#### The Propagation of Choked Jet Outflows Christopher Irwin, HUJI/TAU Collaborators: Tsvi Piran (HUJI), Ehud Nakar & Ore Gottlieb (TAU)





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#### Evidence for Choked Jets in Long GRBs

- **GRB** duration distribution
  - A plateau suggests that many objects do not escape the star to produce typical GRBs
  - This is also seen in short GRBs, albeit with a lower significance
- Early spectroscopy
- Low-luminosity GRBs



Bromberg+ 2012

# Evidence for Choked Jets in Long GRBs

- Duration distribution
- Early spectroscopy
  - Analysis of some SNe reveal a high-velocity component
  - The mass (~0.1 Msun) and energy (~1 foe) are consistent with expectations for a GRB jet's cocoon
- Low-luminosity GRBs



#### Evidence for Choked Jets in Long GRBs

- Duration distribution
- Early spectroscopy
- Low-luminosity GRBs
  - LLGRBs are long, faint, soft, and smooth compared to typical GRBs—all features which are expected in a relativistic shock breakout
  - UV/optical cooling emission suggests an extended (~100 Rsun) envelope with sufficient mass (0.01 Msun) to choke a standard GRB jet



$$t_{\rm bo}^{\rm obs} \sim 20 \, {\rm s} \left( \frac{E_{\rm bo}}{10^{46} \, {\rm erg}} \right)^{1/2} \left( \frac{T_{\rm bo}}{50 \, {\rm keV}} \right)^{-\frac{94\sqrt{3}}{4}}$$

Nakar & Sari 2012

## A gap in our analytical understanding



## Two Key Questions

 What happens to a jet-driven outflow after the jet is switched off?

• What can we learn about the jet's properties by studying the 'choked' outflow it leaves behind?

### Jet Choking

• Once the jet turns off and all of the jet material flows into the cocoon, we consider the system "choked"



For a collimated relativistic jet, a/b >> 1.

#### Kompaneets Approximation

- We utilize the well-known Kompaneets approximation, which involves 3 assumptions:
  - 1. The cocoon drives a strong shock into the external medium.
  - 2. The local expansion velocity is always normal to the cocoon surface.
  - 3. The postshock pressure,  $P_{ps}$ , is similar to the volume-averaged pressure of the cocoon, i.e.

$$P_{ps}(t) = \frac{\lambda(\gamma - 1)E_0}{V_c(t)}$$

where  $E_0$  is the cocoon energy,  $\gamma$  is the adiabatic index,V is the cocoon volume, and  $\lambda$  is an order-unity constant

### Equation of Motion

 Assumptions 1 and 2 let us write two expressions for normal velocity: one from shock jump conditions, the other from geometry in polar coordinates:

$$\sqrt{\frac{\gamma+1}{2}\frac{P_{ps}(t)}{\rho(R)}} = v(R,t) = \frac{|\partial\theta/\partial t|}{\sqrt{1/R^2 + (\partial\theta/\partial R)^2}}$$

• This PDE can be solved subject to the initial condition  $\theta(R,t)|_{t=t_0} = \theta_i(R_i)$ 

to yield the shape of the shock over time.

## Dynamical Regimes

- The cocoon evolution has two characteristic timescales:
  - The time for the width to double,  $\rm t_{\rm b}$
  - The time for the height to double,  $t_a$
- Evolution proceeds in three phases:

$$t_b \sim t_0 \sim \left(\frac{\rho b^4 a}{E_0}\right)^{1/2}.$$
$$t_a \sim \left(\frac{\rho a^5}{E_0}\right)^{1/2} \sim \left(\frac{a}{b}\right)^2 t_b$$

- 1. t < t<sub>b</sub> (r<sub>c</sub> < 2b and  $z_c$  < 2a). The cocoon volume is roughly constant and the pressure does not change much.
- 2.  $t_b < t < t_a$  ( $r_c > 2b$ , but  $z_c < 2a$ ): The pressure starts to drop due to sideways expansion. Most of the expansion takes place near the tip, where the density is lowest.
- 3. t >>  $t_a$  ( $z_c$  >> 2a): The outflow becomes scale-free.

Overview of Results



CMI+ in prep.

#### Shape at infinity

• Instead of a sphere, the asymptotic shape for  $\alpha>2$  is

 $R(\theta) \approx z_c \left[\cos(k_{\alpha}\theta)\right]^{-1/k_{\alpha}}$ 

$$k_{\alpha} \equiv \frac{2-\alpha}{2}$$

- The limiting shape is the same as if two point explosions were set off at z=+a and z=-a (Korycansky 1992)
- Interestingly, the shape for α=3 is a cardioid

## Evolution of the outflow's height and width



$$z_c \simeq \begin{cases} a + b(t/t_0 - 1), & t \lesssim 2t_0 \\ a + b(2t/t_0 - 3)^{1/2}, & 2t_0 \lesssim t \ll t_0 \\ a\left(\frac{5-\alpha}{2}C_{\alpha}^{-1/2}\frac{b^2}{a^2}\frac{t}{t_0}\right)^{2/(5-\alpha)}, & t \gg t_a \end{cases}$$



#### Comparison with Simulations









## Extracting Constraints on the Jet Parameters

- How do we glean information about the jet even if we don't observe it directly?
- Suppose observations can provide estimates for the energy of the outflow,  $E_0$ , along with its height,  $z_c$ , and width,  $r_c$
- In a spherical model, we have the constraint  $L_j t_j = E_0$  —and that's it
- However, with information on the asphericity, it is possible to estimate the radius, a, where the jet deposited its energy:

$$a \sim \begin{cases} z_c - r_c, & z_c - r_c \gtrsim z_c/2 \\ [z_c^{-\alpha}(z_c - r_c)^2]^{1/(2-\alpha)}, & z_c - r_c \ll z_c/2. \end{cases}$$

- If the density at  $z_c$  is also known, this translates into a constraint on the jet duration and opening angle:

$$t_{j}\theta_{op}^{-2} \sim \left(\frac{\rho(z_{c})z_{c}^{5}}{E_{0}}\right)^{1/2} \left(\frac{z_{c}-r_{c}}{z_{c}}\right)^{q_{\alpha}} \qquad q_{\alpha} \equiv \begin{cases} (5-\alpha)/2, & z_{c}-r_{c} \gtrsim z_{c}/2\\ (5-\alpha)/(2-\alpha), & z_{c}-r_{c} \ll z_{c}/2 \end{cases}$$

### Future Applications

- AGN bubbles (CMI+, submitted)
- Shock breakout signature
  - The breakout signal is sensitive to deviations from sphericity; it may be possible to use this to constrain the choking radius
- Cocoon cooling emission
- Distribution of velocity with mass



### Future Applications

- AGN bubbles (CMI+, submitted)
- Shock breakout signature
- Cocoon cooling emission
  - The timescale of cooling emission enables an estimate of the mass swept up by the cocoon,  $M_{\rm c}$
- Distribution of velocity with mass



At breakout:

$$z_c \sim R_*$$
 
$$r_c/z_c \sim (M_c/M_*)^{1/2}$$

### Future Applications

- AGN bubbles (CMI+, submitted)
- Shock breakout signature
- Cocoon cooling emission
- Distribution of velocity with mass
  - Can be calculated and compared to observations to estimate choking location and jet energy



#### Conclusions

- Choked jet outflows are inherently aspherical, and that asphericity carries valuable information about the central engine's properties
- There are many potential avenues to constrain the shape of the outflow through observations
- If the shape of the shock is constrained, a lot can be learned about the jet's properties, even if you don't see the jet itself