

# Cosmic Ray Transport, Energy Loss, and Influence in the Multiphase ISM

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Reference: Bustard and Zweibel 2021, ApJ 913, 106  
(<https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.06585>)

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# Cosmic Ray Confinement

Extrinsic  
Turbulence  
( $E > 300$  GeV)

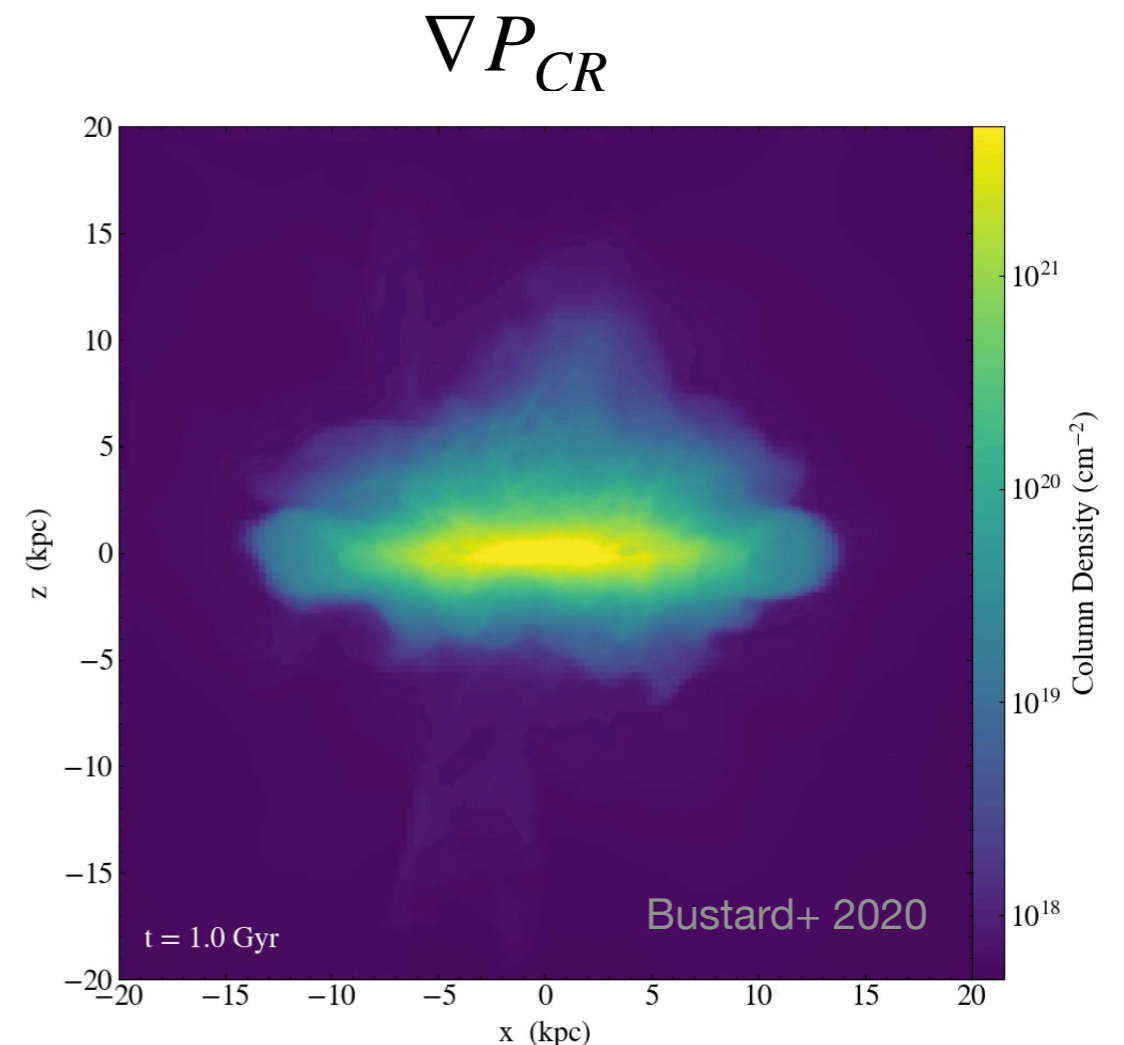
- Cosmic rays scatter off waves in a turbulent cascade
- Propagation is diffusive along magnetic field lines
- Cosmic rays *don't* transfer energy to gas

Self-  
confinement  
( $E < 300$  GeV)

- Cosmic rays scatter off waves driven by a resonant **streaming** instability
- Propagation is at  $\sim$  Alfvén speed  

$$v_A^{ion} = \frac{B}{\sqrt{4\pi\rho_{ion}}}$$
- Cosmic rays *do* transfer energy to the gas

Confinement leads to finite  
cosmic ray scale heights



CR-driven winds displace gas from galaxies, regulating star formation\*

\*See e.g. Ipavich 1975, Breitschwerdt+ 1991, Everett+ 2008, Uhlig+ 2012, Hanasz+ 2013, Salem and Bryan 2014, Ruszkowski+ 2017, Farber+ 2018, Mao and Ostriker 2018, Chan+ 2019, Buck+ 2020, Hopkins+ 2020, 2021, Yohan and Dubois 2020, Quataert+ 2021

Cosmic rays help drive outflows to large distances

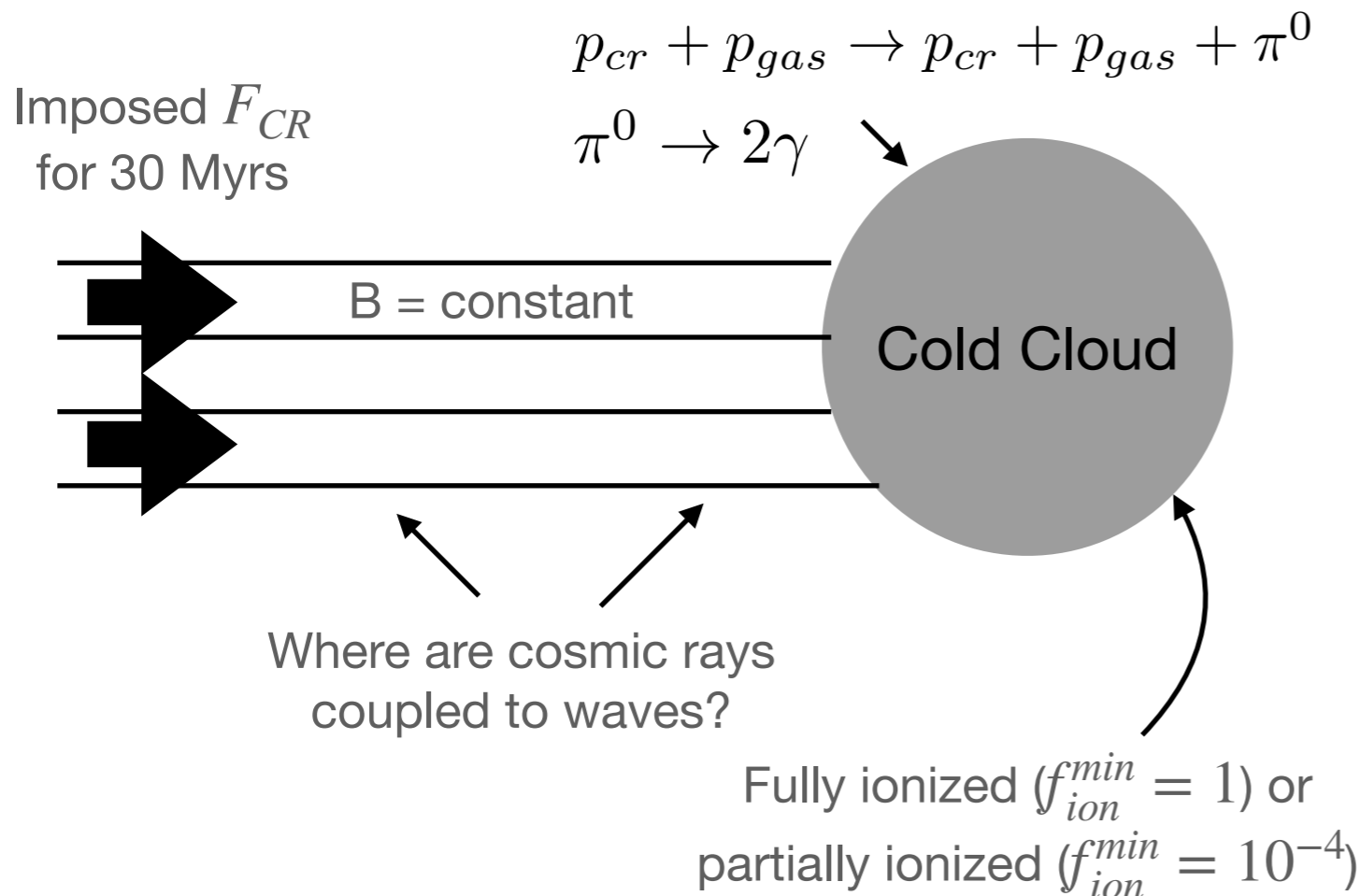
Cosmic rays accelerate and pressurize cold clouds in the CGM

Cosmic rays modify thermal instability/precipitation

...

Sensitive to when, where, and how cosmic rays scatter, transfer energy + momentum, etc.

Complicated by multiphase structure (possibly sub-grid)



### MHD Simulations w/Athena++

- Evolve cosmic ray energy  $E_{cr}$  and flux  $F_{cr}$  using two-moment technique borrowed from radiative transfer (*Jiang and Oh 2018*)
- *Transport*: Streaming at  $v_A^{ion}$ , diffusion due to ion-neutral damping (following *Hopkins+ 2021*)
- “Collisionless” energy loss + hadronic and Coulomb collisions included

# Self-Confinement and Bottlenecks

*Kulsrud and Pearce 1969, Skilling 1971, Kulsrud 2005, Zweibel 2017, Wiener+ 2017, 2019*

- When  $\nabla P_{CR} \neq 0$ , resonant streaming instability excites forward-traveling Alfvén waves

$$v_{st} = \frac{B \cdot \nabla P_{CR}}{|B \cdot \nabla P_{CR}|} v_A^{ion}$$

- Alfvén wave damping heats the gas (“collisionless” energy loss)

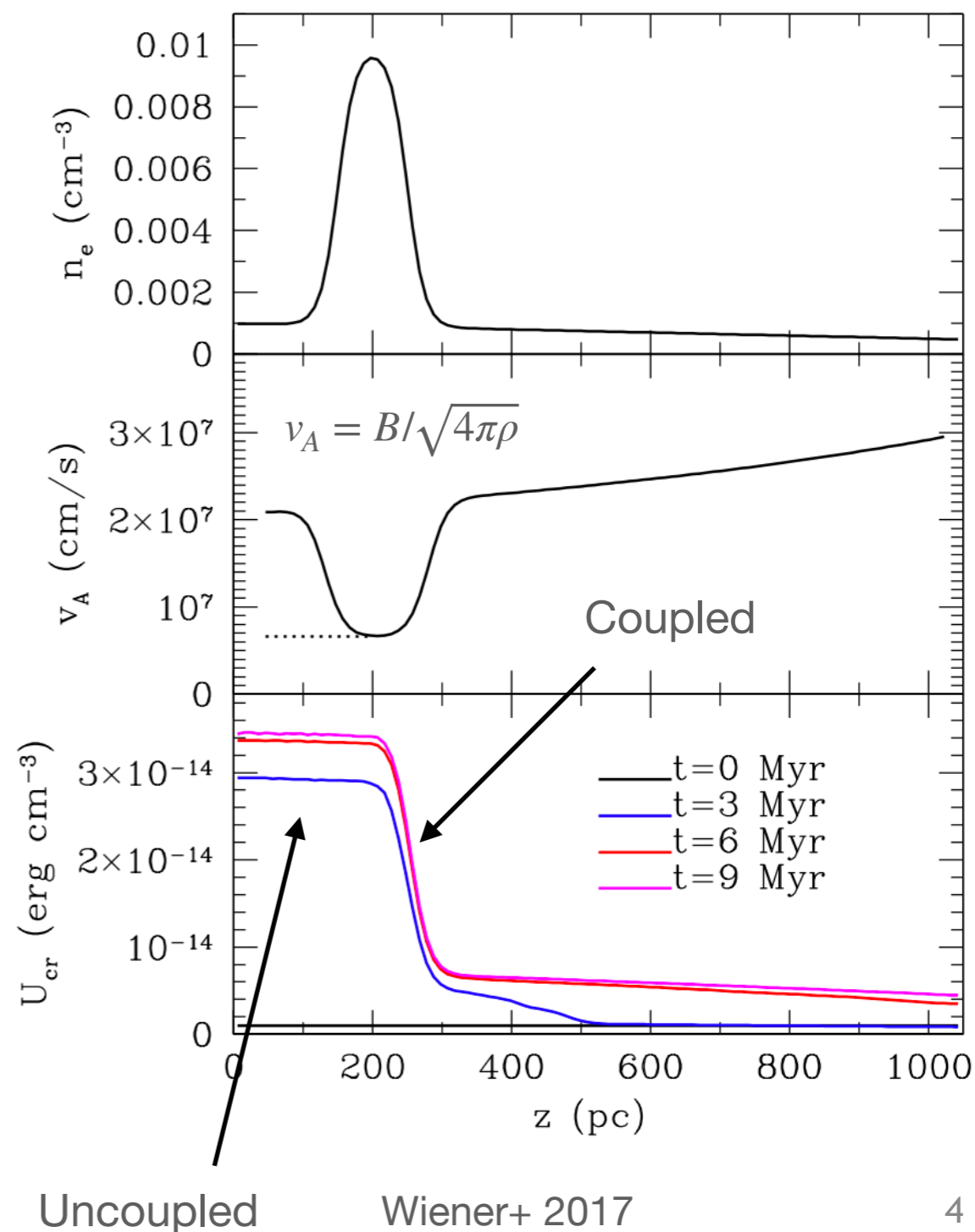
$$\bullet \quad dE_{CR}/dt \sim -v_A^{ion} \cdot \nabla P_{CR}$$

$$\bullet \quad dE_g/dt \sim v_A^{ion} \cdot \nabla P_{CR}$$

- Tightly coupled CRs trace density perturbations:  $P_{cr} \sim v_A^{-4/3} \sim \rho^{2/3}$

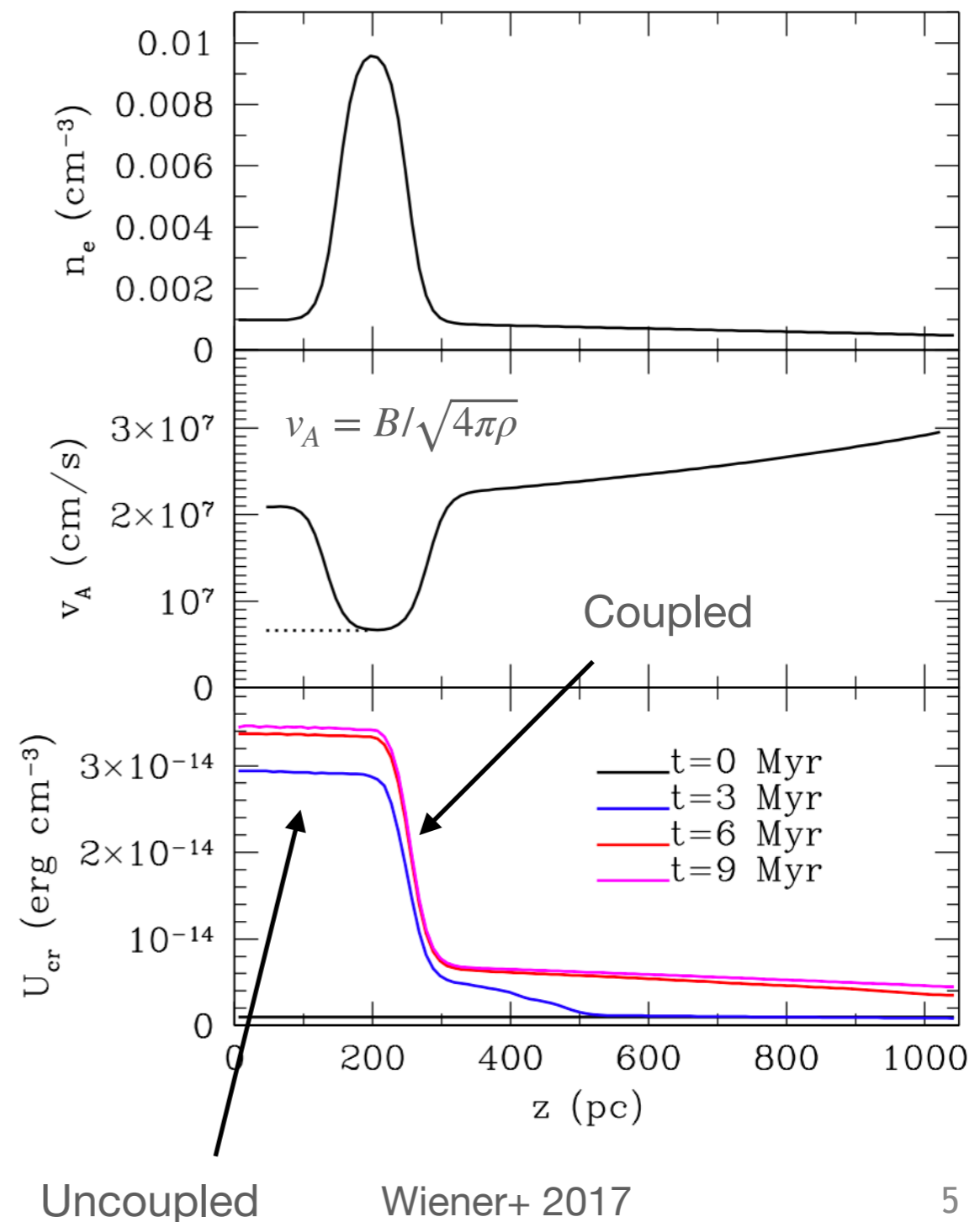
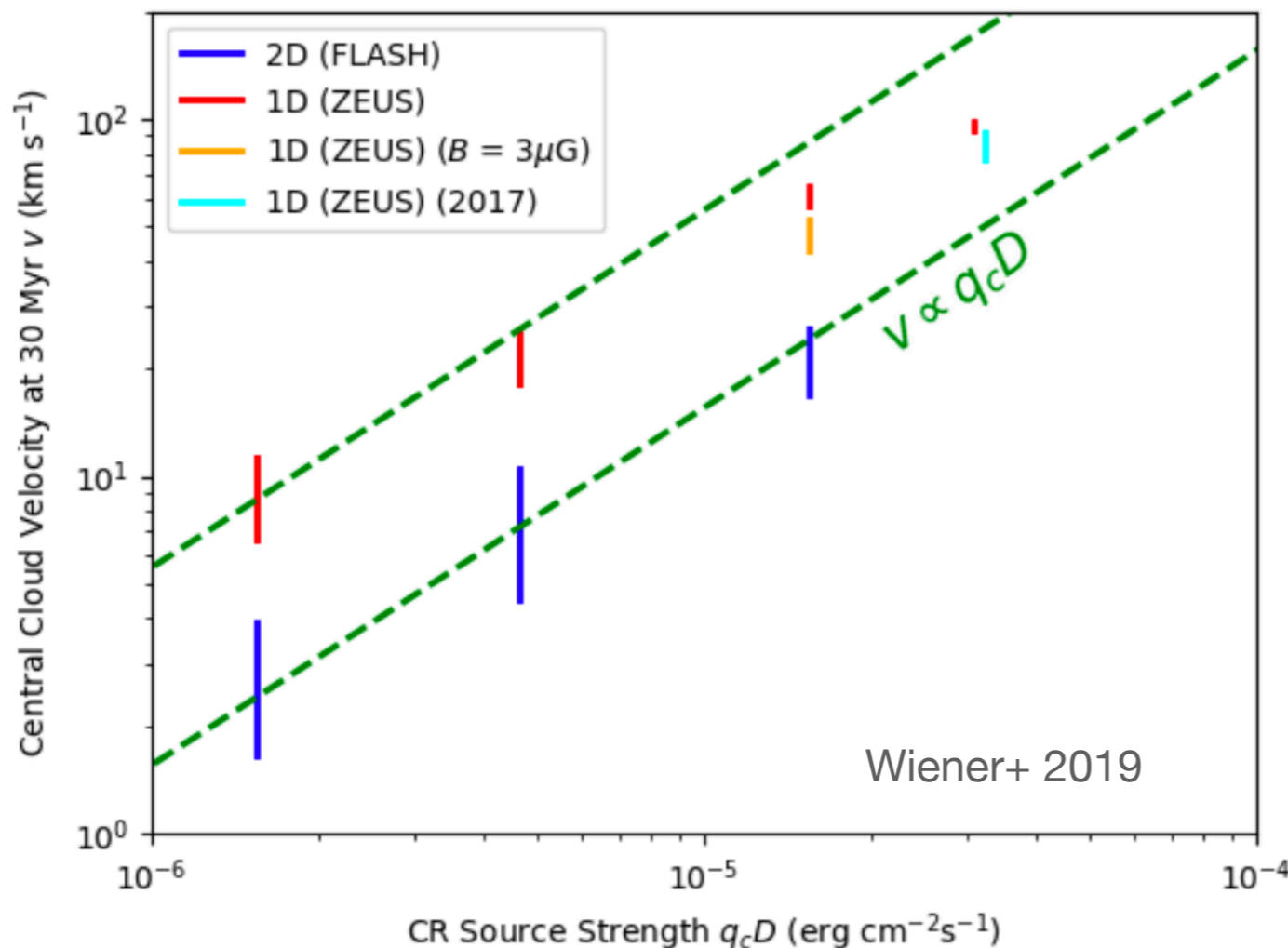
- If  $\nabla P_{CR} = 0$ , no waves are excited

- Cosmic rays free-stream
- This situation arises at density inhomogeneities! “Free-zones” — *Skilling (1971)*



# Self-Confinement and Bottlenecks

*Kulsrud and Pearce 1969, Skilling 1971, Kulsrud 2005, Zweibel 2017, Wiener+ 2017, 2019*



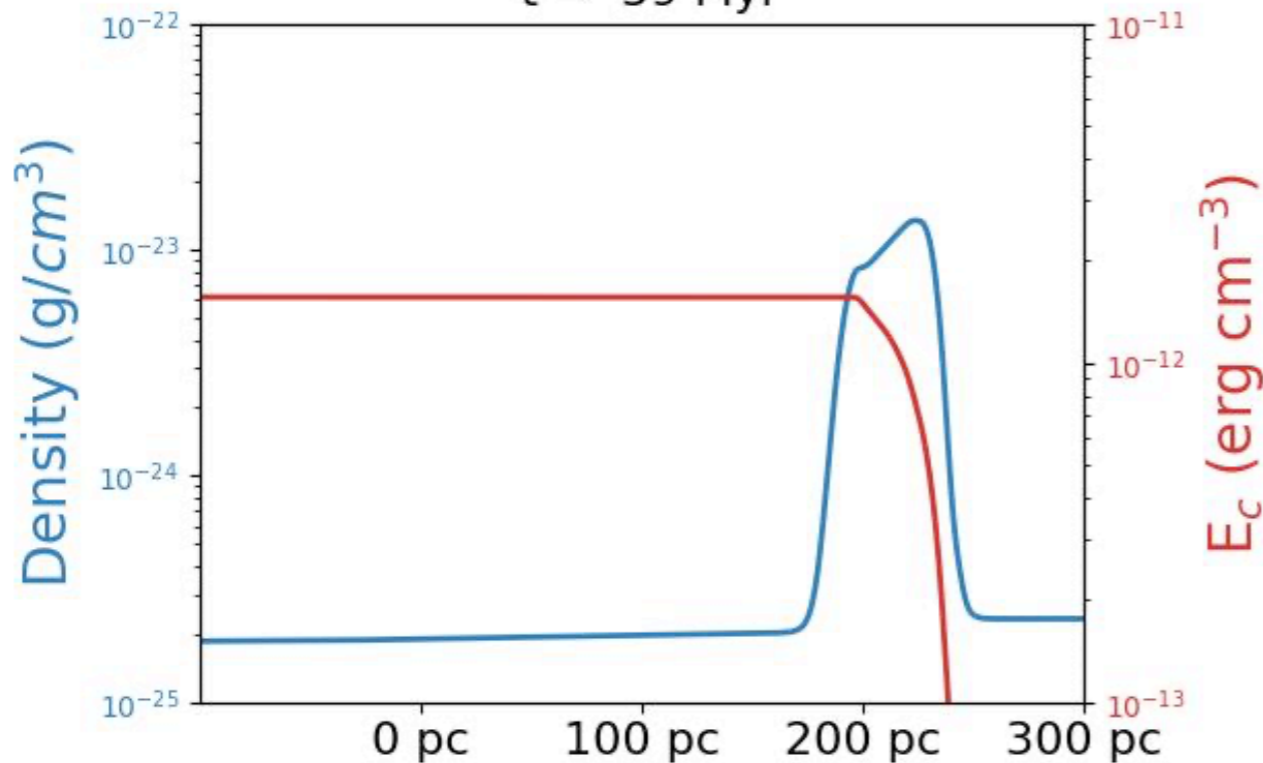
- **If  $\nabla P_{CR} = 0$ , no waves are excited**
  - Cosmic rays free-stream
  - This situation arises at density inhomogeneities! "Free-zones" — Skilling (1971)

**Transport**

# 1D Simulations

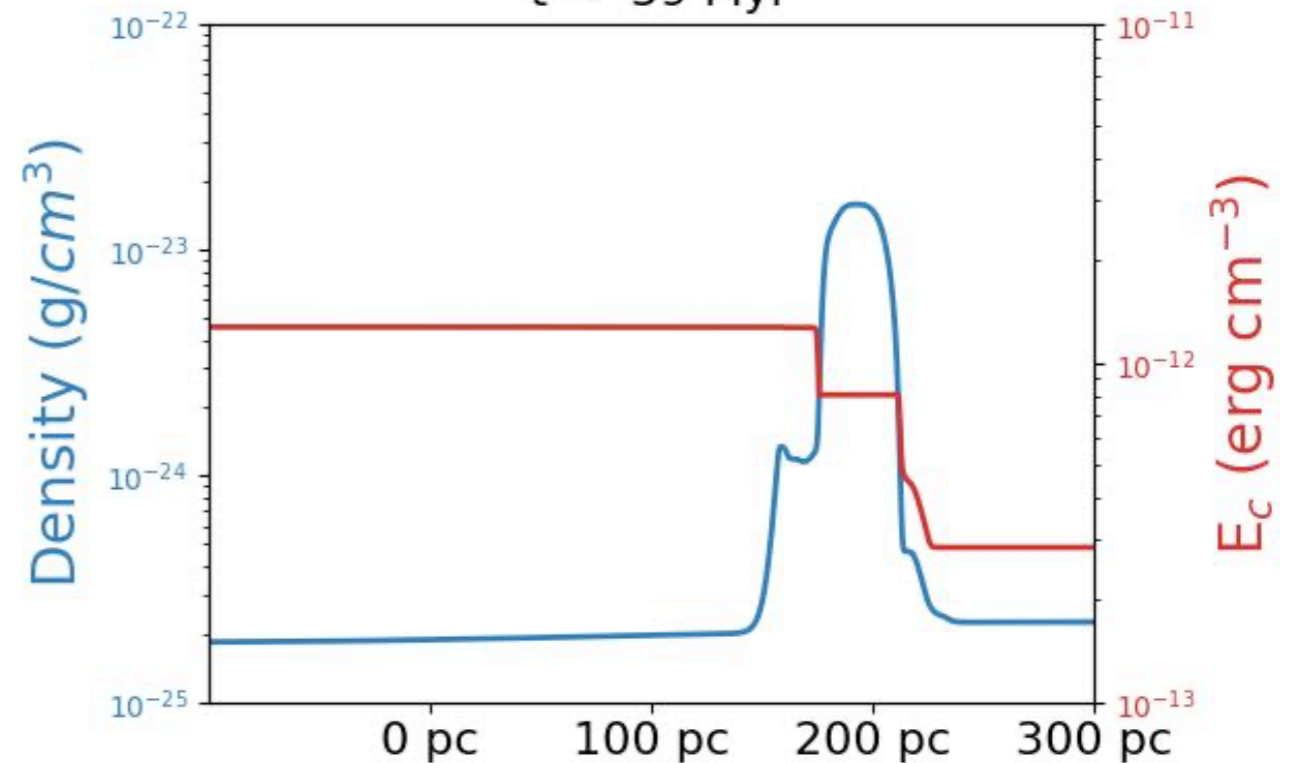
$$v_{st} = v_A \quad (f_{ion}^{min} = 1.0)$$

$$t = 59 \text{ Myr}$$



$$v_{st} = v_A^{ion} + \text{Ion-Neutral Damping} \quad (f_{ion}^{min} = 10^{-4})$$

$$t = 59 \text{ Myr}$$



## Fiducial Parameters

Cloud radius:  $r_c = 10 \text{ pc}$

Cloud density:  $n_c \approx 10 \text{ cm}^{-3}$

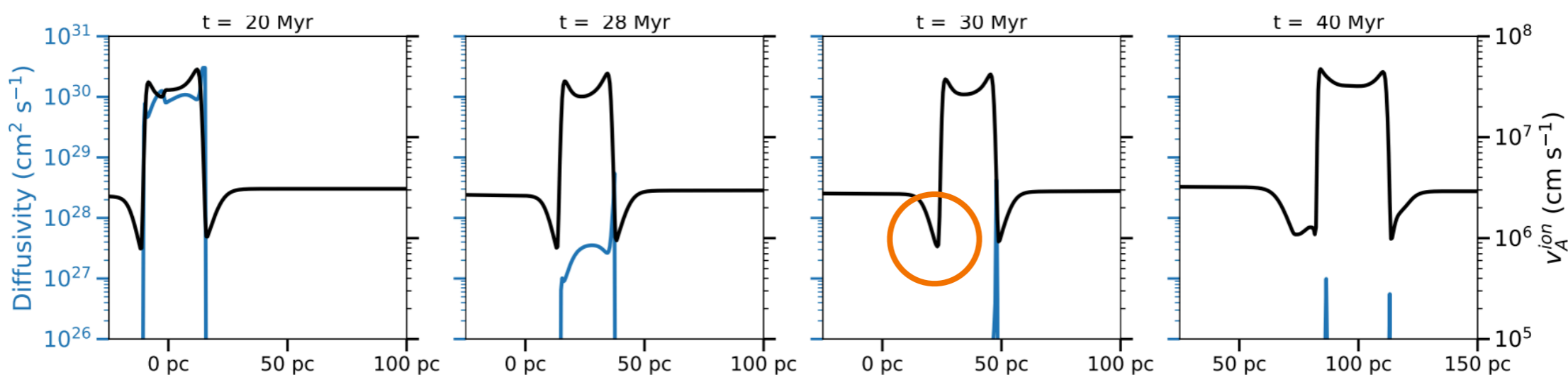
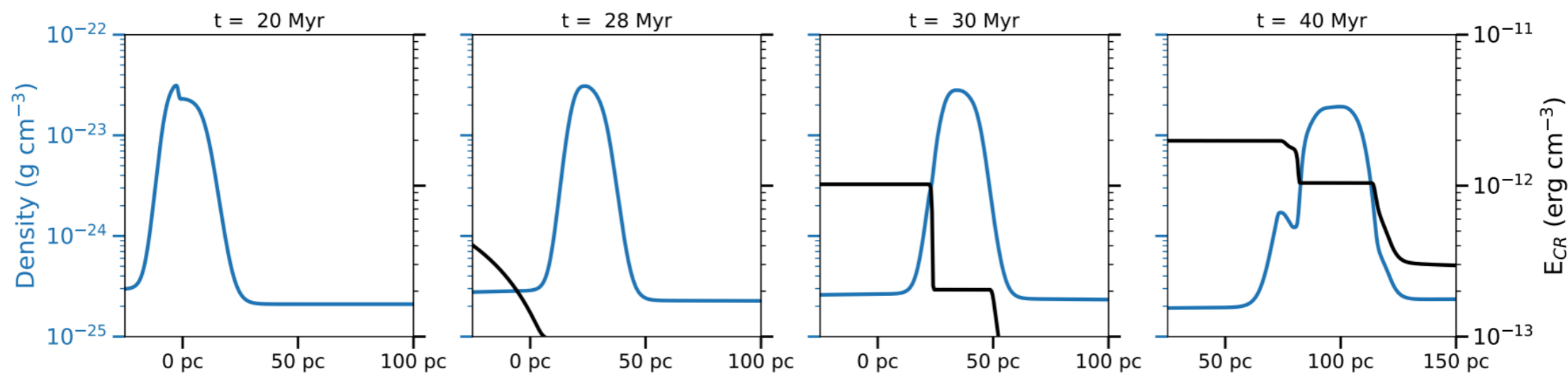
Magnetic field:  $B \approx 5 \mu\text{G}$

Interface width:  $t_c = 5 \text{ pc}$

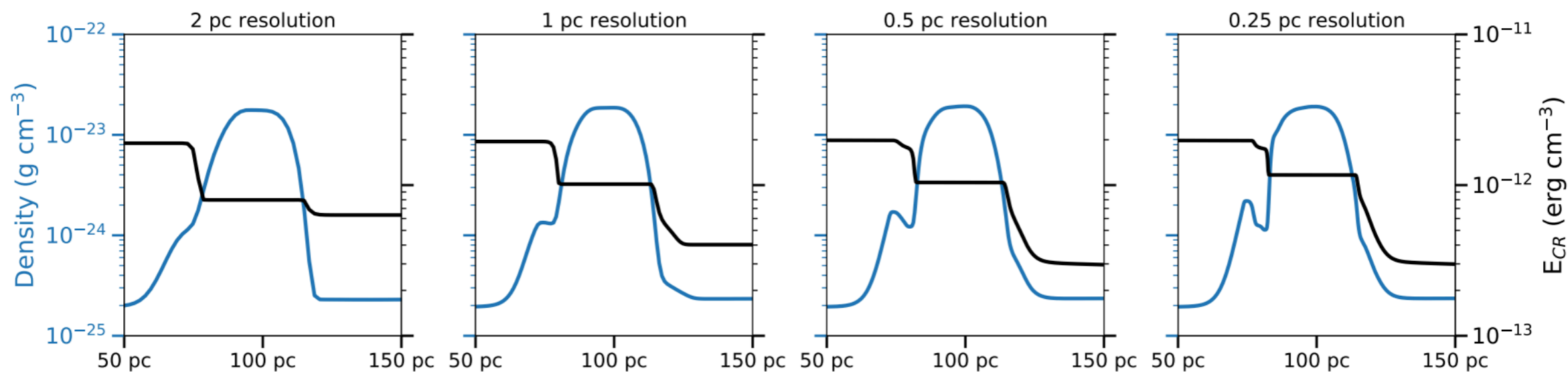
Plasma beta:  $\beta = P_g/P_B \approx 1.6$

Simplifying assumptions: No gravity, no radiative cooling,  $P_{cr}/P_g \sim 1$  regime

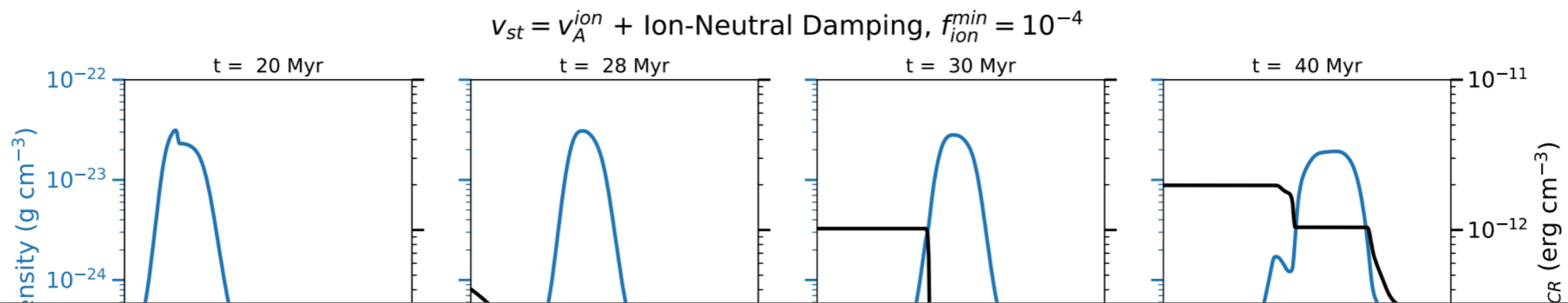
$$v_{st} = v_A^{ion} + \text{Ion-Neutral Damping}, f_{ion}^{min} = 10^{-4}$$



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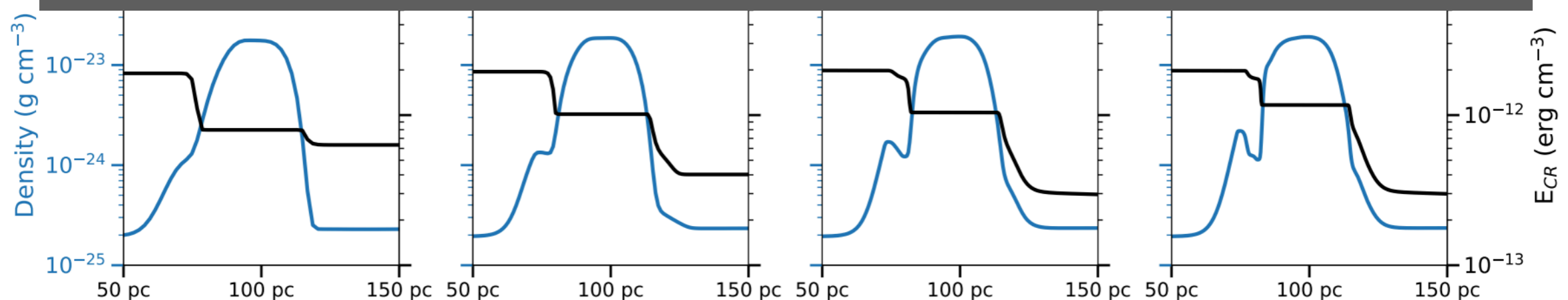




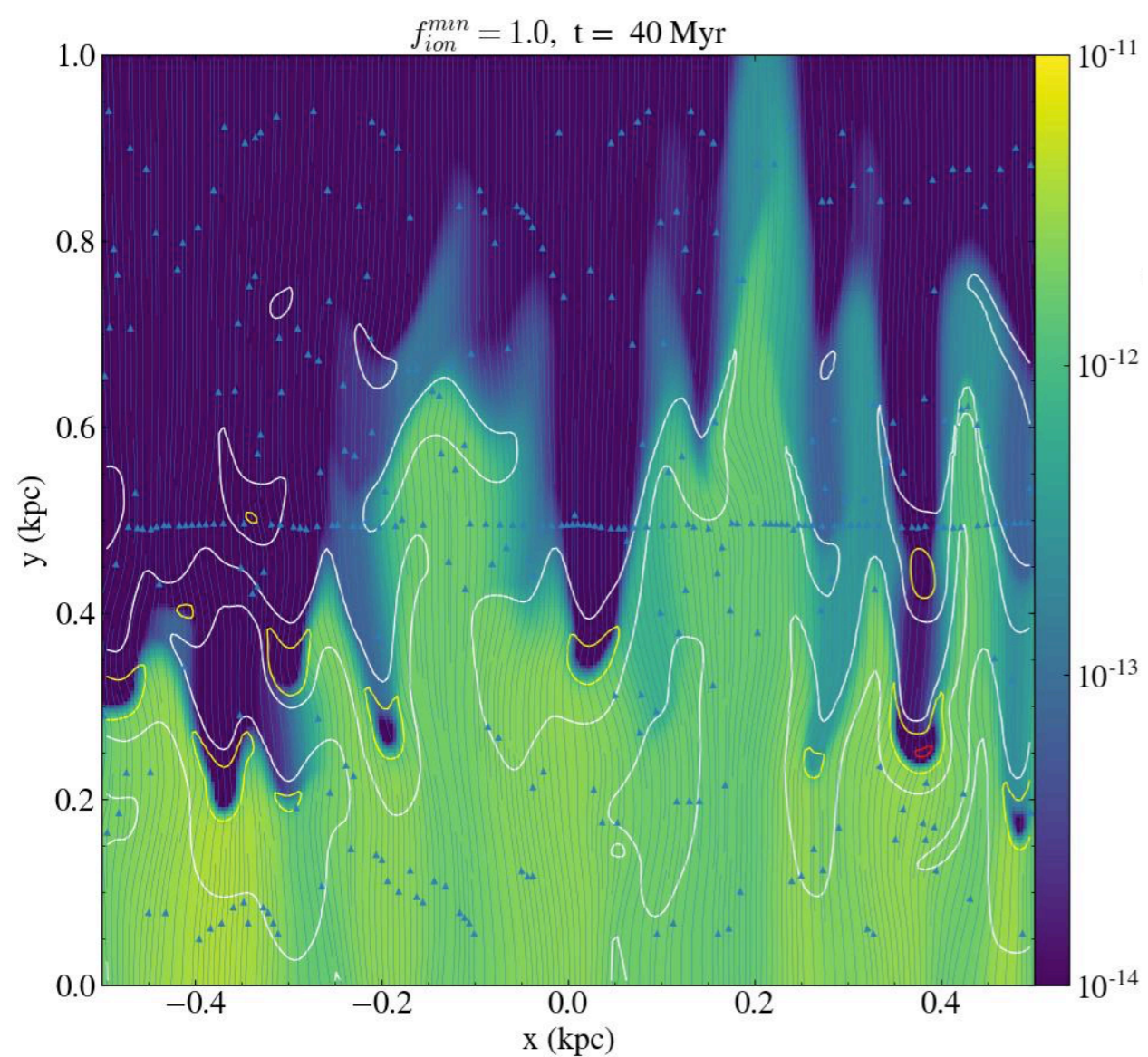


## Fundamental Points for Partially Neutral Clouds

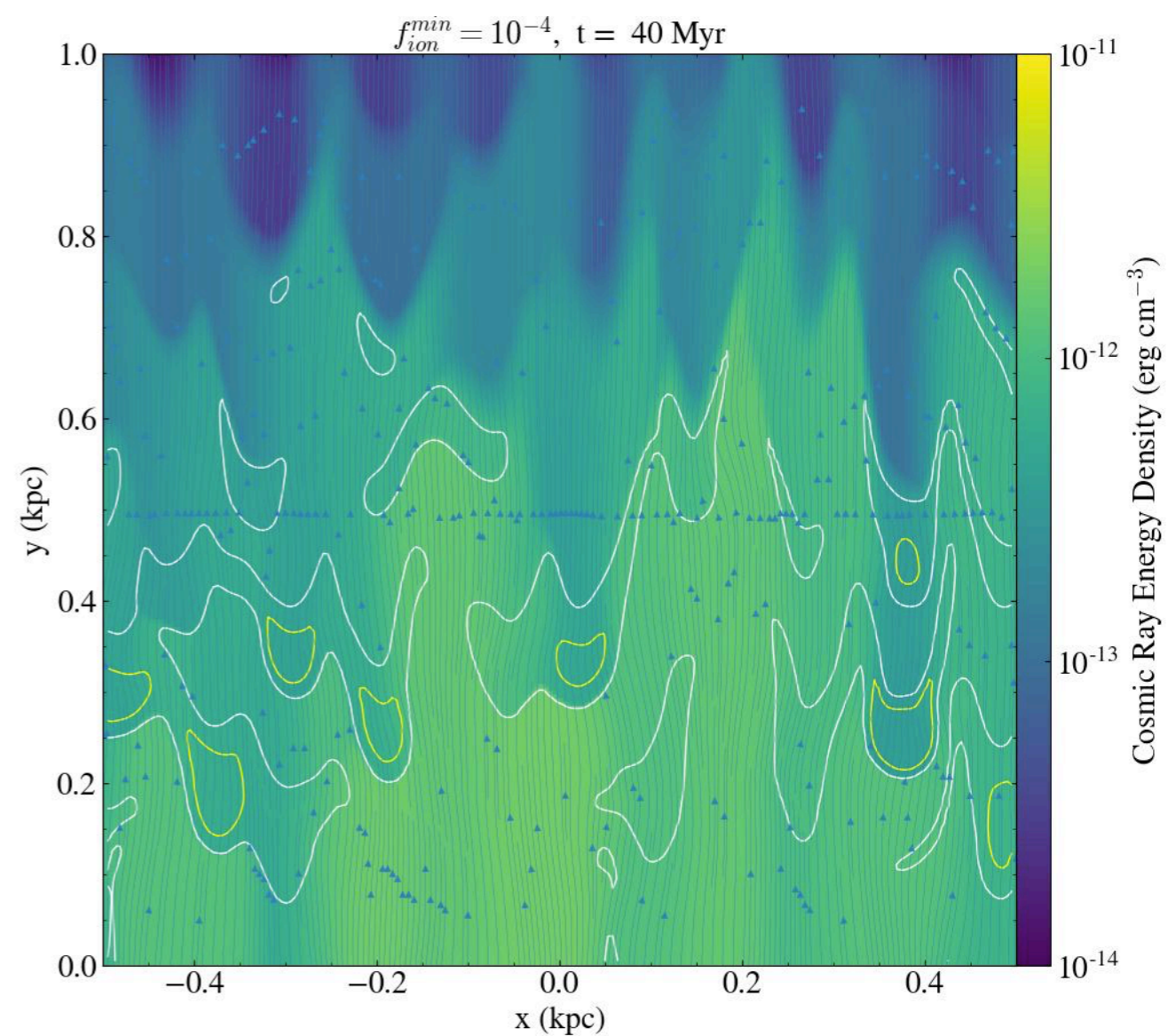
- 1) Cosmic ray pressure gradients still develop at interfaces
- 2) Momentum and energy transfer are entirely concentrated at interfaces
- 3) Need to resolve the interface by  $\sim 10$  cells



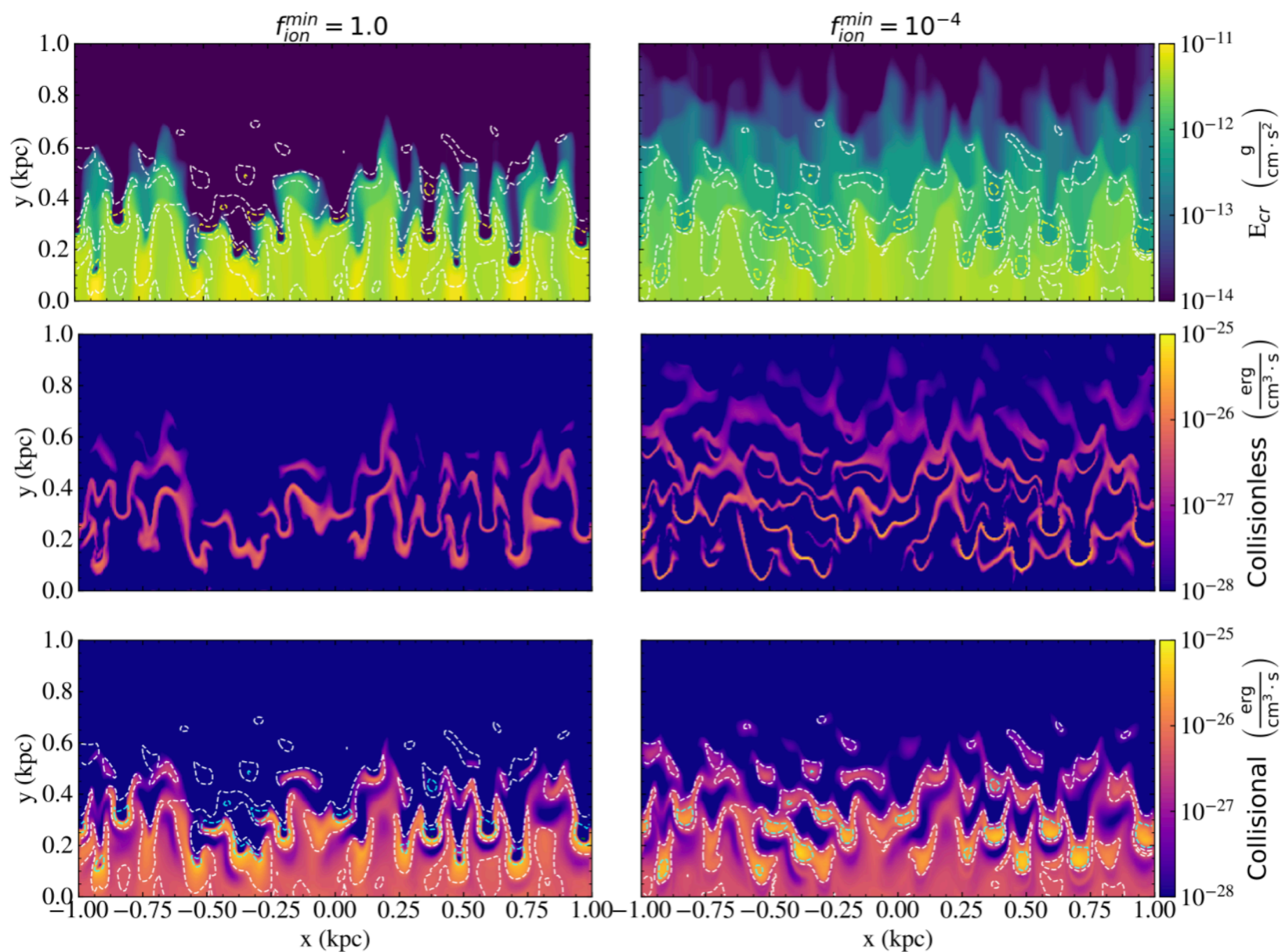
## Assuming Fully Ionized Gas



## Ionization-Dependent Transport



**Energy Loss**



$$\propto v_A \cdot \nabla P_{cr}$$

$$\propto n E_{cr}$$

Assuming fully ionized

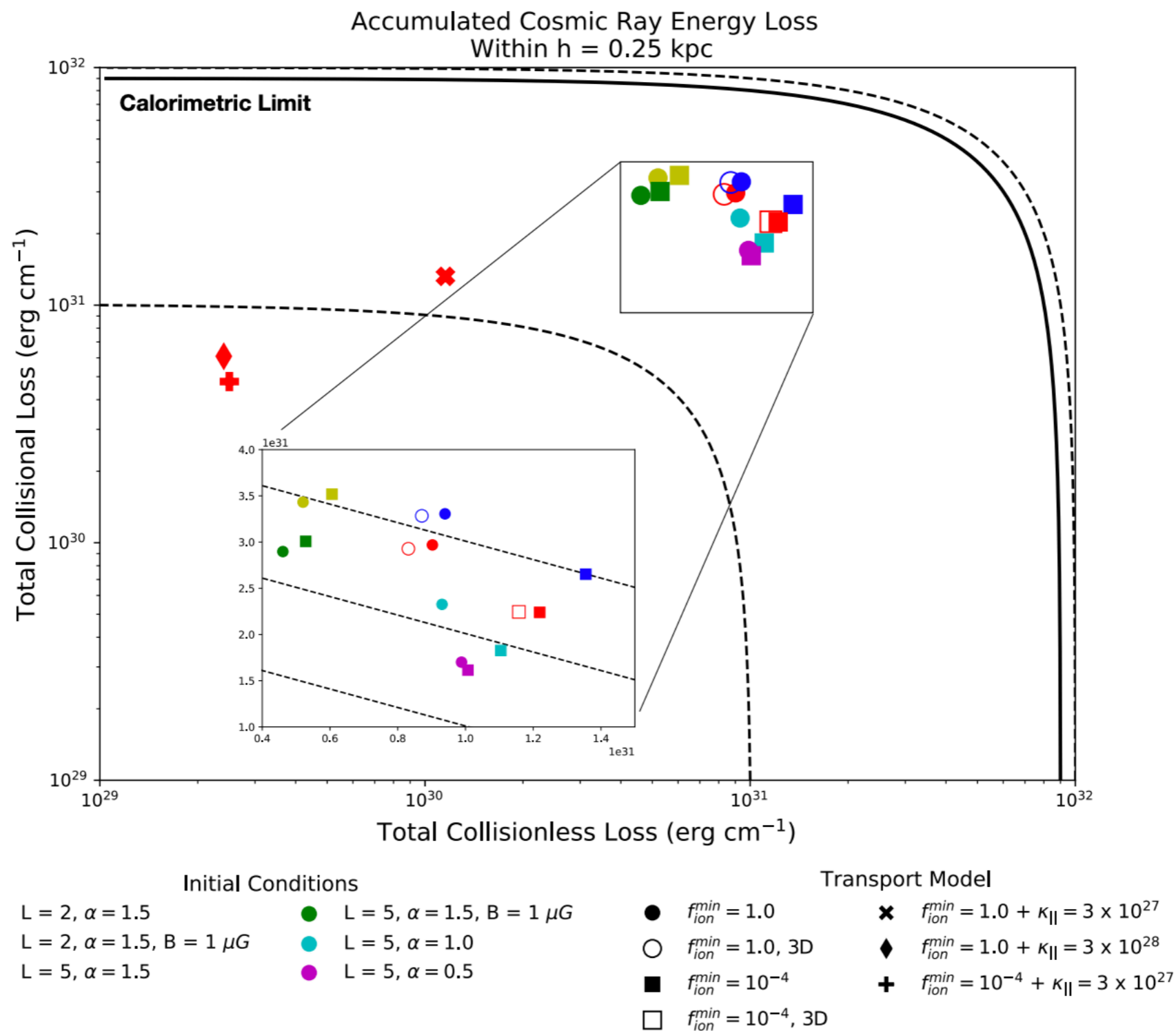
Collisionless energy transfer is **distributed throughout the cloud**

Collisions are biased towards **cloud interfaces**

Varying ionization

Collisionless energy transfer is **focused at cloud interfaces**

Collisions are biased towards **cloud interiors**



Fast transport in partially neutral clouds doesn't greatly affect the **total** energy loss

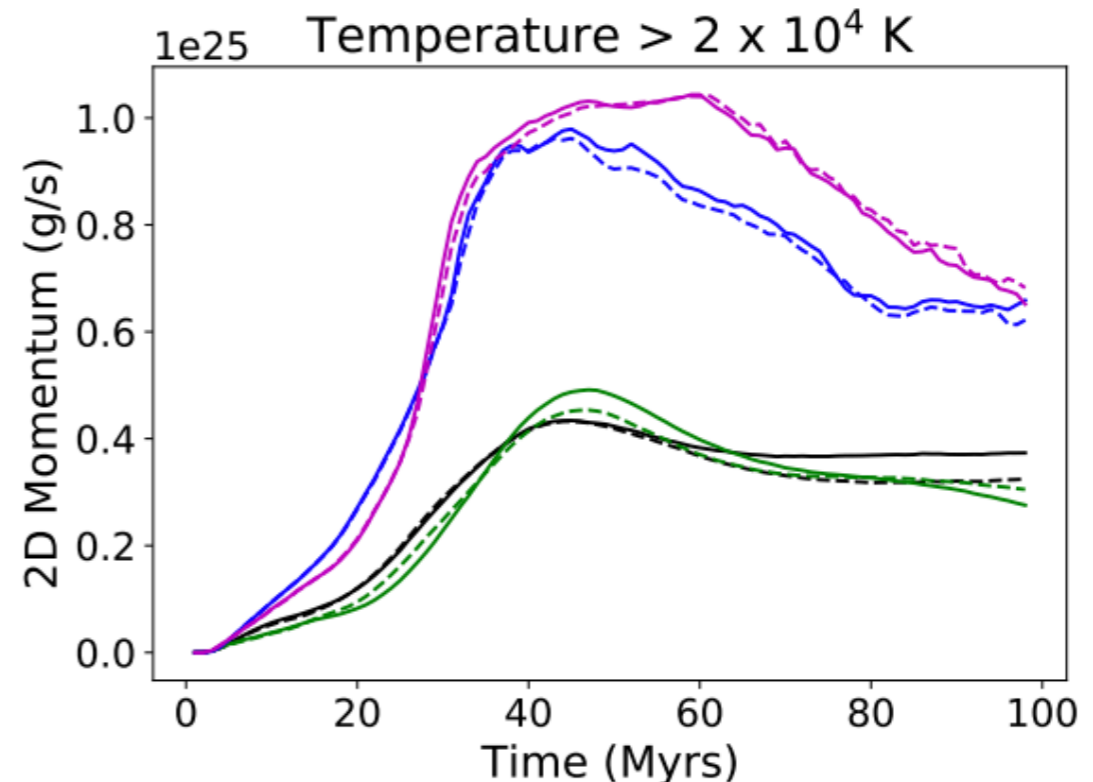
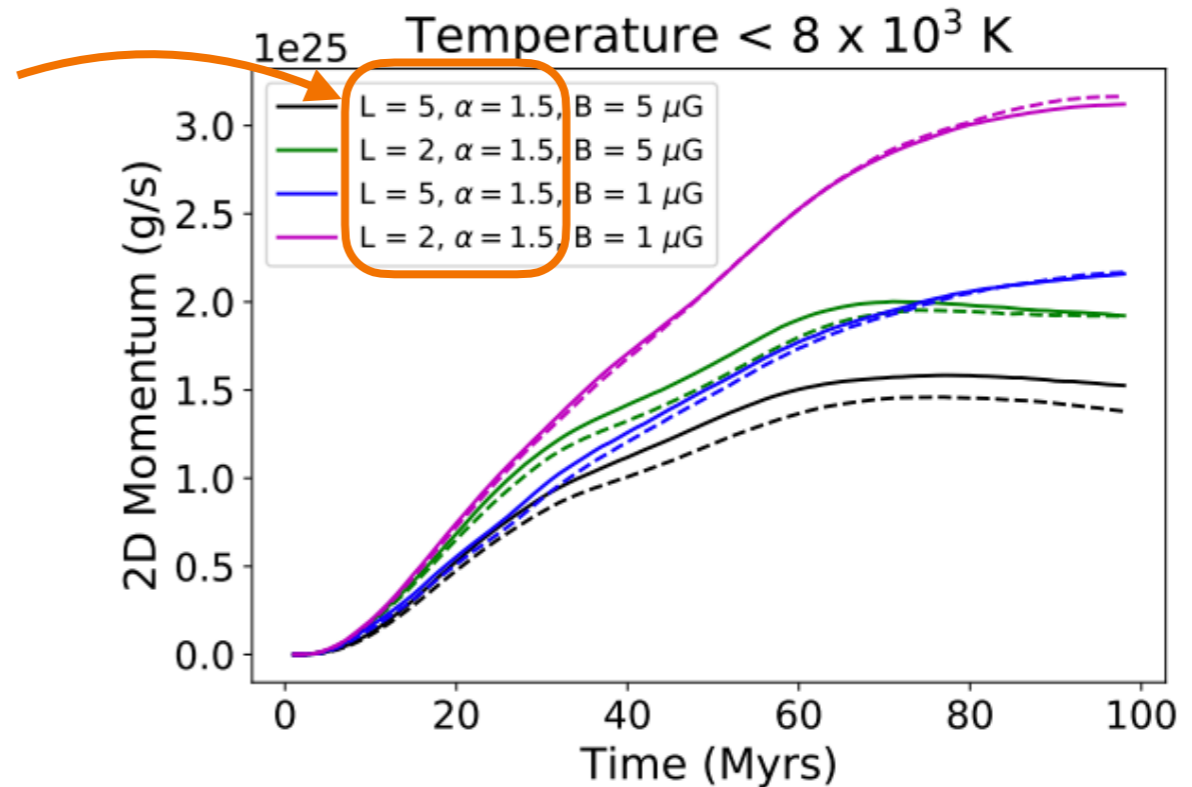
- Additional diffusivity in diffuse, ionized gas will decrease gamma-ray emission — possibly necessary for simulations to match Fermi-LAT luminosities of external galaxies (*Chan+ 2019, Hopkins+ 2021*)

**Influence**

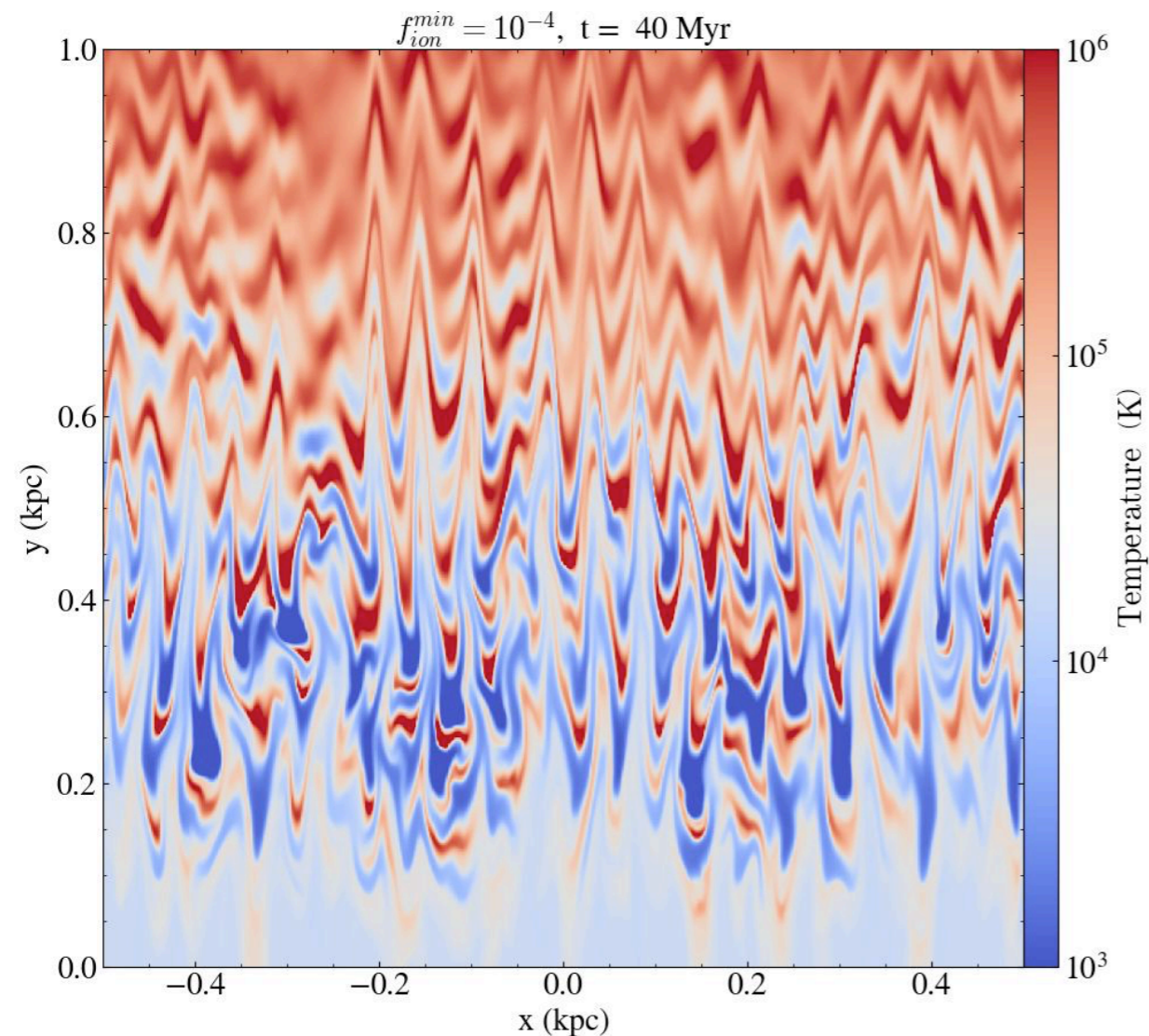
# Implications for Wind Driving

- Solid lines (fully ionized) and dashed lines (varying ionization) are pretty similar!
- Because interfaces instigate bottlenecks, even partially neutral clouds can be accelerated
- Results are more sensitive to magnetic field strength

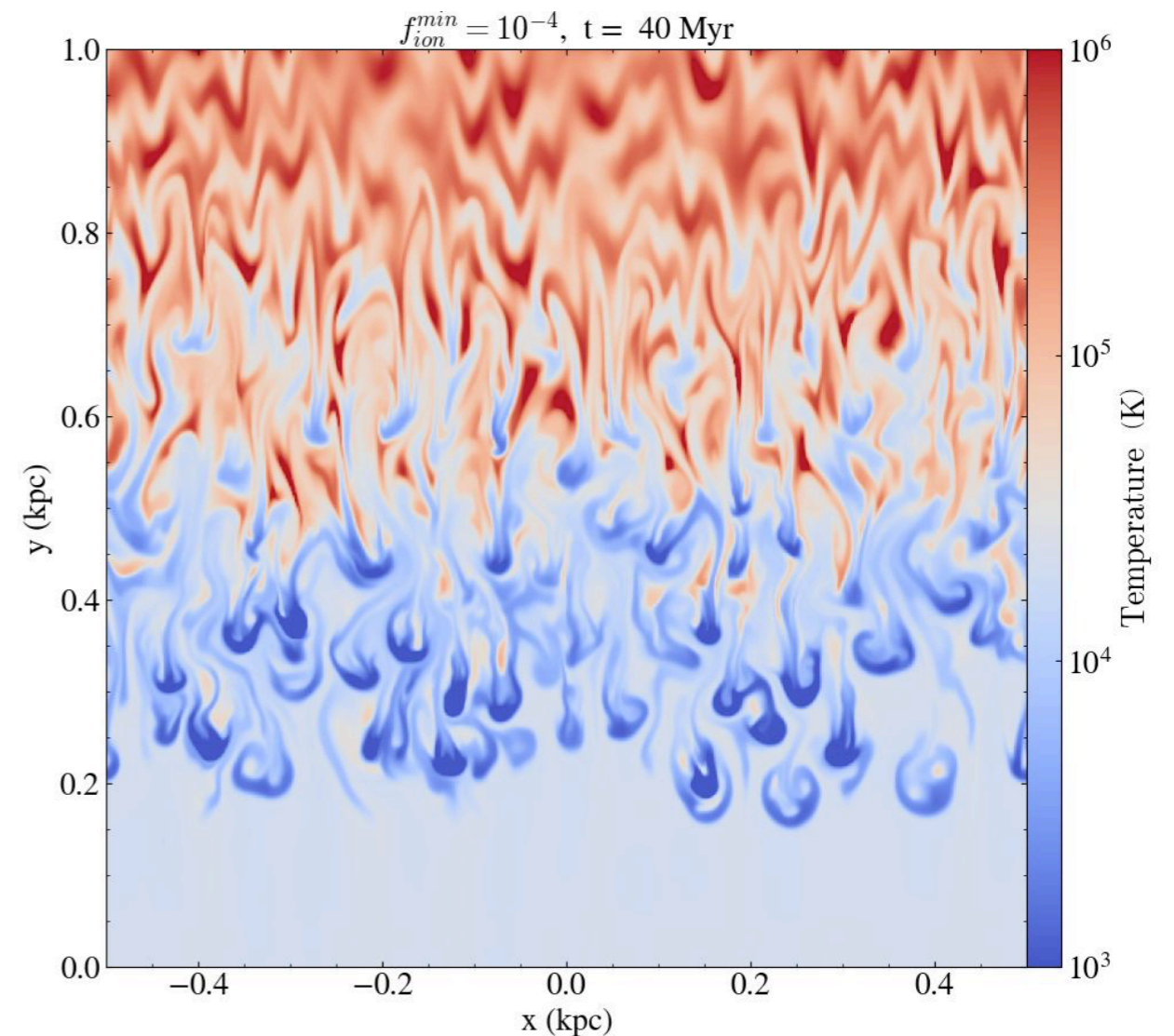
Different  
clump  
distributions



# Sensitivity to Magnetic Field Strength



$$\beta \sim 1.6 \quad B = 5 \mu G$$



$$\beta \sim 40 \quad B = 1 \mu G$$

- Perturbations drag magnetic field lines around the clouds, effectively **funneling CRs through under-dense channels of the ISM**, rather than into the clouds themselves
- CRs that “squeak through the cracks” **primarily push out the diffuse ionized gas**, rather than the cold clouds



# Conclusions

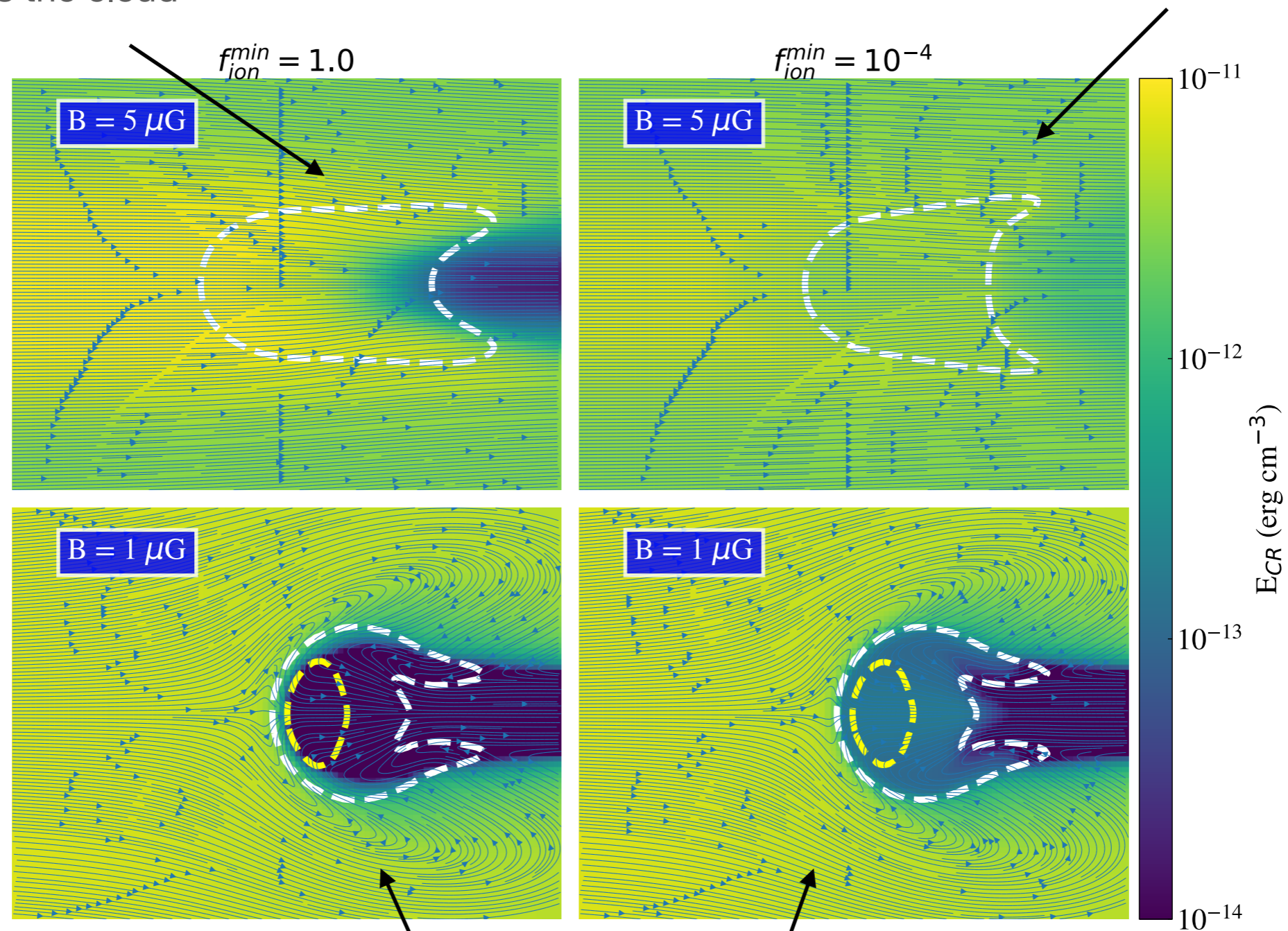
- Density irregularities in the multiphase ISM induce cosmic ray decoupling and collisionless and collisional losses
- When gas ionization is accounted for
  - Cosmic rays sample more of the ISM and lose more energy in cloud interiors
  - Less momentum is imparted to cold clouds, but only by a factor  $<$  a few
  - Cosmic ray influence is concentrated at the cloud interfaces
- Momentum transfer to clouds and spatial footprint of cosmic rays depend most sensitively on magnetic field strength/topology
- What if the clouds move in a turbulent flow? See poster: *Turbulent Reacceleration of Streaming Cosmic Rays: Fluid Simulations*, Chad Bustard and S. Peng Oh

**Additional Slides**

# 2D Simulations of a Single Cloud

Cosmic ray pressure gradient stretches the cloud

Cosmic rays uniformly pressurize the cloud



Magnetic field warping pushes cosmic rays around the cloud

# Fast Transport in Partially Neutral Gas

Ion-neutral collisions decouple ions and neutrals, damp Alfvén waves, and cut off turbulent cascade (e.g. Kulsrud and Cesarsky 1971, Skilling 1971, Farber+ 2018, Xu and Lazarian 2017, Krumholz+ 2020)

Streaming instability growth rate  $\Gamma_{CR}(\gamma) \approx \frac{\pi}{4} \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} \Omega_0 \frac{n_{CR}(> \gamma)}{n_i} \left( \frac{v_D}{v_A} - 1 \right) = \Gamma$  Wave damping rate

$v_{st} > v_A$  needed to balance damping

$\Gamma_{in} \approx 10^{-9} f_{neutral} T_{1000}^{1/2} \rho^{-24} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Plasma Alfvén speed  $\gg$  gas Alfvén speed in partially neutral gas

$$v_A^{ion} = \frac{v_A}{\sqrt{f_{ion}}}$$