Middle-aged SNRs with AGILE

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Gamma-ray astronomy below 100 MeV

Last (almost) unexplored window : 10
 -100 MeV

- Challenging because of high background flux and strong m.s. suffered by tracks

- AGILE already provided a spectrum below 100 MeV for some "special" sources (GRB 090510, Crab pulsar)

- Thanks to a better knowledge of the instrument is now possible also for "standard" (bright) sources



SNRs at "low" energy



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SNRs at "low" energy : diffusion of CRs (W28)



SNRs at "low" energy : diffusion of CRs



SNRs at "low" energy : protons vs electrons

The discrepancies between leptonic and hadronic models are expected to be more evident at low energy (50 -100 MeV)

The Study of SNRs below 100 GeV allows to disentangle between Hadronic vs Leptonic emission.

-> **SNR W44**

SNR W44

Age : ~ 20000 yr Distance : ~ 3 Kpc Type : mixed-morphology



Ideal Laboratory for CRs Study :

SNR W44

Age : ~ 20000 yr Distance : ~ 3 Kpc Type : mixed-morphology



1) Expanding in a dense medium [Reach et al . 2005]

Maser OH (1720 Hz) emission from SNR-MC interaction [Claussen et al. 1997, Hoffman et al. 2005]





Legend

- A ejecta
- B hot x-ray emitting interior
- C cooler outer region of interior
- D active shell formation in equatorial band
- E cold dense shell, seen in recession in 21 cm, source of radio continuum, gamma rays, bounded by radiative shock
- F corrugation in shell, tangency seen as filament in radio continuum, Hα, OH masers
- G shock with substantial cooling but no shell as yet
- H ambient medium with density gradient, lumpiness which corrugates shell
- I look direction

H_2 and Halpha emission





FIG. 4.-Red continuum subtracted Ha image, superposed on PSPC contours

Rно et al. (see 430, 760)

[Reach et al . 2005]



SNR W44

Age : ~ 20000 yr Distance : ~ 3 Kpc Type : mixed-morphology

1) Expanding in a dense medium [Reach et al . 2005]

2) Strong non-thermal emission in radio e gamma-ray band

Observed over very wide radio (10 MHz to 10 GHz) and gamma (50 Mev-50 GeV) bands





SNR W44

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2) Strong non-thermal emission in radio e gamma-ray band



3) Large angular dimensions

Morphology and spatially resolved spectrum (in both radio and gamma bands)

Radio Spectrum

The radio spectrum of W44 is a power-law featurless in the frequency range ~ 10 MHz - 10 GHz (Castelletti et al 2007)

The spectral slope is alpha = 0.37

(corresponding to an elect. Spec. $F \sim E^{-1.74}$ particle / cm s MeV)



Gamma-Rays Observations of W44

- No TeV emission detected up to now

(Upper limits from MAGIC, Veritas and Milagro)

Fermi detection of W44



Gamma-ray emission correlated to the shell (enhanced where ISM is more dense)

Fermi/LAT measured the spectrum of W44 in the energy band 200 MeV – 50 GeV

Image for E >2 GeV

Abdo 2010, Science, 327

Fermi detection of W44



AGILE detection of W44



Giuliani et al. ApJ, 2011

AGILE detection of W44

E > 400 MeV



1.4 Ghz









Leptonic models

Electrons energy distribution:

$$F_e(E) = K_e E^{-p} e^{-\frac{E}{E_c}}$$
$$F_e(E) = K_e E^{-p} e^{-\frac{E_c}{E}}$$
$$F_e(E) = K_e \left(\frac{E}{E_c}\right)^{p_1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{E}{E_c}\right)\right)^{p_1 - p_2}$$

Gamma-rays emission process :

- Inverse Compton (B free parameter)
 - on ISRF photons
 - on CMB photons
- Bremsstrahlung (B, n free parameters)

Leptonic model : IC, ISRF seed photons



Ambient :

Β: 3μG n: 1 cm⁻³

Electrons Spectrum :

 $F_e(E) = K_e \left(\frac{E}{E_c}\right)^{p_1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{E}{E_c}\right)\right)^{p_1 - p_2} = 8$:22 GeV

Leptonic model : IC, CBR seed photons



Ambient : B :

B: 10μG n: 1 cm⁻³

Electrons Spectrum :

p1 = 0 $F_e(E) = K_e \left(\frac{E}{E_c}\right)^{p_1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{E}{E_c}\right)\right)^{p_1 - p_2} = 8$: 700 GeV

Leptonic model : Bremsstrahlung



n: 300 cm⁻³

Electrons Spectrum :

p1 = 0 $F_e(E) = K_e \left(\frac{E}{E_c}\right)^{p_1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{E}{E_c}\right)\right)^{p_1 - p_2} = 3.3$:1 GeV

Leptonic model : Bremsstrahlung, B= 200



 Ambient :
 B : 200 μG

 n : 5000 cm⁻³

Electrons Spectrum :

$$F_e(E) = K_e \left(\frac{E}{E_c}\right)^{p_1} \left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 + \frac{E}{E_c}\right)\right)^{p_1 - p_2} = 8$$

:1 GeV





E < 400 MeV

E > 400 MeV



Lesson from W44

W44 is a "smoking gun" proof for the emission in SNRs

Protons are (still) present in the shell of W44

The inferred proton spectrum has:

spectral index : - 3.0 \pm 0.1 I.e. cutoff ~ 6 GeV

up to ~ 200 GeV

challenging for theoretical models of particles injection

The region of the Supernova Remnant Gamma Cygni (G78.2+2.1)



SNR Gamma Cygni (G78.2+2.1) "subtracting" the pulsar → "off-pulse" analysis

- PSR \rightarrow peculiar light curve (high unpulsed fraction, not sharp separation between onpeak and off-peak phases)
- several cuts for the off-pulse phase (45%, 20%, 10%)
- better-defined off-pulse phase: $0.95 \le \Delta \phi_{\text{off-phase}} \le 1.15$ (20%)
- AGILE-GRID imaging for $E \ge 400 \text{ MeV}$





SNR Gamma Cygni (G78.2+2.1) gas distribution



Modeling the γ-ray SED of the source "A"

