



Fermi
Gamma-ray Space Telescope

Fermi LAT observations of diffuse γ -ray emission

**modeling, uncertainties and
implications for
cosmic rays**

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on behalf of
the *Fermi*-LAT collaboration

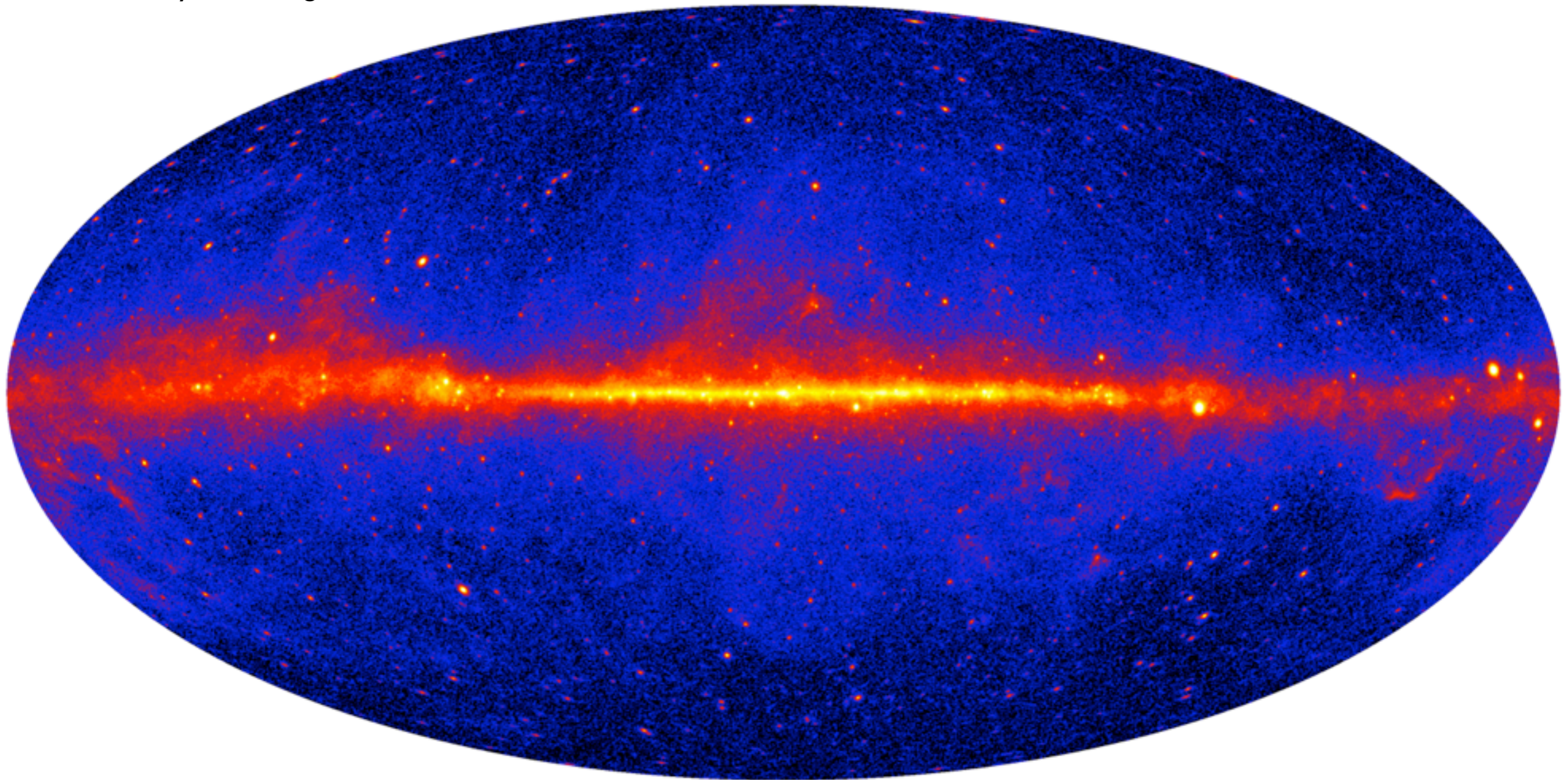
APS-DPF meeting
Santa Cruz, August 15 2013

Outline

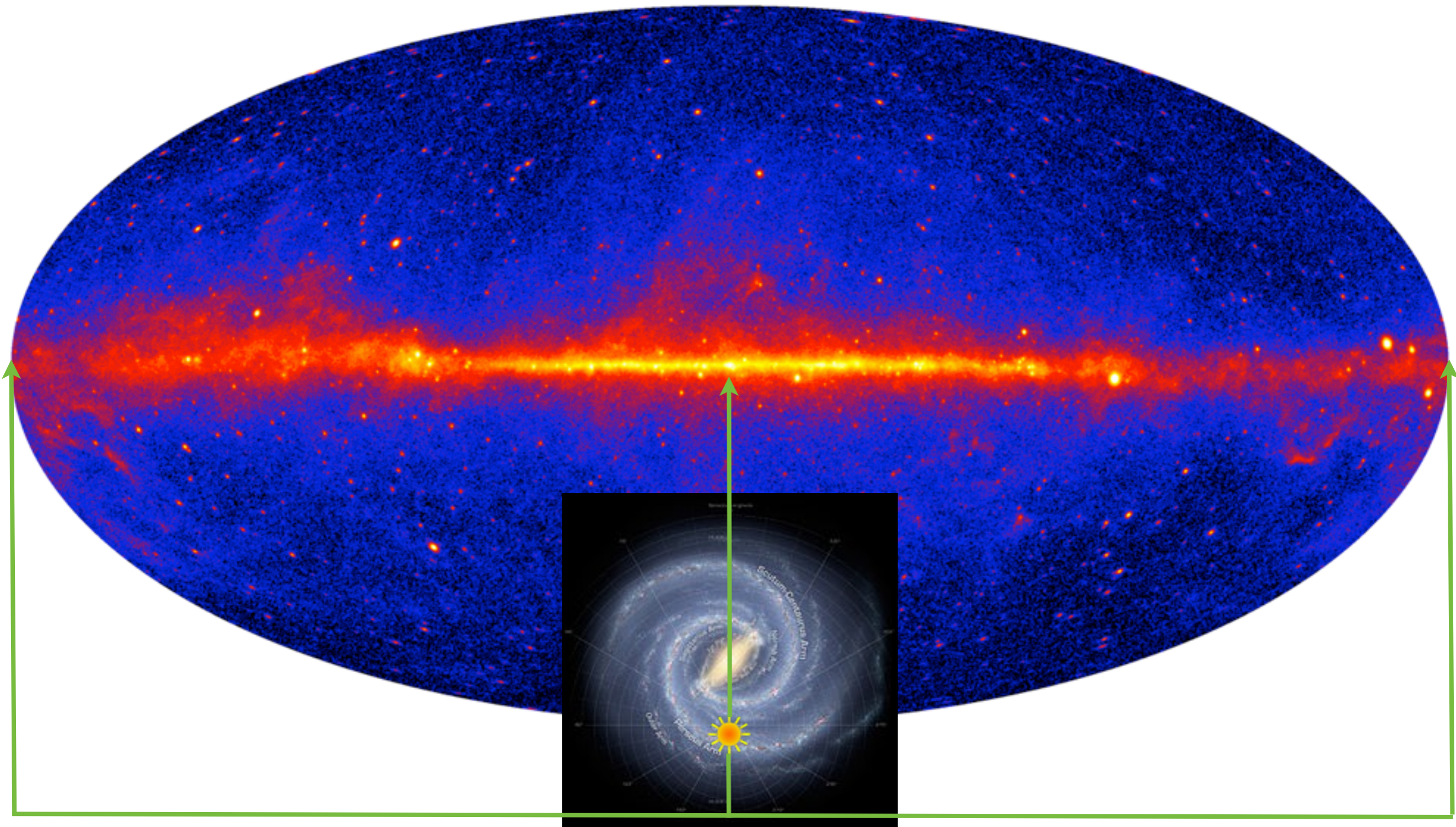
- The diffuse γ -ray sky
- Recipes to model Galactic interstellar emission
- Implications for cosmic rays
- Evaluating systematic uncertainties due to diffuse emission modeling

The (diffuse) γ -ray sky

Fermi LAT, 4 years, energies > 1 GeV



The (diffuse) γ -ray sky

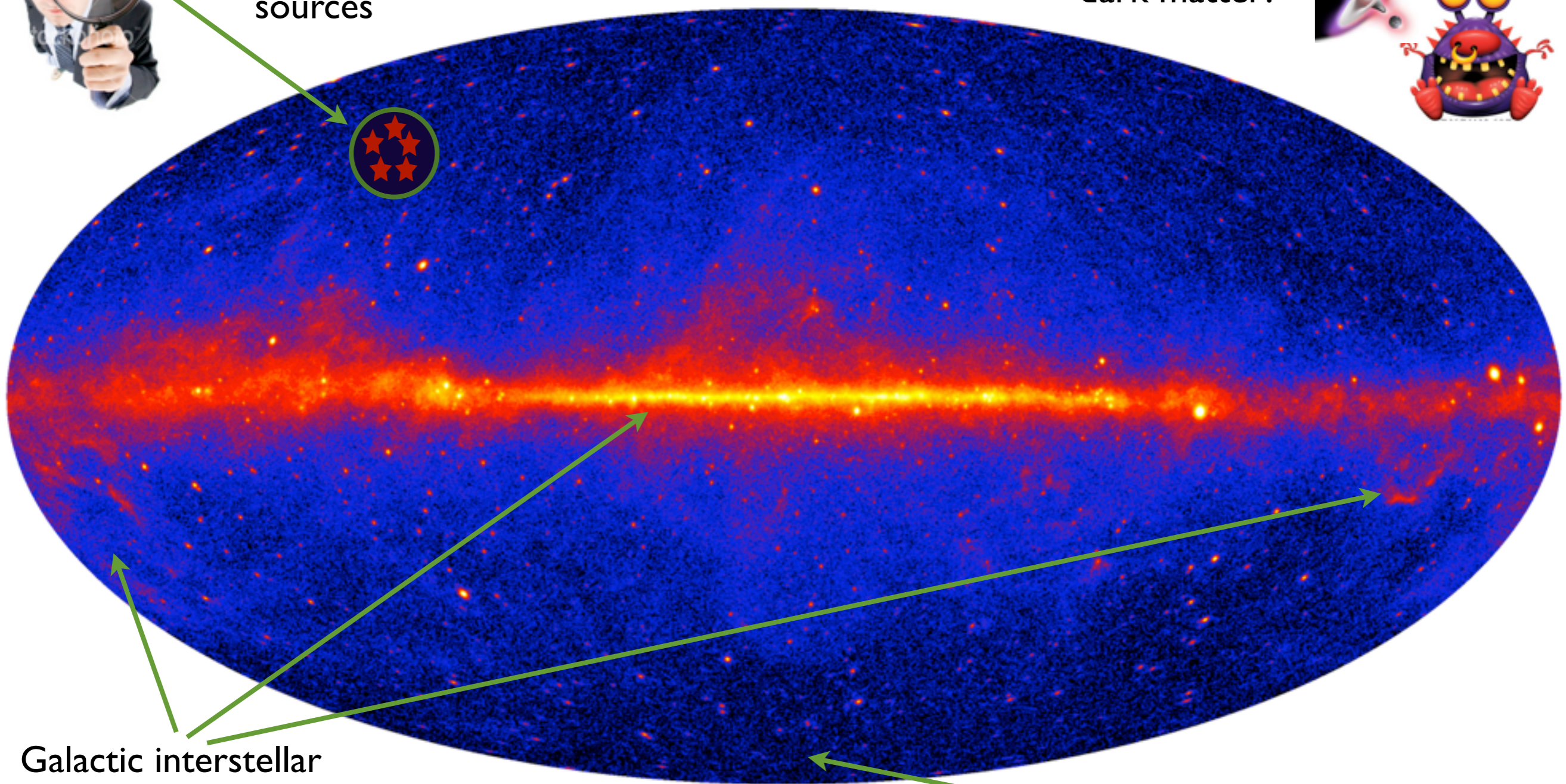


The (diffuse) γ -ray sky



unresolved
sources

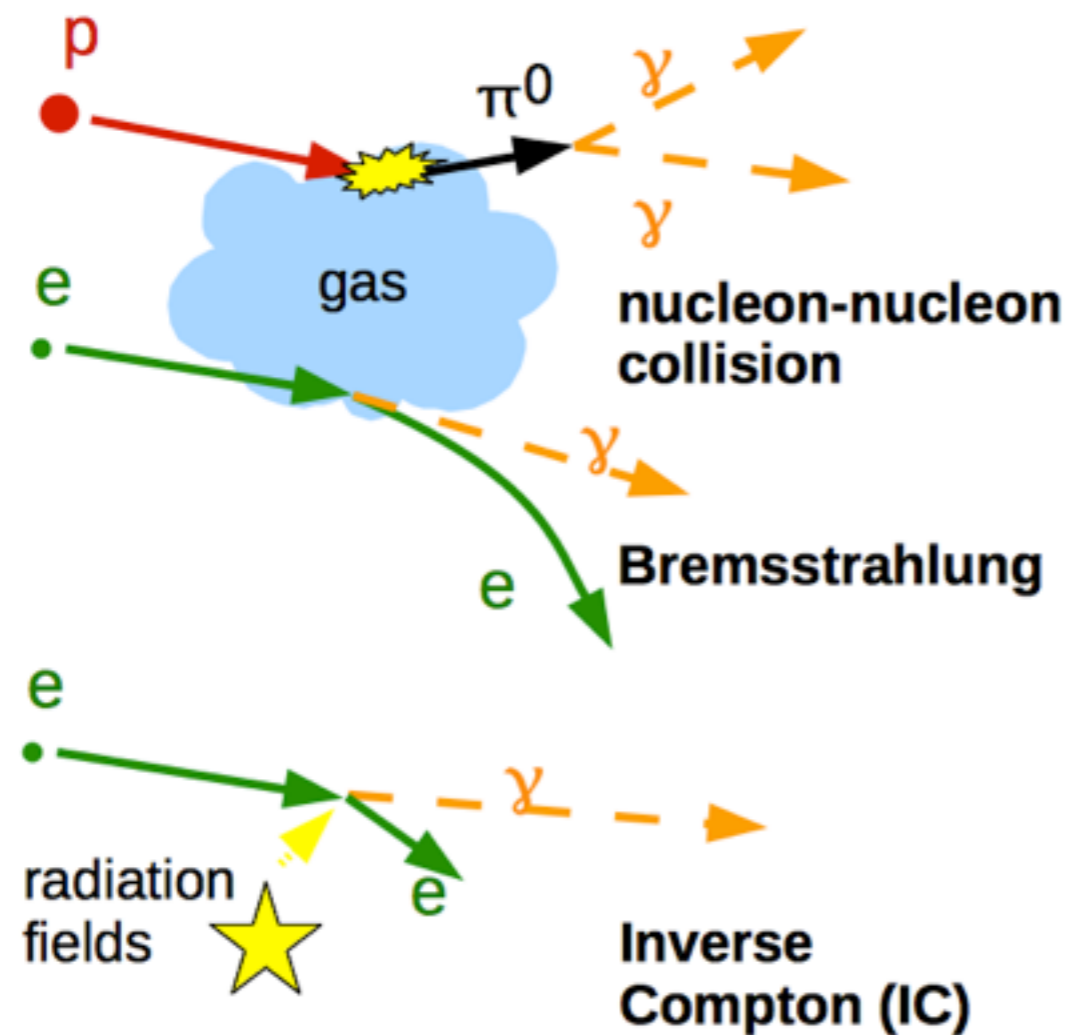
exotic Physics?
dark matter?



Galactic interstellar
emission:
cosmic rays +
interstellar gas/photons

isotropic (extragalactic?)
 γ -ray background

Galactic interstellar γ -ray emission



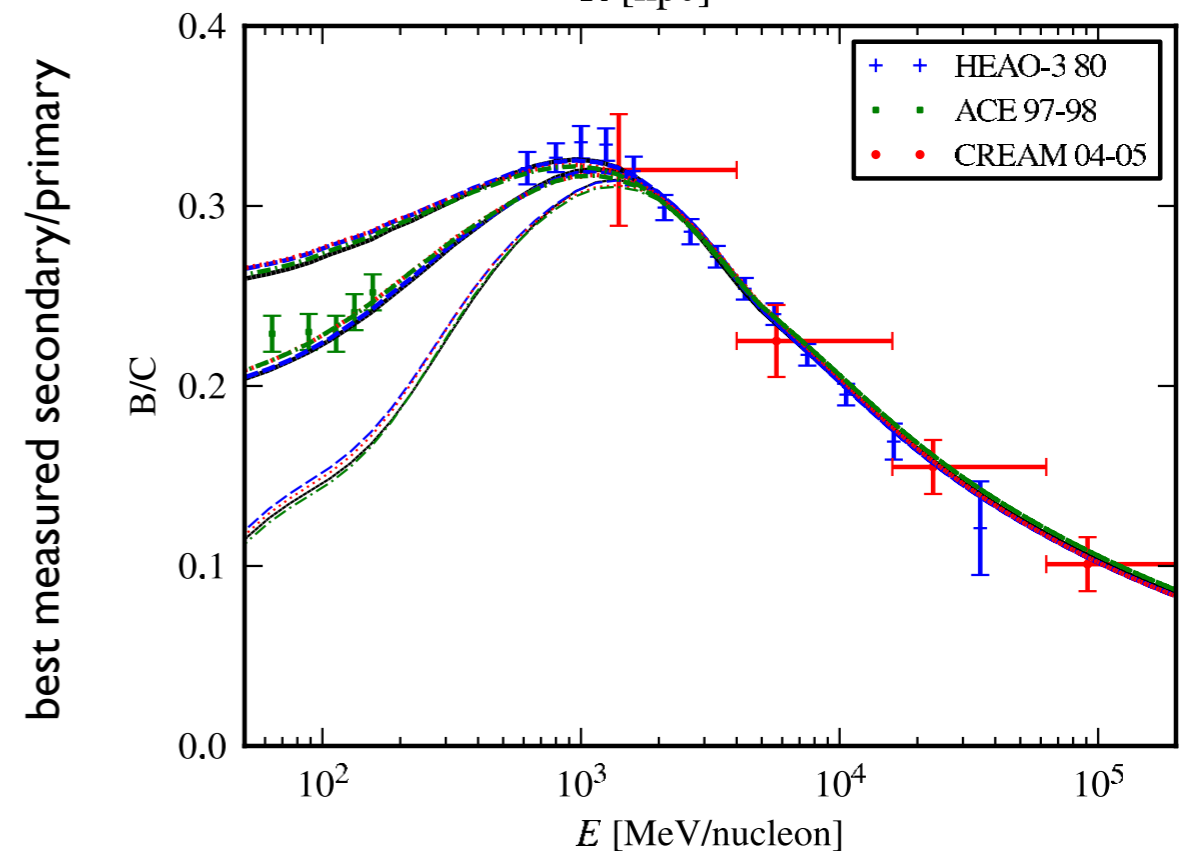
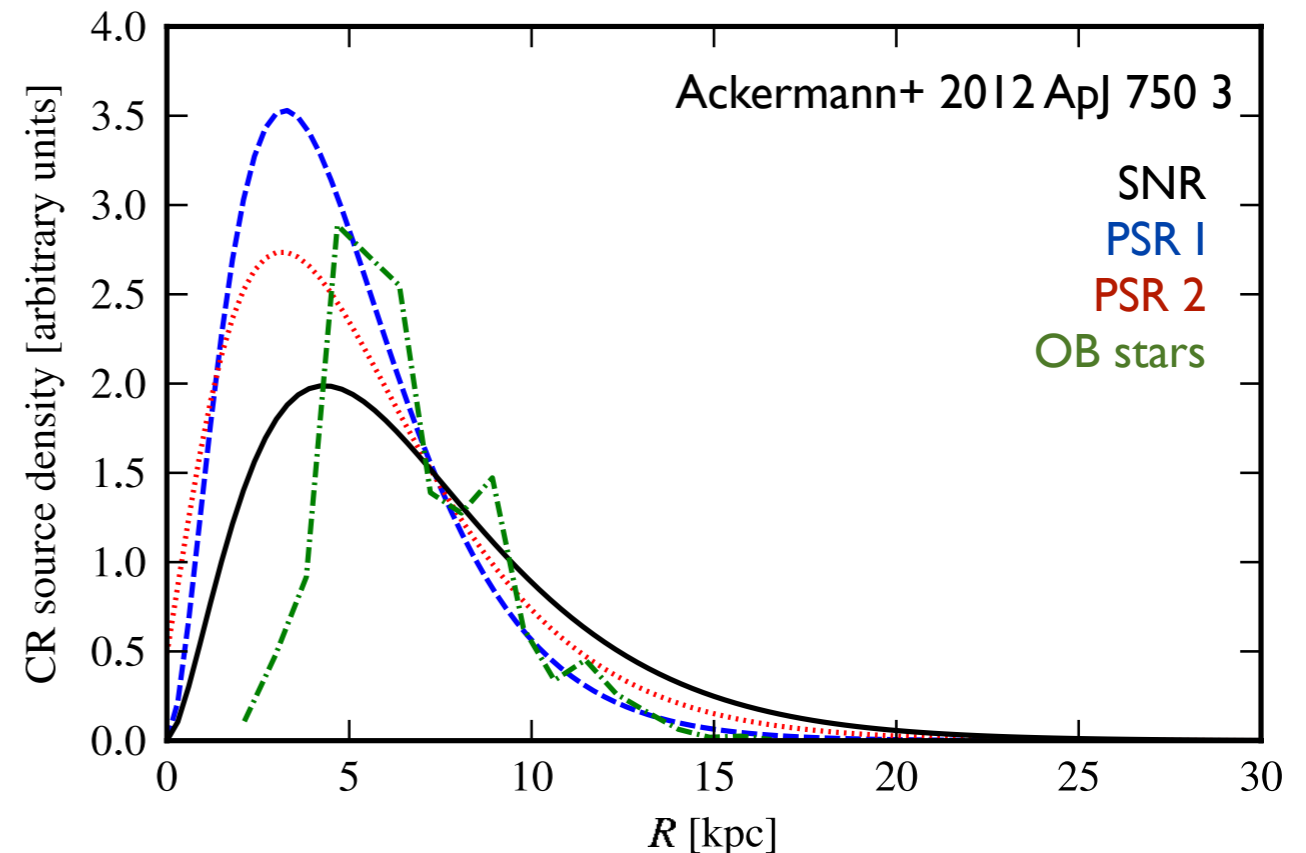
- cosmic-ray interactions, distribution
- its understanding enables us to search for
 - sources
 - extragalactic emission
 - dark matter

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Ingredients: CR sources and transport

- CR source distribution
 - supernova remnants, pulsars, massive stars ...
 - spiral arm structure?
- CR injection spectrum at sources
- transport mechanism(s)
 - diffusion coefficient
 - role of convection, reacceleration?
- size of propagation volume

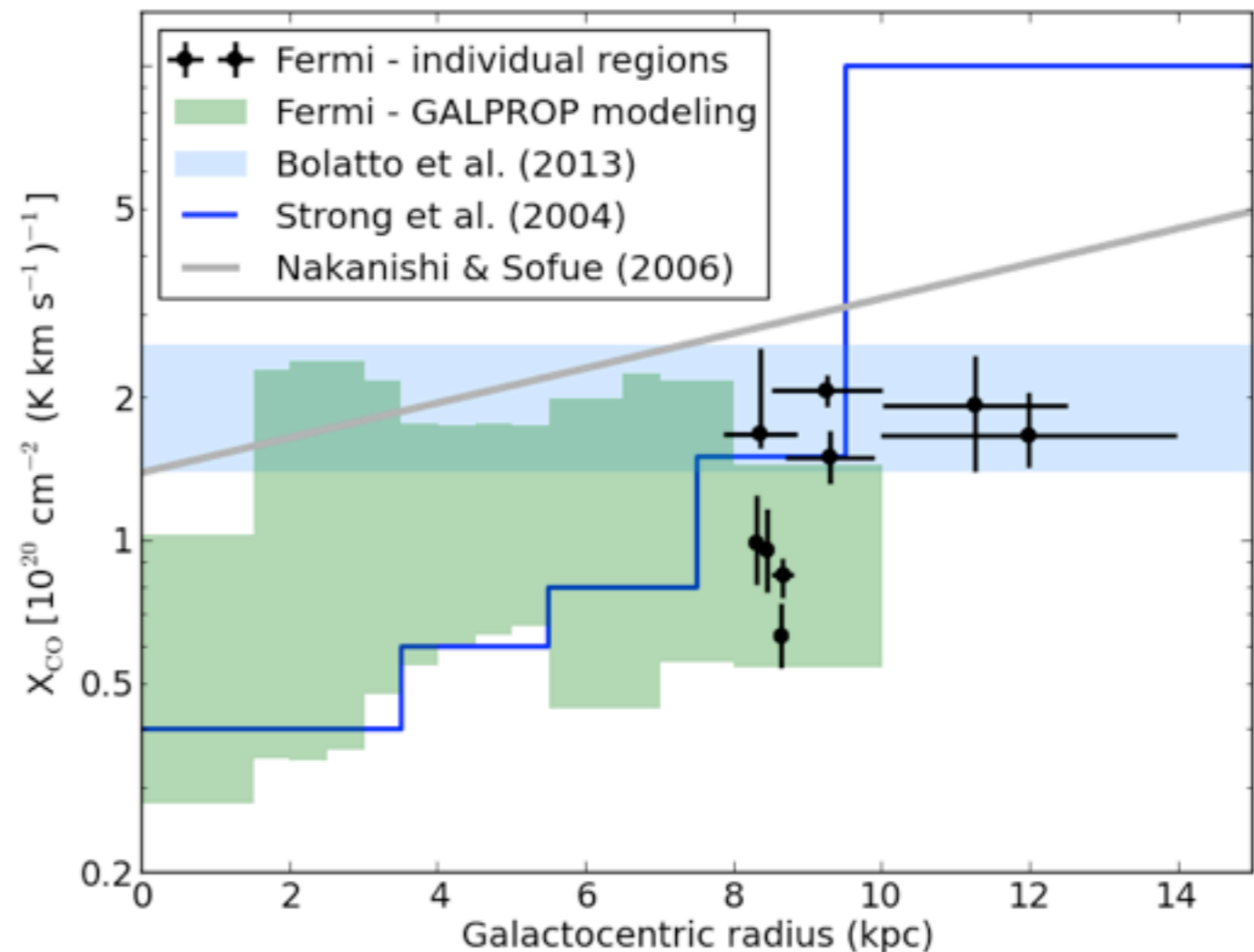


Ingredients: targets

- gas distribution from
 - radio lines (Doppler shift → distance), e.g., CfA CO survey
 - dust emission/extinction, e.g., Planck
- photon fields from (observations+models)
 - starlight
 - dust irradiated by stars
 - CMB

CO traces molecular hydrogen

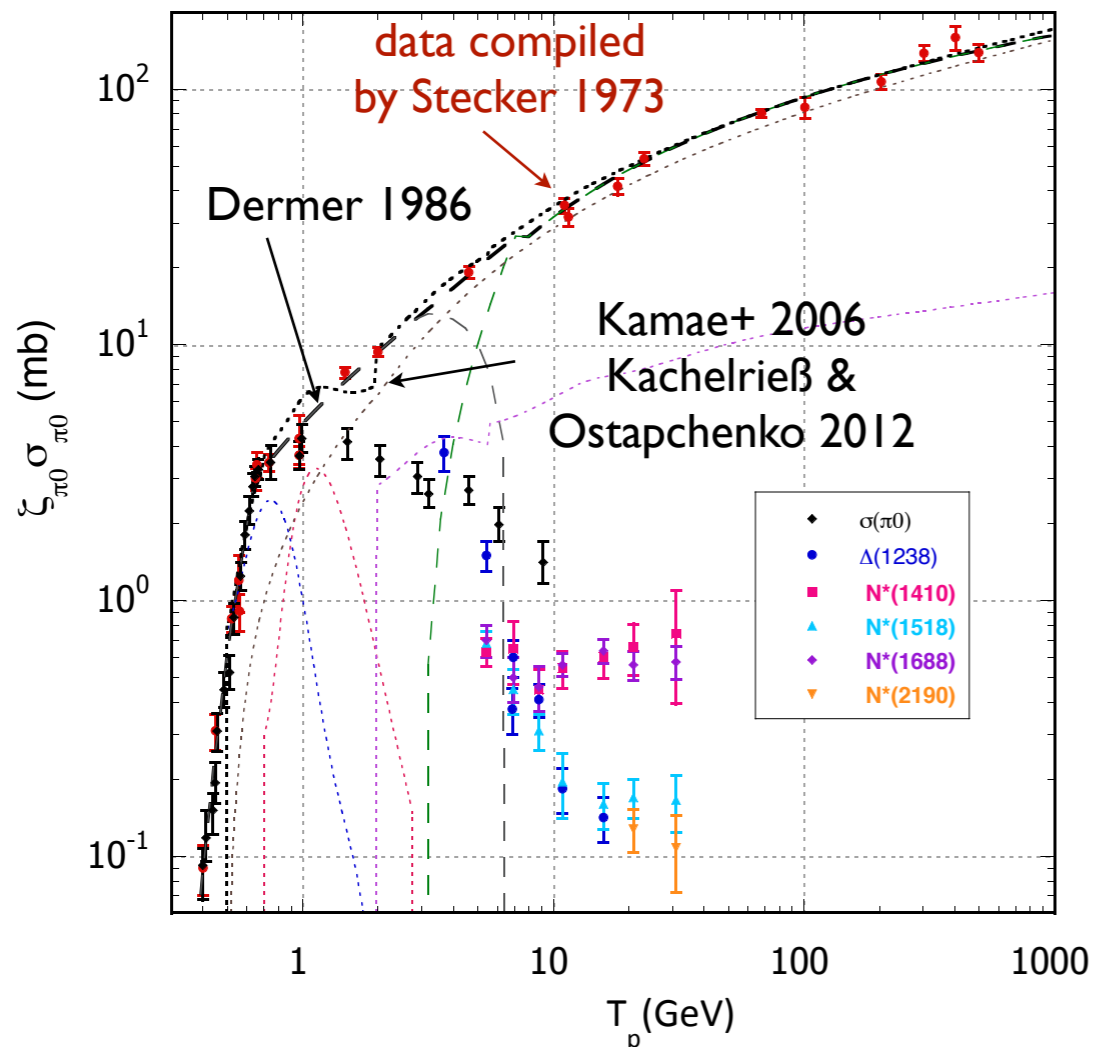
$$X_{\text{CO}} = \frac{N(\text{H}_2)}{W_{\text{CO}}}$$



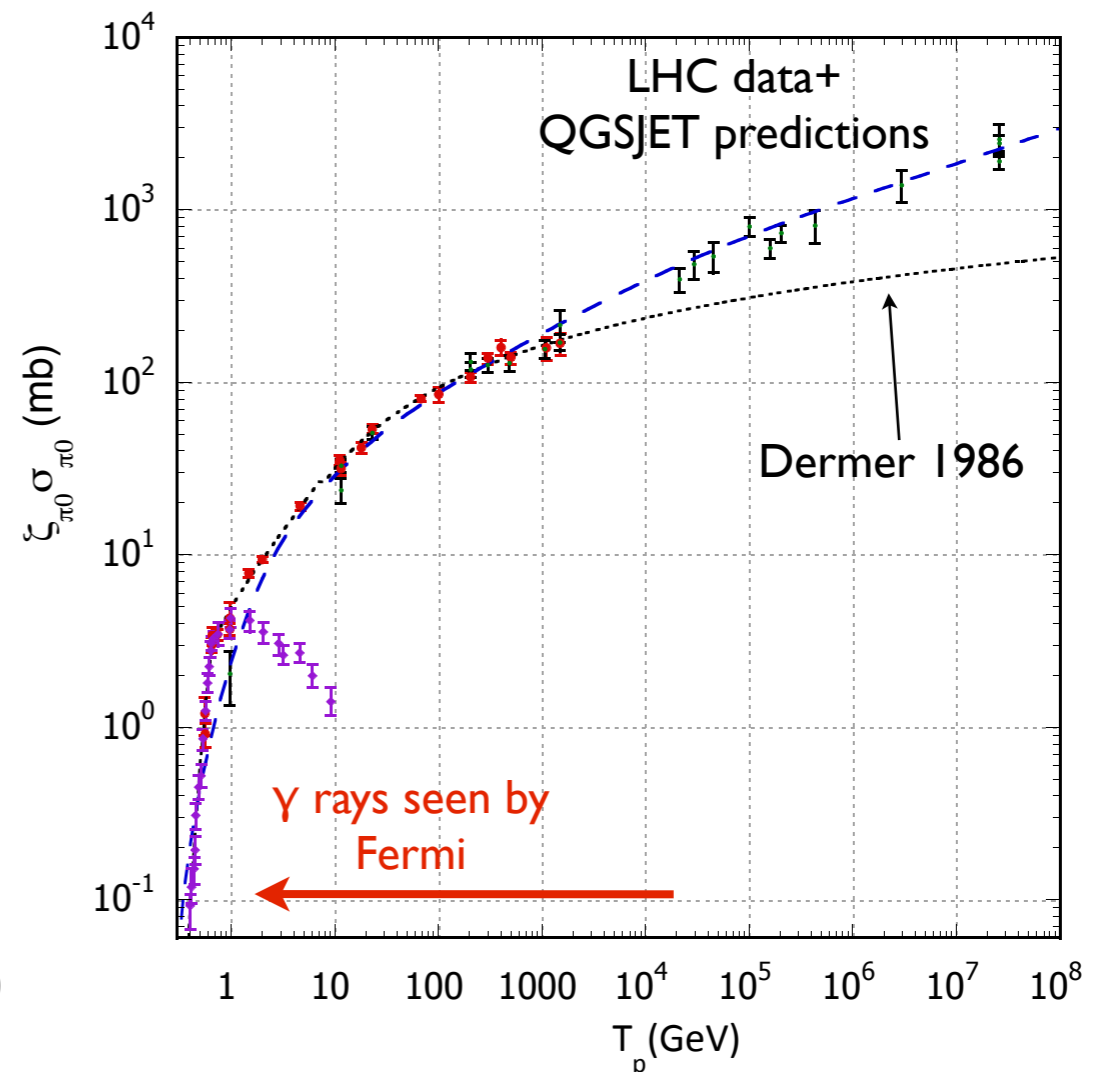
Ingredients: interaction models

- data and theory from particle physics
- for nuclear interactions
 - ▬ limited measurements (bullet energies, bullet/target species, angular distribution)

- ▬ bridged by theoretical framework(s)
- ▬ 5-15% uncertainties at $T_p < 10$ GeV

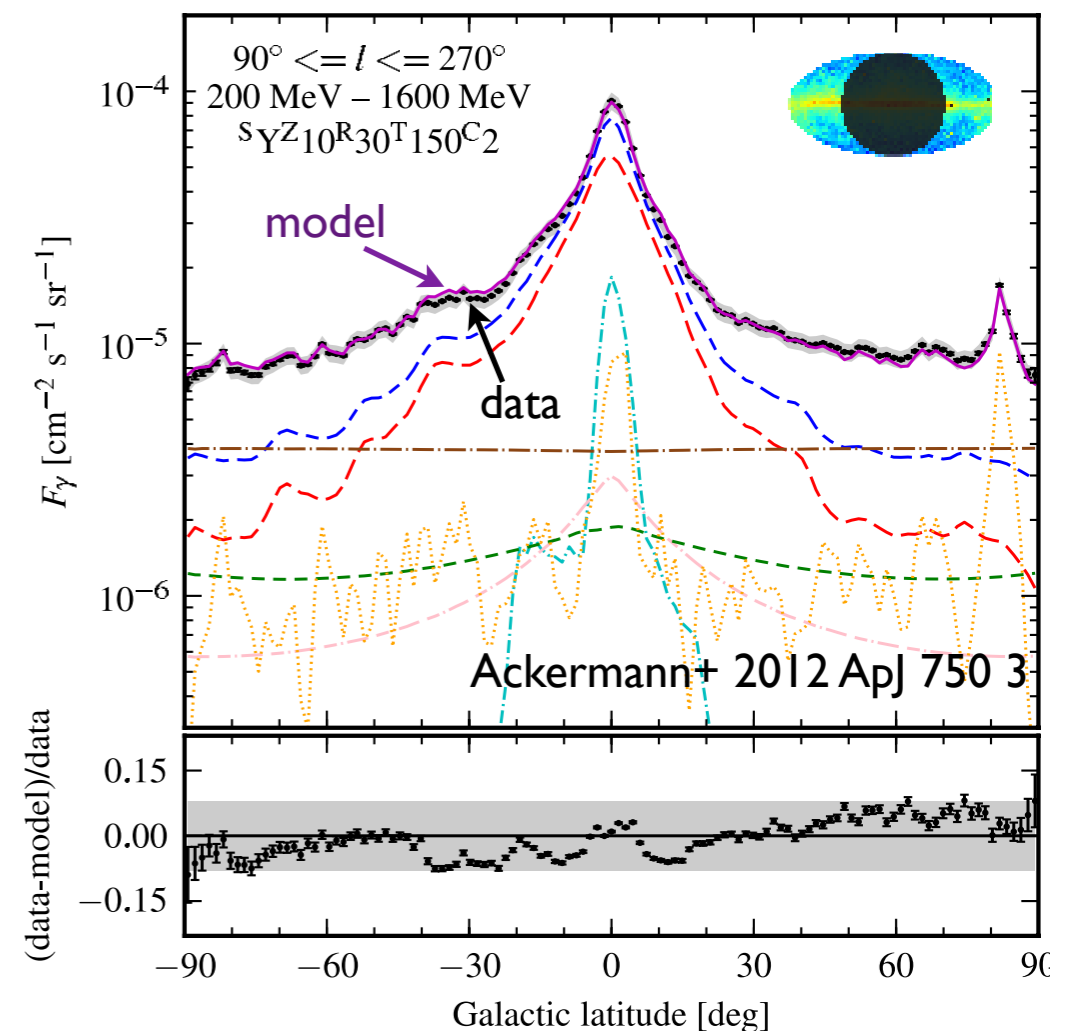
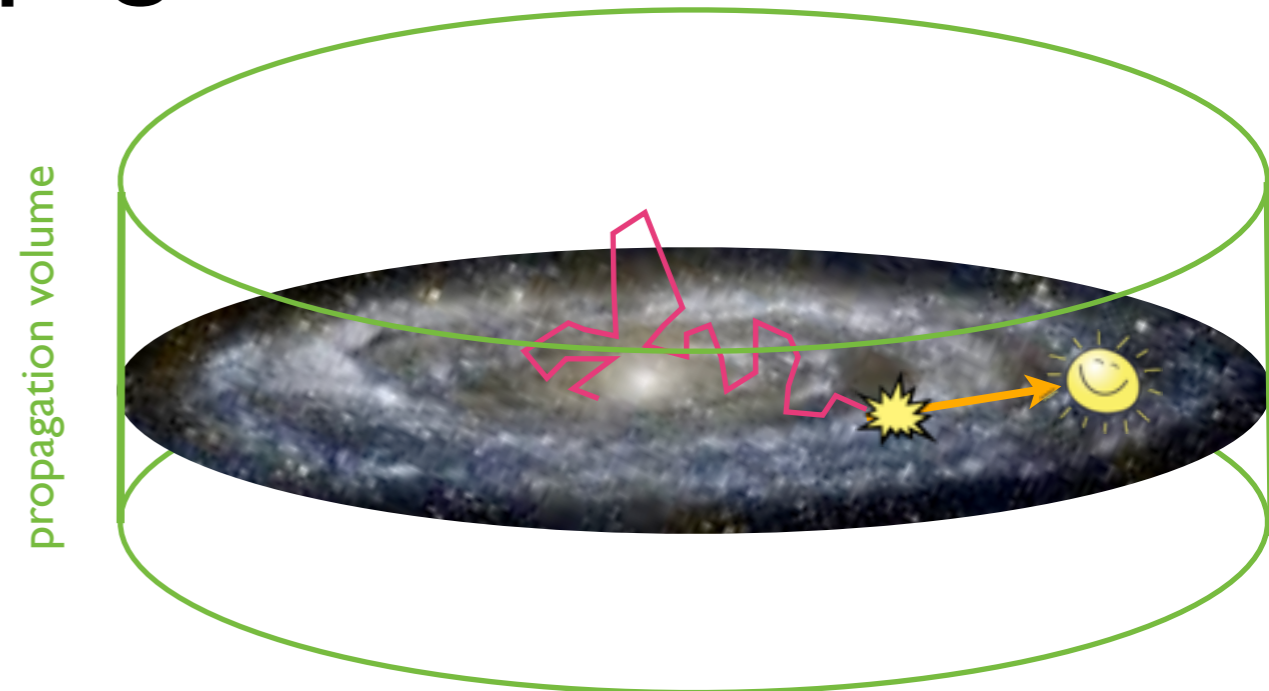


Dermer+ 2013, ICRC, arXiv:1307.0497

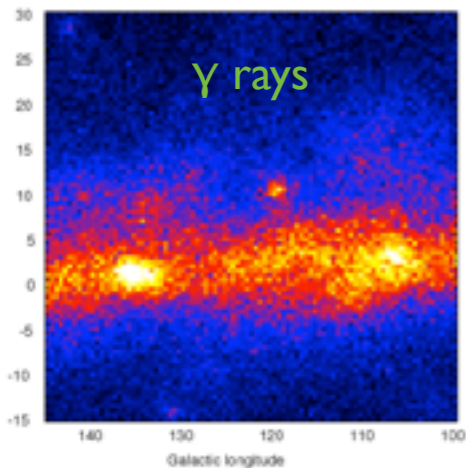


Recipe I: CR propagation codes

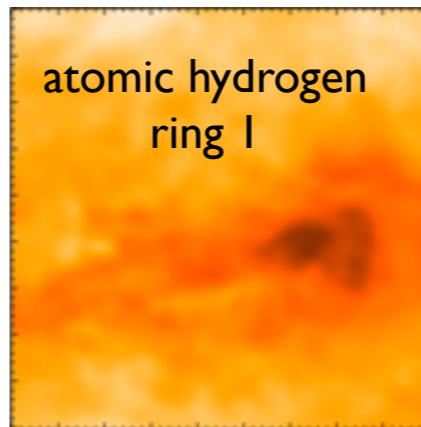
- calculate CR propagation in the Galaxy
- simplified but realistic model of the Galaxy from observations
 - cosmic-ray sources
 - targets for gamma production
- *Fermi* LAT collaboration extensively uses GALPROP (Strong, Moskalenko et al.)
<http://galprop.stanford.edu/>
- agreement with LAT data within 20% over whole sky



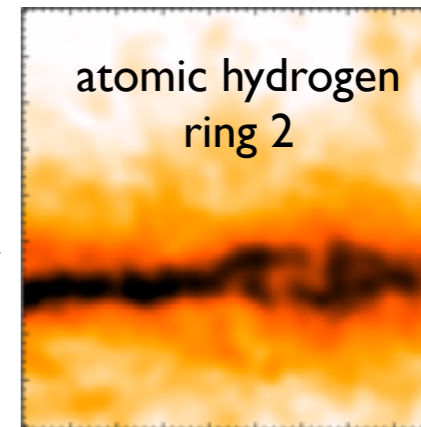
Recipe 2: templates



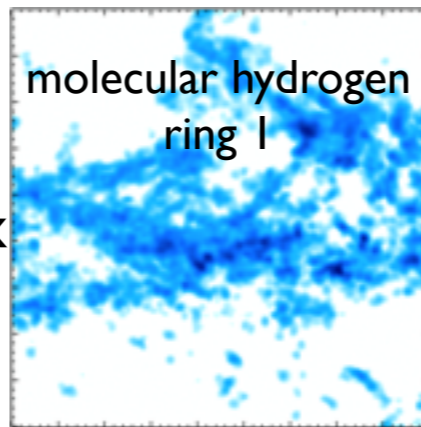
$$= \text{PSF} \oplus \text{exposure} \times [q(\text{H I})_1 \times$$



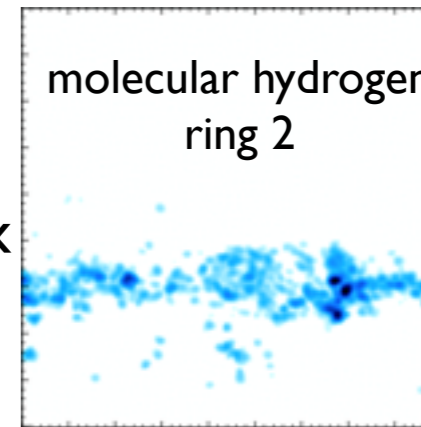
$$+ q(\text{H I})_2 \times$$



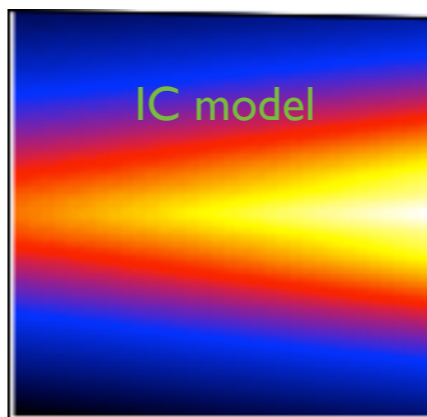
$$+ q(\text{CO})_1 \times$$



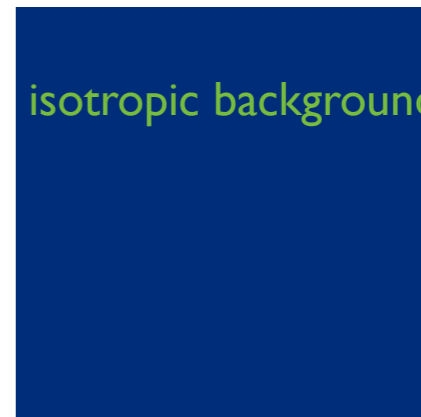
$$+ q(\text{CO})_2 \times$$



$$+ \alpha_{\text{IC}} \times$$



$$+ I_{\text{iso}} \times$$



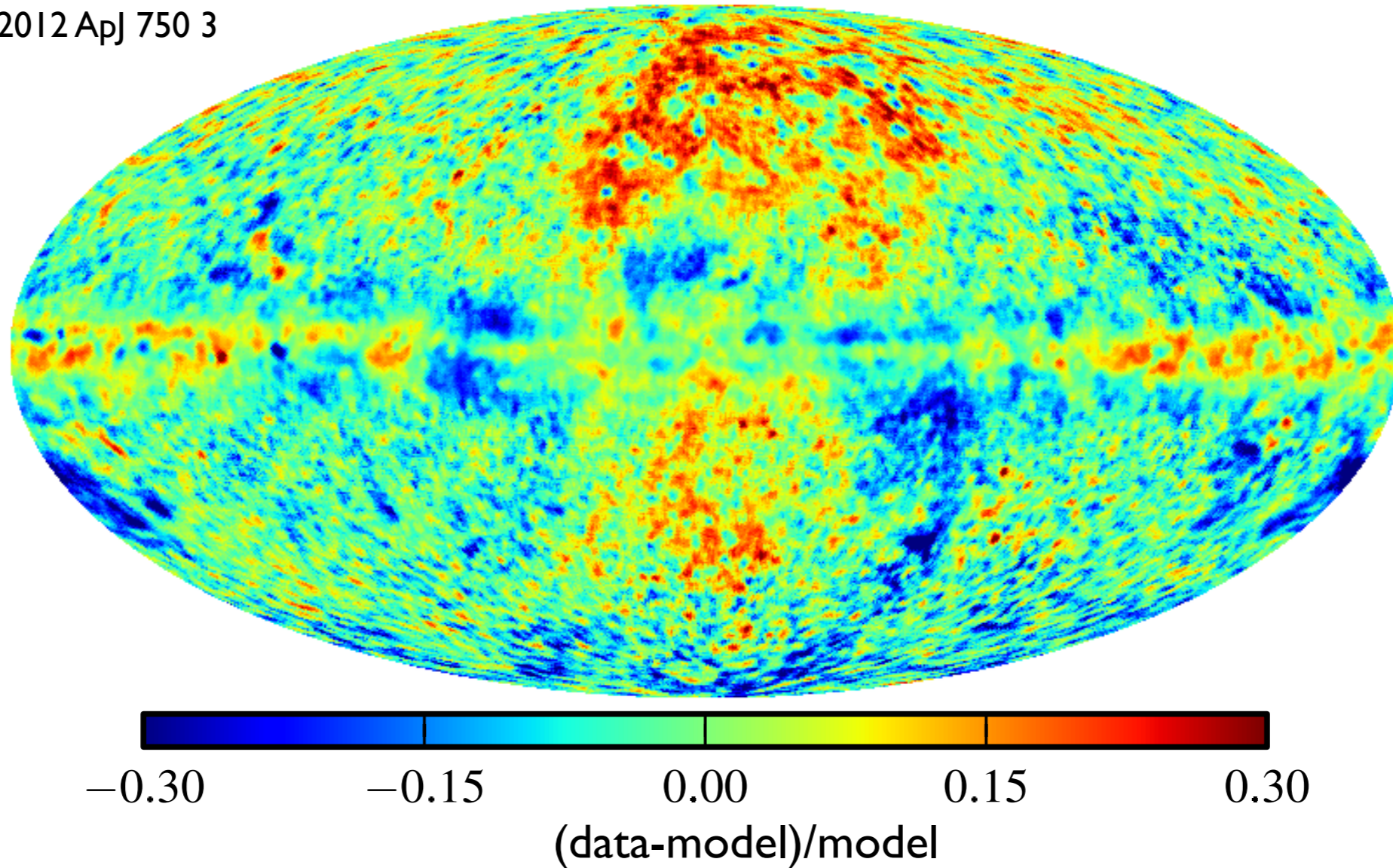
$$+ \text{sources}]$$

gas tracer maps
 lines \rightarrow kinematic separation
 of different structures along the line of sight



Not everything is in our templates ...

Ackermann+ 2012 ApJ 750 3



Large scale features:

- Fermi bubbles

(Su, Slatyer & Finkbeiner 2010)

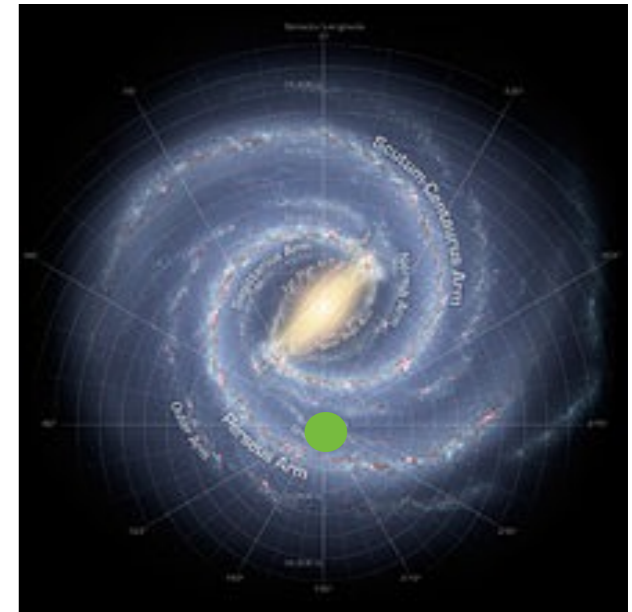
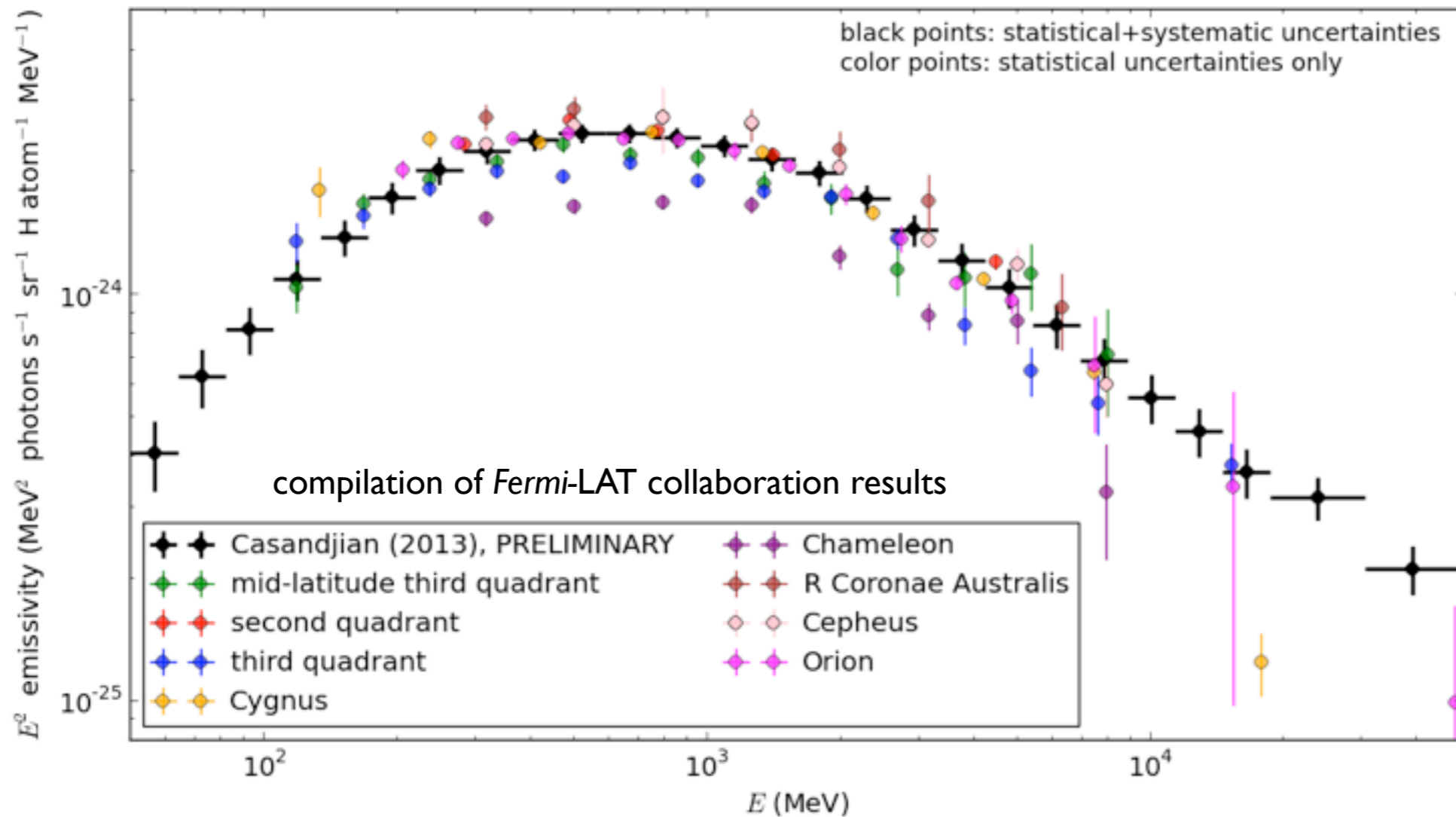
- Loop I (Casandjian & Grenier 2009)

- Many features on the Galactic plane

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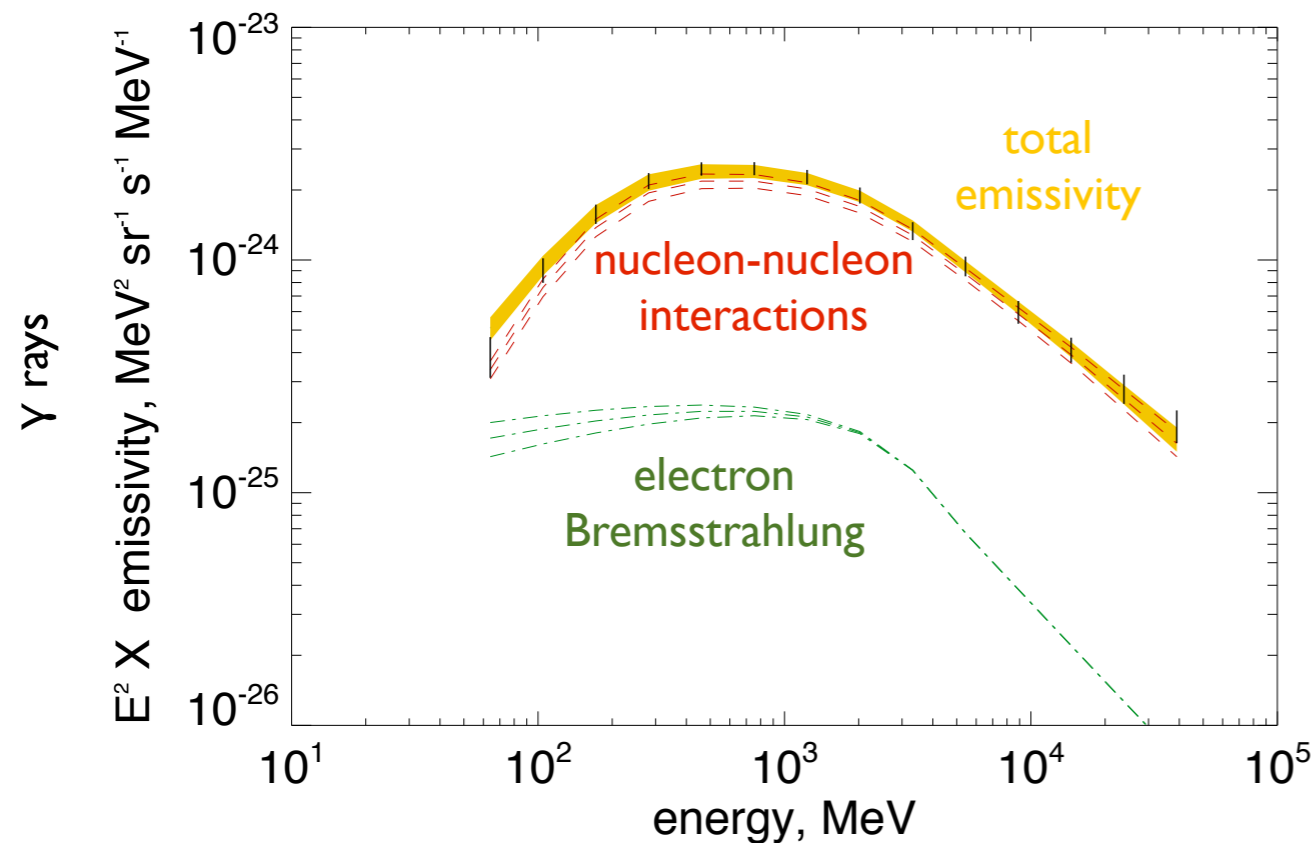
The local γ -ray emissivity



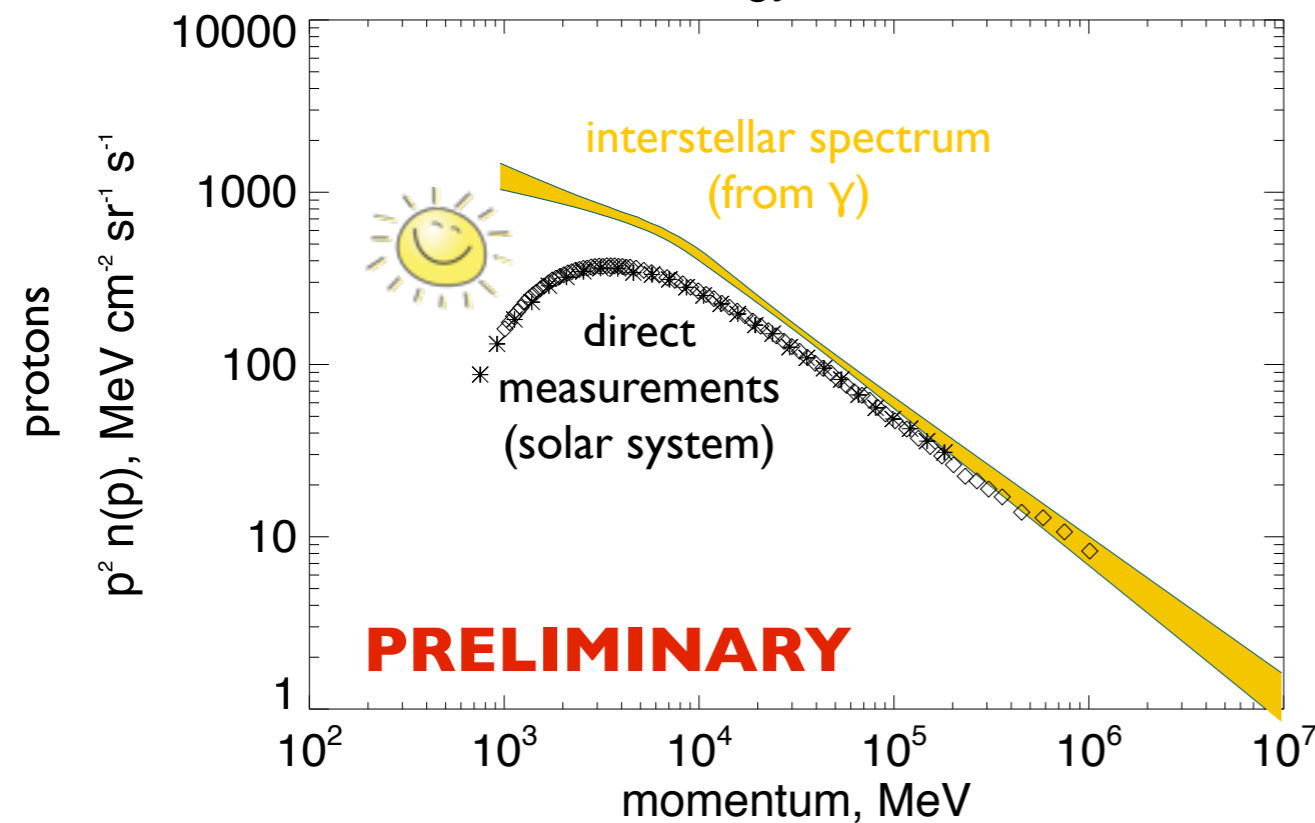
within
 ~ 1 kpc
from the Sun

- γ -ray emission rate per H atom in the local interstellar medium
 - 10-20% uncertainties in the measurement
 - can be compared to direct cosmic-ray measurements

Local interstellar cosmic-ray spectra



- can measure interstellar p spectrum from γ alone
- need to take into account uncertainties in nuclear production models

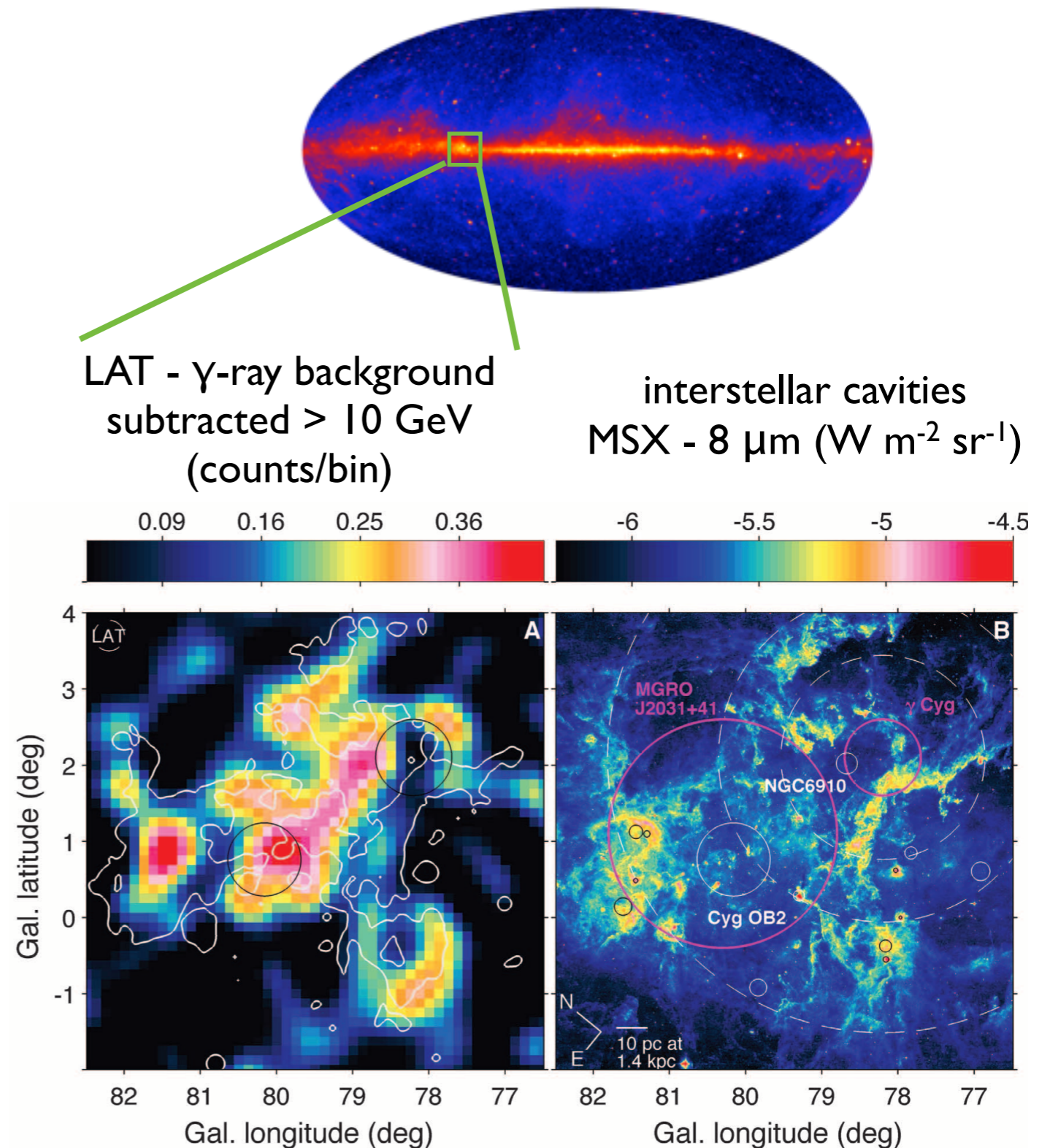


Dermer+ 2013, ICRC, arXiv:1307.0497



The *Fermi* LAT view of Cygnus X

- massive star-forming region:
 - 1.5 kpc from the Sun
 - > 100 O stars
 - 10M solar masses of gas
- extended excess of γ rays with hard spectrum w.r.t. model with local emissivity



Ackermann+ 2011 Science 334 1103

A cocoon of young cosmic rays

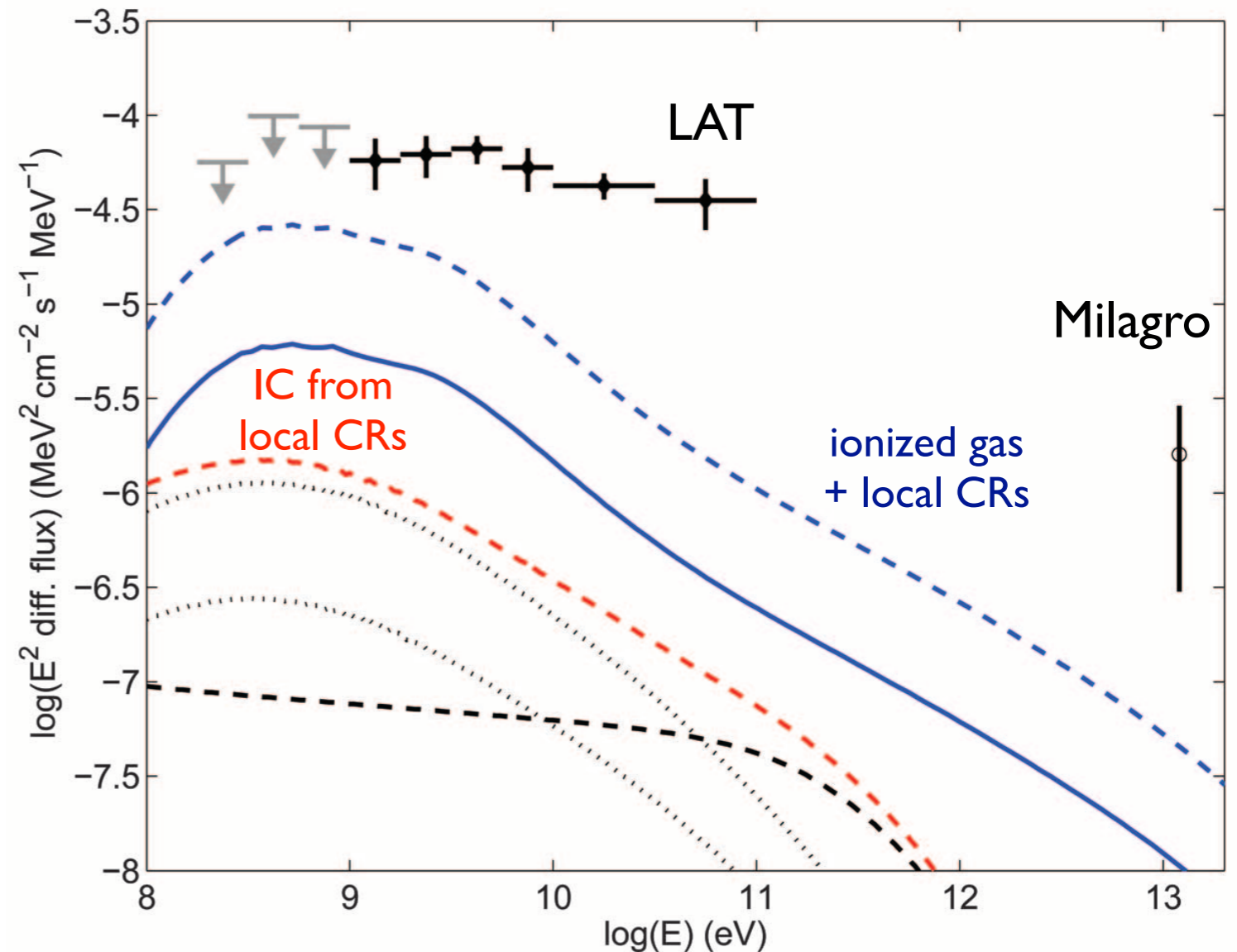
- requires **freshly-accelerated CRs**, for local CRs

- **hadronic** → too soft amplification factor

$$\frac{dN}{dE} \times (1.5 - 2) \left(\frac{E}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{0.3}$$

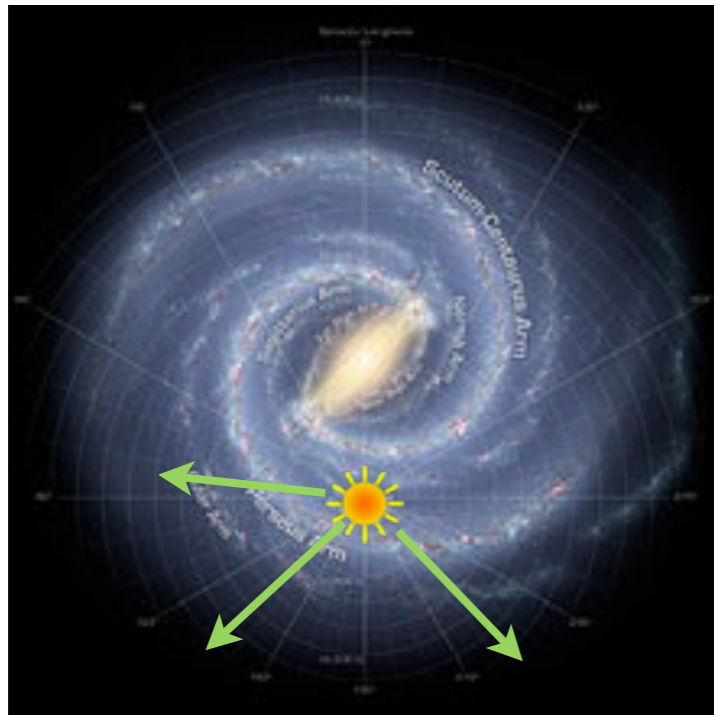
- **leptonic** → too soft and faint amplification factor

$$\frac{dN}{dE} \times 60 \left(\frac{E}{10 \text{ GeV}} \right)^{0.5}$$



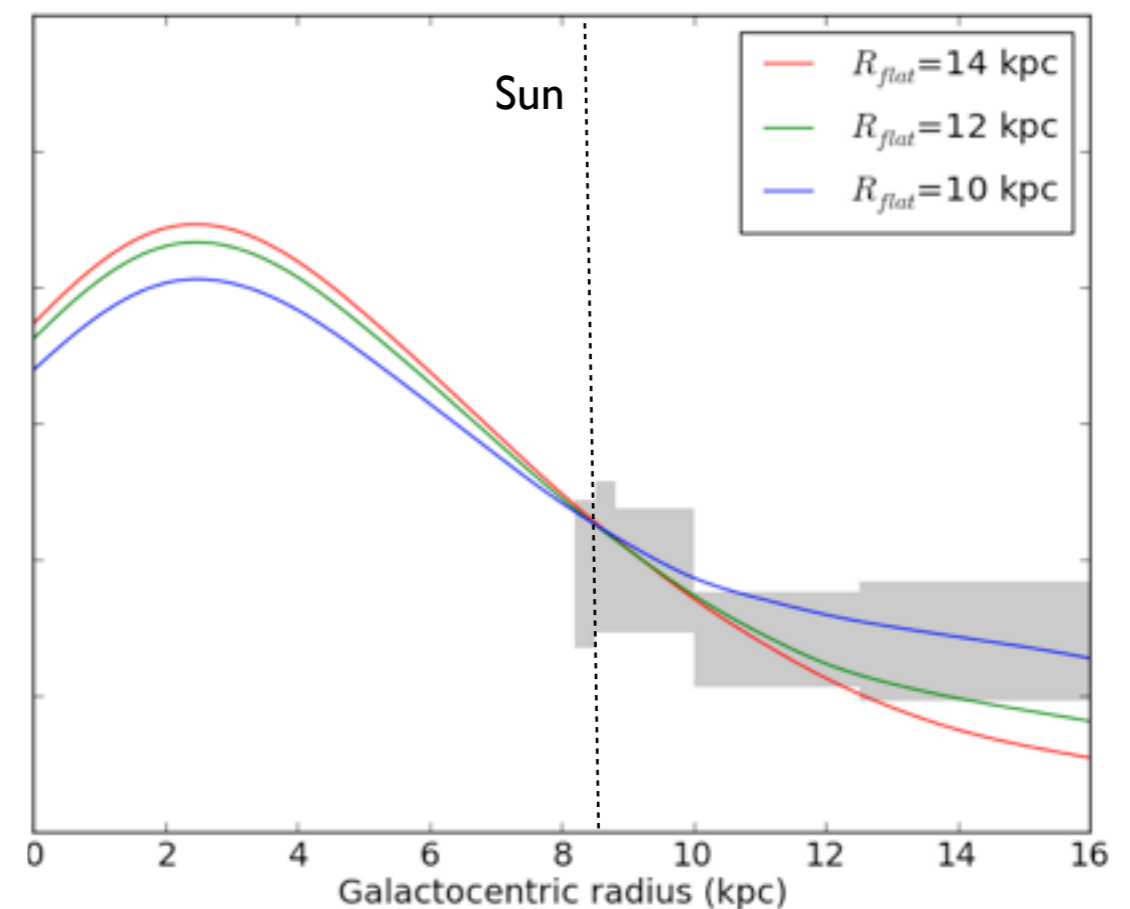
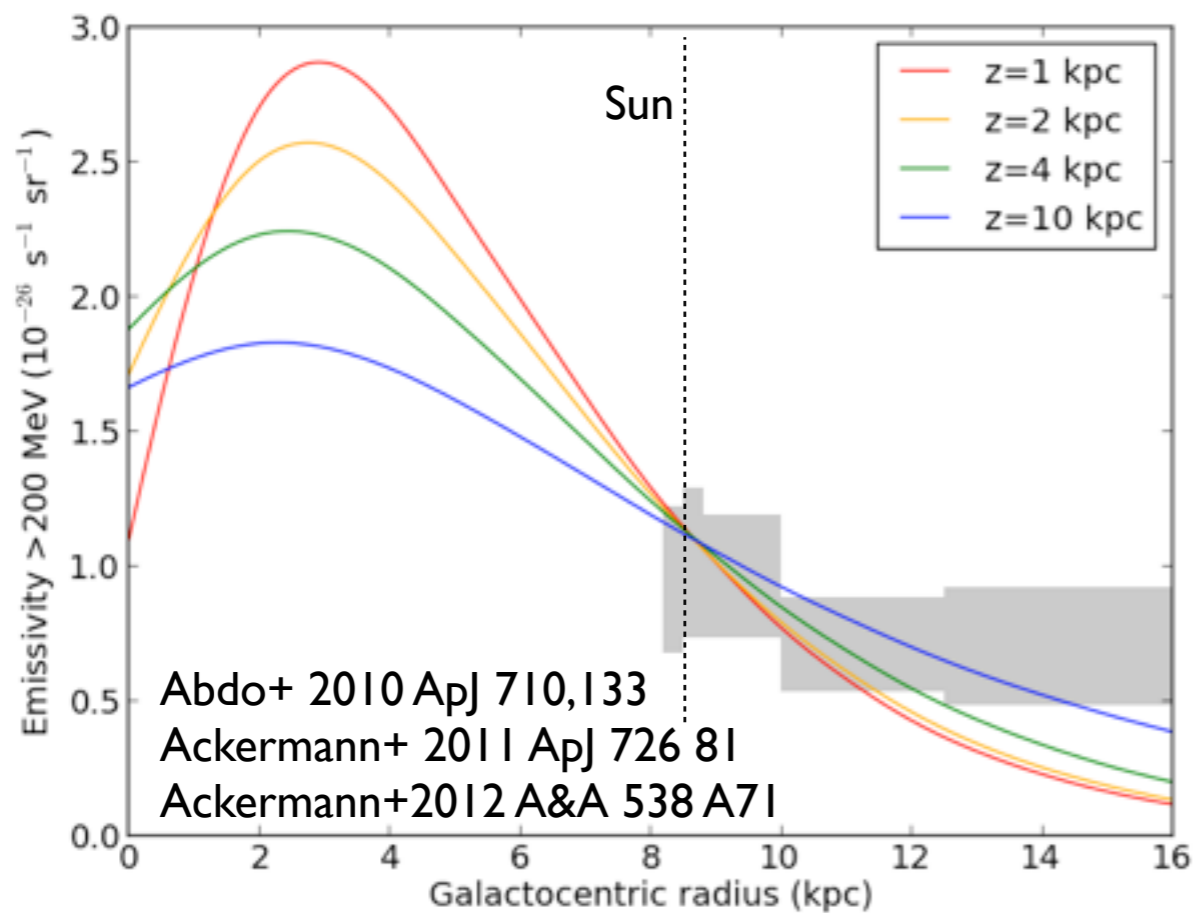
Ackermann+ 2011 Science 334 | 103

Outer Galaxy: the gradient problem



CR densities larger than expected in outer Galaxy

- large propagation halo (z)
- more sources
- missing gas
- varying diffusion coefficient (e.g. Evoli+ 2012), Galactic wind convection (e.g. Breitschwerdt+ 2002)



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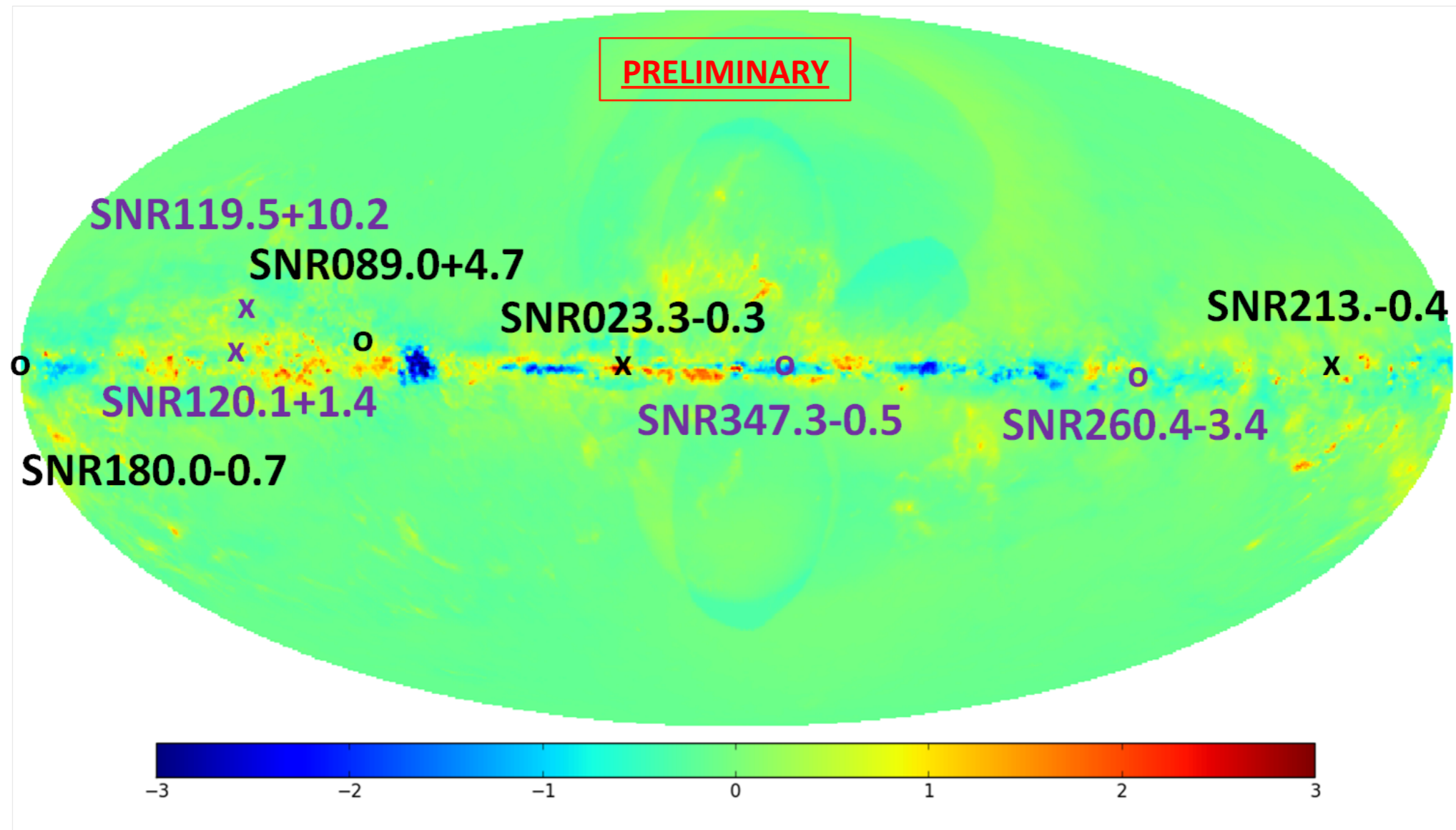
Systematics effects on source studies

- Galactic interstellar emission bright and structured → use alternative models
- for alternative models change
 - building strategy (gas column densities/emissivities)
 - input parameters on a grid (H I spin temperature, CR source distribution, CR propagation halo height)
 - additional components to account for large-scale residuals
- and allow for more freedom in the fit to the γ -ray data (gas in 'rings')
- do not bracket standard model or cover the complete range of uncertainties

De Palma+ 2012, Fermi Symposium arXiv:1304.1395

Test case: the supernova remnant Catalog

De Palma+ 2012, Fermi Symposium arXiv:1304.1395

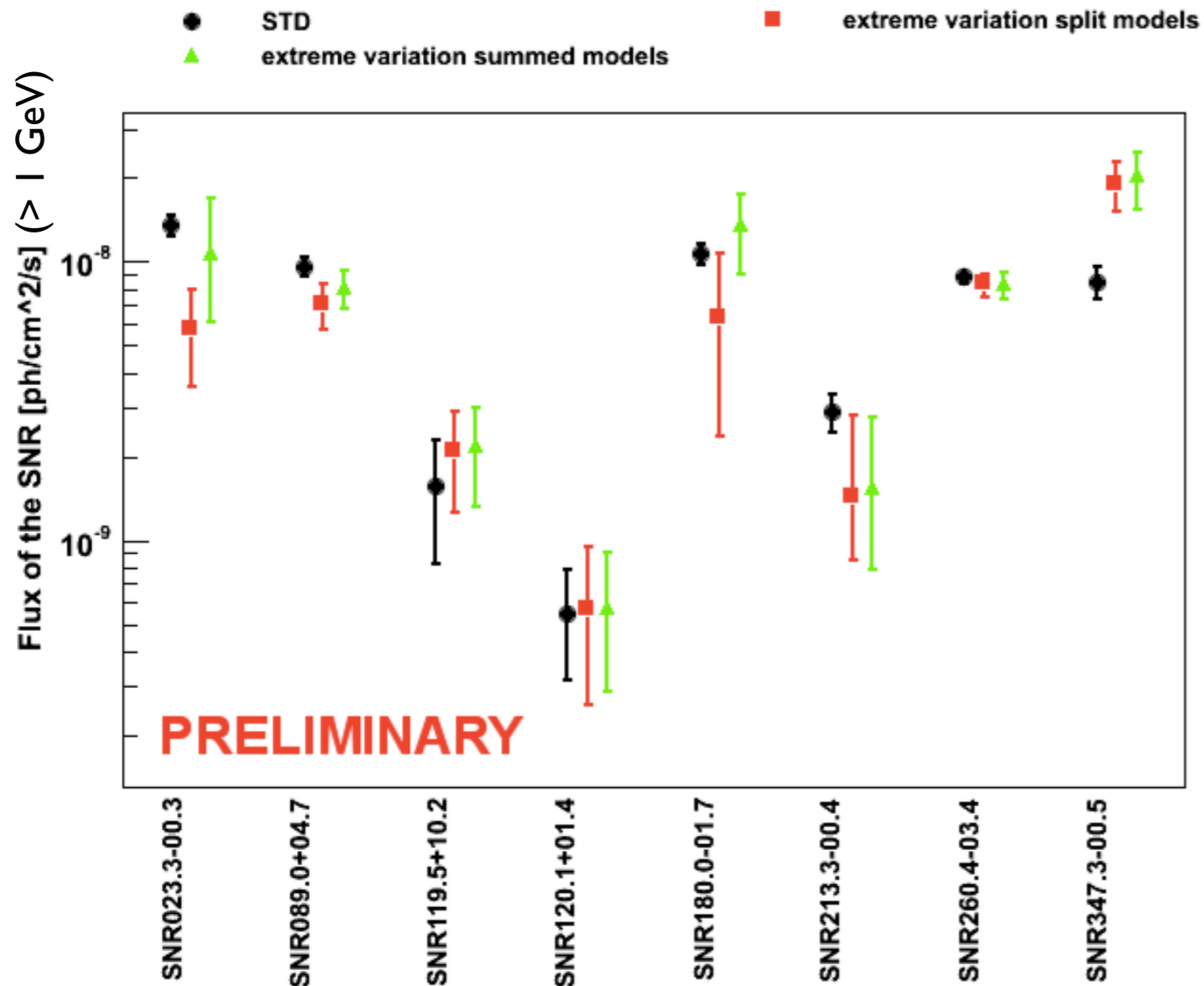


$$\frac{counts_{ALT} - counts_{STD}}{\sqrt{counts_{ALT} + counts_{STD}}}$$


1-100 GeV, 2 years
standard model vs. alternative model

Impact on sources


De Palma+ 2012, Fermi Symposium arXiv:1304.1395



- can have large impact on source parameters
- strongly depends on source properties/location
- can be generalized to other classes of sources (next talk by Alex Drlica-Wagner)

Standard IEM:
 value,
 statistical error

Alternative IEMs:
 Avg of 8 values with
 ■ split rings
 ▲ summed rings

 maximal range
 of values' 1σ
 statistical errors

Final remarks

- Galactic interstellar γ -ray emission is a **tracer of cosmic rays**
 - cosmic-ray acceleration and propagation,
 - complementary to direct cosmic-ray measurements
- Galactic interstellar emission models enable us to study sources, isotropic emission, dark matter
 - **uncertainties are not trivial** to address and **critical for the interpretation of the data**