X-ray Binary Jets as FRB Engines

(with Navin Sridhar)



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Sridhar, BDM, Beniamini, Margalit, Renzo, Sironi, Kovlakas, 2021, ApJ, 917, 13

Sridhar & BDM, submitted (arXiv: 2206.10486)

Watershed: FRB121102 Persistent Source

Chatterjee+17, Tendulkar+17, Bassa+17, Michilli+19



- Spatially coincident (< 40 pc) luminous $vL_v \simeq 10^{39} \text{ erg s}^{-1} \text{ compact (< pc)}$ synchrotron source.
- Large time-variable RM => FRB source embedded in active magnetized **nebula**
- RM-generating medium has electron-ion composition instead of e⁻/e⁺ pairs.



Engine-Powered Nebula
Margalit & BDM 18

$$\dot{N}_{e} = (1 + \sigma)^{-1} \chi^{-1} \dot{E}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} N_{\gamma} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} (\dot{\gamma} N_{\gamma}) - 3 \frac{\dot{R}_{n}}{R_{n}} N_{\gamma} = \dot{N}_{\gamma}$$

$$\dot{\gamma}_{adiab} = -\frac{1}{3} \gamma \beta^{2} \frac{d \ln V_{n}}{dt} = -\gamma \beta^{2} \frac{\dot{R}_{n}}{R_{n}}$$

$$\dot{\gamma}_{syn,IC} = -\frac{4}{3} \frac{\sigma_{T}}{m_{e}c} \beta^{2} \gamma^{2} \begin{cases} f_{ssa}(\gamma) B_{n}^{2}/8\pi , syn \\ L_{rad}/4\pi c R_{n}^{2} , IC \end{cases}$$
electrons
heated at
termination
shock of
electron-ion
wind

$$L_{\nu} = 4\pi^2 R_{\rm n}^2 \frac{j_{\nu}}{\alpha_{\nu}} \left(1 - e^{-\alpha_{\nu}R_{\rm n}}\right)$$

$$j_{\nu} = \int \frac{N_{\gamma} P_{\nu}(\gamma)}{4\pi} d\gamma, \ \alpha_{\nu} = -\int \frac{\gamma^2 P_{\nu}(\gamma)}{8\pi m_{\rm e} \nu^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \gamma} \left[\frac{N_{\gamma}}{\gamma^2}\right] d\gamma$$
$$\text{RM} \approx \frac{e^3}{2\pi m_e^2 c^4} \left(\frac{\lambda}{R_{\rm n}}\right)^{1/2} R_{\rm n} B_{\rm n} \int N_{\gamma} \frac{1}{\gamma^2} d\gamma$$



Magnetar Engine?

Energy Reservoir:

$$E_{\rm mag}\sim 3\times 10^{49} {\rm erg} \left(\frac{B}{10^{16}{\rm G}}\right)^2 \label{eq:Emag}$$

Engine Lifetime:

$$t_{\rm mag} \sim (30 - 1000) \text{yr} \left(\frac{B}{10^{16} \text{G}}\right)^{-1}$$

(e.g. ambipolar diffusion from core)

Average Luminosity:

$$\dot{E}_{\text{mag}} = \frac{E_{\text{mag}}}{t_{\text{mag}}} \sim 10^{39} - 10^{41} \text{erg s}^{-1} \left(\frac{B}{10^{16} \text{G}}\right)^3$$

Outflow Composition: ions as well as pairs? (e.g. radio afterglows of giant flares)



Giant Flares



Periodicity in FRB 180916 & 121102



see also Rajwade+20

Precessing Magnetar?

(e.g. Levin+20, Zanazzi & Lai 20, Yang & Zou 20)

Very Slowly Rotating Magnetar?

(e.g. Beniamini+20)

Magnetar in a Binary?

(e.g. CHIME+20, Lyutikov+20)

Periodicity in FRB 180916 & 121102



Magnetar in a Binary?

(e.g. CHIME+20, Lyutikov+20)

FRB Emission Mechanisms

- Synchrotron Maser at Relativistic Shocks (e.g. Lyubarsky 14, Beloborodov 17, 19, BDM+19)
- Forced Magnetic Reconnection in Striped Wind (e.g. Lyubarsky 20, Mahlmann+22)
- Alfven Wave Decay (e.g. Kumar & Bosnjak 20)
- Free Electron Laser from Magnetic Reconnection (Lyutikov 20)



Impulsive injection of relativistic energy into magnetized environment



Can Accreting BH/NS Jets Make FRBs?

1221

Image Credit: NASA

Can Accreting BH/NS Jets Make FRBs?

Striped Jets



 $y\left[M\right]$

e.g. Spruit+01, Parfrey+15





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Nathanail+20

Periodic Fast Radio Bursts from Luminous X-ray Binaries

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 $t_{active} \sim 10^3 - 10^6$ yr (stable thermal mass-transfer)





Matching durations & luminosities of most powerful FRBs requires **super-Eddington** accretion onto BHs or NSs => **ULX-like binaries**

Periodicity from Lens-Thirring Precession



(related: Katz 17; loka & Zhang 20)



Host Galaxies of FRB vs. ULX





ULX Bubbles as Persistent Counterparts



Most known ULX bubbles would not be detectable at the distances of most FRB

However, local XRB/ULX are not the best analogs to powerful cosmological FRB (which require even higher super-Eddington accretion rates and young source ages)

Radio Nebulæ from Hyper-Accreting X-ray Binaries as Common Envelope Precursors and Persistent Counterparts of **Fast Radio Bursts**



wind-driven bubble evolution (Weaver+77)

$$R(t) \simeq \begin{cases} v_{\rm w} t \approx 0.7 \, \mathrm{pc} \left(\frac{t}{70 \, \mathrm{yr}}\right) & (t < t_{\rm free}) \\ \alpha \left(\frac{L_{\rm w} t^3}{\rho_{\rm csm}}\right)^{1/5} \approx 0.8 \, \mathrm{pc} \left(\frac{L_{\rm w,42}}{n_1}\right)^{1/5} \left(\frac{t}{70 \, \mathrm{yr}}\right)^{3/5} & (t > t_{\rm free}), \end{cases}$$

Relativistic electrons injected at termination shock of fast $v_i \approx 0.1-0.3$ c wind/jet and evolve under expansion/cooling

Evolution of Particles in Nebula



Observables from Expanding Hyper-Nebula

$$L_{\nu} = 4\pi^2 R_{\rm n}^2 \frac{j_{\nu}}{\alpha_{\nu}} (1 - e^{\alpha_{\nu}R_{\rm n}}) \qquad j_{\nu} = \int \frac{N_{\gamma}P_{\nu}(\gamma)}{4\pi} d\gamma, \quad \alpha_{\nu} = -\int \frac{\gamma^2 P_{\nu}(\gamma)}{8\pi m_{\rm e}\nu^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial\gamma} \left[\frac{N_{\gamma}}{\gamma^2}\right] d\gamma$$
$$|\mathbf{RM}| \simeq \frac{e^3}{2\pi m_{\rm e}^2 c^4} \left(\frac{\lambda}{R_{\rm n}}\right)^{1/2} B_{\rm n}R_{\rm n} \int \frac{N_{\gamma}}{\gamma^2} d\gamma \qquad \qquad \mathbf{DM}_{\rm neb} \simeq R_{\rm n} \int \frac{N_{\gamma}}{\gamma} d\gamma$$

 $M_{\star} = 30M_{\odot}; \quad \dot{M} = 10^5 \dot{M}_{Edd}; \quad M_{\star} = 10M_{\odot}; \quad n = 10/cm^{-3}; \quad v_w = 0.03c; \quad v_j = 0.5c; \quad \sigma_j = 0.1; \quad \eta = 0.1; \quad \varepsilon_e = 0.5c;$



Application to FRB121102 persistent radio source



- Observed PRS radio spectra are flatter and broader than those predicted by the idealized 'one-zone' model with single injected electron luminosity / temperature.
- Generalizing to allow for a modest spread in the jet luminosity / shock velocity enables a good fit.
- We constrain the source age of ~10 yr for FRB 1211102, similar to magnetar scenarios.

Take-away applications of hyper-nebulae



- Accreting engines can potentially explain the properties of FRBs and their associated persistent radio sources.
- They presage energetic transients from <u>common envelope</u> mergers (e.g. Luminous Red Novae, FBOTs), and can act as signposts to future LIGO merger events.
- *Hyper-nebulae* are plentiful in our Universe, even lurking in our samples (e.g., VLASS)... they are just waiting to be discovered.

Summary

- The luminous persistent radio sources and high time-variable RM of repeating FRBs point to engines embedded in self-powered electron-ion nebulae.
- The engine could be very young and highly-active magnetars which expends a significant amount of its total magnetic energy ejecting baryons from its surface in a trans-relativistic wind.
- However, the discoveries of periodicity in the burst arrival windows and of FRBs from old stellar population may pose a challenge to magnetar scenarios.
- Many of the physical processes that occur in magnetar magnetospheres could also occur in the magnetized accretion funnel of a BH or NS jet. Periodicity in the arrival phase arises naturally from precession of the jet funnel.
- The timescale and luminosities of FRBs require binaries with accretion rates near or exceeding Eddington, pointing to short-lived mass-transfer phases (which may not be representative of longer-lived ULX in the local universe).
- Young "hyper"-ULX nebulae offer a new model for FRB persistent radio sources which contribute high and time-variable local RM and DM.