



FUNDAÇÃO DE AMPARO À PESQUISA  
DO ESTADO DE SÃO PAULO



INSTITUTO DE ASTRONOMIA,  
GEOFÍSICA E CIÊNCIAS  
ATMOSFÉRICAS



# Magnetic Reconnection, and particle acceleration and propagation around Black Holes



PhD student: Giovani Heinzen Vicentin  
Advisor: Prof. Elisabete M. de Gouveia Dal Pino



# Some facts about me



I was born in Nova Aurora, a small town  
in Paraná State, with ~ 10.000 people



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... but if you heard something about my  
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~ 12 million people

And since 2016 I live in São Paulo... a very crazy city!



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# Outline

1. The problem of slow Reconnection Rate



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2. Fast Turbulent Reconnection



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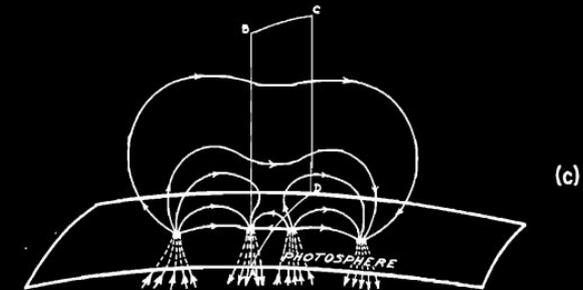
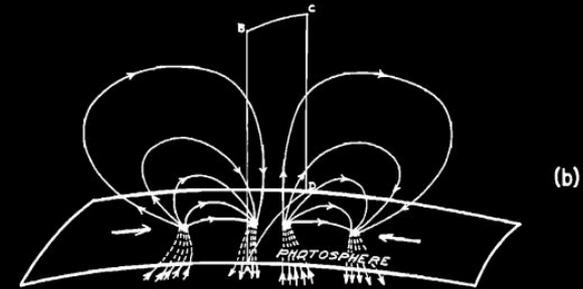
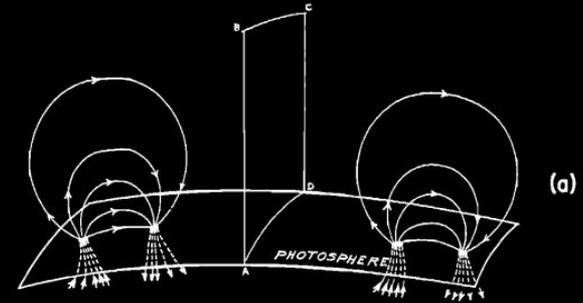
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2. Fast Turbulent Reconnection
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4. Magnetic Reconnection around Black Holes
5. Testing theory using numerical MHD simulations
6. Conclusions & take-home message



# Sweet-Parker Model for MR

Mechanism for the merging of two oppositely directed magnetic fields in a highly conducting fluid.

- Solar flares;



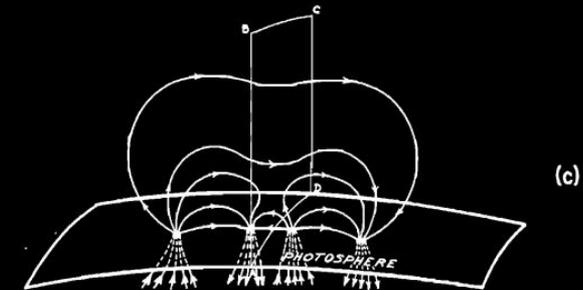
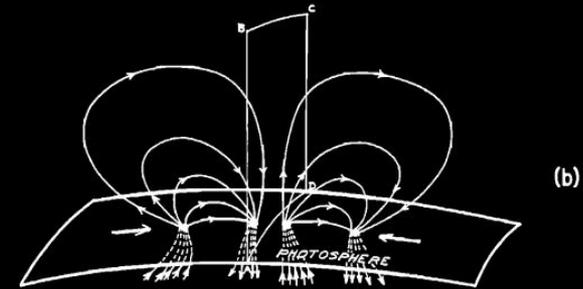
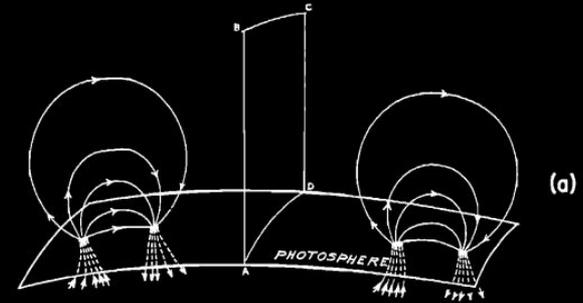
Parker, 1957; Sweet, 1958.



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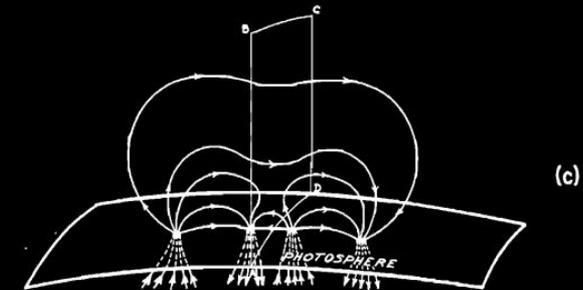
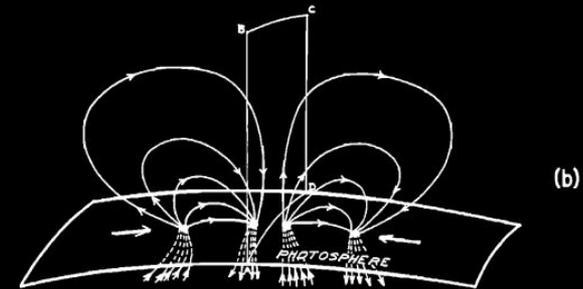
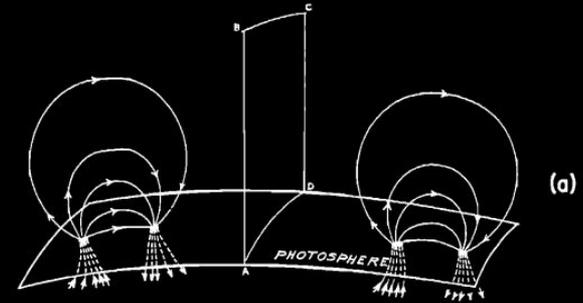
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where the Lundquist number is

$$S = \frac{LV_A}{\eta}$$



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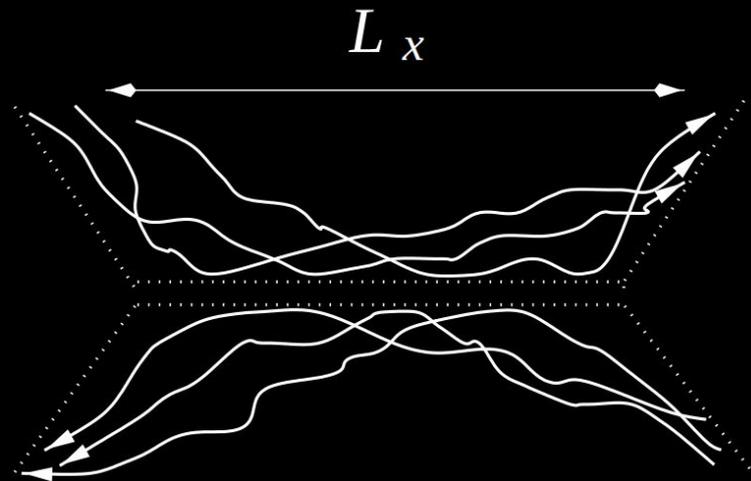
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Length  $\swarrow$   $\eta$   $\searrow$  Alfvén velocity  
Ohmic resistivity

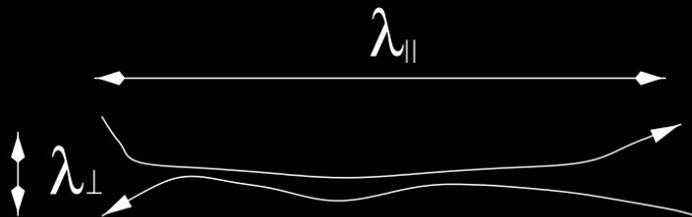
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# Turbulent Magnetic Reconnection



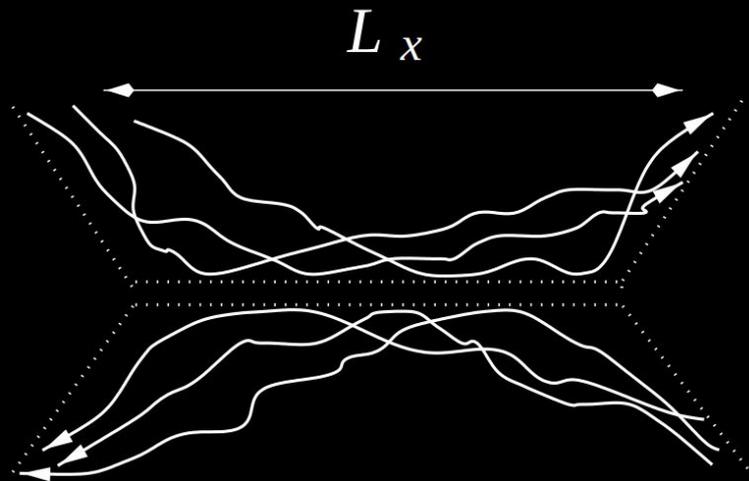
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Lazarian & Vishniac, 1999, ApJ

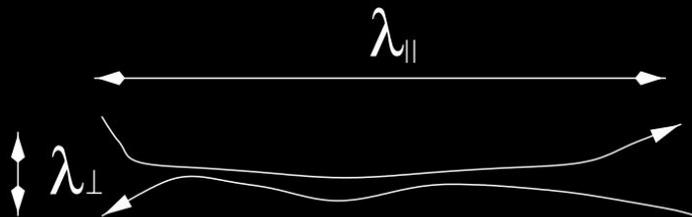


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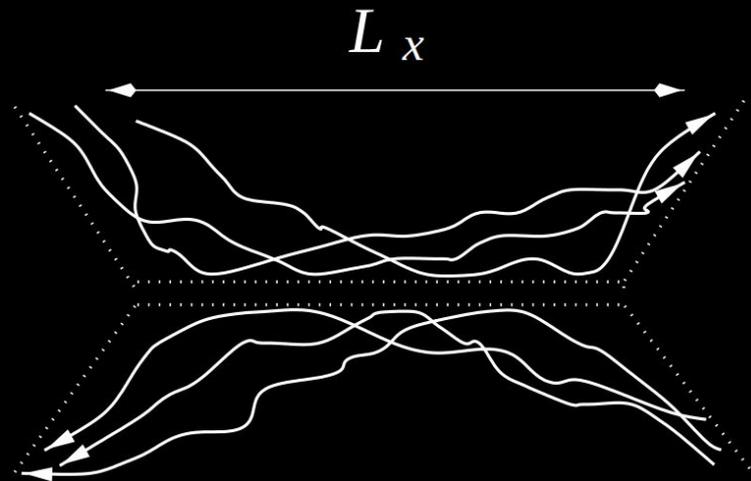
**TURBULENCE!**



Lazarian & Vishniac, 1999, ApJ

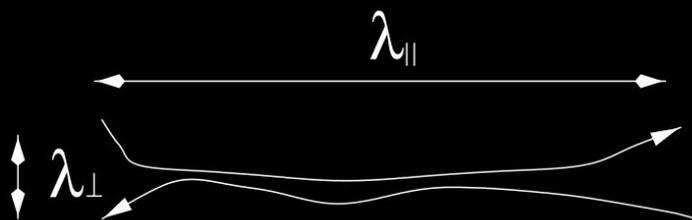


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**TURBULENCE!**



$$V_{\text{rec}} = V_A \left( \frac{\ell_{\text{inj}}}{L} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{V_\ell}{V_A} \right)^2$$

Lazarian & Vishniac, 1999, ApJ



... and turbulence is everywhere



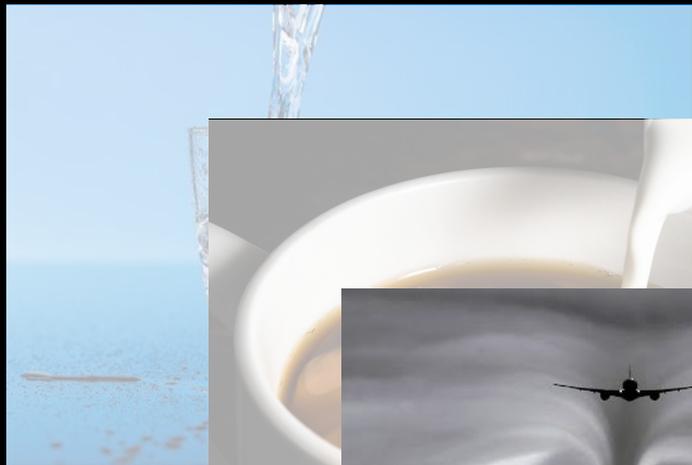


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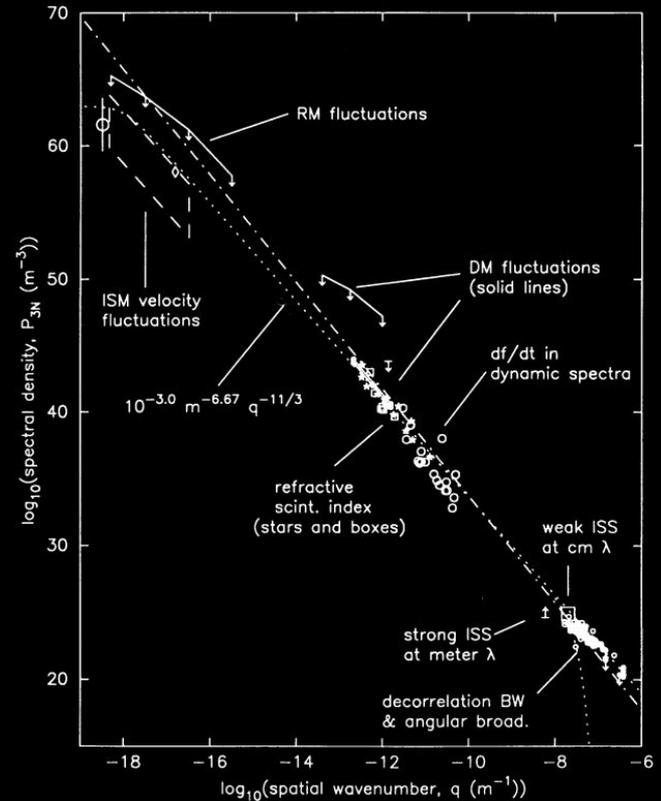


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“Big power law in the sky” (ISM)

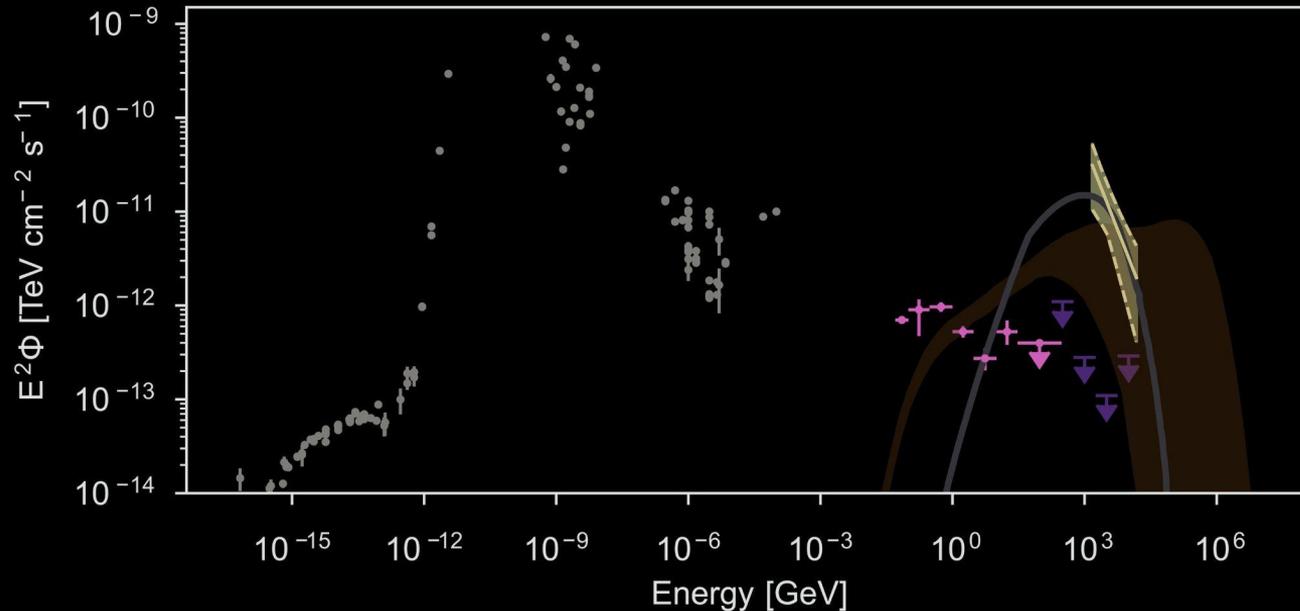
(Armstrong, Rickett & Spangler, 1995, ApJ)





# Neutrino VS gamma-ray flux from NGC1068

- IceCube (this work)
- Theoretical  $\nu$  model (52,55)
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- Electromagnetic observations (26)
- 0.1 to 100 GeV gamma-rays (40,41)
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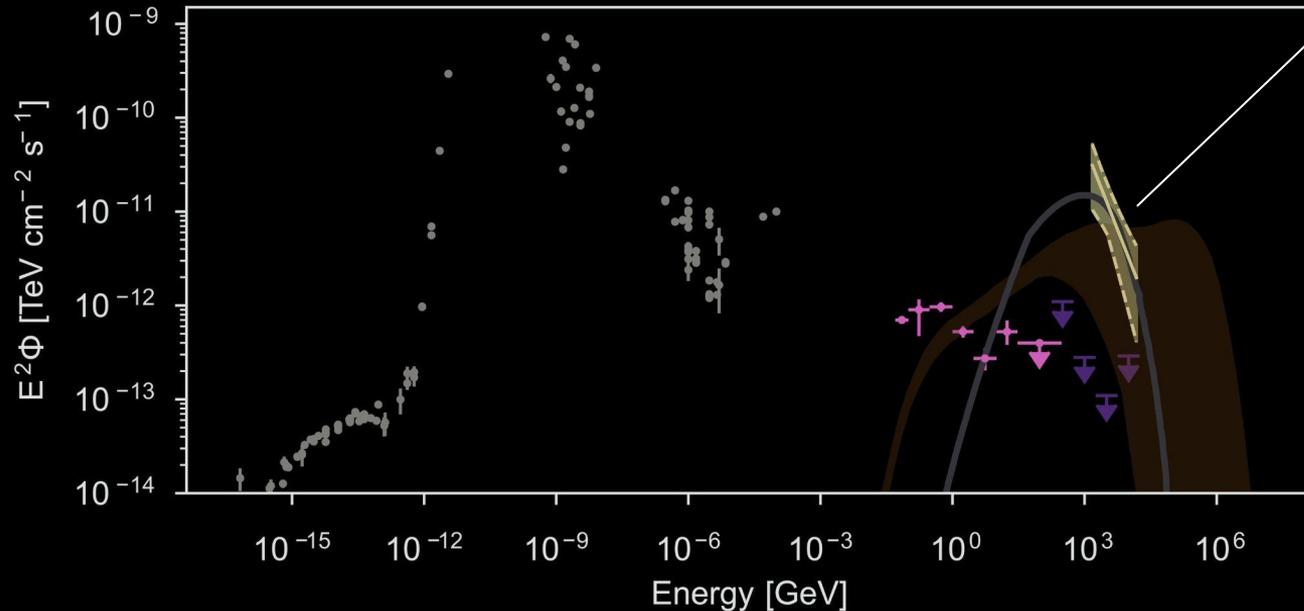
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Neutrinos, a clue for the acceleration of protons to relativistic velocities

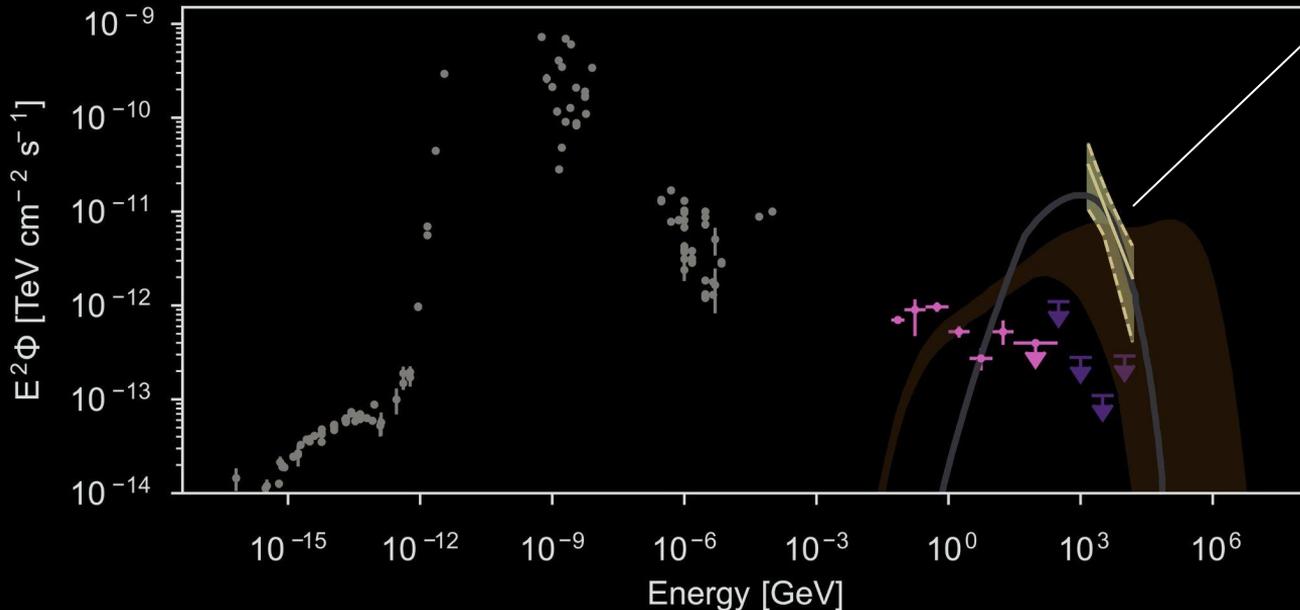


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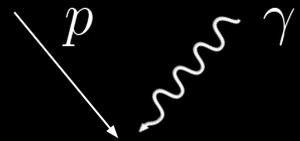


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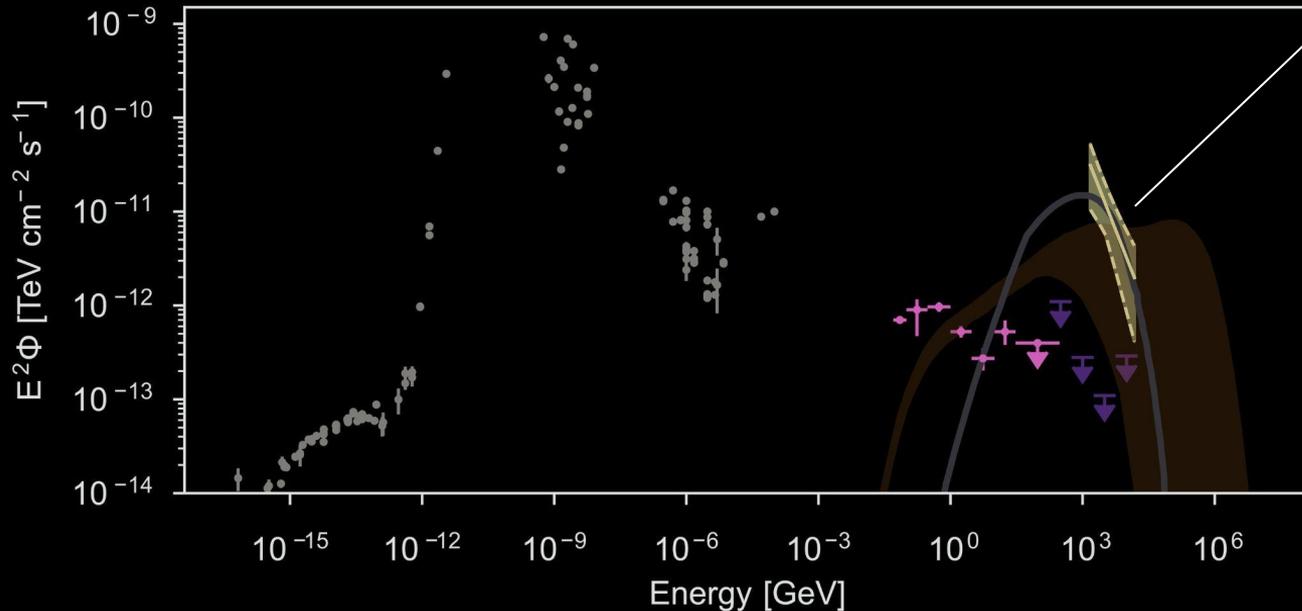
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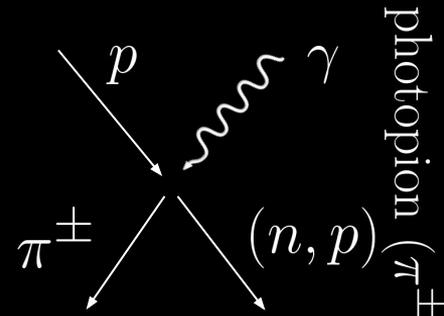
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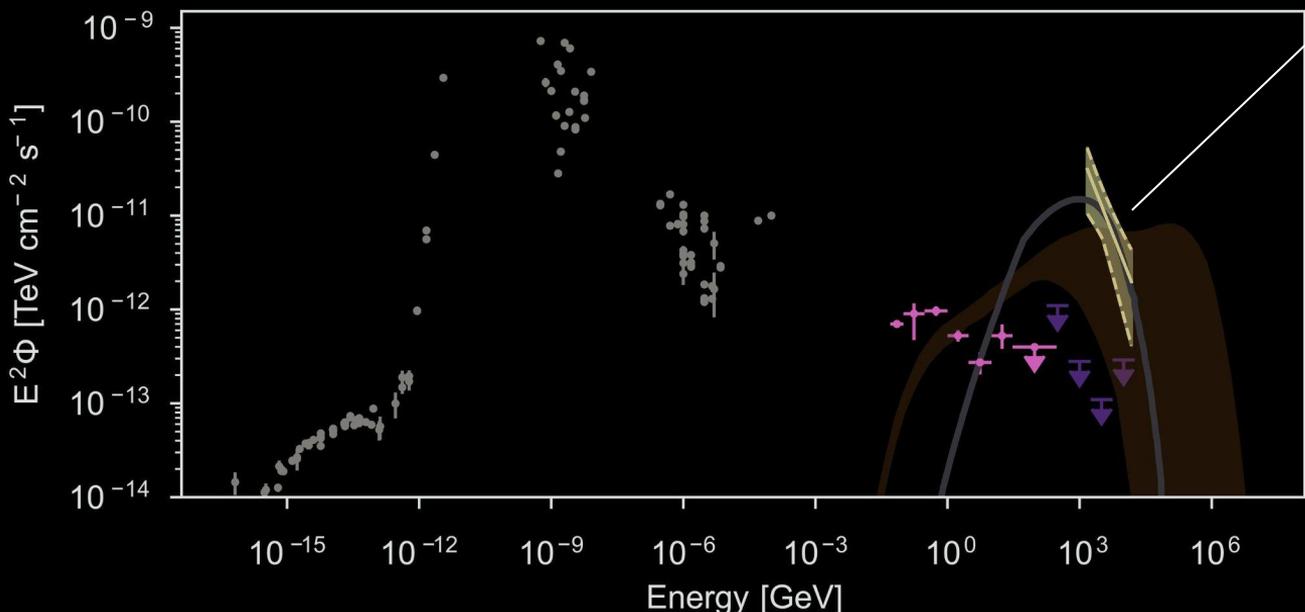
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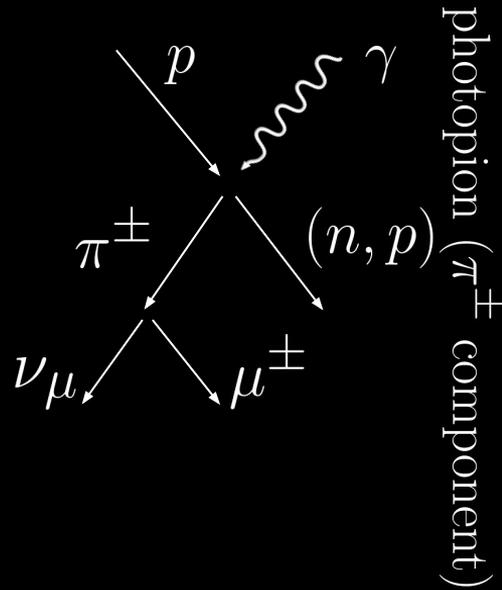


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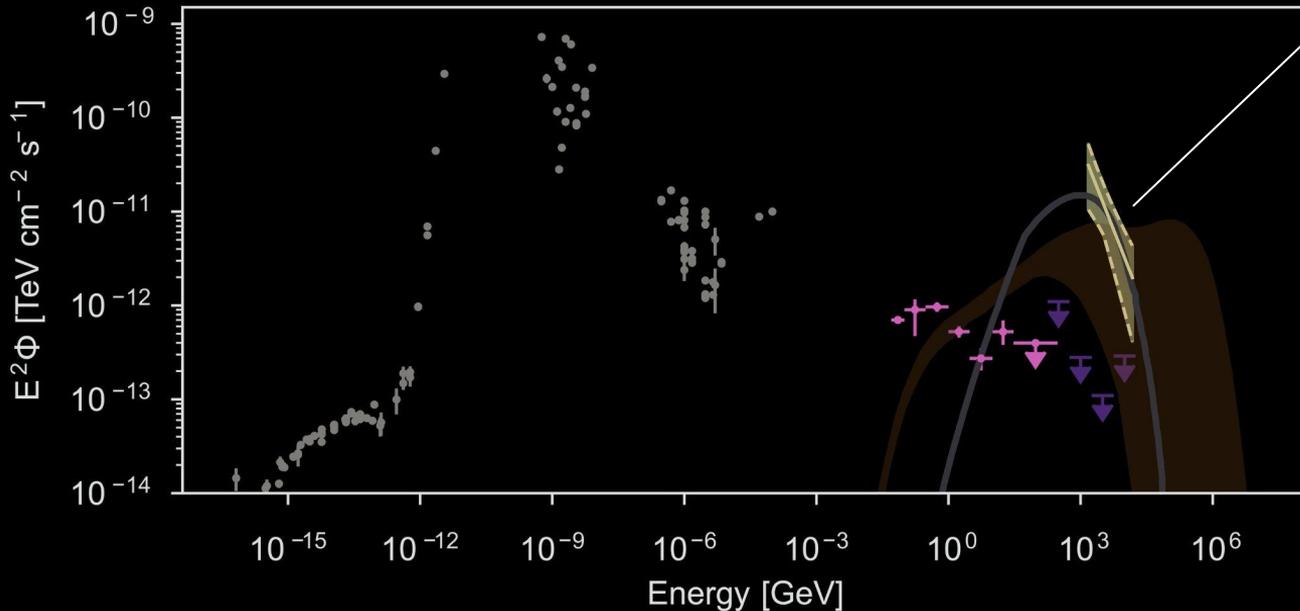


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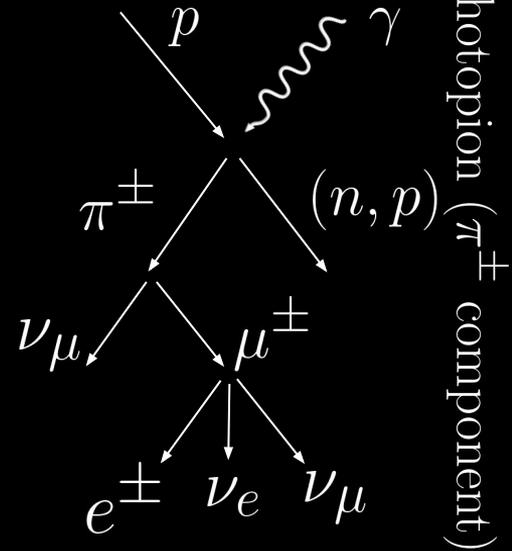


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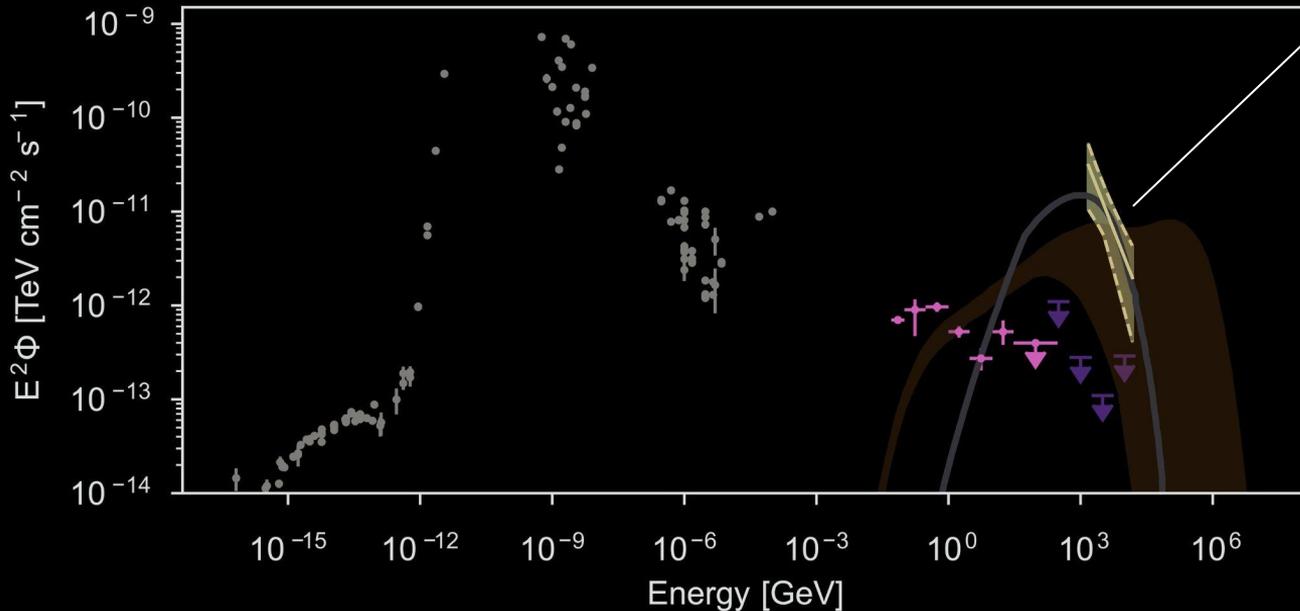


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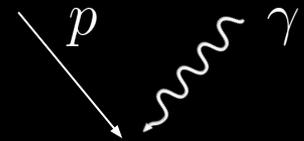


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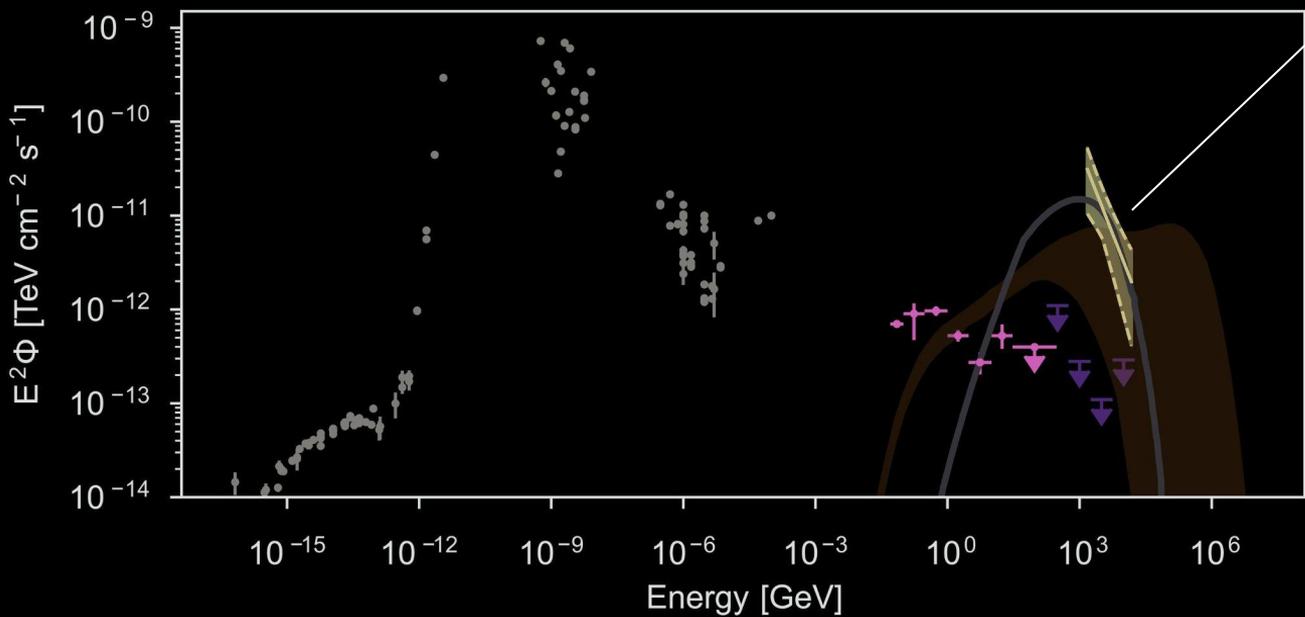
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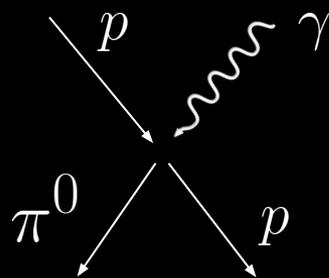


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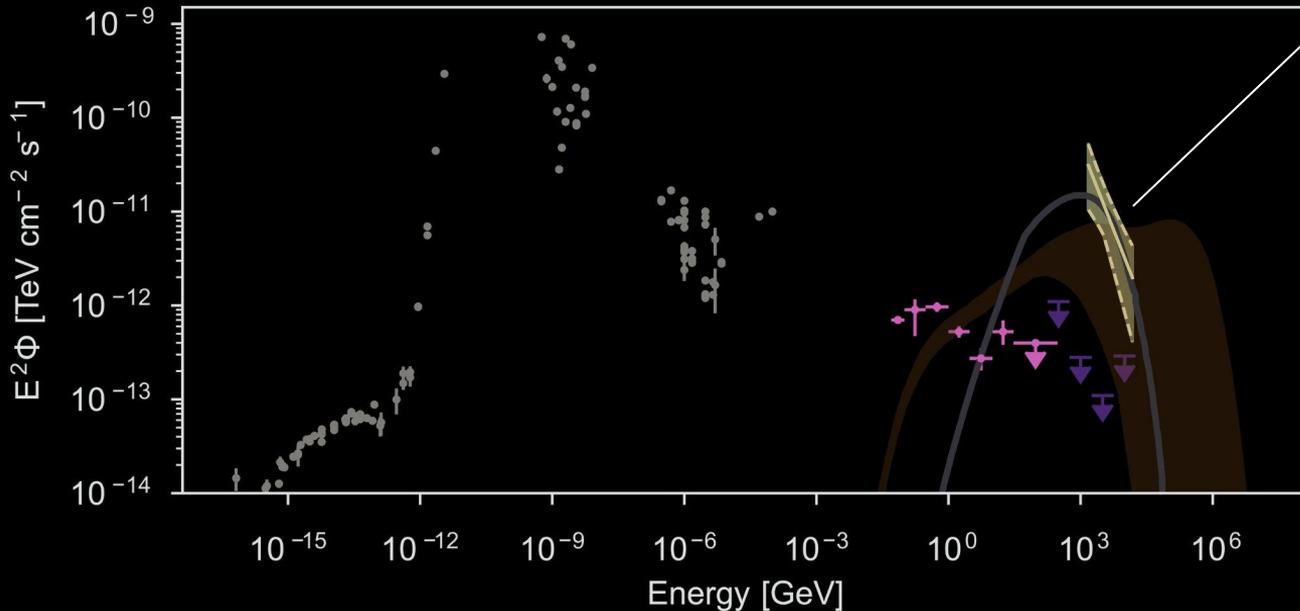
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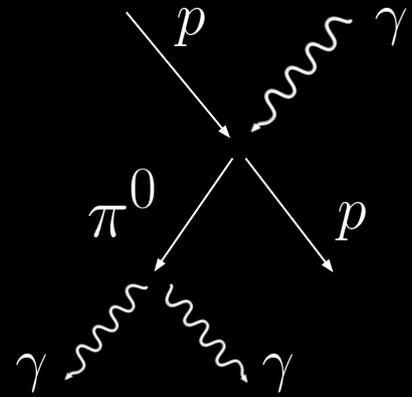


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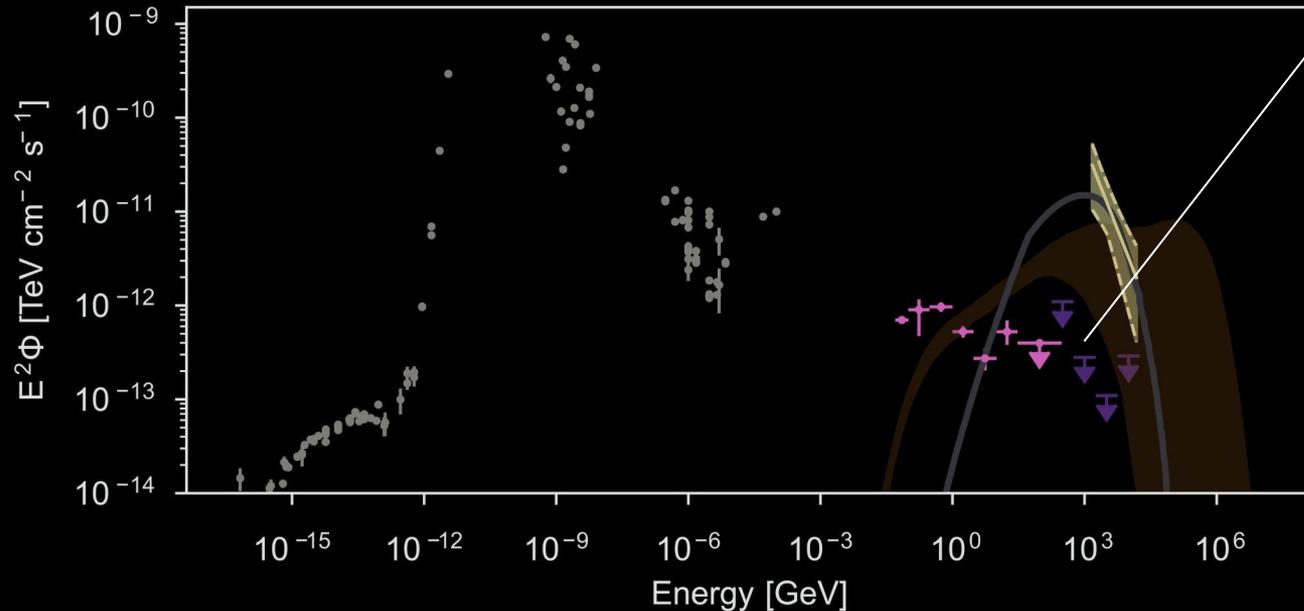
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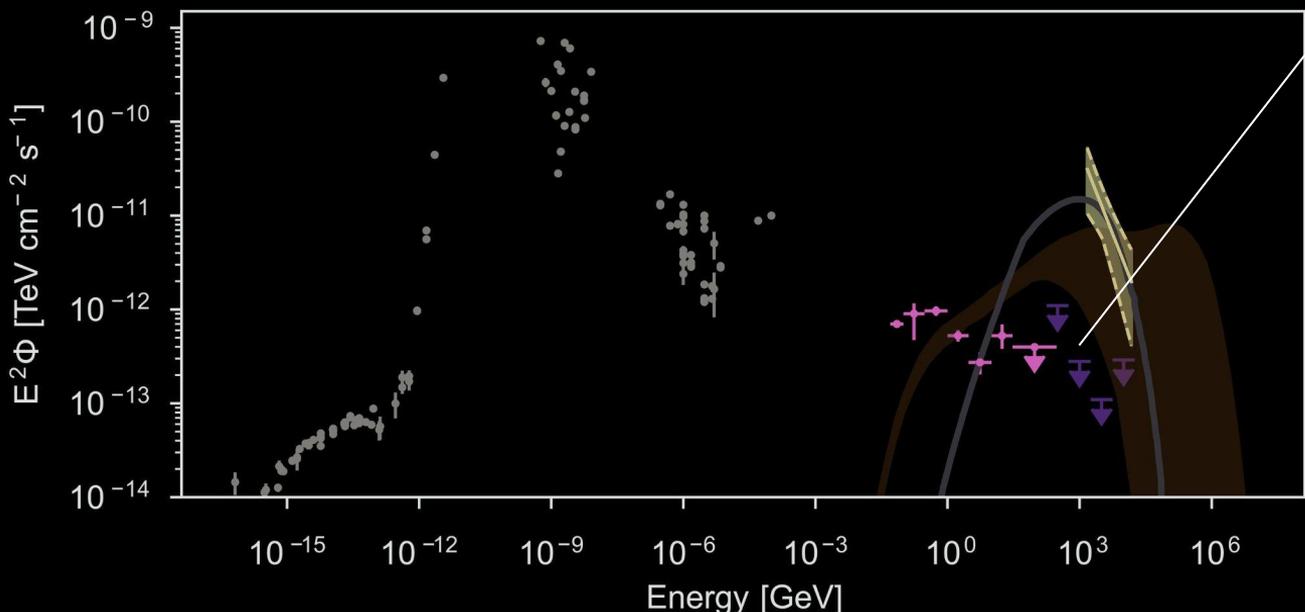


The absence of  $\gamma$  rays indicates auto-absorption due to a dense photon field

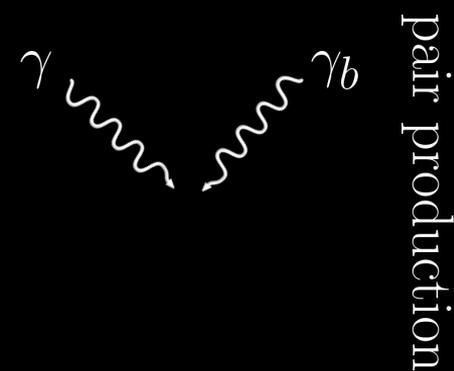


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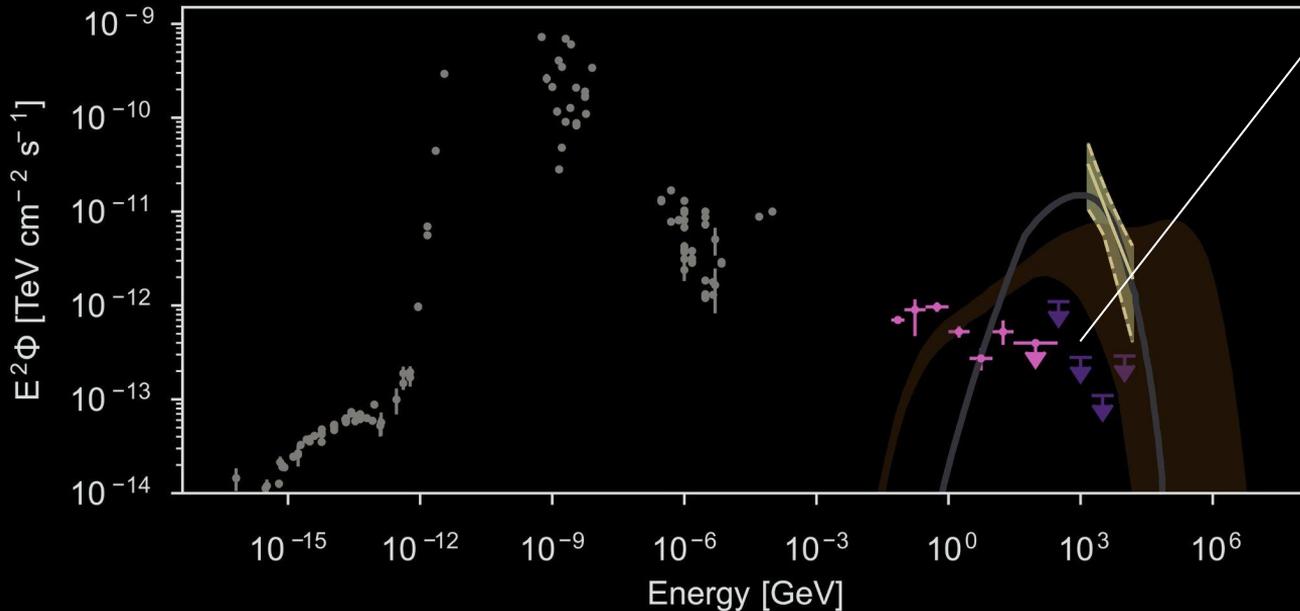


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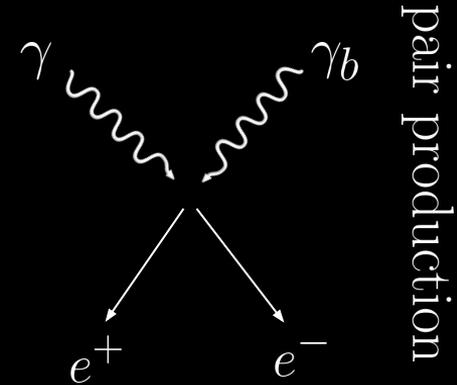


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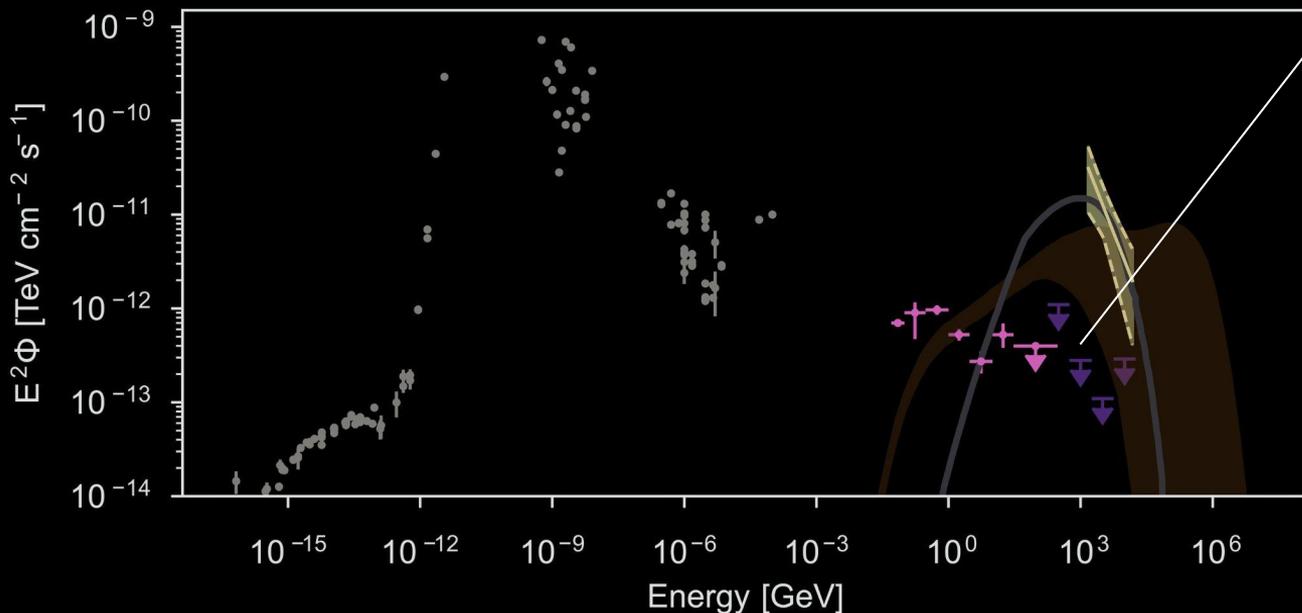


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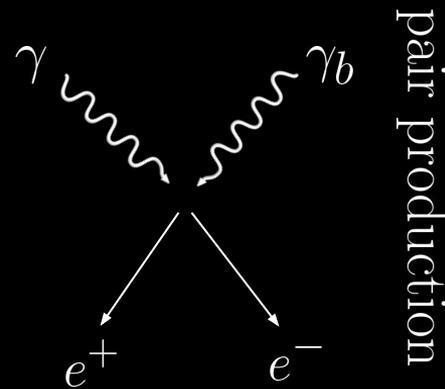


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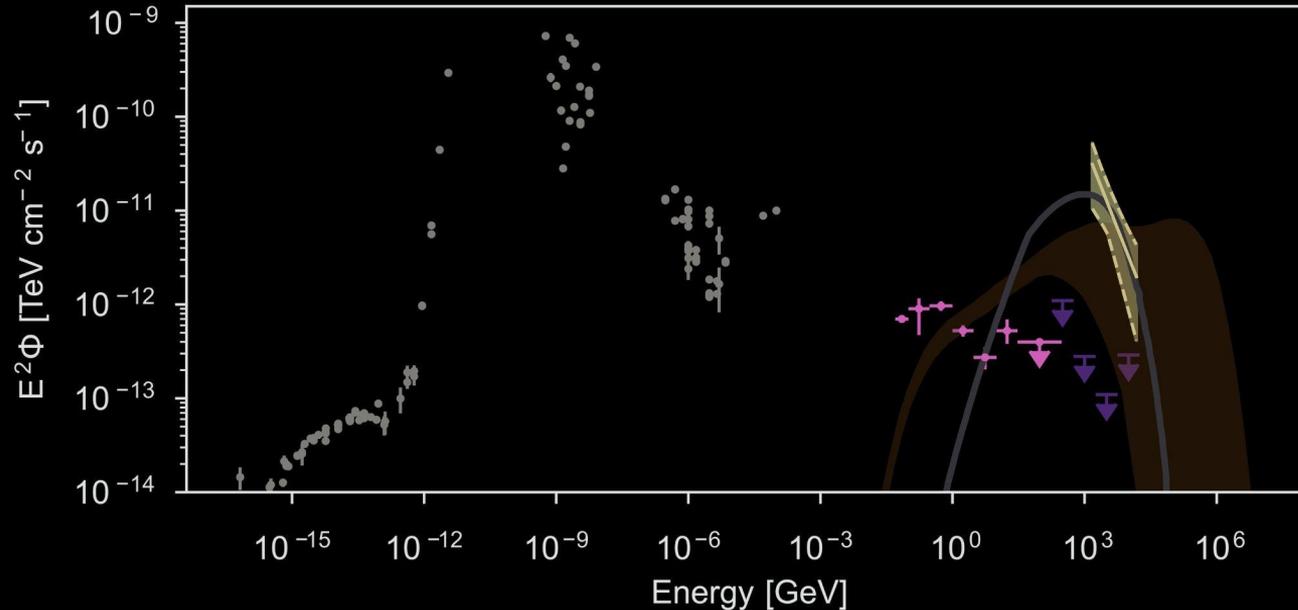
$\therefore$  The emission may become from the inner part of the AGN!

(IceCube Collaboration, 2022, Science)



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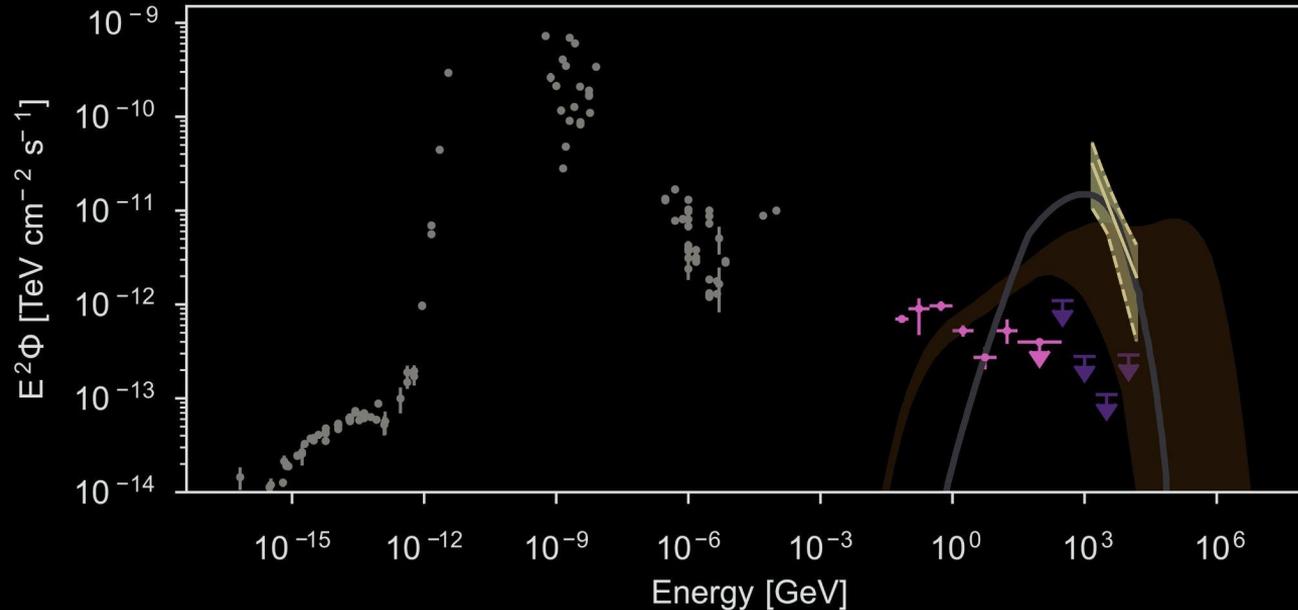
What may accelerate these protons in the surroundings of the SMBH?

(IceCube Collaboration, 2022, Science)



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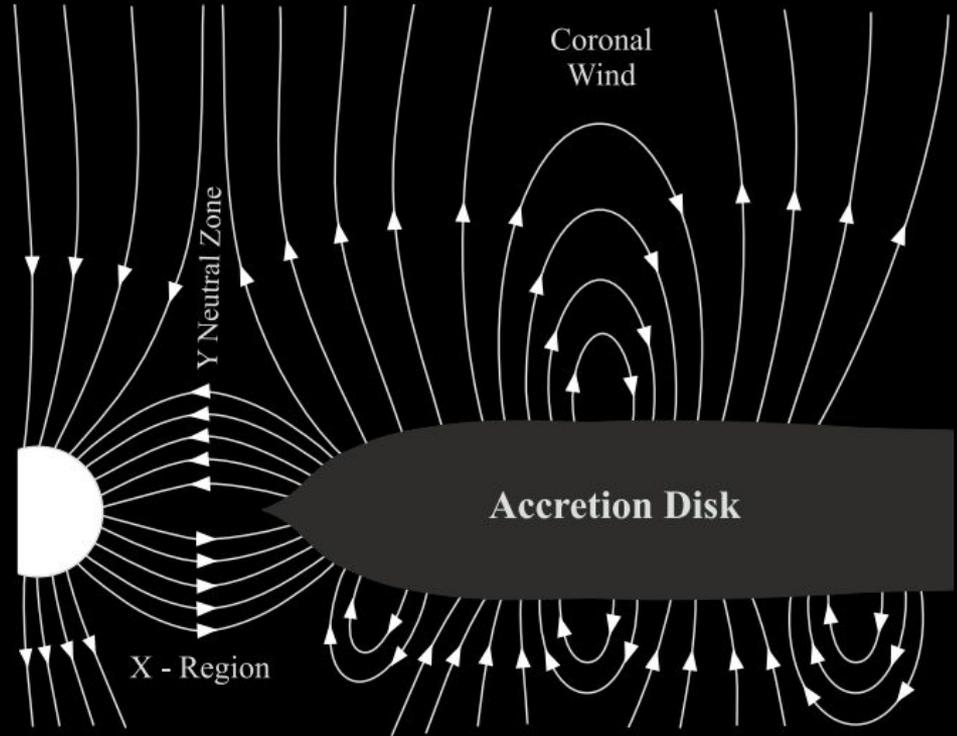
A: Magnetic Reconnection!

(IceCube Collaboration, 2022, Science)



# Magnetic Reconnection around Black Holes

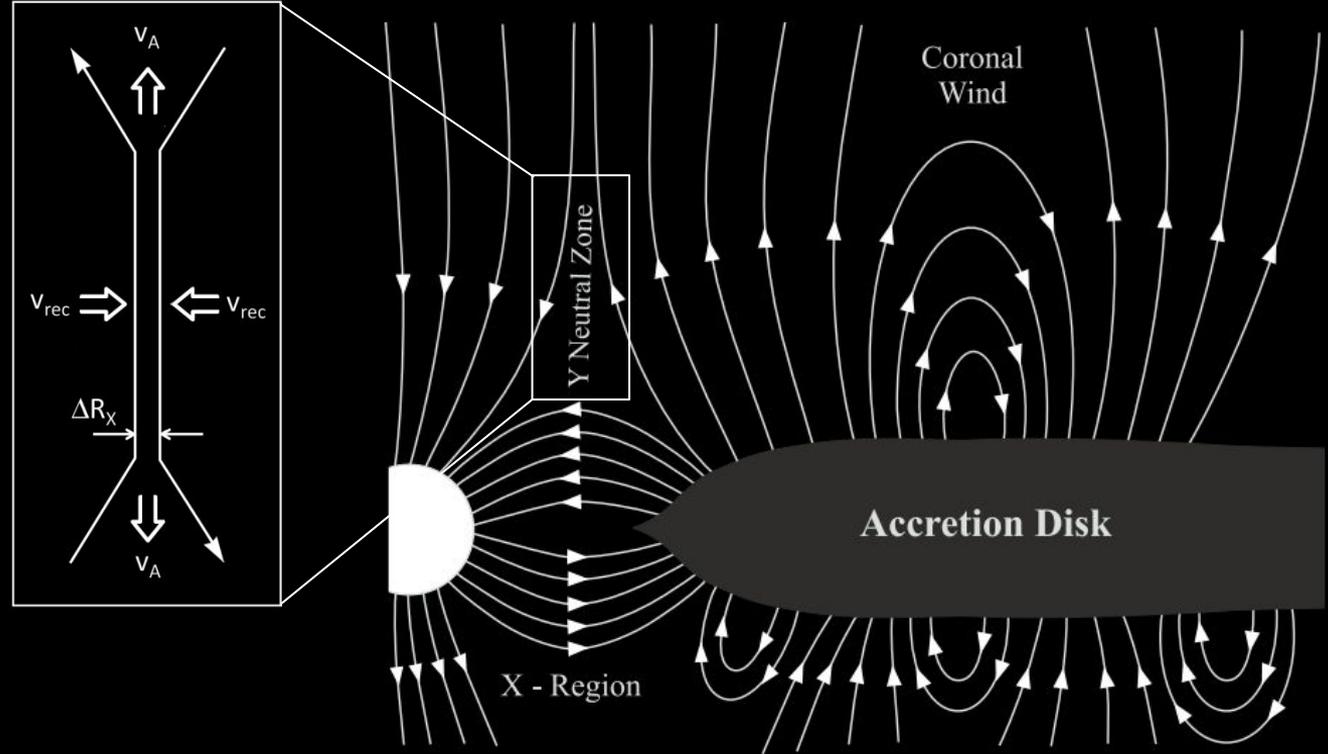
Possible configuration of the magnetic field lines for an accretion flow into a black hole



(de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian, 2005, A&A)



# Magnetic Reconnection around Black Holes



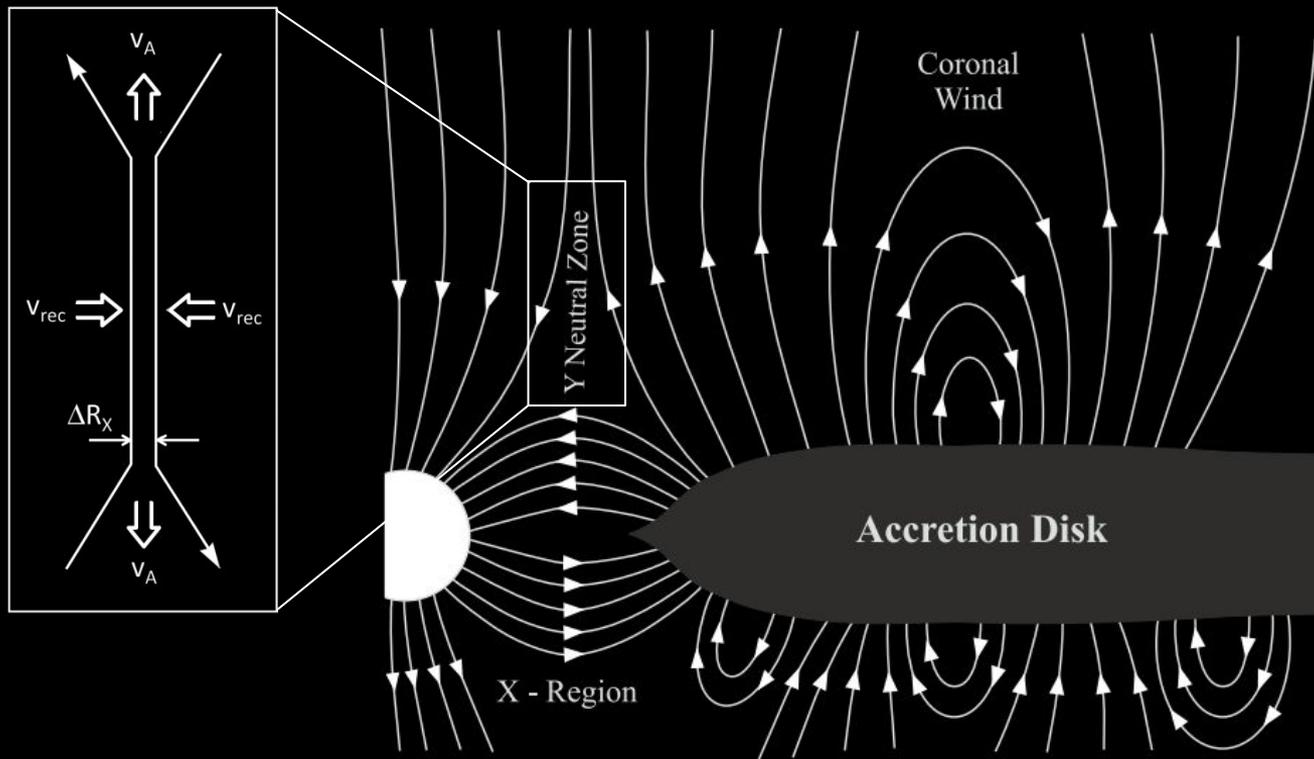
(de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian, 2005, A&A)



# Magnetic Reconnection around Black Holes

Particles can be accelerated in the magnetic discontinuity according to a first-order Fermi process:

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta E}{E} \right\rangle \sim \frac{V_{\text{rec}}}{c}$$



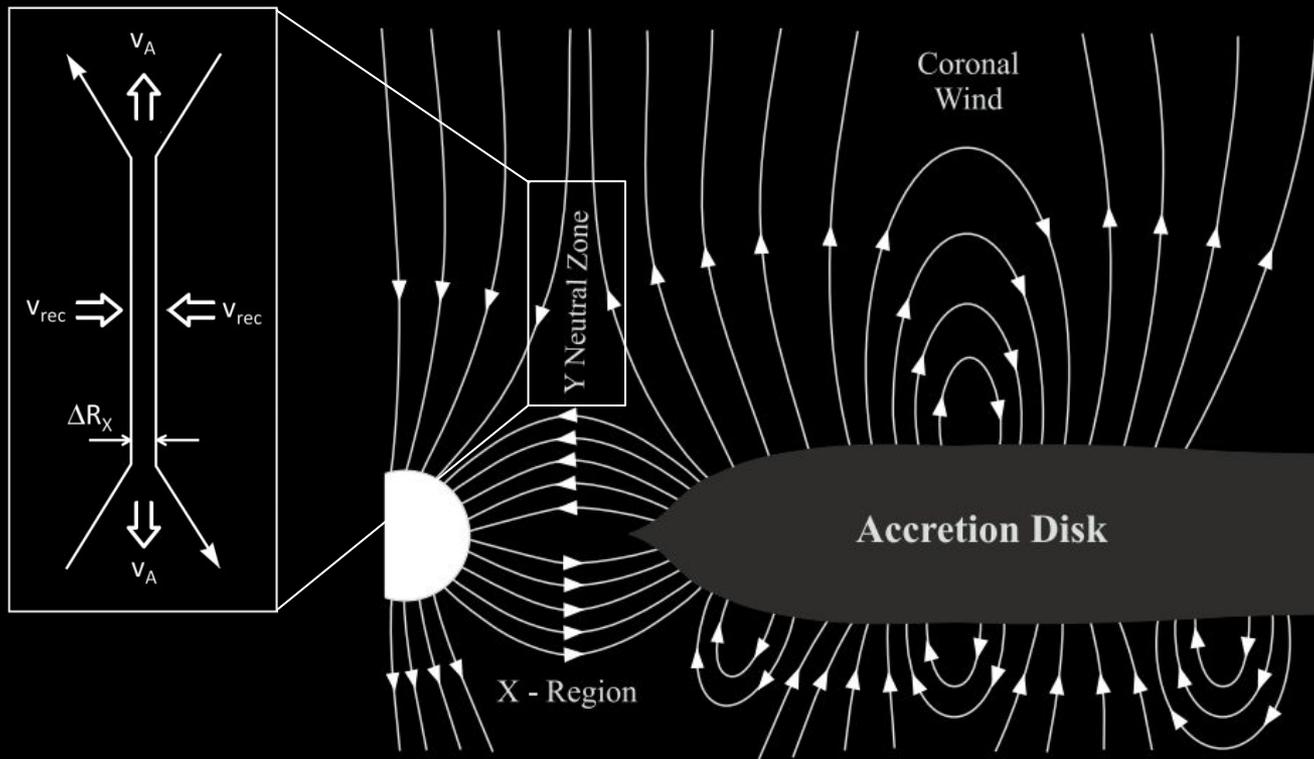
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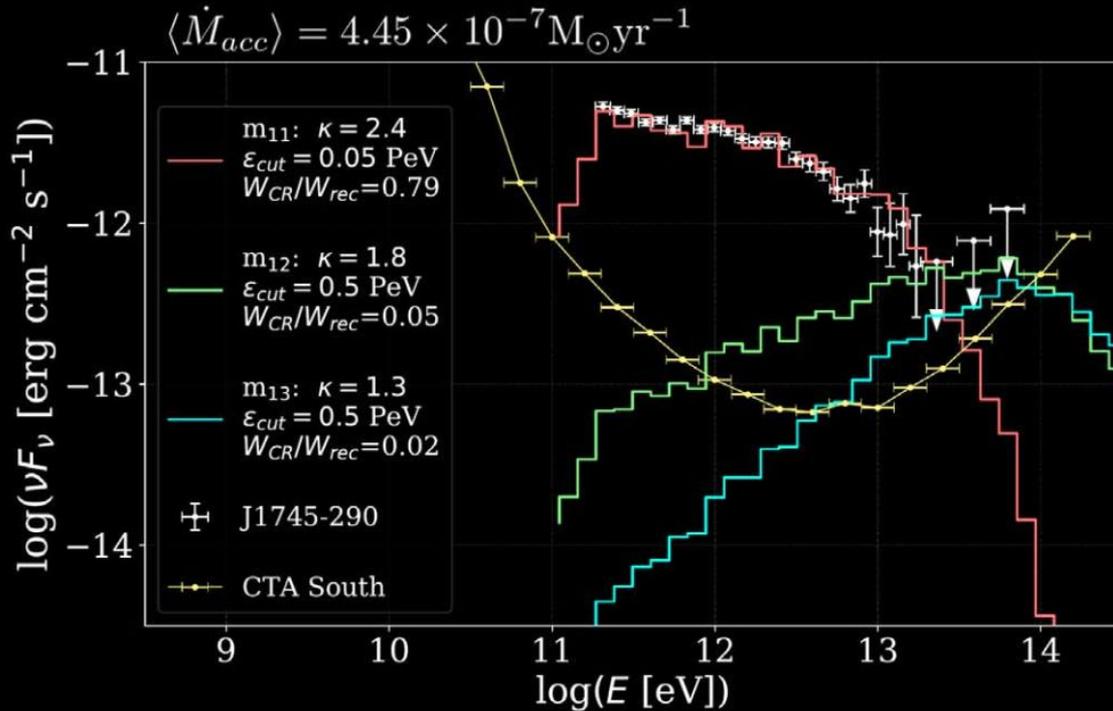
Implies an exponential growth of the energy with time!



(de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian, 2005, A&A)



# Example of application: SgrA\*

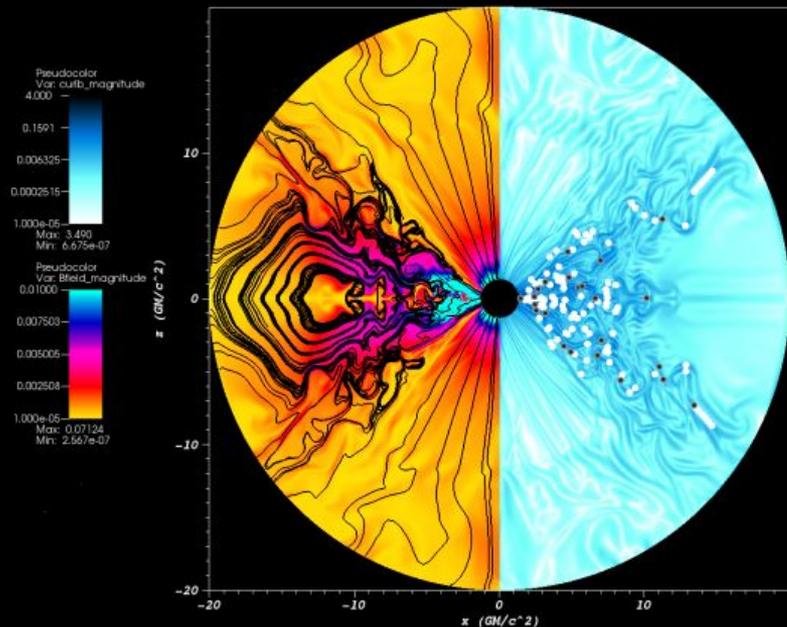
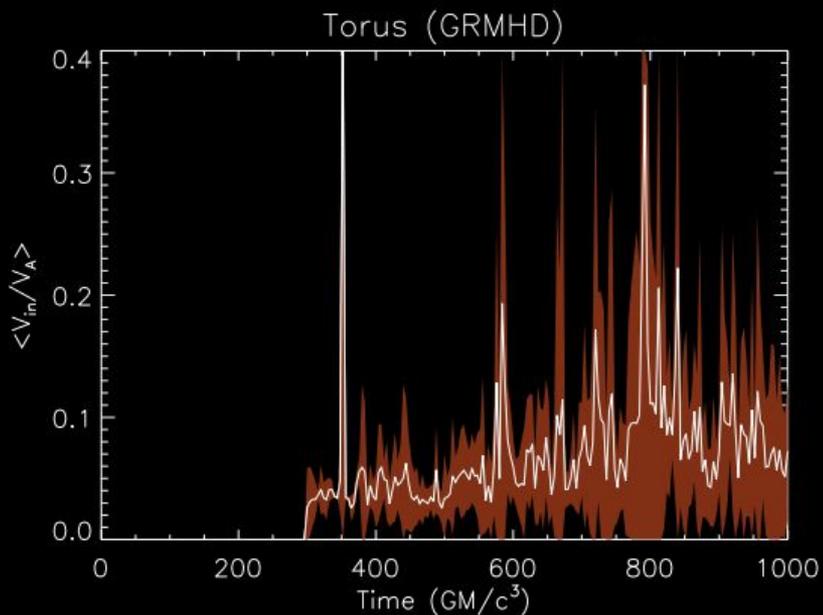


(Rodríguez-Ramírez, de Gouveia Dal Pino & Alves Batista, 2019, ApJ)



# Algorithm for search reconnection sites

Search for reconnection sites in 2D & 3D GRMHD simulations of accretion flows



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



# Testing theory with MHD simulations

In classical regime, we use the AMUN code  
(Kowal, 2009) to solve the isothermal non-ideal  
MHD equations:

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \left[ \rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v} + \left( a^2 \rho + \frac{B^2}{8\pi} \right) \mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{4\pi} \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B} \right] = \mathbf{f},$$

$$\frac{\partial A}{\partial t} + \mathbf{E} = 0,$$



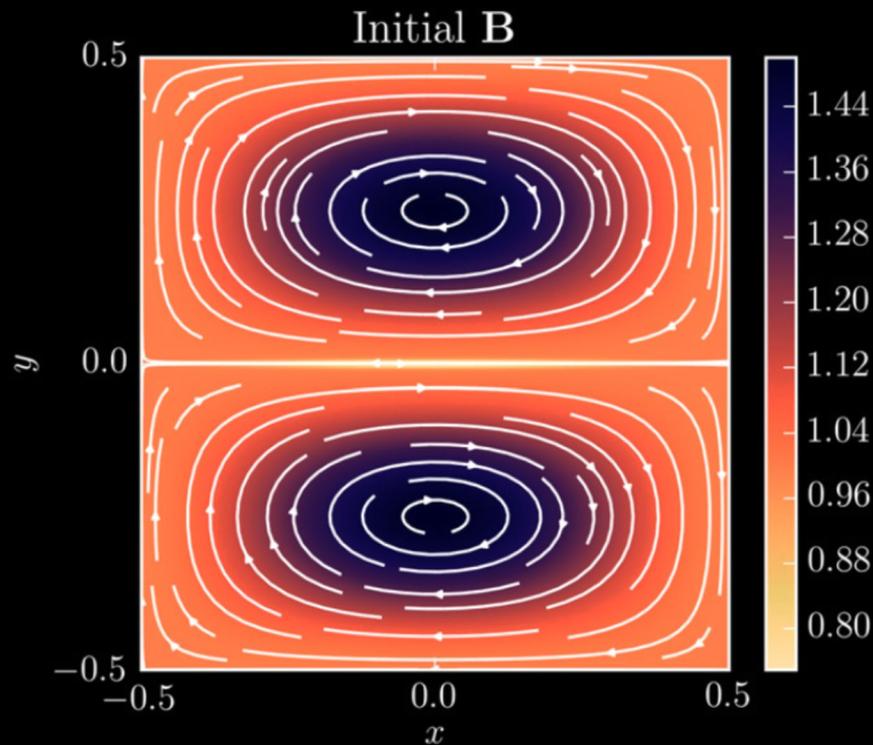
# Testing theory with MHD simulations

and the initial magnetic field is given by

$$\vec{B} = B_z \hat{z} + \hat{z} \times \nabla \psi,$$

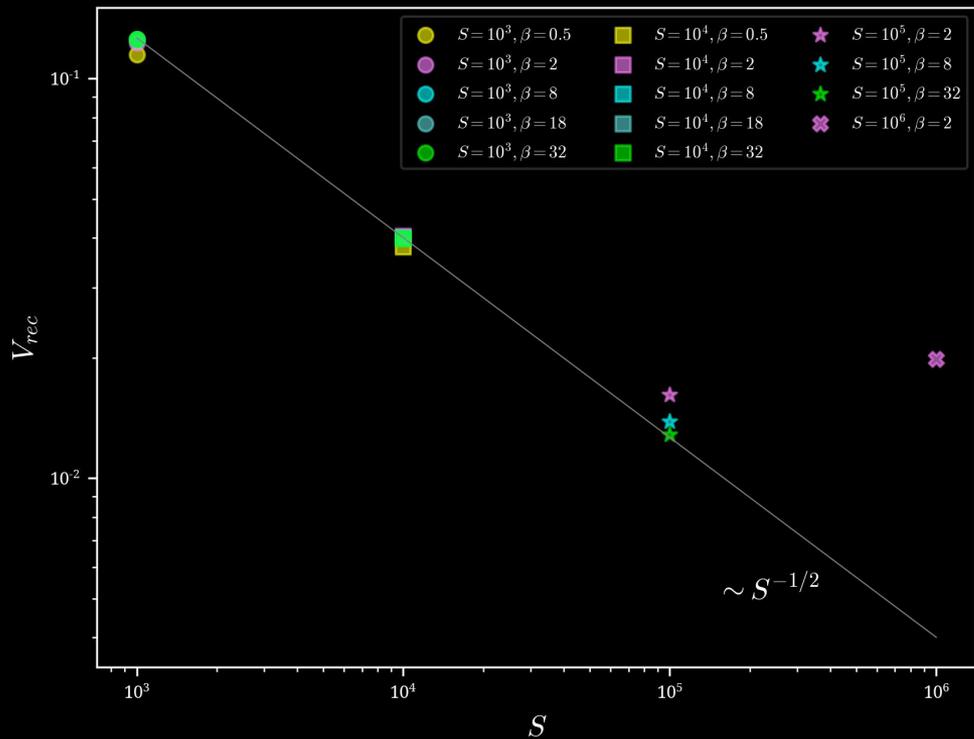
where

$$\psi = \frac{1}{2\pi} \tanh\left(\frac{y}{h}\right) \cos(\pi x) \sin(2\pi y)$$





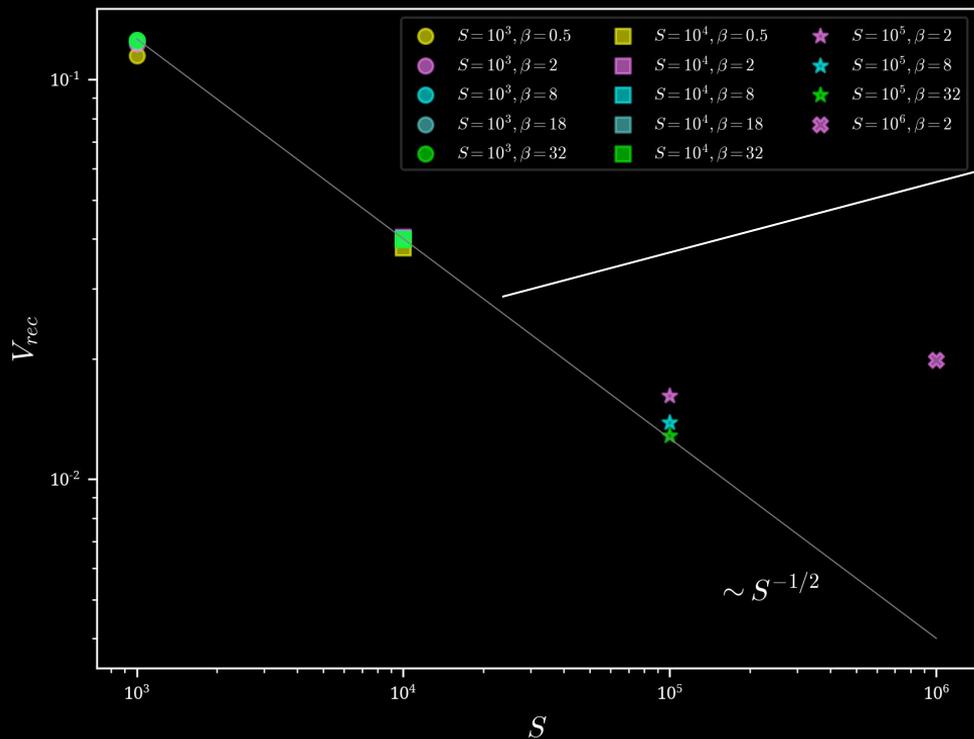
# Testing theory with MHD simulations



(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)



# Testing theory with MHD simulations

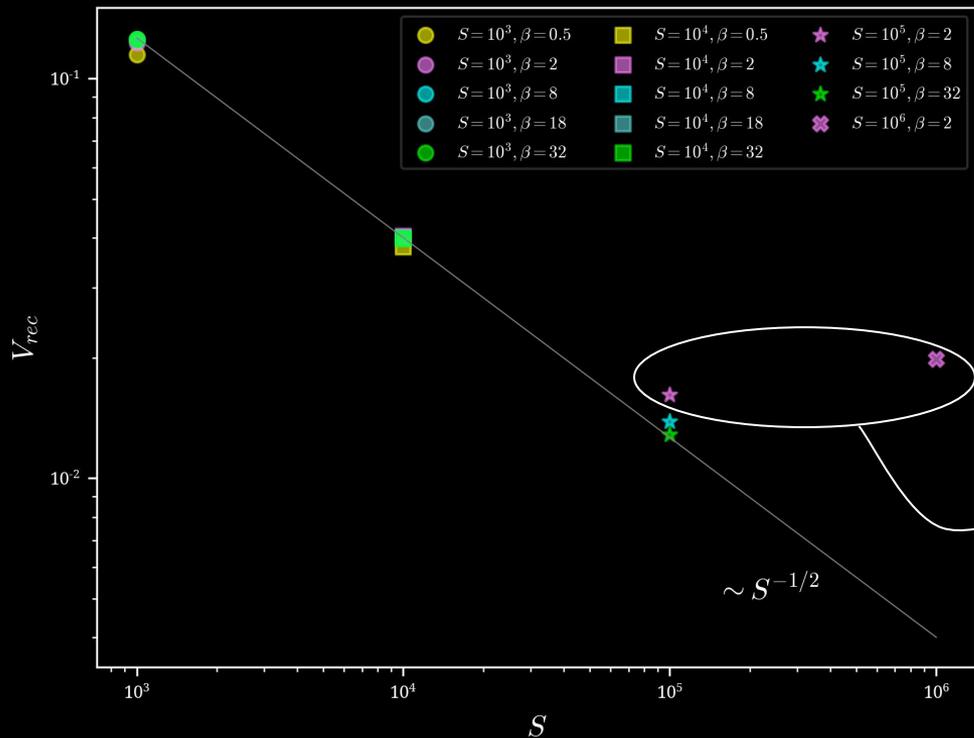


We can recover the Sweet-Parker regime for low-Lundquist numbers!

(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)



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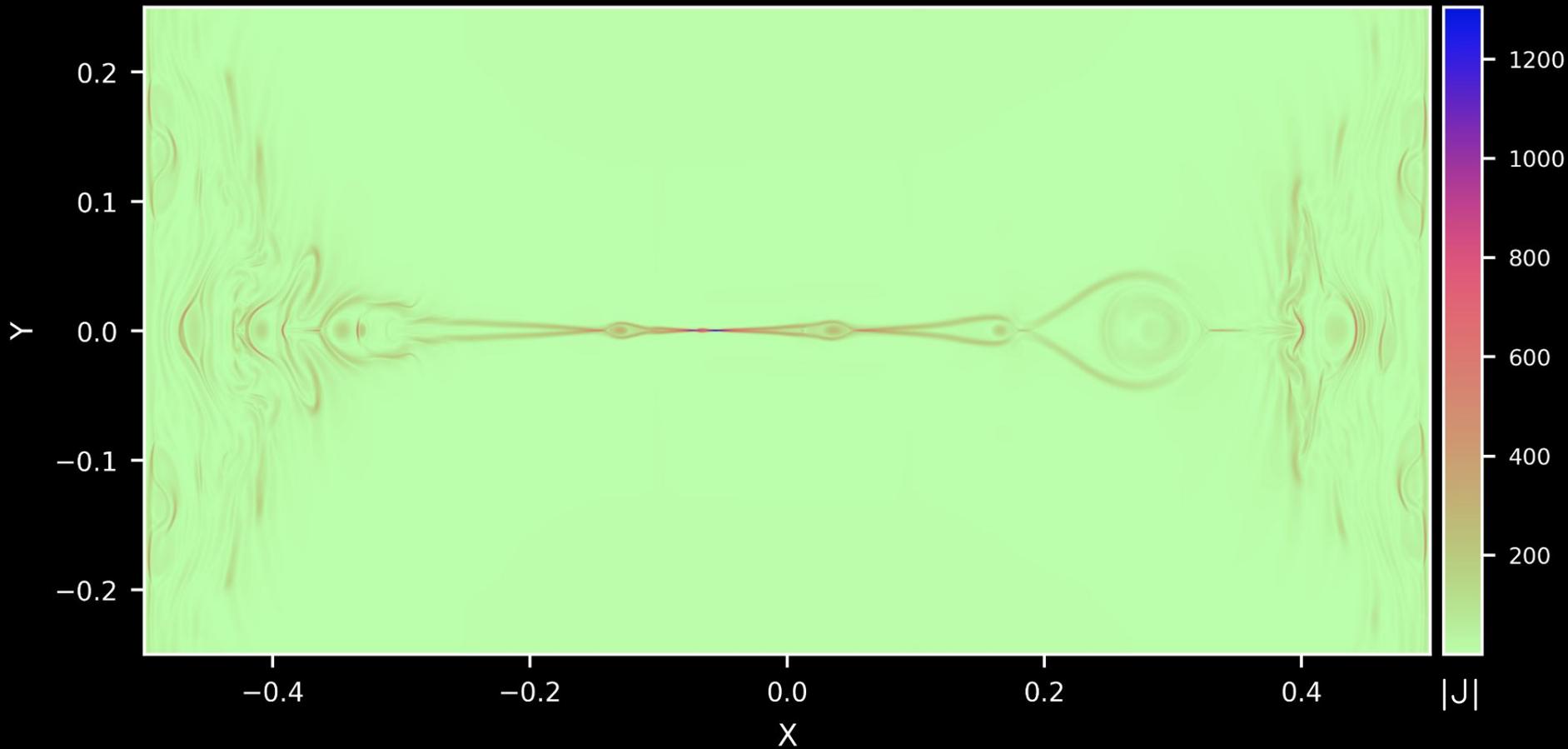


We can recover the Sweet-Parker regime for low-Lundquist numbers!

The reconnection rate starts to deviate from SP for high-Lundquist numbers (plasmoid instability)

(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)

Time = 2.40

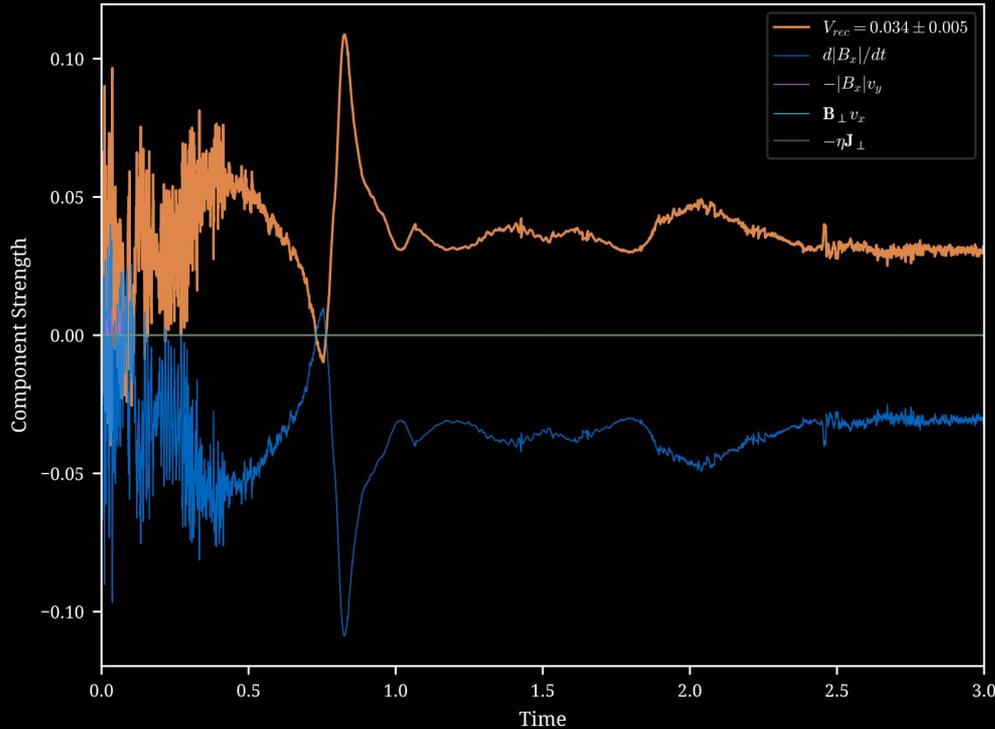


(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)



# Testing theory with MHD simulations

Reconnection Measure Components



(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)

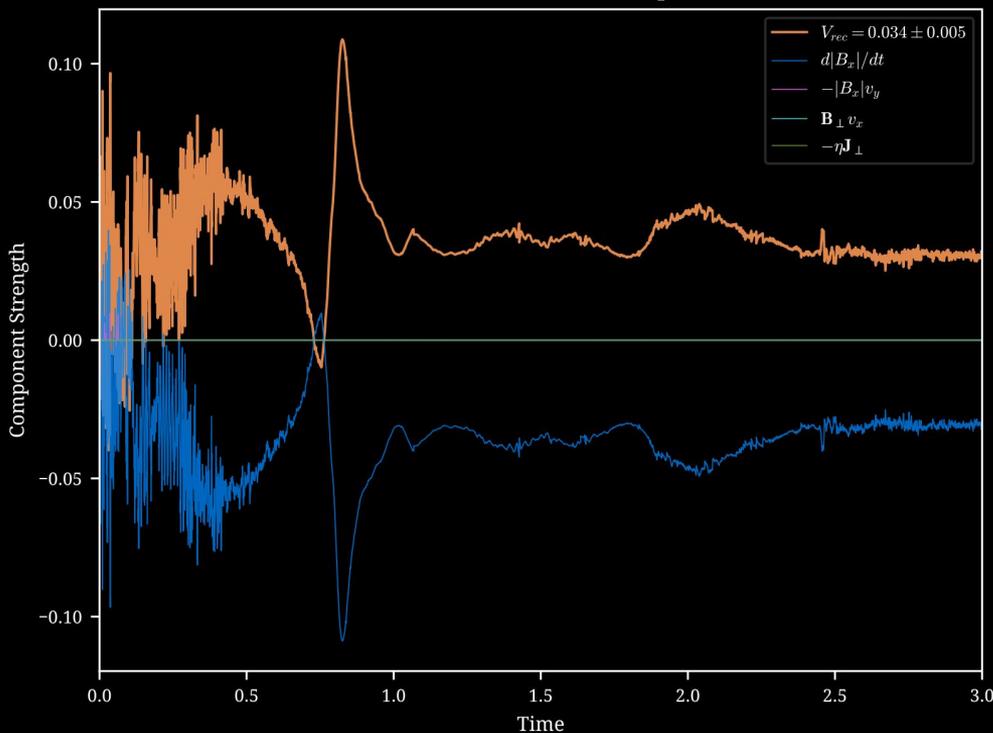
For the case where we inject forced turbulence initially in the domain (up to  $0.1 t_A$ ), we can reach high values of

$$V_{rec} \sim 0.1 V_A$$



# Testing theory with MHD simulations

Reconnection Measure Components



(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)

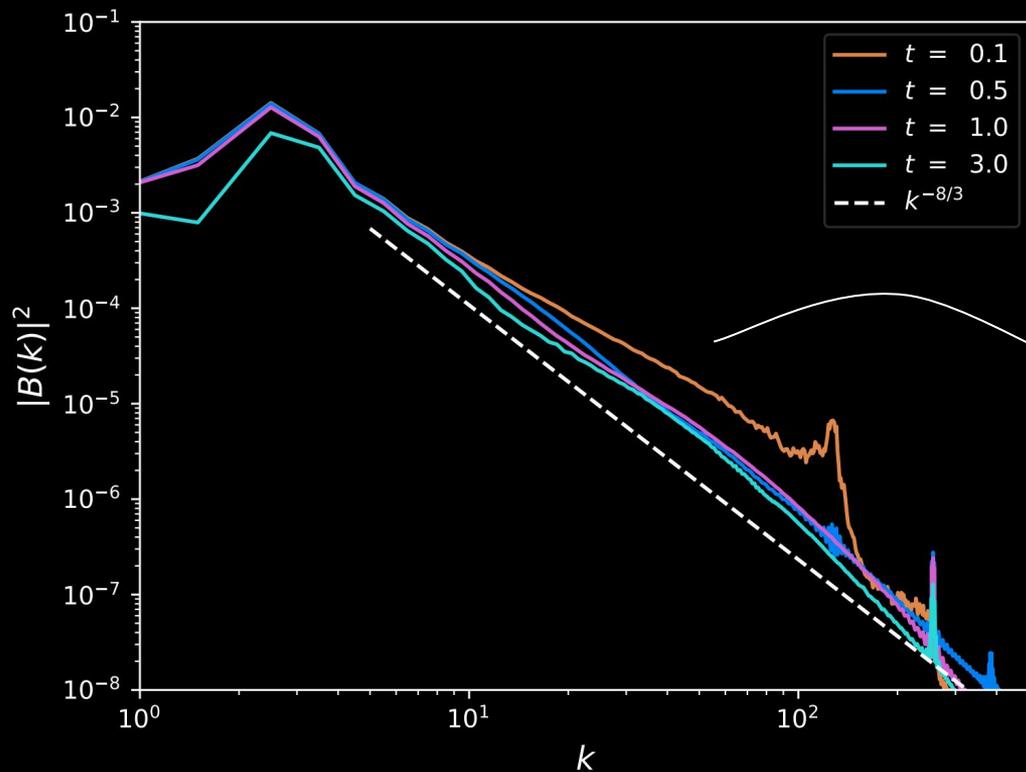
For the case where we inject forced turbulence initially in the domain (up to  $0.1 t_A$ ), we can reach high values of

$$V_{rec} \sim 0.1 V_A$$

even after the turbulence injection is stopped.



# Testing theory with MHD simulations



The system remains turbulent longer after the turbulence injection!

(Vicentin et al., *in prep.*)



# Conclusions & take-home messages

- Magnetic reconnection is ubiquitous in Astrophysics
  - Solar flares



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  - from theory and global GRMHD sims.



# Conclusions & take-home messages

- Magnetic reconnection is ubiquitous in Astrophysics
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  - Independent on  $S$  and  $\eta$
- Turbulent magnetic reconnection around BHs can explain VHE emission from these compact sources
  - from theory and global GRMHD sims.
- Classical MHD simulations have showed that the system remains turbulent even after injection is stopped



Thank you!



Any question?

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