Hadronic Models of Blazars: Principles & Current Status

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Blazars AGN with jets viewed face-on





Giommi 2015, JHEA (https://tools.asdc.asi.it/SED/)



Origin of y-ray emission leptonic or hadronic?



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Radiative transfer the principles



Non-thermal radiative processes in a nutshell



Radiation fields in blazars are abundant



Photopair vs Photopion a quick comparison



Production of secondaries electron-positron pairs & photons

- Photopion: Monte Carlo generator [SOPHIA; Muecke et al 2000] or analytical parametrizations by Kelner & Aharonian (2008)
- Photopair: Monte Carlo results by Protheroe & Johnson (1996) or analytical parametrizations by Kelner & Aharonian (2008)



Computation of spectra a non-linear problem*



[Mastichiadis & Kirk 1995; Dimitrakoudis et al. 2012; Mastichiadis & Kirk 2005; **MP,** Dimitrikoudis et al. 2015; Diltz, Boettcher, Fossati 2015; **MP**, Coenders et al. 2016; Gao, Winter & Pohl 2017 *for other schemes, see Boettcher et al. 2013, Cerruti et al. 2015]

Current status general considerations

- Leptonic & hadronic models can produce equally good fits to the photon spectra
- Typical requirements of p-syn hadronic models:
- a) Work for both FSRQs and BL Lacs
- b) High jet power L_j~ 10⁴⁷ 10⁴⁸ erg/s for FSRQs, but can be lower for BL Lacs
- c) High proton energies, e.g. E_{pmax} ~ 10 EeV (for BL Lacs)
- d) Strong magnetic fields, e.g. B ~1-100 G
- e) ~ EeV neutrinos
- Typical requirements of photo-pion hadronic models:
- a) Work for BL Lacs, but unlikely for FSRQs
 b) High jet power L_j~ 10⁴⁷ 10⁴⁸ erg/s
 c) Moderate proton energies e.g. E_{pmax} ~ 10 PeV
 d) Moderate magnetic fields, e.g. B ~ 0.1-1 G
 e) ~ PeV neutrinos



How to

discriminate?

[e.g. Boettcher et al. 2013; **MP** 2014; Dimitrakoudis, **MP**, Mastichiadis 2014; **MP**, Dimitrikoudis et al. 2015; Cerruti et al. 2015; Diltz, Boettcher & Fossati 2015; **MP** & Dermer 2016; Gao, Winter & Pohl 2017; **MP**, Nalewajko et al. 2017; Cerruti et al. 2017]

Current status the case of TXS 056+056

See Cen 1 he 2017 multi-messenger flare

- Major GeV γ-ray flare and enhanced fluxes in optical, soft/hard X rays, TeV γ rays.
- $L_v \sim L_v$ (1 event with $E_v \sim 290 \text{ TeV}$)
- Modeling papers: Ansoldi et al. 2018; Keivani, Murase, MP, Fox et al. 2018; Murase, Oikonomou & MP 2018; Sahakyan 2018; Wang et al. 2018; Gao et al. 2019; Cerruti et al. 2019



The neutrino 2014-15 "flare"

- Neither GeV γ-ray nor optical flare
- L_v ~10 L_y (13 +- 5 events with E_v ~32 TeV – 3.6 PeV)
- Modeling papers: Reimer, Boettcher & Buson 2018; Rodrigues et al. 2018; Murase, Oikonomou & MP 2018; MP, Murase, Fox et al. (in prep); Zhang, Murase, MP (in prep)



The 2014-15 neutrino flare a challenge for models



The 2014-15 neutrino flare a challenge for models





- Parameter space search
- < 1.8 events
- MeV band unconstrained!



Fine-tuning of model



TXS has a BLR!

See Oikonomou's talk

blazar zone

(broadband)

- < 4.8 events
- Attenuation > 10 GeV
- X-ray flux close to UL





[Rodrigues et al. 2018]

The 2014-15 neutrino flare minimal requirements



- Synchrotron & Compton supported cascades, but only in linear regime
- Stationary X-ray photon field as target for photo-pion with Compton cascade.
- No correlation between TeV/PeV neutrinos with GeV y rays

[Reimer, Boettcher & Buson 2018]

The 2014-15 neutrino flare the neutron beam model

Step 1: Photo-disintegration of nuclei

Step 2: Photopion interactions of neutrons



[e.g. Dermer et al. 2012, 2014; for TXS 0506+056: Murase, Oikonomou, MP 2018; Zhang, Murase, MP (prep)]

Open questions

- Is there a consistent physical picture for the multi-messenger emission of TXS 0506+056 in 2014-15 and 2017?
- What makes the 2014-15 period favorable for neutrino production? How can we distinguish it from other periods of less efficient neutrino production using EM observations?
- Is TXS 0506+056 different than other blazars of the same type?
- What do the requirements for the proton population tell us about the acceleration mechanisms?
- What is the best observing strategy for searching for neutrino point sources, if GeV γ rays flares are not correlated with periods of high TeV/PeV neutrino flux?



Thank you!

Back-up slides

Photopion interactions

$$N + \gamma_{target} \rightarrow N + \pi s + ...$$

 $s^{1/2}_{threshold} = m_p + m_{\pi 0}$







Photopair interactions

$$N + \gamma_{target} \longrightarrow N + e^+ + e^-$$

 $s^{1/2}_{threshold} = m_p + 2m_e$



