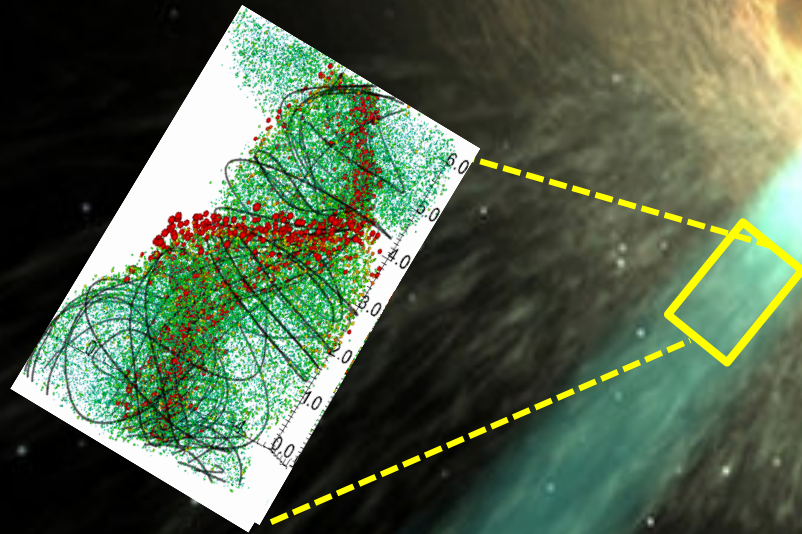


# Magnetic Reconnection in Relativistic Jets and Accretion Flows around Black Holes



**ElisaBete de Gouveia Dal Pino**

*IAG - Universidade de São Paulo*



Collaborators:

M.V. del Valle

L. Kadowaki

G. Kowal, A. Lazarian

T. Medina-Torrejón

Y. Mizuno

J. C. Rodríguez-Ramírez

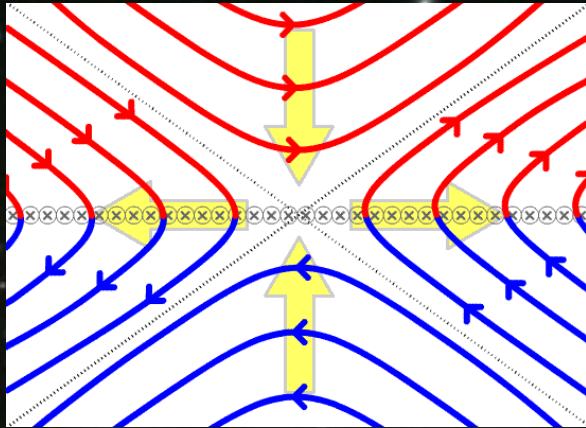
C. Singh, J. Stone, G. Vicentin

SOLARNET Conference 2023, Veneza Mestre, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023



# MAGNETIC RECONNECTION

Approach of magnetic flux tubes of opposite polarity with finite resistivity ( $\eta$ ): **RECONNECT**



$$\vec{J} = \frac{c}{4\pi} \vec{\nabla} \times \vec{B} \sim \frac{2Bc}{\Delta 4\pi}$$

Earth magnetotail



Solar corona



Reconnection is **FAST** in these environments

$$\rightarrow V_{rec} \sim V_A = B/(4\pi\rho)^{1/2}$$



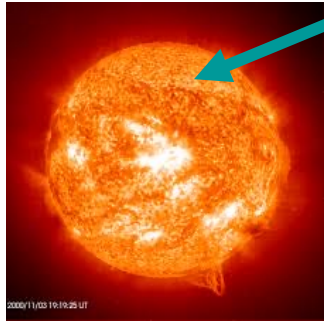


A dark, starry night sky with numerous small, bright stars scattered across the field. A single, very bright star in the upper right quadrant has a prominent four-pointed diffraction pattern. The text "Facts & Challenges" is centered in the middle of the image.

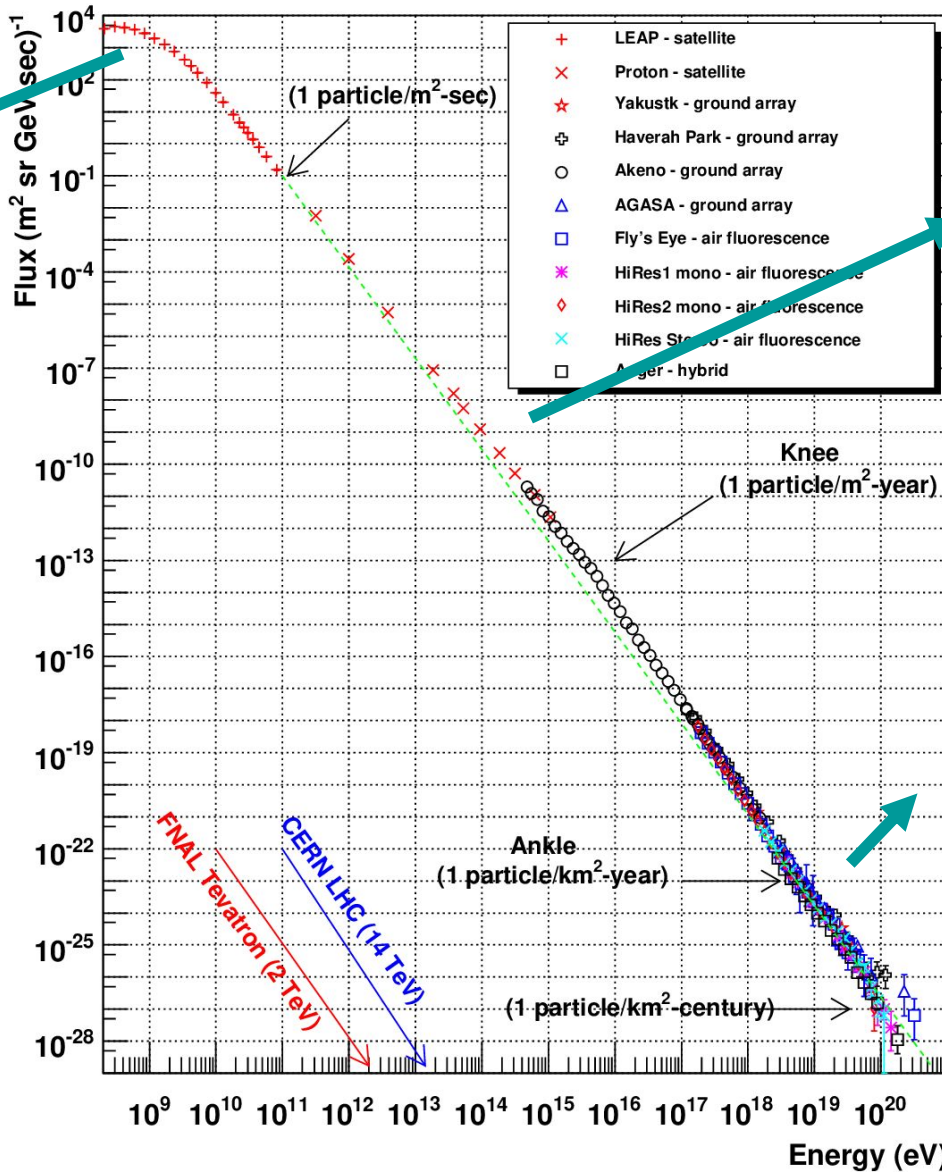
# Facts & Challenges



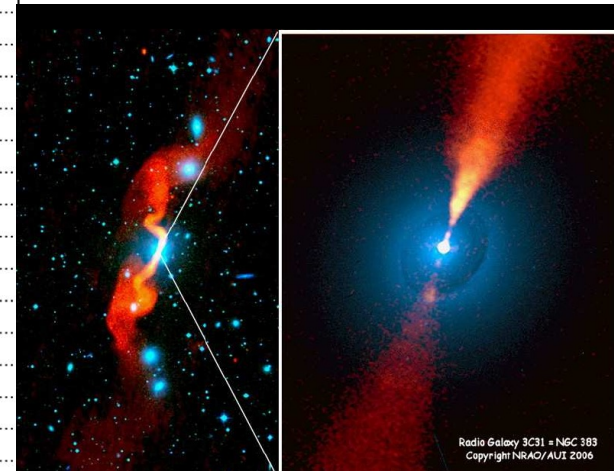
# Cosmic Ray Spectrum



Sun



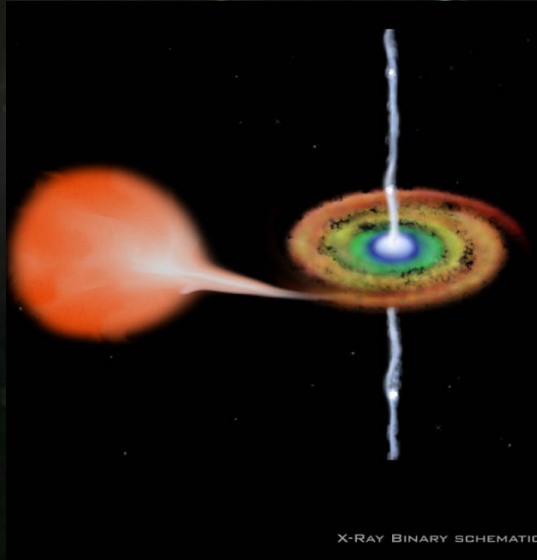
Milky Way



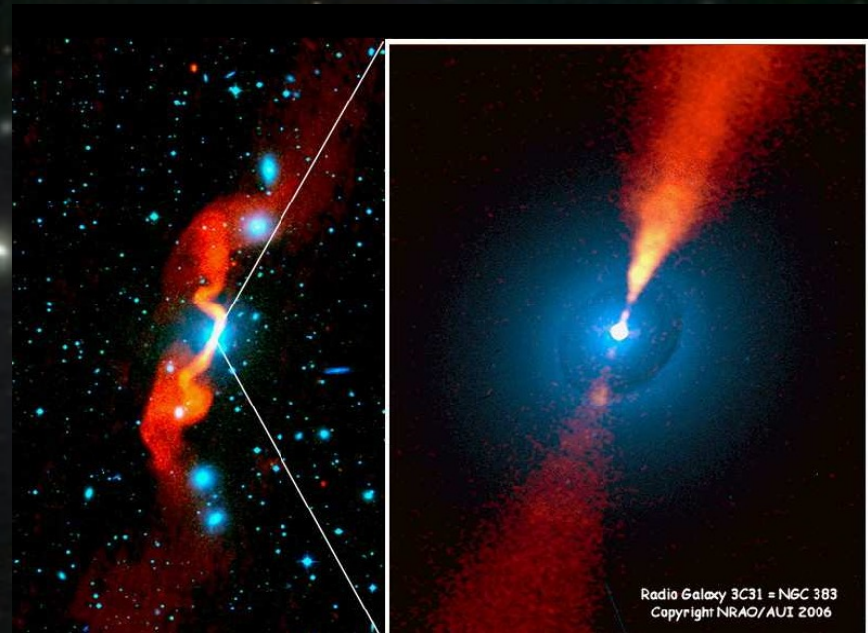
Active Galaxies

Radio Galaxy 3C31 = NSC 383  
Copyright NRAO/AUI 2006

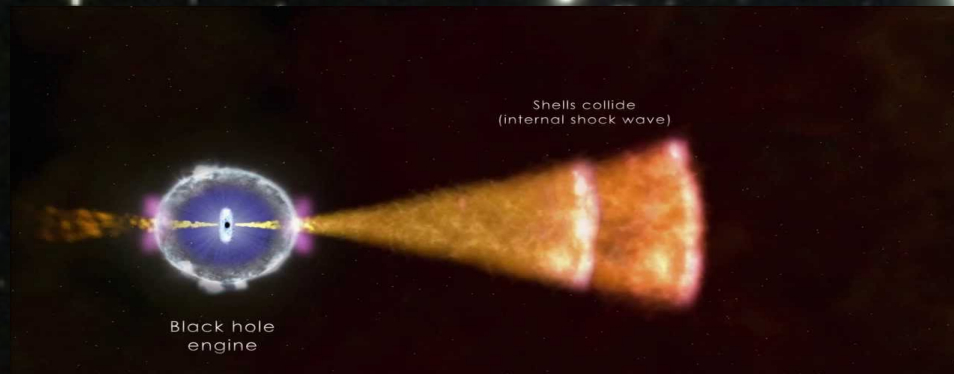
# Black Hole Sources: Cosmic Ray accelerators $\geq 10^{15}$ eV and very high energy emitters $> \text{TeV}$ s



Black Hole Binaries  
(Microquasars)



AGNs (blazars, radio-galaxies, seyferts)

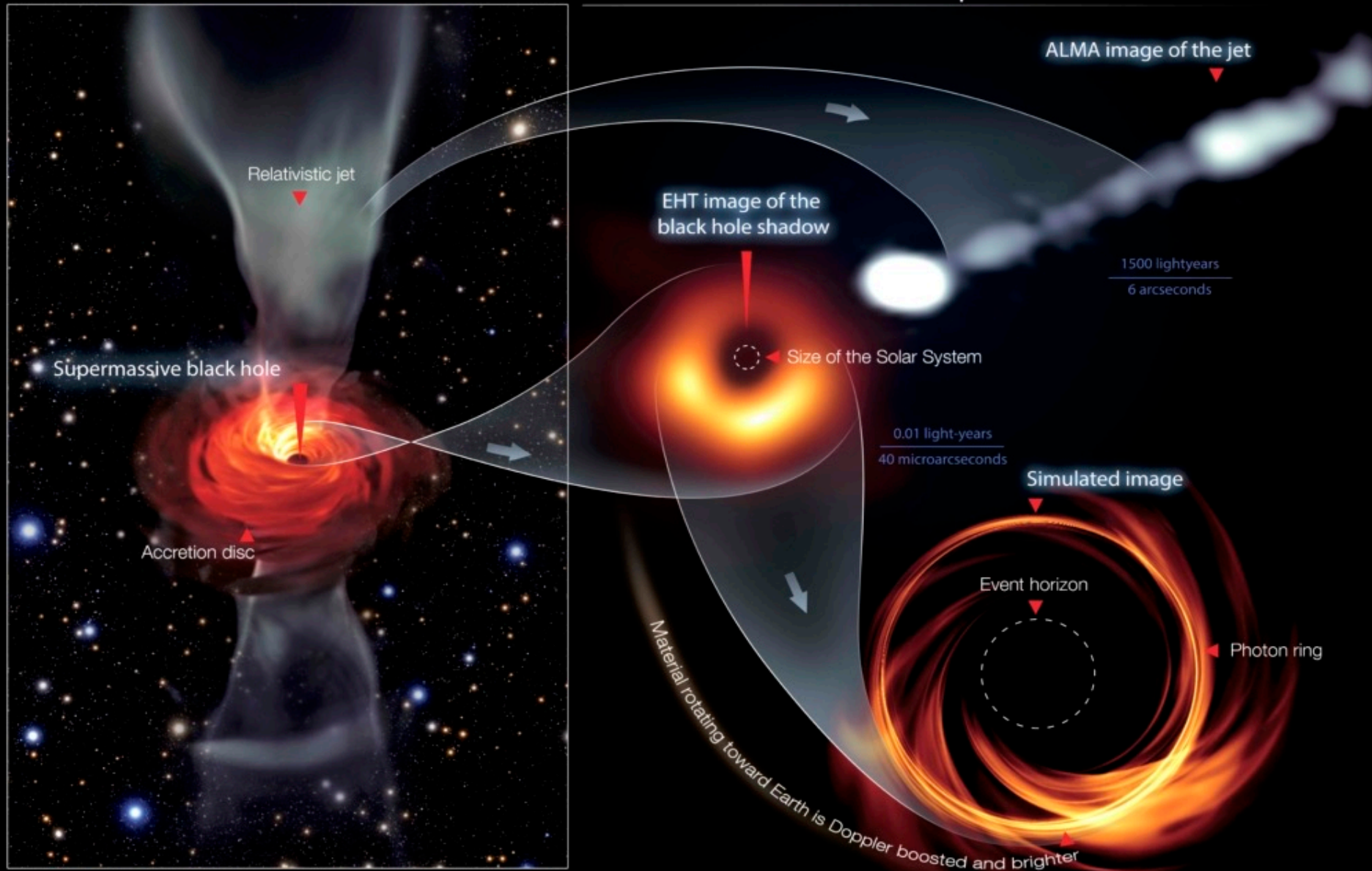


GRBs



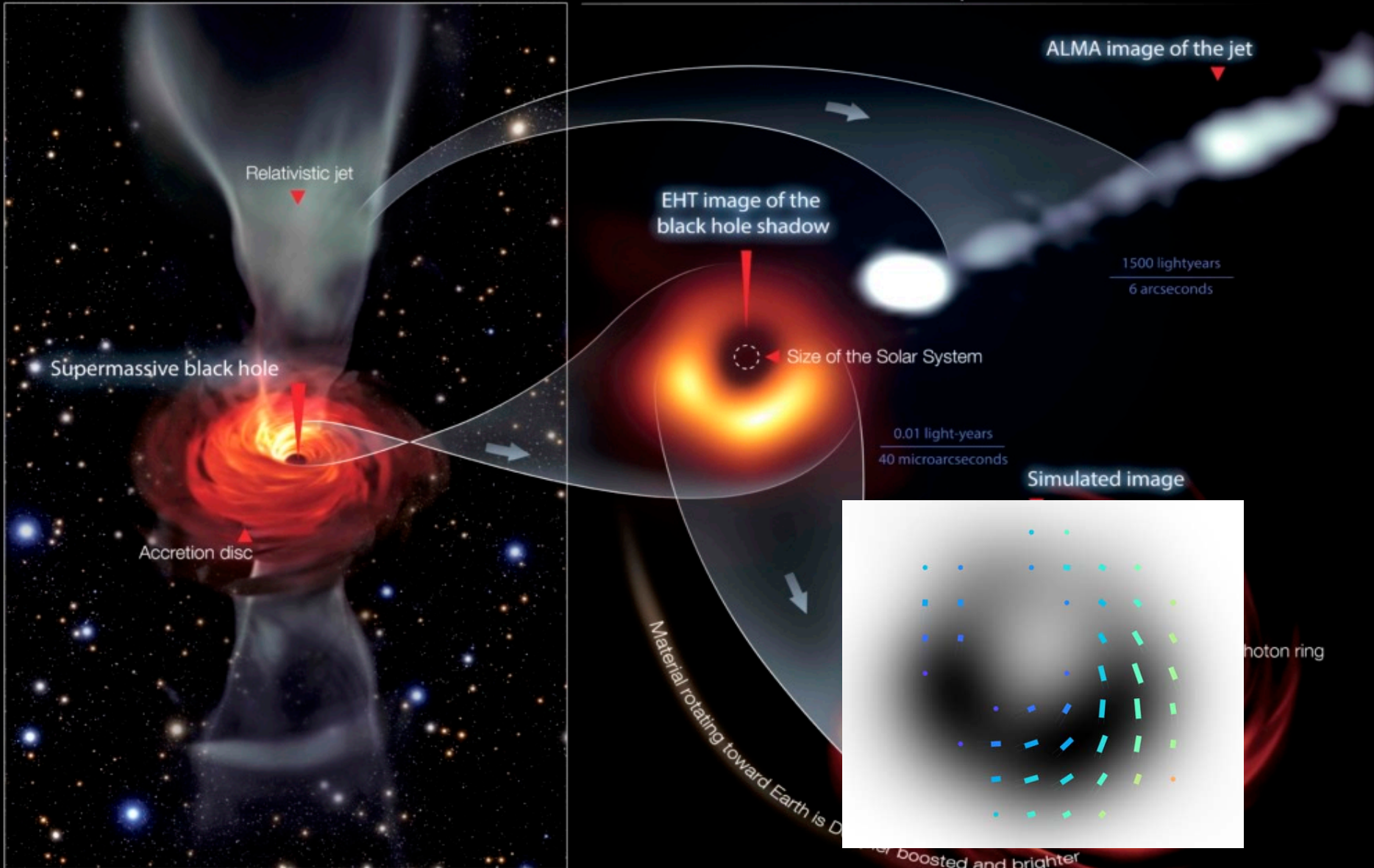
# Relativistic jets are born magnetically dominated

M87 Black Hole – Event Horizon Telescope



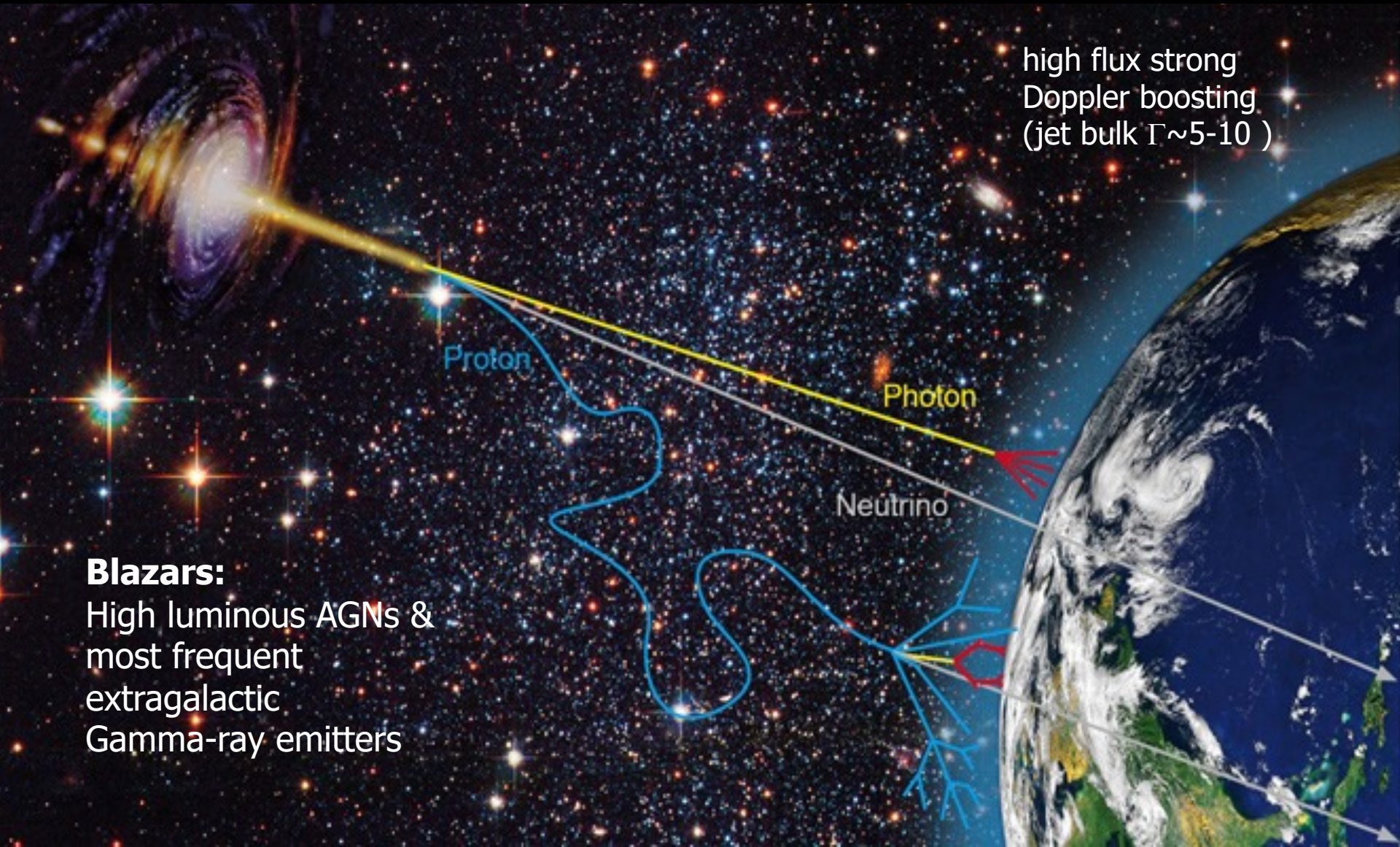
# Relativistic jets are born magnetically dominated

M87 Black Hole – Event Horizon Telescope





# Challenge to explain observed gamma-ray flares in AGN BLAZAR Jets?



high flux strong  
Doppler boosting  
(jet bulk  $\Gamma \sim 5-10$ )

## **Blazars:**

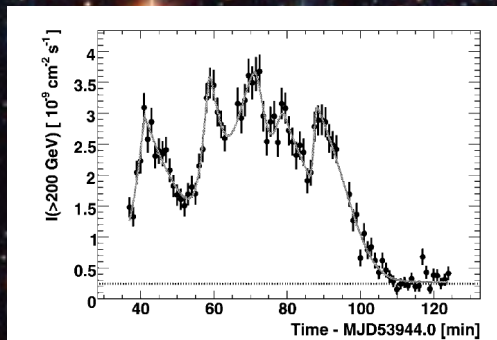
High luminous AGNs &  
most frequent  
extragalactic  
Gamma-ray emitters



# Challenge to explain observed gamma-ray flares in AGN BLAZAR Jets?

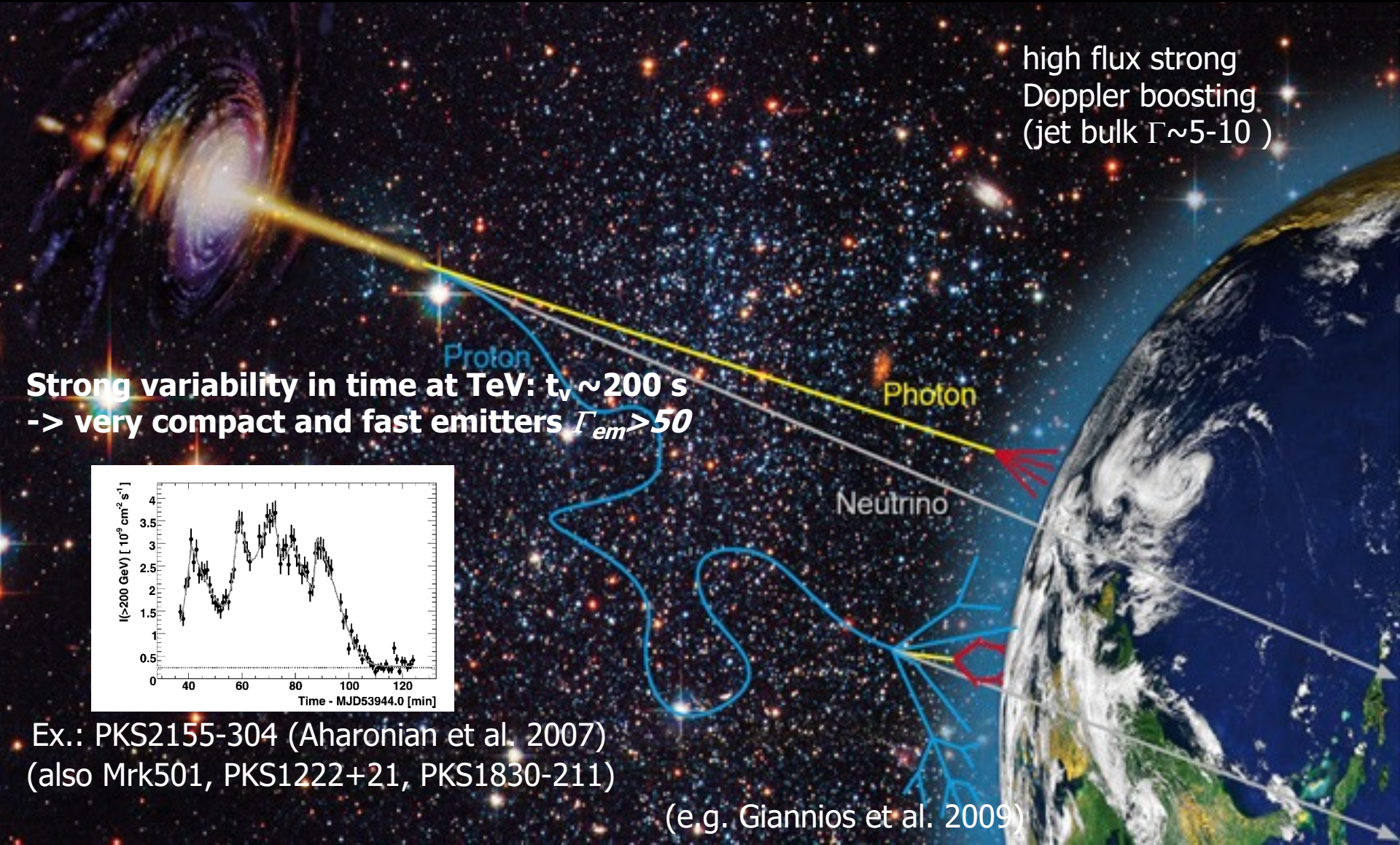
high flux strong  
Doppler boosting  
(jet bulk  $\Gamma \sim 5-10$ )

Strong variability in time at TeV:  $t_v \sim 200$  s  
-> very compact and fast emitters  $\Gamma_{em} > 50$



Ex.: PKS2155-304 (Aharonian et al. 2007)  
(also Mrk501, PKS1222+21, PKS1830-211)

(e.g. Giannios et al. 2009)

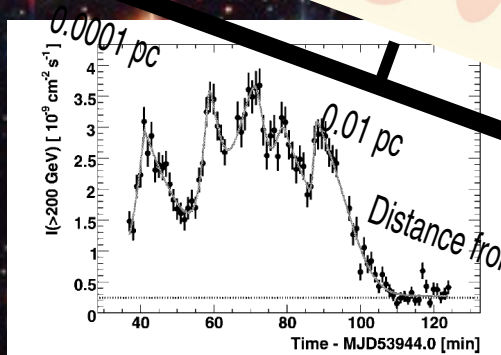
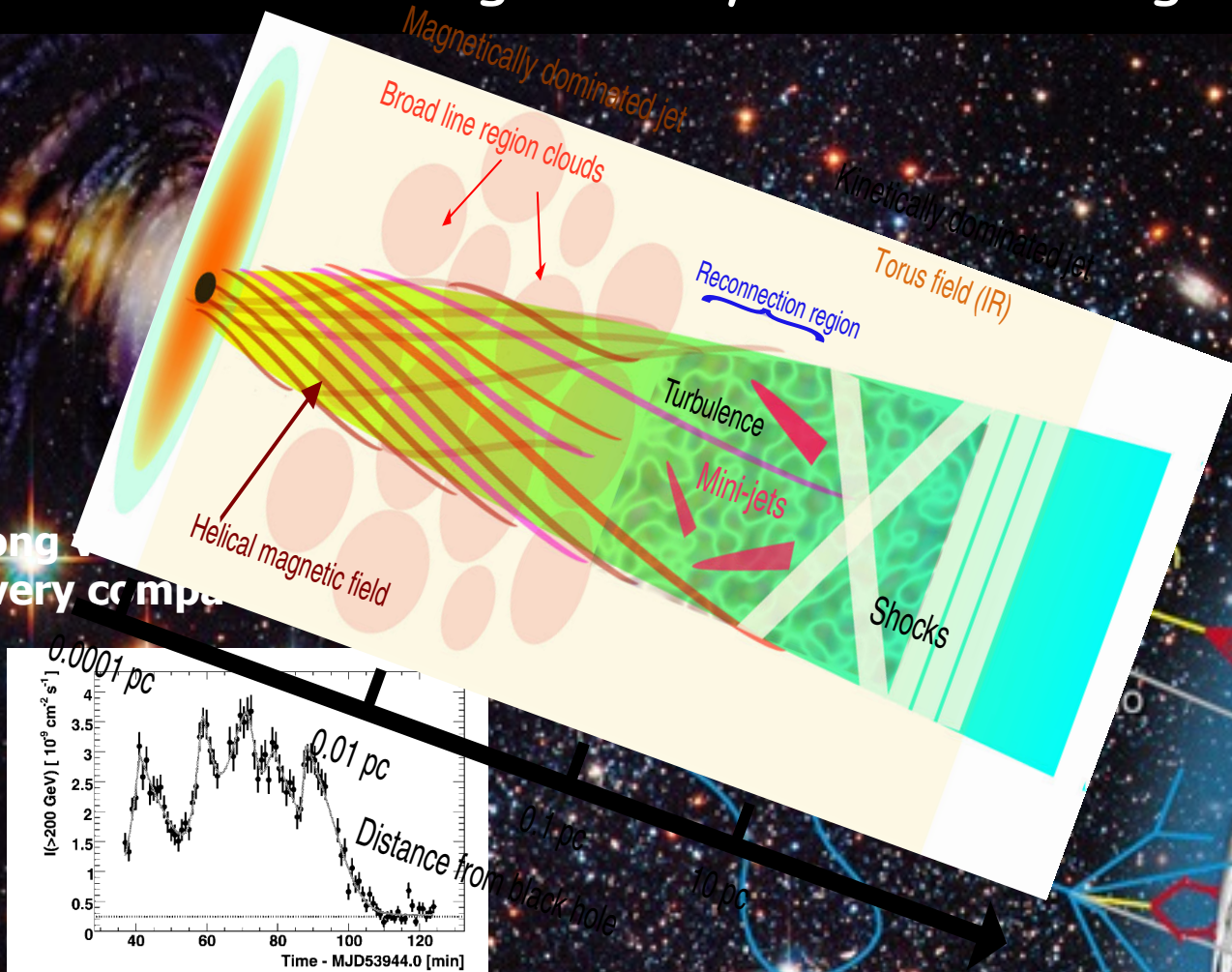




# Reconnection Particle Acceleration: best mechanism able to explain gamma-ray flares in AGN BLAZAR Jets in magnetically dominated regions

high flux strong  
Doppler boosting  
(jet bulk  $\Gamma \sim 5-10$ )

Strong  
-> very compact



Ex.: PKS2155-304 (Aharonian et al. 2007)  
(also Mrk501, PKS1222+21, PKS1830-211)

(e.g. Giannios et al. 2009)

# This talk

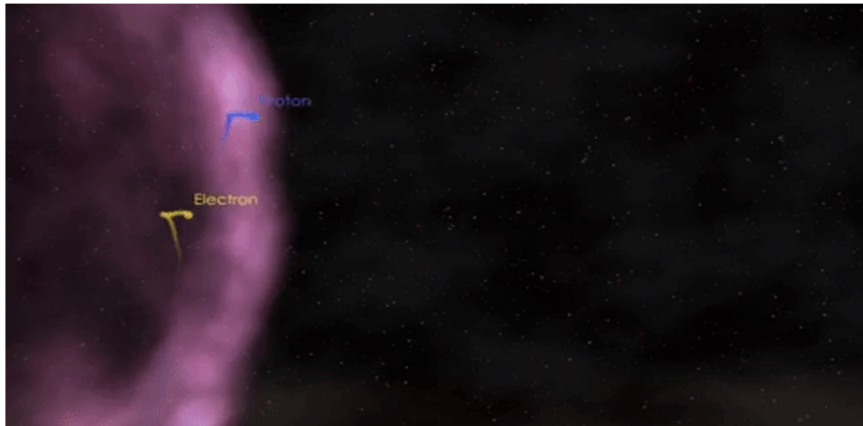
**PARTICLE ACCELERATION BY RECONNECTION** @ magnetically dominated regions of black hole relativistic jets and accretion flows (to solve current puzzles related CR acceleration and very high energy emission):

- Overview of fast magnetic reconnection acceleration in **MHD flows driven by turbulence**
- Reconnection acceleration of particles up to ultra-high-energies (UHECRs) from 3D relativistic MHD jet simulations + test particles
- Reconnection acceleration can explain observed emission in Blazar jets: variability, gamma-rays and neutrinos
- Reconnection acceleration in the accretion disks of BH sources



# Particles are accelerated in reconnection sites mainly by Fermi process

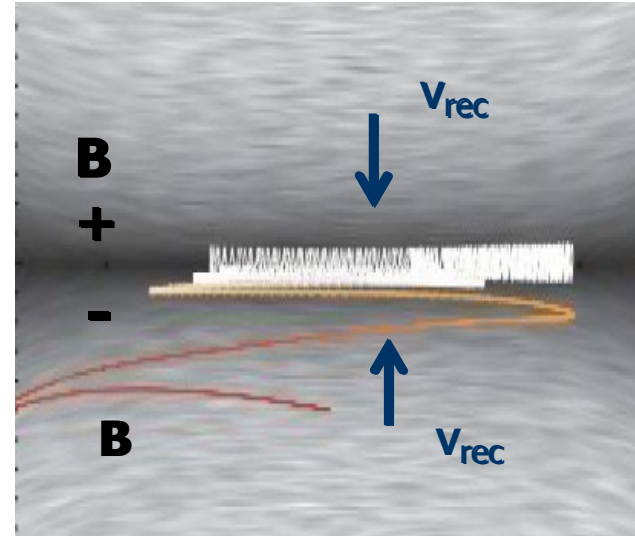
## Shock Acceleration



**1<sup>st</sup>-order Fermi** (Bell 1978; Begelman & Eichler 1997)

$$\langle \Delta E/E \rangle \sim v_{sh}/c$$

## Reconnection Acceleration

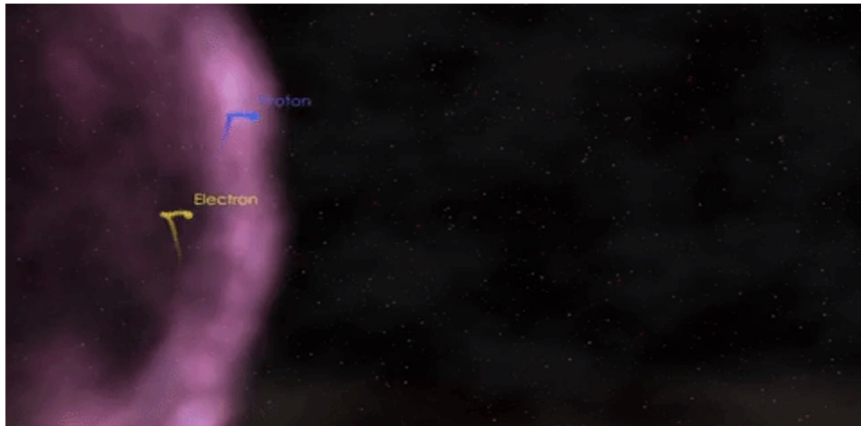


**As in shocks: 1<sup>st</sup>-order Fermi**  
(de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian 2005)

$$\langle \Delta E/E \rangle \sim v_{rec}/c$$

# Particles are accelerated in reconnection sites mainly by Fermi process

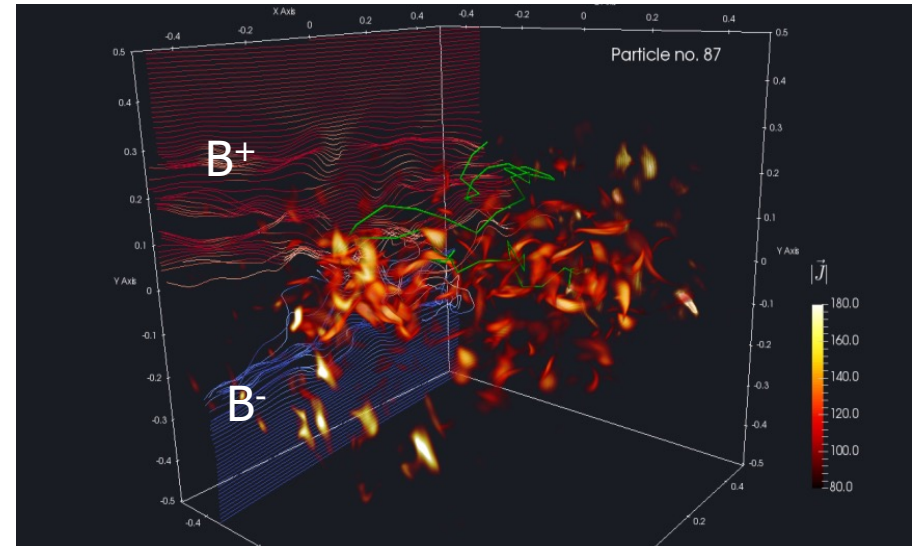
## Shock Acceleration



**1<sup>st</sup>-order Fermi** (Bell 1978; Begelman & Eichler 1997)

$$\langle \Delta E/E \rangle \sim v_{sh}/c$$

## Reconnection Acceleration



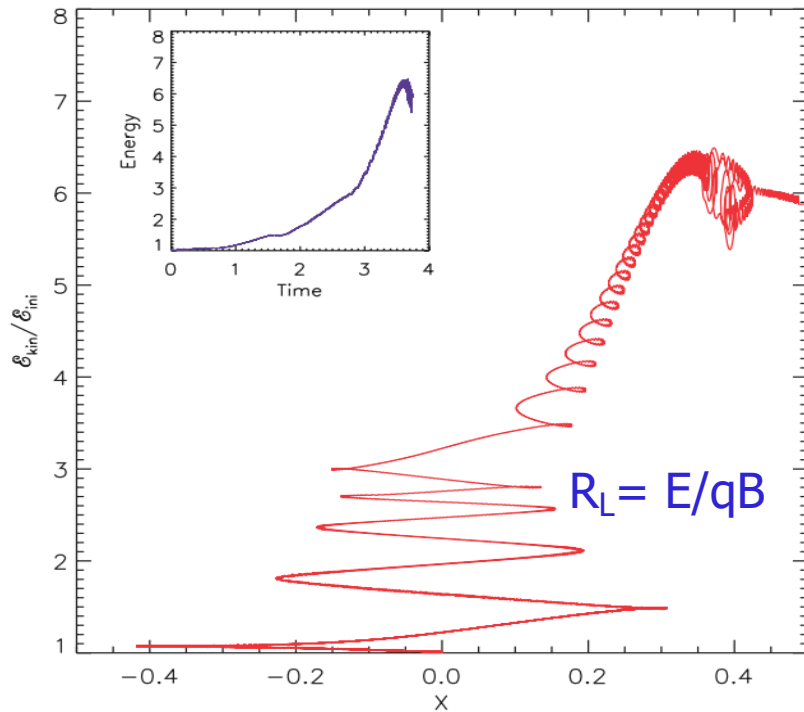
**As in shocks: 1<sup>st</sup>-order Fermi**  
(de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian 2005;  
del Valle, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Kowal 2016)

$$\langle \Delta E/E \rangle \sim v_{rec}/c$$



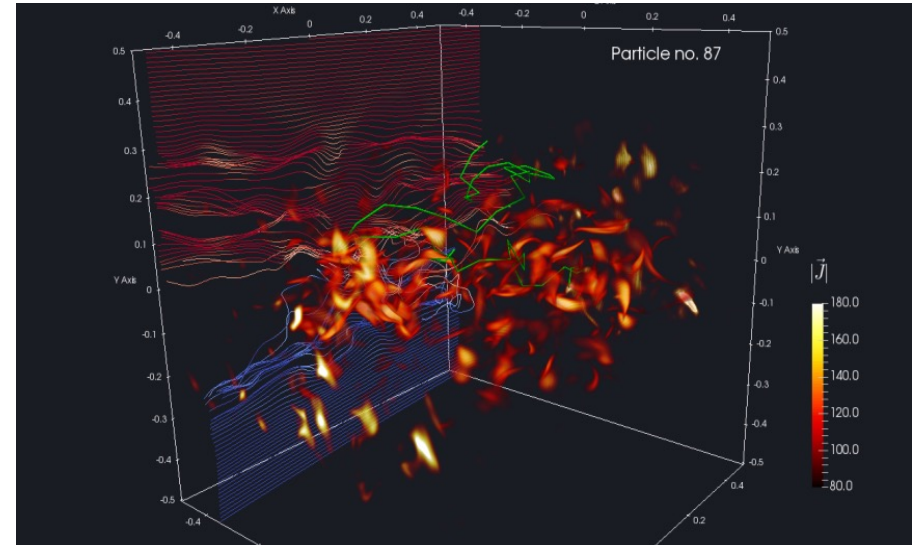
# Particles are accelerated in reconnection sites mainly by Fermi process

Exponential energy growth in time



Kowal, de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian, ApJ 2011

## Reconnection Acceleration



**As in shocks: 1<sup>st</sup>-order Fermi**  
(de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian 2005;  
del Valle, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Kowal 2016)

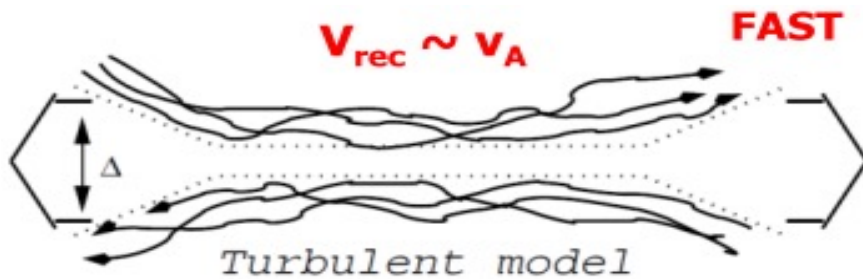
$$\langle \Delta E/E \rangle \sim v_{\text{rec}}/c$$

# Turbulence drives Fast Reconnection in MHD flows

(Lazarian & Vishniac 1999; Eyink et al. 2011; 2013)

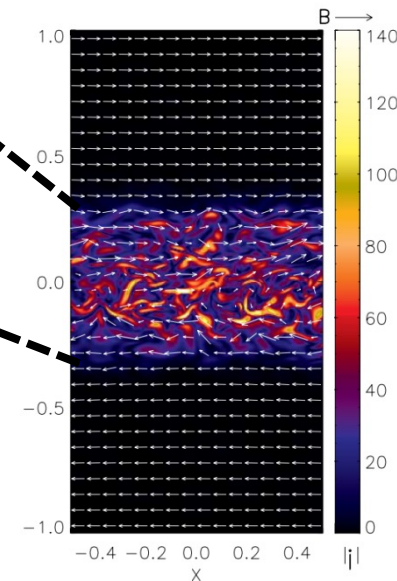
**Magnetic lines wandering and slippage: many simultaneous reconnection events**

**Tested in 3D MHD numerical simulations** (Kowal et al. 2009, 2012; 2015; 2019; 2020; Takamoto et al. 2015)



$$V_{\text{rec}} = V_A \left( \frac{\eta}{L V_A} \right)^{-1/2} \left( \frac{\Delta}{L} \right)^{-1/2}$$

$$V_{\text{rec}} = V_A \left( \frac{l}{L} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{v_l}{V_A} \right)^2$$



(Other descriptions: Shibata & Tanuma01; Loureiro+07; Bhattacharjee+09)



# Particle Acceleration by Magnetic Reconnection probed with Numerical Simulations

## ➤ **2D and 3D kinetic plasmas (PIC):**

(e.g. Drake+ 06; Zenitani & Hoshino 01; 07; 08; Ji+ 11; Cerutti, Uzdensky+ 13; Li+ 15; Christie et al. 2019; Sironi & Spitkovsky 2014; Guo+2015; 16; 18; 21; 22; Werner+ 17; 19; Sironi+18; Niskiwkawa et al. 2019, 2020; Comisso & Sironi 2019, 2020; Zhang et al. 2021, Davelaar et al. 2021; Sironi 2022; Zhang et al 2023; ...)

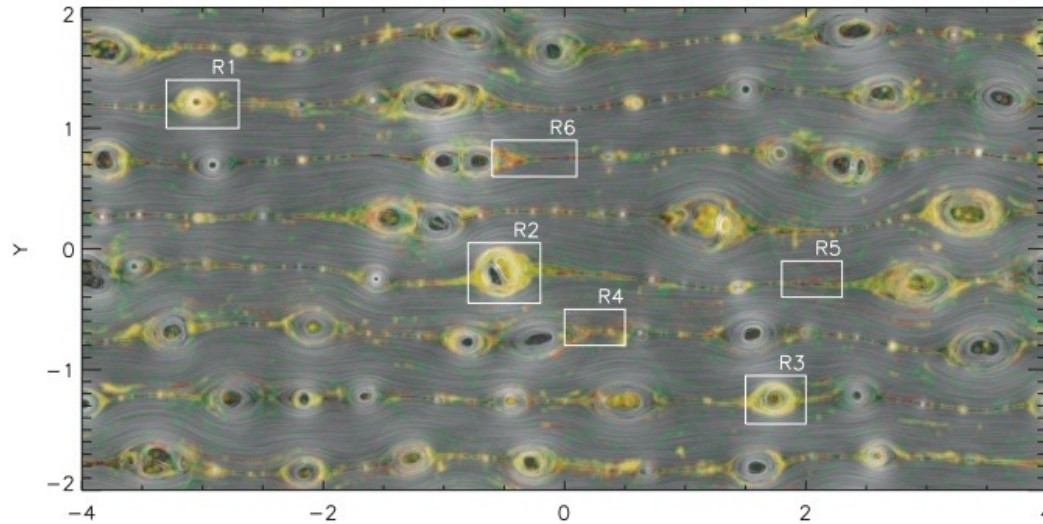
@ **scales: few plasma inertial length**  $\sim 100\text{-}1000 c/\omega_p$   
**acceleration up to  $\sim$  few  $1000 mc^2$**

## ➤ **Larger-scale astrophysical systems** (e.g. BHBs, AGNs, GRBs):

### **3D MHD + test particles:**

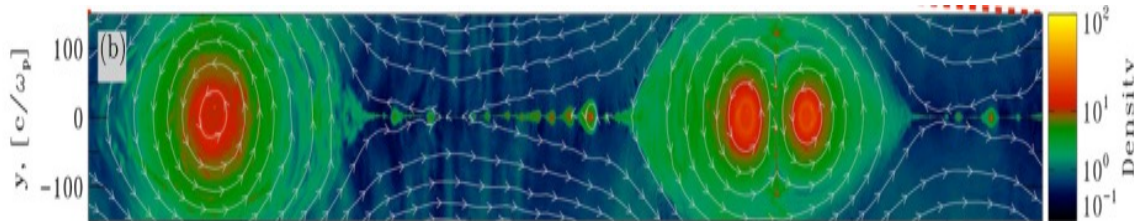
(Kowal, de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian 2011, 2012;  
de Gouveia Dal Pino & Kowal 2015; del Valle et al. 2016;  
Beresnyak & Li 2016; de Gouveia Dal Pino+2018, 2019; Guo et al. 2019; Yang et al. 2020; Medina-Torrejon et al. 2021; Medina-Torrejon, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Kowal 2023, ...)

# Equivalence of particle acceleration in current sheets and merging plasmoids in 2D: Fermi



(Kowal, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Lazarian 2011)

**2D MHD**  
simulations of  
current sheets  
and plasmoids  
(driven by tearing  
mode)



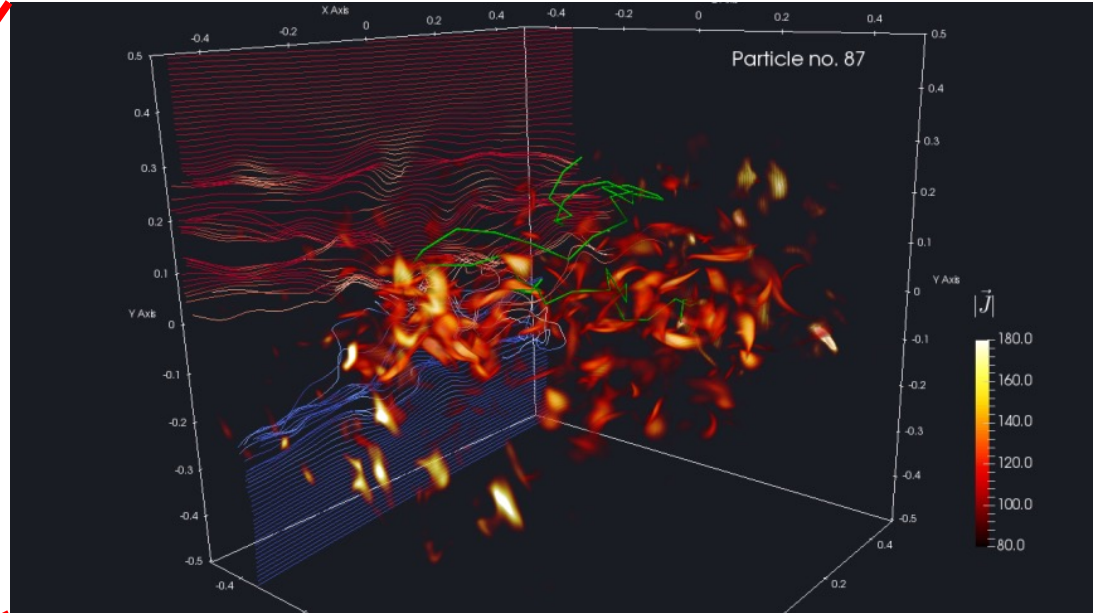
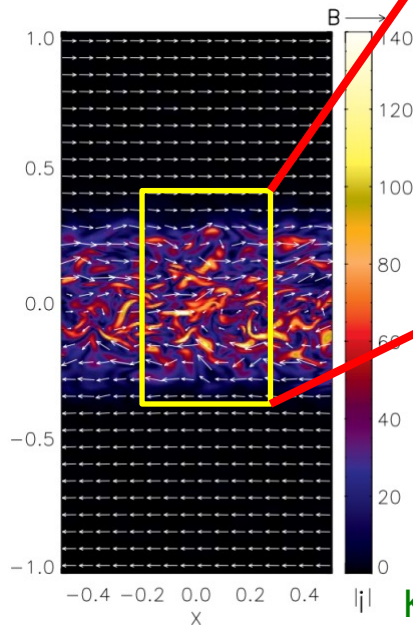
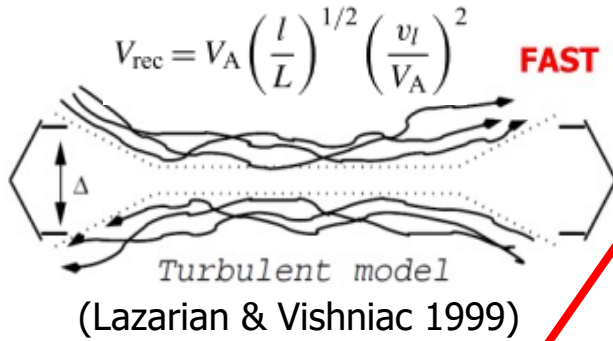
(e.g. Sironi & Spitkovsky 2014)

**2D PIC**  
simulations  
of plasmoids and  
**X points** (driven by  
tearing mode)

But plasmoids: just cross sections of 3D flux tubes reconnecting, and **particle acceleration is actually 3D !**



# 3D MHD Simulations with Test Particles (with turbulence that makes reconnection fast)



$$\frac{d}{dt}(\gamma m \mathbf{u}) = q(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} + \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B})$$



$$\frac{d}{dt}(\gamma m \mathbf{u}) = q[(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}) \times \mathbf{B}]$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = -\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{B}$$

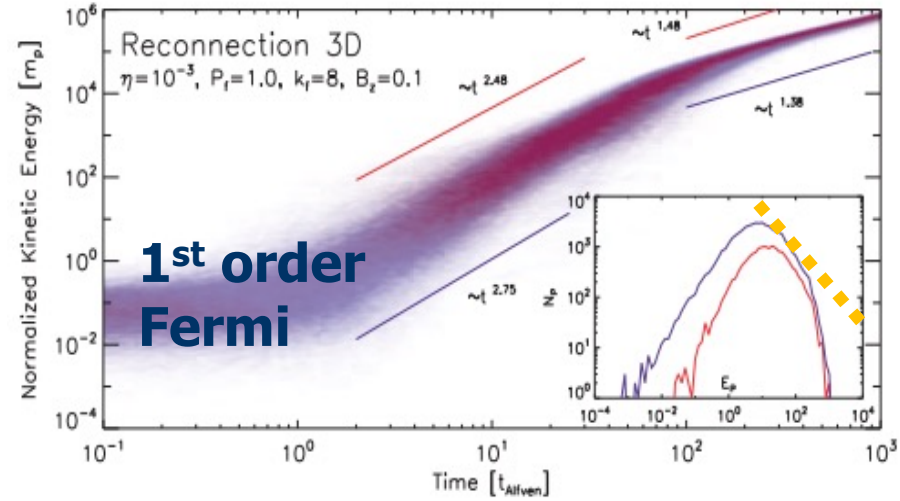
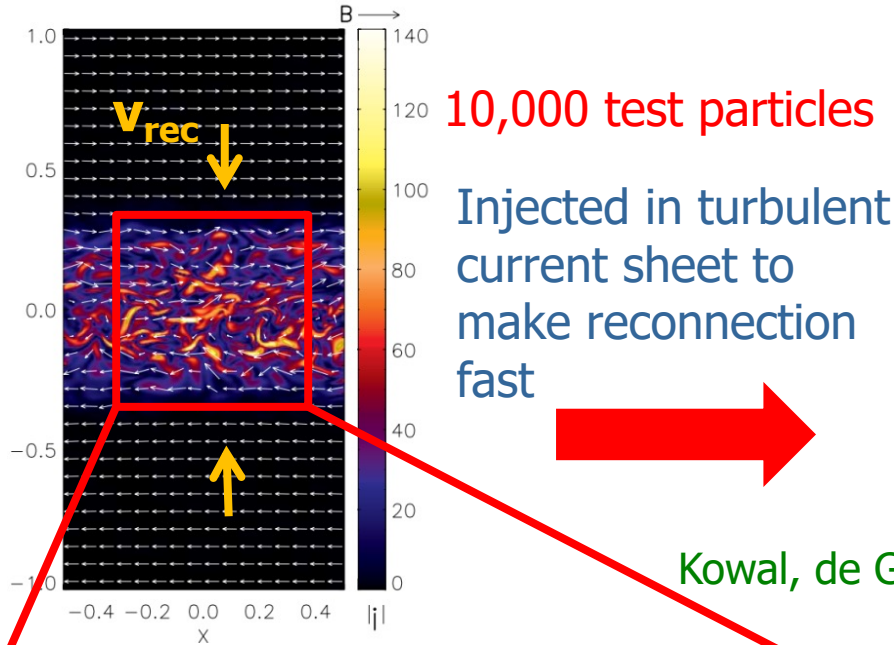
Neglect:  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \eta \mathbf{J}$

(dominant in  
PIC simulations)

Kowal, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Lazarian PRL 2012

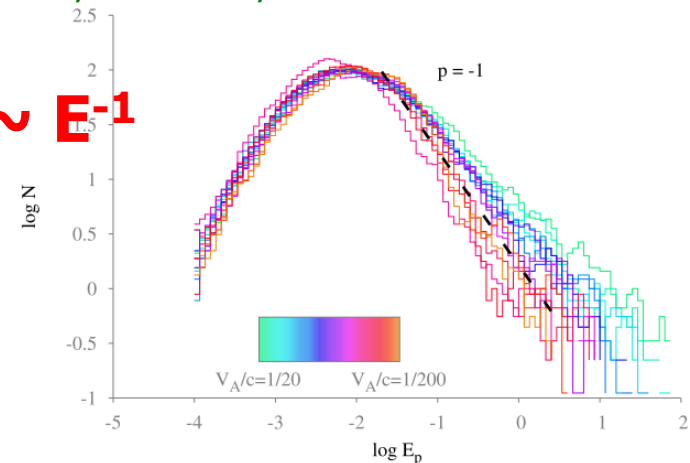
del Valle, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Kowal, MNRAS 2016

# Fermi Reconnection Acceleration: successful numerical testing in 3D MHD turbulent Current Sheets



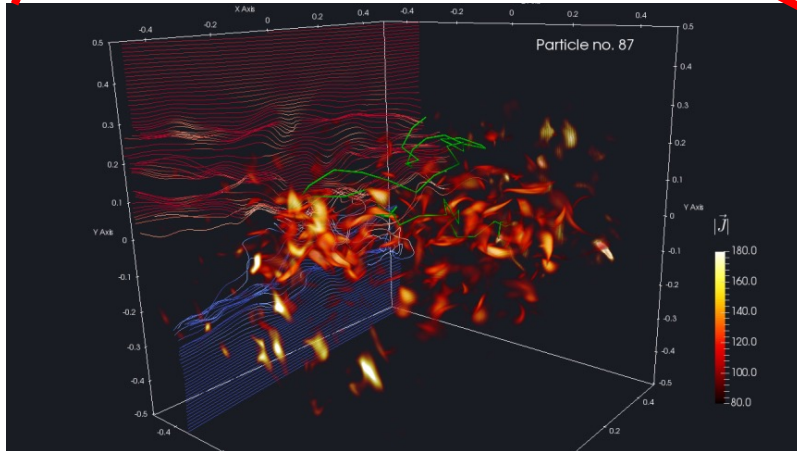
Kowal, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Lazarian, PRL 2012

✓  $N(E) \sim E^{-1}$



✓ Signatures of Fermi acceleration

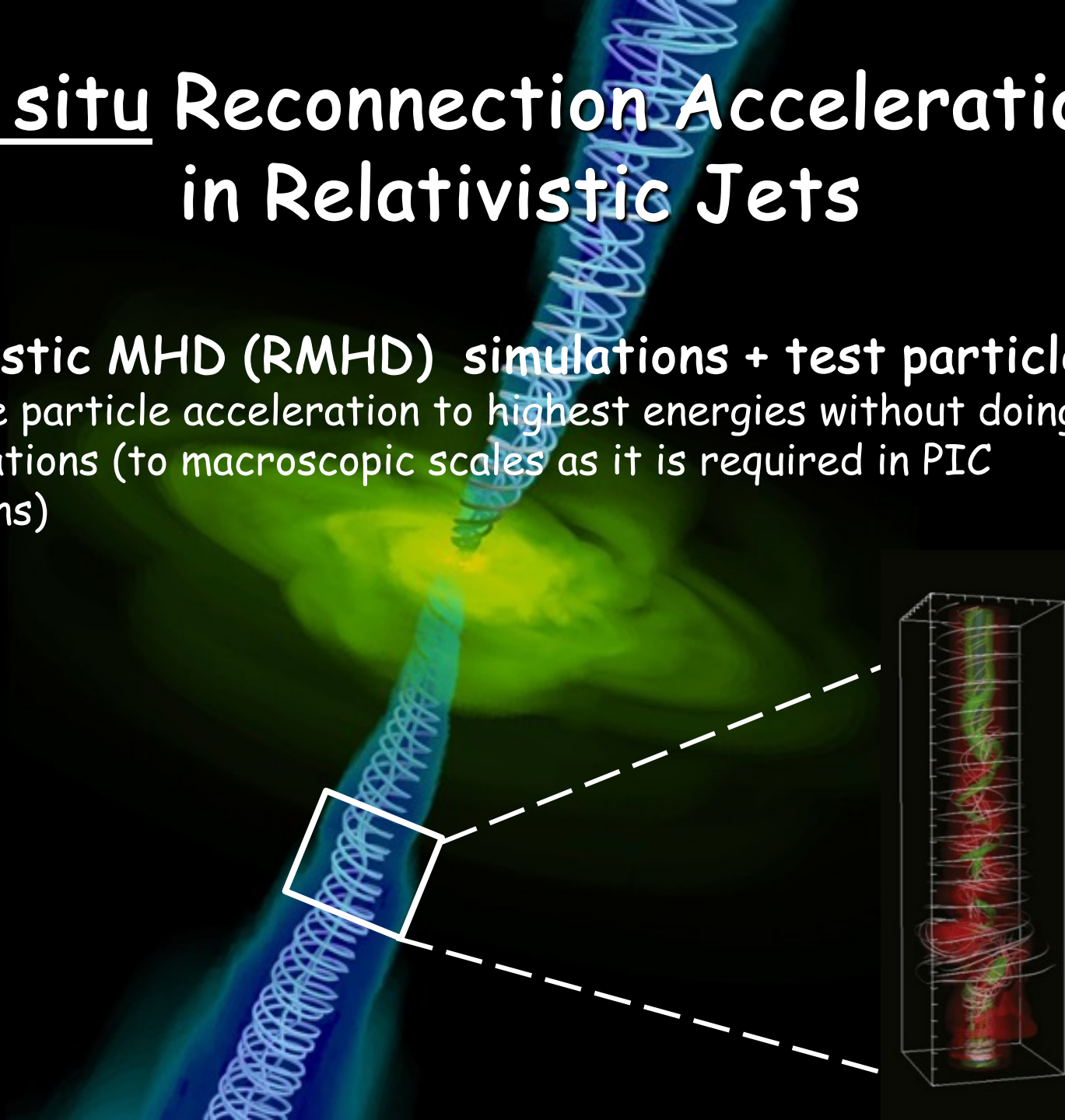
del Valle, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Kowal MNRAS 2016





# In situ Reconnection Acceleration in Relativistic Jets

Relativistic MHD (RMHD) simulations + test particles:  
can probe particle acceleration to highest energies without doing  
extrapolations (to macroscopic scales as it is required in PIC  
simulations)

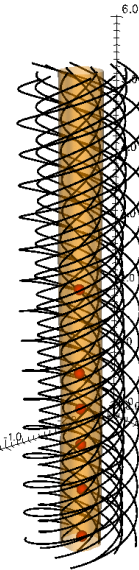
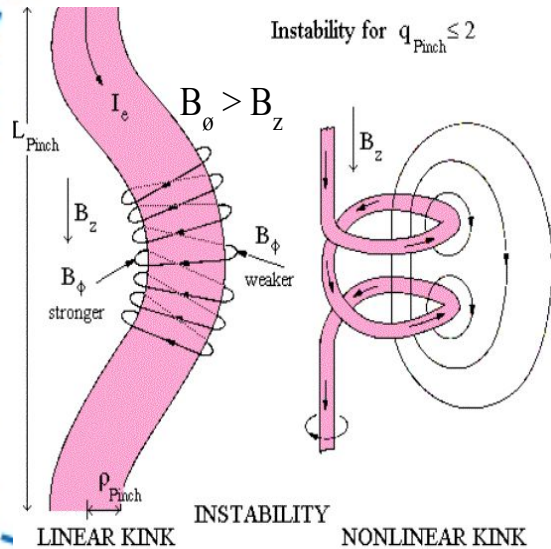


# 3D RMHD Simulations of Magnetically Dominated Relativistic Jets subject to Kink Instability

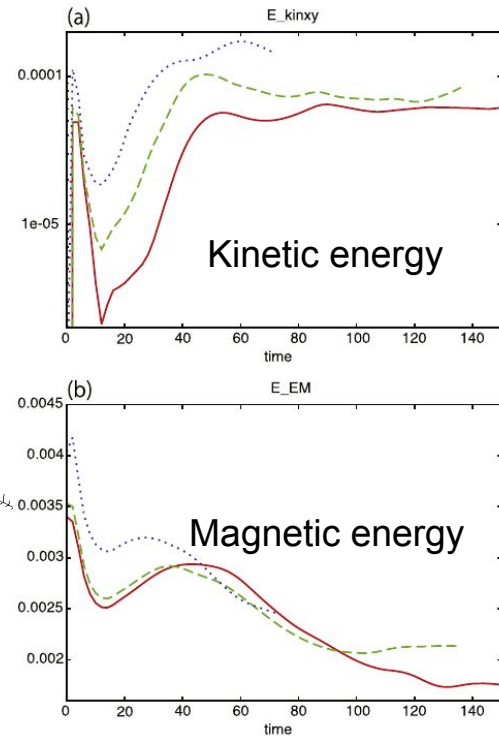
- RMHD Godunov (HLLC) based **RAISHIN** code (Mizuno et al. 2012)
- Precession perturbation -> **current-driven kink instability (CDKI)** -> **turbulence** -> **reconnection**

$$t_{\text{kink}} \simeq \frac{2\pi R_j}{c} \frac{B_p}{B_\phi}$$

Contour  
DB: bin\_0k070.vtk  
Cycle: 70 Time: 17.5  
Var: density  
-0.4542  
-0.2539  
Max: 0.6545  
Min: 0.05356



$$\sigma = B^2 / \gamma^2 \rho h \sim 1$$



Singh, Mizuno, de Gouveia Dal Pino, ApJ 2016  
 Medina-Torrejon, de Gouveia Dal Pino+ ApJ 2021  
 Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino + ApJ 2021

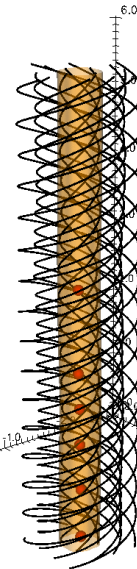
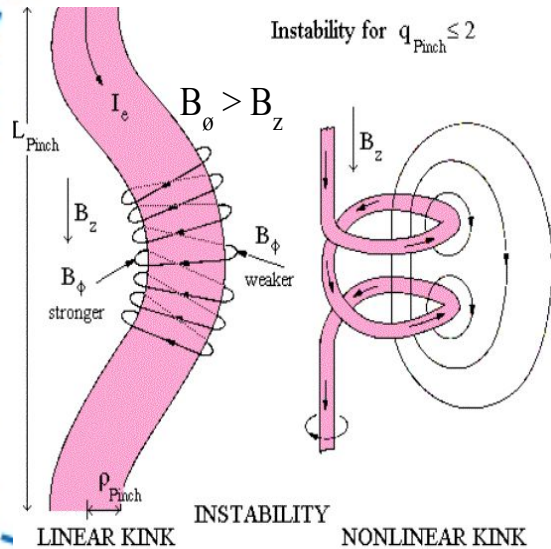


# 3D RMHD Simulations of Magnetically Dominated Relativistic Jets subject to Kink Instability

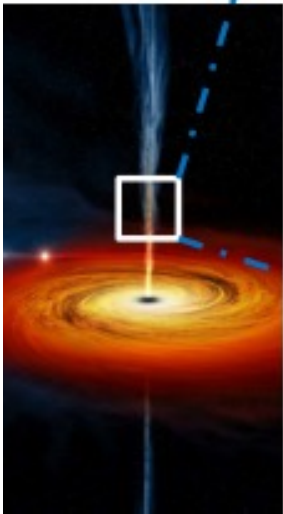
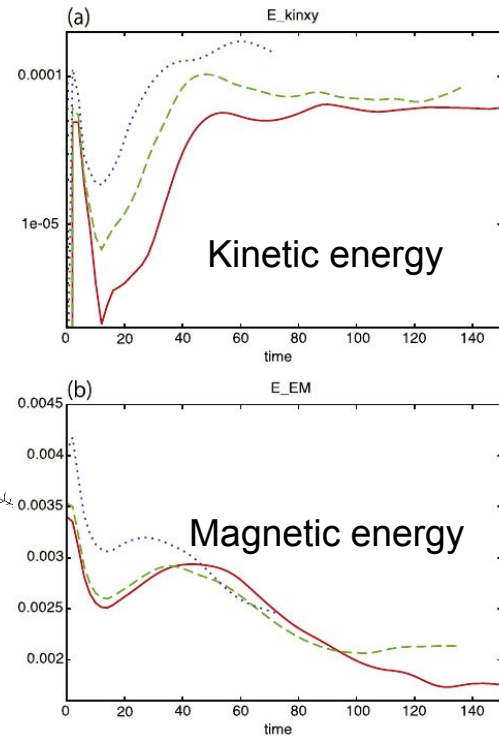
- RMHD Godunov (HLLC) based **RAISHIN** code (Mizuno et al. 2012)
- Precession perturbation -> **current-driven kink instability (CDKI)** -> **turbulence** -> **reconnection**

$$t_{\text{kink}} \simeq \frac{2\pi R_j}{c} \frac{B_p}{B_\phi}$$

Contour  
 DB: bin\_c4070.vtk  
 Cycle: 70 Time: 17.5  
 Var: density  
 Max: 0.6545  
 Min: 0.05356



$$\sigma = B^2 / \gamma^2 \rho h \sim 1$$



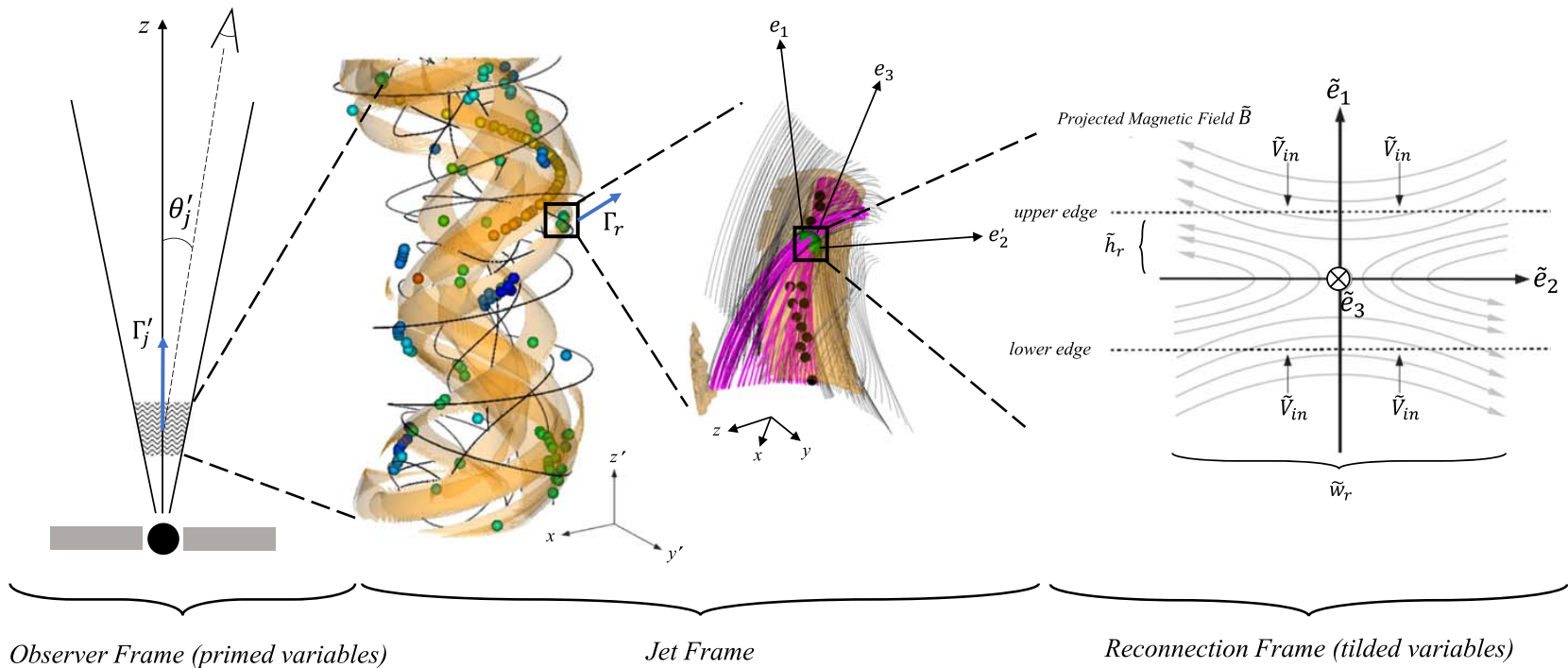
Singh, Mizuno, de Gouveia Dal Pino, ApJ 2016  
 Medina-Torrejon, de Gouveia Dal Pino+ ApJ 2021  
 Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino + ApJ 2021





# Identification of Fast Reconnection driven by Kink in Relativistic Jets

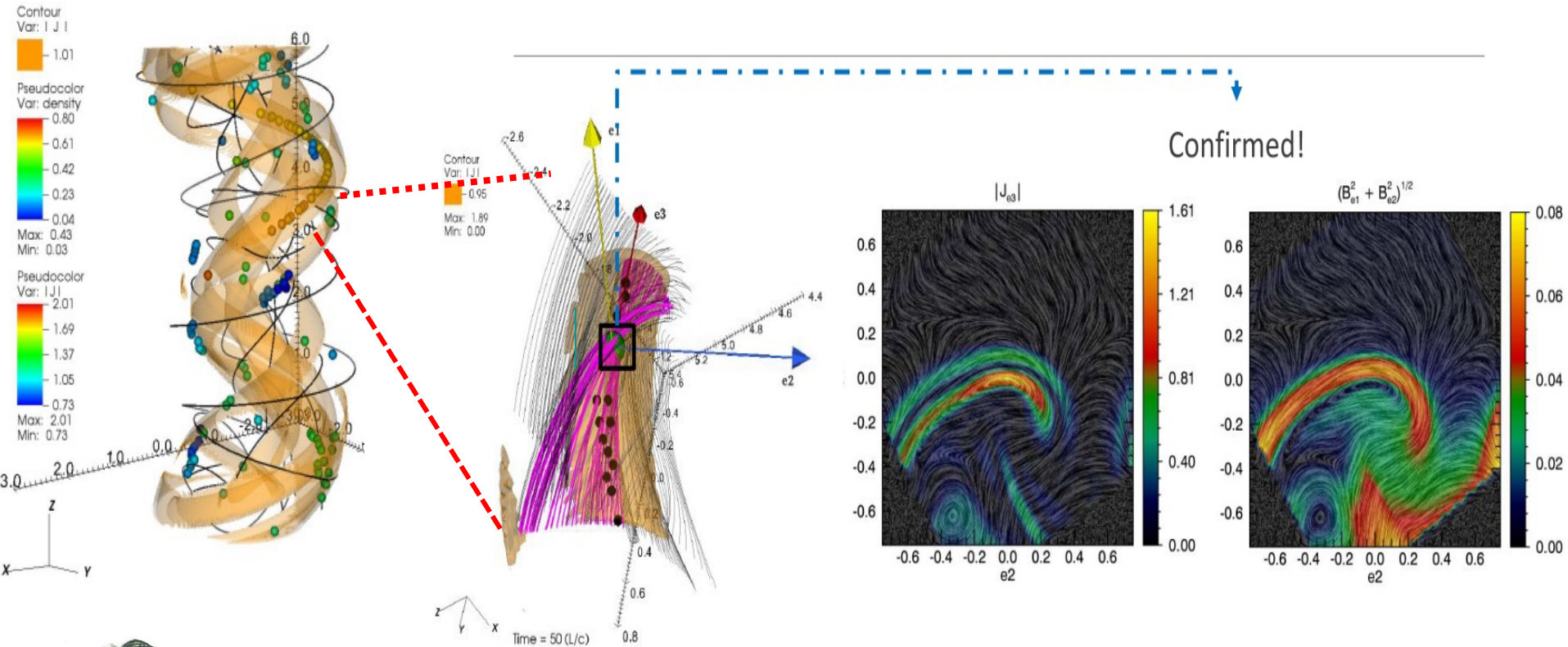
- Algorithm (as in Zhdankin et al. 2013) extended to 3D relativistic analysis



Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Stone ApJ 2018;  
 Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Medina-Torrejon +ApJ 2021

$$\left\langle \frac{V_{in}}{V_A} \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \left( \left. \frac{V_{e_1}}{V_A} \right|_{lower} - \left. \frac{V_{e_1}}{V_A} \right|_{upper} \right)$$

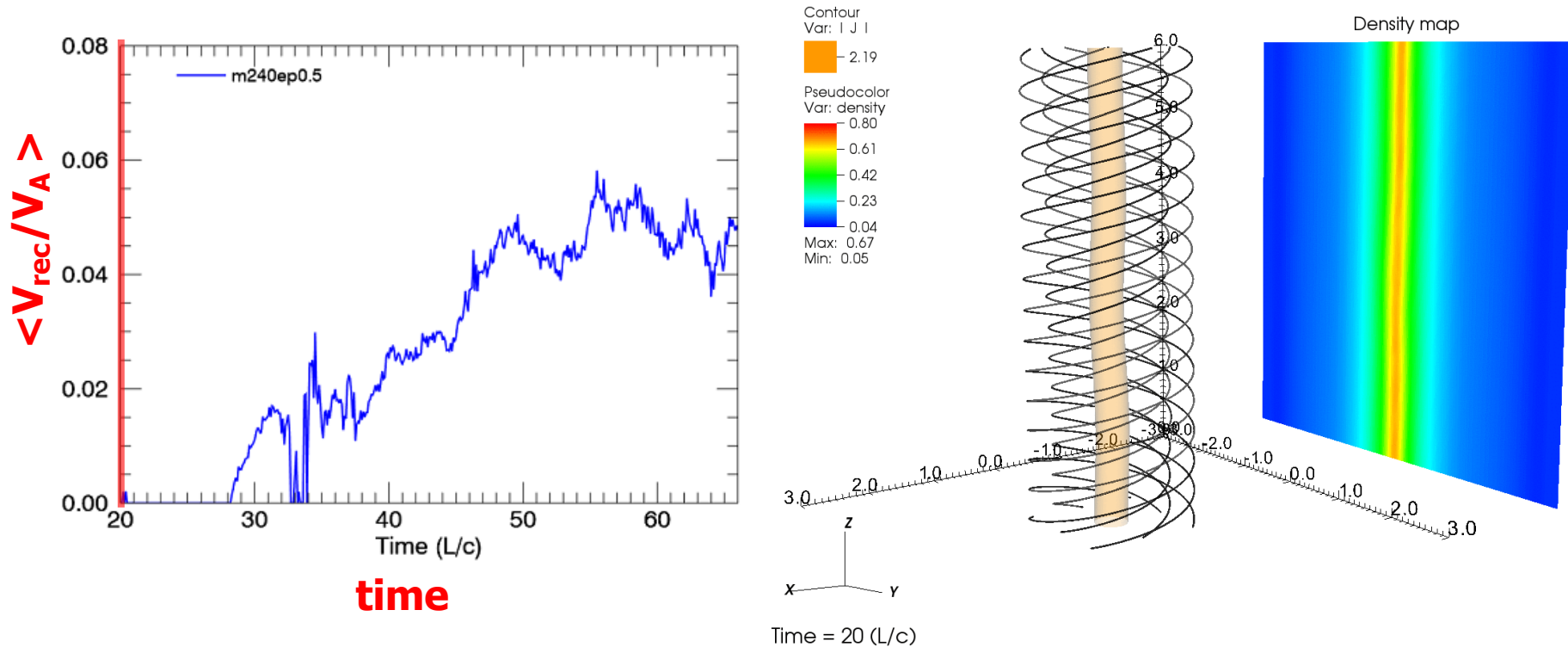
# Identification of Fast Reconnection driven by Kink in Relativistic Jets



Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Medina-Torrejon + ApJ 2021

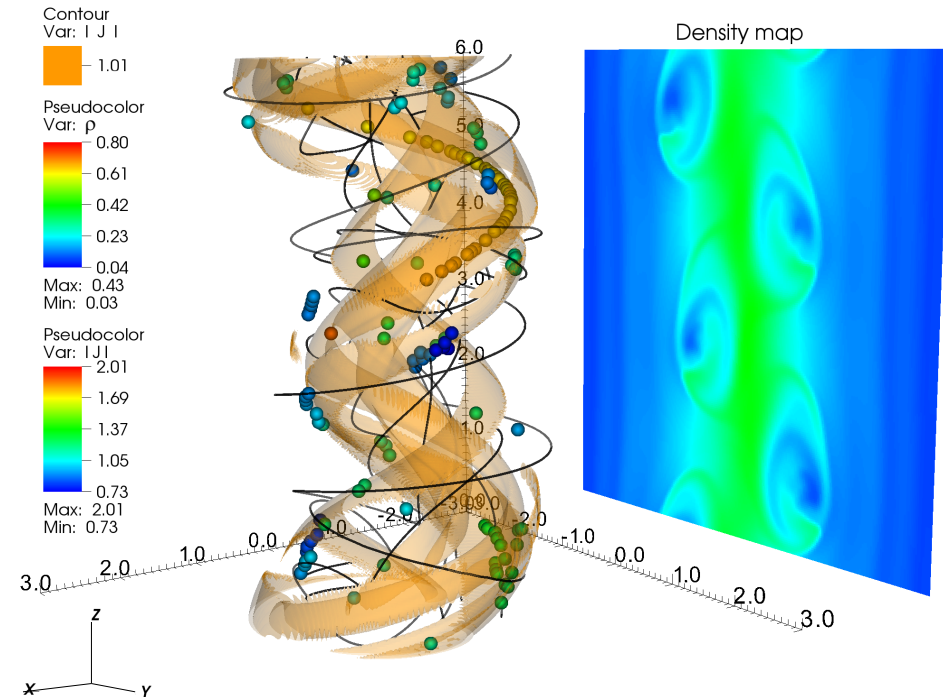
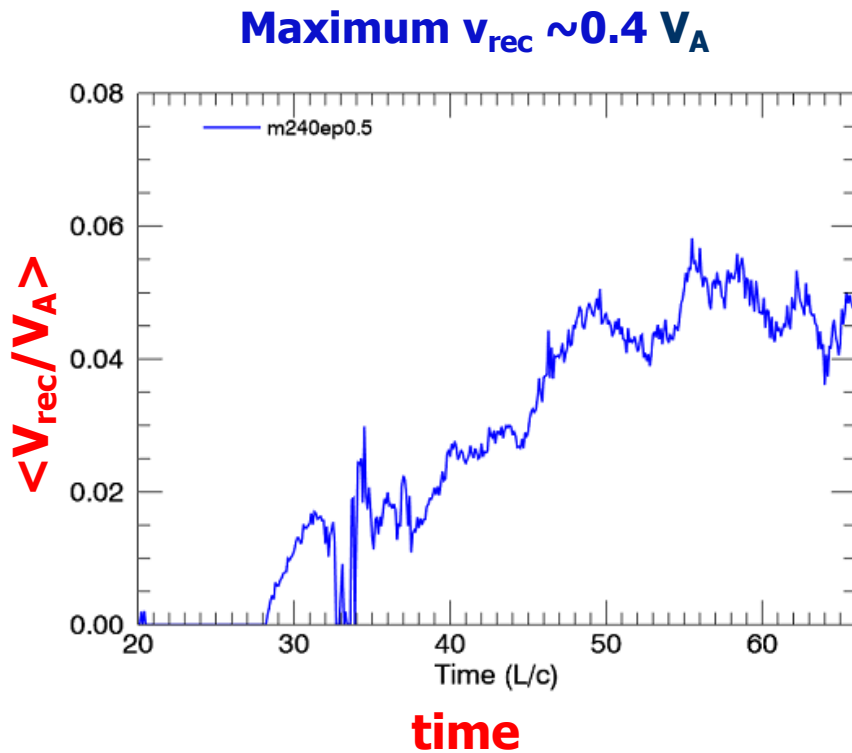


# Fast Reconnection Rate driven by Kink instability in Relativistic Jets



Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Medina-Torrejón +, ApJ 2021

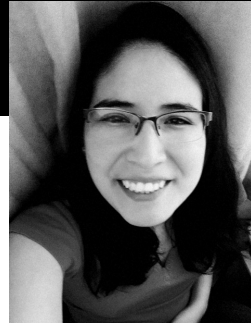
# Identification of Fast Reconnection Rate driven by Kink turbulence in Relativistic Jets



$\langle V_{\text{rec}} \rangle \approx 0.05 V_A$   $\rightarrow$  Fast reconnection: key for efficient particle acceleration

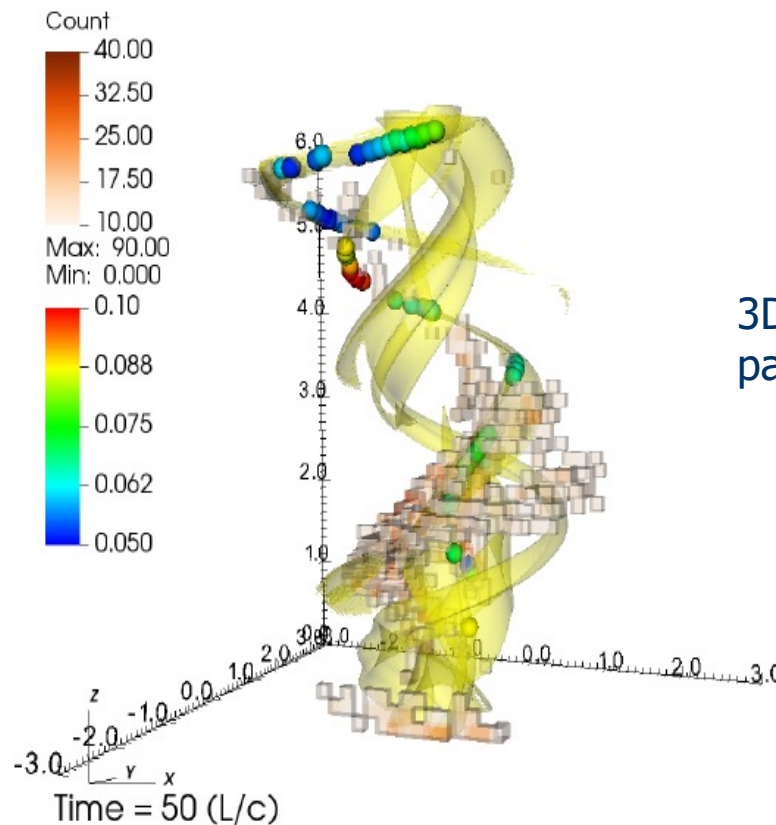
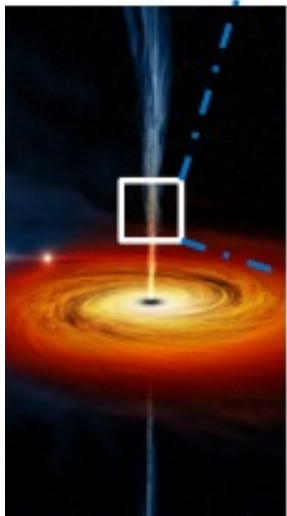


# In situ acceleration of test particles by Magnetic Reconnection in Relativistic MHD Jets



Injected 1000 test particles:  
accelerated in reconnection  
sheets from:  
25 MeV = 0.03  $m_p c^2$

$$\sigma = B^2 / \gamma^2 \rho h \sim 1$$

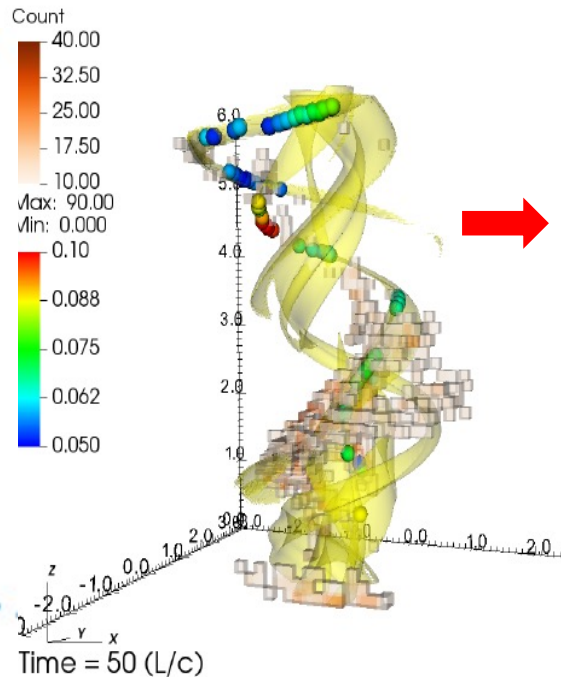
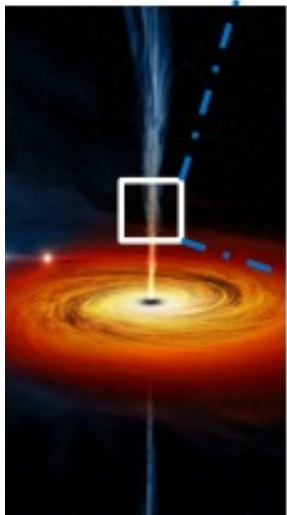


3D histogram of accelerated particles

$$E_p > 10^{-1} m_p c^2$$

# In situ acceleration of test particles by Magnetic Reconnection in Relativistic MHD Jets -> UHECRs

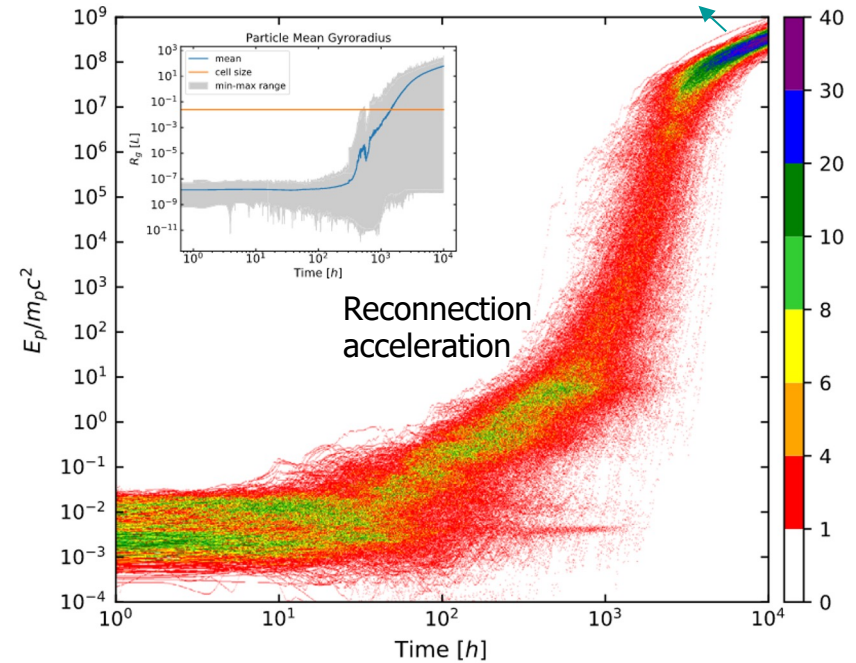
Particles accelerated over:  
0.01-0.1 pc scales  
( $B \sim 0.1 - 10$  G)



$$L = 3.6 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ pc}$$

$B \sim 10$  G

grad-B drift acceleration



Exponential regime:

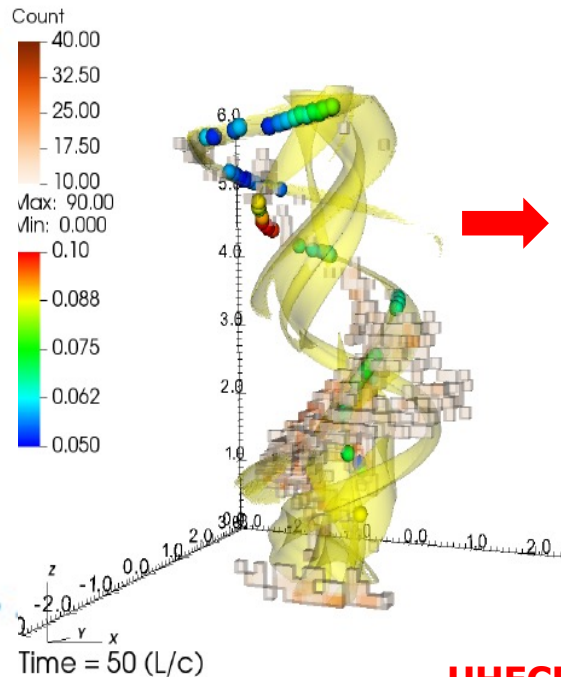
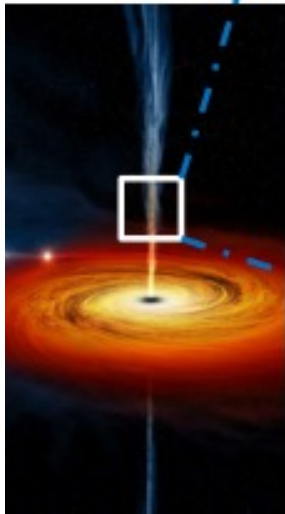
$$R_{L,max} \sim 10^{-4} \text{ pc } E_{18}/B_{10G} \sim \text{distorted jet diameter} \sim 4 L$$



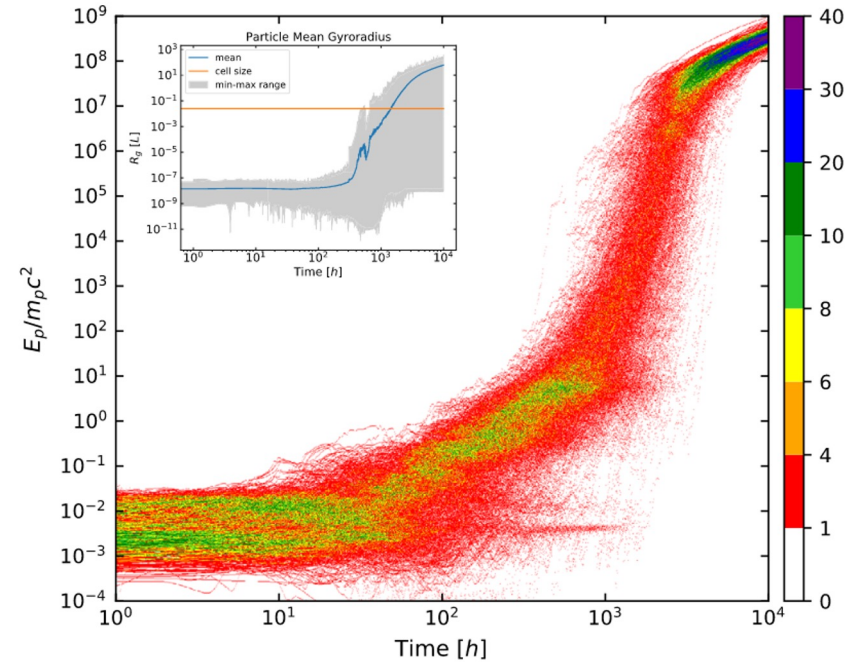
# In situ acceleration of test particles by Magnetic Reconnection in Relativistic MHD Jets -> UHECRs

Particles accelerated over:  
0.01-0.1 pc scales  
( $B \sim 0.1 - 10$  G)

$B \sim 10$  G

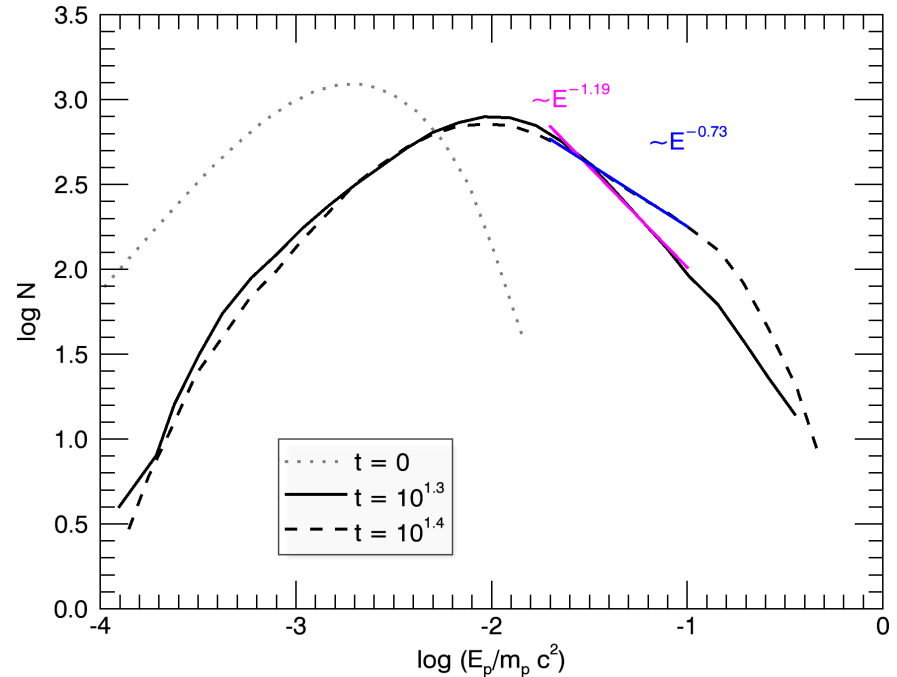
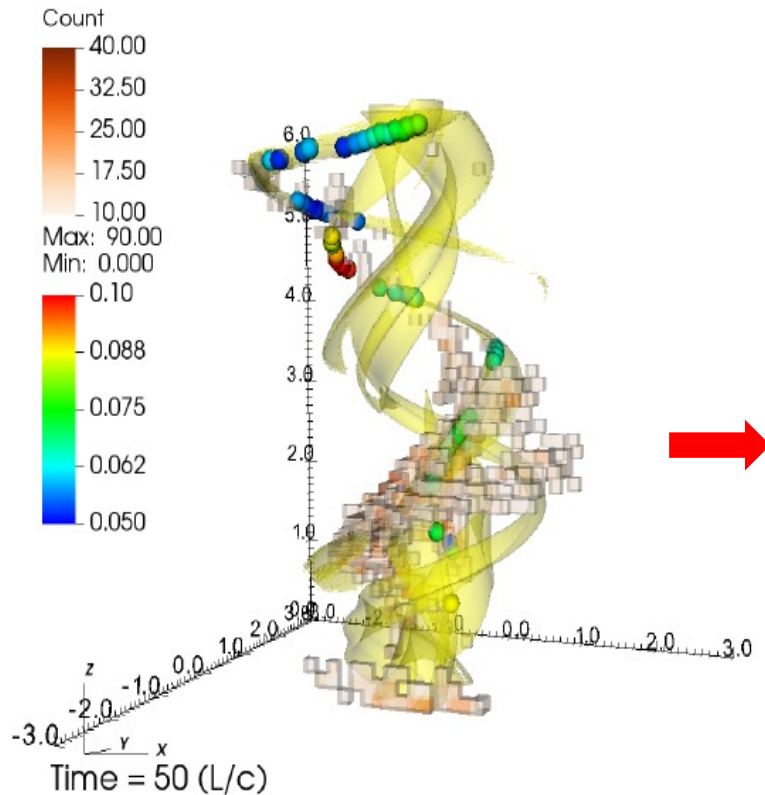


$$L = 3.6 \cdot 10^{-5} \text{ pc}$$



**UHECRs: accelerated to  $10^{18} - 10^{20}$  eV ( $B \sim 0.1 - 10$  G)**  
-> more than enough to produce  
**TeV Gamma-Rays and Neutrinos !**

# Accelerated Particles Spectrum in the Relativistic MHD Jet



$$N(E) \sim E^{-1.2}$$

- Similar particle spectrum to PIC simulations, but flatter than observations due to absence of losses or feedback

# Early Particle Acceleration

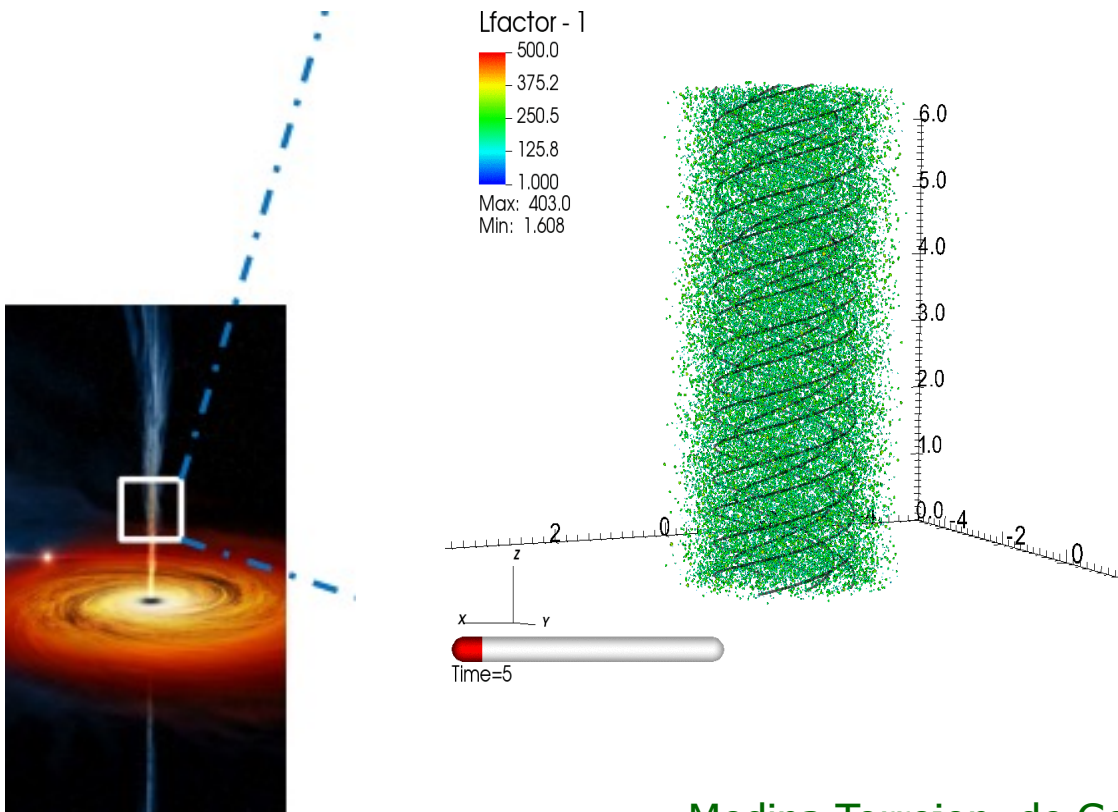
Transition from small to large scales

From PIC to MHD ?



# Early Particle Acceleration using RMHD-PIC Simulations: $\delta B/\delta t$ effects

- RMHD-PIC PLUTO code Godunov Based (HLLD) (Mignone et al. 2018)
- Particles evolve with flow (Boris particle pusher method)
- $256^3$  resolution

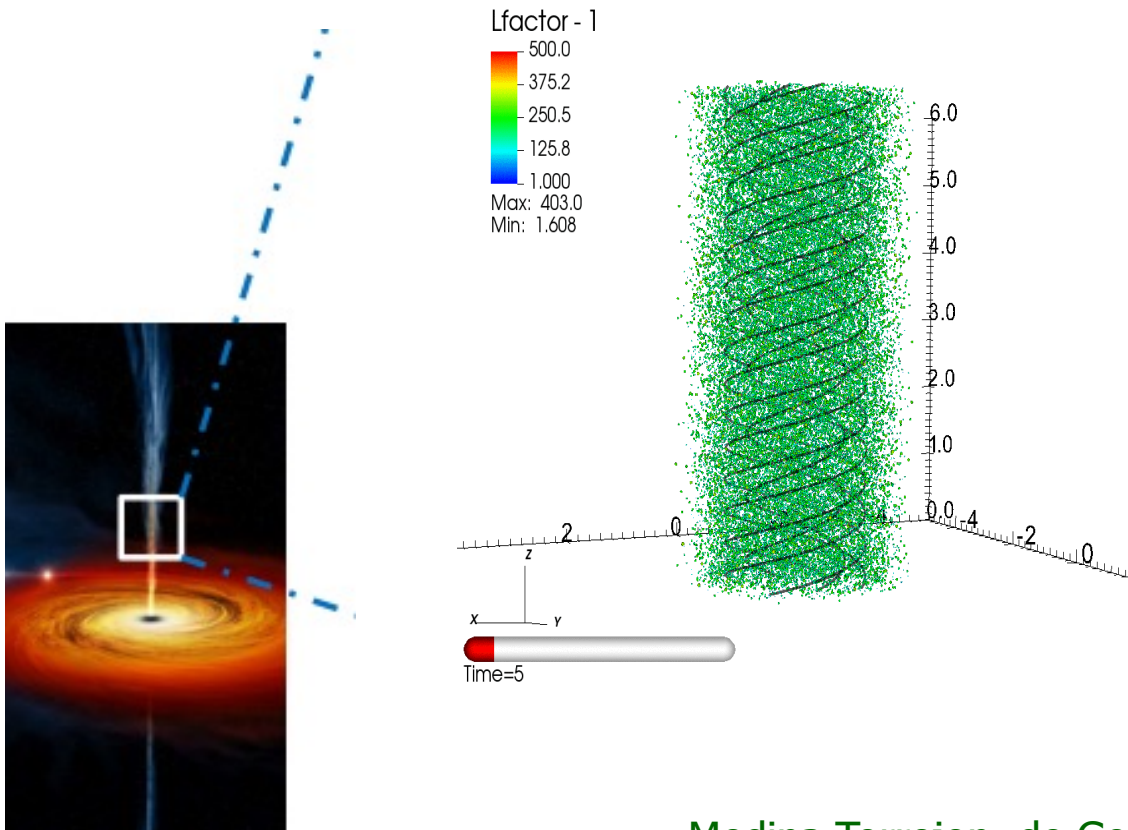


$$\sigma = B^2 / \gamma^2 \rho h \sim 1$$

Curvature drift  
Fermi  
Magnetic-grad drift

# Early Particle Acceleration using RMHD-PIC Simulations: $\delta B/\delta t$ effects

- RMHD-PIC PLUTO code Godunov Based (HLLD) (Mignone et al. 2018)
- Particles evolve with flow (Boris particle pusher method)
- $256^3$  resolution

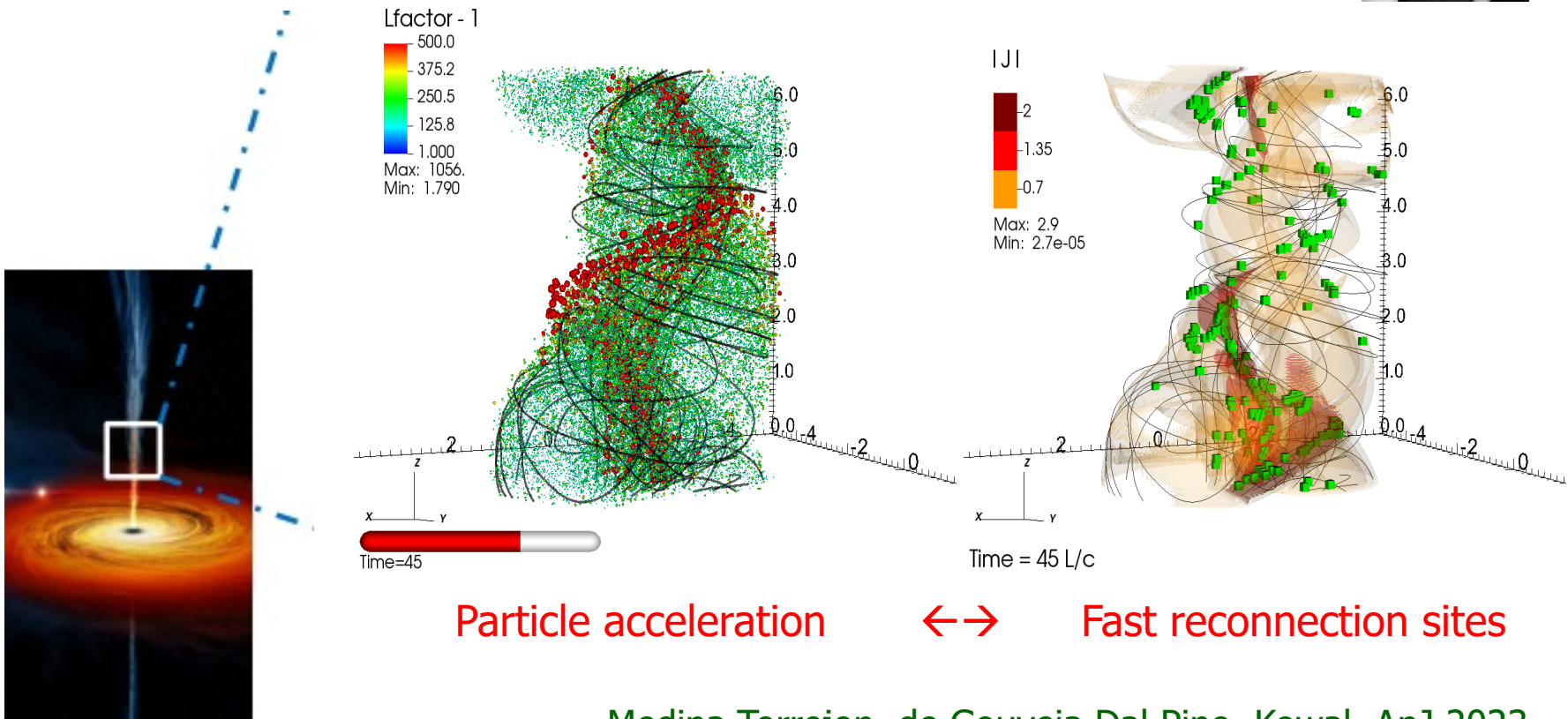


$$\sigma = B^2 / \gamma^2 \rho h \sim 1$$

Curvature drift  
Fermi  
Magnetic-grad drift

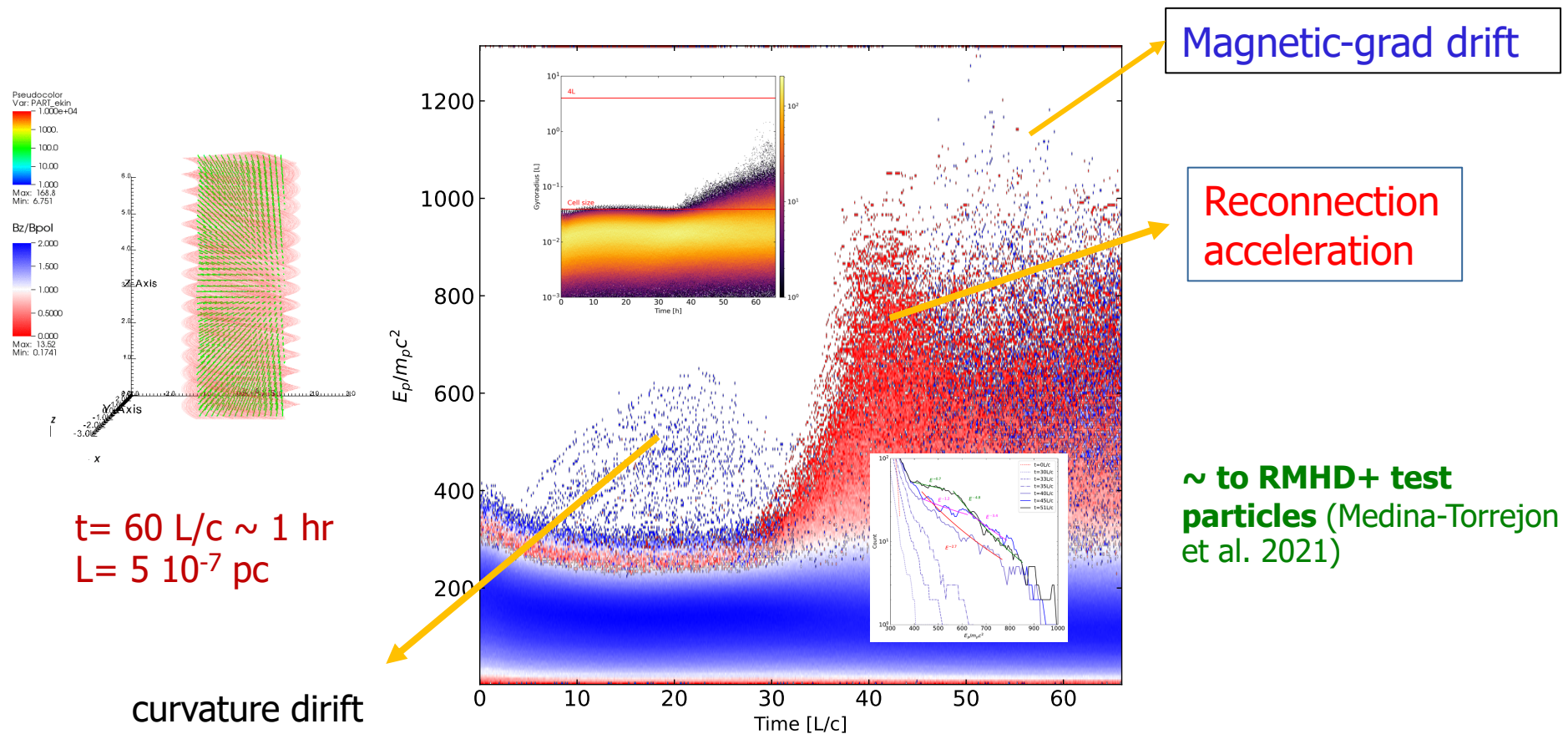
# Early Particle Acceleration using RMHD-PIC Simulations: $\delta B/\delta t$ effects

- RMHD-PIC PLUTO code Godunov Based (HLLD) (Mignone et al. 2018)
- Particles evolve with flow (Boris particle pusher method)
- $256^3$  resolution



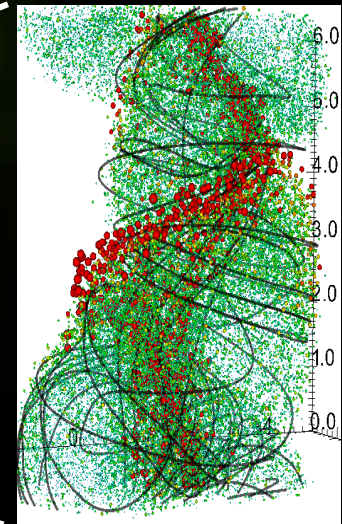
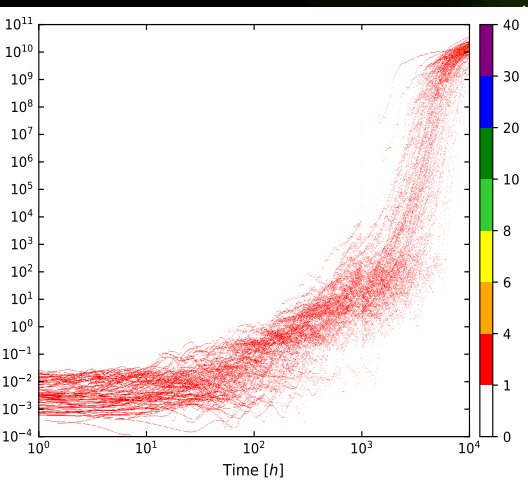


# Early Particle Acceleration using PIC-RMHD Simulations: $\delta B/\delta t$ effects



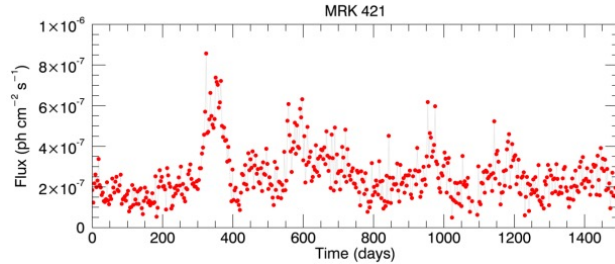
$\rightarrow \delta B/\delta t$  effects: not important

# Applications to AGN Jet Very High Energy Phenomena

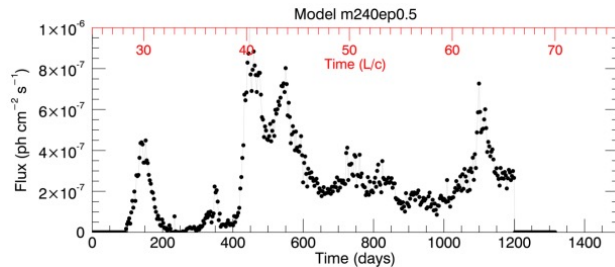


# Fast Reconnection can explain observed gamma-ray flux & variability in Relativistic Jets

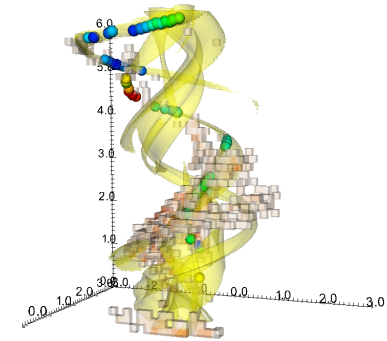
## AGN Blazar: MRK421



➤ **Observed gamma-ray flux (FERMI)**  
(Kushwaha et al. 2017)

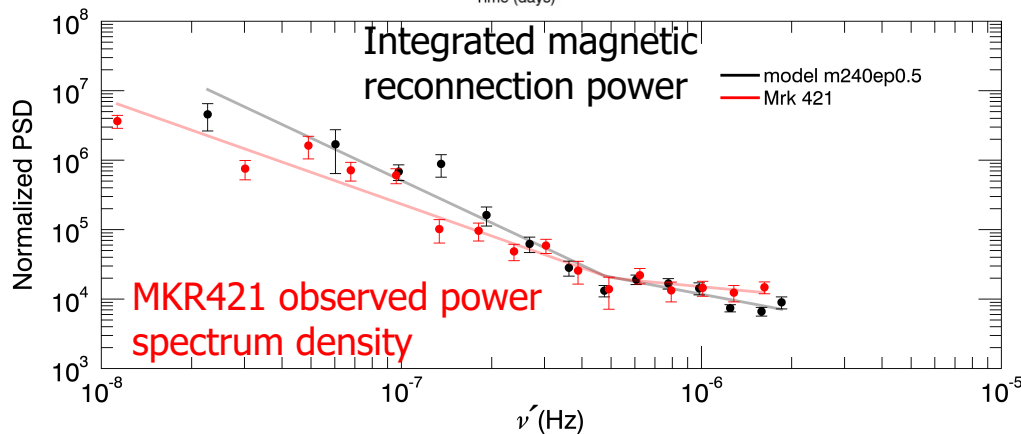


➤ **Simulated**



➤ **Simulated flux variability**

- Magnetic field: 3.7 G
- Doppler:  $\delta \sim 5$
- Height of the Jet:  $\approx 0.1 \text{ pc}$
- High density regions:  $\approx 7 \cdot 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Photon energy: 0.1 - 300 GeV

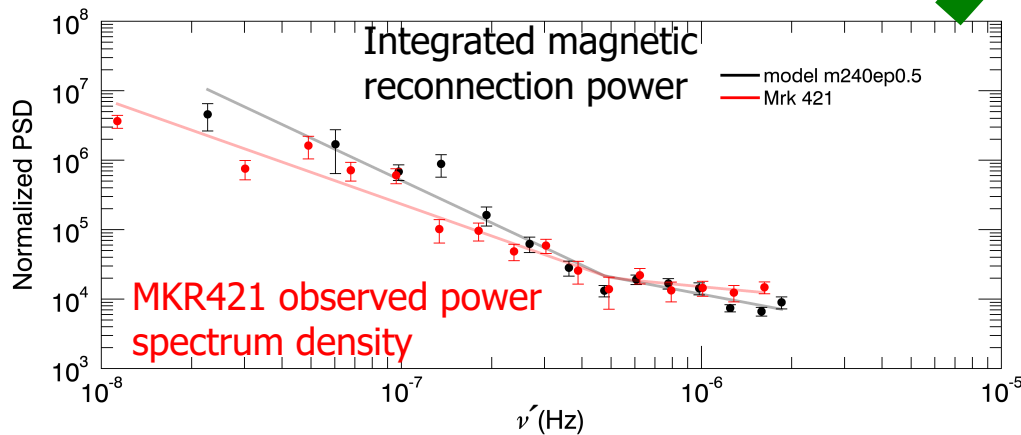
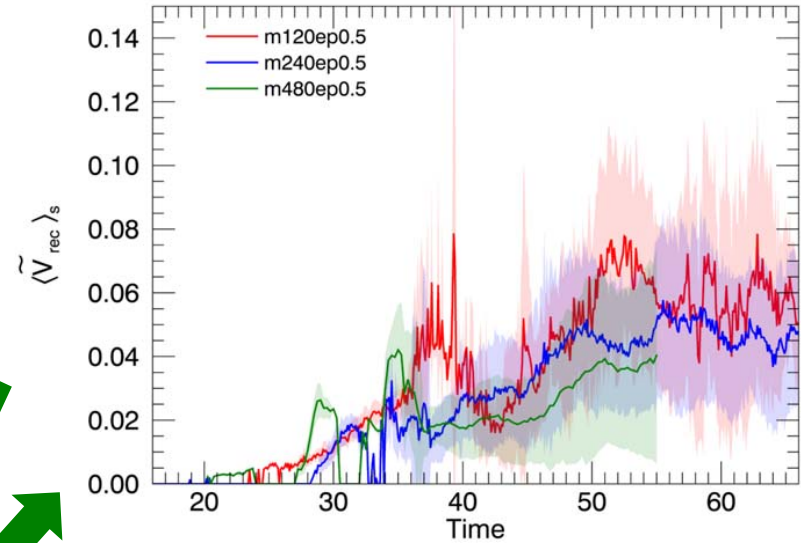
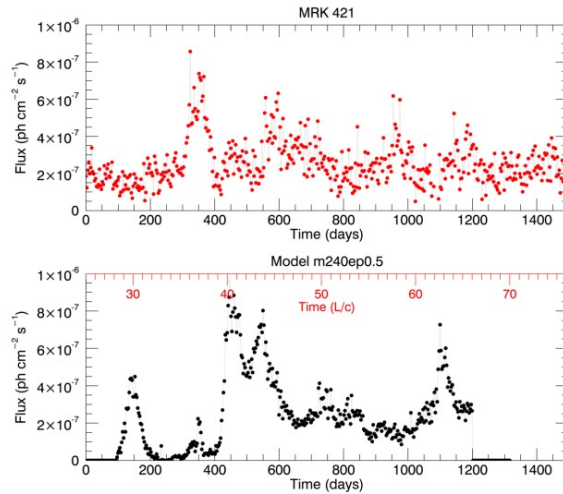


➤ Time variability and reconnection power compatible with observed blazar flaring



# Fast Reconnection can explain observed gamma-ray flux & variability in Relativistic Jets

## AGN Blazar: MRK421

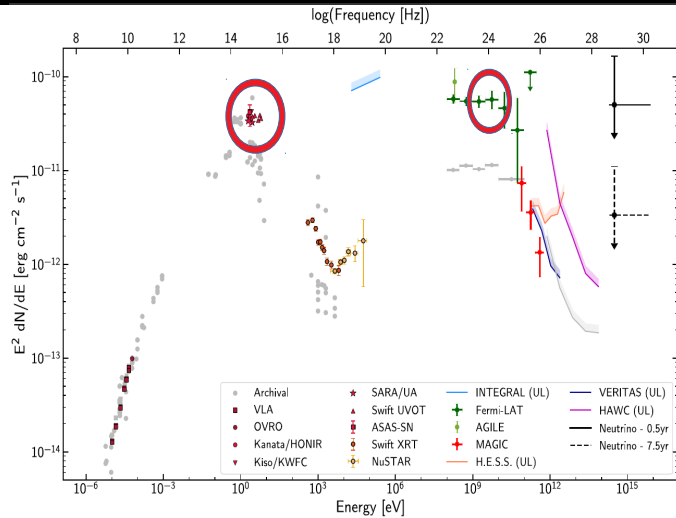


➤ Time variability and reconnection power compatible with observed blazar flaring

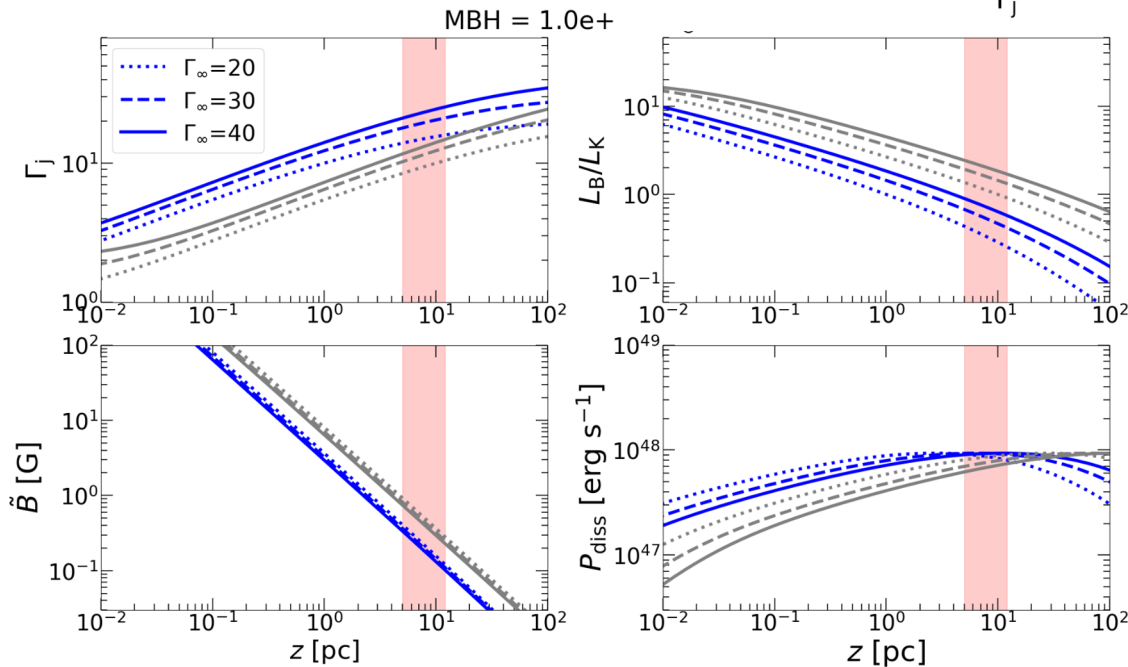
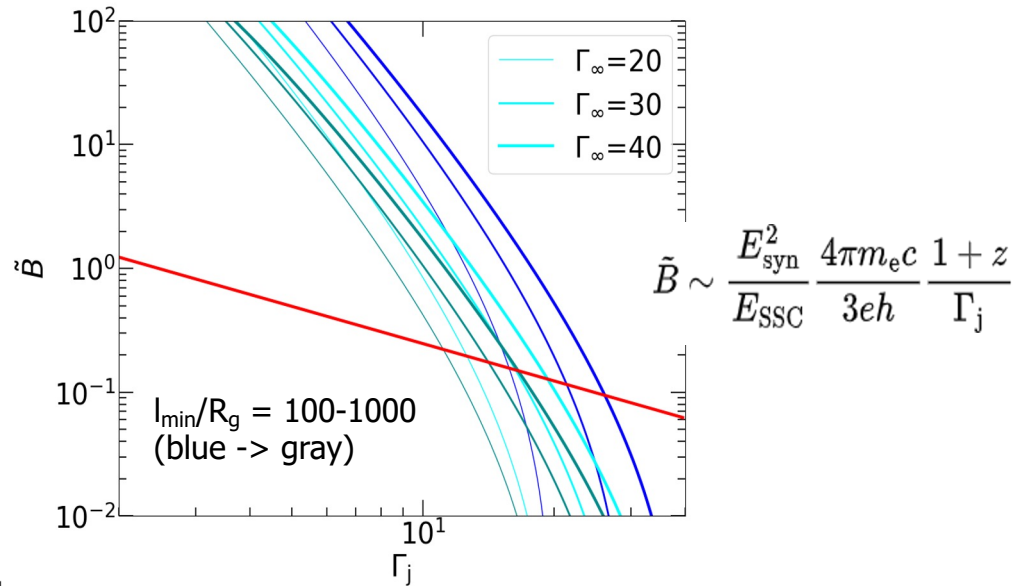
## ➤ Simulated flux variability

- Magnetic field: 3.7 G
- Doppler:  $\delta=5$
- Height of the Jet:  $\approx 0.1 \text{ pc}$
- High density regions:  $\approx 7 \cdot 10^2 \text{ cm}^{-3}$
- Photon energy: 0.1 - 300 GeV

# Lepto-Hadronic Reconnection Acceleration for Relativistic Jets - VHE Losses



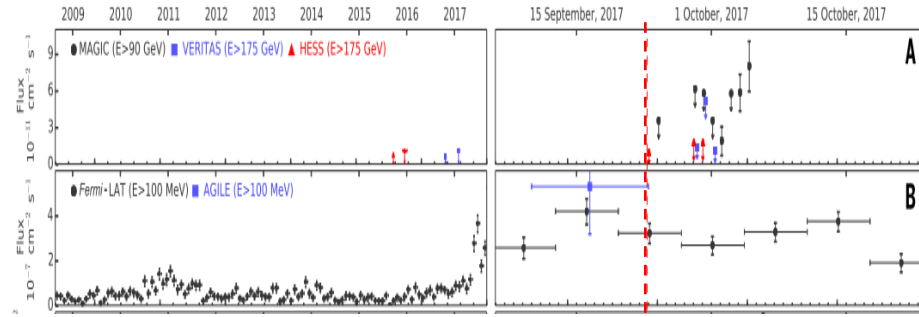
Blazar TXS 0506+056 (Aartsen et al. 2018, Science)



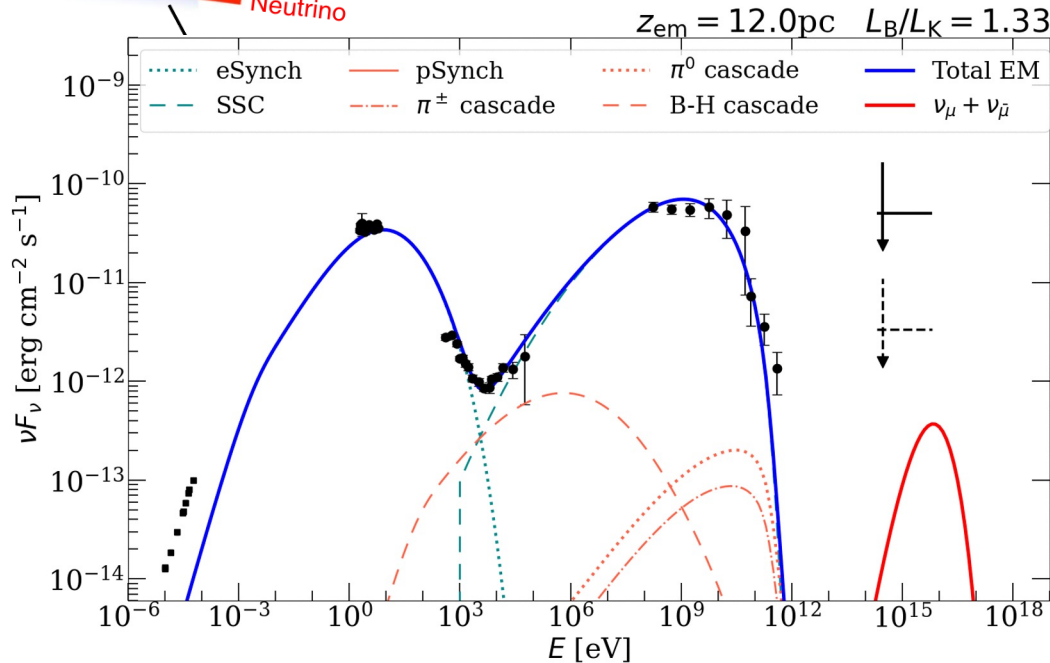
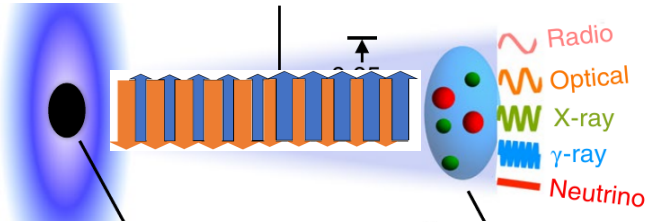
(Giannios & Uzdensky 2019)

# Emission Model based on Reconnection Acceleration for Relativistic Jet

Blazar TXS 0506+056



(Aartsen et al. Science 2018)



model predicts VHE  $\gamma$ -rays appearing later than neutrino emission, as observed!

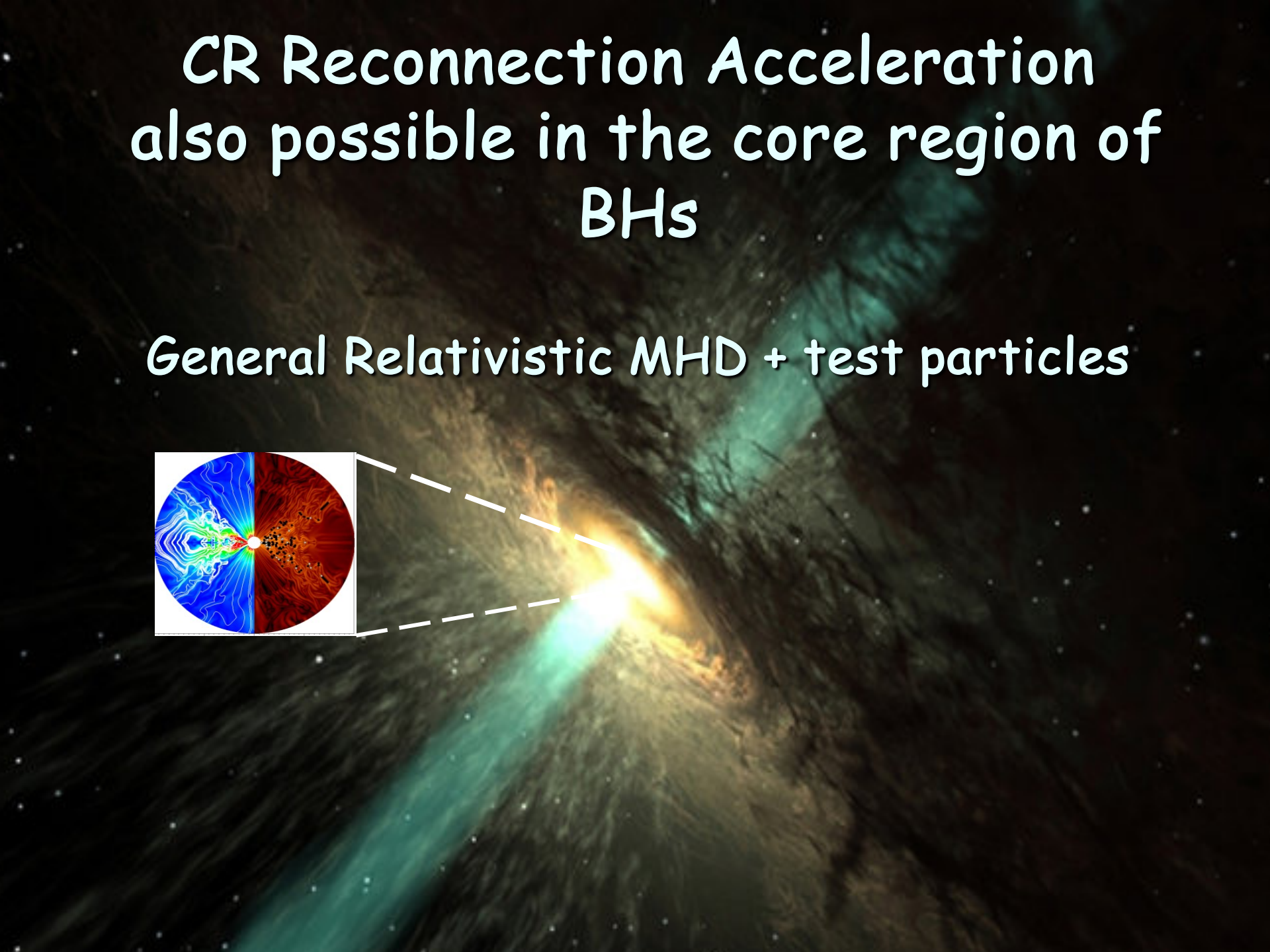
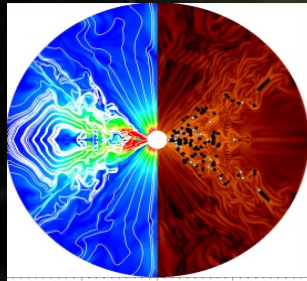
Rodriguez-Ramirez, de Gouveia Dal Pino et al. (2023, in prep.)





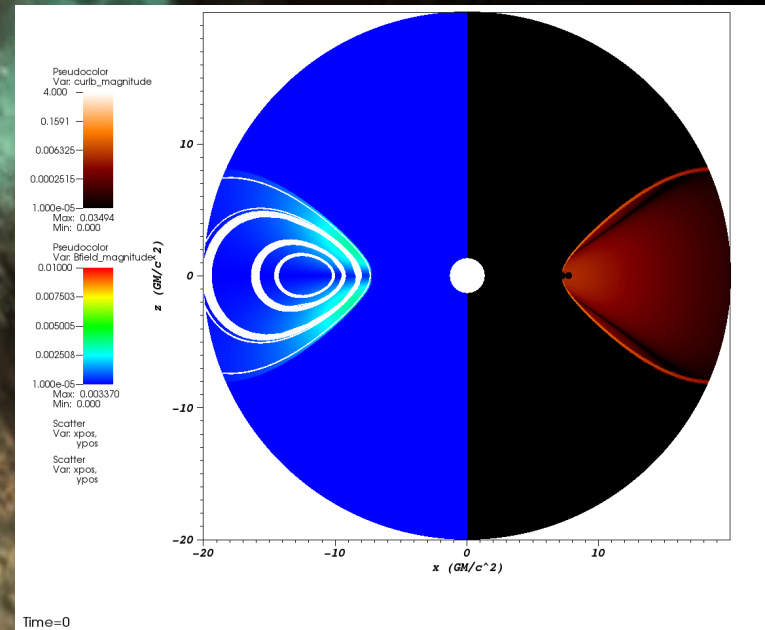
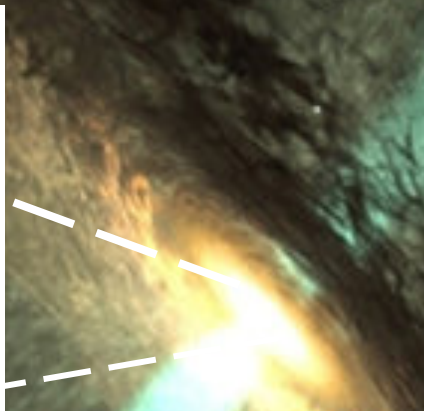
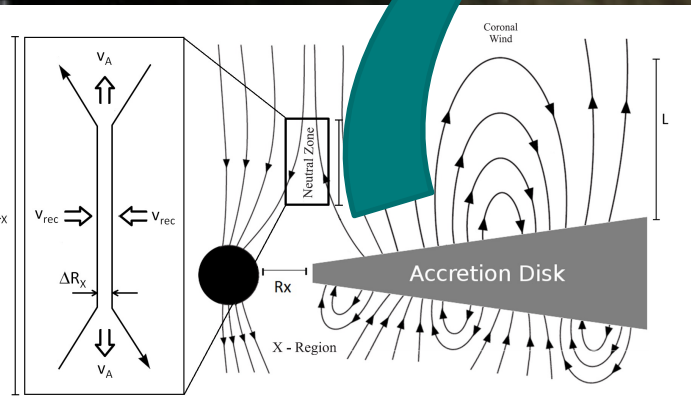
# CR Reconnection Acceleration also possible in the core region of BHs

General Relativistic MHD + test particles



# CR Reconnection Acceleration in the accretion flow of BH

Athena++ code (Stone et al. 2020)

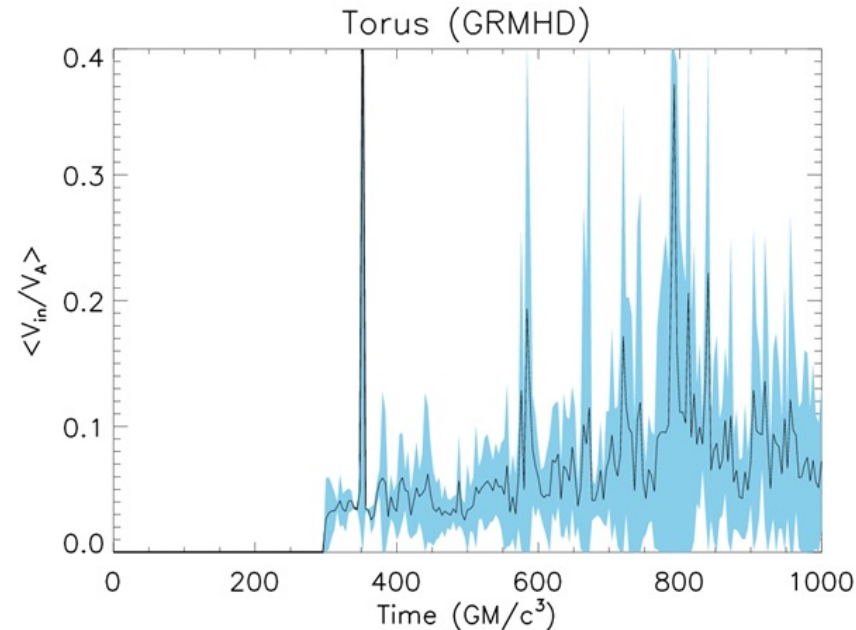
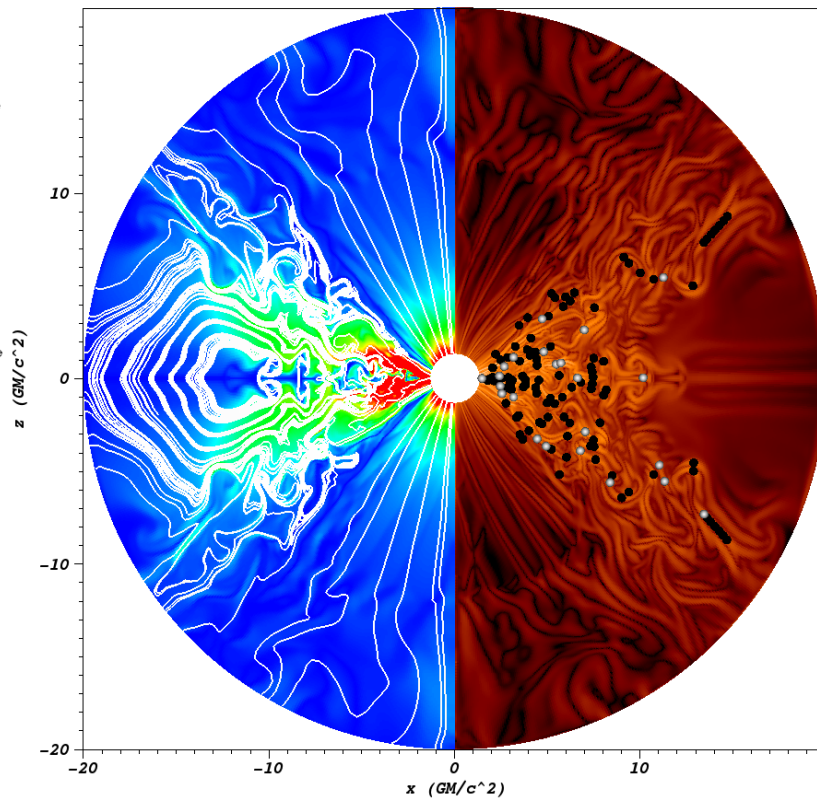


de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian, A&A 2005  
de Gouveia Dal Pino, Piovezan, Kadowaki A&A 2010  
Kadowaki, de Gouveia Dal Pino & Singh, ApJ 2015  
Singh, de Gouveia Dal Pino & Kadowaki, ApJ 2015

GRMHD simulations of accretion flows around BHs  
reconnection driven by magneto-rotational turbulence

(de Gouveia Dal Pino et al. 2018; Kadowaki et al. 2019)

# Fast Reconnection in GRMHD simulations of accretion flows around BHs driven by magneto-rotational instability turbulence



➤ Average reconnection velocities  $\langle V_{rec} \rangle \sim 0.05 V_A$

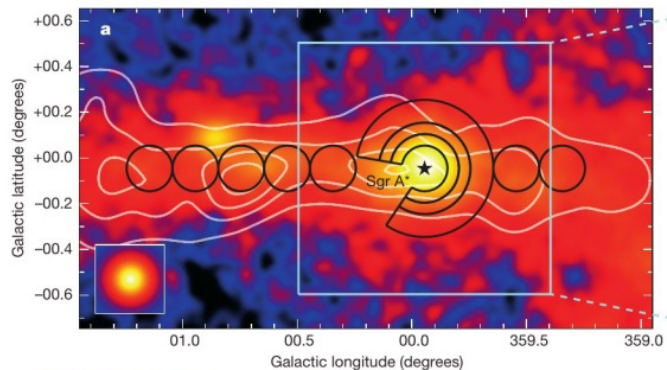
Time=1000

(de Gouveia Dal Pino et al. 2018; Kadowaki et al. 2019)

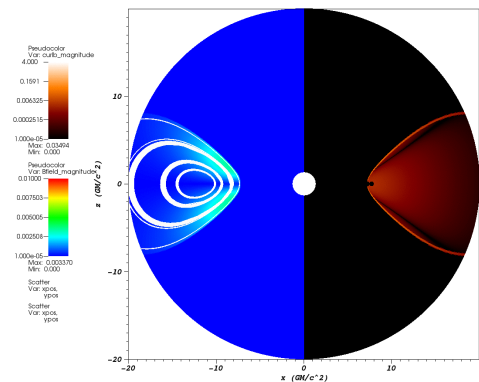
(See also: de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian 2005; Koide & Arai 2008; Dexter, McKinney, Tchekovskoy 2014; Parfrey et al. 2015; Kadowaki + 2015; Singh + 2015; Pohl et al. 2016; de Gouveia Dal Pino+ 2018...)



# Ex. Galactic Center SgrA\*: Reconnection acceleration and PeVatron emission



H.E.S.S. Nature 2016

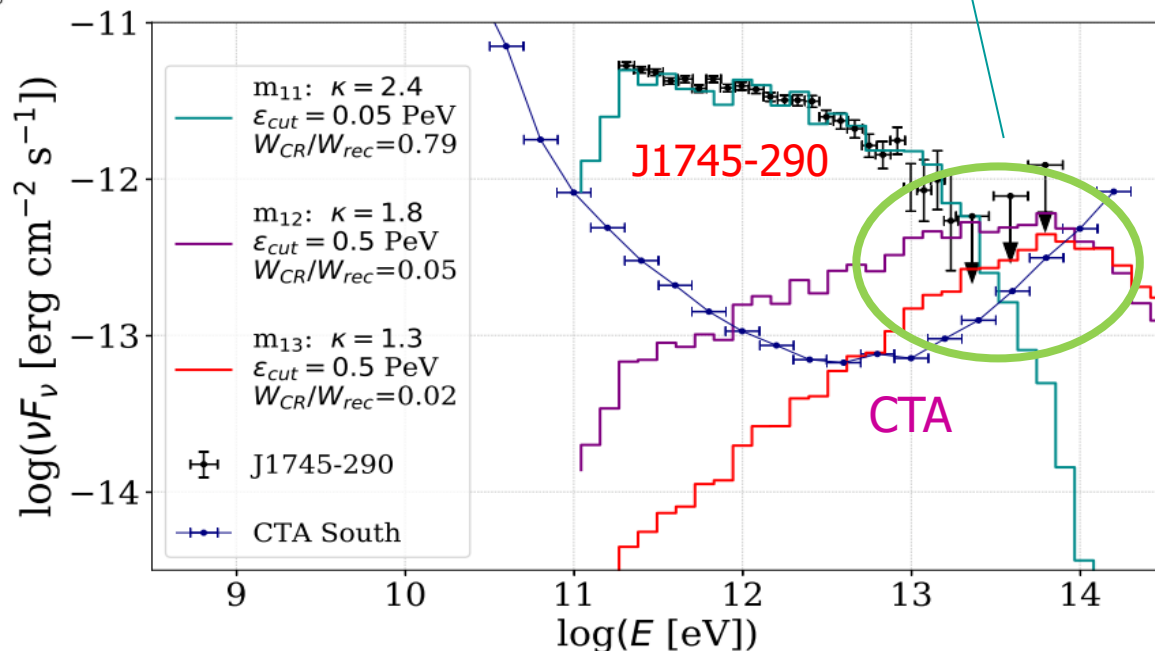


Time=0



**PeVatron!**

GRMHD + Radiative Transfer + CR cascading simulations



Rodriguez-Ramirez, de Gouveia Dal Pino, Alves-Batista, ApJ 2019

# Summary

- ✓ In magnetized flows particles can be accelerated by turbulent driven fast magnetic reconnection via stochastic Fermi (+ drift):  $N(E) \sim E^{-1.2}$
- ✓ Magnetic reconnection rates in MHD, RMHD and GRMHD simulations of turbulent systems  $\langle v_{\text{rec}} \rangle \sim 0.05$  (compatible with Lazarian & Vishniac 1999)
- ✓ Reconnection acceleration of protons GLOBAL RMHD simulations of magnetically dominated Blazar jets can produce UHECRs up to  $\sim 10^{18} - 10^{20}$  eV (for  $B \sim 0.1 - 10$  G)  $\rightarrow$  may explain flare gamma-rays and neutrinos (ex. TXS0506+056)
- ✓ RMHD-PIC simulations  $\sim$  RMHD-test particle simulations: no important effects due to  $\delta B/dt$
- ✓ Reconnection acceleration may be also important to explain VHE emission in core of BH sources: ex. SgrA\* PeVatron? (signatures of polarization?)