



Astroparticle
theory

Status

Fulat ++, 2023

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Astroparticle Physics in Germany — Long-Term Strategy 2024

Karlsruhe, 17. 10. 2024

Contents

- **Introduction to Theory approach:**
adapting EuCAPT white paper to German AP theory landscape
- Topics of theoretical astroparticle physics (walk-through)
- **Theory-community input so-far** and a **proposal** for how to **integrate theory into the main document**
- **Community input required:**
Plans and challenges for the next decade for AP theory?
What resources do we need for AP theory?
- Open questions/discussion

The European Consortium for Astroparticle Theory — EuCAPT

EuCAPT White Paper

Opportunities and Challenges for Theoretical
Astroparticle Physics in the Next Decade



EuCAPT

[arXiv:2110.10074](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.10074)

- EuCAPT goals:
 - to increase the exchange of ideas and knowledge;
 - to coordinate scientific and training activities;
 - to help scientists attract adequate resources for their projects;
 - to promote a stimulating, fair and open environment in which young scientists can thrive.

<https://www.eucapt.org>

- **White paper on perspective for next decade published in 2021**
- No equivalent initiative/program in Germany

⇒ use EuCAPT White Paper as starting point and adapt to German AP theory landscape

Starting point: EuCAPT white paper

Topics with critical German participation

Topics EuCAPT white paper:

- Early Universe
- Dynamical Spacetimes
- Nuclear Astrophysics
- Cosmic Accelerators
- Traveling and Interacting Messengers
- Neutrino Properties
- Particles from stars
- Dark Matter
- Dark Energy
- Astrostatistics

Related experimental topics KAT

- • Gravitational waves
- • Nuclear astrophysics
- • Cosmic rays, gamma-rays, neutrino astronomy
- • Cosmic rays, [gamma-rays, neutrino astronomy]
- • Neutrino properties
- Low-energy neutrino astrophysics, nuclear astroph.
- • Dark matter

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KAT theory



KAT theory

KAT theory?

Related experimental topics KAT

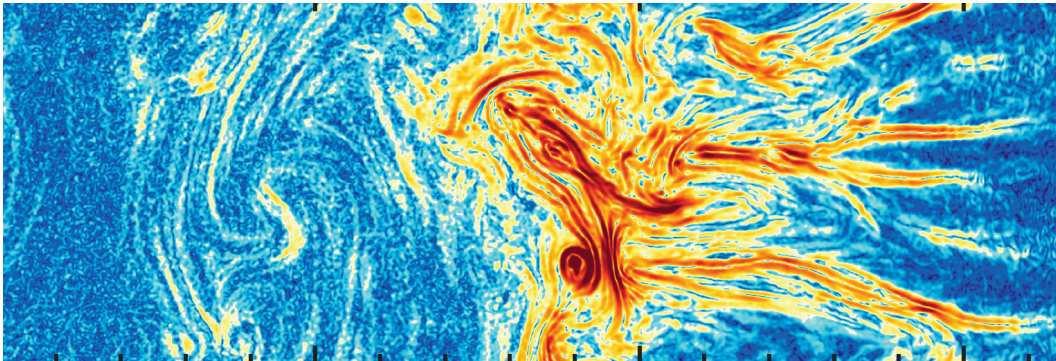
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Current strategy:
Merge “particles from stars” with nuclear astrophysics.
Merge “Early Universe” and “Dark Energy” into “Evolution of the Universe”

Cosmic accelerators

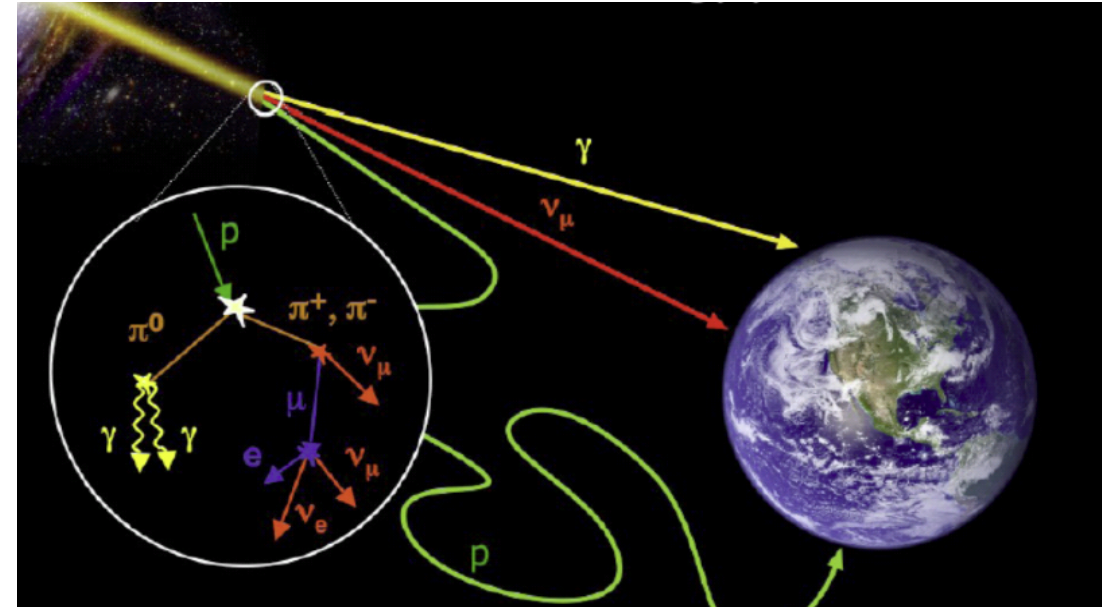
- Key observations requiring new theoretical frameworks:
 - Pevatrons in the Galaxy: Supernovae and Beyond
 - Relativistic jets from supermassive black holes
 - Gamma-Ray Bursts
 - Diffuse contributions
- Closely related to **multi-messenger astrophysics**, interdisciplinary
- Calculations span extremely large/different scales; very different methods

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Traveling messengers

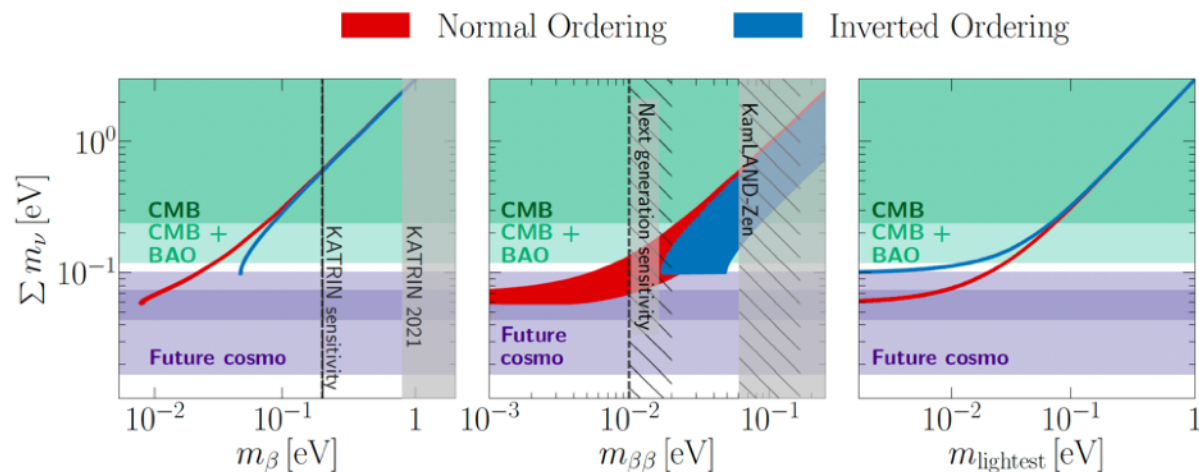
- Microphysics of cosmic-ray transport, impact on composition measurements, e.g. CRPropa, PriNCE
- Role of electromagnetic cascades from transport
- Role of magnetic fields



- Connection with fundamental physics, interactions in atmosphere

Neutrino properties

- Origin of mass, mass ordering, mixings
- Dirac or Majorana? Role of $0\nu\beta\beta$?
- Do sterile neutrinos exist?
- Is there a theory of flavor?
- What are the interaction properties?
- Role in leptogenesis, CP violation
- Beyond the Standard Model

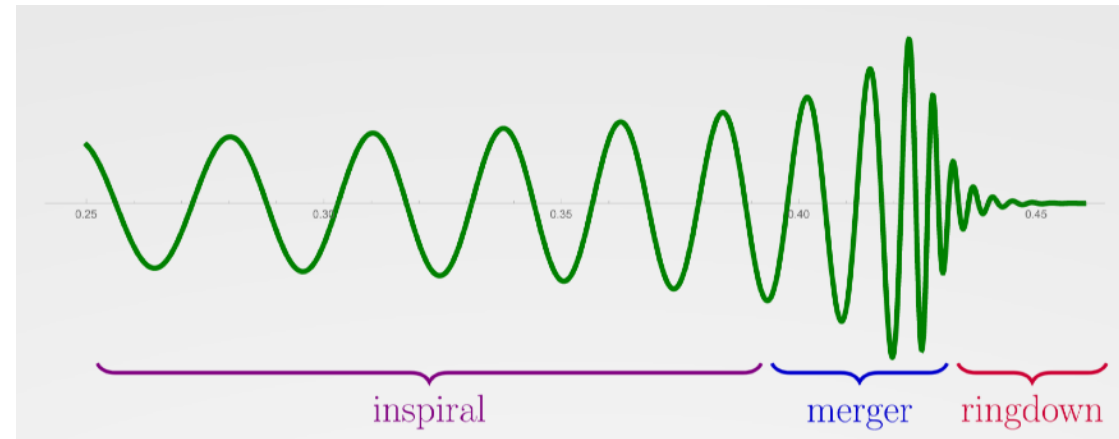


Dynamical spacetimes

1. Nature of compact objects
2. Laboratory for dark matter and general relativity
e.g. *quantum gravity*

Tools:

- Perturbative computations
- Numerical relativity

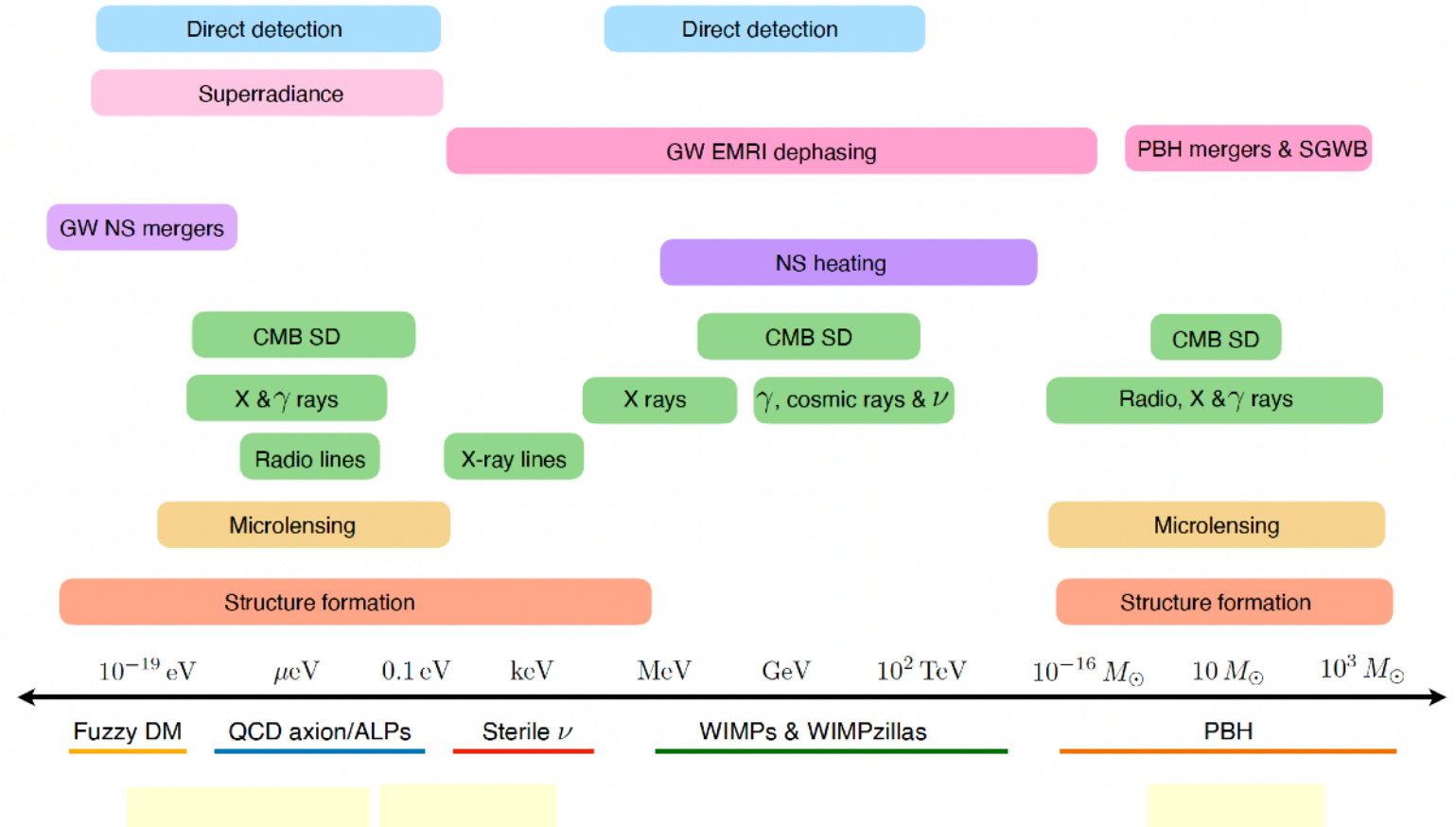


G. Kälin

Dark matter

Key questions:

- Production in early universe?
- Formation of large-scale structures?
- Which candidates are viable, and how can these be explored
- Complementarity of different searches
- Are there "extra ingredients", e.g. self-interactions, interesting mediators, ... ?
- How to integrate DM into the Standard Model of particle physics



Nuclear astrophysics

Connect these two topics!

Particles from stars

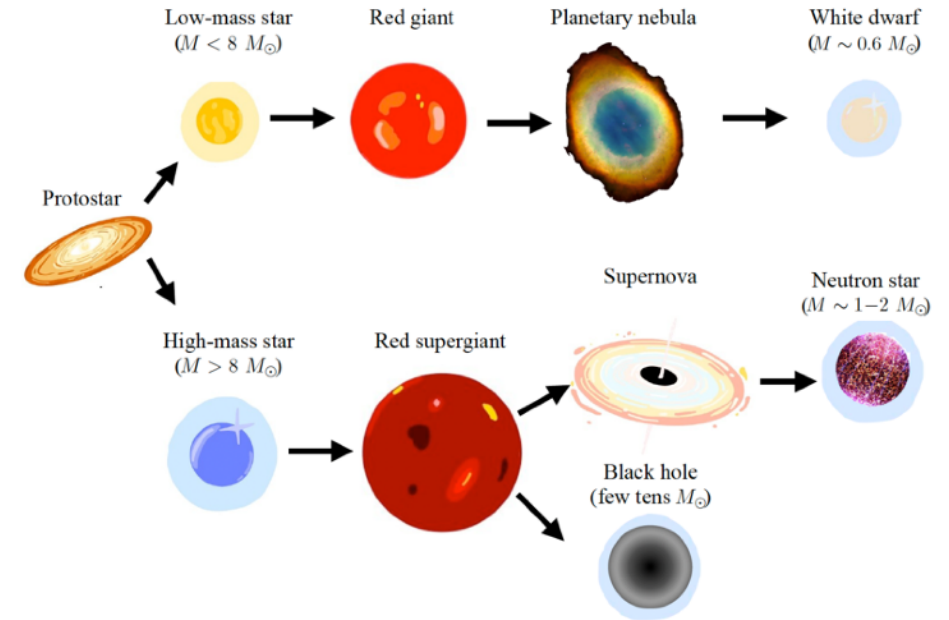
Key objectives (theory):

- Predict nucleosynthetic yields
- Multi-messenger picture: gravitational waves, electromagnetic radiation, neutrinos
- Simulation of dynamical systems
- Role of neutrinos and axion-like particles, and their properties
- Key role connecting laboratory advances with astrophysical phenomena

Challenges:

- Large parameter spaces, complexity, many disciplines
- Computational resources
- Ambition to serve as an umbrella for coherent interpretation of multi-messenger signals

- Sun/stars
- Evolved stars, white dwarfs
- Accretion disks, outflows from black holes
- Transients, supernovae
- Neutron stars, black holes
- Compact object mergers



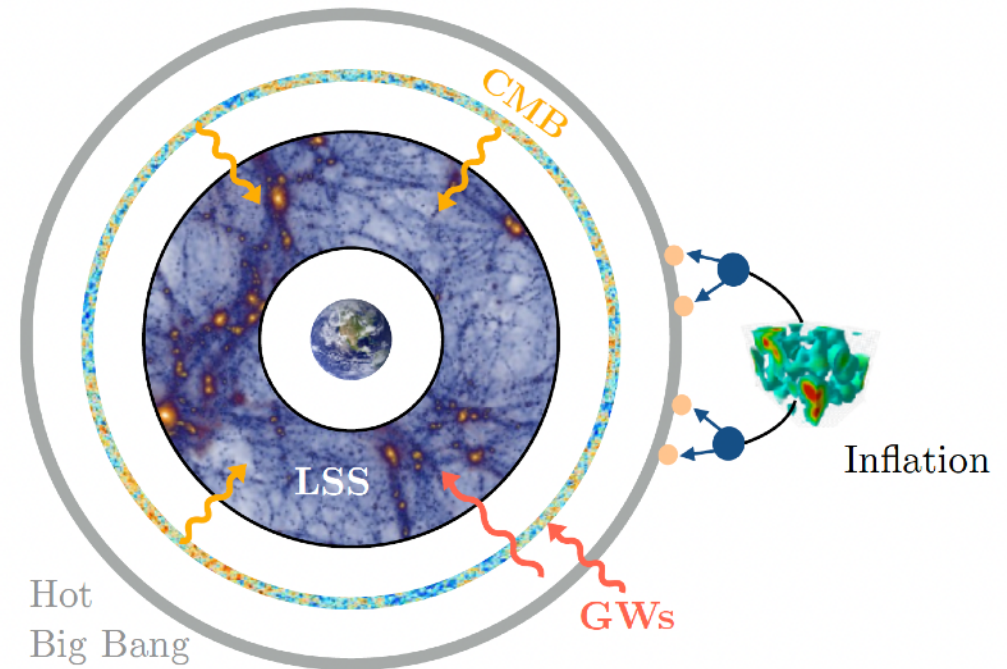
Dark energy

- cosmological constant problem, origin of dark energy density
- Effective approaches
- Theoretical constrains
- Observational prospects

No direct experimental counterpart in KAT.
Merge into “Evolution of the Universe”

Early universe

- Physics of inflation, reheating, primordial tensor perturbations?
- Thermal relics from the big bang
- Baryogenesis and leptogenesis
- Phase transitions



Community input - Status

- Theory input solicited from experts in their field especially in areas not represented well by the editorial board or other topics:
 - "half a page for each topic on the key science questions and 1-2 paragraphs and the research focus of the German theory community"
 - "half a page for each topic on plans and challenges for the next decade"
- Idea: Complement expertise available in other topics, **do not forget important areas pursued by the German community**
- Result: **Substantial overlap with key science questions/input from experimental groups**
- However: **some overarching/cross-topic subjects** (e.g. cosmic accelerators), and subjects without experimental counterparts (e.g. Evolution of the Universe)
- **Cosmic accelerators**
(Andrew Taylor, Walter Winter)
- **Traveling and interacting messengers**
(Günter Sigl, also overlap with "cosmic rays")
- **Dark matter**
(Joachim Kopp)
- **Neutrino properties**
(to be covered by Thomas Schwetz-Mangold)
- **Nuclear astrophysics**
(Andreas Bauswein, Gabriel Martínez-Pinedo)
- **Gravitational wave physics**
(sufficient input Harald Lück?)
- **Evolution of the Universe**
(Early Universe, Dark Energy etc; Laura Covi)

KAT theory, and its way into the main document

Proposal:

- Integrate **topic-specific activities** into the corresponding **experimental subsections** (avoid repetition of science goals)
- have a **dedicated theory section** focusing on:
 - **overarching cross-topics** (e.g., multi-messenger astronomy, search for beyond-Standard Model across different phenomena)
 - **topics with no direct experimental counterpart** (early universe cosmology, dark energy, „Evolution of the Universe“)
 - **global embedding and links to neighbouring fields** (particle physics, beyond-Standard Model, cosmology, astronomy)

(first proposal is available in the circulated draft)

Crucial role of AP theory for connecting to neighbouring fields

3 examples:

- **Particle physics and beyond-Standard Model physics:**
Dark Matter, neutrino mass, collider searches for new physics, long-lived particle searches at accelerators, axion searches, theory developments in extensions of the SM, thermal quantum field theory: applications in heavy ion physics, early universe, astrophysics
- **Cosmology:** importance of surveys (e.g., GAIA, EUCLID), 21cm observations, CMB missions neutrino mass, (ultra-light) dark matter, light new physics, long-lived particles, baryogenesis, cosmic inflation
- **Gravitational waves**
cross links of ground-based GW searches to space-based (LISA) and pulsar-timing arrays
stochastic GWs, phase transitions in the early universe (particle physics, neutrino mass, DM,...)

Plans and challenges for the next decade for AP theory?

Community feedback required!

Examples:

- Provide „theory support“ for planned experiments and observatories (physics motivation, phenomenology, simulations,.....)
- Follow and contribute to developments in neighbouring fields (particle physics, cosmology) and cross-link to AP
- Change in „culture“: sustainable computing, software publication, open access, AI support, ...
-

Are there theory-specific challenges?

What resources do we need for AP theory?

Community feedback required!

Examples:

- **Personell funding:** Sufficient size of theory groups at all levels (what does that mean?)
- Access to high-performance and parallel **computing**
- Financial support for **travel, equipment, publication charges**
- Support of **software development, maintenance, publication**, FAIR data principles
- Incentives for “modern“ topics, such as sustainable computing, software publication, open access, training in the non-academic sector, outreach, AI support, ...
- Additional resources for explorative phenomenological studies which could lead to new experiment classes?
- ...

Can we / should we quantify our needs in terms of Euro?

Recommendations — proposal

Community feedback required!

- Importance of „**experiment-close**“ **theory and phenomenology**
- Support **astroparticle theory** in its own right:
 - genuine astroparticle theory and phenomenology
 - integration in the global physics context
links to neighbouring fields (e.g., particle physics, cosmology)
- Dedicated funding for (theory-related) **computing**

Q: should/can we give specific funding recommendations (in Euro)?

Open issues / discussion

Please provide input:

- comments on our approach to integrate AP Theory into the document
- comments on strategy and challenges
- comments on recommendations and quantifying resources
- are we missing something?

please send your comments to:

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