

Title: 30000 foot view of blazar heating

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Abstract:



30,000 foot view of blazar heating

Christoph Pfrommer¹

with

Avery E. Broderick, Phil Chang, Ewald Puchwein,
Astrid Lamberts, Mohamad Shalaby, Volker Springel

¹Heidelberg Institute for Theoretical Studies, Germany

Feedback over 44 orders of magnitude, Perimeter Institute – 2016





30,000 foot view of blazar heating

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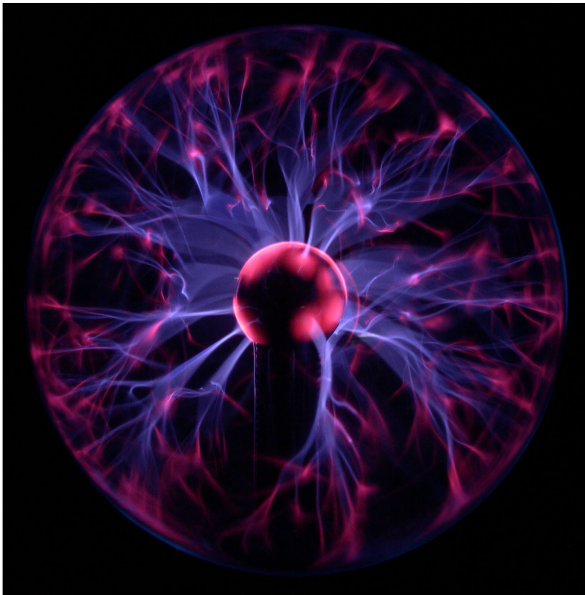
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Motivation

A new link between high-energy astrophysics and cosmological structure formation

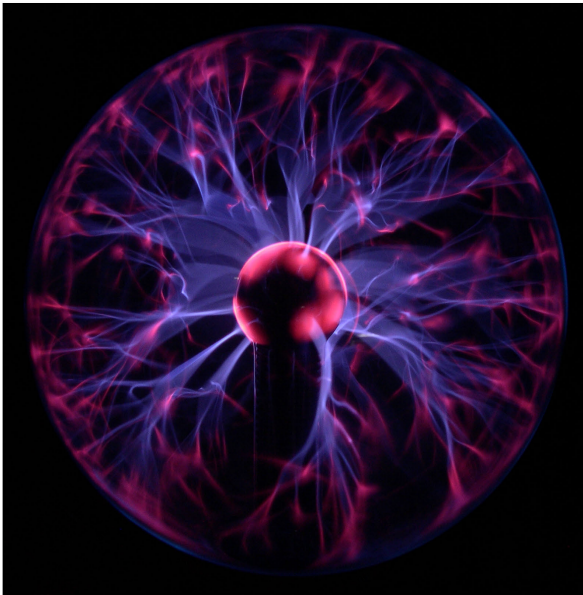


● Introduction to Blazars

- active galactic nuclei (AGN)
- propagating gamma rays
- plasma physics

Motivation

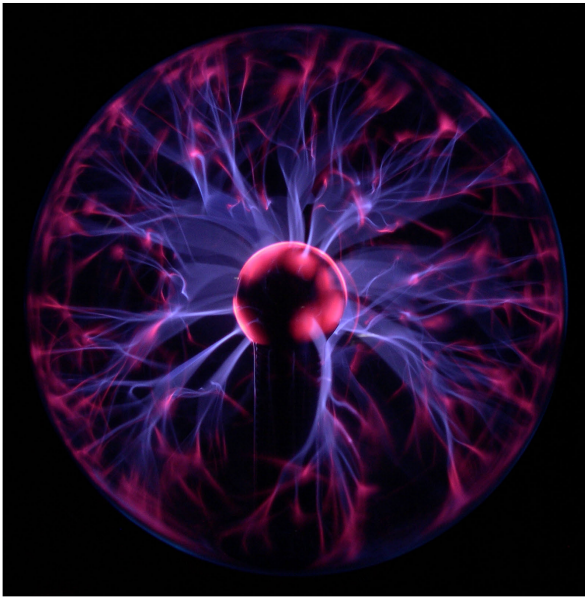
A new link between high-energy astrophysics and cosmological structure formation



- **Introduction to Blazars**
 - active galactic nuclei (AGN)
 - propagating gamma rays
 - plasma physics
- **Cosmological Consequences**
 - unifying blazars with AGN
 - gamma-ray background

Motivation

A new link between high-energy astrophysics and cosmological structure formation



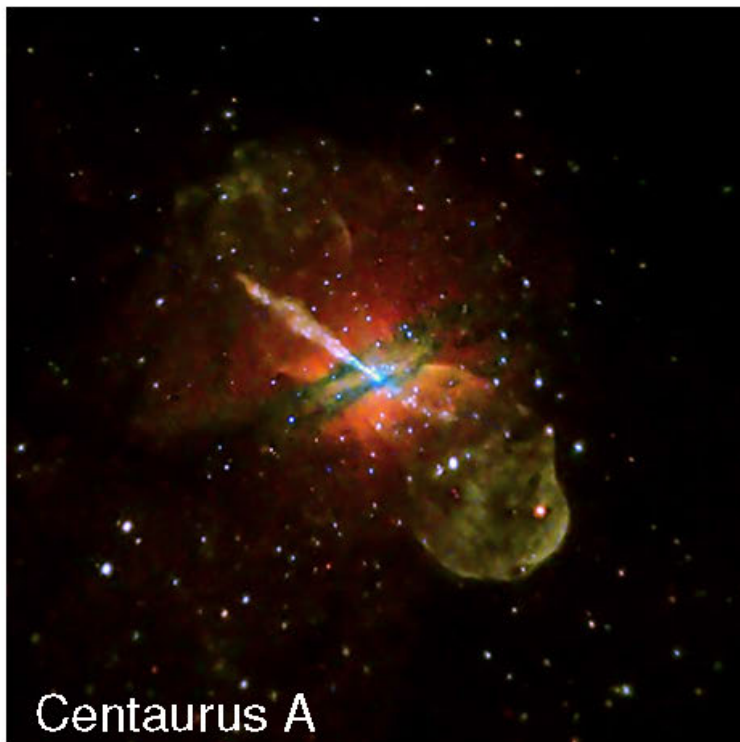
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● Cosmological Consequences

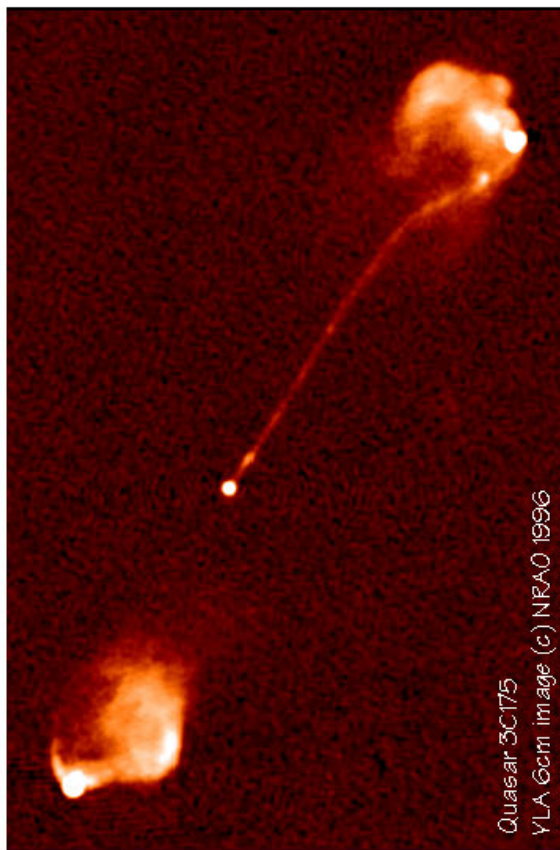
- unifying blazars with AGN
- gamma-ray background
- thermal history of the Universe
- Lyman- α forest
- formation of dwarf galaxies

Active galactic nucleus (AGN)



- **AGN: compact region at the center of a galaxy**, which dominates the luminosity of its electromagnetic spectrum
- AGN emission is most likely caused by **mass accretion onto a supermassive black hole** and can also launch **relativistic jets**

Active galactic nucleus at a cosmological distance



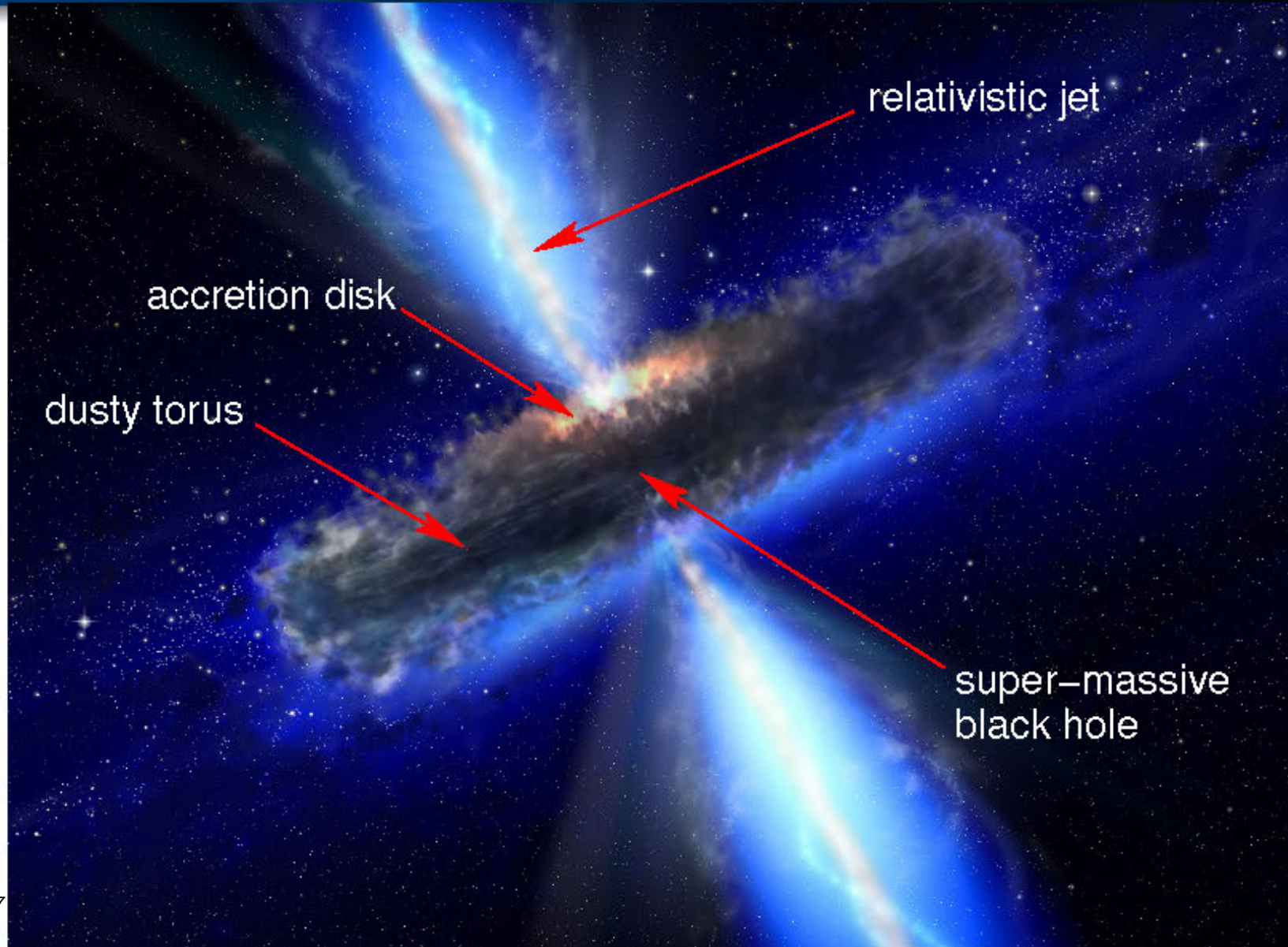
Quasar 3C175 at $z \simeq 0.8$:
jet extends 10^6 light years across

- **AGN: compact region at the center of a galaxy**, which dominates the luminosity of its electromagnetic spectrum
- AGN emission is most likely caused by **mass accretion onto a supermassive black hole** and can also launch **relativistic jets**
- AGNs are among the most luminous sources in the universe
→ **discovery of distant objects**

Blazars
Gamma-ray sky
Structure formation

Active galactic nuclei
Propagating γ rays
Plasma instabilities

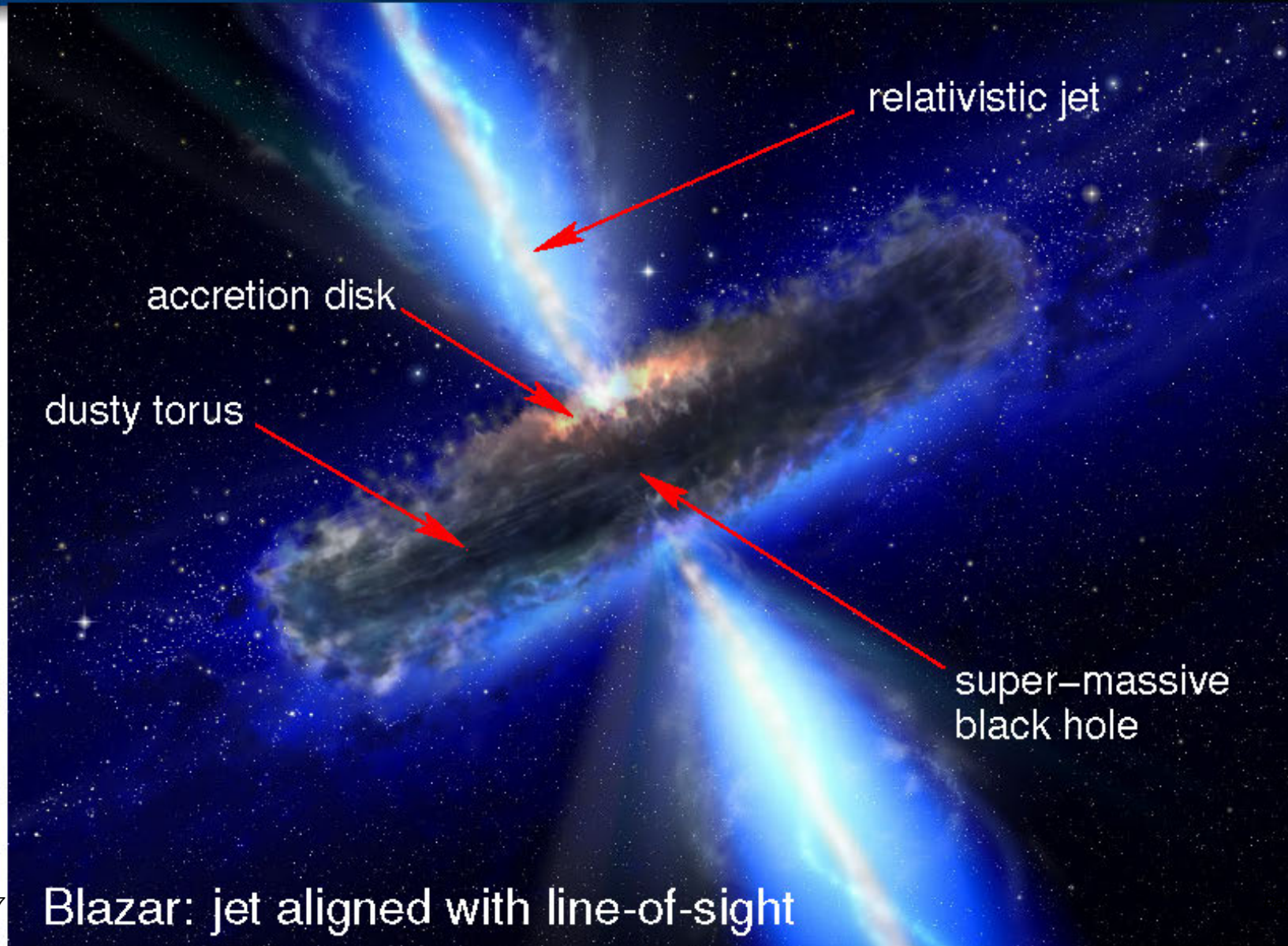
Unified model of active galactic nuclei



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Unified model of active galactic nuclei

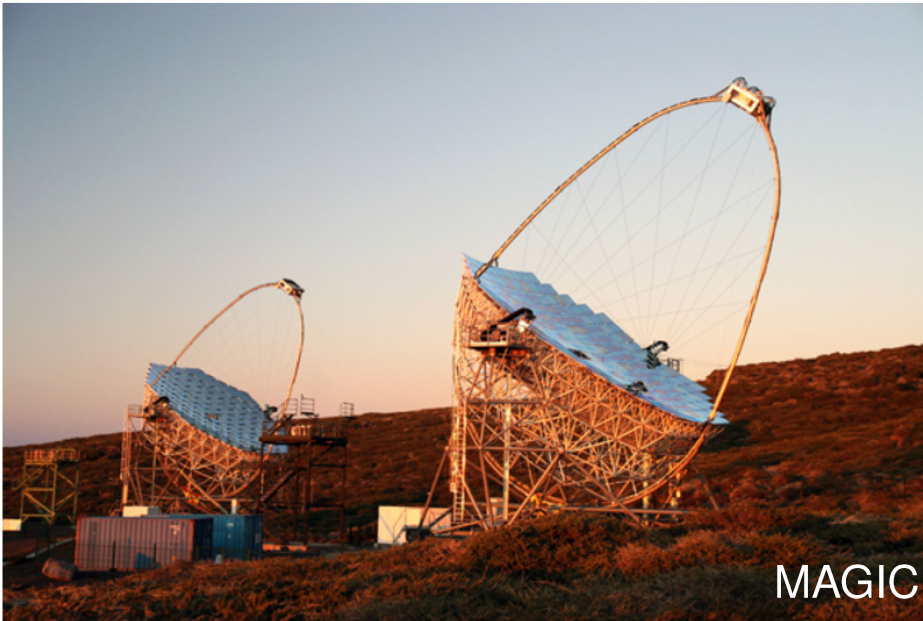


Blazar: jet aligned with line-of-sight

Blazars
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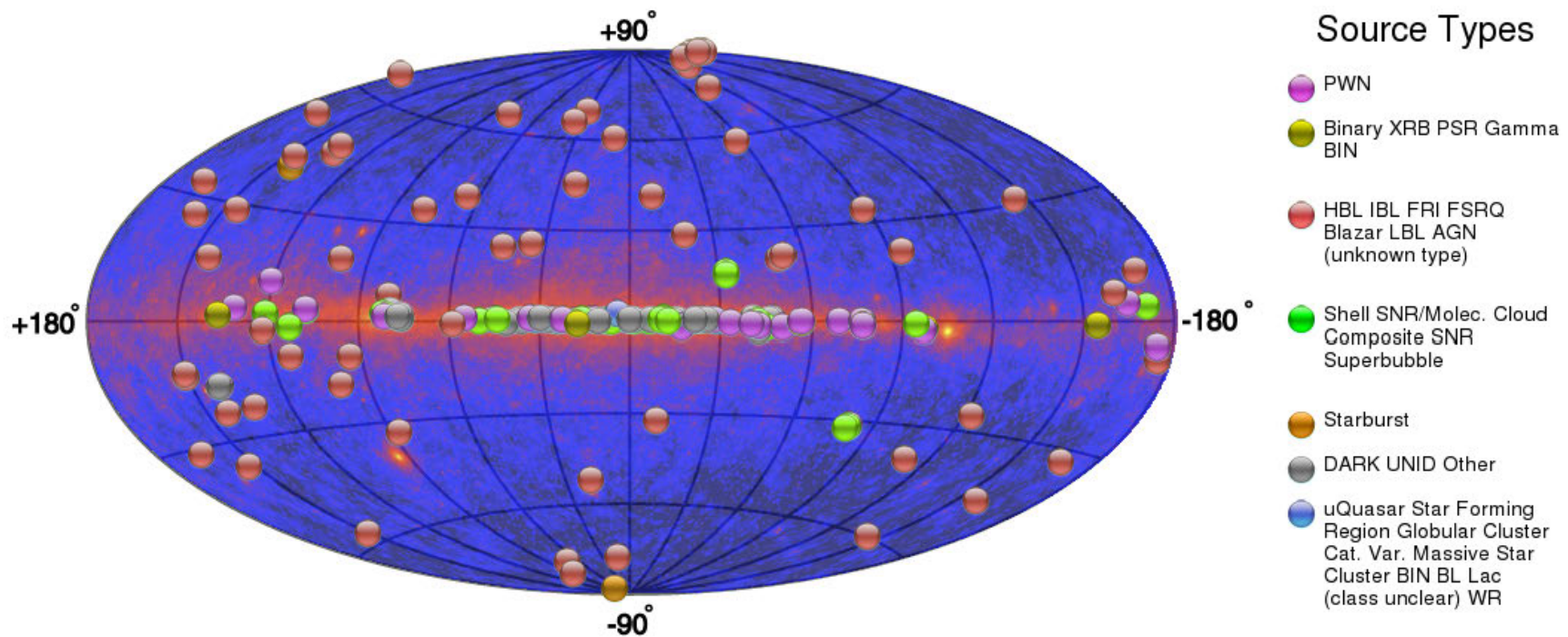
TeV gamma-ray observations



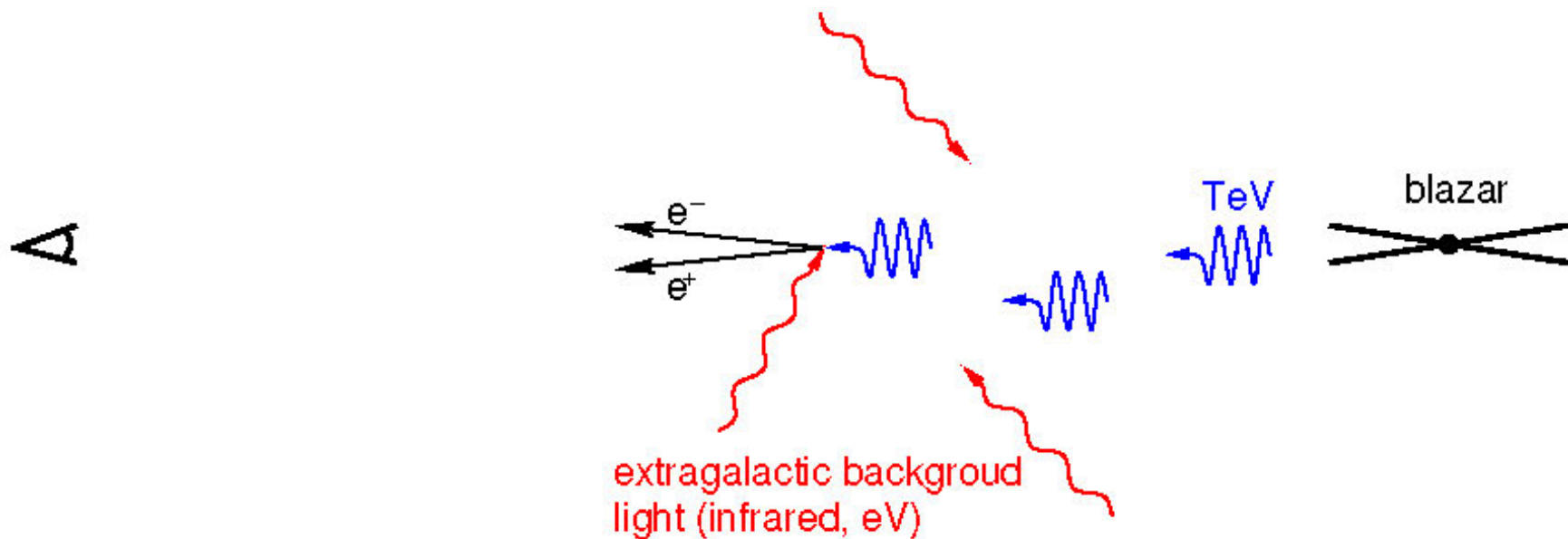
The TeV gamma-ray sky

There are several classes of TeV sources:

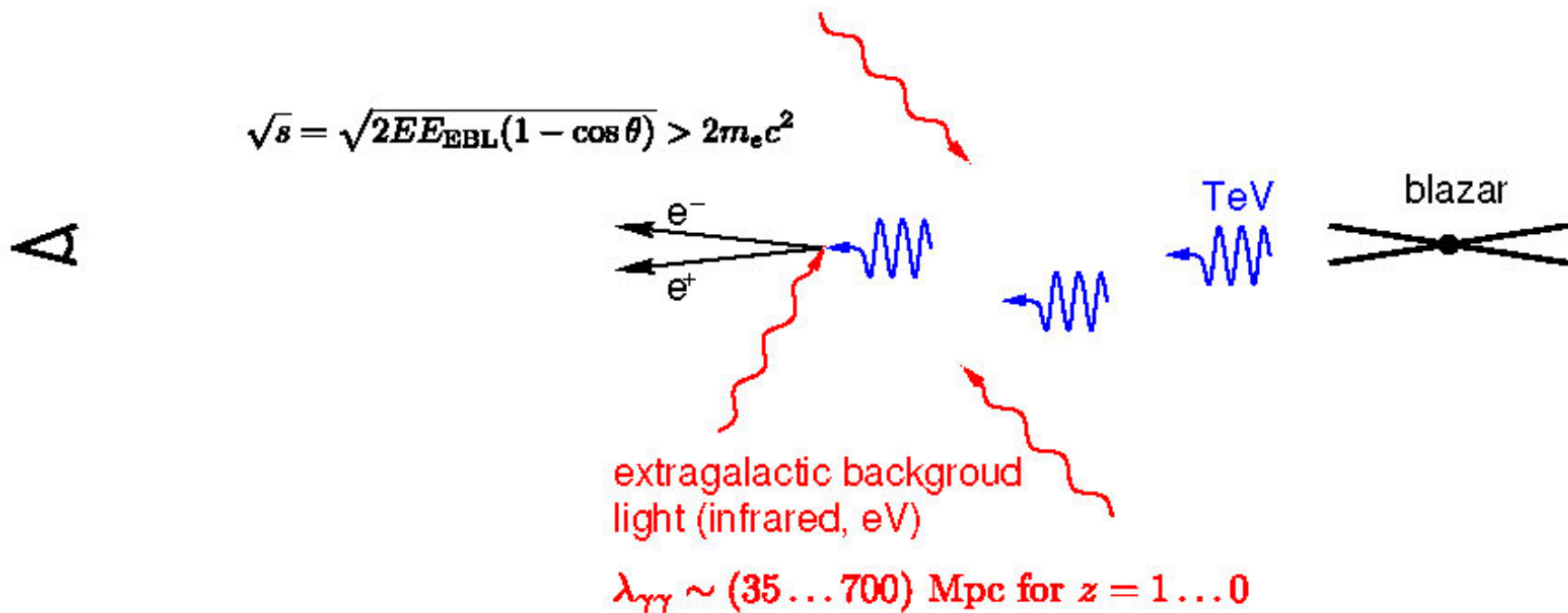
- Galactic - pulsars, BH binaries, supernova remnants
- Extragalactic - **mostly** blazars, two starburst galaxies



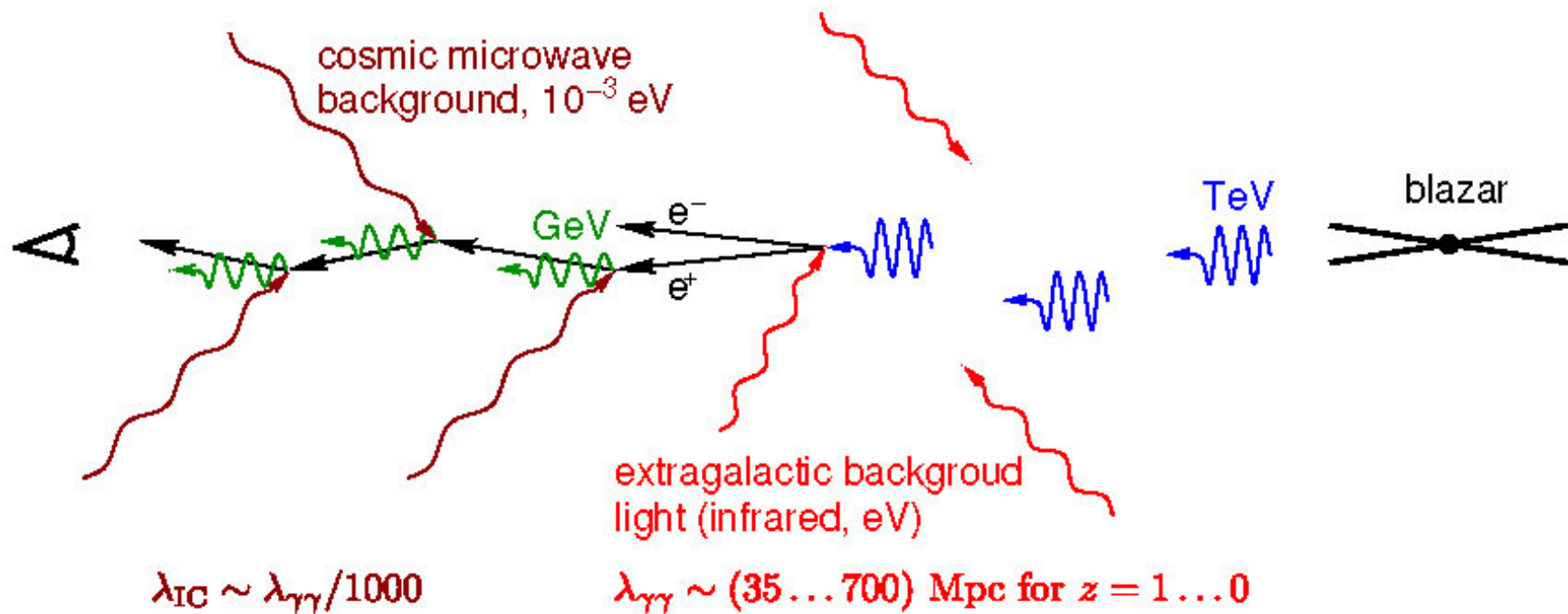
Annihilation and pair production



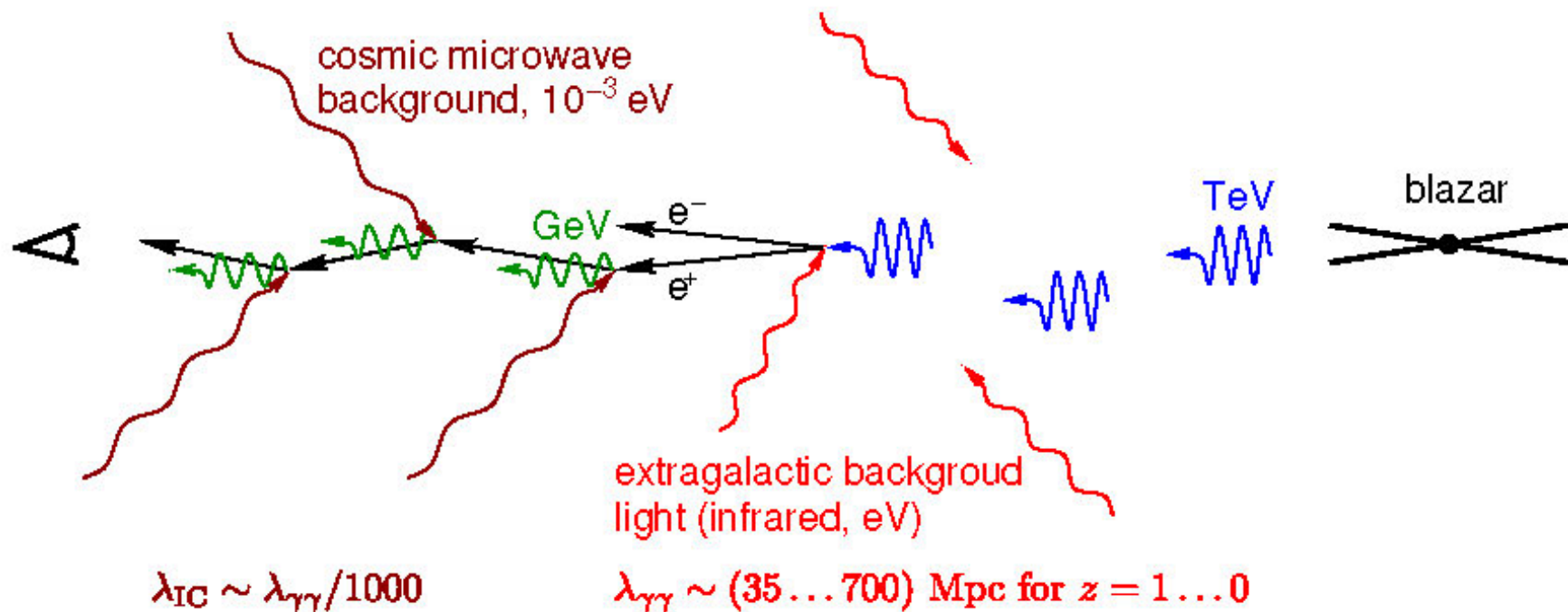
Annihilation and pair production



Inverse Compton cascades



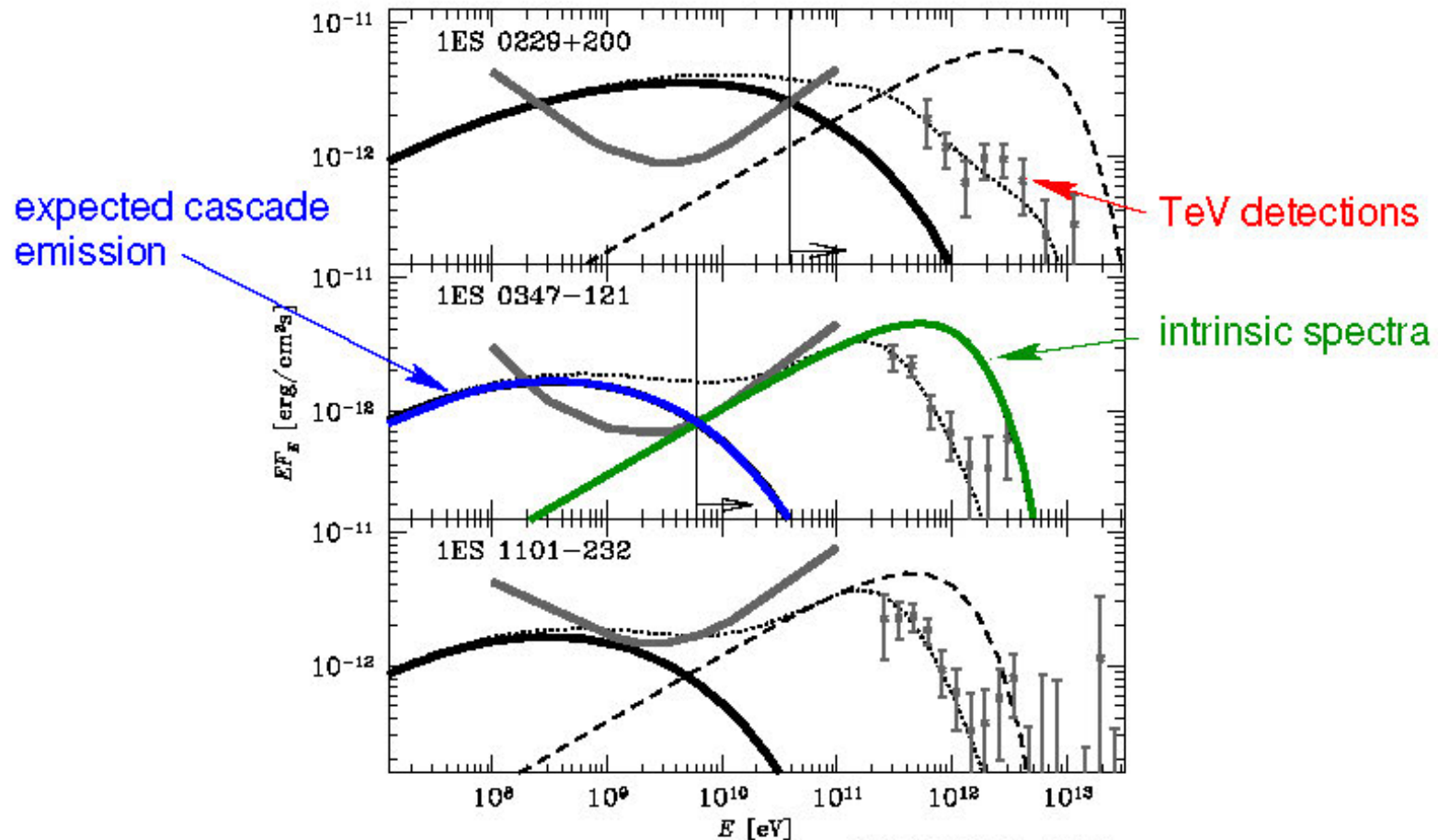
Inverse Compton cascades



→ each TeV point source should also be a GeV point source!

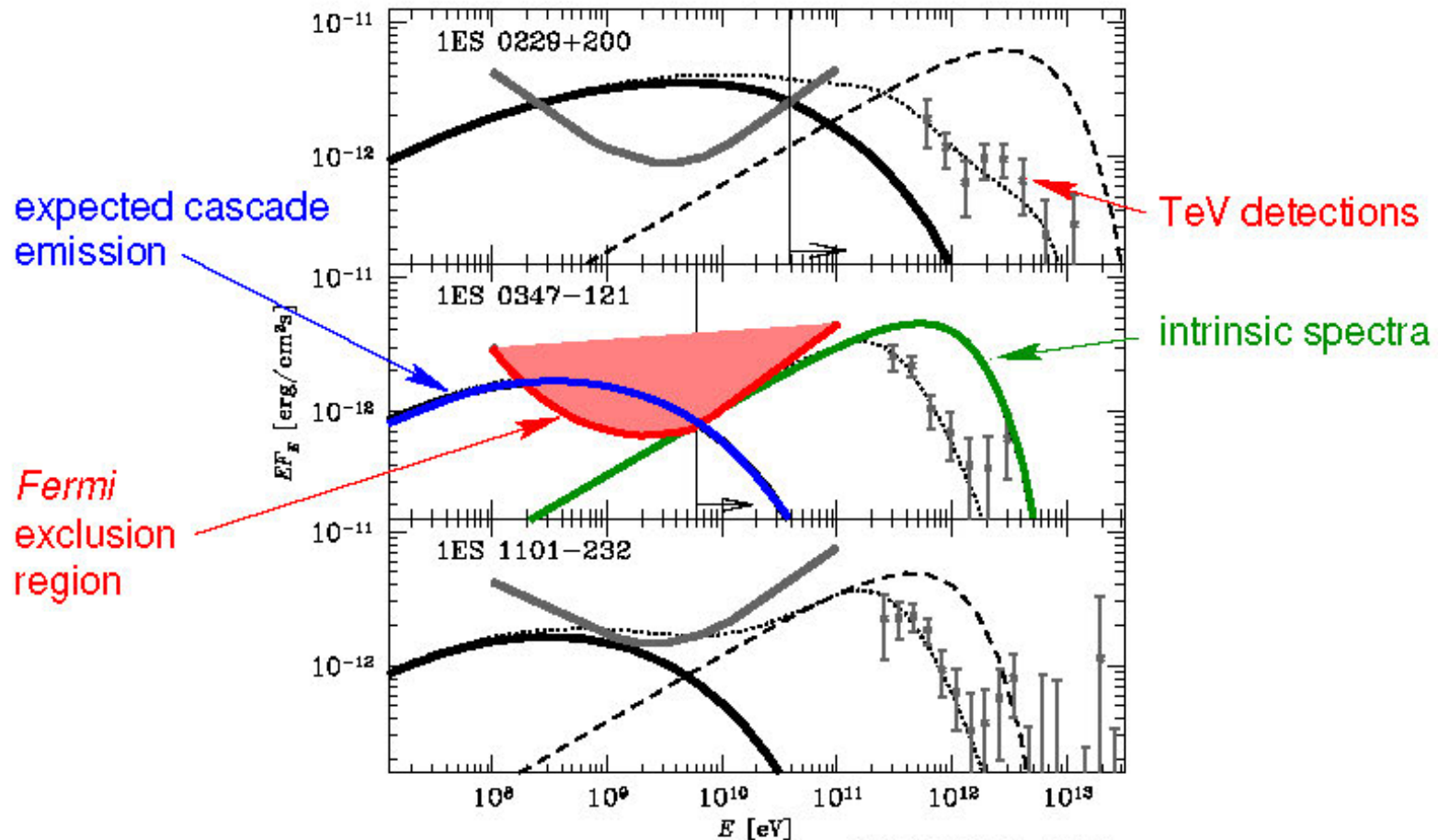
What about the cascade emission?

Every TeV source should be associated with a 1-100 GeV gamma-ray halo

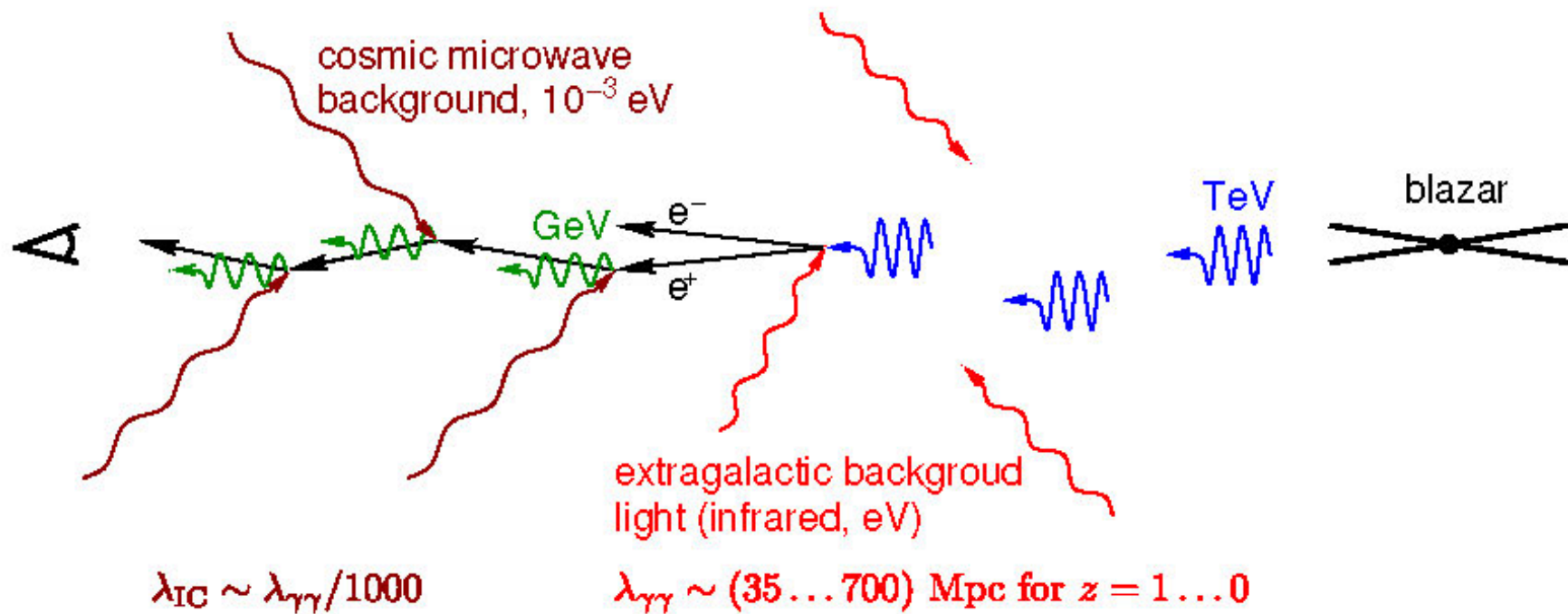


What about the cascade emission?

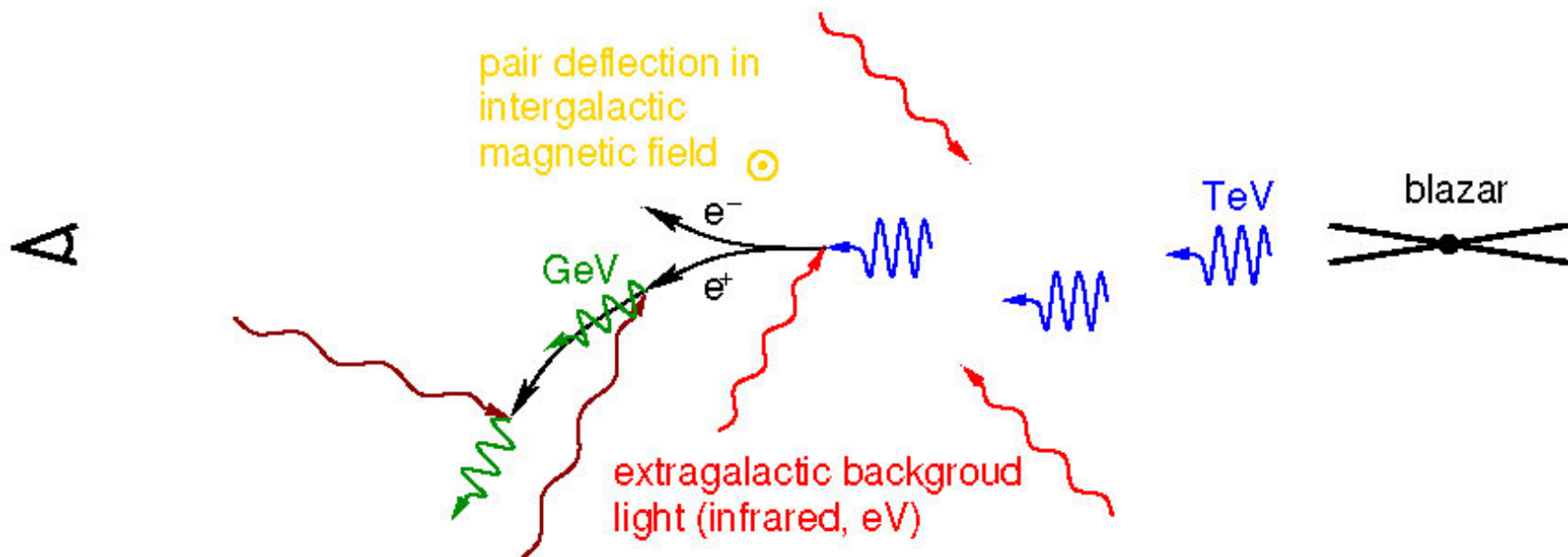
Every TeV source should be associated with a 1-100 GeV gamma-ray halo – **not seen!**



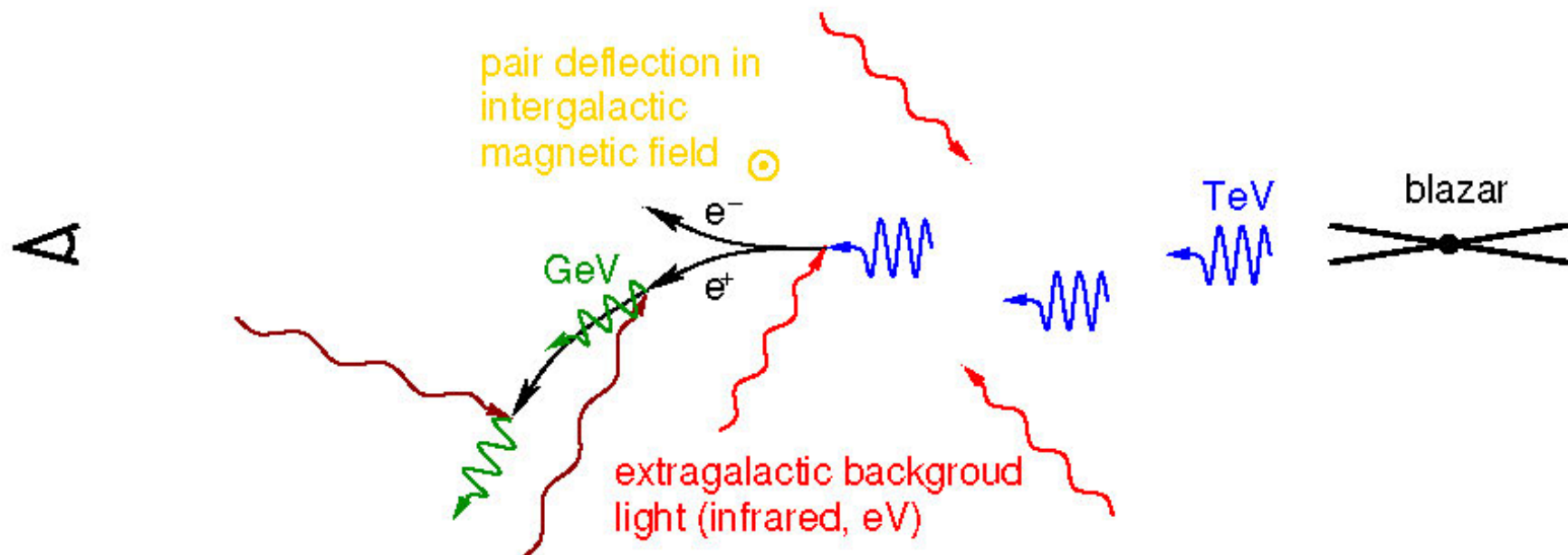
Inverse Compton cascades



Extragalactic magnetic fields?

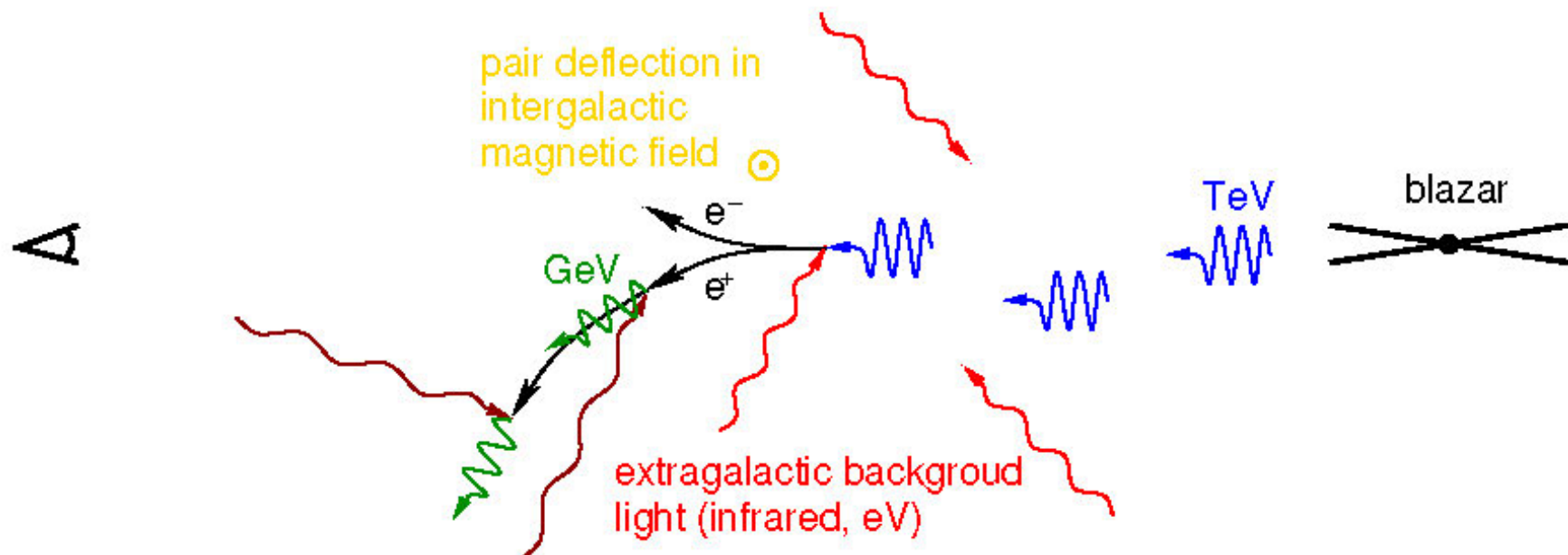


Extragalactic magnetic fields?



- GeV point source diluted \rightarrow weak "pair halo"
- stronger B-field implies more deflection and dilution, gamma-ray non-detection $\rightarrow B \gtrsim 10^{-16}$ G – primordial fields?

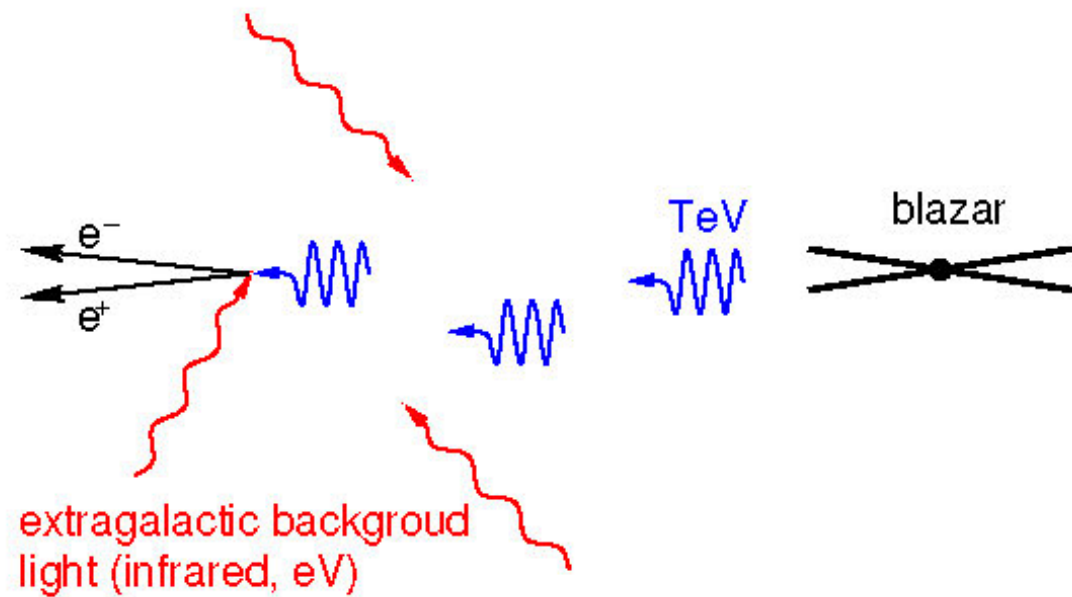
Extragalactic magnetic fields?



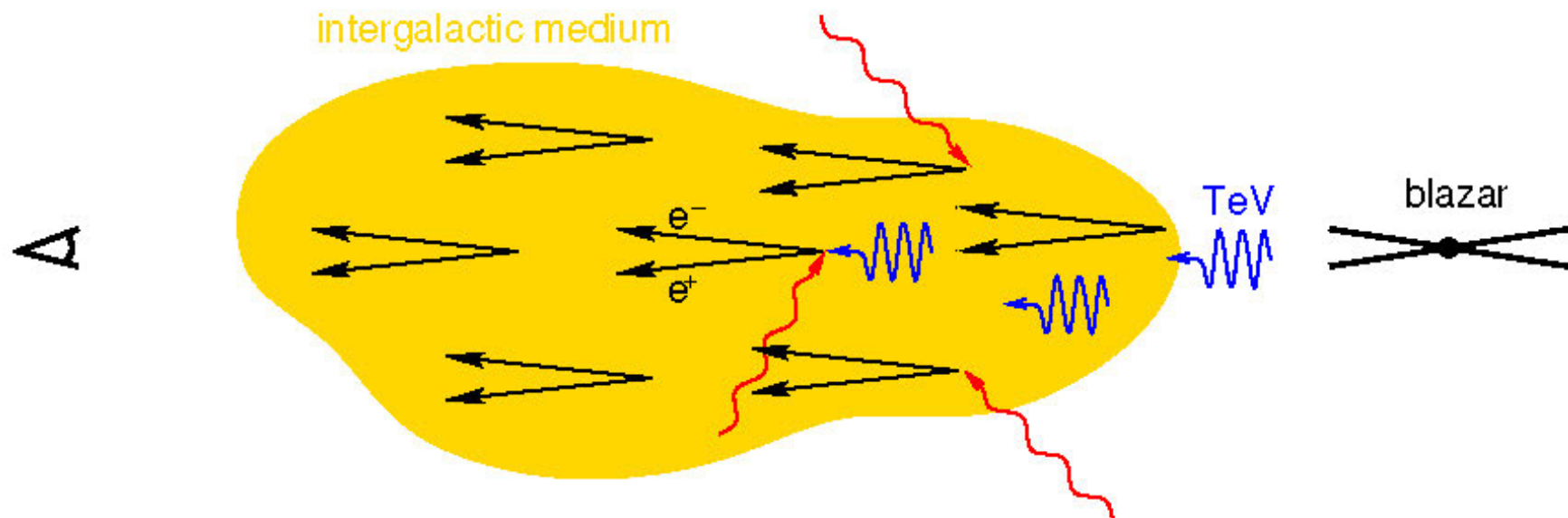
- **problem for unified AGN model:** no increase in comoving blazar density with redshift allowed (as seen in other AGNs) since otherwise, extragalactic GeV background would be overproduced!

What else could happen?

A



Plasma instabilities

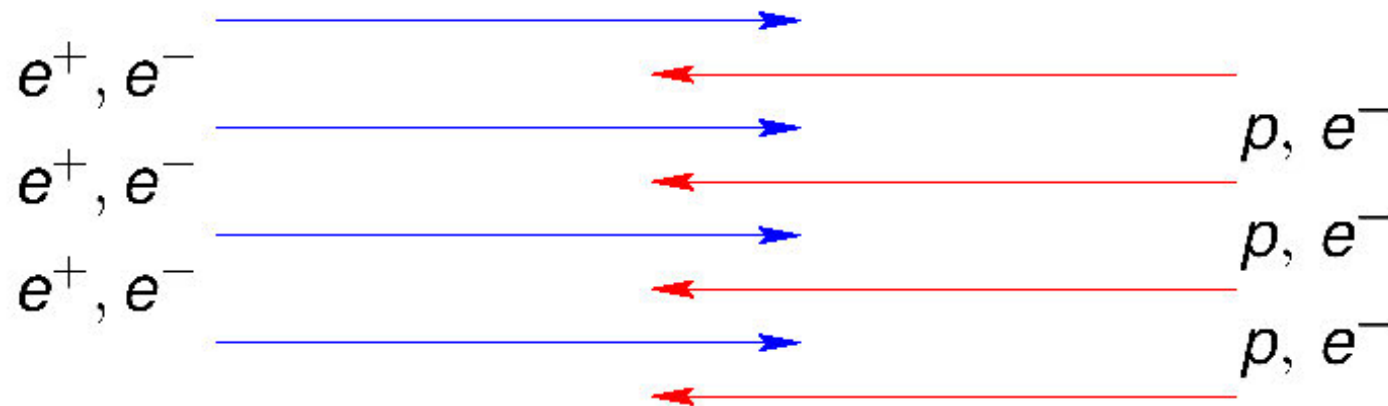


→ pair plasma beam propagating through the intergalactic medium

Plasma instabilities

- pair beam

intergalactic medium (IGM)



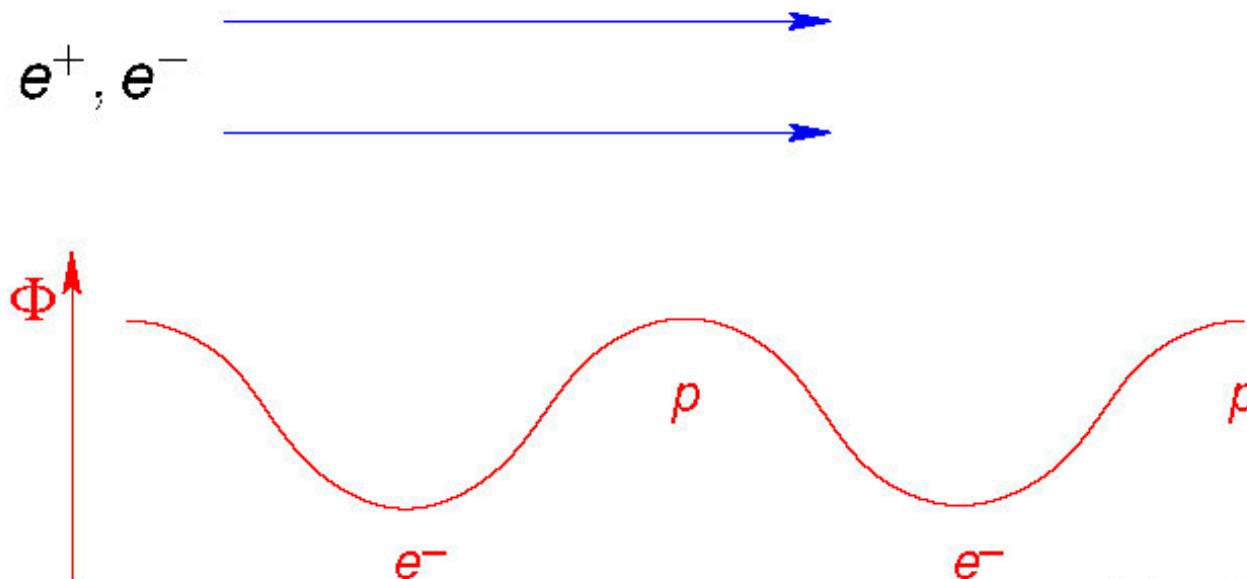
- this configuration is unstable to **plasma instabilities**
- characteristic frequency and length scale of the problem:

$$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{4\pi e^2 n_e}{m_e}}, \quad \lambda_p = \frac{c}{\omega_p} \Big|_{\bar{\rho}(z=0)} \sim 10^8 \text{ cm}$$

Two-stream instability

consider wave-like perturbation in background plasma along the beam direction (Langmuir wave):

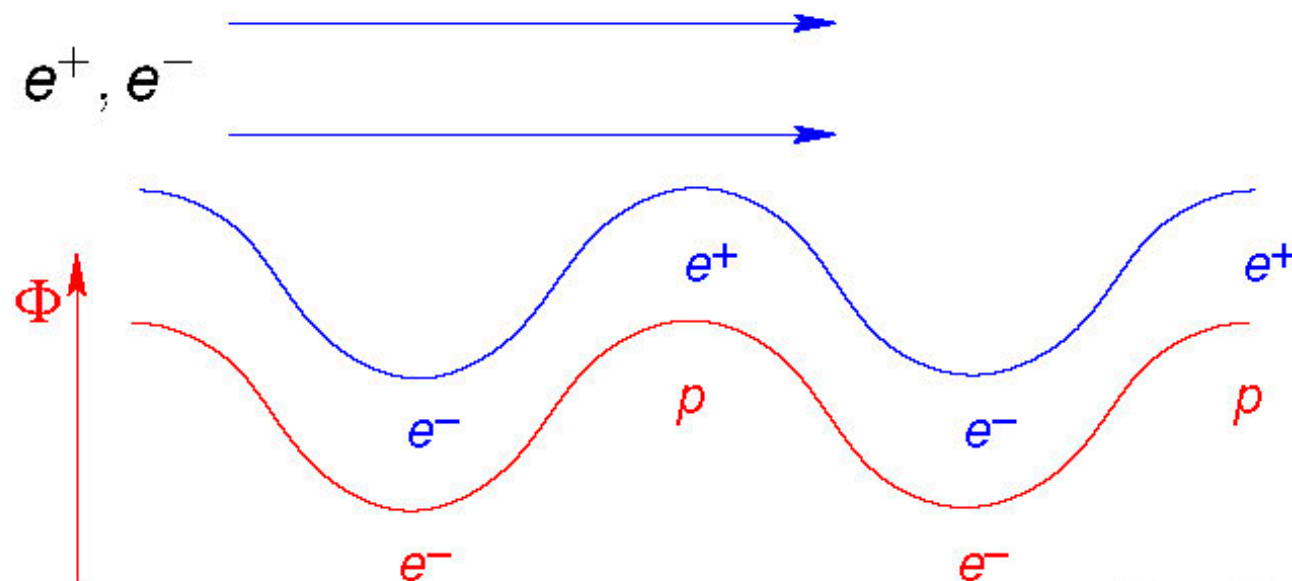
- initially homogeneous beam- e^- :
attractive (repulsive) force by potential maxima (minima)
- e^- attain lowest velocity in potential minima \rightarrow bunching up
- e^+ attain lowest velocity in potential maxima \rightarrow bunching up



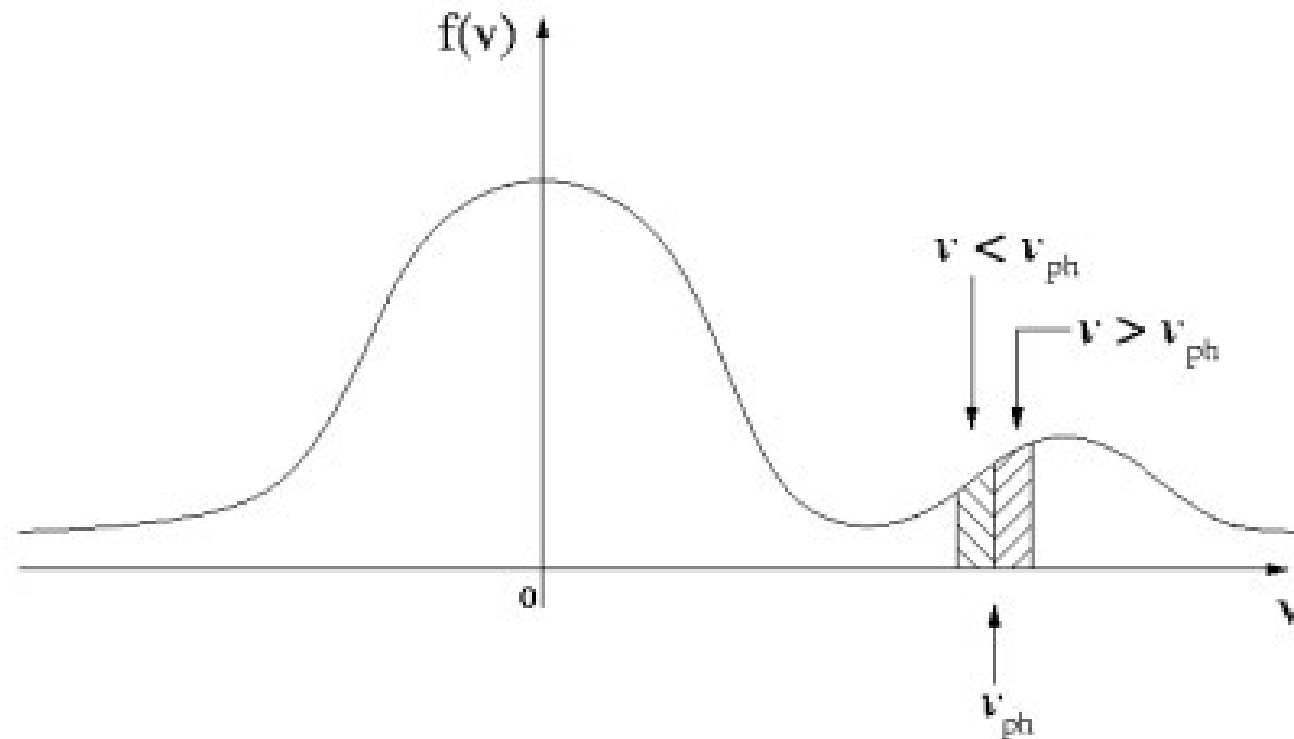
Two-stream instability

consider wave-like perturbation in background plasma along the beam direction (Langmuir wave):

- beam- e^+/e^- couple in phase with the background perturbation: enhances background potential
- stronger forces on beam- $e^+/e^- \rightarrow$ positive feedback
- exponential wave-growth \rightarrow instability



Two-stream instability: momentum transfer



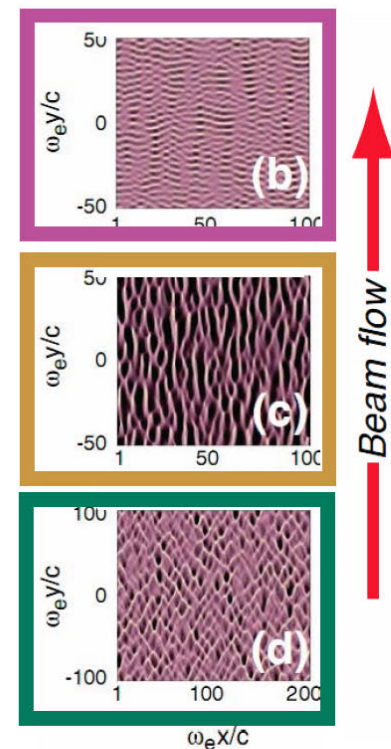
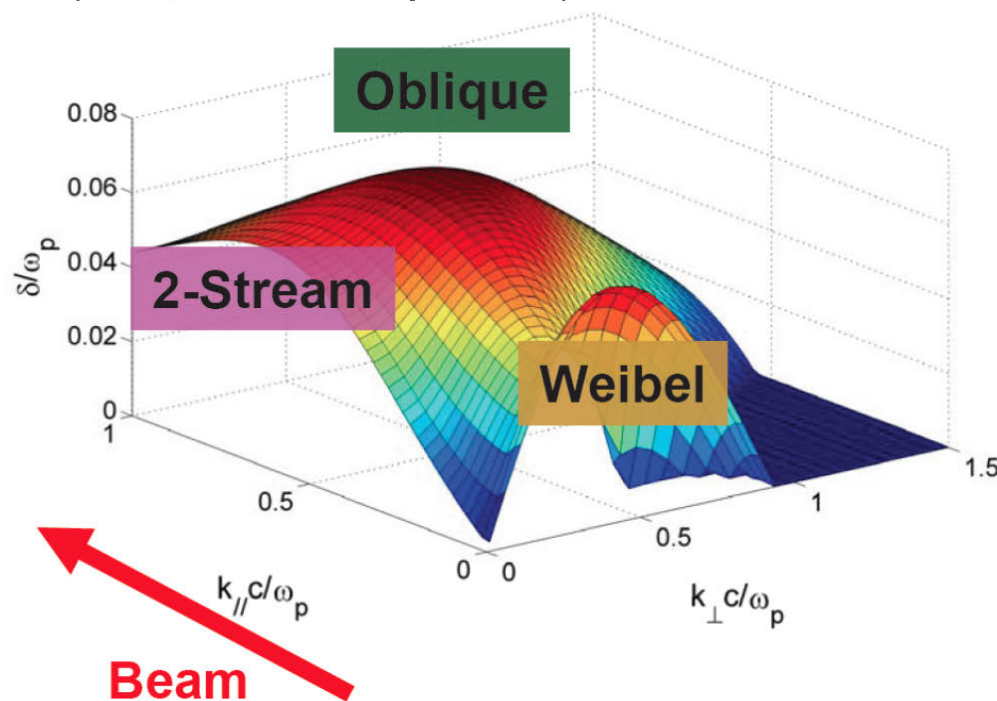
- particles with $v \gtrsim v_{\text{phase}}$:
pair momentum \rightarrow plasma waves \rightarrow growing modes: instability
- particles with $v \lesssim v_{\text{phase}}$:
plasma wave momentum \rightarrow pairs \rightarrow Landau damping

Oblique instability

- k oblique to \mathbf{v}_{beam} : real world perturbations don't choose "easy" alignment = \sum all orientations
- **oblique grows faster than two-stream**: E -fields can easier deflect ultra-relativistic particles than change their parallel velocities
(Nakar, Bret & Milosavljevic 2011)

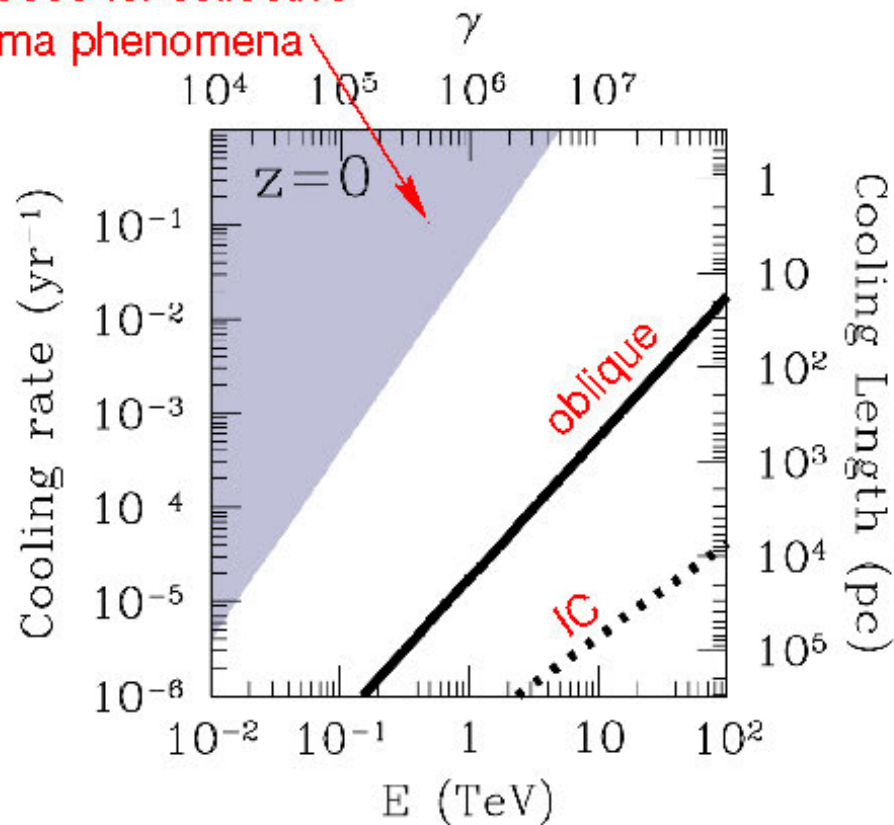
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Beam physics – growth rates

excluded for collective
plasma phenomena



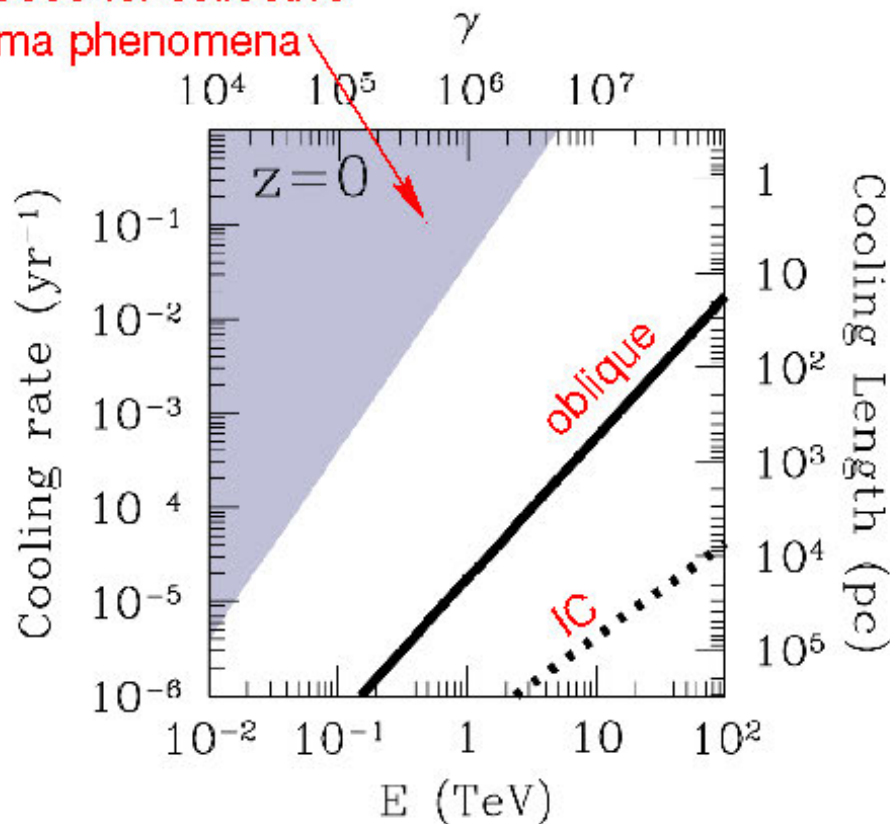
- consider a light beam penetrating into relatively dense plasma
- maximum growth rate

$$\Gamma \simeq 0.4 \gamma \frac{n_{\text{beam}}}{n_{\text{IGM}}} \omega_p$$

Broderick, Chang, C.P. (2012), also Schlickeiser+ (2012)

Beam physics – growth rates

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- consider a light beam penetrating into relatively dense plasma

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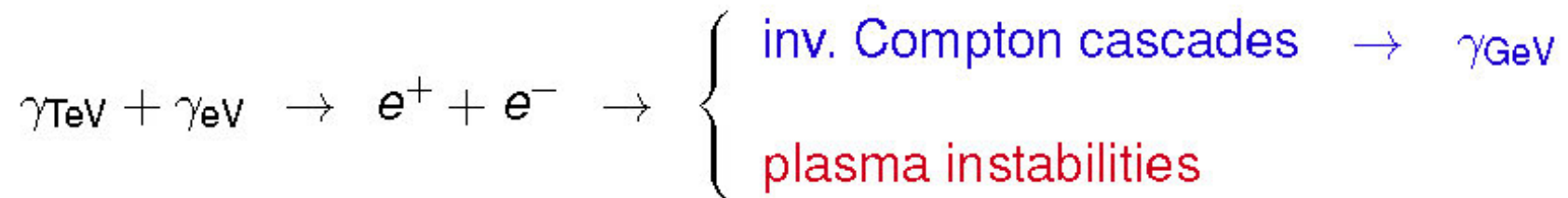
$$\Gamma \simeq 0.4 \gamma \frac{n_{\text{beam}}}{n_{\text{IGM}}} \omega_p$$

- oblique instability beats inverse Compton cooling by factor 10-100

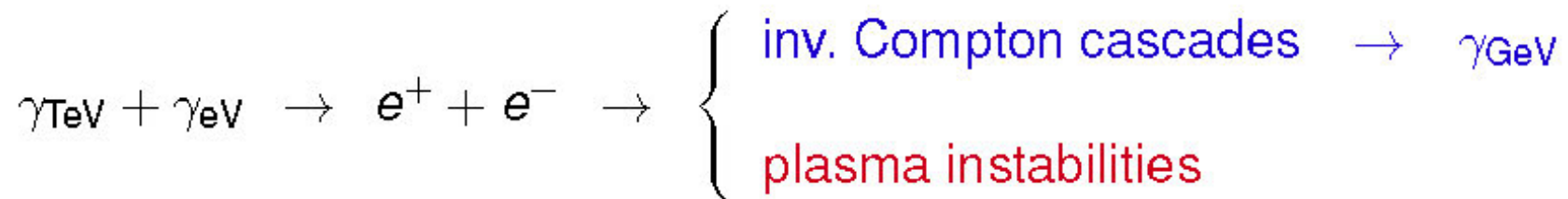
- **assume** that instability grows at *linear* rate up to saturation

Broderick, Chang, C.P. (2012), also Schlickeiser+ (2012)

TeV emission from blazars – a new paradigm



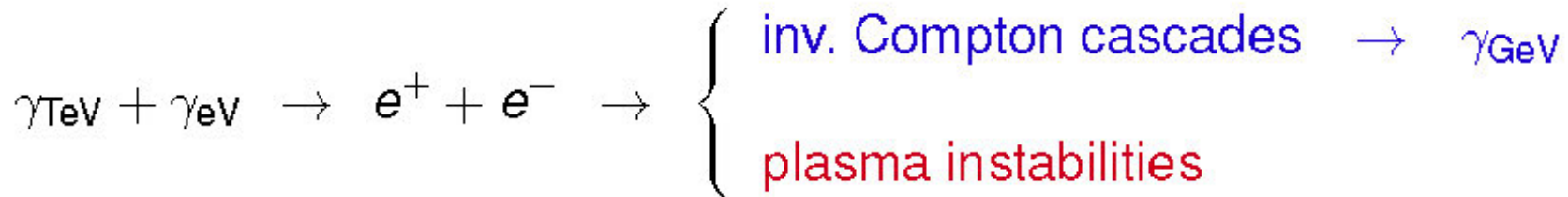
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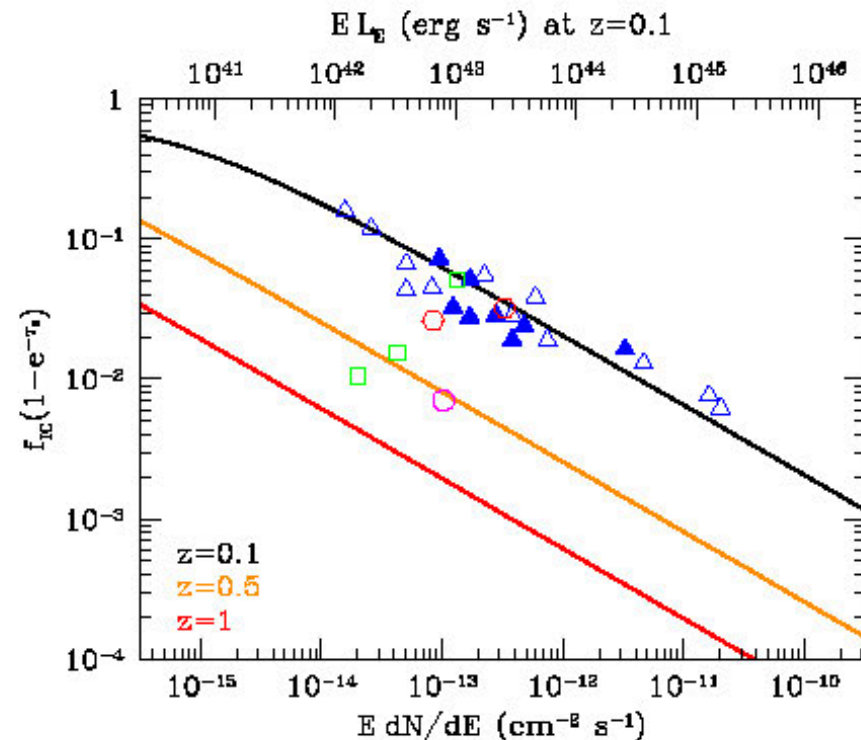
absence of γ_{GeV} 's has significant implications for ...

- intergalactic magnetic field estimates
- unified picture of TeV blazars and quasars

Implications for intergalactic magnetic fields



- competition of rates:
 Γ_{IC} vs. Γ_{oblique}
- fraction of the pair energy lost to inverse-Compton on the CMB:
 $f_{\text{IC}} = \Gamma_{\text{IC}} / (\Gamma_{\text{IC}} + \Gamma_{\text{oblique}})$
- **plasma instability dominates for more luminous blazars**



Conclusions on B -field constraints from blazar spectra

- it is thought that TeV blazar spectra might constrain IGM B -fields
- this assumes that cooling mechanism is IC off the CMB + deflection from magnetic fields
- beam instabilities allow high-energy e^+/e^- pairs to self scatter and/or lose energy
- isotropizes the beam – no need for B -field
- \lesssim 1–10% of beam energy to IC CMB photons

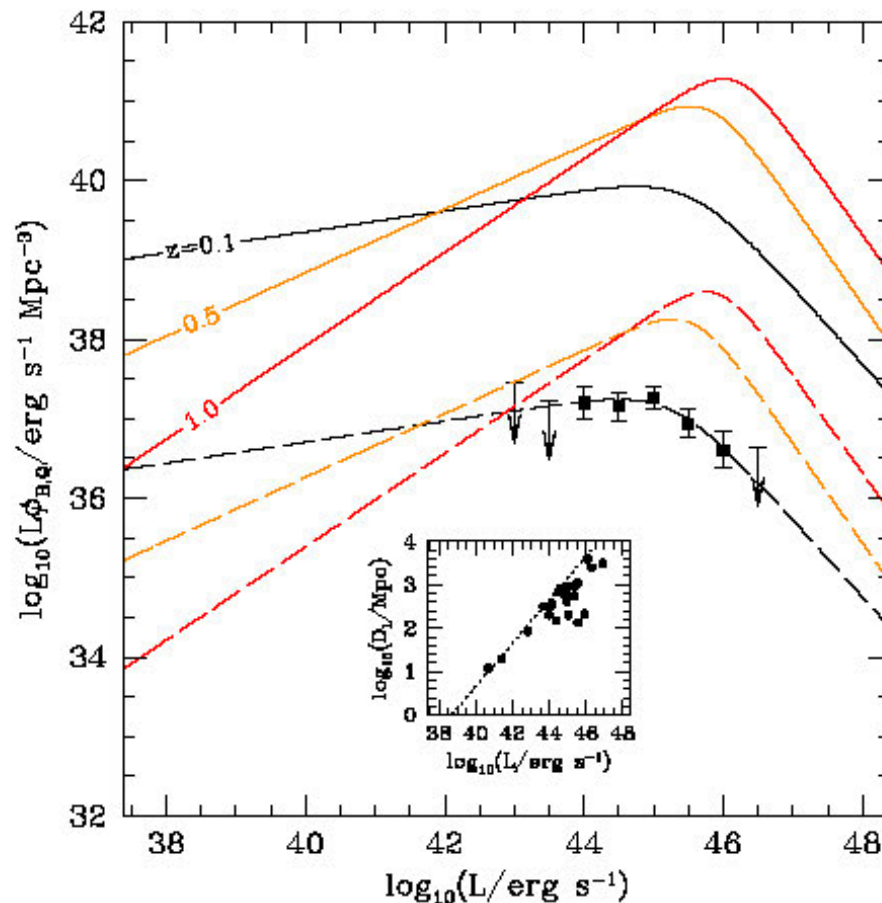
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→ **TeV blazar spectra are not suitable to measure IGM B -fields**
(if plasma instabilities saturate close to linear rate)!

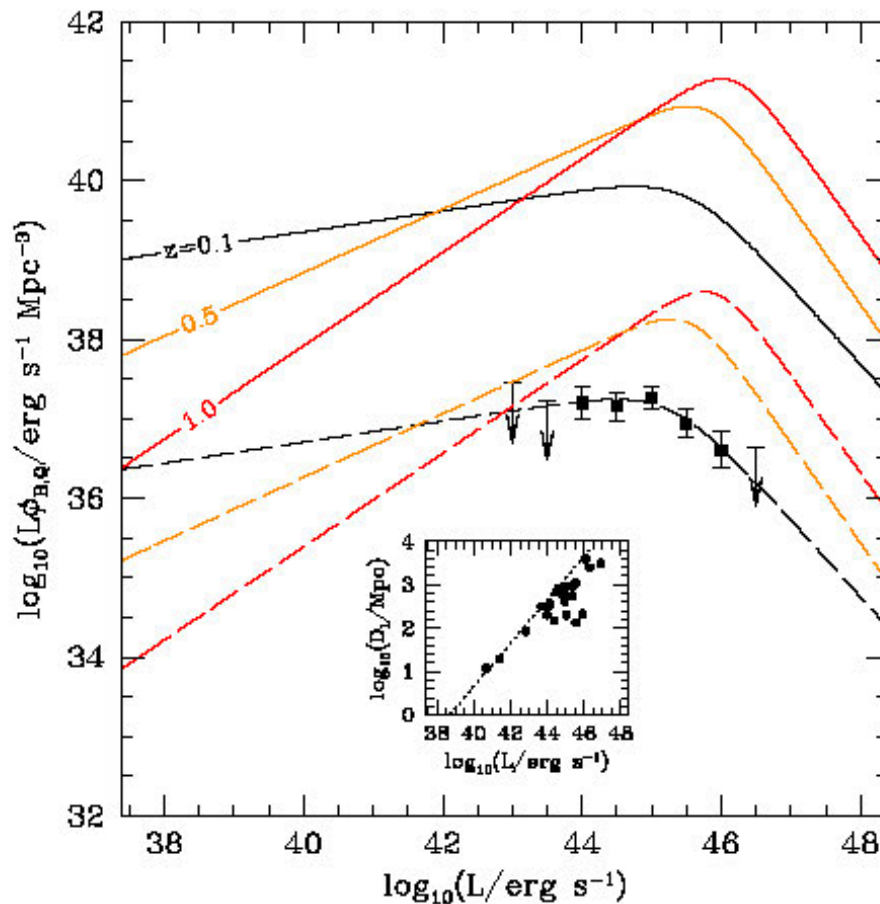
Broderick, Chang, C.P. (2012), Schlickeiser, Krakau, Supsar (2013), Chang+ (2014)

TeV blazar luminosity density: today



- collect luminosity of all 23 TeV blazars with good spectral measurements
- account for the selection effects (sky coverage, duty cycle, galactic occultation, TeV flux limit)
- TeV blazar luminosity density is a scaled version ($\eta_B \sim 0.2\%$) of that of quasars!

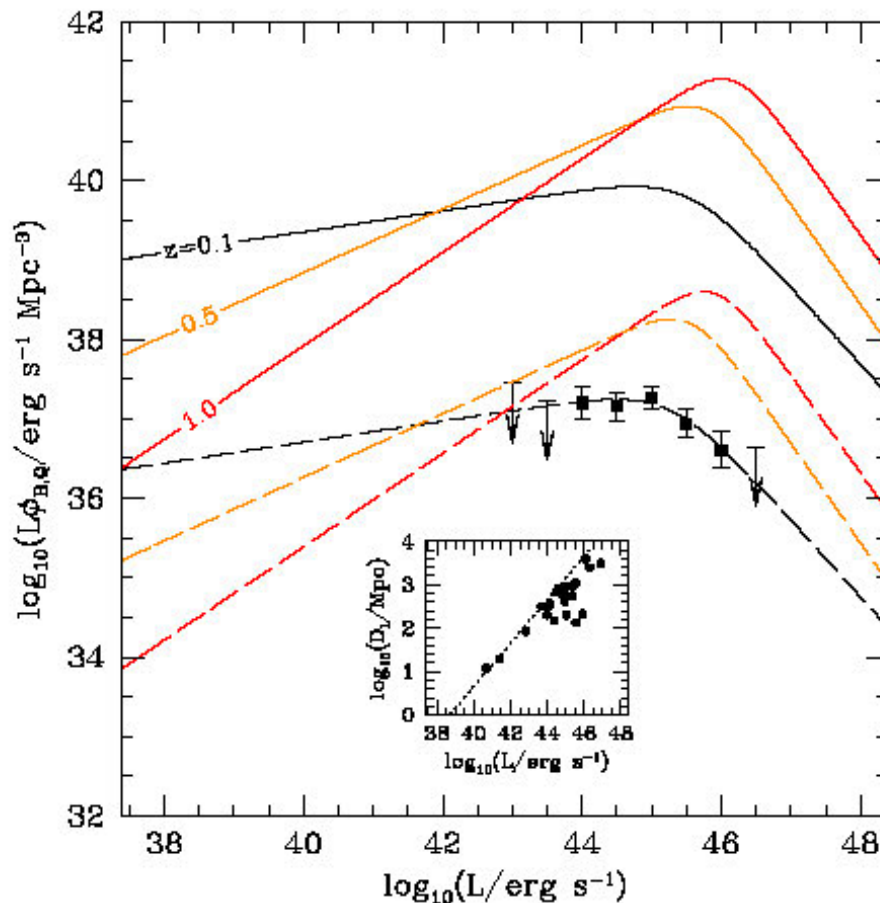
Unified TeV blazar-quasar model



Quasars and TeV blazars are:

- regulated by the same mechanism
- contemporaneous elements of a single AGN population: TeV-blazar activity does not lag quasar activity

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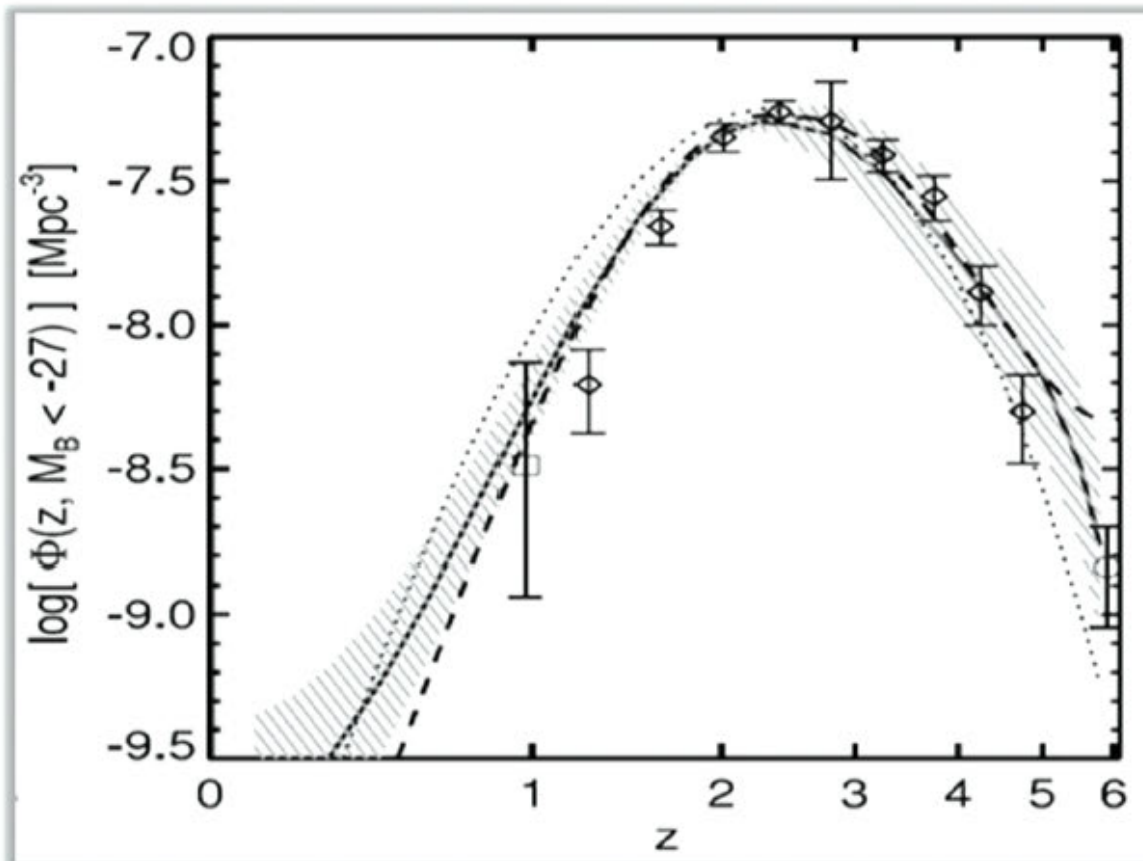
→ **assume that they trace each other for all redshifts!**

How many TeV blazars are there?



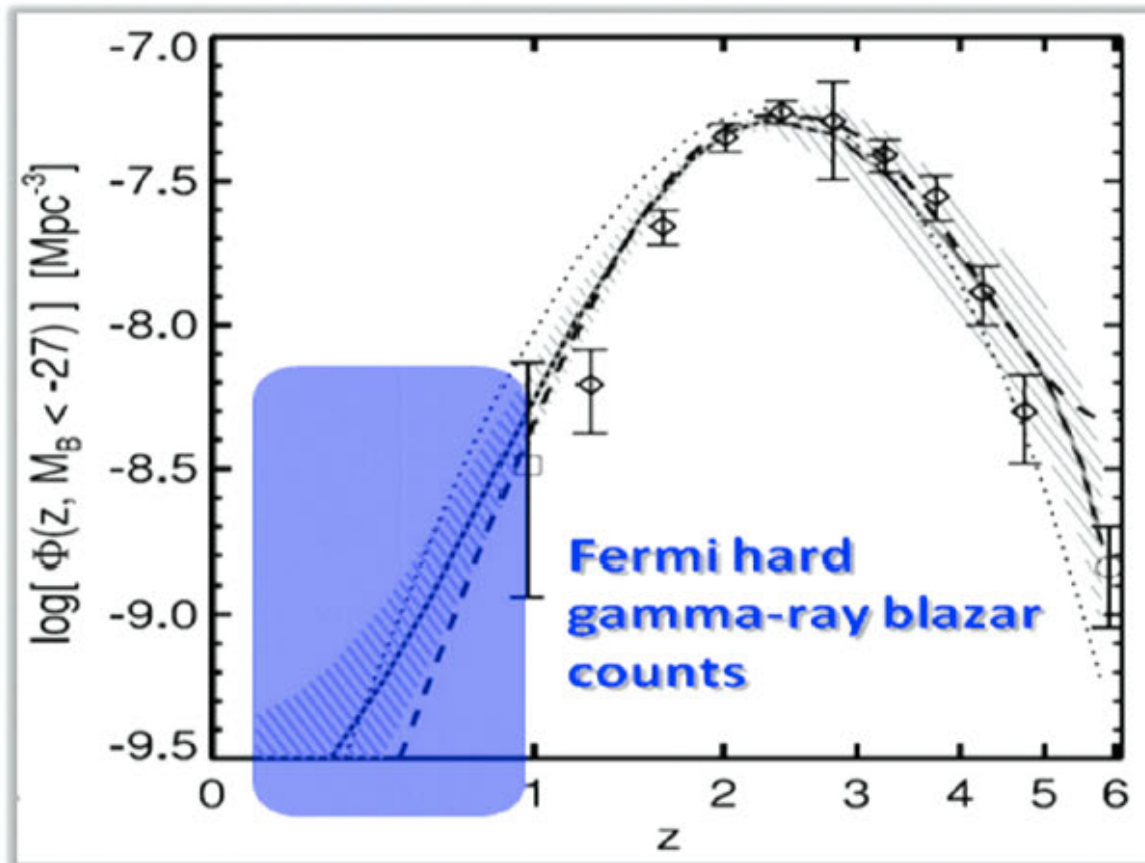
→ use all-sky survey of the GeV gamma-ray sky:
Fermi gamma-ray space telescope

How many TeV blazars are there?



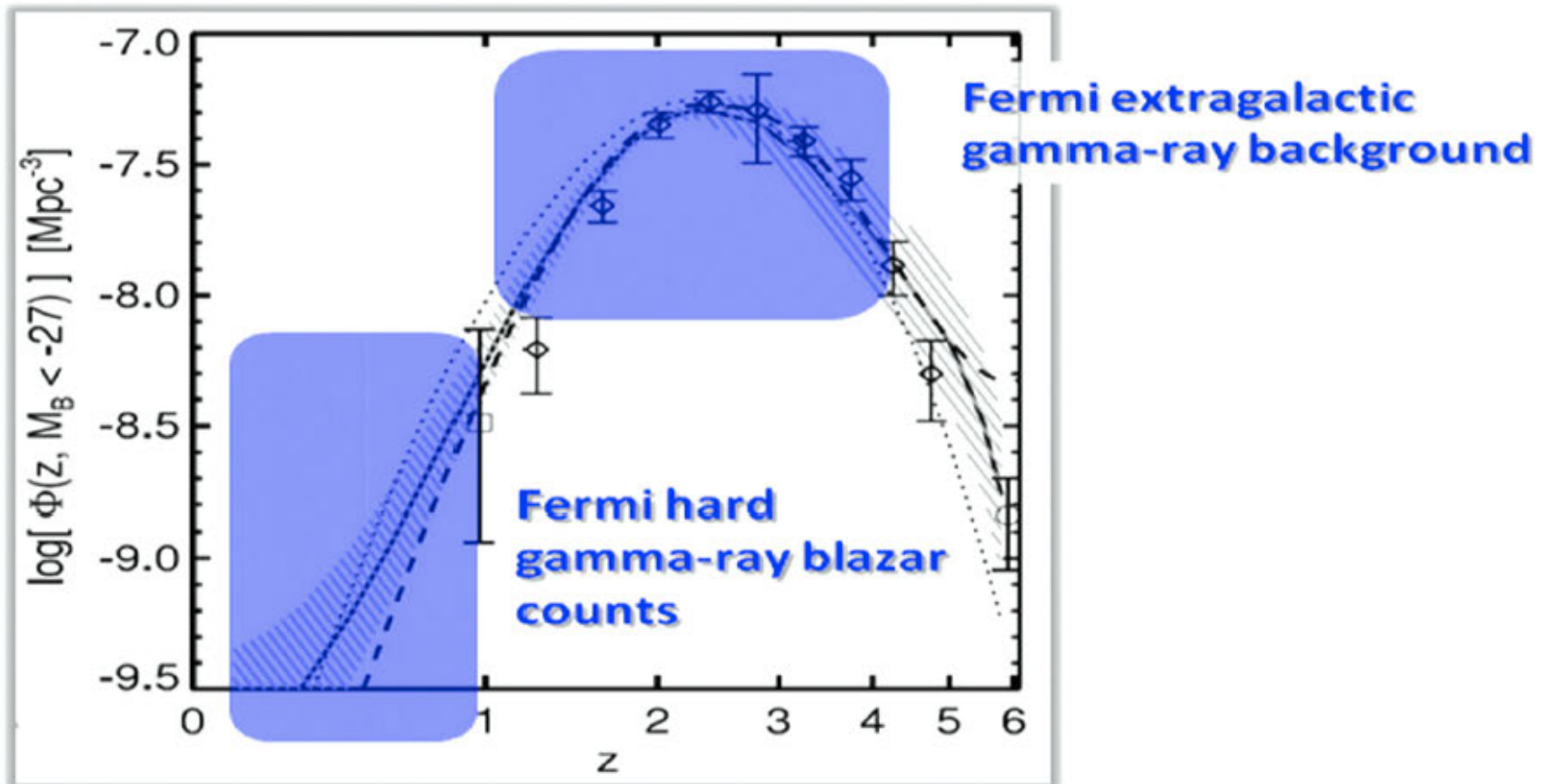
Hopkins+ (2007)

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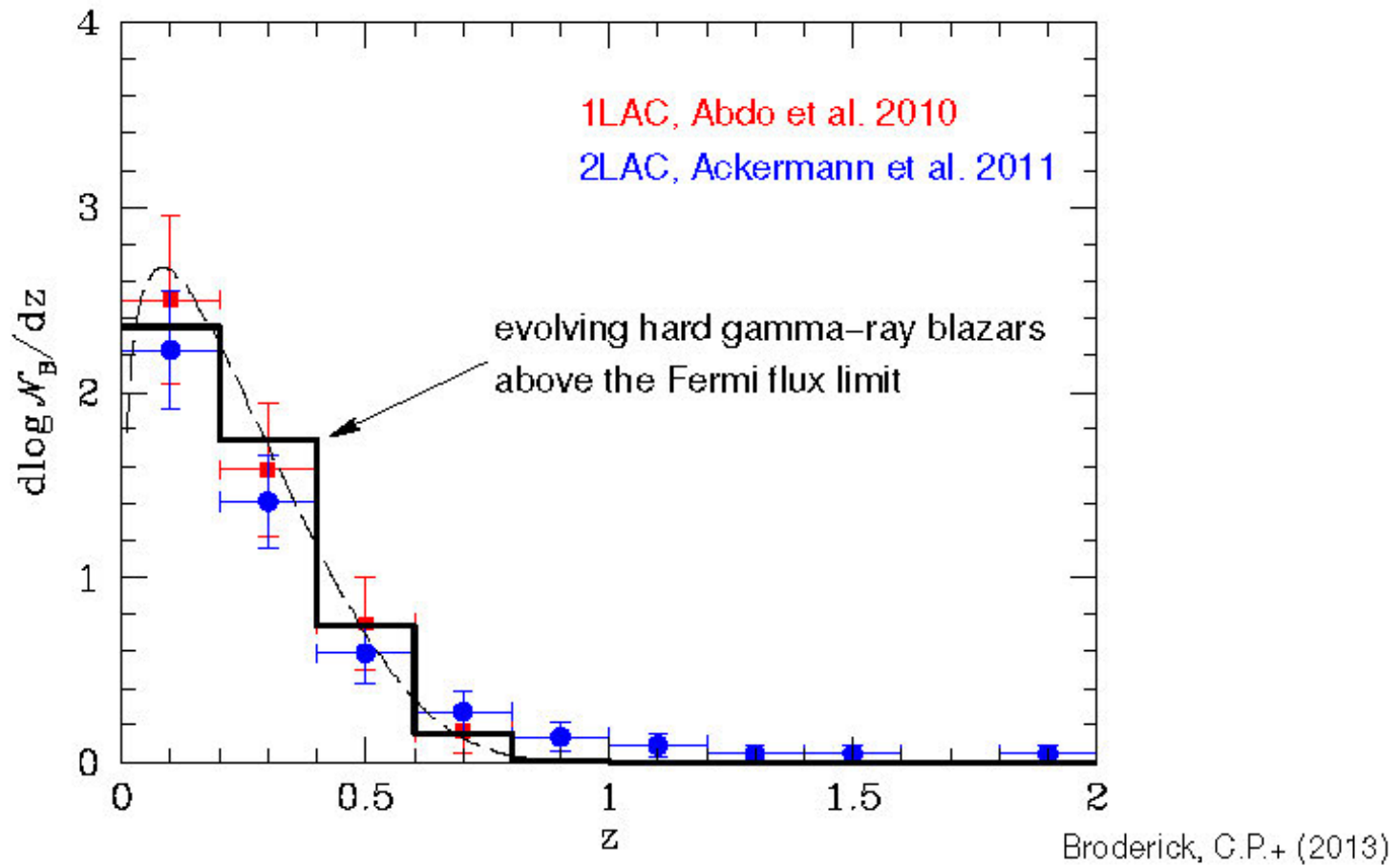
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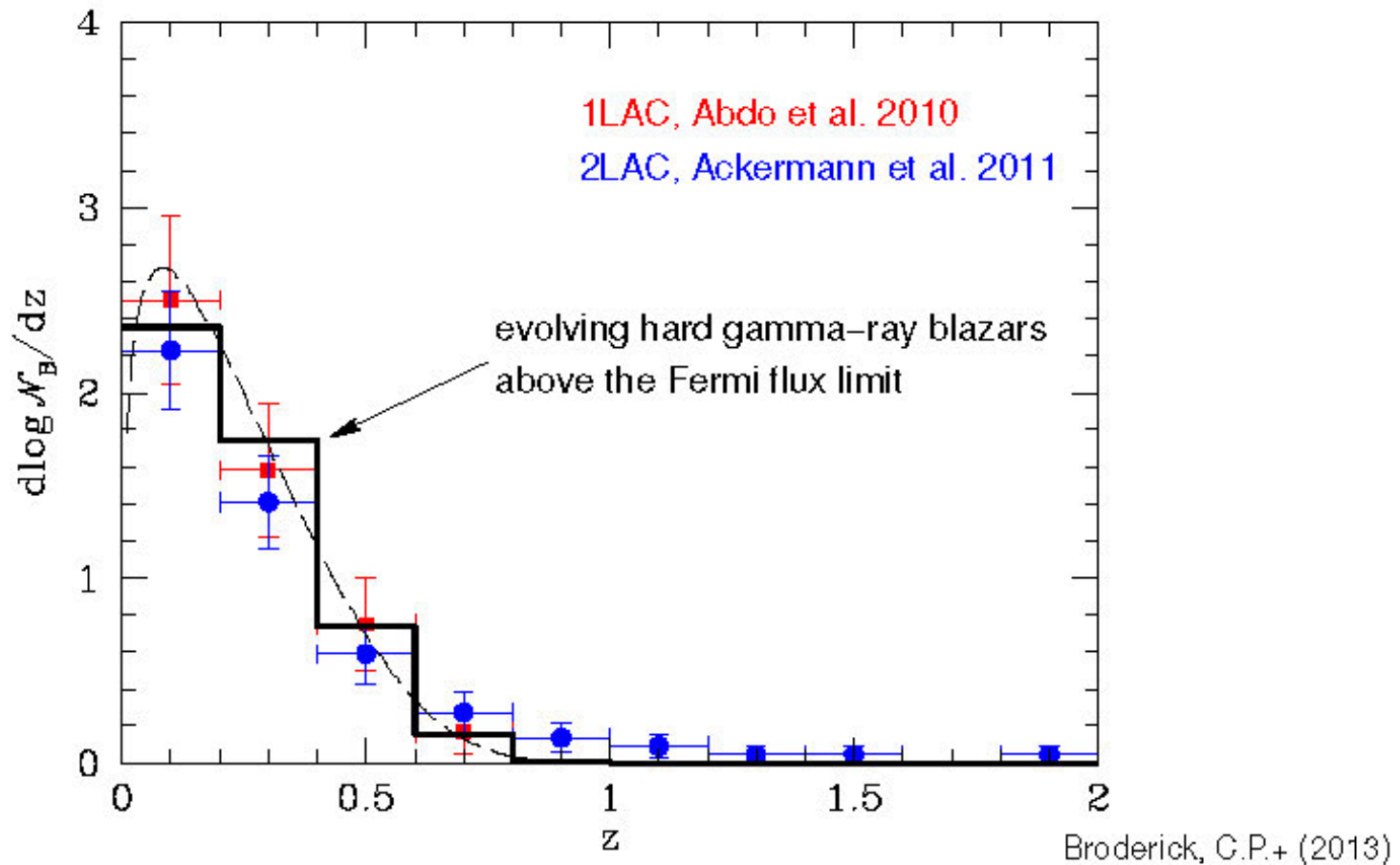


Hopkins+ (2007)

Redshift distribution of *Fermi* hard γ -ray blazars

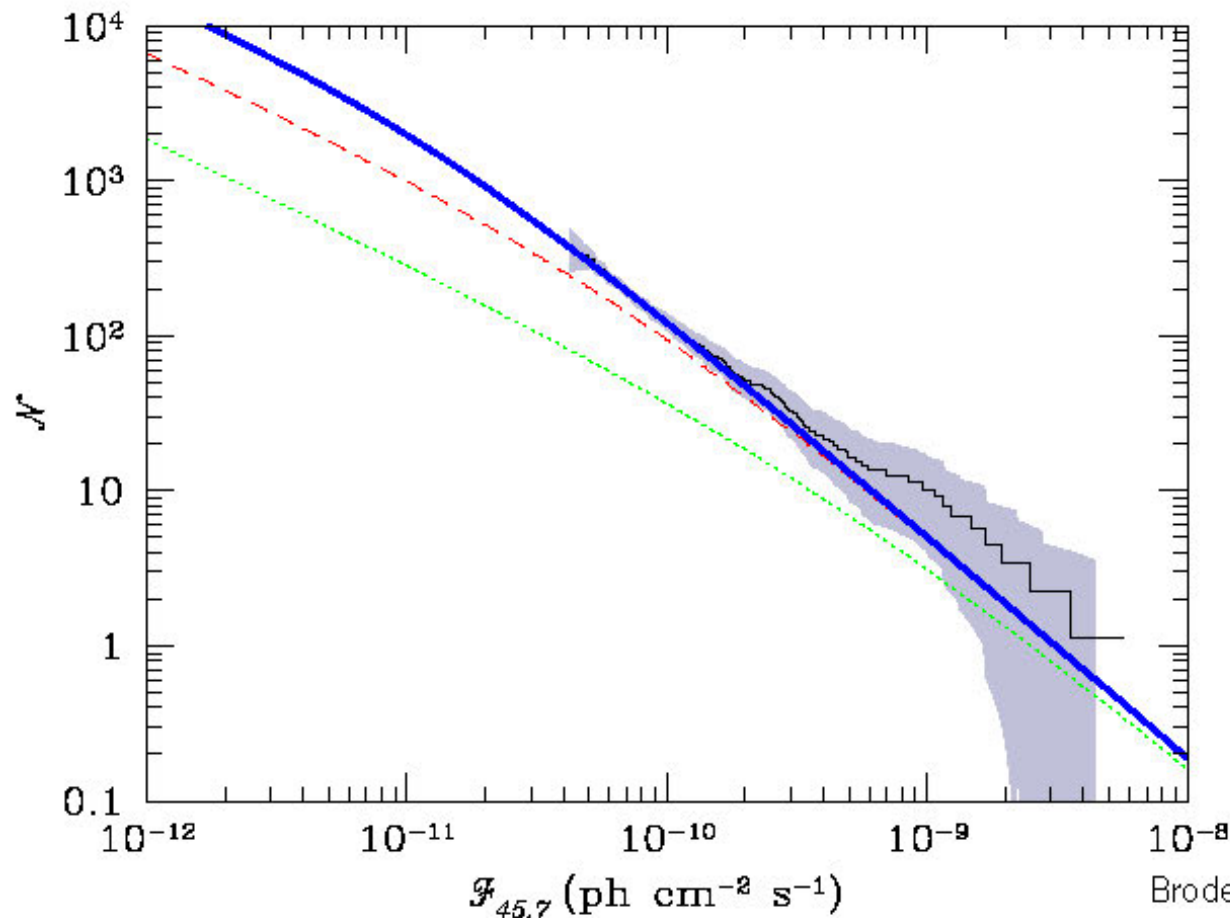


Redshift distribution of *Fermi* hard γ -ray blazars



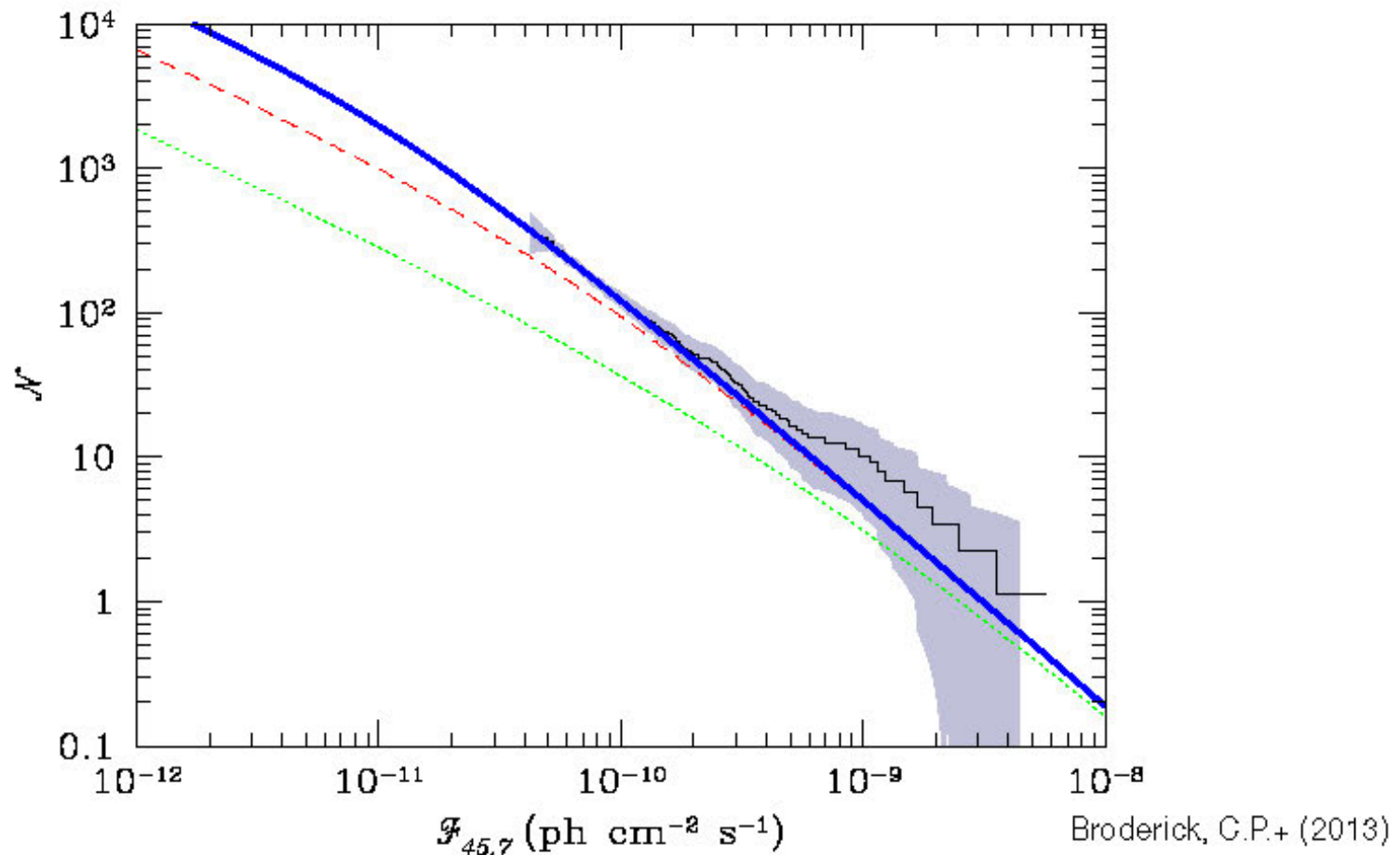
→ evolving (increasing) blazar population consistent with observed declining evolution (*Fermi* flux limit)!

$\log \mathcal{N} - \log S$ distribution of *Fermi* hard γ -ray blazars



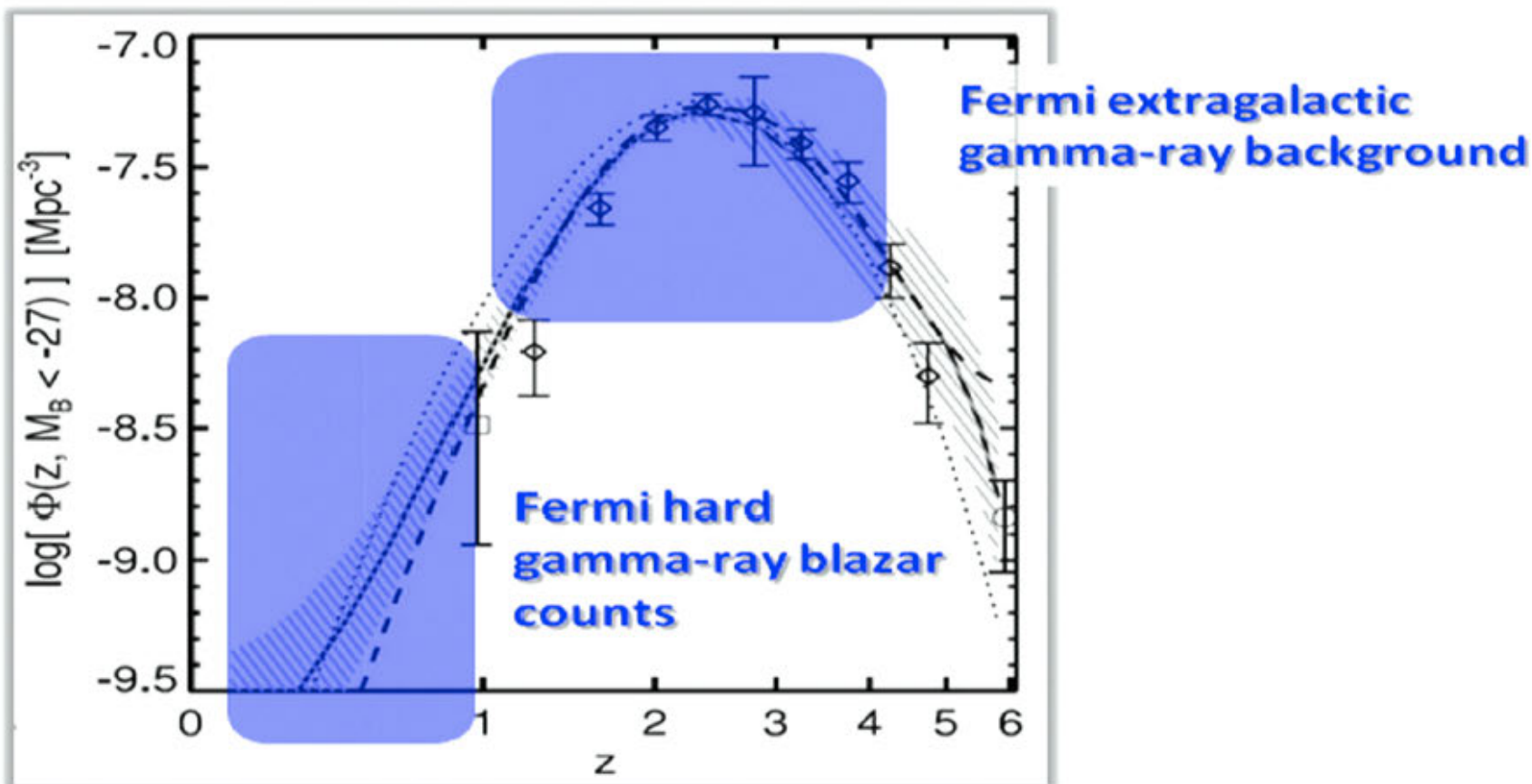
Broderick, G.P.+ (2013)

$\log \mathcal{N} - \log S$ distribution of *Fermi* hard γ -ray blazars



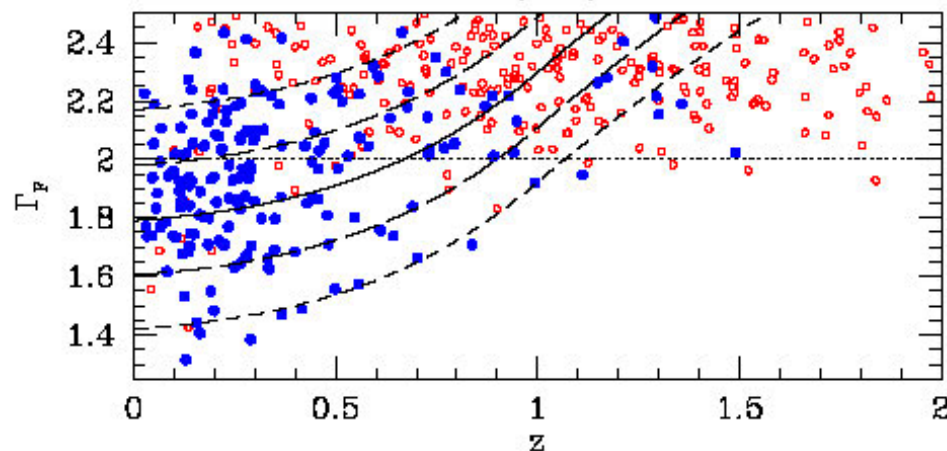
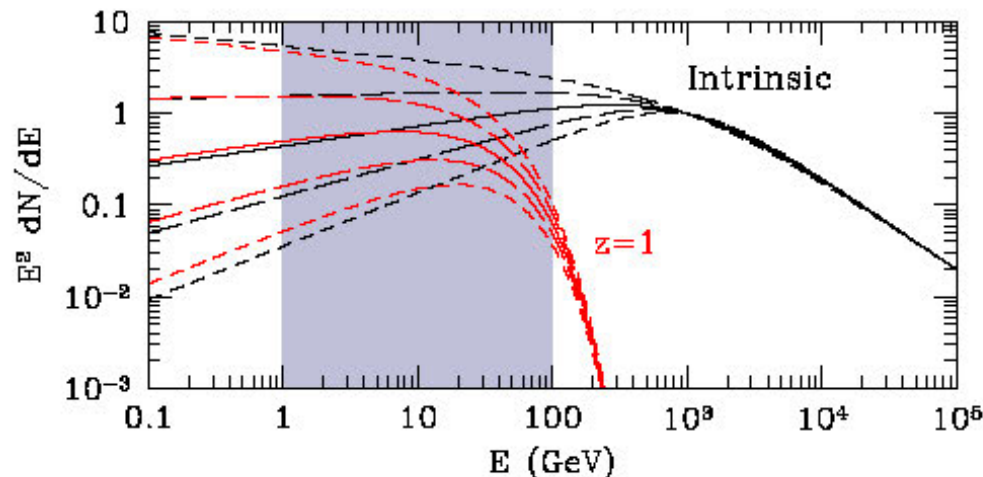
→ predicted and observed flux distributions of hard *Fermi* blazars between 10 GeV and 500 GeV are indistinguishable!

How many TeV blazars are there?



Hopkins+ (2007)

TeV photon absorption by pair production



intrinsic and **observed** SEDs of blazars at $z = 1$
 \rightarrow γ -ray attenuation by annihilation and pair producing on the EBL

inferred spectral index Γ_F for the spectra in the top panel; overlay of *Fermi* data on BL Lacs and **non-BL Lacs** (mostly **FSRQs**)

Broderick, C.P.+ (2013)

Extragalactic gamma-ray background

- intrinsic spectrum for a TeV blazar:

$$\frac{dN}{dE} = f \hat{F}_E = f \left[\left(\frac{E}{E_b} \right)^{\Gamma_l} + \left(\frac{E}{E_b} \right)^{\Gamma_h} \right]^{-1},$$

$E_b = 1$ TeV is break energy, $\Gamma_h = 3$ is high-energy spectral index,
 Γ_l related to Γ_F , which is drawn from observed distribution

- extragalactic gamma-ray background (EGRB):

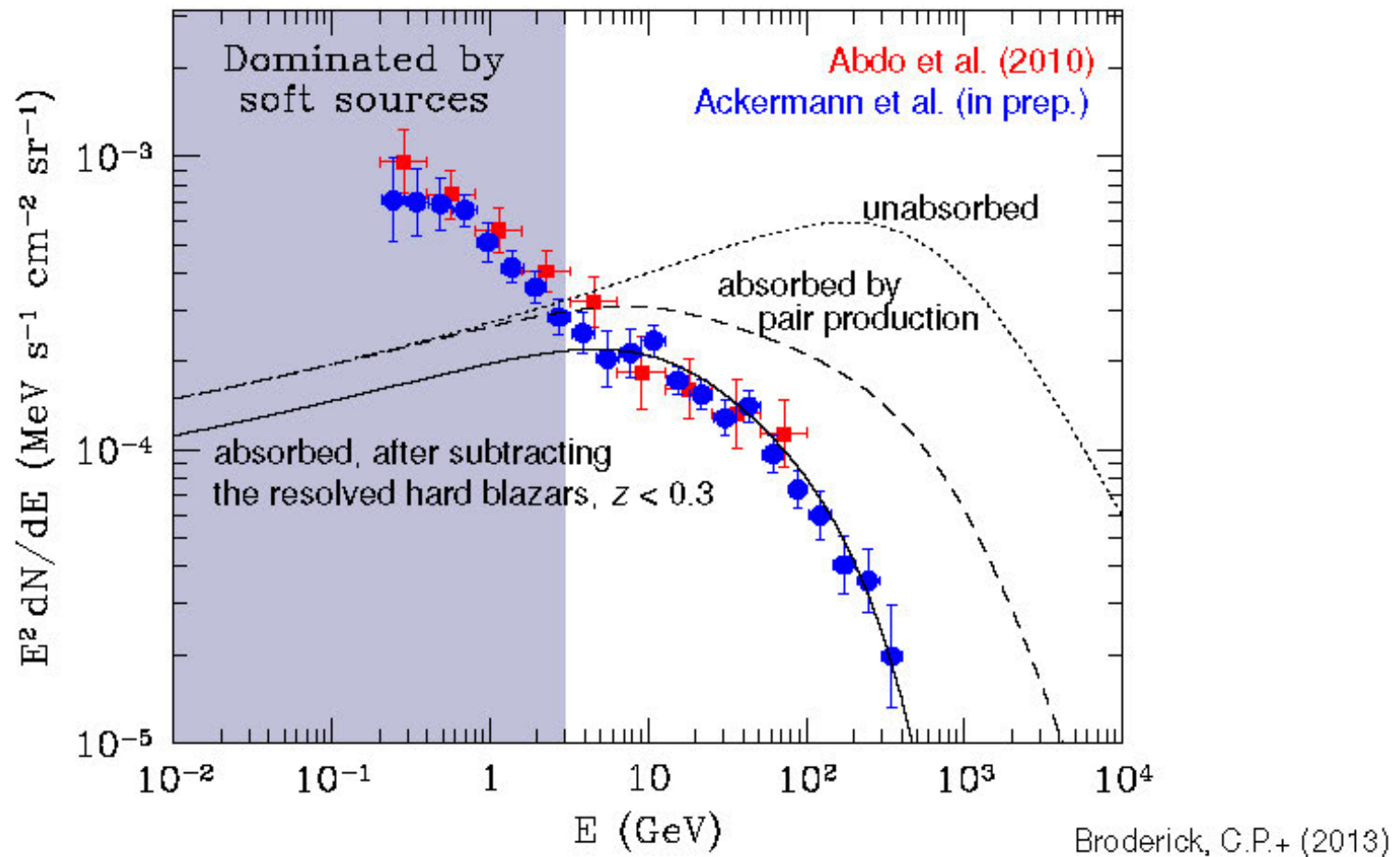
$$E^2 \frac{dN}{dE}(E, z) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_0^2 d\Gamma_l \int_z^\infty dV(z') \frac{\eta_B \tilde{\Lambda}_Q(z') \hat{F}_{E'}}{4\pi D_L^2} e^{-\tau_E(E', z')},$$

$E' = E(1 + z')$ is gamma-ray energy at *emission*,

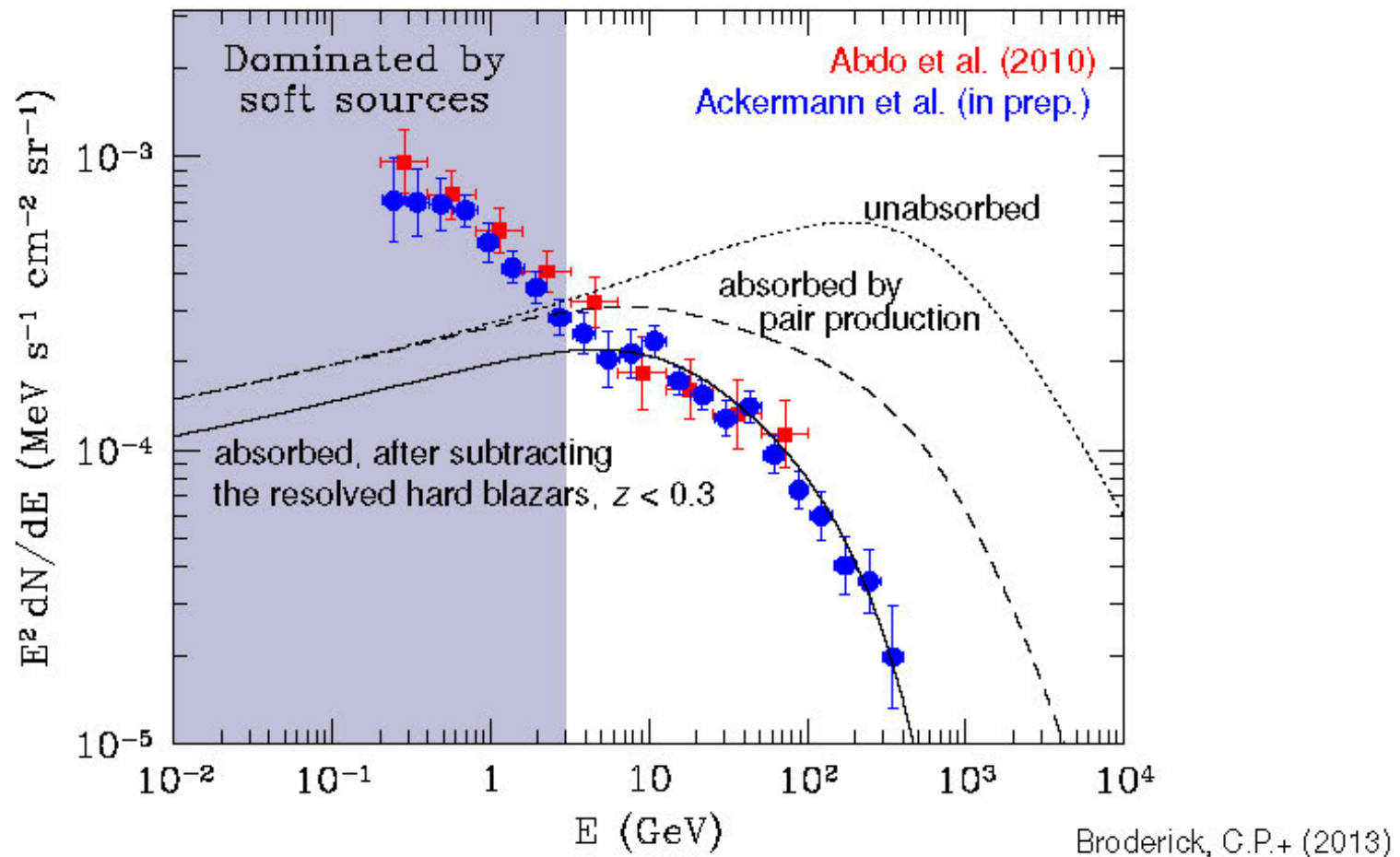
$\tilde{\Lambda}_Q$ is physical quasar luminosity density,

$\eta_B \sim 0.2\%$ is blazar fraction, τ is optical depth

Extragalactic gamma-ray background

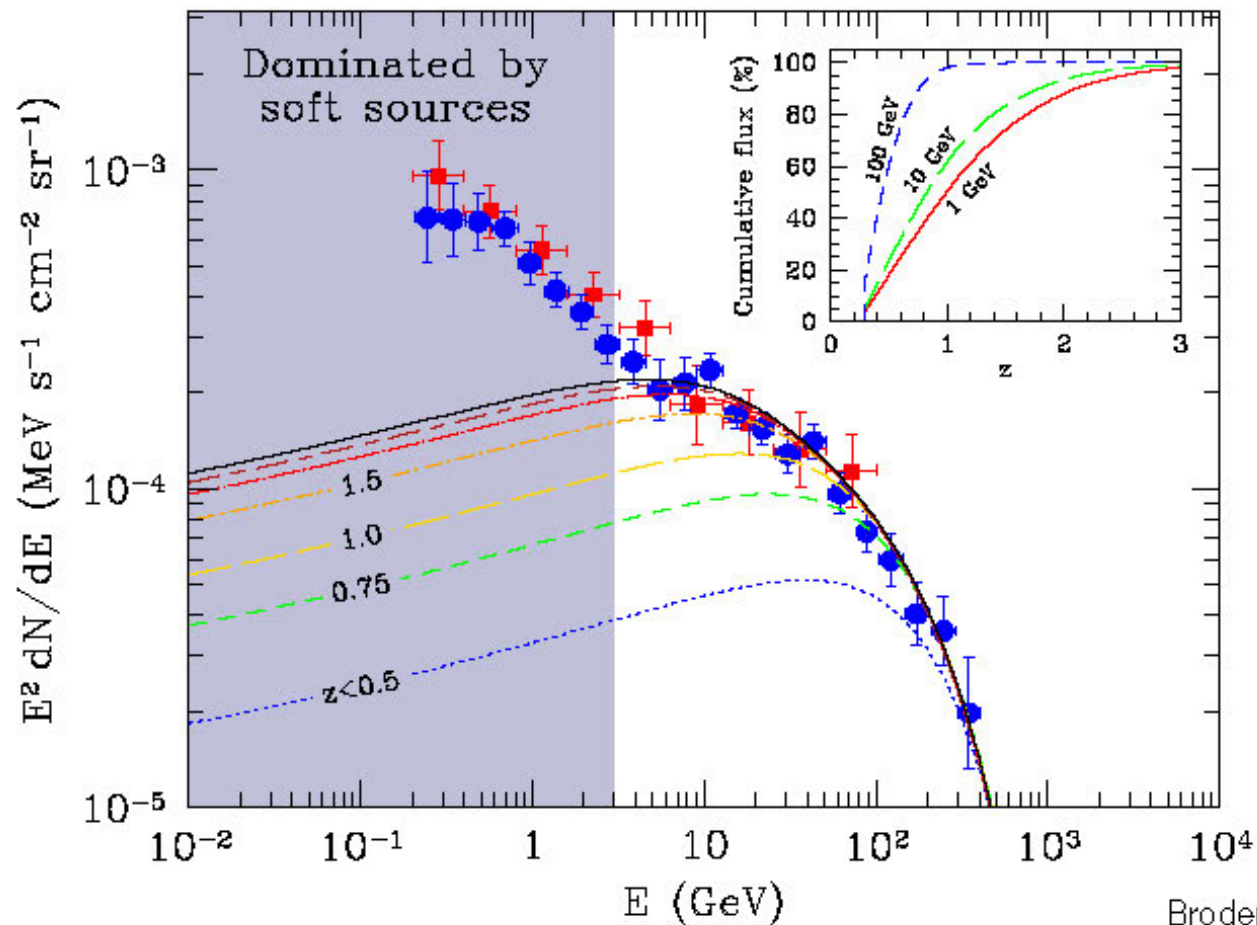


Extragalactic gamma-ray background



→ evolving population of hard blazars provides excellent match to latest EGRB by *Fermi* for $E \gtrsim 3$ GeV

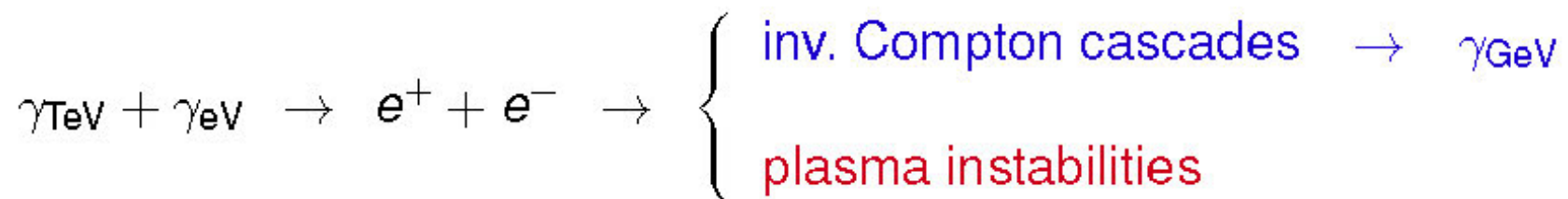
Extragalactic gamma-ray background



Broderick, G.P.+ (2013)

→ the signal at 10 (100) GeV is dominated by redshifts $z \sim 1.2$
($z \sim 0.6$)

TeV emission from blazars – a new paradigm



absence of γ_{GeV} 's has significant implications for ...

- intergalactic magnetic field estimates
- unified picture of TeV blazars and quasars:
explains *Fermi's* γ -ray background and blazar number counts

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additional IGM heating has significant implications for ...

- thermal history of the IGM: Lyman- α forest
- late-time formation of dwarf galaxies

Blazar heating vs. photoheating

- total power from AGN/stars vastly exceeds the TeV power of blazars

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- $T_{\text{IGM}} \sim 10^4$ K (1 eV) at mean density ($z \sim 2$)

$$\varepsilon_{\text{th}} = \frac{kT}{m_p c^2} \sim 10^{-9}$$

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- radiative energy ratio emitted by BHs in the Universe (Fukugita & Peebles 2004)

$$\varepsilon_{\text{rad}} = \eta \Omega_{\text{bh}} \sim 0.1 \times 10^{-4} \sim 10^{-5}$$

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- fraction of the energy energetic enough to ionize H I is ~ 0.1 :

$$\varepsilon_{\text{UV}} \sim 0.1 \varepsilon_{\text{rad}} \sim 10^{-6} \quad \rightarrow \quad kT \sim \text{keV}$$

Blazar heating vs. photoheating

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(limited by the abundance of H I/He II due to the small recombination rate)

Blazar heating vs. photoheating

- total power from AGN/stars vastly exceeds the TeV power of blazars
- $T_{\text{IGM}} \sim 10^4$ K (1 eV) at mean density ($z \sim 2$)

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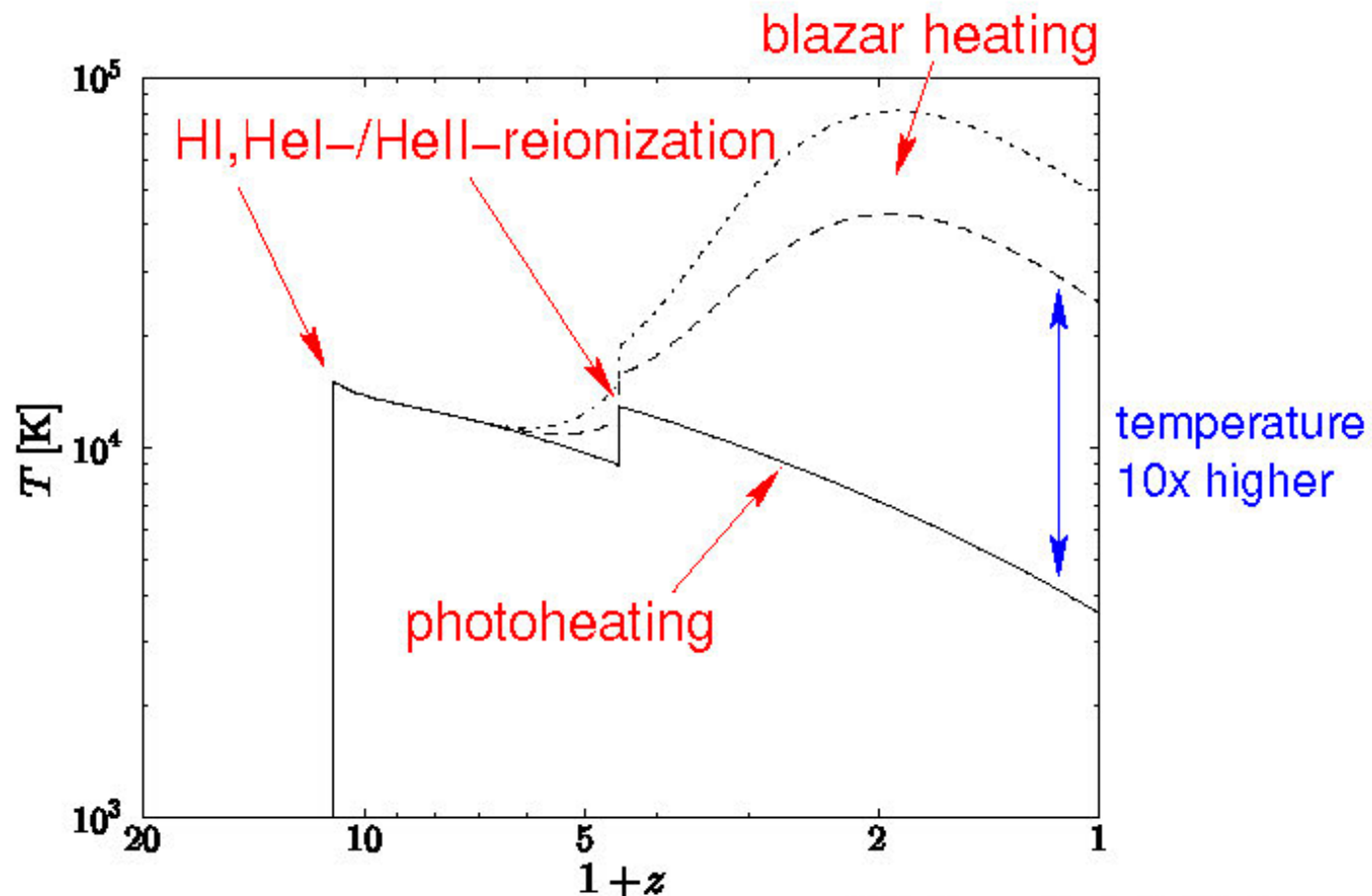
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(limited by the total power of TeV sources)

Thermal history of the IGM

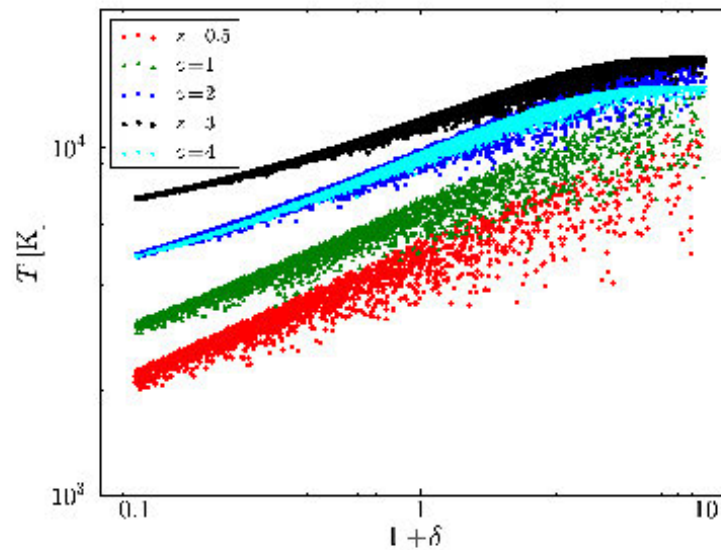


C.P., Chang, Broderick (2012)

→ increased temperature at **mean** density!

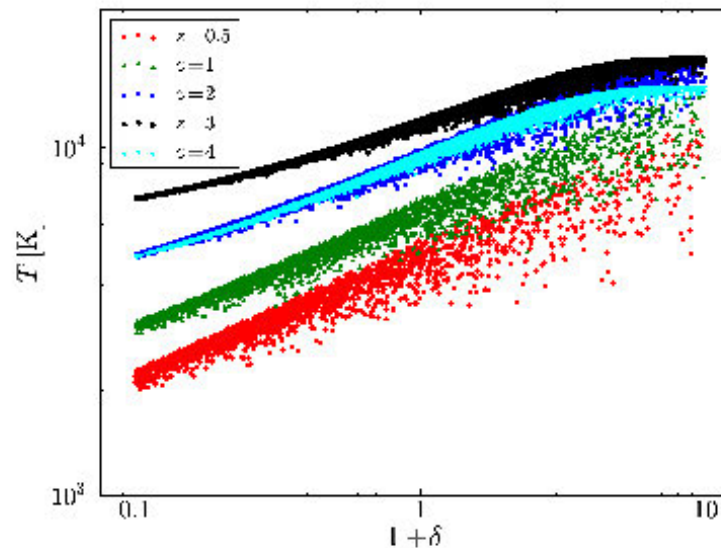
Evolution of the temperature-density relation

no blazar heating



Evolution of the temperature-density relation

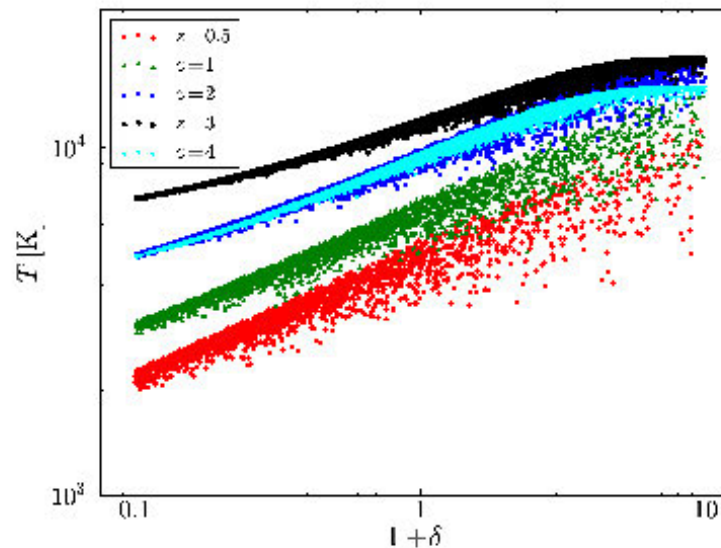
no blazar heating



- blazars and extragalactic background light are uniform:
→ blazar heating rate independent of density

Evolution of the temperature-density relation

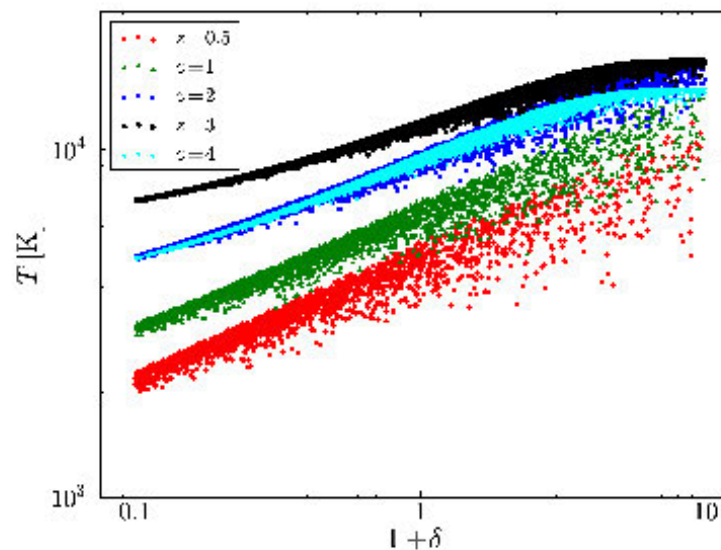
no blazar heating



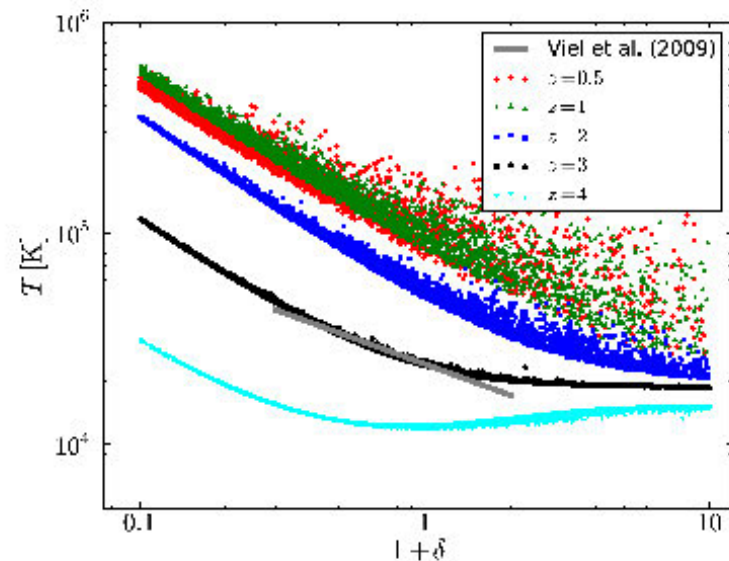
- blazars and extragalactic background light are uniform:
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 - causes inverted temperature-density relation, $T \propto 1/\delta$

Evolution of the temperature-density relation

no blazar heating



with blazar heating

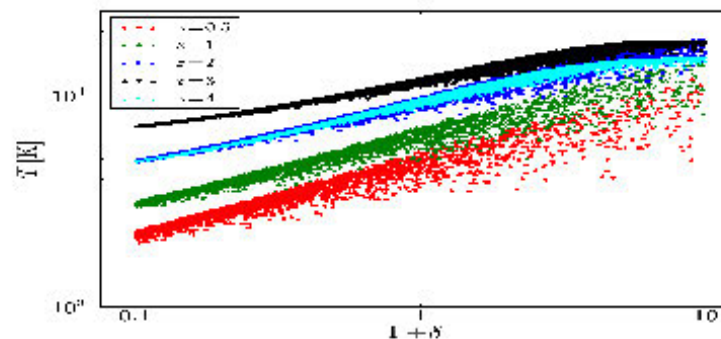


Chang, Broderick, C.P. (2012)

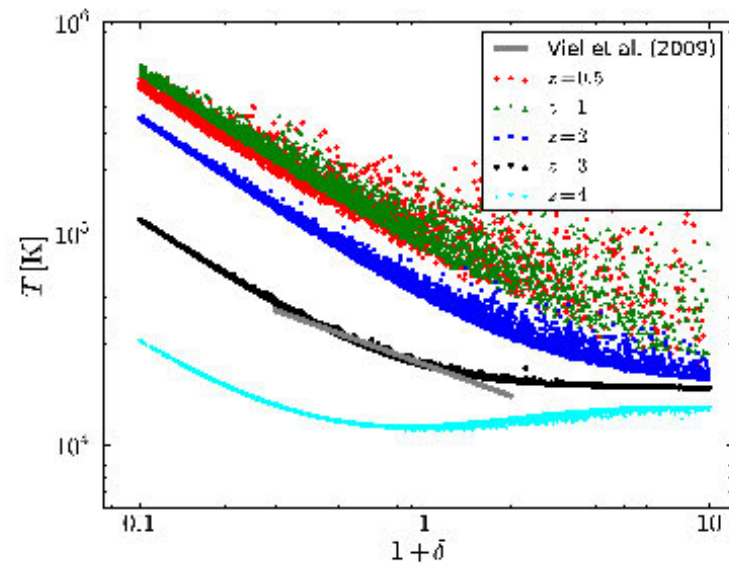
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Blazars cause hot voids

no blazar heating



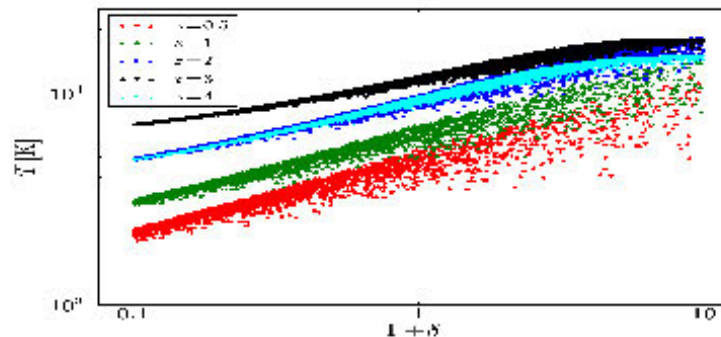
with blazar heating



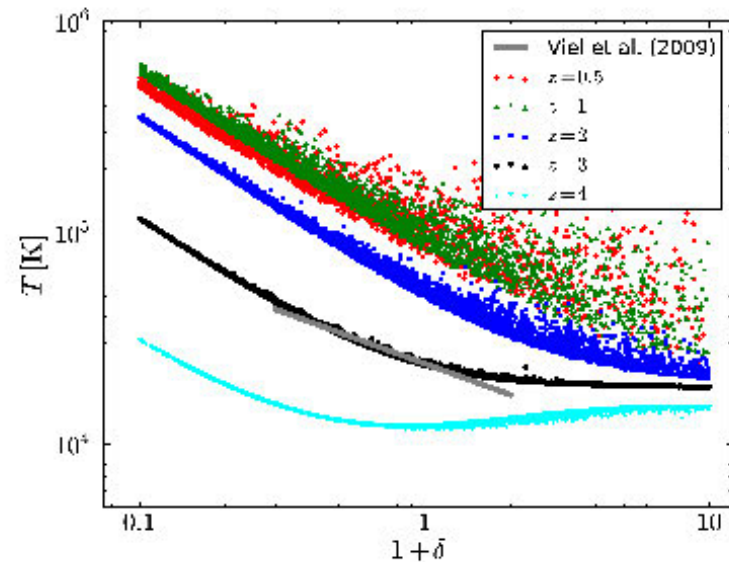
Chang, Broderick, C.P. (2012)

Blazars cause hot voids

no blazar heating



with blazar heating

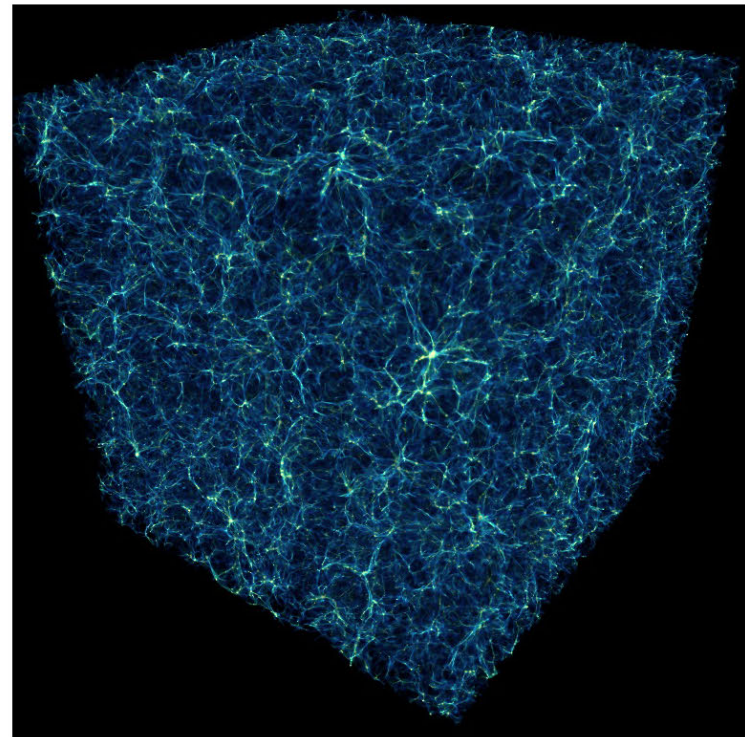


Chang, Broderick, C.P. (2012)

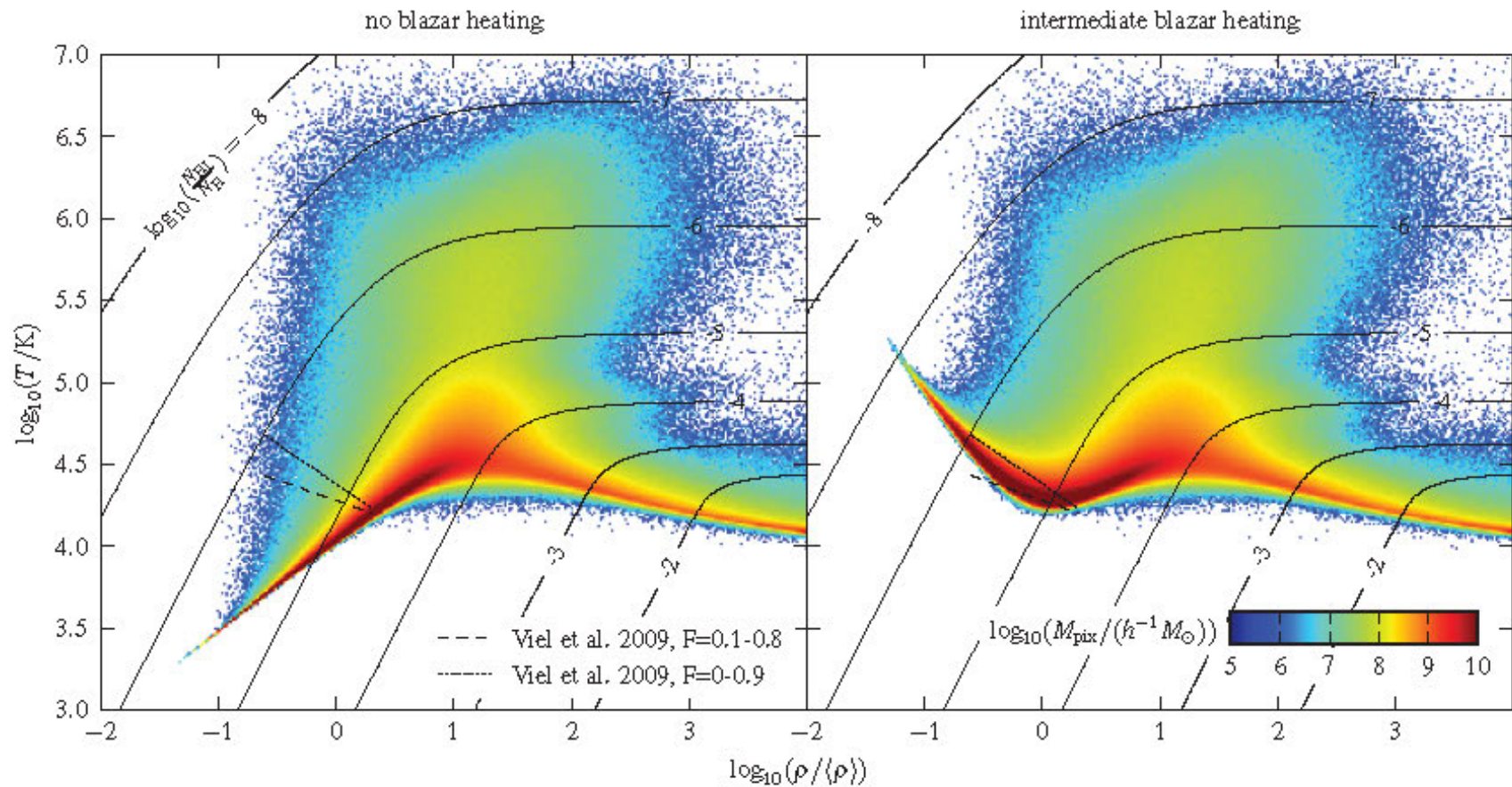
- blazars completely change the thermal history of the diffuse IGM and late-time structure formation

Cosmological hydrodynamical simulations

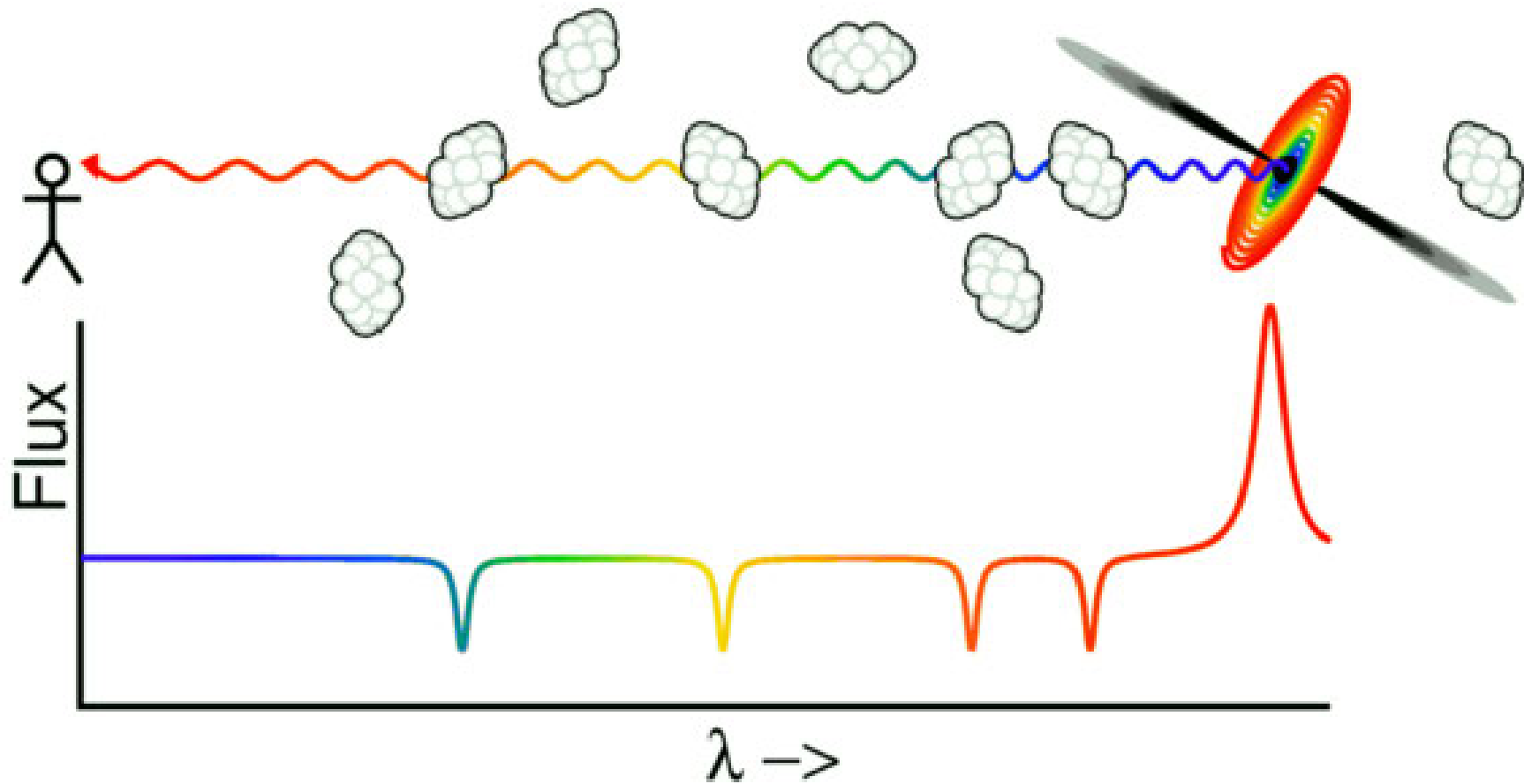
- include predicted volumetric heating rate in cosmological hydrodynamical simulations
- study:
 - thermal properties of intergalactic medium
 - Lyman- α forest



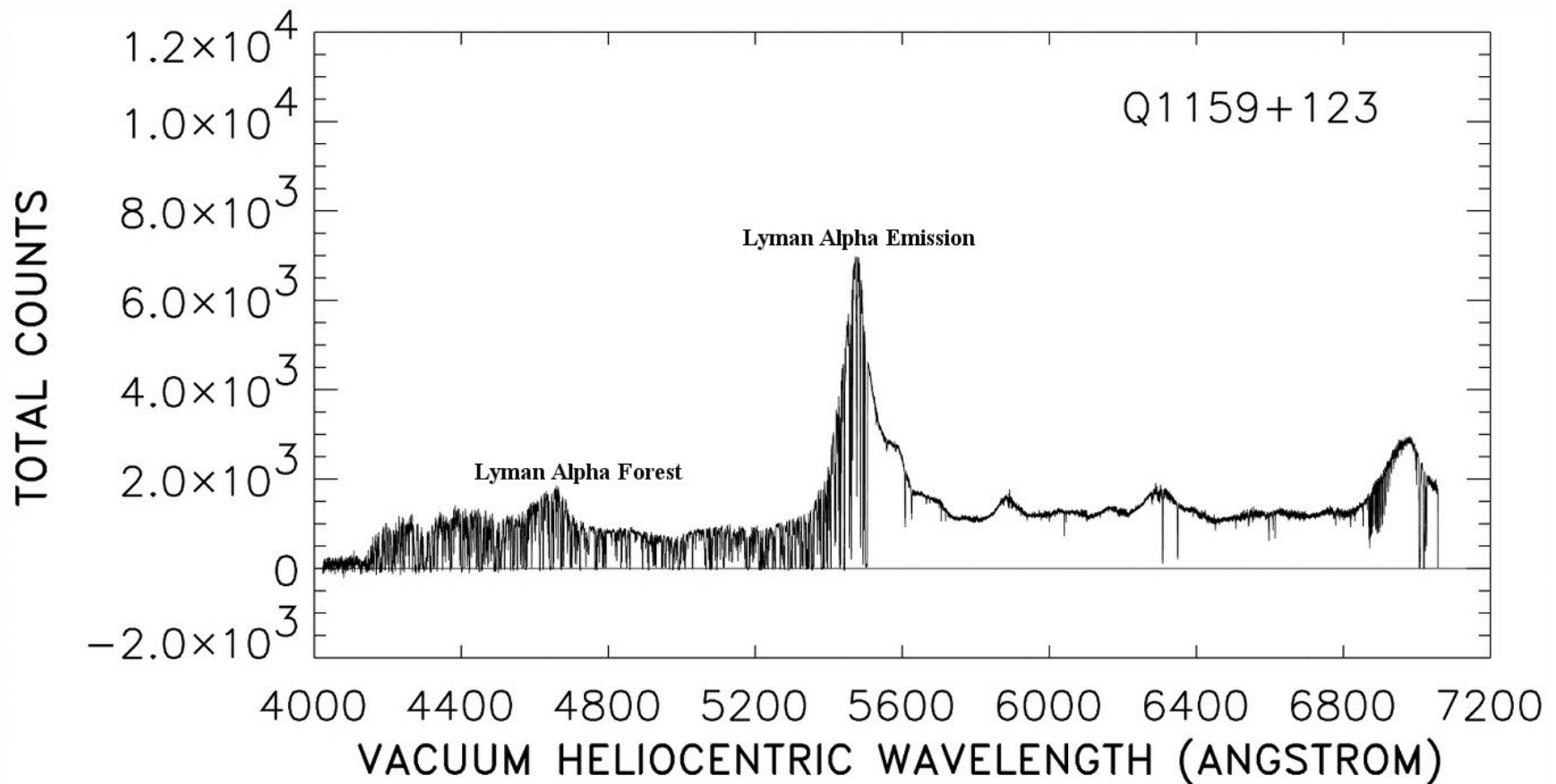
Temperature-density relation



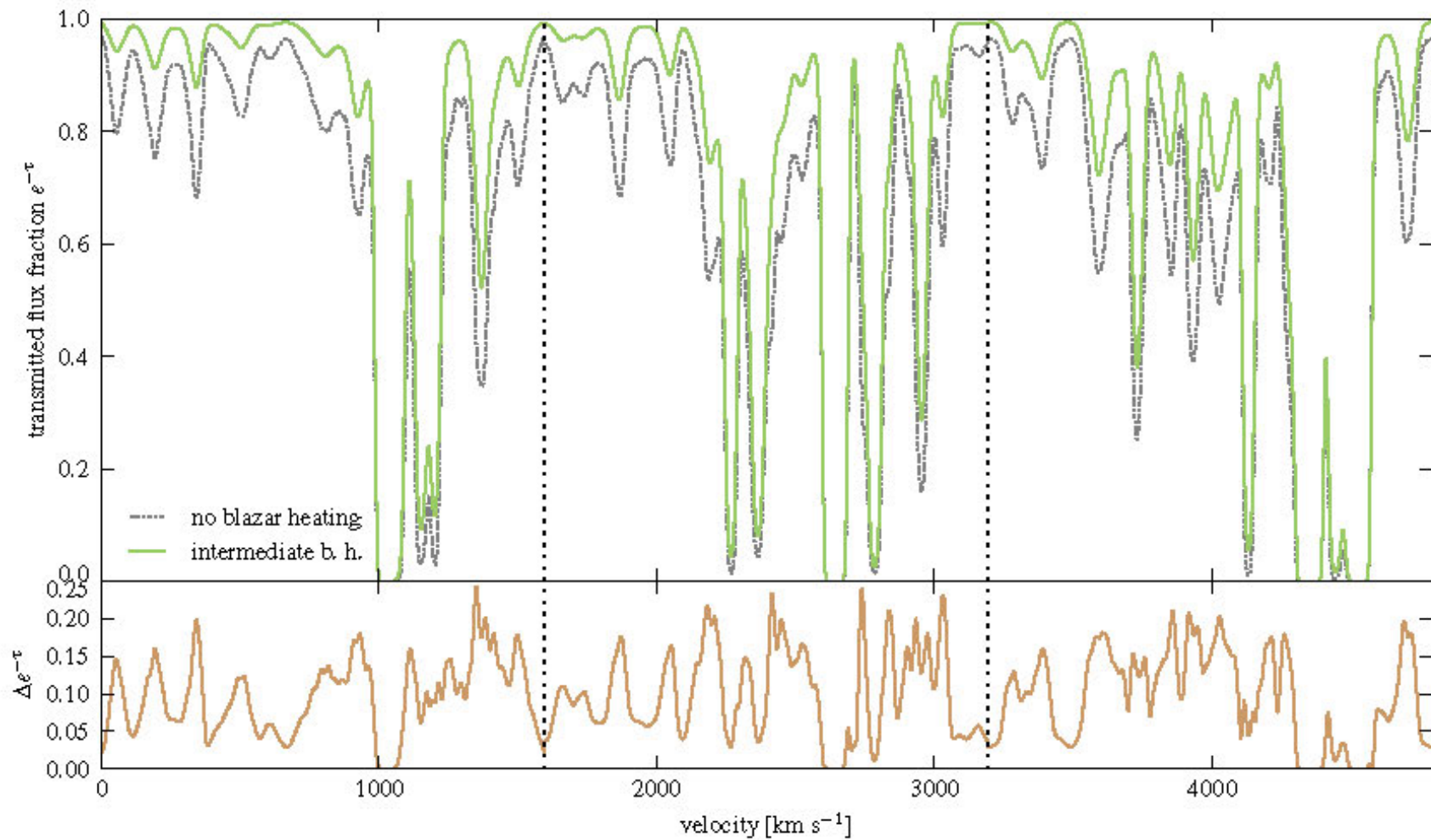
The Lyman- α forest



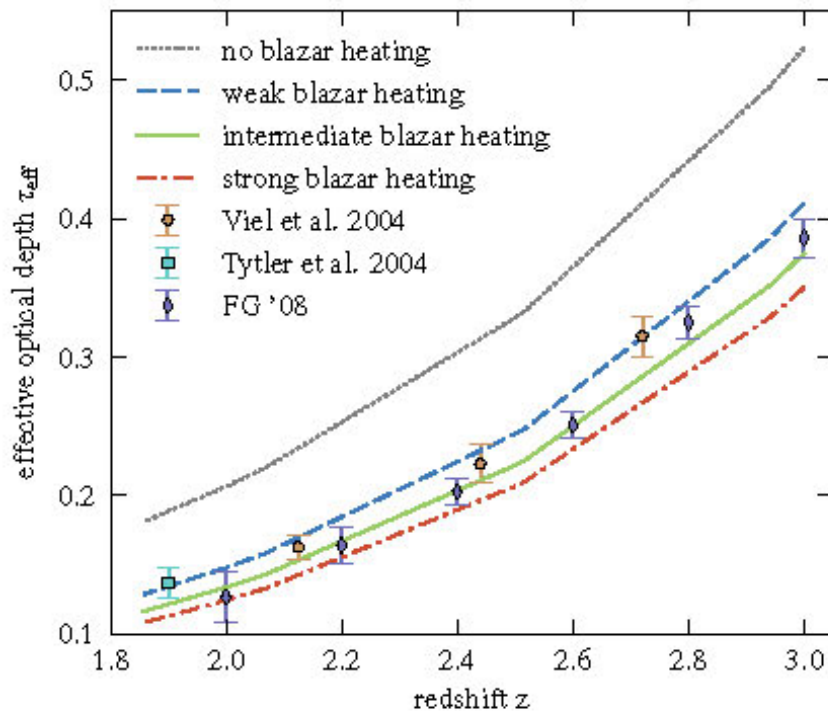
The observed Lyman- α forest



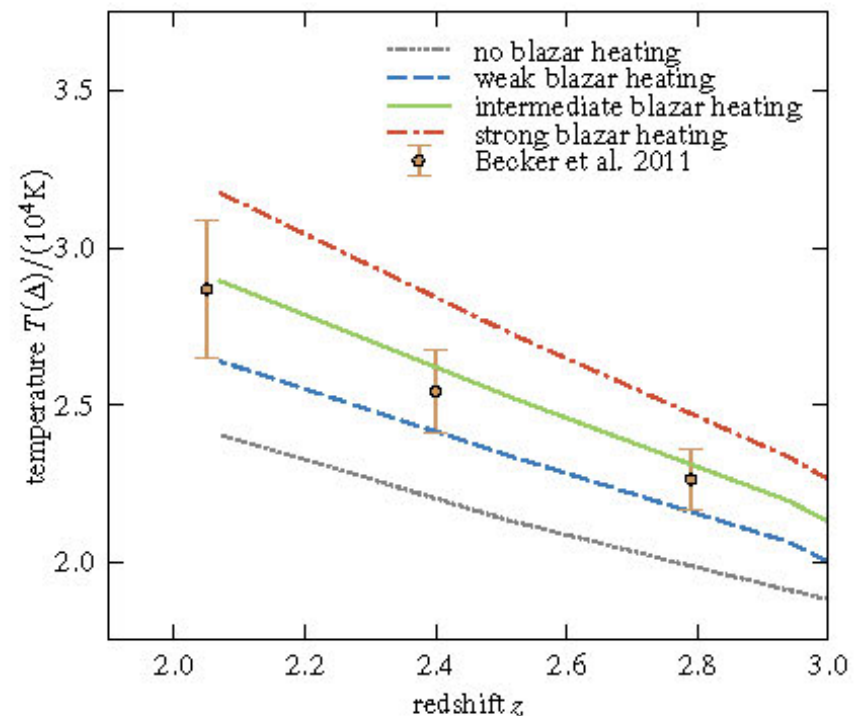
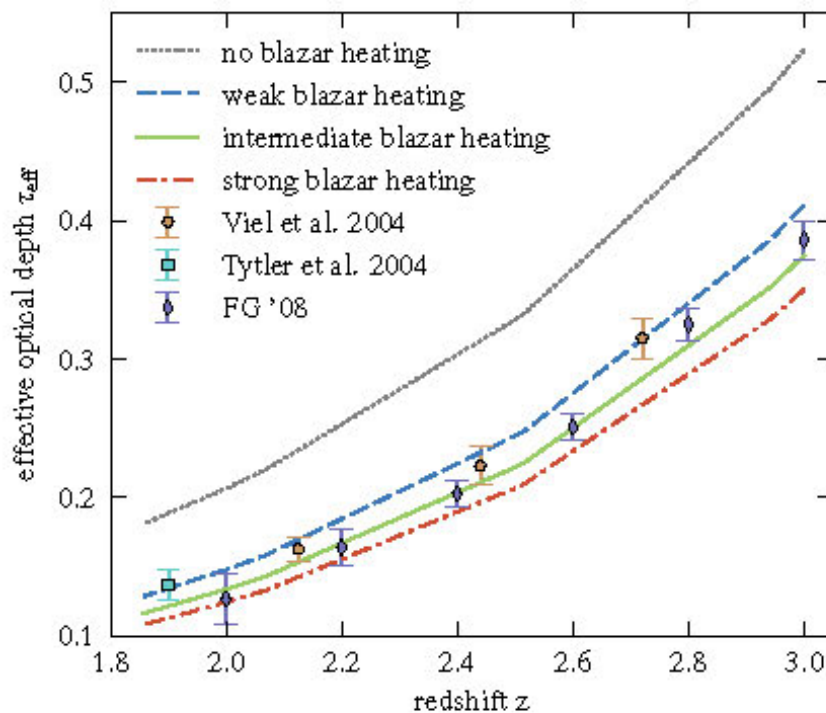
The simulated Ly- α forest



Optical depths and temperatures



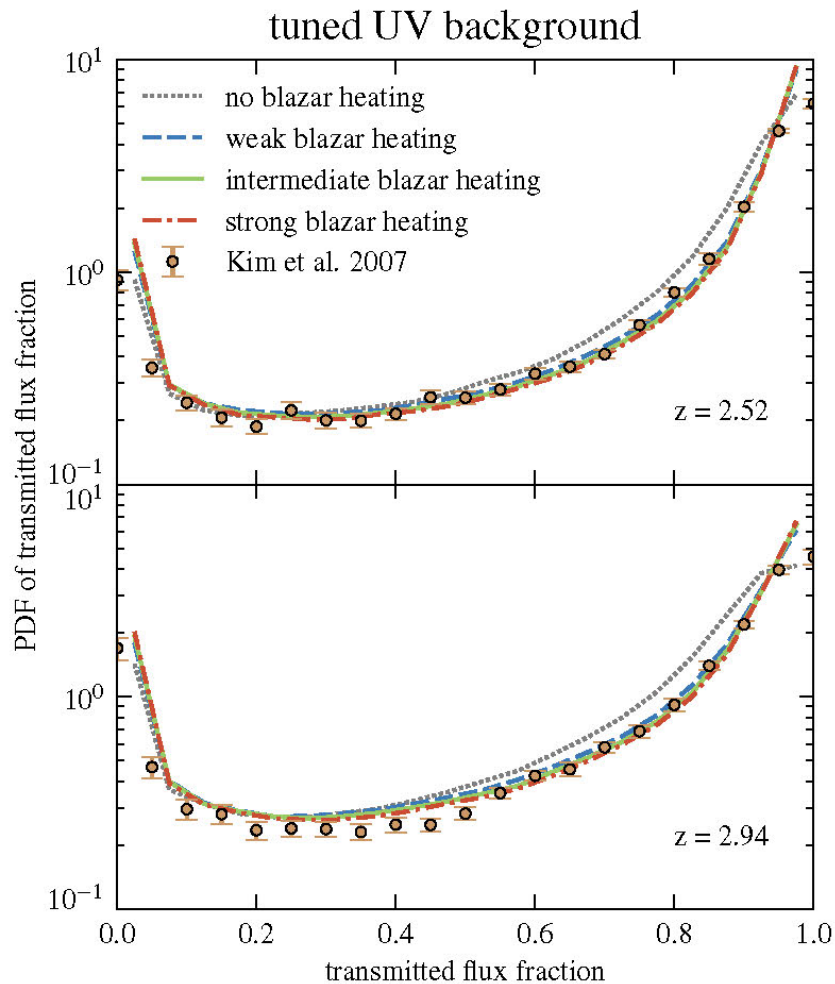
Optical depths and temperatures



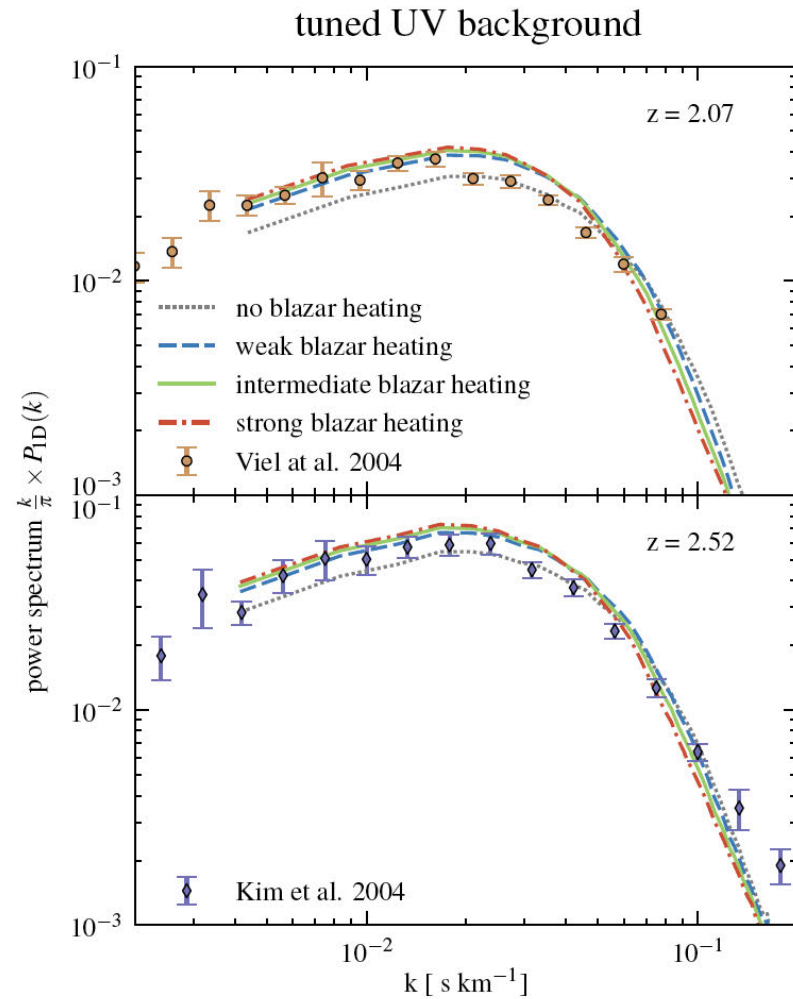
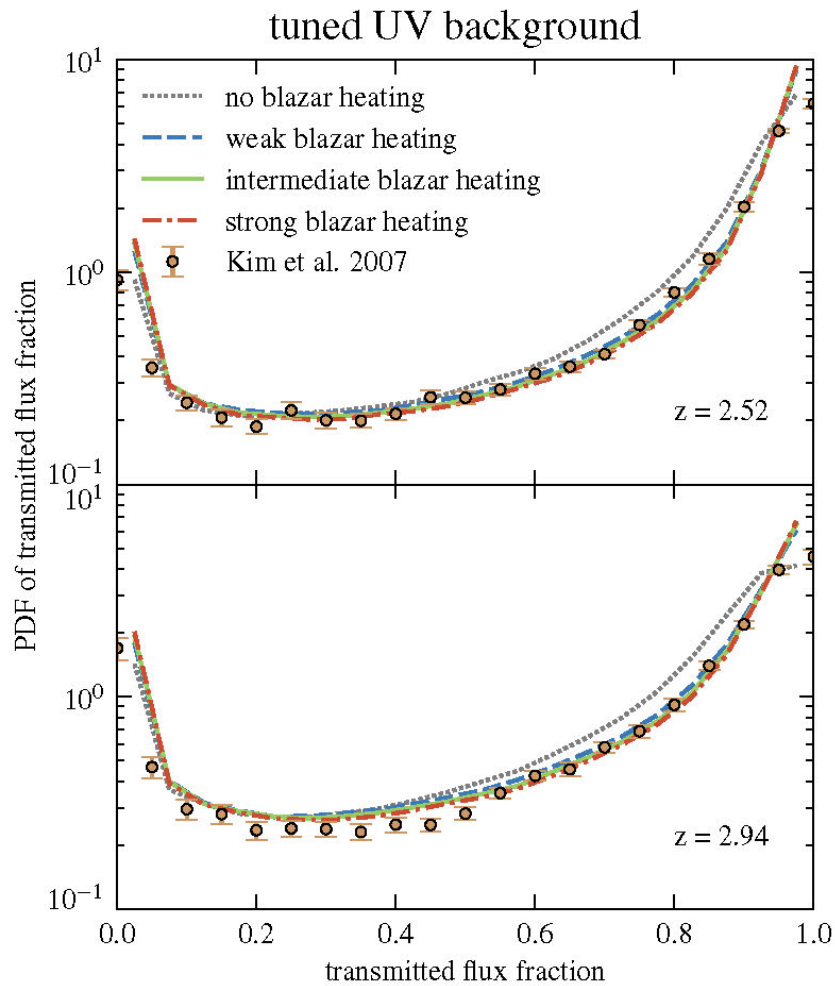
Puchwein, G.P.+ (2012)

Redshift evolutions of effective optical depth and IGM temperature match data only with additional heating, e.g., provided by blazars!

Ly- α flux PDFs and power spectra



Ly- α flux PDFs and power spectra

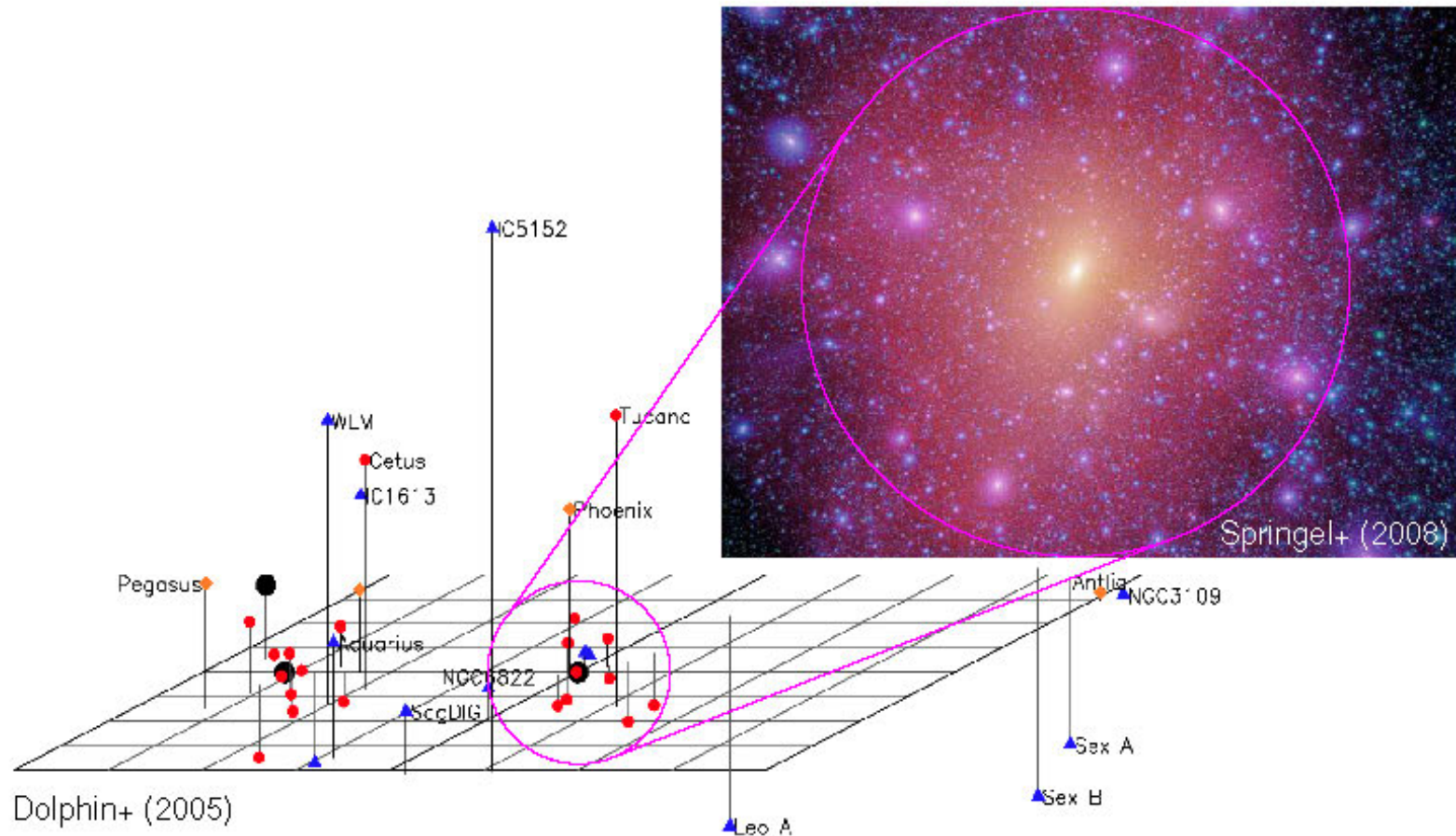


Lyman- α forest in a blazar heated Universe

improvement in modelling the Lyman- α forest is a direct consequence of the peculiar properties of blazar heating:

- **heating rate independent of IGM density** \rightarrow naturally produces the inverted $T-\rho$ relation that Lyman- α forest data demand
- **recent and continuous nature of the heating** is needed to match the redshift evolutions of all Lyman- α forest statistics
- **magnitude of the heating rate required by Lyman- α forest data**
 \sim the total energy output of TeV blazars (or equivalently $\sim 0.2\%$ of that of quasars)

“Missing satellite” problem in the Milky Way



Substructures in cold DM simulations much more numerous than observed number of Milky Way satellites!

Dwarf galaxy formation

- thermal pressure opposes gravitational collapse on small scales
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\rightarrow blazar heating increases M_J by 30 over pure photoheating!

Dwarf galaxy formation

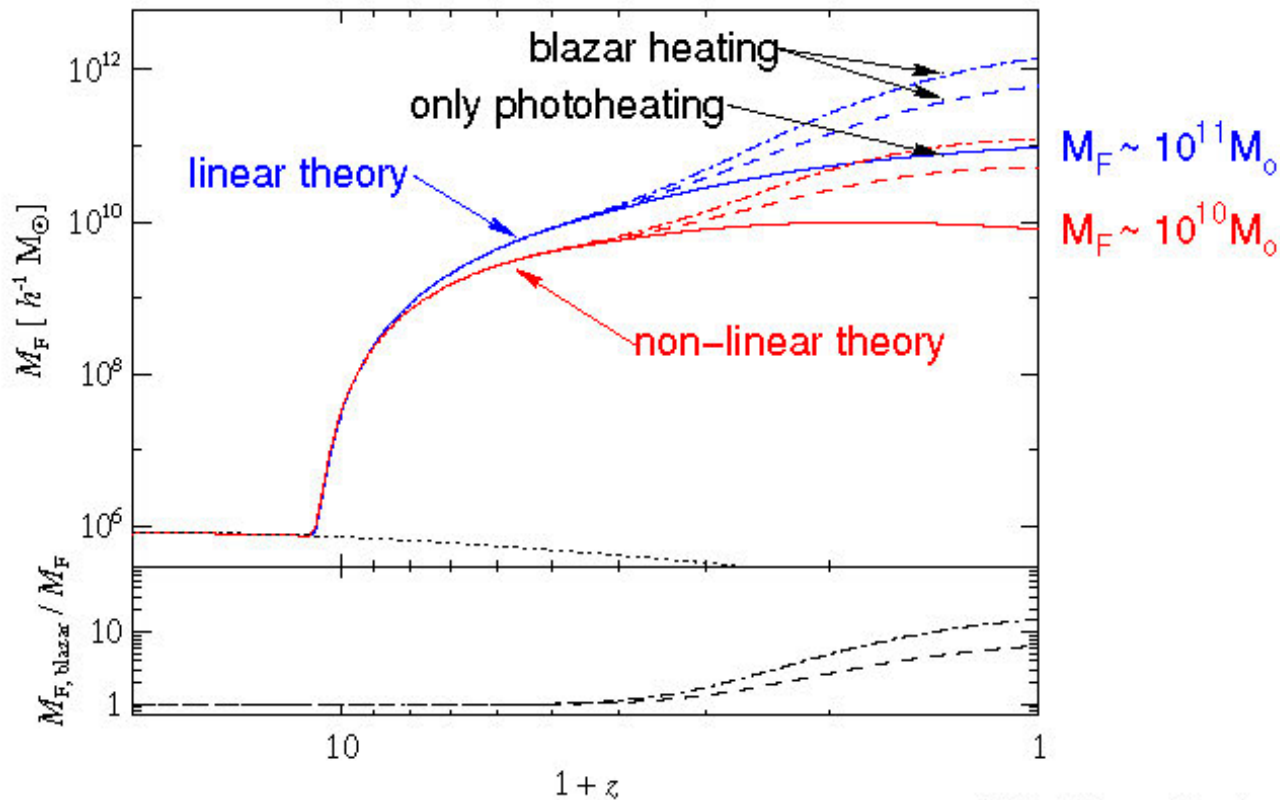
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- complications:
non-linear collapse,
delayed pressure response in expanding universe \rightarrow concept of
“filtering mass”

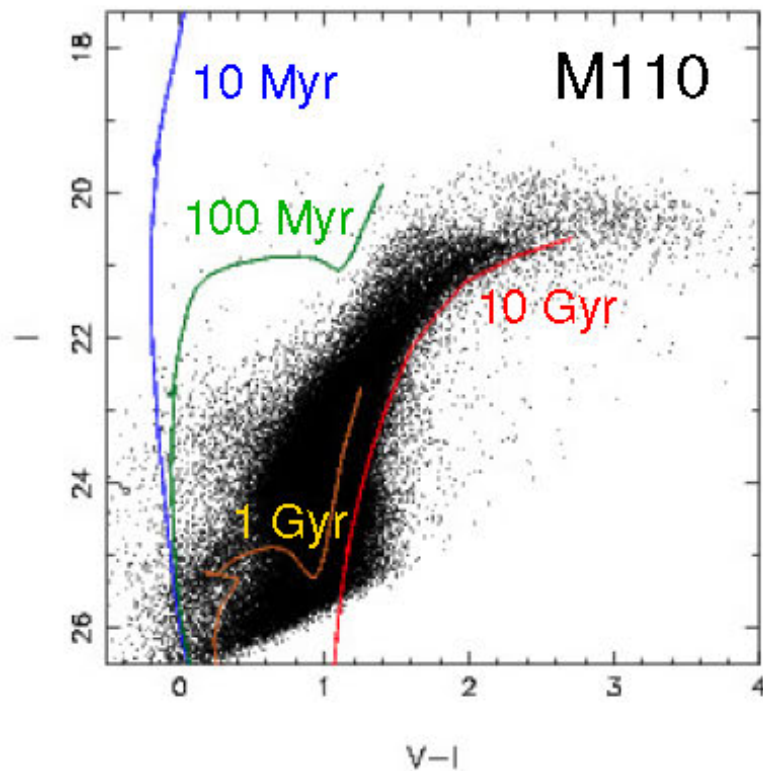
Dwarf galaxy formation suppressed



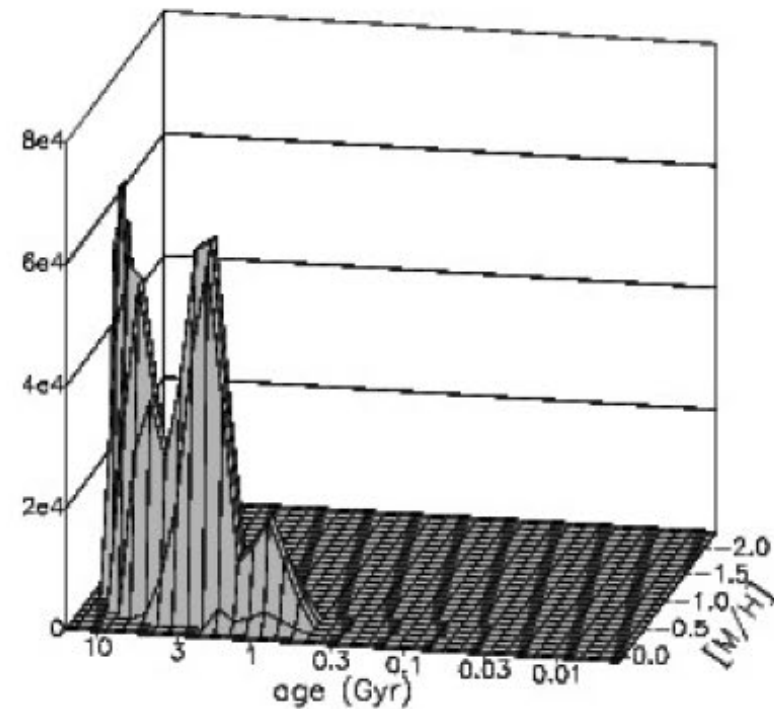
C.P. Chang, Broderick (2012)

- blazar heating suppresses the formation of late-forming dwarfs within existing dark matter halos of masses $< 10^{11} M_\odot$
→ introduces new time and mass scale to galaxy formation!

When do dwarfs form?

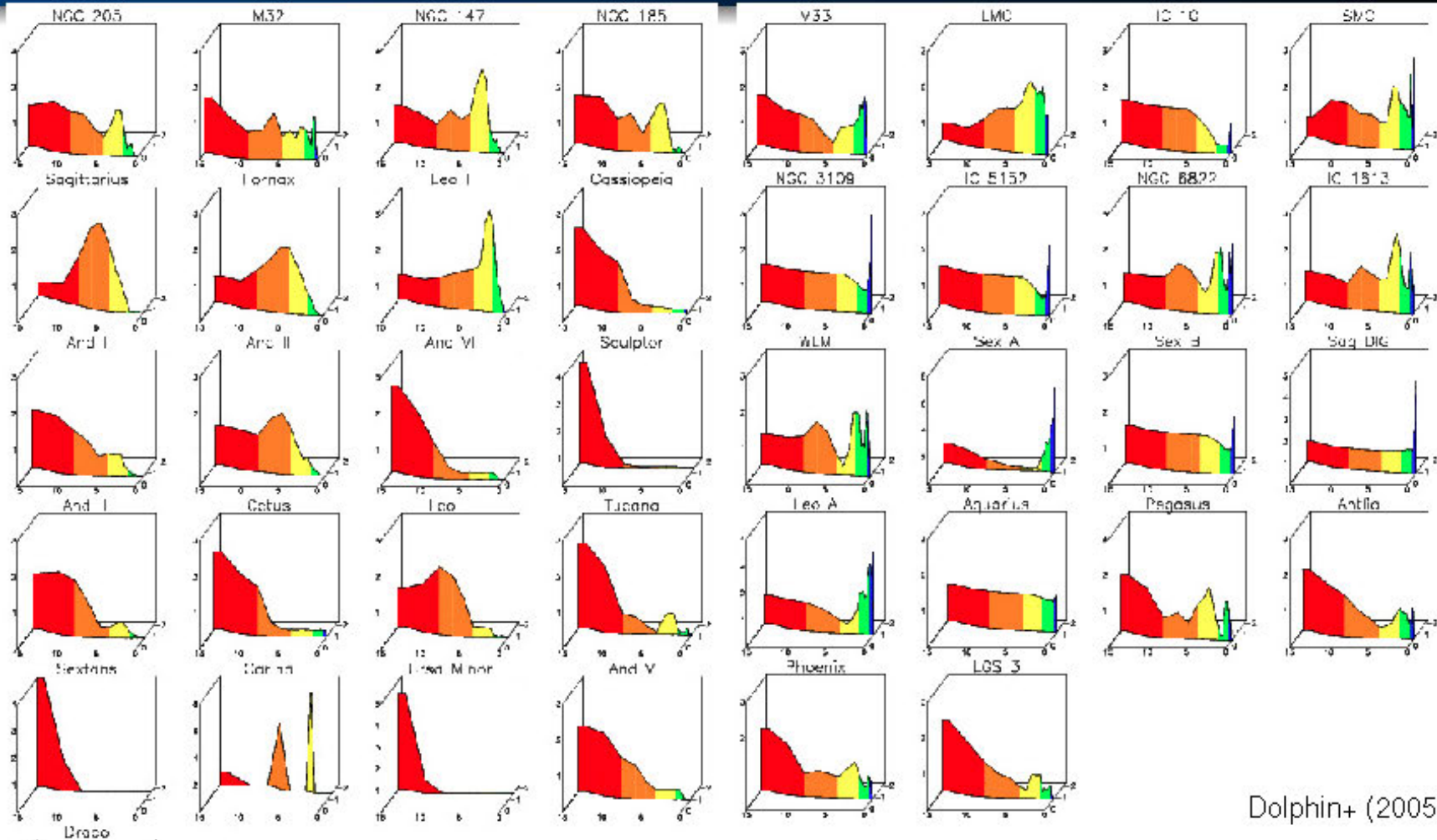


Dolphin+ (2005)



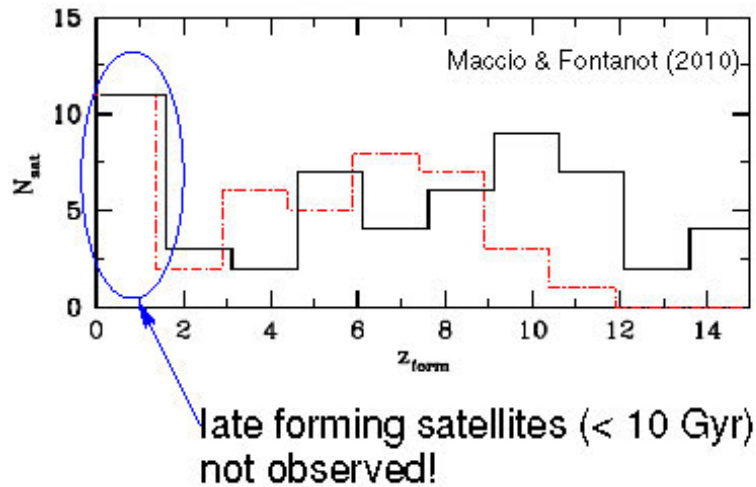
isochrone fitting for different metallicities \rightarrow star formation histories

When do dwarfs form?



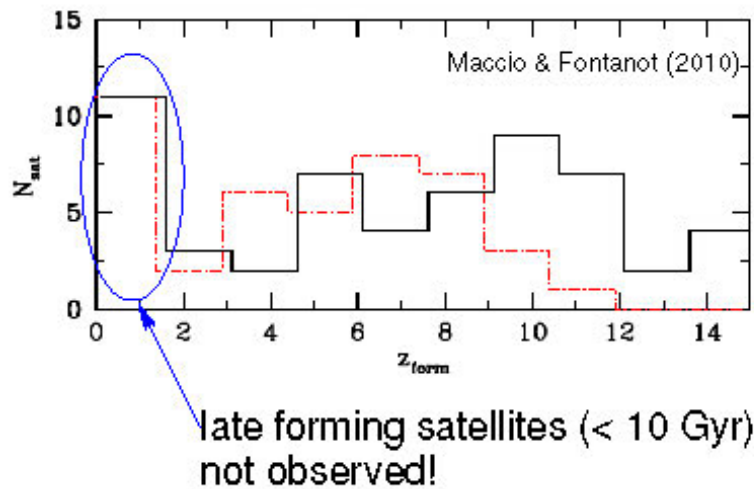
Milky Way satellites: formation history and abundance

satellite formation time

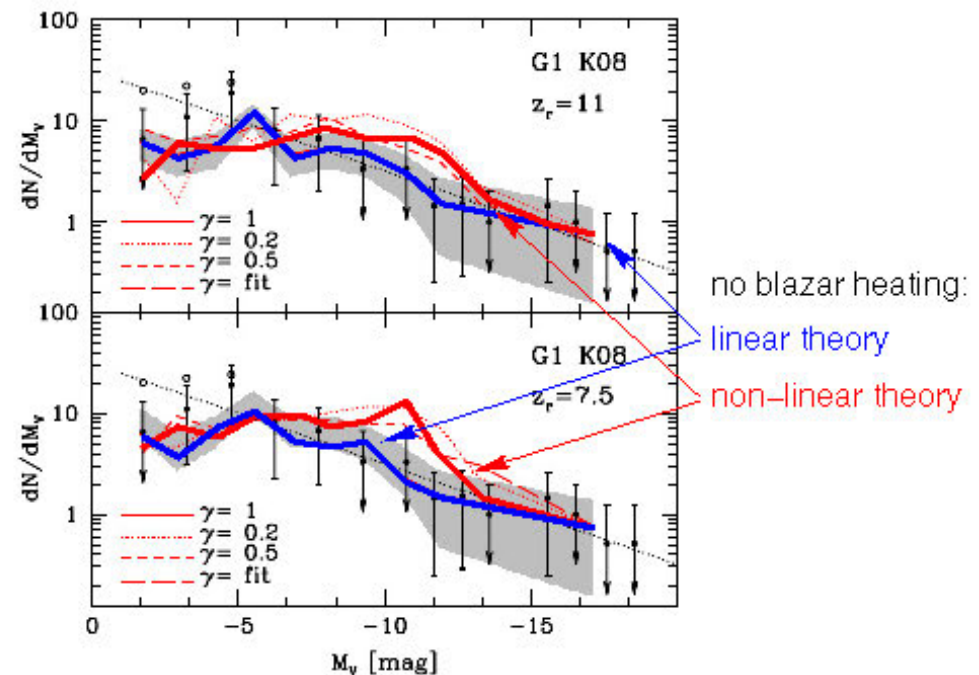


Milky Way satellites: formation history and abundance

satellite formation time



satellite luminosity function



Maccio+ (2010)

- blazar heating suppresses late satellite formation, may reconcile low observed dwarf abundances with CDM simulations

Conclusions on blazar heating

Blazar heating: TeV photons are attenuated by EBL; their kinetic energy \rightarrow heating of the IGM; it is *not* cascaded to GeV energies

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 - quantitative self-consistent picture of high- z Lyman- α forest
- significantly modifies late-time structure formation:
 - suppresses late dwarf formation
 - void phenomenon, “missing satellites” (?)

Literature for the talk

- Broderick, Chang, Pfrommer, *The cosmological impact of luminous TeV blazars I: implications of plasma instabilities for the intergalactic magnetic field and extragalactic gamma-ray background*, ApJ, 752, 22, 2012.
- Chang, Broderick, Pfrommer, *The cosmological impact of luminous TeV blazars II: rewriting the thermal history of the intergalactic medium*, ApJ, 752, 23, 2012.
- Pfrommer, Chang, Broderick, *The cosmological impact of luminous TeV blazars III: implications for galaxy clusters and the formation of dwarf galaxies*, ApJ, 752, 24, 2012.
- Puchwein, Pfrommer, Springel, Broderick, Chang, *The Lyman- α forest in a blazar-heated Universe*, MNRAS, 423, 149, 2012.
- Broderick, Pfrommer, Chang, Puchwein, *Implications of plasma beam instabilities for the statistics of the Fermi hard gamma-ray blazars and the origin of the extragalactic gamma-ray background*, ApJ, 790, 137, 2014.
- Chang, Broderick, Pfrommer, Puchwein, Lamberts, Shalaby, *The effect of nonlinear Landau damping on ultrarelativistic beam plasma instabilities*, ApJ, 2014, 797, 110.
- Lamberts, Chang, Pfrommer, Puchwein, Broderick, Shalaby, *Patchy blazar heating: diversifying the thermal history of the intergalactic medium*, 2015, submitted, arXiv:1502.07980.

Blazars
Gamma-ray sky
Structure formation

Properties of blazar heating
The Lyman- α forest
Dwarf galaxies

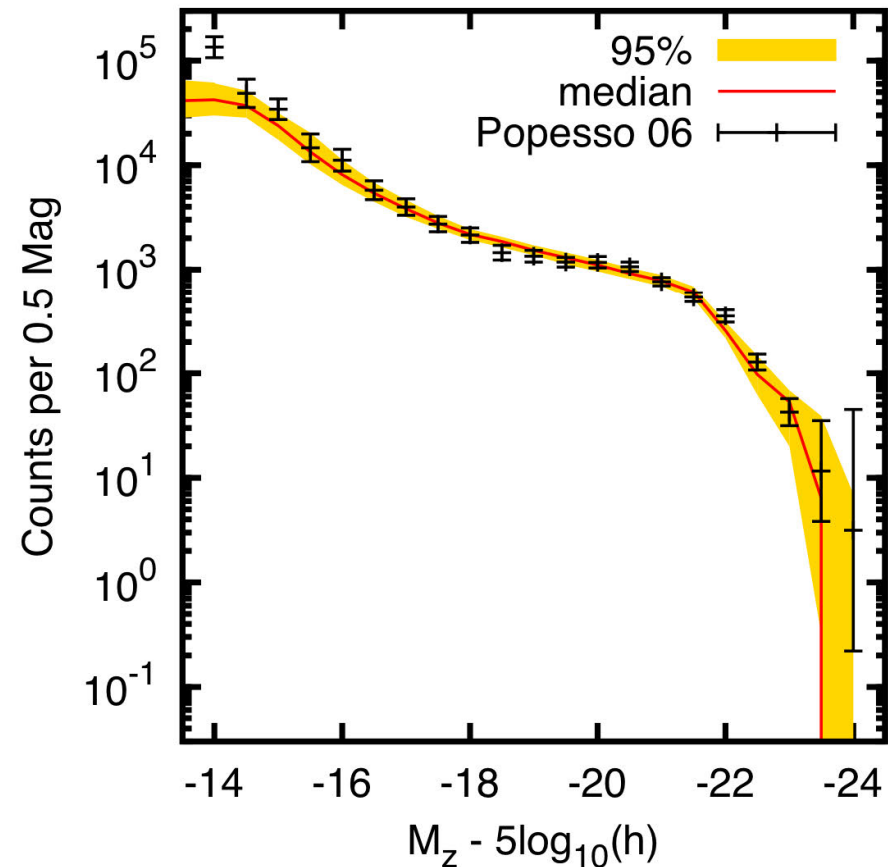
Additional slides

Empirical model for star formation histories (1)

Lu, Mo, Lu, Katz, et al. (2013):
constructing merger tree-based
model of galaxy formation that
matches

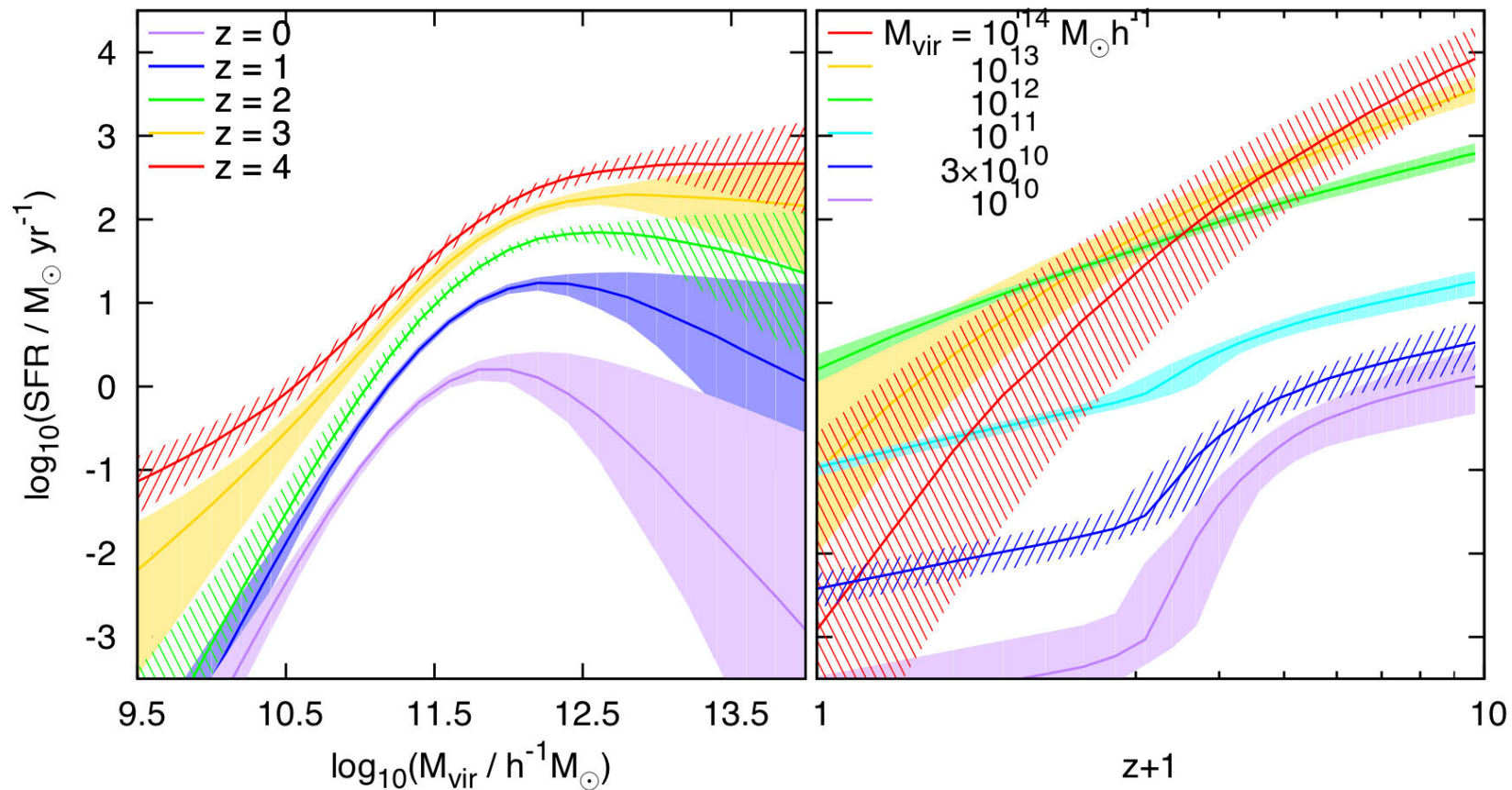
- observed stellar mass function (different z)
- luminosity function of local cluster galaxies

→ star formation histories of
dark matter halos (different z)



Lu+ (2013)

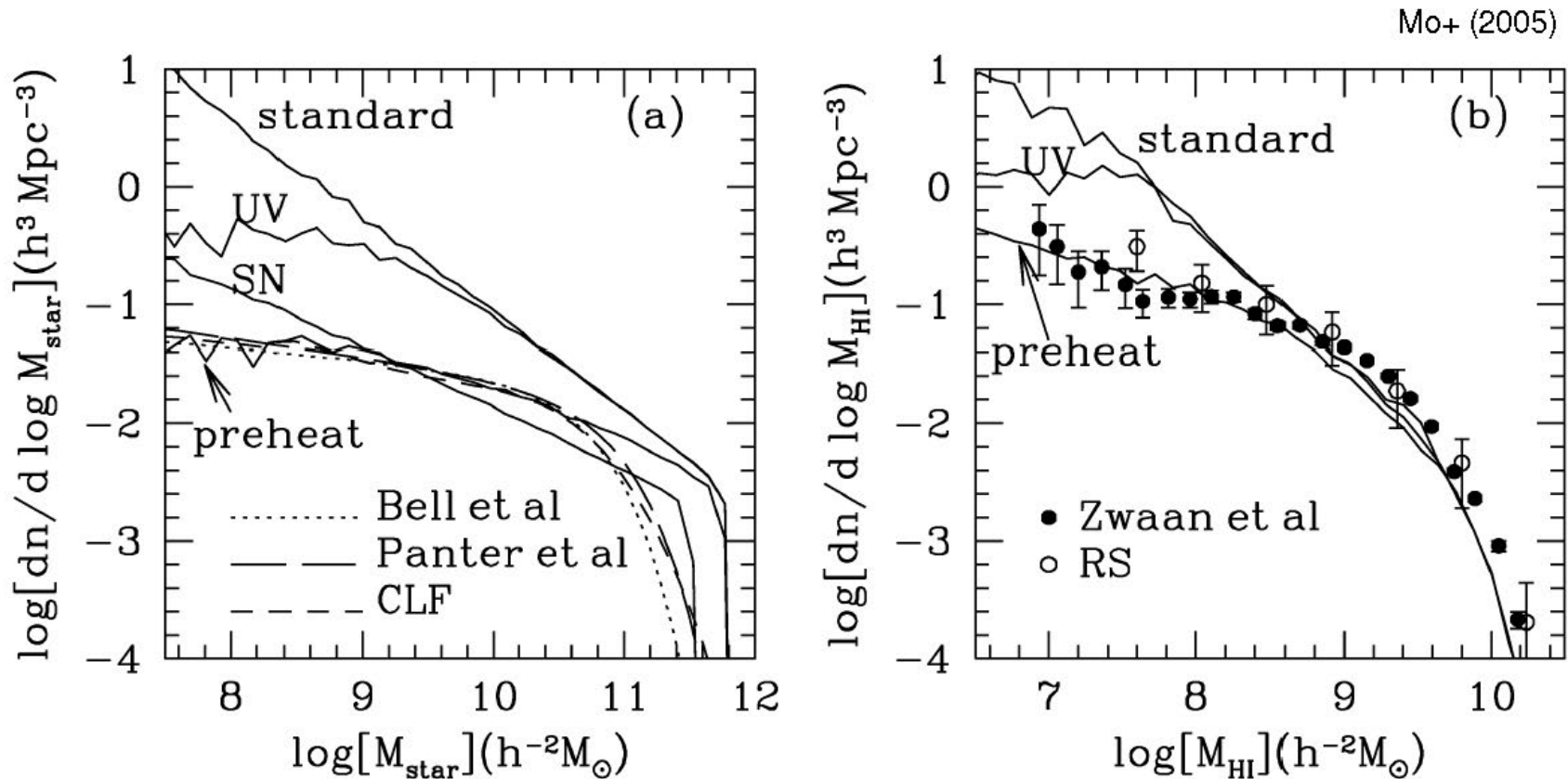
Empirical model for star formation histories (2)



Lu+ (2013)

→ strong quenching of star formation efficiency for $z \lesssim 2$ in low-mass halos ($M < 10^{11} h^{-1} M_{\odot}$) → blazar heating?

Galactic H I-mass function



- H I-mass function is too flat (i.e., gas version of missing dwarf problem!)
- photoheating and SN feedback too inefficient
- IGM entropy floor of $K \sim 15 \text{ keV cm}^2$ at $z \sim 2 - 3$ successful!