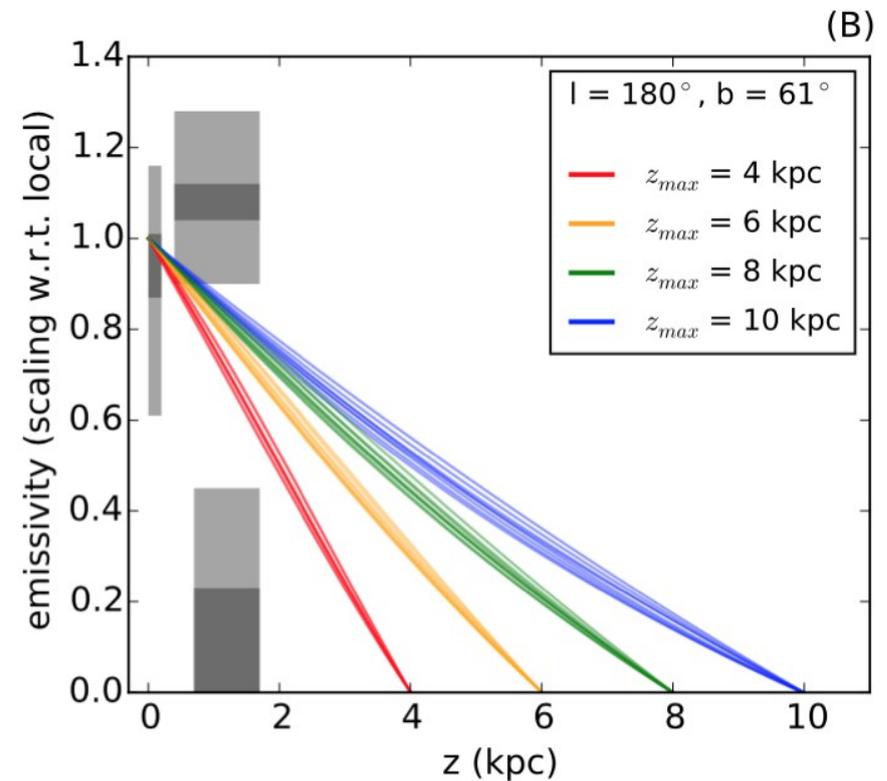
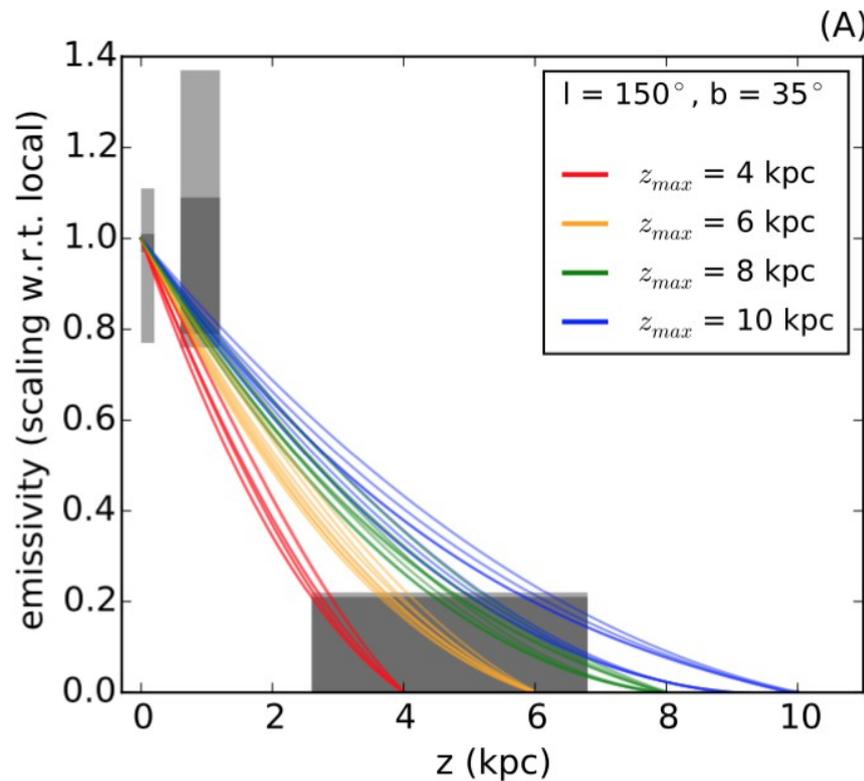
→ **The halo has been probably polluted by a Galactic wind**

## Galactic wind observed in X-rays from starburst galaxy M82



# The gamma-ray halo in the Milky Way

(Tibaldo et al., 2015, ApJ)



- ▶ Using high-velocity clouds to measure the emissivity per atom as a function of  $z$  (proportional to CR density)
- ▶ Indication of a halo with  $H > \sim$  few kpc

# The diffusive paradigm of Galactic CRs

- ▶ The ratio of Boron and Carbon fluxes provides us with the best estimates of the time spent by CRs in the Galaxy before escaping.

$$N_B = N_c R_{spal} \tau_{esc} \rightarrow N_B / N_c = X m_p / \sigma$$

- ▶ The grammage traversed by CRs is related to the escape time:

$$X(E) = \bar{n} \mu v \tau_{esc}(E)$$

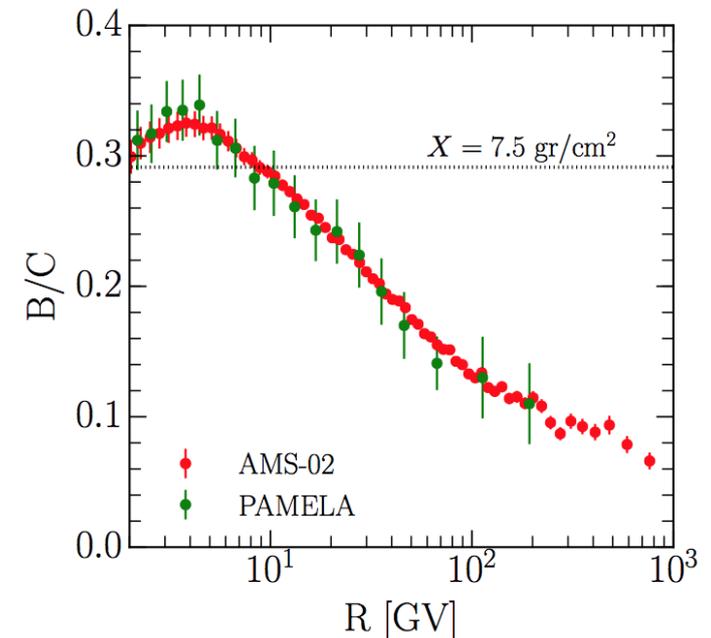
From measurements:  $X(E \simeq GeV) = 10 \text{ gr cm}^{-2}$

- ▶ If we assume that the gas is concentrated in a thin disc,  $h$ , and the diffusive halo extends to a height  $H$ , the mean density

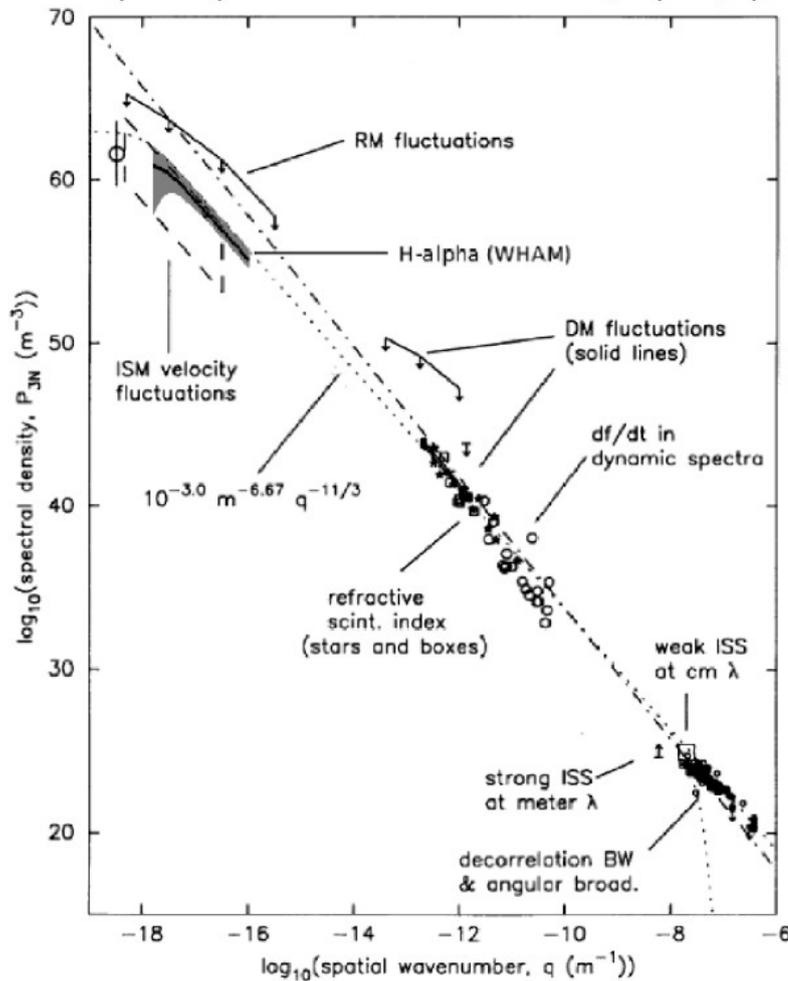
$$\bar{n} = n_{disc} h/H \sim 0.1 \left( \frac{h}{200 \text{ pc}} \right) \left( \frac{H}{2 \text{ kpc}} \right)^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

- ▶ the typical escape time at  $E \sim 1\text{-}10 \text{ GeV}$  is:

$$\tau_{esc} = 50 (H/2 \text{ kpc}) \text{ Myr}$$



# The interstellar turbulence



Electron density fluctuation in the ISM  
[Armstrong et al. 1995, ApJ 443, 209]

- ▶ Turbulence is stirred by SNe at a typical scale  $L \sim 10\text{-}100$  pc
- ▶ Fluctuation of velocity and magnetic field are Alfvénic
- ▶ They have a Kolmogorov spectrum  $k^{-5/3}$  (density is a passive tracer so it has the same spectrum:  $\delta n \propto \delta B^2$ ):

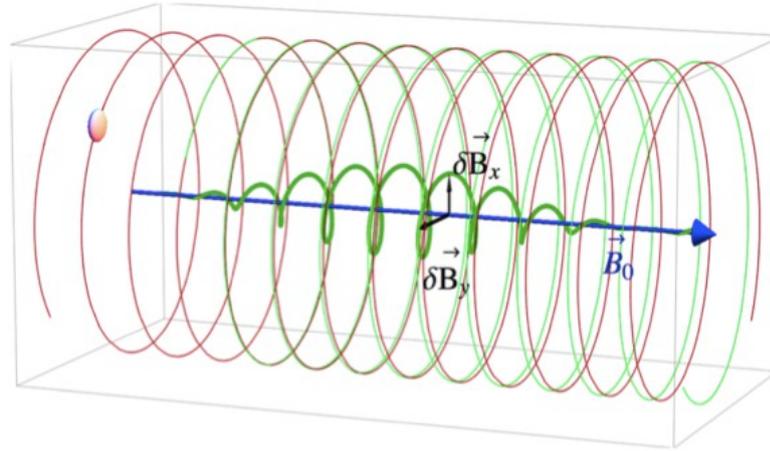
$$W(k) dk = \frac{\langle \delta B(k) \rangle^2}{B_0^2} = \frac{2}{3} \frac{\eta_B}{k_0} \left( \frac{k}{k_0} \right)^{-5/3}$$

- ▶ Where  $k_0 = L^{-1}$  and the level of turbulence is

$$\eta_B = \int_{k_0}^{\infty} W(k) dk \sim 0.01 - 0.1$$

# Charged particles in a turbulent field: quasi-linear theory

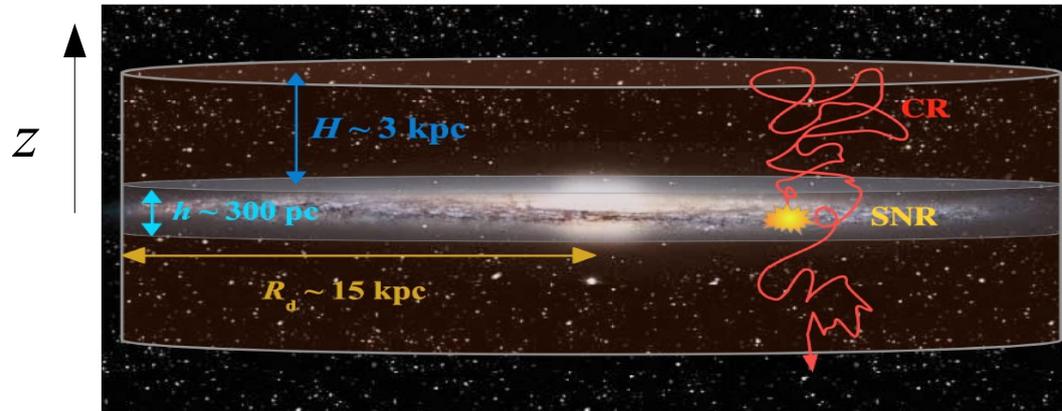
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- ▶ The turbulent field is a small perturbation with respect to the regular component
- ▶ Particles interact with waves resonantly:  $k_{\text{res}} = 1/r_L(p)$
- ▶ A diffusion behaviour follows with typical diffusion coefficient

$$D_{zz}(p) = \frac{v r_L}{3} \frac{1}{k_{\text{res}} W(k_{\text{res}})} \sim 3 \times 10^{28} \left( \frac{p}{\text{GeV}/c} \right)^{1/3} \text{cm}^2 \text{s}^{-1}$$

# The cosmic ray transport equation in the halo



$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ D_{zz} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right] + u \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} - \frac{du}{dz} \frac{p}{3} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} = Q_{SN} - \frac{1}{p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} [p^2 \dot{p} f] + Q_{frag/decay}$$

- ▶ 1-D spatial diffusion along  $z$
- ▶ Advection by Galactic wind/outflow:  $u = u_W + v_A \sim v_A$
- ▶ Adiabatic expansion/compression
- ▶ Source term proportional to SNR profile
- ▶ Energy losses: ionization, IC, bremsstrahlung, synchrotron...
- ▶ Production/destruction of nuclei due to inelastic scattering of decay

# Basic prediction of the halo model

- ▶ For primary CR species (e.g. H, C, O,...) at energies where we can ignore energy losses and advection, the transport equation simplifies as

$$-\frac{\partial}{\partial z} \left[ D_{zz} \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right] = Q_{SN}(p) \delta(z)$$

Injection rate per unit surface

Injection only occurs in the Galactic plane

- ▶ Using the boundary condition  $f(z = \pm H) = 0$ , for  $z \neq 0$  one has:

$$f(z, p) = f_0(p) \left( 1 - \frac{z}{H} \right)$$

- ▶ While the solution in the Galactic plane is

$$f_0(E) = f_{SNR}(E) R_{SN} \frac{1}{\pi R_d^2 2H} \frac{H^2}{D}$$

**Spectrum injected by sources** →  $f_0(E)$

**SN rate** →  $R_{SN}$

**Halo's volume** →  $\frac{1}{\pi R_d^2 2H} \frac{H^2}{D}$

**Escaping time**  $\tau_{esc} \simeq \frac{H^2}{D}$

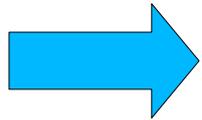
# Secondary/primary ratio

The energy dependence of the **spectrum of primary CR** in the Galaxy is:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} Q_{SN} &= R_{SN} f_{SNR} \propto p^{-\gamma} \\ D &= D_0 p^\delta \end{aligned} \right\} f_{pri}(p) = \frac{f_{SNR}(p) R_{SN}}{\pi R_d^2 2H} \frac{H^2}{D(p)} \propto p^{-\gamma-\delta}$$

The **spectrum of secondary particles** produced by spallation in the Galaxy is:

$$f_{sec}(p) \simeq f_{pri}(p) R_{spal} \tau_{esc} \propto p^{-\gamma_{inj}-2\delta}$$



$$\frac{f_{sec}(p)}{f_{pri}(p)} \propto p^{-\delta} \propto E^{-\delta}$$

**Only a function of the escaping time: secondary/ primary gives us the energy dependence of diffusion**

Note:  $H$  and  $D_0$  cannot be measured independently

# Secondary/primary ratio

The ratio  $N_{\text{sec}}(E) / N(E)$  provides a direct probe on the energy dependence of the Galactic diffusion coefficient and hence allow us to infer the spectrum injected by the sources

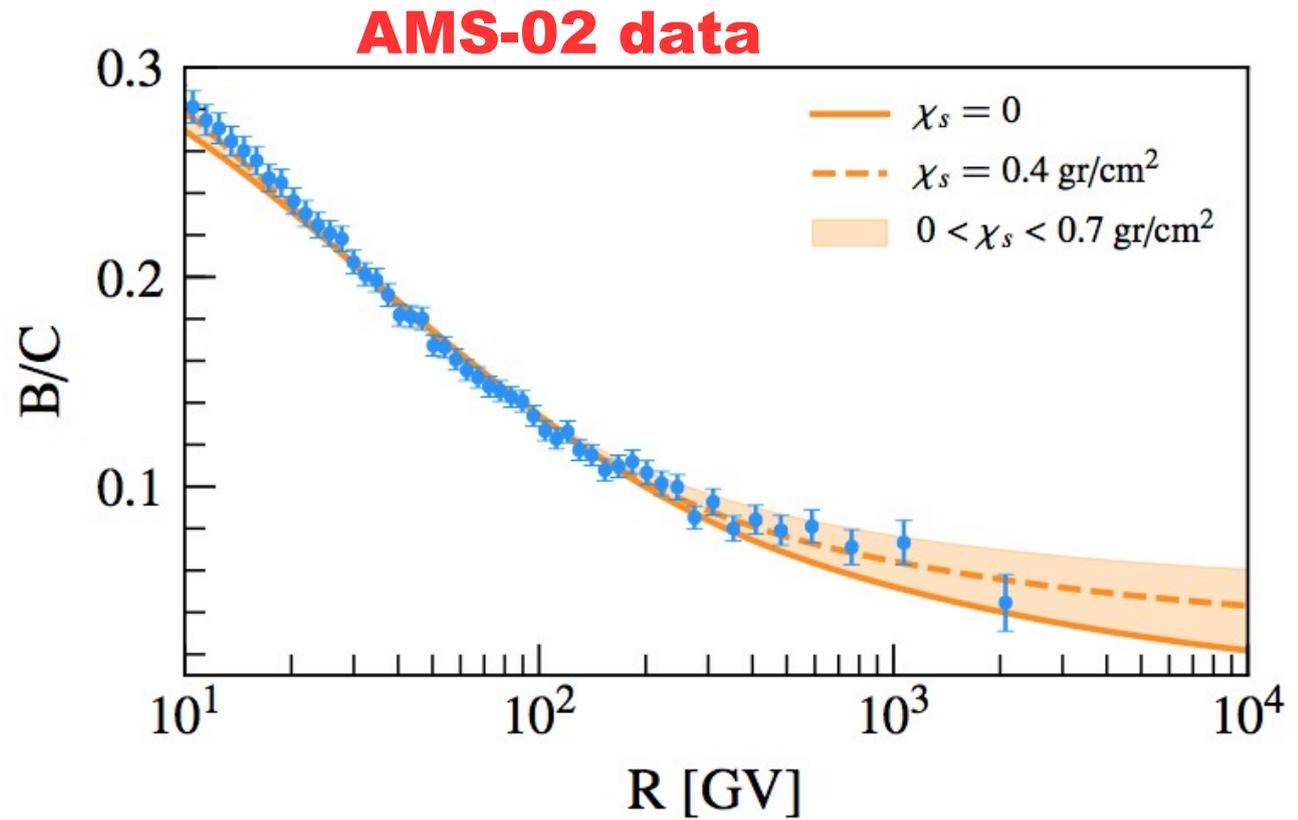
Boron over Carbon ratio taken from several experiments. Data are compatible with anything in the interval

$$0.3 < \delta < 0.5$$

we know that  $\delta + \gamma_{\text{inj}} = 2.7$

$$\rightarrow 2.2 < \gamma_{\text{inj}} < 2.4$$

$$\rightarrow \tau_{\text{esc}}(E > 1 \text{ GeV}) \sim 5 \times 10^6 \text{ yr}$$





# Beyond the simple disk/halo model

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The picture provided by the disk/halo model is physically unsatisfactory:

- What is the physical meaning of  $H$  ?
- Where the diffusion coefficient originates?

Notice that this model is widely used in the literature (e.g. GALPROP)

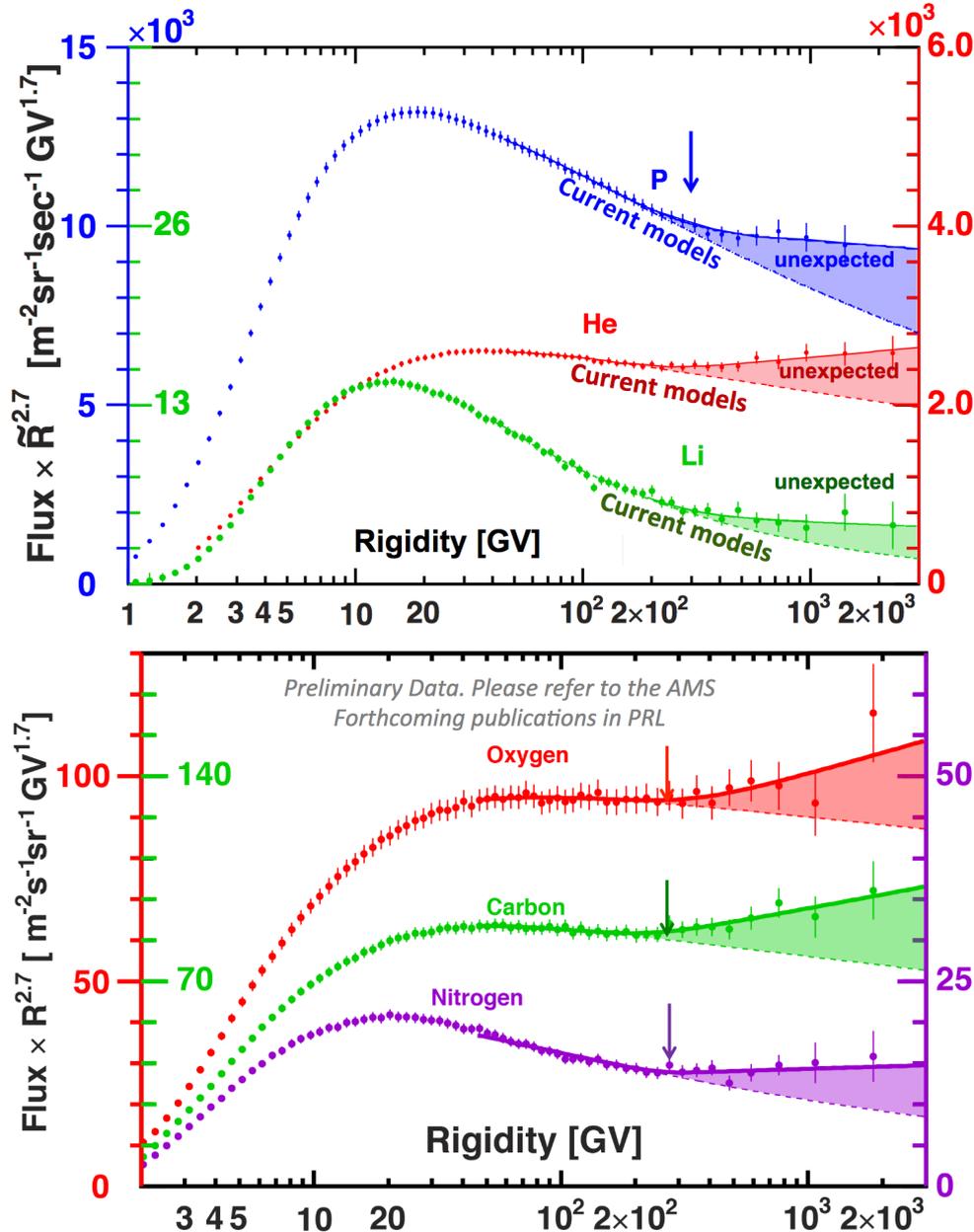
A more realistic model should account for important physical ingredients:

- **Generation of turbulence by SN explosions**  
→ dependence of  $D(E)$  on galactocentric radius
- **Cascade of the turbulence**  
→ dependence of  $D(E)$  on galactocentric radius and altitude
- **Galactic wind generated by CRs**  
→ advection of particles

**BUT THERE IS ALSO AN OBSERVATIONAL REASON:**

# Anomaly 1: spectral hardening

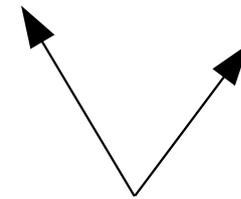
Aguilar+ AMS-02 collaboration., PRL (2015, 2016, 2019)



Recent measurements by PAMELA and AMS-02 revealed the existence of a fine structure:

At rigidity of ~300 GV all spectra show a spectral hardening

$$f_0(p) = \frac{Q_{SN}(p)}{2\pi R_{disc}^2} \frac{H}{D(p)}$$

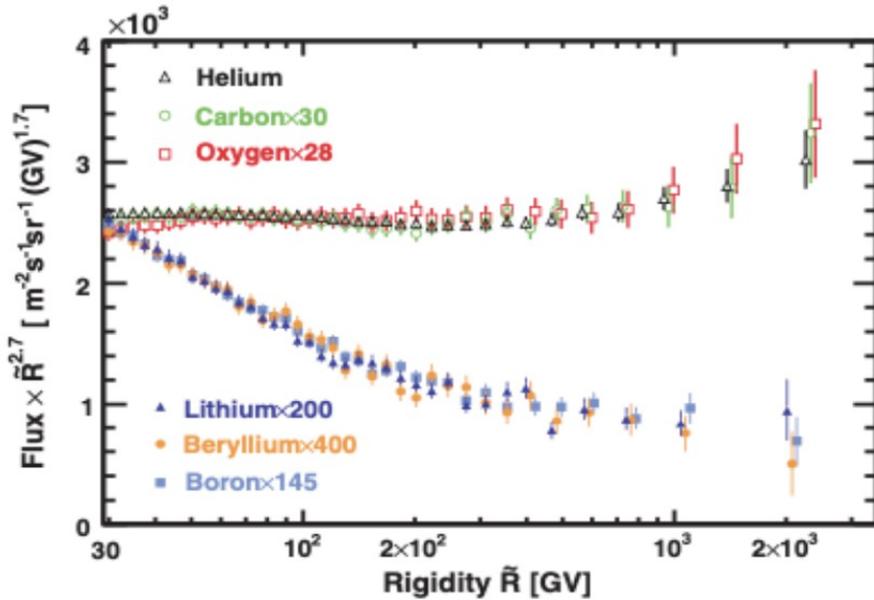


Either the injected spectrum or the diffusion present a break at ~300 GV

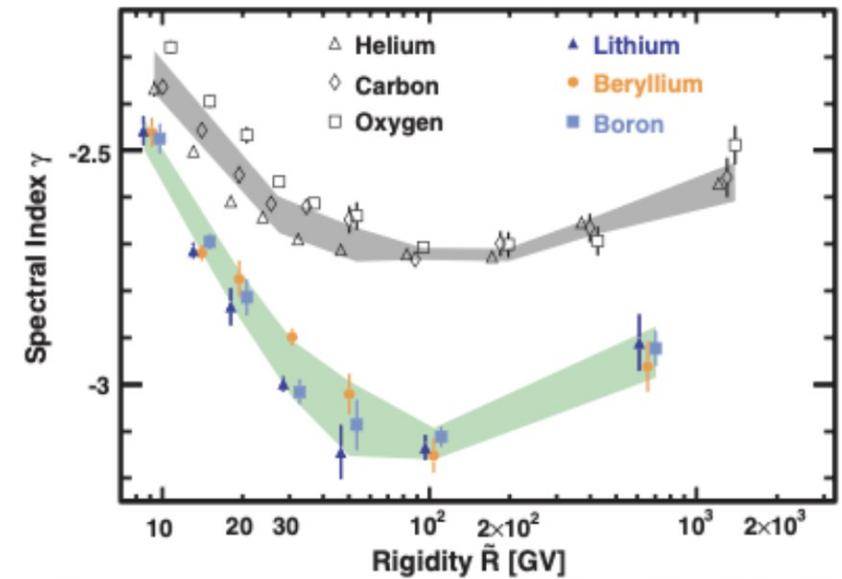
# Spectral hardening for secondary CRs

Aguilar+ AMS-02 collaboration., PRL 120 021101 (2018)

## Spectrum of primaries vs. secondaries



## Spectral index

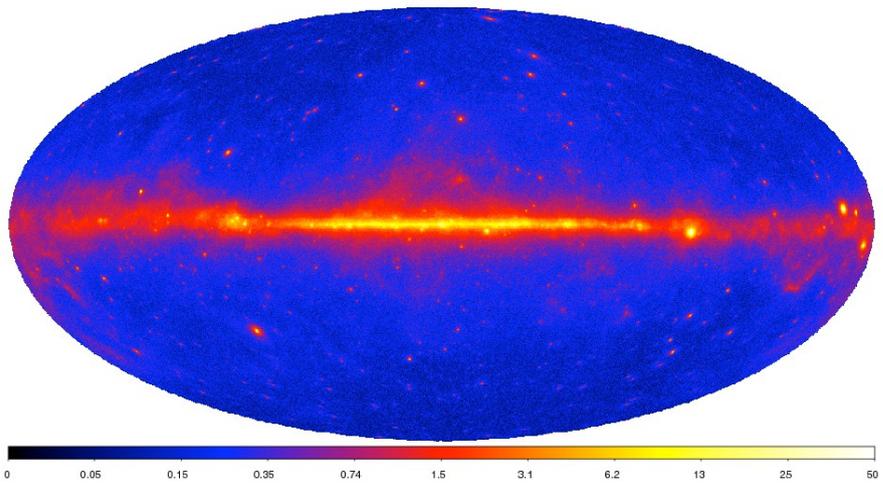


$$f_{SEC}(E) \propto f(E)_{pri} \tau_{esc} \propto E^{(-\gamma-2\delta)}$$

- ▶ Spectral hardening for secondary species is larger than primaries
- ▶ This supports the origin of break due to propagation rather than primary acceleration inside sources

# Diffusive Galactic emission

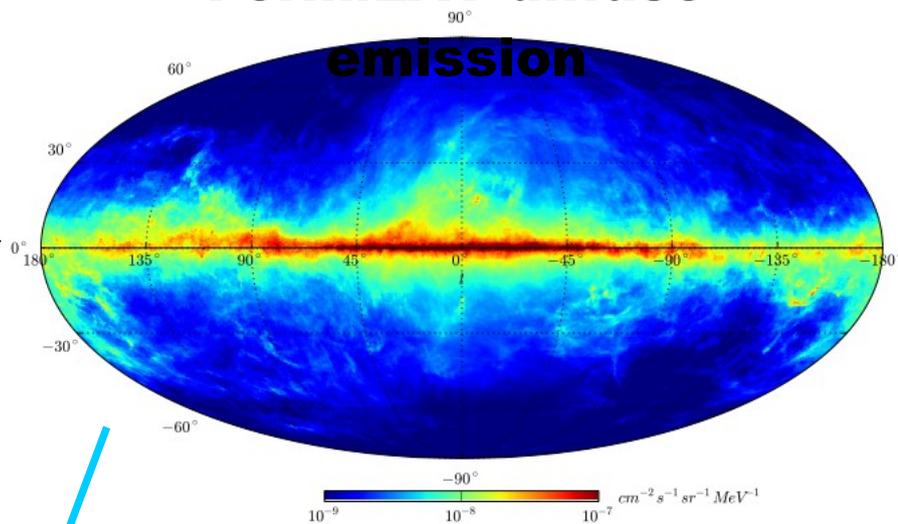
## FermiLAT all sky map



Subtracting  
known sources

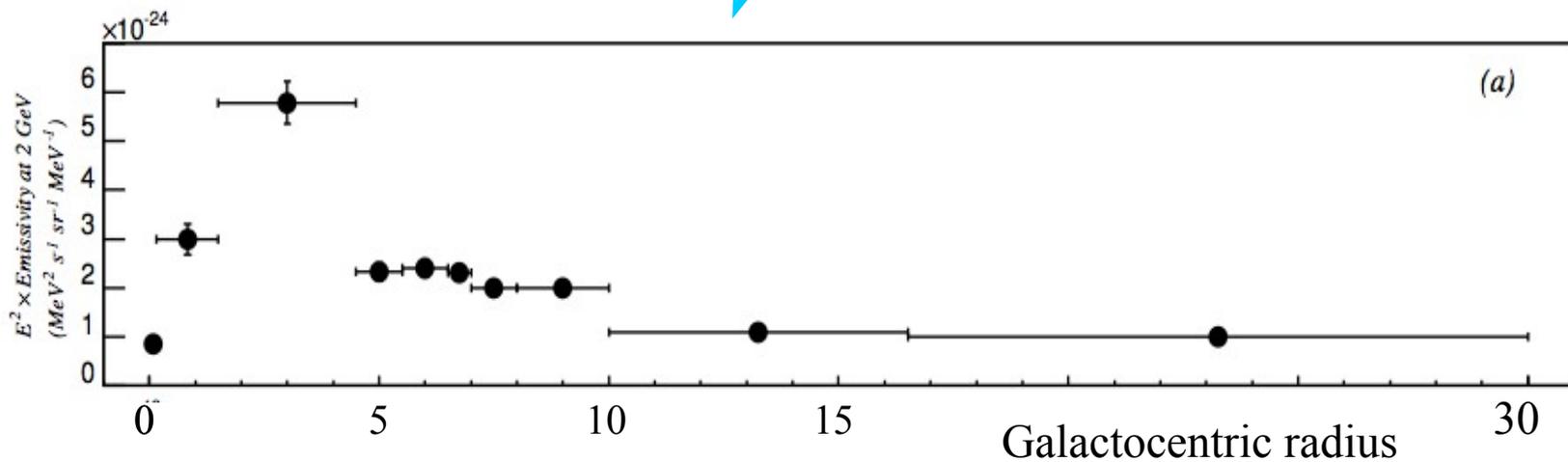


## FermiLAT diffuse emission

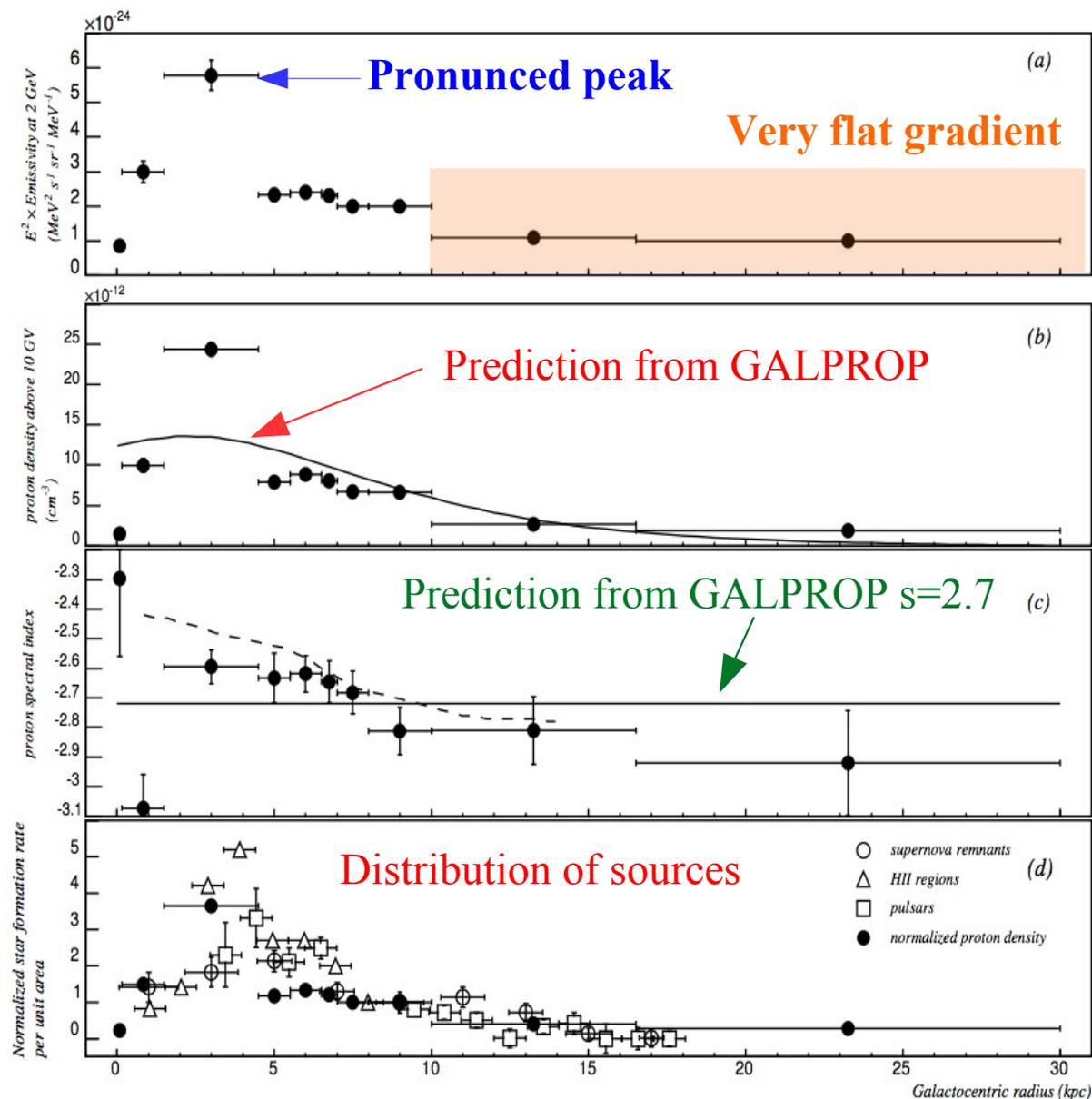


From Acero et al. (2016)  
*ApJS*, 223, 26

$E^2 \times$  emissivity  
at 2 GeV



# Anomaly 2: the cosmic ray distribution in the Galactic plane



Recent results from FermiLAT collaboration on the CR distribution in the Galactic plane

[Acero et al. arXiv:1602.07246]

- In the outer region ( $R > 8$  kpc) the CR density at  $\sim 20$  GeV is flat (i.e. decreases much slower than the source distribution)

- In the inner region the CR density has a peak at  $\sim 3$  kpc

- The slope @ 20 GeV is not constant

**This scenario is difficult to accommodate in a standard leaky-box model**

# Equation for the turbulence evolution

(Jones 1993, ApJ 413, 619)

$$\frac{\partial W}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial k} \left[ D_{kk} \frac{\partial W}{\partial k} \right] + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} (v_A W) + \Gamma_{CR} W + Q_k$$

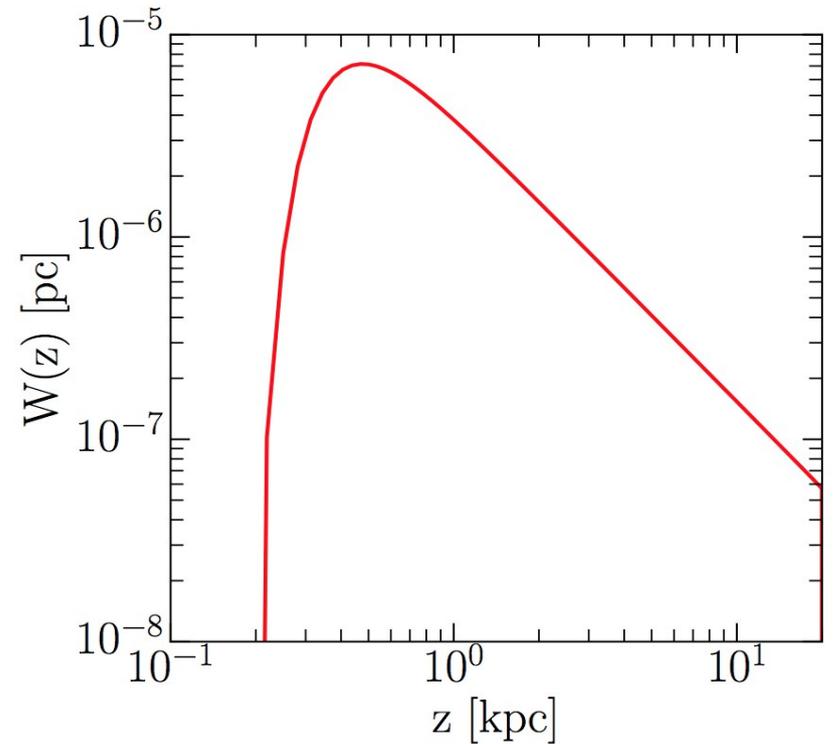
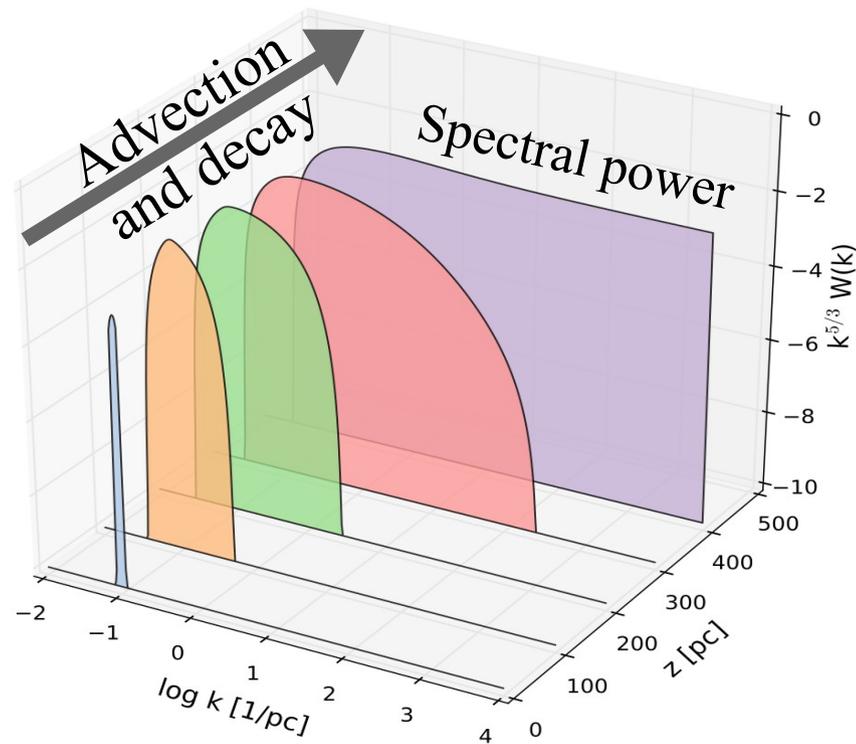
- ▶ Diffusion in  $k$ -space (non-linear):  $D_{kk} = c_k |v_A| k^{7/2} W^{1/2}$
- ▶ Advection of waves at the Alfvén speed
- ▶ Waves growth due to CR streaming:  $\Gamma_{CR} \propto \partial f / \partial z$

$$\Gamma_{CR} = \frac{16\pi}{3} \frac{v_A}{k W(k) B_0^2} \left[ v p^4 \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} \right]$$

- ▶ External (e.g. SNe) source term in the disc:  $Q \sim \delta(z) \delta(k - k_0)$
- ▶ In the absence of CR it returns the Kolmogorov spectrum:  $W(k) \sim k^{-5/3}$

# Developing the turbulent halo

Large scale turbulence generated inside the Galactic disc by SN explosion advected and decaying through Kolmogorov cascade.

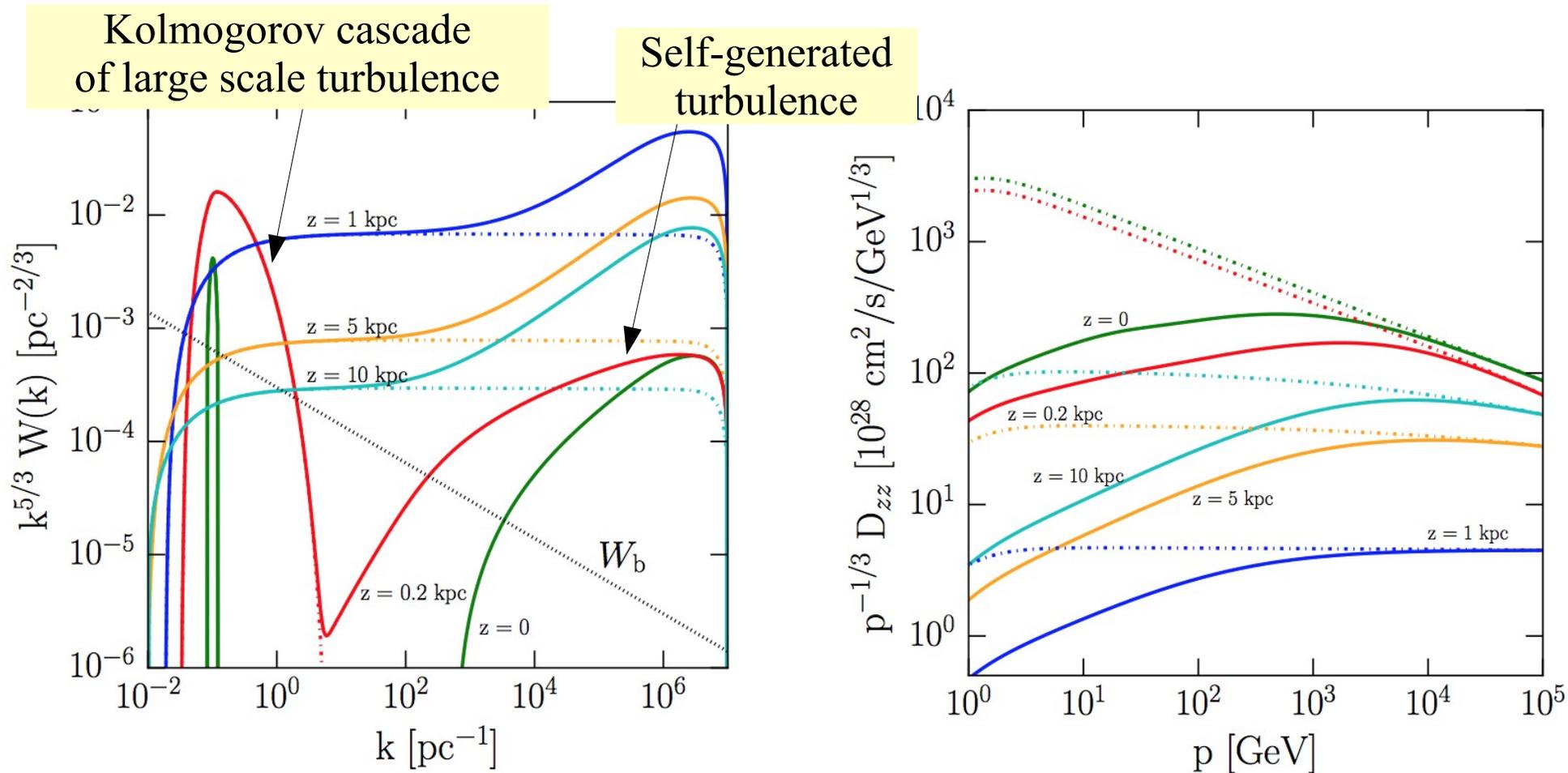


$$\tau_{\text{cascade}} = \tau_{\text{adv}} \rightarrow \frac{k_0^2}{D_{kk}} = \frac{z_c}{v_A} \rightarrow z_c \sim \text{kpc}$$

- ▶  $z_c$  sets the scale where the turbulent cascade develops
- ▶ The boundary  $H$  does not have any physical meaning

# Non-linear cosmic ray transport: a global picture

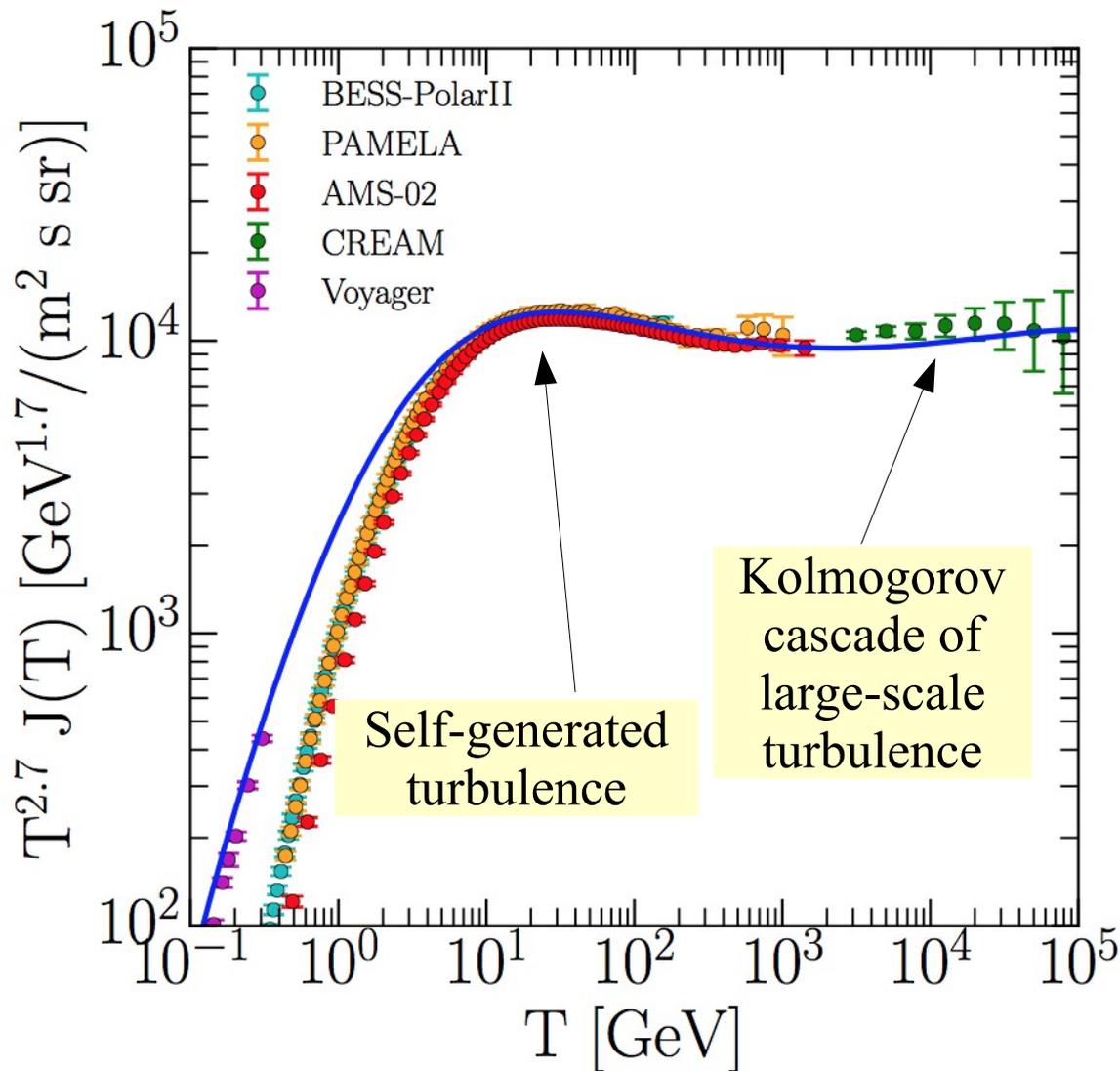
(Evoli, Blasi, GM, Aloisio, 2018, PRL)



Turbulence spectrum without (dotted) and with (solid) CR self-generated waves at different distance from the galactic plane.

# Non-linear cosmic ray transport: a global picture

(Evoli, Blasi, GM, Aloisio, 2018, PRL)



- ▶ Pre-existing waves (Kolmogorov) dominates above the break
- ▶ Self-generated turbulence dominates below  $\sim 100$  GeV
- ▶ Voyager data are reproduced with no additional breaks, but due to advection with self-generated waves
- ▶ The boundary ( $H = 100$  kpc) has no impact on the result
- ▶ Low energy spectrum is well accounted by advection without introducing *ad hoc* breaks in the primary spectra.

# Summary

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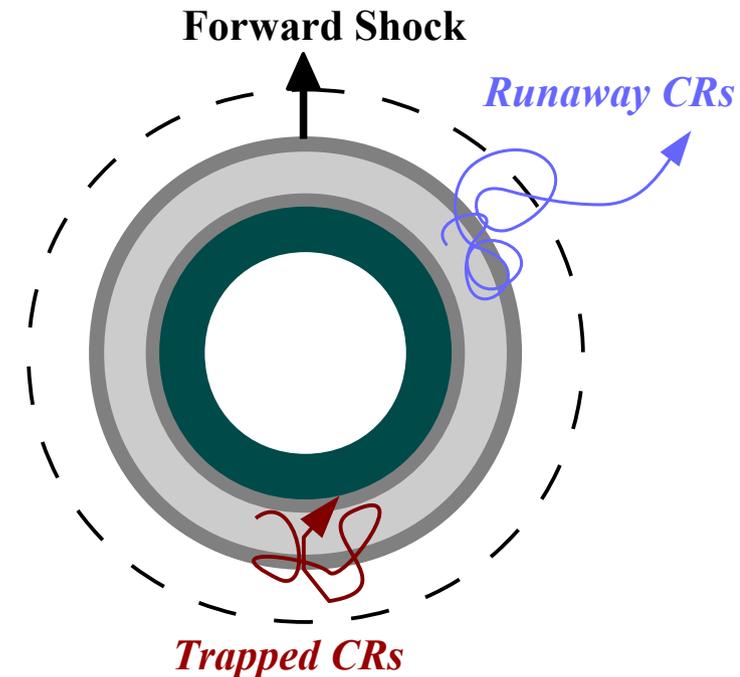
- ▶ The disk/halo diffusion model describes pretty well the CR propagation and experimental results
- ▶ However, this same model in its basic version fails in some respects:
  - ◆ Observationally:
    - ◆ Does not explain the slope hardening at  $\sim 300$  GeV/nucleon
    - ◆ Does not explain the gradient observed along the galactic plane
  - Theoretically:
    - It relies on a too simple model for diffusion
    - There is no reason for a sudden end of the magnetic halo
- ▶ Those problems can be solved or at least mitigated accounting for the generated turbulence and its time/spatial evolution

## ESCAPING FROM THE SOURCES

# SPECTRUM OF RELEASED PARTICLES

## WHAT IS THE FATE OF ACCELERATED PARTICLES?

- Particles trapped downstream will be released when the shock disappear and merges into the ISM
- Because of adiabatic losses particles lose energy → reaching the knee would be even more difficult
- We need particles release during the acceleration process
- Escaping particles are also required to amplify the magnetic field in the *non-resonant Bell instability*
- The process of escaping is tightly connected with the problem of maximum energy and it is not completely understood.



# SPECTRUM OF RELEASED PARTICLES

Let assume that a fraction  $\xi_{esc}(t)$  of the incoming kinetic energy is converted into escaping flux:

$$4\pi p^2 dp f_{esc}(p) pc = \xi_{esc}(t) \frac{1}{2} \rho u_{sh}^3 4\pi R_{sh}^2 dt$$

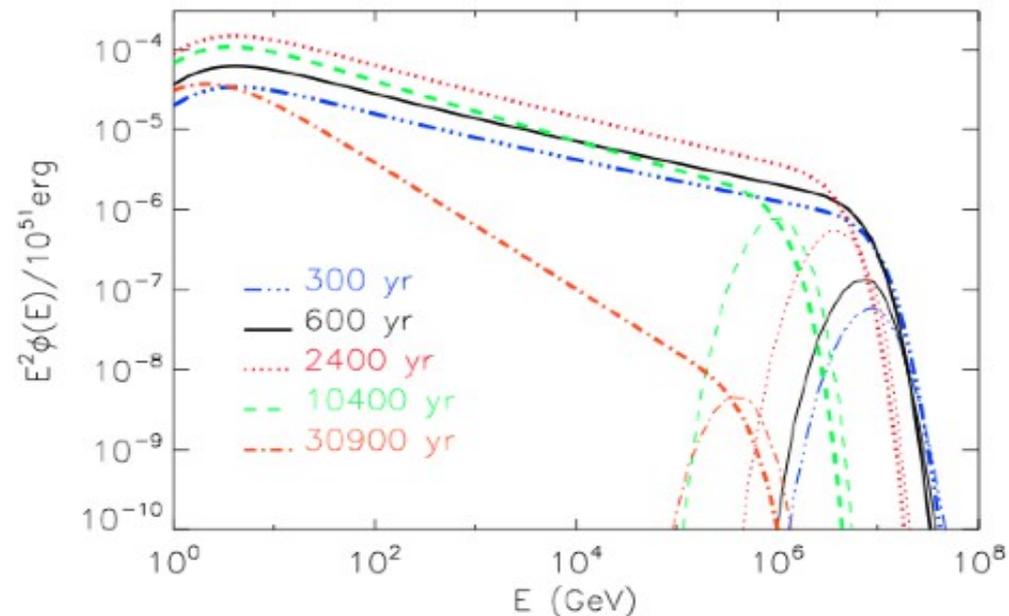
Evolution during the Sedov-Taylor phase:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_{sh} \propto t^{2/5} \\ u_{sh} = \frac{dR_{sh}}{dt} \propto t^{-3/5} \end{array} \right. \rightarrow u_{sh}^3 R_{sh}^2 = const$$

$$p \propto t^{-\alpha} \rightarrow \frac{dt}{dp} \propto p^{-1-1/\alpha}$$

$$f_{esc}(p) \propto \xi_{esc}(t) p^{-4-1/\alpha}$$

Prediction of non linear theory from  
Caprioli et al. (2010)

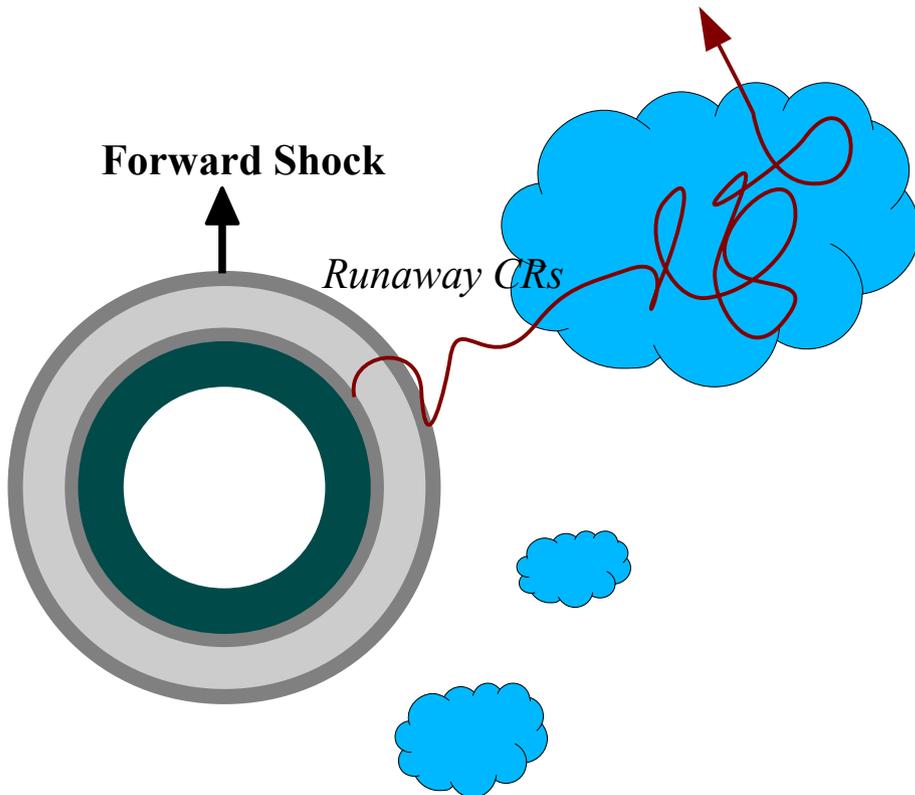
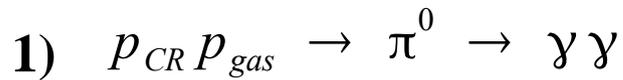


**IS THERE A WAY TO TEST  
THE ESCAPING PROCESS?**

# SNR-MOLECULAR CLOUDS ASSOCIATIONS

# MCs as CR barometers

## Interactions inside the clouds:



## OBSERVATIONS of MCs in $\gamma$ -RAYs:

- CRs interact inside MCs
$$pp \rightarrow \pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$
- strong emission in GeV range
- $\gamma$ -emission sensible to CR energy  $E > 280$  MeV
- MCs can be used to test different CR spectra:
  - 1) average Galactic spectrum (isolated clouds)
  - 2) injected spectrum (MC close to SNR)

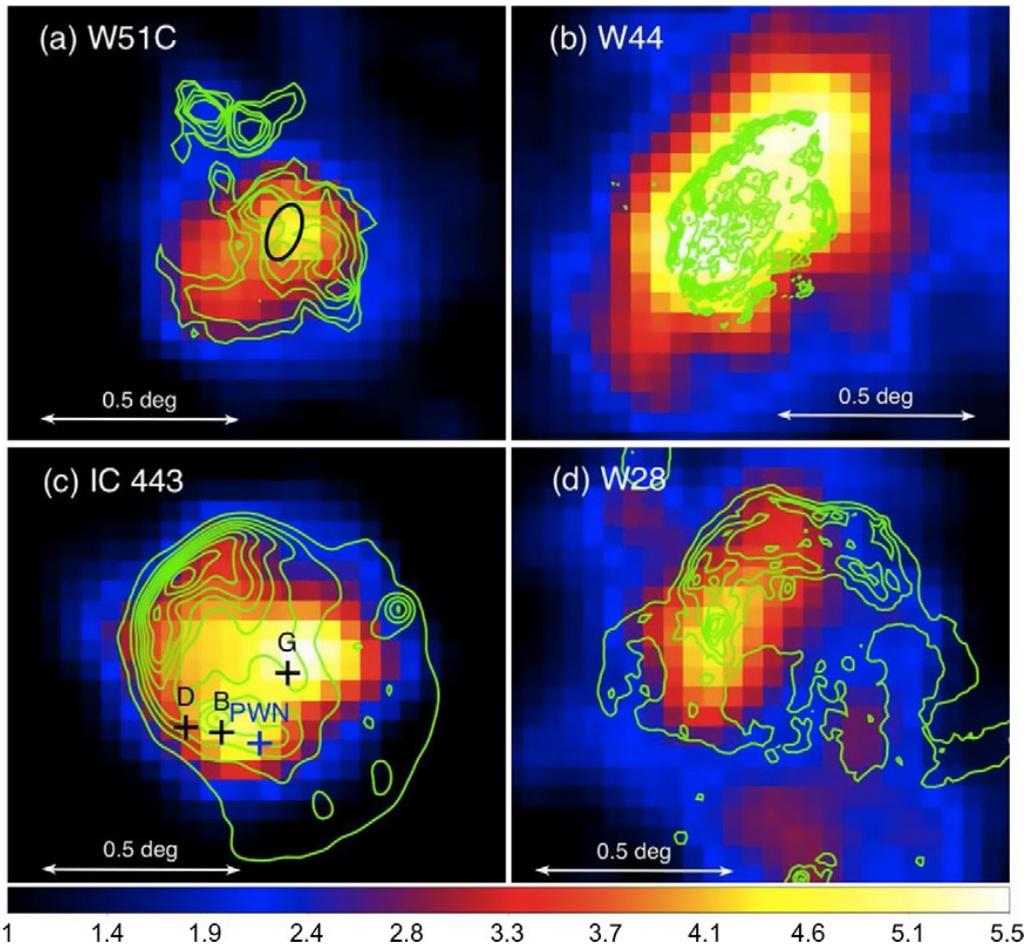
## DETECTION OF IONIZATION

- The ionization rate of several molecules depends on the CR flux ( $H_2$ ,  $H_3^+$ , CH, OH,  $C_2$ ,  $DCO^+$ ,  $HCO^+$ ,.....)
- **Ionization sensible to CR energy  $E > 0.1$  MeV**

Is it possible to use combined information from ionization and  $\gamma$ -ray emission to infer the CR spectrum from  $\sim$ MeV up to  $\sim$ TeV and beyond?

# MCs as CR barometers

Examples of  $\gamma$ -ray emission from clouds close or interacting with SNRs - [*Fermi*-LAT]



## OBSERVATIONS of MCs in $\gamma$ -RAYs:

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## DETECTION OF IONIZATION

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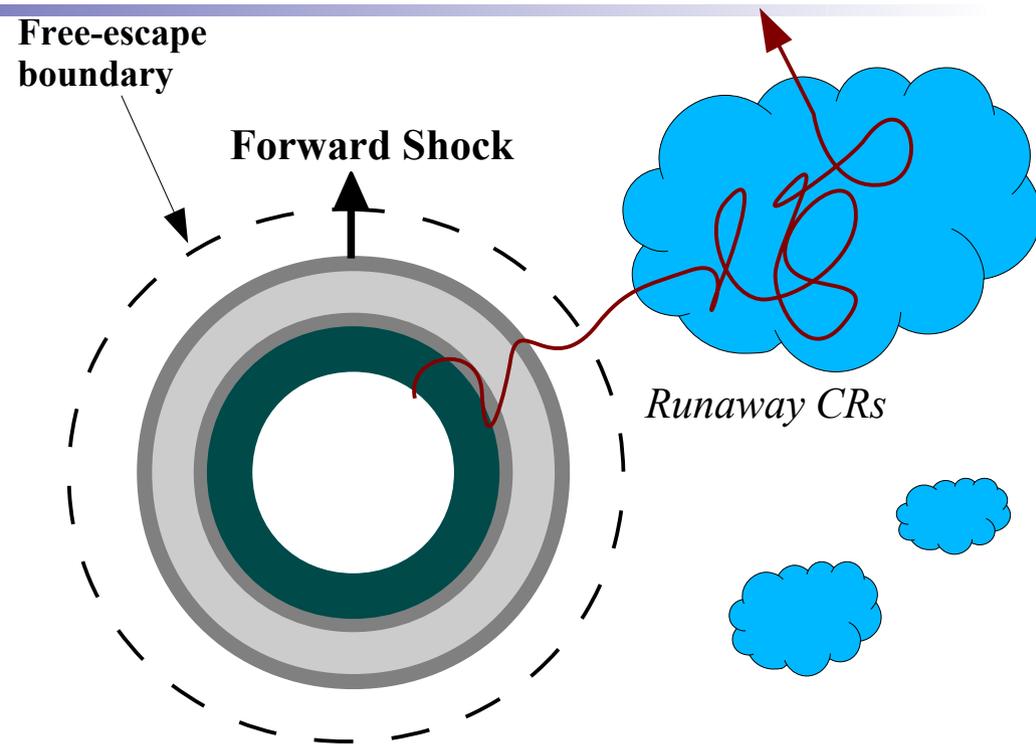
# Gamma-rays from Molecular clouds

For a typical SNR at 1 kpc distance and a MC mass of  $10^4 M_{\odot}$

→ detectable level of TeV emission if

$$n_{\text{source,CR}} > n_{\text{gal,CR}}$$

→ this happen when the cloud is located at  $d < \sim 100$  pc from the SNR (for 3D diffusion model)



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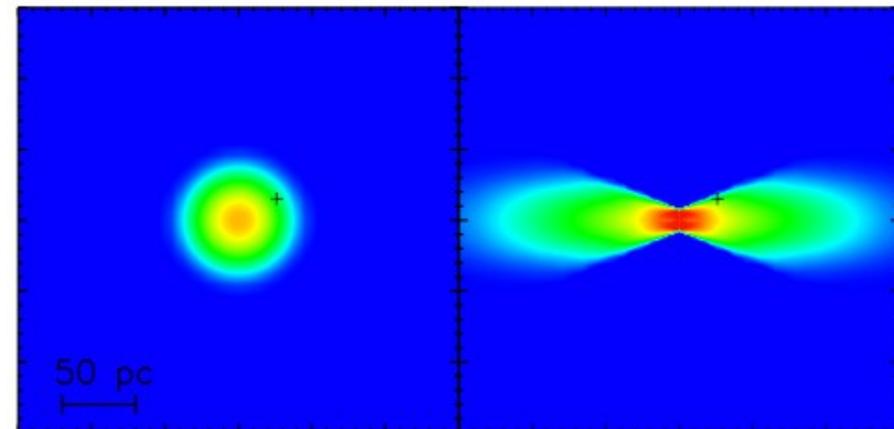
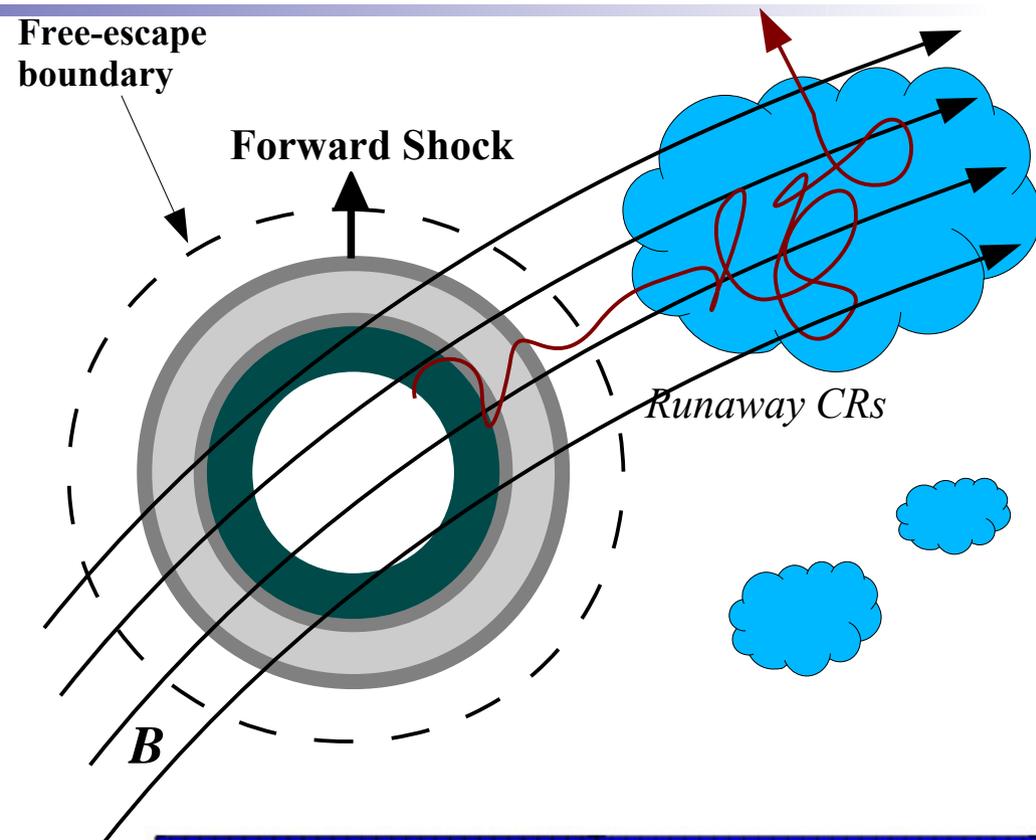
$$n_{\text{source,CR}} > n_{\text{gal,CR}}$$

→ this happens when the cloud is located at  $d < \sim 100$  pc from the SNR (for 3D diffusion model)

The distance can be enhanced to  $d < \sim 500$  pc if we consider the 1-D propagation along magnetic field line

→ the source can be observable for  $\sim 10^4$  yr

**CTA will probably discover tens of SNR-MC associations**

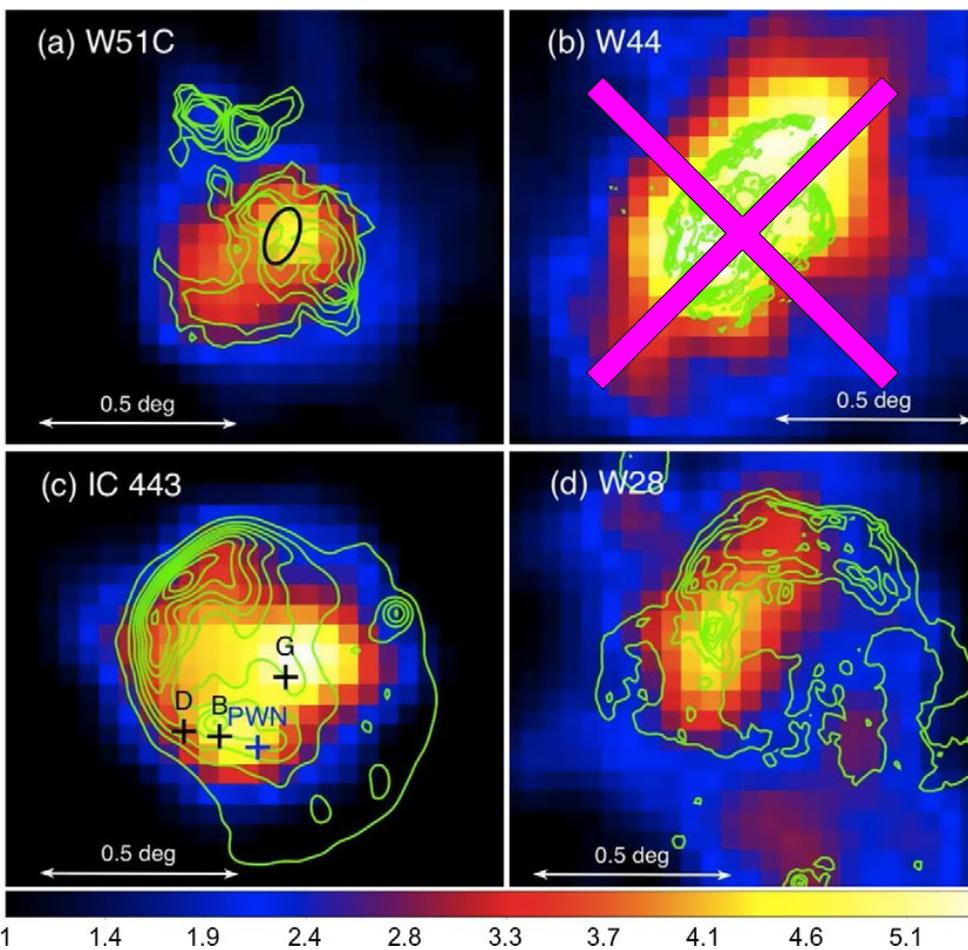


Simulation from Nava & Gabici (2012)

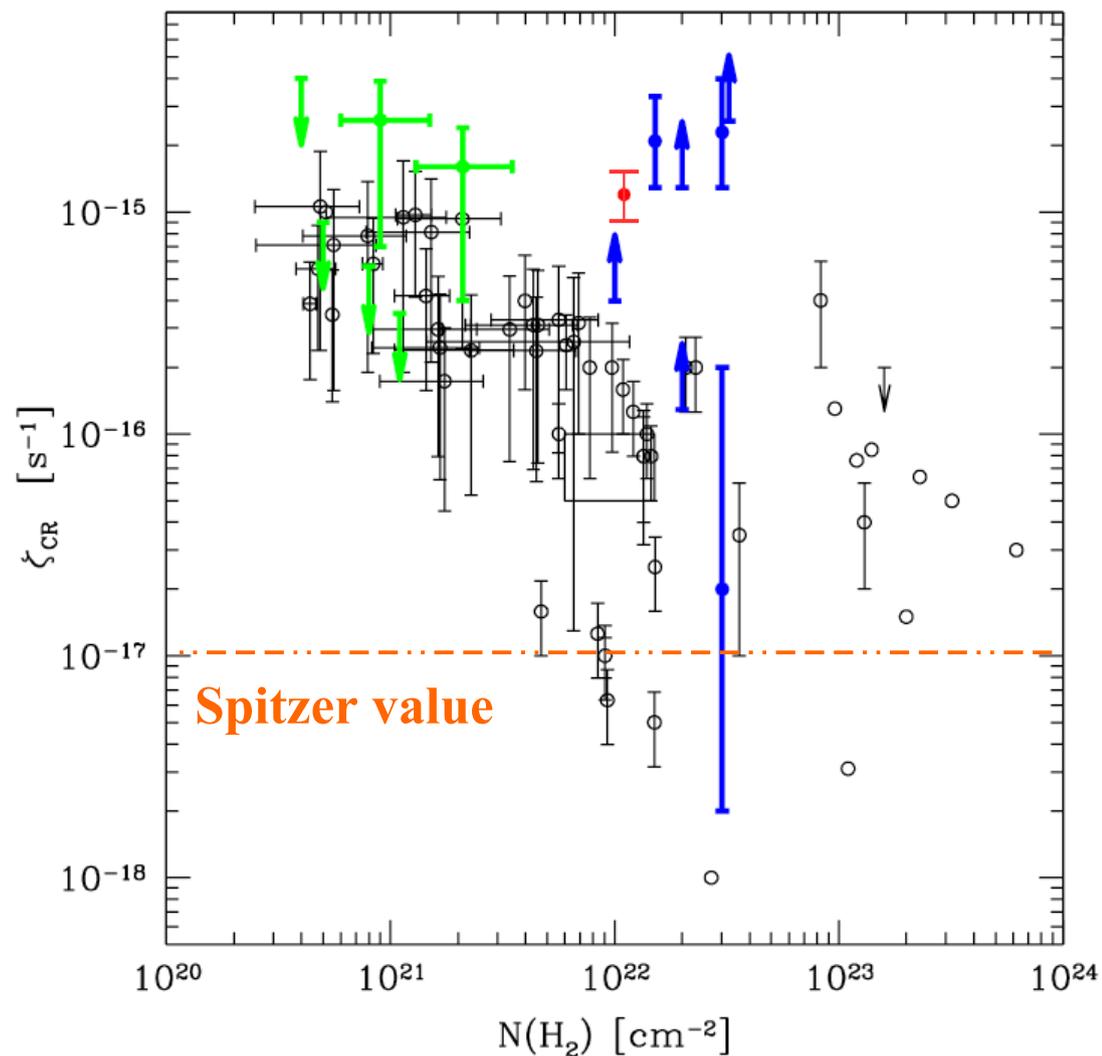
# Enhanced ionization rate in MC-SNR systems

Examples of  $\gamma$ -ray emission from clouds close or interacting with SNRs - [*Fermi*-LAT]

[See Gabici & Montmerle (2015) ICRC proceeding]



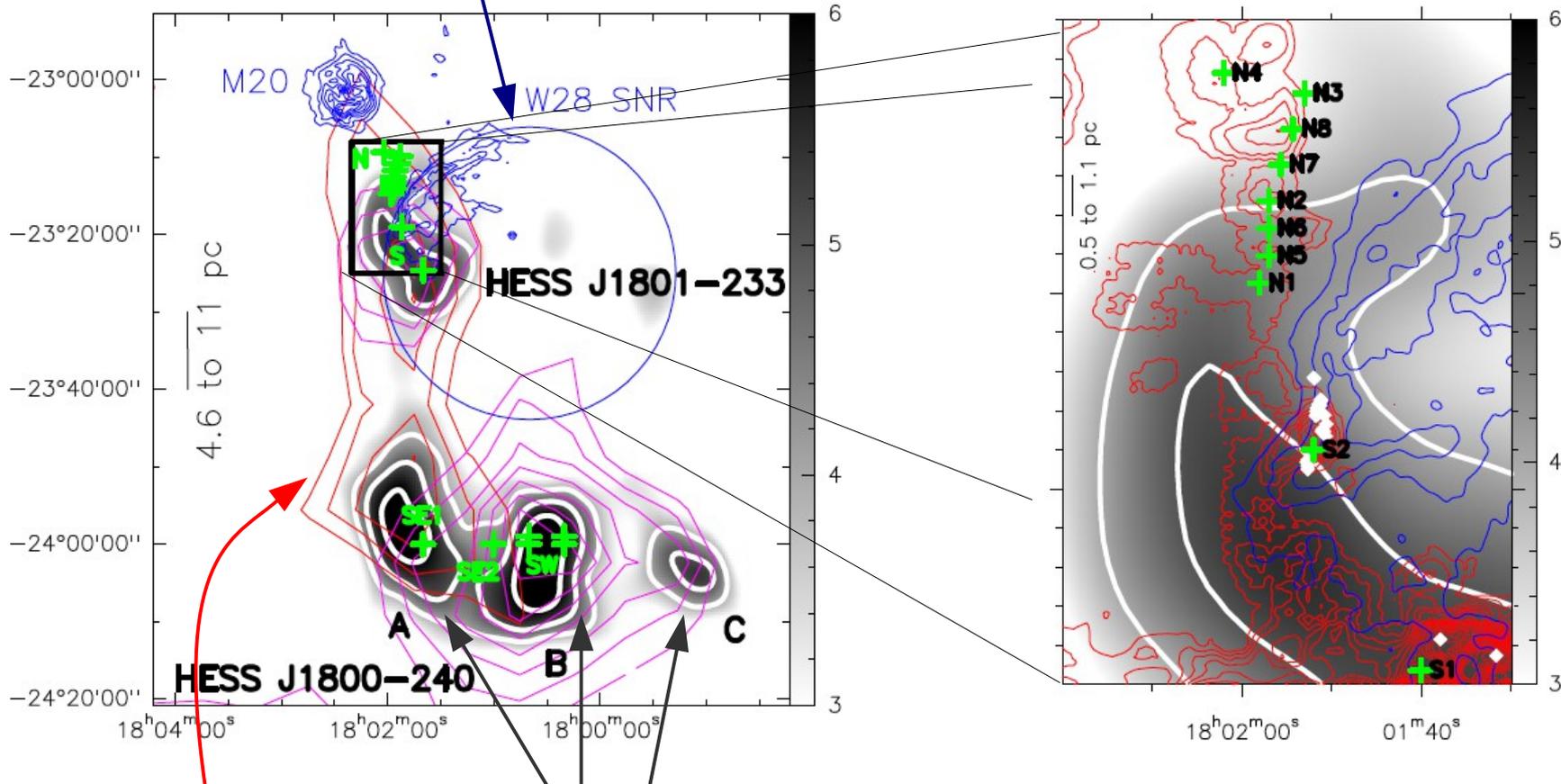
IC 443 W 51C W28



# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds interacting with SNR W28

[Vaupr<sup>3</sup>, Hily-Blant, Ceccarelli, Dubus, Gabici &. Montmerle 2014, A&A]

## Location of radio shell of SNR W28



CO emission

TeV emission  
(HESS)

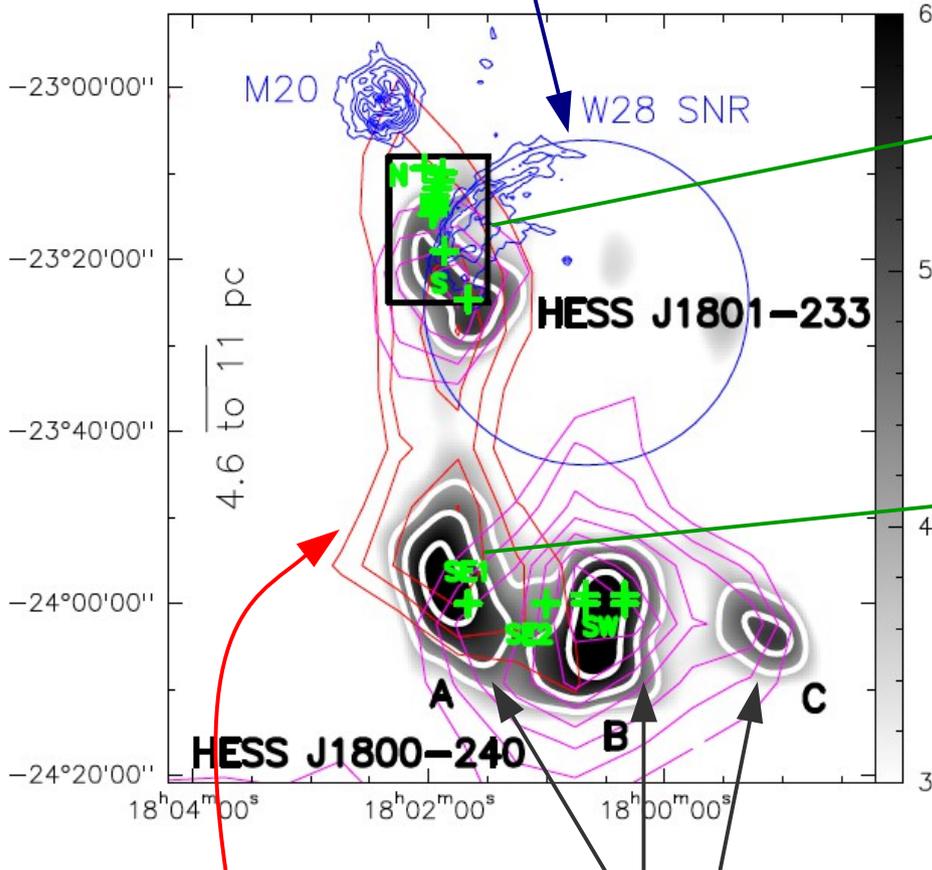
+  $\text{HCO}^+$ ,  $\text{DCO}^+$ , etc.

◆ HO maser

# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds interacting with SNR W28

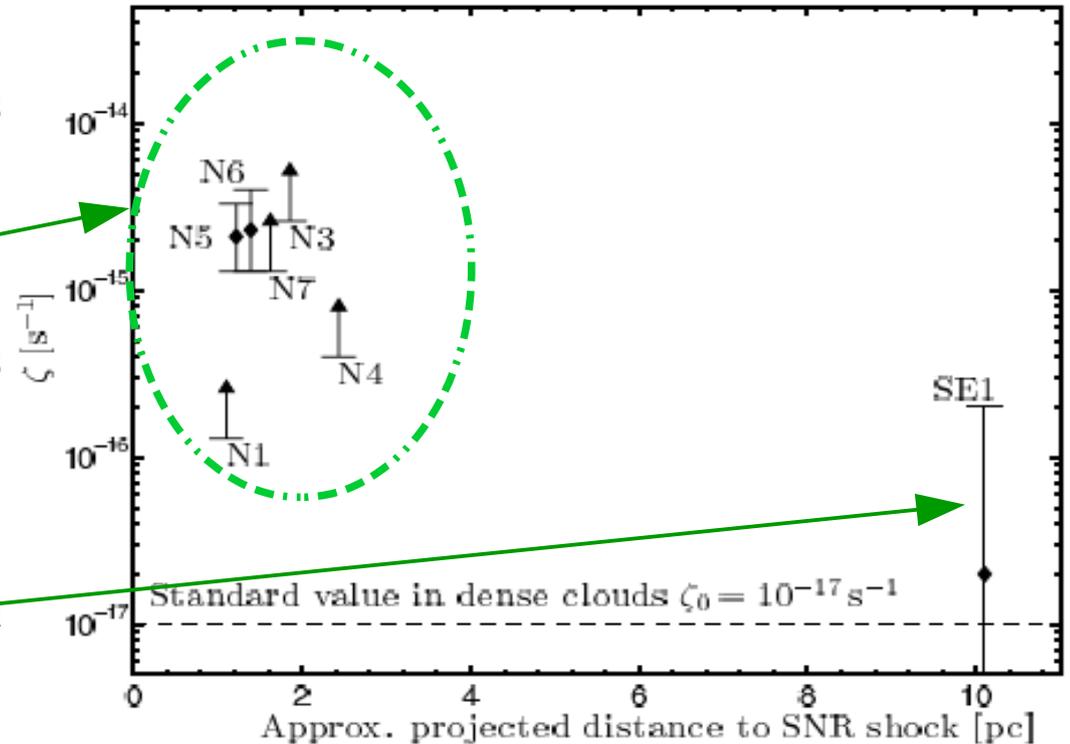
[Vaupr<sup>3</sup>, Hily-Blant, Ceccarelli, Dubus, Gabici &. Montmerle 2014, *A&A*]

## Location of radio shell of SNR W28



CO emission

TeV emission (HESS)



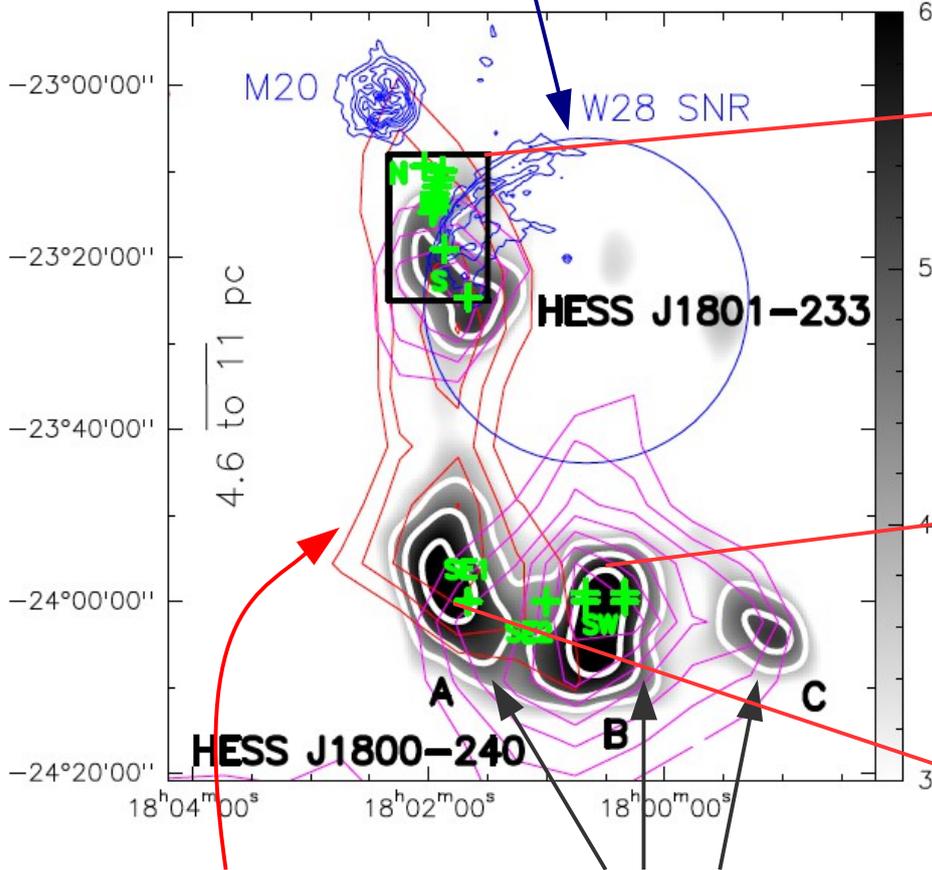
1) Towards positions located close to the supernova remnant, CR ionisation rates is much larger ( $> 100$ ) than those in standard galactic clouds.

2) Towards one position situated at a larger distance, the CR ionisation rate is close to the standard value in Galactic dense clouds

# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds interacting with SNR W28

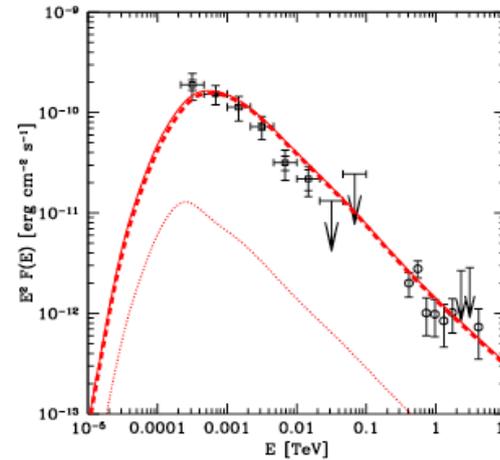
[Gabici & Montmerle, ICRC 2015]

Location of radio shell of SNR W28

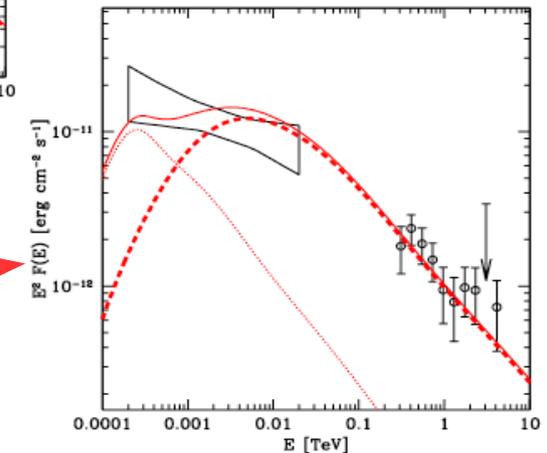


CO emission

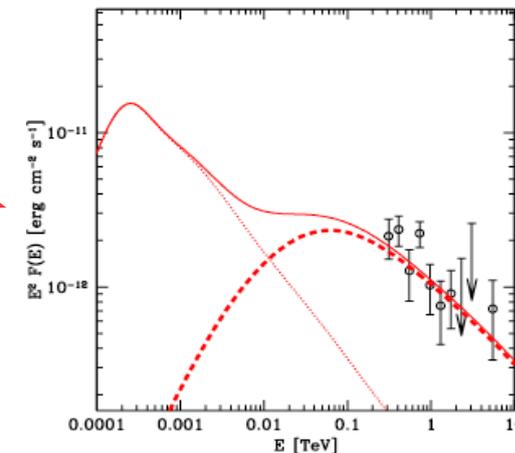
TeV emission (HESS)

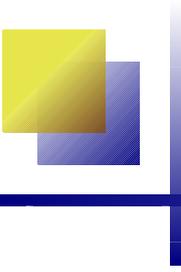


Slope = 2.66



Slope = 2.49





# Understanding the cloud chemistry and dynamics

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## **1) CR are a primary source of ionization inside a cloud**

- For column densities  $N_{\text{H}} > 10^{20} \text{ cm}^2$  CRs are the only agent able to penetrate inside the cloud (photons are easily shielded)
- The ionization fraction drives the chemistry of molecular clouds

## **2) CR interactions affect the cloud temperature**

## **3) Ionization controls the coupling between gas and magnetic field**

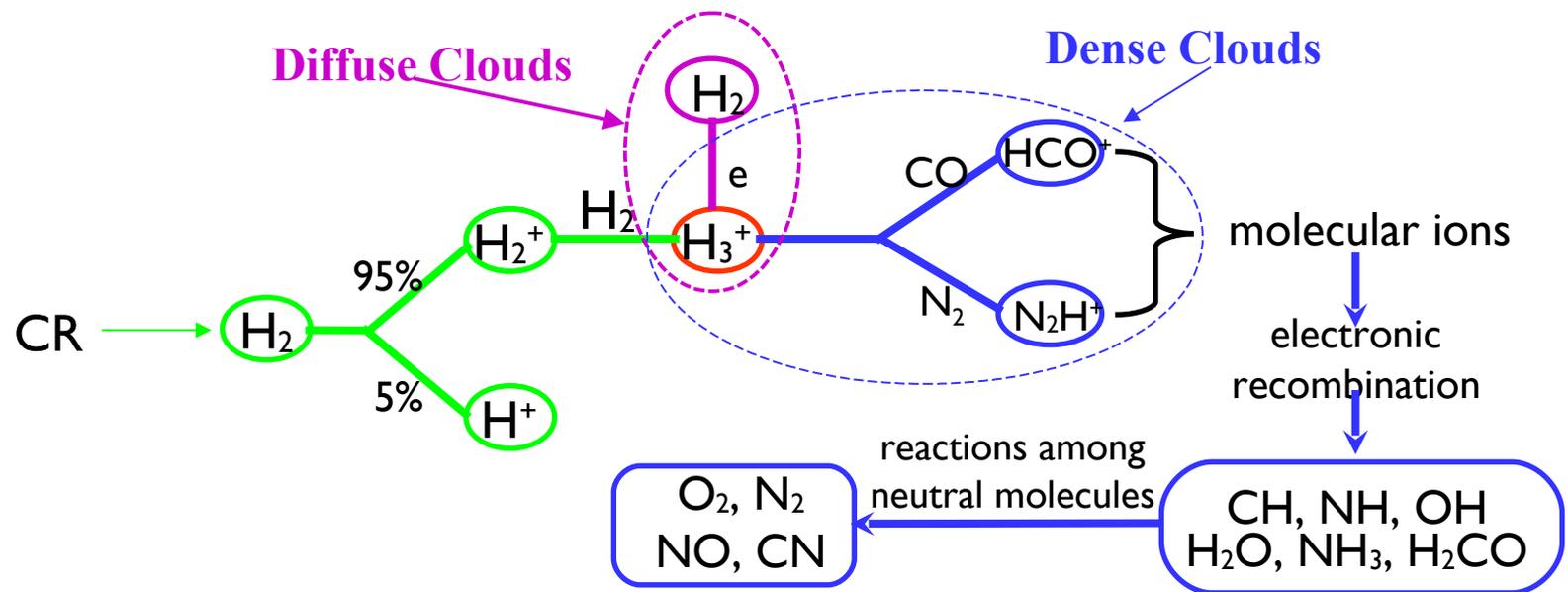
- The gravitational collapse occurs in the very deep core when the gas and the magnetic field decouple from each other

**Large CR density → suppression of star formation**

# Understanding the cloud chemistry and dynamics

[see Gabici & Montmerle, 2017]

CR are a primary source of ionization inside a cloud



**Ionization rate:** 
$$\xi_{CR} = \int_I^{E_{max}} j_{CR}(E) \sigma^{ion}(E) dE$$

Spitzer value  
(typical of high density clouds)

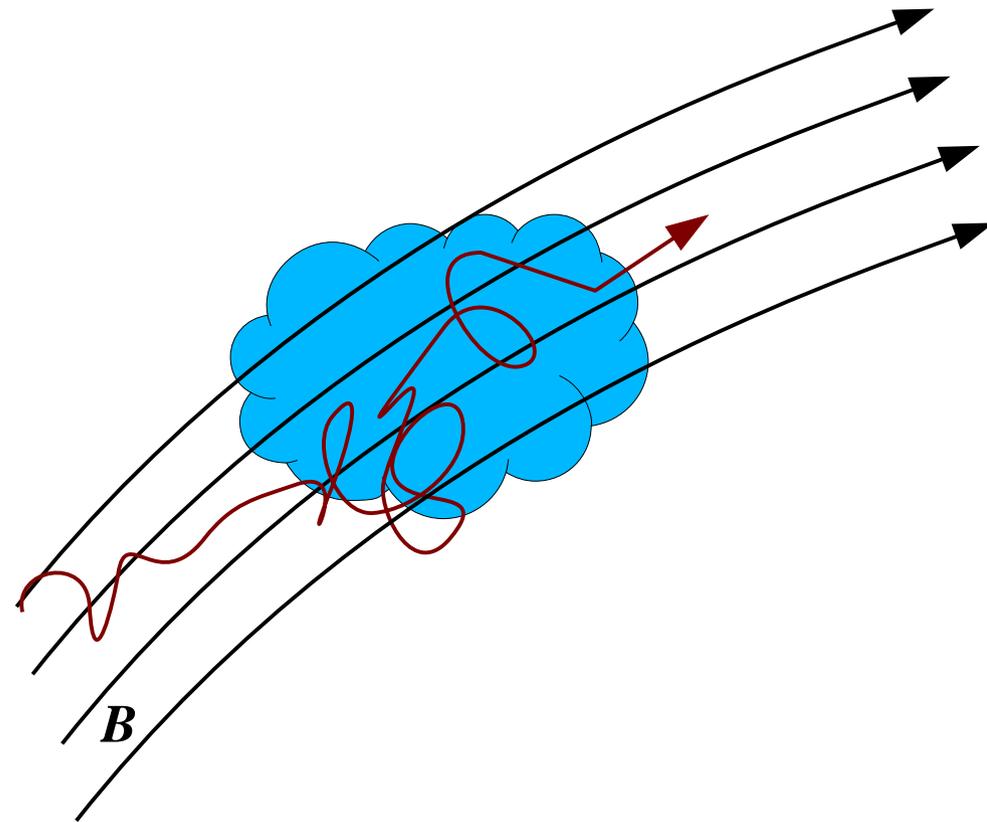
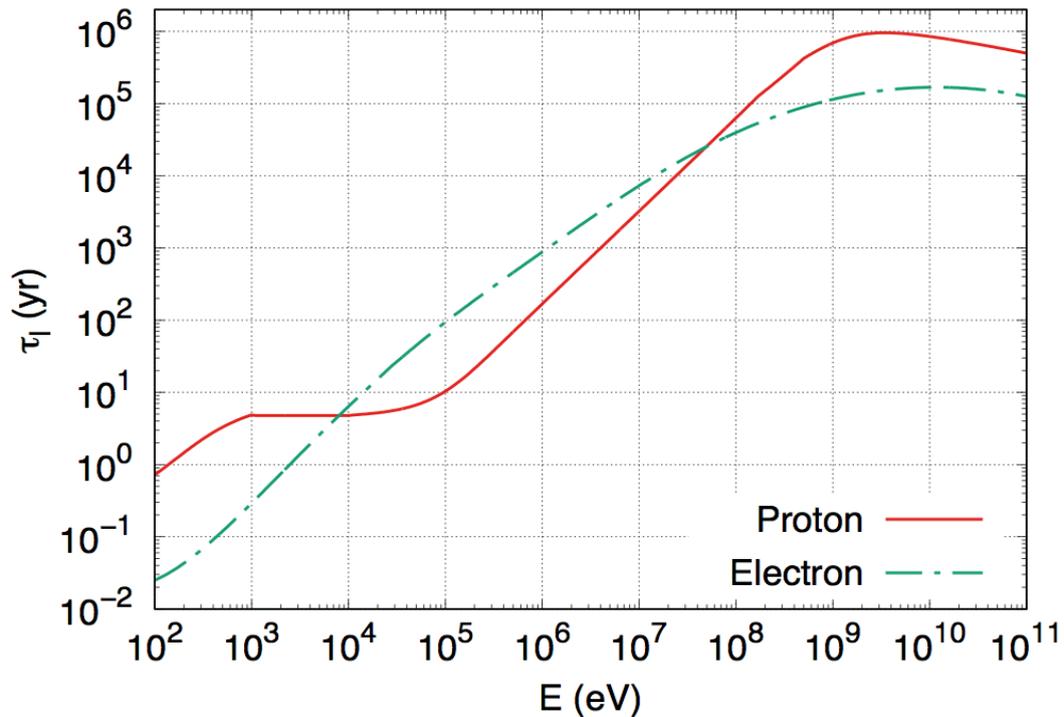
$$\xi_{CR} \simeq 10^{-17} s^{-1}$$

# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds accounting for losses

Electrons and protons lose energy while penetrating inside a molecular cloud due to ionization losses

Total energy loss time for  
protons and electrons

$$\tau_{loss} = \frac{E}{dE/dt}$$

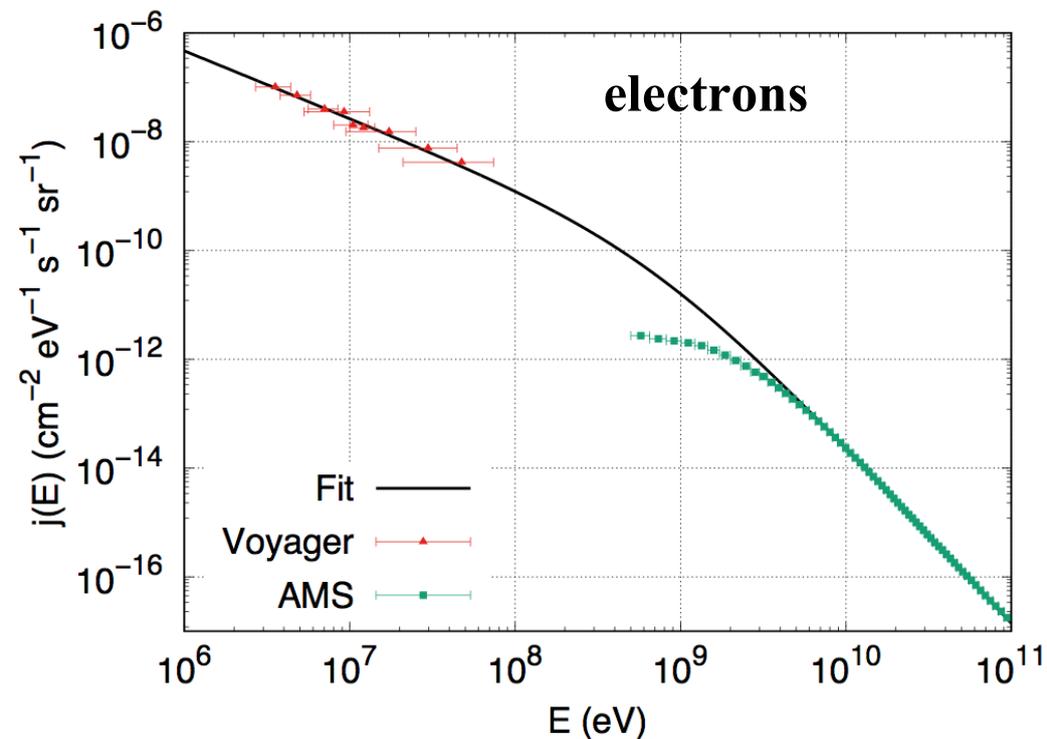
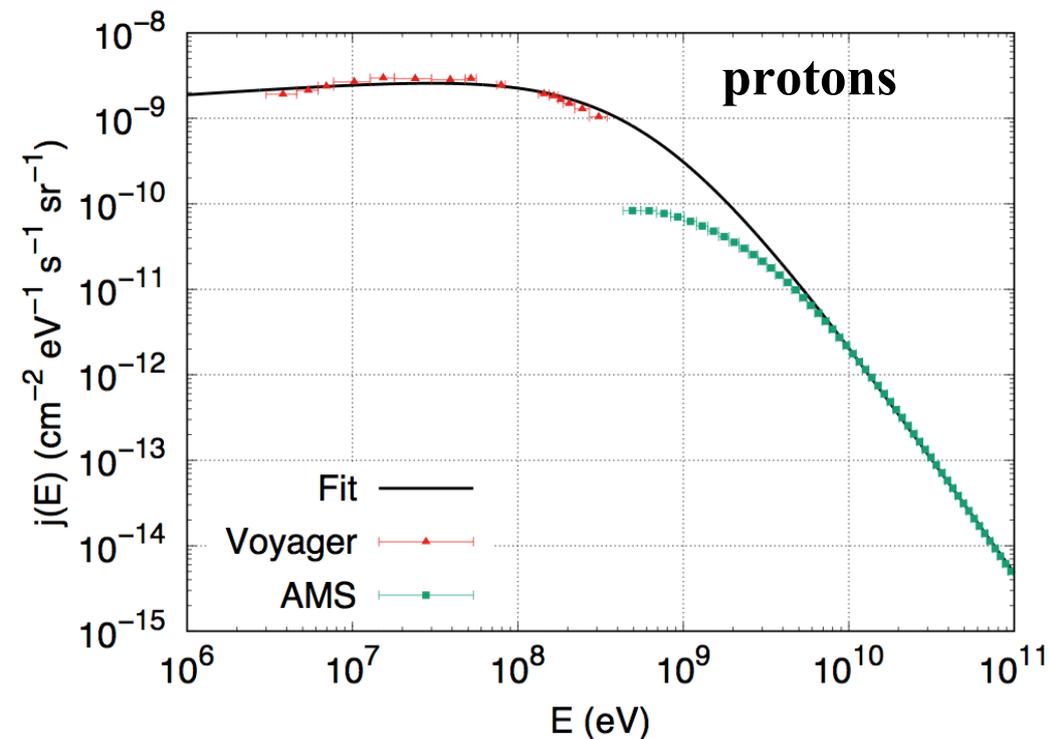


# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds accounting for losses

[V. Phan, GM & S Gabici, 2015]

We assume that the spectra of electrons and protons everywhere in the Galaxy is equal to the one measured at the Earth

Local CR spectra from AMS-02 plus Voyager



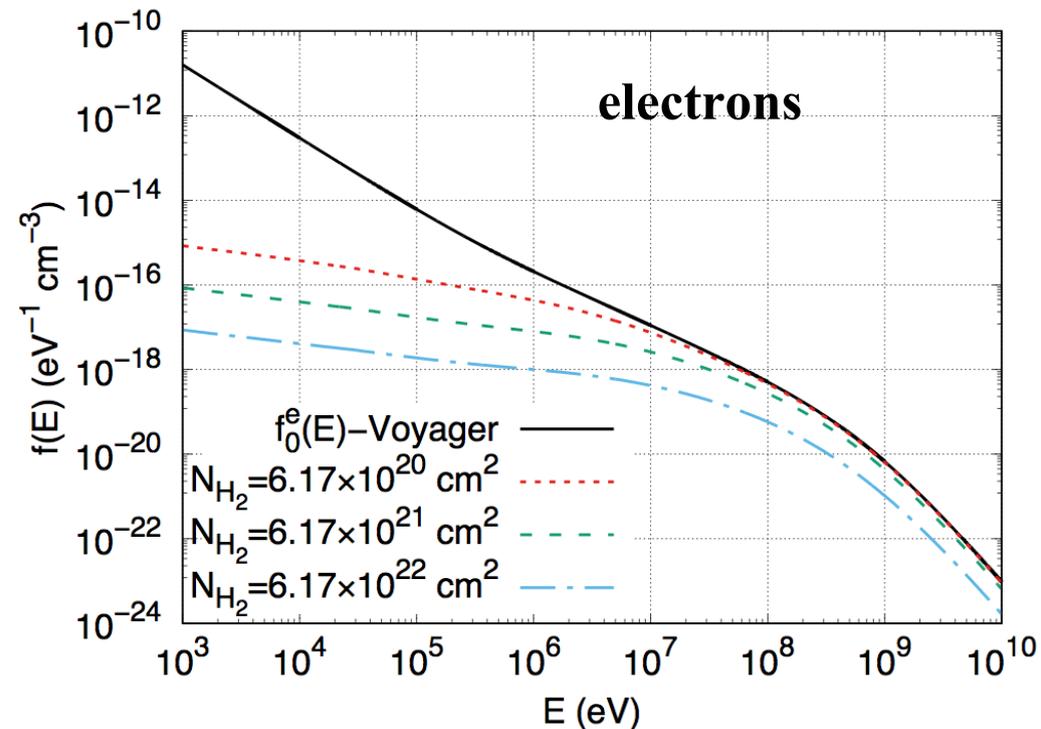
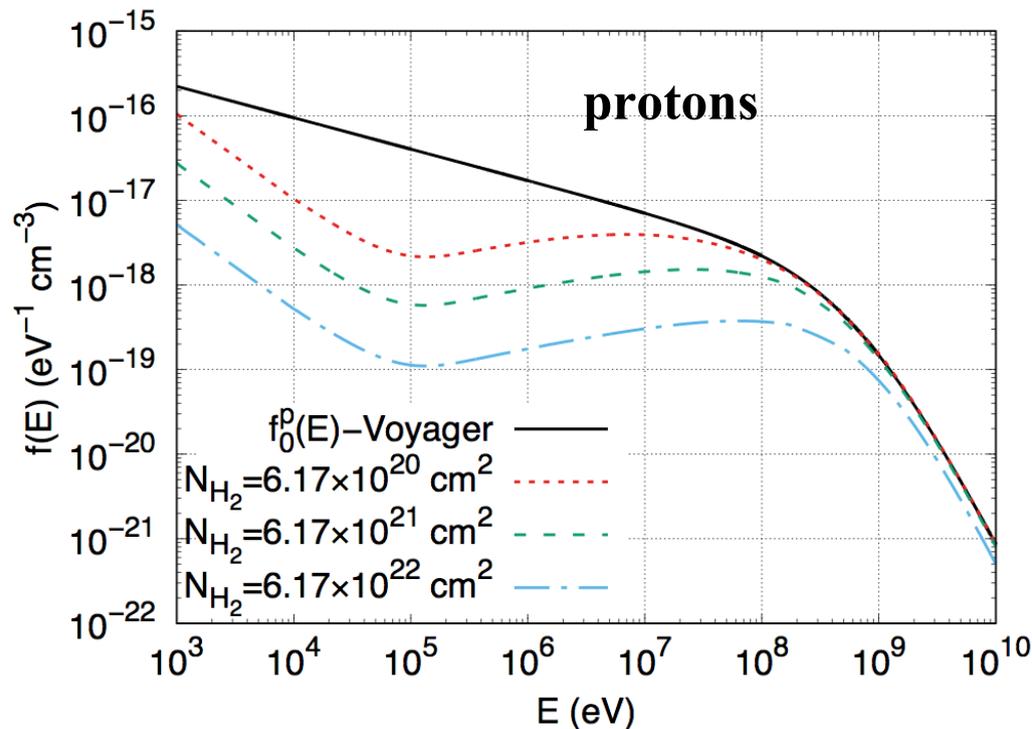
# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds accounting for losses

[V. Phan, GM & S Gabici, 2015]

The calculation of spectra inside a cloud require solving the transport equation including ionization losses and Alfvén advection:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ D \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right] - v_A \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - \frac{1}{p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ \dot{p} p^2 f \right]$$

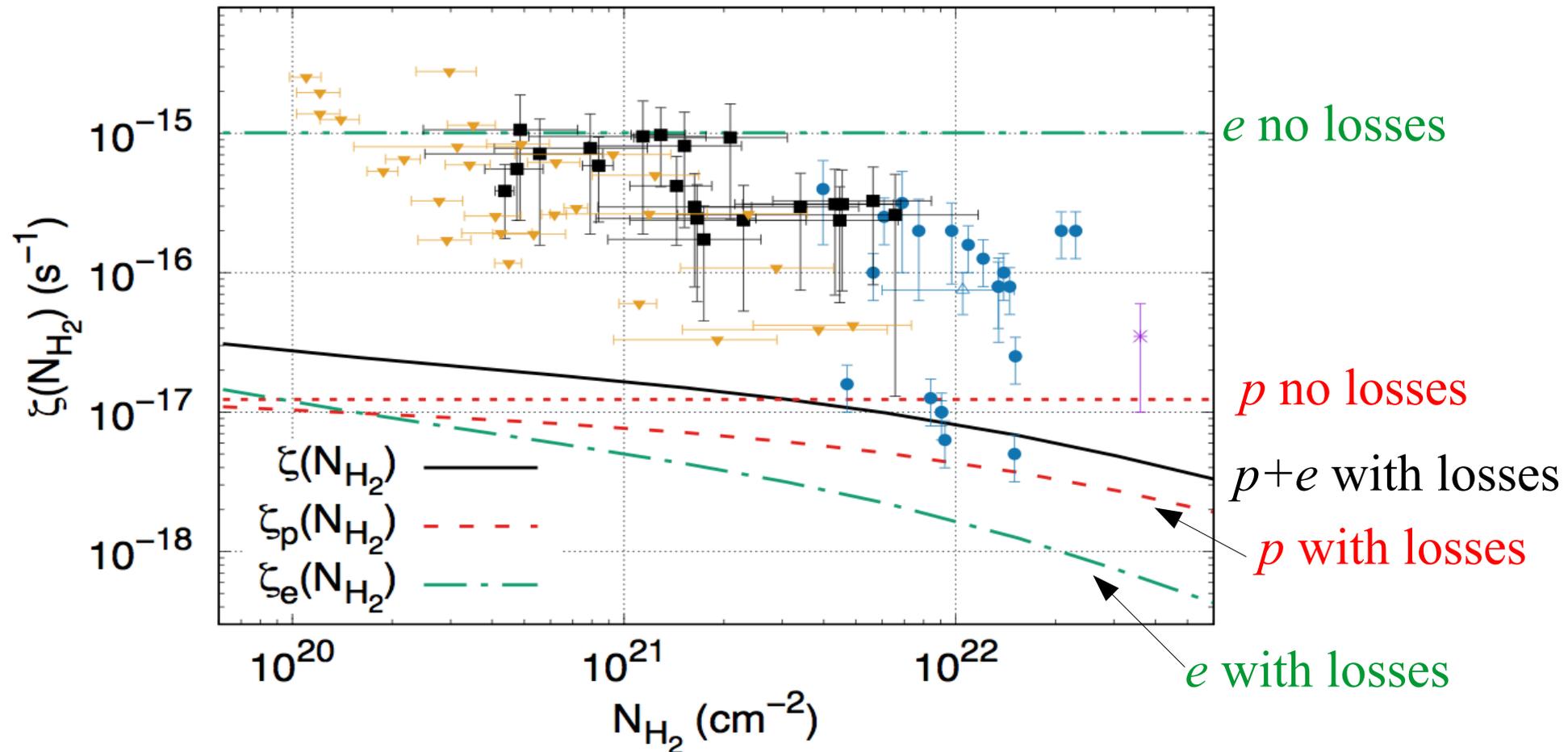
**Solution:** Electron and proton spectra inside a cloud as a function of column density



# CR induced ionization of molecular clouds accounting for losses

[V. Phan, GM & S Gabici, 2015]

Ionization rate as a function of column density



**The ionization rate is not enough to account for observed data!**  
→ **other source(s) of low-energy CRs is requires**