

# GRB 160625B: Evidence for a Gaussian-shaped Jet

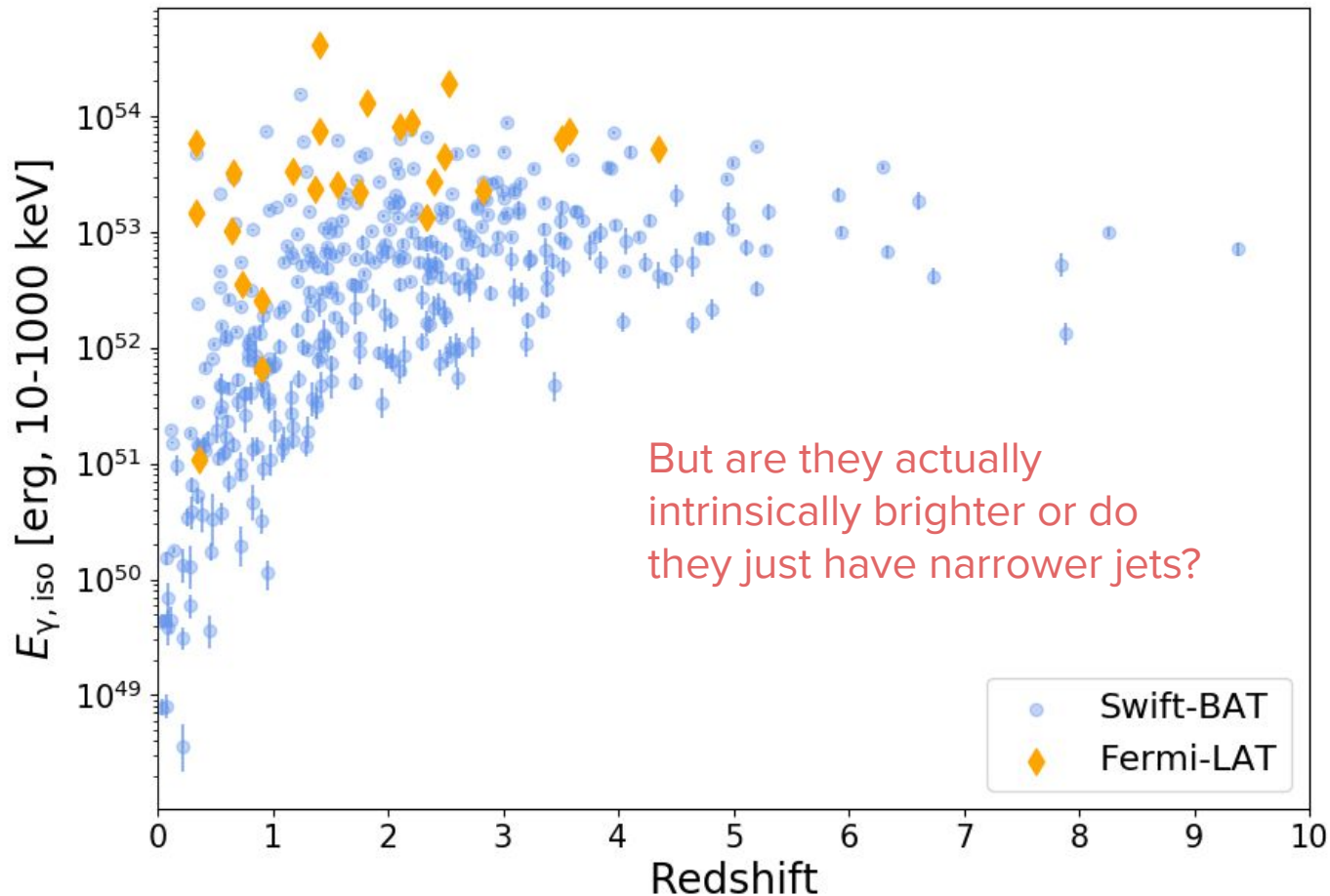
Ginny Cunningham

Astronomy PhD Candidate

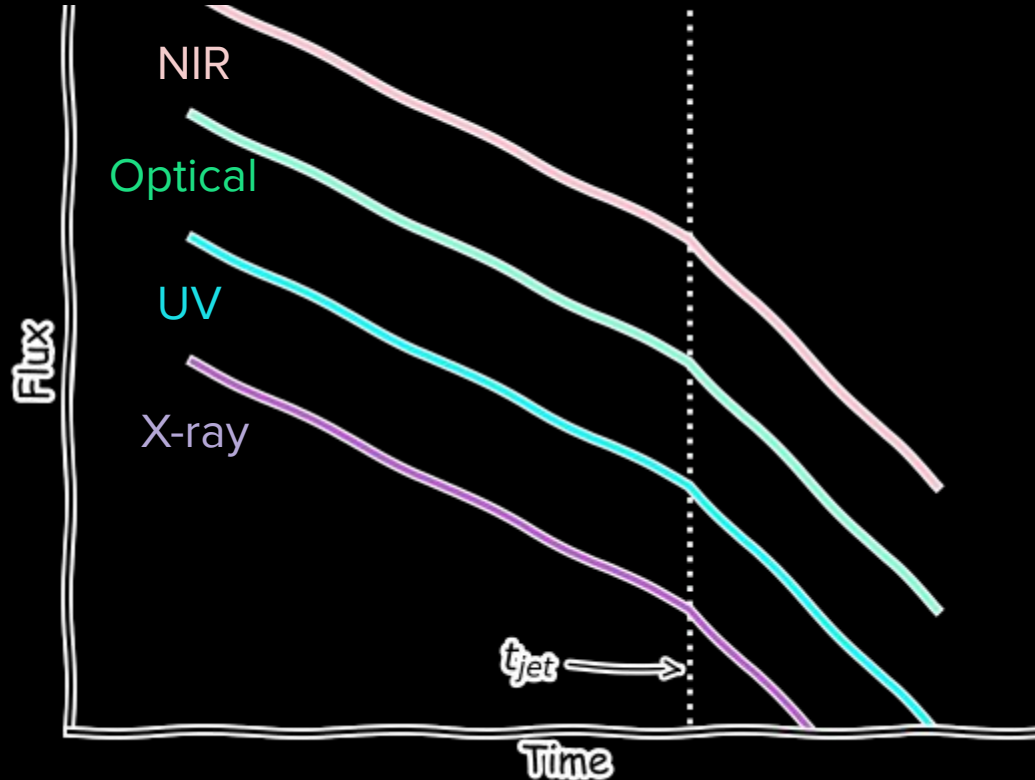
University of Maryland, College Park

**Brad Cenko** (NASA/GSFC), **Geoff Ryan**  
(UMD/GSFC), Stuart Vogel (UMD), Alessandra Corsi  
(TTU), Antonino Cucchiara (UVI), Andrew Fruchter  
(STScI), Assaf Horesh (HUJI), Tuomas Kangas (OKC),  
Dan Kocevski (NASA/MSFC), Dan Perley (LJMU),  
and Judy Racusin (NASA/GSFC)

*Fermi* LAT  
GRBs are  
extremely  
bright.



Jet breaks reveal information about the burst geometry.



Jet break ( $t_{jet}$ ) occurs when  $\Gamma = 1/\theta_{jet}$ .

# Things we still don't know:

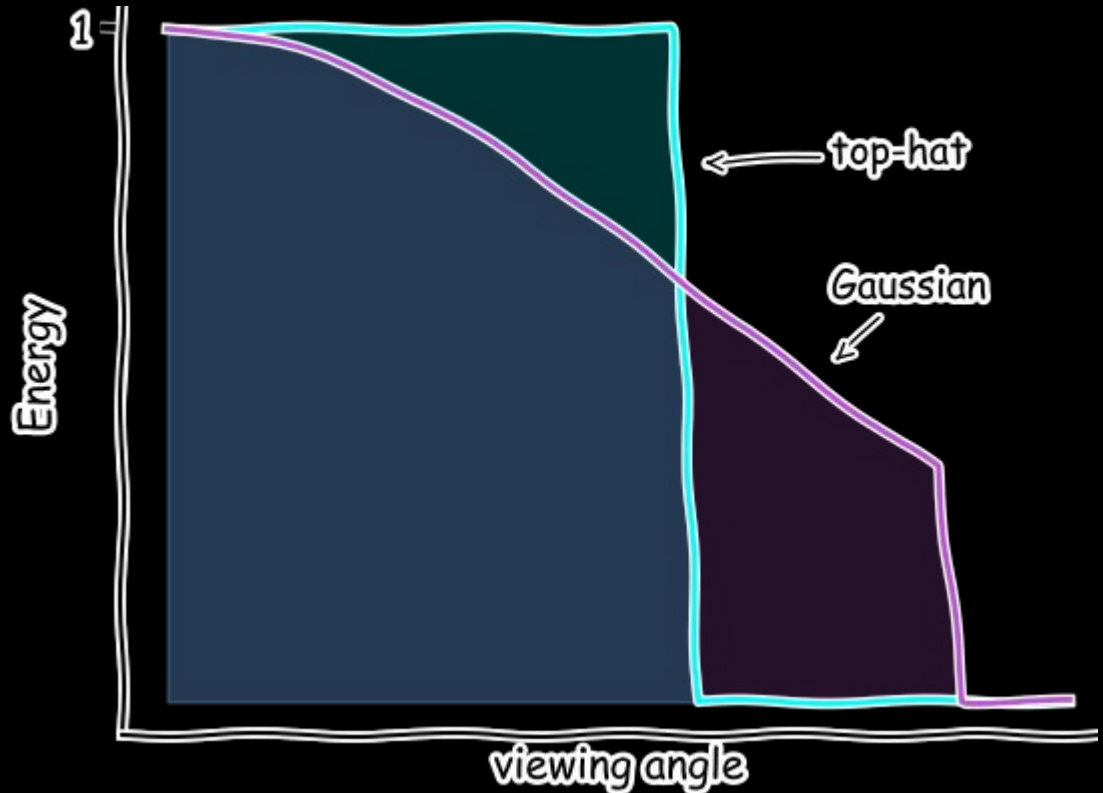
How much energy is released by the explosion?

What's powering their central engines?

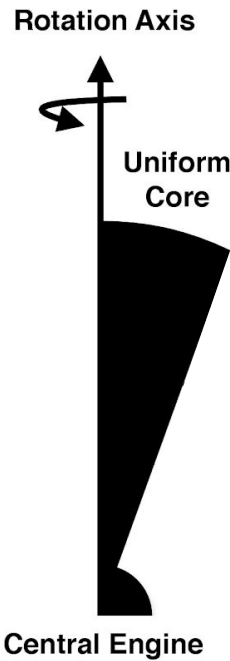
What are their local environments like?

**How is their jet emission shaped?**

And much more...

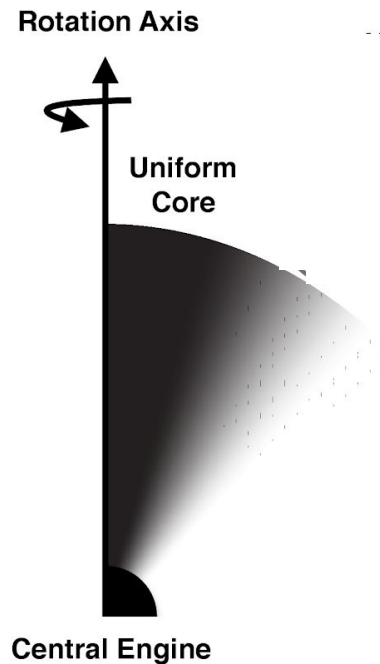
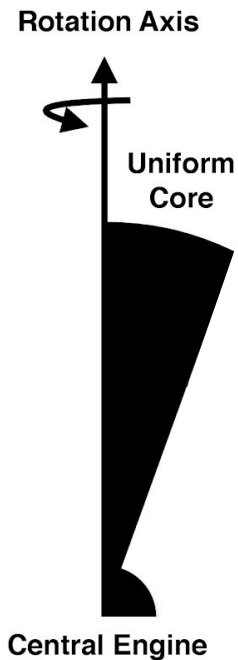


- 3 Models:**
- 1: Simple conical top-hat model
  - 2: Gaussian jet structure
  - 3: Gaussian with variable participation fraction of electrons



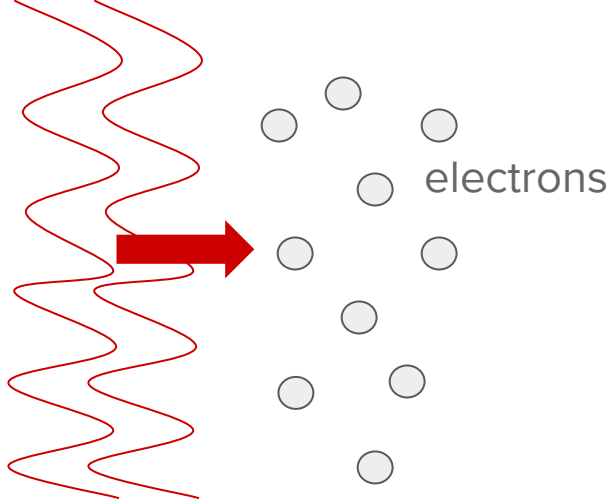
\*Adapted from the LIGO discovery paper

- 3 Models:**
- 1: Simple conical top-hat model
  - 2: Gaussian jet structure
  - 3: Gaussian with variable participation fraction of electrons

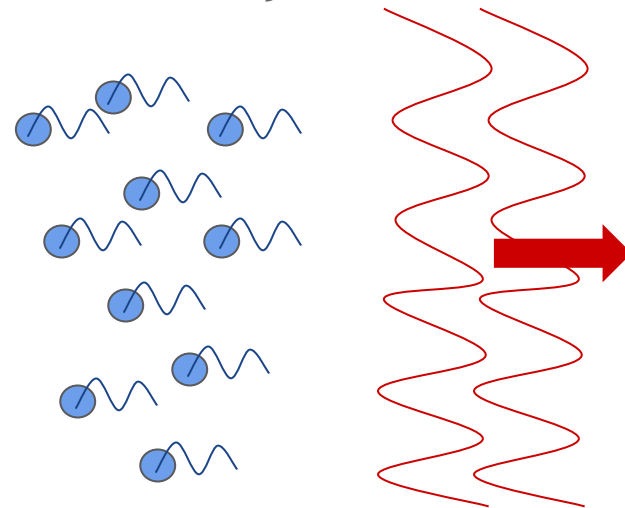


- 3 Models:**
- 1: Simple conical top-hat model
  - 2: Gaussian jet structure
  - 3: Gaussian with variable participation fraction of electrons

Passing shock  
wave

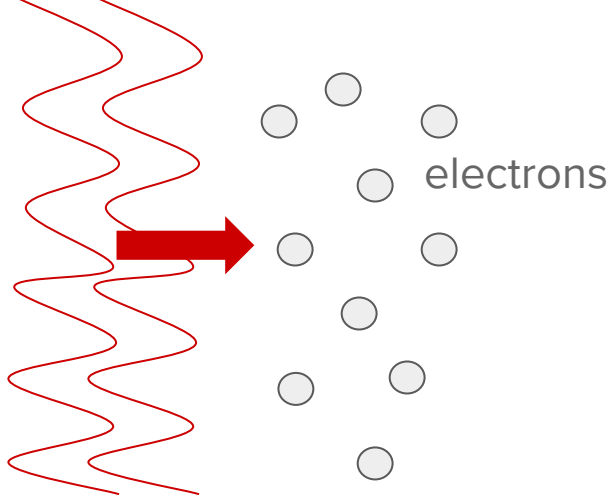


$\xi = 1$

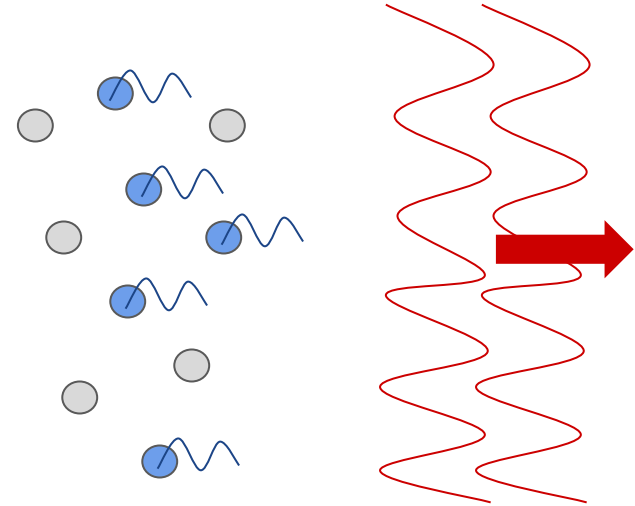


- 3 Models:**
- 1: Simple conical top-hat model
  - 2: Gaussian jet structure
  - 3: Gaussian with variable participation fraction of electrons

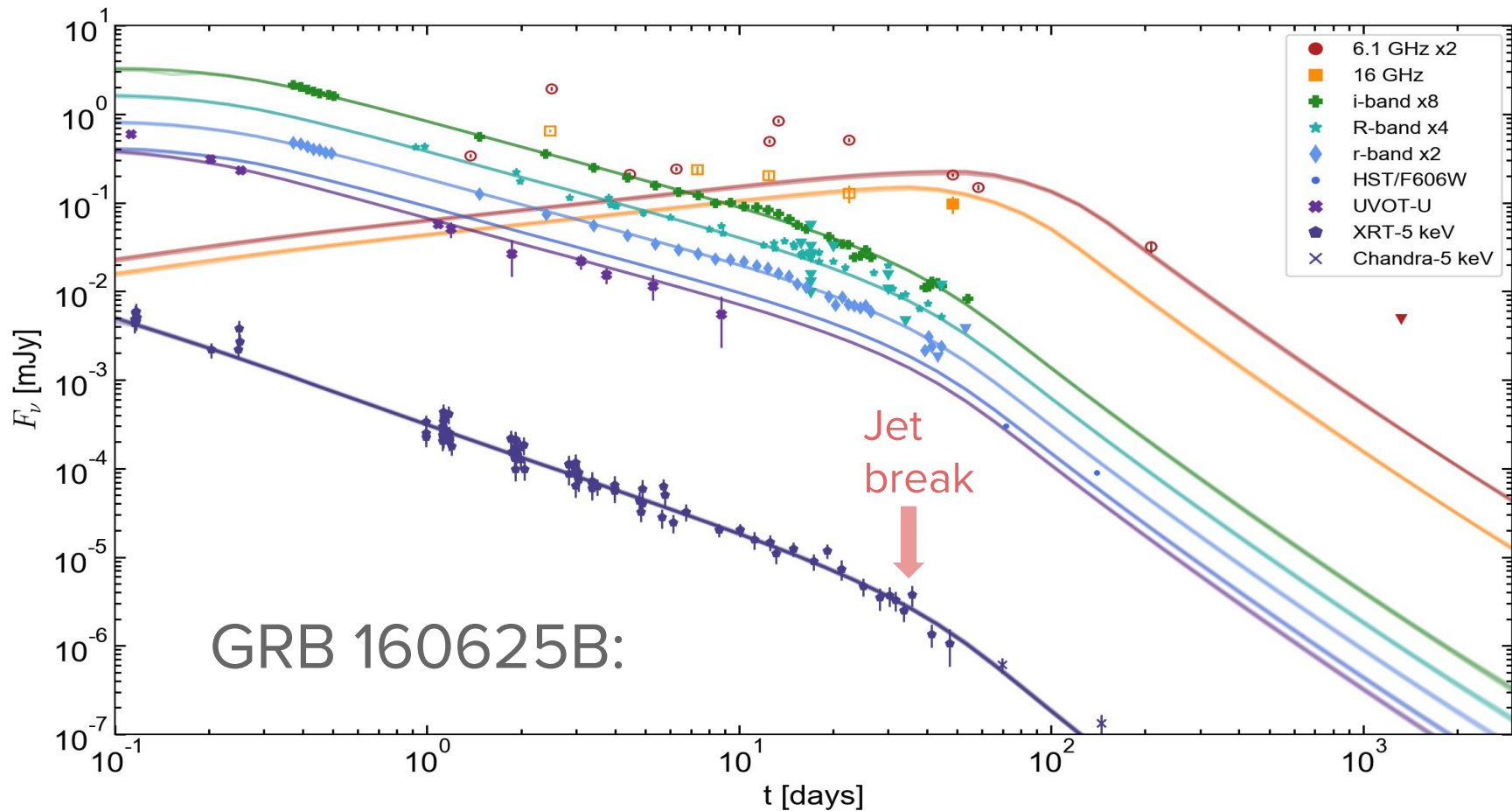
Passing shock  
wave



$\xi = 0.5$







Model		Top-Hat	Gaussian (fixed $\xi$ )	Gaussian (free $\xi$ )
$\theta_v$	[deg]	$0.42^{+0.14}_{-0.09}$	$0.13^{+0.34}_{-0.06}$	$3.78^{+0.57}_{-0.52}$
$E_{K,iso}$	[erg]	$2.3^{+0.5}_{-0.7} \times 10^{54}$	$3.1^{+0.4}_{-0.8} \times 10^{54}$	$4.2^{+24.0}_{-3.5} \times 10^{55}$
$\theta_c$	[deg]	$1.83^{+0.52}_{-0.23}$	$1.26^{+0.34}_{-0.06}$	$3.90^{+0.57}_{-0.57}$
$\theta_w$	[deg]	-	$1.60^{+0.40}_{-0.11}$	$4.76^{+0.80}_{-0.63}$
$n$	[cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	$9.6^{+39.0}_{-5.9} \times 10^{-7}$	$3.1^{+11.0}_{-1.1} \times 10^{-6}$	$0.35^{+1.71}_{-0.31}$
$p$		$2.5^{+0.09}_{-0.09}$	$2.4^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$	$2.10^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$
$\epsilon_e$		$0.12^{+0.05}_{-0.02}$	$0.19^{+0.07}_{-0.02}$	$0.017^{+0.085}_{-0.014}$
$\epsilon_B$		$0.16^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$	$0.17^{+0.05}_{-0.09}$	$3.9^{+21.9}_{-3.3} \times 10^{-5}$
$\xi$		1.0	1.0	$0.016^{+0.080}_{-0.013}$
$\eta^a$		$0.56^{+0.08}_{-0.05}$	$0.49^{+0.08}_{-0.03}$	$0.067^{+0.253}_{-0.057}$
$E_{rel}^b$	[erg]	$2.7^{+1.3}_{-0.5} \times 10^{51}$	$1.6^{+0.6}_{-0.1} \times 10^{51}$	$1.2^{+6.5}_{-0.9} \times 10^{53}$
$\chi^2/dof$		1.24	0.99	0.86

**Beaming angle changes by factor of 2-3**

Model		Top-Hat	Gaussian (fixed $\xi$ )	Gaussian (free $\xi$ )
$\theta_v$	[deg]	$0.42^{+0.14}_{-0.09}$	$0.13^{+0.34}_{-0.06}$	$3.78^{+0.57}_{-0.52}$
$E_{K,iso}$	[erg]	$2.3^{+0.5}_{-0.7} \times 10^{54}$	$3.1^{+0.4}_{-0.8} \times 10^{54}$	$4.2^{+24.0}_{-3.5} \times 10^{55}$
$\theta_c$	[deg]	$1.83^{+0.52}_{-0.23}$	$1.26^{+0.34}_{-0.06}$	$3.90^{+0.57}_{-0.57}$
$\theta_e$	[deg]	-	$1.60^{+0.40}_{-0.11}$	$4.76^{+0.50}_{-0.63}$
$n$	[cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	$9.6^{+39.0}_{-5.9} \times 10^{-7}$	$3.1^{+11.0}_{-1.1} \times 10^{-6}$	$0.35^{+1.71}_{-0.31}$
$p$		$2.30 \pm 0.02$	$2.13^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$	$2.10^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$
$\epsilon_e$		$0.12^{+0.05}_{-0.02}$	$0.19^{+0.07}_{-0.02}$	$0.017^{+0.085}_{-0.014}$
$\epsilon_B$		$0.16^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$	$0.17^{+0.05}_{-0.09}$	$3.9^{+21.9}_{-3.3} \times 10^{-5}$
$\xi$		1.0	1.0	$0.016^{+0.080}_{-0.013}$
$\eta^a$		$0.56^{+0.08}_{-0.05}$	$0.49^{+0.08}_{-0.03}$	$0.067^{+0.253}_{-0.057}$
$E_{rel}^b$	[erg]	$2.7^{+1.3}_{-0.5} \times 10^{51}$	$1.6^{+0.6}_{-0.1} \times 10^{51}$	$1.2^{+6.5}_{-0.9} \times 10^{53}$
$\chi^2/dof$		1.24	0.99	0.86

**Circumburst  
Density**

**ISM-like**

**Extremely low**



Model		Top-Hat	Gaussian (fixed $\xi$ )	Gaussian (free $\xi$ )
$\theta_v$	[deg]	$0.42^{+0.14}_{-0.09}$	$0.13^{+0.34}_{-0.06}$	$3.78^{+0.57}_{-0.52}$
$E_{K,iso}$	[erg]	$2.3^{+0.5}_{-0.7} \times 10^{54}$	$3.1^{+0.4}_{-0.8} \times 10^{54}$	$4.2^{+24.0}_{-3.5} \times 10^{55}$
$\theta_c$	[deg]	$1.83^{+0.52}_{-0.23}$	$1.26^{+0.34}_{-0.06}$	$3.90^{+0.57}_{-0.57}$
$\theta$	[deg]	-	$1.60^{+0.40}_{-0.11}$	$4.76^{+0.80}_{-0.63}$
$n$	[cm <sup>-3</sup> ]	$9.6^{+39.0}_{-5.9} \times 10^{-7}$	$3.1^{+11.0}_{-1.1} \times 10^{-6}$	$0.35^{+1.71}_{-0.31}$
$p$		$2.30 \pm 0.02$	$2.13^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$	$2.10^{+0.01}_{-0.01}$
$\epsilon_e$		$0.12^{+0.05}_{-0.02}$	$0.19^{+0.07}_{-0.02}$	$0.017^{+0.085}_{-0.014}$
$\epsilon_B$		$0.16^{+0.11}_{-0.10}$	$0.17^{+0.05}_{-0.09}$	$3.0^{+3.0}_{-3.3} \times 10^5$
$\xi$		1.0	1.0	$0.016^{+0.080}_{-0.016}$
$\eta$		$0.56^{+0.08}_{-0.05}$	$0.49^{+0.08}_{-0.03}$	$0.007^{+0.253}_{-0.057}$
$E_{rel}^b$	[erg]	$2.7^{+1.3}_{-0.5} \times 10^{51}$	$1.6^{+0.6}_{-0.1} \times 10^{51}$	$1.2^{+6.5}_{-0.9} \times 10^{53}$
$\chi^2/dof$		1.24	0.99	0.80

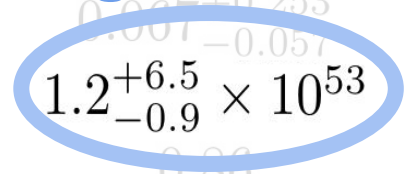
Isotropic

Energy

Total

Energy

2 orders of magnitude!




# Central Engine:

Magnetar?

or


Collapsar?



A bright cyan sphere representing a magnetar, surrounded by a complex, multi-lobed structure of cyan and purple lines that represent its intense magnetic field. The sphere is set against a dark blue background with scattered white and purple dots representing distant stars.

$$E_{\text{rel}} < 10^{52} \text{ erg}$$

Beniamini+ 2017  
Metzger+ 2018



A dark, swirling structure representing a collapsar, with a bright white and pink ring at its center. The structure is composed of concentric, swirling bands of purple and pink, suggesting a highly energetic and turbulent environment. The background is dark blue with scattered white and purple dots.


$$E_{\text{rel}} < 10^{54} \text{ erg}$$

Woosley 1993  
MacFadyen &  
Woosley 1999

Collapsar ✓

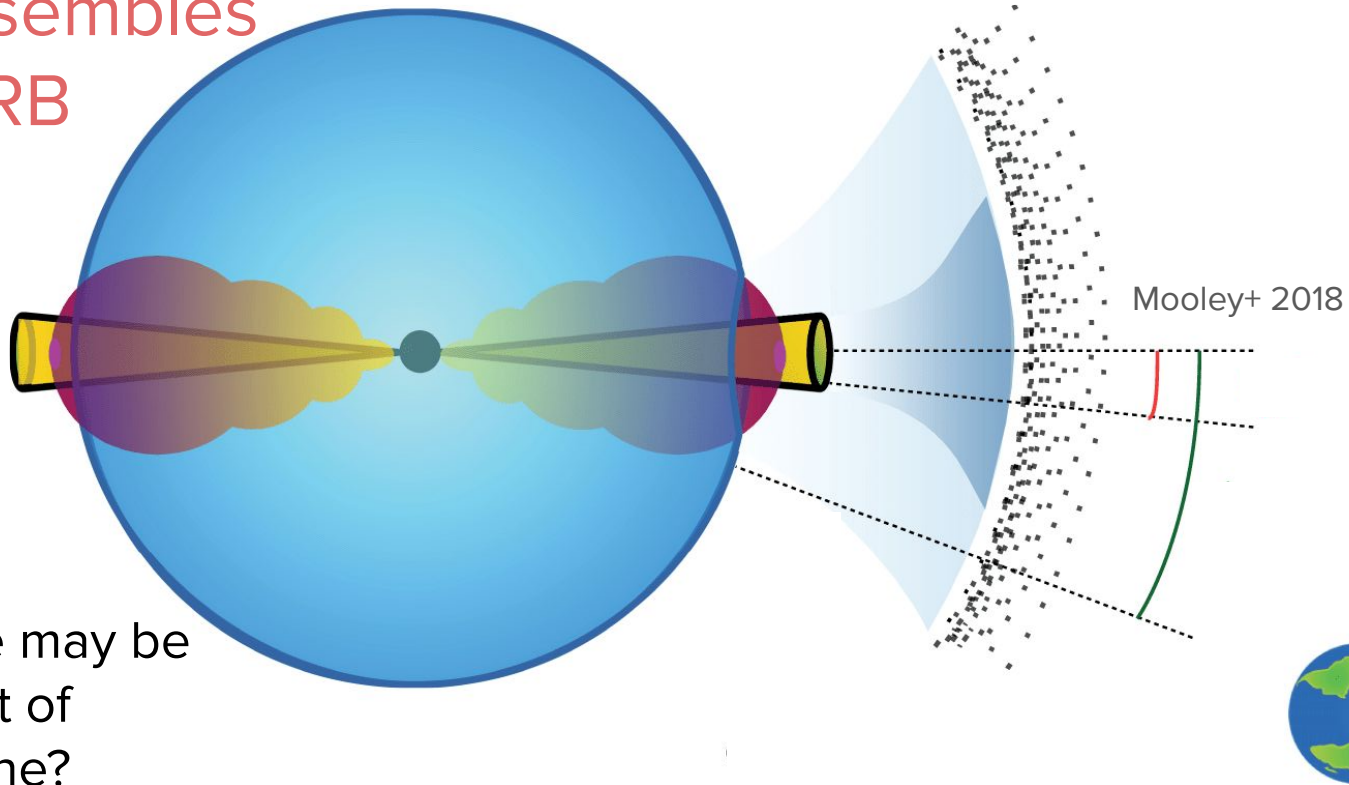
**GRB 160625B:**

$$E_{\text{rel}} = 1.2 \times 10^{53} \text{ erg}$$


$$E_{\text{rel}} < 10^{54} \text{ erg}$$

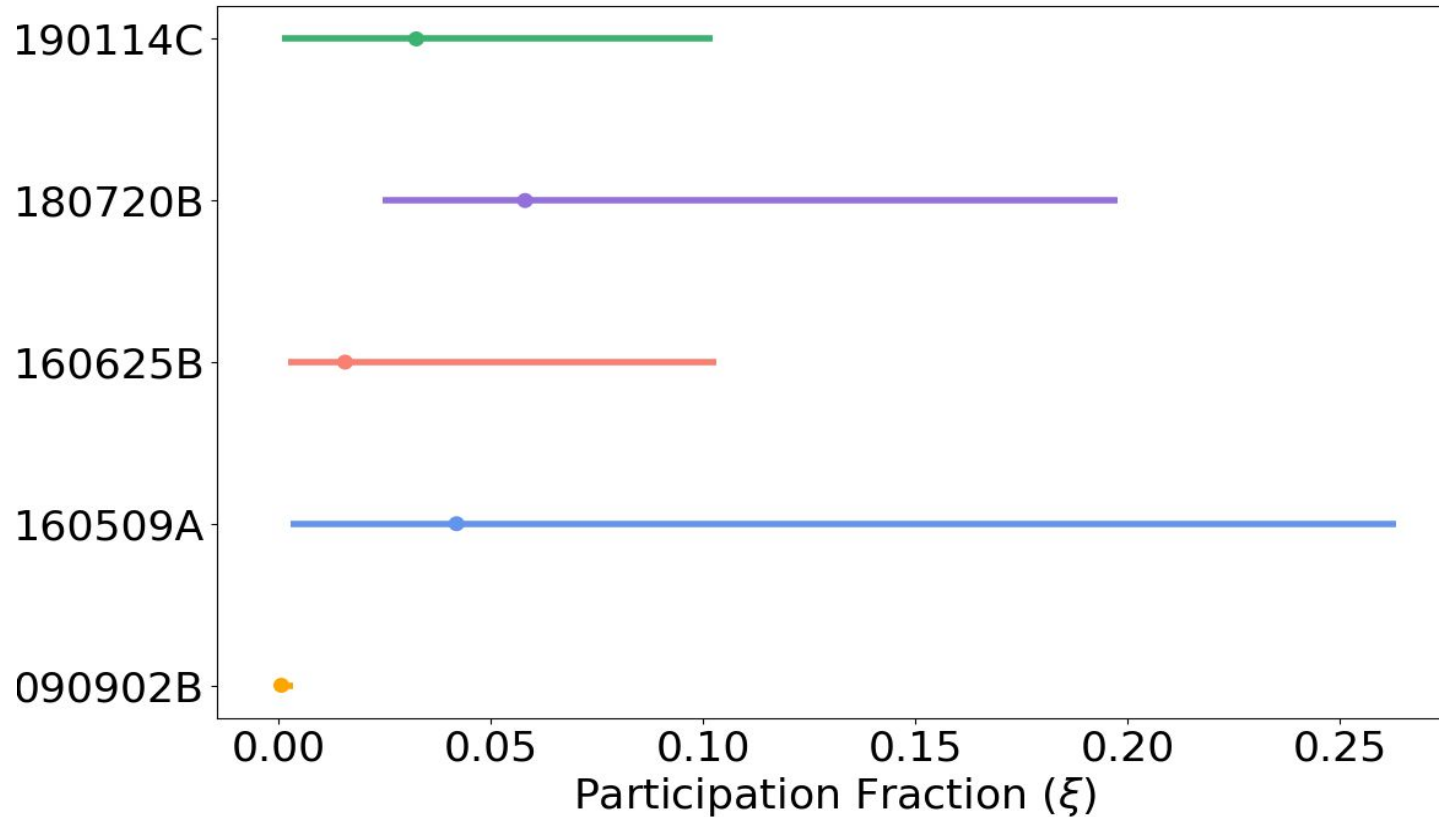
Woosley 1993  
MacFadyen &  
Woosley 1999

Gaussian jet  
shape resembles  
that of GRB  
170817A.



Jet structure may be  
independent of  
central engine?

# Preliminary Results: All GRBs prefer lower participation fractions





## Fermi GRB Summary:

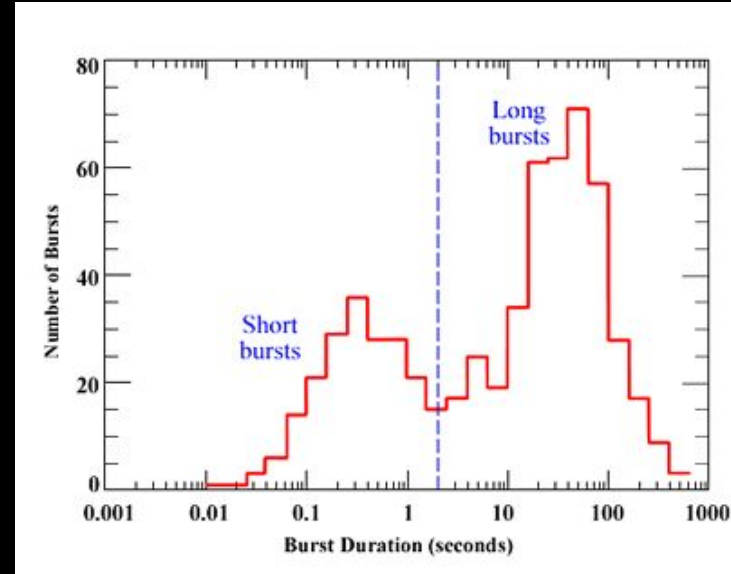
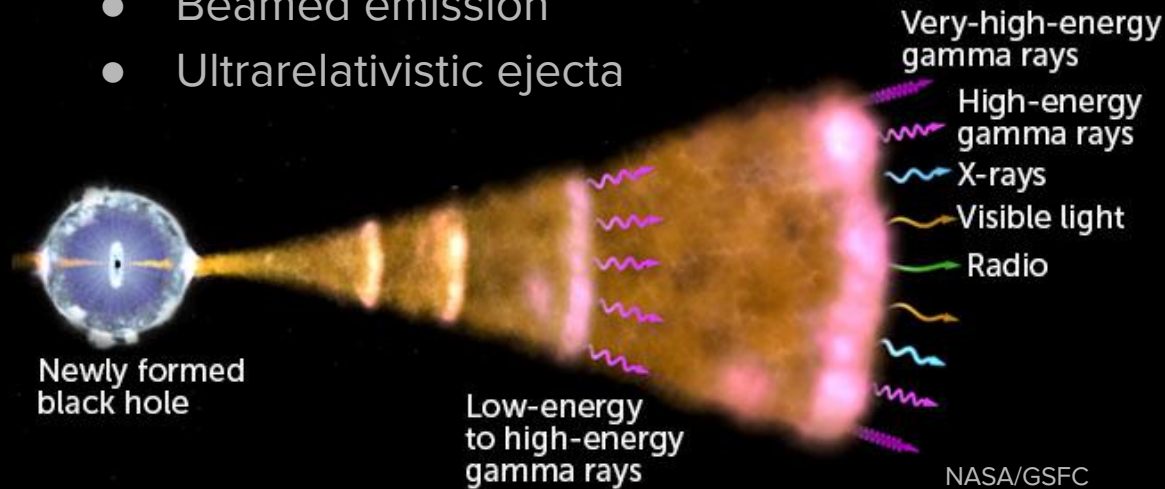
- We tested three jet structure models on the multiwavelength afterglow of GRB 160625B
- Derived parameters between top-hat and Gaussian (fixed  $\xi$ ) jet models remain consistent, although Gaussian shape is preferred
  - $\Theta_c$ :  $\sim 1$  to  $4^\circ$
  - $E_{rel}$ :  $\sim 2 \times 10^{51}$  erg
  - $n$ :  $\sim 10^{-6}$  cm $^{-3}$
- Smaller values of  $\xi$  are preferred yet also dramatically affect the afterglow light curve
  - $E_{rel}$ :  $\sim 1 \times 10^{53}$  erg
  - $n$ :  $\sim 10^{-1}$  cm $^{-3}$
- 160625B likely prefers a collapsar origin
- Further analysis on a larger sample of bright LAT-detected GRBs hint at similar trends



# Backup Slides

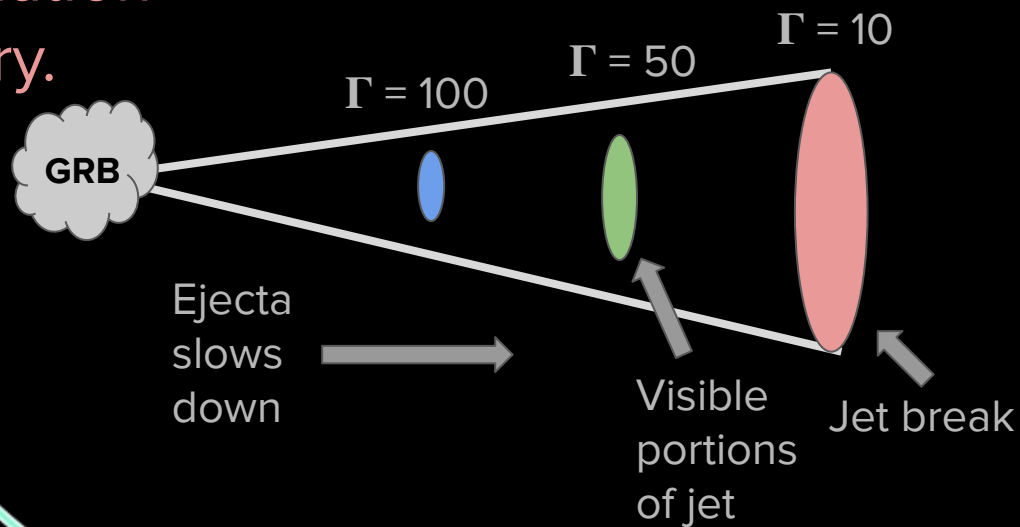
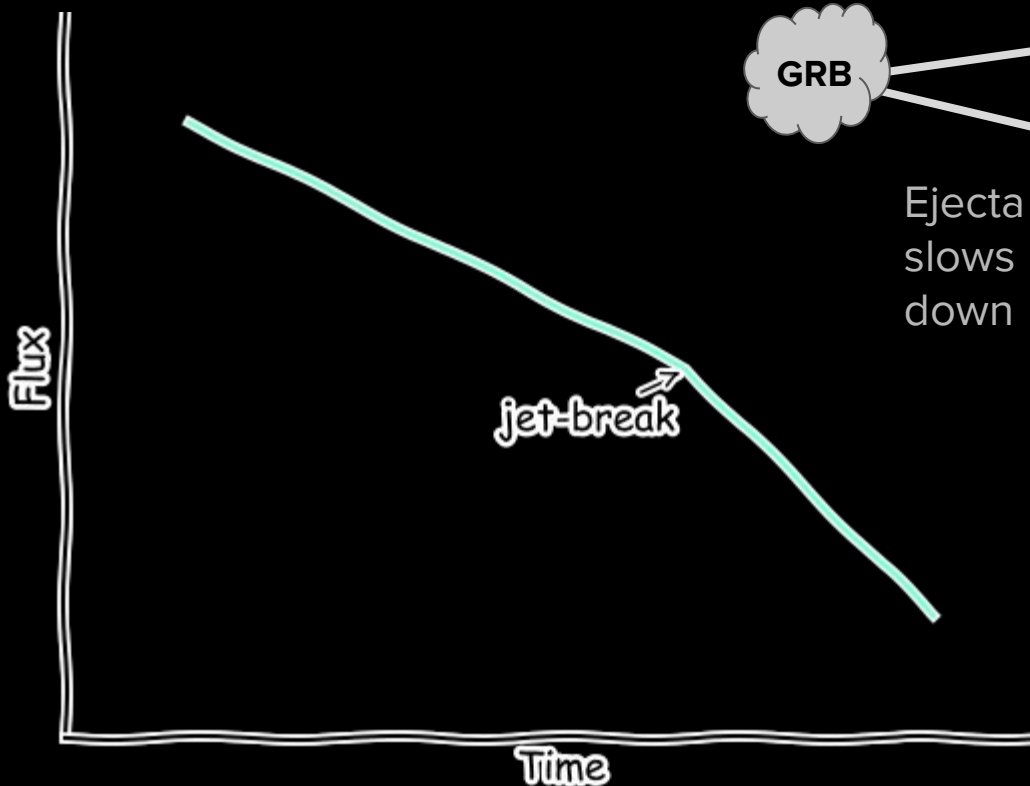
# Gamma-ray Bursts (GRBs)

- Two kinds: short and long
- Bright prompt + long-lasting afterglow
- Visible across EM spectrum
- Beamed emission
- Ultrarelativistic ejecta



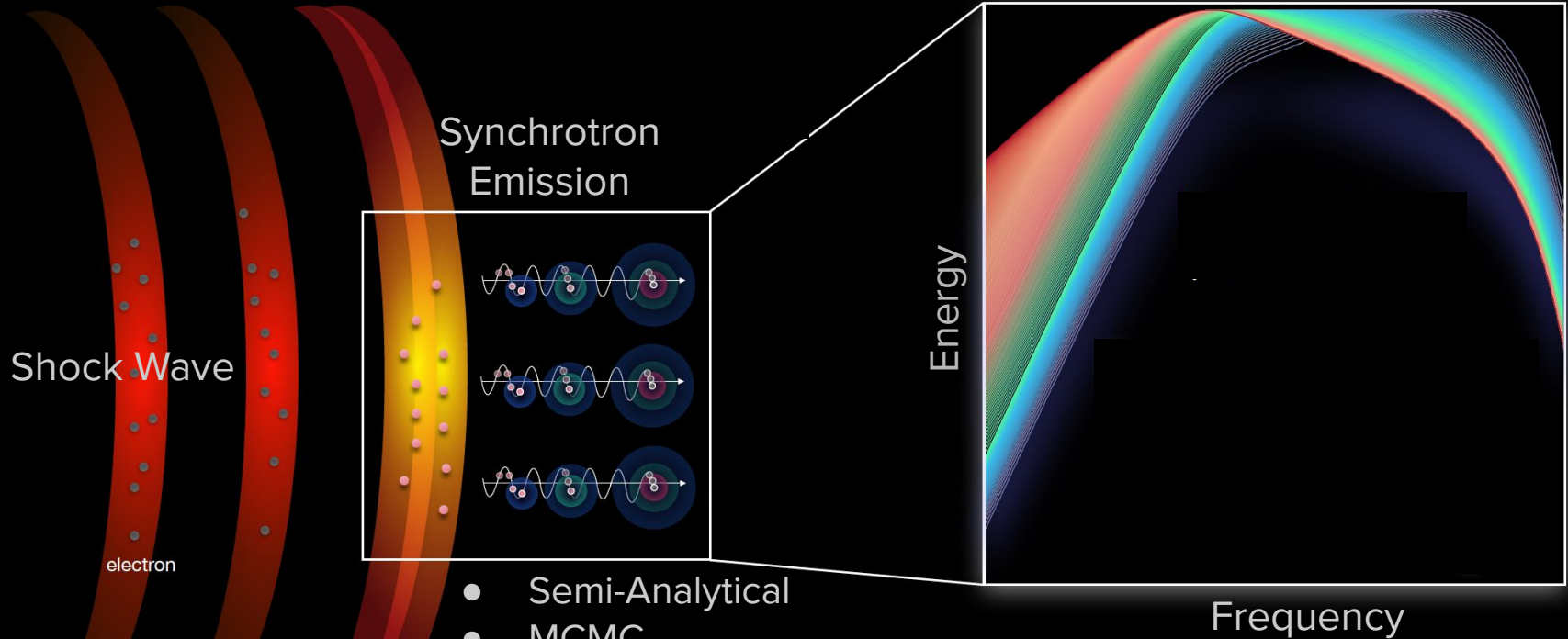
Swinburne University of  
Technology

Jet breaks reveal information about the burst geometry.



Jet break ( $t_{\text{jet}}$ ) occurs when  $\Gamma = 1/\theta_{\text{jet}}$ .

# Multiwavelength Modeling with Afterglowpy:



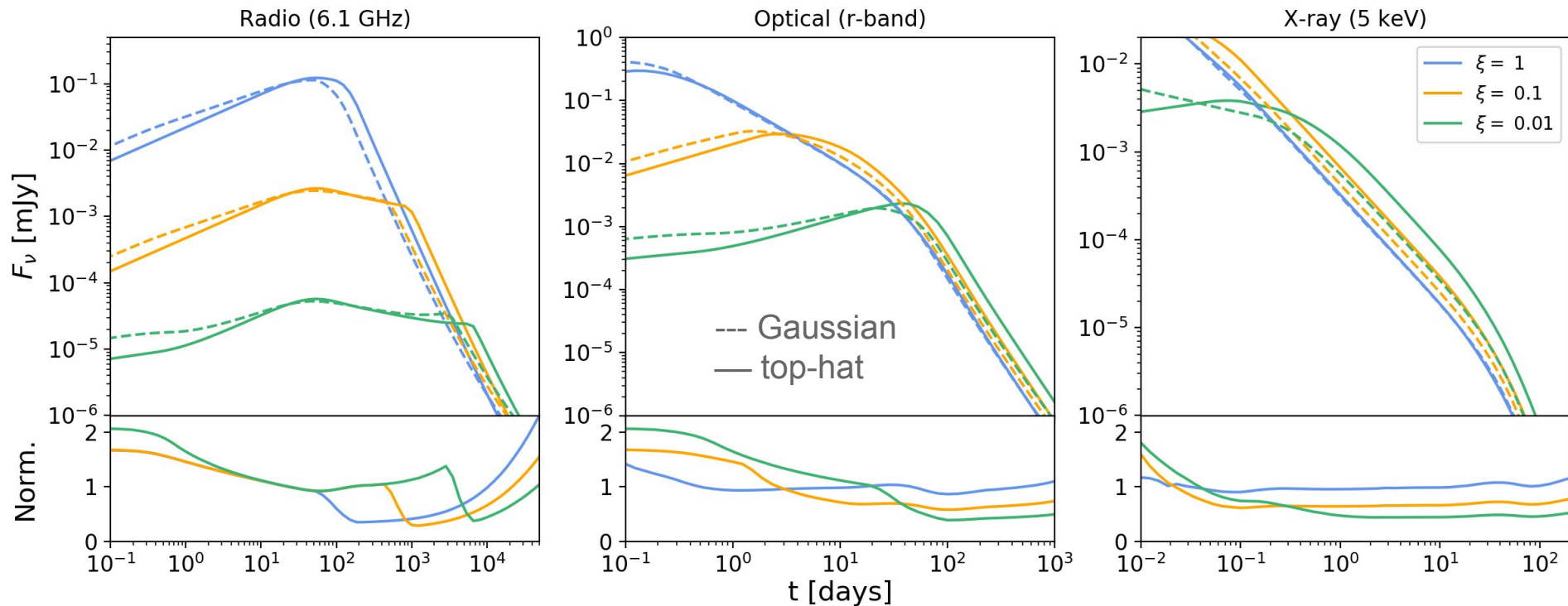
- Semi-Analytical
- MCMC
- Function of viewing angle and jet structure

Ryan, van Eerten, Piro & Troja 2020, ApJ, 896, 166

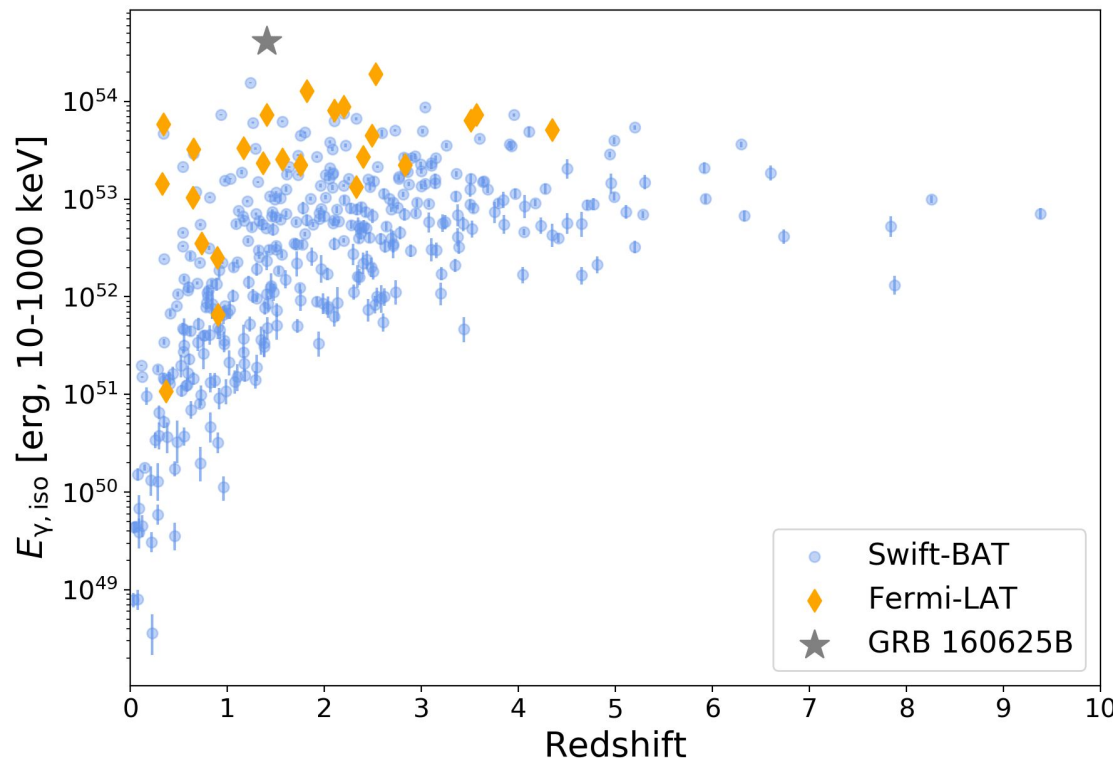
<https://pypi.org/project/afterglowpy/>

Adapted from J. Michael Burgess

# Participation Fraction ( $\xi$ ): fraction of electrons contributing to the observed flux



# First test case: GRB 160625B



## Extremely Bright

$$E_{\gamma, \text{iso}} = 6 \times 10^{54} \text{ erg}$$

LAT, Swift XRT, Chandra, LCO,  
Magellan, RATIR, Swift UVOT,  
VLA, ATCA, +

Alexander, Laskar, Berger + 2017

Troja, Lipunov, Mundell + 2017

Kangas, Fruchter, Cenko + 2020

## Model Comparison:

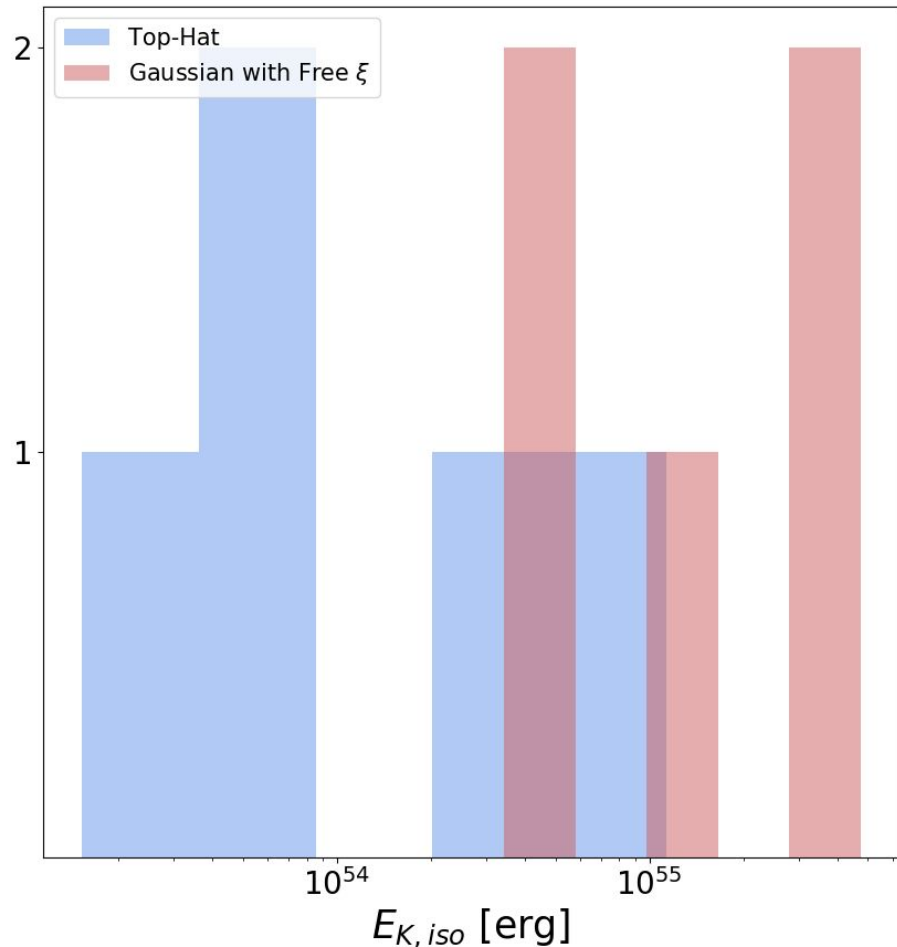
	Model 3:	Model 2:	Model 1:
	Gaussian (free $\xi$ )	Gaussian (fixed $\xi$ )	Top Hat
WAIC	$1782.7 \pm 79.1$	$1744.3 \pm 78.5$	$-3561.8 \pm 167.2$
$\Delta$ WAIC/N	-	$0.10 \pm 0.09$	$-14.5 \pm 2.7$
Confidence Level	-	$(0.58-1.16)\sigma$	$(2.7-5.3)\sigma$

WAIC: Widely Applicable Information Criterion (Gelman 2013)

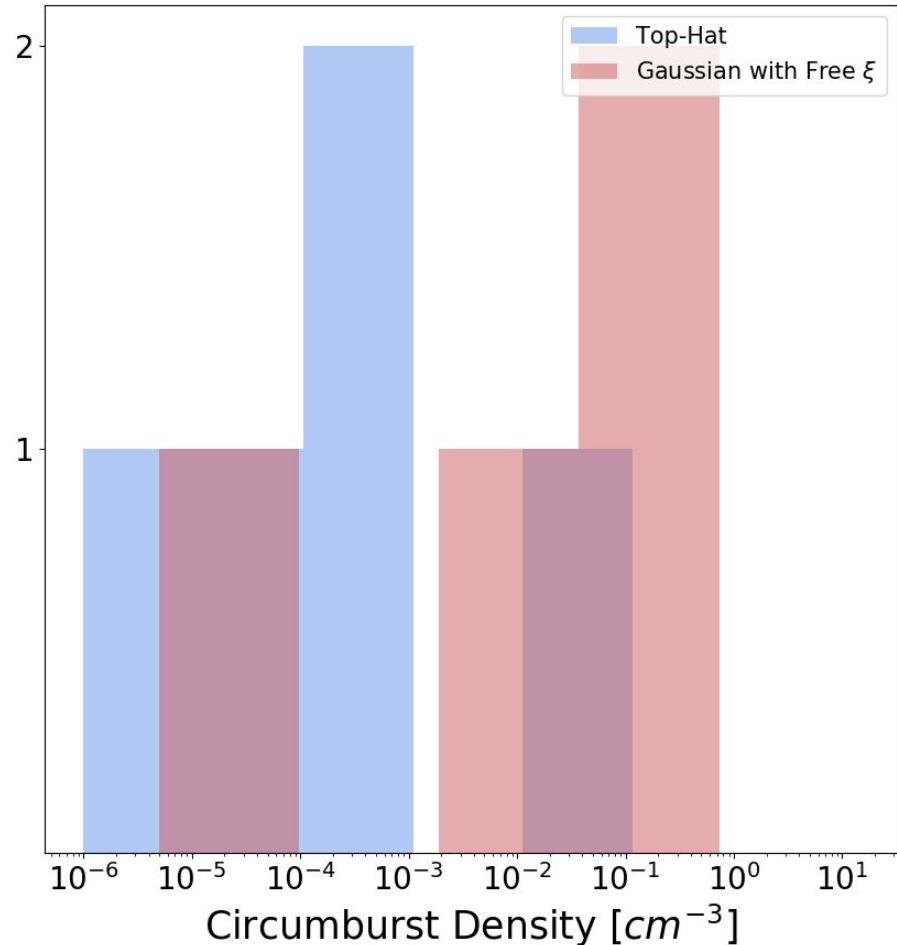
→ Measure of future predictability



**Preliminary Results:**  
 Isotropic Energy  
 increases by 1-2 orders of  
 magnitude when  
 participation fraction is  
 allowed to vary



**Preliminary Results:**  
 Circumburst density increases by several orders of magnitude when participation fraction is allowed to vary



# Future work:

VHE follow-up of *Fermi* GRBs

- 3 GRBs have been detected with MAGIC, HESS
  - $\sim 1$  TeV

- CTA first light scheduled for 2022
- 10 x more sensitive than VERITAS
- 100 telescopes

