Gamma-Ray Bursts as sources of UHECRs and HE neutrinos

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HELMHOLTZ RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES



Auger Coll 2020 (arxiv 2008.06488)

Gamma-Ray Bursts

Observational properties of GRBs

• Energetic outbursts of gamma-rays

 $E_{iso} \sim 10^{49} - 10^{55} \text{ erg}$

• Two populations by duration:

(1) Long GRBs : ~ 2 – 100 s

progenitor: death of massive stars

(2) Short GRBs: $\sim 0.1 - 2 \text{ s}$

progenitor: merger of 2 compact objects

- Large variety of light curves with fast time variability
- Similar spectra (narrow broken power law)





Image credit: J.T. Bonnell (NASA/GSFC)





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(2) Short GRBs: $\sim 0.1 - 2 \text{ s}$

progenitor: merger of 2 compact objects

- Large variety of light curves with fast time variability
- Similar spectra (narrow broken power law)
- No correlation between observed GRBs and HE neutrinos (-> limits neutrino production efficiency in GRBs)



 10^{-10}

 10°

 10^{7}

 10^{6}

 ν Energy (GeV)

 10^{5}

 10^{8}

 10^{9}

Catalogue of known GRBs

coll

GBM

LAT

Fermi GRBs as of 140218

absorption > 009

Equatorial ars in both samples

The Fireball model

Jet collides with ambient medium (external shock wave)

> High-energy gamma rays

X-rays

Visible light

Radio

Low-energy gamma rays

Black hole engine $\Gamma_{bulk} \approx 100 - 500$ Prompt emission

low-energy gamma rays

Afterglow

Image credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

Prompt emission scenarios

Jet collides with ambient medium (external shock wave)

> Hiah-eneray gamma rays



Visible light

Radio

optically thick

Photospheric

- thermal spectrum broadened by dissipation mechanism below photosphere
- Small emission radii

Black hore engine

 $b_{ulk} \approx$

Large emission radii \bullet

-> ICMART?

optically thin

Accelerated particles produce

through synchrotron emission

varying Lorentz factors

Magnetic reconnection

Matter dominated outflow,

Intermediate emission radii

Poynting flux dominated flow

observed radiation typically

Internal shocks

Prompt emission

Afterglow

Image credit: NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center



Model-dependent neutrino fluxes

Neutrinos from photo-hadronic interactions: production rate depends on number **density**







Zhang & Kumar, PRL 110 (2013)



Model-dependent neutrino fluxes

Neutrinos from photo-hadronic interactions: production rate depends on number **density**

$$n' = \frac{N}{4\pi R^2 \Delta \Gamma}$$

Typical radii:

Photospheric $10^{11} - 10^{12}$ cm Internal Shocks $10^{13} - 10^{14}$ cm ICMART 10^{15} cm

For neutrino production in different models see also eg. Gao et al JCAP 11 (2012), Hummer et al PRL 118 (2012) Baerwald et al Astropart.Phys. 62 (2015), Pitik et al JCAP 05 (2021)



Zhang & Kumar, PRL 110 (2013)

Model-dependent neutrino fluxes



Neutrinos from photo-hadronic interactions: production rate depends on number **density**

$$n' = \frac{N}{4\pi R^2 \Delta \Gamma}$$

N depends on energy transferred to cosmic rays, scales with:

(1) Total energy budget

(2) 'baryonic loading':

 $f_p = \underbrace{\begin{matrix} U_p \\ \overline{U_e} \end{matrix}}_{e}^{energy \ density \ of}_{accelerated \ cosmic}_{rays}_{energy \ density \ of}_{accelerated}_{electrons}$

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Zhang & Kumar, PRL 110 (2013)

Interpreting the IceCube neutrino limit



Aartsen et al ApJ. 843 (2017)

- Calculate neutrino fluxes for different models and parameter sets, compare to IceCube limits
- For internal shock and ICMART, moderate baryonic loading possible for high Lorentz factors

So GRBs can't be UHCER sources?



One-zone model

All emission from the same emission region

→ degenerate in various parameters (baryonic loading/ Lorentz factor/ dissipation radius/ luminosity)



Biehl et al A&A 611 (2018)

So GRBs can't be UHCER sources?



One-zone model



→ degenerate in various parameters (baryonic loading/ Lorentz factor/ dissipation radius/ luminosity)





Multi-zone model

So GRBs can't be UHCER sources?

DESY.

One-zone model

- All emission from the same emission region
- → degenerate in various parameters (baryonic loading/ Lorentz factor/ dissipation radius/ luminosity)



Multi-zone model



Properties of the emitting plasma are part of the modeling



Fitting UHECR data in a multi-zone model: Connection to engine setup & light curves

No stochasticity



 $\beta_{k,0}^{10^4}$

 10^{1}

Medium stochasticity



2.2020 4.2020 6.2020 8.2020 20.2020 12.2020

Initial Radius $R_{k,0}$ [cm]

High stochasticity



Heinze, AR et al MNRAS 498 (2020)

Fitting UHECR data in a multi-zone model: Connection to engine setup & light curves





Methods

- Radiation modeling: Fix band-like photon spectrum and calculate cosmic ray interactions and escape with NeuCosmA – Code (Biehl et al 2017)
- Propagate using GRB-redshift-distribution: Wanderman, Piran, MNRAS 406 (2010) Extragalactic propagation with PriNCe Heinze et al, ApJ 873 (2019), 83
- Fit to UHECR spectrum and $\langle X_{max} \rangle$, Free injection composition and baryonic loading (determined by fit)

Fitting UHECR data: neutrino fluxes for different engine realisations/light curves

- Broad fit region around best fit Disfavored: low/ no stochasticity, Favored: Γ_{bulk} between 200 and 400
- Large engine kinetic energy required
- Required baryonic loading: 10 100
- Potential issue: Composition!





Fitting UHECR data: fraction of heavy nuclei at base of the jet

- Fit parameters were injected isotope fractions at the base of the jet
- Can determine mass fractions for fit regions!
- at 95% CL: Heavy mass fraction (> He) needs to be > 70 %



Exploring photon signatures of cosmic rays



photo-hadronic interactions also leave signatures in the photon spectra!

(1) Direct signatures:
photons from pion decays
(2) Cascade signatures:
photons from secondary
lepton cascade





Exploring photon signatures of cosmic rays

Intensity of signatures again depends on efficiency of photo-hadronic interactions

-> density!

Degenerate in various parameters:

- dissipated energy (E_{sh})
- Lorentz factor
- baryonic loading
- radius

See also: Asano et al ApJ 671 (2007), Asano et al ApJ 757 (2012), Wang et al ApJ 857 (2018)





Exploring photon signatures of cosmic rays





Petropoulou MNRAS 442 (2014)

A different region of the parameter space: Low-Luminosity GRBs





- Subclass of GRBs but with very low isotropic Luminosities L_{iso} ~ 10⁴⁶ - 10⁴⁹ erg/s
- Sources of UHECR (and HE neutrinos)? (Boncioli et al ApJ. 872 (2019), Samuelsson et al ApJ. 876 (2018), Samuelsson et al ApJ. 902 (2020), Zhang et al PRD 97 (2018)
- (Some) LL-GRBs are **outliers to known correlations**

- **High local density** when compared to high-luminosity GRBs
- Theoretical models:

off-axis (Pescalli et al MNRAS 447 (2015), Aloy et al MNRAS 478 (2018)) shock-breakout (eg. Waxman et al ApJ 667 (2007), Nakar ApJ 807(2015)) intrinsically dim (eg. Daigne & Mochkovitch A&A 465 (2007))





Can LL-GRBs accelerate cosmic rays to the highest energies?

DESY.

- Procedure: leptonic radiation modelling for prototypes with properties similar to observed events
- Multi-zone internal shock model
- Calculate maximal energies balancing acceleration with losses
- Findings: for strong magnetic fields, cosmic rays could be accelerated to UHECR energies
- Similar discussion with one-zone internal shock model: Samuelsson et al ApJ 902 (2020)



Summary & Conclusions



- IceCube neutrino limits put strong constraints on the neutrino production efficiency
- In one zone models, UHECR fit only possible in parameter space region of low luminosities/large radii
- Multi-zone models:
 - decouple production regions of different particle species: Neutrinos from small, UHECR from intermediate, gamma-rays from large radii
 - UHECR fit still possible, neutrino fluxes testable by IceCube Gen2
- Further constraints come from feedback of cosmic rays on photon spectra
- Low-luminosity GRBs as distinct source class: potential sources of UHECRs and HE neutrinos