Constraining the Location of Gamma-ray Emission in Blazar Jets

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Internal Shock Model



Joshi M. & Boettcher M., 2011, ApJ, 727, 21

Multi-zone Approach With Radiation Feedback



Gamma-ray Emission Location

- γ-ray flares located within sub-pc BLR or within and downstream of "core" at pc scales.
- Core defined as an approximately stationary, bright, compact feature seen in mm-wave (7mm or 43 GHz) VLBI images and located at one end of the jet on pc scales.
- Enough observational evidences (Jorstad et al., Lahteenmaki et al., Leon-Tavares et al.) of coincidences of γ-ray outbursts with radio events on pc scales.
- Theoretical challenge to explain variability of γ-ray flares on intra-day time scales at such length scales.
- Could multi-zone instead of single zone do the trick?
- What are sources of external seed photons & the amount of their individual contribution to gamma-ray emission?



- Include anisotropy in external Comptonization calculation to better constrain the location of γ-ray emission in the jet.
- Develop a self-consistent scheme to dynamically follow the system along the jet axis.
- Role of intrinsic parameters.
- Interplay of various radiative processes responsible for different spectral states.

Methodology

- Radiation transfer code of Joshi & Böttcher (2011) with multi-zone feedback scheme.
- Include the contribution from accretion disk (ECD), broad line region (BLR; ECC), and dusty torus (ECDT).
- Evolve the system & follow the emission region to beyond BLR.

Disk + BLR + DT Schematic



Disk Schematic: Shakura-Sunyaev



BLR Schematic



Donea & Protheroe (2003); Liu & Bai (2006)



Joshi, Marscher & Boettcher (2013, in prep.)



Dust Torus Schematic



Flat Spectrum Radio Quasar (FSRQ)





DISK









Summary & Next Steps

- High energy emission significant from within BLR for this case of FSRQ.
- Anisotropy important for disk, BLR & DT contribution.
- Understanding of source(s) of seed photons:
 - Are there only 3 conventional sources?
 - Could stratification of BLR with various ionization lines originating from different distance resulting in larger size and location of BLR (Stern & Poutanen, 2011) do the trick?
 - Could single emission line cloud along the line of sight of emission region located further out in the jet be responsible?
 - Do we need to get creative with sources of seed photons at pc scales?

contd....

- Careful with generalization of location of γ-ray emission.
- Apply the external Compton model to understand its effect on evolution of e⁻ energy dist. and resulting SED of blazars.





Parameter Study

$$L_{w} = 10^{47} erg/s$$

$$\Gamma_{i} = 25$$

$$\Gamma_{o} = 10$$

$$\varepsilon_{e} = \frac{U_{e}}{U_{sh}} = 0.5$$

$$\varepsilon_{B} = \frac{U_{B}}{U_{sh}} = 0.002$$

$$q = 3.4$$

$$R = 3 \times 10^{16} cm$$

B = 2.51G $\gamma_{\text{max}} = 8.31 \times 10^4$ $\gamma_{\text{min},fs} = 2.18 \times 10^3$ $\gamma_{\text{min},rs} = 3.74 \times 10^3$





