

Contribution of young massive stellar clusters to the Galactic diffuse γ -ray emission

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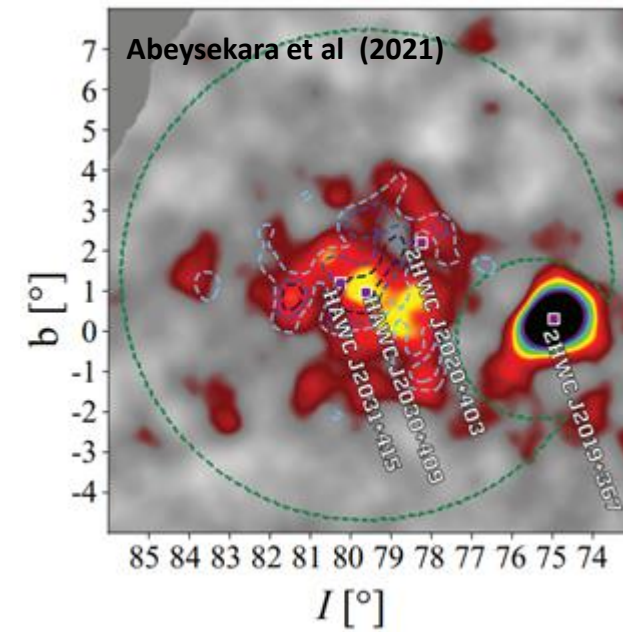
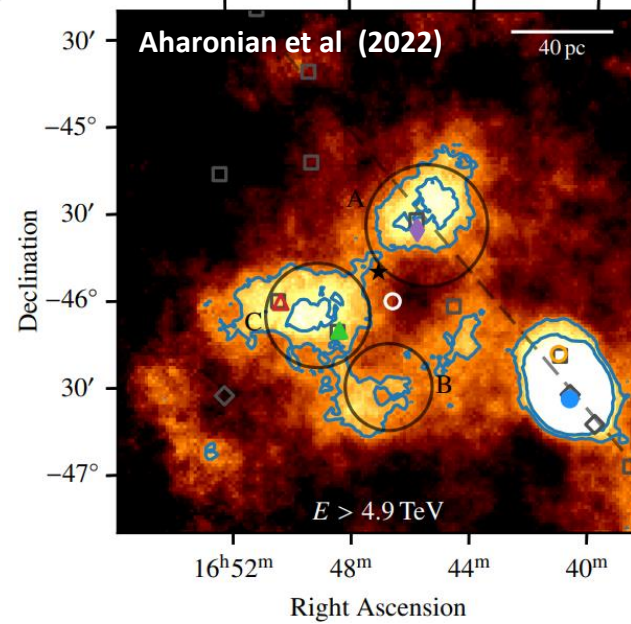
Young massive star clusters (YMSC): Cosmic rays and γ -ray sources

YMSCs: Clusters of hundreds OB-type ($M_{\star} > 3 M_{\odot}$) stars packed in few pc.
Young: Age < 10 Myr
Massive: $M_{SC} > 10^3 M_{\odot}$

Several cosmic ray (CR) acceleration mechanisms proposed in YMSCs.

A few examples:

- Acceleration in massive stars winds (Casse & Paul, 1980)
- Acceleration in cluster wind termination shock (TS) (Morlino et al., 2021)
 - Acceleration in cluster core by SNRs (Vieu et al. 2022, Vieu & Reville 2023)



γ -ray emission detected in coincidence with **12 YMSC!**

Name	$\log M/M_{\odot}$	r_c [pc]	D [kpc]	Age [Myr]	L_w [erg s $^{-1}$]
Westerlund 1	4.6 ± 0.045	1.5	4	4 – 6	10
Westerlund 2	4.56 ± 0.035	1.1	2.8 ± 0.4	1.5 – 2.5	2
Cygnus OB2	4.7 ± 0.3	5.2	1.4	2 – 7	2
NGC 3603	4.1 ± 0.1	1.1	6.9	2 – 3	-
BDS 2003	4.39	0.2	4	1	-
W40	2.5	0.44	0.44	1.5	-
RSGC 1	4.48	1.5	6.6	10 – 14	-
MC 20	~ 3	1.3	3.8 – 5.1	3 – 8	~ 4
NGC 6618	-	3.3	~ 2	< 3	-
30 Dor (LMC)	4.8 – 5.7	multiple	50	1	-
NGC 2070 / RCM 136	4.34 – 5	subcluster		5	

Extended emission

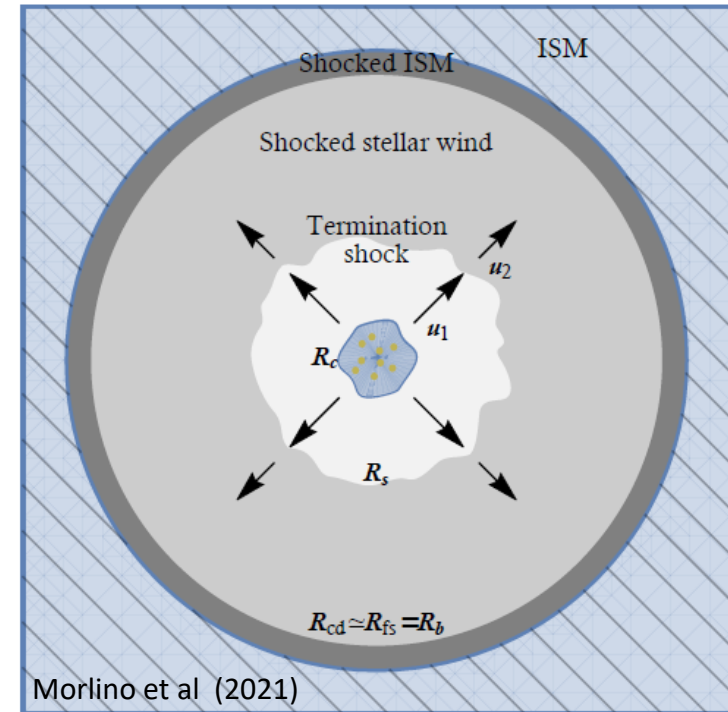
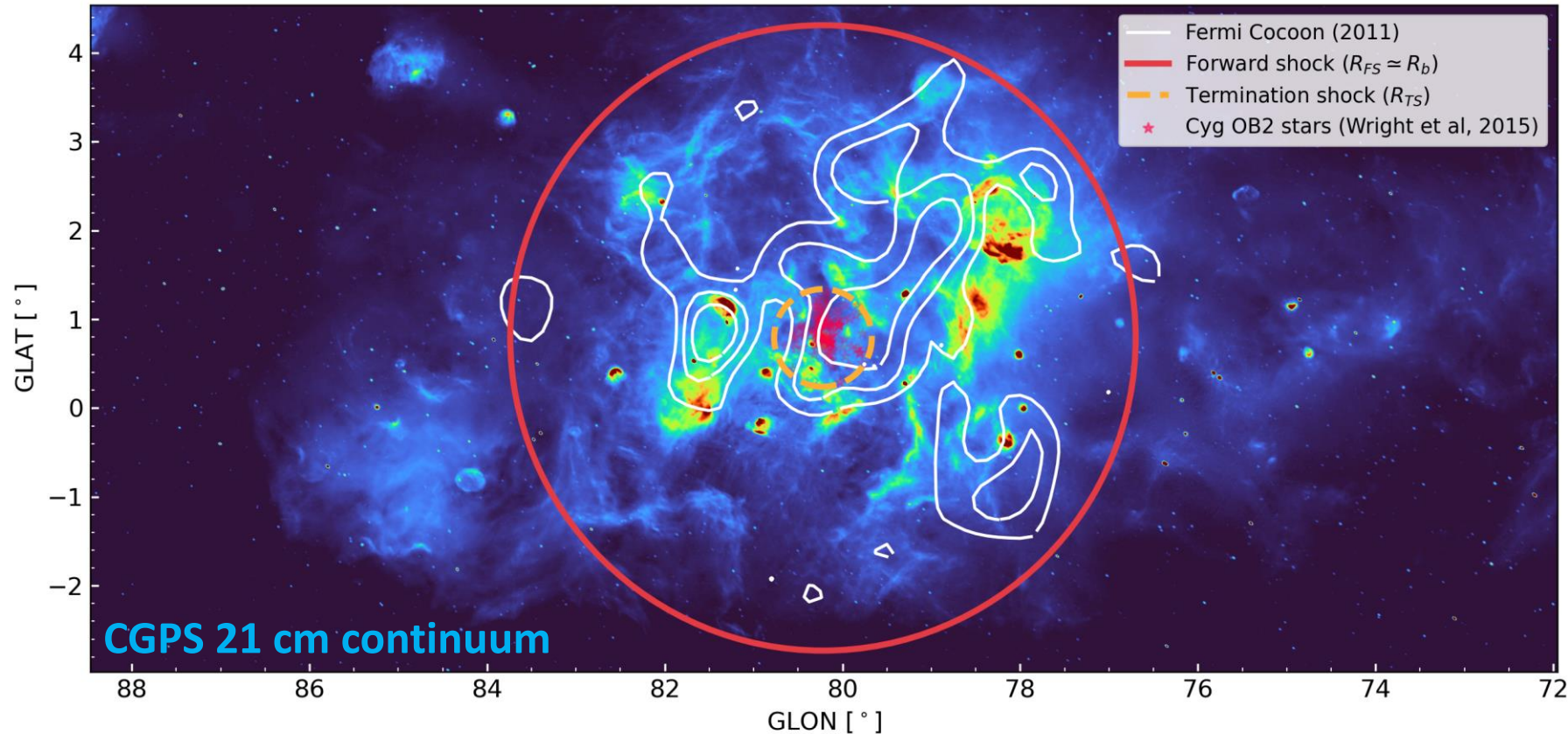
The γ -ray emission is diffuse and extended (1° - 3°)!



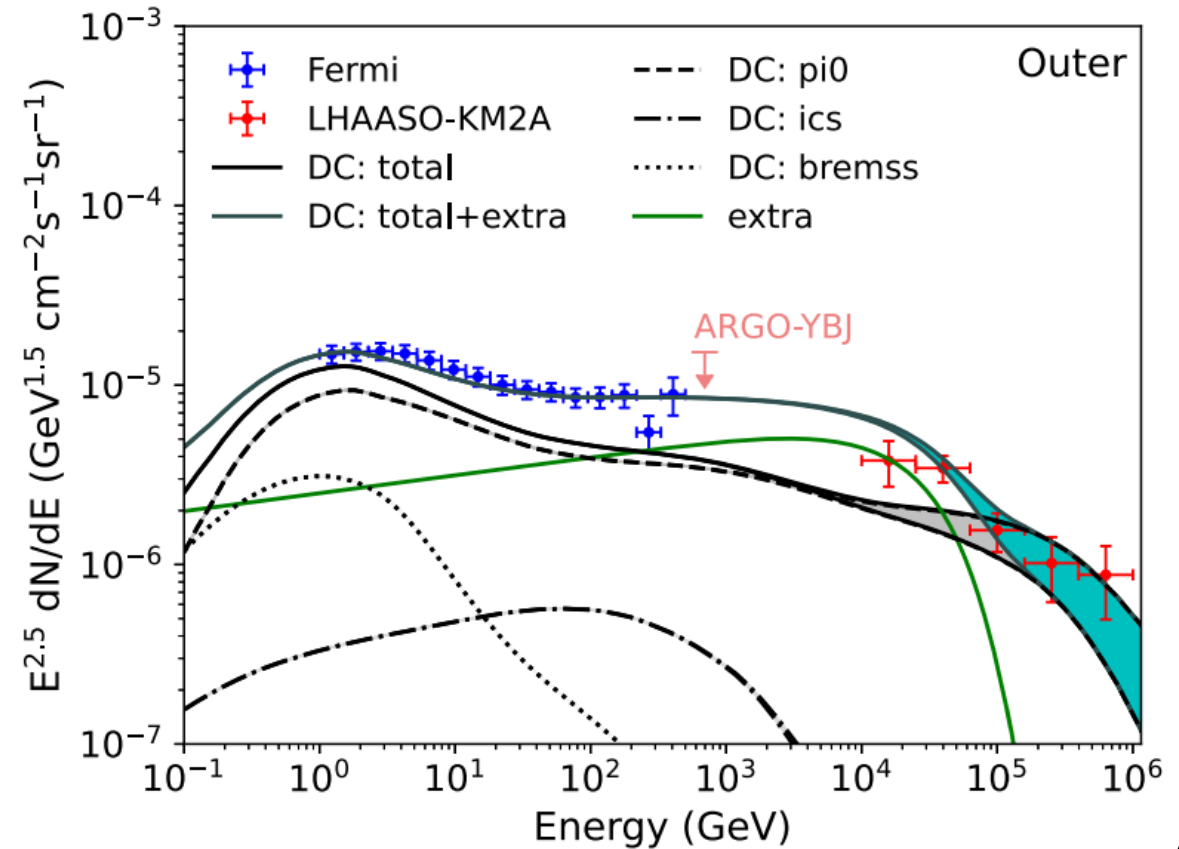
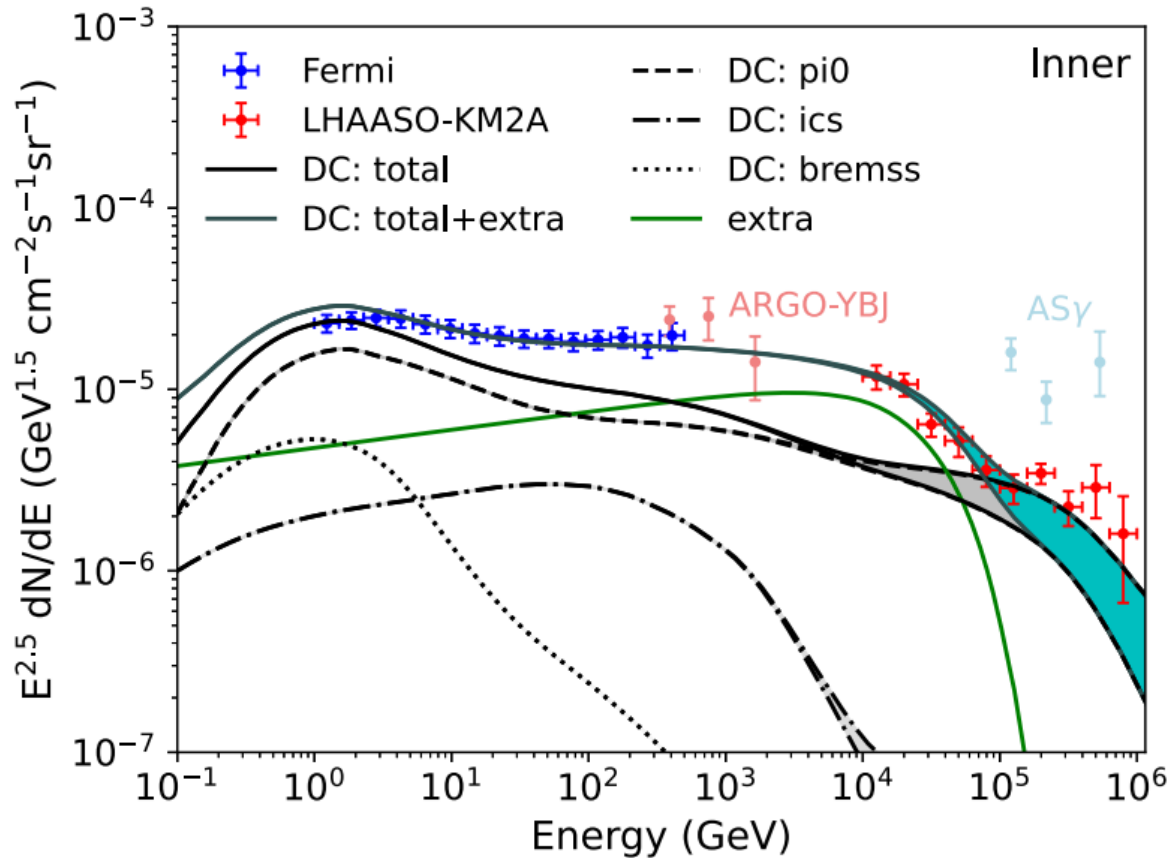
Emission size consistent with projected dimension of wind-blown bubble



Detecting and analyzing diffuse γ -ray emission is a challenging task!
Detection bias for low surface brightness sources



Analysis of GDE (LHAASO+Fermi-LAT) reveals contribution from unresolved sources (Zhang et al 2023)!!!



OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Estimate a lower limit contribution to Galactic diffuse emission from YMSCs
- 2) Comparison with observations
 $15^\circ < l < 125^\circ, |b| < 5^\circ$ (ROI1)
 $125^\circ < l < 235^\circ, |b| < 5^\circ$ (ROI2)

Nota bene:

Population of YMSCs in Milky Way is not known!

Use a synthetic population of YMSC

Work objective

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Estimate a lower limit contribution to Galactic diffuse emission from YMSCs
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Nota bene:

Population of YMSCs in Milky Way is not known!

Use a synthetic population of YMSC

Required ingredients

STEP 1

Modeling galactic population of YMSCs:

Use info from local population of YMSCs

STEP 2

a) Modeling stellar population in a YMSC

b) Modeling stellar wind physics:

Use pure empirical approach

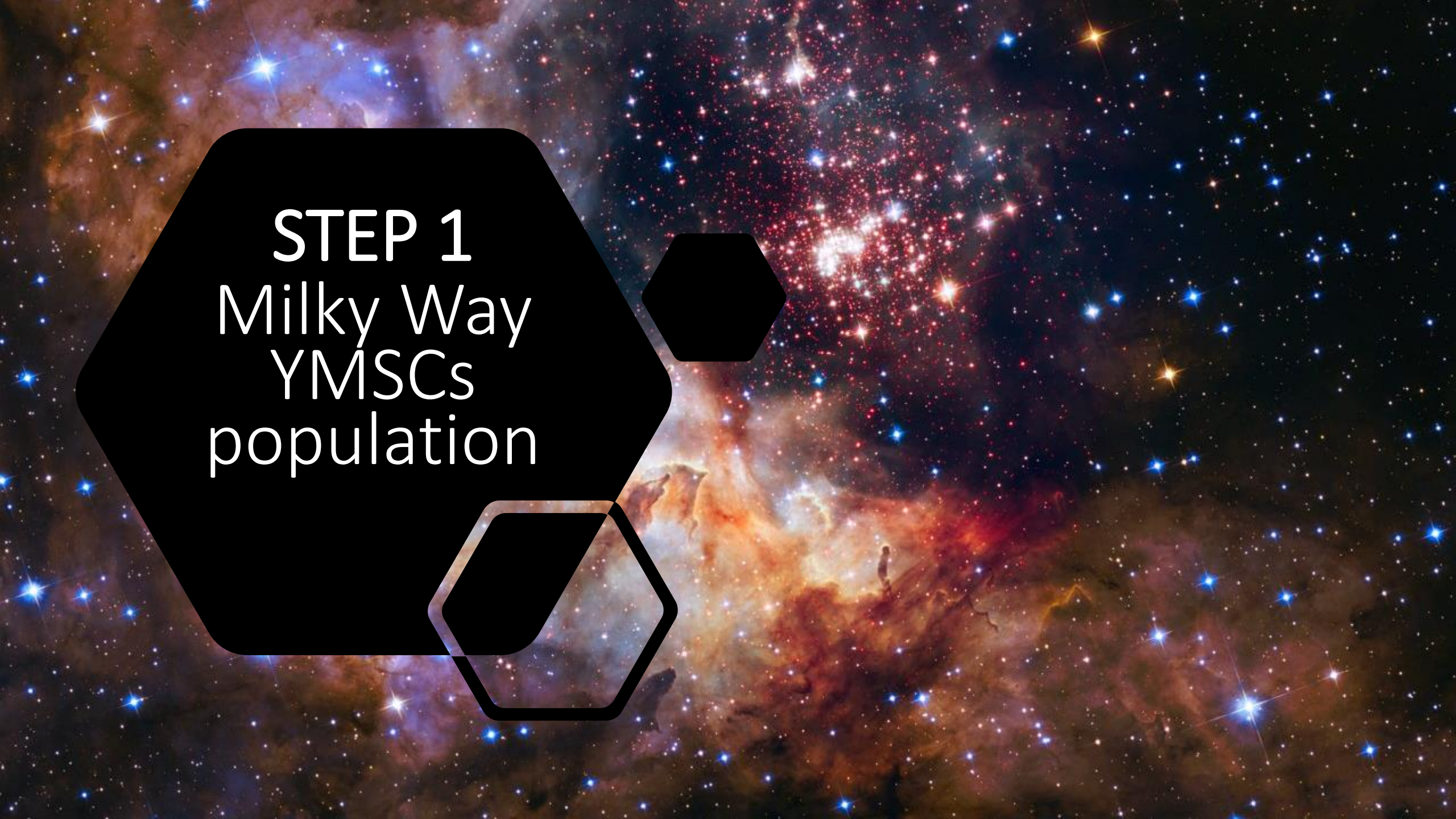
STEP 3

a) Cosmic ray acceleration mechanism:

Acceleration at the cluster wind termination shock (TS) (Morlino et al. 2021)

b) Modeling γ -ray emission:

Pure hadronic emission



STEP 1
Milky Way
YMSCs
population

Synthetic YMSCs population (I)

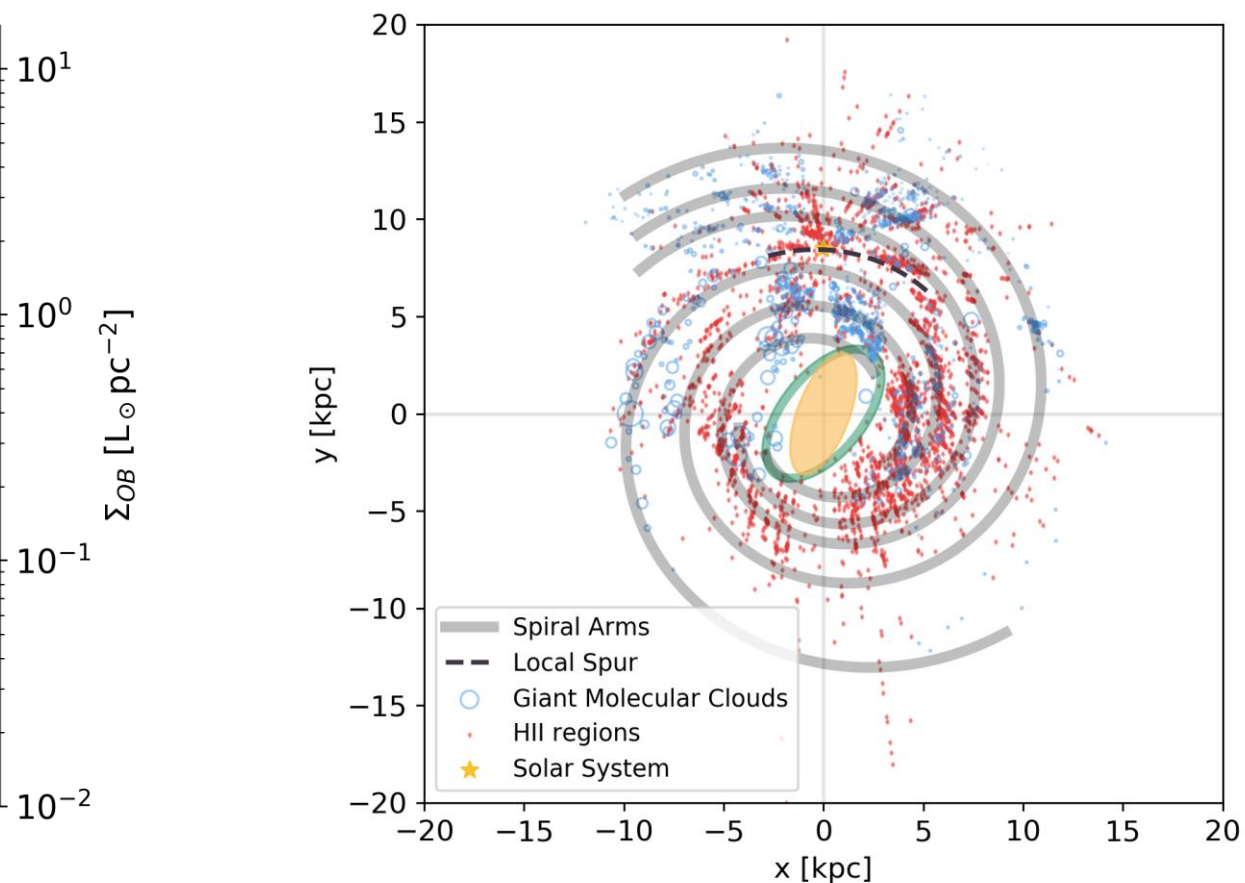
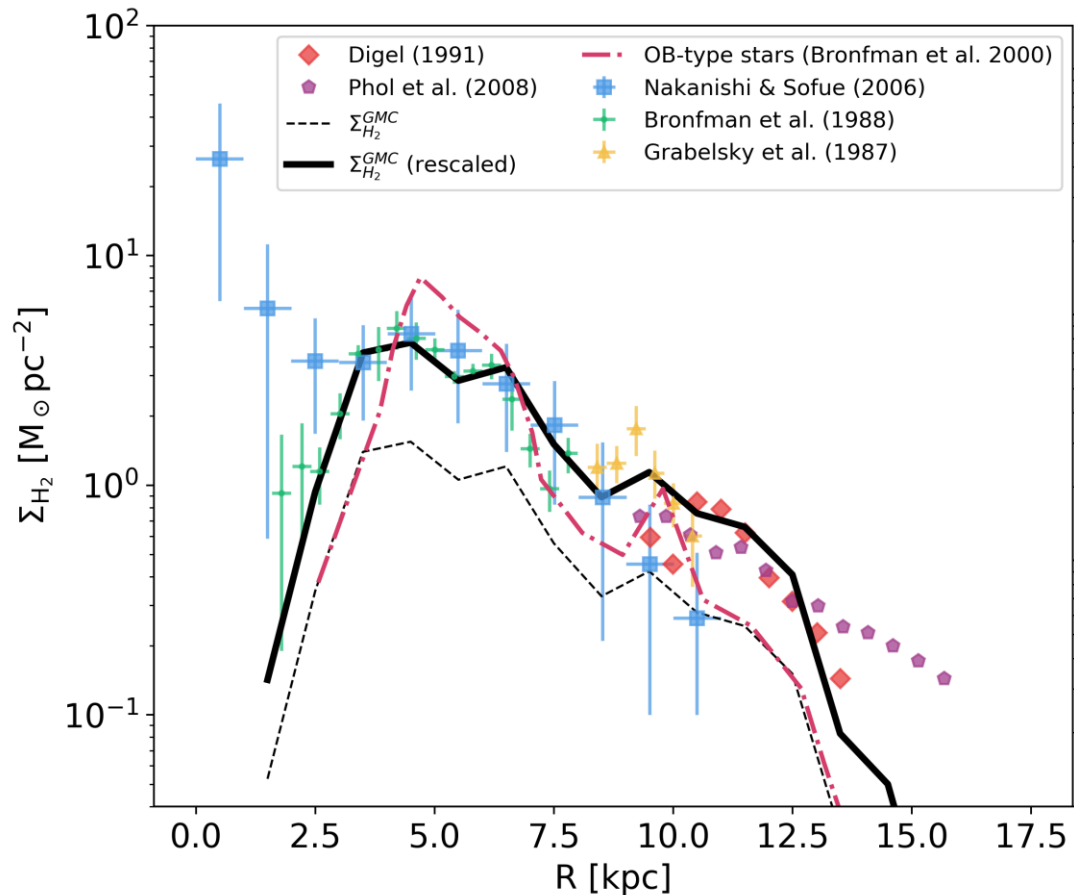
YMSC distribution function: $\xi_{SC}(M_{SC}, t, r, \theta) = \frac{dN_{SC}}{dM_{SC}dt dr d\theta} = \underline{f(M_{SC})}\psi(t)\rho(r, \theta)$

- Cluster IMF: $f(M_{SC}) \propto M_{SC}^{-1.54}$ [2.5 – 6.3x10⁴ M_⊙] (Piskunov et al, 2018)

Synthetic YMSCs population (I)

YMSC distribution function: $\xi_{SC}(M_{SC}, t, r, \theta) = \frac{dN_{SC}}{dM_{SC} dt dr d\theta} = f(M_{SC})\psi(t)\rho(r, \theta)$

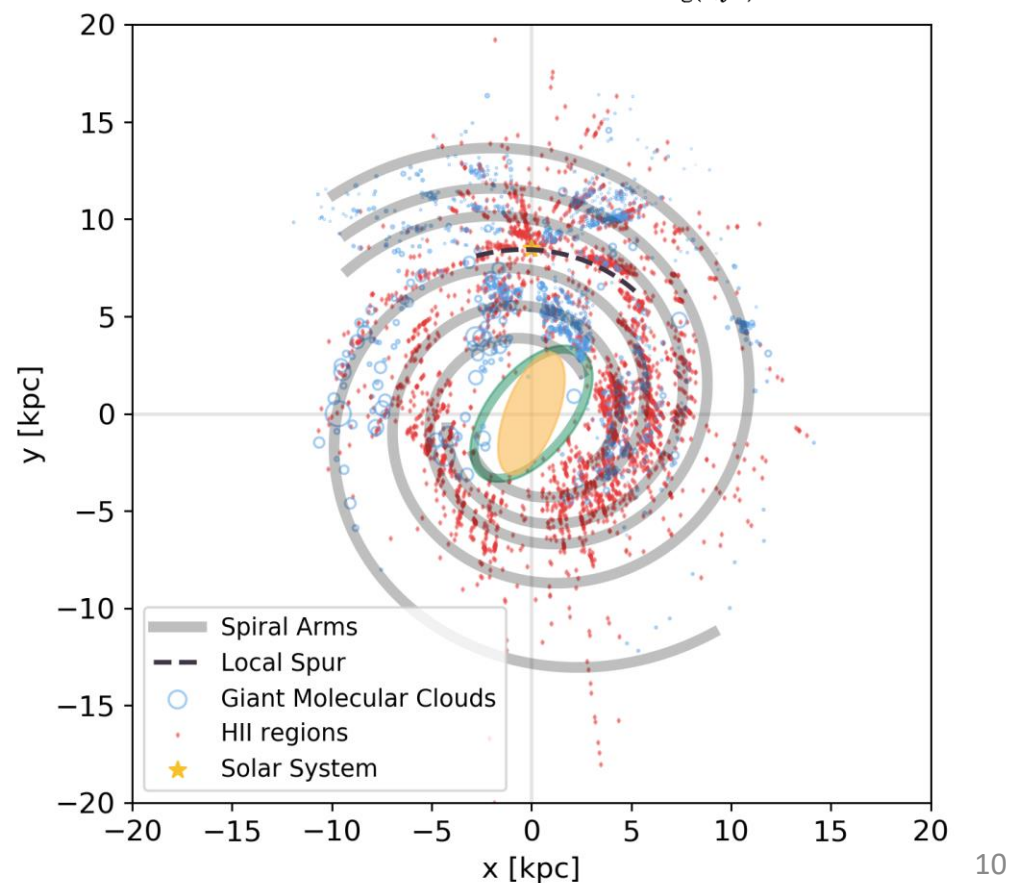
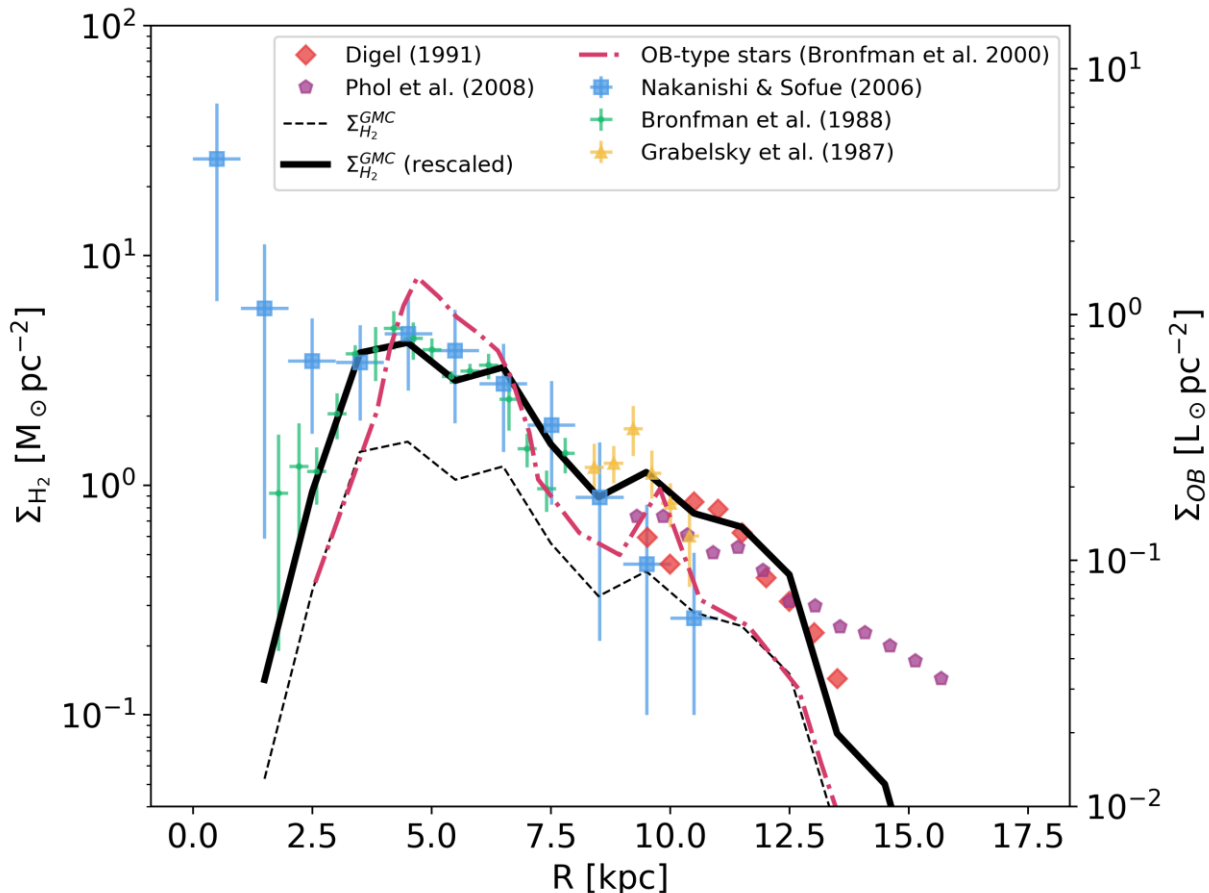
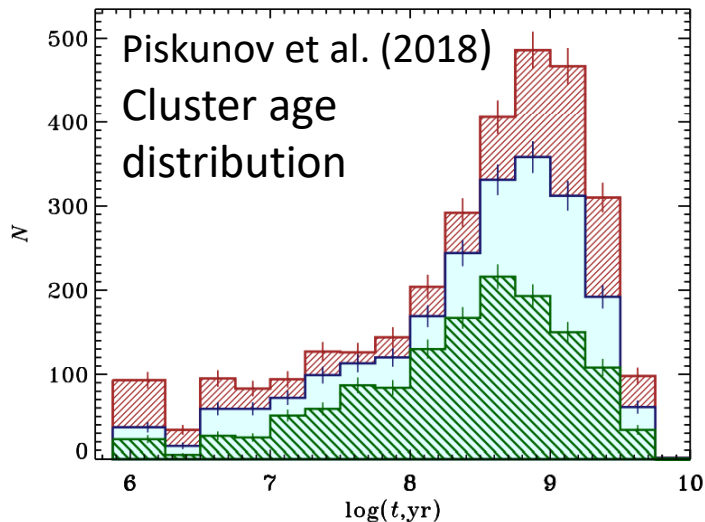
- Cluster IMF: $f(M_{SC}) \propto M_{SC}^{-1.54}$ [$2.5 - 6.3 \times 10^4 M_{\odot}$] (Piskunov et al, 2018)
- Cluster radial distribution follow giant molecular cloud (Hou & Han 2014)



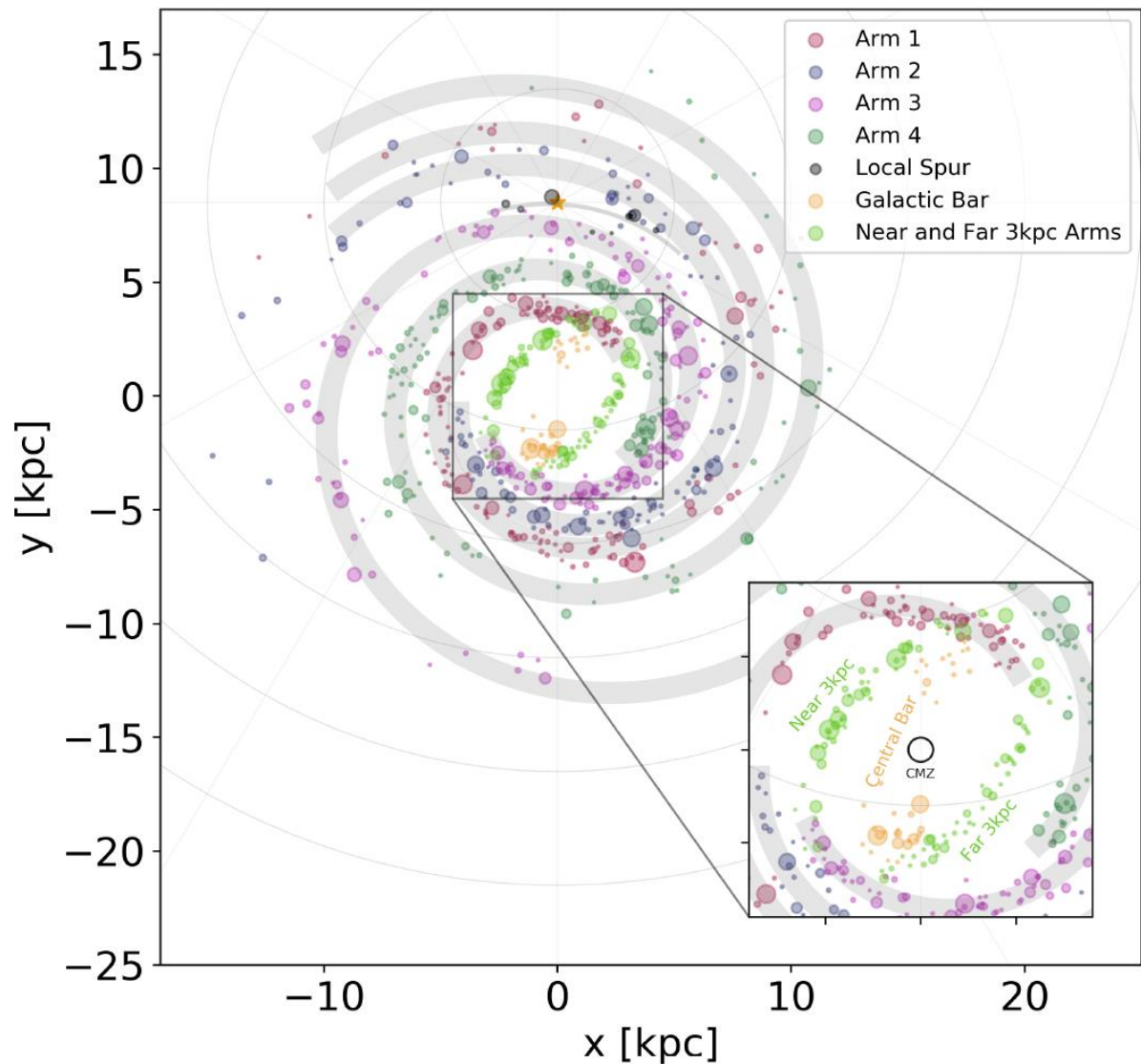
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- Cluster radial distribution follow giant molecular cloud (Hou & Han 2014)
- Local cluster formation rate: $\bar{\psi} = 1.8 \text{ Myr}^{-1} \text{ kpc}^{-2}$ (Bonatto et al 2011)

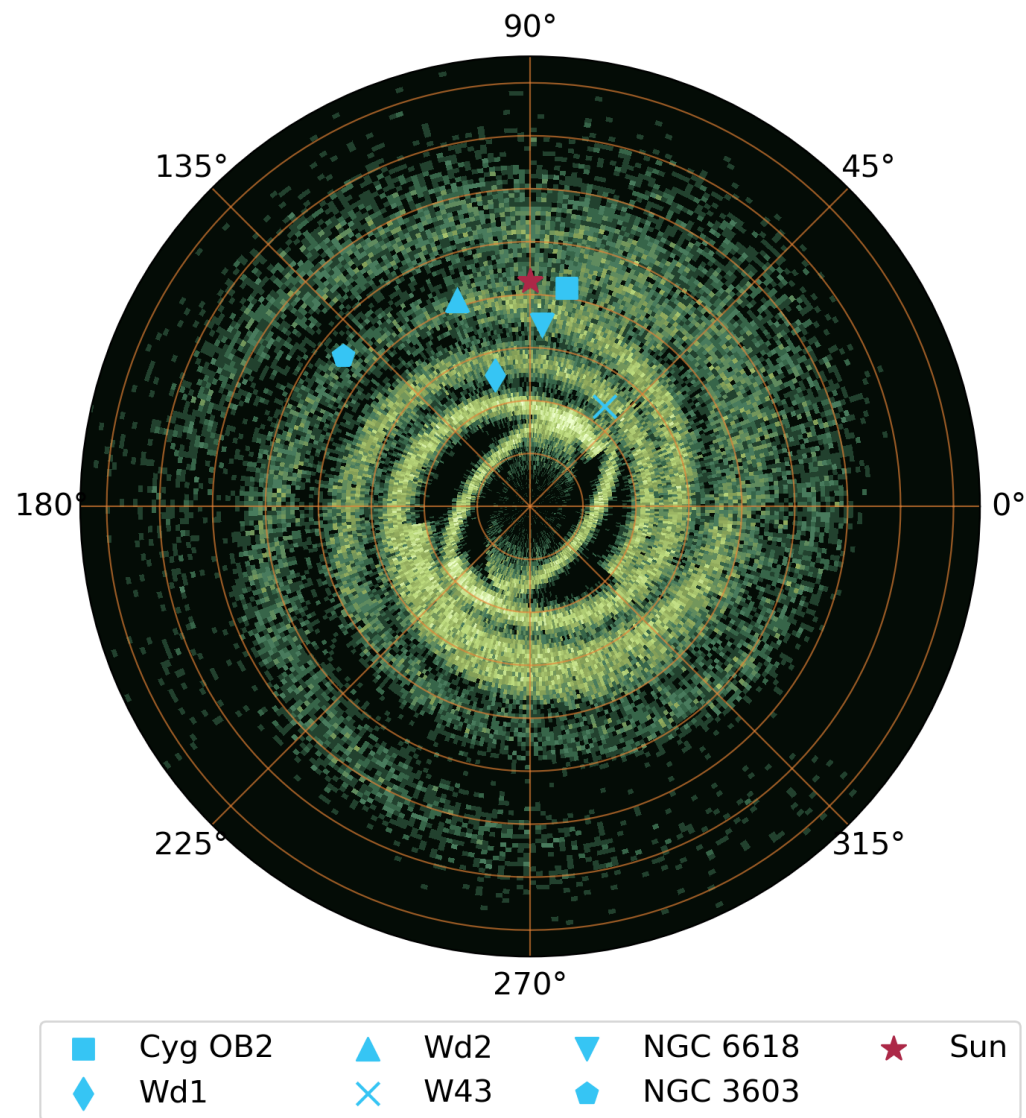


Synthetic YMSCs population (II)




Single realization of the Galactic population

Total number of YMSCs: 747
(Age <10 Myr, $M_{SC} > 10^3 M_{\odot}$)



Spatial distribution (100 realizations)



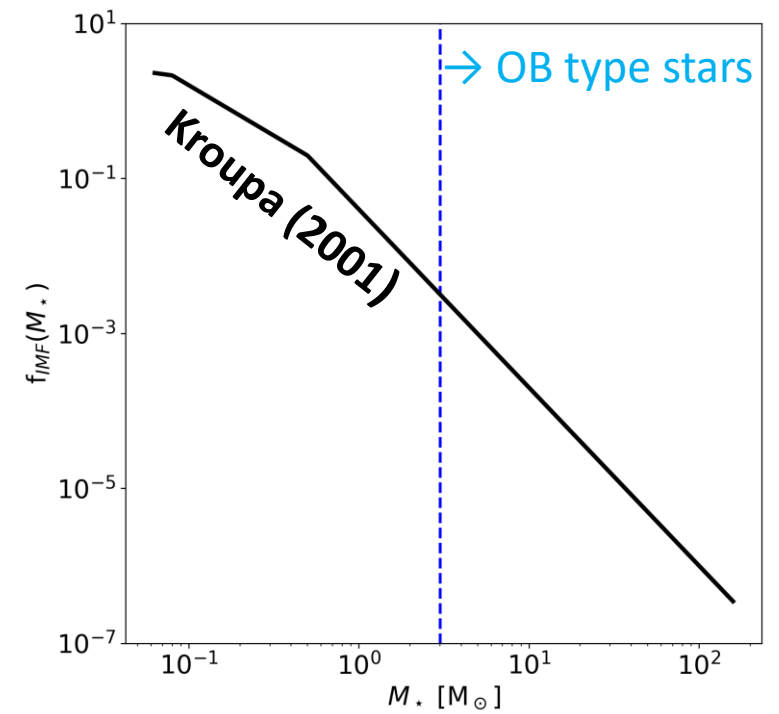
STEP 2
Stellar
population in
clusters

Stellar population in YMSC

- Total number of stars:

$$N_{\star} = \Lambda M_{\text{SC}} \quad \text{where} \quad \Lambda = \frac{\int_{M_{\star,\text{min}}}^{M_{\star,\text{max}}} f_{\star}(M_{\star}) dM_{\star}}{\int_{M_{\star,\text{min}}}^{M_{\star,\text{max}}} M_{\star} f_{\star}(M_{\star}) dM_{\star}}$$

- Stellar initial mass function (IMF) according to Kroupa (2001)
- Maximum stellar mass is $150 M_{\odot}$



Stellar population in YMSC

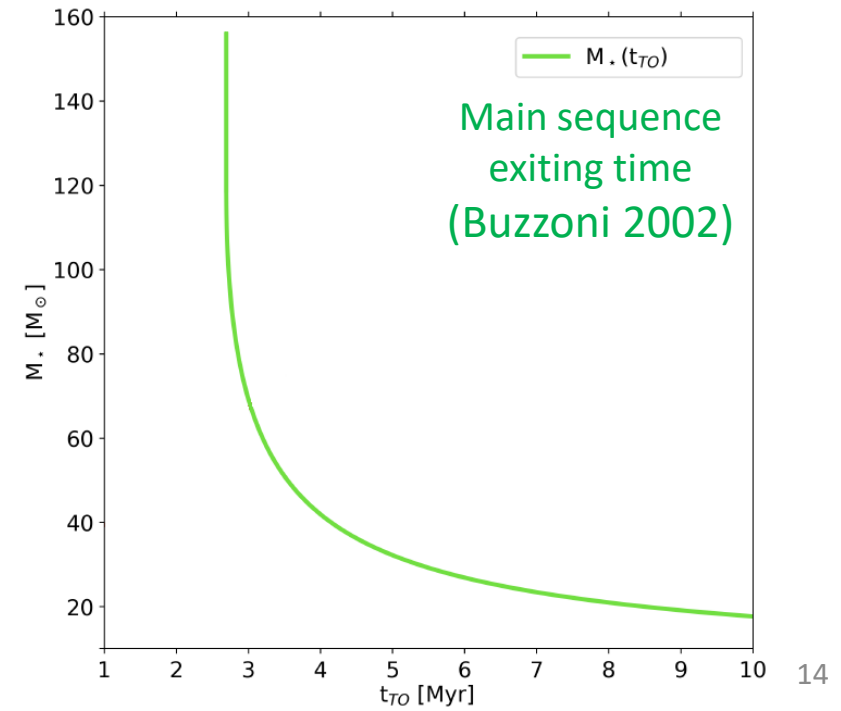
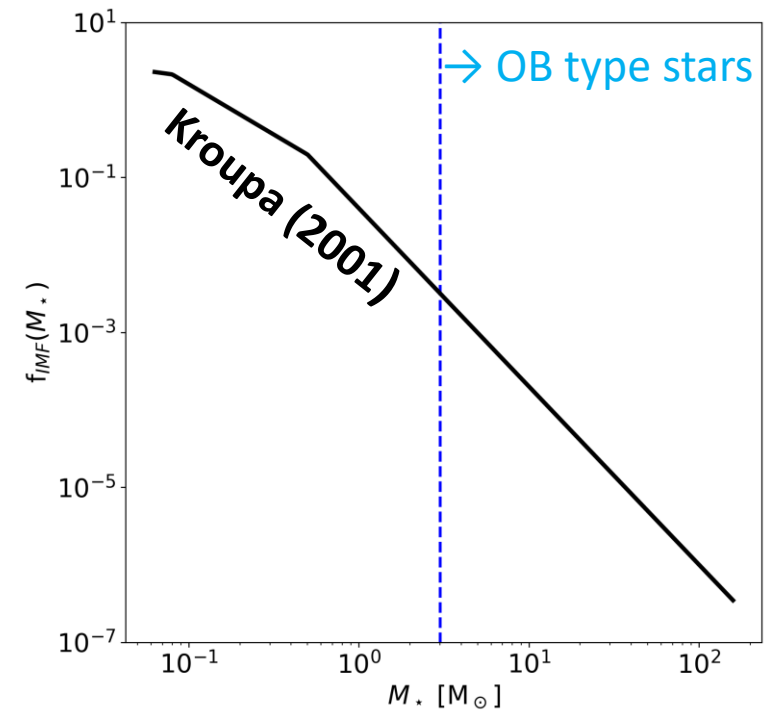
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- Stellar initial mass function (IMF) according to Kroupa (2001)
- Maximum stellar mass is $150 M_{\odot}$
- All stars that have left the main sequence at a time equal to the age of the cluster are removed, with exception of WR stars ($t_{\text{TO}} < t < t_{\text{TO}} + 0.3 \text{ Myr}$ and $M_{\star} > 25 M_{\odot}$)

WE DO NOT ACCOUNT FOR THE ENERGY INJECTED BY SUPERNOVE!

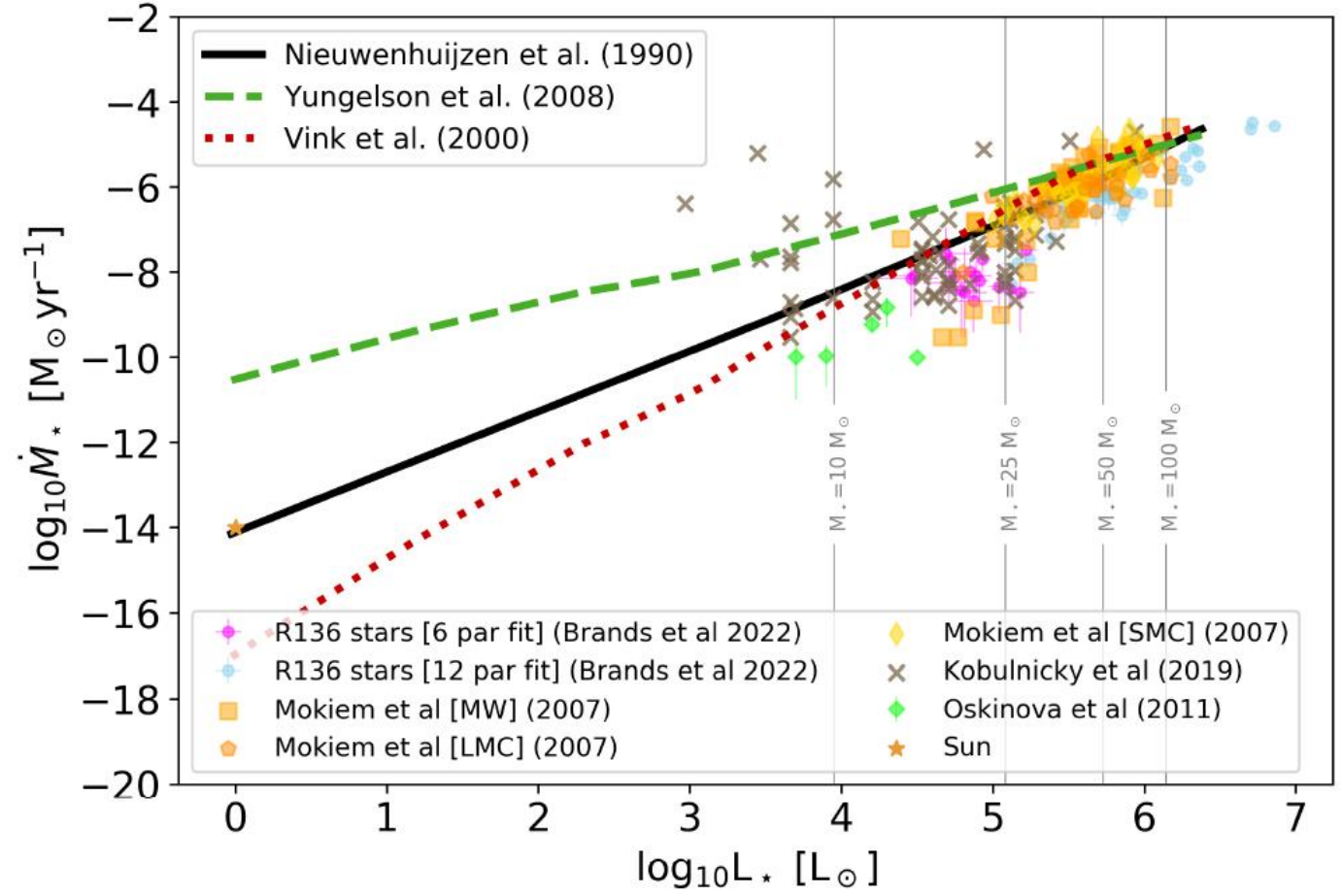
CR (and γ -ray) normalization and maximum energy must be interpreted as lower limits!



Stellar wind physics

1. Calculate mass loss rate:
 - **OB-type** stars (\dot{M}_*) (Nieuwenhuijzen et al. 1990)
 - **WR** stars ($\dot{M}_{*,WR}$) (Nugis & Lamers, 2000)
2. Calculate wind speed ($v_{*,w}$):
 - **OB-type** stars (Kudritzki & Puls, 2000)
 - **WR** is kept constant to 2000 km/s
3. Calculate wind luminosity: $L_{*,w} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M}_* v_{*,w}^2$

4. Cluster wind luminosity and mass loss rate calculating by summing all $L_{*,w}$ and \dot{M}_*



The background is a vibrant, multi-colored nebula with a dense field of stars in various colors (blue, white, yellow, red). Overlaid on the left side is a large black hexagon containing the text 'STEP 3 Cosmic ray acceleration'. To the right of this hexagon are three smaller black hexagons: one is solid black, and two are outlined in black, arranged in a vertical sequence. The overall scene is a rich, colorful representation of a star-forming region.

STEP 3
Cosmic ray
acceleration

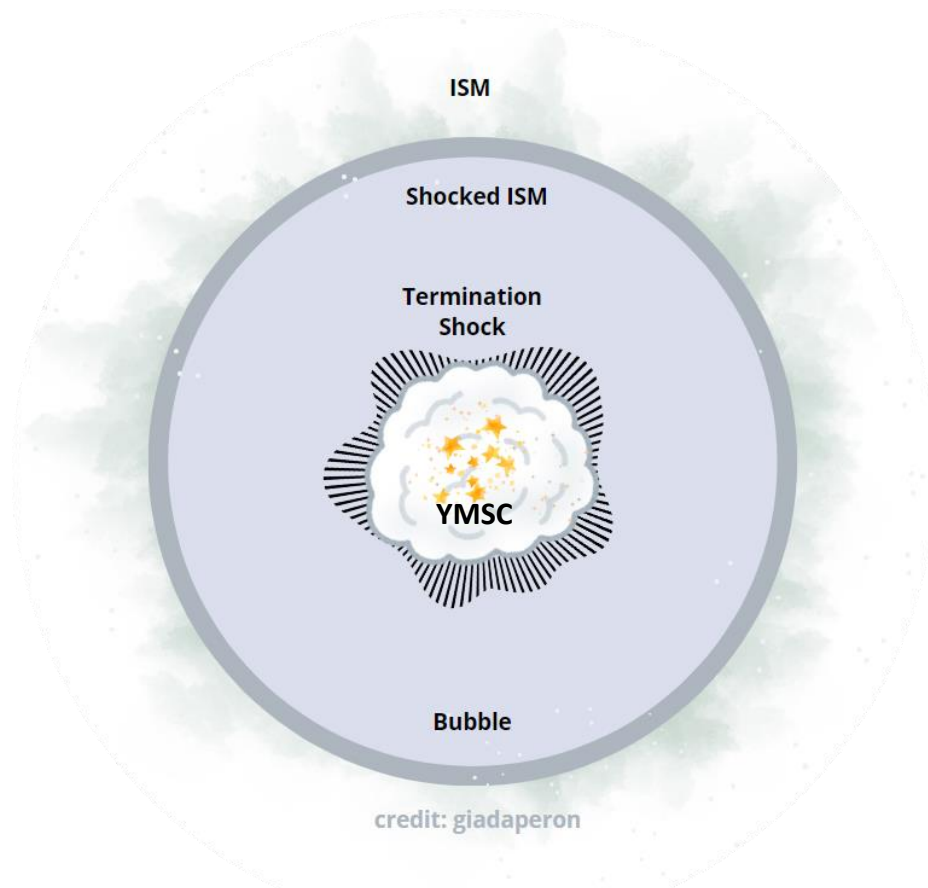
CR distribution in YMSCs

[Morlino et al \(2021\)](#)

CR accelerated at cluster wind TS + Propagation in the turbulent bubble

1) Spectral slope: $\propto p^{-4.2}$

2) Normalization: 10% of wind power spent to accelerate CRs

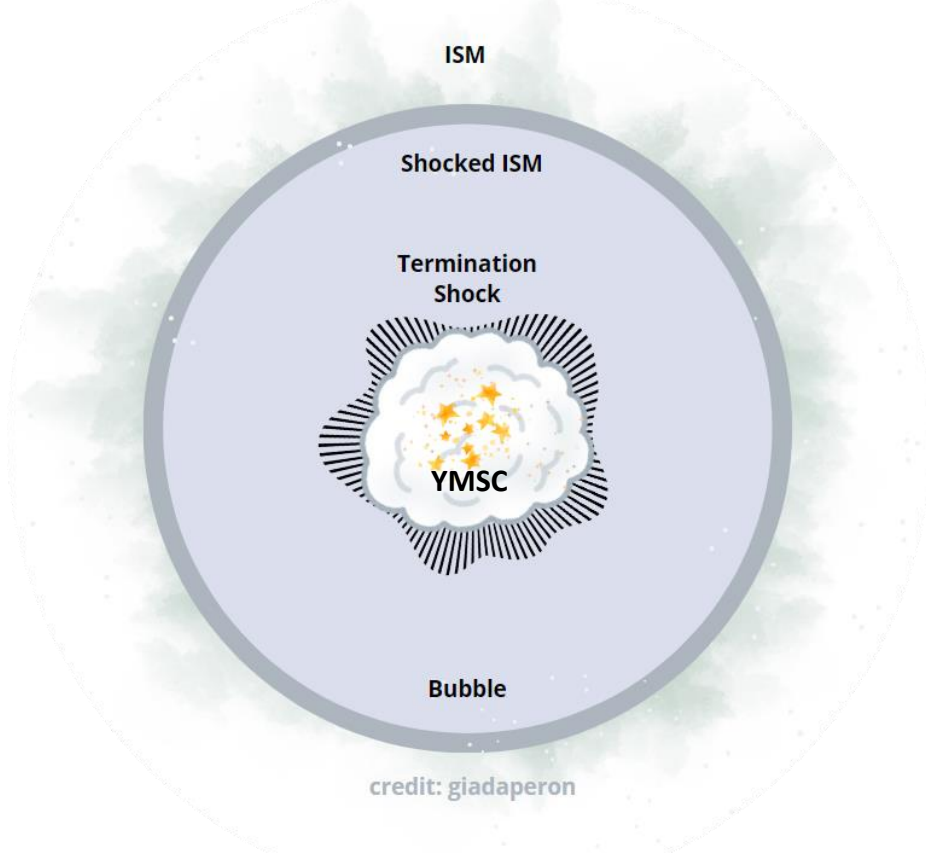


CR distribution in YMSCs

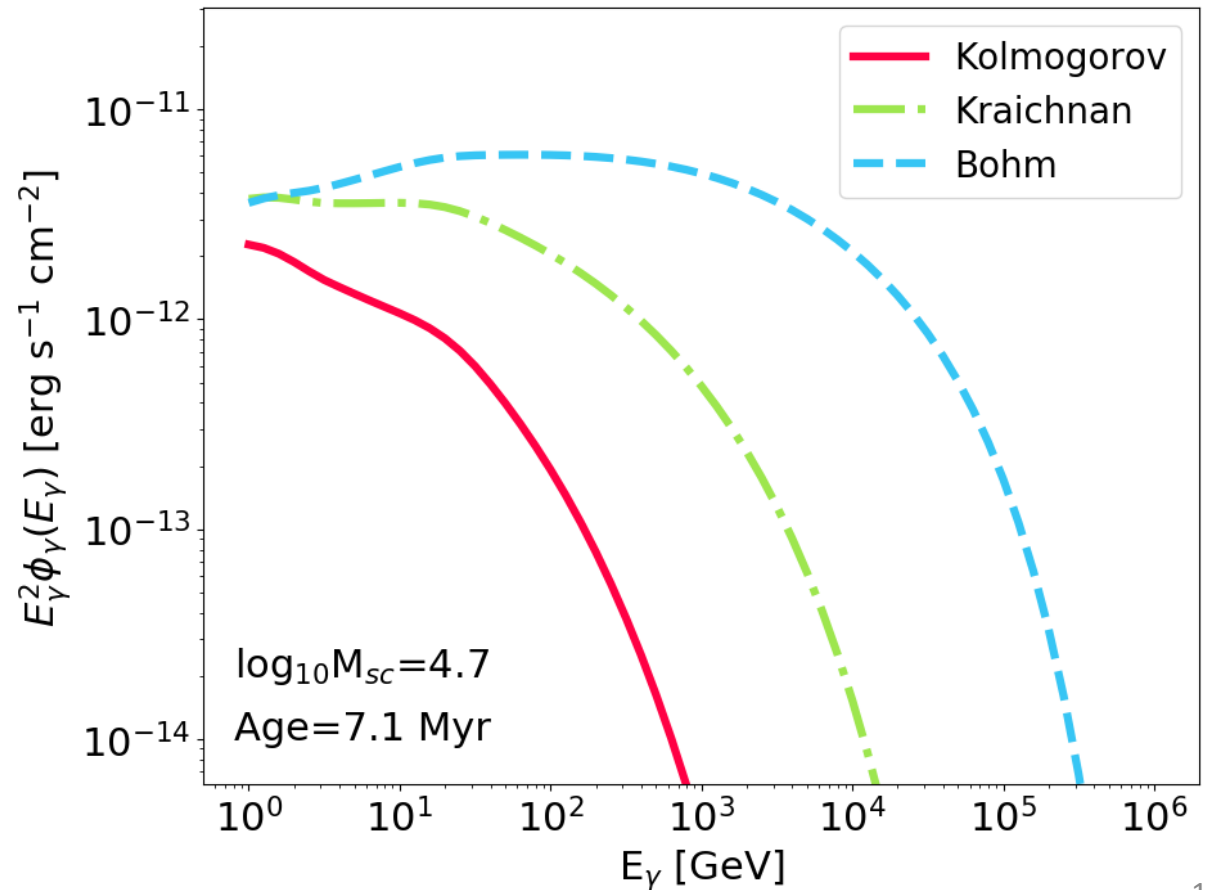
[Morlino et al \(2021\)](#)


CR accelerated at cluster wind TS + Propagation in the turbulent bubble

- 1) Spectral slope: $\propto p^{-4.2}$
- 2) Normalization: 10% of wind power spent to accelerate CRs
- 3) Target gas density for hadronic gamma emission: 10 cm^{-3}
- 4) Particle spectrum (and so the gamma flux) depends on diffusion coefficient!



THREE CASES CONSIDERED:



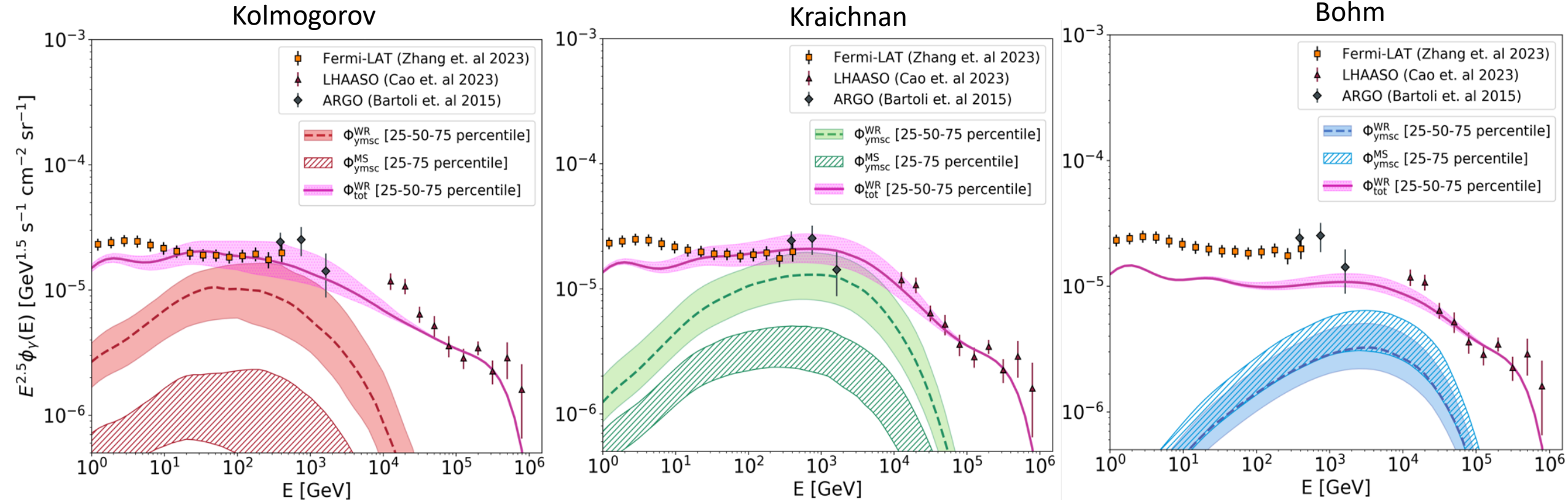


Comparison
with γ -ray data

Diffuse γ -ray emission (ROI1)

- **Pink:** diffuse CR sea emission + contribution from YMSCs
- Filled regions: contribution from YMSCs
- Dashed regions: contribution from YMSCs without WRs

Note:
Contribution
from detectable
YMSCs is
removed

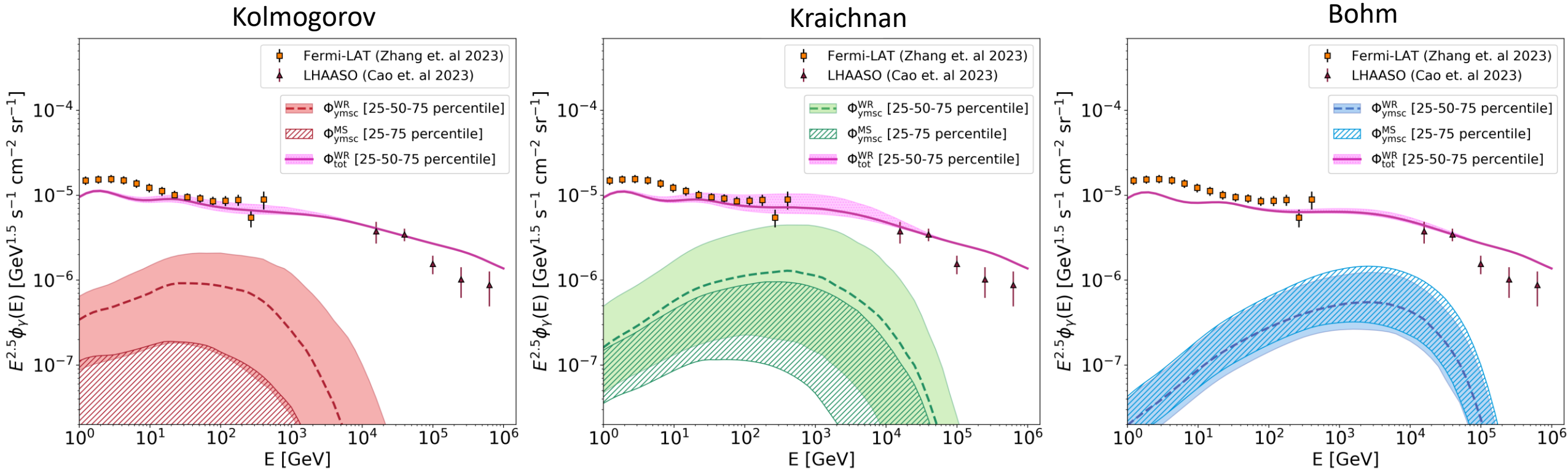


ROI1: $15^\circ < \text{glon} < 125^\circ$, $|\text{glat}| < 5^\circ$

Pink: diffuse CR sea emission + contribution from YMSCs

Filled regions: contribution from YMSCs

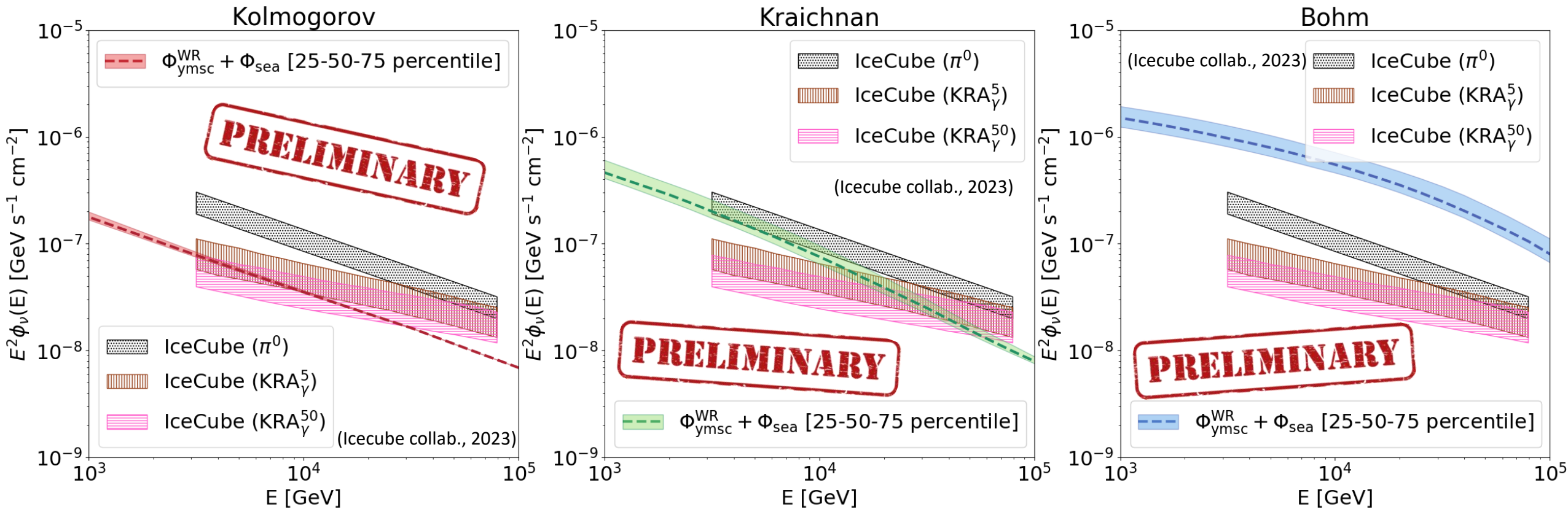
Dashed regions: contribution from YMSCs without WRs



What about neutrinos?

Using synthetic YMSCs, we can estimate the contribution to
Galactic neutrino flux

(Menchiari S., Celli S., Vecchiotti V., Peron G., Morlino G., Lopez-Coto R., in prep)



Conclusions

- ❖ Importance of YMSCs as high energy sources has constantly growing in the last decades
- ❖ **First comprehensive study of Galactic population of YMSCs**
- ❖ **Contribution to the diffuse emission likely not negligible from hundreds of GeV to hundreds of TeV.**

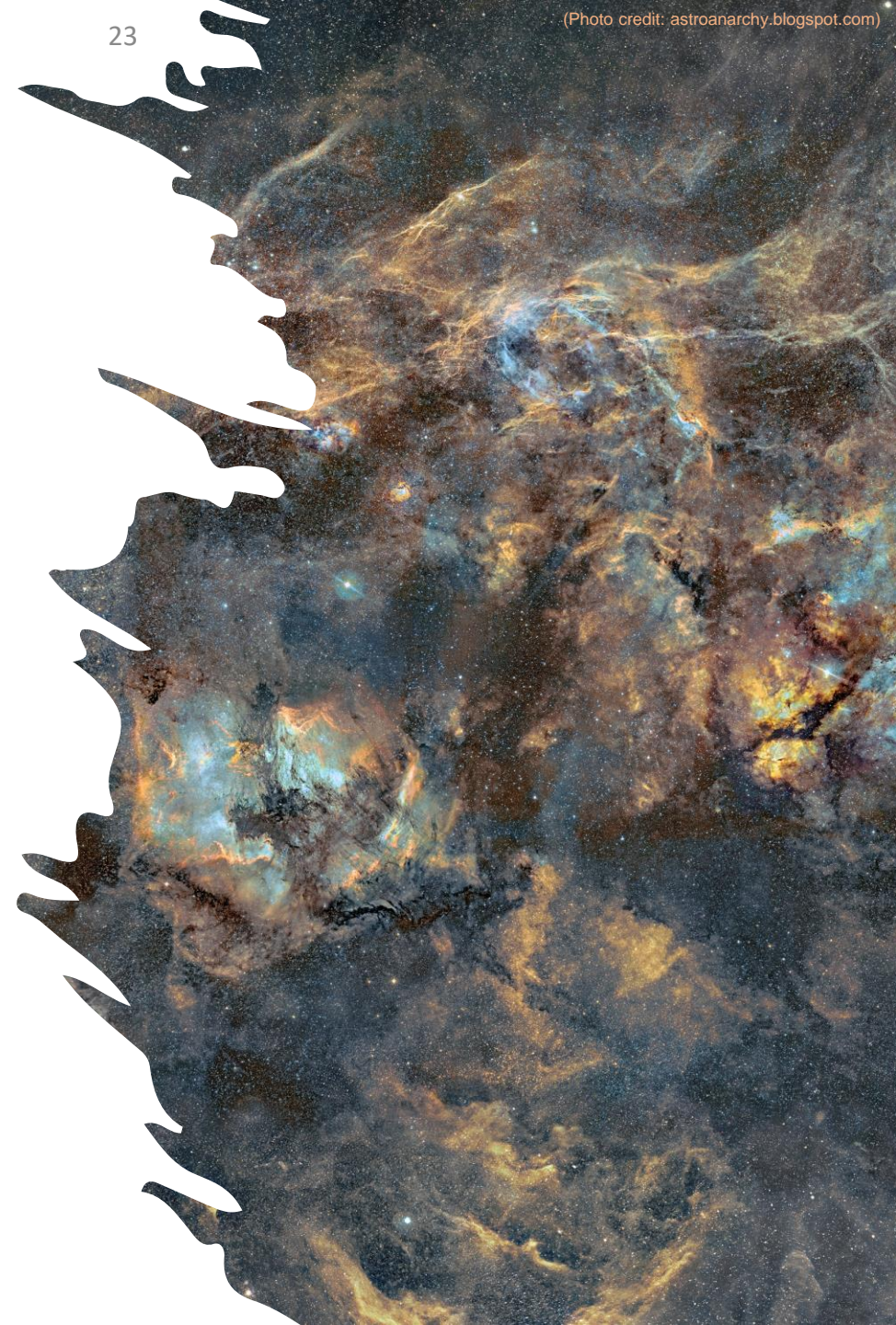
Future prospects

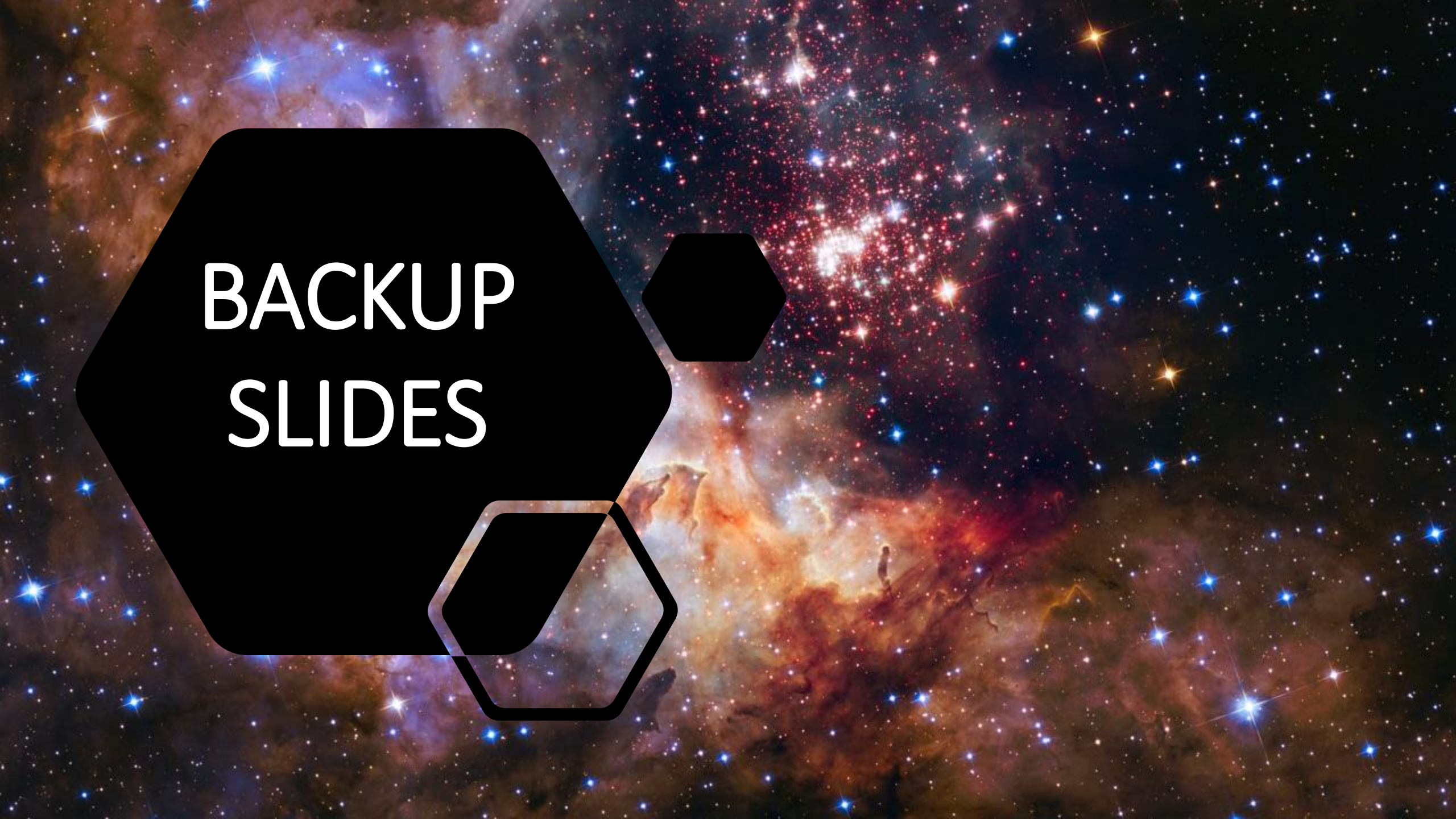
- Evaluate contribution to neutrino flux



Scan me to access the
pre-print

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.04087>

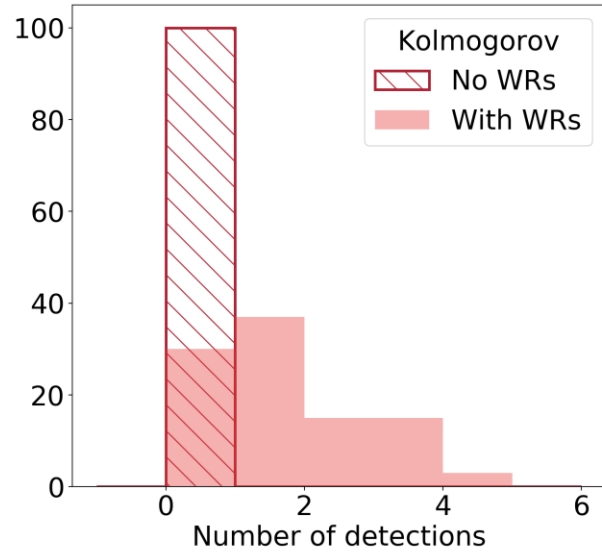




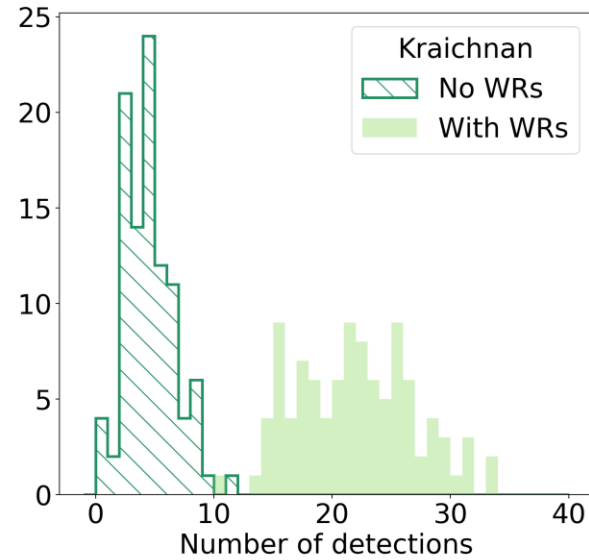
**BACKUP
SLIDES**

Expected detections

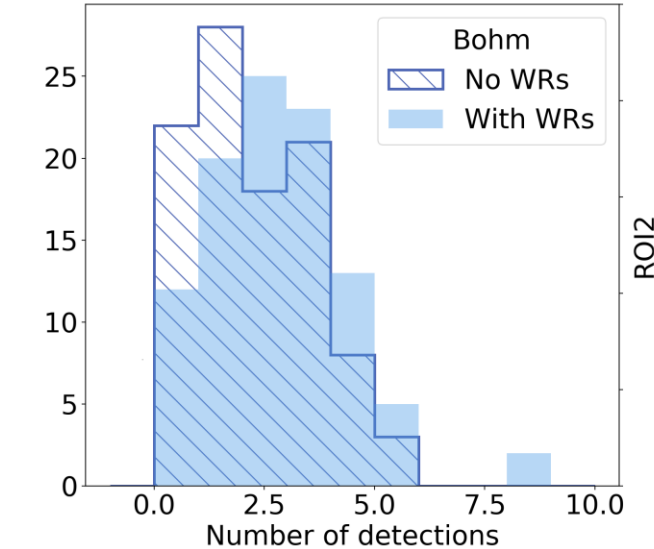
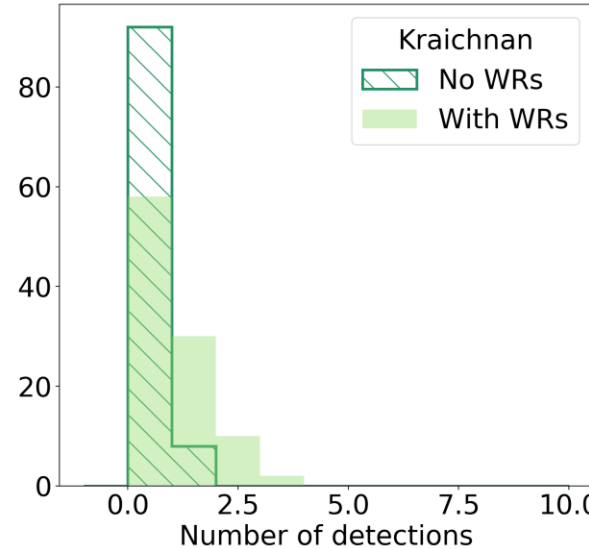
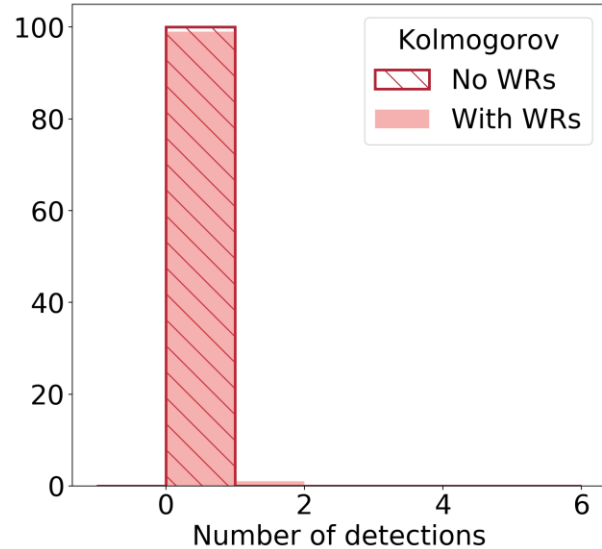
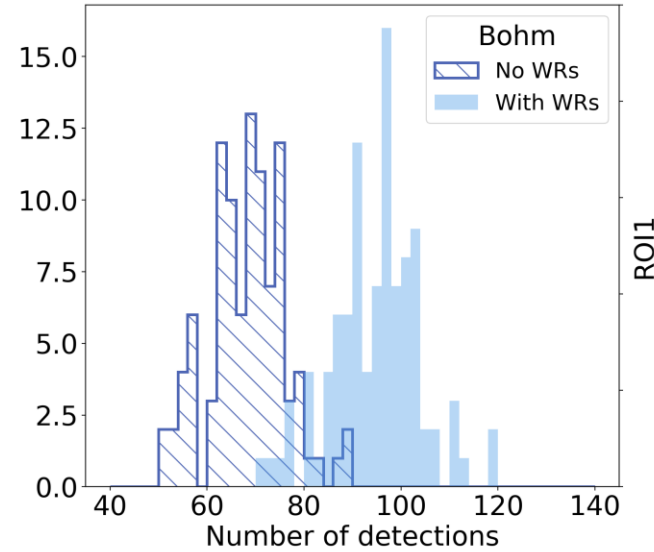
Kolmogorov



Kraichnan



Bohm



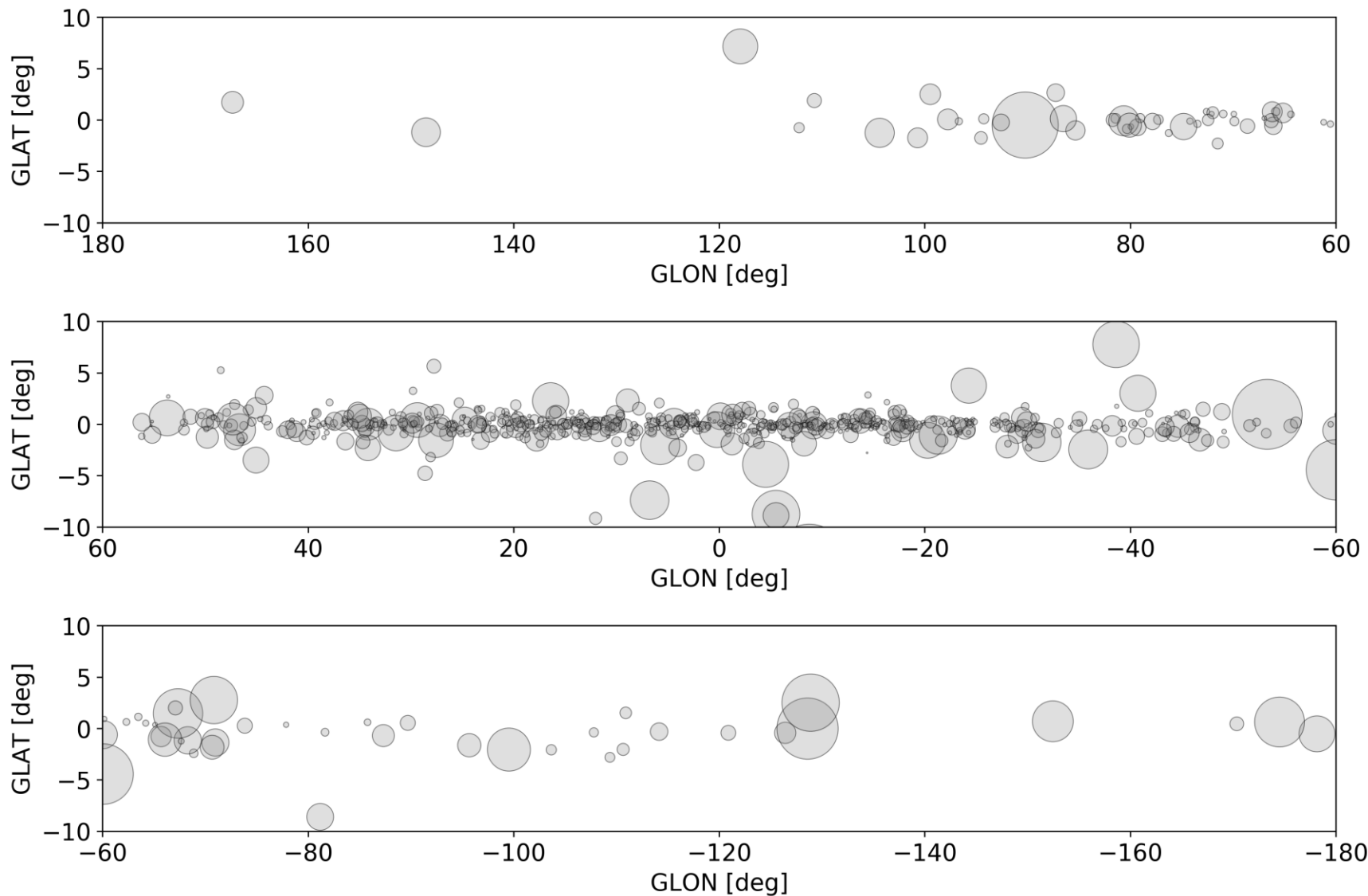
LHAASO catalogue includes 90 sources



Number of expected detections in Bohm case is too high!

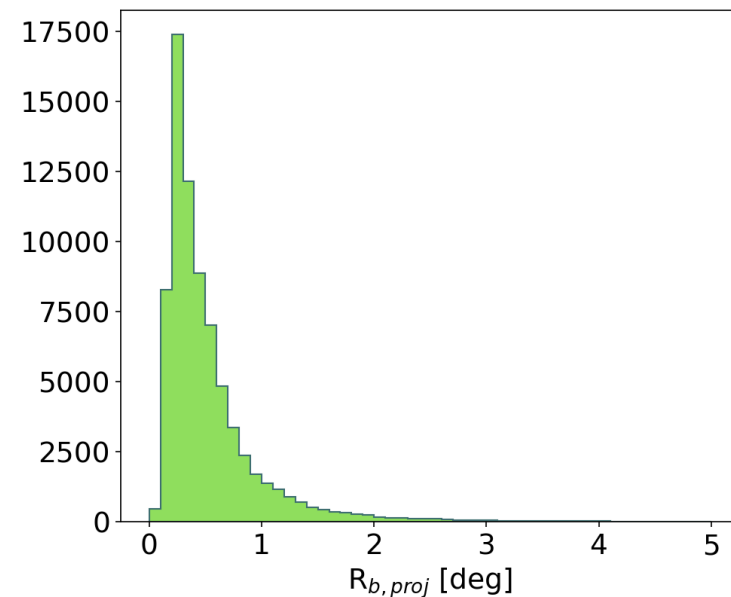
Synthetic YMSCs population (III)

Single realization of the Galactic population



**Wind bubble physics
from Weaver et al 1977**

Projected
bubble radius



Stellar wind physics

- Mass loss rate **OB-type** stars (\dot{M}_\star) by Nieuwenhuijzen et al. (1990)

$$\log \left(\frac{\dot{M}_\star}{M_\odot \text{yr}^{-1}} \right) = -14.02 + 1.24 \log \left(\frac{L_\star}{L_\odot} \right) + 0.16 \log \left(\frac{M_\star}{M_\odot} \right) + 0.81 \left(\frac{R_\star}{R_\odot} \right)$$

- Wind luminosity **OB-type** stars [stellar wind speed $v_{\star,w}$ by Kudritzki & Puls (2000)]

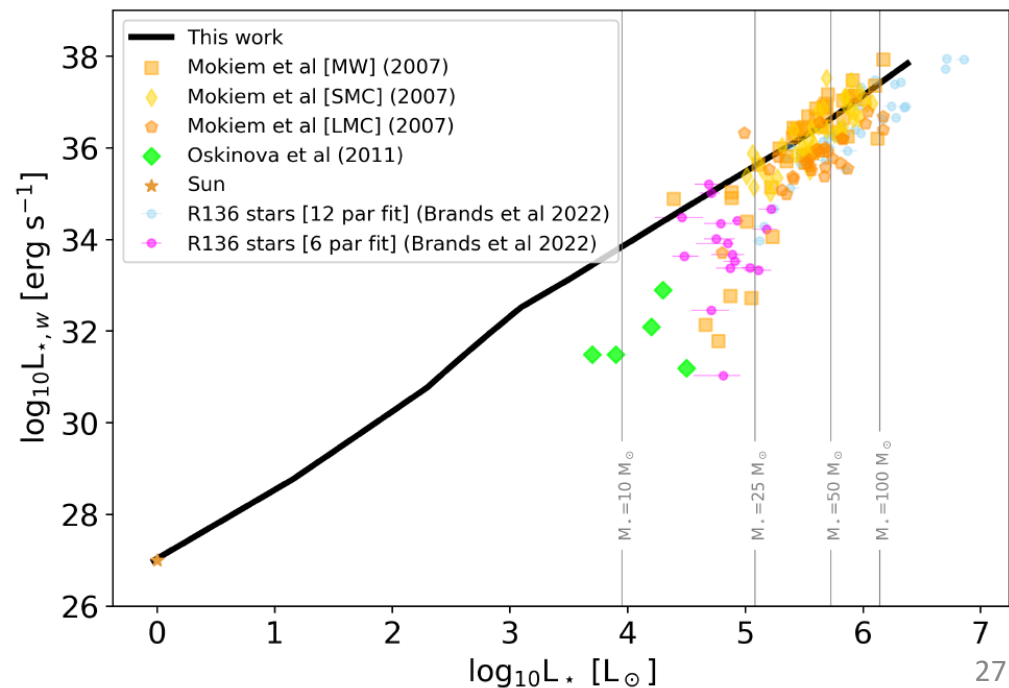
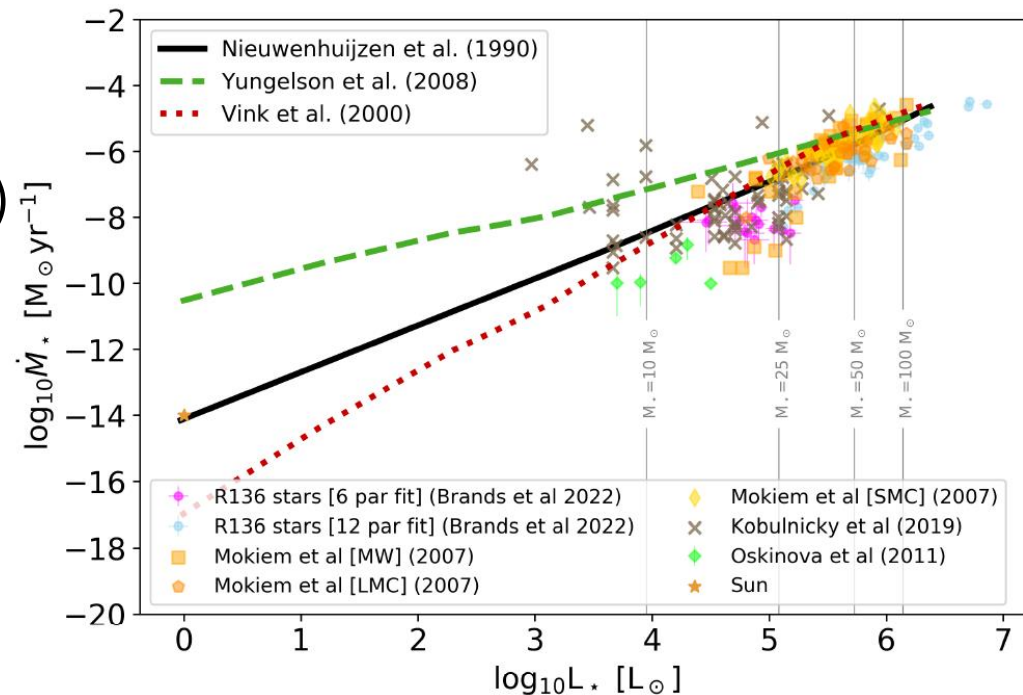
$$L_{\star,w} = \frac{1}{2} \dot{M}_\star \left\{ \underbrace{C(T_{\text{eff}})^2 \left[\frac{2GM_\star(1 - L_\star/L_{\text{Edd}})}{R_\star} \right]}_{v_{\star,w}^2} \right\}$$

- Mass loss rate **WR** stars ($\dot{M}_{\star,WR}$) by Nugis & Lamers (2000)

$$\dot{M}_{\star,WR} = 10^{-11.0} \left(\frac{L_{\star,WR}}{L_\odot} \right)^{1.29} \left(\frac{Y_{WR}}{Y_\odot} \right)^{1.73} \left(\frac{Z_{WR}}{Z_\odot} \right)^{0.47} \frac{M_\odot}{\text{yr}}$$

- Wind speed for **WR** is kept constant to 2000 km/s

Cluster wind luminosity and mass loss rate
calculating by summing all $L_{\star,w}$ and \dot{M}_\star



Diffuse γ -ray emission (GDE)

GDE data: Fermi-LAT, ARGO and LHAASO.

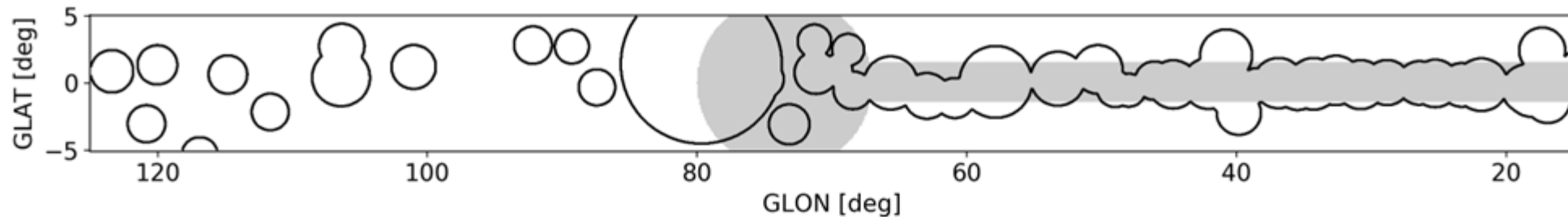
ROI1: $15^\circ < \text{glon} < 125^\circ$, $|\text{glat}| < 5^\circ$

ROI2: $125^\circ < \text{glon} < 235^\circ$, $|\text{glat}| < 5^\circ$

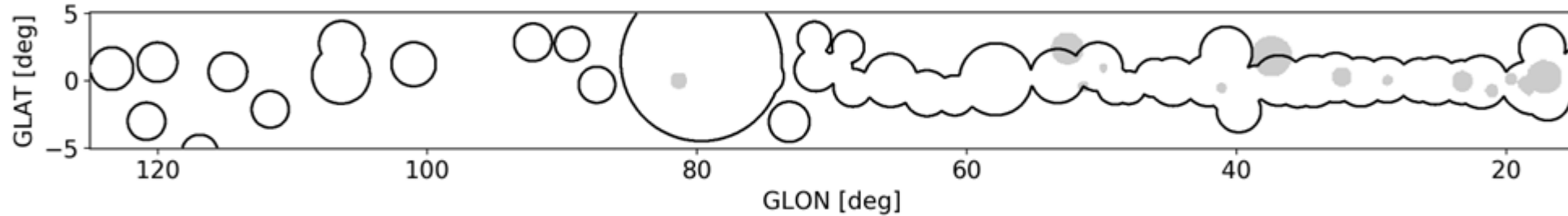
Note: GDE data are provided after masking known detected sources (TeVCat+LHAASOcat)

We define a similar mask for our simulations

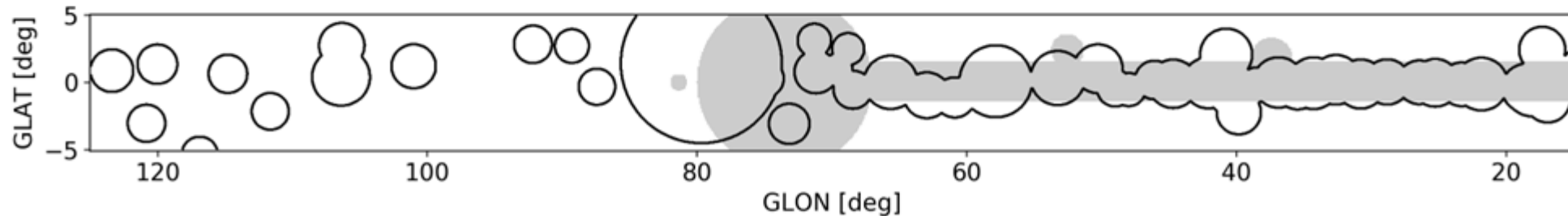
Circles: LHAASO mask; **Shaded grey regions:** our defined masks



1) Mask crowded region of the plane
(*Only ROI1*)



2) 5 sigma mask:
remove YMSs
detected by LHAASO
@100 TeV



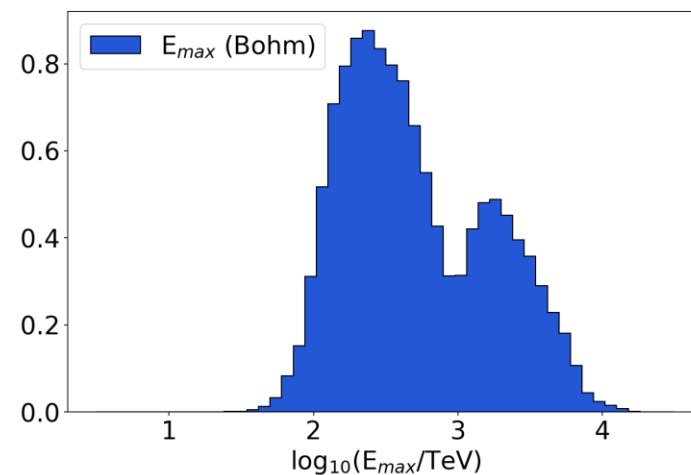
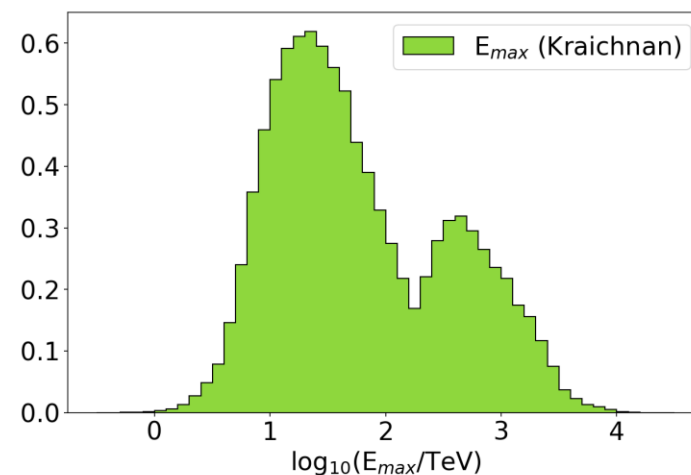
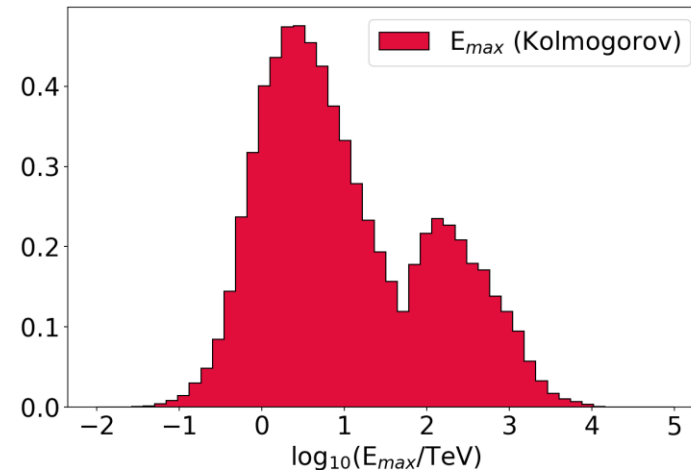
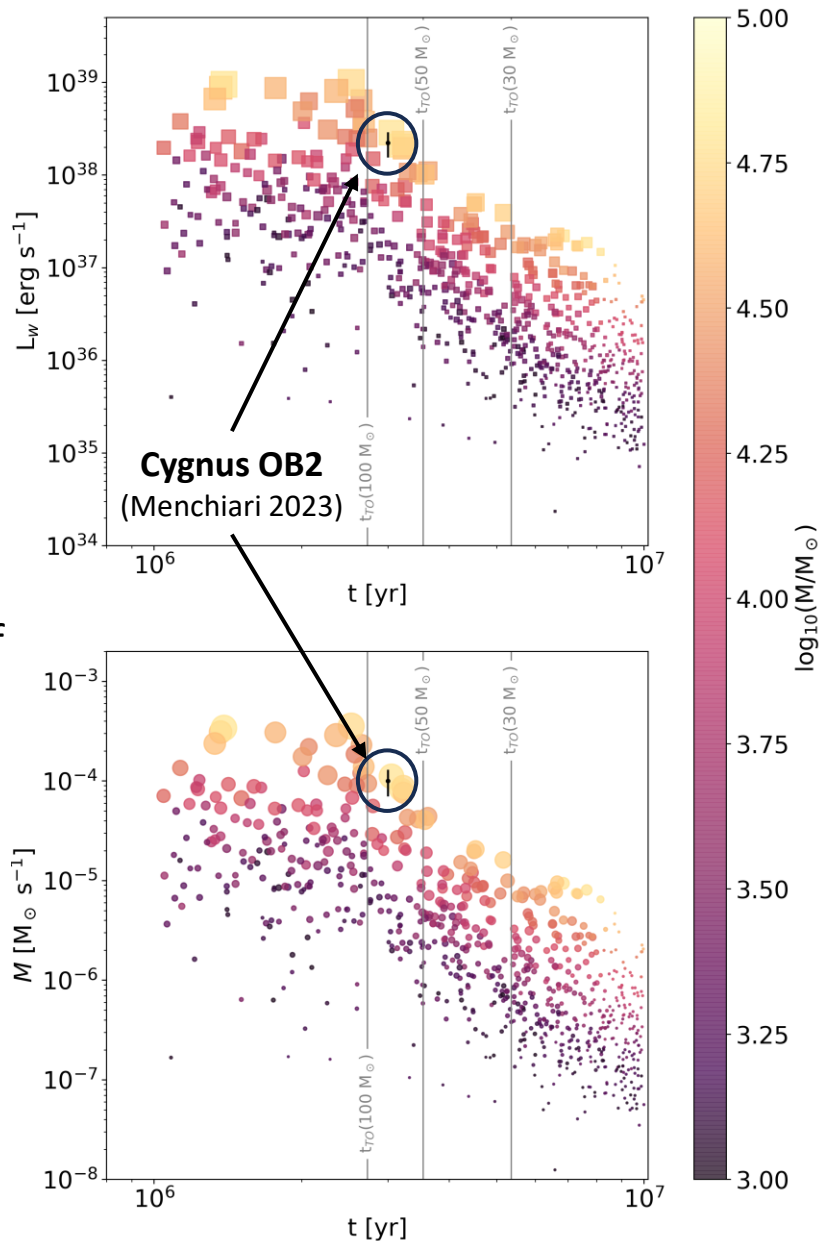
3) **Final mask**

Synthetic YMSCs population (IV)

Cluster wind
luminosity vs
cluster age
(NO WR)

(Point size
proportional
to number of
O-type stars)

Cluster
wind mass
loss rate vs
cluster age
(NO WR)



Maximum energy
distribution shows
bimodality
(with and without WR)