

*'TeVPA', Sydney, 2019*

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**Cosmic ray feedback in  
star-formation and  
implications for gamma-ray  
emission from starbursts**

**Roland Crocker**

**ANU**

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**Australian  
National  
University**

# Describing these works:

- ❖ *‘Cosmic ray transport in starburst galaxies’*;  
Krumholz, Crocker, Xu, Lazarian, Robertson & Bedwell (2019),  
*in submission*, MNRAS (1911.09774)
- ❖ *‘Cosmic Ray Feedback Bounds the Star Formation Efficiency of Spiral Galaxies’*;  
Crocker, Krumholz, Thompson, et al. (2020); *in preparation*

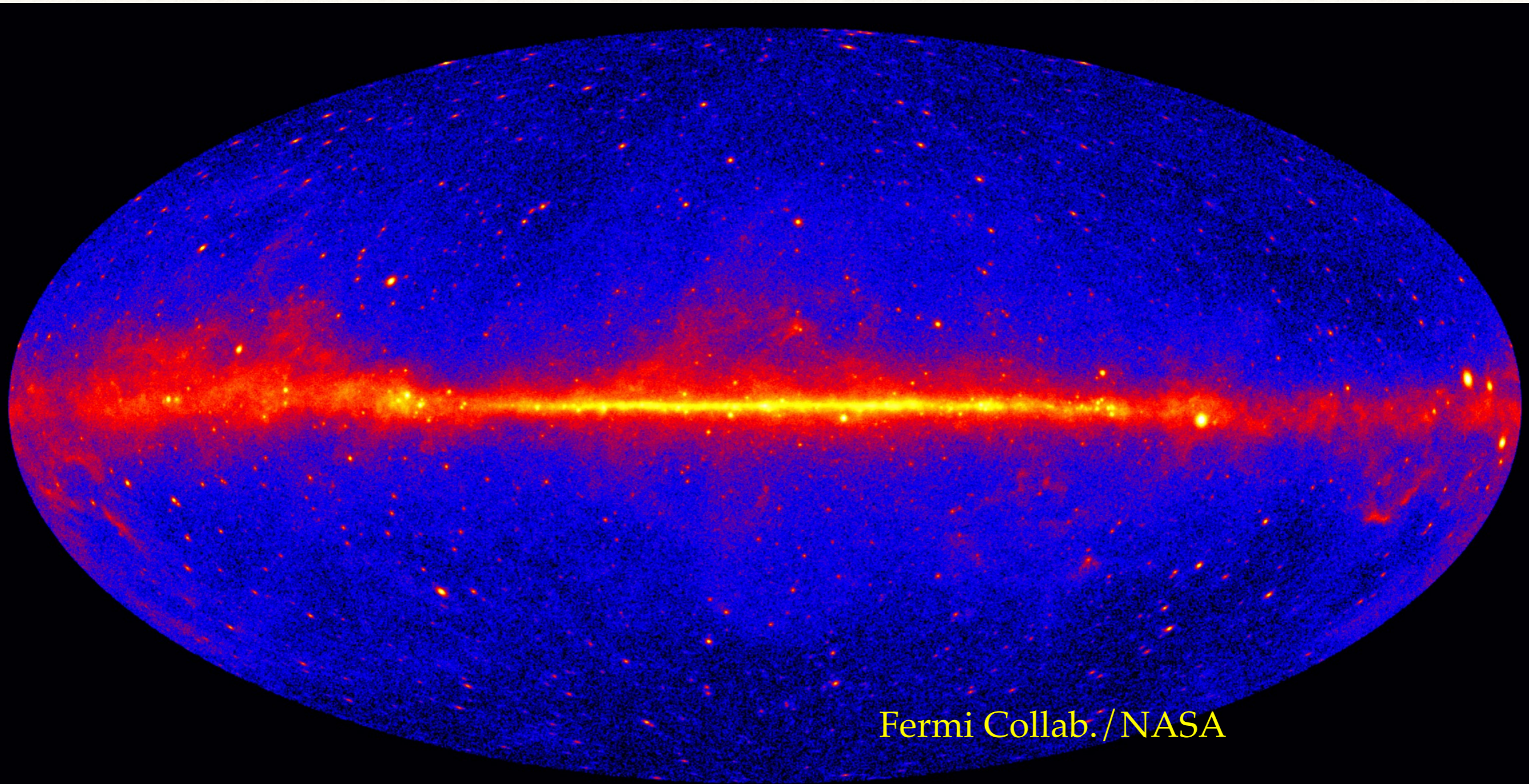
# Two Claims

*A correct understanding of cosmic ray transport in (relatively) dense, partially ionised (but largely neutral) gas allows us to*

- 1. Make sense of the observed gamma-ray spectra of some nearby starbursts and the empirically-demanded CR loss timescales*
- 2. Make sense of the fact that there is an empirical upper limit to the star formation of 'normal' galaxies*

# Cosmic Rays

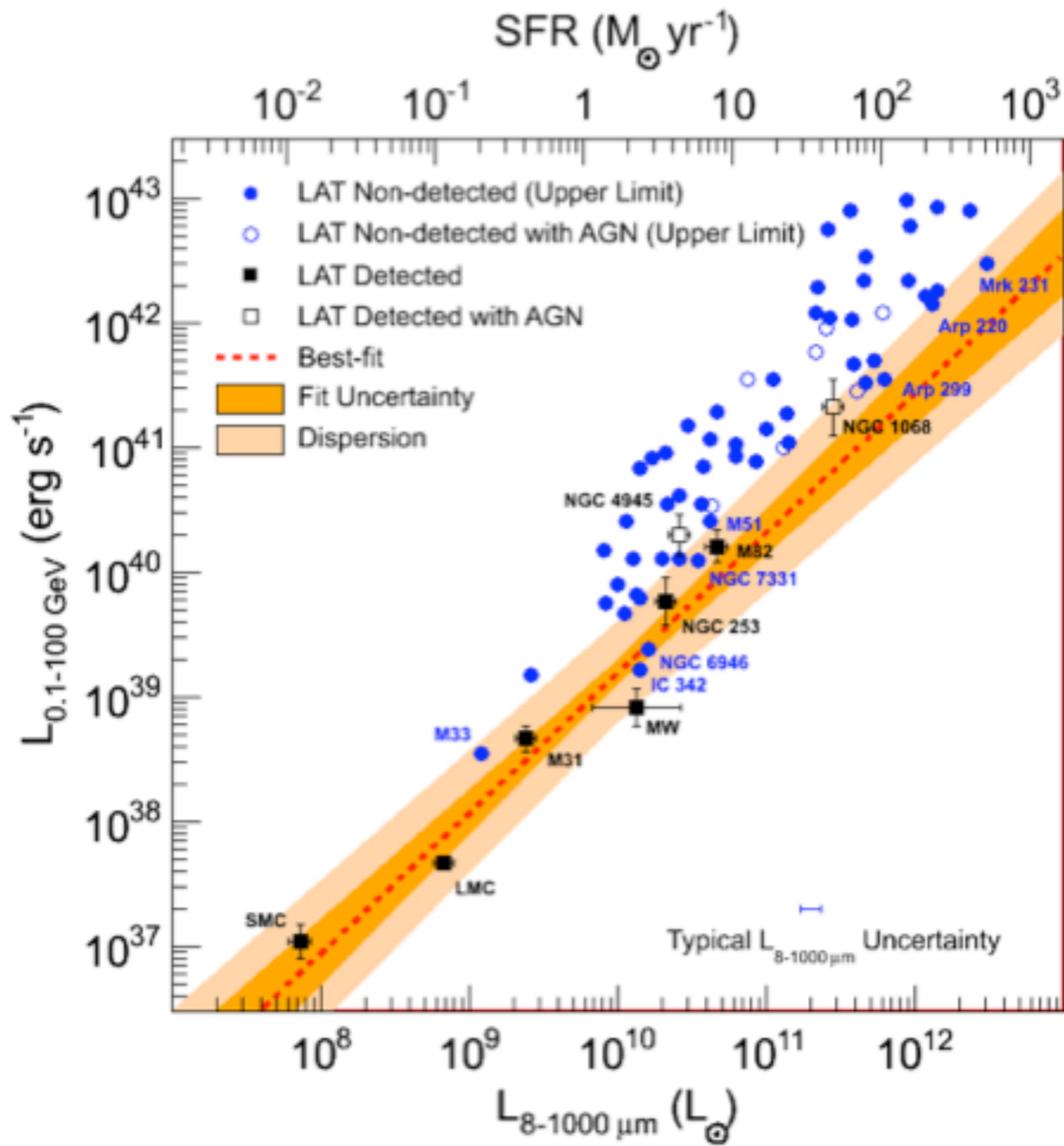
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Fermi Collab./NASA

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- Similarly, we know from gamma-ray observations that there are diffuse cosmic ray populations suffusing the disks of external, star-forming galaxies (local group, nearby starbursts)



Martin, *Fermi collab*

**Fig. 1.** Gamma-ray luminosity (0.1-100 GeV) versus total IR luminosity (8-1000 $\mu\text{m}$ ).

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- As CRs scatter on B field they exchange momentum with the B field
- $\Rightarrow$  they exert an effective pressure to the gas into which the B field is “frozen in”

# CRs are dynamically important in galaxies:

- (hadronic gamma-ray emission  $\Rightarrow$ ) suffuse the dense gas
- inferred to dominate heating and ionisation of  $\text{H}_2$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  maintain temp of  $\text{H}_2$  and ensure it is coupled to magnetic fields
  - $\Rightarrow$  affect star formation
- in the Milky Way, they provide energy density / pressure equivalent to other ISM phases (Boulares & Cox 1990)
  - $\Rightarrow$  help to support the scale height of the gaseous disk
- help launch galactic outflows (Ipavich 1975, Breitchwerdt +)

# Cosmic Rays in the Milky Way (classical picture)

- ❖ CR transport in Gal disk  $\sim$  random walk
- ❖ CRs effectively diffuse with scattering length:  $\lambda_{\text{CR}} \sim \text{pc}$
- ❖  $\lambda_{\text{CR}} \gg r_g$

$$r_g = \frac{\gamma m c v \sin \alpha}{e B} \approx \frac{E_{\text{CR}} \sin \alpha}{e B} \sim 10^{-6} E_{\text{CR},0} B_0^{-1} \text{ pc},$$

- ❖ At a heuristic level,  $\lambda_{\text{CR}}$  can be derived from quasi-linear theory in a picture where there is a  $\sim$ Kolmogorov turbulence cascade from the  $\sim 100$  pc turbulence injection scale down to the gyroradius scale
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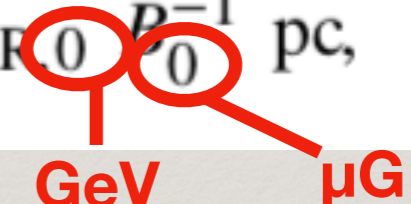
**GeV**

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GeV                      μG

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# CR Transport in 'Neutral' Gas

- ❖ The mid-planes of starbursts are dominated by cold, neutral gas, neutral gas filling factor  $\rightarrow 100\%$
- ❖  $\Rightarrow$  The ISM processes determining CR transport in starbursts are different to those operating AT LARGE in galaxies like the Milky Way.
- ❖ However, even for the MW, close to midplane, filling factor of 'neutral' gas approaches 50%

# CR Transport in 'Neutral' Gas

- ❖ Low ionisation fractions in this medium  $\Rightarrow$  damping of turbulence by ion-neutral drag. This fundamentally changes the nature of CR transport (Kulsrud & Pearce 1969, Lazarian 2016, Xu & Lazarian 2016,2017,2018).
- ❖ In particular, GeV CRs *cannot* scatter off the strong, large-scale turbulence found in starbursts, because efficient ion-neutral damping prevents such turbulence from cascading down to their  $\sim 10^{-6}$  pc gyroradius scale

# Why does ion-neutral damping kill the turbulence cascade?

- ❖ The neutral gas is, in reality ionised at some level,

$$\chi \sim 10^{-5} - 10^{-2} \quad (\text{by mass})$$

- ❖ For given ISM parameters, 3 different frequencies that must be compared:

- ❖ frequency of a particular MHD wave:  $\nu$

- ❖ ion-neutral collision frequency:  $\nu_{in}$

- ❖ neutral-ion collision frequency:  $\nu_{ni}$

- ❖  $\nu_{ni} = \chi \nu_{in}$



# 3 regimes

- ❖  $v \ll v_{ni} < v_{in}$ , *coupled*: many collisions will occur per oscillation, forcing the ions and neutrals to move together, thus act as a **single magnetised fluid** supporting the usual family of MHD waves.

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- ❖  $v_{ni} < v < v_{in}$ , *damping*:
  - ❖ ions attempt to oscillate in response to perturbations in the magnetic field, but still collide with the surrounding neutrals. Thus, the ion-neutral collisions prevent the ions from oscillating freely.
  - ❖ neutrals, decoupled from ions due to their infrequent collisions with ions, cannot move with the Alfvén waves.
  - ❖ the ion-neutral collisions will convert organised Alfvén wave motions in the weakly coupled ions and neutrals into microscopic random motions, dissipating them into heat.

# Implication

- ❖ The turbulence cascade in the ions cuts off at a damping scale

$$L_{\text{damp,A}} = \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{2}L} \left( \frac{u_{\text{LA}}}{\gamma_d \chi \rho} \right)^{3/2} \min \left( 1, \mathcal{M}_A^{1/2} \right)$$
$$\approx \frac{0.0011}{L_2^{1/2}} \left( \frac{u_{\text{LA},1}}{n_{\text{H},3} \chi^{-4}} \right)^{3/2} \min \left( 1, \mathcal{M}_A^{1/2} \right) \text{ pc}$$

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Alfven  
Mach  
number

$M_A \sim 2$

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# Implication

- ❖ Thus, GeV CRs *cannot* scatter off the strong, large-scale turbulence found in starbursts, because efficient ion-neutral damping prevents such turbulence from cascading down to their  $\sim 10^{-6}$  pc gyroradius scale
- ❖ Instead, GeV CRs stream along field lines at a rate determined by the **competition between streaming instability and ion-neutral damping**, leading to transport via a process of **field line random walk**
- ❖ This results in an effective diffusion coefficient that is nearly energy-independent for  $\sim$ GeV-TeV CRs

- ❖ The damping rate in the decoupled regime is (Kulsrud & Pearce 1969):

$$\omega_d = \frac{v_{in}}{2},$$

- ❖ the growth rate of the streaming instability is:

$$\Gamma_{CR} = \frac{eB}{mc} \frac{n_{CR}(> \gamma)}{n_i} \left( \frac{V_{st}}{V_{Ai}} - 1 \right),$$

- ❖ balance growth against damping (i.e., set  $\Gamma_{\text{CR}} = \omega_{\text{d}}$ ):

$$\frac{V_{\text{st}}}{V_{\text{Ai}}} - 1 = 2.3 \times 10^{-3} \frac{E_{\text{CR},0}^{p-1} n_{\text{H},3}^{3/2} \chi_{-4} \mathcal{M}_{\text{A}}}{C_3 u_{\text{LA},1}},$$

- ❖ unless the CR energy density in starbursts is small (comparable to that in the Milky Way  $C_3 \sim 10^{-3}$ ), the streaming velocity will be very close to  $V_{\text{Ai}}$ , the *ion* Alfven speed:

$$V_{\text{st}} \approx V_{\text{Ai}} \approx 1000 \frac{u_{\text{LA},1}}{\chi_{-4}^{1/2} \mathcal{M}_{\text{A}}} \text{ km s}^{-1}.$$

- ❖ Can now estimate the effective macroscopic diffusion coefficient (Yan & Lazarian 2008)
- ❖ No source of turbulence on the CR gyroscale other than that excited by the streaming instability
- ❖  $\Rightarrow$  no mechanism to scatter CRs perpendicular to field lines.
- ❖  $\Rightarrow$  diffusion relative to the macroscopic mean magnetic field direction is solely due to **field line random walk (FLRW)**
- ❖ The diffusion rate due to this process is determined by the coherence length of the field, which is related to the injection length of the turbulence by (Yan & Lazarian (2008):

$$L_A \approx L \min \left( 1, \mathcal{M}_A^{-3} \right).$$

- ❖ The corresponding diffusion coefficient for CRs in the direction parallel to the large-scale field is:

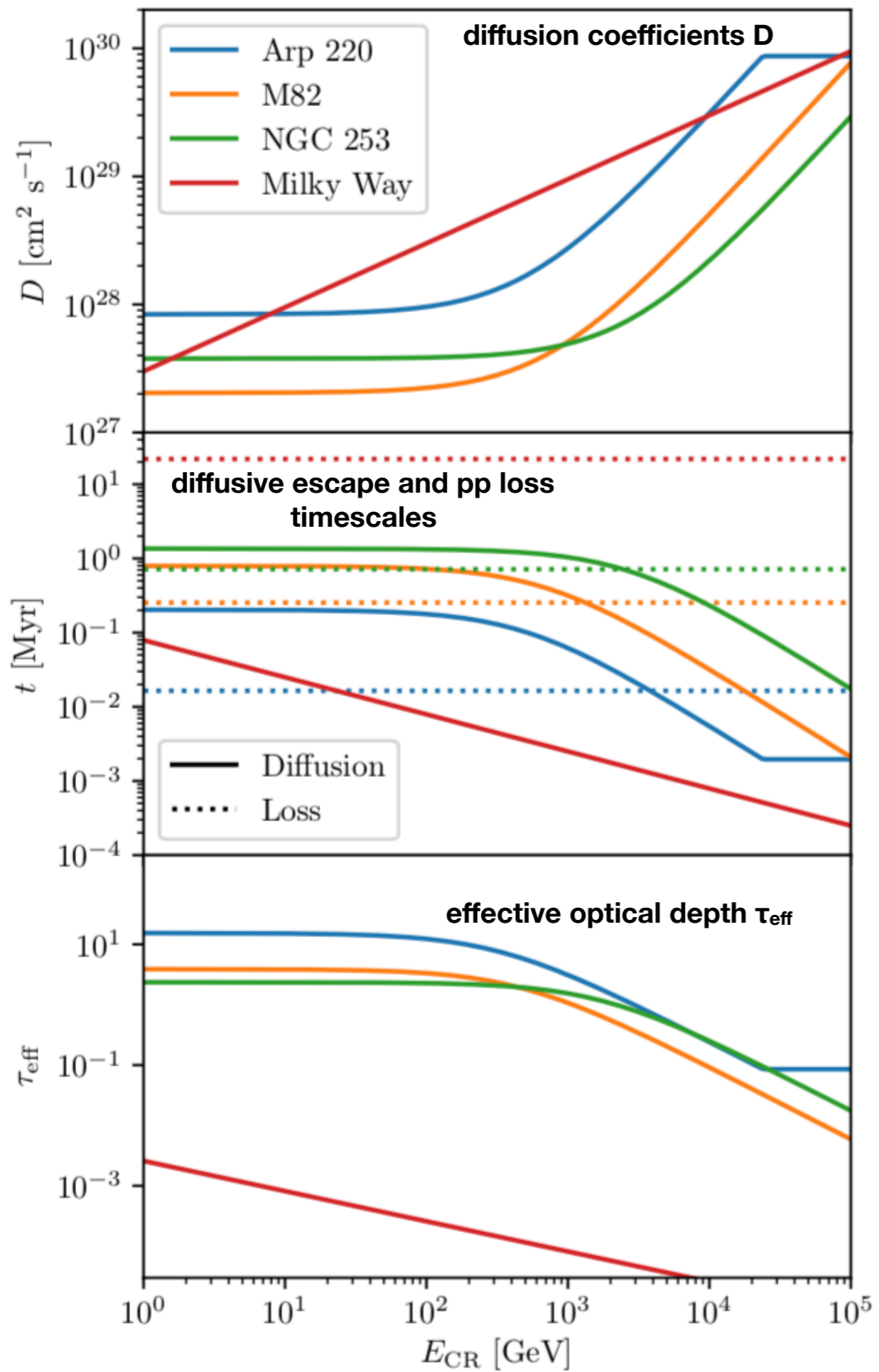
$$D_{\parallel} \approx V_{\text{st}} L_A$$

$$\approx 3.1 \times 10^{28} \frac{u_{\text{LA},1} L_2}{\sqrt{\chi-4}} \min(\mathcal{M}_A^{-1}, \mathcal{M}_A^{-4}) \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1},$$

- ❖ If  $M_A > 1$  as expected, then the perturbations in the field are not preferentially aligned with the large-scale mean field, and thus the diffusion coefficient perpendicular to the large-scale field is the same as that parallel to it,  $D_{\perp} \approx D_{\parallel}$ , and thus there is a single diffusion coefficient  $D$  in all directions.
- ❖ Note  $D$  is energy independent AND similar in magnitude to Galactic value @  $\sim 10$  GeV

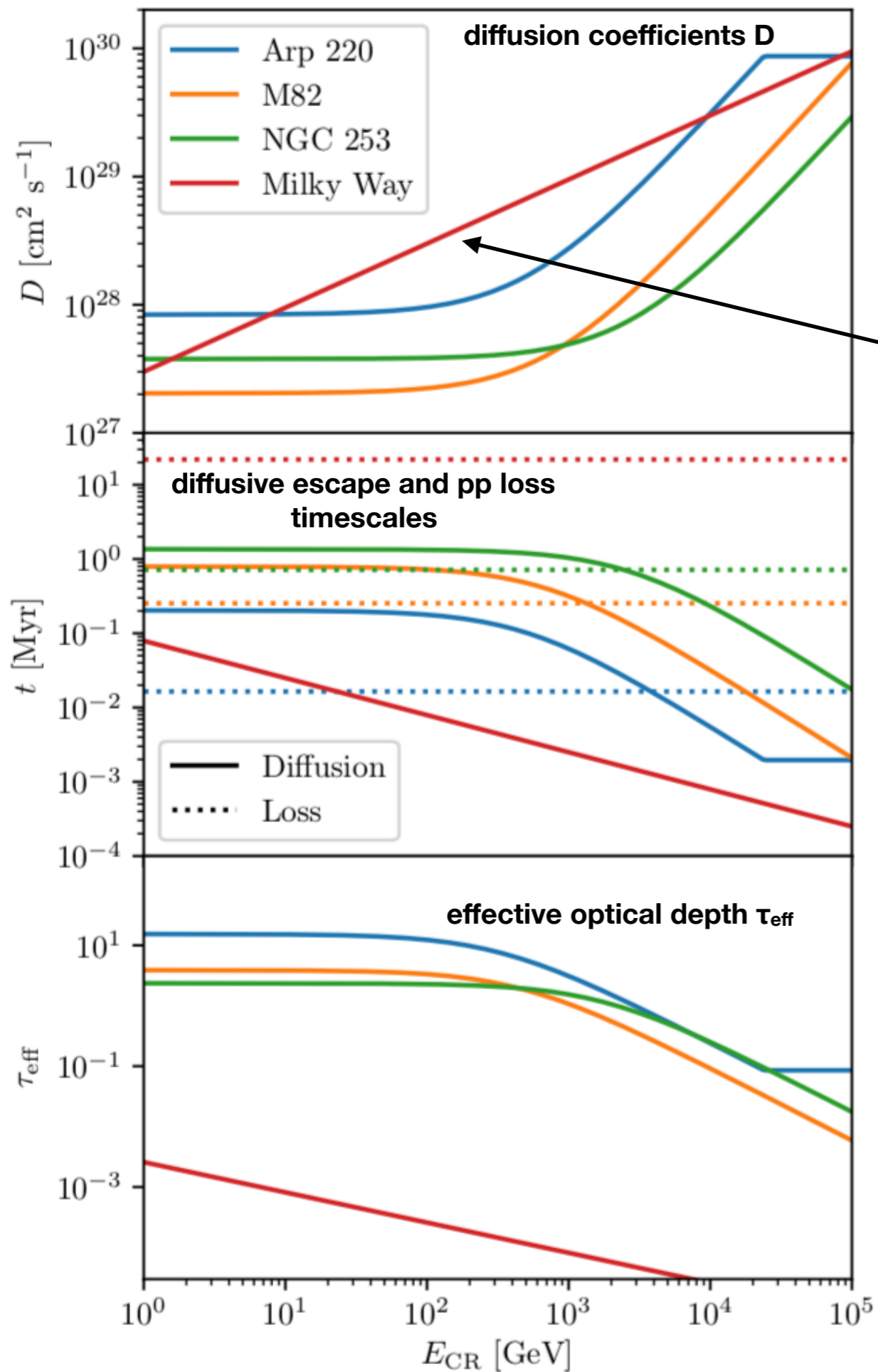
# Application I: Starburst Gamma-Ray Spectra





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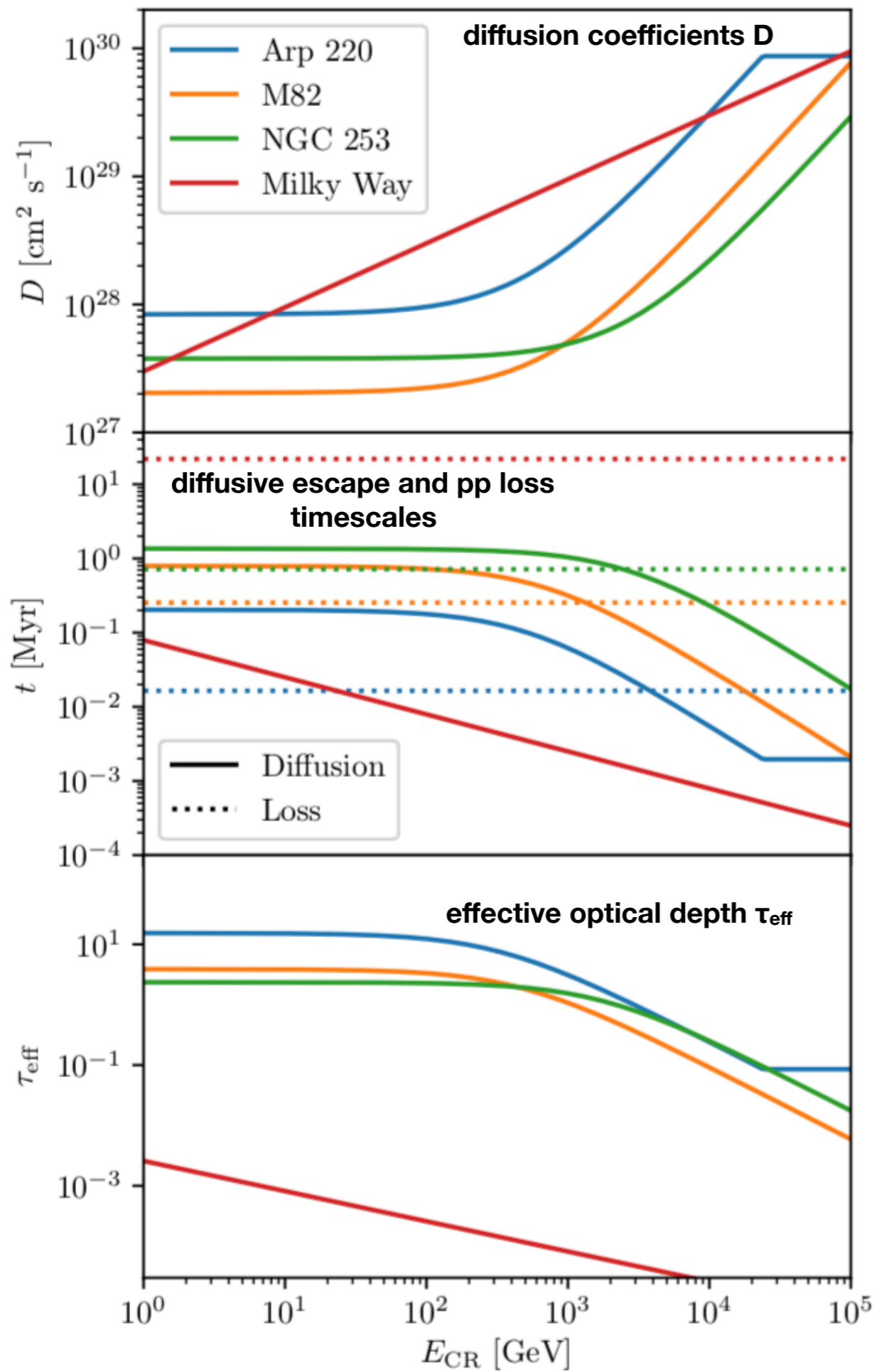
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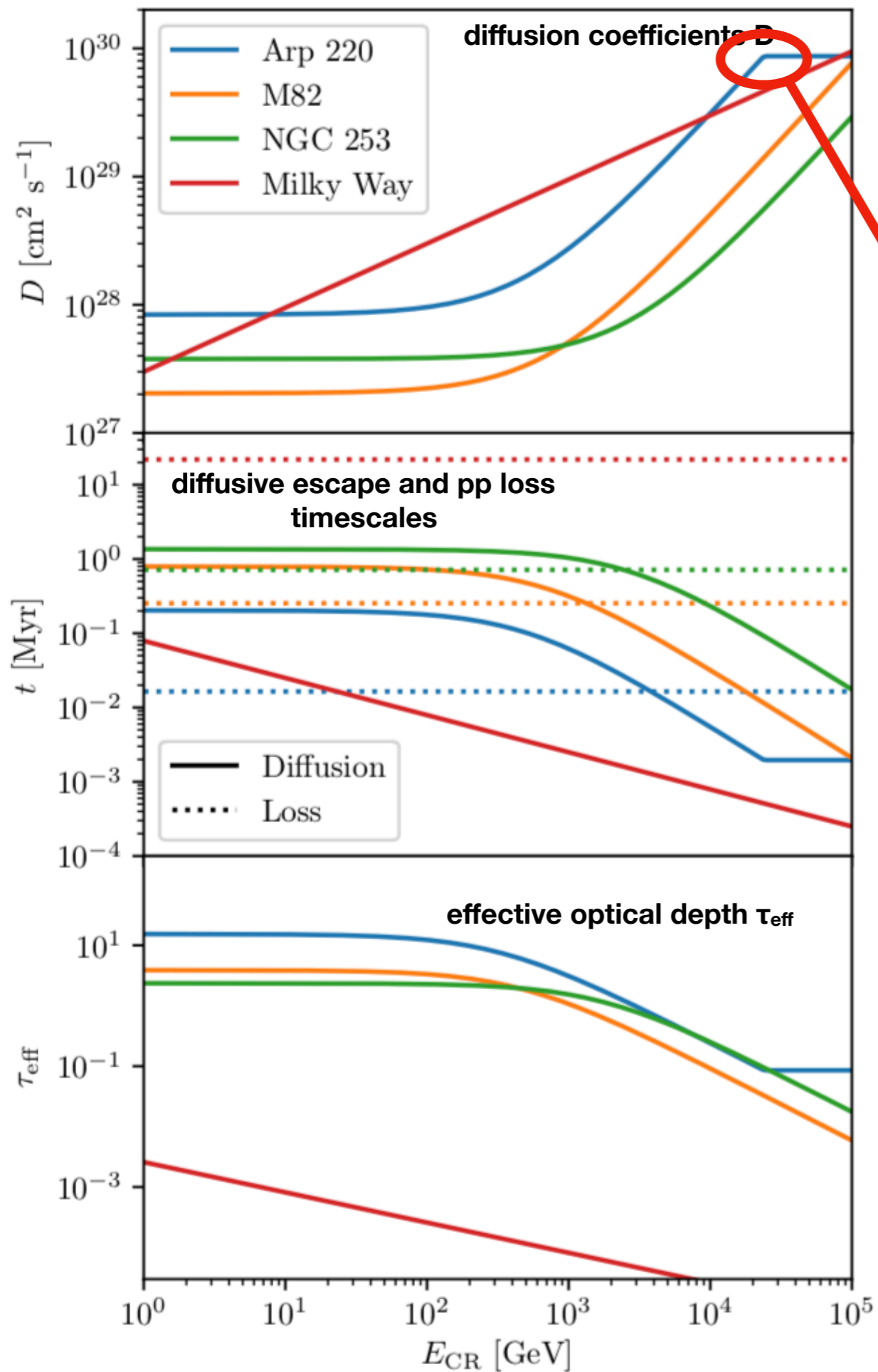
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$$D_{\text{MW}} \approx 3 \times 10^{27} E_{\text{CR},0}^{1/2} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$$



$$D_{\parallel} \approx V_{st} L_A$$

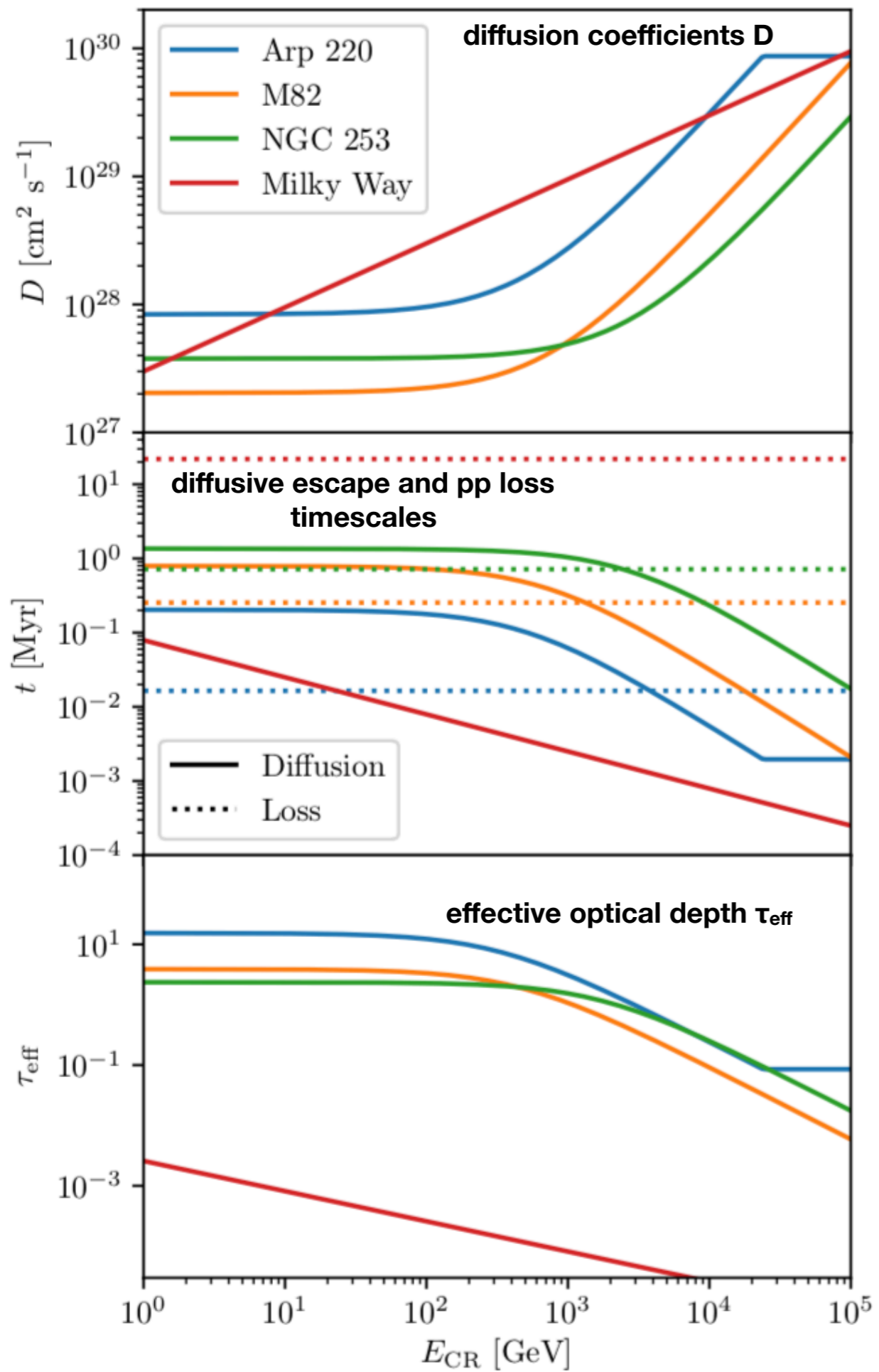
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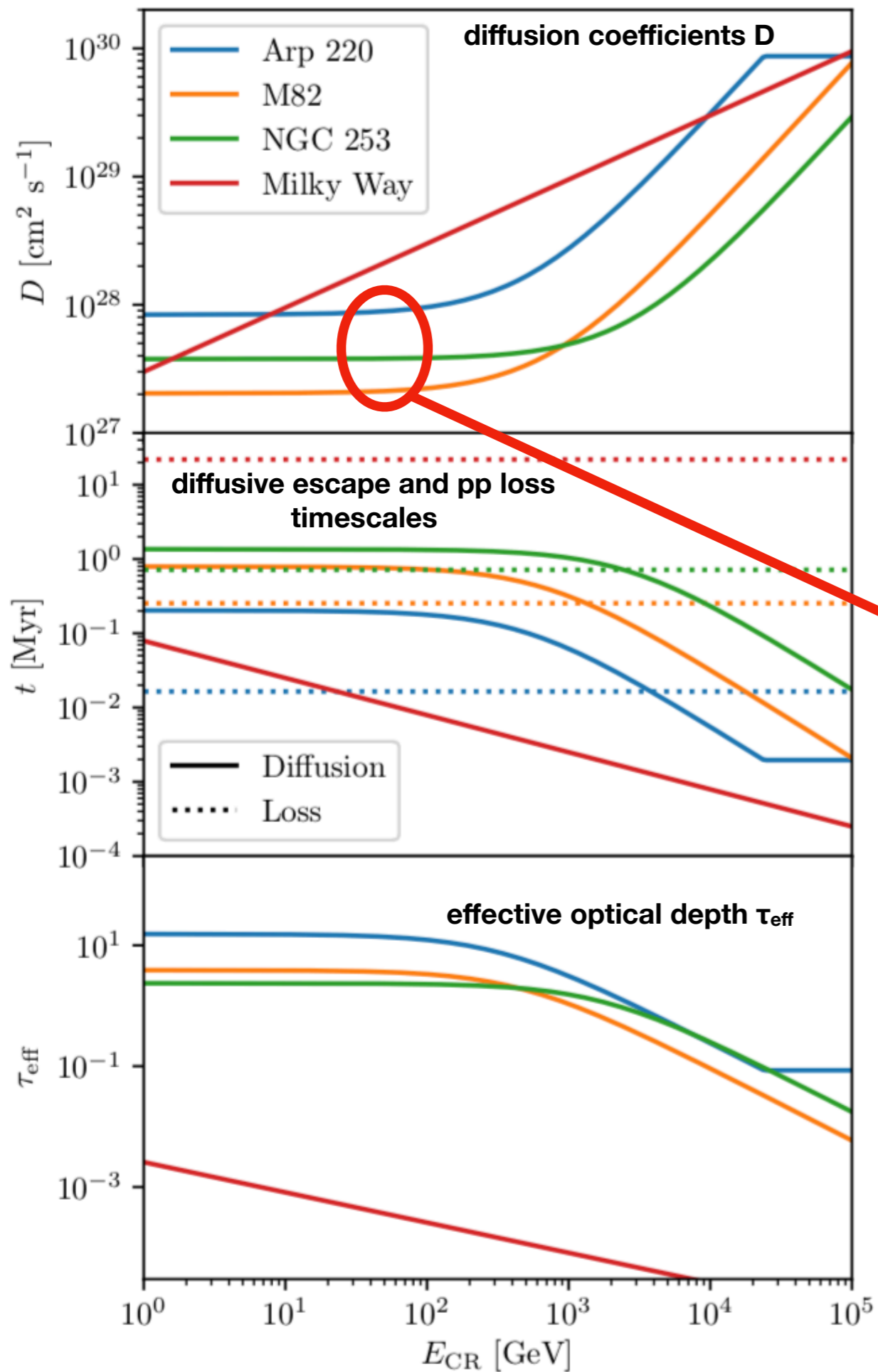
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**CR streaming speed approaches  $c$**



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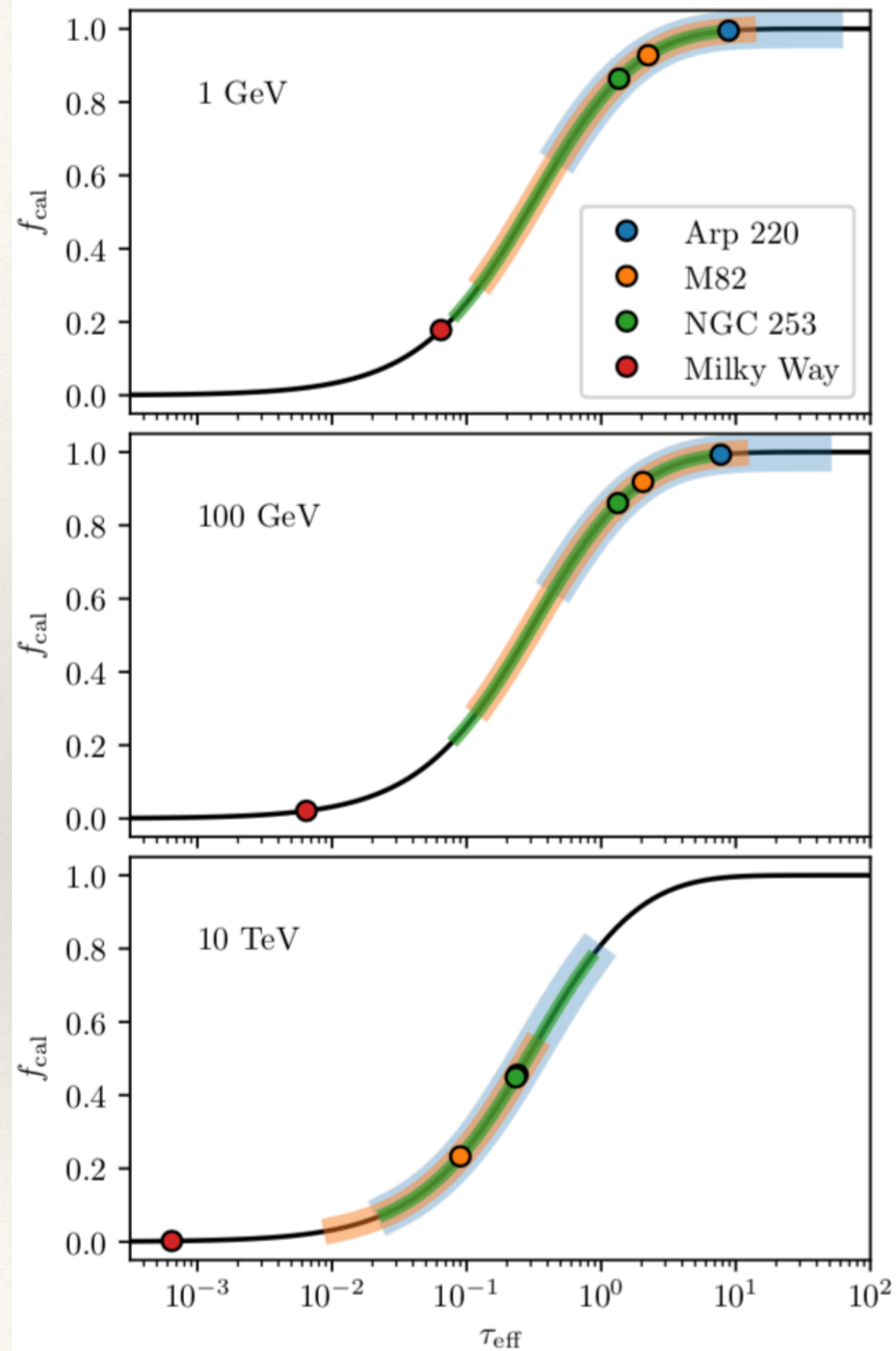


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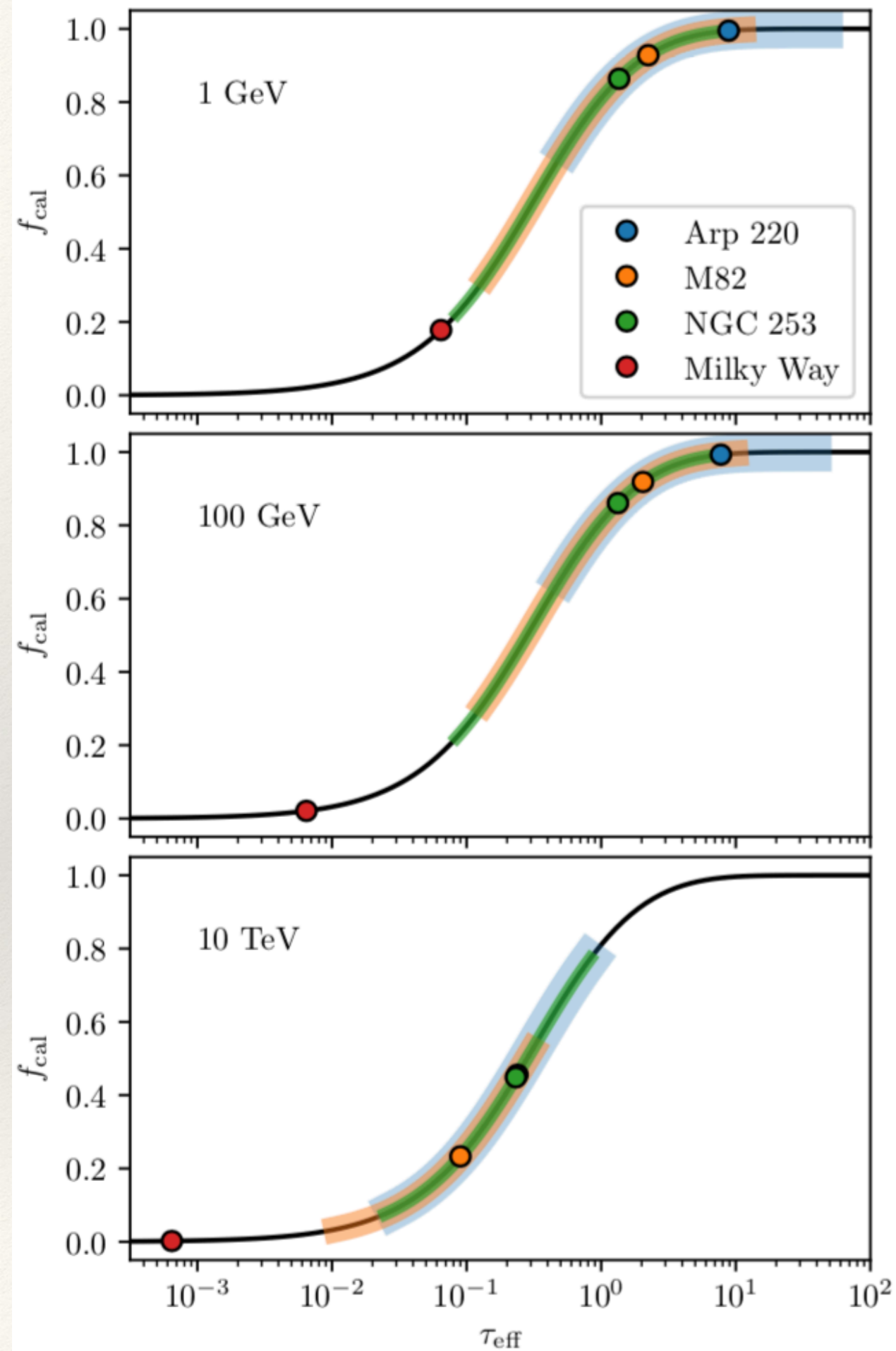
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Note energy-independent D here;

Other models invoke energy-independent wind advection here at  $v_{wind} \sim 500$  km/s, but the molecular gas in SBs is NOT advected at this speed

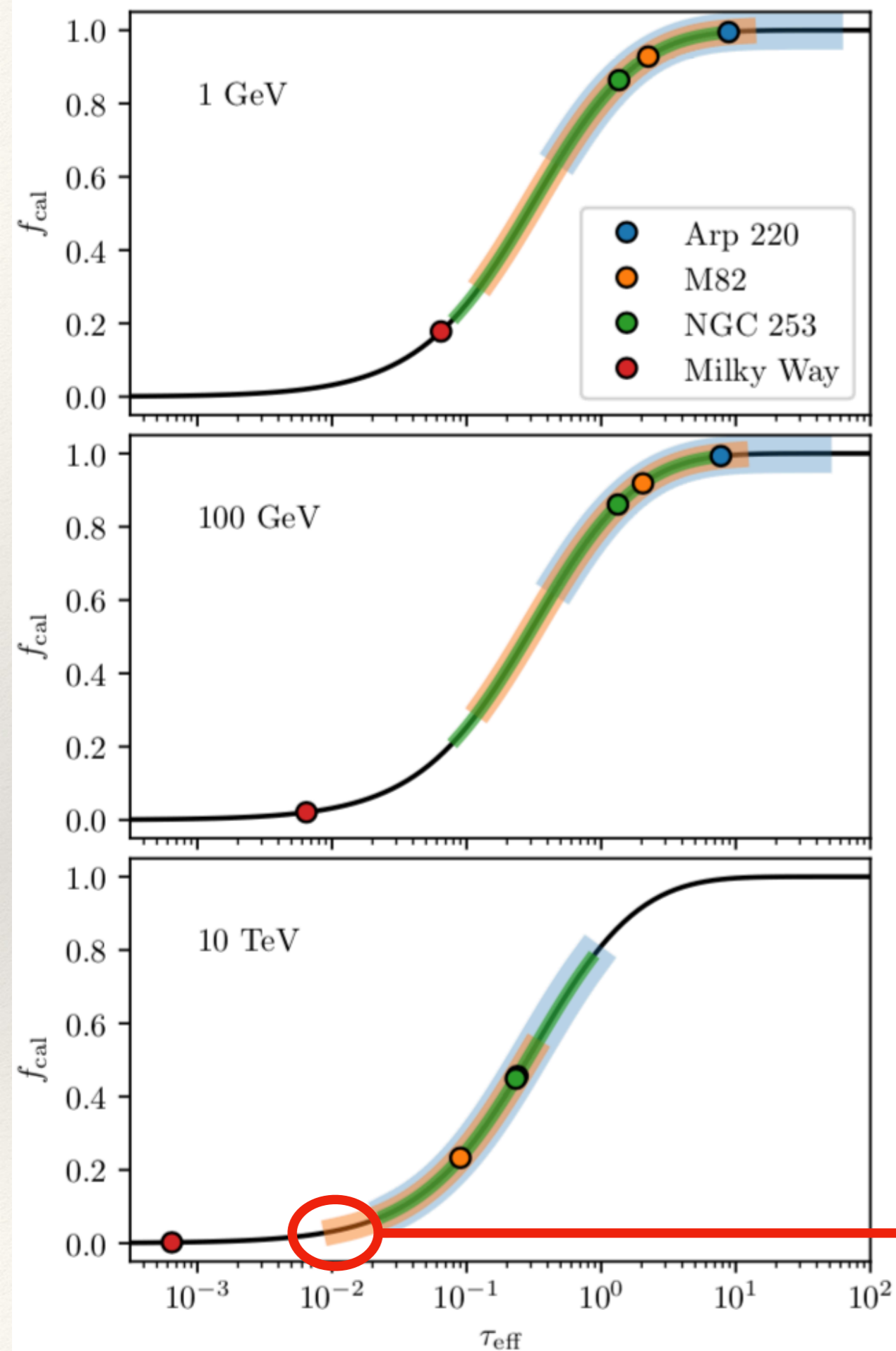


Calorimetric fraction  $f_{\text{cal}}$  as a function of effective optical depth  $\tau_{\text{eff}}$



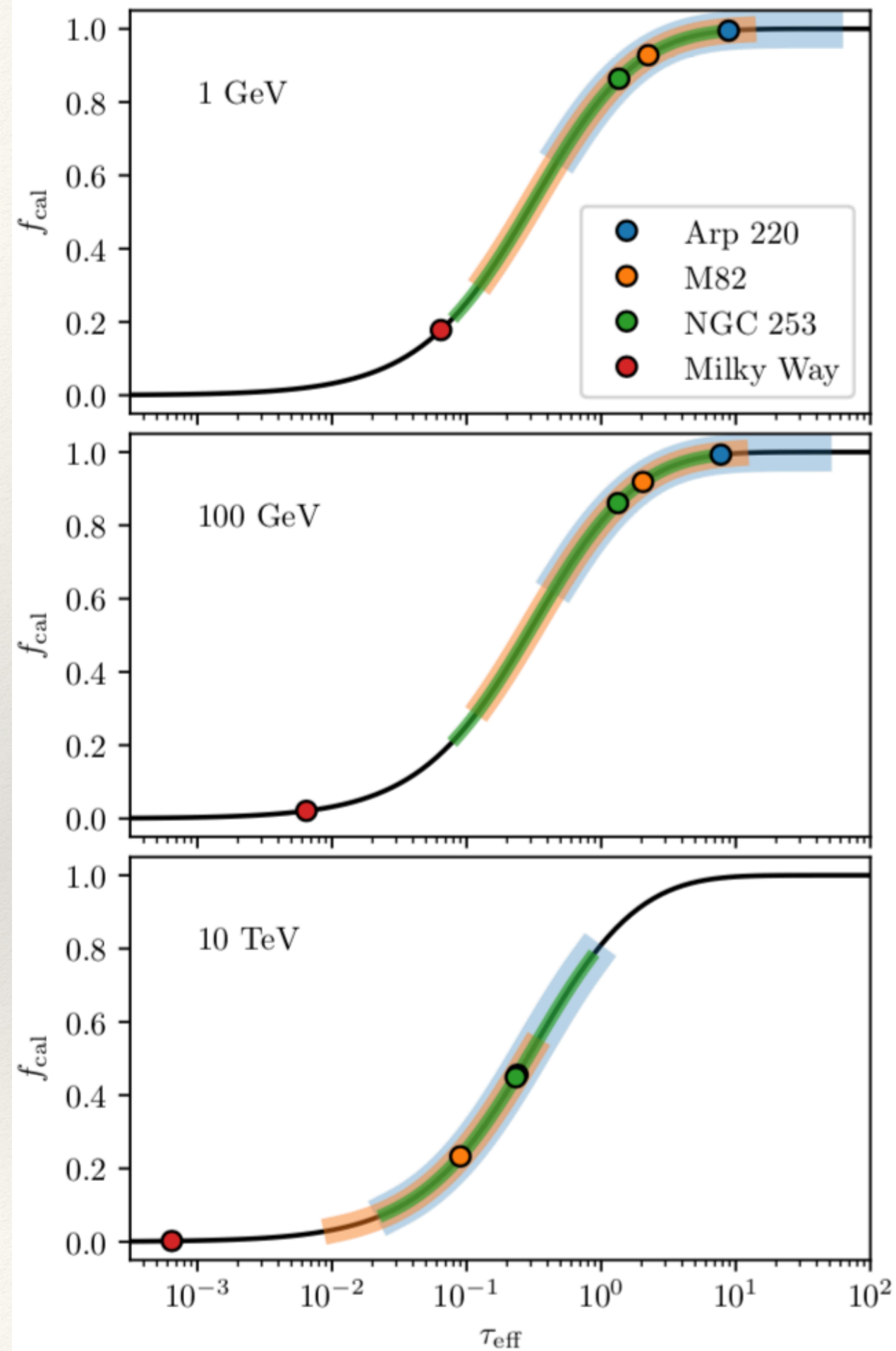
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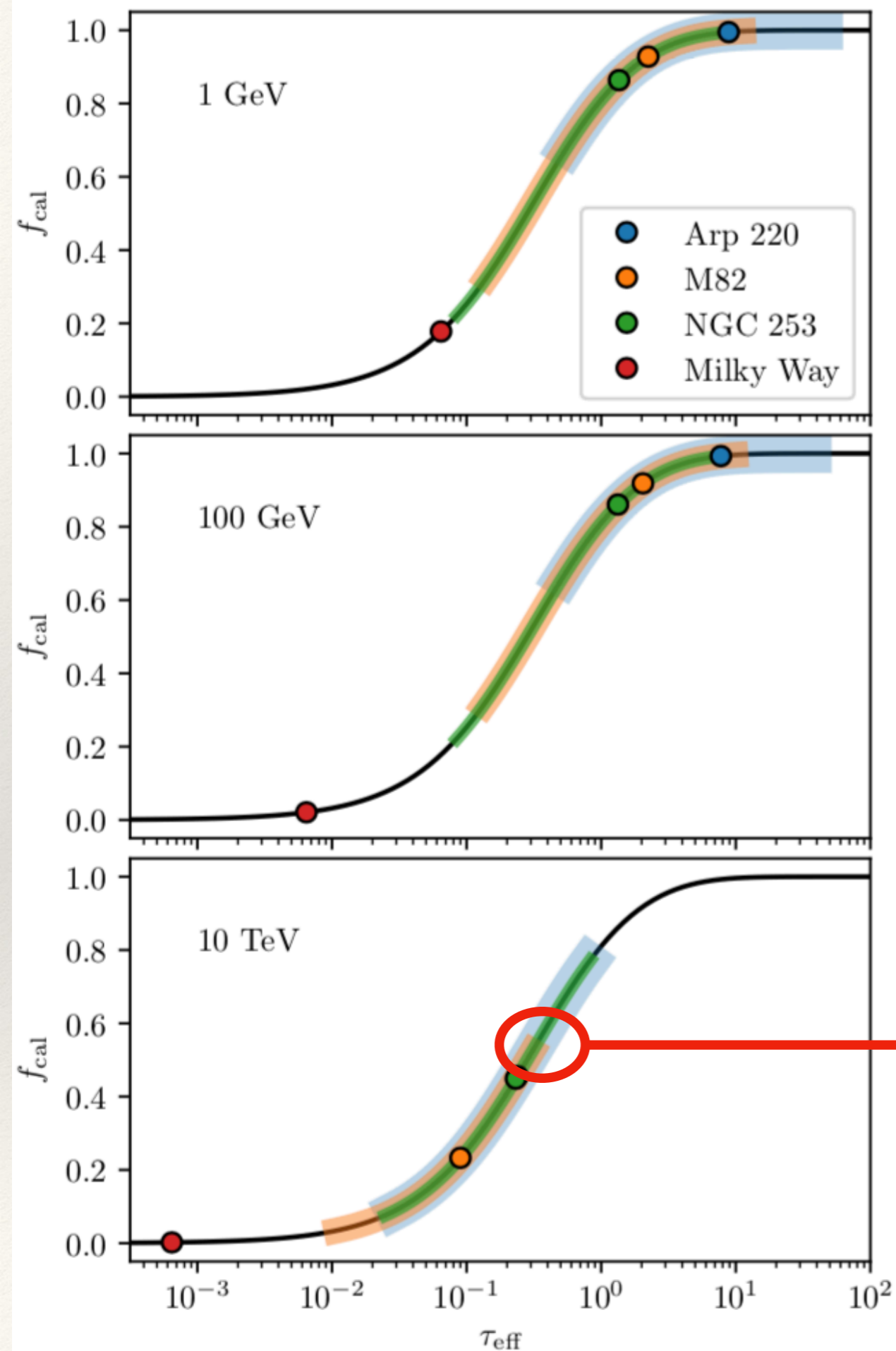


Calorimetric fraction  $f_{\text{cal}}$  as a function of effective optical depth  $\tau_{\text{eff}}$

$M_A = 1$



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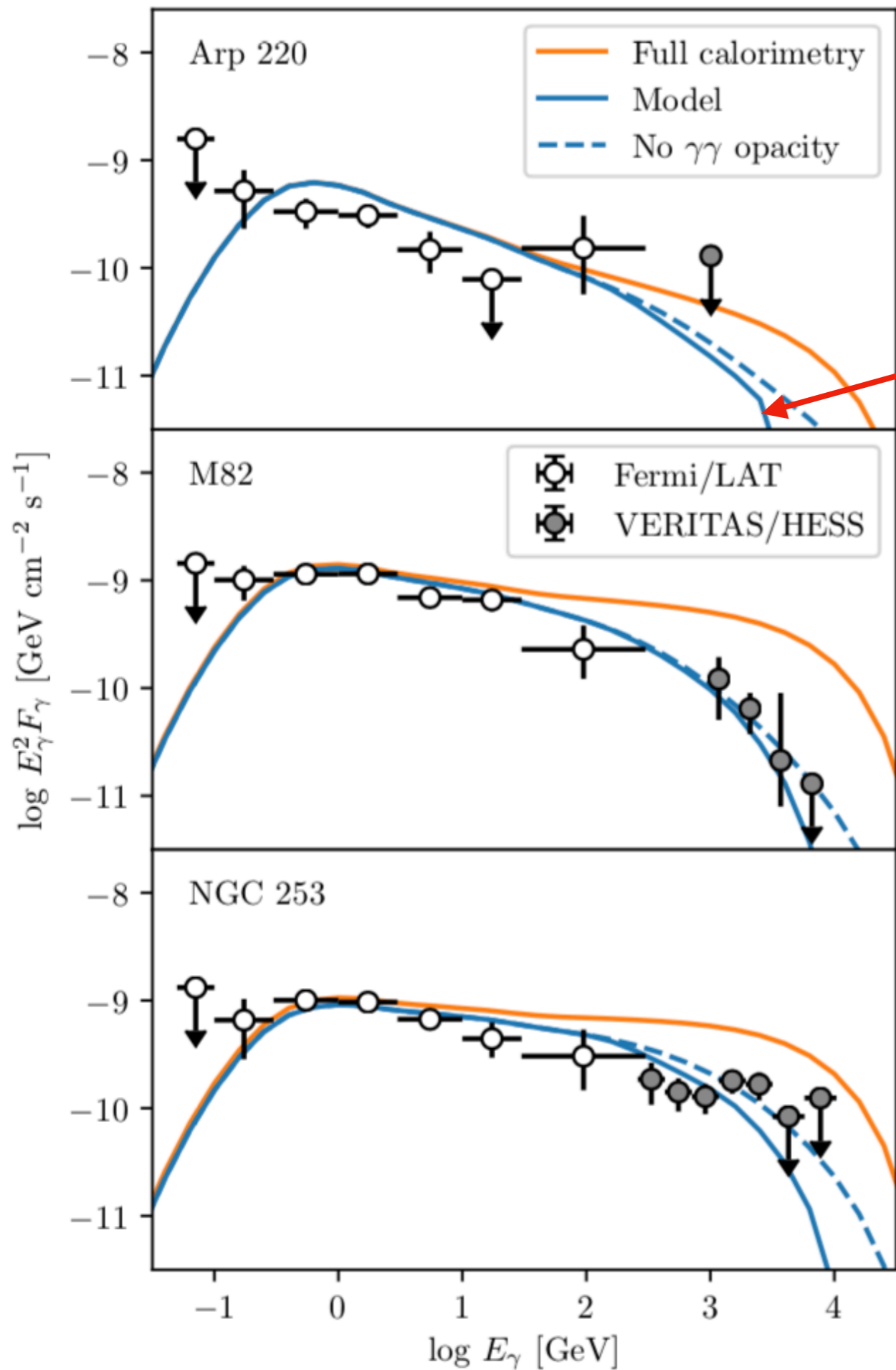
$M_A = 3$

# Spectra of NGC 253, M82, and Arp 220

Solid blue lines: standard model

dashed blue lines: predictions if we ignore the effects of  $\gamma\gamma$  opacity

orange lines: spectra expected for perfect calorimetry independent of CR energy.

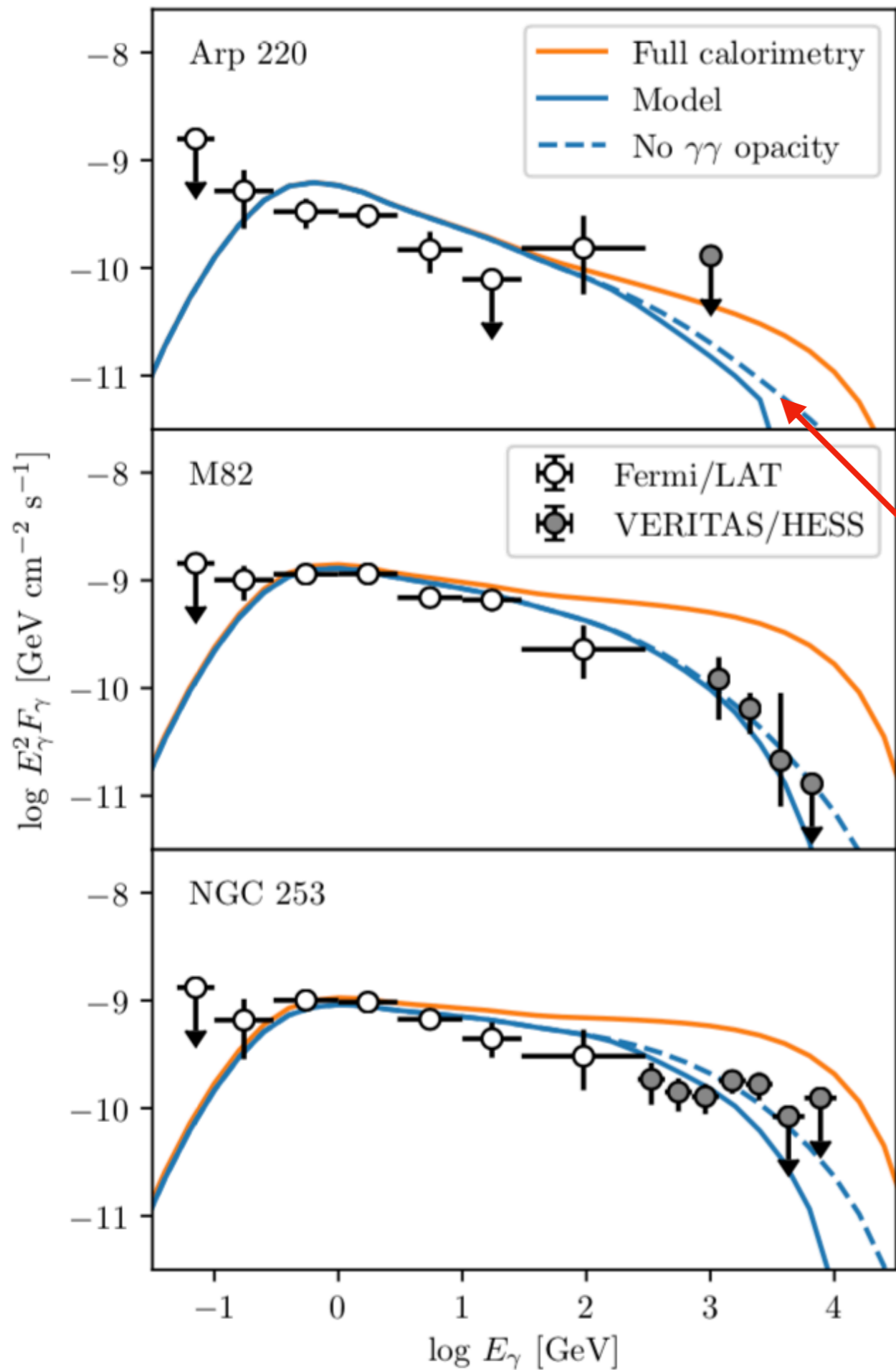


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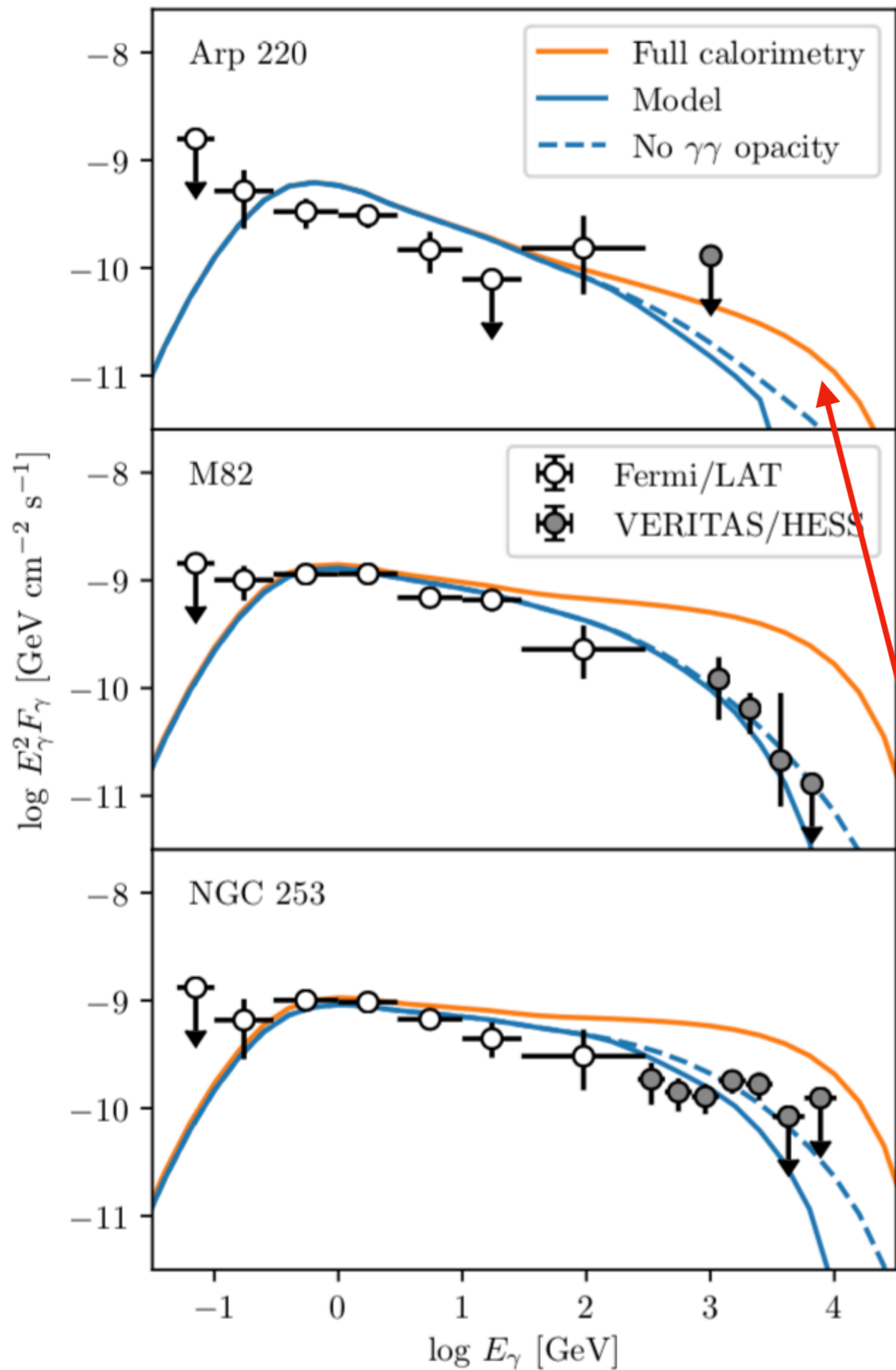


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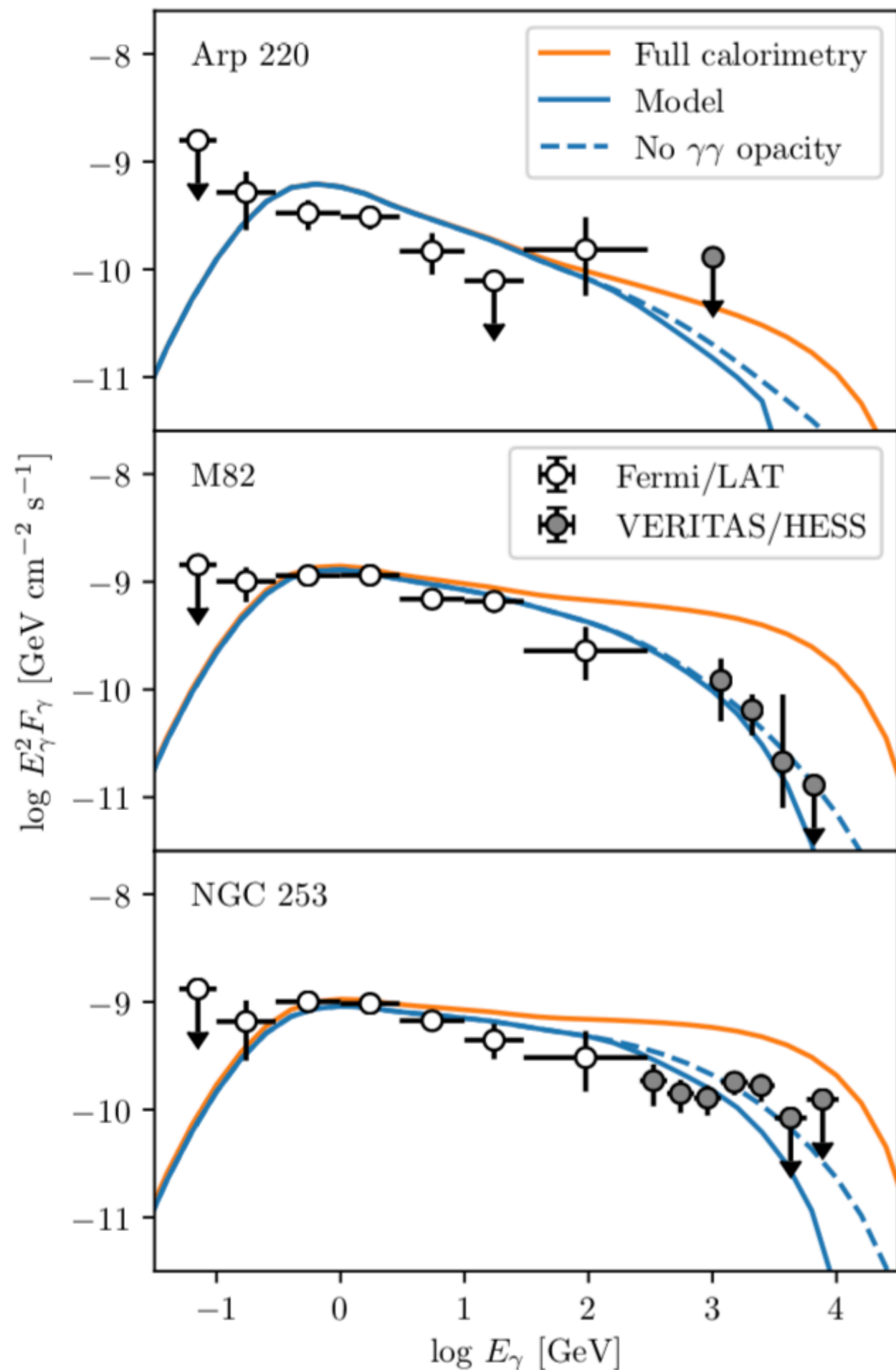


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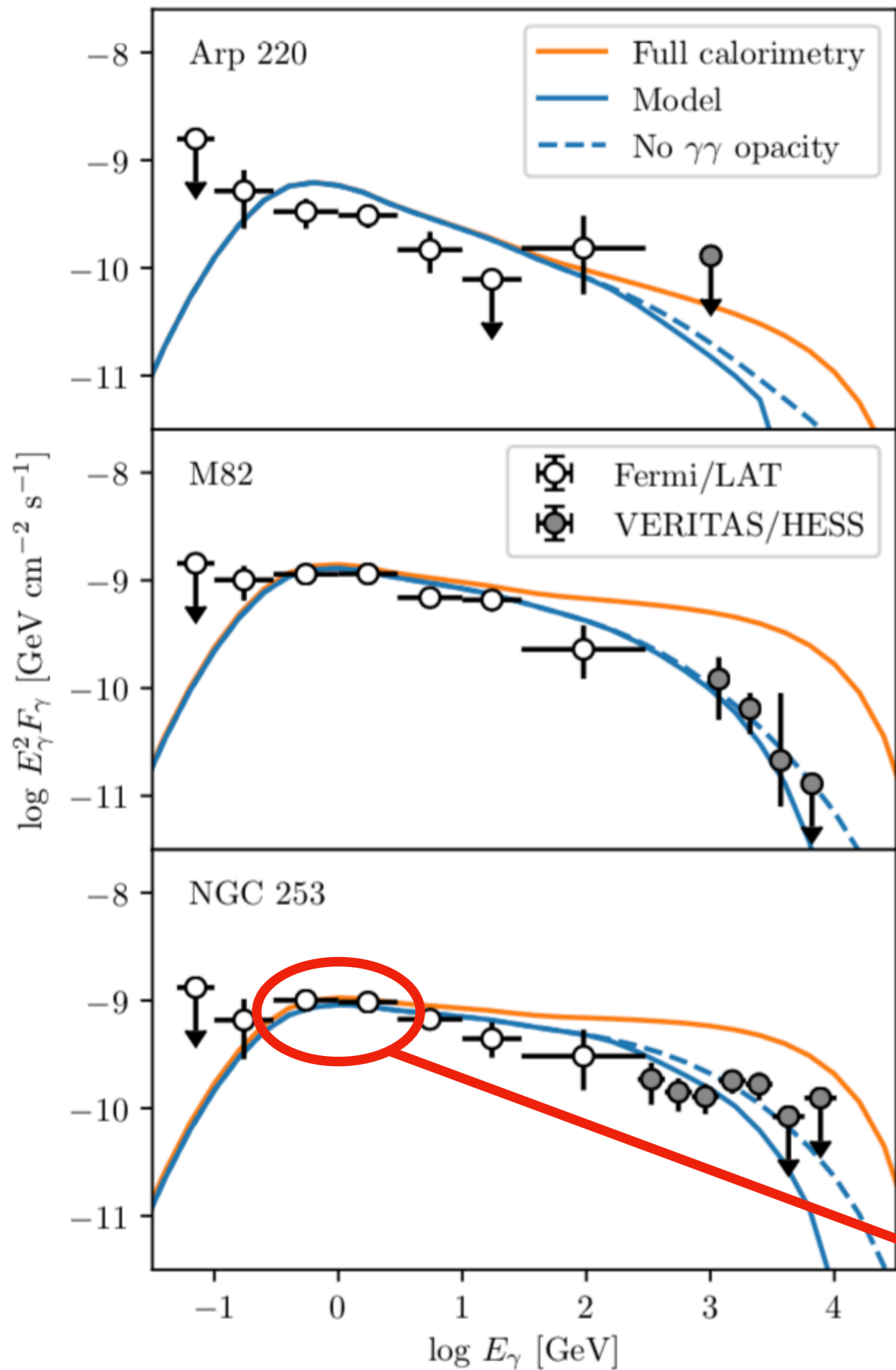


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**Spectral index from *Fermi* ~GeV data**

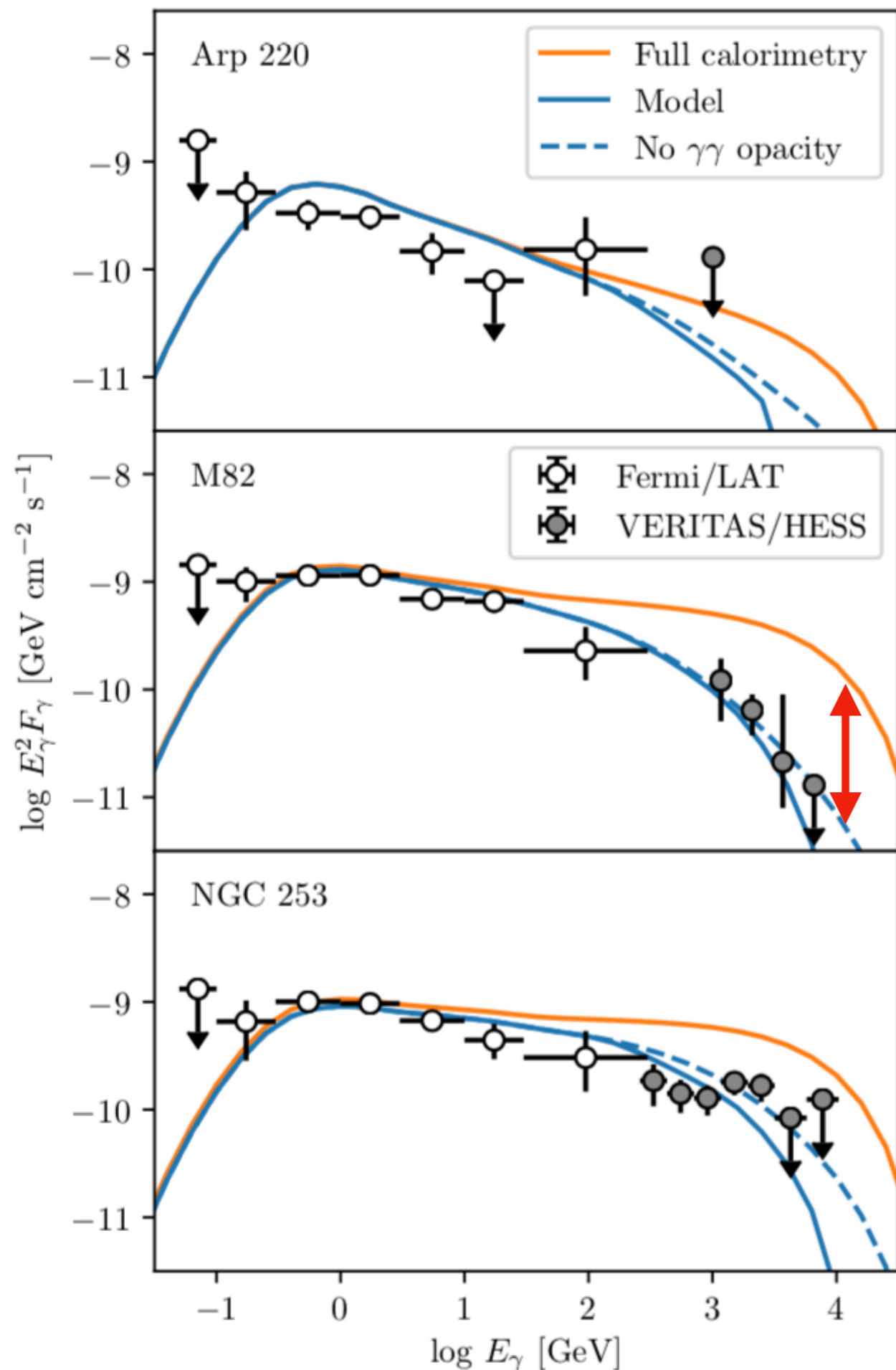


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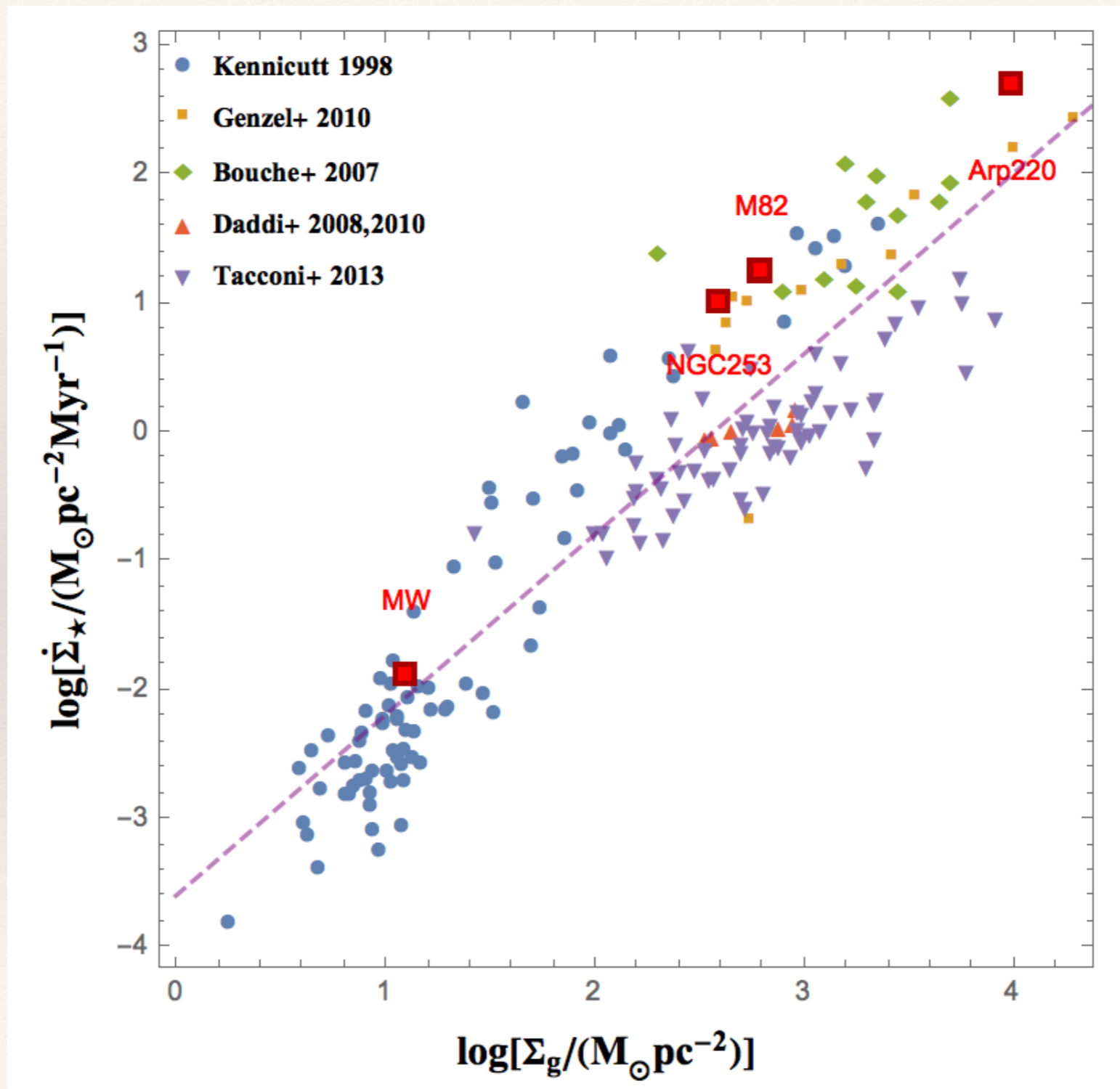
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# Application II: Cosmic Ray Feedback in 'Normal' Galaxies

# Star-forming Galaxies; Kennicutt-Schmidt Plane



# Coupled ODEs:

$$\frac{d}{d\xi} \left[ - \left( \frac{ds}{d\xi} \right)^{-\beta} \frac{dp_c}{d\xi} \right] = 4\tau_s^2 \left( \frac{ds}{d\xi} \right)^\beta p_c - \tau_{\text{path}} \frac{ds}{d\xi} p_c + \tau_s \frac{dp_c}{d\xi}$$

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equation**

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**Hydrostatic  
balance**

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**Transport/loss  
equation**

**diffusive  
transport**

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**Fermi-II**

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**Transport/loss  
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**diffusive  
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**streaming  
losses**

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**CR  
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**stellar  
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**Hydrostatic  
balance**

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gradient**

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pressure  
gradient**

**stellar  
gravity**

**gas  
self  
gravity**

**+ 4 BCs**



# Coupled ODEs:

$$\tau_s \equiv \left( \frac{z_*}{\lambda_{c,*}} \right)$$

height of atmosphere  
mfp to scattering

optical depth  
to scattering

$$\tau_{\text{path}} \equiv \frac{\tau_s \tau_{\text{pp}}}{\beta_{A,i}}$$

rectilinear optical depth  
ion Alfvén speed

optical depth  
to absorption  
over path

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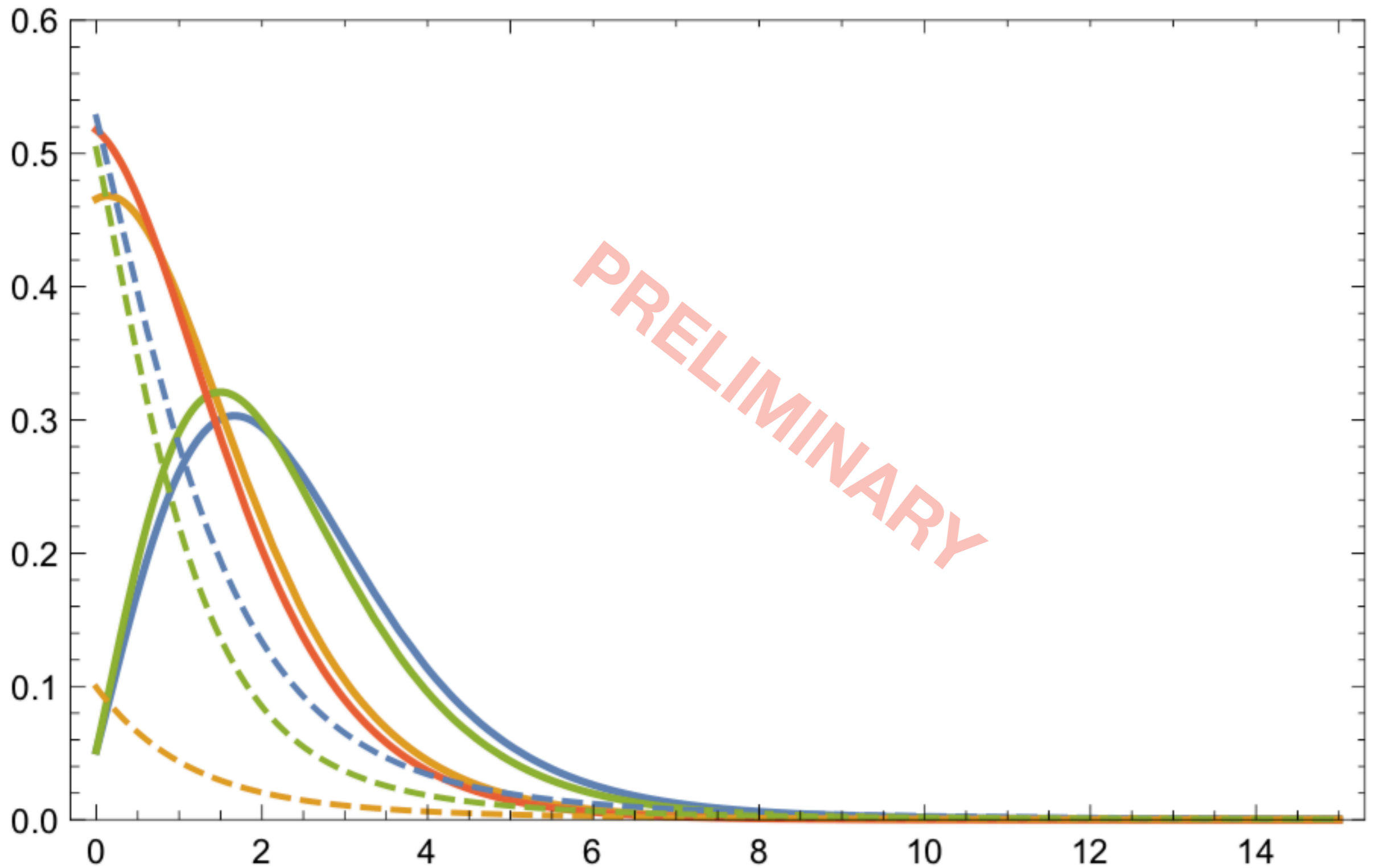
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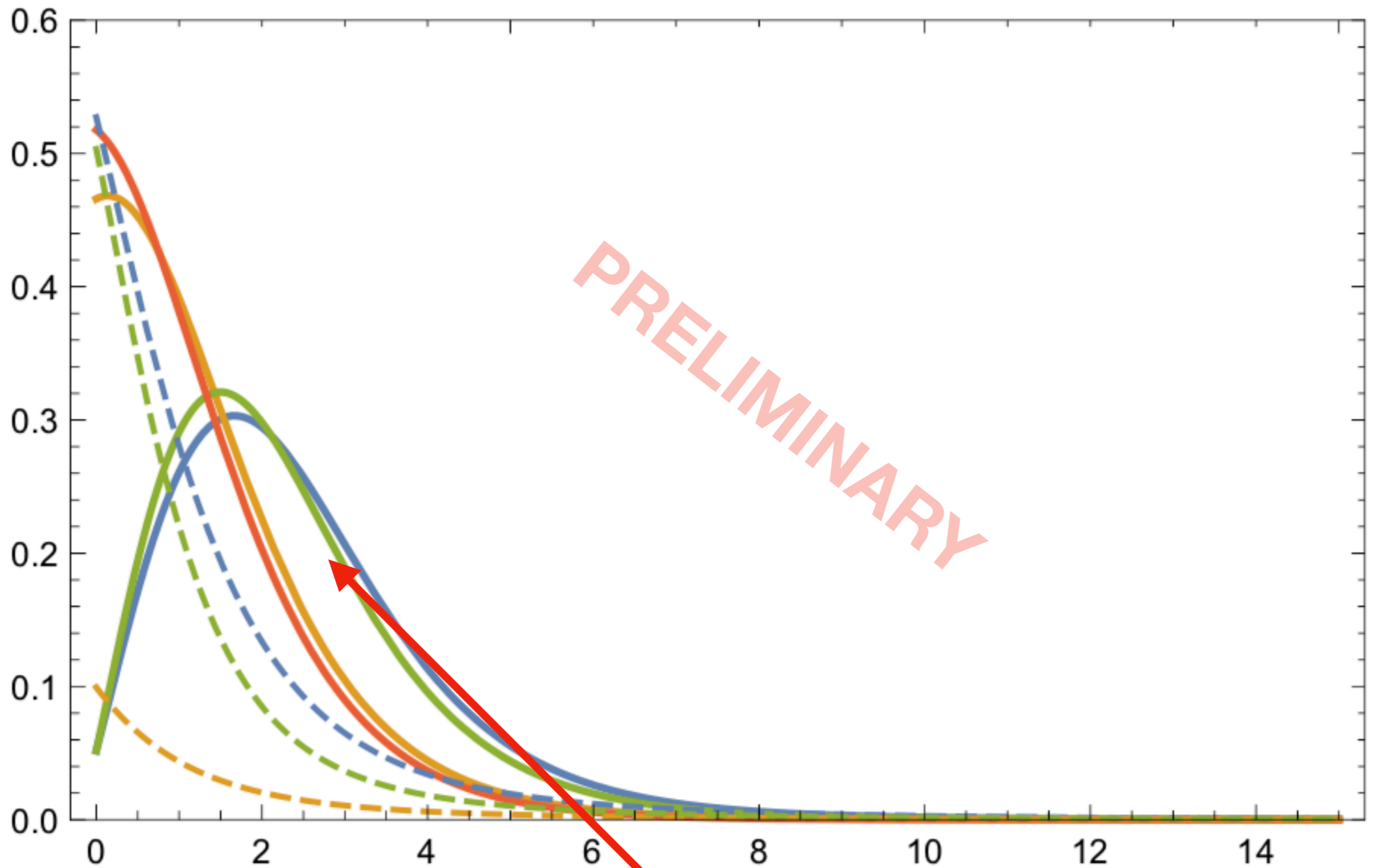
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rectilinear optical depth  
ion Alfvén speed

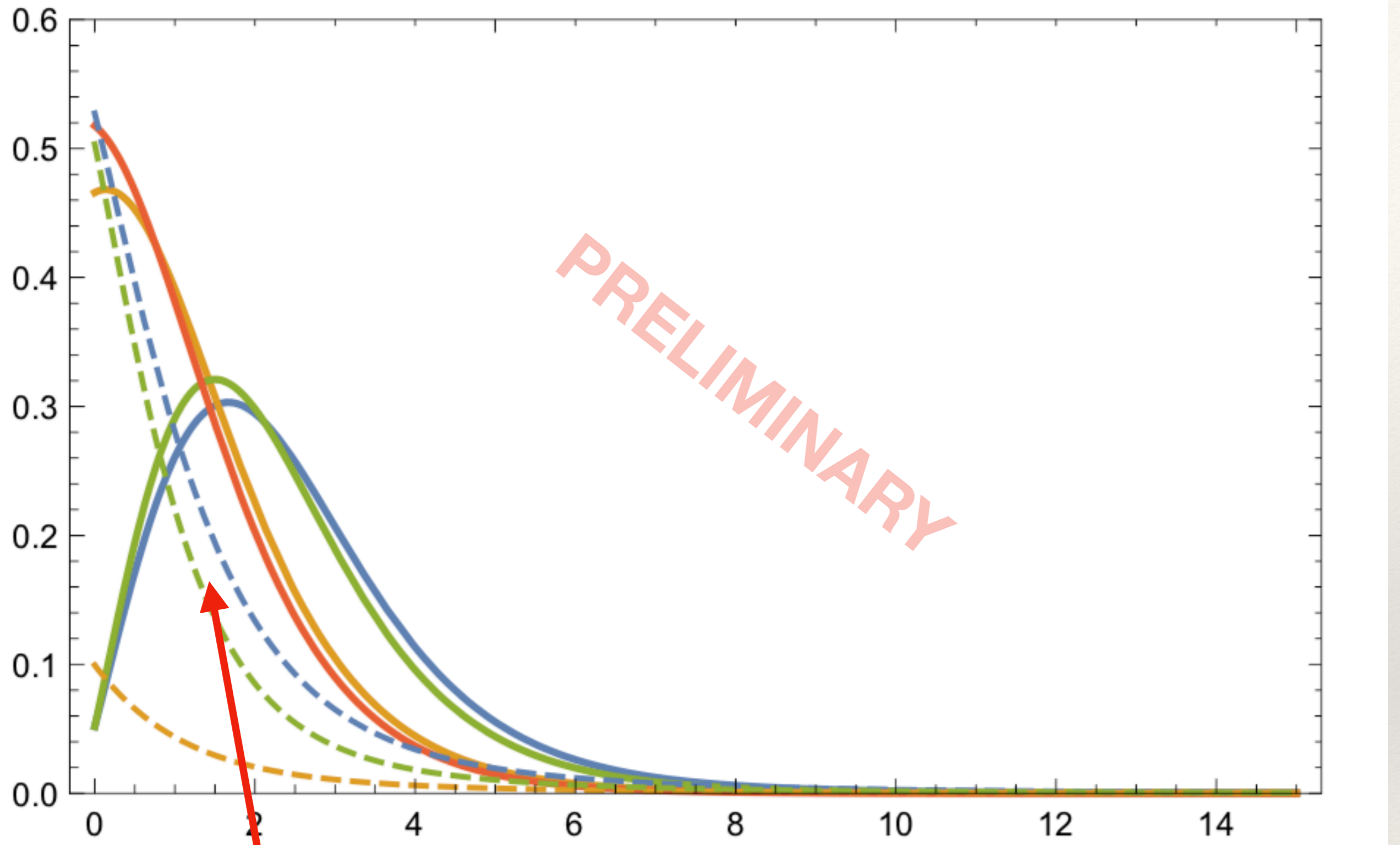
optical depth  
to absorption  
over path



Numerical solutions give gas number density and cosmic ray pressure profiles

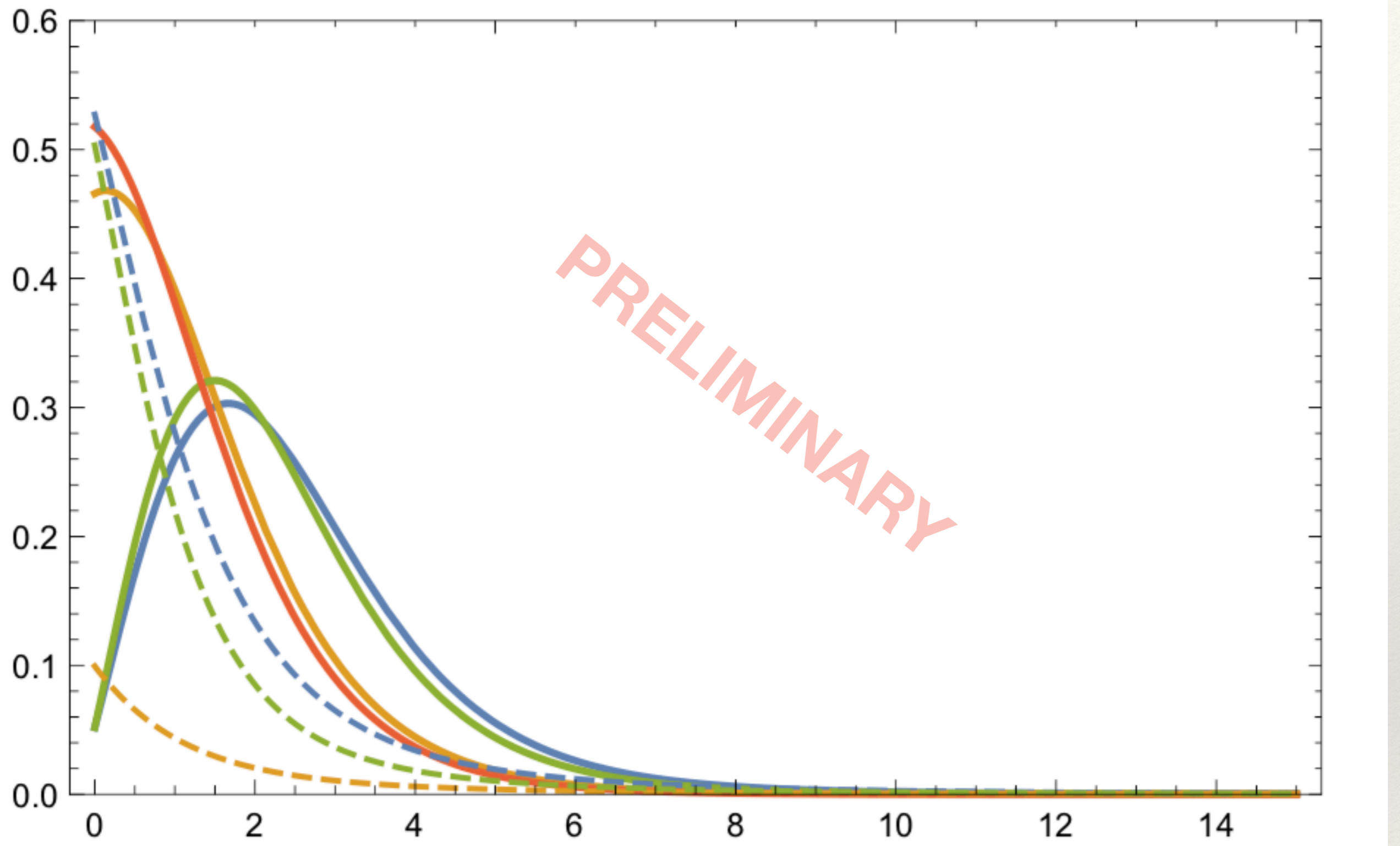


Numerical solutions give gas number density and cosmic ray pressure profiles

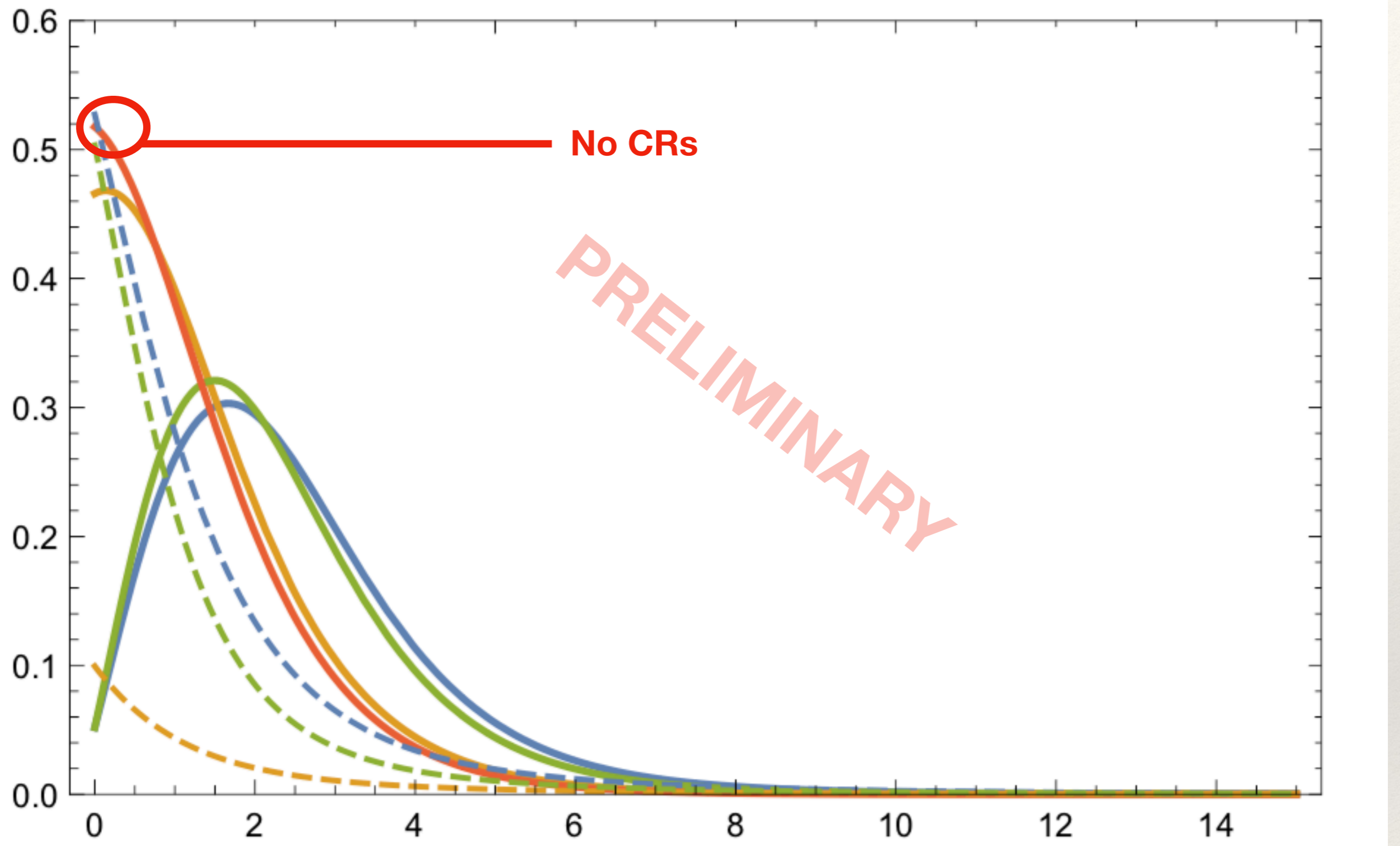


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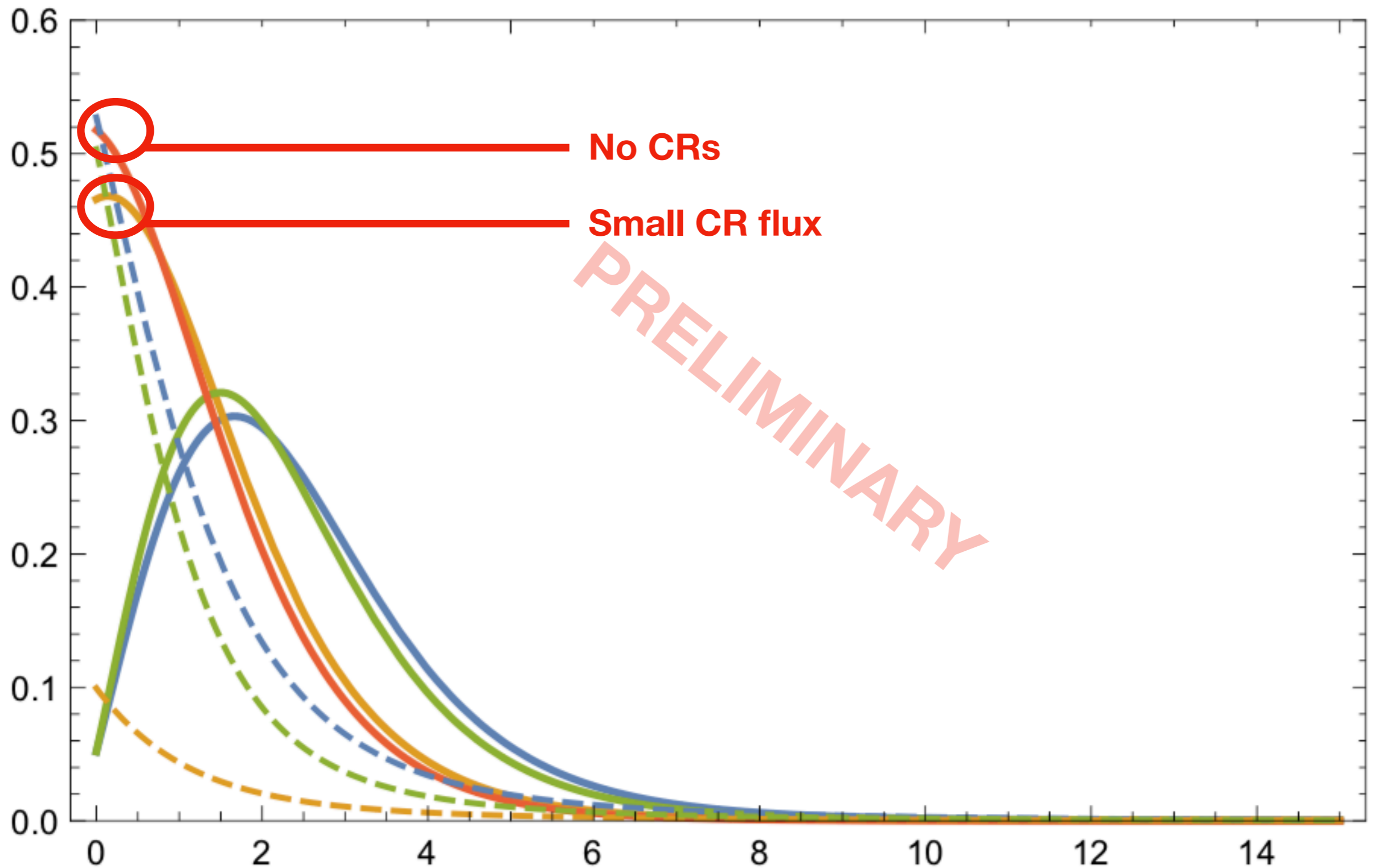




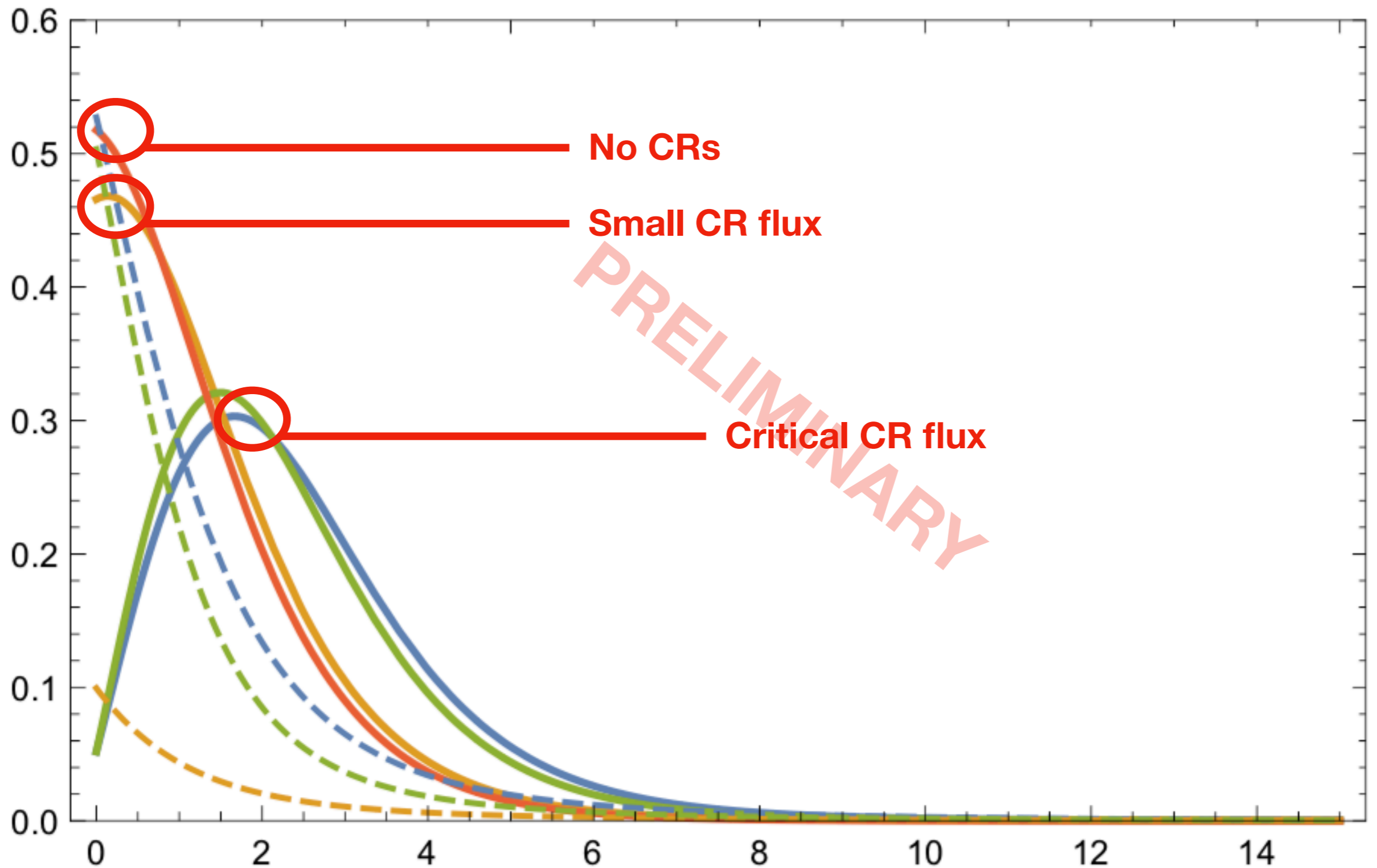
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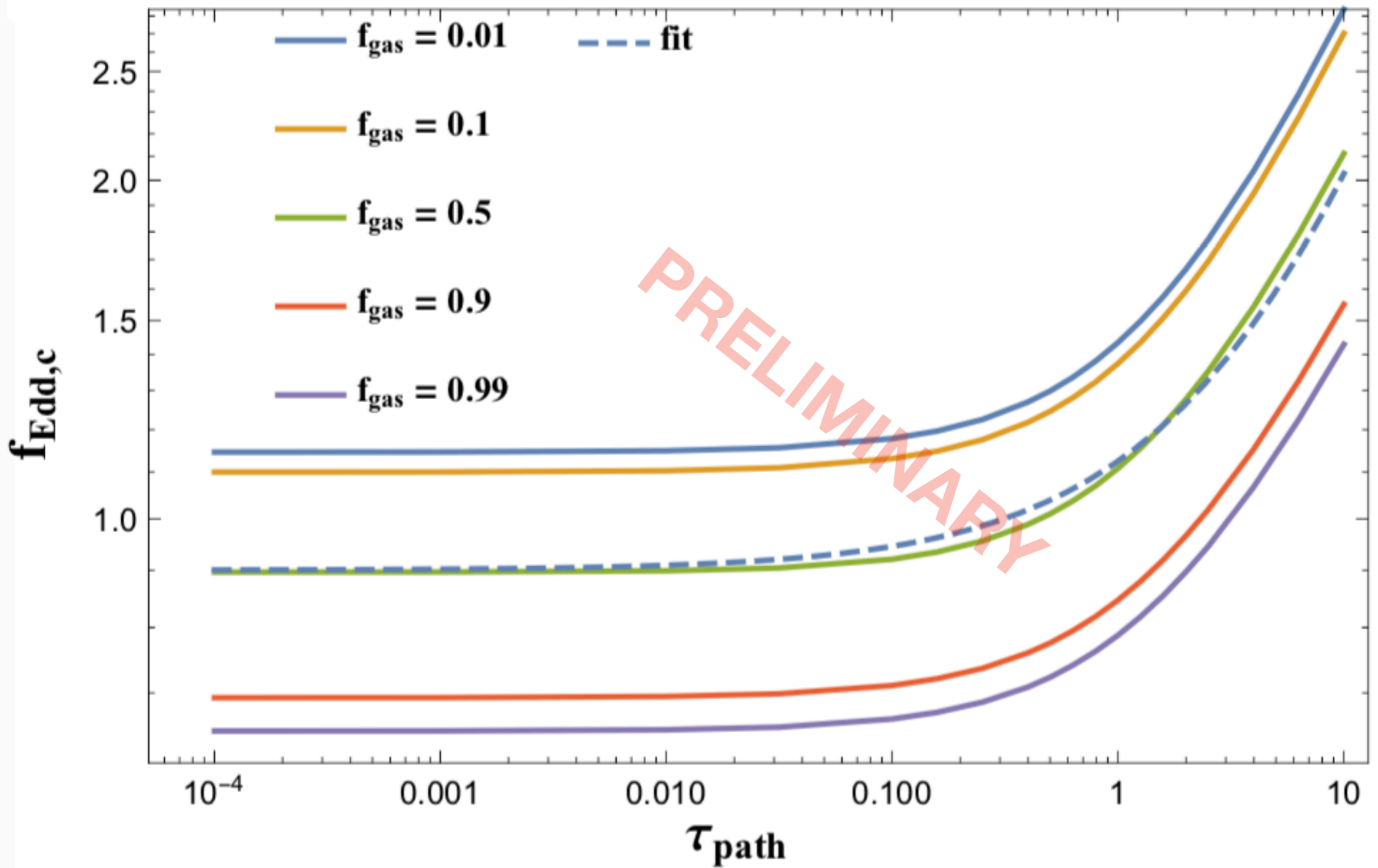
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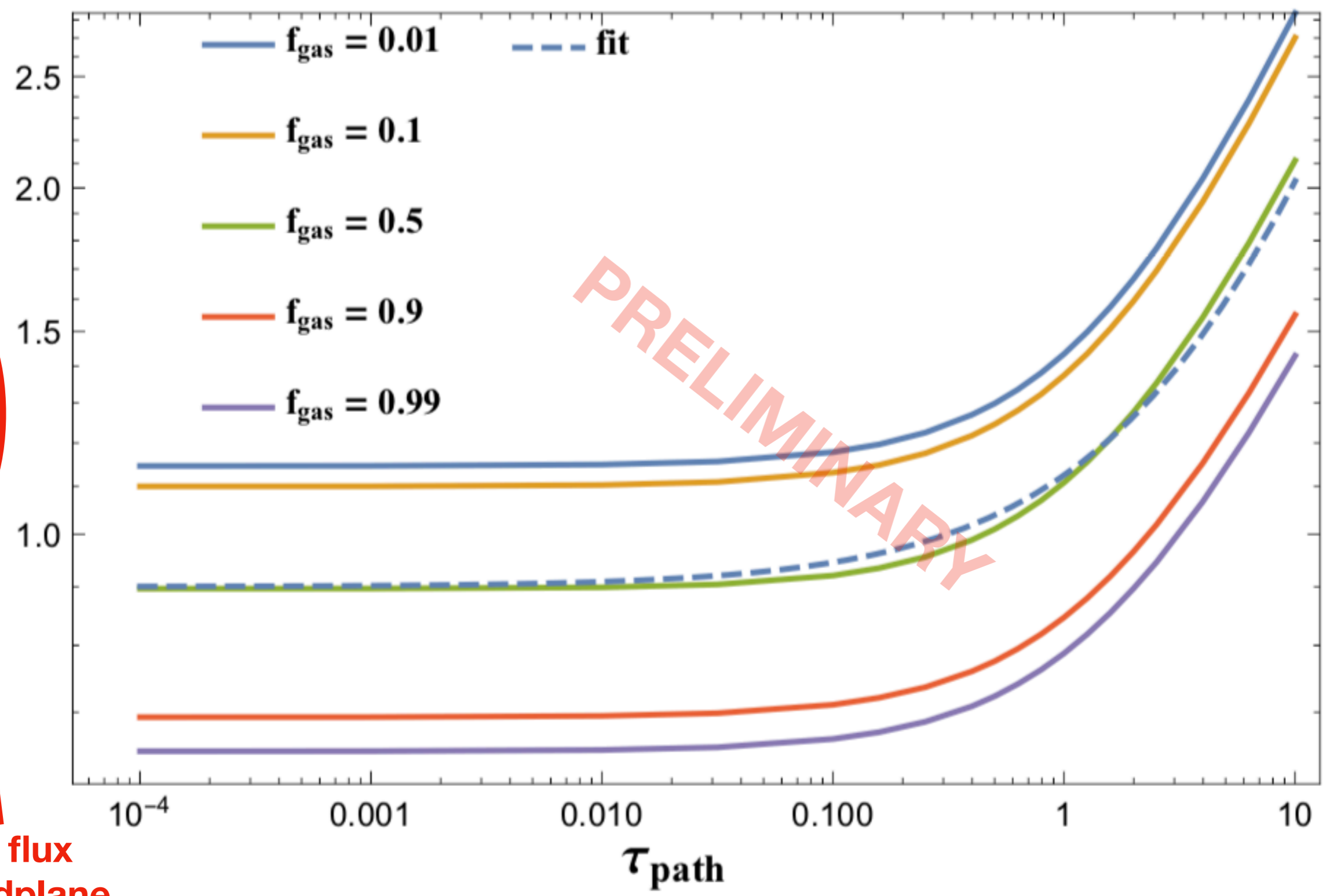


Numerical solutions give gas number density and cosmic ray pressure profiles



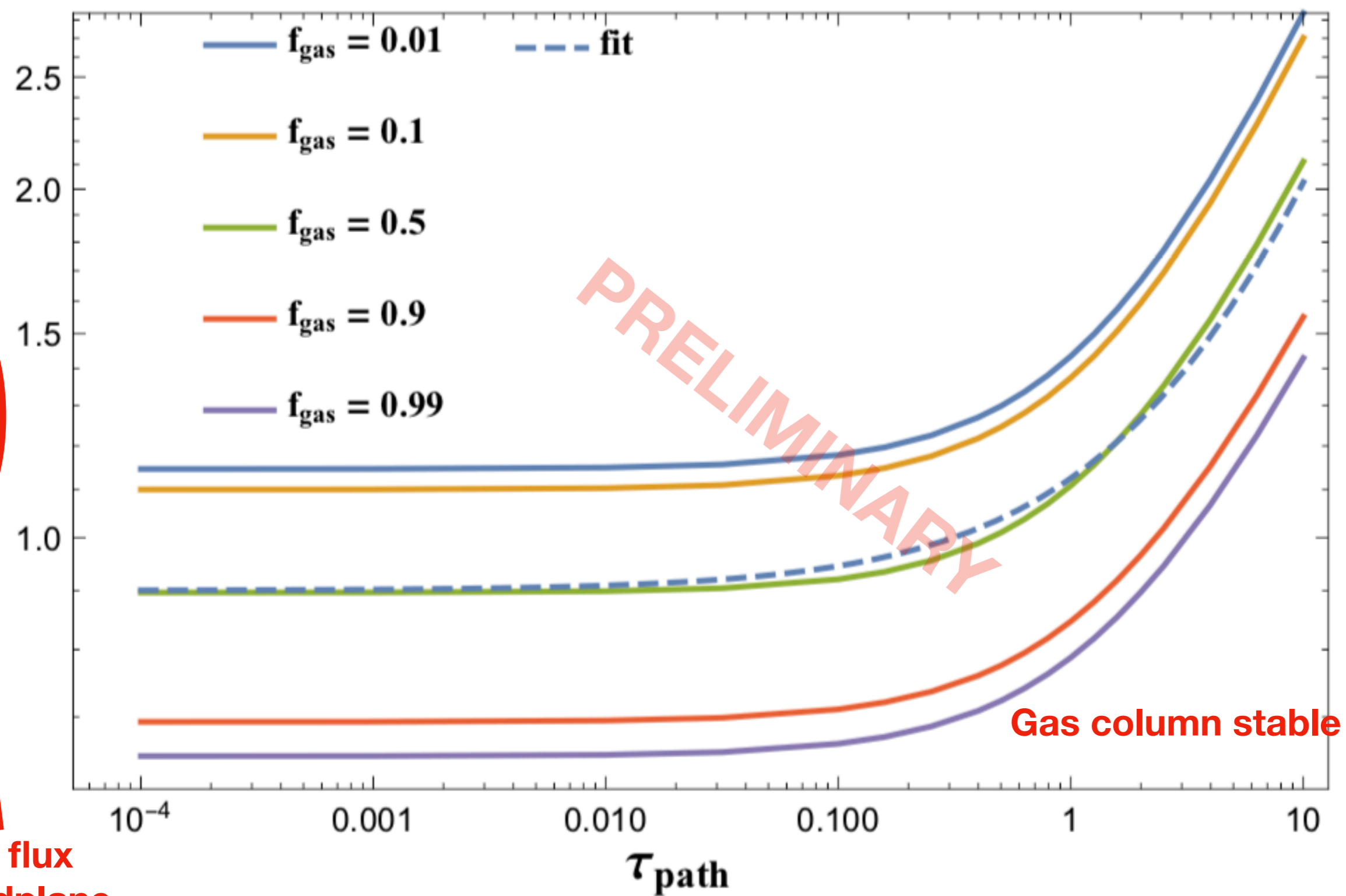
Cosmic ray critical cosmic ray flux as a function of  $\tau_{\text{path}}$  at fixed  $\tau_s = 1$  and  $\beta = 1/4$

$f_{\text{Edd},c}$   
CR flux  
at midplane



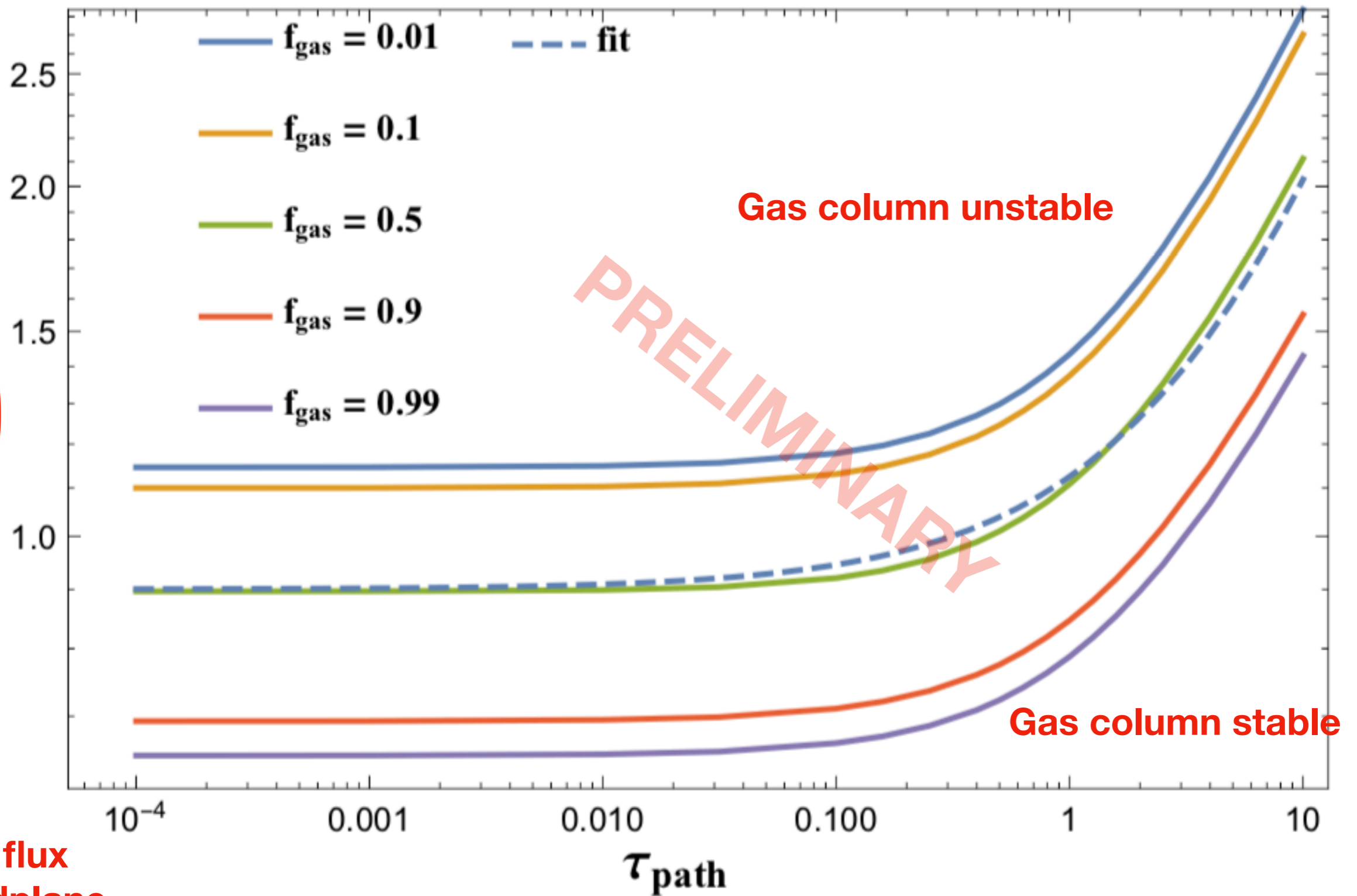
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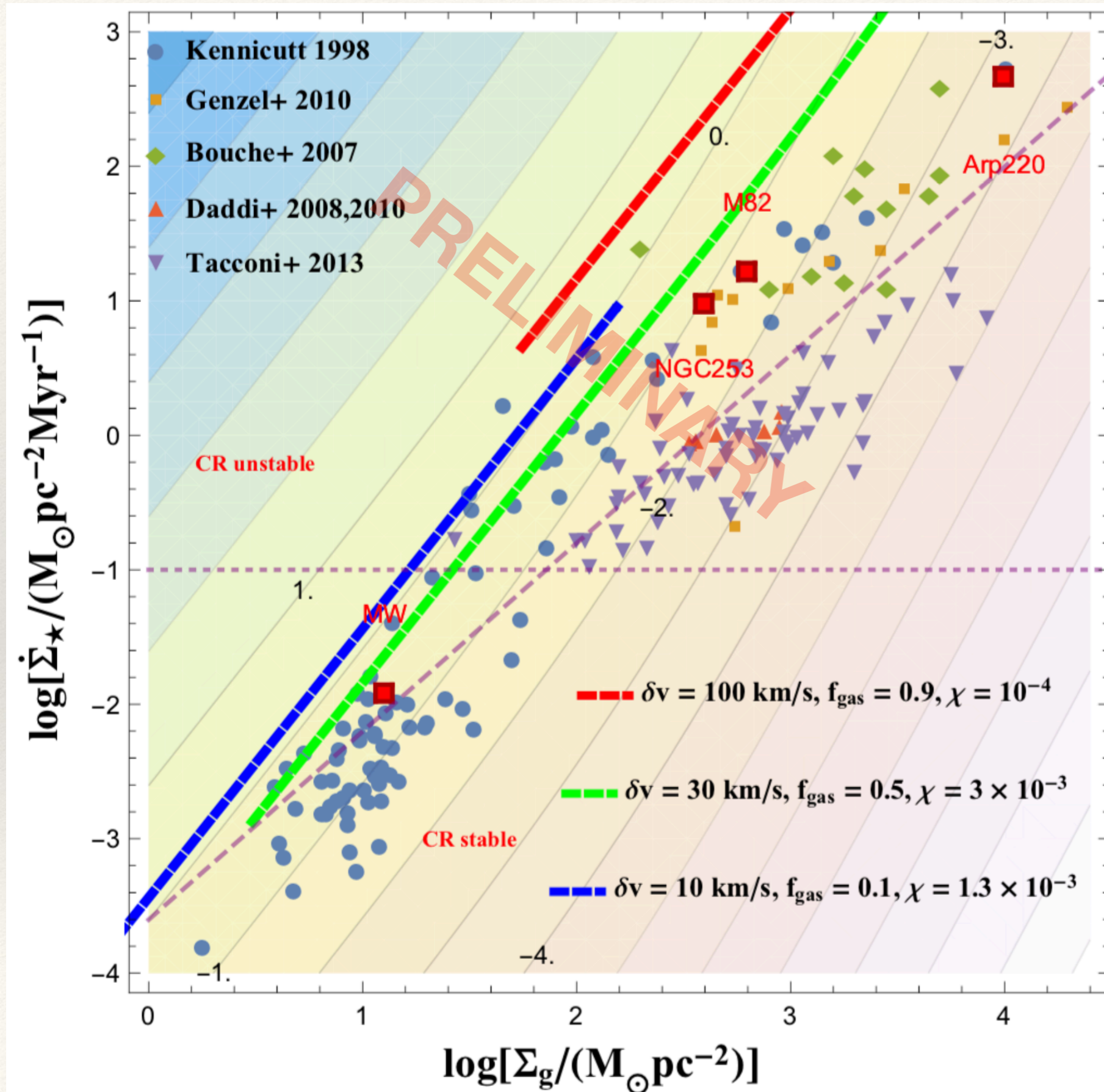
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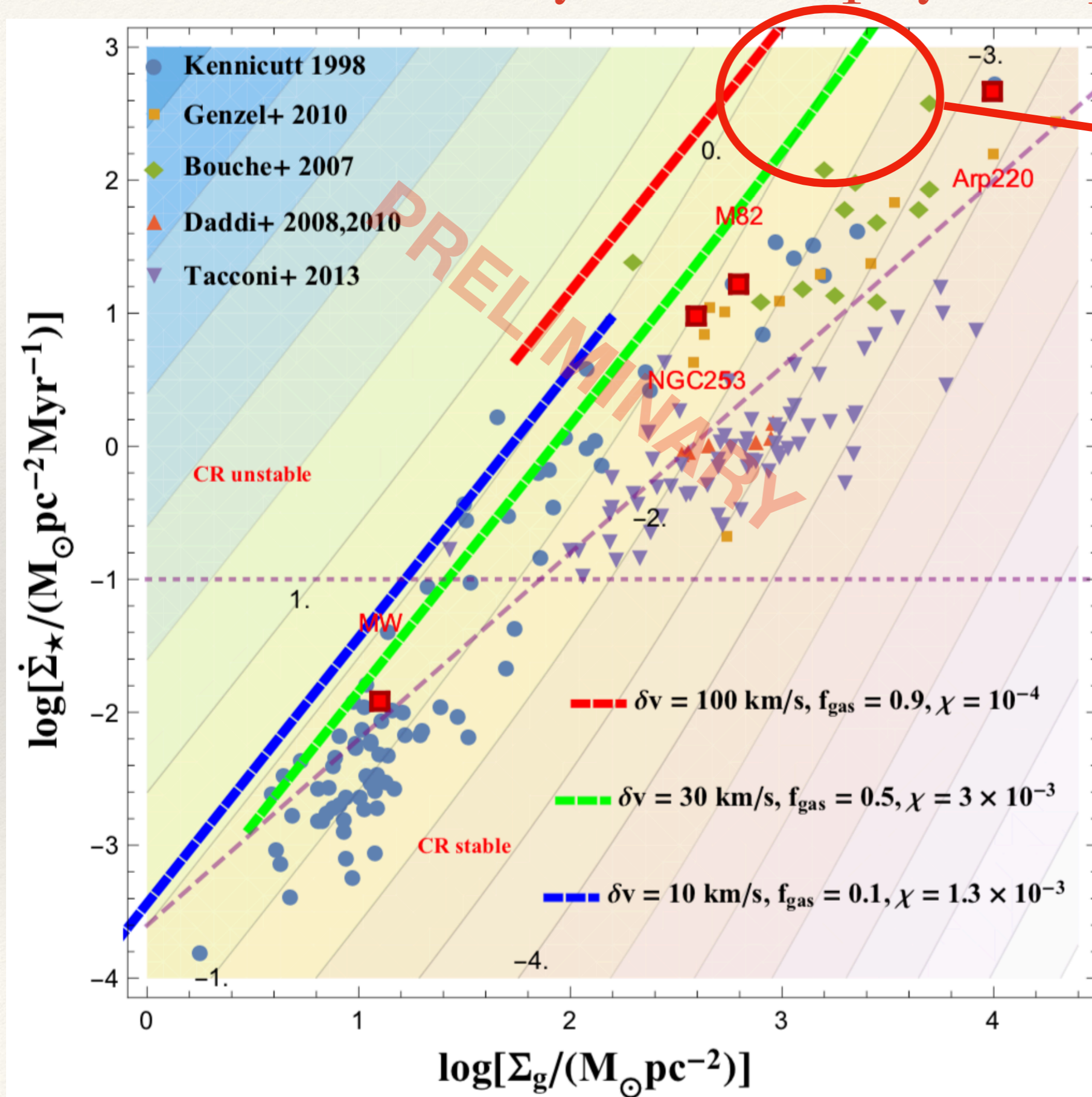


# Translate stability curve to physical parameter space:



Hydrodynamic  
stability curves

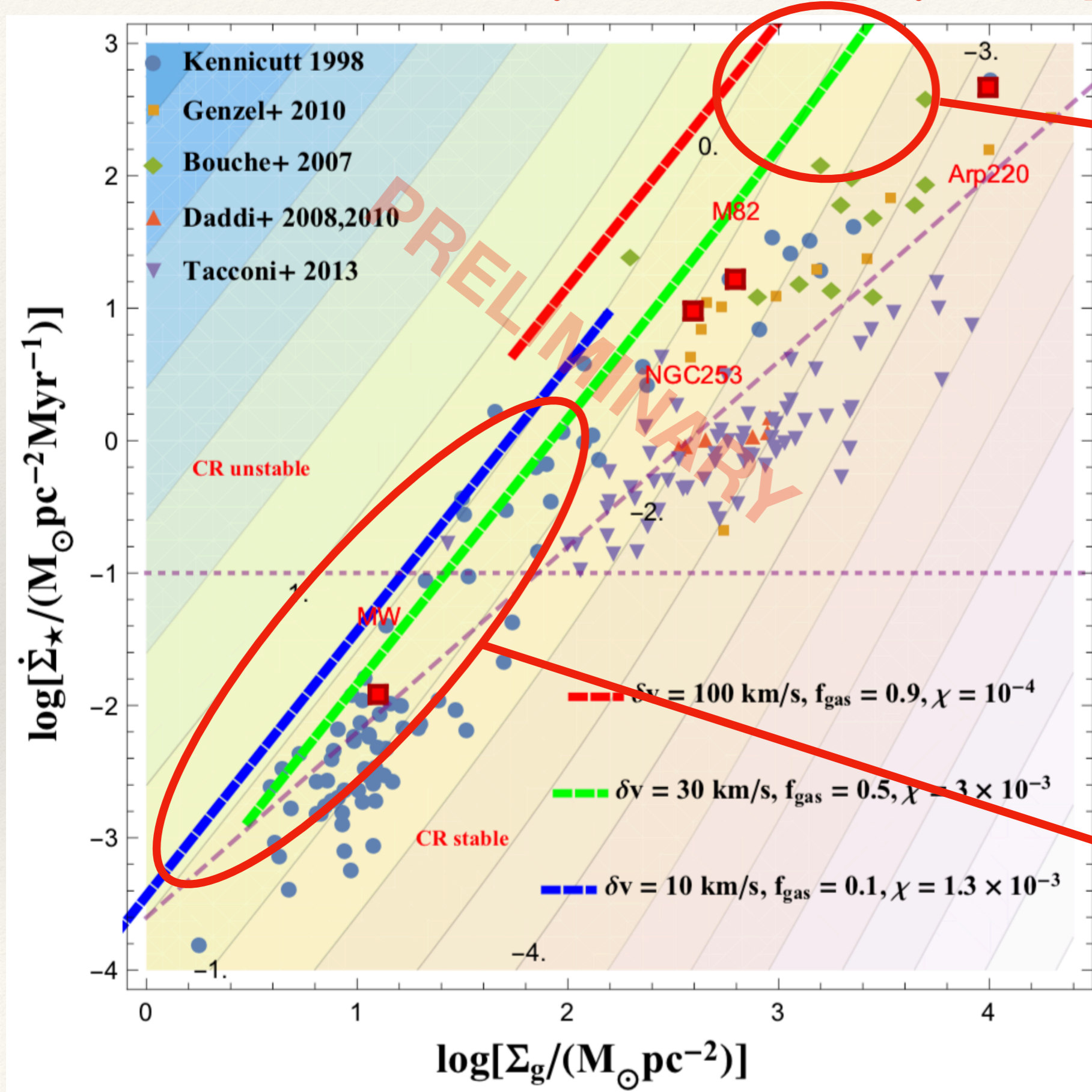
# Translate stability curve to physical parameter space:



CRs not dynamically important

Hydrodynamic stability curves

# Translate stability curve to physical parameter space:



CRs not dynamically important

Hydrodynamic stability curves

CRs dynamically important

# Summary

## *Part I:*

- ❖ In the dense, star-forming ISM phase, cosmic ray transport is described by field line random walk at the **ion** Alfvén speed  $v_{Ai}$
- ❖ Implies energy-independent diffusion for GeV-TeV CRs in starbursts

## *Part II:*

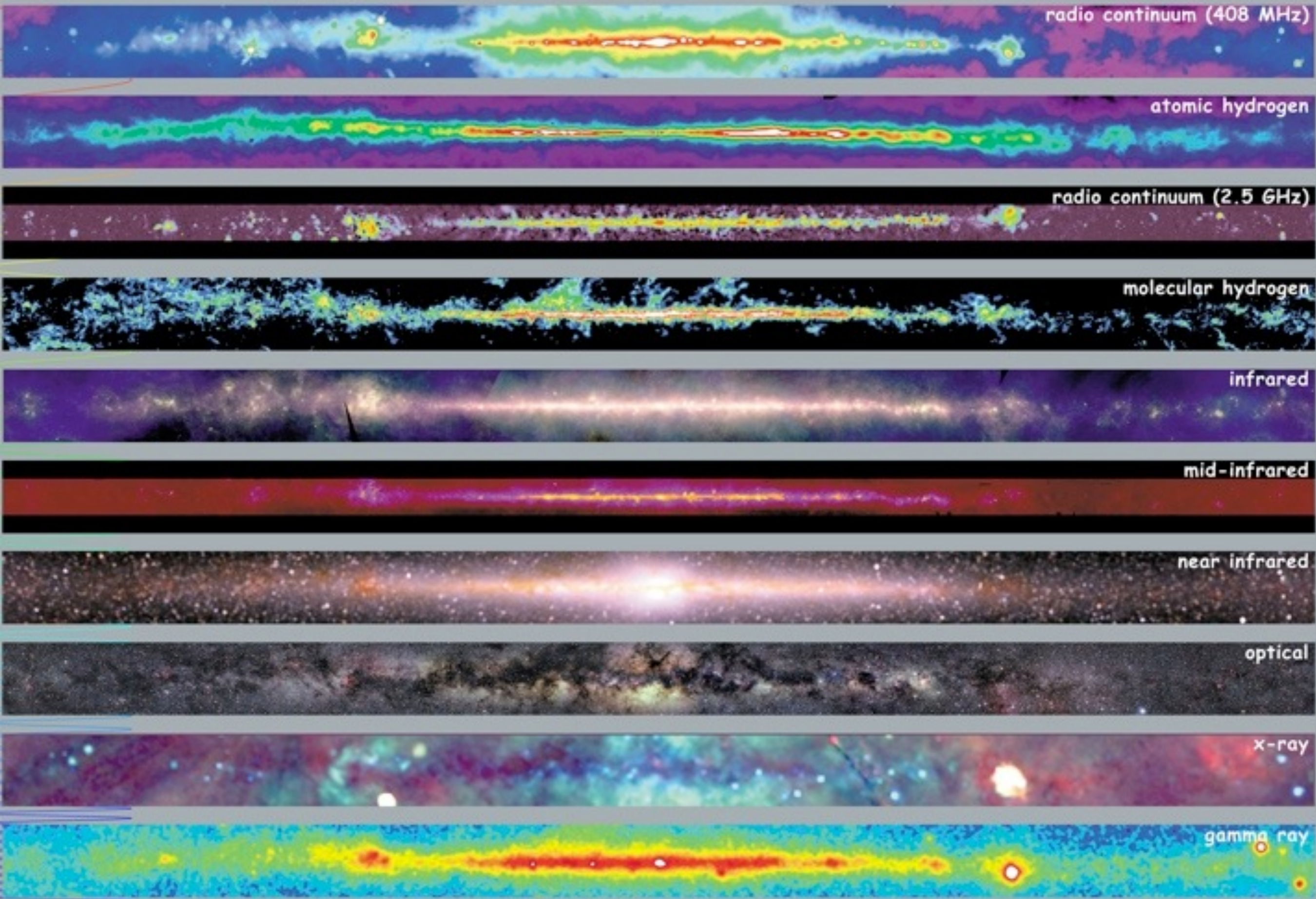
- ❖ The CR flux due to star formation can become so large that it precludes a hydrostatic equilibrium
- ❖ For ‘normal’ star-forming galaxies ( $\Sigma_{\text{gas}} < 10^{2.5} M_{\odot} / \text{pc}^2$ ), CR feedback bounds the star formation rate surface density

Extra slides

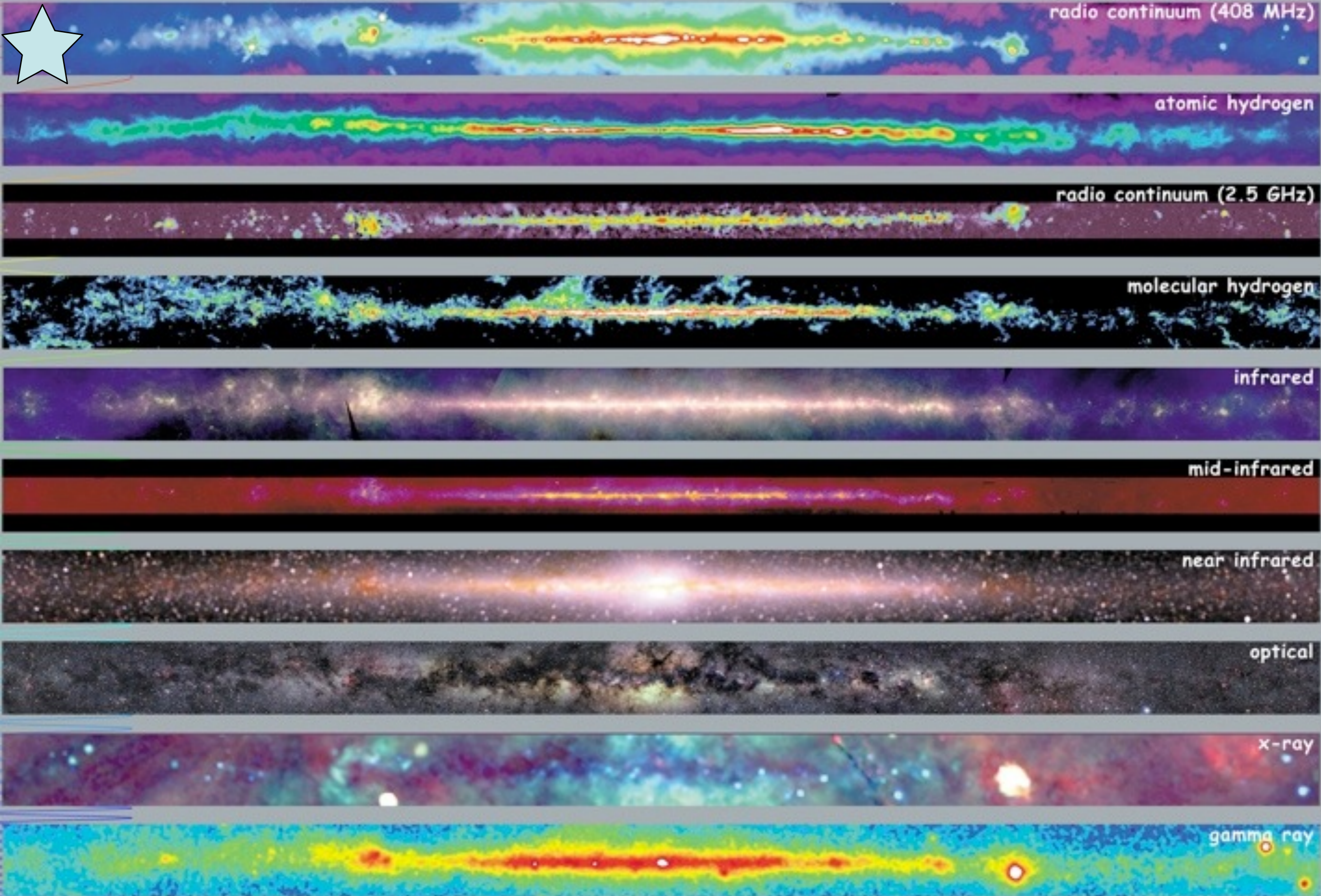
- ❖ Why are starbursts mostly calorimetric?
- ❖ The degree of calorimetry is mostly controlled by the parameter  $\tau_{\text{eff}}$  which can be written as:

$$\tau_{\text{eff}} \approx \chi_{-4}^{1/2} \mathcal{M}_{\text{A},2}^4 Q_{\text{gas},2}^{-1} \frac{20.2 \text{ Myr}}{t_{\text{orb}}},$$

- ❖ non-starburst galaxies: orbital periods  $\gg 20 \text{ Myr} \Rightarrow$  transparent to CRs
- ❖ starbursts: orbital periods  $\ll 20 \text{ Myr} \Rightarrow$  calorimetric

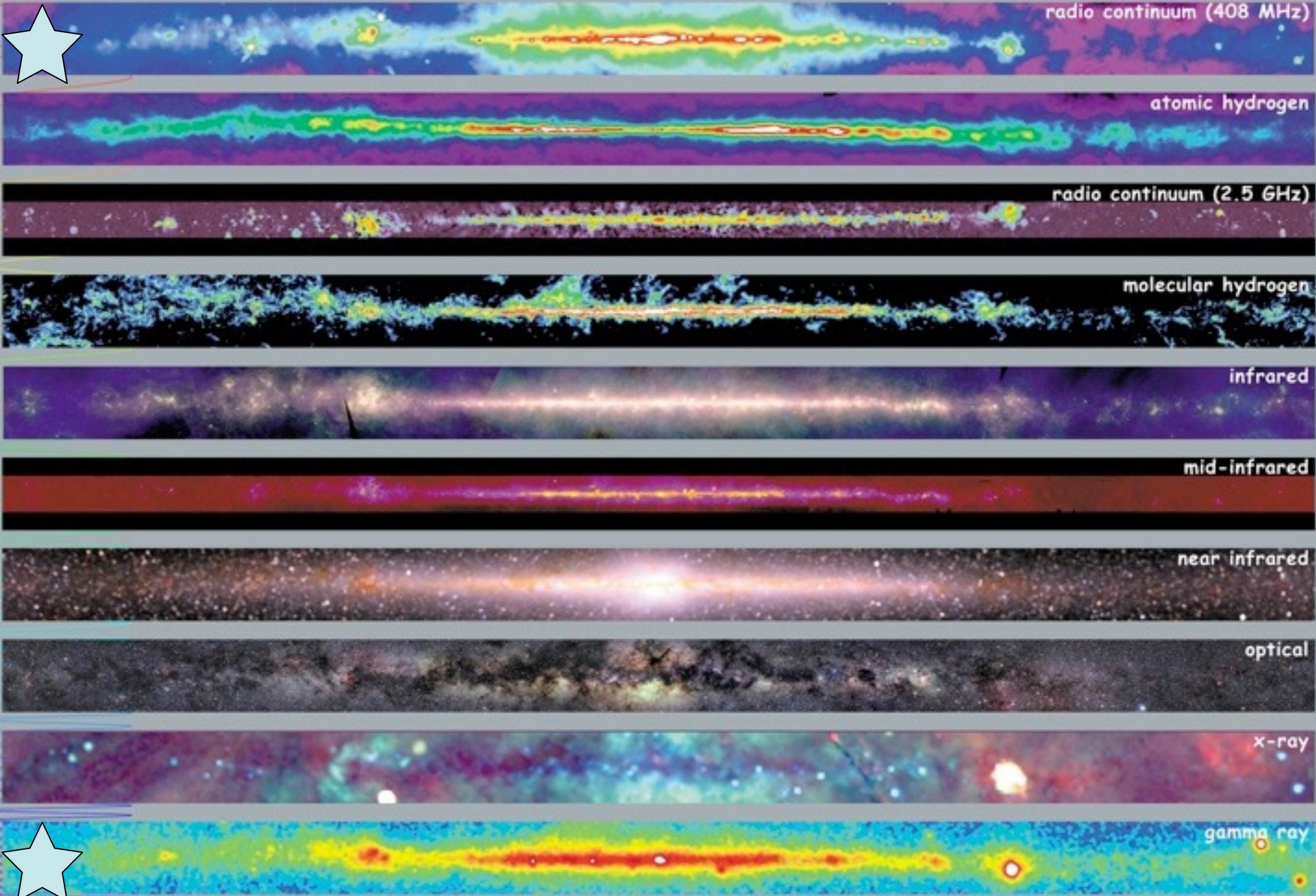


# Multiwavelength Milky Way

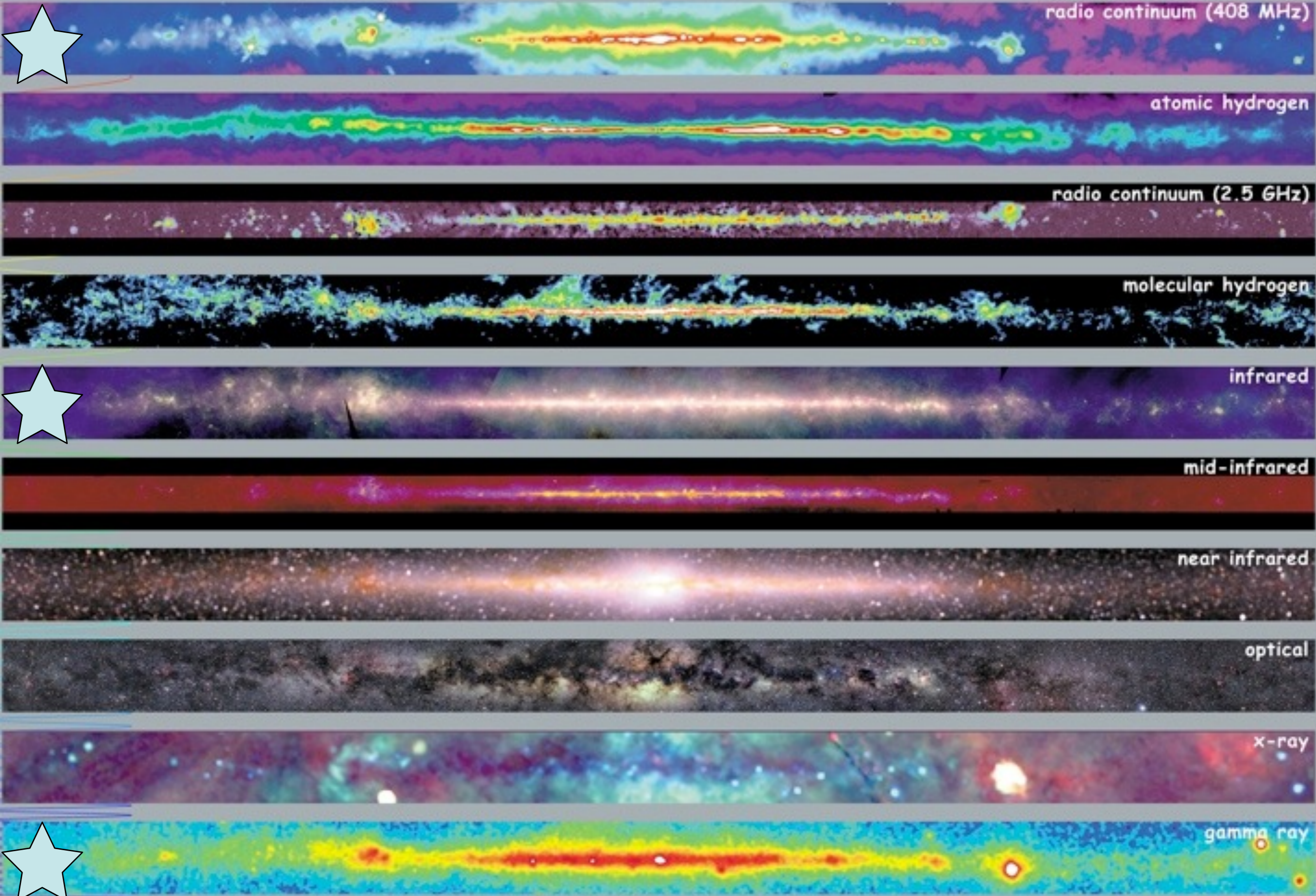


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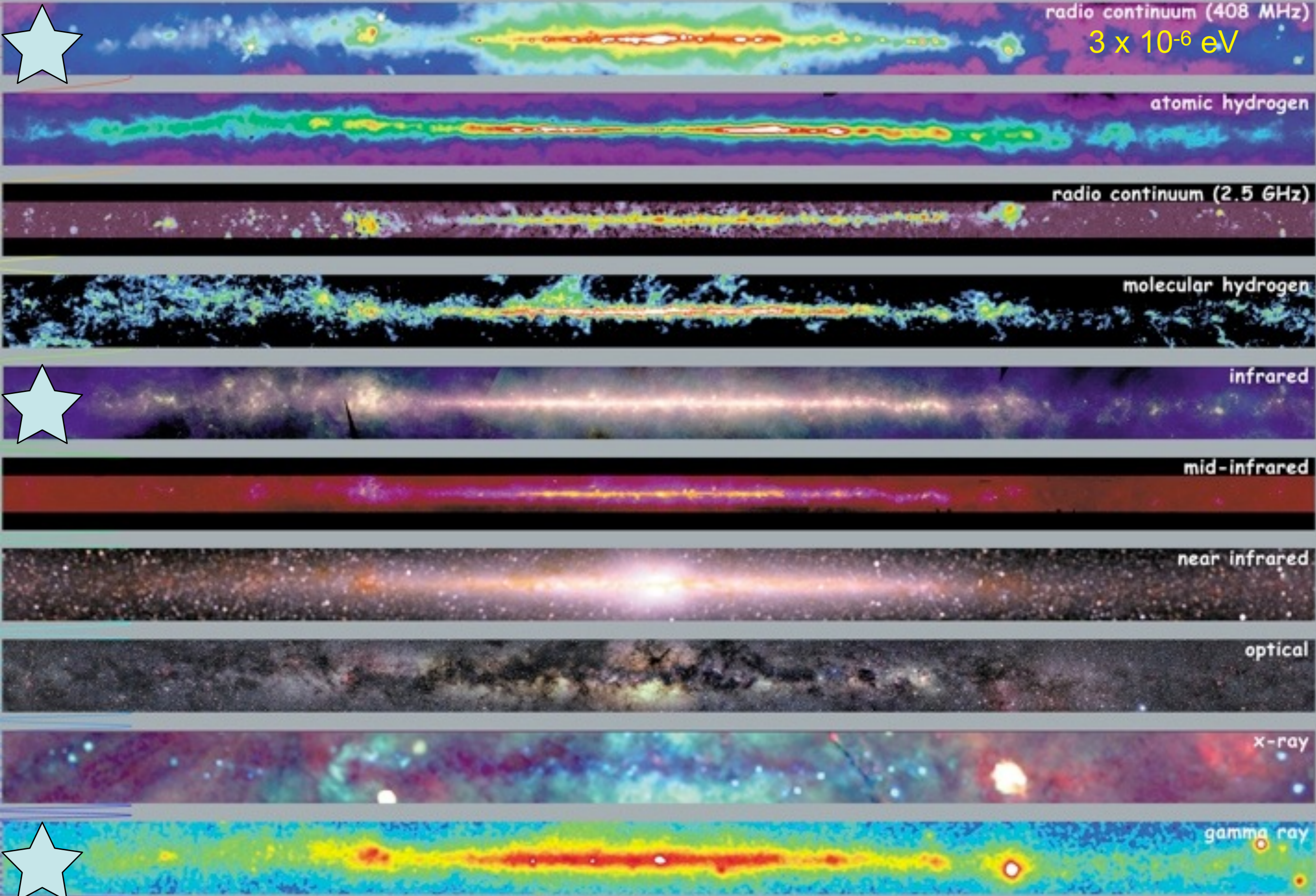




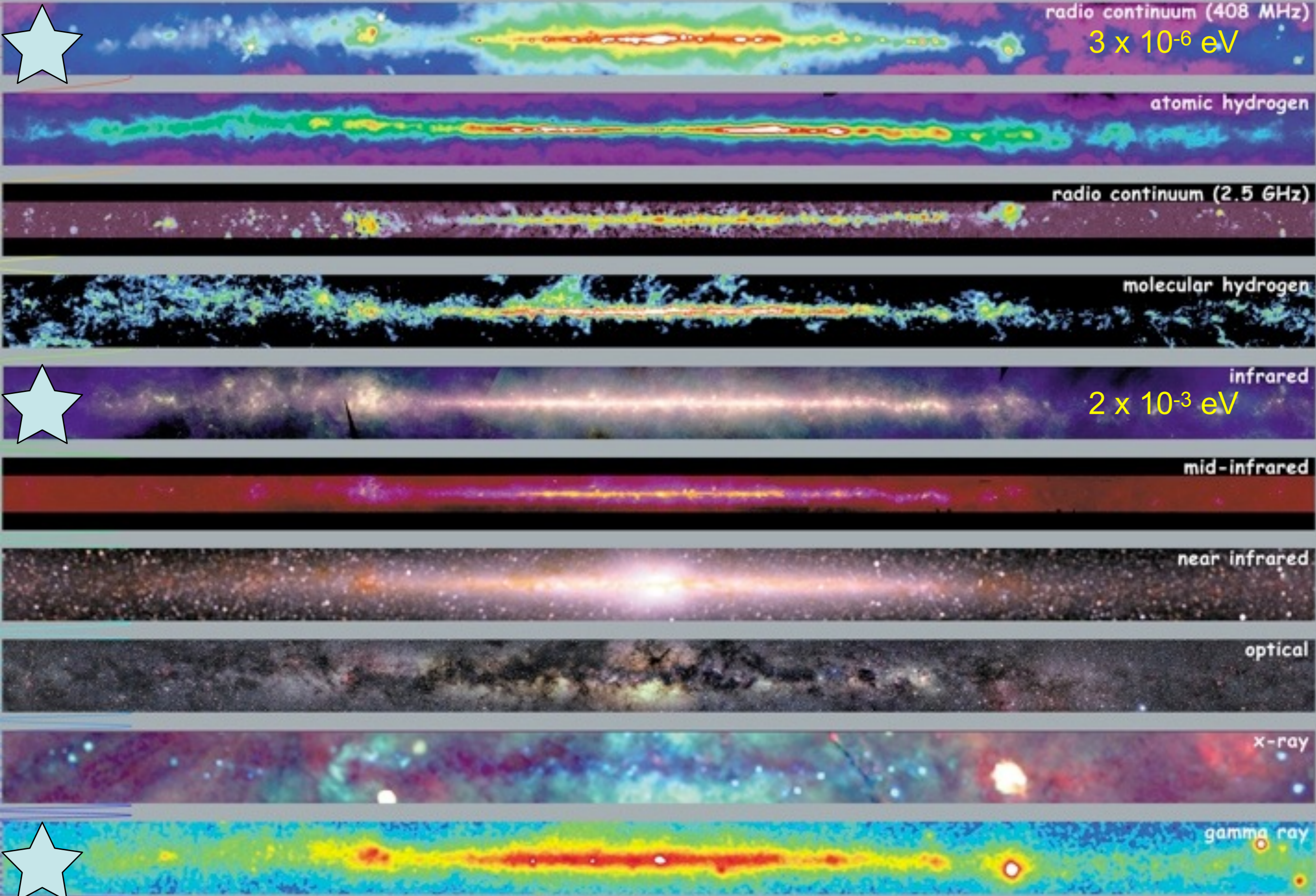
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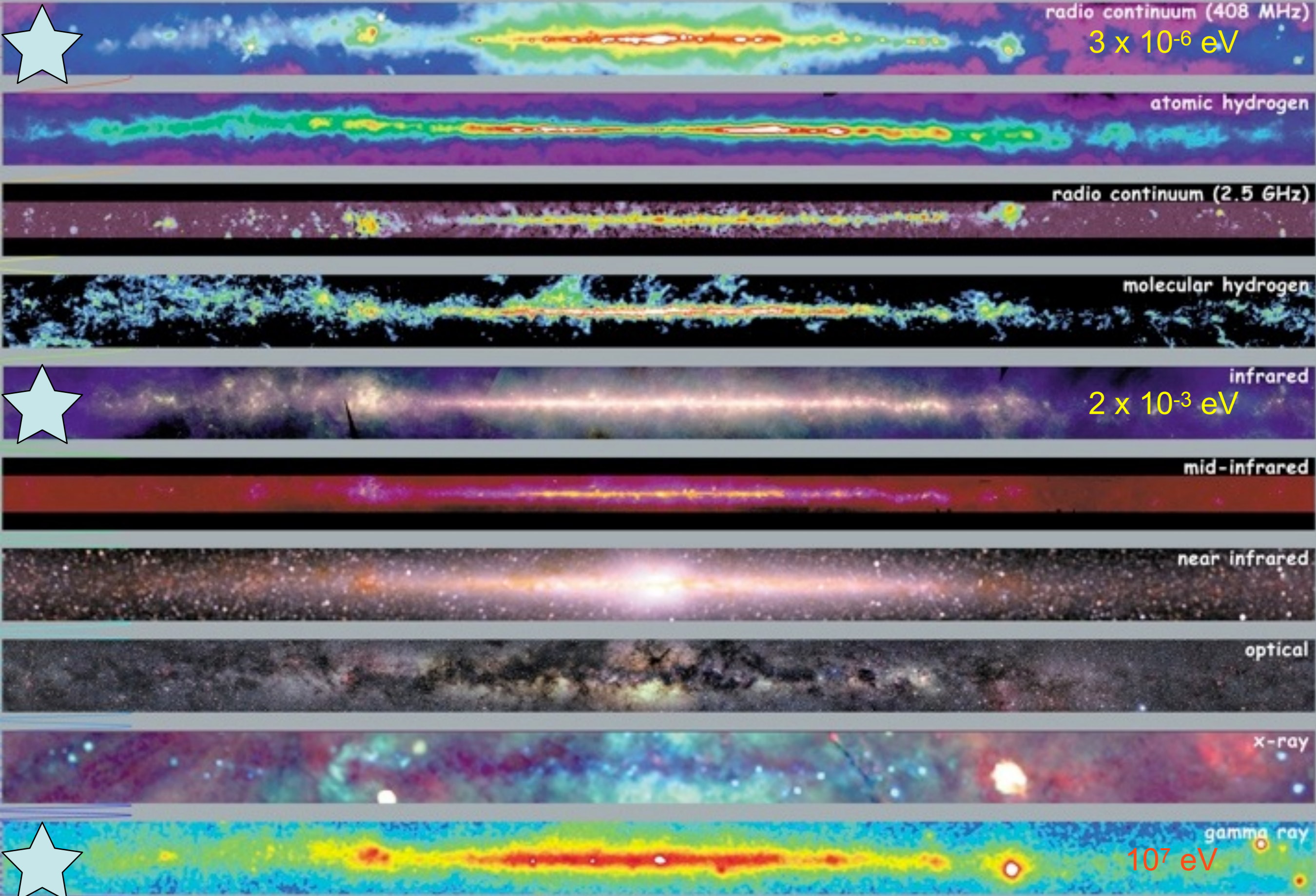
# Multiwavelength Milky Way



# Multiwavelength Milky Way



# Multiwavelength Milky Way



# Multiwavelength Milky Way

- ❖ consider Alfvénic modes; since they carry most of the energy of the MHD cascade and, in fact, slow modes are passively mixed by Alfvénic turbulence and follow the same cascade
- ❖ damping scale depends on whether the Alfvén Mach number of the turbulence at its injection scale,

$$M_A = u_{LA} / V_A,$$

...is larger or smaller than unity;

where

$u_{LA}$ : turbulent velocity of Alfvénic modes at the injection scale  $L$

- ❖ In the decoupled regime, the rate at which CRs are able to stream is set implicitly by the condition that, at their streaming speed, the rate at which they drive Alfvén waves via the streaming instability balances the rate at which those waves dissipate due to ion-neutral damping
- ❖ attractor: if the CRs stream at less than this speed, damping will sap the Alfvén waves, which in turn will reduce CR scattering and allow them to stream faster; conversely, if the CRs are travelling at above the speed that satisfies this condition, the amplitude of the Alfvén waves they produce will grow, scattering them more effectively and reducing their streaming speed.
- ❖ Thus we must balance growth against damping.

# Implication

- ❖ We can define a critical CR energy  $E_{\text{CR,scat}}$  below which CRs will not be effectively scattered by turbulence injected at a large scale.

$$E_{\text{CR,scat}} \approx 27 \frac{u_{\text{LA},1}^{5/2}}{L_2^{1/2} \chi_{-4}^{3/2} n_{\text{H},3}} \frac{\min(\mathcal{M}_{\text{A}}^{-1}, \mathcal{M}_{\text{A}}^{-1/2})}{\sin \alpha} \text{ TeV.}$$



# Cosmic Rays:

- ❖ Can make sense of the analogue of an “Eddington limit” in CRs (Socrates et al. 2008)
- ❖ Momentum flux imparted by CRs,  $\dot{P}_{\text{CR}}$ , can be significantly enhanced because of the large effective optical depth they experience
- ❖  $\dot{P}_{\text{CR}} \sim \tau_{\text{CR}} L_{\text{CR}}$  ;  $\tau_{\text{CR}}$ : cosmic ray optical depth
- ❖  $\tau_{\text{CR}} \sim R / \lambda_{\text{CR}} \sim 1000 \text{ pc} / 1 \text{ pc} \sim 10^3$  ;

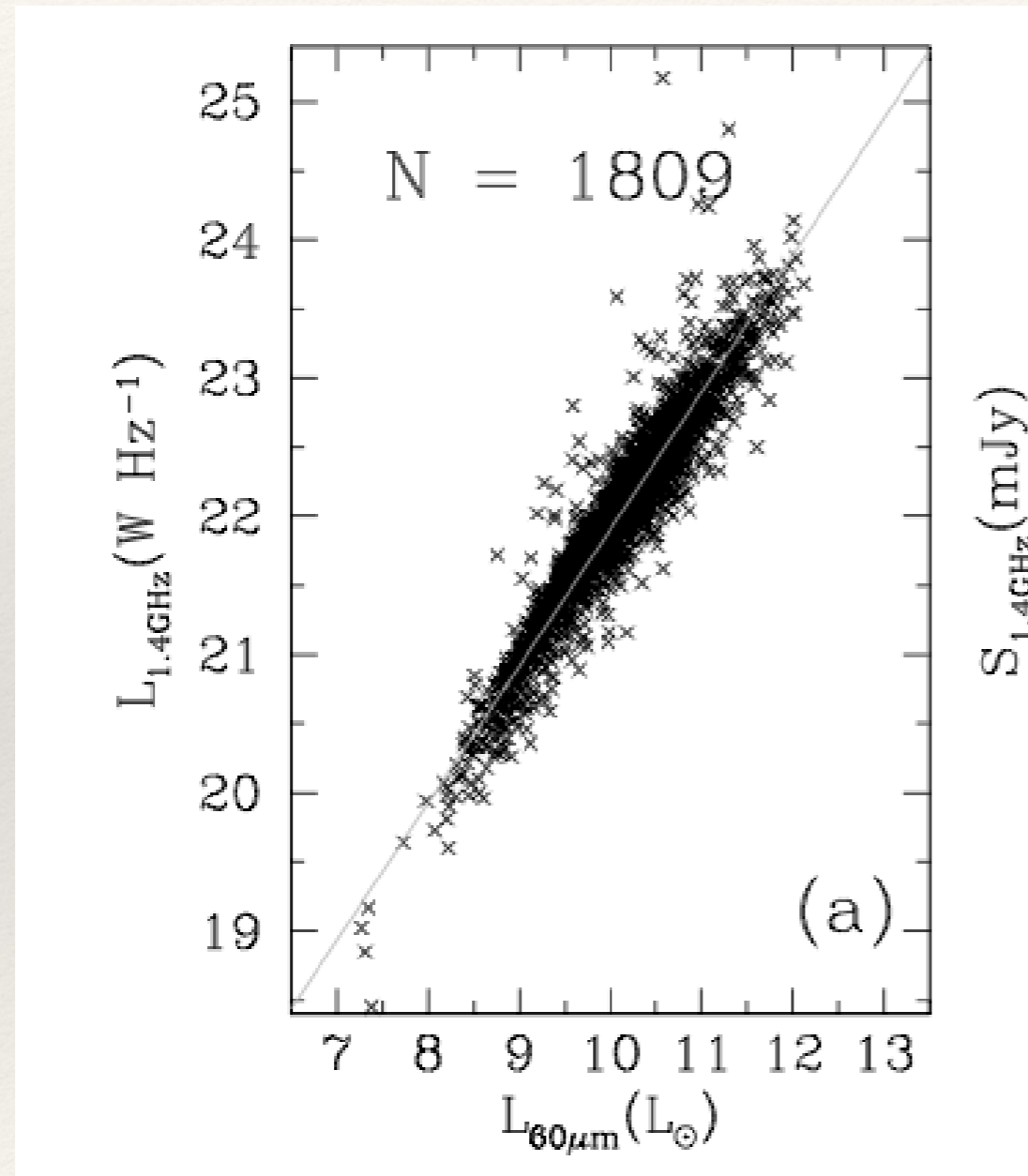
[ $\lambda_{\text{CR}}$ : N.B. CR mean free path  $\lambda_{\text{CR}} \gg r_{\text{gyro}}$ ]

$$\Rightarrow \dot{P}_{\text{CR}} \sim 10^3 \times 10^{-3} L_{\text{light}} \sim L_{\text{light}}$$

# Cosmic Rays:

- ❖ CRs effectively behave as a relativistic fluid with adiabatic index  $\gamma = 4/3$
- ❖ adiabatic losses are smaller than for non-rel fluid in an expanding outflow
  - ⇒ CRs become progressively more important the more a wind expands

# ‘Far Infrared-Radio Continuum Correlation’



Yun et al. 2001 ApJ 554, 803 fig 5

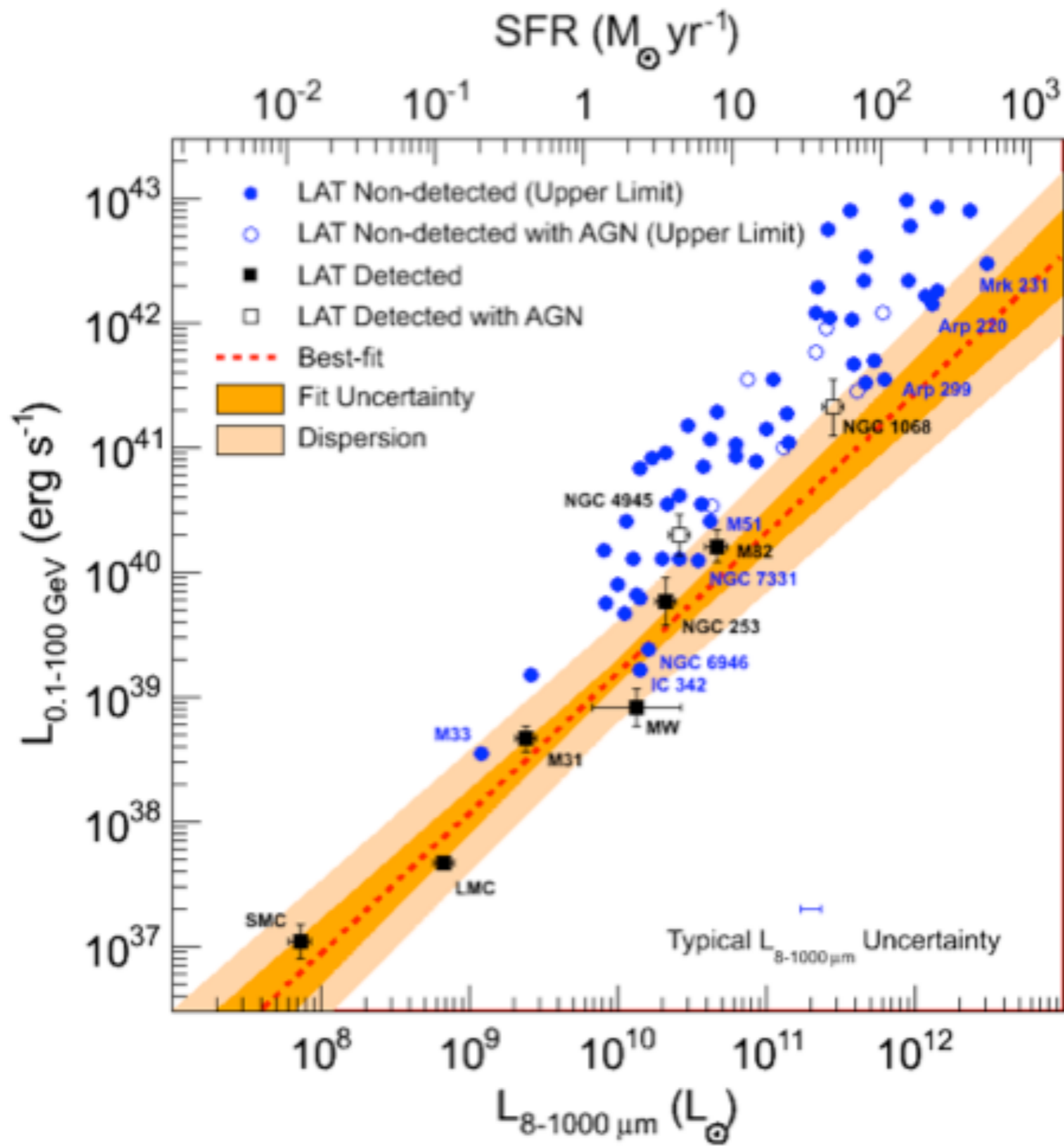
# Sidebar: origin of FIR-RC?

- ❖ correlation between FRC and RC ultimately tied back to massive star formation (Voelk 1989)
- ❖ massive stars  $\rightarrow$  UV  $\rightarrow$  (dust)  $\rightarrow$  IR
- ❖ massive stars  $\rightarrow$  supernovae  $\rightarrow$  SNRs  $\rightarrow$  acceleration of CR e's  $\rightarrow$  (B field)  $\rightarrow$  synchrotron

# FIR- $\gamma$ -ray Correlation?

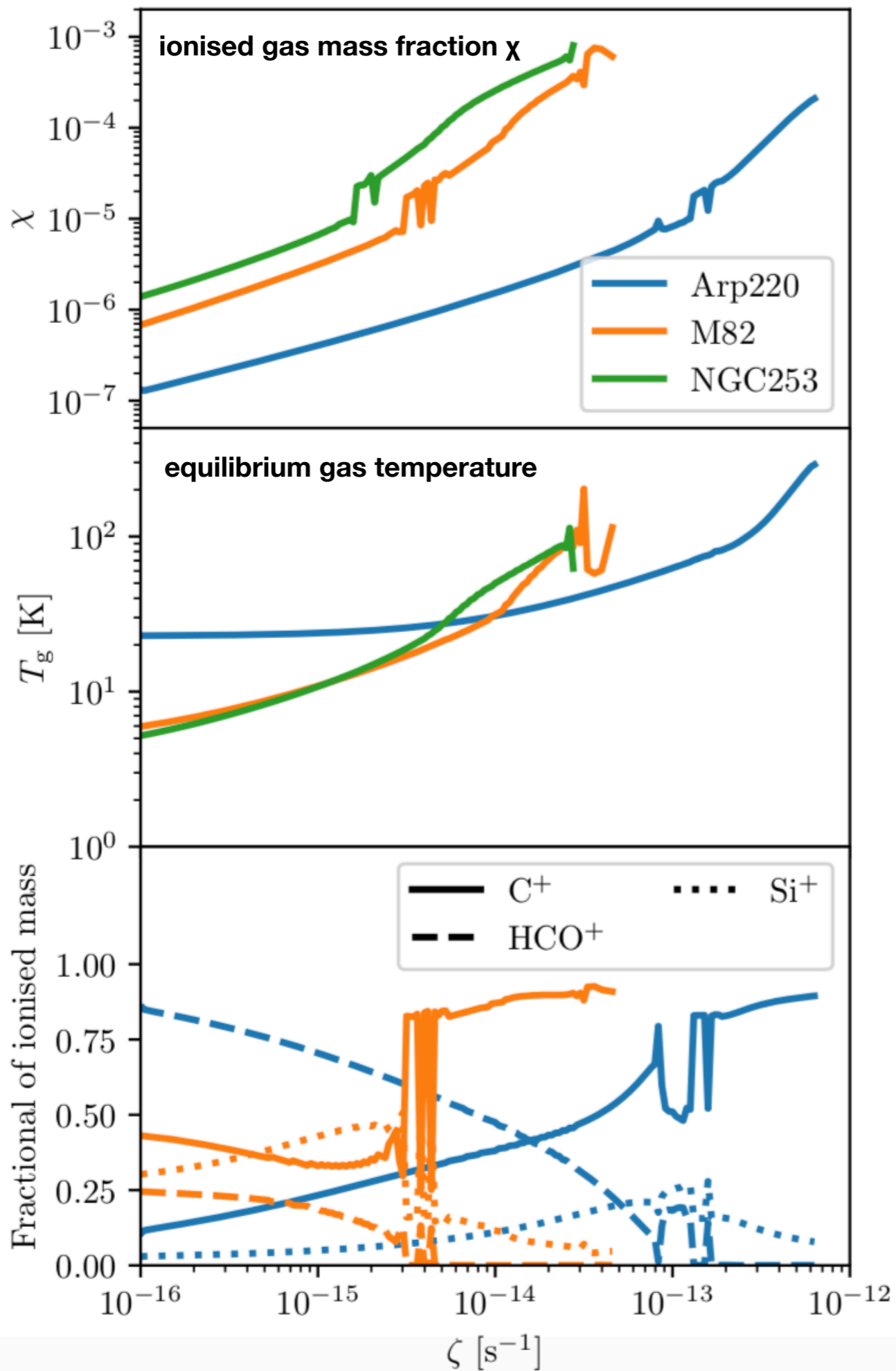
- ❖ SNR accelerate CR p's (and heavier ions)
- ❖ there should exist a global scaling b/w FIR and gamma-ray emission from region (Thompson et al. 2007):

$$L_{\text{GeV}} \sim 10^{-5} L_{\text{TIR}} \text{ (assuming } 10^{50} \text{ erg per SN in CRs)}$$



Martin, *Fermi collab*

**Fig. 1.** Gamma-ray luminosity (0.1-100 GeV) versus total IR luminosity (8-1000 $\mu\text{m}$ ).



Chemical and thermal equilibria for the ISM in Arp 220, M82, and NGC 253 as a function of primary cosmic ray ionisation rate  $\zeta$  (using DESPOTIC).

## Cosmic Rays: What are they good for?

- Because CRs are charged, they respond to ISM magnetic fields
  - ⇒ we cannot do CR astronomy (except maybe at highest energies)
- Scatter most strongly on magnetic field inhomogeneities of same scale as their *gyro radius*
  - ⇒ CRs execute a random walk through turbulent ISM magnetic field structure



# Cosmic Rays:

- Energetic match to power available from SNe
- $L_{\text{CR}} \sim 10^{-3} L_{\text{light}}$
- Q: why energy density in different ISM components  $\sim$ the same?:

$$u_{\text{CR}} \sim u_{\text{ISRF}} \sim u_{\text{turb}} \sim u_{\text{therm}} \sim 1 \text{ eV cm}^{-3}$$

- ❖ A: because long CR escape/energy loss times,  $>10^7$  years
- ❖  $u_{\text{CR}} \sim L_{\text{CR}} t / V_{\text{CR}}$
- ❖  $t_{\text{CR}} \sim \text{Min}[t_{\text{esc}}, t_{\text{loss}}]$
- ❖  $t_{\text{esc}} \sim 0.1 t_{\text{loss}}$  in MW
- ❖  $L_{\text{CR}} \sim \text{SFR} / (100 M_{\text{Sun}} / \text{CCSN}) \times 0.1$   
 $\sim 3 \times 10^{40} \text{ erg/s}$

# Cosmic Rays:

- $V_{CR} \sim 2 \text{ Pi } 2 \text{ kpc } (8 \text{ kpc})^2 \sim 2 \cdot 10^{67} \text{ cm}^3$
- $u_{CR} \sim L_{CR} t / V_{CR}$   
 $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{40} \text{ erg/s } 3 \cdot 10^7 \text{ year} / (2 \cdot 10^{67} \text{ cm}^3)$   
 $\sim 1.5 \text{ eV cm}^{-3}$