Inverse reconstruction of jet structure from off-axis gamma-ray burst afterglows

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Neutron Star Merger Event GW170817

Gravitational wave + EM counterparts

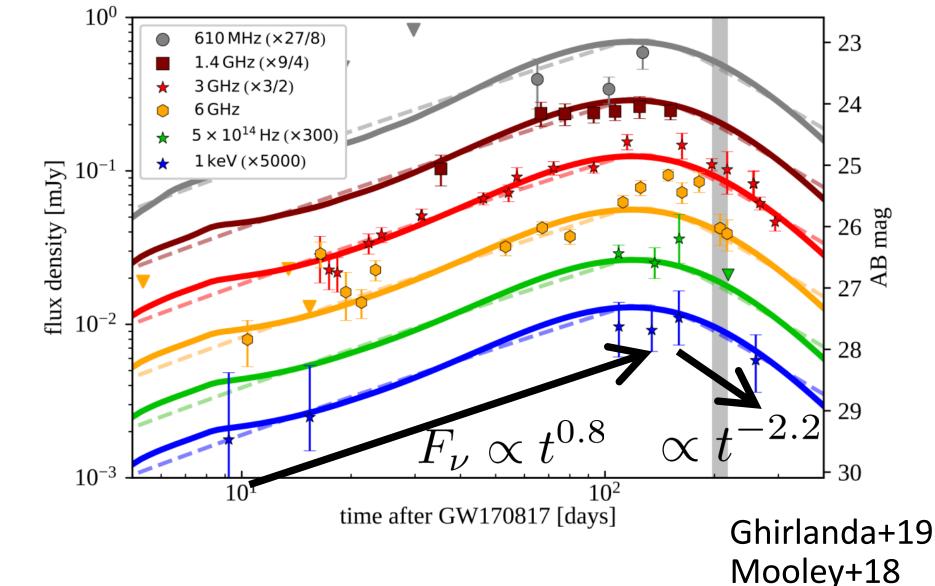
(dim) short GRB

macronova (kilonova)

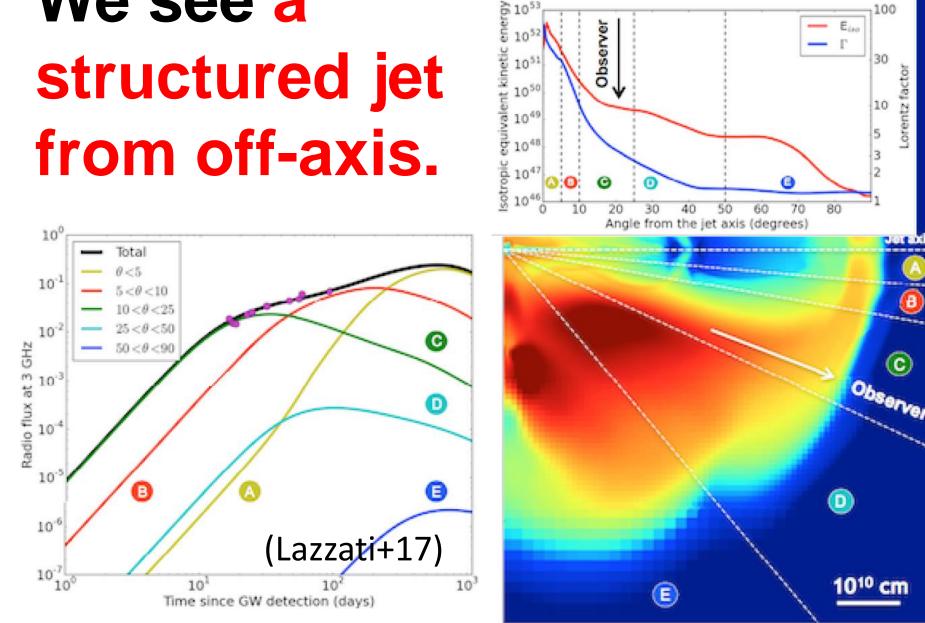
Radio - X-ray afterglow

Artist conception of the moment two neutron stars collide.

Unexpectedly slow-rising light curve of GRB170817A



We see a structured jet from off-axis.



-3.2

1050

1049

-8.0

Θ

-9.6

Log₁₀(p²) (g/cm³)

Eiso

Г

100

30

10

5 3 Lorentz factor

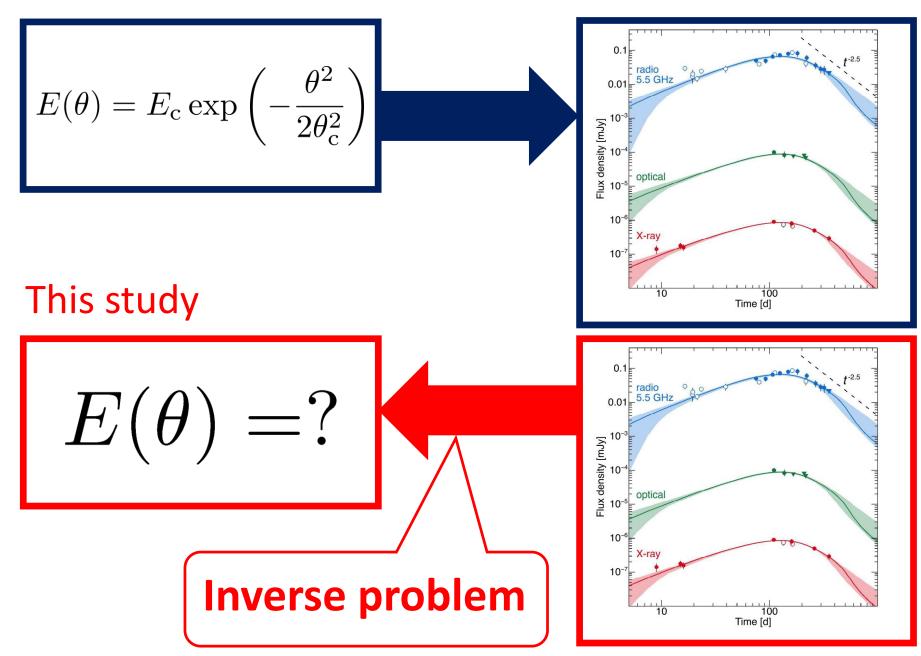
-6.4

-4.8

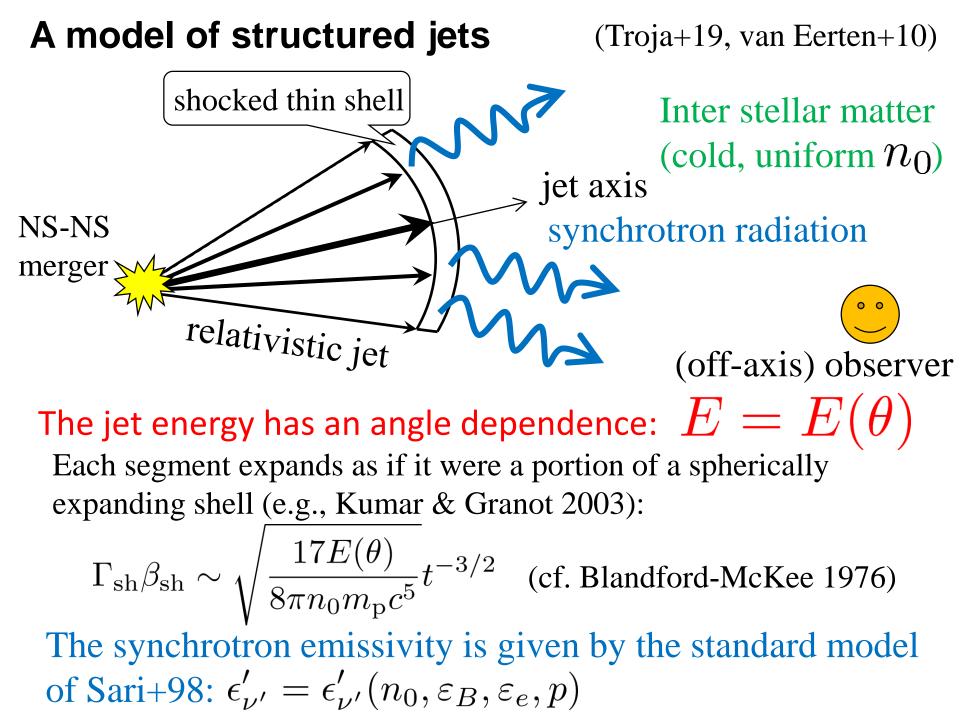
Observer

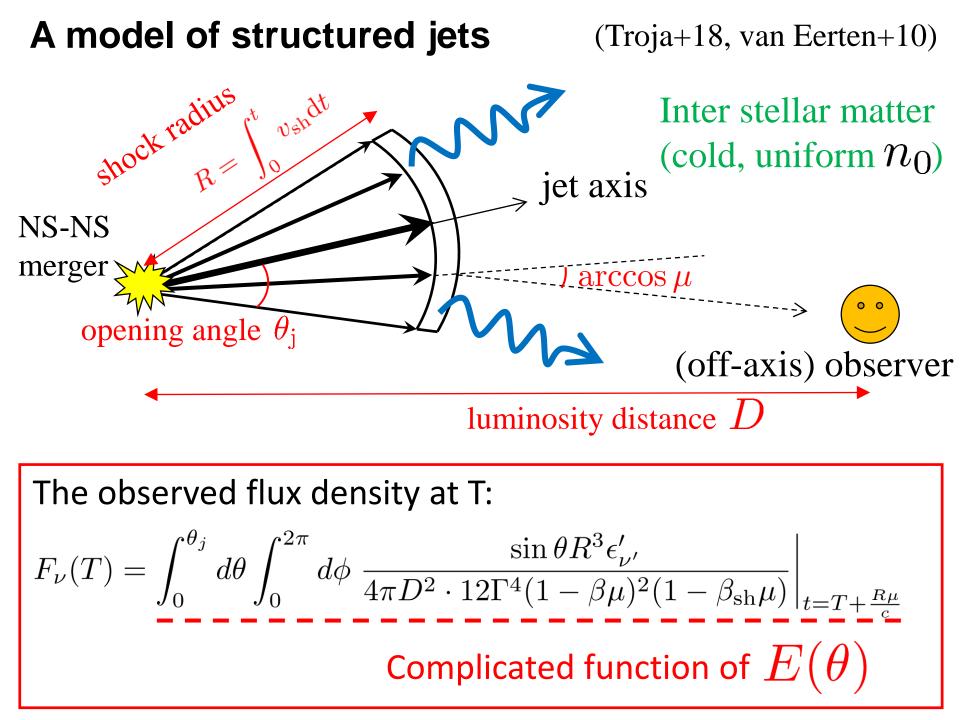
Θ

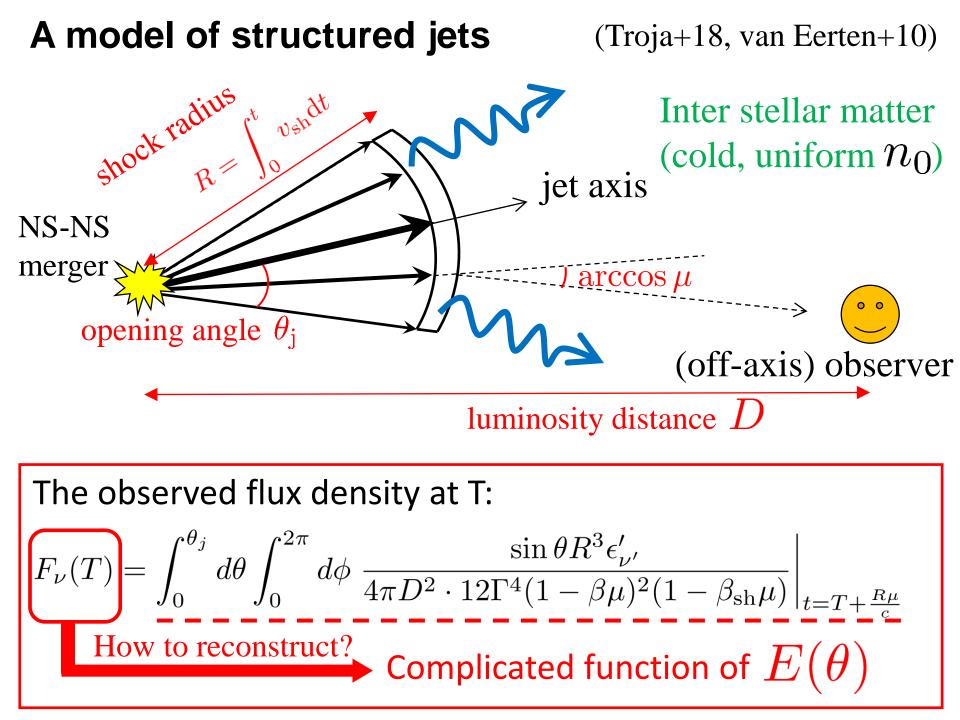
Previous studies (e.g., Troja+19, Ghirlanda+19)

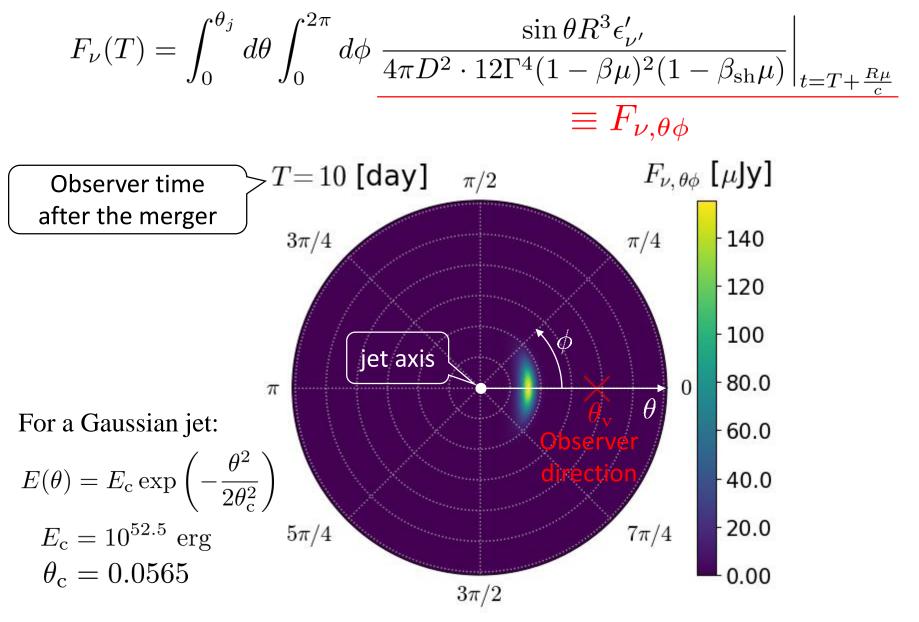


A novel method to inversely reconstruct $E(\theta)$

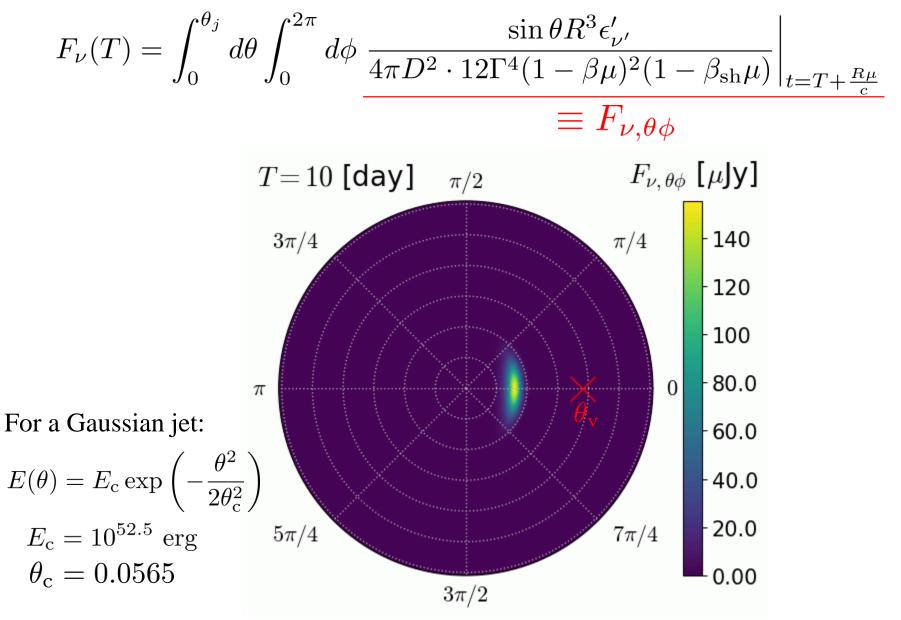




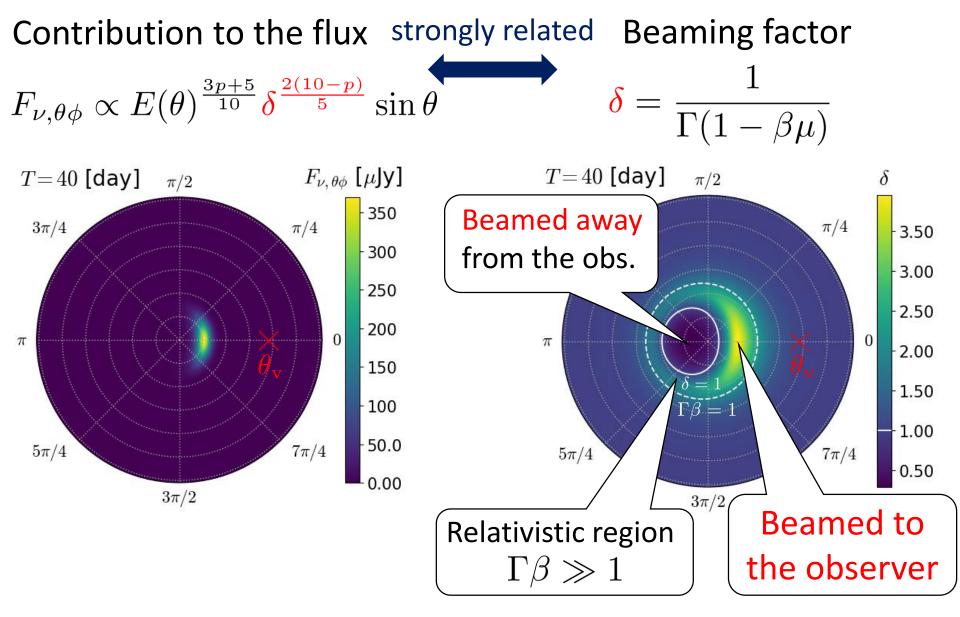




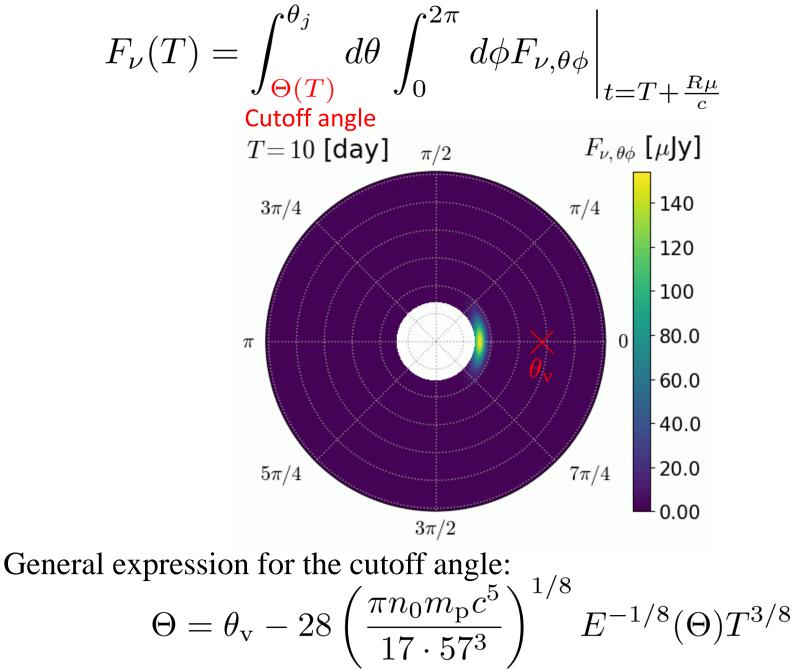
Only a limited region contributes to the observed flux (Why?)



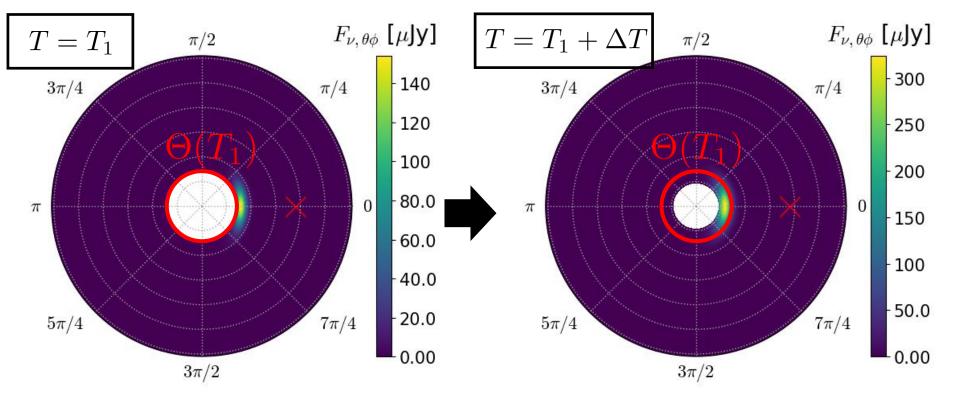
The contributing region gradually approach the jet axis, as the time passes. (Why?)



The contributing region gradually approach the jet axis as the jet is decelerated, due to beaming effects.

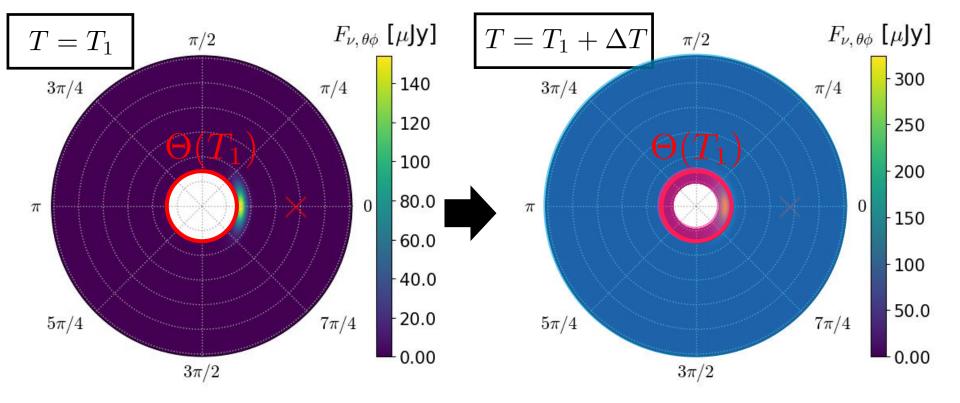


 n_0 : ambient matter number density



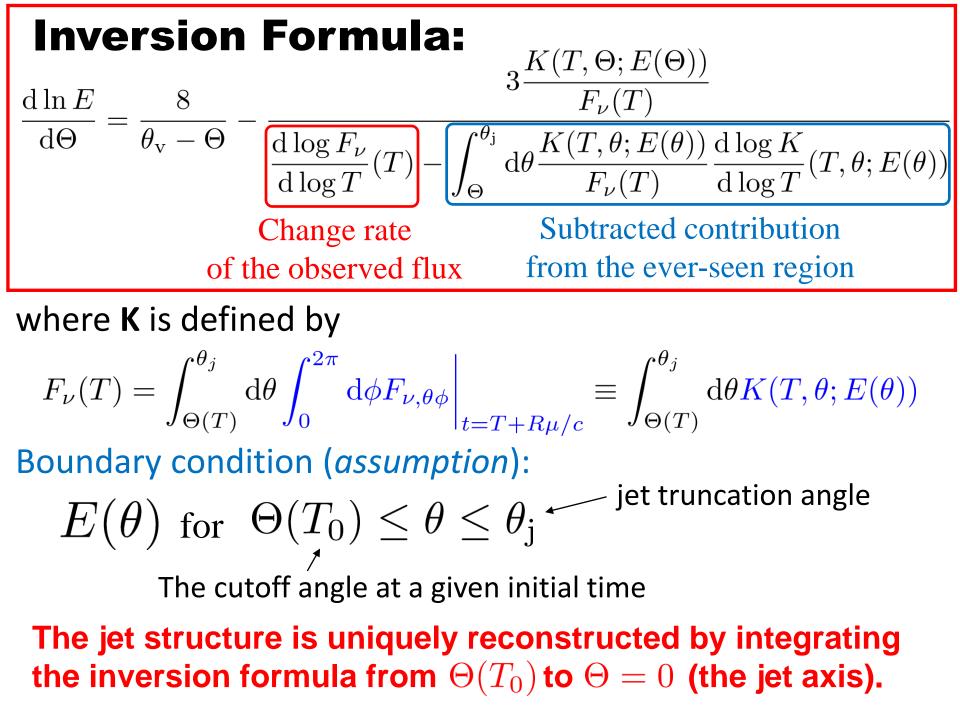
All the contributions to the observed flux $F_{\nu}(T_1 + \Delta T)$ — Contribution from the region that has been seen before: $\theta \ge \Theta(T_1)$ = Contribution from $\Theta(T_1 + \Delta T) \le \theta < \Theta(T_1)$ (containing the information on

the energy distribution for $\Theta(T_1 + \Delta T) \le \theta < \Theta(T_1)$



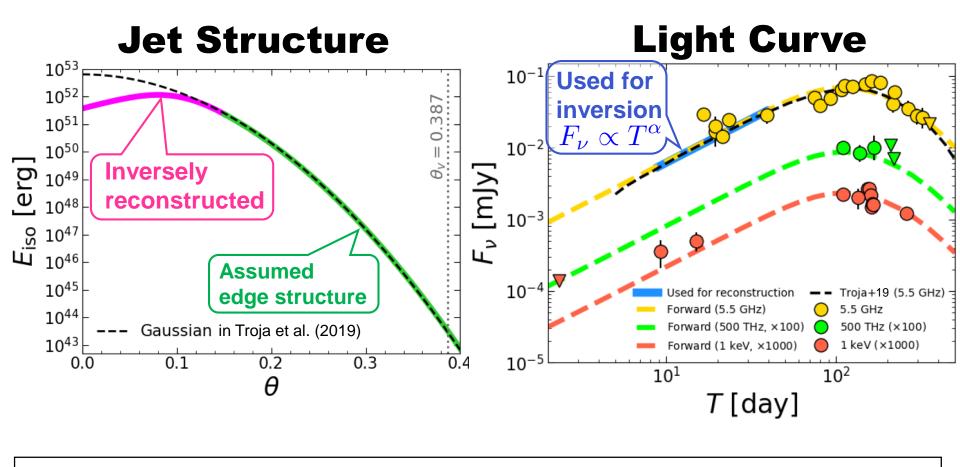
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Results A non-trivial jet structure obtained by our method

Non-trivial Result : Hollow-cone structure



 $n_0 = 10^{-3.01} \text{ cm}^{-3}, \ \varepsilon_B = 10^{-3.56} \ \varepsilon_e = 10^{-1.39}, \ p = 2.17,$ $\theta_v = 0.387, \ D = 41 \text{ Mpc}, \ \theta_j = 0.61$

Possible origin of hollow-cone structures (only naïve consideration)

Jet acceleration mechanism?

If the jet is launched by the Blandford-Znajek mechanism, the energy flux around the jet axis is low ($F_E \propto \sin^2 \theta$). (e.g., McKinney 2006, Tchekhovskoy+ 2008,)

Structure created through the interaction with the ejecta during the propagation or at the shock breakout?

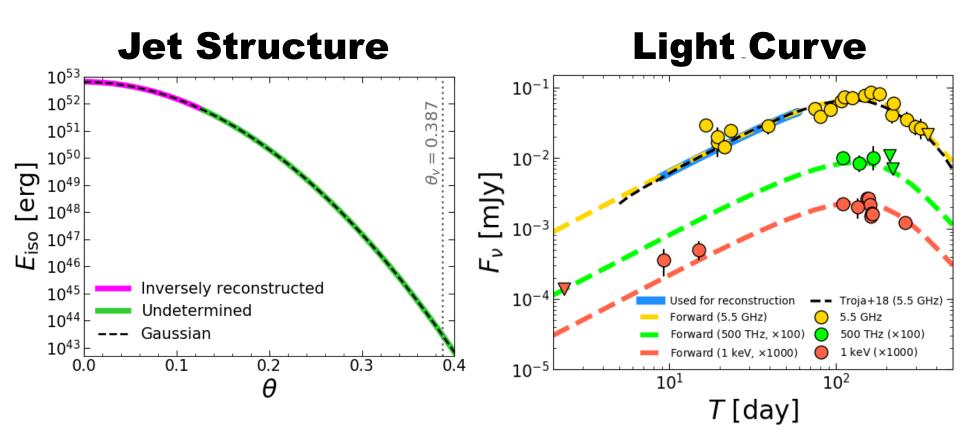
- Some numerical simulations show the jet structure can be a hollow-cone type.
- (e.g., Zhang et al. 2006, Mizuta & Ioka 2013)



- We developed a novel method to inversely reconstruct jet structures from off-axis GRB afterglows.
 - Our method **does not assume the functional form** of $E(\theta)$.
 - \bigcirc Our method **uniquely** obtains E(θ) for a given afterglow light curve and given parameters.
- We found that a **hollow-cone jet structure** can be consistent with GRB170817A afterglow.
- The method can be **applicable to future off**-**axis GRB afterglows**.

Appendix

Test problem : Gaussian structure



Test problem : Power-law structure

