Astroparticle Physics 2020/21

Lectures:

- 1. Historical introduction, basic properties of cosmic rays
- 2. Hadronic interactions and accelerator data
- 3. Cascade equations
- 4. Electromagnetic cascades
- 5. Extensive air showers
- 6. Detectors for extensive air showers
- 7. High energy cosmic rays and the knee in the energy spectrum of cosmic rays
- 8. Radio detection of extensive air showers
- 9. Acceleration, astrophysical accelerators and beam dumps
- 10. Extragalactic propagation of cosmic rays
- 11. Ultra high energy cosmic rays
- 12. Astrophysical gamma rays and neutrinos
- 13. Neutrino astronomy
- 14. Gamma-ray astronomy

http://particle.astro.ru.nl/goto.html?astropart2021

lecture 7 High energy cosmic rays and the knee in the energy spectrum Gaisser chapter 17

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| | 17.2 | Depth of shower maximum and composition | 345 |
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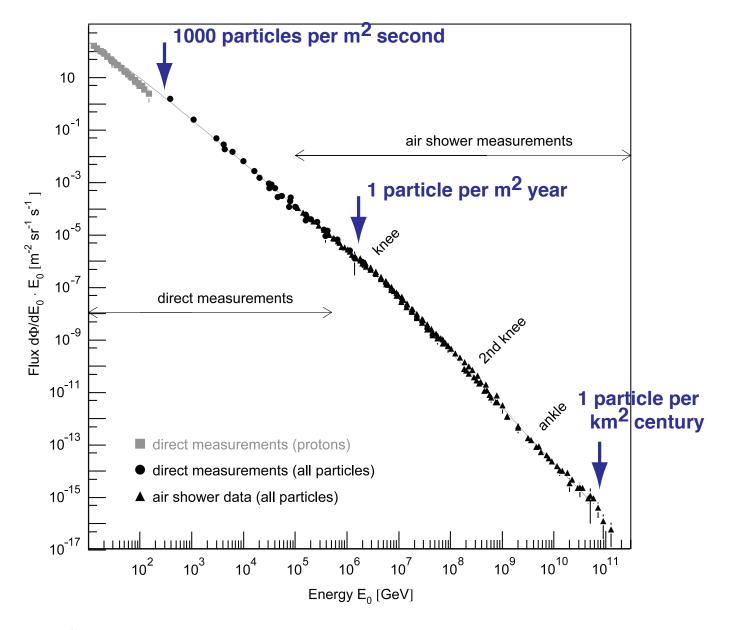
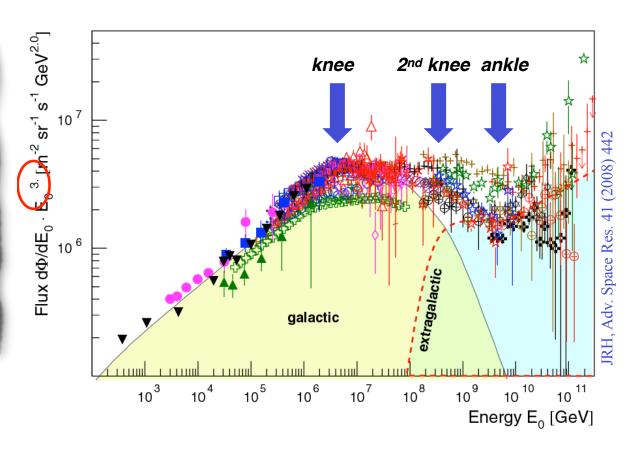
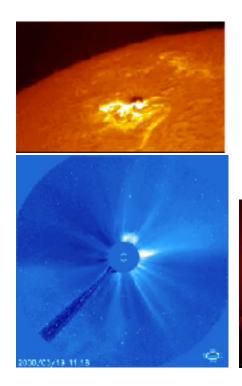


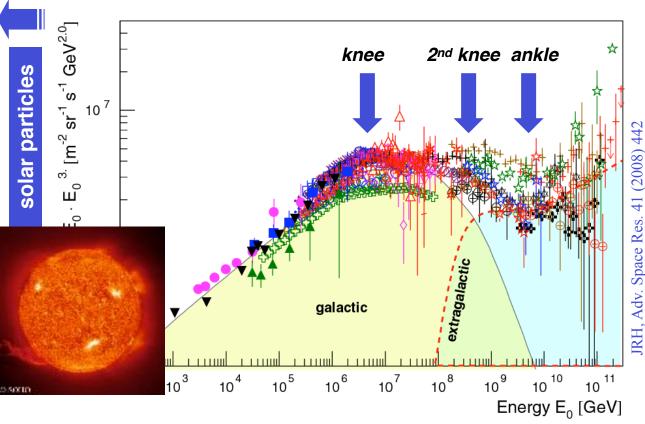
Fig. 1. All-particle energy spectrum of cosmic rays as measured directly with detectors above the atmosphere and with air shower detectors. At low energies, the flux of primary protons is shown.

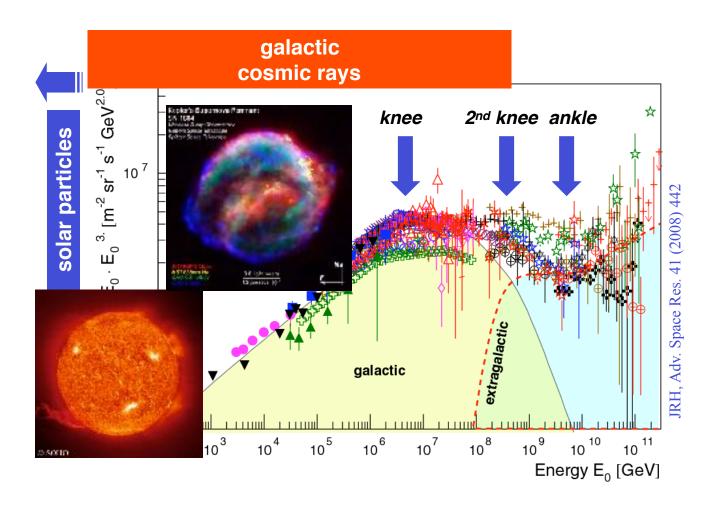
energy density $\rho_E = \frac{4\pi}{c} \int \frac{E}{\beta} \frac{dN}{dE} dE \approx 1 \frac{\text{eV}}{\text{cm}^3}$ for comparison: $\rho_B = \frac{B^2}{2\mu_0} \approx 0.25 \text{ eV/cm}^3$ $\rho_{SL} \approx 0.3 \text{ eV/cm}^3$ $\rho_{IR} \approx 0.4 \text{ eV/cm}^3$ $\rho_{3K} \approx 0.25 \text{ eV/cm}^3$

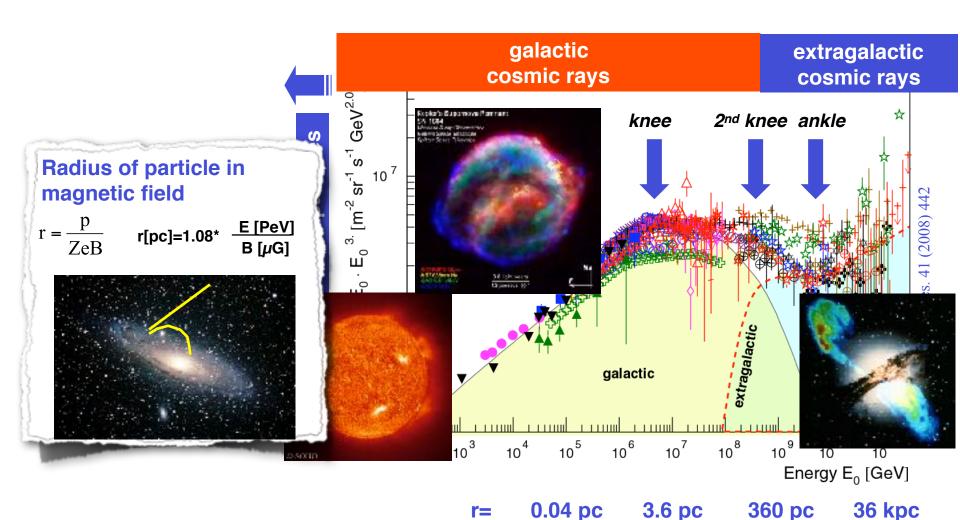


Solar flares









Jörg R. Hörandel, APP 2020/21

Extensive air showers – Mass

Simple Heitler model of (hadronic) showers

Primary mass:

Average depth of shower maximum X_{max}

$$X_{\text{max}}^{A} \sim ln \frac{E_0}{A}$$

-
$$N_e$$
- N_{μ} ratio

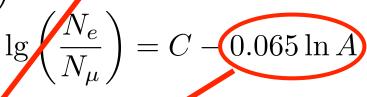
$$rac{N_e}{N_\mu} pprox 35.1 \left(rac{E_0}{A~{
m PeV}}
ight)^{0.15}$$
 or

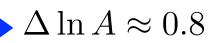
$$\Delta \ln A \sim 1$$

 $\Rightarrow \Delta X_{\text{max}} \sim 36 \text{ g/cm}^2$
 $\Rightarrow \Delta (N_e/N_u) \sim 16\%$

JRH, Mod. Phys. Lett. A 22 (2007) 1533

 $X_{\text{max}}^{A} = X_{\text{max}}^{p} - X_{0} \ln A$ $X_{\text{max}}^{\text{Fe}} = X_{\text{max}}^{p} - 150 \text{ g/cm}^{2}$





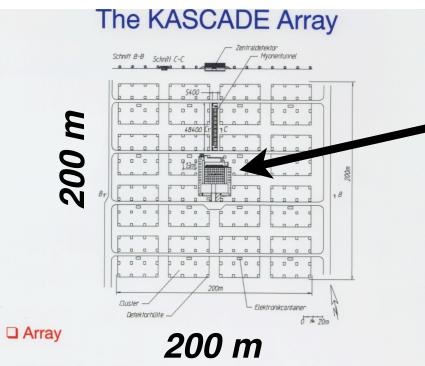
in "best" experiments

11 λ_i 30 X₀ hadronic electromagnetic muonic shower components

JRH, Nucl. Instr. and Meth. A 588 (2008) 181

J. Matthews, Astropart. Phys. 22 (2005) 387

Jörg R. Hörandel, APP 2020/21



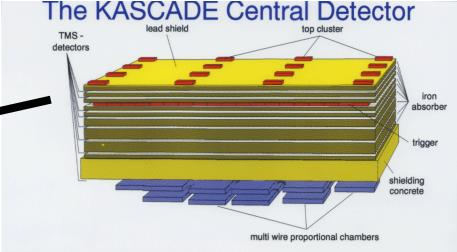
252 stations with

- □ e/γ detectors: 4 cm liquid scintillator (≈ 3.1 m²)
- ☐ muon detectors: 3 cm plastic scintillator (≈ 3.2 m²)

shield 10 cm Pb + 4 cm Fe → 20 X₀

- E_u > 300 MeV
- → measurement of particle densities and arrival times

JRH 06/96



4 different detector systems:

- ☐ Top array 32 × 0.45 m² scintillation counters (14 m²)
- ☐ Trigger layer 456 × 0.45 m² scintillation counters (206 m²)
- \square 32 Multiwire proportional chambers (2 × 150 m²) E_{μ} > 2 GeV
- ☐ Iron sampling calorimeter (16 × 20 m²)

8 active layers → 10 000 liquid ionisation chambers

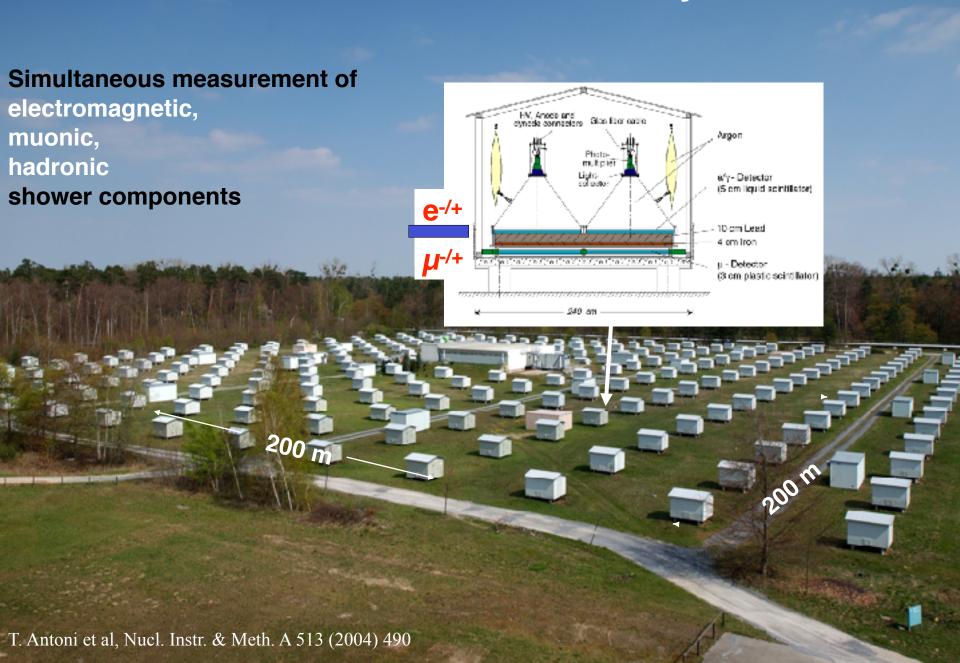
40 000 electronic channels

separation of individual hadrons by a fine segmentation

depth $\approx 11 \lambda_i \rightarrow$ hadrons up to 10 TeV 95% contained

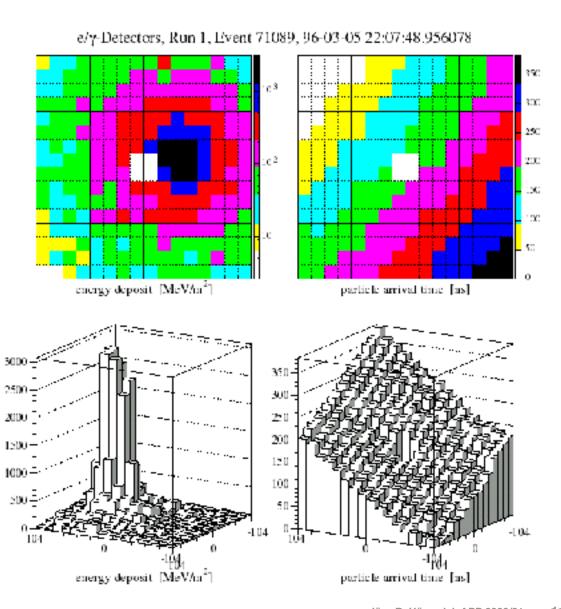
JRH 06/96

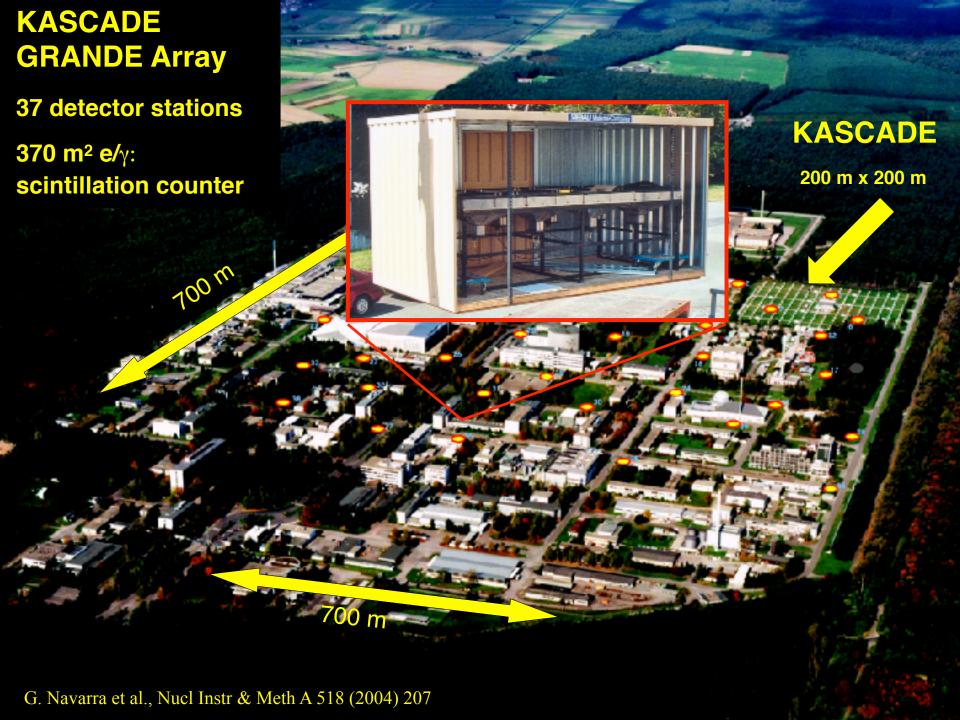
KArlsruhe Shower Core and Array DEtector



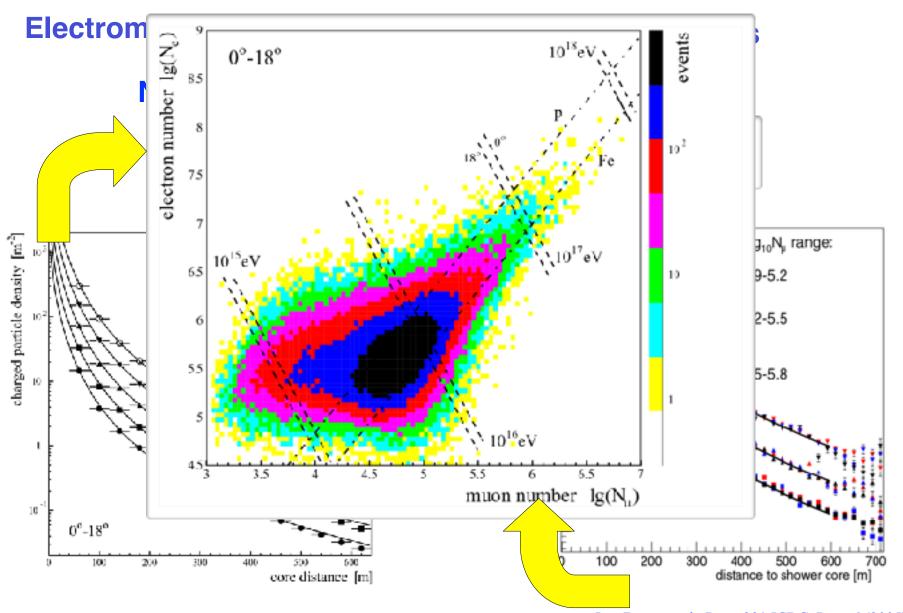
Event reconstruction in the scintillator array electromagnetic component

shower core $\Delta r = 2.5 - 5.5 \text{ m}$ shower direction $\Delta \alpha = 0.5^{\circ} - 1.2^{\circ}$ shower size $\Delta N_e/N_e = 6 - 12 \%$

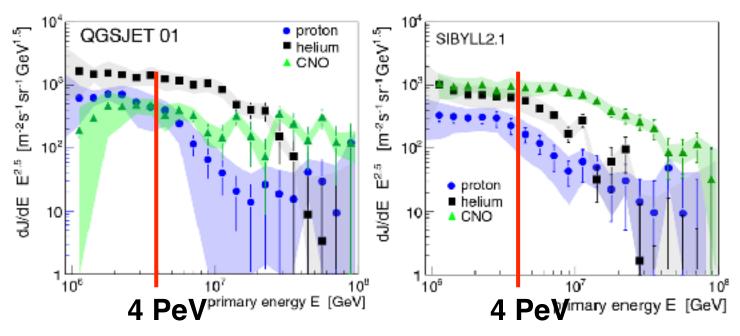




KASCADE-Grande – Lateral distributions



KASCADE: Energy spectra for elemental groups

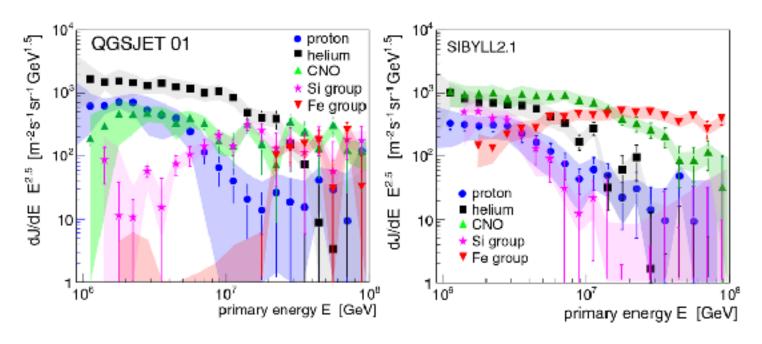




Knee caused by cut-off for light elements

Astrophysical interpretation limited by description of interactions in the atmosphere

KASCADE: Energy spectra for elemental groups





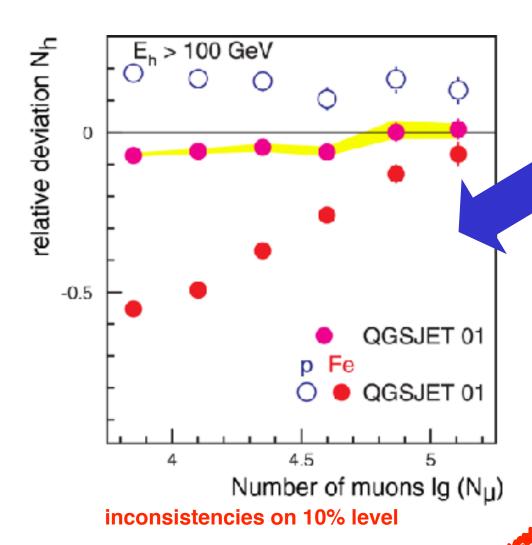
Knee caused by cut-off for light elements

Astrophysical interpretation limited by description of interactions in the atmosphere

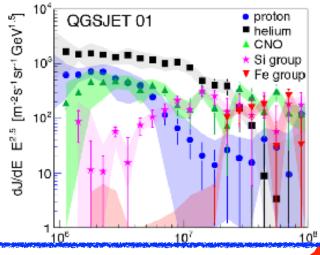
Test of hadronic interaction models

QGSJET 01

Number of hadrons vs. number of muons



N_e - N_u analysis



in literature:

ideas that knee is caused by new interactions in atmosphere—> energy is carried way by

"invisible channels



NUCLEAR PHYSICS B PROCEEDINGS SUPPLEMENTS

Electron, muon and hadron size spectra of EAS in the "knee" region R. Glasstetter^a and J.R. Hörandel^a for the KASCADE Collaboration*

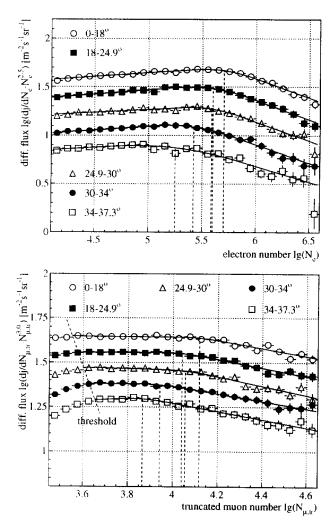


Figure 1. Electromagnetic (top) and muonic (bottom) shower size spectra for different zenith angle bins.

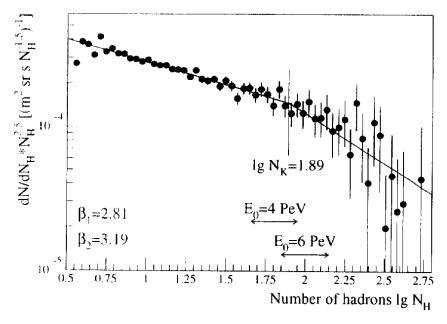


Figure 3. Hadronic shower size spectrum.

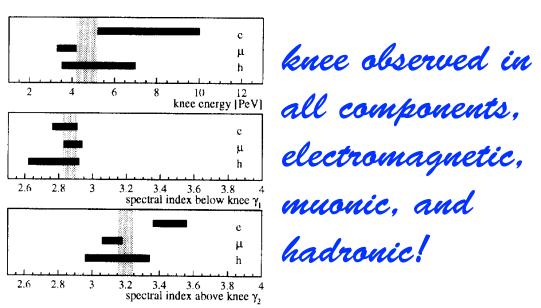
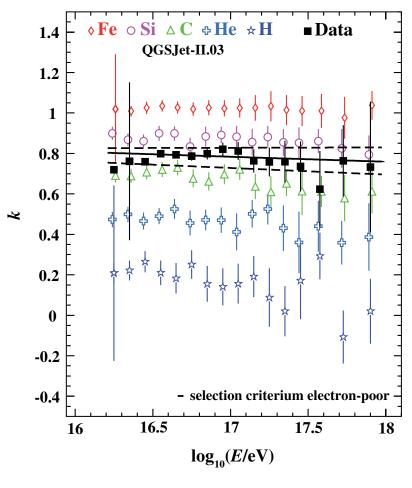
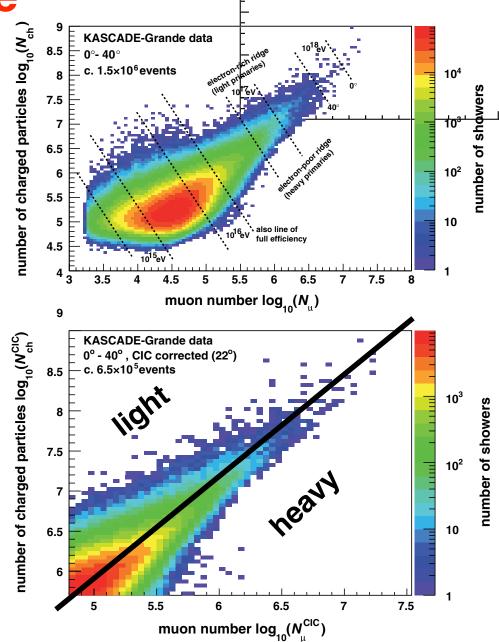


Figure 4. Knee position and spectral indices.

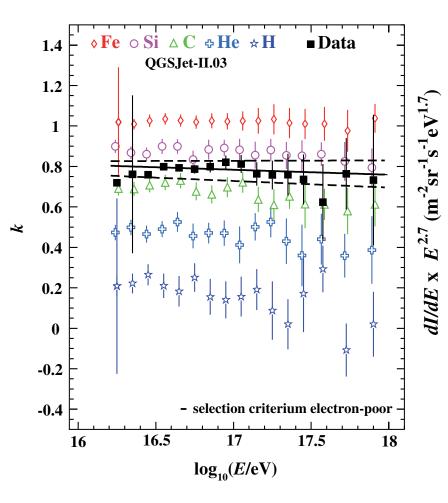
KASCADE-Grande



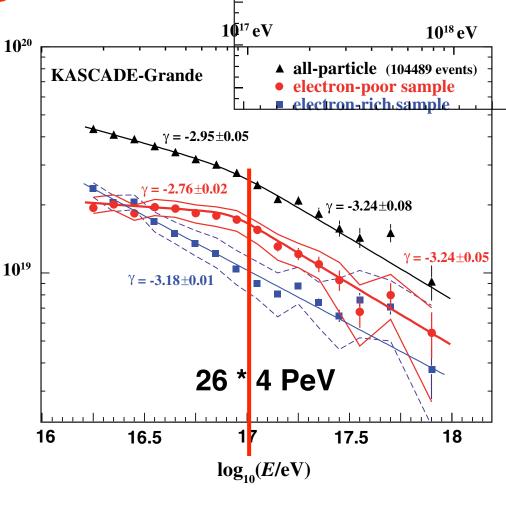
$$k = \frac{\log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu}) - \log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu})_{\rm H}}{\log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu})_{\rm Fe} - \log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu})_{\rm H}},$$



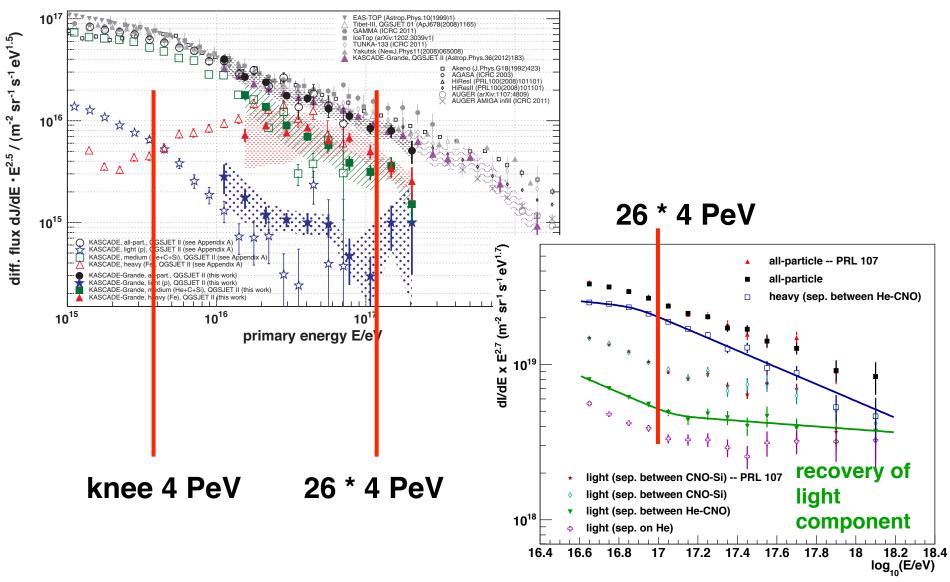
KASCADE-Grande



$$k = \frac{\log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu}) - \log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu})_{\rm H}}{\log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu})_{\rm Fe} - \log_{10}(N_{\rm ch}/N_{\mu})_{\rm H}},$$

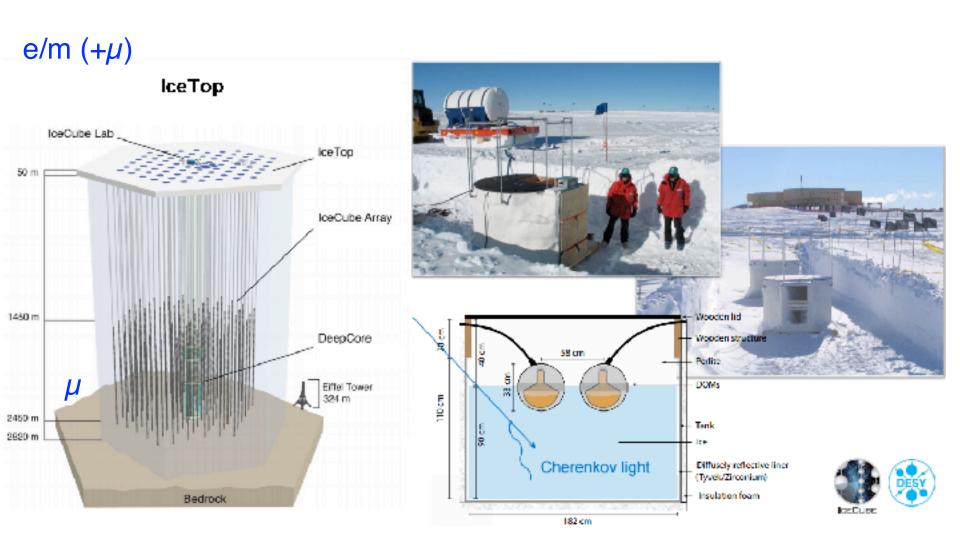


KASCADE-Grande

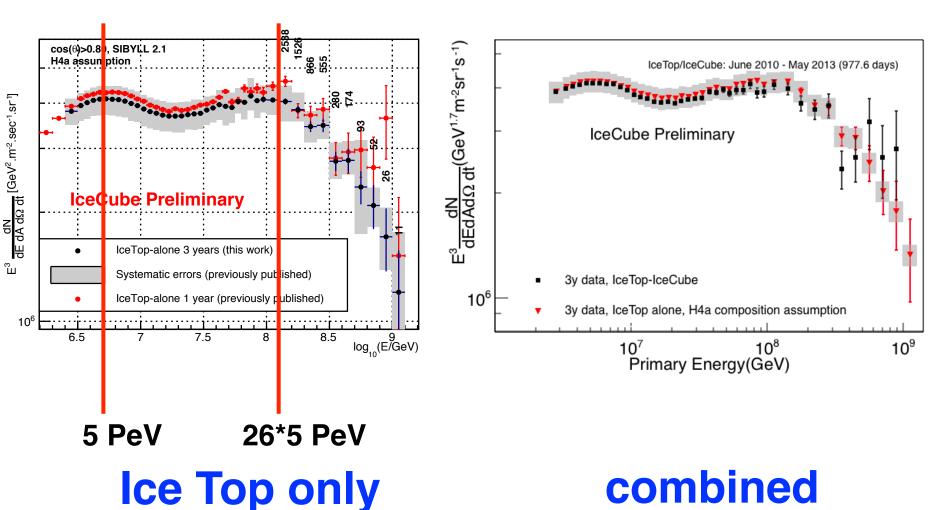


W.D. Apel et al., PRD 87 (2013) 081101

Ice Cube - Ice Top



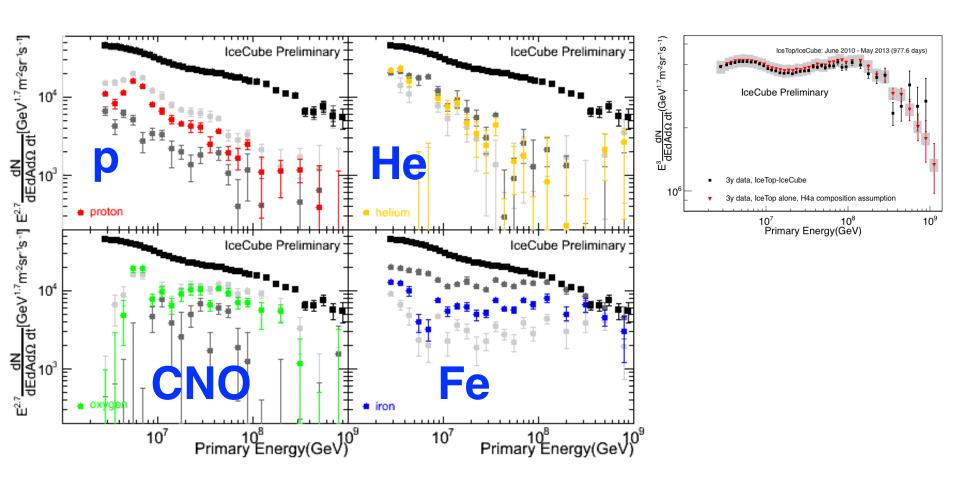
Ice Cube - Ice Top



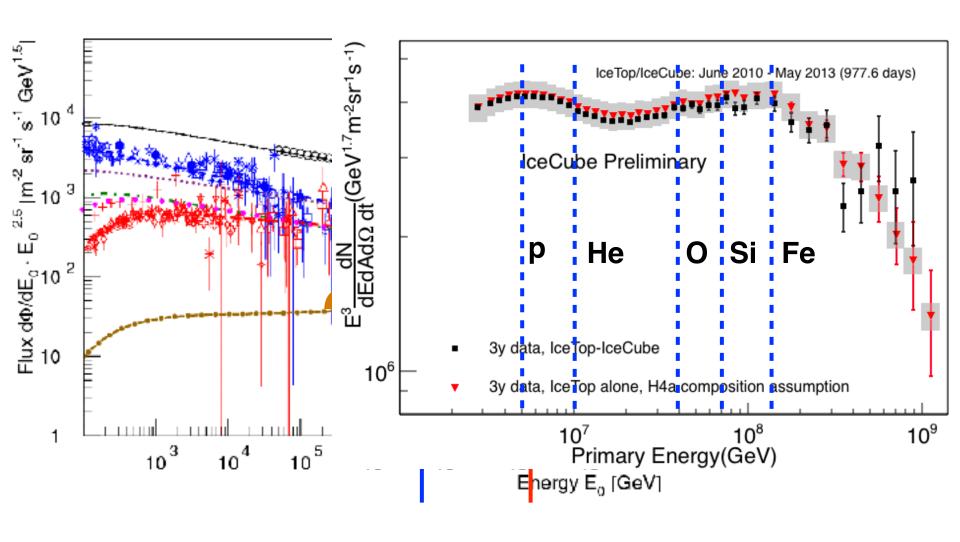
combined

K. Rawlins J Phys Conf. Ser. 718 (2016) 052033

Ice Cube - Ice Top



Cosmic-ray energy spectrum



TALE (TA low-energy extension)

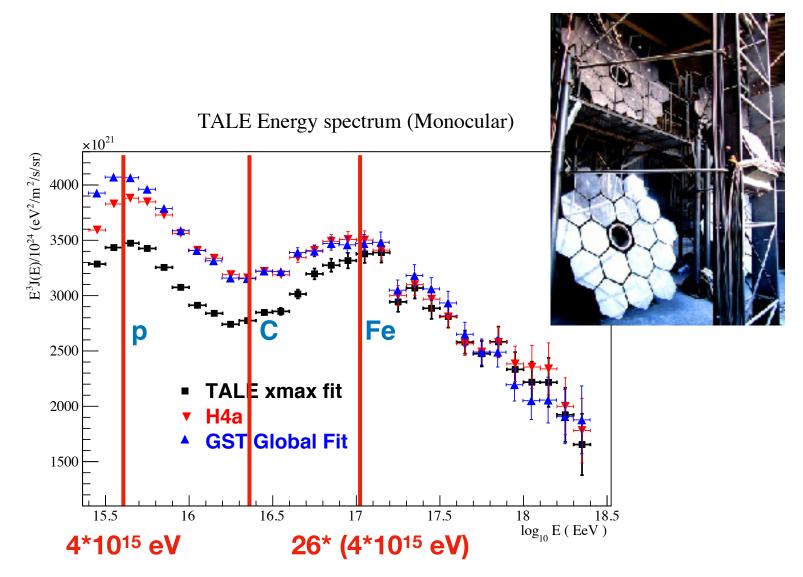
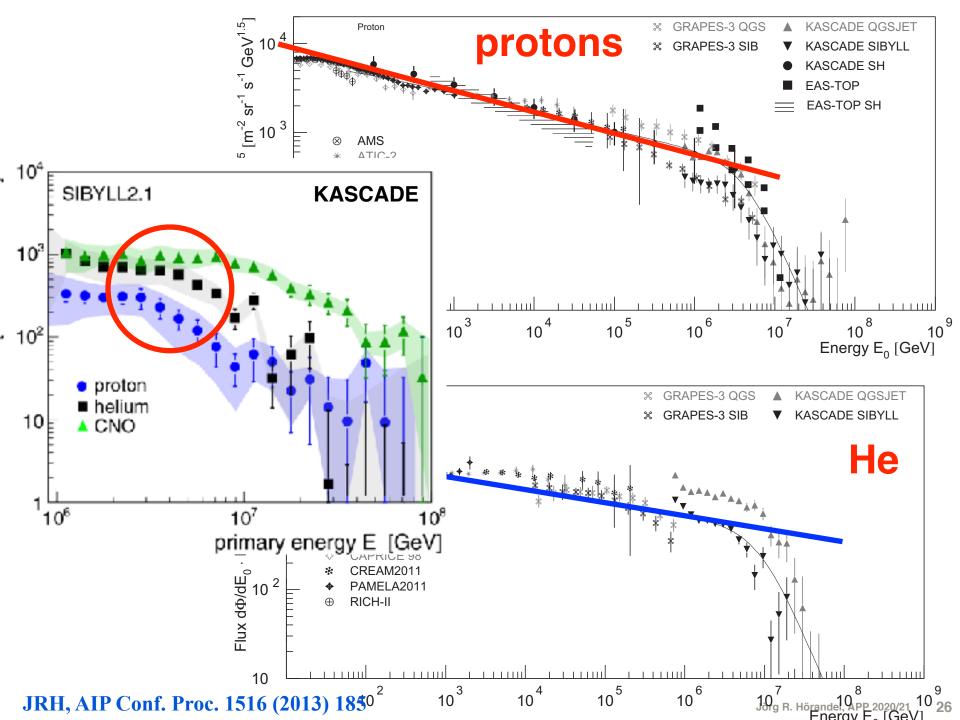
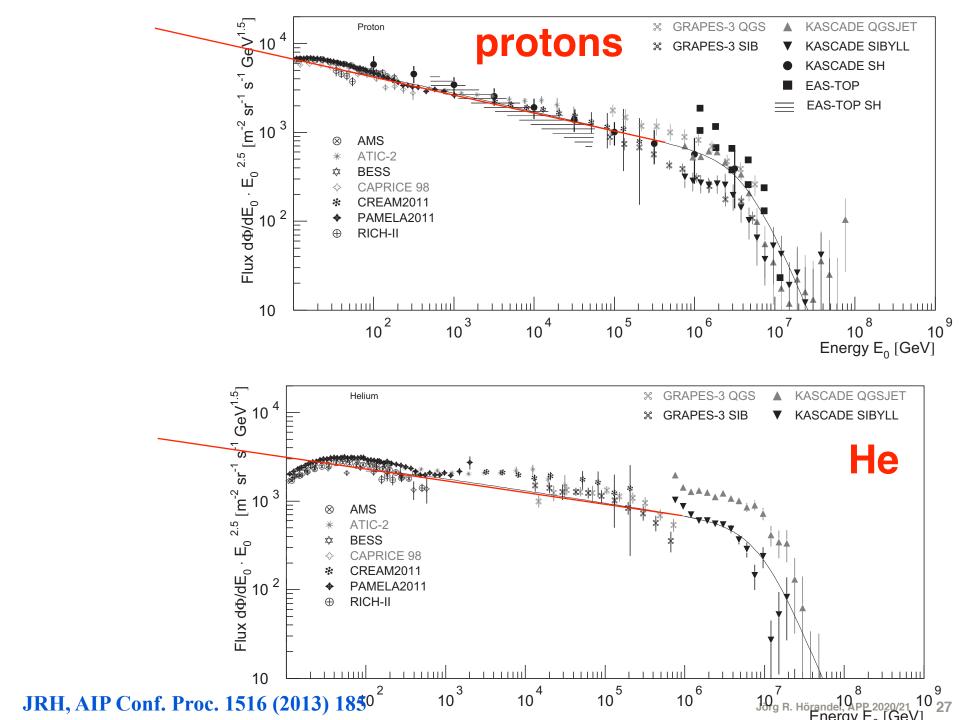
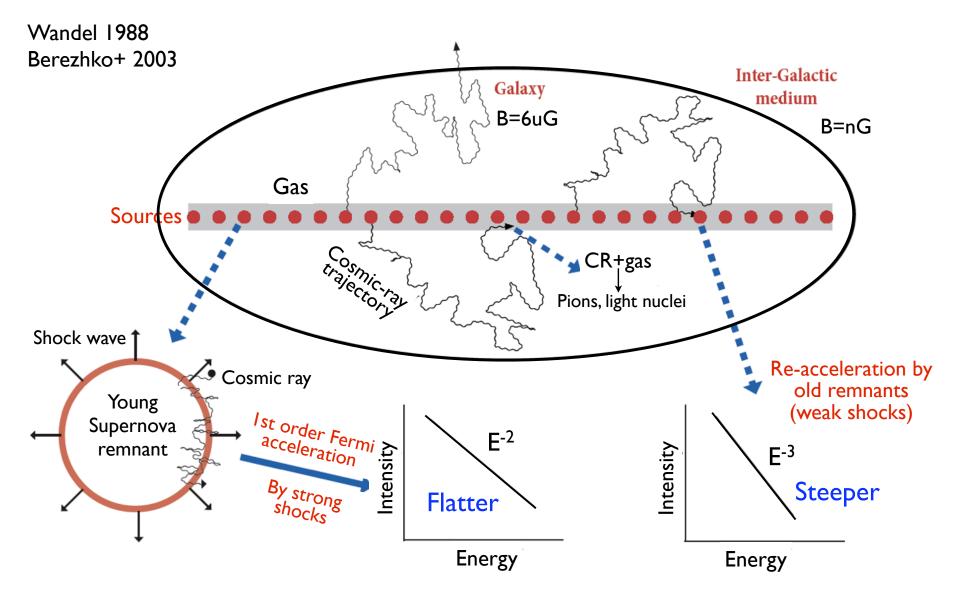


Figure 3: TALE Cosmic rays energy spectrum measured with TALE. The result is based on a QGSJet II-3 hadronic model assumption. A mixed primary composition given by the H4a, and "global fit" models, as well as a TALE derived mix was used in the calculations.





The re-acceleration model



S. Thoudam, ECRS 2014, Kiel

A&A 567, A33 (2014) DOI: 10.1051/0004-6361/201322996 © ESO 2014

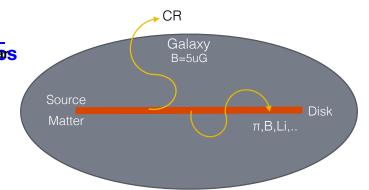
Main assumptions: Astronomy

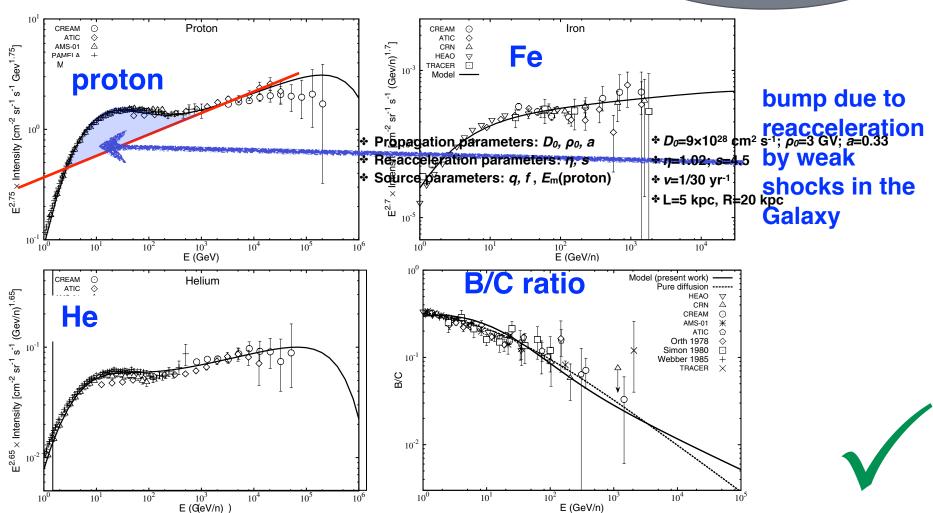
* Supernova remnants Anshedmetstellars medium are the main sources of low-energy cosmic rays.

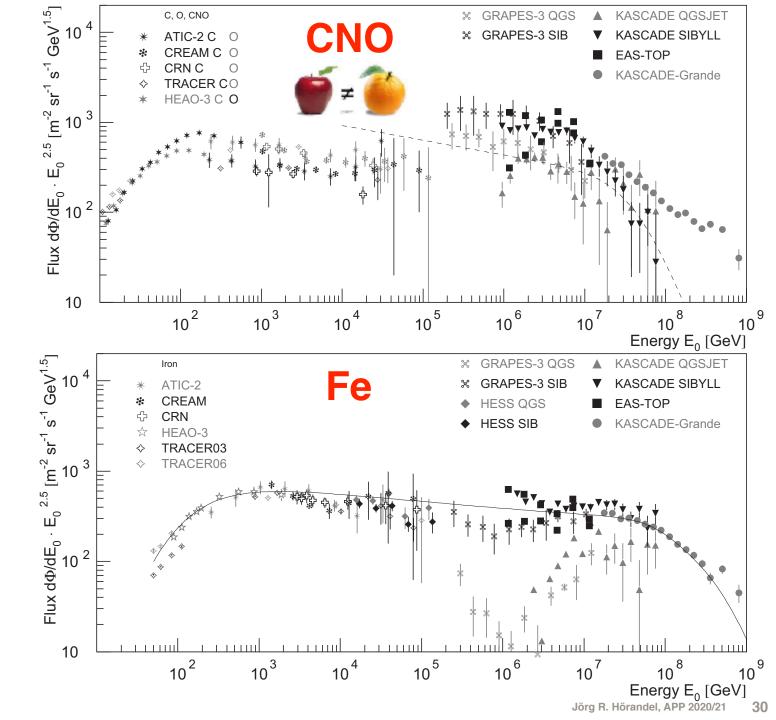
GeV-TeV cosmic-ray spectral anomaly as due to reacceleration by weak shocks in the Galaxy to the knee.

Maximum energy has an exponential

Satyendra Thoudam and Jörg**cut-Foffaprop. to Z.**

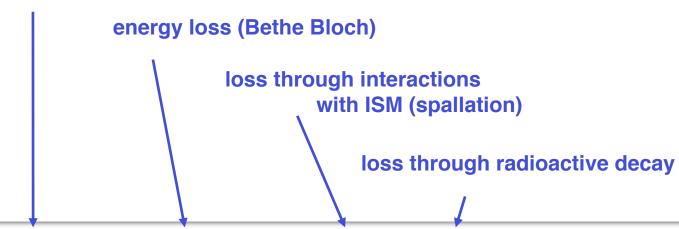




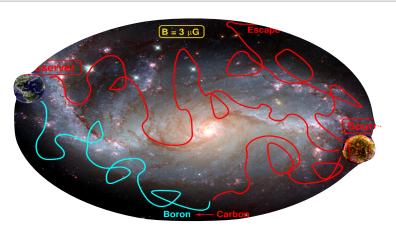


Transport equation for cosmic rays in the Galaxy





$$\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} = \nabla (D_i \nabla N_i) - \frac{\partial}{\partial E} (b_i N_i) - n\nu \sigma_i N_i - \frac{N_i}{\gamma \tau_i} + Q_i + \sum_{j>i} n\nu \sigma_{ij} N_j + \sum_{j>i} \frac{N_j}{\gamma_j \tau_{ij}}$$



source term

production through spallation of heavy nuclei

production through decay of heavy nuclei

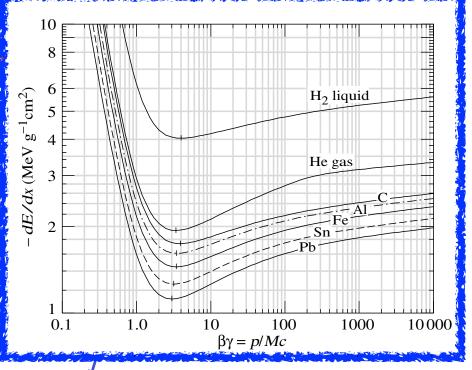
Transport equation 1



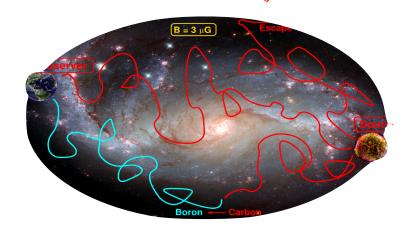


energy loss (Bethe Block

loss through with



$$\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} = \nabla (D_i \nabla N_i) - \frac{\partial}{\partial F} (S_i N_i) - n\nu \sigma_i N_i - \frac{N_i}{\gamma \tau_i} + Q_i + \sum_{j>i} n\nu \sigma_{ij} N_j + \sum_{j>i} \frac{N_j}{\gamma_j \tau_{ij}}$$



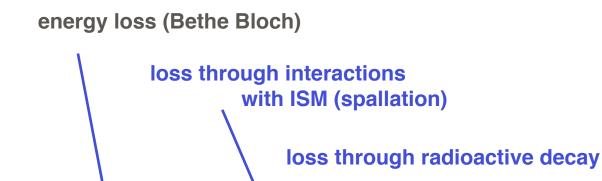
source term

production through spallation of heavy nuclei

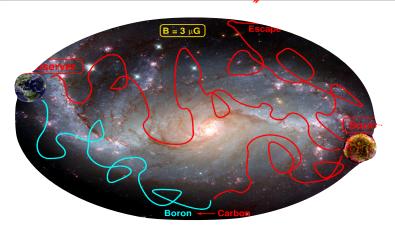
production through decay of heavy nuclei

Transport equation for cosmic rays in the Galaxy





$$\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} = \nabla (D_i \nabla N_i) - \frac{\partial}{\partial F} (s_i N_i) - n\nu \sigma_i N_i - \frac{N_i}{\gamma \tau_i} + Q_i + \sum_{j>i} n\nu \sigma_{ij} N_j + \sum_{j>i} \frac{N_j}{\gamma_j \tau_{ij}}$$



source term

production through spallation of heavy nuclei

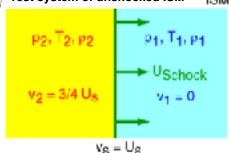
production through decay of heavy nuclei

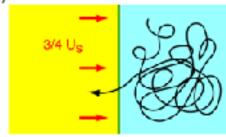
1st order Fermi acceleration at strong shock

rest system of unshocked ISM

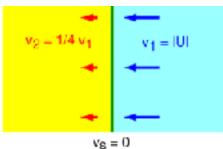


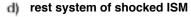
| rest system of unshocked ISM

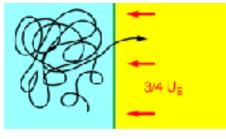




rest system of shock front

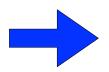






energy gain

$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} \propto \frac{U_s}{c}$$

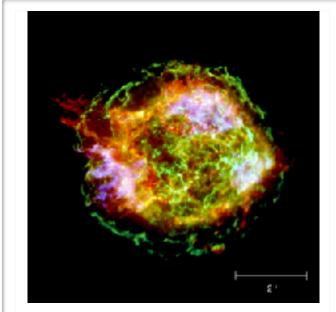


$$N(E) dE \propto E^{-2} dE$$

power law with spectral index **-2.0 ... -2.1**

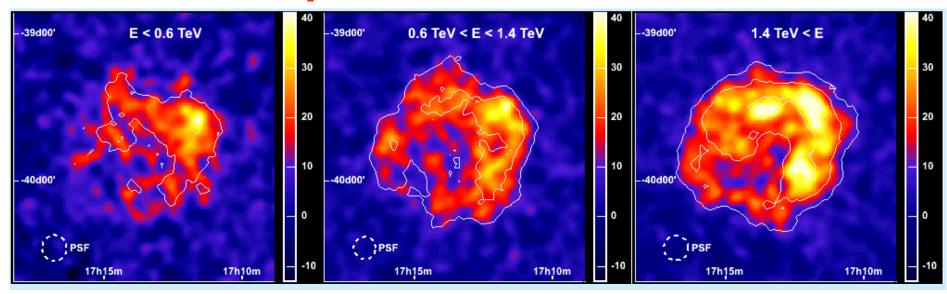
Bell, Blanford, Ostriker (1978)

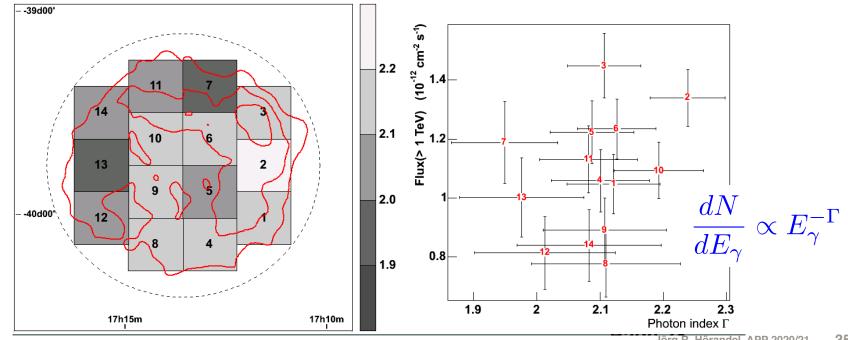




Supernova remnant (SNR) Cassiopeia A

H.E.S.S. supernova remnant RXJ 1713





Acceleration of cosmic rays at SNR

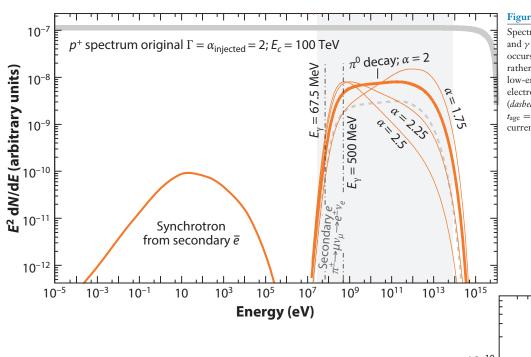


Figure 3

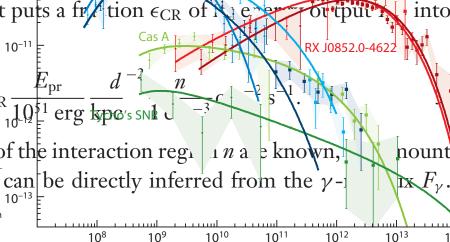
Spectral energy distribution of accelerated protons (power-law index $\alpha_{iniected} = 2.0$ and cutoff at 100 TeV) and γ-rays resulting from inelastic collisions with interstellar material. The dominant emission into photons occurs via the decay $\pi^0 \to \gamma \gamma$ (solid orange curves). The γ -ray spectrum follows the parent protons' spectrum rather closely in the midenergy range and in the high-energy cutoff region. For all proton indices, the low-energy turnover is a characteristic feature of the pion-decay emission. Also shown is the spectrum of electrons resulting from the inelastic proton–proton interactions via the decay chain $\pi^{\pm} \to \mu + \nu_{\mu} \to e^{\pm}\nu_{e}$ (dashed gray curve). For the synchrotron emission from these so-called secondary electrons, a source with age $t_{\rm age} = 1,000$ years and $B = 30~\mu{\rm G}$ have been assumed. The shaded gray region shows the sensitive range of current γ-ray detectors (Fermi-LAT, imaging atmospheric Cherenkov detectors).

flux at Earth by an astrophysical accelerator that puts a fraction ϵ_{CR} of of protons: $F_{\gamma}(>100\,{\rm MeV}) = 4.4\times10^{-7} \epsilon_{\rm W}^{\rm p} \frac{E_{\rm p}}{10^{-11}}$ the acceleration of protons:

$$F_{\gamma}(>100 \,\text{MeV}) = 4.4 \times 10^{-7} \,\text{e}^{-7}$$

In other words, if the distance d and the density of the interaction regular n and known,

Typical yerry energy specifica for saveryl of the enost promingne suplements in the second of the control of the enost promingne suplements in the second of the control of GeV and TeV bands. The older (but still referred to as young) shell-type SNRs RX J1713.7-3946 and RX J0852.0-4622 (Vela Junior) of ages ~2,000 years are shown in shades of red. These show very hard spectra in the GeV band ($\Gamma = 1.5$) and a peak in the TeV band with an exponential cutoff beyond 10 TeV. The middle-aged SNRs (~20,000 years) interacting with molecular clouds (W44, W51C, and IC443) are shown in blue. Also shown are hadronic fits to the data (solid lines).



Photon energy (eV)

W44

vity can be trrned into 46

10¹⁴

A.M. Hillas, Ann. Rev. Astron. Astrophys. 22 (1984) 425

general considerations about accelerators

trajectory of particle in B field

centripedal force = Lorentz force

$$mrac{v^2}{r}=q\cdot v\cdot B$$
 $m\cdot v=p$ momentum $rac{p}{r}=Z\cdot e\cdot B$ $r_L=rac{p}{z\cdot e\cdot B}$ Larmor radius

L dimension of accelerator

$$L > 2 r_L$$

closer look (Hillas 1984):
$$L > \frac{2r_L}{\beta}$$
 velocity of scattering centers
$$\beta = \frac{v}{\beta}$$

$$L > \frac{2 \cdot p}{z \cdot e \cdot B \cdot \beta}$$



$$B \cdot L > \frac{2 \cdot p}{z \cdot e \cdot \beta}$$

Hillas criterion

in astrophyscial units

$$r_L = 1.08 \text{ pc } \frac{E_{15}}{Z \cdot B_{\mu G}}$$

$$B_{\mu G} \cdot L_{pc} > \frac{2 \cdot E_{15}}{Z \cdot \beta}$$

necessary condition not sufficient

$$E_{15} < Z \cdot B_{\mu G} \cdot L_{pc} \cdot \frac{\beta}{2}$$

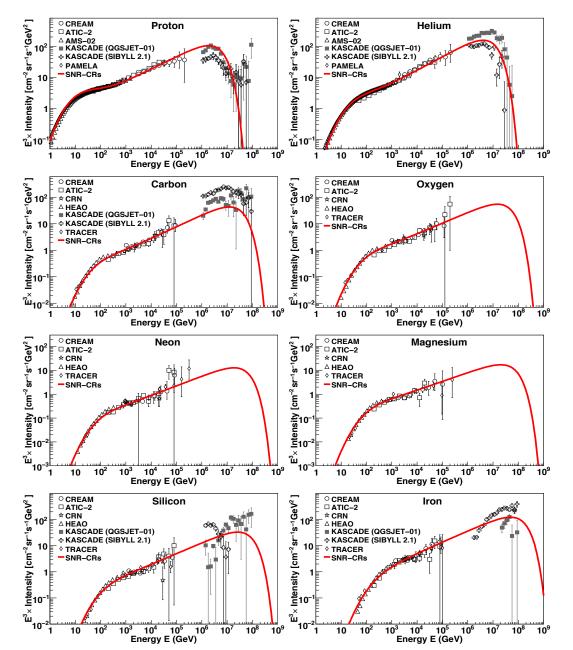


Fig. 1. Energy spectra for different cosmic-ray elements. Solid line: Model prediction for the SNR-CRs. Data: CREAM (Ahn et al. 2009; Yoon et al. 2011), ATIC-2 (Panov et al. 2007), AMS-02 (Aguilar et al. 2015a,b), PAMELA (Adriani et al. 2011), CRN (Müller et al. 1991; Swordy et al. 1990), HEAO (Engelmann et al. 1990), TRACER (Obermeier et al. 2011), and KASCADE (Antoni et al. 2005). Cosmic-ray source parameters (q, f) used in the calculation are given in Table 1. For the other model parameters (D_0, a, η, s) , see text for details.

Contribution of (regular) SNR-CR

$$E_c = Z \cdot 4.5 \ 10^6 \ \text{GeV}$$

$$Q(p) = AQ_0(Ap)^{-q} \exp\left(-\frac{Ap}{Zp_c}\right),$$

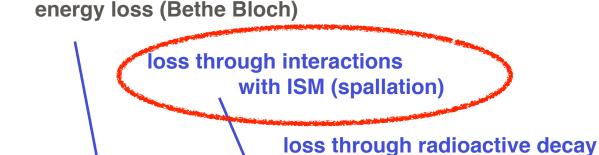
Table 1. Source spectral indices, q, and energy injected per supernova, f, for the different species of cosmic rays used in the calculation of the SNR-CRs spectra shown in Figures 1 and 2.

| Particle type | q | $f (\times 10^{49} \text{ ergs})$ |
|---------------|------|-----------------------------------|
| Proton | 2.24 | 6.95 |
| Helium | 2.21 | 0.79 |
| Carbon | 2.21 | 2.42×10^{-2} |
| Oxygen | 2.25 | 2.52×10^{-2} |
| Neon | 2.25 | 3.78×10^{-3} |
| Magnesium | 2.29 | 5.17×10^{-3} |
| Silicon | 2.25 | 5.01×10^{-3} |
| Iron | 2.25 | 4.95×10^{-3} |

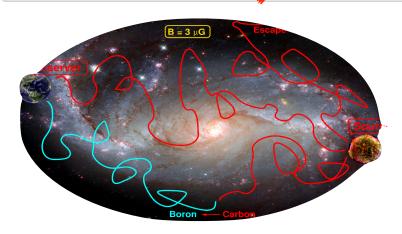


Transport equation for cosmic rays in the Galaxy





$$\frac{\partial N_i}{\partial t} = \nabla (D_i \nabla N_i) - \frac{\partial}{\partial F} (s_i N_i) - n\nu \sigma_i N_i - \frac{N_i}{\gamma \tau_i} + Q_i + \sum_{j>i} n\nu \sigma_{ij} N_j + \sum_{j>i} \frac{N_j}{\gamma_j \tau_{ij}}$$



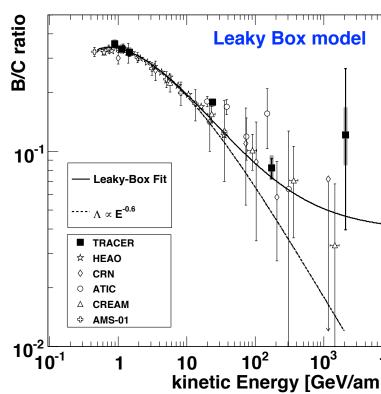
source term

production through spallation of heavy nuclei

production through decay of heavy nuclei

Pathlength of cosmic rays in Gala y

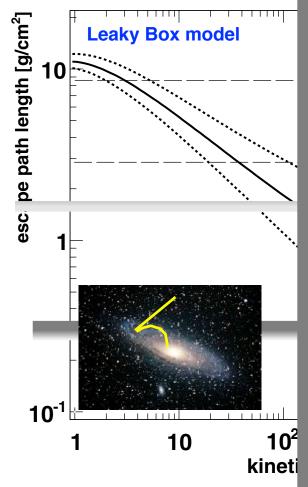
TRACER balloon experiment



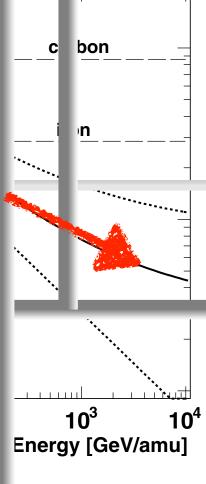
Escape Path Length:

$$\Lambda_{esc}(E) = CE^{-\delta} + \Lambda_0$$

- ► Propagation index: $\delta = 0.64 \pm 0.02$.
- ► Residual path length: $\Lambda_0 = 0.7 \pm 0.2 \text{ g/cm}^2$.



$$\Lambda(R) = \frac{26.7\beta}{(\beta R)^{\delta} + (0.714 \cdot \beta)} = \frac{1}{10^{-1.4}} + \Lambda_0 \text{ g/cm}^2,$$



$$\frac{1}{1-1.4} + \Lambda_0 \text{ g/cm}^2$$

Pathlength vs. interaction length

pathlength in Galaxy

$$\lambda_{esc} = 5 - 10 \text{ g/cm}^2$$

interaction length

nuclear radius

cross section

ISM: protons

interaction length

$$r = r_0 A^{1/3}$$
 $r_0 = 1.3 \cdot 10^{-13} \text{ cm}$

$$\sigma_{p-A} = \pi (r_p + r_0 A^{1/3})^2$$

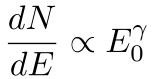
$$n = 1/\text{cm}^3$$
 $\rho = 1.67 \cdot 10^{-24} \text{ g/cm}^3$

$$\lambda_{p-A} = \frac{\rho}{\sigma_{p-A} \cdot n}$$

$$\lambda_{p-p} = 21 \text{ g/cm}^2 > \lambda_{esc}$$

$$\lambda_{p-Fe} = 1.6 \text{ g/cm}^2 < \lambda_{esc}$$

Shape of energy spectrum



at source $\gamma \sim -2.1$

at Earth $\gamma \sim -2.6$ to -2.7

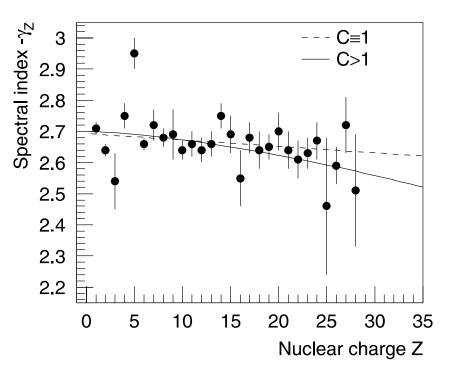
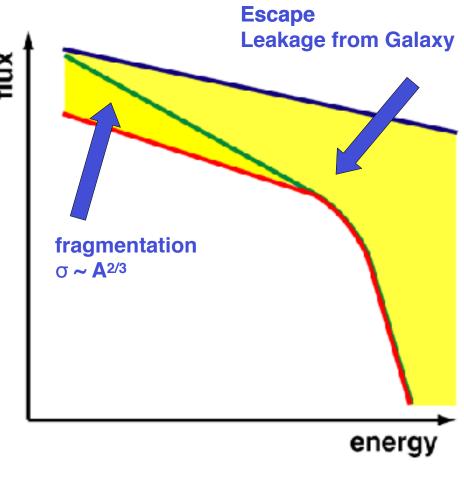
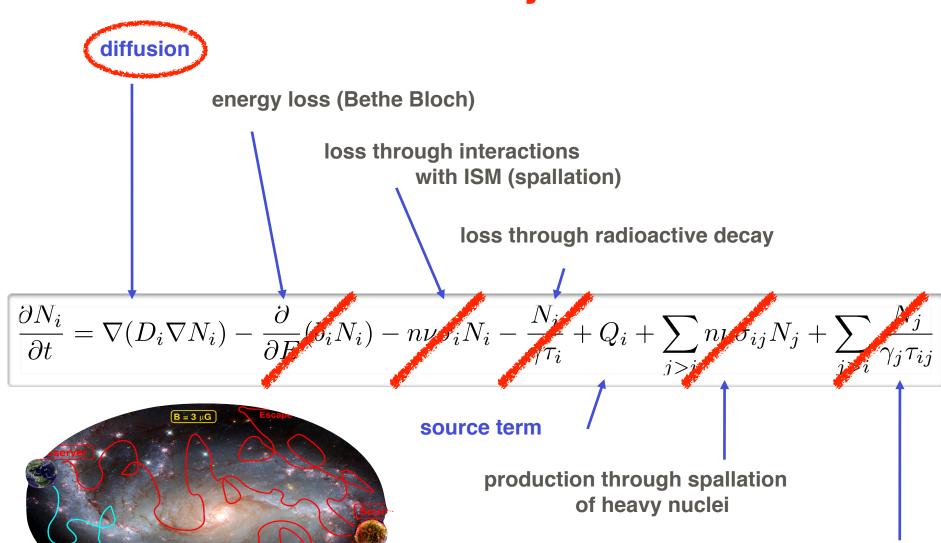


Fig. 5. Spectral index γ_Z versus nuclear charge Z (see Table 1). The solid line represents a three parameter fit according to Eq. (6), the dashed graph a linear fit.



Transport equation for cosmic rays in the Galaxy



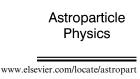
production through decay

of heavy nuclei





Astroparticle Physics 27 (2007) 119-126



example of knee due to propagation/leakage from Galaxy

Propagation of super-high-energy cosmic rays in the Galaxy

Jörg R. Hörandel ^{a,*}, Nikolai N. Kalmykov ^b, Aleksei V. Timokhin ^c

The steady-state diffusion equation for the cosmic-ray density N(r) is (neglecting nuclear interactions and energy losses)

$$-\nabla_i D_{ij}(r) \nabla_j N(r) = Q(r). \tag{1}$$

Q(r) is the cosmic-ray source term and $D_{ij}(r)$ the diffusion tensor.

Under the assumption of azimuthal symmetry and taking into account the predominance of the toroidal component of the magnetic field, Eq. (1) is presented in cylindrical coordinates as

$$\left[-\frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r D_{\perp} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} D_{\perp} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} D_{A} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} r D_{A} \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \right] N(r, z) = Q(r, z), \tag{2}$$

where N(r,z) is the cosmic-ray density averaged over the large-scale fluctuations with a characteristic scale $L \sim 100$ pc [3]. $D_{\perp} \propto E^m$ is the diffusion coefficient, where m is much less than one ($m \approx 0.2$), and $D_A \propto E$ the Hall diffusion coefficient. The influence of Hall diffusion becomes predominant at high energies (>10¹⁵ eV). The sharp

The magnetic field of the Galaxy consists of a large-scale regular and a chaotic, irregular component $\vec{B} = \vec{B}_{\text{reg}} + \vec{B}_{\text{irr}}$. A purely azimuthal magnetic field was assumed for the regular field

$$B_z = 0$$
, $B_r = 0$, $B_{\phi} = 1 \,\mu\text{G} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{z_0^2} - \frac{r^2}{r_0^2}\right)$,

where $z_0 = 5$ kpc and $r_0 = 10$ kpc are constants [3].

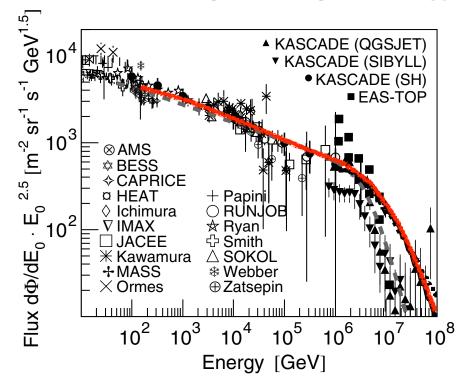


Fig. 7. Proton flux as obtained from various measurements, for references see [28], compared to the spectra shown in Fig. 6 (black lines) and the *polygonato* model [26] (grey, dashed line).

Origin of the knee?

JRH, Astropart. Phys. 21 (2004) 241 (updated)

Acceleration (SNR)

.. in SNR

.. in SNR + radio galaxies

.. in oblique shocks

.. in variety of SNR

Single source model

Reacceleration in galactic wind

Leakage from Galaxy

Minimum pathlength model Anomalous diffusion model Hall diffusion model Diffusion in turbulent magnetic fields Diffusion and drift

γ-ray bursts

Cannonball model

Acceleration in GRB + diffusion

Acceleration in GRB F ~A

Interaction with background particles

Diffusion model + photo-disintegration Tkaczyk Interaction with neutrinos in galactic halo Photo-disintegration (optical and UV photons)

Particle physics in atmosphere

Gravitons, SUSY

Berezhko & Ksenofontov Stanev

Kobayakawa ..

Sveshnikova

Erlykin & Wolfendale

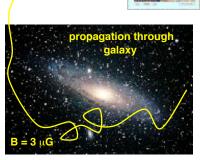
Völk & Zirakashvili

Swordy Lagutin ..

Ptuskin .., Kalmykov ..

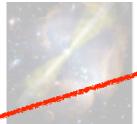
Ogio & Kakimoto

Roulet ..

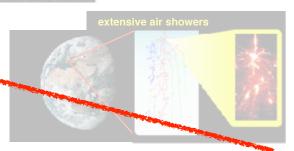


Plaga Wick ..

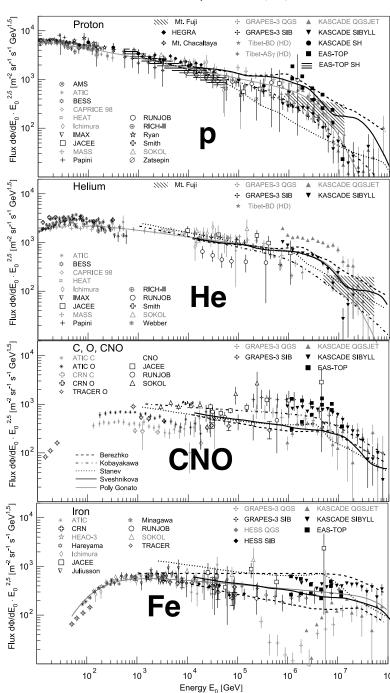
Dar ..



Dova .. Candia ..



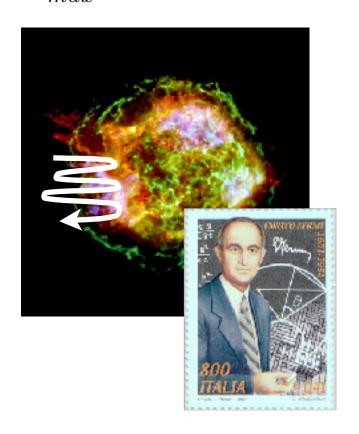
Kazanas & Nicolaidis

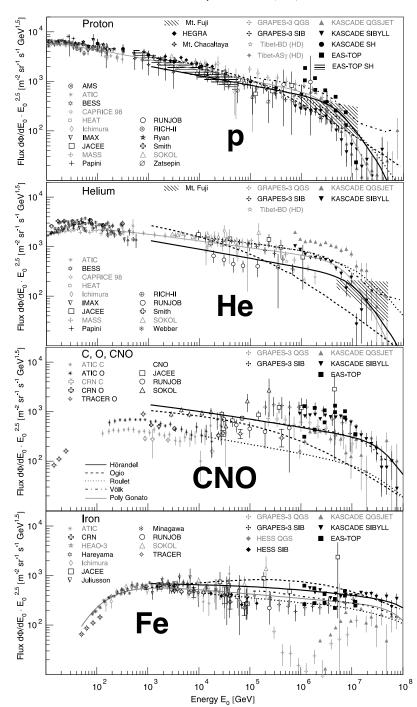


maximum energy

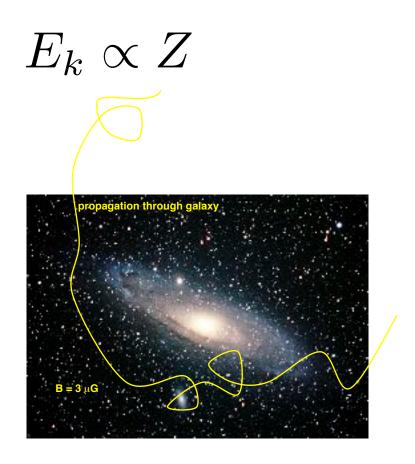
 $E_{max} \propto B \cdot Z$

 $E_{max} \approx Z \cdot 100 \text{ TeV} \dots Z \cdot 5 \text{ PeV}$





leakage from Galaxy



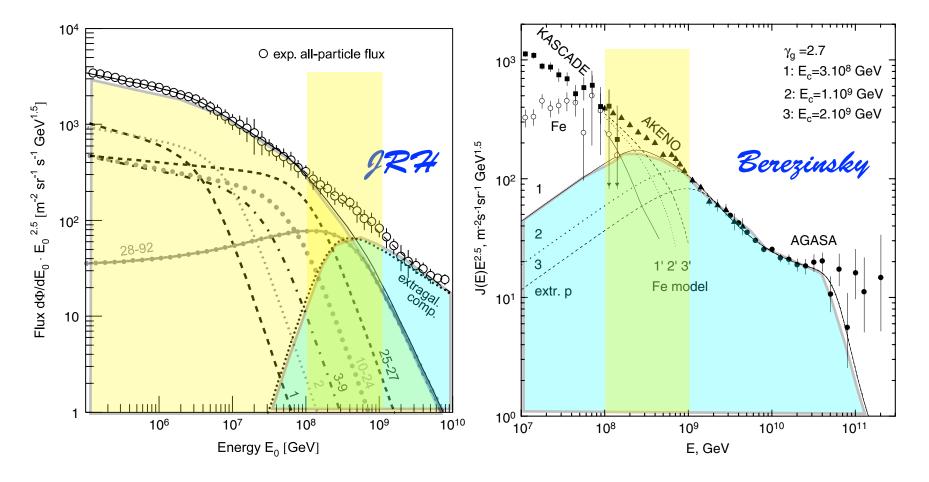
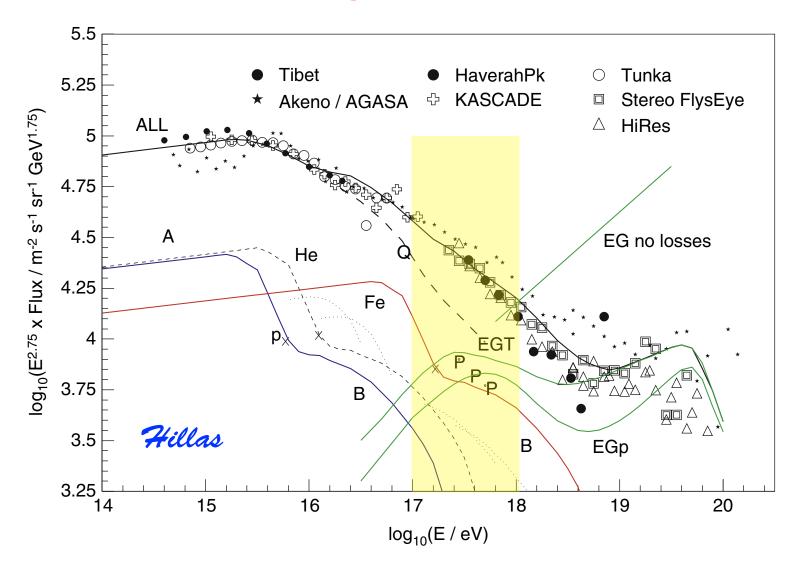


Fig. 26. Left panel: Cosmic-ray energy spectra according to the poly-gonato model [2]. The spectra for groups of elements are labeled by their respective nuclear charge numbers. The sum of all elements yields the galactic all-particle spectrum (—) which is compared to the average measured flux. In addition, a hypothetical extragalactic component is shown to account for the observed all-particle flux (- - -). Right panel: Transition from galactic to extragalactic cosmic rays according to Berezinsky et al. [451]. Calculated spectra of extragalactic protons (curves 1, 2, 3) and of galactic iron nuclei (curves 1', 2', 3') are compared with the all-particle spectrum from the Akeno and AGASA experiments. KASCADE data are shown as filled squares for the all-particle flux and as open circles for the flux of iron nuclei.

Transition to extragalactic CR component



",classical" supernovae + additional component

Contribution of (regular) SNR-CR to all-particle spectrum

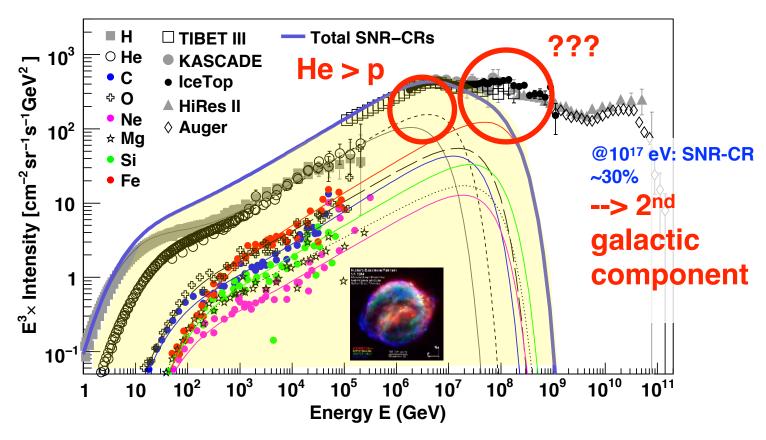
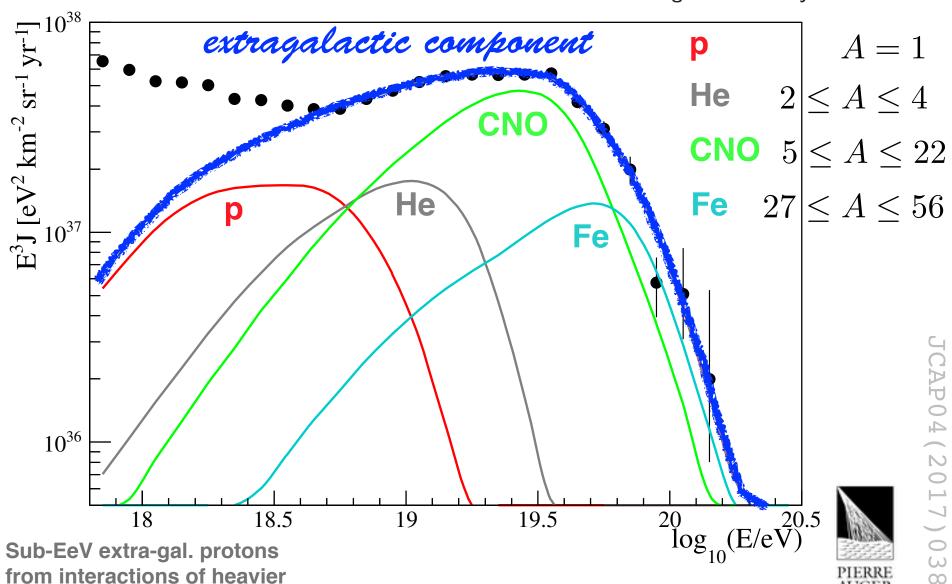


Fig. 2. Contribution of SNR-CRs to the all-particle cosmic-ray spectrum. The thin lines represent spectra for the individual elements, and the thick-solid line represents the total contribution. The calculation assumes an exponential cut-off energy for protons at $E_c = 4.5 \times 10^6$ GeV. Other model parameters, and the low-energy data are the same as in Figure 1. Error bars are shown only for the proton and helium data. High-energy data: KASCADE (Antoni et al. 2005), IceTop (Aartsen et al. 2013), Tibet III (Amenomori et al. 2008), the Pierre Auger Observatory (Schulz et al. 2013), and HiRes II (Abbasi et al. 2009).

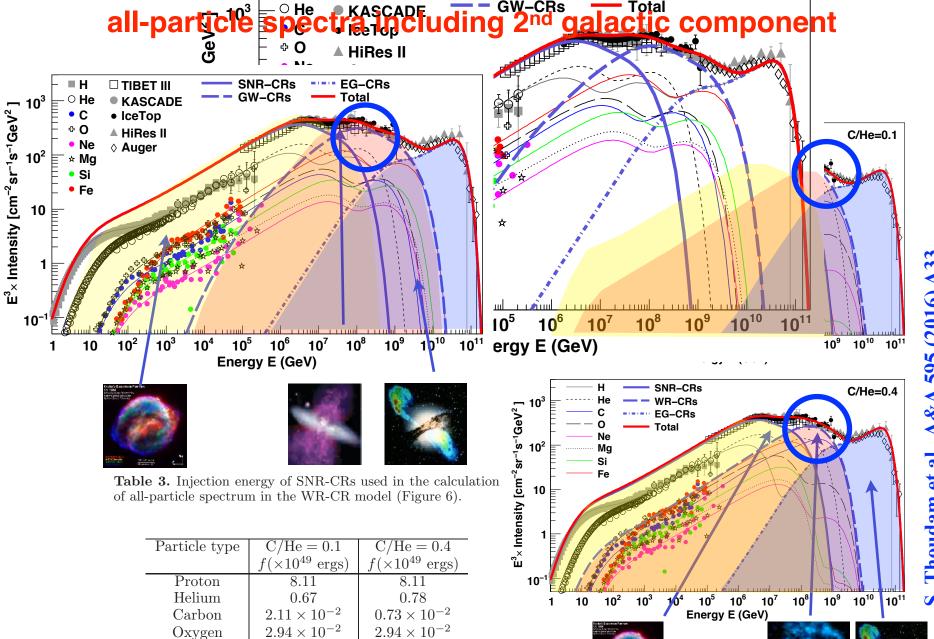
~8% of mechanical power of SN --> CRs



nuclei

see lecture on UHECR later

Jörg R. Hörandel, APP 2020/21



 4.41×10^{-3}

 6.03×10^{-3}

 5.84×10^{-3}

 5.77×10^{-3}

Neon

Magnesium

Silicon

Iron

 4.41×10^{-3} 6.03×10^{-3}

 5.84×10^{-3}

 5.77×10^{-3}

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Mean logarithmic mass (InA)

WR-CR (C/He=0.4) + EG scenarios

$$\langle \ln A \rangle \equiv \sum_{i} r_{i} \ln A_{i}, \qquad \langle \ln A \rangle = \frac{X_{\max}^{\text{meas}} - X_{\max}^{p}}{X_{\max}^{\text{Fe}} - X_{\max}^{p}} \cdot \ln A_{\text{Fe}}.$$

Fig. 11. Mean logarithmic mass for the three different EG-CR models combined with the WR-CR (C/He = 0.4) model. Data are the same as in Figure 8. Results obtained using WR-CR (C/He = 0.1) model are shown in Appendix B.

10⁹

10⁸

Energy E (GeV)

10⁶

10⁷

10¹⁰

10¹¹

Cosmic rays at the knee Results and implications

- knee in all-particle spectrum at ~4.5 PeV caused by fall-off of light elements (p, He)
- experimental (world) data indicate rigidity-dependent fall-off of individual elements
 - (in particular unfolding by KASCADE[-Grande] and IceCube/Top)
- spectrum above knee is superposition of individual spectra (elemental knees)
 - -> fine structure in all-particle spectrum
 - -> end of galactic CR component
- astrophysical origin of knee: combination of maximum energy attained in sources (Supernovae) (Hillas criterion) and leakage from Galaxy
- 2nd galactic component at ~10¹⁷ eV?
- extra-galactic origin >10¹⁸ eV