Probing orbital parameters of gamma-ray binaries with TeV light curves

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Brian van Soelen
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Here was supposed to be the slide introducing gamma-ray binaries
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Gamma-ray binaries are...  SHUT UP ALREADY
TeV light curves

PSR B1259-63/LS 2883

- Variability related to the orbital period
- Often double-peak structure

Stolen from Nukri’s talk (GAI4a) on Friday
See also Poster PS3-71

HESS J0632+057

Stolen from Nukri’s talk (GAI4a) on Friday
Previous talk by Gernot (GAI6c)
What causes the dip?

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Naively one would expect highest flux at periastron due to the highest energy density of stellar photons

But that’s where we see the dip
Gamma-gamma absorption

**LS 5039**

LS 5039: Both location and depth of the minimum can be roughly explained by absorption.

**PSR B1259-63/LS 2883**

PSR B1259-63: Location of the minimum can be explained by absorption but not the depth.

*Dubus, 2006*

*Sushch & van Soelen, 2017*
Gamma-gamma absorption

\[ \tau_{\gamma\gamma} = \int_{0}^{l} dl \int_{0}^{4\pi} (1 - \mu) d\Omega \int_{2/\epsilon_{\gamma}(1-\mu)}^{\infty} n_{ph}(\epsilon, \Omega)\sigma_{\gamma\gamma}(\epsilon, \epsilon_{\gamma}, \mu) d\epsilon; \quad \mu = \cos \theta \]
Gamma-gamma absorption

\[ \tau_{\gamma \gamma} = \int_0^l dl \int_0^{4\pi} (1 - \mu) d\Omega \int_0^\infty \frac{n_{ph}(\epsilon, \Omega) \sigma_{\gamma \gamma}(\epsilon, \epsilon, \mu) d\epsilon}{\epsilon \gamma (1 - \mu)}; \quad \mu = \cos \theta \]

- \( e \) – eccentricity
- \( i \) – inclination angle
- \( \omega \) – longitude of periastron
- \( \varphi \) – orbital phase

depends on the distance to the star

\((e, i, \omega, \varphi)\)
Geometry

- Inclination – the angle between the normal to the orbital plane and direction towards the observer
- Longitude of periastron – the angle between the ascending node and periastron
Method

- Main assumption: the minimum in the TeV light curve is defined by the highest gamma-gamma absorption.
- For a fixed eccentricity we vary inclination (0°, 90°) and longitude of periastron (0°, 360°) and for each combination of (i, ω) we calculate the orbital phase at which absorption for a 1 TeV photon would be the highest.
- Gamma-gamma absorption is calculated taking into account only stellar photons (without circumstellar disk) and assuming that gamma-ray emission is produced at the pulsar position.
PSR B1259-63

Orbit:
- $P_{\text{orb}} = 3.4$ years
- Eccentricity = 0.87
- Inclination = 22.2 deg
- Longitude of periastron = 138.7 deg

Pulsar:
- $P = 48$ ms
- $L_{\text{SD}} = 8 \times 10^{35}$ erg/s
- $t_c = 3.3 \times 10^5$ years

Star:
- Be star
- $L_{\text{star}} = 2.3 \times 10^{38}$ erg/s
- $T = 27500 – 30000$ K
- $M = 31 M_{\odot}$
- $R = 8.1 – 9.7 R_{\odot}$
- $D = 2.3$ kpc
PSR B1259-63

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Orbital phase: 154 deg
Time: 2 days before periastron
PSR J2032+4127/ MT91 213

- New member of the class
- Detected in 2017
- Coincident with TeV J2032+413
- Orbital period of 45-50 years
- X-ray dip is not coincident with the gamma-ray dip
- TeV light curve has its minimum about 10-20 days after periastron

VERITAS & MAGIC, 2018

GA16e: Tyler Williamson
Orbital solutions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Model 1</th>
<th>Model 2</th>
<th>Model 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Right ascension, $\alpha$ (J2000.0)</td>
<td>$20^h32^m13^s119(2)$</td>
<td>$20^h32^m13^s119(2)$</td>
<td>$20^h32^m13^s119(2)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Declination, $\delta$ (J2000.0)</td>
<td>$41^\circ27'24''38(2)$</td>
<td>$41^\circ27'24''35(2)$</td>
<td>$41^\circ27'24''34(2)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epoch of frequency, $t_0$ (MJD)</td>
<td>55700.0</td>
<td>55700.0</td>
<td>55700.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency, $\nu_0$ (Hz)</td>
<td>6.980 979(5)</td>
<td>6.980 975(6)</td>
<td>6.980 973(7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency time derivative, $\dot{\nu}_0$ ($10^{-12}$ s$^{-2}$)</td>
<td>$-0.5396(5)$</td>
<td>$-0.5538(4)$</td>
<td>$-0.5617(5)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orbital period, $P_b$ (d)</td>
<td>16 000</td>
<td>17 000</td>
<td>17 670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epoch of periastron, $T_0$ (MJD)</td>
<td>58053(1)</td>
<td>58069(1)</td>
<td>58068(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected semimajor axis, $x$ (light-second)</td>
<td>7138(48)</td>
<td>9022(216)</td>
<td>16335(3737)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eccentricity, $\epsilon$</td>
<td>0.936(1)</td>
<td>0.961(2)</td>
<td>0.989(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Longitude of periastron, $\omega$ (deg)</td>
<td>52(1)</td>
<td>40(1)</td>
<td>21(5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass function, $f_m$ ($M_\odot$)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>15.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glitch epoch, $T_g$ (MJD)</td>
<td>55 810.77</td>
<td>55 810.77</td>
<td>55 810.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency, $\Delta\nu_g$ ($10^{-6}$ Hz)</td>
<td>1.9064(1)</td>
<td>1.9073(1)</td>
<td>1.9076(1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frequency time derivative, $\Delta\dot{\nu}_g$ ($10^{-15}$ s$^{-2}$)</td>
<td>$-0.501(8)$</td>
<td>$-0.545(7)$</td>
<td>$-0.564(6)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM (pc cm$^{-3}$)</td>
<td>114.68(3)</td>
<td>114.67(2)</td>
<td>114.66(2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DM time derivative, DM1 (pc cm$^{-3}$ yr$^{-1}$)</td>
<td>$-0.02(1)$</td>
<td>$-0.01(1)$</td>
<td>$-0.01(1)$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rms timing residual, $\sigma_1$ (ms)</td>
<td>0.53</td>
<td>0.44</td>
<td>0.42</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Ho et al., 2017*
PSR J2032+4127: TeV light curve

Minimum occurs 10-20 days after periastron
Corresponds to the orbital phase of 216-242 deg for P = 17000 days
PSR J2032+4127: $e = 0.961 \ (0.936-0.989)$
PSR J2032+4127: allowed solutions
PSR J2032+4127: constraints from timing solutions
PSR J2032+4127: allowed solutions
PSR J2032+4127: allowed solutions

Strong indication that gamma-gamma absorption is indeed responsible for the dip in the TeV light curve
PSR J2032+4127: allowed solutions

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- TeV light curve can further constrain orbital parameters
PSR J2032+4127: allowed solutions

- Strong indication that gamma-gamma absorption is indeed responsible for the dip in the TeV light curve
- TeV light curve can further constrain orbital parameters
- In case of precise measurement of the dip location in the light curve this can be a powerful tool to constrain orbital parameters
Further constraints on the location of the emitting region

- Level of the dip tells us about the level of absorption, which could farther constrain orbital parameters
- We don’t know exactly where gamma-ray emission is produced
- If it is produced closer to the star absorption will be higher
Summary

- If the minimum in the TeV light curves of gamma-ray binaries is associated with the highest gamma-gamma absorption (which seems to be the case), this could constrain orbital parameters of these systems.
- Further, the level of required absorption could constrain the location of the emitting region, which might give us insights on where particles are accelerated and where the wind termination shock is formed.