The SuperNova Remnant hypothesis for the origin of galactic Cosmic Rays

Stefano Gabici
APC, Paris

Evolution of SuperNova Remnants

SN -> Explosion in a cold, uniform medium

Explosion energy: $E_{SN} = 10^{51}\ E_{51}\ \mathrm{erg}$

Mass of ejecta: $M_{ej} \approx 1 \div 10\ M_{\odot}$

M_{sw} -> mass swept up by the shock

if $M_{sw} << M_{ej}$ → free expansion phase

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$$E_{SN} = \frac{1}{2}\ M_{ej}\ v^2 \ ➡\ \boxed{v \ = \ 10^9\ E_{51}^{1/2}\ \left(\frac{M_{ej}}{M_{\odot}}\right)^{1/2}\ \mathrm{cm/s}}$$

constant velocity

Evolution of SuperNova Remnants

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uniform medium with density: $\varrho_{gas} \approx 1.7 \times 10^{-24}$ g

$$\frac{4\,\pi}{3}\,\overset{\text{shock radius}}{R_s^3}\;\varrho_{gas} = M_{ej} \quad \Rightarrow \quad R_s \approx 2 \left(\frac{M_{ej}}{M_\odot}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \mathrm{pc}$$

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duration of the free expansion phase: $t \;\approx\; \frac{R_s}{v} \;\approx\; 200\; \left(\frac{M_{ej}}{M_\odot} \right)^{-\frac{1}{6}} \; \mathrm{yr}$

Evolution of SuperNova Remnants

$M_{sw} >> M_{ej}$ -> the shock slows down

we want to find a relation between R_s and t

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let's start by considering the shock heating of the gas

$$k_b T_2 = \frac{3}{16} m u_1^2 \gtrsim 1 \text{ keV}$$

cooling time

$$\tau_c \propto T^{\frac{1}{2}} \gtrsim 10^6 \text{ yr}$$

much longer than the SNR age!

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- SNRs emit X-rays
- the SNR in this phase conserves the total energy!

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we can built a non dimensional quantity -> $\left(\frac{E_{SN}}{\varrho_{gas}}\right)\frac{t^2}{R_s^5}$

⇒ $$R_s \approx \left(\frac{E_{SN}}{\varrho_{gas}}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} t^{\frac{2}{5}}$$

Sedov solution

Evolution of SuperNova Remnants

Sedov solution

$$R_s \approx \left(\frac{E_{SN}}{\varrho_{gas}}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} t^{\frac{2}{5}} \qquad\qquad v_s = \frac{\mathrm{d}R_s}{\mathrm{d}t} \approx \frac{2}{5}\left(\frac{E_{SN}}{\varrho_{gas}}\right)^{\frac{1}{5}} t^{-\frac{3}{5}}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} E_{SN} = 10^{51}\ \mathrm{erg} \\ n_{gas} = 1\ \mathrm{cm}^{-3} \end{array} \Longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} R_s \approx 4.5 \left(\dfrac{t}{1000\ \mathrm{yr}}\right)^{\frac{2}{5}}\ \mathrm{pc} \\[2em] v_s \approx 1800 \left(\dfrac{t}{1000\ \mathrm{yr}}\right)^{-\frac{3}{5}}\ \mathrm{km/s} \end{array} \right.$$

Evolution of SuperNova Remnants

duration of the Sedov phase

t_{age} ↗

Evolution of SuperNova Remnants

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t_{age} ↗ $v_s \propto t^{-\frac{3}{5}}$ ↘

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when $t_{age} \sim \tau_c$ -> radiative losses become important

this happens at $t_{age} \sim 5 \times 10^4 \text{ yr}$

$$\begin{cases} R_s^{end} \approx 20 \text{ pc} \\ v_s^{end} \approx 200 \text{ km/s} \end{cases}$$

CR acceleration at SuperNova Remnants

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}\ \varrho_{gas}\ v_s^3\right)$$

energy flux

CR acceleration at SuperNova Remnants

$$\underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{2}\,\varrho_{gas}\,v_s^3\right)}_{\text{energy flux}}\;\underbrace{\left(4\,\pi\,R_s^2\right)}_{\text{shock surface}}$$

CR acceleration at SuperNova Remnants

$$L_{CR} = \eta \left(\frac{1}{2} \varrho_{gas} v_s^3 \right) (4 \pi R_s^2) \quad \mathrm{erg/s}$$

CR power

CR acceleration efficiency

energy flux

shock surface

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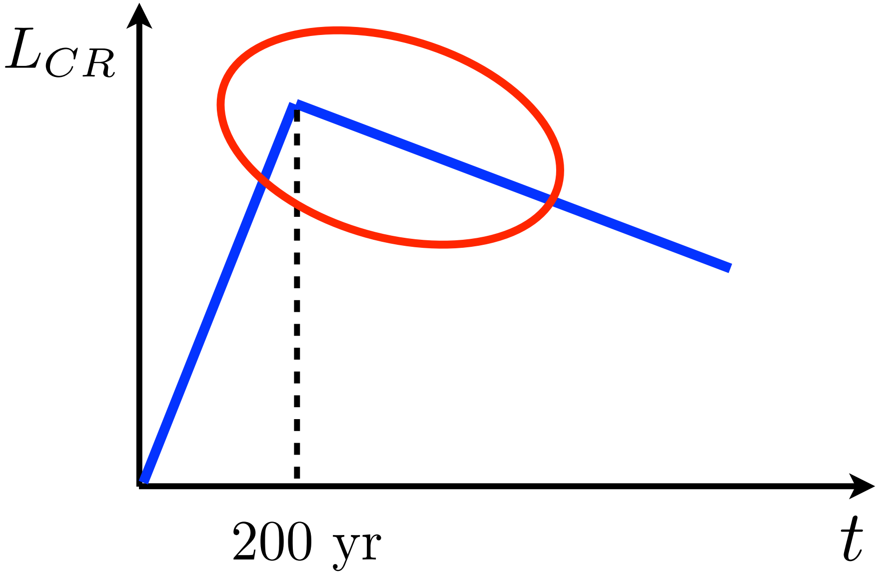
$$L_{CR} \propto v_s^3 \, R_s^2 \propto t^2$$

free expansion phase

$$\propto t^{-1}$$

Sedov phase



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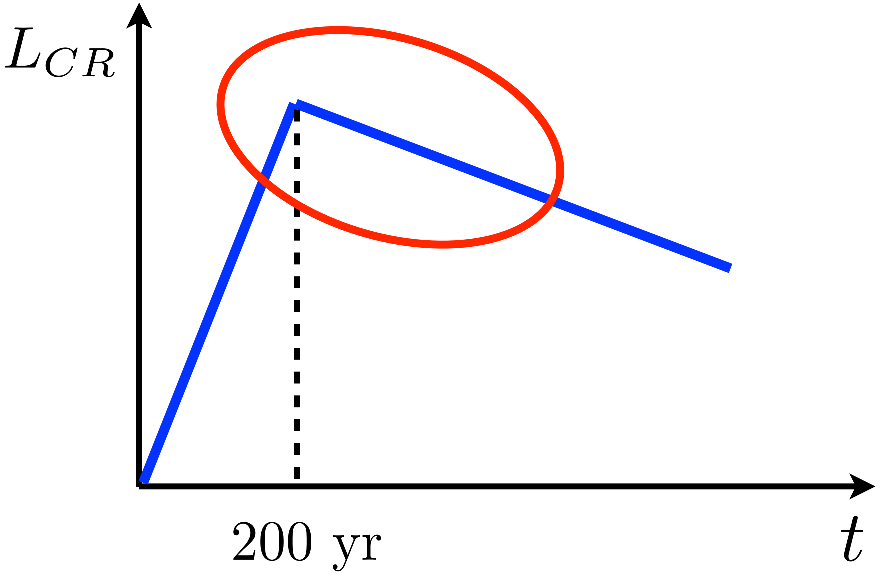
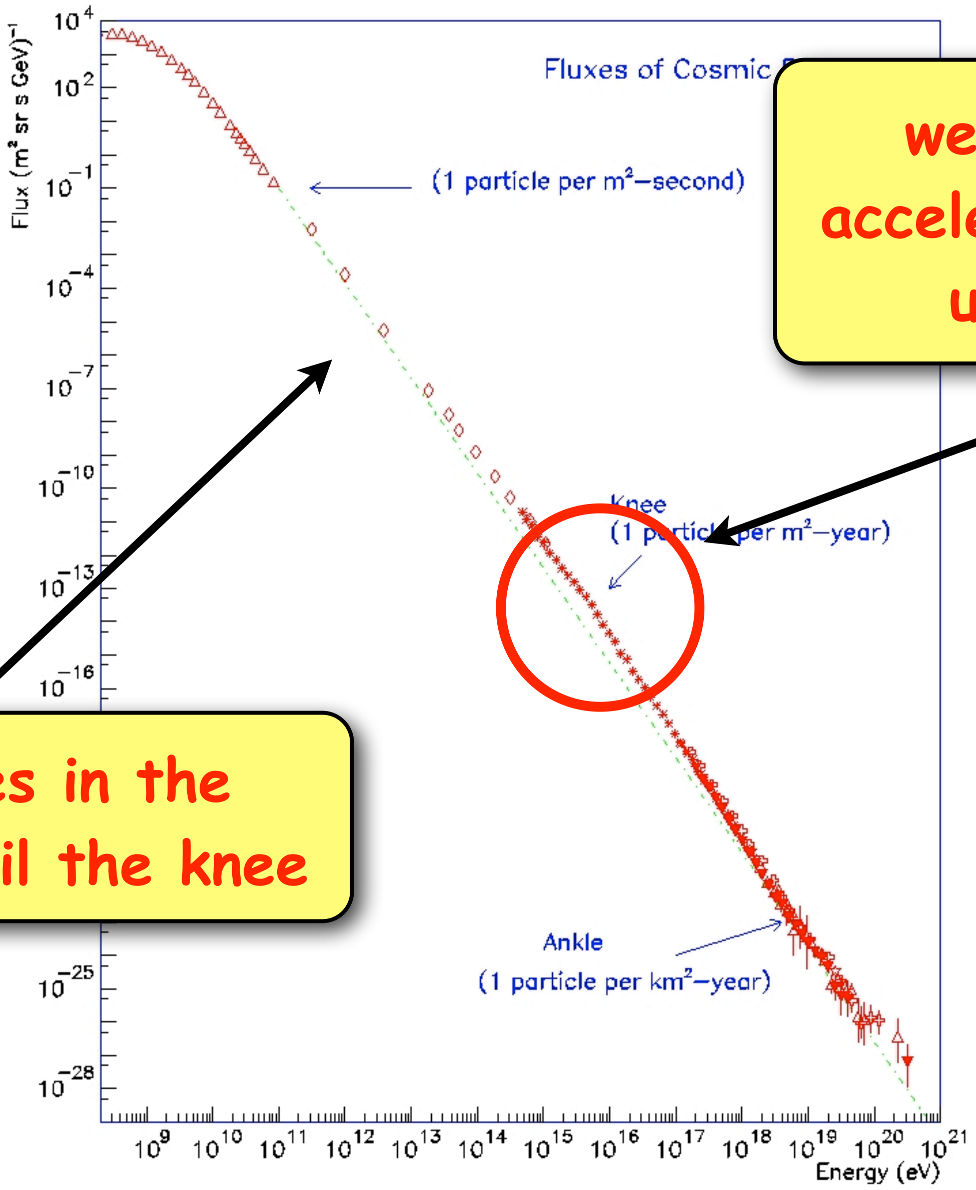


CRs are mainly accelerated at the transition between free expansion and Sedov phase

CR acceleration at SuperNova Remnants



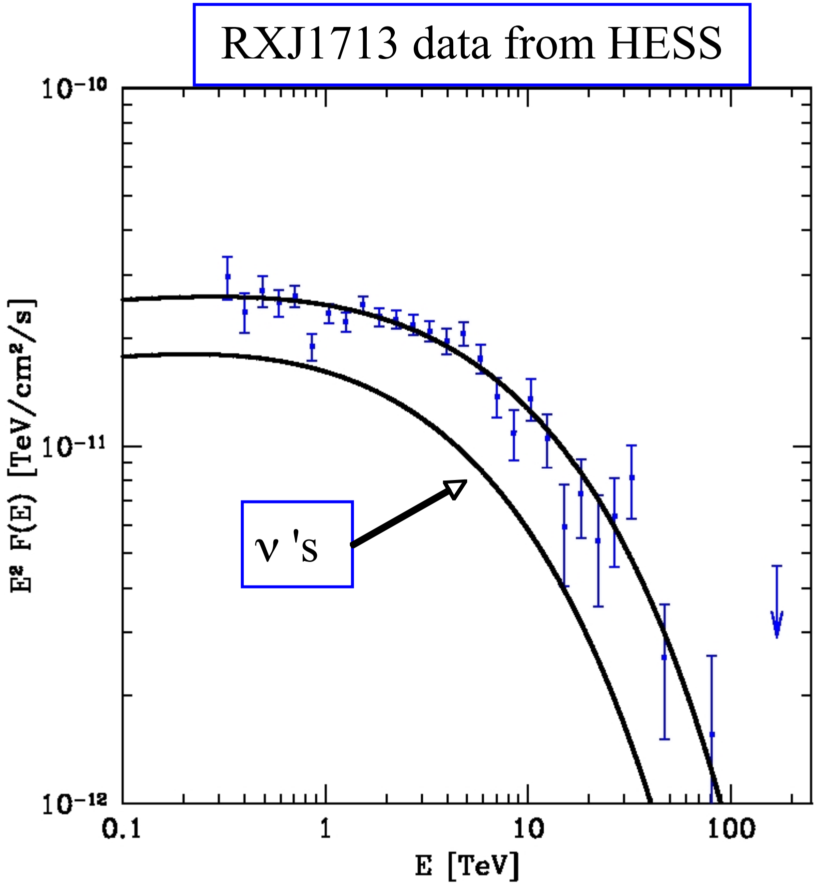
we'd like SNRs to accelerate CRs at least up to the knee

no features in the spectrum until the knee

RXJ1713 does not look like a PeVatron...

We would like SNRs to be CR PeVatrons...

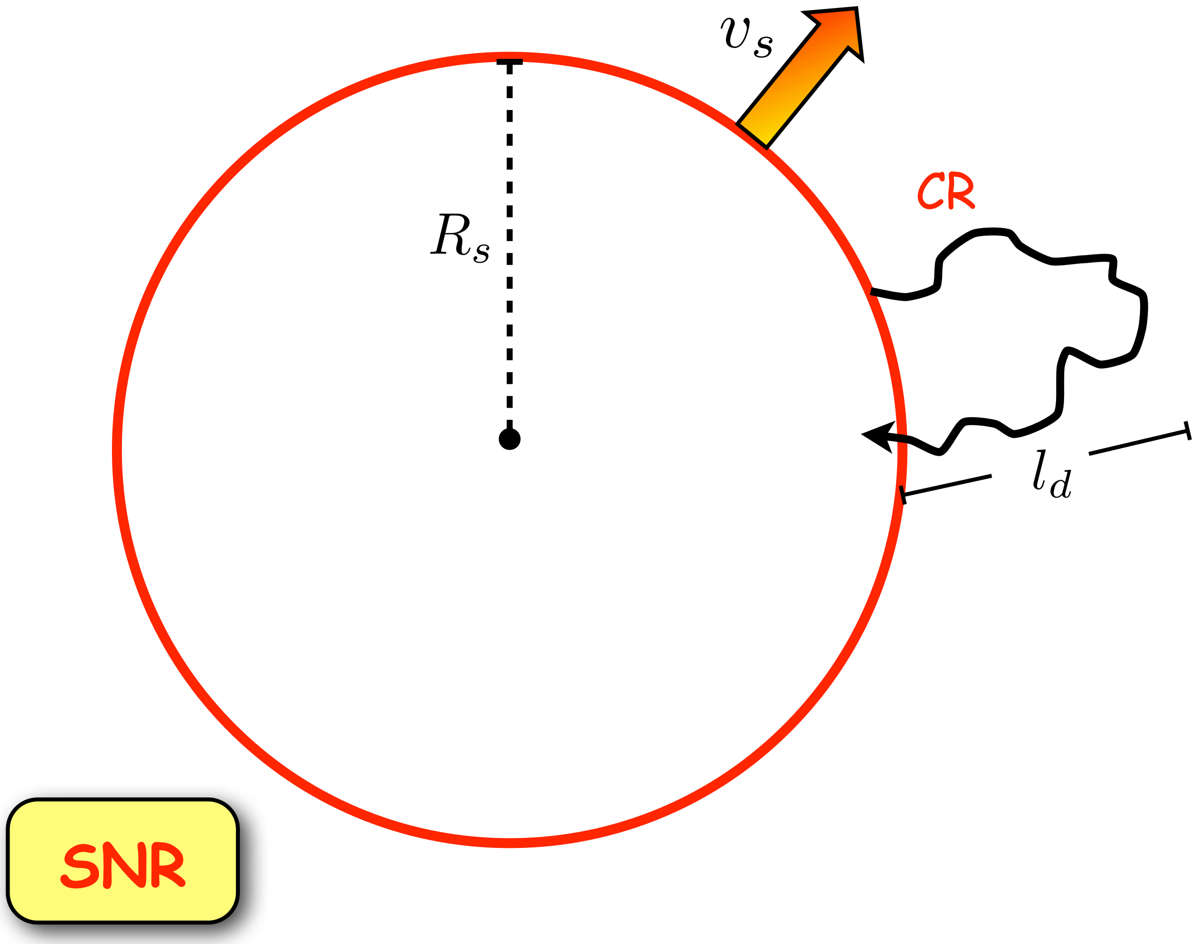
Underlying proton spectrum E^{-2} with exponential cutoff @150 TeV



Gabici, 2008

...but RXJ1713 is not!!!

Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?



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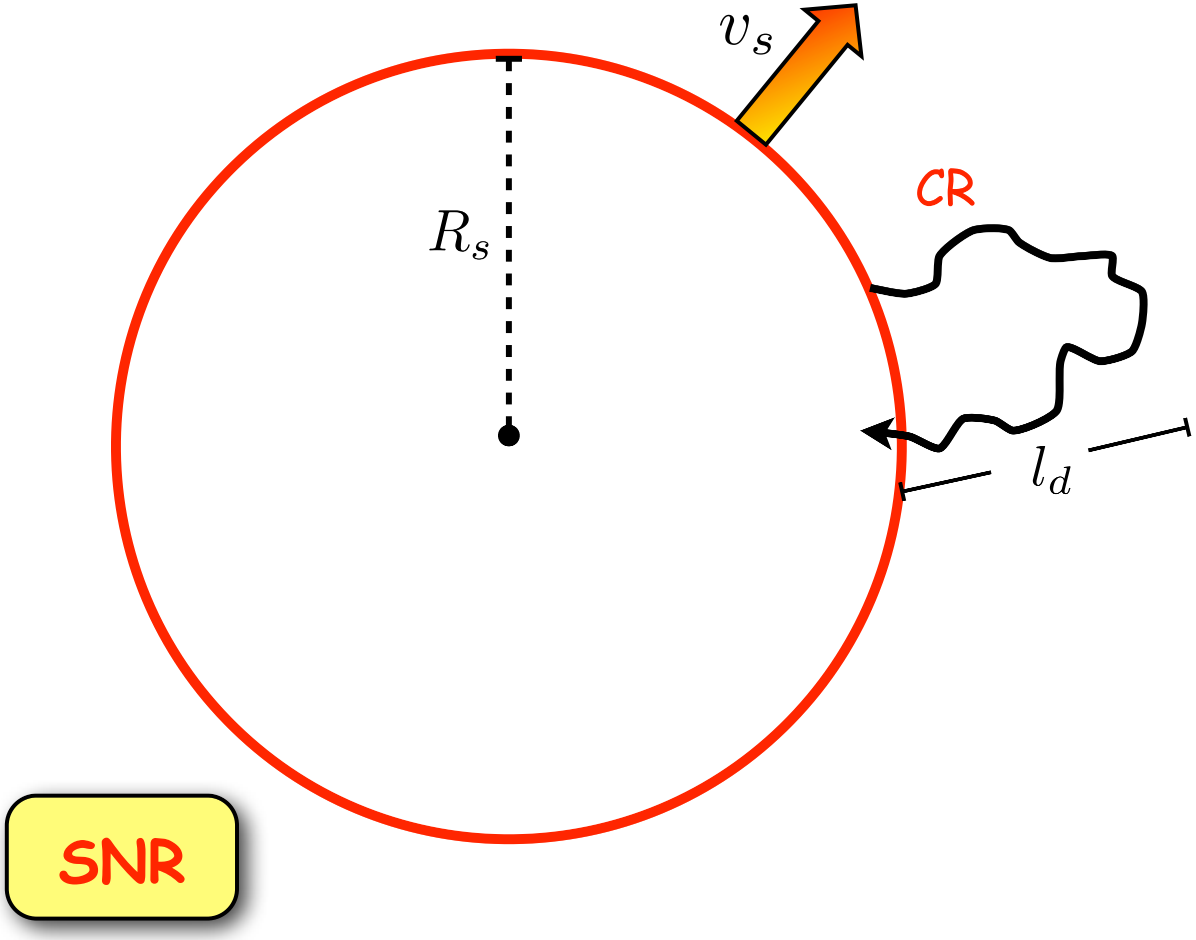

diffusion length

$$l_d = \frac{D}{v_s}$$

acceleration time

$$t_{acc} = \frac{D}{v_s^2}$$

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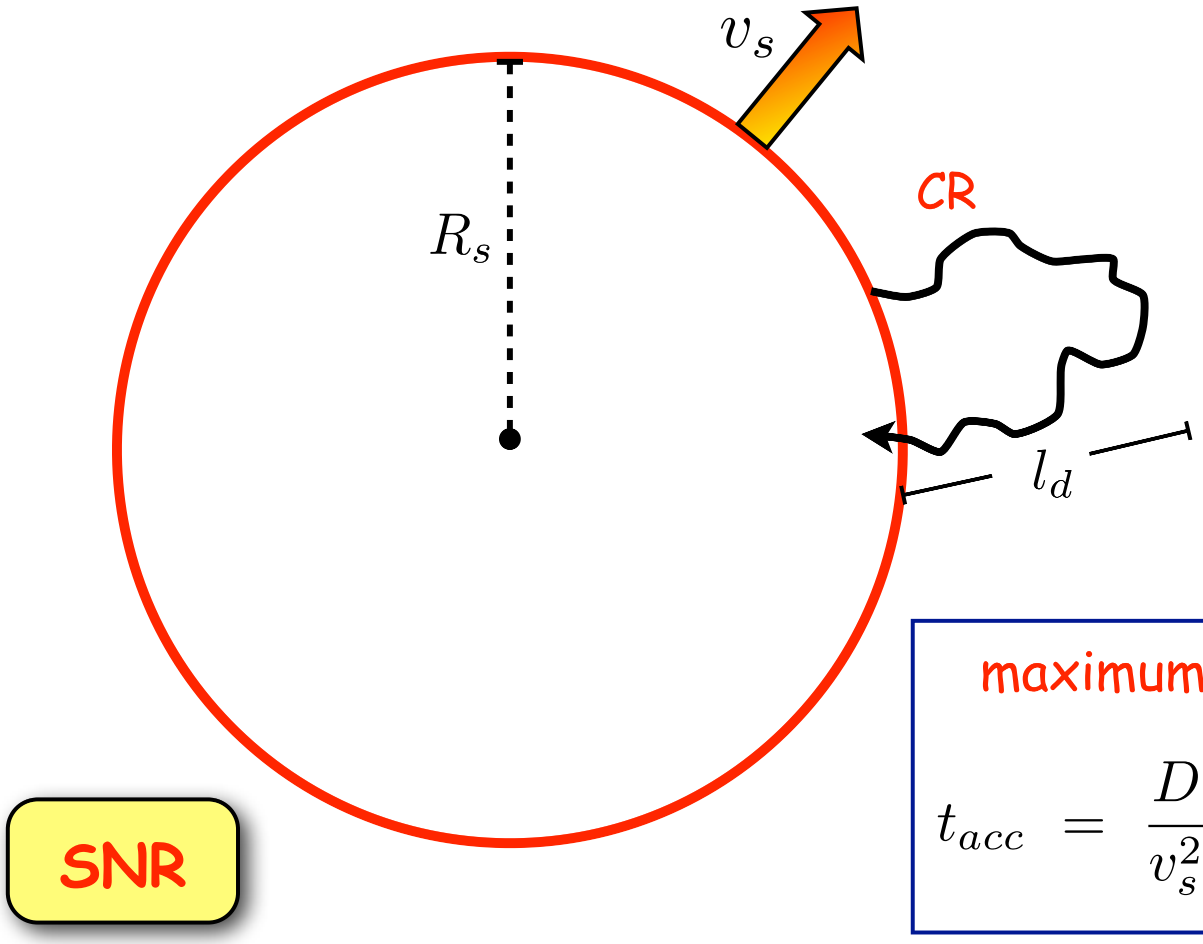

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maximum CR energy determined by:

$$t_{acc} = \frac{D}{v_s^2} < t_{age} \;/\; l_d = \frac{D}{v_s} < R_s$$

Magnetic field amplification at shocks

WARNING! This would require a long discussion

- the ISM magnetic field (diffusion coefficient) is too weak (large) to accelerate CRs at SNR shocks...
- theoreticians believe that CRs can excite magnetic turbulence at shocks while being accelerated -> **MAGNETIC FIELD AMPLIFICATION**
- X-ray astronomers obtained quite convincing evidence for this fact, and measured magnetic field strength up to **~100 μG ÷ 1 mG** (!)
- theoreticians think that, in the (very) turbulent amplified field the diffusion coefficient is the **Bohm diffusion coefficient**:

$$D = \frac{1}{3} R_L \, c \propto \frac{E}{B}$$

Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?

(1) Free expansion phase

$$t_{acc} = \frac{D}{v_s^2} < t_{age}$$

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Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?

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$$\frac{D_0 \; E_{max}}{B \; v_s^2} = \frac{D(E_{max})}{v_s^2} = t_{age}$$

$$\boxed{\Rightarrow \quad E_{max} \propto \; t_{age}}$$

Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?

(2) Sedov phase

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most stringent constrain

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$$E_{max} \propto \overset{t_{age}^{-\alpha}}{\overset{\downarrow}{B}} \; \overset{t_{age}^{-\frac{3}{5}}}{\overset{\downarrow}{v_s}} \; \overset{t_{age}^{\frac{2}{5}}}{\overset{\downarrow}{R_s}}$$

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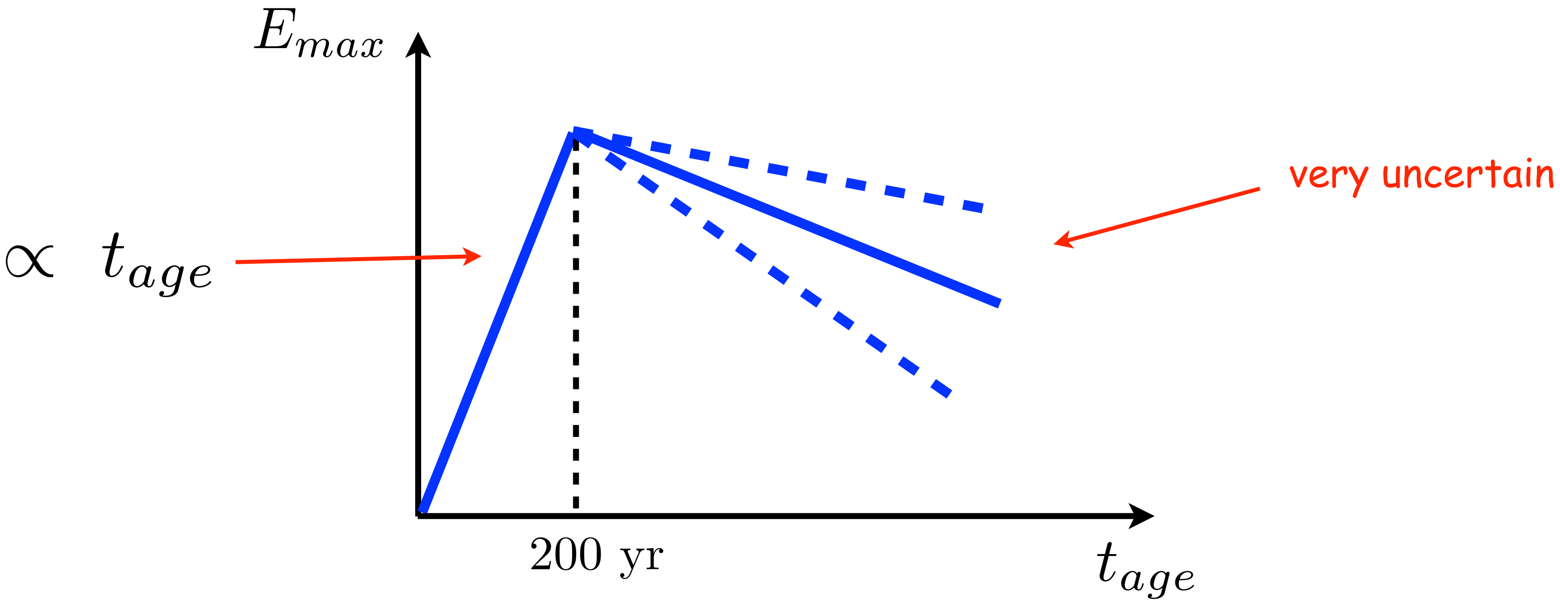
$$\boxed{E_{max} \propto t_{age}^{-\frac{1}{5}-\alpha}}$$

the maximum energy decreases with time

Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?



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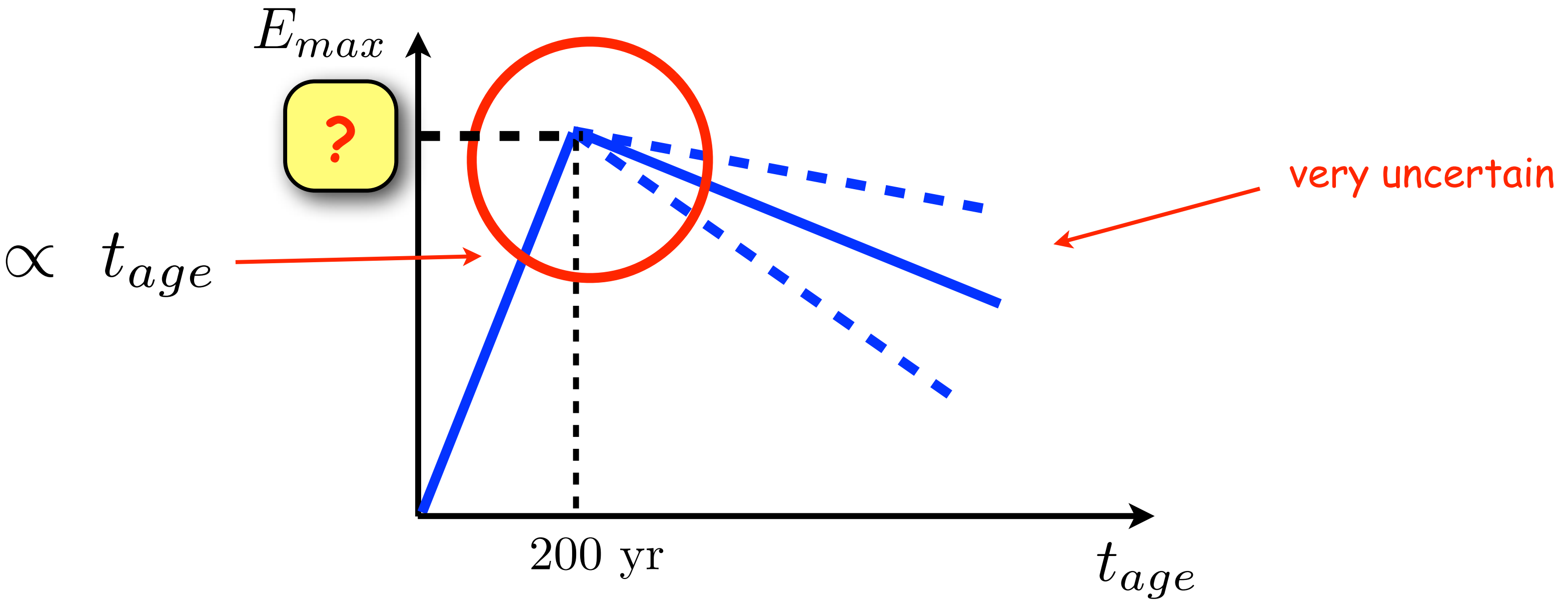
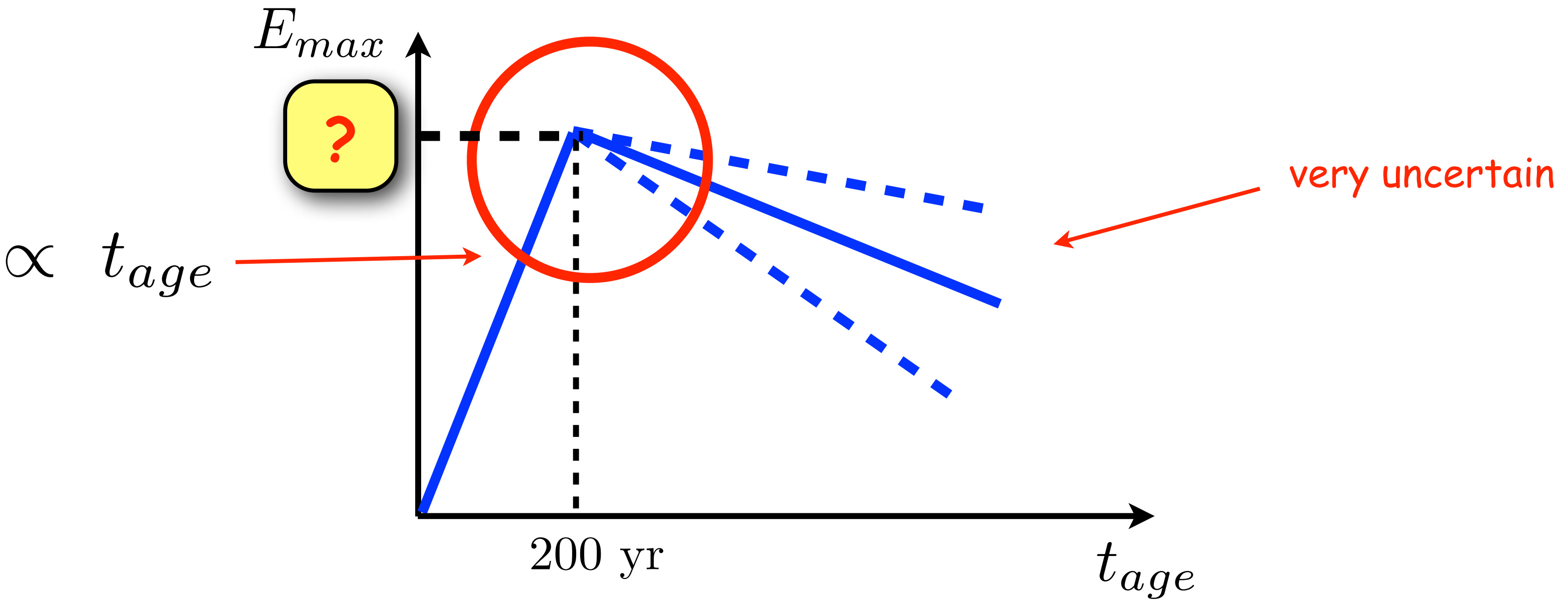


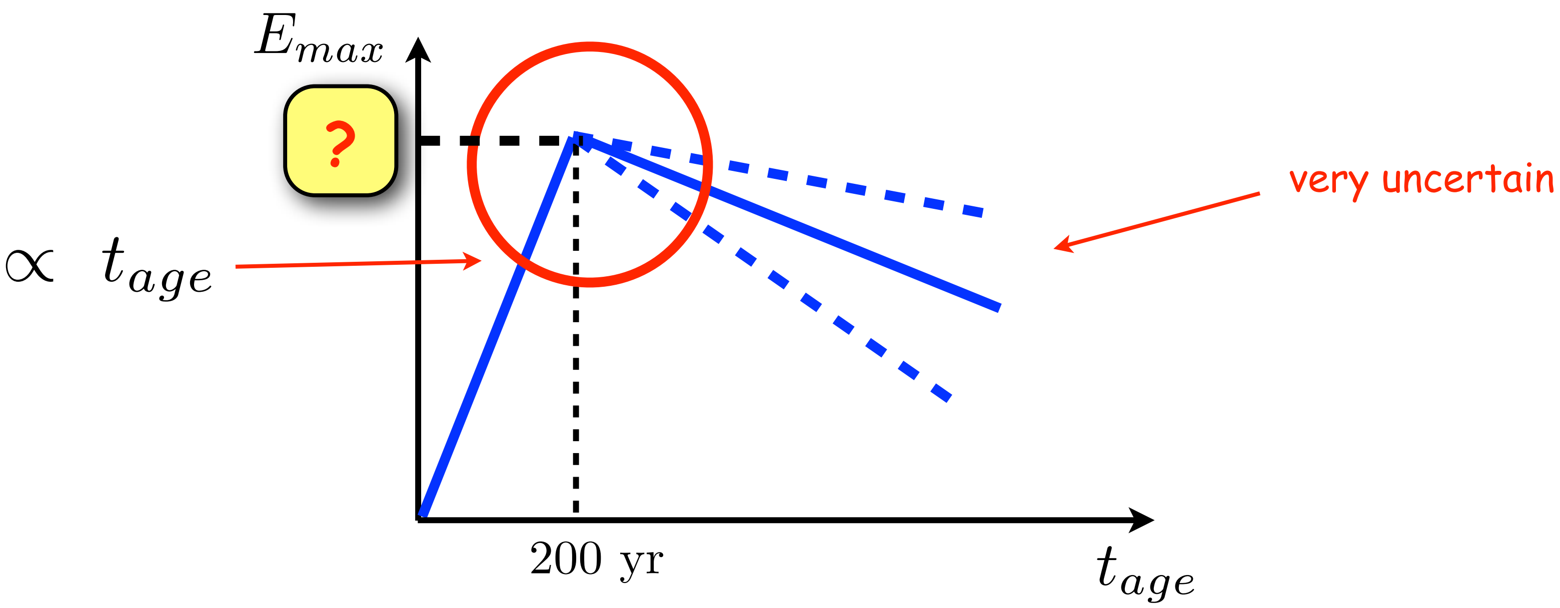
Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?



$$\frac{D_B(E_{max})}{v_{FE}^2} = t_{Sedov}$$

Can SNRs accelerate CRs up to the knee?

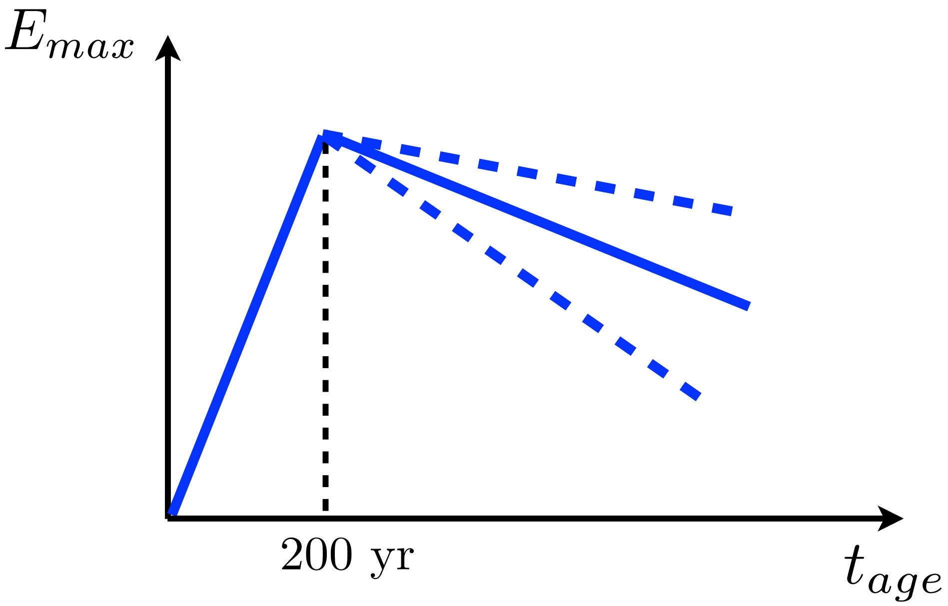
YES!



$$\frac{D_B(E_{max})}{v_{FE}^2} = t_{Sedov}$$

⇨ $$E_{max} \approx 20 \left(\frac{B}{100\ \mu\mathrm{G}}\right)\left(\frac{v_{FE}}{10^9\ cm/s}\right)^2\left(\frac{t_{Sedov}}{200\ \mathrm{yr}}\right) PeV$$

Particle escape from SNRs



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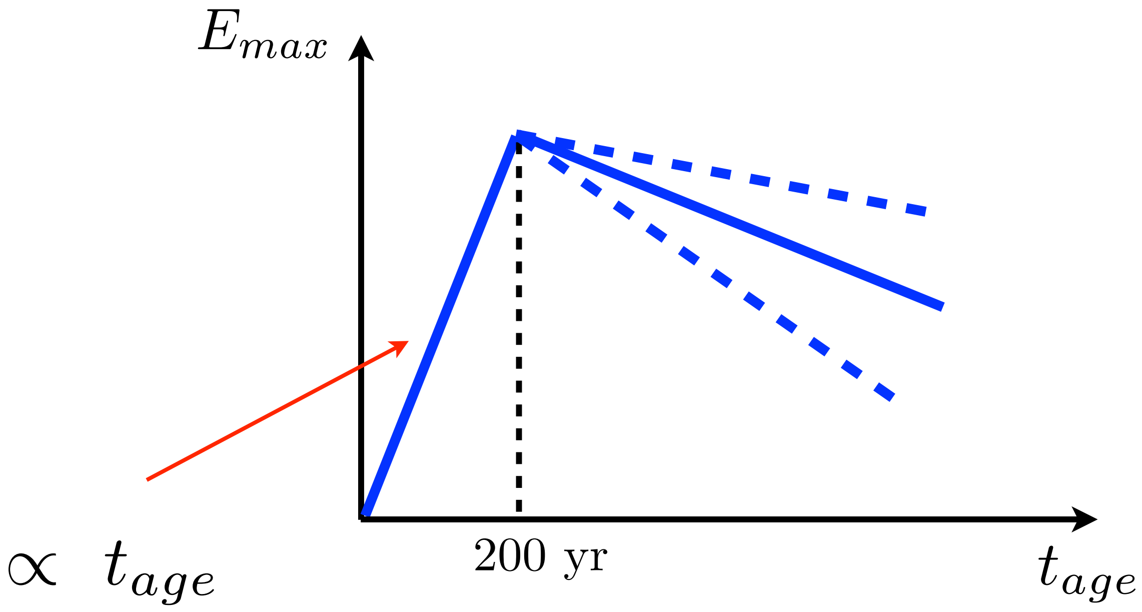
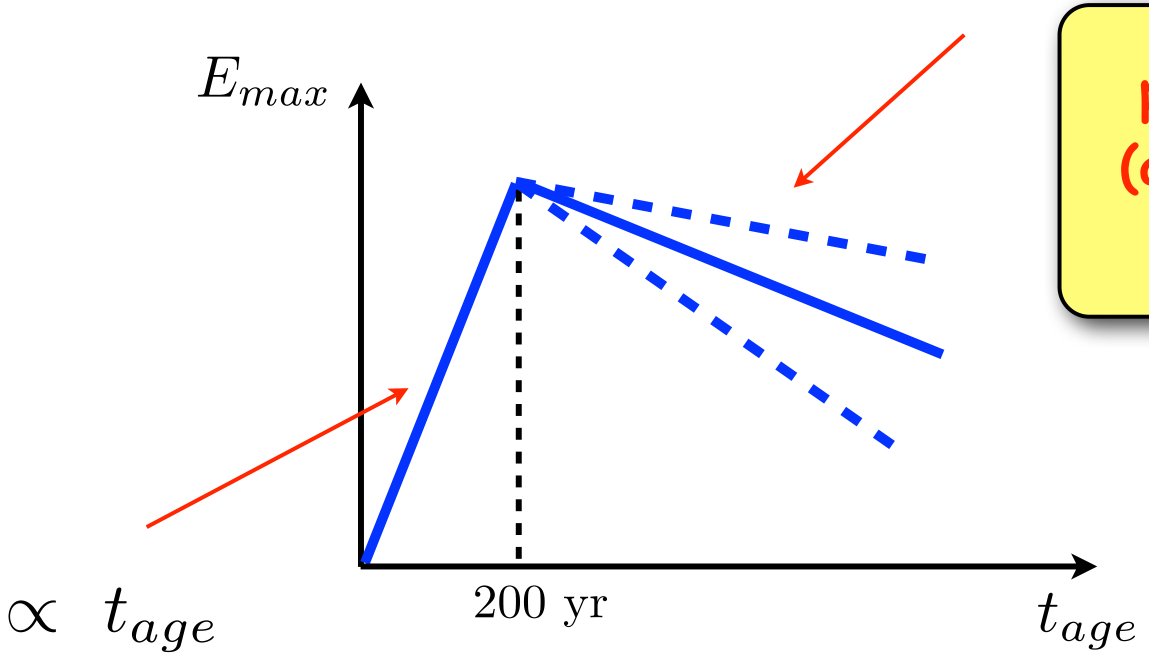


no particle escape

Particle escape from SNRs

$$E_{max} \propto t_{age}^{-\delta}$$

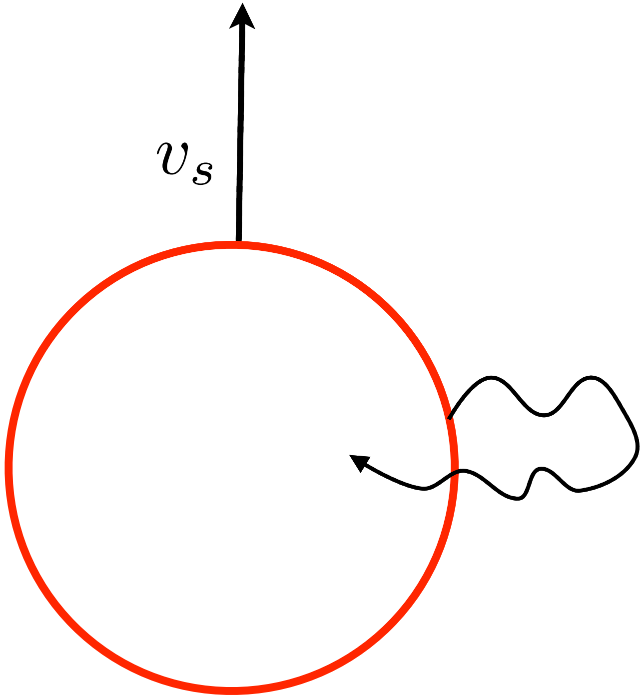
δ is basically unknown



particles with E>E_{max}
(accelerated at t<t_{age})
escape the SNR

no particle escape

Particle escape from SNRs

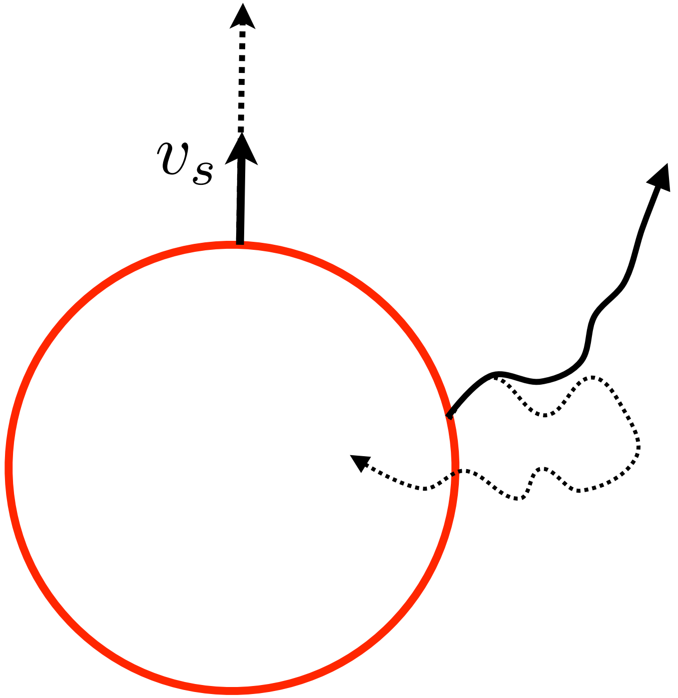


This is a supernova remnant

RXJ1713 WAS a CR PeVatron

- **PeV particles** are accelerated at the beginning of Sedov phase (~200yrs), when the shock speed is high!

Particle escape from SNRs



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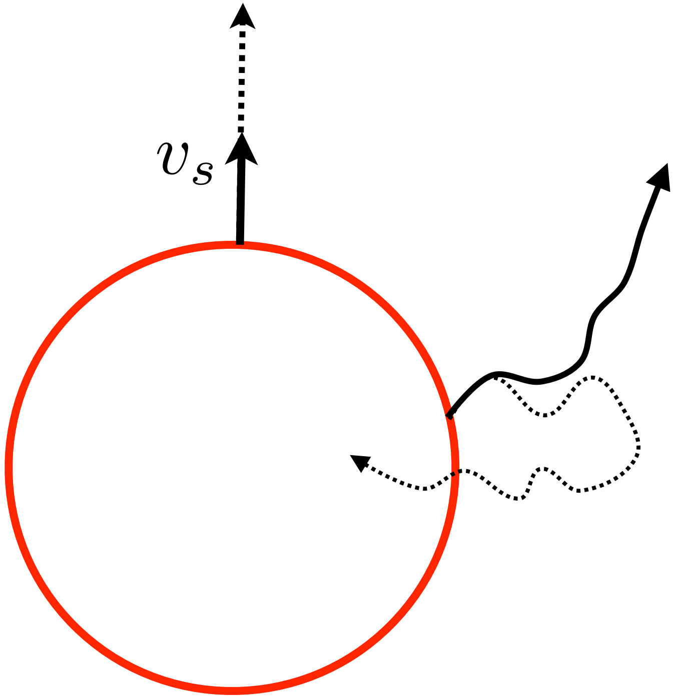

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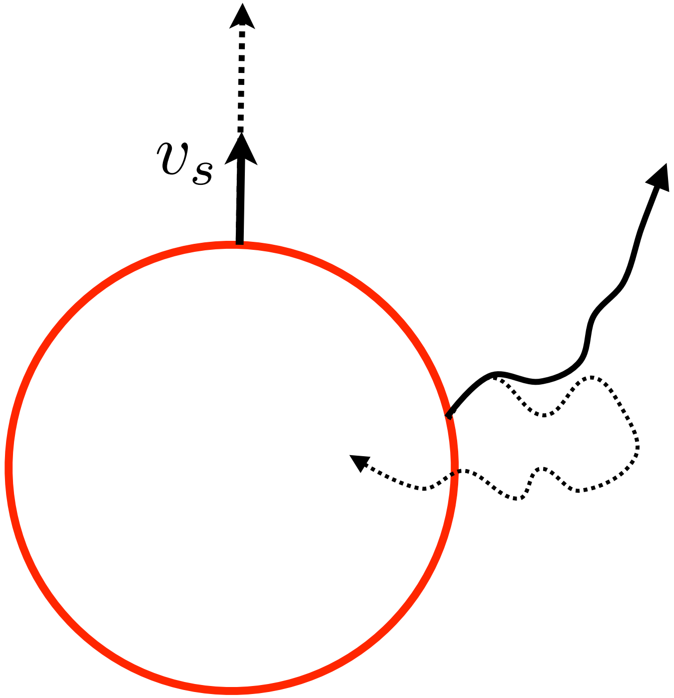
- **Highest energy particles are released first**, and particles with lower and lower energy are progressively released later
- **a SNR is a PeVatron for a very short time**

Particle escape from SNRs



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- a SNR is a PeVatron for a very short time
- still no evidence for the existence of escaping CRs

Injection spectrum of CRs from SNRs

Which CR spectrum is injected by a SNR during the whole Sedov phase?

particles are released in the ISM at a time: $E \propto t^{-\delta}$ ← unknown

CRs are accelerated at a rate: $L_{CR} \propto t^{-1}$

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$$N_{CR}(E) \propto \frac{\frac{\mathrm{d}\mathcal{E}_{\mathcal{CR} \to \mathcal{ISM}}}{\mathrm{d}E}}{E} \propto E^{-2}$$

OK!

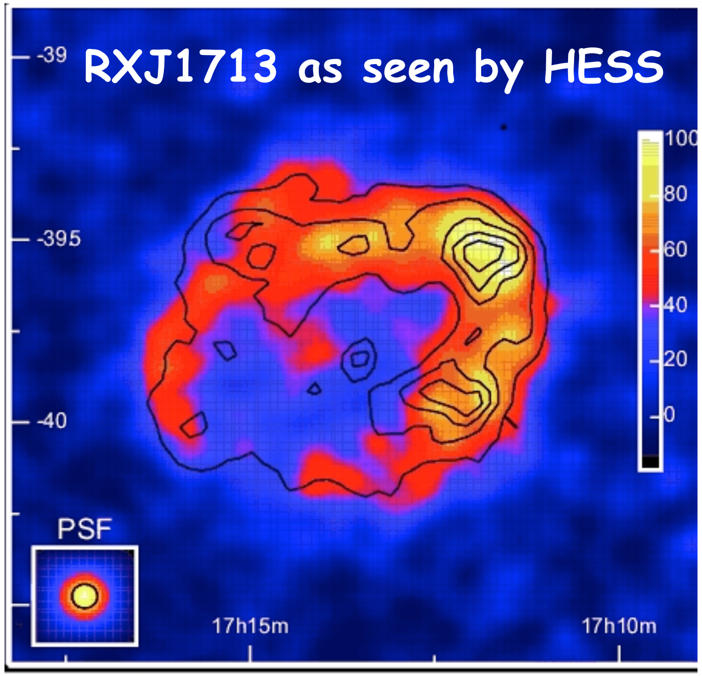
Summarizing:

SNRs are good candidate sources for CRs because:

- they can provide the right amount of energy in form of CRs (if **~10% efficiency**)
- they inject CRs in the ISM with (roughly) the spectrum needed to explain CR observations (**~ E^{-2}**)
- they can accelerate CRs (at least) up to the energy of the CR knee (**~5 x 10^{15} eV**)

Further
Gamma-Ray based Tests
for Cosmic Ray Origin

TeV emission from SNRs: a test for CR origin



Test passed!

This is still not a conclusive proof -> hadronic or leptonic emission?

Test (0): neutrinos

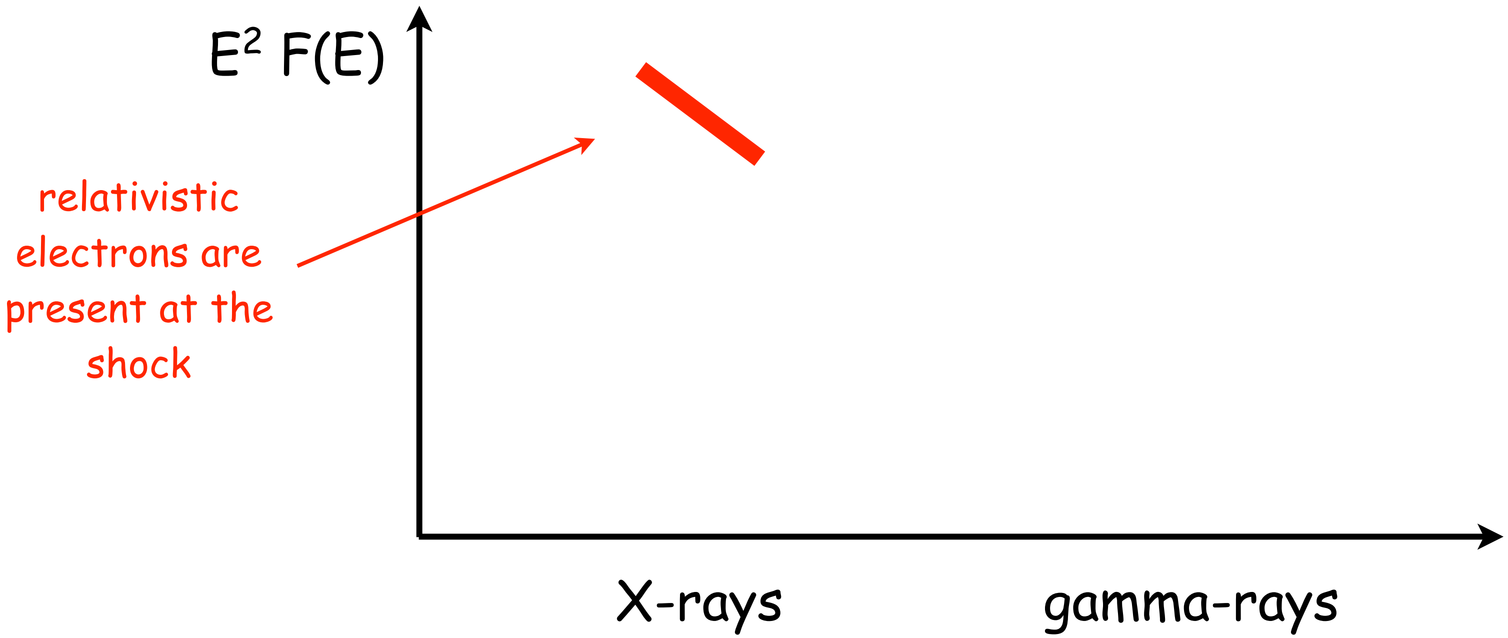
Good thing: Detection of neutrinos = hadronic interactions

Bad thing: Neutrino telescopes have a very poor sensitivity...

Thus: we'd better search for gamma-ray-based tests!

Hadronic versus leptonic emission

X-ray synchrotron emission is observed from some TeV SNRs
(RXJ1713, Vela Junior...)



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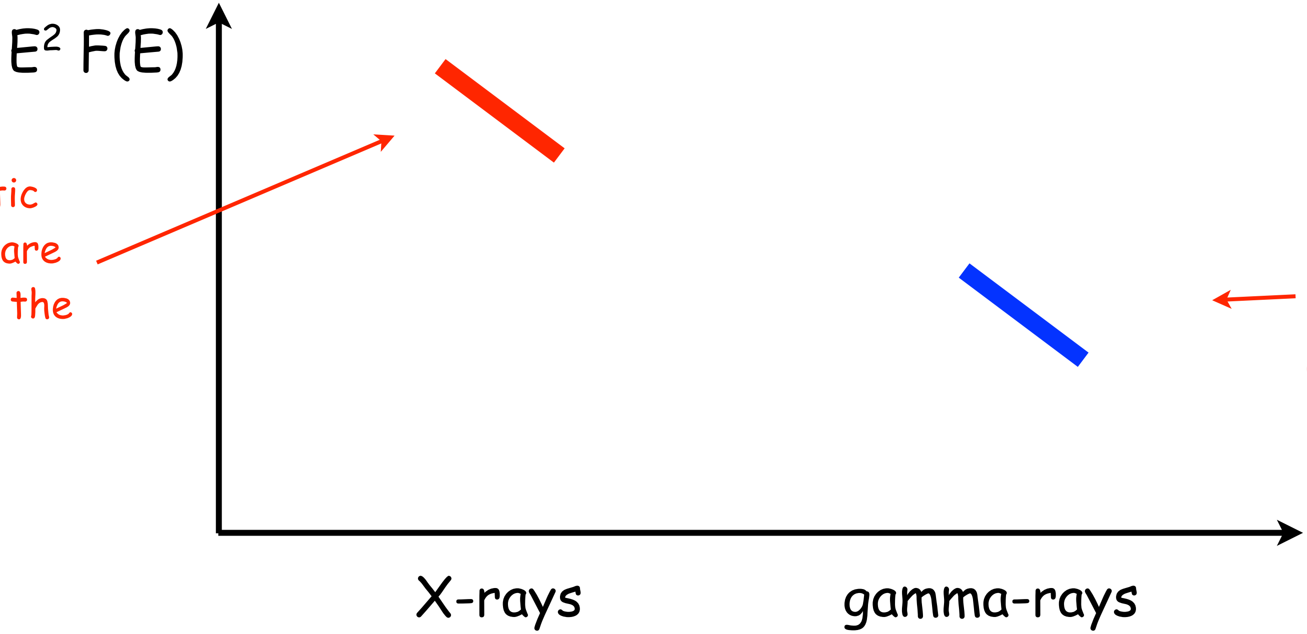

relativistic electrons are present at the shock

the same electrons that emit the synchrotron also emit inverse Compton gamma rays

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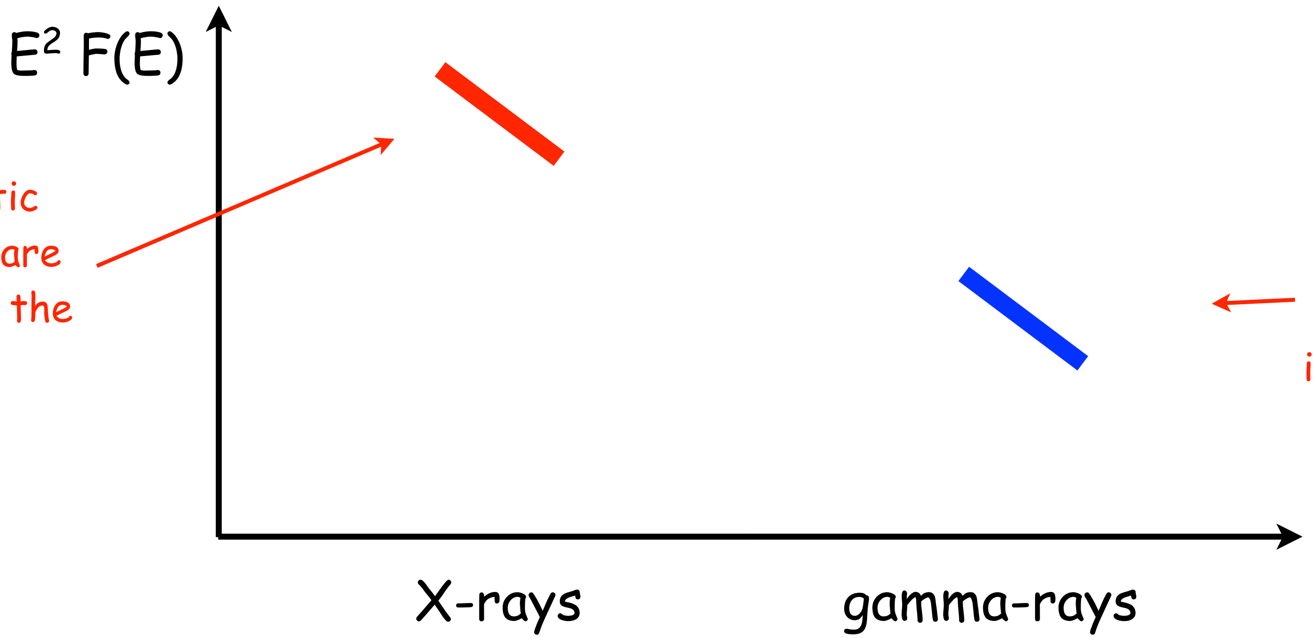


relativistic electrons are present at the shock

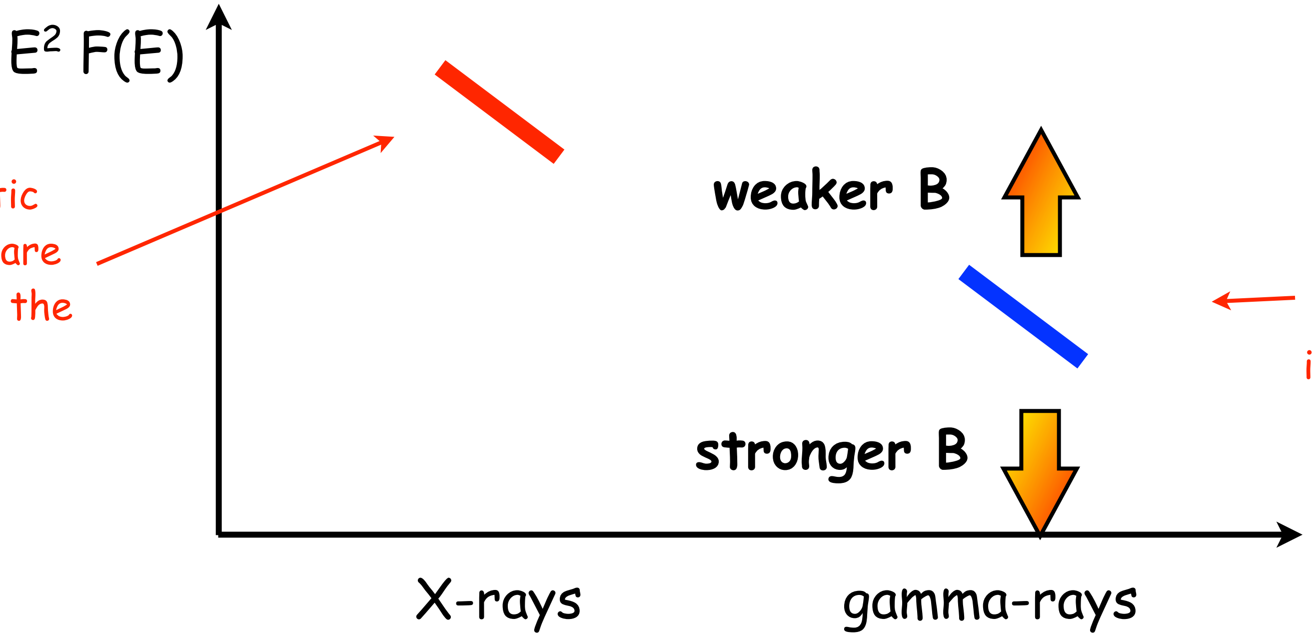
the same electrons that emit the synchrotron also emit inverse Compton gamma rays

synchrotron -> $F_s \propto n_e B^\beta$ inverse Compton -> $F_{IC} \propto n_e w_{soft}$

this product is fixed by X-ray obs.   we know this

Hadronic versus leptonic emission

X-ray synchrotron emission is observed from some TeV SNRs
(RXJ1713, Vela Junior...)



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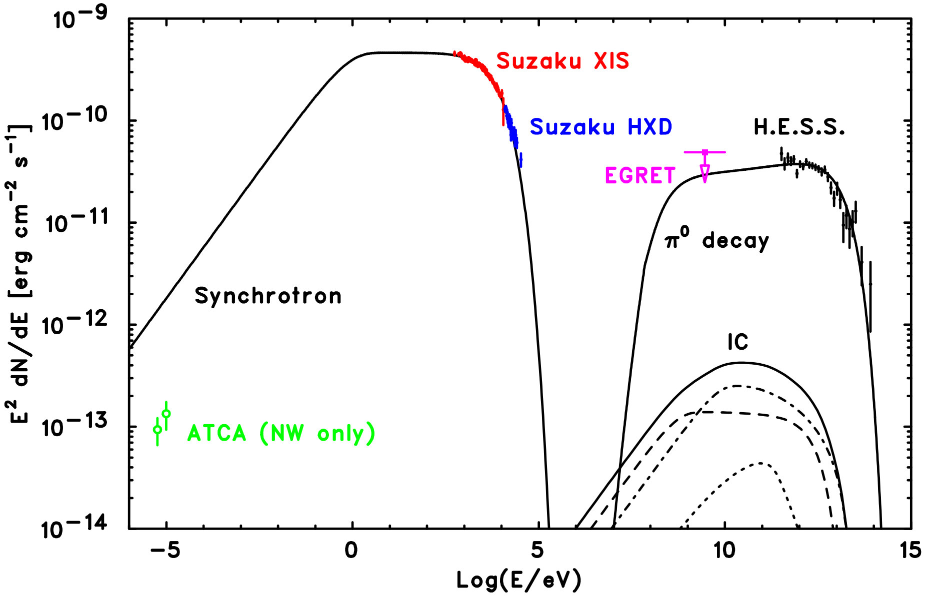
we know this

Hadronic versus leptonic emission

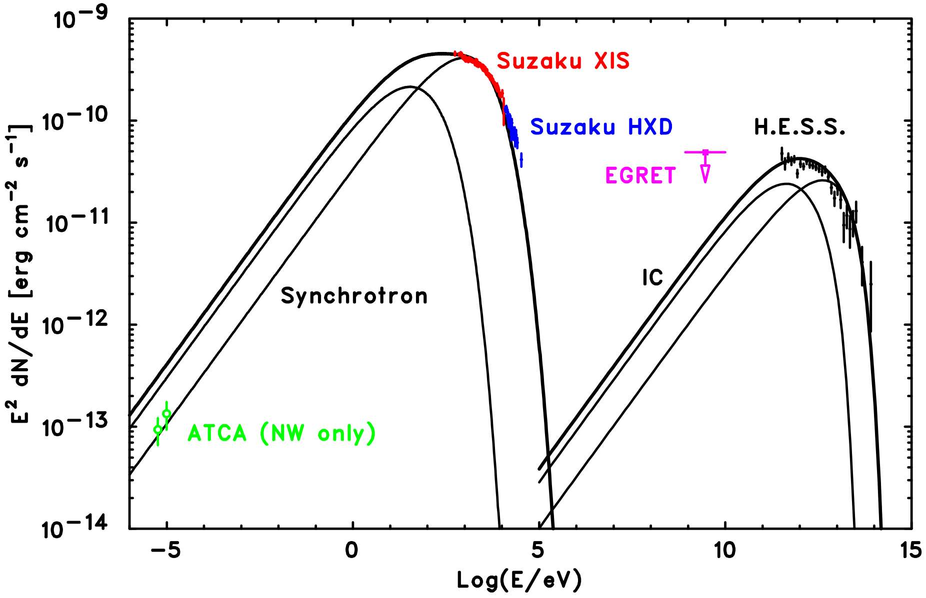
RXJ1713: hadronic and leptonic models

B = 200 µG



Hadronic

B = 14 µG



Leptonic

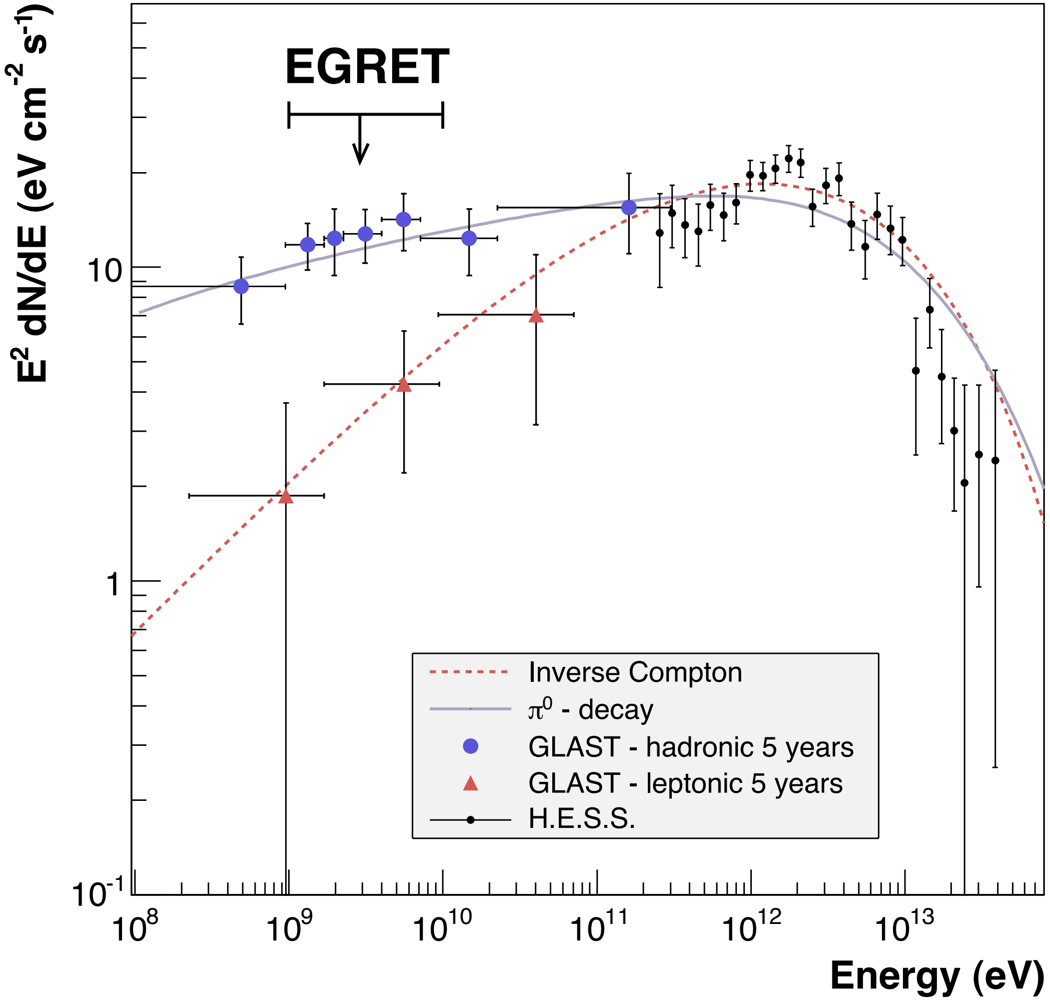
Tanaka et al., 2008

(1) GeV -> FERMI observation of SNRs

Hadronic: proton spectrum E^{-2} -> p-p interactions -> gamma ray spectrum E^{-2}

Leptonic: low B field -> synchrotron losses negligible -> electron spectrum E^{-2} -> inverse Compton scattering -> gamma ray spectrum $E^{-1.5}$

simulation of FERMI observations



Funk, 2007

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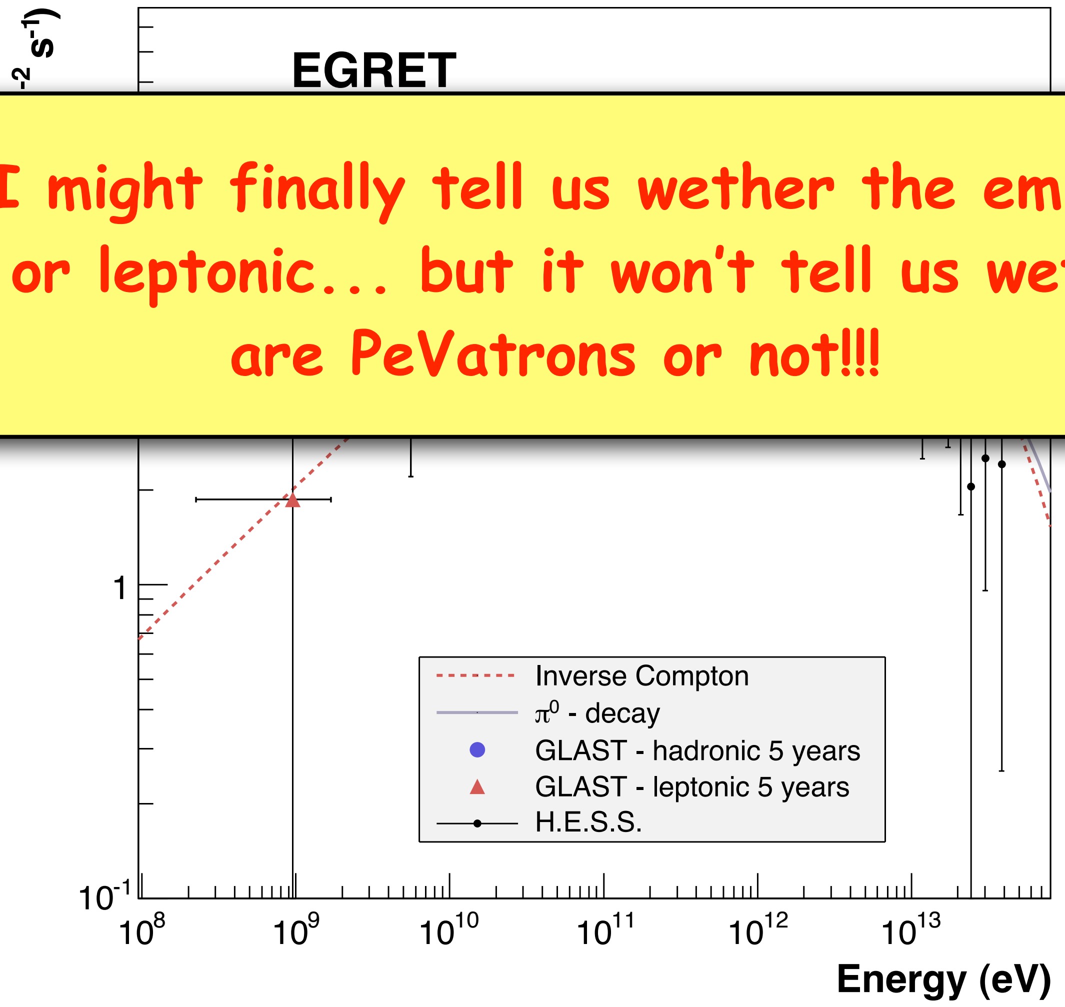


FERMI might finally tell us wether the emission is hadronic or leptonic... but it won't tell us wether SNRs are PeVatrons or not!!!

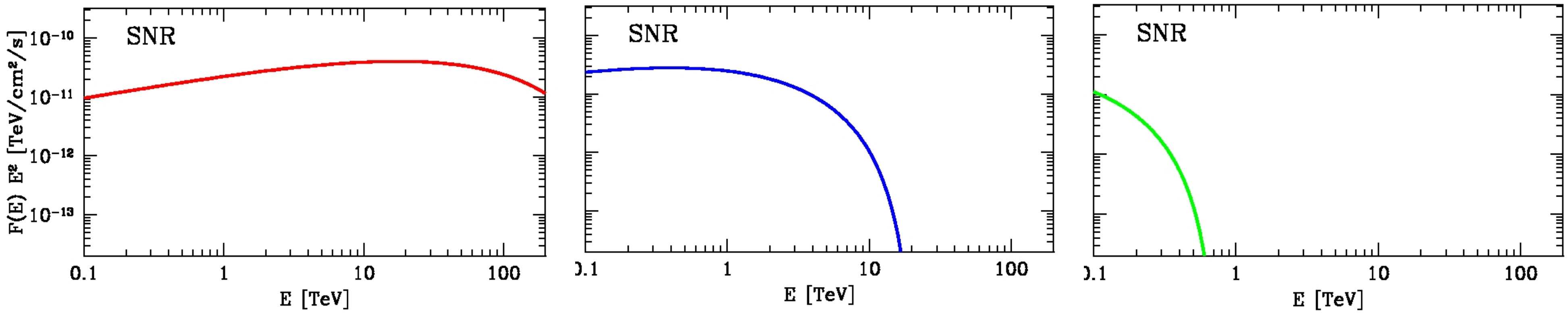
observations

Funk, 2007

(2) multi-TeV emission from SNRs

The TeV emission depends on the SNR age
-> RXJ1713 is already too old to look like a PeVatron

time after the explosion.....



t = 400 yr

t = 2000 yr

t = 8000 yr

the actual behavior depends on gas density, explosion energy, magnetic field evolution, diffusion coefficient...

Gabici & Aharonian, 2007

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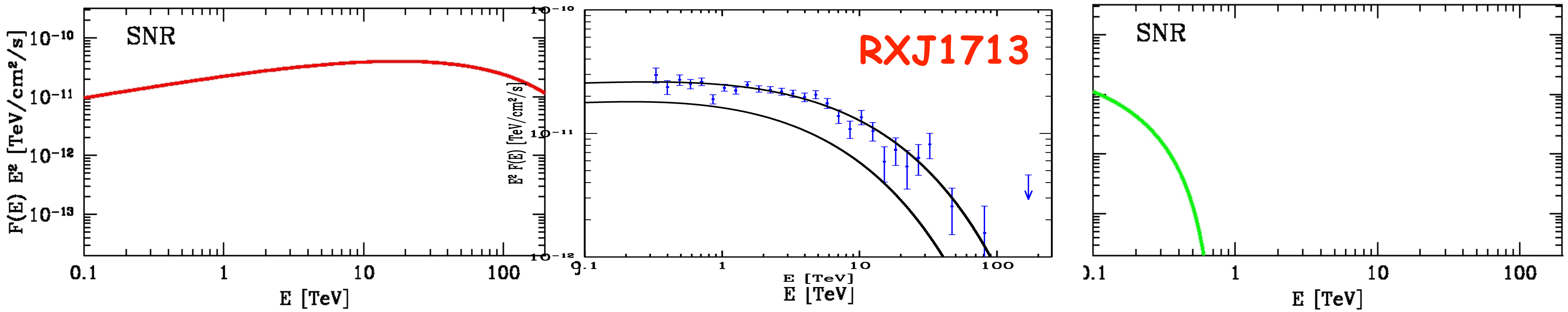

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Gabici & Aharonian, 2007

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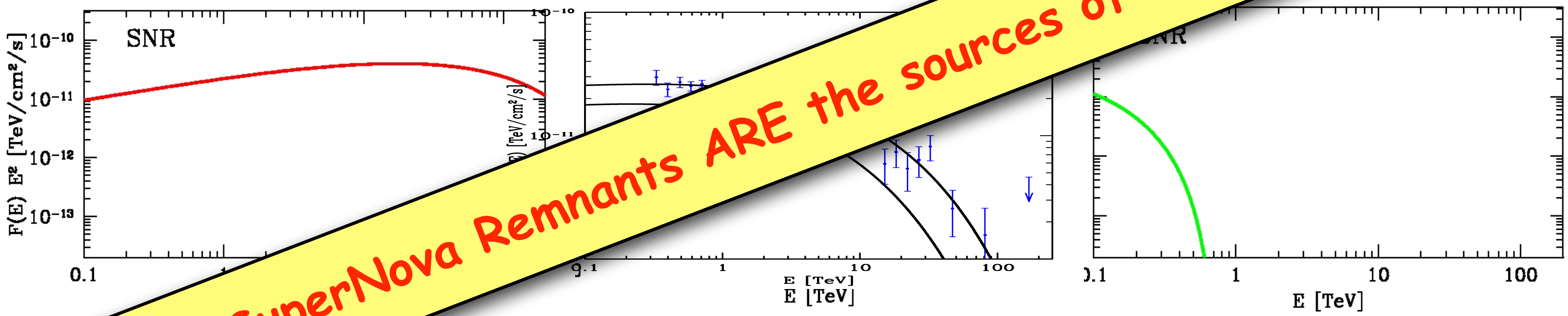


If SuperNova Remnants ARE the sources of Cosmic Rays

= 400 yr

t = 2000 yr

t = 8000 yr

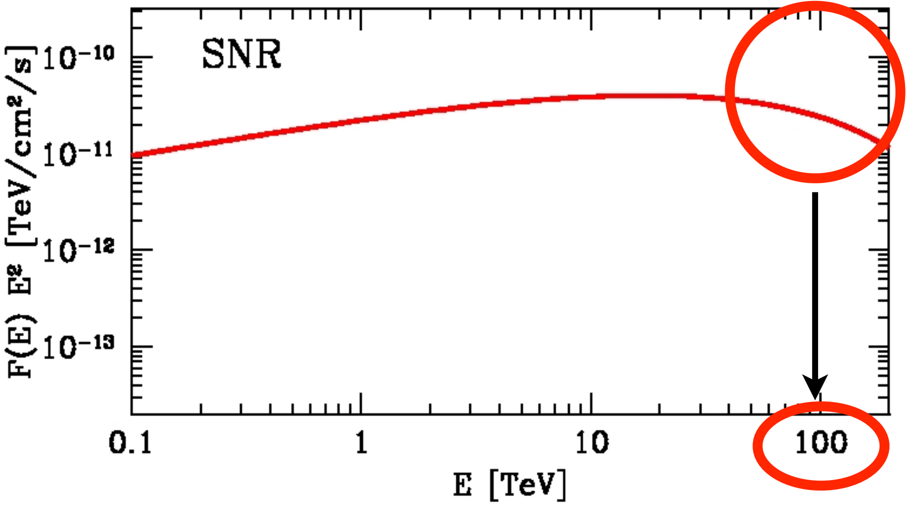
the actual behavior depends on gas density, explosion energy, magnetic field evolution, diffusion coefficient...

Gabici & Aharonian, 2007

Are SuperNova Remnants CR PeVatrons?

Hadronic versus leptonic contribution to the gamma ray emission

t = 400 yr



hard spectrum up to
~100 TeV, if hadronic
implies the presence of
~PeV Cosmic Rays
-> PeVatron!

Are SuperNova Remnants CR PeVatrons?

Hadronic versus leptonic contribution to the gamma ray emission

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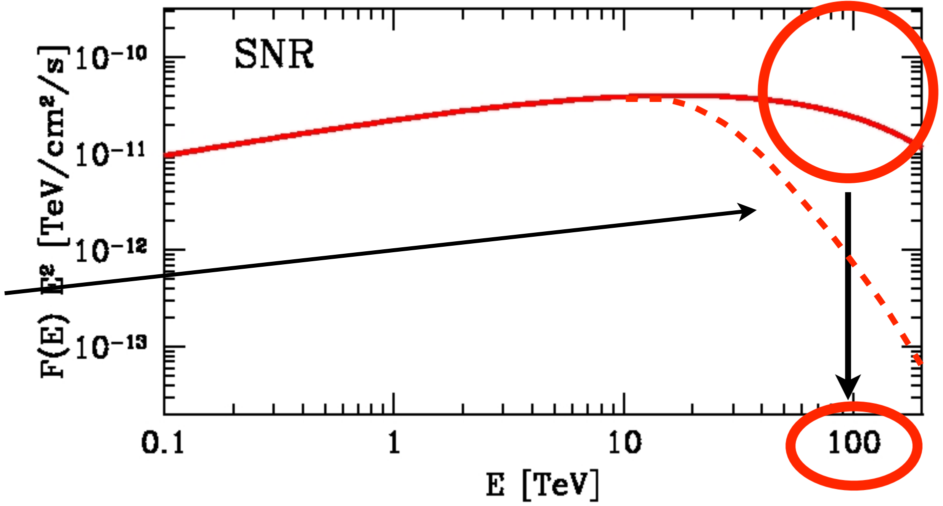

can we expect to see a
spectrum like this one
due to inverse Compton?
NO->Klein-Nishina cutoff!

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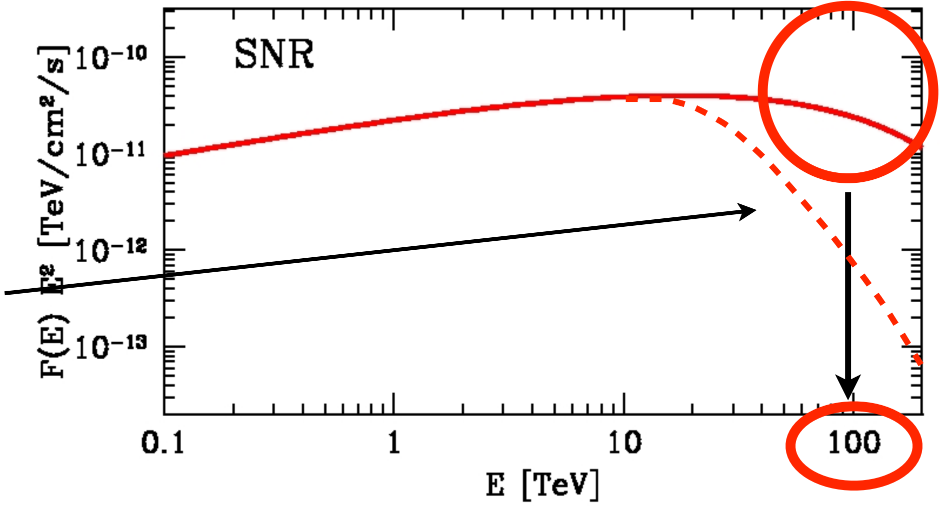

hard spectrum up to
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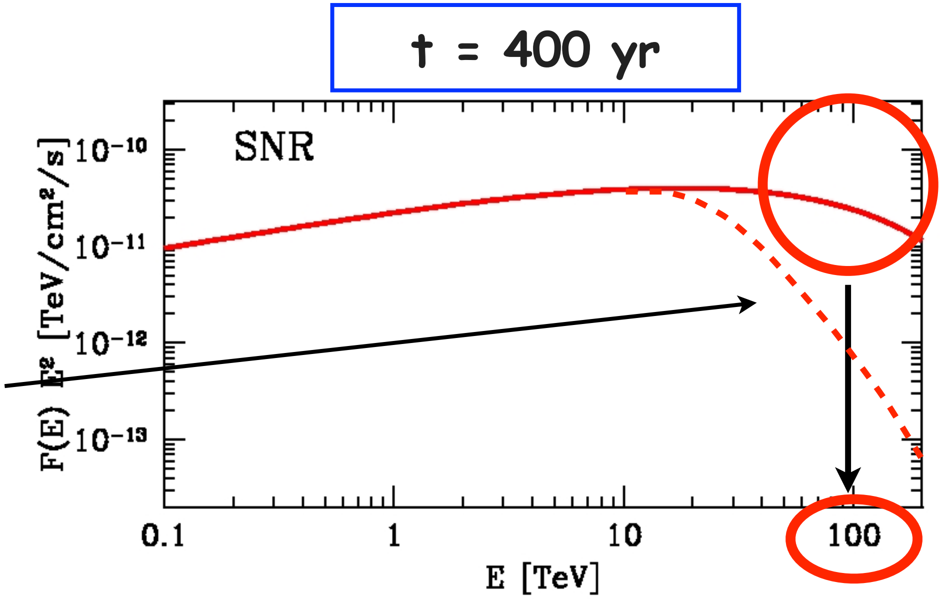
Hard spectrum up to >100 TeV -> PeVatron!

Are SuperNova Remnants CR PeVatrons?

Hadronic versus leptonic contribution to the gamma ray emission



can we expect to see a
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NO->Klein-Nishina cutoff!

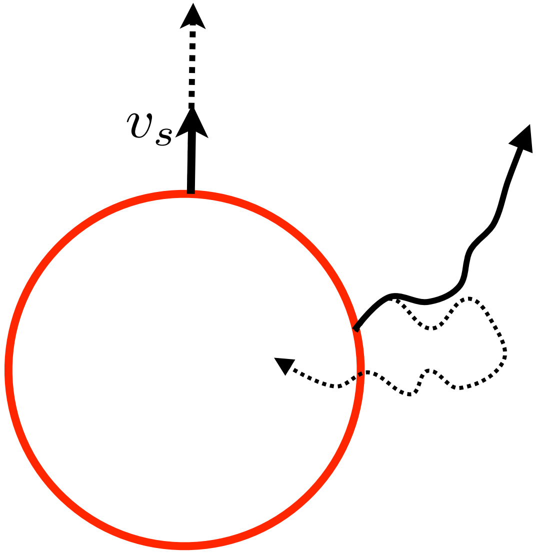
hard spectrum up to
~100 TeV, if hadronic
implies the presence of
~PeV Cosmic Rays
-> PeVatron!

Hard spectrum up to >100 TeV -> PeVatron!

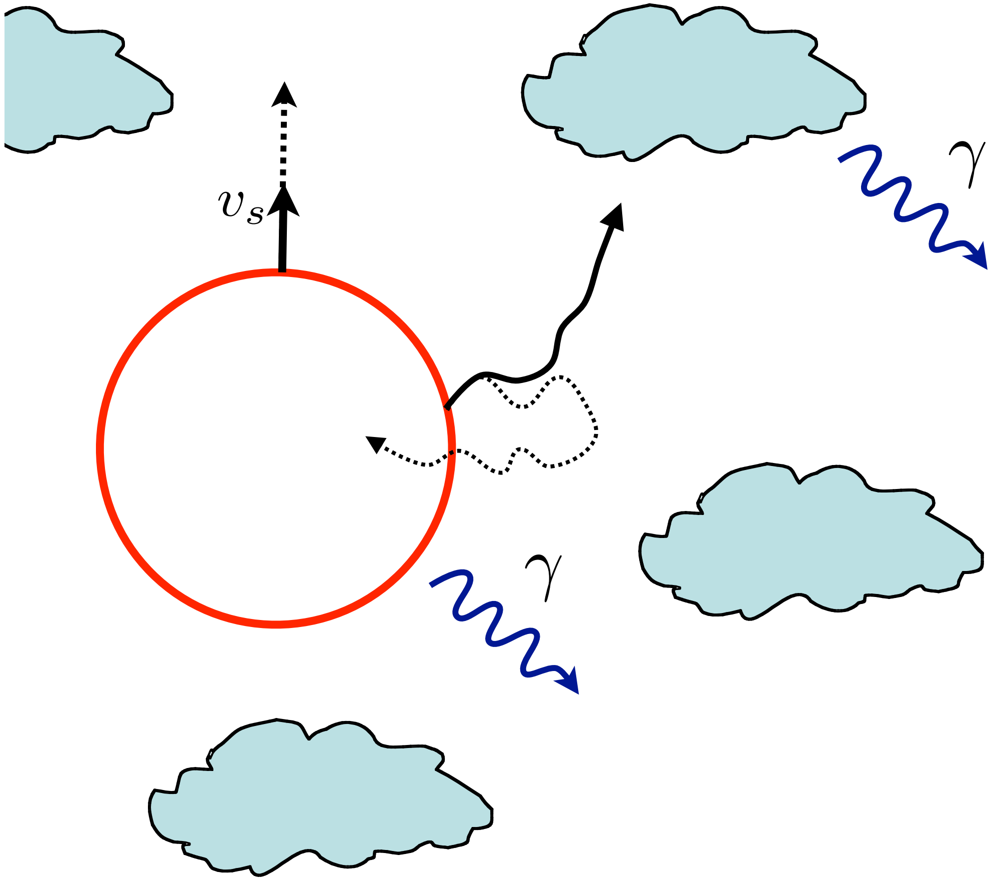
unambiguous evidence of the
fact that SNRs accelerate
CRs up to the knee

the emission lasts for a very
short time
(400 yrs -> <10 SNRs)

The role of Molecular Clouds

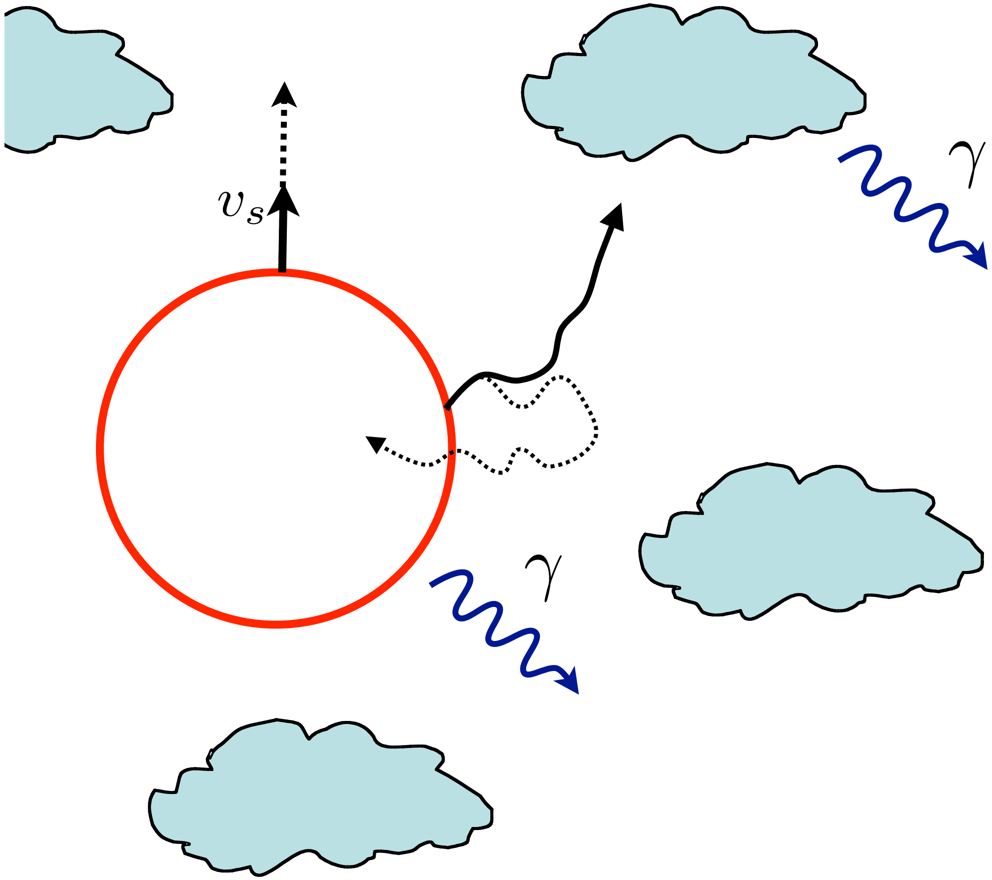


The role of Molecular Clouds



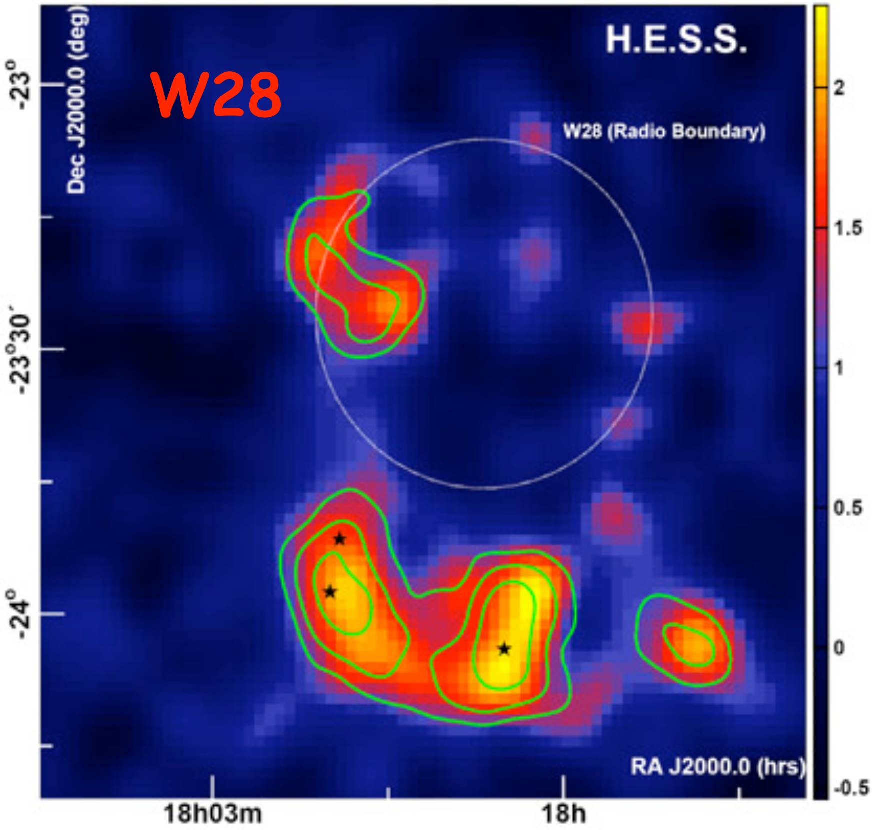
Both SNR and surrounding
molecular clouds emit gammas

The role of Molecular Clouds



Both SNR and surrounding molecular clouds emit gammas

Maybe something like that has been already detected...



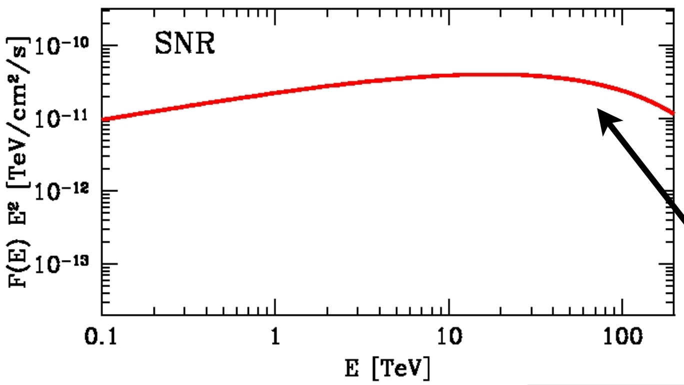
Gamma rays from MCs illuminated by CRs

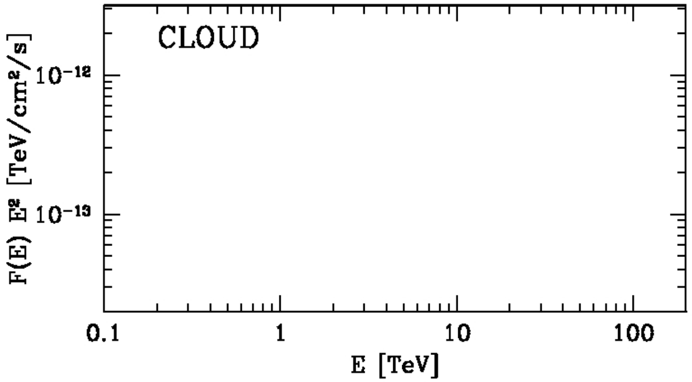
t = 400 yr

$$d = 1\ kpc$$
$$d_{snr/cl} = 100\ pc$$
$$M_{cl} = 10^4 M_\odot$$
$$D_{PeV} = 3\ 10^{29} cm^2/s$$

SNR

Cloud





PeVatron!!!
but for short time!

Gabici&Aharonian(2007)

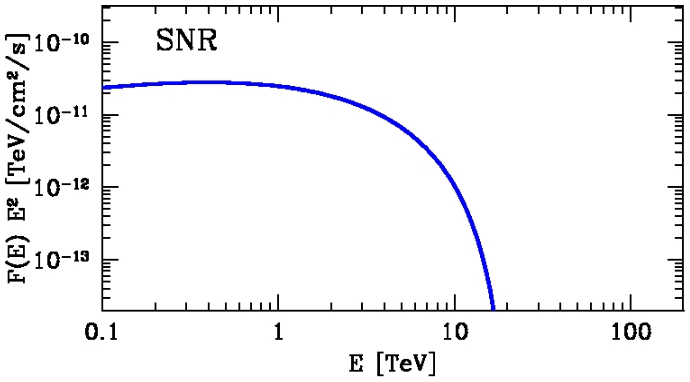
Gamma rays from MCs illuminated by CRs

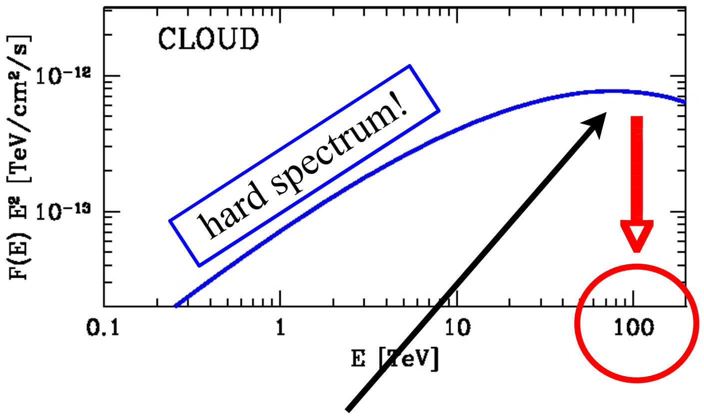
t = 2000 yr

$$d = 1\ kpc$$
$$d_{snr/cl} = 100\ pc$$
$$M_{cl} = 10^4 M_\odot$$
$$D_{PeV} = 3\ 10^{29} cm^2/s$$

SNR

Cloud





HESS remnant

Indirect detection of a PeVatron! Emission lasts longer!

NO ICS -> Klein-Nishina

Gabici&Aharonian(2007)

Gamma rays from MCs illuminated by CRs

t = 8000 yr

$d = 1\ kpc$

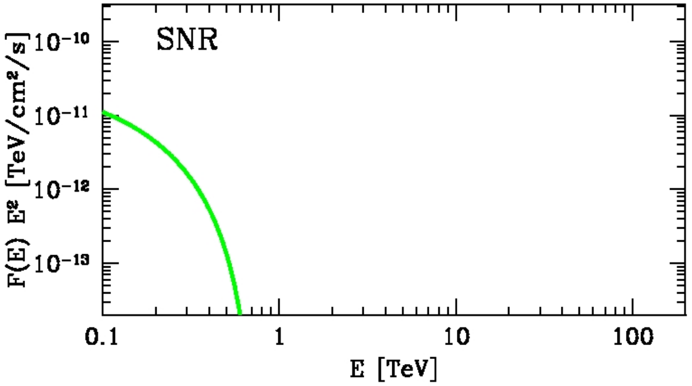
$d_{snr/cl} = 100\ pc$

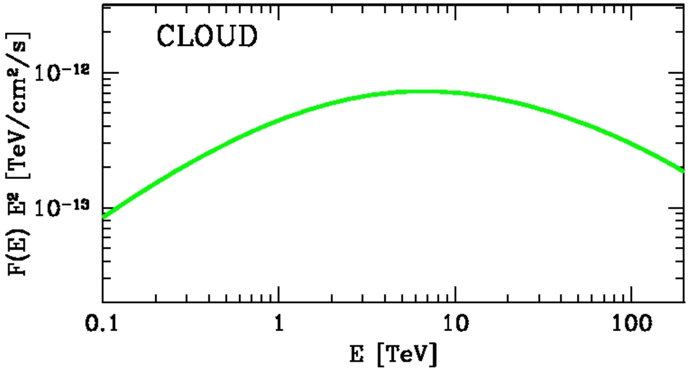
$M_{cl} = 10^4 M_\odot$

$D_{PeV} = 3\ 10^{29} cm^2/s$

SNR

Cloud





Gabici&Aharonian(2007)

GLAST remnant?

HESS and MILAGRO unidentified sources?

Gamma rays from MCs illuminated by CRs

t = 32000 yr

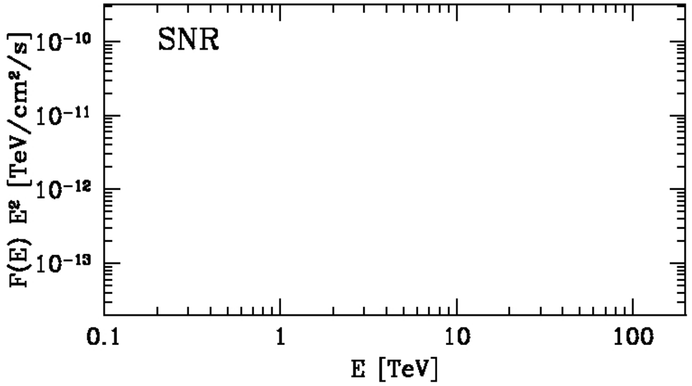
$$d = 1\ kpc$$
$$d_{snr/cl} = 100\ pc$$
$$M_{cl} = 10^4 M_\odot$$
$$D_{PeV} = 3\ 10^{29} cm^2/s$$

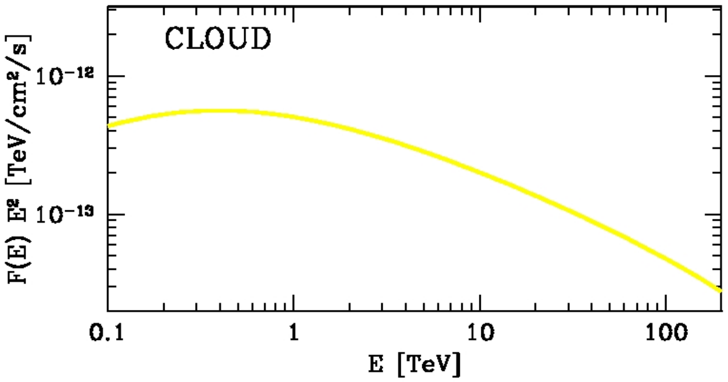
100 GeV

10 TeV

SNR

Cloud





Gabici&Aharonian(2007)

no emission

HESS and MILAGRO unidentified sources?

Gamma rays from MCs illuminated by CRs

t = 32000 yr

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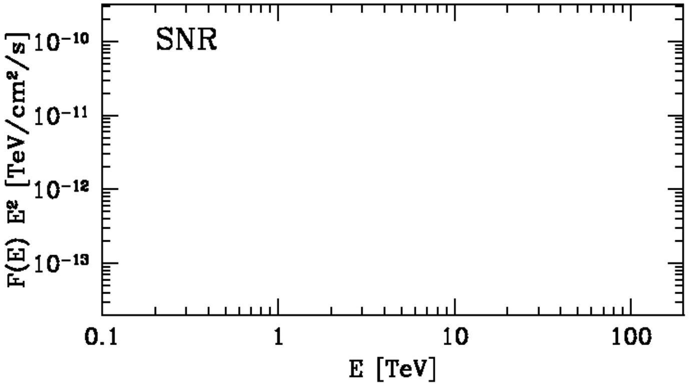
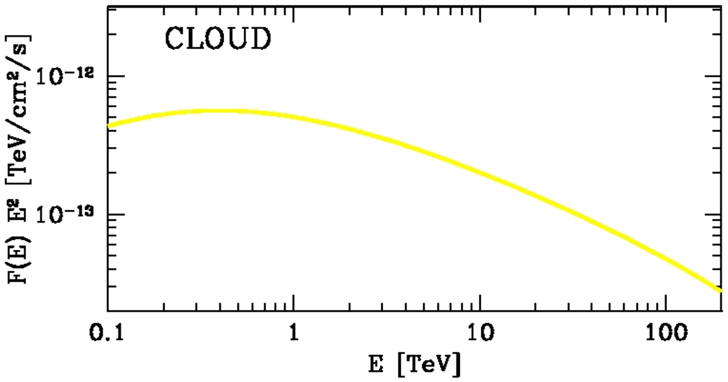
100 GeV

10 TeV

SNR

Cloud





no emission

HESS and MILAGRO unidentified sources?

Gabici&Aharonian(2007)

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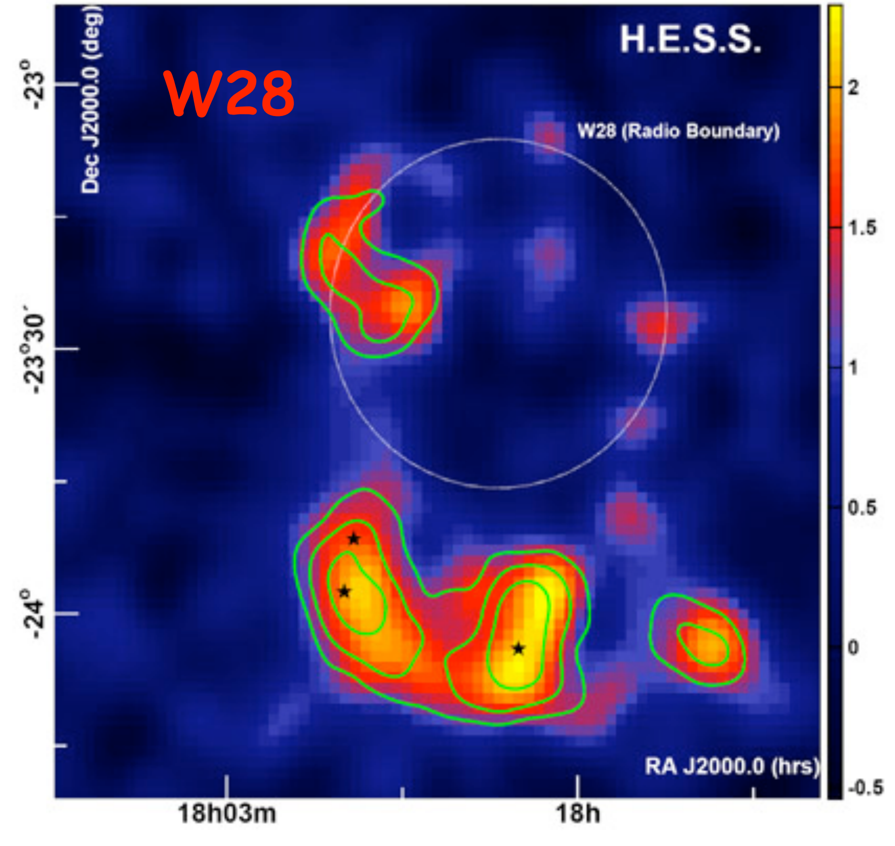
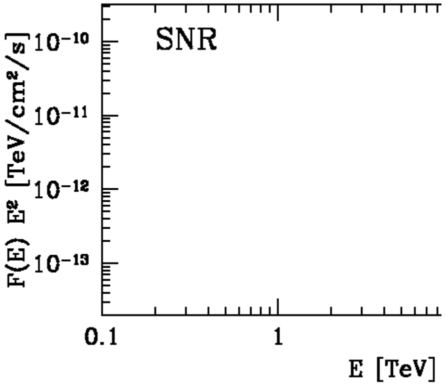
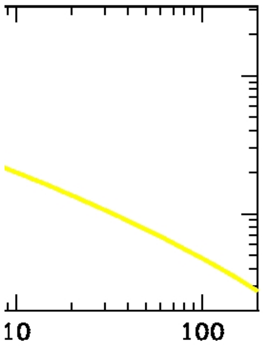
SNR







no emission

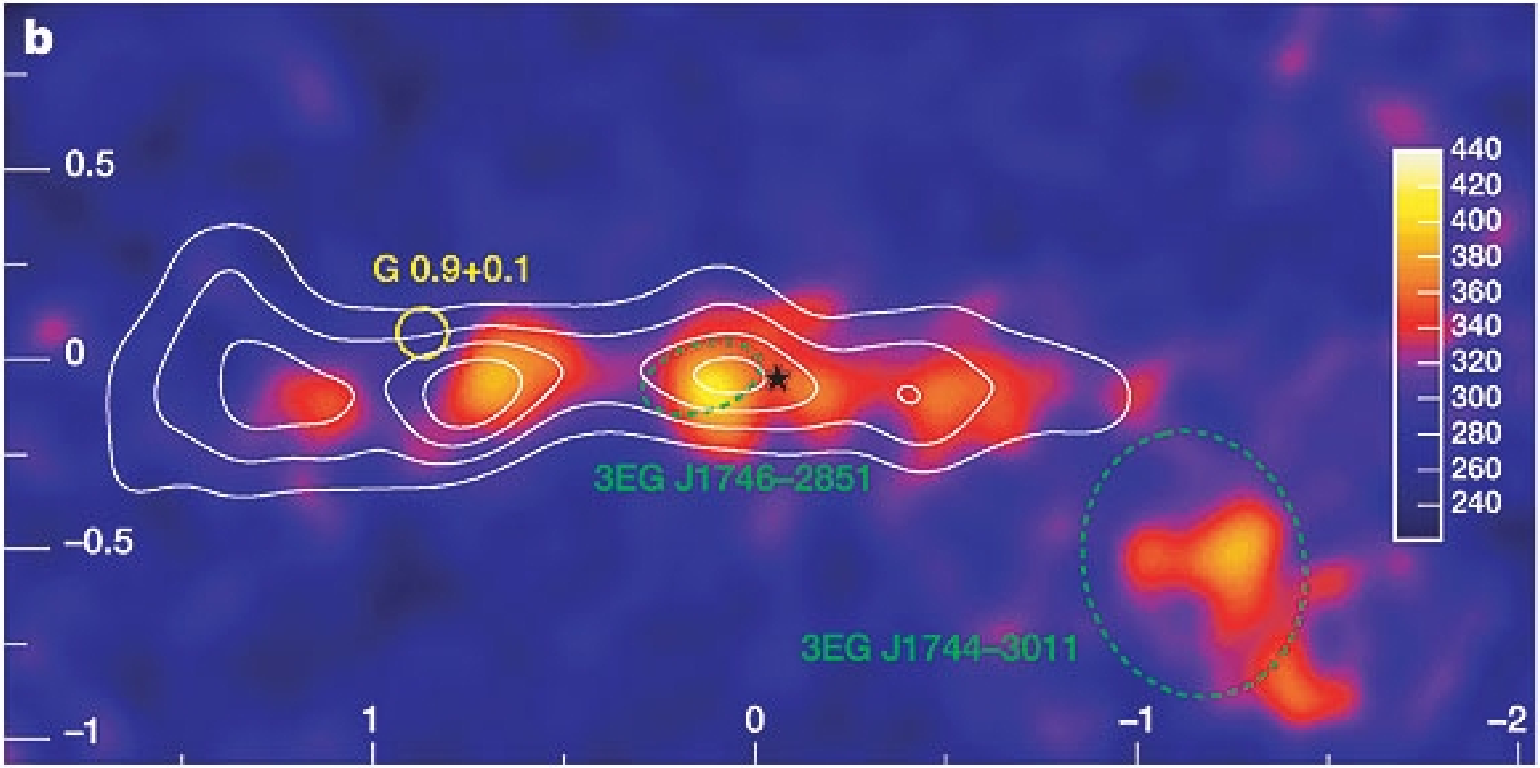
LAGRO

unidentified sources?

Gabici&Aharonian(2007)

Example: the galactic centre ridge

The galactic centre ridge as seen by HESS

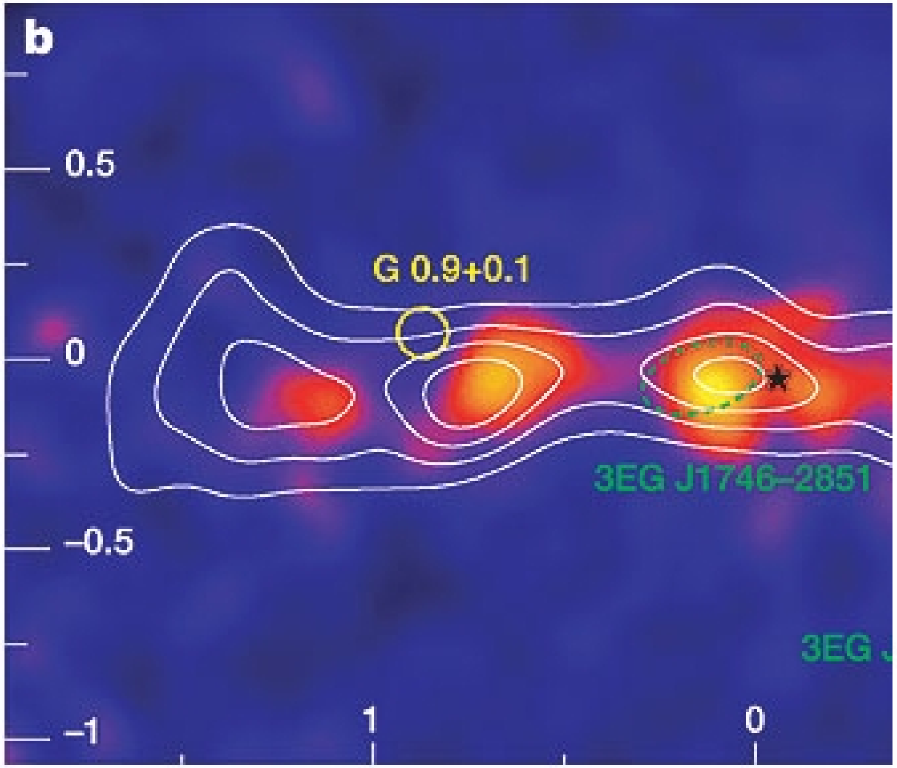


HESS collaboration, 2006

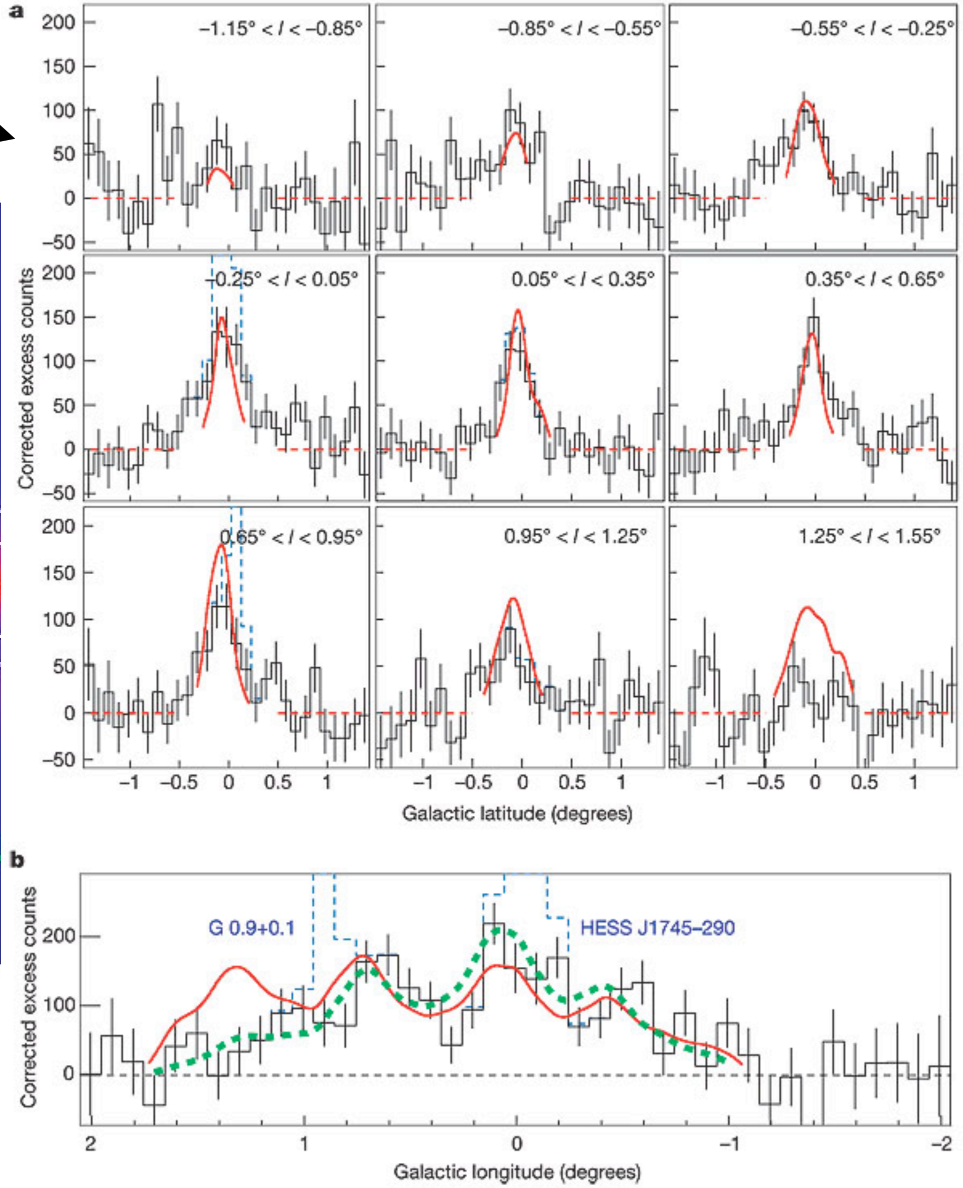
Example: the galactic centre ridge

The galactic centre ridge as seen by HESS

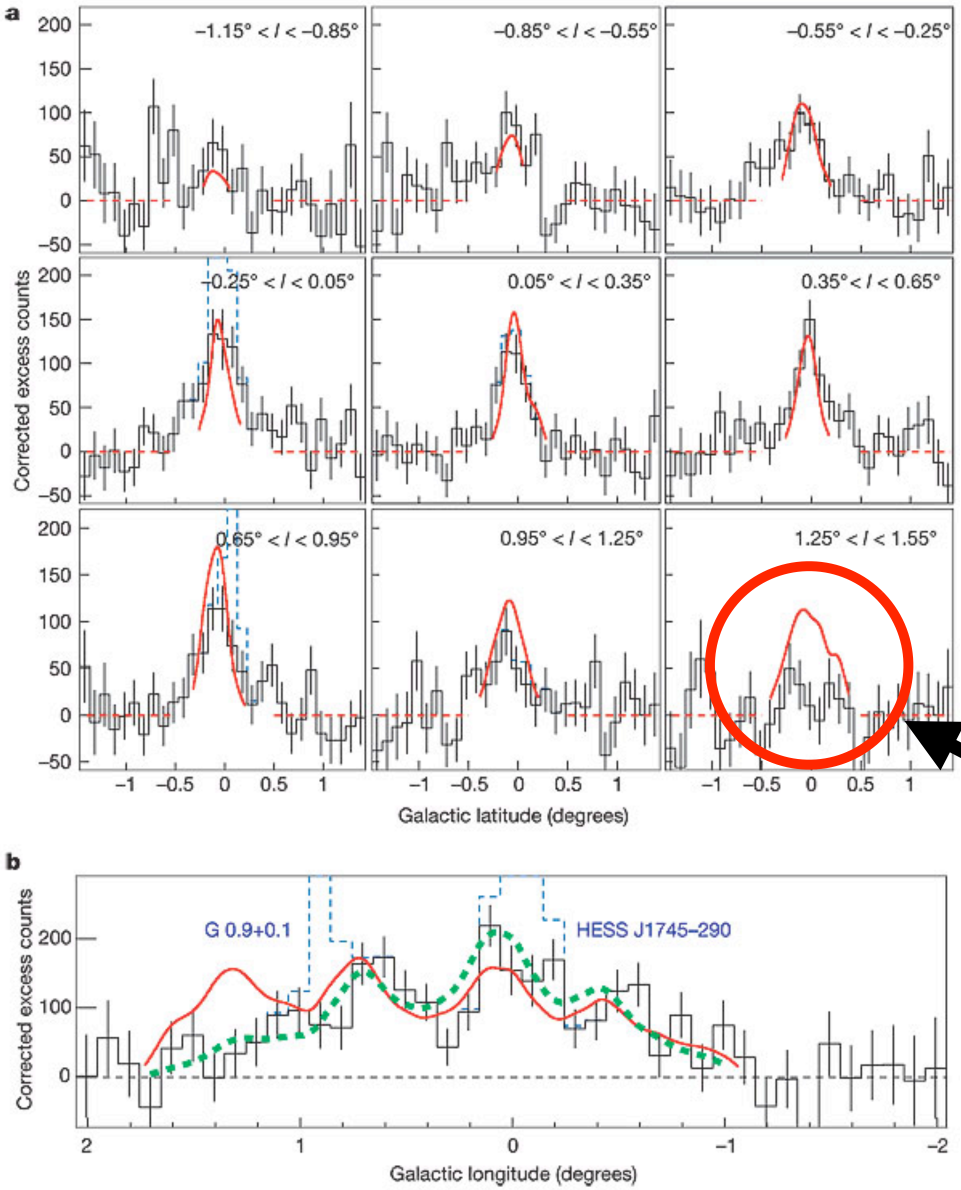
good match between CS lines and TeV emission

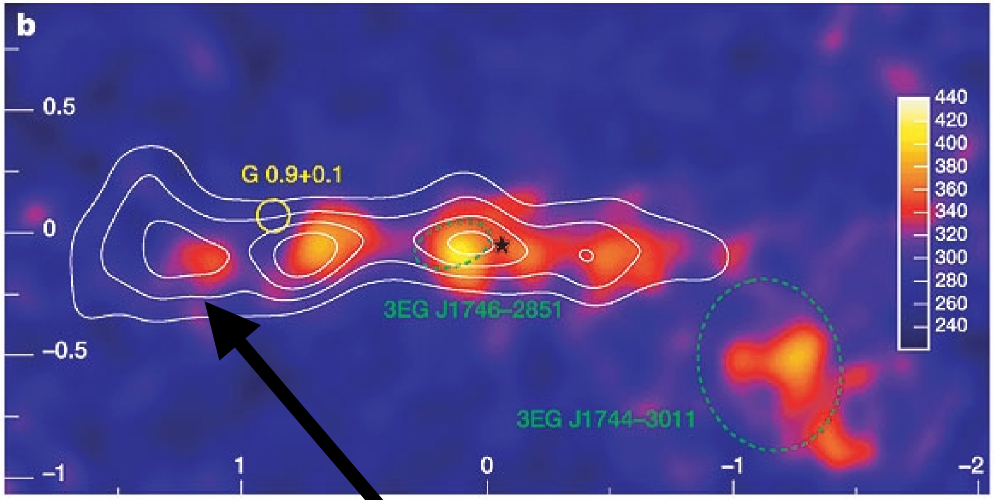


HESS collaboration, 2006



Example: the galactic centre ridge

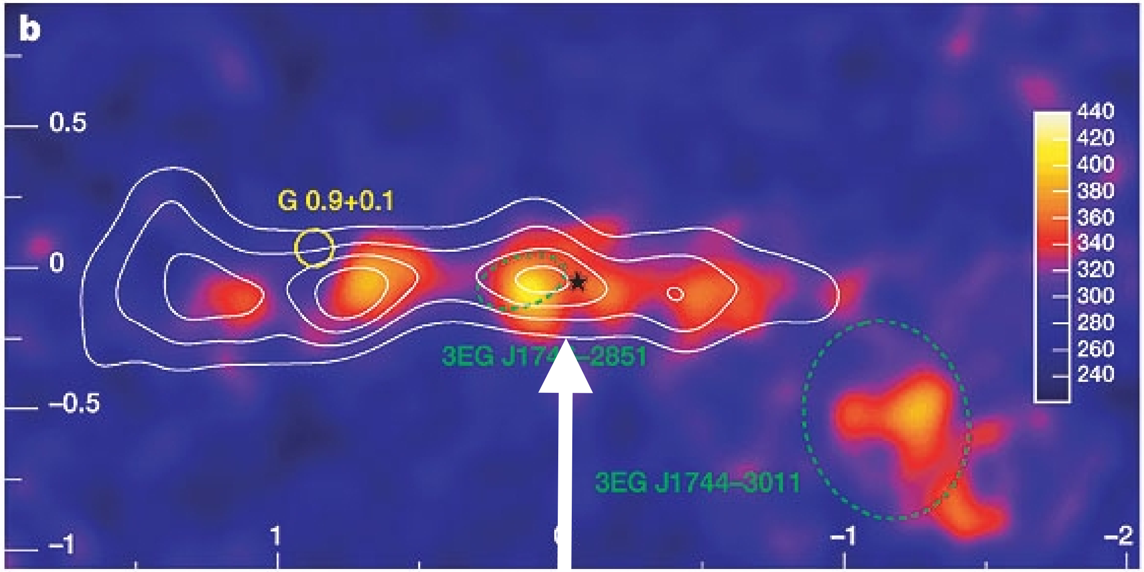




the correlation between gamma ray intensity and gas density is worse for the cloud which is the farthest away from the galactic centre

HESS collaboration, 2006

Example: the galactic centre ridge

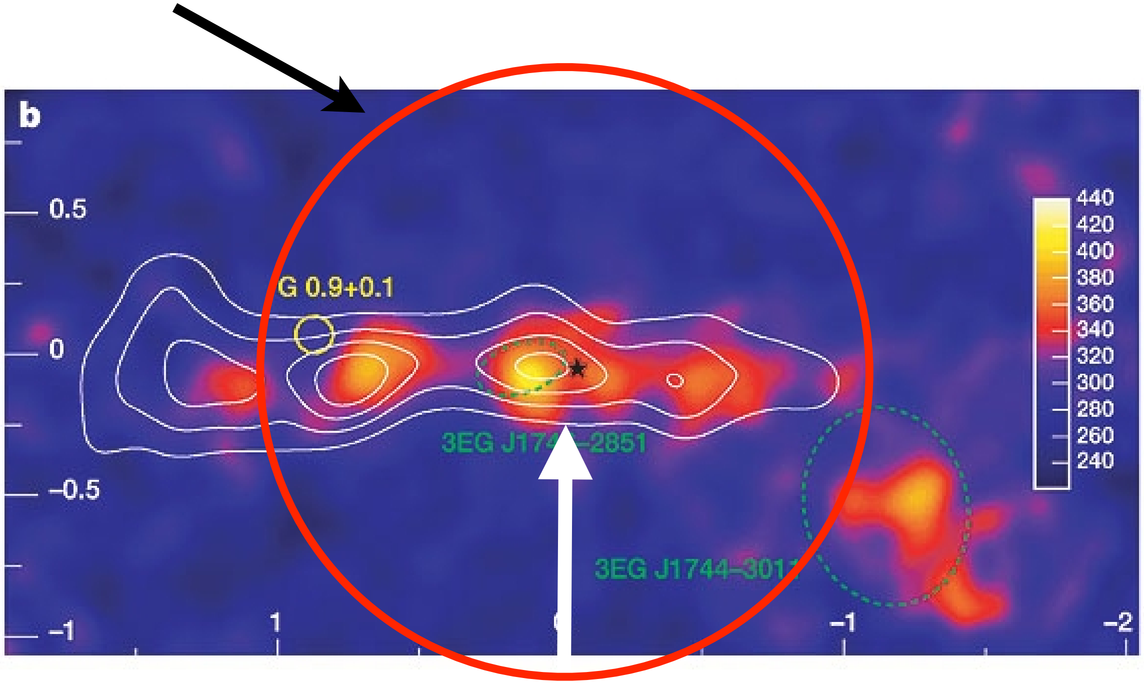


CR source

HESS collaboration, 2006

Example: the galactic centre ridge

after a time t_{diff} CRs fill a volume like this



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HESS collaboration, 2006

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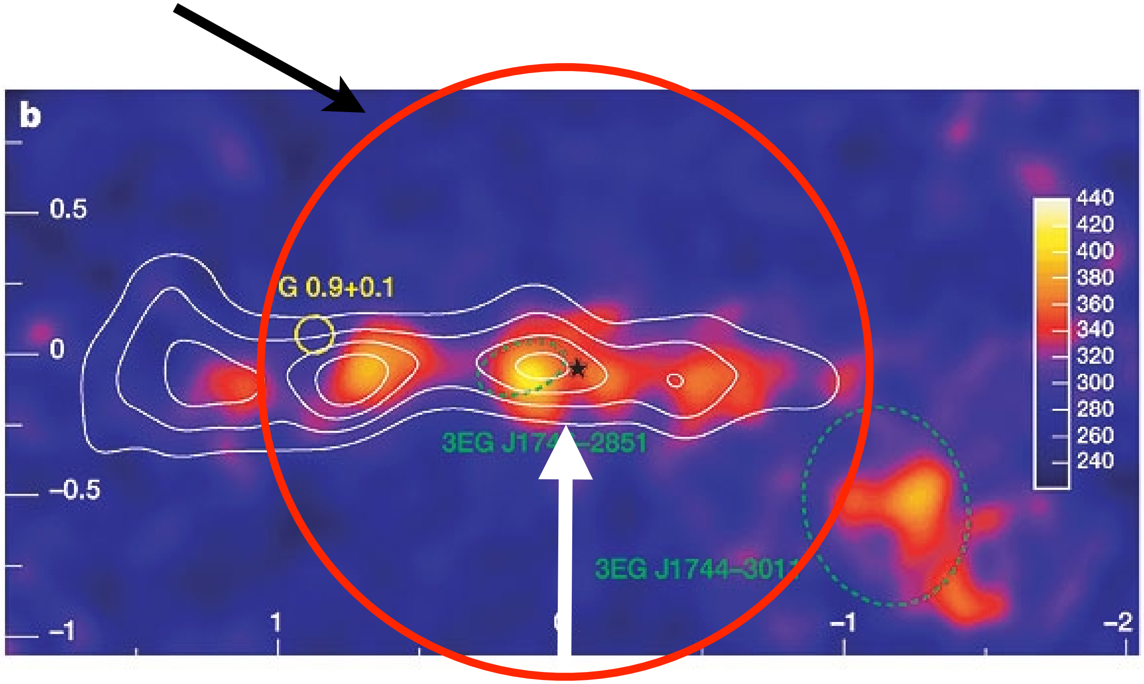


CR source

$$t_{diff} \approx \frac{l^2}{D}$$

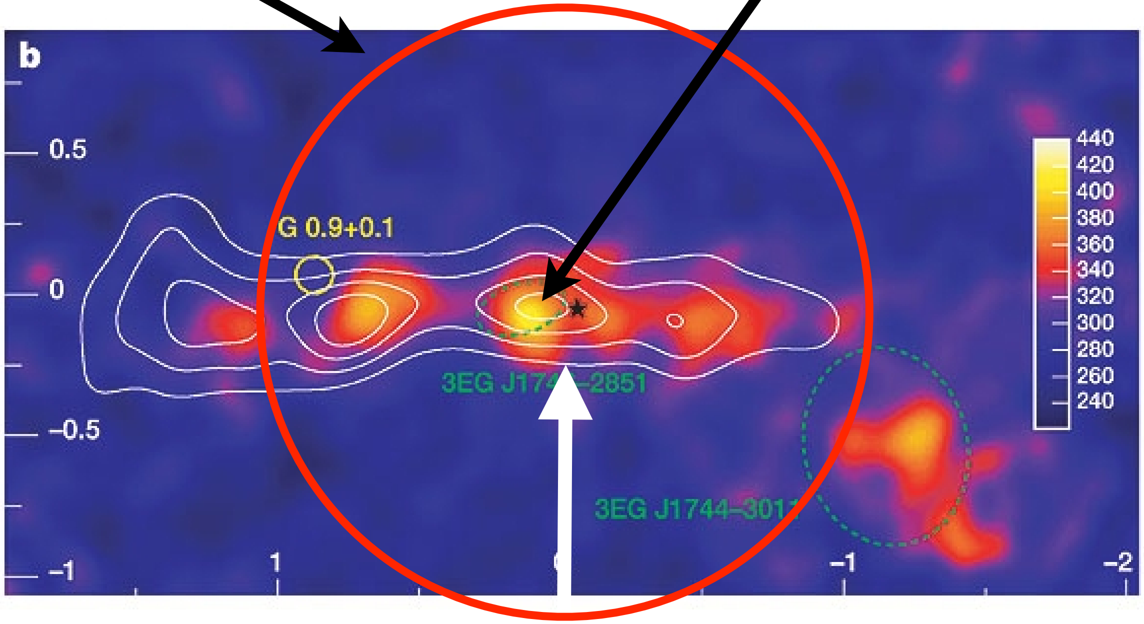
if we know the age of the source we can estimate the diffusion coefficient!

HESS collaboration, 2006

Example: the galactic centre ridge

after a time t_{diff} CRs fill a volume like this

SNR SgrA East -> t ~ 10^4 yr
(though quite uncertain)



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⇨

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HESS collaboration, 2006

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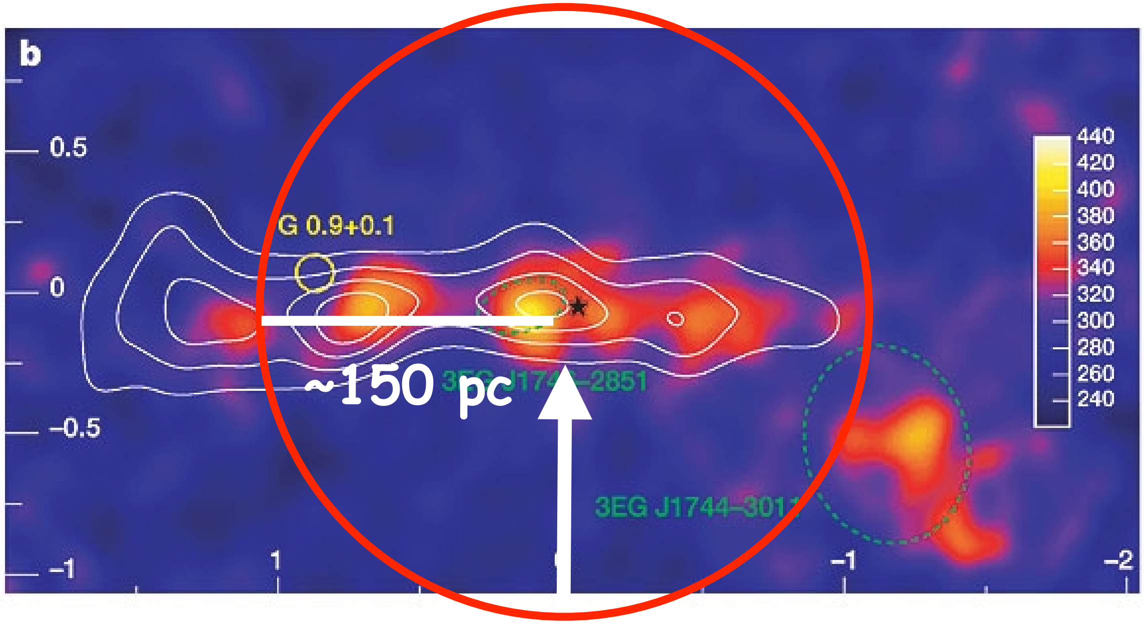
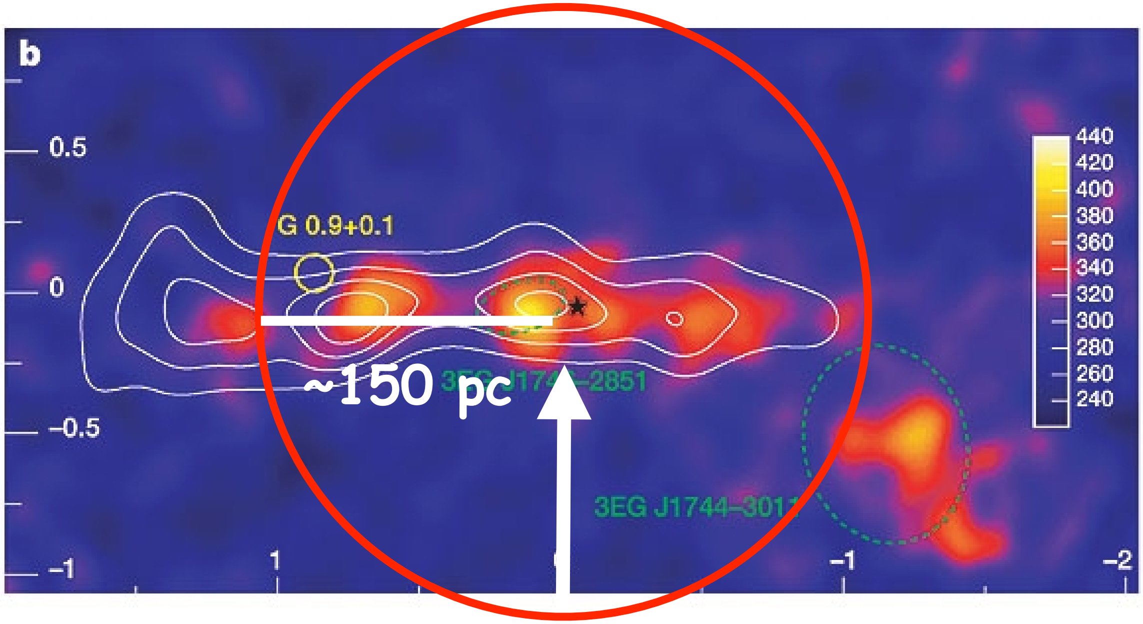


~150 pc

CR source (~10^4 yr)

$$t_{diff} \approx \frac{l^2}{D}$$

Example: the galactic centre ridge



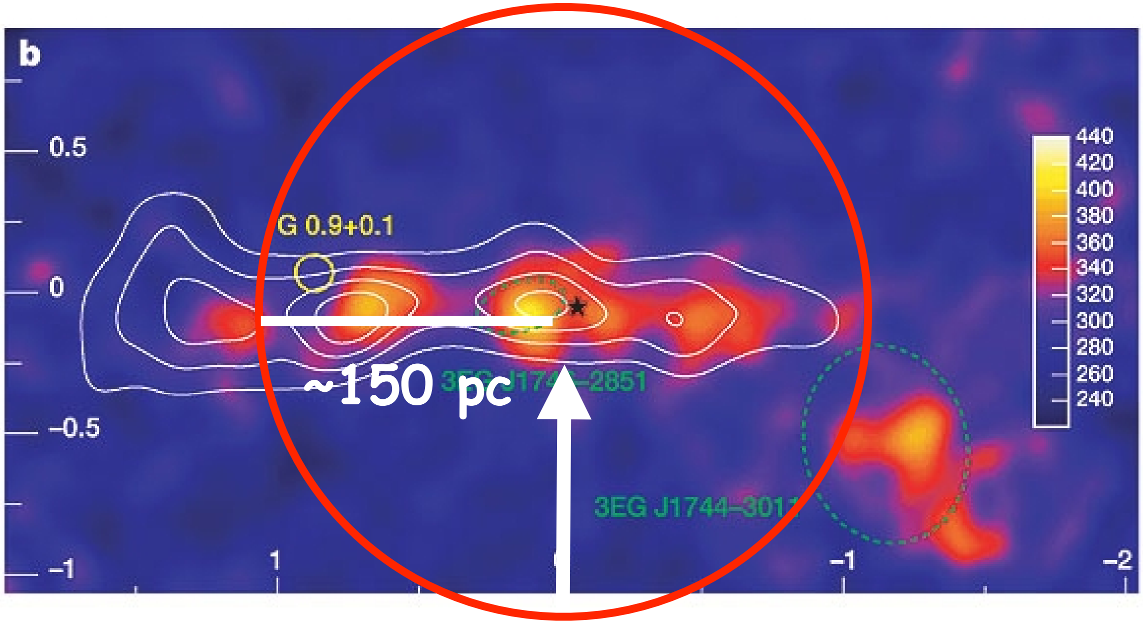
CR source (~10^4 yr)

$$t_{diff} \approx \frac{l^2}{D}$$

$$D \lesssim 7 \times 10^{29} \mathrm{cm}^2/\mathrm{s}$$

possibly smaller than the average diffusion coefficient in the Galaxy

Example: the galactic centre ridge



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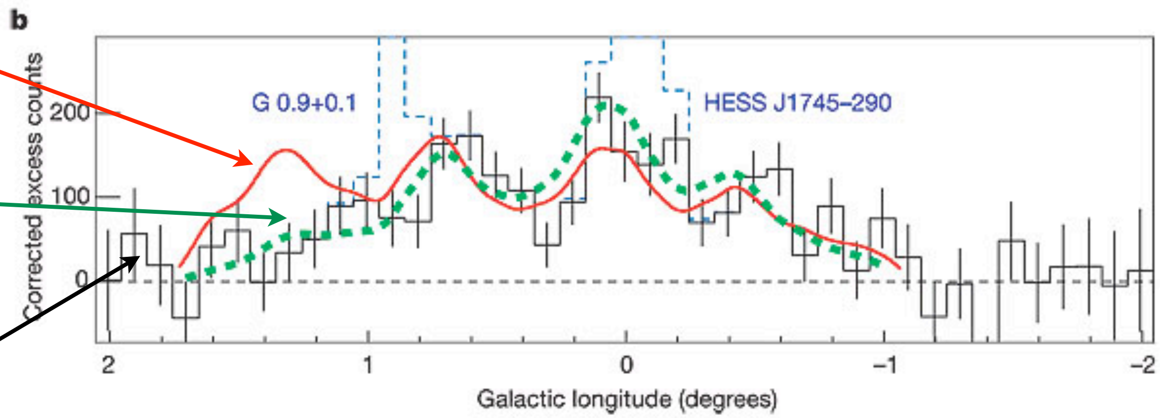
$$D \lesssim 7 \times 10^{29} \mathrm{cm}^2/\mathrm{s}$$

possibly smaller than the average diffusion coefficient in the Galaxy

density

predicted gamma rays (diffusion from a source in the Galactic centre)

observed gamma rays



Conclusions

- We still don't know which are the sources of galactic **CRs**;
- We have many reasons to believe that **SNRs** might be the sources of CRs;
- A tight connection between CR physics and gamma-ray astronomy exists (**CR+ISM -> Gamma-rays**);
- Three gamma ray based **tests** for CR origin:
  - ☑ TeV emission from SNRs -> necessary but not sufficient condition
  - ☐ GeV-TeV spectrum of SNRs -> FERMI -> **hadronic or leptonic?**
  - ☐ multi-TeV emission from SNRs -> future Cherenkov telescopes (Cherenkov Telescope Array, TenTen ...) -> **PeVatrons!**

Thanks!