





Detailed and Spatially Resolved Modelling of Blazar Emissions

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Institut für Theoretische Physik und Astrophysik 18th March 2013



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Outline

What we can do

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- Homogenous models
- A self-consistent model
- A spatially resolved model
- SSC and photo hadronics
- 2 What we try to do
 - Variability and steady state
 - Distinguish leptonic and hadronic
 - More physics, less numerics
 - Understand the radio emission
- **3** What we can't do (yet)
 - Microphysics
 - VLBI blob connection
 - Polarisation and EVPA

The objects in question



... show a wide, mostly featureless spectrum, from (self absorbed) radio frequencies, to the VHE γ -rays (example of *Markarian501*):







 \ldots show strong variability in most parts of the spectrum, from years to minutes



from Howard et al. (2004)

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from Pichel and Paneque (2011)

Spatial SSC





... look like this (best picture we can get via VLBI):



VLBI image of the jet of NGC1052; M. Kadler, Universität Wuerzburg

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What we can do

Homogenous, steady state, powerlaweik State

properties

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- homogenous, constant electron distribution \Rightarrow photon distribution \Rightarrow flux
- $n_{el}(\gamma)$ is some (multiple) broken powerlaw
- parameters are $\gamma_{max}, \gamma_{min}, \gamma^i_{break}, s^i$
- physical parameters are R, B, δ, n_{el} normalisation

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problems

- not time dependent
- physics of spectral indices, breaks,

•
$$\gamma_{max}(B, t_{acc}), s(t_{acc}, t_{esc}), \gamma_{break}(B, t_{esc}), B(B) \Rightarrow \text{overdetermined}$$





• takes less than a second to compute \Rightarrow do this often, get time variability

Homogenous, powerlaw SSC

- BUT: what is the time evolution (and the physics behind it) from one electron distribution to the other?
- need for a model, that computes particle acceleration in a time dependent, selfconsistent way
- since lightcurves are usually available, one should try to explain any data with more advanced models

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properties

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- homogenous, time dependent electron distribution \Rightarrow time dependent flux \Rightarrow lightcurves
- $n_{el}(\gamma)$ evolves selfconsistently
- parameters are γ_{inject} delta injection; physical parameters are $R, B, \delta, Q_{inject} = Q_0 \cdot \delta(\gamma \gamma_0), t_{acc}$, Fermi-I to Fermi-II ratio

Homogenous, selfconsistent SSC



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issues

- one gets lightcurves
- single run takes \sim 5 minutes \Rightarrow reasonable fit after one hour
- less parameters
- more physical parameters















Kinetic equation: acceleration zone $\partial_t n_e = \partial_\gamma \left[(\beta_s \gamma^2 - t_{acc}^{-1} \gamma) \cdot n_e \right] + \partial_\gamma \left[[(a+2)t_{acc}]^{-1} \gamma^2 \partial_\gamma n_e \right] + Q_0 - t_{esc}^{-1} n_e$







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Kinetic equation: acceleration zone

$$\partial_t n_e = \partial_\gamma \left[\left(\beta_s \gamma^2 - t_{\mathsf{acc}}^{-1} \gamma \right) \cdot n_e \right] + \partial_\gamma \left[\left[(a+2) t_{\mathsf{acc}} \right]^{-1} \gamma^2 \partial_\gamma n_e \right] + Q_0 - t_{\mathsf{esc}}^{-1} n_e$$





COJONES - SSC part







Kinetic equation: radiation zone

$$\partial_t N_e = \partial_\gamma \left[\left(\beta_s \gamma^2 + \dot{\gamma}_{\mathsf{IC}} \right) \cdot N_e \right] + t_{\mathsf{esc}}^{-1} n_e - t_{\mathsf{esc},\mathsf{N}}^{-1} N_e$$









Kinetic equation: radiation zone

$$\partial_t N_e = \partial_\gamma \left[\left(\beta_s \gamma^2 + \dot{\gamma}_{\mathsf{IC}} \right) \cdot N_e \right] + t_{\mathsf{esc}}^{-1} n_e - t_{\mathsf{esc},\mathsf{N}}^{-1} N_e$$

Photon distribution

$$\partial_t N_{\rm ph} = R_{\rm syn} + R_{\rm IC} - c \alpha_{\rm SSA} N_{\rm ph} - t_{\rm esc,ph}^{-1} N_{\rm ph}$$





- model flares due to changes in $Q_{inject}, B, t_{acc}, (\delta)$
- validate steady state fit with lightcurves



Homogenous, selfconsistent SSC

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Motivation

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• acceleration due to Fermi I happens at finite size shock

spatially resolved SSC

- \Rightarrow $R_{acc} \ll R_{rad}$
- acceleration efficiency should depend on distance to shock
- for energies with $t_{cool} < lct$ the blob simply isn't homogenous
 - example values from Abdo et al. (2011): $B=0.015\,{\rm G},\ R=1.3\cdot10^{17}\,{\rm cm},\ \gamma_{max}=1.5\cdot10^{7}$
 - $t_{cool} = 5.7 \cdot 10^4 \, \mathrm{s} \ll t_{esc} = 4.3 \cdot 10^6 \, \mathrm{s}$
- compute *multiple shock*-scenarios
- homogenous modells constrain time variability to $\Delta t > R_{rad}/c \Rightarrow$ inhomogenous models allow shorter timescales while preserving causality





Unicorn - model geometry



- divide simulation region into N slices along the direction parallel to shock normal
- each slice has local bulk speed, electron density, photon density (, magnetic field, radius)



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- multiple scattering on both sides of a shock
- scattering is elastic in plasma frame
- when particles cross the shock, the boost into the bulk frame distorts the isotropy of the target distribution
- hence head on collisions are more likely and acceleration becomes more efficient





- split electron population into two half spheres; one moving downstream (n⁺), the other moving upstream (n⁻)
- connecting the slices via advection of electrons between them
- shock is represented by jump in bulk velocity u between neighboured zones

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- in shock frame: $v_{bulk}^1 = u_u = -V_S$, $v_{bulk}^2 = u_d = V_P V_S$, $R = \frac{u_u}{u_d}$
- relativistic treatment yields $V_P = \frac{V_S(R-1)}{R-V_S^2}$



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- relativistic treatment yields $V_P = \frac{V_S(R-1)}{R-V_s^2}$
- scattering is controlled via the probability for an electron to change its propagation direction (including the boost into the new frame of reference)





- stochastic acceleration independent of presence of shock
- repeated scattering of relativistic particles leads to acceleration second order in bulk velocity
- included in model as diffusion in momentum space





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kinetic equation including Fermi-II acceleration

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial p} \left[p^2 \cdot \left(\left\langle \dot{p}_{FII} \right\rangle \frac{\partial F}{\partial p} + \dot{p}_{cool} \cdot F \right) \right] + S(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{p}, t)$$

with $\left\langle \dot{p}_{FII} \right\rangle = p^2 \frac{V_A^2}{9\kappa_{\parallel}} = p^2 D$

 $V_A\ldots$ Alfvén velocity; $\kappa_{\parallel}\ldots$ parallel diffusion coefficient



Photo-Meson production:

• $p + \gamma \to p + n_0 \pi^0 + n_+ \pi^+ + n_- \pi^-$

•
$$\pi^{\pm} \rightarrow \mu^{\pm} + \nu_{\mu}/\bar{\nu}_{\mu}$$

•
$$\pi^0 \to \gamma + \gamma$$

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•
$$\mu^{\pm} \rightarrow e^{\pm} + \nu_e/\bar{\nu}_e + \bar{\nu}_{\mu}/\nu_{\mu}$$

Resulting $\gamma\text{-radiation}$ above $\approx 10^{28}$ Hz will be opaque to

$$\gamma + \gamma \rightarrow e^+ + e^-$$













 \Rightarrow pair induced cascades and cascade radiation will emerge in jets with non-thermal p^+ present.

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COJONES - add photo hadronics



Now there are 4 non-linear coupled equations in the radiation zone:

Kinetic equations: radiation zone

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t N_{p^+} &= \partial_\gamma \left[\beta_p \gamma^2 \cdot N_{p^+} \right] + b^3 t_{\text{esc,p}}^{-1} n_{p^+} - t_{\text{esc,p,N}}^{-1} N_{p^+} \\ \partial_t N_{e^-} &= \partial_\gamma \left[\left(\beta_e \gamma^2 + \dot{\gamma}_{\text{IC}} \right) \cdot N_{e^-} \right] + b^3 t_{\text{esc,e}}^{-1} n_{e^-} + Q_{\text{pp}} + Q_{\text{p}\gamma^-} - t_{\text{esc,e,N}}^{-1} N_{e^-} \\ \partial_t N_{e^+} &= \partial_\gamma \left[\left(\beta_e \gamma^2 + \dot{\gamma}_{\text{IC}} \right) \cdot N_{e^+} \right] + Q_{\text{pp}} + Q_{\text{p}\gamma^+} - t_{\text{esc,e,N}}^{-1} N_{e^+} \end{aligned}$$

Photon distribution

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$$\partial_t N_{\rm ph} = R_{
m syn} + R_{
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• Kelner Aharonian parameterization of the SOPHIA Monte Carlo results is used to calculate $Q_{p\gamma^-}$, $Q_{p\gamma^+}$, $R_{\pi^0} \Rightarrow$ no unstable intermediates $(\pi^{\pm}, \pi^0, \mu^{\pm})$ are taken into account

COJONES - add photo hadronics



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- Cascades will emerge in the optically thick regime $> 10^{28}$ Hz




schematic of the dominant photohadronic processes [from: Weidinger 2012]

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schematic of the dominant photohadronic processes [from: Weidinger 2012]

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 cooling (and possibly acceleration) of intermediates is relevant in AGNs

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- → using model by Hümmer et al. 2010
- How does this influence resulting SEDs and variation timescales?
- calculation of realistic, flavour splitted neutrino spectra



Muon lifetime vs. dominant cooling process [from: Weidinger 2012]



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Muon lifetime vs. dominant cooling process [from: Weidinger 2012]

status

- arbitrary combinations of particle species and all relevant processes implemented in *Unicorn*
- todo: numerics of cascades and large differences in timescales





What we try to do



Variability and steady state



observed lightcurves, especially in sources with short variability timescales, are constraining steady state fits



Variability and steady state



observed lightcurves, especially in sources with short variability timescales, are constraining steady state fits



from Pichel and Paneque (2011)

- 6 times the flux in less than 2000 seconds
- steady state fit from Abdo et al. (2011): $R = 1.3 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ cm}, \ \delta =$ $12 \Rightarrow t_{lc}^{obs} = 3.6 \cdot 10^5 \text{ s}$
- even with a 100 times smaller region with instanteneous acceleration it would be hard to explain this





reacceleration in a small part of the emission region?



better, but





..not good enough:



in general: we need better ideas for flare scenarios, to be computed selfconsistently







- injection of a *Melrose*-spectrum [Brown et al. (1983)] photon distribution ($\nu_{cut} = 10^{14}$ Hz, $n(\nu_{cut}) = 3 \cdot 10^{-5}$ cm⁻³)
- details soon in [Richter and Spanier (in prep.)]

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Variability and steady state



usually the multitude of bands makes such models falsifiable



Distinguish leptonic and hadronic Physik und Astronomie

to discover the leptonic vs hadronic character of sources is quite important (consequences for jet formation, contribution of AGN to cosmic ray spectrum, . . .)



- modeling of various sources with a hybrid model indicates connection to the blazar sequence (if it exists)
- increasing magnetic field resembles transition from IC. via cascade to *p*⁺-*synchrotron* dominated sources

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Distinguish leptonic and hadronic





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Distinguish leptonic and hadronic



time evolution of flares contains much information about the dominant physical processes



hybrid models for 3C279 and 1ES1011+496 from [Weidinger (2012)]



What are the (physical) boundary conditions of a blob?

More physics, less numerics

 we see (in the radio) structures larger than the (numerical) emission region

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- we see variability shorter than the simulated size predicts
- how can we close the gap between overall SED and radio spectra/morphology?
- can we learn something about the magnetic field structure from that?





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radio spectrum







radio spectrum



synchrotron self absorption by a powerlaw distribution

equivalence of brightness and kinetic temperature leads to a flux

 $F_{
u} \propto \nu^{\frac{5}{2}}$









Electron distribution at different distances to the shock.

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Electron distribution at different distances to the shock.

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radio spectrum





Effect of significant larger simulation region.



adiabatic expansion





Effect of additional adiabatic expansion.





What we can't do (yet)

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Microphysics

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- in principle closed chain from MHD, via PiC, to power law spectra
- but scales of extraglactic accelerators are not achievable: 10⁴² a für 10²¹ eV cosmic rays
- since processes seem to be nice, extrapolation might not be too ridiculous









- VHE emission length scale $\sim 10^{15}\,\text{cm}$ (max)
- known radio morphology scale is $\sim 10^{19}\,{\rm cm}$
- consistent simulations of the complete system does not exist (as far as I know)
- moving to (2D) large scale simulations on super computers this should, in principle be possible







Polarisation - flare correlation [Pichel and Paneque (2011)].

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• although blazars are extreme and almost violent objects, many aspects can be explained quite beautifully

Conclusion

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- more and more simultaneous multi-frequency data will help to increase our understanding of these objects
- time dependent hadronic simulations offer a whole new parameter space to test against that data
- detailed observation often challenges established models
- additional channels (polarisation, maybe neutrinos some day) need completly new modelling approaches





Thank you





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