

HEPRO VIII  
IAP, 2023.10.23-26

# Understanding of the Brightest- of-all-time GRB 221009A

Xiang-Yu Wang

Nanjing University, China



2023.20.23



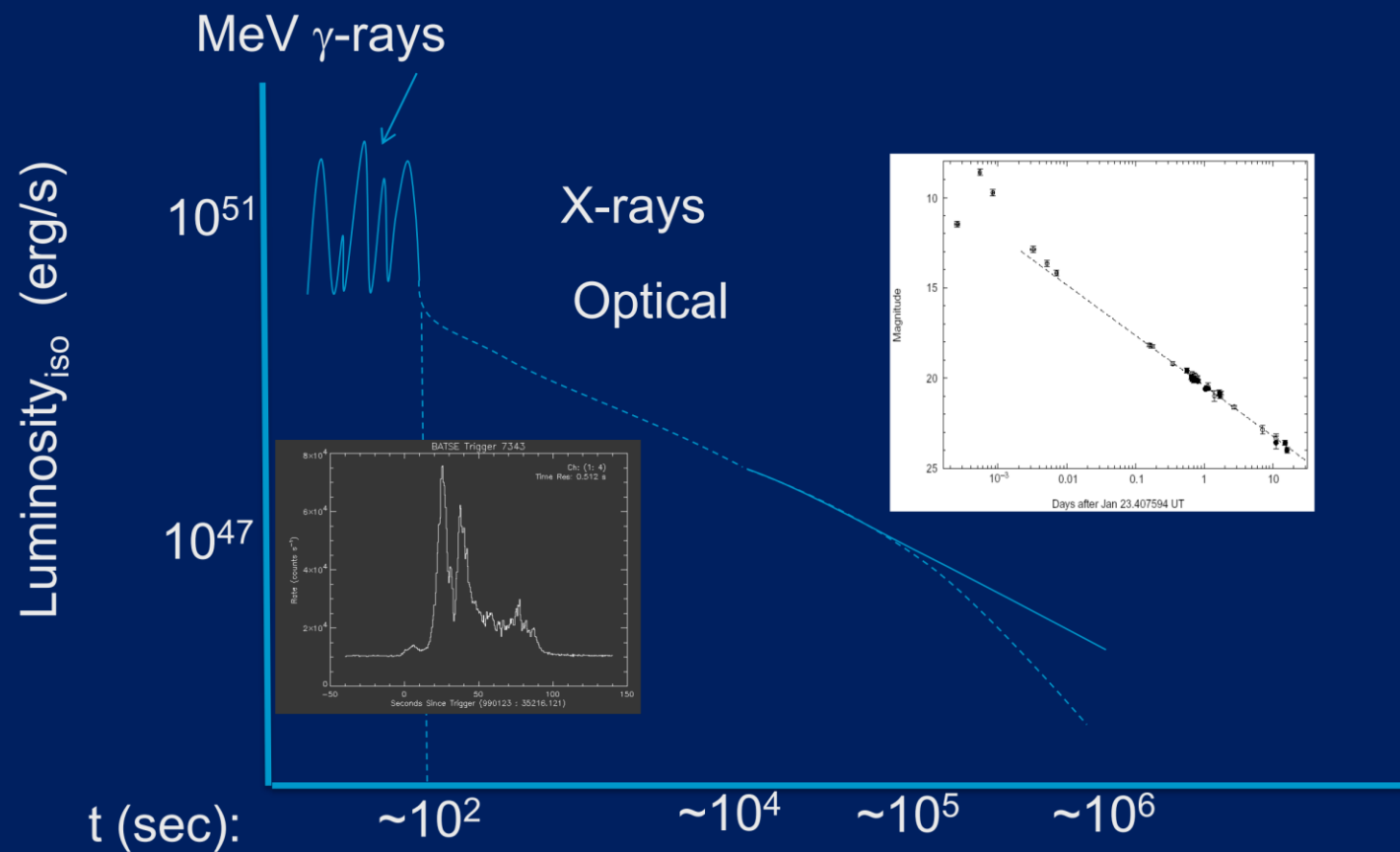
# Outline

---

- **Introduction to GRB and GRB 221009A**
- **LHAASO observations of GRB 221009A**
- **A two-component jet model for the multi-wavelength afterglows**
- **Discussions**

# GRB emission includes two stages: prompt emission + afterglow

## Typical GRB light curves

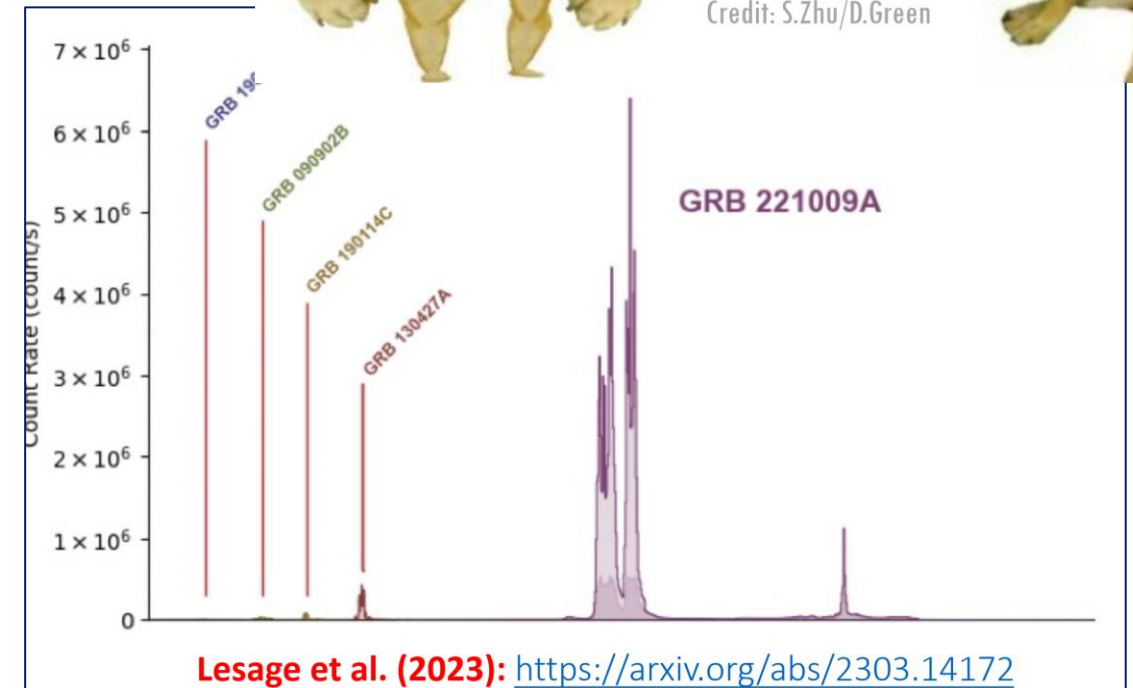
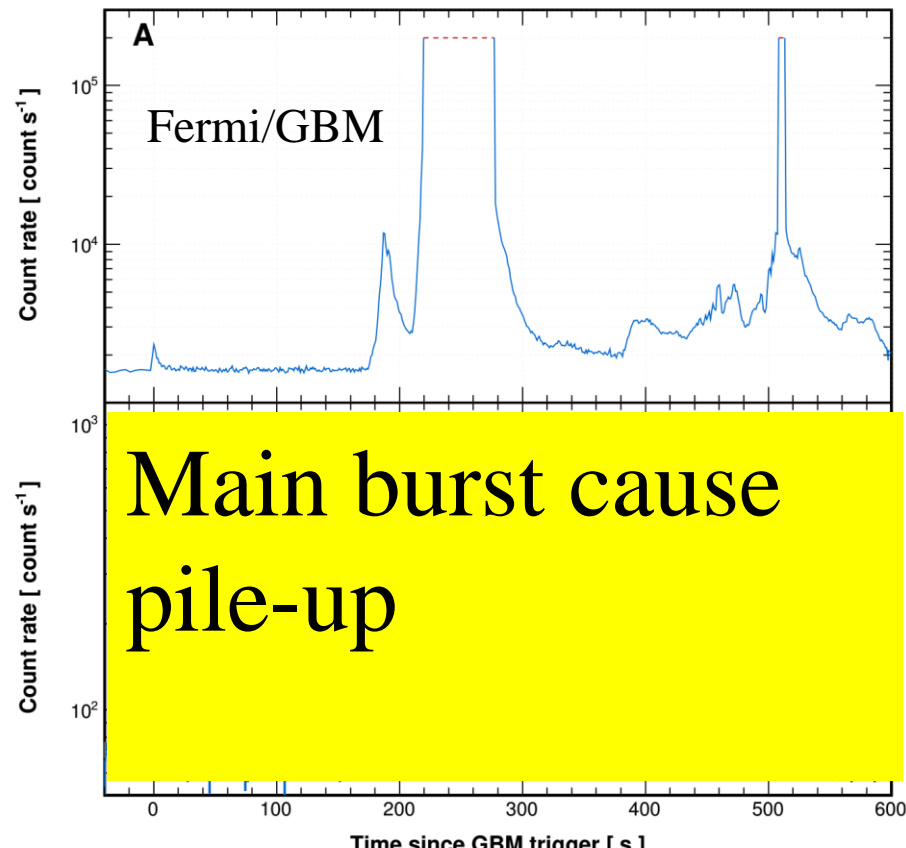


# GRB 221009A: brightest-of-all-time (BOAT)

- Triggered on a weak precursor by Fermi
- Fluence:  $>0.05 \text{ erg/cm}^2$ , at low redshift ( $z=0.151$ )
- Brightest-of-all-time (BOAT GRB)



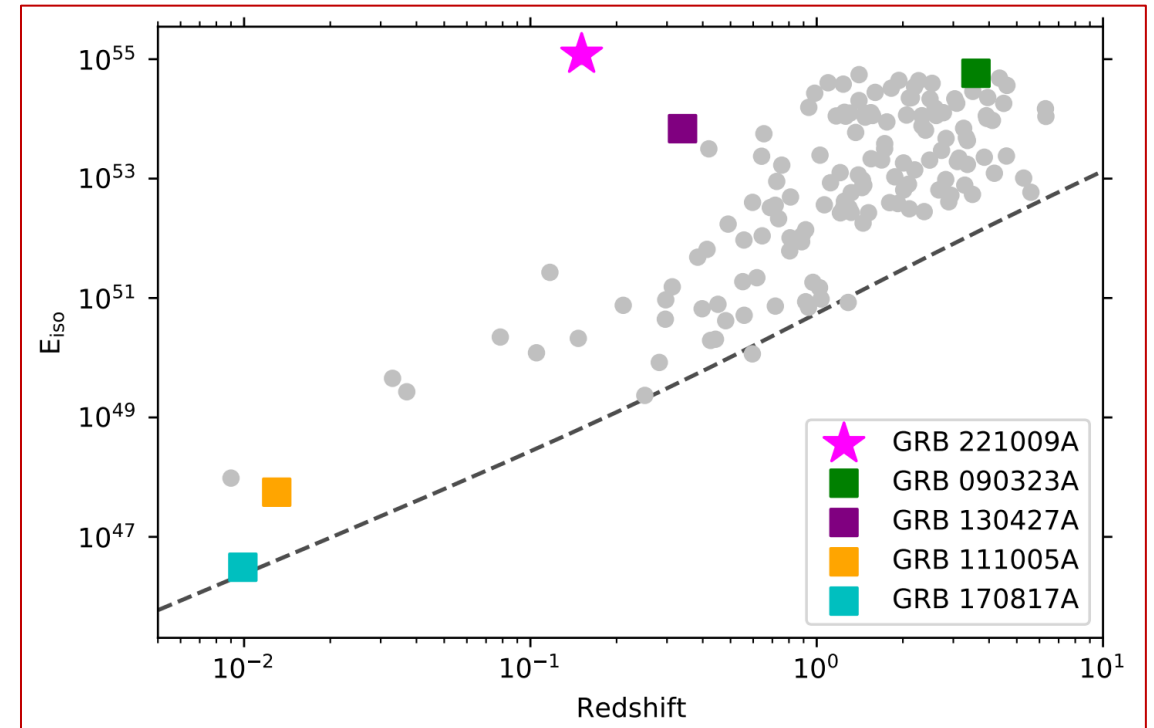
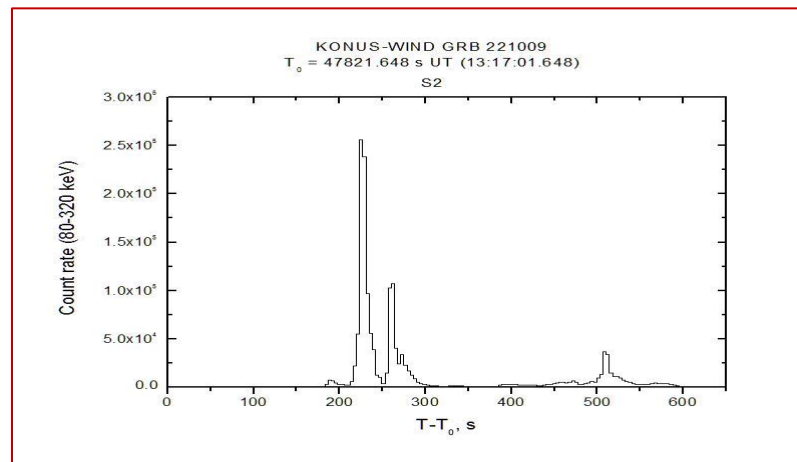
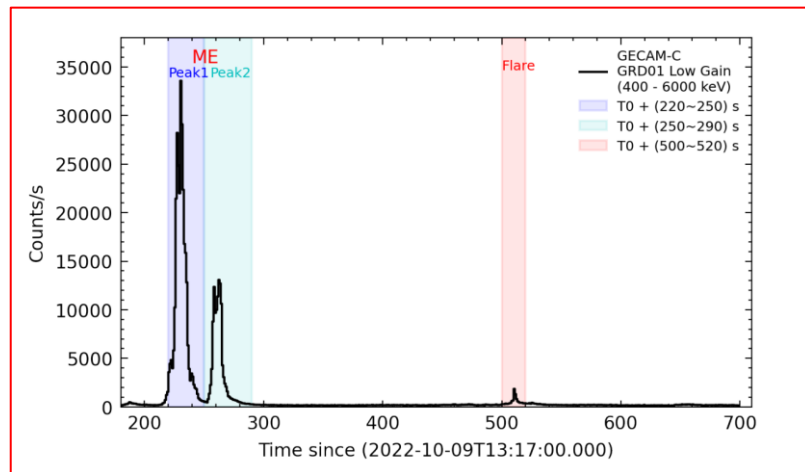
Credit: S.Zhu/D.Green



# GECAM/Konus-Wind Observations of GRB 221009A

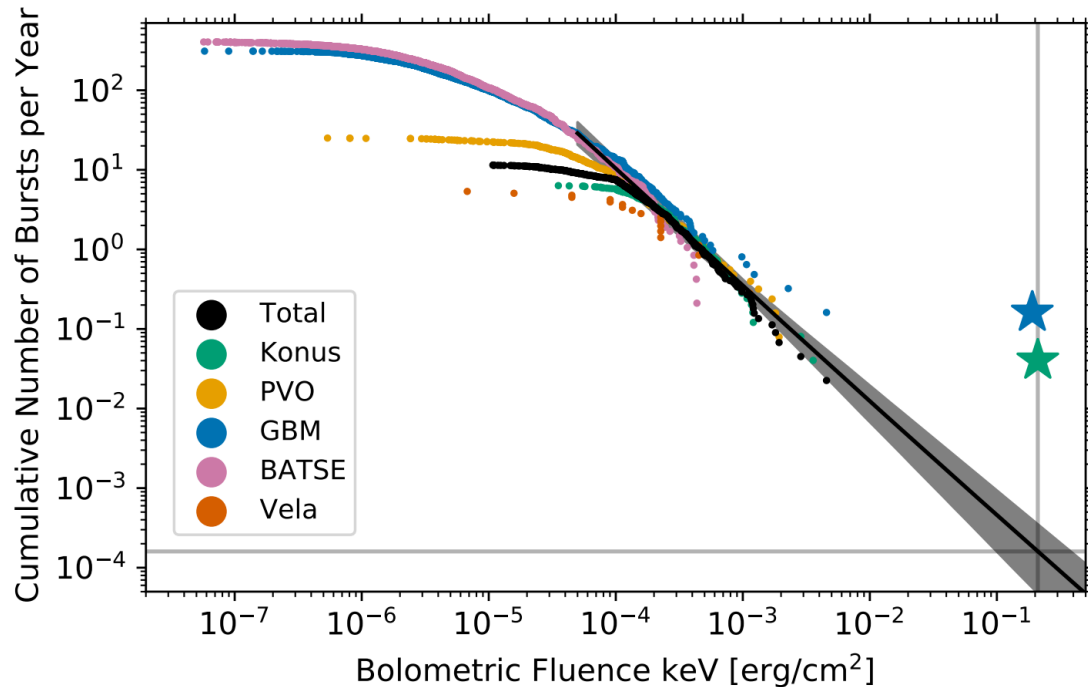
An et al. 2023

- Not saturated, Fleunce  $\sim 0.2$  erg /cm<sup>2</sup> ,  $E_{\gamma,iso} \sim 1.5 \times 10^{55}$  erg



Buns et al. 2023

# GRB 221009A: A very rate event



Buns et al. 2023

Fluence:  $F \sim D^{-2}$   
Event rate:  $R \sim D^3$

}  $\rightarrow$  Event rate  $R \sim F^{-3/2}$

Its fluence is 50 times higher than the 2<sup>nd</sup> brightest GRB

**Event rate:  $R < 10^{-3}$  yr**

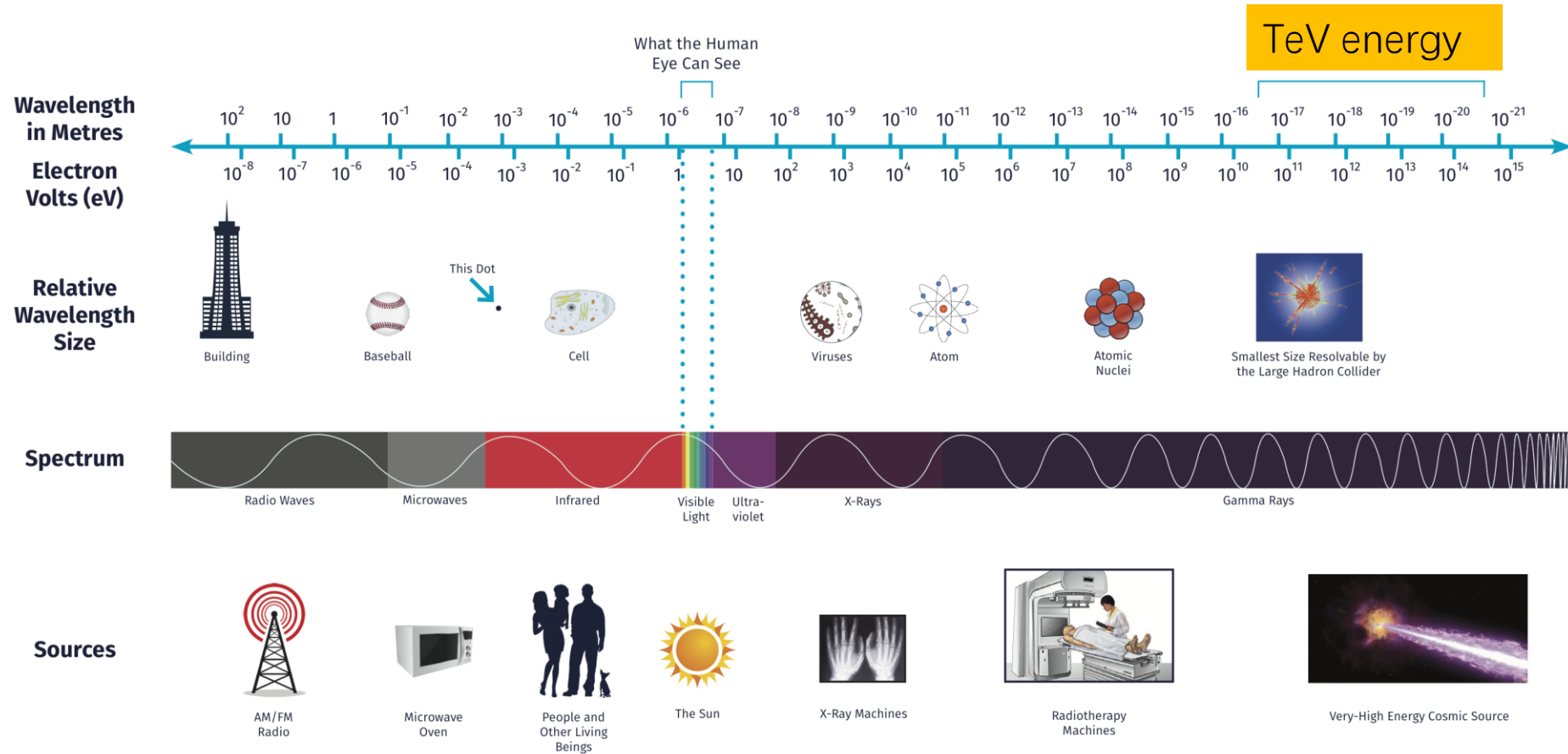
A Chinese song: “千年等一回”  
“waiting a thousand years for once”

# Outline

---

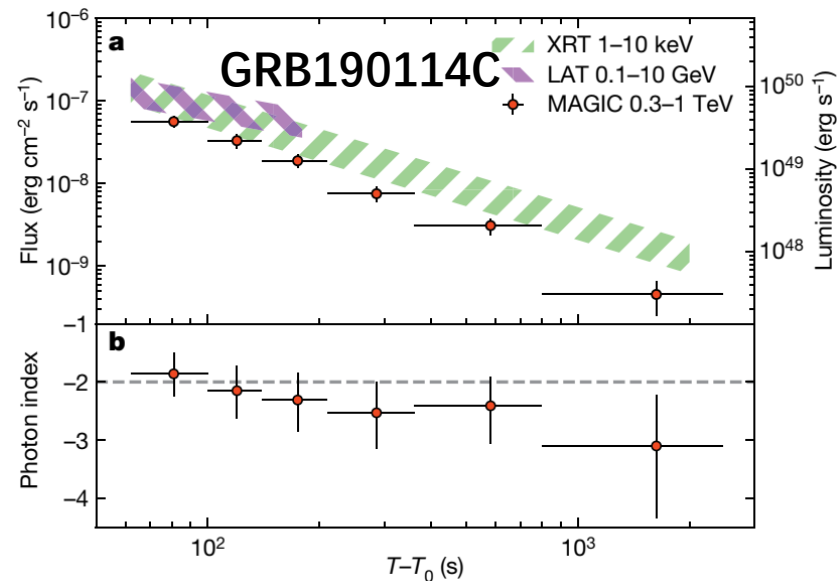
- Introduction to GRB and GRB 221009A
- **LHAASO observations of GRB 221009A**
- A two-component jet model for the multi-wavelength afterglows
- Discussions

# The Electromagnetic Spectrum

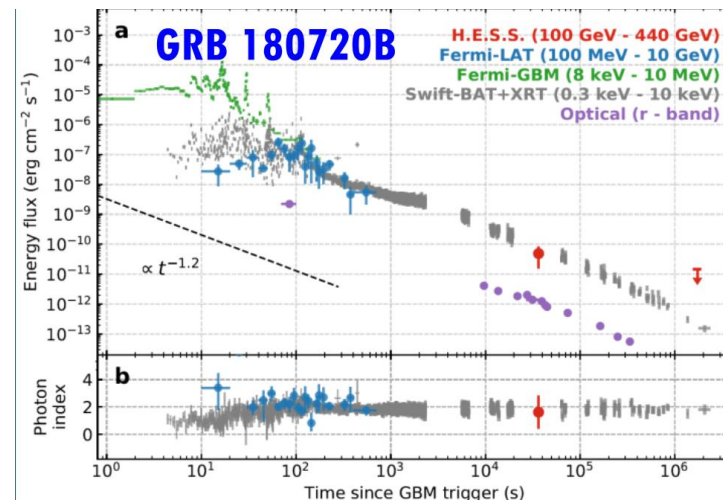




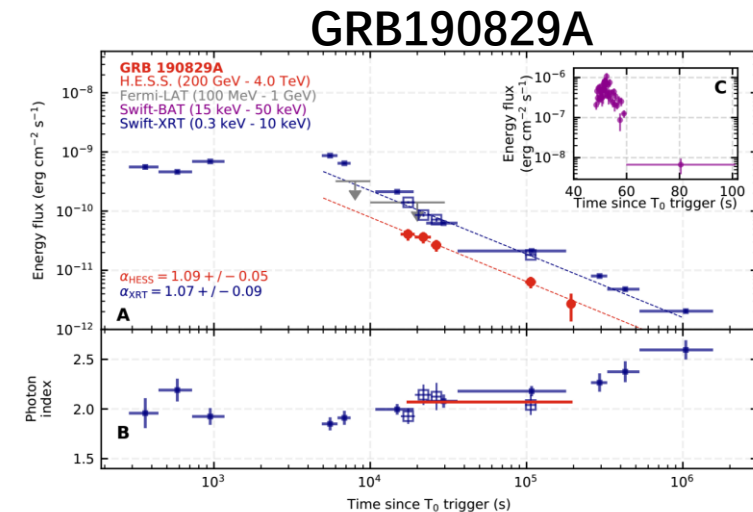
# TeV observations of GRBs: decaying afterglows



Magic coll. 2019a, Nature

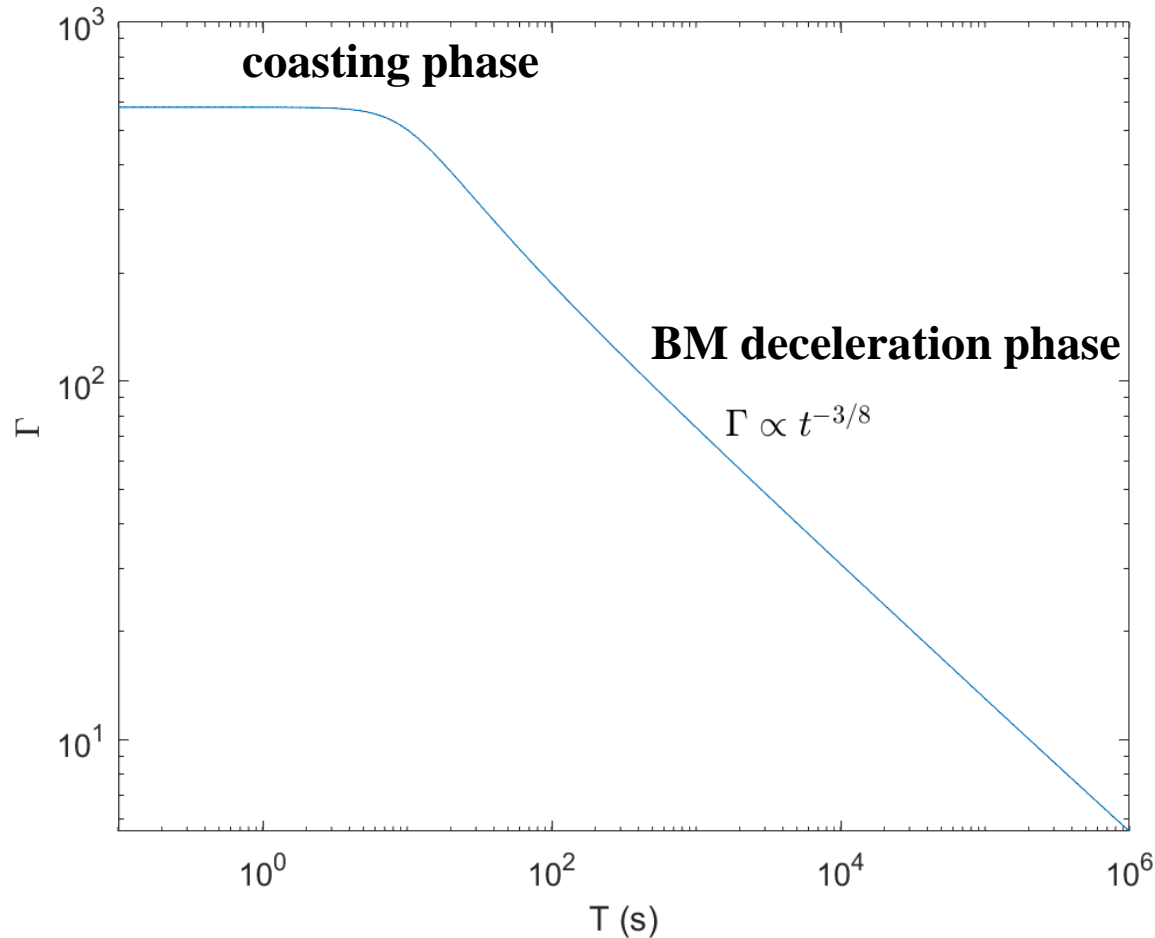


HESS coll. 2019, Nature



HESS coll. 2021, Science

# How about TeV emission before deceleration?



- **TeV emission during the coasting phase ?**
- **Any TeV emission during the prompt emission?**
- ✓ IACTs are pointed instruments that need time to slew to the GRB
- ✓ Extensive air shower detectors allow observations during the prompt GRB and the afterglow onset, but no detection yet

# LHAASO



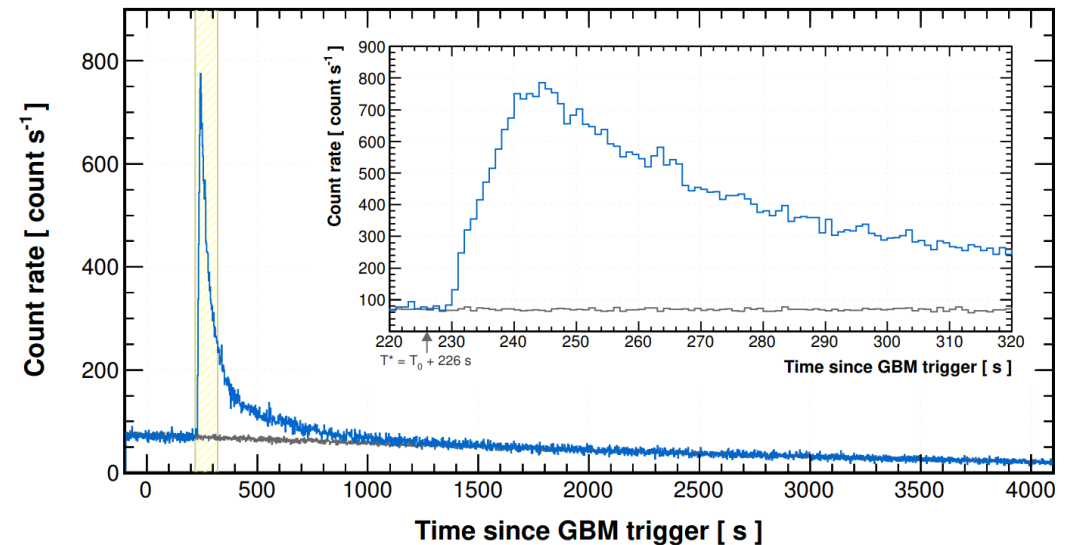
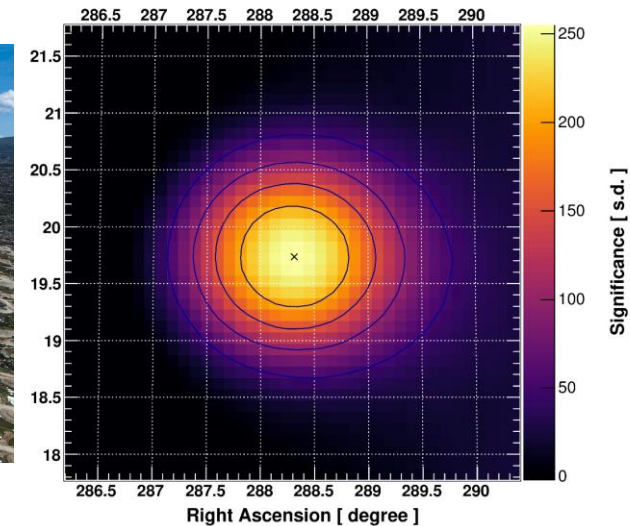
Location: Shichuan, China  
Altitude: 4410 m

A dual-task facility designed for  $\gamma$ -ray and CR studies:

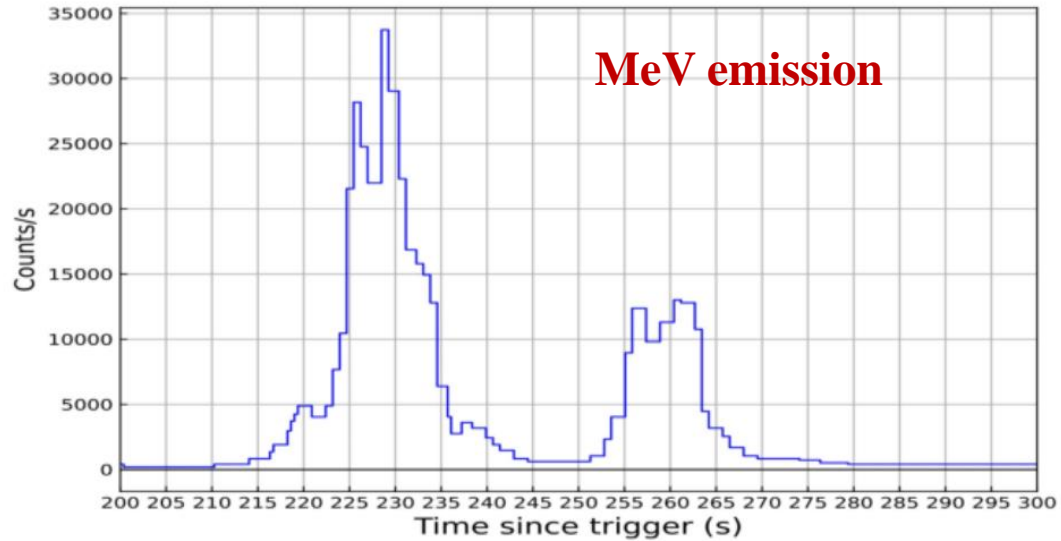
- 1) **KM2A** : Kilometer Square Array
- 2) **WCDA** : Water Cherenkov Detector Array
- 3) **WFCTA**: Wide Field-of-view Cherenkov Telescope Array

# LHAASO Observations of GRB221009A

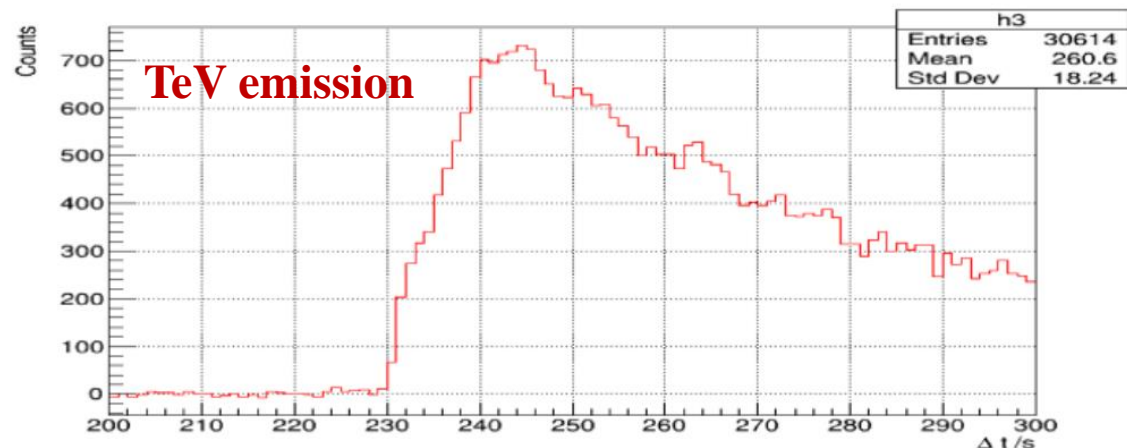
- GRB 221009A occurred within the FOV of LHAASO : first GRB seen by an extensive air shower detector
- High statistics:  $>60,000$  photons above  $0.2\text{TeV}$  (LHAASO-WCDA)
- TeV light curve: a rise to peak after a quiescent phase, then a decay



# MeV vs TeV light curves: external shock origin



- Smooth temporal profile suggests it is a TeV afterglow
- First time detection of the **onset** of a TeV afterglow!

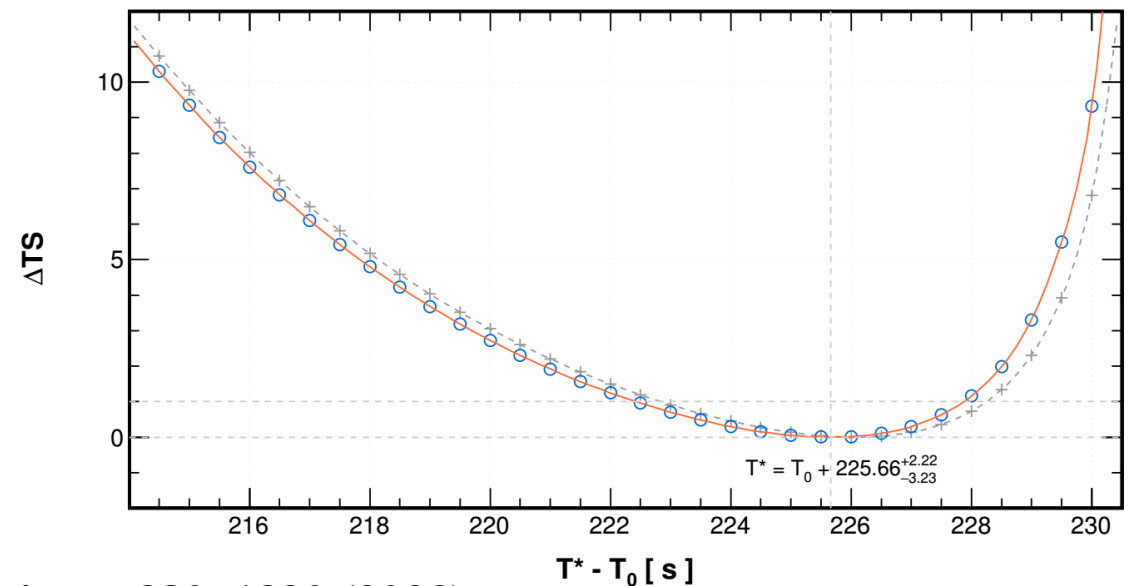
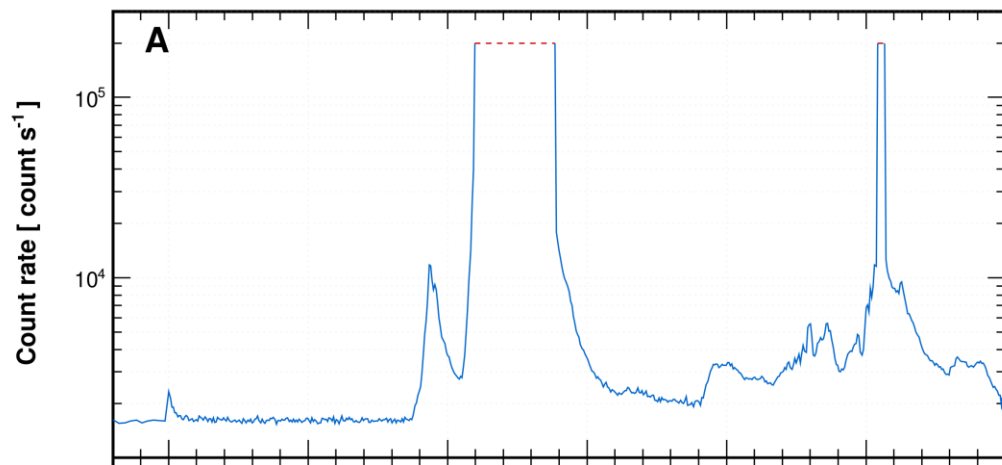
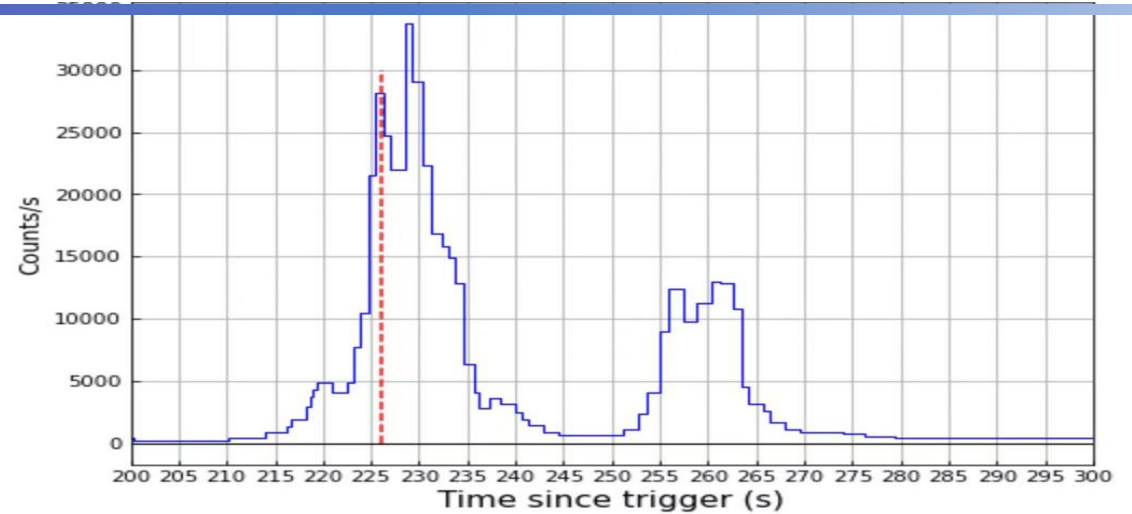


# Afterglow starting time: $T^*$

- Triggered on a weak precursor
- measuring times from the beginning of the main burst emission (Kobayashi & Zhang 2007):

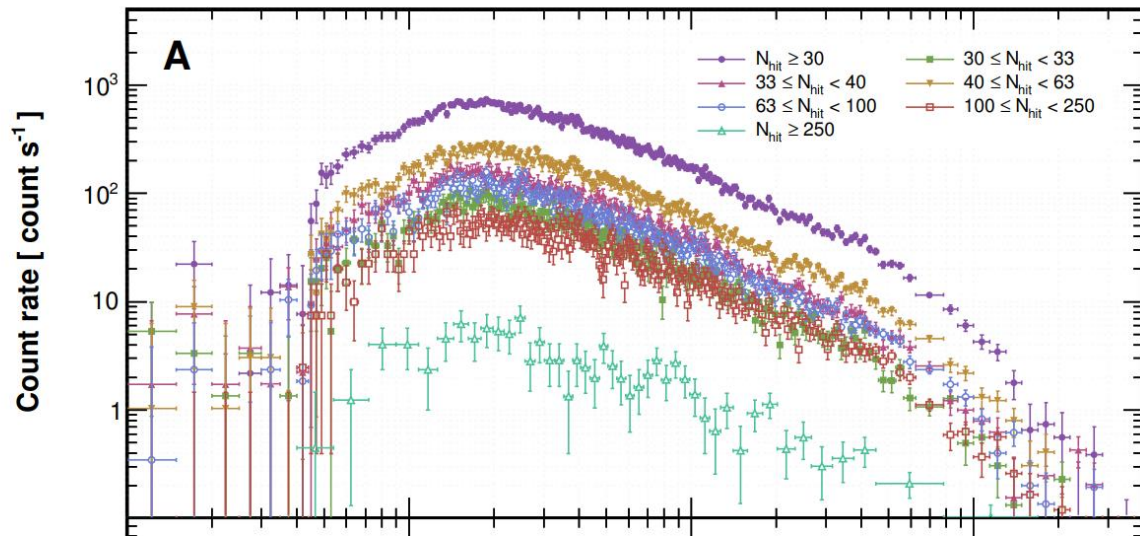
$$T^* \approx 225\text{--}228 \text{ s}$$

- Fitting of LHAASO light curve:

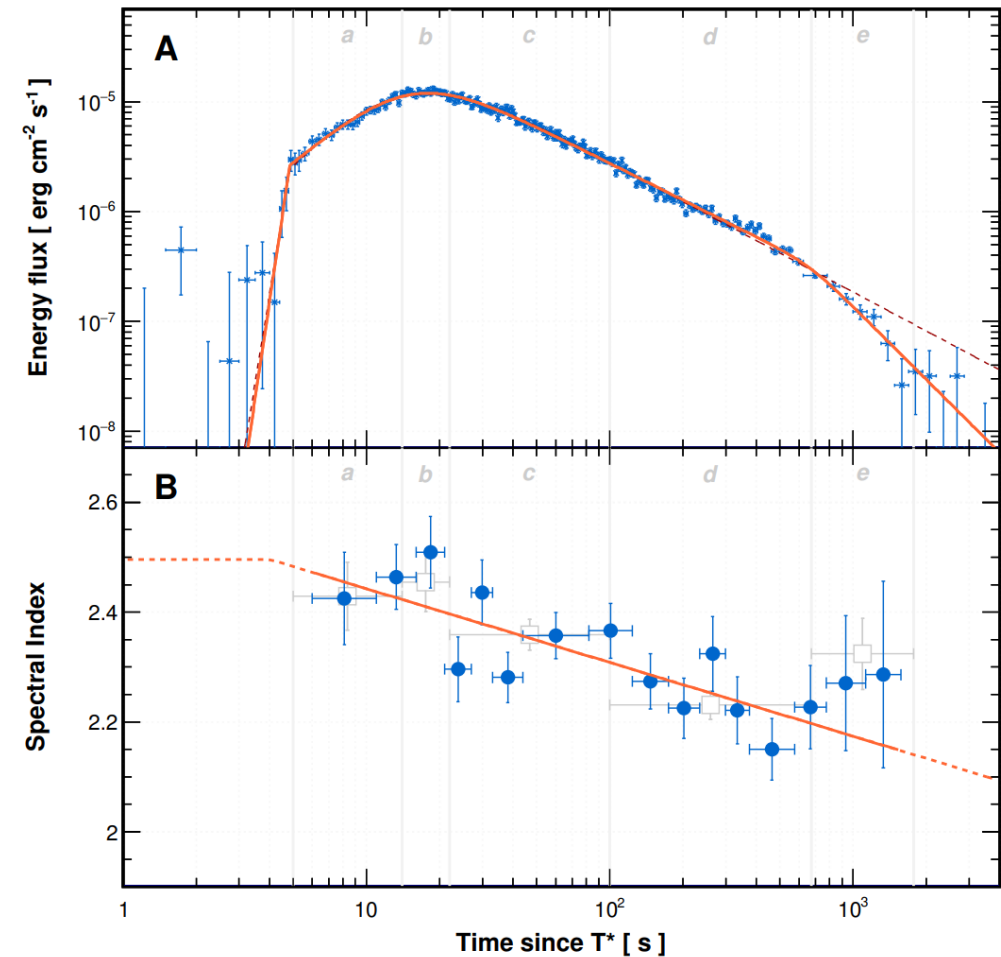


# TeV light curves: 4-segement power-law

- Count-rate light curve

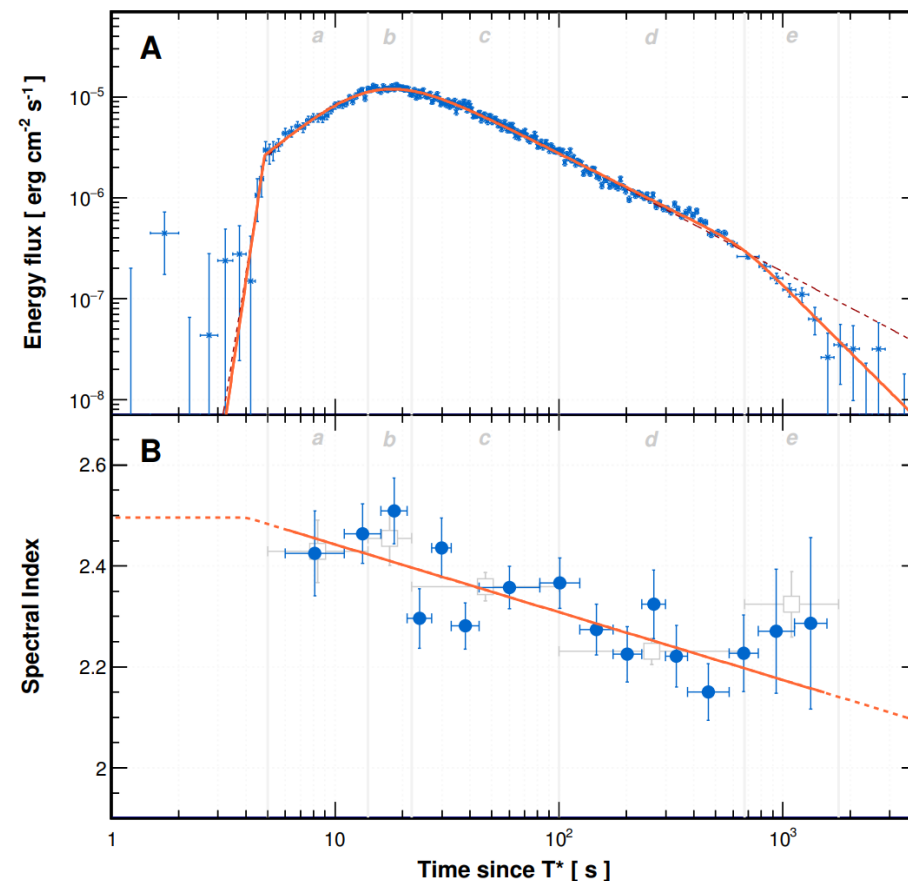


- Energy flux light curve



# 1. Rising phase

- Fast rise:  $\alpha_0 = 14.9^{+5.7}_{-4.0}$
- slow rise, coasting phase  
 $\alpha_1 = 1.82^{+0.21}_{-0.18}$
- Expected light curve:  $t^2$  agrees with  $k=0$  (ISM), inconsistent with  $k=2$  (stellar wind)  
 $n \propto R^{-k}$
- Rapid rise is unusual, possibly due to energy injection



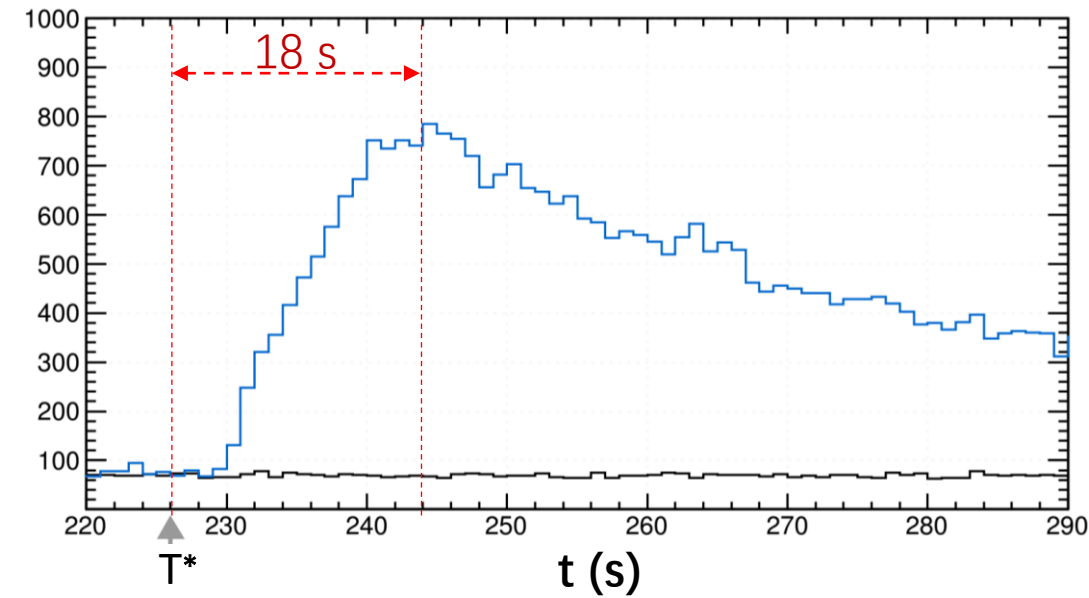
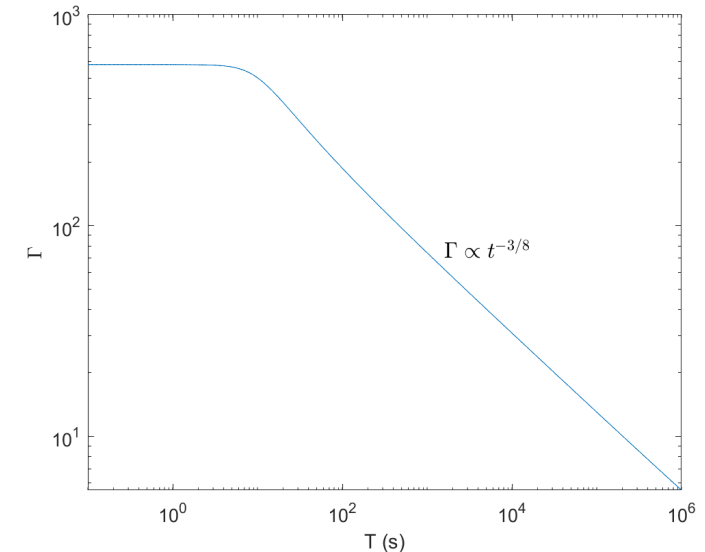


# The initial bulk Lorentz factor $\Gamma_0$

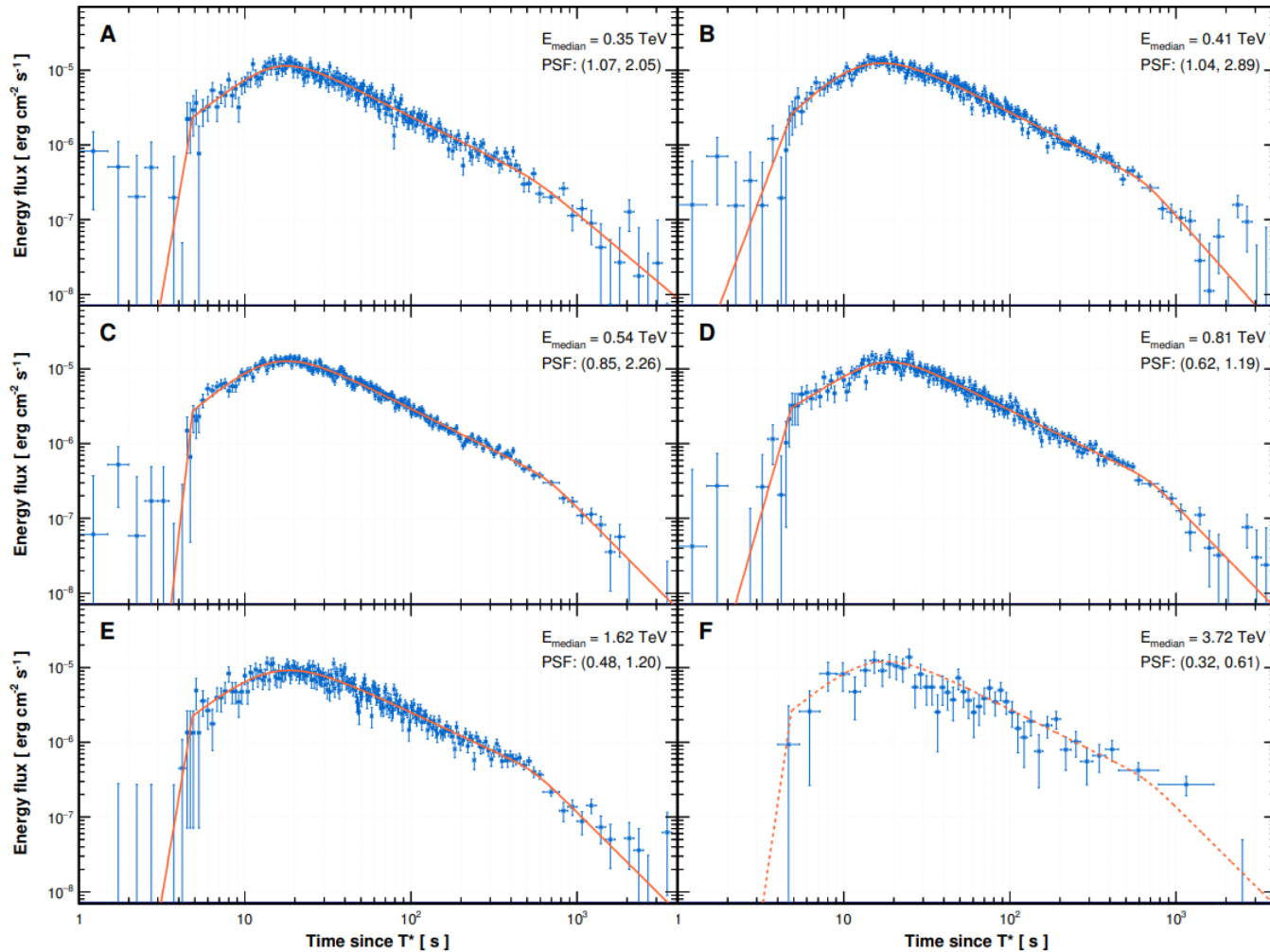
- From  $T^*$  to the peak, it takes  **$\sim 18$  s**
- The bulk Lorentz factor is estimated as

$$\Gamma_0 = \left( \frac{3E_k}{32\pi n m_p c^5 t_{\text{peak}}^3} \right)^{1/8} = 440 E_{k,55}^{1/8} n_0^{-1/8} \left( \frac{t_{\text{peak}}}{18 \text{ s}} \right)^{-3/8}$$

it is among the highest values for all GRBs



## 2. decay phase



$$\alpha_2 = -1.115^{+0.012}_{-0.012}$$

$$\alpha_3 = -2.21^{+0.30}_{-0.83}$$

$$T_{b,2} = T^* + 670^{+230}_{-110} \text{ s}$$

Revealing a jet break at the earliest time.

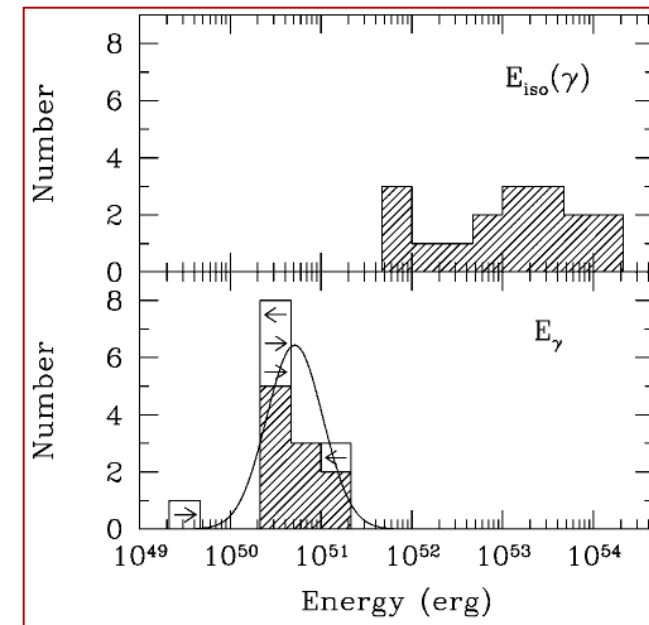
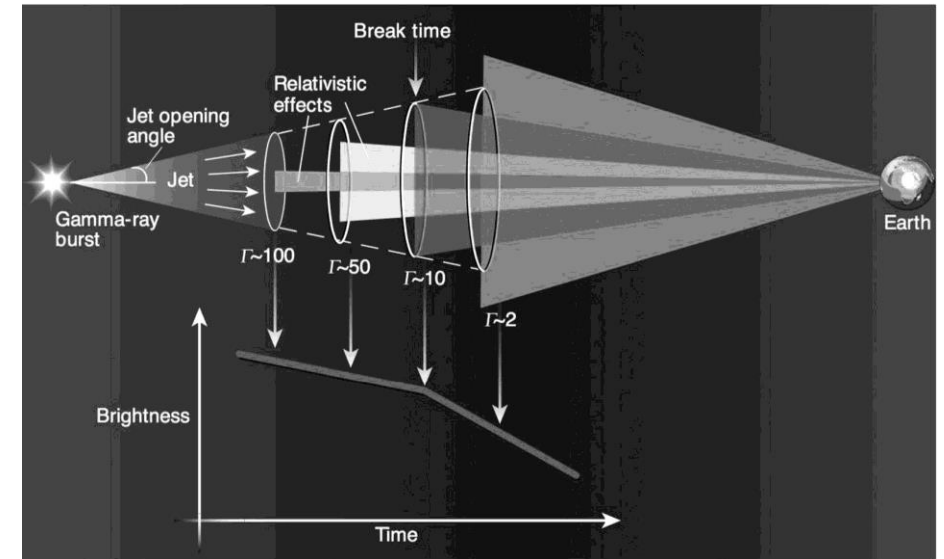
# A narrow GRB jet

- Light curve steepens when the increasing radiation cone exceeds the jet opening angle
- Jet breaks have been seen in optical/X-ray bands
- An early jet break implies a narrow jet:

$$\theta_0 \sim 0.6^\circ E_{k,55}^{-1/8} n_0^{1/8} \left( \frac{t_{b,2}}{670 \text{ s}} \right)^{3/8}$$

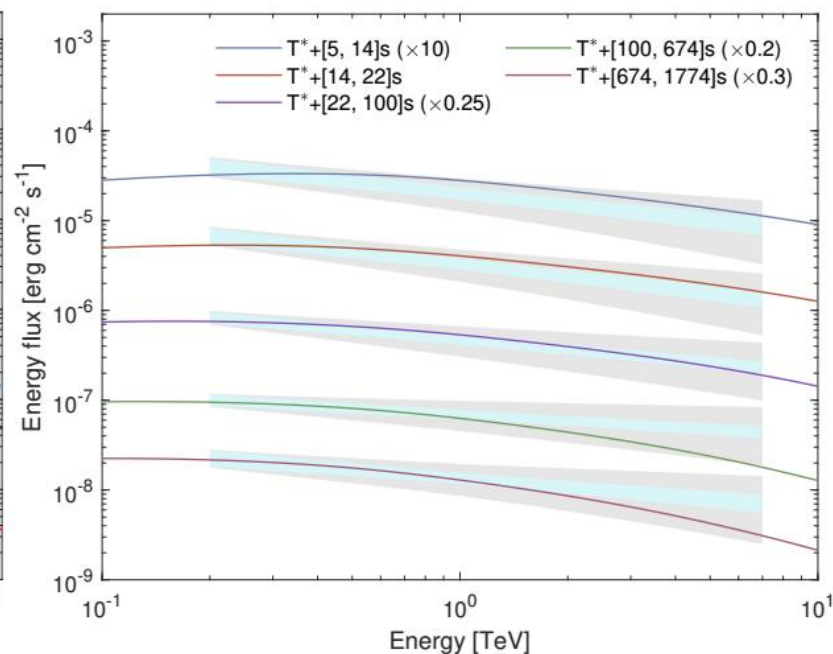
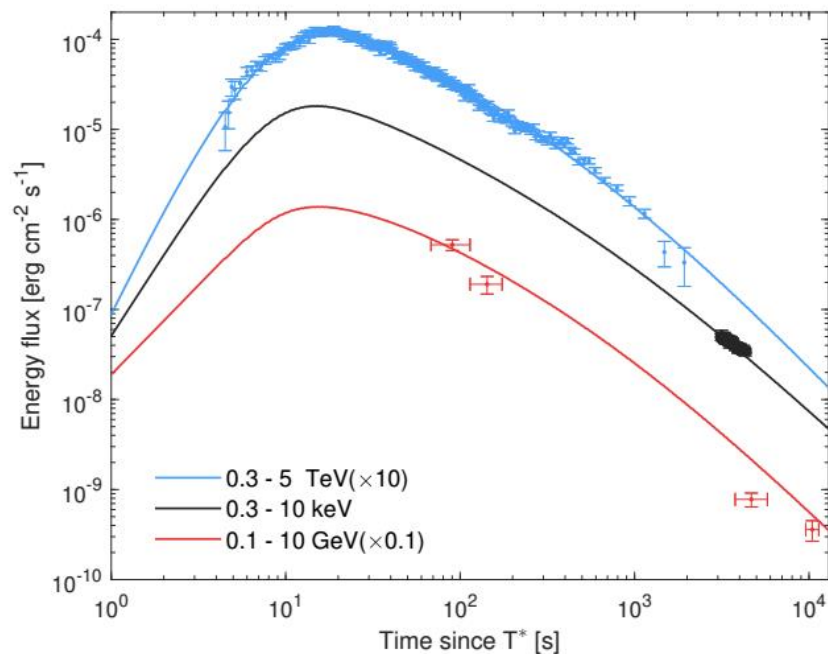
- Lead to a normal beaming-correct energy

$$E_{\gamma,j} = E_{\gamma,iso} \theta_0^2 / 2 \sim 7.5 \times 10^{50} \text{ erg } E_{\gamma,iso,55} (\theta_0 / 0.7^\circ)^2$$



# Multi-wavelength modelling

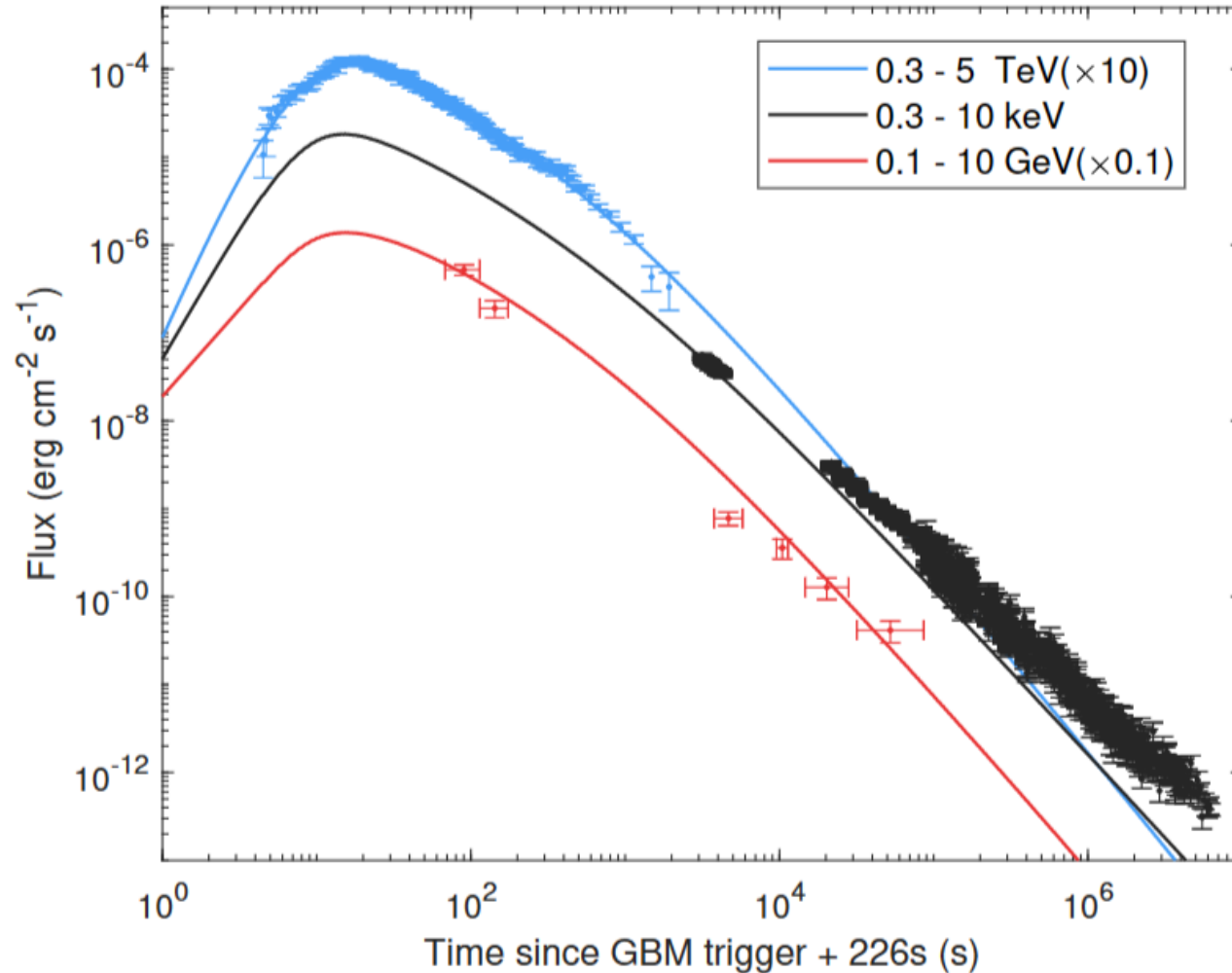
afterglow synchrotron + SSC (first  $10^4$  s)



- X-ray: synchrotron
- GeV: synchrotron + SSC
- TeV: SSC

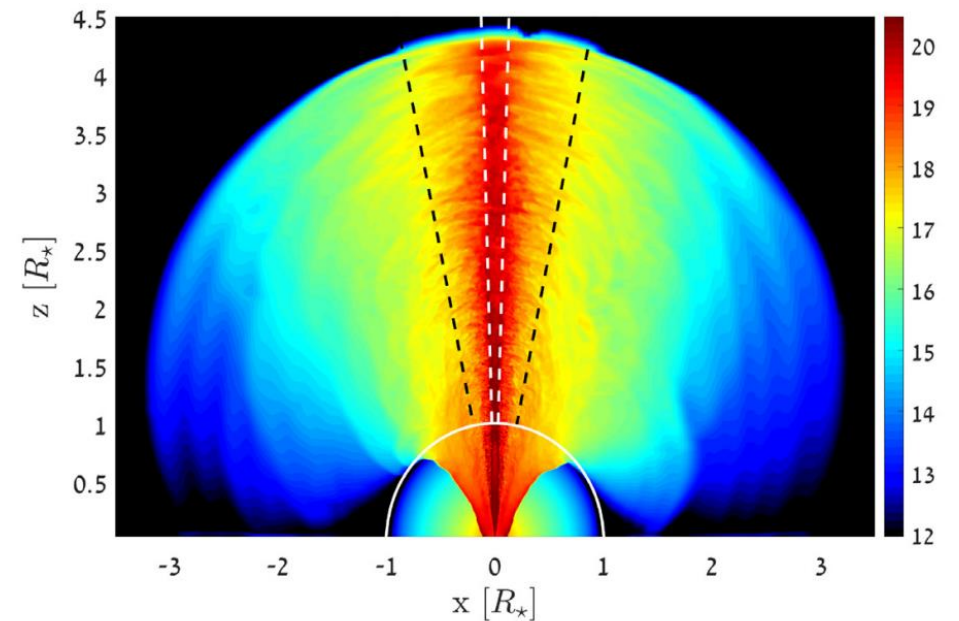
One possible solution:  $\bar{E}_k = 1.5 \times 10^{55}$  erg,  $\Gamma_0 = 560$ ,  $\epsilon_e = 0.025$ ,  $\epsilon_B = 6 \times 10^{-4}$ ,  $p = 2.2$ ,  $n = 0.4 \text{ cm}^{-3}$  and  $\theta_0 = 0.8^\circ$ .

# An inner jet is insufficient



See also O'Connor et al. 23; Gill & Granot 23; Sato et al. 23

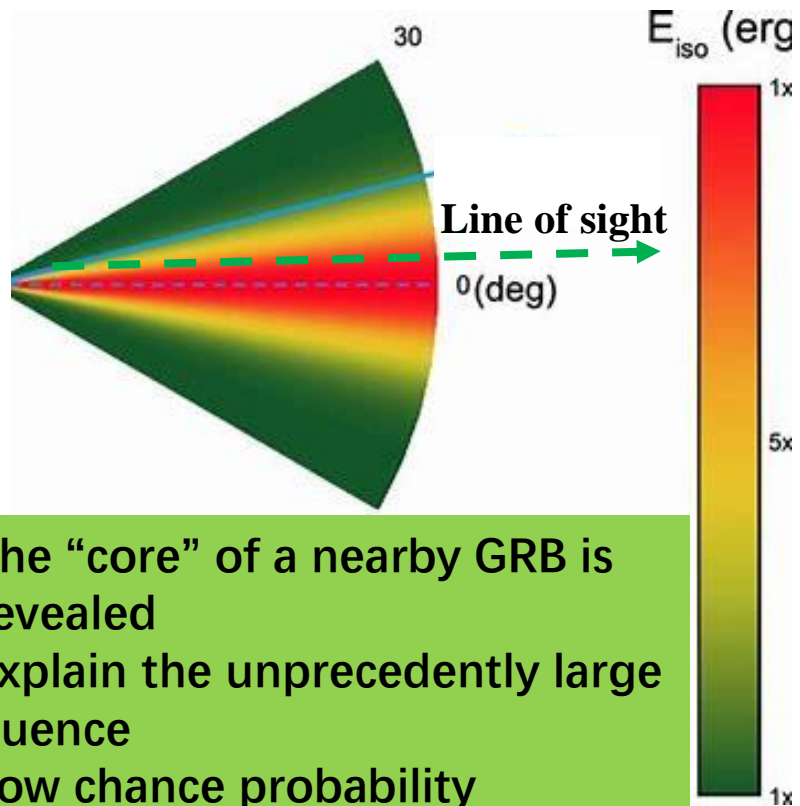
- Late afterglows need outer, wider components
- Implying a structured jet



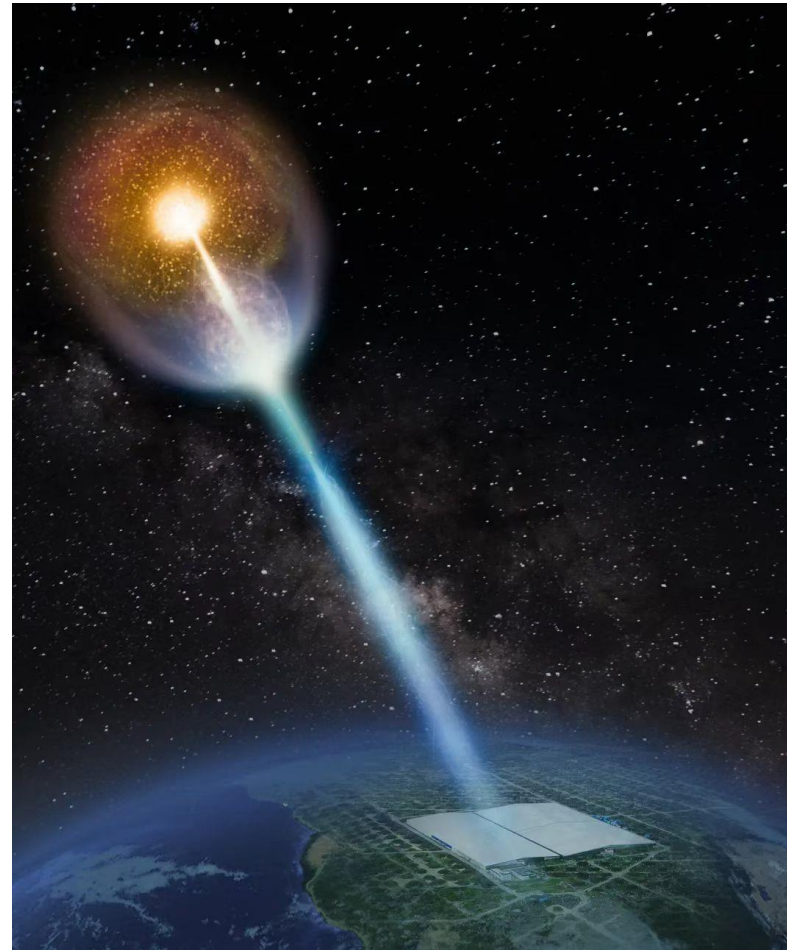
Numerical simulation by Gottlieb et al. 2021

# GRB 221009A: seeing the brightest core of a structured jet

- GRB 221009A



- The “core” of a nearby GRB is revealed
- Explain the unprecedentedly large fluence
- Low chance probability



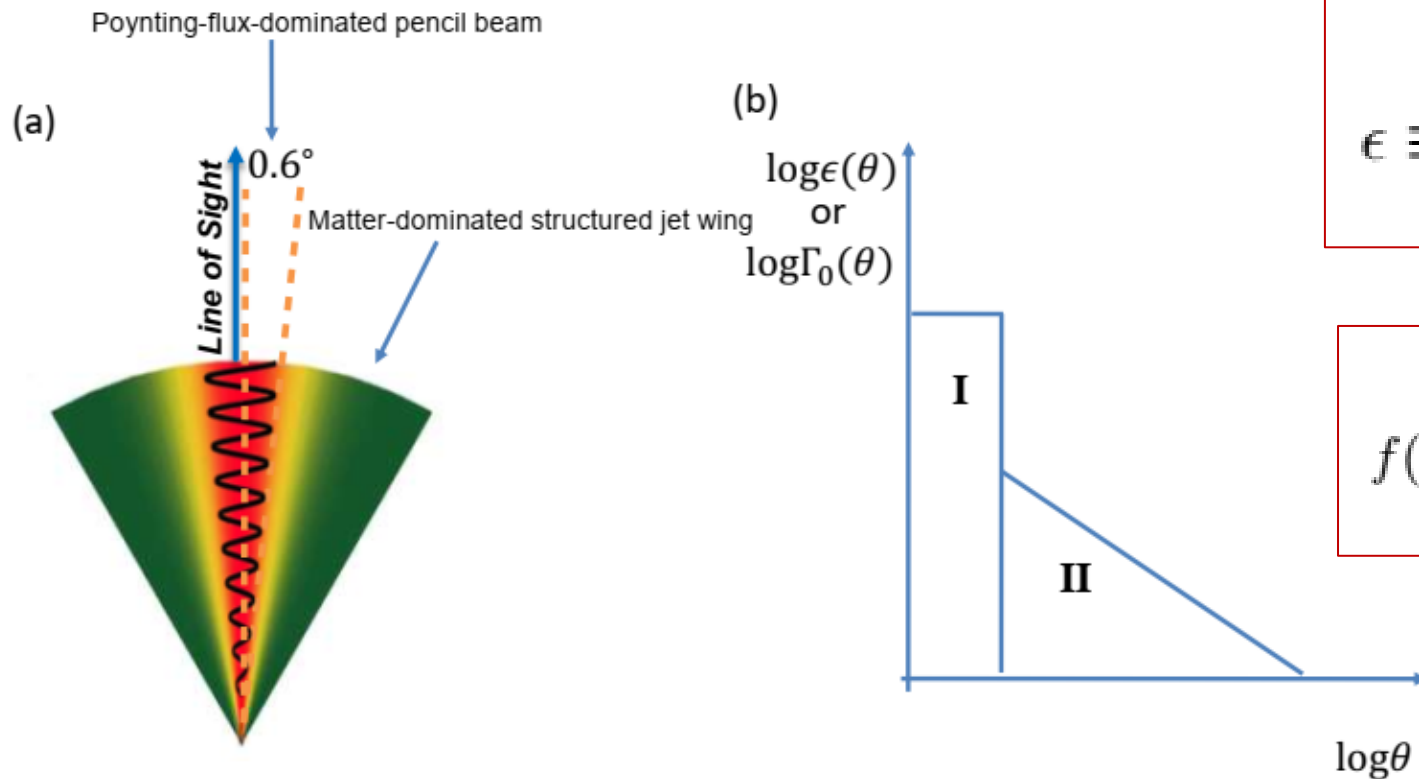
# Outline

---

- Introduction to GRB and GRB 221009A
- LHAASO observations of GRB 221009A
- **A two-component jet model for the multi-wavelength afterglows**
- Discussions

# A two-component jet model

- Zhang & Wang (2023), Zheng, Wang, Liu, Zhang (2023)



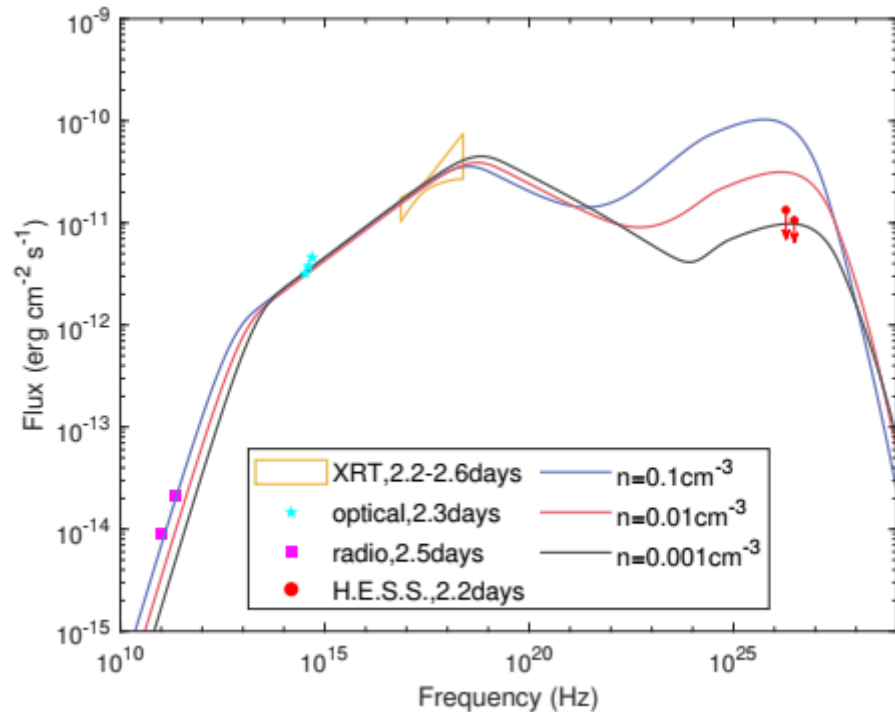
$$\epsilon \equiv \frac{dE}{d\Omega} = \begin{cases} \epsilon_{\text{I}}, & \theta < \theta_j, \\ \epsilon_{\text{II}} f(\theta), & \theta_j < \theta < \Theta, \end{cases}$$

$$f(\theta) = \left[ \left( \frac{\theta}{\theta_{c,w}} \right)^{2a_1} + \left( \frac{\theta}{\theta_{c,w}} \right)^{2a_2} \right]^{-1/2},$$



# A STRATIFIED DENSITY PROFILE

- Transition from constant-density medium to wind-like medium

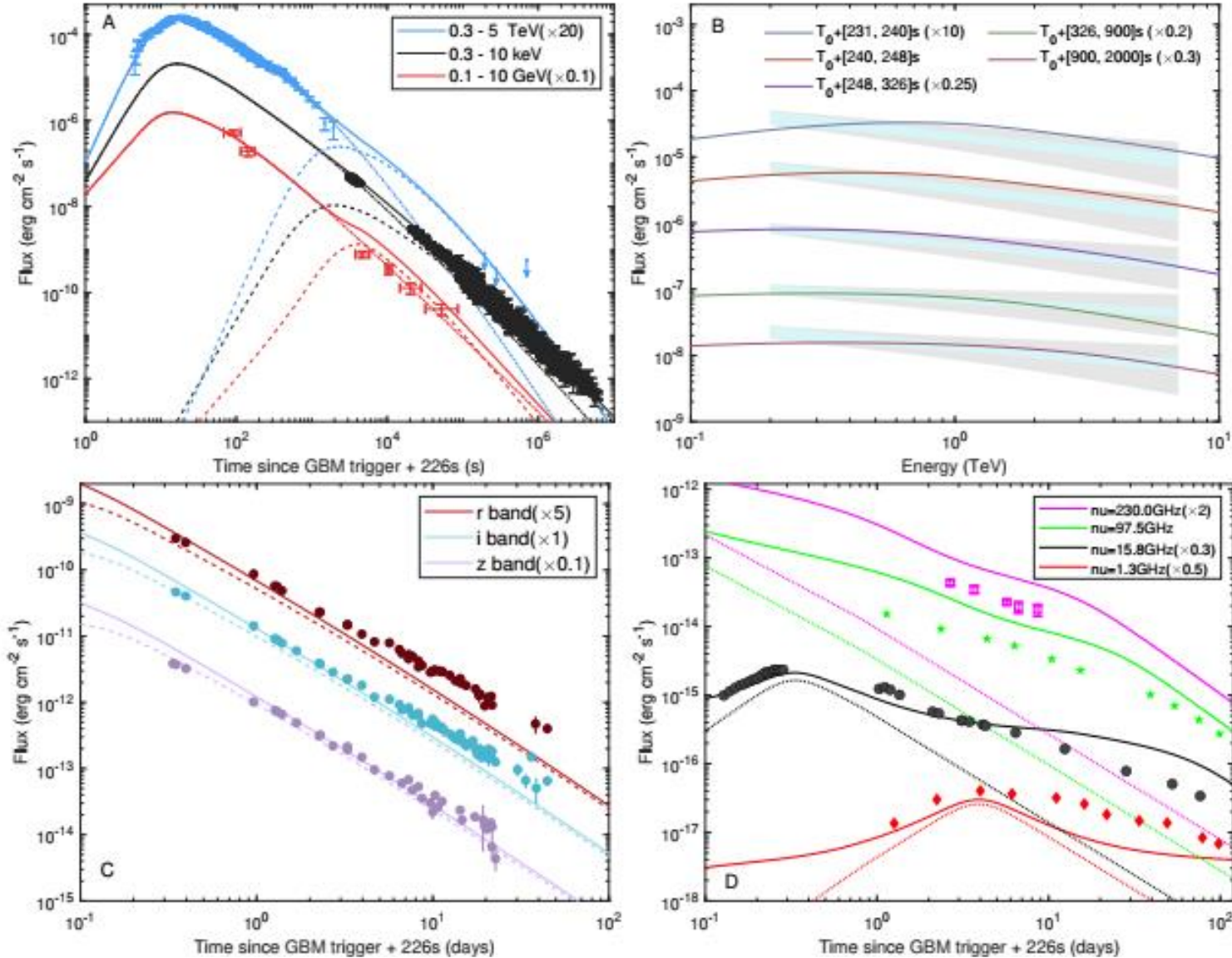


LHAASO data:  $n_0 \geq 0.1 \text{cm}^{-3} E_{\text{I,iso},55}^{-\frac{(9-p)}{21-p}} \epsilon_{\text{B},-4}^{-\frac{2(7-p)}{21-p}}$

$n_0 \leq 0.007 \text{cm}^{-3} E_{\text{II,iso},54}^{-\frac{(3-p)}{7-p}} \epsilon_{\text{B},-4}^{\frac{2(p-1)}{7-p}}$

$$n(r) = \begin{cases} n_0, & r < r_c \\ Ar^{-2}, & r \geq r_c \end{cases}$$

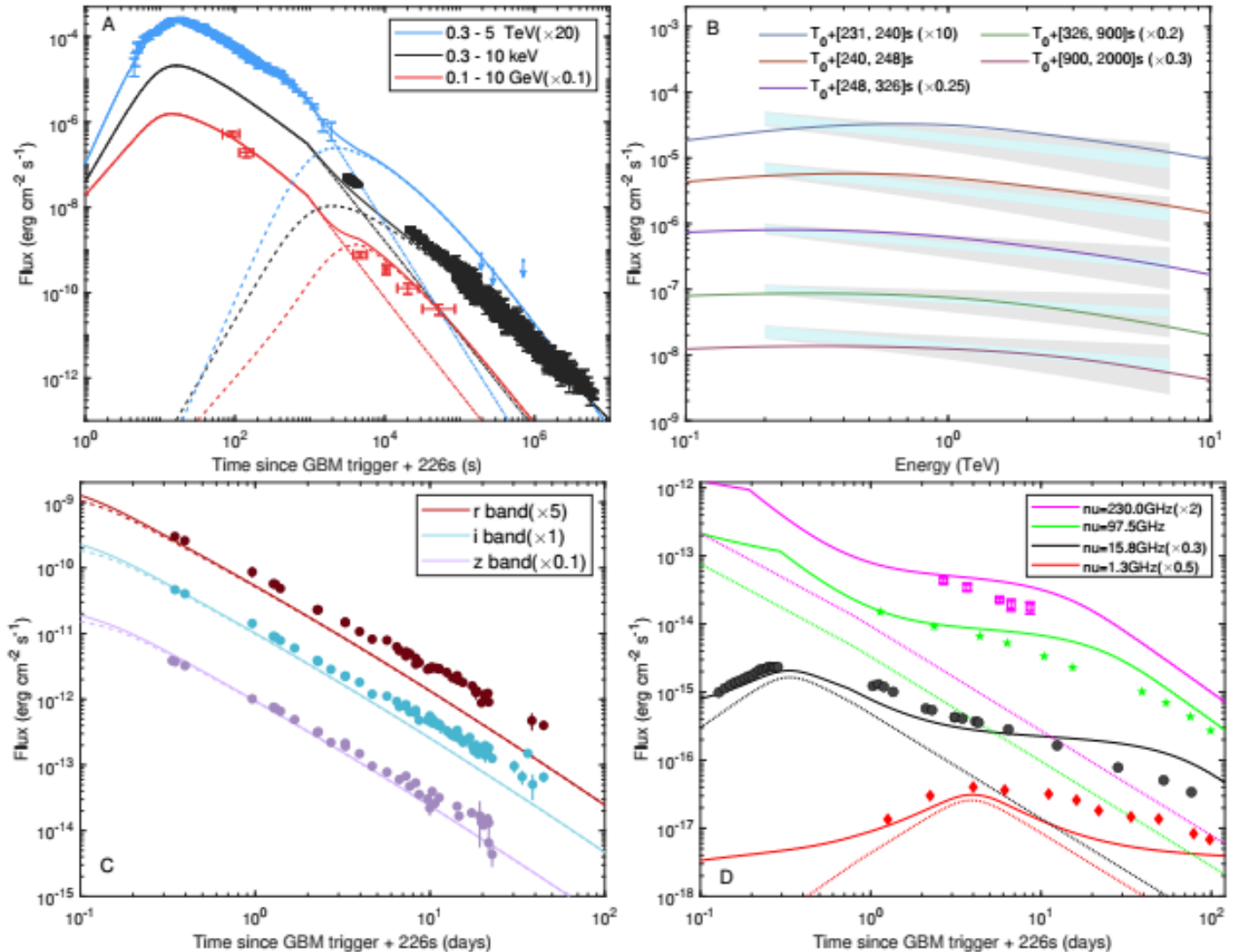
# A two-component jet model



	$4\pi\epsilon_I(\text{erg})$	$\theta_j$	$\Gamma_{I,0}$	$\epsilon_{I,e}$	$\epsilon_{I,B,-3}$	$\xi_{I,e}$	$p_I$	$4\pi\epsilon_{II}(\text{erg})$	$\theta_{c,w}$	$\Gamma_{II,0}$	$a_1$	$a_2$	$\epsilon_{II,e}$	$\epsilon_{II,B,-3}$	$\xi_{II,e}$	$p_{II}$
FS1	$9 \times 10^{54}$	$0.6^\circ$	560	0.04	1	1	2.2	$4 \times 10^{53}$	$3^\circ$	60	0	0.8	0.06	2	0.15	2.4
FS2	$9 \times 10^{54}$	$0.6^\circ$	560	0.04	1	—	2.2	$4 \times 10^{53}$	$3^\circ$	60	0	0.8	0.06	2	—	2.5

# A two-component jet model with sideways expansion

- Assuming side expansion for the narrow jet
- Fit to the GeV data is improved
- But the radio flux exceed the data by a factor of  $\sim 2$



# Considering the time-varying microphysical parameter: a decreasing acceleration fraction ?

- Decreasing  $k_e$  is required by the data

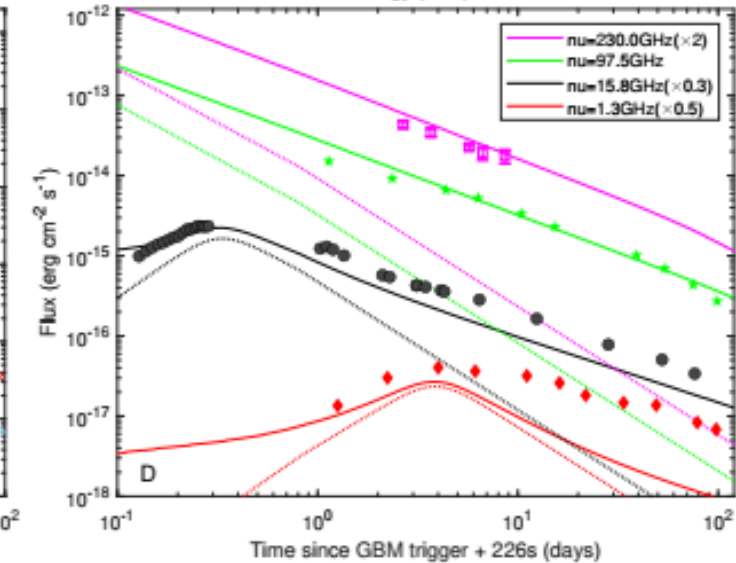
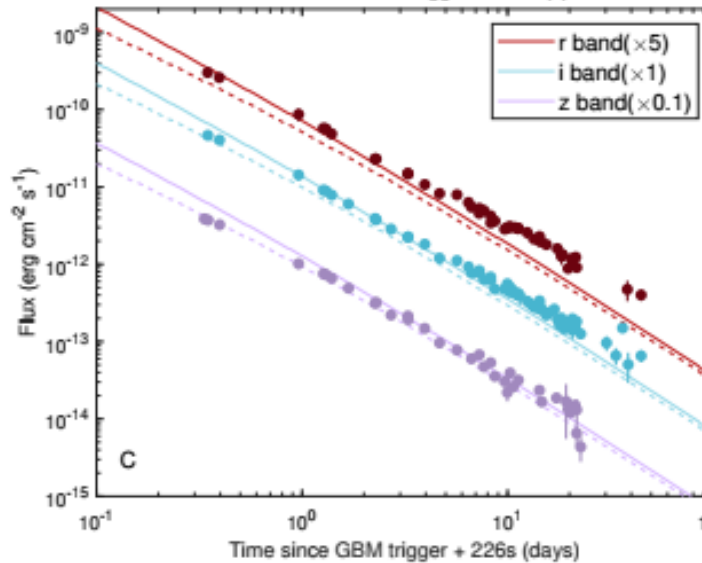
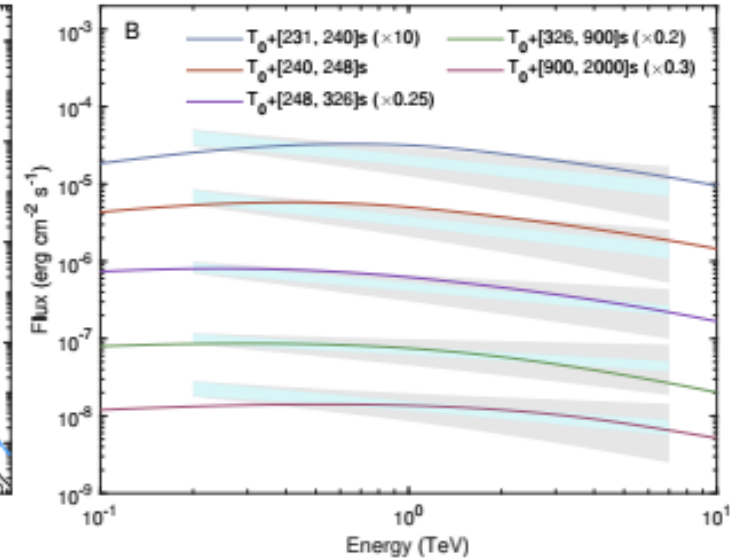
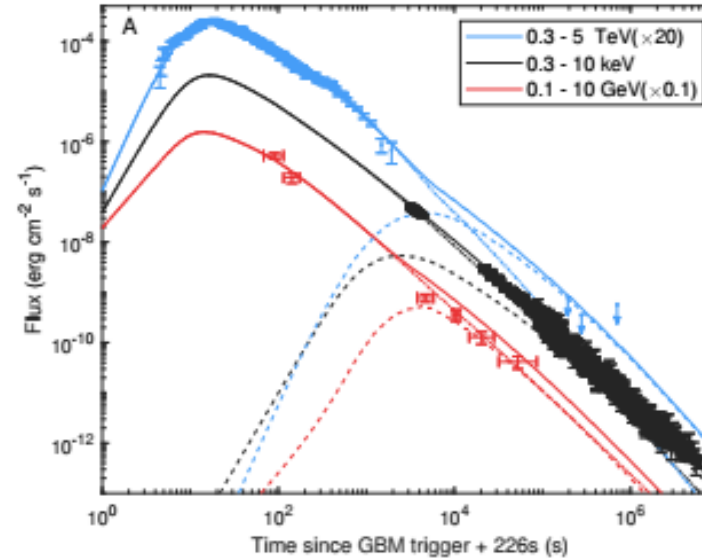
$$k_e = \epsilon_e / \xi_e$$

- Decreasing *Acceleration Fraction*  $\xi_e$

$$\xi_e \propto t^{-\alpha\xi}$$

$$F_\nu \propto \begin{cases} t^{-\frac{a}{3(4-a)} - \frac{5}{3}\alpha\xi}, & \nu < \nu_m \\ t^{-\frac{2(3p-1)-a(p-1)}{2(4-a)} + \alpha\xi(p-2)}, & \nu_m < \nu < \nu_c \\ t^{-\frac{2(3p-2)-a(p-2)}{2(4-a)} + \alpha\xi(p-2)}. & \nu > \nu_c \end{cases}$$

- Or increasing  $\epsilon_e$



# Decaying Magnetic Field model

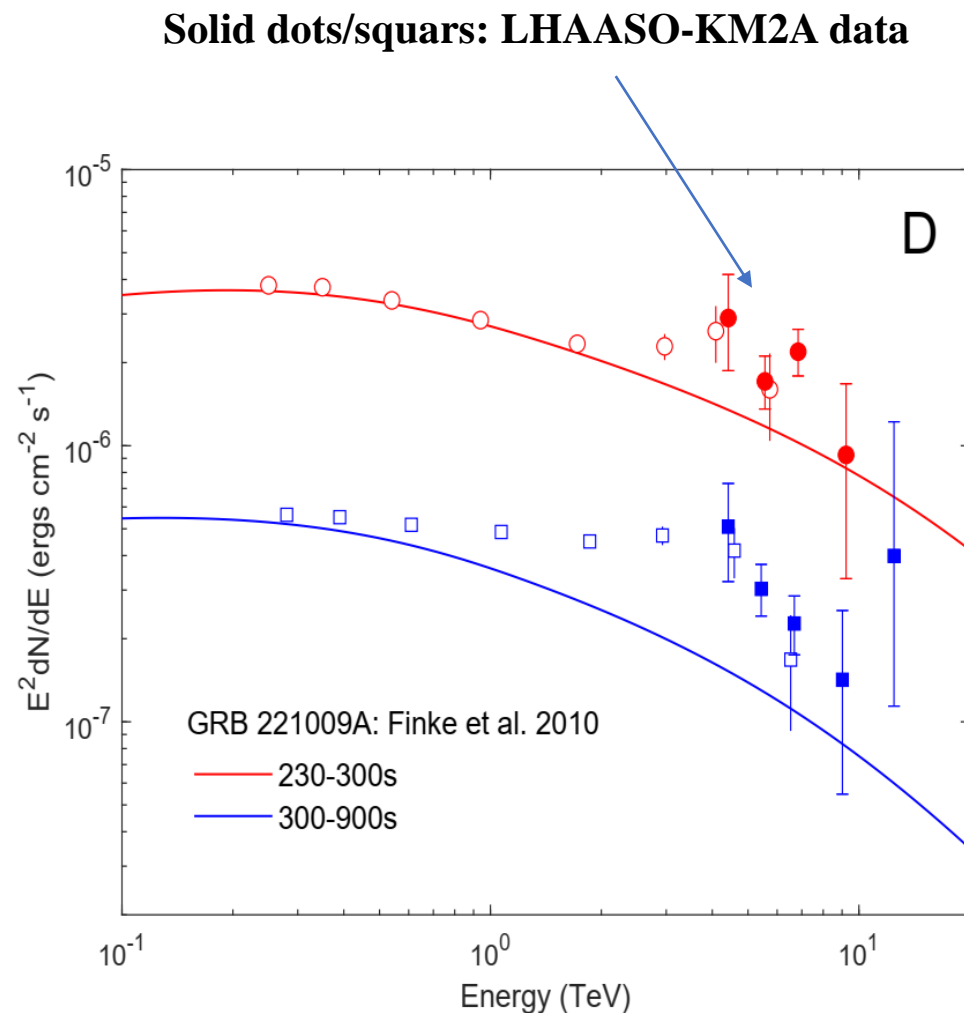
- standard afterglow shock model assume a homogeneous magnetic field in the downstream of the shock.
- Nonetheless, the realistic magnetic field may have a spatial distribution behind the shock: decaying with the distance from the shock front ([Lemoine et al. 2013](#))

$$\alpha_t = \frac{\log [\epsilon_{B-} / \epsilon_{B+}]}{\log [t_{\text{dyn}} / \tau_{\delta B}]} \quad -0.5 \lesssim \alpha_t \lesssim -0.4.$$

- Radio-emitting electrons may radiate most of their energy at the back of the blast wave, where the magnetic field has decayed to a low value ([Lemoine 2013](#); [Wang et al. 2013](#)).

# Discussion: 1) origin of $\sim 10$ TeV photons

- Klein-Nishina effect leads to a spectral steepening in SSC emission
  - KM2A detected 3-13 TeV photons
  - $> 3$  TeV emission **needs a new component**
    - Reverse shock proton synchrotron emission (Zhang et al. 2023)
    - UHECR propagating in IGM (e.g., Das & Razzaque 2023)
    - An extra hard electron component
- Can GRB produce UHECRs ?



# Proton synchrotron emission: TeV afterglow emission

## Hybrid Emission Modeling of GRB 221009A: Shedding Light on TeV Emission Origins in Long-GRBs

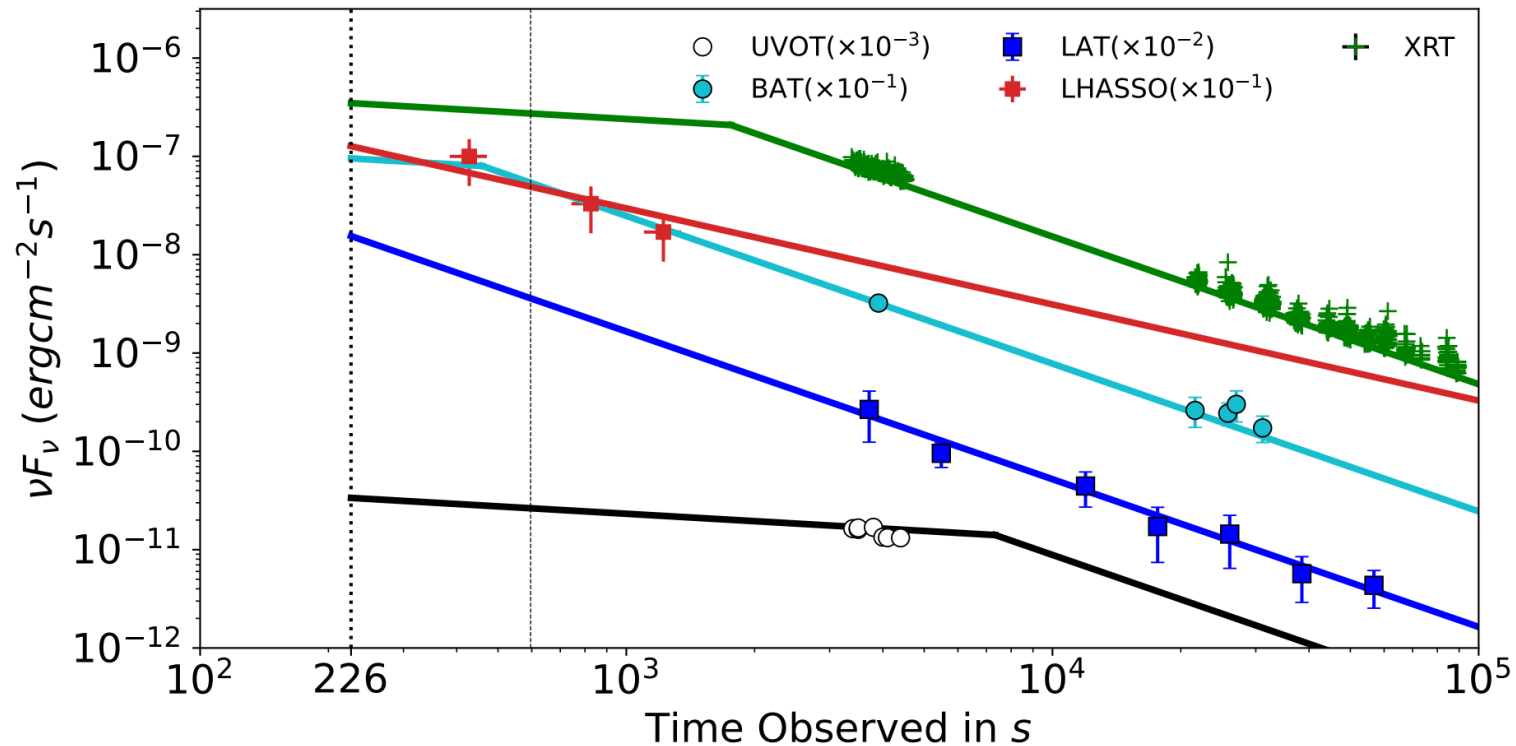
HEBZIBHA ISRAVEL <sup>1</sup>, DAMIEN BÉGUÉ <sup>2</sup>, AND ASAF PE'ER <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Ben-Gurion University of the Negev*

*Beer-Sheva 8410501, Israel*

<sup>2</sup>*Bar-Ilan University*

*Ramat-Gan 5290002, Israel*



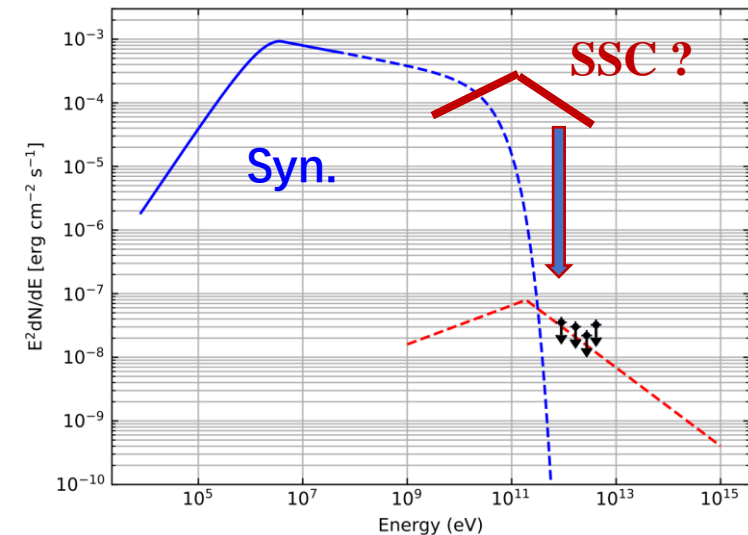
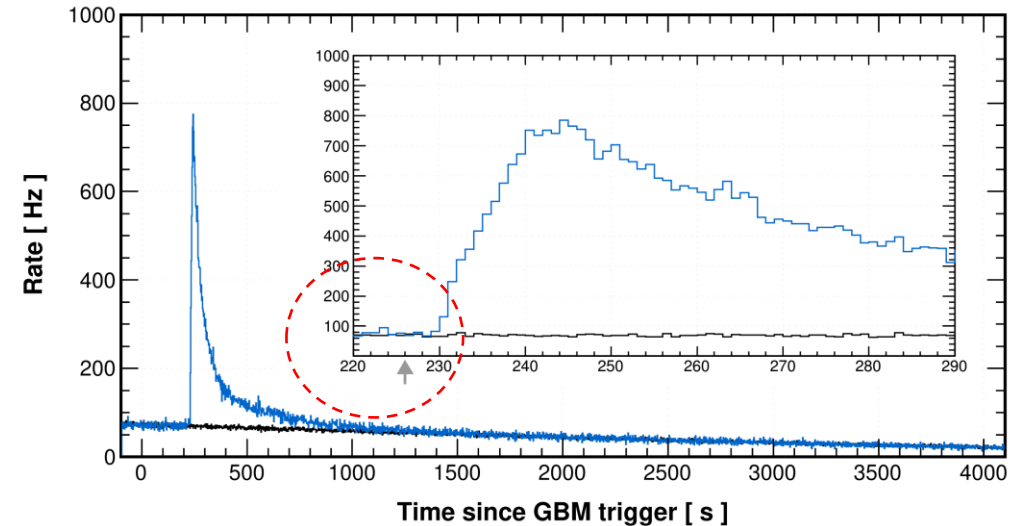
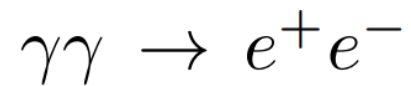
# Discussion: 2) prompt TeV emission limit

- The most strict limit on the prompt TeV emission

$$R = F_{\text{TeV}} / F_{\text{MeV}} < 2 \times 10^{-5}$$

- If MeV emission arises from synchrotron emission, **where is the IC emission?**

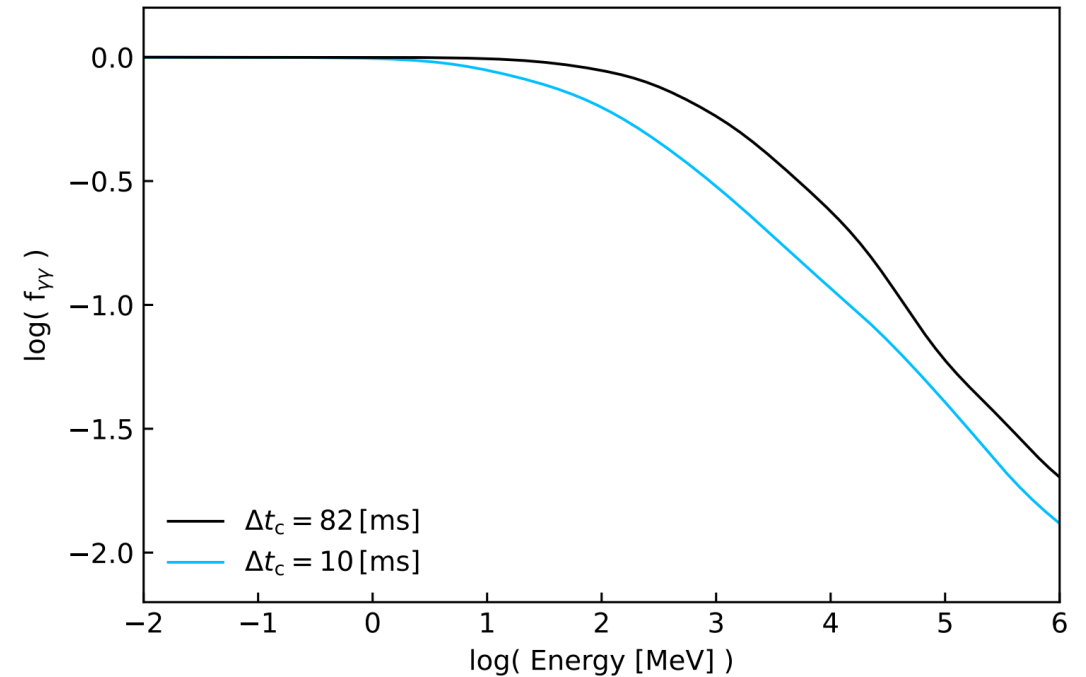
- internal  $\gamma\gamma$  absorption leads to an exponential cutoff ?





# A Poynting-flux-dominated jet?

- **But**, internal shock simulations result in a broken power-law spectrum (Aoi et al. 2010; Dai et al. 2023)
- Then, we need a low ratio between SSC and synchrotron emission outputs.
- Implying the magnetic field energy density is much larger than the electron energy density:  $\epsilon_B \gg \epsilon_e$
- A Poynting-flux-dominated jet suppress the SSC emission ?



Dai et al. 2023, [arXiv:2307.14113](https://arxiv.org/abs/2307.14113)

# Conclusions

---

1. First time observing the onset of a GRB TeV afterglow

This enables

- ① Estimating the initial bulk Lorentz factor  $\Gamma_0$  of the jet
  - ② Setting the most strict limit on the prompt TeV emission (a Poynting-flux-dominated jet?)
2. Finding a jet break in the TeV light curve in its decay phase
    - ① The narrowest jet of  $0.8^\circ$ , revealing the “core” of a structured jet
    - ② The unprecedentedly large fluence may be due to seeing the brightest core of a nearby GRB jet
3. A two-component jet model can explain the multi-wavelength data, and may requires time-varying microphysical parameters.