Gamma-ray and Neutrino Emission in X-ray binaries: The Role of Jet Cooling, Photo-absorption, and Black Hole Spin

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#### **Neutrinos Electro-Weak interactions and Symmetries**

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#### Outlook

- Introduction X-ray Binary systems (XRBs)
- Accretion disk and XSPEC models
- Detection of cosmic neutrinos & VHE  $\gamma$ -rays

• Emission from relativistic jets: (i) Leptonic emission mechanisms, (ii) Hadronic interactions

- Results High-energy gamma-rays and neutrinos from XRBs
  - Q: Can photo-absorption and particle cooling explain the lack of VHE observations?
  - Q: What is the jet configuration comprising an optimized particle accelerator?
- Results Calculating relativistic disk spectra
  - Q: Is there a simpler and more time-conserving way to obtain relativistic spectra from accretion disks?
- Summary & conclusions

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#### What are X-ray Binary systems?

Systems consisting of a **compact object** (black hole or neutron star) devouring mass out of its **stellar companion** 

1013 cm

- <u>Accretion disk</u>: forms out of the companion's mass at the equatorial plane
  - Some of the brightest X-ray emission sources in our Galaxy
  - Temperature of  $\sim 10^6 10^7$  K near the black hole
  - Size  $10^6 10^{11}$  cm & luminosity  $L < L_{Edd} \approx 10^{39}$  erg/s

• <u>Relativistic jets</u>: plasma ejections perpendicularly to the disk

- Collimated and accelerated by the system's magnetic field
- Form observable radio lobes at distances  $\sim 10^{17}$  cm
- Powerful particle accelerators
- <u>Corona</u>: spherical plasma region around the black hole
  - Consists mainly of thermal electrons
  - Up-scatters photons from the disk

#### Why X-ray binaries?

#### • <u>Similarities to AGNs</u>: XRBs are scaled-down galactic centers featuring supermassive BHs

- Some of the most luminous objects in the Universe
- Accelerate the most energetic cosmic rays reaching the Earth
- Offer significant insights into the evolution of the Universe
   <u>But with</u>:
- Much smaller distance than the nearest AGNs
- Much shorter evolution timescale

#### • Providing valuable insights on:

- The black hole including its mass, spin, and evolution
- The jet collimation and acceleration mechanisms
- The accretion process and formation of the disk
- The transition between different spectral states
- The disk-corona dynamics





## **Accretion Disk-Thin Disk Models**

	ADAF		Shakura-Sunyaev "Standard" disk		Slim disk
•	Sub-Eddington accretion,	•	Very sub-Eddington accretion, very high opacity	•	Nearly Eddington accretion,
•	Very radiatively inefficient	•	High luminosity, high efficiency	•	Radiatively much less efficient than the "Standard" disk
•	Cooled by advection instead of	•	of radiative cooling Keplerian rotation	•	Cooled by advection and radiation
•	Sphere or "corona"-like shape	•	Spectra similar to a sum of black- bodies	•	Slightly different than Keplerian
•	$R_{in} < R_{ISCO}$	•	$R_{in} = R_{ISCO}$	•	Dynamically, thermally and
		•	The best known and studied theoretical model	•	viscously stable $R_{in} < R_{ISCO}$

L

 $\rightarrow \dot{M}/\dot{M}_{Edd}$ 

#### **Emission from the Accretion Disk**

Shakura-Sunyaev "Standard" disk



# III. Detection of cosmic neutrinos & VHE γ-rays



#### Detection

#### Neutrino observatories

- Super-Kamiokande (Super-K) is one of the most important and influential neutrino detectors in the world
- □ Location: 1 km under Mt. Ikenoyama, Gifu Prefecture, Japan
- □ Sensitivity: 10 *MeV* to a few hundred *GeV*



 KM3NeT is the European counterpart to the IceCube Neutrino Observatory at the South Pole
 Location: 2.5–3.5 km below sea level, Mediterranean Sea, Offshore Capo Passero, Sicily (Italy) (ARCA subdetector for cosmic neutrinos)
 Sensitivity: 1 – 10<sup>4</sup> TeV



#### Neutrino observatories

- IceCube is the world's largest neutrino detector and one of the most important instruments for highenergy astrophysics.
- □ Location: 2.5 km below the ice, Amundsen-Scott South Pole Station, Antarctica
- □ Sensitivity:  $0.01 10^4 TeV$  (peak at ~10 TeV for muon neutrinos)
- □ Upgrade: IceCube-Gen2 will extend the detector's volume to 8  $km^3$ , increasing the detection rate of cosmic neutrinos by a factor of 10 and the sensitivity at the highest energies by 2 orders of magnitude



#### Detection

## Very High-Energy γ-ray telescopes

- MAGIC is one of the most advanced instruments for observing VHE γ-rays from astrophysical sources
   Location: Roque de los Muchachos Observatory, La Palma, Canary Islands, Spain
- □ Sensitivity: 0.025 30 *TeV*



□ Location: Khomas Highland, Namibia, southern Africa

**Sensitivity**: 0.03 – 100 *TeV* 



□ Upgrade: The Cherenkov Telescope Array (CTA) is the next-generation ground-based  $\gamma$ -ray observatory designed to be the most sensitive instrument for VHE  $\gamma$ -ray astronomy to date. The sensitivity is expected to be 5–10× better than current MAGIC, H.E.S.S., etc. in the range 0.02 – 300 *TeV* 

# IV. Lepto-hadronic jet model

#### **Relativistic Jets**



## Fundamental assumptions of the jet model



• 
$$\rho_k = \rho_m \longrightarrow B(z) = \sqrt{8\pi\rho_k}$$
  
•  $L_k = 0.1L_{Edd}$   
•  $L_p = aL_e$   
•  $t_{acc}^{-1} = \eta \frac{ceB}{E}$   
•  $L_{rel} = L_p + L_e = q_{rel}L_k$   
•  $L_e = \frac{0.1q_{rel}L_{Edd}}{a+1}$ 

#### Jet particle distributions

Transport equation

$$\frac{\partial N(E,z)b(E,z)}{\partial E} + t^{-1}N(E,z) = Q(E,z)$$

• 
$$Q(E,z) = Q_0 \left(\frac{z_0}{z}\right)^3 \frac{\Gamma_b^{-1} (E - \beta_b \cos i\sqrt{E^2 - m^2 c^4})^{-2}}{\sqrt{\sin^2 i + \Gamma_b^2 (\cos i - \beta_b E / \sqrt{E^2 - m^2 c^4})^2}}$$
  
• Particle energy-loss rate:  $h(E,z) = -Et_z^{-1}$ 

Particle energy-loss rate: 
$$b(E, z) = -Et_{loss}^{-1}$$
 Cooling rates:  $t_{loss}^{-1} = t_{sync}^{-1} + t_{pp}^{-1} + t_{ad}^{-1}$ 

• Particle number reduction rate:  $t^{-1} = t_{esc}^{-1} + t_{dec}^{-1}$ ,  $t_{esc}^{-1} \approx \frac{c}{z_{max} - z}$ 

$$N(E,z) = \frac{1}{|b(E)|} \int_{E}^{E_{max}} Q(E',z) e^{-\tau(E,E')} dE',$$
  
$$\tau(E,E') = \int_{E}^{E'} \frac{dE''t^{-1}}{|b(E'')|}$$

#### Leptonic & hadronic emission mechanisms



#### Photo-absorption due to $\gamma$ - $\gamma$ interactions



Accretion disk thermal emission

$$\tau_{disk} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{2\pi} \int_{R_{in}}^{R_{out}} \int_{\epsilon_{min}}^{\infty} \frac{dn}{d\epsilon d\Omega} (1 - \cos\theta_{0}) \sigma_{\gamma\gamma} \frac{\rho \cos\omega}{D^{3}} RDRd\varphi \, d\epsilon dR$$

#### Stellar companion blackbody spectrum

$$\tau_{star} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{\epsilon_{min}}^{\infty} \frac{dn_{ph}}{d\epsilon} (1 - \cos \theta_{0}) \sigma_{\gamma\gamma} d\epsilon dl$$
$$\epsilon_{min} = \frac{2m_{e}^{2}c^{4}}{E_{\gamma}(1 - \cos \theta_{0})}$$
$$\bullet I = I_{0}e^{-\tau}$$

#### Corona hybrid model

- We model the corona as a spherical region of radius  $R_c$  and optical depth  $\tau_{cor}$  filled with thermal electrons described by a Maxwell-Juttner distribution
- In the thermal corona, there is an injection of a power-law distribution of non-thermal electrons

![](_page_18_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Non-thermal part

- $N_{nth} = \frac{n_0(-p_e+1)h_{cor}}{\gamma_{max}^{-p_e+1} \gamma_{min}^{-p_e+1}} \frac{\gamma^{-p_e}}{m_e c^2}$
- $p_e \longrightarrow$  power-law index
- $h_{cor} \longrightarrow$  ratio of the non-thermal to thermal particles
- $\gamma_{min} \longrightarrow$  minimum energy of the injected electrons
- $\gamma_{max} \longrightarrow$  maximum energy of the injected electrons

#### **Gauss-Legendre numerical integration**

□ Gauss-Legendre quadrature is a form of the Gaussian rule for integrating a function over the interval [-1, 1] *n*: number of sample points

$$I = \int_{-1}^{1} f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i f(x_i)$$

*n*: number of sample points  $x_i$ : integration points- roots of the n<sup>th</sup> Legendre polynomial  $\longrightarrow$  increasing n  $\longrightarrow$  higher accuracy

 $w_i$ : quadrature weights

 $\Box$  An interval modification to [a, b] gives the integration approximation as

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x)dx \approx \frac{b-a}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}f\left(\frac{b-a}{2}\xi_{i} + \frac{a+b}{2}\right),$$
  
where  $w_{i} = \frac{2}{(1-x_{i})^{2}P'_{n}(x_{i})^{2}}$ ,  $P_{n}(x)$ : Legendre polynomials

□ The µQSED code upgrades upon the numerical integration method by employing a segmental application of the Gauss-Legendre quadrature, increasing the accuracy and reducing the execution time of the computational process

□ GL on the initial interval with n = 100 → 172.8 min ☑ GL on multiple intervals with n = 10 → 2.24 min

# V. <u>Results</u>: High-energy γ-rays and neutrinos from XRBs

#### Lepto-hadronic distributions in the relativistic jets

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Pions & muons emerging from proton collisions**

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **High-energy** γ-ray emission from BH candidates

 $10^{6}$ 

 $10^{7}$ 

 $10^{8}$ 

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### High-energy γ-ray emission from BH candidates

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Absorbed photon fluxes from the expanded jet length

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

Papavasileiou Th., Kosmas O., Sinatkas I. 2023, A&A, 673, A162

#### **Expected TeV emissions from nearby XRBs**

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Parameter sensitivity in the lepto-hadronic jet model

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Configuration of a sufficient particle accelerator**

Two cases of relativistic jet configurations:
 A. an efficient particle accelerator

B. a radiatively-inefficient jet

![](_page_28_Figure_3.jpeg)

# VI. <u>Results</u>: A novel approach to calculating relativistic disk spectra

![](_page_29_Picture_1.jpeg)

## **Kerr Metric Properties**

<ul> <li><math>r &gt; R_{mb}</math>: marginally bound orbits</li> <li><math>r &gt; R_{ms}</math>: marginally stable orbits</li> <li><math>R_g = \frac{GM_{bh}}{c^2} \rightarrow</math> gravitational radius</li> </ul>	<ul> <li><i>R<sub>ms</sub></i> is called <i>R<sub>ISCO</sub></i> → Innermost Stable Circular Orbit</li> <li>0 ≤ α<sub>*</sub> ≤ 1 → dimensionless spin parameter</li> <li>In fact, α<sub>*</sub> ≤ 0.998</li> </ul>			
Kerr metric in General Relativity	Non-rotating "Schwarzschild" black holes			
$\square R_{mb} = \left(1 + \sqrt{1 \pm \alpha_*}\right)^2 R_g$	$\Box \ \alpha_* = 0 \qquad \Box \ R_{mb} = 4R_g \qquad \Box \ R_{ISCO} = 6R_g$			
$\square R_{VSCO} = (3 + Z_2 + \sqrt{(3 - Z_1)(2Z_2 + Z_1 + 3)})R_{c}$	Rotating "Kerr" black holes			
$= Z_1 = 1 + (1 - \alpha_*^2)^{\frac{1}{3}} \left( (1 + \alpha_*)^{\frac{1}{3}} + (1 - \alpha_*)^{\frac{1}{3}} \right)$	$\Box -: \text{co-rotation} \qquad \Box R_g \le R_{mb} \le R_{ISCO} \le 6R_g$			
• $Z_2 = (Z_1^2 + 3\alpha_*^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$	$\Box +: \text{counter-rotation}  \Box R_{mb} \le 5.83R_g < R_{ISCO} \le 9R_g$			
	R <sub>ISCO</sub>			

## **Kerr Pseudo-Newtonian Potential**

- In most cases, a stationary compact object assumption is adopted in modeling the X-ray binary spectra
   The majority of stellar objects have angular momentum Many black holes exhibit significant spin parameters
- The black hole's rotation could lead to a significant modification of the accretion disk's and the jet's energy output

#### • Artemova potential

$$F_{M} = \frac{GM_{bh}}{r_{g}^{2}} \frac{1}{\bar{r}^{2-\beta}(\bar{r}-\bar{r}_{h})^{\beta}} - ----$$

$$\bar{r}_h = 1 + \sqrt{1 - \alpha_*^2}$$
$$\beta = \frac{r_{in}}{r_h} - 1$$

•  $\bar{r} = r/r_g$ ,  $\alpha_* \rightarrow$  dimensionless spin parameter,  $r_{in} \rightarrow$  innermost disk boundary • Advantages

- □ Simple expression that reduces to Paczyński–Wiita potential for  $\alpha_* = 0$
- $\square$  Reproduces the Kerr metric properties such as  $R_{mb}$  and  $R_{ISCO}$  pretty accurately
- □ Particularly efficient for rapidly rotating black holes ( $\alpha_* \approx 1$ )
- $\Box$  Works for radii smaller than  $R_{ISCO}$

#### Spin-dependent disk temperature profile

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Observed disk radiative efficiency**

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Modification of the disk's inner boundary

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

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#### How does our approach compare to General Relativity?

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### **Error margin & deviation from General Relativity**

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Fitting the Cygnus X-1 spectra

![](_page_37_Figure_1.jpeg)

# VII. Summary & Conclusions

#### **Conclusions** I

- Very low prospects of neutrino detection, except Cygnus X-1 in the 0.1-1 TeV range → Particle cooling due to synchrotron emission and inelastic collisions below 100 GeV
- The jet  $\gamma$ -ray fluxes are absorbed in the 100 GeV 10 TeV range  $\rightarrow$  most gamma-ray telescopes operation  $\rightarrow$  lack of high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray spectra from XRB sources
- Lack of high-energy  $\gamma$ -ray emission  $\rightarrow$  inefficient proton acceleration and inelastic collisions at higher jet grids  $\rightarrow$  reduction of  $\gamma$ -ray photon production
- Increase in broadband emission from radio to VHE gamma-rays when:  $i < 20^{\circ}$   $a \ll 1$   $z_0 > 10^{11} cm$   $z_{max} \approx 10z_0$
- We fit the observational data of Cygnus X-1 during the high/soft and the hard/low state:
   High/soft → Blackbody + IC due to a thermal/non-thermal corona
   Hard/low → Sync from lepto-hadrons + (Blackbody with R<sub>in</sub> > R<sub>isco</sub> + IC) + p-p

#### **Conclusions II**

![](_page_40_Figure_1.jpeg)

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![](_page_42_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_6.jpeg)

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![](_page_42_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)