

Magnetospheric GeV-TeV emission from Galactic isolated stellar-mass black holes

(KK et al. 2024 ApJ; KK et al. 2025 accepted, arXiv 2502.09181)

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2025.4.8 @Ecole de physique des Houches



@ St.Louis in June last year

Detection of Galactic stellar-mass BHs

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$\sim 10^8 - 10^9$ expected from star-formation history
(cf. e.g., Timmes et al. 96; Caputo et al. 17; Olejak et al. 20)

◎ as X-ray binaries ... ~ 70 so far, ~ 20 specified as BHs

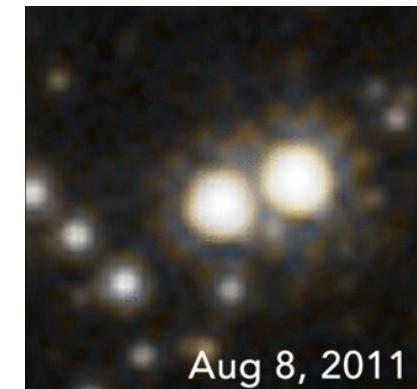
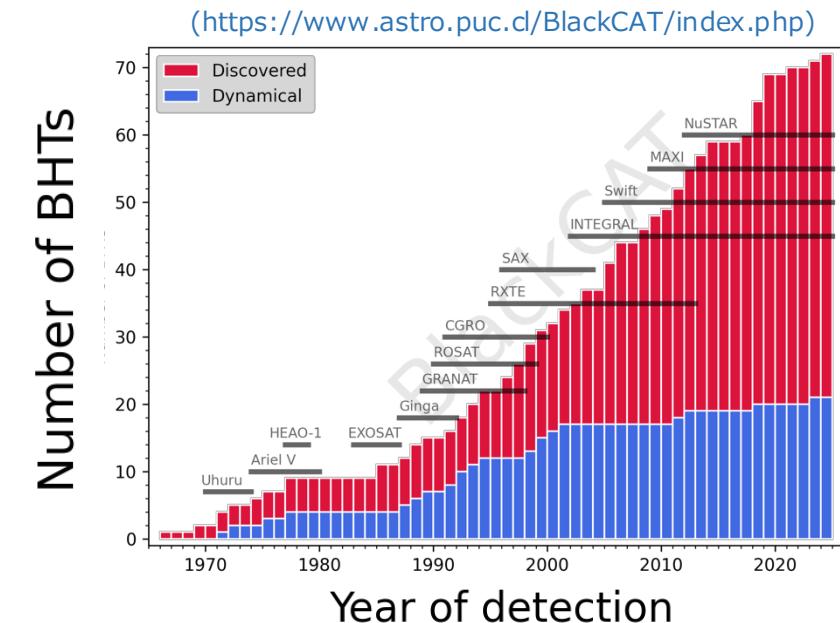
◎ Gaia BH 1, 2, and 3

(El-Badry et al. 23a,b; Tanikawa et al. 23; Balbinot et al. 24)

→ both binaries

◎ isolated BHs ... only 1 microlensing event

(MOA-2011-BLG-191/OGLE-2011-BLG-0462 ; Sahu et al. 22)



Detectability: EM radiation during ISM accretion

- accretion disk/out flow (Fujita et al. 1998; Tsuna et al. 18; Tsuna & Kawanaka 19; Kimura et al. 21)
- relativistic jets (Fender et al. 2013; Ioka et al. 17)
- PeV CRs production, inelastic collision in ambient gas (Kimura, incl. KK et al. 25)

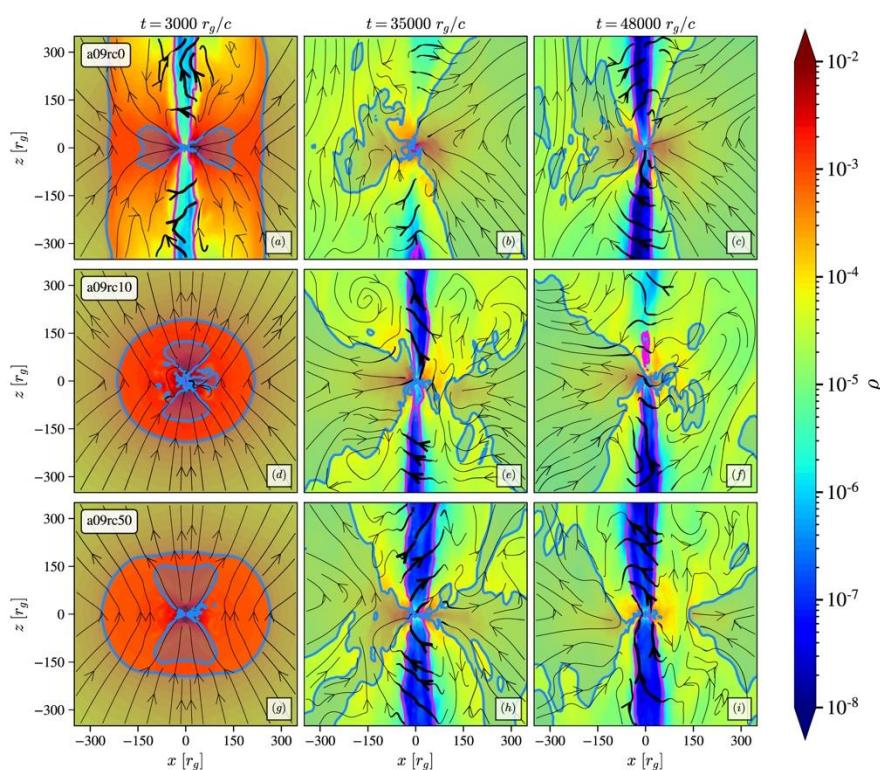
IBH-MADs/magnetosphere formation?

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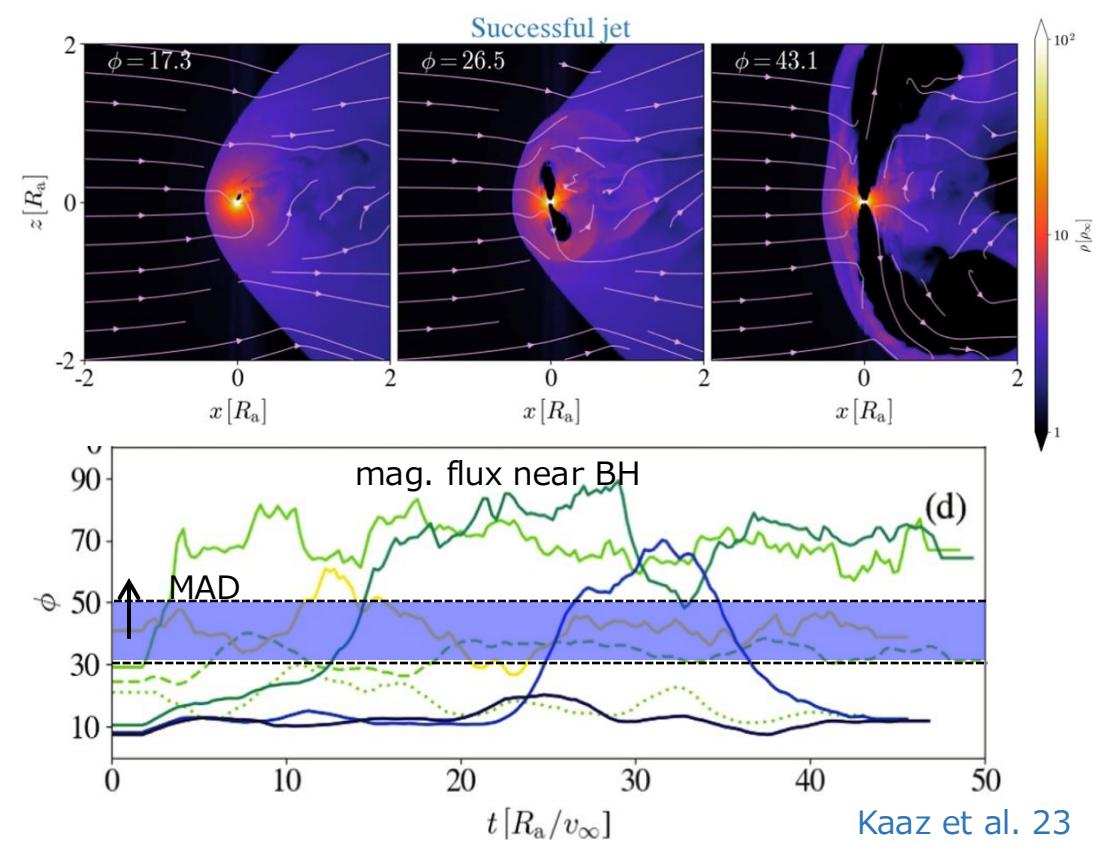
$$r_{BHL} = \frac{GM}{c_{s,ISM}^2 + v_{BH}^2} \sim 0.1 \text{ AU}$$

- ◎ heuristic: $2\pi r_{BHL}^2 B_\infty \sim 2\pi (10r_g)^2 B \therefore B \sim 10^7 (B_\infty / \mu\text{G}) (v_{BH} / 50 \text{ km s}^{-1})^{-4} \text{ G}$, strong enough to be MAD
- ◎ 3D GRMHD: MAD formed nearby of IBH during BHL accretion

→ magnetosphere (& jet) formation?



Kwan et al.23



Kaaz et al. 23

IBH magnetospheric spark gap?

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- ◎ steady plasma injection required to maintain current & screen $E_{||}$

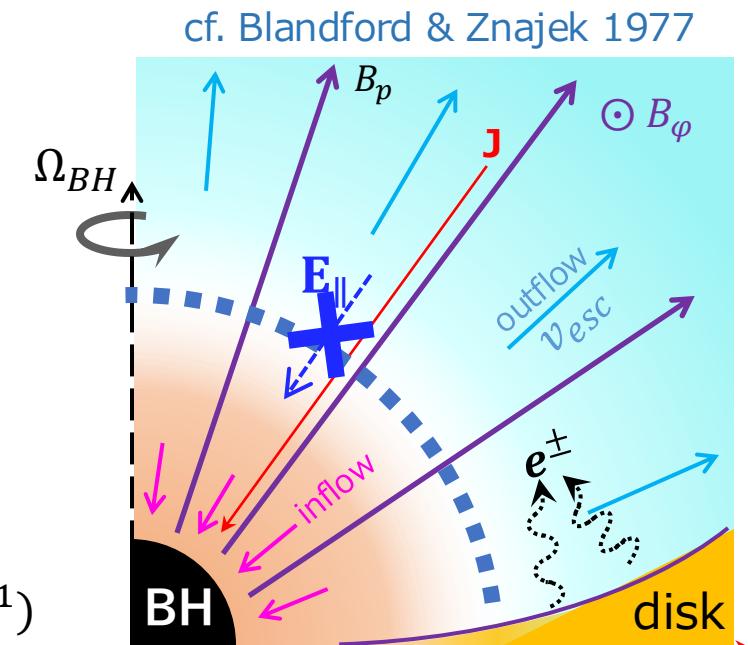


- ◎ main injection channel: disk photon annihilation inside the magnetosphere

→ $n_{\pm}(\dot{M}) \lesssim n_{GJ}$ for sub-Eddington accretion rate

(Levinson & Rieger 11; Levinson & Segev 17; Hirotani & Pu 16, but see also Wong et al. 21)

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{M} &= \lambda_w 4\pi (GM)^2 m_p n_{ISM} / (c_s^2 + v_{BH})^{3/2} \text{ (Bondi-Hoyle-Littleton rate)} \\ &\simeq 10^{14} \lambda_{w,0} M_{10}^2 M_{\odot} n_{ISM,10} \text{ cm}^{-3} v_{BH,10 \text{ km s}^{-1}}^{-3} \text{ g s}^{-1} \ll \dot{M}_{Edd} (\simeq 10^{18} M_1 \text{ g s}^{-1})\end{aligned}$$



spark gap formation expected during ISM accretion onto IBHs

→ **efficient acceleration, gamma-ray emitted?**

IBH magnetospheric spark gap?

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- ◎ steady plasma injection required to maintain current & screen $E_{||}$

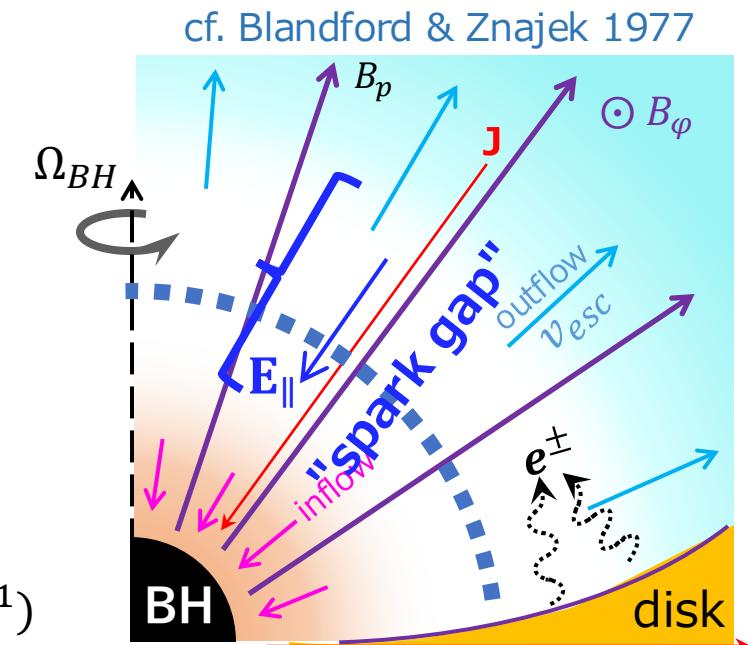


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1DGRPIC: stellar-mass BH model

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(see KK et al. 24 ApJ; KK et al. 25 accepted for details)

◎ 1D GRPIC code ([grzeltron](#); Levinson & Cerutti18)

parameters: $M = 10M_{\odot}$, $B_0 = 2\pi \times 10^7 \text{ G}$,
 $\theta = 30^\circ$, $\epsilon_{s,min} = 10^{-6}m_e c^2$, $a = \{0.1, 0.5, 0.9\}$

solve IC, pair production

$$\tau_0 = n_{\gamma,MAD} \sigma_T r_g = \{30, 55, 100, 175, 300\}$$

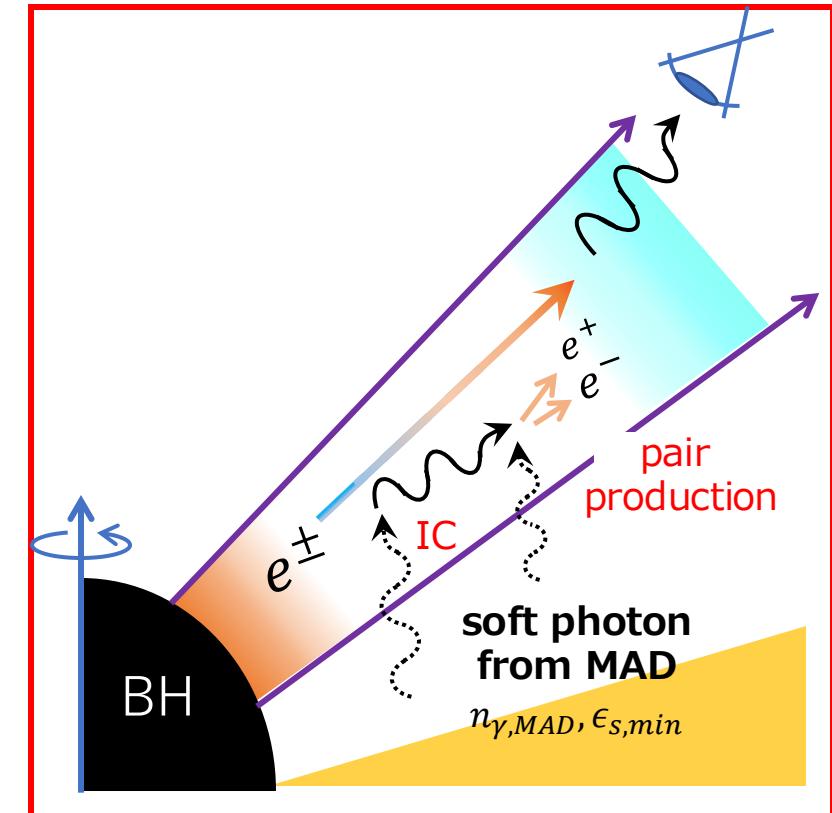
Basic eqs.:

$$\frac{du_{\pm}}{dt} = -\sqrt{g^{rr}}\gamma_{\pm}\partial_r(\alpha) + \alpha\left(\frac{q_{\pm}}{m_e}E_r - \frac{P}{m_e v_{\pm}}\right) : e^{\pm} \text{ EoM along B-field}$$

$$\frac{dp^r}{dt} = -\sqrt{g^{rr}}p^t\partial_r(\alpha) : \text{high-energy photon propagation}$$

$$\partial_t(\sqrt{A}E_r) = -4\pi(\Sigma j^r - J_0) : \text{Ampere's law}$$

$$\partial_r(\sqrt{A}E_r) = 4\pi\Sigma(j^t - \rho_{GJ}) : \text{Gauss' law}$$



1DGRPIC: stellar-mass BH model

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 solve IC, pair production
 $\tau_0 = n_{\gamma,MAD} \sigma_T r_g = \{30, 55, 100, 175, 300\}$

results:

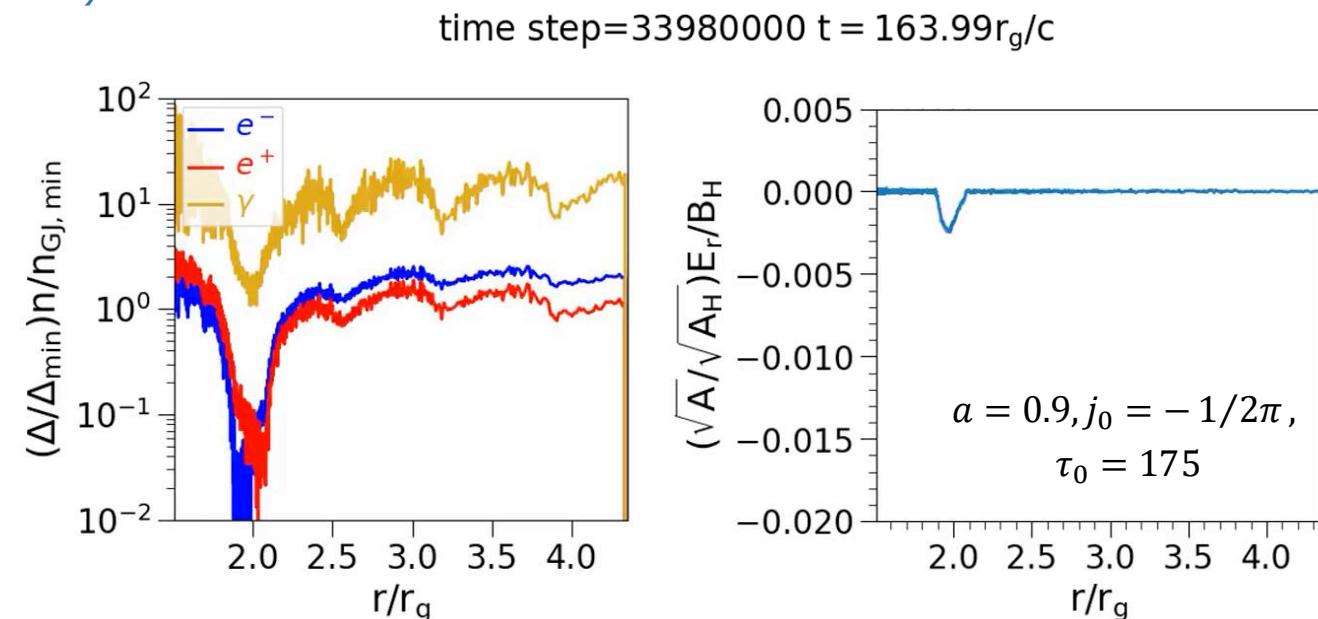
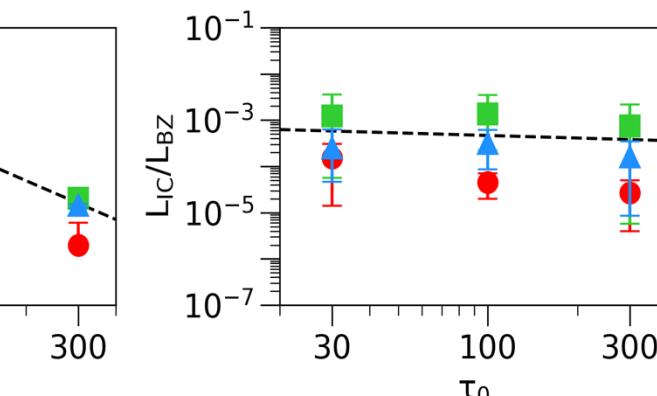
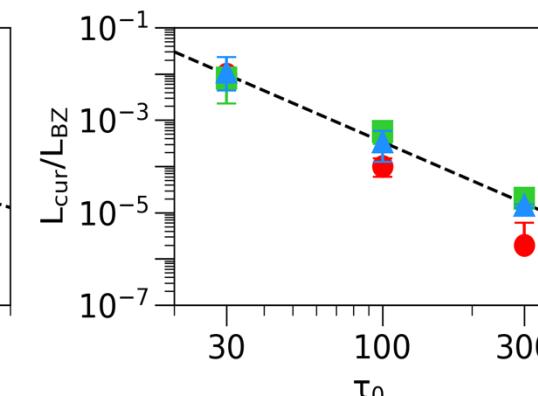
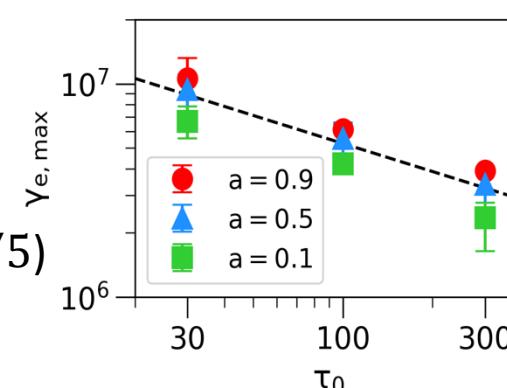
- oscillating gap around $\sim 2r_g$ (\sim null surface) for $\tau_0 \gtrsim 30$
- gamma-ray luminosity

depends on τ_0

$$\gamma_{e,max} \sim 10^7 (\tau_0/30)^{-\alpha} (\alpha \sim 6/5)$$

$$L_{cur,pk}/L_{BZ} \sim 10^{-2} (\tau_0/30)^{-\beta} (\beta \sim 14/5)$$

$$L_{IC,pk}/L_{BZ} \sim 10^{-4} (\tau_0/30)^{-\gamma} (\gamma \sim 1/5)$$



IBH-MAD/spark gap multi-wavelength radiation model

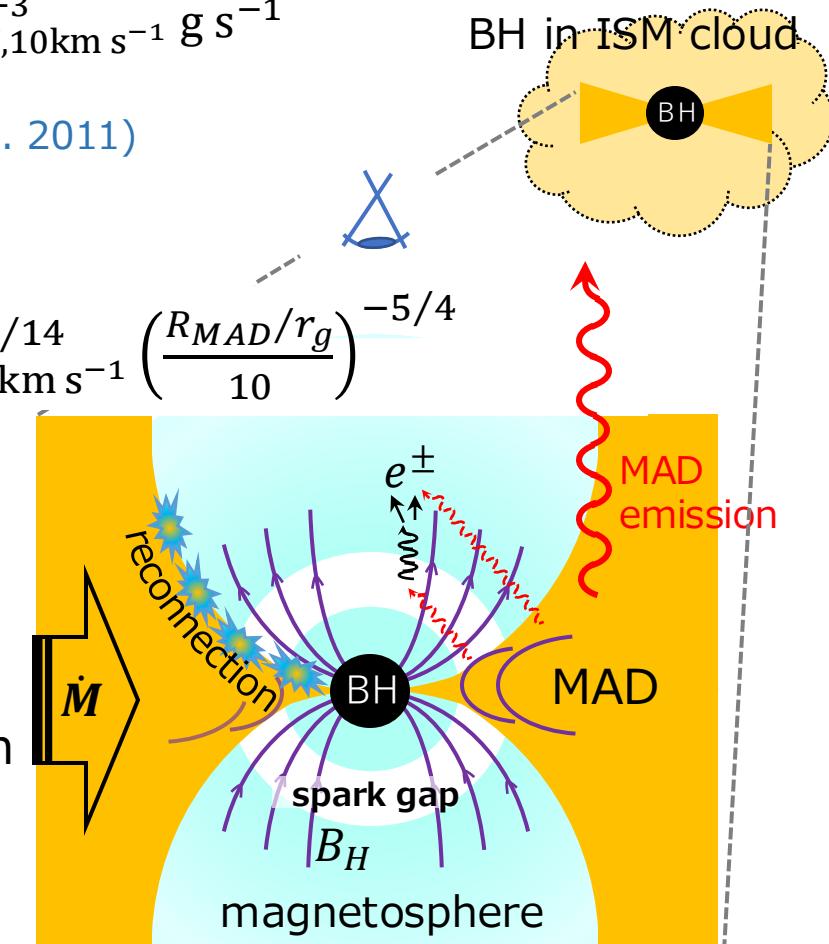
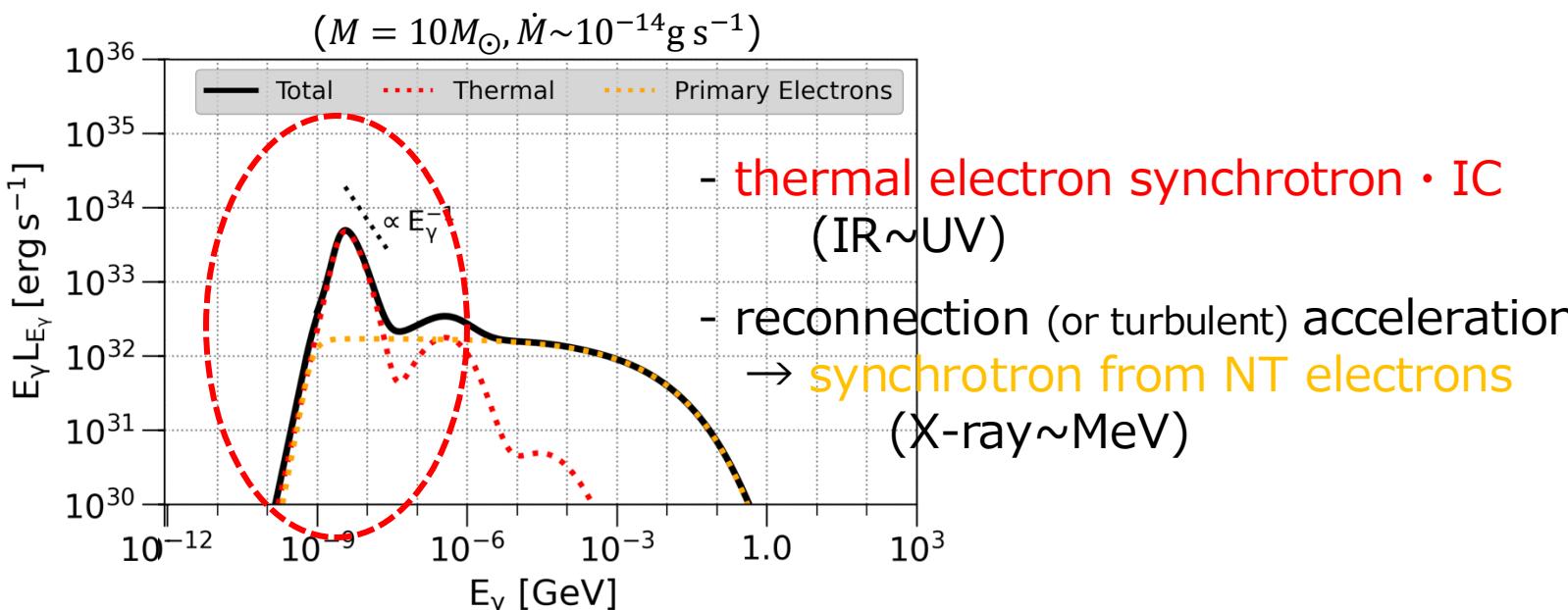
(KK et al. 2025, accepted)

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \dot{M} = \lambda_w 4\pi (GM)^2 m_p n_{ISM} / (c_s^2 + v_{BH})^{3/2} \simeq 10^{14} \lambda_{w,0} M_{10M_\odot}^2 n_{ISM,10 \text{ cm}^{-3}} v_{BH,10 \text{ km s}^{-1}}^{-3} \text{ g s}^{-1}$$

$$B_H = \phi \sqrt{\dot{M} c} / 2\pi r_g^2 \simeq 10^7 \phi_{50} M_{10M_\odot}^{-1} n_{ISM,10 \text{ cm}^{-3}}^{1/2} \text{ G} \quad (\text{cf. e.g., Tchekhovskoy et al. 2011})$$

$\textcircled{2}$ MAD radiation: one-zone model (Kimura et al. 21)

$$\rightarrow \tau_0 \sim L_{syn,pk} / \pi R_{MAD}^2 E_{\gamma,syn,pk} c \sigma_T r_g \simeq 50 M_{10M_\odot} n_{ISM,10 \text{ cm}^{-3}}^{9/14} v_{BH,10 \text{ km s}^{-1}}^{-27/14} \left(\frac{R_{MAD}/r_g}{10} \right)^{-5/4}$$



IBH-MAD/spark gap multi-wavelength radiation model

(KK et al. 2025, accepted)

- ◎ $\dot{M} = \lambda_w 4\pi (GM)^2 m_p n_{ISM} / (c_s^2 + v_{BH})^{3/2} \simeq 10^{14} \lambda_{w,0} M_{10M_\odot}^2 n_{ISM,10 \text{ cm}^{-3}} v_{BH,10 \text{ km s}^{-1}}^{-3} \text{ g s}^{-1}$

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- ◎ MAD radiation: one-zone model (Kimura et al. 21)

$$\tau_0, E_{\gamma,syn}, L_{syn}$$

- ◎ **spark gap gamma-rays:**

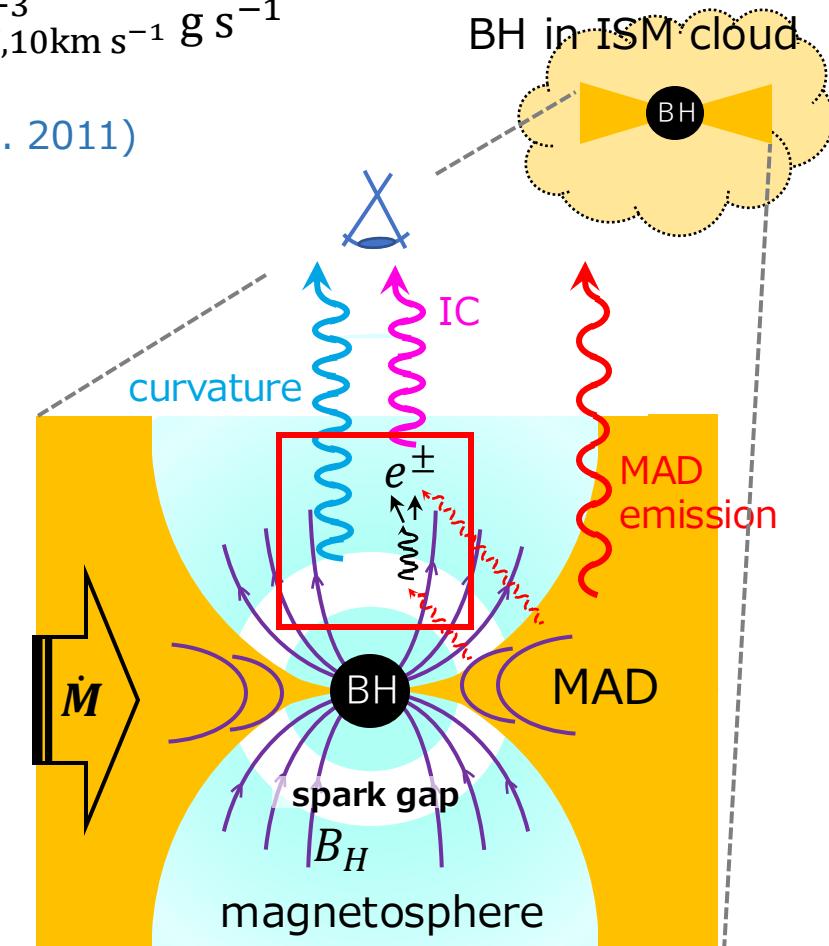
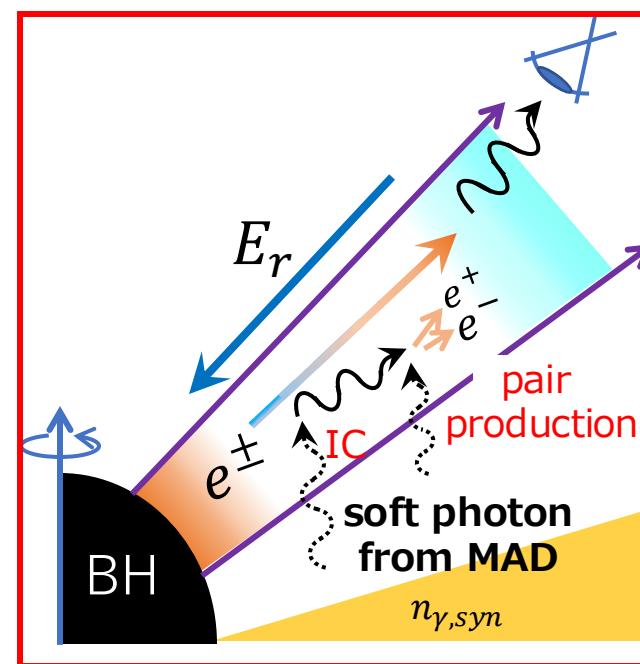
- Curvature emission from gap-accelerated particles
- IC from secondary-pairs

empirical relation from simu.:

$$\gamma_e \sim 10^7 (\tau_0/30)^{-\alpha} \quad (\alpha \sim 6/5)$$

$$L_{cur,pk}/L_{BZ} \sim 10^{-2} (\tau_0/30)^{-\beta} \quad (\beta \sim 14/5)$$

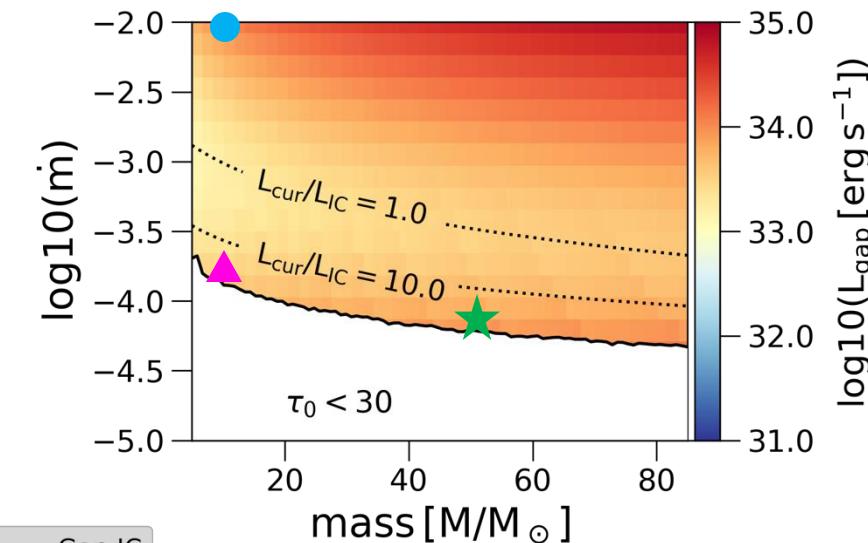
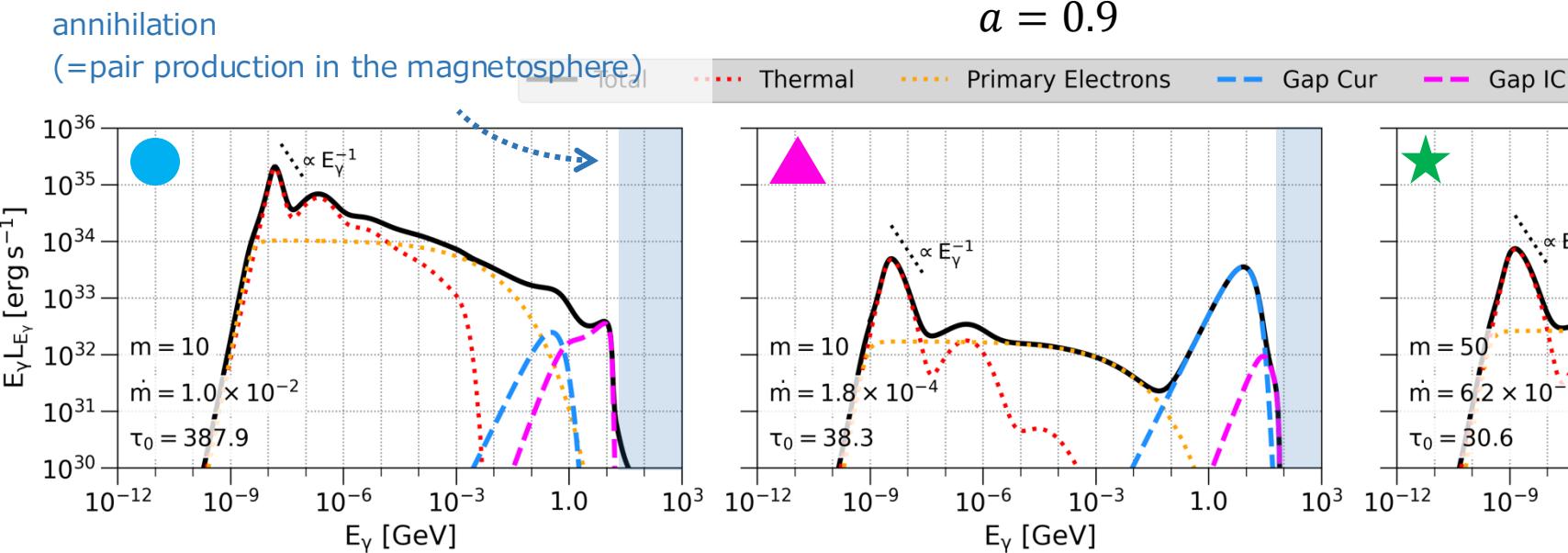
$$L_{IC,pk}/L_{BZ} \sim 10^{-4} (\tau_0/30)^{-\gamma} \quad (\gamma \sim 1/5)$$



IBH-MAD/spark gap multi-wavelength radiation model

(KK et al. 2025, accepted)

- ◎ bright in optical-X-(MeV)-100GeV
- ◎ spark gap active for $10^{-5} \lesssim \dot{m} = \dot{M}/\dot{M}_{Edd}$ ($\lesssim 10^{-2}$)
- ◎ $L_{gap} = L_{cur} + L_{IC} \sim 10^{-2} - 10^{-4} L_{BZ}$ ($\sim \dot{M}c^2$)
 $\rightarrow F_{gap} \sim 10^{-10} M_{10M_\odot}^2 n_{ISM,10} \text{cm}^{-3} v_{BH,10 \text{km s}^{-1}}^{-3} d_{1 \text{kpc}}^2 \text{erg s}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-2}$



Detection number calculation

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(KK et al. 2025, accepted)

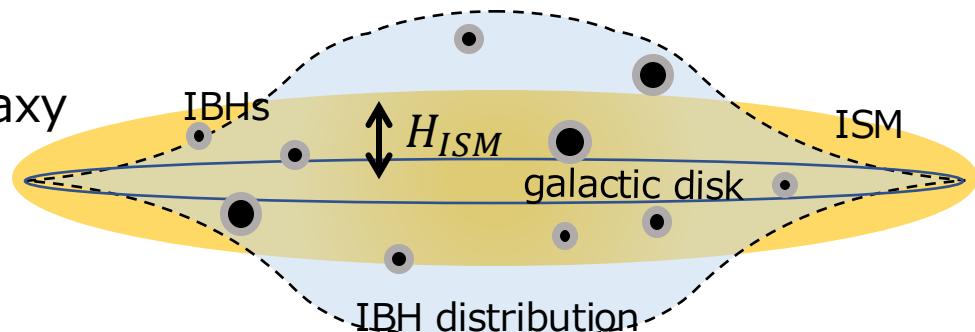
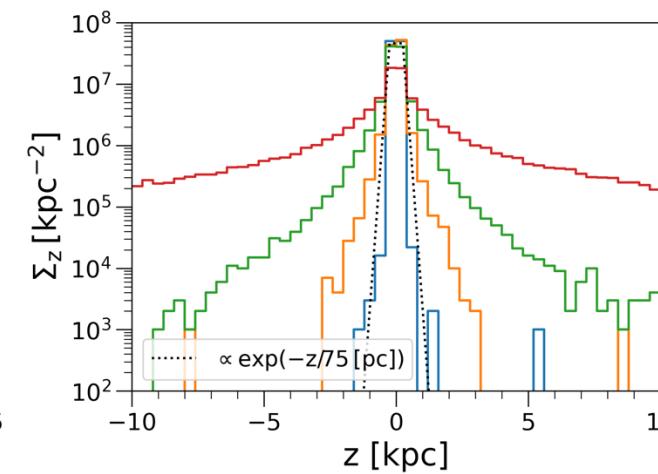
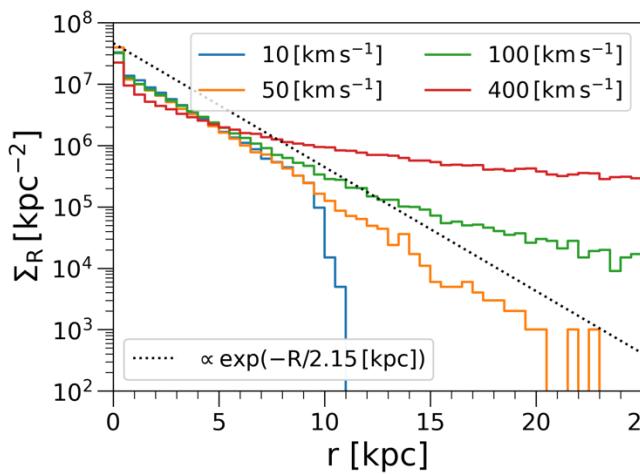
1. dynamical calculation to obtain IBH positions/ v_{BH} in Galaxy

(cf. Tsuna et al. 18)

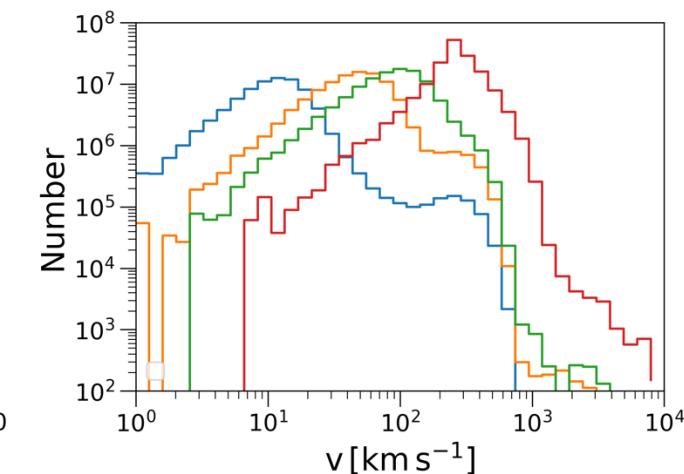
- initial kick: 3D MB dist. , $v_{avg} = \{10, 50, 100, 400\} \text{ km s}^{-1}$

→ How many IBHs are in specific phase of ISM?

$$\dot{M}(M, n_{ISM}, v_{BH})$$



ISM Phase	$H_{ISM} [\text{kpc}]$
Molecular Clouds	0.075
Cold HI	0.15
Warm HI	0.5



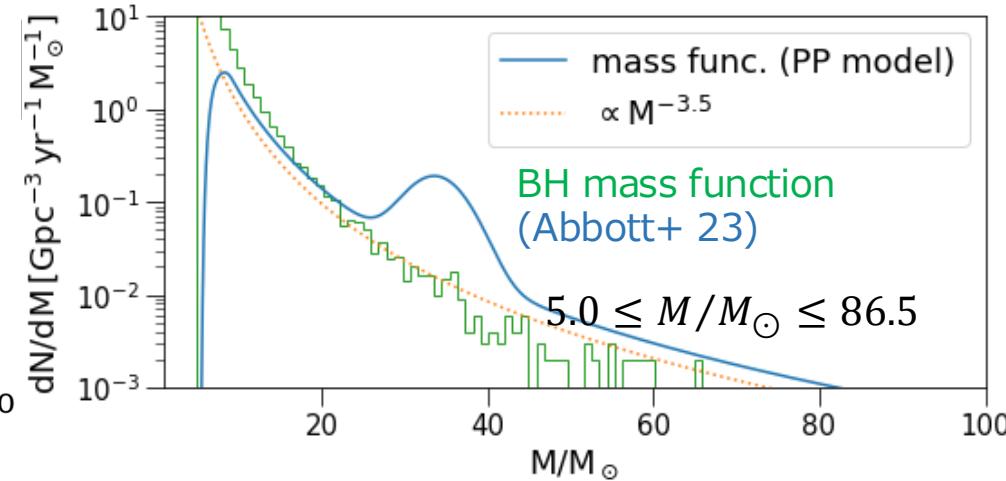
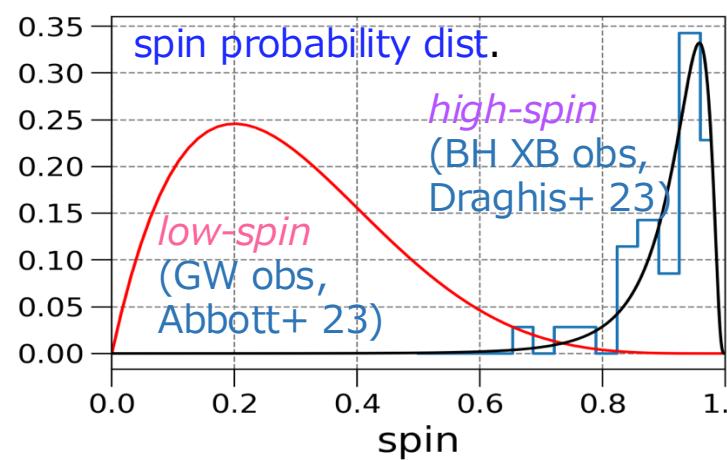
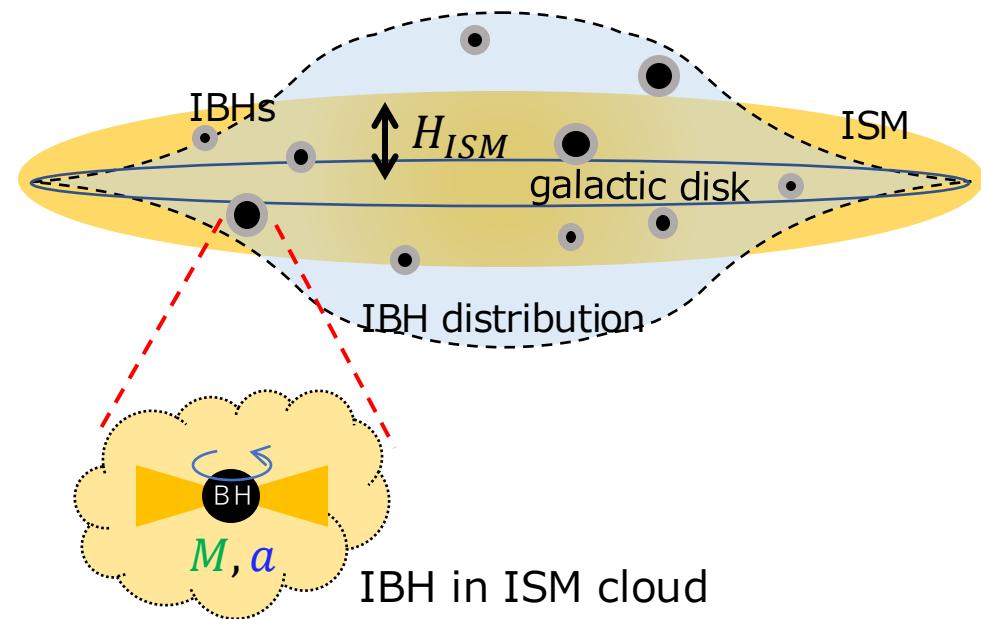
Detection number calculation

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(KK et al. 2025, accepted)

2. give each IBH mass and spin, derive gamma-ray flux for given n_{ISM} :

$$F_{GeV-TeV} = L_{GeV-TeV} \left[\tau_0 \left(\dot{M}(M, n_{ISM}, v_{BH}) \right), L_{BZ}(a) \right] / 4\pi d_{BH}^2$$



ISM Phase	$n_{ISM} [\text{cm}^{-3}]$
Molecular Clouds	$10^2, 10^3$
Cold HI	10
Warm HI	0.3

Detection number calculation

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(KK et al. 2025, accepted)

◎ result :

- maximum number achieved for $v_{avg} < 10^2 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ & *high-spin*

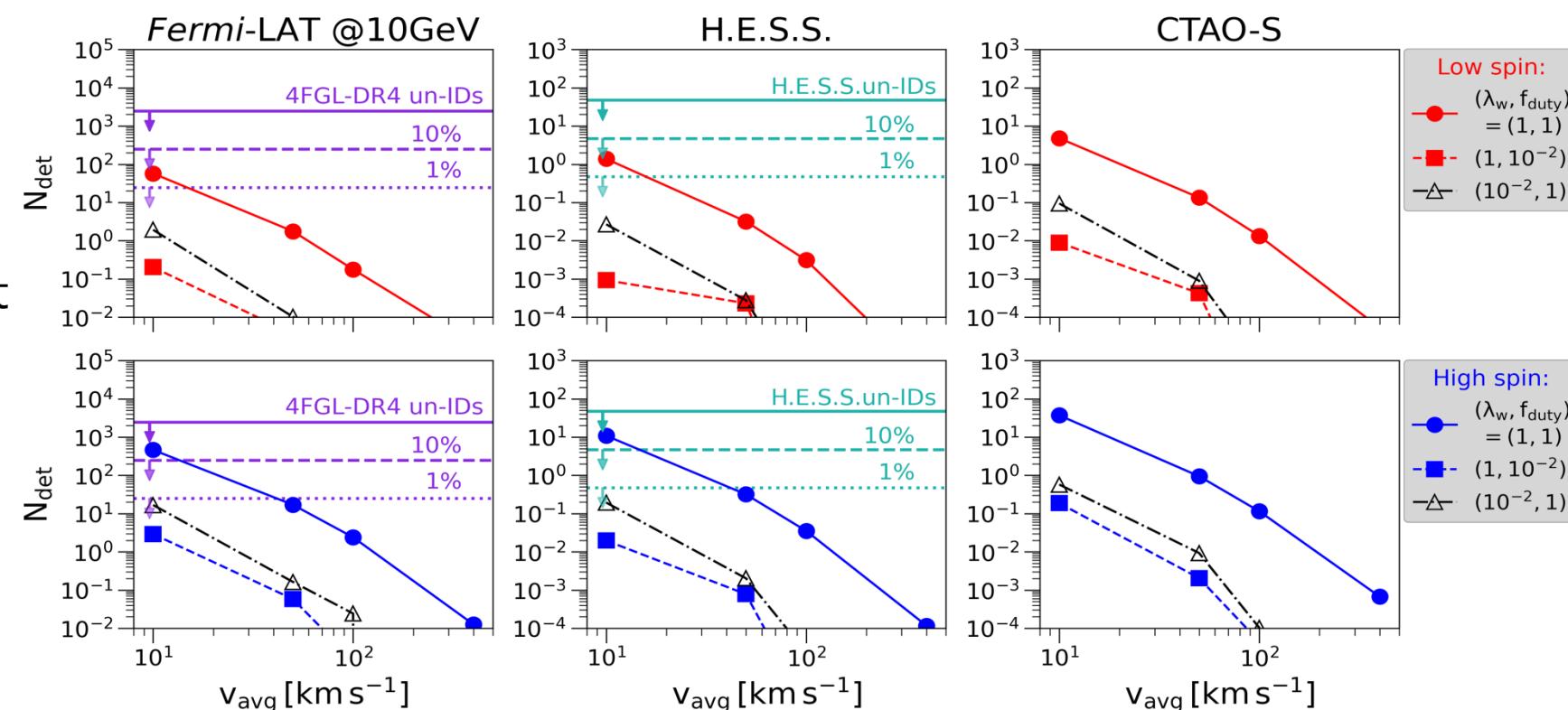
Fermi-LAT @ $\sim 10\text{GeV}$: ~ 500 ($\lesssim 10\%$ of current un-IDs) , H.E.S.S. @ $\sim 100\text{GeV}$: ~ 10 (") ,

CTA @ $\sim 100\text{GeV}$: ~ 50

- sensitive dependence
on v_{avg} , spin dist.

$\rightarrow N_{det}$ may put a constraint
both on v_{avg} & spin

- considerable contribution
to GeV diffuse emission



Summary

- © Motivation: **IBHs can possess MADs/magnetospheres during ISM accretion**
- © **1D GRPIC stellar-mass model** (KK et al. 24; see also Levinson & Crutti 18; Kisaka et al. 20;22)
 - spark gap formation (consistent w/ previous works; cf. e.g., Chen et al. 20)
 - efficient GeV-TeV emission ($L_{GeV-TeV} \sim 10^{-2} L_{BZ}$ at maximum)
- © IBH-MAD/spark gap radiation analytic model • detection number estimate (KK et al. 25 accepted, [arXiv 2502.09181](#))
 - at maximum **$\sim a \text{ few } 10^2$ as 10-100GeV un-IDs ($\sim 10\%$)**
 - can be third-party of GeV diffuse emission, may put constraint on kick velo. BH spin dist.

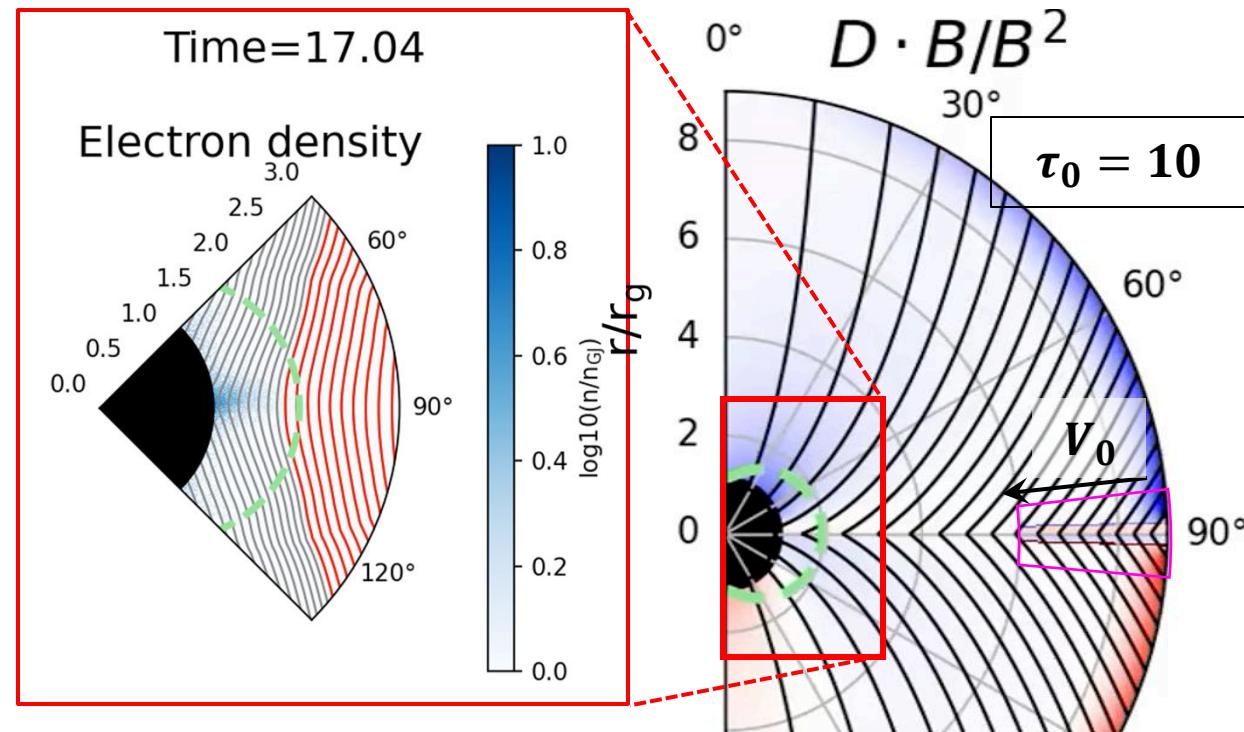
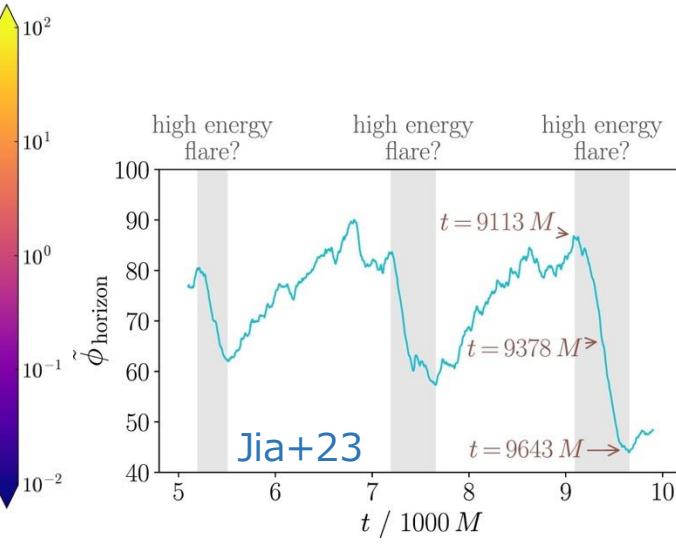
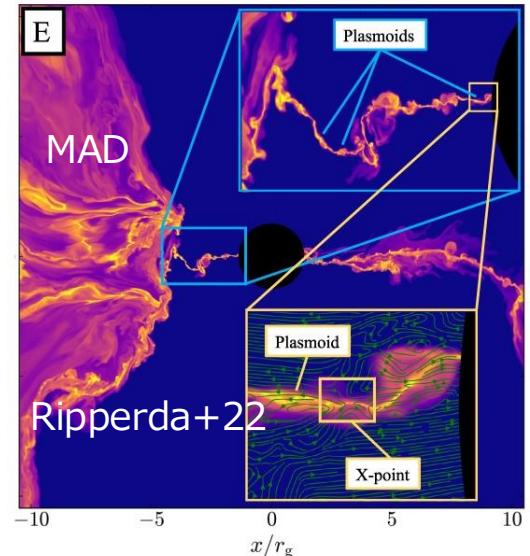
(related topic: IBHs as PeVatrons, LHAASO "dark" sources? (Kimura, incl. KK et al. 2025, ApJL))
- © future work:
 - time-dependency, co-evolution analysis using 2D GRPIC code (in progress)

On-going : investigating gap time dependency & co-evolution

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- ◎ reconnection @ equatorial plane w/ $\sim 10^3 r_g/c$ duty cycle (e.g. Ripperda et al. 2022)
spark gap can be affected? :
 - change electric current, cyclic particle acceleration b/w gap & current sheet ? (Vos et al. 2025)

→ analysis focussing on gap & reconnection co-evolution required to discuss
spark gap gamma-ray feature

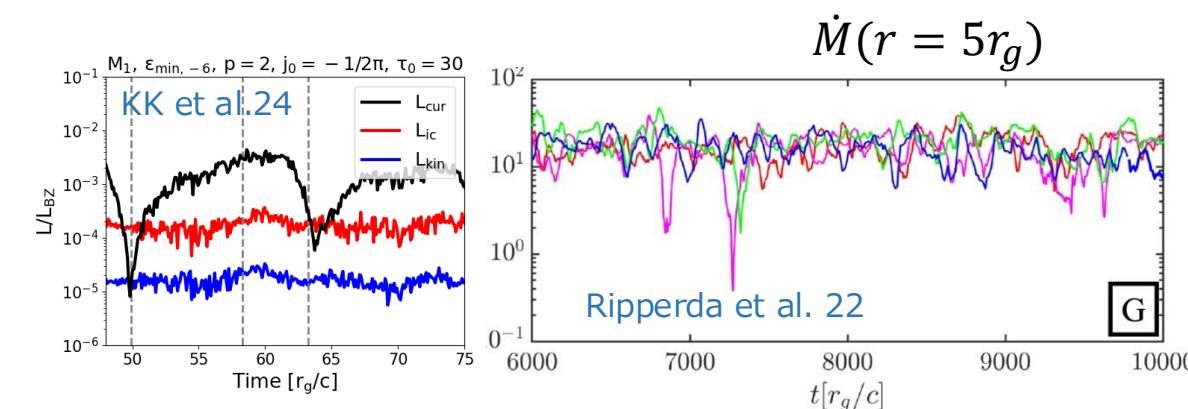
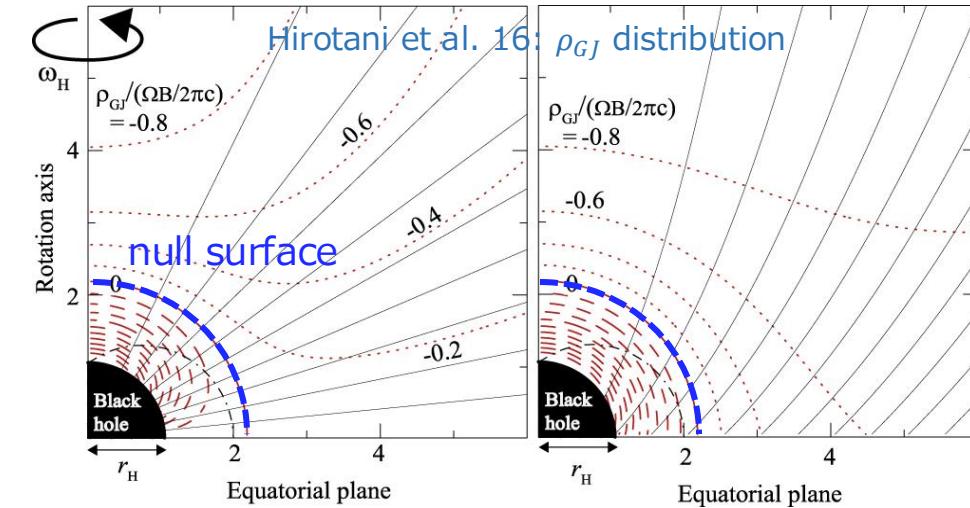


Back up

IBH-MAD/spark gap multi-wavelength radiation model

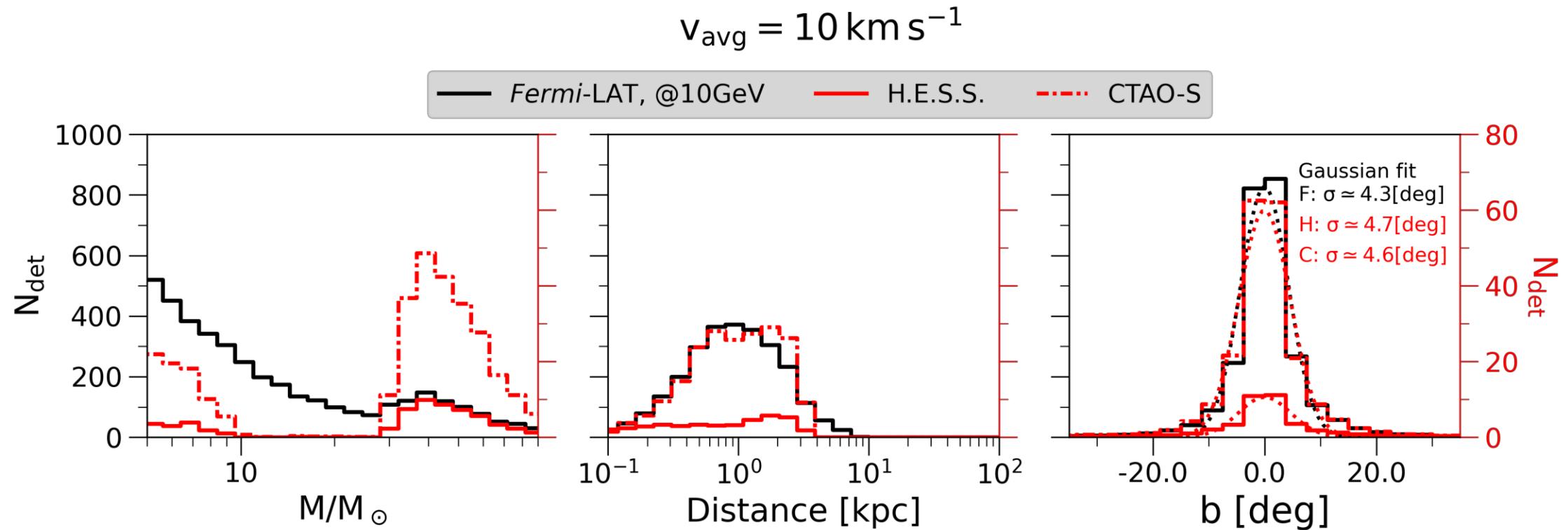
◎ few notes:

- assuming isotropy for both MAD & gap emission
 - spherical null surface (at least for monopole-like B-field)
 - very weak scattering/absorption via MAD plasma, ambient cloud
 - indecomposable spark gap fluctuation
 - $t_{gap} \sim \tau_{\gamma\gamma}^{-1} r_g/c \sim 1 - 10 r_g/c \sim 1 - 10 M_1 \text{ ms}$
 - $t_{disk} \sim t_{vis} \sim \frac{2\pi}{\alpha\Omega_K} \left(\frac{R}{H}\right) \sim 0.1 - 1 \alpha_{-0.5}^{-1} \mathcal{R}_1^{7/2} \left(\frac{H}{0.5R}\right)^{-2} M_1 \text{ s}$
 - active↔inactive duty cycle will be smeared out by time integration:
- $$L_{obs} = f_{duty} L_{int} \quad (f_{duty} \sim 1 - 10^{-2})$$



Mass, position of detectable IBHs

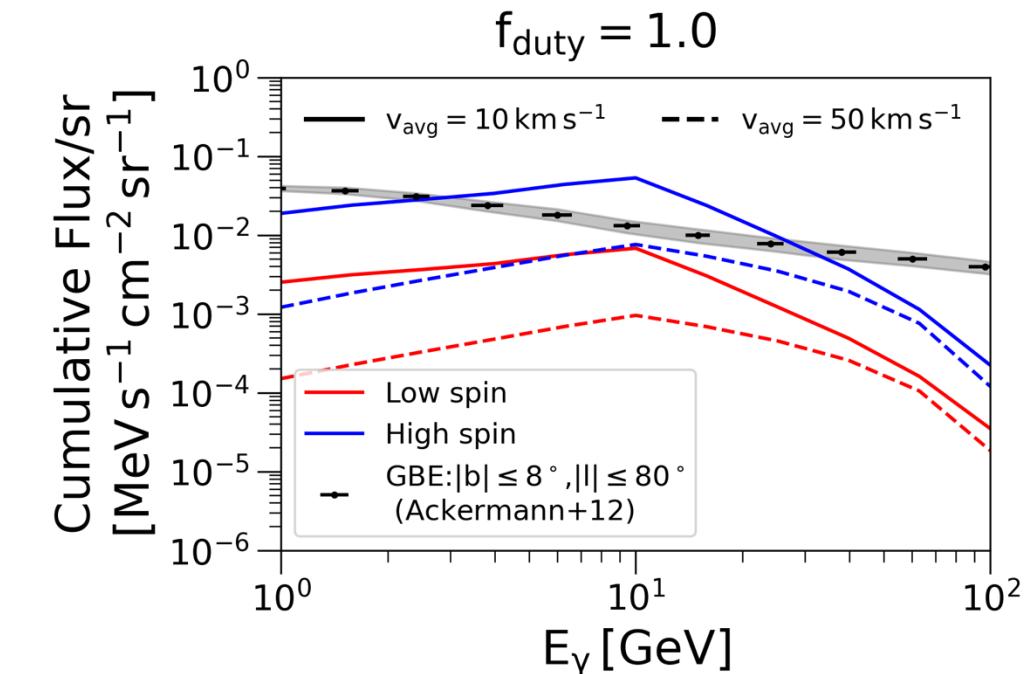
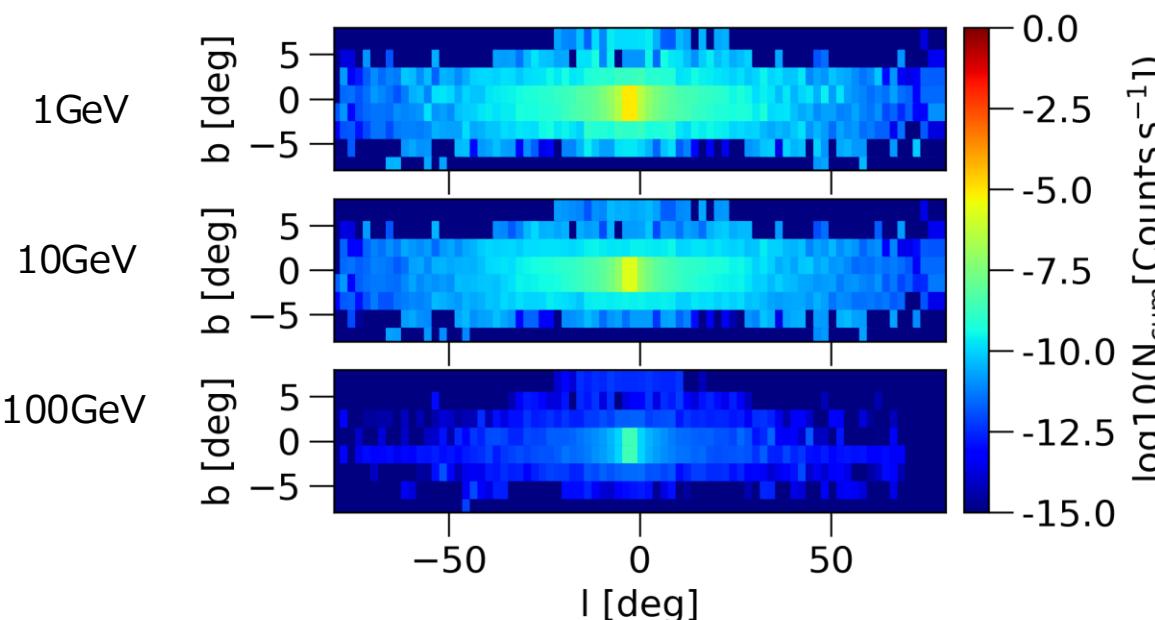
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Contribution to Galactic GeV diffuse flux

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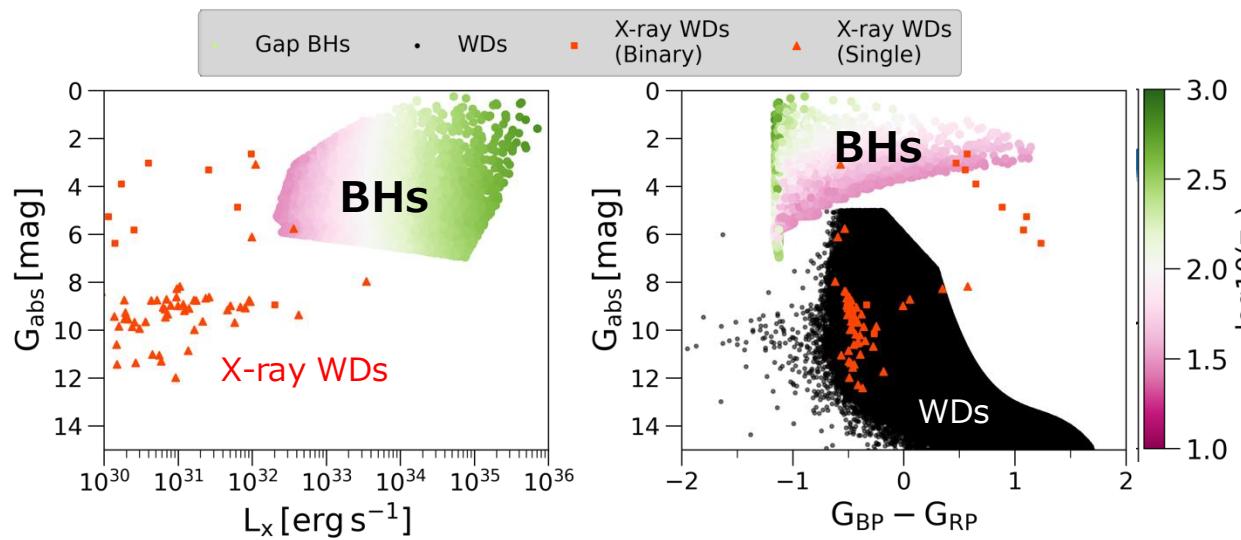
- © significant contribution, even overshoot observation for $v_{avg} \sim 10 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, *high-spin*
 $\rightarrow v_{avg} \sim \text{a few km s}^{-1}$ and *low-spin* preferred
(cf. $v_{avg} \sim 51 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ based on microlensing event; Sahu et al.25)



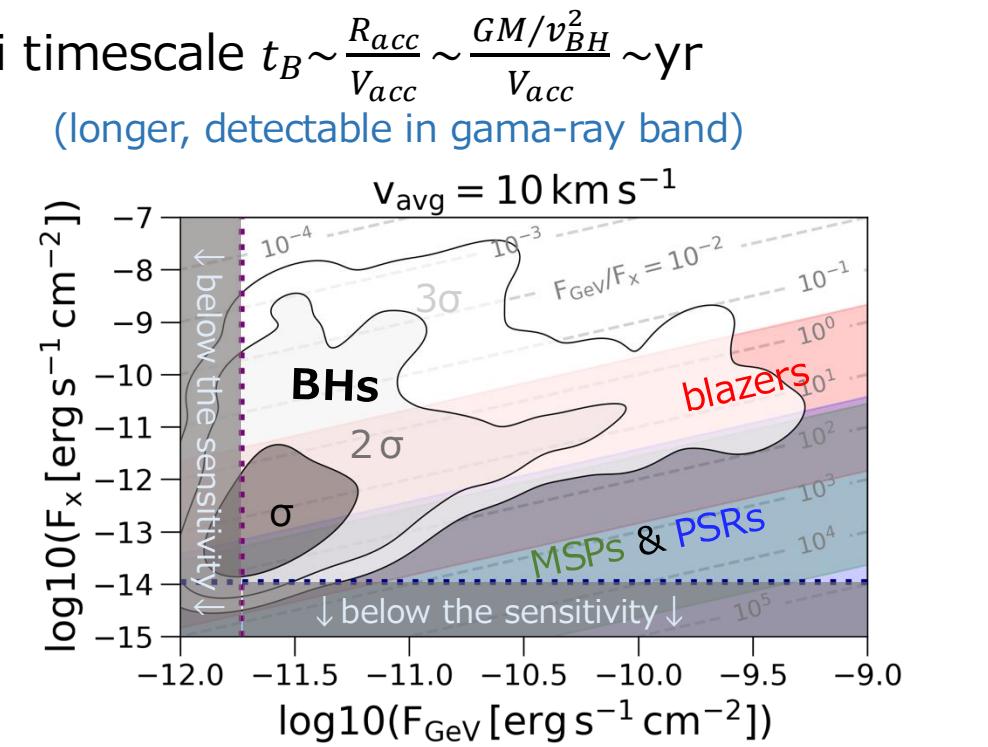
Detection/classification strategy

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- Catalog matching in multi-band :
 Optical (Gaia) -X (eROSITA, Chandra) -10-100 GeV (Fermi-LAT) + \sim 10-100TeV?
 detailed spectral analysis will be the key to distinguish IBH candidates
- luminosity variation $\cdots t_{vis}$ in MAD $\sim \frac{R}{\alpha c} \sim$ sub sec , Bondi timescale $t_B \sim \frac{R_{acc}}{V_{acc}} \sim \frac{GM/v_{BH}^2}{V_{acc}} \sim$ yr
 (detectable mainly in X)
 (longer, detectable in gama-ray band)



Opt-X flux ratio/HR diagram comparisons to WDs



GeV-X flux ratio comparison to PSRs, Blazars

Related: IBHs as Pevatrons & LHAASO "dark" sources

(Kimura, incl. KK et al. 2025)

Isolated Black Holes as Potential PeVatrons and Ultrahigh-energy Gamma-ray Sources

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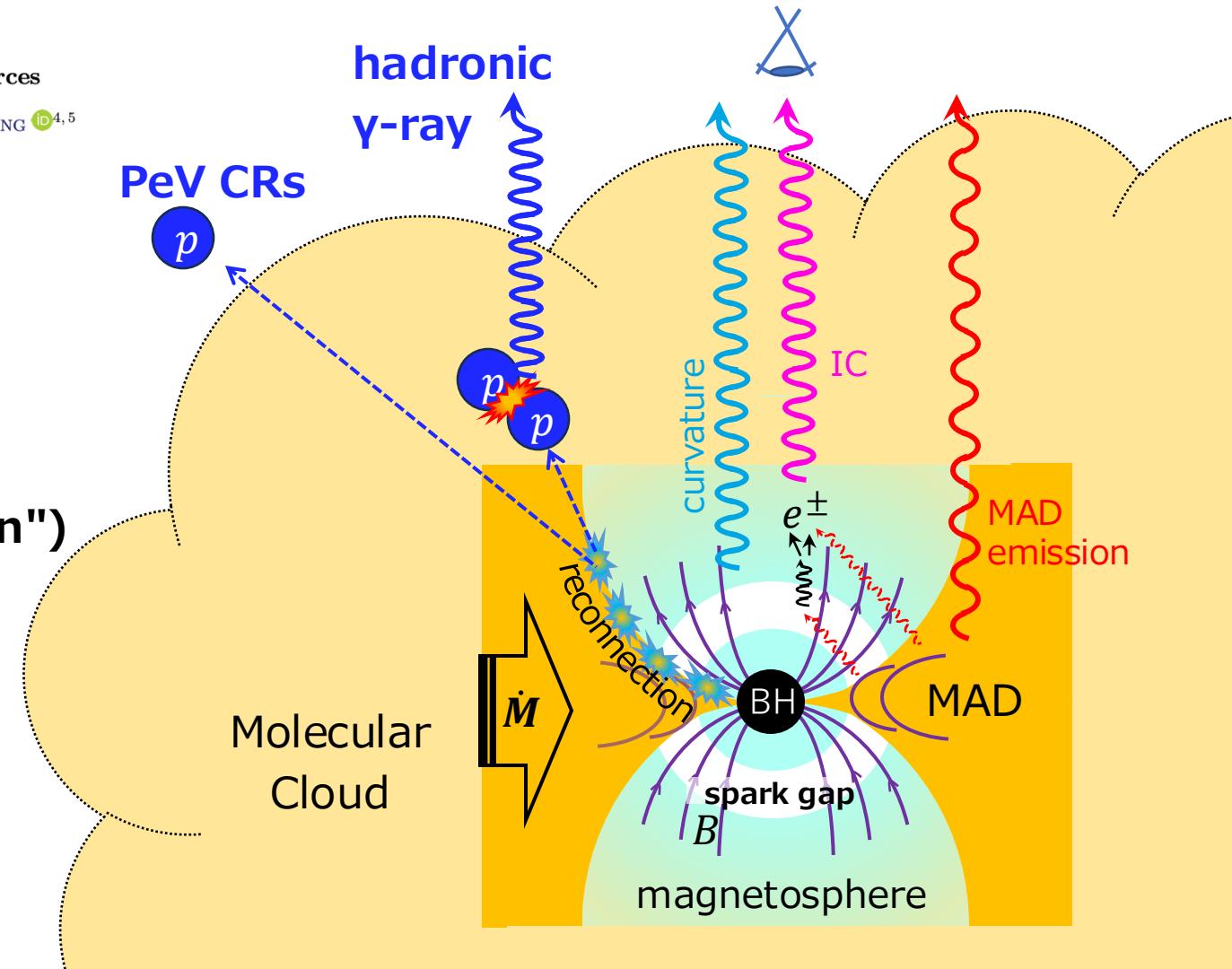
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- ◎ IBH-MADs in dense ($n > 10^3 \text{ cm}^{-3}$) MC:
reconnection accelerate proton up to $\sim \text{PeV}$
 \rightarrow fraction escape from MC (**IBH-"PeVatron"**)
rest interact w/ ambient gas to produce
 $\sim 10\text{-}100\text{TeV}$ gamma-rays



Related: IBHs as Pevatrons & LHAASO "dark" sources

(Kimura, incl. KK et al. 2025)

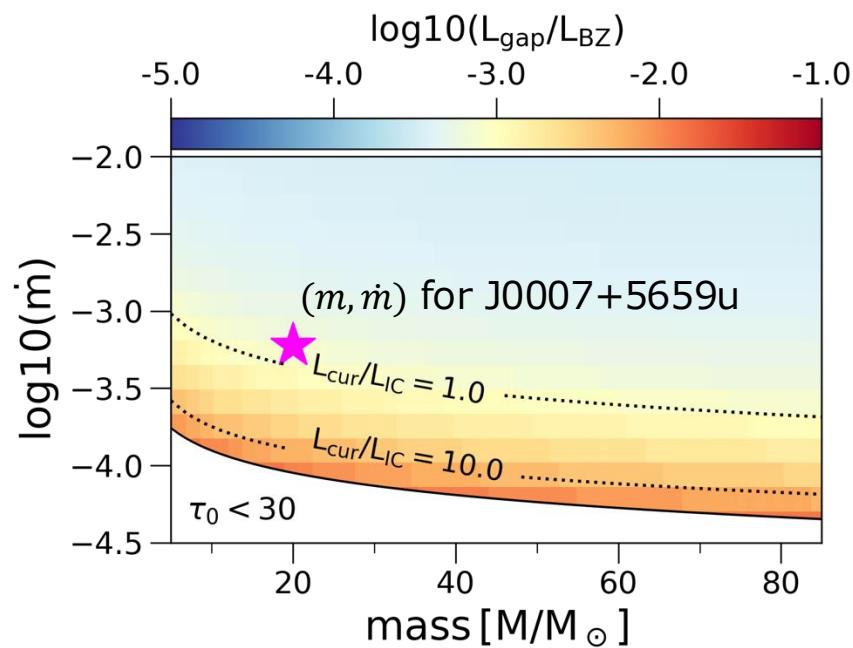
◎ $\dot{m} \gtrsim 5 \times 10^{-4}$ to be efficient PeVatron

$$\rightarrow L_{gap} \lesssim 10^{-4} L_{BZ} (\sim 10^{-4} \dot{M} c^2)$$

GeV-TeV dark, 10-100TeV bright

can explain some of LHAASO "dark" sources

ex) J007+5659u



Shared parameters							
\mathcal{R}	α	β	λ_w	f_{CR}	η_{rec}	η_{diff}	s_{inj}
10	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.035	10	10	2.0
Model parameters							
Model	M_\bullet [M_\odot]	n_{MC} [cm $^{-3}$]	V_k [km s $^{-1}$]	R_{MC} [pc]	B_{MC} [μ G]	d [kpc]	
Typical	10	100	20	20	10	0.50	
J0007	20	1000	20	5.0	30	2.0	

