

PROPAGATION OF COSMIC RAYS IN PLASMOIDS OF AGN JETS: IMPLICATIONS FOR MULTIMESSENGER PREDICTIONS

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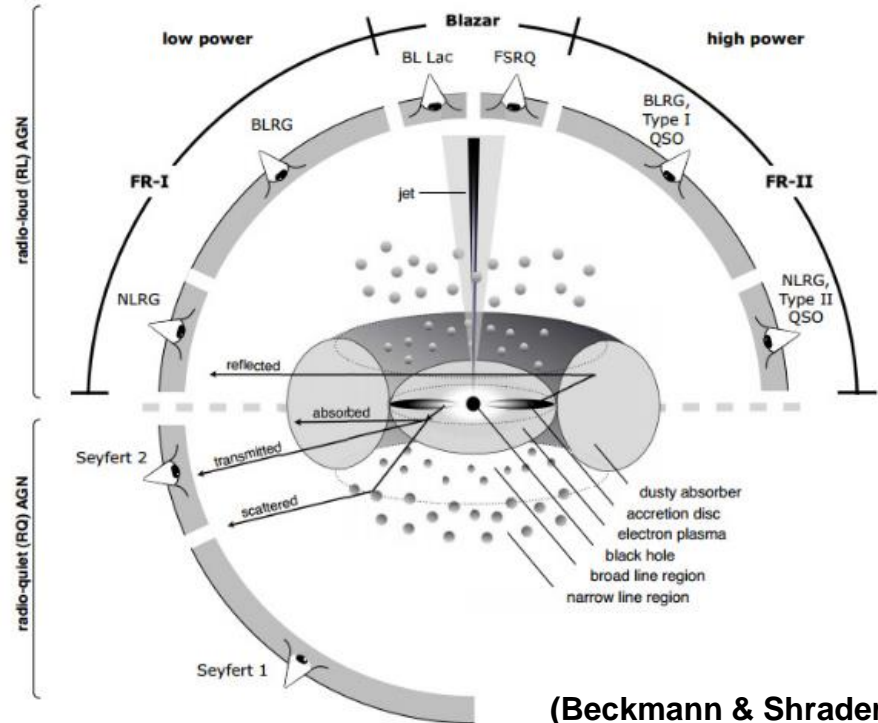
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Department of Physics and Astronomy
Chair for Theoretical Physics IV

[arXiv:2202.01818](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.01818)



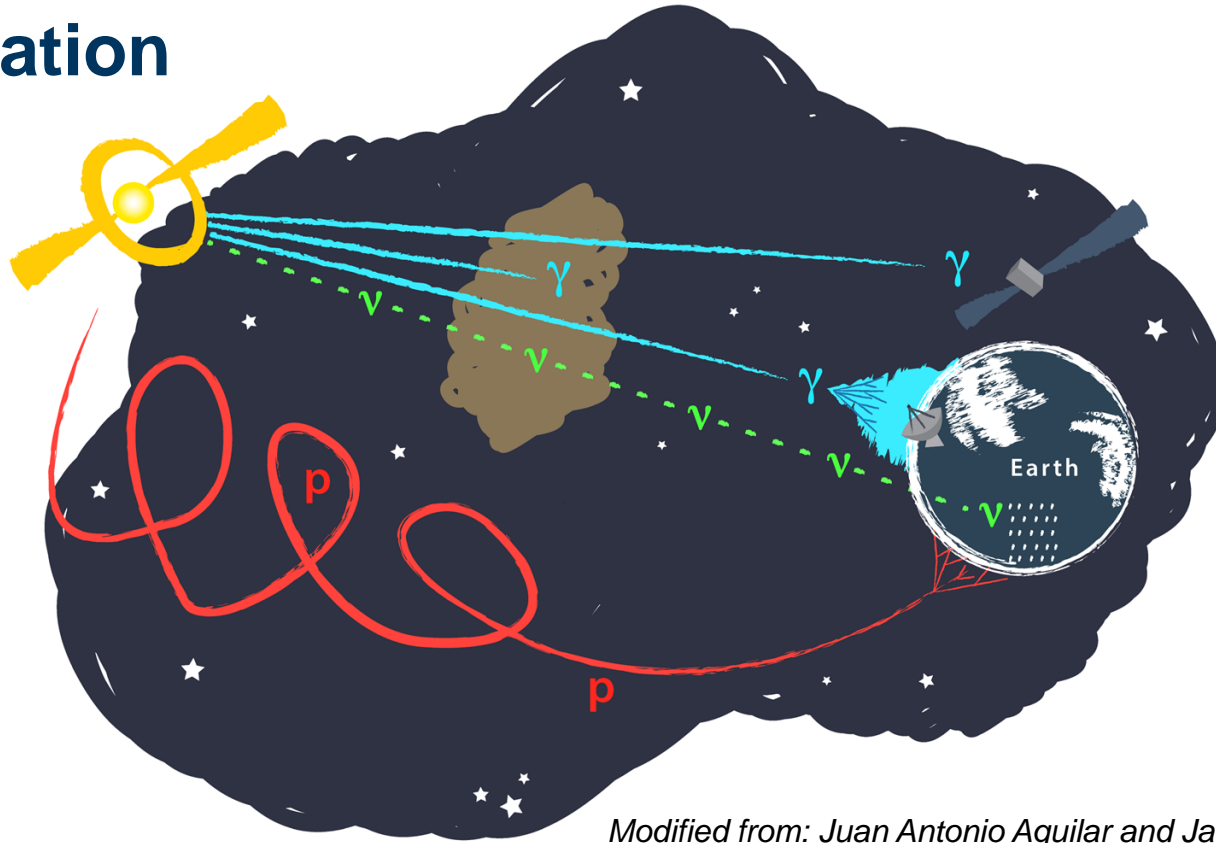
Motivation

- **Active Galactic Nuclei (AGN)**: one of most luminous objects in Universe
- Assumed accelerator of **Cosmic Rays (CRs)** with highest energies up to $E_{CR} = 10^{21}$ eV
- **Blazars**: leptonic/hadronic components, both possibly → secondary neutrinos
- Modelling is **challenging!**



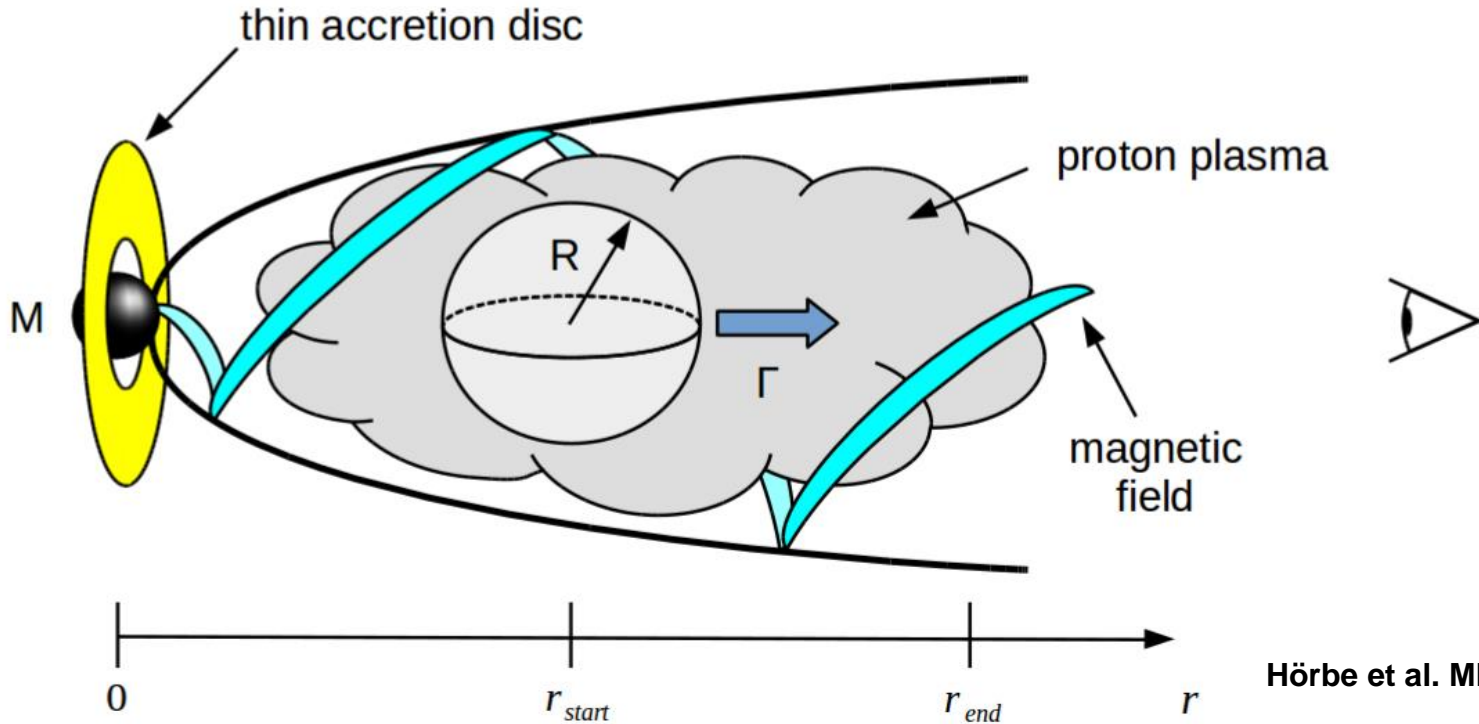
(Beckmann & Shrader 2012)

Motivation



Modified from: Juan Antonio Aguilar and Jamie Yang. IceCube/WIPAC

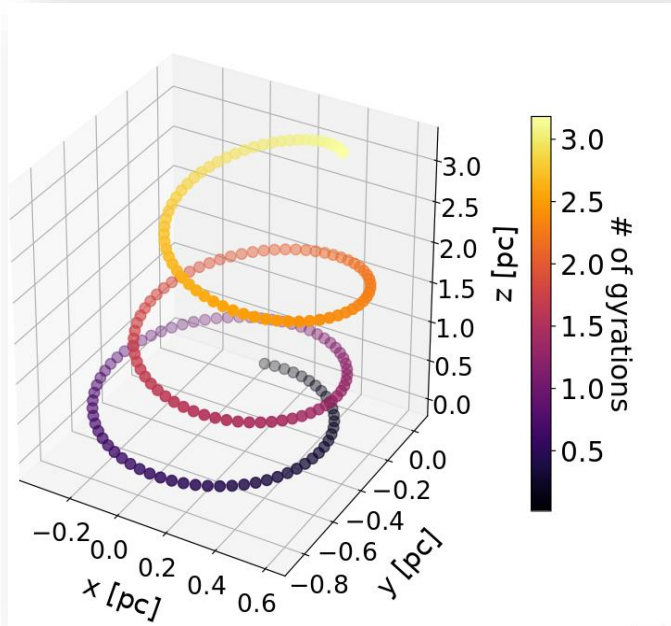
AGN structure with a Jet



Hörbe et al. MNRAS (2020)

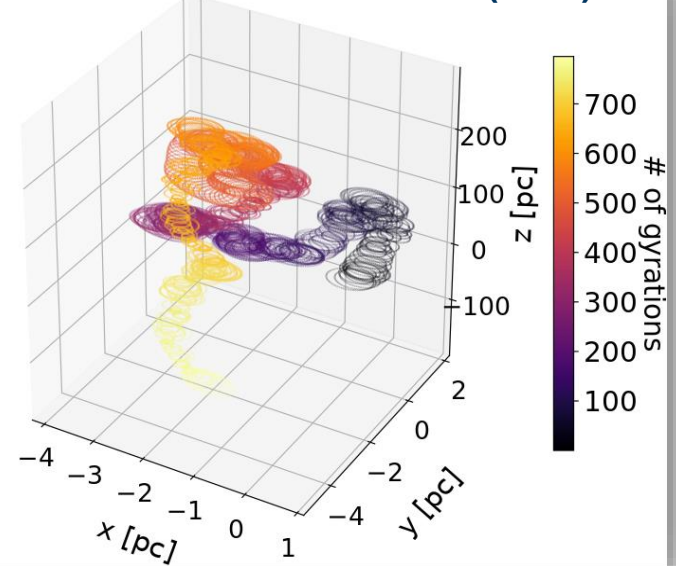
The Space domain

Transport in turbulent fields: Ballistic vs. Diffusive



$$\frac{dp}{dt} = q(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

Masterthesis P. Reichherzer (2019)



$$\frac{\delta n}{\delta t} = \nabla \cdot (\hat{D} \cdot \nabla n) - \vec{u} \cdot \nabla n + Q$$

Transport in turbulent fields: Criteria

Following [Reichherzer et al. MNRAS (2020)]:

Reduced rigidity:

$$\rho = \frac{r_g}{l_c} = \frac{E}{q c B l_c}$$



$$E \geq \frac{5}{2\pi} \cdot l_c \cdot c \cdot q \cdot B$$

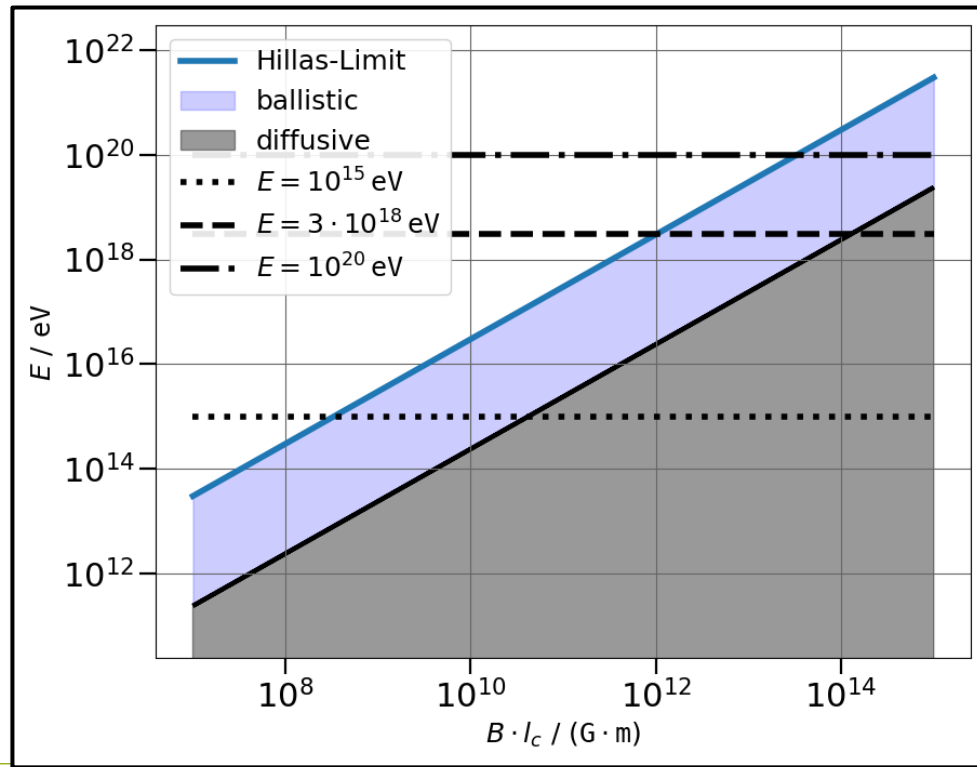
- Reduced rigidity ρ can be used as criterion to distinguish between the necessity to either propagate ballistically (**QB**) or diffusively (**RSR**):
 - Ballistic motion for $\rho \geq \frac{5}{2\pi}$
 - Diffusive propagation for $\frac{l_{\min}}{l_{\max}} \leq \rho < \frac{5}{2\pi}$
 - $l_{\max} = \frac{2\pi}{k_{\min}} \rightarrow$ maximum scale of magnetic turbulence spectrum
 - k_{\min} : lowest wave number – defined by turbulence injection scale

Transition between QB and RSR

$$E \geq Z \cdot \left(\frac{l_c}{10^{11} \text{ m}} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{B}{0.42 \text{ G}} \right) \cdot 10^{15} \text{ eV}$$

Plasmoid:

- $10^{12} \text{ m} < R < 10^{16} \text{ m}$
 - $l_c = 1\% R$
 $\rightarrow 10^{10} \text{ m} < l_c < 10^{14} \text{ m}$
- $10^{-3} \text{ G} < B < 10 \text{ G}$



The Time domain

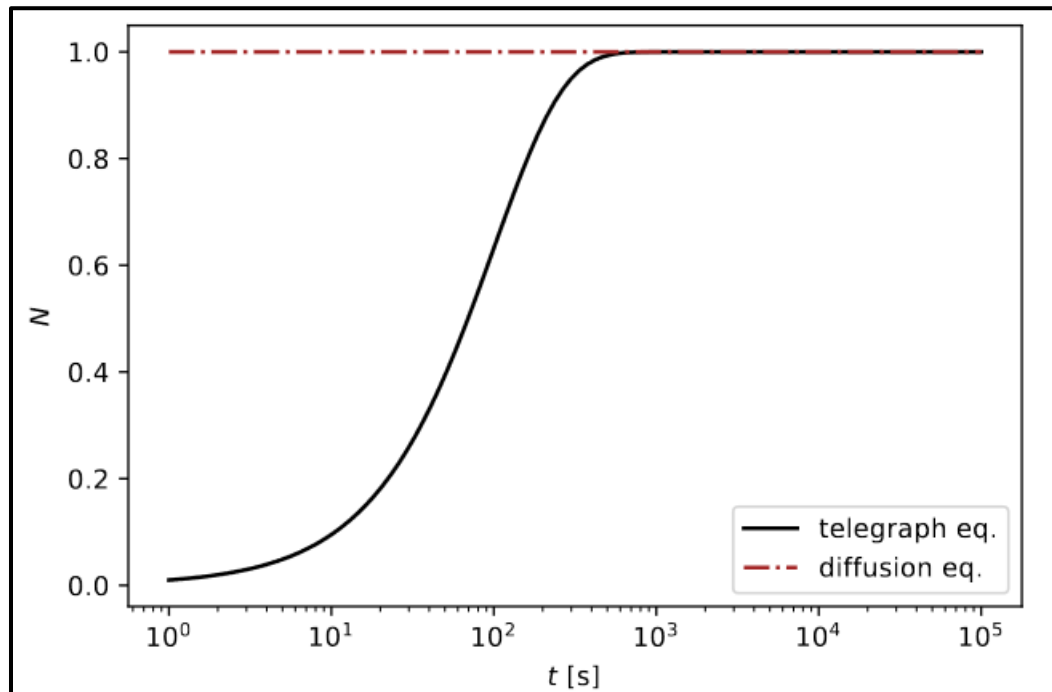
Telegraph vs. Diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \tau \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2} = \kappa \left(\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

τ : Transition time between ballistic and diffusive propagation

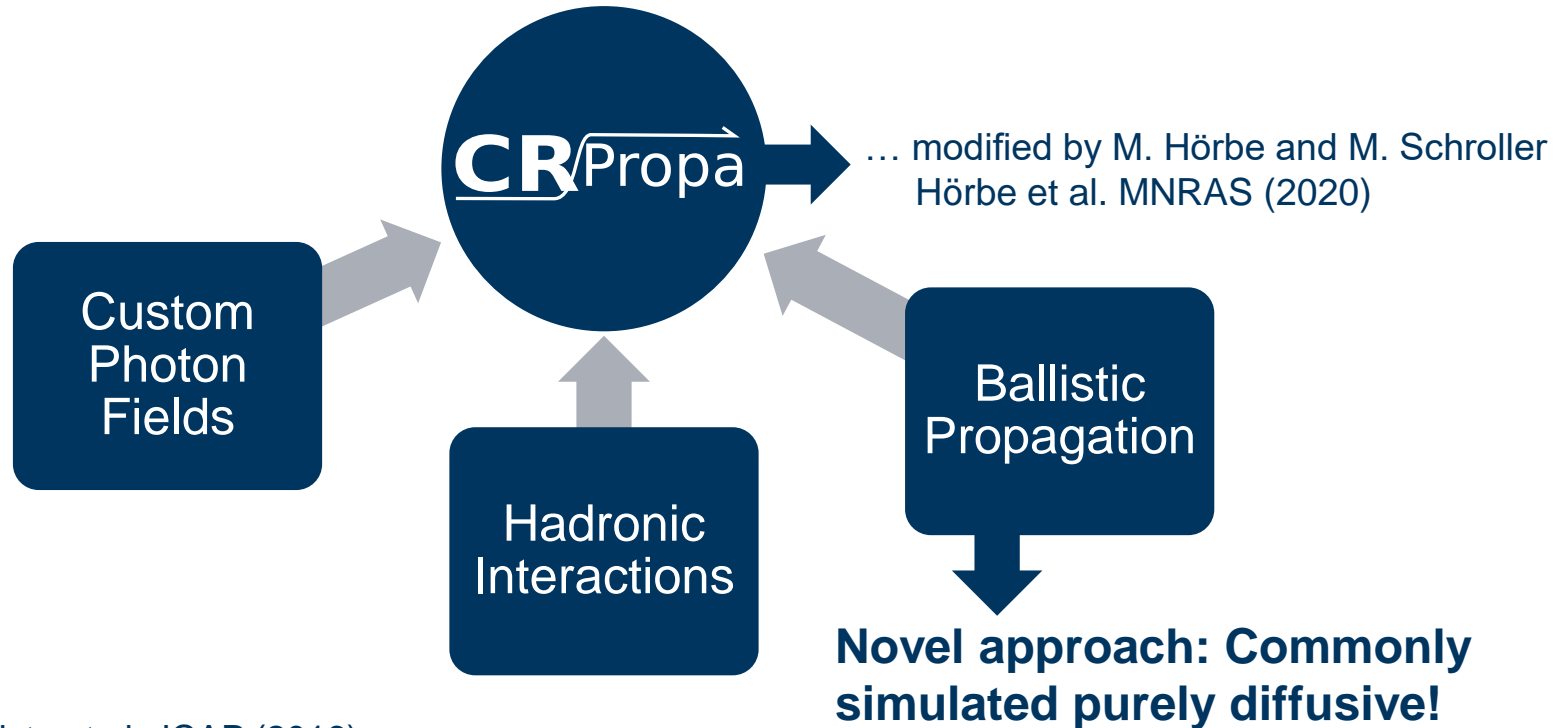


$$t_{\text{diff},N} = -\ln(1 - N) \cdot \tau$$



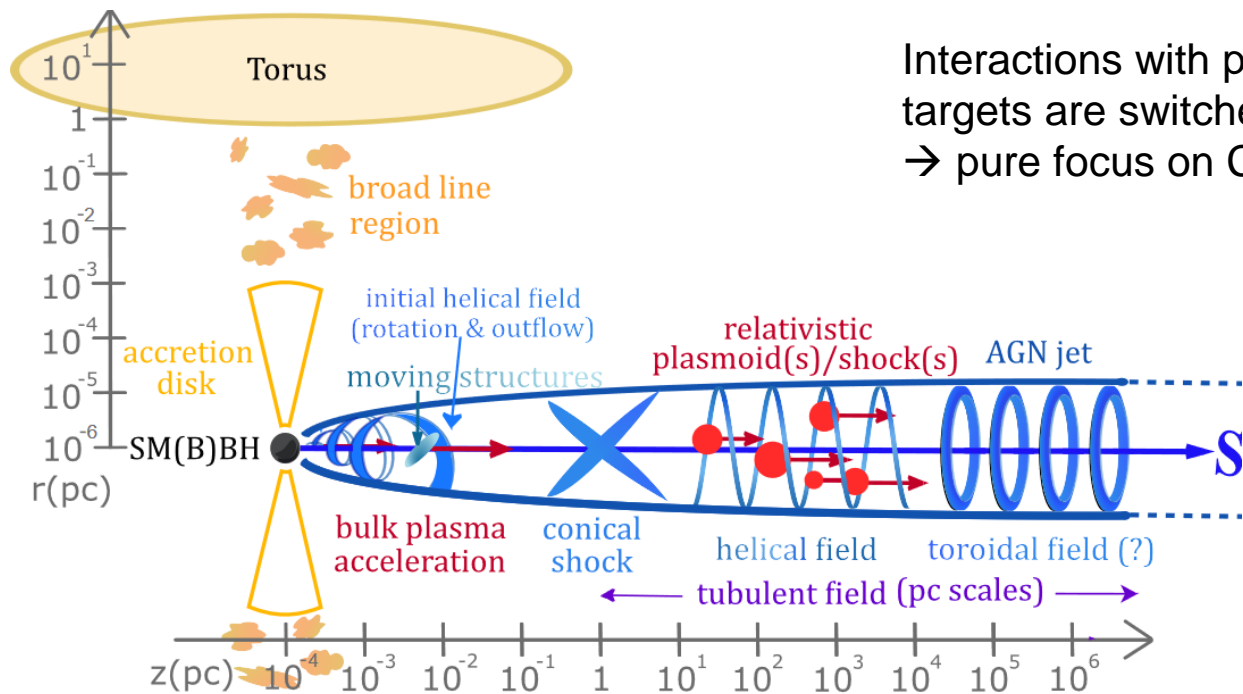
Simulations

Simulation Setup for AGN-Jet-Model



Ref. CRPropa 3: Batista et al. JCAP (2016)

Simulation: AGN structure with a Jet



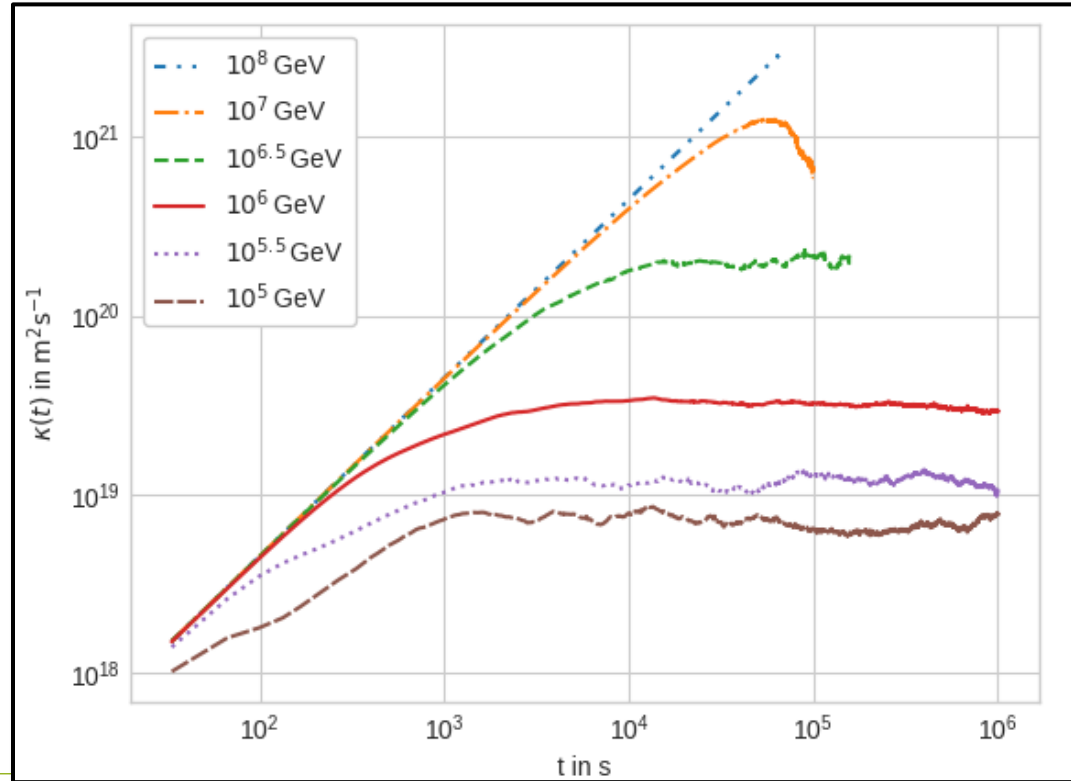
Running Diffusion Coefficients

- Simulation parameters (incomplete):
 - $B = 1 \text{ G}$
 - $l_c = 10^{11} \text{ m}$
 - Homogeneous particle distribution
- Averaging $\kappa(t)$ for late times (plateaus) to approximate the **diffusion coefficient**:

$$\kappa = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \kappa(t) \approx \langle \kappa(t) \rangle_{t \gg t_0}$$

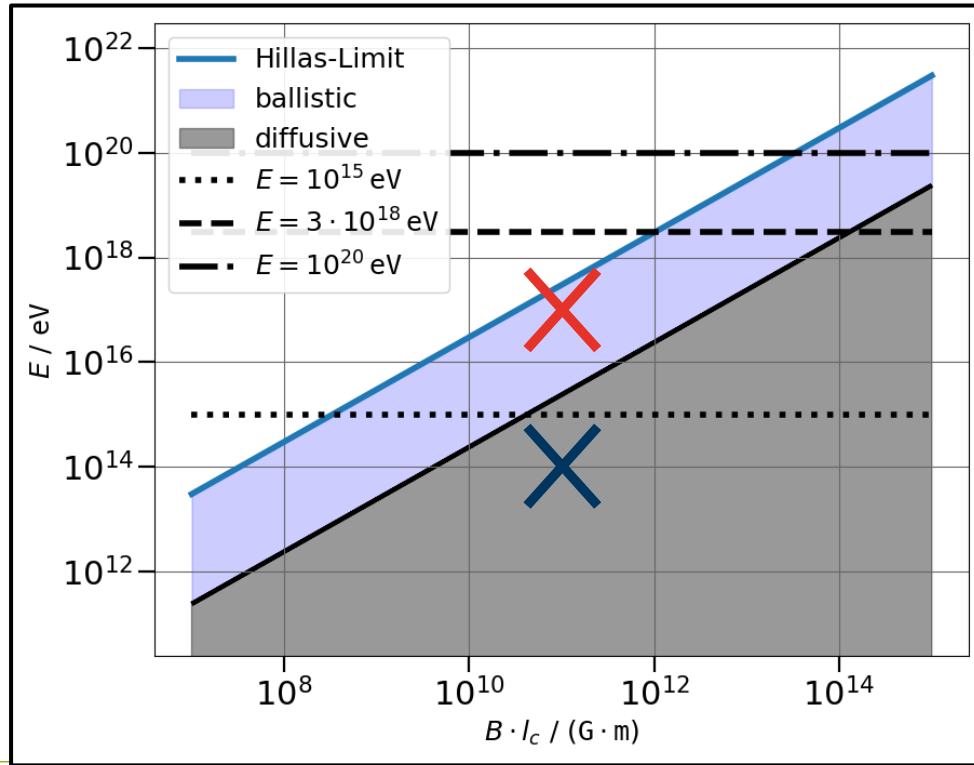
- Fit of three most distinct low-energy plateaus for simple power-law yields:

$$\kappa(E) = 10^{13.54 \pm 0.06} \left(\frac{E}{\text{GeV}} \right)$$



10^5 GeV vs. 10^8 GeV (10^{14} eV vs. 10^{17} eV)

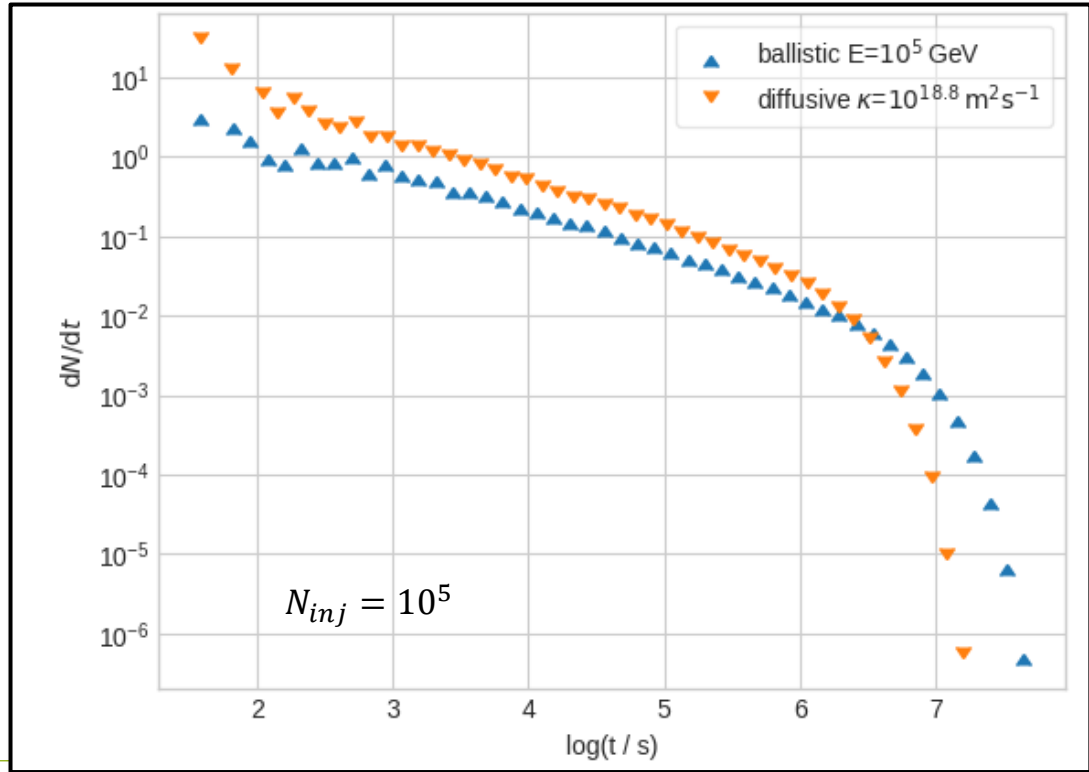
$$B = 1 \text{ G}$$
$$l_c = 10^{11} \text{ m}$$



Propagation Effects: Comparison @ 10^5 GeV

- **Horizontal shift:** uncertainty in numerical determination of diffusion coefficient
- **Cut-off** at large times
- **Diffusive transport** (constant diffusion coefficient):

$$\frac{dN}{dt} \propto t^{-1/2}$$

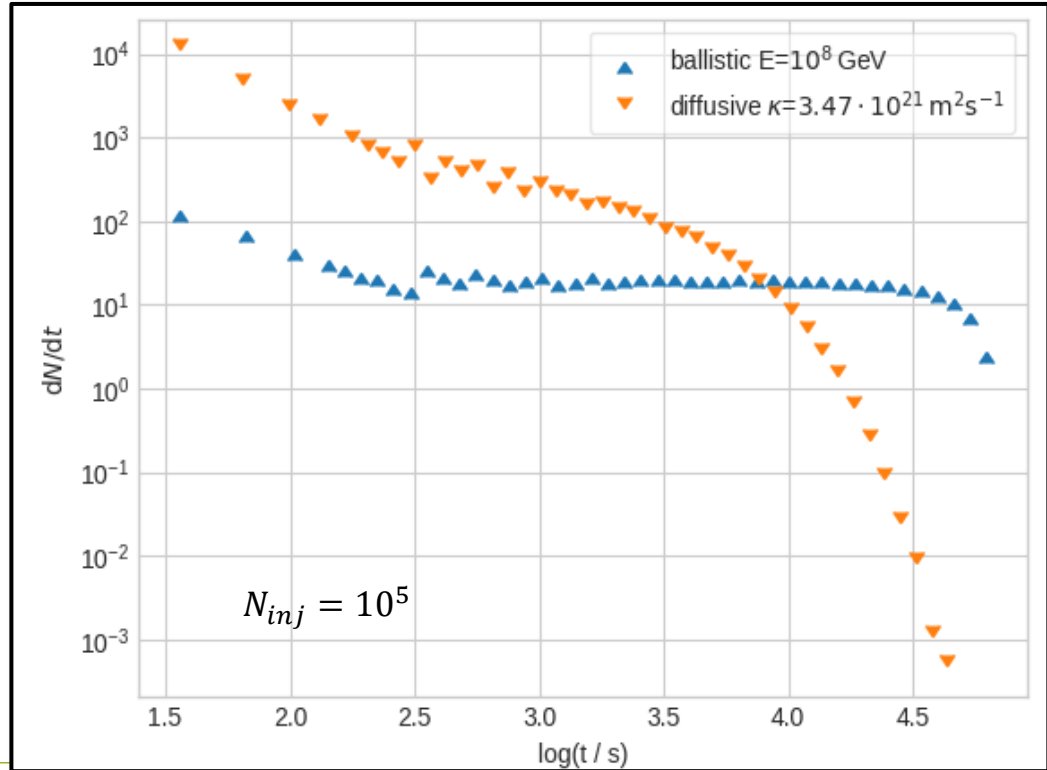


Propagation Effects: Comparison @ 10^8 GeV

- ballistic transport:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} \propto t$$

- Initial slight drop:**
statistical deviations
from homogeneous
particle distribution in
plasmoid
→ more particles on
outer spheres at $t = 0$



Summary & Conclusions

- A simulation scheme is established for the **ballistic propagation** of hadronic plasmoids traveling along the AGN jet axis.
- For the proper implementation of hadronic or leptonic interactions in AGN-jets, **propagation regimes** must be considered accordingly!
- Estimates for **secondary particle fluxes (e.g., neutrinos)** in highly variable and violent environments depend on the primary particle spectrum!

Shape of simulated flares can be misinterpreted if propagation regimes and time-scales are not considered!

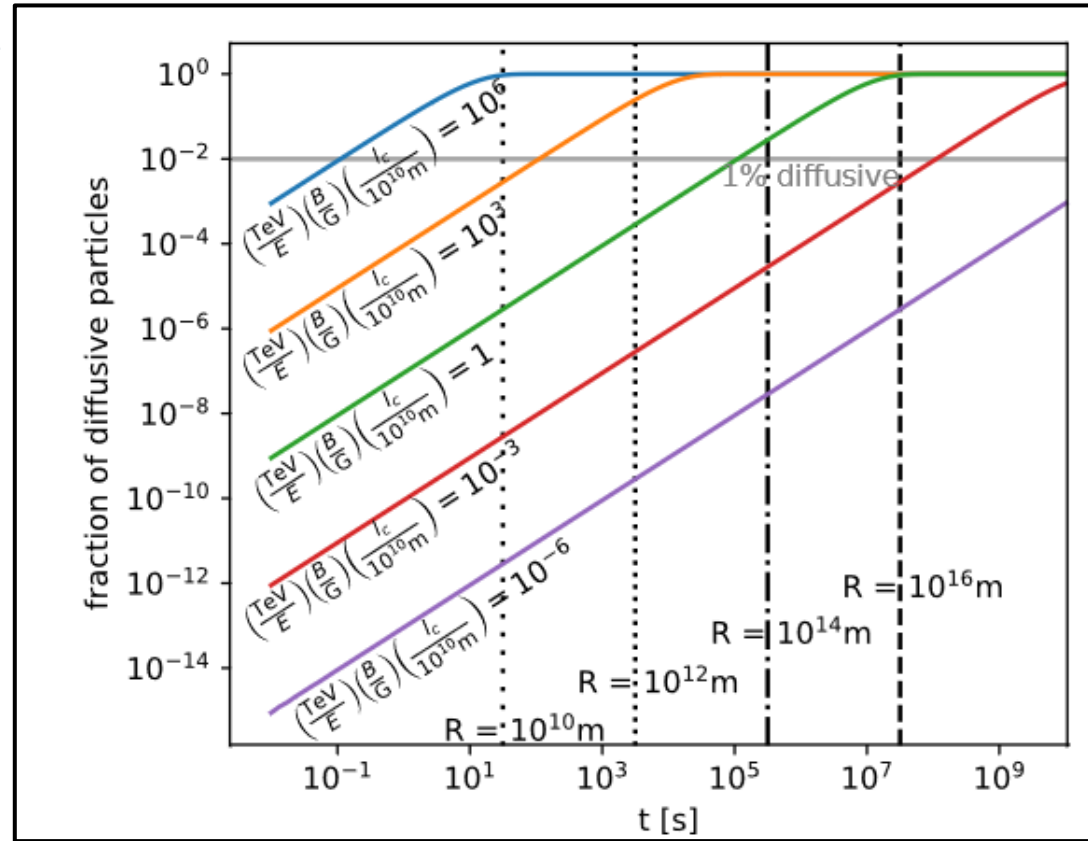
Thank you!

Appendix

Diffusion timescales

$$t_{\text{diff},N} = -\ln(1-N) \frac{3\kappa_0}{v^2} \left(\frac{2\pi E}{5qcBl_c} \right)^\delta$$

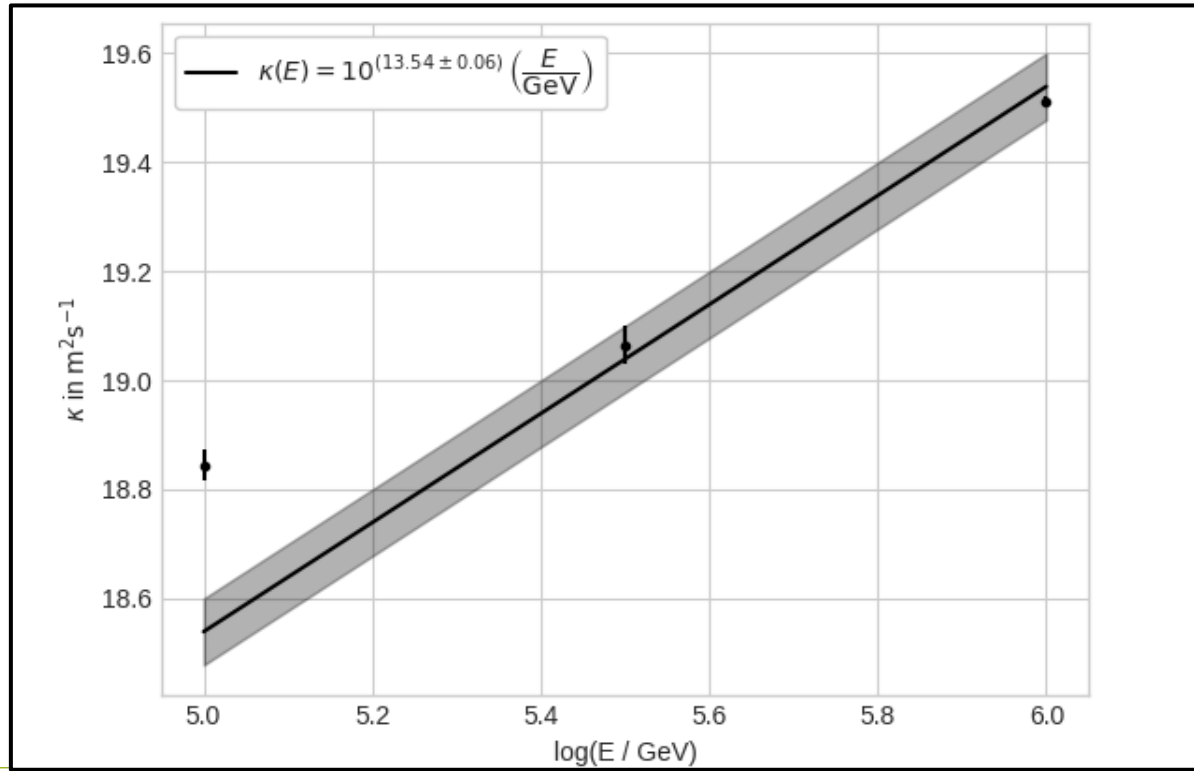
$$\text{with } \begin{cases} \delta = 1 & \text{for } \rho \lesssim 1 \\ \delta = 2 & \text{for } \rho \gg 1 \end{cases}$$



Full list of simulation parameters

Parameter	Value
Proton energy E_p	$10^5 \text{ GeV} - 10^8 \text{ GeV}$
Plasmoid radius R	10^{13} m
Plasmoid Lorentz factor Γ	10
Magnetic field: Initial RMS value B_0	1 G
Magnetic field: Turbulence & spectral index α	Kolmogorov-type, $\alpha = -5/3$
Magnetic field: Correlation length l_c	10^{11} m
Magnetic field: Grid points	$(512)^3$
Magnetic field: Spacing	$R/256$
Propagation module (CRPropa intern): Ballistic	PropagationBP
Propagation module (CRPropa intern): Diffusive	DiffusionSDE
Propagation step size	$10^{-3} R$

Steady-state diffusion coefficient



System: parameter comparison

i	P_i	Hoerbe et al. (V_i)	Schroller et al. (W_i)
1	Radius of plasmoid R	1e13 m	1e13 m
2	Spacing Δs	2*R	2*R
3	timestep Δt	33358 s	33358 s
4	# timesteps N_t	308557	308557
5	# spatial steps $N_{x,y,z}$	2	2

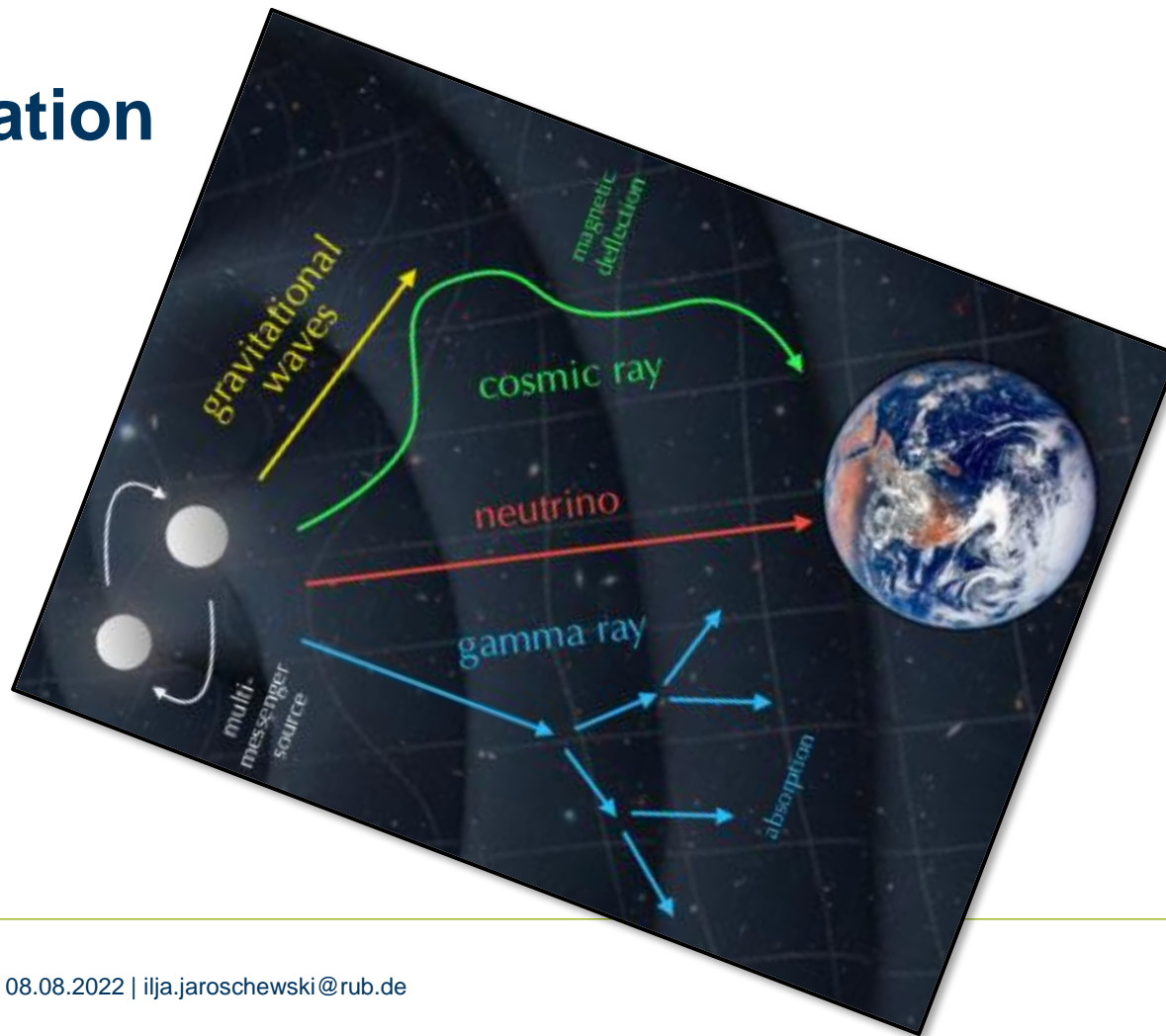
Magnetic field: former parameter

i	P_i	V_i	W_i	
6	# of gridpoints	N_{Gr}	256	512
7	Spacing	Δs_B	R / (128)	R / (256 * 64)
8	Root Mean Value	B_0	1 G	1 G
9	Correlation length	l_c	$10^{(-2)}$ R	$10^{(-2)}$ R
10	Lmin	l_{min}	R / (64)	R / (256 * 32)
11	Lmax	l_{max}	R / (32)	R / (32)
12	# of spatial scalings	$N_{x,y,z}^B$	2	4
13	# of temporal scalings	N_t^B	308557	617114
14	Scaling: spacing	Δs^B	2 * R	R
15	Scaling: timesteps	Δt^B	33358 s	16679

Propagation and energy: comparison parameter

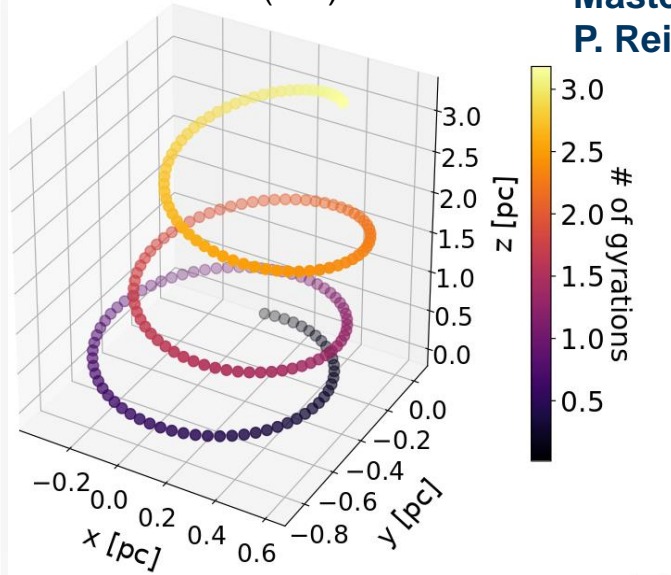
i	P_i	V_i	W_i
16	Propagation method P	CK	BP
17	Min. step size Δx_{min}	$10^{(-2)}$ R	$10^{(-5)}$ R
18	Max step size Δx_{max}	$10^{(-2)}$ R	$10^{(-3)}$ R
19	Precision ε	$10^{(-3)}$	$10^{(-3)}$
20	Injection energy E	$10^{(8)}$ GeV	$10^{(8)}$ GeV
21	Max. trajectory length d	10 pc	10 pc
22	Minimum energy E_{min}	$10^{(2)}$ GeV	$10^{(2)}$ GeV
23	# of particles N	10000	10000

Motivation



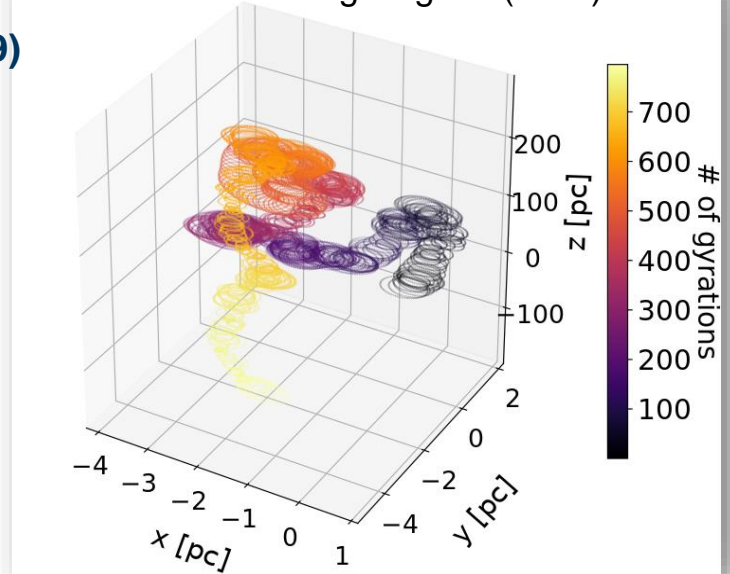
Transport in Turbulent Fields: Ballistic vs. Diffusive

Quasi-Ballistic (QB)



Masterthesis
P. Reichherzer (2019)

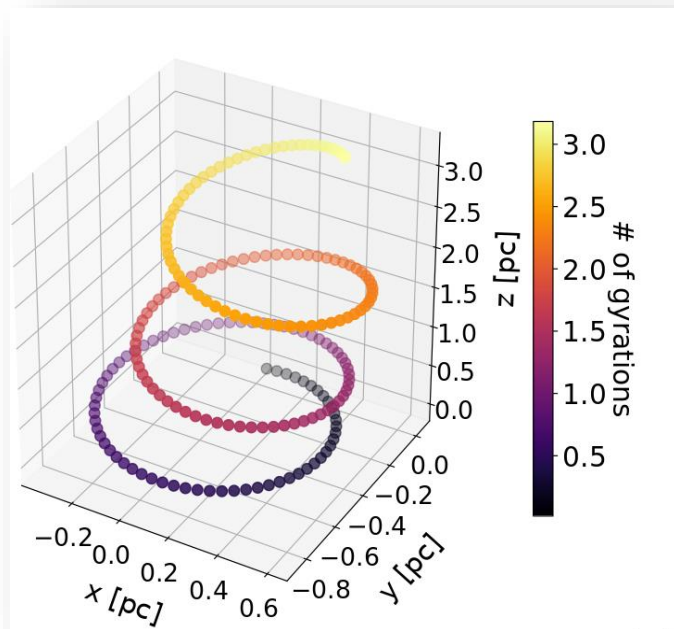
Resonant Scattering Regime (RSR)



$$\frac{dp}{dt} = q(\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B})$$

$$\frac{\delta n}{\delta t} = \nabla \cdot (\hat{D} \cdot \nabla n) - \vec{u} \cdot \nabla n + Q$$

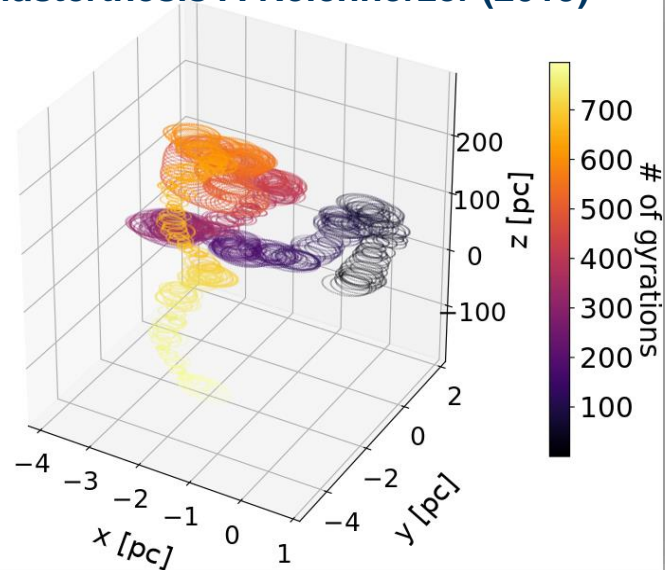
Transport in turbulent fields: Ballistic vs. Diffusive



Quasi-Ballistic (QB)

dt

Masterthesis P. Reichherzer (2019)



Resonant Scattering Regime (RSR)

dt

Simulations – expectation:

diffusive + ballistic approach

deviate

at small timescales and

converge

at larger times

→ steady state diffusion coefficient reached