

# Inverse-Compton “mirror-flash” emissions in $\gamma$ -rays: the remarkable cases of 3C 454.3 and PKS 1830-211 on late 2010

| Name          | Affiliation                           |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| A. Bulgarelli | INAF-IASF Bologna                     |
| A.W. Chen     | INAF-IASF Milano                      |
| I. Donnarumma | INAF-IASF Roma                        |
| P. Giommi     | ASDC Roma                             |
| A. Giuliani   | INAF-IASF Milano                      |
| F. Longo      | INFN Trieste                          |
| C. Pittori    | ASDC Roma                             |
| L. Pacciani   | INAF-IASF Roma                        |
| G. Pucella    | ENEA Roma                             |
| E. Striani    | INAF-IASF Roma                        |
| S. Vercellone | INAF-IASF Palermo                     |
| V. Vittorini  | INAF-IASF Roma &<br>Univ. Tor Vergata |

These challenging events show ratios  
between optical and  $\gamma$ -rays variation factors

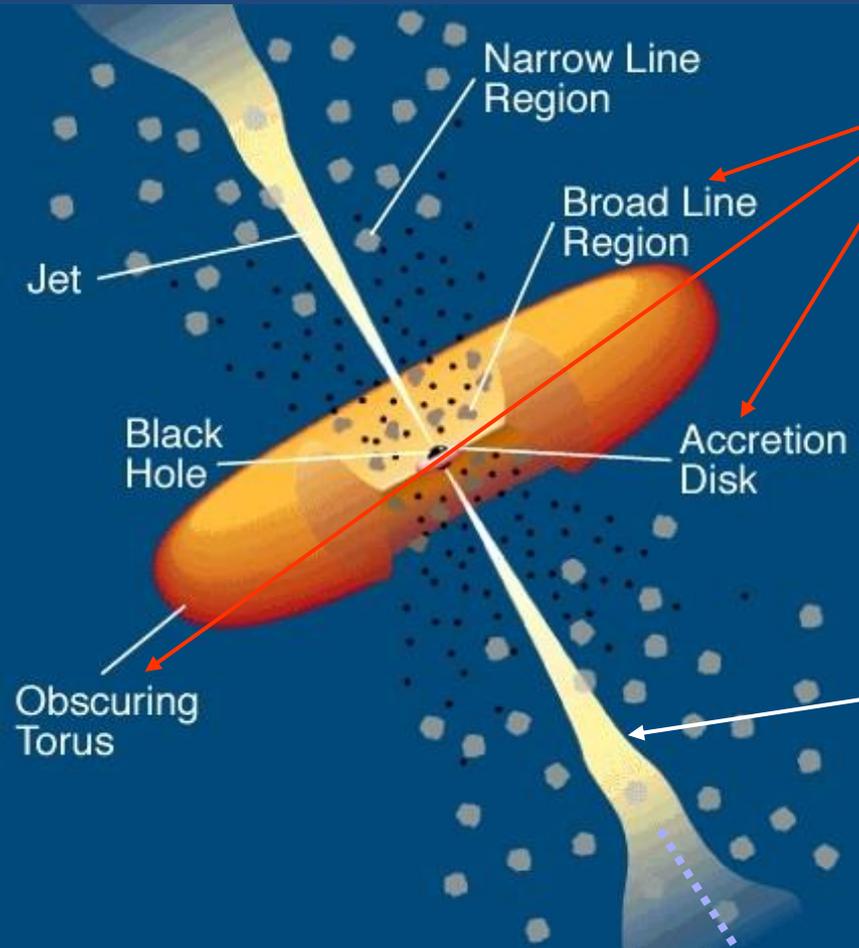
$$\rho = A_{\gamma} / A_{\text{opt}} > 2 \text{ or more.}$$

Standard EC predicts  $\rho = 1$

Moreover  $\gamma$ -flux shows doubling time of  
few hours in these events.

V.Vittorini, E. Striani, M. Tavani, A. Cavaliere,  
S. Vercellone on behalf of the AGILE AGN WG

# FSRQ standard model



**External:** galaxy frame ( $z$ ),  
radiation connected with accretion

External photons  $N_{\text{ext}}$  and jet electrons  $n_e(\gamma)$

produce

**External Compton (EC)**

**Jet:** blob moving with Lorentz factor  $\Gamma$ ,  
beamed, non thermal radiation

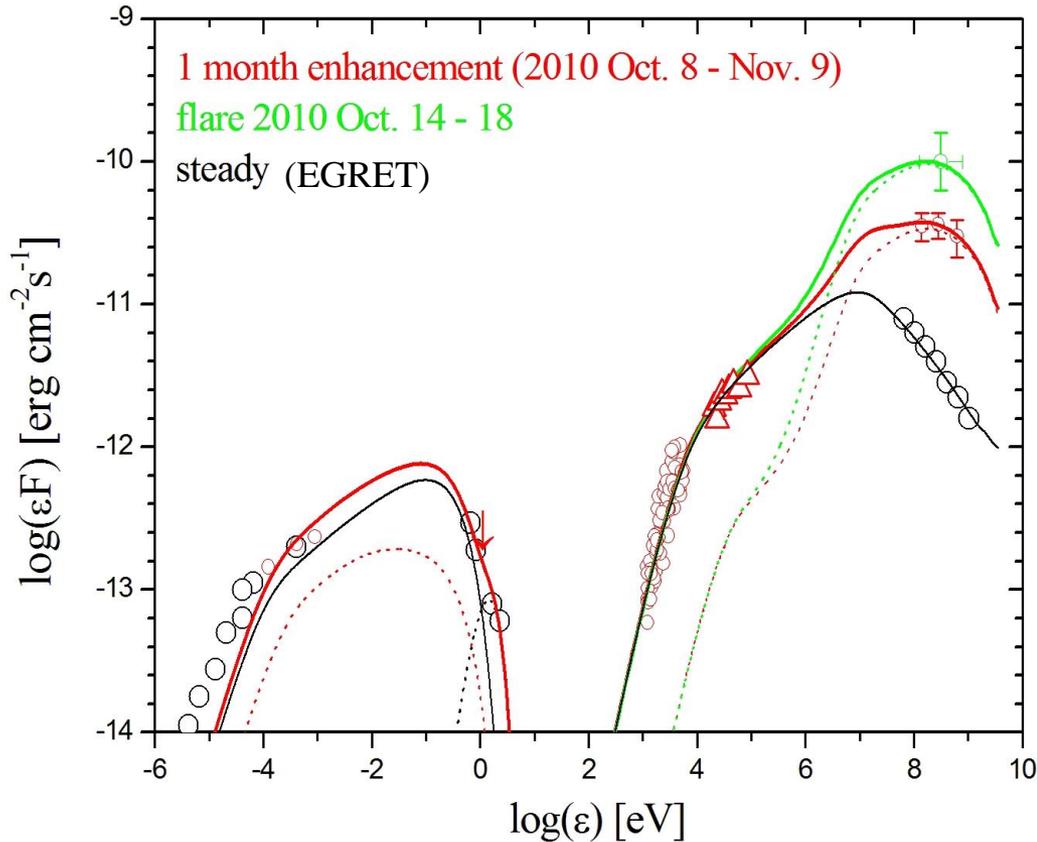
Electron distribution  $n_e(\gamma)$  and magnetic field  $B$

produce

**Synchrotron + Inverse Compton (SSC)**

$\Gamma$

# PKS 1830: an extreme instance



Orphan gamma-flare during a monthly activity: Optical and X-ray remain at historical steady levels, and  $\rho=3$

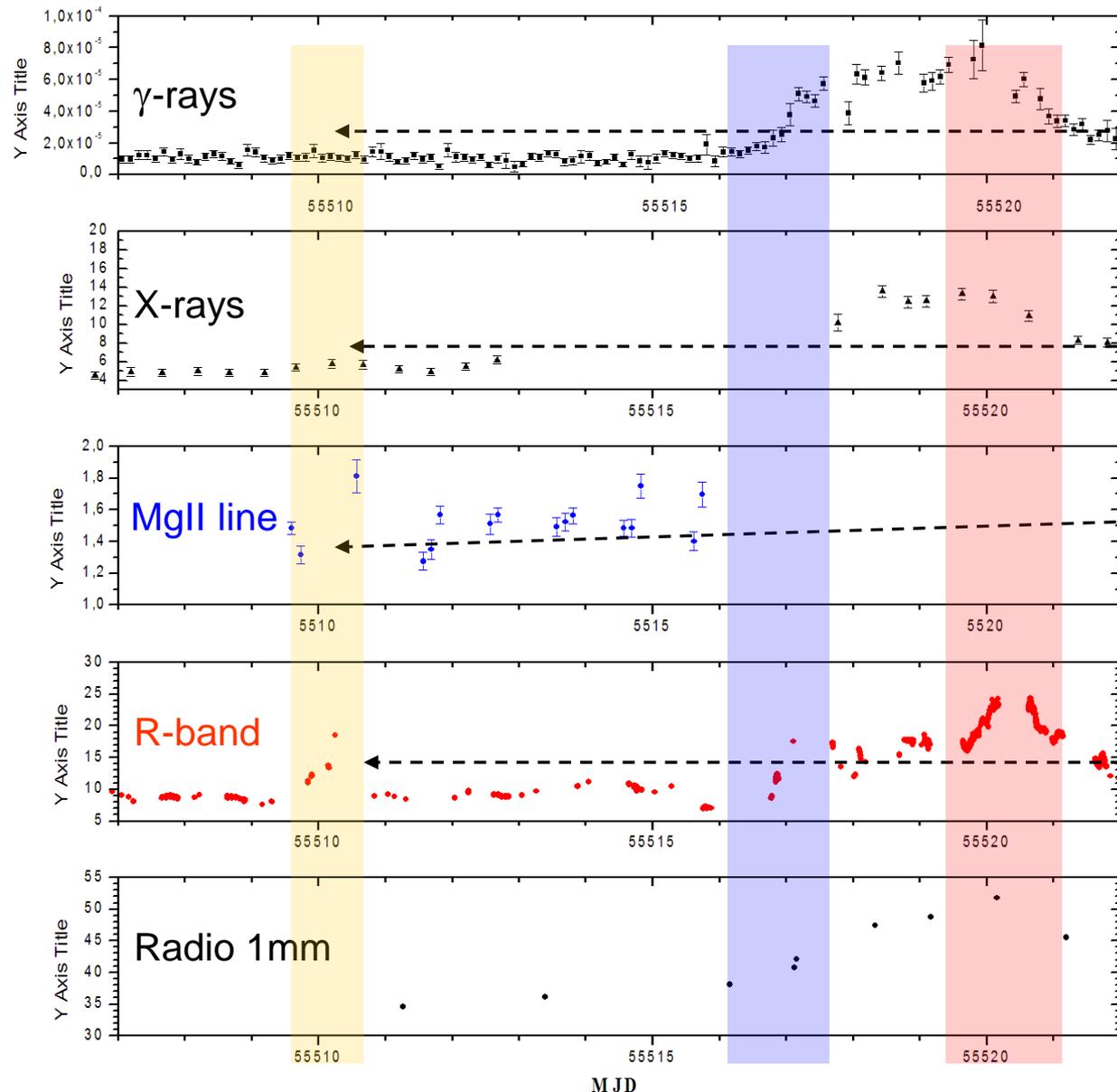
A second component of shocked particles (red dotted lines) can account for the **monthly enhancement** in gamma-rays with little or no contributions in optical and X-rays.

But the **fast orphan flare** ( $A_\gamma = 3$  on 6 hours) around Oct. 14 would require some variation in the external field of seed photons !

Ciprini et al. 2010; Donnarumma et al. 2011

# The November 2010 super flare of 3C 454

(Vercellone et al. 2011)



**No gamma-ray counterpart**

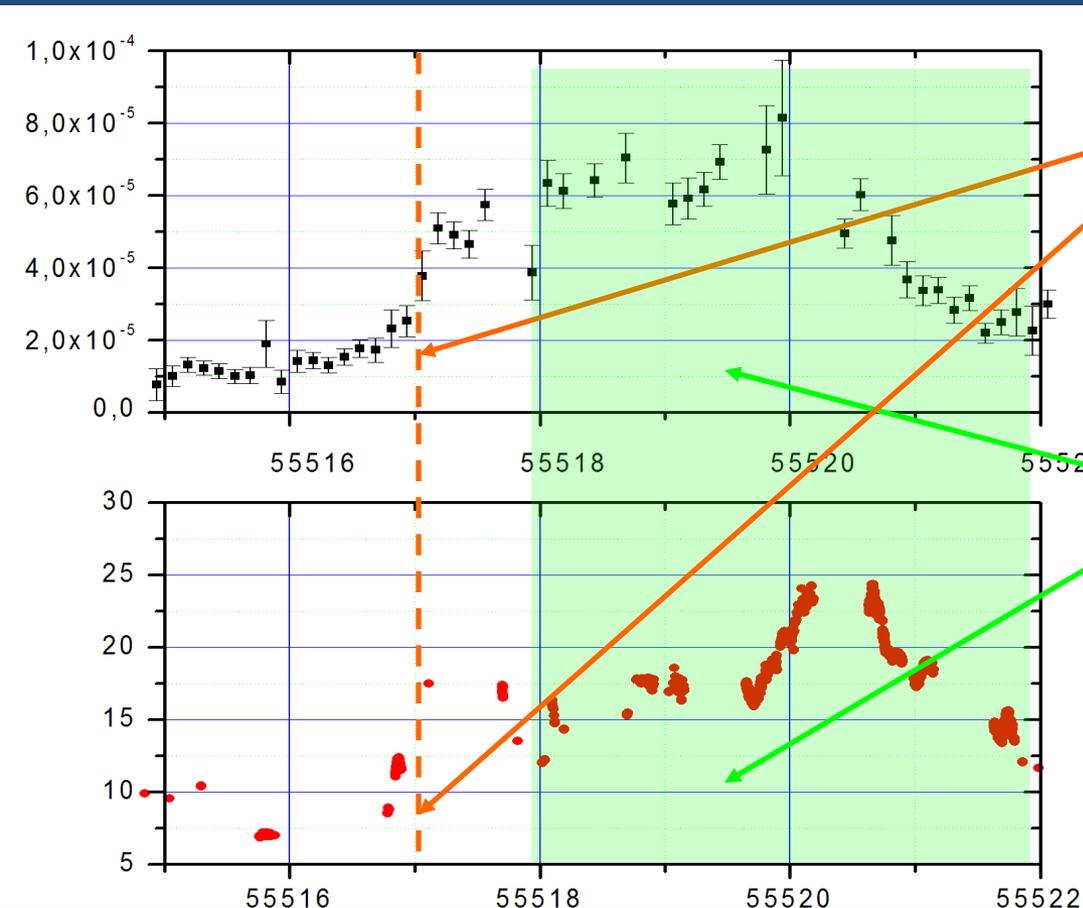
**Faint soft X-ray counterpart**

(SC plays a secondary role!)

**MgII line flux variations of 30% (Leon Tavares 2013)**

**Strong 1 day optical flare (energization of a new component in the inner jet)**

With courtesy of E. Striani and J. Leon Tavares



Around MJD=55517 the  $\gamma$  ray flux jumps by a factor  $A_\gamma = 4 - 5$  while the optical flux rises by a factor  $A_{opt} = 2$  only!

$\gamma$  ray flux varies of 100% in 6 hours

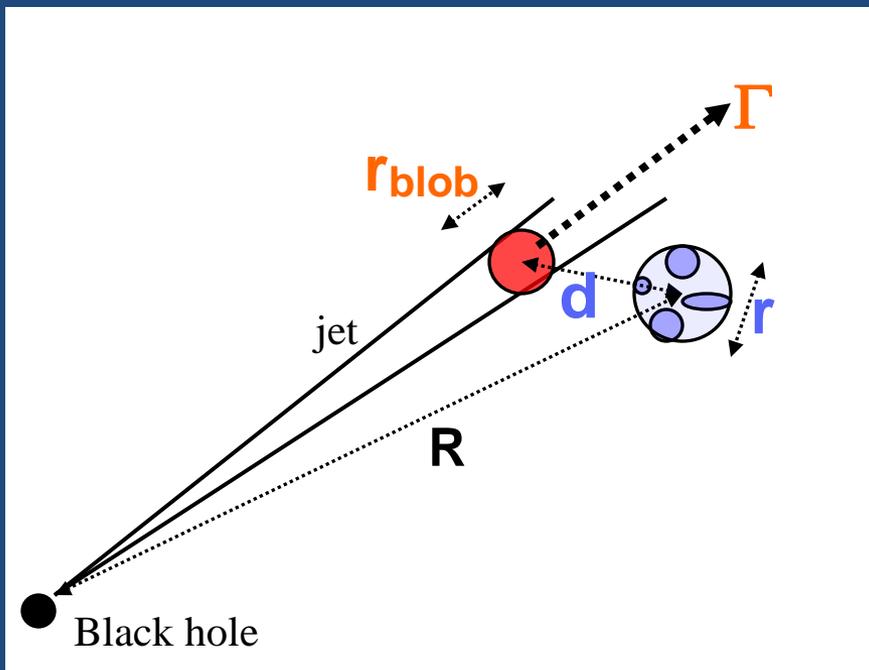
Later on, variation factors appear to be comparable with  $\rho=1$

To account for this complex correlation, some variations are required in the external photon field seen by the moving blob!

# What happens when a scattering system crosses the jet trajectory at $R < R_{BLR}$ ?

In standard EC from BLR, clouds cover  $a=10\%$  at distance  $R_{BLR}=3 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ cm}$ , and reflect the disk luminosity  $L_D$ . The energy density of photons seen by a far blob moving with bulk Lorentz factor  $\Gamma$  is

$$U'_{BLR} \sim \frac{17}{12} \frac{a L_D \Gamma^2}{4\pi R_{BLR}^2 c}$$



When the blob approaches at distance  $d \ll R_{BLR}$  a system of size  $r$ , a gain  $g = a^{-1} (r/2d)^2 < 3$  can be obtained, with time-scale  $\Gamma^{-2} (r + r_{blob})/c$  and

$$U'_{loc} = U'_{BLR} (1+g)$$

# ...and beyond the BLR?

$$U'_{MIR} = aL'_{syn}\Gamma^4 / (cd^2)$$

$$= U'_{BLR}(L_S/L_D)(R_{BLR}/\Gamma d)^2$$

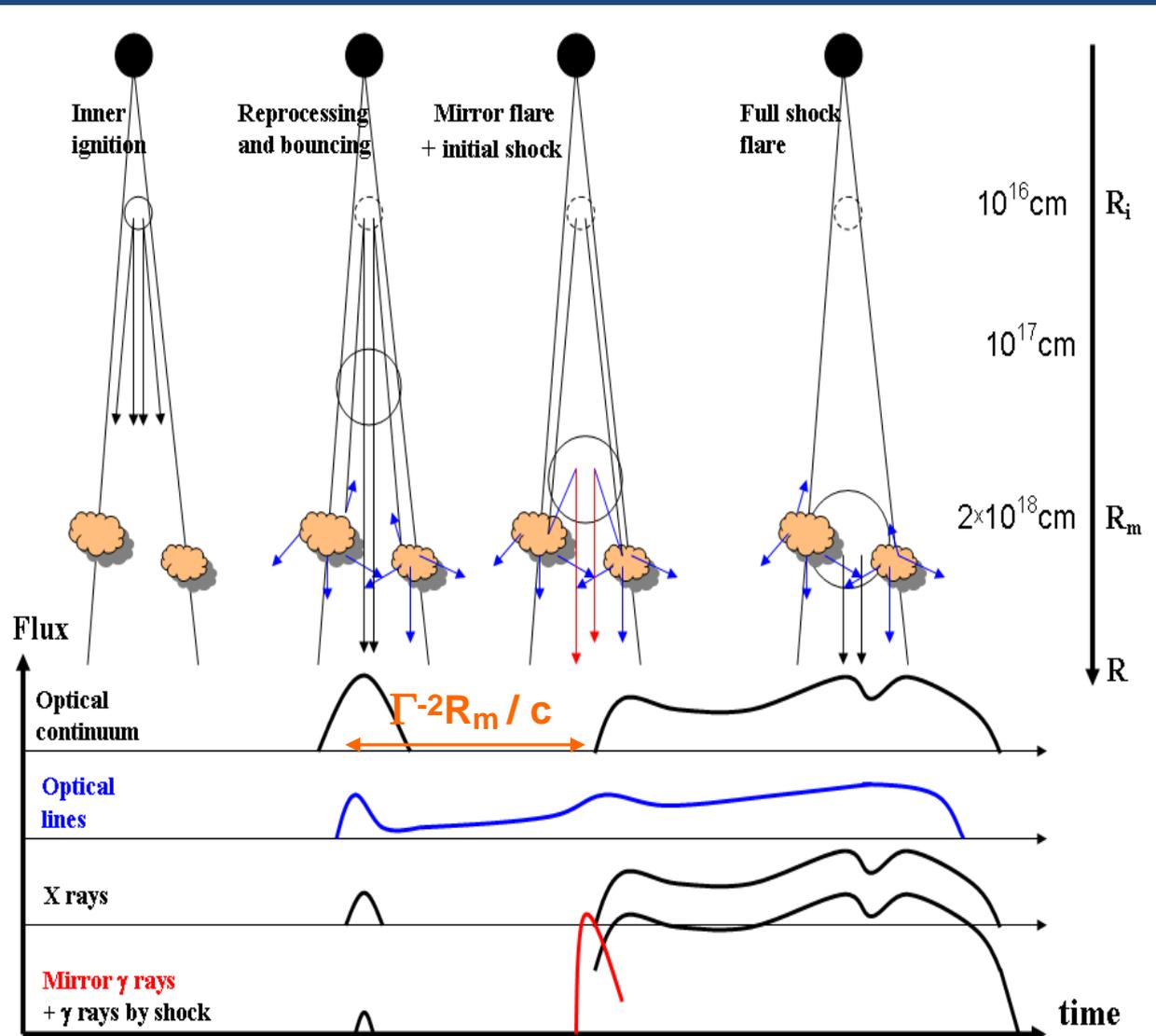
But causality constrain  
 $d < R_m / (4\Gamma^2)$ , then  
 $U'_M > U'_{BLR}$  results for a  
 crossing time

$$\Delta t_{obs} = (d+r)/(c\Gamma^2)$$

Is the observed duration

$$t_{del} = d/(c\Gamma^2) = \text{half hour}$$

Blob impact delay



Adequate  $\gamma$  amplification

Rise-time of few hours

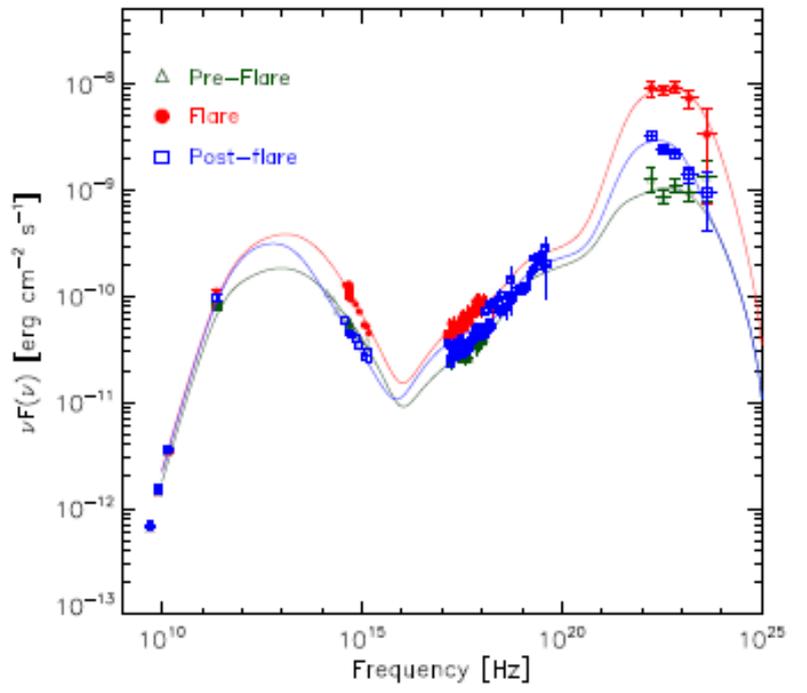
Shock delay of half hour

$\gamma$ -ray emitted at pc scale

Optical precursor with  
 30% line enhancement

# 3C 454 in Nov. 2010

Vercellone  
et al. 2011



This idea explains the SED during the entire period of activity, by **two** electron populations in the jet

| Parameter             | Pre-flare | Flare  |                              |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------|------------------------------|
| SEDs model parameters |           |        |                              |
| $\alpha_l$            | 2.35      | 2.35   |                              |
| $\alpha_h$            | 4.2       | 4.8    |                              |
| $\gamma_{\min}$       | 50        | 80     |                              |
| $\gamma_b$            | 650       | 700    |                              |
| $K$                   | 300       | 700    | $\text{cm}^{-3}$             |
| $R_{\text{jet}}$      | 7.0       | 3.6    | $10^{18} \text{ cm}$         |
| $B$                   | 0.65      | 1.1    | G                            |
| $\delta$              | 34.5      | 34.5   |                              |
| $L_d$                 | 2         | 2      | $10^{48} \text{ erg s}^{-1}$ |
| $T_d$                 | $10^4$    | $10^4$ | $^{\circ}\text{K}$           |
| $r_d$                 | 0.05      | 0.05   | pc                           |
| $\theta_0$            | 1.15      | 1.15   | degrees                      |
| $\Gamma$              | 20        | 20     |                              |

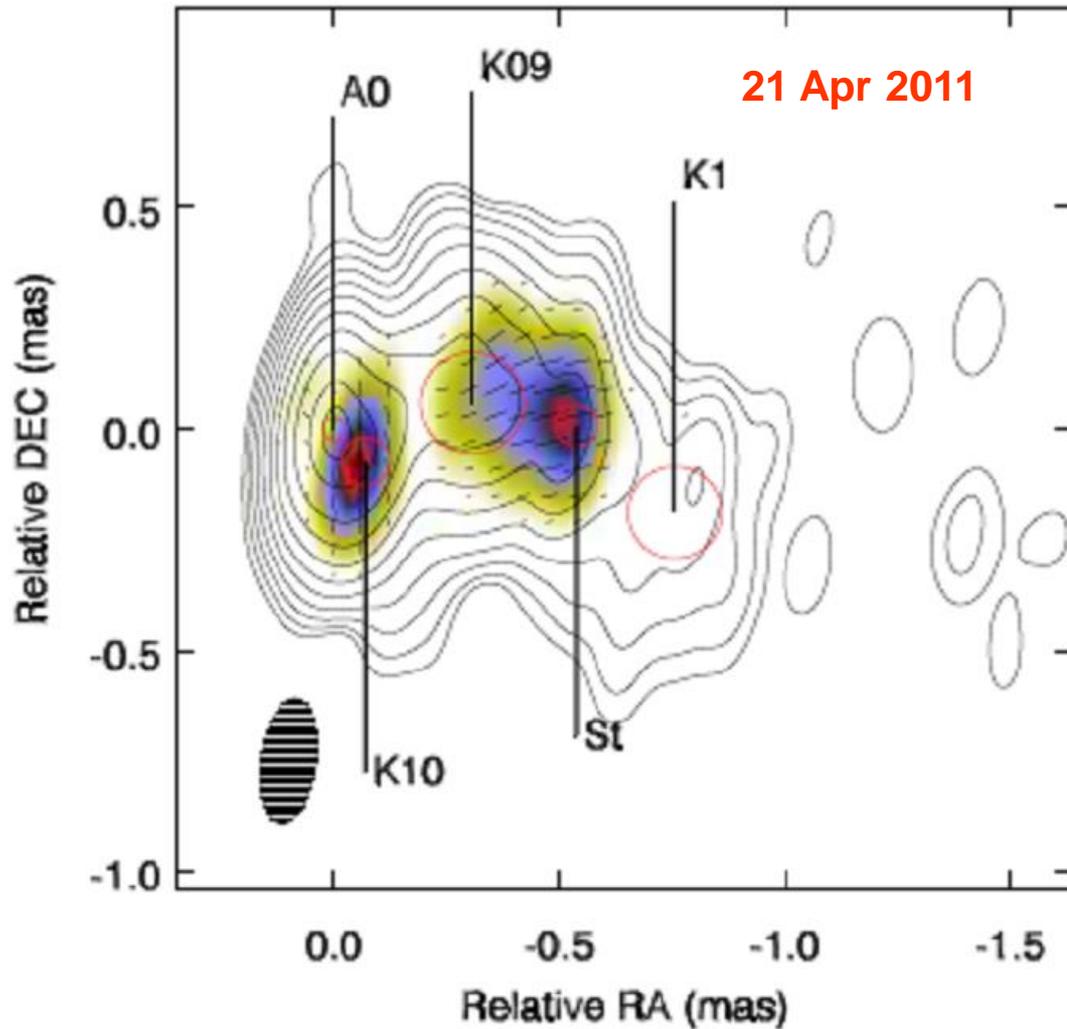
Data concerning PKS 1830 and 3C 454 suggest:

Two populations of electrons seem unavoidable.

Standard EC models are challenged!

In fact, variations in the external photon field seen by the blob are required to understand the observed complex  $\gamma$ -ray vs. Opt. behavior. This also accounts for very fast  $\gamma$  variations of 100% in few hours.

Mirroring of the blob photons by scattering material accounts for  $\gamma$ -ray emission at pc scales: far from the BLR



The knot K10 emerges from the core  $T=160$  days after the flare (Jorstad et al. 2012).

With a jet opening angle  $1.6^\circ$  K10 traveled  $R_c=16$  pc before being resolved.

For  $\Gamma=10$  the predicted lag is  $T=\Gamma^{-2}R_c/c=0.5$  years