

High-energy neutrinos and gamma rays from winds and tori in active galactic nuclei

Thursday, 7 July 2022 16:00 (15 minutes)

Powerful winds with wide opening angles, likely driven by accretion disks around black holes, are observed in the majority of active galactic nuclei (AGN) and can play a crucial role in AGN and galaxy evolution. If protons can be accelerated in the wind near the black hole, e.g. via diffusive shock acceleration, $p\gamma$ processes with photons from the nucleus generate neutrinos, as well as $\gamma\gamma$ cascade emission from the gamma-ray to radio bands. The TeV neutrinos tentatively detected by IceCube from the obscured Seyfert galaxy NGC 1068 can be interpreted consistently if the shock velocity $\sim 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$, which may correspond to a failed, line-driven wind that is physically well motivated. While the $p\gamma$ cascade is mostly $\gamma\gamma$ -attenuated above MeV energies, the GeV photons observed from NGC 1068 and some other radio-quiet AGN may arise from an outer shock where the wind impacts the obscuring torus, e.g. via pp processes, along with some observable radio emission. Observational tests and implications of this scenario are discussed. Neutrinos may offer a unique probe of the launching sites of AGN winds, particularly for objects obscured in photons.

Primary author: INOUE, Susumu (Bunkyo U. / RIKEN)

Co-authors: Dr CERRUTI, Matteo; MURASE, Kohta (Penn State); LIU, Ruo-Yu (DESY)

Presenter: INOUE, Susumu (Bunkyo U. / RIKEN)

Session Classification: Contributed Talks