

Constraints on the spatially dependent cosmic-ray propagation model from Bayesian analysis

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The energy spectra of primary and secondary cosmic rays (CRs) generally harden at several hundreds of GeV, a finding which can be naturally interpreted by means of propagation effects. We adopt a spatially dependent CR propagation model to fit the spectral hardening, where a slow-diffusion disk (SDD) is assumed near the galactic plane. We aim to constrain the propagation parameters with a Bayesian parameter estimation based on a Markov chain Monte Carlo sampling algorithm. The latest precise measurements of carbon spectrum and B/C ratio are adopted in the Bayesian analysis. The $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ and Be/B ratios are also included to break parameter degeneracies. The fitting result shows that all the parameters are well constrained. Especially, the thickness of the SDD is limited to 0.4–0.5 kpc above and below the galactic plane, which could be the best constraint for the slow-diffusion region among similar works. The \bar{p}/p ratio and the amplitude of CR anisotropy predicted by the SDD model are consistent with the observations, while the predicted high-energy electron and positron fluxes are slightly and significantly lower than the observations, respectively, indicating the necessity of extra sources.

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I. INTRODUCTION

The galactic cosmic-ray (CR) propagation can be described by means of the diffusion process due to the random scattering by magnetohydrodynamics (MHD) waves in the interstellar medium (ISM). Thus, the properties of the magnetic field turbulence in the ISM determine the CR diffusion. The turbulence in the galactic disk is generated mainly by stellar feedback (such as the supernova explosions), while in the outer halo the matter is significantly rarefied and the turbulence is driven by the CRs themselves [1]. As the turbulence origin and ISM properties are both different in the galactic disk and halo, the CR diffusion in the Galaxy is very likely to be spatially dependent [2,3].

The spatially dependent diffusion is also supported by observations. The TeV gamma-ray halos around some middle-aged pulsars indicate that the diffusion coefficients around these pulsars are more than 2 orders of magnitude smaller than the average in the Galaxy [4,5]. If the slow-diffusion zone is common in the ISM around galactic pulsars, the average diffusion coefficient in the galactic disk would be significantly suppressed [6]. The spatial magnetic-energy spectrum in the Galaxy also implies that the

magnetic field turbulence in the galactic disk is much stronger than in the halo [7], which means that the diffusion coefficient in the galactic disk could be significantly smaller. Besides, the local CR anisotropy predicted by the standard model [8] is much larger than that observed by multiple experiments [9], while the assumption of a slower CR diffusion in the galactic disk could provide an explanation for it [10].

The spatially dependent diffusion could account for the well-known spectral hardening of CRs [11,12]. Recent experiments such as PAMELA [13], AMS-02 [14–16], ATIC-2 [17], CALET [18,19], DAMPE [20,21], and CREAM [22] have all discovered the spectral hardening at several hundreds of GeV for most primary and secondary CR nuclei, which cannot be explained using the simplest CR injection and propagation models. Under the spatially dependent diffusion, the energy exponent of the diffusion coefficient can also be spatially dependent, which may explain the spectral hardening. Other possible approaches to interpreting the spectral hardening include the CR injection reflecting nonlinear or time-dependent diffusive-shock acceleration [23], the nonlinear effects in CR propagation [24], and local anomalies due to nearby sources [25] or different transport in the Local Bubble [26].

We expect to use a spatially dependent diffusion model to explain anomalies such as the spectral hardening problem without introducing nearby sources or spectral breaks in the injection spectra. Our model consists of a

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slow-diffusion disk near the galactic plane and a fast-diffusion halo more extended in vertical. Variations on diffusion properties can lead to twice spectral hardening for the secondary nuclei relative to the primaries, which is consistent with the AMS-02 observations (see Fig. 84 in [27]). We adopt the Bayesian analysis based on a Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling algorithm to constrain the model parameters, which is meaningful for depicting the CR diffusion pattern in the Galaxy. We also notice that the proton and helium spectra both have a “knee” around 10 TV, as recently found by NUCLEON [28] and DAMPE [20,21]. We suppose that other mechanisms give this feature and focus on the spectra below this energy.

This paper is organized as follows. In Sec. II, we introduce our CR propagation model, the datasets used for analysis, and the method of parameter inference. In Sec. III, we present our fitting results in terms of the parameter posterior probability distributions and the best-fit values. We discuss the parameter constraints by comparing the best-fit spectra and the observations. In Sec. IV, we adopt our spatially dependent propagation model and the fitting results to predict the \bar{p}/p ratio, the electron and positron spectra, and the anisotropy amplitude of the CR nuclei and test to see whether they are consistent with these observations. Section V is the conclusion.

II. CALCULATIONS

A. CR propagation model

The propagation equation of galactic CRs is generally expressed by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = & q(x, p) + \nabla \cdot (D_{xx} \nabla \psi - V_c \psi) + \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[p^2 D_{pp} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left(\frac{\psi}{p^2} \right) \right] \\ & - \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[\dot{p} \psi - \frac{p}{3} (\nabla \cdot V_c) \psi \right] - \frac{\psi}{\tau_f} - \frac{\psi}{\tau_r}, \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where ψ is the density of CR particles per unit momentum, $q(x, p)$ is the source term, D_{xx} is the spatial diffusion coefficient, V_c is the convection velocity, D_{pp} is the momentum space diffusion coefficient, $\dot{p} \equiv dp/dt$ describes ionization and Coulomb losses, τ_f are the timescales for collisions off gas nuclei, and τ_r are the timescales for radioactive decay.

Supernova remnants (SNRs) are believed to be the main sources of galactic CRs, where charged particles are accelerated by shock waves. As suggested by shock acceleration theory, the injection spectrum of primary CRs is assumed to be a power law as $q \propto R^{-\nu}$, where R is the rigidity of CRs. A low-energy break R_{br} is needed for all the nuclei to fit the observed low-energy spectral bumps. The spectral indices below and above the break are denoted by ν_0 and ν_1 , respectively.

The scattering of CR particles on randomly moving MHD waves leads to stochastic acceleration, which is described in the transport equation as diffusion in momentum space D_{pp} . Alfvén velocity V_a is introduced as a characteristic velocity of weak propagation in a magnetic field that is related to the spatial coefficient D_{xx} :

$$D_{xx} D_{pp} = \frac{4p^2 V_a^2}{3\delta(4-\delta)(4-\delta^2)\omega}. \quad (2)$$

We introduce a slow-diffusion disk (SDD) model, where the diffusion coefficient near the galactic plane is suppressed. As shown in Fig. 1, the SDD model defines the diffusion coefficient D_{xx} as

$$D_{xx}(R, z) = a D_0 \beta^\eta \left(\frac{R}{R_0} \right)^{b\delta}, \quad (3a)$$

$$a = 1 + (\xi - 1) \exp \left[- \left(\frac{z}{h} \right)^N \right], \quad (3b)$$

$$b = 1 + (\xi_\delta - 1) \exp \left[- \left(\frac{z}{h} \right)^N \right], \quad (3c)$$

where $\beta = v/c$ is the particle velocity divided by the speed of light and the low-energy random-walk process is shaped by the factor β^η . Here $\eta \neq 1$ is introduced to improve the calculated B/C ratio at low rigidity to fit the observations. The scale factors a and b define the spatial variation of the diffusion coefficient. The scale factor a changes the normalization at the reference rigidity $R_0 = 4$ GV, while b changes the slope index. The parameter h describes the thickness of this region, and N describes the smoothness of the variation.

We define the dimensionless rigidity parameter $\rho \equiv R/R_0$ such that the diffusion coefficient in the innermost

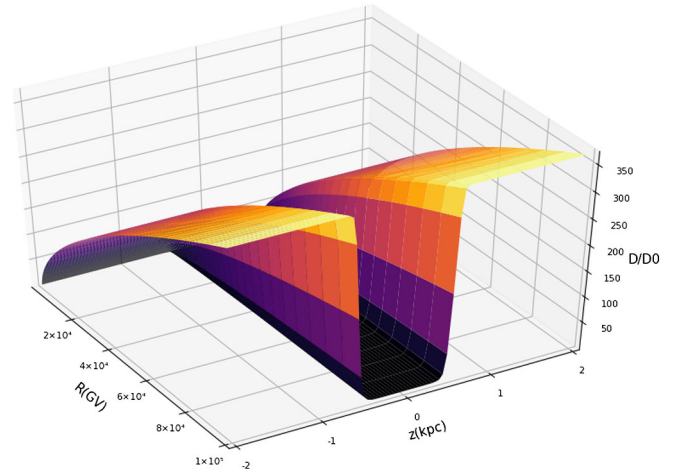


FIG. 1. The diffusion coefficient D changes with rigidity R and spatial vertical position z where we assume $N = 8$ and $h = 0.5$ kpc.

disk ($z \simeq 0$, also regarded as local coefficient) can be expressed as $D_i = \xi D_0 \rho^{\xi \delta}$. The change of slope index from the halo to the disk can be defined as $\Delta \equiv \delta(1 - \xi_\delta)$. According to a similar spatially dependent propagation model given by Ref. [29], the effective height of the slow-diffusion (SD) region can be defined as $\Lambda(\rho) \equiv h + (L - h)\xi\rho^{-\Delta}$, where L is the overall size of the galactic diffusion halo. We can see that the effective height tends to h at high energies.

We assume $N = \infty$ in the main text, which means that the diffusion has a two-zone feature. We discuss the effect of N in Appendix B 2. For the two-zone diffusion scenario, the local CR fluxes and ratios can be expressed approximately using the following forms given by Ref. [29]:

$$\psi_{\text{pri}}(0) \propto \rho^{-\nu} \frac{\Lambda(\rho)}{D_i} = \frac{\rho^{-\nu-\delta}}{D_0} \left[\frac{h}{\xi} \rho^\Delta + (L - h) \right], \quad (4)$$

$$\frac{\psi_{\text{sec}}(0)}{\psi_{\text{pri}}(0)} \propto \frac{\Lambda(\rho)}{D_i} = \frac{\rho^{-\delta}}{D_0} \left[\frac{h}{\xi} \rho^\Delta + (L - h) \right], \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\psi_u(0)}{\psi_s(0)} \propto \frac{\sqrt{D_i \tau_r}}{\Lambda(\rho)} = \frac{\sqrt{\xi D_0 \tau_r \rho^{\xi \delta}}}{h + (L - h)\xi\rho^{-\Delta}}, \quad (6)$$

where $\psi_{\text{pri}}(0)$ is primary flux, $\psi_{\text{sec}}(0)/\psi_{\text{pri}}(0)$ is the secondary-to-primary flux ratio, and $\psi_u(0)/\psi_s(0)$ is the unstable-to-stable flux ratio. It can be seen in Eq. (4) that the primary CR spectra can be described by the superposition of a hard component and a soft component. When the particle rigidity gets larger, the hard component becomes dominant and the spectral index changes from $(\nu + \delta)$ to $(\nu + \delta\xi_\delta)$. This feature also appears in secondary/primary ratios such as B/C. An unstable/stable ratio such as $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ has a different form related to the decay lifetime τ_r , and can help to break the degeneracy between $\Lambda(\rho)$ and D_i . The Be/B ratio is quite complex and shows similar features as Eq. (5) at high energies and Eq. (6) at low energies. This is discussed in detail in Appendix A.

In Appendix B 1, we prove that ξ_δ is required by the fitting procedure to be very small (see Table III), which means that the SDD model prefers an energy-independent D_i in the disk. Thus, we fix $\xi_\delta = 0$ in the main text to simplify the fitting procedure. In this case, the diffusion coefficient in the disk at low energies could be larger than that in the outer halo, which may not be reasonable considering the origin of the ISM turbulence. Thus, we further add a constraint that the former must always be smaller than or equal to the latter; thus, the scale factors ξ_δ and ξ are supposed to be equal to 1 below GeV energy.

To solve the propagation equation, we adopt the numerical GALPROP v56¹ [30,31]. The information regarding the

interstellar medium (gas, radiation, and magnetic fields) is considered in GALPROP, which makes the calculated results more realistic. We revise the differencing scheme in the solver by adopting the finite volume method, which is necessary for the spatially dependent diffusion coefficient [32]. We introduce the modified code in Appendix C.

For the resolution of the GALPROP calculation, we set a spatial grid of $dr = 1$ kpc and $dz = 0.1$ kpc and an energy grid of $E_{\text{kin_factor}} = 1.2$ while giving consideration to both accuracy and speed. The size of the initial time step (start_timestep) is set to be $1.0e8$, which is smaller than the default. We have checked to ensure that this does not affect the results. Other parameters are kept as the defaults of GALPROP v56.

Solar modulation significantly changes the CR spectra below ~ 20 GeV. To account for the solar modulation effect, we adopt a simple force-field approximation [33], where the strength is described by the solar modulation potential ϕ . According to Table I, all the AMS-02 and ACE-CRIS (except $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ [34]) measurements used in this paper were taken during the same period (May 2011–May 2016); hence, we use a uniform ϕ to modulate carbon, B/C, and Be/B. For $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ACE-CRIS data [34] taken during from August 27, 1997, through April 9, 1999, we use $\phi - (0.1 \text{ GV})$ as an approximation. The 0.1 GV difference between the two periods is indicated by the long-term observations of the neutron monitor devices [35].

If we use the default values of the cross section given by GALPROP, there is a conflict between the old statistics of $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ [34,37] and the newly measured Be/B by AMS-02 [16], as the former predicts a thin diffusion halo (~ 3 kpc), while the latter predicts a thicker one (~ 6 kpc) [40–42]. Since the current uncertainties of the cross section are quite large ($\sim 10\%$ – 30%) [41,43,44], a modification of normalization in the entire energy range XS and the low-energy slope XS_δ of the beryllium production cross section [43,45] can be introduced to reconcile the conflict:

$$\sigma = \sigma^{\text{default}} \cdot XS \cdot \begin{cases} \left(\frac{E_{\text{kin}/n}}{E_{\text{kin}/n}^{\text{thresh}}} \right)^{XS_\delta}, & E_{\text{kin}/n} < E_{\text{kin}/n}^{\text{thresh}} \\ 1, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

As the cross-section models predict a break at around $5 \text{ GeV}/n$ energy and a flat behavior above it, we choose $E_{\text{kin}/n}^{\text{thresh}} = 5 \text{ GeV}/n$.

In summary, the group of free parameters is

$$\theta = \{D_0, \delta, L, V_a, \eta, \xi, h, A_c, \nu_0, \nu_1, R_{\text{br}}, \phi, XS, XS_\delta\},$$

where D_0 , δ , η , ξ , and h are the parameters describing the diffusion coefficient; L is the half-width of the total diffusive halo; V_a is the Alfvén velocity; A_c is the abundance of carbon when one fixes the abundance of the proton to 1.06×10^6 ; ν_0 , ν_1 , and R_{br} are the first and second indices and the break rigidity of the overall injection

¹The current version is available at <https://galprop.stanford.edu/>.

TABLE I. Data used in this analysis.

Experiment	Energy range	Data points	Reference
B/C			
AMS-02 (5/2011–5/2016)	2–2100 GV	67	[16]
ACE-CRIS (5/2011–5/2016)	0.07–0.17 GeV/ <i>n</i>	6	[36]
Be/B			
AMS-02 (5/2011–5/2016)	2–2100 GV	67	[16]
¹⁰Be/⁹Be			
ISOMAX (8/4/1998 to 8/5/1998)	0.5–1.6 GeV/ <i>n</i>	2	[37]
ACE-CRIS (8/27/1997–4/9/1999)	0.08–0.14 GeV/ <i>n</i>	3	[34]
C			
NUCLEON (7/2015–6/2017)	250–17000 GeV/ <i>n</i>	10	[28]
CREAM-II (12/2005–1/2006)	85–7500 GeV/ <i>n</i>	9	[38]
CALET (10/2015–10/2019) × 1.27 ^a	10–1700 GeV/ <i>n</i>	22	[19]
AMS-02 (5/2011–5/2016)	0.4–1200 GeV/ <i>n</i>	68	[15]
ACE-CRIS (5/2011–5/2016)	0.06–0.2 GeV/ <i>n</i>	7	[36]
Voyager 1-HET (2012–2015)	0.02–0.13 GeV/ <i>n</i>	8	[39]
B			
Voyager 1-HET (2012–2015)	0.02–0.11 GeV/ <i>n</i>	8	[39]
Be			
Voyager 1-HET (2012–2015)	0.06–0.1 GeV/ <i>n</i>	2	[39]

^aA multiplication of 1.27 is described in [19] to achieve alignment with AMS-02.

parameters, respectively; ϕ is the modulation potential for the AMS-02 measurements; and XS and XS_δ are the modification parameters of the beryllium production cross section.

B. Datasets

According to Refs. [46–48], the data group of H-He and heavy nucleons ($Z > 2$) have different constraints on propagation and injection parameters. We use only the heavy nuclei data to give a self-consistent constraint on the propagation model. We assume that all the heavy nuclei share the same injection parameters ($\nu_0, \nu_1, R_{\text{br}}$) and use the carbon flux, ¹⁰Be/⁹Be ratio, B/C ratio, and Be/B ratio to constrain the parameters. The final two ratios are mainly decided by the (C–N–O) → (Be–B) series.

Besides the precise measurements of carbon flux, B/C, and Be/B ratios from AMS-02 [15,16], other data are also included for better parameter constraints, which are listed in Table I. For the carbon flux, we use the CALET [19], NUCLEON [28], and CREAM-II [38] measurements to cover the multi-TeV energy region and the ACE-CRIS measurements [36] to cover the MeV energy region. The low-energy B/C ratio is constrained by the ACE-CRIS data [36]. The data of ¹⁰Be/⁹Be ratio are taken from ACE-CRIS [34] and ISOMAX [37].

CRs have fully unimpeded access to Voyager 1 that is free of solar modulation and local interstellar modulation [49,50]. Thus, the Voyager 1 data can be regarded as $\phi = 0$ GV. We adopt the carbon, boron, and beryllium fluxes of Voyager 1 [39] to break the entanglement between ϕ and the other parameters. Electron, positron, and

antiproton fluxes are modulated differently, as further discussed in Secs. IV B and IV A.

C. Bayesian inference and MCMC

From the Bayes theorem, the posterior probability distribution of the model parameters is

$$P(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\text{D}) = \frac{P(\text{D}|\boldsymbol{\theta})P(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{P(\text{D})}, \quad (8)$$

where D denotes the data used, $P(\text{D}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is the likelihood function, and $P(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is the prior distribution. The quantity $P(\text{D})$ in the denominator of Eq. (8) is the Bayesian evidence, which is a normalizing constant that is independent of the model parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ and can be neglected in parameter inference.

MCMC methods are widely used in Bayesian inference and are powerful to sample the high-dimensional parameter space for CR propagation models [46,51–53]. We use the public code `CosmoMC2` as a generic Monte Carlo (MC) sampler to explore parameter space [54,55], which uses the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm to generate samples from the posterior distribution. It also provides tools for analyzing the posterior distribution and making confidence contour plots [56]. We use 50 threads of computing resources for the simulation. By default, `CosmoMC` uses a vanilla Metropolis algorithm which is faster with a good covariance matrix. So we first perform a test run with only the main parameters, which takes about two weeks of real

²See <https://cosmologist.info/cosmomc/>.

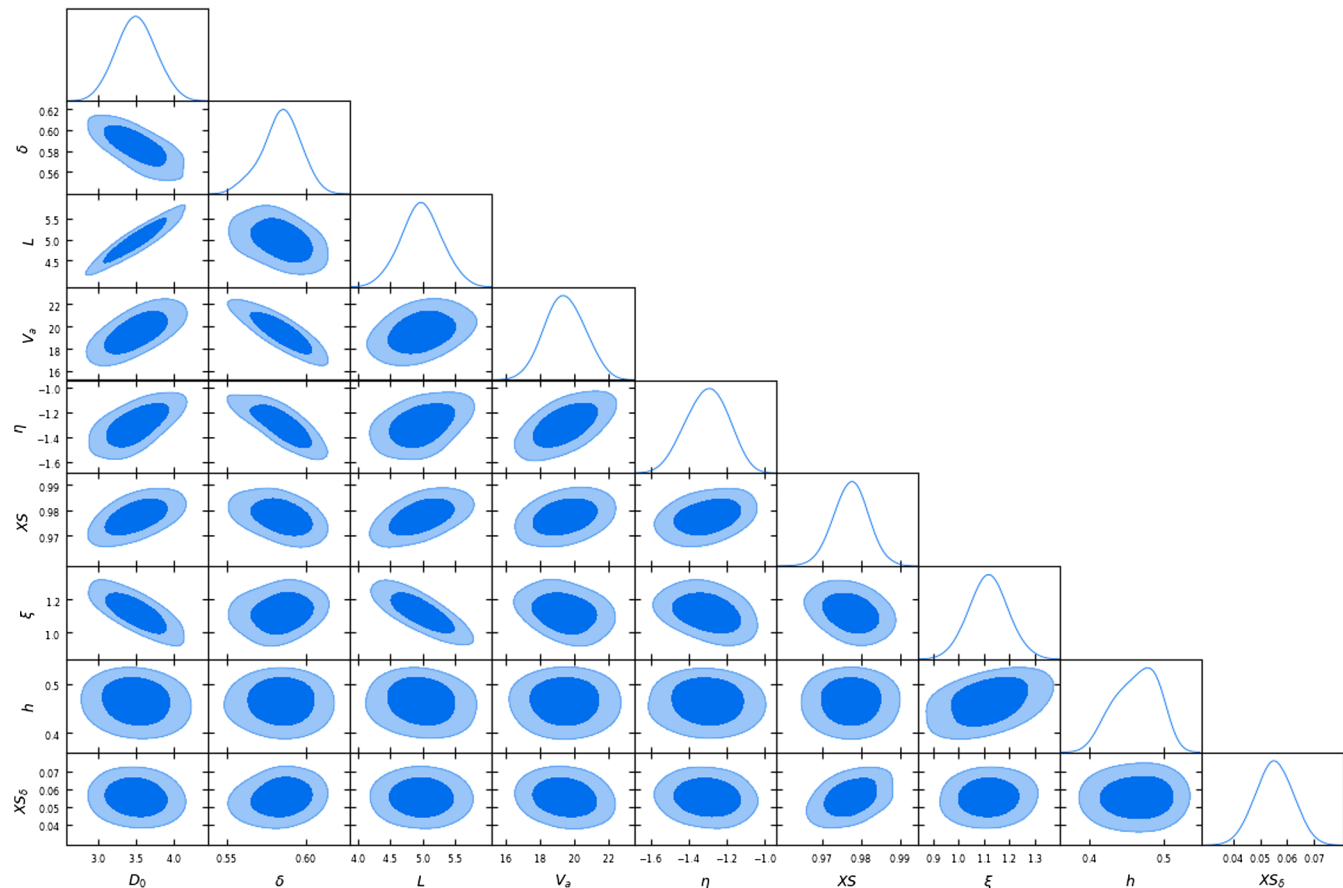


FIG. 2. The 1D and 2D distributions of the transport parameters.

computing time. The covariance matrix can be extracted from the chain files by using `GetDist`.³ Then, in the case of our SDD model with full parameters, the convergence requires approximately 2×10^4 GALPROP calls with a covariance matrix, which takes nearly one week of real computing time.

III. FITTING RESULTS

A. Posterior distributions of parameters

We first give an expectation about the disentanglement of the important parameters. As mentioned in Sec. II A, the degeneracy between $\Lambda(\rho)$ and D_i can be broken by fitting the data of the B/C, $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$, and Be/B ratios. Moreover, we have assumed that the diffusion coefficient in the SD must be smaller or equal to that in the halo, which means that the scale factors ξ_δ and ξ are equal to 1 at low energies (below ~ 1 GeV). According to Eqs. (5) and (6), the B/C ratio at low energies can be approximated by

$$\frac{\psi_{\text{sec}}(0)}{\psi_{\text{pri}}(0)} \propto \frac{L}{D_0 \rho^\delta}, \quad (9)$$

while the $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio at low energies can be approximated by

$$\frac{\psi_u(0)}{\psi_s(0)} \propto \frac{\sqrt{D_0 \rho^\delta}}{L}. \quad (10)$$

Thus, the degeneracy between D_0 and L can be broken by the low-energy data combining Eqs. (9) and (10). According to the definitions of D_i and Λ , the two parameters ξ and h can be successively determined as long as D_0 and L are well constrained.

Figure 2 is the triangle plot of the fitting results, which shows the 1D marginalized posterior probability density functions of the parameters and 2D contour plots of 68% and 95% credible regions for all the combinations. The injection parameters are omitted here for simplicity. As we previously expected, all the parameters have well-behaved distributions. Weak anticorrelations in $\delta - V_a$, $\delta - \eta$, and $\delta - D_0$ can also be seen, and they are consistent with the standard models (see, e.g., Fig. 3 in Ref. [46]).

The results are summarized in Table II, where we list the prior ranges, best-fit values, and posterior 95% ranges for all the parameters. The total halo height and SDD thickness are well constrained to $L = 4.743^{+0.882}_{-0.420}$ kpc, $h = 0.468^{+0.047}_{-0.062}$ kpc, respectively. The halo height L is

³See <https://getdist.readthedocs.io>.

TABLE II. The prior range, best-fit values and posterior 95% range of all parameters in the SDD model.

Parameter	Prior range	Best-fit values	Posterior 95% range
D_0 (10^{28} cm 2 s $^{-1}$)	[0, 10.0]	3.379	[2.986, 4.023]
δ	[0.2, 1.0]	0.583	[0.557, 0.608]
L (kpc)	[1.0, 20.0]	4.743	[4.323, 5.625]
V_a (km/s)	[0, 50]	19.718	[17.130, 21.706]
η	[-3, 2]	-1.299	[-1.518, -1.099]
ξ	[0, 4.5]	1.153	[0.965, 1.277]
h (kpc)	[0, 2.0]	0.468	[0.406, 0.515]
A_c (10^3) ^a	[3.1, 3.65]	3.337	[3.316, 3.377]
ν_0	[0.4, 2.0]	1.266	[1.076, 1.549]
ν_1	[2.2, 2.5]	2.373	[2.364, 2.381]
R_{br} (GV)	[0, 5]	1.749	[1.430, 2.214]
ϕ (GV)	[0.5, 1.0]	0.782	[0.763, 0.793]
XS	[0.7, 1.1]	0.973	[0.968, 0.986]
XS_δ	[-0.2, 0.2]	0.0513	[0.0418, 0.0689]
$\chi^2_{min}/n_{d.o.f.}$...	167.55/265	...

^aThe abundance of proton A_p is 1.06×10^6 , and the normalization of the proton flux at 100 GeV is 4.204×10^{-9} cm $^{-2}$ s $^{-1}$ sr $^{-1}$ MeV $^{-1}$.

consistent with the earlier findings using standard models: Ref. [42] got $L \in [3.7, 6]$ kpc, Ref. [52] found $L = 4 \pm 1$ kpc in a pure diffusion/reacceleration model, and Ref. [57] got $L = 5.4 \pm 1.4$ kpc. However, our results are different from another spatially dependent diffusion mode discussed in Ref. [11]. Guo *et al.* obtained a significantly thicker SDD ($h \sim 0.87$ kpc) and larger uncertainty for the halo height, which could be due to the lack of current precise measurements.⁴

The constrained SDD thickness h is 1 order of magnitude smaller than the halo height L and a bit thicker than the galactic disk (~ 0.2 kpc) where the CR sources concentrate, which may be explained by the convection of turbulent energy.

The best-fit slope index of diffusion in the halo $\delta = 0.583$ is significantly larger than the Kolmogorov type (1/3) and a bit larger than the Iroshnikov-Kraichnan type (1/2). The normalization scale factor ξ is around 1, which means that the diffusion coefficient in the disk is close to that in the halo at the reference rigidity of 4 GV.

The constrained modulation potential $\phi \simeq 0.782$ GV is in agreement with those found by Yuan [36]. The two parameters modifying the production cross section of beryllium, XS and XS_δ , are within the experimental uncertainties of $\sigma_{norm} \simeq 0.2$ and $\sigma_{slope} \simeq 0.15$ given in Ref. [42].

We note that the best-fit value χ^2_{min} of the SDD model is 167.55, which seems to be too good of a fit relative to the

⁴We also notice that they calculated χ^2 by using fewer data on nucleons (above 45 GeV/ n) and the B/C ratio (above 2 GeV/ n), which could result in a loose constraint.

degrees of freedom of 265. The reason for this may be that we have added the systematic errors of these measurements in quadrature with the statistical errors to get the total errors but have not taken into account the correlation among systematic uncertainties in the calculation. Covariance matrices may be needed to properly take into account those data uncertainties [58].

B. Nucleon fluxes and ratios

The energy spectrum of carbon nuclei is shown in Fig. 3. A clear spectral hardening can be seen, as predicted from Eq. (4). At lower energies, the spectrum fits well with the ACE-CRIS measurement, and the local interstellar spectrum also fits well with the Voyager 1 data, which means that the solar modulation potential is reasonable. We have drawn a 95% range band derived from the uncertainties of parameters to show that the spectrum is strictly constrained.

Equation (5) predicts features of secondary/primary ratios similar to that of the primary spectrum. We can see in Fig. 4 that our calculation for the B/C ratio fits well with AMS-02 measurement in the entire energy range. The calculation also shows a smooth hardening above 100 GeV/ n , which could be confirmed with more precise measurements at higher energies in the future. At lower energies, the B/C ratio calculated using the SDD model is slightly higher than the ACE-CRIS measurement.

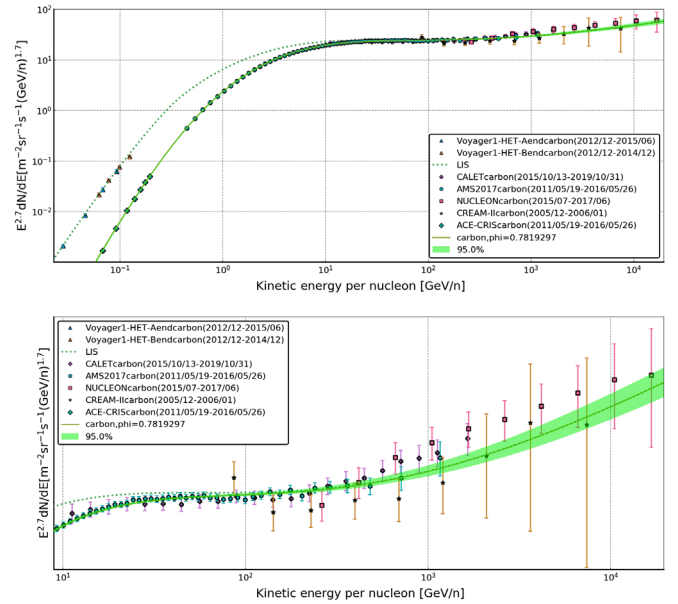


FIG. 3. Carbon spectrum calculated with the best-fit parameters (green solid line) and the 2σ confidence interval (green band), compared with the experimental data, including AMS-02 [15], ACE-CRIS [36], Voyager 1 [39], CALET [19] (multiplied by 1.27), CREAM-II [38], and NUCLEON [28]. The local interstellar spectrum of carbon are indicated with a green dotted line. Top panel: wide-range comparison between the model and the experimental data. Bottom panel: details around 200 GeV/ n , where the hardening appears.

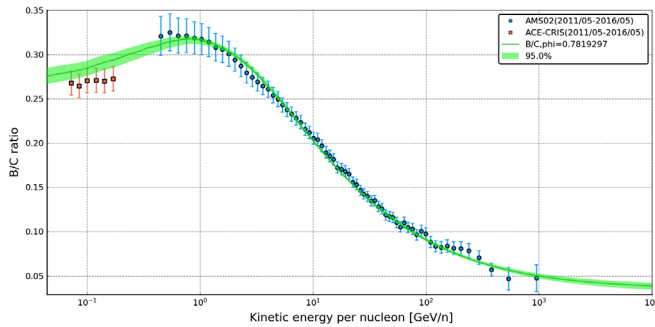


FIG. 4. B/C ratio calculated with the best-fit parameters (green line) and the 2σ confidence interval, compared with the experimental data: AMS-02 [59] and ACE-CRIS [36].

We suppose that a modification of the boron cross section or/and solar modulation may explain this difference.

From Fig. 5, the uncertainties reported from ACE-CRIS and ISOMAX are so large that they cannot give strong constraints on halo height L , while more precise experiments on $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ in the future may be required, as well as additional information from Be/B ratio.

In Fig. 6, we see that our calculation fits well with the AMS-02 measurement. As analyzed in Appendix A, the

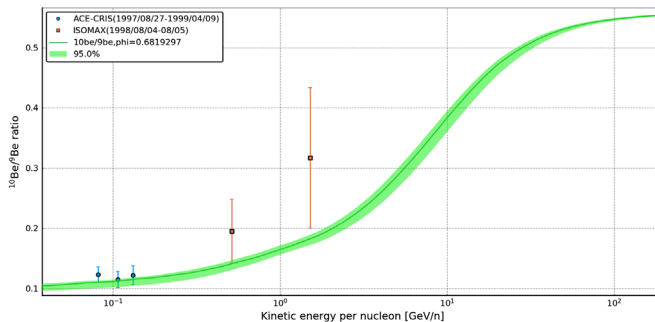


FIG. 5. $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio calculated with the best-fit parameters (green line) and the 2σ confidence interval (green band) compared with the experimental data: ISOMAX [37] and ACE-CRIS [34].

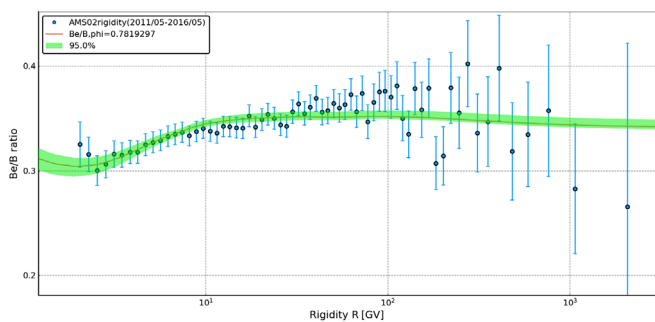


FIG. 6. Be/B ratio calculated with the best-fit parameters (green line) and the 2σ confidence interval (green band) compared with the experimental data AMS-02 [16].

Be/B ratio experiences a transition from the decay-dominated low-energy region to the diffusion-dominated high-energy region, which is unique in constraining transport parameters. According to Refs. [42,44], the most important region for constraining halo height⁵ should be 10–100 GV, where the Be/B ratio has the strongest dependency on it. At energies below 10 GV, the degeneracy with the modification of the cross section and other factors would complicate the fitting. We also find that the modification of slope $X S_\delta$ on the cross section is needed; otherwise, it is hard to reproduce the feature below 10 GV.

IV. PREDICTIONS

AMS-02 has provided observations on antimatter particles like antiprotons and positrons, which are crucial for predicting dark matter (DM) particles [60,61]. The antiproton-to-proton ratio [62] and the positron fraction [63] predicted using the standard models are significantly lower than the AMS-02 measurements at high energies. The excesses could be explained by introducing DM, while we first need to get a proper assessment of antiparticle background. The spatially dependent propagation model may generate higher antiparticle fluxes the standard model [11].

Besides, the CR anisotropy predicted using the standard propagation models is significantly higher than the observations. As the anisotropy is proportional to the local diffusion coefficient, our SDD model can effectively suppress the CR anisotropy.

A. Antiprotons

To predict the antiproton flux or \bar{p}/p ratio for the SDD model, we keep all the parameters in Table II fixed to the best-fit values and change the injection parameters of proton and helium to fit the latest measurements of AMS-02 [27]. We use the default nuclear scaling routine given by GALPROP to get the hadronic cross sections and calculate antiproton flux.

The production mechanism of secondary nucleons like beryllium is different from that of antiprotons. The nuclear fragmentation keeps the energy per nucleon of secondary particles the same as that of primary particles, while the antiproton spectrum is the convolution of the interstellar spectra and the differential cross section [64], leading to lower energies than with the primary particles ($E_{\bar{p},\text{max}} \sim \sqrt{E_p/2}$). Thus, the hardening energy of beryllium and antiproton should be around ~ 200 and ~ 10 GV, respectively.

The result in Fig. 7 shows that the SDD model can give a good explanation to the measured \bar{p}/p ratio without introducing an extra source for antiproton, such as the dark matter annihilation. The predicted hardening above 10 GV by the propagation effect can explain the antiproton

⁵To be exact, effective height Λ in the SDD model.

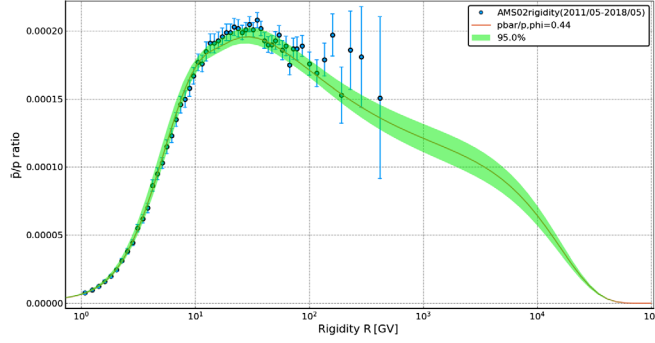


FIG. 7. \bar{p}/p ratio predicted by the best-fit parameters obtained in Sec. III (green line) and the 2σ confidence interval (green band) compared with the experimental data of AMS-02 [27].

excess. Furthermore, the injection and cross-section uncertainties may further improve the fitting result [62]. Here we use a smaller modulation potential ($\phi_{\bar{p}} = 0.44$ GV) to modulate the low-energy region of antiproton flux, as the charge of the antiproton is the opposite of the proton and should be effected differently by solar activities [65].

B. Electrons and positrons

The AMS-02 Collaboration showed [60,66] that the electron and positron spectra could both be well described by the sum of the two components. Here we use the SDD model to test whether the extra components could have originated from spatially dependent diffusion.

To calculate electron and positron fluxes in the SDD model, we reuse the fitted proton and helium fluxes from Sec. IVA and choose the Pshirkov-axisymmetric model [67] in GALPROP to describe the galactic magnetic field, which plays a crucial role in lepton energy losses. It has been shown [68,69] that SNRs could contribute primary electrons, while a few secondary electrons and positrons can be produced from the decay of charged pions and kaons created in collisions of cosmic-ray particles with gas. Besides, electron-positron pairs can also be produced by pulsar wind nebulae (PWNe) or DM annihilation/decay. To subtract the possible contributions from PWNe, dark matter, and secondary electrons, we calculate the primary electrons by using a subtracted form ($\Phi_{e^-} - \Phi_{e^+}$) between electron and positron fluxes to fit the injection of electron [70], where we use very recent AMS-02 data [27]. Since the charge of the electron is the opposite of the proton and e^+e^- have smaller masses than that of the proton, we consider a different ϕ to describe how they are affected by solar modulation.

In Fig. 8, we can see that the primary electron spectrum fits the data well below $100 \text{ GeV}/n$. As predicted from Eq. (4), a hard component at high energies will also give rise to electron spectral hardening, but the energy losses in the high-energy region are even stronger and steepen the electron spectrum very rapidly, meaning the result failed to

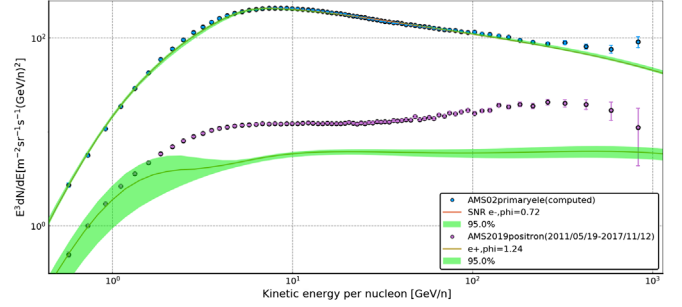


FIG. 8. Positron and primary electron spectra predicted by the best-fit parameters obtained in Sec. III (green line) and the 2σ confidence interval (green band) compared with the experimental data of AMS-02 [27].

reproduce the AMS-02 measurement above $100 \text{ GeV}/n$. Extra components above $100 \text{ GeV}/n$ may be needed and may be located within relatively short distances, as electrons have a much shorter lifetime with strong energy losses. Young and nearby SNRs may produce a much harder component that gives rise to the excess [71,72].

We also find that a solar modulation potential larger than 1 GV is required for positrons to fit the data, which was also noted by Orlando [73]. The positron spectrum predicted using the SDD model is harder than that from standard models since we have introduced a hard component similar to the antiproton spectrum analyzed in Sec. IVA, but the overall flux is still significantly lower than the AMS-02 measurement. The missing flux may come from some extra contribution of positrons sources, including nearby pulsars (or PWNe) or DM particles.

C. Anisotropy

In the diffusion approximation, the anisotropy is dominated by the radial streaming of the CR fluxes, and its amplitude \hat{A} is computed as

$$\hat{A} = \frac{3D|\nabla\psi|}{v\psi} \propto \frac{D_i}{\Lambda(\rho)} (\text{local}). \quad (11)$$

We note that the anisotropy amplitude has an anticorrelation with the B/C ratio [Eq. (5)]. As the B/C ratio gets harder at higher energies, the anisotropy amplitude gets softer, and its index would change from δ to nearly 0, which is different than standard models that assume an unchanged slope index.

In Fig. 9, we have drawn the anisotropy amplitude together with the uncertainties given by the fitting procedure in Sec. III, which is consistent with the current observations (see Ref. [9] and references therein). The gray dotted line is the anisotropy calculated with the standard propagation model, which is obviously higher than the observations. Besides, Tomassetti [29] pointed out that the anisotropy may be reduced in all energies if one accounts for a proper radial dependence for the diffusion coefficient.

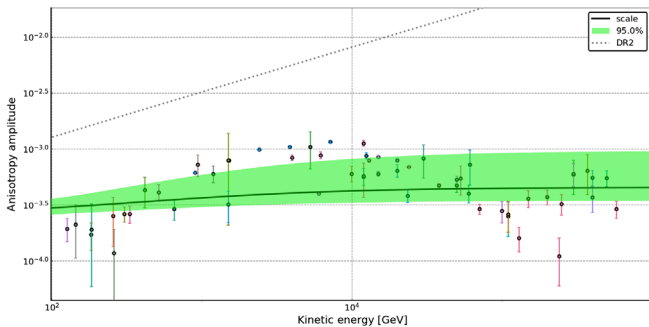


FIG. 9. CR anisotropy amplitude predicted with the best-fit parameters obtained in Sec. III (black line) and 2σ confidence interval (green band) compared with the experimental data given in Ref. [9]. An example of standard propagation model calculations (gray dotted line) are shown for reference [36].

The fine structures such as a sudden decrease of the anisotropy amplitude around 10^5 GeV are hard to explain with the SDD model. There are other possibilities for further explaining these features, for example, the presence of nearby sources of CRs [74].

V. SUMMARY

According to the assumption of different diffusion environments in the disk and the halo, we assume a SDD model for galactic CR propagation, which has two different diffusion regions. In the inner region, the diffusion is slow and the slope index equals zero, while in the outer region the diffusion coefficient is similar to the standard models. The SDD model has the advantage of naturally producing the observed high-energy spectral hardening of both the primary and secondary CR spectra without assuming a high-energy spectral break in the injection spectra or introducing nearby sources. By fitting the latest precise measurement of CR spectra and ratios, the parameters of the SDD model can be constrained in turn.

We perform a full Bayesian analysis based on a MCMC sampling algorithm to get the posterior parameter distributions. We use the carbon data as the primary CR spectrum, B/C ratio as the primary-to-secondary ratio, and $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ ratio as the unstable-to-stable ratio. The Be/B ratio is also adopted, the low-energy part of which can make up for the $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$ data (which is not precise enough) and help to break parameter degeneracies.

The fitting result shows that all the parameters are well constrained. Our main finding is the well-constrained thickness of the SD region, $h = 0.468^{+0.047}_{-0.062}$ kpc at 95% confidence, which could be the first precise estimation on this parameter. The fitted size of this region is a bit larger than the typical height of the galactic disk, implying the convection of turbulent energy in the direction vertical to the galactic plane. Other propagation parameters are consistent with those obtained in standard models, such as the height and diffusion coefficient of the outer diffusive halo.

Based on the fitting result, we also predict the \bar{p}/p ratio, e^-e^+ fluxes, and the amplitude of CR anisotropy. We find that the \bar{p}/p ratio fits well with the AMS-02 data, and no extra component is needed at high energies. The primary e^- flux above 100 GeV is lower than the observation, which is likely due to the spectral fluctuation from nearby SNRs. The predicted positron flux is significantly lower than the AMS-02 data in a wide energy range, so primary positron sources are required, such as pulsars or DM. The anisotropy amplitude predicted by the SDD model fits the experimental data well in general, which is a remarkable advantage over standard models.

Other indirect observations such as CR-induced diffuse γ -ray emission [75] and molecular cloud emission [76] could be used to study the spatial variation of the diffusion coefficient in the Galaxy. The most prominent difference between the SDD and the standard model is the vertical distribution of CRs, as the former predicts a more rapid decrease of the CR density within the SD region. The CR vertical distribution can be traced by the γ -ray emission of intermediate-velocity clouds located at various distances away from the galactic plane [76]. More precise measurements of the clouds in the future may give a crucial test to the spatially dependent propagation model.

Besides, MHD simulations with more physical considerations can eventually tell whether our phenomenological assumption is reasonable. Recently, a full MHD simulation of galaxy formation indicates that the CR spectral shape should be dependent on the location in the Galaxy [77], which could support the picture of spatially dependent diffusion.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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APPENDIX A: THE Be/B GRAMMAGE

To analyze how the Be/B ratio is related to transport parameters, we first apply resolution on boron and beryllium nucleons, respectively, as $\text{Be} = ^{10}\text{Be} + ^9\text{Be} + ^7\text{Be}$ and $\text{B} = ^{11}\text{B} + ^{10}\text{B}$. The collision with gas ($p + ^{11}\text{B}$) \rightarrow ($^{10}\text{Be} + ^9\text{Be} + ^7\text{Be}$) and decay process $^{10}\text{Be} \rightarrow ^{10}\text{B} + e^-$ also make effects, although they are not as important as the main production ($\text{C-N-O} \rightarrow \text{Be-B}$).

For a more comprehensive review, refer to [40,78], following which we can find that stable elements ($^{10}\text{B}:I_a$) with a contribution from unstable ones ($^{10}\text{Be}:I_b$) has the following form:

$$\frac{I_a}{X} = \sum_{a'>a} \frac{I_{a'}\sigma_{a'\rightarrow a}}{m} + \frac{I_b V_c}{\mu v} \left[\Delta \coth \frac{V_c \Delta L}{2D} - \coth \frac{V_c L}{2D} \right]. \quad (\text{A1})$$

TABLE III. The best-fit values and posterior 95% range of all parameters in the SDD model.

Parameter	$h = 0.3$ kpc	$h = 0.5$ kpc	$h = 0.8$ kpc	$h = 1.0$ kpc
$D_0(10^{28}\text{cm}^2\text{s}^{-1})$	4.648 [3.222, 5.353]	4.451 [3.845, 4.792]	4.076 [3.573, 5.274]	3.823 [3.376, 5.289]
δ	0.683 [0.631, 0.707]	0.700 [0.662, 0.729]	0.708 [0.663, 0.733]	0.730 [0.701, 0.784]
L (kpc)	11.414 [4.747, 13.703]	10.574 [7.418, 12.144]	9.446 [6.458, 18.076]	9.240 [6.387, 19.176]
V_a (km/s)	1.101 [0, 13.409]	2.376 [0, 8.862]	1.251 [0, 12.969]	1.314 [0, 9.701]
ξ	0.2716 [0.1960, 0.4251]	0.6181 [0.4953, 0.7230]	1.3334 [0.9695, 1.5242]	1.760 [0.6905, 1.7528]
ξ_δ	0.002127 [0, 0.03082]	0.02207 [0, 0.08207]	0.02454 [0, 0.06832]	0.03866 [0.01614, 0.1612]
$A_c(10^{-3})^a$	3.279 [3.243, 3.319]	3.290 [3.254, 3.321]	3.288 [3.259, 3.335]	3.277 [3.249, 3.325]
ν	2.352 [2.334, 2.368]	2.359 [2.341, 2.376]	2.363 [2.342, 2.379]	2.360 [2.339, 2.380]
Δ^b	0.651	0.662	0.669	0.673
$\chi^2_{\min}/n_{\text{d.o.f.}}$	47.51/118	47.29/118	46.78/118	47.13/118

^aThe abundance of proton A_p is 1.06×10^6 , and the normalization of the proton flux at 100 GeV is $4.204 \times 10^{-9} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1} \text{ sr}^{-1} \text{ MeV}^{-1}$.

^b $\Delta = \delta(1 - \xi_\delta)$.

With diffuse-dominated grammage $X = \mu\nu L/2D$, decay-dominated grammage $X_d = \mu\nu\tau/\sqrt{4D\tau}$, and $\Delta = \sqrt{1 + 4D/V_c^2\tau}$, when unstable isotopes decay on a time-

scale shorter than $4D/V_c^2$ (usually below 100 GV), $V_c\Delta \rightarrow \sqrt{4D/\tau}$, $V_c \rightarrow 0$ (since we assumed little or no galactic wind here), the second term on the right side of

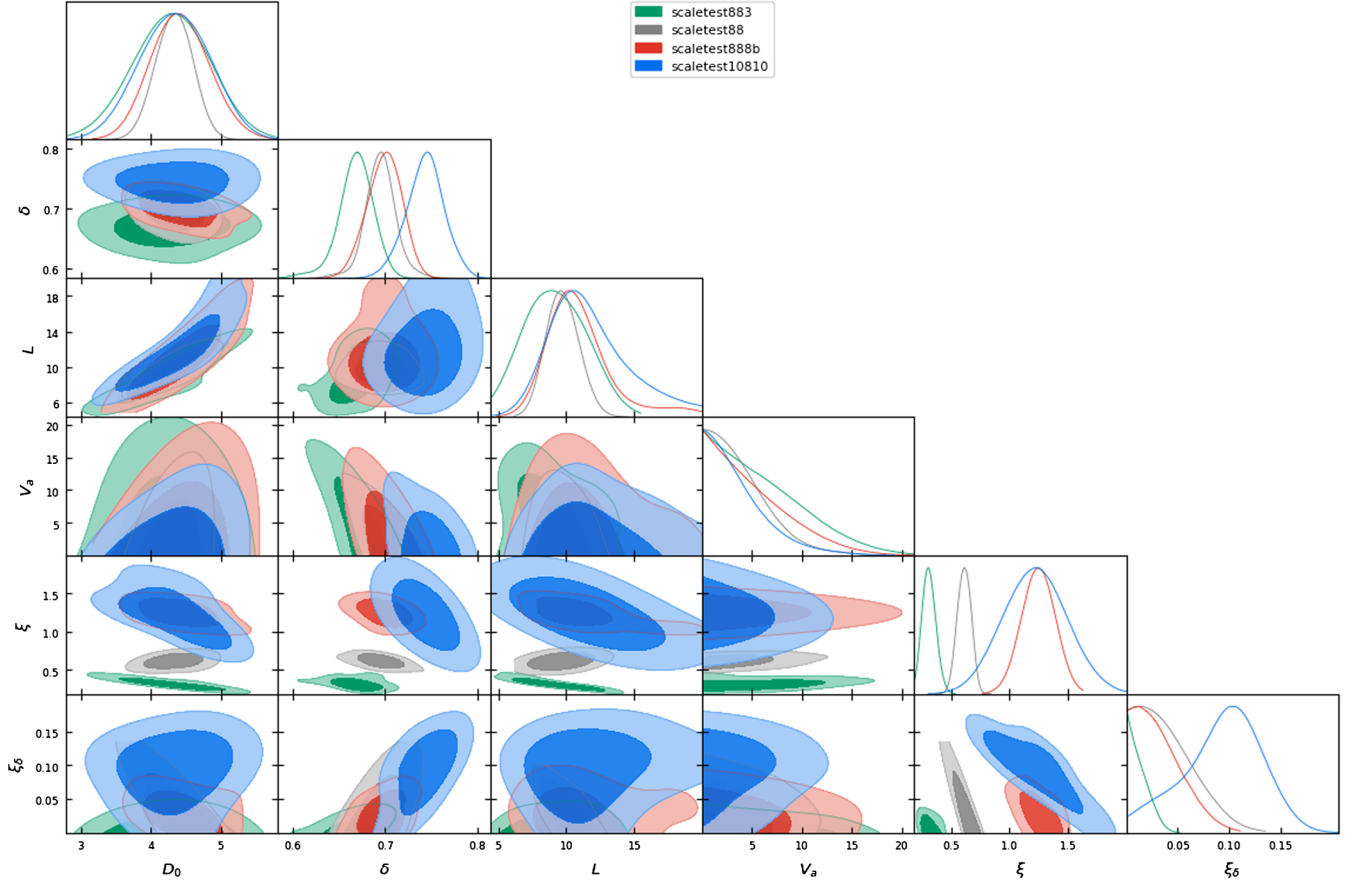


FIG. 10. The 1D and 2D distributions of the transport parameters, different colors represent different values of specified h : 0.3 kpc (green), 0.5 kpc (gray), 0.8 kpc (red), and 1.0 kpc (blue).

Eq. (A1) becomes $I_b \sqrt{4D/\tau}/\mu v$, and the third term becomes $2I_b D/L\mu v$. Now we can write all of the isotopes below:

$$\begin{cases} {}^9\text{Be}, {}^7\text{Be}: \frac{I_a}{X} = \sum_{d>a} \frac{I_d \sigma_{d \rightarrow a}}{m}, \\ {}^{10}\text{Be}: \frac{I_a}{X_d} = \sum_{d>a} \frac{I_d \sigma_{d \rightarrow a}}{m} (< 100 \text{ GeV}), \\ {}^{11}\text{B}: \frac{I_a}{X} + \frac{I_a \sigma_a}{m} = \sum_{d>a} \frac{I_d \sigma_{d \rightarrow a}}{m}, \\ {}^{10}\text{B}: \frac{I_a}{X} = \sum_{d>a} \frac{I_d \sigma_{d \rightarrow a}}{m} + \frac{I_b}{X_d} - \frac{I_b}{X} (< 100 \text{ GeV}). \end{cases} \quad (\text{A2})$$

By combining them, we can further calculate different ratios as

$$\begin{cases} \frac{{}^9\text{Be}+{}^7\text{Be}}{{}^{11}\text{B}} : X \propto \frac{L}{2D}, \\ \frac{{}^{10}\text{Be}}{{}^{11}\text{B}} : X_d \propto \frac{\tau}{\sqrt{4D\tau}} (< 100 \text{ GeV}), \\ \frac{{}^{10}\text{Be}}{{}^{10}\text{B}} : \frac{1}{\frac{X \sum_{d>a} \frac{I_d \sigma_{d \rightarrow a}}{m}}{X_d \sum_{d>a} \frac{I_d \sigma_{d \rightarrow b}}{m}} + \frac{X}{X_d} - 1} \propto \frac{X_d}{X} = \frac{\sqrt{D\tau}}{L} (< 100 \text{ GeV}) \end{cases} \quad (\text{A3})$$

Thus, the total ratio of Be/B should be a mixture of all ratio forms in Eq. (A3), which shows the B/C-like (L/D) feature at high energy, ${}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be}$ -like (\sqrt{D}/L and $1/\sqrt{D}$) feature at low energy. The important feature for breaking the degeneracy of $D - L$ is ${}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be}$ -like. As the available ${}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be}$ ratio measurements have large uncertainties, an introduction of a precise Be/B ratio is preferred. It was emphasized in [78] that the ${}^{10}\text{Be} \rightarrow {}^{10}\text{B} + e^-$ channel

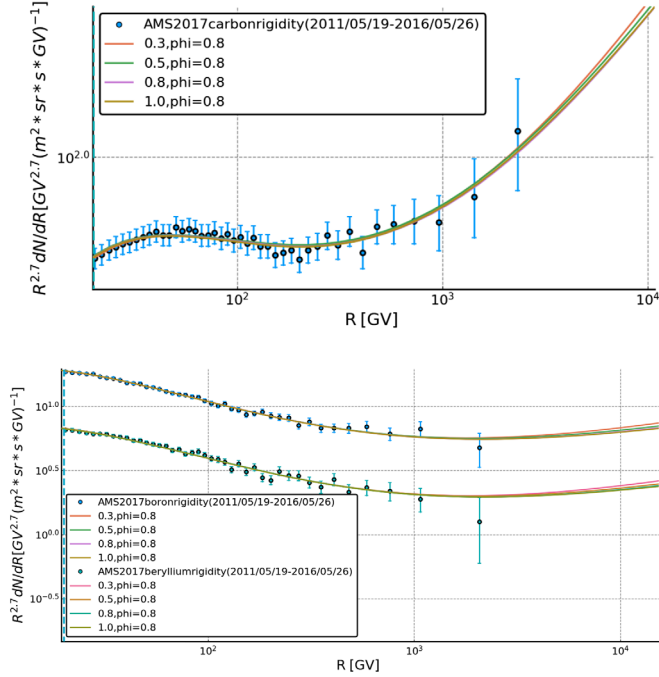


FIG. 11. Nucleon spectra calculated with the best-fit parameters above 20 GV compared with the experimental data AMS-02 [15,16]. Different colors represent different values of specified h . Top panel: carbon. Bottom panel: boron and beryllium.

contributes up to 10% of the total boron flux and cannot be neglected, but ${}^{10}\text{Be}$ fluxes make up only 10% of the total beryllium at low energy and there are cross-section uncertainties, which results in a complicated problem.

APPENDIX B: INITIAL FITS ABOVE 20 GV

1. Specified h

Before fitting the free parameters using all measurements according to Sec. II B, we first estimate how the SDD model fits the spectral hardening at high energy by using AMS-02 carbon and boron fluxes, together with the Be/B ratio. All experiment points are taken above 20 GV, where the influences of low-energy power-law break, solar modulation, cross-section uncertainties, and the nonrelativity effect should be the lowest.

To make the fitting much simpler, we fix $\phi = 0.8$ GV, $\eta = -0.5$, taken from Yuan's paper [36] as a reference of standard models. We fix $N = 8$ to give a rapid smoothness from halo to disk, and choose the disk thickness among specified values $h = \{0.3, 0.5, 0.8, 1.0\}$ kpc, as we have predicted a strong degeneracy of h/ξ from Eq. (4). Thus,

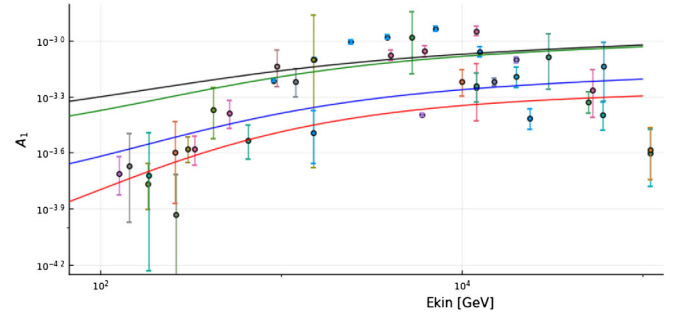


FIG. 12. CR anisotropy amplitude predicted by best-fit parameters compared with the experimental data given in [9]. Different colors represent different values of specified h : 0.3 kpc (red), 0.5 kpc (blue), 0.8 kpc (green), and 1.0 kpc (black).

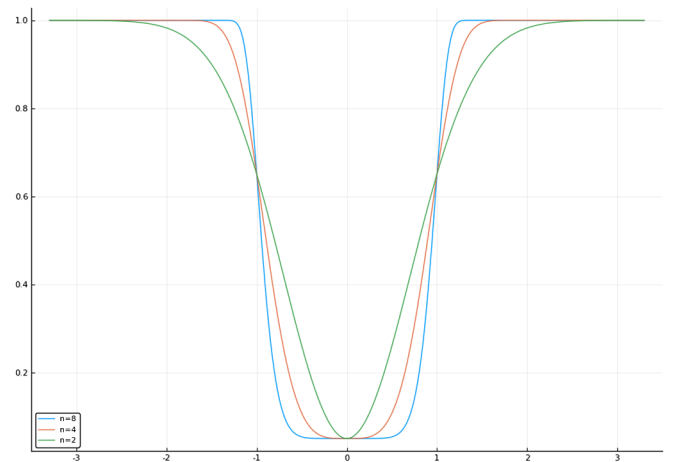


FIG. 13. The diffusion coefficient changes with different smooth factors N , where we assume that $h = 1$ kpc and $\xi = 0.05$.

the free parameters are $\theta = \{D_0, \delta, L, V_a, \xi, \xi_\delta, A_c, \nu\}$ and consist of six transport parameters and two injection parameters.

Table III and Fig. 10 show the MCMC result of four kinds of specified h . We notice that all these χ^2_{\min} 's have similar values; thus, the thickness h does not show a strong preference to any of them. As the half thickness of the inner disk becomes larger, δ, ξ, ξ_δ all increase and a strong anticorrelation is shown between ξ and ξ_δ . It seems that the Alfvén velocity V_a and slope index scale factor ξ_δ all converge to zero. The effect of reacceleration does not significantly affect the hardening and can be ignored since we are now focused on the energy region above 20 GV. Moreover, the diffusion coefficient in the disk prefers an energy-independent type as $\xi_\delta \sim 0$. In Fig. 10 we also find that the strong degeneracy of D_0/L worsens the constraining of other parameters.

In Fig. 11 we find that the best-fit values of these specified h have almost the same results, fitting well with the AMS-02 measurements, while some dispersion appears above 10^4 GV. To estimate the hardening speed of the slow component ρ^Δ , we calculate Δ in Table III and find that this value remains nearly unchanged when h become larger, proving that Δ should be important in reproducing similar hardening features.

To estimate more differences among these specified h , we further predict the anisotropy amplitude in Fig. 12. As h becomes larger, the amplitude in the entire energy range grows larger (except 1.0 kpc), and the disk thickness $h \sim 0.5$ kpc fits best with these experiments. Equation (11) has predicted a simple relation that $\hat{A} \sim \xi D_0/h = \{4.207, 5.502, 6.793, 6.728\}$, which could explain those features.

2. Specified smooth factor N

We introduced the smooth factor N in Eq. (3a), and it is used to describe the change of diffusion coefficient from the innermost disk to the outer halo. In Fig. 13 we show the spatial dependence of the diffusion coefficient, which changes more rapidly when the smooth factor N becomes larger. When $N \sim \infty$, this change becomes a step function around the thickness $\pm h$ as Ref. [29] used this kind of spatially dependent model.

We choose $h = 1.0$ kpc to give a fixed thickness of slow region and choose the smooth factor among specified values $N = \{2, 4, 8\}$. Other datasets are referred to in Appendix B 1. Figure 14 shows the fitting results of three kinds of specified N . As the smooth factor becomes larger, ξ, ξ_δ all get increased and the anticorrelation also appears

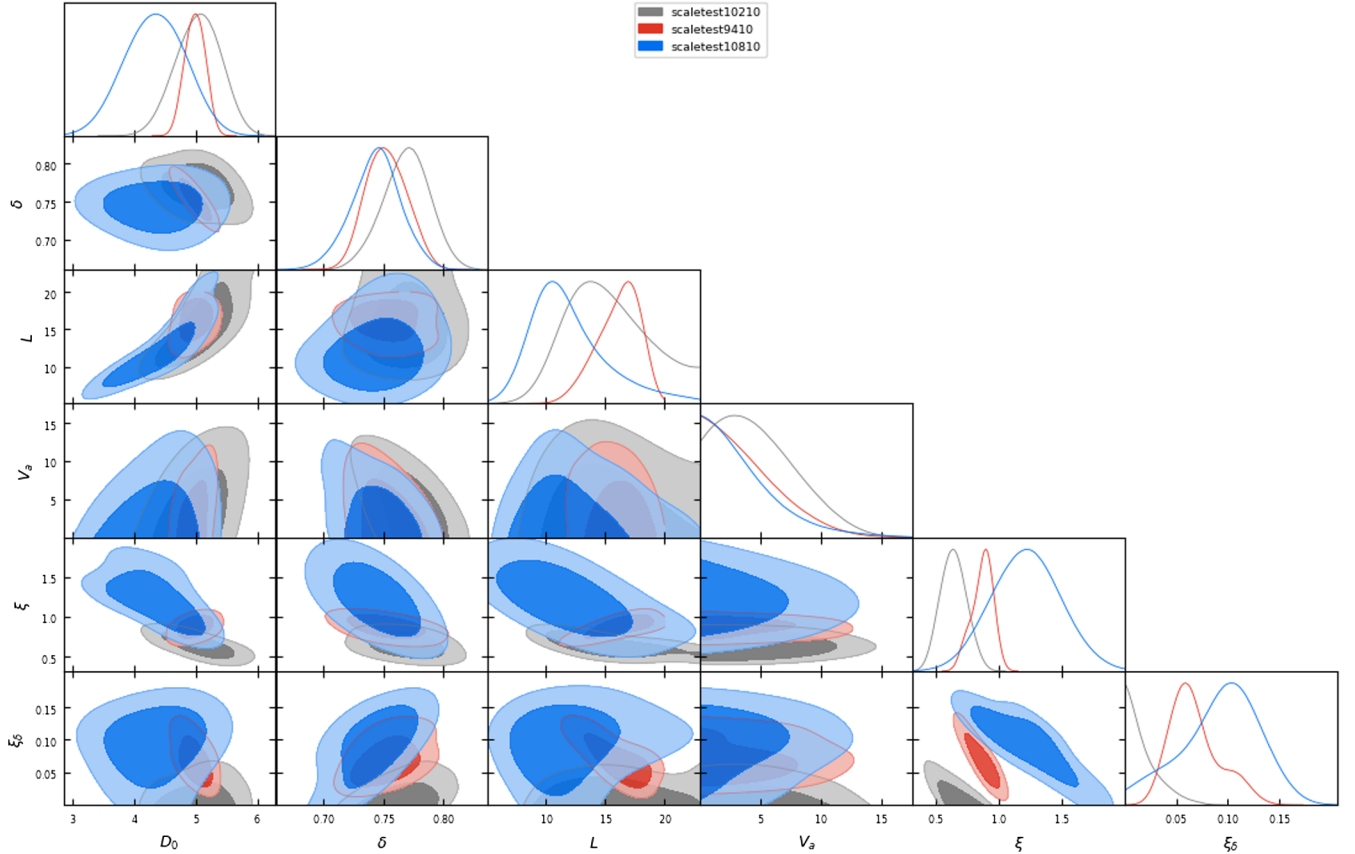


FIG. 14. 1D and 2D distributions of the transport parameters. Different colors represent different values of specified N : 2 (gray), 4 (red), and 8 (blue).

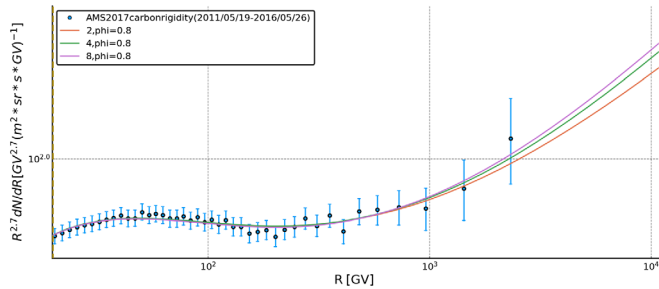


FIG. 15. Carbon spectrum calculated with the best-fit parameters compared with the experimental data AMS-02 [15] above 20 GV. Different colors represent different values of the specified N .

between ξ and ξ_δ . The serious degeneracy of D_0/L still worsens the constraining of other parameters.

In Fig. 15 we find that the best-fit values of these specified N have almost the same results, fitting well with AMS-02 measurements, while a large smooth factor N can give stronger hardening above 10^3 GV. The local CRs travel mainly from disk to halo and diffuse backward to the Solar System. The real spectra may not simply be the superposition of two components like Eqs. (4) and (5) but instead may include more intermediate states. The presence of intermediate components can be used to explain how the hardening changes with N .

To estimate more differences of these specified N , we further predicted the anisotropy amplitude in Fig. 16. As N becomes larger, the amplitude in the entire energy range grows larger as well, and the smooth factor $N \sim 4$ fits best with these experiments. Equation (11) has predicted a

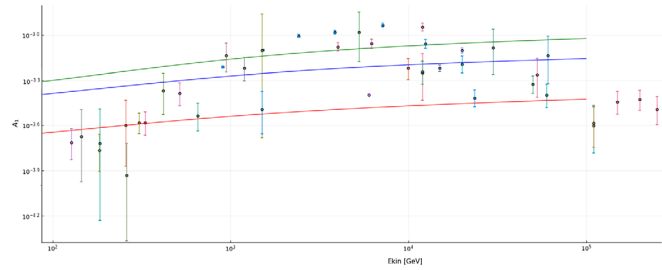


FIG. 16. CR anisotropy amplitude predicted by best-fit parameters compared with the experimental data given in [9]. Different colors represent different values of specified N : 2 (red), 4 (blue), and 8 (green).

simple relation that $\hat{A} \sim \xi D_0/h = \{3.216, 5.737, 6.728\}$, which could explain the features shown in Fig. 16.

APPENDIX C: MODIFIED DIFFERENCING SCHEME

For partial differential equations with variable coefficients, the finite volume method can provide us with well-behaved differencing schemes. Although GALPROP also provides an option for the case of a spatially dependent diffusion coefficient, the differencing scheme (which is the same as that used by DRAGON [79]) can deal only with the case where the distribution of the diffusion coefficient is very smooth. We patch the differencing scheme derived with the finite volume method on GALPROP. For the GALDEF option solutionmethod = 4 (the vectorized Crank-Nicolson method), we modify the file PropelOperatorSplitting.cc. The differencing scheme of the diffusion operator in the vertical direction is changed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 a1z[ip] &= T((\text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz - 1].s[ip] + \text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz].s[ip])/2. * \text{pow}(\text{particle.dz}, -2.) * \text{factor}), \\
 a3z[ip] &= T((\text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz + 1].s[ip] + \text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz].s[ip])/2. * \text{pow}(\text{particle.dz}, -2.) * \text{factor}), \\
 a2z[ip] &= T((\text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz - 1].s[ip] + 2. * \text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz].s[ip] + \text{particle.Dxx.d2}[ir][iz + 1].s[ip])/2. \\
 &\quad * \text{pow}(\text{particle.dz}, -2.) * \text{factor}). \tag{C1}
 \end{aligned}$$

If solutionmethod = 1 (Crank-Nicolson method) is used, similar modifications can be made in the file propel.cc. Refer to Ref. [32] for the derivation.

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