Chandra Observations of the Extended X–ray Structure of Relativistic Jets

D.A. Schwartz (SAO), E. S. Perlman, M. Georganopoulos, (UMBC), H.L. Marshall, J. Gelbord, (MIT),D.M. Worrall,
M. Birkinshaw (U Bristol), J.E.J. Lovell, D.L. Jauncey (CSIRO),Bicknell, G. V., Godfrey, L. (MSO/ANU), D.W. Murphy (JPL), S. Jester (U Southampton

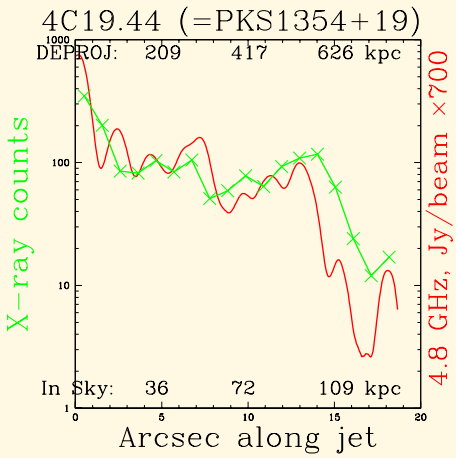
Challenges of Relativistic Jets:

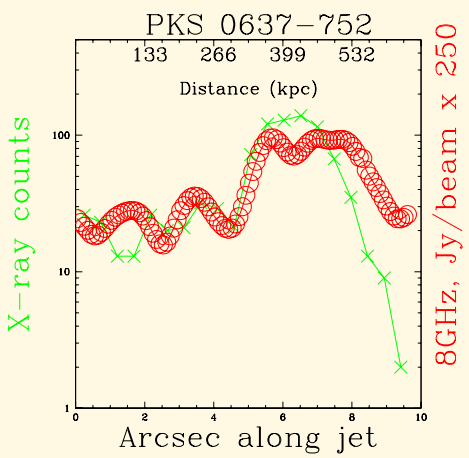
Q: How can the X-ray to Radio flux remain roughly constant over great distances?

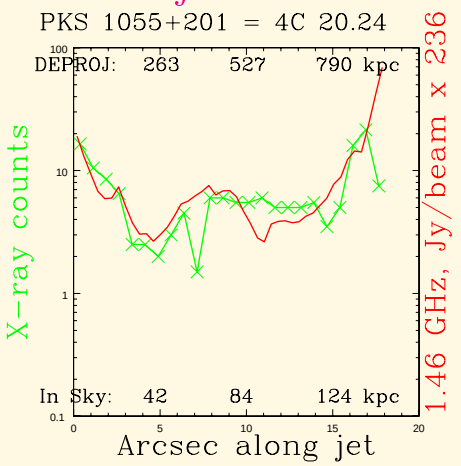
A: Ratio is less sensitive to parameters if X-rays are IC/CMB!

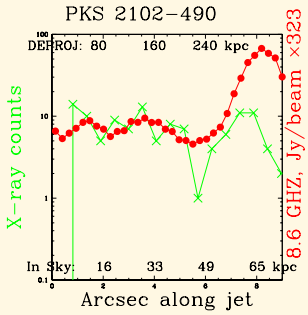
Q: How can the emission decrease over distances shorter than $c \times t_{life}$?

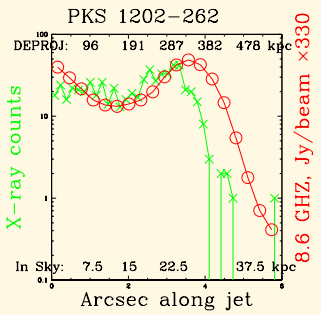
A: Changes in direction have large effects on relativistic jets!

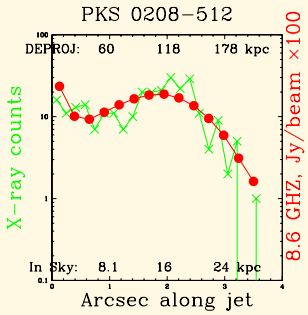


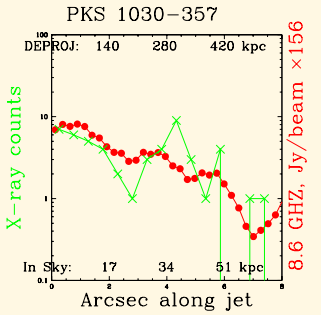












What do we expect for the X-ray/Radio Relation?

Emission Mechanisms

$I_{\rm invCompt} \propto R\, T^{1-\alpha}\, \nu^{1-\alpha}\, \rho_{\rm CMB}\, n_0$

$I_{\rm Synch} \propto H_\perp^{1+\alpha}\, R\, \nu^{-\alpha}\, n_0$

Non-relativisitic: X-ray and radio synchrotron H≈ 60 to 120 μG

$\gamma_{\rm radio} \approx 4000$; $\tau_{radio} \approx 10^6$ yrs.

$\gamma_{\rm xray} \approx 2.7\ 10^7$; $\tau_{xray} \approx 150$ yrs.

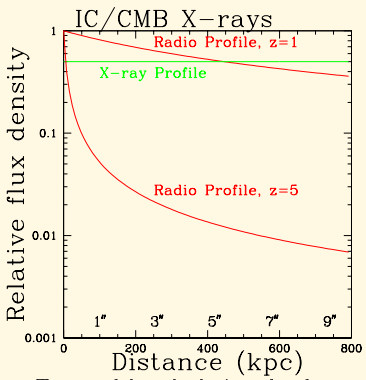
Expect $I_x/I_R \propto \frac{1.\left(2.10^{-8}\right)^\alpha n_{0x}}{n_{0r}}$, very sensitive to α

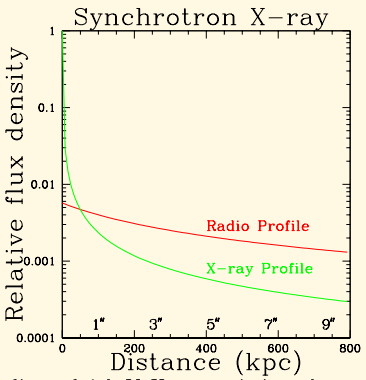
Relativistic: X-ray IC/CMB and radio synchrotron. H≈ 10μG, $\delta \approx 3$ to 15

$\gamma_{\rm radio} \approx 10^4$; $\tau_{radio} \approx 6 \times 10^6$ yrs.

$\gamma_{\rm xray} \approx 300$; $\tau_{xray} \approx 2 \times 10^8$ yrs.

Expect $I_x/I_R \propto \frac{0.001^\alpha\, H^{-1-\alpha}\, \Gamma^2\, ((1+z)\,\delta)^\alpha}{\delta}$, and we estimate $\Gamma \approx \delta$ so ratio is relatively constant for H $\propto \Gamma$!





Toy models calculating the decrease of 5 GHz radio and 1 keV X-ray emission along a jet, in case all particles are accelerated at distance zero, and either IC/CMB (left panel) or synchrotron (right panel) X-ray emission. Equipartition is assumed. Conversion to angular scale assumes z=1 and that jet is 0.1 radian from our line of sight. Left panel assumes H=10 μG, and bulk motion with $\Gamma = 10$. Right panel assumes H=100 μG, and Doppler factor δ=1. For synchrotron X-rays the lifetime of X-ray emitting electrons is much shorter, and therefore the X-ray profile falls very steeply relative to the radio. IC/CMB, at modest redshifts, can result in a roughly constant ratio.

Morphology Summary and Interpretation

- Roughly constant f_x/f_r (within ×2).
  X-rays end when radio makes sharp bend.
  IC/CMB: Strong Beaming Dependence
  Examples: PKS 0637-752, PKS 1055+201, PKS 1202-262, PKS 0208-512
- X-ray profile decreases, Radio profile increases, f_x/f_r changes more than ×10.
  Multiple Electron-Population Synchrotron Contributions
  Example: 3C 273 (not shown)
- Roughly constant f_x/f_r (within ×2).
  X-rays persist beyond radio.
  IC/CMB: Longer Lived Low Energy Electrons
  Example: 4C19.44

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