1992 - 2017: 25 years of GRB Physics

Robert Mochkovitch (IAP)

The situation in 1992: one year after Compton GRO was launched

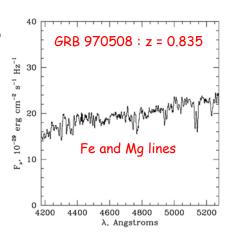
2704 BATSE Gamma-Ray Bursts



Isotropic distribution on the sky extended galactic halo or...

cosmological distance scale

Confirmed by Beppo-SAX and the first redshifts (now about 500 redshifts from 0.01 to 8.2/9.4)



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First models of cosmological GRBs

Problem: sources must be compact (short time scale variability of light curves)

the luminosity is huge: $L > 10^{51}$ erg.s⁻¹ (hyper-Eddington)

should drive an optically thick wind ("baryonic pollution" problem)

thermal spectrum contrary to observations (broken power-law)

Possible solution: Nature 361, 236-238 and The New York Times

January 26, 1993

Near or Far? Mystery Grows Over Blasts of Gamma Ray

.... Most extragalactic theories draw on ideas advanced earlier by Dr. Bohdan Paczynski of Princeton University. They posit an event triggered by neutron stars colliding or merging with each other or with a black hole.

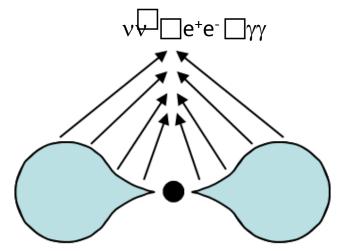
Then there is the problem of how such catastrophes might generate gamma rays and how the radiation could escape the very maelstrom of its creation.

In what Dr. Rees said is the "most credible mechanism," the energy would initially be in the form of neutrinos and anti-neutrinos, subatomic particles with little or no mass. When neutrinos and anti-neutrinos collide, they annihilate each other and emit a barrage of gamma rays. But this radiation is usually absorbed by clouds of material surrounding the neutron star or black hole.

Escape Route Theorized

There may, however, be a way out for the gamma rays. Two similar proposals have been offered, first by Dr. Rees and Dr. Peter Meszaros of Pennsylvania State University last year and now by a scientific team at the Institute of Astrophysics in Paris (IAP).

Writing in the current Nature, the IAP team noted that in violent encounters between a neutron star and a black hole, the cloud of obscuring material would be concentrated around the "equator" of the system. This could leave a kind of funnel along the system's axis of rotation through which the gamma rays could escape in a highly directional column of energy.

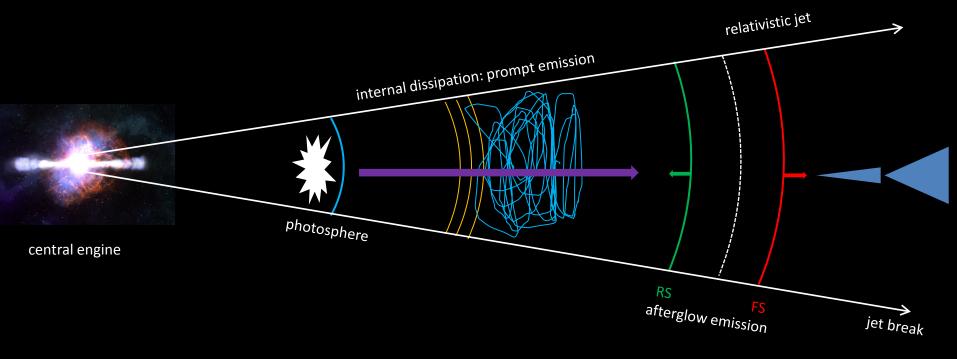


The "IAP team" :

Hernanz, Isern, Martin, Mochkovitch

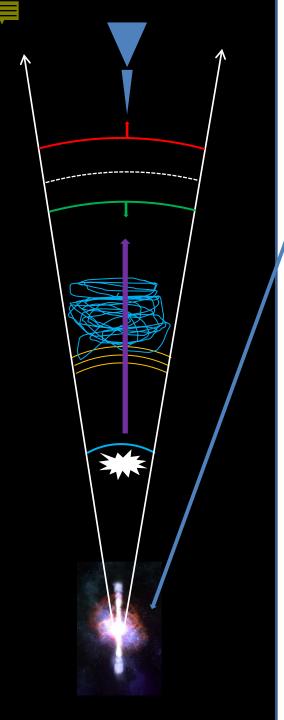


The present picture



Some unsettled issues

- source of energy
- acceleration/energy content of the jet: thermal/magnetic?
- where is the energy dissipated?
- dissipation mechanism at work?

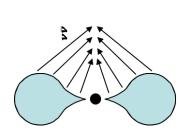


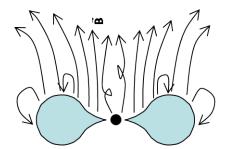
Central object:

- Collapsar or merger ? Black hole or magnetar?
- What is the ultimate source of energy ? accretion, rotation of the BH/magnetar ?

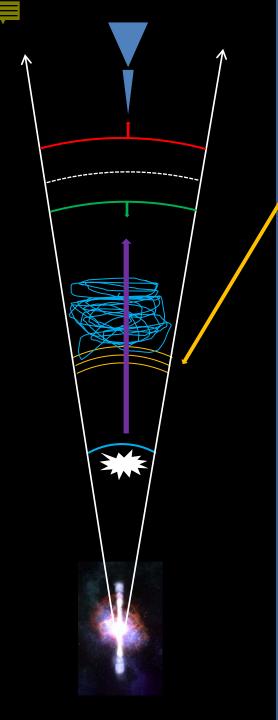
Extraction of energy and acceleration mechanism:

- $v\overline{v}$ annihilation, thermal acceleration \rightarrow hot wind
- Magnetic extraction and acceleration \rightarrow cold wind





Energy content of the jet: thermal/magnetic \rightarrow kinetic \rightarrow residual thermal/magnetic energy far from the source?



Dissipation processes •

6 8 10 0

100 0

t (s)

t (s)

t (s)

 t_a (s)

 t_a (s)

(b)

(c)

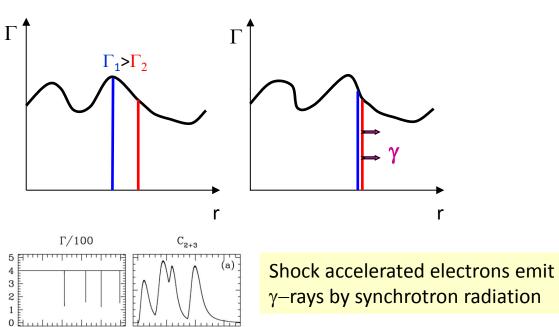
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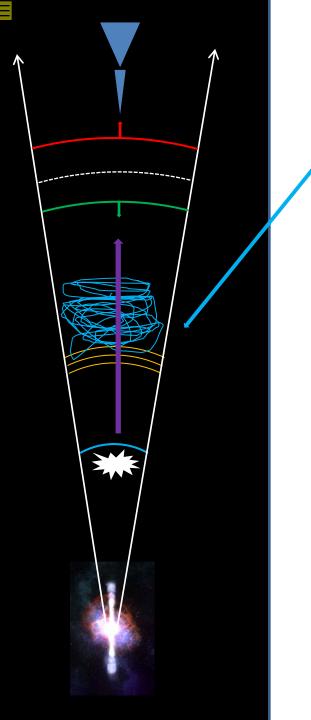
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above the photosphere: internal shocks

variable Lorentz factor in the outflow



(Daigne & Mochkovitch, 1998)

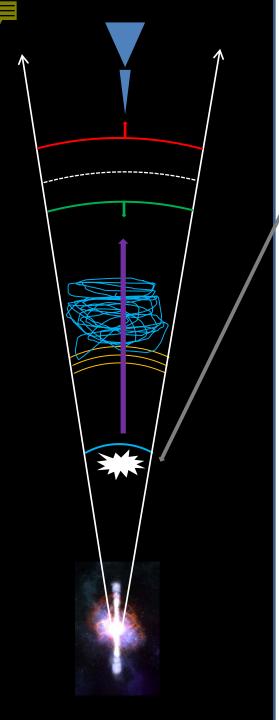


Dissipation processes

above the photosphere: reconnection

Magnetic field lines get reorganized in a new configuration carrying less energy

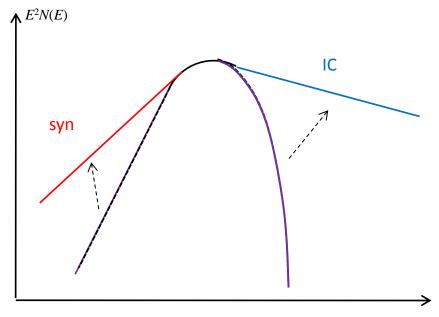
→ the difference is used to accelerate particles which then emit synchrotron radiation



Dissipation processes

below the photosphere: starting from a thermal spectrum

"comptonization" photon energy boosted by collision with e-+ synchrotron contribution



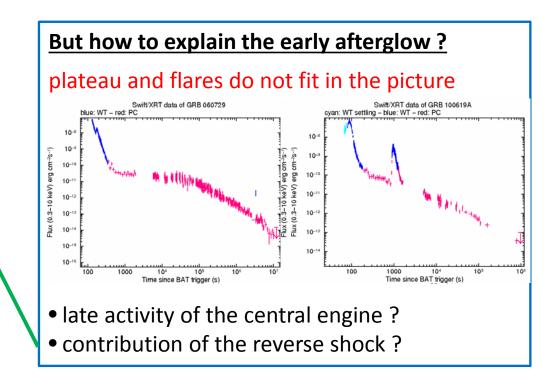
 $\mathsf{Planck} \to \mathsf{broken} \; \mathsf{PL}$

• Is the afterglow simpler ?

It seemed so before Swift...

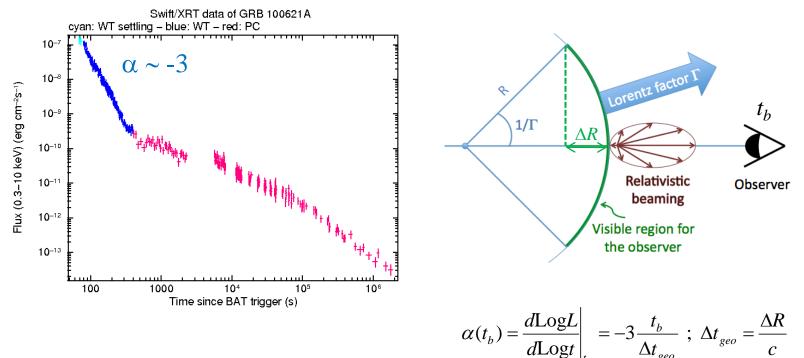
relativistic generalization of the Sedov-Taylor (blast wave) problem:

 \rightarrow self-similar solution, power-law behavior



Looking for tests to select among the models

Test of the emission radius: the "early steep decay"

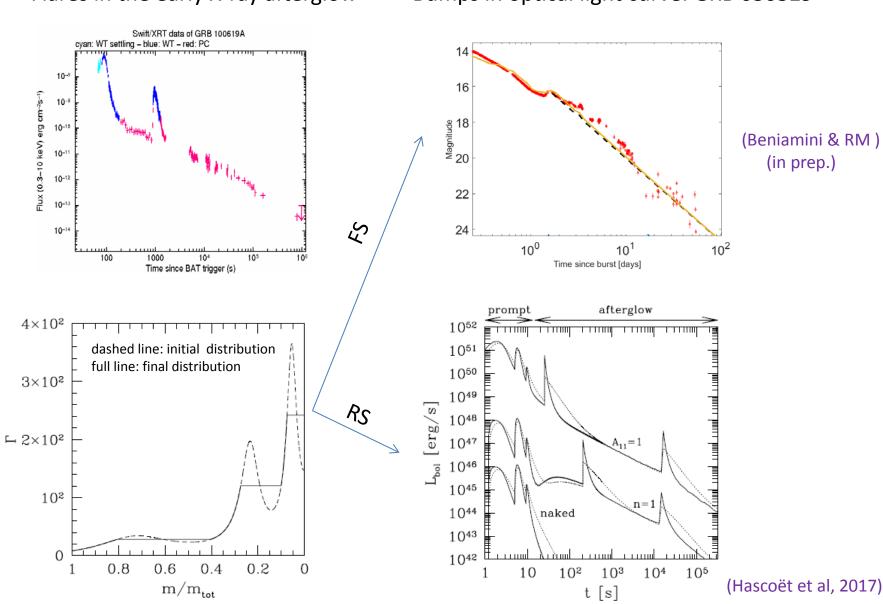


IS, reconnection : $\Delta t_{geo} \sim t_b \rightarrow \alpha \sim -3$ Photospheric models : $\Delta t_{geo} << t_b$

In photopheric models the initial decay must correspond to an effective behavior of the central engine

(Hascoët, Daigne & Mochkovitch, 2012)

Test of the magnetization from the presence of shocks



Flares in the early X-ray afterglow

Bumps in optical light curve: GRB 030329

Conclusion

Since 1992:

We have learned a lot about GRBs

- Distance scale (from z = 0.01 (sub-luminous) to z = 8.2)
- Progenitors (collapsars/mergers for long/short GRBs)
- Emission from a high Γ jet of opening angle 5 20°
- Afterglow from the deceleration of the jet by the external medium X-rays to radio (minutes to years)

French baccalaureat Philosophie 2017: "suffit-il d'observer pour connaitre" " To know, is it enough to observe?"

So, do we understand them?

- Prompt: shocks, reconnection, comptonization at the photosphere problems with synchrotron spectra
- Afterglow: going beyond the simple models (plateaus, flares)

The future

- The GW era: GRB + GW signal in coincidence ?
- SVOM mission (to be launched in 2021) broad coverage of the prompt emission + localization capabilities

Felipe V : born in Versailles December 19, 1683 : just 273 years before Margarita !



OBSERVATIONS ASTRONOMIQUES

1700

1631

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PHYSIQUES

FAITES PAR ORDRE

DU ROI D'ESPAGNE

FOUR DETERMINER LA FIGURE ET LA GRANDEUR DE LA TERRE, RELATIVEMENT A LA NAVIGATION.

Par DON GEORGE JUAN,

COMMANDEUR D'ALIAGA DANS L'ORDRE DE MALTHE, ET COMMANDANT DE LA COMPAGNIE DES GENTILS-HOMMES GARDES DE LA MARINE,

Par DON ANTOINE DE ULLOA,

LIEUTENANT DE LA MEME COMPAGNIE,

TOUS DEUX CAPITAINES DE HAUT-BORD DE L'ARME'E NAVALE DU ROI D'ESPAGNE, MEMBRES DES SOCIETES ROYALES DE L'ONDRES ET DE BERLIN, ET CORRESPONDANS DE L'ACADEMIE DES SCIENCES DE FARIS.



PREFACE.

U Ne des plus grandes marques que le Roi PHILIPE V. de Glorieuje Mémoire ait donnée de fon zéle pour l'avancement des Sciences en Elpagne, a été fans-doute d'avoir non feulement permis que des Académiciens François paffaffent dans fes Etats d'Amérique, pour y mefurer le degré terrestre fous l'Equateur; mais encore de les avoir fait accompagner par quelquesuns de fes propres Sujets, pour faire les observations qu'ils jugeresient nécessaires. Le choix de ce Monarque tomba sur Don Antonio de Ulloa & sur moi, & nous en sûmes d'autant plus flattés qu'il nous parut être un gage de l'estime d'un si grand Prince.

Nous partimes d'Europe au mois de Mai 1735, & nous ne fümes de retour qu'en 1746. Une fi longue absence accompagnée de tant de peines, de travaux & de fatigues, auroit été inutile, dumoins à nos Compatriotes, par la mort du Monarque qui nous avoit envoyés, fi nous n'avions eu la confolation de voir fur le Trône un digne Héritier de fes vertus autant que de son sceptre & de son sang, lequel a bien voulu nous accorder la même protection que son Prédécesseur. En effet, à peine l'illustre Marquis de la Ensenade eut informé Sa Majesté de notre retour à Madrid, & combien il feroit utile à l'avancement des Sciences & au bien général des Nations de l'Europe que cet Ouvrage füt publié, qu'Elle donna non sculement ordre qu'il füt imprimé à ses dépens, mais le daigna même prendre sous sa protection Royale.

Conformément aux intentions de ce Monarque nous avons arrangé nos matériaux le plus briévement qu'il nous a été possible, & pour plus de clarté nous avons divisé notre Ouvrage en deux Parties. L'une, dont D. Antonio de Ulloa, s'est chargé, contient la rélation du Voyage, les Cartes, les Descriptions des Pays, & les Remarques que nous avons faites fur tout ce qu'il y a de singulier dans les Royaumes du Pérou par où nous avons passé. L'autre qui est contenue dans ce Volume-ci, m'est tombée en partage, & renferme toutes les Observations Astronomiques & Phyliques que nous avons faites tant par rapport au but principal de notre Voyage, que pour exécuter les instructions particulieres dont il avoit plu à Sa Majesté de nous charger.

Le principal but de notre Voyage, étoit de vérifier la valeur, du degré terroftre sous l'Equateur, afin que comparé avec celui

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Cheers !

Margarita

Specified ingredients

Preparation

- •3.5 cL (7 parts) Tequila •2 cL (4 parts) Triple Sec
- •1.5 cL (3 parts) Lime juice

Rub the rim of the glass with the lime slice to make the salt stick to it. Take care to moisten only the outer rim and sprinkle the salt on it. The salt should present to the lips of the imbiber and never mix into the cocktail. Shake the other ingredients with ice, then carefully pour into the glass.