Black-Hole Disk Coronae and High-Energy Neutrinos





Kohta Murase (Penn State/YITP) Les Houches workshop 2025





New Era of Multimessenger Astrophysics



2017: GWs from a neutron star merger 2016: detection of gravitational waves

high-energy neutrinos



IceCube & Discovery of High-Energy Cosmic Neutrinos



High-Energy Neutrino Sky



consistent w. isotropic distribution/extragalactic origins

All-Sky Neutrino Flux & Spectrum



All-Sky Multimessenger Flux & Spectrum



2023: Evidence of Neutrinos from the Milky Way

IceCube 23 Science



Neutrino emission from the Milky Way (~10% of total) has been observed w. 4.5σ

All-Sky Multimessenger Flux & Spectrum



Where do neutrinos mainly come from?







Extragalactic Multimessenger Connection

10-100 TeV shower data: large fluxes of ~10⁻⁷ GeV cm⁻² s⁻¹ sr⁻¹



Fermi diffuse γ -ray bkg. is violated (>3 σ) if v sources are γ -ray transparent

→ Requiring hidden (i.e., γ-ray opaque) cosmic-ray accelerators (v data above 100 TeV can still be explained by γ-ray transparent sources)

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Opacity Argument

Hidden (i.e., γ -ray opaque) v sources are actually "natural" in p γ scenarios

$$_{
m \gamma\gamma
ightarrow e^+e^-}$$
optical depth $au_{\gamma\gamma} pprox rac{\sigma_{\gamma\gamma}^{
m eff}}{\sigma_{p\gamma}^{
m eff}} f_{p\gamma} \sim 1000 f_{p\gamma} \gtrsim 10$

implying that >TeV-PeV γ rays are cascaded down to GeV or lower energies



Prediction of Hidden Neutrino Sources for Medium-Energy v

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Not many sources can explain 10-100 TeV ν data (KM, Guetta & Ahlers 16 for various possibilities) Jet-quiet AGN: best in view of energy budget to spare: $Q_{CR} \sim Q_X \sim 2x10^{46}$ erg Mpc⁻³ yr⁻¹

Prediction of Hidden Neutrino Sources for Medium-Energy v

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$$\gamma \gamma \stackrel{\gamma}{\to} e^+ e^-$$
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All-sky (diffuse) neutrino flux can be explained by AGN But do such hidden v source (candidates) exist??

NEUTRINO ASTROPHYSICSEvidence for neutrino emission from the nearby
active galaxy NGC 1068Science

JOURNALS MAAAS

IceCube Collaboration*†

ASTRONOMY

Neutrinos unveil hidden galactic activities By Kohta Murase¹²³

An obscured supermassive black hole may be producing high-energy cosmic neutrinos



NGC 1068 as a Hidden Neutrino Source



NGC 1068 as a Hidden Neutrino Source

 $L_v \sim 2x10^{42}$ erg/s << $L_{bol} \sim 10^{45}$ erg/s <~ $L_{Edd} \sim 10^{45}$ erg/s: reasonable energetics





Facts & Questions, Implications?

v facts:

- NGC 1068 (~4σ): d=10 Mpc, M_{BH}~10⁷ M_{sun}, Compton-thick (N_H~10²⁵ cm⁻²)
- $L_v \sim 2x10^{42} \text{ erg/s} \ll L_X \sim 7x10^{43} \text{ erg/s}, L_{bol} \sim 10^{45} \text{ erg/s} \ll L_{Edd}$
- Hidden source $L_v >> L_\gamma$
- Other hints: NGC 4151 (~3σ), CGCG 420-015, NGC 3079, Circinus, stacking search (but none of them reach 5σ)...

Where and how are vs are produced?

- Cosmic-ray energetics
 L_{CR} >~ 10⁴³ erg/s (>~5x10⁴² erg/s for pp, >~5x10⁴³ erg/s for pγ): reasonable
 But challenging if s>~2, due to L_{CR} >~ 0.5x10⁴⁴ erg/s (and more for pγ)
- Properties of emission regions (size, magnetization etc.)
- Production mechanisms (pp or pγ)

How typical is NGC 1068 as a neutrino active galaxy?

- Why is NGC 1068 v-brightest? How about other AGNs?
- Is the all-sky neutrino flux explained by jet-quiet AGNs?

Where Do Neutrinos Come from?



compatible w. p γ calorimetry (f_{p γ}>1) condition: **R < 30-100 R**_s **Massive black hole**: sub-PeV proton accelerator & ideal beam dump

Updated Fermi Analysis & Impacts of Magnetization



Updated Multimessenger Implications for v Production Sites and Coronae





If v emission comes from X-ray coronae, plasma should be magnetically dominated

$$\beta = \frac{8\pi n_p k_B T_p}{B^2} \approx \frac{\tau_T G M_{\rm BH} m_p}{\sqrt{3} \zeta_e \sigma_T R^2 U_{\gamma}} \xi_B^{-1} \approx \left(\frac{\tau_T}{\sqrt{3} \zeta_e \lambda_{\rm Edd}}\right) \xi_B^{-1} \quad \begin{array}{l} \tau_{\rm T} \sim 0.1 \text{--}1 \text{ for X-ray corona, } \lambda_{\rm Edd} \sim 0.5 \\ \xi_B \sim 0.1 \text{ leads to } \beta < 1 \end{array}$$

Multimessenger Implications for Neutrino Production Mechanisms

- Multimessenger connection must be considered and exotic models are excluded.
- Also unlikely by the energetics requirement: $L_{CR} < L_{bol} \sim L_{Edd} \sim 10^{45}$ erg/s



Particle Acceleration/Production Sites $p + \gamma \rightarrow N\pi + X$ $p + p \rightarrow N\pi + X$ failed-wind or accretion shock magnetically-powered corona or jet base (S. Inoue, Cerruti, KM+ 22, Y. Inoue+ 20) (KM+ 20, Kheirandish, KM & Kimura 21) shear at the base of jets (KM 22, Lemoine & Rieger 25) $\log (z/r_{*})$ Comptonized X rays CR-induced cascade γZ successful wind outer optical/UV failed wind magnetic econnection turbulence accretion black hole ц. ZZ Y disk 3 log (r/r.) torus →BeH cas inner region turbulence

magnetic reconnection

 $\begin{array}{l} \beta = P_g / P_B < 0.1 \text{-}1 \rightarrow B > 10^3 \text{ G} \\ L_{CR} < L_X < L_B \text{ (turbulent)} \end{array}$

 $\begin{array}{l} shocks\\ submm \rightarrow B{\sim}10{-}100 \ G\\ \beta{=}P_g/P_B {>}{\sim} 100\\ L_B, \ L_{CR} {<}{\sim} \ L_X \end{array}$

Coronal Regions: Magnetized & Collisionless



3D RMHD simulation w. Athena++

 $T_e < T_p$ (two-temperature corona) collisionless for protons

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Coronal Regions: Magnetized & Collisionless



3D RMHD simulation w. Athena++

T_e < T_p (two-temperature corona) collisionless for protons

Particle Acceleration: Fast or Slow?

 $p\gamma \rightarrow pe^+e^-$ (Bethe-Heitler process) is important for protons producing 1-10 TeV vs (KM, Kimura & Meszaros 20 PRL)



Neutrinos Can Probe Particle Acceleration in Coronae



Fokker-Planck Model for Turbulent Coronae

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}_p}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon_p^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon_p} \left(\varepsilon_p^2 D_{\varepsilon_p} \frac{\partial \mathcal{F}_p}{\partial \varepsilon_p} + \frac{\varepsilon_p^3}{t_{p-\text{cool}}} \mathcal{F}_p \right) - \frac{\mathcal{F}_p}{t_{\text{esc}}} + \dot{\mathcal{F}}_{p,\text{inj}}, \end{aligned}$$

(KM, Kimura & Meszaros 20 PRL, KM+ 24 ApJL, Fiorillo, Comisso+ 24 ApJ, Lemoine & Rieger 25 A&A)

- Power-law dependence $\mathsf{D}_{\epsilon\epsilon} \propto \epsilon^{\mathsf{q}}$
- CR pressure ~ 1-10% virial pressure

 $\begin{array}{l} n_{e}=\tau_{T}/(H\sigma_{T})\sim8x10^{10}\ \text{cm}^{-3}\ (\tau_{T}/0.5)(10^{13}\ \text{cm}/\text{H}) \\ \text{B}=(8\pi\ n_{p}\ k_{B}T_{\text{vir}}/\beta)^{1/2}\sim7\ \text{kG}\ (\tau_{T}/0.5)^{1/2}\ (10R_{S}/\text{R})\ \beta^{-1/2}\rightarrow r_{L}\sim5x10^{7}\ \text{cm}\ (\epsilon_{p}/100\ \text{TeV})(\text{B}/7\ \text{kG})^{-1} \end{array}$



Simulating Particle Acceleration in Turbulence



Simulating Particle Acceleration in Turbulence



magnetic reconnections are likely to be relevant for injections (ex. Mbarak+ 24 PRD)

Beyond the Fokker-Planck Model

Lemoine, KM & Rieger 24 PRD



- PIC simulations suggest power-law distributions, localized interactions w. intense, intermittent structures (Wong+ 20 ApJL, Lemoine 21 PRD, 22 PRL)
- The time scale of driving turbulence is longer than the eddy turn-over time at the MHD scale etc.
- In the corona setup, the peak is determined by the balance between acceleration and cooling. (KM+ 20)
- Good news for modeling: The resulting v spectra are more or less similar.



Cosmic-Ray Feedback on MHD Turbulence





- NGC 1068: L_{CR} <~ L_X <~ L_B

- (CR energy) ~ (turbulence energy) may happen

$$\partial_t \mathcal{E}_{Bk} = -k\partial_k(\gamma_k \mathcal{E}_{Bk}) - \int d \ln p \Phi(k; p)\partial_t \mathcal{E}_p$$

 $+ \gamma_{inj} \mathcal{E}_{ext} k_{inj} \delta(k - k_{inj}) - \gamma_{kin} \mathcal{E}_{k_{kin}} k_{kin} \delta(k - k_{kin})$

- CR energy spectra w.o. CR cooling can be flat (but CR cooling would lead to a bump)
- Just a toy model but potentially relevant for regulating the CR energy budget
- In any case we need to know energy flows... What powers coronae?

γ Rays Must Not Be Gone: Hints & Future MeV γ-Ray Tests



- Corona model prediction: cascade γ rays should appear in the MeV range
- Fermi γ -ray observation: sub-GeV "excess" over the starburst component

How about Others?: NGC 4151

- Prediction of the coronal model: X-ray bright AGN ~ v bright AGN (KM+ 20 PRL) brightest AGN in north: NGC 1068, NGC 4151 brightest AGN in south: NGC 4945, Circinus
- 2.7σ excess of vs from NGC 4151 and CGCG 420-015
 2.9σ excess of vs from NGC 4151 (IceCube Collaboration 24a, 24b, Neronov+ 24)
- Unobscured AGNs like NGC 4151 are relevant for understanding physics



KM, Karwin, Kimura, Ajello & Buson 24 ApJL

How about Others?: AGN in South

- Prediction of the coronal model: X-ray bright AGN ~ v bright AGN (KM+ 20 PRL) brightest AGN in north: NGC 1068, NGC 4151 brightest AGN in south: NGC 4945, Circinus
- 3.0 σ excess of vs from Seyferts in south (IceCube Collaboration 24c)
- Promising targets for neutrino detectors in the northern hemisphere (KM3Net, Baikal-GVD, P-ONE, Trident), as well as IceCube-Gen2



Further Tests with Neutrinos

- 2.6 σ with 8 yr upgoing v_µ events and IR-selected AGN (IceCube 22 PRD)
- Good news for KM3Net/Baikal-GVD/P-ONE: many bright AGN in south



testable w. near-future data or by next-generation neutrino detectors

Contribution to the All-Sky Neutrino Flux

- AGN corona model was proposed to explain the all-sky v flux (KM+20 PRL) (ex. X-ray luminosity function is used in the MKM20 corona model)
- Differential v flux at 10 TeV: ~10⁻⁸ GeV cm⁻² s⁻¹ \rightarrow EL_E ~ 2x10⁴¹ erg/s
- NGC 1068-like AGNs are rare: $n \sim 10^{-5}$ Mpc⁻³ \rightarrow EQ_E $\sim 6x10^{43}$ erg Mpc⁻³ yr⁻¹
- Comparable to the required energy budget: EQ_E ~ 5x10⁴³ erg Mpc⁻³ yr⁻¹
- The all-sky v flux can be explained simultaneously within uncertainty
- Higher-energy neutrinos originate from lower-luminosity AGN



Summary

- Multimessenger analyses on 10 TeV v data require hidden CR accelerators
- Jet-quiet AGN: the most promising by energetics (whether ~3-4 σ is real or not)
- NGC 1068 & NGC 4151:

indications of hidden v sources, predicted to be the top 2 sources for IceCube If the associations are physical...

- v emission regions should be compact: R < 10-30 R_s
- Low-energy cosmic-ray spectrum should be hard (s<~2) to satisfy L_{CR} <~ L_X
- Strongly magnetized: $\xi_B > \sim 0.1$ (supporting low- β coronae)
- NGC 4151 (Compton-thin) may be better for testing the theory
- Relevance of AGNs in the southern sky (NGC 4945, Circinus)
- Consistent with the measured all-sky ν flux in the 10-100 TeV range

Future:

- More statistics, next-generation v detectors (KM3Net, Baikal, P-ONE, Gen2)
- Synergy w. MeV γ -ray, hard X-ray, and millimeter observations
- Physical connections to LL AGNs (RIAFs/MADs)
- Theory: Multimessenger, Multiscale, Magnetic in the vicinity of black holes

Radiative Inefficient Accretion Flows



Detectability of Nearby Low-Luminosity AGN



- Detection of MeV γ due to thermal electrons is promising (CR-induced cascade γ rays are difficult to observe)
- Nearby LL AGN can be seen by IceCube-Gen2/KM3Net

Coincidences w. Optical Transients

Tidal disruption events (TDEs) – supermassive black hole flares



- 5 TDE coincidences have been reported (van Velzen+ 23, Jiang+ 23)
- All are rare optical transients w. strong infrared echoes
- Possible neutrino time delays w. ~150-300 day

Neutrinos from Tidal Disruption Events?





High-Energy Astro-Particle Grand-Unification?

>100 TeV vs may originate from GeV γ -ray transparent sources including CR reservoirs > PeV vs might be related to UHECRs and isotropic diffuse γ rays (grand-unification)



- Smooth transition from PeV (source v) to EeV (cosmogenic v)

cosmic-ray reservoir scenario

accelerator (ex. AGN)

pp/pγ reactions

CR

reservoir (ex. galaxy cluster)

Bright Future



Thank you very much!