

# Multi-messenger modeling of Galactic cosmic-ray acceleration and transport

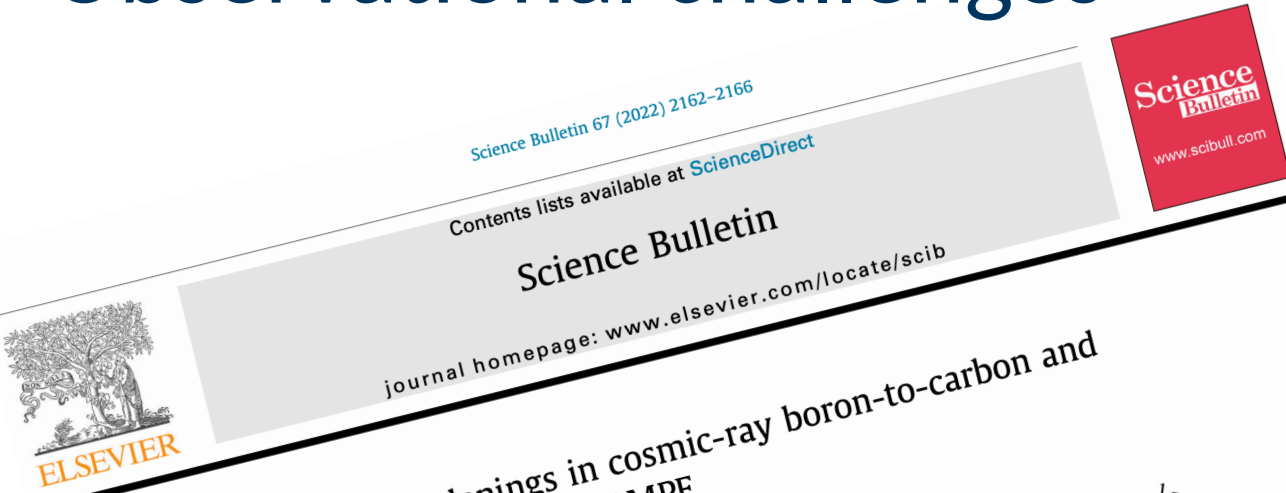
Ruhr University Bochum  
Lukas Merten



# Motivation



# Observational challenges



Article  
Detection of spectral hardenings in cosmic-ray boron-to-carbon and boron-to-oxygen flux ratios with DAMPE  
DAMPE Collaboration<sup>1</sup>

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 130, 211002 (2023)

Properties of Cosmic-Ray Sulfur and Determination of the Composition of Primary Cosmic-Ray Carbon, Neon, Magnesium, and Sulfur: Ten-Year Results from the Alpha Magnetic Spectrometer

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

NEUTRINO ASTROPHYSICS

### Observation of high-energy neutrinos from the Galactic plane

IceCube Collaboration\*†

The origin of high-energy cosmic rays, atomic nuclei that continuously impact Earth's atmosphere, is unknown. Because of deflection by interstellar magnetic fields, cosmic rays produced within the Milky Way arrive at Earth from random directions. However, cosmic rays interact with matter near their

170:95 (32pp), 2024 July 20  
American Astronomical Society.

### The Coherent Magnetic Field of the Milky Way

Michael Unger<sup>1,2</sup> and Glennys R. Farrar<sup>3</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> Institute for Astroparticle Physics (IAP), Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Karlsruhe  
<sup>2</sup> Institutt for fysikk, Norwegian University of Science and Technology  
<sup>3</sup> Center for Cosmology and Particle Physics, Department of Physics, New York University  
Received 2024 February 6; revised 2024

<https://doi.org/10.3847/1538-4357/ad4>

## RESEARCH ARTICLE

ASTROPARTICLE PHYSICS

### An extremely energetic cosmic ray observed by a surface detector array

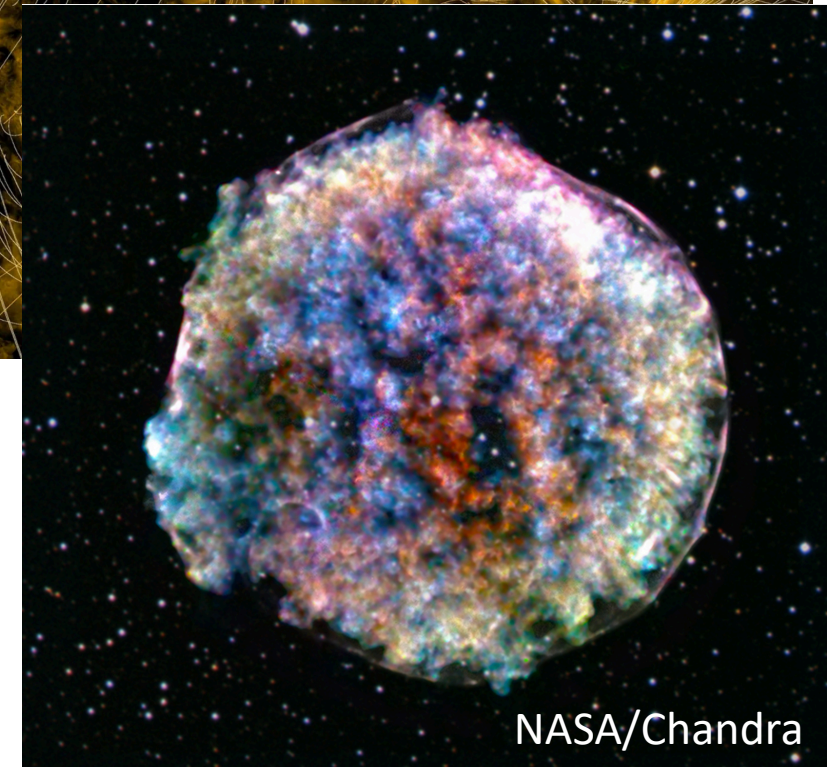
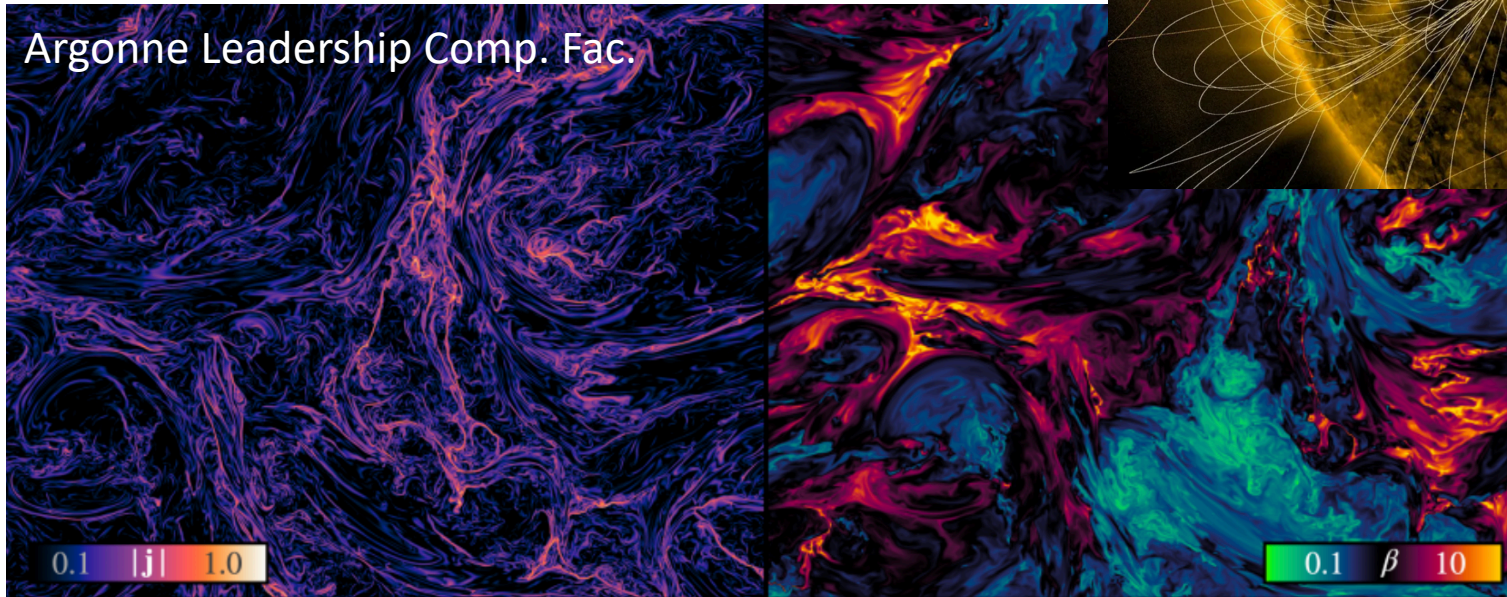
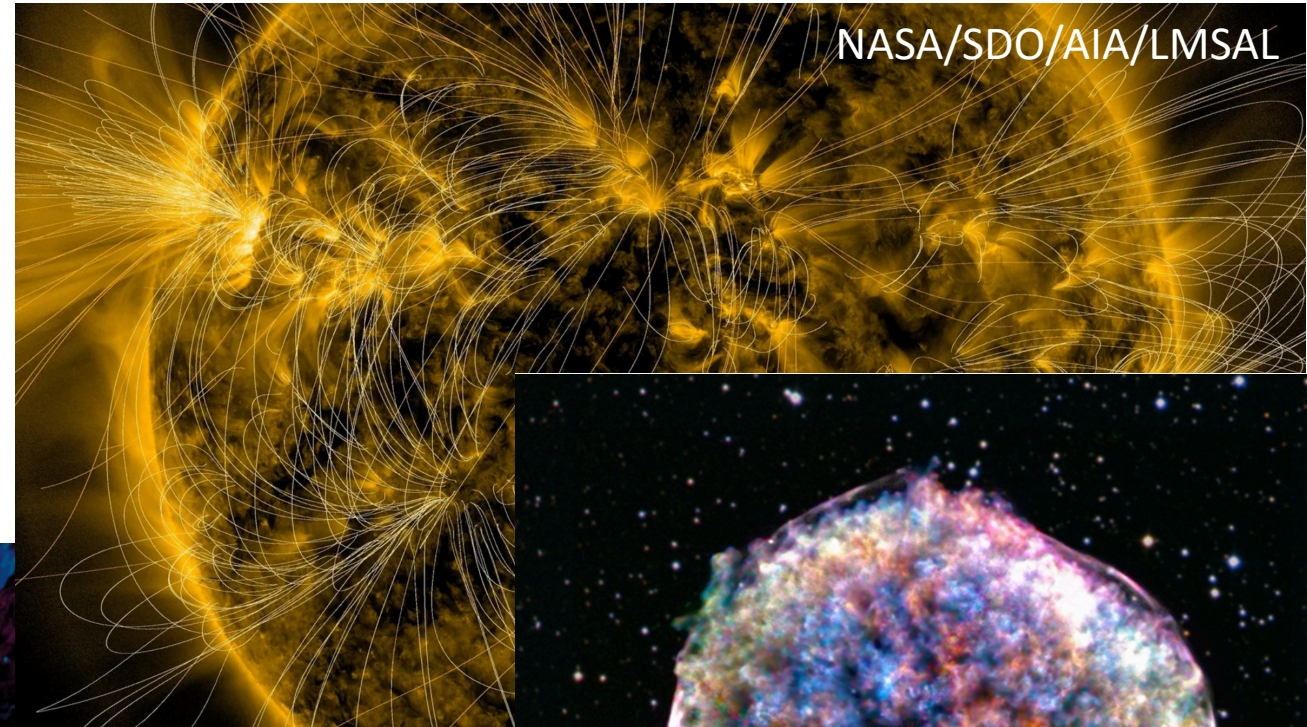
Telescope Array Collaboration\*†

Cosmic rays are energetic charged particles from extraterrestrial sources, with the highest-energy events thought to come from extragalactic sources. Their arrival is infrequent, so detection requires instruments with large collecting areas. In this work, we report the detection of an extremely energetic particle recorded by the surface detector array of the Telescope Array experiment. We calculate the particle's energy as  $244 \pm 29$  (stat.)  $^{+51}_{-76}$  (syst.) exa-electron volts (~40 joules). Its arrival direction points back to a void in the large-scale structure of the Universe. Possible explanations include a large deflection by the foreground magnetic field, an unidentified source in the local extragalactic neighborhood, or an incomplete knowledge of particle physics.



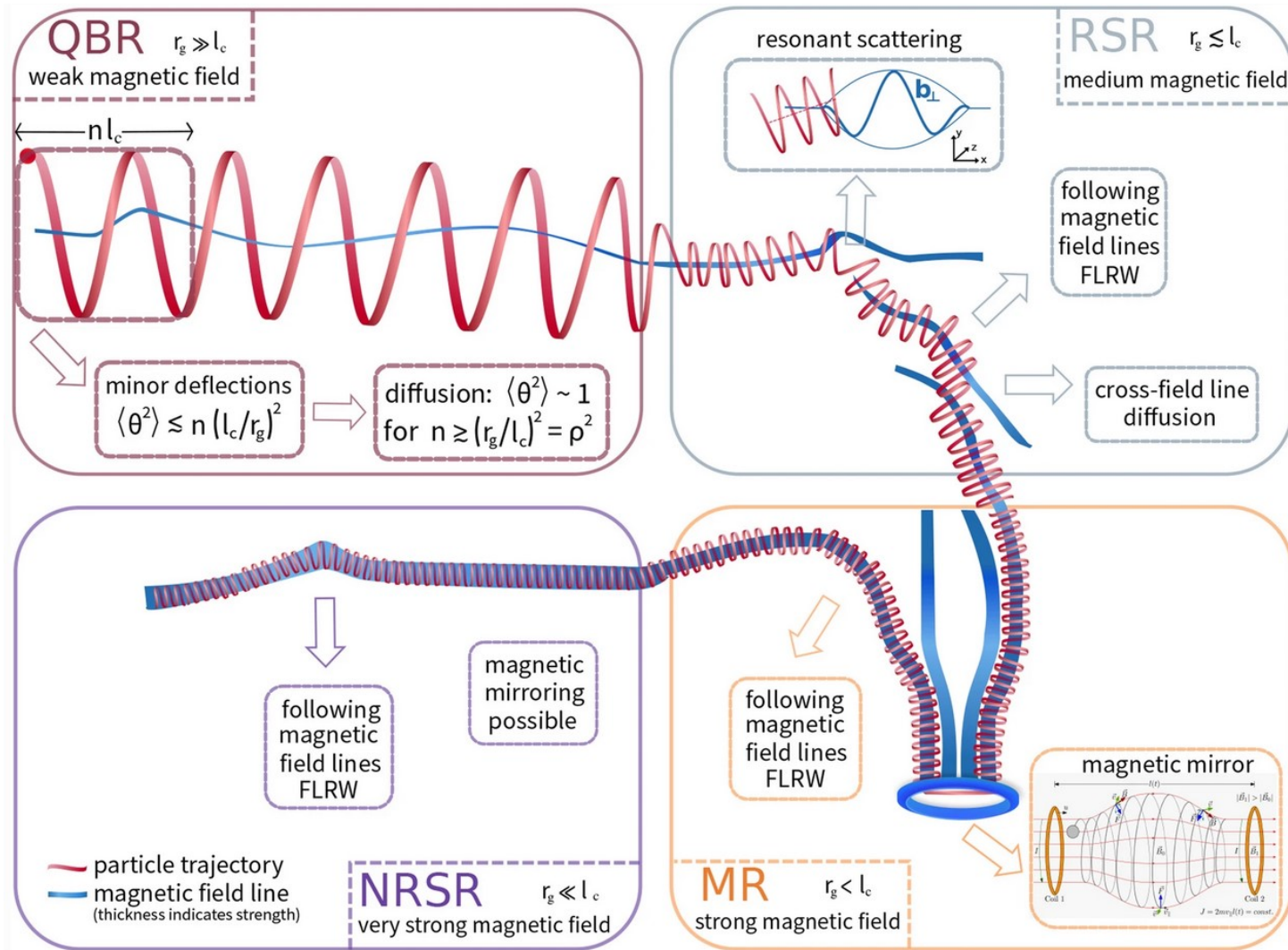
# How are Cosmic Rays accelerated?

- Diffusive Shock acceleration (first order Fermi)
- Stochastic acceleration (second order Fermi)
- Magnetic Reconnection





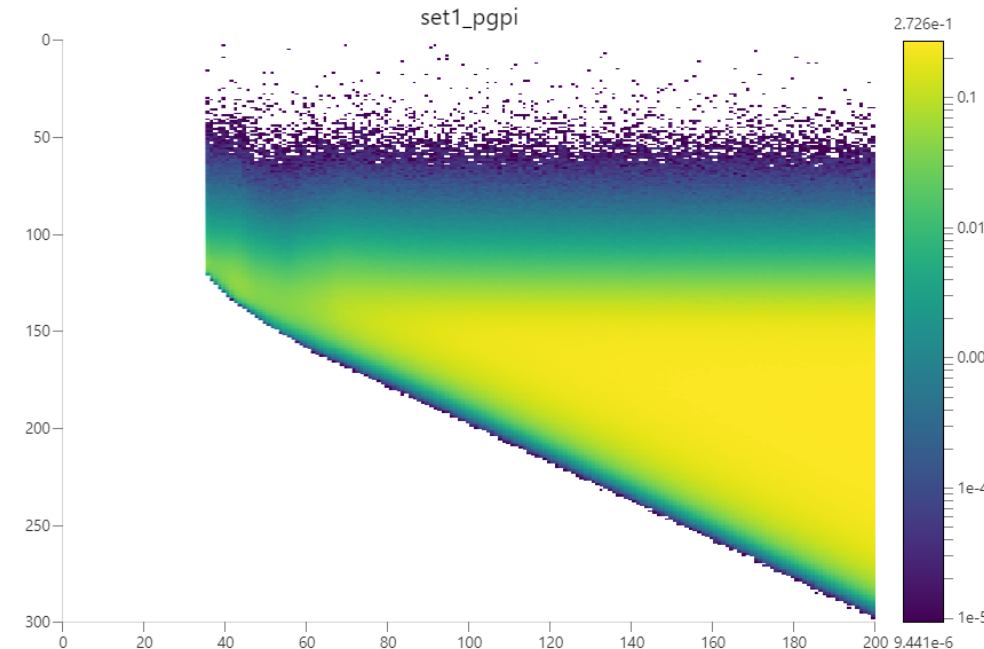
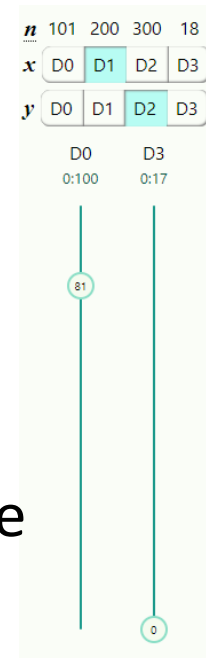
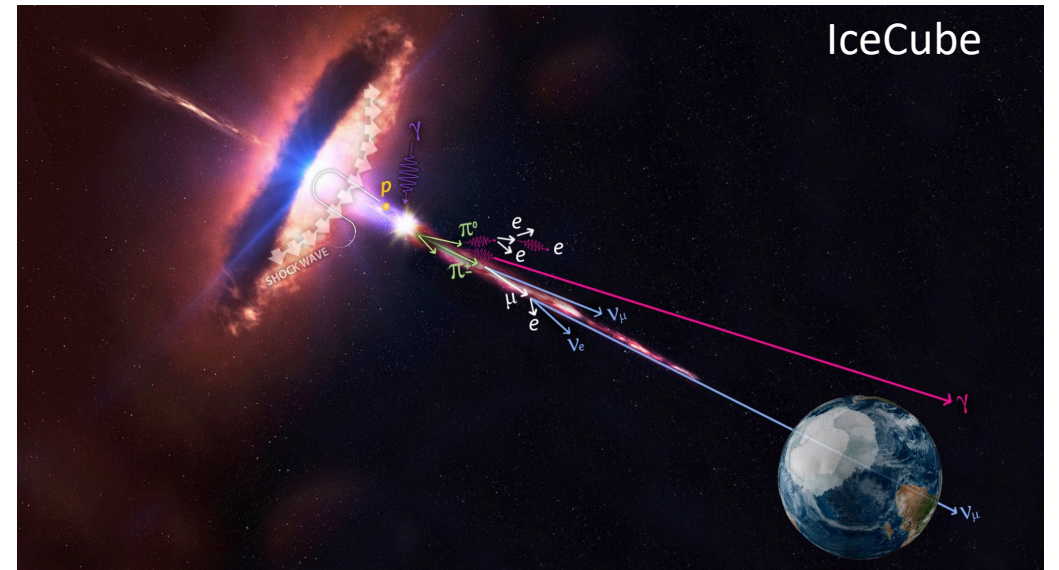
# How are Cosmic Rays transported?



- Transport properties vary widely
- Different descriptions are needed
- Full Orbit simulations or
- Ensemble averaged descriptions

# How do Cosmic Rays Interact?

- Interaction with ambient photon and matter fields
- Feedback from cosmic rays on their environment, e.g., in sources
  - SSC, etc.
- Variety of energy losses and secondary productions
  - Harder to model
  - But gives additional channels to compare to data



# CRPropa - Open Source Simulation Framework



# CRPropa – Cosmic Ray Propagation Framework

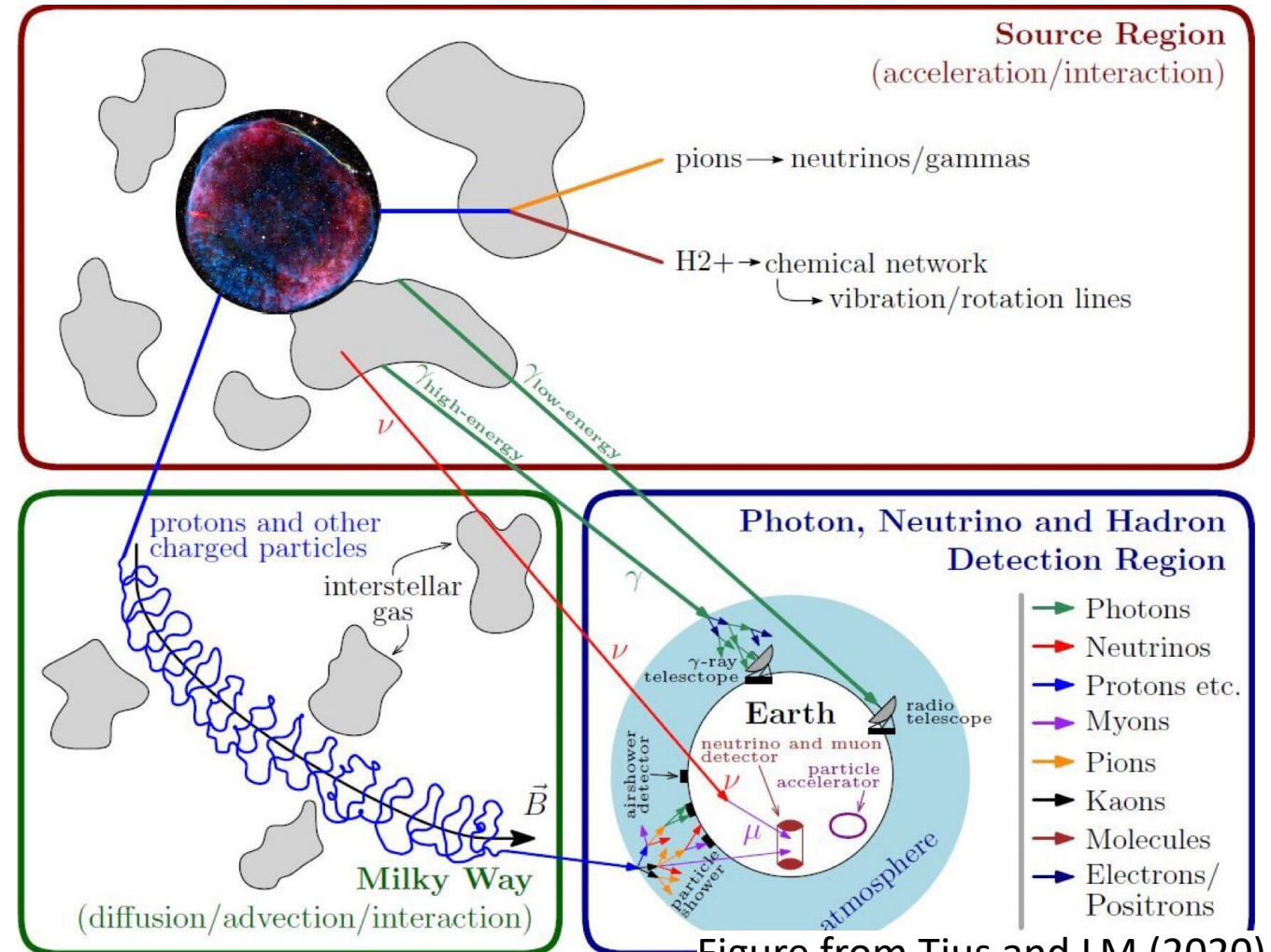
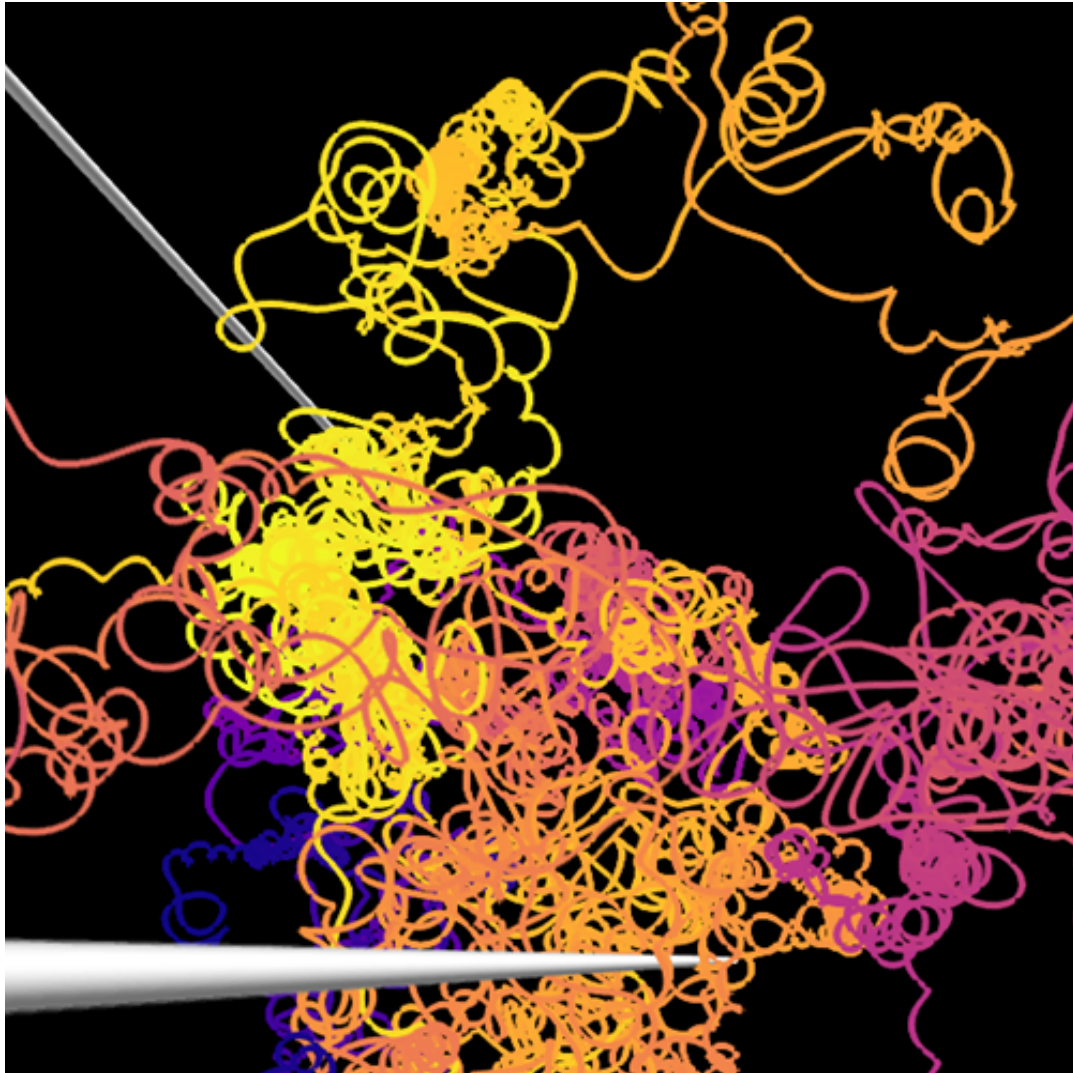
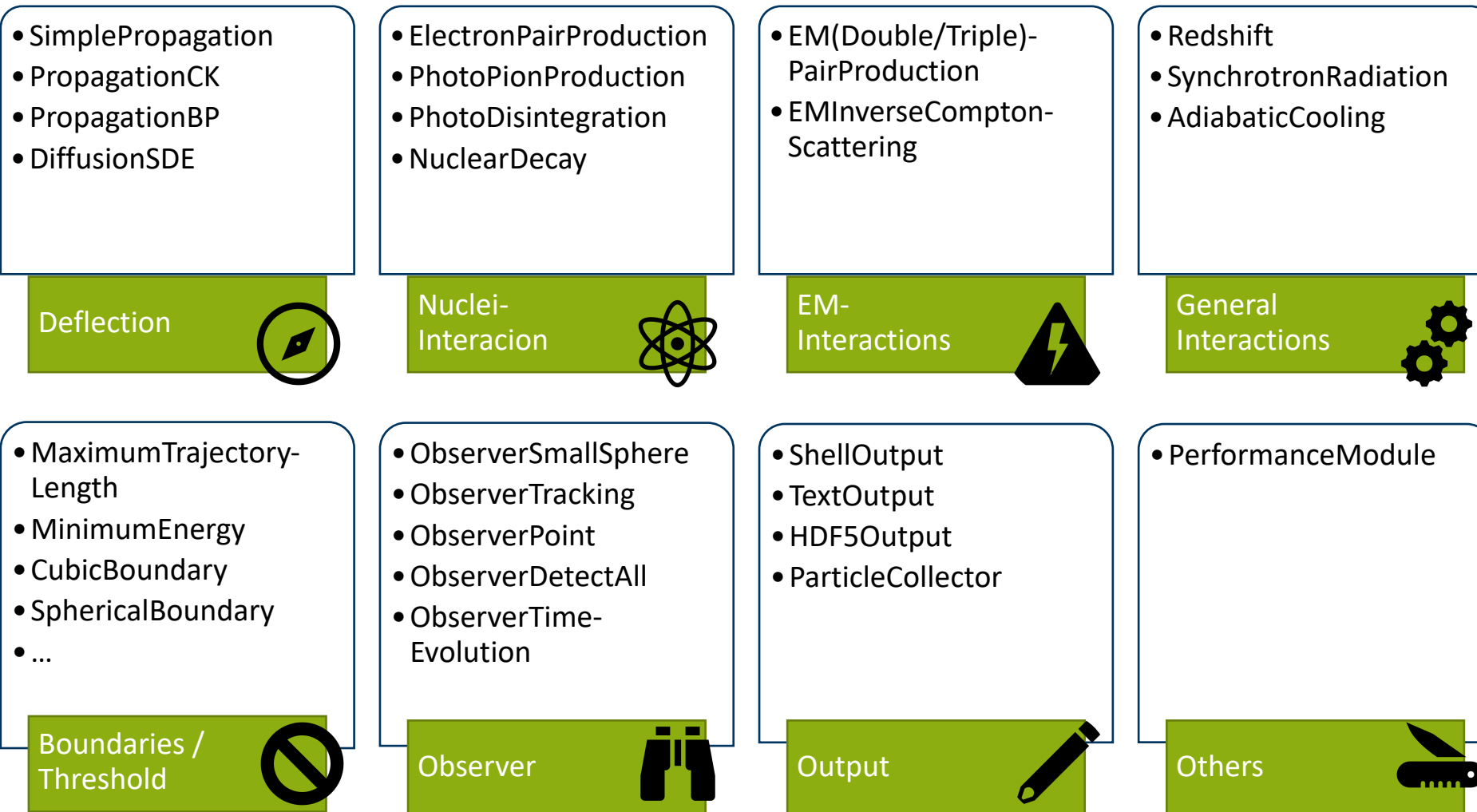


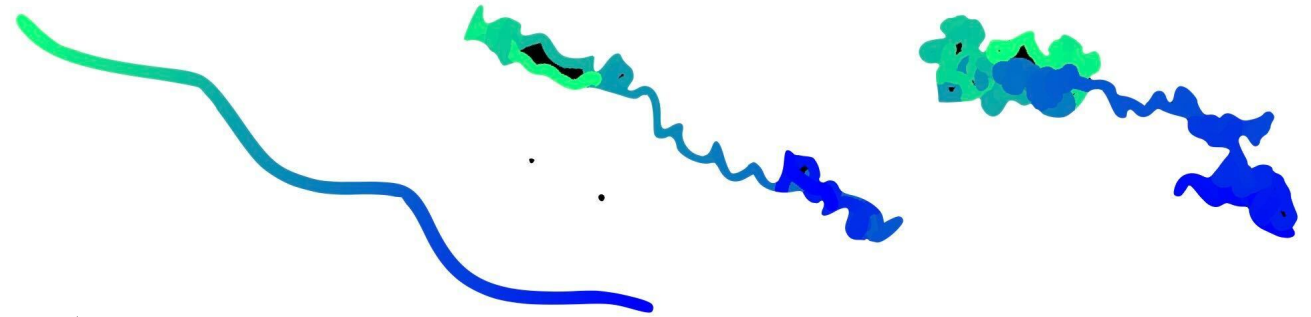
Figure from Tjus and LM (2020)

# How to build a simulation?



# Solving the Transport Equation

# Transport Equations



## Focused Pitch Angle Transport Equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left( D_{\mu\mu} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mu} \right)}_{\text{diffusion}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left( \frac{(1 - \mu^2)v}{2L(s)} f \right)}_{\text{focusing}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial s} (\mu v f)}_{\text{displacement along } \vec{B}} + S$$

## Spatial Transport Equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\nabla \cdot (\hat{k} \nabla f)}_{\text{spatial diffusion}} - \underbrace{\mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla f}_{\text{advection}} + \underbrace{\frac{p}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{w} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p}}_{\text{adiabatic energy change}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{p^2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial p} p^2 D_{pp} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \right)}_{\text{momentum diffusion}} - \underbrace{Lf}_{\text{losses}} + S$$

# Solving the Transport Equation with SDEs

Time forward Fokker Planck Equation

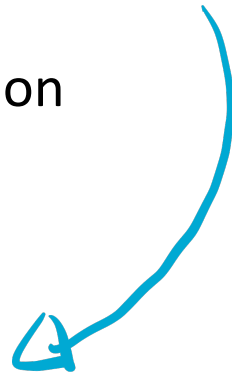
$$\frac{\partial f(q_1, \dots, q_n, t)}{\partial t} = - \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} (A_i f)}_{\text{advection terms}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} (B_{ij} f)}_{\text{diffusion terms}}$$

Corresponding stochastic differential equation

$$d\mathbf{x} = \underbrace{\tilde{\mathbf{A}} dt}_{\text{advection}} + \underbrace{\tilde{\mathbf{B}} d\mathbf{W}_t}_{\text{diffusion}}$$

$$\tilde{A}_i = A_i \text{ and } \tilde{\mathbf{B}}\tilde{\mathbf{B}}^\dagger = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{\mathbf{B}} + \hat{\mathbf{B}}^t)$$

following Itô's lemma





# Fokker Planck Form

## Focused Pitch Angle Transport Equation

$$\frac{\partial f(s, t)}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial s} (\mu v f(s, t))}_{\text{green}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left[ \left( \frac{v}{2L} (1 - \mu^2) + \frac{\partial D_{\mu\mu}}{\partial \mu} \right) f \right]}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mu^2} (2D_{\mu\mu} f)}_{\text{blue}} - \underbrace{\frac{\mu v}{L} f}_{\text{orange}}$$

## Spatial Transport Equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 (2\hat{k}f)}_{\text{blue}} - \underbrace{\nabla \cdot [(\nabla \hat{k} + \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) f]}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial p^2} (2Df)}_{\text{blue}} - \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial D}{\partial p} - \frac{2D}{p} - \frac{p}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{w} \right) f \right]}_{\text{green}} - \underbrace{\left[ -\frac{2}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{w} + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \frac{2D}{p} \right] f}_{\text{orange}}$$

# What about the other terms?

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \left[ -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} A + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} B \right] f - Cf + D$$

$$w_o = \exp(-Cdt)$$

$$w_1 = \text{const.}$$

Usually included in CR transport equations

Transformation needs to be adapted.

Apply weights to the phase-space element

# SDE Form of the

... Focused Pitch Angle Transport Equation

$$ds = \underbrace{v\mu dt}_{\text{green}} \quad \text{and} \quad d\mu = \underbrace{\left( \frac{v}{2L}(1 - \mu^2) + \frac{\partial D_{\mu\mu}}{\partial \mu} \right) dt}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{2D_{\mu\mu}} dW_t}_{\text{blue}}$$

... Spatial Transport Equation

$$d\mathbf{x} = \underbrace{(\nabla \hat{k} + \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{w}) dt}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{2\hat{k}} d\mathbf{W}_t}_{\text{blue}} \quad \text{and} \quad dp = \underbrace{\left( \frac{\partial D}{\partial p} - \frac{2D}{p} - \frac{p}{3} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{w} \right) dt}_{\text{green}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{2D_{pp}} dW_t}_{\text{blue}}$$

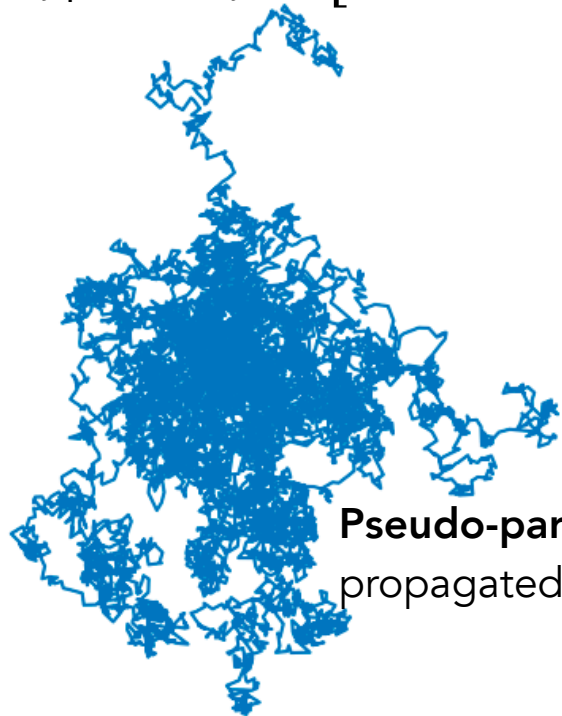
# Euler-Maruyama scheme

SDE is integrated with Euler-Maruyama Scheme:

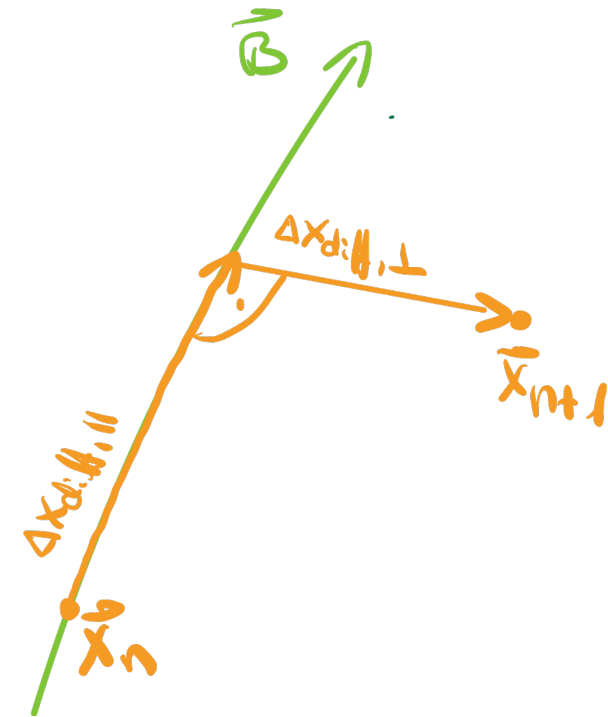
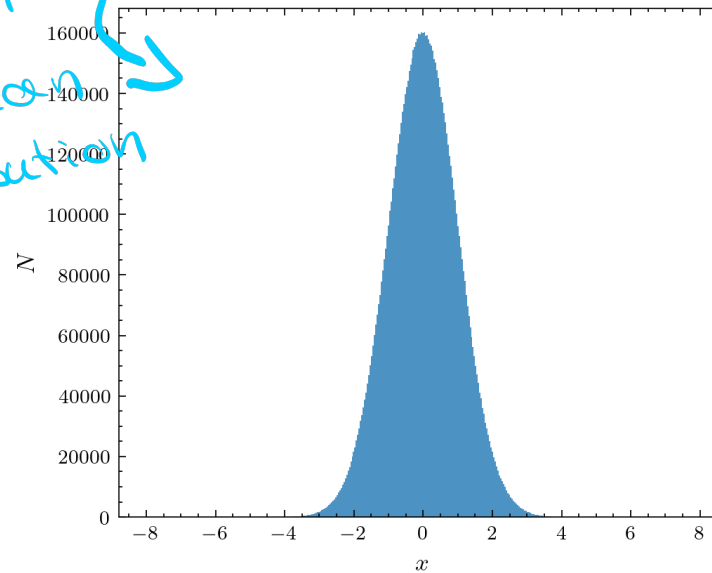
$$d\mathbf{x} = (\nabla \hat{\kappa} + \mathbf{u}) dt + \sqrt{2\hat{\kappa}} d\mathbf{W}_t$$

$$\vec{x}_{t+1} = \vec{x}_t + [\nabla \cdot \hat{\kappa} + \vec{u}(\vec{x})] \Delta t + \sqrt{2\hat{\kappa}} \sqrt{\Delta t} \vec{\eta}_t$$

$$\hat{\kappa} = \begin{pmatrix} \kappa_{\parallel} \epsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \kappa_{\parallel} \epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \kappa_{\parallel} \end{pmatrix}$$



from Gaussian distribution

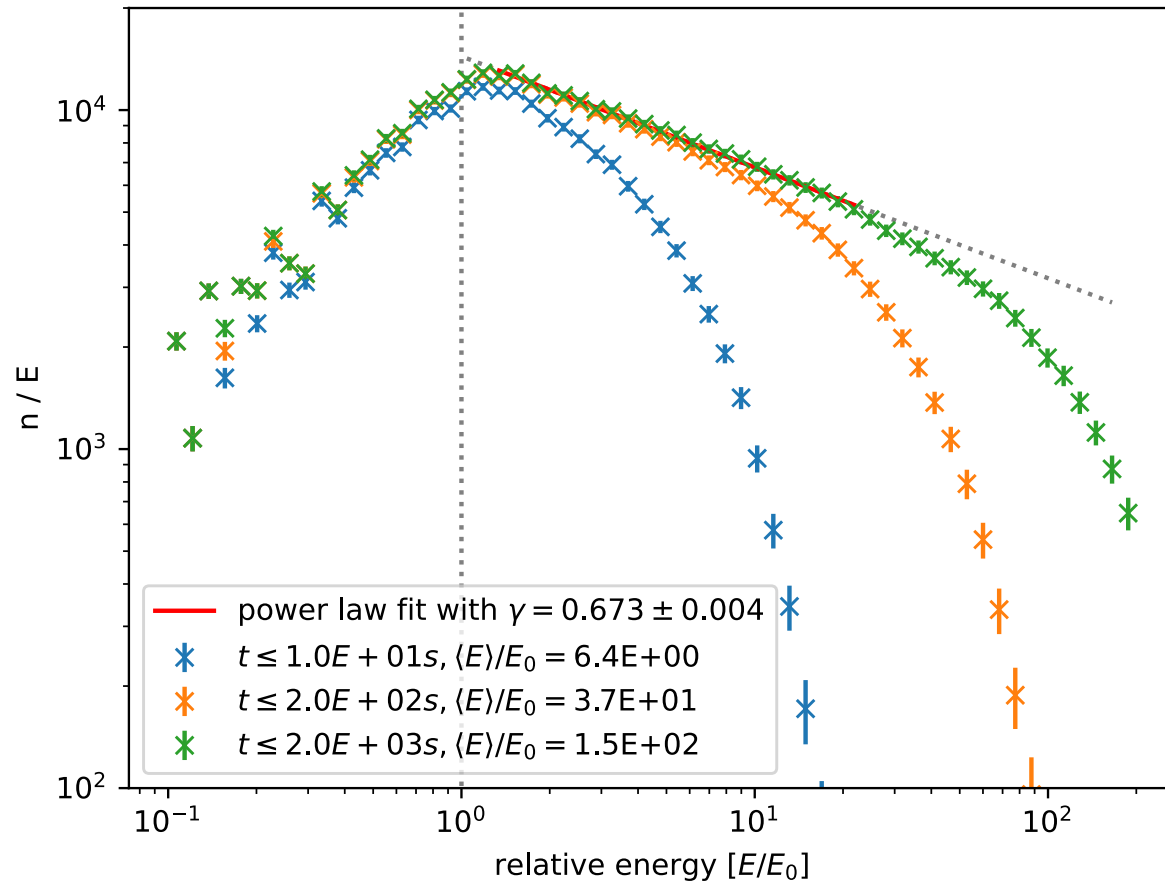


**How are Cosmic Rays accelerated?**



# Stochastic Acceleration

# Stochastic Acceleration



Stochastic Acceleration may contribute in several situations to CR energy gain, e.g., (Dogiel et al. (2018), Tautz et al. (2013), Zhang (2015))

Simple Test case:

$$0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[ p^2 D_0 p^{\alpha_p} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( \frac{n}{p^2} \right) \right]$$

$$n \propto p^{1-\alpha_p}$$

# Diffusive Shock Acceleration

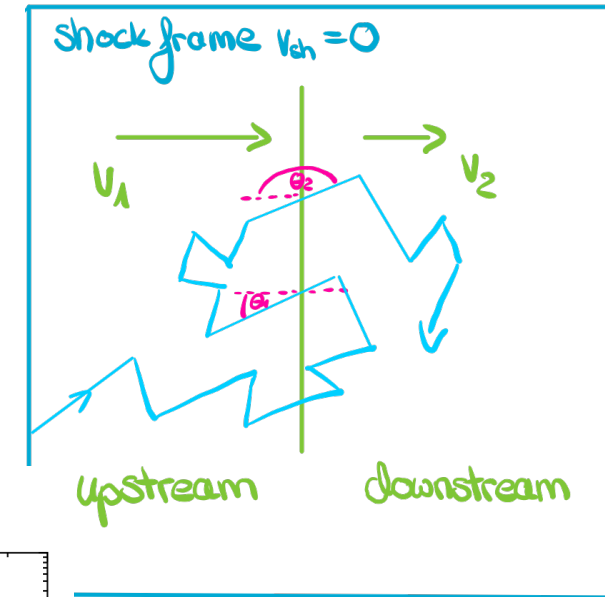
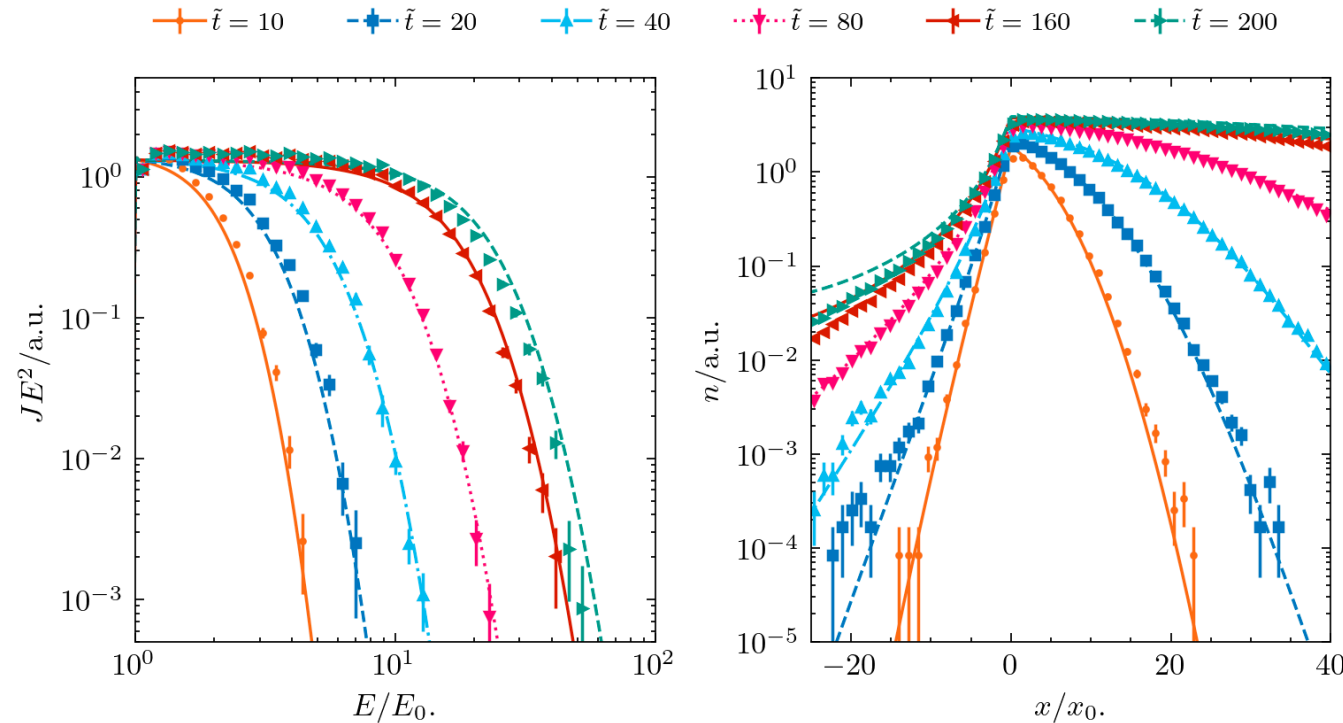
# Diffusive Shock Acceleration

Interplay between diffusion, advection and adiabatic heating is responsible for energy gain at the shock:

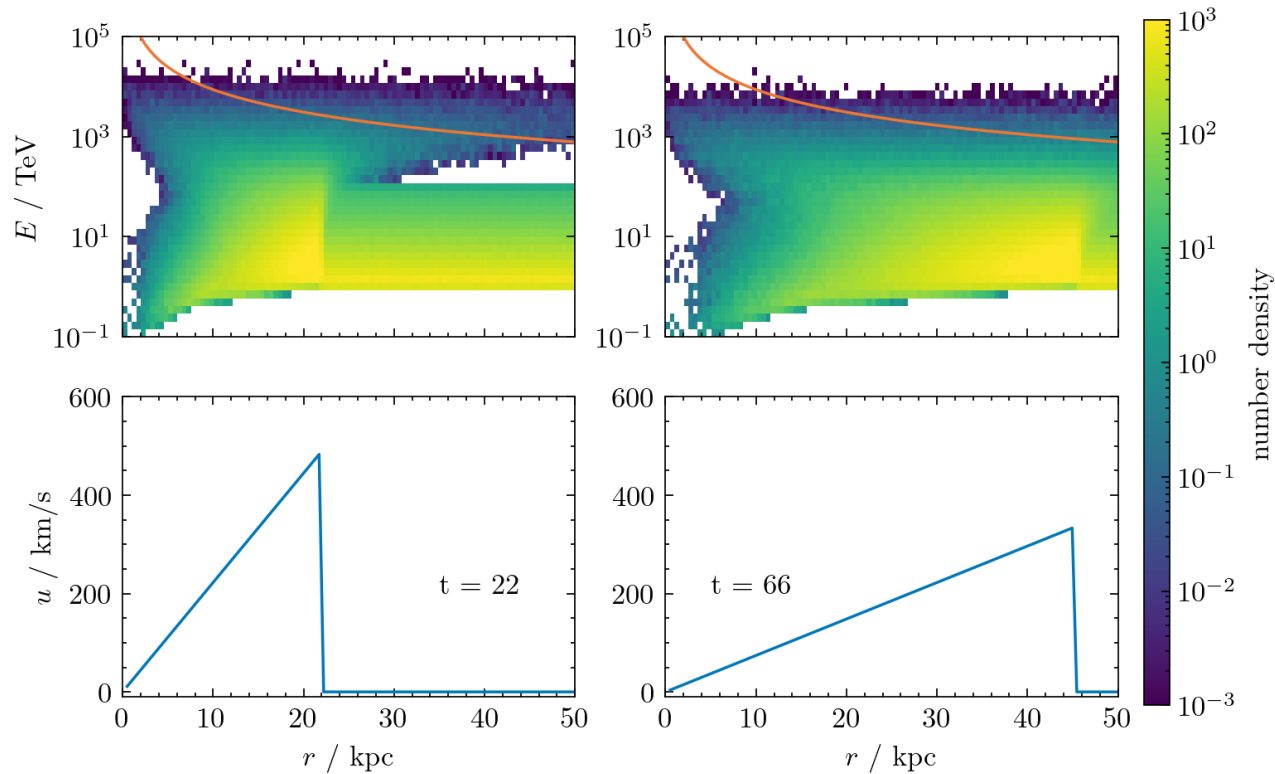
$$d\vec{x} = [\nabla \cdot \hat{\kappa} + \vec{u}(\vec{x})] dt + \sqrt{2\hat{\kappa}} dW_t$$

$$dp = -\frac{p}{3} \nabla \cdot \vec{u} dt$$

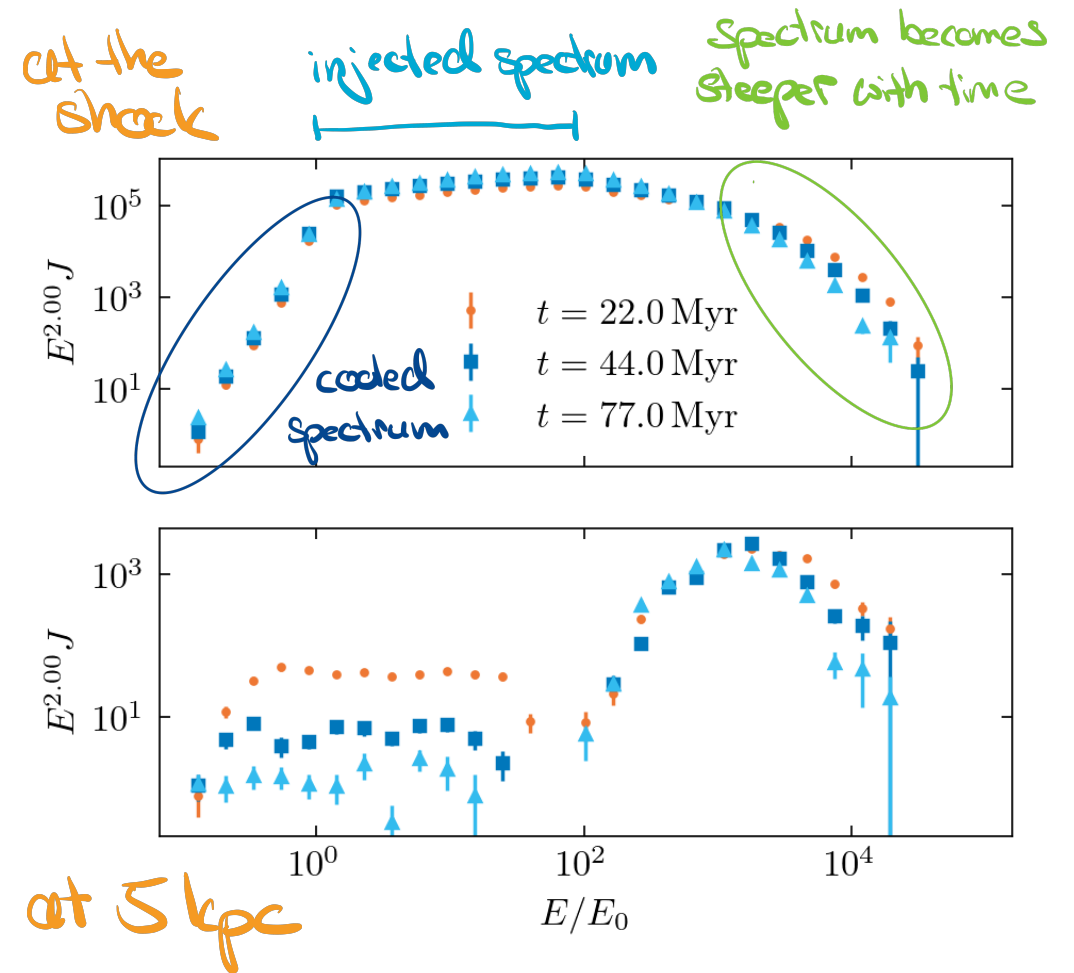
Candidate splitting module compensates loss of pseudo-particles at high energy



# Diffusive Shock Acceleration



Time-dependent background fields, e.g. similarity solution by Isenberg, 1977





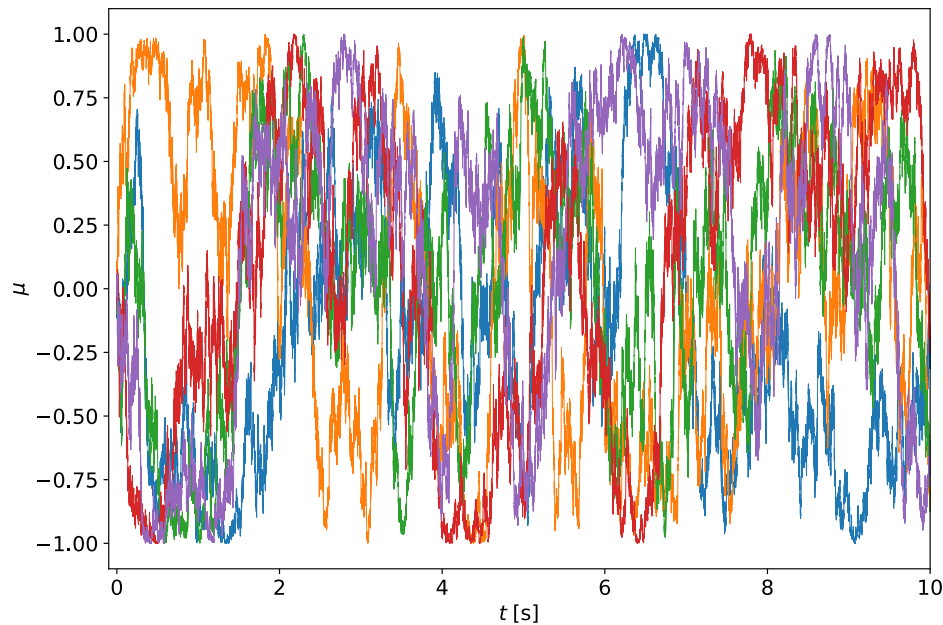
**How are Cosmic Rays transported?**

# Focused Pitch Angle Transport

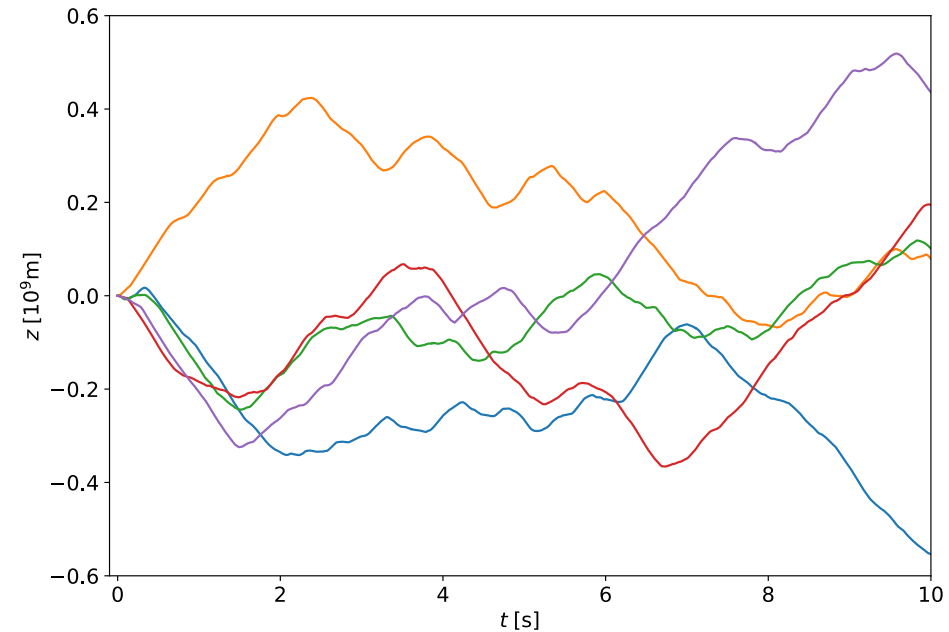
# Example Trajectories

$$ds = v\mu dt \quad \text{and} \quad d\mu = \left( \frac{v}{2L}(1 - \mu^2) + \frac{\partial D_{\mu\mu}}{\partial \mu} \right) dt + \sqrt{2D_{\mu\mu}} dW_t$$

Pitch angle



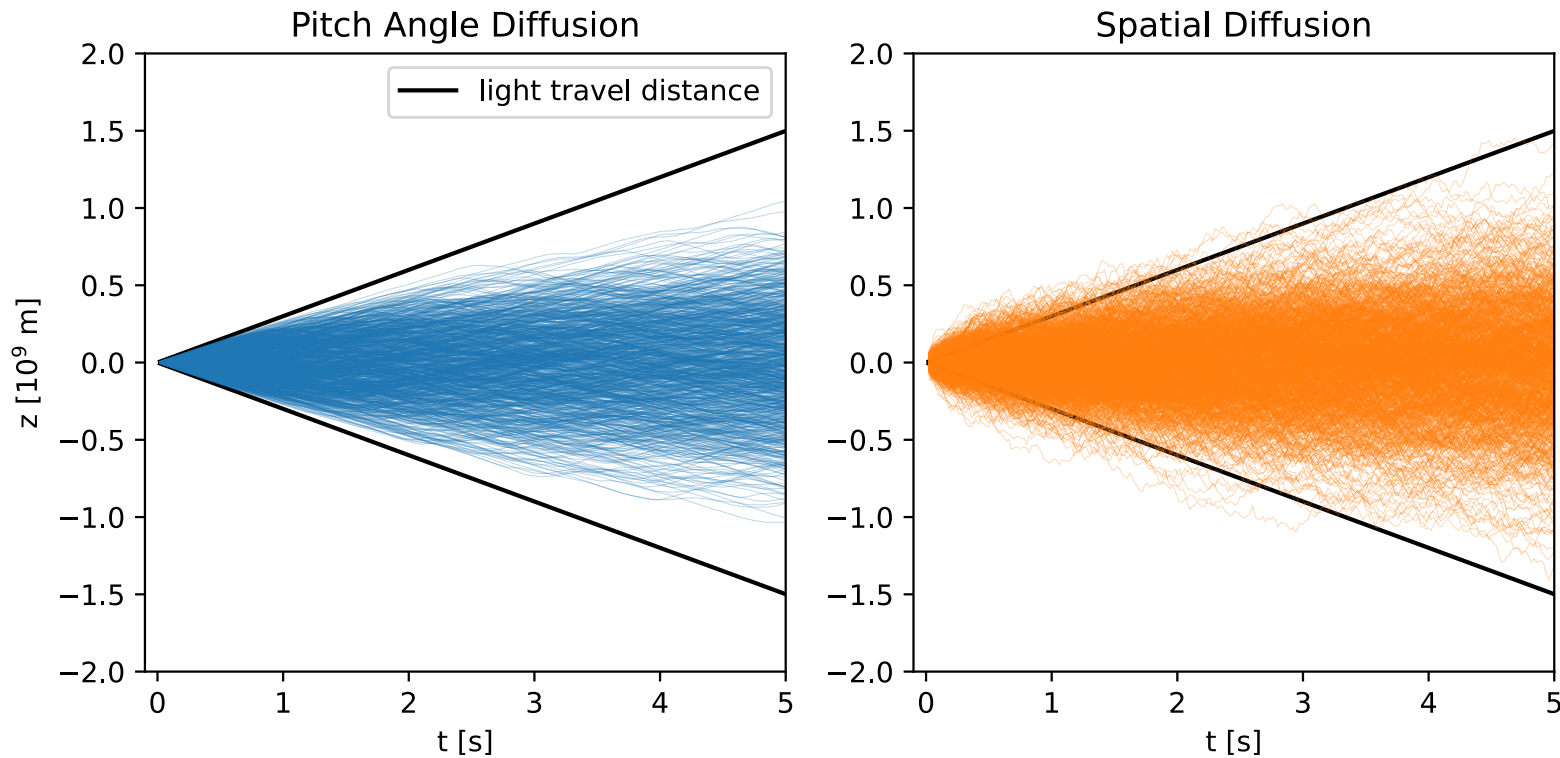
Position on field line



Regime for pitch angle is bound to  $\mu \in (-1, 1)$

Implemented with reflective boundaries

# Example Trajectories



Same asymptotic behavior

Superluminal spreading of  $f$   
for spatial diffusion

Correlated random walk for  
pitch angle diffusion  
(smoother distribution)

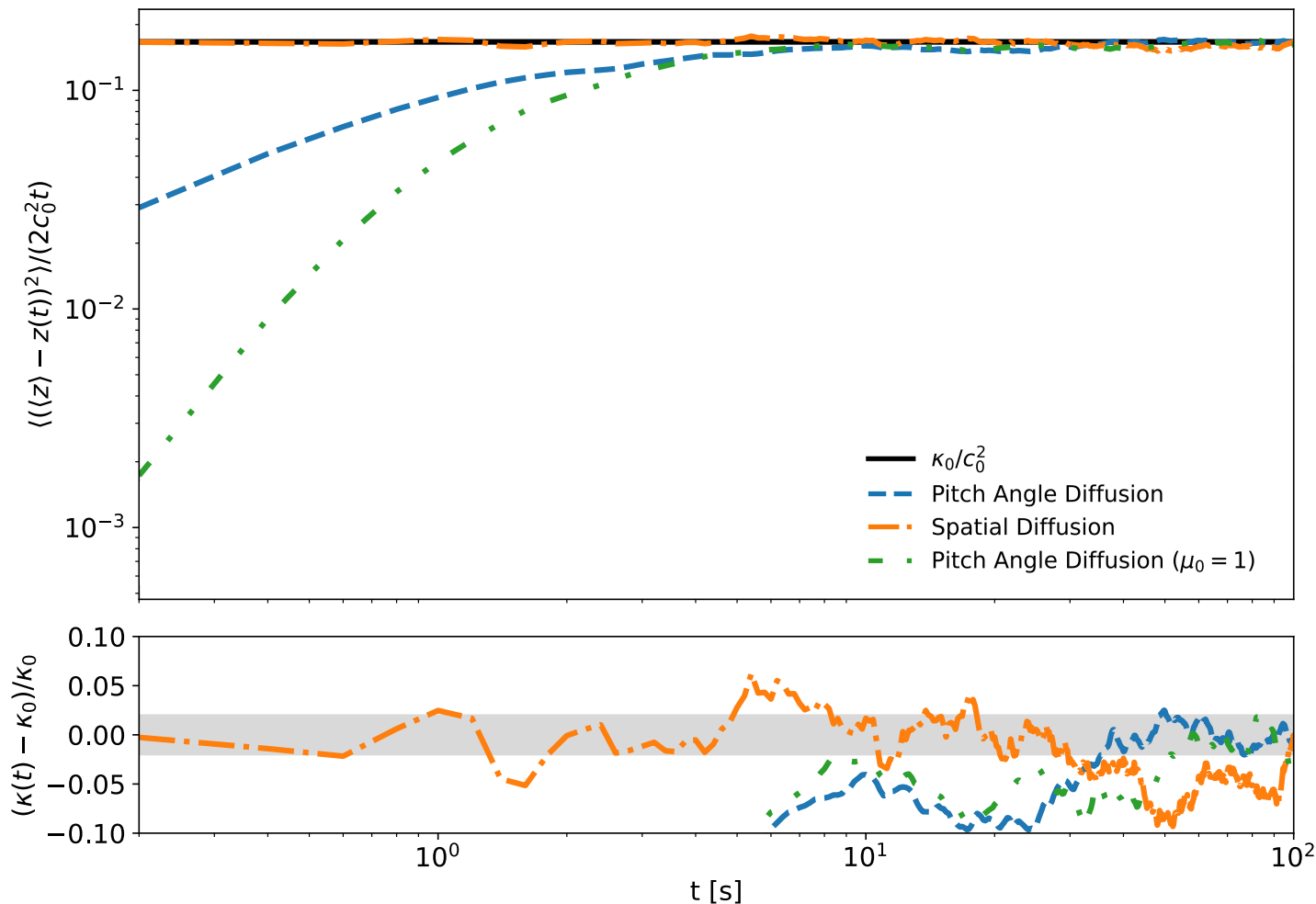
$$D_{\parallel} = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{(1 - \mu^2)^2}{D_{\mu\mu}} d\mu$$

$$D_{\mu\mu} = 1 - \mu^2; v = c_0;$$

$$D_{\parallel} = c_0^2/6; h = 10^{-4}$$

# First results

Running diffusion coefficient



Without focusing the asymptotic diffusion coefficient is the same

Focusing leads to a reduced mean squared displacement

Superdiffusive phase at early times for all pitch angle diffusion models

# Galactic Diffusion

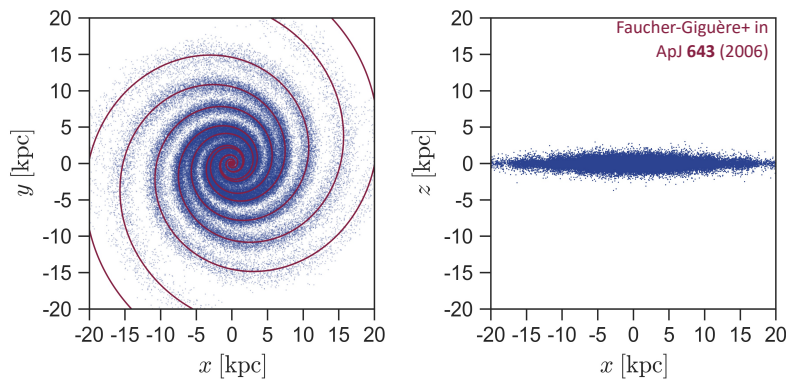


# Source Distribution

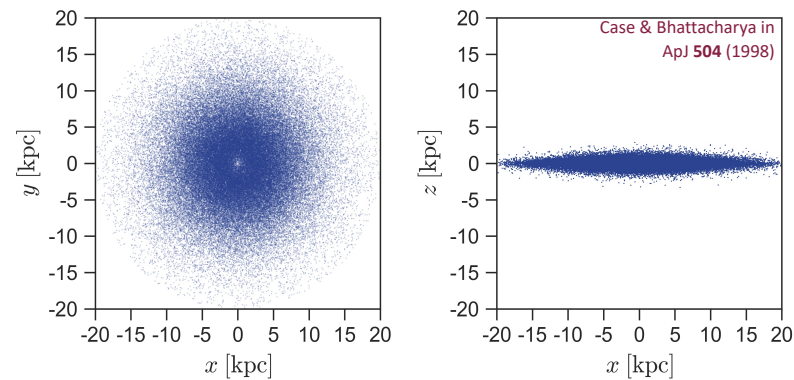
Compare different source distributions with each other

- Older simulation often assumed a homogeneous cylinder
- Likely source classes (supernova remnants, pulsar wind nebulae, etc.) have a spatial structure
- Burst injection:  $S \propto \delta(t - t_0)$
- Injected energies:  $E/Z = R \in (10 - 10^5) \text{ TV}$

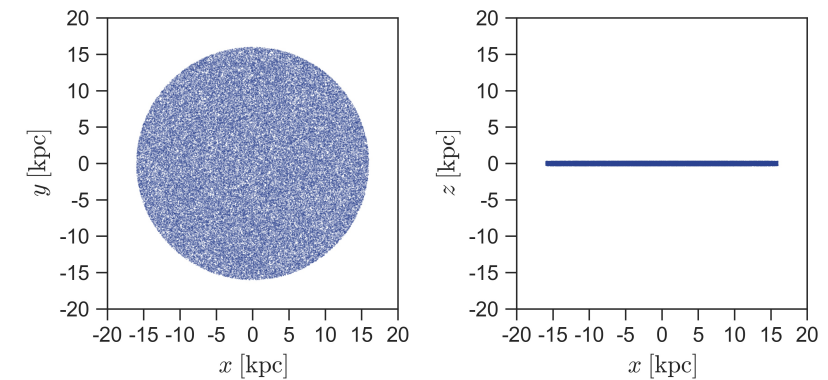
Pulsar Distribution



SNR Distribution



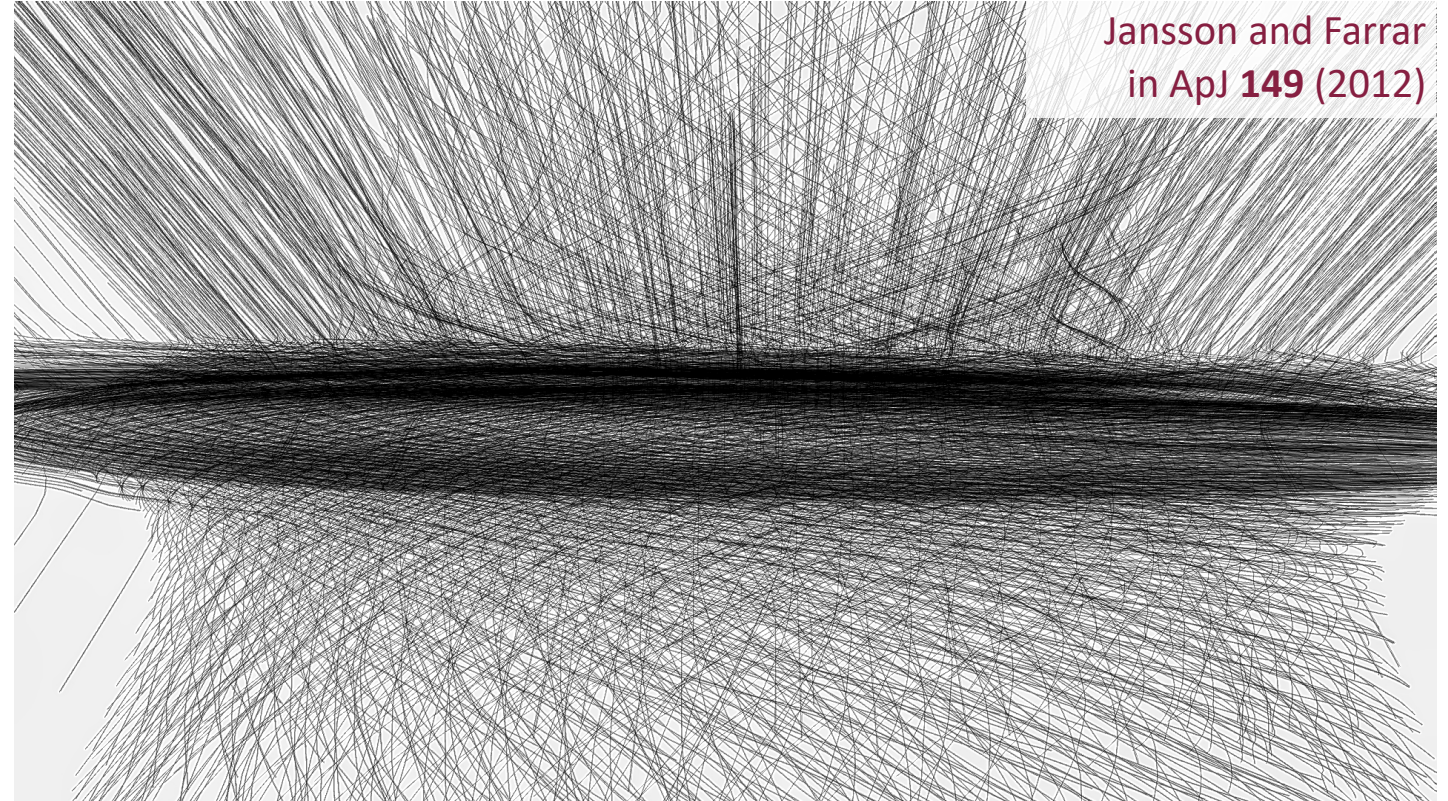
Homogeneous Cylinder



# Magnetic Background Field

Model by Jansson and Farrar (2012)

- Versatile model of the coherent magn. field
  - Spiral arms, poloidal and toroidal components, etc.
- Available in CRPropa
- Some physics problems
  - Not cont. differentiable
  - $\nabla \mathbf{B} \neq 0$
  - Updated field UF23 available now

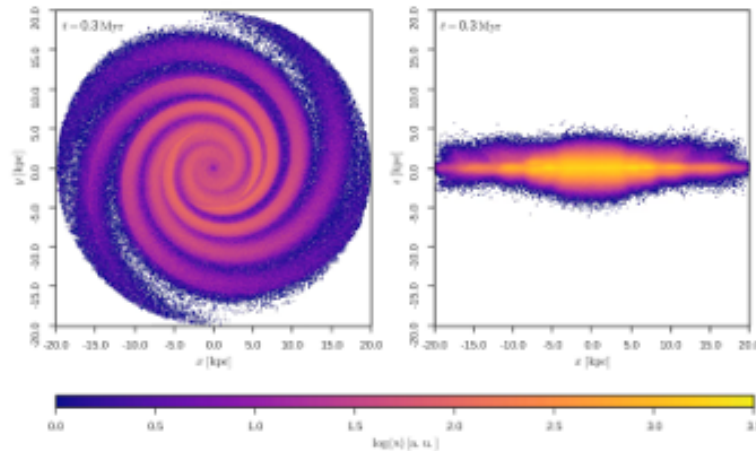




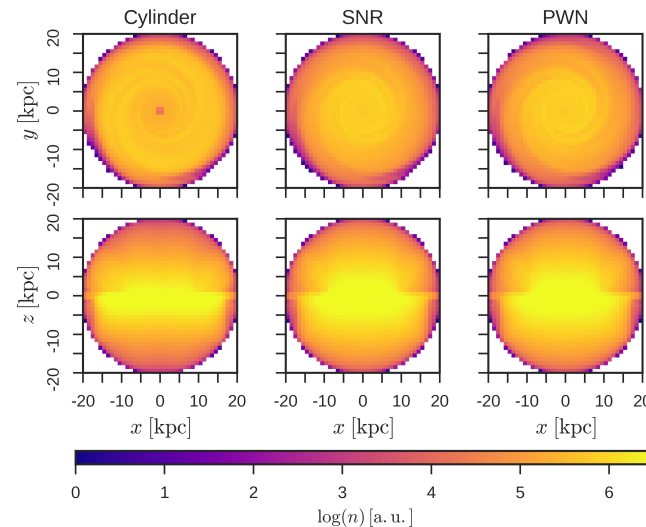
# Results

- Source distribution is relevant on short timescales only.
- Magnetic field morphology plays an important role for the stationary CR density.
- Diffusion ratio determines the magnetic field's influence on CR density.
- Time scales are decreasing with increasing rigidity.

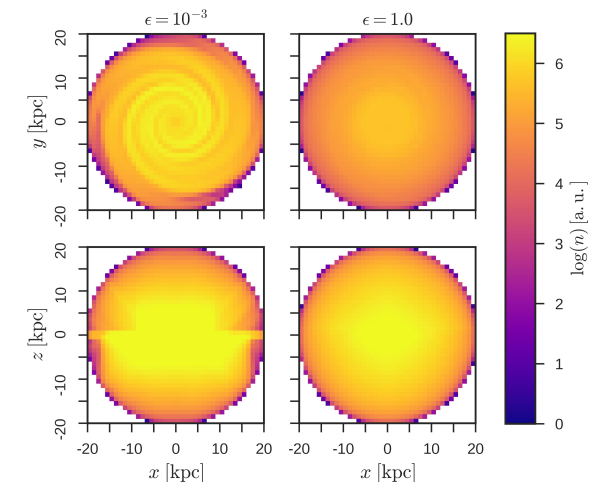
Source: PWN,  $R = 10 \text{ TV}$ ,  $\epsilon = 0.01$



$R = 100 \text{ TV}$ ,  $\epsilon = 0.01$



Source: PWN,  $R = 10 \text{ TV}$



$$\text{Escape time scale } \tau_{\text{esc}} = (53 \pm 4) \cdot \epsilon^{-0.102 \pm 0.016} \cdot \left( \frac{R}{10 \text{ TeV}} \right)^{0.30 \pm 0.02}$$

**How do Cosmic Rays interact?**

# Proton proton interaction

# Secondary production in CRPropa

CRPropa will include proton proton and other hadron interactions

Monte Carlo approach needs

- Total inelastic cross section (depends on primary energy)
- differential inclusive cross section (depends on primary and secondary energy)

This will allow to model

- Galactic plane neutrinos
- $\gamma$ -rays from potential PeVatrons

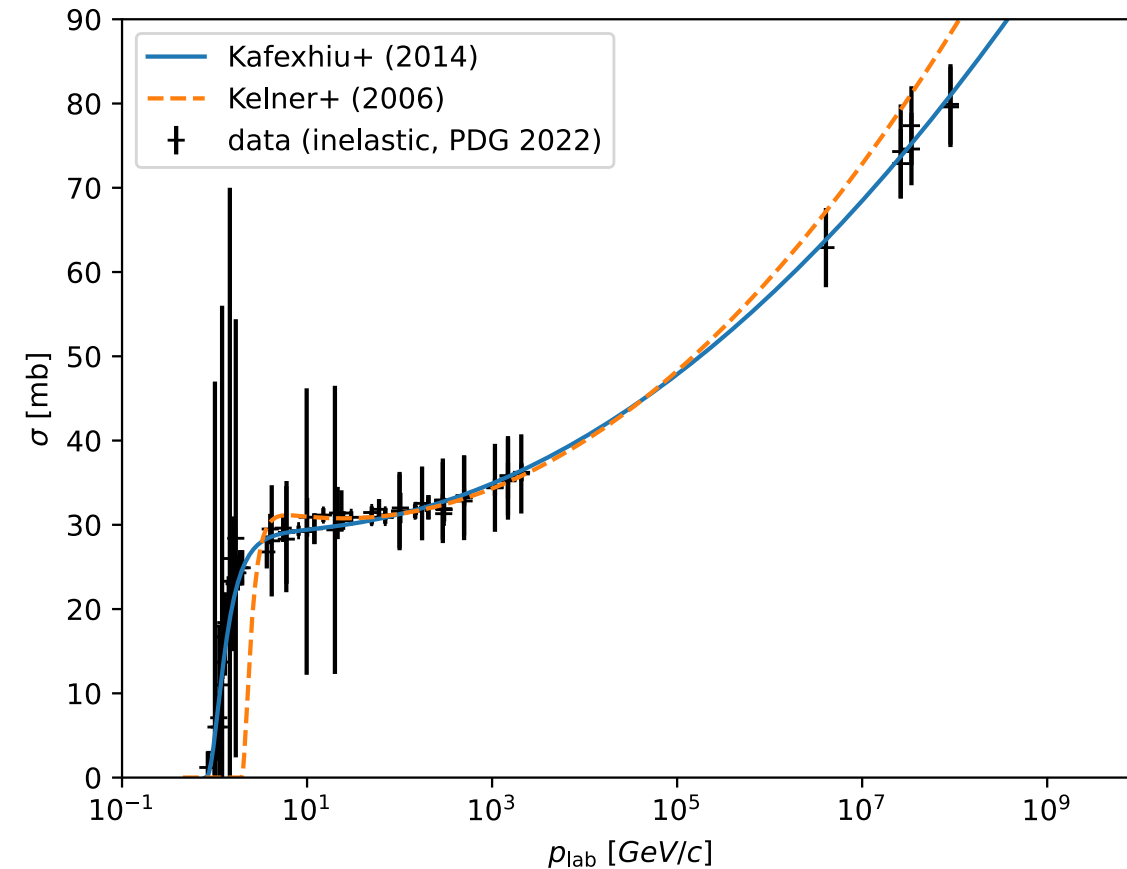


Figure by Julien Dörner



# Secondary production in CRPropa

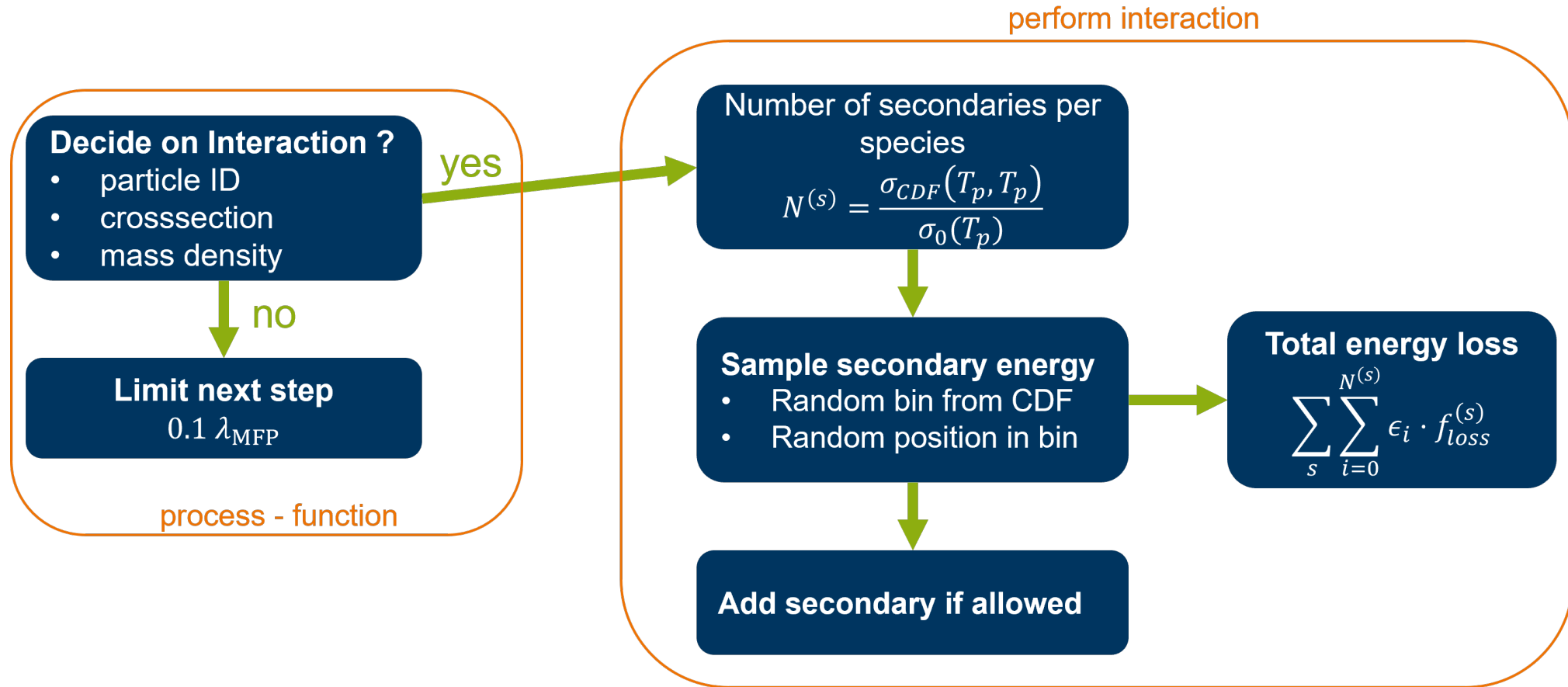
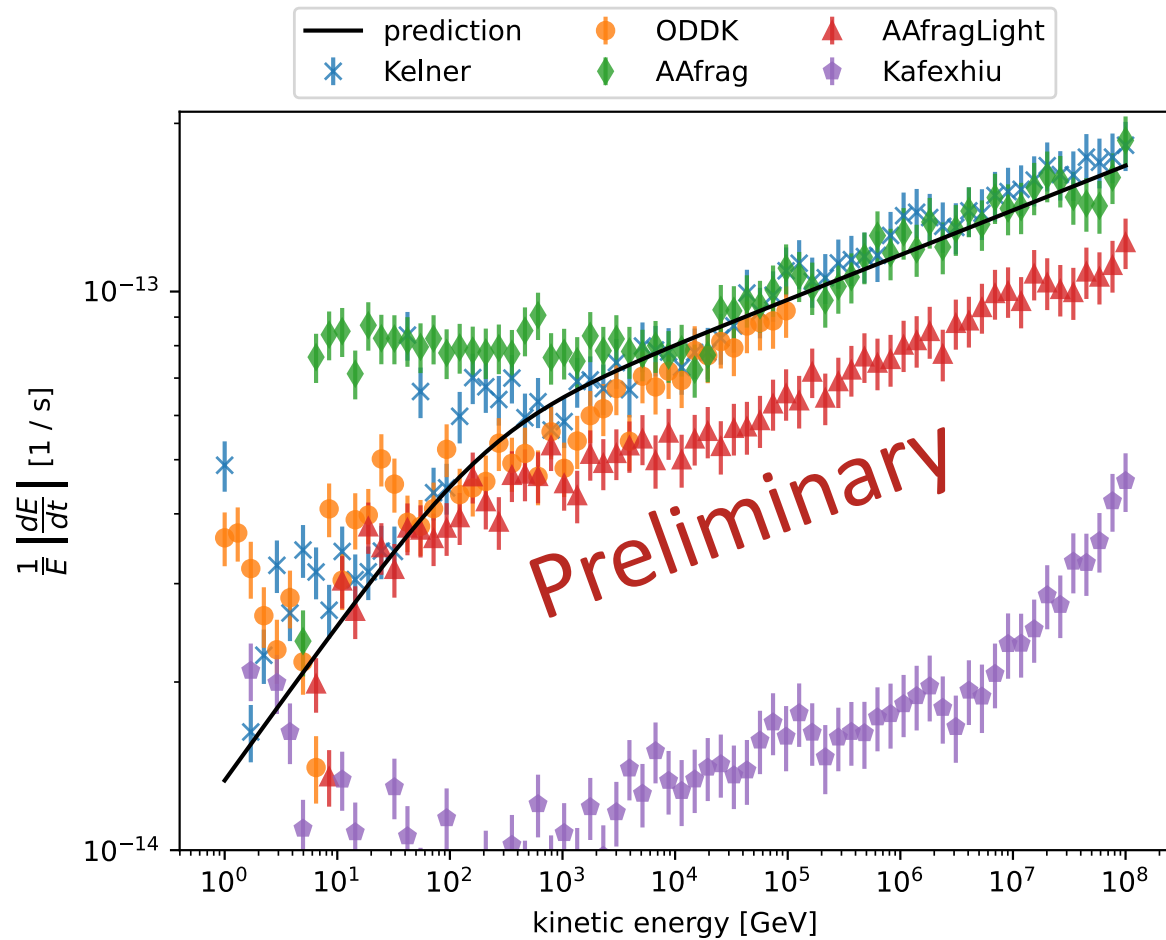


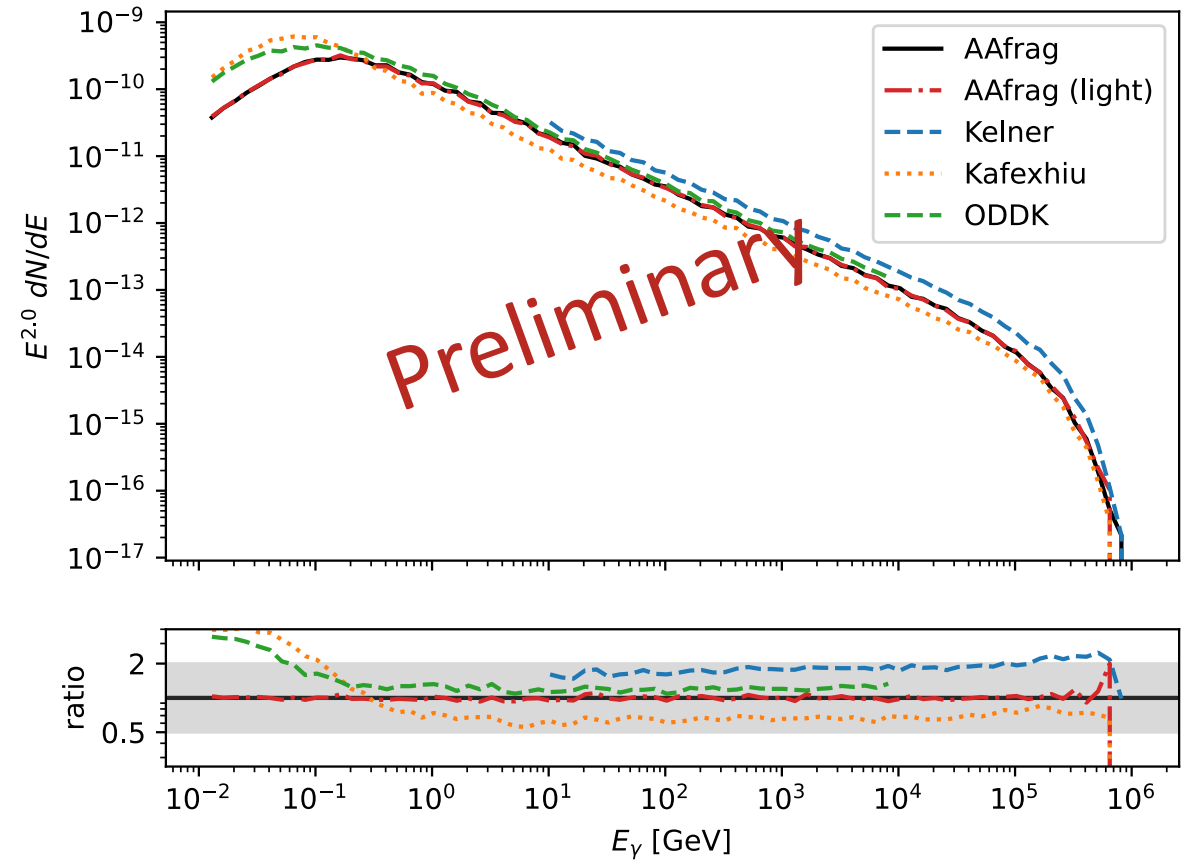
Figure by Julien Dörner

# Influence on Observables

Energy loss rates



$\gamma$ -ray Flux from a giant molecular cloud

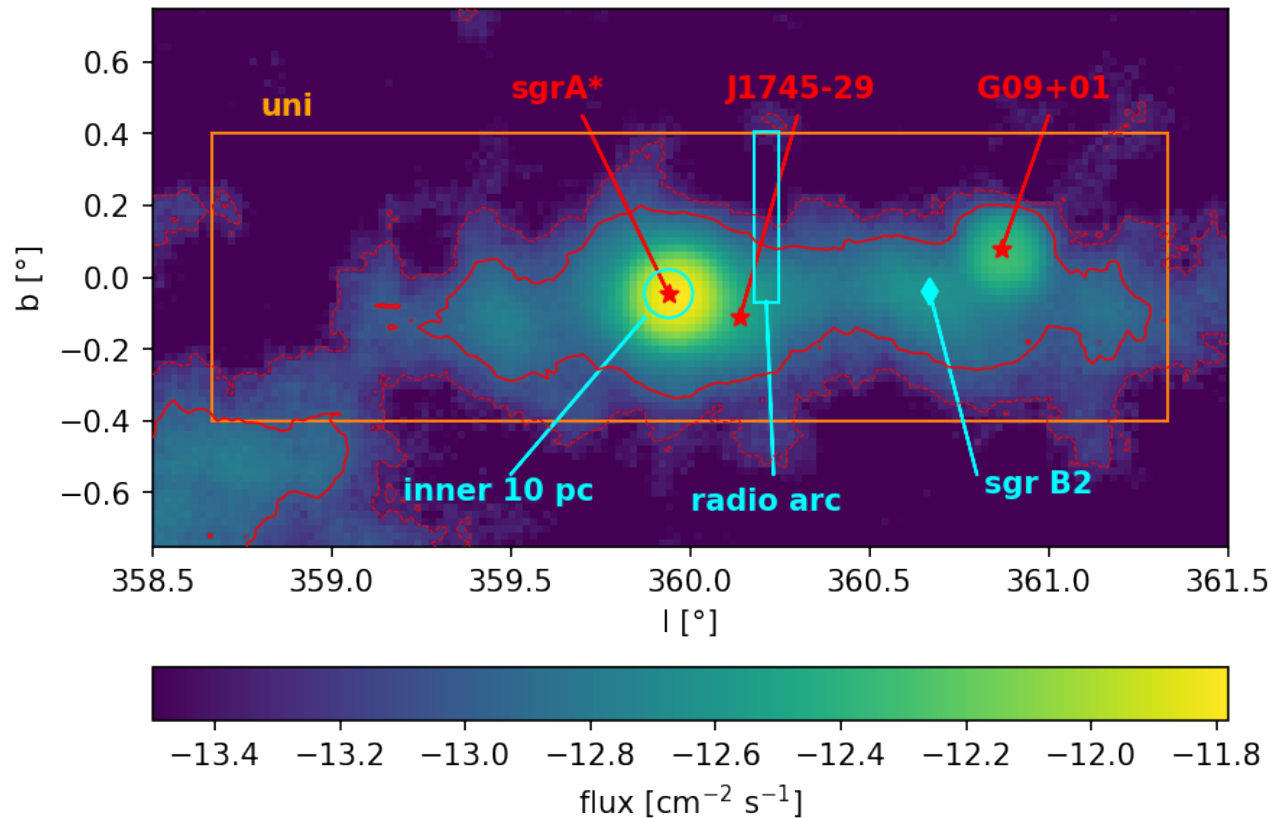


Figures by Julien Dörner

# Emission from the Galactic Center

# Gamma Rays from the Galactic center

Hess observation of the GC



Very high energy gamma-rays  
observed from the Galactic center

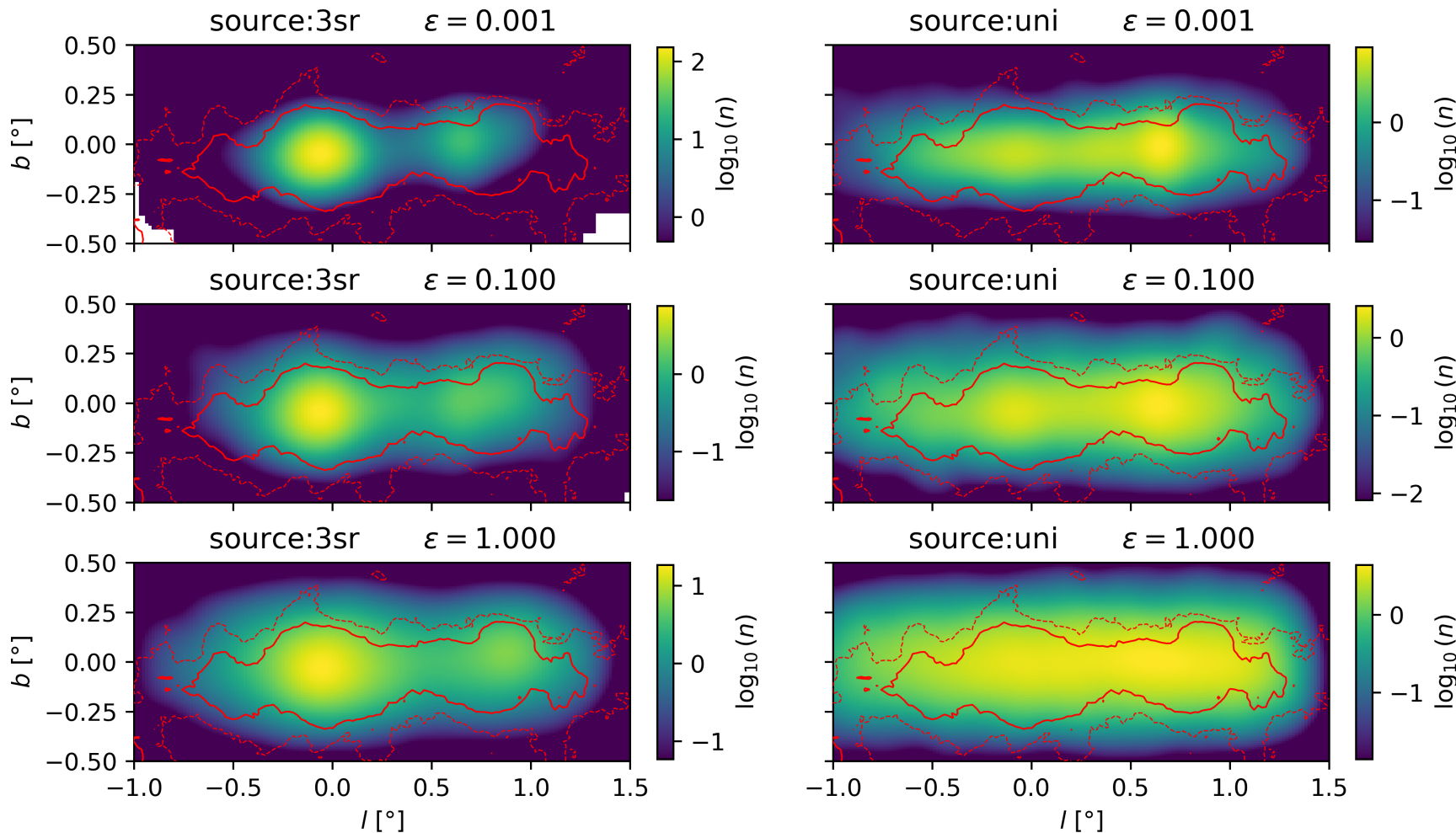
Modeling with CRPropa

- 3D magnetic field structure
- 3D approximation of the target gas densities

Questions

- Influence of the transport model?
- Relevance of source distribution?
- What is the neutrino contribution?

# Gamma Rays from the Galactic center



Reduced perpendicular diffusion leads to strong confinement.

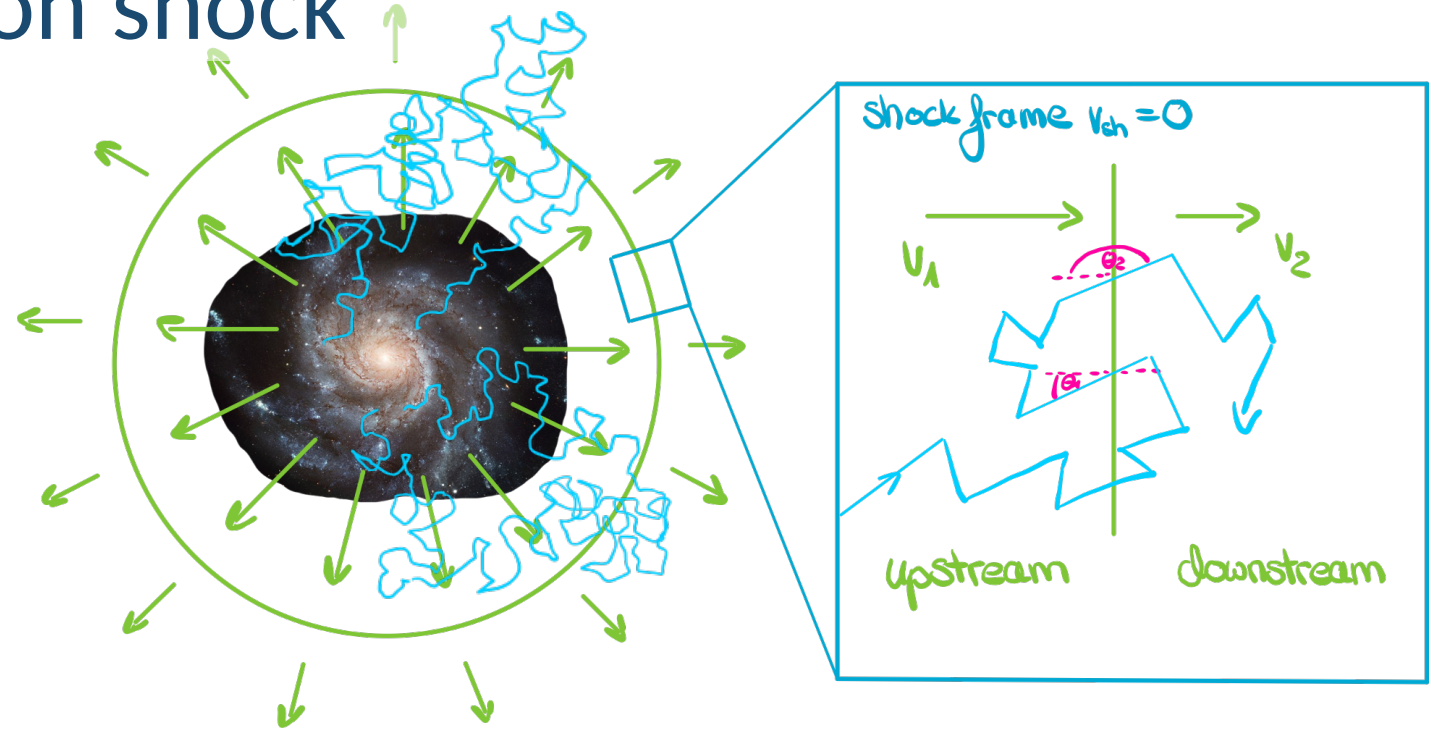
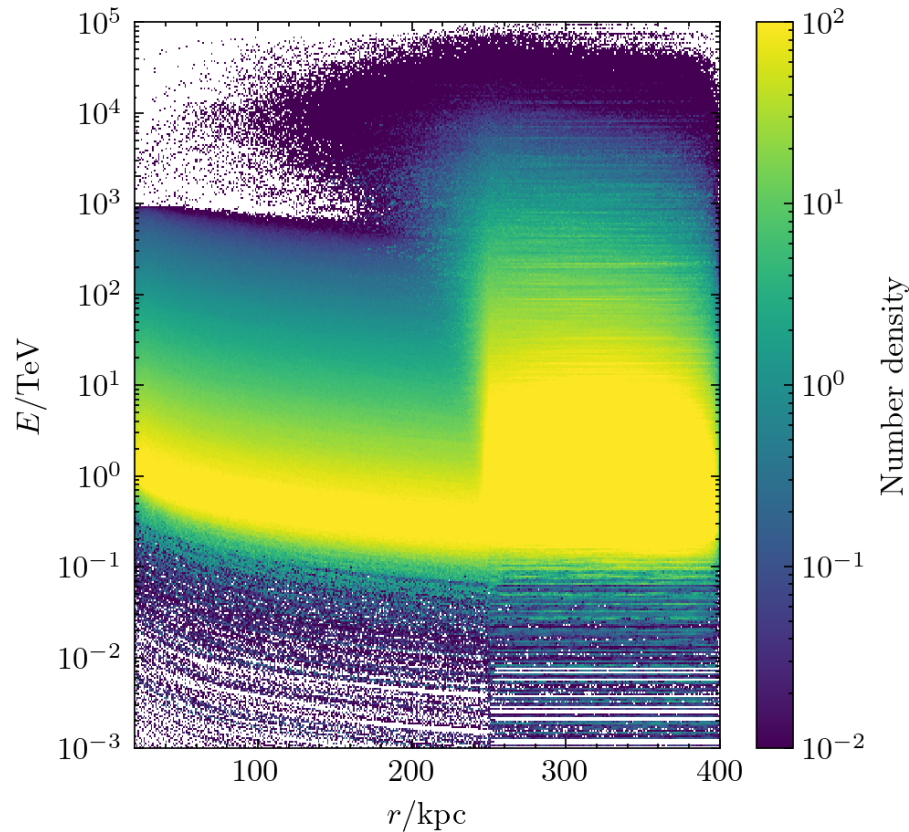
Uniform source too strongly confined in Sgr B2.

Best agreement to data for point source + isotropic diffusion

# Application to Galactic Wind Termination Shock



# Galactic wind termination shock



**Assumption:** Galactic Termination Shock (GTS) accelerates CRs, e.g., Bustard et al. (2017).

**Question:** Can these CRs propagate back into the galaxy?

# GWTS - Set Up

## Diffusion:

$$\kappa = 5 \times 10^{28} C_\epsilon \cdot \left( \frac{R}{4 \text{ GV}} \right)^\delta \cdot \text{diag}(1, \epsilon, \epsilon) \frac{\text{cm}^2}{\text{s}}$$

## Magnetic Field:

Spherically symmetric (**model S**) and Archimedean spiral (**model A**)

## Galactic Wind:

Differentiable approximation of a strong shock

## Shock:

Total CR power:  $L_{\text{CR}} = \frac{1}{7} 10^{40} \frac{\text{erg}}{\text{s}}$ ,

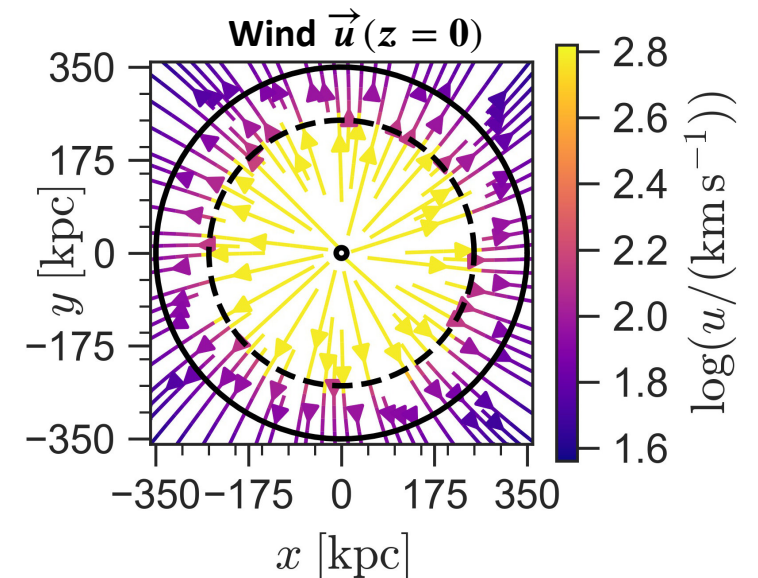
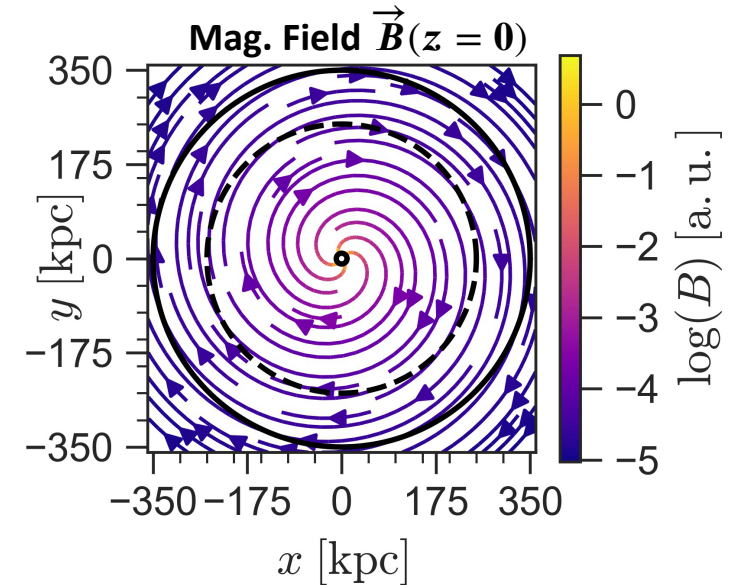
Duration:  $\Delta T = 100 \text{ Myr}$ ,

Init. Spectrum:  $\frac{dn}{dE} \propto E^{-2}$

Location:  $r_{\text{shock}} = 250 \text{ kpc}$

## Simulation Volume:

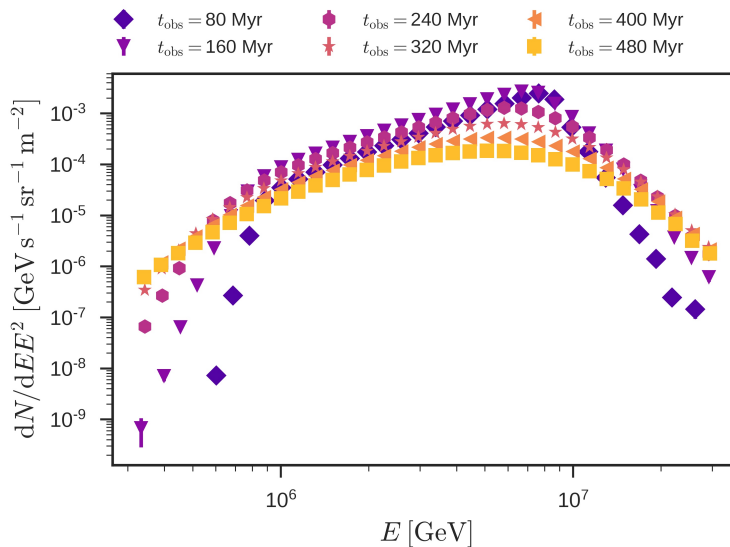
Free Escape Boundaries at  $r_{\text{obs}} = 10 \text{ kpc}$  and  $r_{\text{b}} = 350 \text{ kpc}$



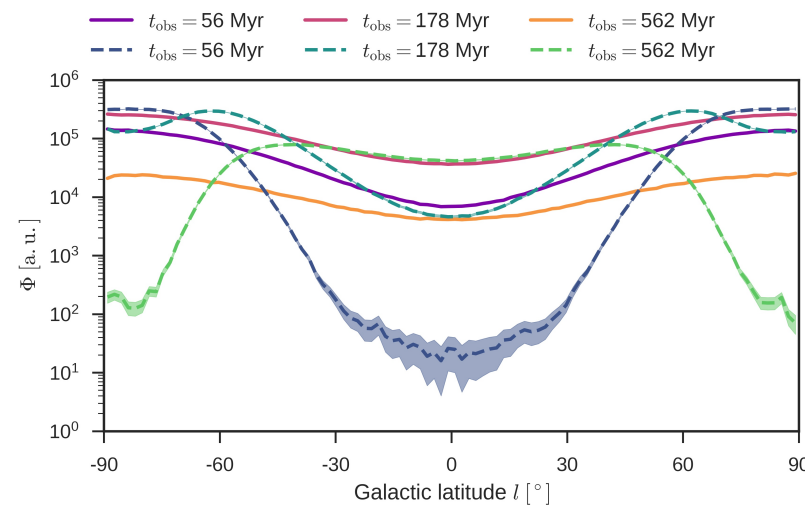
# GWTS - Results

- Ensemble mainly loses energy due to adiabatic cooling
- Time scale and total luminosity depend on the diffusion index  $\delta$
- Energy spectrum is time dependent
- Perpendicular diffusion eases problematic anisotropy constrains
- Upper limit of neutrino flux is still below IceCube limits

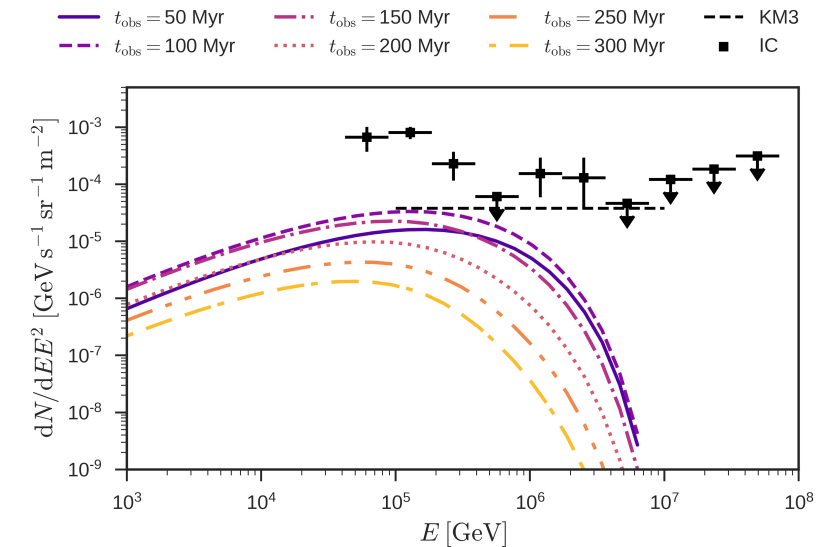
### Energy Spectrum



### Arrival Direction



### Neutrino Flux



# Summary and Outlook

# Summary

- A variable toolbox to model different transport equations
- Including particle acceleration and relevant interactions
- Time-dependent background fields
- Extended to anomalous diffusion
- Comparison to full orbit simulations in same framework
  
- Open source & ready to use
  
- Applications range from UHECR to transport in the heliosphere

**Advertisement**



# CRPropa Conference

Talks and discussion sessions on cosmic-ray transport and interaction

Focus on simulation and modeling, but not limited to CRPropa!

- January, 6-9 2025
- Kalifa University, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- [More information](#)
- [Registration](#)

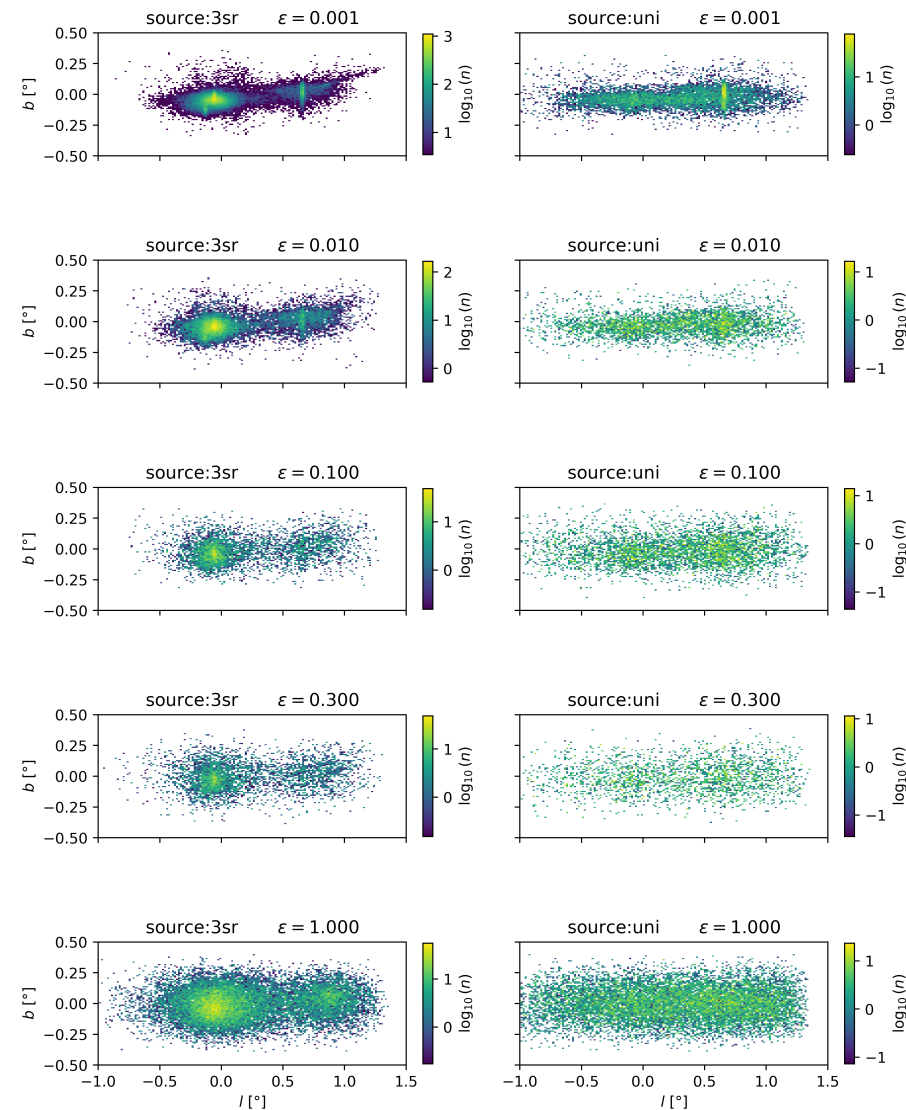
The logo for CRPropa features the text 'CRPropa' in a white, sans-serif font. The 'C' and 'R' are large and bold, with a white arrow pointing to the right that starts from the top of the 'R' and ends above the 'P'. The 'P' is also large and bold, and the 'o' and 'p' are smaller. The 'a' is also large and bold. The entire logo is set against a background of a starry night sky with a mountain range silhouette at the bottom.



**Backup**

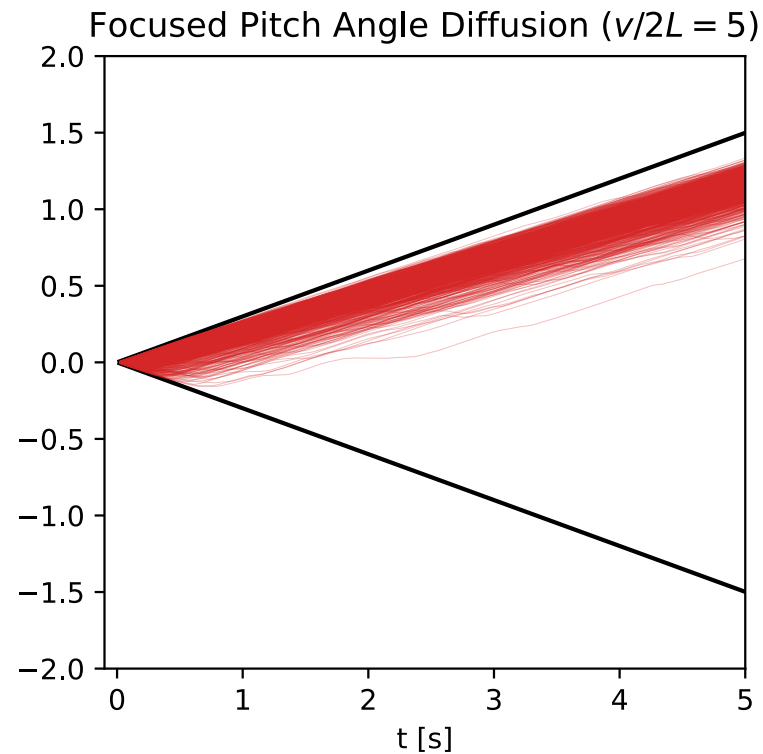
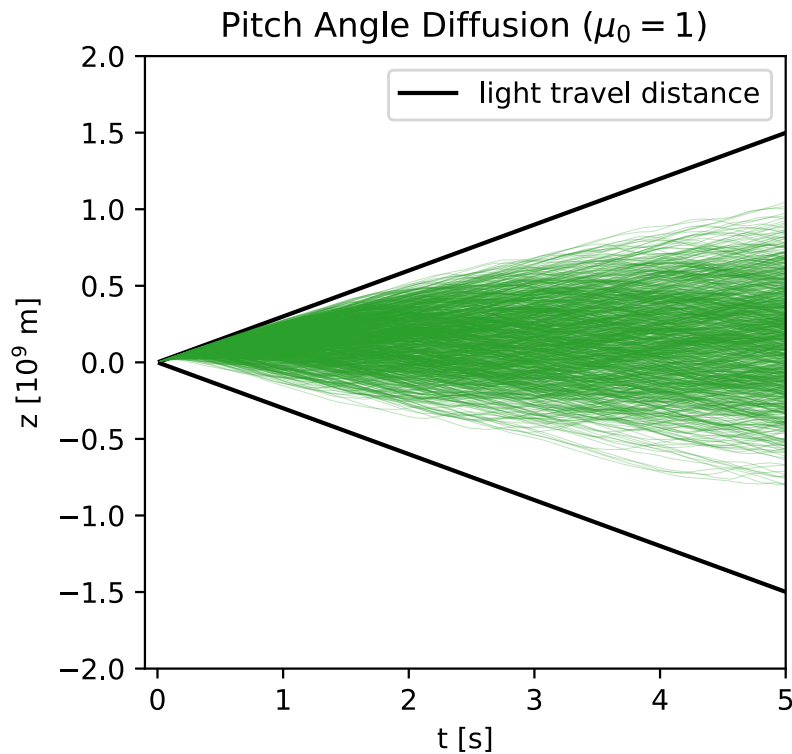
# Galactic Center

# Gamma Rays from the Galactic center



# Pitch Angle Diffusion

# Example Trajectories



Initial distribution is quickly isotropized

Collective drift for focused transport

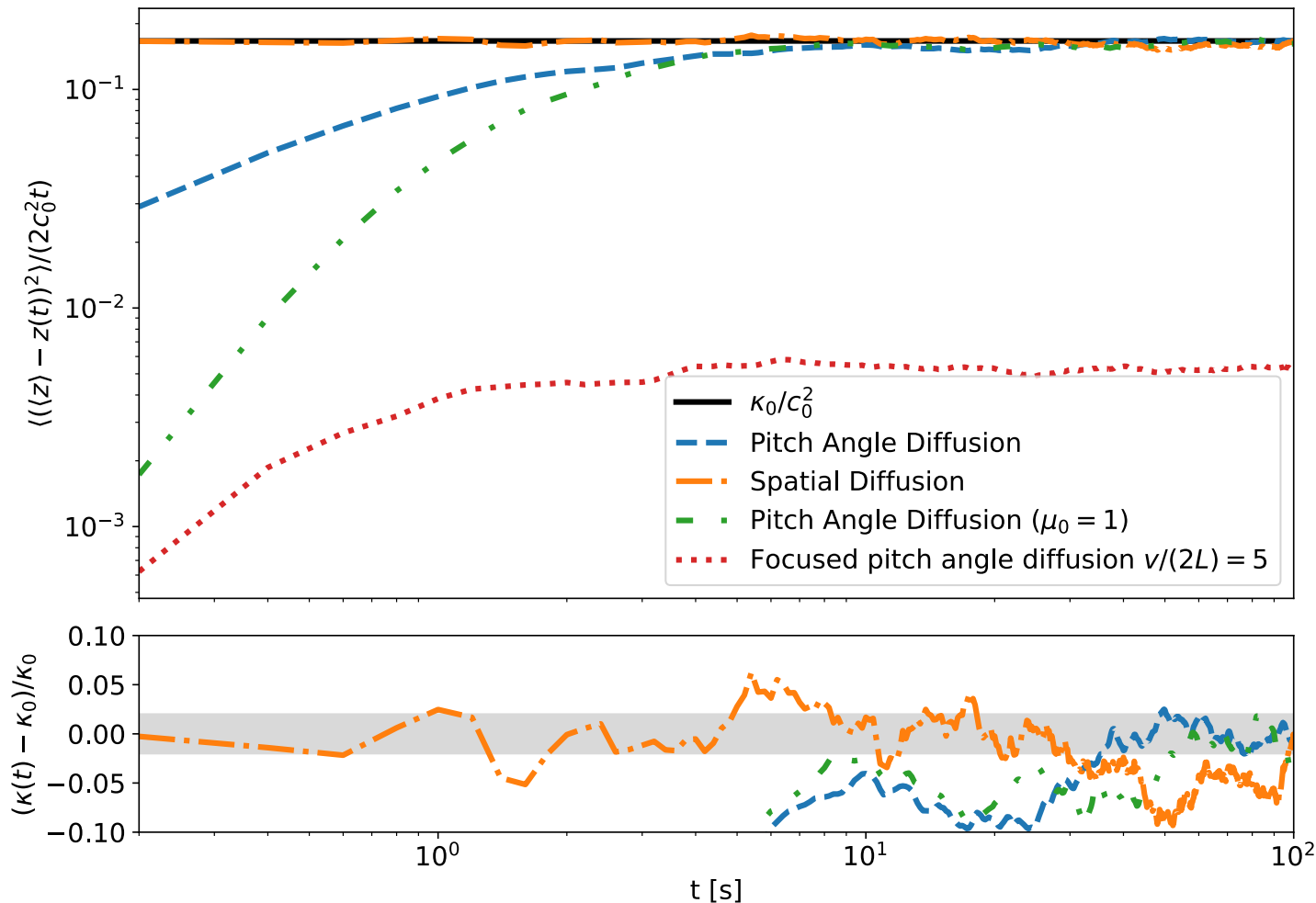
Reduced mean squared displacement

$$D_{\mu\mu} = 1 - \mu^2; v = c_0;$$

$$h = 10^{-4}; L = 0.1v$$

# First results

Running diffusion coefficient



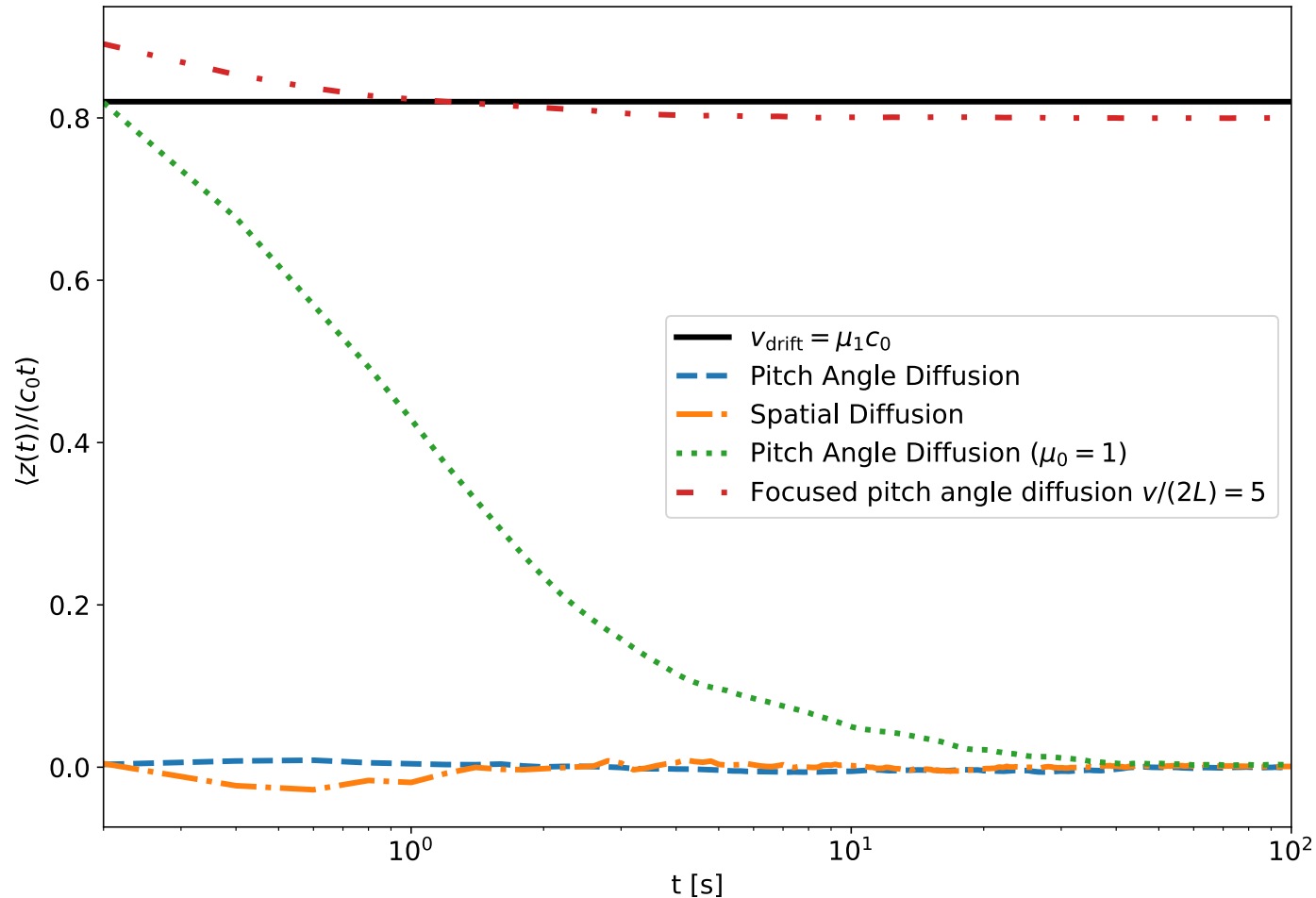
Without focusing the asymptotic diffusion coefficient is the same

Focusing leads to a reduced mean squared displacement

Superdiffusive phase at early times for all pitch angle diffusion models

# First results

Mean propagation speed



Focusing leads to a constant drift along the magnetic field

All other models have vanishing mean speed

Anisotropic injection leads to drift in early times



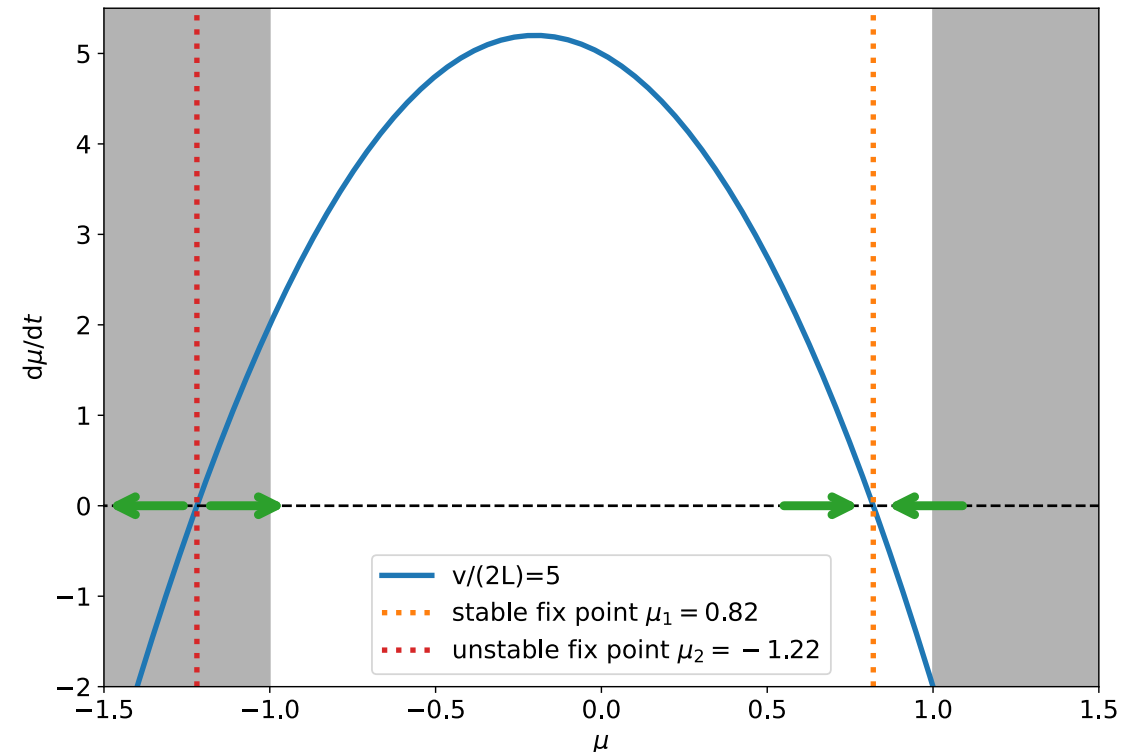
# Fixed Points

$$\frac{d\mu}{dt} = \frac{v}{2L} (1 - \mu^2) + \frac{\partial D_{\mu\mu}}{\partial \mu}$$

Differential Equation for the pitch angle becomes non-linear

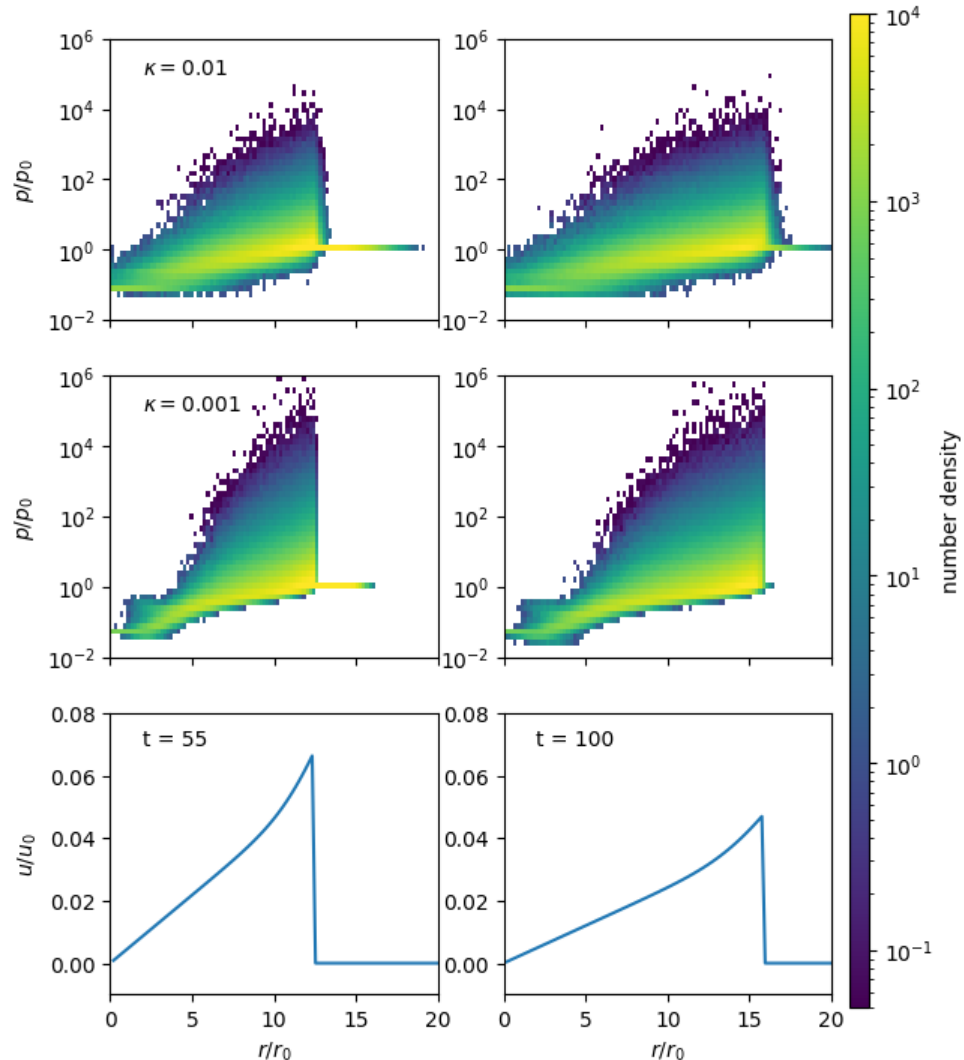
Has several fixed points ( $d\mu/dt = 0$ )

For isotropic diffusion  $D_{\mu\mu} = D_0(1 - \mu^2)$  seem to dictate the drift speed

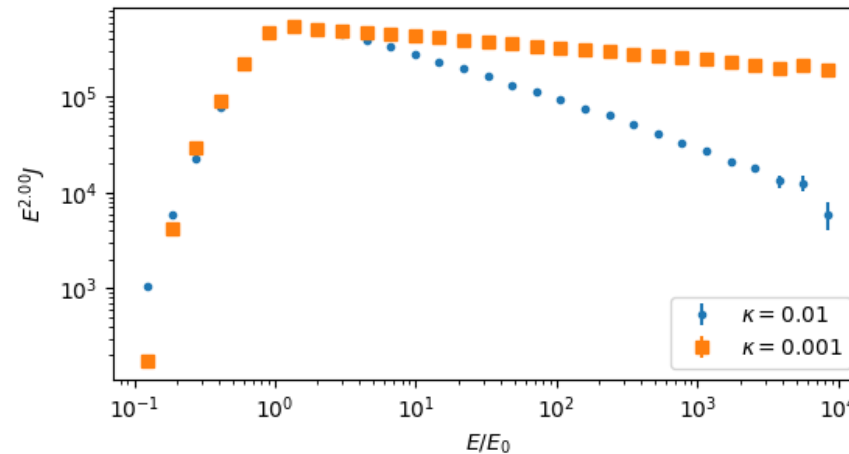
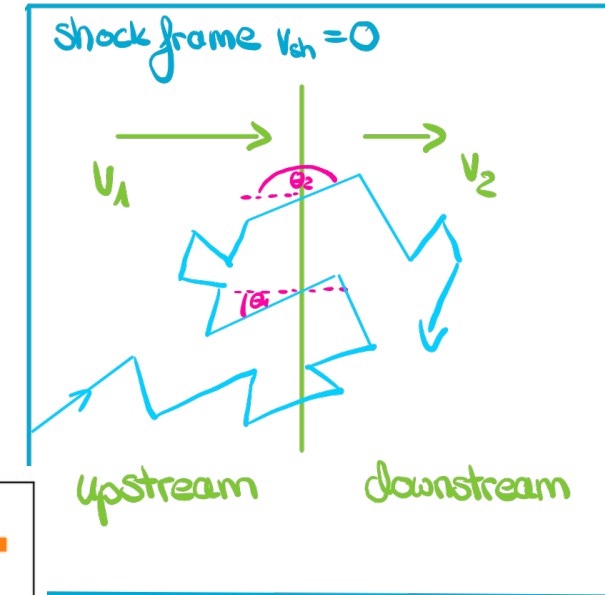


**Sedov Taylor**

# Diffusive Shock Acceleration



Time-dependent background fields, e.g. Sedov-Taylor similarity solution



matches estimate from Drury, 1983

$$a = 4 \left[ 1 + (3 + b) \left( \frac{\kappa_1}{Ru_1} + \frac{\kappa_2}{Ru_2} \right) + \frac{\kappa_2}{Ru_2} \right] + O(\epsilon^2)$$

where  $\epsilon = \kappa/(\dot{R}R)$  and  $f \propto p^{-a}R(t)^b$