

# How polarization measurements will disentangle gamma-ray bursts models

Péter Veres

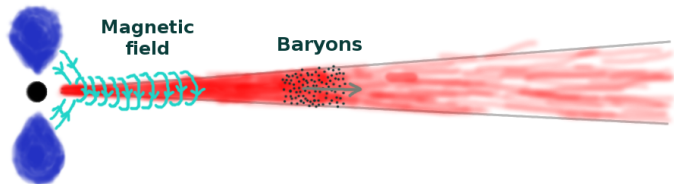
University of Alabama in Huntsville, CSPAR

**collaborators: Colleen Wilson-Hodge, Rob Preece,  
Valerie Connaughton, Mark McConnell, Narayana Bhat**

TPC-HARPO workshop  
April 12-14, 2017

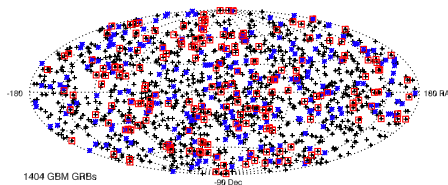
# Outline

- GRB models - [radiation mechanisms for GRBs]
- Polarization - [history of prompt polarization ]
- LEAP [proposed polarimeter for ISS]
- Consequences for TPC-HARPO [ $\gtrsim$ MeV range, Compton models]



# Gamma-ray Bursts - Overview

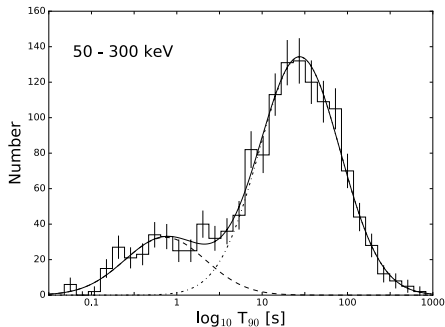
- Random directions on the sky  
( $\sim$  few per week)
- Short/long divide in duration
- Broad non-thermal spectrum  
emerging complex picture
- Afterglow visible for  $\sim$  week(s)
- Prompt: keV to  $\lesssim$  MeV,  
AG: radio to  $\lesssim$  TeV
- Deduce: compact object,  
 $\Gamma > 100$ ,  $\theta_{\text{jet}} \approx \text{few } ^\circ$ ,  
 $E_{\text{iso}} = 10^{51} - 10^{55}$  erg



3<sup>rd</sup> GBM GRB catalog [Bhat+16](#)

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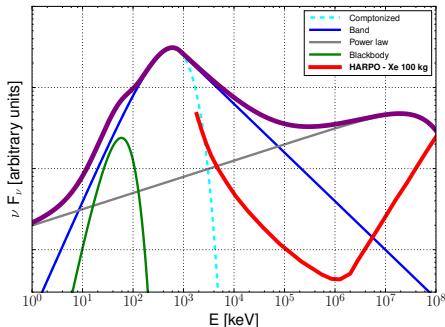
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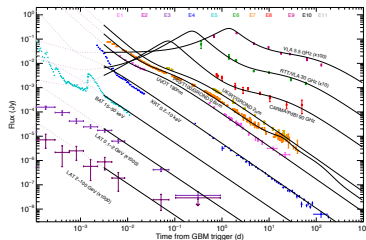
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Perley+14

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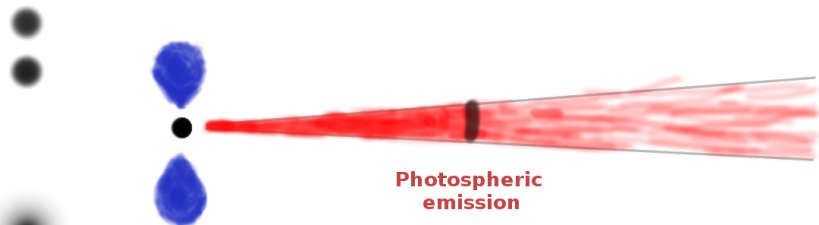
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credit: NASA/Swift/deWilde

# Scenarios for GRB prompt emission

- Photospheric models (dissipative/non-dissipative)
  - Blackbody / shocks + synchrotron / geometry /  $\tau \gg 1$  dissipation
- Internal shocks
  - Shocks + Synchrotron / Self-Compton / magnetic fields
- External shock (?)
  - Synchrotron / Self-Compton

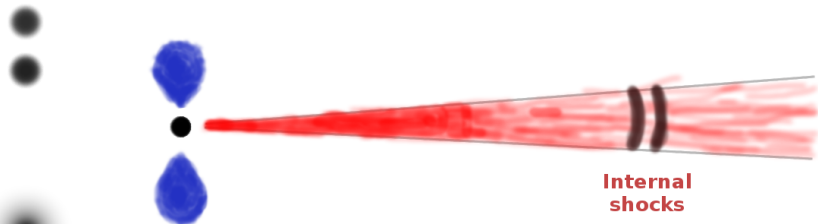




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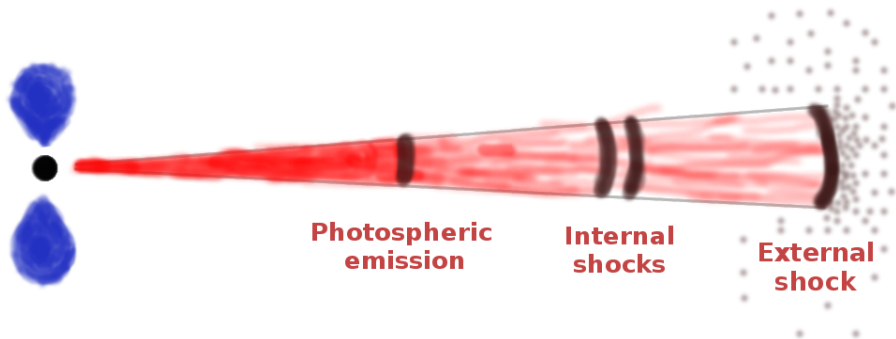
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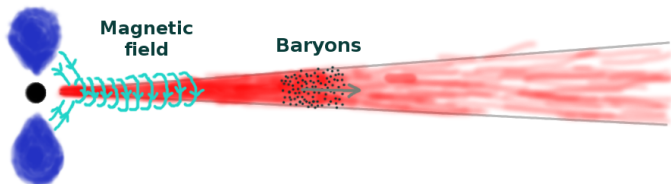
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# Motivation for polarimetric observations

- What carries the energy in GRB jets?
  - Baryons
  - Magnetic fields
- Polarized emission → magnetic fields
- Advected from central engine,  $B_{\perp} \propto R^{-1}$ ,  $B_{\parallel} \propto R^{-2}$ .
- BUT: geometry (mostly viewing angle) can also increase pol. degree
  - Jet is viewed at the edge to within  $\sim 1/\Gamma$



# Prompt polarization history

Table: GRB Polarization Measurements (from McConnell 2016)

Pub Date	GRB	Instrument	Energy (keV)	$\Pi$	Refs
2004	GRB 021206	RHESSI	150 – 2000	<b><math>80\% \pm 20\%</math></b>	Coburn & Boggs 2003
2004	GRB 021206	RHESSI	150 – 2000	$< 4.1\%$	Rutledge & Fox 2003
2004	GRB 021206	RHESSI	150 – 2000	$41^{+57}_{-44}\%$	Wigger+04
2005	GRB 930131	CGRO/BATSE	20 – 1000	(35–100%)	Willis+05
2005	GRB 960924	CGRO/BATSE	20 – 1000	(50–100%)	Willis+05
2007	GRB 041219a	INTEGRAL/SPI	100 – 350	$98\% \pm 33\%$	Kalemci+07
2007	GRB 041219a	INTEGRAL/SPI	100 – 350	$96\% \pm 40\%$	McGlynn+07
2009	GRB 041219a	INTEGRAL/IBIS	200 – 800	$43\% \pm 25\%$	Götz+09
2009	GRB 061122	INTEGRAL/SPI	100 – 1000	$< 60\%$	McGlynn+09
2011	GRB 100826a	IKAROS/GAP	70 – 300	<b><math>27\% \pm 11\%</math></b>	Yonetoku+11
2012	GRB 110301a	IKAROS/GAP	70 – 300	$70\% \pm 22\%$	Yonetoku+11
2012	GRB 110721a	IKAROS/GAP	70 – 300	$80\% \pm 22\%$	Yonetoku+11
2013	GRB 061122	INTEGRAL/IBIS	250 – 800	$> 60\%$	Götz+13
2014	GRB 140206a	INTEGRAL/IBIS	200 – 800	$> 48\%$	Götz+13
2016	GRB 151006a	Astrosat/CZTI	100 – 300	–	Rao+16

## GRB prompt emission likely polarized

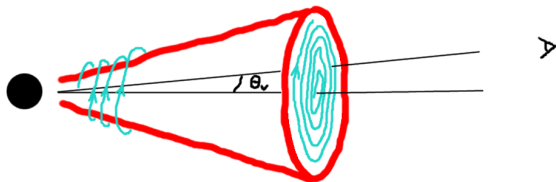
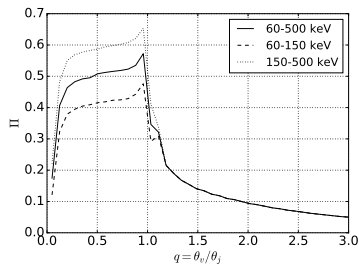
- Outstanding issues:
  - PA change
  - Explain high  $\Pi$
- Need: high confidence (low MDP) measurements

# How to calculate polarization from a relativistic source?

- Synchrotron  $\Pi_0 = \frac{p+1}{p+7/3} = \frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha+5/3} \lesssim 0.8$   
 $N(\gamma_e) \propto \gamma_e^{-p}$  or  $F_\nu \propto \nu^{-\alpha}$
- Compton scattering  $\Pi_0 = \frac{1-\cos^2\theta'}{1+\cos^2\theta'} \lesssim 1$   
 $\theta'$  - scattering angle
- For optically thin sources e.g. [Toma+09](#):
- $I_\nu = \frac{1+z}{D_L^2} \int d\phi \int d\mu \delta_D^2 j'(\nu')$
- $\left\{ \begin{matrix} Q_\nu \\ U_\nu \end{matrix} \right\} = \frac{1+z}{D_L^2} \int d\phi \int d\mu \delta_D^2 j'(\nu') \Pi_0 \left\{ \begin{matrix} \cos(2\chi) \\ \sin(2\chi) \end{matrix} \right\}$   
→  $j'(\nu')$  - spectral emissivity - carries the spectral shape  
→  $\Pi_0$  - local pol. degree,  $\chi$  - local pol. angle
- Integrate for jet surface
- Jitter radiation ([Mao+13](#))
- Dissipative photospheres  
→ detailed radiative transfer (e.g. [Lundman+16](#))

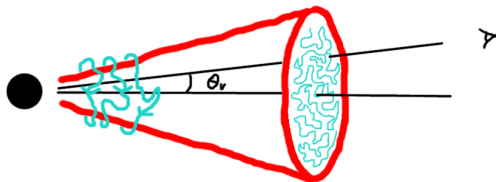
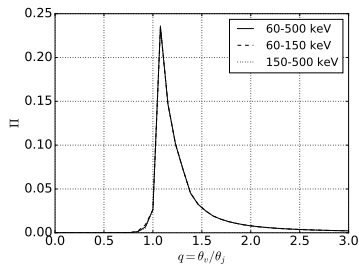
# Models

- Polarization affected by
  - Geometric
  - Intrinsic effects
- Ordered B field (SO) (Granot+03)
- Random B field (SR) (Sari99)
- Compton upscatter (CD) (Lazzati+04)



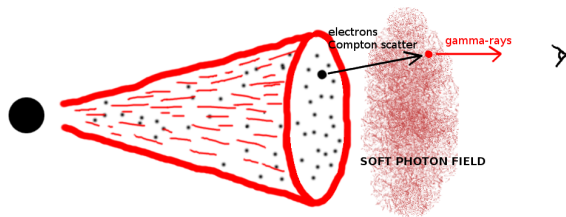
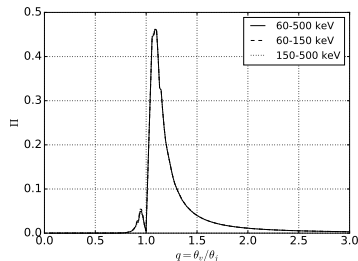
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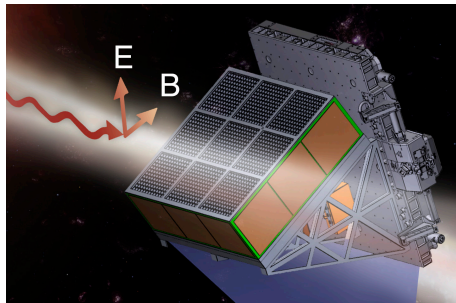
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# Future - LEAP

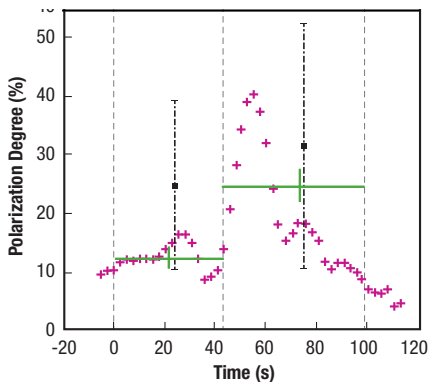
- Large Area gamma-ray burst Polarimeter (**LEAP**)
- Proposed mission to ISS
- Polarimetry: 30-500 keV
- 30-40 GRB per year,  
MDP  $\lesssim$  30%



credit: LEAP team

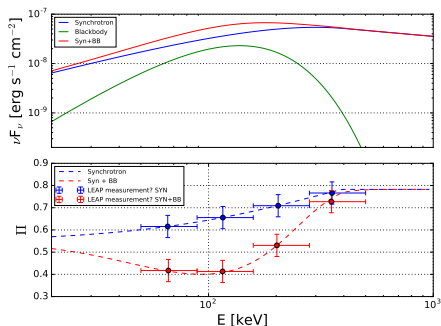
# LEAP capabilities

- Consider a bright GRB
- Time-resolved polarization (ICMART, Deng+16)
- Band  $\rightarrow$  synchrotron origin
- Synchrotron or Synchrotron + blackbody
- LEAP - can distinguish between the two cases



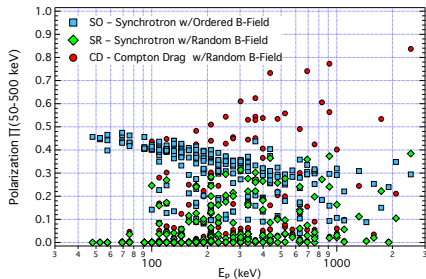
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## LEAP capabilities 2.

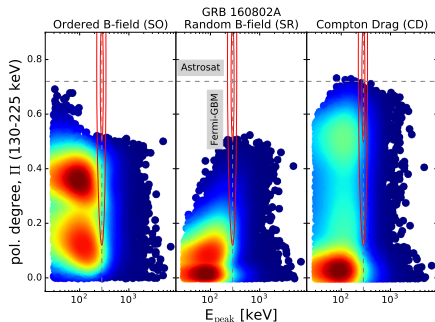
- Consider a set of GRBs with measured  $\Pi$
- Measure peak energy
- Monte Carlo - so it matches observations (e.g. BATSE, HETE2, GBM fluence)
- LEAP - can distinguish between the three models



Toma+09, McConnell16

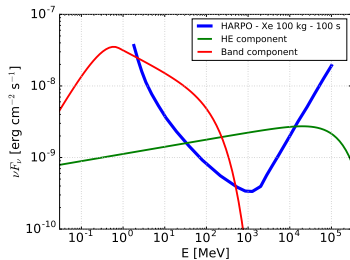
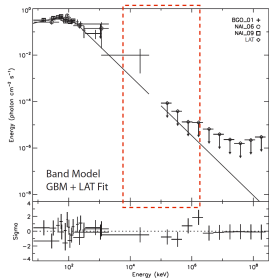
# Find GRB model - probabilistic approach

- Which model is best?
- Observe  $\Pi \pm \Delta\Pi$ ,  $E_{\text{peak}}$
- Astrosat GRB 160802A  
 $\Pi = 0.72 \pm 0.22$  (Rao+17, prelim.)  
 $E_{\text{peak}} = 282$  keV (GBM)
- Viewing angle, opening angle,  
Lorentz factor - unknown/uncertain
- Simulate distr. for 3 models
- Integrate over uncertainties  
(red ellipses)
- **SO : SR : CD =**  
**0.31 : 0.14 : 0.55**



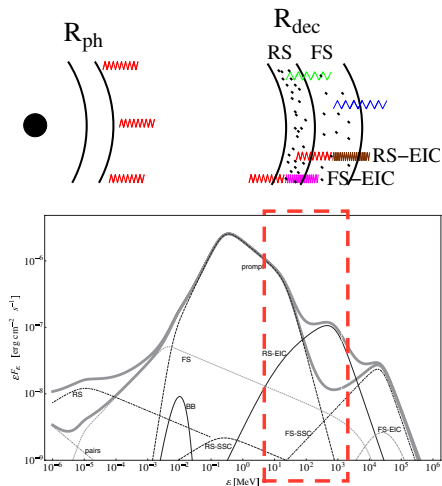
# GRBs above 10 MeV - TPC -HARPO

- Uncharted territory - emergence of the afterglow?
- Extension of Band PL - does not continue  $\gtrsim$  GeV. Spectral cutoff:
  - Pair production
  - $\Gamma m_e c^2 / (1 + z) \sim 100$  MeV
- TPC-HARPO is well suited to observe this spectral regime



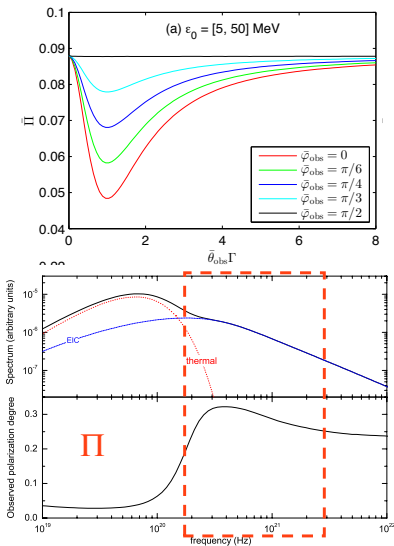
# GRBs above 10 MeV - TPC -HARPO 2.

- Emerging new component  
→ Synchrotron self-Compton (SSC)  
→ External inverse Compton (EIC)  
→ something else?
- Transition between Band or synchrotron and power law or Compton (Veres+12)



# GRBs above 10 MeV - TPC - HARPO 3.

- Polarization signature  
→ SSC - low  $\Pi$  - highly geometry dependent (Chang+14)  
→ EIC - moderate  $\Pi$  (Fan09)
- More detailed modeling needed  
→ but see talk by Böttcher for blazars
- TPC - HARPO will be able to constrain pol. for bright GRBs





## Wrap up

- Interesting times for GRB polarization
- Upcoming MeV-GeV range prompt data exciting
- MeV-GeV polarimetry even more exciting

Thank you!