

Electromagnetic (and Hadronic)

Air Showers

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ISAPP school 2018. LHC meets Cosmic Rays
CERN october 28th 2018

image by Ralf Ulrich



the Source



the Shower



the Data

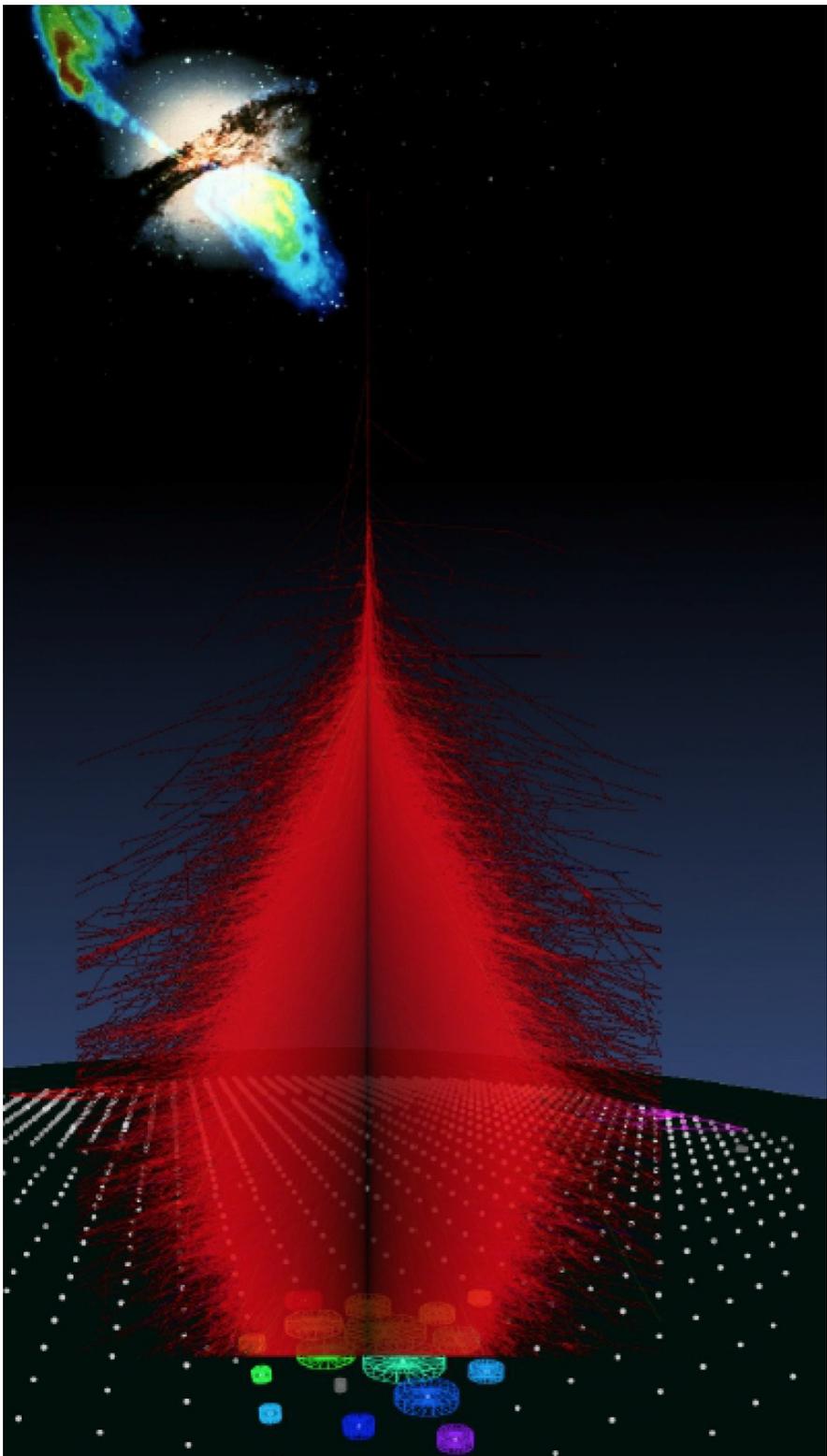


image by Ralf Ulrich



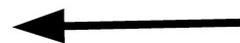
the Source

From spectra and composition of observed particles infer properties of the astrophysical sources

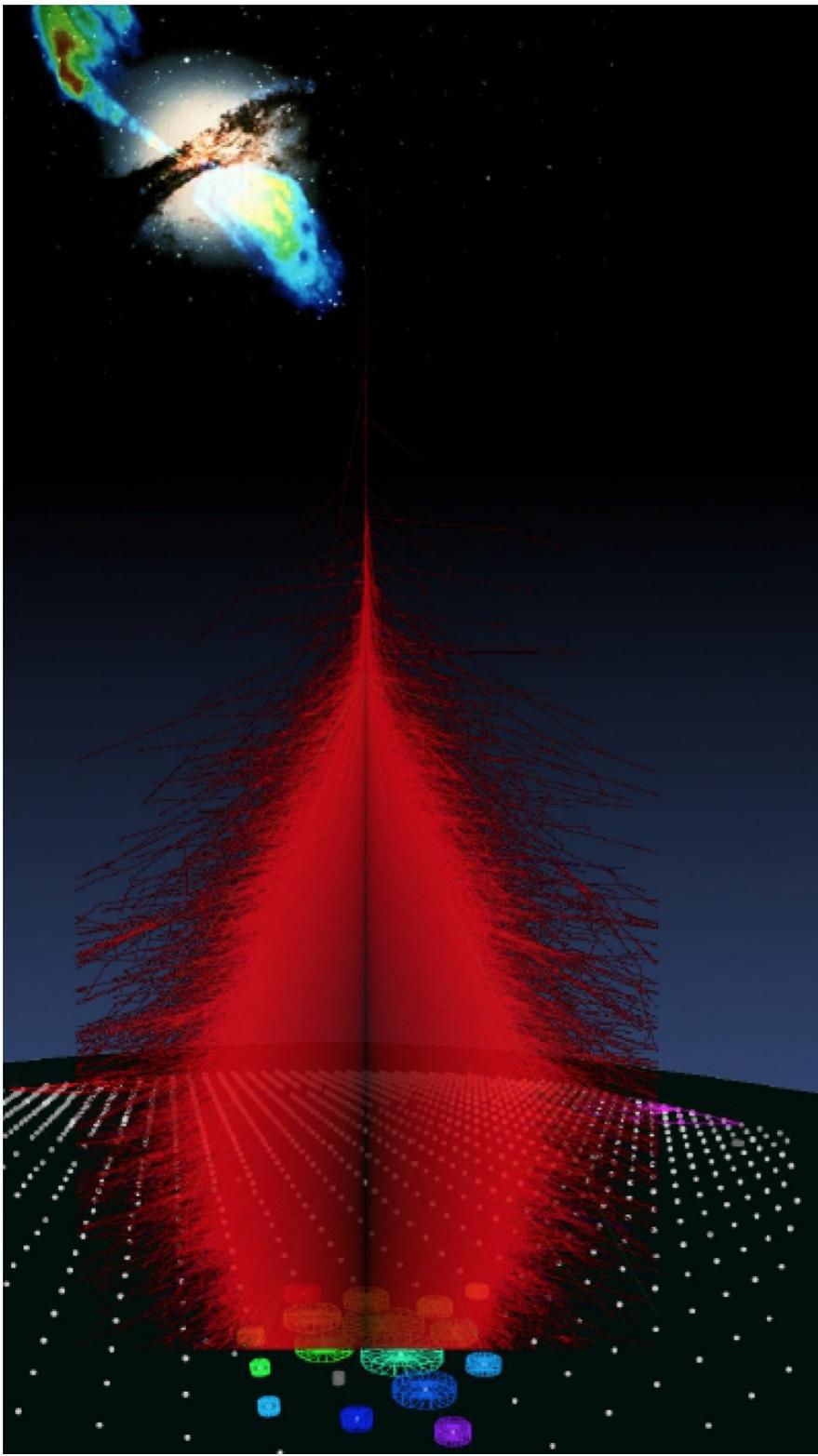


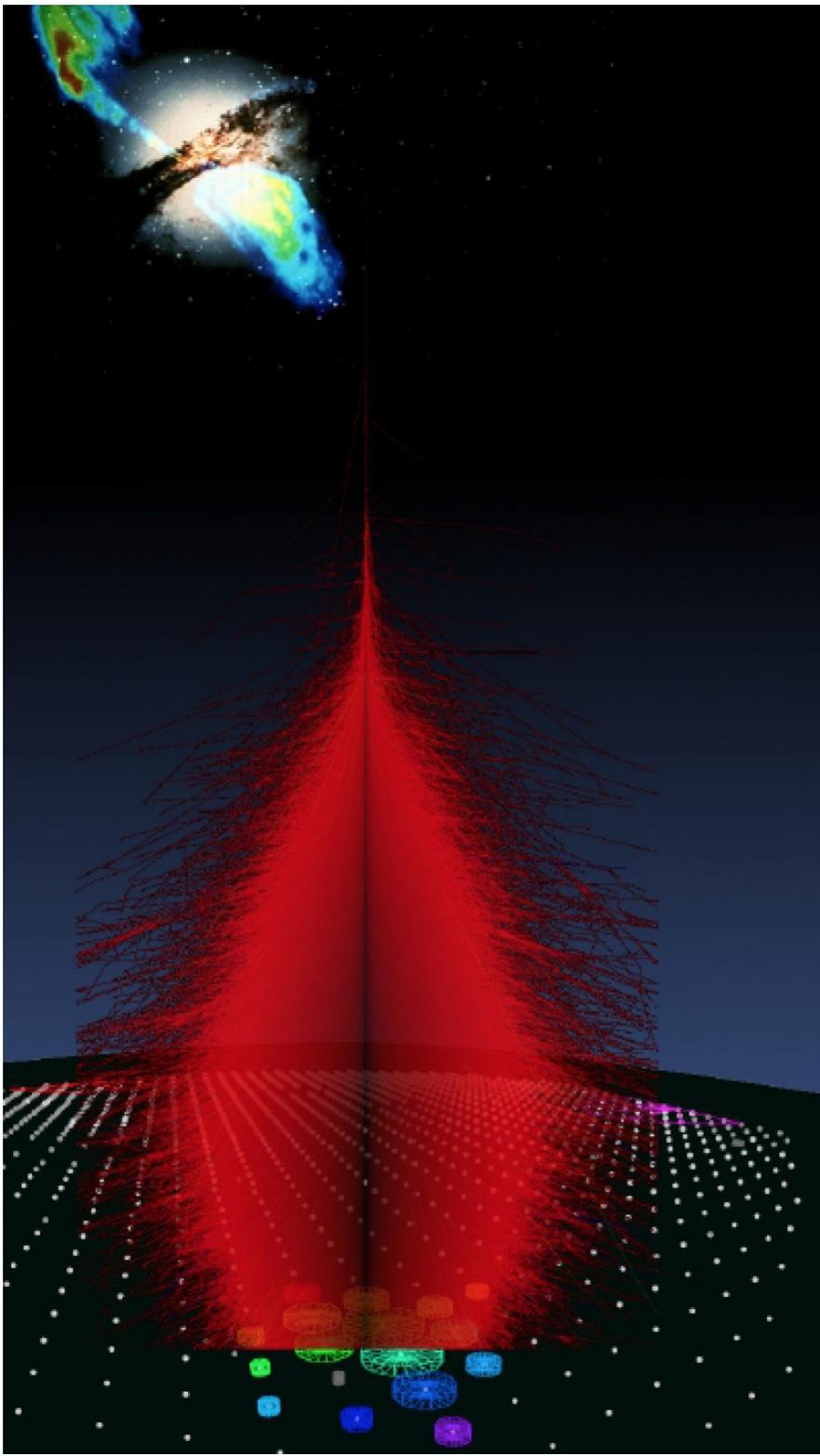
the Shower

To reconstruct the energy (and identity) of the primary particle, one needs a sufficiently good understanding of the shower development.

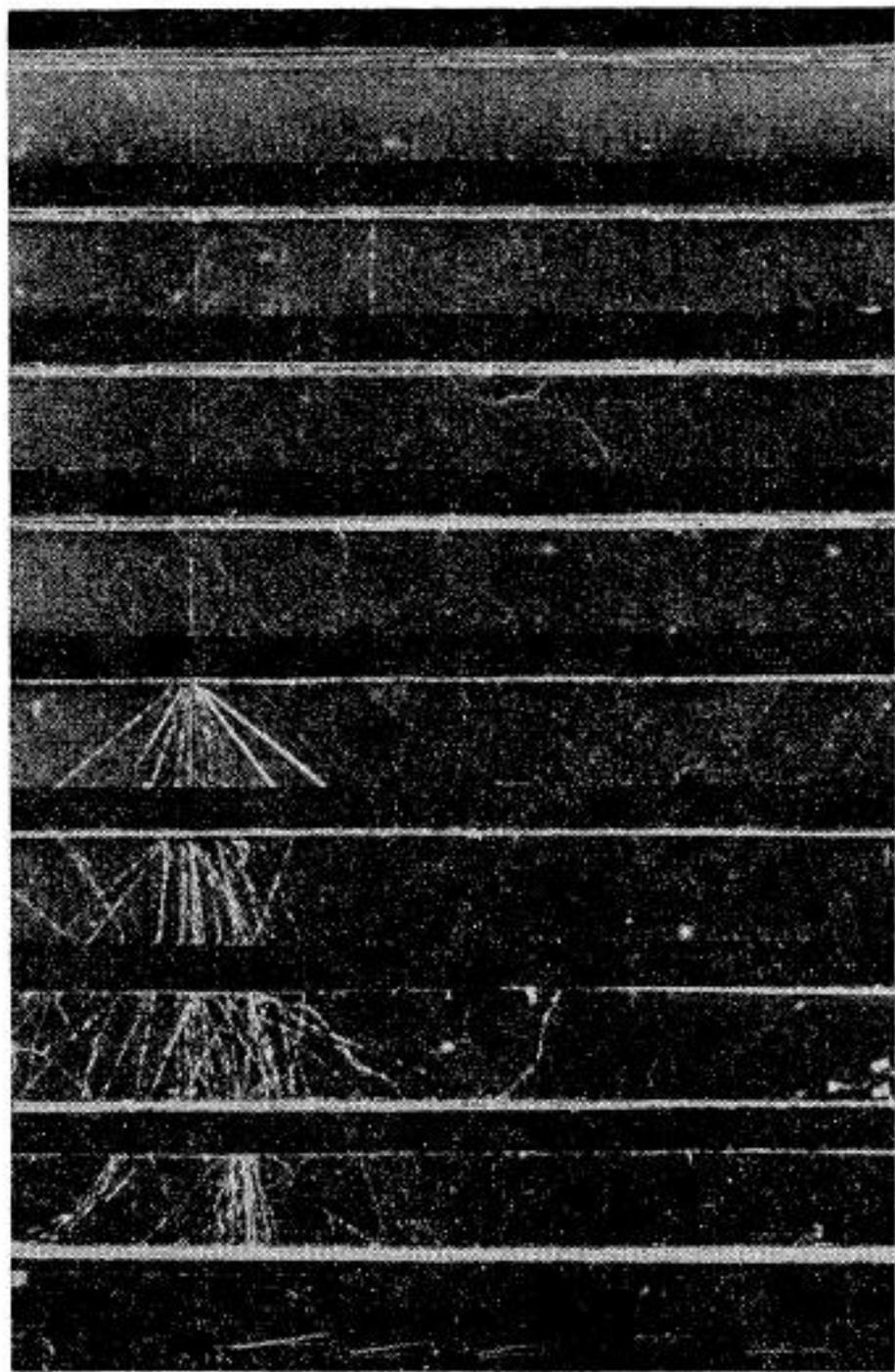
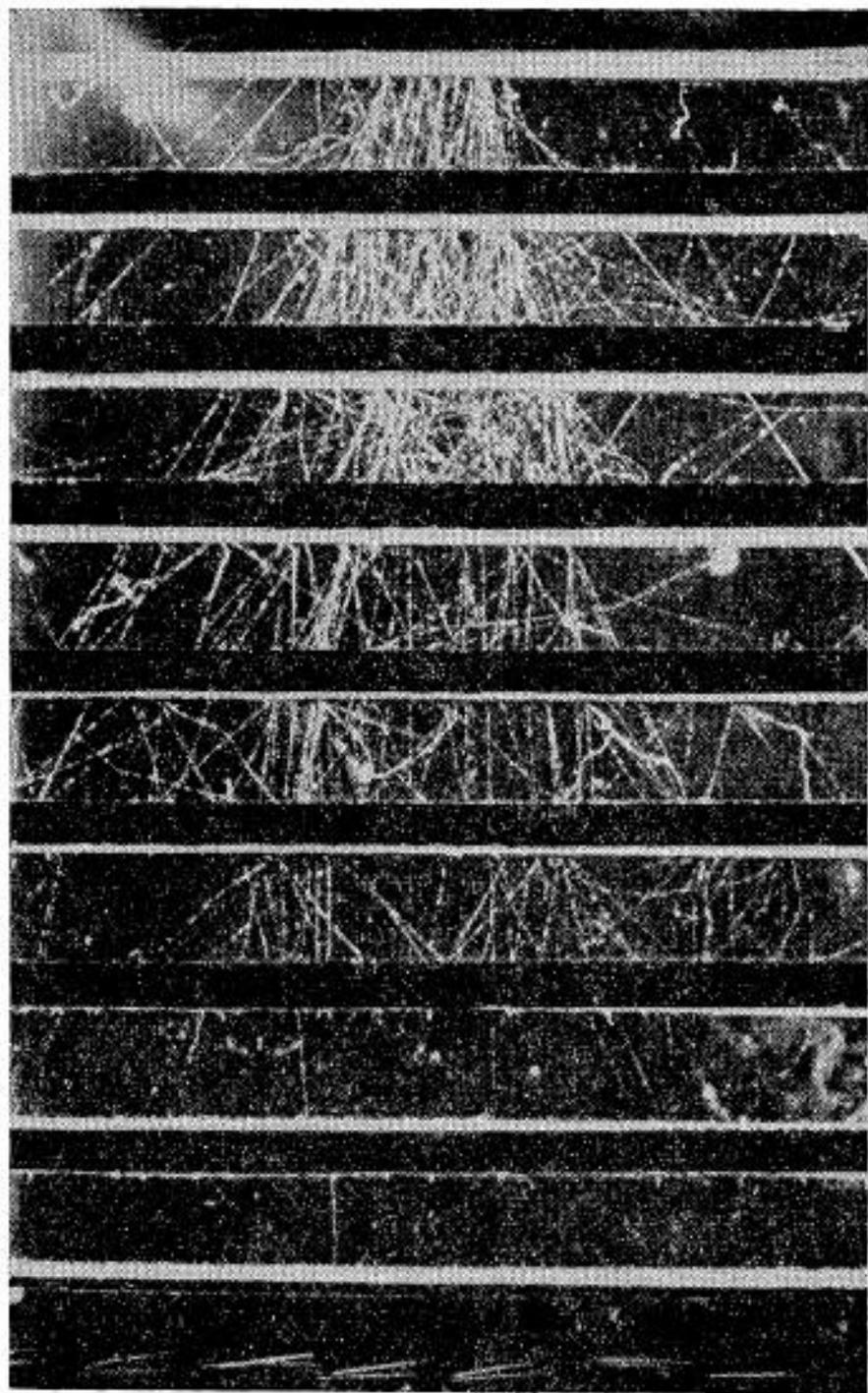


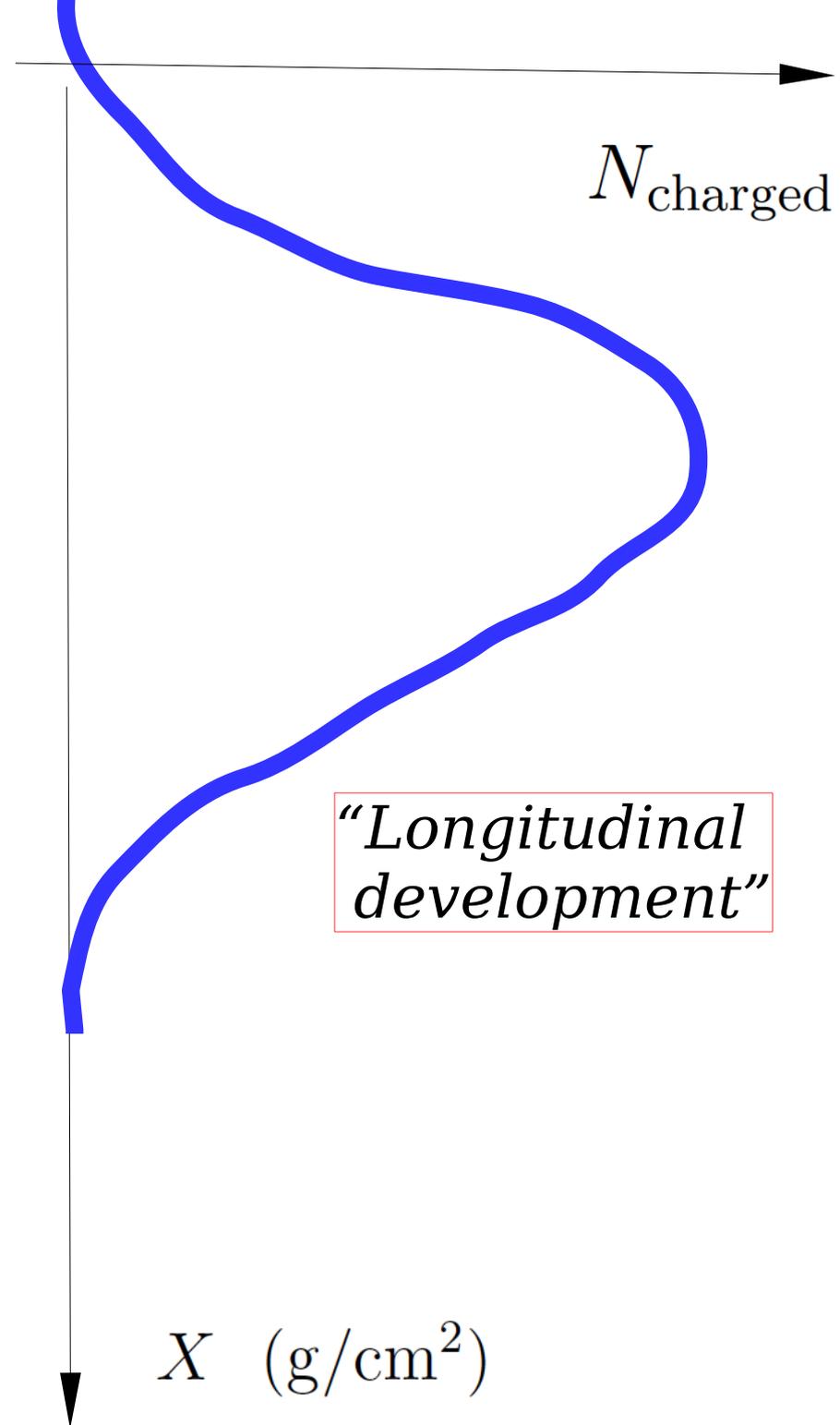
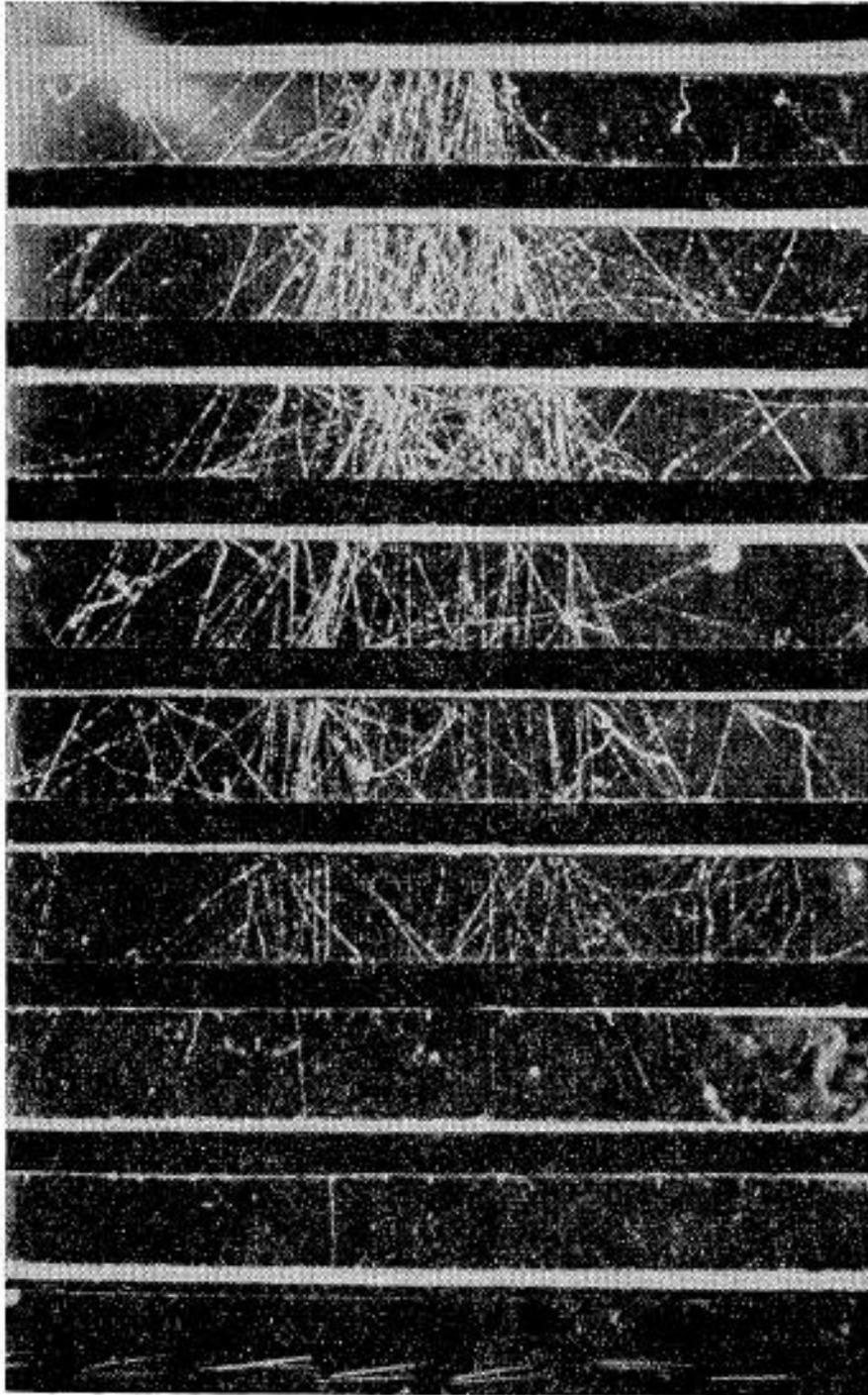
the Data

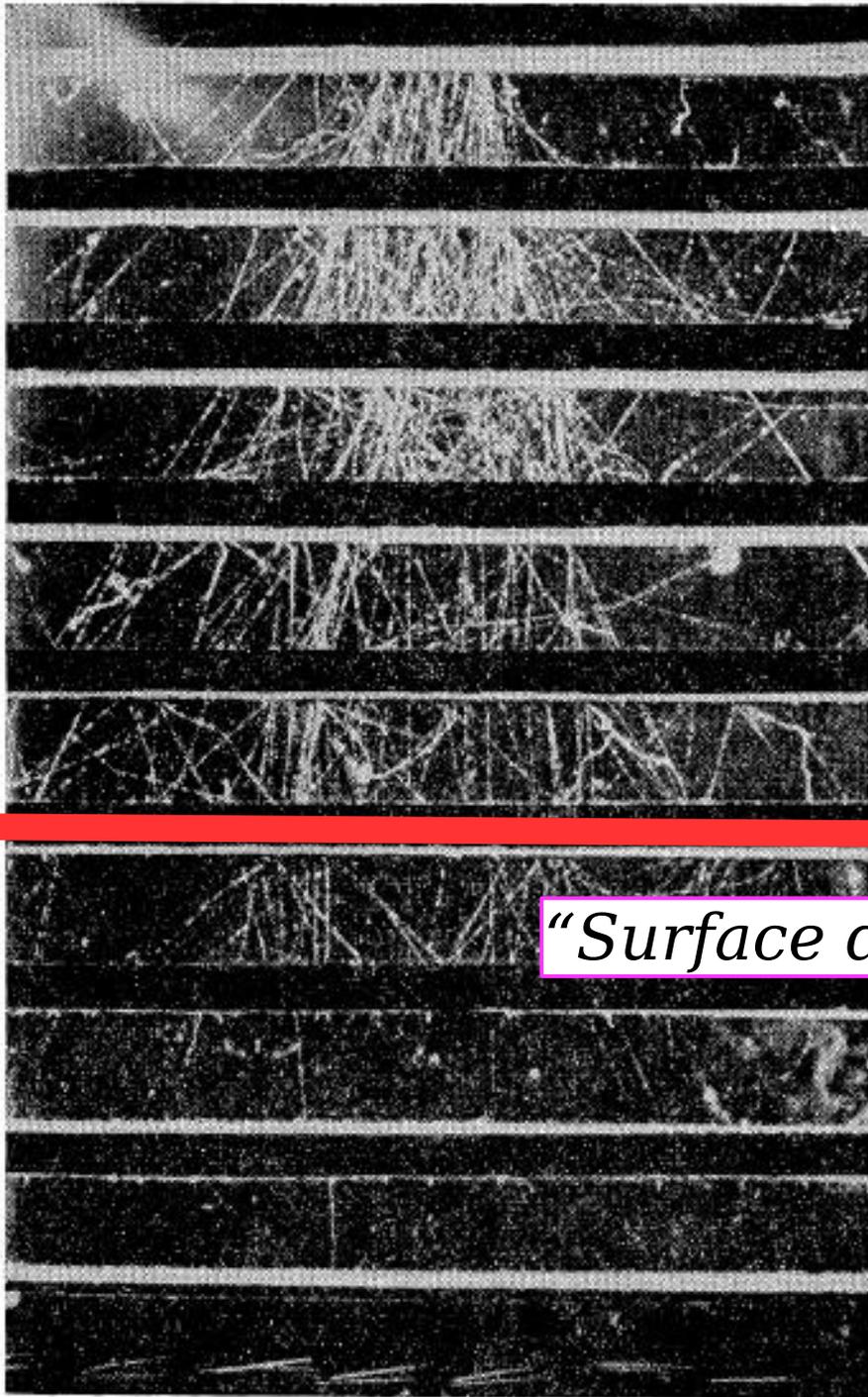




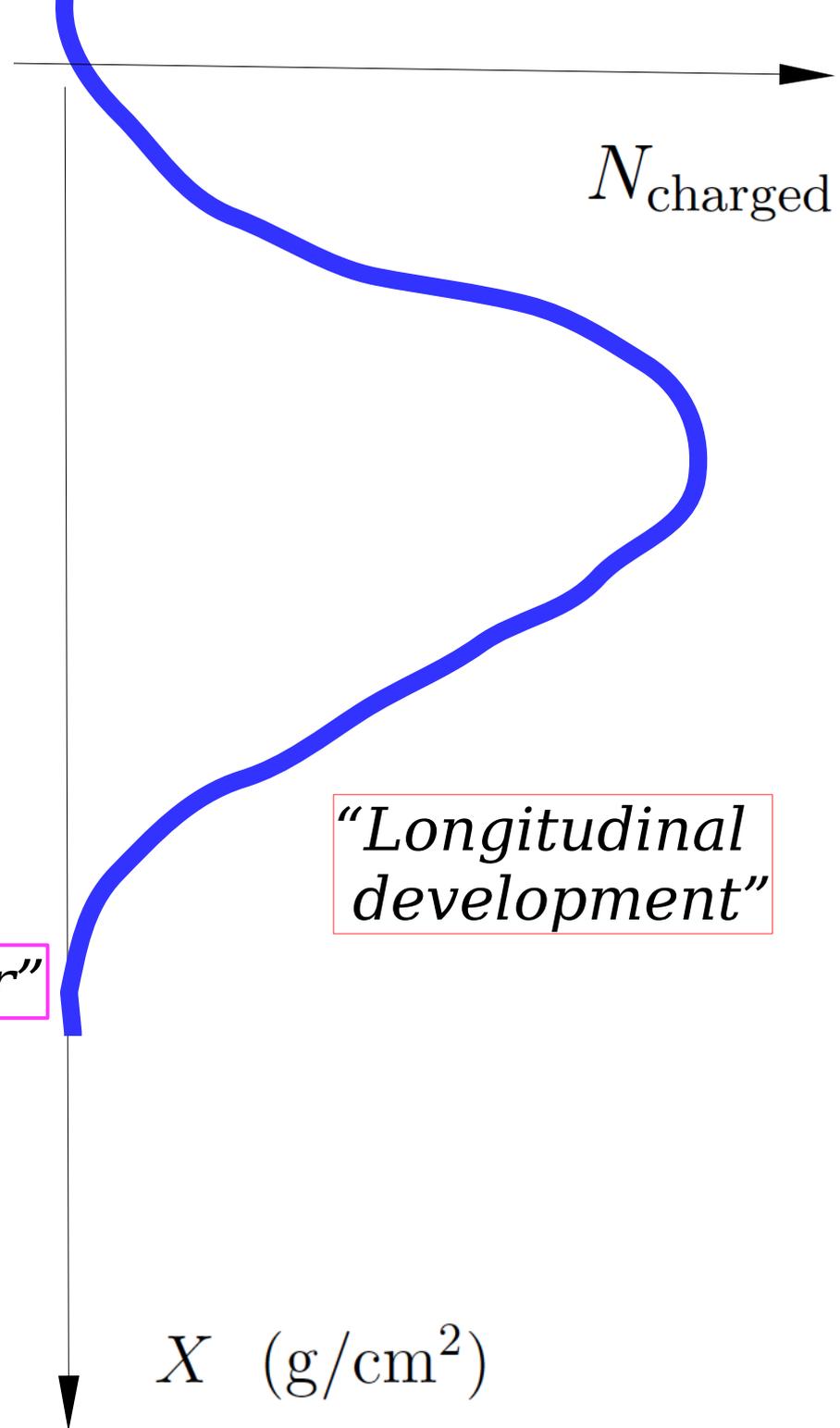
*Is it possible to
infer from the observations
information about the properties
of hadronic interactions
at energies not accessible to
accelerators ?*



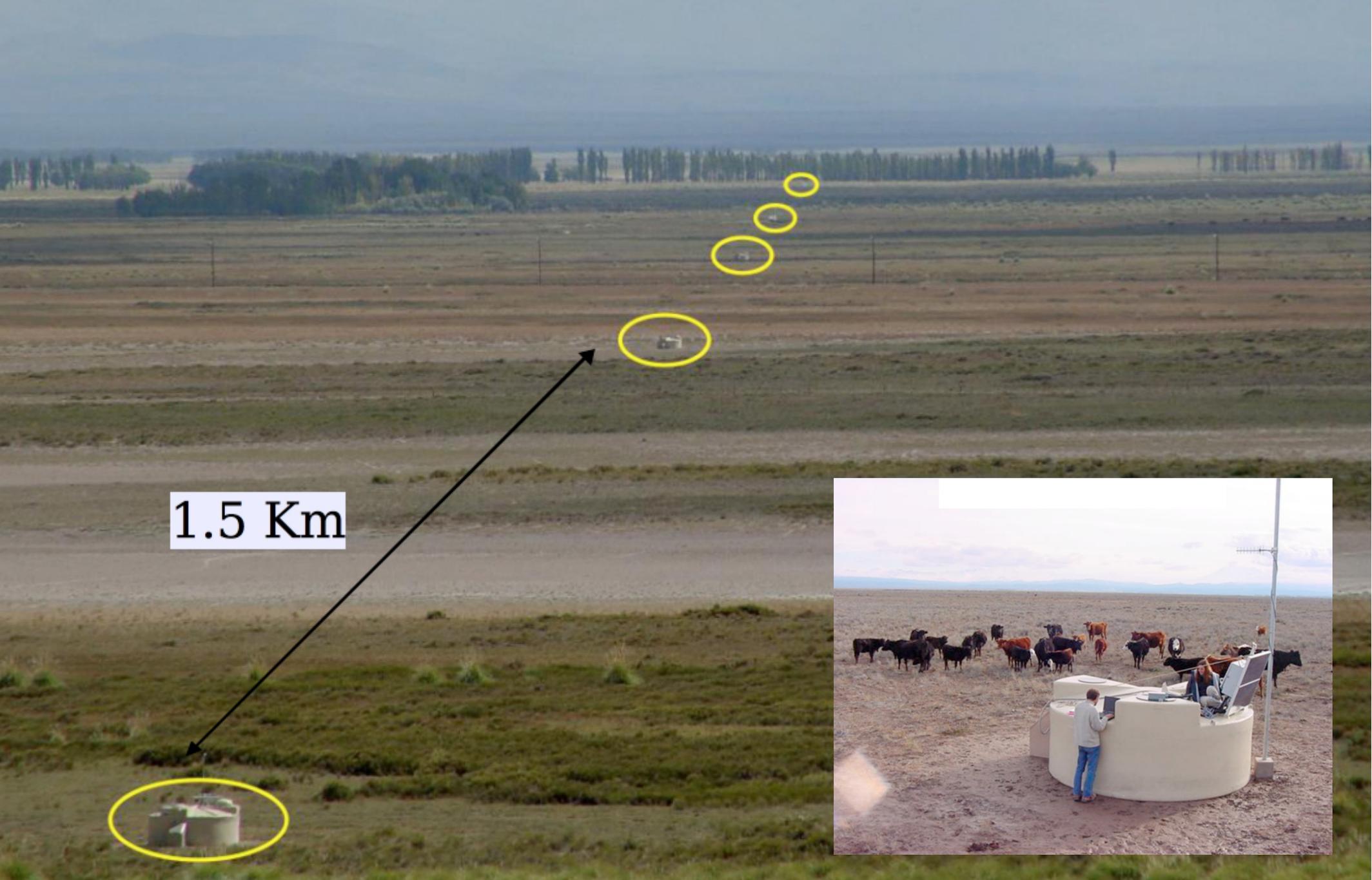




“Surface detector”



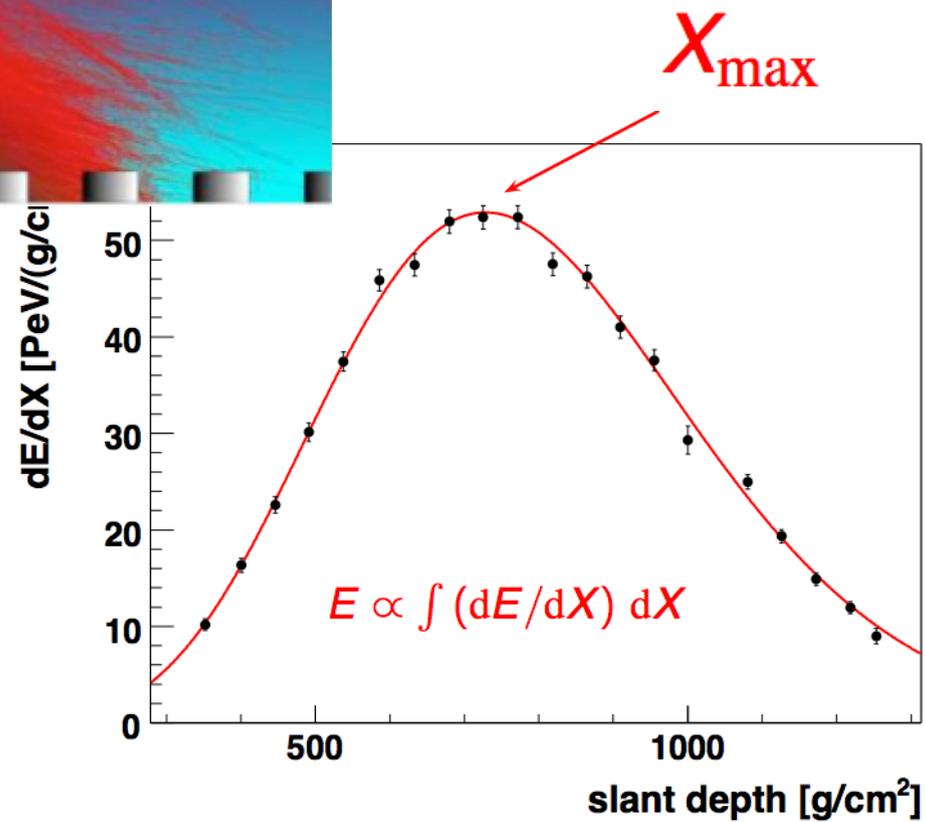
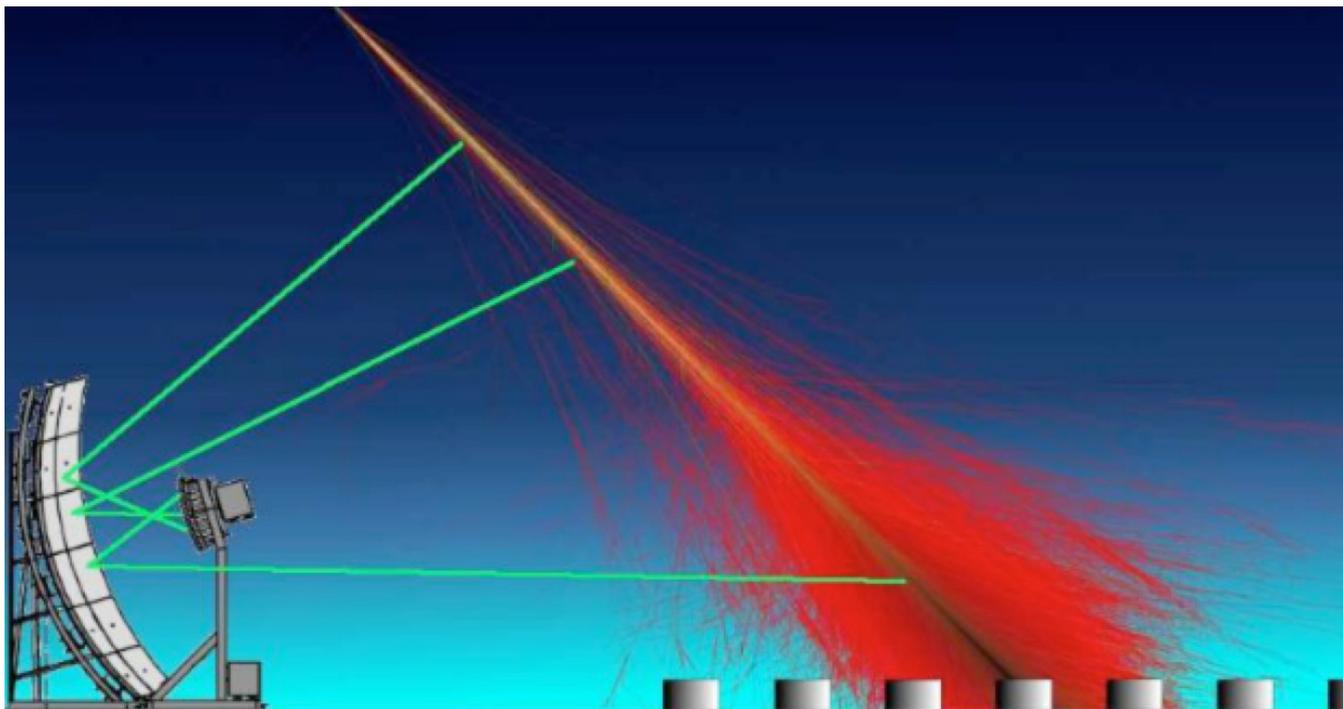
AUGER detector in ARGENTINA



1.5 Km



Longitudinal development



Start discussing a
purely **electromagnetic shower**

formed by 3 types of particles

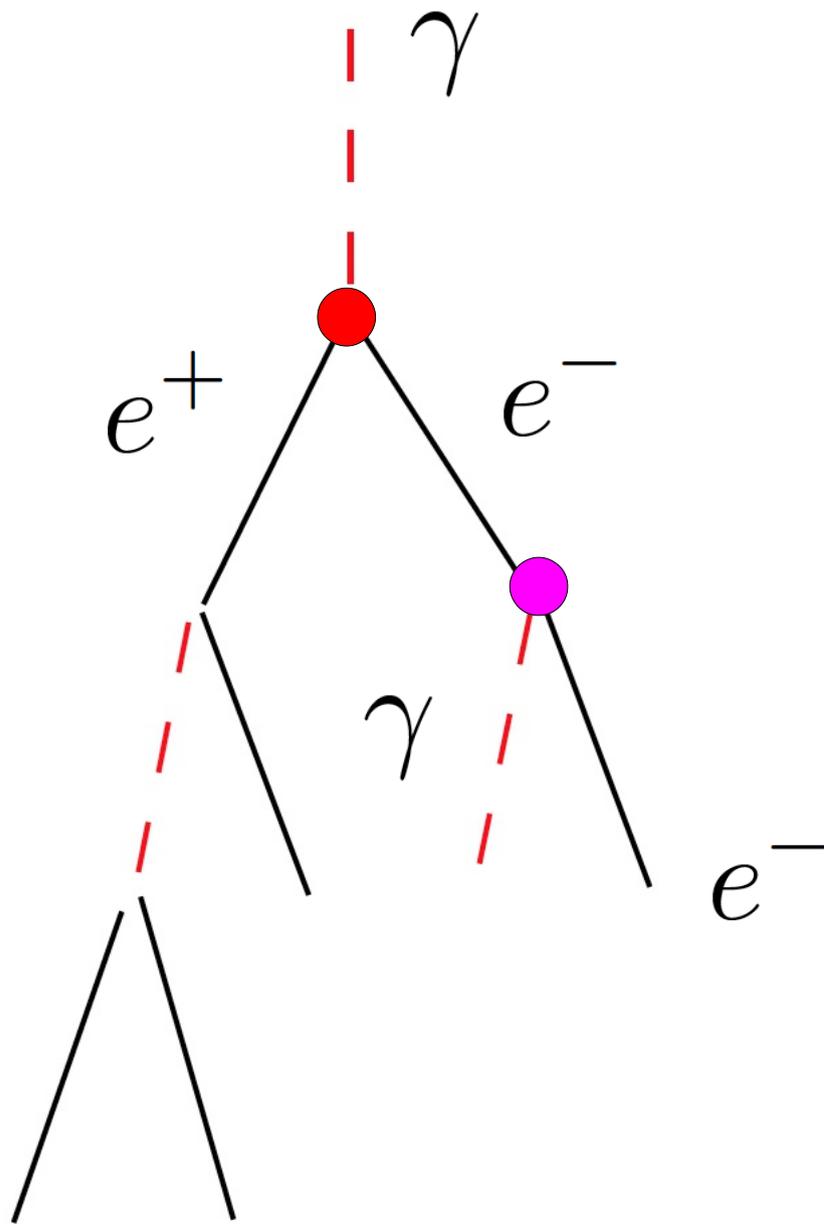
$$e^{-} e^{+} \gamma$$

(effectively 2 types)

$$e^{\mp} \gamma$$

Determined by 3 fundamental processes;

- [a] Bremsstrahlung
- [b] Pair Production
- [c] Ionization losses



Pair production

Bremsstrahlung

FUNDAMENTAL PROCESSES in QUANTUM ELECTRODYNAMICS

COMPTON SCATTERING

$$e + \gamma \rightarrow e + \gamma$$

ELECTRON-POSITRON ANNIHILATION

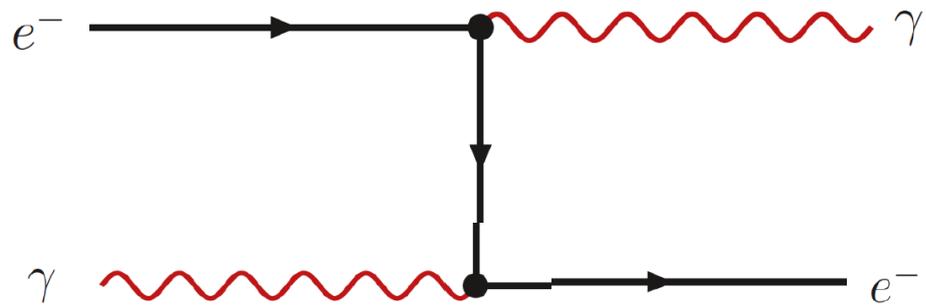
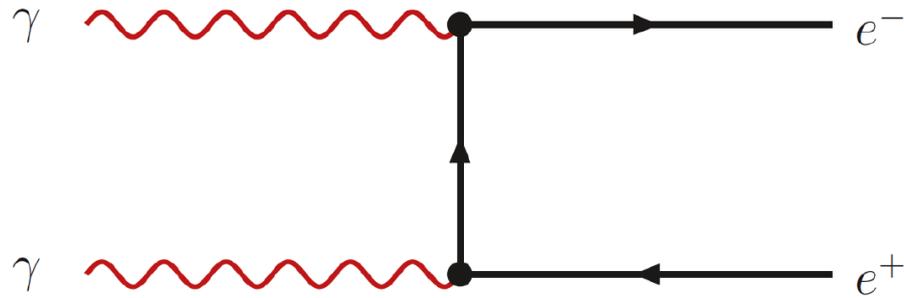
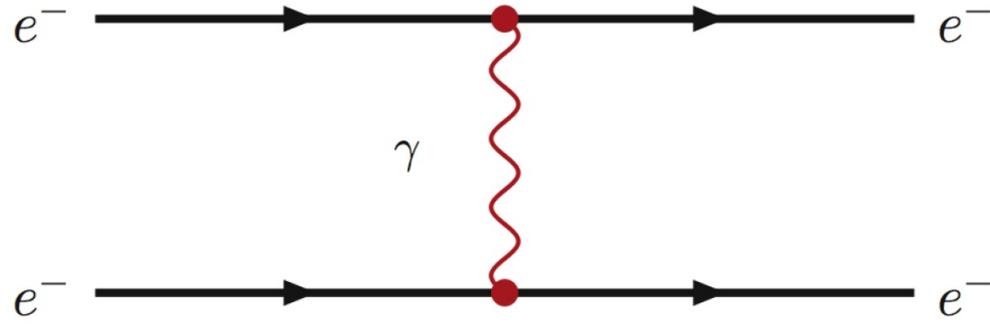
$$e^+ + e^- \rightarrow \gamma + \gamma$$

ELECTRON-POSITRON CREATION

$$\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$$



Dirac (1930)
Prediction of the
existence of the
positron



Compton scattering

$$e^{\pm} + \gamma \rightarrow e^{\pm} + \gamma$$

Elastic scattering between an electron/positron and a photon

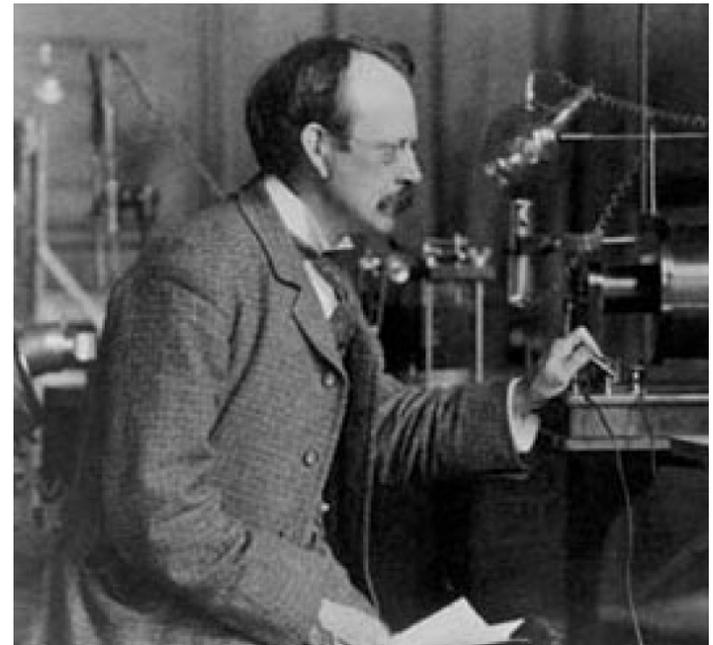
More in general the cross section for the scattering between a charged particle and a photon scales with the square the particle mass:

$$\sigma[a\gamma \rightarrow a\gamma] \propto \frac{q_a^4}{m_a^2}$$

Thomson cross section
for the electron-photon scattering
(limit for small photon energy)

$$e + \gamma \rightarrow e + \gamma$$

Can be obtained as
a classical physics result



[J.J. Thomson (1897
discovery of the electron)]

Plane wave of light incident
on an electron.

The electron accelerates because of the electric field,
and radiates energy:

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \frac{\text{Energy radiated/unit time/unit solid angle}}{\text{Incident energy flux in energy/unit area/unit time}}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{e^2}{m c^2} \right)^2 \sin^2 \Theta$$

Linearly Polarized Light

Θ (angle with respect to the polarization vector)

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left(\frac{e^2}{m c^2} \right)^2 \frac{1}{2} (1 + \cos^2 \theta)$$

Unpolarized light

θ (angle with respect to photon direction)

$$\sigma_{\text{Thomson}} = \frac{8\pi}{3} \frac{e^2}{(m_e c^2)^2} = \frac{8\pi}{3} r_0^2$$

$$\sigma_{\text{Thomson}} \simeq 6.65 \times 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2$$

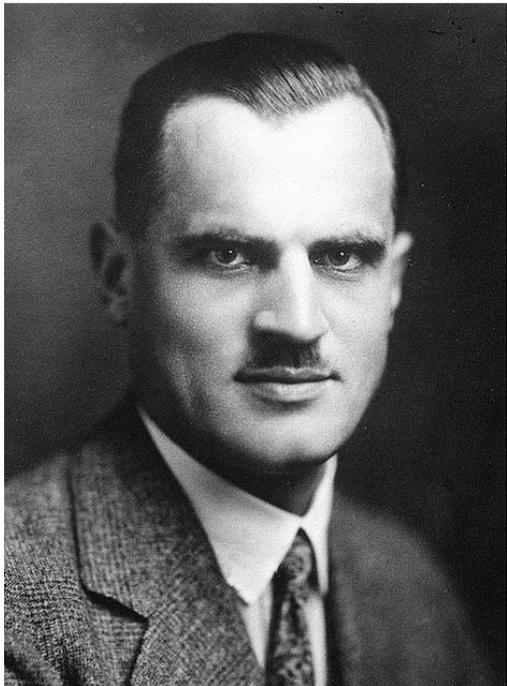
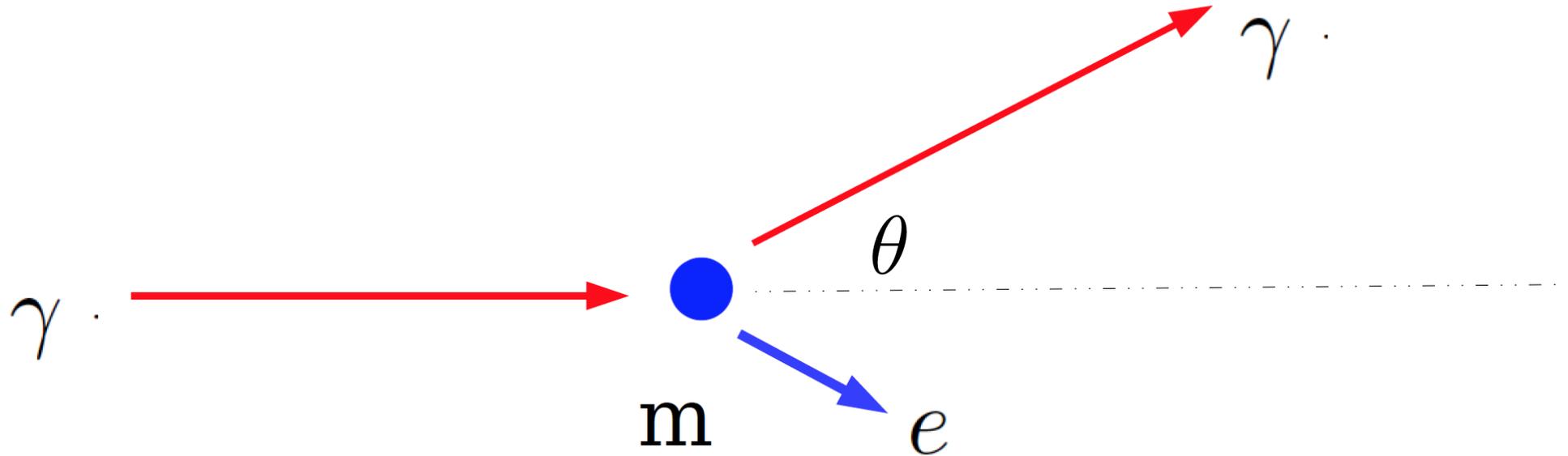
$$r_0 = \frac{e^2}{(m_e c^2)^2}$$

Electron “Classical Radius”

$$r_0 = \frac{\alpha}{m_e^2} \left(\frac{\hbar c}{c^4} \right)$$

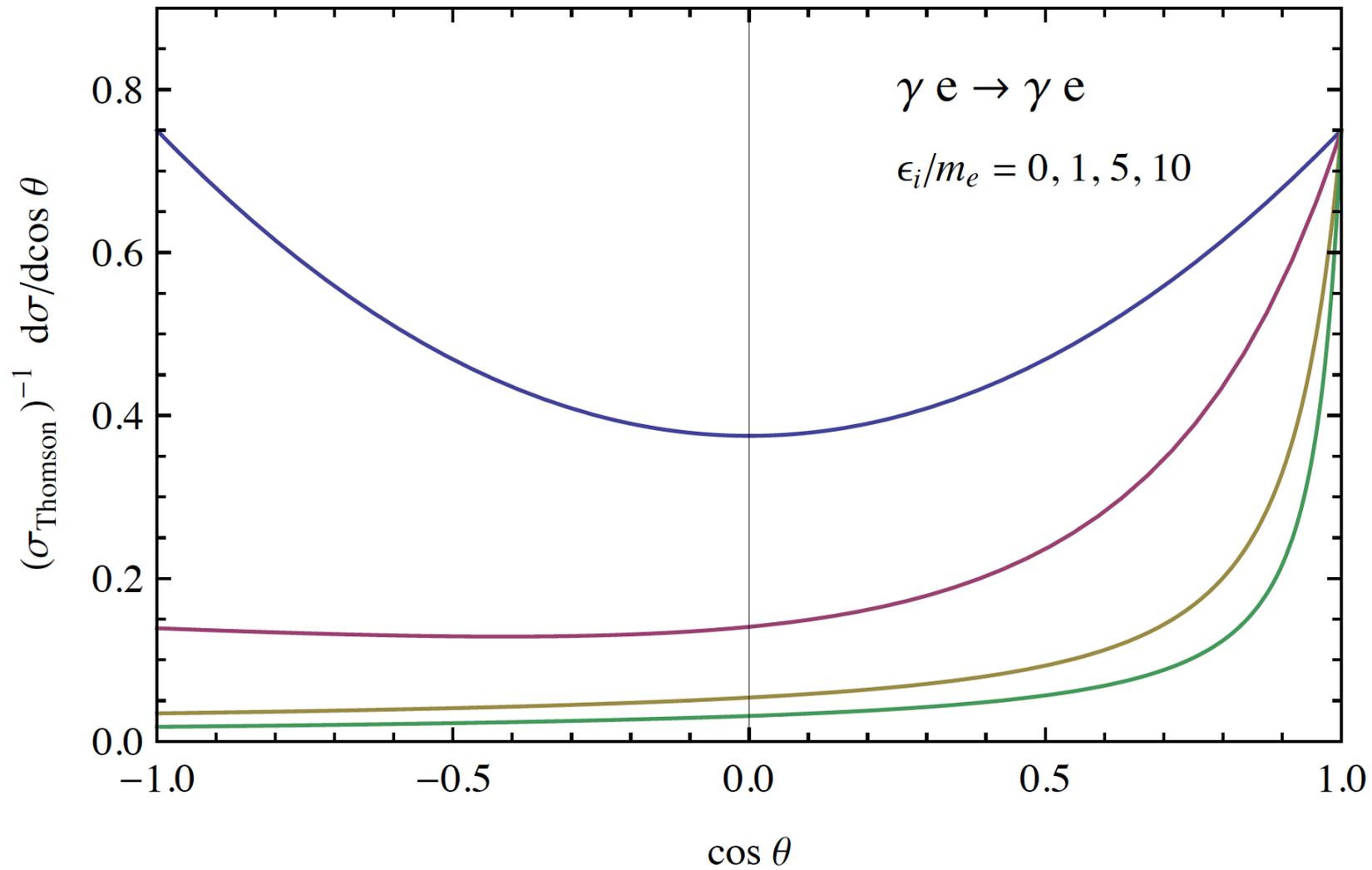
$$r_0 = 2.81 \times 10^{-13} \text{ cm}$$

scattering in
the electron rest frame



Arthur Compton experiment (1923)
measurement of the change in wavelength
of the scattered light.

$$k_f = \frac{k_i}{1 + \frac{k_i}{m_e} (1 - \cos \theta)}$$

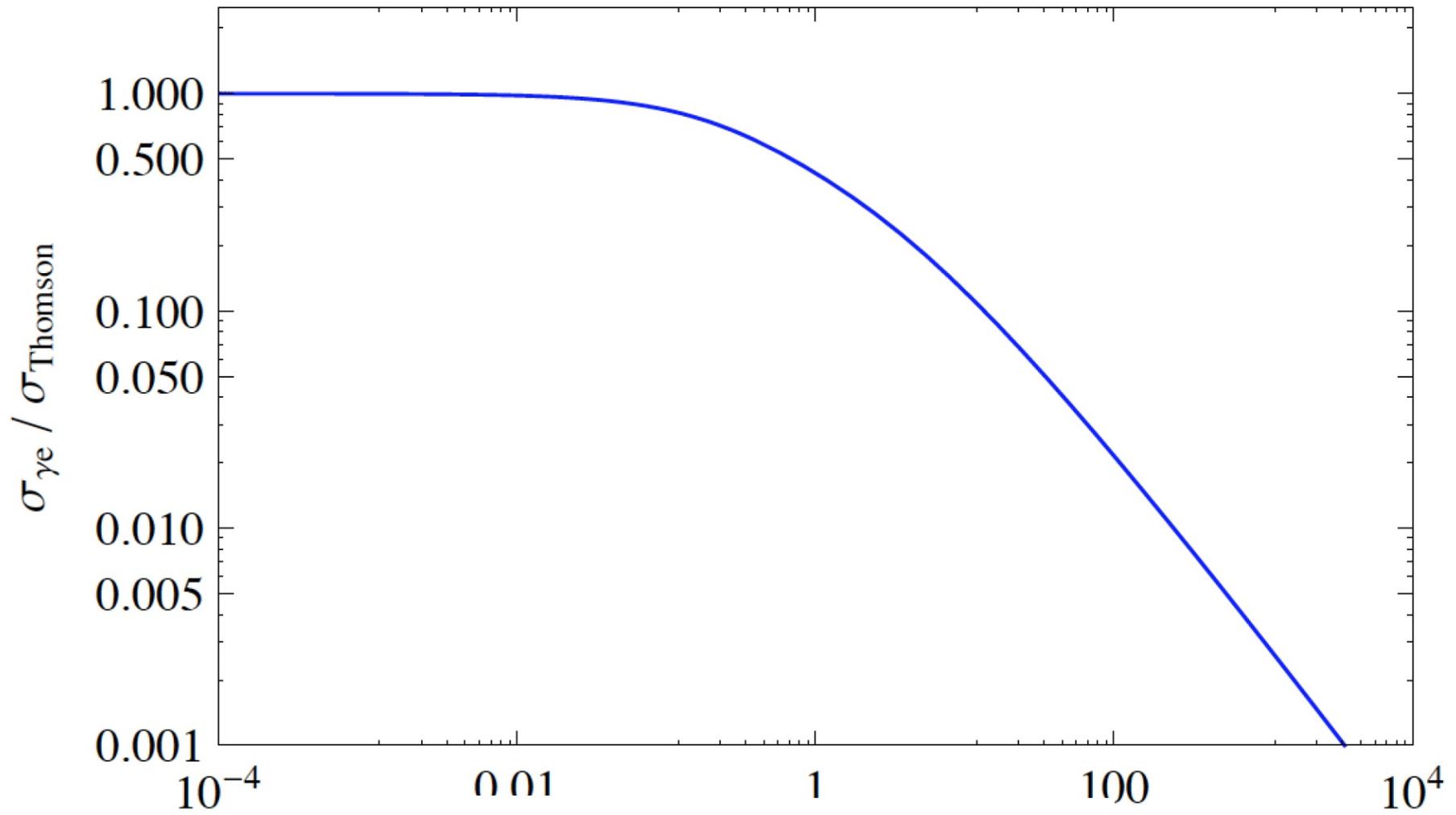


Differential cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta}(\cos\theta; \epsilon_i)$$

Compton Scattering

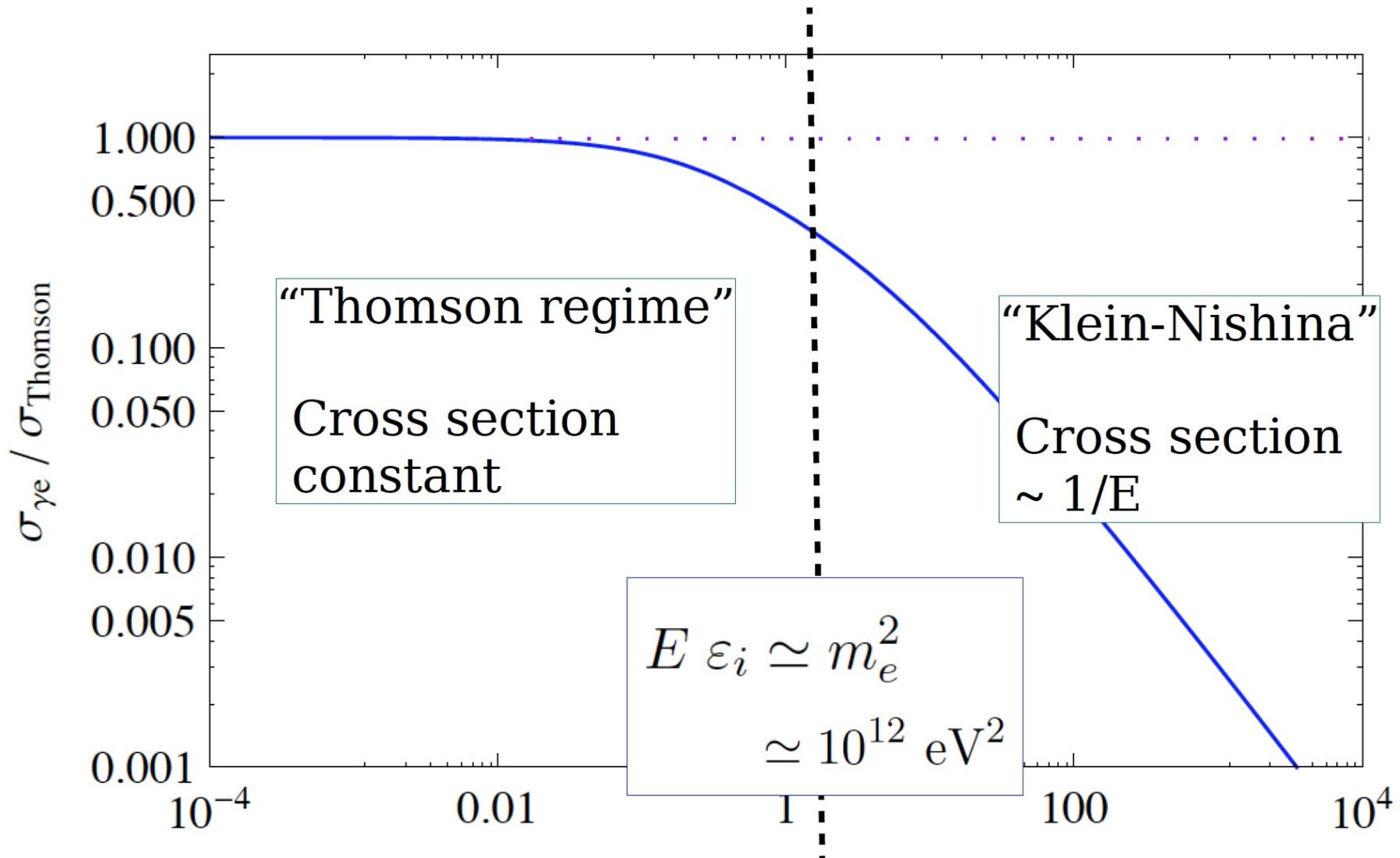
Total cross section



$$\epsilon_{\text{rest frame}} / m_e = 2 E_e \epsilon_i / m_e^2$$

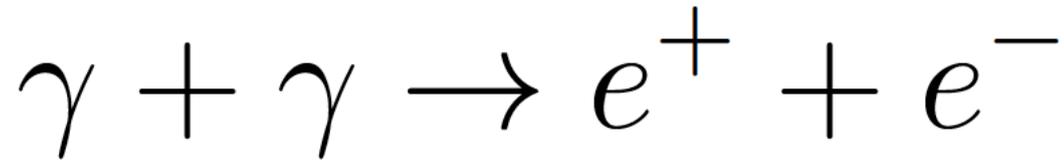
Compton Scattering

Total cross section



$$\epsilon_{\text{rest frame}} / m_e = 2 E_e \epsilon_i / m_e^2$$

Process of pair creation



Kinematical threshold for the reaction

$$s = (\text{center of mass energy})^2 \geq (2m_e)^2$$

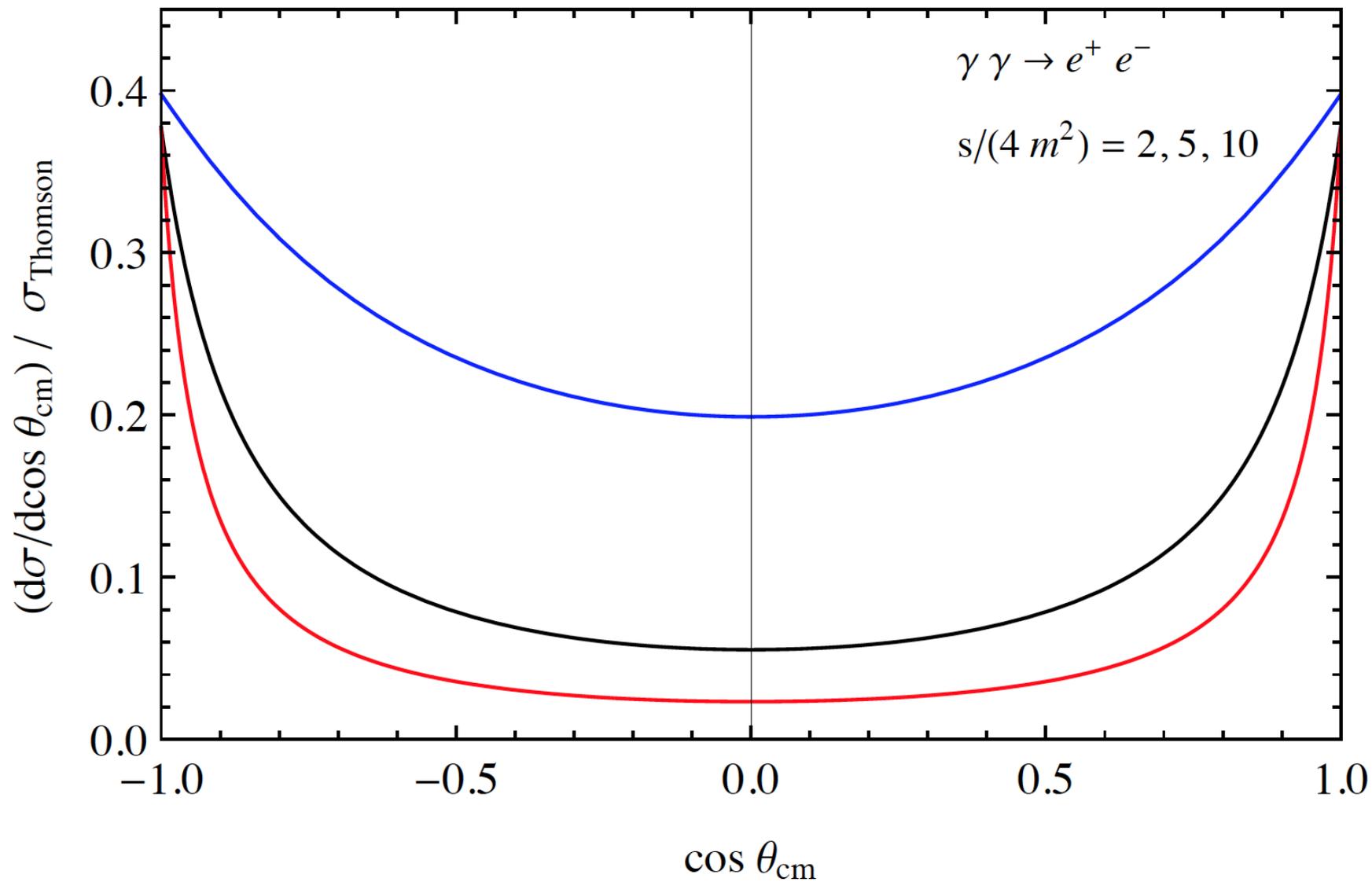
$$(k_1 + k_2)^2 \geq (2m_e)^2$$

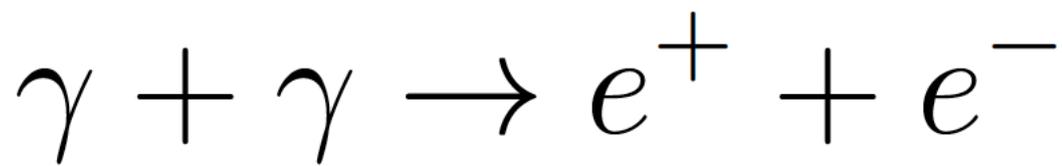
$$(E_1 + E_2)^2 - |\vec{p}_1 + \vec{p}_2|^2 \geq 4m_e^2$$

$$2E_1 E_2 (1 - \cos \theta_{12}) \geq 4m_e^2$$

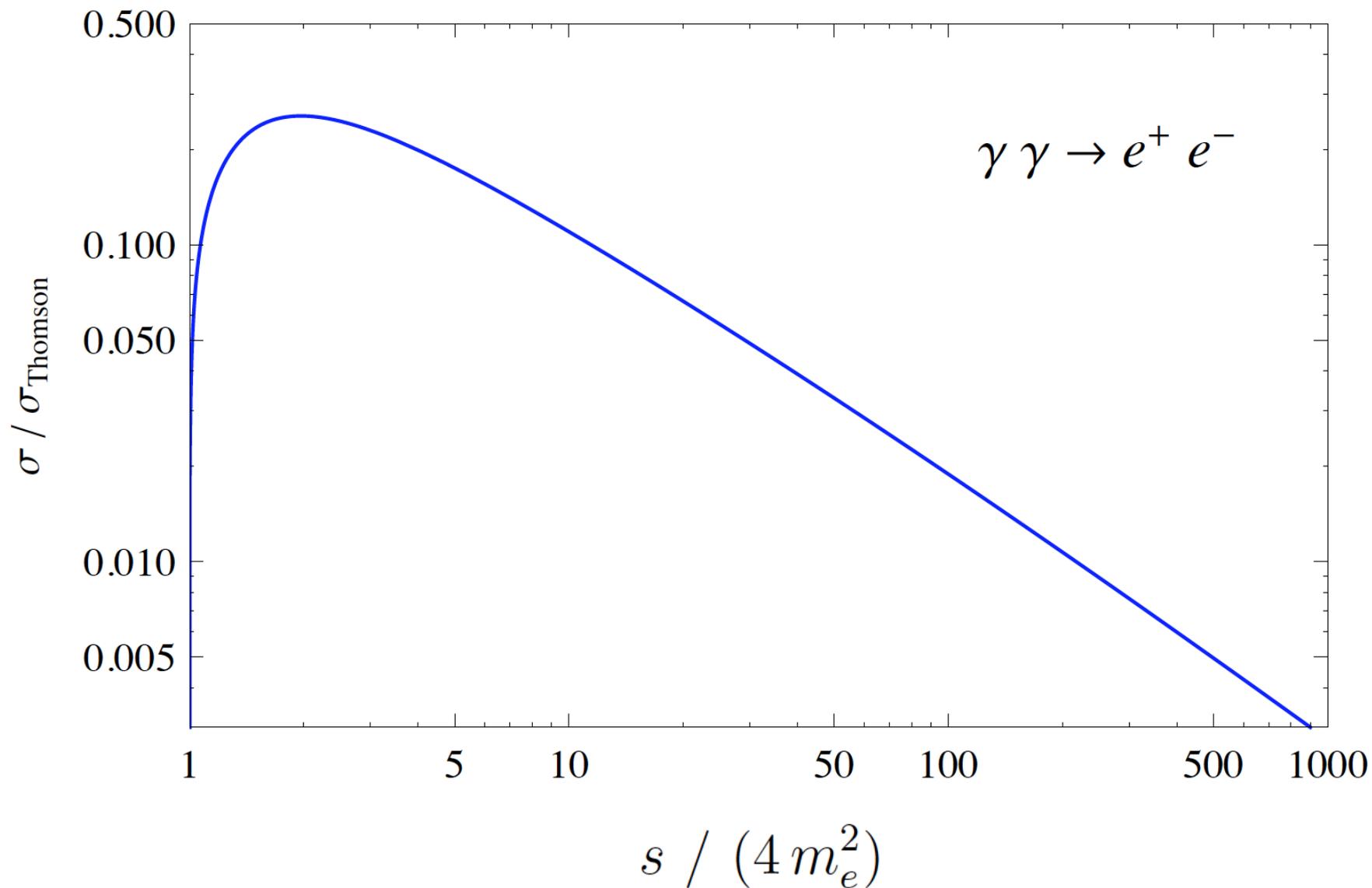
Angular distribution in the c.m. Frame

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta^*}(\cos\theta^*, s)$$

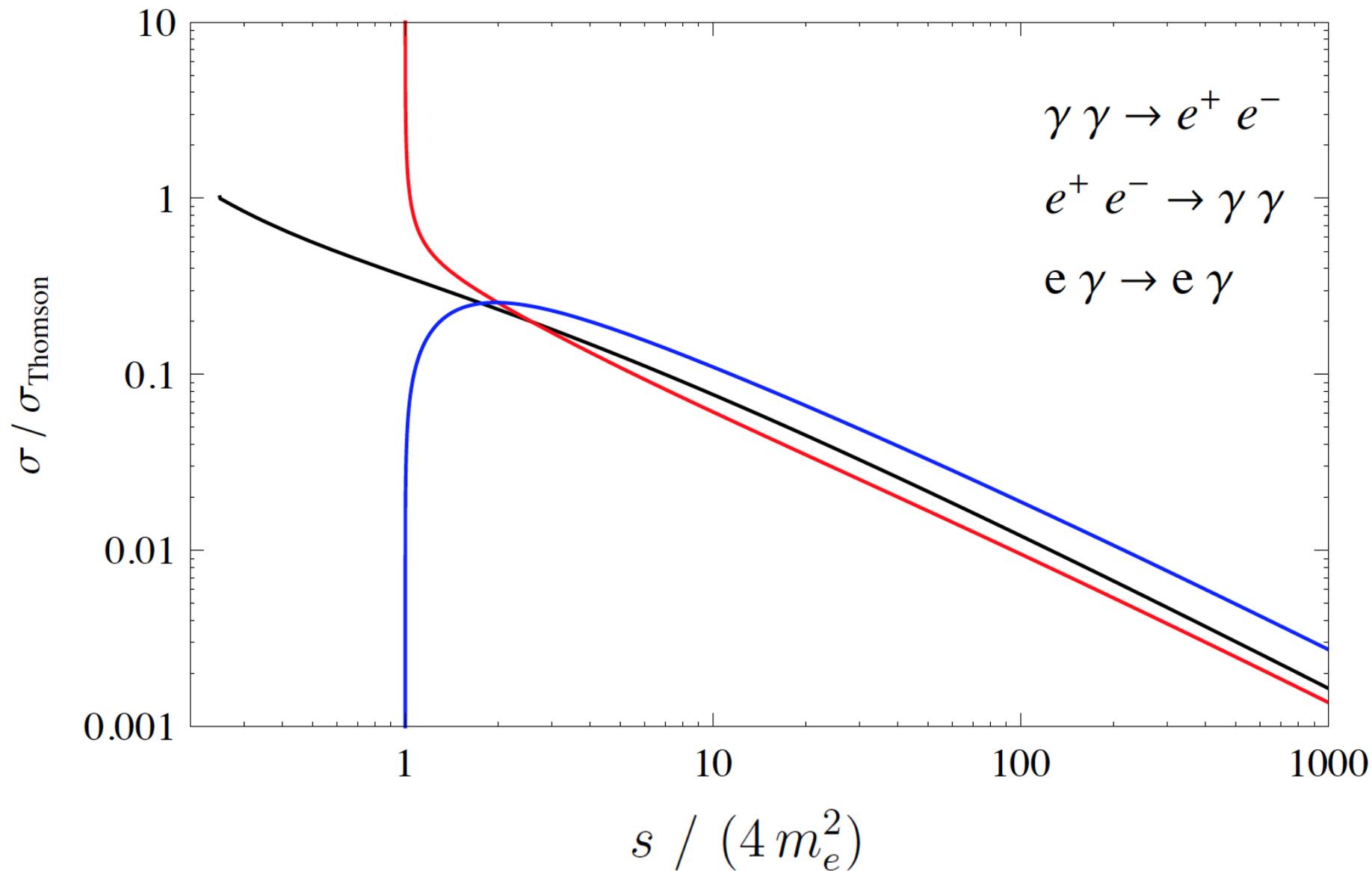




Total cross section



Cross section for three processes



Bremsstrahlung

$$e + Z \rightarrow e + \gamma + Z$$

Pair Creation

$$\gamma + Z \rightarrow e^+ + e^- + Z$$

Bremsstrahlung

$$e + Z \rightarrow e + \gamma + Z$$

$$e + \gamma_{\text{virtual}} \rightarrow e + \gamma$$

Pair Creation

$$\gamma + Z \rightarrow e^+ + e^- + Z$$

$$\gamma + \gamma_{\text{virtual}} \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$$

Bremsstrahlung

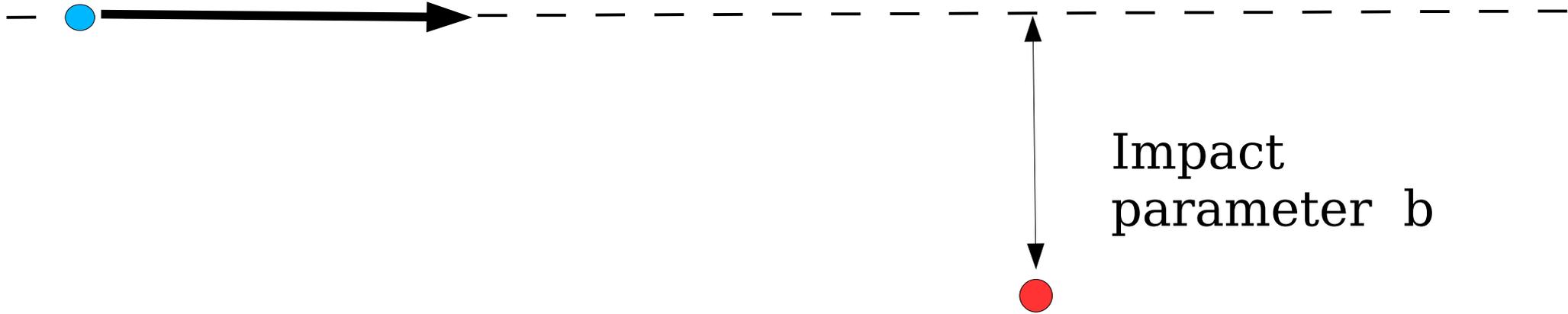
$$e + Z \rightarrow e + \gamma + Z$$

$$e + \gamma_{\text{virtual}} \rightarrow e + \gamma$$

Interaction of the electron with a “virtual photon” that form the electromagnetic field of the target nucleus.

[Chapter 15 of Jackson, “Classical electrodynamics”
Bremsstrahlung, the method of virtual quanta.]

Relativistic electron/positron
with velocity v



Impact
parameter b

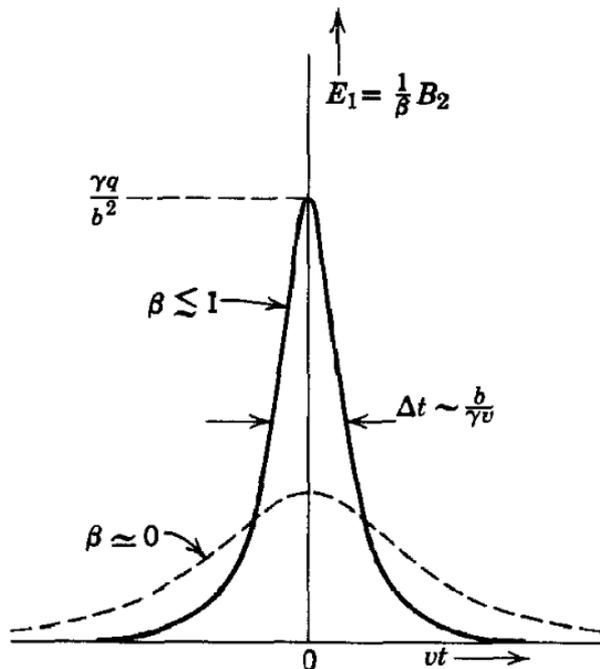
Nucleus of charge Z
at rest

The field of the nucleus can be described
as an ensemble of photons.

Obtain the varying electrical and
magnetic fields in the rest frame
of the electron

$$\vec{E}(t) \quad \vec{B}(t)$$

The observer at P , that sees a relativistic particle “zipping by” at relativistic speed ($\beta \simeq 1$, $\gamma \gg 1$) sees an electromagnetic field that is undistinguishable from an electromagnetic plane wave propagating along the z direction. \vec{E} , \vec{B} , \hat{v} mutually perpendicular.



$$E_x(t) = \frac{q b \gamma}{[b^2 + (\beta \gamma t)^2]^{3/2}}$$

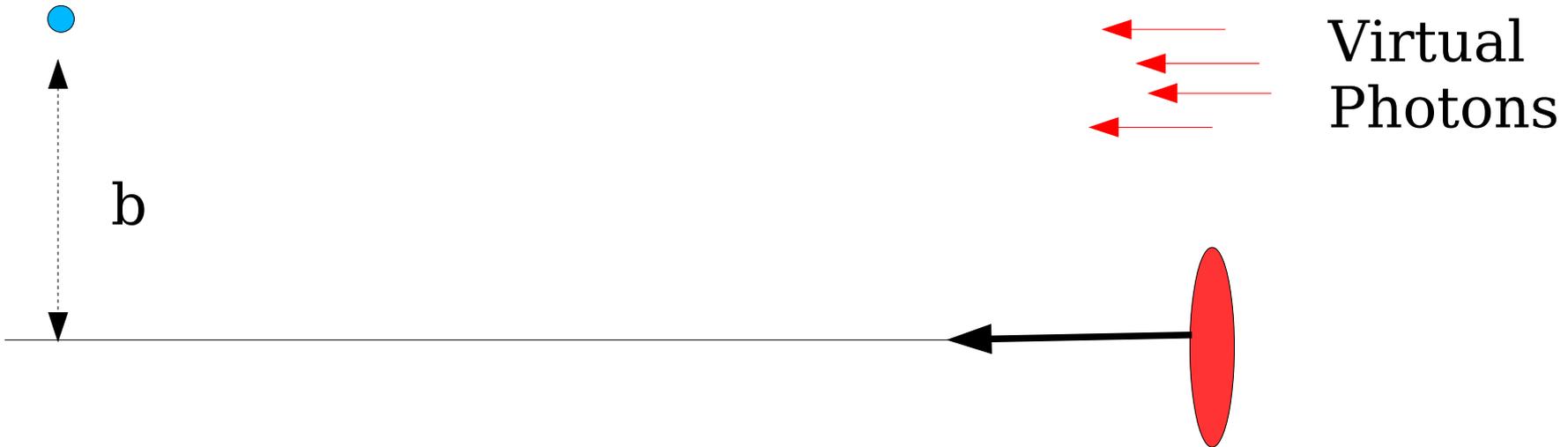
$$B_y(t) = \frac{q \beta \gamma t}{[b^2 + (\beta \gamma t)^2]^{3/2}}$$

electron/photon interaction with a nucleus.

can be seen as an interaction with an ensemble of virtual photons

$$\mathcal{E} = \hbar \omega$$

electron



Energy Fluence : Energy/(unit Area)

$$\int d\omega |E(\omega)|^2 = \int dt |E(t)|^2$$

$$|E(\omega)|^2 = \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{d\omega dA} = \frac{dN_{\gamma}^{\text{virtual}}}{d\omega dA} (\hbar \omega) \omega$$

$$\frac{dN_{\gamma}^{\text{virtual}}}{d\omega dA} = \frac{q^2}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{b^2} \frac{1}{\omega}$$

Spectrum
extends only
up a maximum value

$$\frac{dN_{\gamma}^{\text{virtual}}}{d\omega dA} \simeq 0$$

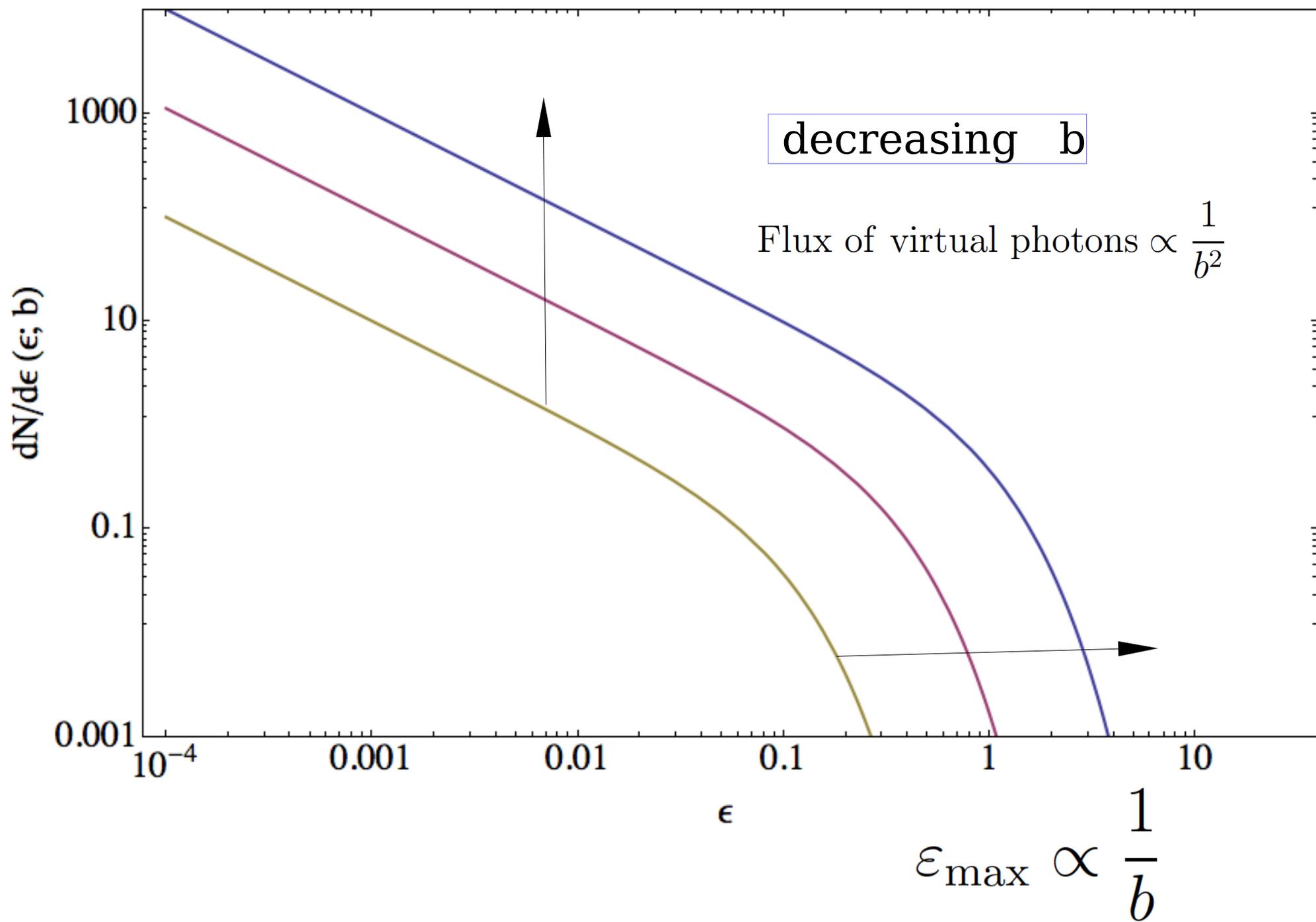
Flux of virtual photons associated with the electromagnetic field of a nucleus (virtual photons)/(unit-area unit-energy)

$$\frac{dN_{\gamma}^{\text{virtual}}}{dA d\varepsilon} = \frac{q^2}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{b^2} \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

b = impact parameter

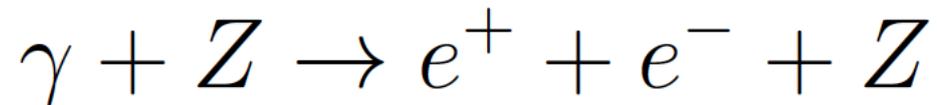
ε = energy of photon (in laboratory frame)

$$\frac{\varepsilon b}{\hbar c} \lesssim 1$$

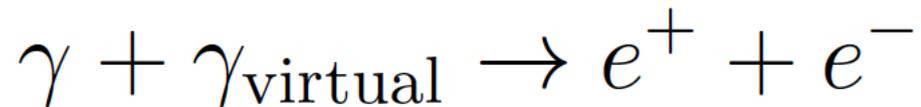


Compute the cross section for pair production:

Photon creating an electron-positron pair
in the field of a nucleus



The process can be seen as the pair creation
of the incident photon with a virtual photon (of the nucleus field).



Calculation of the cross section:

integrate over impact parameter, and the virtual photon energy

$$\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+ e^-}(E_\gamma) = \int d^2b \int d\varepsilon \left[\frac{dN_\gamma^{\text{virtual}}}{d^2b d\varepsilon} \right] \sigma_{\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+ e^-}(\hat{s})$$

Calculation of the cross section:
integrate over impact parameter, and the virtual photon
energy

$$\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+ e^-}(E_\gamma) = \int d^2 b \int d\varepsilon \left[\frac{dN_\gamma^{\text{virtual}}}{d^2 b d\varepsilon} \right] \sigma_{\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+ e^-}(\hat{s})$$

\hat{s} = c.m energy of the photon-photon interaction

$$= (p_\gamma + p_{\gamma^*})^2 = 4 E_\gamma \varepsilon$$

$$\int d^2b \frac{1}{b^2} \times [\dots]$$

Integration
over impact parameter

$$(2\pi) \int_{b_{\min}}^{b_{\max}} db \, b \frac{1}{b^2} \times [\dots]$$

$$(2\pi) \log \left(\frac{b_{\max}}{b_{\min}} \right) \times [\dots]$$

What are b_{\max} and b_{\min} ?

b_{\min} is determined by Quantum mechanics and the indetermination principle:

$$\Delta x \Delta p \lesssim \hbar$$

$$b (m_e c) \lesssim \hbar$$

$$b_{\min} = \frac{\hbar}{m_e c}$$

What are b_{\max} and b_{\min} ?

b_{\max}

For a fully ionized nucleus depends on the energy of the virtual photon

ε

$$\frac{\varepsilon b}{\hbar c} \leq 1 \quad b_{\max} \simeq \frac{\hbar c}{\varepsilon}$$

For a nucleus in an atom must also be smaller than the size of the atom

$$b_{\max} \leq R_{\text{atom}}$$

$$R_{\text{hydrogen}} \simeq a_{\text{Bohr}} = \frac{\hbar^2}{m_e e^2}$$

$$R_{\text{atom}} \approx \frac{\hbar}{m_e c} 183 Z^{-1/3} \quad \text{Atom of Thomas-Fermi}$$

$$b_{\text{max}} = \min \left[\frac{\hbar c}{\varepsilon}, R_{\text{atom}} \right]$$

“Full screening approximation”

$$\ln \left(\frac{b_{\text{max}}}{b_{\text{min}}} \right) \simeq \ln 183 Z^{-1/3}$$

Total Pair Production Cross section

$$\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}(K) = \int d^2b \int d\varepsilon \frac{dN_{\gamma}^{\text{virtual}}}{dA d\omega} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}(\hat{s})$$

$$\frac{dN_{\gamma}^{\text{virtual}}}{dA d\varepsilon} = \frac{q^2}{\pi^2} \frac{1}{b^2} \frac{1}{\varepsilon}$$

$$\hat{s} = 4K\varepsilon$$

$$\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}(K) = \frac{\alpha Z^2}{\pi^2} \left[(2\pi) \int_{b_{\min}}^{b_{\max}} \frac{db}{b} \right]$$

$$\int_{4m^2/K}^{\infty} \frac{d\varepsilon}{\varepsilon} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(4K\varepsilon)$$

$$\frac{2\alpha Z^2}{\pi} \log \left[\frac{b_{\max}}{b_{\min}} \right] \int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{s} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(s)$$

$$\int_{4m^2}^{\infty} \frac{ds}{s} \sigma_{\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}(s) = (2\pi r_0^2) \frac{7}{9}$$

$$\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}(K) = \frac{2\alpha Z^2}{\pi} \log \left[\frac{b_{\max}}{b_{\min}} \right] (2\pi r_0^2) \frac{7}{9}$$

Cross section is *constant*

Cross section for pair production for an average nucleus in air

$$\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}^{\text{air}} \simeq 5.0 \times 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2$$

Interaction length of a photon in air

$$\lambda_{\text{pair}} \simeq \frac{\langle m \rangle}{\sigma_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-}^{\text{air}}} \simeq 47 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^2}$$

$$N_{\gamma}(X) = N(0) e^{-X/\lambda_{\text{pair}}}$$

Attenuation of
a photon beam
(X = column density)

$$\sigma[e \rightarrow e\gamma] \rightarrow \infty$$

Bremsstrahlung
cross section

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{dE_\gamma} \right|_{e \rightarrow e\gamma} (E_\gamma, E_e) = \text{finite}$$

diverges only
for $E_\gamma \rightarrow 0$

$$\propto E_\gamma^{-1}$$

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{dv} \right|_{e \rightarrow e\gamma} (v) = \text{finite}$$

$$v = \frac{E_\gamma}{E_e}$$

Independent from
the electron energy !

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{brems}}}{dv}(v, E_e) = \int_{\varepsilon_{\min}(v, E_e)}^{\infty} d\varepsilon [\dots]$$

$$v = \frac{E_\gamma}{E_e}$$

$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{pair}}}{du}(u, E_\gamma) = \int_{\varepsilon_{\min}(u, E_e)}^{\infty} d\varepsilon [\dots]$$

$$u = \frac{E_{e^+}}{E_\gamma}$$

$$\varepsilon_{\min}(v, E_e) = \frac{m^2}{4 E_e} \frac{v}{1 - v}$$

$$\varepsilon_{\min}(u, E_\gamma) = \frac{m^2}{4 E_e u(1 - u)}$$

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dX} \right|_{\text{brems}} = \frac{N_A}{A} \int dE_\gamma E_\gamma \frac{d\sigma}{dE_\gamma}(E_\gamma, E_e)$$

$$\frac{dE}{dX} = \left\{ \frac{N_A}{A} \int_0^1 dv v \frac{d\sigma}{dv}(v) \right\} E = \frac{E}{\lambda_{\text{rad}}}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{rad}} = \frac{N_A}{A} 4 \alpha r_0^2 \left\{ \ln[183 Z^{-1/3}] + \frac{1}{18} \right\}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{rad}} = \frac{N_A}{A} 4 \alpha r_0^2 \ln[183 Z^{-1/3}]$$

Radiation
Length

Physical Meaning of the “Radiation Length”

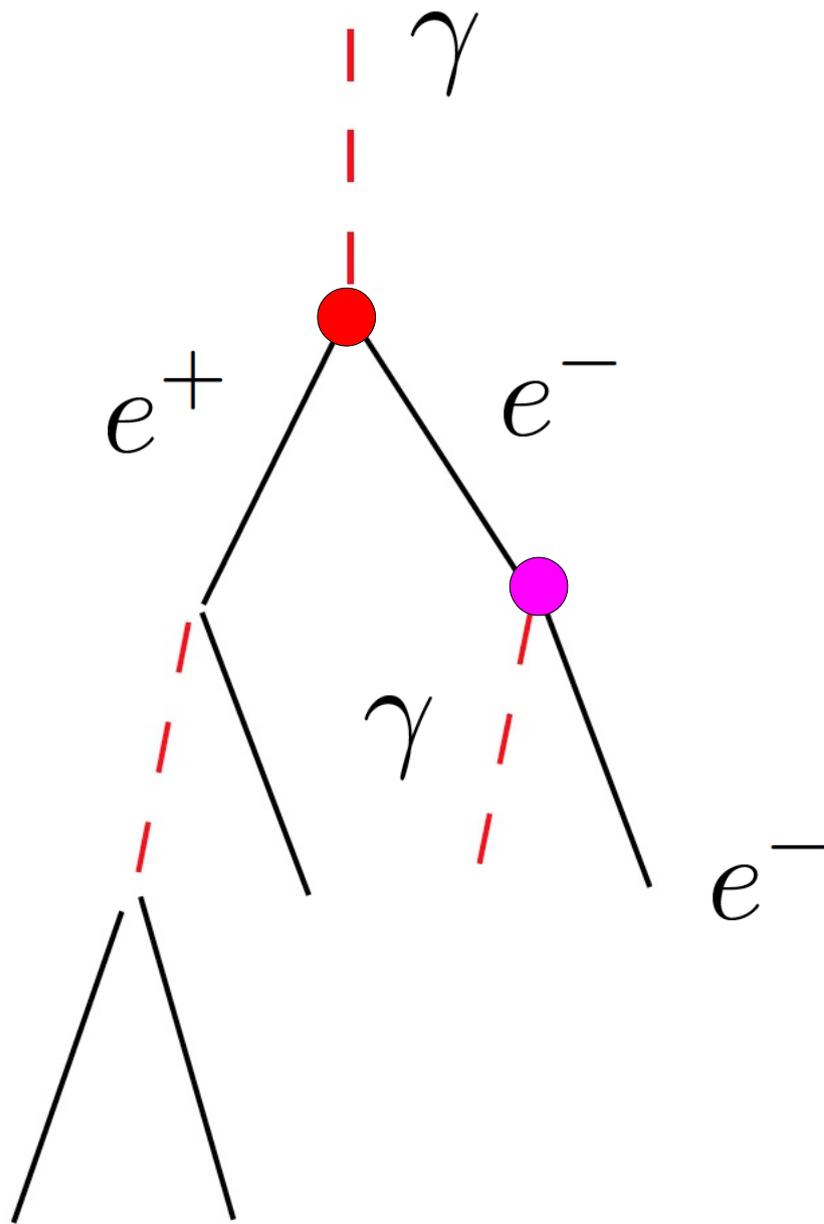
$$\langle E_e(X) \rangle = E_e(0) e^{-X/\lambda_{\text{rad}}}$$

Physical Meaning of the “Pair Length”

$$N_\gamma(X) = N(0) e^{-X/\lambda_{\text{pair}}}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{rad}}^{\text{air}} \simeq 37 \frac{\text{g}}{\text{cm}^2}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{pair}} \simeq \frac{9}{7} \lambda_{\text{rad}}$$



$$\psi(u)$$

Pair production

$$\varphi(v)$$

Bremsstrahlung

BREMSSTRAHLUNG

$$v = \frac{E_\gamma}{E_e}$$

Fully ionized free nucleus (approximation
of target infinite mass)

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{e \rightarrow e+\gamma} (v; E) = 4 Z^2 \alpha r_0^2$$

$$\frac{1}{v} \left[1 + (1 - v^2) - \frac{2}{3}(1 - v) \right] \left[\ln \left(\frac{2 E}{m} \frac{v}{1 - v} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

High Energy Limit (Full screening)

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{e \rightarrow e+\gamma} (v; E) = 4 Z^2 \alpha r_0^2$$

$$\frac{1}{v} \left\{ \left[1 + (1 - v^2) - \frac{2}{3}(1 - v) \right] \ln \left(183 Z^{-1/3} \right) + \frac{1}{9}(1 - v) \right\}$$

PAIR PRODUCTION

$$u = \frac{E_{e^+}}{E_\gamma}$$

Fully ionized free nucleus (approximation of target infinite mass)

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{du} \right|_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-} (u; K) = 4 Z^2 \alpha r_0^2 \left[u^2 + (1-u)^2 + \frac{2}{3}u(1-u) \right] \left[\ln \left(\frac{2K}{m} u(1-u) \right) - \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

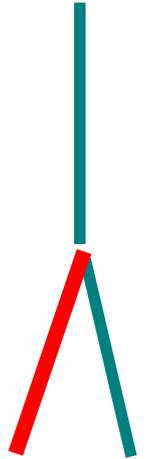
High Energy Limit (Full screening)

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{du} \right|_{\gamma \rightarrow e^+e^-} (u; K) = 4 Z^2 \alpha r_0^2 \left\{ \left[u^2 + (1-u)^2 + \frac{2}{3}u(1-u) \right] \ln \left(183 Z^{-1/3} \right) - \frac{1}{9}u(1-u) \right\}$$

The “SPLITTING FUNCTIONS”

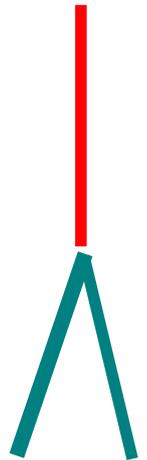
$$\varphi(v) = \left[\frac{d\sigma}{dv}(v) \right]_{\text{brems}} \left(\frac{N_A}{A} \lambda_{\text{rad}} \right)$$

$$\varphi(v) = \frac{1}{v} \left[1 - \left(\frac{2}{3} - 2b \right) (1-v) + (1-v)^2 \right]$$



$$\psi(u) = \left[\frac{d\sigma}{du}(u) \right]_{\text{pair}} \left(\frac{N_A}{A} \lambda_{\text{rad}} \right)$$

$$\psi(u) = (1-u)^2 + \left(\frac{2}{3} - 2b \right) (1-u) u + u^2$$



Introduce a correction parameter b
[nothing to do with the impact parameter]

$$b \simeq \frac{1}{18 \log(183 Z^{-1/3})}$$

$$b \simeq 0.0135 \quad (\text{for air})$$

$$\sigma_0 = \int_0^1 du \psi(u) = \frac{7}{9} - \frac{b}{3}$$

$$\int_0^1 dv v \varphi(v) = 1 + b$$

$$\varphi(v) \, dv \, dt$$

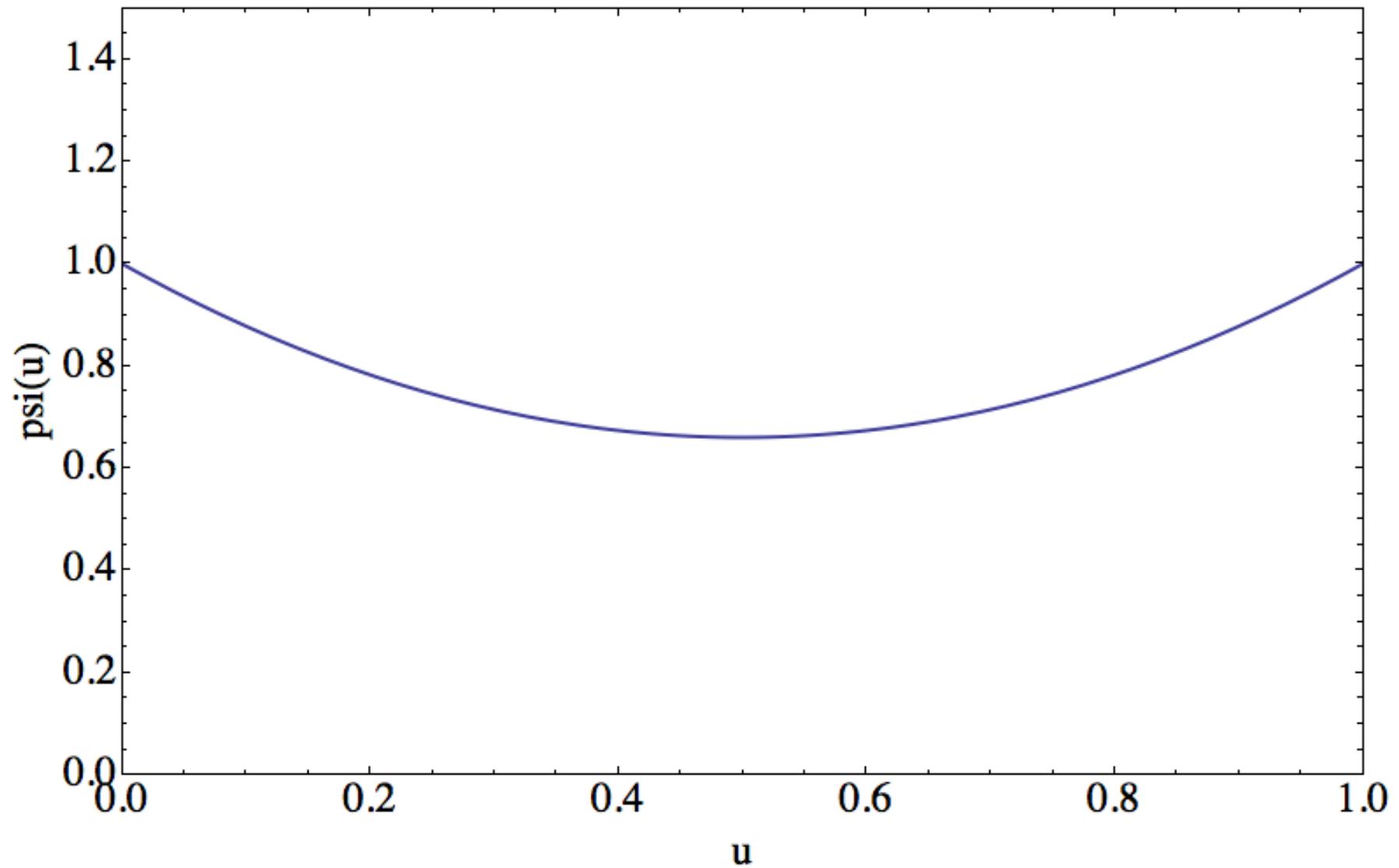
Probability for a photon of (any) energy E_γ to generate one positron with fractional energy $u = E_e/E_\gamma$ in the interval $[u, u + du]$ when traversing a layer of material of thickness dt

$$\psi(u) \, dv \, dt$$

Probability for an electron of (any) energy E_e to generate one photon with fractional energy $v = E_\gamma/E_e$ in the interval $[v, v + dv]$, when traversing a layer of material of thickness dt

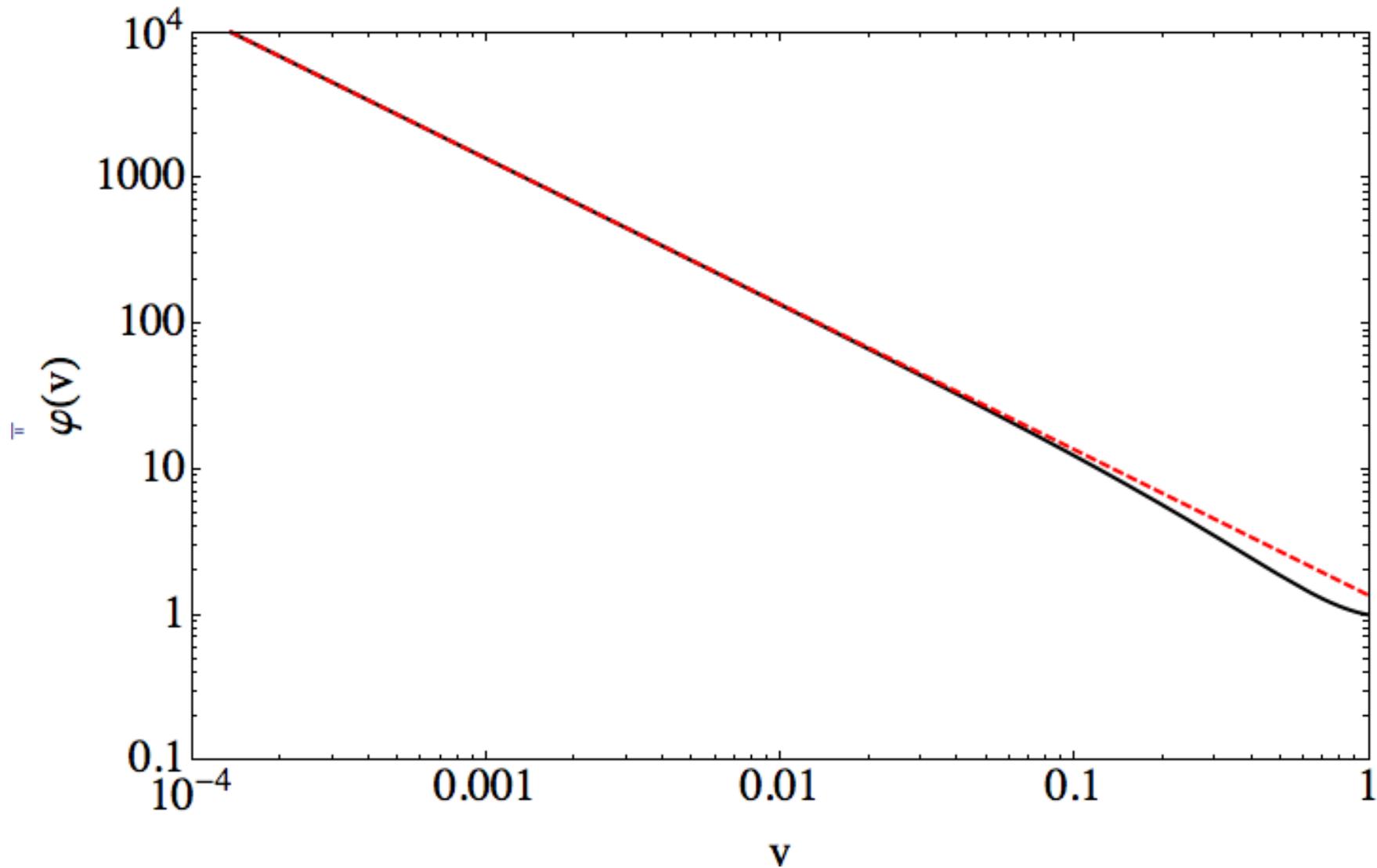
$\psi(u)$

Pair Production



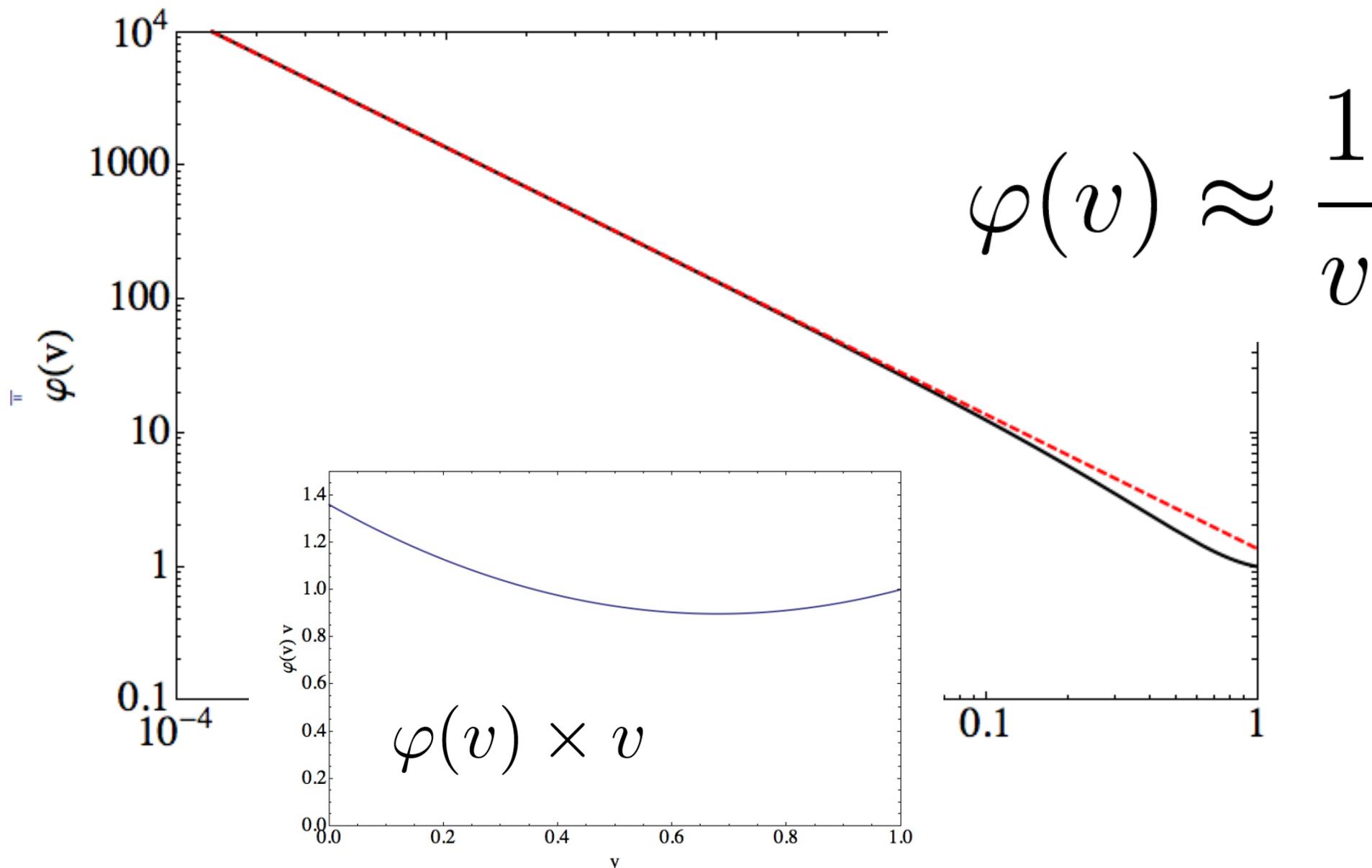
$\varphi(\nu)$

Bremsstrahlung



$\varphi(v)$

Bremsstrahlung



Ionization losses

Coulomb scattering of shower relativistic electrons with the electrons [and the nuclei] of the medium.

The collisions generate (for the projectile particle):

[a] an *energy loss*

[b] and an *angular deviation*

First order approximation: describe the scattering with the “Rutherford formula”

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right|_{\text{Rutherford}} = \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{Q^2} \right)^2 4m_e^2$$

$$Q^2 = |\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_f|^2 \quad 0 \leq Q^2 \lesssim (2m v)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q^2 &= -(p - p')^2 \\ &= -(E - E')^2 + (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$Q^2 \simeq 2p^2(1 - \cos \theta) \simeq 2m_e T$$

$$d\Omega = 2\pi d \cos \theta$$

T = kinetic energy
given to the target
particle initially at rest

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} \right|_{\text{Rutherford}} = \left(\frac{q_1 q_2}{Q^2} \right)^2 4m_e^2$$

$$Q^2 = |\vec{p}_i - \vec{p}_f|^2 \quad 0 \leq Q^2 \lesssim (2m v)^2$$

$$Q^2 = -(p - p')^2$$

$$= -(E - E')^2 + (\vec{p} - \vec{p}')^2$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\theta} \propto \frac{1}{\theta^4}$$

$$Q^2 \simeq 2p^2(1 - \cos \theta) \simeq 2m_e T$$

$$d\Omega = 2\pi d \cos \theta$$

$$\frac{d\sigma}{dT} \propto \frac{1}{T^2}$$

$$\left. \frac{d\sigma}{dT} \right|_{\text{collision}} = 2\pi \frac{e^4}{m_e c^2 \beta^2 T^2} \left(1 - \beta^2 \frac{T}{T_{\text{max}}} \right)$$

Rate of energy loss per unit length

$$\left. \frac{dE}{d\ell} \right|_{\text{collisions}} = n Z \int dT T \frac{d\sigma}{dT}$$

n = number density of target atoms

Z = number of electrons/atom

Energy loss per unit of column-density X

$$dX = dl \rho = dl n m_{\text{nucleon}} A = dl n \frac{A}{N_{\text{Avogadro}}}$$

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dX} \right|_{\text{collisions}} = N_{\text{Avogadro}} \frac{Z}{A} 2\pi \frac{e^4}{m_e c^2} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \int_{T_{\min}}^{T_{\max}} dT T \frac{1}{T^2} \left[1 - \beta^2 \frac{T}{T_{\max}} \right]$$

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dX} \right|_{\text{collisions}} = N_{\text{Avogadro}} \frac{Z}{A} 2\pi \frac{e^4}{m_e c^2} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\ln \left(\frac{T_{\max}}{T_{\min}} \right) - \beta^2 \right]$$

$$T_{\max} \simeq m_e c^2 \beta \gamma$$

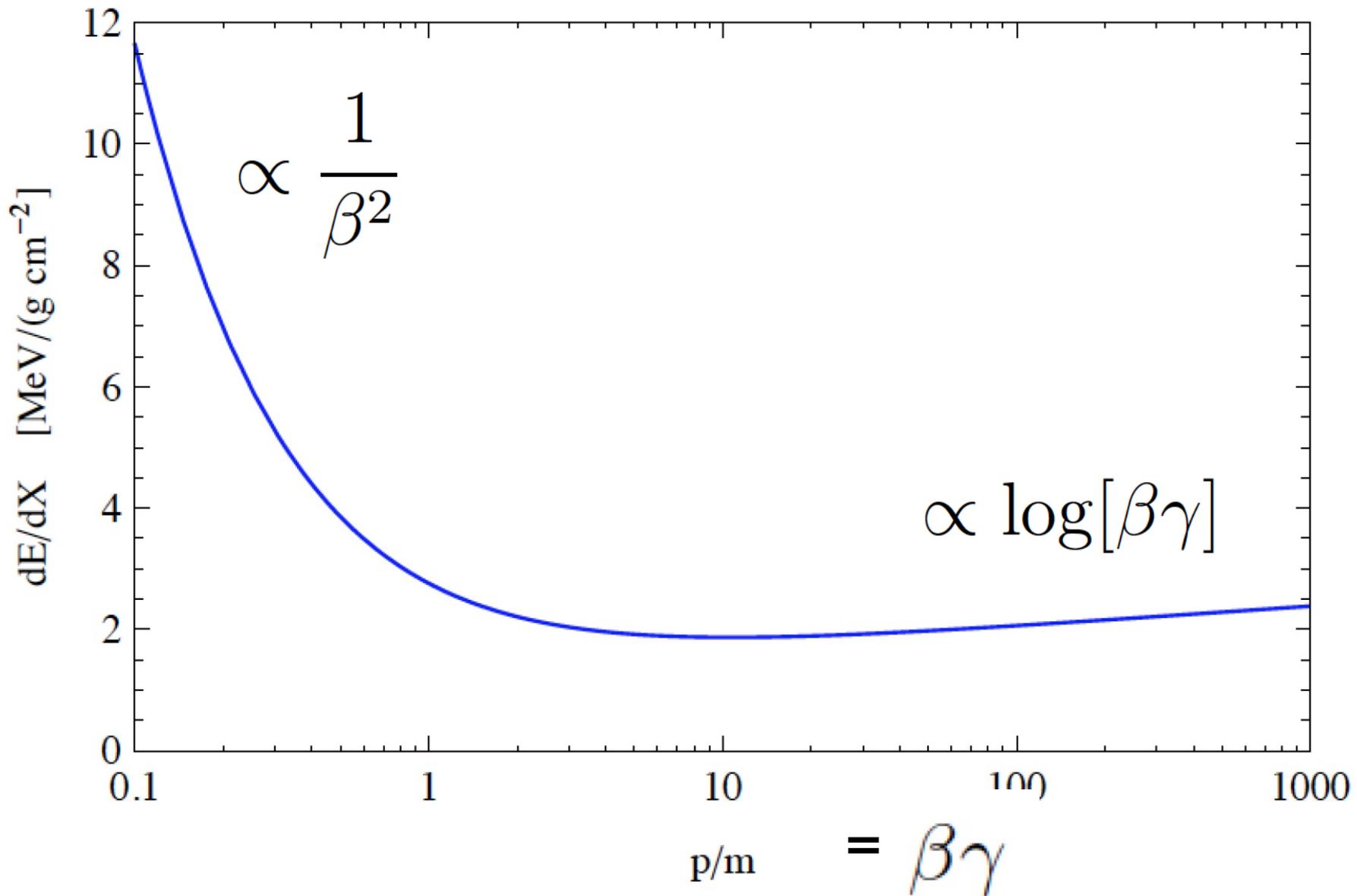
Kinematical limit
(for e-e scattering)

$$T_{\min} \simeq \langle I_{\text{ionization}} \rangle$$

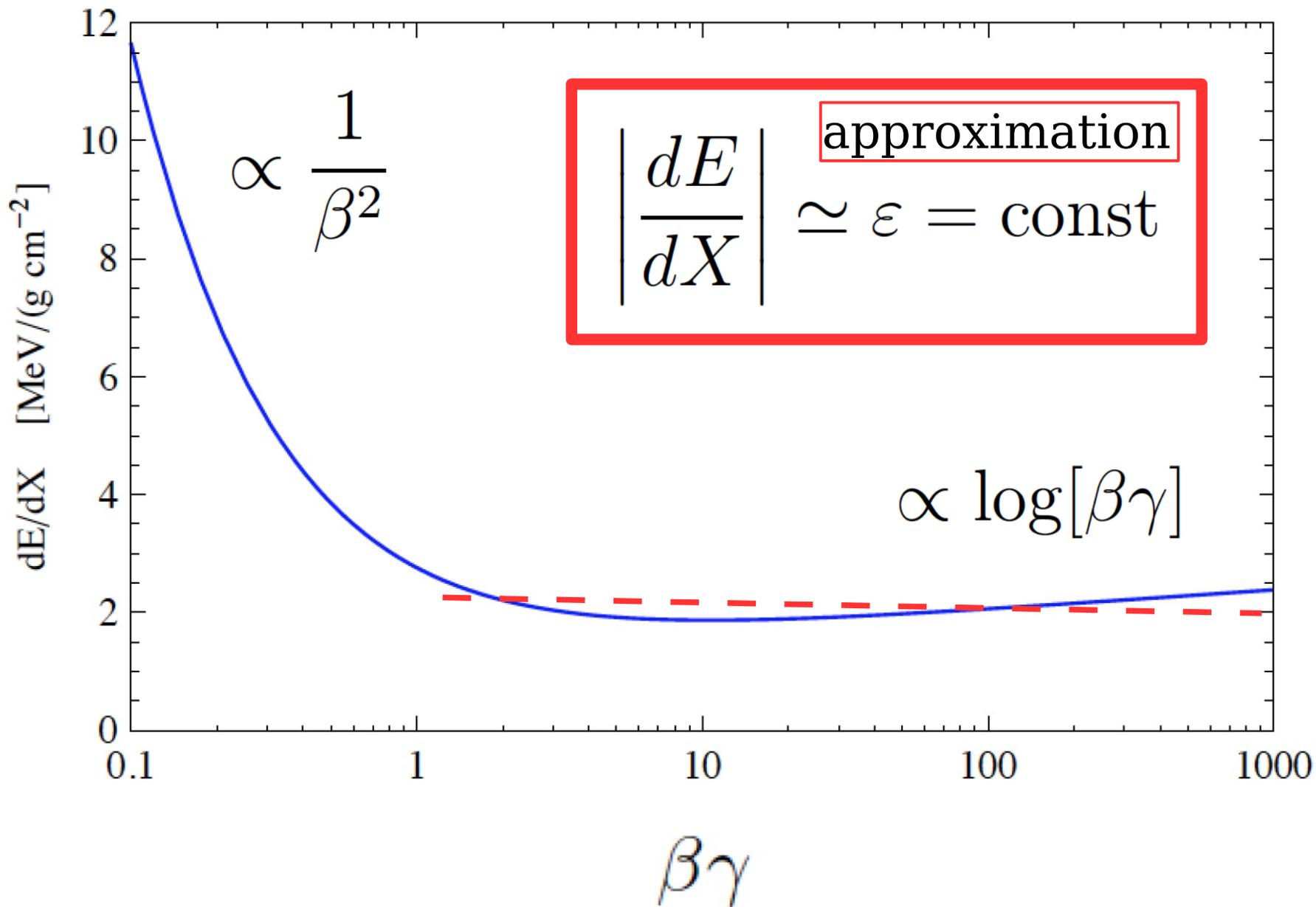
Minimum energy transfer
to an atomic electron

$$\left. \frac{dE}{dX} \right|_{\text{collisions}} \simeq N_{\text{Avogadro}} \frac{Z}{A} 2\pi \frac{e^4}{m_e c^2} \frac{1}{\beta^2} \left[\ln \left(\frac{2m_e c^2 \beta \gamma}{\langle I \rangle} \right) - \beta^2 \right]$$

Rate of energy loss as a function of $\beta\gamma$



Rate of energy loss for collisions (ionization)



We have now constructed the
“fundamental elements”
for an electromagnetic shower

The two “vertices”
Bremsstrahlung
Pair production

Energy loss of electrons

Study Development of the Showers

Average Longitudinal Development of a purely electromagnetic shower

$$n_e(E, t)$$

$$n_\gamma(E, t)$$

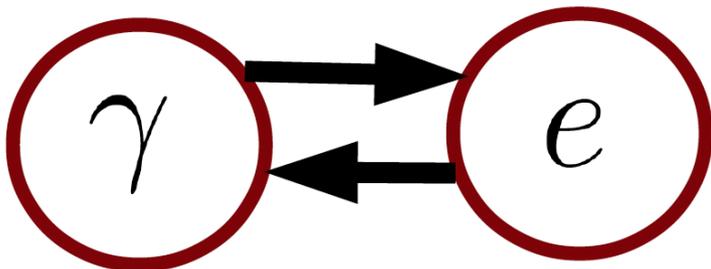
Spectra of

[*] electrons/positrons

[*] photons

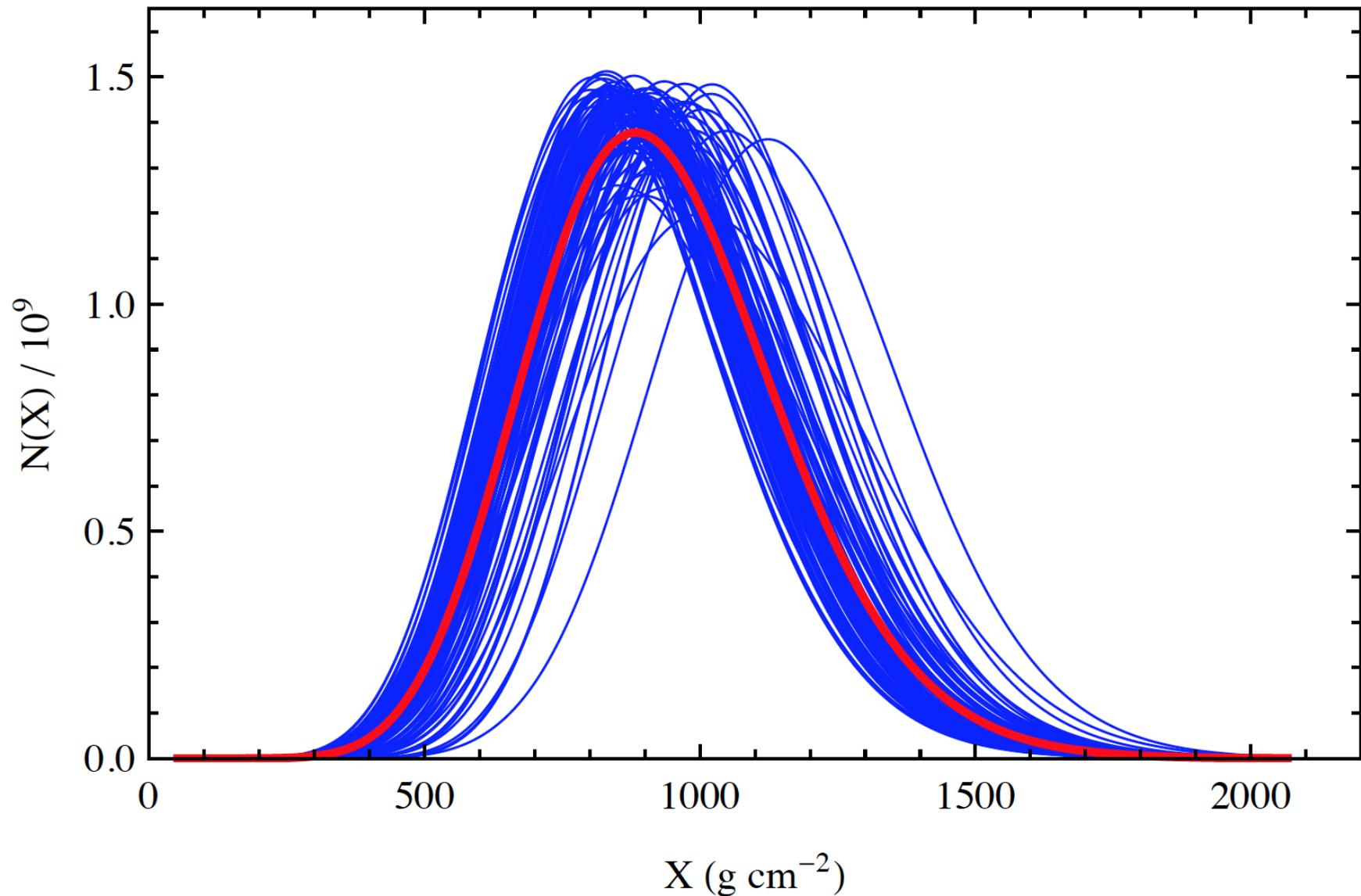
as a function of the
depth along the shower

$$t = \frac{X}{\lambda_{\text{rad}}}$$



The two particle types
“generate each other”

Montecarlo calculation of the development of individual photon showers $E_0 = 10^{18.25}$ eV



SYSTEM of INTEGRO-DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

that describe the evolution with t
of the number of particles in the shower

$$n_e(E, t) \quad n_\gamma(E, t)$$

[for a given initial condition]

OCTOBER, 1941

REVIEWS OF MODERN PHYSICS

Cosmic-Ray Theory

BRUNO ROSSI AND KENNETH GREISEN

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York



Bruno Rossi (1952)
“High Energy Particles”



“Approximation A”

Study the development of a shower with these simplifying assumptions:

- [1.] Describe *Bremsstrahlung* and *Pair production* with the asymptotic expressions [“splitting functions” that are scale invariant].
- [2A.] Neglect the energy losses for collisions.
- [3.] Neglect all other (less important) effects (main correction Compton scattering)

“Approximation B”

Study the development of a shower with these simplifying assumptions:

[1.] Describe Bremsstrahlung and Pair production with the asymptotic expressions [“splitting functions” that are scale invariant].

[2B.] Energy loss for collisions is approximated as constant. New parameter: the “critical energy” (energy lost by e[±] in one interaction length.)

$$\varepsilon = \left| \frac{dE}{dX} \right| \lambda_{\text{rad}} \quad \text{in air: } \varepsilon \approx 80 \text{ MeV}$$

[3.] Neglect all other (less important) effects

Start studying Approximation A

Write down the equations that describe how the number of particles

change with depth:

$$\frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} = [\dots]$$

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = [\dots]$$

$$\frac{\partial n_{\gamma}(E, t)}{\partial t} = -$$

number of photons
(with energy E)
destroyed in dt

$$+$$

number of photons
(with energy E)
created by
all electrons
(with energy $E' > E$)

Variation with t of the number of photons with energy E

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma}{\partial t}(E, t) = -n_\gamma(E, t) \frac{\lambda_{\text{rad}}}{\lambda_{\text{pair}}}$$

$$+ \int_E^\infty dE' \int_0^1 dv n_e(E', t) \varphi(v) \delta[E - v E']$$

Integrate on
all electron energies

$$E' > E$$

All possible
gamma ray
radiations

Constraint:
Radiated
Photon
Energy E

Variation with t of the number of photons with energy E

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma}{\partial t}(E, t) = -n_\gamma(E, t) \frac{\lambda_{\text{rad}}}{\lambda_{\text{pair}}} + \int_E^\infty dE' \int_0^1 dv n_e(E', t) \varphi(v) \delta[E - v E']$$

$\gamma \rightarrow \gamma$

=

$$-\sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t)$$

$$\sigma_0 \simeq \frac{7}{9}$$

$e \rightarrow \gamma$

$$\int_0^1 \frac{dv}{v} n_e\left(\frac{E}{v}, t\right) \varphi(v)$$

Electrons

$$\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial t}(E, t) = -n_e(E, t) \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v)$$

$$e \rightarrow e \quad \rightarrow \quad + \int_E^\infty dE' \int_0^1 dv n_e(E', t) \varphi(v) \delta[E - (1 - v) E']$$

$$\gamma \rightarrow e \quad \rightarrow \quad + \int_E^\infty dE' \int_0^1 du n_\gamma(E', t) \psi(u) \delta[E - u E']$$

Electrons

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial n_e}{\partial t}(E, t) = & -n_e(E, t) \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) \\ & + \int_E^\infty dE' \int_0^1 dv n_e(E', t) \varphi(v) \delta[E - (1 - v) E'] \\ & + \int_E^\infty dE' \int_0^1 du n_\gamma(E', t) \psi(u) \delta[E - u E']\end{aligned}$$

Two divergent contributions
(difference finite)

$$e \rightarrow e$$

$$\gamma \rightarrow e$$

$$- \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) \left[n_e(E, t) - \frac{1}{1 - v} n_e\left(\frac{E}{1 - v}, t\right) \right]$$

$$+ 2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) n_\gamma\left(\frac{E}{u}, t\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} &= - \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) \left[n_e(E, t) - \frac{1}{1-v} n_e\left(\frac{E}{1-v}, t\right) \right] \\ &\quad + 2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) n_\gamma\left(\frac{E}{u}, t\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = \int_0^1 \frac{dv}{v} \varphi(v) n_e\left(\frac{E}{v}, t\right) - \sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t) .$$

Approximation A

The most physically interesting solutions of the shower equations are those with initial conditions:

One photon of given energy

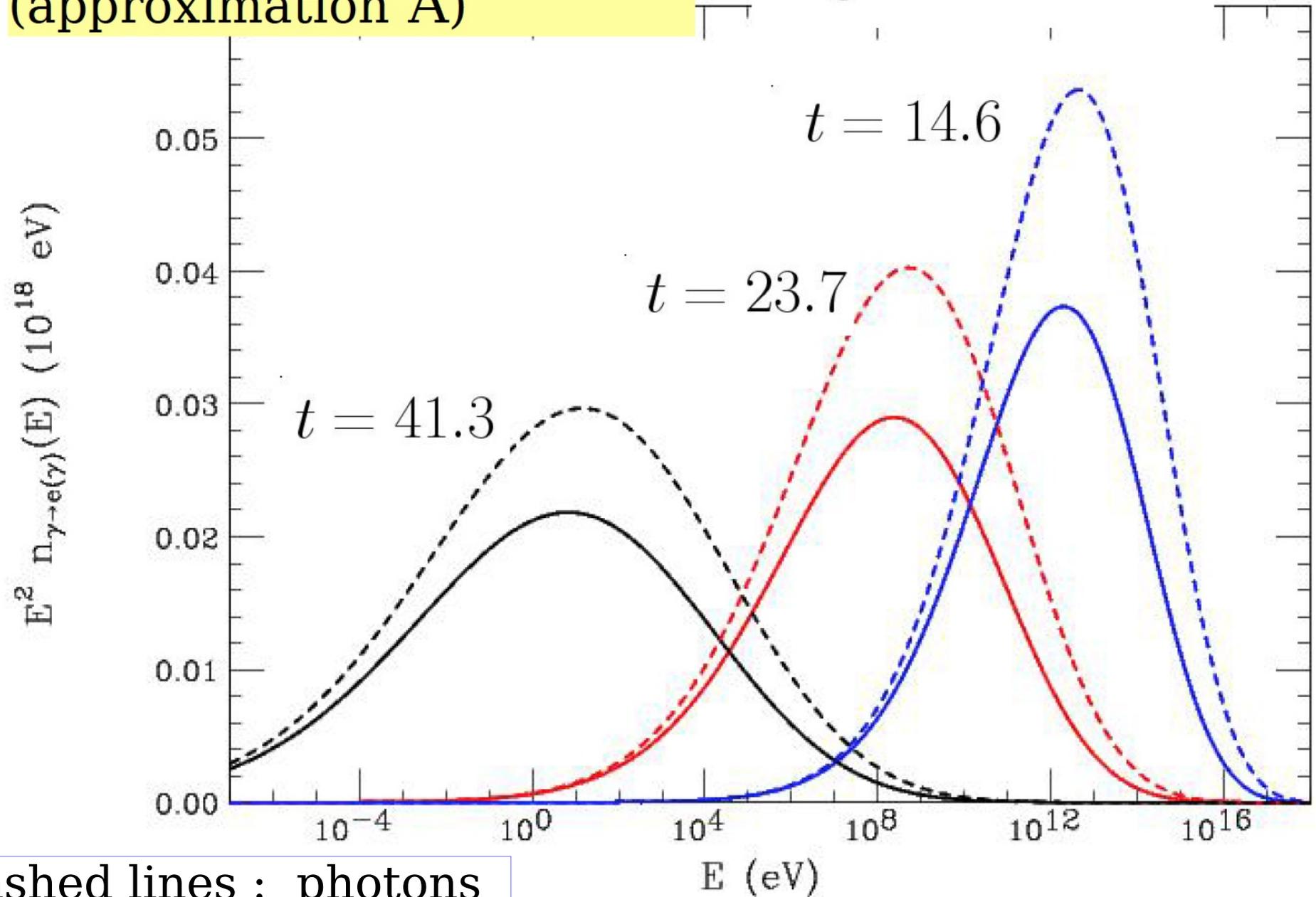
$$\begin{cases} n_\gamma(E, 0) = \delta(E - E_0) \\ n_e(E, 0) = 0 \end{cases}$$

One electron of given energy

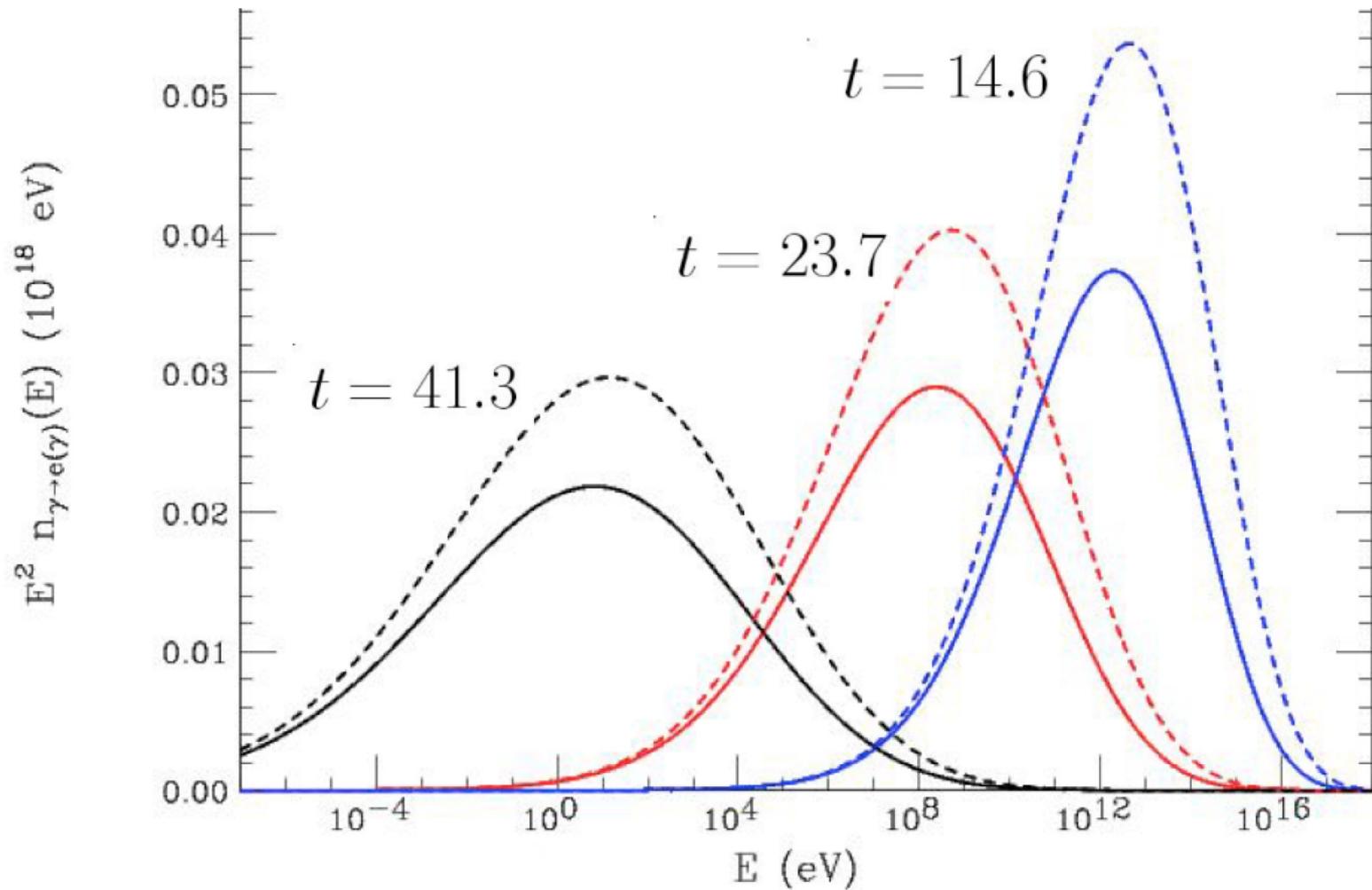
$$\begin{cases} n_\gamma(E, 0) = 0 \\ n_e(E, 0) = \delta(E - E_0) \end{cases}$$

Monochromatic Photon (approximation A)

$$E_0 = 10^{18} \text{ eV}$$

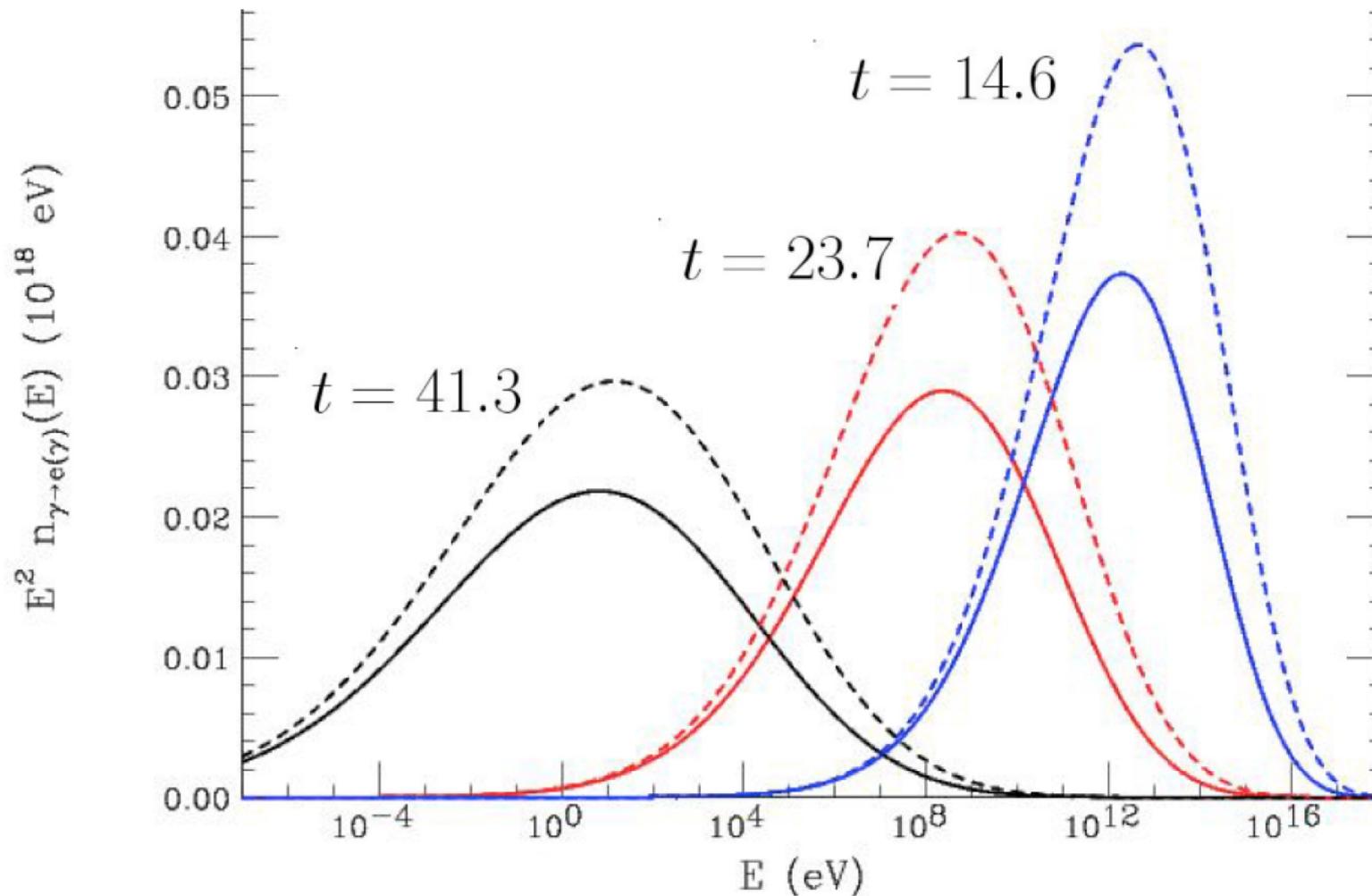


Dashed lines : photons
Solid lines : electrons



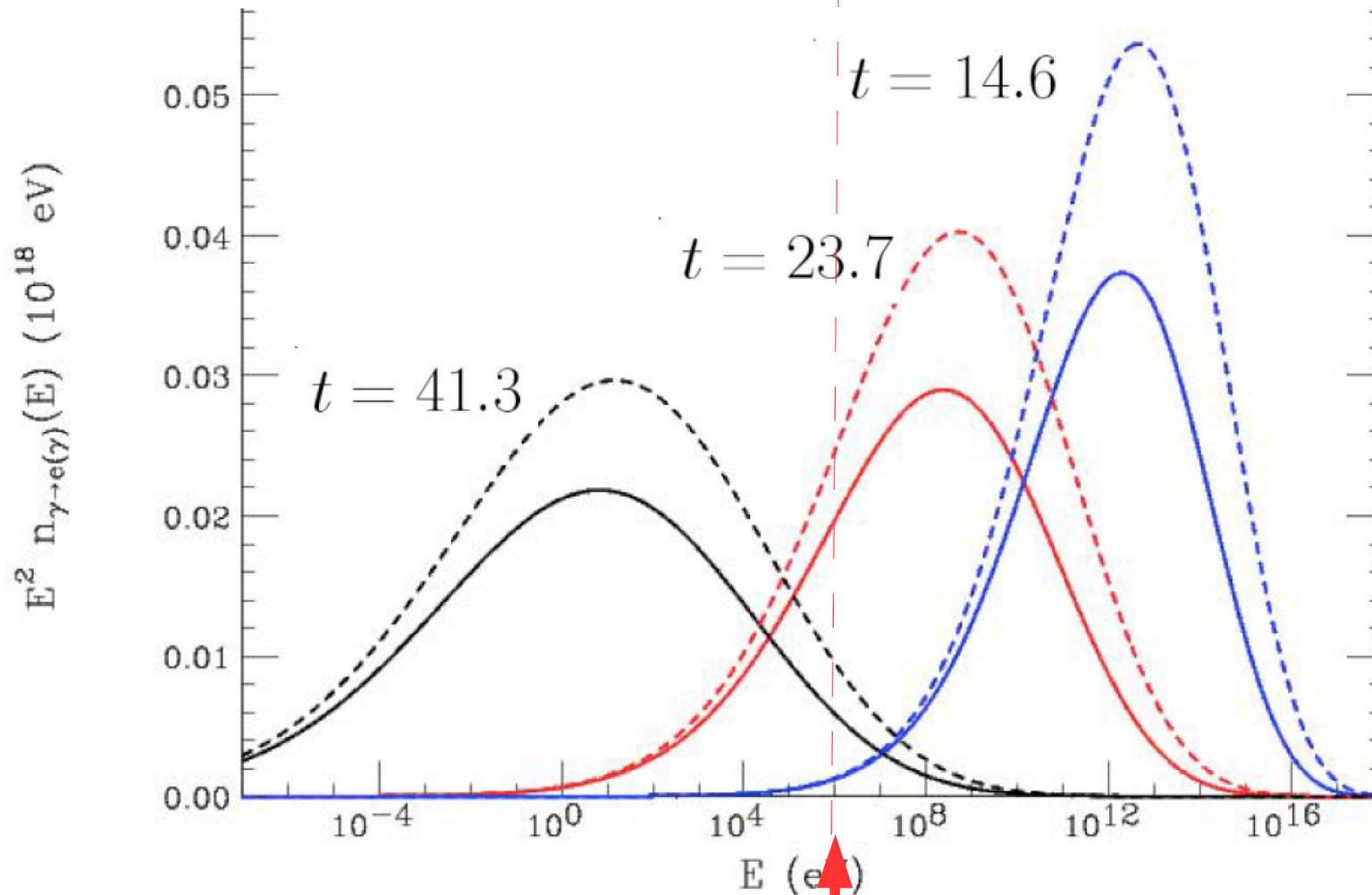
Note: spectra multiplied by E^2 : Area under curve = total energy carried by particles in the shower

$$\mathcal{E}_e = \int dE E n_e(E) = \int d \log E E^2 n_e(E)$$



Note: spectra multiplied by E^2 : Area under curve = Total energy carried by particles in the shower

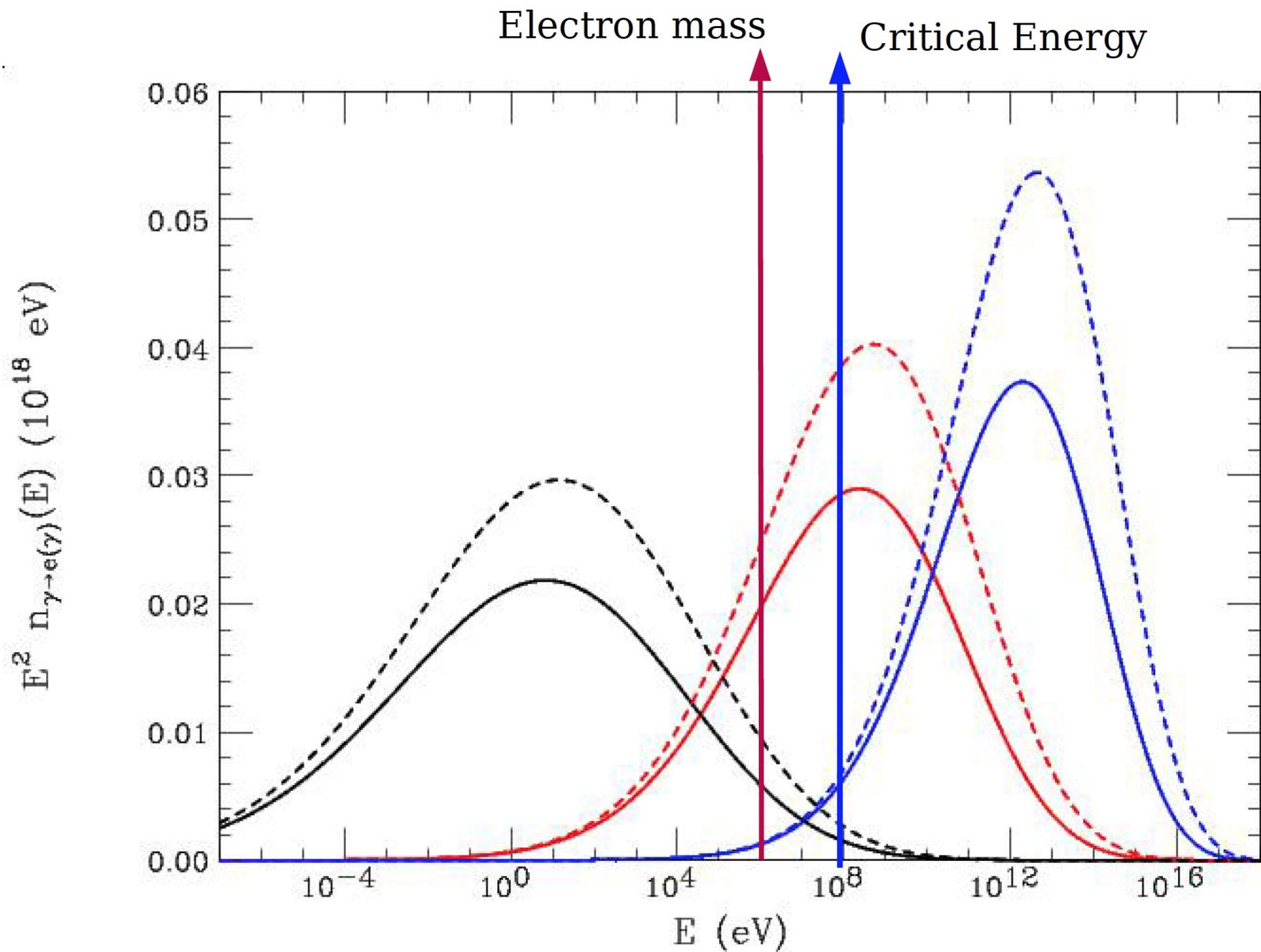
Initial energy of the primary particle (that initiate the shower) always entirely carried by the shower particles



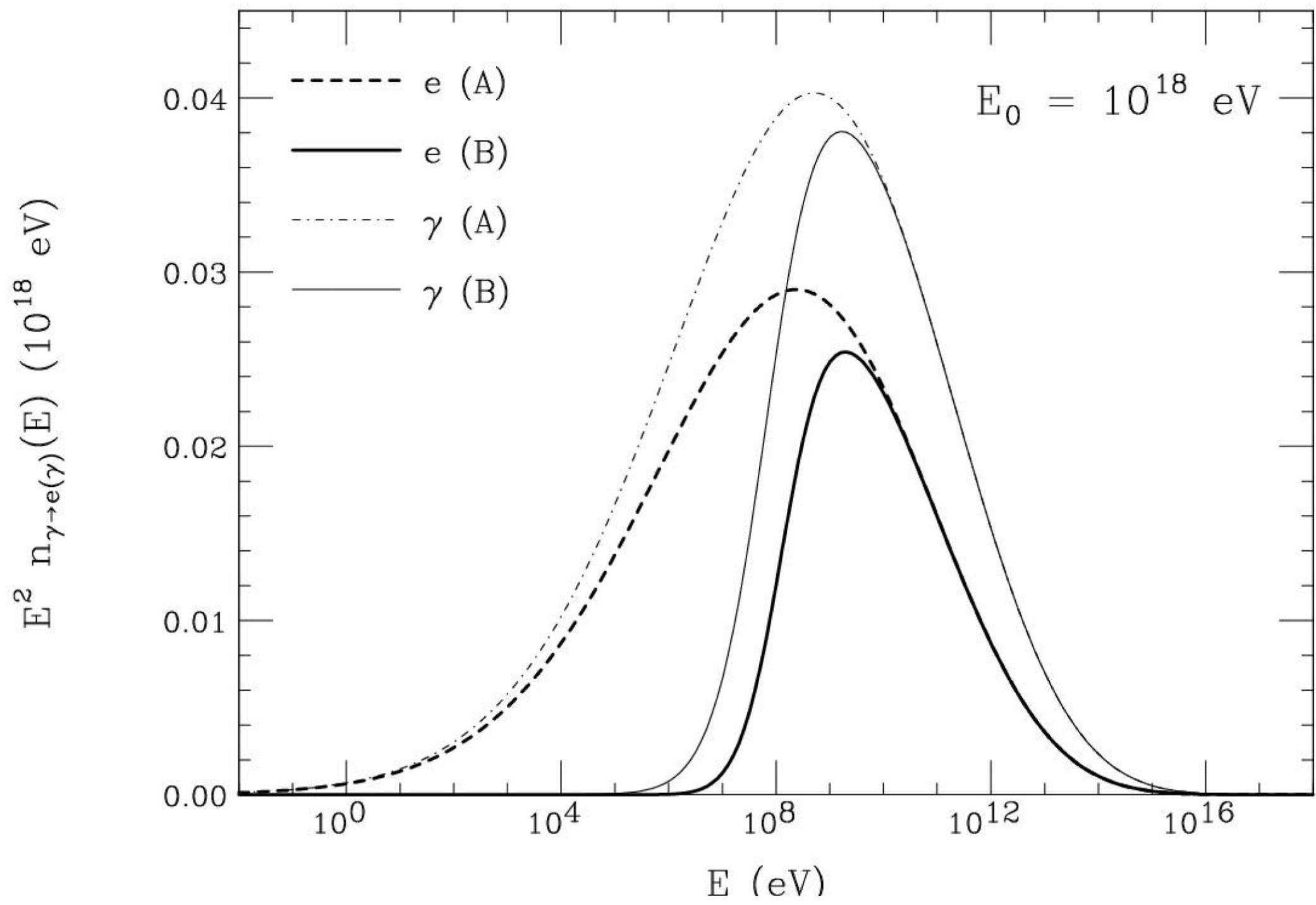
Unphysical part
of the solution.

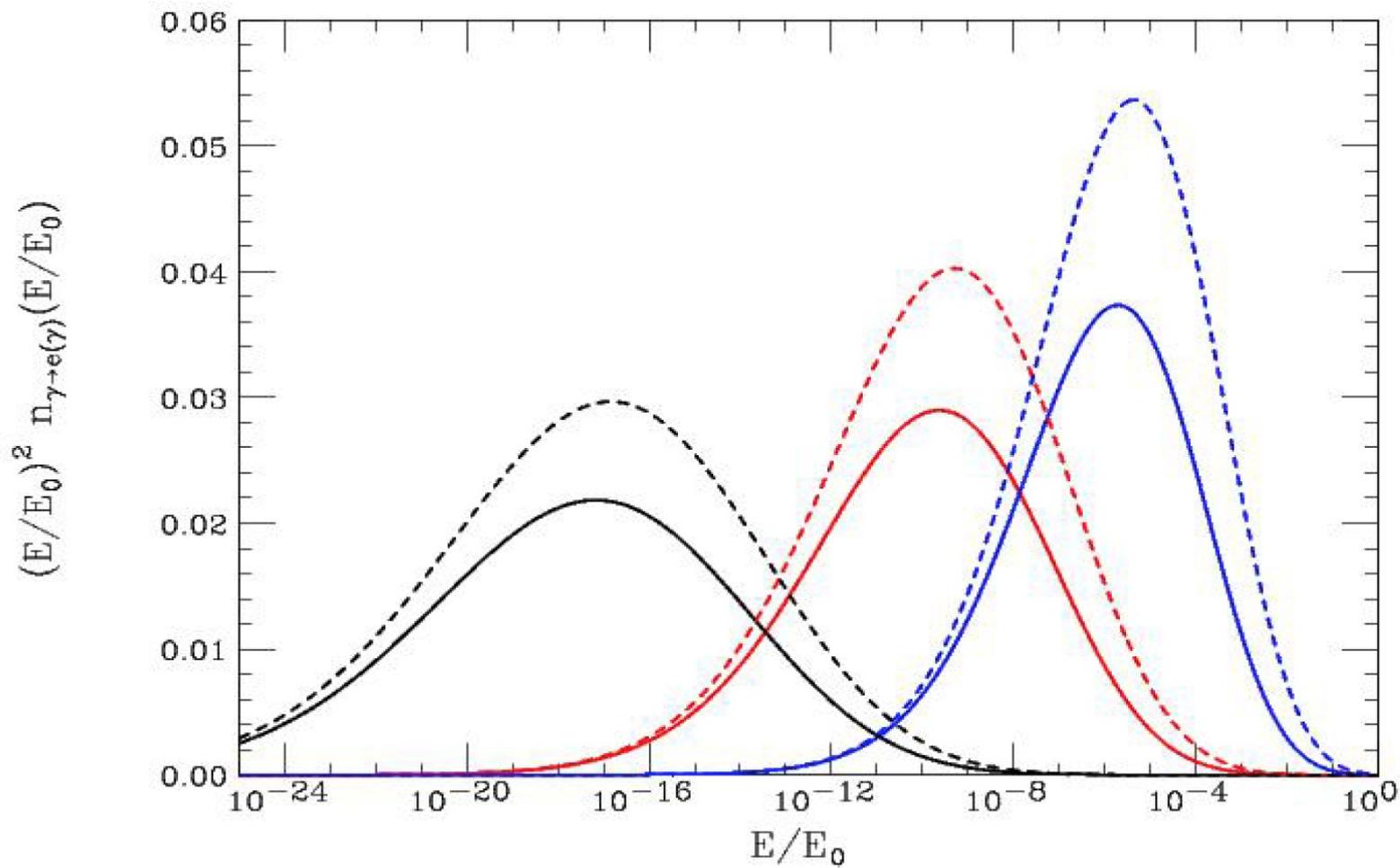
[The equations do not
“know” about
the electron mass]

Electron mass
0.5 MeV



Monochromatic Photon. Approximation A,B





Solution valid for
any initial energy

Function of $\mathbf{E/E_0}$

$$n_{\alpha}(E_0, E, t) = \frac{1}{E_0} f_{\alpha} \left(\frac{E}{E_0}, t \right)$$

$\gamma \rightarrow e$

$e \rightarrow e$

$\gamma \rightarrow \gamma$

$e \rightarrow \gamma$

$$\frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} = - \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) \left[n_e(E, t) - \frac{1}{1-v} n_e \left(\frac{E}{1-v}, t \right) \right] + 2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) n_\gamma \left(\frac{E}{u}, t \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = \int_0^1 \frac{dv}{v} \varphi(v) n_e \left(\frac{E}{v}, t \right) - \sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t) .$$

Approximation A

Homogeneous
“scaling” equations
[No explicit
Energy dependence]

“Elementary Solutions”

of the shower equations

Problem of shower development becomes
very simple for
initial conditions
of power law form.

Solutions in the form of Power laws

$$n_e(E, t) = K_e(t) E^{-(s+1)}$$

$$n_\gamma(E, t) = K_\gamma(t) E^{-(s+1)}$$

put these forms
in the shower
equations (appr. A)

The shower equations take the form

$$\frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} = A(s) n_e(E, t) + B(s) n_\gamma(E, t)$$

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = C(s) n_e(E, t) - \sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t)$$

Example for the source term

$\gamma \rightarrow e$

$$2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) n_\gamma \left(\frac{E}{u}, t \right)$$

Substitute the form

$$n_\gamma(E, t) = K_\gamma(t) E^{-(s+1)}$$

$$2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) K_\gamma(t) \left(\frac{E}{u} \right)^{-(s+1)}$$

$$K_\gamma(t) E^{-(s+1)} \left[2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) u^{(s+1)} \right]$$

$$n_\gamma(E, t) B(s)$$

Momenta of the splitting functions

$$\begin{aligned} A(s) &= \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) [1 - (1 - v)^s] \\ &= \left(\frac{4}{3} + 2b \right) \left(\frac{\Gamma'(1+s)}{\Gamma(1+s)} + \gamma \right) + \frac{s(7 + 5s + 12b(2+s))}{6(1+s)(2+s)} \end{aligned}$$

$$B(s) = 2 \int_0^1 du u^s \psi(u) = \frac{2(14 + 11s + 3s^2 - 6b(1+s))}{3(1+s)(2+s)(3+s)}$$

$$C(s) = \int_0^1 dv v^s \varphi(v) = \frac{8 + 7s + 3s^2 + 6b(2+s)}{3s(2 + 3s + s^2)}$$

$$\frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} = A(s) n_e(E, t) + B(s) n_\gamma(E, t)$$

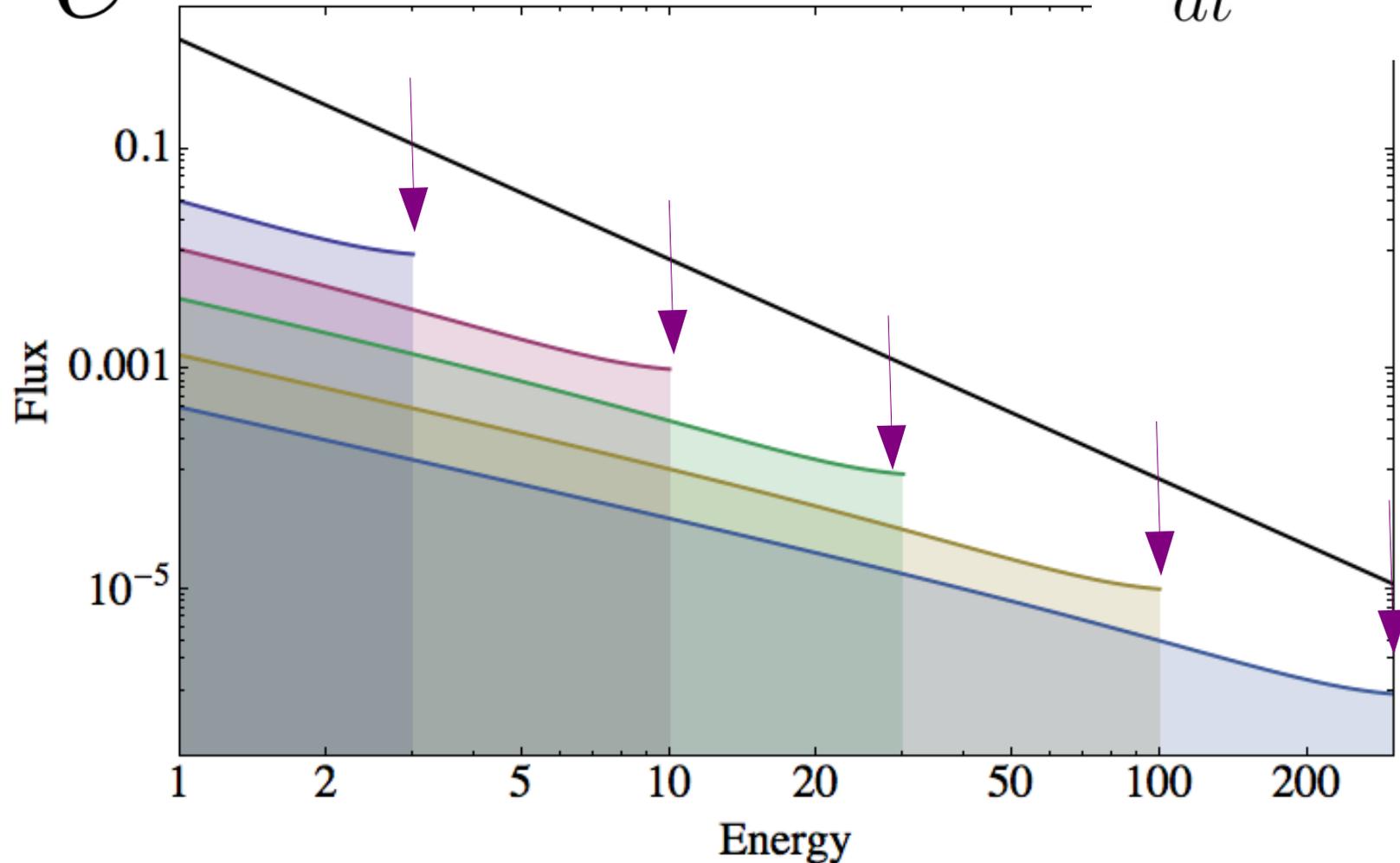
$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = C(s) n_e(E, t) - \sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t)$$

Source of photons generated by a power law electron spectrum is a *power law with the same exponent.*

$$n_e(E) \propto E^{-(s+1)}$$

$$\frac{dn_{e \rightarrow \gamma}}{dt}(E) \propto E^{-(s+1)}$$

e

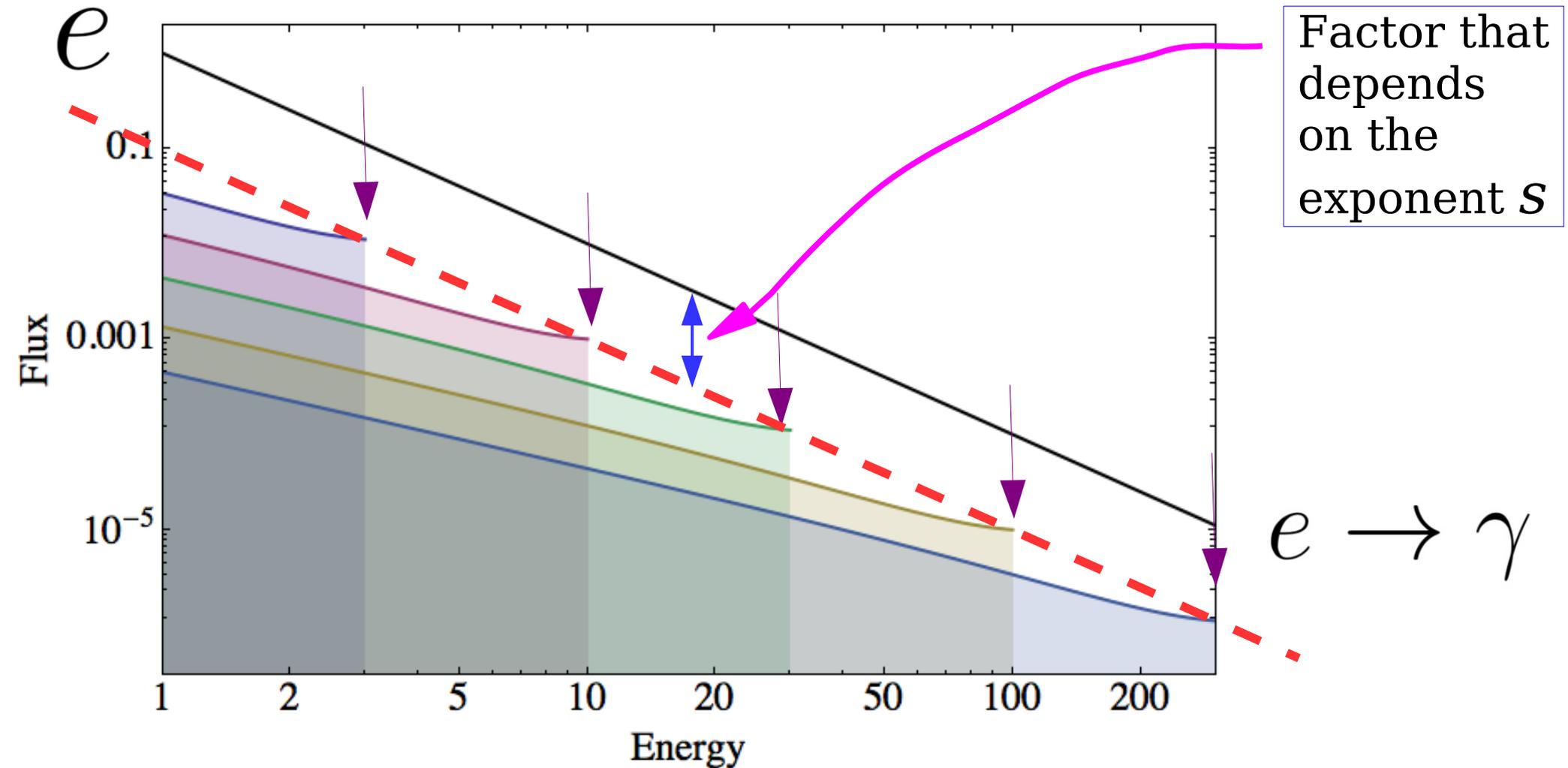


e → *γ*

Source of photons generated by a power law electron spectrum is a *power law with the same exponent*.

$$n_e(E) \propto E^{-(s+1)}$$

$$\frac{dn_{e \rightarrow \gamma}}{dt}(E) \propto E^{-(s+1)}$$



(scaling) contributions combine to generate a power law [of equal exponent]

This implies that (in approximation A)
 if the spectra are power laws at one depth t ,
 they are power laws at all t

Rewrite the two shower equations in matrix form

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} n_e(E, t) \\ n_\gamma(E, t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A(s) & B(s) \\ C(s) & -\sigma_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} n_e(E, t) \\ n_\gamma(E, t) \end{bmatrix}$$

Substitute the forms

$$K_e(t) E^{-(s+1)} \quad K_\gamma(t) E^{-(s+1)}$$

Can divide by

$$E^{-(s+1)}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} K_e(t) \\ K_\gamma(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A(s) & B(s) \\ C(s) & -\sigma_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} K_e(t) \\ K_\gamma(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

For each value of the exponent $(s+1)$
 there are two values of the ratio γ/e
 for which the t -evolution with t is a simple exponential

$$\begin{bmatrix} n_e(E, t) \\ n_\gamma(E, t) \end{bmatrix} = K e^{\lambda(s)t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ r_\gamma(s) \end{bmatrix} E^{-(s+1)}$$

For each value of s there are two “elementary solutions”
 where the shower develops exponentially in t

$$s \quad \lambda_{1,2}(s) \quad r_{1,2}(s)$$

Finding these “elementary solutions” is a simple
 eigenvalue-eigenvectors problem

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} K_e(t) \\ K_\gamma(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A(s) & B(s) \\ C(s) & -\sigma_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} K_e(t) \\ K_\gamma(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

Substituting the exponential form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} K_e(t) \\ K_\gamma(t) \end{bmatrix} = K e^{\lambda(s)t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ r_\gamma(s) \end{bmatrix}$$

One obtains an eigenvalue equation (2 solutions).

$$\begin{bmatrix} A(s) & B(s) \\ C(s) & -\sigma_0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ r_\gamma(s) \end{bmatrix} = \lambda(s) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ r_\gamma(s) \end{bmatrix}$$

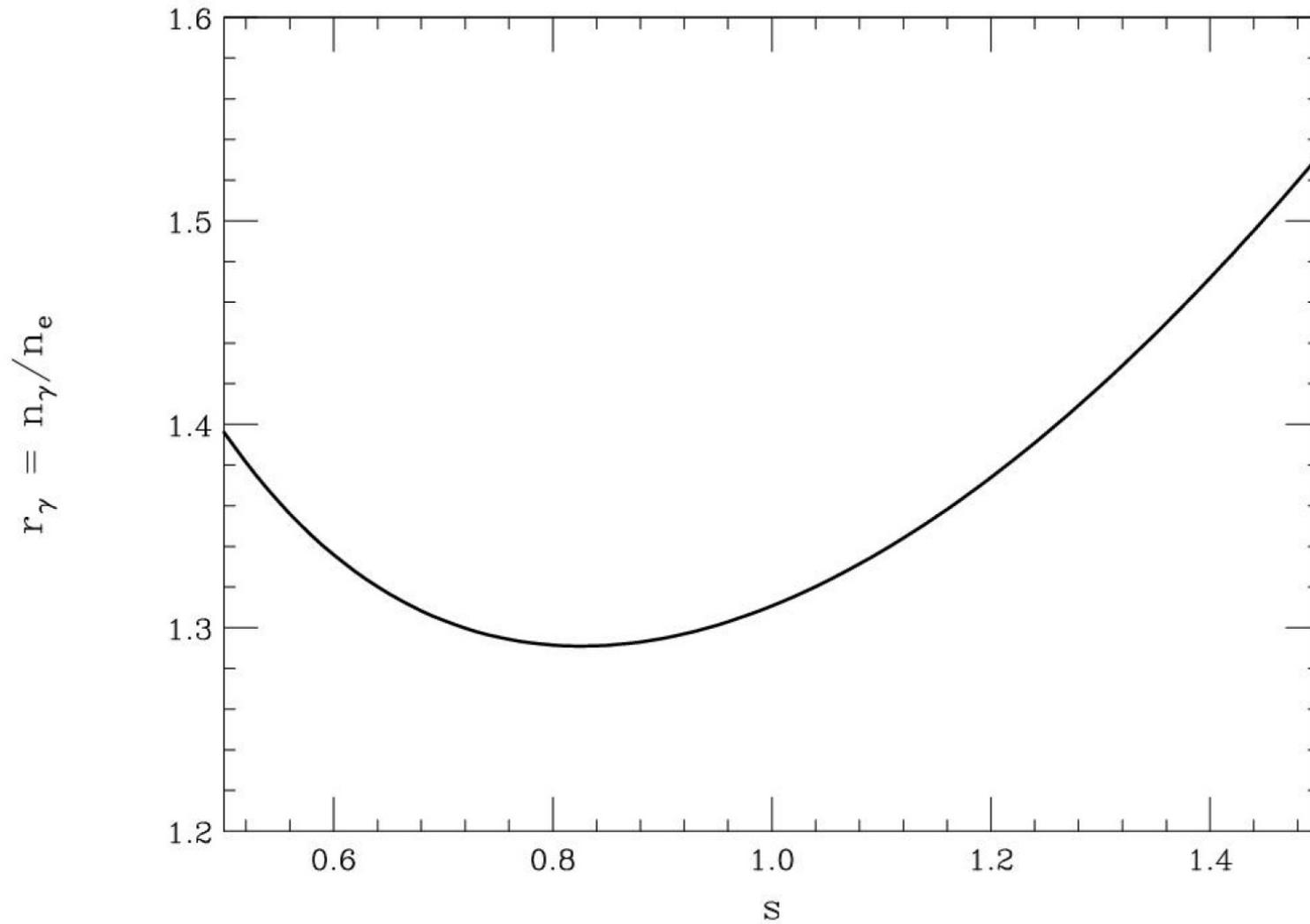
$$\lambda_{1,2}(s) = -\frac{1}{2} (A(s) + \sigma_0) \pm \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(A(s) - \sigma_0)^2 + 4 B(s) C(s)}$$

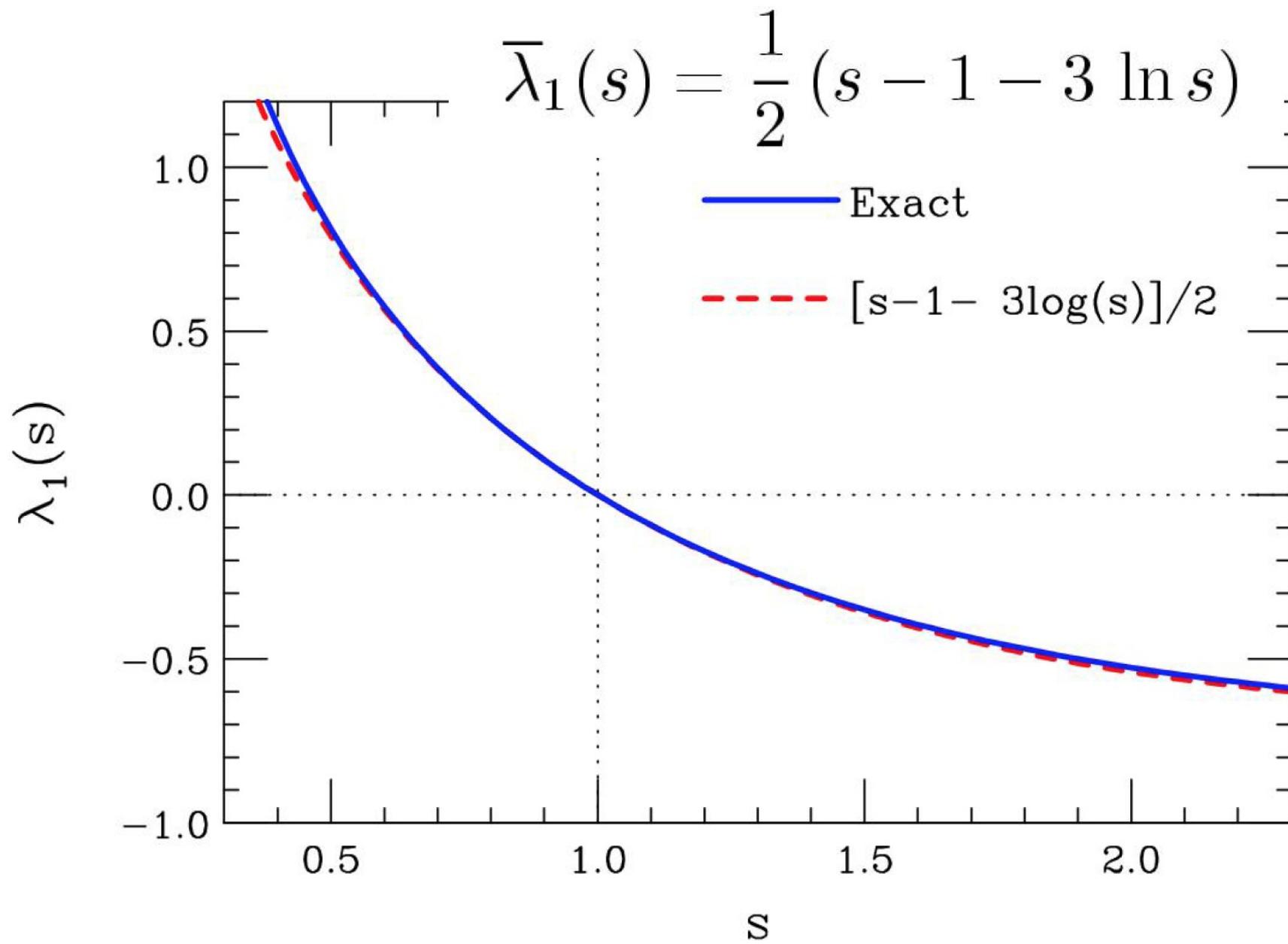
$$r_{\gamma}^{(1,2)}(s) = \frac{C(s)}{\sigma_0 + \lambda_{1,2}(s)}$$

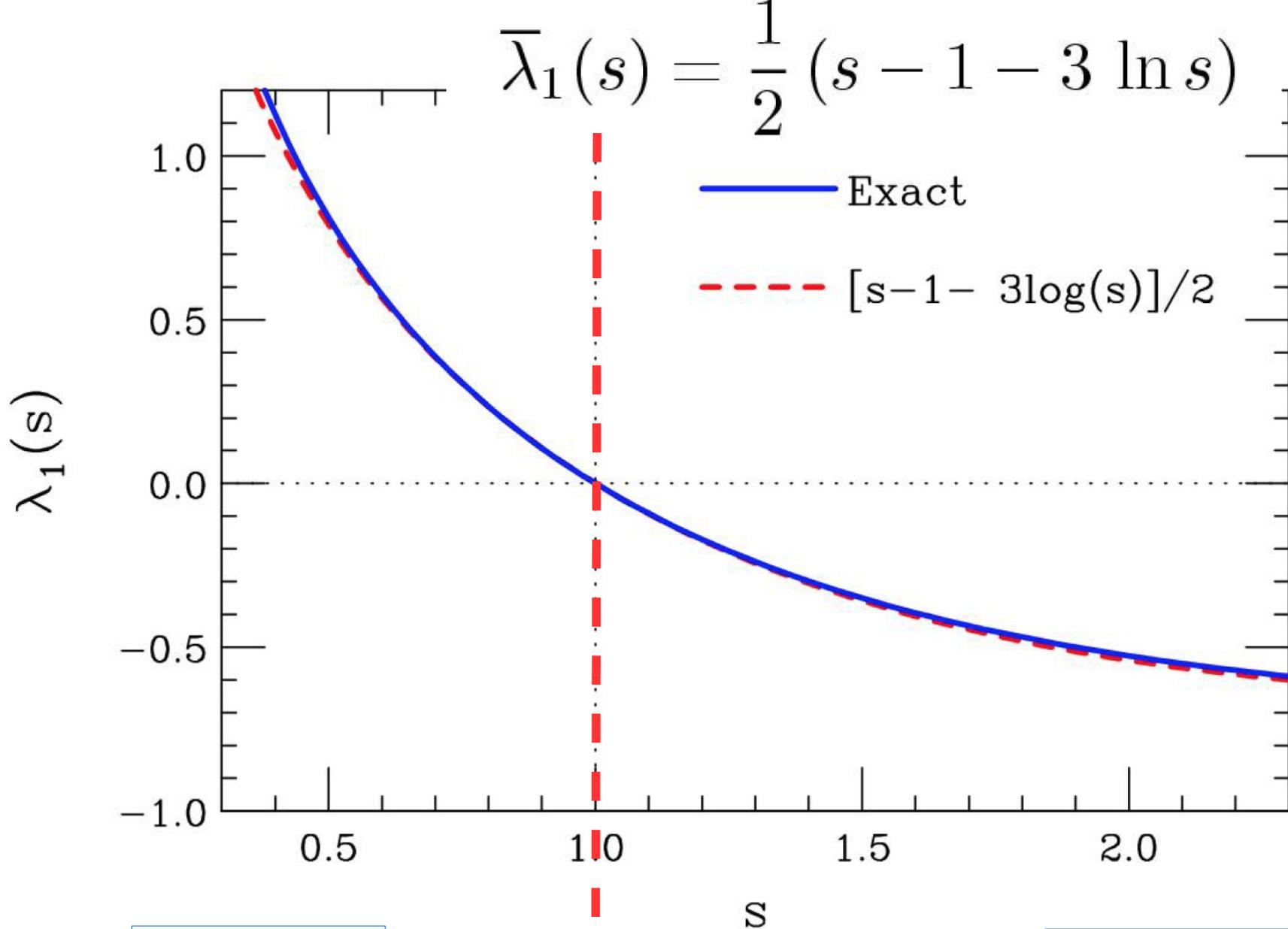
One eigenvalue large and negative corresponds to a fast disappearing transient

The other eigenvalue correspond to the more physically interesting solution

Ratio photon / electron (of order unity)
[little dependence on s]







$s < 1$
 $\lambda > 0$

$s = 1$
 $\lambda = 0$

$s > 1$
 $\lambda < 0$

Physical meaning of the relation between

$$s \quad \text{and} \quad \lambda_1(s)$$

is not difficult to understand qualitatively

Important (and very instructive case)
[Exact solution]

$$s = 1$$

$$n_{e,\gamma}(E, t) \propto E^{-2}$$

$$\lambda_1(s) = 0$$

$$n_{e,\gamma}(E, t) = \text{constant}$$

$$n(E) = K E^{-2}$$

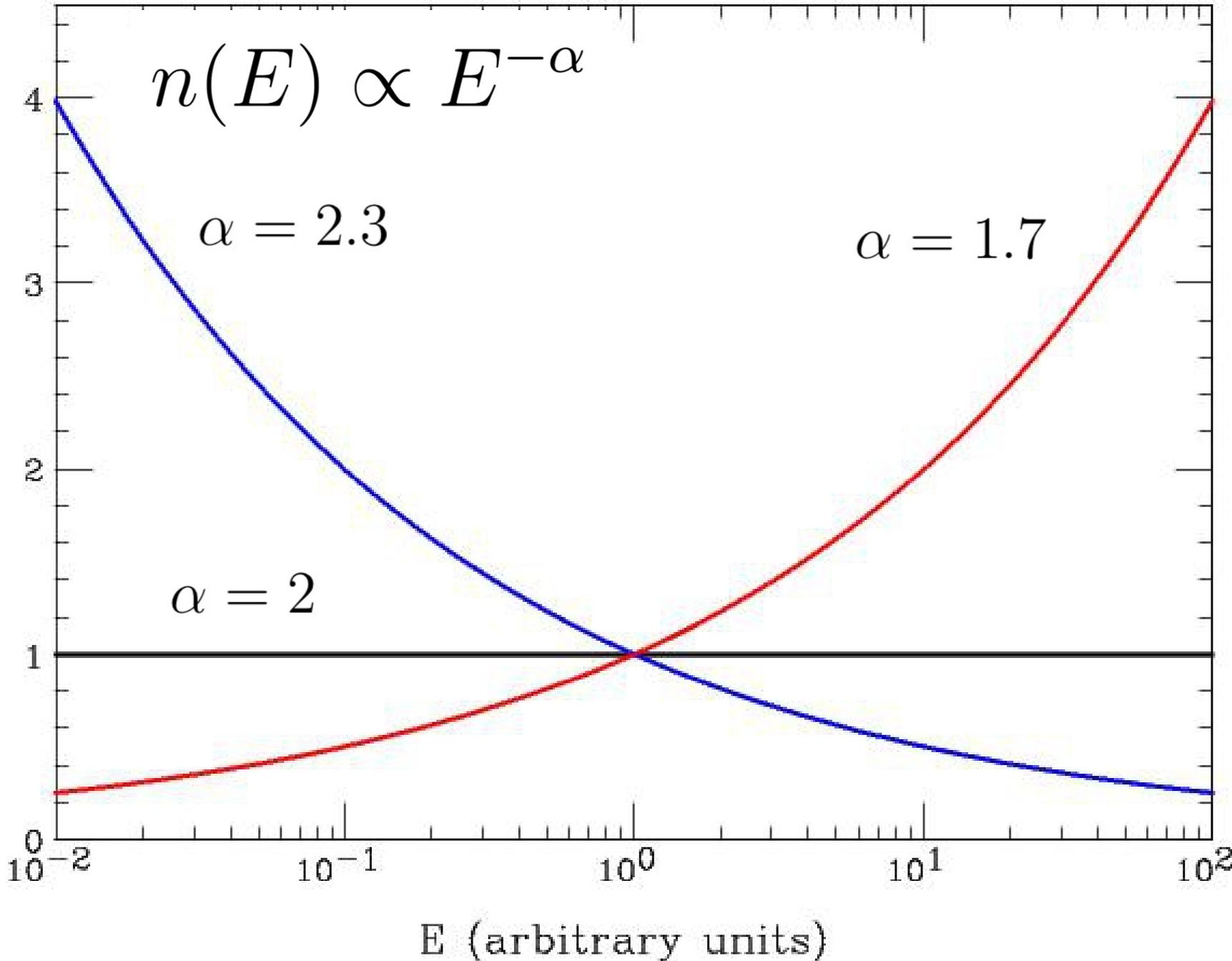
Special spectrum
same amount of energy
per decade of energy
(or unit of Log[E])

$$\frac{d\mathcal{E}}{d \ln E} = \frac{d\mathcal{E}}{dE} \frac{dE}{d \ln E}$$

$$= n(E) E E = n(E) E^2$$

Power Law Solutions : Spectral Energy Distribution

$$n(E) E^2 = d\mathcal{E}/d\log E$$



The particle “splitting”
during the shower development
Substitutes [*conserving energy*]

One particle of energy E

with

Two particles of lower energy $E_1 + E_2 = E$

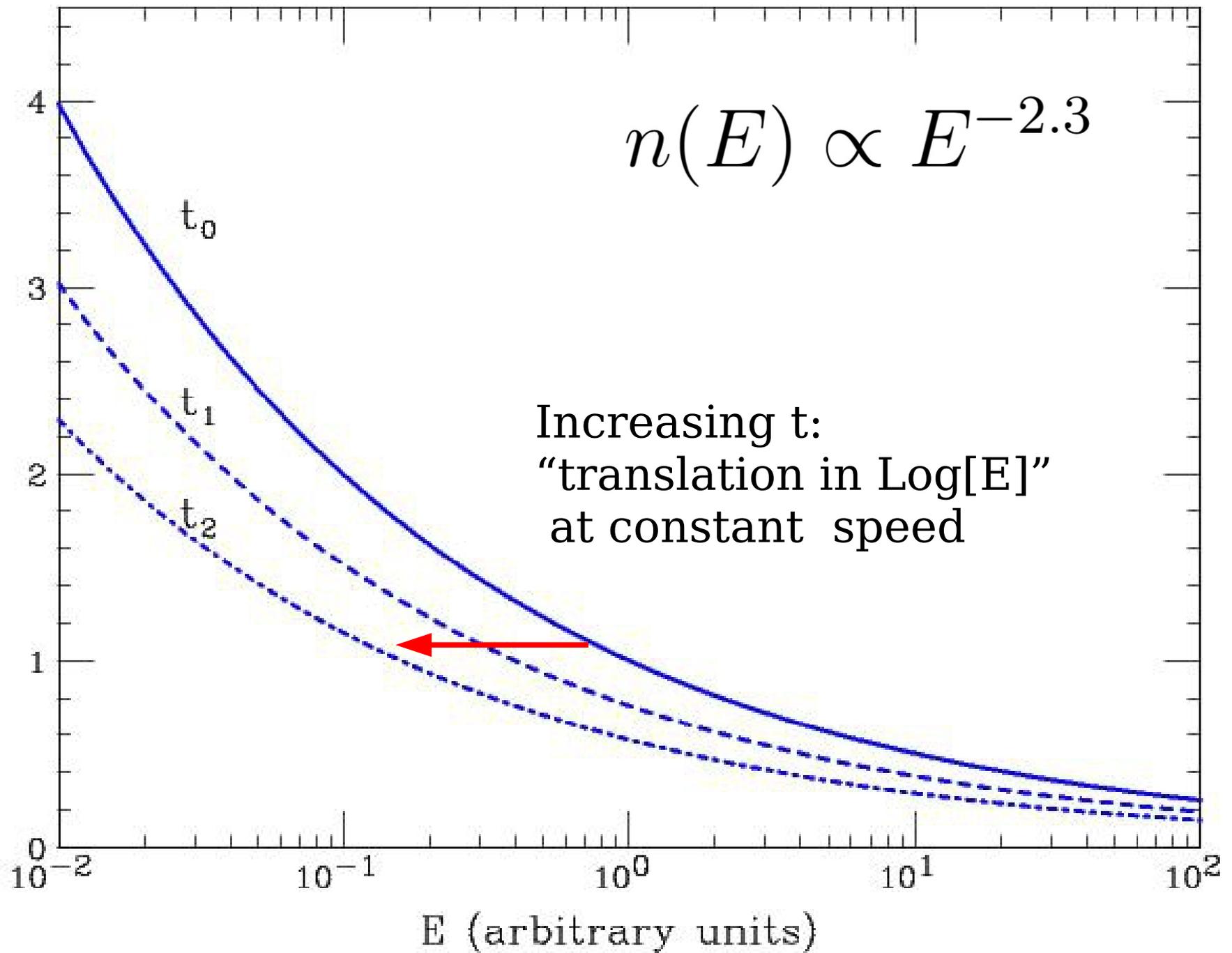
For power-law spectra this implies
that the spectrum:

Grows exponentially for exponent $s < 1$

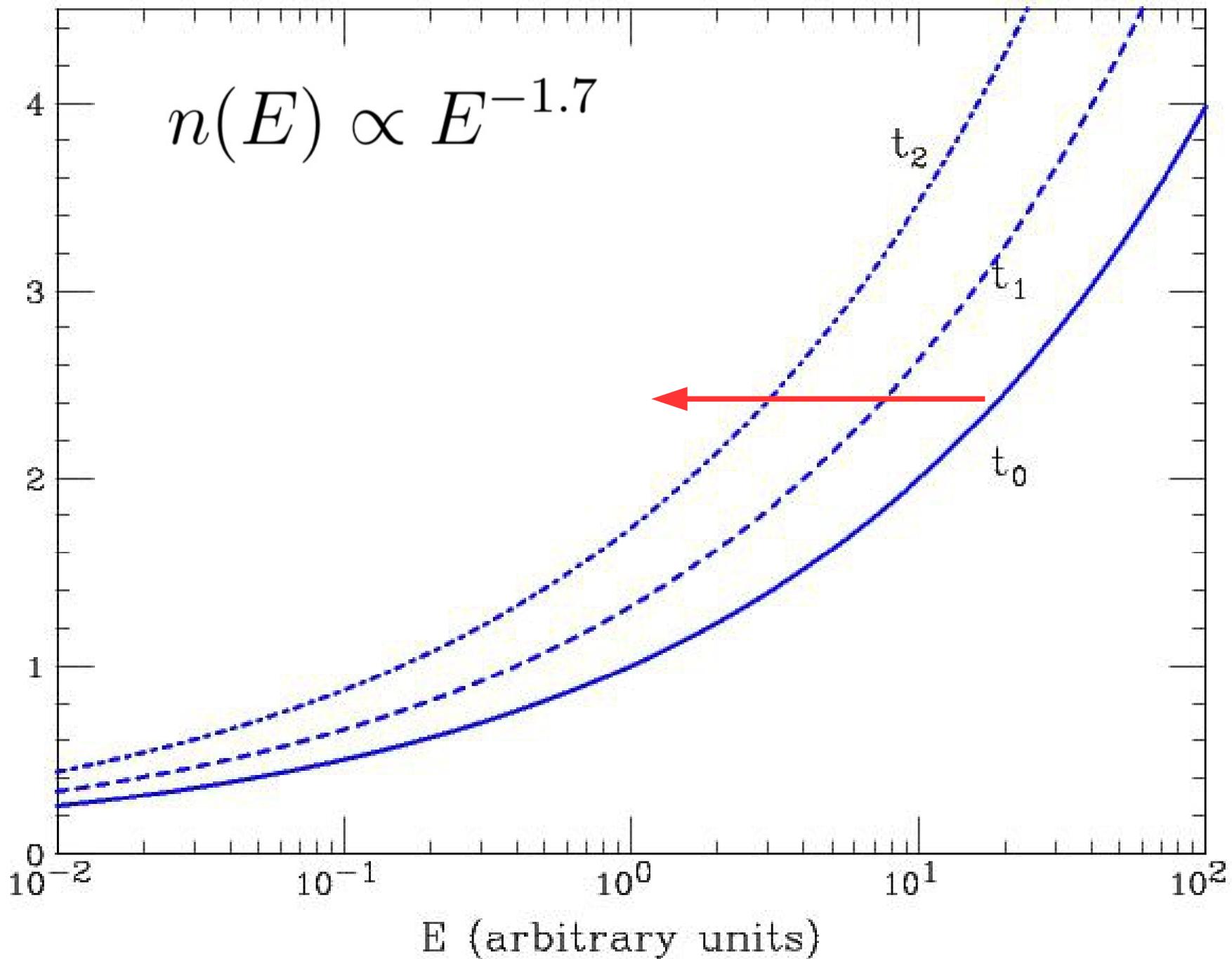
Remains constant for $s = 1$

Decreases exponentially for $s > 1$

$$n(E) E^2 = d\mathcal{E}/d\log E$$



$$n(E) E^2 = d\mathcal{E}/d\log E$$



$$s = 1 \iff \lambda_1(s) = 0$$

$$s < 1 \iff \lambda_1(s) > 0$$

$$s > 1 \iff \lambda_1(s) < 0$$

Calculation of Shower Development in approximation B

New ingredient:

Electrons and Positrons lose energy continuously because of collisions (ionization).

Need to incorporate this effect
in the shower development equation

Introduction of the energy loss for collisions in the shower equations.

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \beta(E) \quad \text{Energy variation Law}$$

$$n(E, t) \quad n(E, t + dt)$$

$$n(E, t + dt) dE = n(E', t) dE'$$

$$E' = E - \beta(E) dt \quad dE' = \left(1 - \frac{d\beta(E)}{dE}\right) dE$$

$$n(E, t + dt) dE = n(E', dt) dE'$$

$$\left[n(E, t) + \frac{\partial n(E, t)}{\partial t} dt \right] dE =$$

$$\left[n(E, t) - \frac{\partial n(E, t)}{\partial E} \beta(E) dt \right] \left(1 - \frac{d\beta(E)}{dE} \right) dE$$

$$\frac{\partial n(E, t)}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial E} [n(E, t) \beta(E)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} &= - \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) \left[n_e(E, t) - \frac{1}{1-v} n_e\left(\frac{E}{1-v}, t\right) \right] \\ &\quad + 2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) n_\gamma\left(\frac{E}{u}, t\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = \int_0^1 \frac{dv}{v} \varphi(v) n_e\left(\frac{E}{v}, t\right) - \sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t)$$

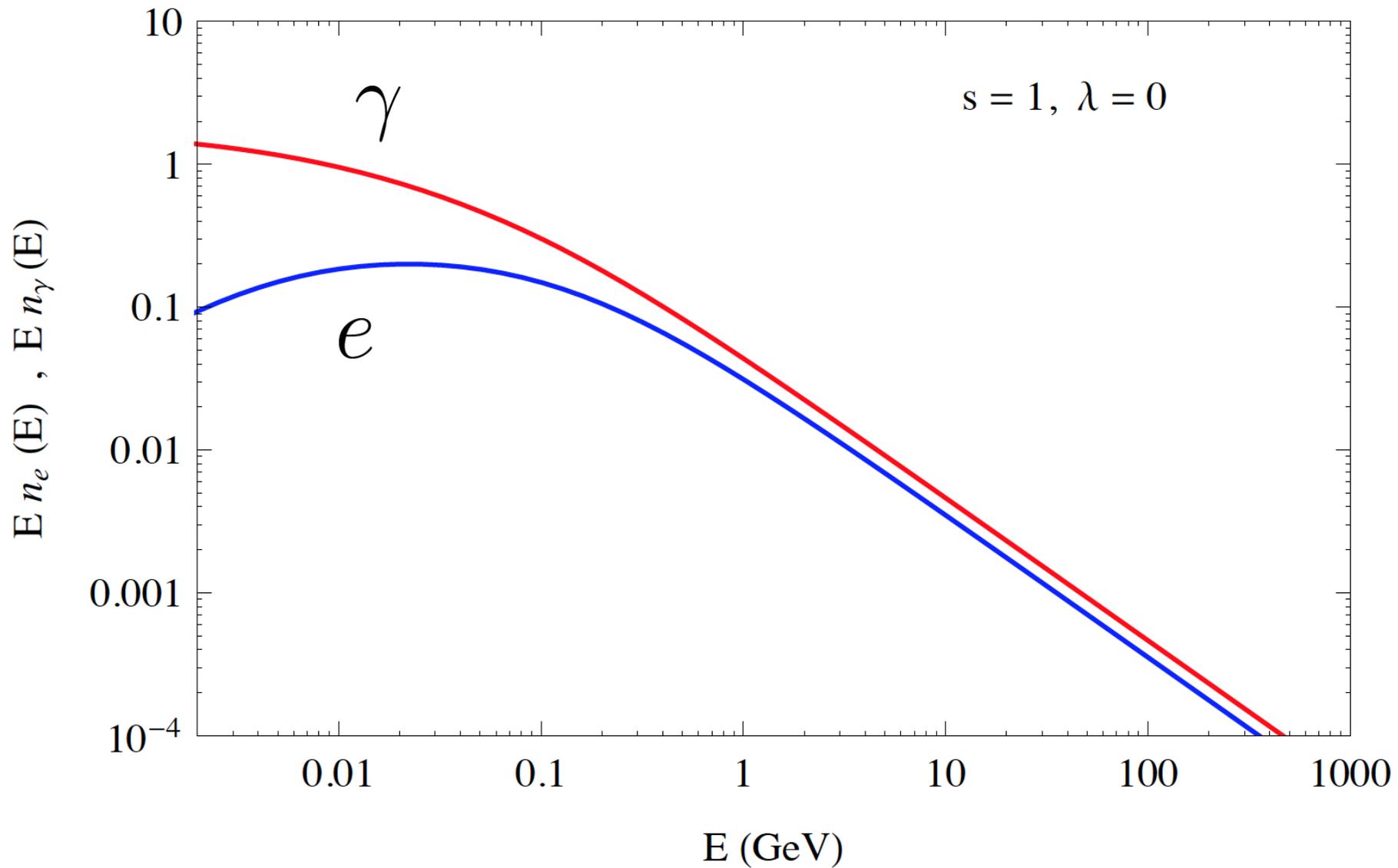
Approximation A

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial t} = & - \int_0^1 dv \varphi(v) \left[n_e(E, t) - \frac{1}{1-v} n_e\left(\frac{E}{1-v}, t\right) \right] \\ & + 2 \int_0^1 \frac{du}{u} \psi(u) n_\gamma\left(\frac{E}{u}, t\right) \\ & + \varepsilon \frac{\partial n_e(E, t)}{\partial E} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial n_\gamma(E, t)}{\partial t} = \int_0^1 \frac{dv}{v} \varphi(v) n_e\left(\frac{E}{v}, t\right) - \sigma_0 n_\gamma(E, t)$$

Approximation B

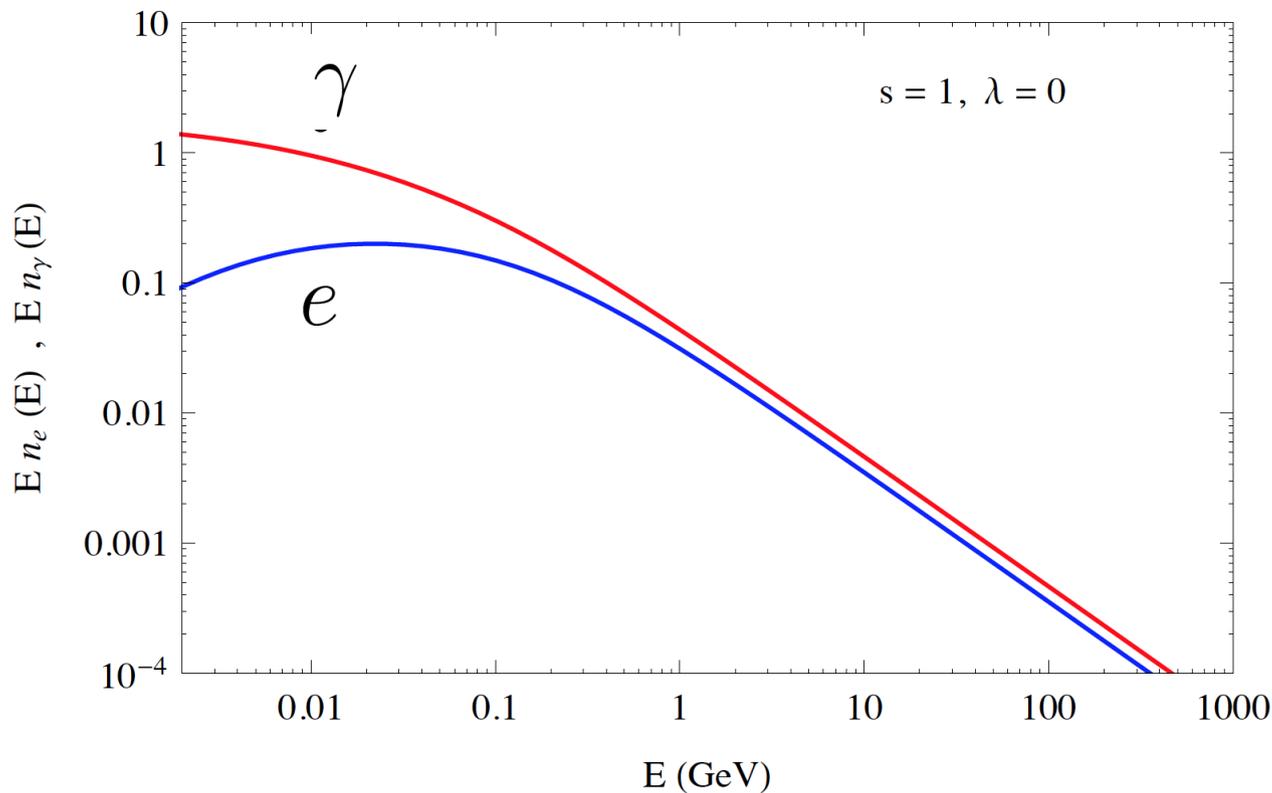
“Elementary solutions” of the electromagnetic shower equations in approximation B



Asymptotic form (large energy)

$$n_e(E, t) = K E^{-2}$$

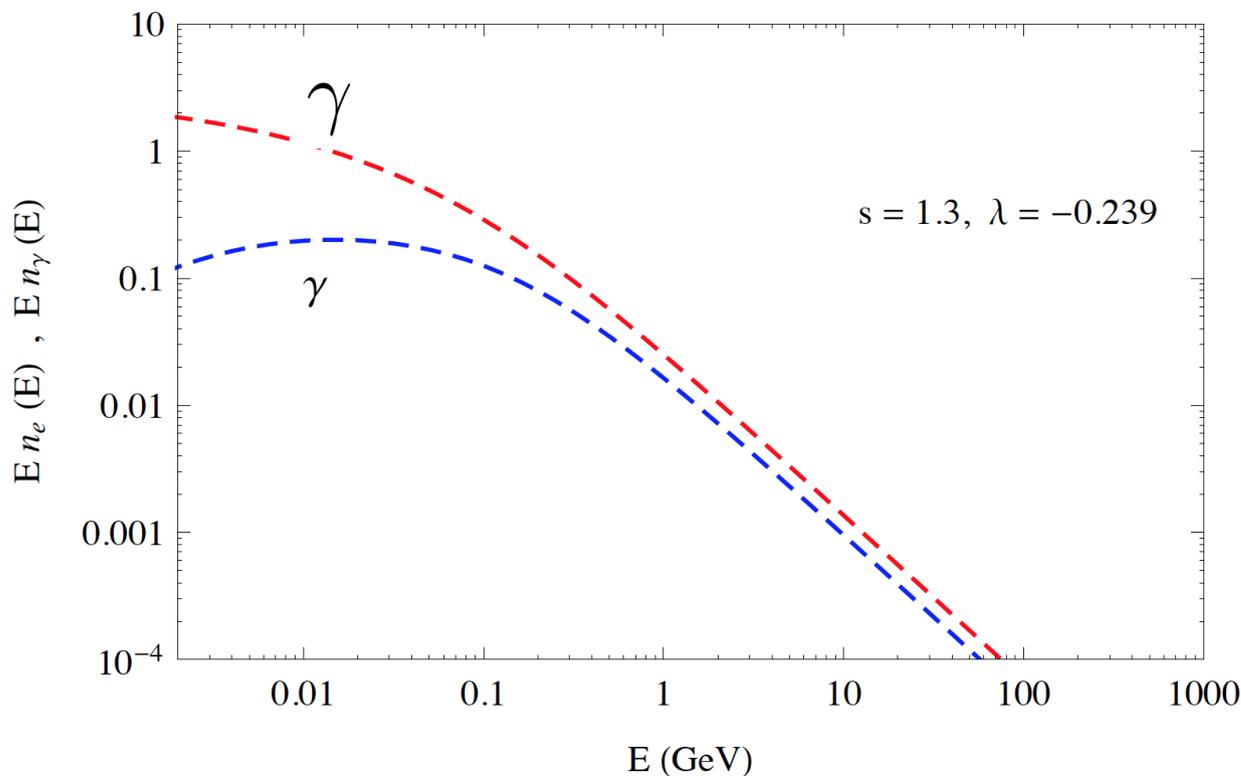
$$n_\gamma(E, t) = 1.310 K E^{-2}$$



Spectra of electrons and photons remain constant at all t

$$n_e(E, t) = K E^{-2.3} e^{-0.239 t}$$

$$n_\gamma(E, t) = 1.419 K E^{-2.3} e^{-0.239 t}$$

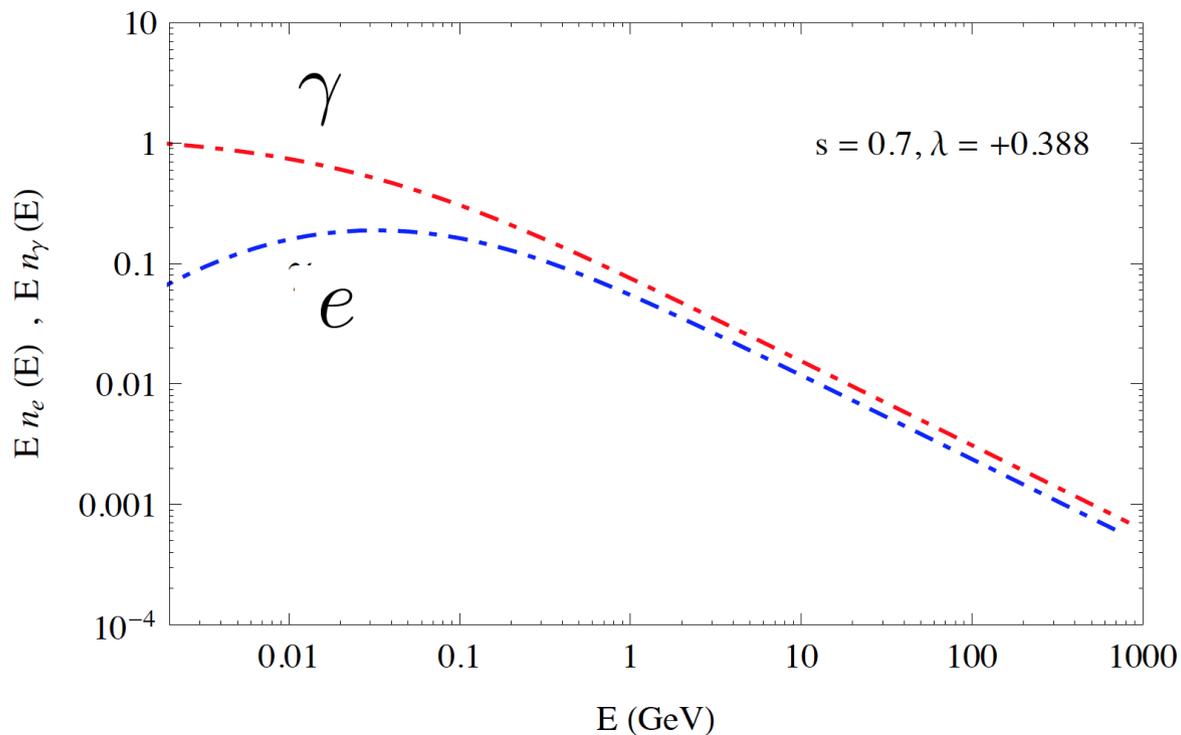


Spectra of electrons and photons have constant shape at all t

Exponentially decreasing normalization

$$n_e(E, t) = K E^{-1.7} e^{+0.388 t}$$

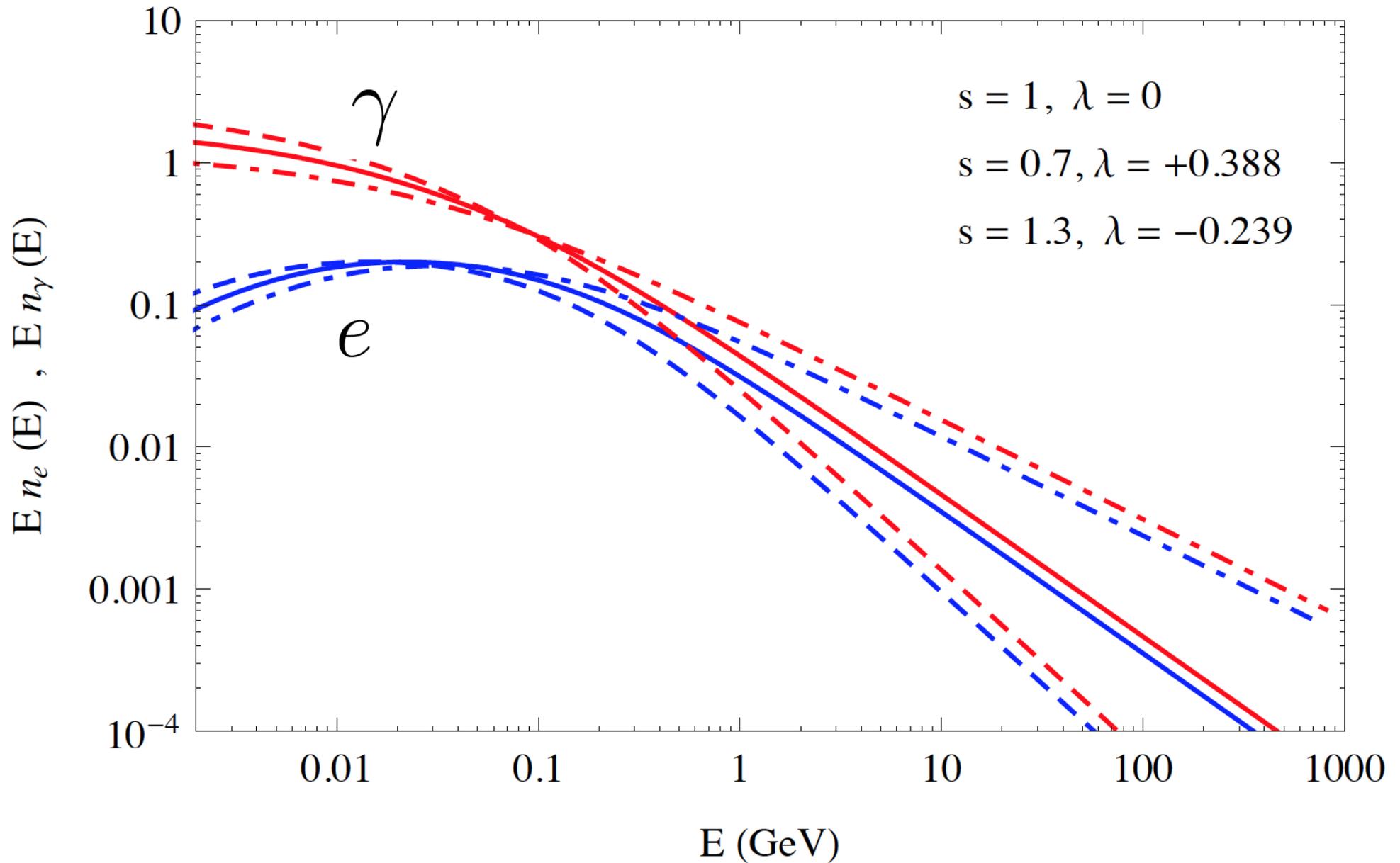
$$n_\gamma(E, t) = 1.303 K E^{-1.7} e^{+0.388 t}$$



Spectra of electrons and photons have constant shape at all t

Exponentially increasing normalization

$$\varepsilon \simeq 81 \text{ MeV}$$



“Elementary solutions” in approximation-B
 coincide with solutions in approximation -A for

$$E \gg \frac{\varepsilon}{s} \gg \varepsilon$$

The elementary solutions of the shower equations in approximation B, have a simple and very useful

*phenomenological application
for real showers*

(electromagnetic and also hadronic).

$N_e(t)$ Development of one real shower

Shower “*stage of development*” at the depth t_{obs}

$$\frac{1}{N_e(t)} \left. \frac{dN_e}{dt} \right|_{t=t_{\text{obs}}} = \lambda$$

$$N_e(t) \approx e^{\lambda(t-t_{\text{obs}})} N_e(t_{\text{obs}})$$

Mapping $\lambda \leftrightarrow s$

$$\lambda = \lambda(s)$$

$s = \text{shower } \textit{age}$

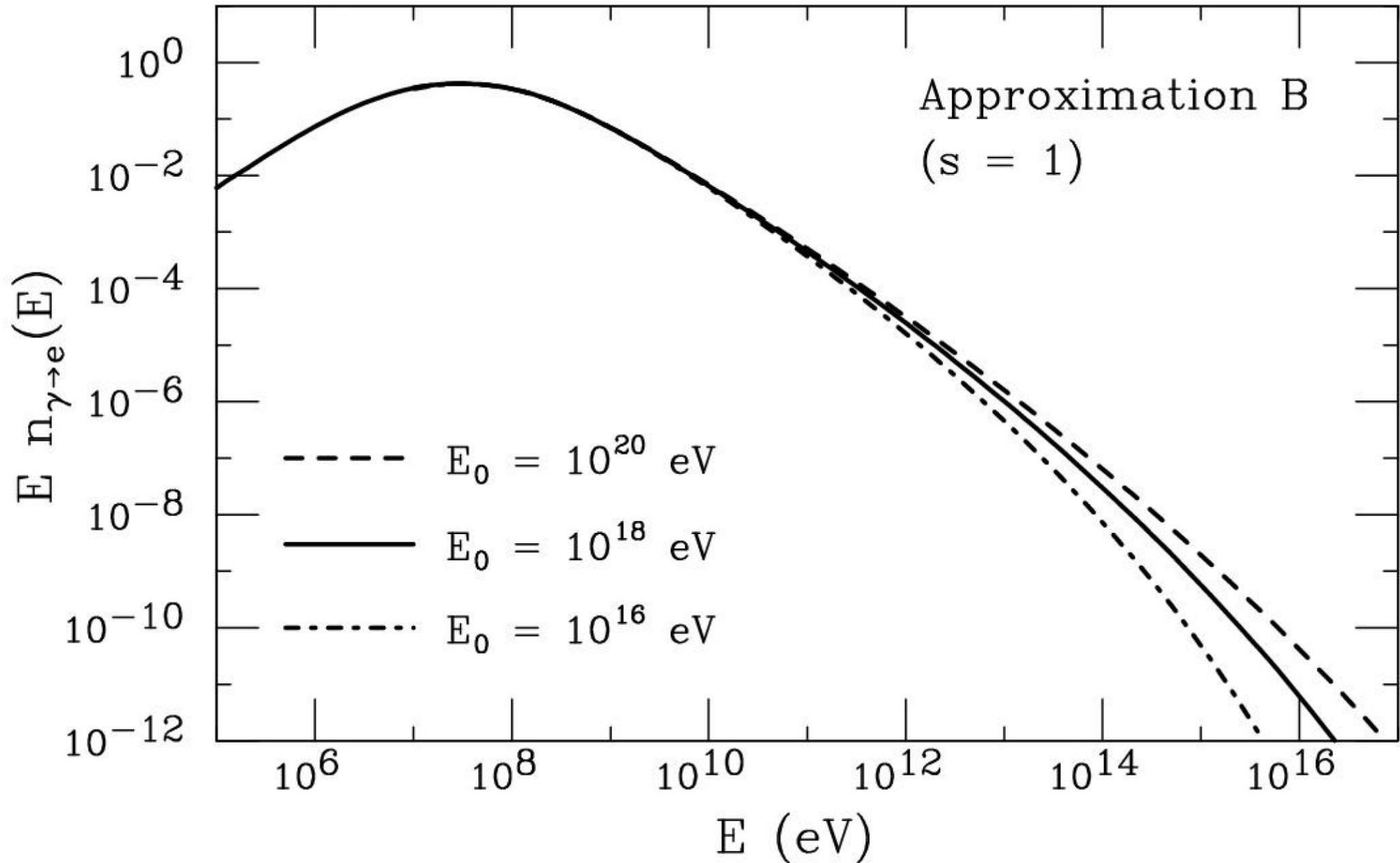
Shower at maximum: $s = 1$

Shower growing $s < 1$

Shower decreasing $s > 1$

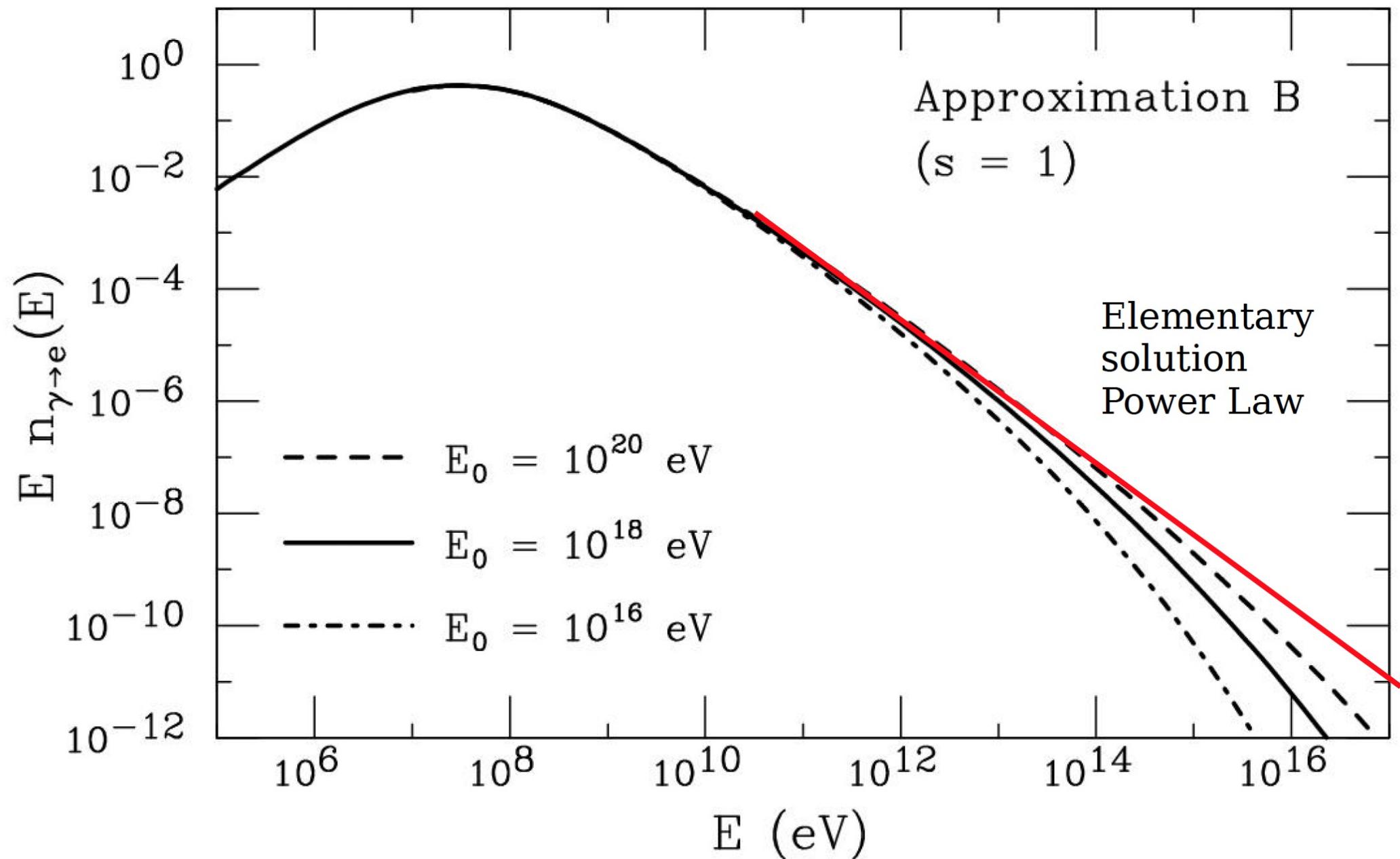
Different Energy : Same Age (Shower Maximum)

[normalized - average development of gamma ray showers]



Different Energy : Same Age (Shower Maximum)

[average development of gamma ray showers]



Most (by number) of the electron/positrons
and of photons in a “mature” shower
(that is those not at high energy)
have spectra of a “universal shape”
that is determined by the “*age*”
(that is by the stage of shower development)

Growing (pre-maximum) showers
have harder spectra, with respect to
Decreasing (post-maximum) showers

Result extensively tested
by numerical simulations

“Euristic method” (developed by Greisen) to compute the average evolution of an electromagnetic shower.

Size of a shower

number of electrons above a minimum energy E_{\min}

$$N_e(E_{\min}, t) = \int_{E_{\min}}^{E_0} dE n_e(E, t)$$

In first approximation for a short interval of t one can write:

$$N_e(E_{\min}, t) \approx K \left(\frac{E_{\min}}{E_0} \right)^{-s} e^{\lambda(s)t}$$

$$N_e(E_{\min}, t) \approx K \left(\frac{E_{\min}}{E_0} \right)^{-s} e^{\lambda(s)t}$$

This form is valid in the energy range

$\varepsilon \lesssim E \lesssim E_0$ (and not too close to the limits)

A reasonable first order
approximation for the total size

$$\lim_{E_{\min} \rightarrow 0} N_e(E_{\min}, t) \approx K \left(\frac{\varepsilon}{E_0} \right)^{-s} e^{\lambda(s)t}$$

$N(t) = N_e(E_{\min}, t)$ Use a more compact notation

$$\frac{dN(t)}{dt} \simeq \lambda(s) N(t) \quad s(t)$$

$$N_e(t) \approx K \left(\frac{E_{\min}}{E_0} \right)^{-s} e^{\lambda(s)t}$$

$$\frac{dN(t)}{dt} = \left[\lambda(s) + [\lambda'(s)t + \ln(E_0/E_{\min})] \frac{ds}{dt} \right] N(t)$$

$$\lambda'(s)t + \ln(E_0/E_{\min}) = 0$$

We obtain this “constraint”

$$\lambda'(s) t + \ln(E_0/E_{\min}) = 0$$

Constraint
on the evolution
of the shower

$$\lambda'(s) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{s} \right) \quad \text{Approximate form of } \lambda(s)$$

$$\lambda(s) = \frac{1}{2} (s - 1 - 3 \ln s)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{s} \right) t + \ln \left(\frac{E_0}{E_{\min}} \right) = 0$$

Can rewrite the
constraint in
simple, explicit form

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{s} \right) t + \ln \left(\frac{E_0}{E_{\min}} \right) = 0$$

$$t = t_{\max}$$

$$s = 1$$

$$t_{\max} = \ln \left(\frac{E_0}{E_{\min}} \right)$$

The position of the shower maximum grows with the logarithm of the energy of the primary particle

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{3}{s} \right) t + \ln \left(\frac{E_0}{E_{\min}} \right) = 0$$

More in general we can solve for s

$$s(t) = \frac{3t}{t + 2 \ln(E_0/E_{\min})}$$

$$s(t) = \frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}}$$

This means that we can estimate the shape of the particle spectrum knowing the “age” of the shower

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \lambda[s(t)] N(t)$$

We know know $s(t)$

Can use the approximate form $\lambda(s)$

Obtain a simple closed form equation

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}} - 1 - 3 \ln \left(\frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}} \right) \right]$$

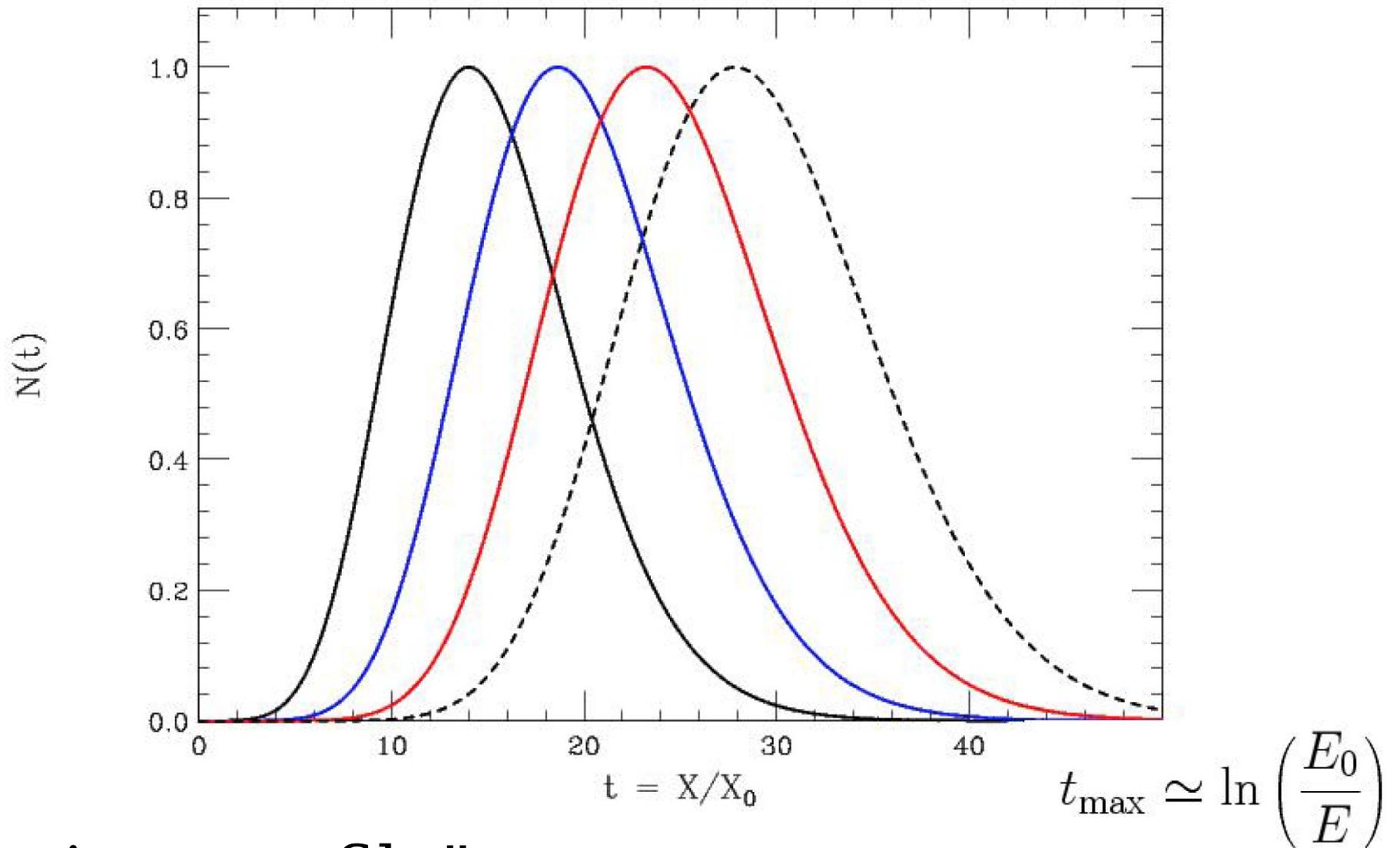
$$\frac{dN}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}} - 1 - 3 \ln \left(\frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}} \right) \right]$$

The equation has an analytic integral and the result is

$$N(t) = N_{\max} \exp \left[t \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \ln \left(\frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}} \right) \right) \right]$$

“Greisen profile”

$$N(t) = N_{\max} \exp \left[t \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \ln \left(\frac{3t}{t + 2t_{\max}} \right) \right) \right]$$



“Greisen profile”

The “Greisen profile”

[average development of electromagnetic shower]

$$N_{\text{Greisen}}(t, E_0) = N_0 \exp \left[t \left(1 - \frac{3}{2} \log \left(\frac{3t}{t + 2 \ln(E_0/\varepsilon)} \right) \right) \right]$$

$$t_{\text{max}} = \ln \frac{E_0}{\varepsilon}$$

Position of Maximum

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{3}{2} \ln \frac{E_0}{\varepsilon}}$$

Width of distribution

$$-\frac{1}{\sigma^2} = \left. \frac{d^2 N(t)}{dt^2} \right|_{t=t_{\text{max}}}$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} dt N(t) \simeq \sqrt{2\pi} N_{\max} \sigma \left[1 + \frac{0.176}{\sigma^2} + \dots \right]$$

$$\varepsilon \int_0^{\infty} dt N(t) = E_0$$

$$N_{\max} \approx \frac{E_0}{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\ln(E_0/\varepsilon)}}$$

$$\tau = t - t_{\max}$$

$$\ln \frac{N(t)}{N_{\max}} = -\frac{\tau^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{5\tau^3}{12\sigma^4} - \frac{3\tau^4}{8\sigma^8} + \dots$$

The Greisen profile can be understood qualitatively as a Gaussian

centered at t_{\max}

With width σ

with a small asymmetric distortion (tail at large t) that become negligible with at very large energy

Main results for e.m. shower development

$$X_{\max}(E) \simeq \lambda_{\text{rad}} \ln \left(\frac{E}{\varepsilon} \right)$$

Logarithmic
growth of the
penetration.

$$N_{\max}(E) \simeq \frac{E}{\varepsilon} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\ln(E/\varepsilon)}}$$

Energy
Conservation

Elongation rate = 85 (g/cm²)/decade

$$X_{\max}(E) \approx D \log_{10} E + X_0$$

D Elongation rate

$$X_{\max}(E) \simeq \lambda_{\text{rad}} \ln \left(\frac{E}{\varepsilon} \right) \quad \text{e.m. showers}$$

$$D \simeq \lambda_{\text{rad}} \ln 10 \simeq 85 \text{ g cm}^2$$

Elongation rate for electromagnetic shower

Heitler toy model
for electromagnetic
showers

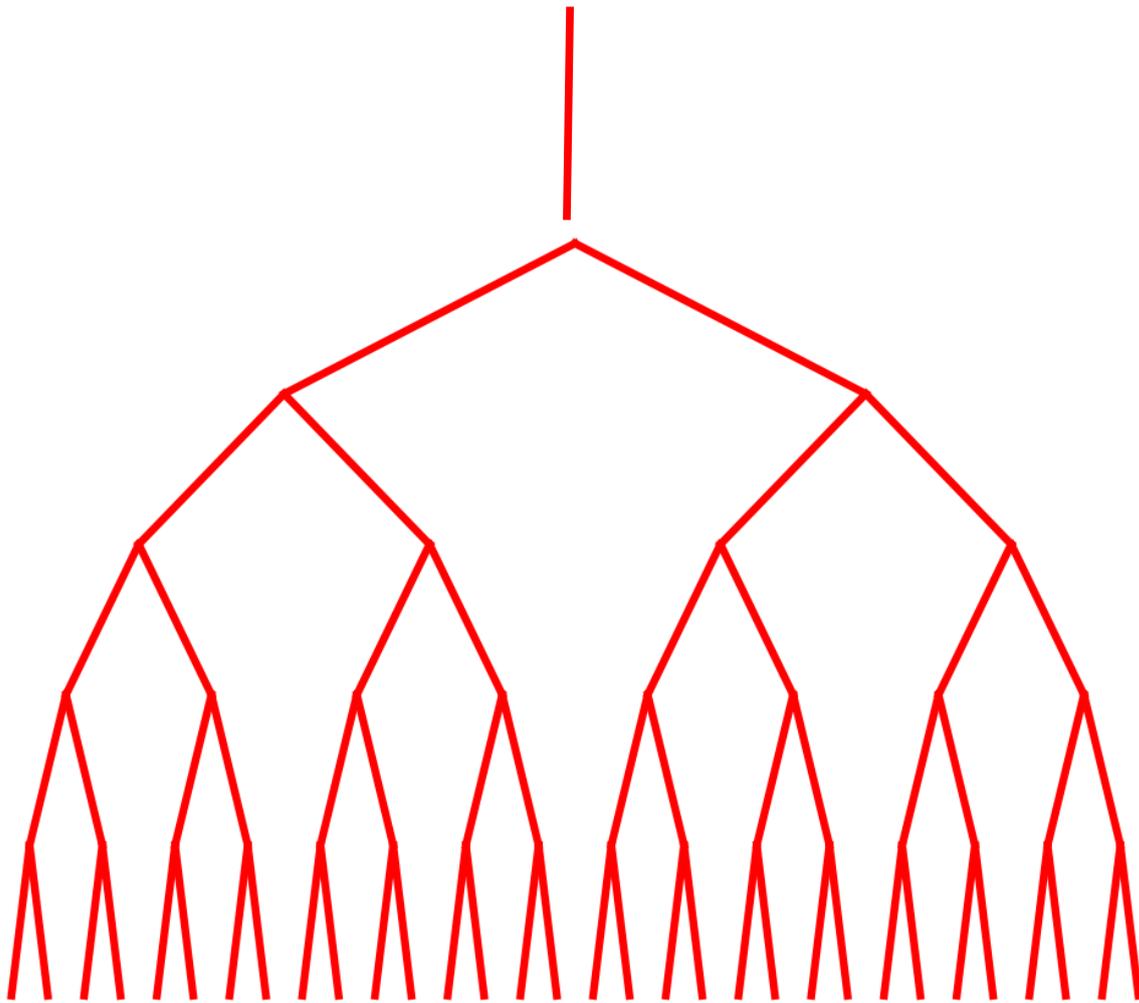
“Electron-photon”
particle

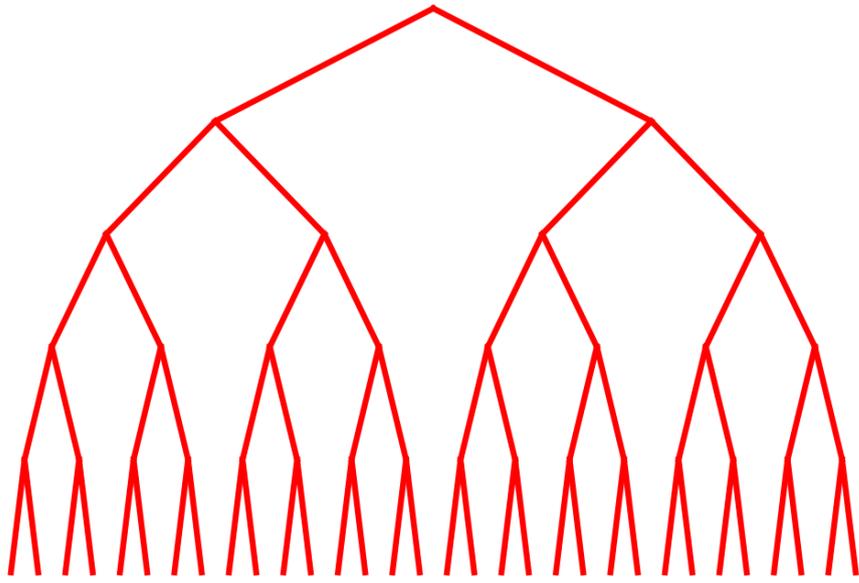
Splitting length

λ

Critical energy

ϵ





Development stops at n :

$$\frac{E}{2^n} = \varepsilon$$

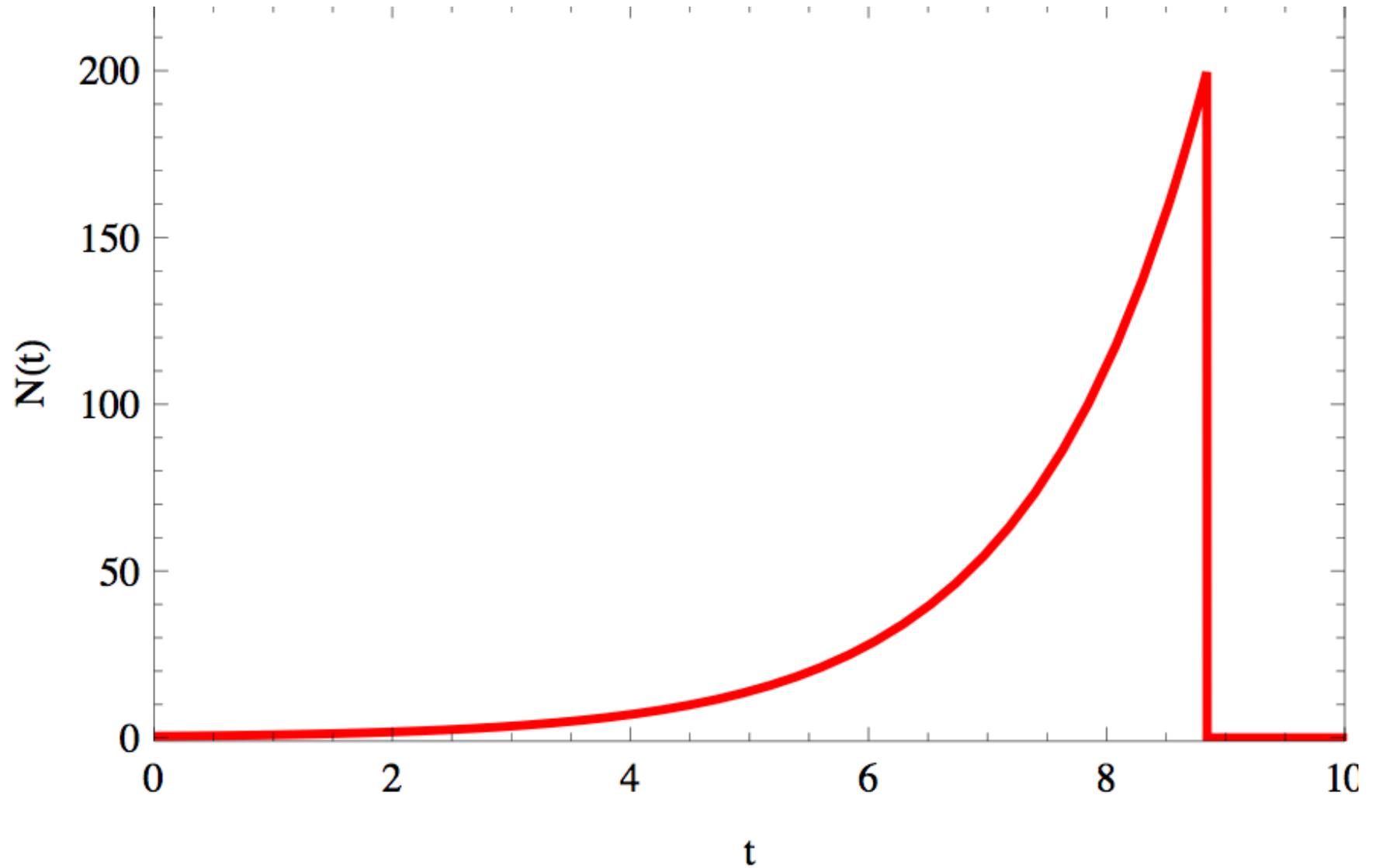
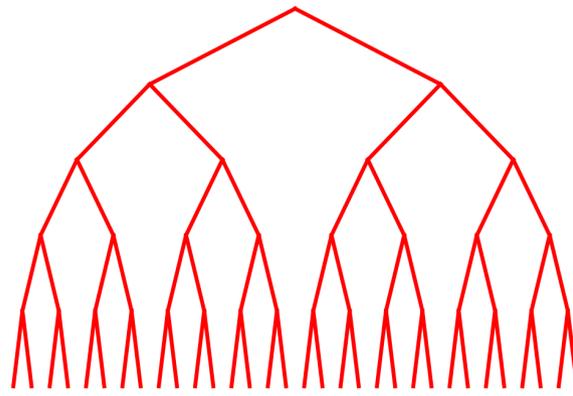
$$n = \log_2 \left(\frac{E}{\varepsilon} \right)$$

$$N_{\max} = 2^n = 2^{\log_2 E/\varepsilon} = \frac{E}{\varepsilon}$$

$$X_{\max} = \lambda n = \lambda \log_2 \left(\frac{E}{\varepsilon} \right) = \frac{\lambda}{\ln 2} \ln \left(\frac{E}{\varepsilon} \right)$$

$$= \lambda_{\text{rad}} \ln \left(\frac{E}{\varepsilon} \right)$$

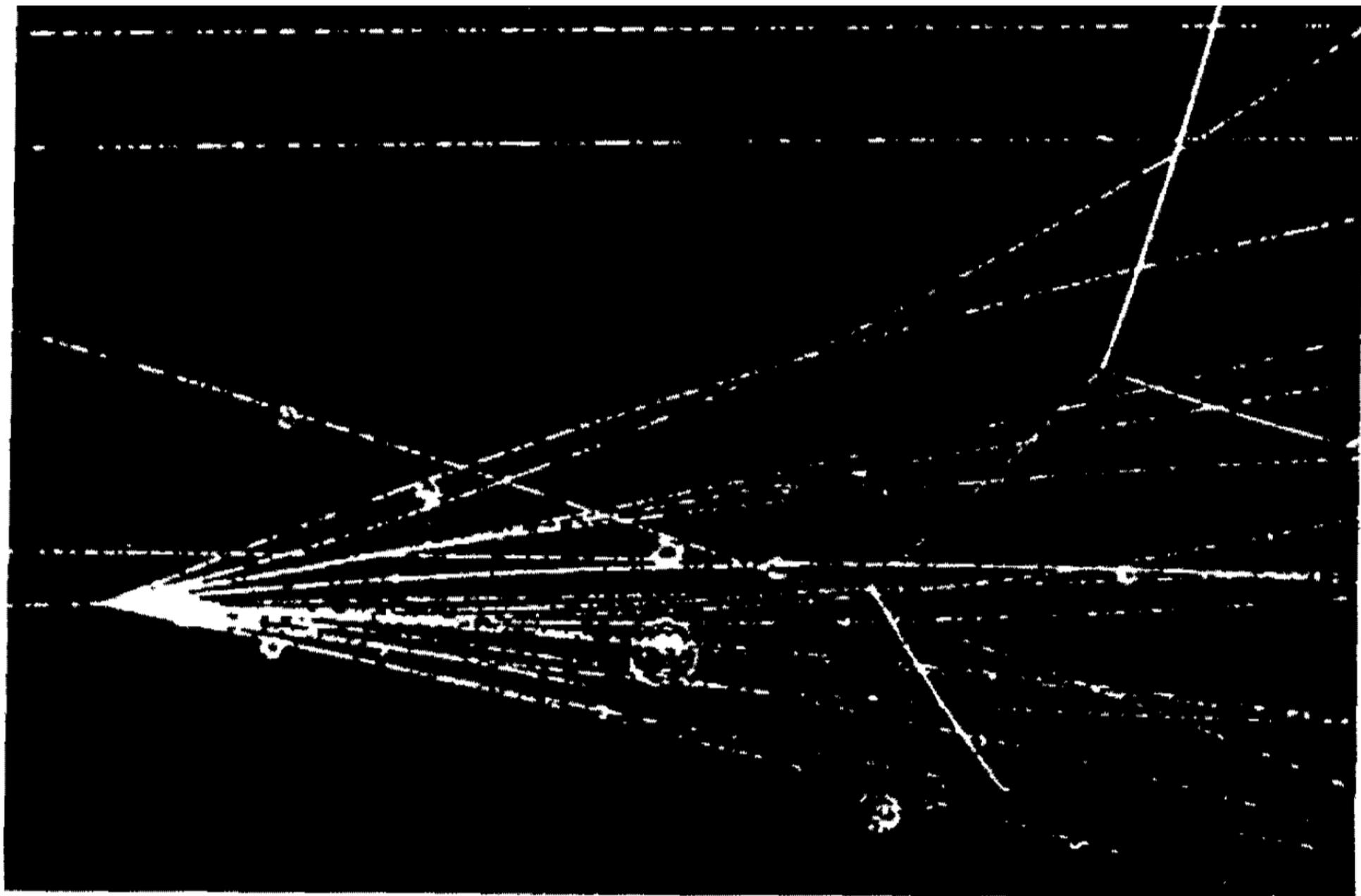
Shower development
in Heitler toy model:



Shower generated by hadrons [protons and Nuclei]

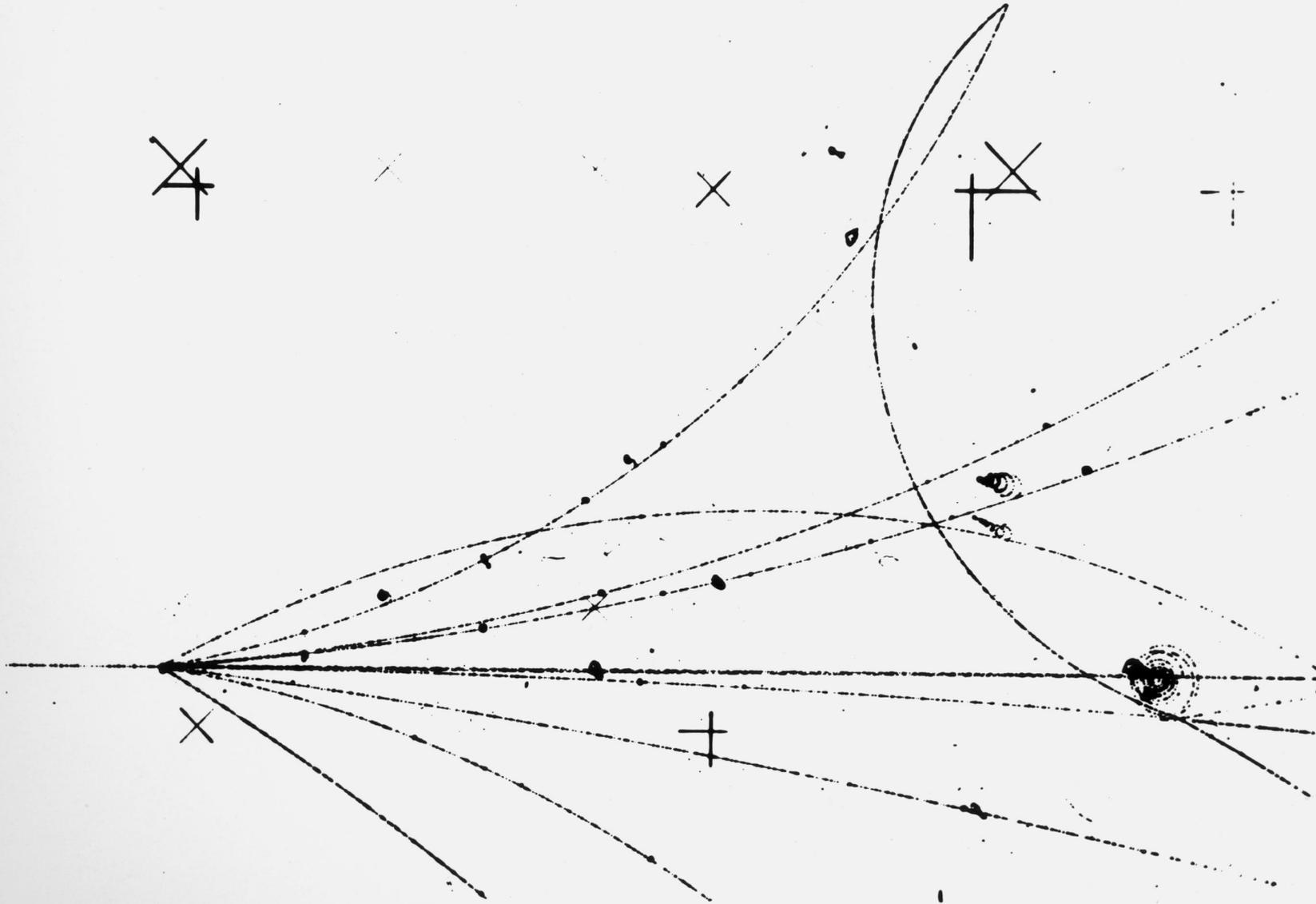
A much more complicated problem
where we are not able to reliably
compute from first principles the
properties of the shower development

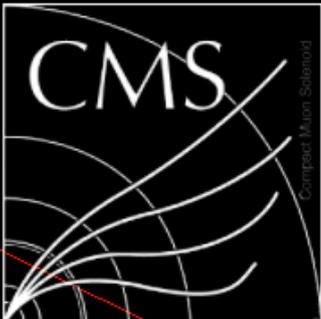
Interaction between a proton of 28 GeV/c and a proton of the hydrogen bubble chamber. In the interaction are produced 16 charged particles beside several neutral particles (by courtesy of CERN, Geneva).



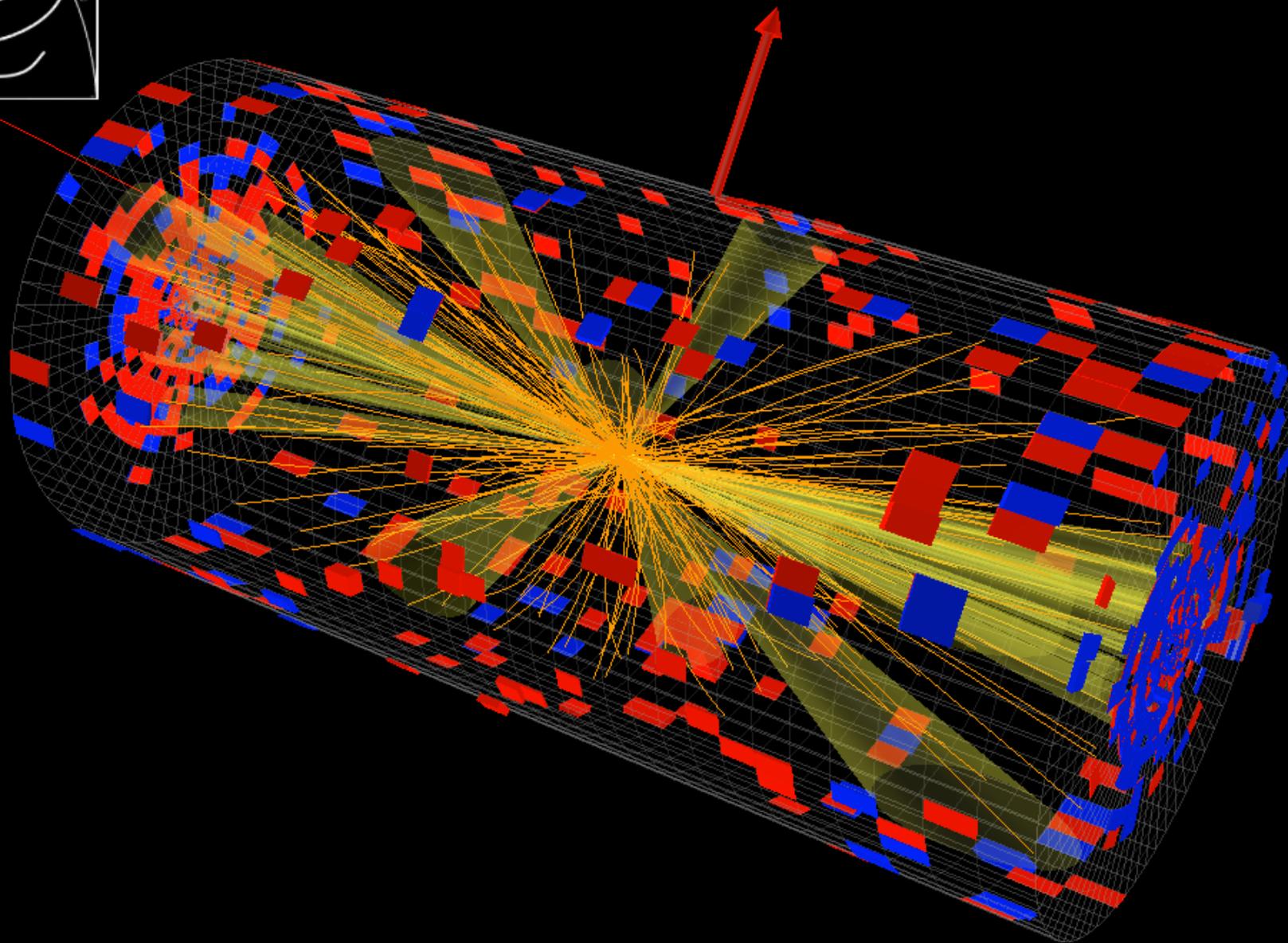


One of the first photographs taken with the thirty-inch bubble chamber at NAI. June 15, 1972. A two-hundred GeV proton enters the chamber and interacts with the liquid hydrogen. The resulting collision produces a spectacular event with ten visible nuclear fragments emerging. The tracks are nearly thirty inches long.





CMS Experiment at LHC, CERN
Data recorded: Thu Apr 5 01:18:00 2012 CEST
Run/Event: 190389 / 107592030
Lumi section: 138



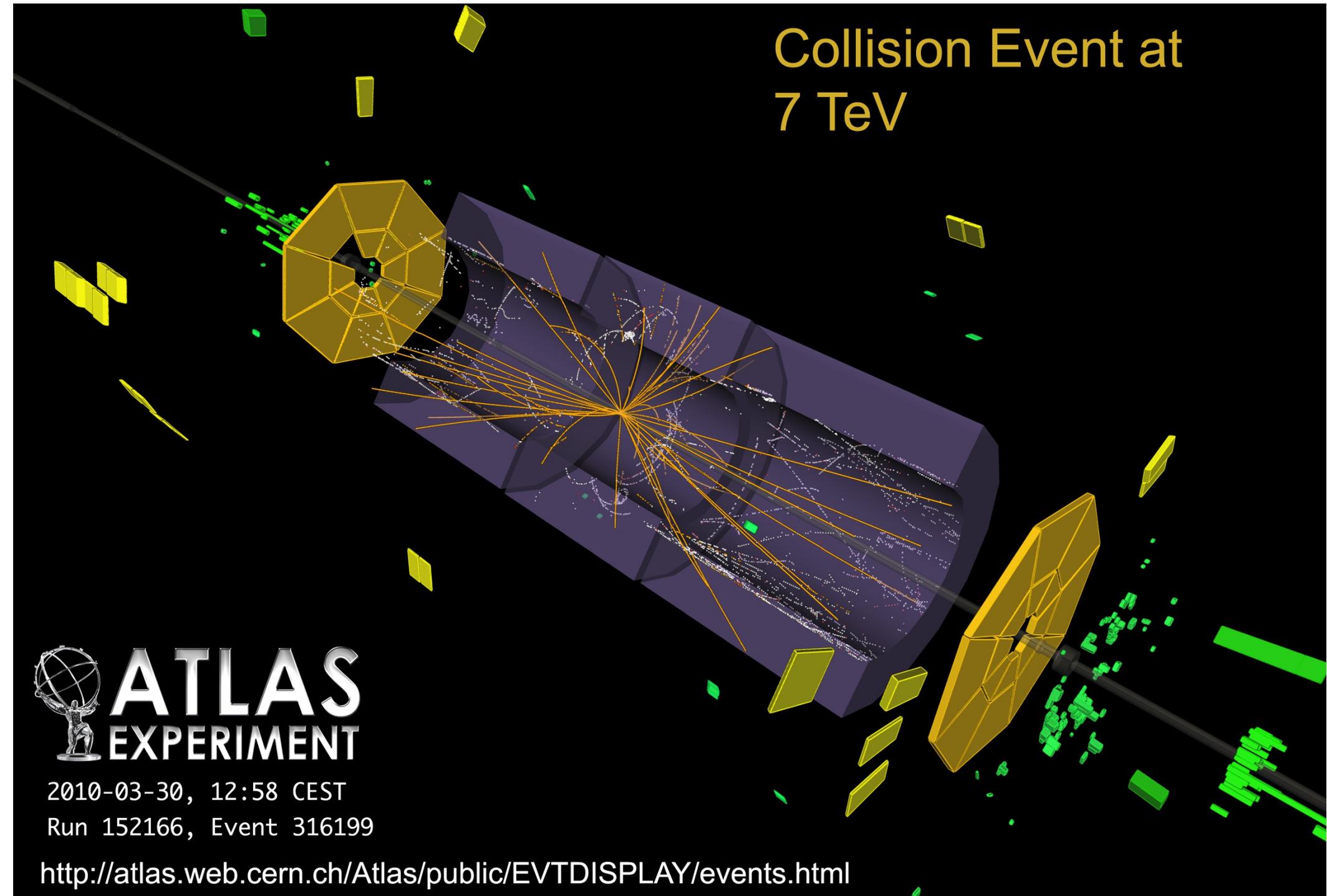
Collision Event at 7 TeV



ATLAS
EXPERIMENT

2010-03-30, 12:58 CEST
Run 152166, Event 316199

<http://atlas.web.cern.ch/Atlas/public/EVTDISPLAY/events.html>



$$p + p \rightarrow p(n) + p(n)$$

$$+ \pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$$

$$+ K^+ + K^- + K^0 + \overline{K}^0$$

$$+ p(n) + \overline{p}(\overline{n})$$

$$+ \dots [e^\pm, \mu^\pm, \text{charm, heavy quarks}]$$

$$\rho^+ \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^0$$

$$\omega_0 \rightarrow \pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$$

$$\Delta^{++} \rightarrow p + \pi^+$$

$$p + p \rightarrow p(n) + p(n)$$

“Leading” baryons
40-50% of energy

$$+ \pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$$

most abundant
particles

$$+ K^+ + K^- + K^0 + \overline{K}^0$$

strange
mesons

$$+ p(n) + \overline{p}(\overline{n})$$

baryon/
anti-baryon pairs

$$+ \dots [e^\pm, \mu^\pm, \text{charm, heavy quarks}]$$

$$p + p \rightarrow p(n) + p(n)$$

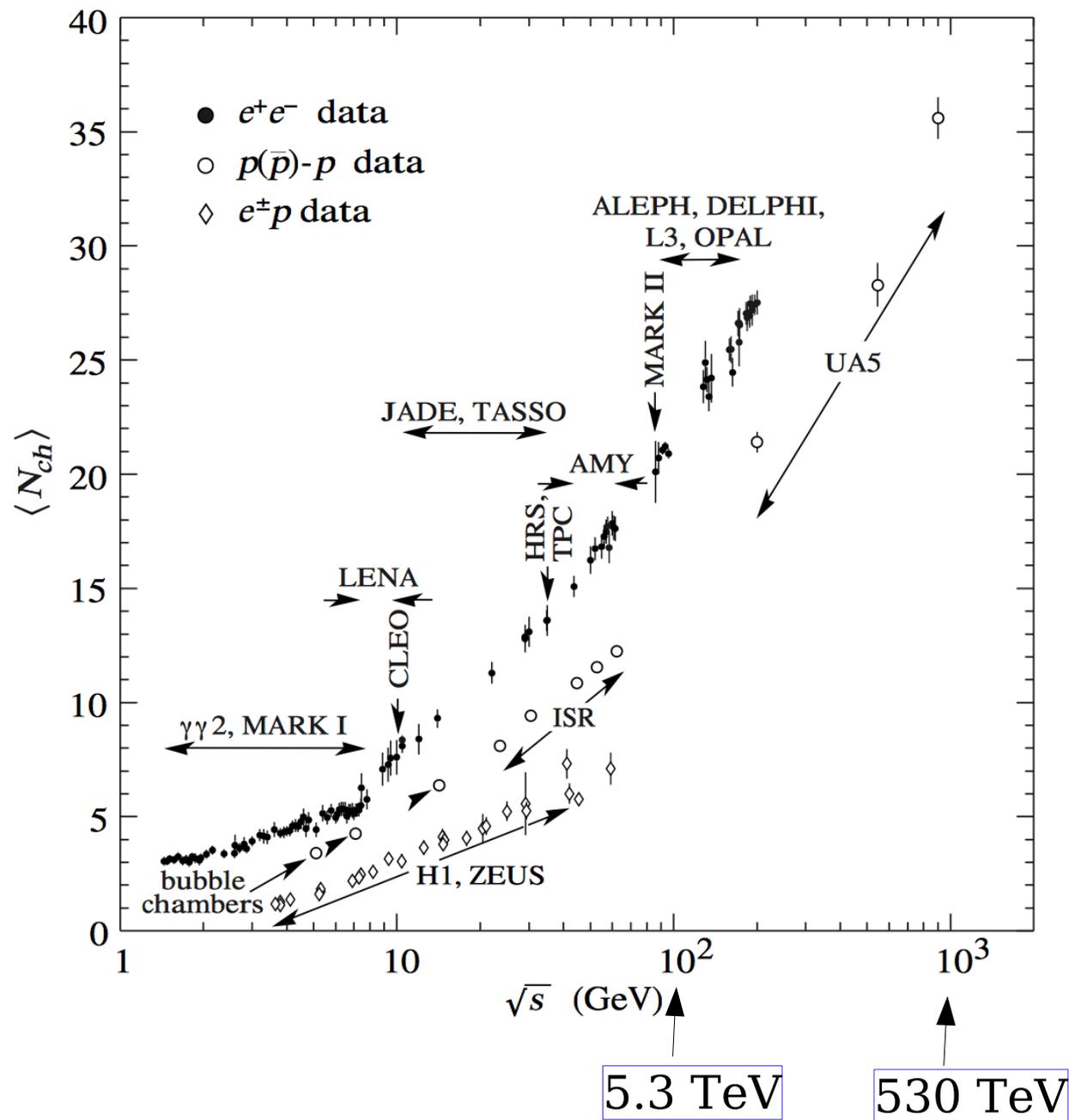
$$+ \pi^+ + \pi^- + \pi^0$$
$$[u\bar{d}] \quad [d\bar{u}] \quad ([u\bar{u}] + [d\bar{d}]) / \sqrt{2}$$

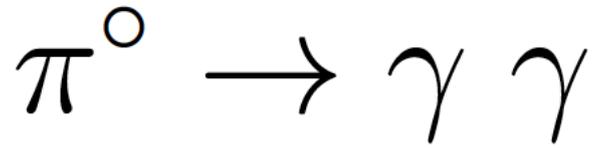
$$+ K^+ + K^- + K^0 + \bar{K}^0$$
$$[u\bar{s}] \quad [s\bar{u}] \quad [d\bar{s}] \quad [s\bar{d}]$$

$$+ p(n) + \bar{p}(\bar{n})$$

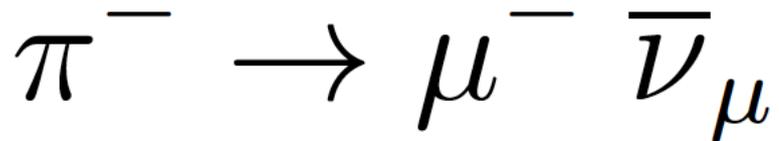
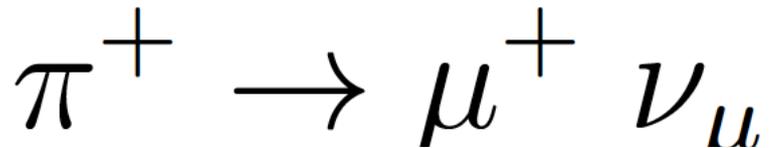
$$+ \dots [e^\pm, \mu^\pm, \text{charm, heavy quarks}]$$

Average Charged Multiplicity





Neutral pions are the source
of an electromagnetic component
(very rapid decay)



$$\lambda_{\pi^\pm}^{\text{int}} \approx 120 \text{ gcm}^{-2}$$

Competition between
interaction and decay

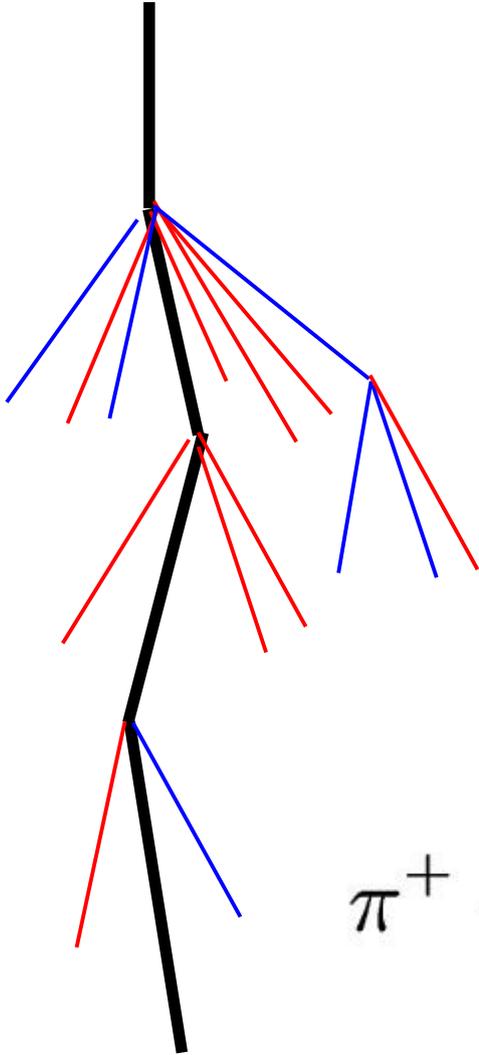
“Critical energy”
[separate decay from interactions]

$$E_\pi^* \approx 120 \text{ GeV}$$

$$\lambda_{\text{decay}}(E_\pi) = \langle \rho \rangle \frac{1}{\beta \gamma} = \langle \rho \rangle \frac{m_\pi}{\beta E_\pi}$$

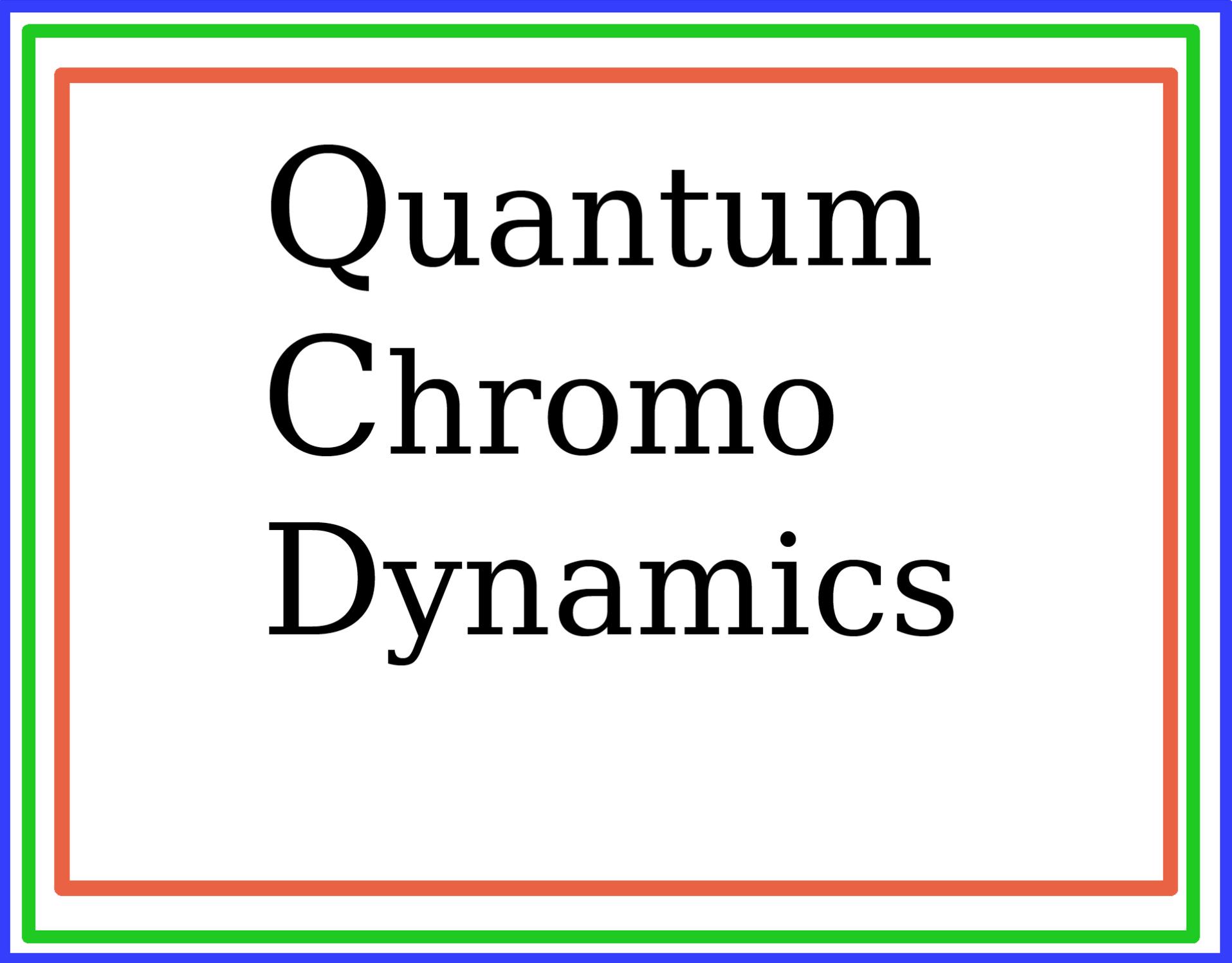
Proton Shower

Vertices : theoretically not understood
(and not exactly scaling)



$$\pi^0 \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$$

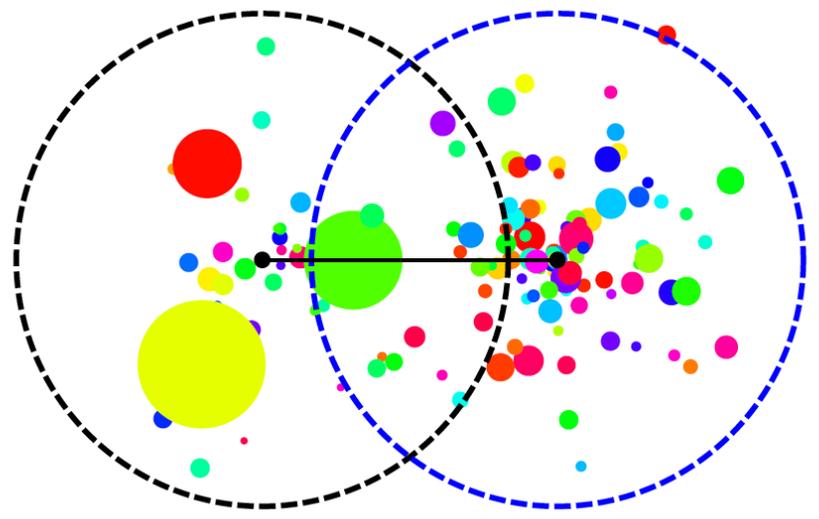
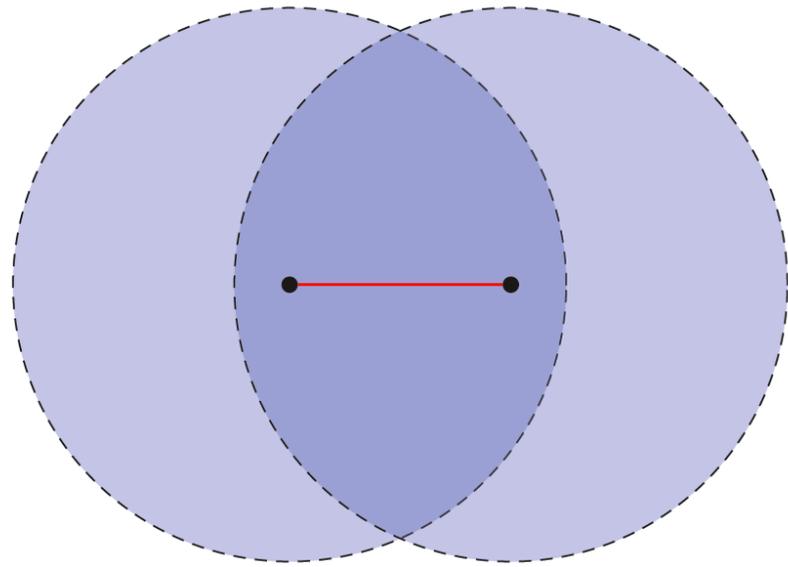
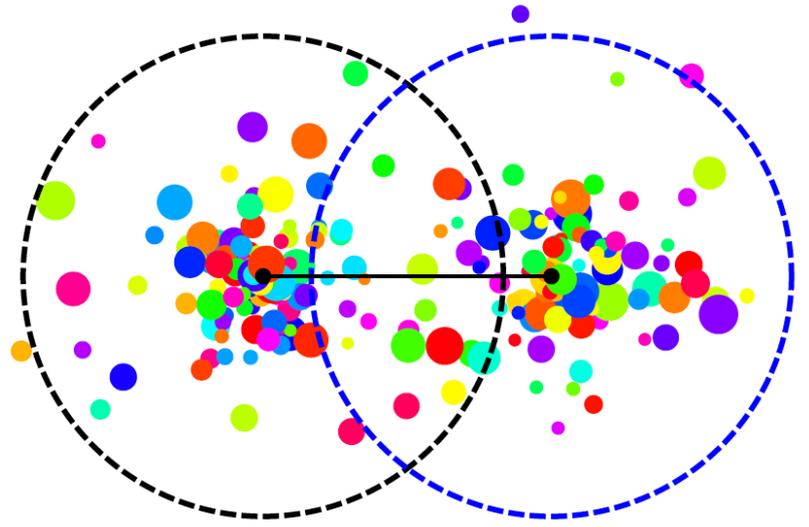
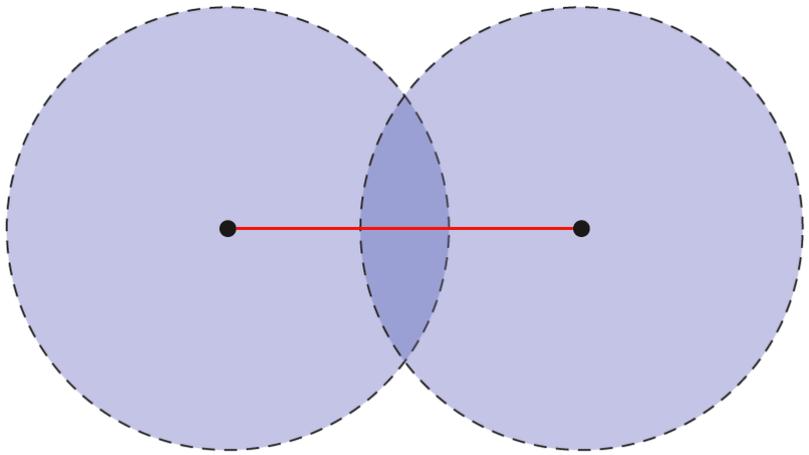
$$\pi^+ \rightarrow \mu^+ \nu_\mu$$

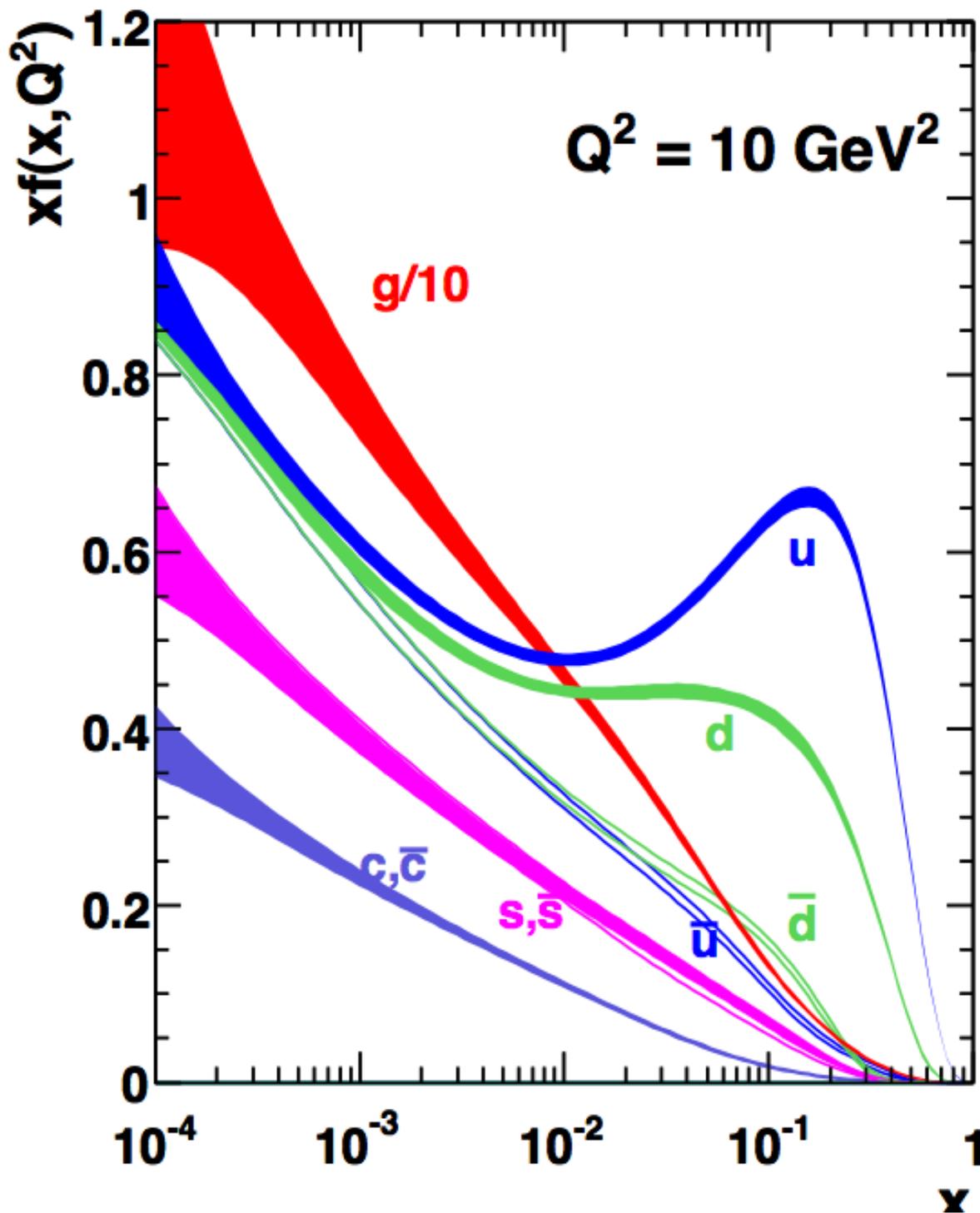


Quantum Chromo Dynamics

“Confinement”

“Asymptotic freedom”





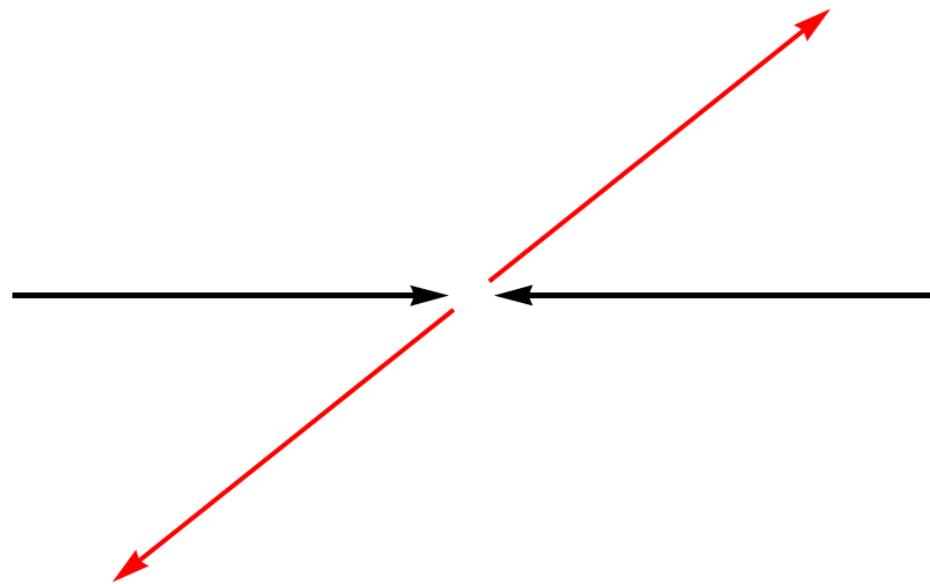
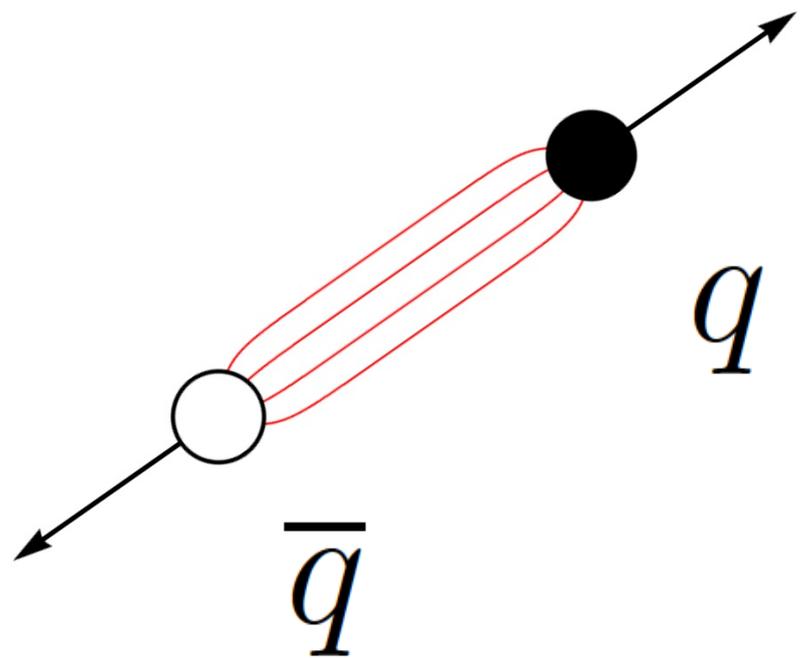
Parton Distribution Functions

$$f_j(x) \propto \frac{1}{x^{1+\delta}}$$

Rapid growth
for $x \rightarrow 0$

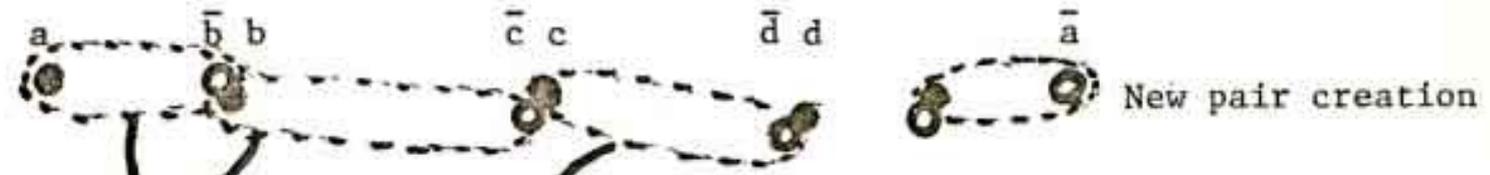
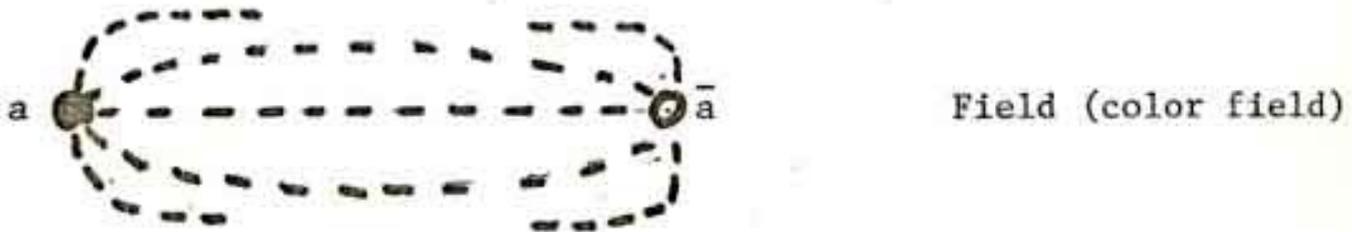
$e^+ + e^- \rightarrow \text{hadrons}$

$e^+ + e^- \rightarrow q + \bar{q}$

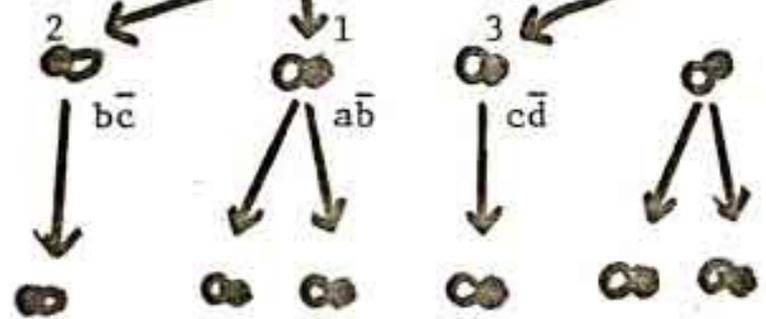


$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\cos\theta} = \frac{2\alpha^2 q^2}{3E^2} (1 + \cos^2\theta)$$

Fig. 1. An e^+e^- Annihilation

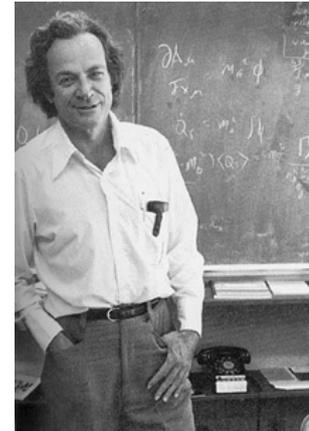


Rank



gathering to make "mesons"
which decay to
 π, K, γ

Field -Feynman : Quark - Fragmentation



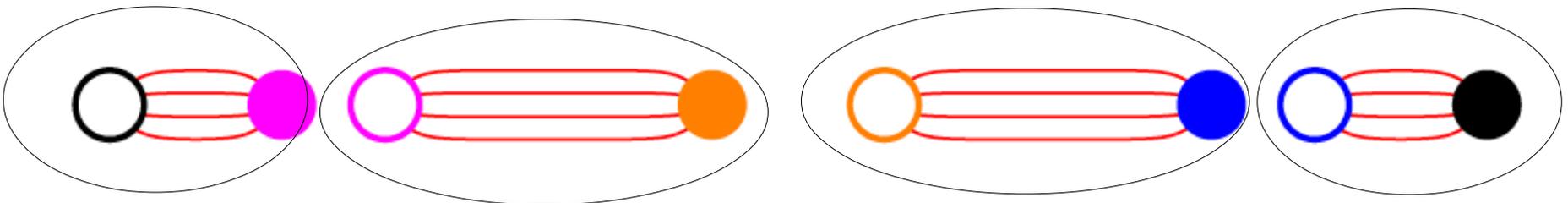


$q \bar{q}$

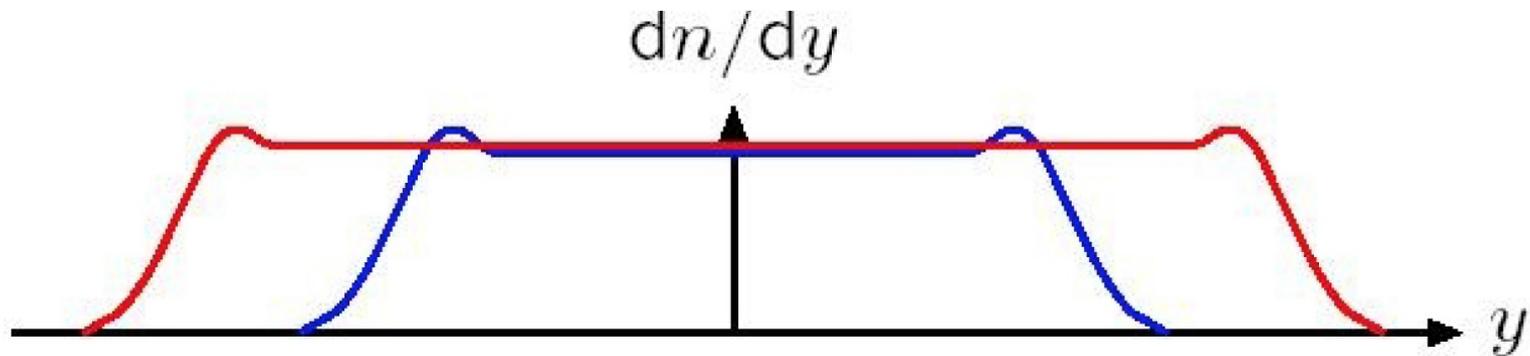
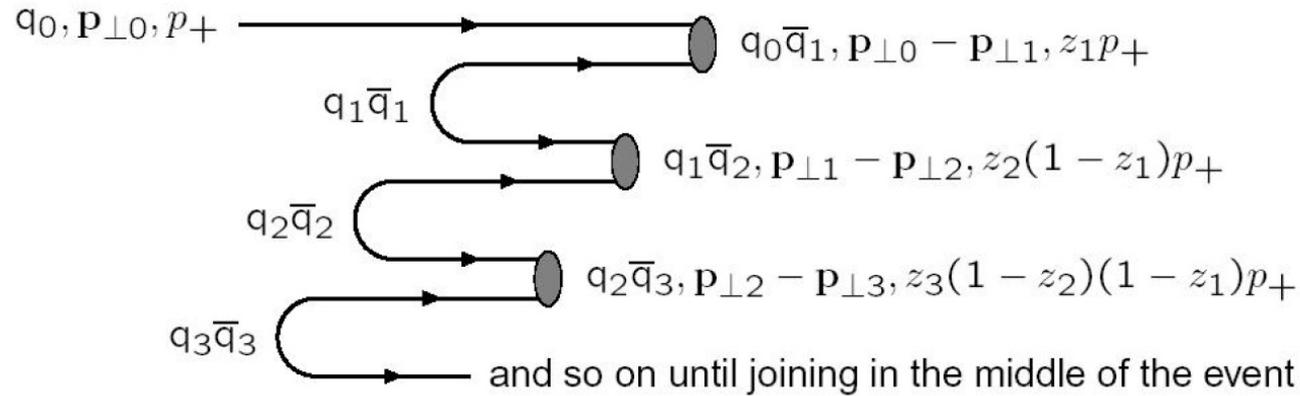




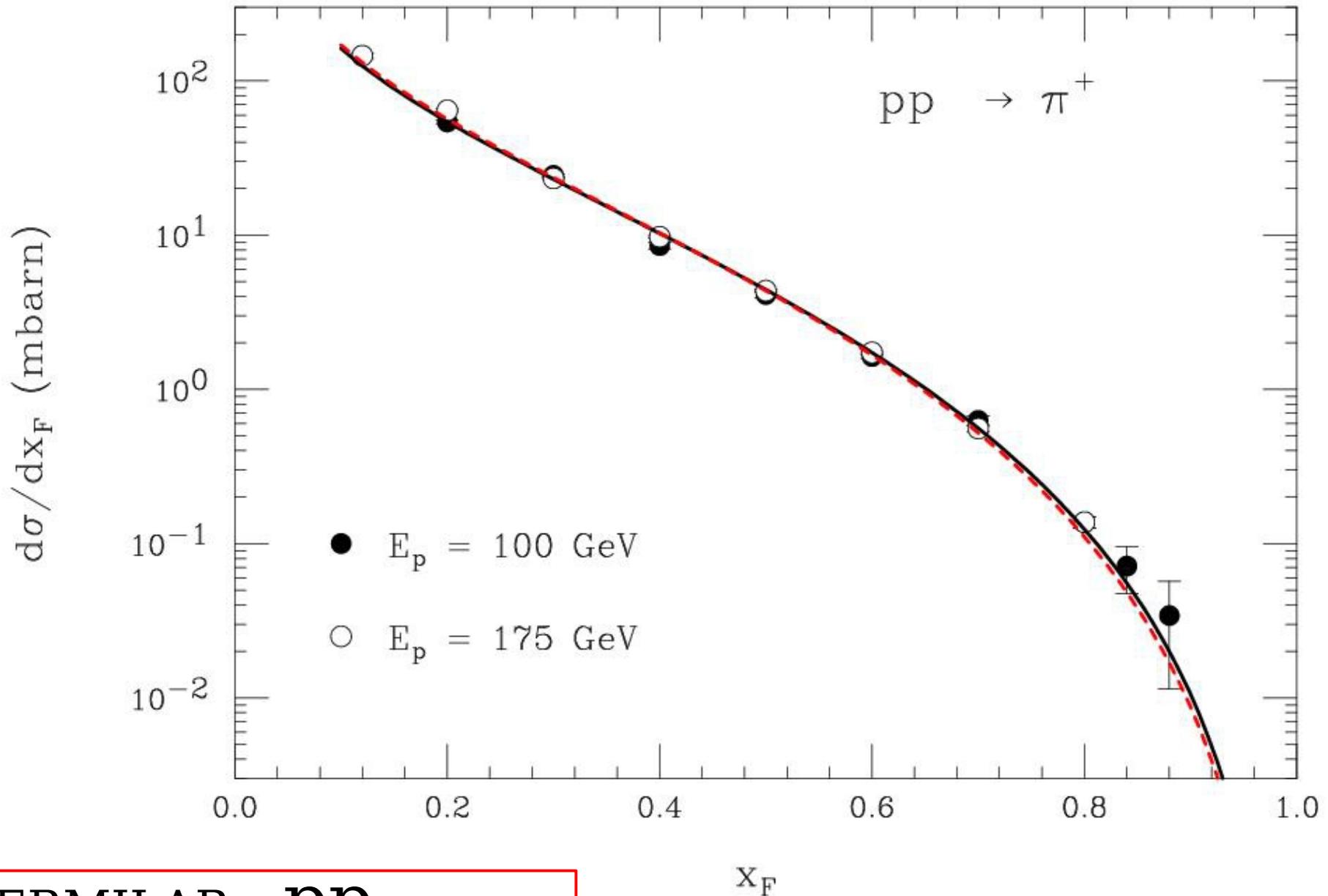
Mesons



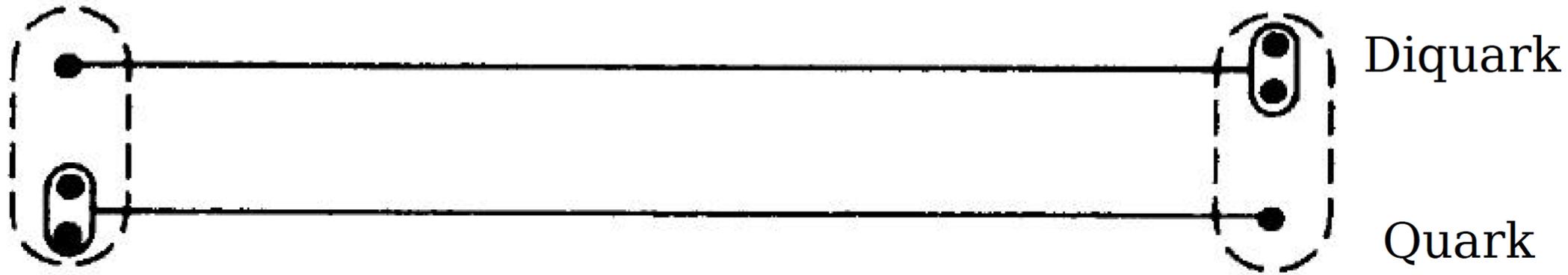
The (iterative) Fragmentation of one COLOR STRING produces a SCALING SPECTRUM of HADRONS



Phenomenological Evidence for SCALING



FERMILAB: **pp**
Brenner et al (1982)



Basic Structure of
a NON diffractive PP interactions
is made of TWO STRINGS

Color Structure

$$3 \otimes 3 = \bar{3} \oplus 6$$

$$3 \otimes \bar{3} = 1 \oplus 8$$

“Hadronic particle”

“Hadron”

Interaction Length π

“Inelasticity” f

“multiplicity” m

Hadronic
Interaction
Length

1

Hadronic vertex

f/m

Energy sharing

$1 \rightarrow (1-f) +$

$f/m +$

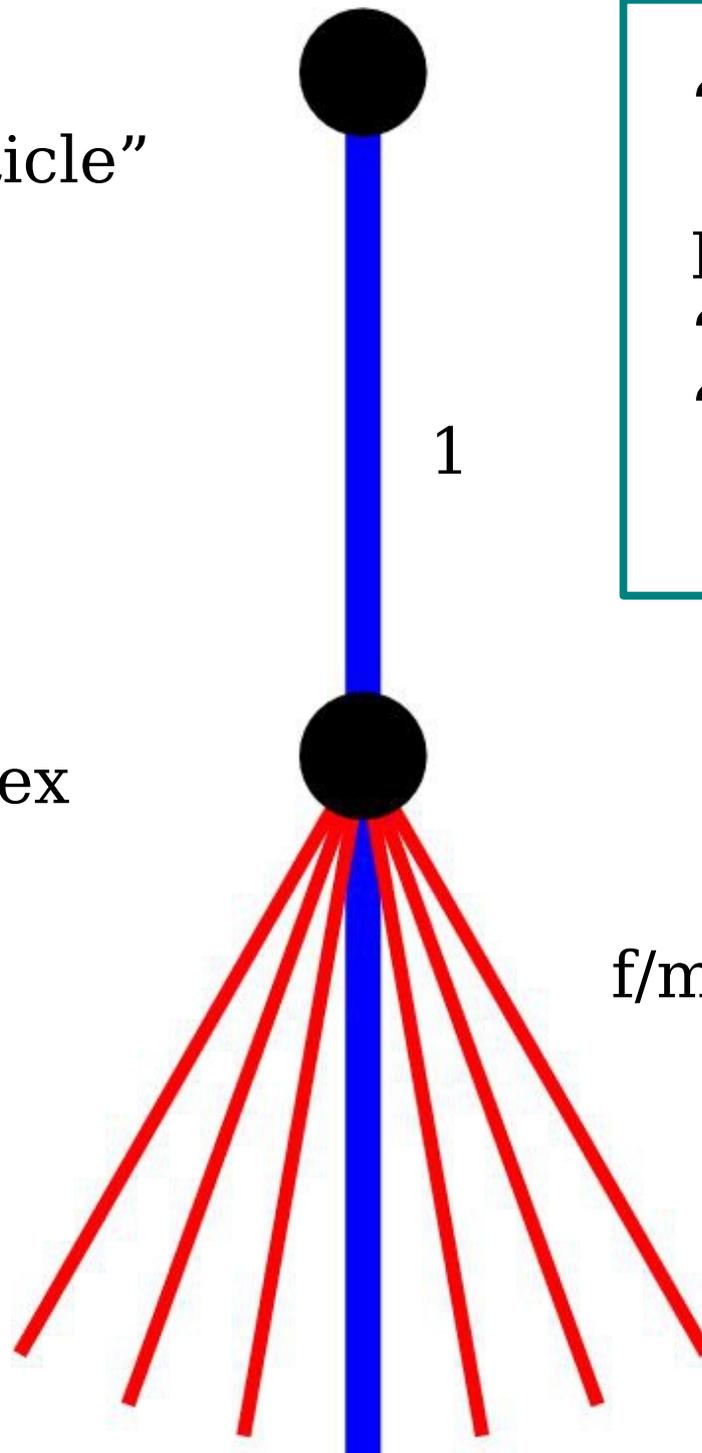
$f/m +$

$f/m +$

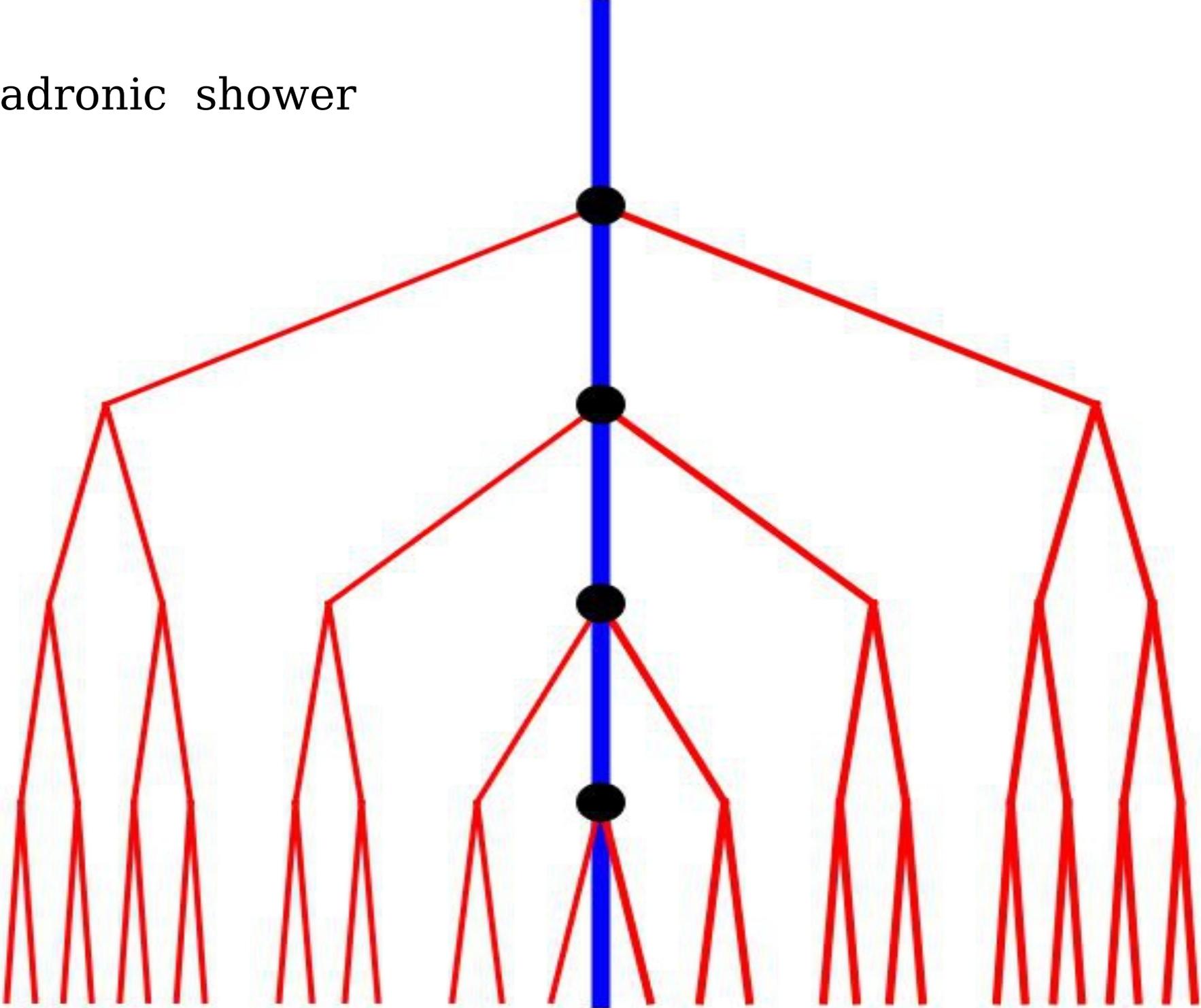
$f/m +$

.....

$1-f$

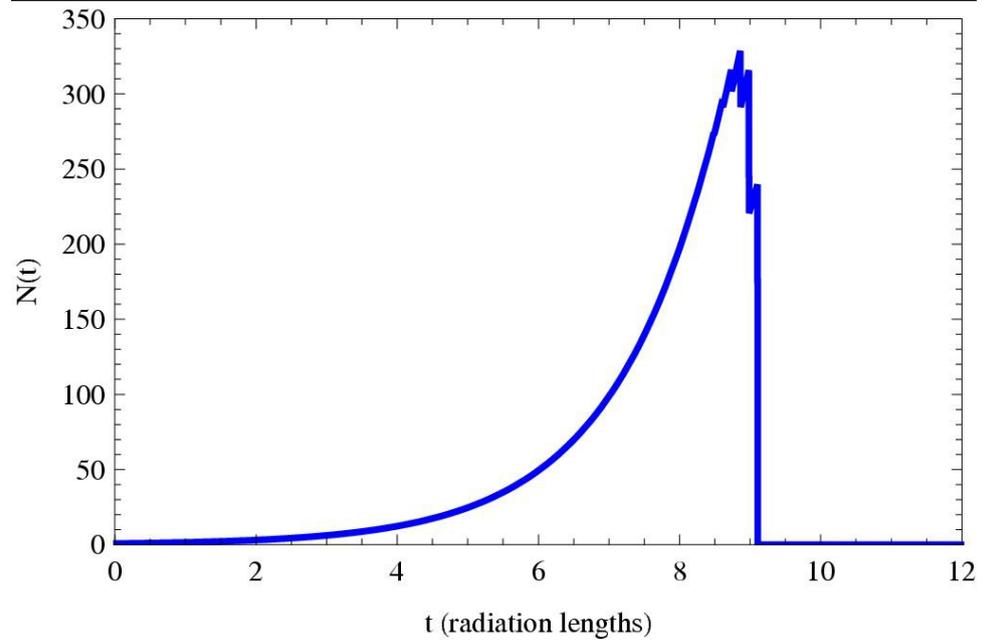
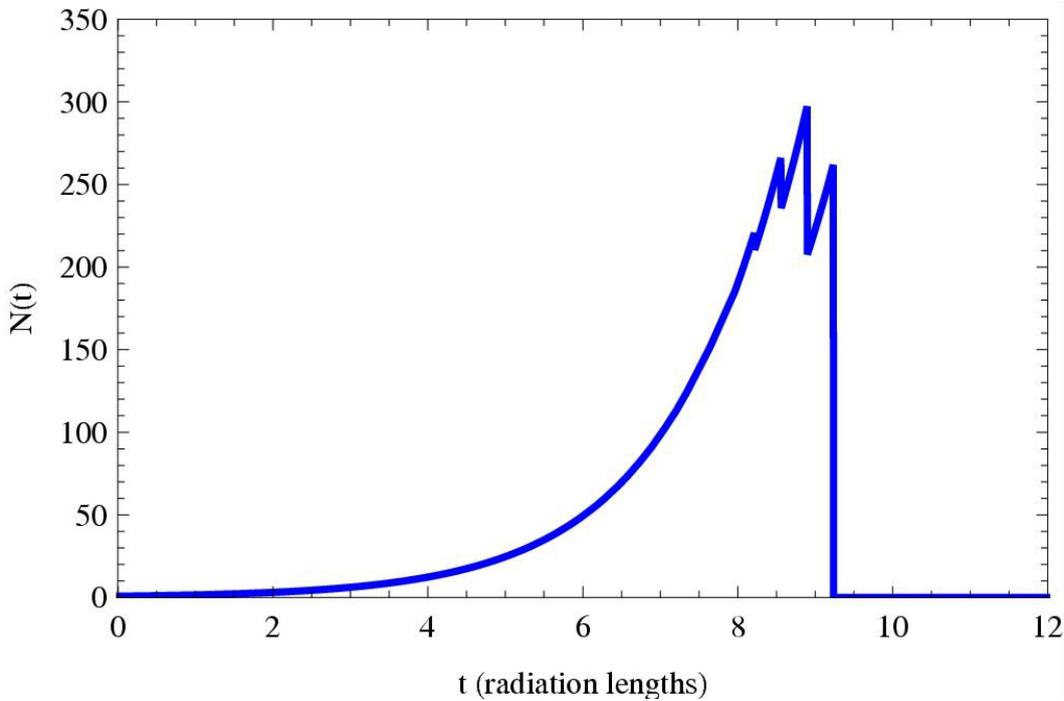
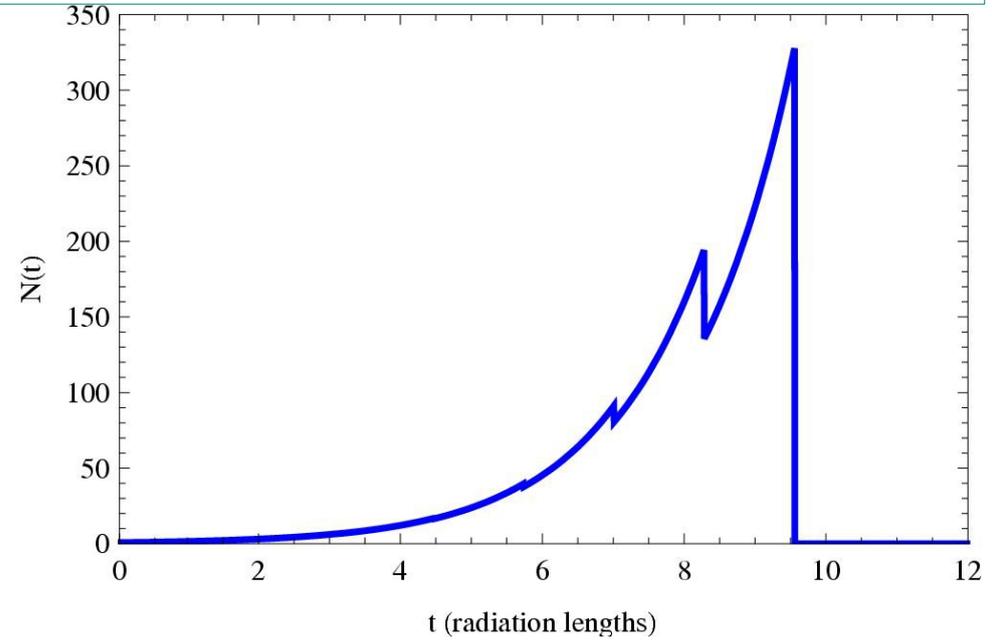
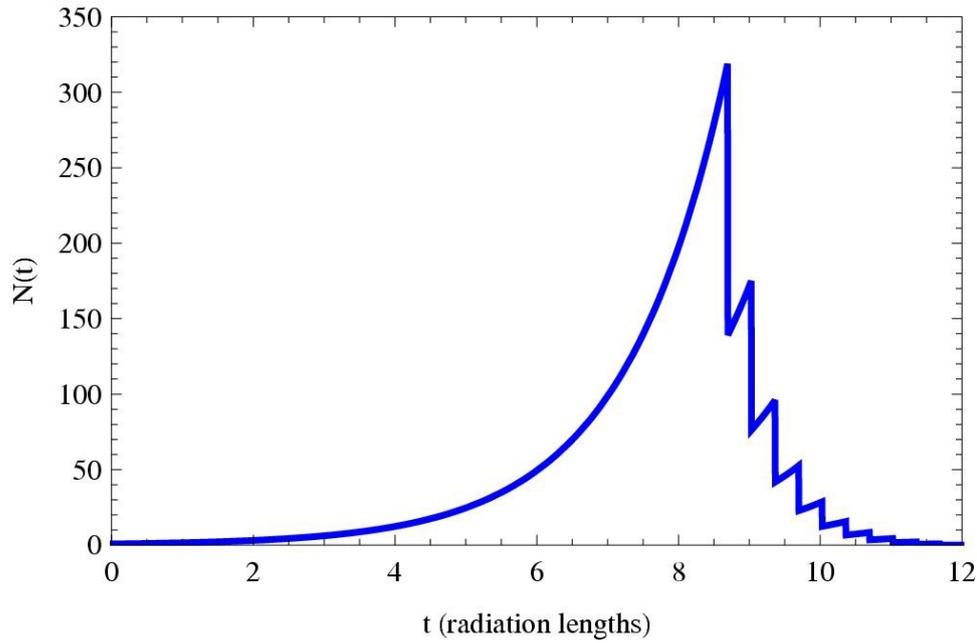


Hadronic shower

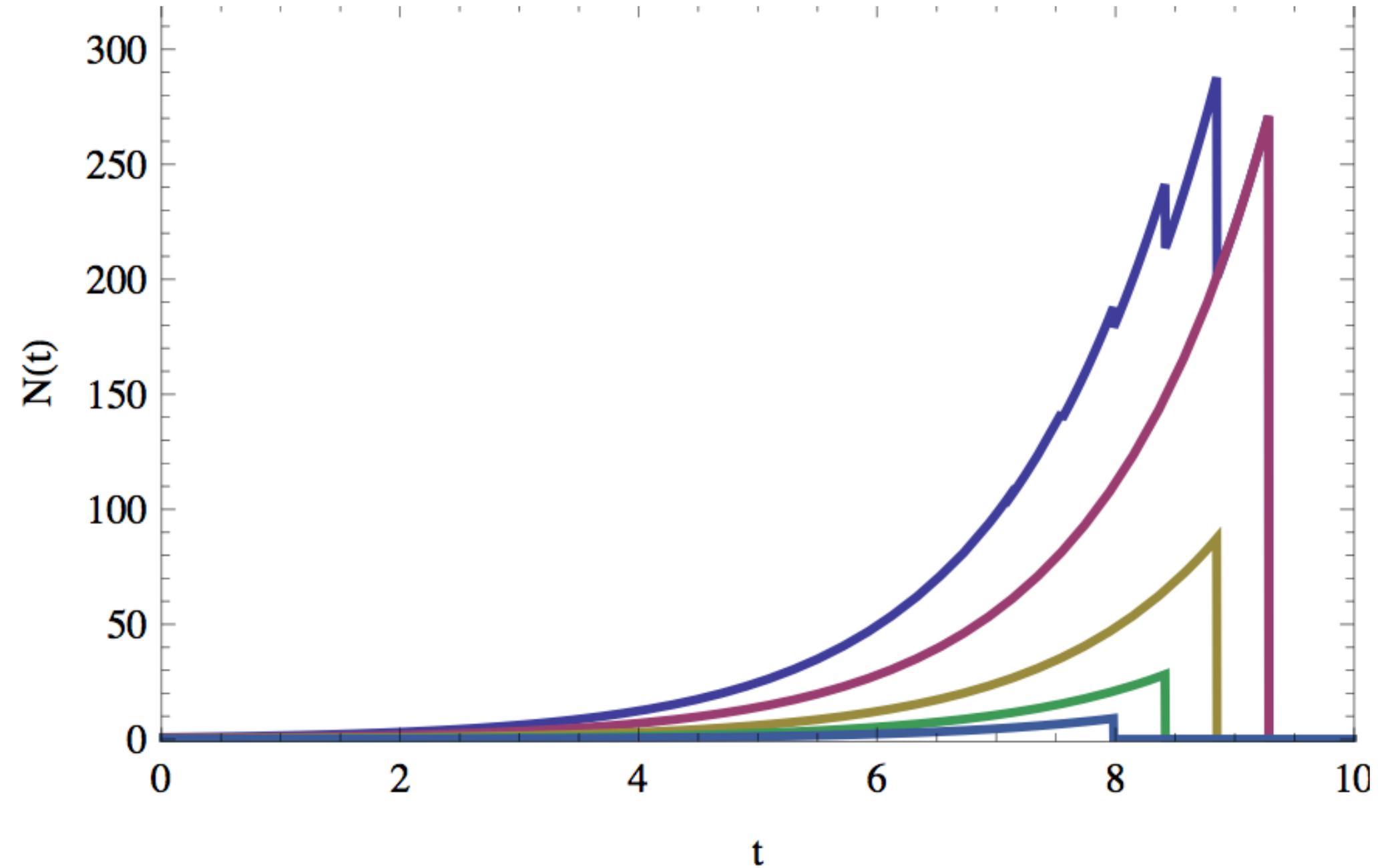


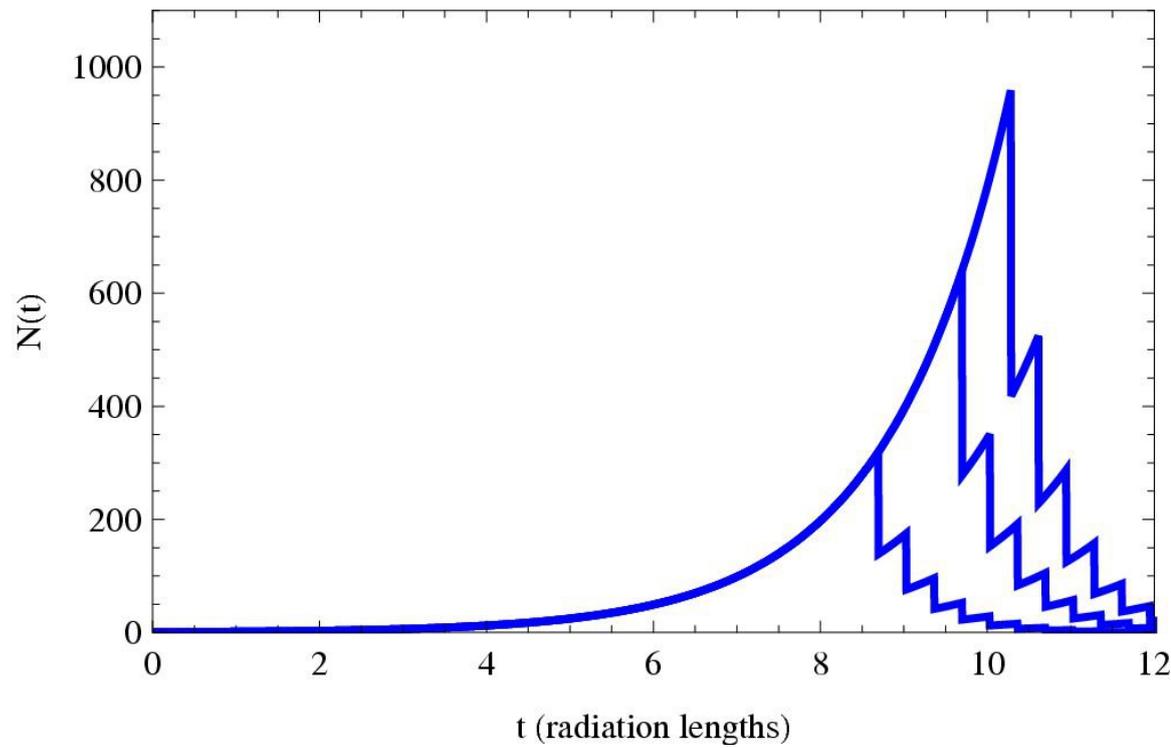
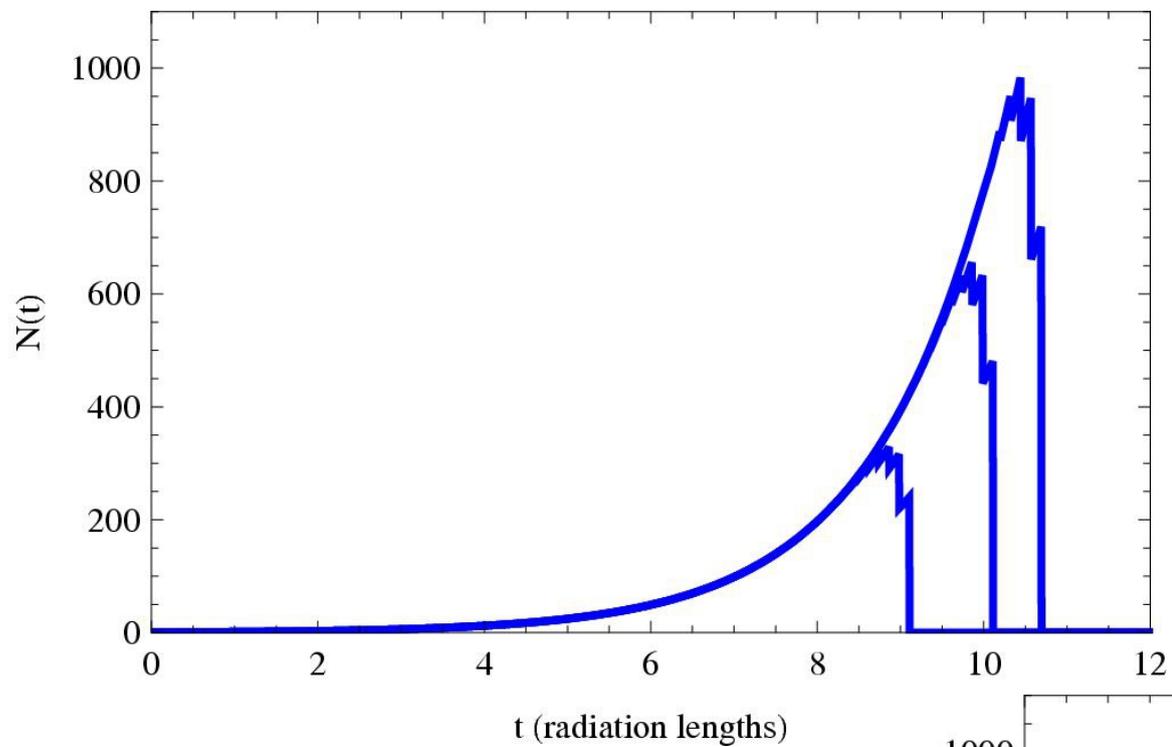
Hadronic parameters

π , inelasticity, hardness



Hadronic shower in toy model.





$$X_{\max}(E) = k \Lambda + \lambda \log_2 \left[\frac{E (1 - f)^k f}{m \varepsilon} \right]$$

[integer]

$$X_{\max}(E) = \lambda_{\text{rad}} \ln E + \text{constant}$$

$$k = k(\Lambda/\lambda, f)$$

$$k = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 0 \leq f < 1 - 2^{-x} \\ \left[-\frac{1}{x} \log_2 \left(\frac{1 - 2^x (1 - f)}{f} \right) \right] & \text{for } 1 - 2^{-x} < f \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

Hadronic
interaction
parameters

IF π , and the other hadronic interactions parameters are energy independent

$$\frac{dX_{\max}}{d \ln E} = \frac{\lambda}{\ln 2} \equiv \lambda_{\text{rad}}$$

“Elongation rate” is equal to the radiation length

Energy dependent parameters: Elongation rate changes

$$\frac{dX_{\max}(E)}{d \ln E} = \lambda_{\text{rad}} \left[1 - \frac{dm(E)}{d \ln E} - \frac{d \ln f(E)}{d \ln E} \left(\frac{1 - f(E)(1+k)}{1 - f(E)} \right) \right] + k \frac{d\Lambda(E)}{d \ln E}$$

X_{\max}

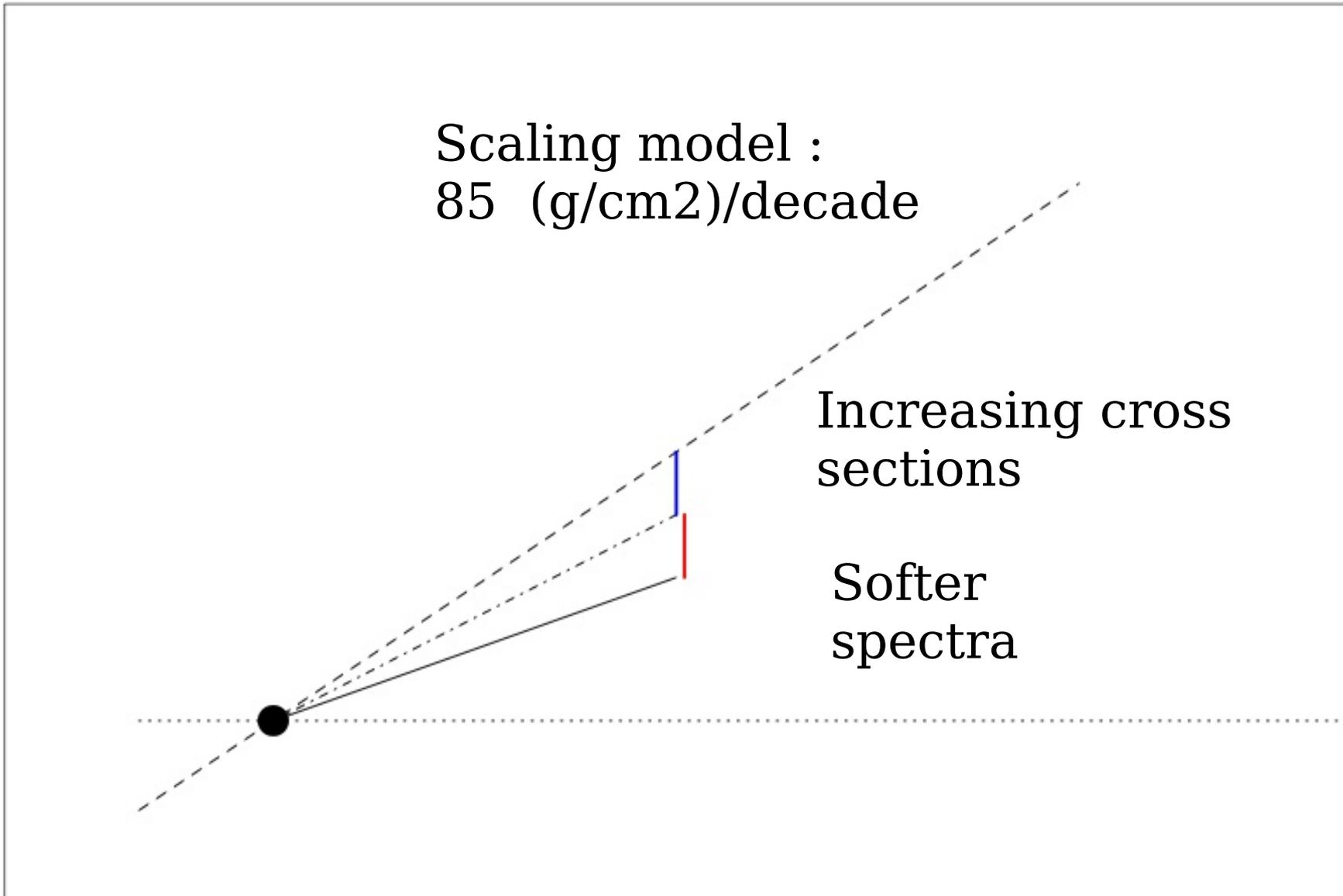
Scaling model :
85 (g/cm²)/decade

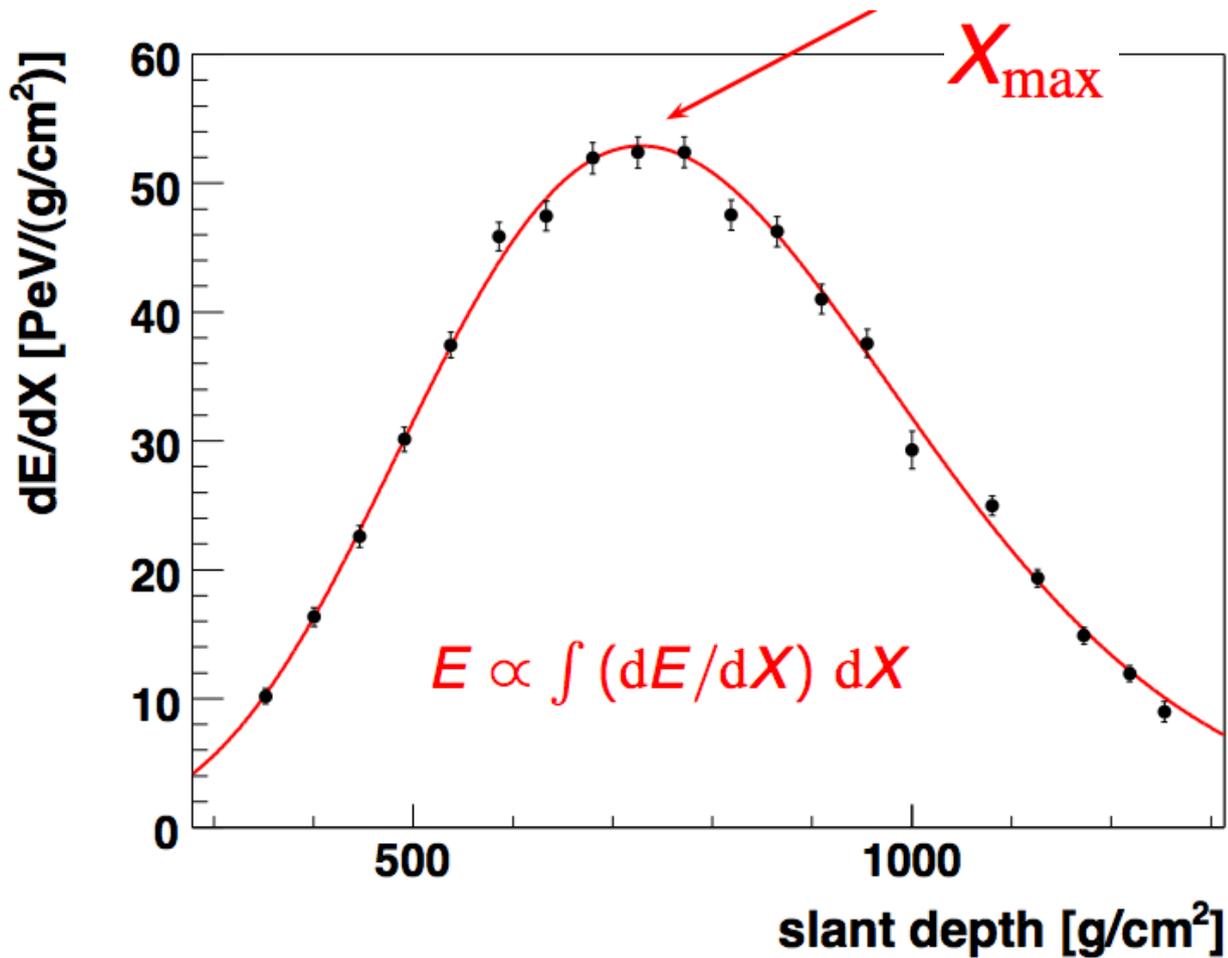
Increasing cross
sections

Softer
spectra

Elongation Rate
For protons

Log[Energy]





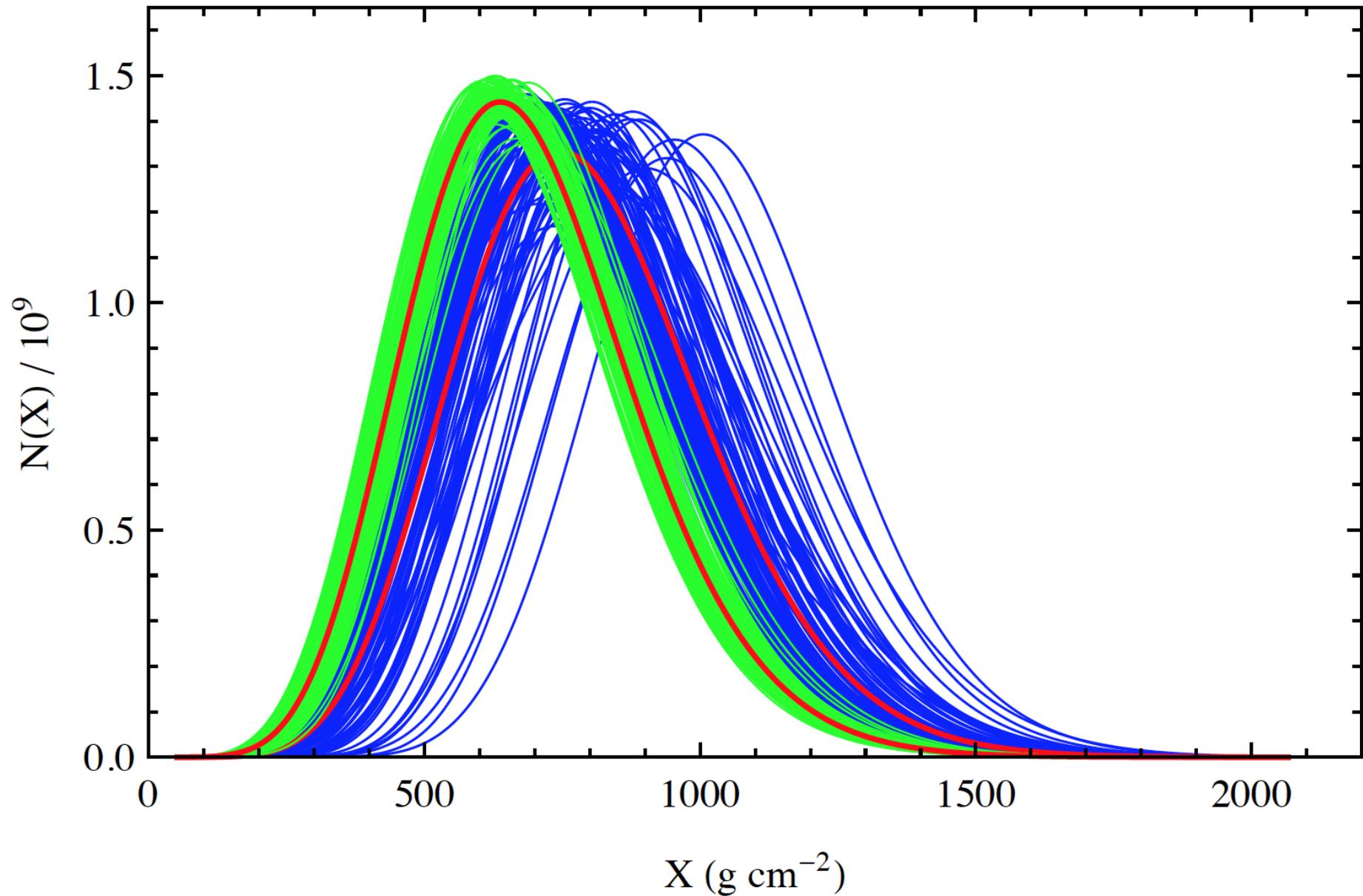
Area \propto Energy

Shape depends on :

- Primary Identity
- Interaction Model

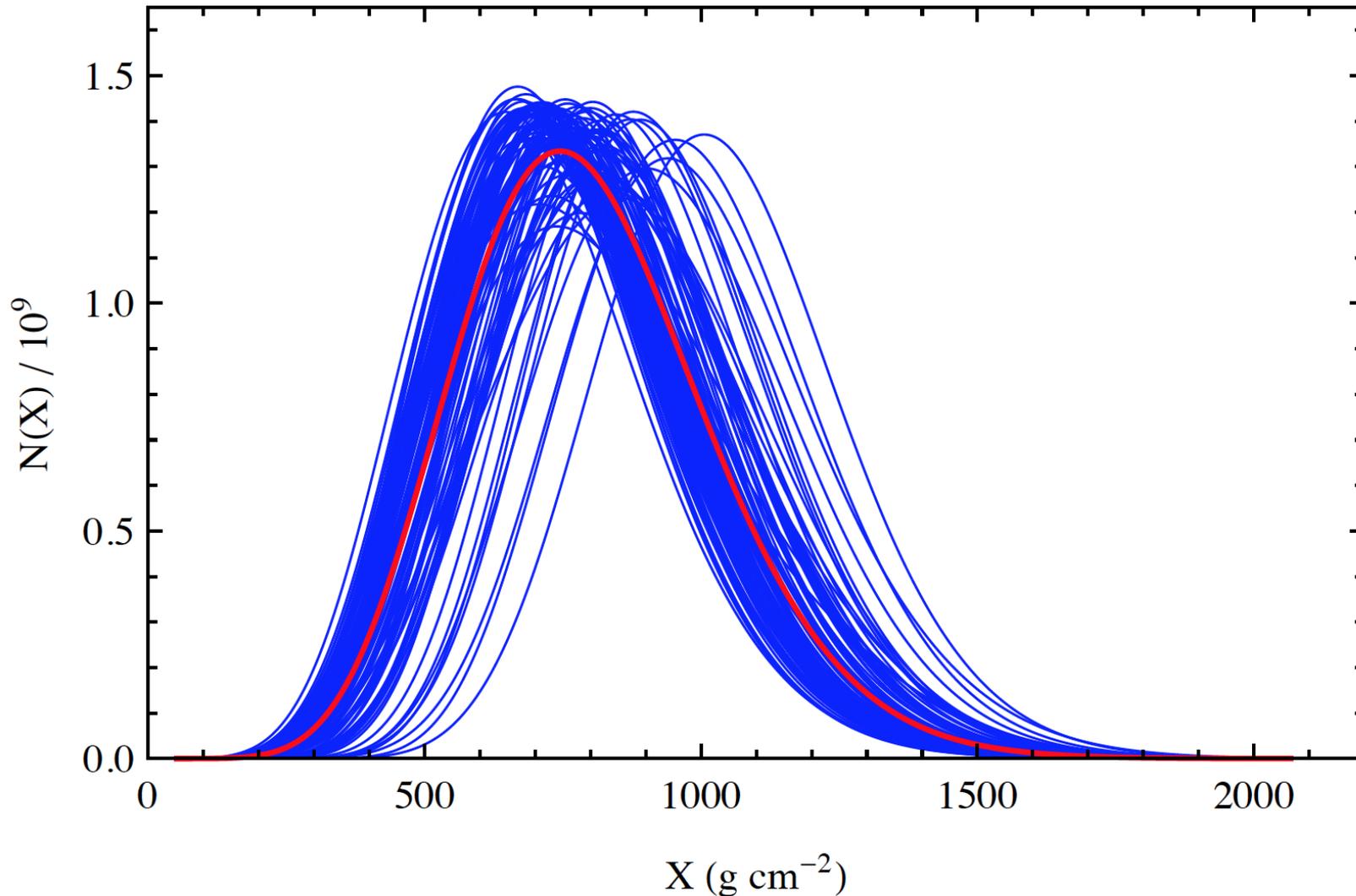
Compare proton and Iron nuclei showers

$$E_0 = 10^{18.25} \text{ eV}$$



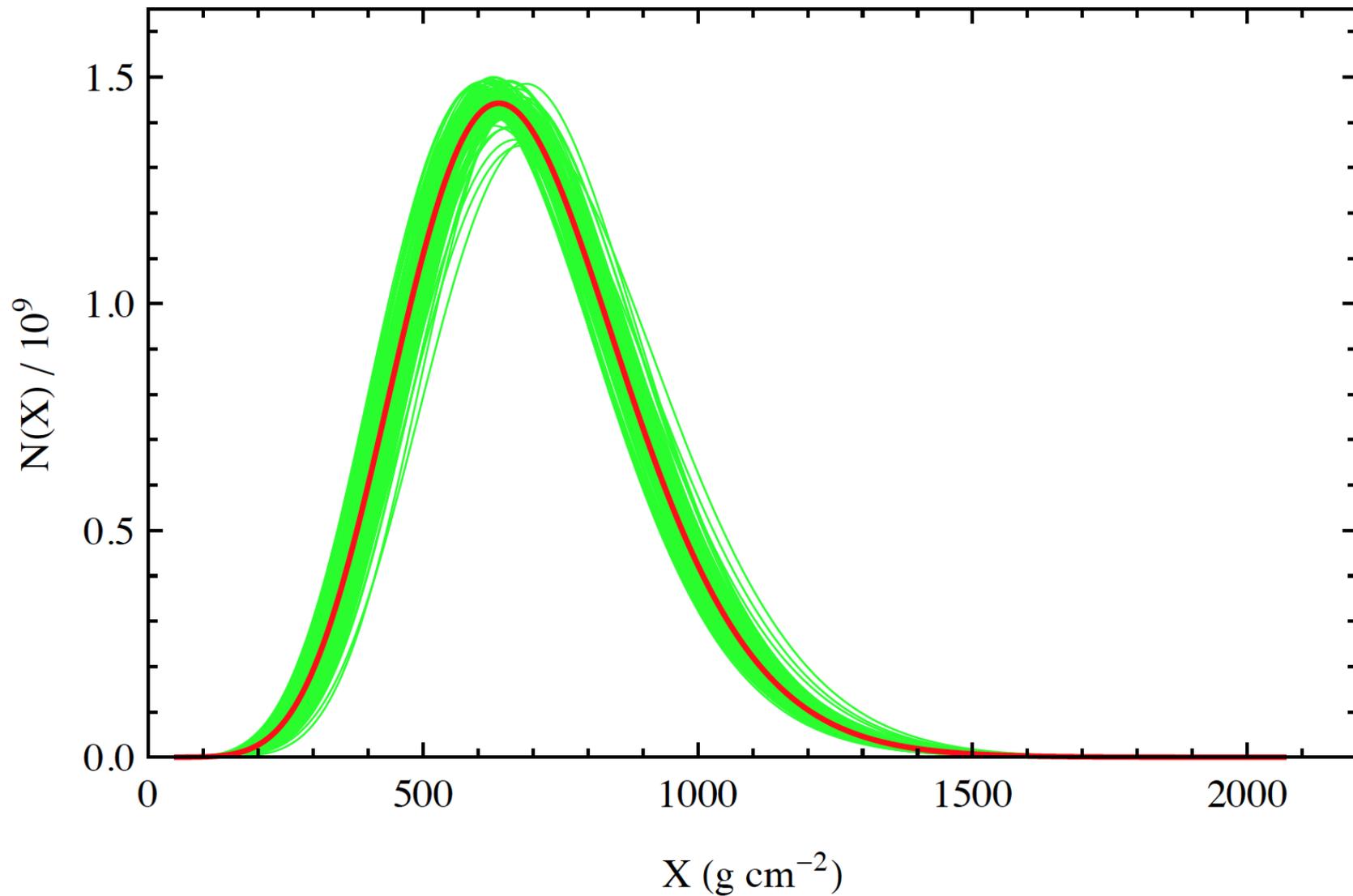
Montecarlo calculation of the development of
individual proton showers

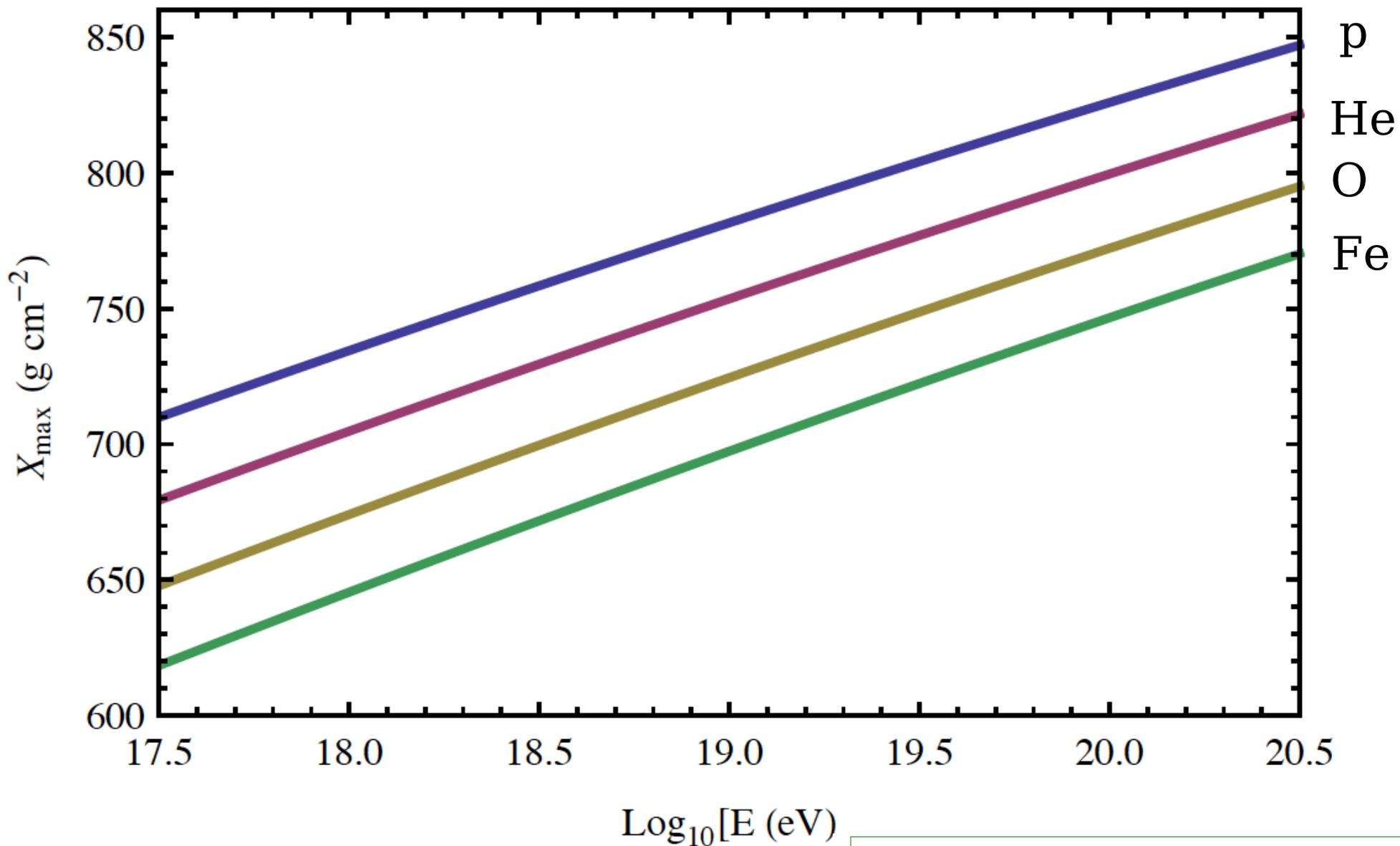
$$E_0 = 10^{18.25} \text{ eV}$$



Montecarlo calculation of the development of individual iron nuclei showers

$$E_0 = 10^{18.25} \text{ eV}$$



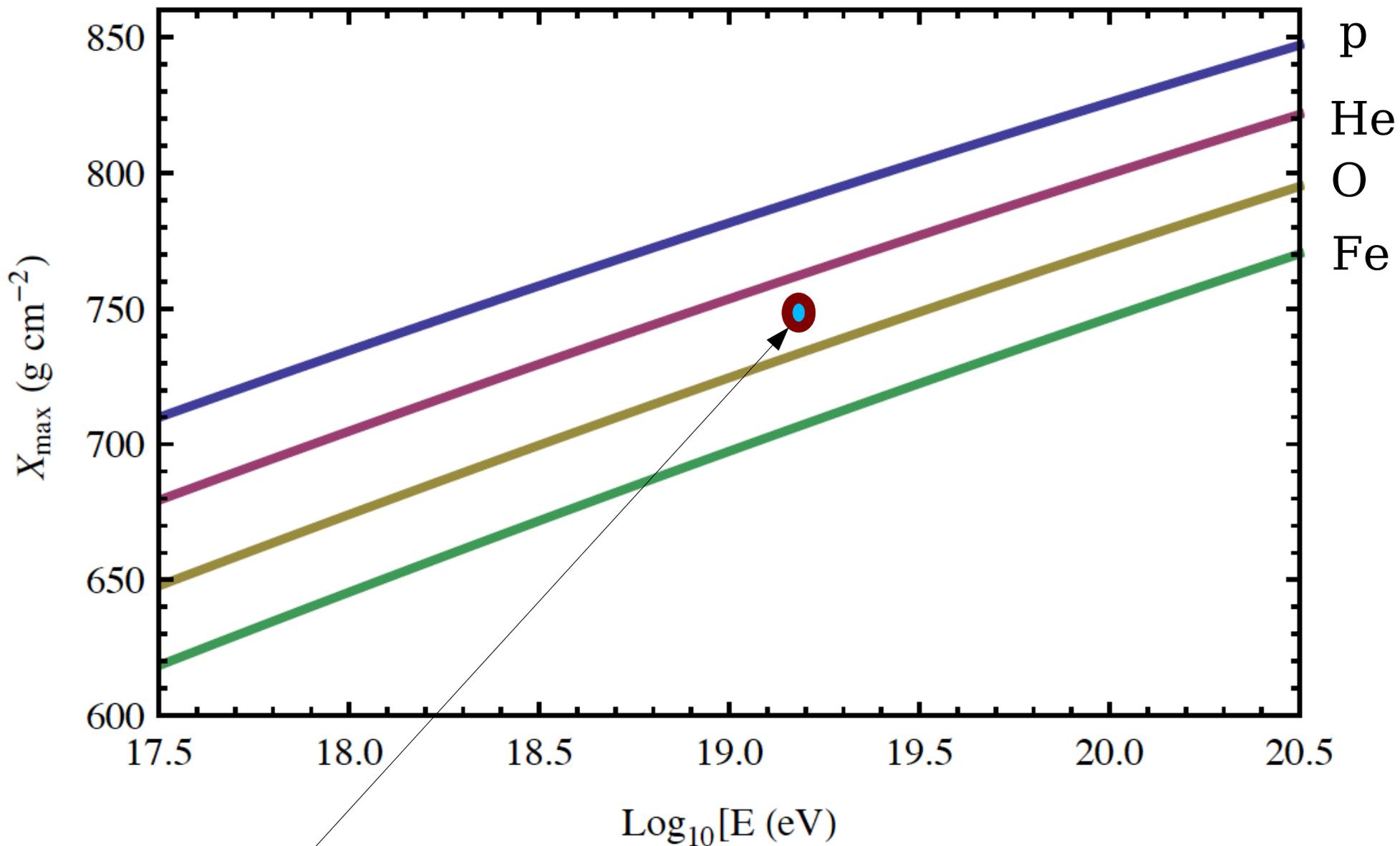


$$\langle X_A \rangle \simeq \langle X_p \rangle - D_p \log_{10} A$$

$$\langle X_{\text{He}} \rangle \simeq \langle X_p \rangle - 30 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$$

$$\langle X_{\text{O}} \rangle \simeq \langle X_p \rangle - 60 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$$

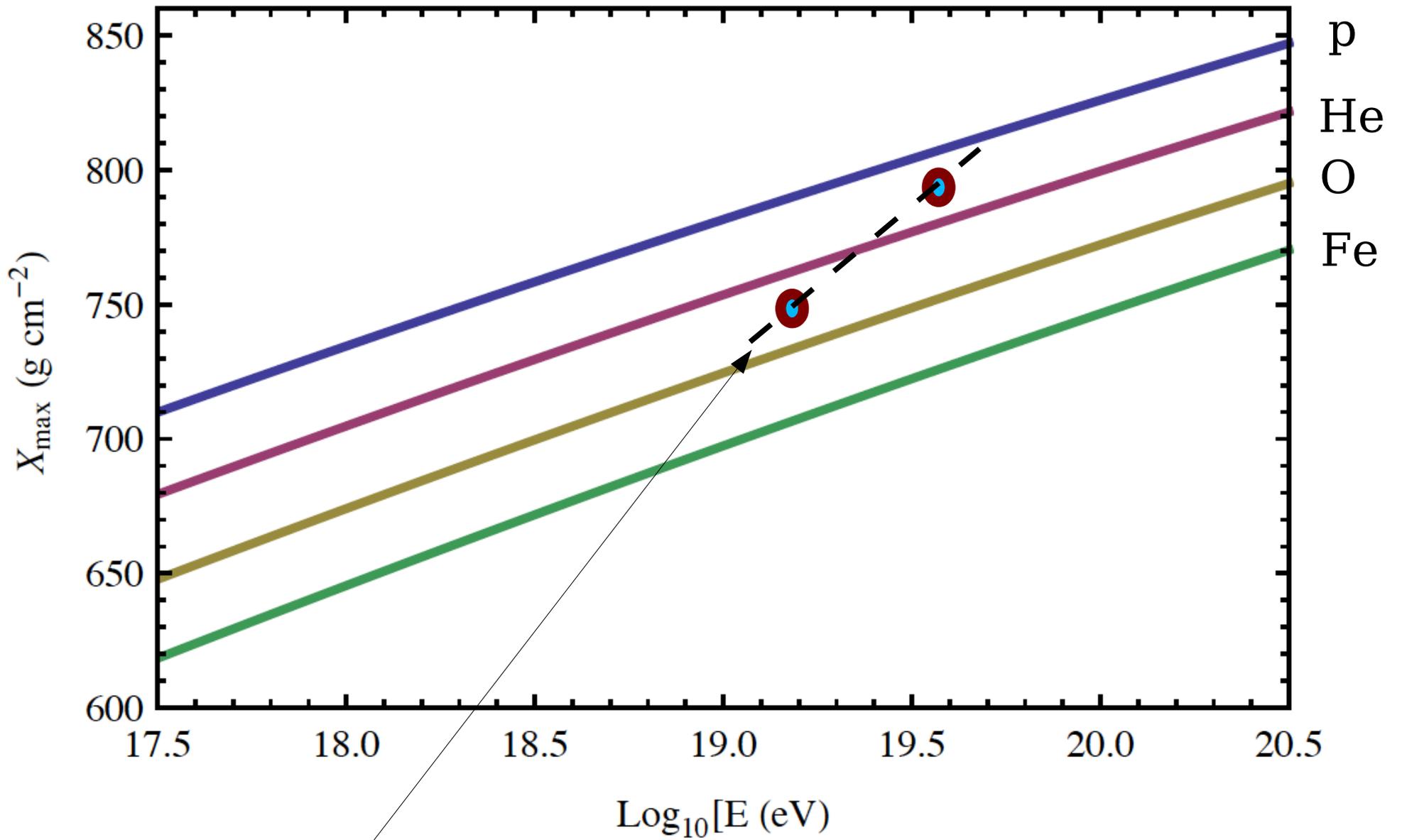
$$\langle X_{\text{Fe}} \rangle \simeq \langle X_p \rangle - 90 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$$



Measurements of

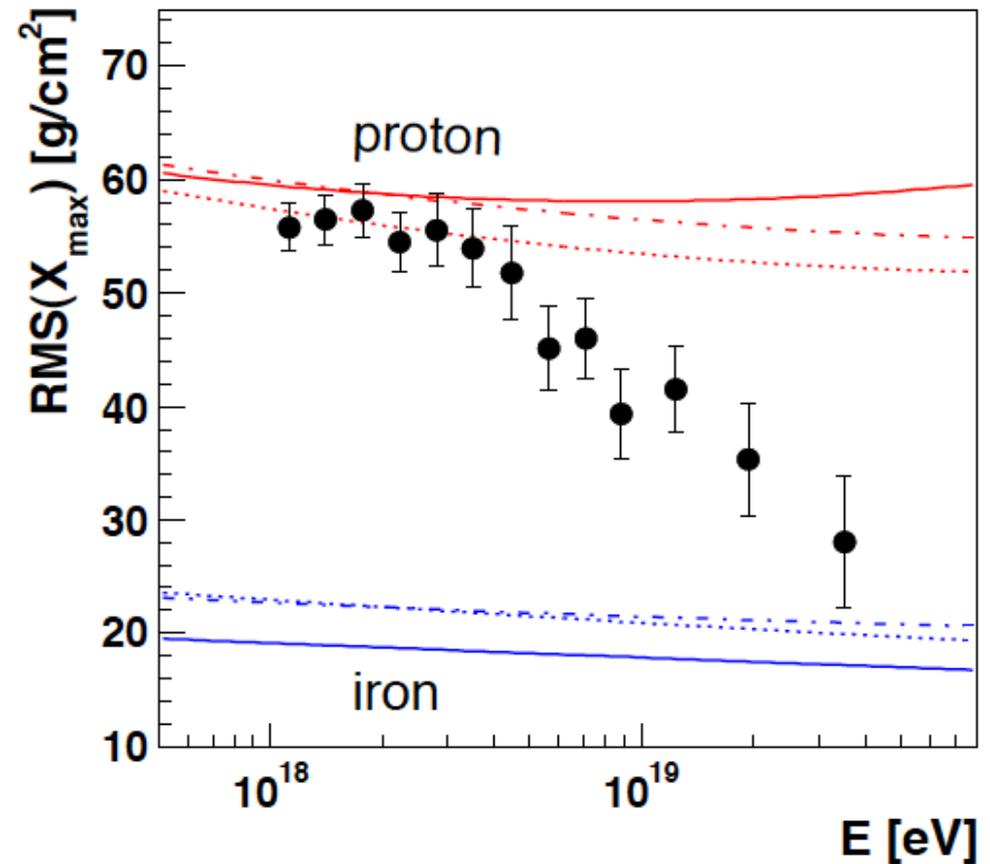
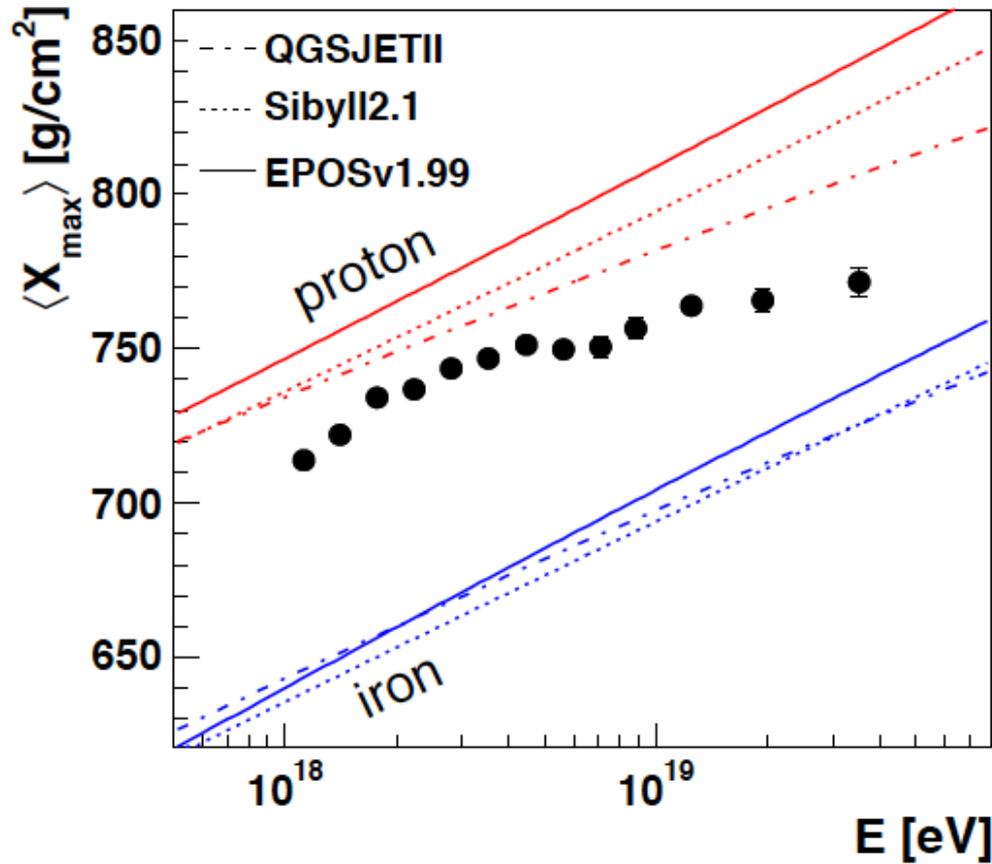
$\langle \log A \rangle$

$$\langle \ln A \rangle_E = \frac{\sum_A \phi_A(E) \ln A}{\sum_A \phi_A(E)}$$



Measurements of Composition evolution.

$\langle X_{\max} \rangle$ and RMS



Compare DATA with predictions based on several assumptions for hadronic interactions....

With UHECR one studies at the same time

“Gigantic Astrophysical Beasts”

Millions of light years away

Length scale 10^{+24} cm

Microscopic

Partonic constituents of matter

Length scale 10^{-15} cm



Exciting

Difficult