

# Nuclei and antinuclei production in cosmic rays

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## Cross-sections and uncertainties for cosmic-ray propagation



Nicola Tomassetti  
Perugia University & INFN  
27 July.2017 - Geneva

# Astrophysical antimatter background

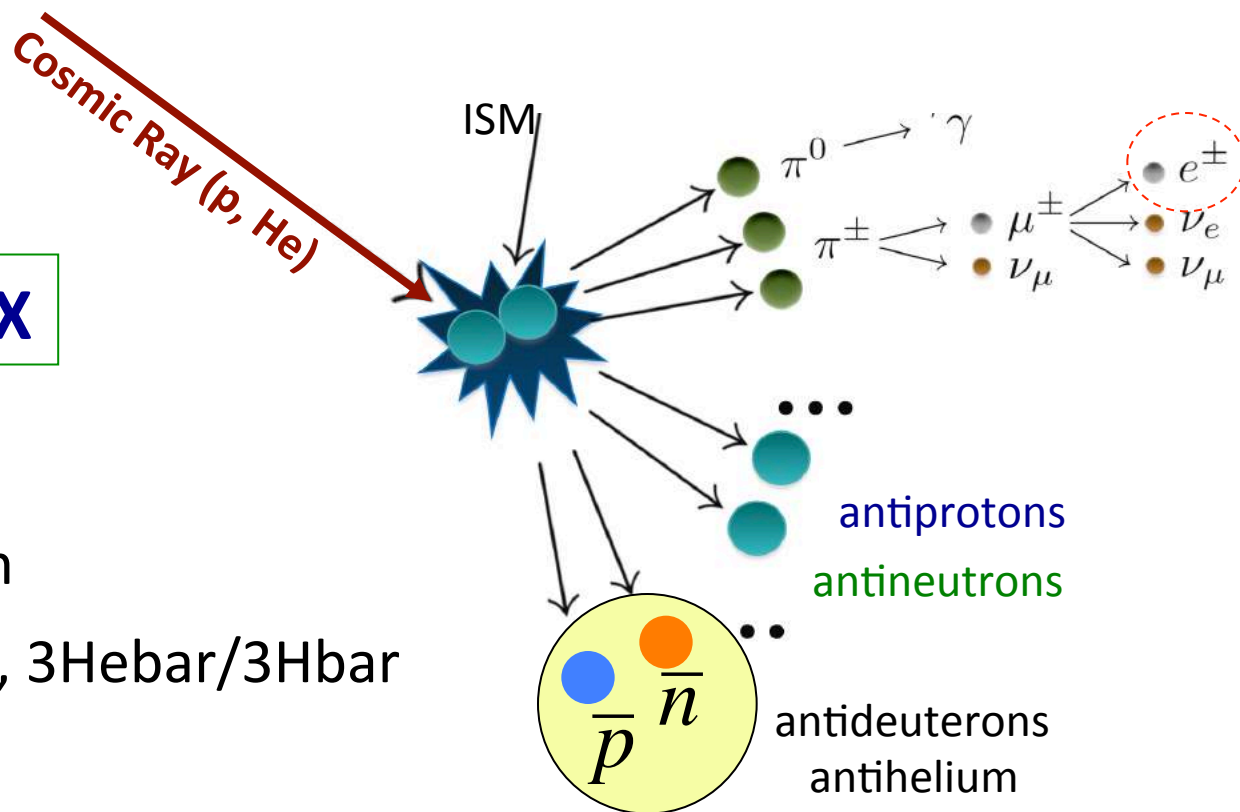
$$Q_{\bar{A}}^{sec}(E) \approx \frac{4\pi}{c} \sum_{CR} \sum_{ISM} \int_{E_{Th}}^{\infty} n_{ISM} \frac{d\sigma_{CR+ISM \rightarrow \bar{A}}^{ISM}}{dE'}(E, E') J_{CR}(E') dE'$$

**CR + ISM → Abar + X**

CR = proton, alpha

ISM = hydrogen, helium

Abar = pbar/nbar, dbar, 3Hebar/3Hbar



# Astrophysical antimatter background

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## Propagation in the Galaxy:

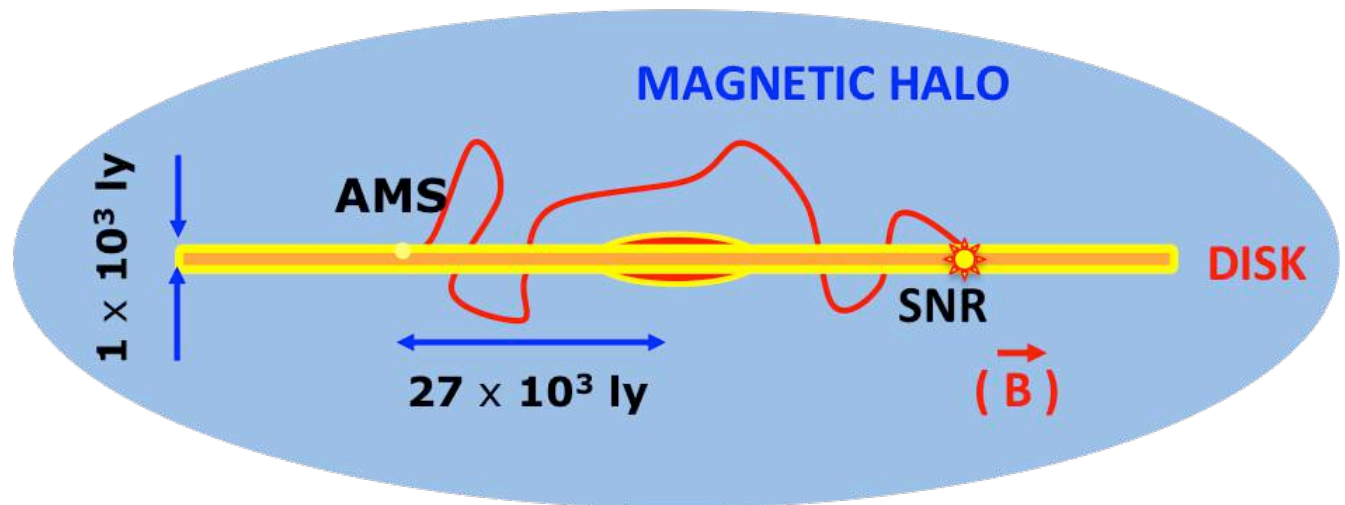
diffusive transport,  
energy loss/gain  
nuclear spallation

$$J_{\bar{A}}^{LIS}(E)$$

## Solar modulation in the Heliosphere:

diffusion, advection, drift

$$J_{\bar{A}}^{TOA}(E) \rightarrow \text{Detection :D}$$



# Astrophysical and nuclear uncertainties

Main source of uncertainties in astrophysical BG calculations:

- 1) PRIMARY CR - RELATED** – From our knowledge of primary CR fluxes. Related to our understanding of CR injection and acceleration.
- 2) CR TRANSPORT IN GALAXY** – Arising from our knowledge of CR transport. Linked to the precision of the data on the B/C ratio and our ability to model it.
- 3) SOLAR MODULATION IN HELIOSPHERE** – Uncertainties in CR diffusion in the heliosphere and charge-sign/polarity dependent effects.
- 4) PRODUCTION** – cross-sections for anti-nucleon production and their coalescence into anti-nuclei. Several configurations of projectile-target-fragment-energy
- 5) SPALLATION** – cross-sections for CR destructive (ANN) reactions in the ISM
- 6) TERTIARY** – cross-sections for non-annihilating reactions and energy distribution of “tertiary” particles.

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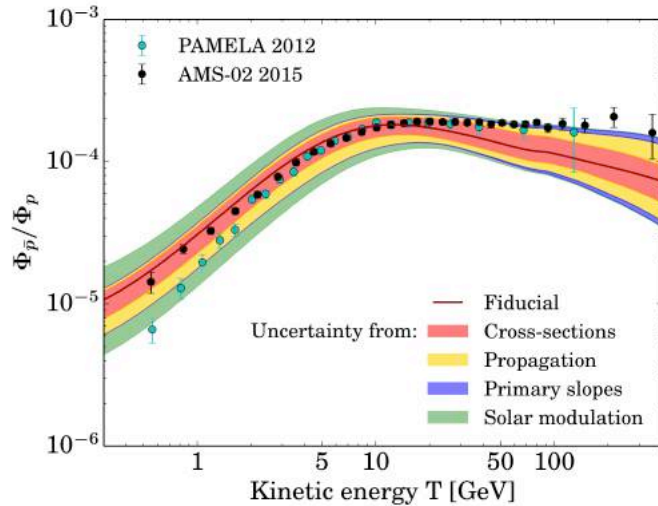
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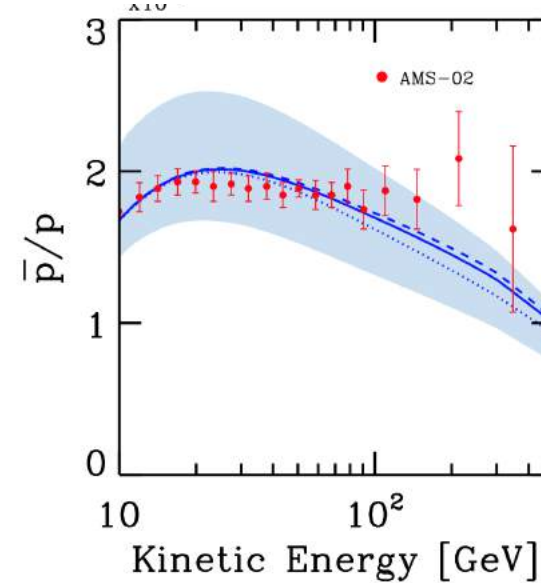
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# Antiprotons: any excess in the AMS data?

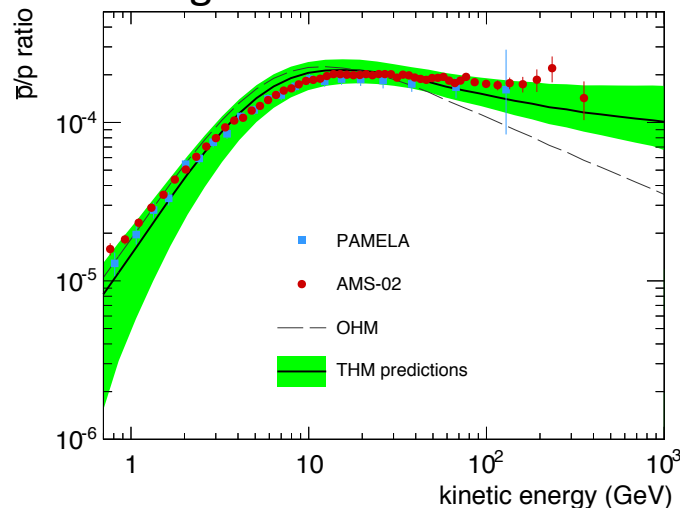
Giesen et al. 1504.04276



Evoli et al. 1504.05175



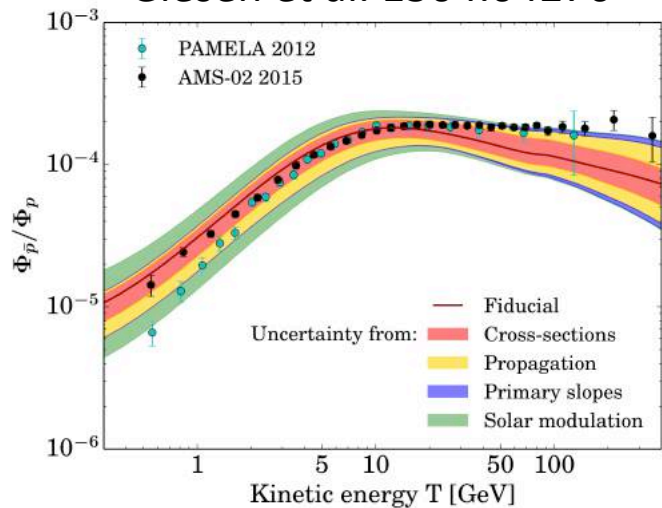
Feng et al. 1610.06182



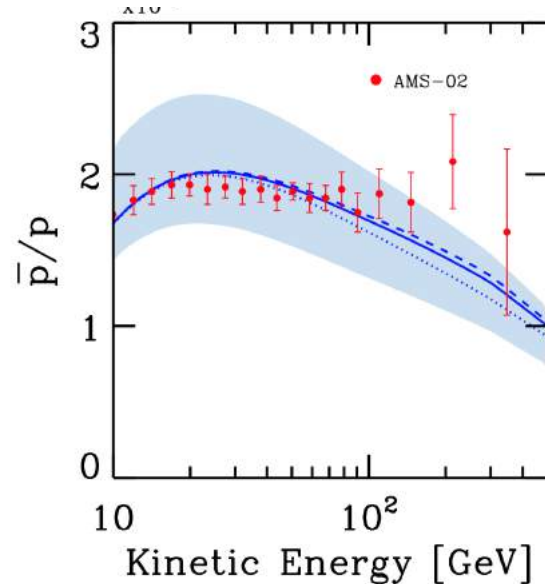
- ✓ No clear excess
- ✓ No clear agreement

# Antiprotons: any excess in the AMS data?

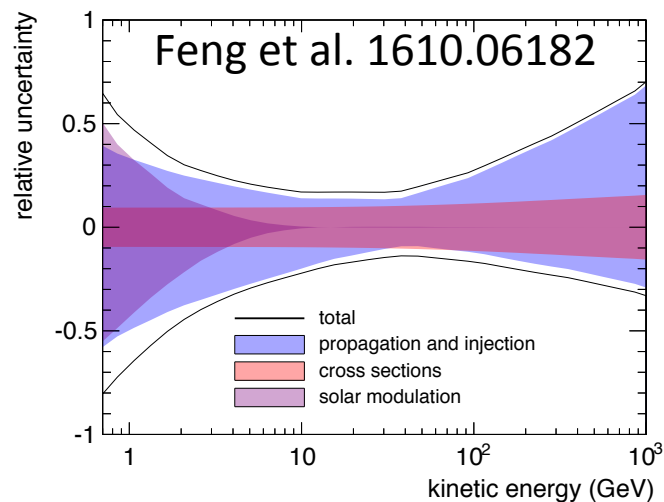
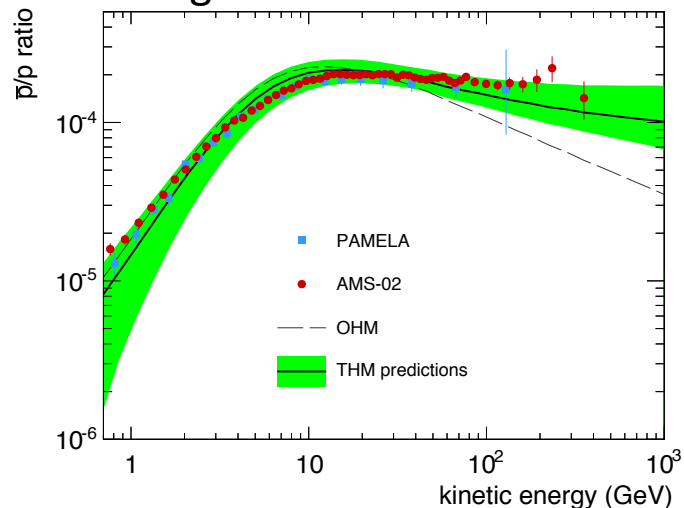
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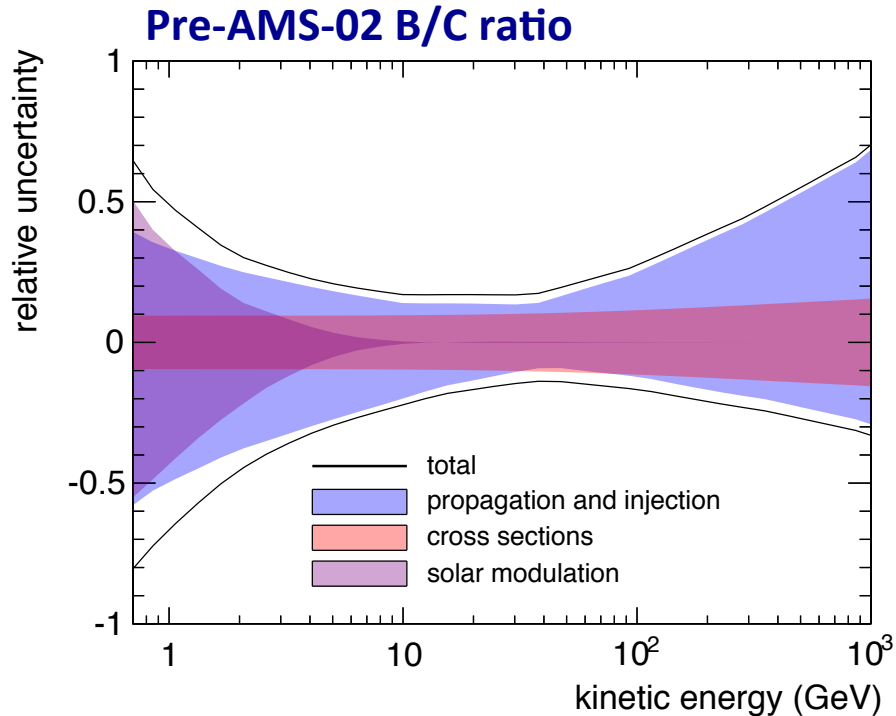
Evoli et al. 1504.05175



Feng et al. 1610.06182



# Astrophysical antiproton background



“Uncertainty in CR propagation can be strongly reduced with Precise B/C data at GeV – TeV”

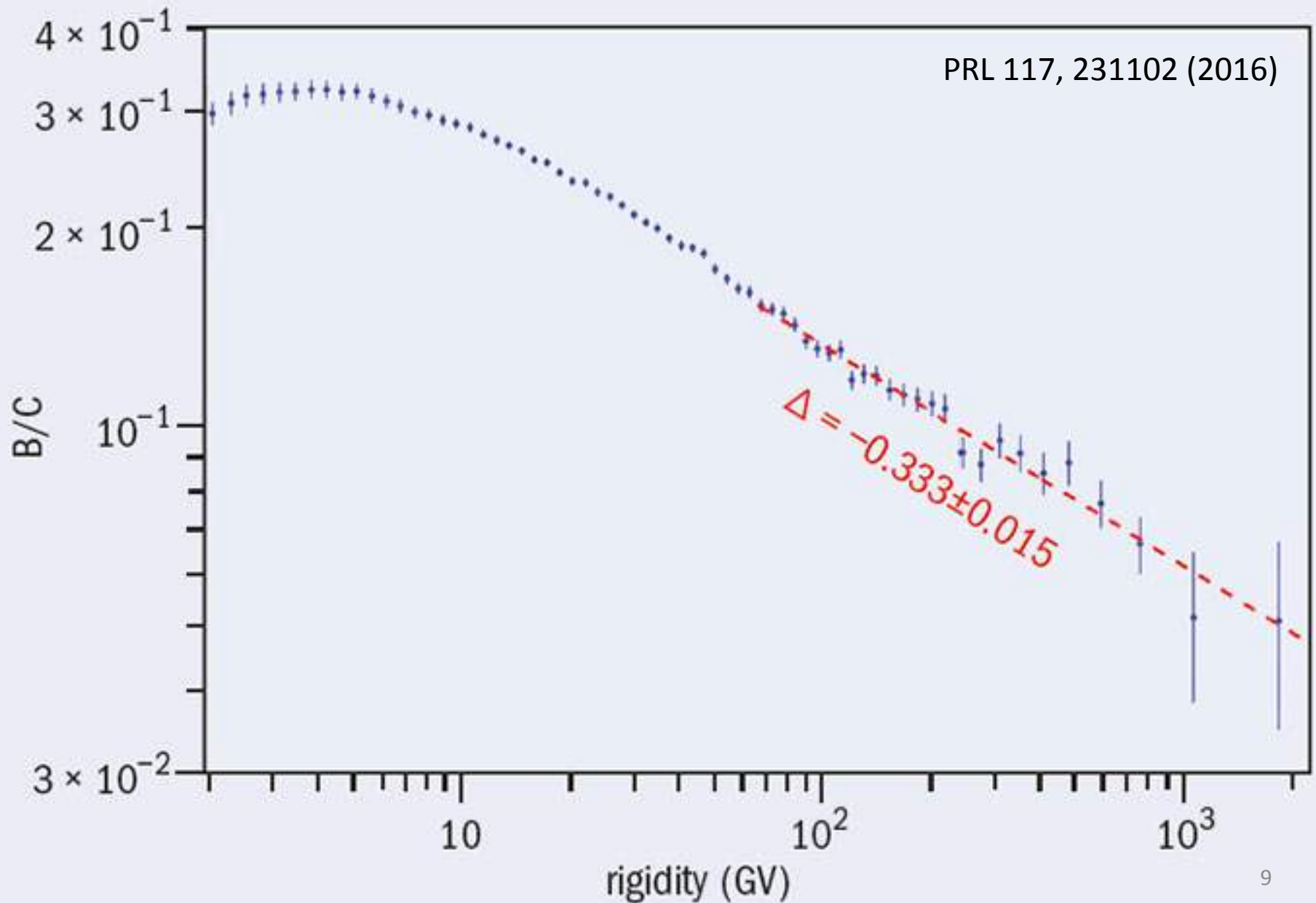
(October 2016)

**J. Feng et al. 2016 [1610.06182]**  
**Uncertainties on  $\bar{p}/p$  ratio**

- ✓ *Uncertainties in antiproton production cross-sections -> comparisons MC generators -data*
- ✓ *Uncertainties in CR propagation -> from two-zone CR propagation model against B/C data*



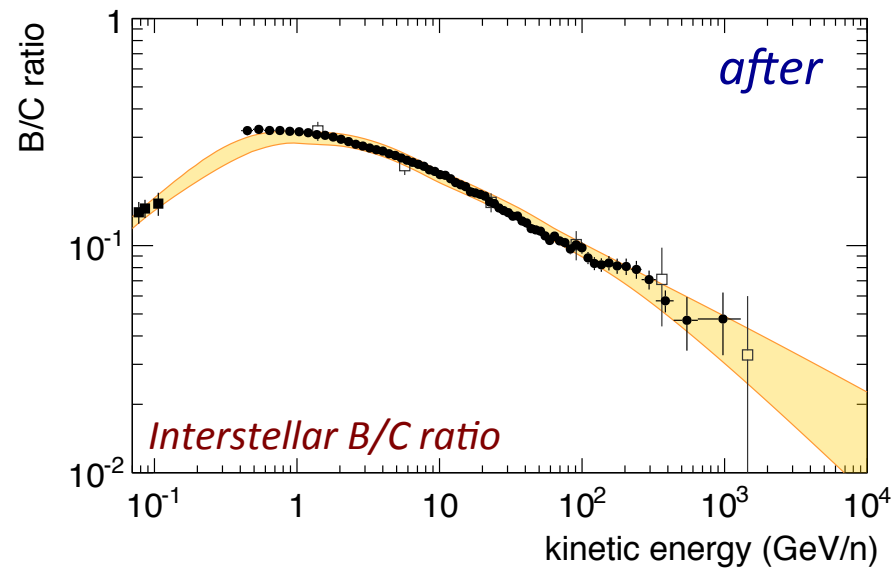
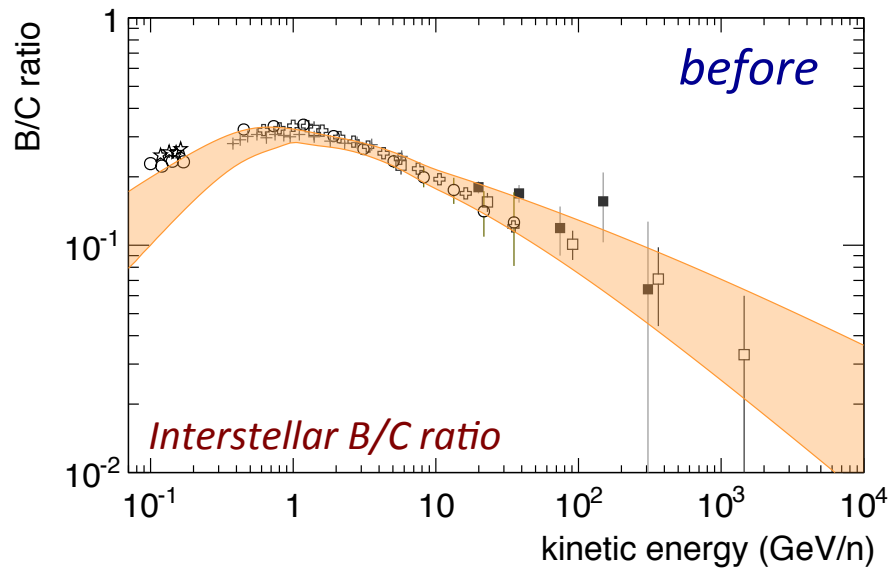
# November 2016 : B/C ratio from AMS



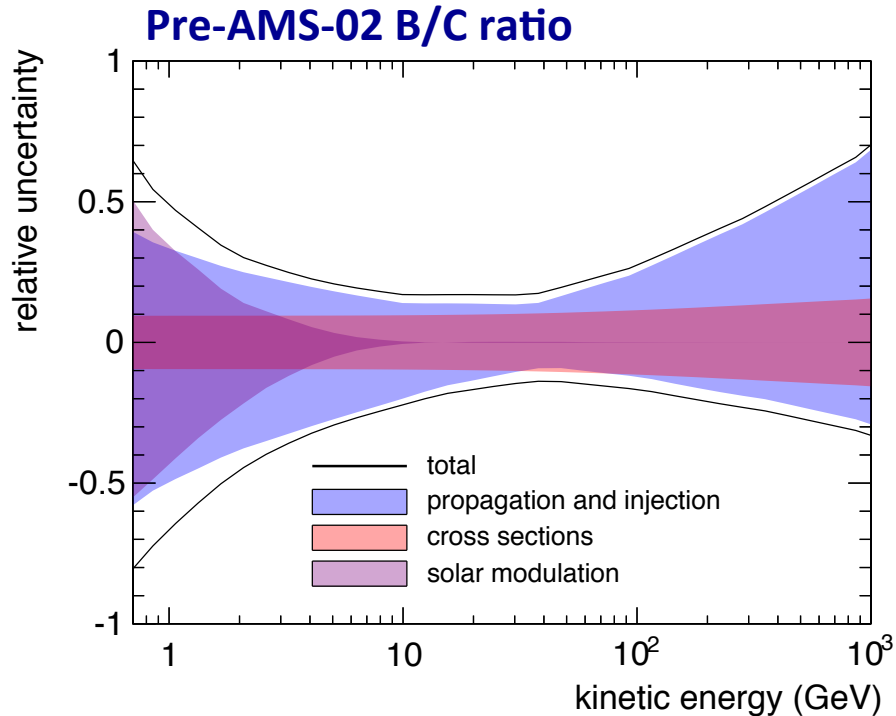
# Uncertainties in CR transport in Galaxy

Related to our knowledge of CR transport parameters: B/C ratio

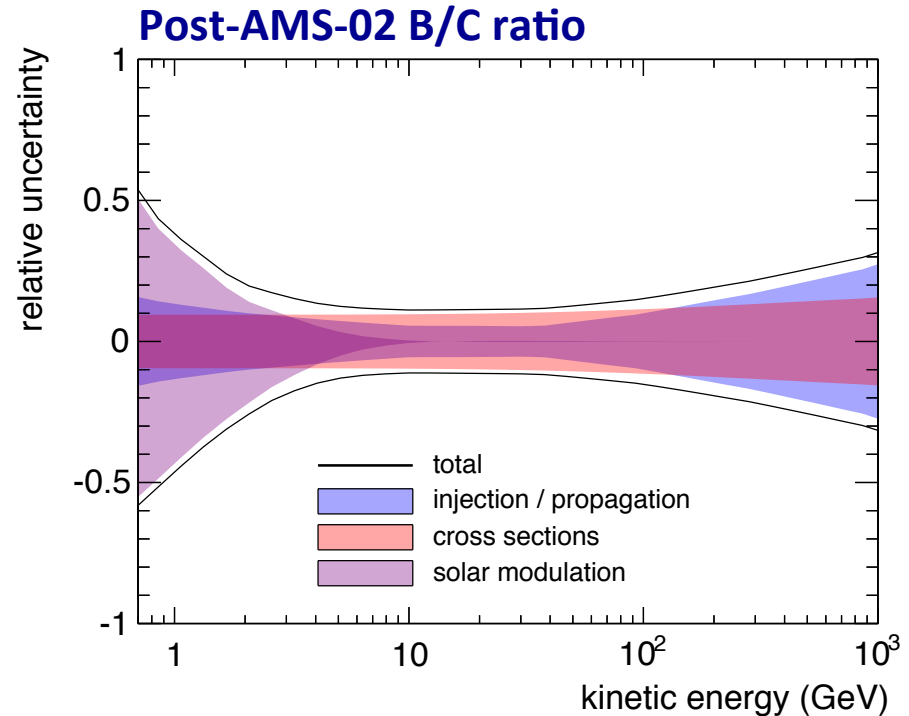
Substantial advance after **Voyager-1** & **AMS-02**



# Astrophysical antiproton background



**J. Feng et al. 2016 [1610.06182]  
Uncertainties on  $\bar{p}/p$  ratio**



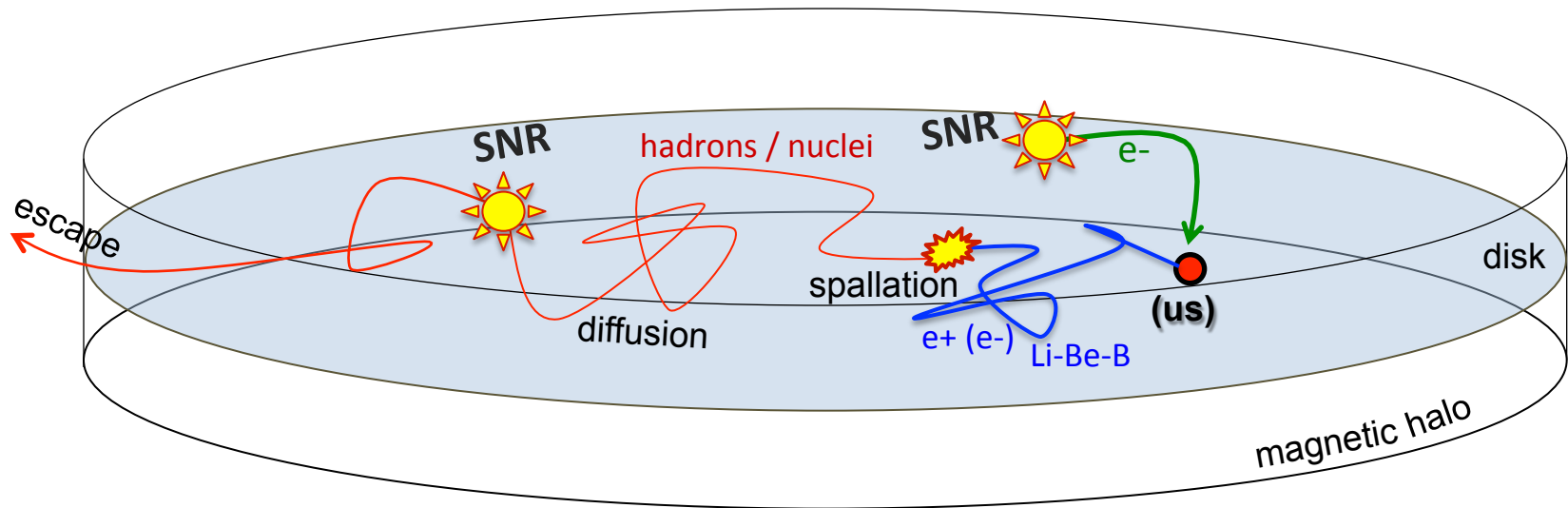
**Improved propagation uncertainty  
after using B/C data from AMS**

- ✓ *New B/C data provides very tight constraints, BUT...*
- *Within this precision, it is critical to address systematic uncertainties in the model*

# What makes the B/C ratio: the physical picture

## LEADING THEORY OF GCR [SNR PARADIGM]

- ✓ **Supernova Remnant (SNR) origin via diffusive shock acceleration (DSA) mechanisms**
- ✓ **Diffusive transport in the turbulent magnetic field + interactions in the interstellar matter.**

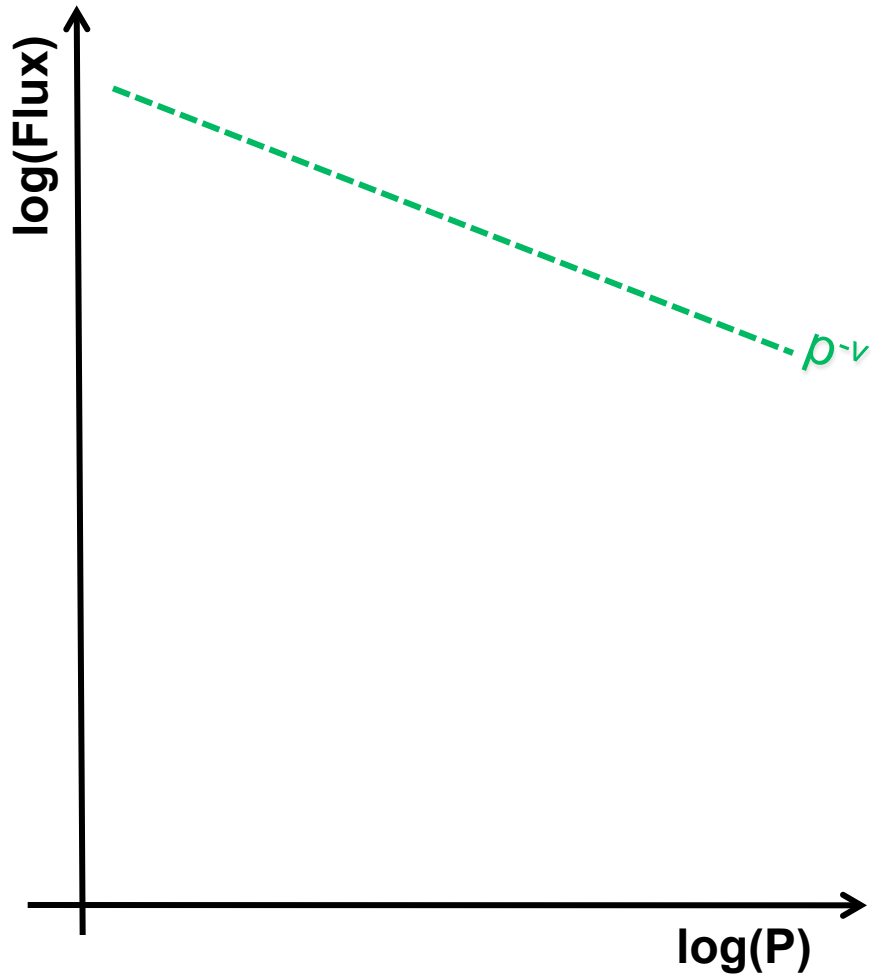


### Pillars

- DSA @SNR: accounts for energetics
- Diffusion: explain the high CR isotropy
- Interactions: account Li-Be-B abundance

# What makes the B/C ratio

Shock accelerated primaries:  $n(p) \sim p^{-\nu}$

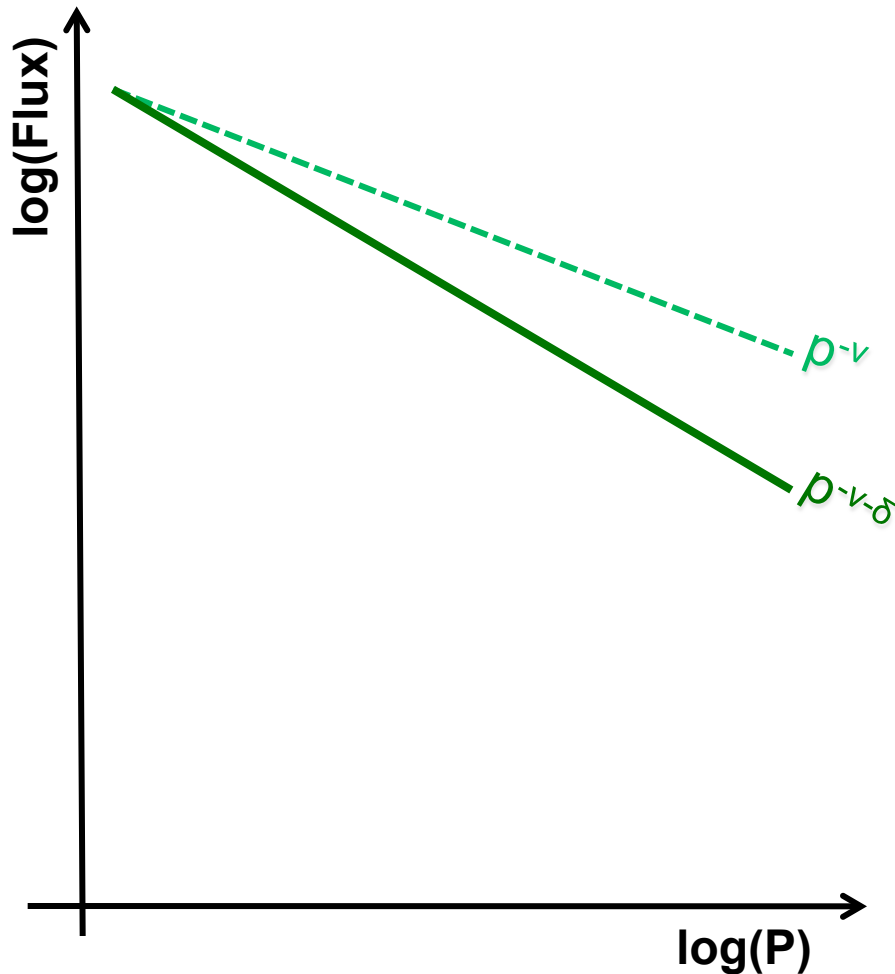


# What makes the B/C ratio

Shock accelerated primaries:  $n(p) \sim p^{-\nu}$

Prmaries at equilibrium:  $n(p) \sim p^{-\nu-\delta}$

(diffusion coefficient  
in galaxy  $K(p) \sim p^{+\delta}$ )



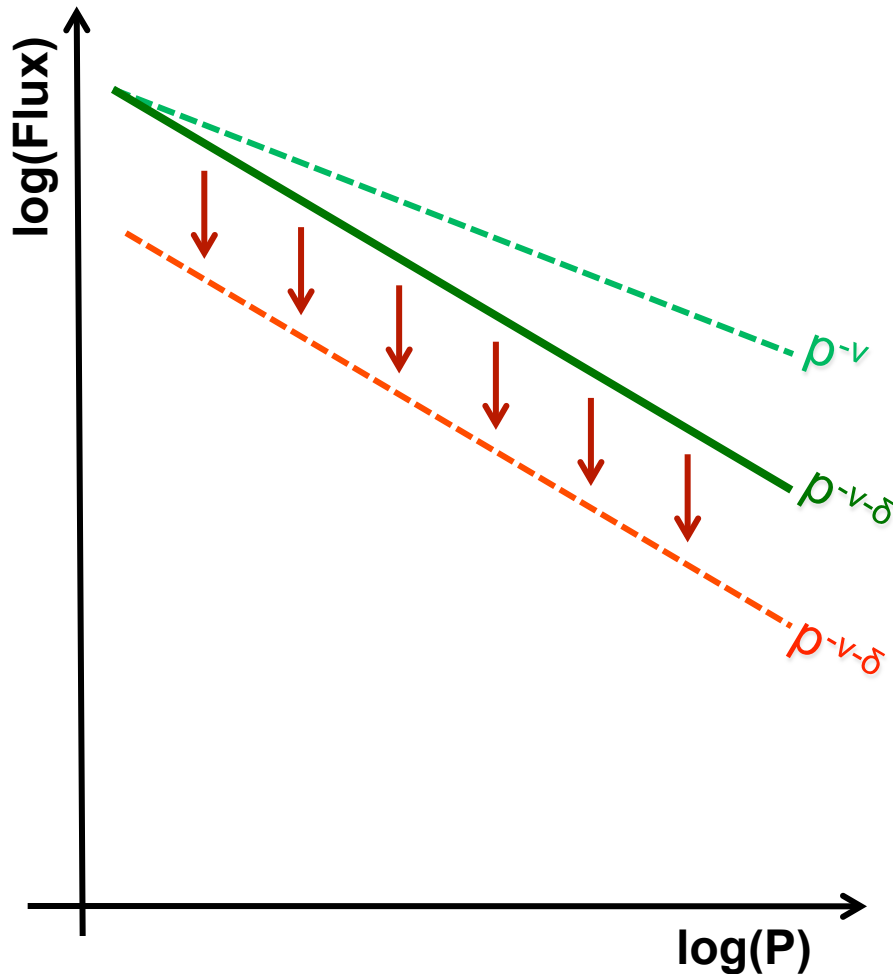
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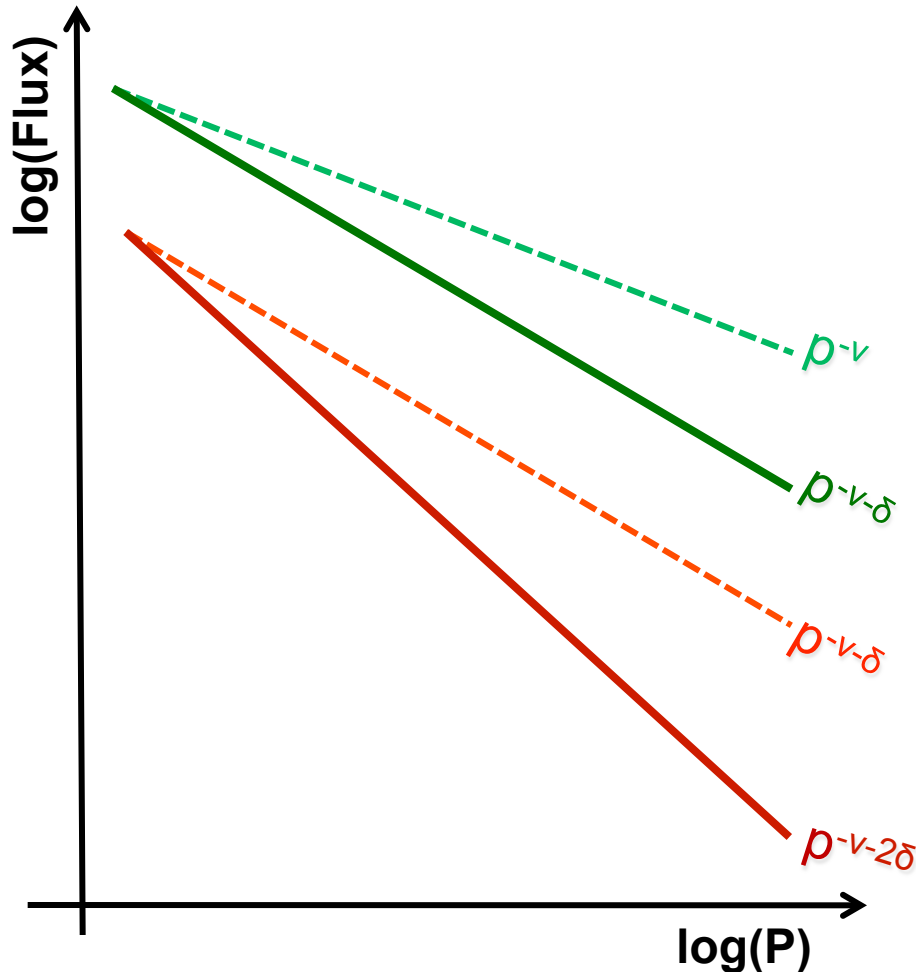
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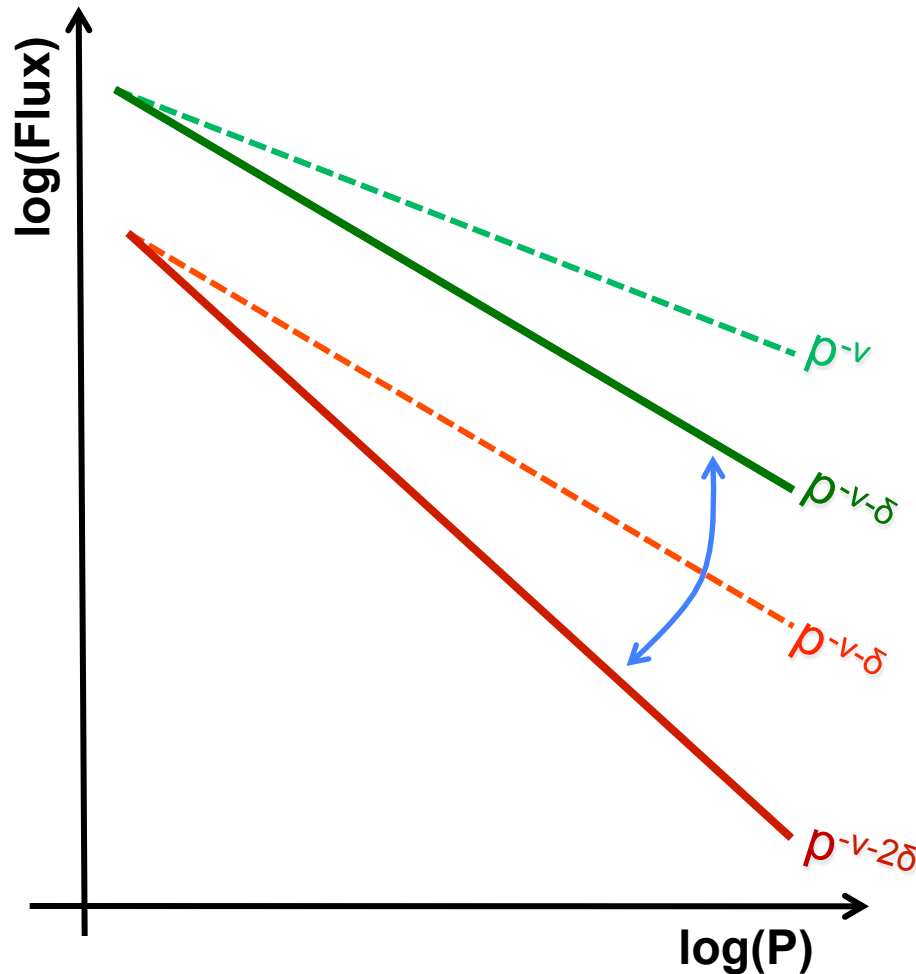
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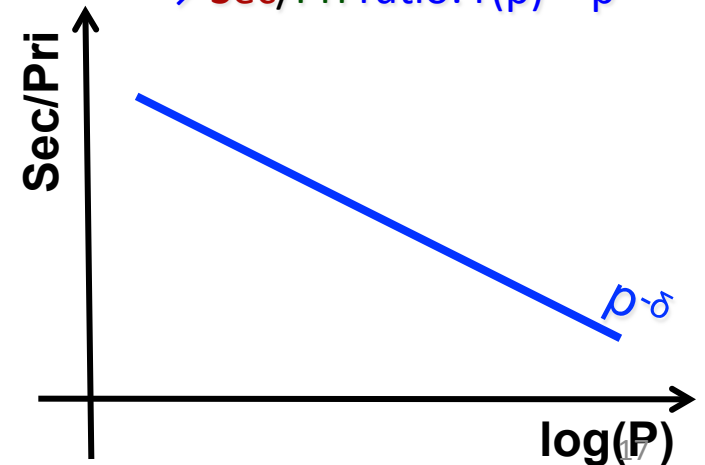
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→ Sec/Pri ratio:  $r(p) \sim p^{-\delta}$



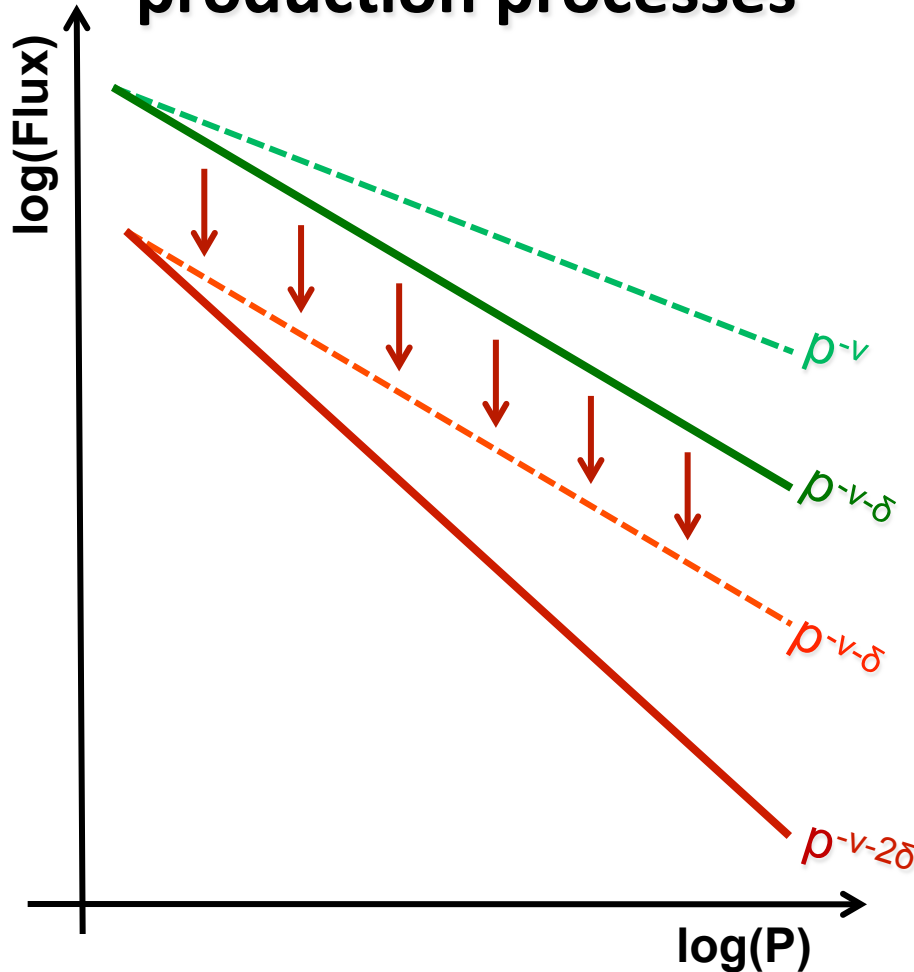
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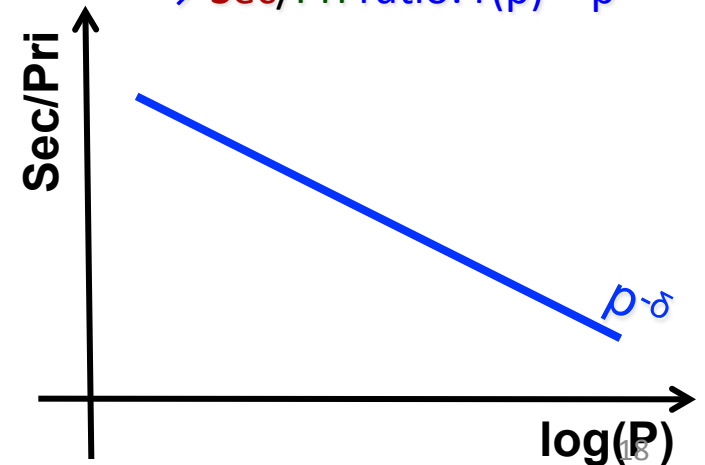
**Pri + ISM  $\rightarrow$  Sec + X  
production processes**



Secondaries generated  
from spallation:  $n(p) \sim p^{-\nu-\delta}$

Secondaries from spallation  
at equilibrium:  $n(p) \sim p^{-\nu-2\delta}$

$\rightarrow$  Sec/Pri ratio:  $r(p) \sim p^{-\delta}$

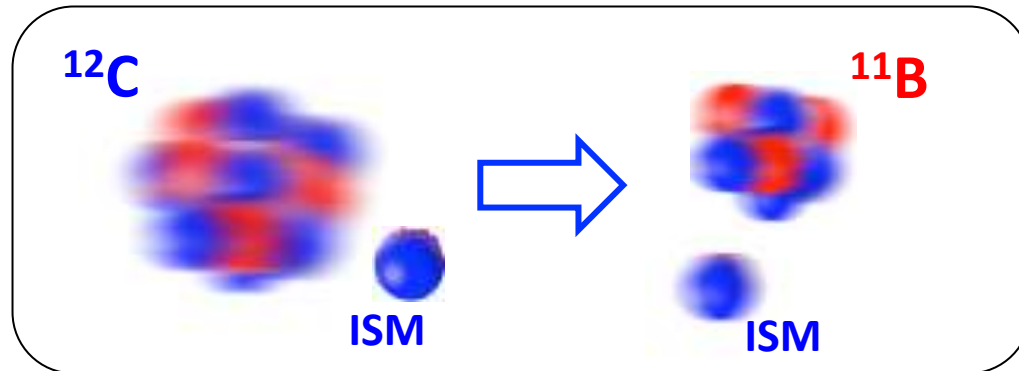
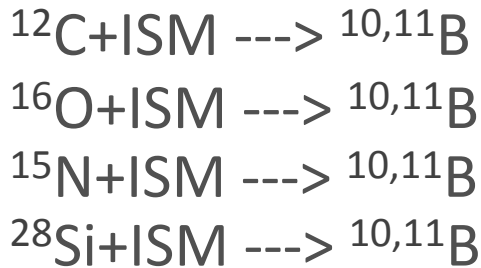
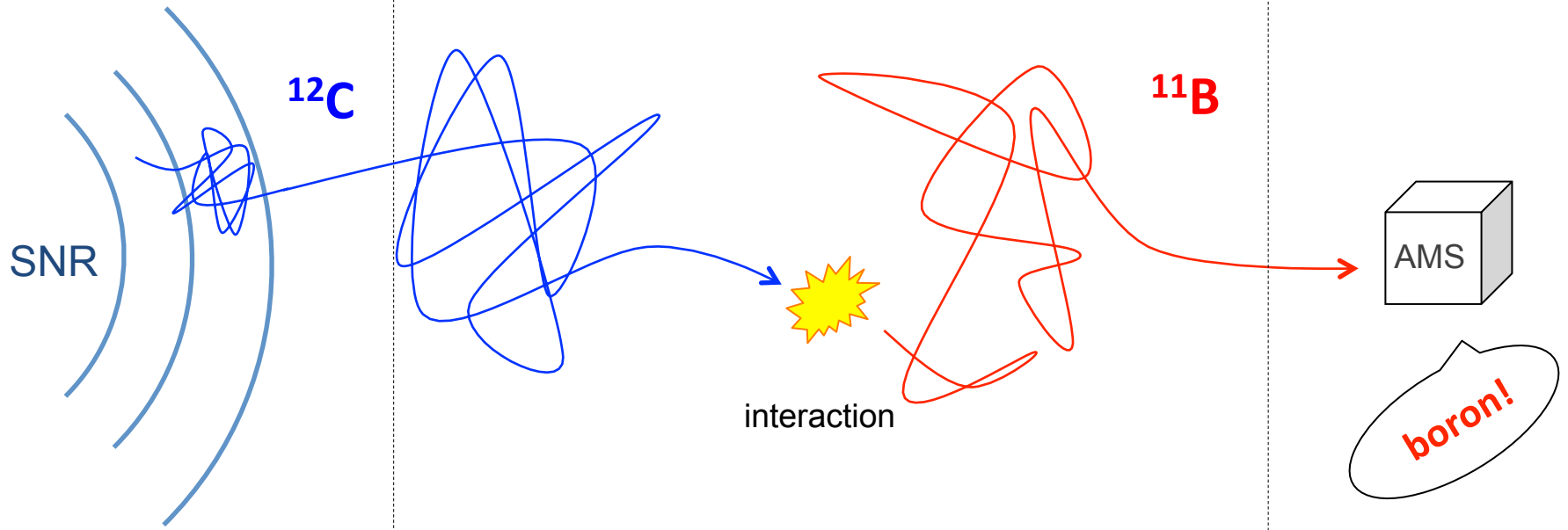


# The physical picture

SNR shock  
acceleration

diffusive transport in Galaxy  
*and* nuclear interactions

Near-Earth  
detection

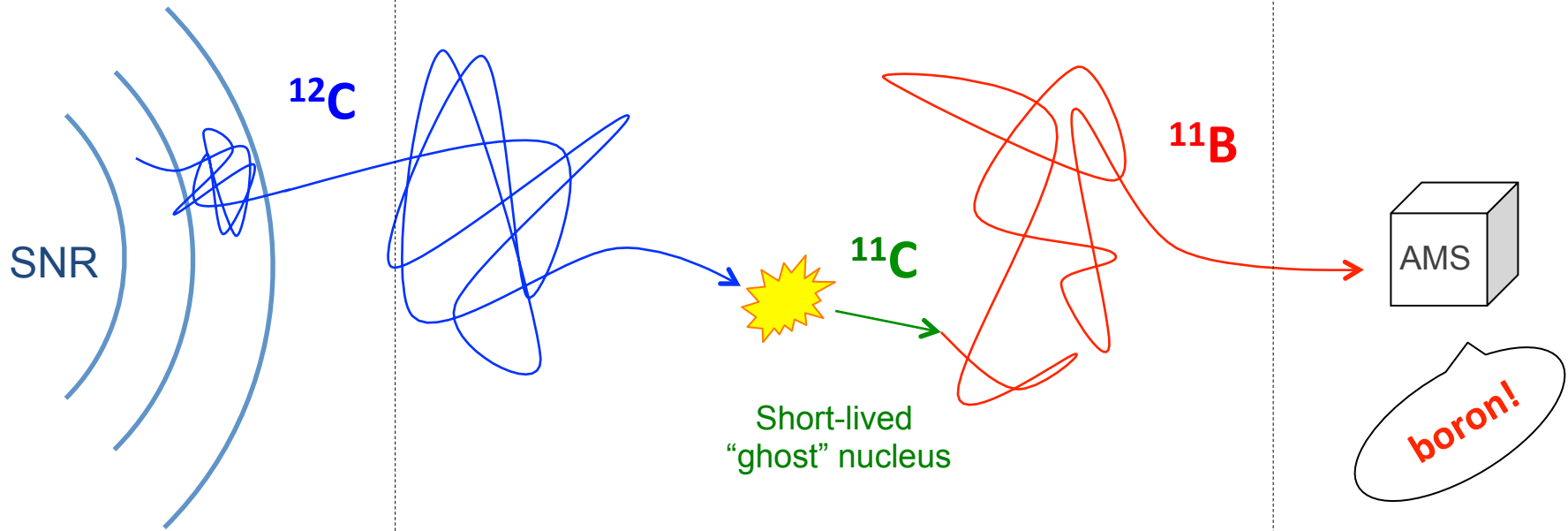


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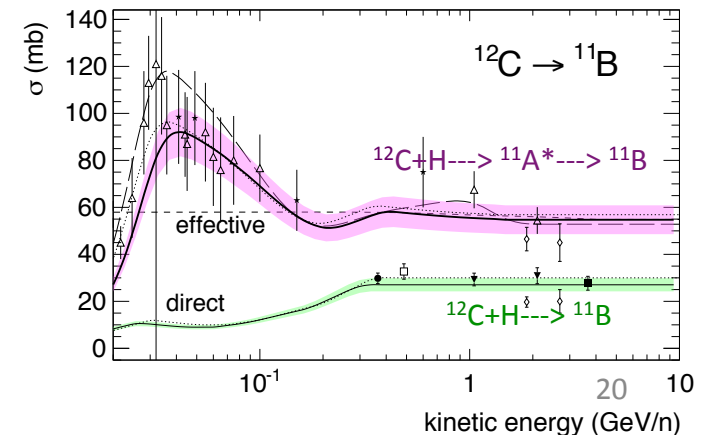
SNR shock acceleration

diffusive transport in Galaxy  
*and* nuclear interactions

Near-Earth detection



- Act as virtual particles for CR propagation
- Effective (cumulative) cross-sections used

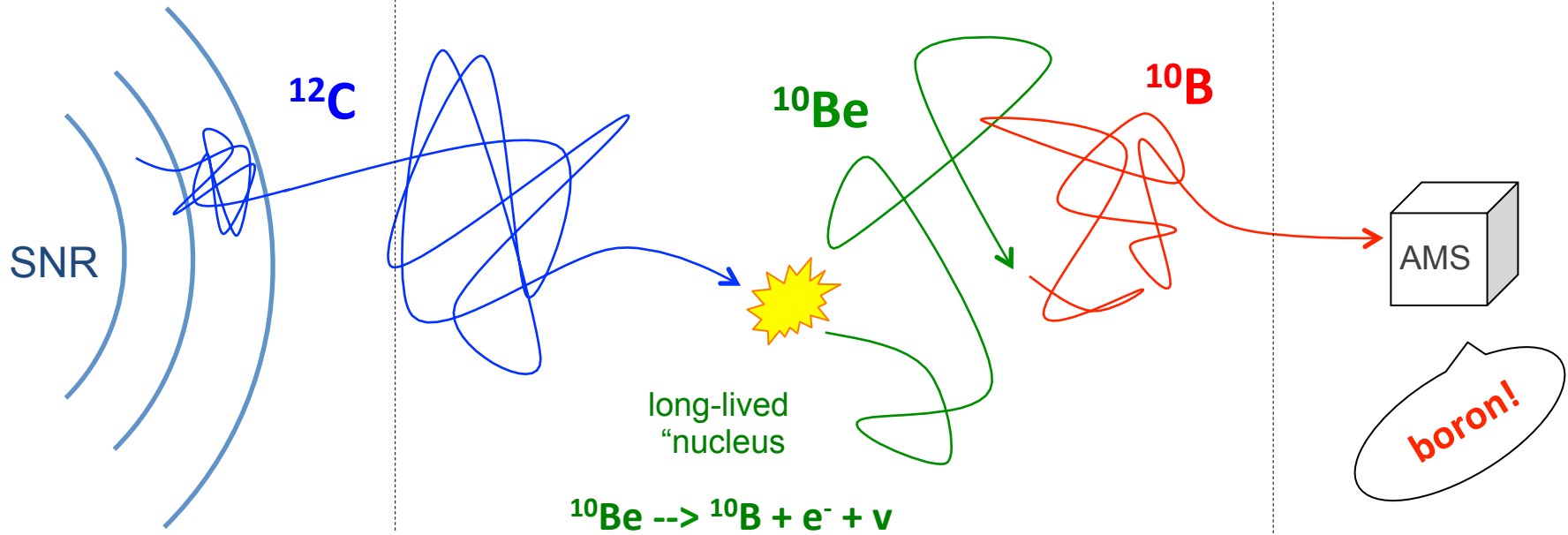


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- Long-lived (or stable) intermediate nuclei
- CR propagation must be accounted
- Multi-step nature of fragmentation

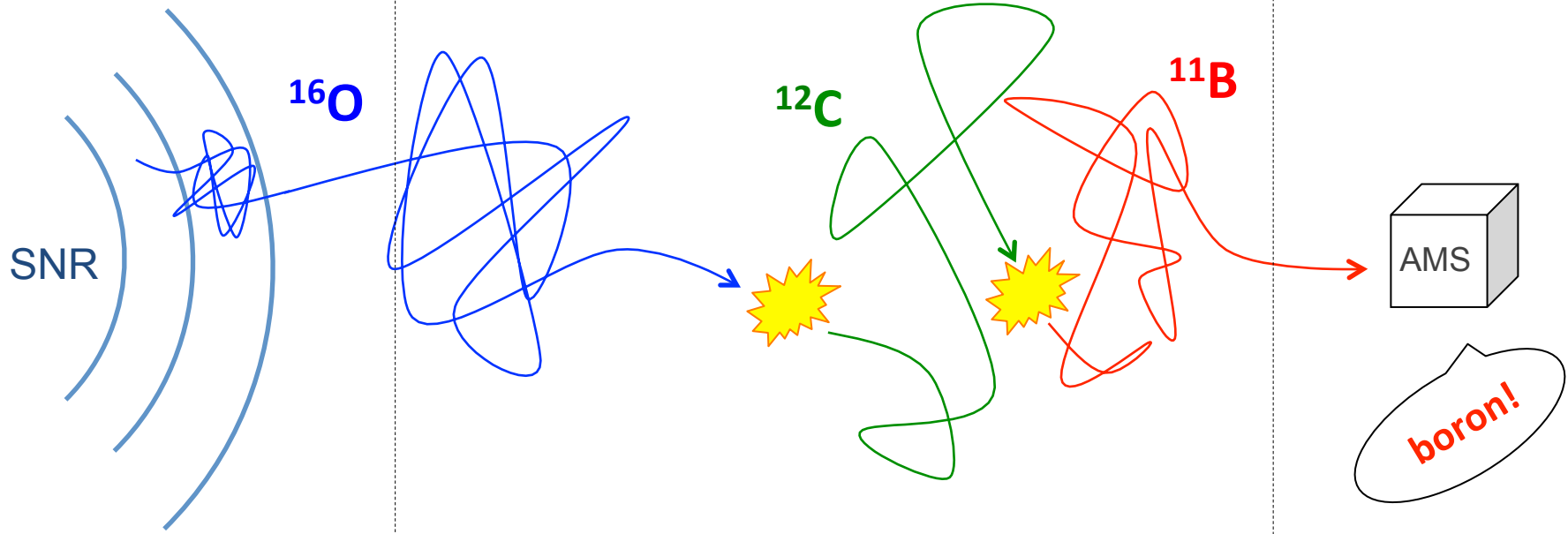
**Radioactive  
with  $T \sim 1.5\text{Myr}$**

# The physical picture

SNR shock  
acceleration

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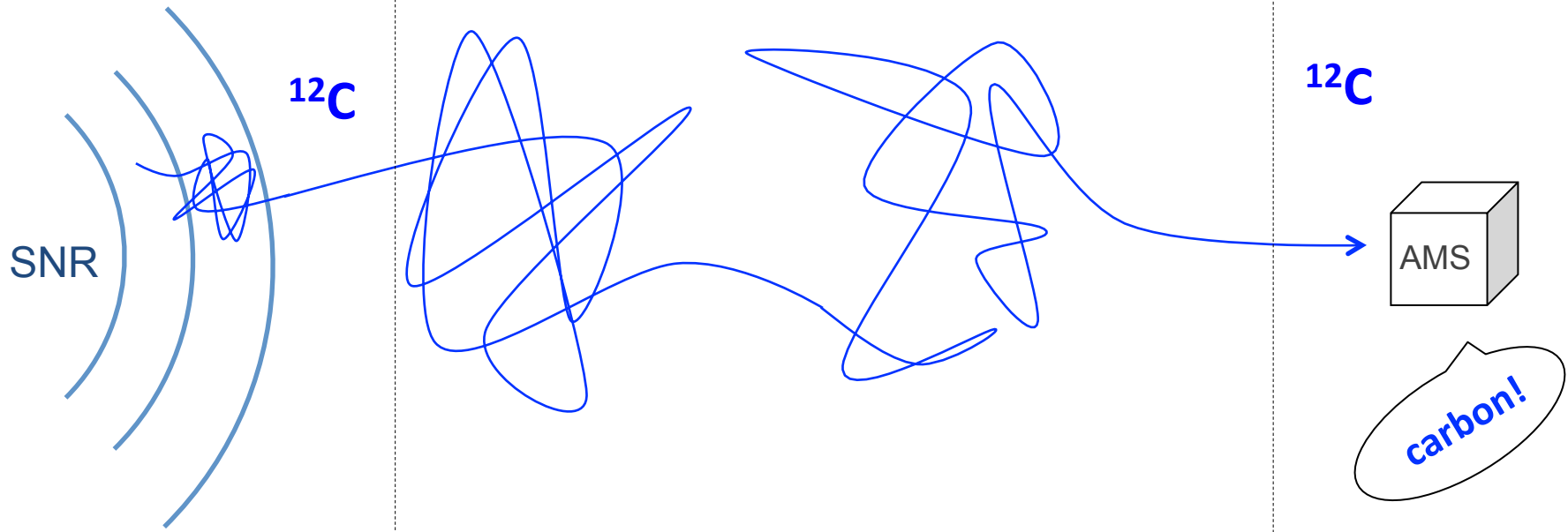
**Stable, interacting  
again with the gas**

# The physical picture

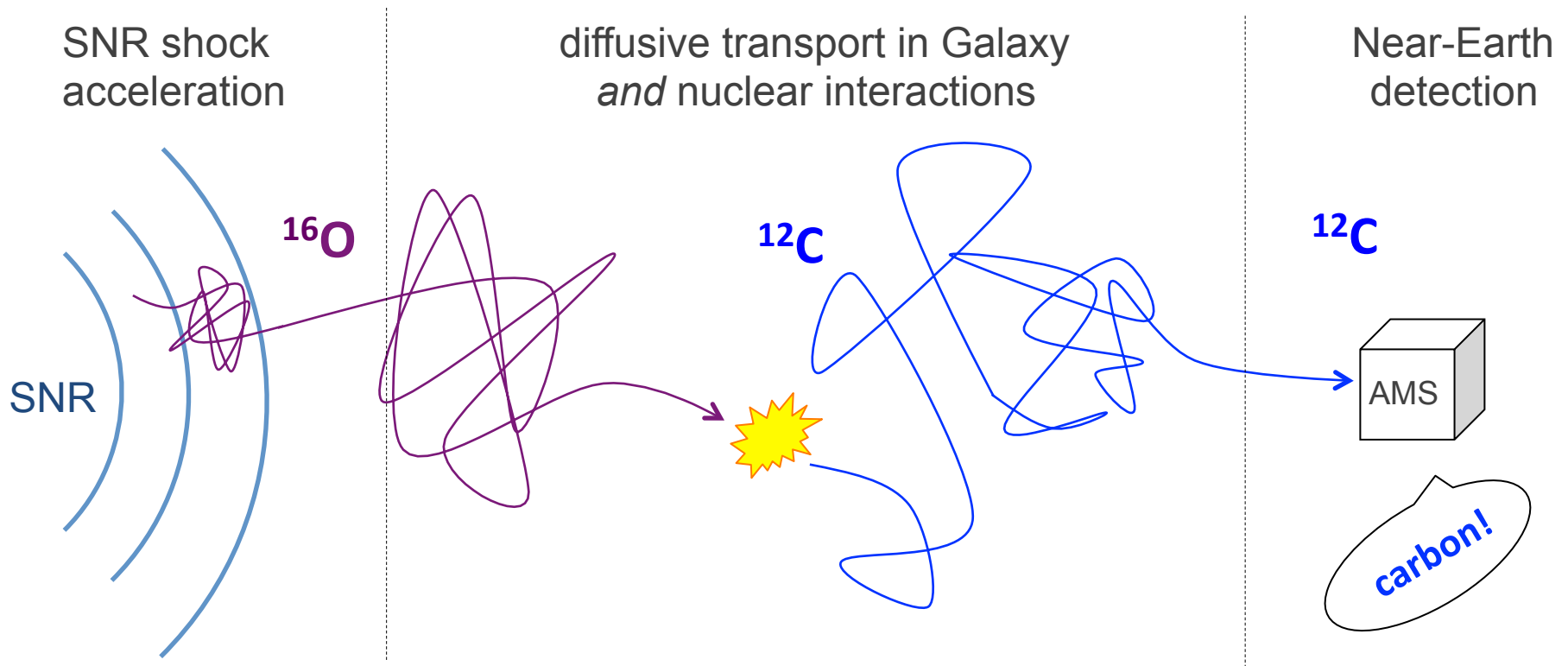
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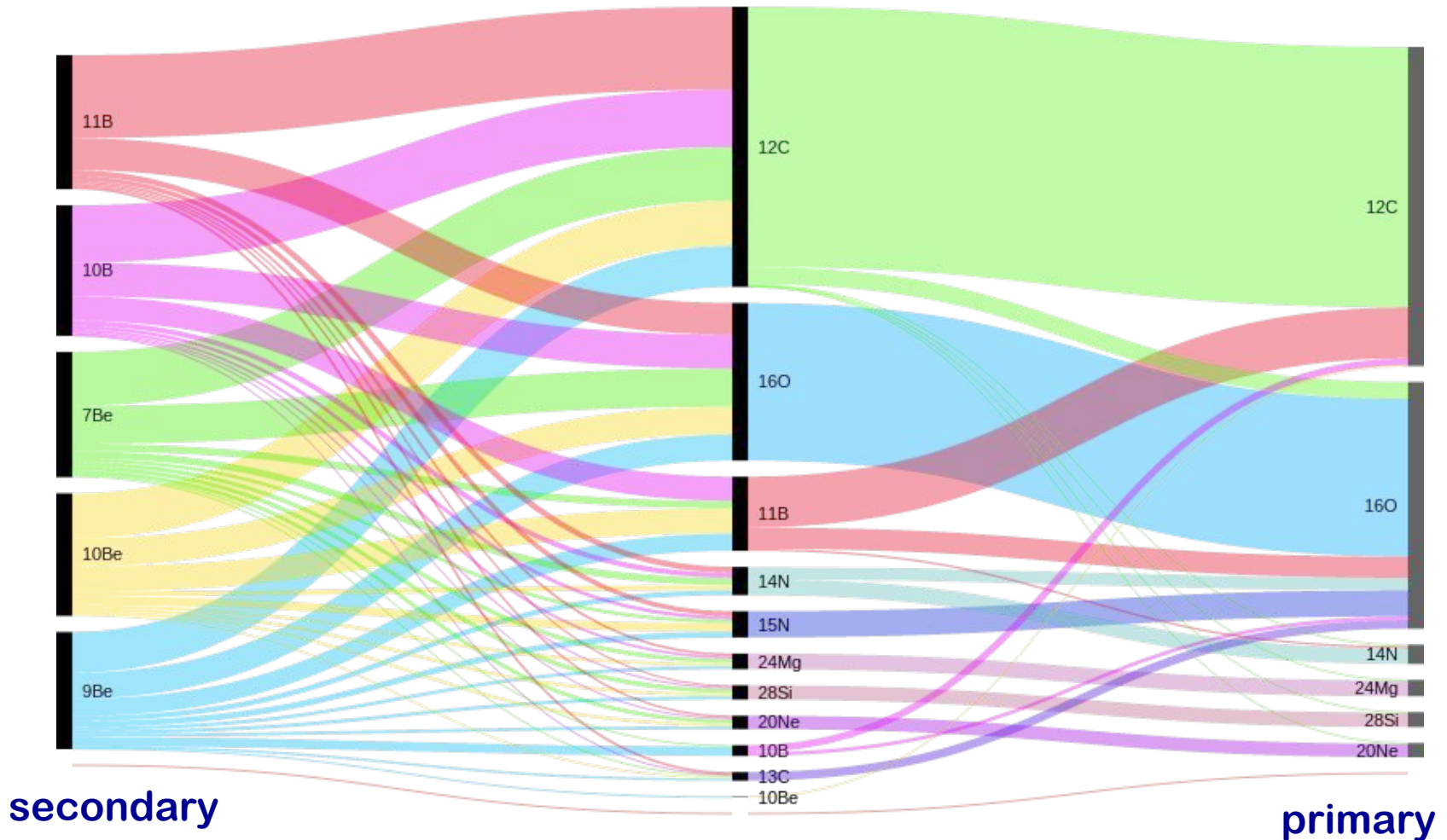


- Long-lived (or stable) intermediated nuclei
- CR propagation must be accounted
- Multi-step nature of fragmentation



# Multi-step cosmic ray fragmentation

alluvial diagram of fragmentation reactions

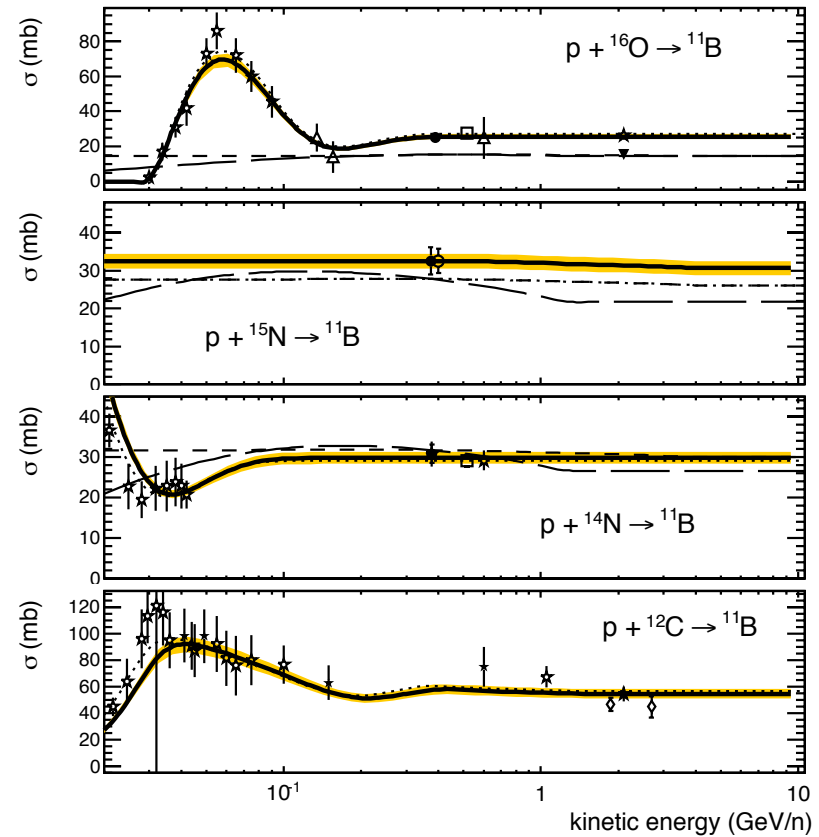
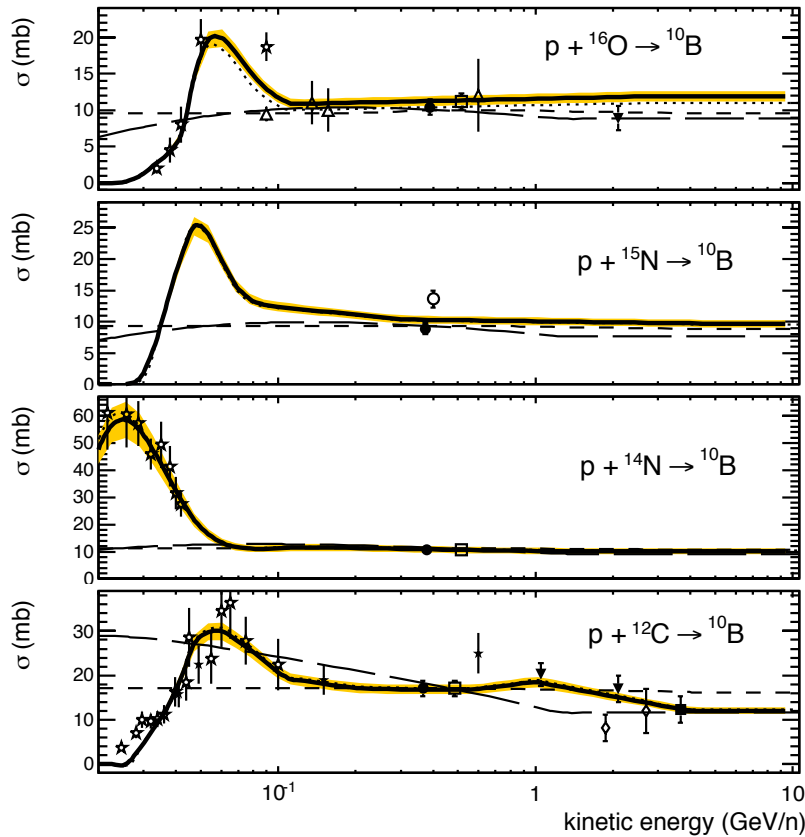


# Uncertainties in CR transport in Galaxy

Refit normalization and energy scale

$$\sigma_{CNO \rightarrow B}^H(E) = a \cdot \sigma_{CNO \rightarrow B}^G(b \cdot E)$$

From NT 1509.05776



- |                      |                      |                      |                 |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| ● Webber et al1998   | □ Webber et al 1990  | ★ Fontes et al1977   | ..... GAL/CEM2k |
| △ Read & Viola 1984  | ▼ Olson et al 1983   | * Raisbeck et al1971 | ----- WNEW -98  |
| ■ Korejwo et al 1999 | ◇ Korejwo et al 2001 | ○ Ramaty et al1997   | --- YIELDX-00   |
|                      |                      | ▲ Radin et al1979    | <b>—</b> REFIT  |

# Uncertainties in CR transport in Galaxy

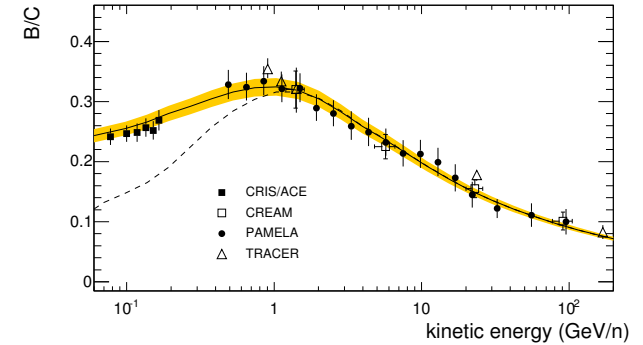
## Impact of cross-section uncertainties in CR propagation parameters

Toy simulation for AMS-02 [NT 1509.05776]

B/C + Be/B measurements at 0.5-200 GeV/n

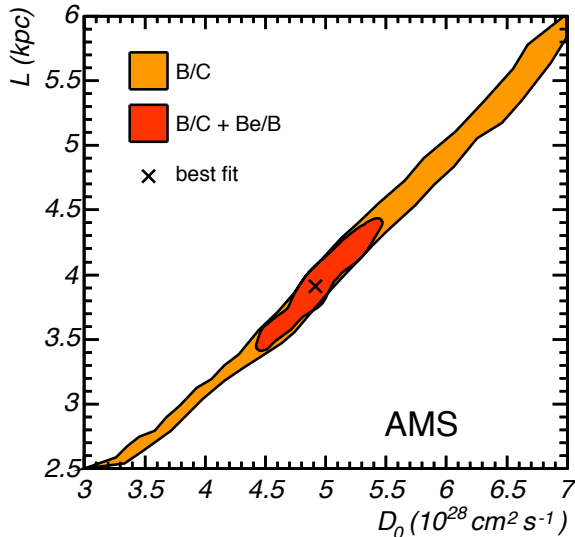
$L$  = half-size of magnetic halo

$D$  = normalization of diffusion coefficient



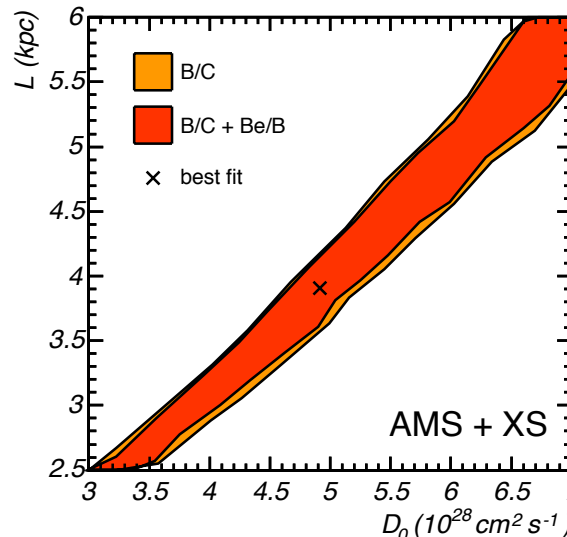
Precise B/C+Be/B data

-> degeneracy resolved!



XS errors accounted

-> degeneracy restored!

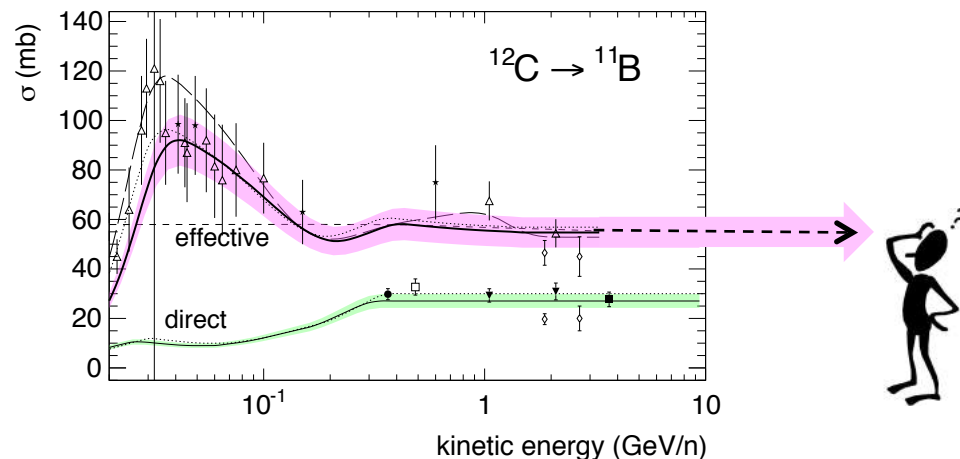


The determination of key parameters is plagued by uncertainties in XS data

# Energy-dependent bias?

In semi-empirical formulae, all XS's are assumed energy independent at  $E \gg \text{GeV/n}$

Models of CR propagation relies on extrapolations to untested energies



Slope of B/C ratio  $\longleftrightarrow$  CR diffusion coefficient

**Bias in XS energy-dependence  $\rightarrow$  Bias in CR propagation**



- No multi-GeV data to test energy-dependent bias
- No clear way to estimate XS uncertainties at high-energy



# Energy-dependent bias?

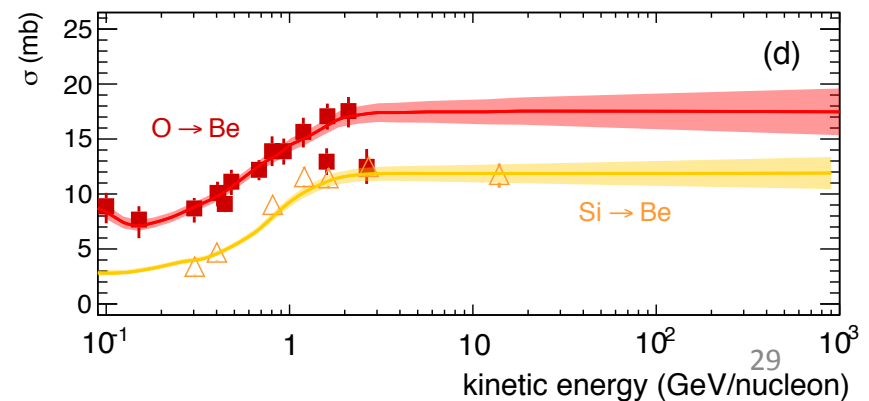
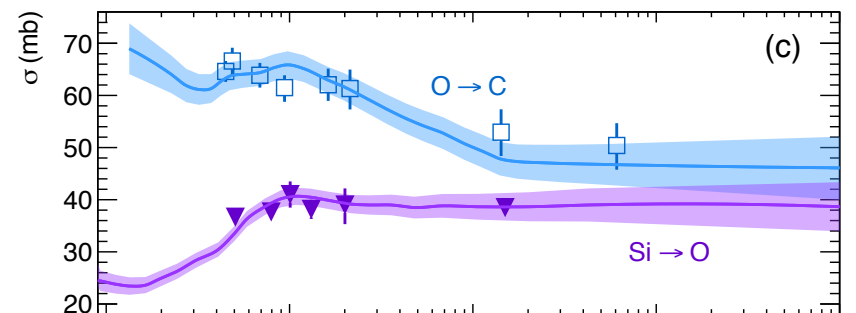
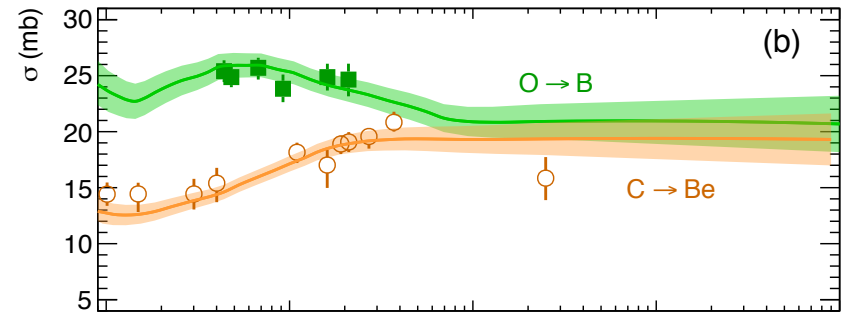
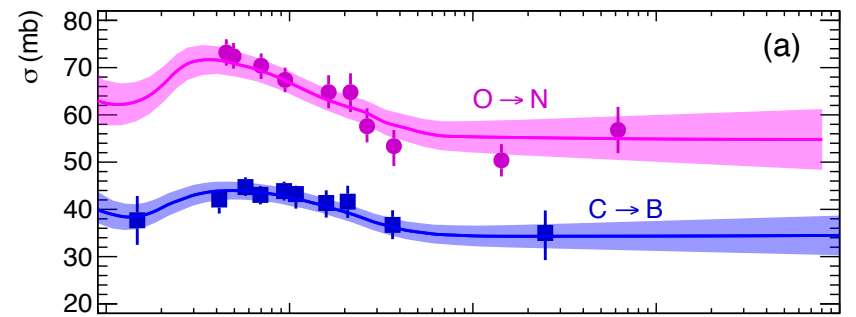
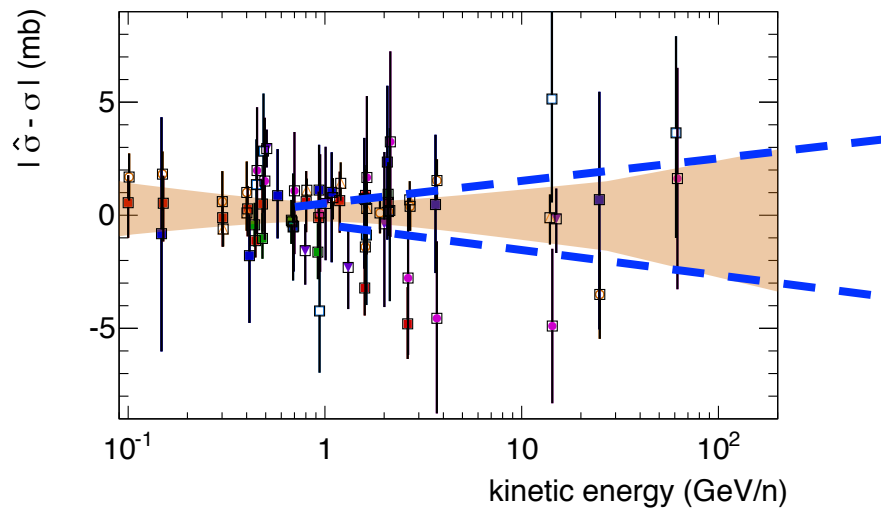
A possible approach:

[NT 1707.06917]

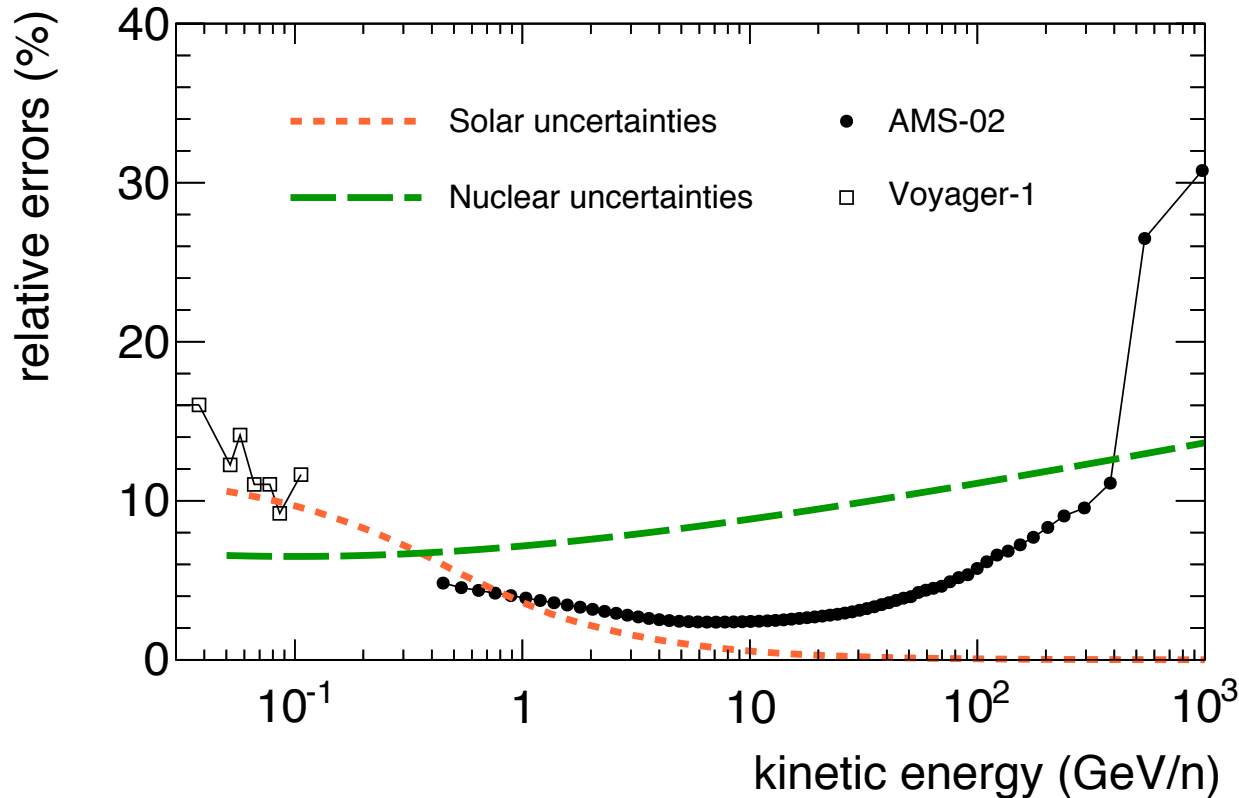
Use *charge-changing* reaction: up  $\sim 100$  GeV

Assume common E-dependent bias

--> XS uncertainty at high-energy

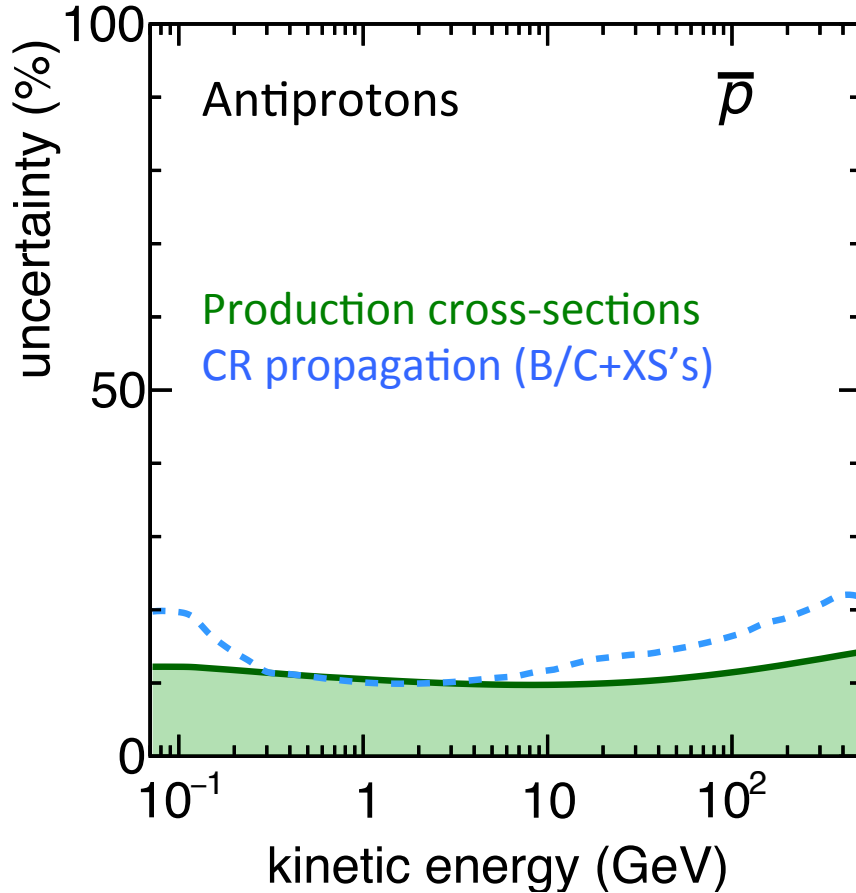


# Model uncertainties on B/C ratio



- **Esperimental errors in the AMS-02 B/C ratio**
  - ~ potential level of precision on which CR propagation can be understood
- **Estimated uncertainties in boron production cross-sections**
  - ~ dominating level of uncertainty at energy 0.5 – 500 GeV/n

# Uncertainties on secondary antiprotons



**Uncertainties in Cosmi-ray propagation still relevant**

**once cross-section errors in Boron production are accounted**

- ✓ Uncertainties from cross-sections -> using comparisons between MC generators and data
- ✓ Uncertainties from CR propagation -> using two-zone propagation model and B/C data

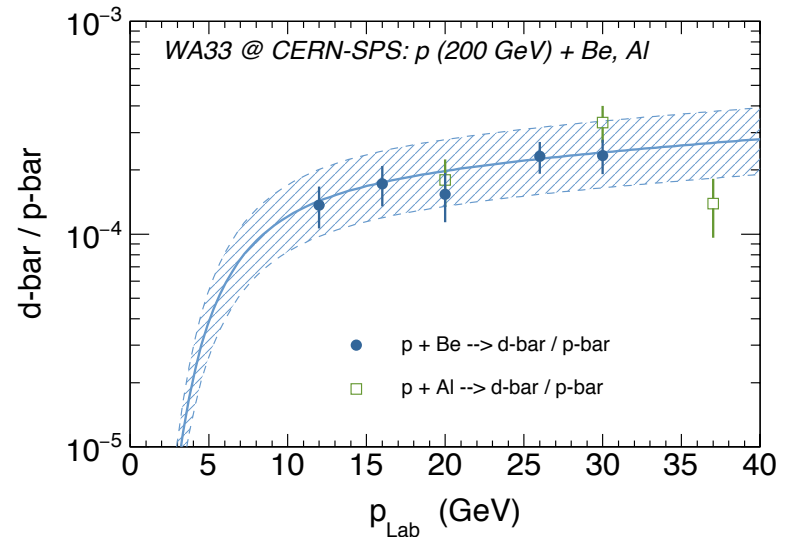
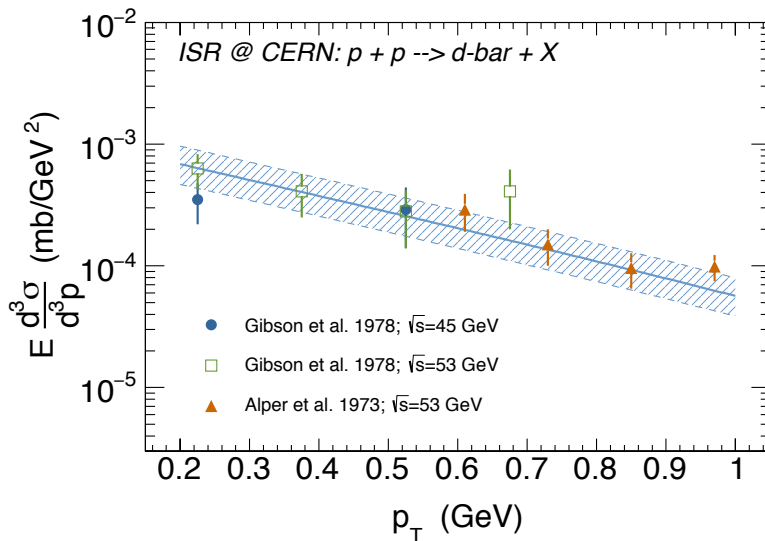
# Calculations for anti-nuclei



# Antideuterons: Nuclear coalescence

- ✓ Analytical model for pbar & nbar production [based on Di Mauro et al. 2014 PRD]
- ✓ Antineutron enhancement factor [ $k \sim 1.3$ ] from NA49 [JCAP 10, 034 (2015)]
- ✓ Analytical model for nuclear coalescence [based on Chardonnet et al. PLB 409, 3 1997]
- ✓ Antideuteron production p+p data from ISR @ CERN -> constraints coalescence momentum

$$E_{\bar{A}} \frac{d^3 N_{\bar{N}}}{dp_{\bar{A}}^3} = B_{\bar{A}} \times \left( E_p \frac{d^3 N_p}{dp_p^3} \right)^Z \times \left( E_n \frac{d^3 N_n}{dp_n^3} \right)^{A-Z}$$

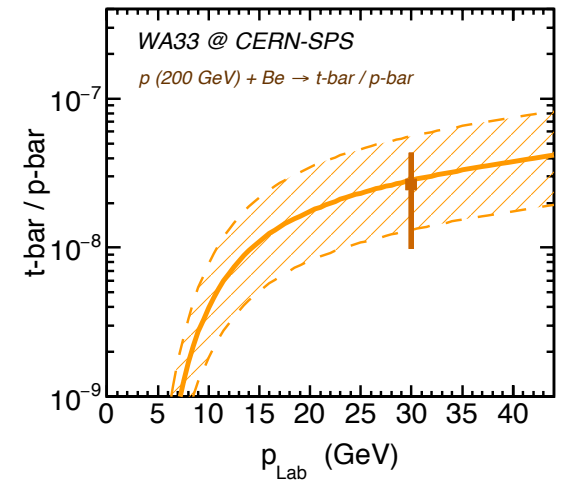
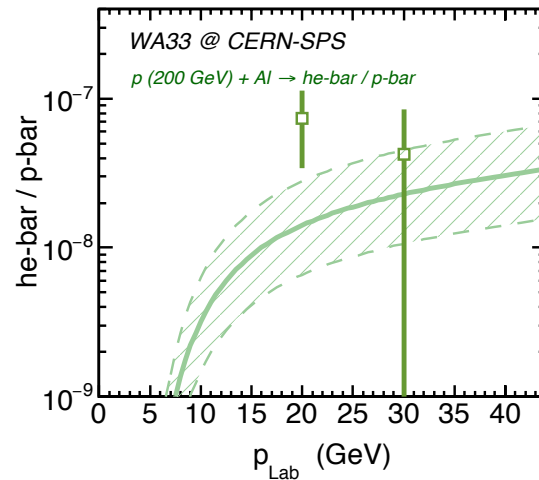
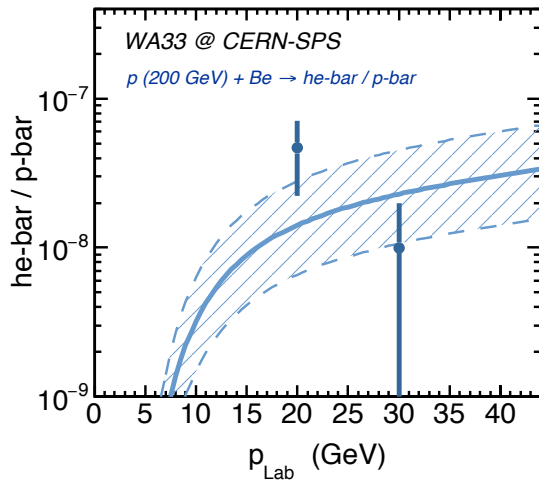
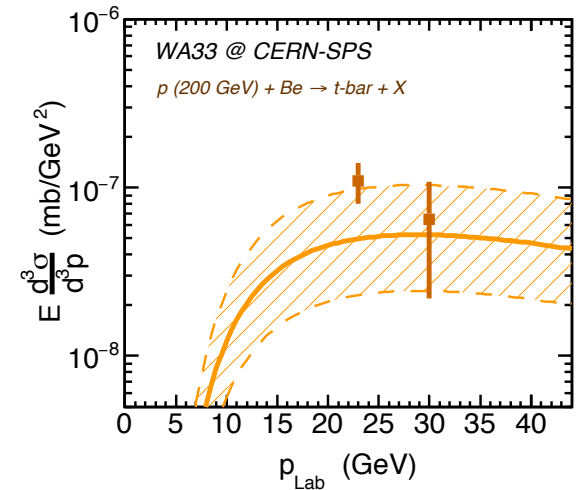
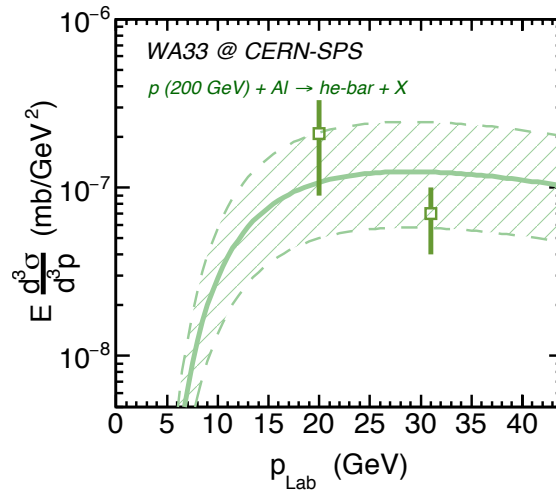
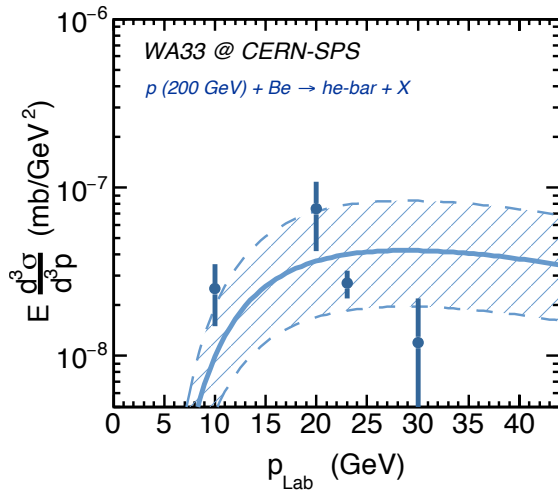


*Data on p+p, p+Be, p+Al. Use of XS ratio pbar/nbar to cancel out target factors*

# Anti-helium & anti-tritium

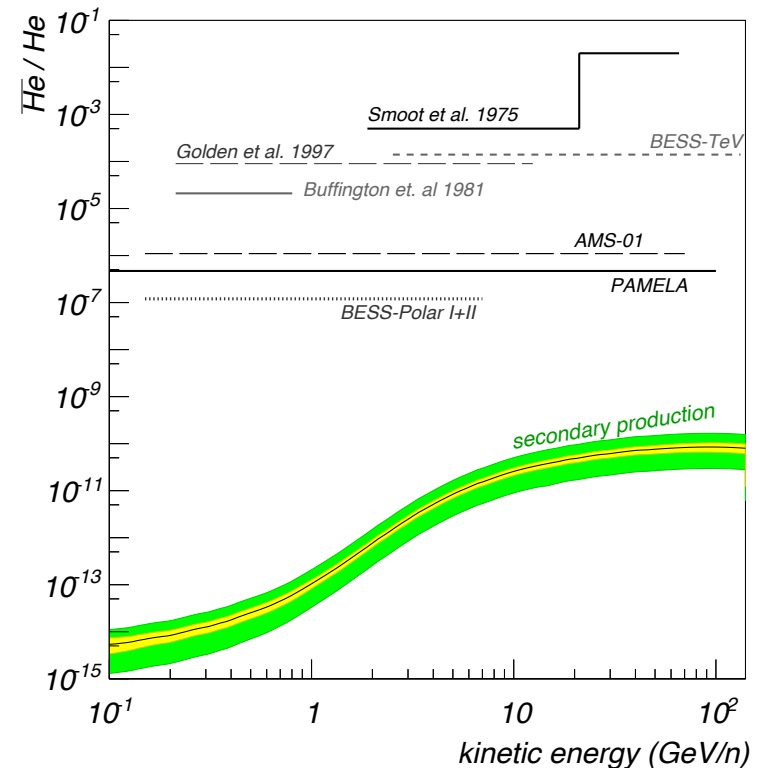
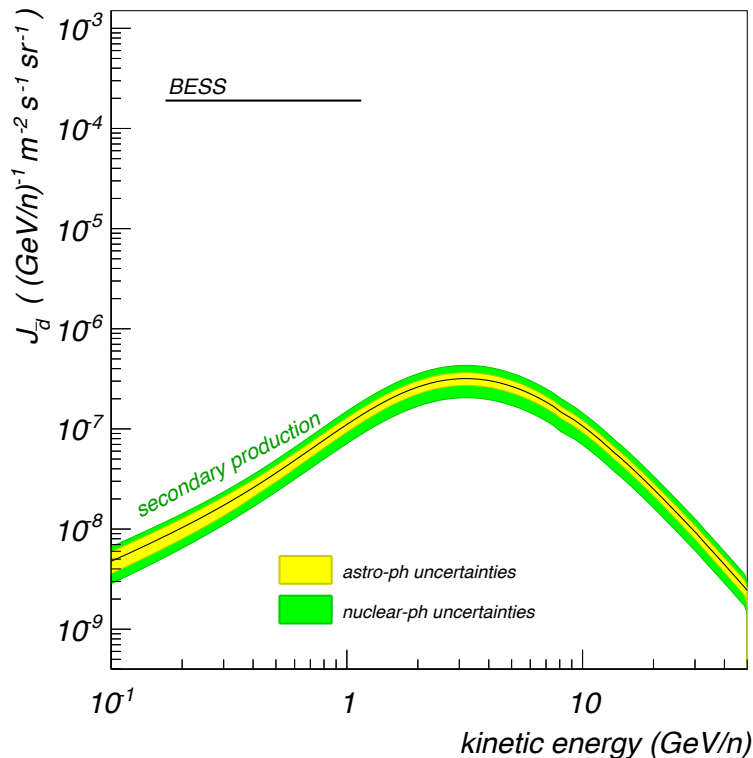
Measurements are very scarce --> poor constraints.

Using the same coalescence momentum of D-bar, we get a reasonable description



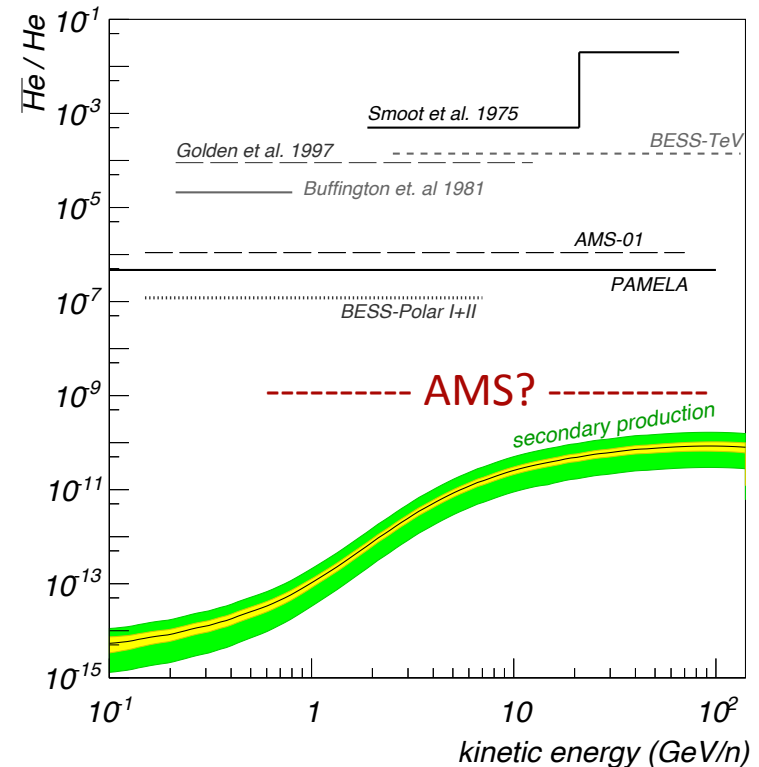
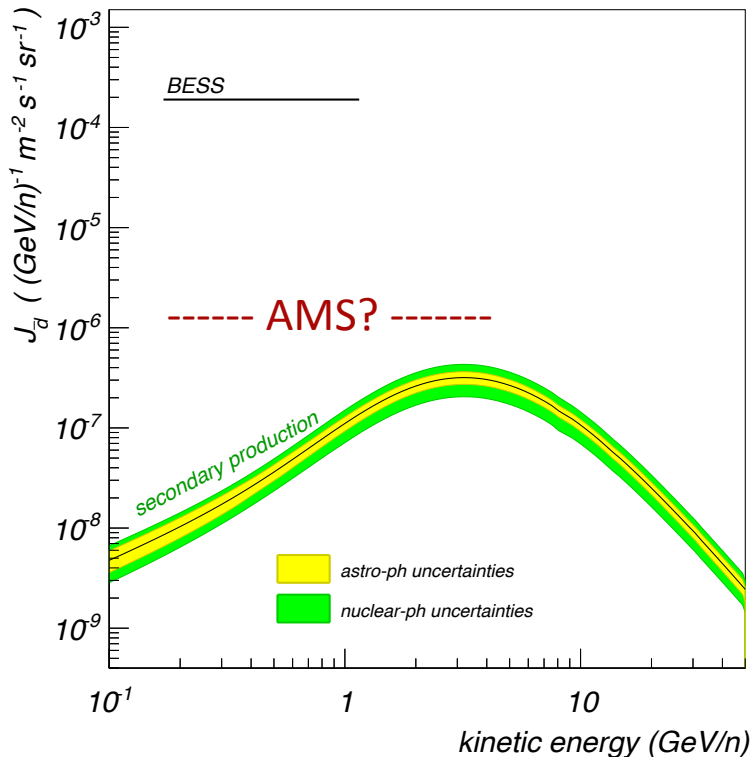
# Astrophysical background of anti-nuclei

- ✓ The current experimental sensitivity is far from the background level.
- ✓ Model uncertainties are dominated by the coalescence mechanism.

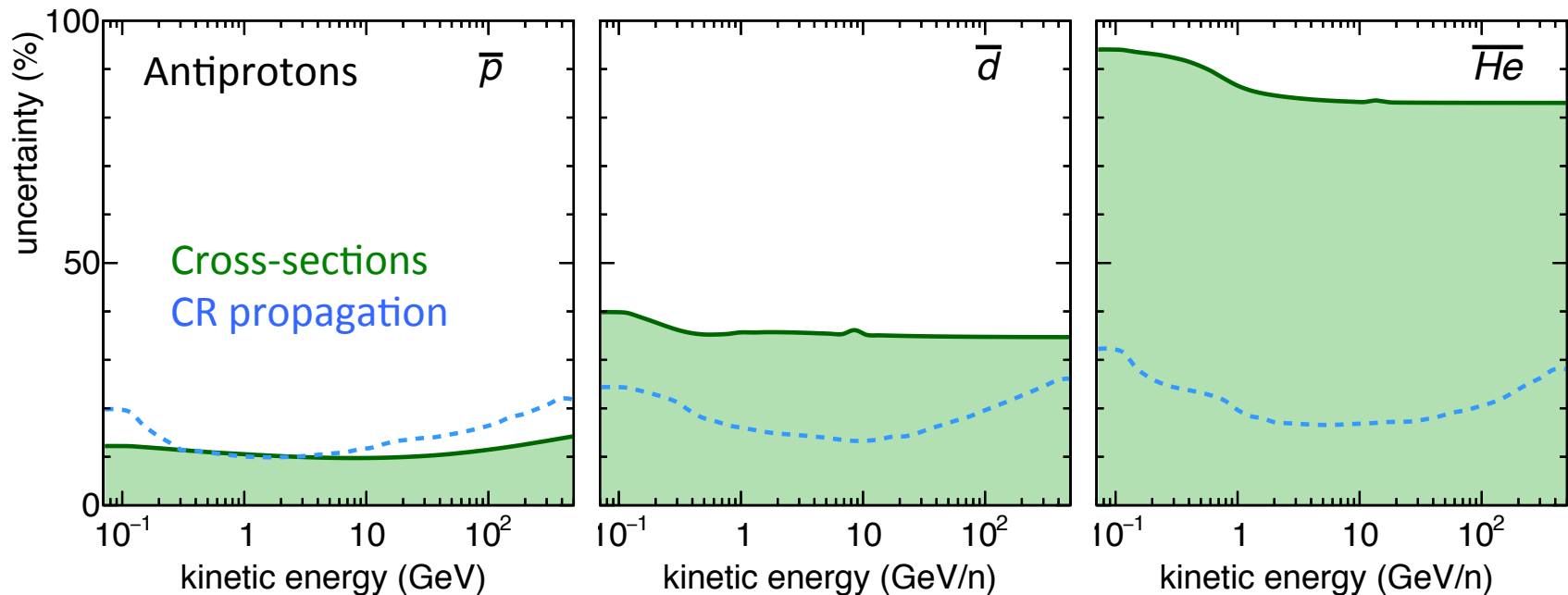


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# Propagation VS cross-section uncertainties



## Reduce nuclear uncertainties

- Laboratory data on p+p or p+HE collisions
- Improve calculations or MC generators

## Reduce CR propagation uncertainties

- ✓ Precision data on B/C ratio up TeV/n
- **Improve modeling starting from B/C ratio**

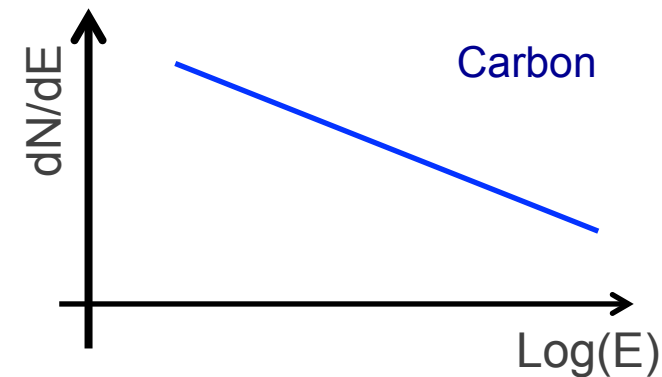
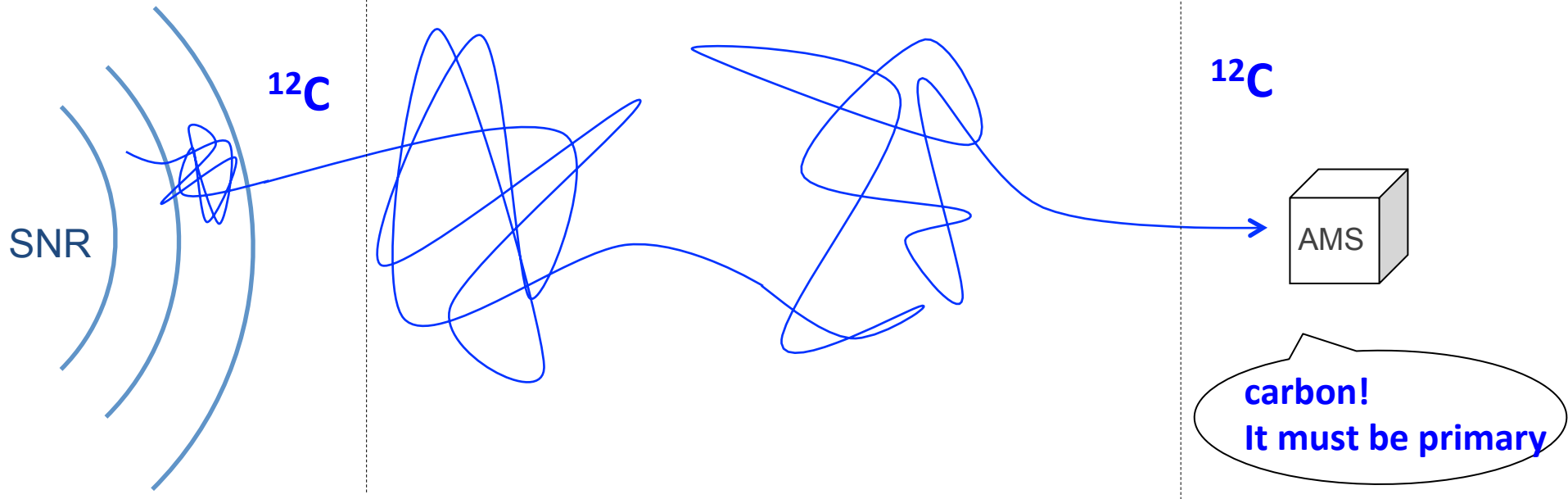
# Shock accelerated secondaries

# The physical picture

SNR shock  
acceleration

diffusive transport in Galaxy  
*and* nuclear interactions

Near-Earth  
detection

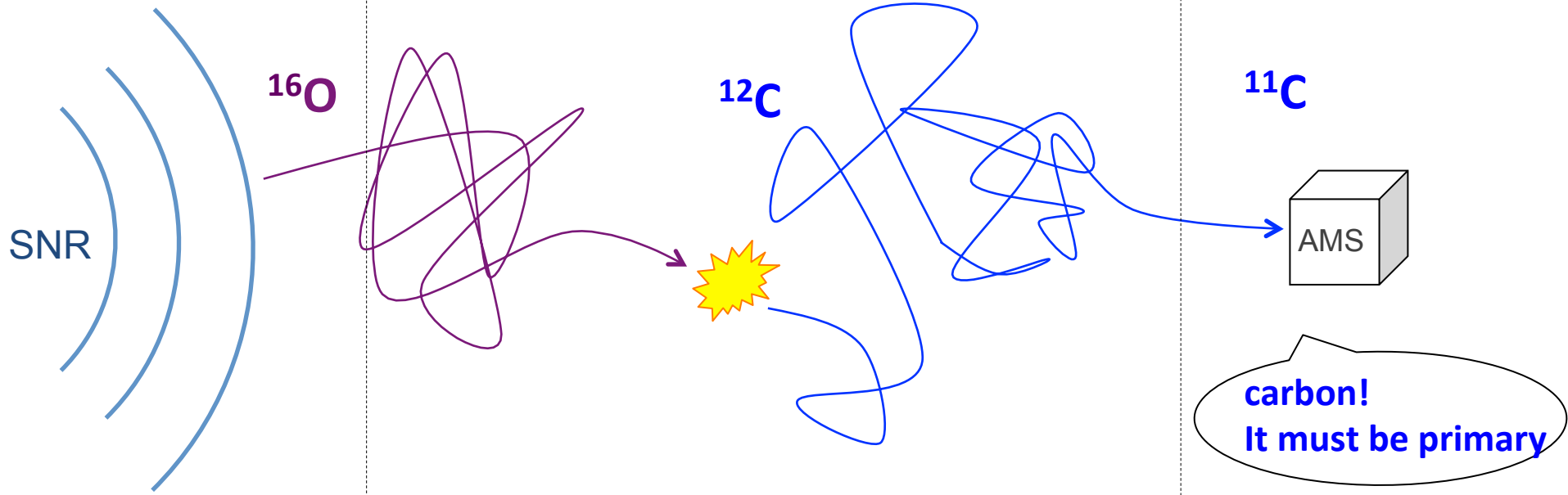


# The physical picture

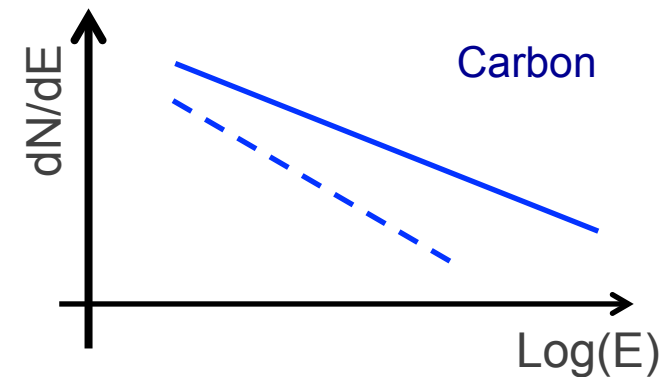
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**carbon!**  
**It must be primary**



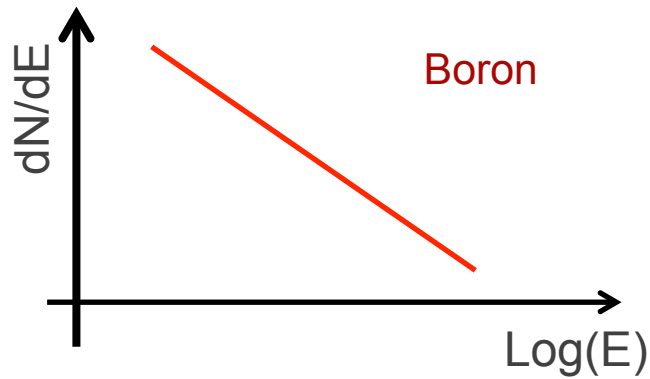
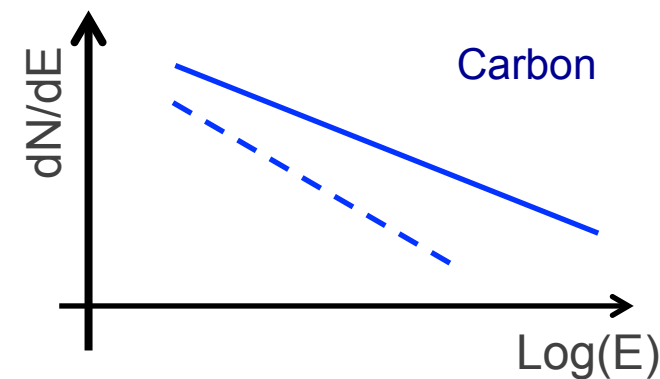
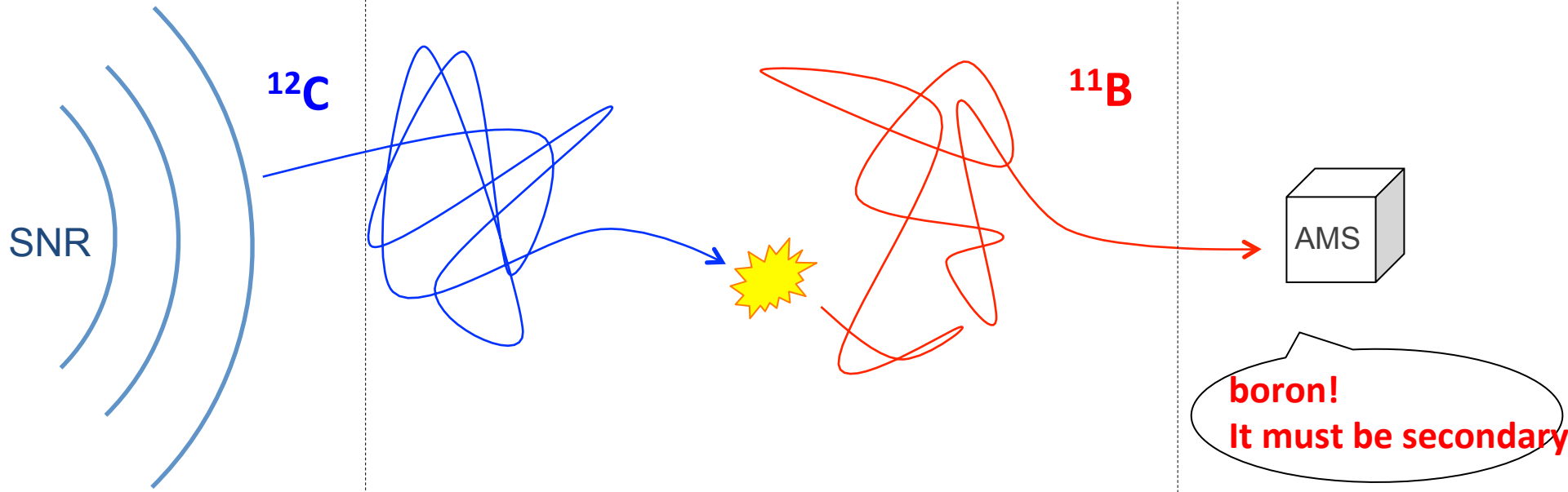


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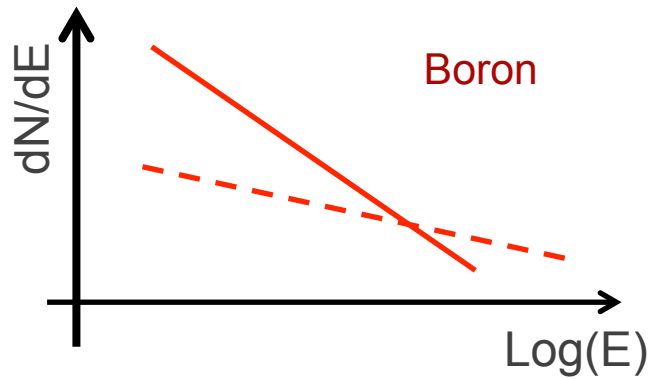
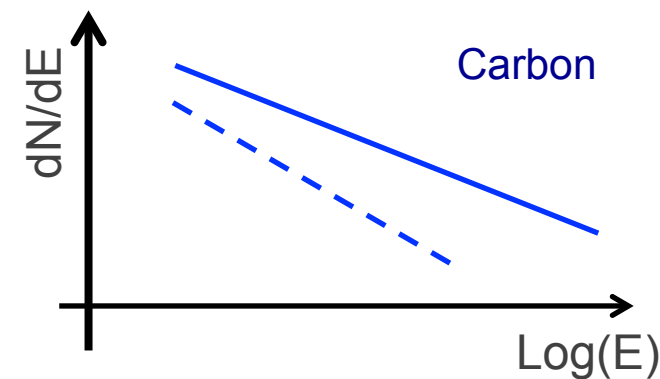
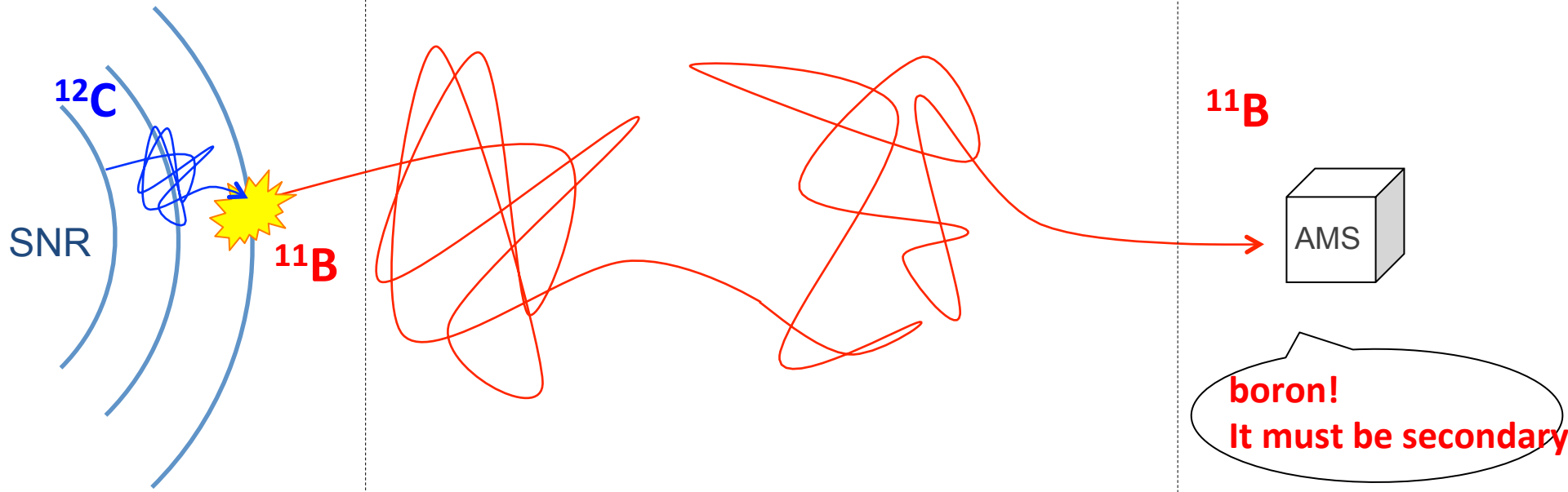


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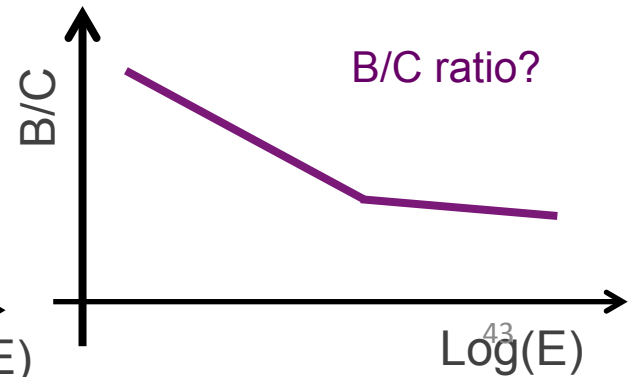
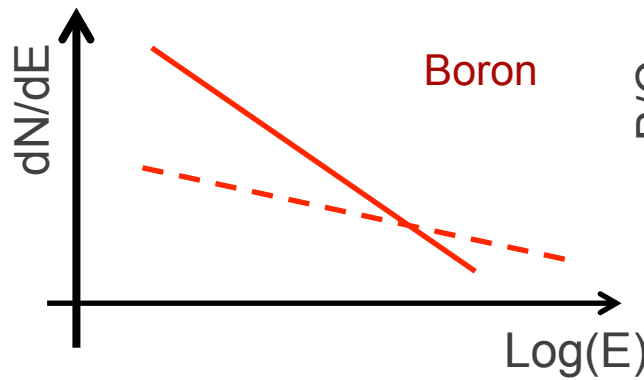
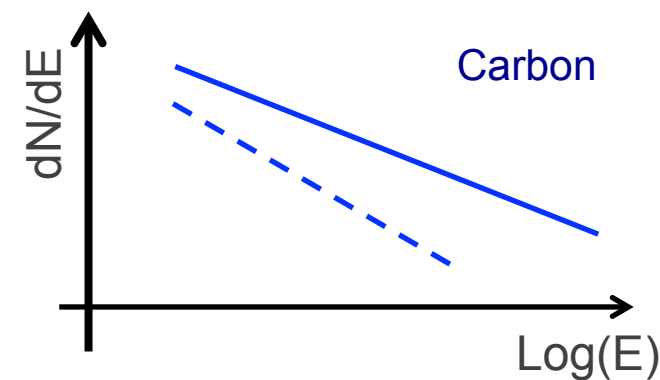
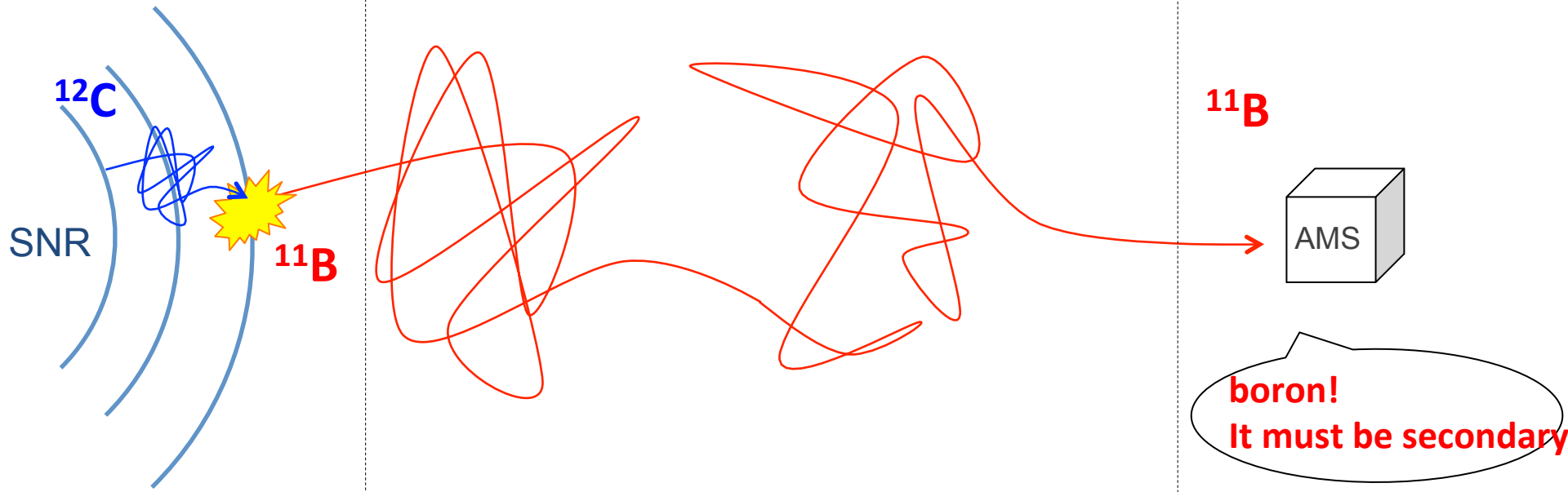


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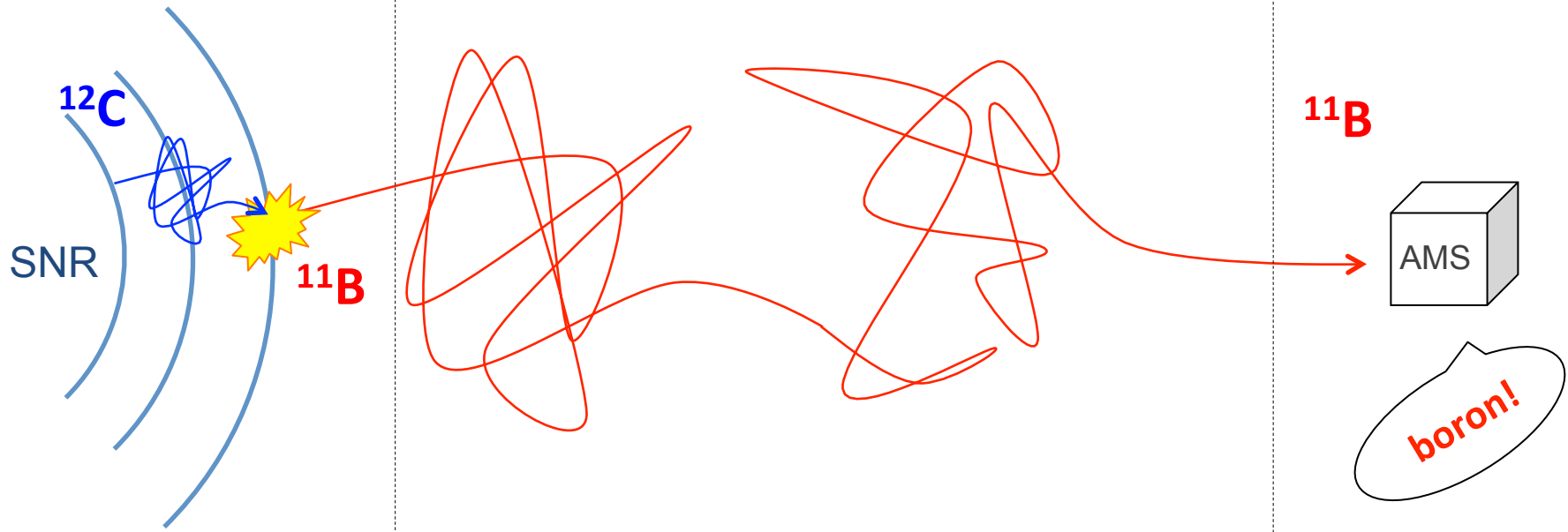


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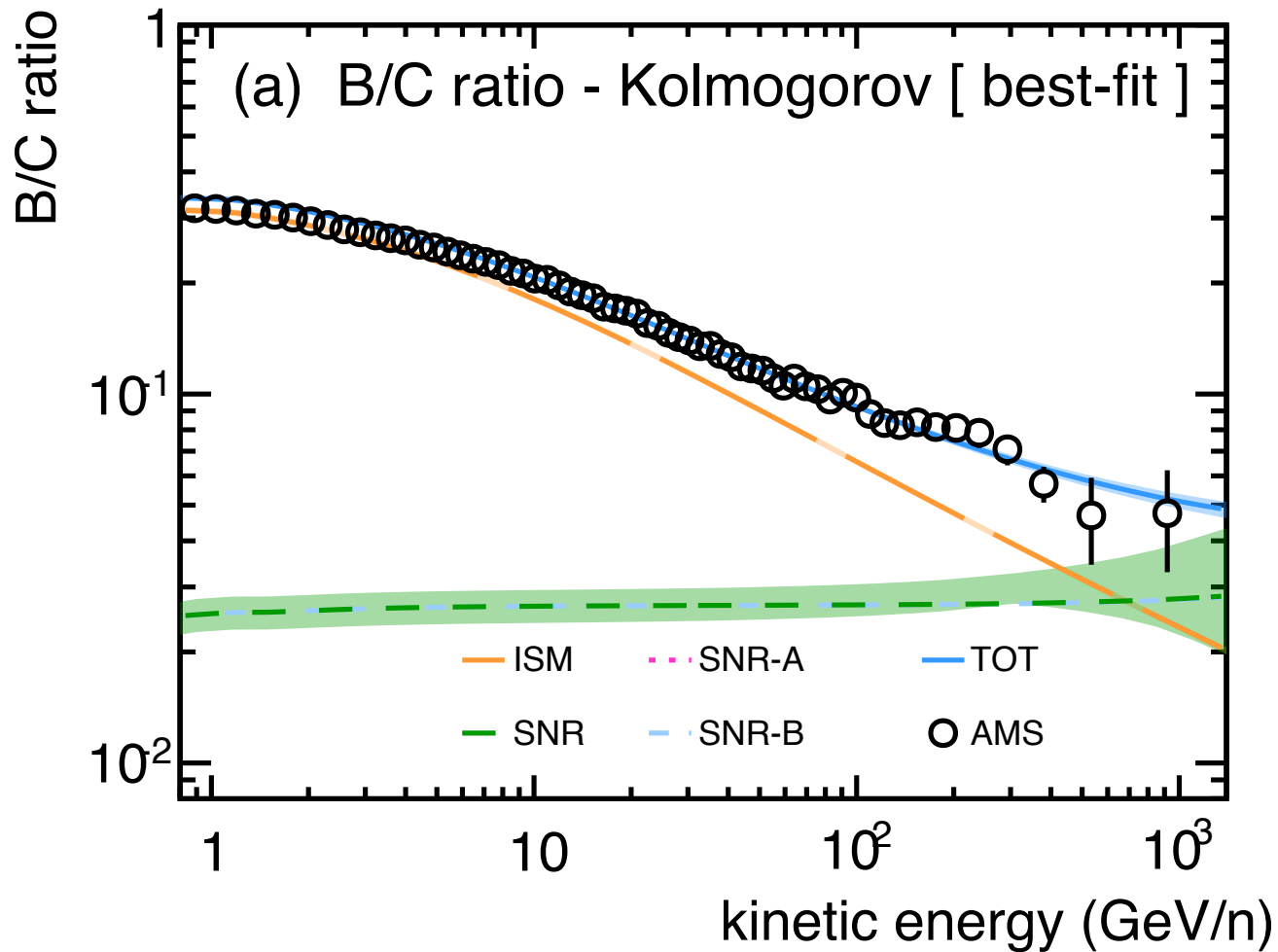


Fermi acceleration at SNR shocks *with interactions*

$$u \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{3} \frac{du}{dx} p \frac{\partial f}{\partial p} - \Gamma^{\text{tot}} f + Q$$

# Shock accelerated B/C ratio

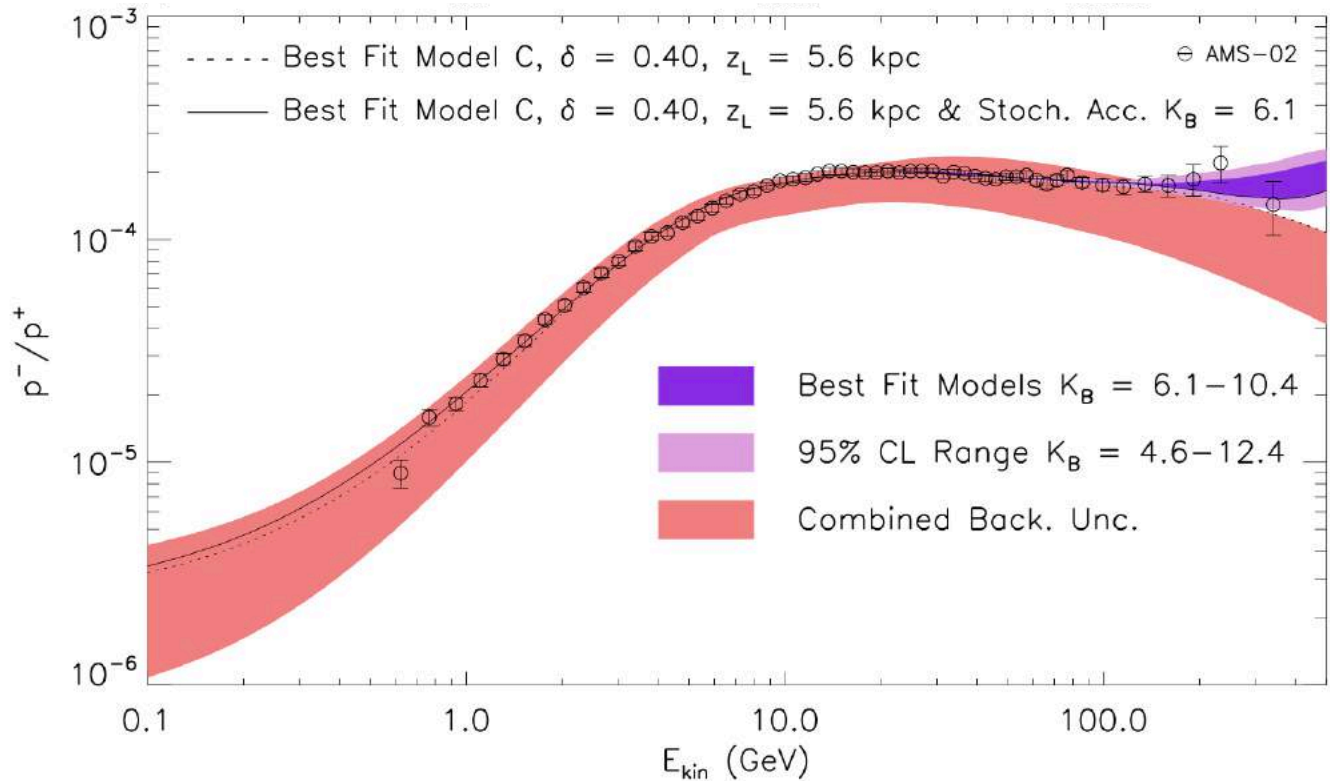
NT & Oliva 1707.06915



- B/C ratio well described
- Evidence for SNR accelerated Boron

# Shock accelerated antiprotons

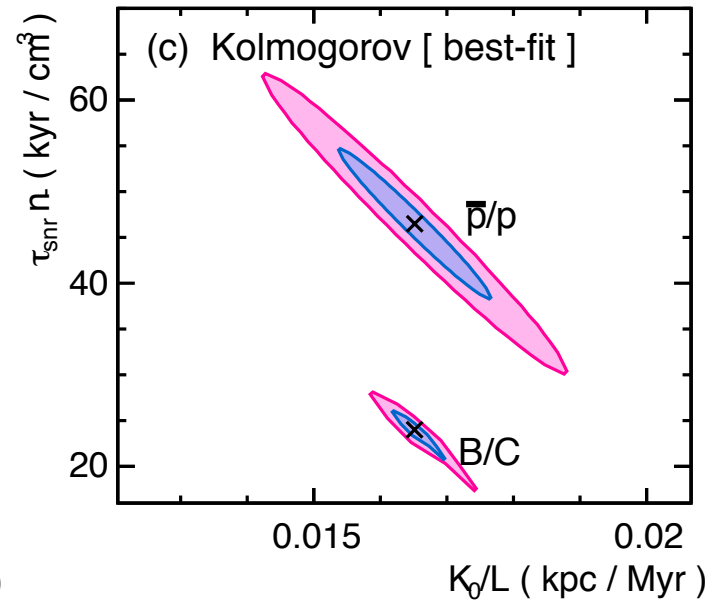
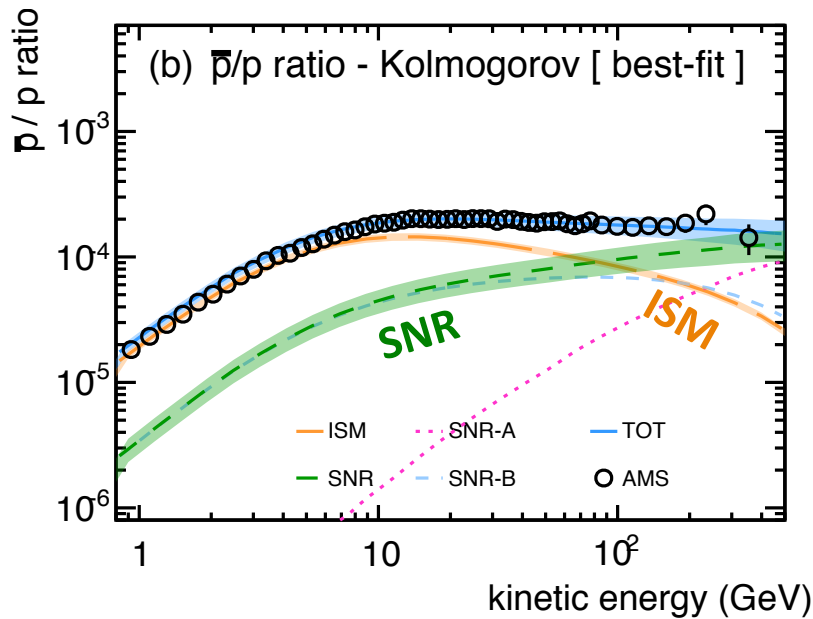
[Cholis, Hooper, Linden 1701.04406]



Pbar/P “excess” explained by SNR production and acceleration of antiprotons...?

# Shock accelerated anti-protons

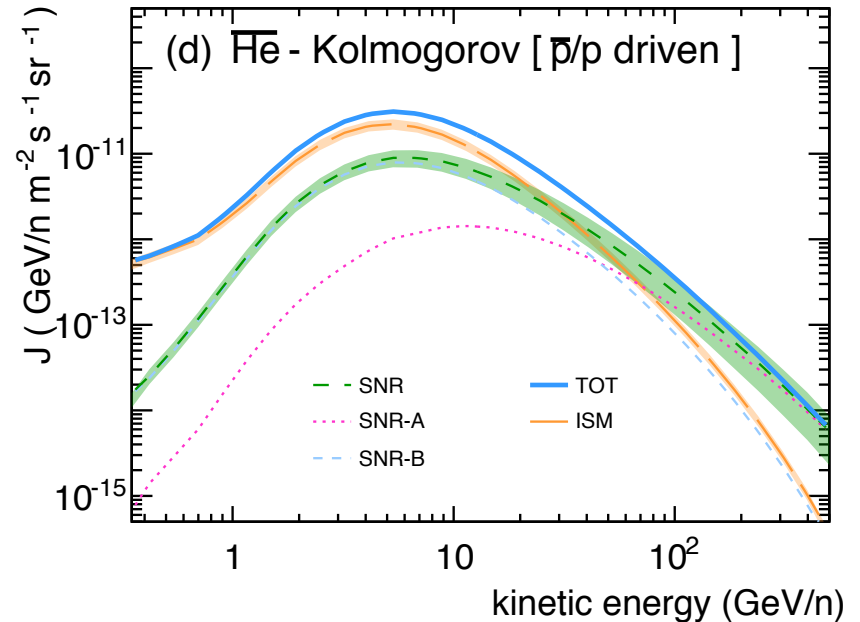
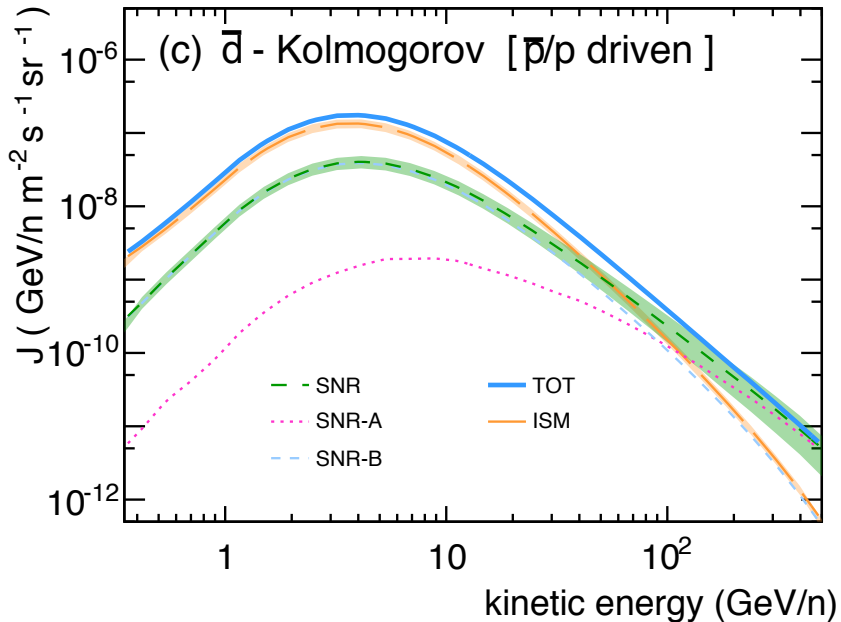
NT & Oliva 1707.06915



- ✓ Good fits to antiproton/proton ratio
- Still inconsistent description of both B/C &  $\bar{p}/p$  ratios

# Shock accelerated anti-nuclei

NT & Oliva 1707.06915



- ✓  $\bar{p}/p$ - driven model: upper limit to SNR accelerated antinuclei
- ✓ At  $E \gg 10$  GeV, flux is dominated by shock accelerated antinuclei
- ✓ The low-energy region is unaffected by SNR production



# Conclusions

It is unclear if antiprotons are consistent with astrophysical background

Need to improve models for antiproton/proton ratio in two directions:

- 1) XS data on antiproton production *and* improved parameterizations /MC generators
  - 2) Better understanding of CR propagation:
    - Advanced analysis based on B/C ratio to exploit the phenomenology
    - Beyond standard diffusion models: data hint at new astrophysical processes
    - Address model uncertainties: *fragmentation cross-sections for B-production*
- Models of CR propagation rely on (extrapolations of )XS data collected in the 90's*

From C. X. Chen et al., 1997 ApJ 479, 504-52 [Transport collaboration]

*“With the shutdown of the LBL-Bevalac and the pending closure of the Saclay-Saturne accelerators, opportunities for obtaining cross-section measurements relevant to the interpretation of CR data are rapidly dwindling worldwide.*

***Thus, future experiments will rely heavily upon cross-section predictions, and it is important to update our formulae using data (...) to ensure that the solutions to some astrophysical problems are not dominated by cross-section inaccuracies rather than by CR measurements”.***

**Thank you**

Nicola Tomassetti  
Perugia University & INFN  
27 July.2017 - Geneva