High Energy Phenomena at the Galactic Center: Fermi Bubbles and Sgr A Lobes

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- Shanghai Astronomical Observatory
 - **Chinese Academy of Sciences**



Cosmic Rays: acceleration, transport, impact

Cosmic ray accelerators:

- Supernovae
- Pulsar Wind Nebulae
- Young stellar clusters
- Compact binaries
- starburst: clustered supernovae
- AGN: accretion, jets, outflows







- Starburst: clustered supernovae
- AGN: accretion, jets, outflows

Energetic Outbursts at the Galactic Center



Galactic center Chimneys and the central Sgr A Lobes (Ponti+2019)

Fermi Bubbles in Gamma Ray and Microwave





WMAP 23 GHz haze



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Detection of large-scale X-ray bubbles in the Milky Way halo



0.6-1 keV in cyan

eROSITA bubbles (Predehl + 2020) red — Fermi gamma-ray map

eROSITA Bubbles



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MAXI/SSC all-sky maps from 0.7 keV to 4 keV

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MAXI (0.7-1 keV; red), Nakahira + 2020



17-1



Mysteries about Fermi and eROSITA Bubbles



eROSITA bubbles (Predehl + 2020)

Fermi and eROSITA bubbles: (1) Gamma ray emission mechanisms (2) Origins

How do they contribute to the Galactic cosmic ray population at various energies?

O Do Fermi and eROSITA bubbles are the same event?



Scenario one: one unified model for Fermi and eROSITA bubbles





Fermi Bubbles

Guo & Mathews 2012; Guo + 2012, ApJ; Guo 2017; Zhang & Guo 2020, 2021

• other AGN models: Quasar outflow model, hot accretion flow - outflow model



Scenario one: one unified model for Fermi and eROSITA bubbles

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Bubble age ~ 1-2 Myr



Problem: bipolar X-ray outflows in ROSAT map





Scenario two: separate models for Fermi and eROSITA bubbles





Figure 9. Synthetic X-ray (0.7–2 keV) surface brightness map in Galactic coordinates with a Hammer-Aitoff projection for run A at t = 5 Myr. The dots represent the edge of the observed Fermi bubbles.

Zhang & Guo, 2020, 2021



-2.000

-2.304

-2.608

-2.911

-3.215

-3.519

-3.823

-4.127

-4.430

-4.734

-2.000

-2.304

-2.608

-2.911

-3.215

-3.519

-3.823

-4.127

-4.430

-4.734





The Jet-Shock Model of Fermi bubbles

Bubble age ~ 5 Myr



Miller et al. (2016) found the bubble temperature is kT~0.40 keV, gas density ~0.001 cm⁻³

Bordoloi et al. (2017) found the bubble age is 5-9 Myr from UV absorption line studies of HVCs towards the bubbles.

Sgr A* is orbited by over a hundred massive stars with ages ~ 6±2 Myr



Scenario II needs a separate model for eROSITA Bubbles



See Zhang & Guo, 2021









Figure 11. Mach number of the forward shock in Run A at t = 5 Myr. The Mach number increases from low to high latitudes, with an approximate value of about $M \sim 2$.



n at the Shock Front

Figure 12. Temporal evolution of the Mach number of the forward shock in Run A. From top to bottom, the solid lines refer to the Mach number evolution at R = 0 (the bubble top), 0.5 kpc, and 1 kpc respectively, in the bubble surface. The dashed lines refer to the Mach number evolution at z = 2kpc (red), and 5 kpc (purple) in the bubble surface.

Re-acceleration of low-energy cosmic rays in the inner halo by the shock

15-parsec-sized Sgr A Lobes



XMM-Newton 2-4.5 keV Heard & Warwick 2013

density: a few /cc $T \sim 1 \text{ keV}$ mass ~ few solar mass energy: 10⁵⁰-10⁵¹ erg

Galactic longitude Chandra X-rays Ponti et al 2015, 2019



The Sgr A lobes: Are they triggered by a pair of TDE Jets in the recent past?





declining power for 0.5 yr





The Central Sgr A lobes driven by light thin jets from a TDE event at the Galactic center about 3500 years ago

Model fits the observed morphology, gas density, temperature, and X-ray surface brightness distribution quite well

Average lobe temperature ~ 1 keV Average lobe density ~ 5.9 per cc

Total injected mass 0.05 solar mass total injected energy 1 X 10⁵¹ erg

Consistent with TDE rate in our Galaxy

Jet direction should be along the Galactic rotation axis, similar to the AGN jet model for the Fermi bubbles









Potential Connection with the Galactic Center PeVatron



Energy (TeV)

Summary & Outstanding Problems

- The AGN jet-shock model explains the common origin of Fermi bubbles and bipolar X-ray outflows
- The central Sgr A lobes may be due to a TDE jet event at the Galactic Center about 3500 years ago
- Does the shock model produce cosmic rays radiating the observed radio and gamma emissions of the Fermi bubbles?
- Could the Sgr A lobes explain the Galactic center Pevatron?
- How are cosmic rays accelerated in the Fermi bubbles?
- Stay tuned for our future work on eROSITA bubbles, the Galactic center chimneys, M82 winds, and LHAASO observations of the Fermi/eROSITA bubbles region, etc