Modeling Very-High-Emission From Pulsars



Detection of Crab pulsar up to 1 TeV

MAGIC - Aliu et al. 2008, 2011 Veritas - Aleksic et al. 2011

MAGIC 40 GeV – 1 TeV (Ansoldi et al. 2016)

Both peaks detected!



Vela pulsar – H.E.S.S. II

10 – 110 GeV (Abdalla et al. 2018)



Fundamental difference with Crab – VHE emission only seen in peak 2 Continuation of Fermi spectrum (curved sub-exponential) or power law?

Curvature favored by H.E.S.S. II at $> 3.0\sigma$



Vela pulsar – H.E.S.S. II

2004 – 2016: 60 hours in stereoscopic mode

3 - > 7 TeV!! 5.6σ (Djannati-Atai 2018)



Additional component distinct from GeV spectrum?

B1706-44 – H.E.S.S. II



Geminga - MAGIC

Acciari et al. 2020

P2 > 15 GeV



Spectrum measured up to 75 GeV



Simulation of radiation



Harding & Kalapotharakos 2015

Pairs get pitch angles through resonant absorption of radio photons when

$$\varepsilon_B = \gamma \varepsilon_R (1 - \beta cos \theta)$$

Petrova & Lybarski 1998

Force-free magnetic field 0.2 to 2 R_{LC}

Connect to vacuum retarded dipole below 0.2 $\rm R_{\rm LC}$

$$\boldsymbol{v} = \left(\frac{\boldsymbol{E} \times \boldsymbol{B}}{B^2 + E_0^2} + f\frac{\boldsymbol{B}}{B}\right)c$$

Inverse Compton emission



Spectral energy distribution of the Vela pulsar



Modeling TeV+ emission from Vela

Harding, Kalapotharakos, Venter & Barnard 2018



Near force-free magnetosphere

- PC pairs produce synchrotron radiation (SR) optical/UV at lower altitude
- Primary particles (mostly positrons) produce synchro-curvature (SC) and scatter optical/UV to produce 10 TeV ICS emission
- Pairs scatter optical/UV to produce SSC hard X-ray emission

Modeling TeV+ emission from Vela

P = 0.089 s, $B_0 = 4 \times 10^{12}$ G, d = 0.25 kpc $\alpha = 75^{\circ}$, $\zeta = 50^{\circ}$, pair M₊ = 6 x 10³

- Detectable component from primary ICS around 10 TeV!
- Pair SR matches optical spectrum



Vela model light curves





Harding, Kalapotharakos, Venter & Barnard 2018

Fermi P2/P1 increases with energy – higher γ particles produce P2

P2 only at > 3TeV - ICSfrom highest γ particles

Large model γ-ray/radio phase lag due to azimuthally symmetric emission in current sheet

TeV+ emission from Crab pulsar

α = 45°, ζ = 66°, pair M₊ = 3 x 10⁵

Harding, Venter & Kalapotharakos 2021



TeV+ emission from B1706-44

P = 0.102 s, B₀ = 6.2 x 10^{12} G, d = 2.3 kpc α = 45⁰, ζ = 53⁰, pair M₊ = 6 x 10^{4}

Harding, Venter & Kalapotharakos 2021



Pair emission at low altitude (like Vela) – but lower radio luminosity

Lower pair SR flux in UV
Iower primary ICS

H.E.S.S. II detection explained by primary SC

TeV+ emission from Geminga

 $P = 0.237 \text{ s}, B_0 = 3 \times 10^{12} \text{ G}, d = 0.25 \text{ kpc}$

Harding, Venter & Kalapotharakos 2021

 α = 75⁰, ζ = 55⁰, pair M₊ = 2 x 10⁴



 Low pair SR UV flux
 Very low primary ICS
 MAGIC detection explained by primary SC

TeV+ emission from MSP J0218+4232

 $P = 0.0023 \text{ s}, B_0 = 8 \times 10^8 \text{ G}, d = 3.1 \text{ kpc}$

 $\alpha = 45^{\circ}, \zeta = 65^{\circ}, \text{ pair } M_{+} = 1 \times 10^{5}$

Blanche et al. 2021 (MAGIC/Fermi paper) See poster by A. Spolon et al.



What's important for VHE emission?

TeV+ emission from primary IC:

- Particle energies at least 10 TeV -> GeV emission in curvature radiation regime
- High flux of optical/UV emission (Not necessarily correlated with pair multiplicity! But with efficiency of radio absorption and B_{LC})
- Small distance between optical/UV and primaries in current sheet

SSC emission from pairs:

- High pair multiplicity
- High B_{LC}
- Lower pair energies SR SED peak below 1 MeV to avoid KN reduction