

Neutrinos from Tidal Disruption Events

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Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron DESY

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Tidal disruption events

When a massive star passes close enough to a SMBH

- ~ half of the star's mass remains bounded by the SMBH gravitational force
- Mass accretion -> months/year-long flare
- Energy to be reprocessed by accretion $\sim 10^{54}$ erg
- Fallback rate $\propto t^{-5/3}$ (Phinney 1989)
- Thermal black body (bb) emissions in optical/UV (O&UV) bands.
- Some (~1/4) TDEs are observed in X-ray and infrared (IR) ranges, e.g., AT2019dsg (Stein et al. 2021)

NATURE VOL. 333 9 JUNE 1988

ARTICLES

523

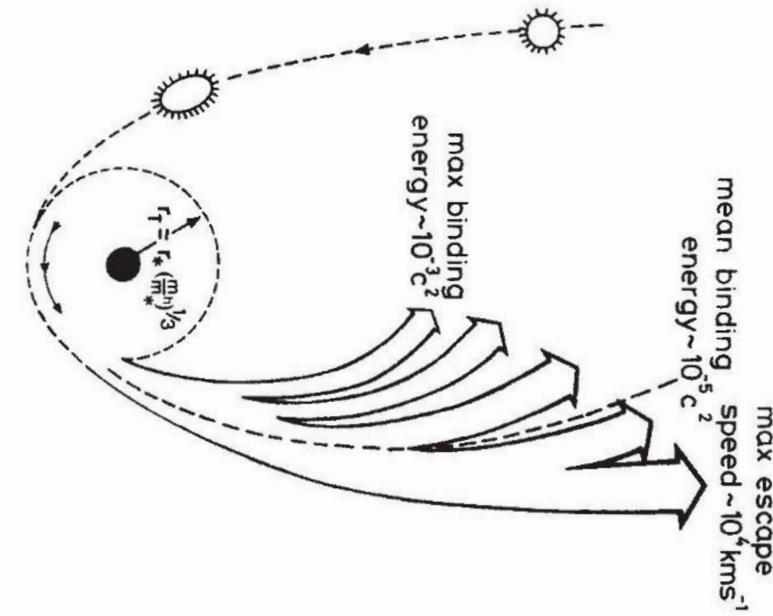
Tidal disruption of stars by black holes of 10^6 – 10^8 solar masses in nearby galaxies

Martin J. Rees

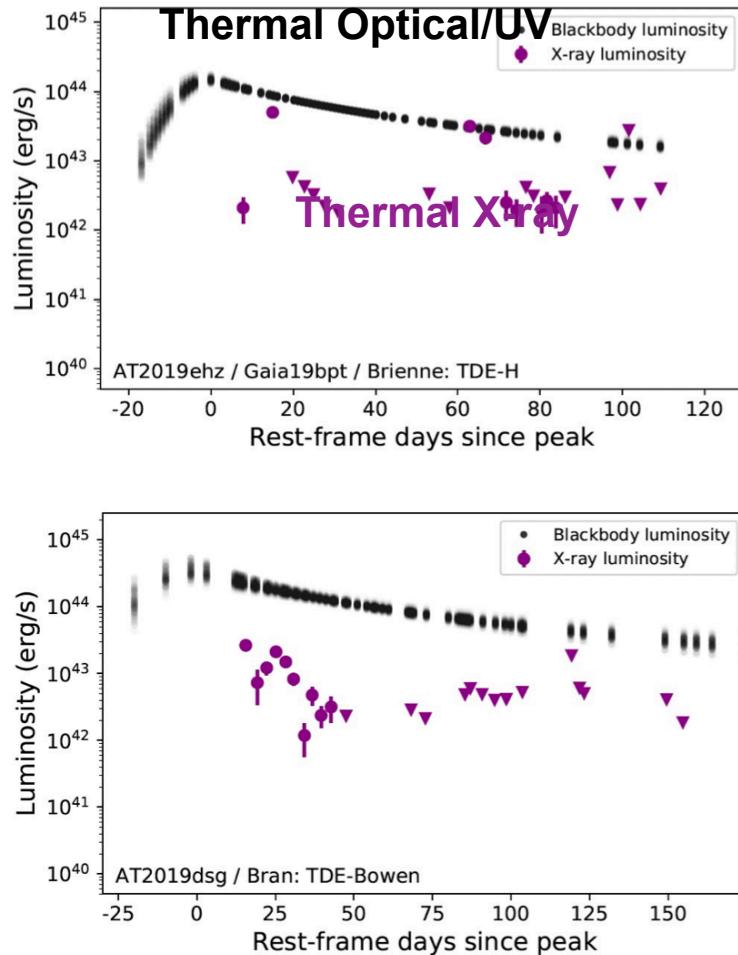
Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0HA, UK

Stars in galactic nuclei can be captured or tidally disrupted by a central black hole. Some debris would be ejected at high speed; the remainder would be swallowed by the hole, causing a bright flare lasting at most a few years. Such phenomena are compatible with the presence of 10^6 – $10^8 M_\odot$ holes in the nuclei of many nearby galaxies. Stellar disruption may have interesting consequences in our own Galactic Centre if a $\sim 10^6 M_\odot$ hole lurks there.

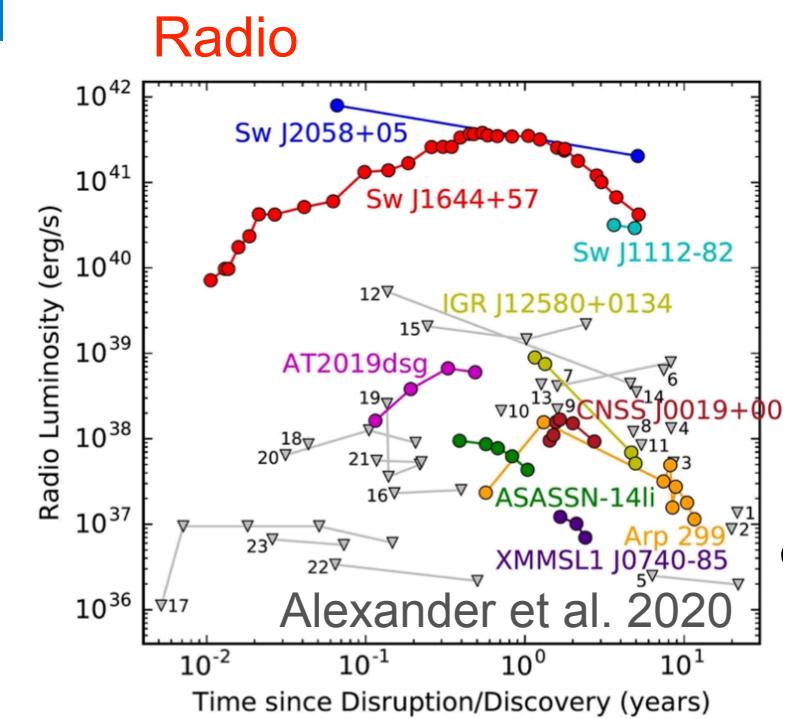
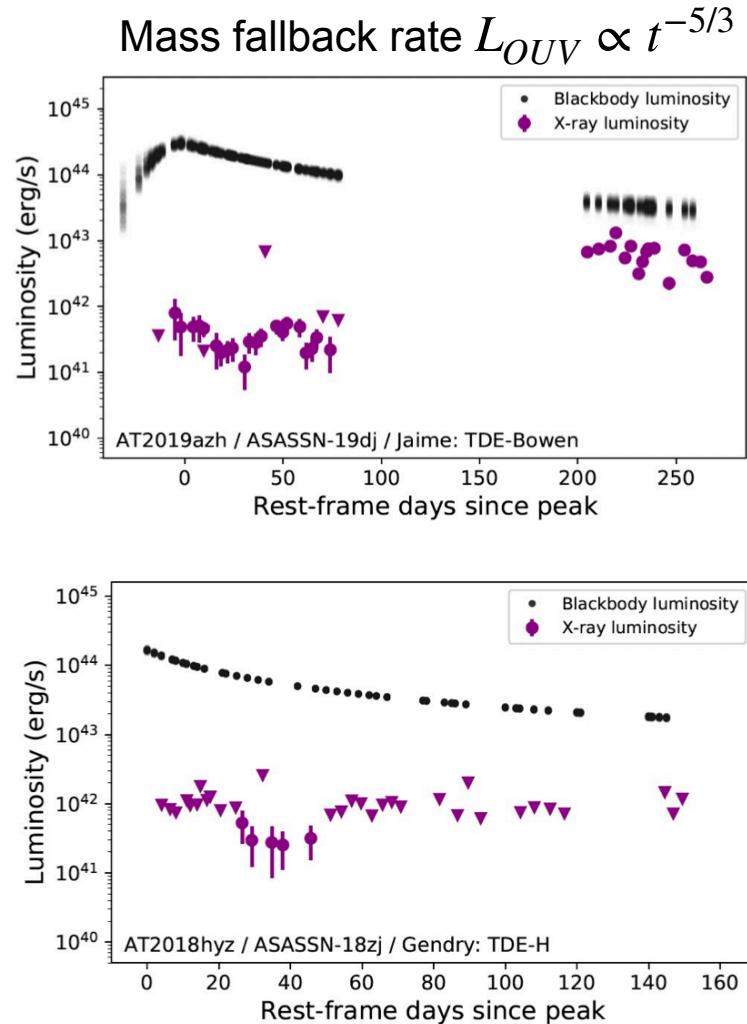
Martin J. Rees, Nature 1988



TDE observational signatures: universal



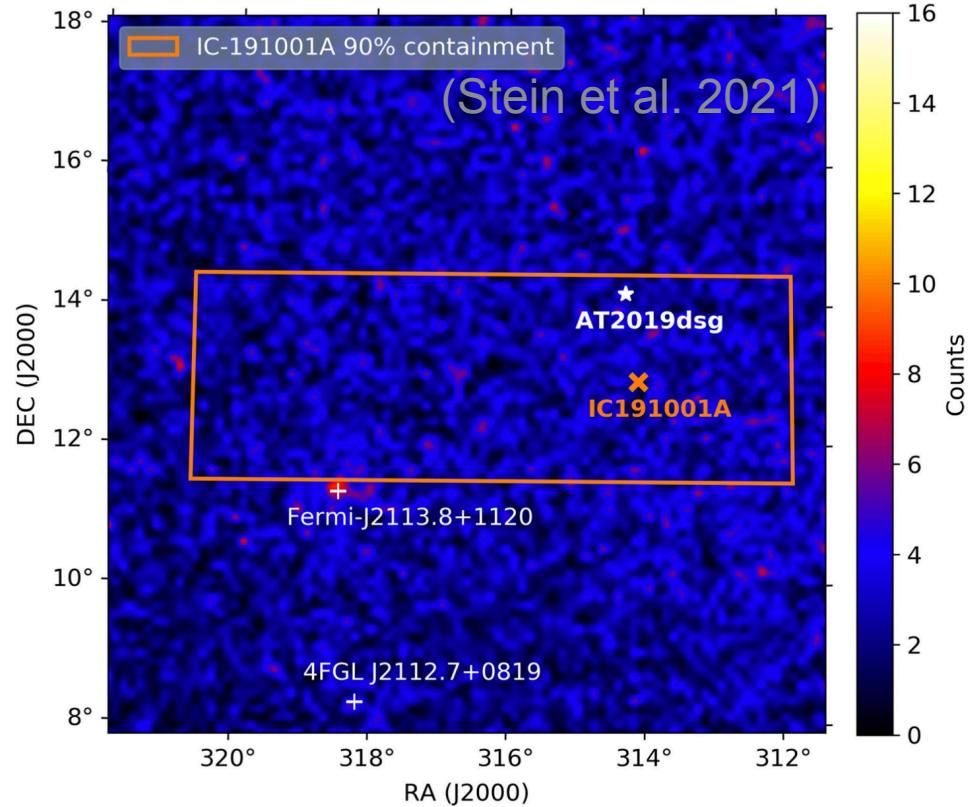
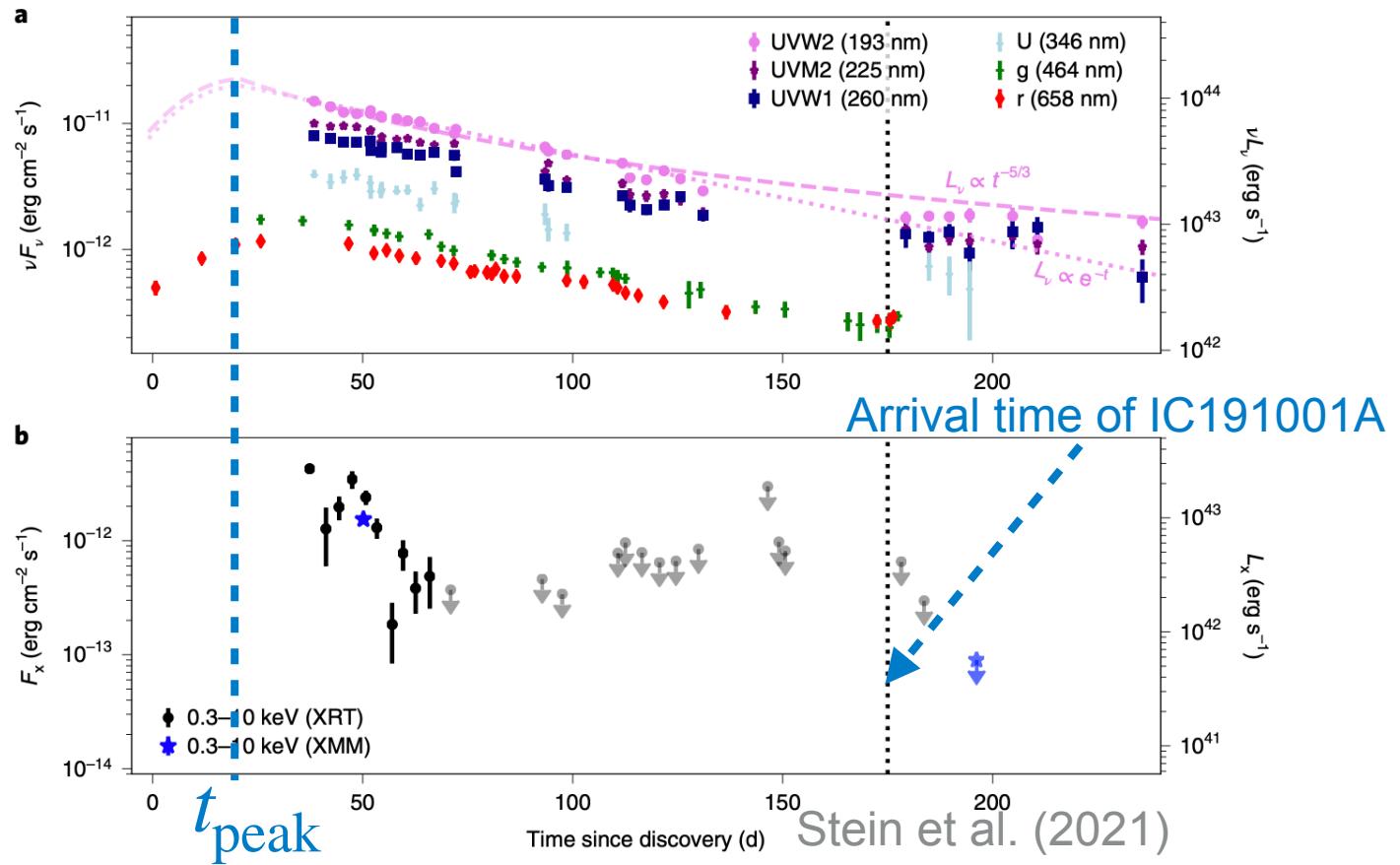
Van Velzen et al, 2021



- A small fraction of TDEs exhibit luminous radio relativistic jet. Most are radio quiet.
- Delayed radio may come from jet propagating in wind density profile $\rho(r) \propto r^{-k}$ ($1.5 \lesssim k \lesssim 2$) (Metzger+ 2016)

AT2019dsg

- $z \sim 0.051$
- ZTF (optical: g, r) + Swift UVOT (UV)
- Swift-XRT/XMM-Newton: X-ray (0.3-10 keV)
- *Fermi* (0.1-800 GeV) and HAWC (0.3-100 TeV) up limits



- Angular offset: 1.3 deg
- $t_\nu - t_{\text{pk}} = 150$ d

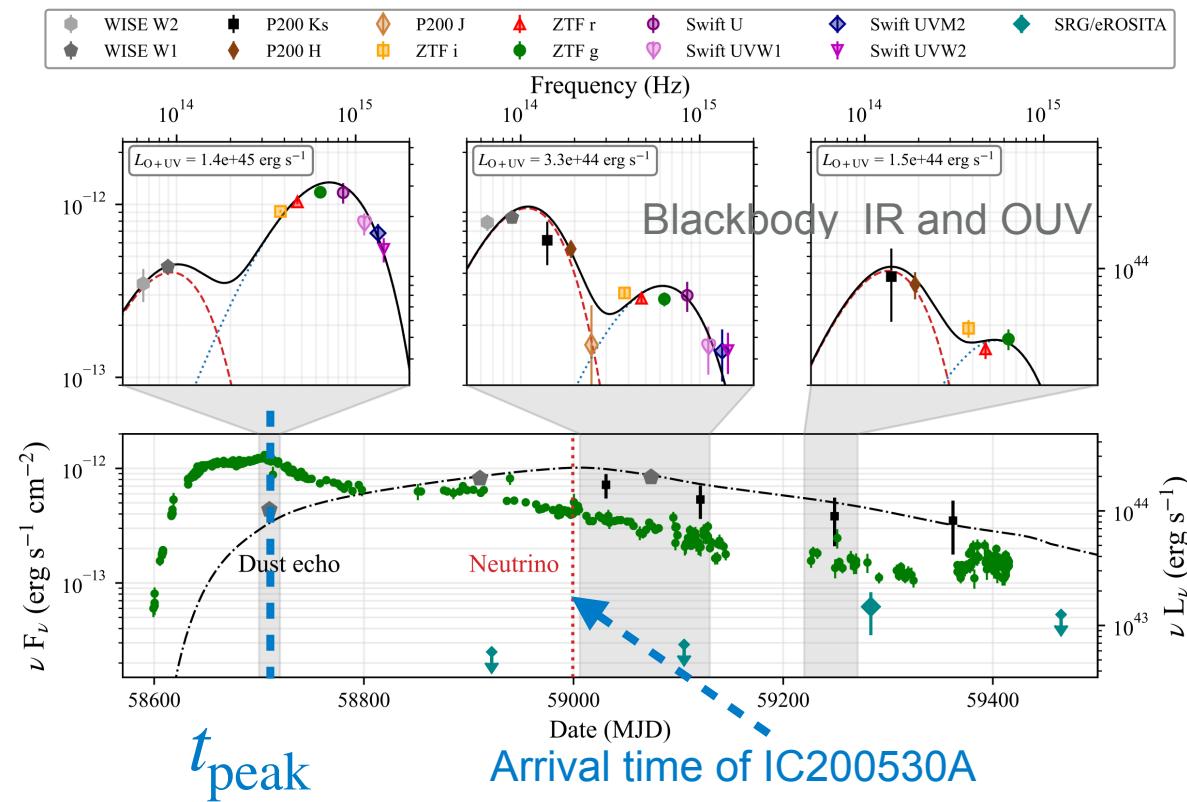
Measured black body spectra:

- **X-ray:** $T_X = 72$ eV, from hot accretion disk
- **OUV:** $T_{\text{OUV}} = 3.4$ eV, from photosphere (nearly constant)
- **IR:** $T_{\text{IR}} = 0.15$ eV

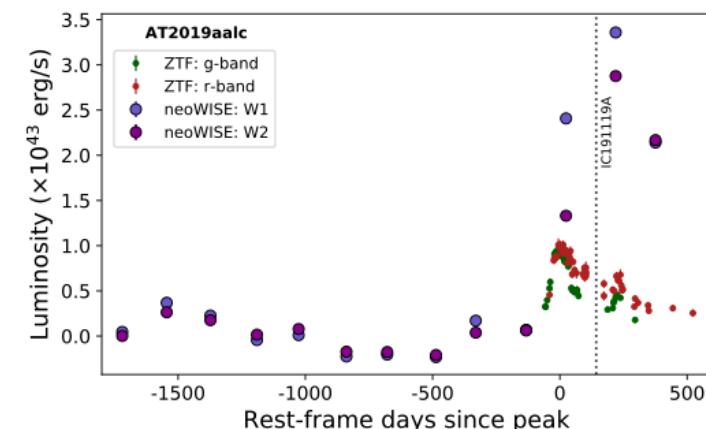
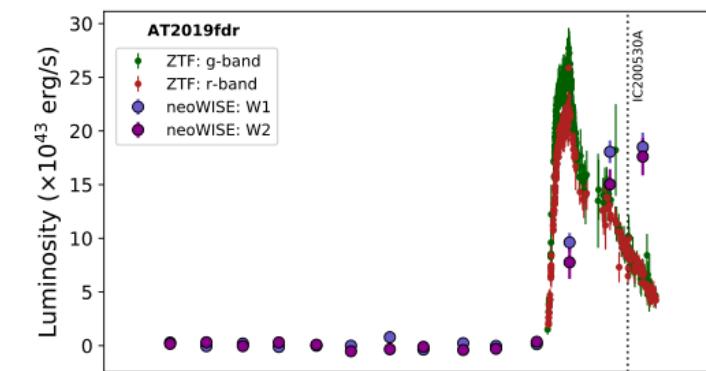
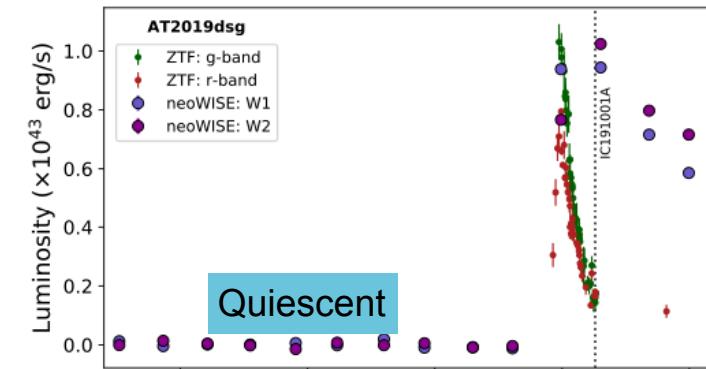
AT2019fdr

- $z \sim 0.267$
- ZTF (optical: g, r) + Swift UVOT (UV) + IR
- Swift-XRT: X-ray (0.3-10 keV)
- Angular offset: 1.7 deg; $t_\nu - t_{\text{pk}} = 393$ d
- *Fermi* up limit ✓

Reusch et al. (2022)



AT2019aalc



Another TDE candidate with potential neutrino correlation and strong delayed IR emission.

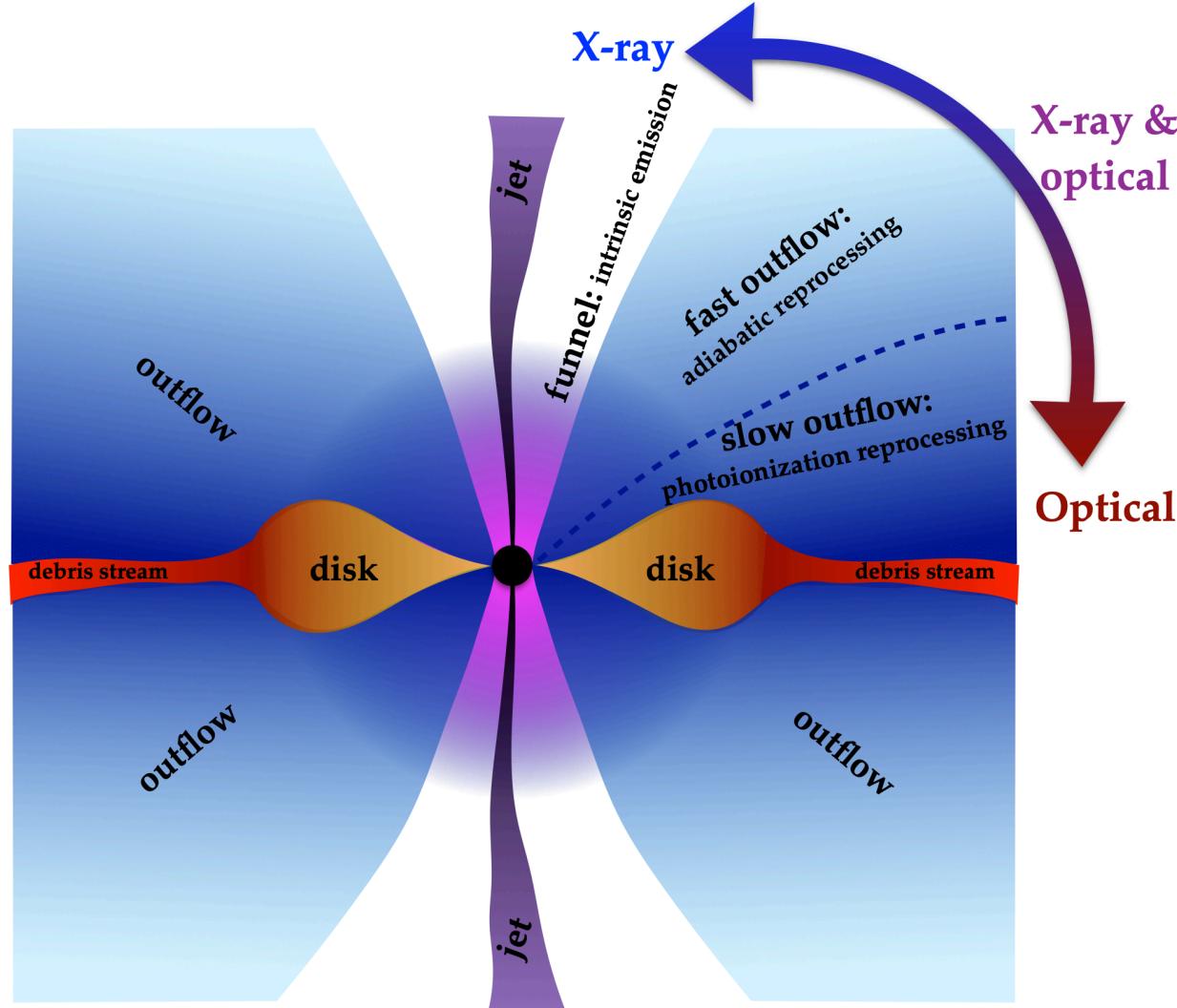
- Angular offset: 1.9 deg
- $t_\nu - t_{\text{pk}} = 148$ d
- Significance of neu correlation: 3.6 sigma (van Velzen+ 2021)

Caveat: AT2019fdr/aalc are not exclusively identified as TDEs

TDE models

- **γ -rays, non-thermal X-rays:** relativistic jet, sub relativistic wind
- **Thermal X-rays:** close to jet/funnel & hot disk corona
- **Optical/UV:** photosphere of hot disk corona (beyond which integrated optical depth < 1)
- **Infrared (IR):** dust-echo, corona...
- **Radio:** non-thermal (particle acceleration in disk, jet, outflow)

Disks - Hayashaki & Yamazaki 19 (HY19)
Wide angle winds - Fang 20, Murase+ 20
Stream-stream - Dai + 15., HY19,
Jets - Wang + 11, Wang & Liu 16, Dai & Fang 17, Lunardini & Winter 17, Senno + 17

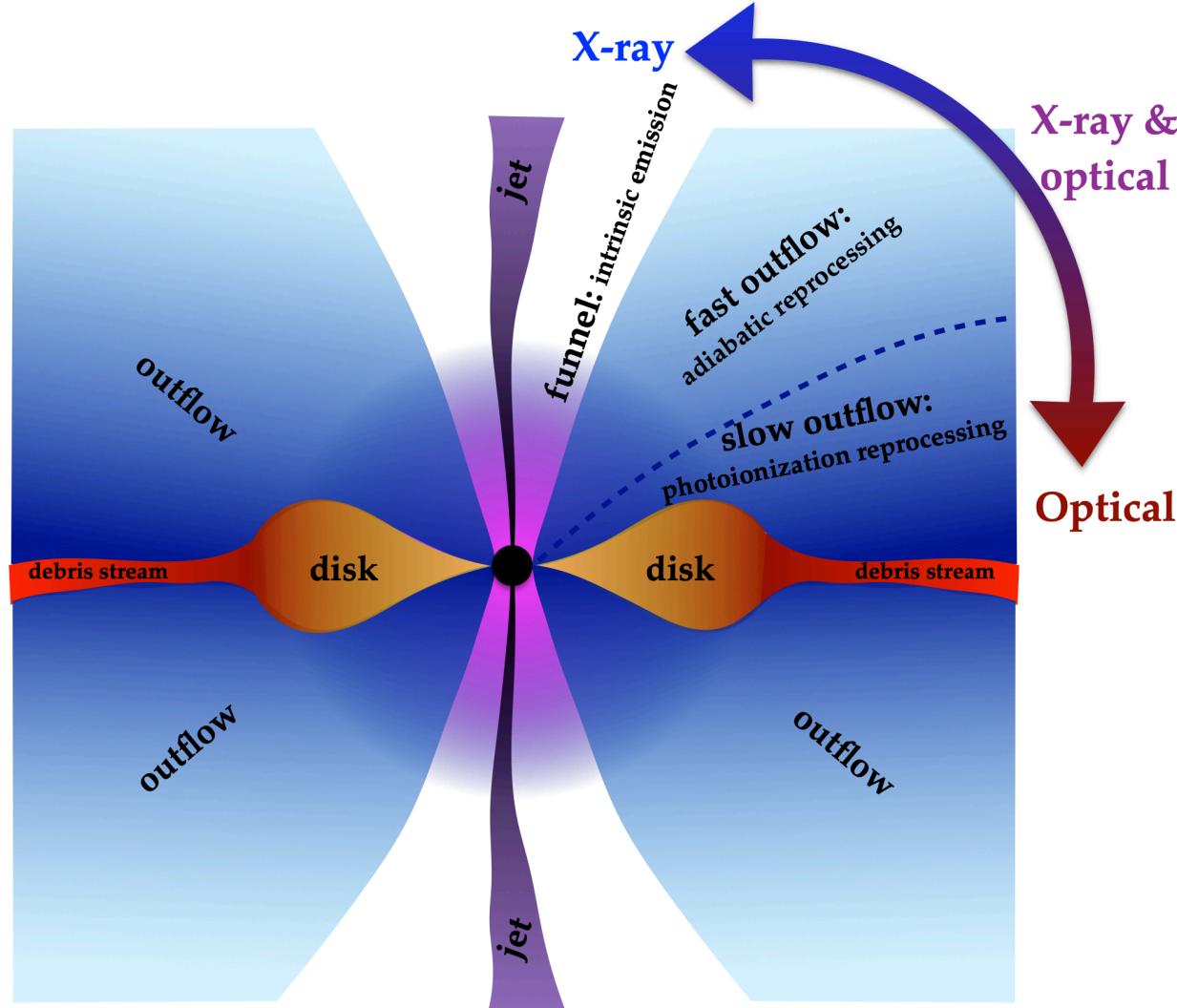


Dai+ 2018

TDE models

- In addition to the EM signatures, neutrinos might be produced in the **accretion disks**, **isotropic disk winds (outflows)**, or **jets**
- Neutrino associated TDEs/candidates
 1. [AT2019dsg \(IC191001A\)](#)
 2. [AT2019fdr \(IC200530A\)](#)
 3. [AT2019aalc \(IC220405B\)](#)
- More neutrino coincident TDEs/candidates are proposed

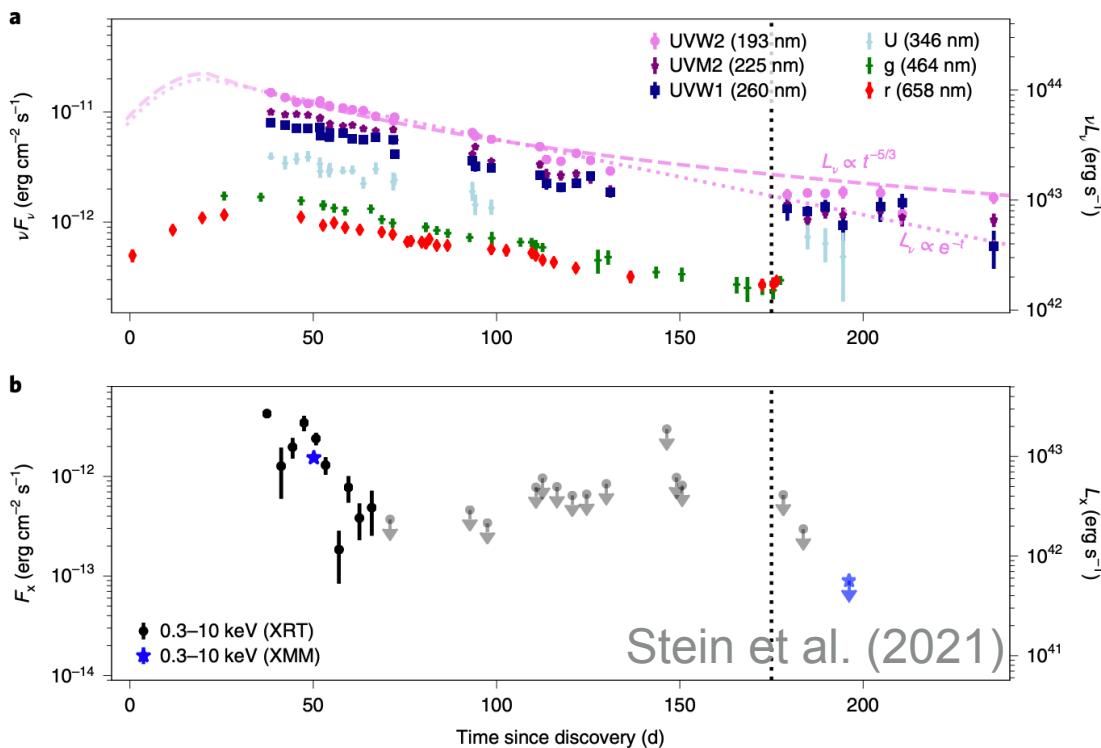
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Dai+ 2018

Questions for Neutrino-Coincident TDEs

- Where are radio, OUV, IR, X-ray (XRT, eROSITA, NICER), γ -ray and neutrino emissions produced?
- Temporal signatures? delayed infrared and neutrino emissions
- Multi-messenger implications, e.g., from X-ray/ γ -ray up limits to neutrino constraints



What we have

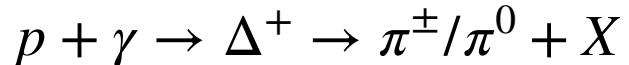
- Thermal optical/ultraviolet, X-ray, and infrared spectra/light curves.
- Up limits from γ -ray flux by Fermi, HAWC etc
- Neutrino correlation: detection time, energy

What we need for existing observations

- Radiation sites: jet, wind, disk corona, etc
- CR acceleration/injection
- Theoretical/numerical modeling of interactions

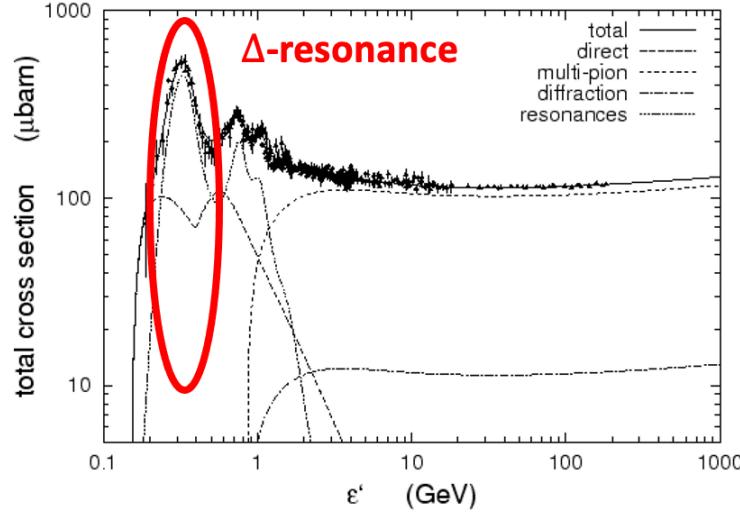
Production of High-Energy Astrophysical Neutrinos

Photo-pion/meson ($p\gamma$) process

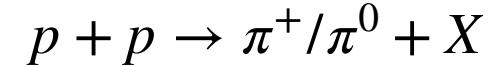


Ingredients: dense (low-energy) target photons
[thermal IR/OUV/X-ray photons in TDE winds] + CRs

Delta resonance proton energy: $E_p \gtrsim \frac{m_\pi(2m_p + m_\pi)c^2}{4\varepsilon_\gamma}$



Hadronuclear (pp) process



Ingredients: dense thermal/rest target protons
[outflows/winds in TDEs] + CRs

In TDE wind, depends on the wind params.
subdominant even in optimistic cases

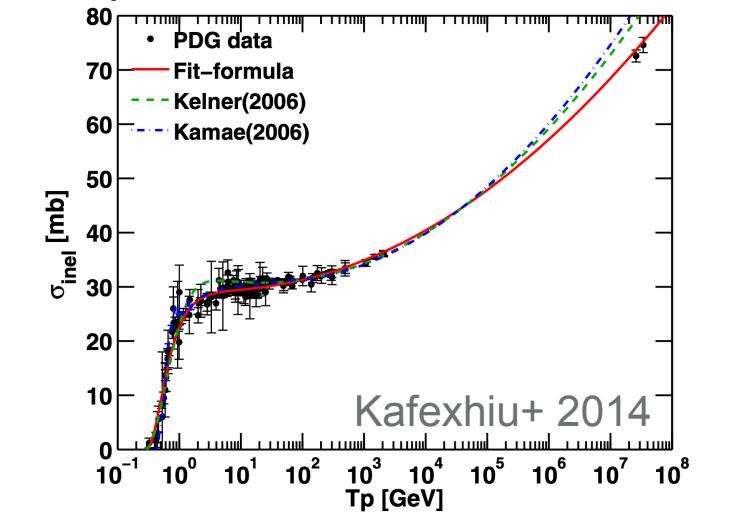
$$\begin{aligned} \pi^\pm &\rightarrow \mu^\pm + \nu_\mu(\bar{\nu}_\mu), \quad \mu^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm + \bar{\nu}_\mu(\nu_\mu) + \nu_e(\bar{\nu}_e) \\ \pi^0 &\rightarrow \gamma + \gamma \end{aligned}$$

$$\varepsilon_\nu Q_{\varepsilon_\nu} \approx \frac{3K}{4(K+1)} e^{-f_{pp,p\gamma}} (\varepsilon_p Q_{\varepsilon_p})|_{\varepsilon_p \sim 20\varepsilon_\nu}$$

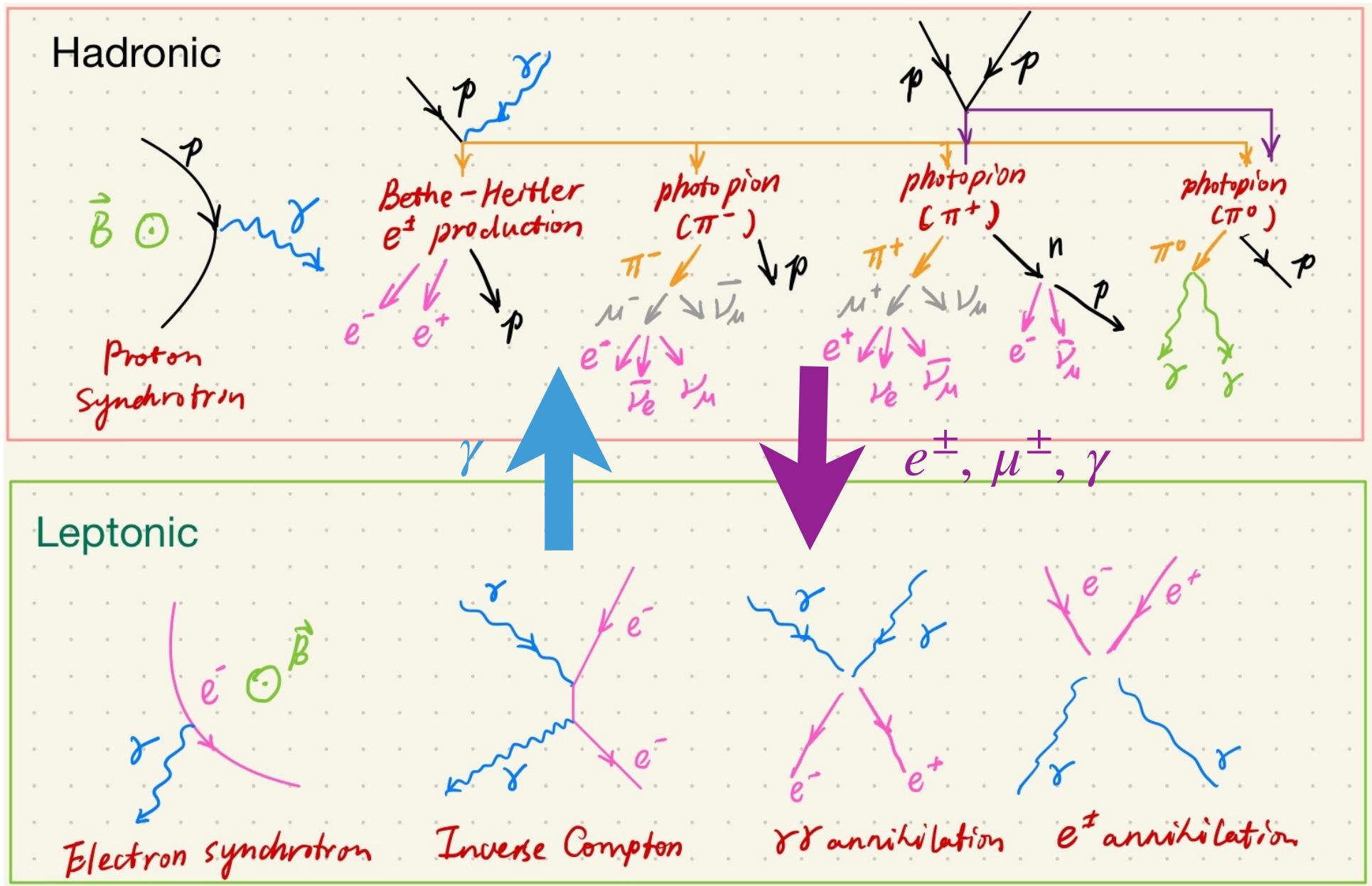
$$\varepsilon_\gamma Q_{\varepsilon_\gamma} \approx \frac{4}{3K} \varepsilon_\nu Q_{\varepsilon_\nu}|_{\varepsilon_\gamma \sim 2\varepsilon_\nu}$$

$$pp : K = N_{\pi^\pm}/N_{\pi^0} \sim 2$$

$$p\gamma : K = N_{\pi^\pm}/N_{\pi^0} \sim 1$$



Electromagnetic cascades

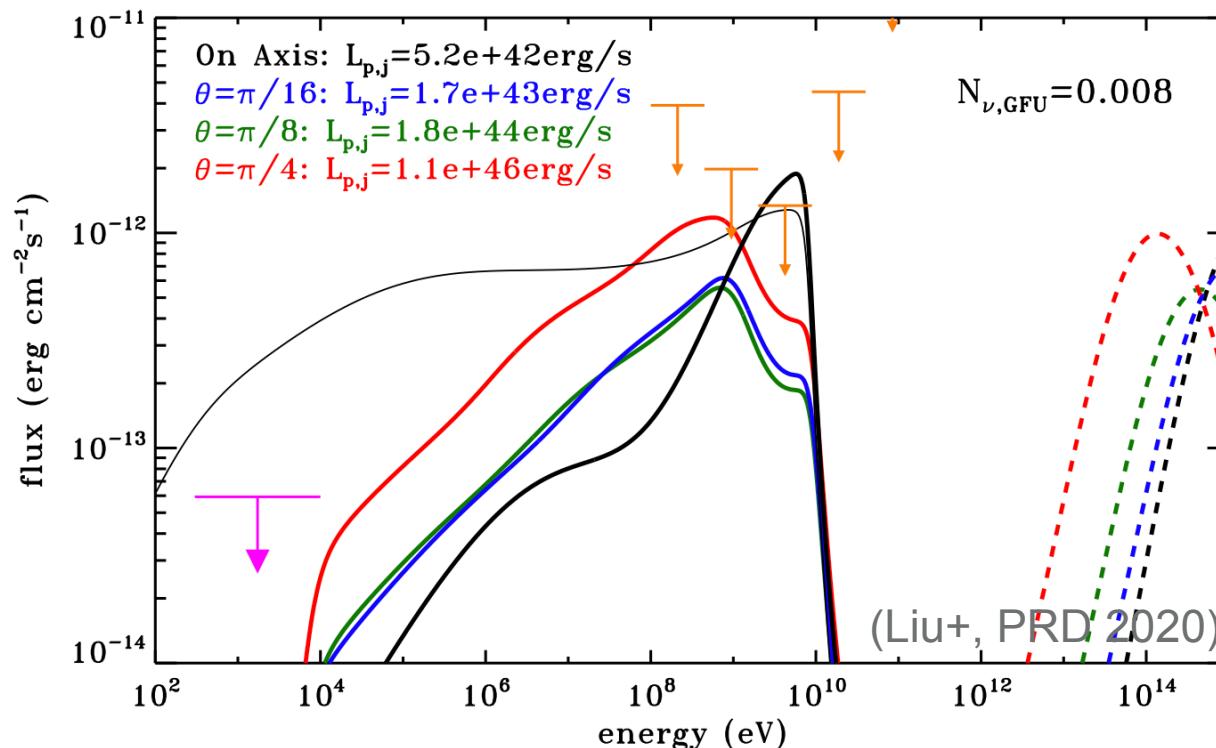


Neutrino-emitting TDE models

Off-axis jets

(e.g., Liu+, PRD 2020)

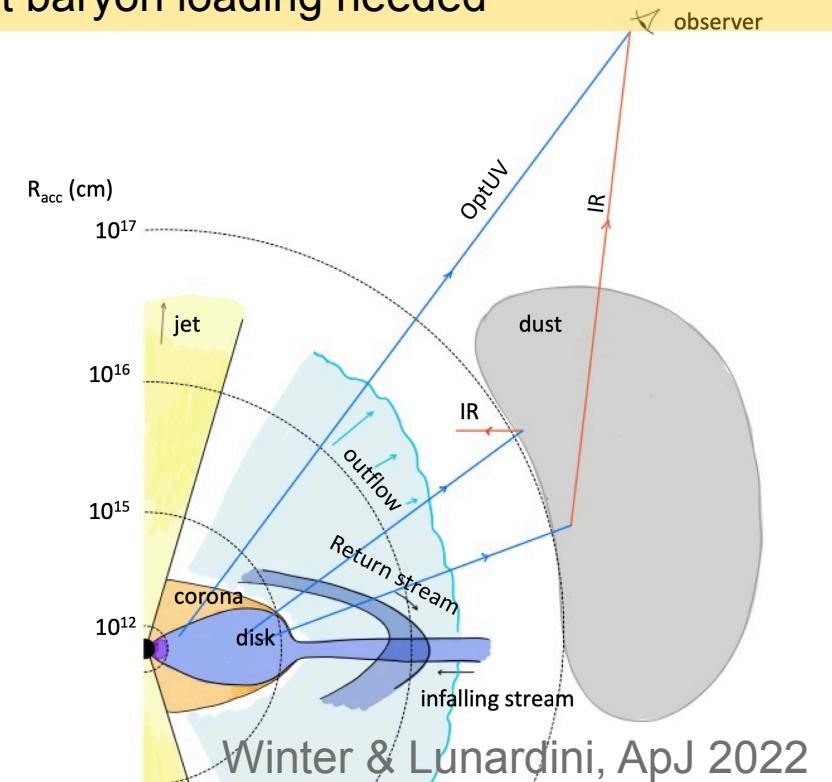
- High gas column density allows internal thermal X-ray
- Off-axis jet TDEs have a higher rate compared to on-axis jetted TDEs
- Gamma-ray limits: 0.008 neutrinos for AT 2019dsg



Isotropic winds + IR echos

(e.g., Winter & Lunardini, ApJ 2023; CY & Winter, ApJ 2023)

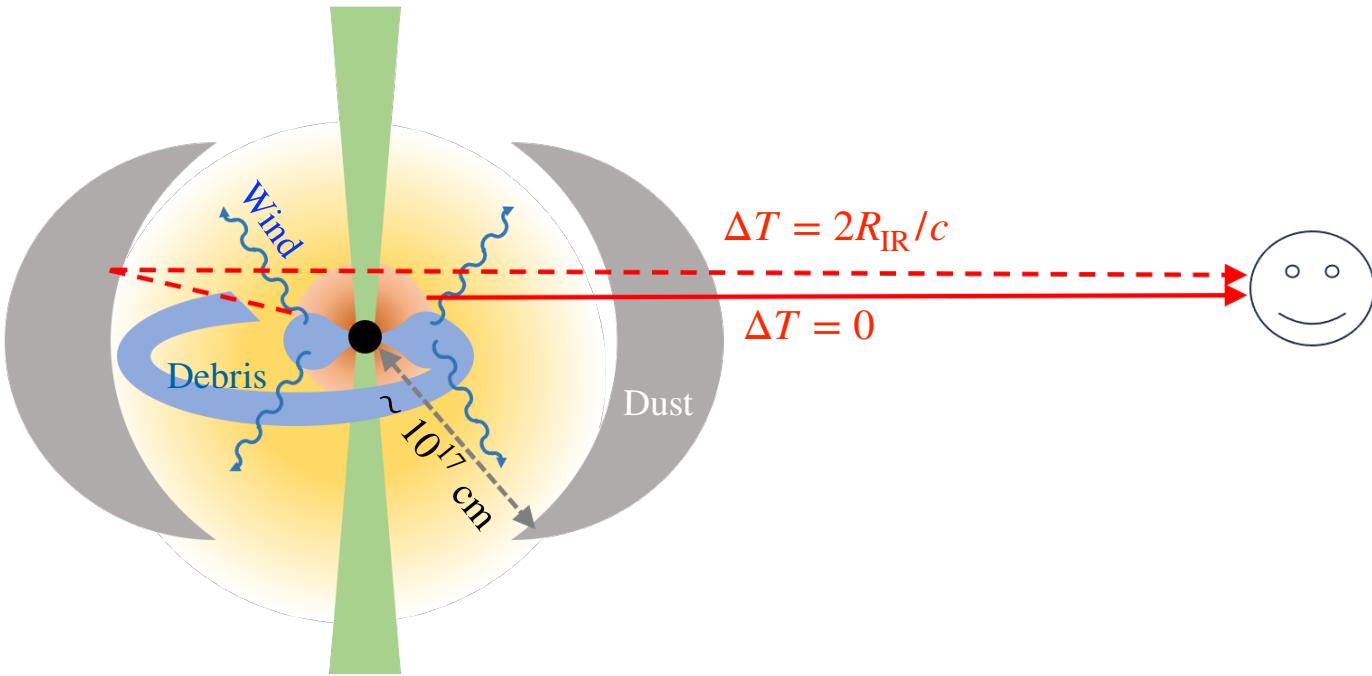
- Dust echo explains delayed IR emission, may associate to delayed neutrinos
- Thermal IR/OUV/X-ray photons $\rightarrow p\gamma$ neutrinos
- Efficient baryon loading needed



Dust Echo: infrared (IR) emission

Dust torus reprocess OUV emission to IR bands

- Thermal IR spectra is consistent with sublimation temperature, $T_{\text{IR}} \lesssim T_{\text{sub}} \sim 0.16 \text{ eV}$
- Dust radius (R_{IR}) can be inferred from IR time delay w.r.t OUV emissions, $R_{\text{IR}} \sim c\Delta T/2$



IR light curve fitting

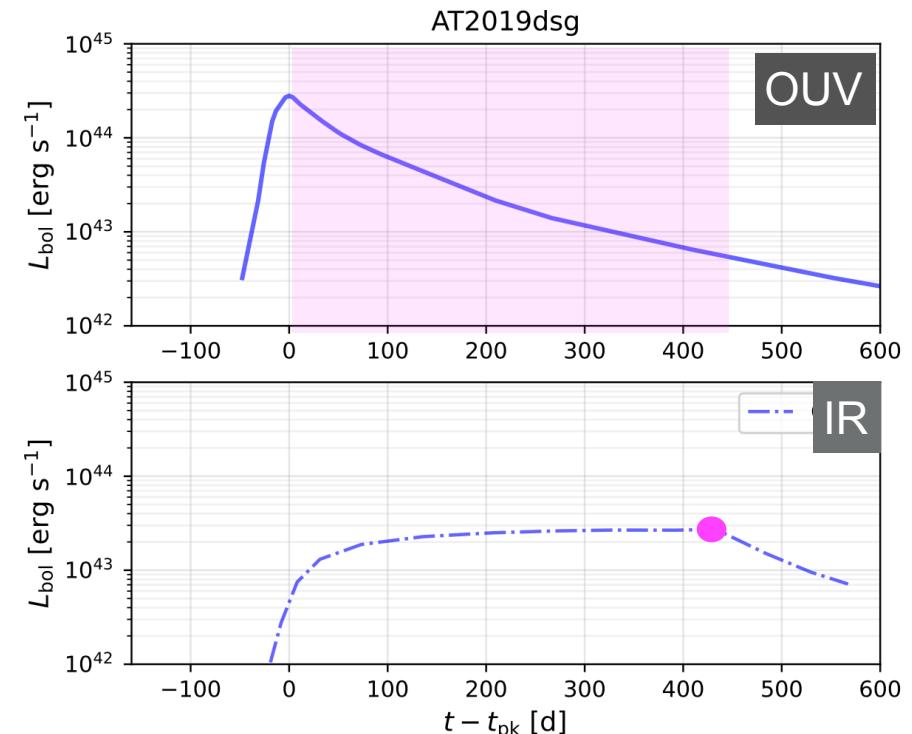
$$L_{\text{IR}}(t) = \epsilon_{\Omega}\epsilon_{\text{IR}} \int L_{\text{OUV}}(t')f(t - t')dt'$$

$\epsilon_{\Omega} = \Omega_{\text{dust}}/(4\pi)$: solid angle coverage

ϵ_{IR} : re-emitting efficiency

To fit IR light curves for AT2019dsg/fdr/aalc,

$$\epsilon_{\Omega}\epsilon_{\text{IR}} \sim 0.3 - 0.5$$



Proton injection to TDE winds

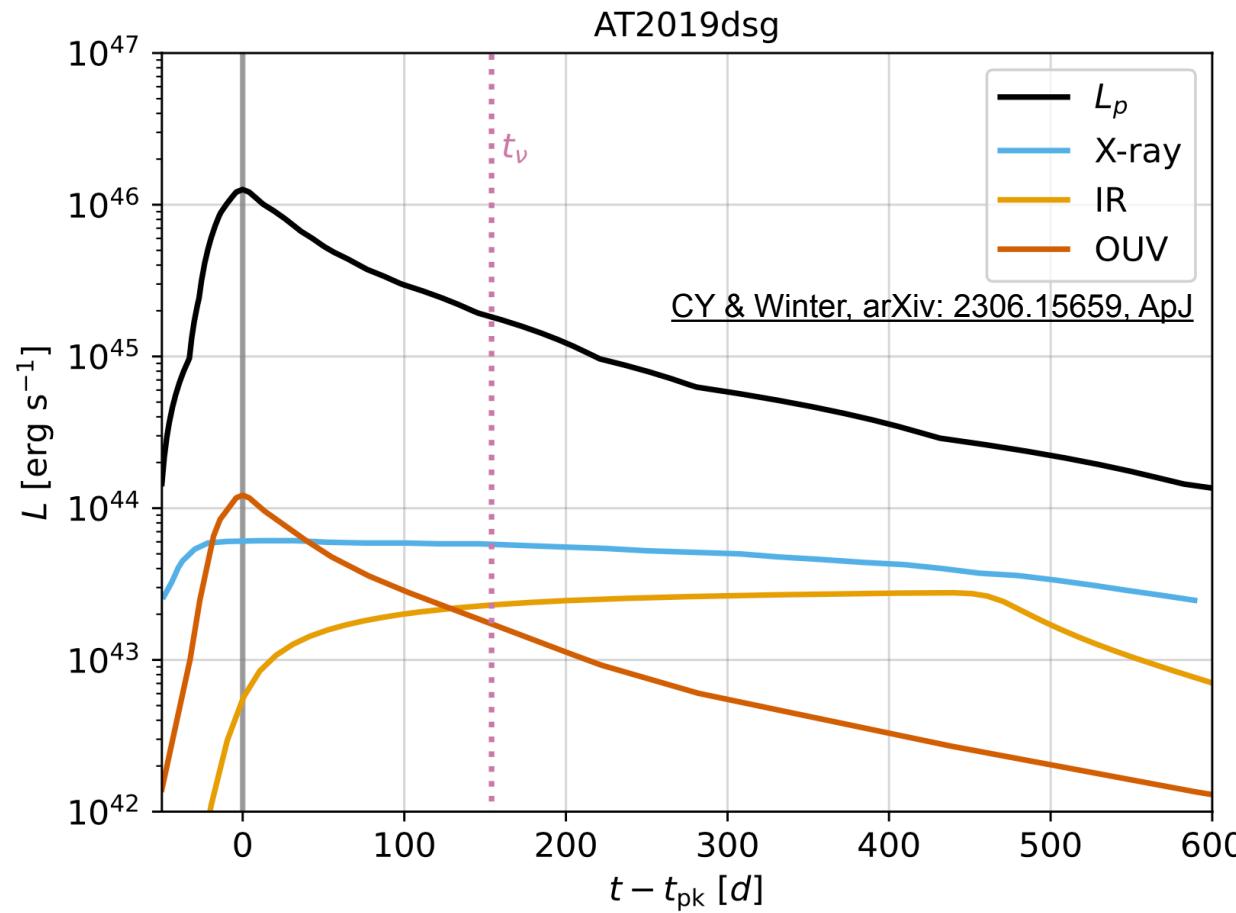
Four parameters: $E_{p,\min} \sim 1 \text{ GeV}$, spectra index $p = 2$, $E_{p,\max}$ (free-param), normalization factor

We use four parameters to determine the proton injection

- Normalization $\int dE_p E_p \dot{Q}(E_p) = L_p / (4\pi R^3 / 3)$
- $L_p(t) = \epsilon_{\text{diss}} \dot{M}_\star(t) c^2$

Assumptions

- $\dot{M}_\star(t)/L_{\text{OUV}}(t) = \text{const}$
- $\dot{M}_{\star,\text{peak}}/\dot{M}_{\text{Edd}} \sim \text{a few}$ (Dai+, 2018)
- Efficient energy dissipation to CRs: $\epsilon_{\text{diss}} \simeq 0.2$
- Proton diffusion



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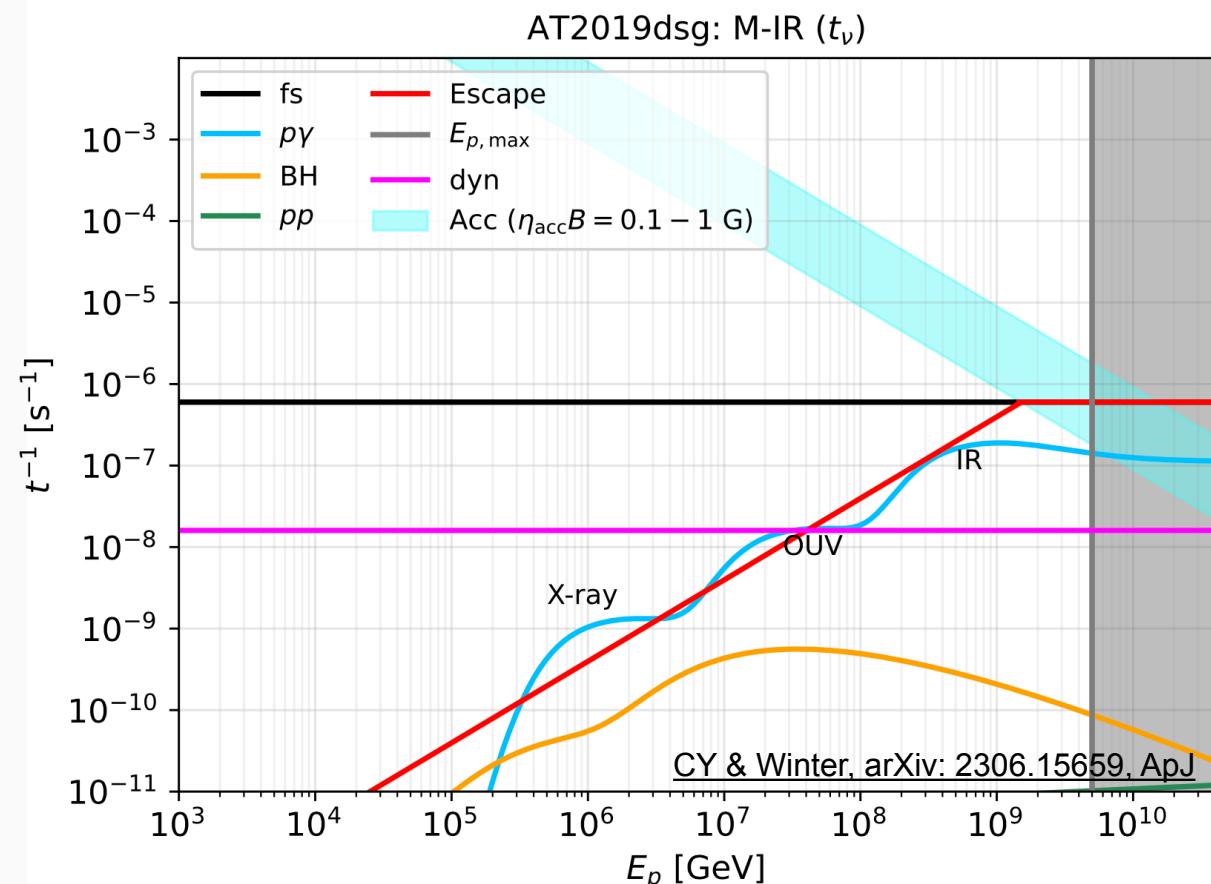
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Maximum proton energy

- Acceleration rate : $t_{\text{acc}}^{-1} = \eta_{\text{acc}} c / R_L = \eta_{\text{acc}} e B c / E_p$
- Cooling/escape rate = acc. rate $\rightarrow E_{p,\max} \sim 10^{9-10} \text{ GeV}$



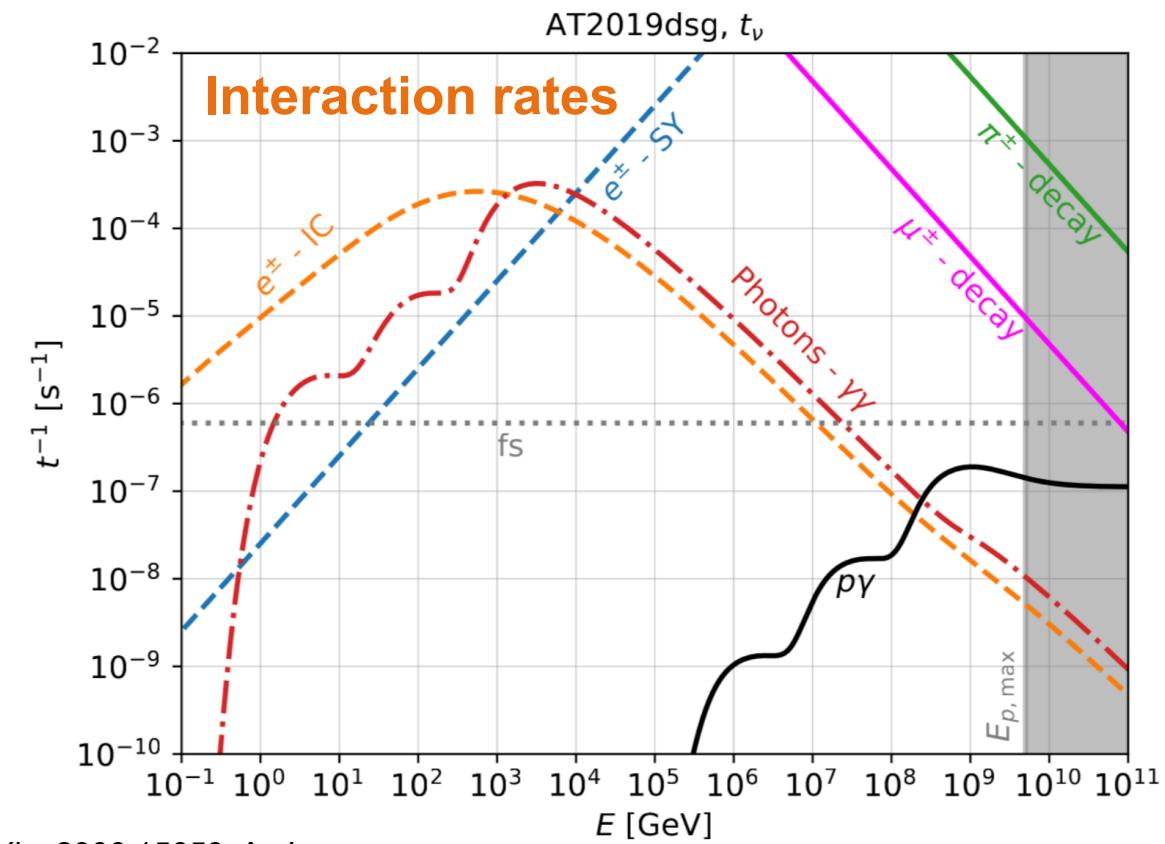
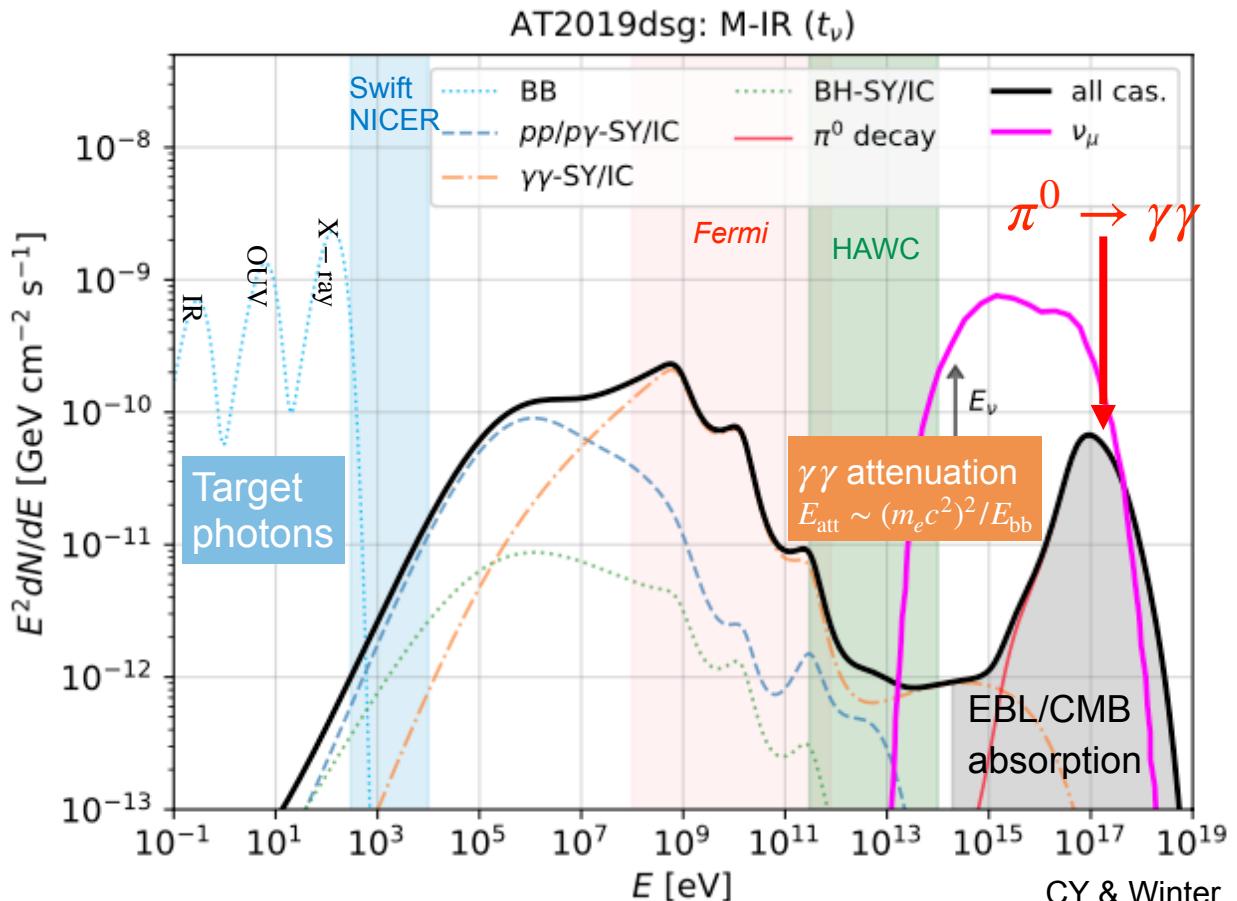
EM cascade spectra of AT2019dsg: IR target photons

$p\gamma$ optically thin $t_{p\gamma}^{-1}/t_{\text{fs}}^{-1} < 1$: $(\pi^\pm \rightarrow e^\pm \rightarrow \text{SY/IC}) + (\gamma\gamma \rightarrow e^\pm \rightarrow \text{SY/IC})$

Dust echo IR scenario: $\varepsilon_{\text{diss}} = 0.2$,

$B = 0.1$ G, $R = 5 \times 10^{16}$ cm, $E_{p,\text{max}} = 5 \times 10^9$ GeV

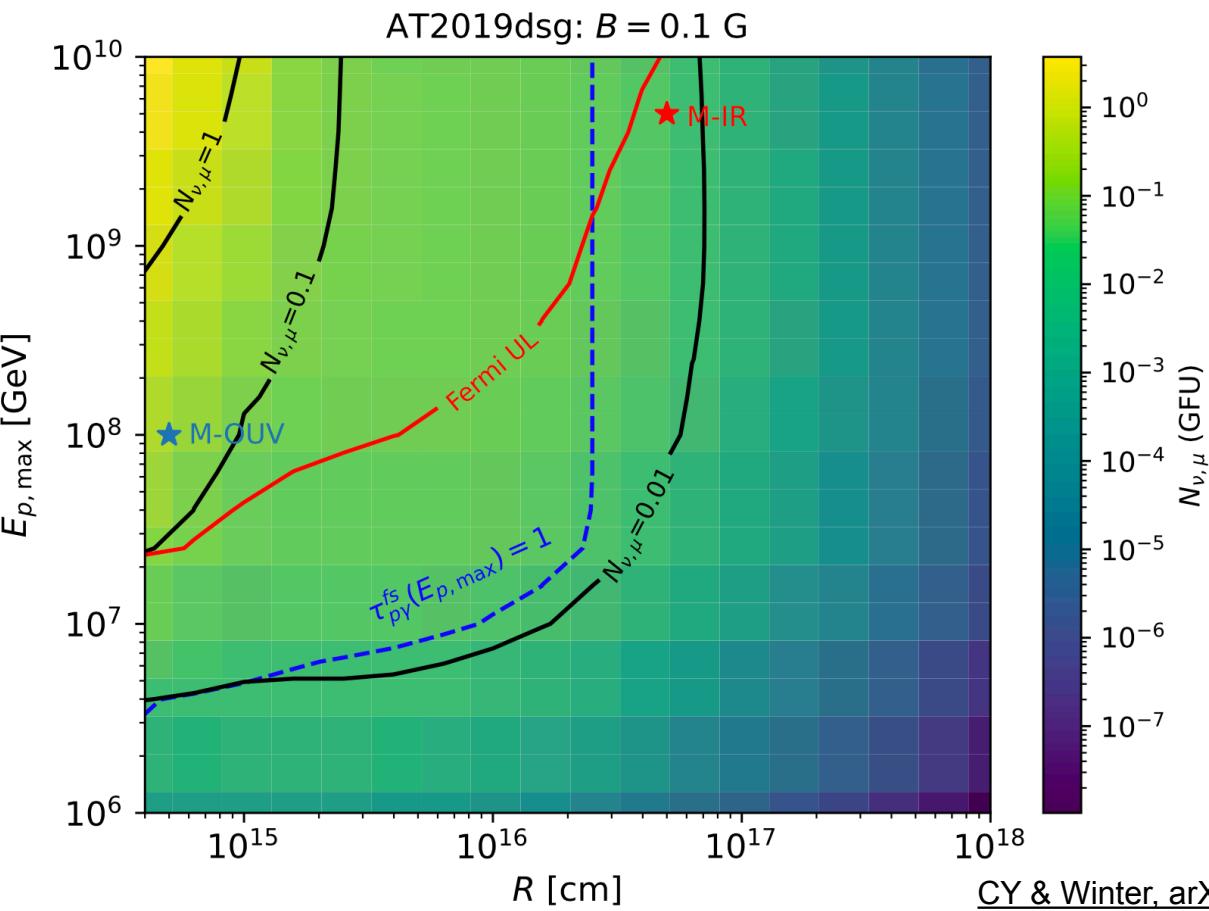
$p\gamma$ time scale ($t_{p\gamma}$) determines the time to develop EM cascade; AM3 software used for time-dependent cascade emissions



Constraints on $E_{p,\max}$, R and neutrino rates

Expected Gamma-ray Follow Up (GFU) neutrino number

$$\mathcal{N}_\nu(\text{GFU}) = \int dE_\nu \int^{t_\nu} dt F_\nu(E_\nu, t) A_{\text{eff}}(E_\nu)$$



To avoid exceeding Fermi UL (red curve)

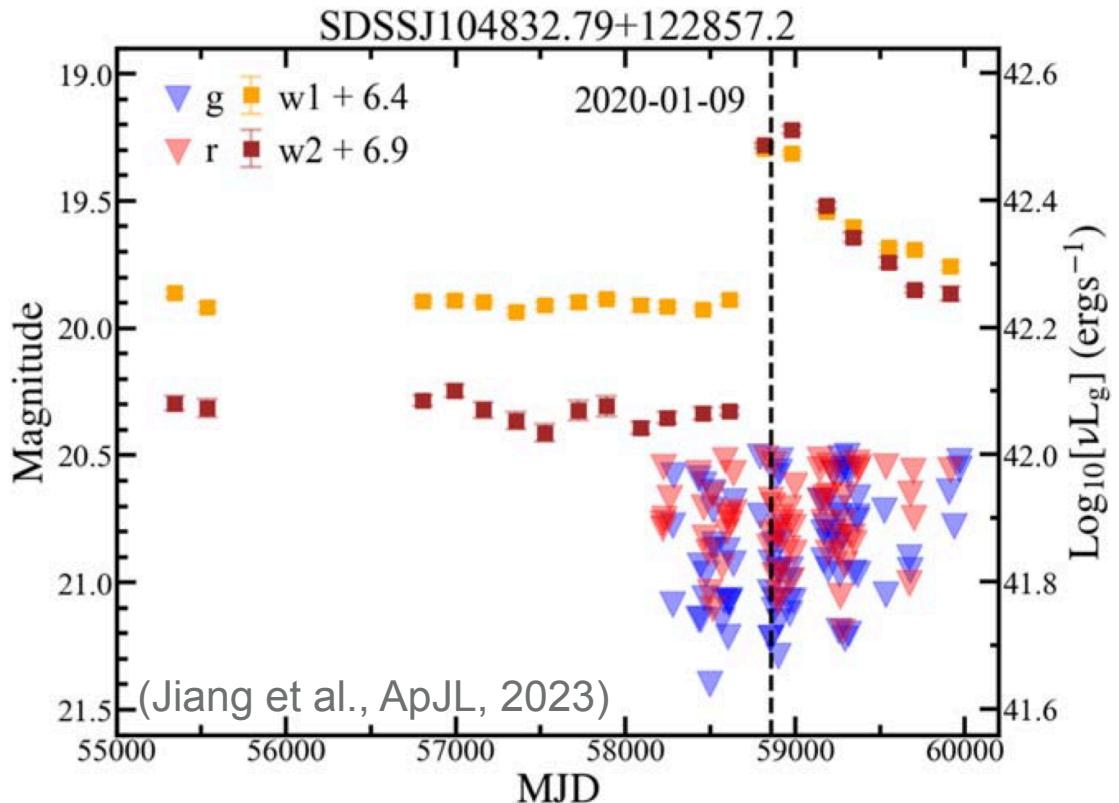
- An extended radiation zone is preferred (exclude M-OUV scenario)
- Neutrino number is constrained to be 0.01-0.1 for AT2019dsg
- Expected neutrino number from AT2019dsg, 0.008-0.76 (Stein+ 2021), is consistent with Fermi UL

Above blue dashed line \rightarrow pg optically thick \rightarrow no significant time delay; otherwise a time delay of $t_{p\gamma} \sim 10 - 100$ d is expected

More neutrino-emitting TDEs?

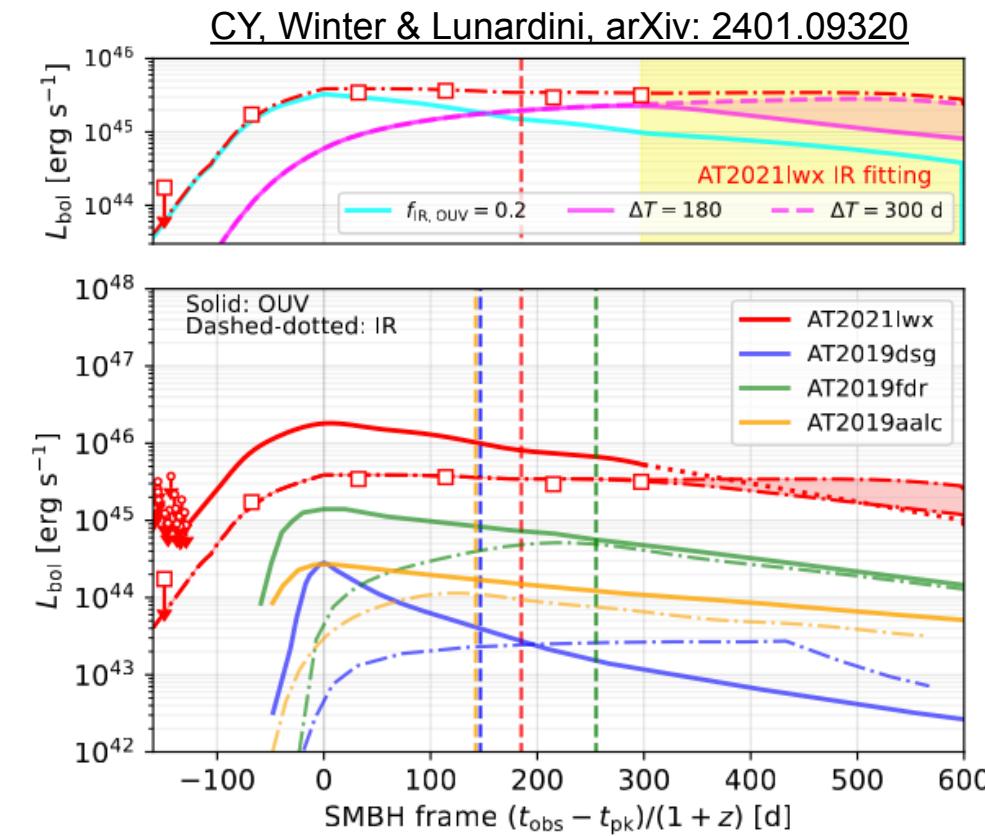
OUV obscured TDE candidates:

- SDSSJ1048+1228 and SDSSJ1649+2625
- Negligible optical variability, but strong IR echos
- spatially and temporally coincident with neutrino events (Jiang et al., ApJL, 2023)



AT 2021lwx (Subrayan+ 2023, $z \sim 1.0$)

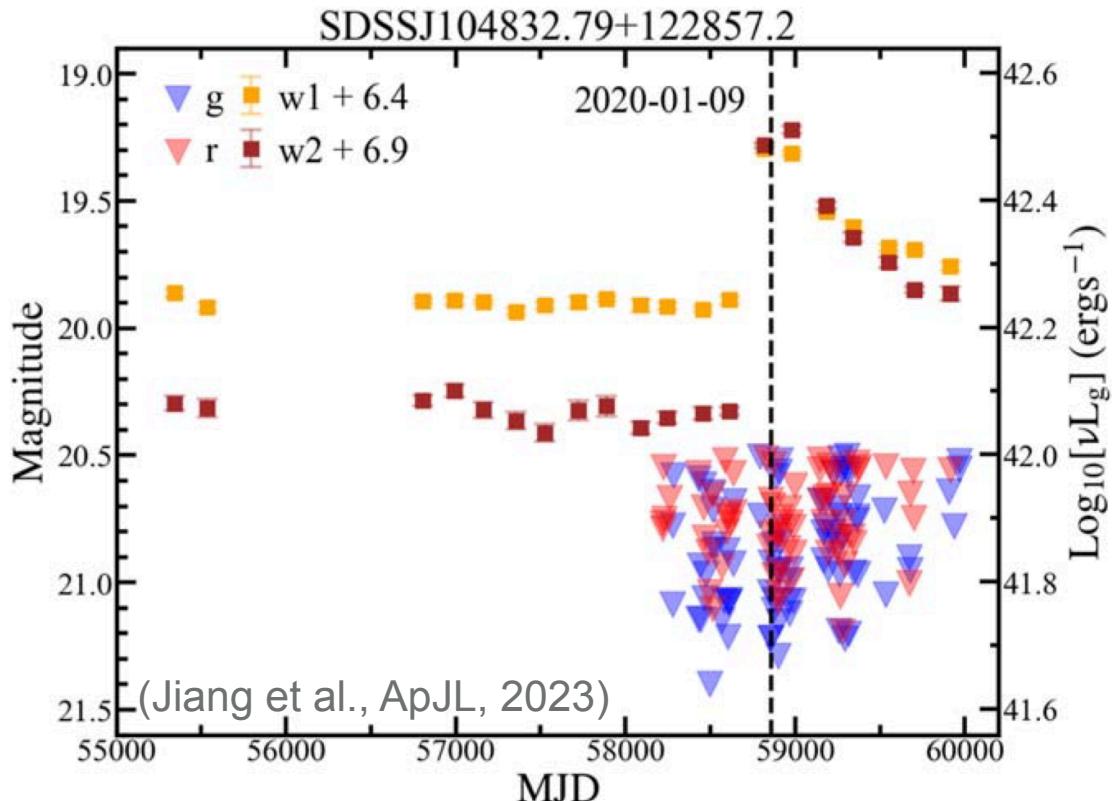
- Likely correlated with neutrino IC220405B: angular deviation ~ 2.6 deg; neutrino time delay in SMBH frame: 185 d



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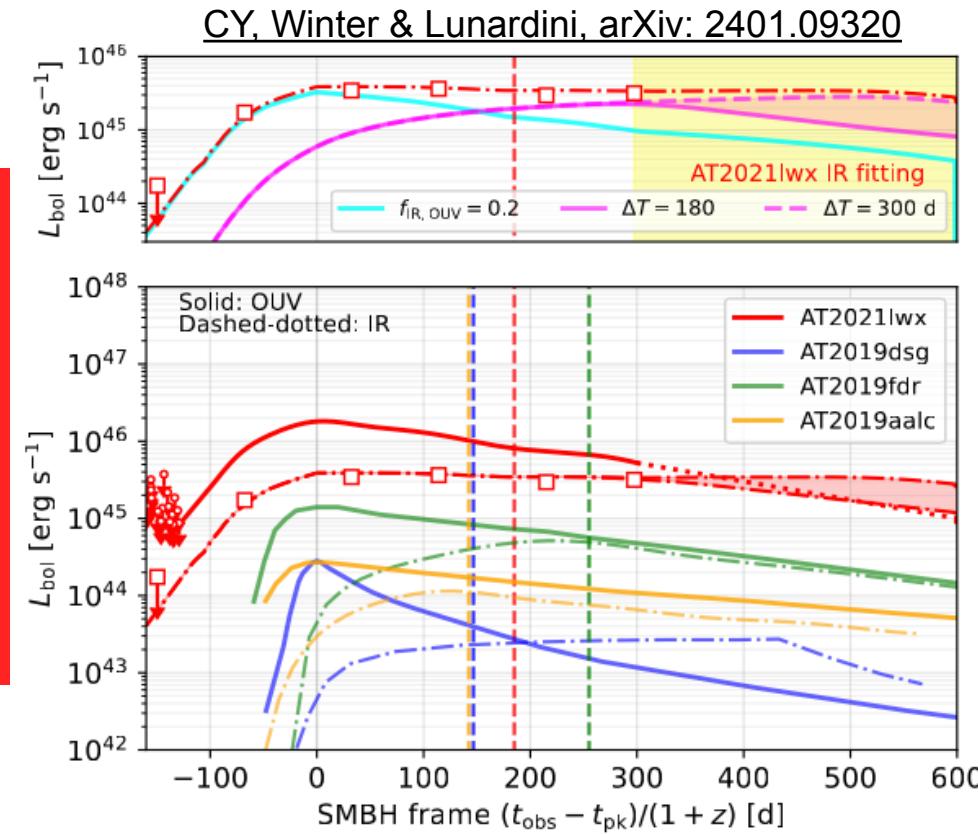
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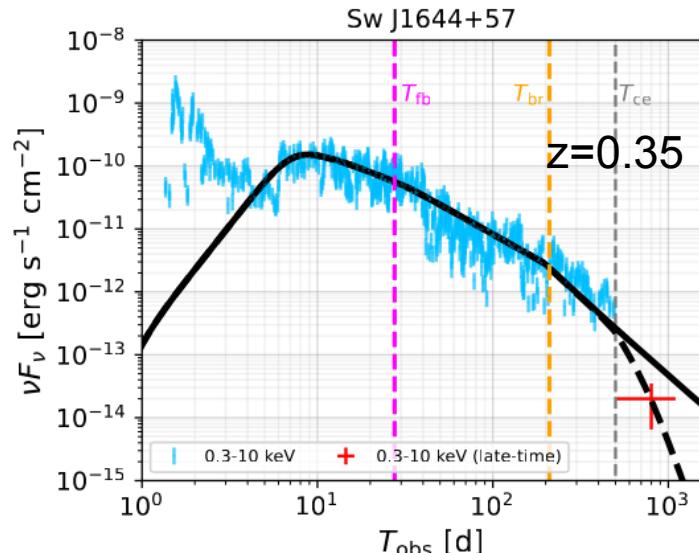
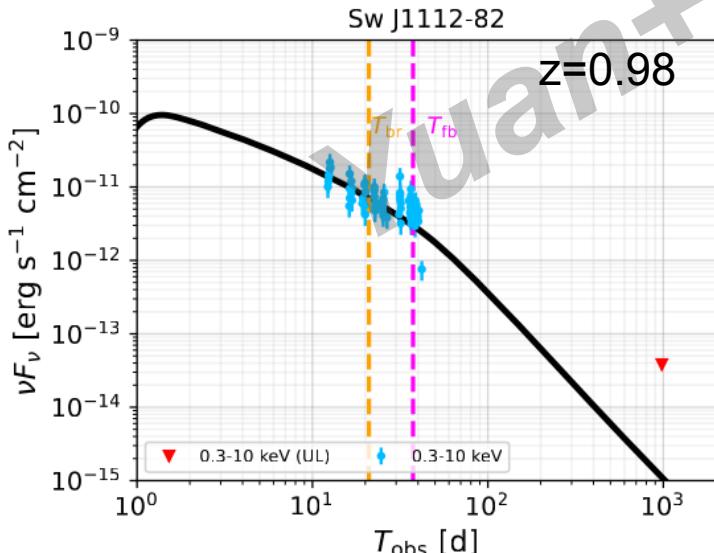
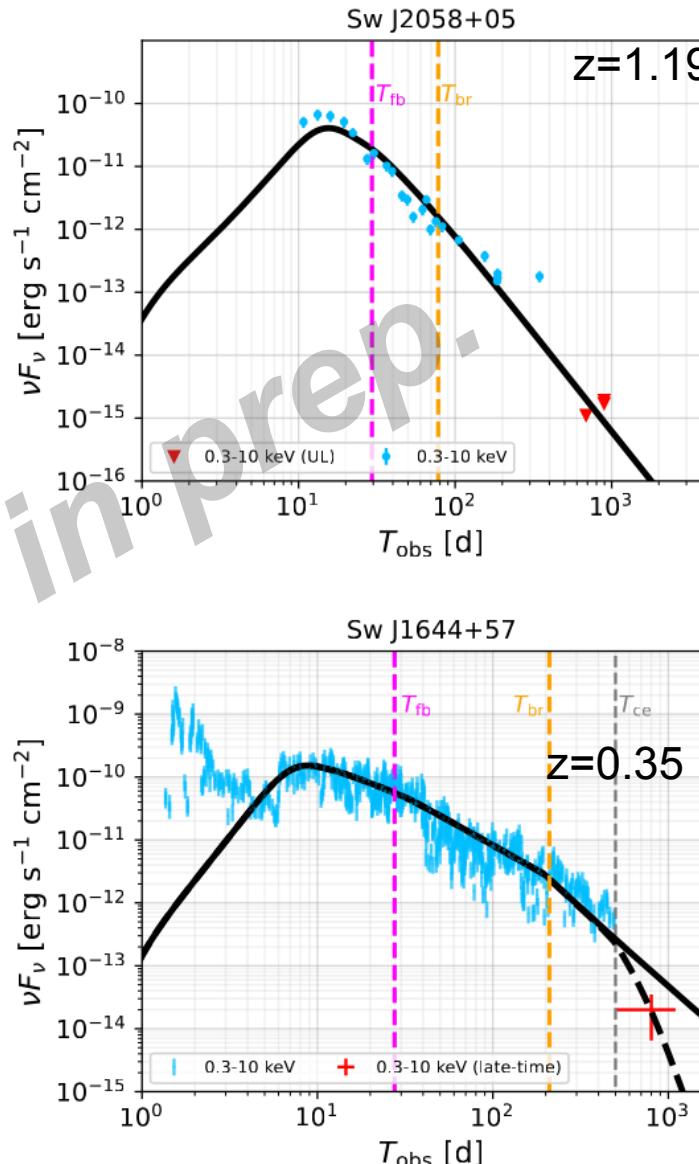
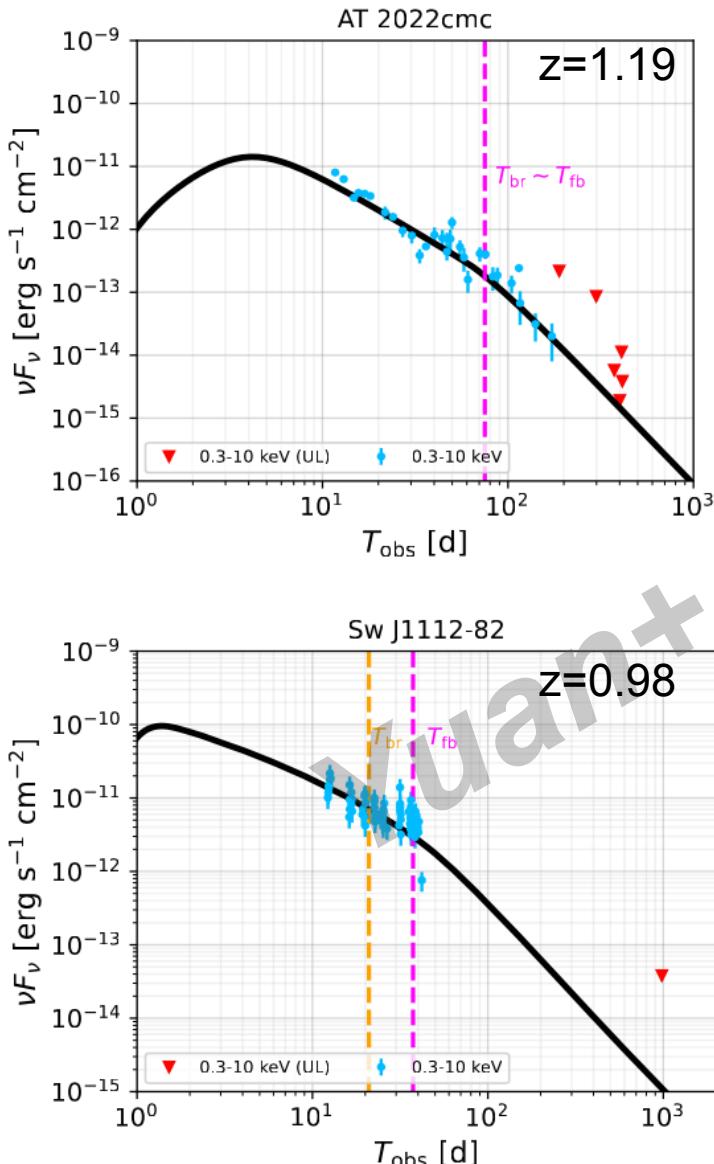
Refined correlation studies with IceCube systematics are need to confirm or exclude these correlations!

AT 2021lwx (Subrayan+ 2023, z~1.0)

- Likely correlated with neutrino IC220405B: angular deviation ~ 2.6 deg; neutrino time delay in SMBH frame: 185 d



Neutrinos from jetted TDEs



4 TDEs/candidates with luminous jets and fast-decaying X-ray afterglows:

- AT 2022cmc
- Sw 1112-82
- Sw1644+57
- Sw 2058+05

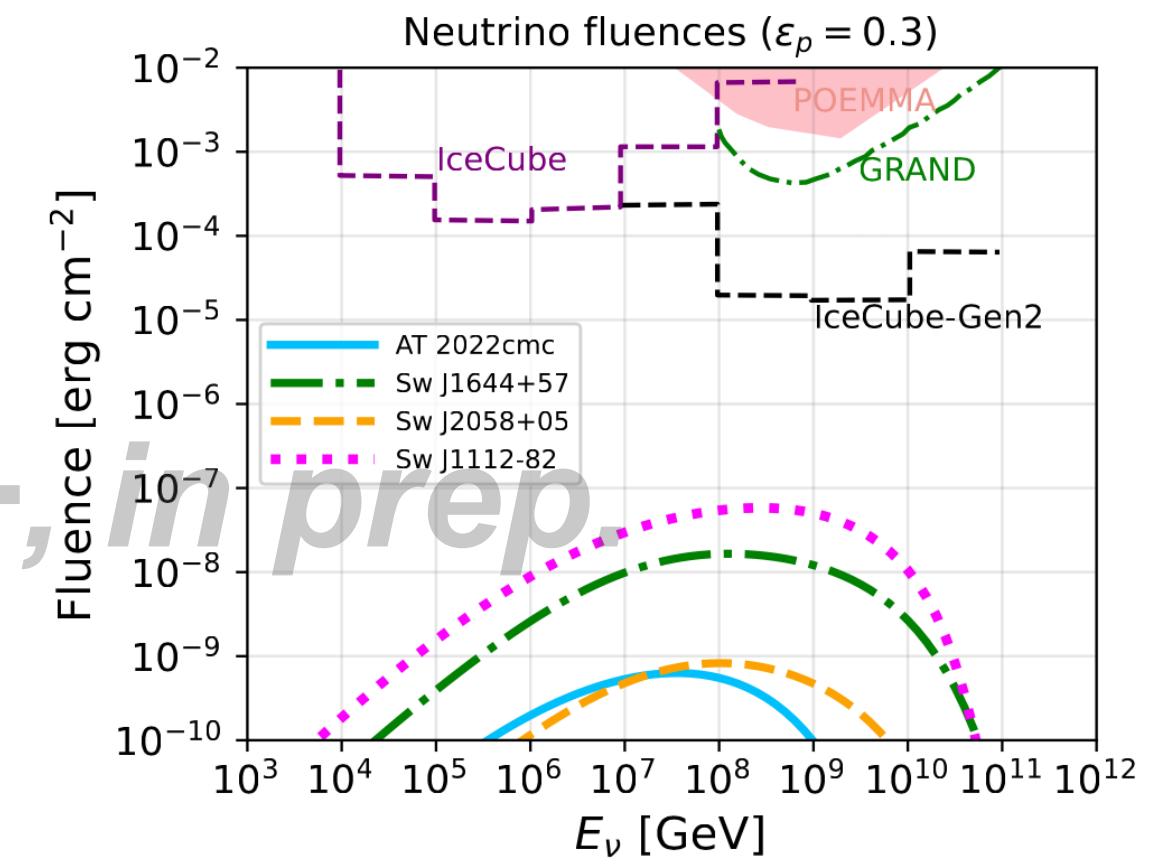
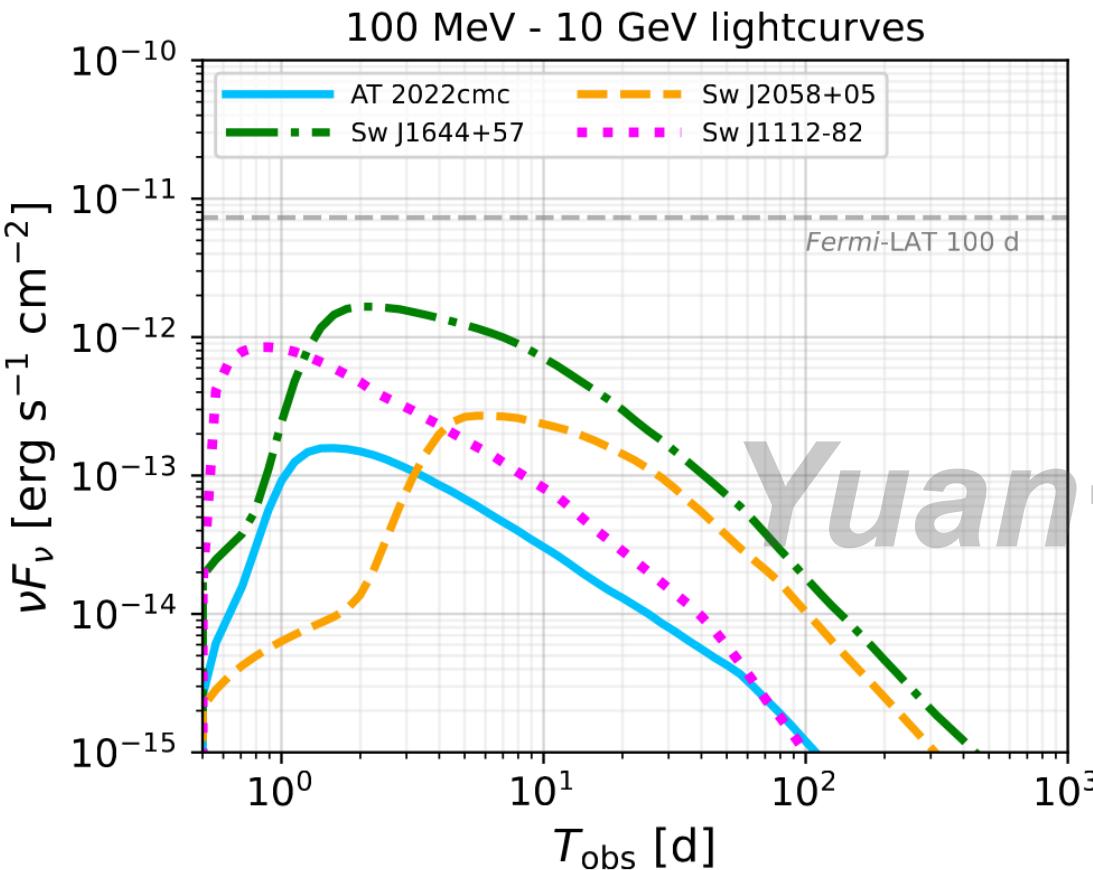
Early-time X-ray afterglows of 4 jetted TDEs → jet reverse shock model

CY, Zhang, Winter & Murase, arXiv: 2406.11513 (ApJ in press)

Neutrinos from jetted TDEs

Gamma-ray and neutrino detectability

- 4 jetted TDEs: lower than Fermi-LAT 100d; Detection horizon for AT2022cmc-like TDEs: $z = 0.17$, rate $\sim 0.02\text{-}0.1$ per year
- Neutrino fluence from jetted TDEs: two orders lower than IceCube-Gen2 sensitivity \leftarrow low target photon density for $p\gamma$



Summary

- Isotropic wind + dust echo (IR): neutrino time-delay signatures of AT2019dsg/fdr/aalc, [AT2021wx](#)
- EM cascade processes in TDE winds can produce detectable (hard) X-ray/ γ -ray emissions. [The model can be tested/constrained by future observations or current upper limits.](#)
- \sim 10-100 days time delay is caused by $p\gamma$ timescale and delayed IR photons.
- To be an efficient neutrino emitter, the accompanying cascade emission would exceed the X-ray/ γ -ray constraints. [Fermi upper limits implies \$\lesssim 0.1\$ neutrinos per TDE!](#) (Obscured zone? Expanding Wind?)

Future Imaging Air Cherenkov Telescopes (IACTs) touch down to 10^{-13} erg/s/cm² in 50 GeV - 50 TeV range. TDE electromagnetic cascades would be interesting sources.

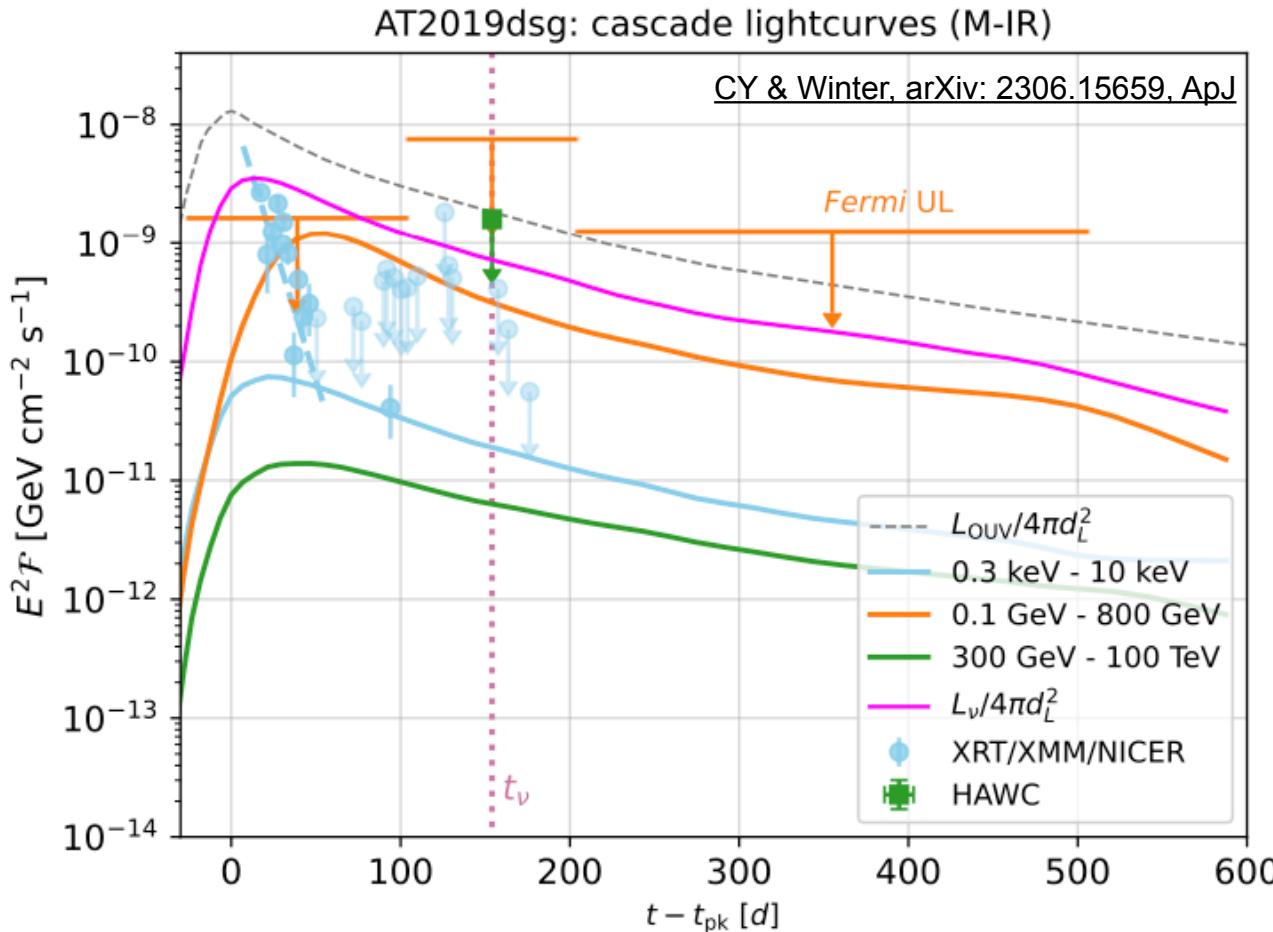
- For extended TDE jets, $p\gamma$ is not efficient unless external photons are introduced.

Thanks for your attention!

Backup Slides

AT2019dsg Temporal signatures

Dust echo IR scenario: $\varepsilon_{\text{diss}} = 0.2$, $B = 0.1$ G, $R = 5 \times 10^{16}$ cm, $E_{p,\text{max}} = 5 \times 10^9$ GeV



Rapid (exponential) decay of early X-ray light curve:

- Cannot be explained by our model
- Accretion disk cooling?

Fermi-LAT up limits

Interval	MJD Start	MJD Stop	UL [$\text{erg cm}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$]
G1	58577	58707	2.6×10^{-12}
G2	58707	58807	1.2×10^{-11}
G3	58577	58879	2.0×10^{-12}

Extended Data Fig. 7 | Gamma-ray energy flux upper-limits for AT2019dsg. The values are derived assuming a point-source with power-law index $\Gamma=2.0$ at the position of AT2019dsg, integrated over the analysis energy range 0.1–800 GeV.

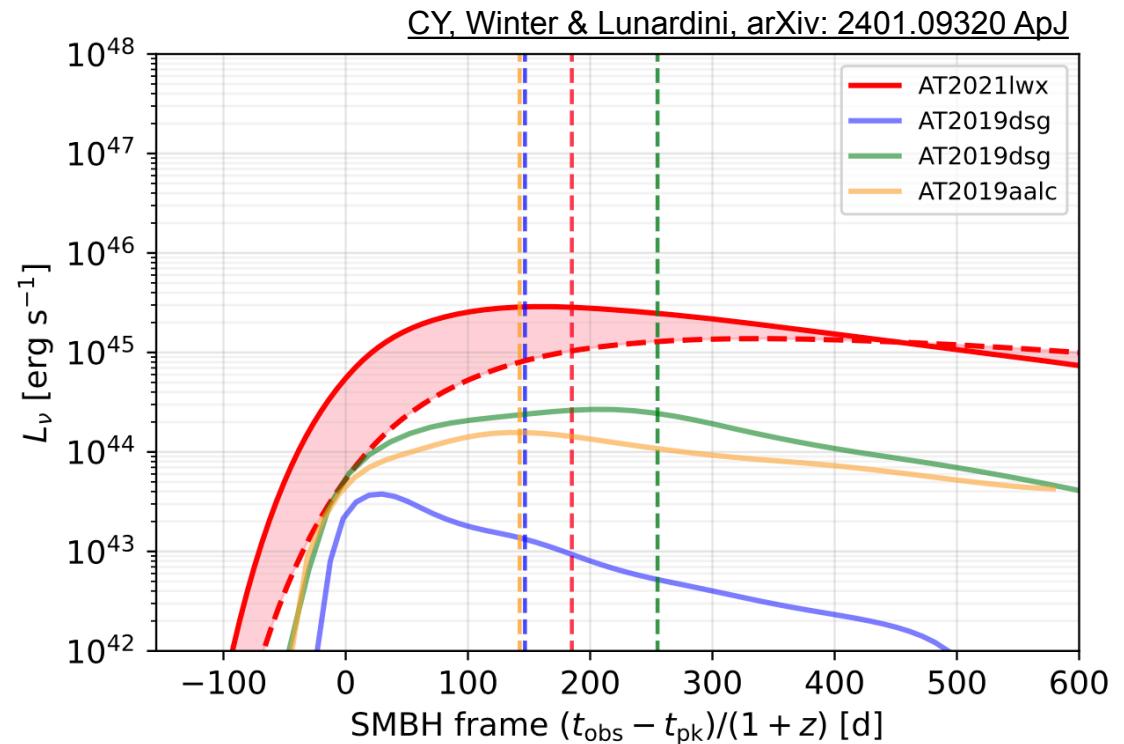
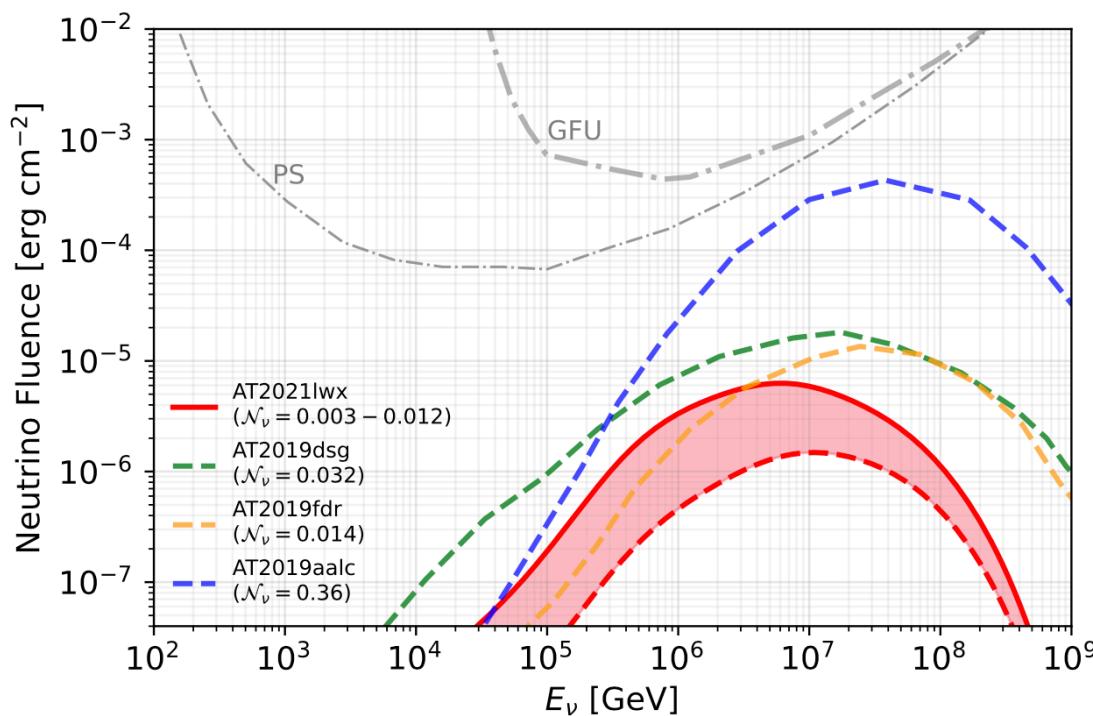
Stein et al. 2021

~50 days time delay is compatible with $p\gamma$
interaction time $t_{p\gamma} \sim 10 - 100$ d

AT2021lwx: neutrinos (wind-IR model)

- **Similarities with other 3 TDEs:** bright thermal OUV emission; strong dust echo (Wiseman+ 2023); similar neutrino time delay in source rest frame
- Neutrino fluences and luminosities also share some similarities

IR time delay [d]	ΔT	180 (330)
Radius [cm]	R_{IR}	5.4×10^{17} (10^{18})
Max proton energy [GeV]	$E_{p,\text{max}}$	1.5×10^9
Magnetic field [G]	B	0.1



Numerical Method: AM³ (Astrophysical Multi-Messenger Modeling)

Numerically solving the coupled PDEs for **electron, proton, neutrons, neutrino and photon distributions**.

$$\partial_t n_i = Q_{i,ext} + \sum_k Q_{int,k \rightarrow i} - \partial_E (\dot{E} \cdot n_i) - (\alpha_{i,esc} + \alpha_{i,adv}) n_i$$

Injection **Cooling** **Escape/Advection**

- An **Open-Source** Tool for **Time-Dependent** Lepto-Hadronic Modeling of Astrophysical Sources
 - Blazars, GRBs, TDEs, etc
- (Klinger, Rudolph, Rodrigues, CY +, arXiv: 2312.13371, ApJS in press)

Electrons/positrons

$$\partial_t N_e = -\partial_x [A_e \cdot N_e - B_e \cdot \partial_x N_e] - (\alpha_{e,esc} + \alpha_{e,annih}) N_e + \epsilon_{e,ext} + \sum \epsilon_{e,internal}$$

Neutrinos

$$\partial_t N_\nu = -\alpha_{\nu,esc} N_\nu + \sum \epsilon_{\nu,int}$$

Photons

$$\partial_t N_\gamma = -(\alpha_{\gamma,esc} + \alpha_{\gamma,ssc} + \alpha_{\gamma,ic} + \alpha_{\gamma,\gamma\gamma} + \alpha_{\gamma,BH} + \alpha_{\gamma,p\gamma}) N_\gamma + \epsilon_{\gamma,ext} + \sum \epsilon_{\gamma,internal}$$

Protons

$$\partial_t N_p = -\partial_x [A_p \cdot N_p - B_p \cdot \partial_x N_p] - (\alpha_{p,esc} + \alpha_{p,p\gamma} + \alpha_{p,pp}) N_p + \epsilon_{p,ext}$$

Core Developers:

- Marc Klinger (DESY),
- Annika Rudolph (NBI, DESY),
- Xavier Rodrigues (RUB, DESY),
- Chengchao Yuan (DESY),
- Gaetan Clairfontaine (U. Würzburg)
- Shan Gao (DESY),

Code is now public!

Numerical Method: AM³ (Astrophysical Multi-Messenger Modeling)

Numerically solving the coupled PDEs for **electron, proton, neutrons, neutrino and photon distributions**.

$$\partial_t n_i = Q_{i,ext} + \sum_k \text{Injection}_k Q_{int,k \rightarrow i} - \text{Cooling}_E (\dot{E} \cdot n_i) - (\alpha_{i,esc} + \alpha_{i,adv}) n_i$$

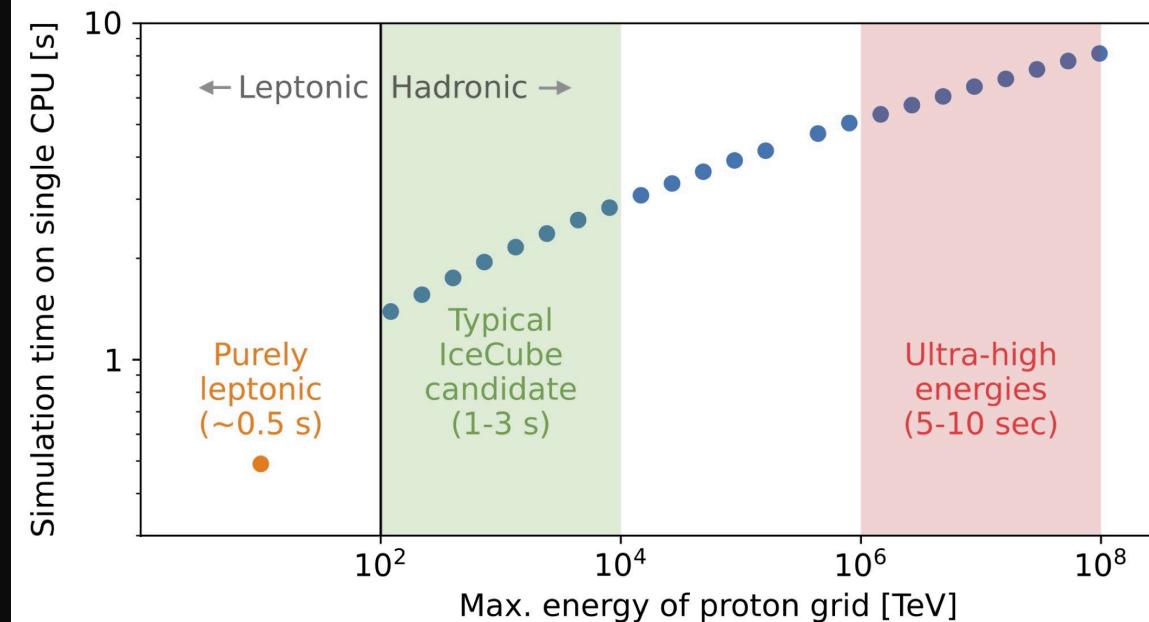
Injection **Cooling** **Escape/Advection**

- An **Open-Source** Tool for **Time-Dependent** Lepto-Hadronic Modeling of Astrophysical Sources
- Blazars, GRBs, TDEs, etc
(Klinger, Rudolph, Rodrigues, CY +, arXiv: 2312.13371, ApJS in press)

The screenshot shows the official documentation for AM³. The top navigation bar includes links for "AM3 documentation", "Welcome to the AM³ (Astrophysical Multi-messenger Modeling) Software!", and "view page source". The main content area features a large logo with overlapping circles labeled γ , p , and ν , and the text "Welcome to the AM³ (Astrophysical Multi-Messenger Modeling) Software!". Below this is an "Overview" section with a detailed description of the software's purpose and capabilities. Other sections include "Installation", "Overview of AM³", "List of switches", "Simple example", "Example 2: Blazar simulation including external fields", "Example 3: Tidal disruption event (TDE) simulation", "Running AM³ with Docker", and "Running AM³ with the native C++".

Performance: C++ source code, python interface

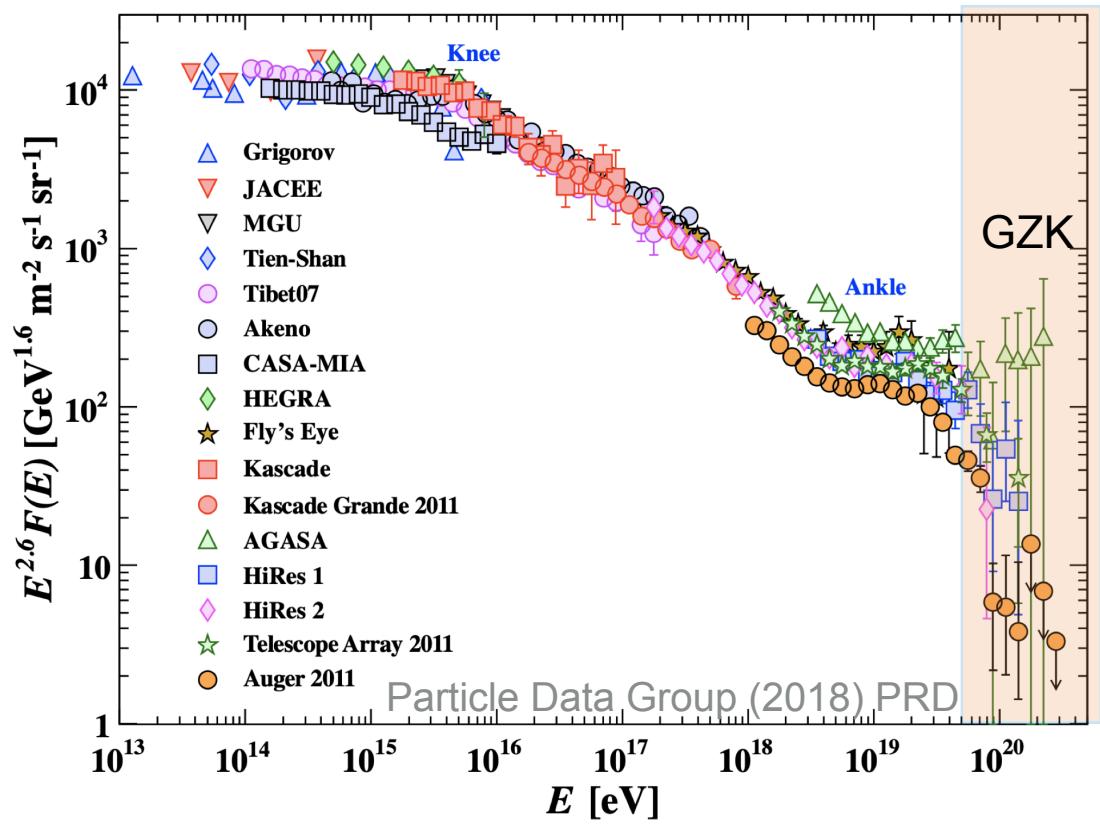
- Simulation: kernel initialization, particle injection, ~30 steps to steady state
- Tested on a single CPU on Apple M2 chip
- Very fast for lepto-hadronic simulations (< 0.5 s/step)



UHECRs

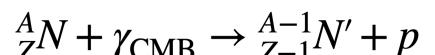
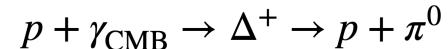
Energetic particle in the Universe:

- Firstly discovered by V.F. Hess (1912), Nobel Prize in 1936
- Composition: p (90%), He (8%), heavy nuclei; energy dependent
- Energy measured up to 10^{19-20} eV (10-100 EeV)
- Origins unknown



Greisen-Zatsepin-Kuzmin (GZK) cutoff:

CR + CMB (2.7K)

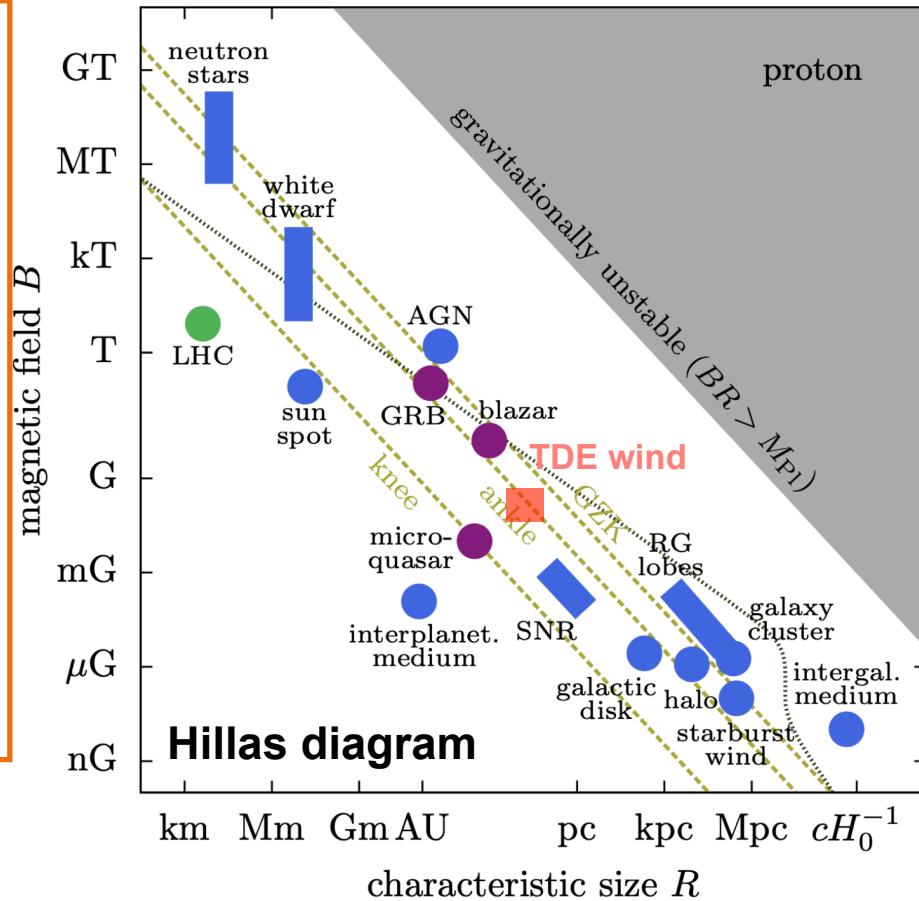


- MFP for 50 EeV protons/heavier nuclei: 50-100 Mpc
- Cutoff above 50 EeV
- Cosmogenic ν

Hillas condition on UHECR energies:

$$E_{\text{cr,max}} \leq (10^{10} \text{ GeV}) Z \left(\frac{B}{0.1 \text{ G}} \right) \left(\frac{R}{0.1 \text{ pc}} \right)$$

TDE wind (0.1-1 G, 0.01-0.1 pc) can accelerate CRs to UHECR “ankle”



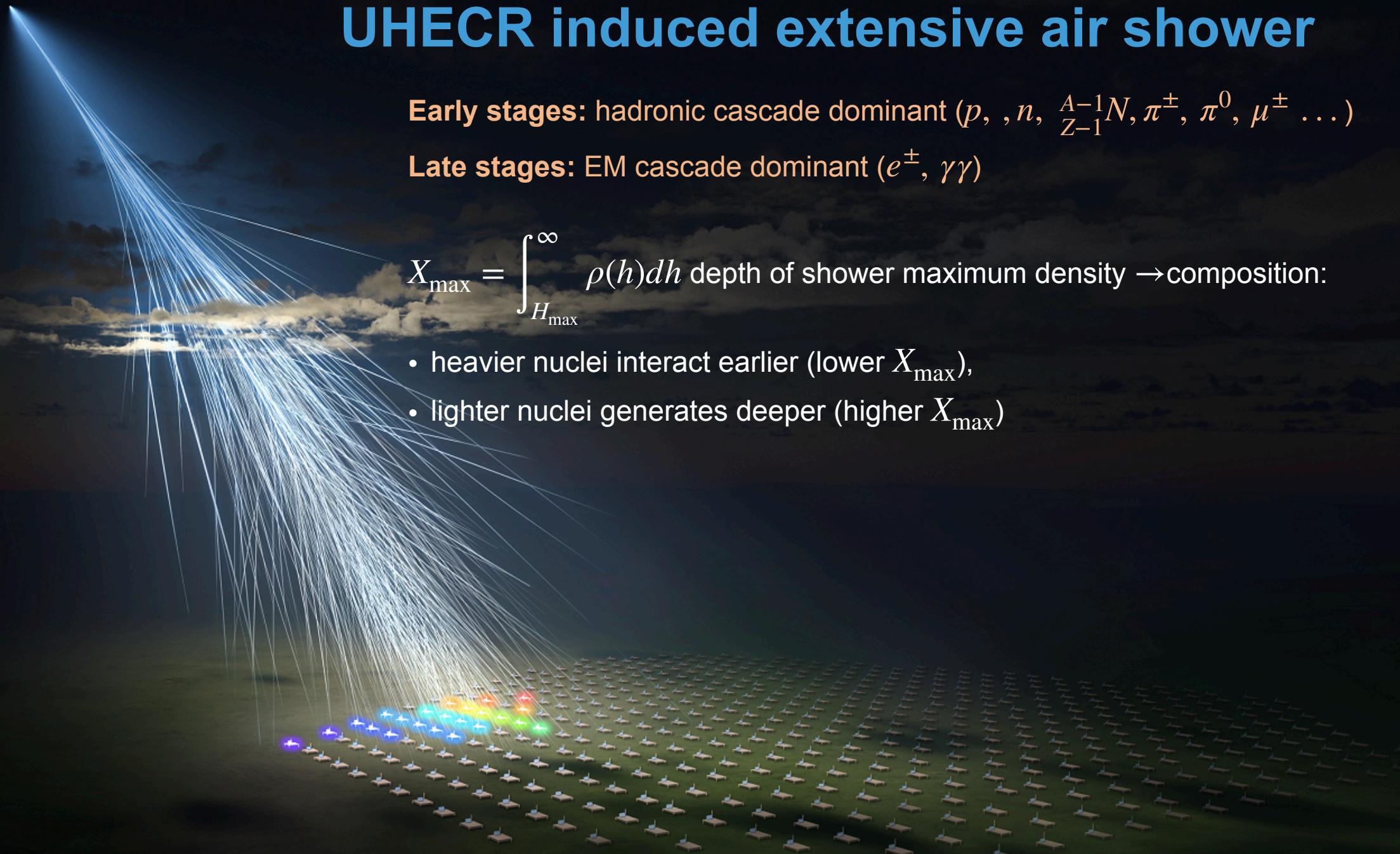
UHECR induced extensive air shower

Early stages: hadronic cascade dominant ($p, , n, {}_{Z-1}^{A-1}N, \pi^\pm, \pi^0, \mu^\pm \dots$)

Late stages: EM cascade dominant ($e^\pm, \gamma\gamma$)

$$X_{\max} = \int_{H_{\max}}^{\infty} \rho(h) dh \text{ depth of shower maximum density} \rightarrow \text{composition:}$$

- heavier nuclei interact earlier (lower X_{\max}),
- lighter nuclei generates deeper (higher X_{\max})



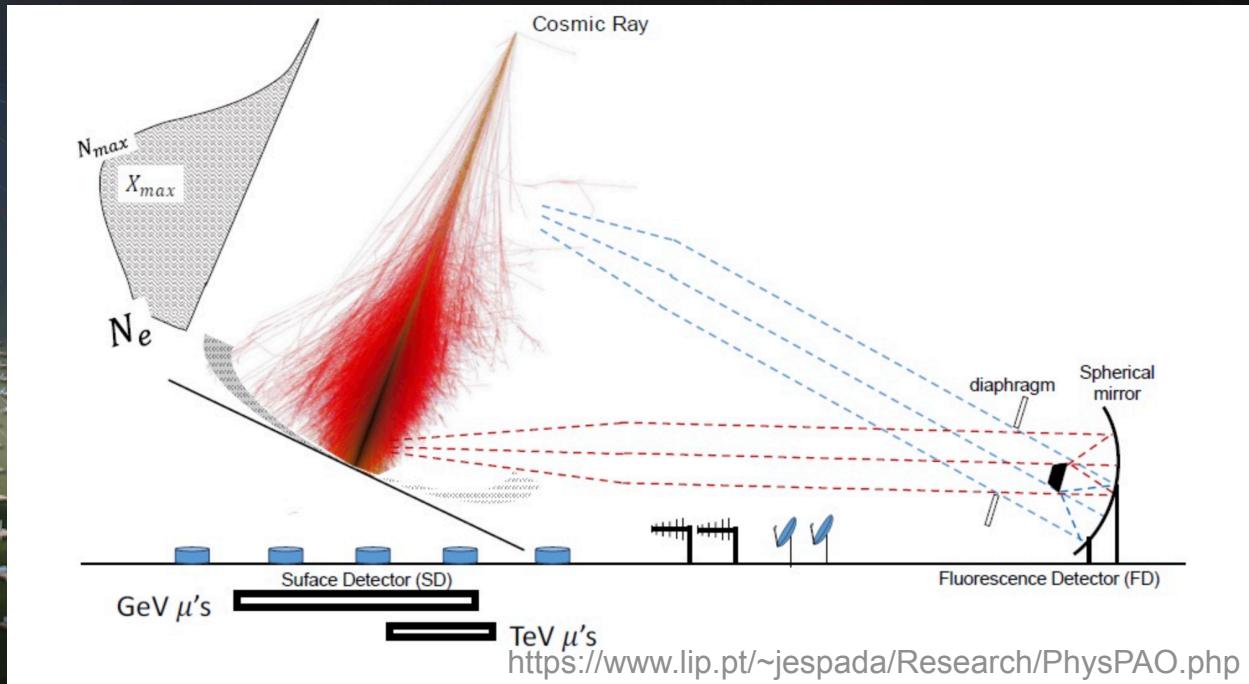
UHECR induced extensive air shower

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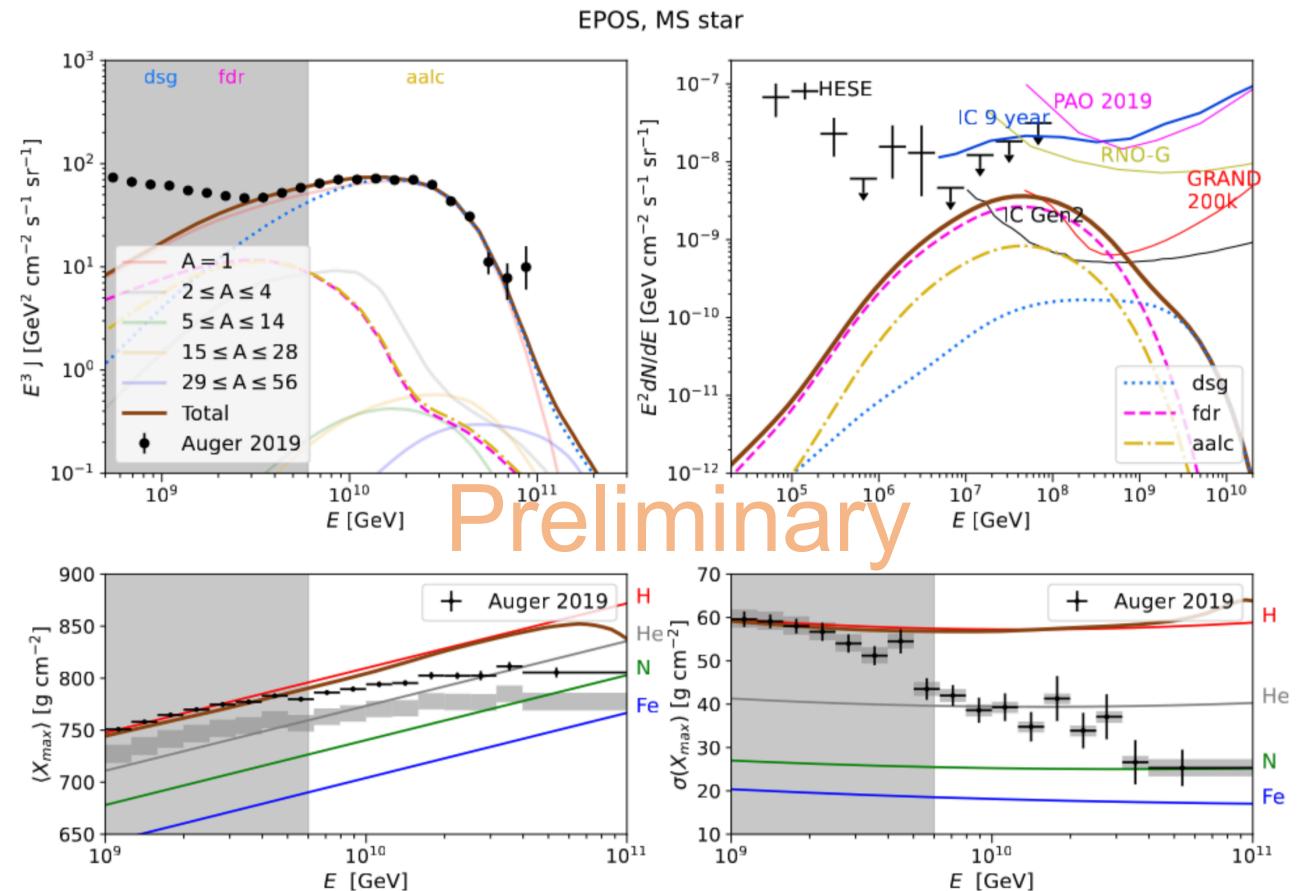
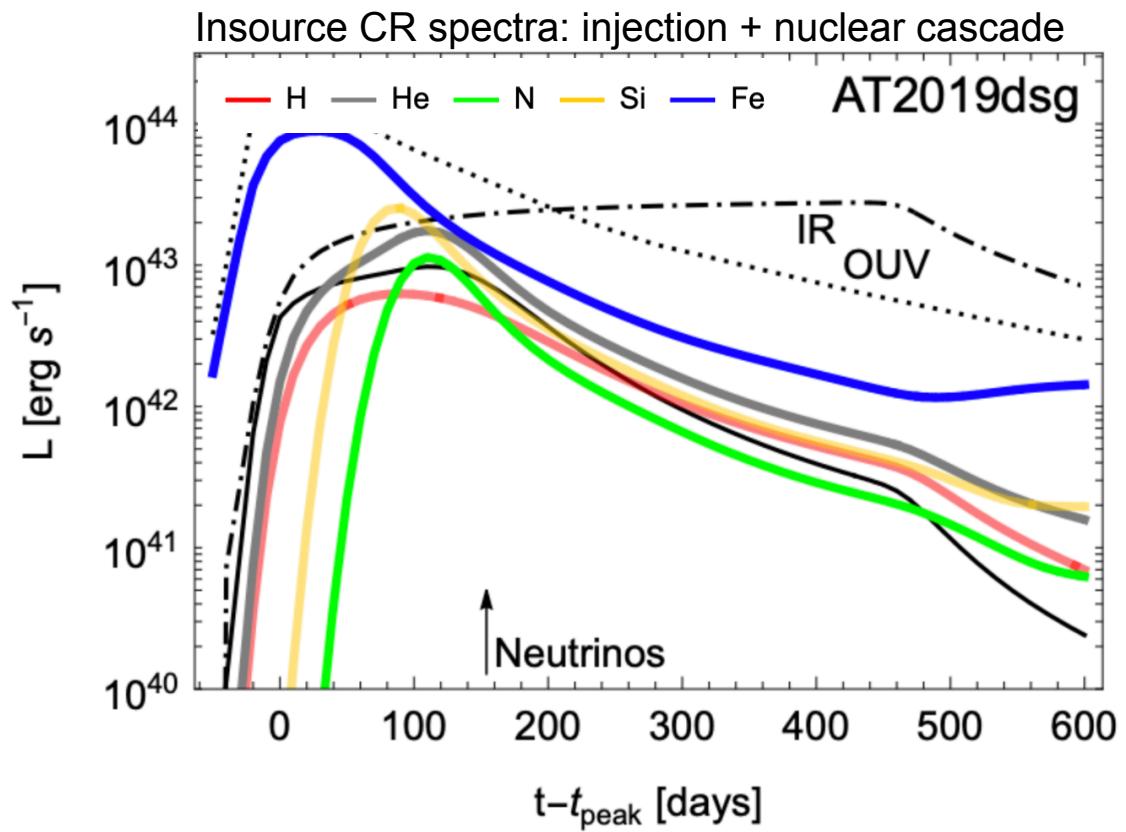
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UHECRs from TDEs

Disrupted stars: main sequence (MS), red giant (RG), white dwarf (WD)

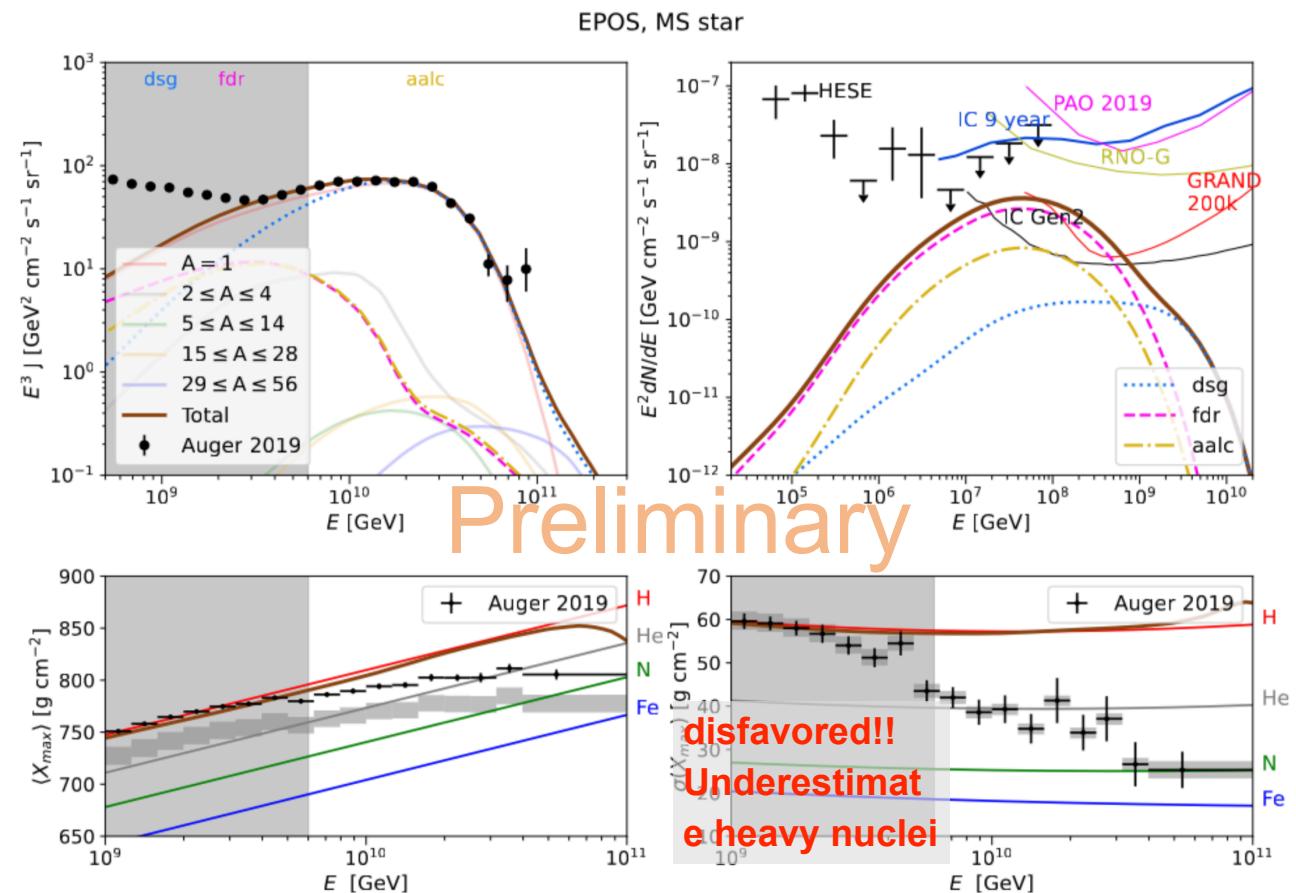
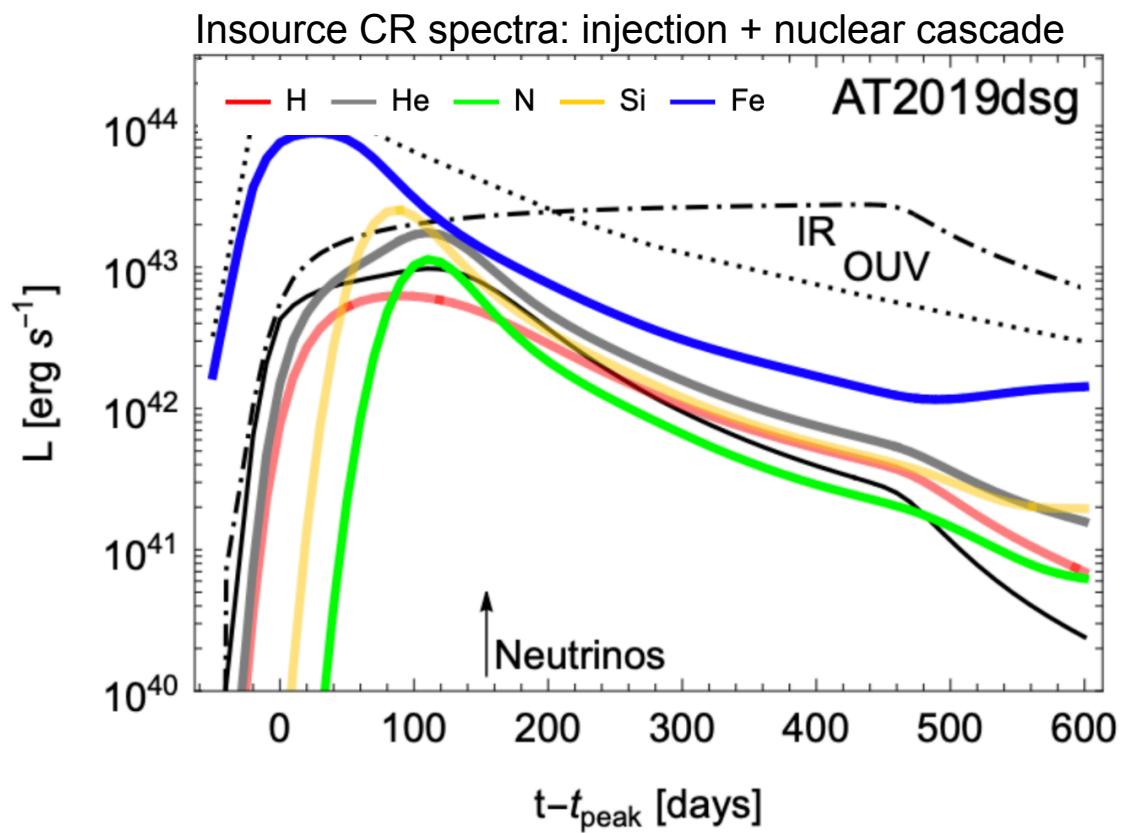
- Parameters: local rate, redshift distribution constructed from AT2019dsg/fdr/aalc;
- To be fitted: spectra + composition + IceCube diffuse ν (TDE + Cosmogenic)
- Fiducial case: composition of accelerated elements = composition of disrupted stars (**disfavored!!**)



UHECRs from TDEs

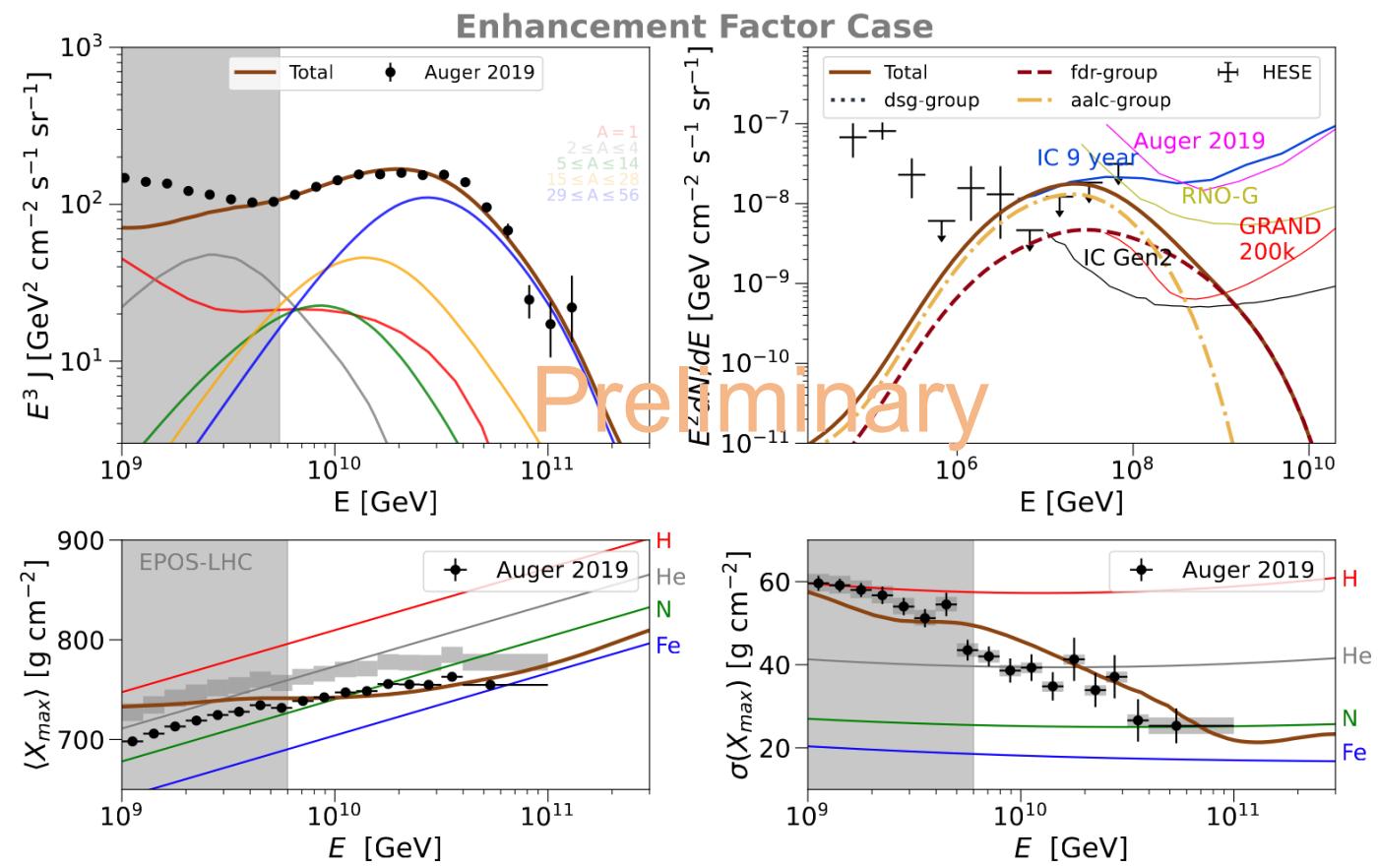
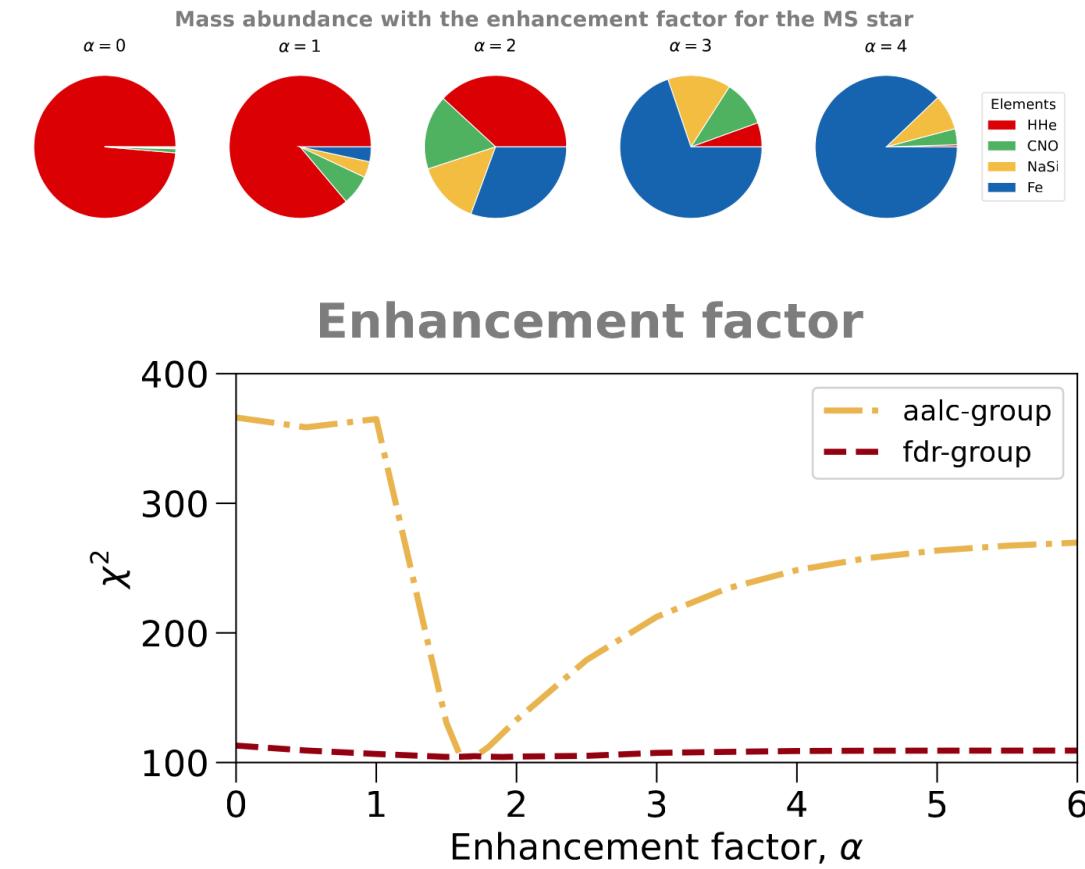
Disrupted stars: main sequence (MS), red giant (RG), white dwarf (WD)

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- Fiducial case: composition of accelerated elements = composition of disrupted stars (**disfavored!!**)



UHECRs from TDEs

- Z-dependent acceleration fraction $f_X \propto (A_X/Z_X^{\text{ion}})^\alpha$: heavier nuclei can be more efficiently accelerated (Caprioli+17, Hanusch+ 19)
- $\alpha = 1.6$ is favored statistically, consistent with simulations ($\alpha \sim 1 - 2$)
- Boosted acceleration for heavy nuclei is needed! Local rate $\rho_0 \sim \mathcal{O}(100) \text{ Gpc}^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ for main sequence stars.

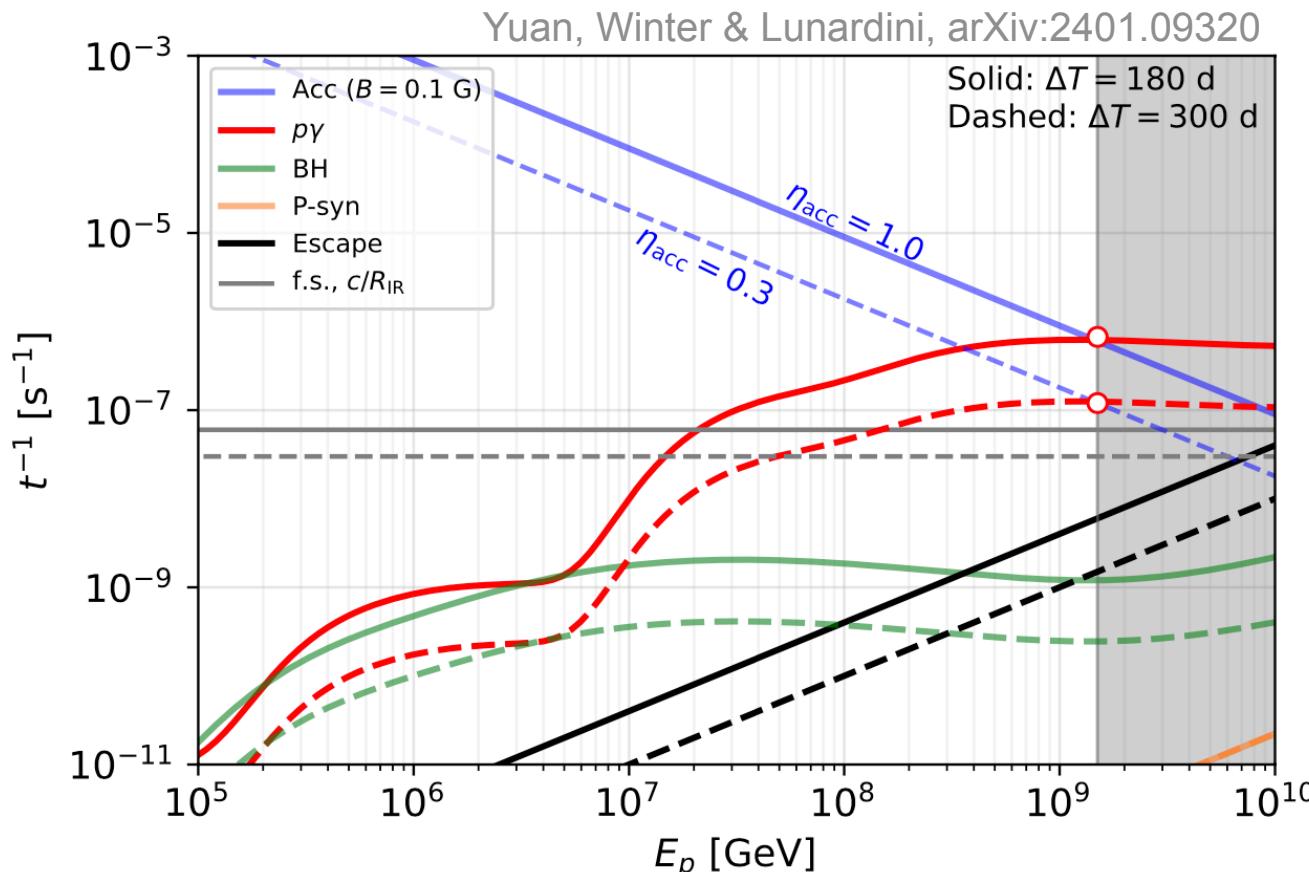


Proton maximum energy

$$\text{Acceleration rate : } t_{\text{acc}}^{-1} = \eta_{\text{acc}} c / R_L = \eta_{\text{acc}} e B c / E_p$$

Larger η_{acc} \rightarrow more efficient acceleration

E_{max} is achievable for a reasonable $\eta_{\text{acc}} \sim 0.3 - 1$ by balancing acc. rate (blue lines) to energy loss rate (red curves), similar to AT2019dsg/fdr/aalc



Test lepton (e^\pm) injections

Electron injection spectra

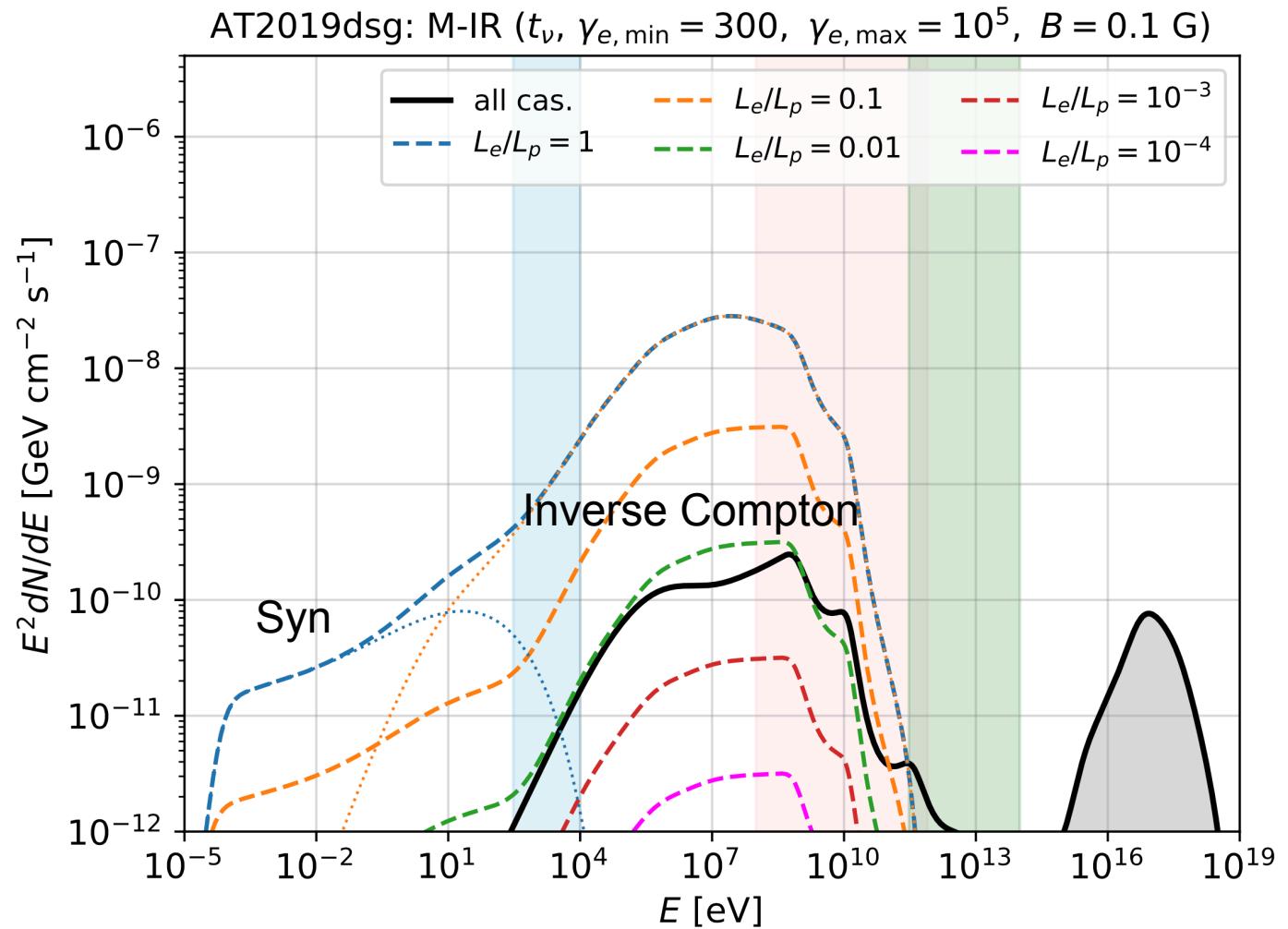
- $dN_e/d\gamma_e \propto \gamma_e^{-2}$
- $\gamma_{e,\min} = 300, \gamma_{e,\max} = 10^5$ (AGNs)
- Magnetic field 0.1 G
- Lepton loading factor L_e/L_p varies from 10^{-4} to 1 (magenta to blue dashed lines).

Cascade emission dominates if

$$L_e/L_p < 10^{-2}$$

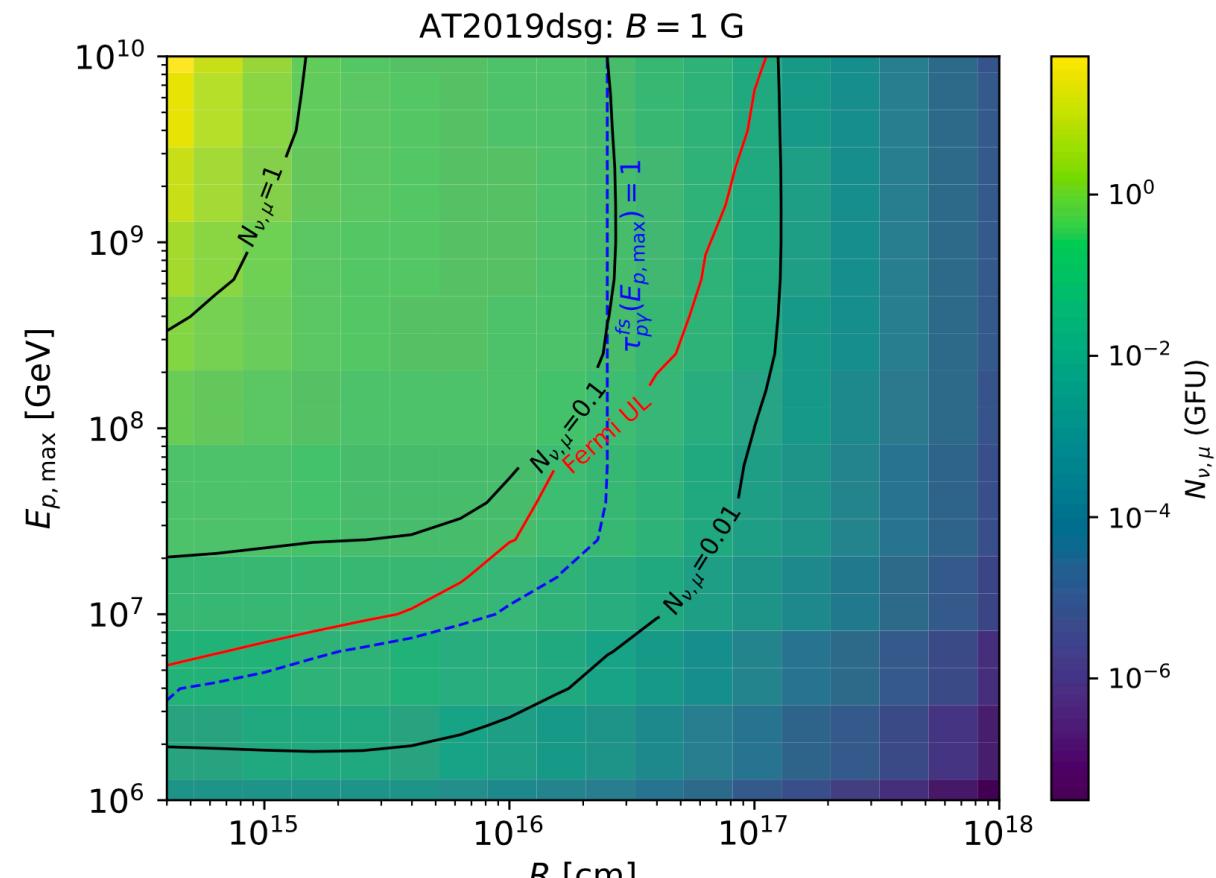
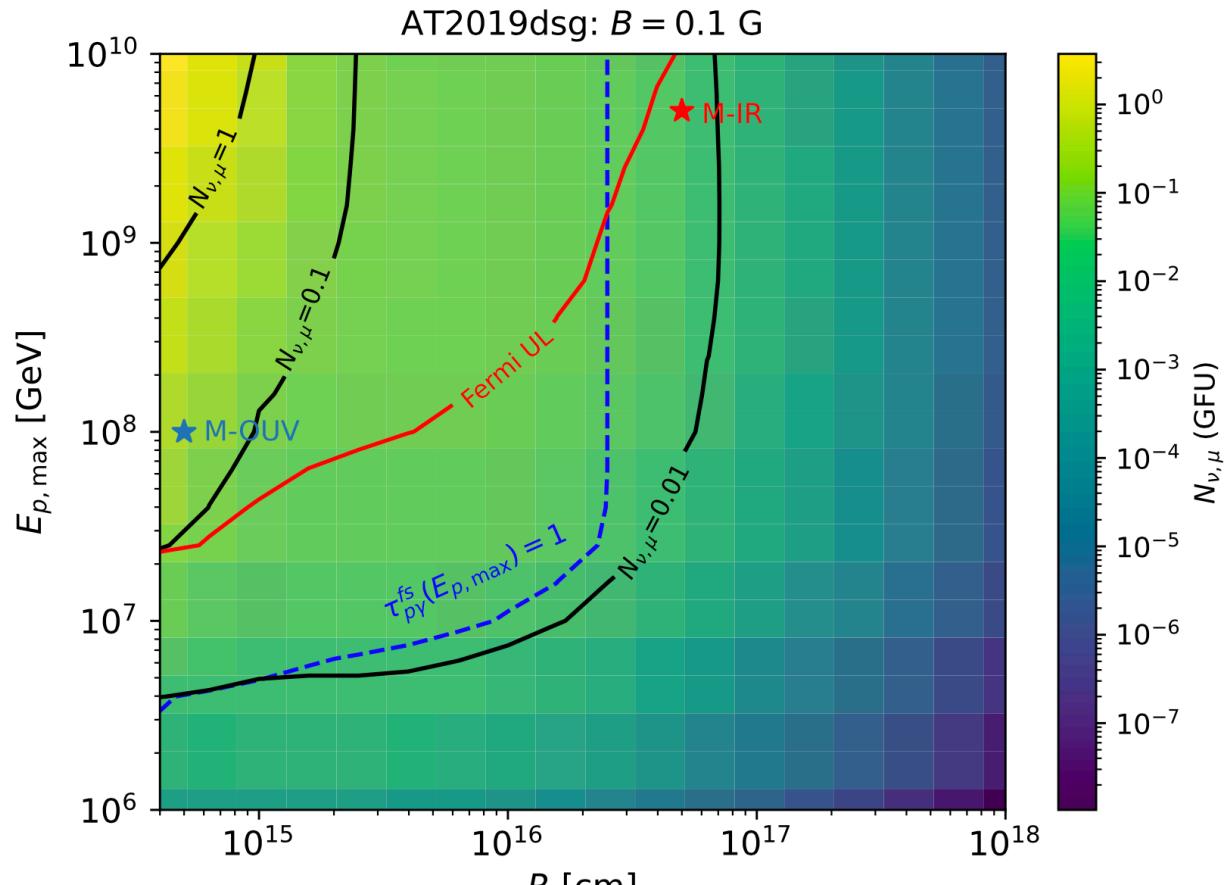
(Supported by the absence of radio signals accompanying OUV/IR)

Caveat: leptonic contribution depends on electron minimum energy and magnetic field strengths



Constraints on $E_{p,\max}$, R and neutrino rates: impact of B

- CRs are more strongly confined with a stronger magnetic field, which enables a less compact region to be a promising neutrino emitter. (Easier to overshoot γ -ray up limits)
- Conclusions do not change significantly



Yuan & Winter 2023 ApJ 956:30