# Gamma Ray Bursts in the Swift era



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## THE DISCOVERY

### OBSERVATIONS OF GAMMA-RAY BURSTS OF COSMIC ORIGIN

#### RAY W. KLEBESADEL, IAN B. STRONG, AND ROY A. OLSON

University of California, Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory, Los Alamos, New Mexico Received 1973 March 16: revised 1973 April 2

#### ABSTRACT

Sixteen short bursts of photons in the energy range 0.2-1.5 MeV have been observed between 1969 July and 1972 July using widely separated spacecraft. Burst durations ranged from less than 0.1 s to  $\sim 30$  s, and time-integrated flux densities from  $\sim 10^{-5}$  ergs cm<sup>-2</sup> to  $\sim 2 \times 10^{-4}$  ergs  $cm^{-2}$  in the energy range given. Significant time structure within bursts was observed. Directional information eliminates the Earth and Sun as sources.

The lack of correlation between gamma-ray bursts and reported supernovae does not conclusively argue against such an association, since it is possible that there are supernovae, not necessarily bright in the optical region ("theoreticians' supernovae"), whose rate of occurrence may exceed those which are optically visible (see, e.g., Thorne 1969). A source at a distance of 1 Mpc would need to emit  $\sim 10^{46}$  ergs in the form of electromagnetic radiation between 0.2 and 1.5 MeV in order to produce the level of response observed here. Since this represents only a small fraction  $(<10^{-3})$  of the energy usually associated with supernovae, the energy observed is not inconsistent with a supernova as a source.

### Distances to the sources of observed gamma-ray bursts

STRONG & KLEBESADEL 1974

WE suggest that the brief, intense outbursts of hard X rays, or soft  $\gamma$  rays of cosmic origin which have been termed  $\gamma$ -ray bursts1 are mainly, though not necessarily entirely, of Galactic origin. More specifically, the y-ray bursts reported so far<sup>2</sup> seem to originate in the local (Orion) spiral arm of our Galaxy, at distances of, typically, several hundred parsec. If we assume that the sources radiate into  $4\pi$  sr, the absolute luminosities are  $\sim 10^{39}$  erg per event. (It may be significant that this is of the order of the predicted Eddington limit radiation from accretion disks around collapsed stars.)



1975

#### ZELDOVICH - REIZER THE ATOMIC BOMB

### Can soft γ-ray bursts be emitted by accreting black holes?

TSVI PIRAN JACOB SHAHAM

1975

Racah Institute of Physics, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

A qualitative study of cosmic fireballs and  $\gamma$ -ray bursts

1978

G. Cavallo<sup>\*</sup> and M. J. Rees Institute of Astronomy, Madingley Road, Cambridge

Received 1977 September 30

Summary. If a large amount of energy is suddenly converted into a concentrated burst of (MeV)  $\gamma$  rays, the prolific creation of electron-positron pairs will inhibit the escape of photons until they have been degraded below the pair-production threshold. This sets general constraints on the possible luminosities of rapidly varying  $\gamma$ -ray sources and suggests why the observed  $\gamma$ -ray bursts have an approximately standardized and 'soft' spectrum.

#### High-entropy fireballs and jets in gamma-ray burst sources

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#### 1992

#### SUMMARY

We propose two mechanisms whereby compact coalescing binaries can produce relatively 'clean' fireballs via neutrino-antineutrino annihilation. Pre-ejected mass due to tidal heating will collimate the fireball into jets. The resulting anisotropic gamma-ray emission can be efficient and intense enough to provide an acceptable model for gamma-ray bursts, if these originate at cosmological distances.

### GAMMA-RAY BURSTS - A PUZZLE BEING RESOLVED

1999

2004

Tsvi Piran<sup>1</sup>

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#### SEE REFERENCES THEREIN

The Physics of Gamma-Ray Bursts

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### BATSE & BEPPO\_SAX



When a large amount of energy is released within a small volume, an explosion will result and a strong shock wave will expand supersonically into the surrounding medium.

When the energy release E is so large that  $E >> (M+\rho V) c^2$ , where M is the of the explosion products,  $\rho$  is the ambient density, and V is the volume swept by the shock, then the motion of the shock front will be relativistic.

see Blanford and McKee (1976) for the theory









# The Swift satellite



- \* Imaging: 1700 6500 Å
- \* Precision: 0.5 arcsec
- \* Sensitivity: V 🔣 20

### **BURST ALERT TELESCOPE**

- \* Imaging: 15-150 keV
- \* Precision: 2-3 arcmin
- \* Field of view: 1/6 of sky

### **X-RAY TELESCOPE**

- \* Imaging in 0.2–10 keV
- \* Precision: **3 arcsec**
- \* Sensitivity: **2 10**<sup>-14</sup> **cgs**

Malindi - Software XRT - XRT MIRRORS

# GRB VISITING CARD





Non-thermal, peaking at ~ 10 keV - MeV in our frame, 0.1-1 ~ keV in rest frame.





# GRB 090423: X-ray afterglow



canonical light curve

analysis of the XRT spectrum shows intrinsic absorption N<sub>H</sub>=7x10<sup>22</sup> cm<sup>-2</sup>

Lower limit on the metallicity of the circum-burst medium Z> 0.04 Zsun







#### OATES ET AL 2009 ASTRO - PH 0901.35971 SAMPLE OF 27 GRBs 21 REDSHIFTS

APPARENTLY THE BRIGHTNESS IS CORRELATED WITH THE SLOPE, BRIGHTER DECAY FASTER. SEE HOWEVER REST FRAME. THE MAXIMUM IS NOT ALWAYS DETECTED IN THE EARLY PHASE, MAY BE NOT EARLY ENOUGH.

FLARE ACTIVITY IS VISIBLE, AND HOWEVER THE CHARACTERISTICS ARE SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT, NOT SO PROMINENT, FROM THOSE OBSERVED IN THE X\_RAY. A CORRELATION OPTICAL - X IS UNDER WAY.

VARIOUS GRBS SHOWS A PEAK OF THE LIGHT CURVE DURING THE FIRST 1000 SECONDS. SEE ALSO MOLINARI ET AL. 2006 AND KRUEHLER ET AL. 2009 XRF 071031.

SEE ALSO RYKOFF ET AL., ROTSE -III - ASTRO\_PH 0904.0261







According to the standard fireball shock model we distinguish between prompt emission and afterglow. The prompt emission if due to internal shocks, that is shocks generated by clashing shells that have been ejected at various speeds. Gamma ray burst afterglows are the result between the decelerating relativistic jet and the surrounding medium. Synchrotron radiation is produced by shock - accelerated electrons interacting with a shock - generated magnetic field.

The radiation will peak at progressively longer wavelengths and the observed light curve will change shape whenever the observed frequency crosses into different spectral regimes, when the flow becomes non relativistic and when the lateral spreading of the initially strongly collimated outflow becomes significant. Furthermore:

Off axis jets to the never observed orphan afterglows





#### ZHANG, W., WOOLSEY, MACFADYEN - 2006 LEFT: COLLAPSE AND EXPLOSION IN A 14 SOLAR MASS WOLF-RAYET STAR. DISK T ~ SEVERAL MEV, DENSITY ~ $10^9$ G CM<sup>-3</sup>. BH ~ 4 SOLAR MASSES. **RIGHT: GRB SN - INTRODUCTION OF A TWO** COMPONENT JET: 1) $10^{51}$ erg s<sup>-1</sup>, GAMMA=50, JET 10 DEGREES 2) ~ 40 DEGREES JET, 5 10<sup>50</sup> ERG S<sup>-1</sup>, SPEED 14000 KM S-1. SNE 3 10<sup>53</sup> IN NEUTRINOS IN SECONDS; < 0.01% LIGHT IN A FEW MONTHS GRBS MOST LIGHT IN GAMMA RAYS - LESS THAN 1% AS FREQUENT AS ORDINARY SNE 1 1048 ERG S-1 3 1049 ERG S-1 RATHER SLOW 5 DEGREES OPENING AND GAMMA 200 - 3 NO YPER-RELATIVISTIC MAY BE BRIGHT TRANSIENT 10<sup>50</sup> ERG S<sup>-1</sup>. JET CORE log Density log Density 80 48.0 s 81.0 s 60 60 40 40 20 20 15 27.0 s 37.0 s 14 12 10 8 6 4 2 10 10 5 10 22.0 s 29.0 s 8 8

6

-5

6

-5

0

(10^10 cm)

5

23

5

0

(10^10 cm)

# 2D GRB Blastwave

## Weiquin Zhang, Andrew McFadyen, 2009, ApJ 698, 1261





**Figure 6.** Observer time vs. emission time. The results for fluid elements just behind the shock at various angles are shown:  $\theta = 0$  (solid line), 0.19 (dotted line), and  $\pi/4$  (dashed line). The relations  $t_{\oplus} = (1 + z)t/4\gamma^2$  (long dashed gray line) and  $t_{\oplus} = (1 + z)t/16\gamma^2$  (dash-dot-dot gray line) are plotted for comparison. Here,  $\gamma$  is assumed to obey the Blandford–McKee solution, and the cosmological redshift is set to z = 1. Also plotted is  $t_{\oplus} = (1 + z)t$  (dash-dotted gray line).

### Wave clouds forming over Mount Duval, NSW.



A <u>Kelvin-Helmholtz instability</u> on <u>Saturn</u>, caused by the interaction between two bands of the planet's atmosphere. Image from the <u>Cassini</u> probe. Caption from NASA's press release: This turbulent boundary between two latitudinal bands in Saturn's atmosphere curls repeatedly along its edge in this Cassini image. This pattern is an example of a Kelvin-Helmholtz instability, which occurs when two fluids of different density flow past each other at different speeds. This type of phenomenon should be fairly common on the <u>gas giant</u> planets given their alternating jets and the different temperatures in their belts and zones.

Saturn from NASA

# KH:1024<sup>3</sup> Rel. MHD

Weiquin Zhang, Andrew Mcfadyen, Peng Wang, 2009, ApJ 692, L40



## New Inputs

• The simulations predict a ratio of the magnetic energy to total energy to be:  $\varepsilon_B = 5 \ 10^{-3}$ 

Clumpy structure of the magnetic energy.
 Therefore likely a site for the Fermi acceleration of charged particles, may be a source of high energy cosmic rays.
 May give information on the origin of cosmic

magnetic fields.

Weiquin Zhang, Andrew Mc Fadyen & Peng Wang 2009, ApJ 692, L40



The most recent flare sample Chincarini et al. 2010

Period April 2005 – March 2008. 321 GRBs – 87 with redshift 273 by Swift, 82 with z. 27 by INTEGRAL 1 with z 10 by IPN - 1 with z9 by HETE (3 w z), 3 by AGILE Afterglow observations for 234. Data set of 56 GRBs with flares. Peak count rate > 1 count/s. *36 present a single flare.* 15 two flares. More that 5 cases with more than two flares Analysis in 5 channels 0.3-10, 0.3-1, 1-2, 2 - 3, and 3 - 10 keV. Fit Norris 2005 function

**NEXT:** TO THE END OF 2010 ~ 600 GRBs. 2011 => Light curves et al. IN PREPARATION

## CONTINUE





## FLARES AS A FUNCTION OF TIME





The instability setting up in the rotating disk (gammie 2001, Rice 2003, Lodato et al. 2005) when the cooling time is low. Blobs will form with a mass that is about 10% of the mass of the central object. If the cooling time is large (larger than about 3  $\Omega$ ) then the blobs form but rotates about the central object with rather stable orbits.

The cooling time  $\tau_c \sim (\alpha \Omega)^{-1}$  and  $\tau_c < 3 \ \Omega^{-1}$  therefore  $1/\alpha < 3 \ [\alpha -> Shakura Sunyaev]$ 



Flares have the same characteristics of the spikes we observe in the prompt emission. They get softer and weaker with time

> Chincarini et al., 2007 Chincarini et al., 2010







THE FIT OF GRB061121 IS QUITE REASONABLE AS SHOWN PREVIOUSLY

BY DALL'OSSO ET AL. WE HAVE 5 FREE PARAMETERS AND TWO (RADIUS AND INERTIA OF THE NEUTRON STAR FIXED AT IN =  $1.45 \ 10^{45}$  and R =  $10^{6}$ CM. THE RESULT IS GOOD AND HOWEVER IT IS NOT A ROBUST PROVE OF THE PRESENCE OF THE NEUTRON STAR. THE MAGNETIC FIELD WE DERIVE IS B =  $1.8 \ 10^{15}$  GAUSS IN AGREEMENT AS EXPECTED WITH THAT DERIVED BY DALL'OSSO ET AL.

(THE FIT WAS DONE BY MARIA GRAZIA BERNARDINI).

## CONCLUSIONS

### GENERALITIES:

Steep decay - Curvature effect does not fully explain spectroscopic variations. See also evolution of E\_peak in Margutti et al. 2009 Plateau: Injection of energy, external shock or what. The light curve after flaring returns to its no flare value level.

### FLARES

All main characteristics are similar to wide spikes observed during the prompt emission.

External shock cannot be the origin of the flares. A possibility is Internal shock.

The engine reactivate and may be was never completely off. Pressure holding accretion?

May have to take a better look at the accretion from the disk and related instabilities. Lazzati & Perna, Margutti et al. in preparation.

## OPEN QUESTIONS

Remembering that statistically in time everything gets weaker and softer

Standard Fireball model may not survive - Flares remain unexplained.
Ordered magnetic fields and polarization.
Magnetar - Pulsar Model - Poynting flux.
Simulations & New targeted observations.
The real conclusion is that while we are progressing very well in sharply characterizing the properties of flares and their relation to the prompt emission spikes and prompt emission energy, at the moment there is no yet satisfactory model explaining the overall picture and the origin, evolution and energetic of flares.

Non tutti quelli che vagano si sono persi

[J.R.R. Tolkien]



## **BAT Swift**

## •4 ms

•15 - 25 keV
•25 - 50 keV
•50 - 100 keV
•100 - 150 keV

## •Konus-WIND

- 64 ms
- 18-70 keV
- 70-300 keV
- 300-1160 keV







Figure 4 | Competing models of GRB magnetic **field structure.** The schematic shows three representations of a GRB outflow in the context of the standard fireball model for a variety of magnetic field structures and different orientations to the observer's line of sight (optical axis). A large degree of polarization is predicted when the ejected material is threaded with a largescale ordered magnetic field as shown in **a** and is the favoured model to explain the measured polarization in GRB 090102. Alternatively, if no ordered magnetic field is present and instead a tangled magnetic field is produced in the shock front, the detected light will be polarized only if the observer's line of sight is close to the jet edge (**b**). In this case, however, the predicted steepening of the light curve that is expected when observing an off-axis jet is inconsistent with the flattening exhibited in the light curve of GRB 090102. A compromise is shown in **c** in which the shock front contains a number of independent patches of locally ordered magnetic fields; a measured polarization of 10% is at the very uppermost bound for such a model.

Jerusalem December 2009



Fig. 2.— Long-term Swift light curve of GRB060218. Upper panel: the XRT light curve (0.3–10 keV) is shown with open black circles. Count rate-to-flux conversion factors were derived from time-dependent spectral analysis. We also plot with open black squares the contribution to the 0.3–10 keV flux by the blackbody component. Its percentage contribution is increasing with time, becoming dominant at the end of the exponential decay. The X–ray light curve has a long, slow power-law rise followed by an exponential (or steep power-law) decay. At about 10,000 s the light curve breaks to a shallower power-law decay with index  $-1.2 \pm 0.1$  characteristic of typical GRB afterglows. This classical afterglow can be naturally accounted for by a shock driven into the wind by a shell with kinetic energy  $E_{\text{shell}} \sim 10^{49}$  erg. The  $t^{-1}$  flux decline is valid at the stage where the shell is being decelerated by the wind with the deceleration phase beginning at  $t_{\text{dec}} \lesssim 10^4$  s for  $\dot{M} \gtrsim 10^{-4} (v_{\text{wind}}/10^8 \,\text{cm}\,\text{s}^{-1}) M_{\odot} \,\text{yr}^{-1}$ , consistent with the mass-loss rate inferred from the thermal X–ray component.

Lower panel: the UVOT light curve. Filled circles of different colors represent different UVOT filters: red -V (centered at 544 nm); green -B (439 nm), blue -U (345 nm), light blue - UVW1 (251 nm); magenta - UVM1 (217 nm) and yellow - UVW2 (188 nm). Specific fluxes have been multiplied by their FWHM widths (75, 98, 88, 70, 51 and 76 nm, respectively). Data have been rebinned to increase the signal to noise ratio. The UV band light curve peaks at about 30 ks due to the shock break-out from the outer stellar surface and the surrounding dense stellar wind, while the optical band peaks at about 800 ks due to radioactive heating in the SN ejecta. Fig. 3.— Evolution of the soft thermal component temperature and radius. Upper panel: evolution of the temperature of the soft thermal component. The joint BAT and XRT spectrum has been fit with a blackbody component plus a (cut-off) power-law in the first ~ 3,000 s (see also the caption of Fig. 1). The last point (circled in green) comes from a fit to the six UVOT filters, assuming a blackbody model with Galactic reddening [E(B - V) = 0.14] and host galaxy reddening. This reddening has been determined by fitting the Rayleigh-Jeans tail of the blackbody emission at 32 ks (9 hours). The data require an intrinsic  $E(B - V) = 0.20 \pm 0.03$  (assuming a Small Magellanic Cloud reddening law<sup>18</sup>). Lower panel: evolution of the radius of the soft thermal component. The last point (circled in green) comes from the fitting of UVOT data. The continuous line represents a linear fit to the data.



## **BAT Swift**

## •4 ms

•15 - 25 keV
•25 - 50 keV
•50 - 100 keV
•100 - 150 keV

## •Konus-WIND

- 64 ms
- 18-70 keV
- 70-300 keV
- 300-1160 keV











The simulations are from the presentation given by A. Mcfadyen in the Venice 2009 meeting

This talk benefited form discusion I had with Raffaella Margutti

# **OTHERS**





Possible evolutionary path to a short-lasting gammaray burst. a, b, In a binary-star system consisting of two high-mass, 'main-sequence' stars, the more massive member (primary) exhausts its hydrogen nuclear-fuel supply, becomes a bloated red giant and transfers large amounts of mass to its lighter companion (secondary). c, The primary explodes as a supernova, leaving behind a neutron star. d, The secondary becomes a giant. e, Its expansion leads to a common-envelope phase in which the neutron star ploughs through the giant's outer layers, ejecting them from the system and leaving it in a tight orbit. f, The likely outcome is a neutron-star-helium-star binary. g, The helium star undergoes a supernova explosion. h, The resulting neutron-star pair is left in a short-period (about a day) orbit. i, With time, the system loses orbital energy and the stars merge, producing a gamma-ray burst; the time delay between the formation of the neutron-star binary and the burst occurrence is extremely sensitive to the separation of the stars after the common-envelope phase. The discovery<sup>1</sup> of GRB 070714B suggests that smaller separations than previously anticipated are needed. (Diagrams and temporal axis not to scale.)

[OII], Z= 0.923 - GRAHAM ET AL. 2009

# Syn. cooling & curvature

T+d1

R(1.0 - cos 0)

<u>Sari et al.</u>

$$\tau_{\rm syn} = (1.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s})\epsilon_B^{-3/4} \left(\frac{hv_{\rm obs}}{100 \text{ keV}}\right)^{-1/2} \\ \times \left(\frac{t_{\rm dur}}{10 \text{ s}}\right)^{3/4} l_{18}^{-3/4} n_1^{-3/4} .$$

This equation is quite robust. It is valid for both the forward and reverse shock and it is independent of whether the reverse shock is relativistic or Newtonian.

$$t_{\rm dur} = \left(\frac{l}{c}\right) \gamma^{-8/3} \xi^{-2} = (150 \text{ s}) \left(\frac{\gamma}{100}\right)^{-8/3} \xi^{-2} l_{18}$$
$$\xi \equiv \left(\frac{l}{\Delta}\right)^{1/2} \gamma^{-4/3}$$

Fennimore et al. ACF Width =  $k E^{-0.42}$ 

<u>Kumar&Panaitescu</u> <u>Dermer</u>

$$\alpha = 2 + \beta$$

If we assume the main factor is the curvature effect we have the following [The Observer way, however see later more formal derivation by Lazzati & Perna:

$$f_{v} \propto t^{-\alpha} \text{ with } \alpha = 2 + \beta$$

$$t \propto f^{-\frac{1}{\alpha}}; \frac{t_{\frac{f_{peak}}{2}}}{t_{f_{peak}}} = \frac{\left(\frac{f}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}}{f^{-\frac{1}{\alpha}}} = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$

$$HPFW = t_{\frac{f_{peak}}{2}} - t_{f_{peak}} = \left(2^{\frac{1}{2+\beta}} - 1\right)t_{f_{peak}}$$

$$\frac{HPFW}{t_{f_{peak}}} = 0.29$$

52





