



Shocks and cosmic ray acceleration in MHD simulations

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in collaboration with

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T. Thomas,¹ M. Werhahn¹, G. Winner

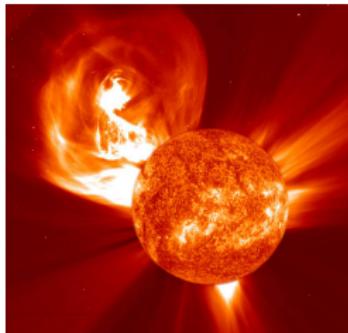
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Potsdam Plasma Workshop, AIP, Nov 2022



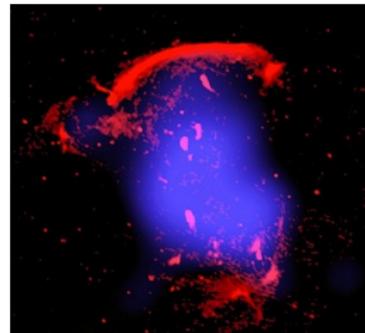
Astrophysical shocks



solar system shocks $\sim R_{\odot}$
coronal mass ejection (SOHO)



interstellar shocks ~ 20 pc
supernova 1006 (CXC/Hughes)



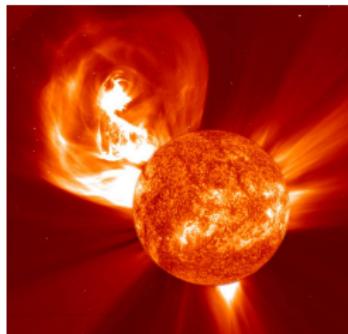
cluster shocks ~ 2 Mpc
giant radio relic (van Weeren)



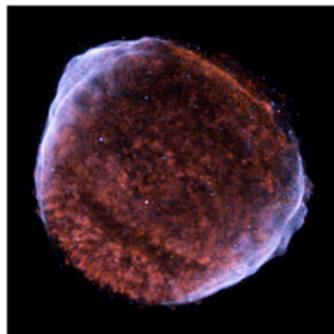
Astrophysical shocks

Astrophysical collisionless shocks can:

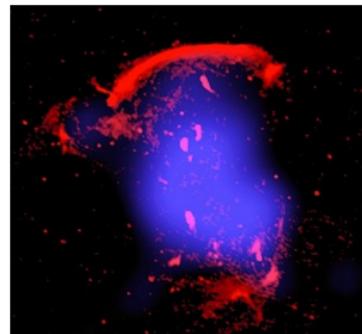
- **accelerate particles** (electrons and ions) → cosmic rays (CRs)
- **amplify magnetic fields** (or generate them from scratch)



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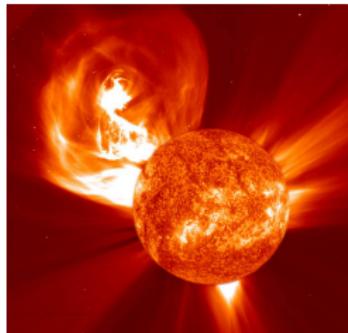
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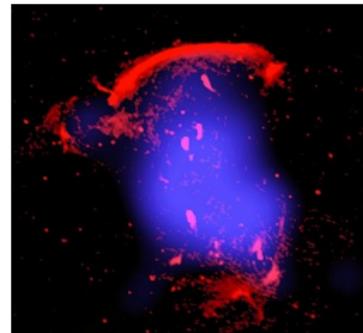
- **accelerate particles** (electrons and ions) → cosmic rays (CRs)
 - **amplify magnetic fields** (or generate them from scratch)
- ⇒ **non-thermal emission** (radio to gamma rays)
- ⇒ **cosmic ray feedback in galaxies and galaxy clusters**



solar system shocks $\sim R_{\odot}$
coronal mass ejection (SOHO)



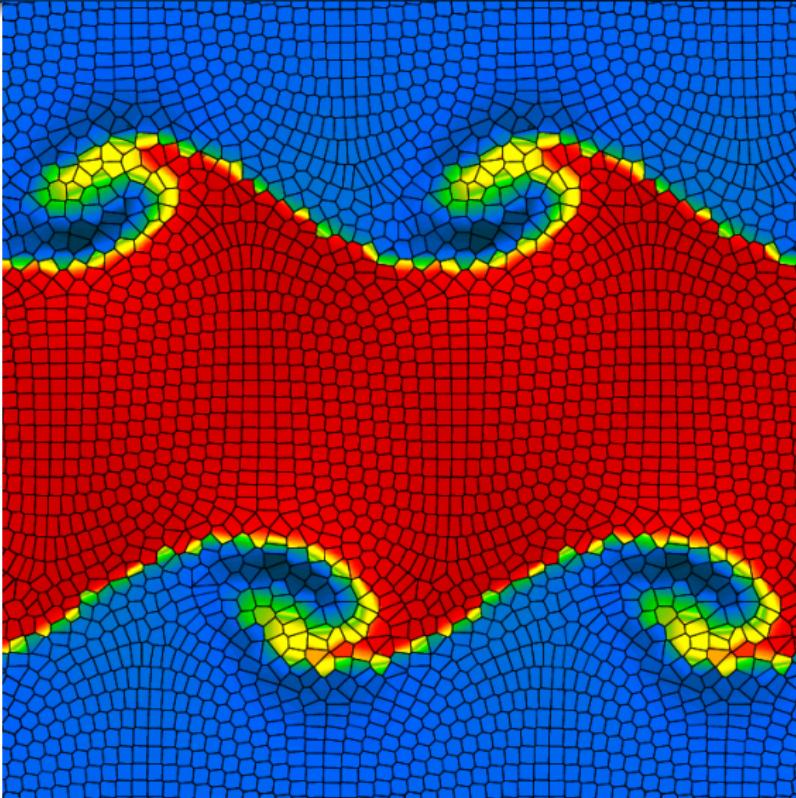
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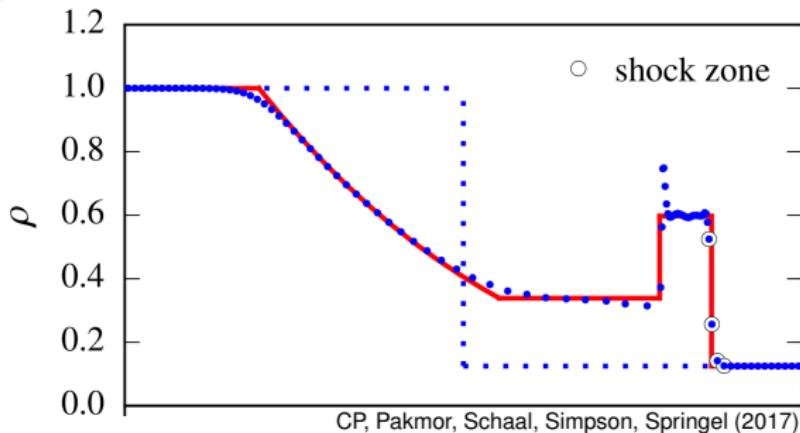
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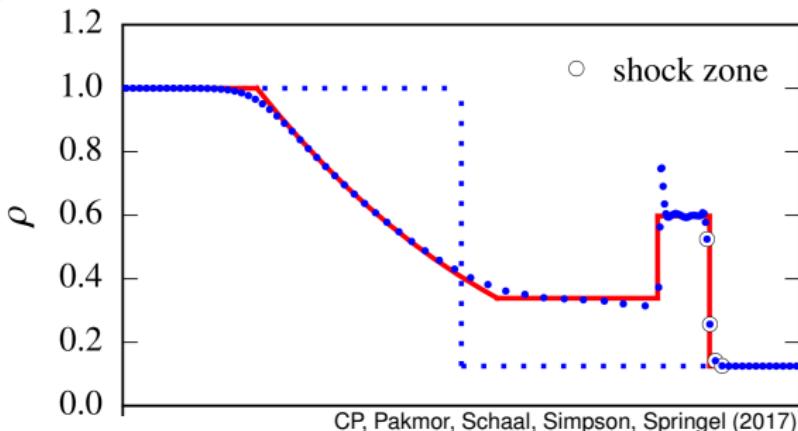
Unstructured moving-mesh code AREPO (Springel 2010)



Shock finder



Shock finder

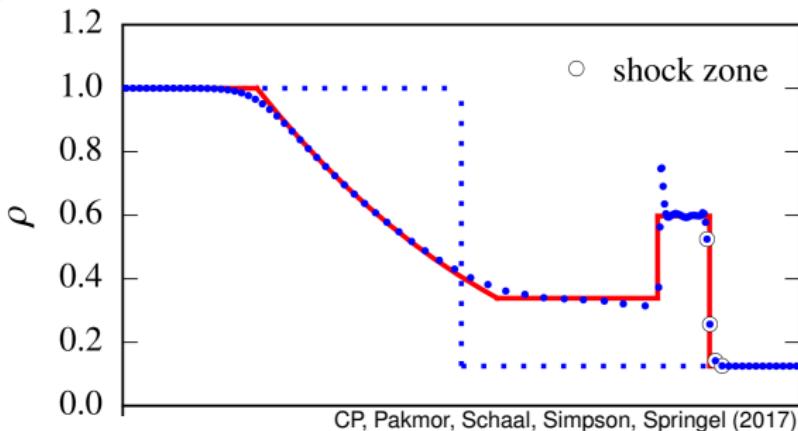


Voronoi cells belong to **shock zone** if

- $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} < 0$ (converging flow)
- $\nabla T \cdot \nabla \rho > 0$ (filtering out tangential discontinuities)
- $M_1 > M_{\min}$ (safeguard against numerical noise)



Shock finder and CR acceleration

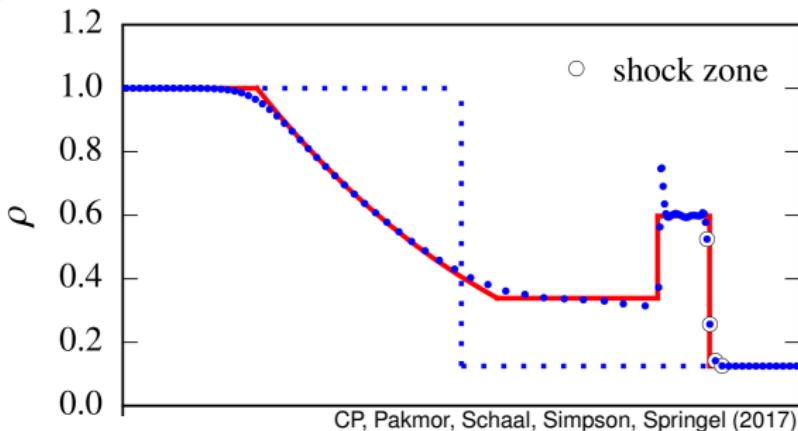


CR acceleration:

- **shock surface:** cell with most converging flow



Shock finder and CR acceleration

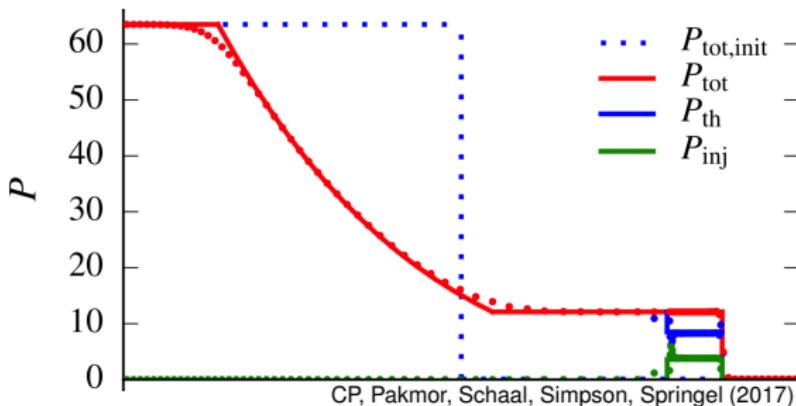


CR acceleration:

- **shock surface:** cell with most converging flow
- collect pre- and post-shock energy at shock surface $\Rightarrow E_{\text{diss}}$
- inject $\Delta E_{\text{cr}} = \zeta(\mathcal{M}_1, \theta) E_{\text{diss}}$ to shock and 1st post-shock cell



Shock finder and CR acceleration



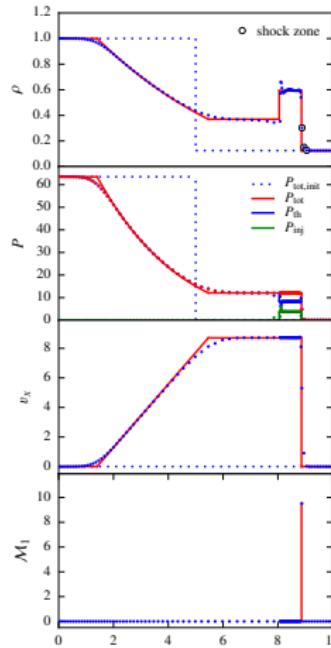
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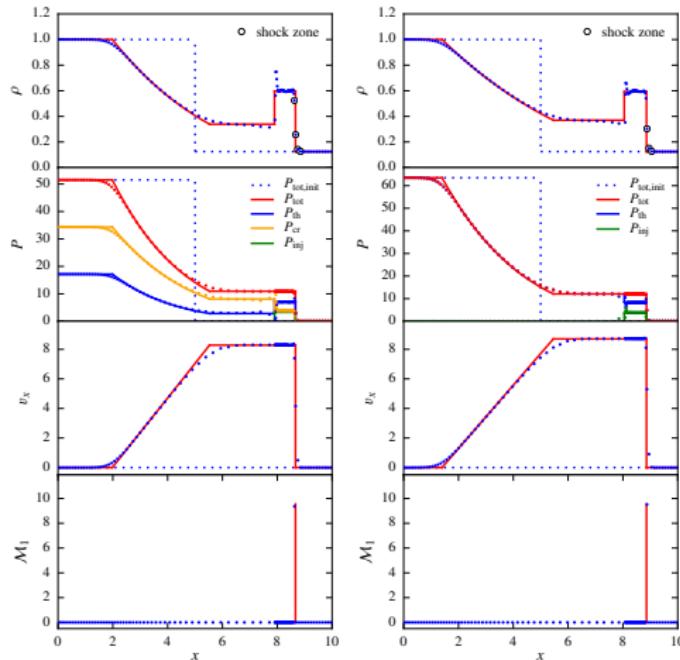
Shock finder and CR acceleration

Comparing simulations to exact solutions that include CR acceleration



Shock finder and CR acceleration

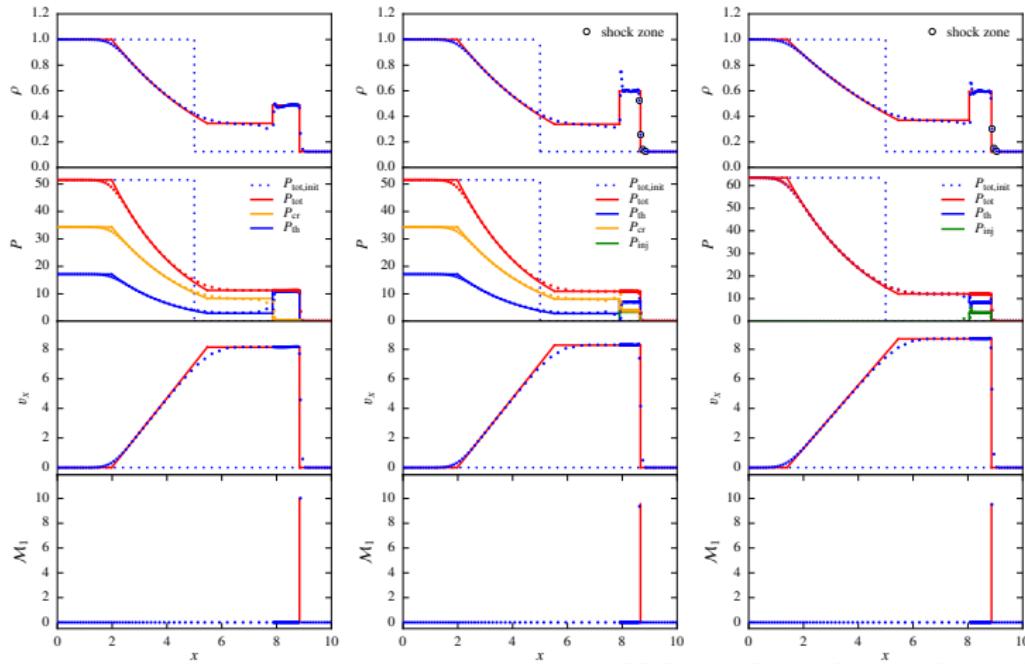
Comparing simulations to exact solutions that include CR acceleration



CP, Pakmor, Schaal, Simpson, Springel (2017)

Shock finder and CR acceleration

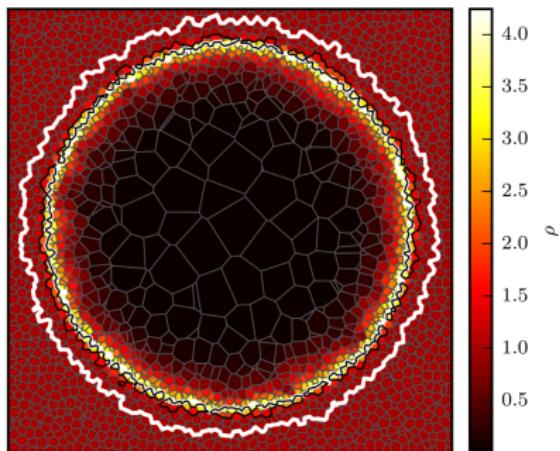
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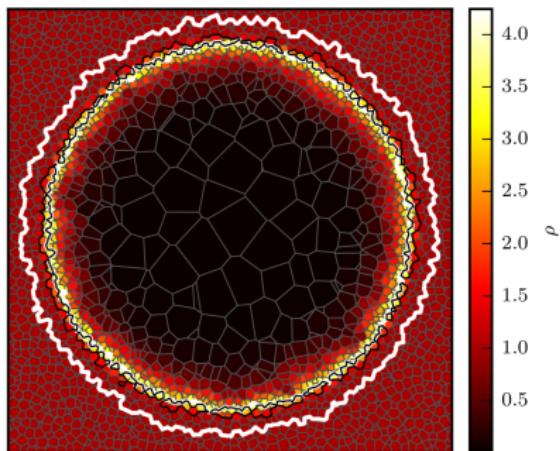
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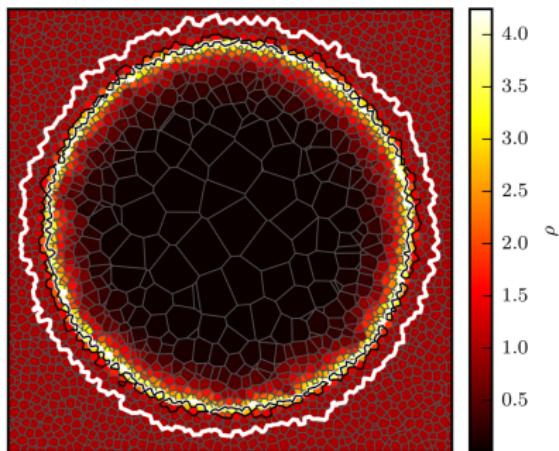
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CR acceleration:

- **shock surface:** cell with most converging flow **along ∇T**



Shock finder and CR acceleration



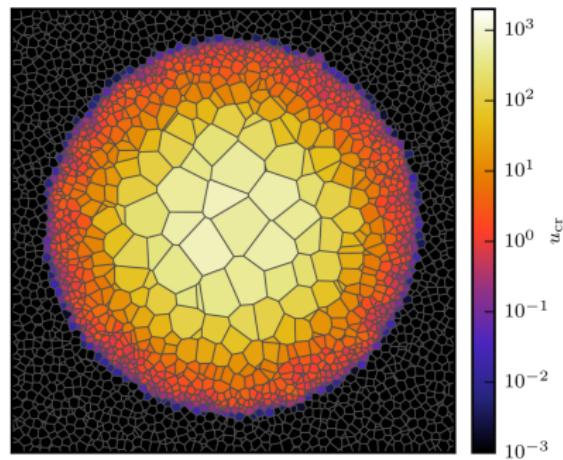
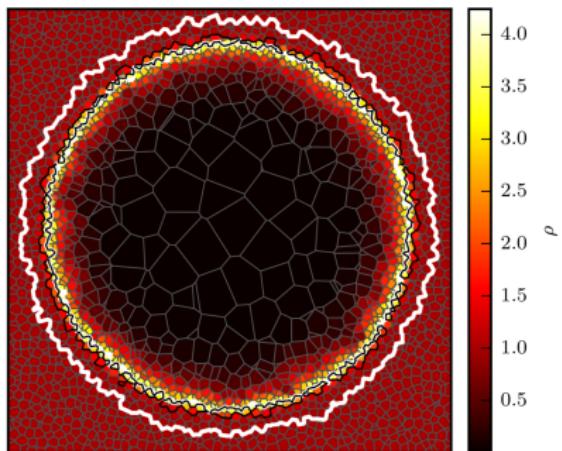
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CR acceleration:

- **shock surface:** cell with most converging flow **along ∇T**
- collect pre- and post-shock energy at shock surface
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Shock finder and CR acceleration



CP, Pakmor, Schaal, Simpson, Springel (2017)

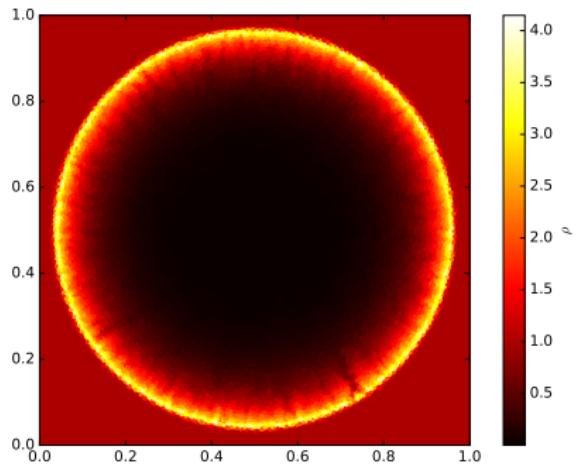
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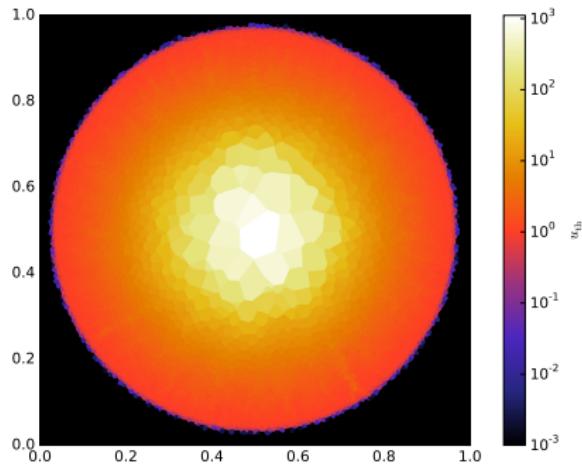


Sedov explosion

density



specific thermal energy



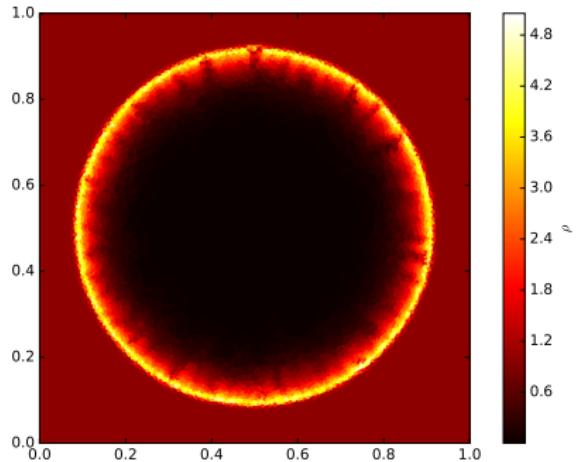
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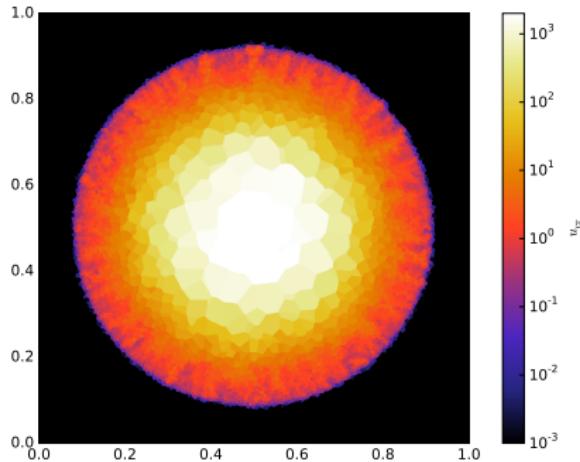
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Sedov explosion with CR acceleration

density



specific cosmic ray energy



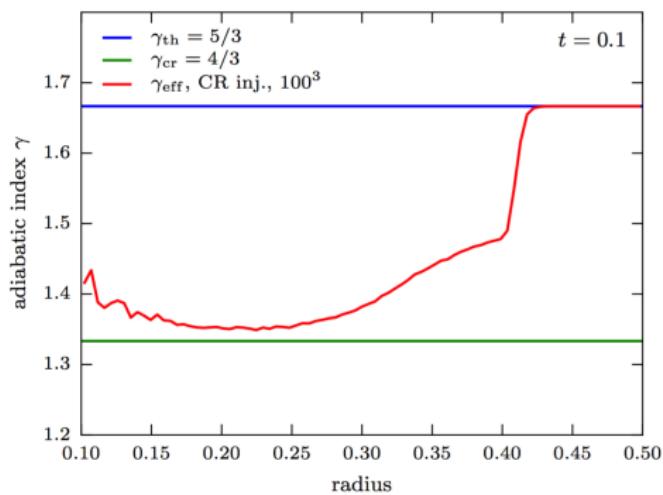
CP, Pakmor, Schaal, Simpson, Springel (2017)



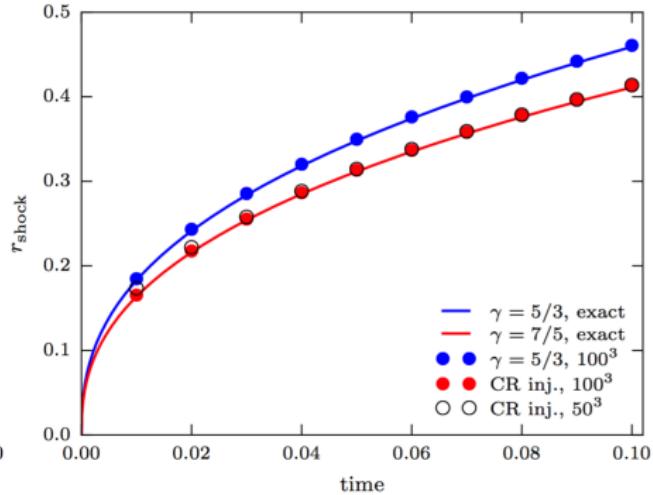
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Sedov explosion with CR acceleration

adiabatic index



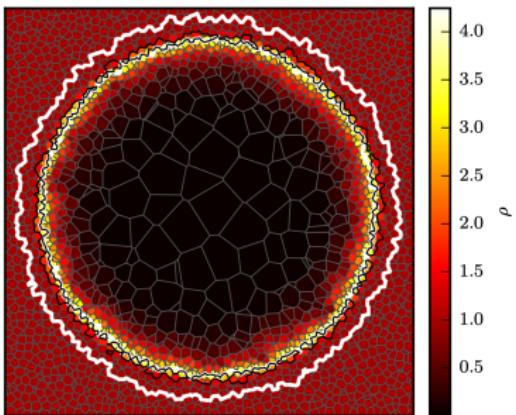
shock evolution



CP, Pakmor, Schaal, Simpson, Springel (2017)



Global MHD simulations of SNRs with CR physics



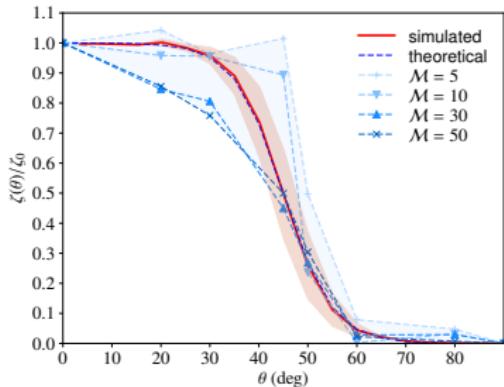
- detect and characterize shocks and jump conditions on the fly

Mach number finder with CRs

CP+ (2017)



Global MHD simulations of SNRs with CR physics



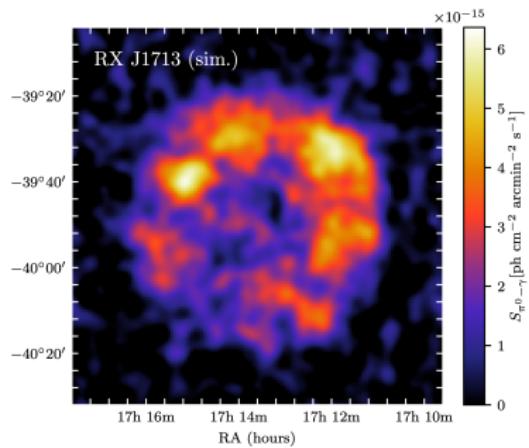
- detect and characterize shocks and jump conditions on the fly
- measure Mach number \mathcal{M} and magnetic obliquity θ_B

obliquity-dep. acceleration efficiency

Pais, CP+ (2018) based on
hybrid PIC sim.'s by Caprioli & Spitkovsky (2015)



Global MHD simulations of SNRs with CR physics

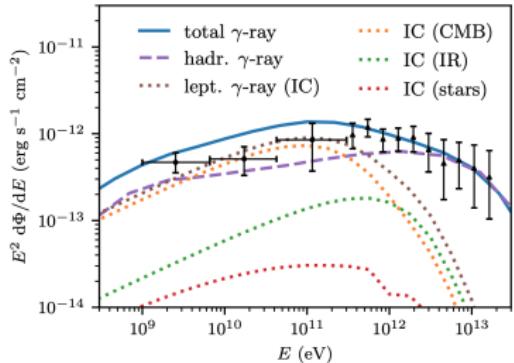


simulated TeV gamma-ray map

Pais & CP (2020)

- detect and characterize shocks and jump conditions on the fly
- measure Mach number \mathcal{M} and magnetic obliquity θ_B
- inject and transport CR protons
⇒ dynamical back reaction on gas flow, hadronic emission

Global MHD simulations of SNRs with CR physics



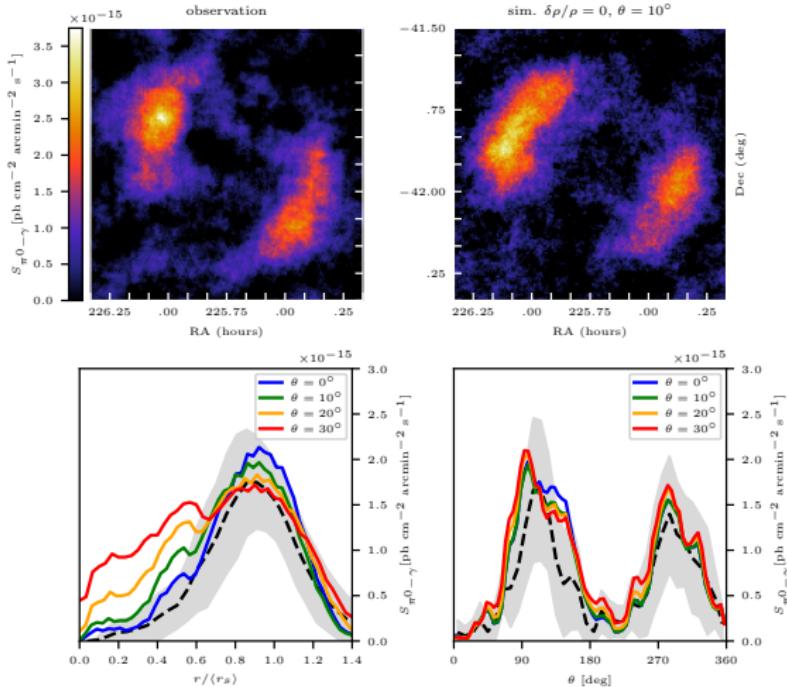
simulated gamma-ray spectrum

Winner, CP+ (2019, 2020)

- detect and characterize shocks and jump conditions on the fly
- measure Mach number \mathcal{M} and magnetic obliquity θ_B
- inject and transport CR protons
 \Rightarrow dynamical back reaction on gas flow, hadronic emission
- inject and transport CR electrons
- calculate non-thermal radio, X-ray, γ -ray emission

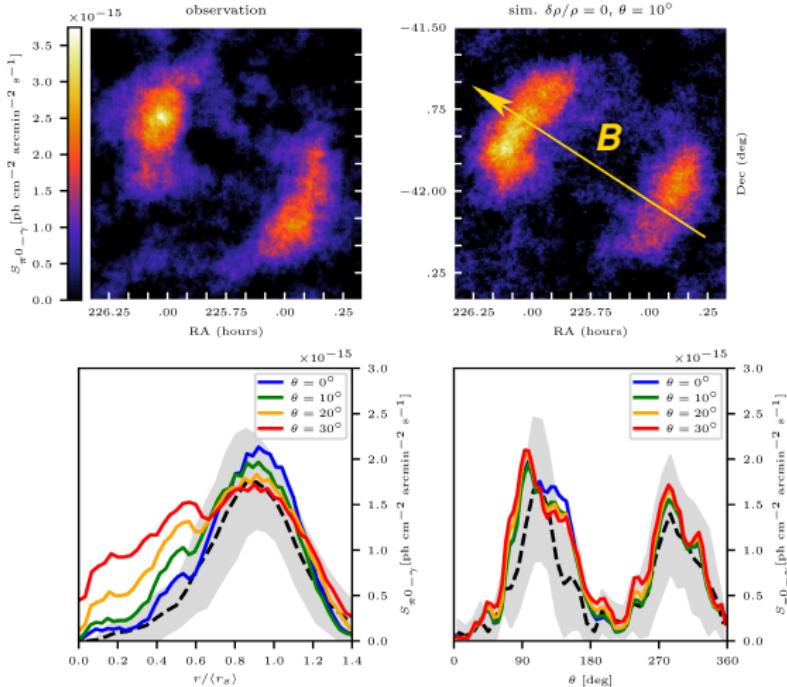


Hadronic TeV γ rays: SN 1006



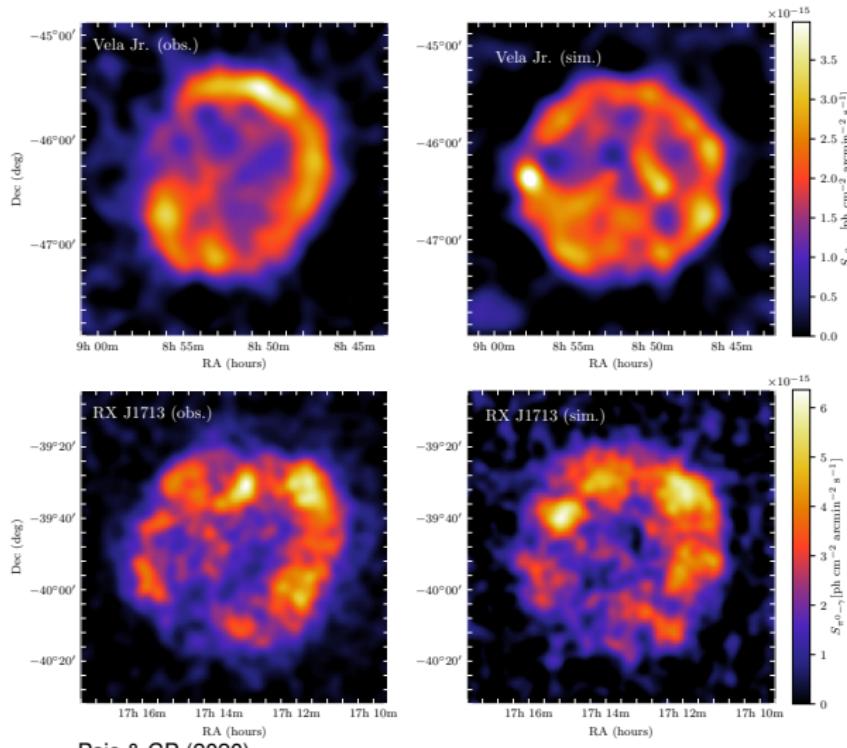
Pais & CP (2020)

Hadronic TeV γ rays: SN 1006



Pais & CP (2020)

Hadronic TeV γ rays: Vela Jr. and RXJ 1713

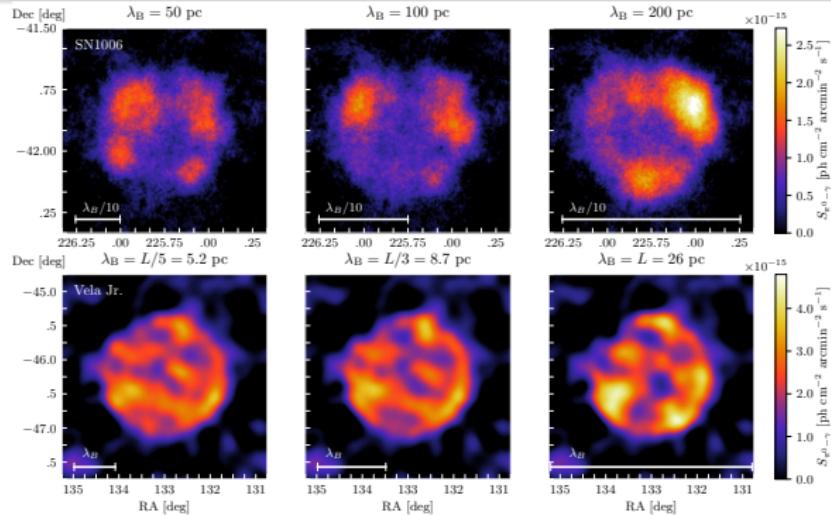


Pais & CP (2020)



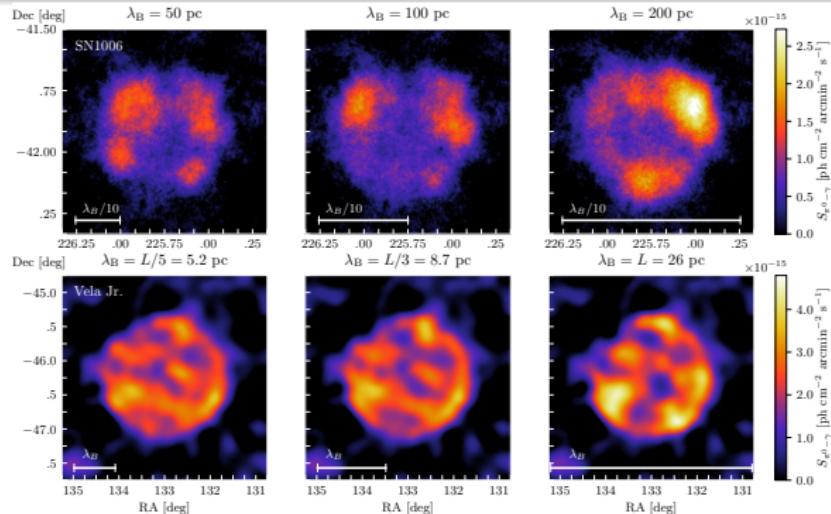
TeV γ rays from shell-type supernova remnants

Varying magnetic coherence scale in simulations of SN 1006 and Vela Junior



TeV γ rays from shell-type supernova remnants

Varying magnetic coherence scale in simulations of SN 1006 and Vela Junior



Pais, CP+ (2020)

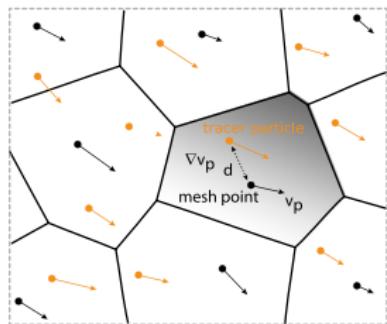
⇒ Correlation structure of patchy TeV γ -rays constrains magnetic coherence scale in ISM:

$$\text{SN 1006: } \lambda_B > 200^{+80}_{-10} \text{ pc}$$

$$\text{Vela Junior: } \lambda_B = 13^{+13}_{-4.3} \text{ pc}$$

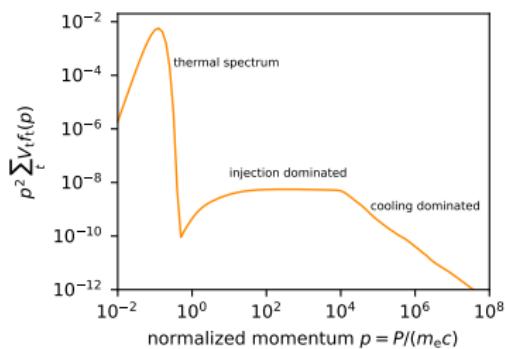


CREST - Cosmic Ray Electron Spectra evolved in Time



CREST code (Winner, CP+ 2019)

- post-processing MHD simulations
- on Lagrangian particles
 - adiabatic processes
 - Coulomb and radiative losses
 - Fermi-I (re-)acceleration
 - Fermi-II reacceleration
 - secondary electrons

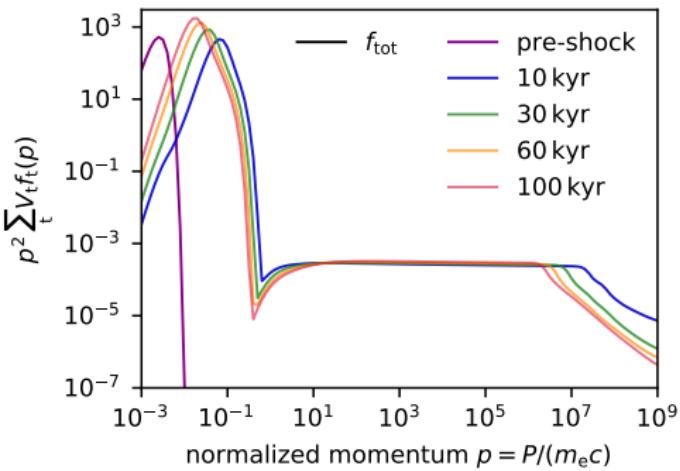
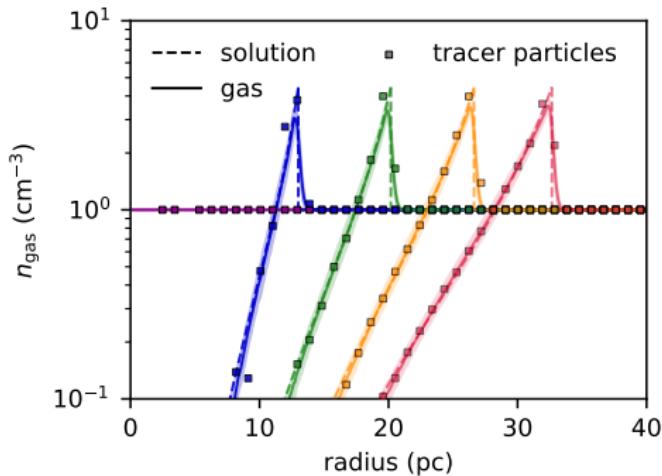


Link to observations

- radio synchrotron
- inverse Compton (IC) γ -ray



Sedov–Taylor blast wave: spectral evolution

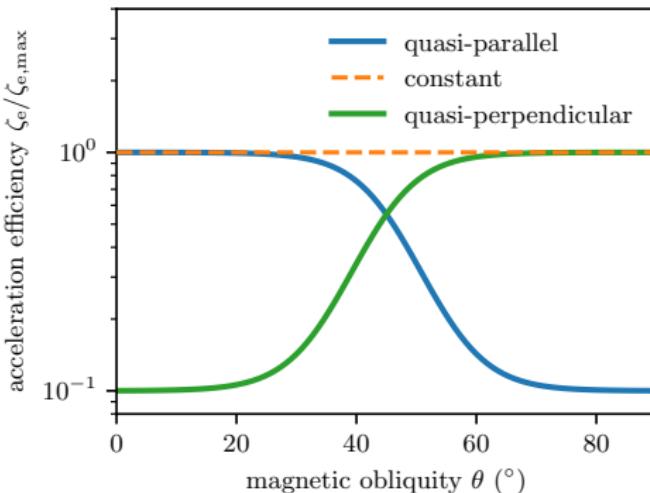


$$E_0 = 10^{51} \text{ erg}, n_{\text{gas}} = 1 \text{ cm}^{-3}, T_0 = 10^4 \text{ K}, B = 1 \mu\text{G}$$

Winner, CP+ (2019)



SN 1006: CR electron acceleration models

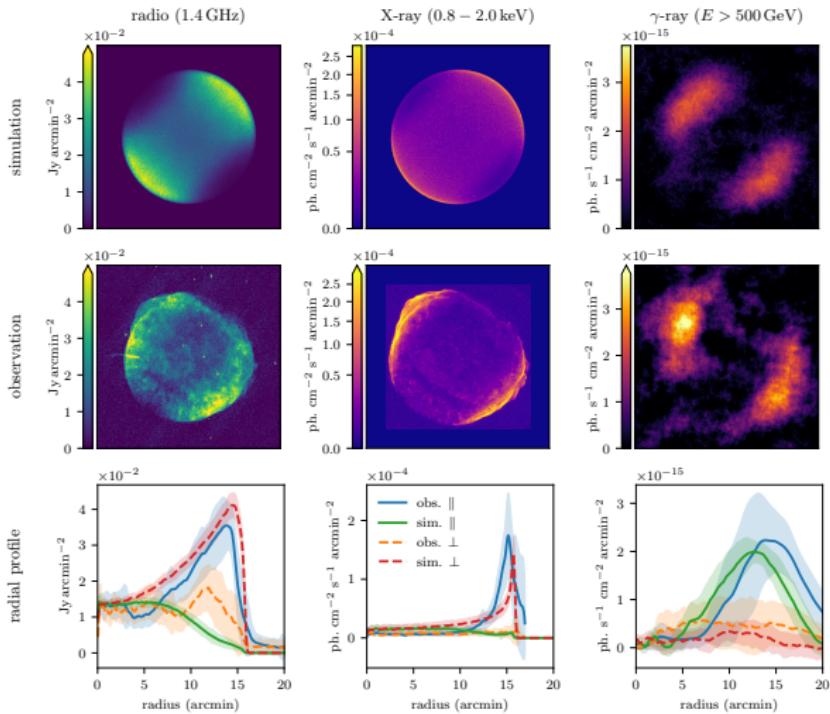


Winner, CP+ (2020)

- different obliquity dependent electron acceleration efficiencies:
 1. preferred quasi-perpendicular acceleration (previous PIC)
 2. constant acceleration efficiency (a straw man's model)
 3. preferred quasi-parallel acceleration (like CR protons)

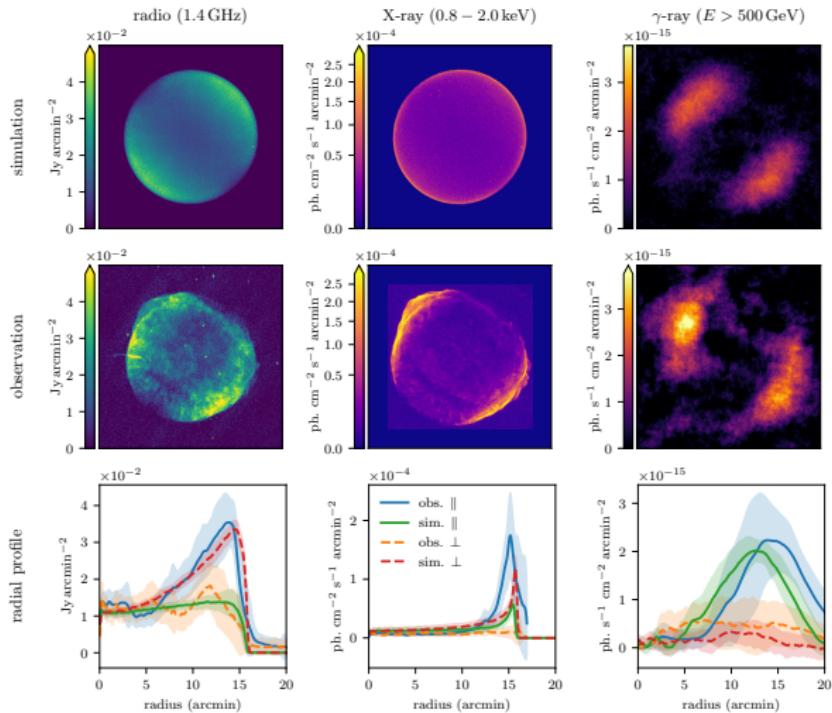


CR electron acceleration: quasi-perpendicular shocks



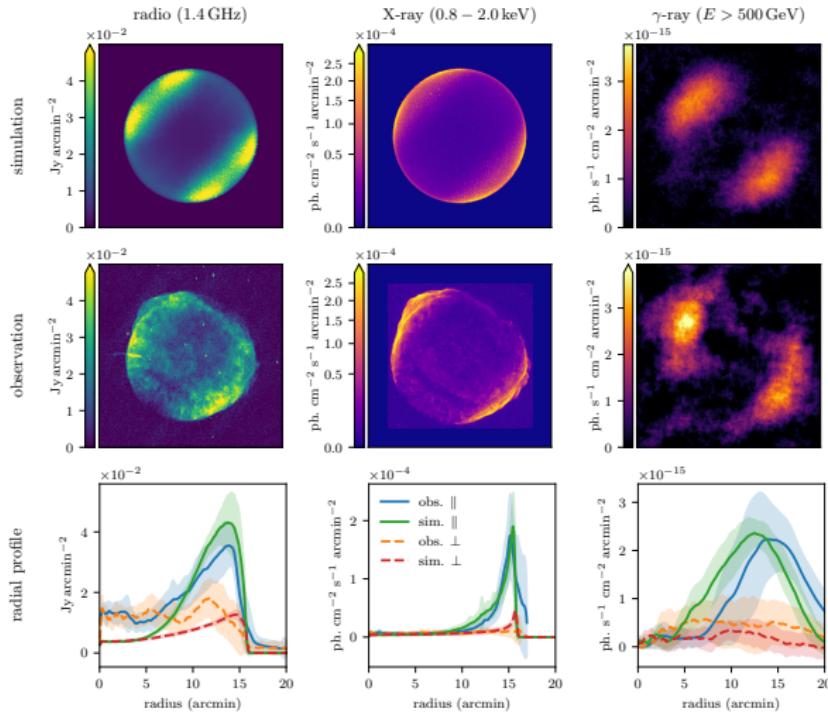
Winner, CP+ (2020)

CR electron acceleration: constant efficiency



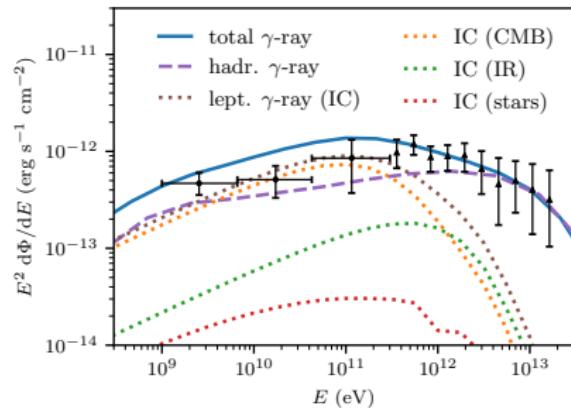
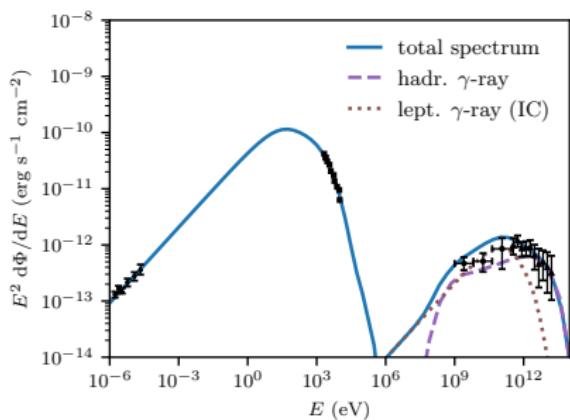
Winner, CP+ (2020)

CR electron acceleration: quasi-parallel shocks



Winner, CP+ (2020)

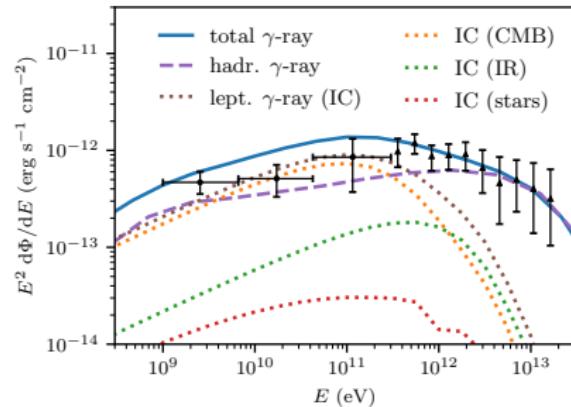
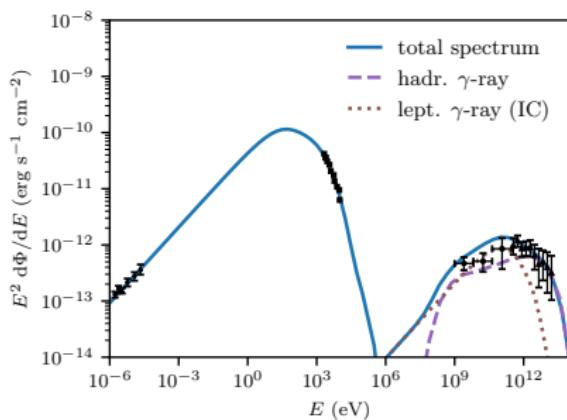
SN 1006: multi-frequency spectrum



Winner, CP+ (2020)

- quasi-parallel acceleration model fits multi-frequency spectrum

SN 1006: multi-frequency spectrum

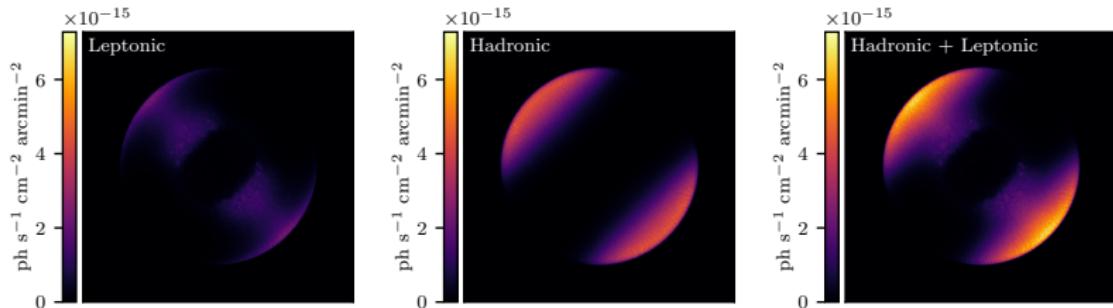


Winner, CP+ (2020)

- quasi-parallel acceleration model fits multi-frequency spectrum
- GeV regime: leptonic inverse Compton dominates
- TeV regime: hadronic pion decay



SN 1006: maps of γ -ray components at $E > 500$ GeV



Winner, CP+ (2020)

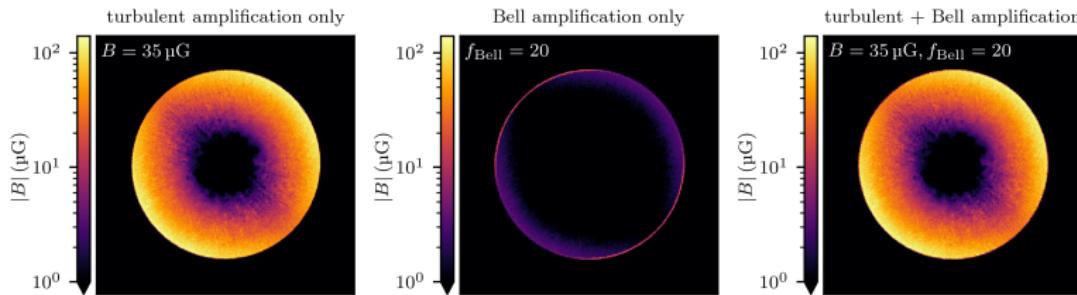
- hadronic pion decay emission dominant at shock rim
- leptonic IC emission has contributions from SNR interior



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SN 1006: magnetic field amplification models

Magnetic amplification due to a turbulent dynamo and Bell's instability



Winner, CP+ (2020)

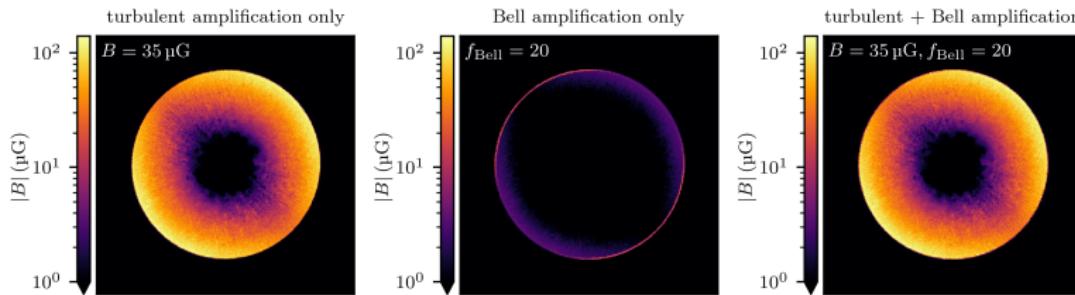
- magnetic field strength in a slice through the simulated SNRs



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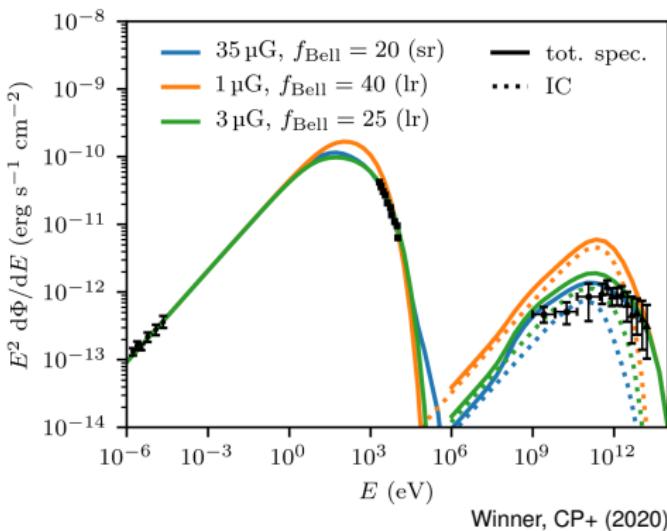


Winner, CP+ (2020)

- magnetic field strength in a slice through the simulated SNRs
- **left: effect of turbulent amplification only**, maximum realized at quasi-perpendicular shock, adiabatic cooling inside the SNR
- **middle: effect of Bell amplification only**, f_{Bell} follows obliquity dependence of CR proton efficiency
- **right: sum of both, turbulent and Bell amplification**



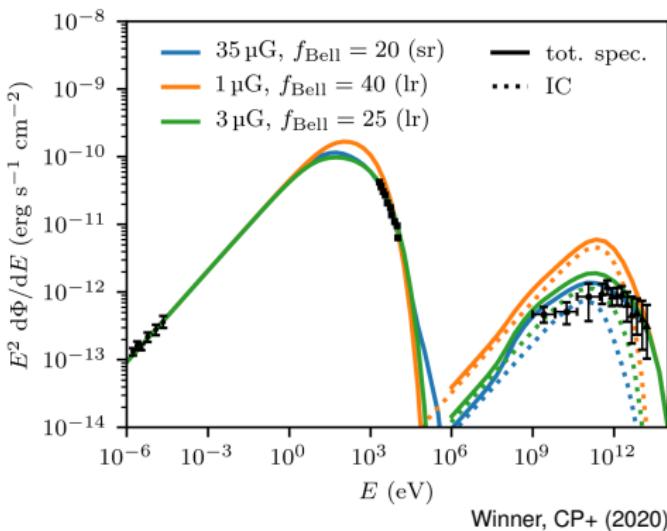
Constraining the volume-filling, turbulent \mathbf{B} field



- multi-frequency spectra: synchrotron (radio + X-rays) and IC and hadronic γ -ray emission



Constraining the volume-filling, turbulent \mathbf{B} field

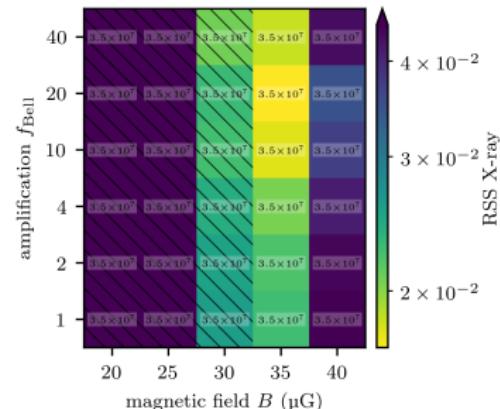
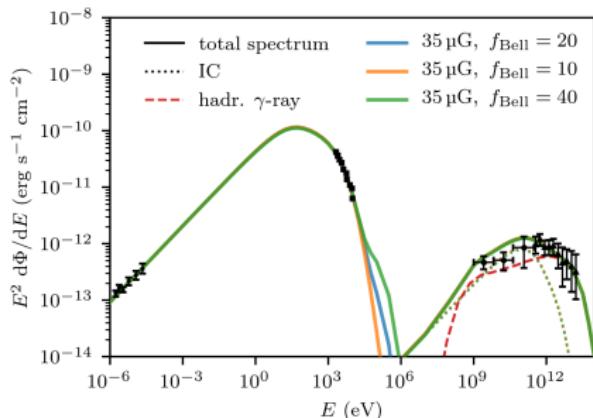


Winner, CP+ (2020)

- multi-frequency spectra: synchrotron (radio + X-rays) and IC and hadronic γ -ray emission
- strong, volume-filling \mathbf{B} field ($\approx 35 \mu\text{G}$) required to suppress IC γ -ray component and to match steep X-ray spectrum



SN 1006: best-fit multi-frequency spectrum

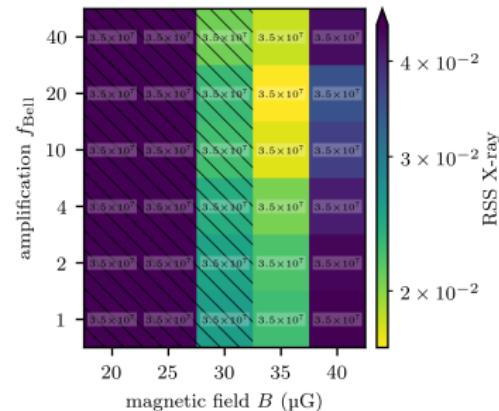
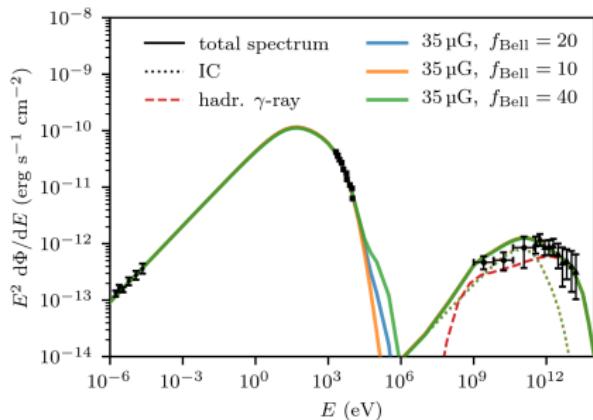


Winner, CP+ (2020)

- parameter optimization of magnetic amplification processes



SN 1006: best-fit multi-frequency spectrum



Winner, CP+ (2020)

- parameter optimization of magnetic amplification processes
- strong ($\approx 35 \mu\text{G}$) volume-filling B field (turbulent dynamo): lower B field excluded by IC component
- Bell-amplification factor f_{Bell} 10 – 20 weakly constrained



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Conclusions for CR hydrodynamics at SNRs

CR hydrodynamics with kinetic plasma physics:

- Shock finder enables CR acceleration in MHD simulations
- CR proton transport in MHD enables dynamic backreaction
- CR electron spectral transport (CREST): multi-frequency spectra and emission maps



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CR acceleration constraints by MHD models:

- TeV shell-type SNRs probe magnetic coherence scale in ISM
- hybrid-PIC simulations of p^+ acceleration agree with global SNR simulations
- global SNR simulations imply preferred quasi-parallel e^- acceleration: new intermediate instability enables e^- (pre-)acceleration



PICOGAL: From Plasma KInetics to COsmological GALaxy Formation



This project has received funding from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program (grant agreement No PICOGAL-101019746).

Literature for the talk

Cosmic ray hydrodynamics and shock acceleration:

- Pfrommer, Pakmor, Schaal, Simpson, Springel, *Simulating cosmic ray physics on a moving mesh* 2017, MNRAS, 465, 4500.

Cosmic ray electron spectra in MHD:

- Winner, Pfrommer, Girichidis, Pakmor, *Evolution of cosmic ray electron spectra in magnetohydrodynamical simulations*, 2019, MNRAS, 488, 2235.
- Winner, Pfrommer, Girichidis, Werhahn, Pais, *Evolution and observational signatures of the cosmic ray electron spectrum in SN 1006*, 2020, MNRAS, 499, 2785.

Cosmic ray proton acceleration at SNRs:

- Pais, Pfrommer, Ehlert, Pakmor, *The effect of cosmic-ray acceleration on supernova blast wave dynamics*, 2018, MNRAS, 478, 5278.
- Pais, Pfrommer, Ehlert, Werhahn, Winner, *Constraining the coherence scale of the interstellar magnetic field using TeV gamma-ray observations of supernova remnants*, 2020, MNRAS, 496, 2448.
- Pais, Pfrommer, *Simulating TeV gamma-ray morphologies of shell-type supernova remnants*, 2020, MNRAS, 498, 5557.

