

Inverse-Compton “mirror-flash” emissions in γ -rays: the remarkable cases of 3C 454.3 and PKS 1830-211 on late 2010

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These challenging events show ratios
between optical and γ -rays variation factors

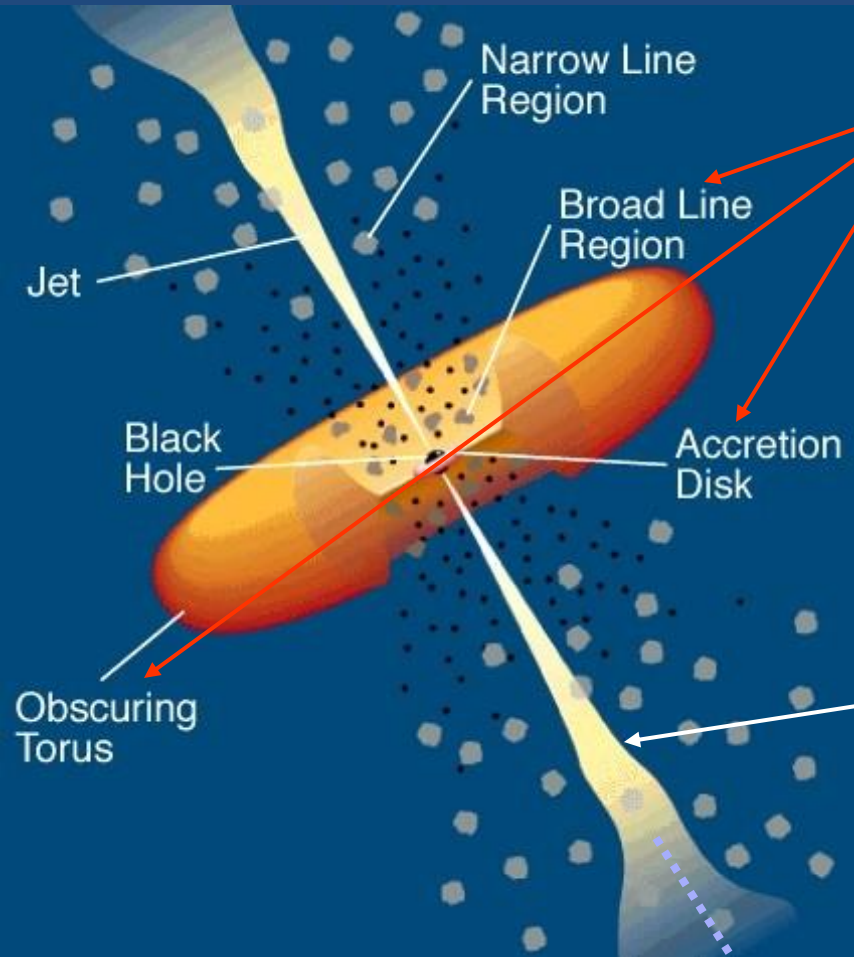
$$\rho = A_{\gamma} / A_{\text{opt}} > 2 \text{ or more.}$$

Standard EC predicts $\rho = 1$

Moreover γ -flux shows doubling time of
few hours in these events.

V.Vittorini, E. Striani, M. Tavani, A. Cavaliere,
S. Vercellone on behalf of the AGILE AGN WG

FSRQ standard model



External: galaxy frame (z),
radiation connected with accretion

External photons N_{ext} and jet electrons $n_e(\gamma)$

produce

External Compton (EC)

Jet: blob moving with Lorentz factor Γ ,
beamed, non thermal radiation

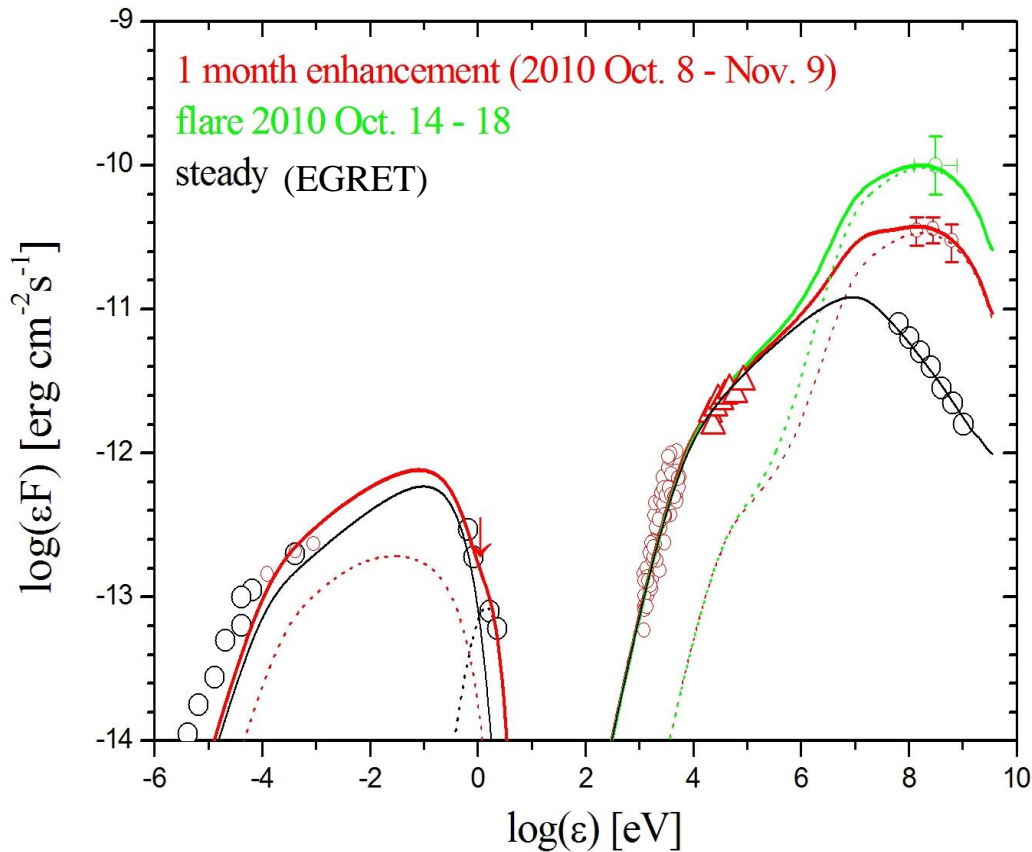
Electron distribution $n_e(\gamma)$ and magnetic field B

produce

Synchrotron + Inverse Compton (SSC)

Γ

PKS 1830: an extreme instance



Orphan gamma-flare during a monthly activity: Optical and X-ray remain at historical steady levels, and $\rho=3$

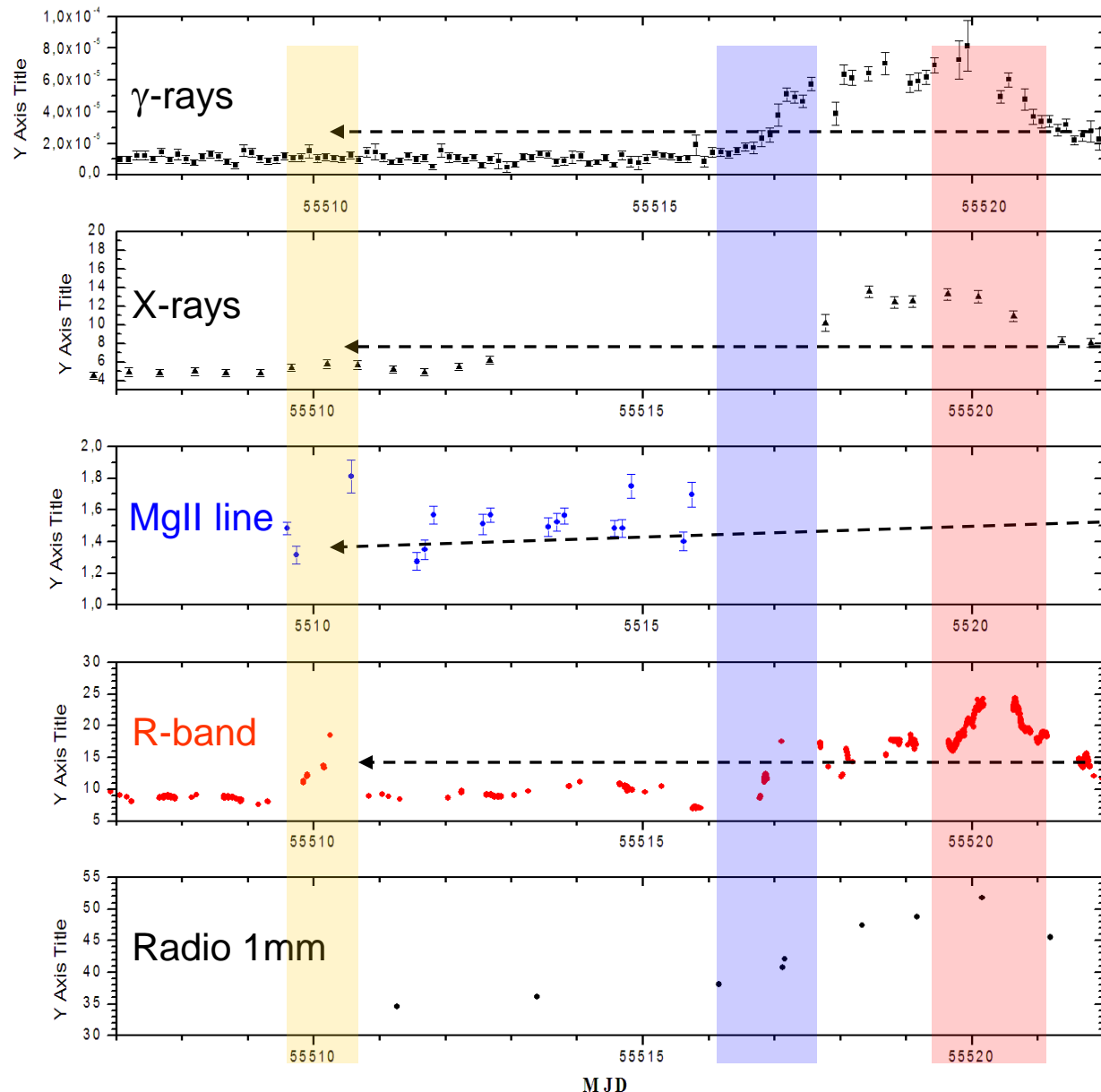
A second component of shocked particles (red dotted lines) can account for the **monthly enhancement** in gamma-rays with little or no contributions in optical and X-rays.

But the **fast orphan flare** ($A_\gamma = 3$ on 6 hours) around Oct. 14 would require some variation in the external field of seed photons !

Ciprini et al. 2010; Donnarumma et al. 2011

The November 2010 super flare of 3C 454

(Vercellone et al. 2011)



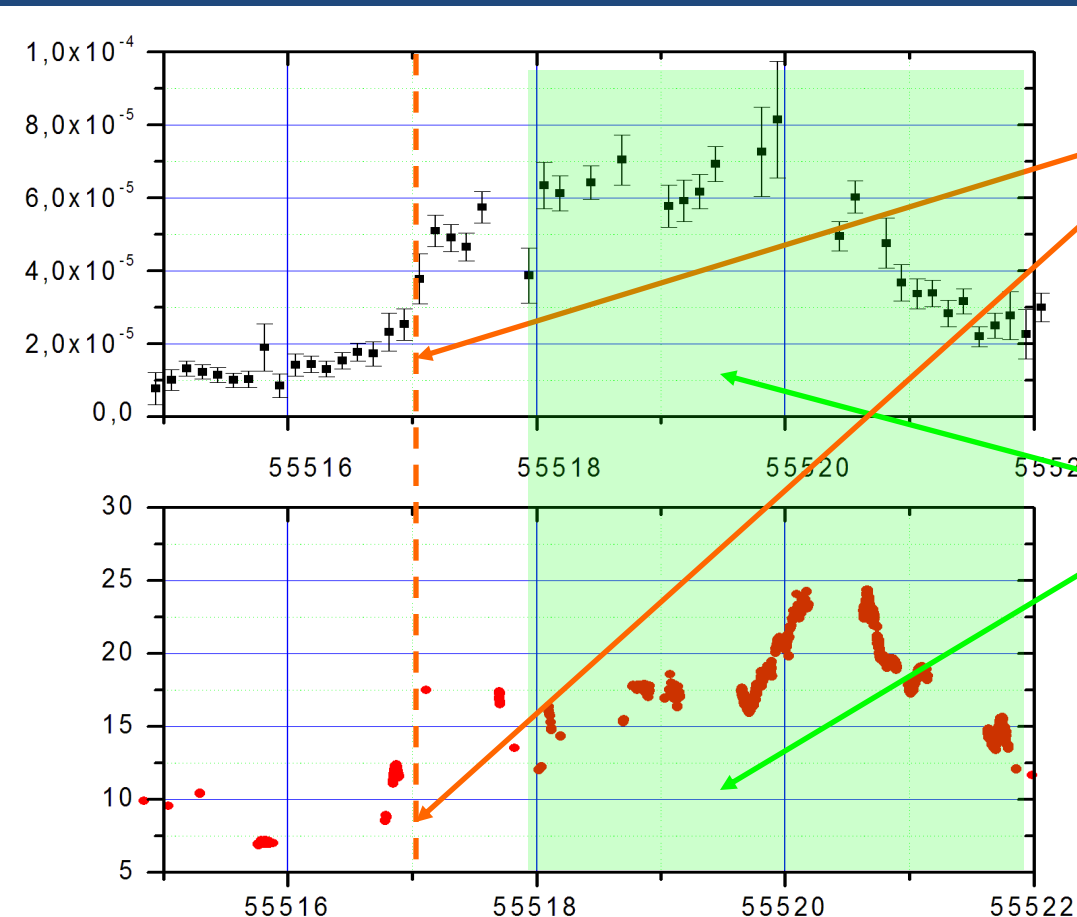
No gamma-ray counterpart

Faint soft X-ray counterpart
(SC plays a secondary role!)

MgII line flux variations of 30%
(Leon Tavares 2013)

Strong 1 day optical flare
(energization of a new component in the inner jet)

With courtesy of E. Striani and J. Leon Tavares



Around MJD=55517 the γ ray flux jumps by a factor $A_\gamma = 4 - 5$ while the optical flux rises by a factor $A_{opt} = 2$ only!

γ ray flux varies of 100% in 6 hours

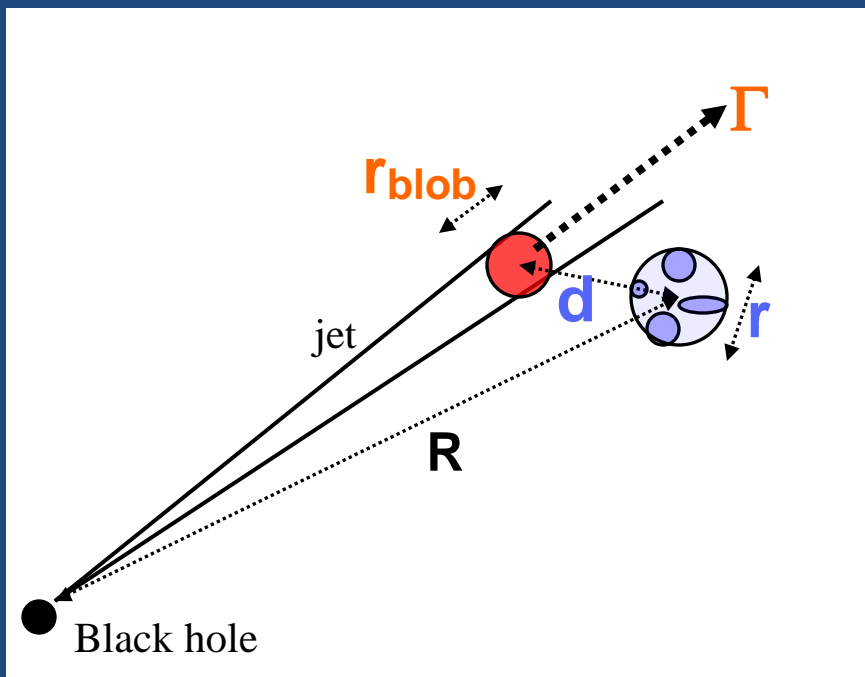
Later on, variation factors appear to be comparable with $\rho=1$

To account for this complex correlation, some variations are required in the external photon field seen by the moving blob!

What happens when a scattering system crosses the jet trajectory at $R < R_{BLR}$?

In standard EC from BLR, clouds cover $a=10\%$ at distance $R_{BLR}=3 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ cm}$, and reflect the disk luminosity L_D . The energy density of photons seen by a far blob moving with bulk Lorentz factor Γ is

$$U'_{BLR} \sim \frac{17}{12} \frac{a L_D \Gamma^2}{4\pi R_{BLR}^2 c}$$



When the blob approaches at distance $d \ll R_{BLR}$ a system of size r , a gain $g = a^{-1} (r/2d)^2 < 3$ can be obtained, with time-scale $\Gamma^{-2} (r + r_{blob})/c$ and

$$U'_{loc} = U'_{BLR} (1+g)$$

...and beyond the BLR?

$$U'_{MIR} = aL'_{syn}\Gamma^4 / (cd^2)$$

$$= U'_{BLR}(L_s/L_D)(R_{BLR}/\Gamma d)^2$$

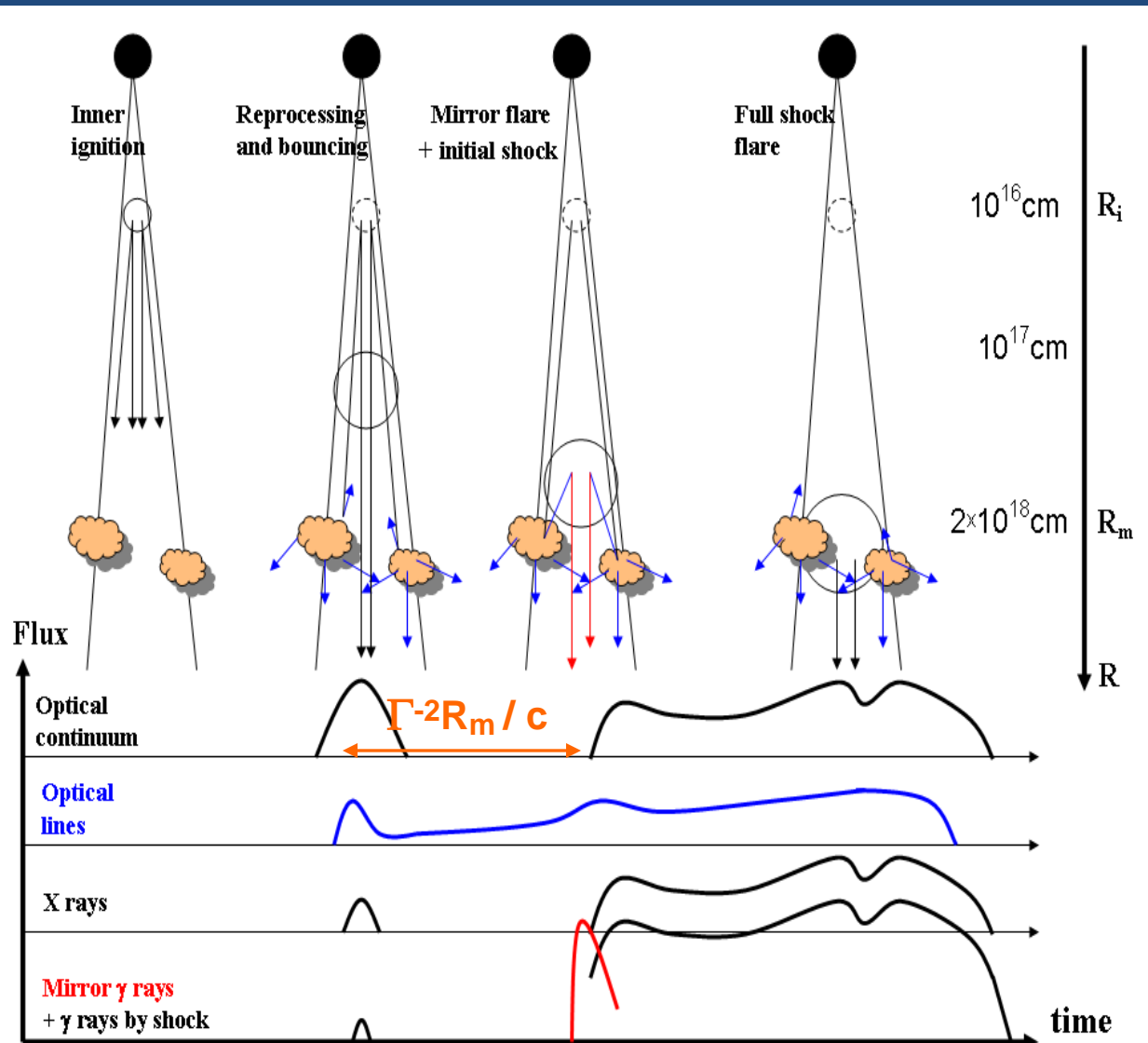
But causality constrain
 $d < R_m / (4\Gamma^2)$, then
 $U'_M > U'_{BLR}$ results for a
 crossing time

$$\Delta t_{obs} = (d+r)/(c\Gamma^2)$$

Is the observed duration

$$t_{del} = d/(c\Gamma^2) = \text{half hour}$$

Blob impact delay



Adequate γ amplification

Rise-time of few hours

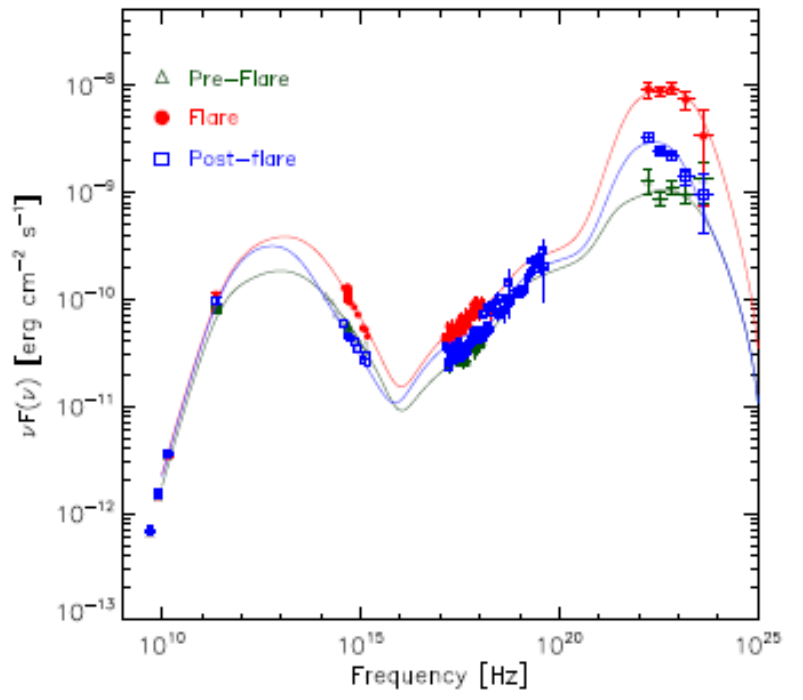
Shock delay of half hour

γ -ray emitted at pc scale

Optical precursor with
 30% line enhancement

3C 454 in Nov. 2010

Vercellone
et al. 2011



This idea explains the SED during the entire period of activity, by **two** electron populations in the jet

Parameter	Pre-flare	Flare	
SEDs model parameters			
α_l	2.35	2.35	
α_h	4.2	4.8	
γ_{\min}	50	80	
γ_b	650	700	
K	300	700	cm^{-3}
R_{jet}	7.0	3.6	10^{18} cm
B	0.65	1.1	G
δ	34.5	34.5	
L_d	2	2	$10^{48} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$
T_d	10^4	10^4	$^{\circ}\text{K}$
r_d	0.05	0.05	pc
θ_0	1.15	1.15	degrees
Γ	20	20	

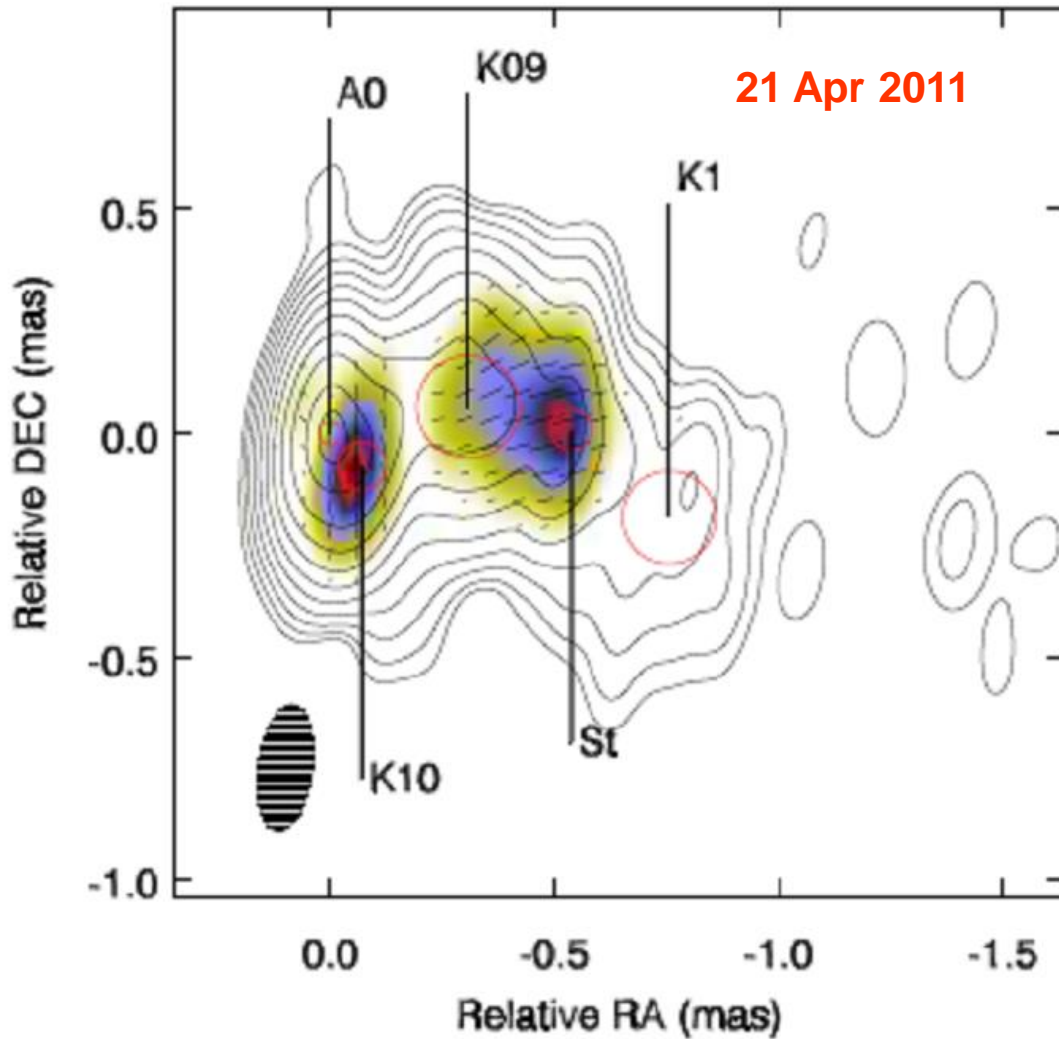
Data concerning PKS 1830 and 3C 454 suggest:

Two populations of electrons seem unavoidable.

Standard EC models are challenged!

In fact, variations in the external photon field seen by the blob are required to understand the observed complex γ -ray vs. Opt. behavior. This also accounts for very fast γ variations of 100% in few hours.

Mirroring of the blob photons by scattering material accounts for γ -ray emission at pc scales: far from the BLR



The knot K10 emerges from the core $T=160$ days after the flare (Jorstad et al. 2012).

With a jet opening angle 1.6° K10 traveled $R_c=16$ pc before being resolved.

For $\Gamma=10$ the predicted lag is $T=\Gamma^{-2}R_c/c=0.5$ years