Probing Particle Acceleration in the Jets of the Microquasar SS433 with MeV gamma rays

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"Microquasar"

NRAO/AUI/NSF, K. Golap, M. Goss,

BH + Supergiant



X-ray knots along the Jets





ots along the Jets



VHE photons from knots

Abeysekara et al. (2018) Nature 562, 82-85

 Knots in the jets of SS433 are plausible sites of particle acceleration

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Interpretations ?



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- We use a more detailed model of nonthermal emission from microquasar jet, with aim of :
 - see whether leptonic model works
 - quantify acceleration efficiency
 - make predictions for future observations

- We use a more detailed model of nonthermal emission from microquasar jet, with aim of :
 - see whether leptonic model works
 → It works
 - quantify acceleration efficiency

→ Very high (nearly Bohm limit)

make predictions for future observations

→ Hard X-ray / MeV gamma-ray is the key

Node

- Energetics : Total jet power is distributed for proton, relativistic electron (L_e), and magnetic field (L_B).
- Acceleration : parametrized as $t_{acc} = \eta_{acc} \frac{r_L}{c}$
- Maximum energy : defined by cooling or confinement
 - cooling limit $t_{cool} > t_{acc}$
 - confinement limit $R > \sqrt{6Dt_{acc}}$
- Diffusion : scaled to the Bohm limit $D = \eta_g D_{Bohm} = \eta_g \frac{cr_L}{3}$

- Cooling due to adiabatic and radiative (synchrotron and inverse Compton) losses.
- We include adiabatic loss : $\dot{\gamma}_{ad} = \frac{\gamma}{3} \frac{d \ln \rho}{dt} = -\frac{2}{3} \frac{v_z}{\Gamma R(z)} \frac{\partial R}{\partial z} \gamma$
- To evaluate adiabatic loss rate, we parametrize the jet radius as $R(z) = z\alpha_i$ (i.e., conical jets).

Particle Evolution and Emission

 Transport Eq. describes evolution of spatial-energy density :

$$\frac{\partial n(\gamma, z, t)}{\partial t} + v_z \frac{\partial n(\gamma, z, t)}{dz} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} [\dot{\gamma} n(\gamma, z, t)] = \dot{q}(\gamma) \delta(z - z_0)$$

- Steady injection above energy of 1 GeV : $\dot{q}(\gamma) \propto \gamma^{-p_{\rm inj}}$
- Integrate to obtain electron spectrum in the knots:

$$\frac{dN}{d\gamma} = \int_{z_0}^{z_1} ndz$$

Emission from electrons : Synchrotron + Inverse-Compton
 16

Comment on GeV observations

- Various analysis on Fermi data
- Emission region is uncertain
- We treat all GeV data as upper limits on knot emission





Results

Overall SED

- Overall SED explained with leptonic models for both regions
- Assuming that maximum particle energy is limited by synchrotron loss.



Overall SED

- Overall SED explained with leptonic models for both regions
- Assuming that maximum particle energy is limited by synchrotron loss.
- Derived magnetic fields are 16 µG and 9 µG for
 el and wl

| Region | $p_{ m inj}$ | $L_e \ [10^{39} \ {\rm erg/s}]$ | $L_B \ [10^{39} \ {\rm erg/s}]$ |
|--------|--------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| e1 | 2.25 | 0.02 | 0.09 |
| w1 | 2.55 | 0.08 | 0.03 |



GeV data

- GeV data remain unexplained within the knot model
- Mostly from other regions? Hadronic emission?



Comparison with other work (e1)

- Very different spectral shape at hard X-ray.
- Adiabatic loss is significant below ~ 100 TeV.





Comparison with other work (w1)

- Radio/X-ray data are explained with our leptonic models
- Electrons are injected with a soft spectral index $p_{\rm inj} = 2.55$ in our case.



Need for High Acceleration Efficiency

• A high efficiency of $\eta_{\rm acc} \lesssim 10^2$ is needed to explain the X-ray data:

$$E_{\rm e,max}^{\rm syn} = 1.5 \ {\rm PeV} \left(\frac{\eta_{\rm acc}}{10^2}\right)^{-1/2} \left(\frac{B}{16 \ \mu G}\right)^{-1/2}$$

 This suggests the presence of PeV protons:

$$E_{\rm p,max}^{\rm con} = 6 \, \text{PeV} \left(\frac{\eta_{\rm acc} \eta_g}{10^2}\right)^{-1/2}$$



Need for High Acceleration Efficiency

- Our model require $\eta_{\rm acc} \lesssim 10^2$ to explain the X-ray data
- In the framework of the diffusive shock acceleration, this hints at the Bohm limit: $\eta_g \sim 1$

•
$$\eta_{\rm acc}^{\rm DSA} = \frac{200}{\eta_g} \left(\frac{\beta_{\rm sh}}{0.26}\right)^{-2}$$

- Such a fast acceleration is also observed in some supernova remnants: $\eta_g \sim 1$ (e.g., Uchiyama et al. 2007)
- However, jets from BL Lacs appear to have much lower efficiency of particle acceleration: $\eta_g \sim 10^4$ (e.g., Inoue&Tanaka 2016)

Future Prospects

- Hard X-ray and MeV gamma-ray observations will detect spectral turnover and cutoff
- Critical test of our models and constraints on $\eta_{\rm acc}$
- CTA and LHAASO may also detect VHE emission.





Nonthermal Particles SS433 Jets

- Spectral energy distribution from knots can be explained with leptonic models.
- GeV data remain unexplained: from other regions and/or hadronic component?
- Need a very high efficiency of $\eta_{\rm acc} \lesssim 10^2$ … hint at diffusive shock acceleration near the Bohm limit?
- Future hard X-ray and MeV gamma-ray observations will critically test our models.

 \rightarrow Critical probe of particle acceleration in astrophysical jets