# Giant cosmic ray halos around M31 and the Milky Way



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Recchia, Gabici, Aharonian, Niro, ApJ, 914, 135 (2021)

# M31 in gamma rays

#### **M** Past attempts to detect M31 in gamma rays:

- SAS-2 (Fichtel+ 1975)
  - COS-B (Pollock+ 1981)
    - EGRET (Sreekumar+ 1994, Hartman+ 1999)

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    - EGRET (Sreekumar+ 1994, Hartman+ 1999)
      - 🗹 The Fermi era:
        - Detection >100 MeV gamma-rays (Abdo+ 2010; Ögelamn+ 2011)
          - No correlation with disk, emission from inner 5 kpc (Ackermann+ 2017)
            Fermi Bubbles-like structure? (Phsirkov+ 2016)



# A giant gamma-ray halo around M31

Karwin et al., 2019 Total Interstellar Emission Model



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# Hadronic or leptonic?

 $L_{\gamma} \lesssim 2 \times 10^{39} \mathrm{erg/s}$ 



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which is, in both scenarios, similar to the CR output of the Milky Way —> tight, but feasible energy budget





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the transport in the halo is due to spatial diffusion + advection in a galactic wind



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Recchia et al., 2016

z=50 kpc

 $10^{4}$ 

 $10^{5}$ 

z=100 kpc

10<sup>3</sup>



#### Accretion shock?

free fall velocity ->  $v_{ff} \sim 3 \times 10^2 \left(\frac{M}{10^{12} M_{\odot}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{R_{sh}}{100 \text{ kpc}}\right)^{1/2} \text{ km/s}$ 

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continuous injection of energy  $L_{BH}$  at the SMBH —> a dimensional argument leads to:

$$v_{sh} \sim \left(\frac{L_{BH}}{\varrho_{gas}^{out}}\right)^{1/5} t^{-2/5} \approx 3 \times 10^2 \left(\frac{L_{BH}}{10^{43} \text{erg/s}}\right)^{1/5} \left(\frac{n_{gas}^{out}}{10^{-4} \text{cm}^{-3}}\right)^{-1/5} \left(\frac{t}{\text{Gyr}}\right)^{-2/5} \text{km/s}$$

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$$L_{Edd} \approx 10^{46} \left(\frac{M_{SMBH}}{10^8 M_{\odot}}\right) \mathrm{erg/s} \quad \text{there is enough energy!}$$

#### Maximum energy of accelerated particles

CR acceleration time at a shock ->  $\tau_{acc} = a \frac{D}{v_{sh}^2}$   $a \approx 10$ 

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B-field amplification at shocks: fraction of shock ram pressure converted into magnetic pressure

$$E_p^{max} \approx 460 \left(\frac{v_{sh}}{1000 \text{ km/s}}\right)^3 \left(\frac{n_{gas}}{10^{-4} \text{ cm}^{-3}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{\tau_{res}}{\text{Gyr}}\right) \left(\frac{\xi_B}{0.035}\right)^{1/2} \text{PeV}$$



DEC



#### **M** Buoyant bubbles

Often present in central regions of galaxy clusters, inflated by AGN activity

- Stypical radii of several kpc's
- Rise velocity ~ sound speed ~ 100 km/s
- Lifetime (hydro): T<sub>b</sub> ~ 100 Myr
- Stabilising effect of B-fields:  $T_b \ge 1$  Gyr
- Huge energy reservoir:  $W_b \sim 10^{57}$ - $10^{59}$  erg

DEC Fabian et al., 2002 erseus 41:30 -41:28 -31/20mCO 3/19/050 Sh19m40s 150 (courts)

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#### 🗹 Fermi bubbles

- Originated by SMBH or star forming activity
- 🥯 Radius ≳ 10 kpc
- 🥯 Age: few to few tens Myr
- Power ~10<sup>41</sup>-10<sup>43</sup> erg/s —> 10<sup>55</sup>-10<sup>57</sup> erg
- Are Fermi bubbles the base of a larger structure?

#### **M** Proposed scenario

- OR protons (loss free) transported to the halo inside buoyant bubbles
- in a disruption time they rise up to ~100 kpc
- ofter disruption CRs are released in the halo
- they spread diffusively in a time T<sub>diff</sub>
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  m >>}$  bubbles are produced at the GC with a frequency v\_{
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- vb > 1/Tdiff —> continuous injection of CR in the halo
- $^{\circ}$  assume  $\nu_b = 10^{-8} {
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Average CR luminosity in the halo -> 
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CR acceleration efficiency

$$\eta \sim 0.2 \ E_{b,57}^{-1} \nu_{b,-8}^{-1} \left( n_{gas} / 10^{-3} \text{cm}^{-3} \right)^{-1} \left( \tau_{res} / 3 \ \text{Gyr} \right)^{-1}$$





Scenario A —> cutoff @10 GeV

cutoff in the parent CR proton spectrum @100 GeV



Scenario A -> cutoff @10 GeV cutoff in the parent CR proton spectrum @100 GeV D(E) -> energy dependent CR diffusion coefficient Diffusion time ->  $\tau_{diff} \sim \frac{R_{H}^{2}}{6 D(E)}$ 



 $u_b > 1/ au_{diff}$  —> stationary

 $u_b < 1/ au_{diff}$  —> intermittent

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cutoff in the parent CR proton spectrum @100 GeV

D(E) -> energy dependent CR diffusion coefficient

Diffusion time -->  $au_{dif}$ 

$$r_f \sim \frac{R_H^2}{6 D(E)}$$

![](_page_42_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_1.jpeg)

Taylor, SG, Aharonian (2014) proposed that CR p-p interactions in a huge gaseous halo surrounding the Milky Way might explain the isotropic diffuse flux of neutrinos observed by Icecube (black data points and green curve), without violating the limits imposed by the isotropic gamma-ray background (blue data point and pink curve) Scenario B —> no cutoff

what if giant CR halos are a common feature of galaxies?

![](_page_47_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### Requires a CR proton spectrum extending to the multi-PeV domain

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![](_page_48_Figure_6.jpeg)

## M31 and the MW: are giant halos common?

![](_page_49_Figure_1.jpeg)

### M31 and the MW: are giant halos common?

![](_page_50_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_51_Figure_1.jpeg)

if giant CR halos are a common feature of galaxies it is possible to explain simultaneously Icecube neutrinos and the diffuse gamma ray emission around M31

### Conclusions

#### **M** The extended gamma-ray halo detected from M31:

can be explained both in terms of leptonic and hadronic processes

- standard models of CR production in Galactic disks DO NOT WORK
  - first scenario: very large scale (~100 kpc) accretion/termination shock
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#### Similarity with the Milky Way?

- a giant halo of gas surrounding the MW is known to exist
  - giant halos might be a common feature of spiral galaxies (?)
    - circumgalactic gas —> target for CR p-p interactions
      - the same interactions responsible for the gamma-ray emission from the halo of M31 could take place in the MW halo and produce neutrinos at the level of the isotropic flux observed by IceCube!