



#### particle acceleration in reconnection regions the case of cosmic ray excess from the heliotail

Paolo Desiati<sup>1,2</sup> & Alexander Lazarian<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> IceCube Research Center
<sup>2</sup> Department of Astronomy

University of Wisconsin - Madison

2011 EGU General Assembly, Vienna (Austria) April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011

#### cosmic rays

- CR below the knee (~3×10<sup>15</sup> eV) believed to be galactic
- CR below ~10<sup>18</sup> eV believed to be predominantly galactic (transition to extra-galactic @ ~10<sup>18</sup>-10<sup>19</sup> eV)
- galactic CR believed to be accelerated in expanding shock waves initiated by supernova explosions
- anisotropy in arrival direction expected from discrete sources distribution & propagation





# low energy cosmic ray anisotropy in arrival direction

Nagashima et al., J. Geophys. Res., Vol 103, No. A8, Pag. 17,429 (1998)



# *medium / small* scale anisotropy

- global amplitude of large scale anisotropy increases with energy up to ~ 1-10 TeV and decreases above it
- origin of anisotropy is unknown
- large scale anisotropy shows smaller angular features, some of which highly significant
- small angular features might reveal properties of the boundary region between solar wind and interstellar wind
- isolate small scale features



# *medium / small* scale anisotropy

# Milagro

 $2.2 \cdot 10^{11}$  events median CR energy ~ 1 TeV =  $10^{12}$  eV average angular resolution <  $1^{\circ}$ 

2hr time window 10° smoothing

- filter all angular features > 30°
- technique used in gamma ray searches



Abdo A.A. et al., 2008, Phys. Rev. Lett., 101, 221101

# *medium / small* scale anisotropy

# Milagro

 $2.2 \cdot 10^{11}$  events median CR energy ~ 1 TeV =  $10^{12}$  eV average angular resolution <  $1^{\circ}$ 

2hr time window 10° smoothing

- filter all angular features > 30°
- technique used in gamma ray searches

![](_page_5_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Figure_8.jpeg)

### origin of small scale anisotropy : astrophysics ?

- Iocalized excess of cosmic rays from nearby (~150 pc ~ 3×10<sup>7</sup> AU) recent (~ 350 kyr) supernova that gave birth to Geminga Pulsar
- fine tuning of propagation through interstellar medium
- incidentally requires magnetic connection to the faraway source
- small scale features likely from local processes

![](_page_6_Figure_5.jpeg)

Abdo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 101, 221101, 2008

### origin of "tail-in anisotropy"

- broad tail-in excess of sub-TeV cosmic rays attributed to heliotail
- Iocalized excess of multi-TeV cosmic rays from the direction of the heliotail
- medium/small scale modulation to be connected to **nearby** perturbations
- first-order Fermi acceleration in magnetic reconnection regions in the heliotail

![](_page_7_Figure_5.jpeg)

300

350

250

Abdo et al., Phys. Rev. Lett., 101, 221101, 2008

150

200

Region B

100

50

Right Ascension (deg)

#### magnetic reconnection @ heliotail

 magnetic polarity reversals due to the 11year solar cycles compressed by the solar wind in the magneto-tail

![](_page_8_Picture_2.jpeg)

Lazarian & Desiati, ApJ, 722, 188, 2010

#### Pogorelov et al., ApJ, 696, 1478, 2009

![](_page_8_Picture_4.jpeg)

"more realistic" numerical simulation of the turbulent heliosphere and heliotail

### magnetic reconnection @ heliotail

- magnetic polarity reversals due to the 11year solar cycles compressed by the solar wind in the magneto-tail
- ubiquitous turbulence makes reconnection fast and not affected by ohmic dissipation

![](_page_9_Picture_3.jpeg)

mixed polarity)

Lazarian & Desiati, ApJ, 722, 188, 2010

Sweet, IAU Symposium 6, Electromagnetic Phenomena in Cosmical Physics, 123, 1959. Parker , J. Geophys. Rev., 62, 509, 1957

![](_page_9_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_7.jpeg)

Lazarian & Vishniac, ApJ, 517, 700, 1999

![](_page_9_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_9_Figure_11.jpeg)

### stochastic magnetic reconnection

![](_page_10_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### acceleration in reconnection regions

- first order Fermi acceleration from volumefilling magnetic reconnection
- magnetic mirror @ reconnection as site of acceleration

 $N(E)dE \sim E^{-5/2}dE$ 

 magnetic tubes contraction leads to increase of particle energy as long as they are within the contracting magnetic loop

$$E_{max} \approx 10^{13} \ eV \cdot \left(\frac{B}{1 \ \mu G}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{L_{zone}}{134 \ AU}\right)$$

![](_page_11_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_11_Figure_7.jpeg)

application to pulsars, microquasars, solar flares acceleration

de Gouveia Dal Pino & Lazarian, 2000, 2003, 2005 Lazarian, 2005

# acceleration in weakly stochastic reconnection regions

![](_page_12_Figure_1.jpeg)

more studies : Kowal et al., arXiv:1103.2984

#### acceleration in reconnection regions

 $N(E)dE \sim E^{-5/2}dE$ 

harder spectrum if **back reaction** of accelerated particle

$$E_{max} \approx 10^{13} \ eV \cdot \left(\frac{B}{1 \ \mu G}\right) \cdot \left(\frac{L_{zone}}{134 \ AU}\right)$$

- solar wind ≈ 100 km/sec
- Emax(1 µG) ≈ 20 TeV
  - $\Rightarrow$  unlikely to expect energies > 10 TeV

![](_page_13_Picture_8.jpeg)

#### application on anomalous cosmic rays

Lazarian & Opher, ApJ 703, 8, 2009

- magnetic field reversals from Sun's rotation compress at the heliopause
- reconnection and acceleration induced in the heliosheath closer to the heliopause
- Voyager did not observe ACR passed the termination shock
- other models available as well

also Drake et al., ApJ, 709, 963, 2010

![](_page_14_Picture_7.jpeg)

#### conclusions

- broad tail-in excess of sub-TeV cosmic rays and localized excess of multi-TeV cosmic rays from the direction of the heliotail could have a common origin
- 1<sup>st</sup> order Fermi acceleration in magnetic reconnection regions in the heliotail
- HE cosmic rays excess related to reconnection site LE cosmic rays smeared by scattering
- no need to tune interstellar medium properties
- on-going numerical calculations to verify whether magnetic reconnection regions in the heliotail may be site of efficient acceleration
- acceleration mechanisms in stochastic reconnection regions might explain the puzzling localized excess region of multi-TeV cosmic rays

### back up slides

### origin of small scale anisotropy : heliospheric tail

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

- sub-TeV cosmic ray tail-in excess by some unknown asymmetry caused by the heliotail
- solar magnetic field reversal should affect galactic anisotropy
- origin of excess is "heliospheric"

#### anisotropy vs energy : probing different causes

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)