

# AN APPLICATION OF RELATIVISTIC CHAOTIC GUN EFFECT TO THE JET MODEL OF STRONG RADIO SOURCES

Ghe.Dumitrescu<sup>1</sup> and C.Ciubotariu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Grupul Scolar Industrial Toma N.Socolescu Ploiesti  
<sup>2</sup>Universitatea Politehnica Iasi

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*Abstract.* During last 50 years different approaches of relativistic jets were proposed. But they couldn't explain satisfactorily the high energy of emission, the extremely short time of variability and the position of the source. A likely Fermi acceleration mechanism is the chaotic gun effect. We investigate analytically in this paper the availability of this effect to describe the conical geometry of the jet.

*Keywords:* particle acceleration, synchrotron emission, gamma rays

## 1. Introduction

In the past decades high energy gamma rays were detected coming from Mrk 501 and Mrk 421 and other active nuclei. Both of them are thought to be blazars. Blazars are very powerful sources characterized by their variable polarized synchrotron emission. They are associated with radio jets emerging from giant elliptical galaxies seen at small angles with the line of sight. Mrk 501 is  $\sim 3 \times 10^8$  light years from Earth. It produces a tera-electron volt gamma ray flux during outburst. The mechanism of producing such high energy is not yet established. Mannheim assumes two mechanisms responsible for production of high gamma rays: (a) inverse-Compton scattering of low-energy photons by accelerated electrons or (b) pion production by accelerated protons [6]. Models for  $\gamma$ -ray emission from active galactic nuclei (AGN) based on hadronic interactions have in the past considered interactions between relativistic protons and matter in an accretion disk surrounding a black hole. In almost all attempts to explain the acceleration of charged particles this mechanism refers to an initial shock in plasma which can provide electrons or protons of high energy. Gamma rays originate in relativistic jets in which the matter density is too low to provide the required target matter for relativistic protons or electrons [5]. Also such high energy, of order  $10^{12}$  eV, in many models performed until now, implies the reacceleration of the beam in order to achieve the energy.

To date no mechanism of reacceleration was proposed, as we now, except the chaotic gun effect [1]. The authors mentioned that this effect could be applied to the AGN jet's approaches.

Chaotic gun effect provides the reacceleration of a charged particle by an "on-resonance" wave in two regimes: of isolated resonance and of resonances overlap. Both acceleration could provide synchrotron emission.

Chaotic gun effect was studied as numerical simulation and all parameters are dimensionless. In our paper we attempt to derive the energy of the synchrotron emission and to suggest the way to fit the conical geometry of the jet of an active galactic nuclei to data. The power of synchrotron emission due to relativistic charged particles consists in two terms: one describing the velocity of the momentum variation and the other one describing the velocity of the energy variation. In ordinary cyclic relativistic motion the former is much bigger than the last. But in chaotic gun effect the last term becomes to be important. In chapter II we assume that the second term, mentioned above, becomes to be of the same range as the first is and we derive the synchrotron energy

## 2. Assuming the gun effect equations

The power of the synchrotron emission of a charged accelerated particle is

$$P = \frac{2e^2\gamma^2}{3m^2c^3} \left[ \left( \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \right)^2 - \frac{1}{c^2} \left( \frac{dE}{dt} \right)^2 \right] \quad (1)$$

where  $m$ ,  $E$  and  $\vec{p}$  are the rest mass, the energy and the momentum of the particle which Lorentz factor  $\gamma$  is referred to the observer [2]. In a relativistic motion one may writes

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = mc^2 \frac{d\gamma}{dt} \quad (2)$$

where, according to [1]

$$\gamma = \left( 1 + \frac{p_{\perp}^2}{m^2c^2} \right)^{1/2} \quad (3)$$

where  $p_{\perp}$  is the transverse momentum referred to the external magnetic field. Then the variation of Lorentz factor may be written as

$$\frac{d\gamma}{dt} = \left( 1 + \frac{p_{\perp}^2}{m^2c^2} \right)^{-1/2} \frac{p_{\perp}}{m^2c^2} \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \quad (4)$$

Substituting (4) in (2) one obtains a relation between the two terms of the bracket of (1)

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \frac{p_{\perp}}{m} \left( 1 + \frac{p_{\perp}^2}{m^2c^2} \right)^{-1/2} \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \quad (5)$$

Therefore the power of the synchrotron emission can be expressed as

$$P = \frac{2}{3} \frac{e^2}{m^2 c^3} \left( \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \right)^2 = \frac{2}{3} \frac{e^2}{m^2 c^3} \left( \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

if we will assume  $\left( \frac{d\vec{p}}{dt} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \right)^2$ . The energy emitted during acceleration is

$$E_{syn} = \int P dt = \frac{2}{3} \frac{e^2}{m^2 c^3} \int \left( \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \right)^2 dt \quad (7)$$

According to eq.(44) and (45) from [1]

$$\left( \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \right) = \frac{2kmc^2 H p_y \cos k(x-ct)}{p_{\perp}} \quad (8)$$

where  $k$  is the wave vector of the wave produced by the beam of charged particles and  $H = \text{const}$  is dimensionless.(8) provides a proof of the extremely complex motion of the charged particle ; the likely gyrofrequency of this motion depends on  $k$ ,  $p_{\perp}$ ,  $x$ ,  $\varphi$ ,  $H$  and  $t$ . Substituting (8) in (7) the energy is

$$E_{syn} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{e^2 k H}{mc} \int \frac{p_y}{p_{\perp}} \cos k(x-ct) dp_{\perp} \quad (9)$$

As we can see from (9) the dimension of the integrand is  $p_{\perp}$ . In order to evaluate the range of the energy it is worth noting that the energy range depends on  $k, H, p_{\perp}$  if one assumes the ratio  $\frac{p_y}{p_{\perp}}$  to be of the order of unity and also the angle  $k(x-ct)$ .

The energy estimated in (9) can be referred to the “n”th resonance at time  $t$  and at distance  $x$  from the observer. If we adopt  $\frac{p_y}{p_{\perp}} = \cos \varphi$  then for a certain  $\varphi$  the energy is

$$E_{syn,n} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{e^2 k H}{mc} p_{\perp n} \cos \varphi \cos k(x-ct) \quad (10)$$

### 3.Numerical estimations of the size of the emitting region

In order to estimate the size of the emitting region we will use data of [3] concerning the size of a compact radio source.Strong radio sources have  $P_{tot}^{1.4} > 10^{25} WHz^{-1}$  where  $P_{tot}^{1.4}$  is the total spectral power of the emission at 1.4 Ghz.

Let  $p_{\perp min}$  be the lowest momentum of an electron which emits the lowest synchrotron radio energy and  $p_{\perp max}$  the highest momentum coresponding to the highest synchrotron energy.Then for a certain moment and a certain phase  $\varphi$

$$\begin{aligned} E_{syn,max} - E_{syn,min} &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{e^2 k H}{mc} [p_{\perp,max} - p_{\perp,min}] \cos \varphi \cos k(x - ct) = \\ &= \frac{4}{3} \frac{e^2 k H}{mc} p_{\perp,max} \left[ 1 - \frac{p_{\perp,min}}{p_{\perp,max}} \right] \cos \varphi \cos k(x - ct) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where for radio emission  $E_{syn,max} = 20 \times 10^{-33} J \approx 10^{-13} eV$  ;  $E_{syn,min} = 20 \times 10^{-37} J \approx 10^{-17} eV$ . Assuming  $\cos \varphi \cos k(x - ct) \approx 1$  and also the bracket in (11) one can

estimate  $p_{\perp}$ .For radio emission this leads to  $\gamma = \left( 1 + \frac{p_{\perp}^2}{m^2 c^2} \right)^{1/2} \cong \frac{2 \cdot 10^2}{H}$  . For

$H = 0.2$  the Lorentz factor is  $10^3$ .For higher values of  $H$  the Lorentz factor decrease. VLBI observations of superluminal motions confirm that the jet plasma in blazars is moving with Lorentz factors of  $\gamma \cong 10$ [7]. Using radio interferometry data Mannheim inferred a bulk Lorentz factors  $\gamma_{jet} \sim 2$  to 10 and even for few cases of still higher values.For these values  $H$  must be of the order of 10 which implies strong acceleration in resonsce overlap or o decreasing of the external magnetic field in order to increase  $\beta$  [1].

But also from numerical simulations one can obtaine  $p_{\perp,max} - p_{\perp,min}$  and hence an estimation of of the length of jet  $d_j$

$$d_j = r_{j,max} - r_{j,min} \quad (12)$$

where  $d_j$  is the difference between the two radii coresponding to the two transverse momentum.The estimation of the range of the two momentum involved (11) may help us to express the length as

$$d_j = \frac{1}{2\pi m} \left( \frac{p_{\perp,max}}{\gamma_n v_n} - \frac{p_{\perp,min}}{\gamma_l v_l} \right) \quad (13)$$

where  $\gamma_n$  is the Lorentz factor of the “ $n$ ”th resonance, which corresponds to  $p_{\perp\max}$ ,  $\nu_n$  is the correspondingly gyrofrequency of the charged particle motion,  $\gamma_l$  is the Lorentz factor of the “ $l$ ”th resonance, which corresponds to  $p_{\perp\min}$  and  $\nu_l$  is the correspondingly gyrofrequency.

For strong radio source 3C 273 the projected length is about 39 kpc  $\approx 39 \times 10^{19}$  m [3]. Strong radio sources has the size of the jet less than 50 kpc [3].

Assuming the first term of the bracket in (13) to be much larger than the second,  $d_j \approx 39$  kpc,  $m = 9.1 \cdot 10^{-31}$  kg and  $\nu_n = 1.4$  GHz one finds  $p_{\perp\max} \approx 48.75$  kg m s<sup>-1</sup>.

A way to probe the above derivation of the synchrotron energy might be the derivation of the velocity of the jet. That is to use the same expression (8) in order to achieve our derivation. For radio sources with steady free jets the radius expands with a constant lateral velocity  $v_r$  equal to its internal sound speed  $c_s$  where it first become free [3]. This is the case of the strong sources. For such sources

$$\frac{dR_j}{dz} = \frac{v_r}{v_j} \quad (14)$$

where  $R_j$  is the radius of jet at the  $z$  distance from the nucleus (apex).

In order to verify if (14) occurs for synchrotron emission generated by chaotic gun effect we express the lateral velocity  $v_r = \frac{dR_j}{dt}$  as

$$v_r = \frac{d}{dt} \left( \frac{p_{\perp}}{\gamma m \omega_c} \right) = \frac{1}{m \omega_B} \cdot \left( \frac{dp_{\perp}}{dt} \right) \quad (15)$$

where  $\omega_c$  is the relativistic gyrofrequency of the synchrotron motion of the particle and it is related to  $\omega_B$  as  $\omega_B = \omega_c / \gamma$  [1]. Using (8) the above velocity (15) becomes

$$v_r = \frac{2kc^2 H p_y \cos k(x-ct)}{\omega_B p_{\perp}} = \frac{2kc^2 H \cos \varphi \cos k(x-ct)}{\omega_B} \quad (16)$$

From [1] one can replace  $\omega_c$  by  $\omega/n$  where  $n$  is the order of the resonance. For what it follows we will assume  $\cos \varphi \cos k(x-ct) = 1$ . Then (16) becomes

$$v_r = \frac{2knc^2H}{\omega\gamma_n} \quad (17)$$

where  $\gamma_n$  is the Lorentz factor related to the n-th resonance. For relativistic jets, (14) is the angle  $\gamma_n^{-1}$ . Hence one can estimate the velocity of jet from

$$\frac{v_r}{v_j} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \quad (18)$$

which together with (17) leads to

$$v_j = \frac{2knc^2H}{\omega} \quad (19)$$

But from  $\frac{k}{\omega} = \frac{1}{c}$  one obtains

$$v_j = 2cnH \quad (20)$$

This result shows that the velocity of the jet depends on the order of the resonance and also on  $H$ . For  $n = 1$  and  $H = 0.2$  (20) leads to  $v_j = 0.4c$ . For  $n = 10$  and  $H = 0.2$  (20) leads to  $v_j = 4c$ . To date many authors simulated jets or estimated jet velocities. Bridle explored different constraints on jet velocities and found  $10^{-2}c < v_j < 0.1c$  for radio emissions [3]. Piner et al. calculate for C 279 an average speed and angle to the line-of-sight for the region of the jet interior to 1 mas of  $v = 0.992c$  ( $\gamma \cong 8$ ) and  $\theta = 4^\circ$ , and an average speed and angle to the line-of-sight for C4 (at  $r \approx 3$  mas) of  $v = 0.997c$  ( $\gamma \cong 13$ ) and  $\theta = 2^\circ$ [9]. For the electron number density of the jet of 0.741nb (where nb is the ambient electron number) the average jet velocities for the two simulations performed by Nishikawa are  $v_j = 0.9798c$ ,  $0.9977c$  corresponding to Lorentz factors are 5 (2.5 MeV) and 15 (7.5 MeV), respectively[8].

Using (20) for suitable values of  $H$  and  $n$  one can obtain also superluminal velocities as is obtained for jets viewed at large angle to the plane of the sky[3].

#### IV. Discussions

From (20) one can obtain a constraint on the product  $2nH$  if we assume  $v_j < c$ :

$$2nH < 1 \quad (21)$$

On the other hand  $v_j > c$  could occur because of chaotic behaviour of the charged particle at  $H > 0.2$  as is mentioned in [1]. In this regime, e.g.  $H > 0.2$ , (9) may not describe the acceleration in the right manner but could explain the detected superluminal motion of jets.

Many jets wiggle around their mean direction. There are some mechanisms proposed to explain the periodic lateral deflections. These mechanisms are fraught with uncertainties. Well-studied jets rarely match simple orbital or ballistic precessional shape convincingly. (10) could explain the small variations of the lateral shape of the jet detected in some data or the shape of droplets of some jets.

In our derivations performed above there is not any cut in the growth of the velocity. This is because our aim was to check if the chaotic gun effect can fit the geometry of a conical jet. A further study may lead to achieve constraints which limit the jet velocity.

#### V. Conclusions

We derived the synchrotron energy emitted by a charged particle during its acceleration in the magnetic field of a charged particle beam and also in a constant and uniform magnetic field. Numerical estimations showed the availability of the chaotic gun effect to describe the conical shape of the jet by fitting the  $H$  parameter. But this parameter may be constrained by the number density of charged particles in beam.

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