
Physics of Relativistic Radiation Mediated Shocks

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Collaborators

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Plan of this talk

■ Introduction

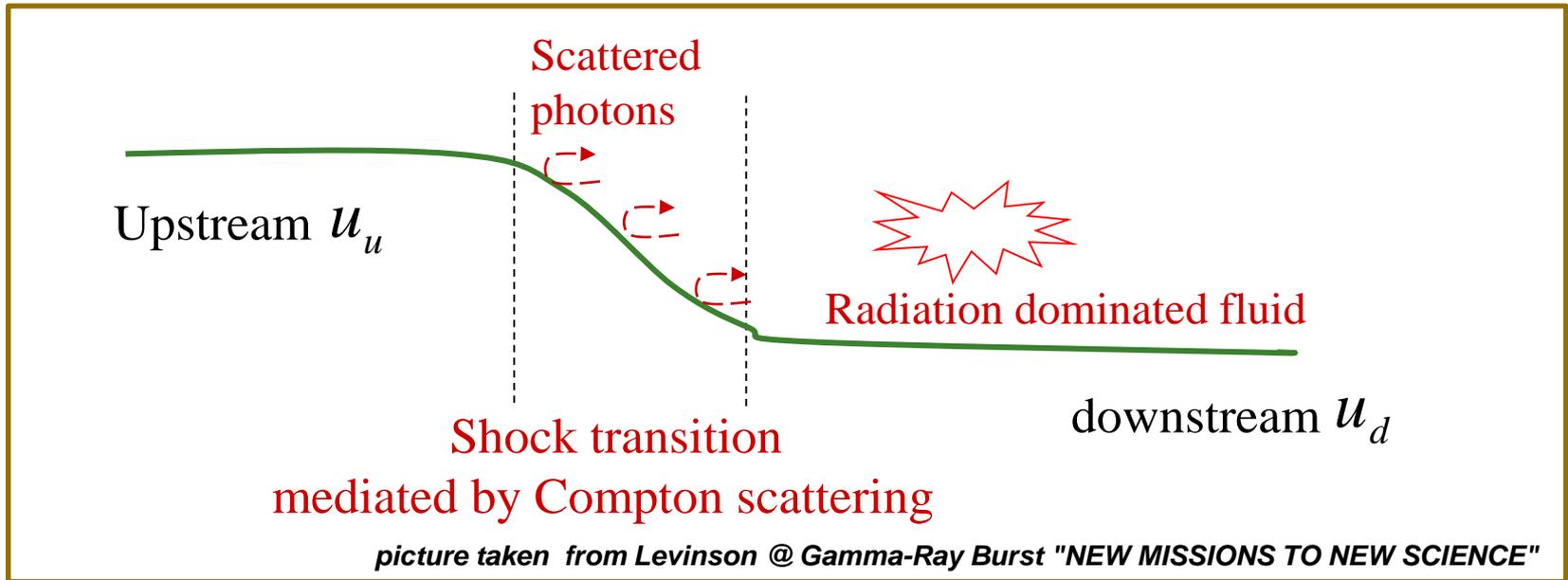
- Brief overview of Radiation Mediated Shocks (RMS)
- Non-relativistic and Relativistic RMS

■ Application to GRBs

- Motivation for the application
- New method for RRMS using Monte-Carlo
- Results and current status

■ Summary

Radiation Mediated Shocks (RMS)



- downstream energy dominated by radiation
- upstream plasma approaching the shock is decelerated by scattering of counter streaming photons

Under which conditions a RMS forms ?

Weaver 1976

(I) Radiation dominance downstream: $aT_d^4 > n_d kT_d$

from jump conditions: $n_u m_p c^2 \beta_u^2 \approx aT_d^4$

$$\Rightarrow \beta_u > 4 \times 10^{-5} (n_u / 10^{15} \text{ cm}^{-3})^{1/6}$$

(II) Photon trapping at shock region

Diffusion time $t_D \approx$ shock crossing time t_{sh}

$$\Rightarrow \tau \gg \tau_{dec} \sim 1 / \beta_u$$

Relevant Astrophysical Phenomena

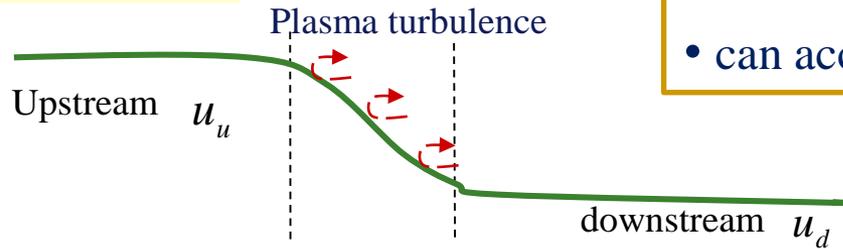
Shock breakout from stellar surface (e.g, SN, HN)

Shocks in Accretion flows (e.g., AGN, μ QSO)

Shocks in Jet (GRBs, AGNs)

Collisionless shocks versus RMS

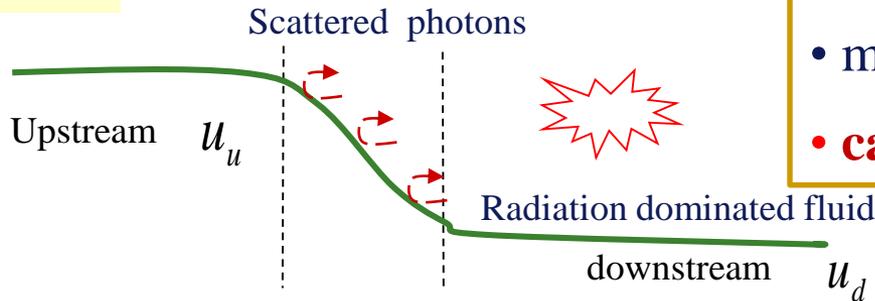
collisionless



Shock transition mediated by collective plasma processes

- Scale: $c/\omega_p \sim 1(n_{15})^{-1/2} \text{ cm}$, $c/\omega_B \sim 3\varepsilon(B_6)^{-1} \text{ cm}$
- can accelerate particles to non-thermal energies.

RMS



Shock transition mediated by Compton scattering

- scale: $(\sigma_T n \beta_s)^{-1} \sim 10^9 n_{15}^{-1} \text{ cm}$
- microphysics is fully understood
- **cannot accelerate particles**

Non-relativistic .vs. Relativistic

Non-relativistic RMS

- small energy gain: $\Delta\varepsilon/\varepsilon \ll 1$
- **diffusion approximation holds.** Used in most early treatments

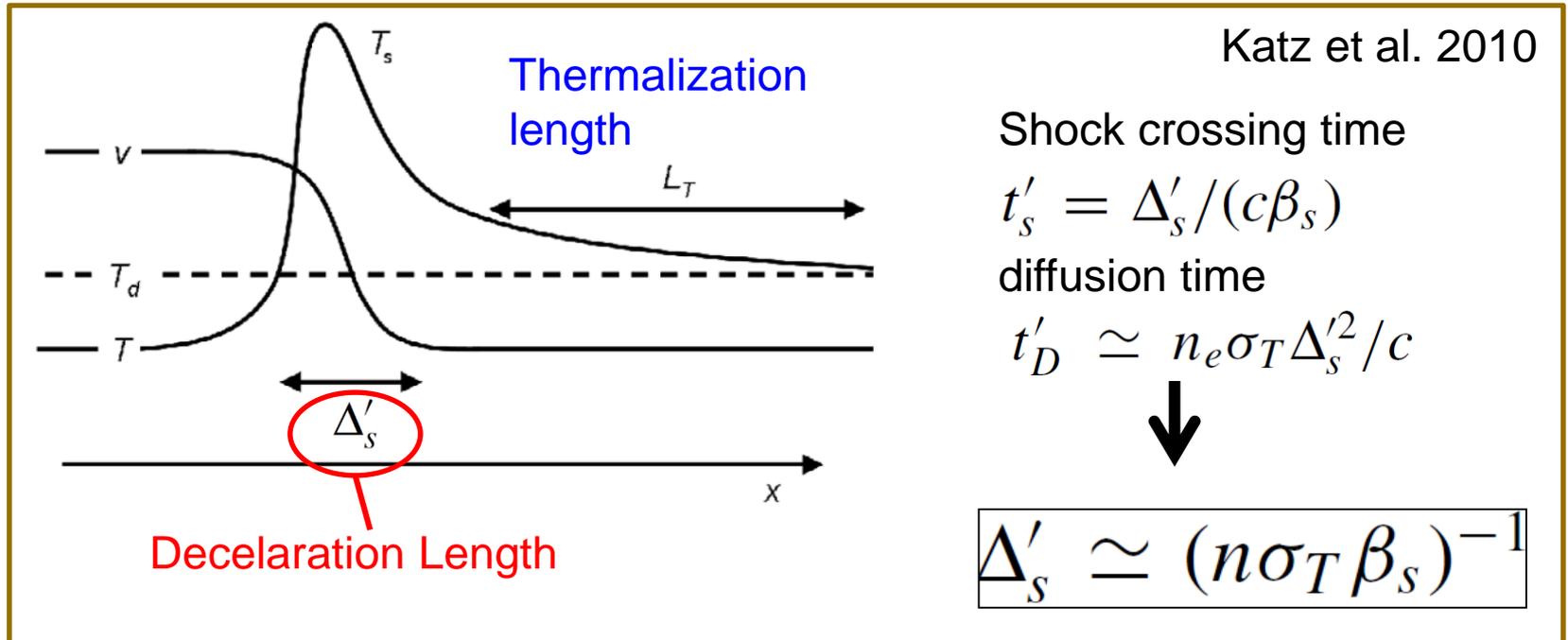
Zeldovich & Raiser 1967; Weaver 1976; Blandford & Payne 1981;

Relativistic RMS

- **photon distribution is anisotropic**
- energy gain large: $\Delta\varepsilon/\varepsilon > 1$
 - optical depth depends on angle: $\tau \propto (1 - \beta \cos\theta)$
- copious pair production

Levinson & Bromberg 08; Katz et al. 10; Budnik et al. 10; Beloborodov 2016

Non-relativistic RMS



Jump Condition in strong shock

$$n_u \beta_s = n_d \beta_d,$$

$$p_{\gamma,d} = n_u \beta_s (\beta_s - \beta_d) m_p c^2,$$

$$4p_{\gamma,d} \beta_d = n_u \beta_s (\beta_s^2 - \beta_d^2) m_p c^2 / 2$$

$$n_{\gamma,eq} \approx p_{\gamma,d} / T_d$$

$$L_T \sim \beta c \frac{n_{\gamma,eq}}{Q_{\gamma,eff}}$$

diffusion approximation significantly reduces the difficulty of problem

Assumption : strong shock ($p_u = 0$), Thomson limit (energy independent scattering)
radiation dominant pressure

Conservation

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} n_p \beta = n_u \beta_s \\ p_\gamma = n_u \beta_s (\beta_s - \beta) m_p c^2 \\ (e_\gamma + p_\gamma) \beta c - \boxed{\frac{c}{3n_p \sigma_T} \frac{de_\gamma}{dx}} = n_u \beta_s m_p \frac{\beta_s^2 - \beta^2}{2} c^3 \end{array} \right.$$

diffusion

EOS

$$e_\gamma = 3p_\gamma$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{d\tilde{\beta}}{d\tilde{x}} = -\frac{(7\tilde{\beta} - 1)(1 - \tilde{\beta})}{6\tilde{\beta}}$$
$$\tilde{x} = 3\sigma_T n_u \beta_s x$$
$$\tilde{\beta} = \beta / \beta_s$$

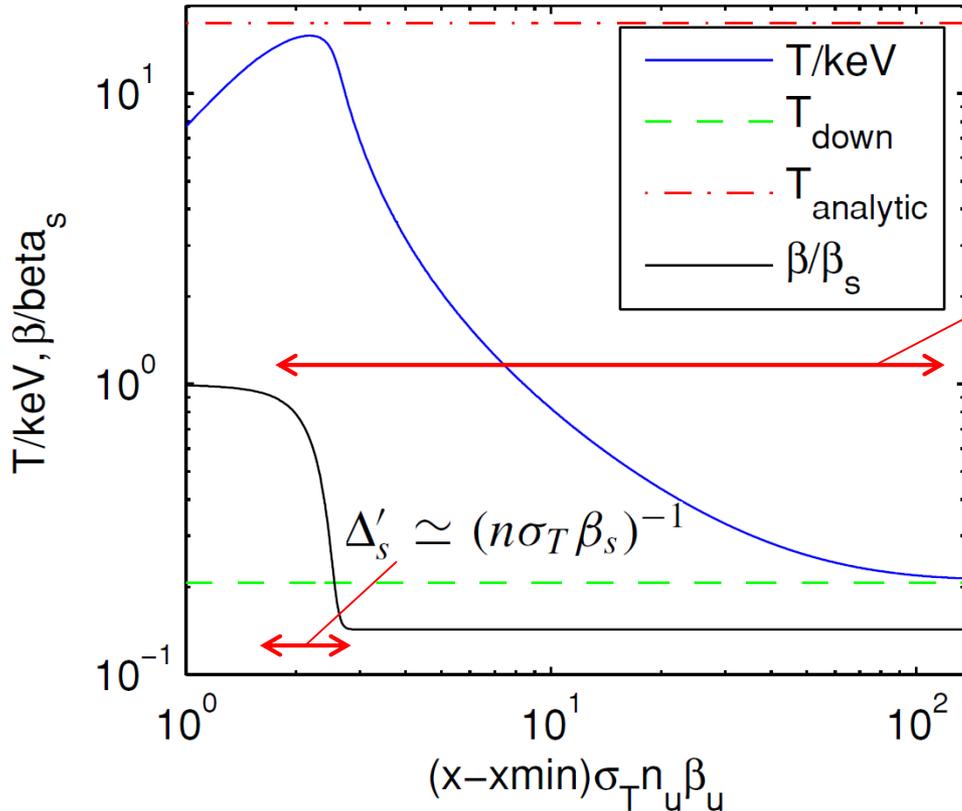
analytic solution

$$\tilde{x} = \frac{1}{7} \ln \left[\frac{(1 - \tilde{\beta})^7}{(7\tilde{\beta} - 1)} \right]$$

Katz et al. 2010

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analytic solution

$$\tilde{x} = \frac{1}{7} \ln \left[\frac{(1 - \tilde{\beta})^7}{(7\tilde{\beta} - 1)} \right]$$

Katz et al. 2010

Relativistic RMS

Radiation transfer and copious pair productions needs to be solved

[Levinson & Bromberg \(2008\), Beloborodov \(2016\)](#)

Hot up stream

photons advected from upstream mediate the shock

Up to Lorentz factor $\Gamma=2$

Pair creation is not included

[Budik et al. \(2010\)](#)

Cold up stream plasma (no photons)

Photons produced in the downstream mediates the shock

Up to Lorentz factor $\Gamma = 30$

Approximated cross sections for scattering and pair creation

$$\frac{d}{dz_{\text{sh}}} T_{\text{sh}}^{0z} = 0, \quad \text{:energy}$$

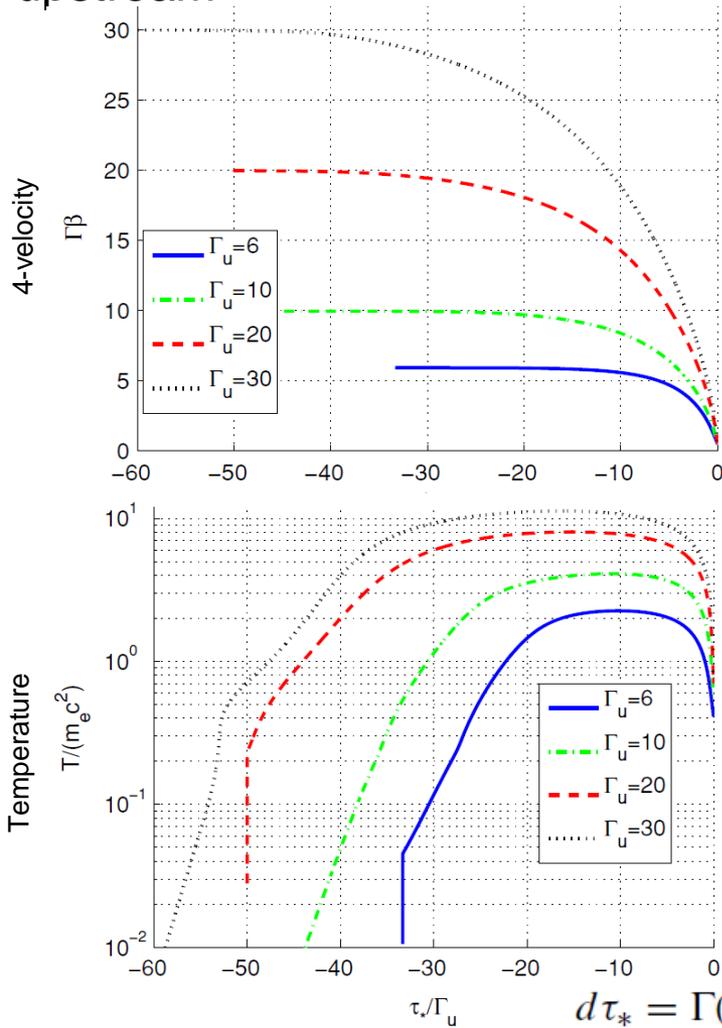
$$\frac{d}{dz_{\text{sh}}} T_{\text{sh}}^{zz} = 0, \quad \text{:momentum}$$

$$n_p = n_{p,u} \frac{\Gamma_u \beta_u}{\Gamma \beta}, \quad \text{:baryon number}$$

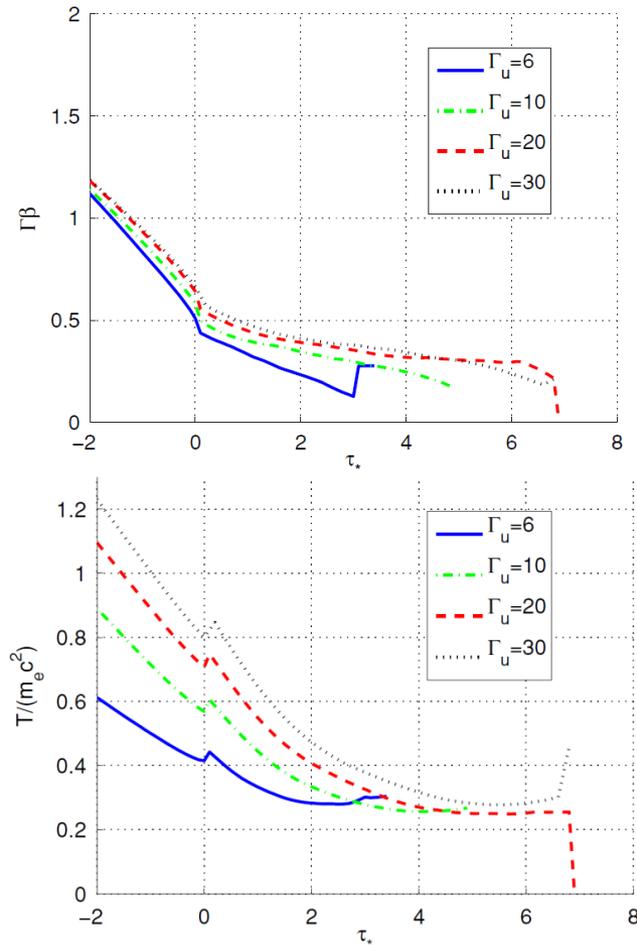
$$\frac{d(\Gamma \beta n_+)}{dz_{\text{sh}}} = \frac{Q_+}{c}, \quad \text{:pair creation, annihilation}$$

$$\mu_{\text{sh}} \frac{dI_{\nu_{\text{sh}}}(\mu_{\text{sh}})}{dz_{\text{sh}}} = \underbrace{\eta_{\text{sh}}(\mu_{\text{sh}}, \nu_{\text{sh}})}_{\text{emission}} - \underbrace{I_{\nu_{\text{sh}}}(\mu_{\text{sh}}) \chi_{\text{sh}}(\mu_{\text{sh}}, \nu_{\text{sh}})}_{\text{absorption}} \quad \text{:radiation transfer}$$

upstream



downstream

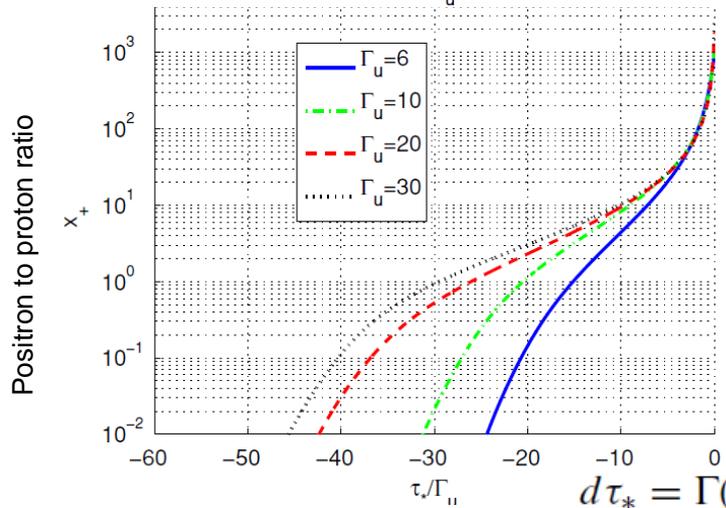
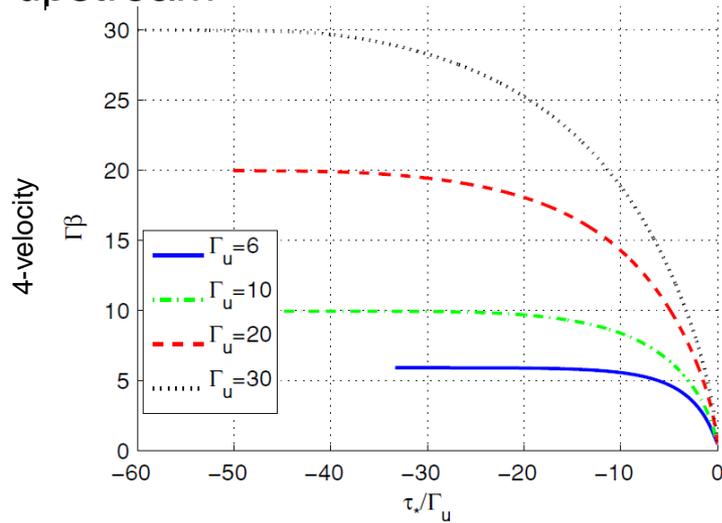


$$d\tau_* = \Gamma(1 + \beta)(n_e + n_+) \sigma_T dz_{sh}$$

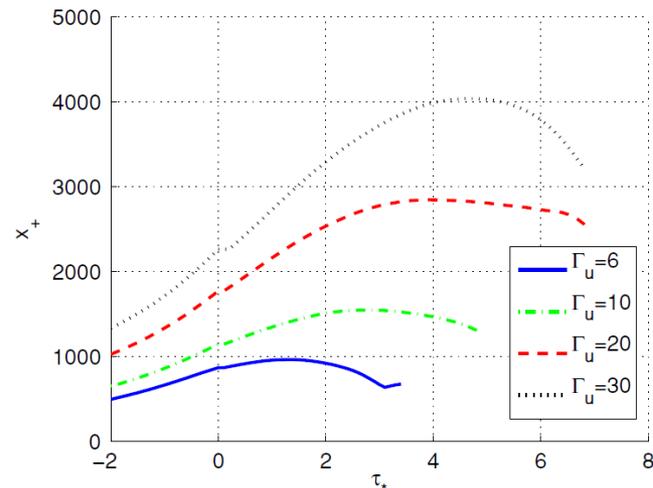
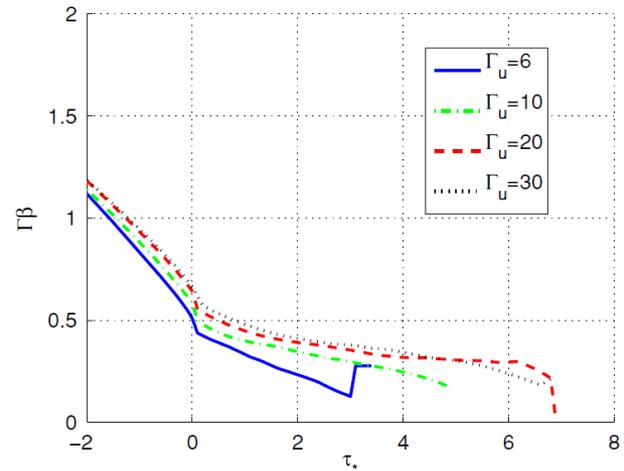
Shock width $\Delta_s = 0.01(\sigma_T n_u)^{-1} \gamma_u^2$

Optical depth inside shock is dominated by e^\pm

upstream



downstream

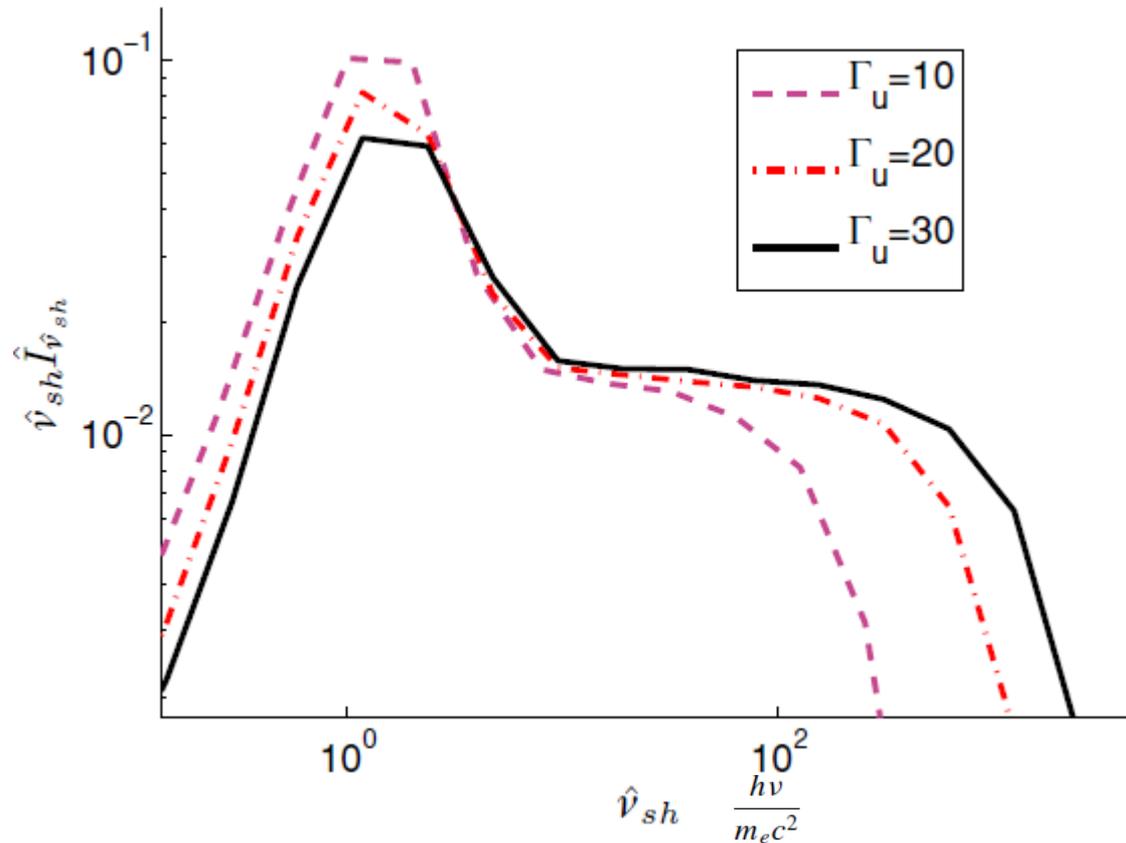


$$d\tau_* = \Gamma(1 + \beta)(n_e + n_+)\sigma_T dz_{sh}$$

Shock width $\Delta_s = 0.01(\sigma_T n_u)^{-1} \gamma_u^2$

Optical depth inside shock is dominated by e^\pm

Spectrum inside the shock



Non-thermal spectrum appears due to bulk Comptonization

Previous studies of RRMS

[Levinson & Bromberg \(2008\)](#), [Beloborodov \(2016\)](#)

photons advected from the upstream is dominant

Up to Lorentz factor $\Gamma=2$

Pair creation is not included

[Budik et al. \(2010\)](#)

Photons produced in the downstream is dominant

Up to Lorentz factor $\Gamma = 30$

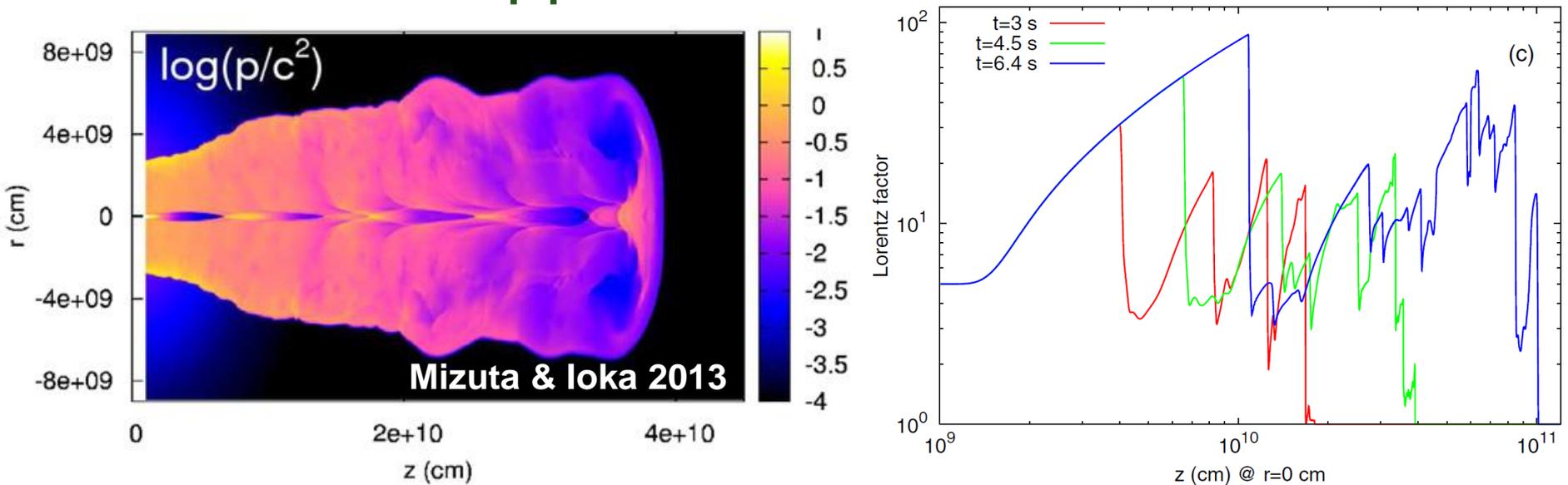
Approximated cross sections for scattering and pair creation

Limited
range of
parameters

Aim of the present study

Construction a fully self-consistent steady solution of RRMS
application to GRBs, Shock breakout , etc..

Application to GRBs



Relativistic shocks naturally develops within jet

Condition for RMS to form

- Optically thick ($\tau \gg 1$)
- propagation velocity

$$\beta_s \gg 4 \times 10^{-5} n_{15}^{1/6}$$
$$n = 10^{15} n_{15} \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

Weaver 1976

always satisfied for GRB fireball at
subphotospheric region
(e.g., Bromberg + 2011)

➔ RRMS will have significant impact on the emission

RRMS in GRB fireball

Photon rich in upstream ($n_\gamma/n_p \sim 10^4 - 10^5 \gg 1$)

Thermalization depth

Photon generation: Bremst. + double Compton

$$L_T \sim \beta c \frac{n_{\gamma,eq}}{Q_{\gamma,eff}}$$

$$\text{Free-free: } \tau'_{ff} = 10^5 \Lambda_{ff}^{-1} (n_{u15})^{-1/8} \gamma_u^{3/4}$$

$$\text{Double Compton: } \tau'_{DC} = 10^6 \Lambda_{DC}^{-1} (n_{u15})^{-1/2} \gamma_u^{-1}$$

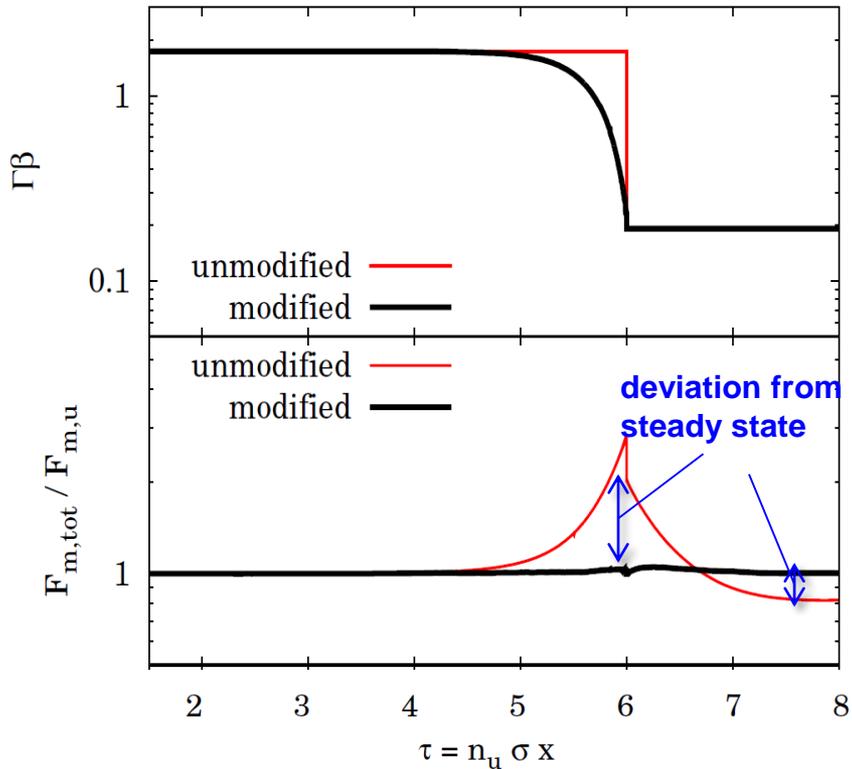
Thermalization length \gg shock width ($\tau \sim \text{few}$)



Photon advection dominant

(Photon generation and absorption can be neglected)

Method • Model



Give plasma profile (n, T, Γ)

Solve radiation transfer using
Monte-Carlo Method

Evaluate the deviation from
steady profile

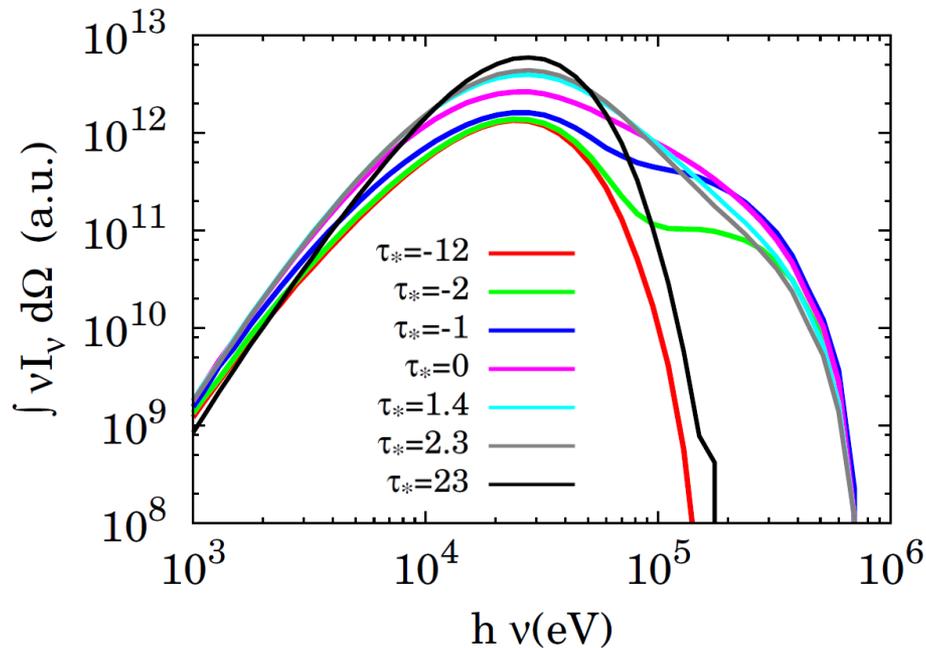
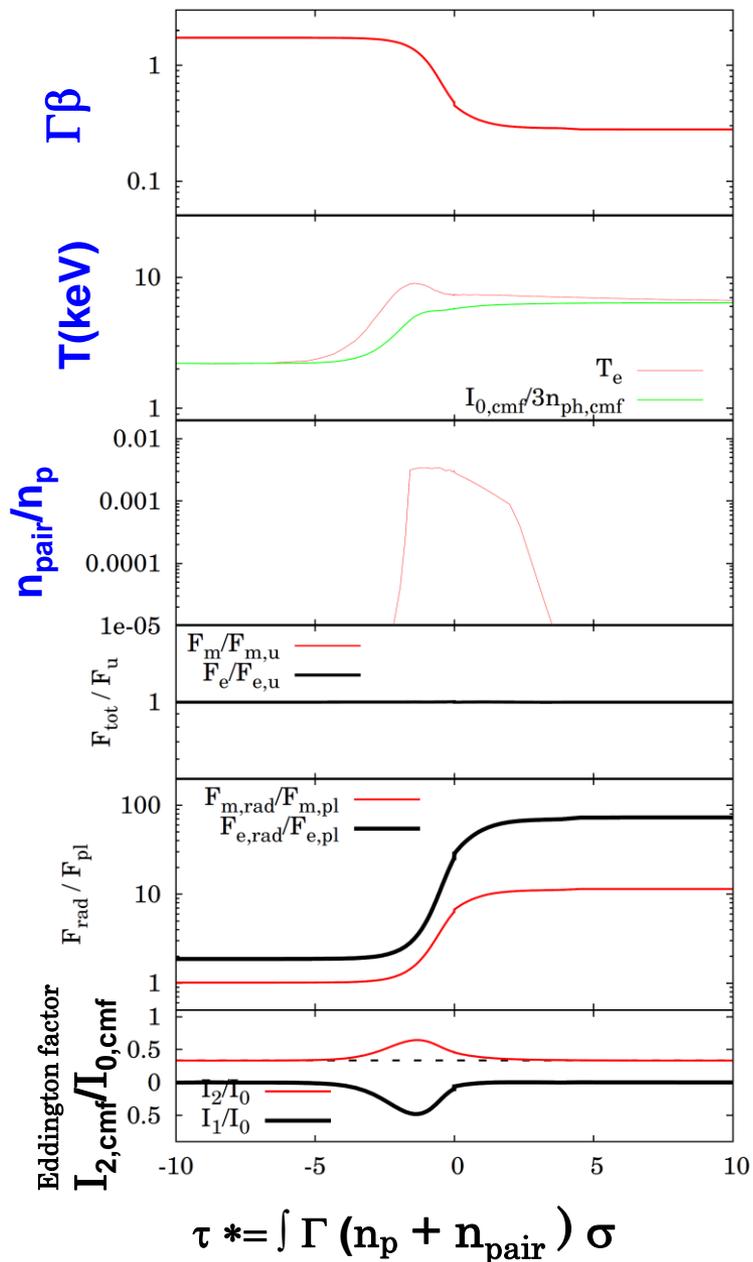
Iterate until convergence

feedback

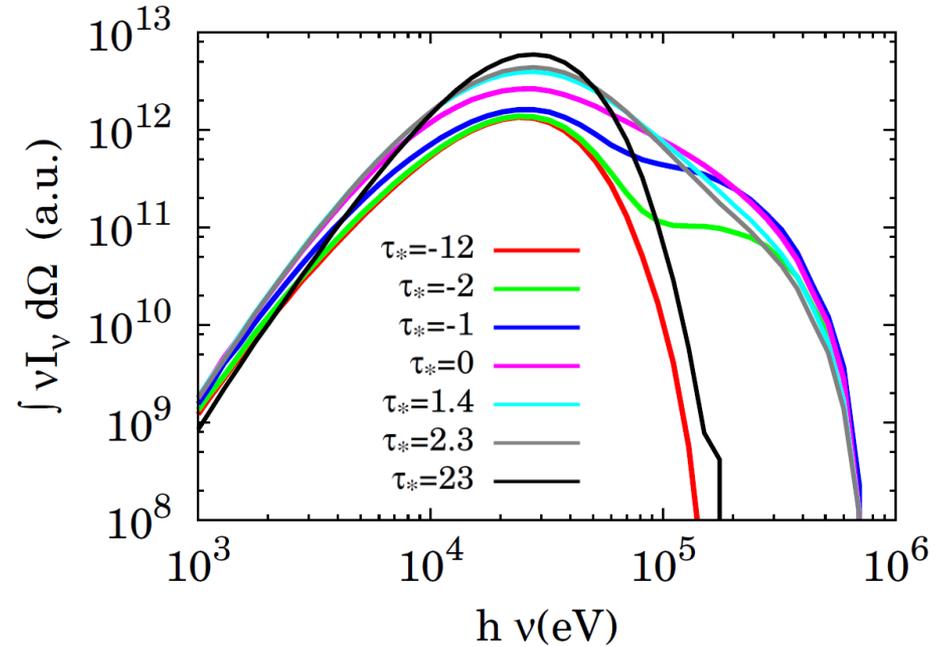
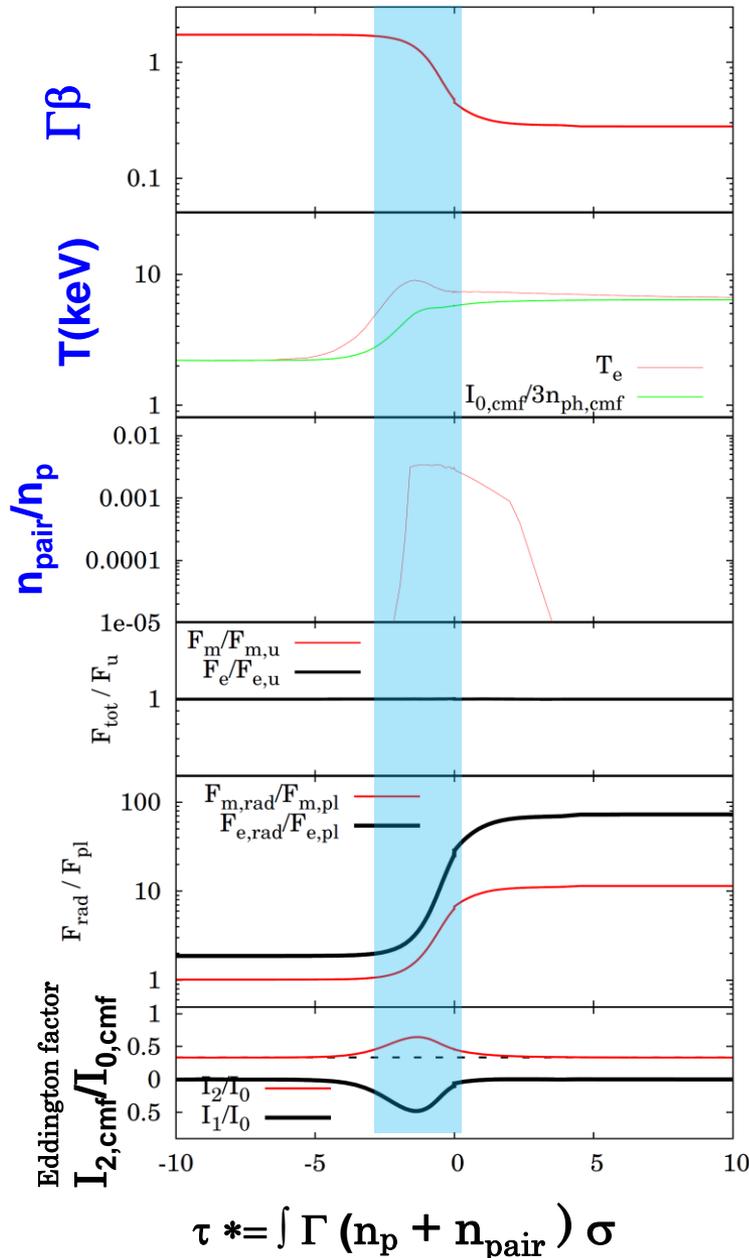
Assumption

- advection dominated
(emission, absorption neglected, only scattering)
 - large photon to proton ratio
($n_{ph} / n_p = 10^4 - 10^5$)
 - thermal distribution at far upstream
 - electron has Maxwellian distribution
- $\Gamma_u = 2$

• $F_{m,rad}$ (radiation momentum flux) = $\Gamma F_{m,matt}$ (plasma mom flux) @ far upstream region

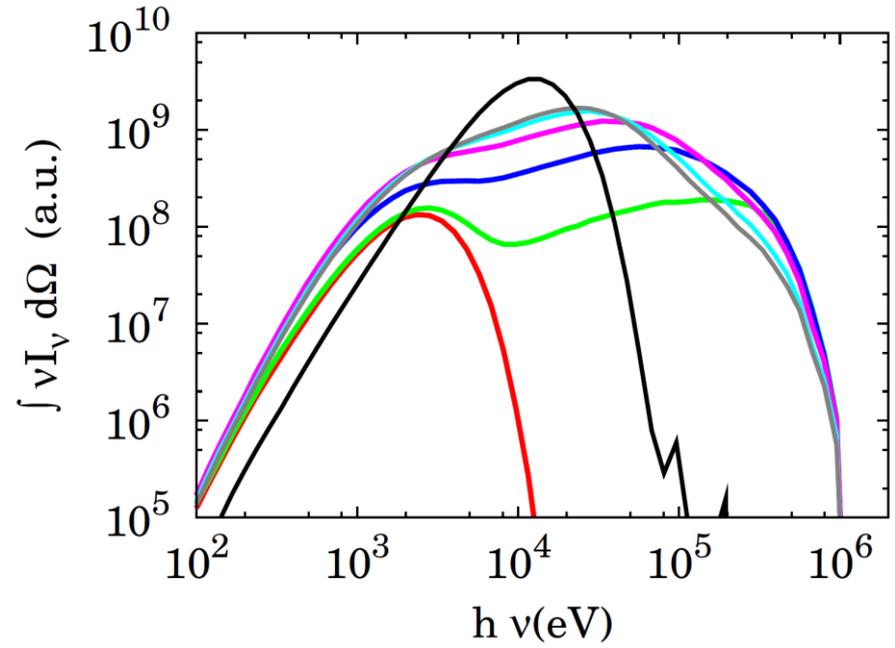
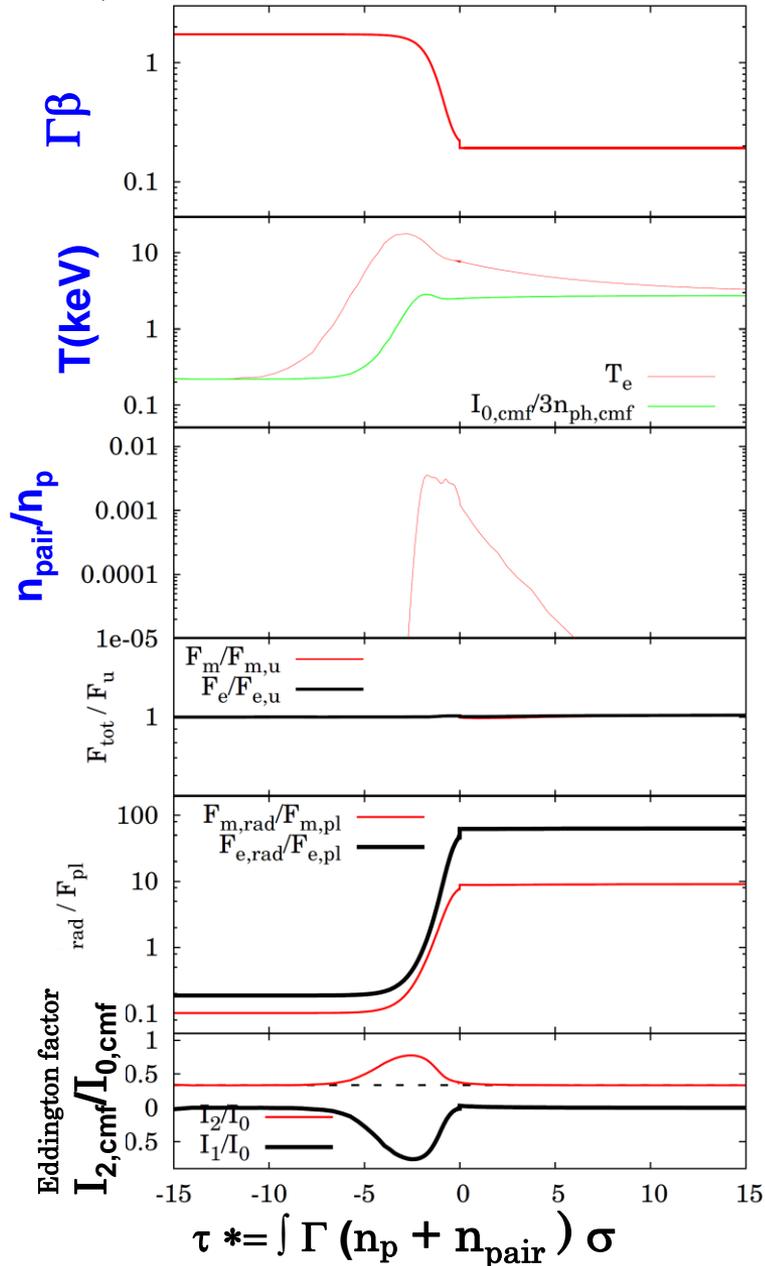


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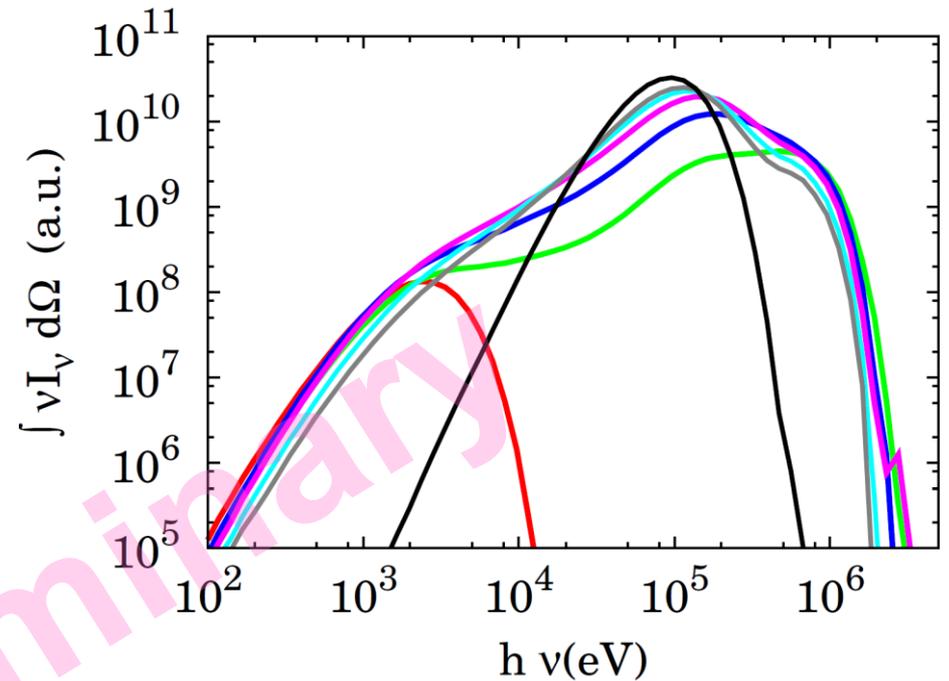
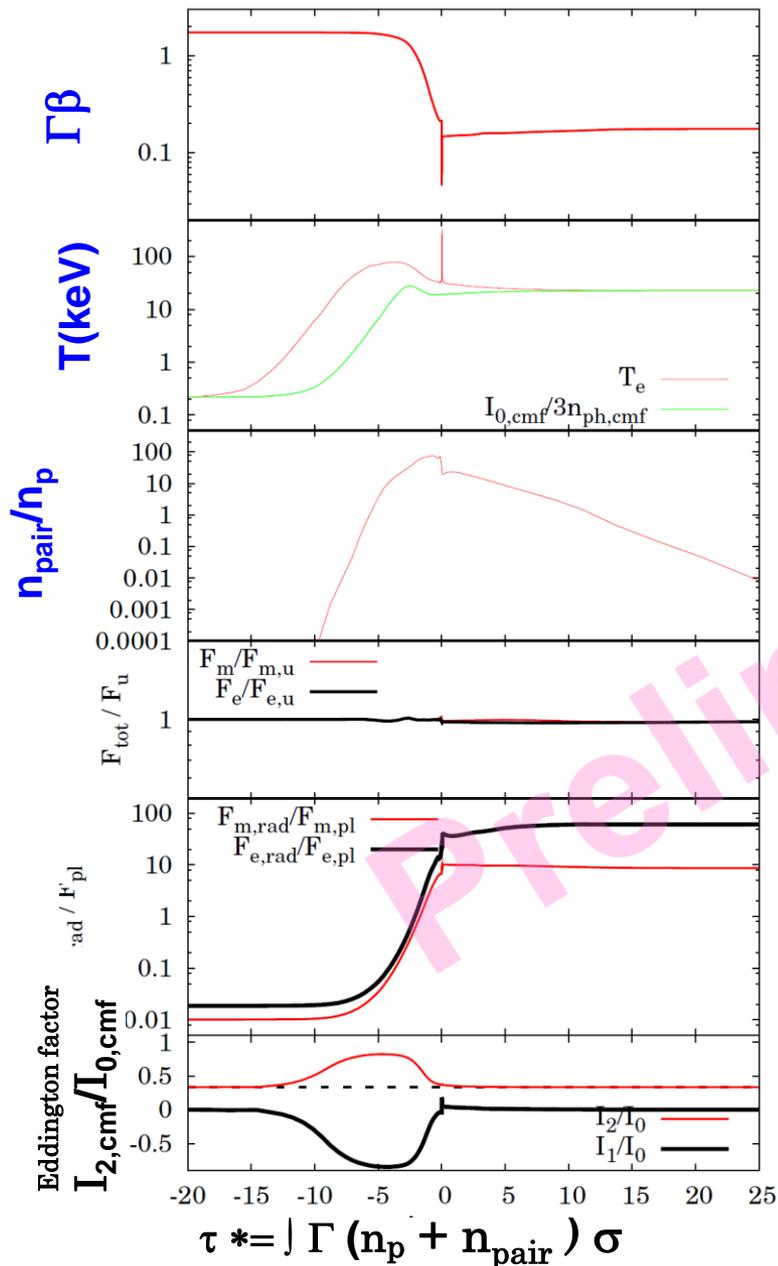
**Deceleration in $\Delta\tau \sim 1$
non-thermal spectrum**

• $F_{m,rad}$ (radiation momentum flux) = **0.1** $F_{m,matt}$ (plasma mom flux) @ far upstream region



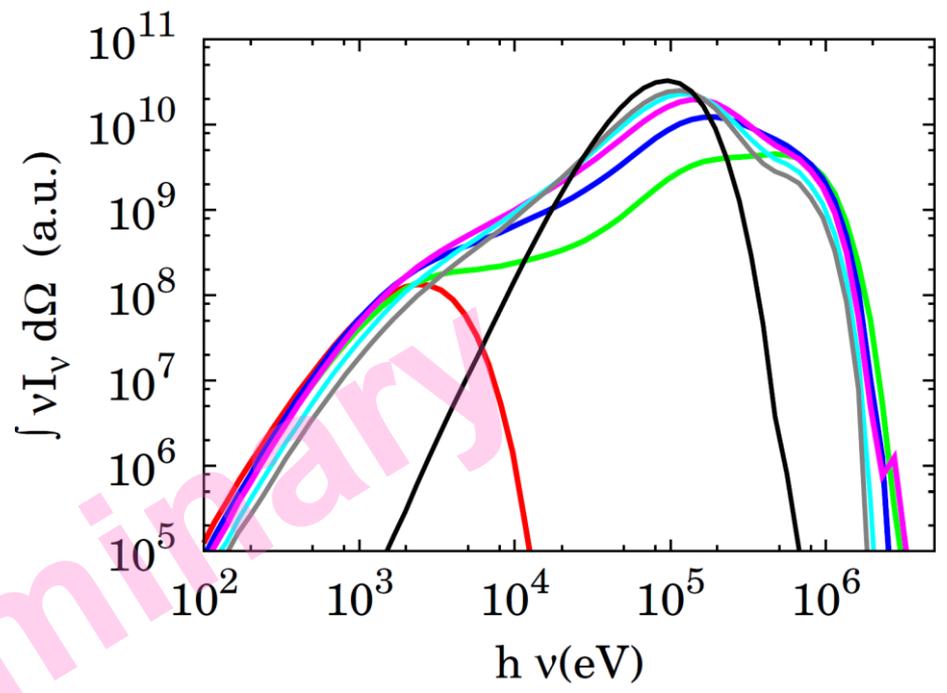
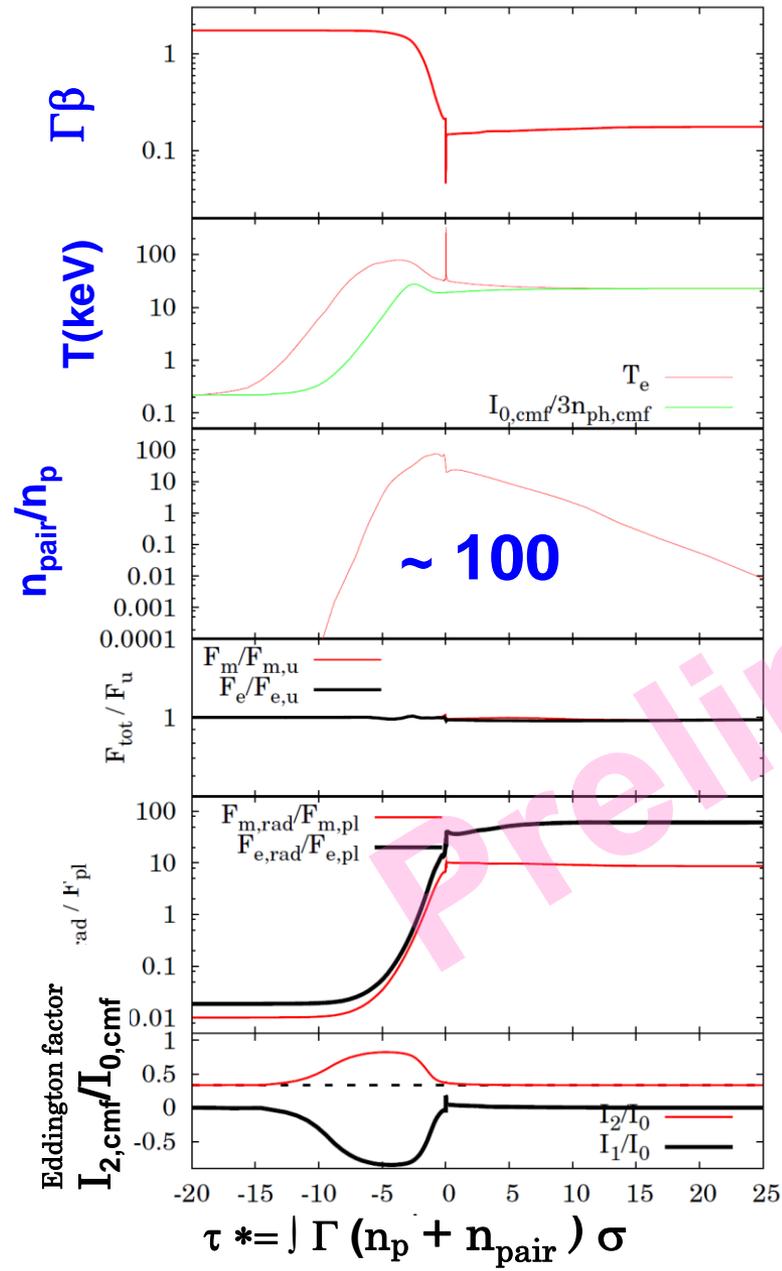
**Deceleration in $\Delta\tau \sim 1$
non-thermal spectrum**

• $F_{m,rad}$ (radiation momentum flux) = $0.01 F_{m,matt}$ (plasma mom flux) @ far upstream region



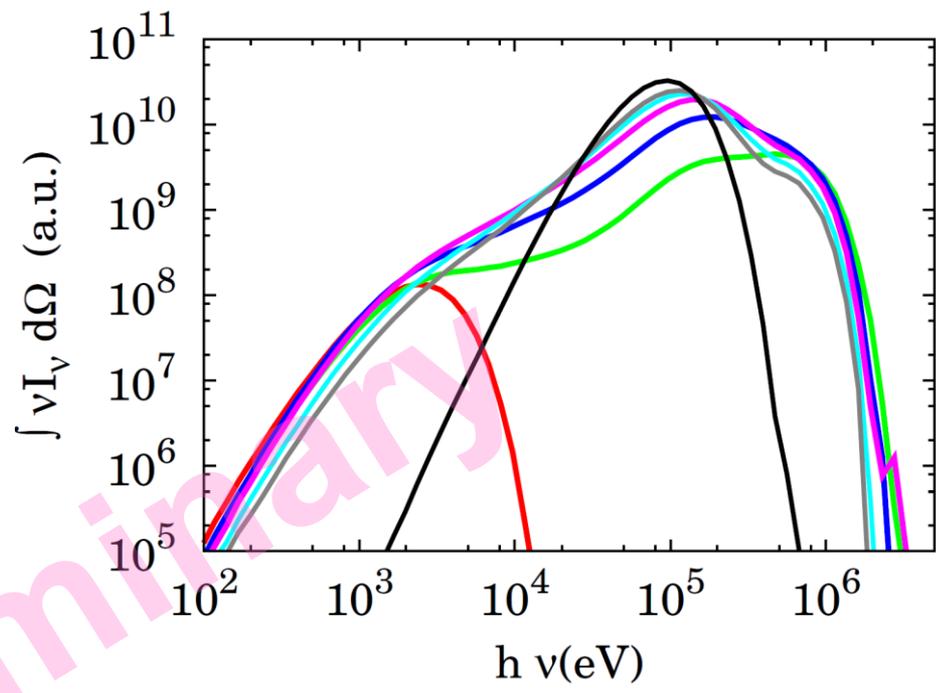
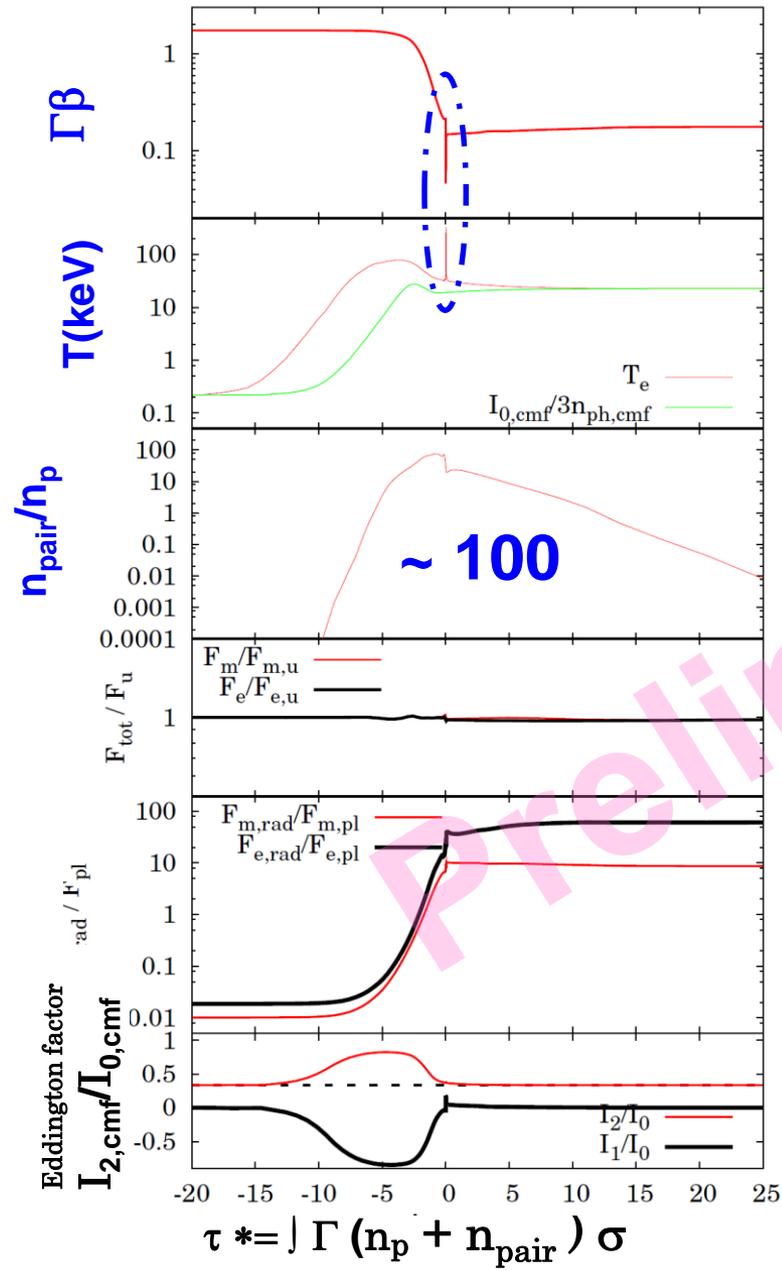
Deceleration in $\Delta\tau \sim 1$
 non-thermal spectrum

• $F_{m,rad}$ (radiation momentum flux) = **0.01** $F_{m,matt}$ (plasma mom flux) @ far upstream region



Pairs dominates the opacity near the shock

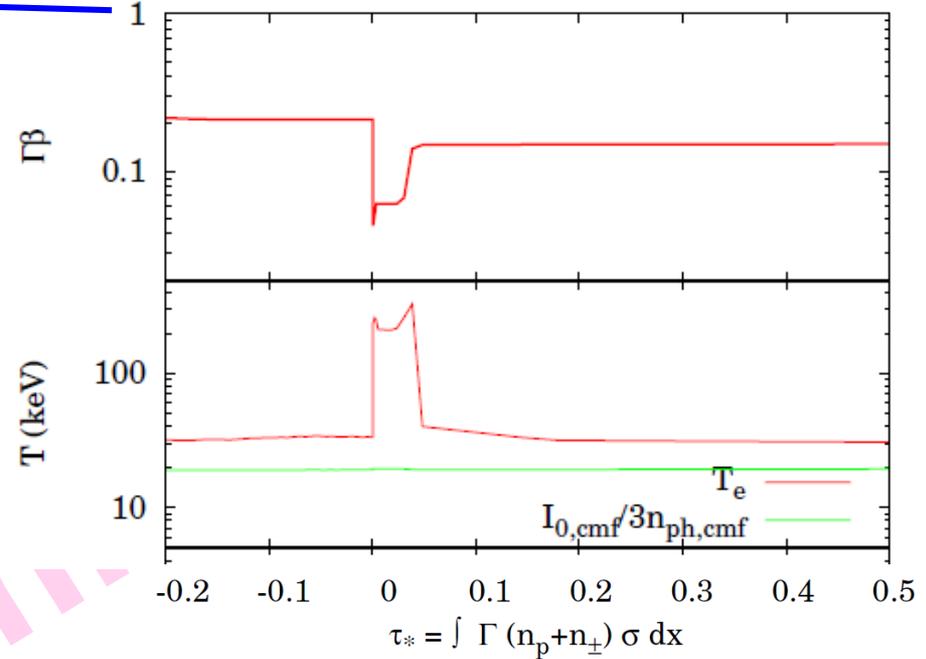
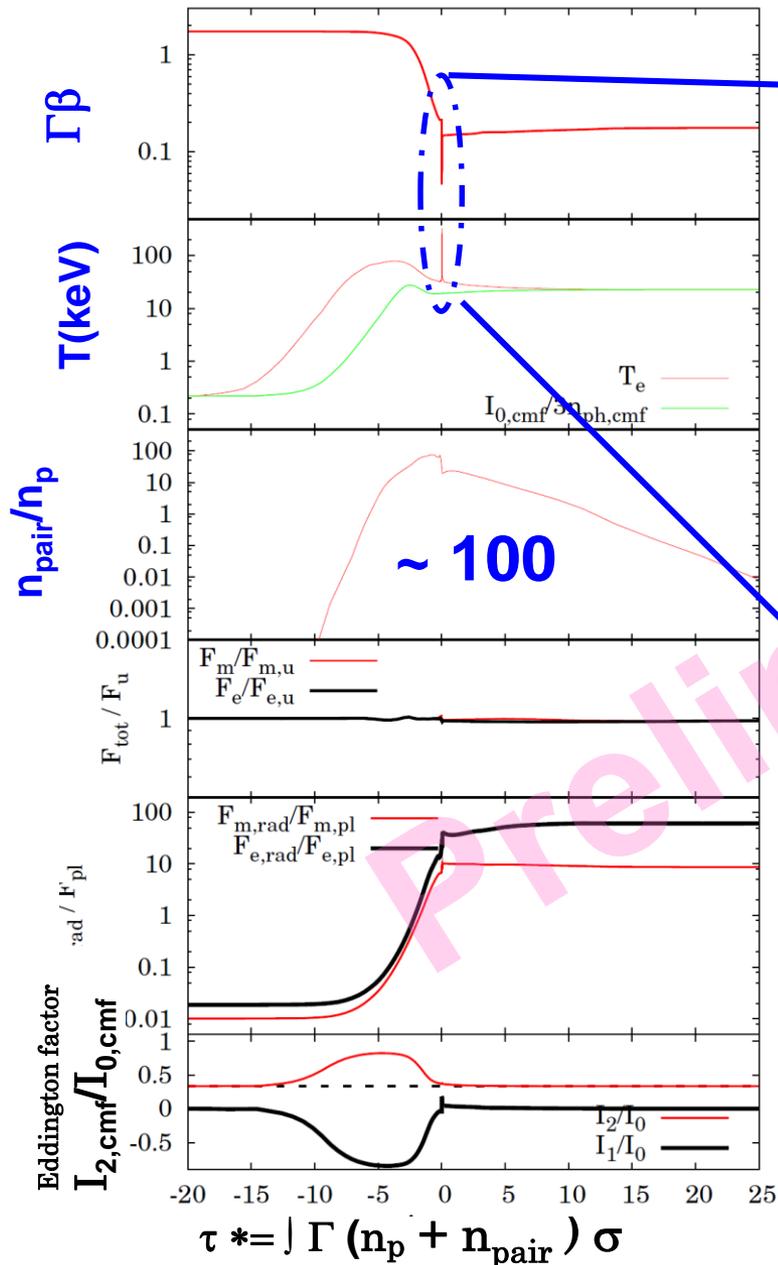
• $F_{m,rad}$ (radiation momentum flux) = **0.01** $F_{m,matt}$ (plasma mom flux) @ far upstream region



Pairs dominates the opacity near the shock

Necessity of subshock

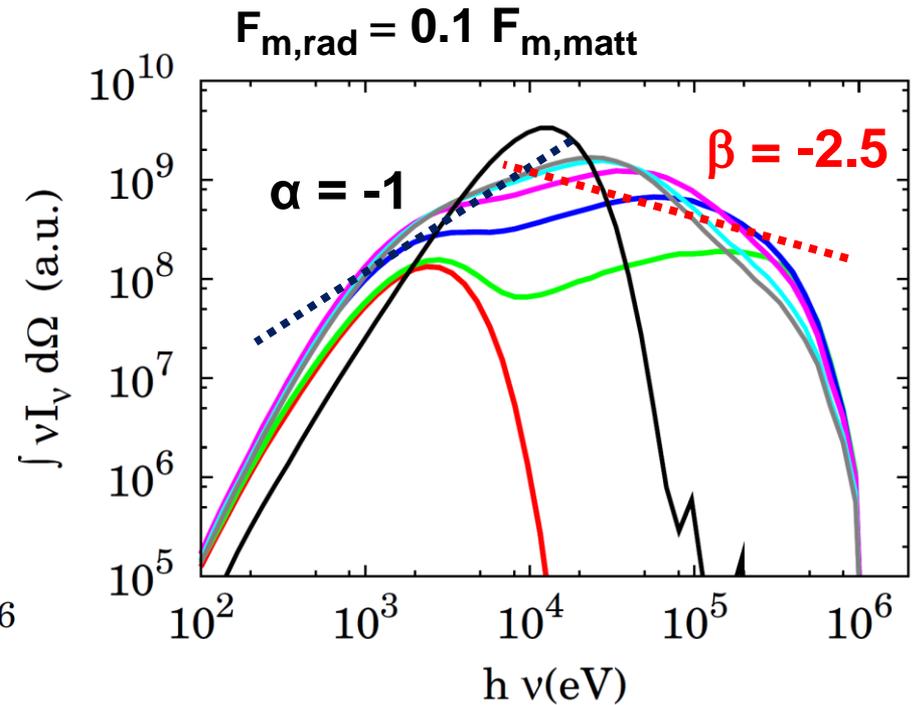
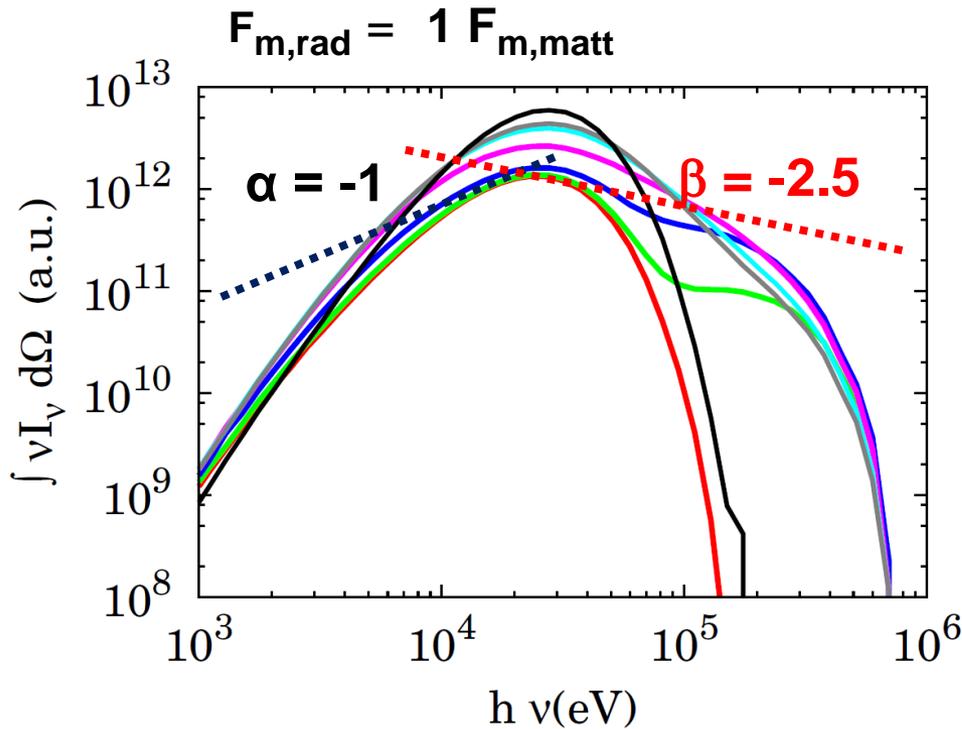
• $F_{m,rad}$ (radiation momentum flux) = **0.01** $F_{m,matt}$ (plasma mom flux) @ far upstream region



Post subshock plasma is quickly cooled and accelerated by the radiation

Necessity of subshock

Comparison with Band spectra



- $\tau_* = -2$ —
- $\tau_* = -1$ —
- $\tau_* = 0$ —
- $\tau_* = 1.6$ —
- $\tau_* = 2.5$ —

Highly non-thermal spectra appears near the shock

Possible origin of Band spectrum

Summary

RRMS in photon advection dominated regime is computed

- As in the previous studies we find the deceleration length to be $\Delta\tau \sim 1$
- Strong anisotropy develops near the shock and give rise to highly non-thermal spectrum
- Necessity of subshock for $\mathbf{F}_{m,\text{rad}} \gg \mathbf{F}_{m,\text{matt}}$
- Possible origin of Band spectrum

Future work

- Parameter survey
 - Implementation of photon production and absorption
 - Implementation of magnetic fields
-