# COSMIC RAY ACCELERATION IN THE LABORATORY



# Subir Sarkar Rudolf Peierls Centre for Theoretical Physics



Hillas Symposium, Heidelberg, 10-12 December 2018

THERE ARE MANY COSMIC ENVIRONMENTS WHERE PARTICLES ARE ACCELERATED TO HIGH ENERGIES ... PROBABLY BY MHD TURBULENCE GENERATED BY SHOCKS and emit non-thermal radiation in radio through to γ-rays



The mechanism responsible is likely to be *second*-order Fermi acceleration





F10. 3. (1) Schematic structure of a young supernova remnant, showing the internal shock front. (2) Modification of internal structure when the contact discontinuity is distorted by the Rayleigh-Taylor instability. Some fraction of the energy now appears as random motions in the neighbourhood of the filaments.



### ... CONFIRMED BY SUBSEQUENT 2- AND 3-D SIMULATIONS



density

magnetic field

vorticity

current density





Blondin & Ellison, ApJ 560:244, 2001

#### SIMULATION OF THE GROWTH OF THE 3D RAYLEIGH-TAYLOR INSTABILITY IN SNRS ...



#### **TURBULENT AMPLIFICATION OF MAGNETIC FIELDS BEHIND SNR SHOCKS**



Upper limits on the γ-ray flux from Cas A (due to *non*-thermal bremsstrahlung) do imply *amplification* of the magnetic field in the radio shell well above the compressed interstellar field ... just as predicted by Gull (Cowsik & Sarkar, MNRAS **191**:855,1980)

Relativistic electrons  $\otimes$  magnetic field  $\rightarrow$  radio "  $\otimes$  X-ray emitting plasma  $\rightarrow \gamma$ -rays **:** radio  $\oplus$  X-rays  $\oplus \gamma$ -rays  $\Rightarrow$  magnetic field

Recently both MAGIC & Fermi detected  $\gamma$ -rays from Cas A  $\Rightarrow$  minimum B-field of ~100  $\mu$ G (Abdo et al, ApJ **710**:L92,2018)

... also suggested by the observed thinness of X-ray synchrotron emitting filaments (Vink & Laming, ApJ **584**:758,2003)

# $E_{1,P_{1}} = \gamma E_{1}(1 - \beta \cos \vartheta_{1}) \text{ where } \beta = V/c \text{ and } \gamma = 1/\sqrt{1 - \beta^{2}}$ $E_{2} = \gamma E_{2}'(1 + \beta \cos \vartheta_{2}') \text{ Pitch-angle scattering} \rightarrow \text{isotropy}$ $E_{1,P_{1}} = \sqrt{1 - \beta^{2}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k_{2}, p_{2}} \frac{1}{2} \left(\cos \vartheta_{2}'\right) = 0 \quad \left(\cos \vartheta_{1}\right) = \int \cos \vartheta_{1} \frac{dn}{d\Omega_{1}} d\Omega_{1} / \int \frac{dn}{d\Omega_{1}} d\Omega_{1} = -\frac{\beta}{3}$

$$\xi = \frac{E_2 - E_1}{E_1} = \frac{1 - \beta \cos \vartheta_1 + \beta \cos \vartheta_2' - \beta^2 \cos \vartheta_1 \cos \vartheta_2'}{1 - \beta^2} - 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \langle \xi \rangle = \frac{1 + \beta^2/3}{1 - \beta^2} - 1 \simeq \frac{4}{3}\beta^2$$

Fast particles collide with moving magnetised clouds (Fermi, 1949) ... particles can gain *or* lose energy, but head-on collisions (⇒ gain) are more probable, hence energy increases on average proportionally to the velocity-*squared* 

It was subsequently realised that MHD turbulence or plasma waves can also act as scattering centres (Sturrock 1966, Kulsrud and Ferrari 1971)

Evolution in phase space is governed by a diffusion equation (Kaplan 1955):

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = -\frac{1}{p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( -p^2 \mathcal{D}_{pp} \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} \right) - \frac{f}{\tau_{esc}} + \frac{I_0 \delta(p - p_0) \delta(t - t_0)}{4\pi p^2}$$

#### **TRANSPORT EQUATION** $\Rightarrow$ INJECTION + DIFFUSION + CONVECTION + LOSS

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \frac{n}{\tau_{e}} - \left[ 2K_{F} + \frac{1}{3} \left( \frac{d \ln B_{r}}{dt} - \frac{d \ln L}{dt} \right) \right] E \frac{\partial n}{\partial E} + K_{F}E^{2} \frac{\partial^{2}n}{\partial E^{2}} + I(\epsilon, t),$$
Escape Betatron Adiabatic Convection Diffusion Injection acceleration expansion

In the SNR shell there is also energy gain/loss due to betatron accn./adiabatic expansion

By making the following integral transforms ...

Т

By making the following integral transforms ...  

$$n = n' \exp\left[-\int_{t_0}^t \frac{dt'}{\tau_e(t')}\right],$$

$$x = E \exp\left[-\int_{t_0}^t \left\{2K_F(t') + \frac{1}{3}\left[\frac{d\ln B_r(t')}{dt'} - \frac{d\ln L(t')}{dt'}\right]\right\} dt'\right],$$

$$y = \exp\left[\int_{t_0}^t K_F(t') dt'\right].$$
The Green's function is:  

$$G' = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi y}} \exp\left[-\left(\ln\frac{x}{x_0} - y\right)^2/4y\right] \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Log-normal} \\ \text{distribution} \end{array}$$
So the energy spectrum is:  

$$n(\epsilon, t) = \int_{t_0}^t dt'_0 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\epsilon'_0 \widetilde{G}(\epsilon, \epsilon'_0, t, t'_0) I(\epsilon'_0, t'_0).$$

## THE SOLUTION TO THE TRANSPORT EQUATION IS AN APPROXIMATE POWER-LAW SPECTRUM AT LATE TIMES, WITH CONVEX CURVATURE



Figure 3. Evolution of the energy spectrum of particles corresponding to (1) Impulsive injection (of 1 particle) and (2) continuous injection (of 1 particle s<sup>-1</sup>), for a constant rate of stochastic acceleration,  $K_0 = 10^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ . [Piston model (a);  $t_0 = 10 \text{ yr}$ ;  $\tau_e \ge t$ .]

Cowsik & Sarkar, MNRAS 207:745,1984

## THE SYNCHOTRON RADIATION SPECTRUM DEPENDS MAINLY ON THE

**ACCELERATION TIME-SCALE ... AND HARDENS WITH TIME** 



Figure 4. Evolution of the synchrotron spectrum corresponding to impulsive injection (dashed line,  $E_{inj} = 10^{46} \text{ erg}$ ) and continuous injection at a constant rate (solid line,  $\dot{E}_{inj} = 10^{38} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ ), for various values of the (constant) stochastic acceleration rate,  $K_0$ . [Piston model (a):  $t_0 = 10 \text{ yr}$ ;  $E_0 = 1 \text{ MeV}$ ,  $\tau_e \gg t$ .] Cowsik & Sarkar, MNRAS 207:745,1984



... very well fitted by the log-normal spectrum expected from 2<sup>nd</sup> order Fermi acceleration by MHD turbulence due to plasma instabilities *behind* the shock (NB: Efficient 1<sup>st</sup>-order 'Diffusive Shock Acceleration' yields a *concave* spectrum!)

.. ALSO FITS THE OBSERVED FLATTENING OF THE SPECTRUM WITH TIME



Figure 7. The expected decay rate of the Cas A spectrum as a function of frequency is shown separately for the cases with (dashed line) and without (dot-dashed line) continuing injection of low-energy electrons, assuming identical expansion rates. The solid line is the weighted average of the two curves (in the ratio 1: 2) and represents the decay rate of the total flux, assuming a third of it to arise from regions where low-energy particles are injected (see text for details). Observational data are from Baars *et al.* (1977).

Even so the standard model of particle acceleration in Cas A is DSA *ahead* of the shock

#### NASA'S FERMI TELESCOPE DISCOVERS GIANT STRUCTURE IN OUR GALAXY

NASA's Fermi Gamma-ray Space Telescope has unveiled a previously unseen structure centered in the Milky Way. The feature spans 50,000 light-years and may be the remnant of an eruption from a supersized black hole at the center of our Galaxy.



Haze emission at 30 & 44 GHz mapped by Planck (red and yellow) superimposed on Fermi bubbles (blue) mapped at 10 to 100 GeV.

 $\gamma$ -ray luminosity  $\sim 4 \times 10^{37}$  ergs/s ... interesting target for CTA

# WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF THE ENERGY INJECTION?

Evidence for shock at bubble edges (from ROSAT)

Turbulence produced at shock is convected downstream

2<sup>nd</sup>-order Fermi acceleration by large-scale, fast-mode turbulence explains observed *hard* spectrum as due to IC scattering off CMB + FIR + optical/UV radiation backgrounds

Mertsch & Sarkar, PRL **107**: 091101,2011



- NB: If source of electrons is DM annihilation then volume emissivity will be *homogeneous* ... so in projection this would yield a bump-like profile ... whereas *sharp* edges are observed!
- This also argues against the hadronic model wherein cosmic ray protons are accelerated by SNRs and convected out by a Galactic wind

FOKKER-PLANCK EQUATION

$$\frac{\partial n}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( p^2 D_{pp} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \frac{n}{p^2} \right) - \frac{n}{t_{esc}} + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left( \frac{\mathrm{d}p}{\mathrm{d}t} n \right) = 0$$
where:  $D_{pp} = p^2 \frac{8\pi D_{xx}}{9} \int_{1/L}^{k_d} \frac{W(k)k^4 \mathrm{d}k}{v_F^2 + D_{xx}^2 k^2}$ 

$$\xrightarrow{\mathbf{kpc}} t_{acc} \sim p^2/D_{pp}$$
2nd order Fermi acceleration
$$t_{esc} \sim L^2/D_{xx}$$
diffusive escape
$$t_{cool} \sim -p/(\mathrm{d}p/\mathrm{d}t)$$
synchrotron and inverse Compton
$$t_{life}$$
dynamical timescale

Steady state solution because of hierarchy of timescales:  $t_{
m acc}, t_{
m esc} \ll t_{
m life}$ 

Stawarz & Petrosian, ApJ **681:**1725,2006

NB: Spectrum can be harder (or softer) than the standard  $E^{-2}$  form for 1<sup>st</sup>-order shock acceleration ... also is *convex* rather than concave in shape

## **BUBBLE SPECTRUM**



Spectral fit is consistent with *both* hadronic and leptonic model ... but total energy in electrons is ~10<sup>51</sup> erg, *cf.* ~10<sup>56</sup> erg for hadronic model!

## **BUBBLE SPECTRUM**



... but only the leptonic model (IC emission from electrons accelerated *in situ* by 2<sup>nd</sup>-order Fermi accn. can account simultaneously for *both* radio & γ-rays (NB: Do not expect to see neutrinos if this is true!)

Bubble profile is *inconsistent* with constant volume emissivity ... as expected from hadronic model (Or dark matter annihilation)



Mertsch & Sarkar, PRL **107**: 091101,2011

**Expect edges** to become sharper with increasing energy (since the radiating electrons have shorter lifetimes) CTA can test if

spectrum indeed gets *steeper* with the height above Gal. plane CAN WE SIMULATE 2<sup>ND</sup>-ORDER FERMI ACCELERATION IN THE LABORATORY USING LASERS TO CREATE A TURBULENT PLASMA?



The laser bay at the National Ignition Facility, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory consists of 192 laser beams delivering 2 MJ of laser energy in 20 ns pulses

$$\begin{pmatrix} \ell, u, \rho \\ \tau = \ell / u \\ p = \rho u^2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{self-similar transform} \begin{cases} \ell', u', \rho' \\ \tau' = \frac{\ell'/\ell}{u'/u} \tau \\ p' = \frac{\rho'}{\rho} \left(\frac{u'}{u}\right)^2 p \end{cases}$$

- → Equations of ideal MHD have no intrinsic scale, hence similarity relations exist
- → This requires that Reynolds number, magnetic Reynolds number, etc are all large – in both the astrophysical and analogue laboratory systems

$$\frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial t'} + \nabla' \cdot (\rho' \mathbf{u}') = 0$$

The difficulty, so far, remains in achieving these to be large enough for the dynamo to be operative

$$\rho'\left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}'}{\partial t'} + \mathbf{u}' \cdot \nabla' \mathbf{u}'\right) = -\nabla' P' + \frac{1}{R_e} \nabla' \cdot \mathbf{\sigma}' + \mathbf{F'}_{EM} \qquad \text{Reynolds number}$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t'} \left(\rho' \varepsilon' + \frac{\rho' \mathbf{u}'^2}{2}\right) + \nabla' \cdot \left(\rho' \mathbf{u}' \left(\varepsilon' + \frac{\mathbf{u}'^2}{2}\right) + P' \mathbf{u}'\right) = \frac{1}{R_e} \nabla' \cdot (\mathbf{\sigma}' \cdot \mathbf{u}') - \mathbf{J}' \cdot \mathbf{E'}$$

 $\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}'}{\partial t'} = \nabla' \times (\mathbf{u}' \times \mathbf{B}') + \frac{1}{R_m} \nabla'^2 \mathbf{B}' \qquad \text{Magnetic Reynolds number}$ 

#### FLASH SIMULATION OF LASER GENERATED MHD TURBULENCE

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

Courtesy: Petros Tzeferacos University of Chicago

![](_page_21_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### **USE COLLIDING FLOWS & GRIDS TO CREATE STRONG TURBULENCE**

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

The colliding flows contain D and ~3 MeV protons are produced via  $D+D \rightarrow T + p$  reactions

#### **FOKKER-PLANK DIFFUSION COEFFICIENTS**

• Diffusion coefficient 
$$D_{\varepsilon} = \frac{\langle (\Delta \varepsilon)^2 \rangle}{\Delta t} = \frac{p^2}{m_p^2} D_p$$

• Ohm's law  

$$\mathbf{E} = -\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{B} - \beta \frac{\delta_i}{l} \nabla P_e + \frac{\delta_i}{l} \mathbf{j} \times \mathbf{B} + \frac{1}{R_m} \mathbf{j} + \left(\frac{\delta_e}{l}\right)^2 \frac{\partial \mathbf{j}}{\partial t}$$

Taking the fields and flows to be uncorrelated over one cell size, the momentum diffusion coefficient is:

$$D_{p} = \frac{l}{c} \left( \frac{4e^{2}B^{2}}{3} \frac{u^{2}}{c^{2}} + e^{2}T^{2} \left( \frac{\nabla n}{n} \right)^{2} \right) \frac{m_{p}c}{p}$$

... and the spatial diffusion coefficient is:

$$D_x = \frac{m_p^2 c^5}{3q^2 l B^2} \left(\frac{p}{m_p c}\right)^3 \qquad \tau_{esc} = \frac{L^2}{D_x}$$

![](_page_23_Figure_7.jpeg)

#### **RELEVANT TIME SCALES**

- Streaming time  $\tau_{cross} = 1.7 \times 10^{-10} s$
- Scattering time  $\tau_{90} = 1.5 \times 10^{-10} s \left(\frac{B}{1.2MG}\right)^{-2} \left(\frac{l}{0.1cm}\right)^{-1}$
- Escape time  $au_{esc} = 5.5 \times 10^{-10} s \left(\frac{B}{1.2MG}\right)^2 \left(\frac{l}{0.1cm}\right)$

To ensure diffusion, the scattering time must be *smaller* than the escape time

However the inferred parameters are on the edge between **ballistic escape** and **diffusion** ... so need *higher* magnetic field to ensure diffusion

Parameter	Omega facility	Scaled NIF value
RMS magnetic field	0.12 MG	1.2 – 4 MG
Correlation length	~0.1cm	~0.05cm
Temperature	450 eV	700 eV
Electron/Ion density	~10 <sup>20</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup>	~7x10 <sup>20</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup>
Mean turbulence velocity	150 km/s	600 km/s
Plasma beta	125	13.7
Reynolds number	370	~1200
Magnetic Reynolds number	870	~20000

#### **ANALYTIC SOLUTION TO THE FOKKER-PLANCK EQUATION**

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

... holds even for non-relativistic particles - as long as  $D_p D_x \propto p^2$  (Mertsch, JCAP **12**:10,2011) Expect mean energy to increase by 10-200 keV and FWHM by 0.24-1.2 MeV – *detectable*!

- → For diffusive shock acceleration to work, the particles must cross the shock many times i.e. their Larmor radius must exceed the shock thickness
- → There must already be a population of energetic particles in order for the Fermi process to operate .... this is the 'injection problem'
- → This pre-acceleration mechanism can be provided by wave-plasma instabilities, such as the modified two-stream instability

![](_page_26_Figure_4.jpeg)

Lower-hybrid waves (at perpendicular shocks)

![](_page_26_Figure_6.jpeg)

$$\omega = \mathbf{k}_{||} \cdot \mathbf{v}_i \approx \mathbf{k}_{\perp} \cdot \mathbf{v}_e$$

Waves in *simultaneous* Cherenkov resonance with ions and electrons

$$E_e \sim \alpha^{2/5} \left(\frac{m_e}{m_i}\right)^{1/5} m_i u^2$$

#### LABORATORY EXPERIMENT TO INVESTIGATE PARTICLE INJECTION AT SHOCKS

![](_page_27_Picture_1.jpeg)

- → Lower-hybrid acceleration provides a possible mechanism to pre-heat electrons above the thermal background
- → This instability has been suggested to explain observed X-ray excess in cometary knots (Bingham *et al.* 2004)
- → We have performed an experiment at LULI, Paris to study this process

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

- → Incoming plasma with velocity ~70 km/s
- → Data shows formation of a shock when magnetic field is present
- → Reflected ions have mean free path of a few mm (larger than their Larmor radius)
- → Plasma β~0.2 for quasiperpendicular shock, hence magnetised two stream instability can be excited

Rigby et al. Nature Physics 14:475,2018

#### **PIC** SIMULATIONS SHOW LOWER-HYBRID HEATING OF ELECTRONS NEAR SHOCK

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **OSIRIS PIC simulations**

- → We have performed 2D PIC using the massively parallel code OSIRIS
- → Simulations are performed with a reduced mass ratio and higher flow velocity, but Alfvenic Mach number is kept the same (scale invariance)

- → Shock is formed with electron heating along B-field lines
- → Turbulent wave spectrum is formed with dispersion relation consistent with LH waves

## **MEASUREMENT OF 'COSMIC RAY' DIFFUSION**

- An experiment was undertaken to measure the diffusion coefficient in the plasma at the Omega facility, University of Rochester.
- A pinhole was inserted to collimate the proton flux from an imploding D3He capsule.
- Without magnetic fields, the pinhole imprints a sharp image of the pinhole onto the detector.
- Random magnetic fields will induce perpendicular velocities to the protons resulting in smearing of the pinhole imprint.

Chen et al. (2018) to appear

![](_page_30_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### OBSERVE SMEARING OF THE EDGES OF THE PINHOLE IMPRINT

.... Could in principle be caused by multiple effects (turbulent fluid motions, plasma instabilities, etc) ... but all can be shown to be *negligible* in practice

# $\rightarrow$ Ascribed to stochastic magnetic fields

![](_page_31_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### **COSMIC GENERATION OF MAGNETIC FIELDS INVOKES MHD TURBULENCE**

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

→Assume there are tiny magnetic fields generated before structure formation

→Magnetic field are then amplified to dynamical strength and coherence length by turbulent motions

#### BIERMANN'S BATTERY MECHANISM OPERATIVE AT CURVED SHOCKS

Magnetic field is produced by misaligned  $T_e$  and  $n_e$  gradients

- → It develops on scales set by shocks in the interstellar medium
- → Structure formation simulations show that a tiny magnetic field is produced near shocks

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

Laser plasma experiments can also generate magnetic fields at shocks

![](_page_33_Figure_6.jpeg)

- → Magnetic fields scales with vorticity:  $B \sim \omega \sim 1/t$
- → Scaled laboratory values are in agreement with structure formation simulations

# SUMMARY

Plasmas of astrophysical relevance can be investigated in the laboratory because of the *scale invariance* of the governing MHD equations

- E.g. cosmic magnetic fields can be produced by the 'Biermann Battery' and subsequently amplified by turbulent dynamo action
- Elucidation of cosmic ray 'injection problem'
- Fusion protons can be produced inside the colliding streams and their momentum space diffusion rate can be measured
- Stochastic 2<sup>nd</sup>-order Fermi acceleration will *soon* be tested

We cannot yet make an universe in the laboratory but we can (*nearly*) make a supernova!

... I think Michael would have liked that!

![](_page_35_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Picture_2.jpeg)

- Alex Rigby, Archie Bott, Laura Chen, Konstantin Beyer, Matthew Oliver, Jena Meinecke, Tony Bell, Alexander Schekochihin, Gianluca Gregori, Thomas White (Oxford)
- John Foster, Peter Graham (AWE, Aldermaston)
- Brian Reville (QU, Belfast)
- Richard Petrasso (MIT, Boston)
- Petros Tzeferacos, Carlo Graziani, Don Lamb (Chicago)
- Ruth Bamford, Bob Bingham, Raoul Trines (Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Chilton)
- Fabio Cruz, Luis Silva (IST, Lisbon)
- Hye-Sook Park (LLNL, Livermore)
- Sergey Lebedev (Imperial College, London)
- Ellen Zweibel (Wisconsin, Madison)
- Michael Koenig (LULI, Paris)
- Dustin Froula (LLE, Rochester)
- Alexis Casner (CEA, Saclay)
- Dongsu Ryu (UNIST, Ulsan)
- Nigel Woolsey (York)
- Francesco Miniati (ETH, Zurich)