Sur l'origine des rayons cosmiques

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Journée annuelle de P2I

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Discovery of cosmic rays



Pacini's first mission in 1907







Measurements by Clay et al.



Altitude (km)

- 1785 Coulomb: spontaneous discharge of electroscopes
- Early 20th century: effect is due to ionizing radiation
- 1907 1911 D. Pacini: measurements away from Earth's crust, then underwater => not terrestrial radioactivity
- 1912 V. Hess (Nobel price in 1936): increase in ionization with height => cosmic origin



• **1928 J. Clay**: increase in ionization with latitude => charged particles

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Cosmic ray spectrum



Ultra-high-energy cosmic rays



- Nearly 20 years of data from the Pierre Auger Observatory (3000 km²)
- Confirmation of the extragalactic origin of UHECRs, significant anisotropy at large scale
- Mixed composition, increasingly heavier above 2×10^{18} eV Cen A
- <u>Possible sources</u>: jetted active galactic nuclei, starburst galaxies...





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Galactic cosmic rays & supernovae

- GCRs are thought to be produced in supernova remnants (Baade & Zwicky 1934)
- Consistent with CR power and supernova energetics: $L_{CR} = L_{\gamma} / R_{\gamma} \sim 10^{41} \text{ erg/s}$, where $R_{\gamma} \sim 0.004$ is the γ -ray radiation yield (= efficiency) for $p + p \rightarrow \pi^0 + X$ and L_{γ} from $\pi^0 \text{ decay} \sim 5 \times 10^{38} \text{ erg/s}$ (Strong et al. 2010)



- $\Rightarrow L_{CR} \sim 10\%$ of the kinetic power supplied by supernovae
- **Diffusive shock acceleration in supernova shocks** = First-order Fermi (1949) process (Krymskii 1977; Bell 1978; Axford et al. 1978; Blandford & Ostriker 1978)



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Supernova distribution in the ISM phases



- Massive stars are born in OB association and their wind activities generate superbubbles (SBs) of hot plasma, where most core-collapse SNe explode (~80%; Lingenfelter & Higdon 2007)
- With 25% of Galactic SNe of Type Ia occurring in the warm ISM: 60% of SNe in hot SBs, 40% in warm ISM (28% in WNM, 12% in WIM)



Galactic CR source abundance data



- Overabundance of refractory elements over volatiles in the GCR composition => preferential acceleration of dust grains (in the interstellar medium, refractory elements are mainly found in dust)
- 2. Overabundance of ²²Ne (²²Ne/²⁰Ne is 5 times solar) => contribution of material from massive star winds

See Meyer, Drury & Ellison (1997)





Atomic number

Acceleration of dust grains

- Higher efficiency of acceleration of dust grains in SN shocks, because interstellar grains can have very large $A/Q \sim 10^4 - 10^8$ and particles with a high rigidity ($R \propto A/Q$) feel a larger ΔV of the background plasma (Ellison et al. 1997, 1998)
 - i. Grain acceleration
 - ii. Grain sputtering with ambient atoms
 - iii. Injection of sputtered ions with the supra-thermal velocity of the parent grain
- **o** ISM phase where dust grains are accelerated?
 - ✓ Diffuse shock acceleration occurs in ionised media (requires plasma waves)
 - But dust grains are mainly found in cold molecular clouds and the warm ISM (however, see Ochsendorf et al. (2015) for dust in the Orion-Eradinus superbubble)

²²Ne overabundance in Galactic CRs

- GCR ²²Ne/²⁰Ne ratio ≈ 0.35, i.e ~ 5 times the solar ratio (Garcia-Munoz et al. 1970; Binns et al. 2005)
- Contribution to GCRs of Wolf-Rayet wind material (¹⁴N(α,γ)¹⁸F(β⁺)¹⁸O(α,γ)²²Ne during He burning)? (Cassé & Paul 1982)
- GCR origin in superbubbles enriched in ²²Ne from winds of massive stars?

GCR ²²Ne from wind termination shocks¹⁰

Shocked

interstellar gas

Shocked

stellar wind

Terminatior

shock

Contact discontinuity

Stellar

wind

Interstellar

das

Forward

- GCR ²²Ne not from enriched superbubble gas, because overproduction of ¹⁴N (main sequence): (N/Ne)_{wind}=2.6 => 5.5x the ratio in the GCR source
- More likely ²²Ne is produced by shock acceleration in wind termination shocks (see Morlino et al. 2021)
- Assuming the acceleration efficiency in WTS to be proportional to the **wind mechanical power:**
- \Rightarrow ²²Ne/²⁰Ne=1.56 in the accelerated wind composition
- ⇒ Small contribution to the GCR source composition: $x_w \approx 6\%$ (VT et al. 2021)

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Cosmic-rays from massive star clusters and superbubbles¹¹

- Vieu et al. (2020, 2022): detailed theory of cosmic-ray production in superbubbles from stellar winds, supernova remnants and turbulence, taking into account the nonlinear feedback of the accelerated particles
 CR are mainly accelerated in SNRs, only 5 - 10% of CRs are produced in WTS
- Vieu & Reville (2022): explain the Galactic CR population up to hundreds of PeV

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Local origin of ⁶⁰Fe in Galactic CRs

- Detection of 15 nuclei of ⁶⁰Fe (lifetime τ₆₀=3.8 Myr) and 2.95×10^{5 56}Fe with 16.8 yr of data of ACE/CRIS (Binns et al. 2016)
- ⁶⁰Fe produced in core-collapse SNe and released in superbubbles (Diehl et al. 2021)
 => can be accelerated by subsequent SNe before decay
- Approximate maximum distance of the source(s): $L \sim (6 D \gamma \tau_{60})^{1/2} \sim 2 \text{ kpc}$ with $D \sim 4 \times 10^{28} \text{ cm}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ the CR diffusion coefficient and $\gamma = 1.6$ the Lorentz factor
- ⇒ Model of ⁶⁰Fe synthesis and acceleration in the 25 nearest OB associations based on *Gaia* census (De Séréville et al. 2024)
- ⇒ Most probable origin of ⁶⁰Fe: recent supernova (≤ 500 kyr) in the Sco-Cen association (~140 pc), from explosion of a star with initial M = 13-20 M_{sol}
- ⇒ Local OB associations contribute ~ 20% of (stable) ⁵⁶Fe GCRs

• Composition of Galactic cosmic rays is key to understanding their origin

- Measured source abundances point to an origin in superbubbles, mainly from acceleration in SN shocks, but with a small contribution of acceleration in wind termination shocks ($x_w \approx 6\%$) to explain the ²²Ne overabundance
- ⁶⁰Fe in the GCRs likely comes from a recent supernova (≤ 500 kyr) in the Sco-Cen OB association
- More work is needed to understand the origin of the GCR refractories acceleration of dust grains in superbubbles?
- CR production in superbubbles up to ~ 3 × 10¹⁷ eV?
 => LHAASO & Cherenkov Telescope Array gamma-ray observatories